

DECEMBER 1947

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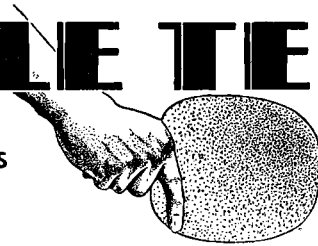
# TABLE TENNIS



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

# TABLE TENNIS

Official Magazine  
of the  
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION  
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## From the Editor's Chair

### HAVE A GO!

Indian clerks who do not succeed in winning a university degree are reputed to display the title "*Failed B.A.*" with almost as much satisfaction as the degree itself.

The idea being that they must be *some good* before they could even try for the examination!

In the same way many table tennis players might be quite happy to write "*Beaten 1st round World Champs*" after their names. (Even World Champions have won this title, on their off days—whether they were happy is another matter.)

For the ordinary player, however, participation in the "World's" is a reward in itself. The best-of-5 matches in perfect conditions, the close-up contacts with all the finest players in the world, the all-pervading atmosphere of table tennis keenness, not to mention the free entry to all sessions of the Championships and the International team events . . . all these make the ordinary player's entry an adventure which also pays dividends, even if it means investing a few days of the annual holiday.

### Holiday At Home

One might almost say that at Wembley you can have a taste of the Continental travel which is temporarily forbidden to the British citizen.

Or if you cannot enter yourself, what a thrill you could give to a young friend, employee, or club-mate by helping him (or her) to take part in this great experience.

Of course, there is a limit to the number of entries. It works like this:—

In the Championship proper there are places for 128 men's singles, and 64 of each other event. After the official

nominations of member-nations have been entered, a certain number of vacancies remain to be filled by un-nominated players of the home country. For example, there will be about 28 vacancies in the men's singles.

These vacant places will be competed for by a preliminary competition—also to be held at Wembley on 4th to 7th February, 1948. Probably 64 men and 32 women will be accepted for these qualifying rounds, and, *win or lose*, all those accepted will receive a free Player's Pass to all sessions including Finals.

### For Supporters, too

All entrants, *and friends* who intend to go to Wembley throughout the competition, may apply to take advantage of the special rates arranged for the period:—

- (a) Lunch and dinner at Wembley.
- (b) Bed-breakfast and late snack at the Royal Hotel.
- (c) Railway season-ticket, Euston-Wembley (L.M.S.).

**IT WILL BE 1953 BEFORE ENGLAND HAS THE "WORLD'S" AGAIN. WHY NOT HAVE A GO?**

\* \* \*

**ENTRIES CLOSE 3rd JANUARY, 1948.** Your league secretary has the entry-forms. For further forms or information apply at once to E.T.T.A. Office, 60, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

### THOUGHTFUL WISHING

To all our readers, players, officials, spectators, critics and contemporaries we wish a pleasant Christmas holiday, simple though it may have to be this year, and renewed energy to continue in the New Year all those varied functions of yours which go to make table tennis the most interesting of all sporting activities.

# ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1947 - 48

by Our Special Correspondent

In traditional Manchester weather the English Open Championships closed at the King's Hall, Belle Vue, on Friday, 21st November.

For those 4,500 fans inside the Stadium the mood might have been as dismal as the weather outside but for the magnificent men's singles final between Richard Bergmann and present World Champion, Czechoslovakian Bohumil Vana.

We salute these two old friends and rivals for bestowing upon us a sparkling vintage of table tennis skill reminiscent of the old days. After seeing them we came back to earth with a bump—to realise what the present-day aspirants are lacking.

While they were performing there was a hushed tension. As Vana's clouts were returned skimming over the net, the crowd, which had previously been in a recumbent position, were now sitting bolt upright in their seats, eager to applaud the rallies in an unpartisan manner. So sweet were the passing shots of Vana. Did you notice Richard's clever use of the half-volley and how it often got him out of a tangle?

Some cited the slow table as an alibi—forget it. Bergmann's angled returns, deep into the forehand position were a telling factor; as always the case to a player who "runs round" his pet stroke. Too, over-indulging in the "drop" is a fallacy to a nimble-footed Bergmann. Many times the initiative was transferred off a seemingly "dead ball" and turned—I think—a possible Czech triumph into an English victory.

## Excellent Girls' Play

Full marks are extended to Vera Thomas. Being two games behind Gizelle Farkas, she fought back mainly by left-handed aggression, returning the Hungarian girl's snap-shots with counter-hits or backhand half-volley. At two games all, Mrs. Farkas gave a perfect demonstration to Belle Vue of the reason why she is the best woman player in the world. A near-miss for England.

Scottish Helen Elliot topped the bill on Thursday's semi-final night. Sheer nerve and concentration coupled with all-round ability are there; add a little stamina to these ingredients and you have next year's ladies title holder. Ask Mrs. Thomas, or, better still, Peggy Franks, whom wee Helen defeated.

## Lesson For Johnny?

After Johnny Leach had vanquished Haguenaer earlier on, it pointed to a Leach-Bergmann duel. Here, however, Joseph Koczian stepped in and upset the apple-cart. The 22-year-old Hungarian factory worker continually improved round by round and it appeared that Leach underestimated his skill.

Later, Johnny (sitting watching in his civvies) gleaned the answer from the masterly way in which Bergmann coped with the situation. A tactical lesson helpful for the future. Tage Flisberg, of Stockholm, making his debut to Northern England, pleased with an elegant left-handed style.

Such praise cannot be meted out to the other Continentals, Bordrez, Andreadis and Sido, whose chief interest appeared to be to play the game standing still. Perhaps we may exempt the last, for he was willing to mix it when occasion demanded. And it is probably due to the prevailing rules that the other cracks are allowed to exhibit such non-chalance. However, these insipid displays are distasteful and may have a damaging effect on gate receipts in the years ahead. Just reverse and back up on the Bergmann-Vana classic and you'll get what I mean.

## The "Admin." Dept.

On the other side of the picture, praise is showered on the Nationals planning and administration. So well it might be, for everything revolved smoothly in its component part. Architects-in-chief were Bill Worsley and his henchmen. Bolstered up by excellent Tudor Restaurant meals, not even Billie Stamp's driving clouds of cigar smoke interfered with players eager to prove their mettle in the adjacent hall during the preliminaries.

Here Betty Steventon made the first newspaper headline by trouncing Mdm. Belling of France, then caught the selectors' eye with a convincing win over Molly Jones. Another French representative, Agopoff, fell to some delightful stroke play by Hymie Lurie, who failed soon afterwards to Flisberg. Quite a few had the name of Amouretti "pencilled in" on the programme after he had changed ends one game up against Bergmann. In the fifth game it was erased and the hopes of France deflated. Benny Casofsky in a "have a

go" mood raised the local fervour in a bright exchange with Vana, and there were a host of interesting games too frequent to mention.

Finally, without wishing to be classed as a Table Tennis tipster, I must confess it is more interesting to watch the colts and fillies than to have to record the foregone success of the veteran runners. In this category 16-year-old Thornhill and Miss Adele Wood, respective winners of the Junior events, are destined to wear England badges. Keep tabs on Kennedy (Yorks), whose most recent victory is over Geoffrey Harrower; Costello, Beamish, Shaw, Davies, all have a career rich with promise. What a pity they cannot get together once per week and have a real set to.

Marsh and Harrower took a game from Vana and Andreadis.

Airey and Heaps (Macclesfield) took two games from Haguenaer and Amouretti.

VI Patterson scored 11, 20 and 19 against World Champion Farkas.

Goodman played brilliantly against Koczian, unluckily losing the 1st at deuce and then winning the 2nd, only to lose 1-3. Remembering his last year's score of 19, 19, 19 against Vana, one wishes he could have more experience of this class of play.

Lurie, showing fine form and craft, beat Agapoff, No. 4 of France, by 14, 14, 17.

Ken Stanley with 19, 11, 18 against Andreadis also looked something like his pre-war self.

Adele Wood, new Junior Champion, played splendidly in doubles with Agapoff; they went to five games with Bergmann and VI Patterson.

15-year-old "Sonny" Forrest, son of the popular Yorkshire Secretary, faced up bravely to the French ace Amouretti. Driving the much-dreaded chop defence all over the court, he made the creditable figures of 11, 9, 12.

Veteran finalist Harrison of Scarborough deserves our special applause, as he carried at least half as many years again as his international conqueror Edgar Reay.

## Men's Singles, from 4th Round

Bergmann	Bergmann 3-0	} Bergmann —12, 17, 22, 10	} Bergmann 13, 10, 17
Amouretti	Andreadis 3-0		
Andreadis	Leach 3-0	} Koczian 16, —17, 19, 19	} Vana 14, 15, 15
Laithwaite	Koczian 3-0		
Haguenaer	Bordrez 3-0	} Bordrez —12, 15, —17, 19, 16	} Vana 14, 15, 15
Leach	Sido 3-0		
Harrower	Vana 3-0	} Vana 16, 18, —20, 15	} Vana 14, 15, 15
Koczian	Flisberg 3-1		
Heaps			
Bordrez			
Sido			
L. Cohen			
Vana			
Casofsky			
Lurie			
Flisberg			

**FINAL**  
BERGMANN (England)  
beat  
VANA (Czechoslovakia)  
17-21, 21-10, 21-19, 21-11

## Women's Singles, from 3rd Round

Steventon	Steventon 12, 12, 12	} Farkas 13, 12, 8	} Miss G. FARKAS (Hungary) beat Mrs. V. THOMAS (England) 21-16, 21-17, 17-21, 16-21, 21-14
M. Jones	Farkas 7, 12, 13		
Benson	Thomas 13, 14, 8	} Thomas —15, 19, 16, —21, 16	} Mrs. V. THOMAS (England) 21-16, 21-17, 17-21, 16-21, 21-14
Farkas	Elliot 15, 10, 11		
Thomas			
Rivett			
Elliot			
Bullock			

## Men's Doubles

Quarter-finals: Carrington/Leach bt. Mather/Ainsworth, Koczian/Sido bt. Haguenaer/Amouretti, Vana/Andreadis bt. Marsh/Harrower, Bergmann/Flisberg bt. Bordrez/Agopoff.

Semi-finals: Koczian/Sido bt. Carrington/Leach 3-1; Bergmann/Flisberg bt. Vana/Andreadis 3-1.

Final: Bergmann/Flisberg bt. Koczian/Sido 21-19, 23-21, 21-18.

## Women's Doubles

Semi-finals: Farkas/Barnes bt. Jones/Mackay 9, 16, 12; Thomas/Franks bt. Allen/Benson 19, 10, 15.

Final: Farkas/Barnes bt. Thomas/Franks 22-20, 22-24, 21-17, 13-21, 21-15.

## Mixed Doubles

Semi-finals: Leach/Thomas bt. Flisberg/Eliot 16, —17, 18, 13; Sido/Farkas bt. Vana/Franks 18, 15, —16, 17.

Final: Sido/Farkas bt. Leach/Thomas 21-10, 21-12, 21-12.

## Junior Singles (Boys)

Semi-finals: Thornhill (Ashford) bt. A. Kennedy (Leeds) 19, 19; Costello (Bolton) bt. E. Davies (Scunthorpe) 14, 20.

Final: Thornhill bt. Costello 21-19, 21-18.

## Junior Girls

Final: Miss A. Wood (Manchester) bt. Miss D. Banks (Crewe) 21-15, 21-18.

## Veterans' Singles

Final: E. Reay (Sunderland) bt. T. Harrison (Scarborough), 21-18, 21-16.

## Men's Consolation Singles

Final: E. Marsh (West Drayton) bt. N. Davies (Manchester) 21-17, 21-19.

## Women's Consolation Singles

Final: Miss J. Mackay bt. Miss H. Egerton 21-19, 21-16.

# BUILD THE COUNTIES

By Leslie S. Woollard

**The re-organisation of the E.T.T.A. into County Associations promises to be the biggest thing which has happened in English table tennis. But there's a big "If" and "But."**

In 21 years, the E.T.T.A. has grown from scratch to a powerful organisation of substantial national dimensions. Remember that this was achieved by the efforts of a small group of men with vision, loyalty, courage and enthusiasm. The mountain of difficulty was made a molehill.

**Headed by the indomitable triumvirate of Montague, Pope and Vint, the gallant little army of pioneers have built an edifice that will always remain a memorial to their zeal.**

Twenty-one years is a long time for voluntary public service of a controversial character, and the finest tribute we can pay to them is to try and find their equal in our own counties. My point is that the efforts of our pioneers have been spread over the whole country, and with but a small proportion of their unselfish enthusiasm concentrated in each of our counties, membership could be doubled without considerable difficulty with all the accruing benefits.

## Mixed Feelings

Most of us will, I suppose, view the change with no little regret. There has been something of a friendly family spirit and, on the whole, a fine camaraderie. We must at all costs foster and maintain this spirit, but instead of the competitive sporting rivalry of leagues, we should attempt to think bigger in terms of county. With a membership growing in excess of 100,000, English Table Tennis has leapt to a front rank sport and merits an organisation similar to that of other leading sports.

*Now look at the map showing roughly how county membership stood on last season's figures. Check up on the tabulated list and see how your county stands on a comparative population basis. Check up the district where the leading players come from. It must be admitted that more can be done to darken that map.*

As one illustration in one of the smaller counties, one club alone boasts a membership exactly  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times greater than the whole county registered membership! Encourage all enthusiasts to become members of your League; very few will mind paying the few odd coppers necessary.

## Rope Them All In!

I have been frequently criticised for encouraging all enthusiasts to register and even to arrange for "kindergarten" divisions, but I stick to my guns. Increased membership means increased income, bigger interest, support and enthusiasm. There is everything to gain and nothing to lose.

I visualise the organisation of the County Association to start right down in the youth circles and make a clear ladder via club, divisions, leagues, counties and regions up to the national "Cap." Each county woven into a close co-operative network of progressive endeavour. The establishment of county H.Q. and playing halls, where coaching and exhibitions, etc., are regular features. I see no reason why the local leagues should not acquire tables and equipment especially for the purpose of developing new clubs, leagues, etc. *To be big, it is necessary to think big.*

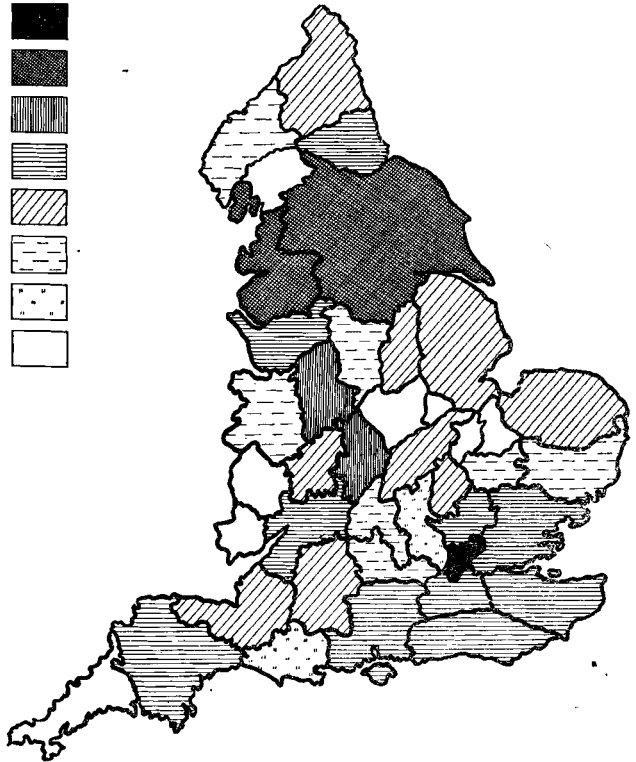
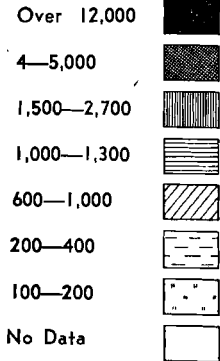
Now progressive development is best fostered by the unselfish enthusiast. How frequently one finds that the local or club "star" is a reactionary and a snob with an inferiority complex. He obstructs development because he is afraid of other competition, but finds a host of other reasons. Fortunately for table tennis, serious cases of bad sportsmanship are few, and we must ensure that they remain few. My personal observation is that the non-competitive player usually makes the best executive, probably because he is bound to have less prejudice.

## Keep a Broad Outlook

For the successful evolution of County Associations, it is essential for parochial and individual rivalries to be abolished. There must be basic harmony and co-operation. There must be the urge to push the County forward; to find and develop new talent and maintain and

## KEY

(Affiliated Members)



The figures have all increased in recent months. Revised tabulated list will be published later.

### MEMBERSHIP MAP—

The White Spots are the "Black Spots"!

encourage the best that the County has. Let the target be for the County to produce as many internationals as they can. It does not matter a tinker's cuss from which town or league or club they come from. They are all, the county.

Let there be a healthy competitive spirit between counties. A rivalry to get the highest membership per 1,000 of population; an unequalled spirit of good sportsmanship; an outstanding number of internationals; the establishment of the ideal headquarters and venue; the record in county matches, etc.

*Find the right leaders in each county and give them the necessary backing, and England will soon take prominent places in World Tournaments.*

Now what are you going to do about your county? YOU can do something toward building it.

### MIDDLESEX v. ESSEX (County Championship Match)

Essex lost their second match with a score of 4—5 against Middlesex at Rotax Canteen, Acton, on 14th November.

Langner gave Essex a chance by defeating Harrower to make it 4—all, but Barna touched very nearly his old heights to beat Leach in the decider.

Scores (Essex first):—

Langner bt. Marshall 21—17, 22—20; bt.

Harrower 21—19, 18—21, 21—19.

Carrington lost to Barna 14—21, 10—21; bt.

Marshall 21—11, 21—10.

Leach bt. Harrower 21—9, 17—21, 21—17.

Miss Patterson lost to Miss Franks 15—21, 14—21.

Leach and Miss Patterson lost to Barna and

Miss Franks 8—21, 15—21.

Misses Patterson and Rivett lost to Miss Franks and Mrs. Lentle 14—21, 13—21.

### WILMOTT CUP and "J. M. ROSE" BOWL

Progress in these competitions will be summarised in our January issue.

# See You at Wembley?

## OF COURSE!

But meanwhile, **DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS!** Here is a summary of ticket prices; send applications with cash to **MR. W. J. POPE, "Maisonette," Woodside Avenue, Beaconsfield, Bucks.**

### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

#### Ticket Summary:

For all 20 Sessions: Season Tickets 25s. (transferable to friends).

For Evening Sessions or Saturday afternoon: Individual tickets (reserved) 21s., 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d. and 6s.

For Morning or Afternoon Sessions: 10s. 6d. (arena level) and 3s. 6d.

#### Sessions of Play:

Wed., Feb. 4: Morning - Afternoon - Evening.

Thurs., Feb. 5: Morning - Afternoon - only.

Fri., Feb. 6: Morning - Afternoon - Evening.

Sat., Feb. 7: Morning - Afternoon - Evening. (Probable Finals of Team events).

Sun., Feb. 8: No play.

Mon., Feb. 9: Morning - Afternoon - Evening.

Tues., Feb. 10: Morning - Afternoon - Evening.

Wed., Feb. 11: Morning - Afternoon - Evening. (Probable Finals of Individual events.)

### TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT

#### Available Now

Rubber covered bats - - from 4/6

Bats made to specification - - 7/6

Table Tennis net posts - - 7/6

(We'ded all steel, unbreakable)

Bats Rerubbered (our own make) 2/6

Special terms to Clubs. Write for current Price list.

**JOHN G. TOMS,**

**12, Norbett Road, Arno.d, Notts.**

### PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

(2/- per line. Box Nos. 1/- extra.)

HAS ANYONE a pre-war "Szabados" Table Tennis Bat for sale?—Dennis Oakenfull, 80, Silvester Road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.22.

### THE DRAW

The Draw for the World Championships will be held on Tuesday, 13th January, 1948, at the Orchid Suite, Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, London, W.1. Proceedings will start at 3.30 p.m.

Every National Association concerned is entitled to be represented at the Draw either by one of its members, or indirectly by a member of its country's diplomatic staff in London.

### THE PRESS

In connection with the forthcoming World Championships a Reception and Press Conference was held on 13th November, at the "Falstaff" Inn, in Fleet Street, London.

Sports editors and columnists from the national newspapers and almost every established journal were present as the guests of the Officers and National Executive of the English Table Tennis Association.

Chairman Ivor Montagu expressed the appreciation of the help given by the Press during the 21 years of rapid growth of our Association and explained that the February Championships at Wembley would be in many ways the most serious responsibility yet taken on. For such a venture the fullest possible degree of Press support would be necessary to ensure success.

Hon. Secretary Bill Pope endorsed these sentiments, emphasising that the vast amount of organisation and detail work involved would be carried out almost entirely by voluntary workers of the Association—a feature which must be almost unique these days for a sports event of such magnitude.

### OUR COVER PICTURE

"Big man" of the Hungarian team in more ways than one is FERENCZ SIDO.

World Singles Finalist in Paris, 1947, and a most consistent tournament performer, as witness the various references to him in these pages.

SIDO is attractive to watch on the table, not only for the colossal power of his first-time hits, both backhand and forehand, but also for the cat-like speed and grace with which he moves his 15-stone weight about.

He will be defending his World Mixed Doubles title (with Gizi Farkas) at Wembley in February—and attacking the other titles too, you may be sure.

Just a

## STORY FOR XMAS

Scene: A roundabout on the busy East Lancashire highway. The time: 6.45 p.m. on a winter's evening.

Who is that small dark man standing on the verge, looking anxiously to right and left and clutching a somewhat tattered attaché case? Relax, friends, it is only a young hopeful of 17 waiting for his team captain's car to come along and take him to his first big match. A squealing of brakes. Young hopeful looks up to see, not three cheery faces leaning out of an Austin 7, but three husky policemen leaping out of a sleek Armstrong Siddeley. Young hopeful is decidedly interested and has visions of helping the flying squad in a daring capture prior to helping his team to a smashing victory. But stay, what is happening? It seems that young hopeful himself is the criminal or, at least, the suspect. For now he is surrounded, nay, submerged, by policemen, who are asking pointed questions about the contents of his attaché case. His joke about the Crown Jewels having fallen rather flat, he opens the suspicious case to disclose to those eagle eyes—one pair of crumpled grey flannels, one pair off-white shoes with vent for toes, one sports shirt, two cracked table tennis balls, and one ancient bat covered with mouldy rubber. A further short conversation resulted in our hero being released without a stain on his league record and with a date for the following week at H.Q. to coach the policemen. They explained as they shot away: "It's another sort of racket we're after."

### SUGGESTION BOX

No. 3 (Submitted by Don Foulis,  
English International)

*THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! To my knowledge the English team has no official uniform other than the blue shirt and badge plus grey bags. Additional clothing has to be worn until the players are sufficiently warmed up and we read in Table Tennis last Season that the Swedes wore yellow sweaters and the Czechs special wind jackets. Why not dark blue battle dress blouses plus badge for our teams? The A.R.P. services used to wear them, I believe, so there should be little difficulty in obtaining them. They are easy to remove and would look a lot better than a miscellaneous collection of pullovers, etc.*

## POPULAR STAR BACK IN ACTION

Many readers will be pleased to know that Tommy Sears, our stylish pre-war international, in spite of a grievously hard time as a P.O.W. in the Far East, is once again leading W. H. Smith's team in the London Business Houses League.

He is very sensibly devoting some of his time to evening classes to make up for the lost years, but manages to take an active interest in coaching some of the young Middlesex players. With the advent of the new Service Rule he will not need to teach them his own special knack—the safe return of the deadliest of finger-spin services by means of heavy topspin lift!

Tommy was a consistent tournament semi-finalist before the war, but many a time the cup was knocked from his lips in the Saturday evening sessions, owing to his having played in strenuous league football during the afternoon. In those days it was not fully realised that a couple of top-class table tennis matches provide enough exercise for any one day.

\* \* \*

### Barna - Bergmann - Beregi

#### — A letter

Foreign-born Players now eligible to represent England—E.T.T.A. decision —

This decision settles one aspect of policy on what may be rather a controversial problem. Not that there is any objection from other members of the International Federation; quite the reverse. The players of other countries, including Hungary and Austria, those most closely concerned, realise full well that England gave sanctuary to these great players, who in turn have given much of their talent to the English game.

That England's position in world ranking would benefit by their inclusion is also beyond dispute. But there is throughout all English sport, a widespread instinctive feeling that we should rely for our teams on those who have fought their way up through English clubs and leagues. In a matter of this nature, with so much to be said for both sides of the case, it will be helpful to know the general opinion of the ordinary players of the game, whose thoughts will be with the team which is going to represent England at Wembley.

Should it consist of the great international stars, supported by Leach, or should it be our best-possible team of "home-grown?" I say "home-grown" every time.

E. PINK.

# NORTHERNER'S NOTE-BOOK

by STANLEY PROFFITT (English International)

## SOME GAMES I SAW

### Liverpool v. Manchester (at Preston)

This'll come as a nice bright bit of news for you.

*A slice of the real Hymie Lurie revealed itself in a Manchester 7-2 victory.*

It was sheer joy to see the old-time Swaythling Cup player flicking his way through such stern opposition. Hymie, now a family man and proprietor of a hairdressing establishment in town, unfortunately hasn't the time to devote to serious practice, more's the pity.

To beat-up Benny Casofsky is a feat at any time, so, well done Peter Rumjahn. In fairness to Benny, his knee injury (sustained in the Ireland-England European Cup clash) proved troublesome.

Scores (Liverpool names first):—

R. Hetherington lost to A. G. Miller, 21—14, 17—21, 18—21; lost to Lurie, 13—21, 12—21.

P. U. Rumjahn lost to Lurie, 10—21, 17—21; beat Casofsky, 18—21, 21—18, 21—16.

R. E. Roberts lost to Casofsky, 22—24, 9—21; lost to Miller, 16—21, 12—21.

Miss Mansell beat Miss A. Wood, 21—15, 21—19.

Roberts and Hand lost to Casofsky and Miller, 19—21, 13—21.

Rumjahn and Miss Mansell lost to Lurie and Miss Wood, 15—21, 18—21.

## Regional League National County Championship

### Cheshire v. Northumberland

According to the programme of the Stockport Association everybody was given a hearty welcome. And that's how it struck me on entering the hall. If I lacked the drama of an England v. France clash or the whirlwind tension of big-time table tennis, it compensated in a great-hearted endeavour to please opponents and the 300 spectators alike.

Bouquets to Cheshire's two Devine brothers who play in a style totally dissimilar, though equal in character. The outlook for young Brown and Miss Banks tends to swing her head to the ing to half-volley, while the latter (Miss

victory, six games to three. Hewitt and penholder Punshon were the fulcrum of the side. Miss Smith I liked; she will do much better when she binds the threads of attack and defence together.

Scores (Cheshire names first):—

W. Brown lost to Kertzman, 10—21, 26—24, 17—21; lost to Hewitt, 19—21, 13—21.

W. Devine beat Hewitt, 22—20, 21—16; beat Punshon, 21—18, 21—13.

J. Devine lost to Punshon, 21—16, 19—21, 20—22; beat Kertzman, 21—12, 21—4.

Miss Banks lost to Miss Smith, 8—21, 18—21; Misses Banks and Grimstone lost to Miss Purves and Mrs. Waugh, 14—21, 21—18, 15—21.

W. Devine and Miss Grimstone lost to Hewitt and Miss Purves, 16—21, 13—21.

## Manchester "A" v. Blackpool at Manchester, November 25th.

First Power, then Laithwaite, now Shead, would produce strokes equal to any top-notch. But there were too many easy shots "muffed." This may have been due in part to the table not being of the requisite thickness. Certain it was the ball skidded through at varying heights and I thought, for an important 1st Division Lancashire League fixture, it might have been bettered.

Scores (Manchester names first):—

E. Power beat R. Bradbury, 21—16, 21—16; beat H. L. Logan, 21—16, 21—16.

H. Johnson beat H. L. Logan, 21—18, 21—19; beat R. Bradbury, 21—17, 14—21, 21—19.

S. Levy beat E. Laithwaite, 21—14, 10—21, 21—11; beat P. Shead, 21—5, 21—7.

C. Kay lost to P. Shead, 16—21, 21—10, 22—24; beat E. Laithwaite, 19—21, 21—7, 21—8.

Levy and Allcock beat Shead and Laithwaite, 21—12, 11—21, 21—19.

\* \* \*

Keen interest is centred on the Lancashire County's forthcoming Southern tour.

They play Middlesex on January 10th, and the following day meet Surrey. The ultimate results of these matches will be a guide to the Premier Division Championship.

Lancashire have selected K. Stanley (Leyland), H. Lurie (Manchester), R. Rumjahn (Liverpool), Miss A. Wood (Manchester), and Miss K. Benson (Blackpool). Res.: L. Cohen

## GREAT DAY FOR KEN STANLEY ON MERSEYSIDE

Alderman Lancashire, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, attended the finals of the Merseyside Championships at the Stadium here on November 29th.

The tournament was a triumph for pre-war Swaythling Cup player Ken Stanley, who, though losing to Richard Bergmann in the men's final, must have convinced those officials present that an England side without him is incomplete.

Ken, in the semi-finals, vanquished Geoffrey Harrower to the tune of 21—5, 21—13. Harrower, it is true, limped around with an injured knee, but Stanley was always the master.

Against Bergmann it was a different tale. The Lancashire man dropped the first game rather easily. In the second, obtaining a lead of 11—2 by dint of counter hits from both wings, he took the initiative. Now Richard deemed it wise to resort to slow top spin and excitement grew as he crept up. Ken proved equal to the occasion and levelled the games by producing a fusillade of forehand drives, often catching his opponent on the wrong foot. There might have been another story to write had Stanley retained the promise after being 7—1 up in the third game.

Yorkshire folks took two doubles prizes back over the Pennines, most commendable being the Misses Senior-Lightfoot combination. Down at 18 in the first game against internationals Misses Elliot and Steventon, they monopolised the remainder to run out 21—15, 21—12.

If I had had to forecast the men's doubles I would have been wrong. Cohen and Harrower appeared much too strong for the Yorkshire pair, Mitton-Whiteley. So it was in the mixed doubles final, again featuring Les Cohen, this time partnered by 15-year-old Adele Wood. They surprised us as well as the international combination of Ken Stanley and Miss Elliot.

Scores: Men's Singles Semi-final:—

Bergmann beat Mitton, 21—14, 21—6.

Stanley beat Harrower, 21—5, 21—13.



Sturdy Yorkshireman well-known "Tournam" living in the South, name in the early Huddersfield, where shire Singles champion games off Kelen in the Hungarians.

That he is still a fo May when he took a Barna in the Wemb ment.

He must be the holder" players of many serious judges strongest penholder English game, surpass the Welsh expert. De over to both wings force, appearing alm chop.

With such a good determination which the table he might international champion orthodox tuition as a he is to be found w good match, advising above all making ther

"By gum, it's chan Those are the comm player Ken Stanley, w ing the summer month has retained a Lanca

The germs of big-ti still in his blood, so



# TENSE EUROPE CUP MATCH

ENGLAND 2 — FRANCE 3

played at Birmingham 17th November, 1947.

## Scores in actual match order:—

HARROWER lost to HAGUENAUER 21—18, 0—21, 20—22, 12—21.

LEACH beat AMOURETTI 21—23, 21—11, 22—20, 21—23, 21—19.

LEACH and CARRINGTON beat HAGUENAUER and AMOURETTI 21—17, 21—19, 15—21, 19—21, 21—17.

HARROWER lost to AMOURETTI 17—21, 12—21, 17—21.

LEACH lost to HAGUENAUER 17—21, 18—21, 15—21.

Reserve player SHARMAN. Non-playing Captain HAYDON.

The Indoor Sports Stadium was filled to capacity for this "needle" match and the atmosphere was tense throughout as the fortunes fluctuated.

Leach's great struggle with his "bogeyman" Guy Amouretti will long be remembered. Imagine having a lead of 20—18, and losing it, four times in one match!

Yet, this actually happened to Leach in every game except the runaway 2nd. Almost unbelievable recovery was seen in the 4th game, when the Englishman overtook from 12—17 down to 20—18 lead, only to lose the 2 match points and the game. After such a set-back it was understandable that he started the 5th rather weakly, soon trailing Amouretti to the extent of 1—8. Brave hitting and patient pushing appeared of no avail against the fantastic defence of the French boy. Many heads were shaking disappointedly when the "hopeless" stage of 13—18 down was reached.

"Hopeless"? Not to Johnny Leach, who then seemed by sheer "wanting to win" to impose his will upon Amouretti and cause him to have a temporary relapse. Slowly, painfully, the home player drew level and once more heard the score of 20—18 in his favour. This time, for the good of our strained nerves, he only let one of those precious points slip back, and the key match was ours!

The long tussle in the doubles was due not so much to any slackening on the part of our pair as to some inspired play by Haguenuer. Here again a losing score of 15—17 in the 5th game was courageously converted to a 21—17 win.

Harrower, who had put up a brave front against veteran Haguenuer, coming close to a two-game lead, could not make openings for his surprise hits against Amouretti and the score soon stood at

two matches to each team. In the critical meeting between Leach and Haguenuer, last year's Paris history repeated itself. The old war-horse, who has sustained the colours of La France so often, answered the call with ever-young vigour.

Leach appeared hypnotised by the play of a man whom he knew he was capable of beating (and in fact he was to beat him 3—0 only two days later at Manchester). However, only those who saw that magnificent fight against Amouretti and that keen doubles battle realised that the further strain of the deciding match came rather too soon for our man to summon up his full strength once more.

France now qualify to meet Wales (who beat Scotland by 4—0) in the Final of this Zone, and may be expected to progress from there to the Europe final against the holders Czechoslovakia, as they did last year.

## England 2—Hungary 7

A representative gathering from all over Kent watched this friendly international match in the splendid Pier Pavilion at Herne Bay (scene of the Kent Open Championships which will be played on 11th January next).

Our visitors appeared to be in good form, in spite of their hectic week of play at Manchester and Hastings. By contrast Leach and Vera Dace seemed to lack decision in singles play, although both showed much more power in the doubles.

Ron Sharman, in his first try-out against high-class Continental opposition, gave Sido and Koczian plenty to think about. Well-mixed play took him to a leading position half-way through every game, but he seemed to go back into his shell too easily when the Hungarians resorted to "last-ditch" aggression.

The Men's Doubles win followed an exciting match in which our pair had to pull back 2 set-points before they could reverse the English Open verdict.

### Scores:—

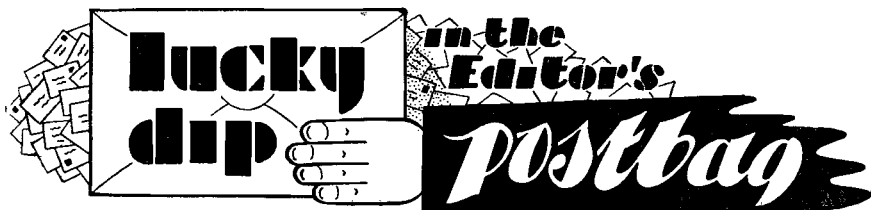
LEACH lost to SIDO 21—15, 8—21, 17—21; lost to KOCZIAN 8—21, 14—21.

SHARMAN lost to SIDO 21—18; 18—21, 13—21; lost to KOCZIAN 13—21, 18—21.

Mrs. V. THOMAS lost to GIZI FARKAS 15—21, 11—21.

CARRINGTON and LEACH beat SIDO and KOCZIAN 12—21, 21—9, 25—23.

LEACH and Mrs. THOMAS beat SIDO and FARKAS 21—19, 16—21, 21—14.



## WESTERN FRONT

Reference your notes on Miss Leah Thall (October issue); you mention that Vera Dace and Betty Blackburn scored victories over her.

You may have overlooked the fact that she was also beaten by Molly Jones when the American tourists played the West of England at Bath. As Molly was at this time an "unknown" her success against the acknowledged American No. 1 is surely worthy of record.

We know the West Country is often overlooked by the "powers that be" but we like to read about the successes of our local players occasionally!

W. E. GRIFFITHS,

Hon. Secretary, Cheltenham T.T.L.).

### EDITOR'S NOTE:—

*West Countrymen cling tenaciously (one almost thinks, lovingly) to the idea that their best players are neglected. Yet Western star Aubrey Symons was honoured by an international selection last spring, only to lose to non-Internationals in this season's London Trials.*

*Molly Jones herself, grand fighter though she is, received International selection after the above-mentioned victory and two good tournament performances.*

*Many players have to do better and wait longer for recognition, especially in areas where first-class opposition is more abundant.*

*Now if our good friend Mr. Griffiths had sent the news of Molly's win to "TABLE TENNIS" immediately after the match, it would have been real news, and not only West Countrymen, but all our readers, could have read about her success. They might even have seen her photograph in our columns—if Cheltenham had sent us one, which, incidentally we still lack.*

*Moreover, we always thought Betty Blackburn was a West Country player?*

*There must be a moral in this somewhere!*

## FLY-BY-NIGHT ?

For the first time in my life am writing to an editor to rob a poor Mr. Bill Devine of his claim to a record. (Page 15, Oct., 1947.)

Having made a reputation in Lawn Tennis circles for being somewhat mad—due mainly to excessive travelling during tournaments, refuse to allow Cheshire to claim a county record.

Amongst many mad trips can claim to have been selected and played representative matches on the same day at tennis and table tennis—not to mention 130 miles between the matches.

Earlier this year I played for Warwickshire in the final of the inter-county hard court championship at Sutton, Surrey—winning both singles against Yorkshire—driving for four hours—and within five minutes of arrival had started my first singles against Bristol in a key match of the Western Counties League.

As we were losing 3—1 on arrival and then

finally won 6—5 (of which I helped with two singles and a doubles with Bobby Mackay), can claim to have had a very good day.

Just as a little extra to that trip I might add that the day before the matches I played hockey at Cambridge. After the Bristol match drove overnight to Northampton—played a tennis singles there at 11.0 a.m. and at 4.0 p.m. was again on court at Cambridge. At 10.0 a.m. next morning was at the Cumberland club, Hampstead for their Tennis Tournament where I recorded my first Open L.T.A. win.

Thus in under four days—covered 400 miles—played hockey—county tennis finals—key Western Counties league match—two friendlies and started a successful tournament all without defeat.

I'm sorry to do Mr. Devine down—I won't claim mine as a record but it will do until someone comes along with a better effort.

HOWARD WALTON.

## A CORRECTION—AND A CHALLENGE

1. As a member of the Executive of the North Middlesex League, I feel that I must register a strong protest against a statement printed twice in the October issue of *Table Tennis*. The statement is broadly that "TABLE TENNIS NEWS" is the publication of the Middlesex Table Tennis Association when in reality it is of the North Middlesex Table Tennis League, with the support and co-operation of the Middlesex Association. Please print a retract, before the Executive is torn to pieces by irate League Members.

2. I have very dutifully filled up the enclosed form as suggested in your last issue, and wonder if you will dare to print figures of how many you receive. That's a challenge.

GRAHAM C. BARRETT.

1. *Our apologies, if required, to the League. The multifarious activities of Secretary-Editor Harrower become a little confusing at times, to a mere Editor.*

2. *Figures about the "Questionnaire" will appear in due course. We are just waiting for a few more readers to remember to pop them in the post.*

## CONSOLATION

Many thanks to "Inkspot" for his excellent write-up and very fair comment on the Eastern Suburban Open (in November issue).

As Joint Referee with Bill Parker, I'm sorry to say I was one of the Committee who agreed to put on the Consolation events on "finals night"—much to Bill's annoyance.

I can only say now that my judgment must have ceased to function temporarily, for actually I am not in favour of putting on even Mixed or Women's Doubles on Finals Nights, unless they are in the World Class.

Apologies to the Paying Public and to Bill Parker.

JOHN PICKARD.

## THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN

By "Inkspot"

This tournament was first played in 1937, when a great entry was received, including both Victor Barna and Miklos Szabados. The latter won the Men's Singles, carrying with it the beautiful trophy originally given by the London "Star" newspaper for their competition.

It is believed that this "Star" trophy has travelled farther than any other Table Tennis trophy, as Szabados has held it since that first year. From England he went to Java and then to Japan and finally settled down in Australia, and the trophy is expected to make the return journey with Szabados when he comes to the World Championships in February.

During the war the "S. of E." was played at various London venues for charities, under the auspices of the E.T.T.A., but returned to its "home" at Croydon last season.

This year's event was held at the spacious canteen of the Powers Accounting Machine Company, the entry being brightened by the presence of Swedish Champion Flisberg, Hungarian up-and-comer Koczian, and World Champion Miss Gizi Farkas.

In the absence of Leach, Bergmann, Barna, Harrower, Bublej, Carrington and Sharman from the singles it was to be expected that the two Continentals would meet in the final. However, Eric Marsh deservedly won the middle game from Flisberg, after he himself had won the tightest of battles against South Londoner Jackie Head (18-21, 27-25, 21-15). Ken Merrett also proved a serious challenger to the Swede although unable to notch more than 14 and 17 in actual points.

The title-holder, Ron Crayden, faded out rather tamely against Denis Miller, who took revenge for his Trials licking by beating the Surrey man 21-13, 21-12. Miller then raised hopes by leading Koczian in the semi- by 17-12, only to submit to a switch-over to attack by the Hungarian so weakly that he lost 18-21. Koczian's renewed confidence won the 2nd 21-11.

Miller, however, played well as partner to Koczian in the Men's Doubles, especially in the first three games of the final against the experienced doubles exponents Flisberg and Carrington.

Marsh and Thompson won a fine doubles match against Crayden and Merrett, 18-21, 21-18, 21-18.

Feature of the tournament, over-

shadowing all else in its significance, was the great display of Vera Dace against the world champion Farkas in the singles final.

Vera, playing as only her supporters know she can, dominated the play. Hitting with controlled speed to all parts of the table, and cleverly half-volleying the sudden flicks of the Hungarian girl, she looked a clear winner throughout. There seemed no reason why she should not repeat this performance as often as required, having a more complete game than her opponent and, so it now appears, quite as good a "match nerve."

Previously Peggy Franks had also shown up well in her semi-final with Gizi, just lacking sticking-power in the closing stages, to lose -14, -17.

*A few more good performances:*—Hurlock lost to Merrett at deuce in 3rd game . . . an Essex soldier, W. McCave, beat Kent champion, Ronnie Hook, deuce in 3rd. . . Pinkie Barnes played if anything better than her famous partner in the Women's Doubles final.

Scores of Finals:—

M.S. FLISBERG bt. KOCZIAN 12-21, 14-21, 21-18, 21-17, 21-19.

W.S. Mrs. THOMAS (DACE) bt. Miss FARKAS 21-16, 21-15, 21-17.

M.D. LISBERG/CARRINGTON bt. KOCZIAN/MILLER 21-19, 17-21, 21-19, 21-11.

W.D. FARKAS/BARNES bt. DACE/FRANKS 13-21, 21-12, 21-17.

X.D. FLISBERG/FRANKS bt. KOCZIAN/FARKAS 23-21, 21-18.

### *A County Championship Match*

## LINCOLNSHIRE v.

## YORKSHIRE 2nd

Played at Scunthorpe, November 15th, 1947.

This match was very exciting and keenly contested as will be seen from the scores and the fact that Lincolnshire just won 5 rubbers to 4. The standard of play was very high throughout and the audience enthusiastic, applauding wholeheartedly the form shown by both sides. A. Hall of Grimsby, was undoubtedly the right man for the job as captain when, with the match standing at four all, he played A. Abrahamson of Hull and by steady play mixed with the right attacking shots, beat him 21-19, 21-17.

Scores were:—(Lincs. players first):—

J. Wrona beat E. Patchett 21-14, 21-12; A. Hall beat A. Thompson 21-15, 21-15; D. Merryweather and R. Ebbatson lost to A. Thompson and E. Patchett 19-21, 21-17, 18-21; D. Merryweather beat A. Abrahamson 21-17, 19-21, 21-14; Mrs. P. Wiles lost to Miss N. Quesky 22-20, 16-21, 13-21; J. Wrona beat A. Thompson 21-15, 24-22; R. Ebbatson and Mrs. P. Wiles lost to A. Abrahamson and Miss N. Quesky 22-20, 17-21, 17-21; D. Merryweather lost to E. Patchett 12-21, 21-15, 18-21; A. Hall beat A. Abrahamson 21-19, 21-17.

# DIARY OF EVENTS

Date	Tournament or Event	Address for Enquiries or Entries
1948		
Jan. 3 (finals)	Metropolitan Open ... ..	At Polytechnic Annexe, W.1. Mr. J. Kurzman, 35, Suffolk Road, London, S.W.13.
Jan. 9	England v. Wales ... ..	At Bath. Mr. A. Ollis, 110, Bloomfield Drive, Bath.
Jan. 10 (finals)	Scottish Open Championships ... ..	
Jan. 11	Kent Open ... ..	At Herne Bay. Mr. F. J. Mannoch. 161, Borden Lane, Sittingbourne.
Jan. 13	Scotland v. England ... ..	At Glasgow.
Jan. 17	Southampton Open ... ..	Miss L. Ferguson, 20, Atherley Rd., Southampton.
Jan. 31 (finals)	Hampshire Open ... ..	At Bournemouth.
Feb. 4 to 11	<b>THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	At Wembley.
Feb. 10 to 14	Leinster Open ... ..	At Dublin.
Feb. 12 to 14	North of England Open ... ..	At Manchester.
Feb. 12 to 14	Lancashire Open ... ..	At Manchester.
Feb. 21	Surrey Open ... ..	At Croydon.
Feb. 28 (finals)	Midland Open ... ..	At Birmingham.
Mar. 6	West of England Open ... ..	At Bristol.
Mar. 8 to 13	Middlesex (Herga) Open ... ..	At Harrow.
Mar. 13 (finals)	Cheshire Open ... ..	At Chester.
Mar. 20	Grimsby Open ... ..	
Mar. 24 to 27	Irish Open (Belfast) ... ..	
Mar. 27	North Eastern Open ... ..	
Apr. 3 (finals)	London Open ... ..	
Apr. 10	Yorkshire Open ... ..	

## THE INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COURSE

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### SUSSEX OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hastings, 22nd/23rd November, 1947

- M.S. Andreadis bt. Sido 13—21, 21—11, 18—21, 21—13, 21—19.  
W.S. Miss Farkas bt. Mrs. Devenny (Beregi) 21—15, 21—12.  
M.D. Sido/Koczian bt. Flisberg/Andreadis 21—12, 19—21, 21—16.  
W.D. Miss Farkas/Miss Beregi bt. Miss Cues/Miss Doughty (Gillingham).  
X.D. Sido/Miss Farkas bt. Flisberg/Miss Beregi 21—19, 19—21, 21—14.

### NEW BLOOD FOR CAMBS.

The Cambridge League has had a sudden access of strength from the Displaced Persons hostel in that area.

Playing for the Wesley Club now are Mr. LIEPINS, a pre-war national champion of Latvia, and Mr. REMBIKIS, who represented Lithuania. Table tennis has proved easily the most popular sport amongst these visitors from the Baltic States, now engaged on vital agricultural work for England.

# BOTTLE-NECK IN CORK

From the ancient City of Cork, in Eire, comes this cry from the heart:—

"We have been looking at your pictures of the new service (July/August issue of 'TABLE TENNIS').

"It seems a pity that only the 'first instalment' of the service is shown at any time.

"Fierce arguments arise as to what can happen next!

"We know the ball can be tossed up, but what about 'dropping' the ball? How is this done? Can one turn over the hand, keeping hand straight and fingers closed, etc.?"

"Some say 'Yes,' some say 'No.'"

Well, our Irish reader has certainly put her finger on the spot. We sympathise with her query, which is arising all over the land in similar instances. Unfortunately we had to decide that no photographer could show a picture of the exact moment after a correct release of the ball—in fact it is difficult for him as for some umpires until they have had the experience of the new rule to enable them to use their judgment.

You see, the ruling says that the ball may be thrown up (straight up, of course) or the hand may be dropped away beneath the ball. Now a player has complied with the rule if his hand has moved directly up or down for as small a distance as, say, one-sixteenth of an inch. Just enough to release the ball, in fact.

Where his hand goes when that movement is done, is nobody's business, and in actual practice it goes differently with every player.

Thus a photo would very likely show the free hand veering away to one side or other even if the ball had been correctly released.

On the turning-over of the hand, there is a school which says that the ball can be maintained against the hand without rolling, even almost to a right-angle, i.e., until the hand is perpendicular to the ground. This they say is done by maintaining pressure with the hand, on the principle of the famous party-trick in which the smart fellow swings a glass of water over in a complete circle. If

from the sloping position of the hand the ball is then released ever so slightly upwards, that is legitimate, these club-room lawyers say.

Surely a straight upward or downward release, making sure the ball is not brushed off the hand, is all that is called for?

We feel that in this matter things depend most of all upon the spirit of the table tennis player involved. It is fun to get a "spin" service, it may win us a match or two, but do we want to do it with a borderline action that gives umpires a headache and opponents a vague grouse? Or do we want to accept the spirit of the thing and play according to the obvious intention of the latest rule of the game?

*For the obvious intention is that the ball shall be released from the hand without spin, and it is the umpire's job to be satisfied about that.* Except in the rarest cases, a high-speed camera would detect some rotation of the ball on one of its axes, no matter how openly and honestly it might be thrown up. You do not expect to be penalised for such a technical fault; nor would you expect to be penalised for an apparent cupping of the hand which turns out to be due to a physical formation.

**On these small points you expect the Umpire to "play ball" with you. Why not then, "play ball" with the Umpire and abandon services which are not clearly in accordance with the rules?**

---

## SURREY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Since our inauguration in August, 1946, we have steadily increased our strength to eleven leagues consisting of 369 teams, and we are, with the aid of our league secretaries, continuing our advancement.

Youth clubs in Surrey have not been forgotten, for we have a team under the management of H. Swetnam (Surrey's Captain) that will visit any club in the County to give exhibitions and tuition. Many Clubs have already taken advantage of this opportunity and the scheme is proving a great success. In addition, *bona fide* Youth Clubs can obtain a reduced price of admission to our County games played in Surrey by applying to:—

Mr. L. A. Preston,  
22, Digdens Rise,  
Epsom,

or to:—

Mr. W. D. Robertson,  
"Highlands,"  
Hockley, Essex.

# WESTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

## MEN'S SECTION Division 1

### Results:—

Bristol 7, Worcester 2; Newport 5, Exeter 4; Worcester 0, Cardiff 9; Exeter 7, Worcester 2; Gloucester 4, Newport 5; Bristol 3, Cardiff 6; Worcester 6, Gloucester 3; Birmingham 6, Exeter 3; Exeter 3, Bristol 6; Gloucester 0, Birmingham 9.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Newport	2	2	0	4
Cardiff	2	2	0	4
Birmingham	2	2	0	4
Bristol	3	2	1	4
Exeter	4	1	3	2
Worcester	4	1	3	2
Gloucester	3	0	3	0

### Division 2

### Results:—

Oxford 9, Forest of Dean 0; Western 3, Bath 6; Swindon 5, Bristol 4; Bristol 4, Oxford 5; Cheltenham 8, Weston 1; Bath 5, Swindon 4; Swindon 5, Cheltenham 4; Oxford 4, Bath 5; Forest of Dean 0, Bristol 9; Swindon 7, Weston 2; Cheltenham 6, Oxford 3; Bath 9, Forest of Dean 0; Bristol 3, Bath 6; Oxford 6, Weston 3; Forest of Dean 0, Cheltenham 9.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Bath	5	5	0	10
Cheltenham	4	3	1	6
Swindon	4	3	1	6
Oxford	5	3	2	6
Bristol	4	1	3	2
Weston	4	0	4	0
Forest of Dean	4	0	4	0

## WOMEN'S SECTION

### Results:—

Swindon 4, Exeter 5; Exeter 7, Bristol 2; Birmingham 8, Swindon 1.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Exeter	2	2	0	4
Birmingham	1	1	0	2
Bristol	1	0	1	0
Swindon	2	0	2	0
Cardiff	0	0	0	0

# A JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL?

## E.T.T.A.'s Enterprising Exchange Scheme with Sweden.

Arrangements are well advanced for a team of Swedish Juniors (maximum age 17) to tour England from 17th January to 2nd February, 1948, staying on in London, of course, from 4th to 12th February to participate in the World's Championships.

Centres to be visited include Wolverhampton, Nottingham, Hastings and Surrey. Surrey County T.T.A. are hoping to stage a full-scale junior international match.

Other organisers wishing to give their youthful talent a test against the visitors should communicate at once with E.T.T.A. office.

Leader of the team will be Mr. Allan Eriksson, the Treasurer of the Swedish Association. His visit has a dual purpose; his Association has entrusted him with the mission of studying the following matters:—

1. Everything connected with the preparation and organising of the World Championships.
2. How the E.T.T.A. works, and its organisation.
3. How youth work is organised in London and the Provinces.
4. What the municipalities are doing for youth.
5. How a Table Tennis Club works.

There must be many, apart from the official hosts of the tour, who would like to contribute in some way to such an admirable plan. Suggestions will be welcomed at 69, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.



Just another girl playing Table Tennis? Well this young lady used to make news every time she hit a ball—at Wimbledon. MISS EMBOTHY HORNIB (now MISS LITTLE) considered by many to be the finest lady lawn tennis player produced by England also plays a stylish brand of Table Tennis as the photo shows.



DO  
YOU  
REMEMBER  
HER  
?



# NEWS from OVERSEAS

## ● NEW ZEALAND

We have just finished with very successful New Zealand Championships at Timaru, when the men's singles was again won by Russell Algie, who is playing as well as ever. This is the fourth time he has won the men's title. The women's title was won by Miss Audrey Hughes (Wellington) and she also won the girls' singles, under 18 years of age, so an excellent showing. 207 entries from 111 players and 9 of our affiliated associations were represented. We received a great amount of publicity in the Press throughout the country and the game is being talked about a lot here now.

The North Island v. South Island representative match was held in Wellington on 20th September, and won by North Island, by 8 points as games and sets were equal.

By the way, we are going to pass the 1,000 mark this season for teams, a big increase on last year's total of 710.

We have studied, a little enviously, the information regarding the World Championships. Well, it is a long way and would cost a lot of money to send some one to the Championships, but it would be well worth it—actually we have discussed it many a time and we will never lose sight of the fact. We will not give up hope.

## ● SWEDEN

Mrs. Vera Thomas and Miss Peggy Franks left London on 29th November, for Gothenburg, as the guests of the Swedish Table Tennis Association.

Their itinerary included:—

1. Sweden v. England international match at Varberg.
2. Matches and Exhibitions at Halsingberg, Trelleborg, Ornskoldsvik, Sundsvall and Stockholm. The last-named was to be staged simultaneously with the men's international Sweden v. Austria on 11th December.
3. International tournament on 12th December.

Results will be available for our next issue.

## ● AUSTRALIA

A newspaper photograph shows Freddie Dawson, dynamic American coloured fighter, admiring the enormous trophy won by Szabados in the New South Wales singles. Boxer Dawson is credited with being a T.T. player of the top class, too; a boxer's footwork should certainly give him a good start in our game!

## ● CONTINENTAL

### Europe Cup (Women)

Roumania beat Hungary 5—4 (Farkas won her 3 matches).

Czechoslovakia beat Austria 5—3 (Pritzi won 3 for Austria).

In the Austrian National Championships, the dashing young Czech from Pilsen, rejoicing in the name of VLK (meaning "Wolf"! ) beat Marinko and Stipek, and won the singles final against his own compatriot Mondry. Marinko had beaten Koczian.

Some "friendly" match results:—  
AUSTRIA bt. SWEDEN men 5—0.  
Budapest bt. Stockholm men 5—2 (Koczian bt. Flisberg).

Prague bt. Stockholm men 4—1 (Flisberg bt. Vana!).

HUNGARY bt. AUSTRIA men 5—1 (Soos lost to Diwald).

## ● U.S.A.

### St. Louis Open Tournament

Garret Nash came back into the news by beating George Hendry in the Singles Final 21—17, 21—13, 21—9.

In the women's singles final, Leah Thall beat Thelma Thall 16—21, 21—12, 21—18, 8—21, 21—9.

The two Thall sisters won the doubles; Nash and Leah Thall won the Mixed. Nash had a triple success by winning the Men's Doubles with Hendry.

On 30th November the Americans held their National Inter-Cities Championship for men, in Milwaukee, and the East v. West women's match. Results in these will largely decide the American teams for Wembley.

The three girls of the East team, Peggy McLean (Bellak's touring exhibition partner), Mae Clouther and Mildred Shanahan all beat Riba Monness. The latter, however, has hardly got into serious training yet, and may make a late advance in forms as she did last year—reaching the World Doubles Final and beating Depetrisova and Helen Elliot in the English Open.

Thelma and Leah Thall have each claimed three wins over the other so far this year. They, with Betty Schaffer, make up the West team.

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U.S.A. teams for Wembley:—

Men: W. Price (capt.), G. Nash, R. Miles, M. Reisman.

Women: Misses L. Thall, T. Thall, M. Clouther.