

Letters to the *RECORDINGS* Editor

Brief Query

SIR: Ffrr means what?

D. HOMER RICH.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Like SOS, FOB, and Always Buy Chesterfields, one had the notion that frr was universal in meaning and understanding. In any case, it is English Decca's trade term for describing its improved system of recording, meaning: full frequency range recording.

Standardization and RCA

SIR: Without seeing the new Victor gadget, I would like to ask them to put the classical recordings on 33 1/3 RPM on twelve-inch size for those of us who prefer complete works on one record, uninterrupted. Victor has good artists, but I will take the longer records. Go ahead and put the popular juke-box stuff on five-minute records. But do remember there are those of us who like the classical—uninterrupted.

MRS. FRANCIS HILL.

Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

SIR: As an enthusiastic record collector, may I comment on Mr. Murray's recent article in the *SRL*? It seems to me that RCA is making a deplorable step toward confusion and senseless competition in issuing the new disc and machine. I, for one, fail to note any advantages in it over Columbia's LP.

A. W. BENZEL.

Los Angeles, Calif.

SIR: I just wrote my penny's worth to Mr. Murray of RCA telling him he was "protesting too much." His company's coming out with a 45 rpm will make incumbent on us to buy a third turntable for my Capehart. Like hell I will! I will boycott RCA until it joins the enemy and puts out 33 1/3 discs also. . . . We can hold out a long time.

L. M. ENGELHARD.

La Crosse, Wis.

SIR: I wish to comment on your lead article of February. I realize that it is too early to draw any conclusions about RCA's new record. However, I have talked to dealers who have heard the new records and all seem to agree that all that has been accomplished is a greater fidelity than RCA had before. If this proves to be the case, I, as a consumer, am prepared to stick to my LP's and ignore RCA. It appears to me that Columbia has made a major contribution to the record industry and RCA is content to cry "sour grapes." Let me add this is the opinion of a large number of my friends.

RICHARD R. FITCH.

Chicago, Ill.

SIR: Can somebody tell me just what, of value, RCA Victor's latest contribution to the confusion of the record industry has to offer us? RCA may be congratulated on eliminating surface rub between records and turntable, but what is the advantage of RCA speed over Columbia LP speed? RCA playing time over LP? . . . As it stands today, RCA's invention has nothing to recommend purchasing it.

I invite your attention to these paragraphs from an editorial entitled "Too Laissez Faire," which appeared in the *Boston Herald*, January 14, 1949:

... "To the confusion of AM and FM radio, television and standard phonographs, the poor public must add two more complications. [EDITOR'S NOTE: This follows a discussion of the several speeds at which records must be played.] Grudgingly we admit it couldn't happen in Russia. . . . We wouldn't want a commissar for people's music over here. But any record company that makes the assembling of a music library more difficult and costly than it should be, will have to answer to public opinion."

W. PIERCE SHEPPARD.

Nashua, N. H.

SIR: I am writing this letter of protest to you in behalf of myself and my circle of friends, who are all music lovers and collectors of classical records. Why can't the record industry get together and cooperate so records can be standardized? Bulk and breakage have been the biggest bugaboos in our collecting lives. Therefore, it was with open arms that we accepted Columbia's wonderful transformation, the long playing record. . . . Thousands of people have spent money to be able to play both the long playing and standard records, and do you think the public will stand for a third way of playing records and a third turntable? Never, I say.

CHARLES KULLAWAY.

New York, N. Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *RECORDINGS* has made every effort to be impartial in its presentation of the first reactions to the question of "Standardization and RCA," according to established (as well as sound) journalistic practice. While these letters are no more than a sampling of those received, the fact is that they represent a unified viewpoint: no reader has, as yet, addressed to us a comment supporting the advantages of RCA's system, as expounded by Mr. Murray. We note, of course, that the device has not yet been widely demonstrated.

More on the 1,000 Club

SIR: I have watched with interest your December article and comments on the "1,000 Club." May I suggest as the first "demand" a return to the catalogue by Victor of all Friedrich Schorr recordings from "Meistersinger." Surely this would be a treat. Incidentally, we hope you continue your efforts for the record-buying "minorities."

CHARLES STEZ.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

SIR: While you're enlisting members for the "1,000 Club" why not a complete performance of "L'Amore dei Tre Re"? This, to my mind, is one of the greatest operas ever written and deserves representation on discs.

MAE MILLER.

New Orleans, La.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A recording of "L'Amore" with a proper cast would be highly desirable. However, as the Metropolitan production of this year suggested, a "proper cast" is no easy matter to find. We might suggest it to our Italian friends as an enterprise they could properly manage better than domestic companies. Assuming that the Schorr masters are in reasonable condition, they should certainly be in the catalogue. Period.

RECORD MART

RECORD MART is designed to provide a bulletin board on which may be posted buyers' or sellers' notice of anything odd, unusual, rare, or out of print on discs or the accessories thereto. Individuals as well as dealers may submit their offerings of duplicated discs, rare labels, old acoustics, society sets, private issues, or withdrawn items, albums, needles, record brushes, or the like. Rate: 25¢ per

word; 12-word minimum. Count two extra words for box and number. Full payment must be received fifteen days before publication. We forward all mail received in answer to box numbers and submit postage bills periodically. Mail to be called for at this office will be held thirty days only. Address: RECORD MART, The Saturday Review, 25 West 45 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

25% Discount off our former prices on out-of-print recordings. AMERICAN COLLECTORS' EXCHANGE, 1329 Sixth Ave., N.Y.C. 19. Open after 4:30 P.M.

TAPE RECORDER: Soundmirror BK 401, Hi-fidelity, 12 rolls tape, \$110. Also German Linguaphone, \$25. Box 979-D.

TRADE IN YOUR SHELLAC RECORDS FOR LP'S. at "LES DISCOPILES." Also amazing finds in MONTEVERDI to BACH Periods; Anthology of Early Italian Clavier Music (A. SCARLATTI, GALUPPI, CIMAROSA) Vera Franceschi, Clav. CETRA 13 6.26 Anthology of XVI Century Polyphonic Motets (PALESTRINA, VITTORIA, LASSUS, Des PRES etc.) Greg. Choir. \$8.75. Also the following at LIST Price SCHUMANN: Piano Concerto, Myra Hess M473, \$6.00. SCHONBERG: Gurre Lieder. VERDI: Aida, GIGILI! CANIGLIA! STIGNANI! at amazing 1/2 Price: \$28.25! Write! Call! Phone! "LES DISCOPILES" 1079 Lexington Ave. (at 76th Street) NY 21, NY. One flight up. Open Eves., RH 4-9294.

REPLACEMENT RECORDS: If you have a broken record in a current Victor album Write to me: REPLACEMENT MAN, P. O. Box 105, Washington Bridge Station, New York 33.

FOR SALE: Old Grand Opera in excellent condition. Tenor solo in German. (Kerr Knot) Edison's No. B. L. (Hochstes Vertrauen, Lohengrin) Bids received. Box 939-D.

BEETHOVEN: Cello Sonata in G. Minor, Op. 5 #2 (Casals & Horowitz) HMV—\$7.86. ELAINE MUSIC SHOP, 9 E. 44 Street, N.Y.C. 17.

89¢ SALE—Classical Records and Sets. Bargains, record rarities, headquarters for RS Historical Recordings. CLASSICAL RECORD SHOP, 825 Seventh Ave., N.Y.C.

DETROIT AND MICHIGAN record collectors. For the most complete classical library in this area visit or call CAMPUS RECORD SHOP. Also a large selection of HMV, Parlophone, and English Decca records. We mail anywhere. CAMPUS RECORD SHOP, 6314 W. McNichols at Livernois. UNIVERSITY 1-8012. Detroit 21, Michigan. Open evenings.

CUSTOM BUILT PHOTOGRAPHS. The kind of reproduction you have never heard before. There is no comparison with commercial machines. Radio-Phono Combinations, Records, Television, etc. ULRIC J. CHILDS, 1601 First Ave., N.Y.C., corner 83 St., N.Y.C. TRafalgar 9-8290.

SPECIALIZED SERVICE CATERING to collectors of vocal records. Cutouts available. State "wants." RECORD COLLECTOR'S SERVICE, 502 East 88 St., N.Y.C. 18. REgent 7-7611.

MANUAL TYPE ALBUMS. Hundreds. Save 1/3. Catalogue 10¢. BARROW MUSIC SHOP, Great Neck, N. Y.

Records Over the Nation

A Dealer Survey of Top Record Sellers

City and Store	Popular Singles	Popular Albums	Classical Singles	Classical Albums
BERKELEY, CALIF. (Berkeley Music House)	I've Got My Love (C)	Rumba with Cugat (C-LP)	Fauré Pavane (C)	Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4 (C-LP)
BIRMINGHAM (Stairway to Music)	Buttons and Bows (C)	Dorothy Shay (C)	Gypsy Airs (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
BOSTON (Boston Music Co.)	I've Got My Love (C)	Vaughn Monroe (RCA)	Fauré Pavane (C)	Prokofieff Classical Symphony (RCA)
CINCINNATI (Steinbergs, Inc.)	Far Away Places (RCA)	Roses in Rhythm (C)	Romeo-Bjoerling (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
DALLAS (The Record Shop)	A Little Bird (D)	Words and Music (MGM)	Dream of Olwen (C)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
(Whittle Music Co.)	Buttons and Bows (C)	Perfume Set to Music (RCA)	Bluebird of Happiness (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
DENVER (Knight-Campbell)	Far Away Places (D)	Giants of Jazz (Cap)	Bluebird of Happiness (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
DETROIT (Campus Record Shop)	A Little Bird (D)	Previn Plays (RCA)	Vespri Siciliani Overture (HMV)	Haydn No. 94 (RCA)
(Doubleday Book Shops)	Powder Your Face (D)	I Can Hear It Now (C)	Clair de Lune (RCA)	Chopin Nocturnes (RCA)
(Grinnell Bros.)	A Little Bird (D)	Words and Music (MGM)	Clair de Lune (RCA)	Chopin Favorites (RCA)
KANSAS CITY (Jenkins Music Co.)	Far Away Places (RCA)	Valentine's Day (D)	Gypsy Airs (RCA)	Piano Quartet Encores (RCA)
MEMPHIS (Words and Music)	A Little Bird (D)	Roses in Rhythm (C)	Clair de Lune (RCA)	Chopin Preludes (RCA)
MINNEAPOLIS (Don Leary's, Inc.)	Cruising Down the River (MGM)	Hits from the Hills (RCA)	Clair de Lune (RCA)	Nutcracker Suite (C)
NASHVILLE (MU Sound System)	A Little Bird (D)	New Moon (RCA)	2nd Hungarian Rhapsody (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
NEW ORLEANS (Van Husen Music Co.)	A Little Bird (D)	Vagabond King (RCA)	Nessun Dorma (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
NEW YORK (Doubleday Book Shops)	A Little Bird (D)	I Can Hear It Now (C)	Fauré Pavane (C)	Pictures at an Exhibition (RCA)
(Dynamic Electronics)	Galway Bay (D)	Rumba with Cugat (C-LP)	Thais-Duet (RCA)	Emperor Concerto (C-LP)
(Haynes Griffin)	Cruising Down the River (MGM)	Vaughn Monroe (RCA)	Manon-Bjoerling (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
(Heins & Bolet)	So in Love (C)	Kiss Me, Kate (C)	Buxtehude Cantata (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
(Liberty Music Shops)	Buttons and Bows (C)	Kiss Me, Kate (C)	Bachianas (C)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
(Rabson's)		Previn Plays (RCA)	Buxtehude Cantata (RCA)	Chopin Preludes (RCA)
OMAHA (Lyon & Healy, Inc.)	A Little Bird (D)	Edith Piaf (C)	Warsaw Concerto (C)	Grieg Concerto (C)
PHILADELPHIA (Jacobs Bros.)	A Little Bird (D)	Perfume Set to Music (RCA)	Fauré Pavane (C)	Mozart Concerto No. 15 (EDA)
(The Record Shop)	Again (L)	Allegro (RCA)	Bachianas (C)	Scarlatti Sonatas (RCA)
PITTSBURGH (National Record Mart)	I've Got My Love (C)	Al Jolson (D)	Jalousie (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
PORTLAND, ORE. (Sherman Clay & Co.)	Buttons and Bows (C)	Roses in Rhythm (C)	Clair de Lune (RCA)	I Can Hear It Now (C)
ST. LOUIS (Doubleday Book Shops)	Buttons and Bows (C)	I Can Hear It Now (C)	Fauré Pavane (C)	Beethoven Violin Concerto (RCA)
WASHINGTON, D. C. (Brenlano's)	Powder Your Face (D)	Captain from Castile (M)	Bachianas (C)	I Can Hear It Now (C)

Compiled as of February 10, 1949.

Key: C—Columbia C-LP—Columbia Long Playing Cap—Capitol D—Decca EDA—English Decca HMV—His Master's Voice L—London M—Mercury RCA—Victor

Leaders: It has been a month of coasting with old favorites. Dinah Shore's "Buttons and Bows" (now in its fourth month of popularity) is tied with Evelyn Knight's rendition of "A Little Bird Told Me." No strong trend is evident among popular albums, but the two appearances of "Kiss Me, Kate" within a week of its release can be taken as significant. French tastes dominate the classical single category, Fauré's "Pavane" and Debussy's "Clair de Lune" each accounting for five entries. Enthusiasm for recorded history continues unabated, sixteen stores reporting "I Can Hear It Now" this month.



ISRAEL MUSIC FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES:

OLIN DOWNES

Voted Music Critic and Author

1. MOSHE DAVIS

Program Editor "Eternal Light," NBC

1. NELSON GLUECK

President Hebrew Union College; Jewish Institute of Religion

1. EMANUEL NEUMANN,

President, Zionist Organization of America

ITZ REINER

Distinguished Conductor

LADYS SWARTHOUT

Metropolitan Opera Star

EEMS TAYLOR

Renowned Critic and Composer

LAWRENCE TIBBETT

Metropolitan Opera Star

Under the guidance of this board of Trustees, the foundation will strive to build a musical bridge between Israel and the U.S.A. will foster a nationwide audience for the new talents of Israel and sponsor exchange scholarships for students of Israeli music in both lands.



REPERTOIRE ADVISORY BOARD

A. W. Binder

Harry Coopersmith

Mordecai Dayan

Gershon Ephros

Milton Feist

Max Helfman

Frederick Jacobi

Siegfried Landau

Samuel Rosowsky

Zavel Zilberts



Recordings that will thrill you!

"... fascinating for their originality, sincerity and distinction of their workmanship"

OLIN DOWNES, Distinguished Music Critic and Author

"... the most memorable discs I have heard in many a year. Gems of sheer loveliness"

DAVID HALL, Noted Authority on Recorded Music.

Within the borders of that tiny nation, beset with birth pains and the problems of self-preservation, music is flowering.

It comes from the workers and warriors. It comes from artists and composers. It comes from pioneers whose devotion has made the desert blossom and from pilgrims whose talents miraculously survived the charnel houses of Europe.

The travail and the triumphs of an heroic people have been distilled in music that is earning the plaudits of some of the world's foremost conductors. Even in this flaming hour of history, it is finding imperishable expression in a series of notable recordings made in the very shadows of Israeli battlefields.

These exclusive recordings, forerunner of a truly

significant program, are brought to this country by the ISRAEL MUSIC FOUNDATION. Pressed on high fidelity, unbreakable Vinylite, and presented in beautifully designed, multi-colored albums, they will give you and your family many hours of matchless pleasure.

The Foundation's 1949 schedule provides for the release of six albums, described herein. These albums are offered individually at \$5.00 each, or by annual subscription at \$25.00 for the six albums—the first album coming to the subscriber as a bonus.

This historic offer provides you with an opportunity to make a distinctive gift; one that will be treasured by any music lover and appreciated by religious groups, schools and cultural organizations.

These albums available NOW:

LAND OF ISRAEL: Three 10" Vinylite Records. Six selections—Jerusalem, Emek, Song of the Negev, Kinneret, Chanita and Horah Rhapsody. Price \$5.00

SONGS OF THE DEFENDERS OF ISRAEL: Three 10" Vinylite Records. Six selections—March of the Haganah, Song of Palmach, Tel Chai, The Oath, Anachnu and Homeland. Price \$5.00

1949 Subscription Series:

LAND OF ISRAEL—Gift Album—Immediate Delivery

SONGS OF THE DEFENDERS OF ISRAEL—February

SONGS OF HOPE—April

ONEG SHABBAT (Sabbath Delight)—June

ISRAELI FOLK DANCES—Sept.

HANNA ROVINA (Songs and Dramatic Readings)—November

Each album contains three 10" unbreakable, Vinylite records. Translations and transliterations of all Hebraic vocal selections are included. Recordings are made in ISRAEL—exclusively for ISRAEL MUSIC FOUNDATION—by the outstanding musical groups and soloists of the nation. They include THE ISRAEL FOLK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, THE ISRAEL NATIONAL OPERA AND

CHORUS (150 Voices), HAGANAH MEN'S QUARTET, and the TEL AVIV WORKERS CHORUS • Musical Director, Marc Lavry • Conductors, Israel Brandman, Marc Galinkin, Shlomo Kaplan and Itzhak Markovetsky • Solo Artists, Annette Brunn, Zipora Cohen, Edis De Philippe, Paolo Garin, Paamoni, Josef Pollak, Hanna Rovina, Yoseta Shacken, Abraham Vilkomirsky and others.

New York

ISRAEL MUSIC



FOUNDATION

Tel Aviv



ISRAEL MUSIC FOUNDATION, 11 West 42nd Street, New York 18, N. Y.

*Please Use This Coupon to Assure Early Delivery

**Check Purchase Plan You Prefer

☐ Please enroll me as a subscriber to your 1949 Series. My pre-payment of \$25.00 here-with enclosed, covers all charges and taxes and entitles me to the three-record album, "LAND OF ISRAEL" as a gift, plus the 5 additional albums above scheduled.

OR please send me

☐ "LAND OF ISRAEL"

☐ "SONGS OF THE DEFENDERS OF ISRAEL"

My check for \$.....is enclosed. (\$5.00 per album, price complete)

Name (Please Print).....

Street and No.....

City.....State.....

Albums returnable within five days for full cash refund if not completely satisfied. SRL-1