

# GIANT CHINA

IN the recent and only census to have been taken in China, the figures arrived at were in the region of 600 to 650 million. At the calculated rate of increase—40 a minute, or 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 a year—the total will reach 1,000,000,000 in the 1980's.

These figures are quoted in the first of three talks on modern China, *When a Giant Awakes*, scheduled to begin this week—Wednesday, October 16—from 4YC. In this talk,



DR ANGUS ROSS

Dr. Angus Ross, Reader in History at Otago University, considers the political implications of China's already tremendous and still growing population and the actions of the present Government to check its growth.

Dr. Angus Ross, who visited China last year as a student of Chinese politics, takes the title of his series from Napoleon's phrase: "When a giant awakes, the whole world trembles..." In the other two talks in the series Dr. Ross considers other aspects of this modern giant whose future concerns us all. Why for instance did Mao make his famous "hundred flowers" speech? Was it an attempt to increase the popularity of the regime? Or was it a move to trap critics into revealing themselves? Then there is the question of China's admission to the United Nations. Has Russia, in raising this question, always chosen the most unfavourable time, so that China will think that the West is in conspiracy against her?

The series *When a Giant Awakes* will be heard later from other stations.

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where an extra is needed to bang the cowbell or round out the bass harmony is Wally Chamberlain, who also provides deep-voice monologues if required. Composer-actor-singer and a radio announcer, his wide experience of stage and radio presentation is most helpful. He wondered for years what would happen if a really versatile New Zealand vocal group and a snappy instrument section were thrown together and given thorough rehearsal and the right technical treatment, believing that these things were the essential difference between the home-grown product and the imported.

The Q-Tees and the Jazzmen are not looking for wonders, but they hope within 18 months to be on a par with most of the overseas recording groups. Their name, by the way, is not to be confused with "cutie." For one thing, Nick Nicholson, a former Rugby representative forward, is 15 stone.

The tunes they are working on come from various sources, including some of the 20 odd "pop" type numbers Wally Chamberlain himself has written. They fool about with any old thing for a while, then someone says, "Let's get down to it," and away they go on the number set down for that rehearsal. Not infrequently there is a brief hold-up while Allan Brabyn and Nick Nicholson "just re-write the music" or a conference is held to discuss ways and means of improving some part of the arrangement. No suggestion is tossed out until thoroughly examined and everybody has a free hand to criticise. These combined efforts to work things out are sending the Q-Tees and the Jazzmen to the top.



TERENCE RATTIGAN

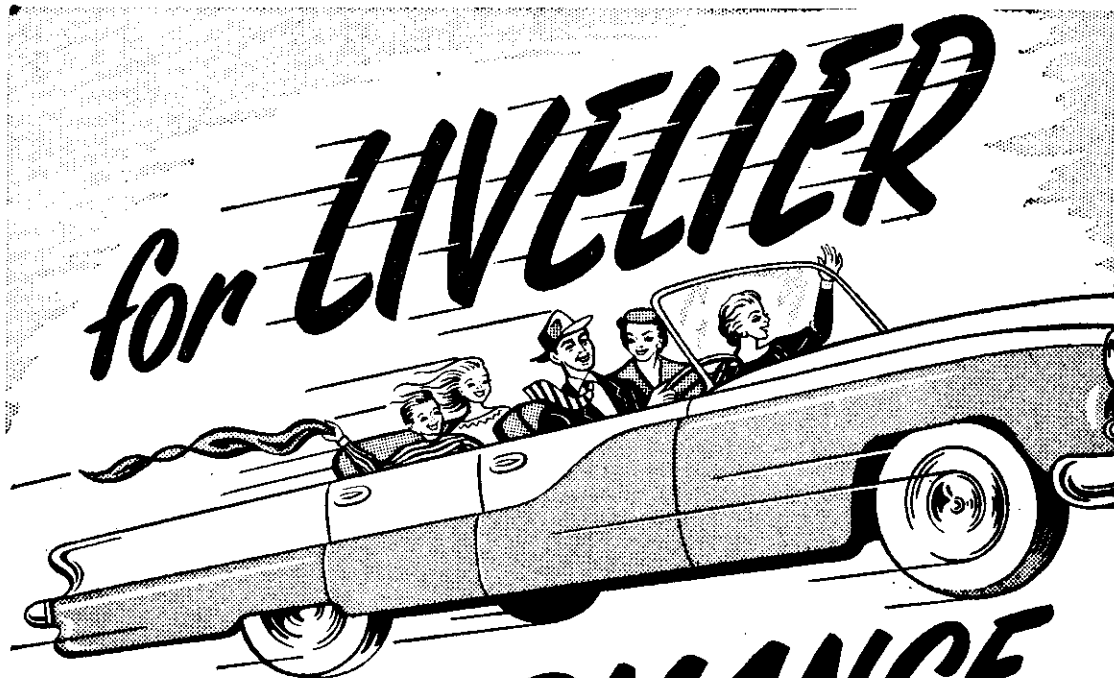
# Sunday Showcase Plays

PLAYS—one from the NZBS studios, the other from the BBC—will occupy ZB Sunday Showcase this coming weekend (October 20) and on October 27. This Sunday listeners will hear *The Creedy Case* (NZBS), a drama set in wartime London with Roy Leywood, Dorothy McKegg and Alan Jervis in the principal roles. George Scoresby (Alan Jervis) is in trouble for refusing to post a certain Captain Creedy away from secret research work (Creedy is accused of sending information to Russia), and Brigadier Maltby (Roy Leywood) investigates the case at the request of George's wife. Maltby's investigations disclose a tangle of conscience and duty, personal conflicts and wartime official callousness.

*The Browning Version* (October 27) was adapted for the BBC by Cynthia Pugh from Terence Rattigan's famous play. It is the story of an ageing clas-

sics master, Andrew Crocker-Harris (Robert Harris), who is obliged to retire without a pension from the school he has served for 18 years. He is a grim-lipped man, suspicious even of well-meant laughter at his own jokes—in strong contrast with the popular, easy-going science master (Peter Neil) who, for some time, has had Mrs Crocker-Harris (Belle Chrystall) as his mistress.

Crocker-Harris is well aware that he is disliked and feared by his pupils, yet he is nonetheless shocked to hear himself described as "The Himmler of the Lower Fifth." But in the humiliation of his last days at school one of his pupils (Brian Smith) brings him a parting gift, a copy of *The Agamemnon* in the Robert Browning translation. This simple act of kindness gives Crocker-Harris an upsurge of self-respect and enables him to begin his rehabilitation.



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