

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ART CRITICS

5th General Assembly

DUBLIN

Newman House

20-26 July 1955

PRESENTS :

President : Paul PIERENS (Belgium).

Vice-Presidents : Raymond COGNAT (France), Pierre COURTHION (Switzerland, Sir Herbert READ (United Kingdom), James Johnson SWEENEY (U.S.A.), Lionello VENTURI (Italy).

General Secretary : S. GILIE-DELAFFON (France).

Treasurer : Walter KERN (Switzerland).

Members : Giulio Carlo ARGAN (Italian Section President), Nouroullah BERK (Turkish Section President), Thomas Mc GREEVY (Irish Section President), Eric NEWTON (British Section President), Franz ROH (German Section President).

L.F.J. BRAAT (Dutch Section Secretary), Palma BUCARELLI (Italian Section Secretary), C. DOELMAN (Dutch Section Treasurer), Hans Theodor FLEMMING (German Section Secretary), George H. GRAY (Irish Section Treasurer), Frederic LAWS (British Section Treasurer), Michaël H. MIDDLETON (British Section Secretary), Georges PEILLEX (Swiss Section Secretary), James WHITE (Irish Section Secretary).

Anna-Maria BRIZIO (Italy), Maurice COLLIS (United Kingdom), Elisabeth CURRAN (Ireland), Constantin P. CURRAN (Ireland), R.R. FIGGIS (Ireland), C. GIEDION WEICKER (Switzerland), W. Jos de GRUYTER (Netherlands), Françoise HENRI (Ireland), John HEWITT (Ireland), Pierre JEANNERAT (United Kingdom), Jacques LASSAIGNE (France), Hector LEGGE (Ireland), Jean LEYMARIE (France), Donald MURPHY (Ireland), Giusta NICCO FASOLA (Italy), Mario PEDROSA (Brazil), R.E. PENNING (Netherlands), Leo VAN PUYVELDE (Belgium), J.J. VRIEND (Netherlands), S. Kemal YETKIN (Turkey).

New Members : Richard GAINSBOROUGH (United Kingdom), Will GROHMANN (Germany), Lord KILLANIN (Ireland), Carl LINFERT (Germany), Mary PITTALUGA (Italy), Bruno E. WERNER (Germany), Hans Maria WINCLER (Germany).

Representative of UNESCO : M. Peter BELLEW, Division of Art and Letters.

SUMMARY RECORD

Ist Meeting

Monday, 20th July 1953

The president of the IAAC, M. Paul FIERENS, opened the meeting and proposed to the Assembly the election of M. Thomas Mc GREEVY, president of the Irish section, as General Rapporteur. The proposition was unanimously accepted.

Mme S. GILIE-DELAFFON, General Secretary, presented the moral report. She gave an account of the activity of the IAAC since its creation. The organization of 4 congresses and 5 general assemblies, first unions of art critics, took an importance which the founders of the Association, Raymond COGNAT, the president Paul FIERENS, the vice-presidents Lionello VENTURI, Gérard KNUTTEL, Pierre COURTHION, Jorge J. CRESPO de la SERNA, Eric NEWTON, James Johnson SWEENEY, and herself, were far from expecting. Its immediate consequences has been the formation of many associations of art critics in the world, created, according to the model of the IAAC and to join the IAAC. In 4 years, 19 national sections were, thus, set up, while 10 others were being formed. On the whole, a group of about 400 art writers : namely 225 full-members and more than 180 associate members.

On the other hand, in addition to the congresses which were held in Europe, there must be mentioned a first congress of art critics organized in 1951 by the Brazilian Section and two other congresses which are being prepared : a new congress in Brazil, and a first interamerican congress planned by the Mexican Section. Moreover, we must point out; among the activities of the IAAC, the creation of several "Critics' Prizes", created by the Belgian, Brazilian, British, Greek and Italian Sections.

It is also important to mention the first series of works of the IAAC :

- Different International enquiries carried out at the request of UNESCO.
- The creation, in France, of a society for the collecting of Artist's copyright.
- The preliminary study for the organization of a Translation Bureau.
- The study for the creation of an Information Bulletin.
- A proposal concerning the formation of contemporary archives on Modern Art.
- Finally, the delivery of more than 75.000 exhibitions' catalogues to the members of the IAAC.

The IAAC undertakes useful works. We expect, its members would like working together. It is useless to join IAAC to look for one's personal interest, but there, one discovers the advantage of International contacts and professional confraternity, from one country to another.

The subsidies obtained by the Brazilian, Dutch, Italian and Turkish Sections in order to go to the IAAC congresses, is a proof of the importance taken by the Association, towards governmental authorities.

This report must conclude mentioning the help received by the IAAC from UNESCO, without which it would be unable to carry out its spiritual and material work. We have to address our thanks to M. Georges WILLENSTEIN, who, since its creation, never stopped giving it his useful help.

M. Walter KERN, treasurer, presented the financial report. He declared having in hands 649.90 Swiss francs, deposited at the Cantonal Thurgovian Bank. There is a second deposit in Paris. Accounts from the Paris General Secretary's Office, which also receives subscriptions, shows - including accounts of the General Assembly - 375.922 French francs of receipt and 418.081 French francs of expenses. Therefore, there is a deficit of 42.159 French francs which will be covered by the general treasury.

He invited the national Sections to manage in order to pay him the amount of subscriptions in one whole sum, and thanked the Sections, beforehand, for what they will do to make his work easier.

As to the budget, Mme GILIE-DELAFFON, explained that the IAAC had this year, two income sources :

- a) a 1.000 \$ grant from UNESCO, which must be entirely affected to the organization of International Congresses of Art Critics.
- b) the subscriptions of full-members.

About 150.000 French francs are needed for the annual expenses of the General Secretariat, including the sending of catalogues. Besides the organization of International Congresses of Art Critics, the IAAC hopes to undertake new works which will be examined during the 3d session of this assembly. New credits will be then necessary. The IAAC expects to obtain them from UNESCO, the works involved being connected with the UNESCO's programme.

Then, came the question to know whether an increase in the amount of the subscriptions is possible, but it was decided to keep the same rate, namely 1.000 French francs or the equivalent. It was unanimously accepted that, for the future, each national Section would assume the responsibility of collecting its members' subscriptions, the whole sum having to be sent to the General Treasurer.

REPORTS FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF THE NATIONAL SECTIONS

M. Franz ROH, president of the German Section, announced the creation of an association of German Art Critics, including 21 full-members and 19 associate-members. A General Assembly was held.

M. James J. SWEENEY, president of the American Section, declared that the members of the Association had agreed on the behaviour they have to assume toward the political authorities. The Section deplores the present tendencies of claiming subversive, some currents of art, mixing regrettably, art and politics, thus, establishing a violation against the principle of free expression.

This Section stood up firmly against a political movement which was asking for the destruction of a wall painting by Anton REFRIEGER, in San Francisco. A protest signed by a majority of members was sent to the Washington Committee for examination, to claim for the respect of art.

The President expressed his regrets for the absence of a representative of the Argentine Section.

M. Otto HENESCH, president of the Austrian Section, informed of a new candidature in his Section.

M. Charles BERNARD, president of the Belgian Section, being absent, the president declared that this Section held monthly meetings. A critics's prize has been created, for which a young artist is chosen every month. The prize is attributed at the end of the year, during a General Exhibition of all the laureats' works.

M. Mario PEDROSA, representing M. Sergio MILLIET, president of the Brazilian Section, told that the Section has successfully organized public meetings which have raised up a new interest for Art. The government has entrusted the Section for the choice of candidates to the National Institute for Painters.

M. Eric NEWTON, president of the British Section, announced that the pressure made upon members for the payment of the verdue subscriptions made their number decrease. An Art Critics' Prize, slightly different from the Belgian Section's has been established. A board of three critics follows during the year, the works of a few young artists, and the prize is attributed to the most promising. Coming from different sources, the total amount of the prize is variable.

The meeting is adjourned.

1st Meeting (continued)

Tuesday, the 21st July 1953

M. Raymond COGNAT, president of the French Section, recalled that last year, this section had been asked to study the present state of law on artists' copyright and the improvement which could be brought to it. This undertaking appeared to be extremely difficult, encountering a secret opposition. An Association for the collecting of copyright, has been created in France, at last, involving together, artists, publishers, painting dealers, auctioneers and art writers. The Association has begun its work. This new action has now to be transferred on an International level.

M. COGNAT, went to the International Conference of Artists in Venice, to represent M. Paul FIERENS; the representative of the IAAC was invited as an observer, and attended the meetings of the Committee of Plastic Arts. There were several proposals, against which, M. COGNAT, thought, he had to protest, this in view of the general concern. On the other hand, the proposal for the creation of an International Council for Arts and Letters at UNESCO, though several associations, - more particularly the IAAC - had given a favourable agreement, was thrown down by a last vote. Afterwards, the IAAC, asked UNESCO to reconsider this decision and took the initiative of gathering all the wishes of all concern associations.

The President declared, he agrees entirely with the position taken by M. COGNAT, at Venice, this last one conciliating the artists' interests as well as the freedom of art critic.

M. Peter BELLEW, pointed out that the creation of an International Council for Arts and Letters needed the agreement of different associations, which has not yet been obtained.

The report of M. Demetre EVANGHELIDES, president of the Greek Section, mentioned that the members of this Section meet every month, and that they have obtained an half-an-hour broadcast every week at the Radio, devoted to the visit of Museums.

M. Gerard KNUTTEL, being absent, M. L.P.J. BRAAT, announced that the newest art films are shown at the meetings of the Dutch Association. The activity of this Section has been chiefly devoted to the study for the publication of an Information Bulletin, and to the creation of a Translation Office.

The President pointed out that the best proof of the activity of the Dutch section has been the Amsterdam Congress.

M. Thomas Mc GREEVY, president of the Irish Section said that, of course, the main point of activity of this section has been the preparation of the Congress, which will, probably, have a National repercussion on Art. He thanked M. James WHITE, Secretary of the Irish Section, for having entirely assumed the preparatory work of this Congress, and Miss Françoise HENRI, for the presentation of the Irish manuscripts at Trinity College.

M. Giulio Carlo ARGAN, president of the Italian Section recalled that free entrances in Italian Museums, when presenting the IAAC membership card, has been obtained this year. Picasso's Exhibition in Rome, which is due to M. Lionello VENTURI, has been organized with the help of the members of this section. Prizes were awarded to the best two reports on the Exhibition. This election of two members of the IAAC to the Committee of the Venice Biennale shows how great is the reputation of IAAC. Several art reviews have granted a reduction of subscription to members of the IAAC (Emporium, Arte Veneta, Litteratura, Commentari), two others offered a hundred free subscriptions (la Biennale di Venezia, Sele Arte). The Italian Section will not be concerned about the delivery of these subscriptions.

The Italian Section has created a Critics' Prize, but this prize differs from the other Sections' being reserved to critics. A competition for several prizes of a hundred thousand liras each, will be opened next spring.

The President expressed his regrets on the fact that the Japanese Section has not sent any report.

The Luxemburgess Section being not represented, the report from M. Joseph Emile MULIER, secretary of this Section, was read. It announced the coming creation of an Art Critics' Prize, and proposed the collaboration of the Section for establishing a Translation Bureau.

The report sent by M. J.J. CRESPO de la SERNA, vice-president of the Mexican Section describes the works of the Section: editions of Bulletins, and organization of the Mexican Art Exhibition, which has been held in Paris, Stockholm, and London, and will be shown in Mexico, at last. The section has renewed its Bureau and has elected M. Antonio CASTRO LEAL, as president, M. CRESPO de la SERNA, as vice-president, and M. Mauricio GOMEZ MAYORCA, as secretary-treasurer. The Section intends to organize in Mexico an Interamerican Congress of Art Critics, to which European fellow-members will be invited. The help of the Central University of Mexico is necessary to carry out this purpose.

M. Pierre COURTHION, president of the Swiss Section informed that a General Assembly has been held on May 16th, and that new statutes have been adopted by the Swiss Section. M. Gottthard JEDLIKA, has been appointed vice-president of the Association, M. Georges PEILLIEX, secretary, instead of M. Walter KERN, who is keeping the Office of general-treasurer of the IAAC, while M. Alfred SCHEIDGER, becomes treasurer of the Section.

M. Nouroullah BERK, president of the Turkish Section, announced also the formation of an organization of Art Critics in Turkey, including 10 members. A room for meetings has been found in Istanbul, where an Exhibition is held out twice a month. The Administration frants a pecuniary help to the section.

2nd Meeting

Tuesday, 21st July 1953

COMMITTEE MEETING

The President, then, asked the presidents of the National Associations to give the new candidatures for full membership they had to present, and to submit them, for vote, to the Assembly.

The German Section proposed MM. Bruno E. WERNER, Will GROHMANN, Werner HAFT-MANN, Hans HILDEBRANDT, Carl LINFERT, Benno REIFENBERG, Hans Maria WINGIER, Leopold ZAHN.

The Austrian Section proposed M. Alfred SCHMELIER.

The Belgian Section proposed MM. José GEERTS and Henri KERELS.

The British Section propose MM. Raynor BANHAM, Richard GAINSBOROUGH, William GAUNT, Mrs. Wilma MOY-THOMAS, and M. W.H. WHITTET.

The French Section proposed MM. Marcel BRION, Julien CAIN, René JULLIAN, Henri MARTINIE.

The Dutch Section proposed M. Hans REDEKER.

The Irish Section proposed Lord KILLANIN.

The Italian Section proposed MM. Rosario ASSUNTO, Valentino MARTINELLI, Mrs. Mary PITTALUGA and M. Roberto SALVINI.

The Turkish Section proposed M. Bulent ECEVIT.

All were admitted as full member.

Two individual candidatures were also admitted : these of M. José GUDIOL (Spain) and Sandor TORDAY (Hungaria).

Mme GILIE-DELAFFON explained that, besides the Sections already presented, five new Sections have been constituted in the following countries : South-Africa . Republic, Canada, Cuba, Spain, India.

The Committee admitted the Free Section, by choosing M. Julio E. PAYRO (Argentina) as president for this Section.

At the end of the meeting, M. James WHITE, general-secretary for the Congress, announced a proposal according to which, foreign artists might be invited, under certain conditions, to come and work in Ireland.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The President opened the meeting, announcing the admissions of new full members, which had just been approved.

Then, he asked to proceed with the renewal of the Committee.

On a national level, 3 Sections announced a change :

- The British Section proposed M. H. Michael MIDDLETON, to replace M. Benedict NICOLSON.

- The Italian Section proposed M. Giulio Carlo ARGAN, to replace M. Lionello VENTURI.

- The Mexican Section proposed MM. Luis LARA PARDO and Jorge ENCISO, to replace M. CRESPO de la SERNA, and Mrs. Margarita NELKEN.

As to the renewal of the retiring third of the Committee, on the international level, 7 members having been elected in 1950, were drawn by lot. They are : MM. Henry Mc BRIDE (U.S.A.), Robert L. DELEVOY (Belgium), Fernando GAMBOA (Mexico), Clement GREENBERG (U.S.A.), Jacques LASSAIGNE (France), Léon VAN PUYVELDE (Belgium), Claude ROGER-MARX (France).

Besides, there was one deceased member, M. C.J. BULLIET (U.S.A.), and two resigning members MM. Denys SUTTON (Great-Britain), and R. WITTKOWER (Great-Britain).

As members to be elected, the retiring members and other full members were proposed to the vote of the Assembly. This vote gave the following result :

- Retiring full members re-elected : MM. Robert L. DELEVOY (Belgium), Fernando GAMBOA (Mexico), Jacques LASSAIGNE (France), Léon VAN PUYVELDE (Belgium).

- Full members elected : MM. Cesare BRANDI (Italy), J.J. CRESPO de la SERNA (Mexico), Will GROHMANN (Germany), Miss Françoise HENRI (Ireland), Pierre JEANNERAT (Great-Britain), James THRALL SOBY (U.S.A.), Lionello VENTURI (Italy).

Unanimously, a motion for the collective renewal of the Bureau was admitted then.

The President closed the session.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ART CRITICS

PUBLIÉ AVEC LE CONCOURS FINANCIER
DE L'UNESCO

5th General Assembly

D U B L I N

Newman House

MINUTES of the 3rd MEETING (public)

Wednesday 22nd July 1953.

The P r e s i d e n t, after reading out the agenda, which had to be slightly modified owing to the number and urgency of the matters under consideration, informed the meeting that a telegraphic vote of thanks was to be conveyed to Mr. Luther EVANS, Director General of UNESCO. The General Secretariat of the IAAC distributed to the various sections, during the course of the year, a circular headed "the right to take part in the cultural life", expressing the wish to be associated with the works of this Organisation.

The President then called on M. G.C. ARGAN, proposer of the motion "Contemporary Art Records", and M. R. COGNAT, substituting M. P. FRANCASTEL during his absence.

M. Giulio Carlo A r g a n, President of the Italian Section, did not think it necessary to stress the importance of centralizing the documentation on contemporary art, the only problem being of a financial nature. The latter could be solved by the publication of hand-books, issued annually, in which would be mentioned the works of the more important artists, as well as their exhibitions and works published by or concerning them. It is possible that financial assistance for a publication of this sort could be obtained, and editors found. The documentation would be gathered together by the National Sections working in close collaboration. The Sections would make out a list of the artists to be taken into account in the compilation of such records. On the practical side, a hand-book of this type would soon take on great importance. It is worth while, from other points of view as well, to examine with the utmost care the responsibility which such a work would carry.

M. Raymond C o g n a t, President of the French Section, submitted to the meeting the report made out by M. Pierre FRANCASTEL (France) who put forward suggestions which could be put into action immediately. Right from the first International Congress of Art Critics, held in Paris in 1949, M. FRANCASTEL pointed out the interest which should be taken in undertaking the formation of Records on contemporary art. In his opinion, it is imperative to start off with a concrete working scheme in mind. It is essential that the Records have a material existence, in other words a "home" and a system of distribution, as it is important that, through the work done by the Association, research workers should have at their disposal the available material and publications.

The French Section is in a position to solve this two-sided problem. Negotiations with the Library of the Institute of Art and Archeology in Paris augure hopefully for the desired building, offering the advantage of an already existing microfilm department which greatly facilitates the passing on of the existing documents. Elsewhere, the recent creation, under the auspices of the practical Section of the Higher Studies at the Sorbonne, of a centre of comparative historic Psychology, under the direction of Messrs. FRANCASTEL and MEYERSON, will render it possible to publish results in liaison with the IAAC, which, from their end, will have to obtain the assistance of UNESCO for the material side of their plan.

The proposed working scheme involves the participation of each and all of the Sections : - despatch of a catalogue of all the exhibitions set on foot, despatch of a microfilm (negative) of each work exhibited, of which the Centre could afterwards procure positives at very reasonable prices, inventory of the sources of contemporary art since 1900, study of several of the fundamental problems of the period (Cubism, Expressionism, etc ...), personal documentation on the great artists. The French Section proposes to circulate to all those national sections which show interest, a draft questionnaire on the subjects which will be brought up at the Assembly.

The President then thanked the speakers and expressed his pleasant surprise at the rapid development of this question. He felt that the points of view put forward by these two speakers were complementary to one another, and that all the Sections should collaborate in this work which would be entirely to the credit of the IAAC. These two reports call for a conclusion which must be passed on eventually to the General Assembly.

The President then proceeded to the choice of the subject-matter of the next Congress. The motion "Quality and Style in Plastic Arts", proposed by M. Romero BREST (Argentine), will be borne in mind in the hope that this proposer, who is head of a section, will be able to be present. As the discussion on the motion "The relationship between Science and Art", (proposer M. FRANCASTEL) remained unfinished at the end of the Congress, it will be reconsidered at a later date.

M. Pierre Courthion, President of the Swiss Section, proposed that the meeting should consider a motion on "Art in its relationship with Social Life".

After a certain amount of discussion, the President puts forward, besides these three subjects, three others : - "Criticism of Art and Philosophy", to be proposed by Messrs. Mc GREEVY, president of the Irish Section, and L. VENTURI (Italy), "Conditions of the Presentation of Art", put forward by Messrs. R. COGNAT and J. LASSAIGNE (France), and "Relations between Eastern and Western Art", with a Congress in Istanbul in mind. The president asked that a certain amount of leniency should be exercised in favour of the General Secretariat for the establishment of these debates.

The meeting then adjourned.

3rd Meeting (Continued)

Friday 24th July 1953

The P r e s i d e n t announced that reports would be put forward in regard to the establishment of a Translating Office and to the publication of International artistic data.

M. L.P.J. BRAAT (Holland) commenced by reading a report by M. H.L.C. JAFFE, Vice-President of the Dutch Section, who was unable to attend the General Assembly. M. JAFFE has gone into the possibility of setting up an Office of this sort in order to ensure the translation of theses on artistic works. After various meetings with experts and interested parties, particularly editors, the following proposal was submitted to the Assembly : -

1. The Office working in conjunction with the General Secretariat of the IAAC should have at its disposal lists of translators, supplied and kept up to date by the Sections of the IAAC.
2. The Office should maintain the necessary contacts between the authors and the editors.
3. The Office should suggest to the editor three experts, selected from the members of the IAAC for checking purposes. The publication should carry the following qualification : - Translation revised by the IAAC.

The financial question could be settled as follows : - The translators put forward by the Office would receive their salaries from the Editor, according to fixed tariffs holding good in their own countries; the members of the IAAC assigned to the checking work would receive varying salaries from case to case, the average price of which could be \$ 10.- per translation of 75 pages; the Office would receive from the Editor an amount equivalent to \$ 10.- per translation; the overhead expenses of the Office, estimated at \$ 500.- for the beginning, could be paid, apart from the amounts paid out by the Editors, out of the International contributions in the same way as those operated by the PEN Club.

The P r e s i d e n t expressed a vote of thanks for the work which had been done. He reminded those present that several members of the IAAC, Messrs. J.E. MULLER (Luxemburg), Julio E. PAYRO (Argentina), as well as Messrs. A. LERNER (Israel) and E. VERNAZZA (Uruguay) had set to work on this project, and that it should not be difficult to establish contact with them. He appealed to the Assembly for an affirmative vote on the question, so that the Translating Office, assisted by the General Secretariat, could be set on foot.

To this the meeting agreed.

M. L.P.J. BRAAT, in starting his report on the Publication of International

Artistic Data, pointed out that in several countries periodicals were published, with various details on exhibitions, but that none of them gave entire satisfaction. In the name of the Dutch Section, he proposed the publication of a periodical, of small size, 14 x 19,5 - containing 64 pages, with several reproductions of selected works. This Information Bulletin should be edited by the IAAC, aided financially by UNESCO. Its object would be to distribute artistic data throughout every country of the world, to give announcements on exhibitions, on works exhibited, on news in the artistic world, orders to the artists, reproductions of pieces of work, issues of books on art, etc. Certain articles, of an informative nature, could also be integrated. The intentions are that this bulletin should contribute, in a technical capacity, towards the formation of the Records of Contemporary Art. The General Secretariat of the IAAC would be responsible for centralizing the pieces of information which should be sent out by the National Sections. A Dutch editor has been put into the picture, and a financial project has been submitted to UNESCO.

M. Peter BELLEW, UNESCO representative, assured the meeting that this project would be received favourably by UNESCO, and that he hoped to succeed in having it included in the proposed programme for 1955 and 56 which was at present under consideration. The Director General of UNESCO greatly appreciates the work undertaken by the IAAC and is personally in favour of an even greater cooperation with them.

On the President's request, the Dutch proposal was accepted.

The President then proceeded to ask M. Jacques LASSAIGNE to voice the motion concerned with the establishment of Records of Contemporary Art, put forward by Messrs. ARGAN, BRAAT, COGNAT, COURTHION, NEWTON, PEDROSA, SWEENEY and himself at the end of the reports which had been presented the previous day. According to the terms of this motion, the IAAC is to undertake the formation of Records of Contemporary Art, as from 1900. Each year, a Commission, set up above the IAAC, and consisting of 7 members: - Messrs. FRANCASTEL, VENTURI, FIERENS, READ, SWEENEY, BRAAT, SCHMIDT, plus one representative from the Association of Plastic Arts, should segregate that part of the Records to be promoted from the National to the International level, that is to say sent to the International Centre which is yet to be set up. The IAAC propose to go into far-reaching researches on the trends of the basic art of the twentieth century. As from now on, they will study "Cubism" under the leadership of M. FRANCASTEL, and "Futurism" under the leadership of M. ARGAN. They wish to co-ordinate as regards the compilation of the catalogues of masters of Contemporary Art, having accepted the proposal of the Italian Section to make available certain ones of their 5 annual prizes of Art Critics to the competition which takes place for the most systematic documentation, and asks of each National Section: -

1. to find either a public or a private institution willing to act as National Headquarters for documentation purposes;
2. to study in the shortest possible time the patterns of index-cards from which the Upper Commission would make the final choice;

3. to make known to this Commission all suggestions concerning the activities of the International Centre and of National Centres, as well as the possible publication of documents containing the information on hand, in the form of a hand-book.

Sir Herbert READ (Gt Britain) made several reservations in the name of the British Section, and proposed that the voting on this motion should be carried forward to the next Assembly.

M. Raymond COGNAT however felt that this was the moment and that an immediate agreement should be given in order to permit commencement of this work without further delay.

The President proposed an immediate voting by means of raised hands. There being no opposition to the motion, it was carried.

M. LARDERA was the next speaker.

M. Berto LARDERA, Secretary of the International Association of Plastic Arts, proposed a vote of thanks, in the name of the President of his Association, for the invitation which had been tendered to him to attend the Congress in Dublin. M. LARDERA drew to the attention of the meeting the fact that he had closely followed the development of the International Association of Art Critics. He deliberated that the same reasons which prompted the Art Critics to form a Group were responsible for the formation of the International Association of Plastic Arts, reasons of professional safeguarding. The improvement, on the social side, of living and working conditions, depends on the activation of artists. He further called to mind the Venice Conference where artists hailing from 45 nations were united and founded the Association which at present carries on as a temporary Commission. A first national centre has been formed in Belgium. The Association could associate itself with the formation of Records of Contemporary Art.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to M. LARDERA for his proposal and carried the remainder of the items on the agenda forward to the next day.

3rd Meeting (Continued)

Saturday 25th July 1953

The President called on M. Jacques LASSAIGNE to read his report on the subject of Artist's Copyright.

M. Jacques LASSAIGNE (France) pointed out that a considerable distance had been covered in the last three years. Between the artists and the Association there appeared a body which claimed to act on behalf of the artists and which spoke against their own interests. On the suggestion of Maximilien GAUTHIER (France), a decision was taken to form a new group including artists of all followings, as well as critics and editors. An association was legally set up, which has already held its inaugural meeting. Its headquarters are at the Maison des Artistes, rue Berryer, Paris. The Society has the approval of

those societies already in existence. The National Chamber of Auctioneers and the Association of Arts Dealers affiliated themselves. Newspapers are about to apply for membership. In the wish not to limit the activities of this group to the collection of subscriptions, but to give it a free hand in facilitating the distribution of modern works, the following title was given to it : - Association for the distribution of graphic and plastic arts. The problem now on hand is the question as to how to undertake the formation of parallel societies in the various countries.

A further statement was made by M. Michael H. MIDDLETON (Gt Britain), who suggested that catalogues of the more important exhibitions should be purchased through the intermediary of the General Secretariat of AICA.

The President then read out a wish put forward by the Assembly :

- that the role which is plaid by critics should no longer be considered as negative or incidental, but as a creative manifestation of human thought in the same way as that role plaid by other artists, consequently : -
- that the critics should be invited to attend the scheduled meetings of UNESCO, and to participate in the possible creation of either the International Council of Arts and Letters, or of a Consultant or Co-ordinating Committee.

The President finally proposed to alternate the Congresses of the IAAC with the Congresses of the Society of the History of Art and with those of the International Council of Museums, in such a way that the next Congresses of the IAAC would take place in 1954 and again in 1957.

This proposal was carried.

The President finally came to the question of place and date of the next Congress.

M. Neouroullah PERK, President of the Turkish Section, proposed that the Congress should take place in Istanbul, in September 1954, in reiterating his Section's invitation. He guarantees good means of transport. Great hopes for assistance are pinned on to the Turkish Government, and Istanbul, a city of art and archeology, would prove itself to be a working centre of particular interest for members of AICA.

The proposition was carried, accompanied by expressions of pleasure and approval.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to M. Neouroullah PERK and pronounced the General Assembly closed.
