

WESTMINSTER THEATRE

PALACE STREET, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, S.W.1.

Licensed by the Lord Chamberlain to J. Kenneth Lindsay

Nearest Station, Victoria

Telephone: VIC 0283

Under the direction of E. P. CLIFT & JACK MINSTER

In association with

E. P. CLIFT

(FOR MINSTER PRODUCTIONS LTD.)

PETER BRIDGE

(FOR BRIDGE PRODUCTIONS LTD.)

presents

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

by

GEORGE ROSS

and

CAMPBELL SINGER

Directed by ANTHONY SHARP

Setting by VICTOR FRIENDLY

Opening Date 10th April 1958





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In association with
E. P. CLIFT
(for Minster Productions Ltd.)
PETER BRIDGE
(for Bridge Productions Ltd.)
presents

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

by
GEORGE ROSS & CAMPBELL SINGER

Characters in order of appearance:

Joyce Anderson <i>Secretary to Julian Armstrong</i>	JENNIFER WRIGHT
Geoffrey Harrison <i>Chief Accountant and Secretary</i>	JOHN BARRON
Jonathon Travis <i>Chief Designer and Director</i>	OLIVER JOHNSTON
Sergeant Roberts <i>Commissionaire</i>	EDWARD PALMER
Julian Armstrong <i>Managing Director</i>	RALPH MICHAEL
Malcolm Turnbull <i>Sales Director</i>	JOHN BOXER
Sir Norman Tullis <i>Chairman</i>	RAYMOND HUNTLEY
Harry Dodds <i>Mill Manager and Director</i>	TREVOR REID
Charles Pleydon, M.P. <i>Director</i> <i>(of Henry Armstrong & Sons Ltd.)</i>	RICHARD VERNON
Martin Meadows <i>Managing Director</i>	CHARLES MORGAN
Stanley Griffiths <i>Financial Director</i> <i>(of Amalgamated Worsteds Ltd.)</i>	RAYMOND MASON

Directed by ANTHONY SHARP

Setting by Victor Friendly

Lighting by Richard Pilbrow

For the enjoyment of future audiences, the management would be grateful if you would refrain from disclosing the denouement of this play.

The action of the Play takes place in the Board Room and Managing Director's Office of Henry Armstrong and Sons Ltd., at their Yorkshire worsted mill, about ten miles outside Leeds.

ACT I

Shortly after half past two on a Wednesday afternoon

ACT II

Scene 1 Immediately after
Scene 2 Shortly before ten o'clock the following day

ACT III

About two o'clock on Friday afternoon

"Any Other Business" was originally produced by the Repertory Players for one performance, at the Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, on Sunday 29th September, 1957.

The authors wish to acknowledge with thanks Mr. Geoffrey Hall's permission to use some of his "New Nursery Rhymes for Old".

Scenery built by Babbage and Hayman. Technical direction and additional lighting equipment by Theatre Projects Ltd. Miss Jennifer Wright's clothes by Elaine (of Guildford Ltd.). Overcoats for Mr. Huntley, Mr. Michael and Mr. Morgan by Aquascutum. Technical advice and cloth properties supplied by Dormeuil Ltd. (London) and John Carter Ltd. (Halifax). Sergeant's uniform by courtesy of Corps of Commissionaires. Furniture by Old Times Furnishing Co. Ltd. Light fittings by Veneco. Properties by Robinsons. Nylon stockings by Kayser. Wardrobe care by Lux. Recordings by Stagesound. Dictating machine by Thomas A. Edison, Ltd. Lighters by Ronson. Virginia cigarettes by Abdulla.

FOR MINSTER PRODUCTIONS LTD.	
General Manager	GRACE RANSOM
FOR BRIDGE PRODUCTIONS LTD.	
Stage Manager	LEONARD DAVIES
Assistant Stage Managers	BRYAN KENDALL, JILL DOWNS
Secretaries	PAM FEROST, MARY HORWOOD
Press Representative	GEORGE FEARON (GERFORD 1936)
Theatre and Company Manager	C. C. PITHER
Box Office open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Amy Green)	Tel.: VICTORIA 0283

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission, also to make any alteration in the cost which may be rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable causes.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE AUDITORIUM

In accordance with the requirements of the Lord Chamberlain—

1. The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors and such doors must at that time be open.
2. All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstruction.
3. Persons shall not in any circumstances be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating, or to sit in any of the other gangways. If standing is permitted in the gangways at the sides and rear of the seating it shall be strictly limited to the number indicated in the notices exhibited in those positions.
4. The safety curtain must be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience.

Who's Who in the Cast

RAYMOND HUNTLEY Made his first stage appearance with the Birmingham Repertory Company. Since then he has divided his time between stage, screen and television. Playgoers will remember him in J. B. Priestley's "They Came to a City", in the revival of Noel Coward's "Private Lives" with John Clements and Kay Hammond, and in "The Late Edwina Black". More recently he appeared in "Shadow of Doubt" with John Clements, Jane Baxter and Patrick Barr and was in "Double Image", one of the last plays to appear at the St. James's Theatre, with Richard Attenborough, Sheila Sim and Zena Daire. Television viewers saw him recently in the serial "A Time of Day" with Stephen Murray. His films include "The Way Ahead", "Geordie", and "Brothers in Law".

RALPH MICHAEL Born in London, he originally studied architecture but turned to the stage and made his first appearance at the Chelsea Palace in "The Bells". His career includes seasons at the Old Vic, at Malvern and a series of West End successes including "Charley's Aunt", "Peace in Our Time" and later "Relative Values" with Gladys Cooper. In 1955 he appeared at Stratford-upon-Avon with Sir Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh in the highly successful production of "Titus Andronicus" in London and on its Continental tour. He was seen on Television recently in "Reunion in Vienna" with Trevor Howard and Helen Cheery and "The Macropolis Secret" with Eva Bartok. He is married to actress Joyce Heron.

OLIVER JOHNSTON After a successful career on stage and screen, decided to retire but found life outside the entertainment world not at all to his liking and after three years decided to resume his acting. He was at the Westminster Theatre with Alastair Sim in "It Depends What You Mean". Earlier in his career he played leads with Birmingham Repertory Theatre and it was there he met his wife, May Kendall. He appeared with Jean Forbes-Robertson and Hilda Trevelyan in "Mary Rose" and with Gwen Frangon-Davies in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street". In recent years he has worked mainly in films. He made a great success in the Charles Chaplin film "A King in New York".

JOHN BOXER Originally worked in a stockbroker's office before studying for the stage at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art where he won the Bancroft Gold Medal. Made his London stage debut at the Savoy Theatre in "The Dark Path" and after a number of West End appearances made his New York debut as the Ballet Master in "Escape Me Never" with Elisabeth Bergner, a part he created in London. Many theatregoers will remember him in "George and Margaret" at Wyndham's Theatre in 1937. Recent stage appearances have been in "Seagulls Over Sorrento", "The White Carnation" and "Lucky Strike". His latest film was "The Bridge on the River Kwai". Played the part of Turnbull when this play was given its first Sunday night performance.

JOHN BARRON Is a direct descendant of the renowned Mrs. Siddons. He started his stage career in repertory at Worthing and has produced at Leicester, Hull, Wolverhampton and Salisbury. He is married to Joan Peart and they have recently concluded a tour of "The Reluctant Debutante". His hobby is stage lighting and he was asked to practice his hobby and light the stage for "At the Drop of a Hat" at the Fortune Theatre. He has been responsible for the lighting of the new William Golding comedy "The Brass Butterfly", with Alastair Sim and George Cole. He is repeating his performance which he gave when "Any Other Business" was first tried out.

JENNIFER WRIGHT Following her studies at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, spent some time in Repertory and on tour and while at Dundee was signed to a contract with H. M. Tennent. She appeared in London with Noel Coward in "The Apple Cart", in "Richard II" with Sir John Gielgud and took over from Pamela Brown in "A Question of Fact". Her recent stage appearances have been in the stage version of "Doctor In The House" and "The Restless Heart" with Mai Zetterling. On Television she has been in the "Emergency Ward 10" series, "Rupert of Hentzau" and "Portrait in Black".

TREVOR REID Liverpool born, he spent four years as a Cotton apprentice before deciding that he would be much happier in the theatre. He worked at the Liverpool Playhouse and then for a year toured the Continent with Edward Stirling's English Players. In London he has appeared in "The Dominant Sex", "Goodness How Sad", "The Philadelphia Story" which was followed by Peter Cheyney's "Meet Mr. Callaghan". He has appeared in many of the Sunday night performances by the Repertory Players and created the part of Dodds.

RICHARD VERNON Studied for the stage at the Central School of Speech and Drama. In 1953 played Mr. Darling in "Peter Pan" with Pat Kirkwood. One of the few occasions when this role was not doubled with that of Captain Hook. He has been seen on Television in "Rebecca" and "Victoria Regina" and in the "Emergency Ward 10" series. He has just had his first film role—with Ingrid Bergman in "Indiscreet". He recently appeared in a number of plays at delightful Theatre Royal, Windsor. He is married to actress Benedicte Leigh, and with their daughter, they live on a barge on the Thames at Chiswick.

CHARLES MORGAN Went into the professional theatre following a great deal of experience in amateur theatricals. He appeared in the Old Vic before the war with Charles Laughton and Elsa Lanchester. Since then he has worked in Repertory throughout the country including 8 years at Worthing, and recently completed a two year run in Agatha Christie's "Spider's Web" with Margaret Lockwood and Felix Aylmer. He has made many films, the most recent being "The One That Got Away". He is married with two children.

EDWARD PALMER Was in repertory in York for five years so feels that his accent for his role in "Any Other Business" should be authentic. He specializes in dialects and thinks he must be the only Englishman to sing an Arabic song in Arabic on Television. He appeared at the Edinburgh Festival last year in "The Hidden King" and toured in "Tons of Money" with Frankie Howerd. On Television he has been in the "Charlie Chan" and "Ivanhoe" series. He appeared in "Any Other Business" when it was tried out last Autumn.

RAYMOND MASON Raymond Mason has very seldom had the chance to play a part near his own age. His own features are usually hidden under a heavy character make up. Born in Staffordshire he studied with the London Choir School and with them appeared in the films, "Goodbye Mr. Chips", "Sixty Glorious Years" and "Major Barbara". He won a Sir Alexander Korda scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. He has made several Television appearances and last year appeared at the Edinburgh Festival and in London in "The Queen and the Welshman".

ANTHONY SHARP—(Director). Is certainly a versatile man of the Theatre. As an actor he has appeared in such successes as "For Better, For Worse" with Geraldine McEwan and Leslie Phillips, "Who Goes There?" with Nigel Patrick and has more recently been seen in "No Time For Sergeants". He also writes plays and his play "Nightmare Abbey" was produced by John Fernald at this Theatre. An option has been taken on his latest play which he hopes will be seen in the West End shortly. He directed the first performance of "Any Other Business" for the Repertory Players and as soon as Peter Bridge had bought the rights, he gave him the opportunity to direct the play for the West End. He is shortly to be seen as Benedick in "Much Ado About Nothing" which commences a tour with Robert Atkins and is hoping that he will be spending the Summer in the Open-Air Theatre in Regents Park.

GEORGE ROSS & CAMPBELL SINGER—(The Authors). Met in South Africa where they were working with the Johannesburg Repertory Players. Campbell Singer came to England in 1933 and two years later renewed his friendship with George Ross. Since then they have collaborated on four plays and "Any Other Business" is the first to reach the West End. George Ross is a qualified Accountant and has worked with a London Textile firm who had a Yorkshire Mill. He is now working with Associated Television. Campbell Singer is of course well known as an actor in plays, films and television. He recently appeared in R. C. Sheriff's play "The White Carnation" with Sir Ralph Richardson and Agatha Christie's "Spider's Web". A recent film was "The Young and the Gullible" with Phyllis Calvert, Andrew Ray and Edward Chapman. He is married to actress Gillian Maude.

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