

study for which it received a \$15,000 grant from the provincial Ministry of Communications. Whereas 89% of the production of English language commercials are produced on film, only 59% of French language commercials are filmed. The study found that only 27% of the commercials in national television campaigns are created by francophone companies in Quebec. Of the 73% of commercials created by the English sector, 42% are produced in double version: the commercial is shot in English and redone in the same decor with French speaking actors. This practice negates the cultural specificity of the Quebecois and is ardently opposed by the Publicity Club.

Distribution

Five features opened in Quebec during October: Mar-

cel Lefebvre's **Mustang**, Claude Jutra's **Pour le meilleur et pour le pire**, Clément Perron's **Partis pour la gloire**, Gilles Carle's **La Tête de Normande St-Onge**; Jean-Pierre Lefebvre's **L'Amour Blessé** was shown one evening at the Outremont Theatre in the context of the Quebecois Film Evenings organized by the Conseil Québécois pour la Diffusion du Cinéma.

Mustang was released with the usual Films Mutuels panache - multiple openings, full-page ads - and went nowhere. In its third week it is already playing a double bill. Jutra's film was opened in small theatres in Montreal and Quebec City. The first week attendance of 5500 fell to 4000 the second week, according to Cinepix.

Connie Tadros

ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Newfoundland Co-op

Atlantic Canada now harbors two filmmaking co-ops with the addition of the newly-formed Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-Op. The idea of starting a co-op in Nfld has been circulating for about a year or more and a group met during the summer to consolidate the organisation. The co-op is working out of St. John's and appears to be setting up along the lines of the Atlantic Filmmakers Co-Op in Halifax with whom they have been in contact. The group is getting support from the National Film Board, the CBC, and the Canada Council through a grant administered by the Extension Services Department of Memorial University. Two of the filmmakers

behind the organization of the new co-op are Mike Jones, who is working on contract with NFB doing work with a theatre group named Codco, and Bill Doyle, who recently finished **Pure Silver**, a short satirical look at Nfld's 25th anniversary celebration of their entry into Confederation. This film is one that the Atlantic Filmmakers Co-Op funded to completion during this past summer.

Atlantic Co-Op

John Brett of Halifax recently completed a film through the Atlantic Co-Op called **Voices From the Landscape**. The film is a subjective impression of an aging man and the erosion

of the homestead life in an Acadian village on the South Shore of Nova Scotia.

Neal Livingston, another Halifax Co-Op member, is

photo: Terry Pulliam



Untitled by Neal Livingston

starting to edit his as-yet-untitled drama shot with a Co-Op crew in various locations around Nova Scotia during the last three weeks of August. The film is involved with the esoteric journey of a young couple into a lush summer landscape and the myriad conflicts of the quest for their own directions.

Shelagh McNab of Halifax is also in the initial editing stages with her Co-Op funded film called **Phenomenon**. The film deals with a place called Peggy's Cove, the people who visit there and the people who live in its idyllic surroundings.

Harold Pearse of Halifax is also in the process of doing a Co-Op funded documentary called **Joe Sleep**. The film is a brief portrait of a man who started painting after a life as a carnival man and sailor, and is now gaining widespread recognition for his primitive, almost child-like canvases as well as his colourful and irrepressible personality.



Phaedra by Paul Mitcheltree

Also in the documentary vein is **Phaedra**, a film about sky-divers being shot by Paul Mitcheltree of Halifax. Working with a helmet camera he built himself, Paul is gathering air-to-air footage to rework it in an optical printer.

Lionel Simmons of Halifax is also shooting a documentary on a dance group called Le Groupe de la Place Royale as they perform and do workshops with dancers in Halifax. The Co-Op is receiving aid from the NFB in the form of stock and processing to produce this film.

NFB Atlantic

In its own productions, the Atlantic Unit of the NFB is shooting a film about the history of the labour strife in the Cape Breton coal-mining industry since the 1920's. Martin Duckworth is the director-cameraman on the shoot which will end up as two twenty-minute films.

Ken Martin of Charlottetown is directing another NFB production entitled **Moses Coady**, which is a biography of the radical priest from St. Francis Xavier University who started the Co-Operative movement back in the 1930's and 40's. The film is now in the editing stages with Brian Pollard doing the cutting.

Gulf Stream, directed by Bruce MacKay through the NFB Atlantic Unit is back into production after initial lab problems. Richard Leiterman and Kent Nason are combining on camera for that film, which is being shot from a yacht sailing from Halifax to Cape Cod.

Blind Mechanic, another NFB Atlantic production by Mike Mahoney and Ted Haley, is almost ready for final mixing. The film is a glimpse of a man working as a mechanic and rebuilder of antique autos, even though he was blinded in the Halifax explosion of 1917.



The Blind Mechanic

photo by Mike Mahoney

Other NFB productions underway are **Citizen Sailor**, co-directed by Whit Tre-cartin and Sam Grana; **Gardening**, by John Pederson of Hampton, N.B.; and **Historic Sites**, which is a CBC-NFB production. The Atlantic Unit also recently did an hour-long video drama shot film-style with 3/4 inch colour cameras. The drama, called **Sister Thekla's Choice**, was directed by Mike Boyle and shot on location in a convent in Antigonish, N.S.

Also in video, the Halifax CBC is gearing up for a 30-minute shoot called **Chappell's Diary** based on the actual diary of one of the first settlers on Prince Edward Island back in 1750. Ken Stetson from P.E.I. is writing the screenplay.

'Paramount Law'

In other news, Gerald McNeil, the newspaperman from Dartmouth, seems to be progressing well in his fight against the N.S. Board of Censors, and it now seems that another group is forming to lobby against the Nova Scotia Theatres and Amusements Act. Certain regulations in the act (sometimes referred to as 'The Paramount Law') forbid the operation of a 16mm commercial theatre within a five-mile radius of a 35mm outlet. This law successfully prevents any independent

Revue-type 16mm theatre from 'competing' with the large commercial theatre chains, and was lobbied for by the theatres a number of years ago. Nova Scotia is the only province to have such a law, and the movement to have it repealed appears to be gaining momentum. More news as it happens...

Charles Lapp

THE PRAIRIES

Manitoba

With the fall season clearly in evidence in Manitoba, much activity is either in progress or being prepared, prior to the fierce onslaught of winter. Local amateurs are busying themselves with segments of Sesame Street and a collaborative film encompassing the theme of, "the joys of urban living". This later project is the brain-child of members of the Winnipeg Film Group and will involve both group and outside group talent. Among the WFG members contributing segments are Leon Johnson, Willi Ahrens, Brad Caslor, Nancy "Mustang" Edell, Al Pakarnyk and Betsy Thorsteinson.

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The set-ups were explained and crew members explained their positions in the productions.

The National Film Board recently completed shooting **Fire Drill**, the second in a series of films by young directors. The series is under the supervision of Vladimir Valenta and allows Board film makers an opportunity to work in fiction film. Michael Scott, a former Winnipegger, was at the helm. The script was by local playwright, David King, who found his first screenwriting experience quite exhilarating. **Fire Drill** used a basic. Film Board crew supplemented by Winnipeg technicians including WFG members Ian Elkin, Leon Johnson and Howard Gurbich.

Canadian Film Symposium IV is now in the initial stages of contacting films and filmmakers for this February event. Apparently, some interesting changes

are planned this year and more information will be released in the coming weeks. CFS IV coordinator Len Klady has been busy writing. He recently completed a TV documentary to be aired on CTV before the new year and is also working on a television drama for the CBC.

Last month Winnipeg Film Group and the Manitoba Theatre Workshop in conjunction with the NFB held a three day intensive session on dramatic film. The event involved eighty people working in both film and theatre in the city. The workshop kicked off Friday night with the shooting of a three minute film scripted and crewed by WFG members.