

MAY, 1948

Sixpence

TABLE TENNIS



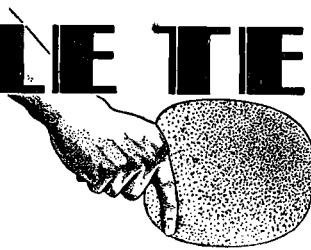
Attacker on
the Defensive :

MRS. VERA
(DACE) THOMAS

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

TABLE TENNIS

Official Magazine
of the
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION
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MAY, 1948

Democracy in Action

At the Annual General Meeting of the English Table Tennis Association, held in the Caxton Hall, London, on 24th April, 1948, results of the postal ballot for election of officers for the ensuing year were announced as follows:—

Hon. Chairman: The Hon. Ivor Montagu,
Hon. General Secretary: Mr. W. J. Pope,
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. K. Vint.
Representatives on the National Executive Committee:—

N.W. Region: E. Worsley (Manchester), W. Stamp (Liverpool).
N.E. Region: E. Reay (Sunderland).
Yorkshire: L. E. Forrest (Bradford).
Midland Region: M. Goldstein (Birmingham), A. A. Wall (West Bromwich).
Eastern Region: C. Richards (Scunthorpe).
Southern Region: F. G. Mannooch (Sittingbourne).
London Region: G. R. Harrower (Middlesex), A. Luff (Middlesex).
S.W. Region: Owing to a tie between D. Thompson (Cheltenham) and T. E. Gill (Torquay), a fresh ballot will be taken. Leagues concerned will receive full information from E.T.T.A. office.

The Meeting heard with regret that Mr. H. Oldroyd, our President for many years, could not now leave Manchester to attend meetings, for health reasons. By a unanimous vote it was decided to invite Mr. Oldroyd to remain in office and he was formally re-elected.

We send him our best wishes for a speedy improvement in health.

Delegates from all over England attended the A.G.M. and from the tone of the discussions it seemed, to those who had seen many such gatherings, that in general the problems of the national organisations are sympathetically understood by provincial officials and members.

While we must hold over detailed comment on the various reports until our next issue, one very significant fact emerges—one which is the immediate concern of every member of E.T.T.A. It is this:—

At a time when the Executive is being

pressed more than ever before to launch bold developments, to take a more prominent part in the sporting world, the Treasurer warns us that (for only the second time since 1930), there has been a financial deficiency on the past year's working.

Rising costs are of course the main reason, combined with the displacement of activities due to the presentation of the World Championships on a large scale here. Thus the deficiency need not scare anybody, but it is obviously a luxury which cannot be repeated indefinitely, and to the new Executive falls the task of blending the desire for advance with the need for consolidation.

In coping with this problem, all too familiar nowadays, our new representatives will need the support and goodwill of every one of us. Here's wishing them success in the coming 12 months.

A few points from the Meeting:—

E.T.T.A. Constitution: The question of the Association becoming an Incorporated Body, to clear up various legal aspects, is to be investigated, and in due course the recommendations of the Executive will be placed before all members.

World's Championships, 1948-49: Probable dates are 4th-10th February, 1949, at Stockholm.

English Open: Probable dates will conclude 8th or 9th February, 1949, in London, to fit in with the Stockholm dates.

Czechoslovak Tour: A team from Czechoslovakia is due to tour England early next season; their visits will be distributed evenly about the country, and interested leagues are advised to look into the possibilities of staging local fixtures, without delay.

U.S.A. HAVE SOME GOOD IDEAS

The U.S. Table Tennis Association is, in point of membership numbers and organising experience, a few seasons behind some of the leading European national associations.

Currently, however, they are making a special effort to attain equality—a position to which the standard of play of their top representatives certainly entitles them.

One might expect a huge organisation, based on their population, but to some extent their size has been a disadvantage. The huge distances between the playing centres tends towards a sort of "isolationism" and the unifying work of the national officials is correspondingly harder.

Nevertheless it is certain that the number of players of table tennis is enormous, and before long the achievements of the great new generation of American stars will undoubtedly be backed by a huge reservoir of club strength.

* * *
Highlight of this spring was the organisation of a "National Table Tennis Week" during which the three major tournaments, known respectively as the "Central," the "Eastern" and the "Western," were held, with at the same time a series of major and minor and novice competitions all over the states.

These tournaments are graded as "Three-Star" championships, ranking only just below the National in importance.

The winners of many of the local Novices events are to meet in Chicago for the All-American Novices Championships on 24th April.

* * *
On top of all this activity in one small week is a special drive to increase membership of the U.S.T.T.A. Membership of this Association is direct, i.e., each player affiliates by paying his personal membership fee, and the target for the week is "EACH MEMBER TO SIGN ON ONE NEW MEMBER"!

This means an attempt to double the membership in one week! In due course we shall report the results of this daring move. Meanwhile let us congratulate our American friends on their initiative, and wish them fruitful results.

A National "Week."

Double Membership Bid.

"Good Turn-out" defined.

"Veterans" ? S-sh. Seniors, please.

The following points may also provide food for thought:—Entrants must sign a form stating "I agree not to gamble in any manner at this tournament."

The colours of clothing are clearly defined. Grey trousers, and shirts of black, wine, maroon, dark purple, green, navy blue, dark brown, or dark red.

The size of the badge, defined in England as "of reasonable size," is here defined as 3" x 5" over the front left pocket.

Name and City or Association may be shown on the back in 3" letters—will this idea ever catch on over here?

Players may be defaulted for unbecoming conduct or *appearance*.

* * *
Entry forms quote the names of hotels—a small way in which our own organisers might encourage the entrant from without their gates?

Players over 35 years compete in the "Senior Singles"—a development which might be very suitable for E.T.T.A. in the present state of the poll! The Veterans might then be moved up to the 50 mark.

A Pleasant Whitsun Holiday

The Scottish Open Championships are being staged over the Whitsun holiday period, viz.: 15th, 16th, 17th May, 1948, at Butlin's Holiday Camp, Ayr.

All visiting competitors may be accommodated and fed from the Saturday morning to the Monday night at the Camp, at half the normal charges, i.e., at 10s. 6d. per day. No ration books needed. Full Camp facilities for bathing, dancing and all recreations will be at the disposal of competitors.

E.T.T.A. players are entitled to enter the Open events and entry forms may be obtained from:—

Mr. R. W. Stewart, 45, Hope Street, Glasgow, C.2.

The Camp charges for friends accompanying competitors will be £3 0s. 0d. for the period.

SURREY COUNTY T.T.A.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 20th May, 1948, at the "King's Head" Hotel, Epsom, starting 6.45 p.m.

All members and interested players are cordially invited to attend.

English Successes in Ireland

Our representatives visited Eire and Ulster over the Easter period for the friendly International match in Dublin and the Irish Open Championships in Belfast, and gave a good account of themselves.

The international match was notable for two things. Firstly, the promotion of sixteen-year-old Brian Kennedy of Leeds to international status; although losing his singles to the Irish newcomer O'Hara, he backed up his captain Leach very well to win the doubles. Proceeding to Belfast with the team he won the Boys' Singles and again lent fine support to Leach to win the Mens' Doubles title, beating the experienced players Sharman and Simons in the final.

The selection of young Kennedy may be regarded as a tribute to the good showing made by our youngsters in general throughout the past season. It would be hard to choose between him and Thornhill or Ron Thompson, Beamish or Devereaux—and we wish them all a rapid advance to the top of the ladder.

The scores shown below tell more or less the story of the Irish Open Championships, except for the factor in which the Irish Association always prove themselves the champions—hospitality and good company. As always the English tourists returned with glowing tales of their friendly reception, and on this occasion our special thanks are due to the Irish Association for overcoming

the unfortunate results of a mistake in the travelling arrangements at our end. This caused the English team to arrive a day later than advertised, yet with splendid adaptability our hosts managed to make a success of the match under emergency arrangements.

Detailed scores:—

ENGLAND 9, IRELAND 2

J. Leach beat V. Mercer, 21—12, 21—19.
R. Sharman beat H. O'Prey, 16—21, 21—16, 21—17.
A. Simons beat H. Morris, 21—13, 20—22, 21—13.
B. Kennedy lost to J. O'Hara, 13—21, 21—15, 13—21.
Miss D. Beregi beat Miss M. Minshull, 21—15, 21—18.
Miss L. Barnes beat Miss A. Coombs, 21—14, 21—10.
Sharman and Simons lost to Mercer and O'Prey, 15—21, 16—21.
Leach and Kennedy beat Morris and O'Hara, 21—19, 21—18.
Leach and Miss Beregi beat Mercer and Miss Minshull, 21—12, 21—15.
Simons and Miss Barnes beat O'Hara and Miss Coombs, 21—16, 21—13.
Misses Beregi and Barnes beat Misses Minshull and Coombs, 21—15, 21—15.

IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS,

1947/48

Men's singles—J. A. Leach (Essex) beat A. Simons (Gloucester), 17—21, 23—21, 21—17, 21—18.
Men's doubles—Leach and B. Kennedy (Yorks), beat R. Sharman (Essex) and Simons, 23—21, 16—21, 21—19, 21—15.
Women's singles—Miss D. Beregi (Exeter), beat Miss M. Minshull (Dundalk), 21—17, 21—11.
Women's doubles—Miss Beregi and Miss L. R. Barnes (Surrey), beat Miss M. Brown and Miss H. Agnew (both Belfast), 21—7, 21—6.
Mixed doubles—Leach and Miss Beregi beat Simons and Miss Barnes, 18—21, 21—14, 21—11.
Boys' singles—B. Kennedy (Yorks) beat E. Ellen (Belfast), 21—14, 21—9.
Results of the men's singles and semi-finals were:—Leach beat H. O'Prey (Newtownards), 21—8, 21—14, 21—10; Simons beat V. Mercer (Belfast), 21—9, 21—15, 21—11.

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL MATCH

WALES 1, ENGLAND 9

(At Cardiff, 17th April, 1948)

Ken Beamish of East London and Louis Devereux of Torquay were the new "caps" in this, the second junior international match on record, and very well they acquitted themselves, too.

England's only loss was Thornhill's match against Parker, but Thornhill redeemed himself by a good win over A. Morris, probably the most promising Welsh junior.

Details:—

M. Thornhill (Ashford) lost to N. Parker —17, —18; beat A. Morris 12, 16.
K. Beamish (Leyton) beat P. Morgan 16, 10; beat M. Jones 20, 19.
B. Kennedy (Leeds) beat A. Morris 14, 19; beat N. Parker 10, 17.
L. Devereux (Torquay) beat M. Jones —18, 12, 18; beat P. Morgan 18, 19.
Thornhill and Kennedy beat Parker and Fred Small 14, 18.
Beamish and Devereux beat J. Morgan and G. Angell —13, 16, 18.

OUR COVER PICTURE

Vera Dace (Mrs. Thomas), here seen executing a stylish defensive stroke, is most famous for her fierce forehand driving.

This left-handed leader of England's all-conquering women's team is certainly the hardest hitter in the girls' game to-day.

World Doubles Champion, with Peggy Franks, and World Singles Finalist, this year.

Vera is also a lawn tennis player of England class, and no mean squash player.

I'm a "D.P." says S. D. GREENWOOD

. . . and Proud of It !

A defensive player comes into the attack

In common with thousands of other "Defensive Players" (D.P.), I am disgusted with Carrington's comments on the "Anti-Pushing Rule" contained in a recent issue of *Table Tennis*.

During my 40 years of "Ping-Pong and Table Tennis mixed," i.e., playing my defensive game, I have never heard of our being called "chisellers." It is obviously a silly name for a skilful defensive player who is *AS MUCH ENTITLED TO PLAY HIS GAME* as the snobbish player who thinks he is "IT" because he can actually smash a service back. Given also to indulging in fancy-looking strokes which, unless he is a crack, more often than not fly off the table.

I have much pleasure in recalling that I, as a "D.P.," have wiped the floor with a large number of such players up and down the country and in London. There are many thousands of "D.P.s" who are the backbone of table tennis and their clubs.

The skill required to play a first-class "stonewall" game is infinitely more than that necessary to play the "table tennis" game which the above-mentioned article supports as the only game—merely a good forehand and backhand drive and that's it. Whereas the "D.P." has got to learn to return "everything," and in such a manner that his return cannot be smashed except off the table . . . that's when we get our points!

We don't just half-volley a ball back, taking no chances as Carrington puts it, but place our returns carefully over the net with top-, bottom-, and side-spin, ringing the changes to puzzle the "classy" T.T. player. Also our speeds and angles are varied and it takes years to be any good at it.

Of course, the really top-grade player simply waits to pick out the right ball, and away it goes; the "D.P." can make no headway then. But it's the lower-grade attacking player who can be beaten by our game. I quite agree I wouldn't pay to watch it, but then "D.P.s" rarely get so far as that, and I am speaking for the thousands of club players who don't want to do more than enjoy their game and pick up a fair average in their league matches.

Why should the table be cleared of the artistry of the defensive players, who enjoy their game and are entitled to play it quite as much as the "Hit or Miss" players whom we are now supposed to allow to show off?

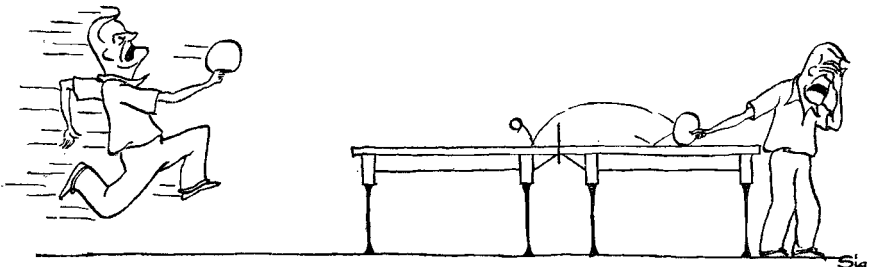
JACK CARRINGTON writes:—

The article under review was certainly not intended to renew the war on the stonewallers, which waged so fiercely in 1935/37 (although arch-stonewaller Greenwood seems to have been exempt in that war!). It was intended merely to explain the reasons which have prompted better men than I to make the anti-stonewalling rules.

As a matter of fact, I have a personal interest in the survival of the "D.P.s"—I enjoy playing them. Unfortunately, more and more often I am meeting impatient young men who can punch holes in my own defence!

However, I must say I think the revolt against stonewalling springs more from the rank-and-file than from the "Government." It may be a changing mentality due to the times we live in, but frequently "D.P.s" ask me to help them to acquire what Mr. Greenwood calls "merely a good forehand and backhand drive"; never does anyone ask to be made into a stonewaller.

Above all, let's hope we all have as much fight left in us, after 40 years of the game, as has our veteran contributor.



CHAMPION COUNTY (Middlesex) 3, THE REST 6

Smartly staged in the ultra-modern setting of the Seymour Hall, Marylebone, on 21st April, the first-ever "Champions v. Rest" match provided a pleasant spectacle for some six hundred onlookers in the hall, not to mention an estimated twenty thousand who saw an excellent reproduction by television.

Such a match could perhaps never call up the same fiery partisanship as a straightforward inter-County meeting, but considerable interest attached to some of the individual items of the match. Outstanding for their respective teams were Johnny Leach and Peggy Franks, both of whom seemed to be playing better than at any time during the past season.

Peggy repeated her victory over Vera Dace Thomas, in spite of spirited fighting efforts by the Surrey star. This was the best event of the evening, both for speed of footwork and variety of play. The improvement in Peggy Franks' courtcraft enabled her to bottle up Vera in similar style to Farkas and was again in evidence in the Women's Doubles, in which Peggy guided her partner, Rene Lentle, to a deuce-in-the-third win over the strong Dace-Barnes combination.

A Leach Refreshed ?

Barna played nicely but seemingly without much sting to beat Sharman; on the other hand, young Leach was moving speedily and purposefully about the table, and this difference was quite noticeable in the Mixed match which preceded the long-awaited singles meeting between the two men. When this did come about, Ken Stanley had already made sure of the result for The Rest by beating Harrower and thus a certain amount of "edge" was missing from the Leach-Barna item. Nevertheless, it would not be fair to detract from Leach's most convincing "revenge" over his Middlesex victor. We have seen how hard it is for other English internationals to take even odd games from the great "old campaigner" Barna, even when the latter is allegedly "off form"! To restrict Victor to 24 points in 2 games is a measure of the very high class of Johnny Leach's game when at its peak. On this evening he was hitting sharply and yet consistently, with splendid ring of the changes between attack and defence, and many came away with fresh hope that the English lad has not missed his chance of world honours.

Ken Stanley did what was asked of him

by beating Bergl and Harrower, but the standard of play shown by these two Middlesex men was by no means equal to mid-season form.

The Rest team was captained by Dennis Thompson, who thus received a well-earned recognition of his diligent service as National Executive member for the West country. In addition the occasion was honoured by the presence of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of E.T.T.A. and many other notable official personalities.

G. W. R.

Details: (THE REST names first):

- J. A. Leach (Essex) beat G. R. Harrower 12, 16; beat G. V. Barna 10, 14.
- R. Sharman (Surrey) beat M. B. W. Bergl 16, 13; lost to Barna —18, 17.
- K. Stanley (Lanes) beat Harrower —18, 10, 11; beat Bergl 17, 15.
- Mrs. V. Dace Thomas (Surrey) lost to Miss M. E. Franks —18, 17, —18.
- Leach and Thomas beat Barna and Franks 16, —21, 11.
- Mrs. Thomas and Miss L. Barnes lost to Miss Franks and Mrs. E. Lentle —19, 14, —21.

THE CHESHIRE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Stanley Profit

A record entry of 250 was all part and parcel of the fun on the occasion of the Cheshire Open Championships held at Chester on 13th March.

It wasn't so funny for some who, after hanging around all day, not only had to play a sequence of games at a late hour, but missed their rail connections and forfeited a night's sleep. Officials on the spot told me they intended to stage the tournament over three days in future, thus obviating the late finishes.

Here the "Shepherds" dispelled the fable that they are always minding sheep. Allen successfully defended the men's singles title and crowned a splendid evening's work by figuring in three finals. Arnold Shepherd reached the Junior final and Miss Shepherd partnered by Miss Alley was within a few points of grasping the women's doubles title.

The show game of the night came in the first round men's singles when left hander Ernest Power all-but defeated Allen Shepherd. It was a typical pre-war effort, each taking the initiative when the opportunity presented itself, which caused gasps and roars from the audience throughout. In the final against Dick Bedford, Shepherd had an easier path. By stumbling on the right idea of directing his attack to Bedford's forehand side, where the Yorkshireman is not half so effective defending away from the table as he is when standing close half volleying from the backhand.

Shocks in the Junior event were the early defeats of Kelly and Costello, but Douglas Shaw maintained his improved form and this time made no mistake in the final.

Scores:

- Men's Singles Final: A. H. Shepherd beat R. Bedford 21—17, 21—17.
- Women's Singles Final: Miss Marsell beat Miss May 21—10, 17—21, 21—19.
- Men's Doubles Final:
- Women's Doubles Final: Misses L. and K. May beat Miss Alley and Miss Shepherd 21—15, 21—13.
- Mixed Doubles Final: P. Rumjahn and L. May beat A. H. Shepherd and K. May 16—21, 21—16, 21—16.
- Junior Singles Final: D. Shaw beat A. Shepherd 21—16, 21—16.

CHISELLING THROUGH THE TROPICS :

by Leslie Bennett

I am setting forth these memories of my travels abroad in the R.A.F. from the angle of a person permanently bitten by the table tennis bug. I am writing as an observer. Those who stayed longer in some of the places I touched will be able to correct or to amplify my impressions.

When I left the U.K. at the end of August, 1941, I carried with me in a crowded trooper my precious bat in my kitbag. As usual the amount of ignorance of table tennis amongst my fellow sardines was dismaying, and I lacked someone with whom I could kill the long hours with reminiscences. I tried missionary work amongst my friends who had so far managed their lives outside of the game, but the only time that they were really impressed was when I narrated how Ehrlich and Vladone had played a single point in the Swaythling Cup that lasted two hours—a negative type of publicity, this.

DURBAN

After five weeks we berthed in Durban for three days, where we sampled that superlative South African hospitality. At an early opportunity I located a table, in the gymnasium of the sumptuous Jewish Club. In the humid atmosphere I remember playing myself almost into a foam of perspiration, and I learnt that the game was played in a few cities, but was restricted by the climate.

We left beautiful Durban sadly, and I was particularly regretful, for I had been hoping for a flying course in the Union. A fortnight later we lay in Bombay and before being transhipped I went ashore for an evening. Whilst I did not see any play, the newspapers mentioned tournaments that were taking place.

IRAQ

Early in November, 1941, I was dumped in Iraq at a desert camp called Shaibah, where I remained on ground duties, until February, 1943. No sport was possible in the blazing summer, but the short winter was very keen, and on a table rigged in a billet I had a few enjoyable knocks against airmen even weaker at the game than myself.

In Basra, the nearest town, I eventually located an Iraqi who had been at the same English preparatory school as myself. He recognised me after a gap of seventeen years and entertained me cordially for an evening. When I mentioned

table tennis he said he was very keen and had played at the club at Abadan in South Persia, where there are many employees of the oil company. He favoured a wooden bat and pen-grip, and would not be disparaged.

I did have a trip right down Arabia, and was unable to report to Ivor Montagu for the I.T.T.F. any evidence of activity in Bahrein or Trucial Oman or Masirah. Indeed, it was amazing to realise that folk existed in such torrid spots.

EGYPT

In February, 1943, I was summoned for flying training, and entrained in Palestine for Cairo. Here I halted again, but was unable to unearth anyone who knew anything about the 1939 World Championships in Heliopolis.

At my next stop at Wadi Seidna I 'phoned a member of my own table tennis club who was at nearby Khartoum, but an atrocious line ruined our conversation. Three days later I was at my station in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, traversing on the way Uganda, Kenya and Northern Rhodesia.

Here I ran into several old friends, including Geoff. Alderton of Birmingham and Warwickshire, who informed me that Johnny Powell of Sheffield and Leo Baron of London were in the area; I had seen both these lads give very promising displays at the East of England Championships at Skegness, while I had watched Alderton's hitting rousingly at the International Trials in London early in 1939.

SOUTH AFRICA AGAIN

Early in June I left the clean and hospitable town of Bulawayo for a journey of over three days by train to East London on the East Coast of South Africa. On the staff of the school there I encountered young George Mitton, who had been shaping very promisingly for Yorkshire before the war. George trounced me severely not only on the canteen table but also at the home of a very keen East Londoner, himself no tyro. I was sad to learn that of the Swire brothers, also of Halifax, one was missing from a bombing raid over Germany, whilst the other had been.

Ex "R.A.F. type" Leslie Bennett is one of a famous sporting trio of Grimsby brothers. Served on the National Executive of E.T.T.A. before the war.

London Open Championships

(At University of London Union, finals 3rd April, 1948)

This tournament was distinguished by a large entry and some close matches but very little brilliant play. It pointed once again the moral that good table tennis cannot be played on a dance floor, even if the identical tables from the World Championships are brought along.

Nevertheless, plenty of fun was had by all, and there is no doubt that the friendly and relaxed atmosphere of these late-season tournaments will always be popular.

The only notably good form was produced by Wally Hall of Birmingham, who accounted for Dennis Miller and Brian Brumwell on his way to the semi-final, in which latter he made a very respectable showing against Leach. Peggy Franks played strongly to hold off excellent challenges by Gwen Mace (semi) and Pinkie Barnes; both of these matches were nice to watch.

Miss Barnes received fine support from Eileen Benstead in the Doubles, and this

CHISELLING THROUGH THE TROPICS—*continued.*

injured as a parachutist; both had impressed me in Northern tournaments.

Three months later it was my great fortune to be transferred to Cape Town, surely one of the most glorious cities in the world. Being winter, the increasingly popular table tennis was booming, and I lost no time in meeting three members of the Western Province Association, Max Kalley, the Secretary, Joe Mauerberger and Monty Shotland, representative players.

They were fanatically keen and amazed me with their knowledge of the game internationally. Joe Mauerberger recognised me from an old photo in an early "TABLE TENNIS," which he immediately produced for me at his home. Shotland was a fine stylist and hailed from Lodz, in Poland. He had modelled his game primarily on Szabados, whom he used to admire when giving exhibitions in Poland with Barna and Bellak. What the game owes to these Three Musketeers is incalculable, and Shotland told me they were idolised in Poland.

In Cape Town Town Hall I watched the finals of a tournament. Conditions were first-class and the room was packed by highly enthusiastic spectators.

(To be continued next month)

pair did well to beat the regular combination of Rivett/Wilkinson.

Young Beamish again impressed, losing to the "tough Tyke" Ralph Dean deuce in the 3rd—the slippery floor gave the penholder the advantage at the critical points.

Although no junior events were run, several school-agers entered the senior events—a pointer to be borne in mind by those organising competitions during the holiday periods.

Results:—

M.S. semis: J. Leach bt. W. Hall 18, 18; E. Bublej bt. R. Sharman —12, 18, 16.

M.S. Final: Leach bt. Bublej 13, 17, 17.

M.D.: Leach and Carrington bt. Sharman and D. Miller 15, 18, —13, 16.

X.D.: R. Hook and Miss Franks bt. J. Glickman and Miss A. Fowler 16, 6.

W.S.: Miss M. Franks bt. Miss L. Barnes 20, 14, 17.

W.D.: Miss Barnes and Miss E. Benstead bt. Miss B. Wilkinson and Miss D. Rivett 17, 17.

The "North-East" Open

North-East of England "Open" was held at Scarborough, 27th and 29th March. Excellent conditions prevailed; the Y.T.T.A. congratulated Mr. S. Waller, secretary of the Scarborough & District Table Tennis Association on a well run tournament. Competitors remarked on the perfect conditions of the tournament.

Results

Men's Singles—

G. Mitton (Huddersfield) beat H. Whitaker (Halifax) 11—21, 21—12, 22—20.

Women's Singles—

Miss Adele Wood (Manchester) beat Miss E. Campbell (Liverpool) 22—20, 21—11.

Junior Singles—

E. Beedle (Hull) beat D. Shaw (Manchester) 21—13, 21—13.

Men's Doubles—

G. Mitton and C. Whiteley (Huddersfield) beat H. Whitaker (Halifax) and J. Senescall (Huddersfield) 21—14, 21—15.

Mixed Doubles—

G. Mitton and Miss M. I. Lightfoot (Leeds) beat D. Shaw and Miss Adele Wood (Manchester) 21—19, 18—21, 21—13.

Women's Doubles—

Miss E. Robson and Mrs. H. Pallister (Middlesbrough) beat Mrs. E. Lodge and Miss S. Wood (Bradford) 22—20, 21—18.

Consolation Prize—

M. Shearer (Scarborough) beat G. Kelly (ShIPLEY) 15—21, 21—14, 24—22.

It was noticed in this event that Yorkshire have three promising junior players who may earn honours in the future and they are E. Beedle (Hull), G. Kelly (ShIPLEY) and M. Shearer (Scarborough).

It is anticipated that this event will now become an annual one for Scarborough, run each Easter, in conjunction with the North of England Hard Courts Lawn Tennis Championships held at the same time.

ODD



SHOTS

by "The Umpire"

Viktor Barna recently remarked that the most promising player he saw at the Southampton Open was a Suggitt of Aldershot.

Yorkshire readers will need no reminding that this is the same Jim Suggitt of the Victoria T.T.C., Leeds, who dominated Yorkshire T.T. throughout the war years and collected many Open and Closed titles. Jim now has a hospital post in Hampshire, but our Yorkshire spies whisper that it is not improbable that next season will find Jim back in the land of the White Rose, and that the Yorkshire selectors are already anxiously awaiting his final decision; Yorkshire opinion is that if Jim can find his pre-Army form again, several internationals will be very worried about their places in England teams.

To brighten our morning mail one day, came the following telegram from "A Northerner With His Eyes Open":—

If we in the North want to continue in the top flight of British table tennis, our players must learn not to be so parochial in their tournaments, but must be prepared to travel to compete against the Southern and Western stars.

O.K., start shooting!

UMPIRES PLEASE NOTE:

In George White's articles on Umpiring last season the author expressed his personal disapproval of the practice of calling the change of service. For example, "3—2, change service, 2—3," or "18—12, change service 12—18."

Since then this very matter has been considered by the International T.T. Federation, and their recommendation is that the Umpire *should* give such an indication whenever the change of service is due.

The benefits of a clear ruling on this point should be even more noticeable in some Continental countries, such as Czechoslovakia, where there is a most confusing custom of always calling the higher score first, thus "3—2" or "18—12" irrespective of which player is serving! This is obviously a dangerous system when the two players are scoring "neck and neck."

Speaking more generally we welcome the I.T.T.F.'s recommendation; we are in favour of any move which enables the Umpire to show clearly that he is in efficient charge of the game.

With 45 clubs affiliated, fielding 89 teams between them, West London T.T.L. have high hopes of touching the century mark next season. This progress has been made in the two seasons since VJ Day.

Secretary is: Mr. A. C. Wiggins, 45, Byron Mansions, Christchurch Avenue, Wealdstone, Middlesex.

THE IDEAL FORM OF MATCH.

I was interested in Mr. Haydon's article regarding the number of players in a team, writes Mr. H. E. Pearce

I have always been of the opinion that a match should be played on two or even three tables with six to eight players in a team, this would obviate the value of one or two star players in a team, who under present methods of play can dominate the match and in my opinion destroy the club spirit. The number of games played by each individual in a match are not enough, especially when one has perhaps made a longish journey both ways and only have half an hour to three-quarters of an hour's play.

With more than one table in use and the increase in the number of players per team I am sure a better sense of team spirit would result. The standard of play may deteriorate at first but with the influx of new players gaining match experience the standard would improve.

Yes, I know the snag is club rooms of the required size, but there are clubs

with more than one table, and table tennis has overcome greater obstacles than this.

I agree with Mr. Haydon's remarks re ladies playing in men's teams. Miss P. M. Hodgkinson (now Mrs. Lauder) played for our men's 1st team in the London Business Houses League from 1935 until last season and as you know gained international and Corbillon Cup honours in 1938.

On behalf of the table tennis fraternity we tender hearty congratulations to Howard Walton on being selected to represent England in the Davis Cup at Lawn Tennis.

The Birmingham table tennis star is known all over the country as a cheery "tournament type" and it is said of him that he plays "table tennis on the lawn tennis court." His selection is a triumph of hard work and fighting spirit and his many friendly rivals in the table tennis fraternity will follow his international progress with real goodwill.

At Wembley Stadium on 5th June, 1948, the Central Council of Physical Recreation will stage a spectacular "National Festival of Youth and Sport." Table tennis, as one of the sports affiliated to the Council, will be represented in Grand Parade which will march past the Royal Box.

Displays will be given by the great stars of many other sports and we can confidently recommend the Festival to all who enjoy an open-air afternoon of sport.

In the American National Championships, at Columbus, Ohio, on 24th April, Richard Miles beat Martin Reismann in the Men's final 21-12, 16-21, 22-20, 16-21, 22-20.

"DECOR," BY DECKER

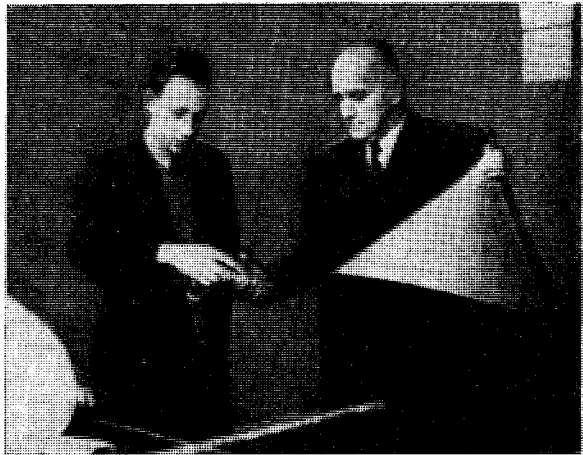
That remarkable veteran, Mr. G. W. Decker, is best known as the man who can rig up a set of perfect table tennis lighting from an attache case and mould the forces of electricity to his exact will in the most unlikely surroundings varying from the meanest Nissen Hut to the Italian Ballroom of a luxury liner. Few of the crowds who now know him as the lighting expert of the World Championships, the English, most and in fact almost every big function, realise that Decker not only was, but still is, an active player of no mean calibre.

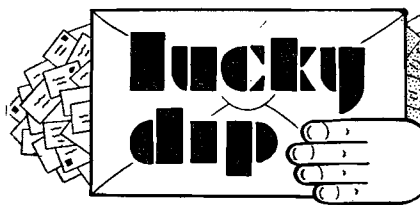
In fact, he was a member of the first English team to play an International match: It was against Wales in 1922.

Nowadays he plays in the employees' club at the India and Millwall Docks, London, and still holds all three of the Docks titles, singles, mixed and men's doubles.

Here we see him passing on some of his lore to his younger son, Michael, who recently "matriculated" by erecting the whole Decker box of tricks in a public hall entirely off his own bat.

Not only in lighting, but in all aspects of playing conditions, Decker thoroughness has been a big factor in advancing the game in England





in the
Editor's

Postbag

LET'S HAVE "LETS"

Ever since racket games have been played, a person whom Dame Fortune favours has been able to gain that last vital point by means of a fluky net cord or edge ball. In Lawn Tennis and Badminton it is the same. Here surely is something in which Table Tennis can lead its brother racket games. Nobody to whom I have spoken has ever said anything against calling a "let" for a ball which hits the net in service. Why, then, should a player be penalised if his opponent's ball touches the net not in service?

Sir, I think the E.T.T.A., I.T.T.F. and all other responsible bodies should consider this point carefully. In short, I feel, that the game as a whole would benefit if a let were called **whenever an otherwise good return touches the net, its supports or the table edge.**

In my opinion an alteration of the rules, in the above respect, is many years overdue, but I am sure that some time in the future players and officials will strike a blow at that small uncertainty which may, and often does, prevent the better man from winning.

PETER MORLEY.

TIME, PLEASE!

In view of the extremely regrettable incident in the semi-final of the World's Singles Competition at Wembley, between Miss Farkas and Mrs. Rozeanu, which may well have affected the result of the Competition and the holder of the title, something should be done to prevent such an unfortunate occurrence in the future.

The fault, if any, was doubtless the Umpire's, and it would be pertinent to ask if at the present time umpires do not have too much to do and whether the

time has not arrived when a "Time-keeper," whose sole duty it would be to "watch the clock" should be also appointed, at any rate for matches of International standard.

Warning could be given automatically at 17½ minutes and 20 minutes by a time clock, but this would be liable to distract the players and it seems the solution is for a verbal warning to be given at the conclusion of the rallies which are pending at these times.

Incidents, such as the above, do the game no good, and it should be made impossible for a like incident to occur, at any rate under the auspices of the E.T.T.A.

J. W. BUSSEY.

SPOILING THE GAME

Watching many players I have noticed how they cup their hands when serving. One player who wins many tournaments comes to the table to serve with the ball flat on her hand, but actually the serve is given in her cupped hand.

My opinion is that this new rule is spoiling Table Tennis, because if it is carried out correctly, the receiver, if he/she is a good player, can smash any serve from the flat palm quite easily.

It would be quite sufficient to make a rule that *the ball must not be held in the fingers*, which would eliminate finger spin.

I wonder if other club and match players agree with me?

A HAMPSHIRE PLAYER.

THE HASTY MODERNS

After more than 30 years connection with the game, I have come to the conclusion that many of the old-stagers would have in their prime given most of the present stars a good run. Some of the finer points of the game are lacking nowadays, with so much straight driving, the flick, drop shot over the net and chop return are neglected. So many players play as if they have to catch a train. This is the reason, I consider, this country does not produce its World Champion.

E. F. CHRISTOPHER.

SCORE BOOK

THE ESSEX CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries were larger than ever, over 100 in the Men's Singles and 80 in the Junior Mens'.

After local preliminaries, the finals were staged at the EKCO canteen on 20th March, 1948.

Perhaps the most encouraging discovery was young Dix of Romford, who showed fine strokes and a natural idea of tactics. Only exceptionally good play by Ken Beamish of Eton Manor defeated Dix in the final.

Due to a variety of circumstances, neither Leach, Carrington, Langner, nor Wheeler (last year's winner) took part, and the singles went to Dennis Miller; strangely enough, his best performance was called forth in the very first round, when he beat Brian Brumwell 2—0.

M.S.: D. Miller bt R. Markwell 17, —20, 14; semes: D. Chandler bt. A. Potter —14, 16, 19.

M.S. Final: Miller bt. Chandler 14, 15, 9. M.D.: W. J. Parker and K. Collar bt. J. Leeks and W. J. Stanton, 19, —15, 12.

X.D.: Collar and Miss V. Patterson bt. W. Tweed and Miss D. Rivett 16, 9.

W.S.: Miss V. Patterson bt. Miss Rivett 8, —18, 14.

W.D.: Misses G. and V. Patterson bt. Mrs. M. Davis and Miss D. Godfrey 17, 18.

J.S.: K. Beamish bt. T. Dix 17, 18.

WESTERN COUNTIES T.T.L.

Men's Section, Division 1

Gloster 0 Bristol 9, Cardiff 9 Gloster 0, Birmingham 9 Worcester 0, Bristol 5 Newport 4.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Cardiff ...	12	10	2	20
Newport ...	10	8	2	16
Bristol ...	10	7	3	14
Birmingham ...	10	6	4	12
Exeter ...	10	4	6	8
Worcester ...	12	3	9	6
Gloucester ...	12	0	12	0

Division 2

Bristol 8 Cheltenham 1, Oxford 5 Swindon 4, Cheltenham 5 Bath 4, Weston 4 Bristol 5.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Swindon ...	12	10	2	20
Cheltenham ...	12	9	3	18
Bath ...	12	8	4	16
Oxford ...	12	6	6	12
Bristol ...	12	5	7	10
Weston ...	11	3	8	6
Forest of Dean ...	11	0	11	0

Women's Section

Cardiff 3 Exeter 6, Bristol 6 Swindon 3, Exeter 6 Cardiff 3.

	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Birmingham ...	8	7	1	14
Exeter ...	8	7	1	14
Cardiff ...	7	3	4	6
Bristol ...	7	1	6	2
Swindon ...	8	1	7	2

SURREY COUNTY CLOSED EVENTS

by GEOFF. COULTHEAD

The Surrey "Closed" Table Tennis Championships were brought to a successful conclusion at the Baths Hall, Wimbledon, on Monday, 5th April, 1948, following four days of preliminaries at the Y.M.C.A., Wimbledon.

The organisers had a difficult task on this occasion as the event was arranged before it was known that the London "Open" had also reserved this date, but by dint of a tremendous amount of hard work, and much loss of sleep, playing schedules were arranged so that it was possible for everyone to enter all events of both tournaments.

Men's Singles were played off on four tables, under perfect conditions on Tuesday and Wednesday, 30th and 31st March. Crayden beat Venner in the first quarter after a characteristic hard hitting battle. Merrett had a much harder passage, meeting A. R. Miller (Wimbledon) and Hurllock, both of whom only succumbed narrowly on the third game. Sharman disposed of Facey (Kingston) in the third quarter, but the biggest surprise came when Tom Sawyer, the Civil Service champion, beat Head in straight games to reach the final of the fourth quarter. Ron Sharman, however, was too steady for Sawyer in the semi-final and won on straight games. The other semi was a grand duel between Merrett and Crayden, and in winning +14: -13: +13, Crayden gave full value to the enthusiastic audience.

The final was an epic, in which more counter-hitting was used than in a dozen normal games. In many ways it was reminiscent of two boxers, standing toe to toe and slogging it out with speed and skill. This event showed that Crayden, when fit, is worthy of the highest honours of the game in England. Sharman won the first game 21—17, and Crayden the next three at 19: 15 and 19. As I saw it, the decisive factor was in the third game when Crayden, with the score at 10 all, took 11 points to Sharman's 5 by all-out effort. One shot in particular being worthy of note, when he leapt in from the stop-cloth to the side of the table to kill a drop shot. Sharman went out fighting, and in the last game pulled up from 12—18 and 20—15 down to lose narrowly by 21—19.

The other finals resulted in wins for "Pinkie" Barnes in the Women's singles in straight games over a rather nervous Doris Atherton; Sharman and Barnes over Head and Atherton, a game which only woke up in the second which Head and Atherton won. Mrs. Weightman and Miss Plater in straight games from Mrs. George and Mrs. Rycroft, the former pair hitting too accurately for their opponents who could not find their "touch," and D. Morris over J. L. Cole in a good match by +11: -17: +18.

The Men's doubles seemed to be all over when Crayden and Merrett won the first two games (17 and 18) and were leading Sharman and Ransome 20—13 in the third, but suddenly everything seemed to come off for the latter pair who took the next seven points in a row. The audience, appreciating this great effort to the full cheered loudly as deuce after deuce was called, but the grand effort was in vain and Crayden and Merrett won by 25—23.

* * *

Finally I should like to say good-bye for three years to all the many friends I have made in Table Tennis as I am going out East on Admiralty duty. No doubt the game will still be going stronger than ever when I return and I shall look forward to hearing, through these columns, of your activities in local, national and International affairs.

Sleeves Up Now for Stockholm!

by STANLEY PROFFITT
English International

Let's pull up our chairs to reflect on the Wembley table tennis festival.

That rewards go to Mr. Pope and his henchmen for the best sports organisation of the year. Forget the minor diplomatic tiff of the balance sheet. British sport has been put on top of world esteem.

Having said that, we must roll up our sleeves and prepare for the series in Sweden next February. Shed of the administration load, the most vital necessity is to build up the English Swaythling cup team. It is destined to be a teaser, with Victor Barna in the sunset of his career, Ron Sharman and 36-year-old Ernest Buble unable to resist the fast-moving Continentals, and the intimation from Bergmann not to continue in competitive match play; the time is ripe for action.

In order to restore England to her rightful place on the International ladder the "new look" will have to be introduced to help Johnny Leach who, as I see it, will be the sole survivor of the present team. Ken Stanley, with 25 summers and an equal number of winters behind him, is considered a youngster in top-flight circles according to Post-War ideas. Another player, Western Counties Champion Aubrey Simons, has been overlooked often enough, but they tell me Aubrey is near 30.

Our best prospects then appear to lie in the unmaturing Thornhill, Beamish (London), Thompson, Kelly, Forrest, Kennedy (Yorkshire), Costello, Shaw, (Manchester), all between 16-18 years old. As to the exact call-up position for the armed forces I'm not conversant, but I do consider that if we are ever going to lift the trophy it rests in the hands of the players mentioned or any other youngster who may spring up, rather than those who have been well tried.

Trials, trials, trials; they are so old that they almost stick in my typewriter!

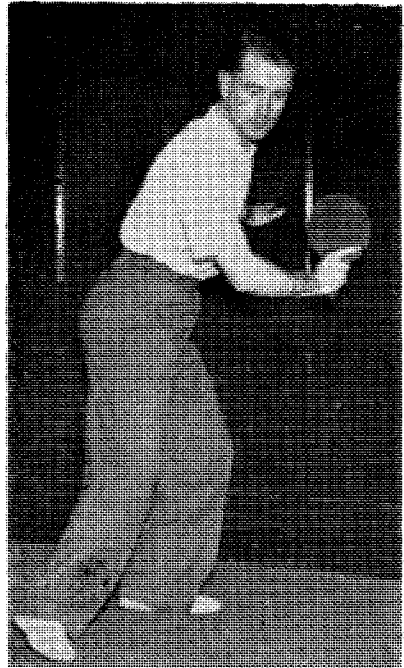
Now, and during the closed season, these youths should obtain as much practice together as possible. Arrangements for Regional bouts in mid-week and weekend travels to the Midlands where both North and South could compete in a ding-dong struggle under

the experienced eye of Adrian Haydon or Maurice Goldstein would be the ticket. Even to the extent of withdrawing them from future League, County or championship engagements.

Expense is the bugbear, but our railways have already laid out a programme for cheap return fares. As this issue is so urgent, what's to stop a fund being launched through the Magazine to meet the demands? Surely sportsmen who have the game at heart would respond handsomely?

In 1929, when Adrian Haydon, Fred Perry and the late Charlie Bull couldn't make the journey to Berlin, England were forced to send a batch of young, raw material, with the result that the following season two of the players earned their place on merit in the best team that has ever been despatched Overseas.

The experiment is worthy of consideration and the outcome may well mean that we would form the nucleus of a winning Swaythling Cup team, if not for Stockholm, then the year afterwards.



KEN STANLEY—pre-war Swaythling Cup player, thrice Junior Champion — still considered a youngster, says Proffitt.

(By courtesy Oldham Chronicle.)

WILMOTT CUP and J. M. ROSE BOWL

N. Middlesex v. Bristol
Manchester v. Northumberland

South Devon v. Northumberland
Birmingham v. N. Middlesex

The Management Sub-Committee of these national team competitions has adopted a novel scheme for playing off the semi-finals and finals.

Both rounds, of both competitions, have been arranged for decision in the same building and on the same day, viz. at Messrs. Rotax Ltd., Willesden, on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, 8th May, 1948.

As this date coincides closely with the publication date of this issue of "TABLE TENNIS," results will appear in our June issue.

Meanwhile Mr. J. R. Waugh, Hon. General Secretary of the Northumberland T.T.A., sends us this report of an interesting Rose Bowl quarter-final match:—

At Newcastle on 13th March, Northumberland League, by defeating the Blackpool League team, for the second year in succession reached the semi-final stage of this competition.

Blackpool, represented by Miss K. Benson and Mrs. P. Allen had an impressive record in this season's series and might easily have been expected to reach the final round, as last season when they were runners up to North Middlesex.

The lesser known Northumberland League team, Miss D. Smith, Miss J. Purves and Mrs. J. R. Waugh, all members of the same club, L.N.E.R. Accountants, had a much easier passage to the quarter final but had not, through geographical disadvantages, the same opportunity for competitive play, although this season's County Championships helped a little.

A rather unexpected win by the home pair, Mrs. Waugh and Miss Purves, in the Doubles event apparently changed the whole situation; the Blackpool pair were unlucky to find the opposition making few mistakes and missing few of the chances that came their way and probably playing as well as at any time this season.

A very gallant effort by Peggy Allen against Miss Smith followed, for she tried by all means to retrieve the fortunes of her side. A tense and dour but not uninteresting game developed between two players whose defences apparently would withstand the other's attack, and it was only the fact of Miss Smith's occasional attacking shots making more winners that decided the tie and the match.

Individual scores (Northumberland first)

Miss J. Purves lost to Mrs. M. Allen, 16—21, 13—21.

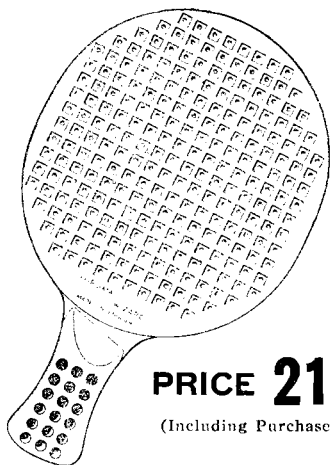
Miss D. Smith beat Miss K. M. Benson, 21—16, 14—21, 21—12.

Mrs. J. R. Waugh and Miss J. Purves beat Miss Benson and Mrs. Allen, 21—14, 21—15.

Miss Smith beat Mrs. Allen, 21—14, 21—15.
Miss Purves beat Miss Benson, 22—20, 21—12.

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SHORT CUT TO SUCCESS ?

Malcolm Coombe, of Wallington, age 14, writes :—

Playing in a match last week my friend was losing 11—nil.

When he got to 11—0 his opponent walked away indicating he had won. I disagreed with him but we let him and his team have the benefit of the doubt.

I have searched everywhere but have found nothing about this; could you enlighten me with this problem?

We asked George White, the famous "Gen-Man" of the E.T.T.A. Official Handbook, to answer Malcolm's query. He writes :—

Rule 4 of the Laws of Table Tennis says that a game shall be won by the player who first wins 21 points. There is no way of winning a game without scoring at least twenty-one points—except in a championship where the time-limit of 20-minutes per game is being applied.

As this would hardly be the case in your friend's match, his opponent should have played on until the game was properly finished.

Thank you, George—and now, young Malcolm, read this little story from Romford, which shows that even 13 points is not enough to justify taking a game for granted.

Romford Sensation

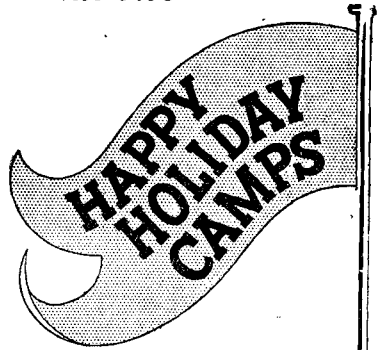
Playing in the final of the Romford League Closed Singles, young Ted Farnham (whose picture appeared on the front cover of our issue of September last) faced a deficit of 13—0 in the 3rd game. Unperturbed by the sympathetic murmurs of the crowd, he regained his poise and pulled out 21—19 ! He thus beat his club-mate, F. Thomas, of British Legion Blue Circle, by 3 games to 1 in a match which was reckoned to be the best final ever seen at Romford.

Another splendid player on view was T. Dix who won the junior singles.

Unluckily Sid Beard, the hardworking secretary of the Romford league had to miss the event for the first time for many years, owing to illness. Sid has been instrumental in helping along a constant succession of good youngsters in this early hunting-ground of Johnny Leach.

Excellent form was shown in the Men's Doubles by Roy Rosser, the popular Essex County secretary, who led his partner Anderson to a 3—0 victory over old-stager Sugarhood and his singles "bogey-man" F. Thomas.

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at our*



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on the Sea Front with
private bathing beaches.*

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Good Work!

Eighteen-year-old Louis Devereux displayed the temperament of a veteran in winning the Men's Singles championship of the Exeter League during March. Faced in the semi-final by the holder, English international Ron Litten, he lost the first game 14—21, yet stuck to his guns and bottled up Ron's backhand attack by tenacious defence. Won the next two games 21—15, 21—19—the latter by means of fierce driving at the critical spot of 18—all. In the final Devereux mastered A. Hayward 3—1 and fully justified his title.

All titles except Women's Doubles changed hands in the High Wycombe League championships. Locals are thrilled by the triple success of Miss Joan Putnam, considered the most promising player produced by the league to date. Unusual feature of this league's Team Knock-out contest is that results depend on points-aggregate. The keen nature of such matches is shown by the score in the final, when British Legion beat Social Club by 442 to 416.

And Warm Work!

Southern fans need not put their bats away yet. Two full-scale tournaments remain on the calendar

The Thameside Open Championships: 24th—29th May, 1948.

To be staged at the Hydro Hall of the Plaistow Y.M.C.A. club, Greengate Street, London, E.13.

All details may be obtained from:

Mr. L. R. Normington,
31, Acacia Avenue, Romford, Essex.

The Wembley Open Championships:

Experience shows that even the prospect of heatwaves does not deter the ambitious table tennis player, and so once again Mortlake Mann announces this hardy June annual. At least there is not much danger of the tournament clashing with anybody's league matches!

The dates are: 7th to 11th June, 1948—don't forget that the 11th, the final session is a Friday, not a Saturday. The venue as usual is the spacious Wembley Town Hall; all details from:

Mrs. C. E. Davies,
41, Paxford Road, North Wembley, Middlesex.

The disputed World's semi-final

ROSEANU v. FARKAS

Mr. J. M. Rose, the Hon. Referee of the World's Championships, has submitted to us for publication these observations on what we have already christened "this delicate matter":—

I was interested to read the statement printed on page 18 of the April issue of "TABLE TENNIS." As this is the first time I have seen the statement or the "Chairman's Notes," I would like to give my comments, since my notes disagree with several points.

Item 2: The Jury did NOT find this fact established. The Umpire of the match gave his opinion that the score was 25—24 at 20 minutes and the Table Manager gave another score 22—all. No attempt was made to disprove either statement and there was no corroboration of either.

No vote was taken and therefore no score was established.

The items marked "a," "b," "c" and "d" should not have been included in an "official statement" as the "further evidence" was in some instances the remark of a single person, unsubstantiated and not proven. As it is they confuse the issue; as an example . . .

Item "b" which was put forward by a Jury member, is totally incorrect. No questions were put about it to either of the officials who could have given the true facts—namely that a "let" was called owing to a suspicious service.

Roseanu then made a shot which proved a winner, but of course, this was after the let had been called. Naturally the score was called again 25—24.

Item "c" could have been denied by either official as they did not notice Roseanu make any attempt to appeal to them.

Jury Conclusion: The first paragraph should have read instead of "22—all": "after

20 minutes if the scores were level or, if they were unequal, the game awarded to the leading player."

Note how the issue has been confused in the "Appendix by Chairman": the 2nd and 3rd paragraph refer as though it were proven, to the point mentioned in item "b," stating "point wrongly ordered to be replayed" and again "49th point . . . wrongly discounted."

I would conclude by giving the reason why I ordered the match to be concluded irrespective of time-limit, since this is the first time in all the years that any decision of mine has been over-ruled by a Jury.

The Reason for my Decision:—

In a report which Mr. Ivor Montagu gave to me after the Paris World Championships he stated, amongst other criticisms, that the time-limit was imposed in a match after the score had reached 20—all, and said that this should not have been done. Naturally I followed this opinion when exactly the same situation arose during this exciting semi-final, because Mr. Montagu is President, Chairman of the Advisory and Rules Committee of the I.T.T.F., and anybody must take note of his opinion on such a point.

Mr. Ivor Montagu writes:—

Mr. Rose's letter has been shown to me by the Editor. In so far as it helps to throw light upon the facts it must be welcome, and if indeed the Minutes of the World's Championships Jury, as drafted by its Chairman, are an incorrect record of its proceedings, no doubt the matter can be brought to the attention of the I.T.T.F. by the E.T.T.A. at Mr. Rose's request.

In my view however, the impression that Mr. Rose gives of my conversation with him about happenings in Paris is erroneous, if it should encourage the impression that that conversation was an adequate ground for the mistaken instruction given by the Referee.