

TECHNICAL REPORTS

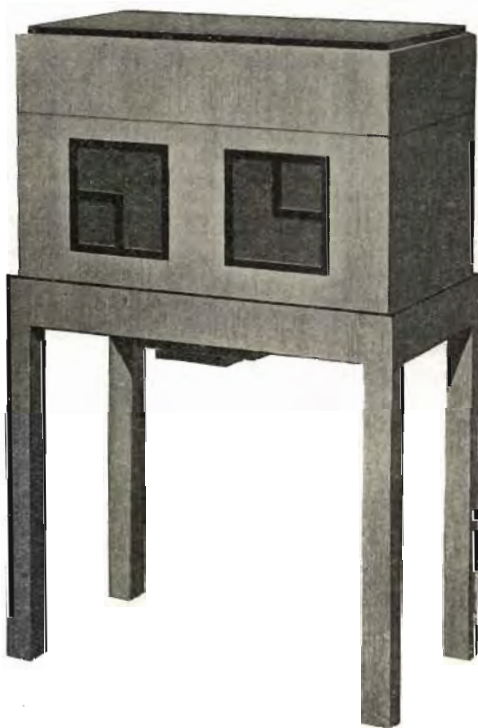
The "Expert" Audio-Player Price £16 10s.

With the exception of a portable or two, it is some years since we were confronted with the testing of an internal horn gramophone.

That there is still a demand for this type of instrument is signified by the fact that the latest development comes from one who pioneered the external horn gramophone. Frankly, we were somewhat sceptical at first about this new move of Mr. Ginn's; it seemed as though he, of all manufacturers, was taking a retrograde step. The experimental model we heard (which, by the way, was not intended for our ears) seemed to show, at that time, that our scepticism was well-founded. As things have turned out, it was ill-founded. Pertinacity and careful experiment have completely transformed that first instrument.

A few moments' listening to the final model was all that was required to convert us. It would be futile for us to assert that it has the range of the larger Expert external horn instruments, but within the limits of the acoustic system employed the Audio-Player certainly gives exquisite quality. In particular there is rather more bass than we anticipated. The upper register compares most favourably with even the Expert Senior, and we have no doubt that this register could be still further extended by careful adjustments to the sound-box. With a gramophone of this kind, however, tonal balance is an all-important factor and for our own tastes we prefer it as it is. There is a forwardness, delicacy and smoothness of tone that we have never heard before from any table type gramophone; and that first half-inch of H.M.V. DB1317 put our minds at rest as regards the upper reaches of the treble register. The high sustained note was there all right and in satisfactory proportion to the rest of the instruments. We are satisfied, too, that the bass register is exploited to the last degree: piano tone, for example, is surprisingly broad, and depth is most delicately suggested. Vocals and chamber music, however, are the *forte* of this gramophone: hear Elisabeth Schumann or Gigli or the Léner Quartette, or the new Cortot discs of *Chopin Ballades*; they are beautifully reproduced, warm and colourful without any semblance of that dry sort of quality one was accustomed to hear from the earlier acoustic internal horn gramophones.

Another valuable feature of the Audio-Player is the almost uncanny absence of directional effect. Even when listening from a position in the same plane as the front of the cabinet—



i.e., 90° off the axis of the horn mouth—there is no appreciable loss of tone or detail.

About the mechanical side we need only say that a double-channel horn is used and that with the exception of the sound-box all other component parts are identical with those incorporated in the Expert external horn instruments. Workmanship is of an exceptionally high standard and the illustration speaks for itself as regards appearance.

The Marconiphone Receiver, Model 262 Price 12 guineas

Specification.

Oscillator and First Detector :—Marconi MS4B Valve.

I. F. Stage :—Marconi VMS4 Valve.

Second Detector and First L. F. :—Marconi MH4 Valve.

Output Stage :—Marconi MPT4 Valve.

Rectifier :—Marconi U12 Valve.

L. F. Coupling :—Auto-Transformer.

Loudspeaker :—Electro-Magnet M.C.

Speaker Coupling :—Transformer.

Wavelength Range :—200-550 and 1,000-2,000 metres.

Voltage Range :—200-250 A.C.; 50-60 cycles.

Consumption :—60 watts (approx.).

Tone Control, Mains Aerial and Provision for Pick-up and Auxiliary Speakers.

There seems to be no limit to the capabilities of the Hayes factories and the denizens thereof. Take the products of the last three years, for example, and note the gradual decrease in prices, and inversely, the tendency to give better and better value both as regards the efficiency of the chassis and component parts of the instruments produced and the design and the quality of the "clothes" they are dressed in.

This handsome little instrument is really excellent value; one only need make a cursory inspection of it and a quick run over the tuning scales and controls to verify that. Without an earth connection and with only the mains aerial at least a dozen programmes are obtainable. Thus, one is assured of complete transportability. An outside aerial and a good earth, on the other hand, is productive of a log representing the majority of all the worth-while European transmitters. The selectivity is well up to the average for this type of circuit, and although there are one or two whistles indicative of second channel interference, they are mostly confined to the



long waveband and are not obtrusive enough to be distracting. Background noises, including hum, are commendably low. The quality of the reproduction is largely governed by the setting of the tone-control, and for our own part we prefer almost the maximum high note setting. Then at normal volume levels the balance between bass, quasi-bass and treble is very good indeed: the tone is vivacious without becoming raucous, and instrumental detail and the

articulation in vocals and speech is adequately rendered.

Maximum volume levels, on the other hand, are productive of an excess of bass which is augmented to a certain extent by sympathetic cabinet resonance. There are few occasions, however, when the full power available will be needed.

Supremacy!

LIKE the "Expert" Gramophone, the "Expert" Sound Box is **L**equally supreme.

No matter the make of your gramophone, its size, its price, or its age, an "Expert" Hand-made Sound Box will effect an immediate and lasting improvement in its "Results."

Each Sound Box is made, tuned, tested, and passed under the personal supervision of Mr. D. Phillips, whose experience, advice, and assistance is at the service of every owner or prospective owner of an "Expert" Sound Box.

If you use Fibre needles an "Expert" Sound Box is an absolute necessity. If you use Steel needles an "Expert" Sound Box is a real luxury, and will save your Records.

There are three separate and distinct types of "Expert" Sound Boxes:

The "Expert" STANDARD

The "Expert" Standard Hand-made Sound Box is specially built for use with all types of portables and small gramophones with a horn capacity not exceeding 6 feet in length. For use with Fibre needles only.

35/-

The "Expert" SPECIAL

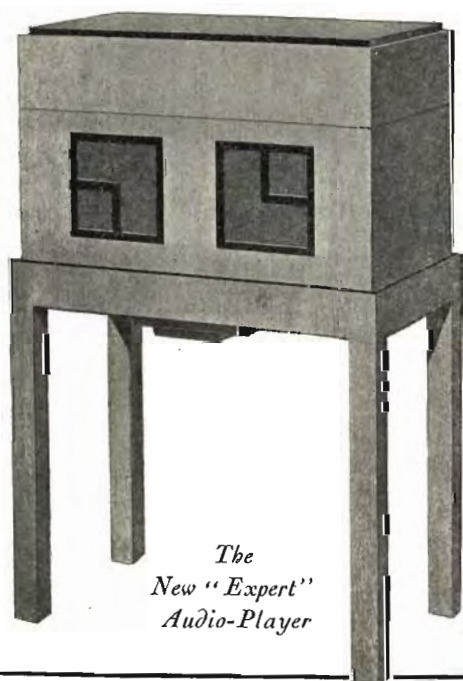
The "Expert" Special Hand-made Sound Box is expressly built for all gramophones having large horns—exterior or interior. For use with Fibre needles only.

65/-

The "Expert" STEEL

The "Expert" Steel Hand-made Sound Box is specially designed for all gramophone-users of steel needles. It is tuned to give better tone quality and definitely reduces record wear to a minimum. For all types of machines.

35/-



Listen!

If you contemplate the purchase of a gramophone, it is to your advantage to hear every reputable make—do this, then call and listen to my "Expert" models! You will then better realise the subtle difference and appreciate its magnitude!

The "Expert" Senior and Junior models are now fitted with the new Dynamic Sound Box. Prices range from £12 10s. The New "Expert" Audio-Player (illustrated) has astonished the critics—the only interior horn gramophone that is positively non-directional. Prices from £16 10s. Deferred payments can be arranged privately and without embarrassment.