MRA Information Service

Book now 'Anything to Declare' runs till 1 March Box office 01-834 0283

VOLUME 17 No 22 LONDON 8 FEBRUARY 1969 9d

For North, South, East, West, there's a common road for all today. D'homme å homme, de pays å pays, du Nord au Sud, d'Est en Ouest. De hombre a hombre, de país a país, del norte al sud, del este al ceste для всех людей и народов от севера до рга. от востока до Запада. Humanity's destiny is in our hands show us the road to the future. El destino de los pueblos está en nuestras manos. ; Mostremos el camino | CYДЬБА НАРОДОВ В НАШИХ РУКАХ; ДАВАЯТЕ, УКАХЕМ ИМ ПУТЬ !

New form of communication? See page 4

Show calls common man to action

'ANYTHING TO DECLARE?' OPENS IN LONDON

WITH A BLAZE of colour and conviction Anything to Declare? opened last week at the Westminster Theatre in London.

From the moment the curtain rose, the audience was carried, not into another world, but into our own world—as it is, as it has been and as it could be.

The great heritage of Europe, in history and in culture, is brilliantly portrayed. But there is more than that. The rest of the world—Africa, Asia, Australia and the Americas—is calling on Europe to look out beyond herself to the bigger role she is meant to play. In word, music and dance from many nations *Anything to Declare?* takes up this challenge.

Cataract of song

Through scenes of riots, idle dockyards, sunny beaches and tanks in the streets, the show sketches in broad strokes modern Europe.

From then on, a cataract of song and dance—Australian, Italian, French, German, Swedish and Indian, to name only some tumble across the footlights.

In the midst of the show are the dramatized sequences of the *Ballad of Les the Plumber*, the true story of a Coventry building worker, and of *A World Out There*, with its compelling music by Brian Easdale. In this, the audience sees the march of European man, sometimes tragic, sometimes hopefilled, over the last 700 years from the Middle Ages, through the Renaissance, the Industrial Revolution, twentieth centry totalitarianism to today's society fashioned by technology and threatened with de-humanization.

Can the ordinary man yet shape events?

Or is he the tool of Almighty Science? The message of *Anything to Declare*? is clear: the still small voice of the living God is the one reliable guide out of our confusion, and those who follow this voice will take Europe beyond concern for its own affluence to a concern for the needs of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

With its call to Europe to look out beyond her problems and self-centredness, *Anything* to Declare? gave hope to the representatives of many nations who were in the audience. Some were diplomats, newspapermen and businessmen. Others were students, secretaries or au pair girls.

They came from many of the places in the headlines: Nigeria and Biafra, the Middle East, India and Pakistan. And from nearer home there were students from the London School of Economics and people from Northern Ireland.

Completely different

A South American diplomat commented about the show, 'It is not enough to praise it, we must do something about it.'

A Pakistani businessman said, 'Anything to Declare? is different from anything I have seen in Europe.'

After the show, hundreds stayed on to meet and talk with the cast, whose conviction off the stage more than matched up to their performance on the stage. This chance to meet the cast after the show will be a feature of the whole run of *Anything to Declare*?

MARGARET WILSON

Audience and cast meet. Full photo report inside









FROM ACROSS BRITAIN

Above left: Scots travelled by train to be in London for the weekend . . .

... and hundreds more came by coach, plane and car from Newcastle, Colchester, the North West, Northern Ireland and other parts of the country

Left: LABOUR and management from Western Scotland

Below:

THE CAST of 'Anything to Declare?' was received on Sunday by the Mayor of Greenwich, Councillor L J Smith, J P. Among the 150 local residents who met the cast in nine different homes over supper were a Pakistani doctor, police inspectors, a West Indian grocer, Pakistani and Indian teachers and a hospital superintendent. 'I came to Britain on the get,' said Mr Siddiqui, a teacher from Pakistan. '"Anything to Declare?" completely changed my attitude.' A police inspector remarked, 'Through homes that have parties like this, we can quickly put things right'

A hero's task await

WEEKEND by weekend the Westminster Theatre, with its productions and conference facilities, is equipping men and women with a programme for living and a purpose for their nations. They come from all the continents and from the furthest ends of the kingdom.

Britain, like every nation, needs a renewal of aim, a definition of purpose, which all can comprehend and follow.

Events in industry, education and the great regions illustrate that as Britain's sense of national aim shrinks, her citizens' sense of local grievance swells.

Some disputes in industry and in the centres of learning seem out of proportion when economic and political survival are at stake and other nations cry out for succour. Men and women committed to a revolutionary change in men's motives as well as the administrative structure are helping to resolve these differences. Permanent solutions will be a natural by-product of the nation re-finding her path.









FIRST NIGHT RECEPTION

Far left: Monica von Orelli from Switzerland talks after the show with Councillor K Goddard and Councillor Pearce from Merton in South West London

Left: H E Ahmed Jama Abdilleh, the Somali Ambassador, with Woldemichael Abraha from Ethiopia and Lionel Jardine CIE after the première JERRY O'NEILL (left), Belfast engineering works superintendent, with Tom Ham, President of the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union. O'Neill was in a delegation who came by plane from Northern Ireland.

O'Neill said: 'With the help and spirit of MRA we will make news in a different way. The only way to settle the problems of Northern Ireland is to work to bring an answer to the problems of the world'

is the common man

For this reason, the various regions of Britain and other nations are represented at the Westminster Theatre. They see the musical *Anything to Declare?* with its outward look, hear solid evidence of changed situations, have frank exchanges and find a platform for sincere convictions.

Last weekend hundreds attended the opening sessions of the conference called 'A Hero's Task Awaits the Common Man'. They stayed in homes throughout the London area, swelled to capacity the performances at the Westminster Theatre, and participated in the seven main meetings.

Industry is massively represented, for this country led the first industrial revolution when the machine became dominant. Now she may be required to lead a second industrial revolution where man and his needs are in first place for all men everywhere.

London remains the crossroads of the world. From the Westminster Theatre in London's heart, the world is learning to walk the right road.

GORDON WISE



HENRY CASS (right), Artistic Director at the Westminster Theatre, with French actor Michel Orphelin, who plays a leading role in 'Anything to Declare?'

MICHEL BIELAK, an engineering worker from France and member of the 'Anything to Declare?' company, said:

'If I want to enjoy the right of criticism I need to apply it to myself first of all. If you refuse to do this you are a reactionary.

'I wanted the bosses to change but I was jealous and bitter towards them and all the richer classes. I felt something needed to be done in the factory of 9,000 workers where I worked. I decided to tackle the competitive spirit between the workers paid by the month and those paid by the hour. I apologised to my superiors for lack of professional conscientiousness'

Bottom right:

DR HEWARD-MILLS, a Ghanian dentist practising in Newcastle, helps farmer John Shinner deliver a gift of four cwt of his potatoes to the theatre kitchen for the cast's meals

Left: The Williams family of Woolwich welcome members of the cast to their home

photos by Franzon, Maillefer, Strong









MORAL RE-ARMAMENT ASSEMBLY Programme for weekends in London from 8-9 February to 1-2 March

SATURDAYS

- 11.00 am 'What the world most needs in 1969' How to bring radical solutions in international, industrial and social issues.
- 2.30 pm 7.45 pm 'Anything to Declare?'
- 8.00 pm 'Taking up the revolution of Moral Re-Armament'. What it means to launch out on the most interesting and constructive programme open to everyone of every race.

SUNDAYS

- 11.00 am 'Remaking the World' Speakers from many countries will outline the supreme task before Britain and their own countries in today's world.
- 3.00 pm 9 February. Memorial Concert for Elizabeth Prescott.

16 and 23 February. 'Remaking Men'. The art of modernising man—the answer of the real revolution that is our most urgent need.

2 March. Concert by the Lorraine Miners' Saxophone Quartet

All these events will take place at the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre, except the 8 pm Saturday meetings which will be at 45 Berkeley Square, W1



Rajmohan Gandhi (left), chief editor of 'Himmat', meets Harijans in Shillong, capital of Assam, at a meeting arranged by the Chairman of the Corporation photo Channer



Sir Theophilus Metcalf working on the preparation of the translation slides photo Franzon

New form of theatre communication

WHEN Anything to Declare? opened at the Westminster Theatre last week, the audience witnessed a new form of theatre communication.

On a narrow screen above the proscenium, 660 slide translations of the songs and script of the revue were projected in four languages—English, French, Spanish and Russian.

The slide translation, inspired by film subtitling but unique in live theatre, was originally developed when *Anything to Declare?* went to Sweden a year ago. At that time slide translations were made in Swedish for the predominantly English and French lyrics.

The technique of slide translations was developed further when German translations were needed for Switzerland, and when multi-lingual slides in the four diplomatic languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish) were needed for Geneva.

NEXT WEEK:

Feature article on India's strategic Northeast, illustrated with photographs of the 'Asia Arise' international conference

Published weekly by New World News, 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1 Annual subscription 50s. Airmail 15s. extra Printed in England by George Rose Printers Thornton Heath, Surrey