



photo Strong

Sixth season of 'Give a Dog a Bone' in Westminster Theatre

'Undeniably excellent'
The Guardian

SEEING MEN WALK ON THE MOON was exciting. Making human beings out of people is not only exciting, but more to the point. In London, *Give a Dog a Bone* is receiving tumultuous response as audiences join in the fight against the Rat King's dehumanising machinations.

Every time anybody says, 'I couldn't care less', they are turned into an animal. The only way to make them human again, is to get them to say, 'Please, Thank you, and Sorry'.

Sally Smith, well-known for her role opposite Harry Secombe in a London Palladium pantomime, stars a top-flight cast and gives a convincing performance as 'Mickey Merry'. Peter Gale

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Above: 'Don't,' shout the children as 'King Rat' nearly changes 'Mickey Merry' into an animal.

Right: 'Ringo' (Bernard Sharpe) raises his spaniel ears as he listens to the advice 'Mr Space' (Peter Gale) has to give him.



photo Houston Rogers

'Give a Dog a Bone'

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is the new 'Mr Space' and Bernard Sharpe is back as the winning 'Ringo'. Richard Warner and Bryan Coleman return as 'King Rat' and 'Lord Swill'.

'The show is undeniably excellent.' This was the conclusion of *The Guardian* drama critic, Philip Hope-Wallace. In his review he wrote that the show 'is as jolly as Dick Whittington and a lot smarter and better got up than many labours offered at this time of year under that legendary Lord Mayor's banner.

'A difference is that the leading creature is not a cat but a dog called Ringo, most engagingly played by Bernard Sharpe who raises the flaps of his spaniel ears to catch the hoarse exhortations of the children in the audience who are more on the ball than he is when it comes to outwitting the villain King Rat (Richard Warner).

'The direction by Henry Cass and the dance numbers devised by Bridget Espinosa are well-drilled and sharply effective.'

The Times' critic said, 'George Fraser's music is several cuts above the pantomime average and the cast attack their work with undeniable zest.'



Above: Sally Smith as 'Mickey Merry', the principal boy

photo Rogers

Left: Crowds gather round the salesgirls to buy records and picture books

photo Strong

'Swedish millionaire confessed to tax cheating'

Finance Minister says honesty would lower taxes 20 per cent

NEWSPAPERS all over Sweden one day last week featured tax honesty. *Expressen*, Sweden's biggest circulation newspaper, filled its back page with a photo and story about a farmer, Ove Jensen.

Under the headline 'Millionaire confessed to tax-cheating in Church', the paper reported a sermon that Jensen made in his parish church. 'He had evaded paying 20,000 crowns in taxes. But he got new ideas after listening to a speech about MRA. He decided to make the principles of this organisation, honesty, purity, unselfishness and love, his own. Said Jensen, "I had to sell one of the cars belonging to the family to pay my taxes. I no longer believe in the philosophy that I should act as I please.

At one occasion I talked to the Minister of Finance, Sträng, about tax evasion. He told me that if everybody declared his taxes honestly, taxes could be lowered by 20 per cent'.

This news hit Sweden in the middle of intense discussion about the Government's new tax proposals. The story was also carried on the front page of *Arbetet*, a leading government daily, and *Göteborgsposten*, Sweden's second biggest morning paper, as well as local west Swedish papers.

Aftonbladet, Stockholm Labour evening paper, carries the news on its middle spread with a photo of Jensen on his farm with his cows. The paper reports that Jensen's estate is a pattern farm to which experts come to study farming.

INDEX FOR VOLUME 17

An Index for Volume 17 of the 'MRA Information Service' is now available from 4 Hays Mews, London W1X 7RS
Price: 2s

The next edition of the 'MRA Information Service' will be published on Saturday, 3 January.

Honest comradeship, common purpose, new era

'Anything to Declare' review launches Asian move

'God's plan for India is to show a satisfactory society to Russia, America and China. She is meant to be a light for the rest of the world to follow. Every day in India you hear how terrible the other man, the other group or the other clique is. Here in Bombay you have now some men who admit how wrong they have been. Supposing that happened in Delhi. In the spirit of MRA, and in that spirit alone, our economic problems can be solved, our divisions can be healed, and we will offer a pattern to the world.'

Rajmohan Gandhi, speaking at a meeting attended by 400 people at Wilson College, during the Bombay run of 'Anything to Declare?'

AMONG THE 10,000 to have seen the revue during its month's run were the wife and daughters of the Governor, the Mayor and Commissioner of Police, Members of Parliament and leading Congressmen, businessmen, trade unionists, the Consuls of the USA, the USSR, Switzerland and France, and many other countries, and students from Indian communities spanning the world.

The President of the All-India Bank Employees Federation, C L Dudhia, who is one of the committee of hosts, said, 'MRA has a lot to give our industry. Employers and trade union people should see this revue. It has a message for India, young and old. India must change and live not just for herself but for Asia and the world.'

Members of the force visited associations, factories and docks. Mrs Keziah Fashina, for twelve years on the Lagos City Council, and leader of the Market Women, was received in the City Council with others from the MRA force. Bert Wolvekamp, a senior personnel manager in Philips Electrical Industries, who has been given leave to work with this force, addressed a meeting at the Institute of Personnel Management. M R Idgunji, the President, commented, 'MRA succeeds in solving industrial problems because its principles are lived, not just talked about.'

At a meeting in Wilson College were

many who were already applying MRA in their own lives and eager to spread this spirit through the city. Twenty-one students massed on to the platform to tell of their decisions. 'MRA has given me a faith I secretly wanted to have, but which I told others was not worth having,' said an Indian student from Kenya. An Iranian student said, 'I was an atheist. But when I met MRA I met God.' A carpentry student told how he had paid a professional carpenter to do his set work, and submitted it as his own to his teachers. He was honest, and has just completed remaking the work with his own hands.

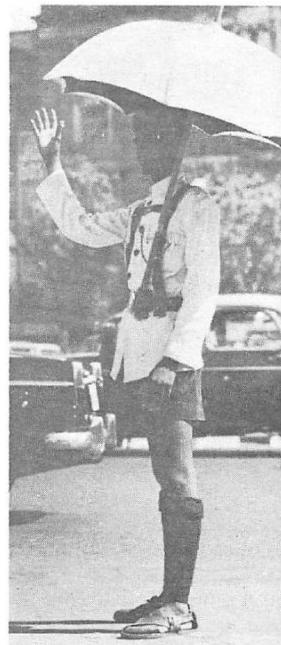
Others told of their decisions to be responsible for the financing of MRA. A girl in a catering college has decided to raise Rs 50 per month towards the



Mrs Kotwal, wife of Chief Justice Kotwal, acting Governor of Maharashtra, with Mrs Keziah Fashina, former City Councillor from Lagos, Nigeria, at 'Anything to Declare?'
photo Franzon



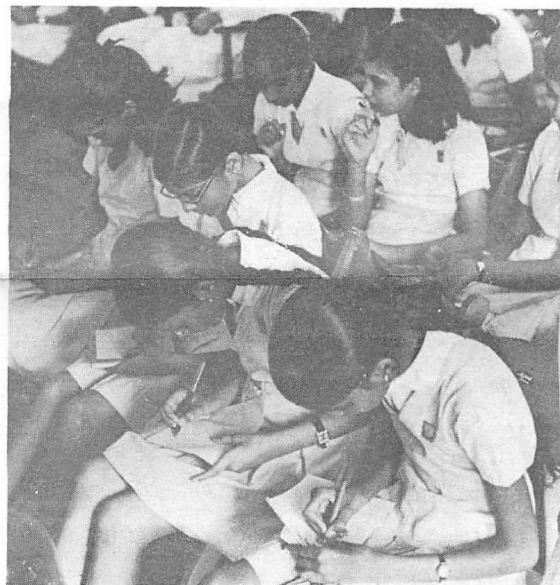
Bombay students speak at a training meeting in Wilson College
photo Franzon



Bombay Life



photos Maillefer



A school of 500 girls takes time to listen for God's guidance
photo Franzon



Mr and Mrs K M Chinai and their daughter Rupa address an MRA meeting in Bombay
photo Maillefer

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kitchens now being built at the MRA training centre at Panchgani; three more are raising money to pay for a seat in the theatre. Pankaj Shah, student in St Xavier's, a leading Bombay college, said, 'There is a revolution starting in our college, not of saints, but of sinners who have stopped bluffing.'

Over one hundred Bombay families have had members of the MRA force in their homes. The force's visit can also be measured in families experiencing this change of spirit with bitter divisions ended. Two sisters who had not spoken to one another for six months were reconciled—and even sisters-in-law are learning the secret of unity. K M Chinai, a Bombay businessman, speaking with his wife and daughter, said, 'Sorry was a word I seldom if ever used with my wife and children. The effect of it on them is amazing. We have realised that if we wanted our leaders in Delhi to be men governed by God, it was no use

just criticizing them. We had to start with ourselves.'

An Indian news agency story sent out this week, evaluating their time in Bombay, ends, 'This week the cast of *Anything to Declare?* goes to Panchgani to the new MRA conference centre. They will present their revue at a Conference of East and West that begins there on 20 December. Many whom they have met in Bombay will be attending.

'Audiences have continually interrupted with applause the words of cast member Mr Matt Manson from Britain, "Asia and Europe working together in a spirit of honest comradeship, with a common purpose such as you have seen on stage, will usher the world into a new era." Delegates who come to the conference from all over India are likely to be just as responsive to this new, humble voice of Europe and to that common purpose.'

ANDREW STALLYBRASS



Leo Barnes, General Secretary of the National Union of Seafarers' of India, meets Maurice Nosley and Michel Bielak, steelworker from France
photo Franzon



Above: Members of the MRA force address the Institute of Personnel Management, Bombay. Mr M R Idgunji, President of the Institute, Mr Bert Wolvekamp of Philips Electric and, speaking, Mr Sachidananda, Indian trade unionist
photo Franzon



Far left: Matt Manson and Rosemary Phelps as Monsieur and Madame Carmichael in the sketch 'Robert the Businessman' in 'Anything to Declare?'
Photo Mitter Bedi



Left: Michael Orphelin of France and Kunal Kapoor of India, son of Shashi Kapoor, in the story of William Tell in 'Anything to Declare?'
photo Mitter Bedi

'The Indian Express', a leading daily, praised 'delightful sketches that not only carried humour but also had some telling points to make'.



Challenge grips entire School

Mother Columbière, Principal of St Anne's School, Bombay speaking in Wilson College Hall, December 1969

IT IS VERY EVIDENT to everyone in the hall that I am a religious sister, dedicated already and in a deep and high sense to a cause; the cause of bringing God to those with whom I associate and leading them to God, and so naturally my happy involvement with MRA has been questioned and even jokingly criticised. I have not minded that because we live in the days of the Vatican Council too, and the mind of the Catholic Church today is precisely that we go all out to meet, appreciate and learn what we can from men and women who are given to a like cause.

Hard to match

And so it has been, I would say, even a humiliating, an enriching experience to have met in MRA a largeness of mind, an openness of soul, a sincerity and honesty that would be hard to match.

Naturally you would not expect somebody who—conscious of her weakness but relying on the strength of God—makes a day to day effort to live with Him, to make now some drastic decision. I am not here to tell you of a decision that I have made but what I have learnt from MRA, and that is its spirit, its dynamism, its forthright urging people to live for God. Whether we choose to live for God or not to live for Him, ultimately we must meet Him and render account.

This month has been a very happy month for me because I have met very noble people that constitute this whole group of MRA. It is one thing to have truth, and I am fully aware that I have it with me, but it is another to feel unselfishly urged to share that truth and to give it to young people.

We have invited the members of MRA into the school three or four times. Once it was to meet the staff. My teachers are not antagonistic. I have never been as happy as I am with the staff that I have in St. Anne's. But I think that after this occasion a certain indifference, I would say, is slowly vanishing and a sort of warmth is steal-

ing into the staff, and teachers are wanting to be interested in each other's subjects and personal lives.

Our pupils were asked to submit a write-up on *Anything to Declare?* and I was happy to be told that on reading those articles one could see that they had grasped more than it was thought they would grasp. So there was another meeting with these pupils.

I will give you a couple of the many experiences we have had in this month. One teacher applied the idea of the whole class listening to their inner voice for five minutes. At the end, two of the children came out to meet the teacher. It must have cost them very much. I am an Indian and I will say it against myself, that, more often than not, unless we are caught, we do not find it easy to admit our wrong. If children are caught, then they are sorry.

But it must have cost these two children a tremendous amount of courage to go to a teacher and confess that their parents had not signed their terminal report book. Their sisters had signed it. They knew they would be brought to the office. And I wanted to respect the courage that they had. I stepped out of the picture and I have let the teacher handle the situation.

And then when I came back from this meeting yesterday, one of the sisters told me that she had given a written exercise to the class. She had tried this tactic of stepping out of the classroom and then stepping in to ask them if anybody had helped anybody else, and she never got a 'Yes'. She tried it last week. She stepped out of the classroom on a pretence, then stepped back and said, 'Did anyone pass answers over to each other?' Nearly the whole class admitted that they had.

Now these are very heartening experiences, because truly our work in the schools and with young people is very frustrating. I am in a position to speak this way and I can tell you that only a great love of God can help us to carry on our work with young people.

We seem to be meeting conflicting influences, and often what we do with them in the school is undone, and now to have almost the entire school gripped by the challenge of MRA—we had their absolute standards chartered for the school long before *Anything to Declare?* came to Bombay—but then suddenly to meet the very people who spread these standards was a very happy experience for the children. We have started already an MRA club.

You have heard a number of young people here relate their experiences and the influence they have already had on their parents and we hope with God's blessing to be able to do the same; that the members of this MRA club in St Anne's will be able to reach out to their parents, so that 'rivet by rivet' we will break down all the barriers that shut God and our neighbour out of our hearts, and 'brick by brick' build, not walls—those who build walls are lonely people—but bridges that will link us with God and our neighbour. People who build bridges are happy.

Too moneyed

Before I walk off this stage, let me express a wish that everyone of you here tonight leave the hall, not satisfied with an entertainment, but honestly, and I would use a very important word, 'simply', resolve on some amendment in their lives. You know the trouble with us is that we are sceptical. We are too educated for God, too progressive, too moneyed, too sophisticated. And yet He tells us, that unless we change our hearts and become as little children, we will not enter His Kingdom.

I have heard so many people comment on MRA as being something a little too simple to believe, a little too childish. We really do not believe that we can search our hearts and God can help us to reform. But I repeat the wish that everyone in the hall be prepared for just this—seriously and simply and, as MRA would say it, 'honestly', make some effort to get a little closer to God.

Message to the Commonwealth at Christmas

From overseas Commonwealth people living in Britain

Fazlun Khalid
CEYLON AND BRITAIN
Conciliation Officer, Race Relations Board for Yorkshire and the North East

One of the things I looked forward to on Christmas Day in Ceylon as a youngster, was the King's broadcast to the Commonwealth. The picture is still fresh in my mind—the family sitting by the radio, and our neighbours who did not have sets, flocked in to listen too. As a youngster I did not understand all that the Monarch said, but I do remember a strong feeling in me that, the voice at that moment linked millions of people, North and South of the Equator, East and West of the Indian Ocean. To me the scale and depth of this was colossal and I do not think that the advance of the twentieth century has diminished this one little bit. Those who I know will miss the voice of the Queen this year.

The Commonwealth survives today as a voluntary partnership of races and nations not entirely because of trade and aid. As time goes by, I feel that we need to strengthen our bonds on the basis of absolute moral standards and permanent reconciliation, because I believe that the Commonwealth has a job to do—to lead the rest of the world towards the concept of one world, one humanity.



Lorna Barrett
AUSTRALIA
Nursing sister

This has been a year when the moral foundations of society have been constantly attacked and undermined. The pushers of permissiveness have not been content to confine their labours to Britain alone but to my country and to others of the Commonwealth as well.

If by being culturally conservative, as one critic of Australians describes us, means that we will not sink into the mire and filth of permissiveness, then it is a characteristic worth cherishing. Australians are great lovers of freedom.

We know that because as a nation we took for ourselves the Christian standards of our forebears, we have now a society where we are still free to develop economically and culturally as we wish, and not as others wish. We know freedom results from self-discipline.

I am sorry the Queen has not taken the opportunity to speak to all her people at this Christmas time. She has been loyal to us as the Defender of the Faith and as such accepts God's authority. If Britons also decided to live under this authority, they could bring about such a rapid renaissance in home and industrial life that would mend broken international relationships, and confound their critics. We of the Commonwealth would want to follow such a pattern of life. Those people of other nations who have chosen to make my country Australia their home and so chose to live by its laws and loyalty to our Queen, would be proud to create such a heritage for their children.

As a member of the Commonwealth I have decided to exercise my right and freedom to be governed by God and not ruled by the tyrants who want to bind me to my baser instincts, and if every one of us chooses to do the same in 1970, we could turn the tide.



Francine Taylor
GUYANA
Computer operator,
London
University
Senate House

My country is rich in natural resources, but its richest resource is its population of multi-racial people.

I want to see in this new decade which we are about to enter, the idea of MRA penetrating and changing my people to live and work together under God's guidance.

The things which undermine a person, undermines his country, so I have decided to clear from my life hatred, greed, laziness and dishonesty, and to work to bring an answer to the problems facing us.

I want Guyana not to look East or West for guidance, but to carve a path

of her own and to build an honest nation which will be the example not only of emergent nations, but also of major nations which are in need of an answer.



Arup Bose
INDIA
Engineer at
Muirhead Ltd

I come from Calcutta in India and I have been in this country for over four months.

It might be a bit of a surprise to the great readers of the *Information Service* to know that they find it regularly in time in their letterbox because a group of young men and women work every Thursday evening for about two hours to mail them without any remuneration.

I am grateful to be a member of this group. It might interest the readers to know what inspired me to take on this work.

I met MRA a week after I came to England. In that short time I developed a feeling of bitterness towards the British because of the public speeches made by some of the politicians about the coloured immigrants and some stray incidents of maltreatment reported in the dailies.

When I was first told about the philosophy of Moral Re-Armament it did not appear sparkling at all to me and failed to make any impression because I had heard the same before.

Later on when I learned more and more, I realised the tremendous potentiality of this seemingly simple philosophy. It captured my imagination when I came to know a few of the changes in the world brought about by MRA. But, more than that, I was fascinated and inspired by the young men and women working for MRA, with their dedication and devotion and their all-smile faces.

I am fully convinced that MRA is the weapon to fight the problems in the present world, such as racial and religious divisions, by teaching people to give up bitterness and open their hearts to those they hate.