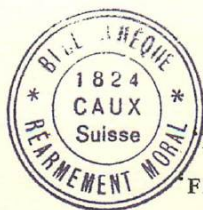


MRA

INFORMATION SERVICE



PLAYS WILL LIVE HUNDRED YEARS'
'FREEDOM' IN ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA
'PICKLE' PUT IN CAN
INDIAN WOMEN FIGHT PRICES
BANG GOES RECORD

VOL. 12 NO. 332

FOUR HAYS MEWS, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

SATURDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 1964

HOWARD POINTS WAY TO END WATERFRONT HATE

'Give a dog a bone'

THE successful run of *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill* will finish at the Westminster Theatre on Saturday, 28 November, after 212 performances. It will be succeeded on Wednesday, 9 December, by *Give a Dog a Bone*, a new pantomime with book and lyrics by Peter Howard and the music especially composed by George Fraser. This was announced this week by George Fearon, Press Officer for the Westminster Theatre.

The cast of twenty will be headed by Valerie Hermanni, Barry MacGregor, Phyllis Konstam, Richard Warner, Bryan Coleman, Colin Farrell and Terence Conoley.

The pantomime, which is to be directed by Henry Cass, in the late 19th Century period, will be traditional in its story of the struggle between the good and the bad. The former represented by a visitor from Space and the latter by the Rat King from the Underground.

The gay and colourful settings will be designed by Cameron Johnson, the costumes by Dorothy Phillips, whilst Bridget Espinosa will be responsible for the grouping and movement of the animals which feature strongly in the story. The whole production will be lit by Louis Fleming.

A LIVERPOOL FESTIVAL of Britain to give the world great creative art; the part women and the Beatles can take in a British revolution; ways to modernise the docks, ending friction and frustration. These were the proposals made by Peter Howard to a luncheon of leading women of Liverpool on 29 October.

'Why can't Liverpool,' he asked, 'put on a Festival of Britain which would show the world in this land of Shakespeare and Milton, Shaw, Wordsworth, Elgar, Tennyson, a thousand more, that great creative art is still possible without four-letter words and pornographic filth? The nation would respond. The world would cleave a path to your door. A spirit would go out from Merseyside that would make the plans of government work in home, factory and mill.'

Howard contrasted such a Festival with the one at Edinburgh which, he said, had 'produced an image that we are no longer a Christian nation and that our god is flesh, with sex our aim and object'.

Aims for Beatles

He suggested larger aims for the Beatles than setting feet tapping and bodies swaying. 'They might write and sing songs that would restore the happiness of character and the merriment and joy of service to a generation that has lost its way.'

He told his audience—wives of politicians and dockers, conservative, labour—that women bore much responsibility for a philosophy of

perversion and pornography upheld by a 'network of nihilism' that spreads through TV, radio, high society and some sections of the press.

'Men are as pure as women want them to be,' he said. 'But modern women allow effeminate dress designers to dress them more and more like men. They either do not see what the game is, or they enjoy the playing of it. Females who over-smoke, over-swear and are over-sexed think they are "with it". Some of them dress in baggy breeches like guardsmen, wear their hair short in protest against the Beatle-cut and have smutty tongues with minds like the bottom of a bird cage.'

About the docks, Howard said that both management and labour, for their own and not the nation's good, had encouraged restrictive practices that should have gone long since.

Those who fostered hate and class war in the hearts of employers and employed were hypocritical to 'howl for co-existence' between Russia, China and the West. By allowing hate to run the waterfront they were 'enemies of the new Britain every decent person wants to see'.

Continued on back page

'Plays will live a hundred years'

'MR. BROWN COMES DOWN THE HILL' is 'so profound and yet so simple—so refreshing after what is acclaimed today,' declared Mrs. Mary Courtney, J.P., of Bristol, National Chairman until three years ago of the Townswomen's Guild. She was addressing a women's tea in Westminster following a matinee performance of Peter Howard's play on 28 October.

Mrs. Courtney, who was National Vice-President of the Y.W.C.A. as well as Chairman for 12 years of the 225,000-strong Townswomen's Guild, continued:

'Peter Howard's plays will be as alive in one hundred

years as they are today. He will be seen as the dramatist who depicted life in the 1960's in its reality as Shakespeare did for his time.

'Mr. Howard has the seeing eye, the understanding heart, and the pen to write it down.'

Mrs. Courtney spoke strongly of the adults of today who have failed because they have given the youth everything but ideals and responsibility.

She challenged her audience to give vision and purpose to a morally bankrupt generation and to restore Britain's greatness for the years ahead.

'Freedom' in Zambia and Tanzania

KWACHA! Freedom! roared twenty thousand voices at Zambia's Independence celebrations in Kitwe, heart of the Copperbelt, last month.

'Kwacha! That is the film we want to see!' they roared again when told that *Freedom*, the famous African film, would be shown immediately before the raising of the new black, red, green and orange flag.

'This film shows us the right spirit in which to build our nation,' said Mr. Meleki, convener of the Independence Celebrations Committee which had requested the showing.

The jubilant drum-beating crowds, overspilling the stands and filling the arena on both sides of the 20 foot screen in Kitwe's Scrivener Stadium, seemed to agree.

As the film opened they fell silent; as the story progressed of a new African state saved from revolt, they watched spellbound. At the close they cheered and applauded again before gathering round the flagstaff for the final ceremony.

While Zambia celebrated, neighbouring Tanzania (Tanganyika and Zanzibar), also saw *Freedom*. With the Ministry of Education's co-operation, it was screened last month in 14 secondary schools and colleges of northern Tanganyika.

The showings took place in Moshi, coffee-growing centre near snowcapped Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak. Moshi, home of many Tanganyika leaders, was host to last year's Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference.

After showings, students crowded round to fire questions, buy books on Moral Re-Armament in hundreds, and illustrated magazines by the score. Pupils and staff of one school insisted on a second film as follow-up on their graduation day.

A local education officer commented, 'Though education is expanding, it is hard to find teachers who will stress character-training and turn out the leaders the country desperately needs. This type of programme is invaluable to us.'

'Pickle' put in can

BILL PICKLE has been canned. *Pickle Hill*, Peter Howard's play about the roaring, drunken bootlegger of Penn State College whom Frank Buchman changed and later took with him to the League of Nations, has been filmed, reeled into cans for editing, and will soon be ready for distribution as an 88-minute movie.

RAM Productions announce this in their catalogue of 16 mm. films for 1965. RAM list 13 films made this year, nine during last summer's Conference for Tomorrow's America.

Pickle Hill, *Space is so Startling*, Howard's space age musical fantasy, and two more plays, *Across the River* and *Little Black Line*, were filmed by the Conference delegates' student workshop.

Four of the new films feature Peter Howard—in addresses to the Massachusetts Legislature and Baltimore Rotary, and in question and answer sessions on TV and

with youth at Mackinac.

Tomorrow's America and *Which Way America?* are news feature films on last summer's conference of 2,500 youth at Mackinac. *Steelband Variety* presents the National Steelband of Trinidad and Tobago, who are among the world's best 'pansmen', at the Conference for Tomorrow's America.

In *Asia Today* Rajmohan Gandhi surveys the prospects for that Continent. *A Nation is Marching* describes his 4,500 mile march across India and 'revolution of national character'.

RAM Studios on Mackinac Island are dedicated 'to creating films that will advance the moral re-armament of nations'.

A Nation is Marching, *Tomorrow's America*, *Design for Dedication*—Howard's Massachusetts' Legislature speech, and his *Interview on TV* are available in Britain. They can be bought from MRA Productions, 4 Hays Mews, W.1, and hired from Ron Harris Cinema Services Ltd., Glenbuck Studios, Surbiton, Surrey.

INDIAN WOMEN FIGHT HIGH PRICES

INDIAN women are thinking twice before buying a new sari, cooking that extra chapatti, or hoarding supplies of rice. Faced with a desperate food shortage in India, a group of women are determined to combat the present crippling rise in prices, and starvation diet forced on millions.

Mrs. Russi Lala of Bombay has launched a new organisation called AWARE (Association of Women Against Rising Expenses).

WE, THE WOMEN OF INDIA, are very concerned about the present food situation and the rising prices in our country. And we have decided to do something concrete about it. Speeches will not produce food. Agitation and strikes will not bring prices down. But determined action will.

WE HAVE DECIDED to take the following steps—and invite other women to do the same.

TO EAT LESS—We shall eat less ourselves and in our families. We will give our families all they need for their healthy sustenance but not encourage their greed or indulgence. And thus bring back a spirit of discipline and sacrifice to our families and to our nation.

TO SPEND LESS—We shall not buy food, clothes, cosmetics, books or anything unless it is *truly* necessary. Our motto shall be: If you do not immediately need it, do without it.

TO WORK MORE—We shall work harder ourselves, take pride in our work and encourage our menfolk to do the same. Work produces wealth. A nation to be prosperous must produce more than it consumes.

NO BLACK-MARKETING—We shall not buy anything on the black market, whether it be sugar, rice or butter or any food, or nylon saris, or cinema tickets. Only an end to corruption and black-marketing will bring the prices down.

Many people cannot afford to pay the high food prices. AWARE is planning to open shops where essential food will be available at low prices. Women of AWARE will donate a percentage of their own food, and manufacturers will supply goods at cost price. Their first shop opens in Bombay shortly.

Already the press has given AWARE good coverage. These women have drawn up the following Declaration which is gathering support throughout the country:

NO HOARDING—We shall live with full faith and trust, and make available the present stocks for every person in the land. We believe firmly that there is enough for everybody's need but not for everybody's greed.

WE SHALL GIVE every week out of real sacrifice from the family's ration one measure of rice, one measure of wheat and other food grains, one measure of sugar, and start a fair-price co-operative food shop in the city.

TO APPOINT a committee of trustworthy women in each city, who will find the place where these food grains can be delivered, stocked and sold, who will man these shops and keep meticulous accounts of the whole procedure.

TO SELL this in an area of the city where there is real need, where people cannot afford to pay high prices.

WE WANT ALL WOMEN to join in this action, which we believe is the highest form of service to the nation.

OUR AIM is to keep the prices down, the standard of living up, corruption abolished, the people adequately fed and with clean, straight character, and the nation growing tall and strong like a tree.

'Bang goes record'

UNDER this headline, the London *Evening News* reported on 24 October, 'Bob Quesnel of Welch, West Virginia, claimed the world record for non-stop drum beating. His time 100 hours, 23 minutes, 3 seconds.'

After a bleak night of struggles to stay awake Quesnel, playing a vigorous drum solo, broke the previous record set in London by Raye Duval in 1960.

Quesnel's 'drumathon' was undertaken to publicise Peter Howard's new book, 'Design for Dedication'. His victory was carried nation-wide by news agencies and radio networks.

After four days and nights' ceaseless drumming, 19-year-old Quesnel refused stimulants. 'Our generation needs guts not drugs,' he said.

At one stage, said Quesnel, 'I was so sleepy, man, I walked into a wall playing my snare drum.' He used a strapped-on snare drum while walking for fresh air.

With 33 hours to go, he took a shower—still drumming with an extended foot pedal—and emerged to tell the press he had no intention of quitting now he had come this far.

Late into the night crowds gathered outside the window in the centre of town where he was playing. Cheerleaders helped keep him awake with rousing football-style cheers.

For the last 12 hours Quesnel was joined by the Colwell Brothers of Hollywood for whom he is drummer.

Quesnel's one hope after waking from a long rest was to present personally a copy of 'Design for Dedication' to President Johnson and Senator Goldwater before the election.

'This was not a stunt,' he stressed, 'but a serious bid to draw the attention of the country to Howard's book, and to re-inspire youth with its spirit.'

NEWS IN BRIEF

Montreal—Éditions de l'Homme published last month *Créé pour un Grand Destin*—the French language edition of Peter Howard's book *Design for Dedication*. 'Captivating and inspiring' commented *Le Devoir*, one of French Canada's leading dailies.

Bluefield, W. Virginia—'Which Way America?' theme song of the Conference for Tomorrow's America, seems to be topping the pops in some parts of the States. A correspondent writes: 'At a football game between Bluefield High School and Gary High School, the Gary cheer leaders had their whole student body singing "Which Way America?" Bluefield's cheer leaders were not to be outdone and they got all their side doing the same. The whole stadium erupted with "Which Way America?" while the two teams slugged it out on the field below.'

Hamburg—*Die Welt* called *Through the Garden Wall's* Hamburg premiere 'an outstanding event'. Howard's play, with a German cast directed by Victor de Kowa, is touring 100 European cities.

Bonn—Germany's Defence Minister, Kai Uwe von Hassell, saw *Through the Garden Wall* in the Bad Godesberg Civic Theatre. All Army units near Bonn sent contingents.

Jura, Switzerland—'Theatre for every man—old, middle-aged and young,' was how Monsignor Schaller, Director of the Catholic daily *Le Pays*, described *Through the Garden Wall*. 'Good theatre in a Christian country should accomplish an apostolate for the people,' he wrote in an editorial, 'and how can one avoid praising MRA's part in this? It is a theatre which though realistic, challenges to the highest ideals and brings courage, faith and character to a nation.'

Caux—'Destination Year 2000' is the title of a youth conference at Caux opening on 26 December.

The Hague—A Festival of MRA films last weekend was attended by

350 students from 130 schools all over Holland.

London—Thirty countries have had showings of *A Nation is Marching*, colour movie of Rajmohan Gandhi's march across India. A French language version is ready; others in Spanish, Portuguese, German and Italian are in preparation.

Rio de Janeiro—Hundreds in a square in the dock area saw the film *Freedom* introduced officially as part of the celebrations of Our Lady Fatima.

Lusaka, Zambia—A thousand men of the Zambia Regiment and their families saw *Freedom*.

Capetown, South Africa—Students of Capetown University plan a conference next January in Basutoland for 'all who want to tackle the practical issues we face in the continent'. Their aim, states an article in the Capetown students' paper *Varsity*, is to raise a force of people who 'will not rest until all inhabitants of this continent have sufficient food, work, shelter and purpose'.

Tokyo—283 Olympic athletes and officials from 19 countries, including Britain, Russia and the U.S.A., were

guests at the MRA centres in Tokyo and Odawara.

Malmoe, Sweden—Fifty-four flew to London last weekend for an education meeting on 'Feeding Hungry Minds'. This was the fourth special plane this year from Scandinavia to plays and assemblies at the Westminster Theatre.

Edinburgh—The annual conference of the Baptist Union of Scotland heard the Rev. Allan Wright, their Chairman-elect, speak of *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill* in his keynote address, reported the BBC Scottish Home Service. He quoted the words of a bishop in the play: 'Experience is the bridge between doubt and certainty.'

Bombay—The first issue of *Himmat*, the independent weekly edited by Rajmohan Gandhi, came out on 6 November.

London—Copies of *Dare*, the new, 40-page picture magazine from America, are available from 4 Hays Mews, W.1. Price 2s. Also available is *Theatre and the Future*, 8-page booklet by Kenneth Belden, Chairman of the Westminster Memorial Trust. Price 1s., postage 3d. Twelve copies for 10s., postage 1s.

HOWARD POINTS—*continued from page one*

'Neither management nor official trade unionism today holds full control of the waterfront,' said Howard. 'They have been out of touch with the true feelings and motives of the men on the waterfront. They have told others, "Mind your own business," while neglecting to mind Britain's business themselves.'

'The truth is that until men change, nothing fundamental will change on the British waterfront. Pioneers who bring the spirit of Moral Re-Armament, of "what is right" not "what I want", into the homes and hearts of Labour and management alike, are friends of Labour and the nation. In that spirit docks can be modernised, solid trade unionism established, restrictive practices ended, unity and prosperity achieved, strikes outmoded.'

'Why shouldn't a city like Liver-

pool, whose goods reach the ends of the earth, export the revolutionary idea of a morally rearmed society to the world?' Howard concluded. 'Sound homes, a waterfront that works, hearts filled with an idea that satisfies. This would be something bigger than the discovery of atomic power or space travel. It would be the adventure of a lifetime. It would be something wives, husbands, children could all do together. Moral Re-Armament, not as a selfish, personal experience, but as a satisfying, revolutionary theme for a nation and for nations, is in the mighty tradition of mighty Merseyside.'

The full text of Mr. Howard's speech, entitled 'Challenge of the Century', is available as a pamphlet from 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1. Price 6d., plus postage.