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Tape stands as the potentially best medium for sound reproduction. As the prime recording medium from which other media are derived, it is less removed from the original source. Tape life far exceeds that of other media.

The advantages of tape are to be had if one observes certain precautions.

"Sound Talk", a bulletin from Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, St. Paul 6, Minnesota, makers of "Scotch" Brand recording tape, No. 38, August 15, 1960, discussed "tail out" storage of tapes (this was the subject of our DOPE FROM HOPE, Vol. 2, No. 3, 20 March 1961) and Bulletin 19 Revised (undated) mentions storing in protective containers; avoidance of magnetic field (avoid cabinets with magnetic door latches!); play the tapes to relieve strains and adhesions; wind tape at rather low tension and smoothly, preferably at playing speed; store at room temperature (60° - 80° F) and normal humidity (40 - 60 percent); prior to playing tape stored other than above permit it to return to equilibrium by storage for 24 hours at proper temperature and humidity.

The above points are discussed in detail in the above mentioned Bulletin; anyone owning valuable tapes would do well to order the said Bulletins.