

**ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY  
THEATRE GUILD**

# An Inspector Calls

**By J. B. PRIESTLEY**

**AT THE HUT**

**24th August**

**25th August**

**26th August**

**1949**



AN INSPECTOR CALLS is the second of Priestley's interesting plays presented by the Guild—THEY CAME TO A CITY was given in 1945.

The present play was first performed in Russia in 1945, where "two famous companies, Tairov's Kamerny and the Leningrad Comedy Theatre, were presenting the play simultaneously in Moscow, where it was an immediate success. (Since then it has been produced in many different parts of the Soviet Union.)"

"After its Russian debut, the play moved on to other countries and has appeared with some success in various State Theatres, finally arriving, as the first new play to be done as part of the true repertory scheme, at our own Old Vic."

To Michael Macowan, Priestley wrote: "One of the sillier complaints about AN INSPECTOR CALLS was that there is too much coincidence in the play: 'If only everybody?' they moaned and groaned, 'wasn't involved in this girl's death!' Now I ask you, Michael. In this play, with its visitor from nowhere, its 1944 staring accusingly at 1912, there is if you like all manner of mysterious nonsense; but there is not too much coincidence, there is less in fact than the average play has; and nobody who sat through the third act, still awake and in possession of his faculties, could possibly have made this accusation in good faith."

*Extracts from foreward by J. B. Priestley  
in Heinemann's published version.*

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All three acts, which are continuous, take place in the dining-room of the Birling's house in Brumley, an industrial city in the North Midlands. It is an evening in spring, 1912

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*The Theatre Guild expresses its thanks to Messrs. Samuel French for permission to perform this play under amateur rights, made available through the courtesy of their Australian manager, Mr. C. V. Baily, Sydney*



## AN INSPECTOR CALLS

### *Characters of the Play*

ARTHUR BIRLING - - - CECIL B. de BOEHME  
SYBIL BIRLING - - - ELISABETH CAMPBELL  
SHEILA BIRLING - - - BARBARA EDWARDS  
ERIC BIRLING - - - BARRY McEWIN  
GEROLD CROFT - - - BRIAN SMITH  
EDNA - - - LUCY OLIVER  
INSPECTOR GOOLE - - - OSCAR COX

\* \* \*

Play produced under the direction of

THELMA BAULDERSTONE

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Setting - - - MICHAEL JAMES

*Auxiliary power has been obtained for this production*

*The Guild expresses thanks to Oliver J. Nilsen & Co. Ltd. for loan of stage electrical fittings*



## UNIVERSITY THEATRE GUILD

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### *Patrons*

Professor J. G. Cornell  
Dr. C. E. Fenner

Professor John Bishop  
Mr. F. S. Johnston

### *Committee*

Dr. T. D. Campbell  
Miss Rosemary Fitch  
Miss Patricia Hackett  
Miss Barbara Howard  
Professor C. Jury  
Mr. H. Kollosche

Mr. Roy Leaney  
Mr. Bruce Marsden  
Dr. E. McLaughlin  
Mrs. I. Thomas  
Miss G. D. Walsh  
Mr. Frank Zeppell

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### **NOTICES**

Communications, enquiries, and subscriptions may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Miss E. Wedd, Harvard Chambers, North Terrace (C. 2315), or care of the University

Next production —

“AGLAVINE AND SELYSETTE”

By Maurice Maeterlinck

Under the direction of Miss Patricia Hackett

E. WEDD, *Hon. Secretary.*