

Discussion Record

SESSION NO. 64 - REPORTS

Chairman - J. RUBAS (Australia)

J.W. COHEN (Netherlands) : All the participants of this congress have received the report of the Documentation Working Party (listed in the programme as paper No. 641), where an account has been given of the activities of this working party up to May of this year. All libraries which are listed on the second page of the report have received full sets of the proceedings of the first seven congresses. No response has yet been received from the nominated library in France; an almost complete set of papers is still available and will be kept for this purpose. The Working Party met on 11 November here in Melbourne to consider the position. It was agreed unanimously that the goal of the Working Party has been achieved and it should terminate its activities. (In February 1977 the nominated French Library responded and received the complete set of proceedings.)

I would like to use this occasion to thank all those people who have contributed to the activities of this working party. Some of these people were mentioned in the report. Not mentioned in this report are the activities of the Secretary of the working party, Mr de Lange, who, unfortunately, could not come to this congress. He has been the main driving force behind all the activities and it is largely due to his work that we successfully reached our goal. We should, therefore, express our thanks to Mr de Lange. Also, I have to express my thanks to the Delft University for allowing Mr de Lange to devote part of his time to this work, and to the library staff at Delft, who gave us a lot of advice and helped us to pack and mail copies of papers to nominated reference libraries.

This is all I have to report, Mr Chairman; if there are any questions about the working party, I will try to answer them.

A. ELLDIN (Sweden) : There is a report to the congress about training of traffic engineers, which has been distributed to your pigeonholes. The report only consists of 15 paragraphs and it will be just as easy to read it as it would be to talk about it. On behalf of the working party I would like to state that we wish to continue with this task until the aims formulated in the final paragraphs of the report are achieved.

P. FLEMING (Jr.) (U.S.A.) : The ITC places copies of its proceedings with several major universities around the world for the general benefit of scholars everywhere. In the name of the United States Independent Telephone Association (USITA), I request that henceforth a copy of ITC proceedings be also provided for our headquarters in Washington D.C., U.S.A. USITA is a non-profit organisation, which represents 1600 telephone companies in the U.S.A. that are not a part of the Bell System. USITA is a well-known depository for much technical and statistical data and we now process approximately 90,000 pages per year of other information. If this request is granted, we will announce that the documents are available to anyone who wishes to study on our premises. Also, we will reproduce any individual paper or even the entire series for those who cannot study in Washington. Ordinarily, there will be no charge for single copies of a few papers. However, for extensive requests a small fee will be made on a per page basis. This request, if granted, will increase the exposure of the proceedings in the North American continent and, perhaps, elsewhere.

J.W. COHEN : *The question, which Mr Fleming raises, of getting copies of the present and future ITC proceedings is no longer the matter for the Documentation Working Party which has finished its work. The question of supplying copies of the proceedings to various libraries and other bodies who may want them is for the ITC national organising committees to decide.*

N.W. MACFADYEN (United Kingdom) : I have a question to Professor Cohen. Are there complete sets available of the papers from ITC3 and ITC4, as distinct from the summary versions, and have these been sent to all the libraries cited in the working party report?

J.W. COHEN : *Yes, they have. The libraries cited have complete sets of proceedings for all congresses. I would like to add on behalf of the Australian Organising Committee that there are a few spare sets of ITC8 proceedings, which will be supplied to a few technical libraries at cost price. The libraries nominated in the report of the Documentation Working Party will receive a copy of the proceedings free of charge.*

A. ELLDIN : I forgot the most important thing - I forgot to thank Dr Pratt and the Committee for all the work done before and during this Congress. Thank you very much to all of you who have given advice on the training methods. I will be very glad to have more points of view and as much co-operation as possible.