

TCNews

BULLETIN OF THE FIP THEMATIC COMMISSION

N. 1 - OCTOBER 1993

FOREWORD

During the planning session of the Bureau, it was suggested to have a Bulletin of our Commission, on the example of other organisations within PIP which have already started a formal magazine for communicating with Delegates and Federations.

On the occasion of our meeting in Bangkok, I am releasing the first issue of *TCNews*, which I have prepared using information received by members of the Bureau and Delegates. This is a *test-issue*, in the sense that *a)* every suggestion for improvement is welcome and *b)* that starting with the next issue Bernard Jimenez and I will play the role of editors, assuming that members of the Bureau and Delegates will give a contribution on time.

The activities of our Commission rely on meetings and correspondence by mail. I do hope that *TCNews* will help to achieve our objectives and improve the contacts among the Delegates, with the Federations and the National Thematic Associations, the thematic groups and the recognised international thematic jurors. It would be nice to expand our distribution list as much as budget allows, even if this will be one-way only, from the Commission to all the parties active within thematic philately. As a matter of fact, the National Delegate is the only representative of a Federation in the Commission and therefore any

other person or organisation must work (and submit information) only through its national Delegate.

Giancarlo Morolli

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WHAT NEXT?

Delegates are asked to send their contribution of the following topics:

- *Regional or national Exhibitions and other events or programs of international interest*
- *Thematic publications*
- *Question and Answers on the SREV and the Guidelines*

THE COMMISSION MEETS IN BANGKOK

Friday, October 8th, at 12.00, at the Queen Sikit Hotel

Dear Delegate,

This meeting of the Commission should concentrate on the work programme defined in Genova last year, which covers all the different aspects of the mission of a FIP philatelic Commission.

Despite the formal

agenda, we have to make it a working meeting rather than a business meeting, even if the time available is not much for

a working session. It is a matter of fact that the most productive meetings, where real progress is achieved, require a full weekend, as it was in Lucerne, in Lisse or Barcelona. I fully understand those

delegates who cannot be

in Bangkok on the basis that a two hours meeting cannot justify a long and costly trip, but at the same time they must realise that the FIP approach is to have, first of all, a universal representation and get together. This allows us to widen our international base and bring in new contributions, which can become very active over time. Until the seventies, every meeting of the Commission was held in Europe. Now we are meeting in every continent because thematic philately has a worldwide representation. The new Federations are coming it with enthusiasm and I am sure that, this time, we will have a larger attendance of Asian delegates. They will understand, better the Commission's role and activities and, in the future, work closely with the other delegates.

Regrettably, some delegates are acting more as

take part in meetings even when they are held in locations not very far from home nor they do correspond with the President or other members in charge of specific tasks. I expect more cooperation from them, either through real participation or in asking their Federation to appoint another person more available to cooperate. As long as they represent a discontinuity

between the Commission and the Federation they provide a bad service to the

thematic philatelists of their country.

After "Genova '92" I would have hoped to devote more time to the Commission and the direct contacts with the Delegates.

rr=====

Agenda:

1. Roll call of Delegates
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting in Genova
3. Report of the President
4. Report about the activities launched in Genova
5. Miscellaneous

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Unfortunately some post box than as active representatives of their Federations. These delegates neither

personal problems have not allowed it and I am very grateful to Gunnar Dahlvig, Bernard Jimenez, Manfred Bergman, Hans-Walter Bosserhoff, Betty van Tenac for the support given to the activities of the Commission.

In the following pages, you will find the formal report and additional information (in form of "News") about the Commission, the activities and the plans.

Giancarlo Morolli

<p>MEETING OF THE BUREAU BANGKOK, 8TH OCTOBER, 1993</p>
--

The members of the Bureau and the associate members are invited to a meeting at 10.00, same venue. Its target is to prepare the meeting of the Commission.

THE FIP THEMATIC COMMISSION

Argentina

Ing. Nestor Ferre'
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Cuba

Mr Fernando L. Fabregas Rodriguez
Federacion Filatelica Cubana
Apartado 6147, 10600 Habana

Welcome to:

- **Raymond V. See**
International Philippine Philatelic Society
- **Herman Stein**
Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Now the Commission has 53 delegates!

Also the Chinese Taipei Philatelic Society has announced the nomination of a delegate

Czech Republic (PIP admission pending)

Dr Vladoimir Vclicky
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X Denmark

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P.O.Box 142, Cairo

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Russia

Mr Victor V. Sinogubov
Union of Philatelists of Russia
12 Tverskaya Street, 103009 Moscow K 9

San Marino

Dr Ing. Denis Gemmani
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Singapore

Mr Huei Loch Chan
Singapore Stamp Club
PO Box 1599, Singapore 9031'

The following FIP members:

*Chile, Cyprus, Estonia, Hong Kong, Iran,
Korea (Pop. Dem. Rep.), Liechtenstein,
Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Peru,
Saudi Arabia, Vietnam*

*are invited to appoint a Delegate to the
FIP Thematic Commission*

MARY ANN OWENS SIGNS THE ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELIST

Mary Ann Owens, delegate of U.S.A., has been elected to sign the Roll at the 75th Philatelic Congress in Edinburgh together with Istvan Gazda, Otto Hornung, Hiroyuki Kanai, Knud Mohr, Brigadier Virk. Mary Ann has been elected for "work done or honours obtained in the thematics (topical) discipline. She had already been awarded the ATA Distinguished Philatelists Award and the Luff Award.

EERO ELLSTEN wins the Championship Class at NORDIA '93

The "Photography" exhibit got the Gran Prix at NORDIA '93, in the Championship Class open to all exhibits who have received at least two FIP Gold medals. The award was given by a Jury of 13 members, including Gunnar Dahlvig. His comment "Never before a thematic exhibit got a GP in the Championship Class and I think that it will of tremendous importance for thematic philately in the Nordic countries. We are fully accepted as equals by the traditionalists".

THE AFPT: 40 YEARS FOR THE PROGRESS OF THEMATIC PHILATELY

The Association Francaise de Philatelie Thematique (AFPT), is celebrating its 40th anniversary with three exhibitions in Alby, Paris and Lens. The Association, which was founded by a group of famous pioneers of thematic philately including Abbe. L. Braun, Prof. E. Olivier, Dr. J. Daubresse and Marc Dhotel, past secretary of this Commission, over the last ten years has reached a very high level in terms of membership, activities, publications and success of its members at international exhibitions.

SEMINARS PROGRAM AT TAIPEI '93

To support the tremendous interest for philately in the country the organisers of TAIPEI '93, Asian invitation international stamp exhibition, scheduled several seminars, mainly devoted to

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Mr Jose Antonio Hernan Seijas
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Egemen Sokak: 20/9, Feneryolu - Istanbul

United States
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Venezuela
Sr Ignacio Martinello S.
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Dr. Manfred Bergman
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Switzerland

TCNews N.2
will publish the first update to the
"Thematic Organisation in the World",
second edition, 1992.

Delegates are requested
to send additions and changes
to
Dr. Manfred Bergman
by 30.11..93.

thematic philately. As lecturers, they invited Dr. Morelli, Mary Ann Owens ("The Joy of Thematic Philately"), Betty Van Tenac ("Aspects of Thematic Philately") and Joan Murphy ("Thematic Philately"). At least 80 participants attended each three hours seminar and were given the text of the lectures in English or Chinese and a bilingual handbook with all the FIP SREV's and Guidelines. An

interpreter translated all the presentations and the many questions and answers.

SIX NEW FEDERATIONS APPLY FOR FIP MEMBERSHIP

Six Federations are looking forward to being admitted to the FIP at the next Congress: Albania, Armenia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

REPORT TO THE FIP CONGRESS

BANGKOK, 10-11 OCTOBER 1993

1. Delegates

In the last period, new delegates have been appointed to represent countries where thematic philately has become more popular among philatelists. As a result, the Commission consists of the representatives of 53 Federations.

2. New Organisation of the Commission

For the term started with the elections held in Granada, a plan of activities has been defined and the relevant responsibilities delegated to the members of the Bureau and other delegates who have been asked to join the working teams.

3. Granada '92

The Commission and the newly elected Bureau met at Granada '92. The main subjects were the approval of the SREV and the Guidelines. The exhibition was the occasion for testing a new type of communication between judges and exhibitors. In a seminar, led by Dr. Morolli, the summary results of the evaluation were presented, explaining the main reasons for the loss of points on each criterion. A comprehensive discussion helped to reach a deeper understanding of the problems and the possible improvements. Exhibitors attending the seminar expressed a very high appreciation for this initiative.

4. Genova '92

The number and the level of the exhibits was the best success for the 6th world thematic exhibition held under PIP Patronage. The attendance of the public and the many meetings which involved members of the Commission made this event very remarkable. The Italian Thematic Association (CIFI) arranged a Seminar with the support of Dr. Morolli, who presented the situation of Thematic Associations around the world thanks to the participation of more than 20 organisations who contributed with their national data; the presentation was published on the same occasion.

Thematic SREV and Guidelines

The SREV was reviewed and a small sentence was added. This text is already in the GREV but needs to be repeated also in the SREV (*see Box at next page*).

The Guidelines - also after the experience of the Jury of Genova '92 - need some more definitions on the subjects of Philatelic Studies and Borderline material (e.g. fiscals).

Modification to SREV 3.2.1

Last sentence:

The plan must be presented in a page at the beginning of the exhibit. **written in one of the FIP official languages.** It should detail the contents of the collection, its subdivisions, and the size of the chapters shown.

Comment: Experience at Olymphilex '92 and Genova '92 has shown the need to call the attention of exhibitors on the language of the plan page. Since the SREV has traditionally been the only reference paper for the thematic exhibitors, it is considered necessary to repeat this requirement. already stated in the GREV.

This change, approved in Genova, will be considered by the first FIP Congress in which the Board will accept modifications to the text approved in Granada. Up to that date no proposal for change will be discussed. Anyway, due the formal content of the change, there is no problem to wait for the approval. Of course delegates representing non FIP speaking countries are strongly recommended to inform exhibitors and national Commissioners about this requirement, compulsory for all FIP classes.

5. Activities in 1993

Philatelic Studies

The working team has already started with some introductory presentations in Genova and with the exchange of proposals among members. The objective is to reach a satisfactory definition, taking care of the needs and the philatelic tradition in some areas where there is a wealth of philatelic material and the requirements of thematic development. The problem has become more important after the unification of the evaluation criteria in our class, which impacted the so-called "documentary" exhibits, traditionally bound to philatelic studies.

Judging

A Seminar called by the SMV (Swiss Thematic Association) in Thun and led by Dr. Bergman was the occasion for the representatives of Switzerland and the nearby countries to review with Dr. Morolli the key problems of judging at the FIP level and to make proposals to the FIP Vice Presidents who attended this working session.

New Trends in Philately

Mr. Dahlvig has started the work of a team interested to collect information about new collecting and exhibiting trends in the different countries.

Detailed Criteria

This study group is addressing the definition of sub-criteria to guide the judges towards a more consistent and analytical approach of evaluating the exhibits

6. Thematic Groups

The second edition of the publication "Thematic Organisations of the World" was prepared by Dr. Bergman in co-operation with the President and printed thanks to Dr. Veschi's support at Genova '92. Copies were sent to Federations and delegates.

Dr.Ing. Giancarlo Morolli

Segrate, 15 June 1993

TCNews is published by the **FIP Thematic Commission**

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I 20090 Segrate (MI) Italy

Vice President: Gunnar Dahlvig

Secretary: Bernard Jimenez

PROGRAMME OF WORK 1993-94

1. GUIDELINES

The Commission intends to give continuous attention to the updating of the Guidelines according to the progress of the exhibits and the requirements of the collectors.

Responsibility: G. Morolli with input from all the delegates

At present the following key points, which need better definition or more information for the exhibitors, have been identified:

- Borderline material (e.g. fiscals)
- Philatelic Studies
- Overlapping and windowing of postal stationery

Responsibility: G. Morolli with the cooperation of:

- M. A. Owens, B. Van Tenac, N. Ferre, H.-W. Bosserhoff
- M. Bergman., R. Berberat, H.-W. Bosserhoff, G. Dahlvig, F. Rapkin
- B. Jimenez, H. Siem, H.-W. Bosserhoff, R. Kley

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF SREV AND GUIDELINES

- Co-operation with FIP initiatives
- Education and related material
- Selection of judges

Responsibility: G. Dahlvig, with the cooperation of M. Bergman, J.A. Hernan, N. Ferre, Lock Chan

3. DETAILED CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Preparation of

DELEGATES INTERESTED IN BRINGING THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THESE ACTIVITIES ARE SUGGESTED TO CONTACT THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE TEAM-

- a more detailed evaluation scheme for each criterion
- evaluation forms for judge
- feedback forms for exhibitors

Responsibility: H.-W. Bosserhoff, with G. Morolli and H. Siem

4. EDUCATION OF COLLECTORS

- Better information to exhibitors about criterion for material
- Preparation of a Glossary
- Project THEMA for spreading of thematic articles on material

Responsibility: J.A. Heman with B. Jimenez, M. Bergman

5. NEW TRENDS IN PHILATELY

Analysis of new initiatives concerning collecting, exhibiting and judging

Responsibility: G. Dahlvig with M.A. Owens, H. Siem, R. Kley

6. COMMISSION BULLETIN

Responsibility: B. Jimenez

7. THEMATIC GROUPS

- Reference point

- **FIPO** co-operation
- Publication of the address book

Responsibility: M. Bergman.

NEWSNEWSNEWSNEWSNEWS

UPDATE OF SREV AND GUIDELINES

The Commission will continue to work on this matter, in the following way:

- SREY

Modifications suggested by experience, e.g. to correct inconsistencies or to make some statements more clear, will be collected by the President, discussed with the working group and then presented to the delegates on these pages. In due time they will be submitted for approval to the FIP Congress when the subject will be on the agenda.

- Guidelines

Proposal for changes must follow the same process. Anyway, the decisions of the Commission will be put together in a "temporary annex" to be used as a reference by experts and judges and to be brought to the attention of the exhibitors for a further clarification. When FIP will start a new round for updating the Guidelines, this text will be incorporated in the Guidelines.

NEW TRENDS IN PHILATELY

Gunnar Dahlvig has requested all Delegates to report about initiatives in their countries on new approaches in thematic philately, on the introduction of modern philately and the relevant ways of implementation. Furthermore, the research intends to highlight new types of exhibitions related to stamps, even irrespective of the traditional approaches of philately.

IMPLEMENTATION OF JUDGES

It is important that the new SREV and the Guidelines are brought to the attention of the thematic collectors in the most appropriate way, i.e. translating the documents and making them

understood by national jurors and by exhibitors through seminars at the national and regional level. This survey, coordinated by Gunnar Dahlvig, is not only a request for information but should put a clear question to all delegates to plan on time an appropriate education and information program.

NEW SLIDE PRESENTATION ON THEMATIC PHILATELY

On the occasion of TAIPEI '93, the president of the Commission developed a new presentation of about 50 slides (transparent foils for overhead projection) following the thread of the updated thematic Guidelines. The first version of this presentation was developed after India '89 and made available to the FIP members via the FIP Implementation Committee. The distribution of the new version will be defined with the FIP officers in Bangkok and the relevant decision published in our next issue.

PHILATELIC STUDIES

Manfred Bergman has presented a detailed analysis after his presentation in Genova, rich of examples developed to illustrate the points made. Also, a thorough contribution has been sent by H.-W. Bosserhoff; after consultation with other German experts. Betty Van Tenac and G. Dahlvig have also presented their comments. Dr. Morolli will summarise the situation on this difficult but important matter and release a proposal as soon as possible. Delegates having specific examples or experiences are invited to send the relevant material to Dr. Morolli.

DETAILED CRITERIA

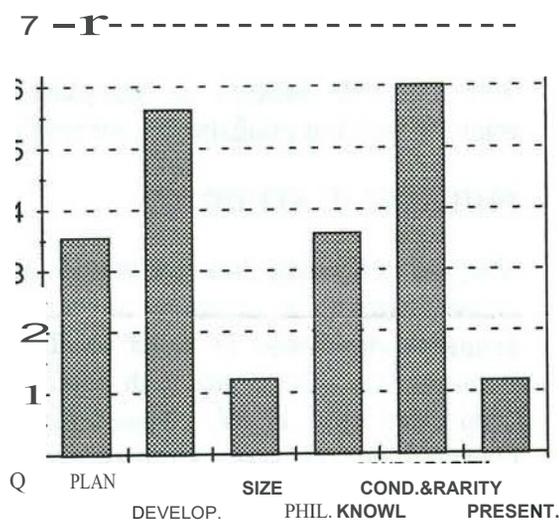
A comprehensive analysis on this subject has been developed by H.-W. Bosserhoff and brought to the attention of the other members of the working group. The subject should lead to the definition of more detailed criteria helpful to reach a more common understanding of the components of each criterion and of the relative weight and to produce forms to guide the jurors. Any original material developed on this topic at the national level could be very useful for the further analysis of the working group.

From the last Exhibitions

Genova '92

The exhibitors of GENOVA '92 were sent an information report presenting the **REMARKS OF THE JURY** of the exhibition, as indicated in a form filled by the team leaders.

The elaboration of the detailed marks given to each exhibit has allowed us to highlight the average loss of points for each criterion of evaluation, as displayed in the following chart



The chart shows, for instance, that the average of the exhibitors lost 6 points out of 25 for Condition and Rarity, etc.

The report was sent also to the Commissioners and the Jurors, but it may be that few Delegates have not received it. They can obtain it from the President of the Commission.

Polska '93

THEMATIC CLASS

Jury members: M. Bergman (CH, *thematic group leader*), L. Brendl (CZ), E. Evensen (NW), A. Kurczynski (PL), L. Malendowicz

(PL), M. Mansilla (RA), H. Siem (NL, *team leader*), M. Teixeira (P)

Apprentices: T. Peltonen (SF), J. Gruszczinski (PL), S.K. Kim (ROK). *All approved by the FIP Board.*

Awards:

<u>Exhibitor</u>	<u>Award</u>
Aeberhard (CH)	G+ (91)
Hauschting (D)	G (90)
Jorgensen (DK)	G (90)
Kermes L. (D)	G (92)
Michel (CH)	G (90)
Bosman (NL)	G (90)
Martenet (CH)	G (92)
Dahinden T & H (CH)	G (90)
Bourret (CH)	G (90)
Van den Bold (NL)	G (90)

Brasiliana '93

THEMATIC CLASS

Jury members: E. Buttini (FIP-RA), C.E. Capucio (BR), P. Fallot (F), N. Ferre (*team leader*, RA), G. de Andrade Ribeiro jr (BR), R. Kley (*thematic group leader*, BR).

Apprentices: A. Borrahlo (P), *approved*; Kim Seong Wong (ROK), *asked to serve again at Bangkok '93.*

Note: F. Rapkin (UK) judged the youth class, where she was approved.

Awards:

<u>Exhibitor</u>	<u>Award</u>
Oldenburg (D)	LG (96)
Rangel (BR)	LG (96)
Abram (F)	G (91)
Castro, de (BR)	G (91)
Dutau (F)	G+ (93)
FUrstemberg (D)	G (90)
Marihno (BR)	G (91)
Moreno (E)	G (90)
Soares de Sa (BR)	G+ (90)

NEWSNEWSNEWSNEWSNEWS

OLIMPHILEX '96 IS TAKING OFF

After a preliminary meeting in Atlanta last May, the organisation was finalised in meetings held in August in Houston and Atlanta. A General Committee includes representatives of the ACOG (Atlanta committee of Olympic Games),

FIP, FIPO, APS, IOC and SPI (Sport philatelist international); the latter will act as a consultant of the ACOG for the philatelic matters and its president, Marc Maestroni, will chair the O.C., with George Guzzio acting as General Commissioner. Preolympic activities in 1995 will take place in Atlanta in 1995. The show will be coordinated by M. Tecardi for the FIPO and M. Bergman for the CCO/IOC (Commission for Olympic Collectors).

PHILATELY AT THE OLYMPIC MUSEUM IN LAUSANNE

On June 23rd the new Olympic Museum in Lausanne was officially opened. A room is devoted to Olympic stamps and coins, with 15 very large frames and 12 cupboards containing sliding frames, with a capacity of 10800 exhibit pages. The Museum hosts the Samaranch Olympic collection, donated by the President of the C.I.O. In the period from the opening to Sept. 30th a special philatelic exhibitions presented the first Olympic issue from Greece, with the rarities from the collections of the Museum, Tecardi, Bergman, Gironi, Bolaffi, Rosen and Dolianitis. Over the last three years, Manfred Bergman has played a key role in the set up of this part of the Museum after the late Heinrich Mannhart started the preliminary work, and in the preparation of the 1896 show.

A CODING SYSTEM FOR THEMATIC EXHIBITS

1. Organisers need a summary of the entries proposed by national Commissioners by major thematic areas (e.g. Zoology, Sport) to:

- achieve a comprehensive and balanced selection of exhibits
- support the selection, of jurors among those proposed in order to ensure the most appropriate coverage of themes.

simplicity matches the still generic information on the entries. I adapted the scheme I developed in 1971 for the CIFF membership directory, as follows

1	To satisfy this requirement it was	
2	sufficient a	7
3	code (one digit) related to each	
4	thematic area; it	8
5		
6		

Sport, Scouts and Games
Science and
Technology Communications
History
International Organisations
Religion
Arts
Other Themes

This scheme, which was originated at the time of documentary collections, could be modified by eliminating "International Organisations" if it is considered more appropriate to classify the same according to their activity (e.g. U.N.O. under "History" and Red Cross under "Science").

Furthermore, those situations which could be classified under two codes, like "Religious architecture" or "History of Religions" require consistent coding. I took into consideration the noun, i.e. I coded both exhibits as "Religion".

2. The sequence of the exhibits in the frames must be the most attractive for the public and allow the easiest evaluation of the jurors.

In this respect the above coding system is inadequate. I added two digits to each code, to specify the theme more in detail.

The detailed sequence may depend on a more detailed definition specific of the thematic area (e.g. scientific classification) or a chronological and/or thematic classification. If a more detailed sequence is necessary, a separate index (from 0 to 9) could be verified only for the situations needing such a definition. For instance:

210	ZOOLOGY
210	1 ANIMALS IN ANTARCTICA
210	2 MAMMALS
211	DOG
216	BIRDS
216	1 FOOD OF BIRDS
216	2 EAGLES
216	3 PIGEONS
216	4 GEESE
216	5 PENGUINS

3 The organisers may require to show the groups of exhibits in a different sequence, to match the actual position of frames on the ground and avoid discontinuities (e.g. exhibits of the same thematic area in two different zones of the exhibition hall) or highlight specific themes (e.g. Columbus exhibits in Genova).

This was achieved through an additional prefix (one digit code), within the actual sequence of

the thematic areas. For instance in Genova we had a "0" for the Colombian and Navigation exhibits, which were hosted in a separate area, a "1" for the Sport area, etc., a "7" for Zoology and Botany which required a larger room. This code, invisible for the public, determines the exact sequence for the catalogue, where entries have been classified just by frame number, the simplest and more effective method.

In summary, each exhibit had the following coding structure:

PTXXI,

where P=Prefix, T=Thematic Area, **XX**=Detailed codes within T, !=additional sequence index (optional). Example: 72163 for Pigeons, where 7 = order of Zoology entries in the exhibition, 2 = Zoology, which combined with the 16 makes 216 (Birds) and with the addition of the 3 defines the Pigeons.

This approach was very effective. The only

warning: when codes are used a systematic approach is necessary for ensuring an appropriate level of consistency. Otherwise, the results of this effort will be in jeopardy.

The above notes reflect the need of an exhibition; if applied for achieving other objectives (like membership directories, bibliographies, etc.) some modifications may be necessary to take into account the peculiarities of the work to be performed. As a part of the Commission's programme also this subject will be developed more in-depth. The detailed scheme as used at Genova '92 is available on request and it would be interesting to receive similar classifications from other Delegates.

Giancarlo Morolli

Schedule

TCNews N. 2 will be issued in January 1993.

News and reports must be sent to G. Morolli by 15.12.93.

It is suggested to send reports already on a 3½ diskette, in MS WinWord or WordPerfect or ASCII format.