

ONTARIO

TVO — As the other TV seasons expire into reruns, TVO, the Ontario educational network, continues to present new efforts. Among the April showings were Don Shebib's study of the life of old people; **We've Come a Long Way Together**; **Buenos Dias Companeras**, about the life of present-day Cuban women produced by Vivienne Leebosh and featuring translations and interviews by Selman Bryant-Fournier; and a theme evening on native peoples, beginning with a Buffy Sainte-Marie concert featuring Harry Belafonte as narrator, an examination of the exploitation of Indian lands written and directed by Ron Kelly and called **I Can Get It for You Wholesale**, and concluding with **To Walk With Dignity**, a comment from the Indian point of view by Duke Redbird.

On May 12, the York University Department of Film held its annual showing of student films. This year the event took place at the Art Gallery of Ontario, and for the first time third-year efforts were added to the fourth-year-level films... York's head of film, John Katz, is off to California for a sabbatical next year. Acting head will be Stan Fox... Bruce Raymond has had no better economic luck with Toronto's Studio Centre production studio than his predecessors, and has refused his option to buy and moved his offices out. The owners, Cambrian Broadcasting, are running it for now.

VISION IV of Toronto have gone their separate ways officially. Dick Shouten is now with Video Program Services; Bob Clarke, Victor Solniki, and Barry Leyland are off on their own; and the fifth member, Harve Sherman, has several projects in the works, one of them possibly with Universal Studios. Last fall, Sherman on his own produced **Shoot**, and it's set to open in June, with Ambassador handling domestic distribution and Avco Embassy having the American rights. European rights have also been sold.

THE DAN GIBSON-KEG Production of **Grey Owl** is still in the planning stages, but the film becomes firmer all the time... Larry Dane, producer, and Peter Carter, director, have revived



Peter Carter

Rituals for shooting this summer. Pic was originally scheduled for last summer and concerns hunters in our primitive north woods.

CCCP — Toronto filmmakers Dennis Pike and Ivan Goricanec of Certified Canadian Content Productions have completed five three-minute films based on Indian legends for Avatar Learning, the production arm of Encyclopaedia Britannica Films.

AT THE CBC, Peter Pearson has signed a three-film contract, two of which will be in the returned, highly successful journalism series under producers Ralph Thomas and Stephen Patrick. Already complete for the series is **Ada**, a film by Claude Jutra about women in a mental hospital, with a cast that includes Kate Reid, Jayne Eastwood, Janet Amos, Anne Anglin, and Sabena Maydell. During late April Don Haldane directed a Rudy Wiebe script filmed in Winnipeg and based on the Garrison Dam project. Show is called **Someday Soon Before Tomorrow**. Also in planning stages are stories about the recent B.C. penitentiary riot and killing, Newfoundland miners dying of radiation, an aging hockey player, and one based on recent Montreal criminal investigations.

CBC is repeating two of its top documentary series this summer: *The Days Before Yesterday* and *The Tenth Decade*. As well, the best of the *Performance* series will be shown on Thursdays at eight pm... Denis Héroux' **Born for Hell** and the Harold Greenberg investment **Echoes of a Summer** both played Toronto at the end of April. **Stephen Chesley**

QUEBEC

OLYMPIC FILM: The NFB, producer of the official Olympic film for the Olympic organizing committee, will pay a quarter of the total budget of \$1,200,000. Of this sum, \$300,000 is earmarked for distribution costs. Jean-Claude Labrecque, director, is seconded by three NFB directors: Marcel Carrière, Georges Dufaux and Jean Beaudin. Jacques Bobet is producing this extravaganza which uses 25 crews at 22 sites (120 people in all) to film the 21 disciplines present at the Games. Filming started two weeks before the Games opened. A rough cut should be ready around Nov. 30, and a final mix by April 30, 1977. Labrecque is abandoning the 35 mm used at Mexico and Munich to return to 16 mm. It was thought that 16 mm could better catch the fluid nature of the activities, and was more in keeping with the *cinéma vérité* technique for which Canada is renowned.

COJO-CULTURE. The official Olympic cultural film has been contracted to Les Productions du Verseau, and is being directed by Aimée Danis and Michel Beaudry. During the entire month of July, Montreal is celebrating, and cultural activities abound. Sherbrooke St., from Atwater to Papineau, has been declared the "Corridor" where open-air theatres, clowns, music and dance are continuous. The film should document these activities as well as those at the Olympic Village (Oscar Peterson, Charlebois) and the more classical offerings in theatres all over the city.

The film is entitled **Ladies and Gentleman, Summer!** and is structured around Reynald Bouchard, actor, and Annette Av Paul, ballerina, who will tie the diverse episodes together. Brian MacDonald is responsible for the choreography and Jean Sauvageau for the music. Daniel Fournier is the director of photography and Francine Gagné the assistant director. In all, the film should cost \$200,000, the entire amount coming from the Olympic Organizing Committee.

APFQ-SNC: Negotiations began seriously on June 30 between the Quebec producers' association and the technicians'

union. Production had come to a virtual standstill in early June and several companies were losing customers or moving their productions elsewhere. A deadlock had been created when the technicians insisted that the producers recognize the 1974 collective agreement (imposed unilaterally by the SNC) as the basis for negotiation. The APFQ had refused, insisting the agreement must be freely negotiated. The deadlock was broken when lawyers for the two sides were able to come to terms. Presently production is back to normal. If and when a collective agreement is concluded, it will be the first time such an agreement has been negotiated in Quebec.

APCQ. The Association des propriétaires de cinémas du Québec (Quebec theatre owners association) had its annual meeting on June 9 in Quebec City. At that time, two motions were presented: one concerning pay-TV, and one about parallel movie circuits (films shown in colleges and universities, church basements, lodge halls, etc.).

The theatre owners fear that competition from the pay-TV networks may seriously diminish attendance in the theatres, and hope that all legislation brought down will be written with an eye to creating harmonious relationships between themselves and the networks. They also request the following: that exhibition permits be granted on a regional and even local basis; that theatre owners be able to own or to participate in pay-TV networks; and, finally, that the APCQ be consulted before any such legislation is voted.

As for the parallel circuits, the APCQ is concerned about their commercial exploitation — concerned because of the possibility of profiteering and because of the consequent lowering of the standards of the films being shown. It moved that the government legislate to insure that all parallel circuits will be free to the public, and that some control be exercised to guarantee the cultural and/or educational quality of the films being shown.

The election of officers for the year 1976-77 followed.