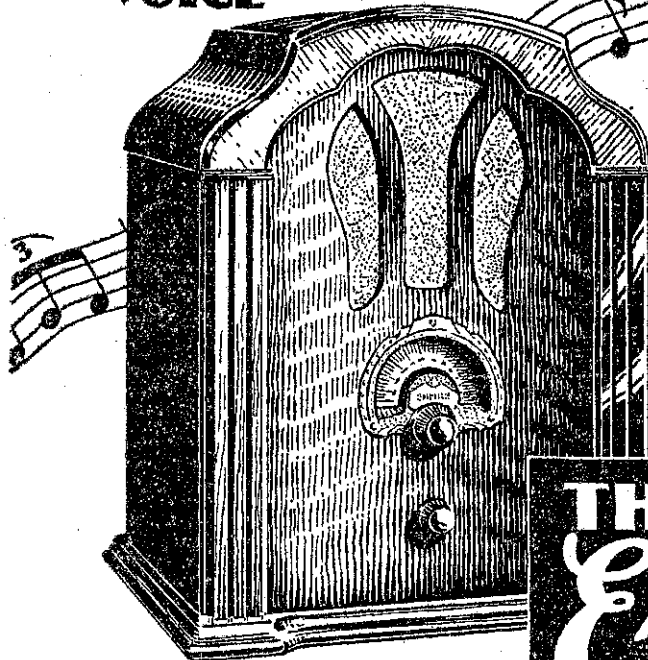


enlarge upon the work of this modest English composer, who shuns publicity as the plague, and never advertises.

ON June 30 Mr. Stuart Doyle, chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Co., which relinquished control of programme direction for the "A" stations in Australia on that date, spoke through the national network on behalf of his co-directors and himself, and thanked the 360,000 licencees for their indulgence during the past three years. Mr. Doyle said that they had made so many friends among listeners that they made way for the new commission with deep regret, but for those friends alone they could not but wish the Commission every success in their arduous task. Government control of many activities in Australia had not always been a happy success, but he trusted the new organisation would prove an exception. "Don't blame them for poor programmes throughout July," he said, "we made them." In tracing development during the preceding three years, mention was made of the formation of the nucleus of a national broadcasting orchestra, which did not reach full complement, owing solely to the company's unsecurity of tenure, and it was stated further that the company had been able to reduce copyright fees nearly 50 per cent., mainly through the efforts of Mr. Frank Albert. Although upon retiring the company could legitimately claim £45,000, in the interests of broadcasting they had decided to surrender all but £10,000. This statement brought very hearty applause. A very fine tribute was paid to the staffs of the stations, and in feelingly saying good-bye to their million listeners, Mr. Doyle said that he was not done with broadcasting, as it was the intention of his theatres, Union Theatres Ltd., to co-operate with the new Commission in every possible way to make broadcasting the national vehicle of entertainment.

On the following night the Australian Broadcasting Commission officially took over control, and the change was inaugurated by brief speeches by the Rt. Hon. Mr. Lyons, Prime Minister, from Canberra, the Rt. Hon. Mr. Scullin, from Melbourne, and Dr. Earle Page and Mr. Charles Lloyd Jones, the new chairman, from Sydney. All the parliamentary leaders stressed the view that broadcasting was essentially a national service, and Mr. Jones assured listeners that although great obstacles confronted his associates, they intended to improve programmes. In comparison with the B.B.C. with its four main, and five regional stations, and almost unlimited income, Australia's task was stupendous. "Nevertheless," he said, "we shall gradually improve the service until every Australian will have cause to be proud of his country's broadcasting." The principles of private enterprise will be adopted in the management, and New Zealand listeners will wish the Commission the success they themselves desire.

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