

agine he is improving Chevalier, whose delectable artistry made him a warm favourite with Music Hall audiences throughout the length and breadth of England a generation ago. Gus Elen, another Cockney singer, unlike Chevalier, had no appeal outside the Metropolis. Even Harry Lauder did best with the freely responsive London audiences and was not welcomed in Glasgow. I was at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool when the Lancashire roughyeds would not allow Lauder to perform. London audiences are probably the easiest to satisfy and Manchester the hardest, although I have seen some notable performers come down bump in Cardiff, where great artists declare the people are wooden. Paderewski selected Manchester for the scene of his first performance in England, asserting that if he could please Manchester he could please the world. The individual who renders Chevalier's songs should have been restrained by the record-makers and, failing that, the broadcast stations should discard the recordings in favour of those that resemble Chevalier. Some of the imitators are really clever.

APPARENTLY the appeal of Dr. J. S. Elliot for funds to enable the Smith Family to send children

Frank Crowther's

## Novelty Orchestra

will make its radio

debut from 2YA

On

Tuesday, June 8.



suffering from the effects of malnutrition to the Otaki Children's Health Camp did not fall on deaf ears. The seven shillings requisite for a week's sojourn at the camp is a deal of money to most these days, and the Doctor solicited the generous to club together to make the necessary contribution. "Mr. Heigh-ho" informs us that children themselves have raided their money boxes, and thus have many little folk been assured of the opportunity for a return to health and strength. The well of charitable duty has still to be coaxed nevertheless, for I understand there are hundreds of deserving cases on the Smith Family's list yet to be dealt with.

NOW that the personnel of the Commission to control Australian broadcast programmes has been announced, boxing enthusiasts are hopeful of hearing of the finalisation of arrangements for contests to be

broadcast from the Sydney National Sporting Club's arena. Some of the world's greatest draw cards have been booked for Australia by Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh, and dancers in New Zealand are looking forward to hear something besides concert or dance programmes late on Saturday nights.

A SERIES of four talks on "The Mind of Post-War Europe" was begun by Dr. Ian Henning from 2YA on Saturday, with France as the first country for review. The lecturer has the conversational style most suitable for the microphone and the material transmitted is pleasantly received. In analysing the mood of the French literary section in conjunction with the political and economical situation it was contended that the French were apprehensive of their culture being annihilated by the large floating population of foreigners.

THE British—a colonising and commercial nation—were still regarded in France as barbarians and in business could still be perfidious. They cannot reconcile German culture and German military ruthlessness, and the speaker recommends foreigners to take stock of themselves if they feel inclined to view the situation from their own national standpoint. My personal opinion is that the French are more Chauvinistic than any other nation and colour is lent to this by their colonising attitude. No French colony is a place for French residence, but is merely a venue for the collection of the wherewithal to better enjoy the offerings of France itself. It is quite possible that "Jacques" takes too much notice of the remarks of foreigners upon the meritriciousness of the Palace of Versailles, and the questionable allurements of Montmartre. I cannot imagine the stolid Britisher taking offence at French distaste of the Albert Memorial. Dr. Henning is splendid, and listeners, whether W.E.A. students or not, cannot afford to miss him.

THE talk by Mr. J. C. Brougham (1YA) on "War Time Spies" and reference to the "Kelly Gang" will recall to many old soldiers some crimes credited to that crowd of jail-birds, which might possibly have been instances of embittered men getting their own back. Of all the spies that operated in Britain none intrigued the public more than "Mata Hari". The "om de guerre" is "Malay"—"Eye of Day"—the sun, but what the sorceress had to do with Malaya I do not know. She was of mixed blood and some of it was Burmese, but Burma and Malaya are quite distinct and there is nothing common in the respective languages.

AN acquaintance of mine was arrested in England in the early days of the war as a German spy. He was Melbourne born, educated at the Melbourne University, and the last time I saw him was some years prior to the war, on the eve of his departure from London to Bolivia. A letter from him twelve months later contained the information that he was Generalissimo of the Bolivian Army, and affianced to the Presi-

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