

DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA



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Dear Members:—

You are aware, from our earlier newsletters, that a meeting was held to ratify the setting up of the Council of Canadian Filmmakers and to approve the Aims and Objectives for this Council.

These Aims and Objectives were approved — as submitted to you — and the Guild has taken a seat on the Council and is working with the other members of this Council to formulate policies essential to the future of our industry.

A full report on the work of the Council is appearing in Cinema Canada and we refer you to that report for further details.

As announced in the last issue of Cinema Canada, the Guild headed a delegation of industry representatives that met in Ottawa in April. The Departments of Finance, Revenue and State had high-ranking representation at the meeting which also included the Secretary of State and a number of Executive Assistants.

A number of very important points were scored — some vital issues are still being discussed.

A four hour working meeting and three hour lobbying session produced the following concrete results:

1. We have been pressing for a single federal government liaison through whom we could deal with the multiplicity of federal departments that affect the film industry.

The Secretary of State department's film division will act as liaison between any group in the film industry — directors, investors, unions — with departments such as Immigration, Finance and Revenue. Robert Desjardins will be the contact.

2. We have been protesting, through the Commercial Directors Committee, the ease with which foreign directors, notably from the United States, fly in and out of the Canadian commercial 'honeypot' while we lack



Peter Carter



John Board

photo: Baltazar/Koller



Peter Pearson

reciprocity.

We have been advised that the new Immigration regulations would effectively restrict U.S. filmmakers who previously had come to Canada to make television commercials while Canadians were not accorded the same privilege in the United States.

In the interim we have been meeting with Manpower and Immigration officials re the implementation of the Work Permit system.

3. Request for 100% Canadian Content

in commercials telecast in Canada. A detailed assessment of the problem appeared in the last edition of Cinema Canada.

The Canadian Radio-Television Commission is now developing definitions of Canadian content that might enable them to restrict the number of U.S. made commercials in Canadian broadcasting.

We have the support of over 50 small-to-medium advertising agencies on this one.