

AUCKLAND NOTES.

10,000 Child Slaves In Hong Kong

Britain Still Has a Good Deal of House-cleaning to do, says
Radio Speaker — Paul Vinogradoff Again — Victor
Hutter Takes Gordon's Place.

UP till some seven years ago there were about 200,000 slaves in the British territory of Sierra Leone, there are still at least 10,000 Chinese child slaves in Hong-Kong and far more children sold into slavery in Ceylon. So, according to the Rev. W. Lawson Marsh's 1YA lecture on Thursday evening, Britain has still a good deal of house-cleaning to do. Abyssinians with 2,000,000 slaves held by unruly chiefs who defy the King, and Arabia's toll of 5000 per annum plus China's immense army of wretched children, leave many slaves still to be emancipated. The speaker told of the passionate pleas of David Livingstone, who had seen the actual tragedies of Arab savagery and the final closing of the great Zanzibar slave market through whose gates had come more human misery than any other portal on earth.

PAUL VINOGRADOFF is regarded by competent critics as among the world's eight leading pianists. He has been heard before in concert hall and studio in Auckland, but his outstanding ability ensures a welcome from all music-lovers. He will be heard from 1YA on Friday in Beethoven's "Concerto in C Minor for String Quintet," taking the three movements with vocal interludes, and of course having the assistance of a string quintet. On Saturday evening, too, Vinogradoff will play piano solos, presenting Chopin and Strauss numbers.

IT is quite a long time now since the pleasant voice of Karl Atkinson has been heard from 1YA, and many listeners who formerly enjoyed his lecture-recitals will be glad to welcome him back, if but for a brief visit, next Monday. He is to present an hour's illustrated lecture, from 8-9 p.m., exemplifying the notable contributions of the Jew in music. From Offenbach and Mendelssohn down to Irving Berlin at the other extreme the contribution of the Jew in the realm of music has been a rich gift to the world. If there are any Hitlerites in the north, they will not listen, but for most others Karl Atkinson's pre-wrestling hour should be definitely worth while.

MADAME IRENE AINSLEY'S appearance before 1YA's mike last Thursday provided a musical treat for listeners. Her rich contralto came through splendidly; all her songs were entirely enjoyable, her final number by Gluck being particularly pleasing. 1YA seems to be specialising in presenting the best vocalists, with orchestral accompaniment which enhances the presentation. On the same programme, besides the orchestra, were Norah Whineray and C. F. Burnett, with two bright sketches that went with a swing.

MORE than a word of praise is due to Victor Hutter (Gordon's brother) for his relayed description of the Auckland-Thames Rugby match last Saturday. He knew the game, was fluent, and altogether provided as good a Rugby description, not at all stereotyped, as we have had in the north since the days of W. J. Meredith. On Friday evenings, too, in "Sports Talk" time, Mr. Harry Frost, chairman of the A.R.U. executive, has been putting out sound football advice, mixed with reminiscences of persons and players and some anecdotes, all well worth hearing.

IN 1917, I had the temerity to attack publicly General Godley, commanding officer of the N.Z.E.F.," said Sir James Parr from 1YA last Tuesday. "never dreaming that the General would later heap coals of fire on my head." Sir James and his family, before returning to New Zealand, were holidaying in Algicras, South Spain, when their hotel went up in smoke. They took car late at night and reached Gibraltar, to find rooms in one of its crowded hotels—the worst in the world. General Godley, then Governor of Gibraltar, at once rang up, insisting that the Parrs be his guests at Government House.

TWO new series of talks under the auspices of the W.E.A. commence from 1YA this week and both promise to be more than usually interesting. On Wednesday Mr. Gilbert Archey, who, as most Aucklanders know, is curator of Auckland's fine Memorial Museum, with its exceptional Polynesian exhibits, will speak on "World Races and the Maori." On Thursday, Mr. D. W. Faigan will begin a series entitled "Twentieth Century Novelists," taking Arnold Bennett as his first subject. Mr. Faigan is no stranger to the "mike," and if youngsters listen-in to this talk they'll certainly say "Why, that's our Uncle Dave." His Tuesday evenings always have something to arrest interest and start the grey matter functioning. In fact, some adults enjoy them as much as the children. Among other 1YA features for the week will be a song recital by Mrs. Albert Russell on Wednesday, the Twa' Macs, those gay Scots, on Thursday, and "Old Wire Whiskers" with "The Terror By Night" on Saturday evening.

AN astonishing volume of first-rate poetry, expressive of the new national spirit in Ireland, has followed the rediscovery of Ireland's wonderful ancient literature, said the Rev. W. Jellie in 1YA's Wednesday W.E.A. session. The influence of this upflare of notable poetry on the revolution and Ireland's present constitution was traced by the speaker. "There is something in Irish poetry that touches every human heart, distinct and apart and never to be confused with the poetry

of any other nation," the speaker concluded. His examples of the new Irish verse added interest. Thursday's W.E.A. talk was given by an obviously competent "Mechanic" with Home and Dominion experience. His criticism of the antiquated machines in use in many New Zealand engineering shops was refreshing, as was the statement that New Zealand trained men have made a good name round the Seven Seas as competent mechanics and engineers. The reason he gave was that New Zealand is pretty much of a "repair shop" rather than a construction works, consequently boys and men have a wealth of varied experience as against the specialist training of the Old Land.

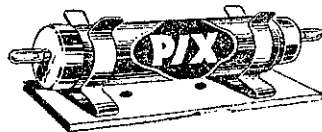
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