

ALEXANDER NIKOLAIEVITCH OSTROVSKY was born in 1823, of a lower middle-class Moscow family. From the age of 23 he wrote steadily for the theatre, and was indeed the first leading Russian writer to become a playwright by profession. "It's a Family Affair ..." was his first full-length play, and was published in 1850. For many years, however, the censor forbade the performance of any of his plays, and it was not until 1861 that this play was first staged. His masterpiece, "The Storm", was produced in 1859. He established the Russian Academy of Dramatic Art, and also founded the Russian Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers.

His work bears marks of the influence of Gogol, and he in his turn has had considerable influence on later dramatists. Though his fame is perhaps local rather than international, he was one of the greatest of Russia's theatre men, in an era when a truly great dramatic literature was being built up in that country, an era that covered such names as Pushkin, Griboyedov, Turgénév and Tolstoy.

The Questors believe they can claim the honour of presenting "It's a Family Affair ..." for the first time on any stage in this country.

THE QUESTORS THEATRE EALING



present

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR -
WE'LL SETTLE IT OURSELVES.

A farcical comedy

by
OSTROVSKY.

PROGRAMME TWOPENCE

JANUARY 1943

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR -

Characters in order of appearance

Olimpiada Samsonovna (Lipochka)
Agrafena Kondratyevna's daughter .. Eileen Clarke.

Agrafena Kondratyevna
Bolshov's wife Barbara Sharp.

Fominishna
Housekeeper in Bolshov's house .. Rena Rice.

Ustinya Matkovna
Professional matchmaker Madge Dolman.

Sysoy Psolich Ristchlozhensky
A lawyer Alan Bennett.

Samson Silych Bolshov
A merchant Eric Voce.

Isazar Elizavych Podkhaluzin
A clerk Alfred Emmet.

Tishka
A boy Joan Angel.

PLAY PRODUCED BY ALFRED EMMET

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: FRANCIS SMITH

WE'LL SETTLE IT OURSELVES.

SCENES

ACT I Drawing room in Bolshov's house.
Morning.

ACT II Office in Bolshov's house.
Some days later.

ACT III Same as Act I.
Next morning.

ACT IV A room in Lazar's house.
A few weeks later.

Settings designed by Fred Robinson...

STAGE MANAGER Fred Robinson.

LIGHTING MANAGER Michael Kelly.

WARDROBE MISTRESSES Mildred Emmet ..) ..

Barbara Hutchins }

PROPERTIES Eleanor Bishop }

Rena Rice }

A discussion on this play will be held at
the theatre on Tuesday, January 12th, at
7.30 p.m. All members of the audience
are cordially invited.