

'BISHOP'S MOVE' OPENS FOR 12 WEEK RUN

**Comedy about the avant garde in Church,
government, TV and family life**

IF LAUGHTER is the shout of recognition with which we recognise ourselves then indeed the audience recognised themselves at the opening of the new play *Bishop's Move* at the Westminster Theatre.

Alan Thornhill's accomplishment is the combination of humour with intense realism, making the audience see themselves on stage in the characters of a nationally known TV parson and his family.

The parson, John Harcourt, played by Clement McCallin, has a passion to bring 'reality' to the technicians in the redbrick labs and the mini-skirted girls in the offices. 'God, how I hate religion' is one of his more provocative remarks. Of the Church he says, 'Our coat of arms is a question mark rampant over three bishops dormant. Somebody has got to wake up the Church.'

His undoing is that he attempts to do it with an intellectualism and a questioning mind unrelated to people, particularly those close to him.

Going in for what his daughter calls spiritual striptease ('the excitement is to see what belief he will step out of next') he is shaken and answerless when some of his family take up his 'progressive' ideas too literally.

His wife, perplexed by his 'avant garde' ideas, concentrating on the parish problems of tea urns and chipped crockery, also finds she has no answer either for her family's disunity or for the world at large until she is bluntly honest with her husband about the unreality of their lives.

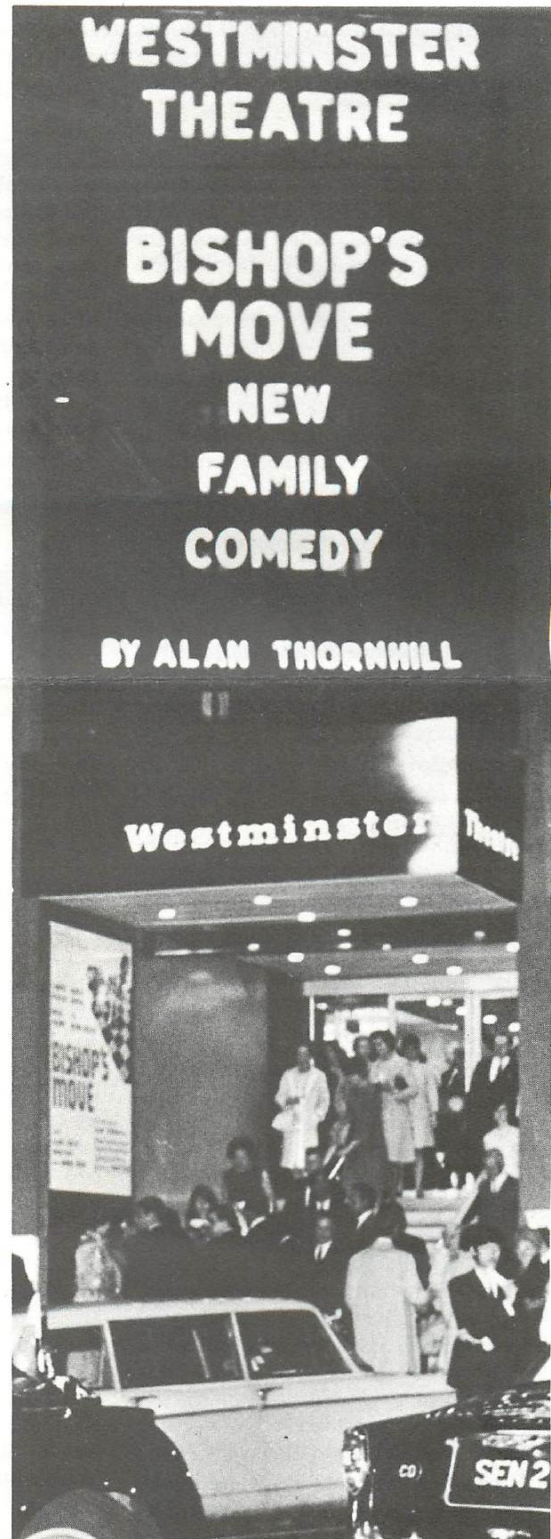
Surprisingly the instrument bringing this about is the TV interview. Conducted in as insensitive and ruthless a manner as TV's worst critics claim, the interview nevertheless is unwittingly effective in the life of the Harcourt family.

Speaking at a reception afterwards Alan Thornhill said, 'In this difficult and exciting age I hope *Bishop's Move* will be used to move our nation and our Church, both of which many of us love so much, towards reality and relevance.'

BRIAN LIGHTOWLER

OPENING NIGHT, 12 SEPTEMBER Eight ambassadors, high commissioners and chargés d'affaires were in the international audience. An ambassador's wife said after the performance to Agatha Carroll, who plays the part of the rector's wife, 'You portray what goes through every mother's heart. The Westminster Theatre is the one theatre that gives you hope.'

photo Strong



Intelligent response to crisis

RAJMOHAN GANDHI speaking in London last Sunday

HUMANITY must move beyond the dilemma of nuclear war or appeasement over such issues as the invasion of Czechoslovakia, said Rajmohan Gandhi, chief editor of the Asian newsweekly, *Himmat*. Speaking on Sunday to 700 people in the Westminster Theatre, London, the Indian editor asked, 'Is confrontation the only alternative to appeasement?' Below we publish the full text of his speech:

HUMANITY MUST FIND a way out of the dilemma where numberless millions cannot be helped to free themselves from tyranny without the risk of a nuclear war. The helplessness of the rest of the world when Czechoslovakia was invaded is not meant to be a permanent state of affairs.

Is confrontation the only alternative to appeasement? Sincere Communists throughout East Europe, in Moscow and Peking, have unsolved problems. Time and time again they have admitted their failure to create teamwork between people or to give new motives to men. If we can demonstrate this teamwork, this revolution in man, while maintaining as effective a defence system as possible, we have a reasonable chance of winning and including the Communists in a joint march forward.

Czechoslovakia has shown that individual freedom cannot be assured by Communism. It has also shown that Communism can use or can be used by nationalism but that Communism cannot cure the jealousies and rivalries between nations. The Czech people were and are fighting for individual and national liberty. Communism could not give them a programme of joint action with the Soviet Union.

China's interesting reaction to the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia, calling it a shameless and a fascist move, highlights a third failure of Communism—its inability to cure racial hate, or to answer racial pride.

I asked a Soviet official recently, 'What do you think about the Chinese leaders?' 'They are without principles,' he replied. 'They were attacking us for being soft and bourgeois, but when we behaved in the most orthodox manner in Czechoslovakia they turned on us, instead of conceding that we were back on the right road.'

It seems to me that the Communist world desperately needs Moral Re-Armament. Their leaders had better

examine what we have here. I believe we can show them how men can have the fullest freedom and yet be the most loyal servants of society, how they can have a strong and deep love for their nation and yet have the complete respect and gratitude of their neighbouring nations and have comradeship with them; how black, white, yellow, brown and red can discover how exactly alike they are and how they can find unity and equality in a common pledge to satisfy mankind's needs of body and spirit.

Why Czechoslovakia and its innocent people should pay such a high price and seemingly without results is a question in millions of minds. We would all like to see the guilty and the greedy suffer punishment, but it is also true that if only the heartless were to suffer millions of ordinary and selfish people throughout the world would not feel the impact. Is this a chance to awaken our conscience?

'Not in vain'

The Czechs defied brute force without hope of victory. Will they one day realise what they dream? If they are able to move and mix freely with anyone they want to, will they see in our countries the society they long for, a society without divisions caused by hate and pride, in families, between classes, races and nations? Where people have enough time for those in need, in physical or spiritual need?

A prominent Swiss Government official said to me the other day, 'We must keep the hopes of the Czechs alive. They must know that they have not fought in vain.' He spoke with feeling. There was prayer as well as desire in what he said. But how do we do that? By building in our lands a way of life and society where people care enough.

If the leaders and the led in our nations grasp the secret of Moral Re-

Armament and apply it, no curtain, no force will be able to keep the news of the answer from reaching Czechoslovakia and all these countries.

If we decide voluntarily to shed our self-absorption, our preoccupation with what we want and our divisions, people like the Czechs may in future be spared the mistreatment they have received.

Czechoslovakia proves that the curtain through Europe is still there, meaningful as ever. But its meaning is not that change is required only on one side of it.

A leading figure of this country said to me the other day, 'My friends and I tried very hard to advise Dulles and the American Government not to make the mistake of getting involved in Vietnam. We knew,' he said, 'that the French, who had had longer experience of the area, who knew the region, the terrain and the people, could not defeat the Viet Cong. And we knew that the Americans were not going to be able to defeat them.'

'America is in a terrible mess. I feel sad for America. In addition to Vietnam she has race. This year Kennedy and King were killed. What next year has in store I do not know, but it will be a grim year.' Then he said, 'Mark my words, we will face the same situation here too.'

Britain may have to face the same problems, but I believe that with God's help Britain can find answers to them and give them to the world. I oppose completely the notion that the issue of race in Britain cannot be solved to the satisfaction of all concerned.

What Conrad Hunte* and his friends have demonstrated by creating a force from around the world in Britain, from the different races living here, could be a pattern for millions and for many more.

He has raised the dignity of the coloured people who are proud of the conviction that their job is not just to fight that they are better treated, but that it is to help look after all the people of this nation and together with

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**The former Vice-Captain of the West Indies Cricket XI.*



'I am not a symptom. I'm a girl!' Prue (Alison Frazer) tells her father, Rev John Harcourt (Clement McCallin) what she thinks of his theories. The family look on - *left to right*: Dorothy (Jo Maxwell-Muller), Greg (Roger Gale) and Evelyn (Agatha Carroll). The visitor, Thomas Fielding (Bryan Coleman), watches with interest.

Photographs by HOUSTON ROGERS

BISHOP'S MOVE

Alan Thornhill's family comedy at the
WESTMINSTER THEATRE

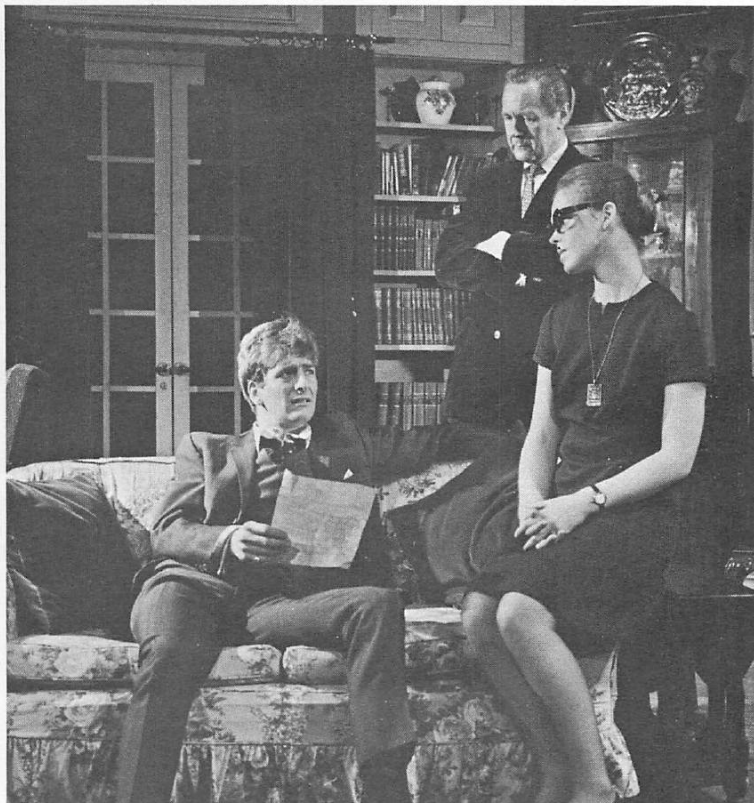
'Yes, John, but have you told the police?' - Evelyn and John Harcourt.

'Banned books are status symbols. Didn't you know?' - Fielding, Prue, Dorothy.





'Come, come, Mr Harcourt, they'll cut us off the air.' John Harcourt and TV interviewer Wayne Wellman (Garard Green).



'What does Dad think of this?' - Greg, Fielding, Dorothy.

The Cast, in order of appearance:

Thomas Fielding **BRYAN COLEMAN**
 Dorothy Harcourt **JO MAXWELL-MULLER**
 Prudence Harcourt **ALISON FRAZER**
 Rev. John Harcourt **CLEMENT McCALLIN**
 Evelyn Harcourt **AGATHA CARROLL**

Gregory Harcourt **ROGER GALE**
 1st TV Cameraman **DONALD SIMPSON**
 2nd TV Cameraman **ROBIN BROWNE**
 TV Production Assistant **PATRICIA LESLIE**
 Wayne Wellman **GARARD GREEN**

Settings by **W. CAMERON JOHNSON**

Lighting by **LOUIS FLEMING**

Directed by **HENRY CASS**

The 'Meet the Family' TV programme. *Left to right:* Cameraman (Robin Browne), Production Assistant (Patricia Leslie), Dorothy, Evelyn, Greg, John Harcourt, Wayne Wellman, Cameraman (Donald Simpson).



the white people to be of service to other nations. Hate, selfishness, superiority, and ingratitude, are real feelings. But they may reside also in those who are convinced that others have them. And they can be cured.

I shall never forget the story of the man who came to Caux only a few weeks ago from Nigeria. A man whose father had been killed, whose two brothers had been killed and who had had this strong passion for revenge and who said, 'I am going to ask the tribe who killed my family to forgive me for my hate and to work with them for a new Africa.'

On Nigeria and Biafra: we are urged to take sides, to decide who is right and who is wrong. Whatever our minds are able to comprehend, our hearts are convinced that a terrible tragedy is taking place because of man's seemingly limitless folly. More important than the question of the political arrangements in the future is another question: who will heal the ferocious hates?

Spheres of influence

The 'spheres of influence' notion has world-wide implications. China now has the A-Bomb and the H-Bomb. In a very few years she will also have missiles that will deliver these bombs to countries near and far from China.

Will the world then conclude that just as Czechoslovakia is in the Soviet sphere of influence countries bordering China, countries like Japan, Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, belong to the Chinese sphere of influence?

What if Peking says to some of these countries, 'If you do not impose a particular kind of government, if you do not impose the curbs we think you need on counter-revolutionaries in your country, our troops move in'? It would be foolish not to think of such a possibility, and it would be naive to think that the world will speed to aid the countries affected.

If and when the Chinese move in, will they find apathetic, corrupt, divided nations, or will they find a strong revolution at work? More important, can we inform China of this superior revolution and win her to it before she decides to enforce the loyalty of other nations to her ideas?

British forces, we are told, will leave South East Asia shortly. As far as the American forces are concerned, will their help be asked for? If asked for, will America again be prepared to fight in a land war in Asia?

There will be a military vacuum to fill in South East Asia. There also is an ideological vacuum. And the latter is not only in South East Asia. It exists in Peking too.

We must plant Moral Re-Armament in South East Asia not just to strengthen the unity of the region, which it will; not just to create better understanding between Asia and the West, which it will; but to radiate Moral Re-Armament towards China.

India and South East Asia want Moral Re-Armament. India has experienced changes in men and situations through MRA. A senior leader of our Government said to me three weeks ago, 'The work of Moral Re-Armament in the North East of India must continue and increase.'

Another said, 'If the problems of the North East of India can be solved by Moral Re-Armament, the whole nation will want to know what MRA is.' The North East is the most Asian part of India. Here people of so many Asian races and tribes live. Chinese arms can be brought there without difficulty from across the border. The ideas of Moral Re-Armament can also, without much difficulty, be taken from there to China.

Ceylon has asked for the ideology of Moral Re-Armament. A committee of invitation headed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, and the Chief Justice has asked an international force to work in Ceylon in November. The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both approve of the visit.

The Prime Minister, Mr Senanayake, spoke to me with just pride of Ceylon's achievement in food production. She will hit her target of 75% self-sufficiency in 1969, exactly one year ahead of schedule. But Mr Senanayake went on to say, 'No project will succeed, not even the food drive, without communal friendship.' He was referring to the division between the Singhalese-speaking and the Tamil-speaking people of Ceylon. Many Ceylonese people believe that MRA can help answer this division.

Could there be a similar answer to divisions that threaten to destroy the stability, and prevent the prosperity, of countries of that region—Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Burma? I believe there is.

Asia is poor. Asia may be mysterious and inscrutable, but the alleged patience of the Orient is a myth unless

it is true in some subtle sense noticed only by the Occident. Ours is a warring, hating, divided continent. But unity and peace can come to it and I believe that we have and shall have a great deal to give to the world.

Asia Plateau, Panchgani, the Moral Re-Armament Centre, established through the sacrifice and the perseverance of people throughout the world including many in this country and in this hall, is playing and will play a key part in the onward march of Asia and in the larger cause of the world.

On 1 February next year a conference of responsible spokesmen and leaders of the world will take place in Panchgani by which time the second phase of the building programme will have been completed.

I want to express deep thanks, unending thanks, for what this country has done to help us in India and Asia. I want to say thank you and welcome to those coming from Britain during the next days and weeks to India and Asia, for their decision to come and for what God will use them to do. I want to thank also those hundreds and thousands who, with their financial contributions, have made and are making possible these visits. They will bring the spirit of Moral Re-Armament to our villages, to our factories and ports, our schools and colleges, our homes, to our leaders and administrators.

Salute to Britain

I hope I shall be permitted to salute and thank God for the spirit and the vigour of the British people. There seems to be something here that revolts against inhumanity everywhere even when that inhumanity does not necessarily or immediately affect the British people.

It was not without interest to me that the Soviet press attacked British journalists, British tourists and the British people for the British reaction over Czechoslovakia. The thought that comes to me is that 52 million is not a small number. 52 million British men and women have a great role to play in the world. I believe God wants Britain to be a true champion of freedom everywhere and the architect of the foundations of freedom.

We are entitled to look forward to the day when the people of Czechoslovakia, Russia, America, Vietnam, Middle East, everywhere will live as God's children.

In my view

New Zealand has a destiny

NEW ZEALANDERS are justly proud of their role, of their outpouring of sweat and blood, in the two great wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45.

The tremendous cost of those years means two things for the modern Kiwi: (i) today, with the world facing a crisis at least as serious as in wartime, he must take no less responsibility in the world, and (ii) he can challenge people of other nations to equal responsibility. For some he will need to teach responsibility without control.

This is to say nothing of the duty we have as a Christian land, once called 'God's own country,' to serve humanity under His guidance.

No strings attached

New Zealand is not thought of as a land of millionaires. Yet our living standard ranks in the world's top ten. To a small extent we have shared what we have with the developing countries, particularly with those in Asia. We have won many friends. Aid has been without strings attached. No one could accuse us rightly of expansionist policies.

But what is our role in the future? The supplying of manpower to advance Moral Re-Armament, such as in Rajmohan Gandhi's Asian programme, must continue and expand. The Gandhis of Asia, the Middle East and Africa will call out our best men.

There may, however, be something unique which God wants us to do.

A Rhodesian of Indian origin, studying in Britain, once told me, 'New Zealand is one of the only countries in the world which has achieved racial integration.' And he asked, 'Why is it?'

I was struck that the question of race was the thing about New Zealand uppermost in his mind. I told him race relations in New Zealand were on the whole good but by no means faultless.

The eight per cent of our people who are Maori, Polynesian, Indian or Chinese, the first totalling nearly a quarter of a million, can participate fully in our national life.

But in most other lands people are asking if this is possible on a global scale. The world might take its lead from New Zealand if we were to live differently.

The world enjoys the beauty of our scenery, seeing our sportsmen on the field, eating our food, benefiting from a few scientific and medical breakthroughs we have helped to achieve, but needs most from us an answer to bitterness and hate, particularly between races.

Bitterness and hate are things we avoid talking about yet they are there all the same. They make us uncom-

fortable. But if they were exposed to the light of day and cured, New Zealand would have available a precious gift of healing for the world.

Our Maori people have a rich culture and fighting spirit to give to the world. They open doors into human hearts in a way no one else can.

Our large Indian and Chinese communities link us with the two key countries of Asia.

Together with Britain, Australia, Nigeria, Kenya, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Malaysia, the West Indies and the other nations of the Commonwealth we could forge a pattern to end all divisions.

DAVID PORTEOUS

'FREEDOM' IN NIGERIA

FREEDOM, the African film, has been shown to thousands in the Mid West State of Nigeria in the last six months, including Asaba and other war-affected areas. It has also been shown in Onitsha, on the other side of the Niger.

Audiences have been from schools, army units and the public. The projectionist reported that *Freedom* was the most popular of his films. 'Audiences would like it screened every night'.

'HAPPY DEATHDAY' FILM CAST COMPLETE

HARRIETTE JOHNS is to play the part of Becky in the film version of Peter Howard's play, *Happy Deathday*. The cast is now complete and filming begins on 23 September.

Harriette Johns toured as the Countess of Lister with Jack Hulbert and Cicely Courtneidge in *The Reluctant Peer*. Her last stage play was *Pride*

and *Prejudice* in which she played Lady Catherine de Burgh. She was recently seen on BBC television in *The Lady is a Liar*, in which she played an Italian contessa opposite Robert Hardy. She is at present rehearsing a television play for the BBC entitled *A Matter of Principle*, in which she plays an ambassador's wife.

Further copies of the
'Bishop's Move'
photo supplement
3d each

Rajmohan Gandhi's
speech is being reprinted
in booklet form
1s each: 6 for 5s

from

MRA 4 Hays Mews W1 (postage extra)

On Australian TV

THE RECENT CRISIS in Czechoslovakia prompted one of Melbourne's four TV stations, HSV 7, to telecast the film *Decision at Midnight* at peak viewing hours on 9 September. Channel 7 has one of Australia's largest viewing audiences. It has bought the Melbourne rights to show the film three times in three years.