

AIIC

BULLETIN

May 1973

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A message from the President

Your new Council commenced its period of office amidst a major world currency crisis. After preparation by a Bureau meeting in March, a constructive three-day Council session in April dealt with all current major issues, and took policy decisions on both short-term and long-term procedure. Rather than overstrain the limited potential by trying to tackle every problem at once, the Council has decided to work selectively by channelling efforts into the framework of a realistic programme for the solution of the most urgent major problems, whilst not neglecting to prepare the ground for further development. Utmost priority for the immediate future was therefore attributed to: (i) Negotiations on the IGO and NGO sectors; (ii) Reform of our administrative infrastructure; (iii) Preparation of a long-term development for AIIC to be submitted to the 1975 Assembly; (iv) Concentration of resources to bring AIIC's work in the technical field to fruition.

The work of AIIC under its past Presidents Constantin Andronikof, Christopher Thiery, Jean Herbert and Wadi Keiser, imbued as it was by a spirit of common purpose and universal solidarity, has given our profession world-wide recognition and impressive strength over the years. It will be continued in the same spirit.

Your Council looks forward to, and indeed needs, the continued support by all members, expressed first and foremost by their staunch loyalty to AIIC's declared principles. Our profession and Association are judged by the world in terms of the quality of our services and the standard of our professional attitude in every-day work, vital as it is for universal understanding.

In this period of uncertainty and upheaval, when certain convictions that went unchallenged for two decades are being overthrown, common sense, good will and calm will be required, and, perhaps, the inclination to follow the advice given by an admiral generations ago: « Never let your ship go faster than your brain.» All problems can be solved provided we remain united in our allegiance to the common goal staked out by the founders of our Association nearly twenty years ago.

The best of luck to you all in your private and professional lives.

R. K. Lochner
President

Treasurer's letter

As your Treasurer I would first of all like to thank all who voted me into the job. It is not an easy task to step into the shoes of my predecessor who not only managed to put AIIC's finances on a sound footing and instituted modern accounting methods, but also was always able to come up with the apposite quote or anecdote to fit the circumstance. But with the help of all the members and the close cooperation of my Regional Assistant Treasurers and my alter ego, the Deputy Treasurer, I hope to continue along the wise and prudent road marked out by our President.

One of the most important ways in which members can help me is by paying their dues promptly. By far the large majority does and to them I extend my gratitude. However, there are those who are distracted at the beginning of a financial year—and I must admit that 1 October is not the easiest date in the calendar to remember unless you happened to be born or married then—and who, despite reminders from my very able Assistants, forget to pay their current dues and even, in some few cases, fall behind by more than one year.

To these members I would like to address a special plea. You may feel that AIIC does little for you but don't forget that AIIC has been working for several years in order to improve physical and technical conditions of work (and that we hope that very shortly an ISO Standard will be adopted on the basis of the very extensive and careful work carried out by our Technical and Health Committees),

to improve our remuneration and that, in particular, the mention of your name and quality in the Yearbook is often most helpful in the pursuit of your professional career. For several years the Association has had in mind a way of reminding you of this and this year a formal decision was taken in Vienna regarding sanctions to be imposed on those who fell significantly in arrears.

“Members who have not paid their full dues for the financial year ending before the date of the publication of the Yearbook shall have only their names published in it.”

In pursuance of this decision I have taken the initiative, under the supervision of the Council, to issue the appropriate instructions regarding all those who have not paid their dues for the financial year which closed on 30 September, 1972. I sincerely hope that this exercise will not have to be repeated in the future editions.

Owing to the recent instability on the world's currency markets it has been necessary to revise the equivalents payable in certain currencies. I hope that all members affected by these changes will accept the fact, albeit grudgingly. It is my intention, if the “gremlins” allow, to set national equivalents immediately prior to the opening of the next financial year and stick to them for the twelve-month unless there is another major upheaval. This should incite habitual late payers to make an effort to pay up on time in order not to run the risk of having to pay more at a later date.

As far as dues are concerned, the Assembly adopted the following scale:

- Active members SF260
- Associate members SF175
- Corresponding members SF 25
- Candidate members SF 50

— Inscription fee for candidates SF 50

The inscription fee has been reintroduced this year and is a one-shot, non-refundable payment to be made at the time candidates send in their application. Once they are listed they will owe their dues as Candidate Members. All other dues are payable as from 1 October each year.

Executive Secretary's notes

BIRTHS

On 2nd January 1973 a son, André Philippe, to Ulla and Walter LANDMANN-SCHNEIDER.

CONSULTATIVE STATUS

ILO:

AIIC has made a formal request for admission to the ILO Special List. It is understood that this application is under active consideration, and a reply from ILO is expected in the course of May.

UNESCO:

On July 7, 1972, AIIC made a formal application to UNESCO for admission to Category B (Information and Consultative Relations). We understand from the UNESCO Secretariat that the AIIC application will be examined by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its Spring session in 1973 (25 April to 11 May).

DANICA SELESKOVITCH

Le 3 avril 1973 Danica Seleskovitch a soutenu sa thèse d'Etat en Sorbonne.

Sujet de la thèse principale: « Les mécaniques de la prise de notes en interprétation consécutive. Contribution à l'étude du fonctionnement du langage. »

Thèse complémentaire: « L'interprète dans les conférences internationales. Problèmes de langage et de communication. »

Cette soutenance a été triomphale. Le travail de notre collègue a été couronné de la plus haute distinction: mention très honorable à l'unanimité du jury et avec ses félicitations.

Ce résultat se passe de commentaires, son éclat rejaillit sur toute notre profession. L'AIIC est fière et félicite chaleureusement Danica.

OBITUARIES

Guy Piquemal

C'est avec stupeur que les amis de Guy Piquemal ont appris sa disparition en février dernier.

Il avait à peine dépassé la cinquantaine, mais c'est un des anciens de la profession qui nous quitte. Sa carrière avait commencé en 1947, à l'UNESCO. Interprète né, d'une rapidité d'esprit éblouissante, il s'est classé d'emblée au rang des meilleurs. Il traduisait les orateurs les plus redoutables avec une aisance impressionnante.

Après avoir longtemps été fonctionnaire de l'UNESCO, Guy devint free-lance, d'abord à Paris, puis en Angleterre. C'est là que la mort l'a surpris, lui qui aimait tant la vie.

Son souvenir restera vivant chez tous ceux qui l'ont connu et apprécié, travaillé à ses côtés, ri avec lui car il riait beaucoup — tous ceux qui ont approché cet interprète exceptionnel.

M.-F. Skuncke

Vladimir Pojidaeff

Vladimir Pojidaeff, a former Vice-President of AIIC and a former President of TAALS, died in New York city at Mount Sinai Hospital on 20th January of this year. Born in Berlin in 1919, Vladimir Pojidaeff studied at the Lycée Louis-Le-Grand in Paris, from 1937 to 1939 he was a student at the London School of Economics. In 1969 he was admitted a member of AIIC and soon became well known, not only as a conference interpreter of high competence in English, French and Russian, but also for his untiring zeal in support of the profession in all its aspects, particularly in the formative period of its development in North America. Latterly increasing ill-health limited his professional activities, though he struggled to give of his best both to AIIC and to TAALS. Vladimir Pojidaeff will be remembered for his generosity, his loyalty and for the unflinching courage with which he faced his last years of suffering. He will be sadly missed from a wide circle of friends both within and beyond the profession. A tribute from Danica Seleskovitch will be found below.

Mon Ami Vladimir Pojidaeff

J'ai connu Vladimir Pojidaeff en 1952. C'était cette lointaine conférence des Matières Premières où nous travaillâmes ensemble pendant deux ans, et où nous partagions tous son rire de boyard russe.

Cet homme qui était déjà mon ami, je ne l'ai découvert que plus tard quand, Secrétaire exécutif de l'AIIC de

1958 à 1963, il nous fallait consolider notre Association, déjà unie en Europe, en lui donnant un caractère d'universalité. L'Amérique avait sa propre association; elle l'a toujours. L'Amérique ce sont les deux continents, mais ce sont aussi les Nations-Unies, l'OACI, l'OAS, etc. Nos deux associations risquaient de se déchirer, et la profession de sombrer dans cette déchirure si elle ne se donnait pas les mêmes règles partout où elle s'exerçait.

Le Président de l'Association américaine, c'était Vladimir Pojidaeff. Lucide, courageux, d'une clairvoyance sans pareille, il comprit immédiatement l'importance de l'unité. Et ce fut le début d'une collaboration entre nous qui, pendant de longues années de travail acharné, ne connut pas une ombre. Président de la TAALS, Pojidaeff n'hésita pas un instant à accepter le titre modeste de Secrétaire-Exécutif adjoint de l'AIIC avant d'en devenir plus tard et pendant de nombreuses années le Vice-Président. Les étapes de notre collaboration: un code professionnel identique pour l'AIIC et pour la TAALS, une lutte au coude à coude contre les agences-requins et leur élimination aux Etats-Unis, l'abolition du package deal et le contrat direct entre employeur et interprète, les négociations engagées au nom de l'ensemble de la profession avec les Nations Unies, l'introduction des contrats de durée fixe et des indemnités en cas d'annulation, l'amélioration constante des conditions de travail et des rémunérations, le respect de toutes les clauses du Code imposé à nos employeurs grands et petits des deux côtés de l'Atlantique, et bien d'autres choses encore ... l'adhésion individuelle de membres au Canada, au Mexique, en Amérique du Sud et la création de cet esprit de corps partout au monde qui a fait la force de notre profession.

Vladimir Pojidaeff, ce furent ces innombrables lettres échangées, ces coups de téléphone en pleine nuit à cause du décalage horaire; ce furent ces trois voyages que je fis en Amérique et au Canada pour convaincre, et dont je revins conquise. Je me souviens d'une soirée d'été à Washington où Poji nous avait réunis, nous autres Européens, Irène Testot-Ferry, Joy Bokownew, Secrétaire Exécutif adjoint à Paris, et tous nos collègues et amis d'Amérique présents à Washington, Claude Badoux, Fernando van Reigersberg, Rénia Nilski, futurs Vice-Présidents de l'AIIC, Edmond Glenn, Henry Lunau, Georges Kaminker, Inge Wichman, Marc Moyens, j'en oublie, bien sûr. C'est dans la maison

de Poji, éclairée sur ses deux étages, fenêtres largement ouvertes sur la douceur d'une soirée de Indian Summer et sur un magnolia en fleurs, qu'eurent lieu les dernières conversations où l'amitié scella le pacte de la solidarité.

Critiqué, attaqué par les uns, porté aux nues par les autres, Vladimir Pojidaeff a connu le destin de tout homme d'action porté par un grand dessein. La sauvegarde de la profession, son unité, la lutte pour notre dignité, et pour nos intérêts à court et à long terme, il y a consacré sa vie, son intelligence exceptionnelle, son acharnement à vaincre. Et il a réussi.

Il était de la race de ces bâtisseurs dont toute société a besoin et que notre Association a eu l'exceptionnel privilège de posséder tout au long de sa jeune vie. L'homme est mort, l'œuvre subsiste.

Danica Seleskovitch.

Le 7 mai 1973.

George Rabinovitch

George Rabinovitch, a veteran of the profession died in Lisbon on 21st April last.

George Rabinovitch was born at Lausanne in 1901, and educated at the University of that city. He served with the United Nations as a permanent from 1946 till 1962. After serving as chief interpreter at UN Hq., New York, he was appointed Director of the UN Regional Office in Rio de Janeiro. On leaving the UN in 1962 he joined AIIC and practised as a free-lance interpreter.

By the death of Georges Rabinovitch, a man of wide culture and many interests, the profession loses a distinguished interpreter and a link with the earlier history of conference interpreting.

Addresses Unknown

- Hélène de HANCESS (16.3.1973)
- Chandrasena PANNILA (3.3.1973)
- Richard William ROOME (1.12.1972)
- Gerhard SEILER (15.2-3.3-16.3.1973).

20th Session of the Assembly

The 20th ordinary session of the AIIC Assembly took place at Vienna on 27 and 28 January 1973. Ninety-one members were present, representing an additional 519 members, making in all a total of 610 votes out of an active membership of 891.

The thanks of the Association are due to the "Abgeordneter zum Nationalrat", "Bürgermeister der Bundeshauptstadt Wien", hosts to the 20th Assembly, for providing the facilities of the "KONGRESSHAUS der Eisenbahner" and for their hospitality throughout the session. The Assembly also thanked the members of the

Austrian region for their hospitality and efficient organisation of the meetings.

The Assembly reviewed the question of sanctions in case of violation of the Code of Conduct and decided that any such sanctions should be decided upon by the Assembly on the proposal of the Council.

The Assembly charged the Executive Secretary and Treasurer, under supervision by the Council, with the application of the following rules as regards forfeiture of membership rights.

- 1) Active members who have not paid their dues fully for the financial year ending before an assembly shall have no voting rights at that assembly.
- 2) Members who have not paid their full dues for the financial year ending before the date of the publication of the Yearbook shall only have their names published in it.
- 3) Members in arrear with full payment of their dues for two years shall be suspended for one year.
- 4) Suspended members failing to meet their financial obligation to the Association fully within a year after the date of suspension shall be dropped from membership.

The Assembly adopted the draft Budget DA/20/03.

An increase in the contributions to SF 290 was authorized as from 1st October 1973, and the Council was given discretion to decide on further increases up to 10% as from October 1974.

Certain amendments to the Constitution, the Rules of Procedure and the Code of Professional Conduct were adopted, either unanimously or by large majorities. By substantial majorities the Assembly made certain changes in administrative procedures: the distinction between two categories of candidates pre-68 and post-68 has been abolished. The membership of the CACL is now reduced to seven; the candidate is no longer obliged to supply written proof of having worked for 200 days. Sponsors, from now

on, will sign the application form of the candidate. Their signature means that they accept the suggested language classification, guarantee compliance with the Code of Professional Conduct, confirm their seniority in the profession, and recommend that the candidate be admitted.

In cases of dispute regarding admission, the Assembly ruled that consultation with the Region should be obligatory. In regard to sponsors, it was decided that their language combinations should correspond to those of the candidate at the same level. If, for instance, a candidate has the language combination A: Fr., B: Eng., C: Sp., his sponsors should have the same combination (B-A, C-A, A-B). This rule also applies to linguistic reclassification.

The Assembly elected R. K. Lochner as President, W. K. Weber as Executive Secretary and P. Buckley as Treasurer. The results of elections for membership of the Council, the Budget Commission and CACL are given in the reports on those bodies, as are decisions regarding the Technical Committee, GCL and the Reform of the Professional Code.

The Assembly paid a warm tribute to the outgoing President, W. Keiser, for his dedication to the cause of the profession and the scale of the work accomplished during his two terms of office. Thanks were also expressed to the outgoing members of the Council and Committees.— A full report of the Assembly is contained in RDA/20 and corrigenda.

The next AIIC regular Assembly will meet in 1975.

Council

A brief session of the new Council took place in Vienna on 28 January 1973. R. Romer (Canada) and J. Umansky (France) were elected Vice-Presidents and the following appointments of regional assistants to the Executive Secretary were approved:

Afrique	C. Dunford
Allemagne	O. Altenkirch
Amérique Latine	H. Urquiaga
Mexique	J. L. Alvarez Gayou
Autriche	D. Quinton
Bénélux	A. Cory-James
Canada	S. Trenner
Espagne	F. de A. Caballero
Etats-Unis	F. Barbet
France	E. Dana
Grande-Bretagne	P. Longley
Israël	J. Rosenn
Italie	M. R. Ugo
Océanie	A. Robson
Portugal	R. Santos E Silva
Suisse	M. Gingrich

Council

The Council met for its second session at Geneva on 14, 15 and 16th April, 1973.

After dealing with routine business the Council fixed the date of its next meeting for 7th to 10th December 1973.

Legal Counsel

The Council took note that the President had appointed Me. Robert Harpignies as legal Counsel of AIIC. Me. Harpignies, a member of the Brussels Bar and a former official of the UN Security Council and Legal departments, is already acting in this capacity for AIIC.

The Council then decided the terms of reference for the two teams of AIIC negotiators with the UN, and the European Communities respectively.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AIIC NEGOTIATORS WITH THE UN

The Council

Taking note of the fact that the existing agreement with the UN Organizations in Europe expires on December 31st, 1973

Decides to appoint a negotiating team composed of the following members:

A. Chavès, A. Daly, N. de Gren, I. Testot-Ferry (a fifth member to be officially appointed by the Council at its session in December)

to renegotiate this agreement in due and proper form in consultation on a world-wide basis (subject to separate

negotiation of the US differential by AIIC-appointed US negotiators) on the basis of the following considerations:

- the importance to the profession as a whole of the renegotiation of this agreement;
- the views of members working regularly in the UN sector expressed at sectorial meetings, such as the one held in Geneva on March 3rd, 1973;
- the restoration of real remuneration in the Sector to an appropriate level;
- the maintenance of this level by an appropriate system of indexation;
- the protection of this remuneration by safeguards against the effect of currency fluctuations;
- the maintenance or, where necessary, the improvement of working conditions (e. g. manning strengths), acquired rights and fringe benefits;
- the establishment of a proper provident fund system based on an employer-interpreter contribution

Requests the negotiating team to maintain close contact with the Bureau, to report to the Council at its December session on the results of the negotiations and to submit to the Council for approval the text of the new draft agreement negotiated.

In regard to the European agencies the following terms of reference were adopted.

MANDAT DONNE AUX NEGOCIATEURS AVEC LES COMMUNAUTES EUROPEENNES ET LES ORGANISATIONS COORDONNEES

Le Conseil

Considérant l'importance que revêt pour les interprètes travaillant pour les grandes organisations intergouvernementales un accord avec leurs employeurs, définissant les conditions d'emploi, de rémunération et de sécurité

Charge un groupe composé des membres suivants:

V. Chabert, M. Davidenkoff, A.-M. Koch, J. Mackintosh, Z. Seleskovitch, I. Testot-Ferry, E. Toledano

d'étudier, avec les Communautés Européennes et les Organisations Coordonnées:

- le perfectionnement des accords existant pour l'indexation sur les interprètes fonctionnaires;
- la participation de l'employeur et de l'interprète à l'assurance maladie et aux fonds de prévoyance;
- les conditions de travail (composition des équipes, interprètes Groupe II) compte tenu notamment de l'élargissement des Communautés;

de maintenir un contact étroit avec le Bureau;

de faire rapport au Conseil pour sa session de décembre.

Future coordination between the two teams is to be maintained by a group of three: the Vice-President, J. Umansky, A. Chavès and J. Mackintosh.

General AIIC policy on rates, working conditions, market development

After a detailed discussion of all problems involved the Council judged it wise to make the following policy statement, in order to give guidance to members in a time of monetary transition and economic upheaval.

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL POLICY ON AIIC MINIMUM RATES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The Council reaffirms the principle of universality.

The Council recalls that AIIC minimum rates are part of the Annex to the Code of Professional Conduct and, as such, can only be set by the Assembly.

Nevertheless, it is the Council's duty, as part of its responsibility for protecting members' interests, to maintain interpreters' remuneration by effecting readjustments and alignments to rates*.

Whenever conditions arise that may cause deviation from the universal minimum rates, such deviation shall be

- temporary
- limited in scope
- monitored by the Council, Bureau and the Executive Secretary.

The present crisis is caused not only by devaluation of the US dollar but also by the general movement of currencies in relation to one another and in relation to the US dollar, as a result of which a situation of extreme uncertainty exists. This crisis is also due to world-wide inflationary trends.

The Council appeals to those regions that have not, as yet, been able to reestablish their remuneration in real terms to make every effort to do so in support of AIIC universality and solidarity.

The Council therefore established an inventory of the rates currently being applied in each of the member regions and in certain countries. These rates, as reported by Council members, are:

* Members will recall that, as a consequence of the recent devaluation of the US dollar, the AIIC universal minimum rate has been adjusted with immediate effect from US \$65.00 to US \$71.50 and from US \$104.00 to US \$114.50 (cf. Circular 20/1).

In accordance with the precedent established by the Rome General Assembly, it was decided by the Bureau, confirmed by the Council, to enact similar concessionary provisions for those regions where the application of the new dollar equivalents of the existing rates would result in an increase in terms of local currency of interpreters' remuneration.

The Council confirms that this concession is to run until 31st December 1973, the lowest admissible rate being US \$65.00 and US \$104.00 at the rates of exchange on 1st February 1973 (cf. Circular 20/3).

They are also reminded that Assembly decisions (Paris, 1969, Brussels, 1971) state that indexation increases as provided for in the AIIC/UN agreement automatically apply to the private sector six months after their entry into force in the UN sector.

	<i>Large team</i>	<i>Small team</i>	<i>Per diem</i>
Coord. (FF)	378.50	604.50	
Minist. (FF)	341	546	
France (FF)	380	605	180
Germany (DM)	210	330	95
Austria (Sch)	1,500	2,300	575
Bel/Lux (FB)	3,050	4,900 (1/ 4/73)	
	3,250	5,200 (1/10/73)	
	3,375	5,400 (1/ 2/74)	
Holland (fl)	220	360	85 (Amsterdam: 110)
Canada (Can. \$)	125 (1/1/74:135)	(large team only)	35
USA (US \$)	125	(large team only)	40
Israel (£)	295	465	US \$25.00
Spain (Pts)	4,000	6,000	1,200
Italy (Lit)	30,000	58,000	*
Switzerland (FS)	275	440	100 (Davos: 120)
Sweden (Skr)	(small team only)	525	
Portugal (Esc)	1,860	2,980	
British Isles	26.50	42.00	
Argentina	US \$65.00	US \$104.00 **	
Brazil	US \$80.00	US \$110.00	
	Cvz. 480.00	Cvz. 660.00	
Colombia	Col. pes. 1,400	Col. pes. 2,300	
Chile	Esc. 10,000	Esc. 15,000	
Ecuador	No information		
Mexico	Mex. pes. 725.00	Mex. pes. 1162.00	
Panama	No information		
Peru	No information		
Venezuela	No information		

* Italy: US \$22.00 (Towns \$24.00; Rome, Milan, Venice \$28.00 = 18,000).

** At the highest official rate of exchange at date of contract.

It was noted that Spain, Italy and Portugal were using the concessionary rates until 31st December 1973.

France, Switzerland and Benelux were regions applying, by agreement, rates above the AIIC universal minimum.

Canada and USA—cf. Art. 10 of AIIC Professional Code.

The Council further decided that a small working group composed of H. Burton-Behlen, A. Daly and H. Methorst should be set up, with the following terms of reference:

1. To study the existing rates, currently expressed in national currencies, in relation to the *real value* of the 1/1/1969 minima (expressed as \$51.00 and 82.00 and realigned in 1972 to \$65.00 and 104.00 and in 1973 to \$71.50 and 114.50).
2. To consider the effects, on our rate patterns and on our *real remuneration*, of
 - a) recent currency upheavals,
 - b) increases in cost of living, and
 - c) movements in the salary patterns of comparable occupations in the respective countries.
3. To make recommendations to the Council at its December 1973 meeting on the establishment of a common denominator by which to evaluate the AIIC minimum fee, and to maintain it at a level compatible with the real value of the 1969 minima.
4. In consultation and cooperation with the Regions, to recommend to the Council measures aimed at reducing

the present disparity in AIIC rates as expressed in national currencies.

In answer to an enquiry by the USA member as regards the provisions resulting from Paris, 1969; Brussels, 1971; which link the private sector with the rate of indexation provided for in the AIIC/CCAQ agreement, it was agreed that the effects of the present "freeze" in UN salaries, if continued, as was suggested till 1975, could present serious problems for AIIC and that the present policy of indexation with the UN should be kept under constant review, and the possibility of using the EEC in place of the UN system borne in mind.

XXth Anniversary

A number of members contributed ideas and suggestions for the celebration of the AIIC XXth anniversary in Paris. In particular R. Burton, France, set out certain tentative proposals for such a celebration, which would serve to link the interpreters' profession with the outside world, perhaps in the form of a "Colloque", with outside help, and with the carefully prepared assistance of public media, including TV. The member for Israel said he would be glad to put forward practical proposals for a symposium on the profession as a whole in the modern world. It was agreed that R. Burton should act as 'whip' in regard to preliminary enquiries and planning for the Paris celebration, and that he should maintain contact with A. Yelin and W. Katz. R. Burton was asked to report to the Bureau as soon as he felt himself in a firm position to propose a date either at

the end of 1973 or in 1974. A decision on this should be taken by the Bureau at its next meeting.

Working Programme 1973/74

Introducing the subject on the 1973/74 Working Programme the President stressed the need to concentrate on selective areas, by channelling efforts and resources of the Association into a realistic programme that could be brought to fruition within the time span of one Council, rather than overstrain AIIC's potential by trying to tackle every problem at the same time. Cost-benefit analyses were required to avoid waste of funds by the application of the "shotgun principle". The items selected under this subject had been previewed by the Bureau. Council confirmed the plan that, whilst preparing the ground for future development, its efforts in the two years to come would be:

- Negotiations on the IGO and NGO sectors;
- Reform of administrative infrastructure;
- Preparation of a long-term development planned for AIIC, to be submitted to the 1975 Assembly;
- Concentration of resources available for Council commitments in the technical field.

After generally agreeing to these priorities and this procedure Council recalled that, as regards negotiations on the IGO sector, the respective machinery, i.e. two negotiating teams, had already been set up and provided with terms of reference.

As regards the Private Sector Council agreed that there exists a need for an analysis of existing problems and for the development of an AIIC policy. Council set up a small Council working party consisting of the President and of Vice-President Renia Romer for the preparation of respective working papers for the next Council session which would have to devote a major portion of its time to this problem.

In regard to Administrative Projects, where the need was felt to strengthen our infrastructure after the Association had doubled its membership within the past five years, the Council was referred to the working paper prepared by the Executive Secretary on that subject (DC 20/II/11). It was decided that these administrative details would be considered thoroughly by the Budget Commission, the Bureau and the Executive Secretary. If need be, and if major policy decisions were required, this would be one of the items of work for the next Council session.

Commissions, Committees and Working Groups

Budget Commission

The Assembly elected the following members to the new Budgetary Commission which will hold its first session on May 26-27th: H. Eberstark, C. Heynold, Ü. Müller, M. Pinta, E. Simha.

Admissions Commission (CACL)

The Assembly elected the following members to the new CACL which held its first meeting on March 31st last: M. Davidenkoff, G. Lafrance, A. Lawrence, A. Markesis, F. Martinez, D. Reinert, R. Santos e Silva. CACL elected D. Reinert chairman and G. Lafrance Vice-Chairman.

Technical Committee

Composition

For the 1973/74 period the Council, at its first session in Vienna, reinstated the Technical Committee which is composed of

active members:

George Ingber
Walter Jumpelt (Chairman)
Peter Loose
Thadé Pilley
Réné Pinhas
Joyce Templeton (liaison with the Council)
Ilse Bourgain (Rapporteur of the Committee)

corresponding members: Herbert Kolmer
Elisabeth Meister
Thérèse Romer-Nilski
Eric Simha
Christopher Thiery
Ester Zubkov-Grimaldi
Alec Yelin

Terms of Reference

In broad terms the Committee's functions are to advise the Council in all matters relating to technical facilities for multilingual communication (booths, interpreters' rooms, simultaneous multichannel systems, equipment) and to serve AIIC and the profession in these fields. The Technical Committee will also prepare and implement policies in the area of booths and installations.

Working Programme

The TC represents AIIC on a technical level with other organisations such as the Union des Associations Internationales (UAI), ISO, the Association Internationale des Palais des Congrès (AIPC), the newly founded Association Internationale de Technologie des Conférences (AITEC) etc.

Following discussions with ISO headquarters in Geneva, the Committee has met in Paris 23-25 February and completed its review of the comments on the *Draft International Standard ISO/DIS 2603* which had been voted by member bodies of the International Organisation for

Standardization ISO which are the national standards institutes. The review has resulted in a revised draft (only editorial changes were admitted at this stage under ISO procedure) which has been submitted to the Council of ISO for approval.

The second major item of the Committee's programme is the *Directory of Conference Facilities* which is to be an AIIC publication of practical use both to AIIC members and organisations on the lookout for a suitable conference room. While work on this advanced fairly well for some regions, others are less well covered due to a lack of adequate information. The Committee is very much dependent on accurate and detailed reports from members having had negative and indeed positive experience in working in a given facility. This was the purpose of *Operation "Checklist"* for which 6000 copies were printed and several copies mailed to each member. This Checklist contains all the salient criteria needed to assess a conference facility and to trigger AIIC action. *All members are earnestly invited to keep these lists ready and to make ample use on every possible occasion.*

Parallel with the preparation of the Directory, the TC will be sending a circular to the Managers of all conference halls advising them of the plan and indicating which improvements will be necessary to have their hall improve its rating.

Other items on the TC's programme include: criteria for mobile installations and booths with a view to preparing a draft standard; studies of future systems involving more than 6 languages; evaluation of new developments in the equipment field (such as improved types of headphones). In addition, the members of the Committee act individually as technical consultants for a variety of projects of new congress and conference facilities.

Health Committee

The Council took note of a report submitted by F. Goin on behalf of the Health Committee. After expressing its thanks to the members of the Committee for work undertaken in this field the Council decided that for the rest of 1973 B. Weiss should act as Health Rapporteur, the need

for reconstitution of the Committee being kept under review throughout this period.

Information activities

The Council noted the progress made by the existing group of corresponding members, and asked that A. Yelin should continue to maintain contact among these, in order to provide advice and guidance on information questions, including the XXth anniversary. The Executive Secretary was asked to write to A. Yelin expressing the thanks of the Council for this efforts and asking him to act in the capacity outlined above.

Permanents

It was agreed that L. Ravet should be asked to provide a paper on relations between permanent and freelance interpreters.

Schools

The Council asked that the study of the recognition of diplomas given by Interpreters' Schools should be kept under review by the existing working party and report to the Council. It was agreed that C. Marteau should replace E. Dana.

Statistics

The Council was informed that R. Hall was ready to do a survey on statistics of the profession as a whole. Forms would be sent out in October if possible and analysis begin in December. Costs would be limited to some printing charges, and one journey to Geneva. The Executive Secretary was asked to get in touch with R. Hall and it was suggested that Regional Assistants should participate as far as practicable in this survey.

Letter of Appointment

D. Seleskovitch and E. Feldweg were asked to continue their task of preparing a draft for a revised letter of appointment.

A l'écoute des collègues

Le Secrétaire exécutif espère publier dans ces colonnes des lettres portant sur des sujets d'intérêt professionnel et général, brèves et concises si possible.

Seules les lettres signées seront publiées.

AIIC — 14, Rue de l'Ancien-Port — 1201 Genève (Suisse)

Recherche by Christopher Thiéry

Le 3 avril 1973: une date mémorable pour la profession d'interprète de conférence. Ce jour-là, *Danica Seleskovitch* soutenait sa thèse de Doctorat d'Etat de l'Université de Paris-Sorbonne, thèse intitulée: "La prise de notes en interprétation consécutive", avec comme thèse secondaire "L'interprète dans les conférences internationales". C'est-à-dire le petit livre rouge bien connu.

Que l'on s'imagine la très vénérable salle Louis Liard, avec ses boiseries, ses galeries et les inévitables peintures murales dont la Sorbonne a le secret.

L'assistance est nombreuse: collègues interprètes et traducteurs, amis, étudiants. Face à la salle, trônant à la tribune, les cinq membres du jury. Devant eux, seule à une petite table placée en contre-bas, dos à la salle, l'ancien secrétaire exécutif de l'AIIC. Et pendant quatre heures, ce fut le fascinant spectacle donné par cinq sommités scientifiques et littéraires décortiquant, analysant, commentant, louant, critiquant le fruit des réflexions et du travail de l'une d'entre nous. Et cette interprète de conférence apportait la preuve éclatante, par la pertinence et l'assurance de ses réponses, que la profession était parfaitement à sa place parmi les disciplines universitaires. Et lorsque, après s'être retiré pour une brève délibération, le jury annonça par la bouche de son Président qu'il décernait à l'unanimité à *Danica Seleskovitch* le titre de Docteur ès lettres, avec la mention Très Honorable et avec les félicitations du jury, chacun ressentit, avec une profonde émotion, que quelque chose d'important, de fondamental, avait été accompli pour la profession tout entière.

Mais pour en arriver là, que d'efforts, quelle persévérance! D'abord et surtout de la part de *Danica*.

Il fallait commencer par écrire le petit livre rouge, et pour cela accumuler, trier, éliminer, reprendre mille et mille observations, les mettre en forme; ensuite en extraire une pensée cohérente, et en faire des chapitres, puis un livre... Ceux qui entreprennent un tel labeur sont estimables. Ceux qui l'achèvent sont admirables—et rares.

Et puis ce fut la thèse principale, fondée sur une expérience entreprise à l'ESIT il y a plusieurs années, et qui consistait à faire faire par une dizaine de collègues une série d'interprétations en consécutive à partir de deux discours enregistrés, et à analyser les notes prises à la lumière des explications données par l'interprète lui-même.

Rien que la transcription des bandes magnétiques et le dépouillement des textes—en respectant l'anonymat total—fut un travail monumental; quant à l'exploitation des résultats, c'est-à-dire la thèse à proprement parler, je préfère laisser le soin à *Danica* d'en parler elle-même dans un prochain numéro de ce Bulletin. Mais deux choses sont à noter d'emblée: d'abord que la rigueur scientifique de l'expérience de départ a frappé les scientifiques du jury; ensuite que l'analyse de la prise de notes débouche très rapidement sur un nombre impressionnant de disciplines: la linguistique, bien sûr, mais plus encore la psycholinguistique, la psychologie, la neurophysiologie... L'inter-

prétation de conférence est véritablement à un carrefour des sciences, et nous, les praticiens, nous nous devons d'en être aussi les théoriciens, car nous avons beaucoup à apporter à l'étude de nombreux domaines, encore mal connus: la mémoire, la pensée non verbale, la structure du langage, la fatigue cérébrale, etc. etc. Il est certain qu'à partir d'observations sur les mécanismes de notre travail quotidien, et pour lesquelles nous sommes donc aux premières loges, on peut construire des investigations expérimentales permettant une analyse nouvelle de nombreux phénomènes. Et c'est à nous de le faire, en nous imposant la méthode de travail requise: Cette première thèse de Doctorat d'Etat sur un sujet strictement lié à notre métier nous en montre le chemin.

Ce travail énorme n'aurait bien sûr pu être mené à bien sans soutien et sans aide. Mais il y a un homme sans qui rien n'aurait peut-être été même entrepris: c'est le Professeur Gravier, Directeur de l'Ecole Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs de l'Université de Paris-Sorbonne nouvelle, communément appelée l'Ecole de la Sorbonne, ou l'ESIT.

D'abord cet universitaire de vieille souche a compris que les gens les mieux placés pour faire fonctionner une Ecole d'interprètes, c'étaient les interprètes de conférence eux-mêmes. Cela nous paraît évident, mais le fait est suffisamment rare pour être souligné... C'est ainsi qu'il a pratiquement donné carte blanche à la profession, et particulièrement à *Danica Seleskovitch*, Sous-directeur de l'ESIT, pour l'organisation de l'enseignement et des examens, ce qui a permis de faire de l'Ecole l'Institut universitaire de renommée mondiale qu'elle est devenue.

Ensuite, c'est lui qui a encouragé *Danica* à écrire son livre et qui lui a trouvé un éditeur. C'est lui encore qui l'a poussée à entreprendre une thèse de Doctorat d'Etat, et qui, fort du dépôt du sujet de la thèse, a obtenu à son intention la création d'une chaire de Maître de Conférence intitulée "Théorie et pratique de l'interprétation de Conférence". Quiconque connaît un tant soit peu les arcanes de l'Education nationale sait que c'est là une véritable prouesse. C'est lui encore qui a obtenu, par un persévérant travail d'information et de persuasion de ses pairs, que la thèse soit acceptée et soutenue dans les formes les plus strictes de l'Université française: la profession y entre ainsi par la grande porte, avec la solennité voulue. Le Professeur Maurice Gravier est un allié et un allié efficace. Merci.

Et les membres du jury? Car eux aussi ont travaillé. C'est véritablement une institution admirable que celle qui obtient de la part d'hommes éminents qu'ils consacrent le temps et l'énergie nécessaires à l'étude approfondie d'un travail nouveau, de grande valeur, certes, mais en l'occurrence ne relevant pas a priori de leur discipline. C'est ainsi que le Professeur Zemb, psycholinguiste et logicien, le Professeur Gagnepain, linguiste, le Professeur François L'Hermitte, neurologue, et le Professeur Mayoux, angliciste, ont été amenés à entrer dans les mécanismes profonds de l'interprétation de conférence, pour y découvrir, ô surprise, de passionnantes lumières sur leurs propres préoccupations.

Voilà bien un travail interdisciplinaire, et qui montre à l'évidence que l'interprétation de conférence est une discipline universitaire à part entière.

Que nous en prenions tous conscience, que de nombreuses autres thèses soient mises en chantier (il y en a déjà quelques-unes à l'ESIT), et que cette rubrique " Recherche " devienne

une rubrique permanente du Bulletin AIIC, voilà le vœu que j'exprime en remerciant très profondément Danica Seleskovitch de nous avoir ouvert la voie par un travail magistral qui est à la fois le couronnement de dix années de réflexions et de labeur et, je l'espère beaucoup, le tremplin pour de nouveaux bonds en avant.

Interpretation in Israel

by Adam Richter, assisted by Ruth Levy and Monique Neumark

Why do we need an Introduction?

At the penultimate session of the Council, it was resolved at Adam Richter's request to add a little Israeli "hillock" to the mounds of AIIC documents that we all receive at regular intervals.

What would be the purpose of a brochure on "Interpretation in Israel"? It may, we hope, shed at least some light on the activities and problems of a group of interpreters whose plight consists in being "peripheral" and, strangely enough, slightly more peripheral than others. This would account for the "sudden urge" of this belated introduction after so many years.

Far away from the buzzing conferences centres, we are little known by other colleagues, maintain few or flimsy contacts with them, and in a nutshell, are more insular than even our geographical position would warrant. Desirous of breaking the proverbial ice, and intent on emerging from this unfortunate state of reluctant insularity, we will now present—for what it is worth—a thumbnail sketch of "Interpreting in Israel".

How did it all come about?

Conference interpreting in this country actually started in the early fifties. Delegates to the 23rd Zionist Congress (September 1951) suddenly realized that Yiddish can no longer reign supreme as an undisputed "lingua franca" of Jewish conferences. Delegates from Europe and America could not understand Yiddish, or only very vaguely, and insisted on interpretation into French, English or Spanish.

It was therefore decided to solve the problem by simultaneous interpretation from and into Hebrew, English, French, Spanish and Yiddish. A three months' course was organized by the Jewish Agency, and the training of interpreters was entrusted to A. T. Pilley and Adam Richter. This is how our first team was born.

The newly-fledged interpreters were all professional translators and only very few of them managed to adapt themselves to the commandments of simultaneous interpretation. It was an uphill task for both Pilley and Richter to make them refrain somehow or other from personal comments during their interpretation work, and curb their natural propensity to correct or censor the speakers.

This rather amateurish approach began to disappear gradually as more and more conferences were held in our country. However, it was not until 1958—the 10th Anniversary of the State—that Israel became a true international conference centre. By 1962 we reached an acceptable level of working days a year, which, except for occasional ups and downs, has remained fairly constant till today.

The Six Day War has not brought in its wake any decrease in the number of conference days or conference languages for that matter, though it has to be admitted that the number of delegates per conference has waned considerably, due to the political situation.

Split personality rather than dual allegiance

Except for our Hebrew interpreters, all other colleagues are on the horns of an intellectual dilemma: while loyal citizens of Israel, their cultural "allegiance" is either English, French, Spanish or German, according to their country of origin. They have at no time actually shed their respective cultural backgrounds, and during the slack season (much too long for our liking), they manage to keep the proverbial wolf from the door by working as teachers, journalists or public relations officers in their mother tongues.

The linguistic bill of fare

English is almost ubiquitous at all our conferences and occasionally we need a few interpreters when conventions split into committees. Recruiting is not very difficult as potential interpreters are roped in from the immigrants from England or America, or linguists with an almost equivalent background.

Spanish is our second best, due to a considerable number of seminars organized by the Israeli authorities for trainees from the developing countries in general, and from Latin America in particular. Interpreters are recruited from among the immigrants from Latin America (generally the Argentine).

We had no particular difficulties in *French*, our third language (except for Hebrew), and our interpreters were recruited from among the immigrants from France and Belgium. We were much less successful with the immigrants

from North Africa for reasons of accent, and due to their much less adequate language combination.

German has been left high and dry for a number of years following the Second World War, and it was only after the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic that German began to "trickle" into our conference life. It may sound paradoxical, but it is extremely difficult, or well nigh impossible, to train new German interpreters despite a large population of immigrants from Germany. Let us not forget, however, that immigration from Germany had ceased practically altogether in the late '30s, and the "old timers" who came here some 40 years ago are mostly too old to go in for this new profession, and even if age were not to be the decisive factor, their German has, in the meantime, become rusty and obsolete. This deplorable situation is responsible for the fact that in spite of our unflinching efforts, we were not able to train more than two professional German interpreters worthy of the name.

Russian

Due to the large immigration from the Soviet Union which has been on a steady increase for the last few years, the *Russian* language has become an almost permanent fixture at Jewish conferences. We recruit Russian interpreters from among the new immigrants from the Soviet Union and Latvia, and to a certain extent from among the newcomers from Shanghai and Manchuria, many of whom are practically bilingual in English and Russian. The greatest difficulty in recruiting potential interpreters from among the new arrivals from the Soviet Union consists in their all too narrow language combination. One of the newly recruited Russian interpreters is extremely proficient in Russian and Spanish, without any knowledge of French, English or Hebrew, whilst one lady interpreter had to be rejected as her only languages—strange as it may seem—are Russian and Japanese.

Scandinavian languages are a must for trade union conferences frequently held in Israel, but in spite of repeated attempts, we have failed to find professional Scandinavian interpreters here. Whenever the need arises, they are recruited from overseas.

The same holds true for *Japanese* too, which begins to emerge as an important conference fixture. (We are now training two Japanese interpreters, hoping they will finally make the grade. One is a Bible student from Kyoto and the other an Israeli musicologist who studied in Japan for five years.)

Yiddish is slowly fading into oblivion as far as conferences in Israel are concerned. Suffice it to say that whilst 20 years ago 90% of interventions at Jewish conferences were made in Yiddish, now this figure has dropped to 0.5% or 1% at most. We have no more than one or two conferences a year at which Yiddish is used, as the young generation hardly speaks it at all.

Is our work different?

Interpreting in this country is by no means confined to conferences alone. Interpreters here have more than their share of trials and lawsuits such as:

a) The Eichman trial, with consecutive interpretation into Hebrew and simultaneous interpretation into English, French and German;

b) The Rohan trial (an Australian tourist accused of burning down the Al aksa Mosque, one of the world's most precious Moslem shrines) with simultaneous interpretation from Hebrew to English, and consecutive interpretation into English and Arabic;

c) The Okomoto trial (the Lod Airport massacre)—simultaneous interpretation from Hebrew and Japanese into English, consecutive interpretation into Japanese;

d) The Sabena trial (the trial of two Arab girls who had participated in the hijacking of the Sabena plane upon its arrival at Lod Airport)—simultaneous interpretation from Hebrew and Arabic into English, consecutive interpretation from Hebrew into Arabic.

There is another item in which we can claim at least some originality—

Biblical Conferences and quizzes

In the Land of the Bible, international quizzes on biblical subjects are held every three years, with a sprinkling of mini-Bible contests for Jewish youth held almost every year. As contestants usually insist on being examined in their respective mother tongues, the task of the Chief Interpreter on such occasions is not the easiest in the world, as Finnish, Afrikaans, Gaelic or even Gez (an extinct Ethiopian liturgical language) are frequently on our "must" list, and there is no possibility of resorting to assistance from outside, as a knowledge of Hebrew on such occasions is, of course, imperative.

No shortage of seminars

This country is blessed with a considerable number of seminars for the developing countries which are held by our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Histadrut (Israeli Federation of Labour), the Afro-Asian Institute, and other government bodies. The seminars are usually held in the fields of agriculture, town and rural planning, trade unions, cooperatives and educational matters.

Seminars at which French and English interpreters are required are petering out at a steady rate as the organizers have gradually come to the conclusion that it is better to divide the trainees into two language groups with French and English lecturers for each. Spanish, on the other hand, is in high demand, as Spanish lecturers in the required fields are hard to find. Consequently our Spanish interpreters are kept pretty busy, and average 120-140 days a year. On some occasions we are called upon to organize interpretations at seminars which are not held in the run-of-the-mill conference languages, such as Persian, Japanese or Turkish. Here too, outside help is almost out of the question as lecturers at such seminars are all Hebrew speaking. In such cases we have to knock at the doors of Consulates and Embassies, as well as religious missions or set a dragnet for Asiatic students at our universities.

Interpretation and the Generation Gap

There is one field at least in which we can boast "peerless originality". We occasionally interpret if not between father and son, then for sure between grandpa and grandchild. How come? At some cooperative farms interpretation (Hebrew-German-Hebrew) is used at annual general assemblies. While the young generation at such conventions invariably uses Hebrew, the old-timers (fathers or grandfathers of the young), prefer to use German in which language they express themselves with much more ease and gusto, even though the three generations find no difficulty in communicating in everyday life. Amazingly enough, our services are greatly appreciated as a magic time saving factor, as the meetings without us took some 12 hours, and since our services have been enlisted, general assemblies don't last longer than three hours as time is not wasted on linguistic stumbling blocks.

Conferences as anywhere else

Besides court trials and law suits, bible quizzes and seminars, our work is very much the same as that of our colleagues overseas. Though some of our colleagues are still blissfully unaware of the fact, many important international conferences are held in Israel. To mention only a few of them—Socialist International, Public Transport Union, International Medical Conferences, IULA, IPI, FDI, FIET, and quite a number of working parties organized by the United Nations Special Agencies.

Working Days in Israel

Though certainly not unprivileged as far as variety in our work is concerned, we still lag behind the international conference centers in the average number of working days. Spanish interpreters are certainly the luckiest of us all, averaging about 120-140 days a year; two or three interpreters with an unusually large number of passive languages reach about 100-120 working days a year, whilst the remaining AIIC interpreters would not exceed the 50-70 days a year bracket. This average is supplemented by occasional assignments abroad (Greece, Turkey, Iran, Thailand, Japan, East and South Africa, and quite recently Taipei-Taiwan). These conferences would give our interpreters another 10-20 days a year.

More limelight than prosperity

For some obscure reason, we are still considered a rare commodity in this country, and our work is regarded as a

spectacular display of an almost magic skill. Though we have been working for over 15 years, we are quite frequently televised or interviewed by radio and press. This is also due to the fact that we are very much in the public eye—as we often act as consecutive interpreters at important social functions and historic "red-carpet" visits, i.e. Pope Paul VI, King Baudouin, William Rogers, the African Presidents, Foreign Ministers, etc.

University Accolade

This year the Bar Ilan University—one of Israel's five universities—has opened a post-graduate interpretation programme. Unlike at similar classes at European and American universities, only very few students are admitted. Out of over 50 candidates, only 17 have been taken this year. The duration of the course is two years. Two AIIC members—Adam Richter and Batya Frost—are the principal lecturers.

Contacts with Colleagues

What we lack most acutely are contacts with colleagues abroad. We cannot invite them over frequently enough as Hebrew is almost invariably one of the conference languages, yet we have had about 15 interpreters working with us here in various languages, and will certainly do our utmost to increase their number.

Conclusions

We somehow feel that despite long years of experience in our field we are still regarded by many of our colleagues as outsiders. Practically all our assignments abroad are privately contracted, and hardly ever are we recruited by the Consulting Interpreters who are members of the AIIC, and when our geographic position would warrant at least an enquiry on their part.

The AIIC reports, brimming over with grievances of the "under-privileged peripheral interpreters from other parts of the world" hardly ever mention us at all. That is why, in the absence of personal contact, we thought it appropriate to introduce ourselves.

"Les absents ont toujours tort"—so let us not be absent and let us be with you in spirit, even if geographical distances make it difficult for us to be with you in the flesh.

Colloque AIIC sur l'Interprétation de Conférence

Organisé sous le patronage des deux Ministres de l'Education Nationale, par la région Benelux de l'Association Internationale des Interprètes de Conférence, le Colloque du 10 février 1973 a remporté un franc succès.

La belle salle UNESCO du Ministère de l'Education Nationale était comble — près de 400 participants — à tel point que nombre de ceux-ci durent se contenter de sièges de fortune. L'auditoire comprenait beaucoup d'étudiants

et de professeurs des écoles de traduction-interprétation de Belgique et des Pays-Bas, des hauts fonctionnaires des Ministères de l'Éducation, des architectes, des exploitants de salles de conférence, des loueurs de matériel d'interprétation simultanée et des ingénieurs du son. Plusieurs organisations internationales, dont les Communautés Européennes, l'AITEC, la CISL et l'Association Internationale des Organismes Professionnels de Congrès, étaient représentées. Les participants étaient venus de tous coins de la Belgique, des Pays-Bas, du Luxembourg, de la République Fédérale et du Royaume-Uni. Tous les orateurs sont des interprètes de conférence professionnels, membres de l'AIIC.

Le Colloque fut ouvert par W. Keiser et K. Behrens-Lorenz. G. Ingber a décrit les exigences intellectuelles, nerveuses et morales de cette profession. A. ten Geuzendam a parlé de l'orientation et de la formation professionnelles: trop d'écoles se disent "d'interprétation" alors qu'en réalité elles enseignent pour l'essentiel les langues. L. Ravet traita du secret professionnel que le Code d'Honneur de l'AIIC prescrit "total et absolu".

La Banque des Mots

Les interprètes de conférence ayant le français dans leur combinaison linguistique aurait le plus grand intérêt à s'abonner sans tarder à "La Banque des Mots", qui est la revue éditée par le Conseil international de la Langue française. Il s'agit en fait d'un véritable petit livre, qui paraît deux fois par an. Dans le No. 5, qui vient de sortir, on trouve notamment la liste complète des "Expressions de Termes Nouveaux proposés" par les Commissions Ministérielles pour les techniques spatiales, le vocabulaire nucléaire, le vocabulaire pétrolier, le vocabulaire de l'audio-visuel, le vocabulaire des transports, et le vocabulaire du bâtiment, des travaux publics et de l'urbanisme. Chaque terme est défini, et accompagné du terme anglais auquel il correspond.

On peut s'abonner directement aux Presses Universitaires de France (35 FF par an) mais il est fortement

La séance de l'après-midi fut consacrée principalement au problème des équipements. T. de Liffiac suscita l'hilarité lorsqu'il parla, sur le mode humoristique, de "l'équipement, cauchemar de l'interprète". A. Yelin traita de la conception architecturale des salles de conférence. Il évoqua les réalisations en cours et, à la lumière de certaines prévisions prospectives, posa la question de l'infrastructure de congrès en Belgique. H. Methorst décrivit les problèmes liés au recrutement des interprètes.

Au cours des débats, plusieurs participants ont suggéré que de semblables manifestations d'information et de concertation entre toutes les parties intéressées à l'organisation de congrès, soient ré-éditées sur de nouveaux thèmes.

La journée s'est clôturée par un cocktail très amical offert par l'AIIC.

Editeur responsable: A. Yelin, Membre de la Commission de l'Information de l'AIIC, 60 rue du Général de Gaulle, 1310 La Hulpe.

recommandé aux membres de l'AIIC d'adhérer au Conseil international de la Langue française, ce qui ne coûte guère plus cher, mais qui permet d'apporter notre soutien à l'organisme qui nous héberge: comme on le sait, l'AIIC est une Association de droit française régie par la Loi de 1901, et à ce titre doit avoir un siège en France. Nous devons à l'amabilité du Conseil international de la Langue française d'être domiciliés gracieusement dans ses propres locaux. Pour adhérer et recevoir "La Banque des Mots", écrire directement au:

CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DE LA LANGUE
FRANÇAISE

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