

Where Are We Heading?

ECONOMIC well-being and security are among the essentials of a good life, many people argue, and in the world of today only a planned economy can secure them. Is this an illusion? Does the planned economy inevitably lead to slavery—to the sort of society described by George Orwell in 1984? Is there an inherent contradiction in the desire of socialists for security and the fullest opportunities for the development of the individual? These are the sort of questions which provide the starting point for *Little Lord Frankenstein*, a controversial series of talks on the dangers of centralisation and State control which is to be heard from YC stations.

In the first of this series, to be broadcast from 2YC at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday, February 3, D. K. Fieldhouse, lecturer in history at Canterbury University College, takes a long look at the growth of the power of the State and at the possibility of our democratic system sliding into total bureaucracy. "I want," he says, "to discuss briefly the forecasts of men as widely divergent in their hopes and fears as Marx, Wells, Aldous Huxley, Orwell and Hayek, and to attempt to decide how reliable their predictions are, and whether we shall like what they have to offer us." Mr. Fieldhouse believes there are three inevitable steps by which a democracy would turn itself into a collectivist dictatorship. The first is the gaining of power by a party which promises to plan economic life so that all will have

a fair share in the products of the machines; the second is the acquisition by the State of the means of production; the third, "automatically made necessary by the second," is the compulsion of the individual to do whatever work of national importance he is considered most suited for at the wage he is thought to deserve. From this proposition Mr. Fieldhouse goes on to discuss what he considers the further consequences of the planned State and to say something about how we can reap the benefits of the machine age and at the same time preserve the advantages we already possess.

Well or ill launched, according to your viewpoint, with this explosive piece, *Little Lord Frankenstein* then calls in Professor A. J. Danks to discuss the cen-

tralisation of economic power in the State, in business combines and in trade unions. "Shadow on the Hearth" follows, with Eileen Saunders looking at the influence of the State and of other "pressures" on the family unit. In "Last Days of Farmer Giles," Professor L. W. McCaskill examines the effect of subsidies and guaranteed prices on the farming community and leads on to a warning. The sixth talk, by W. W. Sawyer, asks the question, "What country, after Russia, has the most centralised education system?" and suggests that the answer could be "New Zealand." The last aspect discussed is religion: the Rev. Alun Richards has something to say about the worship of the State and compares this "religion" with the Christian faith. In a final talk D. K. Fieldhouse returns to

★ **FOUR** of the speakers who will be heard in the "Little Lord Frankenstein" series—from left, D. K. Fieldhouse, Eileen Saunders, A. J. Danks and L. W. McCaskill



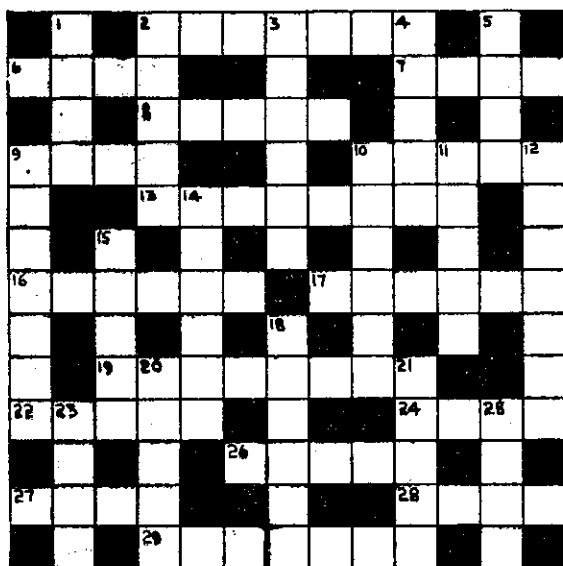
the microphone to comment on what other speakers have said, and to sum up.

"THE LISTENER" CROSSWORD

Clues Across

2. Gets down, as with light in the centre.
6. A room with one was something to make a song about.
7. Eat away in wretched surroundings.
8. Assign, to go back after all.
9. Get moving.

No. 731 (Constructed by R.W.H.)



10. "... when some traveller from New Zealand shall, in the midst of a vast solitude, take his stand on a broken arch of London Bridge to sketch the — of St. Paul's" (Macaulay).
13. Pointed remarks, mainly about farm animals apparently.
16. This speaker uses a preposition between two alternative conjunctions.
17. You'll find them in the garden, perhaps. You only want one? Sh! There's the rub!
19. Dad buries? It's a question of knowing the ropes.
22. It should cause no surprise to find a hen asleep on this part of a kangaroo's tail.
24. As round a sporting number, we find a turning line of vehicles without a head.
26. In short, we see the doctor very sick; perhaps some exercise is indicated?
27. Curtail him and he changes his sex; do it again to restore it.
28. Give out me backwards before it.
29. Ties up with a little saint reversed around an anaesthetic.

Clues Down

1. Lack of confidence without corrosion gives rise to a slight fog.
2. Conscious with conflict in the midst.
3. He is found in the rifle range or general store.
4. Part of an immense rump steak used in inoculation.
5. Take the rats out of the cast-iron and re-assemble the statue.
9. If followed by a vessel this student might win the result.
10. Apparently she has to a greater extent let the rodent get on top of her.
11. The reply to this outcome could be that Susan is or Susan isn't.
12. Four sons of the sea?
14. Gain in favour of a sudden attack?
15. One of a famous brotherhood who have certainly made their marks.
18. Little Archie has apparently been canonised; this makes things a bit stiff.
20. Turn-coats at the race-meeting?
21. Part of stock-dispersal, especially when over-stocked.
23. A maiden one results in no 10 across if I am removed.
25. "— and Cam. to patient science dear" (Wordsworth).

(Solution to No. 730)

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Napier Trio

FROM 2YZ at 8.35 p.m. on February 2, the Francis Bate Trio will play works of two English composers, the Trio Sonata in A Major, by William Boyce, and Suite of Three Pieces, by Alec Rowley. The trio was formed in Napier last year when Francis Bate (cellist) and Gladys Vincent (violinist) went there after being under contract to the University of Otago for the previous five years. The third member, Winifred McCarthy (piano), is a pianist and teacher of many years' standing in Napier.