

TABLE TENNIS

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THE OFFICIAL
ORGAN OF THE

ENGLISH
TENNIS



TABLE
ASSOCIATION

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Vol. III

No. 5

FEBRUARY, 1938

WJ

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TABLE TENNIS

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VOLUME III. No. 5

FEBRUARY, 1938

THREE PENCE

THE TELEPHONE RANG IT ALSO STOPPED, BUT OUR WORK ALWAYS WENT ON

I KNOW what people are going to say before they say it, that is, when they have read this issue of the magazine. So the only thing is to get the official word in before the letters come pouring into the office complaining bitterly that the official magazine of the E.T.T.A. hasn't given reports of the world championships, while every paper in the country has been dashing round covering "news stories" and special reports of the play.

In the first place the magazine pages had to be away on Monday, January 24 (the first day of the championships), in order that we could fulfil delivery contracts.

Few players or readers will comprehend the terrific organisation behind the promoting of the world championships, the English championships, the provision of material for the programme and, of course, getting out the magazine. It all came at once.

* * *

I ONLY wish people could have been in the office. Everything was upside down. Indeed, our voluntary staff could well have done with half the Albert Hall in order to get out all those circulars, instead of the modest two rooms at Featherstone House.

Last Wednesday (last week prior to the Albert Hall) we were all busy working on the hotel accommodation for the foreigners, the magazine, the programme and means of meeting the foreign teams. The telephone went out of order.

The outside workers couldn't get in touch with the inside workers, and Les Forrest and Mrs. Carrington were nearly run off their feet. After last week I think Mrs. Carrington has the qualifications almost of a saint, and Les Forrest the patience of Job.

Perhaps you think it was grand fun to be on the inside. Ask Bill Pope, who has been working all the hours of the day, ask George Decker, who has been getting out the roneo press bulletins, ask J. M. Rose, who spent a day locked on his own in the office working out the draw and our lady friends who sent out invitations to the press, foreign representatives, officials and players.

WHEN I think of the work done, I wonder that any world championships took place at all. A telephone is a blessing at times. But I rather think we

were all relieved when it broke down, because then there was a respite from the calls from newspaper offices and photographic agencies asking who was playing, and when such and such a team arrived.

THE office has been in chaos, and we have all worked in a dream for the past fortnight. Some of the officials have slept, but others haven't had the time. Spare a thought for Bill Pope, who comes from Beaconsfield every day, and manages to do his own job in the meantime.

There have been press luncheons and the annual reception to attend to, there have been callers every minute of the day for tickets. Ten thousand times during the week we must have explained over the telephone that the seats for Wembley had all been sold. Imagine the chagrin then, when someone rang up and asked if there was a table tennis match at Wembley on January 29. Oh, yes, that is genuine, and there were many more just as futile.

* * *

JUST as a little side-line the tournament officials had to find interpreters for peoples from more than twenty nations and try and fix countries that understood each other's language in the same hotels. It has been a nightmare, meeting players, taking others to their hotels, showing others the routes to the clubs who graciously granted them training facilities, and always, always answering that telephone. I think I heard it ringing in my sleep.

But like every other job the E.T.T.A. ever tackled it went off well. The publicity arrangements, tickets, hotels, hospitality, referees, officials, lighting and tables, the reception all seemed jumbled together at the time, but straightened out at the end.

Now we can all sit back and think what a fine job of work has been done and thank northern officials for their wonderful co-operation in the matter of the national championships.

J. W. A. C.

Irish Team Highlights

BY the time these notes are read the Irish team will have returned home from the World's Championships.

The form and style of all the team are well known to most people, but here are just a few who have not yet made, as the Americans would say—Headlines.

M. O'Brien, the Leinster No. 3, is very stylish, but lacks that extra concentration. He has beaten amongst others H. Collins (Carlisle). One of the most promising recruits to senior tennis this season is C. Colter, of Optimists and Phoenix; already he has beaten such experienced opponents as H. Collins, R. Hussey and W. Pemberton.

Paul Read, our juvenile champion, who also holds the Irish junior lawn tennis title, is playing splendidly for Anglesea. He has a grand attacking style and promises to go far.

Fred Duncan (Indpt. S. C.) is improving with each game, and is well equipped with attacking strokes; it is a pity that his defence is not the same standard. Duncan is the type who would show improvement with coaching.

W. KELLY (Bray) is showing consistently good form, but inclined to concentrate too much on defence, leaving himself very little room for improvement.

The following will in all probability come well to the fore during the next couple of seasons:—D. Kieran (Pioneers), G. Robbins (Mount Pleasant), B. Doherty (Paramount and Norwood), R. Stack (Black Rock), Miss E. Prescott (Mount Pleasant) and Miss B. Heron (Norwood).

Manchester Y.M.C.A. find another Young Star

Lurie takes revenge from Filby, but loses to brilliant Viktor Barna; the Hungarian Ace still has "a little something extra"

BY SYDNEY W. RICHARDSON

PHEW! what a crowd. I have never seen such a packed room as the large Y.M.C.A. gymnasium was on the occasion of the North of England open championship finals on Saturday night, January 8.

The officials must have been pleased, but I think the players found it a bit hot. The crowd had their money's worth however. They saw Viktor Barna in dazzling form, they cheered his shots until the roof nearly went up, while they were just as appreciative at many of our players' displays.

Here is the story in a nutshell. Friday night arrived for the local rounds to be decided to make way for Saturday's big day with its record entry, as regards talent and representation was concerned. Friday night is usually dull with the internationals winning their way through, but not so this time. The cause of the trouble was 18-year-old Dennis Etter of the Manchester Y.M.C.A. How this club find these shock players so regularly is amazing.

FIVE years ago, when I was at the Y.M.C.A. camp at Abergelle, Dennis Etter used to ask me to show him how to hold the racket, how to play certain strokes, &c. He was a complete novice.

He played a little at the Y.M.C.A., but on leaving school he went to Belgium, and later to Switzerland, where he is now studying.

Dennis should have returned to Switzerland on Saturday, January 8, but as he found himself still in the events he had to delay his departure a day longer.

He met G. H. Jones in the first round, and Jones is a difficult player to beat. But out went Jones.

Then Etter met B. Casofsky, recent addition to England's internationals, and considered by many to be one of our most promising players.

Casofsky hit hard, but Etter hit harder back, and after a real ding-dong thriller Etter won, much to the great surprise of everyone present.

On Saturday Etter carried on his winning way until falling to Barna in the semi-final, a very fine performance for him.

FIFTEEN-year-old Ken Stanley, of the Manchester Y.M.C.A., also did well in beating Freddy Cromwell, an international, and taking the first game from E. J. Filby.

A. G. Millar, of the Manchester Y.M.C.A., was the only player to take a game from Barna, and I think the English selectors have made a mistake in not giving him a fair trial this season.

I would have preferred him to M. B. W. Bergl, who, apart from winning local tournaments, has never done anything brilliant.

True enough, Millar also hasn't done much, but he is a player, if on form, that could beat anyone. I recently saw him play H. Lurie and make him look small fry.

Lurie played very well, and after beating Filby, thus reversing the Lancashire final result, he fully extended Barna, often beating the Hungarian wizard with well-directed drives, but as usual, Barna just had the "extra bit of something" at the vital stage.

In winning the men's doubles with C. W. Davies, a young Manchester Y.M.C.A. player, whose defence is great, Barna again showed his mastership, and together they were a great couple.

LURIE and Filby did not impress me as a world-beating couple by any means.

Miss Margaret Osborne waltzed her way through the women's singles in grand style and with Mrs. L. M. Hutchings won the doubles. Miss R. Doolan played very well in the events. Barna completed his treble by taking the mixed doubles with Mrs. Hutchings.

There were 18 internationals in the events, and players came from all parts of the North and Midlands in addition to the London contingent.

Ken Stanley had little difficulty in retaining the junior singles, the only title holder to be successful. Stanley is really too good for junior singles events. Just a word of praise for the untiring work of the officials, especially that of Jack Batty, Mrs. D. L. Bunbury, and Miss P. Anderton.

RESULTS.

MEN'S SINGLES.

Fourth Round—*H. Lurie (Manchester), holder, beat *A. J. Wilmott (London) 21-17, 21-10, *L. Cohen (Manchester) beat N. Davis (Manchester) 20-22, 21-15, 21-15. *E. J. Filby (London) beat *C. W. Davies (Manchester) 21-19, 15-21, 21-13. K. Stanley (Manchester) beat *F. Cromwell

(Manchester) 21-12, 21-10. *A. G. Millar (Manchester) beat J. C. Kramer (Sheffield) 21-18, 21-19. *G. Barna (Hungary) beat J. S. Barker (Macclesfield) 21-13, 21-6. S. Wass (Nottingham) beat J. A. Crawshaw (Dewsbury) 21-14, 21-10. D. Etter (Manchester) beat A. Bailey (Macclesfield) 21-12, 21-9.

Quarter-finals—Barna beat Millar 21-12, 23-25, 21-9. Etter beat Wass 21-11, 21-18. Filby beat Stanley 19-21, 21-17, 21-13. Lurie beat Cohen 21-12, 21-18.

Semi-finals—Barna beat Etter 21-8, 21-12. Lurie beat Filby 20-22, 21-19, 21-14.

Final—Barna beat Lurie 21-14, 21-16, 21-18.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

Semi-finals—H. Lurie and E. J. Filby beat *A. Waite and N. Davis (Manchester) 21-9, 19-21, 21-15. G. Barna and C. W. Davies beat *B. Casofsky and *F. Cromwell (Manchester) 21-13, 12-21, 21-13.

Final—Barna and Davies beat Lurie and Filby 21-12, 16-21, 21-13.

WOMEN'S SINGLES.

Semi-finals—*Miss M. Osborne (Birmingham) beat *Miss R. Doolan (Liverpool) 21-5, 18-21, 21-11. *Mrs. L. M. Hutchings (Watford) beat *Mrs. M. Scott-Hall (Manchester) 21-13, 21-15.

Final—Miss M. Osborne beat Mrs. L. M. Hutchings 21-11, 22-20.

Women's Doubles—Miss M. Osborne and Mrs. L. M. Hutchings beat Miss M. Stevenon and *Miss D. Newey (Birmingham) 21-18, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles—G. Barna and Mrs. H. M. Hutchings beat E. J. Filby and Miss K. Osborne 26-24, 21-17.

Junior Singles—K. Stanley (Manchester) beat W. Swire (Halifax) 21-11, 21-16.

* Internationals.



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Improve your Game

No. 5

THE HALF VOLLEY

THE half volley is the beginner's stroke at table tennis. In its weakest form it consists in just putting your racket in the way of the ball so that the ball will bounce off it back over the net to your opponent's side of the table. This is a nice easy way of playing, and even the tyro can soon develop fair accuracy of stroke so long as the opponent does not play too fast or use spin shots.

When you have attained some skill at the top spin drive and chop stroke the half volley seems rather a contemptible little shot—a shot played over the table and no more than a push—in fact, just ping pong! Since the chop became a popular stroke for all club players the half volley has lost a great deal of favour.

However, it is a great mistake for players to discard it almost altogether, because it is and always will be the best shot to use for short play. It is the natural shot to play against persistent short length returns which are awkwardly placed for you to get in a good attacking stroke. Properly used the half volley will strengthen both your attacking and defensive play.

USES OF THE HALF VOLLEY.

ITS main virtue lies in its quality of surprise. In this respect it is much superior to the short chop stroke (which is so much more used by modern players). A quick sharply angled half volley may win you a point outright, especially against a driving player who is not equally good on both hands. It is especially useful to counter a difficult return and create a winning position for you.

No player's game is really complete without a good half volley. Many players have a sound attacking and defensive game but fail against opponents who are particularly good at one stroke. The reason for this is generally because they have not welded their game into a complete whole.

They can either attack or defend quite well, but in trying to mix their game they make too many mistakes. The half volley is of great assistance in linking up your long and short game.

GETS YOU OUT OF DIFFICULTY.

WHEN you are caught in two minds—hesitating whether to make a chop stroke or go for a hit (for which you are not quite in position) the half volley will get you out of your difficulty; or when you are pressed for time, having come in for a smash and your opponent has made a sudden hit, ability to half volley will save the point for you. For it can be made in a flash, you merely play racket down to the ball and meet it on the bounce immediately after it touches the table.

For the return of service the half volley can be very useful, and this fact has now been appreciated by most of our leading players—a lesson learned from the Hungarians.

with

M. A. SYMONS,
the well-known coach.

In building up an attacking position a sudden sharply angled half volley is often more effective in creating a winning opening than a stream of drives, especially against a good defensive player. It has the great merit of **speed** which does not allow the defender much time to play the shot.

The result is that he is forced to play a slightly uppish return which can be hit flat, providing you are ready to jump in and go for a winner.

Some Common Half Volleying Errors and Their Remedy.

(1) **A**GAINST a chop stroke you should tilt your racket face back towards you so that its playing side forms an obtuse angle with the playing surface, i.e., play with an "open-faced" racket.

Otherwise the back spin on the ball is extremely likely to make you play it into the bottom of the net. Spoon the ball back—slower, but safer.

(2) Against a fast drive angle your racket a little more acutely, especially when opposing heavy top spin. This will effectively prevent the ball "riding" up your racket and resulting in your giving a high return (and an almost certain winner to your opponent!).

(3) To angle your return and prevent a defensive return straight back to your opponent, cultivate crispness with your stroke. Stiffen your wrist slightly as you play the ball.

Bend the wrist back to angle the ball to the right and forward to send it to the left.

Next Month: Opportunist Shots—the value of the sudden hit.

Sussex Open Championships

ALL EVENTS

HASTINGS. 26-27th February, 1938

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Our Best Players

by H. H. BRIDGE.

No. 4. Eric Hardman

FEW people having seen Eric Hardman, with his slight looking frame and fair hair, would imagine that he is very useful with the gloves, yet it was the noble art of self-defence that claimed his early interests. Eric inherited this interest from his father, who was also his coach.

They were both a little amazed when Eric was barred from local competitions "for hitting too hard," thus knocking his opponents out.

Looking for another outlet for his energy, his thoughts turned to table tennis, and in 1935 he joined the Tinsley Methodist Sports Club in Sheffield.

In early league matches, like most of us, his games counted for his opponents, but before the end of the season "debit" and "credit" just about balanced. Now, Eric does not believe in a close season, so continued to play right through the summer, and thus began his second season in fine fettle.

As an experiment he decided to enter a tournament, and emerged at the end with a fine pot, and the title of Yorkshire Junior Champion. This was a prelude to gaining county honours.

THIS season he has already added to his laurels in various northern tournaments, but must wait another year for a further chance to get into the Swaythling Cup team. When he has strengthened his weaker shots to compare favourably with his devastating forehand, we may expect to hear considerably more of him.

Strange to relate he considers one of his best matches was a losing one, against H. Lurie, last season. In the third and final game he led 17-14, only to lose through his own impetuosity.

On the other side of his recollections is the match against Marston, of Yorkshire, when after leading 19-14 in the first game and 20-18 in the second he lost the match and most of his confidence.

However, like most players with the desire to improve, he learns a lot by his defeats, which turns defeat into an asset, instead of a medium for inventing excuses.

He considers that to improve one must have determination and practise weak shots, not just improve or perfect the best shot in the repertoire.

We shall be hearing more about this youth!!

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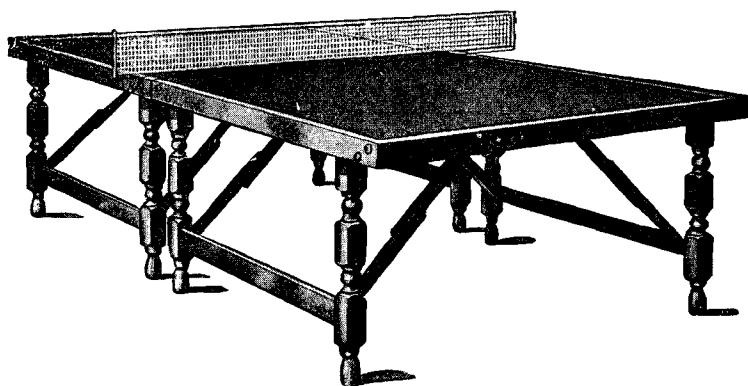
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Looking Around

with

J. W. A. CONNOLLY

("Sunday Express" sports writer)

THIS month I propose to kill a very false impression. During the round of the tournaments one of the lesser known players, an unranked player by the way, told me that since I had never played I couldn't possibly know anything about the game. Which is silly, anyway. But the fact remains that I belonged to a club way back in 1927, who were one of the old Manchester League sides.

My introduction to the first Hungarian tourists was long before most London League players of to-day knew that there was a wrong and a right way to hold a racket. But that's all by the way now. Let it be said that I bow only in length of intimate work with the game to my friends like Bill Pope and Les Forrest.

WHICH also reminds me. My old club, Mount Carmel C.Y.M.S., are going great guns in the new Manchester Catholic League. Why shouldn't they when they have the services of players who were good enough to play for a leading Manchester League team in the days of Stanley Proffitt, Cliff Cooke, Waite, and the others. I mean, of course, Norman Madden and Bill Grogan. The club lost their first match, but won seven in a row to make up for it. My congratulations.

I was very sorry when Mount Carmel dropped out of the league, because it seemed to me then that they did so when North Manchester table tennis was on the up grade. However, now that they are back again, I am sure more will be heard of them.

* * *

IWAS also severely cautioned by many of my London friends when, in the columns of my own paper, I placed Hyman Lurie as our number one player. No matter what people may say I hold to that opinion still. The reason is simple enough. The ranking lists should have been put out at the beginning of the present season, and on last year's performances I think the young Manchester lad would have walked it.

There is no reflection on Ernie Bubley or Eric Filby in such a statement. Filby is a great player, but I do not think that at his best he can approach Lurie in his brilliant spells. Controversial, I agree. No matter what Ernie Bubley has done, no matter whether the entire selectors placed him at the top of the list, he could hardly have been ranked number one on last year's championship performances. No, the right belongs to Lurie and Lurie alone.

* * *

GLAD to see that Arthur Haydon has found the time to compete in more southern tournaments this year, because on the table he sets a fine example of sportsmanship to all players. Haydon never grumbles when he is defeated, and is always willing to help young opponents by putting them immediately at ease. He has the same cheery manner on the table that he has in everyday life.

We need more players like Arthur Haydon. He is a hitter, but a hitter not only conscious of his craft, but confident in his ability to apply it. How many players will you see try a winner when the match point is against.

* * *

ANOTHER point struck me at the Herga tournament. Surely Maurice Bergl, English Swaythling Cup player, and one of our leading internationals, should not have entered in the closed singles event. Although, mind you, he is perfectly eligible, I think Maurice should certainly have left one prize to the youngsters, because they have mighty little prospect of winning the open event with an entry like the Middlesex.

From my own point of view I think the internationals are wrong to enter for any closed or local event, because in the general run of things they know full well that they can win the thing easily enough, and it isn't exactly playing straight with the young 'uns. I don't mean that it is deliberate bad sportsmanship. Far from it. It is just lack of consideration for those who haven't quite got there yet.

Canterbury Championships

THE Canterbury Open Table Tennis Championships are being played on Sunday, March 6, and not the 5th, as stated in official handbook.

Correspondence should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Sports Section, and not to Mr. F. E. Tett, as stated in handbook.

WESTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Swindon ...	4	4	0	8
Cardiff ...	3	2	1	4
Bristol ...	4	2	2	4
Ilfracombe ...	3	1	2	2
Bath ...	4	0	4	0

MATCH RESULTS:—Swindon 12, Bath 2; Cardiff 10, Bristol 3.

"Oop for t' Cup"

Liverpool Goes to Wembley

CLOSE on 200 "fans" made the journey to Wembley for the World's Championships and included in the party friends from Chester, Crewe and St. Helens. Many applications were received after the seats had been allocated and to those who were disappointed we can only say go to Blackpool on February 5.

In the County fixture against Durham on January 8, played at Liverpool, the home team lost 5-4. T. Ewbank scored a hat-trick for Durham, Liverpool's set winners being F. Bamford (2) and Don Foulis and P. U. Rumjahn. The Cheshire Open is again being staged at the Y.M.C.A., Manor Road, Wallasey, on February 18-19.

G. W. Marshall is not defending his Singles title, but Miss Diana Newey will defend her Women's title, and will be playing with Ken Hyde in the Mixed. The fixture against Yorkshire in the County Championship which had to be rearranged owing to the players being snowbound on the original date, will be played on February 18 during this Tournament, when E. Hardman, the 16-year-old Sheffield star will have an opportunity of showing his paces against J. K. Hyde.

February 23 brings the Foreign Tour to the Picton Hall, when it is hoped to have another "capacity" house as at the Merseyside Open, and being a Wednesday night, an opportunity will be given to enthusiasts from the big stores to attend, who find it impossible when table tennis events are staged on a Saturday.

They will find their visit well worth while and will see table tennis at its best, with exhibitions by the world's leading exponents. Tickets may be obtained from Rushworths, and the leading Sports Outfitters.

MIDLAND COUNTIES LEAGUE

MIDLAND Counties League in its third year has nine teams entered, two from Nottingham. Birmingham, champions for two successive years, came unstuck against Coventry in the return match, Coventry winning a close match 5-4, after Birmingham had led at 4-1. In Sharpe they possess a promising youngster, who has twice beaten the best in Birmingham, apart from Lisle, Sadler and Haydon.

Internationals are barred from competing in the Midland Counties League, which in previous years was run on a handicap basis.

RESULTS TO DATE.

Birmingham 6, Coventry 3; Leicester 8, Notts 1; Craven Arms 1, Worcester 8; Shrewsbury 3, West Bromwich 6; Notts 2, Birmingham 7; Craven Arms 3, Shrewsbury 6; West Bromwich 3, Leicester 6; Coventry 7, Worcester 2; Birmingham 8, Leicester 1; Coventry 8, West Bromwich 1; Coventry 6, Leicester 3; Craven Arms 1, West Bromwich 8; Coventry 5, Birmingham 4; Leicester 3, Birmingham 6.

1935 MEMORIES !!

WHEN THE ROUMANIANS NEVER TURNED UP

'One of them chased "Rabbits"'

By A. E. QUICK

I WALKED in the front door of the table tennis world. Slap bang through the portals of the Kensington Imperial Institute from the ignorant outside world of "ping pong" to the competitive stress and strain of the 1935 world championships.

Æons ago that seems. In fact, it was the Dark Ages, when Bill Pope thought a reporter was a lethal weapon. He's moved a bit in his estimate of news publicity since Ye Olde Dayes.

I remember that meet so well. I was covering it for an agency, which means that every morning and evening paper in Great Britain sat back breathlessly drinking in my words of wisdom—more or less.

"A news story a day," says I to Bill. "That's what I want."

HE looked at me aghast. I wouldn't say I was the first journalist he had met. There must have been one before he had encountered casually.

Nevertheless, he provided the goods, and from that day I have never doubted his value to table tennis.

But of my own experiences in my initial introduction to a game I have come to enjoy watching and among whose players and officials I have had some of my happiest Fleet Street moments.

First of all there was volatile Helen Ovenden—a colourful personality who was "news" both in print and photo. We teamed her with Babe Ruth's daughter as U.S.A.'s Corbillon Cup pair.

There was one player I believe from whom the burly Miss Ruth took a point, but I wouldn't be cad enough to mention her name. Miss Ruth was no rabbit. Oh, no. She was a ferret. One of those who go in after the rabbits as they say in cricket.

THEN the Roumanian team failed to arrive because the bright soul who had their combined passport failed to put in an appearance on Bucharest station one fine morning.

Again, there was Haguenaer—is that the way you spell that Frenchman's name?—who contrived to return the ball across the net to some hapless Austrian 2,000 times, or was it 20,000? Anyhow it nearly started another war.

Yes, you don't have to be crazy to be a first-class table tennis player. But it helps.

FOREIGN TOUR

Feb. 7	Ashington.
" 9	Newcastle.
" 10	Carlisle.
" 11	Barrow.
" 14	Coventry.
" 15	Peterborough.
" 16	Mansfield.
" 17	Hull.
" 18	Grimsby.
" 22	Oldham.
" 23	Liverpool.
" 24	Worcester.
" 25	Norwich.
" 26	} Hastings, Sussex Open.
" 27	
Mar. 2	Dartford.
" 3	Tottenham.
" 4	Woolwich.
" 5	Southend.
" 10	Cricklewood.
" 12	Exeter.
" 15	Llanelly.
" 18	Acton.
" 19	Bedford.

For Northern "fans"!

The English Open Championships
at the
Tower Ballroom & Circus, Blackpool.
Play commences 7.30 p.m.,
February 3rd, 1938.

Three sessions, 9.30 a.m., 2 p.m. and
7 p.m., on February 4th, 1938, and one
session at 9.30 a.m. on February 5th,
at the Ballroom.

AT THE TOWER CIRCUS
February 5th.

Semi-Finals at 2.30 p.m.
Finals at 7.30 p.m.

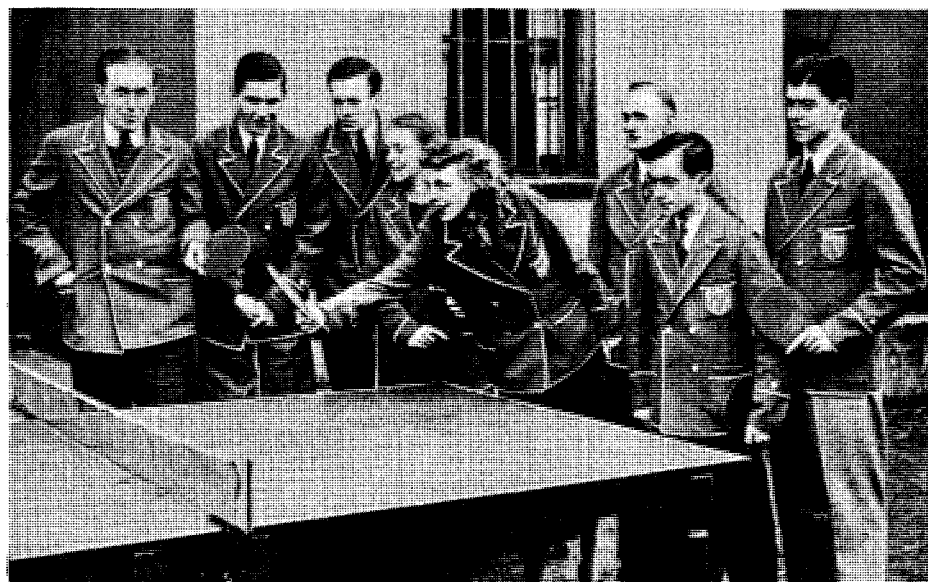
Admission:

To the Ballroom, 9d. and 1/3.
To the Circus—Afternoon, 1/- to 3/-
Evening, 1/6 to 7/6
Season tickets from 2/3 to 9/6
Tickets and particulars from:
Mr. E. Worsley, 20, Banbury Avenue,
Blackpool.

FIXTURES

1938.

Feb. 7-19	London (India Students' Hostel).
" 12	Dorset (Dorchester).
" 12	Midland (Birmingham).
" 12	Castleford.
" 17-19	Cheshire (Wallasey).
" 21-Mar. 5	Wembley.
" 26-27	Sussex (Hastings).
Mar. 7-19	Surrey and South of England (Croydon).
" 12	Yorkshire.
" 12	West of England (Exeter).
" 21-Apr. 2	West Middlesex (West Ealing).
April 1-2	Grimsby.
" 16	Scarborough.
" 18	Whitby.
" 19-30	North West London, Ellerslie Hall, Cricklewood, N.W. 2.



If you didn't know before—that's how it's done—or so says Mildred Wilkinson, America's number one woman player in Corbillon Cup. America's team look (left to right) Solly Schiff, G. Hendry, Jimmy McClure, Betty Henry, Mildred Wilkinson (with racket), M. Bassford (non-playing captain), G. Pagliaro, B. Grimes.

The
Secretary Says:

Champs.
and the
office
work,
phew !!



by W. J. Pope

New
foreign
tour now
nearly
complete

HECTIC TIMES.

AS readers will guess, at the time of writing the office is the scene of very hectic activity. The arrangements for the Championships are in full swing and we are open until 11 o'clock each night. The telephone is continually ringing, and, real tragedy, it broke down in the middle of one of our busiest periods. It took a whole day to put right and—peculiarly enough—the same thing happened last year in connection with the Finals at Wembley.

* * *

The teams are arriving, preparations for them to practice, settling down in the hotels, the production of the programme and the multifarious details makes it very difficult to settle down to think of the ordinary Association administration.

All the Committees are meeting at the office, instructions and advice being given to volunteers, interpreters listing their duties, stewards working out their places, umpires learning about the new chiselling rule, and the handling of the "Chess Clocks"—if the Championships are **NOT** a success it won't be for want of enthusiastic "fans" putting in their "bit."

* * *

NATIONAL OPEN.

AMIDST all this how can a poor harassed Secretary settle down to write his monthly notes about such mundane things as handbooks and tournaments?

There are one or two important matters which must be mentioned—the most important of all being the National Open at Blackpool. These events should appeal particularly to all Northern players and spectators. The Blackpool Committee under the leadership of Bill Worsley are putting in all they know to make it a bumper.

* * *

All the foreign "stars" will participate including the Finalists in the Men's and Women's Singles at Wembley. The members of the English Swaythling and Corbillon Cup teams have entered and now we want all the Northern players to compete.

Sometimes there are complaints that these events, always being held in London, makes it difficult for League players outside to take part and to meet these foreign champions. Now is the chance to try your skill against these much boomed foreign players.

The conditions will be perfect, the Blackpool hospitality and friendliness is noted and I do appeal to all who can possibly manage to have this week-end by the sea. Especially does this apply to spectators. When Blackpool was decided upon it was thought that most towns in the vicinity would run excursions for the finals.

THERE will be gathered together all the best players in the world—the show they put up is marvellous and better than all the exhibitions—hard, grim but brilliant fighting—it is well worth while and I hope the Ballroom and the Circus will be packed out.

* * *

THE NEW FOREIGN TOUR!!!

Most of the arrangements have now been made. As I have already written we do not propose to settle the composition of the team until the night of "Wembley." The finalists will be invited, and, I believe, most of the likely players will be able to accept. The bookings already made suggest that the tour will take five or six weeks.

Some of the details shown on the opposite page are provisional and as there are some vacant dates we are still open to receive applications. Everywhere there is enthusiasm and after the press and radio publicity which will be given in connection with the world's championships, there will be big demands on the part of the general public, apart from "fans" to see the players.

* * *

BLACKPOOL MUST BE A SUCCESS.

SOME of the places booked are in the North. I hope that the visit to various towns will not affect the interest in the Blackpool tournament.

The success of this will affect the attendance at exhibitions—we **MUST** make a success at Blackpool and I make a special request to those towns having the tour at a later date not to let the preparations for that affect your enthusiasm and work for a contingent for Blackpool.

* * *

By the time these notes are read we shall be in a position to supply to all Leagues, copies of the Souvenir Programme supplied at the world's championships with complete results. It will be a very handsome publication with photographs, records, history, &c., and can be supplied at 1s., post free.

Game Expands in Birmingham Double for Washwood Heath?

By BRUMMAGEM

THE Birmingham Association continues to grow, and there are now 175 clubs affiliated, and nearly 300 teams are entered in 11 separate leagues.

The Birmingham League, with eight divisions, is the main competition. Next in importance comes the Business Houses and Works League with three divisions; and a strong Women's League with four divisions (36 teams).

Rival contenders for the championship of the senior division of the Birmingham League, Birmingham City and Washwood Heath met for the first time last week before a record gate of over 300. City, without assistance of A. A. Haydon, their mainstay, lost narrowly to Heath, who with Lisle, Sadler and Banner are now the strongest combination in Birmingham and look like bringing off the double, League and Cup.

City, who have won the championship six times in the last seven years, are now runners-up, in which position they are likely to finish.

CITY, however, are still supreme in the Women's League, where, led by Miss Osborne and Miss Steventon, they head Washwood Heath in the first division.

Birmingham, with two or three matches each week, have a large representative programme to fulfill. In addition to the Midland Counties League team, a team representing Warwickshire is entered in both the men's and women's sections of the County Championship.

To date, all matches have been won in the County Championship, but Birmingham recently lost their first match in the Midland Counties League to Coventry.

Birmingham's best feat this year in representative matches was the defeat of Liverpool, for the first time in five years, winning 8-2 at Liverpool.

Midland Counties Open Championships

At "BRIGHTER HOMES" EXHIBITION
Bingley Hall, Birmingham

on
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10, 11 & 12

Entries and Particulars:
M. Goldstein, 222, Alcester Road, Birmingham, 13.
CLOSING DATE: FEB. 7th

PROVINCIAL FLASHES

This feature which has been suspended owing to the space demands of the World Championships, will be resumed in our next issue. Our thanks to those contributors who sent copy which was not used. Secretaries are requested to send topical news of the Leagues before the middle of the month.

GROWTH OF L.B.H. LEAGUE

WE are told that Leagues are the backbone of table tennis; that table tennis officials have been struck by the fact that so few leagues have women's sections; and therefore women have a legitimate complaint that sufficient attention is not given to the development of their play.

This charge cannot be levelled at the table tennis section of the London Business Houses Amateur Sports Association. The season now in progress shows an increase of six women's teams over the previous season, giving a total of 23 teams, or 20 per cent. of the total number of teams taking part in the competition.

Divided into three sections, East, Central and West, the teams are showing a keener interest than ever, and perhaps the most pleasing feature is the enthusiasm of the new clubs, who, despite reverse after reverse, came up smiling at the next match, happy in the knowledge they are getting the necessary experience to make themselves more proficient.

THE standard of play in the leading teams is shown in the fact that six members of L.B.H. teams were invited to take part in the Southern Area trails of the E.T.T.A.

Miss P. M. Hodgkinson (Lensbury), Miss C. Oustainge (United Dairies), and Miss Renee Cabot (Dagenham Cables), later took part in the final trials. The form of Miss Oustainge must have surprised many, and naturally the L.B.H. officials were gratified at her selection to play in the singles competition at the World's Championship, and still more so when it became known that Miss Hodgkinson had won her place in the Corbillon Cup team.

Miss Cabot's turn will come, and amongst the other clubs, there are several showing promise of developing in tip-top players.

So far, one inter-league match has been played and lost, against North Middlesex. A return fixture has been arranged, also matches against Wembley League.

In the League tournament itself, Dagenham Cables have a clear lead in the East Section, with L.C.C. second, and in the West Section, United Dairies lead with Gas Light & Coke second.

THE last named have shown a falling off since the beginning of this year and United Dairies appear to have the leadership well within their grasp. In the Central Section a different tale has to be told, and here there is a real fight between Doultons, Diamet and Warner. On the results of the meetings between these teams in the second half of the season will depend who shall compete against the other section leaders for the Samuel Jones Cup. Miss R. Cabot (Dagenham Cables), and Miss C. Oustainge (United Dairies), having played in all their team matches in the first half of the season, have yet to lose their first game. Opportunities to meet players in other sections will be provided on February 28, March 1 and 2, when the Association's individual tournaments will be held. The L.B.H. table tennis officials cannot be accused of neglecting their women players, on the other hand they do all in their power in the way of encouragement, and are justly proud of the teams under their control.



And so does Stanley!

Stanley Proffitt, Swaythling Cup International, passes critical eyes over the boys as Viktor sends them off.

Table Tennis in Wales

The new Welsh Policy

THE "RACKET GRIP"

by R. H. WELSH

SINCE the announcement of the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup teams, the W.T.T.A. have been subject to a storm of criticism. The sides chosen have obviously not been to satisfaction, and the public and press have said so in no uncertain fashion.

The Swaythling Cup team consisted of J. Meredith (Aberdare), F. Curtain (Penarth), K. Milsom (Cardiff) and A. Sadler (Birmingham), all racket-grip players. The W.T.T.A. have made it plain that they intend to encourage the orthodox grip, and in view of the success of English and Continental players with this style it is a wise policy.

The side was chosen, so it seems, with an eye to the future, but with the exception of Meredith, the others can hardly be termed young players.

THE passing of such names as D. J. Thomas (Ogmore), T. Smith (Cardiff) and T. Lisle (Birmingham) would not be so regrettable had the selectors decided to rely mainly on youth.

The omission of Mrs. B. Morgan (Brynmawr) from the Corbillon Cup team is very difficult to understand. After winning the Welsh Open in convincing style, defeating both Mrs. E. H. Evans (Cardiff) and Mrs. H. R. Evans (Cardiff), the chosen players, she has been left out without any reasonable explanation whatsoever.

The W.T.T.A. must realise that sides should be chosen on current form and not on past performances.

The Ogmore and Cardiff and District Leagues hold their "Open" tournaments during February, and it is to be hoped that these ventures will gain the support they deserve.

Wembley League

STADIUM PRESENTS NEW CUP

Championships' Dates

AT the time of writing, League fixtures are in abeyance, but an early resumption will soon be made. The team Knock-out event is now well under way, and a cup has been presented by Mr. A. J. Elvin of the Empire Stadium. At the moment the Clubs still in the Competition are Harrow Weald, L.N.E.R., Wembley Hill, Institute, Calvers and Parkfield. The final will take place at Lancelot Hall on March 3.

The Wembley Open Championships take place from February 21 to March 5, inclusive, and it is hoped that a good entry will be received. Assistance is required from members of the League in the capacity of stewards and umpires, and anyone willing to help should get in touch with the League Chairman.

The class players are not confined to Division 1 and C. Cator of Fairview, R. Alford of L.N.E.R. and L. Coward of Oxford Press, would probably test the best.

PITY THE POOR SCHOOL TEACHER

Sunderland a good example to the Education's sports authorities

A SUNDERLAND reader, and a famous old international at that, has been prompted to defend the Scot, and the school teacher too, from the constant wrong impressions of which they are the victims.

He explains that although the Scottish Table Tennis Association has only recently been formed, Scots across the border have done their fair share in the propagation of the sport. Two Scots in in. Mr. K. A. Nicholson and Andrew Donaldson formed the Northumberland and Sunderland Table Tennis Associations long ago.

The Sunderland body, in fact, was formed in 1910 and is perhaps the oldest in the land with an unbroken connection. Our reader didn't like the hit in the "Over the Net" feature in November, which said that "Teachers still call table tennis ping-pong, and are not helpful in the object of putting table tennis in the schools." The letter answers critics severely, and, in justice, I give the case of the teacher in full ("the Editor").

* * *

THE ordinary civilian thinks a teacher has much spare time, and ought to become a Secretary or Treasurer of a sports club or public organisation, a leader of a musical or dramatic society, a Sunday School teacher or churchwarden, or—, while the local education authority expects

him to run soccer, rugby or cricket among the boys or to attend educational classes. All these, of course, are honorary jobs.

"Magistrates, as a body, have failed in lessening juvenile crime, simply because they suppress names, neglect the birch rod and advise hardened offenders to behave better in future.

"Some, then, even turn to the schools and expect teachers to give the boys employment during evenings in the form of school clubs. Just as your November notes appeared, a local T.T.A. league player and myself successfully launched a Sunderland T.T. Schools Association.

"Four schools in Grange Park, Junior Technical, St. Columba's and West Southwick are playing home and away games this season. The other three, Deptford Terrace, Commercial Road and Havelock, are playing away games only, with the idea of securing full-sized boards and entering the league next year.

THE league table at present reads—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.T.
Grange Park ...	2	2	0	0	4
Junior Technical ...	1	1	0	0	2
St. Columba's ...	3	1	2	0	2
West Southwick ...	2	0	2	0	0

"I would suggest to you that when a schools league is formed you urge the local T.T.A. to make the Schools T.T.A. an honorary member with power to attend meetings, and probably vote, while any important game of outstanding merit could be played under good conditions on a club table."

LANCASHIRE'S CRICKETERS TABLE STARS

WHEN the North East Lancashire Association was formed last winter the President, Sir Thomas Higham, presented a cup for inter-league competition. This cup has caused a boundary to be erected between neighbouring Burnley and Nelson, favourites of the eight contending leagues fighting for the trophy. On one side of the boundary we have Burnley's doughty trio, T. Alston, J. K. Holmes, and T. Smith, while on the Nelson deck are those sprightly fighters, Alan Matson and Ernie Dinsdale, not to mention A. J. Birtwell, the Lancashire county cricketer. Burnley have three big victories to their credit, Nelson two.

Third in the league table, Ribblesdale are evidently out to discover budding champions, for they have included at least four boys of 16 in their four matches. They turned out an experienced team in both rounds of the Wilmott Cup. Eric Martin, who won all his sets in each match, was the most successful against Stockport.

Every team in the Ribblesdale association has its own colours, and the innovation this year has increased interest. In the 16 teams there must be quite 40 youngsters under 18, and all are ambitious to win international badges.

FULL back for Accrington Stanley, Bob Pickering, is Accrington Works League's most successful player. It is always a pleasure to visit this league and its rival organisation, though their playing results are not startling.

At Blackburn, tennis has led to the open style being more general than is usual in a new league, but this is due also to the number of league cricketers who play in the Blackburn table tennis competitions. W. R. Betts has made quite a name for himself in inter-league matches.

With at least one man, J. Whitely, able to beat the best of the Burnley opponents the Burnley Works League provides an enigma. None of their players have entered the N. E. L. championship.

Over 120 clubs and quite 1,940 players are catered for by the North East Lancashire Association, and Mr. W. A. Peters, the General Secretary, hopes to increase the number of constituent leagues from eight to ten in time for next winter.



Yes! just like that!—

and Viktor Barna gives away a little secret to Harry Rosen—or does he. Bergl, Lurie, Filby and Seaman look on with interest.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND T. T. CHAMPIONSHIPS
BATHS HALL, CROYDON
 MARCH 14th to 19th, 1938
 ALL EVENTS
 Challenge Trophies include 3 "STAR" 50-guinea Trophies, also "Jacques" and "Spalding" Trophies

Surrey T.T. Championships
KENNARDS STORES, North End, CROYDON
 MARCH 7th to 19th, 1938
 All Events, including Local Men's & Women's Singles
VALUE OF TROPHIES EXCEEDS £150
 Apply at once: Entry Forms South of England or Surrey, to C. G. MILTON
 5, Bramley Close, Croydon. Phone CROYdon 1219

Local Government Players ARE Improving MORE REPRESENTATIVE GAMES NOW

By G. W. Marshall

AS Chairman of the National Association of Local Government Officers (Metropolitan District) League, I am fully qualified to write about table tennis activities in a sphere to which no publicity has been given, apart from a bare list of the League's officers in the Official Handbook.

Table tennis in the Metropolitan District of the Local Government Service has been popular for the past 12 years, and the standard of play in the League has been rapidly improving during that period.

The League is composed of two Divisions, the First Division being subdivided into two sections, and the Second Division into four sections. Thirty-eight teams are taking part in this season's League Competition, and two more in a knock-out competition conducted on similar lines to that of the London League.

All teams are drawn from the staffs of various Borough Councils in the Greater London District.

MOST of the leading players in the N.A.L.G.O. League have played in the London League for a number of seasons, and it is probable that a stronger team could be fielded than by the Civil Service.

The three leading players in the League are Mr. Frank Meads of Beckenham, Mr. C. G. Boorman of Middlesex County Council and the writer of this article, who hails from Camberwell.

Frank Meads has played for Christchurch, Beckenham, in the London League for a number of years, and has achieved victories over most of the leading London players. He is an ex-holder of the N.A.L.G.O. singles title, and in the recent Wilmott Cup match against London, he defeated Eric Filby in two straight games.

There were certain extenuating circumstances for Filby's defeat, but none the less Meads' victory was a very fine one. In the same match he lost to Rosen very narrowly, and gave Bubleby quite a good game. C. G. Boorman was not available for the Wilmott Cup match, but his playing ability may be judged by the fact that in the Kent Championships last season he defeated Silto of Swindon, the holder, in the quarter-finals. He has been runner-up on three occasions for the N.A.L.G.O. Singles Championship.

ANOTHER player who achieved some degree of prominence a season or two ago is Mr. L. B. Bailey, of Bethnal Green. He did very well in the International Trials on two occasions, although he is a devotee of the "penholder" grip. He also is an ex-champion of the League.

It is hoped that the N.A.L.G.O. Singles and Doubles Championships will take place this season at the Metropole Building, at which venue the Civil Service events took place. Negotiations are proceeding for the hire of the Hall, and in



Miss Jean Nicoll—
You see her like this at the Herga Club,
Harrow—

the event of their being successful, the improved conditions should make the N.A.L.G.O. Championships well worth watching.

A number of Inter-District and Inter-League matches are being arranged this season, included among which will be a match against the Yorkshire District of N.A.L.G.O.

Unfortunately I am not in a position to write about the general standard of play in the Northern Districts of N.A.L.G.O., but it is quite evident that the Yorkshire opposition will be formidable, as W. Atkinson, of the Leeds Branch, is an international, and his colleagues are believed to approximate to his standard of play.

LET

STANLEY PROFFITT

(English International and Swaythling Cup Player)

TUTOR YOU WITH YOUR GAME

14, Rosslyn Road, Barking,
Essex.

ANY TIME

ANYWHERE

THANKS TO THESE CLUBS

The E.T.T.A. and officials thank those clubs who granted the freedom of their tables and equipment, not only to our own players in training but to the foreign teams. It shows the fine spirit that has meant so much in the growth of table tennis in this country.

Perhaps foremost come the Tottenham L. and R. club. Particular praise to their Committee and Mr. Kelly, one of the best voluntary workers in the southern counties. Nothing has been too much trouble. Mr. Kelly has been running players back and forwards from their hotels for the best part of the two weeks prior to the world titles.

He was instrumental in gaining for the visitors the wonderful facilities which the Tottenham club committee offer. The £7,000 club at Tottenham, with ideal lighting and playing conditions, has enabled our players to work up to scratch. It has always been there at the disposal of the teams and we are grateful.

Also there is Mr. Brady, of the Bradix Club, Acton, who immediately came to the rescue when the American team arrived. Not only did he provide the tables, but was the ideal host to the players.

Thus the Americans were enabled to have a really good three hours' knock up on the first day they arrived, in the privacy of a first-class club. It gave our foreign visitors a lasting impression of the sportsmanship of the English clubs.



—Our reporter, however, found out what young table tennis stars do in their spare moments.

THE GREAT TREK TO HERNE BAY

Modern "Pilgrim's Progress"

By JACK CARRINGTON

RAIN lashed the deserted sea-front at Herne Bay, and a 70-mile-per-hour gale whistled across the Thames Estuary, but it takes more than this to stop your true table tennis fan. All roads led to the Pier Pavilion, and it seemed that everyone who could beg, borrow, or steal a motor car, of whatever vintage, had joined this modern Pilgrim's Progress (nowadays you by-pass Canterbury).

The spacious roller-skating hall on the Pier provided ample room for 12 tables, and comfortable accommodation for the onlookers.

From 10.30 a.m. until 8.0 p.m., there was hardly ever a table vacant, and during this time the Committee played off 160 Singles competitors in groups of four, followed by an entry of 71 in the Minor (consolation) events.

Add to these the Doubles entries, Men's 22 pairs, Mixed 16 pairs, Ladies' 8 pairs, and you will have some idea of the careful planning needed to start the competition proper by 4.30 p.m.

By tea-time 400 spectators had come to see the "big guns" in action, and they were not disappointed, as the semi-finals showed them Barna and three of the new Swaythling Cup team, Lurie, Filby, and Ken Hyde.

THE last-named gave Barna a hard fight, winning the second game 21-18 after some tremendous rallies, but the effort told on him, and he fell away in the third game.

In the other semi-final, Lurie, our "pocket Barna," proved just a little

too polished and confident for Filby, keeping him on the defensive by his consistent backhand attack.

In the final, Viktor Barna applied similar tactics against Lurie, outclassing him for the first two games. In the third, however, Lurie found new life, and his play, although not good enough to beat his great opponent, encouraged one to hope for something good in the Swaythling Cup campaign.

Filby and Rogers gave a splendid display of attacking doubles play, beating Barna and Carrington, and Hyde and Lurie, both 2-1, to retain their title.

The Women's Singles provided an impressive win for Mrs. Hutchings over Miss Dora Emdin, one of the new Corbillon Cup team.

OF the 160 entrants, 62 came from the London area.

The Wembley League, with commendable enterprise, filled a 30-seater coach; they left their mark by winning the Men's Minor Singles and Ladies' Doubles.

One young competitor rose at 5 a.m., cycled 10 miles into Farnboro' (Hants.) to join a car party for Herne Bay. After playing most of the day, he left at 9 p.m. to reverse the process! It is rumoured that he is rather keen on table tennis.

RESULTS.

MEN'S SINGLES.

Barna beat Lurie, 21-10, 21-14, 21-17.

WOMEN'S SINGLES.

Mrs. Hutchings beat Miss Dora Emdin, 21-16, 21-18, 21-12.

MEN'S DOUBLES.

Filby and Rogers beat Hyde and Lurie, 15-21, 21-19, 21-19.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Barna and Mrs. Carrington beat Filby and Mrs. Hutchings, 21-15, 21-13.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES.

Mrs. Ball and Miss I. Cox (Wembley).

MEN'S MINOR SINGLES.

J. Bailey (Herga) beat E. Cox (Wembley), 2-1.

Wilmott Cup Results

ROUND 2

Dartford	8	Farnham	1
Bristol	5	Exeter	4
Birmingham	6	Sheffield	3

ROUND 3

Dartford	0	London	9
Barking	5	Surrey	1

Wembley Open Championships

Lancelot Hall, Wembley

21st February - 5th March, 1938

MS, WS, MD, WD, XD

Closing date for entries, 14th February

Entry forms from:

J. W. TEBB,

41, Highland Road, Northwood Hills, Middlesex

SUPER SUPPLENESS

of Hands and Limbs with Rapidity of Action are the greatest essentials for

SUPER PLAY

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FREE OFFER of CORRECT MASSAGE INSTRUCTION

Arrangements have been made whereby every reader of "Table Tennis" can have Free and without obligation a copy of Messrs Elliman's wonderful "Handbook of Physical Fitness" which includes Self-Massage Instructions by Edward Storrie.

All you have to do to get your copy is to send a post card for it addressed to—

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Massage of Hands



Forearm Massage

ELLIMAN ATHLETIC RUB 1/4

1/- and 2/6 (Club size) of all High Class Chemists

INTRODUCING A NEW ERA IN TABLE TENNIS TUITION!

THE SILTO TABLE TENNIS COURSE

Designed for the player who desires expert tuition and advice, the course embodies the results of ten years' exhaustive study of the game by the well-known Swindon player and former English International. No longer need the keen player who cannot obtain hours of personal coaching be at a disadvantage, for the essentially individual character of the SILTO TABLE TENNIS COURSE meets his needs and difficulties in a manner that cannot but improve his game.

Beginners and experienced players alike should write for further details to:—

J. SILTO (E.T.T.A. reg'd player).

58, MONTAGU STREET, SWINDON, WILTS.

The Ultra-Beginner

Real Value of Half-Volley "Chop"

First Get Correct Angle

The Half-Volley Chop.

THIS is an advanced method of the half-volley, and brings into play for the first time, spin on the ball. Instead of returning the ball on the half-volley, take it just a little bit later, incline the bat, and stab *underneath* the ball at the moment of impact. This has the double effect of (1) keeping the ball low and slowing up the game, and (2) putting on a certain amount of chop, or under-spin. This stroke is the beginning of long and short defence, and once you have the confidence and ability to use the chop proficiently, your game will improve by leaps and bounds.

You will find that until you get the angle of the bat correct your ball will go anywhere but where you want it to go, but if you remember to stab at the ball and not to hit it, you will, after a little practice, find it quite easy to obtain the desired effect.

When learning the different strokes it is a good plan to think only in terms of the particular stroke you are playing. Thus, when learning the half-volley chop, make up your mind to chop every ball that comes over on your side of the table, no matter how high it is nor how great the temptation to hit a "sitter." By this means you will be able to play any particular stroke at any time you please, greatly adding to the versatility of your game, which in itself is one of the secrets of success.

WHEN you have learnt to half-volley chop with some consistency and effect, try mixing it with the ordinary half-volley. Half-volley one or two, then chop one, then go back again to half-volley. And this is where your difficulties really begin. At first you will not know which stroke to use for any particular shot, and the results will be a weird mixture—with disastrous results.

This is the stage when beginners get a little disheartened, but if you bear in mind the maxim "Practice makes for Proficiency," your troubles are already half over.

About this time the idea of joining a club should receive your serious consideration. Your game should now have reached a stage where practice with a superior player, on a full size table, is almost a necessity. To learn the complete game on a dining-room table is certainly possible, but it will nevertheless cramp your style and keep your standard "down."

It is the most difficult thing in the world to apply table tennis strokes in practice from instructions laid down on paper. So at the risk of being accused of repetition, I will say again—write to the English Table Tennis Association and obtain their handbook. You will find therein the name of every club in every district in England; and once you join a club, you will never regret it.

IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

By E. G. WHITE.

London C.S.T.T. League.

It is early yet to forecast the season's probable developments, but it seems likely that the champions, Engineer-in-Chief's Office, will be seriously challenged by Health first team, which has now been strengthened by the inclusion of J. Archer, a new recruit to the Service. An exciting match was seen when these teams met.

The two teams promoted to Division II have already met, and Avenue suffered the second defeat of their league career—again only by the odd game and at the hands of the G.R.O. "A." The latter now have two promising younger players in the first team.

Some interesting matches have been played in Division 4. In the first week L. P. R., H. Q., met their first home defeat, losing 7-8 to New Crowndale. The following week they retrieved the position by ending the unbeaten home record of Labour Kew, who lost 6-9. A slightly weakened New Crowndale team lost 5-10 to Clearing Office, who are entirely new to the league. The following week, New Crowndale visited Kew and won 10-5. A close contest between these four teams should develop this season.

No player in the club can be said to outshine the others, and the present position and record have been attained chiefly by consistent play from No. 1 to No. 5, and through the team spirit which Mr. Balaam, the Controller of the office, who attends every match he can, has done so much to foster.

Fine Record of Mrs. Booker

DID WOMEN SELECTORS ERR?

IN the selection of the Corbillon Cup team, the Committee was faced with a by no means easy task. Apart from Miss Osborne, easily the most outstanding player present, the six or seven "Possibles" were very much of a muchness, and the finer points of individual play had to be studied before the selectors could reach any decision.

There were two notable absentees—Miss Jean Nicoll, who had last year shown such great promise, and Miss Jordan, who, after playing two games, had to retire owing to ill-health. The fact that she acquiesced to the Committee's desire to return later in the evening to participate in doubles matches, says much for her sense of sportsmanship. She was chosen for the third place by reason of her past performances.

The second place fell to Miss D. M. Emdin, England's complete stylist and an "old-timer." Her selection and return to the limelight was the result of hard practice during the summer and a successful attempt to conquer what has hitherto been her *bête noir*—nerves! She is at least six points better than last year and fully justified the selector's choice.

NO decision could be come to regarding the fourth and last place, and a further trial was held, the nominated players being Mrs. Booker, Mrs. Hutchings, Miss Wheaton and Miss Hodgkinson. As a result of this, Miss Hodgkinson was finally picked to fill the vacancy. Without any disparagement to Miss Hodgkinson, I think Mrs. Booker would have been a wiser selection. Miss Jordan was rightly picked for her past performances. What then of Mrs. Booker, who last year had 17 titles to her credit, five of which were major singles events?

J. W. A. C.

Hardman Wins West Riding

THE West Riding Championships at Wakefield attracted only a moderate entry. The men's singles was won by Eric Hardman (Sheffield), who defeated M. Hill (Halifax) over three games. The match was well contested and interesting since both players are youths who have gained county honours.

Miss W. I. Stott (Leeds) beat Mrs. Amies (Pontefract) in the ladies' singles, and these two players won the ladies' doubles event.

The finalists in the men's doubles were W. Atkinson and B. Mackinder (Leeds) and E. Hardman (Sheffield) and F. Tillotson (Dewsbury). The match produced some very good play and youth won the day after Atkinson and Mackinder ran them to three games.

Two Barnsley players won the mixed doubles in Mrs. Chard and partner, whilst the consolation singles event was won by B. Denby (Leeds), who defeated a clubmate and another county player in E. Wright.

An interesting and unusual position created in the men's singles quarter-finals when all the eight players were members of different leagues in the West Riding.

Railways Table Tennis

The Railways Athletic Association table tennis championships will be held on February 16 and 20. There are four events—women's and men's singles, men's and mixed doubles.

The singles competitions will be run on the group system and groups for London players will be held at G.W.R. Sports Ground on February 16. All other groups and rounds will be played at Liverpool Street on February 20.

The competitions are open to all railway employees' who are members of a table tennis club affiliated to the R.A.A. or associate members of the R.A.A. Table Tennis Section.

FOLLOWING the lead of other leagues in the district, Chester have decided to cater for the junior player **CHESTER:** by arranging junior inter-league matches and by including in the closed championships a "junior singles championship." Thus by getting hold of the youngsters in this way we hope to bring them up in the way they should go, and who knows? eventually produce a budding international.

Events in the league this month have gone on without any special significance. Y.M.C.A. still lead the first division, but City have displaced City Road Pres. as runners up.

It is interesting to note, however, that although Y.M.C.A. have yet to lose a match, they have already lost as many sets as in the whole of last season. Certainly the gap between them and the rest is narrowing year by year. Also it is interesting to realise that there is no player in the first division with an unbeaten record.

The second division has developed into a struggle between G.P.O. and County Officers, Graecas having dropped out of the running by virtue of two defeats recently. G.P.O. and County Officers are both undefeated, the former having lost only 25 sets in 11 matches, and the latter 19 in 10 matches.

The local competition for the Bradley Cup started in January, and with matches with Liverpool, Manchester, Rhyl and Holywell, and finally the closed championships, there is plenty of work for the league officials in the concluding half of the season.

A GREAT victory was obtained by South Devon over the Plymouth League at Plymouth in **SOUTH DEVON:** the semi-final of the Plummer Cup by seven sets to four. R. V. Turner was outstanding and won all his sets, and he was ably supported by Ralph Rossiter who won two, and R. P. Westaway who won one. Turner and Rossiter won a doubles. This is the first time that South Devon have reached the final of this competition when they will be opposed by either Exeter (holders) or Swindon.

THE Exeter League representatives had little difficulty in disposing of Bath in the 1st round of the **EXETER:** Wilmott Cup by nine sets to love. Exeter are now looking forward to their tie with Bristol.

By the time these notes appear in print the finalists for the popular "Sir Edgar Plummer" Cup will be known. Teams for the semi-final are:—

Plymouth v. South Devon.
Exeter v. Swindon.

Exeter have been holders since the tournament was inaugurated in season, 1935-36.

The battle for the championship of the 1st division has almost developed into a straight fight between St. Thomas Methodists (champions) and Y.M.C.A. Kings Lodge (runners up) with Emmanuel M.C. "A" with an outside chance. A three-cornered one for the 2nd division between Y.M.C.A. "C," Emmanuel M.C. "B," and St. Thomas Methodists "A" (champions) and also in the 3rd division between Crediton Town "B," Y.M.C.A. Colts and St. Thomas Methodists "B" (champions).

Winners of the first open Exeter Ladies tournament were:—

Ladies' Singles—Miss J. Brock.
Ladies' Doubles—Miss P. Greasley and Mrs. F. Young.
Mixed Doubles—Miss J. Brock and L. R. Suter.
Men's Doubles—H. J. Amery and C. F. J. Southcott.
Men's Singles—R. F. Litten.

THE West Bromwich Association now fully deserves its title of "District" as clubs come from **WEST BROMWICH.** Wednesbury, Oldbury, Smethwick, Langley, Dudley and Tipton.

Wellington Tube "A," unbeaten since entering the league three seasons ago still remain four points ahead in the first division, followed by Camp St. "A" (last season's cup winners).

Division 2 shows a neck-and-neck race between Chance Bros. "A," of Smethwick, and Triplex "A," of Tipton, with M.C.L. "A" (Langley) four points behind.

Salters (relegated from Division 2) hold a games-average lead over Camp St. "B" in Division 3, with Vono and Manifordia two points in the rear, while Church Army "B" hold a lead of six points in Division 4: Swan Village Wesley "A" are unbeaten.

Hopes "A" and Cuxson Gerrard (Oldbury) lead Division 5, the former, however, with by far the best games average an should be in the same positions at the end of the season.

The newly formed doubles league of 12 teams has become very popular, shown also by the fact that only on one occasion has a match been even postponed.

First division of the ladies shows the champions Cuxson Gerrard "A" still at the head of affairs by four clear points. Division 2 Cuxson Gerrard "B" (Oldbury), S.G.B. (Dudley) and Kingfishers (W.B.) are level with ten points each.

WEST OF ENGLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP
AT THE CIVIC HALL, EXETER
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WITH a greatly increased Belsten Cup entry and new records in the total entries for the Individual **BRISTOL:** Championships, Bristol players will be kept busy with championship matches during the early part of the New Year.

New Records. More than 330 players from Bristol, Bath, Weston-super-Mare and Salisbury, have entered for the "Evening World" championships and a further 200 for the "Evening Post" championships.

On top of this comes news of the proposed Western Counties League closed championships, open to members of the five constituent leagues—Bristol, Bath, Cardiff, Ilfracombe and Swindon—which should attract the majority of the "stars."

Dartford.

FROM 13 clubs, 13 teams to 21 clubs and 32 teams this is the record of the Dartford League after one year's active organisation. They begin the season with a Premier Division, 2nd Division East and West, and a Ladies' Division.

A month ago 100 seats (now known locally as the Dartford hundred) were reserved for the Wembley Finals, but the demand looks like greatly exceeding this number, for one club alone has applied for 33 seats.

It now remains for Dartford to produce a player to represent England and they don't mean to let even this one beat them.



Mr. P. C. Evans, Hon. Sec., Dartford League

Lincolnshire.

The Lincolnshire Inter-towns Leagues in the Haig Cup and subsidiary competitions have proved most successful, and in the latter there is an excellent fight between Scunthorpe, Skegness and Louth, each of which has dropped two points only.

Grimsby remain unbeaten in the Haig Cup, and is having its finest playing season by reaching the last eight in the Wilmott Cup, the National Team Competition.

Grantham and Gainsborough have affiliated to make the number of members fifteen. After three defeats by 4-5 in the County Championship the men's team turned the corner at Spalding by a 5-4 result over Cambridgeshire. The women's team has completed the double over Northumberland and lost away to Yorkshire.

All Ready for English Championships

BLACKPOOL EXPECTS RECORD CROWD

By "Lancashire Lad"

AS I type these words the entries for the English Open Championships are just arriving, and although many more will be coming in during the next day or two, the necessity of having the matter in the hands of the Editor many days before the date of publication makes it impossible to give all the entries.

Sufficient have come to hand to enable me to say that my prediction that these championships would dwarf any past event held in the North of England, as far as talent is concerned, has been fully realised.

Amongst the entries are found the names of the following well-known players, all of whom are of world ranking. The mere mention of their names will be sufficient to assure all the Northern fans that at Blackpool, on February 5, the cream of the table tennis world will be on view, and that the Finals will be an event such as no enthusiastic Northern fan should miss.

Hungary are contributing their share in G. V. Barna, L. Bellak and A. Bovos. The first two are regular favourites with Northern crowds. Austria have sent Liebster and the present World's Champion Bergmann. If he retains his title at Wembley, we may yet see Barna fighting to retain his English title against his younger challenger.

FROM Czecho-Slovakia come Vana and the famous ex-World's Champion, Kettnerova. Now that it is certain that Ruth Aarons is not coming over we may see the Austrian girl capture both the World's and the English. The North has waited a long time to see this remarkable player and now it has the opportunity. Pritzi is also coming from Austria, whilst in the absence of Ruth Aarons, S. Schiff and J. McClure will be competing and showing that the U.S.A. are still not far from the top of the tree.

Several other foreigners will be present and in addition to the English Swaythling and Corbillon Cup teams, entries have been received from Welsh and Irish internationals. Our only winning combination at the last English Championships will be there to defend their title. I refer to Misses Osborne and Woodhead.

This article will be published too late for my words to be of any use to the players but I can write a little about the Championships from the spectators' point of view.

The preliminary rounds will be held in the Ballroom of the Tower on Thursday evening, all day Friday, February 4 (three sessions, 9.30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.), and on Saturday morning at 9.30.

THE Semi-finals are being held in the Tower Circus (into which two years ago 3,000 people were packed to see a North of England v. Budapest match), on the Saturday at 2.30 p.m.

Seats are all bookable and the prices are 3s., 2s. and 1s. Children half-price. At 7.30 p.m., the Finals will be staged and the prices of the tickets are, Ringside, 7s. 6d.; Stalls, 5s.; Pit Stalls, 3s. 6d.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. 6d. All tickets are for reserved seats and are bookable by post from Mr. E. Worsley, the Organising Secretary at 20, Banbury Avenue, Blackpool.

Whilst I would urge everybody to book their seats in advance, there are, at the time of writing, plenty of seats at all prices, and there are a certain number of seats which will not be booked but can be paid for at the door on the night. In addition there will be standing room for several hundreds if the seats are all gone.

In conclusion let me advise all Northern fans to come to this, the greatest table tennis event ever to be held in the North, and to book their seats early, but to come, in any case.

New Home Means More Big Games Civil Service Plans

NOW that Civil Service Table Tennis has found a home at the Metropole Hall, the programme of representative matches is being extended, and the Service will be visited by the London League (men) on February 17, and the North Middlesex League on February 25 (women) and March 4 (men). All these matches commence at 7 p.m., entrance fee 6d.

In the London League match, the Service team of Stennett, Chappell, Heywood, Wearing, Martin and Thomas will be opposed by Bublely, Filby, Proffitt, Sears, Marshall and Coles. The programme will include both singles and doubles games, and one of the best evenings of the season is promised.

Civil Service v. St. Albans.—Played at St. Albans on January 8. Men: Won, 11-4; Women: Lost, 2-13. Civil Service v. London League (Women). Played at Indian Students' Club, January 12; Won, 6-3.

Middlesex Titles

Double for Arthur Haydon BERGL RETAINS SINGLES

I SYMPATHISE with Stanley Coles for that mistake over the net at the Middlesex championships at the Herga Club. But for that net I don't think Maurice Bergl would have made such short shift of their semi-final tie. Rather amazing to find the net nearly an inch too high at a major tournament.

Tommy Sears reached another final, but did not at any time look like recapturing his old confidence. Bergl, on the other hand, in his fifth successive final at his home club was confidence itself. He quickly got away to a two sets lead and then a brilliant spasm of hitting by Sears in the third set put Bergl back.

* * *

THE men's double provided the greatest achievement to my mind.

Arthur Haydon and Bublely, playing together for the first time, proved a very worth-while combination. They were never in difficulties against Hugh Jones and Baron until match point in the second set, and then Haydon had the confidence to try a winner and got it. The first set at 21-15 told of Haydon's hitting and Bublely's steadiness. Bublely, too, hit on his forearm with some good measure of success, which was surprising. The issue, even though at deuce in the second set, was never really in doubt because Baron was at sixes and sevens with the cross hitting of Haydon and the terrific drives of Jones were safely shepherded back by Bublely.

Haydon scored his second success in the mixed when he and Doris Jordan put Baron and Joan Harding out in straight sets, again the second going to deuce. Joan Harding was a revelation. She got Haydon's hits back easily and repeatedly broke through with real winners. She was the steadying influence on a partnership that promises well.

THE women's singles saw Wendy Woodhead completely outclassed by the persistent Connie Wheaton. The straight sets win does no more than due credit to Miss Wheaton because she won with plenty to spare.

The greatest surprise, I think, was the defeat of Dora Emdin and Doris Jordan, the Corbillon Cup players, by Misses Sewell and Yirrell in the women's doubles. The internationals won the first set comfortably at 21-9, but went down 21-17, 21-17 in the next. While they played below form the display of their opponents deserves every credit.

The closed women's singles saw Miss "Pip" Fowler beat her sister, Miss A. Fowler, 21-18, 21-19 in a grand game. Maurice Bergl also won the closed men's singles from D. Mackie in straight sets. Bergl won very comfortably, but held back in both sets after he had taken his lead.

COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS WOULD EASE E.T.T.A. TASK

No Interference with Championships

By
LESLIE BENNETT

Secretary of the
Lincolnshire T.T.A.

THE complex nature of London renders its players indifferent to county-consciousness. However, it should be practicable to create a London County T.T.A. to cover such areas as decided by the affiliated London leagues.

Those parts of Kent, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex and Essex excluded from the London Association could commence their own county associations. These would be able to rectify the anomaly of the annual granting of the titles of county open championships to private clubs, permission which the Executive is bound to give as no demurs are received from any other affiliated body.

It is not suggested that those at present staging county open championships should be deprived of so doing, but a county body could give the necessary ratification of the appropriate title. Cities as large as Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester could form district organisations separate from the rest of the county, as is done in Association Football. Special types of affiliated collective administrations such as the Civil Service T.T.A. and London Business Houses A.S.A. could retain their integrity, while there would be no need for their constitutions to conflict with that of county bodies.

INSTEAD of the circulars that the E.T.T.A. secretary has to send to thousands of affiliated clubs, he would have a much more reasonable task in issuing instructions to sixty or seventy county secretaries, whose committees would be responsible in

turn for circularising their members. Government would be carried out by the county bodies, always with the right of appeal to the E.T.T.A. itself, and the country would be split up into a federation of autonomous areas.

Included in the constitutional rights should be the upholding of club and league acts of suspension, to be maintained throughout the country with the corresponding establishment of the ability to appeal.

Affiliation to the county body would have to be compulsory, and here the vexed question of fees would arrive. At the present time, for its 3s. 6d. affiliation per season, a club receives a guinea's worth of value from the E.T.T.A. A reasonable suggestion is a shilling affiliation per club to the county organisation, which has always other methods of raising funds.

In the cases of Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester this county fee might not arise.

AS soon as the county body became sufficiently strong, assistance could be given where necessary. Valuable aid could be given towards the vital consolidation of the finances of the parent E.T.T.A. by, say, 12½ per cent. of the total entrance fees for county closed championships, which would not be severely felt.

It must be remembered that swimming clubs pay 17s. 6d. national affiliation fee per club, and amateur soccer clubs in some cases 7s. 6d. Other instances could be cited where affiliation is much dearer than in table tennis.

No doubt these ideas submitted are unsuitable in some places, and may be resented in others.

Western Champs. for Exeter

LEAGUES GIVE TROPHIES

THE West of England Table Tennis Championships are to be held for the first time at Exeter, on March 12, at the Civic Hall, Queen Street.

When the Championships were inaugurated two seasons ago the Leagues in the West agreed that in the interest of table tennis they should be held at the principal centres—Plymouth, Bristol, Exeter, Torquay and Ilfracombe—and not to be confined to one place, although Ilfracombe have staged them for the last two seasons. Incidentally the above-mentioned Leagues have kindly promised to provide Cups for the five major championship events.

Play will commence at 1.30 p.m., while visiting players have been exempted until 2 p.m. Ten Jaques tables will be in use during the afternoon session and evening play will commence at 7.30 p.m. It is hoped that the following players will defend their titles: Men's Singles, E. J. Filby; Men's Doubles, E. J. Filby and A. D. Brook; Ladies' Singles, Mrs. Hutchings; Ladies' Doubles, Mrs. Hutchings and Mrs. Booker; Mixed Doubles, E. J. Filby and Mrs. Booker.

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Viktor Barna (trainer) watching members, England Swaythling Cup Team at final training, at the Tottenham Liberal and Radical Club. Opponents at table are H. Lurie and E. Bubby.

NOTE.—Mayor, Mayoress and Deputy-Mayor to left of Barna (centre).

Should Wales Have Made Changes?

Youngsters Might Have Played in London Match

I DO not think that Welsh table tennis enthusiasts are alone in their envious regard of the efficient manner in which table tennis is organised in England. The English Association have, during the past two years, made an exhaustive search for fresh talent which would be capable of carrying everything before it.

Not only have they succeeded in their pursuit for talent, but the methods which they have adopted has aroused public interest to an extent hitherto undreamed of, and even the Press is gradually realising that, after all, there must be something in this "Ping Pong."

The E.T.T.A. also have evidently appreciated the fact that to maintain the interest of the Gallery, the Gallery must be catered for, and the Association is doing this in no uncertain fashion, for the World Championship events left no cause for grumble on the part of player or spectator, as so often has been the case previously.

THE Welsh Association jealously eye England in being in such a fortunate position as to be able to make a "splash" of these events, but unhappily they are unable even to make application for the Championships. They anxiously await the day when, with the completion of a large public hall in Cardiff, there will at least be the necessary accommodation to allow them to give thought to such an important venture.

The go-ahead attitude of England has undoubtedly had its repercussions in Wales, both on the playing and watching public, and has resulted in an all-round improvement. This is particularly evident in South Wales. Naturally, this improvement has caused the W.T.T.A. to extend its activities, but at the present we are far behind England.

In an endeavour to improve the standard of play in Cardiff, the League authorities decided to withdraw their Premier side from the Welsh League and participate in the Western Counties League.

THIS has resulted in the players having far sterner opposition, but, nevertheless, their performances have been quite creditable, the only defeat being at the hands of Swindon.

Cardiff were rather unfortunate in this match as their side was greatly depleted owing to calls for the England v. Wales match. They are also having inter-town games with other districts outside the jurisdiction of the Western Counties League, and a recent notable performance was their defeat of Birmingham by 6 sets to 4 sets. To wind up what promises to be a most successful season they are meeting a strong London team at Cardiff. This game is being keenly awaited, and great things are expected of the Cardiff side.

With the withdrawal of Cardiff, the most attractive side, the popularity of the Welsh League dwindled, and consequently the Association was faced with the problem of putting fresh life into the league or providing alternative attractions. To put new life into the League would have meant providing respectable playing conditions, and as, in many cases, this was impossible,

the League had to go. The Association is now contenting itself with running a series of Open Tournaments, but, up to the present, nothing startling has emanated from these. There seems to be just that lack of initiative on the part of the W.T.T.A. necessary to unearth potential players.

THE choice of players who represented Wales in London, Messrs. J. Meredith, F. Curtin, K. Milson and A. Sadler (Swaythling Cup), Mrs. E. H. Evans and Mrs. H. Roy-Evans (Corbillon Cup), has caused discontent, almost amounting to resentment, and the W.T.T.A. have been freely criticised in the South Wales Press. These criticisms are largely justified in view of the comments of the Association when publishing the teams.

Instead of using the England versus Wales match as a "feeler" for the Swaythling Cup team, preference was given to the old brigade. A bombshell was then thrown at both players and public alike by a statement that the Association were picking the Swaythling Cup team with an eye to the future. This policy is, without doubt, the one and only course to pursue in view of the repeated failure of our stalwarts, but the manner in which the Association has attempted to carry it out is so lacking in enterprise that it is impossible for enthusiasts to give them their support.

The only chosen member who has justified his inclusion is J. Meredith (Aberdare). He has delightful stroke play, but at the moment is rather prone to fall back on defence in the big matches. However, he should easily remedy this. The remaining three will, I think, readily agree that this selection came as a great surprise, even to themselves.

IT is alarming that Wales seems unable to find players of the age and playing ability of such as Lurie, but the Association has acknowledged defeat in the choice they have made. If we are to become a force to be reckoned with players must be sought who show promise and are young enough to respond to coaching. By no stretch of imagination can the chosen players be regarded as young, at least as regards table tennis.

It would have been far better had the Association taken a real chance and chosen players of the calibre of S. G. Roberts, Lyn Evans and H. Morgan, all of Cardiff. The public would then immediately have realised their intentions and given its support.

Brighton beat Surrey League MASTERFUL PLAY OF SEAMAN

AT the Havelock Hall, Addiscombe, on Sunday evening the 16th inst., a very fine exhibition of table tennis was staged in an inter-county match between Sussex (Brighton T.T. League) v. Surrey.

The teams were, for Brighton:—C. Seaman (captain), English International, B. Fretwell, E. Wheeler and F. Bamford, all of whom played both singles and doubles, and for Surrey, R. E. Moreton (captain), E. G. Reeve, H. R. Ransome, J. Fitt, J. Corney and E. Ridout, the first and last pairs playing doubles.

Six games were played in each half and the score at half-time was three games all. The final score was 8 sets to 4 in favour of Brighton.

Seaman played a masterful game throughout the match, being successful in all his four events, beating Moreton, Reeve and participating successfully in two of the doubles events. His successes undoubtedly inspired his colleagues. In the last game of the match Bamford showed his dire pluck in defence, and once in front was confident of the result. The honours of the evening in the Surrey team went to H. R. Ransome, who won both his games, and whose hard hitting was returned consistently by Wheeler. After two deuce games in the 11th set Ransome was six points down, but he "banged" himself home to win the last game 21-19. Gordon Reeve justified his selection again, for he beat Fretwell two games to one in the first half and was just unfortunate (with Moreton) to lose to Wheeler and Bamford after winning the first set.

THE fourth success of Surrey was the doubles pair, Corney and Ridout, who beat Wheeler and Bamford by two straight games, but were in turn beaten by Seaman and Fretwell by the same score.

At the same time as this match was in progress the Surrey Ladies' representatives were visiting the Brighton Ladies at Hove, and the result of this match was six games all.

The individual scores in the men's match were:—

Seaman beat Moreton 21-10, 21-13; Wheeler beat Fitt 21-14, 21-16; Seaman and Fretwell beat Moreton and Reeve 21-16, 21-18; Seaman beat Reeve 21-17, 21-11; Bamford beat Fitt 21-15, 20-21, 21-14; Fretwell beat Moreton 21-17, 9-21, 21-8; Wheeler and Bamford beat Moreton and Reeve 21-20, 8-21, 21-14; Seaman and Fretwell beat Corney and Ridout 21-17, 21-15; Ransome beat Bamford 20-21, 21-13, 21-17; Ransome beat Wheeler 20-21, 21-20, 21-19; Reeve beat Fretwell 20-21, 21-19, 21-16; Corney and Ridout beat Wheeler and Bamford 21-19, 21-15. Result, Brighton 8, Surrey 4.

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