



Film Archives has brought the NFA out of the Public Archives complex and into the national film limelight.

Perhaps the NFA will now begin to function as a truly national film agency for all Canadians.

Currently, the NFA occupies a large part of the bottom floor of the West Memorial Building in Ottawa. It has recently acquired 30,000 sq. ft. of space next to its present offices. The NFA is continually expanding and it is now looking for a building to store its thousands of nitrate films. The staff of the NFA will be increased to about 20, and they will absorb several employees from the CFI.

To meet these added expenditures the NFA has asked for a \$2 million yearly operating budget from the Secretary of State, and at this writing has not yet received it.

As Mr. Kula explained, "I would like to see the National Film Archives as an active archives rather than a passive one". For example, he would like to adopt a more aggressive approach for exhibiting films to the

public (perhaps a Canadian Film Theatre showing Canadian films??), establishing NFA regional offices in various cities across Canada and maybe even a travelling NFA exhibit for publicity purposes.

But, he cautiously added, "there is lots of groundwork to be done and the next 18 months will tell the story of what the role of the National Film Archives will be".

Tony Lofaro

VANCOUVER

NFB - Vancouver

Previewed at the National Film Board's screening room on Georgia Street West, were Peter Jones' first

three formulated for TV half-hour Pacificanada documentaries.

These follow such earlier acclaimed NFB productions on various parts of Canada as *Adieu Alouette*, about Quebec. The executive producer is Ian MacLaren.

A Slow Hello is a product of the Nicola Valley in British Columbia, where ranching has been a way of life for generations. It's the story of a working cowboy, aged 64! John Drake was born on a B.C. ranch. In his heyday, he was one of the best horse-shoers on the racetracks of America. He works on one of the biggest ranches in North America, gets up at 5 A.M. working until 5 P.M. and is paid \$400 a month plus room and board. The film catches the free and easy acceptance of a hard life, and the illusion of independence. Tom Radford directed.

Soccer may not be thought of as a woman's game but Sheilah Reljic handles the direction and editing with a sure confidence. Soccer is B.C.'s number one sport. Over 33,000 men and boys play soccer on the lower mainland. Sheilah creates an amusing insight into the sport, and shows that women as well as school boys, and men, adapt readily to the game's rough housing.

Third is the nitty gritty film, *Whistling Smith* which takes the viewer into the seedy life of the toughest area of Vancouver, the land of prostitutes, drug peddlars, glue sniffers, and con-artists, and the amazing cop who controls its crime by sheer presence. *Whistling Smith* Sergeant Bernie Smith lies to keep his beat clean. He applies the law in blunt terms. He does such a good job that the rest of the force are having difficulty keeping Vancouver's Granville Mall from being a proto-type of what Smith's beat used to be. He gets along with the "sleazy types" in a love-hate way. They ask his advice. Losers approach him for legal advice when they're busted and spit on him when they are back on the street. Barry Howells, and Michael Scott are the producers.

Subsequent films in the series will deal with the company town of Trail, life in a small mining town, the lives of two lively and unusual old timers from Vancouver Island, and the social struggle of the Bella Bella Indians on Campbell Island.

Production Notes

Mooted for a hopefully early start is New Century Productions Ltd.,



Temple on Wednesday from a script by Brad Nuber of Hollywood, now resident in Vancouver. It is described as a suspense-murder mystery of the Hitchcock genre, and was slated to be done in San Francisco, but on the heels of Bulldog Productions' 'love affair' with Vancouver, *Kosygin is Coming*, which actually stars this city, New Century decided to switch the locale.

The budget is \$500,000. It may possibly sport an American director. Negotiations are underway with Leslie Charleson, star of several TV movies, (*The Black Box Murders*), and George Peppard who is no stranger to Vancouver.

Brickell has produced no features before but was connected with Roma Films in producing commercials for the biggies such as Coca Cola! Lensing start is scheduled for June 1st, God and the Angels willing.

Leaves fluttering in the wind include the possibility of Grade Three Productions of Hollywood rolling out the wagons in a Western at Barkerville and Duck Lake this summer. It is a yarn about bandits from Kamloops. Barkerville is the 'show town,' resurrected from B.C.'s past where Rogellio Gonzales, Jr. lensed *The Naked Man*. This film was made to out-Peckinpah Peckinpah, and is probably giving the Mexicans ideas along those lines.

Old British Columbian Billy McIllyde, (Bill Braden), is expected in town to discuss a feature film, probably scripted by partner Geoffrey Bloom (*Dog Pound Shuffle*, 11 Harrow Street.)

Trevor Wallace has been too quiet not to be engaged in something now

that *Journey Into Fear* is in the can. The rustle indicates that a remake of "Rebecca" may be in the cards.

Speaking of rustling leaves of rumour, no one here seems knowledgeable about the Harold Greenberg, Bellevue-Pathé-Astral films to be made in British Columbia. But even from rumours this end of the country tips it's cap and trusts for further favours. Even an exciting nude would be acceptable.

—Jack Ammon

WINNIPEG

Winnipeg Film Group

Members Leon Johnson, Brad Caslor, Rich Condie and Nancy Edell have just finished off work for *Sesame Street*. Their work has met with enthusiastic response down east and there is a possible sale to American TV in the offing.

Leon Johnson and Shortgrass film are both busy doing commercial and industrial assignments. Johnson, by

the way, recently elected Co-ordinator of the group. The office address is:

Winnipeg Film Group
24-221 McDermot Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

David Cherniack is presently preparing a feature for shooting in Southern Manitoba hopefully for a summer shoot and Len Klady will be producing a feature comedy in Toronto in the spring.

WFG member Leonard Yakir is now in Toronto cutting *The Mourning Suit* low-budget feature after a successful shoot this fall.

NFB

Jerry Krepakevich of the local office is near completion on *A Family Portrait*. This film will be part of the Board's new multi-cultural program. In this case the film focuses on Ukrainian Canadians.

The local office is currently looking for production ideas as the Board expands its horizons.

—Len Klady

Leonard Yakir, 1st AD John Stoneman, DOP Henri Fiks on set of "Mourning Suit"

