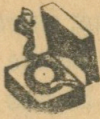
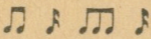


*Directors*

THE STAR:

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Music In The Groove



By PAUL H. LITTLE

The hi-fi show at the Palmer House provided a valuable annual reference for the music loving public on the tremendous electronic advances made by components manufacturers towards the singleminded goal of furnishing us with better listening at lower cost. When we think of Dr. Peter Goldmark who initiated the long-playing disc for Columbia in 1948, and play some of those first discs now on modern equipment and then the lps issued today, the advance is all the more noticeable. Hiss, hum, scratch, excessive shrillness and reverberant bass are by now consigned to the limbo which befits them. In their place has come a realism which needs only your own listening to assure you that no advertising copy writer's glib phrases are being accepted for the reality and accuracy of hi-fi sound.

We observed several outstanding developments at the show which we pass on to STAR readers who are investigating the hi-fi market for the first time or seeking better equipment. We take this opportunity also to pay tribute to Paul W. Klipsch, of Klipsch associates, Hope, Ark., a pioneer speaker system inventor whose labors toward unadulterated, natural sound total more than a score of years and only now is being nationally received as merited. He has long maintained that the trend to huge-powered amplifiers and monstrous speaker enclosures bordered on the nonsensical. His own superb Klipschorn, rated by experts as one of the five finest in the world, will reproduce full orchestra volume at a scant two watts of clean power, and a ten-watt amplifier of good quality will be quite sufficient in your living room.

Klipsch realized that the exponential horn yields the widest range of sonics and projects it without distortion, given proper components and setting. Hitherto, the true horn took on massive size. But a system like his splendid three-way Shorthorn Model T, which utilizes a 15-inch driver and is cleanly balanced at bass, mid-range and treble, is compact enough to put in a modest corner with a table-model TV atop it. It utilizes the walls of that corner to project sound out to your ears, and is remarkably efficient. Though it rates with the finest available, its cost is just under \$430. Moreover, you can purchase do-it-yourself kits and build this system, granted only moderate skill in woodwork and wiring, for far less.