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the personality station



Joe L. Smith, Jr., Incorporated
Represented nationally by WEED TELEVISION



Grace Gibson

on all accounts

EL PASO-born Grace Gibson in 1934 went to Sydney, Australia, on a six-months contract. Now owner of Grace Gibson Radio Productions and managing director of BAP (British Australian Programs) Recording Studios, that city, she returns to the U. S. only once every two or three years.

A true pioneer in her field, Miss Gibson's first job was with Freeman Lang Studios, Hollywood recording division of Radio Transcription Co. of America.

In 1933, a cable from A. E. Bennett, then managing director of station 2GB Sydney, proffered that initial contract.

Once "Down Under," she formed America Radio Transcription Agencies (now known as Artransa Pty Ltd.), a subsidiary of 2GB. At the outbreak of the war in 1941, Miss Gibson returned to Hollywood as managing director of Radio Transcription Co. of America. In 1944 she went back to Sydney to marry Irishman Randal (Ronnie) Parr.

When Mr. Parr, serving with the Australian Imperial Forces, left for Borneo, she formed her present production firm, now the largest independent one of its kind in Australia.

Averaging 30 quarter-hours weekly, Miss Gibson's library contains over 6,000 masters. Some of the American scripts to which she has secured Australian and New Zealand rights are *Night Beat*, *Dragnet*, *Dr. Paul* and *Aunt Mary*. The "whodunits" are played American, but she believes her audiences derive more enjoyment from the "soap operas" when the settings are de-localized.

Her other programs, distributed to all English-speaking countries on a syndicated basis, are prepared by the firm's staff writers. Many in this category are adaptations of best-selling books, such as *Dinner at Antoine's*, *Frenchman's Creek*, and *Lady in the Lake*.

The outspoken Miss Gibson, long and advocate of tv for Australia, believes the added possibility of color may cause further delay.

But, not to be caught short, she has completed her pilot film in *Adventures of Al Munch*, half-hour tv series dealing with an American G. I. who remained in Australia after the war to become a private investigator.

She and her husband, now personnel manager of Consolidated Press, Sydney newspaper and magazine publishers, have an apartment overlooking the harbor in Elizabeth Bay section. While admitting cooking is her chief form of relaxation, Miss Gibson stamps herself a keen—but poor—golfer.