

Die Deutsche Bibliothek Annual Report to the CENL (1994/95)

Overview

User and check-out figures have risen at all locations. An expanded array of services has been developed in the area of national bibliography (new series, expanded descriptive cataloguing, new forms of distribution, retroconversion options, authority files).

The information infrastructure has been systematically modernised (client-server architecture, local systems, laying of groundwork for open communications interfaces).

Cooperation with both domestic and foreign libraries has been strengthened.

Increased income has resulted in reduced federal budget funding needs; the rising use of Central Services has brought increased benefits to the general economy.

Library holdings, acquisitions and processing

At the end of 1994, the total holdings of the *Deutsche Bücherei Leipzig* (DBL), the *Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt a.M.* (DBF) and the *Deutsches Musikarchiv Berlin* (DMA) comprised some 13.74 million publications (excluding patent publications, paper samples, watermarks and special materials).

Of these, 7.82 million items are held at the DBL and 5.92 million at the DBF (including the DMA). Annual accessions amounted to about 300,000 new titles at each location, of which books accounted for 135,000, periodicals for 40,000, musical recordings for 32,000 and printed music for 7,000.

With respect to bibliographic standards, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* has remained fully committed to the use of authority files. Together with the *Bayerische Staatsbibliothek* and the *Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin*, the library maintains the *Gemeinsame Körperschaftsdatei* (Corporate Body Authority File, *GKD*).

Since October 1st, 1994, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek*, in conjunction with the *Bayerische Staatsbibliothek*, the *Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin* and the *Hochschulbibliothekszentrum* in Cologne, has undertaken the development of a *Personennamendatei* (Name Authority File, *PND*). The *Deutsche Bibliothek's* Office of Standards for Library Interconnection and Information on Literature, together with the MAB committee, has presented the MAB2 data format to interested segments of the public. This format meets the requirements of a modern communication format and is to be introduced successively by the libraries and library associations. *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* will ensure that its national bibliographic services remain available in the existing MAB data format, the MAB2 format and, for users abroad, the UNIMARC format during an appropriate transition period.

Central Services

The Deutsche Nationalbibliographie, including Series A (book-trade publications, = 46.8 % of entries), B (non-book trade publications = 20.1 %), C (maps, = 5.9 %), G (Germanica and Translations = 2.9 %), H (university publications = 13.1 %), M (musicalia = 3 %) and T (music recordings = 8.2 %), was issued consistently on schedule. However, a number of changes have been made in the production of the bibliography.

The layout has been modernised, printing procedures modified (Postscript files) and the size of the issues expanded considerably (higher processing rates thanks to rationalised on-line procedures, expanded subject indexing in Series A, B and H, increase in index entries).

The currency of the bibliography has been improved as well. Each bibliographic citation generated by *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* provides the basis for a variety of centralised,

computer-based services including title-cards, magnetic-tape and floppy-disc options, CD-ROM and on-line services. Expanded subject cataloguing has contributed to enhanced utility. In addition to its own indices of newly issued publications, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* also distributes the data services of the British National Bibliography and the new issues service of the Casalini libri, for Italian publications.

Effective 1995, the Deutsche Nationalbibliographie on CD-ROM now appears six times per year. The CD-ROM DNB-Musik (musicalia, music recordings and music literature) is now issued three times per year.

In 1995 the CD-ROM DNB-Musik, which has previously comprised new issues after 1984 (184,000 entries for music literature, 125,000 music recordings and 60,000 publications of music literature), will encompass the reporting period from 1976 to the present and will also contain the file for the historical music recordings held by the *Deutsches Musikarchiv*. The next step will involve the inclusion of reverse-bound performance materials (60,000 data records to date).

A glance at the statistics regarding the Deutsche Nationalbibliographie shows that 230,000 publications were indexed in 1994. This figure represents an increase of 13.6 %. The title-card service recorded a rise to 3.676 million cards issued, an increase of 12 % over 1993. The magnetic-tape service, which provides data primarily to the library association system and its affiliated libraries and has shown consistent gains in past years, also recorded an increase of 14.6 % to a total of 7.4 million data records distributed.

International activities and local concerns

Die Deutsche Bibliothek expanded the scope of its European and international activities during the reporting year. The Conference of European National Libraries (CENL) now has its executive and administrative offices at *Die Deutsche Bibliothek*. Under the auspices of the CENL and in close conjunction with the European Commission, the European national libraries have agreed upon a course of concerted action within the framework of the EU telematics programme, the goal of which is the establishment of a definition of cooperative responsibilities with respect to national bibliographic services, interconnection projects and electronic publications archiving and availability. These projects are encompassed by the work programme known under the acronym CoBRA.

Die Deutsche Bibliothek is closely involved in the study devoted to the identification and definition of conditions for long-term archiving of electronic publications.

The library is also a partner in the following current EU projects:

- ONE (OPAC Network Europe). This "flagship" project will enable users to conduct research through open networks in national bibliographic services, electronic library catalogues and museum catalogues while employing familiar local user interfaces. Fifteen organizations now participate in the project.
- METRIC (bibliometric statistics). In cooperation with Sweden, Belgium and the Netherlands, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* is now developing a package of programmes for accessing book-market data from the large European databases of the national libraries for purposes of analysis and identification of trends on a pan-European basis. This evaluative instrument will be available as a service to all interested parties.
- The library supports ongoing work on the UNIMARC communication format through its international UBCIM office.

Die Deutsche Bibliothek also contributes project proposals within the context of preparations for the 4th Framework Programme of the European Union:

- Development of "metaformats" for libraries (HTML, TEI, SGML).
- Preparation of multi-lingual authority files (thesaurus, names).

Die Deutsche Bibliothek has gained many years of experience in these areas.

Providing national bibliographic services is one of the library's primary functions; the other is the long-term preservation of library collections. With this goal in mind, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* has established, together with other European archives, libraries, universities, academies and publishers, the European Commission on Preservation and Access -- a non-profit organization currently chaired by the Dutch Academy of Sciences. The library's active participation in this body is based upon the practical experience gained by the Centre for Preservation and Conservation in developing and implementing effective large-scale techniques to prevent the deterioration of endangered library holdings. These new developments include both the mass-deacidification of paper and the mechanical paper-splitting process. The Centre for Preservation and Conservation has also taken on a special responsibility for libraries in central and eastern Europe and now supports them in their work. This function is undertaken within the context of the IFLA core programme "Preservation and Conservation" (PAC).

Construction

Die Deutsche Bibliothek regards the strengthening of European cooperation as a major strategic goal. This policy will find support in the almost simultaneous completion of the new buildings of *Die Deutsche Bibliothek*, the British Library in London, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in Paris and the Royal Library in Copenhagen.

At the G-7 Conference of Ministers on the Information Society (whose members represent the seven most important industrial nations) in Brussels, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* participated alongside France, Japan, Canada and the U.S. in the development of plans for the "electronic library".

Die Deutsche Bibliothek is a house of books and a place for cultural encounter, but it is becoming more than that. Complex computer technologies, high-speed electronic networks and multi-media workstations will also make it an important node in the network of international data highways. Two years after the commencement of construction at the Frankfurt location, *Die Deutsche Bibliothek* celebrated its topping-out ceremonies on September 13th, 1994. Armed with innovative technology, the library will be in a much better position to meet future requirements. The new building comes at the right place and the right time to enable Frankfurt to fulfil its primary responsibilities within the overall library concept. In Leipzig, specific areas of professional focus are entrusted to the Centre for Preservation and Conservation and the Centre for the Book. The Centre for Preservation and Conservation has been newly renovated and equipped. Renovation of the permanent exhibition has begun at the Centre for the Book in accordance with the new presentation concept. Plans call for the reopening of the exhibit under the title "Buchstadt Leipzig" in the fall of 1995. Additional favourable prospects were emphasised in the paper presented in November 1994 by an independent commission of experts for the Centre for the Book, who recommended the systematic further development of this internationally unique institution as a documentation centre for the culture of books, an institution which would provide effective support to science and scholarship and contribute significantly to the preservation of the culture of books through its exhibition activities. A number of bibliographic projects have already been initiated, including, among others, the "International Bibliography of the History of Paper" and the DFG project, "Inventory of archival sources on the history of the German book and publishing trades in the 19th and 20th centuries".

Construction efforts devoted to the preservation of the substance of the historical edifice with the support of special government funds were continued in 1994. Such measures included the renovation of the large reading room during the year. Cooperation with the historical monuments authority has produced a plan designed both to preserve the unique value of the DBL as a historical monument and to meet the requirements of a major modern library. Work on the realisation of these plans will continue through 1995 and 1996.

Professor Klaus-Dieter Lehmann
Director General
Die Deutsche Bibliothek
Zeppelinalle 4 - 8
D-60325 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: +49-69-7566-484
Fax: +49-69-7566-476
Email: lehmann @ dbf.ddb.de