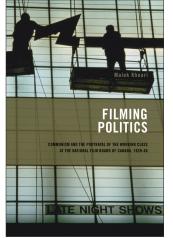


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FILMING POLITICS: COMMUNISM AND THE PORTRAYAL OF THE WORKING CLASS AT THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA, 1939–46 by Malek Khouri

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APPENDIX ANNOTATED FILMOGRAPHY

This appendix includes two lists of films with direct relevance to the topic of workers in the NFB's war film period. The first list includes NFB films of the period itself, and the second includes important films from various periods and by different producers (including the NFB) with topics of direct connection with the World War II era and the role of the working class and the left within this war.

The NFB films produced between 1939 and 1946 contain material useful to the study of the depiction of the working class and labour. Considering that this book presents an analysis of the political and ideological significance of the films' depiction of the working class, I have included films that directly refer to the workers and labour as well as those that indirectly impact the topic. Among these films are those dealing with general social and economic issues, a selection of films that depict the fight against fascism in Europe during World War II, and films that deal with and assess the role of the Soviet Union and related issues of peace and international cooperation.

The films are classified chronologically under the year of production. Films within each year are then listed in alphabetical order. The name of each film's director, producer or editor is listed in brackets (some films, however, originally do not list specific names), followed by its duration (in minutes and seconds), and finally a brief annotation. Some series titles are accompanied by a brief description of specific subtitles that contain material relevant to topics listed above. The second list includes selected NFB and non-NFB films also relevant to the study of the working class and the NFB in the period between 1939 and 1946.

- The Case of Charlie Gordon (Stuart Legg) 16:00. Within a Maritime setting the film provides a discussion on the issues of unemployment, the Great Depression, and government social programs.
- Youth is Tomorrow (Stuart Legg) 15:00. Training and apprenticeship of youth and the unemployed.
- Heritage (J. Booth Scott) 17:00. Prairie farmers and the Parry Farm Rehabilitation Administration program.

- Atlantic Patrol (Stuart Legg) 10:00. The role of Canadian seamen in supplying ships departing from Canada's eastern ports during the early stage of the war.
- Controls for Victory (Philip Ragan) 4:00. An animated film dealing with the shortages of civilian goods during World War II; the film also discusses how uncontrolled buying leads to inflation.
- Farmers of the Prairies 16:00. Prairie farmers and the use of government research and irrigation programs. Front of Steel (John McDougall) 18:00. Steel workers in modern warfare.
- Industrial Workers of Central Canada (Donald Fraser) 16:00. Industrial labour and the economic prosperity in central Canada.
- News Round-Up Series. Includes footage on the role of industrial workers and farmers in the war.
- On Guard for Thee (Stanley Hawes) 27:00. An impressionistic kaleidoscope of the effect of World War I on the industrialization of Canada.
- *Timber Front* (Frank Badgley) 21:00. Conserving Canada's forests and their vital role in reconstructive social planning.
- Toilers of the Grand Banks (Stuart Legg) 9:00. The work of fishermen and shipyard workers on the East Coast.
- Wings of Youth (Raymond Spottiswoode) 19:00. Canada's contribution to the construction of air fields, machines and equipment required for the Commonwealth air training scheme.

- Battle of Brains (Stanley Hawes) 13:00. Emphasizes the work of scientists rather than industrial production workers.
- Call for Volunteers (Radford Crawley) 10:00. The role of Winnipeg women in supporting the war effort; emphasis is on women's "support" work for men.
- Churchill's Island (Stuart Legg) 22:00. The interrelationship between various forces which contributed to Britain's defence including the merchant seamen and workers in factories.
- Heroes of the Atlantic (J.D. Davidson) 15:00. Includes scenes on the role of civilian labour in producing munitions and foodstuffs.
- People of Blue Rocks (Produced by Douglas Sinclair & Edward Buckman) 9:00. Fishermen in Nova Scotia and issues of collective community work.
- Pipeline Builders (Paul LeBel) 22:00. The construction of the pipelines from Portland, Maine to Montreal.

 Produced in cooperation with the Imperial Oil Company.
- Strategy of Metals (Raymond Spottiswoode) 19:00. The strategic significance of Canadian aluminium in building crank shafts, tanks and planes.

- Battle of the Harvests (Stanley Jackson) 18:00. The role of farmers in supporting the war effort.
- Empty Rooms Mean Idle Machines (Philip Ragan) 2:00. A character named Plugger helps the war effort by renting out his spare room so that a new worker can be brought in to work an idle machine at the munitions plant.
- Ferry pilot (Stuart Legg and Ross McLean) 19:00. Includes footage on workers in the airplanes factories.
- Fighting Ships (Robert Edmonds) 24:00. Shipyard workers in the war.
- Five For Four (Norman McLaren) 2:52. Animated film on the need to support the wartime savings campaign.
- Food, Weapon of Conquest (Stuart Legg) 21:08. Includes an assessment of the role of cooperative farming in the Soviet Union and how it contributes to the country's economic success.
- Forward Commandos (Raymond Spottiswoode) 22:00. Includes footage of resistance and the guerrilla tactics used by Soviet Union during the war.
- Geopolitik Hitler's Plan for Empire (Stuart Legg) 20:00. Refers to the rise of fascism in Europe and the struggle against its rise during the Spanish Civil War.

- Great Guns (Radford Crawley) 24:00. Industrial production of steel, pulp, and ship building on the Great Lakes.
- If (Philip Ragan) 3:00. Inflation and war industrial production.
- *Inside Fighting Canada* (Jane March) 11:00. The role of workers in lumber farming, and shipyard industries.

 The film also includes visual reference to women farmers and truck drivers.
- Inside Fighting China (Stuart Legg) 22:00. The role of the Popular Front in China. Emphasis on the need for unity in fighting fascism and towards achieving economic and social justice. Reference to the link between workers and other sections of society in China.
- *Inside Fighting Russia* (Stuart Legg) 22:00. The role of Soviet men and women workers in building the ingredients for successfully fighting fascism.
- Keep 'em Flying (Graham McInnes) 20:00. The aircraft industry and the vital role of workers within it.
- National Income (Philip Ragan) 2:00. An illustration of the composition and the spending of national income.
- Northland (Ernest Borneman) 20:00. The mining towns and camps of the North and the role of miners.
- Prices in Wartime (Philip Ragan) 10:00. The causes and effects of inflation during wartime.
- Subcontracting for Victory 24:00. Coordinating the effort between management, labour and government.
- Thank You Joe 10:00. The role of workers in producing trucks and tanks.
- *Voice of Action* (James Beveridge) 17:00. The importance of involving labour and farmers in CBC radio's forums and discussions on the economy.
- Women are Warriors (Jane March) 14:00. The role of women workers in the war and beyond. Reference to the Soviet experience in incorporating women into all sections of the work force.

- Action Stations! (Joris Ivens) 44:00. Ivens' first film at the NFB. This wartime film depicts the struggles of the Canadian Merchant Marine as it organizes its defence against German submarines.
- Alexis Trembley: Habitant (Jane March) 37:00. Family farming in Quebec.
- Battle is their Birthright (Stuart Legg) 18:00. Contrasting the military obedience of Japanese and Nazi youth, with the practice of citizenship education in the Soviet Union and China.
- Before they are Six (Gudrun Parker) 15:00. Support of working mothers and the importance of creating day nurseries.
- Bluenose Schooner (Eduard Buchman and Douglas Sinclair) 20:00. East Coast fishery and communities' use of cooperative methods.
- Canada-Workshop of Victory 10:00. The development of the war industry.

- Canada Communiqué No.1. 12:00. Includes reference to the role of Nova Scotia women workers in the ship-building industry.
- Canada Communiqué No.3. 12:00. Includes reference to the role of women workers in West Coast shipyards.
- Canada Communiqué No.4. 12:00. Includes reference to the essential role of coal miners.
- Canada Communiqué No.6. 12:00. Includes reference to the Gaspé fishing industry.
- Coal Face, Canada (Robert Edmonds) 20:00. Coal miners, unions and the role of workers in building a new future for Canada.
- Curtailment of Civilian Industries (Philip Ragan) 2:00. Animated film on the different priorities of work and production during the peace and war period.
- Coal Miners (Alan Field) 13:30. Coal miners and their role in the war.
- Farm Front 20:00. The need to coordinate and centralize the effort to improve farming methods to aid in the war efforts.
- The Farm Forum 10:00. A radio program dedicated to discussing the needs and the tasks of farmers during the war.
- Film and Radio Discussion Guide 3:00. Discussion forums that deal with post-war social and economic issues.
- The Gates of Italy (Tom Daly and Stuart Legg) 21:00. The rise of fascism in Italy and its political manipulation of workers.
- Getting Out the Coal 13:00. British coal industry's big cutting and loading methods.
- Grand Manan (Robert Crowther) 10:00. Collective effort and cooperative community work in a fishing New Brunswick town.
- Handle with Care (George L. George) 20:00. Workers in a publicly owned factory.
- He Plants for Victory (Philip Ragan) 2:00. Animated film on the benefits of cooperative gardening and shared farming practices.
- *Industrial Workers* (Ernest Borneman) 20:00. Contributions made by industrial workers of Canada and in other Allied countries.
- *Labour Front* 21:00. Mobilizing of the labour force during WWII. Emphasis on workers' expectations in sharing later opportunities of peace.
- A Man and His Job (Alistair M. Taylor) 17:00. Unemployment insurance and its benefits for Canadian workers and for the national economy.
- New Horizons (Evelyn Cherry) 31:00. Industrial development and possibilities for post-war benefits for workers and other citizens.
- The People's Bank (Gudrun Bjerring) 17:22. A history of the credit union movement and illustration of the steps needed to set up a credit union.
- Plowshares into Swords 20:00. Farmers and their role in supporting the war effort.

- *Prince Edward Island* (Margaret Perry) 10:00. Includes dealing with the role of the cooperative and credit union movements among farmers and fishermen.
- Proudly She Marches (Jane March) 18:27. Women workers as temporary workers during the war.
- Thought for Food (Stanley Jackson) 20:00. Providing soldiers and industrial workers with adequate nutrition to safeguard work performance.
- *Tomorrow's World* (Raymond Spottiswoode) 20:14. Centralized economic and social planning and the involvement of workers in building a better future.
- The War for Men's Minds (Stuart Legg) 21:07. Labour, the war, Labour-Management Committees, and building a new world based on the principles of the American and French revolutions.
- Wartime Housing (Graham McInnis) 20:00. Dealing with the rising need to provide workers with adequate housing.
- Windbreaks on the Prairies (Evelyn Cherry) 21:00. Farming problems in the Prairies.
- Wings on her Shoulders (Jane March) 11:07. Emphasis on the role of working women as "supporters to men."
- Women Don Slacks and Hair Nets. 1:00. A news clip urging women to work in the factories.
- Workers at War No.1. 9:00. Footage on the Toronto Workers' Theatre, the role of workers on assembly lines, and workers in the Saguenay dam in Quebec.
- Workers at War No.1A. 5:00. Footage on a fitness class for workers in Vancouver.
- Workers at War No.2. 10:00. Nova Scotia working women.
- Workers at War No.5. 6:00. Manufacturing in, and laying of underwater mines. Also footage on the textile production industry.
- Workers at War No.6. 7:00. Munitions factory and women shipbuilders.

- According to Need (Dallas Jones) 11:00. A survey of national local stabilizing controls to ensure an efficient distribution of agricultural equipment among the Allies and the liberated countries.
- Balkan Powder Keg (Stuart Legg) 19:00. A depiction of the role of Greek and Yugoslav left-wing resistance against fascism during World War II. The film was extremely controversial and as a result was ordered withdrawn from circulation.
- Canadian Labour Meets in Annual Conventions 4:00. A meeting of the Canadian Trade and Labour Congress.
- Cost of Living Index 6:00. An animated film illustrating how the Canadian consumer price index was determined during the war.
- Children First (Evelyn Cherry) 17:00. Coordinating nutritional policies and priorities during the war.

- Coal for Canada 9:00. Workers in the coal mines. The film shows in some detail the process of dynamiting, loading and grading the coal.
- Democracy At Work (Stanley Hawes) 20:30. Labour-Management Committees in Britain
- Eisenhardt Discussion Preface and Trailer (Stanley Hawes) 5:00. Fitness programs for workers as introduced in two separate films.
- Farm Plan 6:00. Farmers are invited to meet for discussions on ways to reach new standards for war agricultural production.
- A Friend for Supper (Graham McInnes) 10:00. An appeal for coordinating the priorities of distributing food to war allies.
- Gaspé Cod Fishermen (Jean Palardy) 11:00. Cooperative work as an ingredient for "building democracy into the lives of a fishing community." The only film in the period which deals with working-class issues in Quebec that is made from a Quebec filmmaker's perspective.
- Getting the Most Out of A Film: No.5. Welcome Soldier (Stanley Hawes) 5:00. The labour representative on the Ontario Social Security and Rehabilitation Committee chairs a discussion on the difficulties faced by veterans returning to the work force.
- Getting the Most Out of A Film: Tyneside Story (Stanley Hawes) 8:00. Toronto workers discuss post-war employment.
- Getting the Most out of A Film: UNRRA In the wake of the Armies (Stanley Hawes) 3:00. Trade union representatives discuss the work of UN Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.
- Global Air Routes (Stuart Legg) 14:45. Solidifying friendship with the Soviet Union through creating new air routes.
- Hands for the Harvests (Stanley Jackson) 22:00. Coordinating the work in the farming Canadian hinterland and the need to incorporate the help of labour from across the country. The film presents a problematic and potentially racist view of Japanese-Canadian internees.
- Home Front (Stanley Hawes) 11:00. The role of women in the work force.
- How Prices Could Rise (Philip Ragan) 2:00. An animated film on the need to create a government price control system during wartime.
- *Inside France* (Stuart Legg) 21:00. Economic and labour problems and their impact on weakening the resistance to fascism.
- Joe Dope Causes Inflation (Jim MacKay) 2:00. An animated film about inflation's effects on the economy.
- Lessons in Living (Bill MacDonald) 23:00. A working-class community in Lantzville, British Columbia. The film depicts the community's effort to expand their local school.
- Looking for a Job (Nicholas Balla) 4:00. The issue of transferring of soldiers to civilian jobs.
- The New Pattern (Stanley Hawes) 14:00. The role played by the labour-Management Production Committees in the construction industry in Britain.
- Our Northern Neighbour (Tom Daly) 21:00. Labour, socialism, and the fight against fascism.

- Partners in Production (Stanley Hawes) 27:30. Absorption of women into war factories and the setting up of Labour-Management Committees.
- *Providing Goods for You* (Philip Ragan). 4:00. An animated film on the need to curtail the consumption and the rationing of civilian goods during the war.
- PX for Rubber (Graham McInnes) 8:00. Workers and production in the publicly owned Polner Corporation factory in Sarnia.
- River of Canada (Ross Pitt-Taylor) 22:00. The industrial activity along the St. Lawrence River.
- Salt from the Earth 9:00. Mining and processing of salt in the Nova Scotia Malagash mine.
- She Speeds the Victory (Philip Ragan). 1:00. An animated film on the need to recruit women for the work force "to free men for battlefront duty."
- Ships and Men (Leslie McFarlane) 18:00. Building the merchant ships, and the training of ship seamen.
- Six Slices a Day 10:27. Coordinating the distribution and consumption of cereal products.
- Trades and Labour Congress Meets At Toronto. 7:00. The Diamond Jubilee of the Trades and Labour Congress.
- Trans-Canada Express (Stanley Hawes) 20:00. A historical survey of the building of the Canadian railway tracks and its role in connecting "25000 miles of Canadian territory." The film totally ignores the contribution made by Chinese workers.
- When Asia Speaks (Gordon Weisenborn) 19:00. Ending colonialism, and the need for world cooperation.
- When Do We Eat 21:00. Ensuring healthy eating for workers as a measure for improving their productivity and strength.
- When the Work's All Done this Fall 3:00. An appeal to give temporary help to wartime industries by farmers after the end of the harvesting season.

- Atlantic Crossroads (Tom Daly) 10:00. Newfoundland's role during WWII. The films also includes reference to the fishing industry.
- Back to Jobs (Nicholas Balla) 9:35. The return of Canadian veterans to the civilian work force.
- Behind the Swastika: Nazi Atrocities. 5:00. Nazi crimes and abuses are revealed by liberators.
- *Building a House* (Beth Zirkan) 8:00. Labour input is equated with efficiency of production. Building a house is given as an example.
- Canadian Screen Magazine No. 6. 10:00. Includes footage on the manufacturing of aluminium prefabricated houses for Britain.
- Canadian Screen Magazine No. 7. 8:00. The film includes footage on retraining veterans in the building trades to help meet the housing shortage.

- Early Start (Ernest Reid) 19:00. The organization and work of Boys and Girls Farm Clubs
- Fishing Partners (Jean Palardy) 20:00. Scientific research in aid of cod fishermen.
- Home to the Land (Graham McInnes) 21:00. The Veteran's Land Act provides low-cost loan for veterans to buy and operate new or existing farms.
- Main Street, Canada (Alistair M. Taylor) 10:45. Canadians working together using such measures as rationing, salvage drives and victory gardens to alleviate the problems of food shortage and inflation.
- *Price Controls and Rationing* (Philip Ragan) 10:00. An animated film about the need for price controls and rationing in the immediate post-WWII period.
- The Road to Civvy Street (Vincent Paquette) 19:00. Various programs and services available to help veterans re-establish themselves in civilian life.
- Salute to a Victory 10:00. Includes a tribute to the role of workers in the war.
- Soil for Tomorrow (Lawrence Cherry) 43:00. Farmers in relation to scientific research and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation act of 1935.
- Suffer Little Children (Sydney Newman) 10:00. Post-war hunger in Europe and the role of international cooperation.
- This is our Canada (Stanley Jackson) 20:00. Example of the shift away from emphasizing the role of labour. Emphasis is on Canadian unity.
- Trees that Reach the Sky (Beth Zinkan) 9:00. The labour process transforms a tree and incorporates it into the construction of a Mosquito bomber.
- Vocational Training 4:00. Former Canadian servicemen adapt to working life after the war.
- After Work (Stanley Hawes) 11:00. Cooperation between management, civic groups and labour to create recreational centres for workers.
- Back to Work (Vincent Pacquette) 13:00. Ex-servicemen and women are equipped for civilian jobs.
- Canadian Screen Magazine No. 1. 10:00. Includes footage on vocational training for veterans.
- Canadian Screen Magazine No. 7. 8:00. Includes footage on retraining of veterans in the building trades.
- *Eyes Front No. 28.* 10:00. Addresses the issue of the rehabilitation of women who worked in the armed services during the war.
- Food: Secret of The Peace (Stuart Legg) 11:00. Strategies to deal with causes of food shortages in Europe, and the measures taken by the Allies to solve these problems.
- *Gateway to Asia* (Tom Daly) 10:00. British Columbia is becoming a vital economic location. Some emphasis on workers and social problems.
- Getting the Most Out of A Film No. 10: Now the Peace (Stanley Hawes) 18:00. Features discussion among members of various unions in the Vancouver area. Workers express hope that the newly established United Nations will be able to reduce the threat of war and increase the security and prosperity of workers everywhere.

- Getting the Most Out of A Film No. 11: Veterans in Industry (Fred Lasse) 8:00. A discussion film on veterans.

 Winnipeg Trades and Labour Council members express their opinion about reintegrating veterans into the work force.
- Getting the Most Out of A Film No. 12: Second Freedom (Fred Lasse) 5:00. Union members discuss the creation of Canadian Unemployment and Health Insurance plans.
- Land for Pioneers (Stanley Hawes) 5:30. Discussion about the industrial development of the Canadian North.
- Joint Labour-Management Production Committee [Discussion Preface] 3:00
- Joint Labour-Management Production Committee [Discussion Trailer] 3:00
- Labour Looks Ahead (Stanley Hawes) 10:00. The role of the labour-management production committees and other official bodies such as the wartime Labour Relations Board and the International Labour Office.
- *Movies for Workers* [Story with two endings and Discussion Trailer] (Stanley Hawes) 17:00. Discussion on the issue of inflation.
- The Peace Builders (Alan Field) 11:00. Issues of international cooperation and peace.
- Reinstatement in Former Job (Jeff Hurley) 2:00. Veterans return to the work force.
- The Three Blind Mice (George Dunning) 5:00. Industrial factory safety rules.
- Training Industry's Army (Vincent Pacquette). 18:00. Vocational training and helping workers expand their wartime skills.
- *Trappers of the Sea* (Margaret Perry) 12:00. The lobster fishing industries in Nova Scotia. A brief reference to the cooperative movement and how co-ops are used within communities.
- Valley of the Tennessee [Discussion Trailer] (Stanley Hawes) 7:00. A group of farmers and industrial workers discuss issues of interdependence between rural and industrial workers.
- Veterans in Industry (Fred Lasse) 18:00. The reintegration of veterans and wartime industrial workers into new skills.
- Work and Wages (Guy Glover) 18:00. Canadian organized labour, industry and government work together to control the war stresses through wage control, high production levels and rationing.
- Canada-World Trader (Tom Daly) 11:00. Post-war international cooperation.

Canadian Screen Magazine No. 10. 3:00. Includes footage from an annual lumbermen's picnic.

Canadian Screen Magazine No. 11.7:00. Includes a speech by the labour minister in an International Labour Organization meeting.

- The Challenge of Housing (Tom Daly) 10:00. Slum housing conditions are cited as a pretext to develop large scale housing projects. The need for labour and industry's cooperation is stressed.
- Everyman's World (Sydney Newman) 10:00. A good example of the shift in post-war NFB films from stressing the role of labour to the focus on the role of government and government officials.
- Falls (Don Mulholland) 4:00. Safety at the workplace.
- Farm Electrification (Evelyn Cherry) 21:00. Manitoba's rural electrification plan is discussed. Hesitancy of farmers to adapt to new methods and new technologies is emphasized.
- Food: Secret of the Peace [discussion Trailer] (Stanley Hawes) 5:00. A group discussion on the social and political implications of post-war starvation.
- Getting the Most Out of a Film No. 14: Work and Wages 5:00. Workers discuss inflation and peace.
- Getting the Most Out of a Film No. 15: A Place to Live 6:00. Discussion on housing with contributions from the United Auto Workers.
- *Getting the Most Out of a Film No. 16: Ballot Boxes* 15:00. Trade unionists discuss the politics of elections and the role of labour.
- Handling (Don Mulholland) 5:58. Safety at the workplace.
- Machines (Don Mulholland) 6:52. Safety at the workplace.
- Organization (Don Mulholland) 9:35. Safety at the workplace.
- Power From Shipshaw (George Lilley) 10:00. The role of workers in building a power dam at Shipshaw, Quebec.
- [Racial Unity Discussion Preface and Trailer] (Stanley Hawes) 5:00. Racial harmony and combating prejudice in the workplace.
- Rural Health (Ernest Reid) 18:00. Manitoba health plan.
- Safe Clothing (David Bairstow) 7:42. Safety at the workplace.
- The Safety Supervisor (Ronald Weyman) 10:27. Coordination between management and labour to guarantee workplace safety.
- Silicosis (Vincent Pacquette) 26:00. Ways of preventing lung disease among mine workers caused by their exposure to silicate and quartz dust.
- The Third Freedom 24:00. Repositioning of amputee veterans in civilian jobs.
- To the Ladies (Nicholas Balla) 10:00. The role of working women during the war. Emphasis on women returning to their "natural" role at home.
- Who is My Neighbour? 24:00. Emphasis on the role of welfare organizations. The film advocates the coordination between these organizations under the leadership of the Canadian welfare Council.
- Workers on the Land (Ernest Reid) 17:00. Farm labour and the need to reorganize work to provide profitable employment during winter.

SELECTED LIST OF KEY FILMS DEALING WITH WORKING-CLASS POLITICS BETWEEN 1929 AND 1949

NFB Series Produced by William Weintaub

- The Good Bright Days: 1919–1927 (1960) 28:55. The Winnipeg General Strike, the Red Scare and the Toronto Street Car Strike.
- Sunshine and Eclipse: 1927–1934 (1960) 28:57. The Crash of '29, the deepening of the Depression and Prime Minister Bennett's response, and the rise of fascism.
- The Twilight of An Era: 1934–1939 (1960) 29:03. The Depression and the rise of fascism in Europe.
- Canada Between Two World Wars (1962) 21:33. An overview of the period between the two world wars which incorporates important archival film and still photos.
- Bethune (1964) 58:38. Directed by D. Brittain, J. Kemeny and G. Glover. Archival newsreel footage, interviews and other material on the famous Canadian communist doctor.
- The Best of Times, The Worst of Times (1973) 56:50. Directed by Brian Nolan. The Depression and the Bennett years. Also some material on the birth of the C.C.F. and the role of played by the Communist Party in Canada during the Depression.
- Dreamland: A History of Early Canadian Movies 1895–1939 (1974) 85:53. Directed by Donald Brittain. A general survey of early Canadian films including the Canadian Pacific Railway material.
- The Working Class on Film (1975, Susan Schouten) 14:08. John Grierson and his philosophy on using film as a tool for social criticism and change.
- Portrait of the Artist As An Old Lady (1982) 27:00. Directed by Gail Singer. Paraskeva Clark, artist, communist, feminist, talks about her art and involvement with working-class cultural activities in the 1930s and 1940s.
- Grierson and Gouzenko (1986). Directed by Martin Kinch, written by Rick Salutin, and produced and televised by the CBC, this was among the first films to document aspects of state repression, activism and cultural politics before, during and after the beginning of the Cold War in Canada.
- Imperfect Union: Canadian Labour and the Left Part 1 International Background Canadian Roots (1989) 54:30. Directed by Arthur Hammond. The early development of the Canadian labour-socialist alliance mostly in connection with the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain.
- Imperfect Union: Canadian Labour and the Left Part 2 Born of hard Times (1989) 51:32. Directed by Arthur Hammond. The rise of communist influence within the labour and unemployed workers' movements in the mid-1930s, and the rivalry between the Communists and the C.C.F.
- Imperfect Union: Canadian Labour and the Left Part 3 Falling Apart and Getting Together (1989) 53:19.

 Directed by Arthur Hammond. The period immediately following World War II and the rise of influence of the trade union movement during the war.

- A Vision in the Darkness (1991). A major document on the labour and political activities in the early part of the twentieth century. Directed by Sophie Bissonnette, the film presents a detailed treatment of the life of labour activist, anti-fascist, communist, and feminist leader Lea Roback.
- On to Ottawa (1992). The film is directed by Sara Diamond. It features several stories and cultural activities associated with the major events of the Great Depression, including the communist-led On-to-Ottawa Trek of the mid-1930s.
- Defying the Law (1997). Directed by Marta Nielson-Hastings. The film depicts aspects of labour unrest towards the end of World War II. It specifically gives an account of the 1946 strike at the Steel Company of Canada plant in Hamilton.
- Rosies of the North (1999). Directed by Kelly Saxberg. The film tells the story of the Canadian Car and Foundry in Fort Williams (now part of Thunder Bay), during World War II the site of Canada's largest aircraft plant. 3000 out of the factory's 7000 work force were women.
- Prairie Fire: The Winnipeg General Strike of 1919 (1999). Directed by Audrey Mehler, the film identifies the main stages of the strike. The film includes major collections of photographic images and interviews with historians and eyewitness.
- The Idealist: James Beveridge Film Guru (2006). The film is directed by Nina Beveridge, the daughter of one of the leading directors/producers of the NFB during the war period. The director presents a personal look at James Beveridge's professional and political life and its effect on his relationships at home.



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NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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- 3 Ibid., 96.
- 4 Ibid., 97.
- 5 Ibid., 100. McKay here is referring to a document titled *Make This Your Canada*, authored in 1943 by David Lewis and Frank Scott (both leaders in the CCF at the time).
- 6 Ibid., 103.
- 7 Ibid., 102.
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- 32 Barbara Halpern Martineau, "Before the Guerillieres: Women's Films at the NFB During World War II," in Feldman, ed., *Canadian Film Reader*, 60.

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- 1 While these films never used the terms "corporate" or "corporation," references to "private interests" clearly implicated the capitalist mode of production particularly as it relates to big industries.
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- 4 Canada, House of Commons, Debates, 1942, 463.
- 5 Beveridge, John Grierson: Film Master, 151.
- 6 Ibid., 151.
- 7 See Abella, Nationalism, Communism, and Canadian Congress of Labour, 1935-1956.
- 8 Ibid.
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- 10 Tim Buck, Canada's Choice: Unity or Chaos (Toronto, 1944), 23-24.
- 11 Evans, "The Politics of Propaganda," 14.
- 12 Buck, Canada's Choice, 14-15.
- 13 Canada, House of Commons, Debates, 1945, 99.
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- 18 Canada, House of Commons, Debates, 1945, 100.
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- 2 Ellis, John Grierson, Life, Contributions, Influence, 37.
- 3 Ibid., 37.
- 4 Grierson cited in Ellis, John Grierson, Life, Contributions, Influence, 38.
- 5 John Grierson, "Flaherty-Naturalism-and the Problem of English Cinema," *Artwork* 7 (Autumn 1931), 210–15.
- 6 For a sense of what Grierson's documentary influence instigated within debates on documentary cinema, see Ian Aitken, *Film and Reform: John Grierson and the Documentary Film Movement* (New York: Routledge, 1990), 5–15.
- John Grierson, "Documentary (1)," Cinema Quarterly 1 (Winter 1932), 67–72.
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The Cinemas Off Centre series highlights bodies of cinematic work that, for various reasons, have been ignored, marginalized, overlooked, and/or obscured within traditional and dominant canons of film and cinema studies. The series presents cutting edge research that provokes and inspires new explorations of past, present, and emerging cinematic trends by individuals and groups of filmmakers from around the world.

Filming Politics: Communisim and the Portrayal of the Working Class at the National Film Board of Canada, 1939–46 by Malek Khouri • No. 1

The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) was created in 1939 to produce, distribute, and promote Canadian cinema both domestically and abroad. During the early years of the NFB, its creative output was largely informed by the turbulent political and social climate the world was facing. World War II, Communism, unemployment, the role of labour unions, and working conditions were all subjects featured by the NFB during the period from 1939 to 1946.

In *Filming Politics*, author Malek Khouri explores the work of the NFB during this period and argues that the political discourse of the films produced by this institution offered a counter-hegemonic portrayal of working class people and presented them as agents of social change. These films also saw an organic link between Canadian struggles for social progress, in the war against fascism and for peace, and those promoted at the time by the Soviet Union. Khouri also analyzes the various social, institutional, and political elements that contributed to the formation of the NFB's discourse.

Filming Politics brings to light a number of films from the early years of the NFB, most of which have long been forgotten. Khouri presents a thorough reading of these films and the historical context within which they were produced and viewed. As such he proposes a radically new outlook on the films from how they have been appropriated in previous studies on Canadian cinema.

MALEK KHOURI is an associate professor of film in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at the University of Calgary. He is co-editor of Working on Screen: Representations of the Working Class in Canadian Cinema (2006), and author of the forthcoming book Liberation and Identity: The Arab National Project in Youssef Chahine's Cinema.

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