

DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA



ON THE PRODUCTION SCENE — THINGS ARE STARTING TO MOVE AGAIN

"CLASS OF '44" — sequel to "Summer of '42" — is being filmed in Toronto by Warner Brothers — producer Harry Keller. Shooting started July 3rd. Screenplay is by Herman Raucher, author of "Summer of '42" and the film stars three of that production's actors — Gary Grimes, Jerry Houser and Oliver Conant. Canadian casting handled by Pam Barney of Allied Technicians and Artists. Budget is estimated at \$2 million with a 10-week shooting schedule. Sequel will take the cast from high school graduation to college and to war. Directed by PAUL BOGART (in on Guild permit); TONY LUCIBELLO is co-firsting, and GARY FLANAGAN handling the assistant production manager chores. Additional Guild personnel were assigned when production commenced.

ERIC TILL is directing a "movie-for-television" for Agincourt Productions that may turn into a 16-film series for a U.S. network. The script, written by Alvin Boretz, concerns the underground railroad operations of the American blacks around the time of the Civil War. Entitled "FOLLOW THE NORTH STAR" — the production is being shot at Nashville Stud Farm and Pioneer Village, although different locations are under consideration if the production evolves into a series. Guild members working the production with Eric are GORDIE ROBINSON and ROBBIE MALENFANT.

"SPRING COOLIE" produced by JIM MARGELLOS, directed by DAVID ACOMBA, is now on location in Coolie, Alberta. Screenplay is by BILL FLUET (recently wrapped his own production "Wedding In White" in Toronto), and stars LUKE ASKEW and PATTI OATMAN. BOB LINNELL and SCOTT MAITLAND are working this one. Camera chores are being handled by MARC CHAMPION of TDF.

CHESTER KRUMHOLZ is back in Toronto to start pre-production on Simon Locke, M.D. Series has been re-titled "POLICE SURGEON" and shooting started for July 19th. Production Manager will be MARILYN STONEHOUSE.

MAXINE SAMUELS (of "Forest Rangers" and "Seaway" series fame) is back on the production scene and is hoping to see the cameras roll next month on her first feature "THE PYX" to be shot in and around the Montreal area. Director will be HARVEY HART. Production offices have been set up in Montreal.

"BURKE'S LIQUIDATORS" to be produced by Maemak Management and Adams Productions of Vancouver has been tentatively set to go before the cameras soon in the Vancouver area. According to Tony Mayger of Maemak, "Liquidators" is the first of five features to be produced in the area and distributed by Futurama International of Studio City. A Letter of Intent has reportedly been signed between Adam Productions and Futurama which spells out the terms for negative pickup (\$600,000 per picture) and grants exclusive distribution rights to Futurama International. According to Variety reports, the producers will have to roll up credit in excess of \$1,000,000 for every picture, and use it up on a pro rata basis, which will continue for the length of the contract. It is stated that the budget is set up so that they do not have to wait for returns from the first one. Production could therefore be "back to back."

GEORGE KACZENDER is hoping to get into production next month on "U-TURN" — a screenplay he collaborated on with Montreal writer, Douglas Bowie.

TERRY DENE of Studio Centre is hoping to get into production in the near future with "FRIDAY THE RABBI

SLEPT LATE." Initial discussions have been held re crewing; however, confirmations are awaiting finalization of contracts. Production would be in and around the Toronto area.

Additional projects hoping to get into production this year with CFDC participation received a "GO" or "NO GO" on the 19th of June. The meeting originally scheduled to deal with these projects on the 2nd of June was postponed.

The final episode of "JALNA" will go before the cameras in August.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PETER CARTER on winning the director's Silver Lion Award, Young Venice Festival, for ROWDYMAN. Rowdyman has been receiving excellent reviews since its opening at the Ontario Science Centre last month, and has been playing many weeks at the Uptown theatre in Toronto; showing to full houses in Ottawa, and outdrawing Godfather in Newfoundland. It also opened in Edmonton and Victoria.

This year the CANADIAN FILM AWARDS will be held at Cinesphere on Sunday, October 15th, 1972. More information later.

SYDNEY NEWMAN, ANDRE LAMY (assistant Film Commissioner), and GERALD GRAHAM (Director and Research Planner for NFB) are currently in Russia meeting with Soviet filmmakers and participating in discussions dealing with cultural exchange. The Canadians are guests of the Soviet Association of Filmmakers and will spend ten days in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. The groups will discuss a program of film exchange, explore the possibilities of co-production, discuss technical developments in the industry, visit Soviet facilities, screen new Soviet films and show the recent NFB productions.

For the first time ABC has signed a tv film contract with the International Al-

liance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Minimum basic deal was signed by ABC-TV on behalf of its Circle Entertainment, responsible for production of the network's two-hour films and "Movie of the Week" segments. Circle farms out most of the "Movie" segments to major studios and independents. ABC has had contracts with individual IATSE locals for cameramen, film editors, publicity, etcetera, and the network has had a tape contract with IA, but this is the first time it is signatory to a tv film contract.

Guild member GEORGE MCCOWAN is one of nine directors signed by producer Harold Gast of Quinn Martin Productions' CBS-TV "Cannon" series to direct 22 segments.

AGENCY NEWS

BARRY SLATER has been appointed senior account executive and FRED SANDERS as account executive assigned to the Imperial Oil account at Cockfield, Brown Toronto office.

BEV MACHESNEY, account supervisor with McKim, Benton & Bowles, Vancouver, and ROSS MCWHINNIE, account supervisor, Toronto, have been named vice-presidents of the agency.

TOM HEALY, managing editor, Sales promotion Mark II magazine, has been named account executive, Infoplan International, Toronto. Responsibilities will include Coca Cola, Steel Equipment, Chargex, CNA Assurance, and McCann-Erickson public relations.

Creative Concepts, Vancouver, has announced changes involving BOB MILLER, creative director at Creative House, Vancouver, who is now executive art director; CAROL MAYER, art buyer with Dorlands and Benton & Bowles, London, England, is now creative coordinator and traffic manager; and HOWARD MALCHY, now account executive.

SHELL CANADA is moving its \$500,000 Corporate Account from Kenyon and Eckhardt, although K & E will continue to handle this account in the United States. Shell is currently considering a number of solicited presentations and will announce their selection in the very near future. Shell is reportedly desirous of giving the Canadian company a stronger Canadian image through utilizing the services of a Canadian agency. Ogilvy and Mather will continue to handle Shell's \$2.5 million Business Account.

CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE

The Guild received a request from the Canadian Film Institute for a representative of the DGC to sit on the Board of Directors of the CFI. The Guild Executive has appointed MUNROE SCOTT, our Ottawa representative, and Munroe has accepted the appointment.

DGC/ACTRA STANDING COMMITTEE

DGC/ACTRA regular meetings are being set with PETER CARTER, SAM JEPHCOTT, EVELYN MCCARTNEY (alternates: John Trent, Eric Till, Al Waxman) representing the Guild. ACTRA is appointing its representatives, and the first meeting will take place in July.

INDUSTRY MEETINGS

At the request of the Guild, a regular monthly meeting has been set between ourselves and representatives from the industry's Guilds and Unions. These meetings will take the form of a monthly "Working Luncheon" and, hopefully, will enable us to work together to end the fragmentation and isolation which occurs so frequently. Preliminary discussions and meetings have taken place, and the first "full" session was planned for mid-July.

PIERRE JUNEAU

Since Pierre Juneau's speech to the ACA Annual Seminar in Toronto and our report in the last newsletter outlining the Chairman's strong recommendation to the advertising industry that it establish a rule for itself that all radio and tv commercials be produced in Canada (utilizing Canadian artistic and technical talent), a number of requests have been received from members for the total content of the speech. Unfortunately, Mr. Juneau's talk ran to 23 pages and it is not feasible to quote him verbatim; however, a complete text of the CRTC Chairman's speech is available at the Guild office for member's perusal.

Guild president, Allan King, travelled to Ottawa to meet with Mr. Juneau just prior to the Chairman's attendance at the ACA, and the Guild is encouraged to hope that the industry will take note of, and act upon, Mr. Juneau's recommendations.

WHAT THEY'RE DOING

GARY FLANAGAN, TONY LUCIBELLO, JOHN BERGER working Warner Brothers "Class of '44" now in production; BRIAN WALKER, AL SIMMONDS, GARY LEAROYD set for "Police Surgeon" starting July 19th; TIM HURSON prepping feature with PETER THOM-

SON; DAVE ROBERTSON in pre-production with GEORGE KACZENDER on "U-Turn" scheduled for Montreal shooting; GERRY ARBEID and BILL ZBROWSKY in pre-production on "Conquest Of The Deep" scheduled for September; JIM MARGELLOS, SCOTTY MAITLAND and BOB LINNELL on location in Lethbridge, Alberta; MARILYN STONEHOUSE set as production manager for "Police Surgeon"; BOB SCHULZ just back from holiday and prepping two upcoming shows for CBC-TV; SAM JEPHCOTT, JOHN BOARD and IAN MCDUGALL in pre-production on "Tobias" shooting this month; HARVEY HART prepping "The Pyx" to be shot in Montreal in August; ROBBIE MALENFANT and GORDIE ROBINSON just wrapped "Follow The North Star" directed by ERIC TILL for Agincourt Productions; JOHN TRENT and LIZ BUTTERFIELD preparing for the upcoming "Jalna" shoot; HARVIE MCCRACKEN working "Beachcombers" 'til mid-July; PETER O'BRIAN and CHRIS DALTON prepping upcoming shoot.

Congratulations to TED ROUSE who succeeds Chalmers Adams in the Toronto Office of the Canadian Film Development Corporation. The appointment became official last week.

FILMEXPO, a Canadian and International Film Exposition, will be opened on the 21st of July in Ottawa by Mr. Gratien Gelinas, Chairman of the Canadian Film Development Corporation. The Festival will feature one week of Canadian films (Eric Till's, A Fan's Notes, will open Filmexpo on July 21); a week of International films (selected from Venice, Cannes entries), and a two-week retrospective of Warner Brothers films dating from 1927. Screenings will be held at the Odeon Mall Theatre (Sparks Street Mall) - two screenings nightly - 7 and 9:30 p.m. Brochures are currently being printed and will be available later this week. Copies may be obtained from the Canadian Film Institute, 1762 Carling Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

Please note the new Guild telephone number - area code 416, 364-0122.

*Kindest Regards,
Evelyn McCartney,
Executive Secretary*