

TABLE TENNIS



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

ENGLISH TENNIS



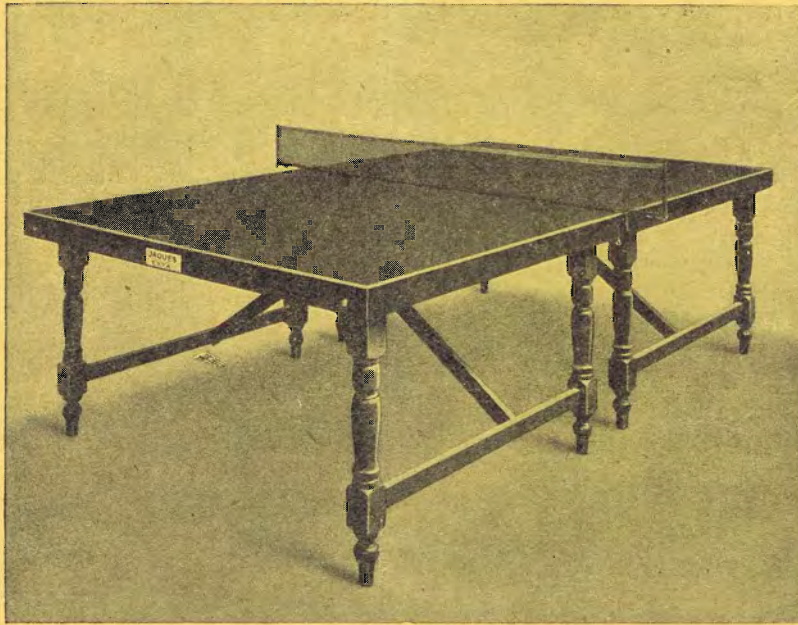
TABLE ASSOCIATION

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TABLE TENNIS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

E · T · T · A

VOLUME III. No. 8

MAY, 1938

THREE PENCE

W. MIDDLESEX TITLES

LITTLE MISS "POKER-FACE" OUR LATEST WOMAN STAR

Champions well beaten at West Ealing

THE most surprising thing about the West Middlesex championships, at the West Ealing Club, was the defeat of the champions in the singles events. Maurice Bergl went out in straight sets to Eric Filby, and Wendy Woodhead was beaten also in straight sets by young Jean Nicoll.

Fifteen-years-old Jean didn't reach the final by the easy route either. She had Joan Young and Joan Harding en route. In the final she proved a revelation. Her complete calm, and the perfect "poker-face" expression, show the temperament of a great player.

SHE played Wendy's hits with complete self-assurance and possessed a defence almost incredible in one so young. After seeing her, one can quite understand the idea which prompted Mrs. Greenwood to offer another cup for competition if Miss Nicoll won the trophy three times in succession. On this form she looks like becoming the Filby in the women's ranks. Certainly I can't point to any outstanding faults in her stroke execution.

Filby and Bergl provided a wonderful spectacle in the men's singles. If Maurice did lose his title he has at least the consolation that he almost held Filby in his free hitting bouts. Bergl defended splendidly, but one has to do a mile more than that to hold those Filby drives down the lines. At times Eric hit in desperation to bring off breath-taking winners.

It was a great match, and the score of three straight sets hardly does justice to the fine battle which Bergl put up.

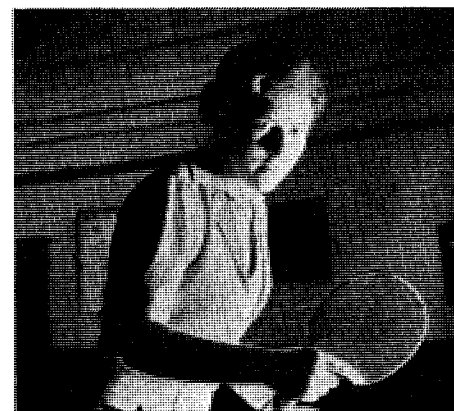
ERIC FILBY got still another treble. It is getting almost monotonous these days. He and Jean Nicoll stopped the run of successes which Leon Baron and Joan Harding seem to have been enjoying. They seem to be admirably paired up, and I think they are without question our best mixed pairing at the moment. Baron played really well and hit with judgment, but Miss Nicoll is just a wee bit too steady for them all.

Filby got his third title in the men's doubles with Jack Rogers, and without question their match against Hugh Jones and Baron was one of the best I have seen for a long time. Baron has developed a tendency to hit, and it was refreshing to see him and Jones trading hits with the Filby-Rogers combination.

IN the last match Filby seemed just a wee bit tired, and it was Rogers this time who hit clean through the defence of their opponents. I thought the match would have gone to five sets after Baron-Jones won the first very comfortably.

They never allowed Filby and Rogers to settle down in the first match. The second saw Filby hitting more accurately, and Baron and Jones making defensive slips to lose the set. The third provided really good open play before the South of England champions won at 19. They were 19-18 down in the final game before Rogers hit three really spanking winners.

CONNIE WHEATON and Bessie Wright again demonstrated that there are few better women's doubles pairs than themselves. They made plenty of mistakes to drop the first game to Jean Nicoll and Miss Constantine, but didn't repeat them in the



Miss Jean Nicoll.

subsequent games, and relied on their solid defence to carry them through.

FINALS RESULTS.

Men's Singles.

E. J. Filby beat M. Bergl (Holder) 21-16, 21-15, 21-16.

Women's Singles.

Miss J. Nicoll beat Miss W. Woodhead (Amscham) 21-17, 21-14.

Men's Doubles.

E. J. Filby and J. Rogers beat H. Jones and L. Baron 13-21, 21-15, 21-19, 21-19.

Women's Doubles.

Miss C. Wheaton and Miss B. Wright beat Miss J. Nicoll and Miss N. Constantine 11-21, 21-16, 21-17.

Mixed Doubles.

E. J. Filby and Miss Nicoll beat L. Baron and Miss Joan Harding 21-19, 21-14.

J. W. A. CONNOLLY.

Lisle's Amazing Lapse

NOTTS beat Warwickshire in men's section (Midland Group) of county championship. Big surprise, for Warwickshire expected to gain easy victory, especially as Lisle in opening set beat Csgano the Notts star, in two straight games.

Lisle, however, suffered an amazing defeat at the hands of Wigginton (a fine fighter). At one game all Lisle led in the third game 20-11, but in going out for an outright winner, lost the next 11 points in a row, to lose the match in deuce.

Notts as winners of the Midland group met winners of Northern group, Lancashire (Liverpool).

Warwickshire women tie with Yorkshire at top of section, after beating Lincoln 6-3 in return match.

Interesting position in Midland Counties Leagues, resulting from entry of new Notts Association, who beat Coventry 6-3, but lost to Birmingham 5-4.

Coventry beat Birmingham for the first time ever, and stood an excellent chance of winning the league. H. Sharpe has contributed largely to their success.

GREAT BELFAST RECEPTION FOR OUR FOREIGN TOURISTS

CHAMPIONS!!

IN Northern Ireland the visit of the tourists on Saturday, March 26, created such interest that five weeks before the event applications for the best seats (irrespective of price) were received from prominent business and commercial men.

This was the first visit of table tennis "stars" to Belfast, and so great was the last minute rush that the demand exceeded the supply of reserved seats. Mr. Isaac Stewart (Vice-President) and Mr. Norman M. Wilson (Hon. Secretary) escorted the players from Dublin to Belfast on Friday, March 25, and a civic welcome by the Lord Mayor, Sir Crawford McCullough, Bart., was extended to them at the City Hall. G. V. Barna was "on the air" later in an interview during the local news.

BARNA presented the prizes at the Ulster Championship finals. The tourists attended the Celtic v. Glentoran football match at Windsor Park, and poor Viktor had a bad time watching the mistakes.

Then the Exhibitions on Saturday night—Viktor the idol of the crowd, with Bergmann a close second. Most unfortunately, Vana was off form, but Liebster played great stuff. Undoubtedly the match between Bergmann and Barna was the supreme classic of the evening. Flick—flick—flick—up to twenty Viktor sent over in one rally, and they all came back! This match, won by Bergmann 2-1, lasted 35 minutes and thrilled the largest crowd for table tennis ever in Belfast.

MOST of the thousand spectators had never seen anything so brilliant, and mentioned afterwards that they wished the Exhibitions had gone on another three hours.

At an interval during the programme, Mr. Norman M. Wilson presented the players to the Rt. Hon. H. G. H. Mulholland, M.P. (Speaker of the Northern Ireland House of Commons), who presented them with monogrammed linen handkerchiefs as souvenirs of their visit to Belfast.

After the Exhibitions—a supper in the Grand Central Hotel with 60 guests. Good speeches, good entertainment, especially by Messrs. Close and Struthers ("The Two Jimmies") whose signature tune "Shake, and let us be friends," has been adopted by the N.I.T.T.A. as its own national anthem.

AT Hackney the tourists, with two of our own Internationals, Eric Filby and Stanley Proffitt, were received by the Mayor and Mayoress.

They played before a crowded house at the King's Hall, where many people were turned away very disappointed.

The first half of the programme was taken up by Exhibition matches. After the interval the knock-out tournament followed for the Mayor's trophy, which took the form of a silver cigarette casket. Vana beat Filby with ease 21-16, 21-12.

The next match was, I think, the most interesting one of the evening, Liebster played Barna. Barna's back-hand flick was working well and Liebster seemed as though he could not do anything wrong. After a terrific fight Liebster beat Barna, 21-19, 19-21, 26-24.

THE third match Vana played Bergmann. Before they started to play they amused everybody by a few tricks before serving to each other.

Vana produced the forehand drive which took him to the top at Wembley, and beat Bergmann after we had witnessed some really grand play, 21-16, 12-21, 21-16.

Liebster played Proffitt next, and won fairly easily, 21-11, 21-10. Proffitt produced some really excellent returns but was unable to beat Liebster, who was playing on top form. This brought Liebster in the final with Vana.

THE final was again one of many thrills. Liebster took the first game at 21-15. The result of the first game made Vana play as though he had the World Championship title at stake, he won the next two games, 21-17, 21-12. The last game Liebster had the lead at 19-16, and everybody was hoping that he would win, but Vana managed to pull up and bring the score to 20 all. Then Vana won the game and match, 23-21.

Although the spectators were rather disappointed at the absence of Bellak they were all delighted with the great show put up by his substitute Liebster. The Mayor (Alderman H. W. Capell), who had taken a very great interest in the tourists' visit to Hackney presented the trophy to Vana.

FOR the second year in succession the Hoover Sports Club entertained the tourists. Players this year were B. Vana, G. V. Barna, R. Bergmann and A. Liebster. Over 300 club members and friends assembled in the Perivale canteen to watch the exhibition, and they were well rewarded by an evening of wonderful table tennis.

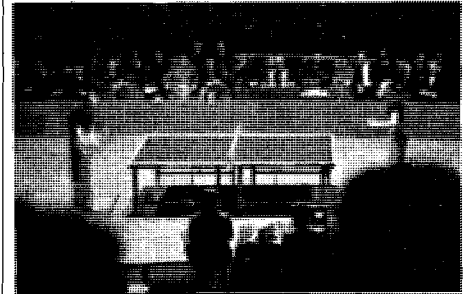


All the stars were in fine form, and Barna, in particular, was at his best, beating Vana 17-21, 21-18, 21-18, and Bergmann 21-19, 21-17. Liebster too, played remarkably well, and beat Vana 21-19, 21-16, and Bergmann 21-17, 21-16.

In a doubles match Vana and Liebster beat Barna and Bergmann 21-12, 21-18, and in the final match of the evening Bergmann and Vana renewed their rivalry and this time Bergmann came out the victor 21-18, 20-21, 21-15. Vana also played one game against D. Riley of Hoover, winning 21-12, while Bergmann beat another Hoover player, R. R. James, 21-7.

After the matches, the players were presented with souvenirs of Hoover Ltd. by Mr. A. G. Colston, Chairman of the Hoover Sports Club, and Barna presented the cups and medals for the Hoover Club Handicap Championships.

The duties of M.C. for the evening were carried out by Mr. R. H. J. Wriscon, Chairman of the Hoover T.T.C., and the exhibition was arranged by Mr. C. M. Pennington, Hon. Secretary of the Hoover T.T.C., ably supported by the table tennis committee, who acted as umpires for the games, with enthusiastic members of the club.



*Barna and Bellak in play.
The tourists will all be going home soon.*

A Dance followed the exhibition, and the players were entertained by the club to dinner at the "Mylett Arms."

Altogether a truly successful evening, and the only query from Hoover Sports Club is, "When can we have them again?"—may it be soon.

THE Midland Bank Table Tennis Club entertained Messrs. Vana, Bergmann, Barna and Liebster on March 3, 1938, at the Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, W. 1, and in return were treated to a grand display of table tennis. Over 800 bankers and their friends thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition.

The magnificent hall, which has only recently been completed, was an admirable venue for such a spectacle.

If you could have seen the faces of the players when first they saw the hall you would have been really surprised at their unanimous exclamations of appreciation. The hall was alive with colour. Blue and orange chairs lent a continental atmosphere to the scene, which was reminiscent to Barna and company of some of the halls in which they play at home.

AT the start, as the lights were dimmed, Alimelights were turned on the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery, where Sir Harry Cassie Holden, a director of the bank, and Lady Holden officially received the tourists and presented them to the crowd. Lady Holden handed mementoes to the players and to Mrs. R. Roberts, who kindly came up from Margate to umpire the games.

The play was very good and held the attention throughout. Barna seemed off form before the interval, but his match with Bergmann immediately after the break was the highlight of the evening. One particular rally brought the house down, and round after round of applause held up the play for some minutes.

NOTHING but praise has been forthcoming since the event for the excellent arrangements. The players themselves gave us a much appreciated compliment when they said that the Midland Bank Table Tennis Club had staged what to them was one of the high spots, if not the highest, of a memorable tour.

The whole of the proceeds from the sale of the programme have been donated to the Bank Clerks' Orphanage.

Improve your Game

No. 8.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT BALL— THE VALUE OF RESTRAINT

YOU may have learned to make all the strokes, have a forehand and backhand attack, can defend quite well on either hand, can use the half-volley and execute a drop shot—and yet don't seem to get full value for your strokes, to have so very much on other players whose general stroke playing ability is obviously more limited than your own.

Where, then, is the failure?

The answer is very often: "Lack of discrimination in use of strokes."

A VERY common error of the all-round stroke player is thinking all those strokes must always be used. He will use a drop shot when his opponent is obviously ready for it, suddenly go over to backhand when in good forehand attacking position, or start defending for no apparent reason.

The obvious reply seems—what have I got a defence or a backhand hit for if I don't use them?

And I say that a really class player is quite satisfied to win the point in any way. He does not, for instance, necessarily hurl himself on to attack straight away even if that's his strongest point. He feels his way for the first few points. There is no hurry—he's not under pressure and he knows his own powers—that he has a good hit, a good chop and so on, and will expect certain results from his own game.

What he does NOT know is how well (or badly) his opponent can play. So he must find out and uses the opening part of the game to do so.

FOR that reason I condemn hitting the opposition service immediately. It is much too chancy a way of playing—until an opponent's play is sized up.

Play within yourself—well enough to win and no more. Don't try to do too much—keep something in reserve. By so doing you will get into the way of not wasting points.

Let your opponent do that. If he is in a terrific hurry to win points give him his head. Let him hurry his game by all means. He may send a few shots past you, but he is far more likely to make you a present of several points.

Don't give points away.

JUST because you've got a lead of two or three points do not alter your game and try silly, risky shots for no reason.

This is a frequent error with bad or inexperienced match players and a sure sign of a player who has poor control over his game.

There is a vast difference between failing to win a point and losing it. A good player, if his good shot is returned, does not have the attitude of desperate necessity to force a winner.

He will be satisfied to keep the ball in play unless the return to his hit presents a very easy chance for a smash. If a good hit is retrieved the return is often quite a good one.

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

THE good player has enough self-restraint to recognise this. Besides he may be a little unbalanced—fatal for when trying another hit. Quick recovery after making a hard hit is desirable, but it is often impossible to recover soon enough to repeat the shot. You attempted to apply the *coup de grace*—and failed—but you needn't throw away the point because of that.

When you have got your opponent "on the run," his resistance is obviously weakening. Then press home your attack (or keep grimly on with your chop as the case may be). At such a time there should be a rich reward in points.

Watch a good player in a tournament for a perfect illustration.

Barna against Ehrlich in the semi-final of the World Singles Championships in 1935 was a good example of a player recognising the fact that his attacking shots could not pierce his opponent's defence.

On the first game Ehrlich returned most of Barna's flicks and with the aid of his long stride and big reach was able to despatch many of Barna's alternative short returns for winners. The first game was 21-11 to Ehrlich. What did Barna do? In the second game he hit less, but tempted Ehrlich with more short ones, and himself got back ready to defend.

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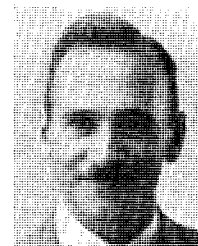
Miss R. SMITS Miss G. CAPPER

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Ehrlich duly over-hit and Barna levelled the score. The third game was more or less a repetition of the second one, although closer.

Barna, having adjusted his game to the needs of the occasion and gained a lead of two games to one, pressed home his attack and with Ehrlich weakening won the fourth game fairly comfortably.

IF IT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR BARN TO USE DISCRETION—WELL, THE LESSON IS OBVIOUS.



M. A. Symons.

L AZLO BELLAK, with all his crushing L array of strokes (he is a finer all-round stroke player than Barna), is inclined to play his strokes regardless of their point winning value. So, in spite of his genius for the game, Bellak has never won the World Singles Championship. Barna, of course, has won it five times.

It is not enough to be able to execute a stroke—ask yourself: "How often does it go on or off the table?" I have heard a player describe his play on a certain occasion as "my real form"—meaning a match when he played extra well (*i.e.*, above himself). Try not to flatter yourself. *It is the strokes you can always make that are your real game.*

A FEW last words for those who wish to improve standard play by means of intensive practice.

If you have one good stroke and other weaker ones do not deceive yourself into thinking that you will eventually execute all of them equally well.

That is chasing the rainbow of perfection. You may, of course, be the Vana or Bergmann that England is looking for, but it is, at least, unlikely.

Adopt the common sense viewpoint. You can learn to execute all the strokes well enough to win points, and develop a complete game. Do not expect to make a new or weak stroke as strong as your best. Fill the gaps in your game, concentrate on your *best stroke*, aim for perfection with that and you may very nearly succeed.

Make so sure of your shot that you feel you could execute it with your eyes shut. That's real class.

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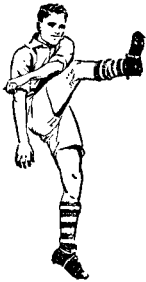
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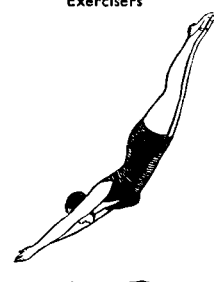
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Looking Around

with

J. W. A. CONNOLLY

("Sunday Express" sports writer)

MY sympathies are with Alf Welsh in his "Nuaw" tournament venture. Not a very happy start, I am afraid, but a very courageous outlook.

The Thursday prior to the start of the tournament he found that the hall already booked was not available, the builders having arrived unexpectedly to carry out alterations.

Mr. Welsh and his friends stayed up the whole night sending wires and letters to the 400 odd entrants to tell them the sad news. They spent the whole of the following day chasing round London looking for a suitable hall.

EVENTUALLY they booked the Brixton Lucania and the Metropole, but could only manage four days. So to add to all their other worries they had a day clipped off their schedule, which again meant entire reorganisation.

Rather than cancel the tournament they set down to work, stayed up all Sunday night, and under the circumstances put up a very good show. The result was that money, quite a useful sum, was lost on the affair through no fault of the organisers themselves, but because they wanted to keep faith with the players.

THE highlights of the tournaments were the shirts worn by Benny Marcus and Harry Rosen. Quite the "complete Americans." On the back of their maroon shirts, in gold letters about a foot deep, was the inscription ACES. Quite elaborate to have it stitched on in "cloth of gold."

I think the boys must have been looking at the little American Pagliaro when he was over here. On the front of the shirts, in place of the club badge, was a golden ace of spades.

The Nuaw broke the luck of several prominent players. Harry Rosen, although already an international, won his first open tournament.

Mrs. Collier will remember it for the same reason, and Phil Hodgkinson, who hasn't won an important event since she won the Surrey a couple of years ago, broke her spell.

IT isn't often that I tip a young player to watch, because tips have an exasperating way of turning round the wrong way. However, I'll take a chance on fifteen-years-old London player, C. E. Merrett.

He has the strokes and the temperament, but just lacks that essential—experience. In a year or so he'll be hitting the high spots, because what I saw of his game is absolutely natural.

CONGRATULATIONS to Joan Harding for winning the London League singles. There are some mighty good names on

the cup, and I think most of them have at one time or another been internationals.

It augurs well for Miss Harding. And also to Stanley Coles for winning the men's singles. He hasn't had a great deal of luck this season, although he has been playing well enough.

Ernie Bublely, who set a precedent playing with a gloved right hand, will probably play with two gloves next season. The reason is that Ernie is a violinist.

I HAVE just lost my assistant editor, Leslie Forrest, who is taking up an appointment in Middlesex. Like all table tennis followers, while missing him greatly, I wish him the best of luck in his new career.



Mr. Leslie Forrest.

Leslie Forrest has been one of the most loyal table tennis enthusiasts I have ever known. He worked for many years in South Wales, and then, of course, transferred his energies to the Liverpool, and helped put the north on the map.

FEW people in the south, meeting Leslie in the E.T.T.A. offices, had any idea that he was a very fine player in his Merseyside days. I can well remember him as one of the earlier stalwarts of the Liverpool League.

The new business appointment won't permit him to work quite so hard for table tennis as in the past, but he won't sever his connection with the game. I am glad that his resignation came at the end of the season and not at the beginning, because his services have been invaluable to me.

"OUR WORLD CHAMPION"

GERMANY ACCLAIMS AUSTRIAN GIRL STAR

THE last issue of "Tisch Tennis," the official paper of the German T.T.A., carries an action picture of Trudi Pritzi on the front page captioned, "The world champion becomes



Trudi Pritzi.

No. 1 in German table tennis." There is an article, "Our world champion — Trudi Pritzi," and beginning, "We proclaim a hearty welcome to our world champion, Trudi Pritzi (Vienna), into the united great German home."

Strange that our wiseacs, thinking out ways of making English world champions, have never hit on this one.

Perhaps the E.T.T.A. selection committee had better look around and select a promising country.

We could get a few world champions. Say, Hungary. Or, perhaps, take over U.S.A.

After all that was once British territory. Look out for the next issue: "We proclaim a hearty welcome to our world champions, Jimmy McClure and Sol Schiff, into our united Anglo-Saxon home."

THE matter has not been regulated with proper courtesy to the International Federation. No doubt at all that, as in the case last year of Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State, the Federation will willingly recognise the desire of two associations for joint representation, when application is made.

Meantime the high-handed attitude is a slight on the I.T.T.F. Even in the matter of the anchluss of the two states. The German Government notified the League of Nations of what had taken place. In taking over the Austrian T.T.A., however, as far as we know the German T.T.A. has not yet thought it necessary to inform anyone.

When it does the question will probably be raised of the position under Article 2 of many Austrian table tennis players who are well known and popular in this country and who were expelled from their association within a few hours of its annexation.

"A. K. M."

"NUCAW" PROMOTORS' UNLUCKY START

BUT TOURNAMENT BREAKS PLAYERS' LUCK

THE Nucaw people were particularly unfortunate in their first championship. I think they deserve praise rather than anything else, because they decided to carry on instead of abandoning the tournament, as they might well have been justified in doing.

Harry Rosen got his first open tournament success in winning the men's singles. He had a brief struggle for supremacy in the first half of the opening game of his semi-final with Glickman, but once the latter tried to hit everything he was well beaten. Harry won his final very comfortably against G. Harrower in straight sets, although Harrower played soundly on the defensive.

MRS. COLLIER got there and won her first open. Like Harry Rosen she got a double, and might even have got a treble, if she hadn't come across a stumbling block like Phil Hodgkinson in the final.

Phil was rather too good in the general run of things. She played well within her own standards and easily passed Mrs. Collier on the backhand, and won in straight sets.

Benny Marcus and Harry Rosen never had to fight hard in their doubles fight against Bowden and White as the score 21-9, 21-13, 21-15 suggests. They made up for their defeat in the London League doubles the previous night.

Which rather reminds me, Benny Marcus was beaten in his group by Mattingley, and for the first time in a couple of years' competitive play failed to qualify in the singles.

New Honours for Stanley

KEN STANLEY of the Manchester Y.M.C.A., English junior champion, added to his laurels in winning the Manchester League individual championship, and is the first player to do so who has yet to secure international honours (writes S. W. Richardson).

Considering the strength of the entry each season, the Manchester League title ranks higher than many open titles, and Ken Stanley's success is praiseworthy.

On recent displays B. Casofsky was a favourite, but although Stanley lost the first game in the final, he rallied brilliantly, and despite the hard hitting of his opponent, returned smashes with ease.

MANCHESTER Y.M.C.A. also won the doubles when Stanley and C. W. Davies were successful.

RESULTS.

Semi-finals—B. Casofsky (Grove House) beat C. W. Davies (Y.M.C.A.), 23-21, 21-15. K. Stanley (Y.M.C.A.) beat L. Cohen (Maccabi), 21-11, 19-21, 21-15.

Final—Stanley beat Casofsky, 16-21, 21-19, 21-15.

Doubles—K. Stanley and C. W. Davies (Y.M.C.A.) beat F. Cromwell and B. Casofsky (Grove House), 17-21, 21-11, 21-12.

GROVE House have regained the Manchester League championship by their superior sets average over Manchester Y.M.C.A., both being level on points, a similar position to last season when Y.M.C.A. carried the honours.

MRS. COLLIER and Phil Hodgkinson didn't have all their own way against the Misses Howes and Harris in the women's doubles, although they were always good enough to win.

Mrs. Collier and Glickman seemed to have an easy enough task against E. G. White and Miss Barnes in the mixed, but when it came to the actual match they had to fight hard enough.

White and Miss Barnes at first found difficulty in getting at Glickman's quick hits. White fought hard for points with his service. The score 21-17, 21-18 does justice to their play.

The huge number of scratchings made the finals duller than we had hoped for.

RESULTS.

SINGLES (Men's)—H. Rosen beat G. Harrower 21-12, 21-14, 21-18; (Women's)—Miss P. Hodgkinson beat Mrs. H. Collier 21-11, 21-14. **DOUBLES (Men's)**—H. Rosen and B. Marcus beat E. G. White and N. Bowden 21-9, 21-13, 21-15; (Women's)—Miss P. Hodgkinson and Mrs. H. Collier beat Miss M. Harris and Miss P. Howes 21-13, 21-19; (Mixed)—Mrs. Collier and Glickman beat Miss Barnes and White 21-17, 21-18.

J. W. A. CONNOLLY.

ST. THOMAS' AGAIN EXETER CHAMPIONS

ST. Thomas Methodists again proved too strong for the Exeter Y.M.C.A. King's Lodge, runners-up and the rest, and so retained the championship of Division I of the Exeter and District League. The Exeter Y.M.C.A., however, annexed the second and third division championship, but encountered strong opposition from the Emmanuel M.C. "B" and St. Thomas Methodist "A" and "B" before doing so.

Interest in the first Exeter Ladies' League was maintained until the end of the season, and Devonian women were successful in winning the championship by the narrow margin of one point from Exonia women.

On "Finals Night" the men's singles, doubles and women's singles championship were retained by F. G. Grigg, Grigg and I. R. Suter and Miss Joan Brock respectively. L. J. Blight, of the Exeter Y.M.C.A. "C," won the "Sanford" Cup, virtually the second and third division championship.

It is with regret I announce that after ten years' wonderful work on behalf of the Exeter and District League, Mr. A. S. King, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, does not intend to stand for election next season. It is pleasing to learn, however, that he intends to retain an active interest in the league's development.

"L. C. K."

BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY - - FOR S. W. RICHARDSON

IN WHICH I GO A-ROVING AND SEE SOME FINE PLAY

LANCASHIRE WIN COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

THE first county championship has been won by Lancashire or should I say Liverpool. On April 12 they beat Nottinghamshire at the Oddfellows' Hall, Buxton, before a crowded gathering by 8 sets to 1. Actually both counties had won their respective sections by close margin, but there was a marked superiority of the winners in the final.

I like my visits to Buxton, it seems such a convenient spot to get to, and looking back it has quite an history in the table tennis world.

WHO could forget that wonderful men's singles final between G. V. Barna and A. A. Haydon in the English open championships in 1932-33 at the Pavilion Gardens.

And incidentally I well remember taking part in a county match between Derbyshire and Cheshire at the Eagle Hotel, Buxton, some five or six years ago. Cheshire won, I believe, and in its team was L. Bowyer, who afterwards secured international rank.

BUT back to Lancashire's win. J. K. Hyde went on first to beat J. Wiggington, the Nottingham champion runner-up,

Hyde's super attack never allowing his opponent any grace.

Then G. Csango, Nottingham champion, and ex-junior champion of Budapest, levelled matters by beating my old friend "Biffer" or Freddy Bamford, a Welsh international, in a match that at times suggested it was to be a real chiselling duel.

After that Lancashire carried all before them. P. U. Rumjahn hit brilliantly throughout, while I do remember Bamford winning one set with a glorious back-hand flick.

MR. F. A. Amies, from Yorkshire, acted as referee, while the Buxton League, a grand little body, organised the arrangements. Results: (Lancashire players first). J. K. Hyde beat J. Wiggington 21-10, 21-12, beat J. Warrington 21-16, 21-5, and beat G. Csango 21-11, 21-6. P. U. Rumjahn beat Wiggington 21-12, 21-12, beat Warrington 21-10, 21-14, and beat Csango 21-17, 21-12. F. Bamford beat Wiggington 21-12, 21-17, beat Warrington 21-18, 21-18, but lost to Csango 12-21, 21-12, 19-21.

WILMOTT CUP

Manchester win "Needle" game with Liverpool

SATURDAY, April 9, was a memorable day for Manchester. They won the Wilmott Cup for the second time in three years. This time they visited Liverpool. What a pleasant change from their gruelling trip last year to Croydon! In meeting Liverpool, their old rivals in the final, they once again came out on top.

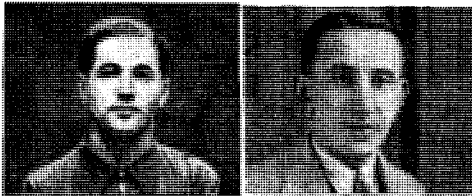
It was a grand day of table tennis, and I was sorry to see such a poor crowd present. They missed a treat. First Liverpool met London in the semi-final and beat them by 5 sets to 3, thanks to J. K. Hyde winning his three sets and P. U. Rumjahn winning two. M. B. W. Bergl did not have a very happy day; somehow he rarely does when he comes North. Then Manchester went through Barking by 5-0 and never dropped a game.

Then the final and what a final! First B. Casofsky, who was the surprise packet in the Manchester team, went on against J. K. Hyde, whose recent form suggests to me he has unchallengeable claims at being England's No. 1. It was a real hitting duel, smashes smashed back, the crowd



Left:
L. Cohen

Here are the Manchester players who have done so well



Above:
H. Lurie, the Swaythling Cup star

Right:
K. Stanley



Above:
B. Casofsky, another international

thrilled to bits, Casofsky winning the first game—17 all in the second, Hyde won, then, as I expected, took the third.

Hyman Lurie levelled matters by beating E. J. Rumjahn, but Liverpool went ahead and led 3-1, with Hyde still another set to play. Manchester had to pull themselves together. They dare not drop another set, nor did they. Four sets all when B. Casofsky beat E. J. Rumjahn.

J. K. Hyde, for Liverpool, and B. Casofsky were the stars, the latter's form suggesting he is a player for the future. The donor, Mr. A. J. Wilmott, presented the trophy to Mr. Jack Batty, non-playing captain of the Manchester team at the close of a very good day.

Liverpool officials, ably led by Mr. W. Stamp, can be congratulated on the arrangements.

S. W. R.

RECORD ENTRY IN LIVERPOOL EVENTS

BY W. STAMP

THE Liverpool "closed" championship attracted a record entry of over 380, being only a few short of the Merseyside "open" entry.

Ken Hyde won the singles and put his name on the Montagu Burton Cup for the second time. Miss Rita Doolan achieved her ambition in winning the women's singles title against Miss N. Norrish in what was the best game of the night.

Miss Norrish, who has been out of the game for just over a year, celebrated her return by winning the women's doubles in partnership with Mrs. Lloyd. F. Bamford and J. K. Hyde continued their winning partnership by winning the men's doubles, and Peter Rumjahn and Miss E. Malley for the third year in succession won the mixed doubles.

M. Greenberg won the junior singles and made a promising debut a week later when he played in the inter-city match against Manchester, and overcoming a natural nervousness took a game from Andy Millar.

TO encourage the less experienced players, trophies to be known as the "F. W. Lake" and "John Bartholomew" challenge cups were presented for competition among the regional players, and were won by F. B. Knott and Miss L. Robinson.

At the North Wales "open" on April 2, at Craigsidde Hydro, Llandudno, the Liverpool players had a "day out" when J. K. Hyde won the open singles, Hyde and Bamford the doubles, Miss Norrish and Mrs. Lloyd the women's, and P. Rumjahn and Miss E. Malley the mixed, whilst Miss Norrish reached the final and lost 21-18 in the third game to Miss E. M. Steventon (Birmingham).

The season concluded by Liverpool becoming the Northern and Midland County champions, when they defeated Nottingham 8-1, at Buxton, on April 12.

The league champions in the various Divisions are:—Division 1, Clubmoor; Division 2, Lee's Tapestry and St. Simons (tie for first place and have to play off on a neutral table); Division 3, Homecroft. Women's Division, Clubmoor. Regions—North, Nelta "A"; South, Maccabi "A"; East, Hatton; West, Birkenhead Y.M.C.A. Juniors.

The F. L. Forrest cup competition, which is confined to the four clubs who have been declared champions of their respective regions, has yet to be played. The Readman, Hyde and Bartholomew cup winners are Clubmoor, Harold House "A" and Clubmoor women respectively.

CASOFSKY SHINES AT GRIMSBY

BUT THE LOCALS DO WELL

THE Grimsby open tournament attracted an even greater entry than last year, and now, with an entry of 320, bids fair to becoming the North's premier minor tournament. Players came from all the surrounding districts and from Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and Peterborough.

Starting on the Friday evening when matches between local players were staged on the seven tables in the Cleethorpes Pavilion, and on the Saturday two extra tables had to be used.

The main features of the earlier rounds were without real surprises, although the progress of Hall, the Lincolnshire champion and Grimsby's number one, was a pleasure to the locals. He disposed of Waterworth (Boston), Marston and Denby (Leeds and Yorkshire county players) and Bosworth (Lincoln), to reach the quarter-final, where he went down to the ultimate winner, Casofsky, after a great fight.

Other local players to reach this stage were Brown and Hallgarth, but these players had only locals to contend with. These, along with H. L. Cook, of Lincoln, made four Lincolnshire players in the last eight.

J. Green, of Sheffield, took the youths' singles and reached the semi-final of the open. A very promising player, perhaps showing too much defence. Cromwell only beat him by experience in the semi-final, having to come down to a very cautious game, perilously near to chiselling, to win in three games.

Abrahamson, of Hull, did well to reach the semi-final stage before losing to Casofsky, when in a hurry for a train he threw all caution to the winds and proceeded to give Casofsky a good fight.

RESULTS.

Men's Singles.

SEMI-FINAL—B. Casofsky (Manchester) beat A. Abrahamson (Hull) 21-17, 21-14; F. Cromwell (Manchester) beat J. Green (Sheffield) 14-21, 21-13, 21-10.

FINAL—Casofsky beat Cromwell 21-19, 21-16.

Women's Singles.

SEMI-FINAL—M. Isaac (Grimsby) beat M. Piercy (Grimsby) 17-21, 21-19, 21-14; R. Doolan (Liverpool) beat B. Langrick (Grimsby) 21-17, 18-21, 21-19.

FINAL—Doolan beat Isaac 21-16, 18-21, 21-14.

Men's Doubles.

SEMI-FINAL—Casofsky and Cromwell (Manchester) beat Reynolds and Cross (Grimsby) 21-10, 21-12; Marston and Wright (Leeds) beat Patchett (Bradford) and Russell (Grimsby) 21-15, 21-16.

FINAL—Casofsky and Cromwell beat Marston and Wright 21-9, 21-10.

Women's Doubles.

SEMI-FINAL—V. Cross and E. Ward (Grimsby) beat M. Isaac and P. Scott (Grimsby) 22-20, 21-17; M. Piercy and B. Langrick (Grimsby) beat M. Davies and R. Acreman (Peterborough) 21-10, 21-15.

FINAL—Piercy and Langrick beat Cross and Ward 21-16, 15-21, 21-15.

Mixed Doubles.

SEMI-FINAL—L. Cohen (Manchester) and Mrs. Stead (Bradford) beat A. Hall and Miss Piercy (Grimsby) 21-16, 16-21, 24-22; B. Casofsky (Manchester) and Miss Doolan (Liverpool) beat R. Reynolds and Mrs. Reynolds (Grimsby) 21-11, 21-10.

FINAL—Cohen and Stead beat Casofsky and Doolan 17-21, 21-16, 21-12.

Youths' Singles.

SEMI-FINAL—F. Taylor (Grimsby) beat M. Ansell (Lincoln) 21-13, 22-24, 21-16; J. Green (Sheffield) beat B. Bennett (Grimsby) 21-6, 21-13.

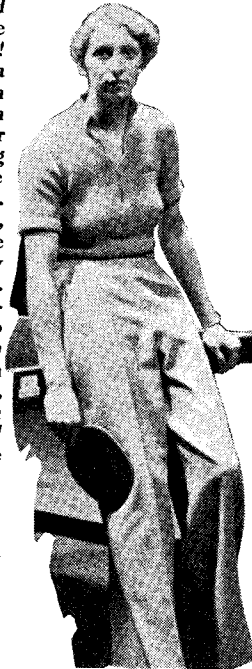
FINAL—Green beat Taylor 21-14, 21-10.

WELSH WOMEN UNLUCKY TO LOSE BY BIG MARGIN

Dora Emdin strikes her best form of season

ON Saturday, April 9, England played her ninth international match against Wales at Cardiff. Both the Cardiff Press and public had been so taken up with the visit of Queen Mary during the week that little or no publicity had been given to the match. This, undoubtedly, accounted for the small attendance, but the audience made up in enthusiasm what they lacked in numbers.

And they had something to be enthusiastic about! Rarely can a women's match have produced such fine spectacular play. Outstanding was the brilliance of Dora Emdin. Both in her singles, in which she defeated Mrs. Roy Evans and Mrs. E. H. Evans, numbers one and two of Wales, and in her doubles with Mrs. Hutchings, she kept up a rain of drives and refused to be forced away from the table.



Miss Dora Emdin.

MRS. HUTCHINGS, who had not played recently owing to illness, started rather diffidently, but found her form again in the doubles and overwhelmed her opponent in her second match. Miss Hodgkinson contented herself with defence.

Some of her returns from the edge of beyond thrilled the crowd, but the Welsh team cannot be beaten by defence alone.

Doris Emdin fought gamely and put in some beautiful forehand drives.

Rene Stott did very well in her second international match. She won both her matches and is a sound, reliable player, who uses her head and has a good match temperament.

Altogether this was a most enjoyable match. Tribute must be paid to the Welsh team. They were unlucky to lose at least two of their games.

The Chairman of the Welsh Association welcomed the English team in a very happy speech, and also congratulated the Welsh Team of their best fight yet. A suitable reply by the English captain and speeches by the Welsh Secretary and others brought a very happy evening to a close. A good match to win, England!

NINTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

ENGLAND v. WALES.
(Women.)

At the Cardiff Y.M.C.A., Saturday, April 9, 1938.

RESULTS (England first).

	E.	W.
Miss R. Stott v. Mrs. M. Pitcher 21-9, 21-11	1	—
Mrs. L. Hutchings v. Mrs. E. H. Evans 19-21, 19-21	—	1
Miss Dora Emdin v. Mrs. Roy Evans 21-14, 21-16	1	—
Miss P. Hodgkinson v. Mrs. H. Day 16-21, 18-21	—	1
Miss Doris Emdin v. Mrs. W. Abraham 18-21, 23-21, 21-19	1	—
Miss Dora Emdin and Mrs. Hutchings v. Mrs. Roy Evans and Mrs. Day 21-23, 21-17, 23-21	1	—
Miss Hodgkinson and Miss Doris Emdin v. Mrs. E. H. Evans and Miss V. Adams 18-21, 21-13, 14-21	—	1
Mrs. Hutchings v. Mrs. Pitcher 21-9, 21-11	1	—
Miss Dora Emdin v. Mrs. E. H. Evans 9-21, 21-13, 21-19	1	—
Miss P. Hodgkinson v. Mrs. Roy Evans 14-21, 17-21	—	1
Miss Doris Emdin v. Mrs. Day 21-15, 21-9	1	—
Miss R. Stott v. Mrs. Abraham 21-12, 21-13	1	—
	8	4

Non-playing Captains—England, Mrs. D. L. Bunbury; Wales, Mr. Roy Evans.

Practise Wall Idea

New Practical Help for your Game

KEEN table tennis players will be interested in a new idea invented by L. Baron to improve their play. It is a practice wall which can be adjusted to return the ball at all angles and on which defensive and attacking strokes can be practised with great benefit.

Baron himself practised on it during the past season, and there is no doubt that his strokes and footwork have considerably improved.

Liebster and Filby have said that the speed with which the player has to move in order to keep the ball in play is bound to improve his footwork and strokes, and they regard it as a great asset to any player who is keen to improve, especially as anybody can practise particular shots when on their own.

THE Ilford League finished a very successful season with the finals of the team knock-out competitions.

ILFORD LEAGUE. The men's cup was retained by the holders, Cranbrook Castle, whose team include H. J. Wearing, the Civil Service doubles champion and winner of our own singles cup for the past three seasons. The women's cup finds a new home at the Sunnyside Club, who also won the League championship with an unbeaten record.

Over 300 people welcomed the Mayor of Ilford, who presented the trophies. After the presentation an exhibition was given by well-known players, S. W. Marshall, S. Proffitt, H. J. Hales and W. Stennett. The League, though only four years old, has now seven divisions, including two women's, and over 500 registered members.

The League General Secretary, Mr. A. G. Miles, has put in a deal of good work during his two years in office.

PRINTING, PUBLISHING AND ALLIED TRADES

Tommy Sears wins Printers' Singles Title

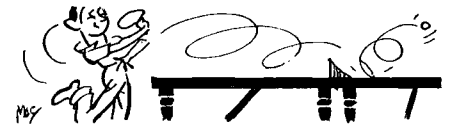
W. H. S. SUCCESSES

THE second year of the league's existence was successfully concluded on Friday, April 1, when the semi-finals and final of the men's open singles, together with the finals of the ladies' singles and men's junior singles, were played off at Benn Brothers, Ltd., Club Room.

Excellent play was appreciated by a large crowd. T. E. Sears (W.H.S.) retained his title, beating his club mate, W. J. King, in the final by three sets to love.

Sears had earlier beaten another W.H.S. player, W. L. Morris, in the semi-final, also by three sets to love, whilst King had beaten R. Straney (Horace Marshall) in the other semi-final by three sets to love. Two W.H.S. players contested the final of the men's junior singles, C. Rawlings beating R. Hill by three sets to one after a lively game.

THE ladies' singles was won by Miss Marks (Virtue) from Miss Bell (Benn Brothers) by three sets to two after a hard battle. Miss Marks' superiority in service just turned the scales in her favour.



The league President, Mr. Gordon Robbins, presented cups and prizes to the winners, also cups and replicas to the winning teams in the three men's and the women's division of the league. Divisions 1, 2 and 3 were won by teams from W. H. Smith & Son, Ltd., A, B and C teams, respectively—a very fine performance. The runners up were:—

Horace Marshall & Son—Division 1.
Benn Brothers, Ltd.—Division 2.
W. H. Smith & Son, Ltd.—"D" Team, Division 3.

THE women's section was won by Benn Brothers with W. H. Smith & Son as runners up.

The league Chairman, Mr. H. J. Bryant, of Benn Brothers, Ltd., thanked the President for once again attending the finals and presenting the trophies. He also welcomed Mr. L. E. G. Abney, of Messrs. Surridge Dawson, one of the Vice-Presidents of the league. Mr. Bryant mentioned that a number of applications from new clubs had already been received for the 1938-9 season, and it was hoped to extend the activities of the league.

Tribute was paid to the fine work throughout the season of Mr. H. W. Lockyer, the energetic league Secretary. Mr. Gordon Robbins concluded the evening's programme with a very neat speech, in which he remarked that the extension of the league's activities next year would presumably mean that further cups would be required.

IN WALES JUST NOW

By R. H. WELSH

SPLENDID form by F. Bamford (Liverpool) created a surprise when he won the Welsh Closed Championship at the Drill Hall, Cardiff. Playing in the final against the veteran, L. Samuel (Aberdare), who had been hitting very hard, Bamford showed defensive qualities well above the average.

Bamford, who is little known in South Wales, well deserved his single's triumph, and on this form is definitely a champion.

D. J. THOMAS, Ogmore (the ex-champion), defeated T. Lisle, of Birmingham, in the quarter-finals, but found Bamford a little too much for him in the semi-finals.

The final of the women's singles was easily the most exciting game of the tournament.

Honours eventually fell to Mrs. H. Roy Evans (Cardiff) after a terrific struggle with her old rival, Mrs. E. H. Evans (Maesteg). With the scores one set all Mrs. Roy Evans, the holder, led comfortably, but Mrs. E. H. Evans levelled the scores at 20 all, only to be beaten on the post.

Mrs. Roy Evans thus retained her title for another season. Score—14-21, 21-17, 22-20.

NO Welsh championship would be complete without the name of Horace Needles (Gilfach) appearing amongst the finalists. In partnership with I. Rees (Gilfach) he won the men's doubles title from D. J. and T. Thomas, of Ogmore.

Rees, together with Miss Tovey (Gilfach), did particularly well to beat such a strong

combination as F. Bamford and Mrs. Roy Evans in the final of the mixed doubles.

A number of promising young players were on view in the junior championships, the title going to Davi. Thomas, of Ogmore, a distinctly promising youngster.

RESULTS.

Men's Singles.

F. Bamford (Liverpool) beat L. Samuel (Aberdare) 21-17, 21-13.

Women's Singles.

Mrs. H. Roy Evans (Cardiff) beat Mrs. E. H. Evans (Maesteg) 14-21, 21-17, 22-20.

Men's Doubles.

H. Needles and I. Rees (Gilfach) beat D. J. Thomas and T. Thomas (Ogmore) 21-17, 21-18.

Women's Doubles.

Mrs. B. Morgan (Brynmawr) and Mrs. F. H. Evans (Maesteg) beat Mrs. H. Roy Evans and Miss Roberts (Cardiff) 21-16, 21-10.

Mixed Doubles.

I. Rees and Miss Tovey (Gilfach) beat F. Bamford (Liverpool) and Mrs. H. R. Evans (Cardiff) 21-23, 21-18, 21-18.

Juniors.

D. T. Thomas beat G. Gralton 21-15, 18-21, 21-16.

Veterans.

G. Lewis beat G. Wylie 21-17, 21-13.

TABLE TENNIS DRAWS THE CROWDS

By G. E. PAGE

ONE of the main features of the great Co-operative Exhibition staged jointly by the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society Limited and the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited at Mitcham Stadium, recently, was a sports pavilion, where famous exponents of leading sports demonstrated their skill. The Exhibition was housed in three huge canvas marquees, the sports pavilion, measuring 60 ft. by 40 ft., being the smallest of the three.

Maurice Tate and Andy Ducat gave entertaining talks on cricket tactics—Dan Maskell, coach to the All-England Club, Wimbledon, gave hints and demonstrations on the many aspects of lawn tennis—W. J. Cox, the Ryder Cup Golfer, demonstrated the purposes of the various clubs in the average golfer's bag; and finally, our own stars—Vana, Bergmann and Liebster—thrilled thousands with their whirlwind and spectacular table tennis.

The sports pavilion was invariably crowded whenever table tennis was on, and a conservative estimate is that at least 10,000 people saw Vana, Bergmann and Liebster in action. Many of these people saw first class table tennis for the first time and

there is no doubt that the sport obtained many new fans.

Bergmann and Vana invariably fought hard and often had the crowd cheering enthusiastically; the majority of games going in Bergmann's favour.

Bergmann's comment at the end of the Exhibition was, "Next year" (obviously referring to the World Championships), "Vana will have to fight hard against me." Vana would make no comment on this. He just smiled and said, "Next year I speak English good."

There is no doubt that all three players, both by their skill and by their general good sportsmanship, proved worthy ambassadors of our sport and contributed greatly to the success of this marvellous free show.

STOP PRESS

As we go to press we hear that Viktor Barna won the Hungarian Singles Championship and also the men's and mixed doubles.

LONDON C.S. CLUBS

No. 3.—Engineers-in-Chief,
G.P.O.

JUDGED by Civil Service standards the Engineer-in-Chiefs is one of the younger clubs. They entered the league only in the 1931-32 season.

Starting at the bottom, and being amazed by the hitting of one of their opponents in their first match (they were up against a fellow trying to regain a lost position in his club's first division side), they made up their minds to hit too, and set about learning by going straight back to their clubroom and settling down to hard practice.

So successful were they that by the end of the 1932-33 season they had qualified for the Premier Division. In 1934-35 they displaced Stationery Office as league champions, and since then they have retained the title.

ENGINEER-IN-CHIEFS will continue to provide strong opposition, however. Until recently, all five of their first team wore Civil Service representative team badges.

Now Evans has been transferred to another office, but Glover, veteran champion of the Service and Chairman of the club since it entered the league; Martin, joint Service Men's Doubles title holder; Baker, still improving; and Buckmaster, a heart-breaking half-volleyer, are still there, whilst Worthington, promoted from the second team, makes a capable fifth.

CHESTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Devine Loses Record after Five Years

PROMISING YOUTH OF CHESTER

CHESTER closed championships attracted the record number of 148 entries, and were the most successful ever. Nearly 200 spectators paid for admission during the three evenings. The feature of the tournament was the form shown by young stars playing in their first competition.

Particularly was this so in the case of L. Heath, fifteen years old City player, who, in addition to winning the junior singles, reached the third round of the League singles, beating two Chester first and second team players on the way. W. Devine, another player aged 15, reached the men's doubles final, partnering Miss S. Allen in the mixed. Heath was beaten in the semi-final. We are expecting to see more of him in the future, with other "under 17" boys, E. G. Dutton, E. A. Patterson, W. Devine and G. Knott.

THE major event, for the "Miln" Trophy, was won by W. T. Moore, who beat T. Potts in the final. In the semi-final Moore beat F. W. Allen after a brilliant display by both players. Potts beat J. Devine in two straight games.

Devine thus lost his record of appearing in every final since the start of the League five years ago.

SURREY LEAGUE

HONOURS BOARD WITH 100
NAMES FOR SURREY COUNTY

By C. G. MILTON

THE Surrey T.T. League has concluded its fourth season and it gives me, as Chairman, the greatest delight to review its progress. From the Croydon and District League with 25 teams in three divisions it has grown to the strength of 55 clubs in eleven divisions and 100 teams exactly.

The byword has been good-will and the successes have been due to the donkey-work of Secretary, Mr. D. Oldham, whose ingenuity and resources seem unbounded.

His kindness secures perfect unanimity in many tangles.

Last season was inaugurated a team Knock-out Competition for men (3 a side) won by Croydon. It has been extended to women this year with great success, won by Purley Bury, and in its second year the men's event was won by Addiscombe.

In addition, the closed singles competition was won by Mrs. B. Owen (Captain of the County team), and R. E. Moreton, also Captain of the County team. We have been able to give men and women Premier Divisions. Keen competition has resulted and we intend to recommend 3 a side in these divisions next season.

INTER-LEAGUE matches have not been many or successful. In the Wilmott Cup

EIGHT Leagues were represented at the Second Annual General Meeting of the North East Lancashire Table Tennis Association at the headquarters of N.E. LANCS. the Accrington Works League, when Mr. William Chapman presided.

The Hon. General Secretary said the first season's programme had been a great success from every view-point. He congratulated Burnley on winning the inter-League competition and the Sir Thomas Higham Cup by a margin of 2 points from Nelson. Thanks for the efficient staging of championships were extended to the Blackburn League and the Accrington Works League, and to the officials of the constituent leagues for their co-operation.

The services of the Hon. General Secretary (Mr. W. A. Peters) and the Hon. Assistant Secretary (Mr. A. D. Smith) were placed on record by unanimous decision of the meeting. Further thanks and appreciation were extended to the Chairman, Mr. W. Chapman, for his practical interest in table tennis, and to the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. A. E. Hamer), who was commended for his efficiency. All these officials, with Mr. T. Alston, the capable Tournament Secretary, were re-elected to office for the 1938-9 season, for which plans were drawn up in outline. Sir Thomas Higham was re-elected President.

THERE was a sharp discussion upon the suggestion of the Accrington Works League representatives that some system of handicaps should be devised. The outcome was the proposed handicap tournament to be played at Higham's Hall, Accrington. Having been staged at Accrington and Blackburn, the North East Lancashire Open Championships will next year be held at Burnley.

Competition we beat Woolwich and South London (holders), but lost to Barking. We have enjoyed the matches with Brighton—the women lost one and drew one, but the men lost both.

Harry Swetman (now getting back into form after his accident) was the first Surrey men's champion, and E. J. Filby has secured the honour each time since. This season Eric has made himself part and parcel of Surrey (his residential county) by securing five events out of six in the Tournaments organised by the League. Stanley Coles (Croydon) won the South of England men's and Miss H. Burton the South of England Women's Singles, certainly wonderful achievements and honour for the Surrey League.

At our annual prize distribution we shall unveil the League Honours Board upon which is inscribed over 100 names of clubs and individuals who have subscribed their merit to the glory of the League. The Surrey and South of England Tournaments have created a further record by topping the highest-ever entry. 678 entered for the former, and 120 for the latter, and there is every sign that next year we shall reach the 1,000 mark.

Stanley Coles and Joan
Harding L. L. Champs.

JOAN HARDING won the London League women's singles, at the West Ealing Club, after a very interesting struggle against Mrs. Brand. It was one of the best women's games I have seen for a long time, although now I think it is a mistake to take girls to five sets, more particularly after they have already played in semi-final matches.

I was glad to see Stan Coles win the men's singles because, after all, he has played consistently well this season without getting any outstanding success. His defence was too severe for Phillips, of the Manhattan Club, and although he dropped the first set to deuce and won the match set after three deuces, I don't think the issue was ever in doubt.

COLES and Willie Hales (I almost thought he had given up tournament play) played wonderfully to beat Ben Marcus and Harry Rosen in the doubles. Rosen and Marcus hit delightfully and accurately for the most part, although they fell into mistakes after taking the first set, and at one time in the second, after leading 8-4, hit six successive shots off the table. It was the defensive tactics of Hales and Coles that pulled them through, because they really defended superbly.

Of the men's minor singles between Conn and Freedman, I prefer to say little beyond the fact that chiselling matches such as these should be played behind closed doors, and certainly not in front of a critical public.

J. W. A. C.

Another Title
for Herga

THE Wembley League has had another very successful season. Great enthusiasm has been shown and the standard of play has greatly improved.

League fixtures have not yet quite finished but the Herga look almost certain of holding their title as league leaders. Wembley Hill at the moment are runners-up and should finish in that position. If Wembley Hill had not been given a walk-over against the Herga, the L. N. E. R. might have been level with them.

Division 2.

Wembley Hill "A" hold a two-point lead over the joint runners-up, L. N. E. R. "A" and Institute "A." All three have one game to play. Wembley and Sudbury, only three points behind the leaders, have two games to play.

Division 3.

I. M. S. have a two-point lead over Salisbury, and B. O. C. Salisbury have two games in hand and B. O. C. one in hand.

Division 4.

Gecko "A," having lost only two matches, have a six-point lead over Tith Farm, who have two games in hand.

Division 5.

Wembley Hill "B," having dropped only four points, have a clear six points over St. Joseph's "A."

Division 6.

Bessborough easily win this Division having dropped only two points. Park Lane are second, six points behind.

Division 7.

Fenton's at the moment have a two-point lead over Hall Telephones, who have a game in hand.

Women 1.

Harrow Weald and Wembley Institute, level on points, head this Division, but Harrow Weald have a game in hand. L. N. E. R. come next four points behind, but they have two games in hand.

Women 2.

Northwick Park lead with Institute "A" two points behind and a game in hand.

Women 3.

Harrow Weald have an eight-point lead over Fenton's, who have two games in hand.

Four Titles for
Connie Wheaton

THE absence of the two Emdin sisters, they were both playing for England in the women's international at Cardiff, had rather a disappointing effect on the finals in both the Hertfordshire closed and the St. Albans league events at the Market Hall, St. Albans.

In the Herts women's singles Connie Wheaton, another of the famous St. Albans internationals, had rather an easy win over Miss G. Sewell in straight sets at 10 and 13.

The men's final was a much more exciting affair, and it was not until the fifth game that G. Dunckley broke down at game fifteen to B. Griffiths.

It was a good day in all for Connie Wheaton. (The handicaps were played on the Friday previously, and she beat Dora Emdin by the odd game.) In the league singles she beat Bessie Wright, and then partnered her in the doubles to beat Miss Watkins and Mrs. Goodwin. Mrs. Goodwin was unlucky because, although she also reached the final in the league mixed doubles with H. Wheaton, she was beaten by Miss G. Sewell and her brother, K. Sewell.

Northern Flashes

from

S. W. RICHARDSON

MY congratulations to Miss F. Goorney, of the Manchester Maccabi club, for winning the Manchester women's league individual championships for the second successive year.

She played very well throughout and beat her club-mate, Miss L. Rubens, in the final. Miss Rubens defended stubbornly throughout, but the consistent and hard hitting of Miss Goorney gained her the verdict.

Also I congratulate Kendall in winning the league championship also for the second successive time. Although at one time the title looked like going to Maccabi, they fell away towards the finish.

I HEAR some grand reports of a recent match between the St. Helens and Liverpool leagues officials, quite an innovation.

The Liverpool officials were met on the St. Helens town boundary and escorted in state by the village band to the den where the match was played, and I hear Liverpool won by so many p(o)ints to so many.

Billy Stamps forehand smashes so completely paralyzed the opposition that one

of them turned out complete in cricket pads and batting gloves as protection.

Manchester and Liverpool now think of having one of these matches, but it is difficult to find a pub large enough to hold them.

MR. JACK BATTY, the Manchester League Secretary and myself recently helped in the running of a darts competition organised by a newspaper, and was it tough? Players in the finals played on a platform, and some of them were attired in caps and mufflers, wearing no collars or ties.

One man insisted in playing in his overcoat and bowler hat, while another could not throw unless he had a pint of beer in his other hand to balance him. Give me my table tennis any time.

Manchester won the Wilmott cup in grand style, but I think they ought to thank me. Last year I was non-playing

captain of the team that lost, they called me their hoodoo. This year I watched them in the final and they were 3-1 down.

A few anxious glances were passed my way, so the hoodoo quietly left the hall to the "local," and when I arrived back Manchester had won. Liverpool officials are going to strap me into a seat next time.

FREDDY BAMFORD, the "Wallace Beery" of the Liverpool League, acted as trainer for their cup-final team and proved very good at his job.

But the smell of Eau-de-Cologne in their dressing-room made me think I had walked into a ladies' boudoir, a thing I would never do.

JACK BATTY presented the prizes at the Aston-u-Lyne League's annual presentation dance, just another successful effort promoted by the Ashton League, and that great worker, Mr. Arthur Swindells, while Mr. Harold Oldroyd recently presented the prizes at the Bury League's finals.

MISS PHYLLIS ANDERTON, Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Women's League, presented the "Sydney W. Richardson" trophy to the winner.

Freddy Cromwell, in captaining the Grove House team to the championship of the Manchester League, added to his fine record of being a playing member and also captain for nearly the whole of the past ten years of his team's successful run.



FOR RAPIDITY of ACTION, SUPPLENESS of LIMB, and Stamina

WONDERFUL TESTIMONY

Rapidity of action and suppleness of limbs, as well as stamina, are of the utmost importance to me. For these I have found ELLIMAN Athletic RUB of the greatest aid. How great you can judge when I tell you that although according to age (26) I should be past my prime at Table Tennis, I am still playing in International matches, and what is more I am playing better than I ever played before.

STANLEY PROFFITT

**STANLEY
PROFFITT**

*International and
Swaythling Cup
Player,
Table Tennis Coach
and Essex County
Cricketer*

ADDS HIS
TESTIMONY WITH
GREAT PLEASURE
to
**THE WORLD'S
WONDER
MUSCLE TONIC**

**ELLIMAN
ATHLETIC RUB 14**

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

HAPPY EVENTS!!

TWO famous London players will be married in the close season. They are Bill Stennett, Civil Service and noted exhibition star, and Alec Brook, the international.

Both have been familiar figures at tournaments throughout the country for several years, and played together in the same exhibition teams.

Singularly enough both will be married at Whitsun. We wish them every future happiness.

"CLOSED" RESULTS

Chiesmans' Tournament.

Men's Singles—R. E. Moreton (Croydon) beat H. Jones 3-0.

Women's Singles—Miss C. B. Lancaster beat Miss W. Mortelman 2-1.

Juveniles—Master K. Sheppard beat Master D. Wallis 2-0.

Rochester League.

Men's Singles—G. Thornton beat H. Cartwright 3-1.

Men's Doubles—G. Jones and K. George beat G. Thornton and W. Wardle 3-1.

Exmouth League.

Men's Singles—L. Holman beat W. Trim 3-1.

Men's Doubles—W. Baker and S. Newcombe beat L. Holman and H. Davis 3-1.

Mixed Doubles—W. Baker and Mrs. Thomas beat W. Penwarden and Miss Johnson 3-1.

Junior Singles—H. Smith beat J. Snell 2-0.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of "Table Tennis" will be October 1, 1938. Why not become a regular subscriber? Your newsagent can supply you with the magazine and we can supply you with the latest reports and "inside" stories of your favourite sport.

"Table Tennis" is the only official magazine of the E.T.T.A.

ALL PROVINCIAL NEWS

GROVE House have once again won the League Championship at the expense of their old rivals, MANCHESTER. chester Y.M.C.A. Actually there is little to choose between the teams, Cromwell and Casofsky being the mainstay of Grove House, whilst Y.M.C.A. have relied on C. W. Davies, A. Waite and K. Stanley. Millar, through illness, has not played so frequently.

Waterpark regained 1st Division status, winning the 2nd Division title by a comfortable margin. They are accompanied by Maccabean, who have also won promotion, their places being taken by Kendall and Birchfield, relegated.

Manchester Maccabi "A," Turnbull "A," and Greengate "A," head their respective sections of the 3rd Division to win promotion to the 2nd Division. Teams relegated are Monton, Walkden "A," and Adelphi "A."

Manchester can look back with satisfaction on another successful season. They have regained the Wilmott Cup and the title of champion league in the country, and they have played 16 inter-league matches without defeat.

For individual mention, H. Lurie (Swaythling Cup), B. Casofsky (International), L. Cohen (International), and K. Stanley (English Junior Champion) deserve praise for bringing honours to the League. A. Cohen (Manchester Jewish) was successful in winning the Manchester *Evening Chronicle* tourney from over 1,000 entries, whilst all the leading players have won open titles in Lancashire, Yorkshire and North Wales tournaments.

SWINDON, champions of the Western Counties, maintained their unbeaten record by defeating a strong Cardiff side by nine events to three SWINDON. in their final match.

A large crowd saw the finals of the Swindon and District Championships at the Baths Hall. The Mayor and Mayoress (Major H. E. N. Niblett and Mrs. Niblett) were interested spectators and the Mayoress presented the trophies.

R. Webb, a brilliant all-rounder, won the Men's Singles by beating A. Potter 3-0 (semi-final) and F. Beazley 3-1. Webb was runner-up last season.

Mrs. N. Ridge, the holder, retained the Women's Singles after meeting Miss G. Beazley in the final.

The Junior Singles champion is E. Snook, who defeated D. Godsell. J. Silto and C. Workman, E. Stillman and Miss C. Jones, were winners of the Men's and Mixed Doubles respectively.

"D. A. K."

A MOST successful Bournemouth season concluded with the League Tournament and presentation of trophies by Councillor A.C. Meader BOURNEMOUTH. at the North Bournemouth Club. Bournemouth N.A.L.G.O., by twice defeating the holders, North Bournemouth, won the First Division Championship.

Details:—

1st Division Winners—Bournemouth N.A.L.G.O.; Runners-up, North Bournemouth "A." 2nd Division Winners—Longfleet St. Mary's; Runners-up, Winton Y.M.C.A. "A." 3rd Division Winners—Bournemouth Electric; Runners-up Bournemouth N.A.L.G.O. Ladies' Section Winners—Corinthians "A"; Runners-up, Ace of Clubs "A."

Individual Winners:—Heynen Cup, 1st Division—G. Platt. Heynen Shield, 2nd Division—F. Munday. Heynen Shield, 3rd Division—S. Wheeler. Pemberton Cup, Ladies' Section—Miss G. Sims.

Hockey Cup (Mixed Doubles)—E. Dunkley and Miss E. Davis.

Inter-Town Matches—Bournemouth 12, Portsmouth 13; Bournemouth Ladies 15, Portsmouth Ladies, 10; Salisbury Ladies 6, Bournemouth Ladies 6; Bournemouth Ladies 8, Salisbury Ladies 4.

C. H. CASHELL.

RIBBLESDALE has almost concluded Rits 1938 programme, but not before a four-hour session, Eighth RIBBLESDALE. Annual General Meeting, had planned the programme for the next season. All teams will start from scratch in league matches in 1938-9, and the Swaythling Cup system of play is being adopted.

In the Sir William Brass Cup final, Ribblesdale Old Boys beat Whalley Conservatives by 6 sets to 3, and a week later the former two young stars of the future carried off the Carey Lord Cup by defeating the pairs from Whalley Conservatives, Clitheroe Catholics and Whalley Methodists in the semi-finals and finals. Though generously handicapped, J. Wilson and T. Hincks are stars of the future and at the age of fourteen can give well-known Inter-League players a good run. Where is the coaching system to bring these lads to the top rank?

Ribblesdale's junior championships in the last three years have revealed that youngsters can be discovered and that they are worthy of places in important matches.

Officials of the Ribblesdale Association for 1938-9 will be—President, Sir Wm. Brass; President-Elect, Geoffrey C. Taylor, Esq.; Chairman, W. A. Peters; Hon. General Secretary, A. D. Smith; Hon. Treasurer, E. Brooks; Competition Secretaries, E. V. Bush and W. H. Baskerville; Result Secretaries, W. C. Chatburn and H. A. Whiteside. Upon these the organisation and work devolve. Having experience and youth combined in each official, success is assured.

SCUNTHORPE has won the Subsidiary Competition in fine style and the final chart reads—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Scunthorpe	12	11	0	1	164	28	22
Louth	12	10	0	2	147	45	20
Skegness	12	8	0	4	101	75	16
Woodhall Spa	12	5	1	6	90	86	11
Horncastle	12	5	0	7	69	123	10
Mablethorpe	12	2	0	10	46	146	4
Alford	12	0	1	11	39	153	1

LINCOLNSHIRE. The first three will probably graduate to the Haigh Cup Competition next season.

Once again the Grimsby Association held a very successful open tournament in aid of the local hospital, and with over 320 entries played off in one day on nine tables, it must be the largest open outside of major events. Conditions were first-class.

Encouraged by their own advance and the progress of the game in the county, the Skegness League, the week previously, staged the first Skegness Open Championships, open to members of the Lincolnshire Association, and in view of the undoubted success will have no hesitation in repeating the effort next season. L. Skinnis (Lincoln) took the men's singles, and with F. Smith (Lincoln) the men's doubles, by reason of some fine play.

Miss Eileen Ward (Grimsby) won the women's singles and H. Bennett and Mrs. B. Langrick (Grimsby) the mixed doubles.

The youths' singles, dominated by local lads, reached a high standard and was taken by W. D'Arcy (Skegness).

It is to be hoped that other towns will follow suit next season in so capably running first tournaments.

LESLIE BENNETT.

SATURDAY, April 9, saw the concluding stages of the Wilmott Cup, when the semi-finals and final were played at Emmanuel Hall, Liverpool. The

LIVERPOOL. Liverpool v. London match commenced at 2.30 p.m., with J. K. Hyde and H. Rosen in opposition, which Hyde won in the third game. M. Bergl then levelled matters by defeating F. Bamford after losing the first game to 18. P. U. Rumjahn and K. Hyde took the next two sets, to make it 3-1 for Liverpool.

A feature of Rumjahn's match against Coles was the superb defence of the London player. Rosen and Coles then made it three all. Rumjahn then took the lead for Liverpool by defeating Bergl in the third game, and it was left to Hyde to put Liverpool in the final for the second year in succession by beating S. Coles 21-14, 21-17.

AGAINST Manchester K. Hyde again put Liverpool one up by beating B. Casofsky in the third game. H. Lurie made it one all when he defeated E. Rumjahn, who had been brought into the team in place of Bamford. P. U. Rumjahn and Hyde, by defeating K. Stanley and H. Lurie respectively, made it 3-1 for Liverpool, but Casofsky, Stanley and Lurie won three in a row to enable Manchester to take the lead, and after Hyde had beaten Stanley to make it four all, it was left to Casofsky and F. J. Rumjahn to decide the destination of the cup. Casofsky was on the top of his form and won 21-13, 21-14, and Manchester once again became the holders of the Wilmott Cup.

SCORES.

Semi-Finals—Liverpool 5, London 3.—J. K. Hyde beat H. Rosen 19-21, 21-13, 21-11; M. Bergl 21-13, 21-11 and S. Coles 1-14, 21-17. F. Bamford lost to Bergl 21-18, 18-21, 15-21; lost to Coles 19-21, 17-21. P. U. Rumjahn beat Coles 21-19, 15-21, 21-18; beat Bergl 21-13, 14-21, 21-18 and lost to Rosen 22-20, 8-21, 21-23.

Manchester 5, Barking 0.—H. Lurie beat S. Proffitt 21-16, 21-15 and D. Chapman 21-17, 21-14. B. Casofsky beat J. King 21-11, 21-13 and S. Proffitt 21-18, 21-16. K. Stanley beat D. Chapman 21-13, 21-12.

Final—Manchester 5, Liverpool 4.—Casofsky beat P. Rumjahn 21-12, 21-23, 21-7; E. Rumjahn 21-13, 21-14 and lost to K. Hyde 21-17, 17-21, 18-21. H. Lurie beat E. Rumjahn 21-14, 21-12; beat P. Rumjahn 21-18, 21-19 and lost to K. Hyde 14-21, 18-21. K. Stanley beat E. J. Rumjahn 18-21, 21-10, 21-14 and lost to P. U. Rumjahn 15-21, 18-21, lost to K. Hyde 13-21, 11-21.

THIS League has enjoyed a very successful season. The newly formed Willesden Club have gained the majority of the honours.

WILLESDEN. Their "A" team won the First Division Championship, suffering only one defeat. Cricklewood, with two defeats, are second, with Kemps, Elmwood and Almora close behind. A team usually concerned in championship honours, Willesden Council Staff, has dropped to seventh position, although one of their team, Haisell, heads the League individual records, having lost only three games through the season. Willesden "B" and Lightalloys have to play off to decide the Second Division Championship, each side having gained 32 points.

In the Challenge Cup, Willesden "A" and Cricklewood (holders) fought out a keen final, having beaten Kemps and Hendon Municipal Officers respectively in the semi-finals. Willesden "A" completed the double by winning 15-10.

The holders of the Closed Championship titles were also eclipsed, Spurgeon (Almora) suffering defeat in the quarter-finals of the singles, while in the doubles semi-finals Minting and Taylor (Almora) lost to the Willesden pair, Evans and Frischer, who went on to win the final against Barlett and Ragan (Cricklewood). The singles title was won by Rogers, the Elmwood player beating Frischer in the semi-final and Evans in the final. Rogers's best performance was to vanquish the fancied King (Willesden) in the quarter finals.

Several new clubs have already made application for membership, and there is every possibility of a Ladies' Section being formed next season.

D. GEO. RUTHERFORD.

THE chief feature of the Individual Championships, details given below, was the victory of 18-year-old Len Roper (Y. M. C. A.).

SALISBURY LEAGUE. Junior Champion in his first season two years ago, he has made steady progress, as shown by his clean-cut victories over such proved players as Bryant and Gould on finals night.

His game is based on an almost uncanny defence, with well varied and disguised chop, and he has a deadly kill for a weak shot. His only weakness is inability to keep up an attack as steady as his defence, and trying to produce the winner too early.

The League produced excellent struggles—only St. Martin's "B" were unbeaten and no side was pointless.

SENIOR SINGLES—L. C. Roper (Y.M.C.A.).
JUNIOR SINGLES—W. R. Tilley (St. Paul's).
Doubles (Men)—E. S. Milton and W. J. Gulliver (Y.M.C.A.).

(Mixed)—F. Gould (Y.M.C.A.) and Miss O. Conduit (Marks & Spencer).

THE LEAGUE, Division 1—Y.M.C.A. "A";
Division 2—St. Martin's "B"; **Division 3—St. Paul's "C."**

"G. A. O."

AT last the honours have come to rest. Y.M.C.A. Senior "A" team have retained the 1st Division shield, for whom C. Bristow, C. England and J. BATH. Offer have played well through the season without losing a match. The closest game they had was against the Oldfield Baptist, whom they defeated by

the odd point in nine at Oldfield Park. J. Butcher, F. Derrick and Peter Kingston, who are the usual Oldfield team, are the runners-up.

Second Division has been won by St. Saviours, who will, next season, in consequence be promoted to division one. The runners-up have yet to be decided, as Y.M. Junior "A" and Oldfield Baptist "B" are both going hard after the honour.

The "Singles Handicap" title has gone to E. Bethell (Common Room Club). In the semi-final he should have met R. Watts (Y.M. Senior), who failed to appear. C. Bristow (Y.M. Senior "A"), finalist, got through against G. Harper (Bathwick), whom he had to give three start in twenty-four up. This match was well fought, Bristow winning, 15-24, 24-20, 24-22. Bristow played well in the final, but Bethell managed to get his flick working and won by 25-27, 27-22, 27-25.

IN a junior inter-city match between Bath and West Wilts at the Talbot Hotel, Bath, the home team secured a victory of nineteen points to six.

This match was between teams of 19 years and under. L. Palmer went through the match unbeaten (the most that opponents could get against him was 17). K. Milson (W. Wilts) won four of the visitors' points. J. Harrup and E. Bethell secured four each for Bath, both losing to Milson. Bath's points were won by L. Palmer, five; J. Harrup, four; E. Bethell, four; G. Webley, three; and D. Barrow, three. West Wilts—K. Milson, four; D. Wheeler, one; and P. Roberts, one.

Bristol soundly trounced the Bath team in a Western Counties League match by nine points to three, C. Bristow, H. Buse and J. Butcher being responsible for the home points. G. Ford, D. Shipton and A. Simons each got both their points for Bristol, while L. Mitchell, W. Coombe and F. Hipkins got one each.

"G. T. E."

UNLUCKY DAY FOR SILTO

The finals of the Western Counties League were played at Bristol. During the afternoon session Mr. Ralph, on behalf of Sir Montague Burton, presented the Burton Challenge Cup to the League. Results were as follows:—

MEN'S SINGLES, SEMI-FINALS.—F. W. Hipkins (Bristol) beat A. W. C. Simons (Bristol) 21-20, 19-21, 21-11, 21-16; J. Silto (Swindon) beat F. Beazley (Swindon) 21-16, 21-16, 21-16. FINAL—Hipkins beat Silto 13-21, 21-19, 21-14, 21-14.

MEN'S DOUBLES, SEMI-FINALS.—J. Silto and C. Workman (Swindon) beat H. T. F. Buse and J. Offer (Bath) 21-18, 16-21, 18-21, 21-15, 21-10, T. Smith and F. Smith (Cardiff) beat F. W. Hipkins and W. M. Coombe (Bristol) 21-19, 21-17, 19-21, 21-18. FINAL.—T. Smith and F. Smith beat Silto and Workman 21-18, 21-18, 21-12.

League Results.

Ifracombe	...	3	Cardiff	...	6
Bath	...	3	Bristol	...	9
Bath	...	5	Ifracombe	...	6
Swindon	...	9	Cardiff	...	3

League Table.

	Played	Won	Lost	Pts.
Swindon	...	8	8	0
Bristol	...	8	5	3
Cardiff	...	7	4	3
Ifracombe	...	7	2	5
Bath	...	8	0	8

ONCE again Bolton Y.M.C.A. was packed to the doors for the visit of G. Barna, B. Vana, R. Bergmann and A. Liebster, and the crowd were treated to **BOLTON.** their usual excellent and thrilling exhibition.

I took along a friend who had never seen the game played before, and another enthusiast was added to our ranks. When she saw the play she gasped, rubbed her eyes in wonderment, blinked again, and settled down to watch with awe-struck amazement.

H. Lurie and Ken Stanley met the Austrians, Bergmann and Liebster, in an exhibition match, singles and doubles. The Austrians won as usual. The rest of the play was given over to exhibition matches between the foreign tourists, and some real spectacular play was witnessed.

Congratulations are due again for the excellent staging of the matches by the Bolton Y.M.C.A. officials, notably Mr. A. Roylance, J.P., Chairman of the Bolton League.

"S.W.R."

SATURDAY, March 19, was another "red letter day" for Sheffield. We managed to beat Birmingham for the first time by 6 matches to 4, before 400 **SHEFFIELD.** people. The star of the match was J. Powell, the young Atlas and Norfolk player, who defeated both Lisle and Sadler, the two Welsh internationals.

His match with Lisle was a thrilling affair, and both players were recalled to receive the enthusiastic appreciation of the spectators.

J. K. Young, another seventeen years old player, also did well to win both his matches, and showed real fighting spirit in the final and deciding match.

Eric Hardman, the Sheffield international, beat Sadler, but was hopelessly at sea against Tommy Lisle. This season Hardman has played his best games away from Sheffield. A crowd of over 200 watched Hardman win the *Sheffield Telegraph Cup.*

In the quarter finals, he defeated a former holder, H. D. Shivers, and then proceeded to beat Powell in the semi-final without being extended in either match.

His opponent in the final was J. K. Young, who had defeated two former holders, E. Willis and J. C. Kramer, in the quarter finals and semi-finals respectively.

Both Hardman and Young were playing at the top of their form and a good final resulted in a victory for Hardman by 2 games to 1.

On Saturday, April 9, the Sheffield and District League held their annual finals night and prize distribution, and another audience of over 200 again saw Hardman at his best in winning the League singles title.

He defeated J. Powell, two straight, in the semi-final, and R. Harper, by three straight, in the final.

Other title matches resulted as follows:—

Women's Singles—Miss C. Jackman (Brown Bayleys) beat Miss A. Kay (Edgar Allens) two straight. Youths' Singles (under 17)—J. Powell beat J. White (Brown Bayleys) two straight. Veterans' Singles—A. Cowen (Edgar Allens) beat W. Hinchcliffe (Edgar Allens) two games to one.

Major John Wortley, president of the League, presented the prizes.

W. HINCHCLIFFE.

Woman Correspondent says:

TAP DANCING SHOULD HELP YOUR GAME IN SUMMER

Get yourself thoroughly fit this summer and your enthusiasm next season will be well rewarded

BY "PINKIE" BARNES

ALL you players who feel dissatisfied with yourselves, who have started each season so enthusiastically only to find the same old things happening over again, the same people beating them, would do well to heed these few words.

Your stroke production is good, you follow meticulously the advice of well-known exponents of the game, and yet you still get nowhere.

Why is this? The answer, in nine cases out of ten, lies in your health. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak . . . **Get yourselves absolutely fit this summer and your enthusiasm next season will be well rewarded.**

TABLE TENNIS is in itself a fit-making game, but you must start fit if you want to achieve anything. Those extra pounds of flesh which disappear during the winter and mysteriously appear during the summer should not be there at all, and need not be there.

Many people feel that lawn tennis is sufficient exercise, but not all table tennis players are lawn tennis enthusiasts, and there are many factors to contend with which, when taking one game in conjunction with the other, are not too favourable.

One of the best ways you can get thoroughly healthy is by learning to tap dance. It isn't nearly as hard as people imagine, and even if you are not actually successful in learning, the muscles used in trying and the general curriculum will tone your body up wonderfully.

I, myself, applied to a local dancing school when I hit on this bright idea for summer training, and was very lucky in finding that they held a tap class for business girls, one evening for beginners and one for advanced, each week.

The charge was quite moderate, and for the instruction we all got well worth it. My first attempt there was not very successful, as we started with "limbering," and being new to this, by the time we reached the actual tap I was too tired to move my legs.

This limbering they teach you in the curriculum is splendid for toning up the muscles and one of the best ways I know of giving you that extra speed for reaching beastly little drop shots.

FOR those who would like to try it I will just run over the essentials of limbering, and please note that this need not only apply to the fair sex. It is best to hold on to something, such as the back of a chair, otherwise you'll find yourself toppling over.

At the schools they have bars all round the walls, but a chair will do just as well.

If you possess a gramophone or radio put on some dance music, not too fast, stand sideways to the back of the chair and hold on to it with your right hand.

Then, in time to the music, kick as high as you can four times with the left leg. You can vary this with three kicks and a "knees bend" position in place of the fourth kick, but always remember that there must be no sagging of either knee when kicking.

The leg bearing your weight and the one pointing skywards (I hope) should both be as taut as wire, and it's then you begin to feel your muscles pulling.

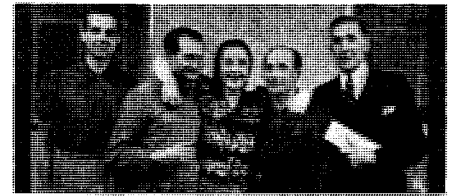
THEN do four kicks to the back with the same leg. It will be found much harder to kick back than forward, but persevere. Then turn round, hold on to the chair with the left hand and do four kicks (or three and knees bend) forward and four back with the right leg.

After this, turn facing the chair and hold on to the back with both hands, doing four back kicks with the left leg and four with the right.

Finally, turn again, with your back to the chair, hold on with both hands and do three forward kicks and one circular



Miss Barnes.



Miss Barnes taken with Bellak and Barna, Bert Bridge on right and Eric Filby extreme left.

kick with the right and the same with the left.

For the circular kick your leg should still be very taut and you should perform a circle in the air with your toe.

Remember that all the time you are kicking, your body and limbs must be absolutely straight, otherwise you are not getting enough value from the exercise.

By the time the tune has finished, if you have faithfully followed directions, there will be a dull ache up the back of both legs and you will feel thoroughly tired. Of course, limbering covers many other branches, but that gives you a rough idea.

AS regards the tap itself, it is a sure way of keeping your weight down, that is if you dance regularly for a set time each day. Besides bracing your whole system it makes for lightness of foot, and nobody will deny how essential lightness and quickness of foot is known to be for table tennis.

It is somewhat difficult to learn to tap dance without an actual exponent to show you how the feet and body should be placed, &c., though I have known it to be taught by written instruction.

However, if I have created the urge in anyone to follow in my steps, remember to be very patient with yourself (and your instructor) and above all get well limbered up before attempting any steps.

ERRATA

In the April issue of "Table Tennis" we stated that Peter McGhee (Merton) beat Brian Cook (holder), of Wallington, in the Surrey junior titles. This was not correct.

Brian once again retained his title which he won last year. In the girls' event Joyce Croft (Concord), the holder, beat Rosemary Cook (Wallington). Although Rosemary was beaten she put up a good show, since she is only 9½ years of age.

West Country Gossip

by
R. W. EASON

FOR Bristol it has been a memorable season. More events have been crammed into the closing months than ever before. Seldom have titles been harder to win. Interest has never been keener, except for inter-town games, where attendances have been disappointing. And the standard of play has, without question, improved enormously.

* * *

Five players and two teams stand out in a survey of the season in retrospect. Honours go to Charlie Dawes for regaining the Division 1 singles title—his fourth success in seven years—for retaining his "Evening World" singles title, and for taking Vana to "deuce" at Exeter in the West of England Open.

BEST performance of Fred Hipkins, Bristol's Wilmott Cup captain, was to win the Western Counties singles title from a field of internationals, defeating in turn Hutchings, Shipton, Simons and J. Silto, the Swindon star.

* * *

At Exeter he reached the last eight before falling to Bellak. His record in inter-town games was impressive, including a defeat of Maurice Bergl in the Wilmott Cup match with London.

* * *

Aubrey Simons, 17-year-old Grammar School star, finished the season in a blaze of glory, winning the West

of England Junior title at Exeter—without loss of a set—the "Evening Post" singles, the League doubles, and reaching the semi-final of the Western Counties singles.

* * *

STAR of Bristol's Wilmott Cup matches and most spectacular player of the season was H. S. D. Hutchings, who also defeated Bergl, and took games off Filby and Rosen. After defeating Hipkins, the holder, in the Division 1 semi-final, he was beaten by Dawes.

D. B. Shipton reached the "Evening World" and Division 1 semi-finals, beat Dawes, one of Bristol's four "seeded"

players, in the Western Counties singles, and revealed himself a fine stroke player of high promise.

* * *

With the aid of Hipkins and Hutchings, W. D. and H. O. Wills won the Belsten Cup—team knock-out championship—for the sixth year in succession, defeating St. Paul's, Bedminster, in the final. The same pair helped Bristol North regain the Division 1 team championship, their fourth win in six years. Totterdown Y.M.C.A. were runners-up. Downend won the Division 2 title, Telephone Engineers Division 3, East St. Baptist Division 4, Kingswood Y.M.C.A. Division 5, St. Andrew's, Avonmouth, Division 6, G.W.R. the doubles, and Fry's Ladies, the women's section.

* * *

IN inter-town matches Exeter, in the Wilmott Cup, and Cardiff in the Western Counties League, were both beaten for the first time for ten years or more, and the return Swindon match was lost only by the odd game.

Women's table tennis has made big strides in Bristol and next season is expected to see a considerable extension of this section. Sixteen-years-old Mary Scott, most promising of the younger players, won the Association singles title, Miss Linley the "Evening World" title, Miss Gummer the "Evening Post" title.

APPLICATIONS from new clubs for next season have already been received and it is clear that Bristol's Association's registered membership will soon be approaching four figures.

TEDDY EDWARDS, Managing Director of Campers Ltd., wishes to announce that, by special arrangement with the English Table Tennis Association, he has arranged for Mr. ALFRED LIEBSTER, Captain of the Austrian Swaythling Cup team and winner of World and National Titles to be in residence at

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FROM SCOTLAND

Keen Rivalry for West of Scotland Honours

MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON ON RECORD

BY A. C. DUNCAN

ANOTHER highly successful Scottish table tennis season has drawn to a close, and it is a season on which Western Y.M.C.A. can look back on with a considerable amount of satisfaction and pride.

Both individually and in team work they have been a brilliant lot. They started annexing the honours when Alex Barclay, their number one player, won the Lanarkshire Open Singles championship, and followed this up when the same player captured the Ayrshire Open Singles championship.

Incidentally this Ayrshire championship was initiated this season and proved a big success in every way. So much for individual work—their team captured the Maxwell Wilson Trophy, then won the West of Scotland Table Tennis League and followed this up by winning the Scottish Cup. Truly a great season among the honours.

THEIR greatest rivals, the Jewish Institute, started the season well, and seemed all set for the league championship. Equal in pointage the championship had to be decided by an aggregate of the games won and lost, and here it was that Western Y.M.C.A. showed an advantage. Slight though it was it was sufficient to give them the championship. However, they came into their own individually at the end of the season, when their number one man, Ellis Mark, scored a notable and brilliant victory in the final of the West of Scotland Open Singles Championship.

In inter-county and inter-city matches, Glasgow did extremely well and only suffered defeat once, that being on the occasion of the Birmingham team's visit to Glasgow. This match was the most spectacular which has been seen in the city since the inception of table tennis.

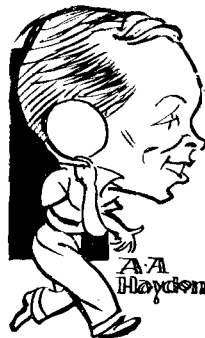
ARTHUR HAYDON gave an impressive display that evening and thrilled the spectators with his play. The final score was—Birmingham, 8 games, 17 sets; Glasgow, 2 games, 5 sets.

Over 400 spectators saw Ellis Mark and Oscar Black register the second city's only successes.

Against Stirlingshire, at Camelon, Glasgow had little difficulty in accounting for the Stirling boys, the score being—Glasgow, 7 games, 21 sets; Stirlingshire, 0 games, 3 sets; while against Edinburgh, at Edinburgh, the Western side again were the victors, the score this time being—Glasgow, 6 games, 19 sets; Edinburgh, 1 game, 7 sets.

From the above it will be gathered that table tennis in the West of

Scotland is in a particularly healthy state. There are plenty of young players in the game, and one who should reach championship status in the near future is Jackie Hillan, of Western Y.M.C.A.



He was a great success in Scotland.

HIS five-set struggle with Ellis Mark, in the final of the West of Scotland Open championship, was a classic, yet it was Mark who stole the thunder that evening.

Hillan won the first two sets and seemed to have victory assured. But we reckoned without the fighting-back qualities of Ellis—who came back in brilliant style to win the remaining three sets.

It was Mark's stolid fighting qualities which enabled him to overcome this smashing Hillan, whose impetuosity proved his undoing.

Another young fellow who knows all the tricks is Oscar Black, of the Jewish Institute, who is to West of Scotland table tennis what "Wally" Hammond is to English county cricket. He represents the poetry of table tennis, with his deliciously curving drives and beautiful spinners. There are about a dozen others all fighting for top place in the West of Scotland table tennis sun, so next season should provide us with plenty of fireworks.

IN the first match of the Wilmott Cup final rounds Liverpool beat London five sets to three. H. Rosen started well for London by taking the first game from Ken Hyde, but Hyde rallied and easily took the next two games for the

set. M. Bergl made the score one set all by beating F. Bamford. P. Rumjahn gave the lead to Liverpool by a victory over S. Coles after a very hard fight. Hyde put Liverpool further ahead by easily beating Bergl.

Rosen then raised the hopes of the London side by beating Rumjahn after being 17-13 down in the third game.

Coles did not find Bamford very difficult and made the score three sets all. Rumjahn and Hyde, however, proved too good for Bergl and Coles, and Liverpool were through to the final.

BARKING (Proffitt, Chapman, King) opposed Manchester (Lurie, Casofsky, Stanley) in the other semi-final. Manchester took the first five sets without reply and qualified to meet Liverpool in the final. Stanley Proffitt did not play well, which seemed to sap the confidence of his team mates.

The final provided the spectators with thrilling table tennis. Hyde continued to show that he was in tip-top form by beating Casofsky in the first game. Manchester were worthy winners of the cup, although I feel that the result would have been different if Liverpool had played the same side which defeated London.

Other London league results are:—Men's Team Championship, Kingsway. Women's Team Championship, Whitefields. Men's Knock-out Team Championship, Kingsway.

The following clubs have secured promotion to the first divisions:—Finchley, Bethnal Green, Wimbledon Y.M., and Ealing Common. Avenue, West Acton, Little Ealing, Memorial, Harmony, Willesden, Beverley, Polytechnic, St. Mary's "A" are promoted to the second divisions.



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