

The Business Sessions of the Twelfth International Publishers' Congress at Leipzig

By A. L. Sellier

THE Twelfth Session of the International Publishers' Congress is divided into two parts: The festival receptions and similar arrangements will be enjoyable events both from the social and artistic point of view; but at the same time offer ample opportunity for meeting old friends and colleagues from far and near, and withal making new acquaintances; whilst the programme of the business sessions comprises agenda of serious work on all such problems of an international character in the realm of the publishing trade, the details and principles of which have been carefully planned and prepared during the last few years. These questions and topics will be dealt with by experts specially appointed by their respective organizations. These Reports are now available in print. They will be dealt with in five business sessions, some of them to be held simultaneously under the presidency of their special chairmen; though simultaneous treatment of similar subjects will be avoided as far as possible.

These five Sections are:

- A Copyright
- B Translations
- C Book Trade Affairs
- D Music
- E Miscellaneous.

Some of these Reports are of general interest, and ought to be known to the majority of the Congress members. Consequently the Committee have thought it advisable to treat the Reports

Mr. L. Hachette, "Alterations in the Copyright Laws of various Countries", and

Dr. Jaques Rodolphe-Rousseau, "Actual Situation with regard to the Revision of the Berne Convention"

at the Plenary Meeting on Monday, June 20, so that all those present at the Opening of the Twelfth Meeting will have the opportunity of attending this essential meeting of Section A.—Dr. Hepp's Report "Mechanical Reproduction of Works of Literature and Music on Tonophores", one of the most immediately interesting Reports of the Congress will likewise conclude the first Plenary Meeting.

The Sectional Meetings A, C, and D will be held simultaneously on Monday afternoon, June 20. The first Plenary Meeting, when such decisions as have been prepared by the Sectional

President on June 20 will be discussed and passed will take place on June 21, Sections B, D, and E will meet on Wednesday, June 22, and the Plenary Meeting on June 23 will then confirm the last decisions, and at the same time fix date and place of the 13th Congress.

On June 24 the Final Meeting will be held in Berlin. Then the delegates of the various countries will make their concluding speeches, and Dr. Goebbels, the President of the Reichskulturkammer, as the patron of the present Congress, will address its members, and thus close this important Convention.

It is obvious that during such a Congress its permanent Bureau has to get through a very large amount of work. Its manager, Professor Dr. Velleman, at the same time principal interpreter of the Congress, will give an informative Report of the work and activity of his Bureau during the Opening Meeting on June 20. Meetings of the Executive Committee and the International Commission open and close the Convention.

Every partaker is advised to make himself thoroughly familiar with the object and work of the present Congress, to select the Reports that are likely to be of particular interest to him, in short, to make his own programme beforehand. Everyone is invited to attend such meetings as are suitable to his taste and inclination.

The very great number of participants both from foreign countries and Germany proves once more the keen interest of publishers, and at the same time their readiness to cooperate in questions and problems of general and mutual concern.

The social arrangements will no doubt be an opportune basis for the forming of closer and new connections, for friendly intercourse, which is certainly one of the essential aims of the Congress; but we hope that the majority of the guests will also attend the business sessions, and take part in the various discussions and express their opinions, and thus help the Congress to attain its end by mutual solution of the now pending problems of international importance, and, on the other hand, prove the prevailing amicable feelings between publishers all over the world, all of whom are united by a noble and responsible vocation.