

# TABLE TENNIS

APRIL, 1947

Price Sixpence



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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Official Magazine  
of the  
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION  
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Edited by JACK CARRINGTON

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APRIL, 1947

## *From the Editor's Chair*

### **Important Fixture**

The Annual General Meeting of the English Table Tennis Association will be held in the Fyvie Hall, London Polytechnic, Regents Street, W.1, on Saturday, 26th April, 1947, commencing 5.30 p.m.

It is not generally known that the officials of our Association are elected by postal vote of all constituent members. The voting procedure is carried out by the Proportional Representation Society and thus it is a completely independent ballot and does not pass through the hands of any table tennis official. The result of the ballot is not known until it is submitted to the Association on the eve of the Annual General Meeting.

At the A.G.M. the Officers of the Association will render a report on their work during the past year and will answer criticisms to the best of their ability.

Perhaps more important still, the newly elected Officers will invite opinion on their plans for the coming year and will take due note of the feeling of the meeting. In this respect the E.T.T.A. may fairly claim to be one of the most democratic sports bodies yet created.

Any member of an affiliated club may attend at the A.G.M. and will be free to put forward his or her views with complete frankness.

### **Richard Opens the Door!**

Richard Bergmann, 1938-39 world champion, tells us that he hopes to enter the Open Tournaments during May, and to return to serious training. Yet as

recently as March he was publicising his decision "not to compete in amateur competitions" any more!

Oh, well, it takes a bigger man to admit a mistake than to make one. And perhaps an ex-champion and an ex-serviceman may be allowed a little latitude in that respect.

We learn again the old truth, that **the game is greater than the player.**

### **Summer Issues**

Owing to heavy post-crisis pressure on the printers, it is likely to be late April before this issue appears. We propose to publish the next issue during May and one more during the summer, before starting the next series in September.

Those who subscribed originally for eight issues will thus need to renew as from September 1st. The majority are now subscribing for 12 issues; if any monthly issues are omitted, your "subs" will of course be carried forward.

### **Literary Gents Please Note**

Some spare copies of the Souvenir Programme of the English Championships are still available from E.T.T.A., 69 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Price 1s. 3d. post free.

Also some copies of the enlarged February/March issue of this magazine, containing the news and anecdotes of the World Championships in Paris. Price 7d. per copy, post free, from Guardian House, 644 Forest Road, London, E.17.

THE EDITOR.

# 1947

March 12 - 15

# ENGLISH OPEN

No Check for the Czechs

## I. LIME GROVE SESSIONS

This year's "English," the 22nd of the series, had several distinctive features.

It was the first "English" in which the four men's semi-finalists all came from Czechoslovakia; the first in which matches were played without artificial lighting; the first to include entries from Portugal; the first since 1929 in which Barna did not play.

These things apart, it ran true to form, preliminaries at Lime Grove, finals at Wembley, 20 nationalities taking part. As the years pass, so the efficiency improves. This time Jack Kurzman and Bill Pope and their helpers had to produce extra efficiency merely to counter-balance the extra handicaps of the period.

### Lime Grove Disappointment

For it must also be said that this year's English provided the worst playing conditions seen in the national championships for many seasons. Owing to the lighting restrictions, more matches had to be crammed into shorter sessions, and to do this, more tables had to be squeezed into the baths hall. Owing to the inflexible attitude of the parties concerned with letting the hall for dancing, nothing could be done to lessen the slipperiness of the floor.

The combination of glassy floor, overcrowding, and super-fast tables (really beautifully surfaced, these) produced a good deal of scrappy play and no doubt a few unlucky results.

Nevertheless it must be conceded that the best players got through, as they have a habit of doing. Possibly it did hinder the Czechs less than others, since slippery floors and fast tables are a common feature in that land of good table tennis.

The Lime Grove crowd saw more foreign stars than ever before in an English, coming as they did, directly from the "Worlds" in Paris.

Popular favourites were big Sido and the crafty Soos of Hungary. Quarter-finalists these, losing to Andreadis and Slar respectively.

Miles and Schiff of U.S.A., and Amouretti and Haguenuer of France, all played with an appearance of inferiority complex, perhaps it was a reaction from the hard tussles of Paris.

### Leach Just Missed

Generally voted the best match of the tournament was the 4th round Leach v. Tereba, the Czech who won the title. Johnny, whose defence had given him a 3-1 victory over Tereba in Paris, found it necessary to counter-hit on the Lime Grove floor. At this game he was facing the supreme expert, and he failed only at 19 in the 5th game.

Tereba also accounted for Miles, Vana and Andreadis so he may be acclaimed a worthy winner.

### Merrett Shows Fight

Last Englishman, in the last 8, was young Ken Merrett, who bravely stole a game from Tereba before saying goodbye to Wembley hopes.

Bubley lost to Holzrichter, Filby to Sido and Casofsky to Stipek (Czecho.).

Goodman won a dreary battle with Sharman for the honour of losing to Vana next round (4th).

### Girls' Matches were Good

Women's matches were more colourful. Most notable effort came from glamorous Riba Monness, the U.S.A. "reserve" player. In one session she beat ex-World Champion Kettnerova, Scottish champion Elliot, and then ran Vera Dace to 5 games.

Vera thus met the new World Champion Farkas, in the semi.

The Hungarian repeated her Paris win, holding off some fine attacking spells by our girl, and winning 3-1.

Was Gizi lucky in that second game? It can always be argued, but it is better to win and save the breath. That seems to be the motto of world champions.

### Elisabeth Below Par

Betty Blackburn appeared listless when losing to Depetrisova (and later news shows she was sickening for an illness). "Dep" lost to "Vot," her sparring-partner from Pilsen where they make weak beer and strong table tennis.

Peggy Franks played cleverly to beat Hruskova, but found Votrubcova too forceful for her.

# CHAMPIONSHIPS

By JACK CARRINGTON



## A JOB WELL DONE

Tereba, the great stylist, after beating Leach, Miles, Vana and Andreadis, receives the Men's Singles Trophy from the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Chairman of E.T.T.A., at Wembley.

### Sensation ?

Jones beat Vana! But this was not another sensational defeat of the world champion.

It was Molly Jones of Gloucester who beat Mrs. Vana, an eager and pleasant player who may yet reach the top flight.

### Doubles

In men's doubles, our hopes of a repetition of the World final were dashed when Leach-Carrington failed to get going against Amouretti-Haguenuer. However, the West Countrymen Litten-Symons played splendidly and carried our chances as far as the semi-final against Vana-Slar.

In the mixed, Leach-Dace ran strongly through to the final, actually winning one game 21-2 against Tereba-Kettnerova!

### Bright Boys

The Boys' Singles (under 17) was full of good play. That two 15-year-olds contested the final gives us great hope for our future prospects.

The winner, Wilfred Rowe, of Torquay, a steady all-rounder, was coached by Mr. Terence I. Gill of that city, who deserves our congratulations too. Losing finalist Appleby is by contrast a miracle-monger.

We have seen so many of them, and this one is so very conscious of the show he is putting on.

But it is a great thing to be fifteen, and the dour match-play traditions of the Manhattan Club in East London may make a world-beater out of this erratic genius.

## II. FINALS AT WEMBLEY

All tickets had been sold six weeks before the usual 9,000 crowd converged through the blizzard on the famous stadium.

The pity is that the play inside did not warm the spectators any more than the weather outside.

Dominated by the four Czechs, the men's play actually bored many by its cold perfection.

*Semi: Andreadis v. Slar.*—An affair of big fellows defending and slow-hitting from the middle-distance position.

Andreadis won 21-17, 19-21, 13-21, 21-15, 21-19.

*Semi: Tereba v. Vana.*—Rather more exciting. What seemed to be a routine job for Vana changed completely when Tereba threw all caution to the winds and snatched the 3rd game. After this Vana appeared to have no more sting left, and Tereba played the match out, improving in confidence all the time.

## The Wembley Finals

(Continued from page 3)

The obvious theoretical weakness in Vana's play—his perpetual "running-round" to hit forehand from the back-hand corner—was perfectly exploited by a two-wing attacker, who was familiar with Vana's services and sidespin drives.

Score: Tereba won 15—21, 17—21, 21—15, 21—15, 21—18.

### A Triumph of Consistency

*Final:* Knowing each other so well, Tereba and Andreadis simply "bottled each other up." Tereba's courageous consistency in backhand and forehand driving made him a deserving winner. He made 32 consecutive drives to clinch the last point!

Score: 21—17, 16—21, 21—19, 14—21, 21—17.

Skilful but not thrill-full.

### Easy For Gizi

*Women's Final:* Sturdy, blonde, Gizi Farkas became English Champion without much opposition from Votrubcova. (21—17, 21—17, 21—14.)

### Popular Win

*Women's Doubles Final:* England's chief hope lay here when Vera Dace and Betty Blackburn, looking the essence of athletic efficiency in their royal blue shirts and grey shorts came out on to the ice to face their more stolid opponents Farkas (Hungary) and Trudi Pritzi (Austria).

To everybody's delight, Vera and Betty played a dazzling game. Betty in particular worked wonderfully in that first game while the Dace attack was "warming-up." After that both girls hit cleanly through the fine defence of the mid-Europeans.

They won the best match of the evening 21—19, 21—12, 14—21, 21—11.

\* \* \*  
*Veterans' Singles Final:* J. Taylor, well-known St. Bride's player, beat W. J. ("Flick") Spurgeon 21—13, 21—11.

\* \* \*  
*Men's Doubles:* Vana-Slar defeated Tereba-Stipek by 21—23, 22—20, 21—14, 21—10.

Again, wonderful doubles play, but just too "neutral" in nationality to inspire the crowd.

*Mixed Doubles:* Coming to the table after 11-0 p.m., Leach and Dace could not do more than give a hard game to

## PERSONALITY PLUS

Behind the scenes

at Lime Grove



Blonde hair, scarlet shirt, sandy pants, and a fur coat. Why, it must be a World Champion at least? And it is . . . Gizi Farkas uses that expressive left hand to talk to the svelte Yankee brunette, Riba Monness, World Doubles finalist.

Vana and Votrubcova, both of whom unleashed a speed which they had failed to show in their earlier singles. The Czech pair won 21—11, 21—18, 21—15.

\* \* \*  
*Men's Consolation Singles Final:* F. Tokar (Slovakia), beat R. J. Mackay (Birmingham), 20—22, 21—18, 21—15.

*Women's Consolation Singles Final:* Mrs. R. E. Bromfield (Middlesex), beat Miss J. Boyd (Barrow), 21—13, 21—6.

### TABLE TENNIS BATS

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# ENGLAND v. SCOTLAND

at Sunderland 25th March, 1947

This mixed match resulted in a win for England by 10 events to 1.

Scotland's single victory was gained by Miss Helen Elliott who beat Molly Jones, of Gloucester, in a hard game. Casofsky led our team, and supporting him were Ken Stanley, of Manchester, and Ron Litten, of Exeter (these received their first post-war recognition of returning form).

The fourth man was Aubrey Simons, of Bristol, whose strong performance in the West and good play in recent Doubles tournaments earned his selection.

In addition to Miss Molly Jones, a second newcomer was Miss Vi. Patterson, of East London, who did so well in the World Championships. Congratulations to the new Internationals on their good showing in this big match.

Detailed Scores: (England first):—

Miss M. Jones lost to Miss H. Elliott, 8—21, 11—21.

Miss V. Patterson beat Mrs. Nonie, 21—17, 25—23.

Casofsky beat Hillar, 21—10, 21—13.

Simons beat Young, 21—9, 21—3.

Litten beat Edwards, 21—13, 21—14.

Stanley beat Gillis, 21—13, 21—8.

Casofsky and Stanley beat Hillar and Edwards, 21—14, 21—9.

Simons and Litten beat Gillis and Young, 21—11, 21—7.

Jones and Patterson beat Elliott and Nonie, 21—17, 25—23.

Litten and Miss Patterson beat Gillis and Mrs. Nonie, 21—14, 21—11.

Simons and Miss Jones beat Hillar and Miss Elliott, 21—18, 21—16.

# LIVELY LANCASHIRE

One of the most highly organised counties is Lancashire, whose committee includes men of national experience, such as Billie Stamp, Leslie Jones and Bill Worsley.

The wide scope of their inter-town competitions is clearly shown from the following tables:—

## LANCASHIRE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

League Tables to March 31st, 1947

| SOUTH-WESTERN        |    |   |   |          |
|----------------------|----|---|---|----------|
| Manchester "A" ..... | 9  | 9 | 0 | 62 19 18 |
| St. Helens .....     | 7  | 6 | 1 | 42 21 12 |
| Liverpool .....      | 9  | 5 | 4 | 34 47 10 |
| Chester .....        | 9  | 3 | 6 | 46 45 6  |
| Southport .....      | 10 | 3 | 7 | 35 55 6  |
| Crewe .....          | 8  | 0 | 8 | 15 57 0  |

| SOUTH-EASTERN        |    |    |   |          |
|----------------------|----|----|---|----------|
| Bolton .....         | 10 | 10 | 0 | 68 22 20 |
| Macclesfield .....   | 10 | 6  | 4 | 48 42 12 |
| Stockport .....      | 9  | 5  | 4 | 40 42 10 |
| Manchester "B" ..... | 10 | 3  | 7 | 44 45 6  |
| Ashton .....         | 10 | 3  | 7 | 42 53 6  |
| Oldham .....         | 9  | 2  | 7 | 26 56 4  |

| CENTRAL          |    |   |    |          |
|------------------|----|---|----|----------|
| Altrincham ..... | 10 | 8 | 2  | 63 27 16 |
| Radcliffe .....  | 9  | 6 | 3  | 41 40 12 |
| Bury .....       | 10 | 6 | 4  | 48 42 12 |
| Blackpool .....  | 8  | 4 | 4  | 41 31 8  |
| Bolton S.S. .... | 8  | 3 | 5  | 34 38 6  |
| Urmston .....    | 9  | 9 | 16 | 65 6 0   |

| YOUTHS           |   |   |   |         |
|------------------|---|---|---|---------|
| Manchester ..... | 4 | 4 | 0 | 33 3 8  |
| St. Helens ..... | 4 | 4 | 0 | 32 4 8  |
| Stockport .....  | 7 | 3 | 4 | 22 41 6 |
| Liverpool .....  | 4 | 2 | 2 | 22 14 4 |
| Urmston .....    | 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 36 2  |
| Crewe .....      | 4 | 0 | 4 | 8 28 0  |

| LADIES (LANCS.)  |   |   |   |          |
|------------------|---|---|---|----------|
| Liverpool .....  | 7 | 6 | 1 | 41 22 12 |
| Blackpool .....  | 6 | 5 | 1 | 33 18 10 |
| Manchester ..... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 33 39 8  |
| St. Helens ..... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 36 36 4  |
| Southport .....  | 7 | 1 | 6 | 16 44 2  |

| LADIES (CHESHIRE)  |   |   |   |          |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----------|
| Crewe .....        | 6 | 6 | 0 | 42 12 12 |
| Macclesfield ..... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 28 26 8  |
| Altrincham .....   | 6 | 2 | 4 | 21 33 4  |
| Stockport .....    | 6 | 1 | 5 | 17 37 2  |

Lancs. League Closed Championships held Manchester Y.M.C.A., 29th March, 1947.

Junior Ladies—

Miss A. Wood (Manchester) beat Miss M. Booth (Blackpool) 21—12, 18—21, 21—11.

Ladies' Doubles—

Misses Marshall and Wood (Manchester) beat Misses Mansell and Dickenson (Liverpool) 10—21, 21—18, 21—15.

Ladies' Singles—

Miss Mansell (Liverpool) beat Miss Goorney (Manchester) 21—7, 21—17.

Junior Men's Singles—

H. Thompson (Manchester) beat C. Alcock (Manchester) 21—16, 21—18.

Men's Doubles—

Davis and McDermott (Manchester) beat Devine and Devine (Chester) 21—14, 22—20.

Men's Singles—

Devine, W. (Chester) beat Devine, J. (Chester) 21—19, 23—21, 21—10.

The Association has had quite a good season in every sense, but one cannot say with any confidence that we have unearthed any future champions.

We look back with satisfaction and not a little regret on the last season of "friendly" County Matches, and are now looking forward to upholding the prestige of the North in next season's "pukka" matches in the County League.

J. R. THOMPSON.

# WESTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

## MEN'S SECTION

Results:—

Cheltenham 0, Bristol 11; Swindon 1, Birmingham 10; Bath 4, Gloucester 7; Bath 2, Newport 9; Cardiff 1, Bristol 10; Swindon 1, Cardiff 10; Newport 10, Cheltenham 1; Birmingham 9, Cheltenham 2; Newport 5, Bristol 6.

|            | Played | Won | Lost | Points |
|------------|--------|-----|------|--------|
| Bristol    | 12     | 12  | 0    | 24     |
| Birmingham | 12     | 11  | 1    | 22     |
| Cardiff    | 13     | 8   | 5    | 16     |
| Newport    | 13     | 7   | 6    | 14     |
| Swindon    | 14     | 6   | 8    | 12     |
| Gloucester | 12     | 4   | 8    | 6 *    |
| Bath       | 11     | 2   | 9    | 4      |
| Cheltenham | 13     | 0   | 13   | 0      |

\* 2 pts. forfeited for playing ineligible player.

## WOMEN'S SECTION

Results:—

Swindon 3, Birmingham 8; Bristol 5, Swindon 6; Swindon 4, Cardiff 7.

|            | Played | Won | Lost | Points |
|------------|--------|-----|------|--------|
| Birmingham | 5      | 5   | 0    | 10     |
| Cardiff    | 7      | 5   | 2    | 10     |
| Bristol    | 7      | 4   | 3    | 6 *    |
| Swindon    | 8      | 3   | 5    | 6      |
| Bath       | 7      | 0   | 7    | 0      |

\* 2 pts. forfeited for playing ineligible player.

## NORTHERN ITEMS

### BARNSELEY TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

500 spectators attended the Exhibition at the Baths Hall given by Nora Senior, Gwen Mace, Johnny Leach and Jack Carrington in aid of the Barnsley Boys' Club's Special Appeal Fund for a new club building.

This exhibition proved to be a real tonic in the Barnsley League's efforts to promote interest in the game and brought many enquiries from new players wishing to join clubs.

Next season we hope to arrange skilled coaching for our many promising young players.

The Barnsley "Closed" Championships were held last month with H. Lax winning the men's singles and Mary Ulyatt the ladies' singles.

FRANK WALKER,  
Hon. Sec.

### BARROW AND DIST. T.T. LEAGUE

Our activities have been heavy in the League recently. Interest has increased since the visit of the E.T.T.A. exhibition team, and next season promises to be exceptionally good. It is early to forecast accurately numbers of teams, but providing equipment is obtainable I anticipate an increase in playing members to commence a third Gent's League.

We won the home match against West Cumberland T.T.L. 7 events to 3 events. The matches are played 8 singles, 2 doubles—No. 1 plays No. 1 and 2; No. 2 plays 2 and 1; No. 3 plays 3 and 4, and so on. The away fixture we won by 6 to 4.

We actually play this method in our League. Barrow and District were represented by:—**Singles:** J. Wilson (St. James), R. Thomason (Ulverston), J. Green (Post Office) and K. Collins (St. Lukes). **Doubles:** E. Rooney and C. McIlroy (St. Lukes) and J. C. Redshaw and W. Hepworth (Vickers Sports Club).

E. HOLMES, Hon. Sec.

### HUDDERSFIELD TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

This season we have had 24 teams playing regularly, the section winners being Almond-bury in Section A, and Honley in Section B. Almond-bury and the Y.M.C.A. have also reached the semi-final stage of the Yorkshire Club Championship. In the Wilmot Trophy we reached the second round stage, only to be beaten by Liverpool 6—3. Liverpool's team included the Rumjahn brothers, both internationals. Four of our local players, namely W. Bedford, C. Whiteley, G. Nutton and G. Long, have been selected for Yorkshire—a great honour.

In our closed championships, W. Bedford won the singles, and C. Whiteley and G. Nutton won the doubles.

W. DAVIES,  
Chairman, Huddersfield & Dist. T.T. League.

**SOUTHPORT & DIST. T.T.L.** Joseph Watts retained his 1939 singles title after hard struggles against A. Crowther in the semi-final and H. Johns in the final. The other semi-finalist was D. Stobart.

Miss D. Brewster did well to take the singles in her first season, beating Miss P. Lee in the final.

A. Crowther had the consolation of winning the Junior singles, although R. Duckworth took the final to 3 games.

## THREE GOOD TOURNEYS IN MAY

### Southern Season Dies Hard

Once again Wembley and Harrow League will stage the **WEMBLEY "OPEN"** in style. The venue is Wembley Town Hall, preliminaries on 12th to 15th May, finals 16th May. Final session starts at 7 p.m., and much of the play will be televised.

Tournament enquiries to: Mrs. I. LENTLE, 594, Harrow Road, W.10.

Ticket enquiries to: Town Hall or Mr. RAYMOND MANN, 48, Forty Avenue, Wembley Park.

\* \* \*

Yiewsley, West Drayton and District T.T.L. will present all sessions of the **BUCKS "OPEN"** at the Slough Social Centre, Farnham Road, Slough, from 28th April to 3rd May. Finals start at 7.30 p.m. on the Saturday.

\* \* \*

Herga L.T.C. are reviving the Middlesex "Open" Championships at the Drill Hall, Harrow, from 19th to 24th May.

Enquiries to: Mr. A. Bergl, c/o Herga L.T.C., Courtfield Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex.

## NORTH MIDDLESEX LEAGUE FINALS

### Men's Singles Championship Final.

G. R. Harrower (Gallants Farm) beat G. W. Marshall (Glencairn), 21—11, 15—21, 21—14, 21—18.

### Ladies' Singles Final.

Mrs. E. E. Bromfield (Glencairn) beat Miss E. Benstead (Glencairn), 21—18, 18—21, 21—14.

### Men's Doubles Final.

G. R. Harrower (Gallants Farm) and L. M. Bromfield (Glencairn) beat G. W. Marshall (Glencairn) and C. Richards (Glencairn), 21—12, 14—21, 21—17, 21—18.

### Ladies' Doubles Championship Final.

Mrs. I. M. Purvis and Miss M. Pugh (Barnet) beat Mrs. W. Liversedge and Miss M. Shears (Barnet), 21—15, 21—9.

### Mixed Doubles Championship Final.

Mrs. B. Harrower and G. Harrower beat Miss E. Benstead and R. Drake (Glencairn) (Gallants Farm), 21—15, 21—17.

### Men's Minor Singles Championship.

K. Wearing (Woodlands) beat S. E. Bostock (Woodlands), 21—10, 21—17, 21—14.

### Ladies' Consolation Singles Final.

Mrs. H. Davenport (Ellenborough) beat Mrs. E. Beld (Ellenborough), 21—19, 22—20.

# Some of the Hard Workers

## Extracts from the Chair- man's Address to the General Council of E.T.T.A.



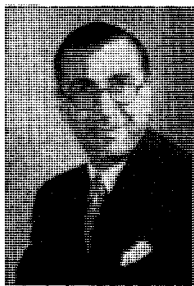
W. J. POPE

"Bill" Pope  
to fans all over  
the world,  
Hon. General  
Secretary of the  
E.T.T.A. for 15  
years.



A. K. VINT

Also known as  
"Bill" (just to  
make it easy).  
Hon. Treasurer  
of E.T.T.A. for  
15 years.



JACK KURZMAN

Hon. Referee  
of the English  
"Open." Con-  
venor of Area  
Trials and  
member of the  
national Selection  
Committee

1946-47 is, from the results point of view, the most successful season the E.T.T.A. has ever had.

Here are some of the records :—

- (a) Corbillon Cup won—first time ever (and an "all-time" record, since it was without losing a match).
- (b) Four players in the "Finals Night" programme of the World's—first time ever.
- (c) Finalists in Women's Singles—first time ever.
- (d) Finalists in Men's Doubles—first time since 1927/28 (Bull-Perry).
- (e) Semi-finalist in Men's Singles—first since 1928/29 (Perry, Haydon).
- (f) International Matches: Played 28, won 22, lost 6. Scores 130/41.
- (g) World's and then National Championships: E.T.T.A. players competing in 7, shared in winning ten titles, 12 final places and 12 semi-final.

These results have been notched by a blending of freshness with experience. Of the Swaythling Cup five, three were post-war newcomers; of the fourteen men called for all internationals—nine were; of the three Corbillon Cup players—two were of post-war development; of the seven women nominated for all internationals—four were. This is a higher proportion of newcomers than in the teams of almost any other leading country, *and of almost any other sport.*

### Youth—The Truth

There has been a lot of talk this year about the age of internationals. Some Talkers seem to have forgotten the war. No player 18 or 19 in 1946 was older than 12 in 1939. In the first full post-war season it is inevitable that newcomers with enough experience to have "developed" could be 23-26 therefore, who in peacetime would have been 18-20. Although the Selection Committee has, throughout the season, added to its own researches, queries to every league representative and every newspaper writer praising players younger than this age, it has not received one single name of whom the recommender was prepared himself to affirm that the youngster was ripe for selection this year.

### Team-work

Our results have been not only an achievement for the players, but a reward for all those who have put in effort: captains, selectors, National Officials, League Officials: and not only this

- Table Tennis in England is so highly organised that officials have to devote more time (and more thought?) to the game than most players. The Executive Committee—the "Cabinet" of the E.T.T.A., meets monthly.

# ON FROM 1946/47

by The Hon. IVOR MONTAGU, Chairman E.T.T.A.

year, but those who kept the game going during the war years. But particularly are thanks due to the players for responding to the backing they got by putting out just that *little extra* on the *most important occasions* that makes the difference between better-than-expected results and disappointments.

## Lots More to Do.

Where from here? To do better yet, as we all want to, will need just as much hard work (and more than as much good luck).

Of improvement of current players, I won't speak here. More experience (if keenness remains constant) will give us that in some without a doubt. The problem is long term—the Youth. It obsesses a lot of people. Healthy sign. But unhealthy—fiction being propagated that great players can be *made* (and that especially the Association can make them) by some magic wand process.

You can *make* second-class players. But a *great* player comes from *within*. All you can do from outside is to give opportunity. And of all who share in giving opportunity, the *least* decisive is the National Association.

The Editor of this journal offered prizes for postcard recipes on how to catch a great player young.

My answer is: to the player himself—*"start at 8 and work hard."* To the grown-ups—*"let him get on the table."*

These are what a great player needs: (1) Accuracy, Concentration; (2) Strokes; (3) Tactics; (4) Experience; (5) Temperament. *And players who really have 1 and 5 will make their way over every obstacle.*

## It Begins at Home

And in this basic matter, the National Association can do very little except encourage. Even Leagues can't do much. The chances come from: youngsters who show the keenness to stay on the table and play and play, families or clubs who give them the chance.

What is certain is that players, young or old, who have to wait a turn, ten minutes on the table after half an hour's waiting, will never get anywhere. To give the opportunity to a youngster to acquire this real basic certainty requires

a lot of faith and sacrifice in a club, but only a club (or a lucky family) can do it. The Association can't.

Consider a musical youngster. Will he ever be a great violinist if he only has ten minutes a day, or half an hour a week, on the violin? If you think anyone is worth while, the most important thing is to let him play and play and play.

Even at the later stages, where it is a question of acquiring experience and polishing temper—the job is still not one to shove-off on the National Association.

## Gate-Conscious ?

Two things have made me sad this year. First, to have received demands for an England side most times when I have offered a town an international touring side. The same folks who think their own locals not good enough to pick for a match (they should have jumped at the chance to give their youngsters "a bleeding") will often be in the forefront of yells and why youth isn't given a chance by the National body. Second, to notice how often open tournament committees ignore the clear rule of the E.T.T.A. and seed the entries. How do they expect youngsters ever to acquire the experience of improving their confidence by a succession of won rounds, and their temperament by an occasional game in a late round before a big crowd, unless they can occasionally get a lucky draw in the tournament? Yet the same people who monotonously seed to the stars into the last rounds at event after event "for the gate" are often in the forefront of the whines that the National body should spend more money on giving youngsters experience.

Please keep up the pressure on the National Body. Every executive needs pressure to keep awake. Always more is needed. The National Body has, for next year, Youth Plans, which would have been premature this year. But please do not think of the duty to help Youth as something that can be shoved-off and not shared by every League and Club, including you.

## E.T.T.A. is All of Us

The Association is not officers and committee but all its affiliates. No "we and they" please, but only "we." This applies to finding and developing talent for after 1946-47 just as much as to any other problem.

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# REMEMBER THE SPECTATOR!

says Eric Forman, (Pastor of an East London Youth Club)

I belong to the army of people who enjoy their table tennis without ever dreaming of tournament play. The English Open Championship was the first major table tennis match I had attended. Perhaps the first impressions of a sympathetic critic would interest the promoters.

First a word of real commendation to the players. The friendly atmosphere, general sportsmanship combined with a keen desire to win made the games a delight to watch. I watched with interest a game where one of the players was hopelessly outclassed, and every time a point might have gone his way luck was against him. Soon he was laughing at himself, and as a final touch the winner and vanquished walked off arm in arm. I said to my friend, "a great sport this." Members of my youth club were with me. To those players I would say, "Thanks for the lesson. My boys will be better sportsmen for it."

## The U.N.O. Game

Ten days together in Paris had broken the ice between the players, and a true "league of nations" spirit could be observed.

At one time during a "dim-out" period, a "running-round-the-table" match was spontaneously organised; involving eight nationalities, two sexes, and every grade of player from world's champions to boys' club level.

## Clothes Make the Player?

We enjoyed the games—but those shirts! Some of the players wouldn't have been allowed to play in our club; their shirts were too dirty. One chap looked absolutely slovenly. I can understand a man clinging to a beloved bat, I can appreciate the worth of tattered shoes, but dirty shirts and unpressed flannels surely do not improve a man's game?

Some of the games lost some interest because we didn't know who was playing. The blouses of the U.S.A. team were rather spectacular but we did know they were Americans. I looked in vain for a Union Jack. How helpful it would have been if each player had had a numbered card on his back, or, if that would hinder free movement, a number placard behind his side of the table. Then if we had an index we should know who was playing.

There is a real need for a standard dress. Each player ought to have two coloured shirts, perhaps red and blue, so that in each game we could have two distinct colours—it would make the game easier to follow.

The spectators, too, could improve matters if they could remember the spectators. We all wish the umpire could be put under the table out of the way. Incidentally, why not a pair of tall step ladders to lift him above the table and the spectators—and knowing how he (the umpire) obstructs the view, could the spectators keep still and could the standing lookers-on stand behind the chairs instead of in the gangways?

But on the whole thanks for a splendid entertainment. We'll be there next time.

ERIC FORMAN.

## GIRLS' CLUB LEADERS,

Please Note . . . . .

In the Boys' Singles of the English Championships **there were 32 entrants.**

There was no Girls' Singles (under 18) competition — because . . . **only one entry was received.**

What a chance some of your kids are missing!

## NORWICH & DIST. T.T.L.

Our promotion and relegation struggles have left interest almost to the end of the season. We promote and relegate two teams from each division.

We had a record entry of 64 players for the Norwich Closed Individual Cup, and our newly instituted Doubles Cup attracted 33 pairs.

Norwich has formed a sports link with Leeuwaarden in Holland, and at Whitsun are sending over teams of all sports for a week's visit. A table tennis team of five men and three women was invited, and of course we gladly accepted. A return visit by Leeuwaarden is to be arranged later.

League matches end by 31st March, but April will be busy, with the Cup final, Individual and Doubles finals, and inter-League matches versus Lowestoft and King's Lynn.

We are staging an exhibition by J. Leach and other internationals on 2nd May, and our A.G.M. will be held in that month, too.

Foundation of a Norfolk county association appears impracticable at present, as only Norwich, Lowestoft and King's Lynn are functioning, but possibly Yarmouth and Beccles will swell the ranks next year. Our own league expects to have 60 clubs in action by then!

HAROLD E. BETTS.

## GOOD JUDGES

Matlock and District T.T. League, who are sponsoring the Derbyshire County Closed Championships in their town, broke new ground when they decided to invite an experienced umpire to take charge of their final session on 19th April.

Mr. E. A. Dakin, the Hon. Secretary, and his committee, feel that the public and the players in an important event are entitled to good service in every respect, and high on the priority list is the matter of umpiring and general staging of the deciding matches.

Their choice fell on Mr. George White, well known contributor to these columns, and Mrs. Winifred Brown, of East Ham, who has umpired at Wembley and in International matches, and these have been invited to attend at Matlock at the expense of the home league.

Mr. Dakin says, "I feel that a good umpire can contribute as much as a good player to the appreciation of match table tennis, and by inviting a really experienced personality we hope to instruct and inspire our own local officials."

Matlock are to be congratulated on creating this very interesting precedent.

## Great Night at Belle Vue

Northern table tennis received another boost when the "Evening Chronicle" staged its Tournament finals in the usual grand style, at Belle Vue, Manchester, on 20th March, 1947.

This competition, barred to internationals and county representatives, had been played off in readers' homes and clubs in the last few months. Two men, and two women, survived to decide the issue under the massive lights of the King's Hall arena. Results are:—

**Men's Singles:** H. Johnson (Manchester) beat M. Greenberg (Manchester), 21—10, 21—18, 21—16.

**Women's Singles:** Mrs. P. Allen (Blackpool) beat Mrs. M. Carbishley (Congleton), 21—18, 21—14, 14—21, 21—17.

With the finalists appeared a "circus" of distinguished internationals in an invitation knock-out. In 1st round, Leach beat Hyde, Miles beat Lurie, Vana beat Carrington, Casofsky beat Schiff.

2nd round: Miles beat Leach, Vana beat Casofsky. In the final Vana again proved superior to Miles although the American champion gave glimpses of better form than he had yet seen from him.

Freddie Cromwell, the "Chronicle" table tennis reporter, and Mr. O. Dearden, chief organiser, rendered fine service to the game in staging this function. Leslie Jones, national selector and new Manchester League secretary, carried out the M.C.'s job in genial style, Harold Oldroyd, the E.T.T.A. president and all the leading personalities of Lancashire were present.

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# COUNTY or AREA BODIES?

An experienced Secretary states his

views . . . by R. C. JULER (Chester T.T.L.)

The Rules of the E.T.T.A. as at present constituted allow for local organisation in the form of County Associations, but there is apparently a movement on foot in certain quarters for the formation of Area Bodies, these Area Bodies to be grouped around one or more of the large cities in each case.

This short article is a plea for "County Associations," which in the opinion of the writer is the best policy for the future good of table tennis, both locally and nationally.

**Strict geographical division of Leagues and players** is to my mind the simplest and most logical policy. Among the points arising from this I would suggest: (1) membership of the County body should be obligatory on all Leagues of which at least 50% of its clubs are situated within the boundaries of the County; (2) only registered players who are themselves resident in that County shall be eligible to play in that County's Closed Championship or be chosen to play in the County team—in other words, **residential qualification shall be the over-riding factor.** This would allow a player to play for a team in one County and reside in another County, but would not allow that player to enter the Closed Championship of any County except he resides therein.

## Border-line Cases

I believe that one of the main arguments for Area Bodies as against County Bodies is that Leagues on the borders of cities where County boundaries meet do not wish to sever their connections with what is, in most cases, a higher class of play. I maintain that the ideas outlined above make such severance unnecessary. I go further, and hold that inter-city teams should be chosen on a residential basis.

## Clear Thinking Necessary

Direct or indirect affiliation to E.T.T.A. is presumed in all cases. I do not claim that these ideas are new, but I ask all table tennis enthusiasts to give them their earnest thought, and to communicate their views to those in authority—those who make the decisions which

can accelerate or retard the progress of our sport.

R. C. JULER.

## The Right Spirit

Practical example of "what should be done for the young player" was given at the Midland Open last month.

Mr. Colin Crane and Mr. John Roe, aged precisely 14 years each, set off from Nottingham in the hope of making their mark in the Juniors' competition. This was the time of the great freeze-up (remember?) and the two youngsters found themselves standing in a cold corridor for 5½ hours while the train ploughed its way through to Birmingham.

Arriving at 9.15, many of us would have thought Table Tennis well lost that night for a cup of tea and a rissole. Not so these kids. They dashed around to the Birmingham Stadium, only to find that the committee had been obliged to complete the event and, in fact, the two Wolverhampton lads Robbins and Morris had qualified for the final.

These two young sportsmen, however, at once offered to play the latecomers for their places in the final, so that their tribulations should not have been in vain. The matches took place and the finalists duly justified their position, but the results are not of the least importance.

We draw the attention of the International Federation to this flagrant breach of tournament rules and we draw the attention of all sportsmen to this fine example of wise government on the part of the tournament committee.

# Appreciation

How sad to hear of the death last month of Norman Brumwell, of East Ham. Norman, still a serving officer in the R.A.F., was killed



in a plane crash on his way to take up duties in Singapore.

Thus the fickle air claimed the price it might have exacted in more perilous days.

For Norman had successfully completed 34 operational missions with Bomber Command, along with all the additional hazards of war-time training.

Left-handed, aggressive, he brought to table tennis the natural talent of an athletic family, and a certain emotional intensity which made his play slightly unreliable for the highest class. Nevertheless, this very quality, combined with an ever-present sense of humour, made Norman a popular player at tournaments all over the country.

East Ham League champion, and Essex County runner-up, in 1938/39, at the age of 20, his best post-war successes were in mixed doubles play.

He might well have done better still but for his wide interest in other sports. At football he represented East Ham schoolboys in the great days of that team, and at cricket he played for the R.A.F. side in Canada.

Norman's three brothers are all players and all-round sportsmen; to the youngest, Brian, who is still in the Army, we shall look with special hope, for he must play for two now.

The Fellows Cranleigh club and many others have lost a good friend; in saluting Norman we are saluting all those lads who sacrificed their table tennis years to bear the strain for all of us in the dark nights.

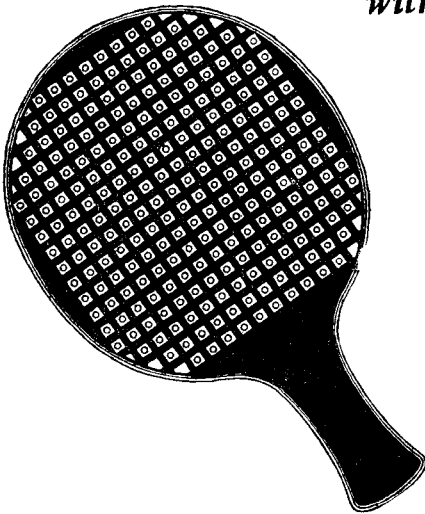
JACK CARRINGTON.

## FAMOUS LUTON PLAYER DIES

A prominent player of an earlier generation, Teddy Stilwell, the Luton international, died in January, aged 44.

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# SERVICE WITH A SMILE

(on the face of the Umpire)

## THE PROPOSED NEW RULES

We reported in our last issue that the International Table Tennis Federation had adopted, as from the beginning of next season the American No-spin service rules and the "Expedite" rule.

These matters will be discussed and a decision taken by the new National Executive after the Annual General Meeting on April 26th. Meanwhile, Mr. George White, famous World Championship Umpire, discusses some of the aspects of the service rule on this page.

As opinion is liable to be more varied on the subject of the "expedite" rule, we propose to hold over the discussion of time limit games until the Executive has taken these decisions.

Forty years ago, I am told, the server stood as far as he could get away from the table and with a mighty under-arm swing cannoned the ball direct on to his opponent's side of the table.

Those who favoured guile rather than brute force soon found that quite unreturnable services could be made by using various kinds of spin, and so it became necessary to introduce the service bouncing both sides of the net to save the game from degenerating into a test of spin-service skill.

Finger-spin was still permitted. Provided that you did not rub the ball across the bat, you could put any spin you liked on the ball as you threw it from your hand preparatory to hitting it.

### Those Yanks !

Human ingenuity knows no limits, however, and in the 1936-37 season the American World Championship team brought to Europe novel forms of spin service. The ball was squeezed from between the thumb and fingers, or more often from between the knuckles, so that it merely rebounded off the bat and bounced across the net

## By George White

to reach the receiver carrying a spin which he found it almost impossible to assess and counter. The receiver's difficulty was added to by the speed with which knuckle-spin services were made and the fact that the way in which the ball was projected from the hand was often concealed by the position of the bat.

That season the American team won the Swaythling Cup, and players of other nations were quick to see the value of this new development. More far-seeing administrators were equally alive to the danger which threatened the future of the game. They foresaw matches regularly won by means of services rather than stroke play; they dreaded the ultimate refinement of knuckle-spin when two players would stand at either end of a table and "ace" each other for five points in turn, the game being decided only by a service fault or a lucky return.

### Menace to Good Play ?

Perhaps the gloomy predictions which were made at this time as to the menace which threatened our game were a little exaggerated and hysterical. It was quite clear, though, that we had reached a stage when service presented too much advantage, and a provisional change in the rules was adopted for the 1937-38 season. Instead of being permitted to *project* the ball before striking it in service, the server was required to *release* it—and to release it *without imparting spin*.

### Umpires' Dilemma

In the knotty points appendix to the laws, attention was drawn to the fact that any spin imparted by any agency but the racket was prohibited, and umpires were instructed in any case of doubt to warn the server in the first instance, declaring a "let," and in every subsequent case of doubt to give the decision against the server.

This instruction was found to be unsatisfactory in practice, as the server was given no indication of how to avoid being penalised. Accordingly, the instruction to the umpire was later amplified to provide that, when warning a player in the first instance of doubt, he should also recommend him to serve

with the serving hand open and flat, fingers straight and together, thumb free. Any further case of doubt, which could arise only if the player failed to follow this advice, then led to the point being awarded against the server.

**That is how the service rule stood at the beginning of the last war, and how it still stands to-day. Experience has shown, however, that it is not entirely satisfactory, and the last I.T.T.F. Congress in Paris decided that next season it shall be compulsory to serve with the serving hand open as described above.**

The reason for the change in the present rule is that it places upon the umpire a responsibility which he cannot in practice discharge satisfactorily. Two-thirds of the time he cannot be *certain* that the ball is released rather than projected and that there is no finger spin, although in most cases he will have no reasonable grounds for suspecting an illegal service.

### **New Rule Removes Doubt**

Where, then, is the umpire to decide that "doubt" exists? In practice, he invokes the rule only in the most flagrant cases. Even then, in America, where the problem has been more acute than here, and also, I am told, in one or two instances at the recent World Championships, clearly illegal services have been allowed to pass without penalty.

The remedy which has been adopted is a change in the rules which restores the umpire to his proper position as a judge of fact and relieves him of the responsibility for expressing an opinion. Either a service is released from the open hand without spin, or it is not; there is no question of doubt. No longer has he to worry as to whether there *may* be finger or knuckle spin on a service where from the position of player and bat he may not even be able to see what the serving hand is doing.

### **Player Not Hampered**

The effect on the player he can best judge for himself, by trying out the new rule. He will, of course, no longer suffer doubts as to different umpires' different interpretations of the old rule. As regards the services he can make under the new rule, my own experience so far is that backhand services are hardly affected. On the forehand, topspin and chop services can easily be developed and I think we shall find that side-spin services made by the agency of the bat will be just as much used next season as now, and will be no more and no less difficult to return.

## **Oh, they're Tough, mighty tough, in the West!**

"Some 200 fans are after your blood," writes Dennis Thompson, the E.T.T.A. representative of Cheltenham T.T. League, to the Editor.

Well, that many customers can't be wrong, so we hereby apologize for the omission of any tribute to Cheltenham in last month's article "With the Table Tennis Showmen."

Cheltenham did indeed stage a good show. Conditions were excellent, and the Old Town Hall was packed—and all this with only 11 days' notice. Molly Jones and Ron Litten were welcome guest stars, the spectators bought over 200 copies of TABLE TENNIS, and altogether it was a happy gathering.

*[Perhaps, after this, the Editor need not travel incognito to the Y.M.C.A. Coaching Scheme on 10th May? Cheers, Cheltenham.—Ed.]*

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### **"Of Course We'll Take You Back Home to the States."**

These famous war-time words came true on 21st March when the U.S.A. touring team took with them on their homeward flight Miss Elizabeth Blackburn.

Not for keeps, however. Betty was going for the American national championships, and for a special course of study. After her great effort in the World's we shall be only too pleased if she can find that "little extra something" in America.

News is that she lost in the semi to Miss B. Chatraz, leaving the field clear for Leah Thall in the final.

Betty and Richard Miles won the Mixed Doubles.

Native air was apparently good for Miles, who retained the singles in a 3—straight win over Sol Schiff.

The same air did not seem so good for Betty, for she contracted chicken-pox after the tournament.

The Americans disclaim responsibility, however, and lay the blame on Paris.

No matter where she caught it, there is no doubt that Betty has chosen the right place to be convalescent in! She is in Lake Forest, Illinois, whither we send our best wishes for a quick recovery.

## IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

In Dublin, 20-22nd March, 1947.

Here again the Czechs took the honours. Vana flew direct from Manchester, with Johnny Leach; Slar, Andreadis and Stipek made their way via Belfast and Dundalk where their exhibition play delighted the Irish crowds.

Northern stars Mercer, O'Prey and Martin, did not enter the lists. No doubt they were tired and stale after the Paris fortnight.

So were Leach and Vana and Slar who might have been better advised to rest.

However Stipek and Andreadis ran into top form. Local opposition did not worry them; Stipek defeated Slar, and nearly beat Vana (two games down and then 18-17 up in the 5th)!

Andreadis beat Leach in the semi-final at the National Stadium. Once again a slippery floor discounted Leach's terrific defensive powers, and the Czech won a scrappy game at 15 in the 5th. The final, between Vana and Andreadis, gave Dublin a better show than Wembley had had.

After five spectacular games these two came to the tension of deuce. Vana had a lucky touch to give him match-point. The plump urbane Andreadis took a deep breath and fought back, to win 23-21. The World champion thus lost to a compatriot for the second time in a fortnight.

Full results:

**Men's Singles—Semi-finals** — B. Vana beat L. Stipek, 21-17, 21-16, 15-21, 11-21, 21-19; I. Andreadis beat J. Leach, 21-23, 21-18, 17-21, 21-16, 21-19. **Final**—Andreadis beat Vana, 21-18, 12-21, 21-17, 13-21, 23-21.

**Ladies' Singles—Final** — Miss V. Dace beat Miss H. Elliott 21-12, 21-15.

**Boy's Singles—Final**—J. McGuigan (Belfast) beat J. O'Hara (Ballymena), 21-17, 21-11.

**Men's Doubles—Final**—B. Vana and A. Slar beat A. Andreadis and L. Stipek, 18-21, 21-17, 21-23, 21-12, 21-17.

**Ladies' Doubles Final** —Miss V. Dace and Miss Minshull beat Mrs. Vana and Miss H. Elliott, 21-11, 21-15.

**Mixed Doubles—Final**—Vana and Mrs. Vana beat L. Cohen (Manchester) and Miss Elliott, 21-14, 21-17.

## LONDON OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Finals at The Memorial Hall, London, E.C.4, on 22nd March, 1947.

**Men's Singles—**

E. Bubby beat R. Sharman 21-9, 21-16; 21-16.

**Women's Singles**

Miss L. R. Barnes beat Mrs. R. E. Bromfield 21-11, 21-11.

**Women's Doubles—**

Miss L. R. Barnes and Miss V. M. Patterson beat Miss D. Rivett and Miss B. Wilkinson 21-10, 21-15.

**Men's Doubles—**

U. M. Chandarana and Kumar Ghosh beat J. E. Head and S. E. Morton 8-21, 21-16, 21-12.

**Mixed Doubles—**

Miss D. Rivett and D. A. Miller beat Miss V. M. Patterson and K. Collar 17-21, 21-16, 21-18.

## Our WEMBLEY WEEK- END Competition

Get Busy Now on those Coupons

To our great regret we are compelled to depart from the original form of this competition. It was anticipated that the February issue of TABLE TENNIS would contain the final entry forms and full instructions and the winner would have had ample time to arrange for his free trip to the Wembley finals.

The fuel hold-up prevented us from inviting the winner to Wembley. We therefore propose to award cash prizes as follows:—

ONE GUINEA to the sender of the first envelope opened containing correct solutions on both NOVEMBER and DECEMBER coupons.

(NOVEMBER was the SPELLING MISTAKE; DECEMBER was the ANAGRAM.)

TWO GUINEAS to the sender of the all-correct or nearest-to-correct solution on the JANUARY coupon (World and England team selections).

For the purposes of this competition "correct" means "corresponding to the aggregate of all entries received."

In the event of a tie between two or more competitors, the winner will be decided by lot. Entries must be received by 10th May, 1947.

Don't delay: Post your entries now on your November, December and January coupons to:

Wembley Week-end Competition,  
c/o Guardian House,  
644, Forest Road,  
London, E.17.

## WEST OF ENGLAND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Exeter, 29th March, 1947.

**Details:—Girls' Singles.** P. Rind beat K. Mann, 21-11, 21-13.

**Women's Doubles:** V. Dace and P. Barnes beat Mrs. Wilson and Miss Fossev (Bournemouth), 21-8, 21-13.

**Boys' Singles:** W. Rowe beat W. Gilbert, 22-20, 21-12.

**Mixed Doubles:** Leach and Dace beat Stipek and Crosby, 22-20, 21-13.

**Men's Doubles:** Andreadis and Stipek beat Leach and E. Goodman, 21-15, 21-18, 17-21, 21-14.

**Women's Singles:** Dace beat Crosby, 21-8, 21-13.

**Men's Singles:** Andreadis beat Stipek, 21-13, 21-15, 21-12.

## WILMOTT CUP

**Semi-Final Matches:—**

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Liverpool v. London.

**Final:—**

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## ROSE BOWL

**Quarter-Final Matches:—**

Bournemouth v. North Middlesex.  
Exeter v. Grimsby.  
Birmingham v. Blackpool.  
Northumberland—bye.