

# BROADCASTING SCHOOL

## Innovation In Australia

THE ABC Staff Training School has been officially opened in Sydney by the Chairman of the ABC (R. J. F. Boyer). This school is the first of its kind in Australia. It has been established for the rehabilitation of staff returning from the services, and also for the benefit of the newer staff members.

"A typical problem, which the ABC Staff Training School would help to solve, is the actual case of an office boy who has come back from the war a Major with M.C. and Bar," said the General Manager (Colonel Charles Moses). "The school will help him to find a new niche in broadcasting, more fitted to his war experience."

F. D. Clewlow, who is in charge of the school, said that though the urgent necessity of the school was rehabilitation, it was an inevitable development

of national broadcasting. It would help those fairly new to broadcasting to gain knowledge of other departments than their own, and it would encourage the younger staff members to put forward their own ideas and criticisms, and help them to find the place in broadcasting most suited to their abilities.

There have been two schools this year, and it is hoped next year to run them monthly. Each course lasts three weeks; the first two weeks are devoted to lectures by heads of ABC departments and to discussions, and the third week is set apart for practical work, such as preparation of programme features. A fully-equipped studio is available for the use of the school.

(continued from previous page)

"Music from the Movies." Another session of recordings is "These I Would Buy"—items chosen from the library of 650 discs.

"How do preferences for artists go?"

"You can get an idea from this list, which is not in order of popularity." The list included the Ink Spots, Bing Crosby, Gracie Fields, Deanna Durbin, Glenn Miller, Harry James, Anne Shelton, Geraldo, Joe Loss, Paul Robeson, Judy Garland, Tommy Handley, Ivor Morton and Dave Kaye; and other dance bands in addition to those mentioned.

### What's the Beer Like?

Talks on sundry subjects help to fill in off-duty hours.

One popular programme is called "Next Port of Call," with the signature tune of "Thirty Thirsty Sailors." Officers or ratings who have been in the port which the ship is about to give a visit give some information about it and its country and answer questions, the first of which generally concerns the quality of the beer.

"I Was There" is another programme of short talks by somebody who has been in some out-of-the-way spot, and the "schoolie" often chips in with chats about rehabilitation or on current topics.

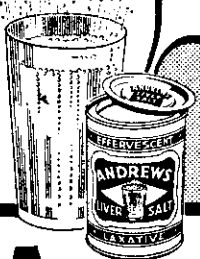
Important visitors to the ship are occasionally asked to face the microphone for a few minutes in an "On Board Tonight" session. Thus they earn their share of the main brace splicing.

Not long ago members of the ship's company produced a radio play, a melodrama of murder in Devonshire, called "Thread of Scarlet." It had a cast of eight and there was no trouble in finding players with a suitable accent. And then, in a serial of four episodes, "Charivari," one of the characters was a barmaid. Would-be female impersonators scrambled for the role.

On Sunday nights when the ship is at sea an epilogue follows Divine Service; this contains recorded English scenes and sounds. And when parade services are held on the flight deck the loudspeakers again come into play so that every part can be followed.

—Staff Reporter.

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