

BIBLIOTECA NAZIONALE CENTRALE

FIRENZE

10th Meeting of CENL, Lisbon 26 - 27 September 1996

Annual Report 1995 - 1996

Direttore

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*COLLECTIONS: 5,244,000 PRINTED BOOKS, 24,000 MANUSCRIPTS, 4,000 INCUNABULA, MORE THAN 1,000,000 LETTERS AND AUTOGRAPHS, 115,000 TITLES OF SERIALS

The Library in politics

After one year and two months of the regency of Mrs Gloria Cerbai, Mrs Antonia Ida Fontana has been appointed new Director of the Library.

More generally, the year has been marked by the Italian Presidency of the European Union. In the libraries field the most relevant event has been the Meeting of the Directors General of Book and Libraries held in Rome on March 96 and focusing on Libraries and electronic publishing. The conference has been co-organised and attended also by representatives of the Dgs X and XIII of the European Commission.

Legislation

The new law concerning the legal deposit is still approaching to its final step (covering: different printed materials, photographic items, multimedia, sound- and video-recordings, radio- and tv-broadcasts etc.; involving different subjects obliged to deposit, such as publishers, printers, producers etc.). The new Law ruling all the State's Library is operating. Among its new opportunities, the obligation made to all the libraries to prepare, within one year, an individual, internal regulation.

New building/construction problems

The organisation of the new buildings of Sant'Ambrogio and the moving of a couple of Departments are near to be achieved. Furthermore the project to reconverte the actual stacks system into the compact sets (41 kilometers and about ten more years of autonomy) has started.

Automation, data processing, retroconversion of already processed data

Our on-line catalog, part of SBN (Servizio Bibliotecario Nazionale, the union catalog of more than 450 Italian libraries) has actually 697.456 bibliographic records (652.213 titles and 387.347 authors)

At the CD-ROM of the Italian National Bibliography already published in 1995 and covering the period 1958 - 1994 with 500.000 records in UNIMARC format, the CD-ROM of the BNCF Catalog has been added.

Available for the readers are all the local data-bases, more Internet and about thirty CD-ROMs of national bibliographies, libraries catalogs, books-in-print, special and selected bibliographies. A new juke-box, able to store 500 CDs is in use.

The wide program of scannerization is on-going and 1.000.000 pages (title-pages and indices) and 2.000 full-texts have been made so far. The cards of Palatino Catalog, which has been the object of Facit project, are now available on Internet (provisional address HTTP: // 150.217.51.200).

Conservation and Preservation of the collections

The Library has been proposed to host the national centre of implementation of a lyophilization proceeding for wet materials.

The Italian section of ISO, together with the National Library, presented to the Government the final results of its study for the adoption of the acid-free paper.

The Department is carrying on a training activity for young people attending courses organised at a local and a national level.

Public relations

The Library usually organizes several cultural events: exhibitions, concerts, meetings with authors and books, visits and trainings. Among the successful exhibitions, we mention *Cinema-to Grafica*, a homage for the centenary of the cinema itself and *Lowell, MA. Where Jack Kerouac's road begins*.

International Co-operation

The National Library of Florence is still involved in the following CEC funded projects:

CHASE, Unicode project inside PROLIB/COBRA, in co-operation with the British Library, the Biblioteca Nacional of Madrid and the Royal Library of Stockholm;

ELITE, for the public access to the bibliographic resources on line and on nets, in co-operation with French, German, Dutch and Greek partners and the University of Florence;

CASA, for the serials available on nets, in co-operation with Greek and Norwegian partners and the University of Bologna.

The Library is also member of the Consortium of European Research Libraries.

August 1996 claudio di benedetto