

NABET-AFC LOCAL-700 FREELANCE



105 Carlton Street, Suite 31, Toronto 200, Ontario

Local 700's preliminary article hopefully relayed the intent of Freelancers of this Association. In the vein of trying to present a clear picture, we shall attempt to clarify any misunderstandings that come to our attention. Mr. Bryon Lowe, a NABET Representative who attended the Film Co-op Panel discussions on unions at the National Film Board, November 6, 1972, found a few discrepancies that should be sorted out.

Dear Sirs:

Re your article "Sorting out the Unions" Cinema Canada #5, December-January issue. While personally we felt the piece was quite pertinent as to the panel discussions we would like to express in possibly a little more detail what NABET AFC is all about.

Firstly we are an "International Union". However, that requires some clarification:

1. We are responsible for and do control all of our finances which are received and expended only in Canada.
2. Our policies in regard to the contracts and agreements are conceived and implemented by the Canadian members.
3. Our autonomy from the American section of NABET is probably amongst the most significant of any International Union in Canada.
4. It is a fact that at the Constitutional Convention which is held every 3 years, the Canadian delegates can and do at times control the business conducted by the fact of numbers. Therefore it can be readily established that Canadian NABET does control its own destiny, and unlike a number of International unions it is not manipulated in any way from some mysterious office in the United States.

This should not be interpreted as being just another piece of anti-Americanism. That is nonsense. We enjoy a good relationship with our American brothers. This in fact is how we are able to shoot

films anywhere in North America without having to hire "standbys" even though we happen to be in another local's geographic area rather than our own.

As to the basic minimum rates, these are set by the members usually through the means of a secret ballot, as are the various conditions of work. As to the matter of deferred payment on low budget films, we would like to again state: we have in the case of video-tape pilots already established a method of salary deferral, and we would consider any proposition regarding Low Budget Features if it was presented. We do hasten to add, that of course this would have to be a firm and legal commitment and not some vague promise that "the craftsmen will get their monies if the movie sells!"

One other point that should be reiterated is that membership in NABET-AFC is open to all, only the chosen category demands the proof of ability in that particular field.

Also, there is no seniority basis in the Freelance Local, a man progresses and obtains work by his ability alone.

*Fraternally,
Bryon J. Lowe,*

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

PRODUCTIONS

JOHN GRIFFIN, camera; PETER SHEWCHUK, sound; BOB McINTOSH, assistant camera, shooting a series of six 1 hour programmes for NIELSEN FERNS LIMITED, RICHARD NIELSEN, Executive Producer; MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE, Commentator. The 5 months' schedule will begin approximately the end of February taking the crew to — North Africa, Italy, Denmark, Russia, Germany, France and England.

JERRY FIJALKOWSKI wrapped 5 weeks shooting in Mexico.

BOB SAAD, camera; BRIAN AVERY, sound; AL ROGERS, lighting director, LOUIS GRAYDON, key grip; HARVEY RUBIN, production assistant; KEN FREEMAN, make-up; GIL BRUNETTE, wardrobe; JAC BRADETTE, props on location with

O.E.C.A. film TRUE NORTH — 6 Productions for Magazine show. Executive Producer, JIM HANLEY.

BOB RYAN, D.O.P., FRED GUTHE, 1st asst. camera; TOM WRIGHT, lighting director; DOUG GANTON, sound — currently shooting film for Ontario Place under the direction of Producer DAVID MACKAY and Assistant Director, DAVID KEIGHLEY, the production has a six month shooting schedule on various locations. Working title is "IMAX 73" with more information technical and production to follow. A second crew has been covering the shoot on 16mm film and 35mm slides which should prove interesting.

The latest word on "RAINBOW BOYS" — should be premiering in Vancouver March 27 then to open in Montreal and Toronto.

THACKER'S WORLD — A series produced by Mediavision for T.V. wrapped in Florida, shot by a NABET crew.

DAVID O'KEEFE, DAVID USHER, BARRY REID, LOUIS GRAYDON, KEN FREEMAN, GILBERT BRUNETT wrapped 1/2 hour drama R312 under director GIL TAYLOR, produced by Mediavision.

DAVID LOYND, RICHARD CABLE, ROBIN LEWIS, CHESLEY SMITH, BOB STROUD, MICHEL GABEREAU, PATRICK SPENCE-THOMAS, LOUIS GRAYDON, OLLIE PADMORE, DAVID USHER, ROGER BATE, BARRY REID, TED HART, BILL BREEN, shooting O.E.C.A. production directed by CHRIS HOMER.

DON ELSLIGER, VIC NEWMAN, DAVID LOYND, TERRY MARKS, JOHN PORIETIS, KEN PEEBLES, OTTO BIRKHOLTZ, PAUL MITCHNICK, TOM WRIGHT, JIM WRIGHT, JOHN LUCHETTA shooting at VTR PRODUCTIONS under director PETER SOMERVILLE.

ROBIN LEWIS, RICHARD CABLE, CHESLEY SMITH, BOB STROUD, PATRICK SPENCE-THOMAS, RAYMOND PAPIN, FRANK SINGER, MORRIS CRUMP, PETER HERMAN, BRIAN BAKER, BILL BREEN shooting O.E.C.A. production under director GLADYS RICHARDS. ●