

very beautifully. The 'cello sonata, on the other side, suffers the fate of so many 'cello sonatas, that the string instrument has a hard job sometimes to keep its head above water. When it does rise about the piano—and the other occasions are no fault of the pianist—the effect is very ingratiating. The Piano Quintet is well played by the Pascal Quartet and Ray Lev, pianist (Nixa CLP 1093), but it is a work which I have never been able to find other than dull, being in the way of much ado about nothing.

For chamber music, however, you do not need to stop at Fauré. There is the Pascal Quartet's Beethoven, Op. 130 (Nixa CLP 1210), beautifully played but not so beautifully recorded, being inclined to shrillness; a String Quartet by Milhaud, with *La Oracion del Torero*, by Turina, on the reverse side, both played by the WQXR Quartet (Nixa QLP 4004); and two Mozart String Quartets—K.168 in F and K.458 in B Flat (*The Hunt*), played by the Griller Quartet (Decca LXT 2728). The WQXR Quartet is an ensemble attached to the American radio station WQXR, for whose programmes it has played since 1947. The Milhaud work may surprise you by its easy listening. The WQXR Quartet plays it with understanding and loving care. As for the Griller Quartet, if you liked them on the concert platform, you will most certainly want to acquire this disc.

Of course, if you will wish to share an opera with the tropical fish, there is *Tosca*, with Renata Tebaldi as *Tosca*, and the Chorus and Orchestra of the Accademia di Santa Cecilia, Rome, conducted by Alberto Erede (Decca LXT 2730/31). This is magnificent theatre even without the stage trappings, and this is a grand performance.

Coda

A brief note about sheer beauty—two pianists and a singer. Much has already been written about the sensuous pianism of Dinu Lipatti. Suffice to add then that his playing of the Chopin waltzes is now available on LP (Columbia 33CX1032). Robert Goldsand presents a disc of Schubert—Sonata in A Major, Op. 120, and Moments Musicaux, Op. 94 (Nixa CLP 1148). Goldsand never plays to the gallery, never sacrifices musicianship to virtuosity. His Schubert has warmth and sentiment, but not sentimentality; and this is as it should be. And then there is Kathleen Ferrier in a recital of Bach and Handel Arias, with Sir Adrian Boult and the London Philharmonic Orchestra (Decca LXT 2757). This is Kathleen Ferrier remembered at her best.

December Choice

KATHLEEN FERRIER: A Recital of Bach and Handel Arias. . . Incomparable singing (Decca LXT 2757).

THE GRILLER QUARTET: Mozart Quartets—K.168 in F and K.458 in B Flat. . . The quintessence of chamber music (Decca LXT 2728).

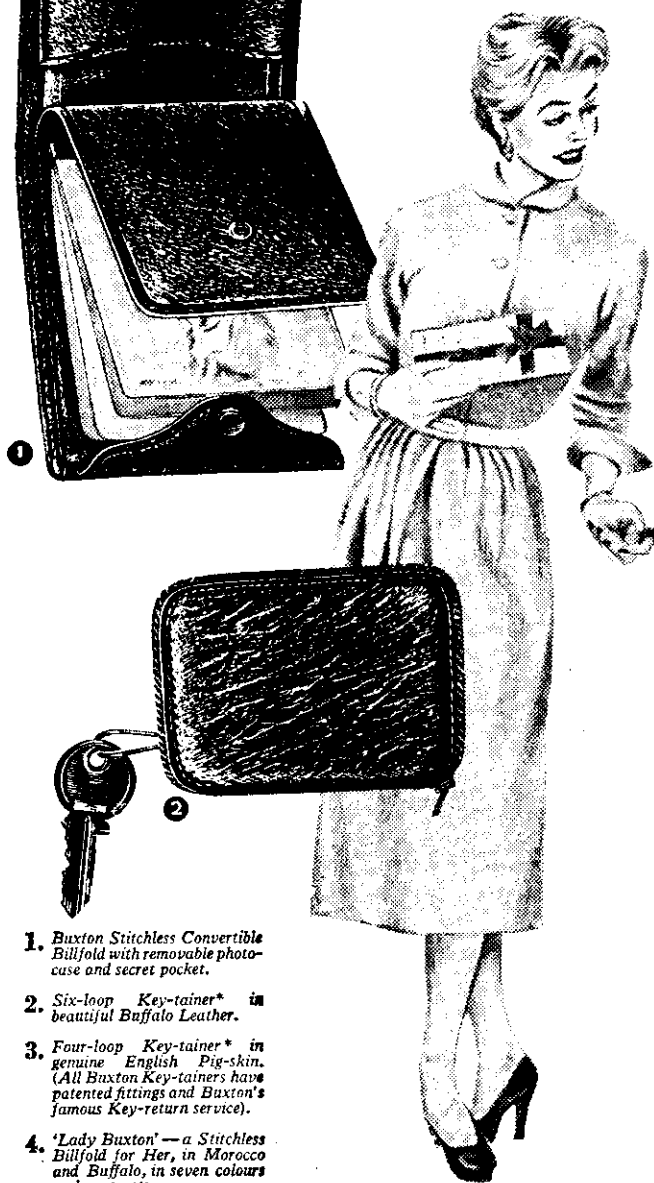
ROBERT GOLDSAND: Schubert—Sonata in A Major, Op. 120, and Moments Musicaux, Op. 94. Piano playing as an art (Nixa CLP 1148).

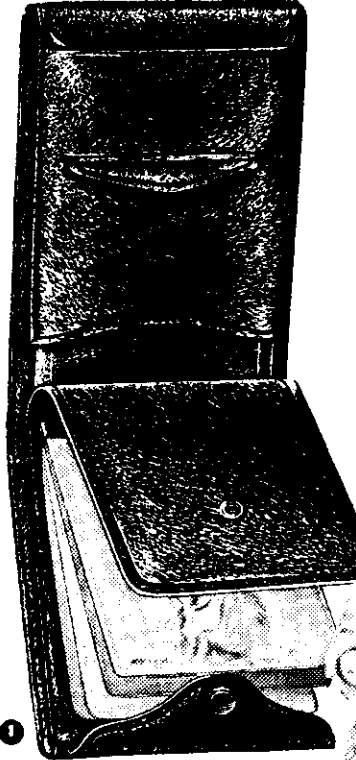
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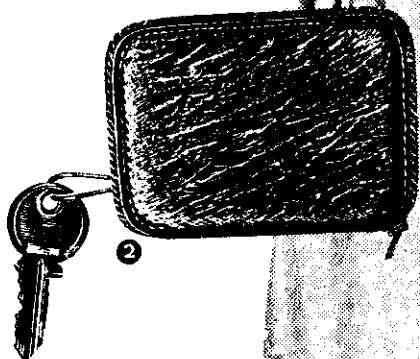


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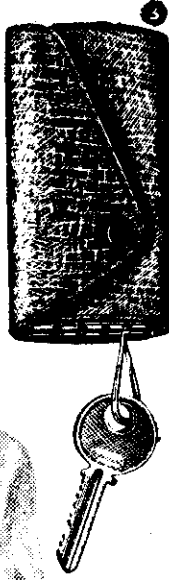




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