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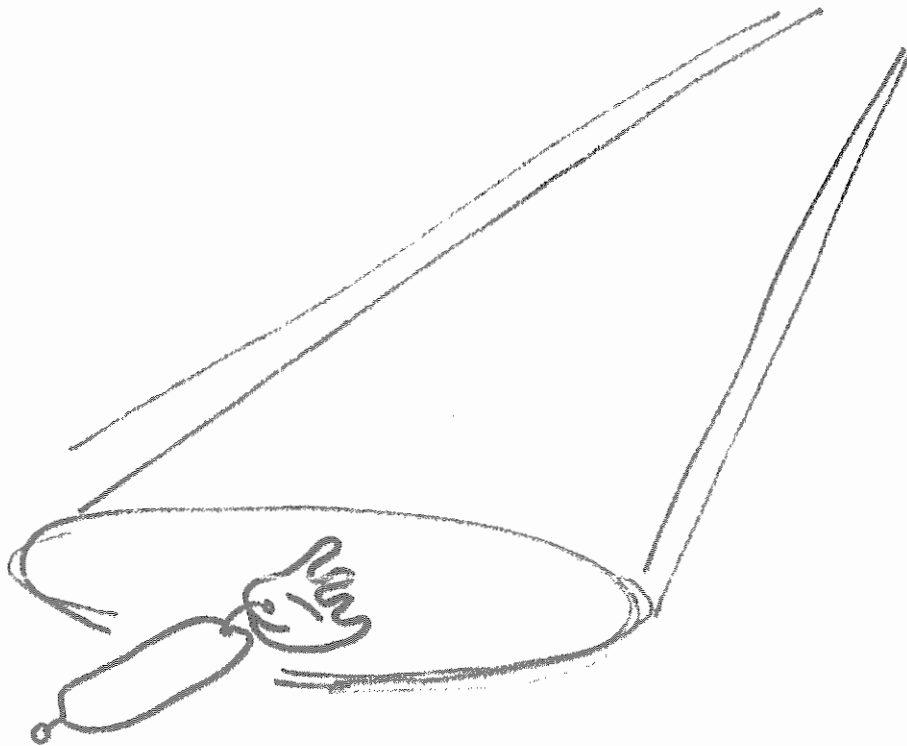
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the

.....

official ORGAN
of the

PUPPETEERS' CO-OP



THE ORGAN SPEAKS !

.... dear members, you hold in your hands the first tremulous words of the new-born Puppeteer's Co-Op, the first faint bleats of what will no doubt become a deafening roar, a raging cacophony, the tumultuous sound and fury of the massed voices of the Puppeteers of Melbourne ! So, anything you want to say, leave your copy at B'Spell or at 28 Macarthur Place, Carlton, and Maeve will type it into the newsletter, sorry, Organ. Which, quite obviously, needs a Name. Announcing the Grand Name the Newsletter Competition ! All prizes awarded in strictest confidence.

QUESTIONS.

In this first, faint, trembling issue you will find an humble questionnaire. A politely penetrating survey of attitudes and desires, another modest step in the quest for communication and understanding between puppeteers. Please respond as fully as you can, ~~and~~ on paper, and bring this to the next gathering, at the usual place, B'Spell, 11 Abbott St., Collingwood. *On Monday 23rd June*

UNIONISATION.

Greg Jones, of Actors' Equity, has kindly agreed to come and speak on this same evening.

PERFORMANCE.

Puppets, ideas, scripts, problems, pieces - please bring some.

A proposal will be made to the group to begin planning for

a major group performance in 12 months' time. Three alternative methods of devising such a performance are up for consideration :

- a) AS AN ENSEMBLE - achieving a consensus of style and content through intensive workshopping. This involves starting out open-ended and gradually building up a plan of action. Very challenging, very difficult.
- b) USING AN EXISTING SCRIPT - and simply producing it.
- c) Using a THEMATIC approach - deciding on a theme ~~xxxxx~~ broad enough to allow for diverse approaches, producing segments in small groups and then working them into a unified performance. Some suggested themes :
a JOURNEY ; WORLD WARS ; THE AGES OF MAN (PERSON !)

Other matters for consideration are -

Funding - how & where we get it, if we need it;

Venue - what kind, what's available, when it should be booked, if necessary;

Direction - call someone in or do it from within the co-op ; one individual or not.

Season - one-off or extended - four weeks is a popular period for covering costs.

GIG GUIDE.

... only a small sample - more companies in next issue.

KOOKA.

June 26,	Keysborough Primary, Loxwood Rd., Springvale Sth.	9.30 11.00	1.15 2.30
June 30,	East Oakleigh Primary, State St., E. Oakleigh.	9.30 11.00	
July 4,	Maidstone Primary, Curtain St., Maidstone.	9.30	
July 16,	Reservoir W. Primary, Carrington St.		1.15 2.30
July 17,	Movelle Primary, Gum Rd., St. Albans.		1.30
July 21,	Eltham Primary, Dalton St., Eltham.		1.15 2.40
July 23,	Preston W. Primary, Murray Rd., W. Preston.	9.40 10.45	1.15 2.00
July 24,	Maralinga Primary, Maralinga Rd., Noble Park.	9.30 11.00	1.15 2.30
August 12,	Preston E. Primary, Sylvester Grove, Preston East.		check time with Kooka.
August 13,	Altona Gate Primary Blackshaw's Rd., Altona Nth	10.45	
* August 14	Heathmont Primary, Cnr. Prospect Hill & Molesworth		1.15 2.30

B'SPELL.

June 20 /21	Tolkeinfest, Sydney University
June 30	Hadfield High School
July 19 - 22	Community Arts Conference - all day
August 11 - 28	Jolly Jumbuk - libraries
Sept. 8-26	Austrabloodylaze Show - Richmond pubs, schools, factories.

THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

- * What ^{you} do want the co-op to be a) for yourself ?
b) for itself ?
- * How do you see the role of the co-op in Victorian theatre ?
- * What advantages does puppetry have over other media ?
- * What limitations does puppetry have compared to other media ?
- * What do you think of the state of puppetry in Australia ?
- * What do you envisage for Australian puppetry in the future ?
- * What are your aims as a puppeteer ? Be very specific.
- * What are your criteria for judging a puppetry performance ?
- * We never see crits of puppetry performances, major or otherwise, in the mass media, from people experienced in this field. Would you support the co-op issuing press releases, ~~and~~ critiques, when such performances are on ?
- * Do you think the establishment of a school would be feasible as a way of raising standards of puppetry ? How do you think such a school should be set up ?
- * Why have Australia's larger puppet companies had such difficulty in surviving ?
- * Whose work (world-wide, any period) do you admire, and why ?
- * With unlimited resources, what would be your puppet fantasy ?
- * Do you have a particular artistic obsession ?
- * Do you have preferences concerning the internal structure of the co-op ?
- * Do you have access to - performance equipment (lights, speakers, etc.)
musicians (!)
tools of the specialised, sophisticated kind
space
- * ~~XXXXXX~~ What are your major sources of materials for construction?
- * How do you devise your scripts ?
- * Please include your additional comments.