

with a communal laugh in a theatre, the psychological attitude in the home is different. Each person touched with the foil of satire—he it ever so well-buttoned—then thinks he has been personally insulted in his own home, and doesn't take long to tell the authorities about it.

Then again, the writing of straight comedy is a delicate task when one realises that even the most brilliant-looking lines in script might sound hopelessly dull when broadcast. The secret of radio comedy lies not so much in the appearance of the lines, but in the way they are characterised. Until the performers are found for comedy interpretation, it is a thankless job to write lines which, in type, would spoil a good party. In any case, if a writer has a bent for comedy, he's able to make a sight more money doing his work for the stage or films.

As for the big cast question, it is noticeable that, although there are plenty of plays broadcast with more than a dozen, even more than two dozen characters, there is no scene in which all appear. The characters are usually divided up into their "scene groups," so that this itself provides listeners with an immediate clue to the change of scene to be imagined. Such a play was "Ingredient X," with its 29 characters. "Good-bye, Mr. Chips" was another which contained a large cast, but in which the character of Mr. Chips so dominated the whole, that most of the others formed an unobtrusive background.

However, it is, after all, not a subject on which one can generalise, for each potential radio play must be considered on its individual merits, and the dividing line between suitability and otherwise remains ill-marked in some directions and well-defined in others. And there remains a dearth everywhere of good dramatic fare.

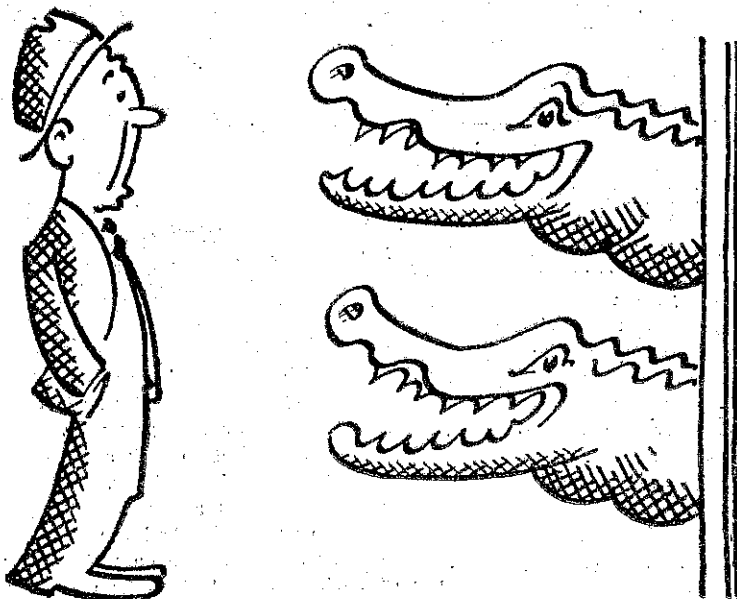
Rev. Clyde Carr

(Continued from page 6.)

tions, and collecting material for the new edition of Currie and Alexander's "Treasury of New Zealand Verse." Two years he was managing-editor for Andrews, Baty and Co., Limited.

For sixteen months he was announcer at station 3YA and Uncle Sam to the children. His reputation as an announcer still stands supreme and his popularity with the children was a thing to marvel at. Three years ago he was elected vice-president of the New Zealand Labour Party, and this year he is National President.

He is particularly interested and well-informed regarding educational matters and broadcasting, being chairman of the education committee of the House, and associate of the present Minister of Education. Clyde Carr's dominant ambition is to be a man of letters, and he has had published much prose and verse. He has been also a popular singer and reciter and an amateur actor. His interests are many and varied, and his sympathies broad and deep. He is instinctively generous in his judgments, strongly emotional, impulsive, companionable to a fault, with a boisterous humour and a slumbering temper easily aroused. He inherits through his mother, of the royal Stuart line, the independence of sturdy pioneers, who arrived in Auckland in 1842.

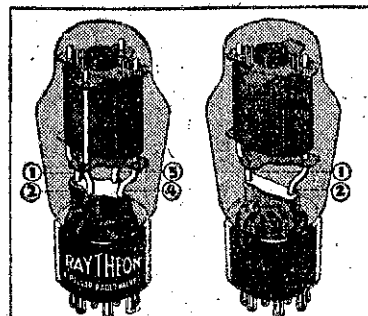


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