

BMI Canada Ltd. Owned, Operated North Of Border

**Music Promo Foundation, Royal Trust Co.
Hold Stock To Former American Subsidiary**

TORONTO — As of July 1 of this year, BMI Canada has become a totally owned and operated Canadian non-profit corporation.

Formerly a subsidiary of Broadcast Music Inc. of the U.S., an agreement has been made whereby all shares issued to BMI Canada are now held by Music Promotion Foundation, a non-profit company with the Royal Trust Company acting as trustees.

In an announcement issued July 12 by BMI Canada the new board of directors are: Harold Moon, a long time BMI executive now becomes chairman of the board; Gordon F. Henderson, Q.C., long time legal counsel for the music licensing company, is named president; and S. Campbell Ritchie continues as managing director and is now

vice president of the board of BMI Canada Ltd.

The first announcement of BMI Canada's autonomy came at the BMI Canada award dinner held in May of this year. At the time the announcement was made Henderson gave recognition to the leadership and assistance provided by BMI Inc., both on its own part and through BMI Canada Ltd. to Canadian composers, writers and publishers. "From its inception, it has encouraged an open-door policy which will continue to exist," said Henderson at that time.

Four new appointments to the board will be made in the fall and shortly after this a full board meeting is to be held, the first under the new autonomous BMI Canada Ltd.

20th To Phonogram Argentina

BUENOS AIRES — As of August 1, 20th Century Fox Records is being represented by Phonogram in Argentina. The label was previously marketed by Microfon which obtained strong results for artists like Barry White and Maureen McGovern. Phonogram's general manager John Lear told **Cash Box** that his company is preparing a strong promo campaign in behalf of its new label.

Phonogram, with the Brazilian Embassy in Buenos Aires, arranged a party at the Sheraton Hotel to present a new series of Brazilian records, by artists like Baden Powell, Elis Regina, Vinicius de Moraes and Toquinho. Enlightening the event, Toquinho was present in Buenos Aires — he came for appearances in several cities, with singer Simone — and drew strong applause with his show.

Trova's Dr. Carlos Garber reports very good sales for the new Susana Rinaldi LP, "A Un Semejante," which contains a selec-

tion of tango music and some tunes from the show Susana is playing at the Embassy Theater. Trova is also releasing an LP recorded by Jose Angel Trelles with the Astor Piazzolla orchestra; Trelles is being managed now by Fernando Iborra, one of the most powerful local impresarios, and has started a strong career as a soloist.

CBS' Raul Abramzon is having good success in Panama, and plans to return to Buenos Aires next September. The singer has recorded an LP recently and will present it with a TV show next month.

Som Livre and RCA have just signed an agreement by which all Som Livre owned by the Globo TV network original masters will be distributed and licensed all around the world by RCA companies. Contract calls for a first option in 40 days.

Roberto Carlos is now in Europe for a few shows in Spain and studying the English lyrics of his next recordings, which will be done in New York, probably this coming September.

"**Sinal Fechado**," a song written by Paulinho Da Viola and published by Intersong, was recorded in Italy by Ornella Valloni.

Mocedades, a group from Spain, just finished recording another Brazilian song, "Eu So Quero Um Xodo" by Dominginhos.

Canadian Notes

SASKATOON — Bachman-Turner Overdrive broke attendance records in Saskatoon on their first date of an expected 20 city concert tour of Canada. Having turned in order to do this second national tour of Canada, the group drew in excess of 7,000 fans at the Saskachimo Expo Grandstand with drummer Robbie Bachmas performing against doctor's orders with the help of an anesthetic. Shortly before the July 16 date in Saskatoon, the younger Bachman had flipped in a go-kart and pulled a joint in his arm. As it stands presently, BTO have cancelled three Maritime dates in order to get Rob Bachman's arm back in shape.

Gino Vannelli has cancelled all July concert dates in Canada, including an Olympic date, due to personal fatigue and changes in the band. Organist Richard Baker and drummer Graham Lear have formally declared resignation and speculation has it that they will be joining Gary Wright's touring band. Vannelli, meantime, is resting up in his Los Angeles home for a short while, then starting rehearsals for a major North American tour which is scheduled to start in Toronto, Sept. 16. Replacement musicians will be announced shortly, and A&M Records is going ahead with a July release schedule for his fourth album, "Gist Of The Gemini," a priority LP for the label.

A&M Records has announced the signing of The Hometown Band, a group currently backing Vancouver A&M artist Valdy.

Contrary to expectation, the Canadian Radio and Television Commission has issued an FM license to Global TV president Allen Slaight. The station is to be operational by spring of 1977 and is to be a progressive format station. Another license issued went to record-store owner and promoter Harvey Glatt in Ottawa. The Ottawa license is to be operational by fall of this year.

After 25 years of booking Nashville and Maritime country music acts, the Horse-shoe Tavern in Toronto is switching entertainment policy in favour of progressive and bluegrass acts. To advertise the switch, Roy Buchanan was brought in for a three night stand, an artist who normally plays concert halls in this city.

A Canadian tour by ABC recording artist Freddy Fender was cut short following a Halifax appearance, no reason being given as yet.

Polydor Ltd. has announced a decision to reissue a classic Rompin' Ronnie Hawkins album. Entitled "The Return Of The Hawk," and scheduled to ship immediately, this Collector's Edition was previously released on the Yorkville label.

ABC, Disques Carrere Enter French Distribution

LOS ANGELES — ABC Records has signed a distribution agreement with Disques Carrere for France and several of its overseas territories.

Commenting on the new association, Steve Diener, president of ABC International, noted, "Disques Carrere is an extremely aggressive French company which has enjoyed a consistent history of success in creating and marketing top artists in their own market. During the past few years, at any given time, artists from Disques Carrere's roster have dominated both the French singles and album charts."

"Our objective in the French market," Diener continued, "was to find the proper associate who was strong in the area of promotion and who also understood the special nature of selling American repertoire to the French public, whose tastes can be quite specialized."

The agreement between ABC and Carrere was recently signed in Carrere's French headquarters with Diener, Claude Carrere, the French company's president, and Jean Marc Bel, Carrere's representative, attending.

Disques Carrere will distribute all of the ABC family of labels in the French market.

Currency Exchange Rates

This information is applicable to independent trading on a low-volume basis; accelerated volume (over one million dollars) will enjoy decreased rates. These figures compare against the U.S. dollar as quoted by Bank of America July 29 at 10 a.m.

Currency

Currency	Value
Pound Sterling (Britain)	\$1.7860
Dollar (Australia)	\$1.2378
Dollar (Canada)	\$1.02585
Mark (Germany)	\$.3910
Guilder (Holland)	\$.3692
Franc (France)	\$.2030
Lire (Italy)	\$.001197
Yen (Japan)	\$.003407
Cruzeiro (Brazil)	\$.09625
Peso (Mexico)	\$.0795
Peso (Argentina)	140 per dollar

New Carlin, Heath Levy Catalogs; Shelley Resigns Magnet Position

LONDON — **Paul Rich** of Carlin Music has returned from the states with a number of important catalogs acquired while there. The Jacksons, formerly the Jackson Five, are able to have their publishing interests Peacock Music and Stone Gold Music represented by Carlin. The Jacksons now record for CBS and an album and single are expected from them in September plus solo albums from Michael Jackson. Rich also acquired the important Light Music and Micache Music catalogs, which contain all songs written by Santana. This deal also gives Carlin the chart topping Omigus album. Santana will be touring Europe in August. Elvin Bishop's Crabshaw Music and John Sebastian's Sebastian Music were also secured by Rich and Carlin president Freddy Bienstock.

Eddie Levy has returned from America

where he acquired numerous copyrights for representation by HeathLevy Music in the U.K. HeathLevy will be administering all works from Boz Scaggs, Dan Fogelberg and Donald Byrd. Scaggs, currently riding high on the **Cash Box** charts in his own right, has written the Franki Valli single "We're All Alone" which will be released by Private Stock. Fogelberg will be releasing a new album and single on CBS this fall. Levy also met with the president of MCA Music; an announcement is expected shortly in connection with the appointment of a manager for HeathLevy's U.S. operation.

Peter Shelley, writer, producer, songwriter and executive, has resigned his position from the board of directors of Magnet Records and relinquished all interests in the firm. Shelley was with Magnet in its formation over two years ago.

CBS Sugar Releases Eleven ABC Singles

ROME — CBS Sugar has reached into the ABC Records catalog to launch two new singles series aimed at the nostalgia and disco markets.

During their first four months of work for the label, CBS Sugar has released 21 ABC albums and 24 singles.

More TV, LPs For Les Reed

LONDON — Les Reed will conduct the Swedish State Radio Orchestra augmented by British musicians for a TV presentation "The Musical World of Les Reed" to be screened on Swedish TV next New Year's Eve.

The arranger/songwriter/musical director will go to Stockholm at the end of November accompanied by key British musicians to lead sections of the Swedish Orchestra and the Chanter Sisters. The show will be recorded in the Swedish capital, and produced by Barbro Francke.

On July 20th Reed began an eleven-week series for BBC Radio 2 entitled "Les Reed and His Musical World" conducting the sixty piece BBC Radio Orchestra with Tony Mansell singers and Vince Hill who is also scripting and introducing the shows.

Decca is releasing a 25-track double album called "Focus On Les Reed" in September, and he is also planning a single coupling his arrangement of Elgar's "Nimrod" and his own "Lest We Forget" for Remembrance Day release this fall.

'Dragons Dream' Sets Fall Publishing For Album Sleeve Art Book

LONDON — Dragons Dream, publishers of the highly acclaimed book 'Views' are producing and publishing this fall a new book 'The Album Cover Album.' When issued, this book will be the first highly comprehensive study of the history of the record sleeve. Recognizing the album sleeve as an art form, the publishers intend this book to be the first of a series of annuals on the subject of best in sleeve art.