

31.8.72

24.9.73 ✓

Do, & Do, (RHK - CBS)

Holy, Holy (RHK DEC. 10) OUR FATHER

a while ago

I heard (the other day) of a HK schoolboy being in hospital with a stomach ulcer, and was reminded of a news item a couple of years ago it must be about the incidence of stomach ulcers among teen-agers in the U.S. ^{And only last week we had} ~~It's~~ a piece in the paper about teenage ^{tantrums} and hazards of life I shd. have thought ^{are} ~~was~~ more commonly associated with the worry and stress that's supposed to be one of the doubtful privileges of ^{making a} living in a highly-developed modern, free and democratic society. If this really is so, it doesn't say much for the quality of modern western-style living, and all the much-vaunted advantages of free-enterprise, economic prosperity, rights & liberties. Despite the frothy 'gay life' and entertainment, is there any more real happiness and contentment in the so-called 'advanced' or 'progressive' countries & societies than there is elsewhere? Is it only old age or nostalgia that prompted, for instance, the observation by a man who's lived all his life in an English industrial city that there is less real happiness and contentment ^{among the majority of ordinary working people} in England today than there was 40 yrs ago when they hadn't got TV and cars or even a decent wage and living conditions? Freedom of choice, which there probably is more of today, and which is a worthy goal of idealist reform, does not seem, unfortunately, to produce the general well-being and happiness it's supposed to do - often, it only seems to lead to further problems. More pay for less work ... → MP 226

There are