

Vice-President Husain with Harijan family. The three children are in 'India Arise' cast Photo: Channer

'India Arise' leaves for Middle East and Europe

Vice-President gives farewell in New Delhi

THE SEVENTY-STRONG CAST of the musical *India Arise* are coming to Britain in April at the invitation of the Westminster Theatre.

This month they are giving performances in Beirut and Nicosia. In March they are in Italy and other European nations.

Rajmohan Gandhi has been conducting a campaign to 'rebuild national character' and *India Arise* spearheads this campaign.

The Vice-President of India, Dr Zahir Husain, last week received them in his New Delhi residence before they left India.

Dr Husain said they would give much on their 'important journey' to the countries they visited and would also 'bring something back to India'. 'Getting independence was difficult,'

he stated, 'but what you have taken on is an equally difficult job. I know the work you are doing of putting right what is wrong in the world.'

The Vice-President invited the head sweeper from the Harijan (formerly 'Untouchable') community of Panchgani, site of the new MRA centre near Poona, to sit with him at the reception. He listened intently to Hiralal Jedhiya tell of his own change of outlook on meeting MRA and the effect

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'The moral re-armament of Pakistan'

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN of the Pakistan Embassy in Paris last month reported that a working group of the Muslim League, presided over by Field Marshal Ayub Khan, decided to initiate a detailed programme for Pakistan. The programme 'will (a) implement the ideology peculiar to Pakistan (b) cement national unity (c) assure the economic development and the moral re-armament of the country.'



'Happy Deathday' première

Rt Hon Quintin Hogg QC MP and Mrs Hogg talk with Mrs Peter Howard (second from right) Photo: McCabe

it had on his community, part of fifty million 'untouchables' in India. Three of Hiralal Jedhiya's children are with the cast of the musical.

Many of the young Indian men and women have made considerable sacrifices to work without salary for their campaign across India.

Neerja Choudhry, winner of an All-India gold medal as an architectural student, is one of several who have set aside places at college to work with Moral Re-Armament. Paramjit Singh left his job as an advertising executive. Ashok Khanna, drummer in the band, gave up a well-paid job in Indian films. All castes are represented from Anju Chinai, daughter of a wealthy Bombay textile family, to Ansuya Paithankar, a village girl from Maharashtra, whose father is the local schoolmaster.

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha (Lower House) in Delhi, Sardar Hukum Singh, has said: 'These youth have determination, purpose and a goal. If all the youth of our country could be the same, then India's future is ensured.'

Singapore PM greets Asian musical

PRIME MINISTER Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore listened last week to songs by the cast of *Let's Go '67*, MRA Asian musical. The UK Manufacturers' Association had invited them to their dinner in the Raffles Hotel at which he was guest speaker.



Bryan Coleman as Dr Tarquin

'HAPPY DEATHDAY'

'HAPPY DEATHDAY' is a play for the swinging generation. It is a play rich in humour, full of compassion, a picture of three generations of a family lighting up many issues which modern families have to face today. It has Peter Howard's compelling power to make us face reality. Yet, as a shipyard worker said after seeing it, 'Everyone should see this play. It gives you faith and hope.'

A young actress who came with our family for the first night said in the interval, 'What a wonderful play. It says so many of the things we think but dare not express.'

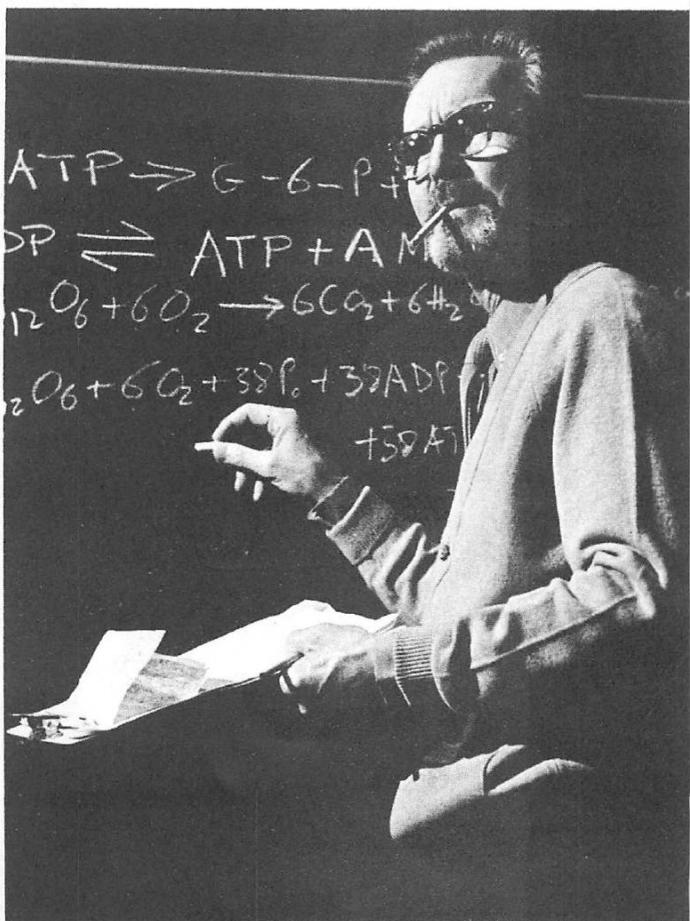
Peter Howard, always ahead of the times, has written a play so topical that twice in the last two weeks the subject of the play has been on tele-

vision and it has been the headline and editorial news of newspapers and magazines.

As a dramatist Howard has the unique ability of reaching the hearts of people of all ages and from every background. It is a play for students but equally for their parents; for the teachers and professors in schools and universities; for the workers in the factories; for the men of the Church; for Ambassadors, for politicians, in fact for every man and woman in the country who cares deeply for the world we live in.

Talented cast

A student leader said to a friend after seeing the play; 'This is not



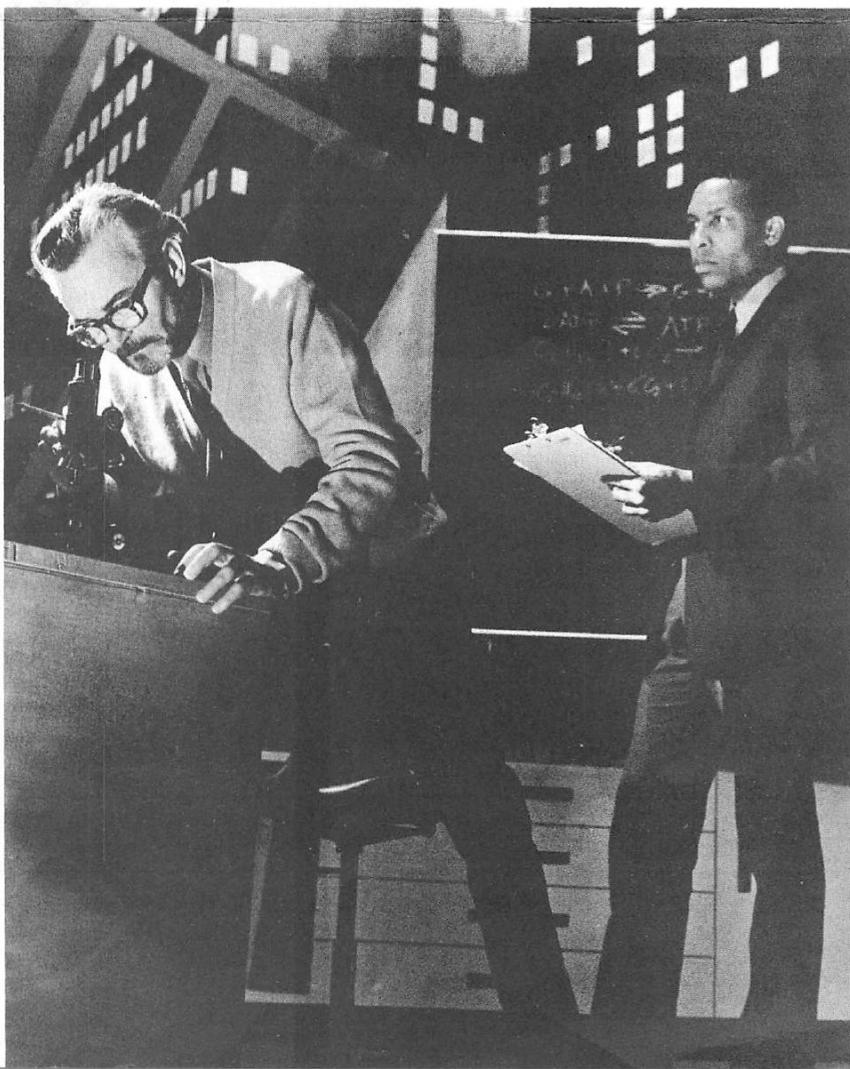
Left: Godfrey Kenton as Josiah Swineyard, with Barbara Ewing as his granddaughter Jetta. Above: Jetta with her mother, Rebecca Zoltan, played by June Sylvaine. Top right: Clement McCallin as Professor Zoltan. Bottom right: McCallin with Clifton Jones as Dr Sylvester.

Photos: Houston Rogers

just a great play, it is a very great play.' I would like to add as a woman of long experience in the theatre—it is a magnificent play. Beautifully produced by Henry Cass, wonderfully acted by a very talented cast; the performance of the young girl Barbara Ewing, who won the Gold Medal at RADA, is one of the finest in London, and Godfrey Kenton gives a very moving performance as her grandfather.

Everybody in the country should see this magnificent production. It is a unique experience in the theatre and should not be missed by any intelligent or thinking member of the public.

Phyllis Konstam



Church leaders welcome MRA force to Ireland

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 'IRISH INDEPENDENT', Dublin's biggest daily, published a report on 11 October of the visit of the cast of *It's our country, Jack!* to both Primates of Ireland.

Under the headline 'Show cast pays visit to Primates' it wrote:

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 'Seventy young people from 15 countries, all of them members of the cast of the Moral Re-Armament musical show *It's our country, Jack!* at present playing in Belfast, visited Armagh yesterday and were received by Cardinal Conway. The Cardinal addressed the group and afterwards they sang excerpts from the show for him. Earlier the party visited the Protestant Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Reverend Dr McCann, at the Palace.'

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 Archbishop McCann told the cast, 'I would like to say how much we appreciate your coming. I congratulate you on what you are achieving. It is wonderful to find such youth at the helm, filled with enthusiasm and going in the right way with the right ideals. I wish you success.' After hearing them sing he said, 'It is a wonderful new light; a new age approach to the new age.'

Earlier on the same day the Bishop of Connor, Rt Rev R C H Elliott, said to the cast, 'We face the danger

of crass materialism and the feeling of "I'm all right Jack". Our greatest need is to get people away from thinking "what's in this for me." The whole spirit of your play will correct that horrible attitude to life.'

The Bishop, who was introduced to each member of the party, paid tribute to the sacrifices they had made to take part in the show. 'I'm thrilled that you have given up university careers and jobs. You are giving tremendous help to us.'

The Rt Rev Alfred Martin DD, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, welcomed *It's our country, Jack!* on 7 February. He said they



Most Rev James McCann DD
Primate of All Ireland

were 'people dedicated to lift us above our fears, real and imaginary, and unite us in our efforts for this country, which, despite our differences, is the land we love the most.'



Arnold (centre) with two of the invitation committee. Gerry O'Neil (left) Chairman, Falls Division of the Labour Party, and Billy Mills, Foreman, Tilley Lamp Company

'It's our country, Jack!' invited by Trades Union officials

WILLIAM ARNOLD, a member of the General Council of the Boilermakers, Shipwrights and Structural Engineers Society of Great Britain, said last week that *It's our country, Jack!* showed the way Britain should go. He was speaking from the stage of the Ulster Hall, Belfast, after the musical's Northern Ireland premiere, to an audience of 1,200.

'I think you will agree with me that this is not just another show to be seen, then forgotten. I know that the ingredients which go to make this show have made an impact on the lives of many in other parts of Britain. I am confident they will also make an impression here. We are all meant under God to take our full share of responsibility for our country.'

Arnold, also a branch official at Harland and Wolff shipyard, is the chairman of the committee of trade union and Labour Party officials who invited the musical to Belfast.

Two days later the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Parliament, Sir Norman Stronge, received the cast in the Parliament building on behalf of the Prime Minister.



More than a quarter of a million people heard the songs from 'It's our country, Jack!' on Ulster television one night last week. The popular news programme 'Flashpoint' gave its half-hour to MRA.
 Photos: Huston