

Summary of the Annual Report for 1990 of the Institute of Migration

The Institute of Migration is Finland's only institution for documentation and research work in the field of international and internal migration. The purpose of the Institute is to collect research material connected with migration, to carry out and to promote research on migration, to publish scholarly studies and to disseminate information about matters relating to migration. Furthermore, the tasks of the Institute include collaboration and exchange of information with various institutions, research institutes and organization active in this area both in Finland and abroad.

During the past year, the most prominent events at the Institute included the 1990 Migration Symposium, and the VIII Nordic Migration Research Seminar, arranged in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour. The Institute also aims to keep track of new trends in migration, and the impact of these can be seen in the research plans drawn up for 1991–1995.

Documentation and Archives

The Institute of Migration collects and stores archives and museum material relating to international and internal migration. In addition, the Institute maintains contacts with general archives, various private archives and research institutes around the world, and keeps itself up-to-date with materials stored by these which relate to migration. For these purposes, the Institute has drawn up several catalogues of archives and information about their collections, and intends to establish a list giving the relevant archive collections within Finland and access to these.

At the end of 1990 the Archives of the Institute of Migration held 634 collections, most of them donated, and some of them otherwise acquired.

The photograph collections contained 6787 photographs and about 600 slides. An alphabetical card index of persons in the photographs is regularly updated, and there is also a reference file by subject matter. During the year, pictures were loaned out by the Institute on 40 occasions, to provide illustrations for publications or exhibitions.

The Institute also holds 884 gramophone records, mainly of older Finnish-American origin. User copies have now been made on audio cassettes of all of these records. The Institute's cassette collection numbers 223 tapes: 30 of these contain music, while the rest are interviews with migrants; an additional 28 interviews are stored on spool tapes. The total interview material comprises interviews with approximately 250 persons around the world, and most of these have also been transcribed. An alphabetical index of the interview material is available. The Institute also now holds 19 video recordings relating to migration.

In addition to its microfilm holdings of passport registers, the Institute has now established a machine-readable database covering approximately 70 000 persons in passport registers and passenger lists, transferred from punch cards held at the School of History at the University of Turku. Microfilm copies have also been acquired of the parish records of three Lutheran congregations in Michigan, USA, and of 28 documents or collections

nish-Australian immigrant history (e.g. minutes of meetings, etc.).

The Institute's Archives also hold approximately 9 000 original letters from migrants, as well as minutes books, accounts and other documentation from migrant associations, newspaper and magazine cuttings, and unpublished manuscripts. Altogether the Archives take up about 200 metres of shelf space.

Library

At the end of 1990, the Library of the Institute of Migration contained 5 517 titles of catalogued studies dealing with international or internal migration or other publications. The Library is catalogued manually, in conformity with normal bibliographical conventions.

During the year, over 500 ordinary loans, and 51 inter-library loans, were issued to persons outside the Institute. The Library also dealt with a large number of enquiries both from within Finland and abroad about tracking down information, etc.

The Library received annual subscriptions to 37 periodicals published by Finnish migrants around the world, 23 annual volumes of other periodicals and magazines dealing with international and internal migration, and 87 annual volumes of other publications.

During the year the Library has concentrated on acquiring up-to-date migration research literature, especially with reference to Finnish migration and to refugees.

Register of Migrants

At the end of the year, the Register of Migrants comprised just under 135 000 records; just over 97 000 of these had been obtained from passenger lists, 36 000 from passport registers, and over 1 600 from

death registers. Enquiries were received during the year concerning 140 persons, of whom 80 had emigrated to the United States, 16 to Canada, 25 more generally to America, seven to Russia or the Soviet Union, and three each to Australia and New Zealand. Three quarters of the enquiries originated within Finland, and almost all of the others within North America. About a third of the enquiries received during the year were solved either completely or partially.

In addition to enquiries concerning specific persons, the Register has also received a considerable number of telephone enquiries concerning the present state of the Register, the cost of services, or advice as to how emigrants could be traced.

Research

During the year, the Institute of Migration embarked on the planning for a new large-scale research project on the history of Finnish migration. The Ministry of Education has made a grant of FIM 200 000 for 1991, with the aid of which this project has now been launched.

The Institute's revised research plans have now been drawn up for the period 1991-95; new focuses of attention are immigration into Finland, and Nordic migration.

During 1990 there were six research projects in progress at the Institute of Migration. Research was particularly focused on the following themes:

- language of the Finnish-Australians,
- mobility of labour in the context of societal structural change and internal migration,
- refugees in the Finnish, Swedish and Swiss press in 1918-87,
- the experiences, adaptation, and motivation to return of migrants from Turku,

- return migration of Finnish-born elderly people in Sweden.

From 1 August to 30 November, the Institute had a visiting research officer, Peter Fischer from the University of Bern in Switzerland, who was collecting statistics and source materials for his research dissertation on "Free Movement of Labor and Migration: Experiences in the Nordic Labor Market".

Seminars and Conferences

At Hanasaari, the Nordic Cultural Centre near Helsinki, the Institute of Migration and the Ministry of Labour arranged from 2–4 October the **VIII Nordic Migration Research Seminar**, funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. 67 persons took part, of whom 16 presented papers. The Seminar was organized by Dr Ismo Söderling.

The Proceedings of the Seminar are due to be published by the Institute of Migration and the Nordic Council of Ministers in the course of 1991.

Since 1975, the Institute of Migration has arranged at five-year intervals a **Migration Symposium**, offering research workers, planners, public official and politicians an opportunity to study questions relating to internal migration.

The IV Symposium was held in Turku on 19–21 November. The Symposium examined the impact of European integration on internal migration. Altogether around 120 persons took part, including both experts and other interested. The international nature of the Symposium is illustrated by the fact that one of the workshops, which was held in English, consisted of participants from all over Europe.

The Proceedings of the Symposium will be published in the course of 1991.



The IV Migration Symposium was arranged by the Institute of Migration in November. The Symposium offered research workers, planners and politicians an opportunity to discuss European integration and internal migration. (Photo: Institute of Migration, Photographic Collections.)

Publications

- Taisto Hujanen & Kimmo Koiranen: *Siirtolaisuus suomalaisissa sanomalehdissä vuosina 1880–1939 ja 1945–1984*. Research Report No 6. Turku 1990, 200 p.
- Merja Pitkäranta & Matti Simpanen: *Paluumuuttohalukkuus Turun seudulla*. Research Report No 7. Turku 1990, 101 p.

Four numbers of the Institute's periodical *Siirtolaisuus-Migration* were issued, containing altogether 164 pages. 1 600 copies were printed, of which 600 went abroad.

Exhibitions

The exhibitions by the Institute on display during the year were "Delaware 350", arranged jointly with the Finnish-American Societies, which was mounted in Kouvola, Joensuu and Peräseinäjoki; and the Finnish-Australian exhibition, taken to Jyväskylä City Library in collaboration with the League of Finnish-Australian Societies.

The Spöring Memorial

On 12 May 1990, a memorial was unveiled set into the walls of Rettig House, by the bank of the Aura River, to the explorer Herman Dietrich Spöring, born in Turku. The memorial was designed by Martin Ahlström, and was unveiled by the New Zealand ambassador in Moscow, Mr John G. MacArthur, and the Chancellor of the University of Turku, Professor Olavi Granö. The memorial was accepted on behalf of the City of Turku by the Chairman of the City Council, Mr Heikki Löyttyniemi. Responsibility for the upkeep has been assigned to the Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum.

The main initiative for the erection of the monument was taken by the League

of Finnish-Australian Societies, and financial contributions were made by the Institute of Migration, the City of Turku, The Finnish Cultural Foundation, the Ministry of Education, and several firms in Turku.

The Kaarle Hjalmar Lehtinen Fund

Thirteen persons carrying out research on migration were awarded research grants during the year, totalling FIM 44 000, from the Kaarle Hjalmar Lehtinen Fund. The total sum on the Fund's balance sheet at the end of the year amounted to FIM 960 134.

Premises

The Institute of Migration operates on premises rented from the City of Turku. With the 120 m² extension opened during the year, these now total 561 m². The Institute of Migration is engaged in negotiations with the City of Turku and the Ministry of Education over acquiring more suitable permanent premises, for the extension still does not provide the amount of space needed by the Archives, Library and offices.

Finances

The Institute of Migration operates on the basis of funding provided by the Ministry of Education. In addition, funds were supplied by the Ministry of Labour for employing additional staff, and grants for specific projects were received from the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of the Interior, the City of Turku, the Regional Planning Association for South-Western Finland, and the Academy of Finland.

The balance on the accounts of the Institute of Migration at the end of the financial year amounted to FIM 1 766 174.