"Momma's got a squeeze box,\nShe wears on her chest.\nAnd when Daddy comes home,\nHe never gets no rest.\nBecause she's playing all night,\nThe music's all right.\nMomma's got a squeeze box,\nDaddy never sleeps at night.\nShe goes in and out and in and out and in and out and in and out.\nShe's playing all night,\nThe music's all right.\nMomma's got a squeeze box,\nDaddy never sleeps at night.\n"Squeeze Box" Song

The News Of The World would have you believe those lyrics are as indelicate as R. and J. Stone and Donna Summer. Double-entendre that should be banned from the airwaves. They don't seem to realise that it's tame fare for a band whose previous singles have discovered upon transvestite and masturbation. But why take my word for it? Hit it, John.

I dunno. Most songs have double meanings or no meaning at all. It's stupid—people trying to find hidden meanings in Beatles lyrics are long gone. "Squeeze Box" isn't that dirty. It doesn't say "he's passed to get the right beer in his voice—" whatever.

Not to mention interpretation in America, where "box" means something else entirely. But for those of you hoping, with "Squeeze Box", a hit for a new film of Who singles, John has some words. "I'd leave, I just don't like the singles market. I'm used to concerts and albums. The record company says the album's going down in the charts and we need a single to revive interest. So we release a single and the album goes out of the

one also gets an interesting impression of the Who as a business. Reinvesting profits back into equipment and music-oriented companies, hiring a staff of 50 for a tour—"Which is a hefty cocktail bill" having four of every piece of equipment.

The lasers were required via the interest of studio master John Wolf. They're as long as a bar billiards table and water cooled. At Hammarsmith the Ministry of Defence looked over and declared the Who more advanced than they were.

And all that stuff gets shipped to America, where the Who are, how you say, huge. "The Who By Numbers" is doing "reasonably well. It's heading for a platinum. We have gold for everything since Tommy", actually. I have about 35 of the things, most of them under the billiards table because I haven't any room. We're starting getting silver and gold here as well.

On the subject of records, John Entwistle's solo album is not to be discounted from reading its head again, but Entwistle would like to see another live album. "We sell a lot of records, but compared to some people they're very few. But as far as stage shows are concerned, we're more or less the biggest draw there is. Which you may take as an accomplished fact."

At Pontiac, Michigan, Elvin New Year's Concert down in which John, Entwistle should be in the Guinness Book Of Records.

In the end, it all comes down to the "kids", we may not like the town or the shows, or the music, or the shirts and the jeans, but it's always the same. It's worth playing for the kids, if we could play the same night it would be great, but you can't fly to Australia overnight. The band of Oz is involved mainly due to memories. "If you're a stranger and lose your temper, there's no sympathy..."

As found out in Houston.

But as I say, the Who are an operational unit. Next week they start rehearsing for a tour through Paris, Munich and Zurich, then 14 dates in the States, and then a month holiday before recording the next album. They are trying to organise some gigs in British football grounds in late May, the proceeds going to charity. "Better than the Inland Revenue—" at least we know where it's going. They're at a stage now where we enjoy working again. All we really require is time for rehearsing and writing, and school holidays. Because we've all got kids who we only see at that time. So as long as we have the same time off as the kids..."

He smiles again.

John used to work in the Inland Revenue. "I was a hopeless tax officer. I thought of tax and business occupied him. He points out that one needs to work five times as hard to double one's money in the current system. He presents the old 50% tax and we'd stay, he does any way, for his family mostly. And patriotism. "And the way I'd want to live in America is a house in Los Angeles, a house in New York, and a boat in Miami. Hearing this whilst propping up the pub-like bar in a stately home in the middle of Easting's suburban glory was a bit incongruous."

From John's point of view.