MRA Information Service



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New Stars in Westminster's family pantomime

'Give a Dog a Bone' opened this week for a third season



Ringo

PHOTOS BY

HOUSTON ROGERS



THIS YEAR'S PRODUC-TION of Peter Howard's pantomime, following swiftly after its filming for the children of the world, is the best ever. Ronnie Stevens is the new Ringo, twenty-oneyear-old Sandra Michaels is the principal boy, Mickey Merry (right), and Ivor Danvers is Mr Space, Richard Warner and Bryan Coleman are back in the parts of King Rat and Lord Swill

Is freedom in peril?

by H S ADDISON

'FREEDOM IS IN PERIL. Defend it with all your might.' It is a battle-cry which has never failed to rally the British people—provided they have felt that it was justified. Whether it is justified now simply because an unwilling government has been obliged to enforce the wage freeze by law is more than doubtful.

Britain's freedom is in peril—but surely not from Part IV of the Prices and Incomes Act. That the wage freeze has had to be implemented by law, shows simply that we have lacked the democratic discipline to impose it voluntarily on ourselves. That we have accepted it on the whole so cheerfully, suggests that in our hearts we realise that we could not go on as we had been going.

We might in fact emerge from the period of freeze and squeeze not only with a straight economy, but with a heightened sense of responsibility to the nation, and a juster appreciation of hard-won rights which, through our own selfishness, we are in danger of forfeiting.

We are, in fact, as a nation, dangerously balanced on a razor's edge between ruin and renaissance. Freedom is in peril.

It is in peril from forces which could destroy it before we were alive to what they were doing.

It is being sapped by apathy.

It is being overlaid by the demand for material security and comfort.

It is being pushed into the background by an over-emphasis on technological efficiency and modernisation, to the neglect of the ends to which they are only the means, and of the liberties which can never be sacrificed to them.

It is being undermined by all those who are campaigning for moral relativism and a morally permissive society.

It is being deprived of its intellectual grounds and spiritual power by those who attack or attenuate our faith in God.

It is being corroded by the passion for a phoney equality, interpreted in purely material terms, and pursued in a spirit of envy and class-bitterness.

It is being divorced from a sense of national purpose by those who denigrate patriotism and try to rob us of the conviction that our country has a destiny of continuing greatness in the modern world.

That is one side of the picture. There is another side. A few weeks ago I was with the cast of the musical, *It's our country*, *Jack!* as they moved through the great shipyards of the Tyne, the dockers' clubs on Teesside, the Miners' Hall in Ashington, heart of Northumberland's coalfield.

I saw men and their families respond with admiration and delight to their zest, and commitment, their vision of a revolutionary partnership in industry which can relegate the class war to the lumber-room of history, to their moral horse-sense, to the challenge of their question:

'Why not let God run Britain?' Then Britain will speak to the world.'

They responded because they instinctively recognised a leadership which they longed for, a philosophy of freedom, of social justice and national greatness which could satisfy their hearts.

We want these things because in our hearts we know they are right. If we are prepared to pay the price for them, we can offer the world the secret which the world has always seen as Britain's greatest glory—the secret of true freedom, for all men.



Motor industry men see 'It's our country, Jack!'

SHOP STEWARDS, workers, directors from Rovers, Austins, Rootes and other factories in the industrial Midlands attended *It's our country, Jack!* this week in Solihull.

'I am more than ever convinced that this show has got a message for the motor industry,' said Canon Harry Hartley (left), speaking to the crowded audience which included the Mayor.

Canon Hartley, whose parish is in the centre of the car industry, had invited *It's our country, Jack!* to Solihull. 'This show has something for each of us,' he said. 'We will soon have this motto, "Why not let God run Britain?" in action.'

The Church of England News on 25 November wrote of the musical: 'The mini-Britain mentality, the new morality and the secularism of our day all come in for witty satire. The technical production is good and the show should get a lively reception in the West End when it arrives.'

It's our country, Jack! will be performed in Folkestone on 15 December in the Leas Cliff Hall.

Peter Wilkinson, Personnel Manager of Rootes listens to Australian sheep farmer Phil Jeffries and engineer Alan Weeks of 'It's our country, Jack!' Photos: Strong



What I want most for the world

by Usha Chandiram

A FEW DAYS AGO a friend asked me what I wanted most for the world.

I thought about it. What I long to see is for God to be real to every man, woman and child. I know from experience that when that happens—miracles take place. God deals with human nature as no one else could. So problems which seem, and maybe are, mountainous—get solved.

There is honesty where once there was dishonesty. A fighting love and genuine care take the place of bitterness and hatred, undiluted with soppiness. Unselfishness and concern for people around you replaces steely selfishness and self-interest. Disputes get solved on the basis of what is right and not who is right.

Knowing God produces a solid rock of faith which can never be washed away, no matter what is poured on it.

The cynical who have given up all hope can find fresh hope to build a world such as they have never dreamed of. The bossy, all controlling all-powerful can let go and find a new freedom and peace in their hearts which comes from giving instead of wanting others to give to them all the time—whether it is affection, money, loyalty or position. The lonely, the embittered can let the whole world walk into their hearts and allow a healing of hurts and hates, and an explosion of the warmth inside.

God can do it. I feel He longs to give everybody the riches which come from this experience.

What I hate is the pious hypocrisy in some which never challenges anyone to straight living, and yet feels free to condemn those who do. But God can enter their hearts too— not a God of vengeance, but a loving Father.

God has a plan for every nation—for everyone in each. It will not be revealed to any one person in a flash of enlightenment. At least I do not think it will! As men change and accept God's rule for their own lives,

God's plan for the nations becomes clearer. Life ceases to be one escapade after another. God's plan is far, far more fascinating, satisfying, exciting and unexpected than anything we work out for ourselves. I am finding this in my own life.

A generation of men and women without faith, discipline and God's purpose for their own lives cannot give sane leadership in an age of increasing technical complexity.

World leaders of East and West plan to build a "Great Society" or a "Classless Society" but they cannot hope to see their aims materialise because they neglect to create a new type of man. They think they can reach a new end without an alteration in their age-old means.

The present generation always hopes and expects that the next will somehow live by a more unselfish motivation than they at present are prepared to do.

An ideology that demands sacrifice from society in order to create new men in their own generation is much more challenging and inspiring. One fact is indisputable. No degree of material and technical advancement alone will build a free and safe world. Some nations labour under the illusion that it will.

India cries for men who will put their country before their selfish ambition, for men who in a national crisis will neither exploit the situation nor shut their eyes to it expecting someone else will do the job that needs to be done, especially if it is tough.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all of you in Britain and elsewhere for your fight, thought and prayers in the last weeks. History has shown that Britain has risen to the occasion in the past. Can Britain and India together rise to what is demanded of them in the future?

With God as the centre in the life of every nation I do not believe there is any problem that could not be solved.

Zambian Police, Army see MRA films

THIRTEEN THOUSAND MEN of the Zambia Police Force and Army and their families have seen the MRA film *Freedom* in recent months.

In Kitwe last month the film was shown to the police officer commanding the District, the local police force, the mobile police unit and army troops guarding vital installations.

At the same time MRA films were being shown to the teachers and students in schools. B L Sinyangwe, Provincial Chairman of the National Union of Teachers of Zambia and a trustee of the Zambian Congress of Trade Unions, spoke to final year students at Xkululushi school where he is headmaster. He said that he had shown MRA films at the school to

illustrate the need for a high quality of character in men and women if nations were to remain free and at peace. He underlined President Kaunda's often-repeated statement that good and bad exist in every race and that colour is not the issue, but rather that all men should be judged on personal character.

Sinyangwe, who represented Zambia at the Moscow May Day celebrations this year, said that 'hatred does not solve any problems. It only creates them. Badness and goodness can be found on both sides of the colour line. This film teaches us how we can live together as human beings in a civilized world. The ideas in it can build a very great nation.'



Mrs Peter Howard was presented with a portrait this week of her husband by the artist Erling Roberts on behalf of the force of Moral Re-Armament in the United States. It will hang in the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre

Photo: Maillefer

Prince Richard and Frankfurt leaders invite 'Sing-Out Deutschland'

THREE OF FRANKFURT'S leading personalities invited business leaders of their city to a performance of Sing-Out Deutschland last week in the national headquarters of the Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt. They were Prince Richard of Hesse, Manfred von Hauenschild of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bank, and Willi Kaus, President of the Metzeler Tyre Company.

After attending the performance the French Consul said he would do everything he could to bring Sing-Out Deutschland to France.

The newspapers Frankfurter Rundschau and Frankfurter Neue Presse, representing the viewpoints of both parties in Germany's new coalition, supported the musical's message.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said, 'Its aims couldn't be put more clearly. Understanding between all nations and races, the building of a new world, the use of every ounce of energy for the mobilisation of a whole generation.' The North German TV network, in its most popular weekly programme, carried a twelve-minute extract of the show to millions of homes this week. It included an interview with students in the cast about the aims of MRA. The next item in the programme, the Russian State Circus, was cut in half because the Sing-Out programme had been extended. The programme was repeated on 6 December for viewers in Berlin and East Germany.

In Bonn, US leaders of MRA met the Federal Minister of the Interior, Dr Paul Luecke, who had arranged a performance of Sing-Out Deutschland for the Bonn garrison of the Special Security Police. They were J Blanton Belk, Executive Director of Moral Re-Armament in the United States; Basil Entwistle, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mackinac College; and Garrett Stearly, a Director of Moral Re-Armament. Accompanying them in Germany was Patrick J Frawley, Chairman of the Board of Eversharp.

Thousands see show in Jamaica's National Stadium

'I AM VERY GLAD that you have found it possible to come to Jamaica and I hope that your principles, your example, and your wonderful singing will have as great an impact on our island and on the young people as it has had in the rest of the West Indies and Panama and around the world.'

With these words Donald Sangster, Acting Prime Minister of Jamaica, welcomed *Up With People* to his island.

The show has been invited to Jamaica by the Commissioners of Kingston, under the patronage of Governor-General Sir Clifford and Lady Campbell; Prime Minister and Lady Alexander Bustamante; Acting Prime Minister Donald Sangster; and other leaders.

The show opened on 24 November at the National Stadium before 18,000 people. Milton Rodriguez, the Commissioner of Kingston, said the show was the most remarkable thing he had ever seen.

The West End of Kingston has been in a state of emergency for weeks because of riots and violence. From this area 300 school students joined the cast in the finale numbers. One of the Kingston youth, who acted in the show, said, 'I have put down my knife and picked up a big idea.'

The cast were received by H E Sir Clifford Campbell, Governor-General of Jamaica and Lady Campbell.

and in Japan's Olympic Stadium

TWELVE THOUSAND PEOPLE filled the giant Judo Olympic Stadium in Tokyo on 27 November as the fiery drums of *Let's Go '66* opened before its largest audience to date. Crowds made a mile-long queue.

Prince and Princess Hitachi were among the distinguished guests.

NTV, largest commercial TV network, filmed the whole show, the first half of which was broadcast 3 December to an estimated audience of eight million.

The cast announced their plan to go to South East Asia on 2 December.

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