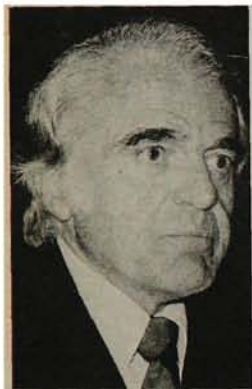


Valenti lunches with Fox in effort to avoid viral spread

Jack Valenti, director of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), was in Montreal recently to lunch with Francis Fox, the minister of Communications, and to participate in a panel discussion concerning the American pay-TV experience on Aug. 24.



Valenti, fresh and sprightly as always, began by quoting Voltaire and then launched into themes he loves well: movies take talent to make and American movies succeed because of that talent; American companies thrive because they operate in a competitive market situation and are free of government regulations; government interference in a film industry is to be avoided like the bubonic plague.

He added politely that while he lobbies the U.S. government vigorously to keep it out of the business of film, the members of his association conform themselves to the laws of foreign lands and do not try to tell others how to run their business.

Asked a question about the new film law in Quebec (which would among other things, prohibit the Majors from distributing films in Quebec other than those they have produced or to which they have world rights), Valenti underlined that too many restrictions can stifle an industry. He commented that no Eastern block nation has a film industry for that very reason, and suggested that "Quebec may find it reasonable to revise" this law. If it does not, some members of the MPAA may prefer to close shop and remove their films from circulation rather than to conform to the new law, he suggested.

Valenti was also disturbed by the law because of what he called its "precedential" qualities. "We live in a world environment, and measures like this could spread like a viral contagion through all the nations. We don't want that," he concluded.

Nine years later, Owen gets into sequel of *Waved Goodbye*

Director Don Owen's television feature *Unfinished Business*, which was delayed earlier this summer, at last began principal photography Aug. 29.

A co-production between Owen and Annette Cohen and the National Film Board, the film has

been pre-sold to the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. and is one of the first projects to obtain financing from the Broadcast Program Development Fund administered by the Canadian Film Development Corp.

In *Unfinished Business*, writer-director Owen will create both a sequel and a remake of his 1964 feature about youthful rebellion and the generation gap, *Nobody Waved Goodbye*, which starred teens Peter Kastner and Julie Biggs. This time Kastner and Biggs return as the divorced parents of rebellious daughter Isabelle Mejias, who leaves home for Toronto's Queen Street new wave scene. Other cast members include Peter Spence and Chuck Shamata.

The film is scheduled for six weeks location shooting in Toronto.



MTM signs Jim Carrey as career climbs

The career of 21-year old singing impressionist Jim Carrey continues its phenomenal rise, as MTM Productions of Hollywood recently signed Carrey for the lead role in its new sitcom, *Duck Factory*, scheduled to begin shooting Sept. 22 in Los Angeles.

Raymont continues docus in Yukon, NWT, England, . . .

Independent filmmaker Peter Raymont completed shooting Aug. 23 on *Bonnet Plume*, a one-hour documentary shot on location in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

A chronicle of a white water canoe trip by eight businessmen down the Yukon's Bonnet Plume River, the film is partially financed by and has been pre-sold to the Turner Broadcasting System for a spring 1984 telecast. Other partners include Cablescope Inc. of Buffalo, the Canadian departments of Tourism and External Affairs, and the department of Tourism of the Yukon and N.W.T.

The film was produced and directed by Raymont, with executive producer Bill Hoyt. No sale to Canadian TV has been made.

Raymont is currently in pre-production on *A Candle in the Dark*, a documentary on Amnesty

NBC has committed to 13 half-hour episodes, to be produced by former Mary Tyler Moore Show writer Alan Burns and M*A*S*H veterans Thad Mumford and Dan Wilcox.

Carrey will also appear with Grace Jones and Toronto band Rough Trade on a one-hour pilot for a new wave cabaret series, *Scandals*, produced by Louis Chesler and directed by Rob Iscove, which has been licensed to both First Choice and Home Box Office. The pay-TV special will begin shooting Sept. 13 at Toronto's Lakeshore Studios.

Carrey will appear Sept. 10 at the Kingswood Music Theatre at Canada's Wonderland north of Toronto. Prior to this show, however, he is scheduled to tape a guest spot on CTV's *Circus*, perform as the opening act for singer Sheena Easton on a 14-city U.S. tour, and appear in the feature film *The Next to Last Train Ride*, being produced in Calgary for Warner Brothers, directed by Richard Lester.

Carrey recently finished an HBO special on the 10th anniversary of The Comedy Store in L.A., and will appear later this fall on the Budweiser College Tour featuring Comedy Store acts.



International sponsored by that organization, which he will co-produce and direct with the assistance of Louise Clark. Shooting scheduled for North America, England, and France will begin in September.

Raymont and Robert Collison, who collaborated on the 1982 NFB documentary *Prisoners of Debt*, will co-direct a CBC production on Canadian industrial policy, *Sunrise/Sunset*. The documentary will be produced by Darce Fardy and shot this fall for an early spring 1984 broadcast.



Rouillard leads Filmoption test waters in U.S. market

With sales doubling every year, Maryse Rouillard and her company Filmoption Internationale are poised to break into the U.S. market. Trips to the Banff Television Festival and Montreal's World Film Festival - not to mention obligatory pilgrimages to MIP and Monte Carlo - are part of her annual rounds as she takes films from Quebec the international markets and picks up foreign films for distribution in Canada.

A recent trip to Paris netted *Benvenuta* by André Delvaux, a film that turned out to be one of the critics' favorites and won a special jury prize last month in Montreal. Rouillard is planning a fall release.

Asked about Canada's film markets, Rouillard

comments that while both Banff and Montreal serve to reinforce old contacts and make new ones, neither yet has the muscle to serve Canadian buyers. "Most of the film shown at Montreal already had buyers. For festival to attract buyer it's important that the films which are for sale be worth the trip. Until someone is ready to pump real money into market, you can't break out of that vicious circle." Rouillard, confident that her European contacts are solid and that after five years in sales Filmoption's reputation is too, is ready to take the challenge of dealing with American packages to find a place in the market for the Canadian films she represents.

Ethan O'Gara gets top billing

After more than a decade of joint effort to promote Canada's production industry, communications consultant Sandra Gathercole and National Film Board director of R & D Kirwan Cox are pleased to announce the birth of a boy, at the Montreal Jewish General Hospital Aug. 13. Weighing 8 lbs. 15 oz. at birth, the child has been named Ethan O'Gara Cox after considerable deliberation. Cinema Canada has learned through usually reliable sources that among the names considered were Grierson and/or Levies and Quotas. Both mother and child are doing fine.

