

SOME RECENT MUSIC

(Continued from previous page)

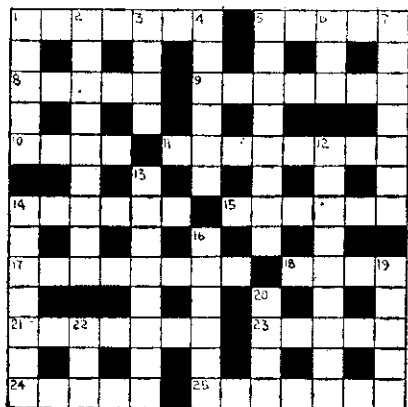
I may be wrong, but I suspected that the recording was "stunted" to this extent, that the soloist played certain passages very close to the microphone in order to dominate the tonal scene. This "spotlighting" can well be done within reasonable limits but at one moment in the Prokofieff concerto I found myself wondering whether I was hearing a perfectly synchronous pizzicato from the orchestral violins or whether it was the soloist very close to the microphone.

Once you looked to Kreisler for a lyrical performance, Menuhin for vigour, and Szigeti for fastidiousness. But this sort of effect savours of certain devices in modern popular music which could not exist without the microphone — the technique of crooners, the Comedy Harmonists, and the Mills Brothers. They would be lost, without the microphone and amplifier. But Prokofieff's music is intended to be heard acoustically, surely, and an electrical reproduction should approximate to the acoustical reality.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(No. 95)

(Constructed by R.W.C.)



Clues Across

1. Urgent.
5. Apart from a fool.
8. The reverse of a leper.
9. With water he can encircle.
10. Animal found in 1 down.
11. Great din (anag.).
14. Epithet applied to Dean Inge.
15. I'd lost, but remained unmoved.
17. If you're this you'll possibly be a long time falling 16 down.
18. Mimics.
21. Cartilage.
23. Order proclaimed by authority.
24. Three dimensional body found in 15 across.
25. Model—or pagan?

Clues Down

1. Confused heart.
5. Pious Emir may be domineering.
8. Else in a fishy form.
9. Cheaply showy..
10. Need coat (anag.).
11. Not at home.
12. Worried.
13. Overshadowing.
14. Imitated a male duet?
15. Age in rags (anag.).
16. Please (anag.).
19. This material is arranged to conceal a stain.
20. This rent is found in both 1 down and 9 across.
22. Not at all well.

(The solution to Crossword No. 94 was published last week)

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