

M.MAZVYDAS NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LITHUANIA

ANNUAL REPORT

to the Conference of European National Librarians

1997

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COLLECTIONS (1997 12 31)

Books and bound periodicals 2 914 449
Manuscripts 70 018
Microforms 102 845
Audiovisual materials 59 960
Other materials
(including maps, printed music, broadsheets, etc.) 1 456 816
Collection of the Bibliography and Book Science Center (Archive of the national printed heritage) 4 393 622

Total holdings

- in items 8 997 710
- in titles 2 381 846

FINANCE AND FUNDING

The table presents statistical highlights of the Library's financial position. The figures are presented in Lithuanian currency Litas (4 Litas=1 USD)

	Receipts				Expenditures		
Fiscal	From which:				From which:		
Year	Total	Grant-in-aid	Priced activities	Other funds*	Total	Salaries and wages	Acquisitions
1995	10,132,900	9,962,500	158,600	11,800	10,128,400	2,662,500	1,000,000
1996	11,724,600	11,364,700	249,200	110,700	11,223,500	3,778,000	1,223,700
1997	14,065,900	13,565,000	350,800	150,000	15,422,000	5,895,000	1,300,000

* Amount of receipts from foreign funds not included

In 1997 the sum of 13,565,000 Litass was allotted to the Library from the State budget, an increase of 19,3% on 1996. The growth of priced services added 101,600 Litass more than in 1996. Financial support for the current year was provided by different funds and organizations. Projects for financial support were submitted to the Open Society Institute in Budapest and the Open Society Fund-Lithuania. Comparing with the previous year, the expenditures have increased by 37,4% rising to 15,422,000 Litass. 1,3 million Litass (8,4%) from this amount was allotted for acquisition needs, 5,895 (38%) - for salaries, 5,1 (33%) - for construction works of the library annex. Though the resources for 1997 were higher than in the previous year, the financing of acquisition needs, the construction works of the library annex and developing the library automated systems was inadequate. On this issue the Library, together with other Lithuanian research libraries and library organizations, made several appeals to the Lithuanian Government and Parliament emphasizing the significance of libraries and their services in the development of modern information system in Lithuania.

LEGAL DEPOSIT OF MATERIALS

Legal deposit remained the main source of acquisition. The Public Information Law of the Lithuanian Republic of July 2, 1996 and resolution No 1389 of November 22, 1996 "On the order of sending legal deposit of printed matters and documents to the libraries" have changed the system of the legal deposit delivering. On the basis of these acts legal deposit must be delivered by the *publishers* (not by the printing houses as it was before) in two days after the circulation issue. In addition, cooperators of public information must provide the Library with legal deposit copy of audiovisual and electronic documents free of charge. All those changes for some period disrupted the receipt of legal deposit. Certain measures were taken to organize exaction and receipt in more effective way. Publishers were informed about the new regulations. All possible information sources such as ISBN, ISMN databases and reports in mass media were used in order to find out the data about the new publications.

The exaction of legal deposit of non-traditional documents (audiovisual, electronic) required big efforts. The effectiveness of this work has been proved by the increased number of audiovisual documents received by the Library (in 1996 - 1843, in 1997 - 4860). Nevertheless current measures are insufficient and more efforts will be put for the preparation of additional legal documents.

ACQUISITIONS

In 1997 the National Library has received 36,926 titles (92,272 copies) of library documents. Out of this total the following percentage and quantity of publications were acquired according to separate sources:

- 15,7% (14,541) - domestic and foreign exchange
- 44,4% (40,899) - legal deposit
- 19,4% (17,871) - gifts and other free of charge editions
- 10% (9,180) - purchases from book shops and publishers
- 5,8% (5,405) - subscription of domestic periodicals
- 4,7% (4,376) - purchases from the Lithuanian Distributing Center for Libraries

In comparison with 1996, in 1997 the acquisition of prints has increased by 17,618 copies. The table shows data about acquisition of prints in 1996 and 1997.

The acquisition of the Library stocks depends on assignments from the State budget and legal deposits provided by Lithuanian publishers. In 1996 the National Library received 1,3 million Litas for acquisition needs, of which 748,906 Litas for the purchase of national publications and 551,094 Litas for the subscription and acquisition of foreign periodicals, books and other materials.

The Library continued cooperation with book trade companies SWETS, LANGE UND SPRINGER, ARS POLONIA maintaining close links with other organizations abroad, which supplied the Library with recent foreign literature. The international exchange was the most important source of collection development for the Library.

STORAGE AND PRESERVATION

During 1997 these preservation programs of the National Library of Lithuania were in progress:

1. Preservation programs:

- of the Lituanica department archival collection:
 - binding of periodicals;
 - disinfecting of the stocks;
 - restoration of leather spines.
- of the Manuscript department collection:
 - restoration of Privileges of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania.
- of the Bibliography and Book Science Center collection.

1. Microfilming programs:

- of the Lithuanian newspapers published in the 19th-20th centuries;
- of the Judaic periodicals published in Lithuania in the beginning of 20th century.

In 1997 the Library continued the preservation program of library documents giving top priority to the national press. There is a large number of documents in the Library holdings which need restoration and conservation, however financial and technical opportunities are limited. Therefore the strict selection of documents for restoration was set in according to uniqueness of prints, their significance, etc. The aim was to define goals and priorities, in selecting the means by which material should be preserved. Heads of separate departments and staff members responsible for collection preservation and management worked together with the specialists of the Document Conservation and Restoration Center of the Library in creating the preservation program of library collections. In 1997 new technologies of document deacidification by using chalkwater and duplication of documents by using scooped paper were introduced.

Regional public libraries were consulted on questions about restoring the originals and deacidification of printed material. Papers on preservation of library holdings have been presented by the library specialists at the various workshops. The Document Conservation and Restoration Center has organized the days of open doors where the Center activities were introduced and new restored documents were presented to the public. Advertising and information campaign was carried out by the help of mass media.

The microfilming program of Lithuanian periodicals and Judaic materials continued in 1997. Despite of some technical and organizational problems, the cooperative projects with the Library of Congress, the Norman Ross Publishing, Inc. and the University of Osnabrück were in progress.

IT AND NEW TECHNOLOGY

The library continued to develop the systems required to support its operational activities and services. A wide-area telecommunication network provides connections to external networks such as Litnet and Internet. The local network of the Library connects over 170 personal computers on staff desks and in reading rooms. The third part of the staff use computers in

their day-to-day work for activities such as data processing and recording, cataloguing, search and retrieval of information, word processing, sending electronic mail, etc.

In 1997 the implementation of the Lithuanian Integrated Library Information System (LIBIS) was launched. According to the LIBIS project the first stage was the creation of Union Catalogue of Lithuanian research libraries. The software for the Union Catalogue was produced by a Lithuanian computer system company SIGMANTA. Specialists of the Library actively participated in the creation process. The test period of the Union Catalogue started in 1998.

Since January 1996 for the registration and cataloguing of all newly received documents a new version of UNIKAT software was introduced. Over the last two years the main problems of program development and of cataloguing process were solved. The idea of document order from the Library catalogue through WWW was realized. Following the instructions of the Ministry of Culture, the establishment of UNIKAT software in Lithuanian public libraries began.

During the period under review the Automated Reader Admission System was started to realize at the Library: after a test period, a computerized reader registration and entrance control system along with an automated ordering of library documents were implemented. The system ensured faster book delivery and collected management information about the usage of the Library collections.

A special attention was paid to the development of the Library information system and its effectiveness. With the help of new information technologies it was possible to control information streams and to acquaint the users with new ways of search in the library local databases and databases of external network.

SERVICES TO READERS

The main information of readers service:

Number of readers - 22,477

Number of visitors - 439,710

Items ordered - 1,402,515

In 1997 Library budget increased by 350,800 Litass received for priced activities that is 100,000 Litass more than last year. Besides the traditional paid services like copying, bibliographical requests etc. new paid services were added. The possibilities of information retrieval and usage have increased after the opening of the Internet Reading Room with 9 work places. Training courses for readers on work with Internet and information databases have been organized, e-mail service was provided, information search and making of bibliographic lists were offered.

There were some changes and innovations in the Interlibrary Loan service:

- In 1997 the Open Society Fund-Lithuania has financed Interlibrary Loan service, partly covering the cost of document ordering from libraries abroad. This effected the increase of subscribers and orders;
- Internet was used for document searching and ordering thus the book delivery became faster.

EXHIBITIONS

In 1997 the conditions for displaying exhibitions at the Library have improved. The main exhibition hall was renovated and new equipment was acquired. A total of 144 exhibitions were held at the library. Besides, small expositions of artworks, new books and other exhibitions on various subjects were organized.

An impressive campaign was accomplished in promoting the national culture, literature, history and science, commemorations of State dates, jubilees of famous and distinguished personalities. In the beginning of 1997 various events on the occasion of the 450th

anniversary of the first Lithuanian book took place at the Library. National Library named after Martynas Mazvydas, the author of the first Lithuanian book, commemorated this significant date for Lithuania by organizing the following events:

- International exhibition of exlibris "Catechismus - 450" which exposed works of 132 artists from 27 countries;
- International conference "Mazvydas Readings".
- Mobile exhibition which represented Lithuania and the National Library abroad (USA, Canada, Latvia, Finland, Belarus).

The Library participated at the international exhibition of information technologies "Info Balt" where the information possibilities of the Library and new technologies were introduced to the public. The Library has organized exhibitions on the 75th anniversary of the National Library of Belarus, the Ukrainian independence day, the 200-year death anniversary of World known Jewish sage Vilner Gaon. The exhibition displaying works to design a sign commemorating the 1000 years of Lithuania as well as the exhibition of children paintings "Kings and Jokers" were held at the Library.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Traditional forms of international cooperation such as book exchange, participation in library international cooperation programs and organizations were continued in 1997. The library is represented in a number of international organizations and institutions, i.e. IFLA, FID, LIBER, CDNL, CENL, CERL, IAML. Participation in the activities of those organizations, annual conferences and workshops, professional contacts are very important for the Library. Cooperation was maintained with national libraries of the Baltic States, Germany, Poland, Russia, France, with various Lithuanian communities and organizations in USA, UK, Germany and other countries. In 1997 approximately 16% of new publications were received by exchange. There were exchange relations with 238 counterparts in 37 countries. Moreover, prints were received from 3 international organizations (European Union, TATENA, World Development and Reconstruction Bank). A significant book collection of Vilius Gaigalaitis, a prominent figure of Lithuanian culture in accordance with his will was returned from Germany to Lithuania for a permanent housing in the National Library. The press conference and exhibition of books from his collection were held at the Library. With the help of the Goethe Institute in Munich, the German Literature Reading Room was opened at the library where persons interested in German literature, culture and science can obtain considerable information on this subject.

The following seminars were held at the library in 1997:

- ***Baltic Practical Scientific Seminar on Cataloguing***. This seminar was financed by the Open Society Institute-Budapest, the Open Society Fund-Lithuania, the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture and the National Library. Reports were presented by specialists on cataloguing from the national libraries of Baltic countries and the Library of Congress (USA).
- Seminar "***New children books and periodicals in Russia***" for children book publishers, journal editors and other specialists in children literature.

In 1997 the library participated in the following international projects:

- Formation of data bank of German periodicals **ZDB**. A total of 1084 records were provided.
- Preparation of an edition "***Handbuch der Historischen Buchbestände***" where the survey of Baltic library holdings is presented. This is a reference book which provides

the study of historical holdings of libraries in Lithuania and other Baltic countries. The Academy of Science Library, the Vilnius University Library and the National Library of Lithuania took part in this project. The National Library coordinated the presentation of material from the Kaunas Regional Public Library, the Lithuanian Medical Library and the Library of Medical Academy in Kaunas.

- Participation in the *Subject Authority and Classification Records (SACO)* project which was a part of the Library of Congress Program for Cooperative Cataloguing (PCC).
- The correspondence concerning participation in *OCLC system* has started.
- *Microfilming program* of Lithuanian publications which is carried out in the cooperation with the Library of Congress and Norman Ross Publishing Inc.

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