

APRIL, 1951

SIXPENCE

# TABLE TENNIS



AUBREY SIMONS—  
ENGLAND & GLOUCESTER

*Contributors include:*

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# Table Tennis



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Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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## SENDING

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**1** Letters, articles, anecdotes, news, etc., are always welcome. Should be as brief as possible, and sent direct to The Editor :

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Until increased circulation justifies extra pages, space is limited, and some items may have to be condensed. Send as early as possible.

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**2** Articles and opinions, etc., expressed in *Table Tennis* do not necessarily represent official views. They may, in fact, be at variance. All articles published are the individual viewpoint of the writer whose name is given. Every reader has the same right of expression. Items under Official News are authoritative and also where expressly stated.

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## World Congress Honours British Delegates

**T**HE I.T.T.F. is probably the most widely representative of any international organisation of one sport in the world. It is the supreme arbiter of table tennis. Thirty-five nations were represented at the 1951 Congress in Vienna, and any individual or nation who can attain the unanimous support of this widespread group must have unique qualities and devotion to the cause of table tennis for which their nation can take an especial pride. These are the highest honours attainable in the whole universe of table tennis.

Many of us have, perhaps, rather taken for granted the incredible work achieved by Messrs. Pope and Montagu (although so little of its sum is known) that the significance of the honour has escaped us. We are pleased, therefore, in underlining the importance of office, to report that Congress re-elected Mr. Montagu as President of the I.T.T.F. and presented him with a trophy to commemorate his 25 years' service to the Federation. In addition, delegates made a unanimous and spontaneous gesture of their feelings by all subscribing for an additional personal memento. Only those who have attended a Congress can fully appreciate Mr. Montagu's undivided devotion to world table tennis for a quarter of a century or the warm regard and high respect in which he is held by every country without exception.

Mr. A. K. Vint was re-elected as Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. G. Harrower was appointed Chairman of the Equipment Committee.

**F**EW enthusiasts realise what an important part Wales has played in the evolution of table tennis to a

major and world-wide sport. Apart from its national enterprise, we can remember with affection that it was Wales that gave England that great personality to whom we all owe so much, our late Hon. General Secretary, W. J. POPE.

Perhaps the most significant and far-reaching activity of Bill Pope was in the founding and development of the International T.T. Federation (in close collaboration with the Hon. Ivor Montagu). Bill Pope was the first and the only secretary of the I.T.T.F. These two devoted to the international sphere the same unselfish zeal and indefatigable effort which has characterised their achievements for the game in England.

Considering the honours of high office in the international sphere we also record with pleasure that Mr. H. ROY EVANS, of the Table Tennis Association of Wales, was, at the 1951 Congress, unanimously elected to succeed the late Mr. W. J. Pope as Secretary, and it seems a fitting tribute that Wales should now gain international honour in her own right.

Mr. and Mrs. ROY EVANS are known throughout world table tennis circles as one of the most successful administrative "mixed doubles" it has. Roy Evans was a Welsh international in the early thirties, but gave up competitive play to pioneer the orthodox style in a country dominated by pen-holders. This and widespread coaching and other work has had considerable success and is raising Wales to a formidable national entity. He became secretary of the T.T.A.W. in 1932 until, on joining the R.A.F. for war service, Mrs. Nancy Roy Evans took over. Mr. Evans became a member of the Advisory Committee of the I.T.T.F. in 1946. Wales can be rightly proud of the high honour accorded her.

## Coverman . . . Aubrey Simons (England and Glos.)

*Photo. : Acknowledgments to Peter Madge*

**E**NGLAND'S No. 2, county cricketer, exemplifies all that is best in British sportsmanship. T.T. could wish for no finer ambassador nor any team, a more loyal protagonist, often at the cost of personal disadvantage. Now runs a T.T. bat-making business from native Bristol between numerous commitments for playing. Natural genius, quickfire thinking and lightning eye brought him to the fore of post-war T.T. after his release from the R.A.F. Footwork, spectacles and appearance belie the ferocity of his attack and the dangerous tenacity of his tight defence. Highly individualistic style, tight close game with flexible wristwork and ball control make him a formidable opponent to the very best.

# HOLDERS RETAIN BOTH T.T. CUPS

World Champions again make the  
**ROSE BOWL—the ROWE'S BOWL**

**WEST LONDON AGAIN SUCCESSFUL**

By Keith Watts

*Semis and Final of the J. M. Rose Bowl staged by the Hastings T.T.A. on March 17th. Organising Secretary, Mr. D. N. Tyler.*

*Semi-final:*

**West London 7, Birmingham 2**

**T**HE Rowe Twins were obviously affected by the strain of recent efforts, but if they lacked their customary crisp confidence they still had their splendid temperament and fighting spirit. Rosalind dropped a game to Mrs. M. Cumberbatch but then made short work of the decider, and then Diane, one game and 19—20 down against Mrs. Bence, staked everything on a forehand drive down the line and saved match point. The Midlanders attacked determinedly and even took a doubles game in their match with the Rowe's.

**West London 7, Birmingham 2**

Miss R. Rowe bt Miss J. Mackay 8, 10; bt Mrs. M. Cumberbatch 12, —19, 12; Miss D. Rowe bt Miss J. Mackay —15, 16, 17; bt Mrs. Bence —20, 20, 19. Miss D. Ellis lost to Mrs. M. Cumberbatch —12, —10; bt Mrs. Bence 19, —11, 14. **Doubles:** D. Rowe/Ellis bt Mackay/Bence —14, 12, 17; R. & D. Rowe bt Mackay/Cumberbatch 11, —15, 13; R. Rowe/Ellis lost to Cumberbatch/Bence —14, 13, —14.

*Semi-final:*

**South London 8, Brighton 1**

**M**ISS D. BRIGGS, new Sussex champion, shook South London by beating Miss M. Piper. In the second tie, Mrs. Farnell's steady, almost spinless defence at first worried Mrs. Carrington, and South London might well have been struggling, had she not taken complete command to eventually run out an easy winner. Miss Winn and Miss Piper then clinched the match in energetic style.

**South London 8, Brighton 1.**

Miss M. Piper bt Mrs. Bromfield 16, 13; lost to Miss Briggs 16, —19, —22. Mrs. E. Carrington bt Mrs. Bromfield 11, 23, bt Mrs. Farnell —19, 17, 10. Miss J. Winn bt Miss Briggs 16, 14; bt Mrs. Farnell 17, 13. **Doubles:** Carrington/Piper bt Bromfield/Briggs —22, 8, 14; Carrington/Winn bt Bromfield/Farnell 14, 17; Piper/Winn bt Briggs/Farnell 12, 13.

*FINAL:*

**WEST LONDON 7,  
SOUTH LONDON 2**

**F**OR South London, the final story is "what might have been." R. ROWE/ELLIS saved the second game after a great fight by E. Carrington/J. Winn. Then Diane nearly slipped against Miss Piper. Mrs. Carrington scored her team's first win and Miss Piper met R. Rowe confidently, her opponent again pulling out that extra bit in the deciding game. West London No. 3, Miss Ellis, gave the Twins useful support, and her remarkable powers of retrieving were fully tested in an entertaining game with Miss Winn. The superiority of West London was, in fact, not so overwhelming as the score would suggest.

**West London 7, South London 2**

R. Rowe bt M. Piper —21, 15, 9; bt E. Carrington 14, 16; D. Rowe bt M. Piper —18, 19, 11; bt J. Winn 13, 8; D. Ellis lost to E. Carrington —13, —18; bt J. Winn —19, 13, 19. **Doubles:** D. & R. Rowe bt M. Piper/E. Carrington 20, 15; R. Rowe/D. Ellis bt E. Carrington/J. Winn 18, —18, 13; D. Rowe/D. Ellis lost to M. Piper/J. Winn 10, —16, 19.

**South London now out  
for Hat-trick in 1952**

By RON CRAYDEN

**Semis and Final of Wilmott Cup staged  
by Maidenhead T.T.L.  
on March 17th**

*Semi-final:*

**S**OUTH LONDON 7, Southampton C.S. 1  
**A** FOUR struggle in which the Southampton team of W. Muller, F. Saunders and J. Welsh fought to the last ditch and were most unlucky not to have notched two more games. Muller beat Head to score the only victory.

*Semi-final:*

**Manchester 6, Leeds 3**

**M**ANCHESTER'S B. Casofsky, R. Allcock and L. Cohen proved too strong for the Yorkshiresmen B. Kennedy, A. Thompson and S. Rosenberg, but top marks for Brian Kennedy's three brilliant wins, his duel with Casofsky being the highlight of the day.

*FINAL:*

**SOUTH LONDON 6, MANCHESTER 3**

**A** DING-DONG, tense and exciting affair. Benny Casofsky was magnificent. His backhand bomb-like, his forehand lethal, and his three great wins keeping the match alive and the audience on its toes. The all-round superiority of the South London team, however, decided the day and it will need a powerful team to stop these boys from completing the hat-trick next season.

**SCORES (South London first):**

R. CRAYDEN bt. R. Allcock 18, 12; bt. L. Cohen 11, 9; lost to Casofsky —12, —12. J. HEAD bt. Allcock 20, —9, 16; bt. L. Cohen —18, 18, 13; lost to Casofsky 10, —19, —19. H. VENNEN bt. Allcock 12, 16; bt. Cohen 12, 14; lost to Casofsky —16, 19, —22.

*Discussing the result with our correspondent, Ron Crayden said that their team (which included himself), Jackie Head and Harry Venner, was successful because it really was as a team rather than to any single brilliant individuality.*

## Universities demand Blue for Table Tennis

By JOHN GARRETT (Oxford)

**S**PORT has a greater place in University life than in any other section of the adult community, and table tennis teams of most universities hold high places in district and national leagues.

Because of its centralisation London University seems best off, but Midland and Northern universities have a high standard. Oxford and Cambridge have first teams of fair quality, below which the standard falls considerably. This is due to the indefinite place occupied by the game at the two great universities.

Last year, the O.U.T.T.C.'s petition for the grant of a half blue for representative appearances was refused by the Blues Committee, and this year's request seems foredoomed to a similar fate. The incentive of a half blue would, the club feel, not only be a just reward for regular players but would also attract those players who at present give up the game for sports which do offer blues.

One of the reasons for not allowing a half blue is said to be the comparative poor standard of the game in the university, so the whole question

seems to be a tight vicious circle. And there is probably also some of that misunderstanding of the modern game for which we must thank our Victorian forebears. When the Blues Committee do feel they can change their views, university table tennis will take its rightful and dominant place in the sporting world.

Oxford beat Cambridge 7—3 in the fifth annual inter-varsity match on February 10th. Oxford have also enjoyed a successful season at the top of the Western Counties League, Division II, have first rate club facilities, and a membership of several hundreds.

## THE BEST YET

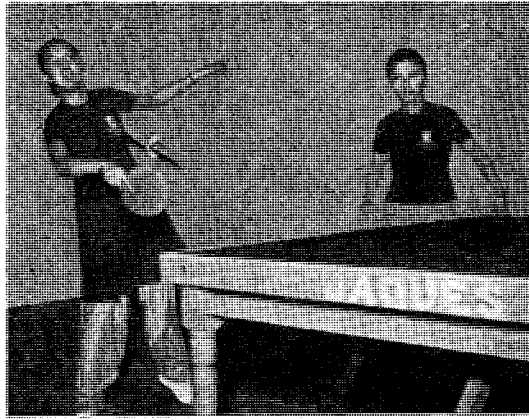
**M**OST players agreed that this was the "best World's yet." This is as it should be, because each year the future sponsors of the event profit by the mistakes and improvements of their predecessors.

Vienna's proud claim rests upon the excellent playing conditions and surroundings, and the unregimented, "comfortable" form of efficiency which is typically Austrian.

Playing conditions: Superior to our own Wembley because floor was not springy, lighting was brighter and without daylight interference, the surroundings were warm, and seats for players were both comfortable and close to the play.

Of course, English players might be expected to appreciate the 12 Jacques tables so cleverly spirited out from Thornton Heath to stand proudly in the home "club" of Liszt and Strauss (and these were not table tennis players of pre-war days, Jimmy Junior!).

The staging of our sport in the great Konzert-Haus itself was a measure of the great advance in status which table tennis is making the world over.



SAYEED SULTANA (left) and Mrs. V. P. SIRIWARDENE (right).

**E**VERYBODY was agreed that **JOHNNY LEACH** was the best man on view, even apart from winning the title.

Don't be surprised at this. It isn't always the case. The maturity of his play was apparent and that intangible strength of temperament was quite obviously pressing on the minds of his rivals, who sat through many of his minor matches striving to see just what it is that beats his opponents. They saw faster footwork than ever before, the result of months of training at Crystal Palace Football Club, a defence of Bergmann standard, and a backhand drive that hugged the corners in upsetting fashion.

No forehand? Well, it slipped occasionally, but somehow it usually came right just about 17-all in any tight game.

\* \* \*

**T**HIRD man for England was **BRIAN KENNEDY**. He faced a big test when he came out in the deciding ninth game against **GABRIC** of Yugoslavia. Some criticised Brian for going too carefully, for not hitting bald-headed through this quite competent and brave defender.

When people imagine themselves or some other player out on the table to replace the man who is unhappily losing at the moment, the said people are apt to overlook that in their imagination they are seeing themselves, or their nominee, playing at their best, and they are comparing it with the luckless one's performance under great pressure.

Walk out to that table at 4-4 in the key match of the year for England, and you would feel more tolerant, I'll wager.

Kennedy is obviously a slow learner; but that doesn't mean he is a non-learner. I think England will yet draw dividends on his trip to Vienna.

## Vienna Notebook of Jack Carrington

**S**INCE this great sport of ours only receives its fair quota of publicity in direct proportion to the glamour of its lady stars, let us also pay tribute to the delightful young Miss **SAYEED SULTANA**, twice champion of India at the age of 13.

This tiny little girl floats gracefully around the court returning hundreds of drives in effortless fashion and apparently enjoying every moment of the toughest matches. Neither her 3ft. 6in. black pigtailed nor her ankle-length panjaloons in mustard colour shaantung (I've had expert advice on this!) seem to hamper her dainty movements.

Learning very quickly, Sultana won more than half her matches and was, in fact, the only woman in the tournament to take a game from that genius of a champion, **Roseanu**.

India are proud of this youngster and believe that when she has a little more speed and understands a little more about attacking play, she will be a candidate for the world title while still at a young age.

The Indian boys have also improved noticeably, both in play and confidence, and with the inspiration of next season's World Championships at Bombay it may well be that this part of the world will produce the next crop of big names in table tennis.

\* \* \*

**DIANE ROWE** again played brilliant doubles to partner **Johnny Leach** in their third-round defeat of the mixed title-holders, **Sido-Farkas**, but it was an anti-climax when they lost 1-3 in the semi-final to **Harangozo-Wertl**.

A momentary confusion at the start of the first game led to Diane's receiving the man's service, and so the order-of-play advantage was unnecessarily lost.

## IMPROVEMENTS ?

**O**NLY two spring to mind. Most important is the need for improvement of methods of showing the score at the tables. Almost never was it possible to see both players' scores without moving from one's seat; certainly not when two tables were in action, as was usually the case.

I have no foolproof suggestions to offer, but the problem is urgent. What have our readers to say? Some of them must have puzzled over this matter before now.

Second criticism comes very close to home. The provision of a writing room for Press and magazine reporters. With thousands of players back home in dozens of countries hanging on the news from Vienna, Bombay or where-have-you, the reportage side of a World Championship has become a major factor second only to the play. It is perhaps the one time in the year when it is possible for thousands of players all over the world to realise that they really are brothers in an International Federation.

**T**HE win of the **ROWE TWINS** in the Women's Doubles was a splendid tribute to the women's game in these islands, and a worthy succession in continuing our hold on the trophy which **Vera Dace** and **Peggy Franks** brought here in 1948, and which **Helen Elliot** and **Dora Beregi** kept here in 1949 and 1950. Those of us who have seen the strength of the Twins' combination back home expected this triumph, but it was a revelation to the Continentals. I think they must in their minds have abandoned all hope of recapturing this title for some years, and, indeed, I think they are right.

The determined power of **Diane** and **Rosalind** has an effect on opposition similar to the above-mentioned serenity of the **Leach** temperament. Their smart and sporting demeanour ensures them the sympathy of crowds everywhere, whatever language they speak.

At this moment only the advent of triplets—a left-hander, a right-hander, and a penholder for the middle—could give England a better team. Or the popular Press a better story!

More seriously, the lesson for up-and-coming young English girls is: choose your partners early and build yourselves up as a team, because the doubles is a most important matter in the **Corbillon Cup** matches, and cannot be ignored by selectors.

\* \* \*

**A**USTRIA has two heroes. **LINDA WERTL** (the 16-year-old redhead), who showed what she had learned at Wembley by beating **Helen Elliot** 3-0 (instead of losing to her 2-3). She is already tempering her killer forehand drives with the anaesthetic of a little slow top-spin and push-play, and that makes her some proposition, believe me.

**WALDEMAR FRITSCH**, 28-year-old from Innsbruck, ripped the rubber from his bat last year and stuck on some sorbo sponge stuff. While opponents were waiting to hear the ball coming, it was gone! Victims of the **Fritsch-blitz** included **Sido**, **Koczian**, **Roothoft**, and **Haguenauer**.

# NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

## Glamorgan or Lincolnshire for Promotion

Glamorgan and Lincolnshire have won through to the final play-off match, to determine which shall appear in the Premier Division next season. In the semi-final matches, Glamorgan beat Cambridgeshire (at Cambridge) by 7-2, whilst Lincolnshire succeeded against Bedfordshire (at Bedford) by the same margin. It is understood that the match will be played on April 21st, in Lincolnshire, and as they are able to call on all the Welsh International players, Glamorgan will start favourites, but Lincolnshire are quite capable of springing a surprise.

## Glamorgan Junior Champions

There was an exciting play-off between Kent (Junior South winners)

and Glamorgan (Junior West winners) at Sittingbourne, when Glamorgan just got the better of a tight match to emerge 6-4 winners. Glamorgan also won the one outstanding division, the South Western, although losing their final match 4-6 to Middlesex, who finished with the same number of points but an inferior games average.

Next month it is hoped to publish individual averages, similar to which appeared in our April issue last season.

## FINAL RESULTS AND TABLES

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

Sussex 6, Kent 4							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Surrey	6	5	1	0	47	13	11
Sussex	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Hampshire	6	2	2	2	28	32	6
Kent	6	0	0	6	13	47	0

### SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

Glamorgan 4, Middlesex 6 Devonshire 7, Warwickshire 3							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Glamorgan	6	4	1	1	40	20	9
Middlesex	6	4	1	1	36	24	9
Devonshire	6	3	0	3	25	35	6
Warwickshire	6	0	0	6	19	41	0

### HOME COUNTIES DIVISION

Berkshire 6, Buckinghamshire 4 Buckinghamshire 5, Bedfordshire 5							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Bedfordshire	6	5	1	0	42	18	11
Buckinghamshire	6	2	2	2	30	30	6
Hertfordshire	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Berkshire	6	1	0	5	21	39	2

### NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

Lincolnshire 9, Cheshire 1 Leicestershire 6, Nottinghamshire 4							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Lancashire	6	5	1	0	45	15	11
Lincolnshire	6	5	0	1	45	15	10
Devonshire	6	4	1	1	35	25	9
Yorkshire	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Leicestershire	6	2	0	4	22	38	4
Nottinghamshire	6	1	1	4	28	32	3
Derbyshire	6	0	0	6	8	52	0

### EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

Cambridgeshire 5, Essex 5 Norfolk 2, Cambridgeshire 8							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Essex	6	5	1	0	49	11	11
Cambridgeshire	6	4	1	1	34	26	9
Suffolk	6	2	0	4	18	42	4
Norfolk	6	0	0	6	19	41	0

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## Can We Centralise in England?

### THE QUESTION IS:

"It is frequently asserted that most of the World's great players come from localised centres, where all the best players can practise and play one another every day. If this is so, is there any practical scheme by which a similar method could be adopted in England, bearing in mind the domestic difficulties involved?"

answered by **Victor Barna**

**T**HERE can be little doubt that countries where table tennis is centralised enjoy a marked advantage over other countries where the game happens to be decentralised for geographical reasons.

Ever since the International Table Tennis Federation was formed and World Championships began to be held regularly, the most coveted trophy — the Swaythling Cup — has been won without exception by nations where table tennis is centralised in and around one city.

Table tennis in Budapest, Prague and Vienna means in reality table tennis in Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Austria, anyhow, where the top class is concerned. Not only do all the best players live in the same area, but very frequently they belong to the same club. This means that they practise together all the time, besides constantly meeting each other in tournaments and exhibitions. So a youngster with real talent has every opportunity of watching them and playing against them; and his talent is likely to be spotted and encouraged in the shortest possible time.

It is not surprising, therefore that with only one exception, the Central Europeans have ruled the table tennis world for a quarter of a century.

The exception is the U.S.A., who won the Swaythling Cup in 1936. But in their case, too, table tennis is strongly centralised, though from the point of view of all-round strength, it is a well-known fact that the very vastness of that country is a handicap. It makes organisation more difficult, too. The American table tennis standard in general is comparatively weak, and of the few great players they have produced, practically all hail from New York where just one or two public clubs (representing the cream of American table tennis) are frequented by such members as Miles, Reisman, Schiff, Cartland, Pinner, Sussmann — who play each other, day after day.

Here in Britain our game is very much decentralised, which in the past must have been a disadvantage. I cannot visualise any practical scheme which would counterbalance this

situation. Furthermore, as things stand now, I don't think there is any necessity for one, because with such a large non-stop fixture list of tournaments, County and League matches, and exhibitions, our best players can play each other practically week after week and so develop their game and improve themselves, while they improve each other.

Actually, tournaments are even better than practice and my advice to young players is to go and participate in as many tournaments as possible. If for some reason they cannot compete, then they should watch the stars very carefully, and make a close study of their strokes and tactics—and especially their footwork. If you are keen enough, you will find plenty of opportunity; for keenness is half-way to success.

Of course, the time factor is very important, and I am often told that people with a daily job to do cannot manage to enter tournament after tournament. My answer is that if you are keen enough, it can be done.

Unfortunately there are people who maintain that in order to become a champion, you must give up your job and sacrifice every other interest. It is not so. Evenings after work, and week-ends, give sufficient opportunity to become even a world champion. Have I not, times without number, seen Johnny Leach spend all night in the train travelling back to London after a tournament or exhibition so as to be in his shop in the morning?

And don't the Rowe Twins, and many other stars, do the same thing? Of course they do — and seem to thrive on it!

No, being free all day does not necessarily mean that you are going to play better in the evening.



## Day-to-Day Diary of Junior Tour

(Continued from page 13)

**9 FRI.** Visit electrical factory and schools in morning. Rested afternoon. Beat local team 7-2. Their No. 1 was **BO MALMQUIST** (English J.S. Champlon), who is both junior and senior district champion here. Cliff played brilliantly to beat him — 22, 5, 12.

**11 SUN.** Arrive Arboga. Played their team in afternoon. Presented with enamelled badges. Stayed large house by river. Domestic evening: washed socks, cleaned shoes. So exhausted, bed at 10.

**12 MON.** Arrive Kopang. Won match 7-2. Surprised to see **NISSE PETERSON** in their team as he had played at Arboga previous night.

**13 TUES.** Bought chocolates to send home. Ate chocolates. Toughest match so far at Halstahammar. Win 7-2. **LASSE PETERSSON** No. 1, and John beat him in best game of tour by 19, —15, 18.

**15 THURS.** Catch 7.30 a.m. train to Stockholm, 2-hour journey. Met by Danish and Finnish teams. Receive first mail from home. Sightseeing tour of city. In evening, see wonderful film of Johnny Leach beating Vana in final of 1949 World Championships.

**16 FRI.** INTERNATIONAL T O U R NAMENT. Beat both Norway and Finland 5-0 in morning. Afternoon shopping. Dinner at Berns, one of best restaurants.

**17 SAT.** Beat Denmark 5-0 in morning. Rested in afternoon for needle match against Sweden, staged in huge indoor tennis hall with crowd of 1,500 odd. Cliff gave us good start by beating Swedish junior champion, Curt Skaj (pronounced Sky), and Jeff distinguished himself by beating Bo Malmquist. This time John just failed to get home against Pettersson, and Sweden won four sets in a row to win the match and the tournament. Afterwards, had a midget cycle race. Jeff crashed, and we left it to the more experienced. Farewells and night express to Oslo.

**18 SUN.** Arrived Oslo 9 a.m. Snow over a foot deep. After breakfast, telephoned Vasteras. Only Jeff and Maud could understand each other so they monopolised the telephone. To our surprise, the call cost 17s. 6d.! Played and won a match 5-0 midday and then watched the ski-jumping. Evening in town that looked like a fairyland; illuminations everywhere, snow never turning to slush. Catch 9 p.m. train to Bergen (12 hours away).

**19 MON.** Bergen 8 a.m. Lunched on top of a 3,000ft. mountain. Won an evening match 6-0. Norway's No. 1 Senior, **AKE HERNES**, was in the team.

**20 TUES.** Sailed from Bergen in the Norwegian *Astria*. Wonderful trip through fjords and islands to Stavanger.

**21 WED.** Sea all day. The ship seems to get smaller when you have walked around it a few dozen times. Food marvellous.

**22 THURS.** Docked Newcastle 2 a.m., but stayed aboard until 8 a.m. Customs men gave our old shoes, socks and bats up as a bad job, and at the station we went our separate ways.

Through *Table Tennis* and the T-A Page we would like to say:

"Thanks a million" to Mr. T. E. ("Pop") SEARS. It would be a waste of time detailing all he did for us because it was just about everything except: play our games. So, once more, "Thanks, 'Pop,' for being our Englishman's Guide to Sweden."

—CLIFF BOOTH, JEFF INGBER  
and JOHN HUNT.

# The Decisive Match

## Tense Quarter-Final Duel of Leach v. Roothoft

Last year at Budapest it could be said that Bergmann won his title when he beat Vana in the quarter-final. So this time it is fair to say that Leach won his title when he beat Rene Roothoft in the quarter-final. A few notes on this key match are printed here in the hope of conveying something of the keen tension in which every member of the British parties shared.

By Jack Carrington

**R**ENE ROTHHOFT, with the confidence of previous victories over Leach and having just beaten Vana, showed much improvement. He has great speed and control in defence and consistency in attack—qualities so similar to those of Leach that both men had to wait very patiently for openings. There was, however, no stone-walling. When the ball did sit up a little, the initiative was gallantly exploited by either side.

It thus became a somewhat mathematical struggle for those precious points, and, for once, figures probably give a fairer picture than any stroke descriptions.

In all five games the men were just about level at 15-all, and only on the last five services could one force a chink in the other's armour.

Leach was obviously itching to unleash his faster attack, but he never had the lead to gamble with. When he led two games to one we felt better, but glumness soon returned as Roothoft piled up an 8-0 lead in the fourth. Yet Johnny drew up to 11-12, levelled at 16-16, and had a match point at 20-19! This was enough to crack most French players we have known, but Roothoft was still in there fighting, took the game, and even led at 10-7 at the change-over in the final game.

12-9 to Roothoft . . . and then out came those inner fighting qualities which won Leach the world title in 1949, and which he seldom has to reveal in home tournaments.

Up he came to 15-15. Which one would crack now? Roothoft, we thought, as Johnny ran away to 20-16. We sat back, relaxing, as the Englishman put on pressure for his kill.

But hard attack had proved fatal throughout this match. Even now Roothoft thrived on it.

20-17 . . . 20-18 . . . 20-19! . . . Leach coughed nervously and wiped imaginary sweat from his brow, and decided there could be no going back.

Again he drove hard. For the first time making good wide angles which finally spread-eagled the Frenchman's

defence, then with a risky cross-court switch to the forehand corner, Johnny clinched the deal 21-19.

All wrong, said the tacticians. But it worked, said that inner voice that speaks to champions in times of stress.

### Leach v. Tereba

**V**ERY different was Leach v. Tereba that evening. The 35-year-old Czech, the first and greatest of the two-wing attacking school, who can still dictate the play to any opponent.

Now Leach had no strategical decisions to make; he had to deal with the facts of the moment . . . and these facts came kicking over the net from Tereba's powerful arm in endless succession . . . wide to the forehand, sharp down the backhand line . . . and that vicious bouncing kill at the body!

Tereba, using a very full-arm forehand action, seemed conscious that he could not last out a five-game affair.

Perhaps he set the pace too fast for himself, because after winning the first 23-21, he rather "blew out" in the second at 9-21. Yet still he came up to deuce in the third.

The manner of Tereba's failure in this vital game was typically gallant. Leach actually led 20-15 when the Czech put his last ounce of strength and science into all-out attack. It was a Roothoft crisis in reverse, and this time Leach lost the five long duels to find himself in yet another deuce struggle.

When Tereba lost that one 22-24 the sad truth was written in his face. Once again he was not going to win that world title which his skill and courageous match play would surely have earned him at one time or other, but for the 1940-46 break in the series.

Even in the fourth game, however, the doomed Tereba refused to let Leach attack, and went down 11-21 with all guns firing, bravely but by this time erratically.

*(It was Leach to whom Tereba had to bow in the World's of 1947, in the year when he "cleaned up" in the strongest English Open entry since the war.)*

A few minutes after this last hard blow I saw the Czech laughing broadly at the hectic ups-and-downs of the Rowe Twins' doubles final. A very gallant sportsman.

## WORLD CHAMPION TEAM 1951



The Czechoslovakian team, winners of the World Championships (Swaythling Cup) 1951. Left to right: Josef Hroch (Captain), Bohumil Vana, Ivan Andreadis and Vaclav Tereba. To win his World Singles title, Johnny Leach had to beat both Tereba and Andreadis and the conqueror of Vana.

# Full England Cup Results

**MEN v. ITALY** 5-0. Simons bt. Molina 5, 10; bt. Sturani 18, 14. Kennedy bt. Sturani -18, 19, 16. Crayden bt. Raspi 7, 10; bt. Molina 10, 16.

v. **WALES** 5-1. Leach bt. Chugg, 11, 17; bt. M. Jones 16, 6. Kennedy bt. M. Jones 7, 10; lost to S. Jones -19, 9, -21. Crayden bt. S. Jones 11, 17; bt. Chugg 13, 7.

v. **EGYPT** 5-0. Simons bt. Abu-Heif 10, 11; bt. Rifai 13, 15. Crayden bt. Rifai 16, 17. Thornhill bt. Gafer 17, 9; bt. Abu-Heif 16, 20.

v. **SWEDEN** 5-0. Leach bt. Frederiksson 4, 13; bt. Cederholm 15, 15; bt. Croneryd -15, 16, 4. Simons bt. Cederholm 12, 13; bt. Croneryd 12, 14. Crayden lost to Croneryd -15, -14; lost to Frederiksson -15, -14.

v. **BRAZIL** 5-0. Leach bt. I. Severo 9, 9. Simons bt. W. Severo 15, 10; bt. I. Severo 13, 19. Kennedy bt. Boderone 13, 18; bt. W. Severo 15, 10.

v. **JUGOSLAVIA** 4-5. Leach bt. Vogrinc -20, 10, 15; bt. Gabric 16, 13; bt. Harangozo 18, 16. Simons bt. Gabric 11, 11; lost to Harangozo 20, -9, -16; lost to Vogrinc -14, -12. Kennedy lost to Harangozo 15, -11, -17; lost to Vogrinc -14, -14; lost to Gabric -13, -15.

v. **LUXEMBURG** 5-0. Kennedy bt. Jaminet 16, 15; bt. Homan 12, 13. Thornhill bt. Zuang 10, 18; bt. Jaminet 13, 18. Crayden bt. Homan 4, 15.

**WOMEN v. U.S.A.** 3-2. R. Rowe bt. Ichkoff 14, 18; lost to Neuberger -15, -14. D. Rowe lost to Neuberger 14, -16, -18; bt. Ichkoff 16, 15. D. and R. Rowe bt. Neuberger/Ichkoff 16, 13.

v. **HUNGARY** 3-2. R. Rowe lost to Farkas -17, 14, -14; bt. Sagi 17, 16. D. Rowe bt. Sagi 7, 16; lost to Farkas -20, -20. D. and R. Rowe bt. Farkas/Karpati 19, -18, 13.

v. **JUGOSLAVIA** 3-0. Franks bt. Covic 15, 17. Roberts bt. Temunovic 11, 12; D. and R. Rowe bt. Covic/Temunovic 19, 13.

v. **ITALY** 3-0. Franks bt. Bozano 8, 4. Roberts bt. Rabarri 18, 11. Franks/Roberts bt. Rabarri/Bozano 4, 14.

v. **GERMANY** 3-0. R. Rowe bt. Bussmann 8, 14. D. Rowe bt. Horn 16, 14. D. and R. Rowe bt. Bussmann/Capellmann 4, 12.

v. **SWITZERLAND** 3-0. Franks bt. Grandjean 6, 15. Roberts bt. Vez 14, 13. Franks/Roberts bt. Grandjean/Vez 16, 11.

v. **AUSTRIA** 1-3. R. Rowe lost to Wertl -14, -14; lost to Pritzi -13, -11. D. Rowe lost to Pritzi -14, -15. D. and R. Rowe bt. P. itzi/Wertl 11, 15.

## SWAYTHLING CUP GROUP "A"

	Jugoslavia	England	Sweden	Brazil	Wales	Egypt	Italy	Luxemburg	Matches Won
1. Jugoslavia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. England	4-5	5-4	5-1	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	6
3. Sweden	1-5	2-5	x	5-2	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5
4. Brazil	1-5	0-5	2-5	x	5-3	5-1	5-0	5-1	4
5. Wales	0-5	1-5	0-5	3-5	x	5-2	5-1	5-0	3
6. Egypt	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	2-5	x	5-4	5-1	2
7. Italy	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	4-5	x	5-3	1
8. Luxemburg	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	0-5	1-5	3-5	x	0

## GROUP "B"

	Hungary	France	Vietnam	Germany	Austria	Holland	Portugal	New Zealand	Matches Won
1. Hungary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. France	0-5	x	5-0	5-1	5-2	5-2	5-3	5-0	6
3. Vietnam	0-5	2-5	x	5-3	5-1	5-2	5-4	5-1	5
4. Germany	1-5	1-5	3-5	x	5-2	5-0	5-1	5-0	4
5. Austria	3-5	2-5	1-5	2-5	x	5-2	5-0	5-0	3
6. Holland	0-5	2-5	2-5	0-5	2-5	x	5-1	5-0	2
7. Portugal	0-5	3-5	4-5	1-5	0-5	1-5	x	5-4	1
8. New Zealand	0-5	0-5	1-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	4-5	x	0

## GROUP "C"

	Czecho	U.S.A.	India	Switzerland	Belgium	Iran	Israel	Greece	Matches Won
1. Czechoslovakia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. U.S.A.	1-5	x	5-1	5-0	5-1	5-0	5-0	5-1	6
3. India	0-5	1-5	x	5-4	4-5	5-0	5-3	5-1	4
4. Switzerland	0-5	0-5	4-5	x	5-2	5-3	5-2	5-0	4
5. Belgium	0-5	1-5	5-4	2-5	x	5-2	5-1	5-0	4
6. Iran	0-5	0-5	0-5	3-5	2-5	x	5-0	5-1	2
7. Israel	0-5	0-5	3-5	2-5	1-5	0-5	x	5-0	1
8. Greece	0-5	1-5	1-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	0-5	x	0

Final group play-offs: Hungary 5, Jugoslavia 3; Czechoslovakia 5, Jugoslavia 1  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA 5, HUNGARY 4

## CORBILLON CUP GROUP "A"

	Austria	England	Hungary	U.S.A.	Germany	Jugoslavia	Italy	Switzerland	Matches Won
1. Austria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. England	1-3	x	3-2	3-2	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0	6
3. Hungary	2-3	2-3	x	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0	5
4. U.S.A.	1-3	2-3	0-3	x	3-0	3-2	3-0	3-0	4
5. Germany	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	x	3-0	3-0	3-0	3
6. Jugoslavia	0-3	0-3	0-3	2-3	0-3	x	3-0	3-1	2
7. Italy	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	x	3-2	1
8. Switzerland	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	1-3	2-3	x	0

## GROUP "B"

	Rumania	Scotland	Wales	Belgium	Czecho.	France	India	Egypt	Holland	Matches Won
1. Rumania	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
2. Scotland	1-3	x	2-3	3-1	3-1	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0	6
3. Wales	0-3	3-2	x	1-3	3-1	3-1	3-0	3-1	3-0	6
4. Belgium	1-3	1-3	3-1	x	2-3	3-2	3-1	3-0	3-0	5
5. Czechoslovakia	1-3	1-3	1-3	3-2	x	3-2	3-1	3-0	3-0	5
6. France	1-3	0-3	1-3	2-3	2-3	x	3-1	1-3	3-0	2
7. India	1-3	0-3	0-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	x	3-2	3-2	2
8. Egypt	0-3	0-3	1-3	0-3	0-3	3-1	2-3	x	3-2	2
9. Holland	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	2-3	2-3	x	0

£ FINAL : RUMANIA 3, AUSTRIA 1



# FINAL ROUND RESULTS

## MEN'S SINGLES

Sido (H)	Andreadis 14, 19, —13, 21-20 (time limit)	Leach —16, 18, 18, 12
Andreadis (C)		
Tereba (C)	Leach —21, 9, 22, 11	
Leach (E)		

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

Roseanu (R)	Roseanu 17-14, 14-13, 5-4 (all time limit)	Roseanu 10, 15, 13
Pritzi (A)		
Neuberger (US)	Farkas 14, 19, 22	
Farkas (H)		

## MEN'S DOUBLES

Koczian and Sido (H)	Koczian and Sido 14, —20, 20, 10	Andreadis and Vana 13, 12, 19
Leach and Carrington (E)		
Tokar and Stipek (C)	Andreadis and Vana 12, —19, 12, —18, 12	
Andreadis and Vana (C)		

## WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Farkas and Karpati (H)	D. Rowe and R. Rowe 14, —6, 15, —15, 12	D. Rowe and R. Rowe 20, 19, —19, —20, 12
D. Rowe and R. Rowe (E)		
Neuberger and Ichkof (US)	Roseanu and Szasz 17, 19, —16, 19	
Roseanu and Szasz (R)		

## MIXED DOUBLES

Vana (C) and Roseanu (R)	Vana and Roseanu 22, —26, 13, —17, 15	Vana and Roseanu 19, 9, 14
Koczian and Karpati (H)		
Harangozo (Y) and Wertl (A)	Harangozo and Wertl 11, 12, —13, 10	
Leach and D. Rowe (E)		

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TABLE TENNIS acknowledges with appreciation the co-operation and courtesy of Mr. W. J. Hicks, Sports Editor of *The News Chronicle*, which enabled us to have up-to-date reports on the recent World Championships from day to day, and also placed at our disposal the despatches of their Table Tennis Correspondent in Vienna, Mr. G. R. Harrower, which were published in the March issue.

# How British Players Fared

The abbreviations used are as follows:—  
A.—Austria; Be.—Belgium; Br.—Brazil; C.—Czechoslovakia;  
E.—England; F.—France; Ge.—Germany; Gr.—Greece; H.—  
Hungary; In.—India; Ir.—Iran; Is.—Israel; It.—Italy; P.—  
Portugal; R.—Rumania; Sc.—Scotland; Sw.—Sweden; U.S.—  
United States; V.—Vietnam; W.—Wales; Y.—Yugoslavia.

## MEN'S SINGLES

### Qualifying Rounds

Harrison (E.) beat Berglas (U.S.) 15, 13, 6; w.o. Beltrami (It.); lost to Tran Van Lieu (V.) —5, —3, —9. Hurlock (E) lost to Tran Van Lieu —12, —17, —18. Taylor (E.) lost to Galeano (P.) —6, —8, —17. Jones (E.) lost to Awart (A.) —12, 19, —12, —12. Craigie (E.) bt. Laufer (A.) —18, 10, 17, 20; bt. Rothschedl (A.) 4, 5, 13; bt. Jahn (A.) 3, 11, 17. Frecker (E.) lost to Karl (A.) —12, —15, —19. Walton (E.) bt. Rahn (A.) 15, 8, —16, 18; bt. Nader (A.) 17, 16, 20; lost to Feio (P.) 14, —17, —13, —8.

### First Round

Kennedy (E.) bt. Carvalho (P.) 15, 13, 9. Simons (E.) bt. Gounopoulos (Gr.) 9, 11, 11. Dolinar (Y.) bt. Chugg (W.) 20, —20, 12, 18. Andreadis (C.) bt. Harrower (E.) 10, 11, 11. Thornhill (E.) bt. Khamoushy (Ir.) 18, —17, 8, —10, 16. Lanskoj (F.) beat Craigie 13, 15, —19, 9. Diwald (A.) bt. M. Jones (W.) —14, —12, 18, 14, 18. Leach (E.) bt. I. Severo (Br.) 13, 16, 8. Cafiero (F.) bt. S. Jones (W.) 16, 13, 11. Crayden (E.) bt. Maggi (It.) 11, 16, 14. Haydon (E.) bt. Nguyen Van Ho (V.) —17, 14, 10, —19, 18. Venner (E.) bt. Molina (It.) 17, 14, 13. Vana (C.) bt. Carrington (E.) 10, 10, 7.

### Second Round

Kennedy bt. Mauritz (Ge.) 18, 18, 14. Cartland (U.S.) bt. Simons 23, 9, 10. Thornhill bt. Feio (P.) 22, 17, 8. Leach bt. Bhandari (In.) 17, 11, 15. Croneryd (Sw.) bt. Crayden 15, 13, —22, 18. Roothoft (F.) bt. Haydon 15, 11, 23. Vana (C.) bt. Venner 11, 17, 18.

### Third Round

Kennedy bt. Hartinger (A.) 12, 14, —20, 18. Thornhill bt. Finkelstein (Is.) —14, 14, 19, 18. Leach bt. Cafeiro (P.) 16, 18, —21, 9.

### Fourth Round

Somael (U.S.) bt. Kennedy 8, 19, 9. Tereba (C.) bt. Thornhill 15, —19, 19, 12. Leach bt. Reisman (U.S.) 9, 17, 17.

### Fifth Round

Leach bt. Roothoft —17, 14, 16, —22, 19.

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

### Qualifying Rounds

Robbins (E.) lost to Proksch (A.) —10, —11, —5. Knott (E.) bt. Weidinger (A.) 16, —18, 12, 15; bt. Minarik (A.) —18, —13, 24, 16, 19.

### First Round

Pithie (Sc.) bt. Leipnik (Is.) 13, 14, 12. Franks (E.) bt. Coombes (W.) 11, 12, —19, 12. Karpati (H.) bt. Roberts (E.) 17, —16, 18, 11. D. Rowe (E.) bt. Cedlova (C.) 11, —14, 11, 15. Wouters (Be.) bt. Crewes (W.) 11, 15, 9. Pritzi (A.) bt. Knott 19, 9, 11. R. Rowe (E.) bt. Temunovic (Y.) 18, —24, —13, 15, 16. Krejcova (C.) bt. Bates (W.) —13, 14, 16, —14, 17. Elliot (Sc.) bt. Hajkova (C.) 10, 17, 14. Gray (W.) bt. Marchione (It.) 9, 17, 8.

### Second Round

Pithie bt. Franks 19, 21, 13. Wouters bt. D. Rowe —20, 20, —19, 15, 18. R. Rowe bt. Solyom (H.) 15, —13, 17, —19, 19. Elliot bt. Gray 13, 8, 14.

### Third Round

R. Rowe bt. Szasz (H.) —14, 11, 15, 17. Wertl (A.) bt. Elliot 18, 16, 14.

### Fourth Round

Thall-Neuberger (U.S.) bt. R. Rowe —18, —17, 16, 12, 12.

## E.T.T.A. Official News from Headquarters

*Important matters are summarised here monthly. Readers are invited to send any queries for official ruling or comment to the Editor.*

### The N.E.C. Look into Ball Problems.

On April 6th members of the N.E.C. had a one-day tour of the factory of a table tennis ball manufacturer, in which they were shown all the processes from raw material to the packeted product, heard the manufacturer's problems and discussed all angles. We hope to publish a detailed account in May *Table Tennis*.

### FROM ETTA SELECTION COMMITTEE

20th March, 1951.

The following team selected to play INDIA at Eltham on the 3rd April, 1951:

J. LEACH (Essex); A. SIMONS (Glos.); M. THORNHILL (Mddx.); Miss R. ROWE and Miss D. ROWE (Mddx.).

The following nominated for the Invitation Tournament, Liege, Belgium, on 14th-15th April, 1951:

J. LEACH (Essex); M. THORNHILL (Mddx.); Miss R. ROWE (Mddx.).

### S. BOROS

IN February a letter was received from S. Boros stating that he was appearing in a stage act with Bergmann, a suspended player. Boros was advised of the position, irregularities, penalties, etc., and told he could refer to the Appeals Committee if he wished. No reply was received, and Boros was therefore suspended indefinitely as from March 19th, 1951.

### FILM

NEGOTIATIONS are proceeding with the purpose of reproducing the Swedish film of the World Championships, 1949 (won by Johnny Leach v. Vana), with an English commentary.

### NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME

ALL arrangements are now complete for the Coaching Week-end to take place at the Lilleshall National Recreation Centre, Newport, Salop., from April 3rd to 15th, 1951. JACK CARRINGTON is Chief Instructor, and has prepared a detailed syllabus for the course which has been circulated to all concerned.

## OBITUARY

### Z. MECHLOVITS

MR. ZULTAN MECHLOVITS, runner-up in the Men's Singles at the first Table Tennis World Championships in London in 1926, and winner of the Championship the following year, died in Budapest on March 29th, 1951, after a long illness.

He had helped and advised all the succession of brilliant Hungarian players and world winners who have for so long made Hungary the dominating power in this sport. In recognition of his services to the game he was unanimously elected Honorary Member of the International Table Tennis Federation at a Congress earlier this month.

Mr. Mechlovits also offered help and advice to the English players, and deepest sympathy is expressed to the Hungarian Table Tennis Association at the loss of this irreplaceable pioneer.

### RESULT OF 'JIMMY JUNIOR' COMPETITION

AFTER taking into account the value of the competitors' advice, the method of setting it out in their entries, and the likelihood of it succeeding in match-play, our prize (a year's free subscription to *Table Tennis*) is awarded to:

Miss K. HEYWOOD,

44, Burgess Road, Nottingham.

Runner-up is H. B. Mills, M.E. Branch, H.Q. Western Command, Chester.

Honorable mention for a teen-ager's entry, Howard Richards, Orchard Cottage, Hengish Road, Erith.

Tongue-in-Cheek Diploma goes to Mr. G. E. Harris, of Carshalton, who tells us: "The wide push out to 'F' gives me my chance to employ my favourite shot, a *backhand drive, heavily chopped and sliced and going away around the opposite net post!*"

Yes, Mr. Harris, we used to try that one. Then we decided to learn table tennis. JACK CARRINGTON.

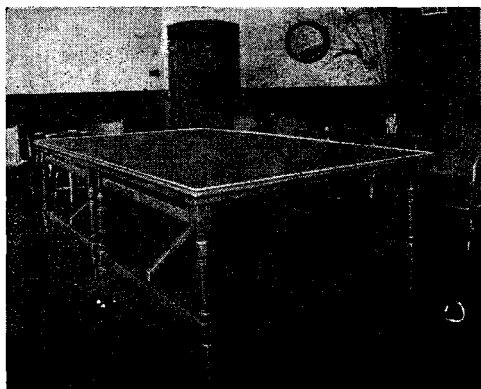
## A Great Champion

"The last word . . ."



ANGELICA ROSEANU, the tiny Rumanian ballet dancer, described by Jack Carrington as "the last word in women's table tennis," is here seen in action (in her track suit) at Vienna when she led the Rumanian women's team to victory over the Austrian. For two years running she has beaten Gizi Farkas decisively in the Women's Singles and performed "miracles" in her team and double challenges. She is a worthy champion of the world and on her current form will take a lot of beating.

## TOMS for the FINEST TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT IN THE WORLD



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# The Only Bat Theory

## 3 World-ranking Hungarians give their opinions

**E**VERYONE knows how much every T.T. player loves his bat. his "unique" bat, like a father loves his child. It's the apple of his eye, he takes care of it, and even dresses it. One player dresses it with a leather jacket, another has a dress specially made for it in fine English tissue.

He always lives with fear that someone might break it by sitting on it, that the sun will burn it, or that the rain will wet it. I even saw a competitor who, before his match, while pressing his bat against his heart and kissing it on its two cheeks (forehand cheek and backhand cheek), was whispering to it: "And now, make some right balls, old boy, I beg of you . . ."

Most players are apt to swear: "There exists a one and only bat, and that one is mine. It is indispensable!"

When the wood of the bat starts to warp, the player files it anxiously. If the rubber is wearing in the middle, he replaces it with cut patches. Even when it's breaking its *neck* (not a rare case among those veterans) he tries to mend it and prolong the life of his old "sport's Pal" by riveting an aluminium band on the "neck" in peril.

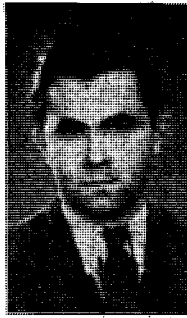
There are some real Old Bat sanatoria where half a dozen "doctors" take care of minor to serious "operations."

I went to see the three top Hungarian players to see what they thought of the legend of the "One-and-only" bat.

**Koczian** is just busy "dressing" his bat after his five won matches. He perspires, but it is the bat which will have his "pullover" first, notwithstanding that it does not show any sign of fatigue.

"I love it very much. Why deny it?" says he, caressing the bat tenderly. "Its rubber is perfect—that is a rare thing to-day.

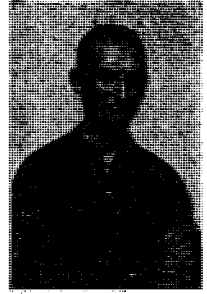
"You can always tell if the rubber is of good quality: if you touch the rubber lightly and if you feel shivers along your spine, it means that the rubber is of good quality. I have also the same feeling when I think of the loss of my bat. It is the same sensation as when I see on the other side of the table, a fellow that belongs, let's say, of the Bergmann class. It is my second bat. I do my best to prolong its life. But no, it is not true to say that there is a one-and-only bat. A good player can soon get accustomed to a new bat. If it is a good one, of course. Changing of a



SIDO



KOCZIAN



SOOS

bat may lead to a speedy defeat in causing a loss of 2-4 points per set."

**Soos** always has a smile on his face. He starts with a good word. Like always: "It is my own name that comes to mind if I think of the loss of my bat: S.O.S! . . . But seriously speaking. This is an old Hungarian bat from legendary times of the Hungarian ping-pong. I am attached to it until its last minutes, I mend it

by  
**Ferency Gyorgy**

by filing its edges, it does not worry me if its size wears down to the size of a hand mirror. By replacing the rotten parts, I have glued on it so many rubber patches that it resembles already the map of Europe.

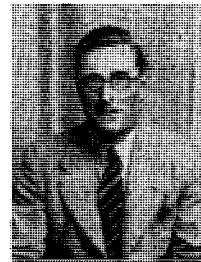
"No, I do not think that I shall ever play with another table tennis bat."

**Sido** is a formidable lad. In his enormous paw his bat seems to be a child's plaything.

"I will kill one legend with another," he says. "My incident with a table tennis bat is well known. In 1947, at the World's Championships in Paris, I did not excel myself in the team competitions by playing with my own bat. Fortunately, I fell and broke my bat. I was desperate. It was Haguener who sympathised with me. He gave as a present one of his bats. I am going to be very brief. I defeated with this new bat—which had still an extraordinary shape—every one of my opponents. I made them knock-out in a very dignified way. I never played so well until that day, and have never played so well since. I was not able then to defeat Vana in the final, but since I have beaten him several times with that same bat.

"It is thus not true, this legend of the 'unique and indispensable' bat. For me there is only my wrist which is indispensable. And that—I won't change."

### MEMBERS of the N.E.C. the 'Cabinet' of the E.T.T.A.



**D. J. ROWLEY**  
(Midland Region)

*Hon. General Secretary,  
Worcester T.T. League.*

**D**ENIS J. ROWLEY, single, pipe-smoking, and with a quiet sense of humour, is a newcomer to the N.E.C. and could be described as a Minister Without Portfolio. The late Charlie Bull, cricketer, T.T. International, and President of the Worcester League, had a big effect on Denis Rowley's game after he started some 25 years ago. As a player, he has one of those awkward penholder styles (now utilised on behalf of an Old Boys' team), and insists that his standard of play goes in inverse relation to his experience. Has "knocked the ball" about in many parts of Europe and some impossible Naafi's, and is keen on Lawn Tennis, Cricket, Soccer, Swimming, Cycling, Dancing, with a spot of good music or singing for the quieter (?) occasion.

Has realised one ambition in seeing the Rowe Twins win the World's Doubles title. Now wants to see T.T. accorded the publicity it deserves in the national Press. Pet hate: the "win-at-all-costs" gentleman. Likes a good argument, the non-commercialism and the friendship-making qualities of T.T.

*Next Month: E. G. WHITE.*

## Jackie Head's 3 Wins

### PORTSMOUTH OPEN

4th February, 1951

By Leslie Bromfield

**JACKIE HEAD**, Surrey second who beats the firsts, won all three titles. In a tense five-game final he defeated **HARRY VENNER** by the odd point in the fifth. Venner fought hard to win the fourth on match points and pulled up well in the 5th, but I thought him too backhand-conscious at the expense of his old devastating forehand. If Venner appeared unusually defensive, I remember it is difficult to attack when opposing Head.

In the semi's Venner avenged his Sussex Open defeat by Tony Miller, while Brumwell, after a stormy opening win against Head, faded out. After losing the first game to 6 in the W.S. against Margaret Fry, young Doreen Spooner severely shook the Bristol girl by taking the second game.

#### Semi-finals.

M.S. H. Venner bt A. R. Miller. J. Head bt. B. Brumwell.  
W.S. Miss M. Fry bt Miss G. D. Seaman. Miss D. Spooner bt Miss Pomeroy.

#### Finals.

M.S. J. HEAD bt H. Venner 18, 17, —16, —20, 19.  
W.S. Miss M. FRY bt Miss D. Spooner 6, —15, 17.  
M.D. J. Head/H. Venner bt Miller/Muller 18, 9.  
W.D. Misses M. Fry/D. Spooner bt Mrs. Wilson/Miss Pugh.  
X.D. J. Head/Miss Spooner bt Moore/Mrs. Bromfield.

## Yorks Junior Open

Barnsley, 3rd March, 1951

By Stanley Hanson

**WITH** an entry of 300, this Junior event assumes "senior" importance. Despite several handicaps there was a really grand spirit, first-class play and no moans. Players unable to return (ranging from London to Northumberland) were welcomed into the homes of Barnsley League members. Encouraging to see Yorks youngsters this year share the honours 50-50 with Lancs.

**Noted.**—Bennett (Dewsbury) reaching quarter-finals of Y.S. and semi-finals of J.S. **MISS P. Heppell** (Hexham) needing Junior International Jeff Ingber to give her a 4th round k.o. in the Junior BOYS Singles.

#### Semi-finals

B.S. C. Booth bt Bennett 14, 12. J. Ingber bt G. Pullar 19, 18.  
G.S. C. K. Best bt C. Wright 9, 11. J. Bycroft bt S. Thredfall 14, 23.  
Y.S. Pitts bt. J. Ingber 17, —18, 13. D. Ellison bt Strulovitch 16, 20.  
Y.D. Ellison/Booth bt Stone/Goodman 18, 13. Stephenson/Pindred bt Smith/Brook 18, 16.

#### Finals

B.S. C. BOOTH bt J. Ingber 8, 19.  
G.S. C. K. BEST bt J. Bycroft —16, 11, 14.  
Y.S. M. J. PITTS bt D. G. Ellison 9, 12.  
Y.D. Ellison/Booth bt Stephenson/Pindred —19, 9, 11.

## Sugden and Sultana

### provide shocks

Improving Yorks Form

### NORTH-EAST ENGLAND OPEN

Scarborough, 24-26th March

By Ernest Moorhouse

**OVER** 150 competitors comprising about 400 entries included the Indian World Championship team just commencing a tour of England. The keynote was the excellent condition, equipment and facilities, which included hot and cold showers. The senior events were completed on Easter Saturday; the Junior and Youth events on Monday morning only; all quarter- and semi-finals on Monday afternoon. This arrangement made ideal conditions for a punctual start of the finals at 7.15 on one table, with the last event finishing at 10.10 p.m.

Thirteen-year-old Miss **SAYEED SULTANA** gave a few shocks to the Juniors, and reached the semi-final of the J.B.S., before being knocked out by the ultimate winner, **GEOFF PULLAR**. The biggest surprise, however, was in **ROY SUGDEN** (Keighley) beating Brian Kennedy two straight. Sugden pulled up from 9—19 down in the first game to win 24—22, and pulled out two "winners" at 19 all in the second. **PETER SKERRATT** gave a star exhibition in beating India's No. 2, T. Thiruvengadam in the semi-final 16, —19, 11, but rather tired him for his final against Craigie. **CATHIE BEST** took the W.S. title in championship style, and all the doubles titles, and the Y.S. were a triumph for Yorkshire.

#### Finals

M.S. Semi-final: K. Craigie bt. R. Allcock 16, 13; P. Skerratt bt. T. Thiruvengadam 16, —19, 11. Final: K. CRAIGIE bt. P. Skerratt 18, 6, 8.  
W.S. Miss C. K. BEST bt. Miss J. Mackay 7, 16.  
M.D. B. Kennedy/A. Thompson bt. A. S. Bury/W. Cure —18, 11, 13.  
W.D. C. K. Best/M. J. Lightfoot bt. M. G. Fry/J. Mackay —17, 9, 16.  
X.D. B. Kennedy/M. Lightfoot bt. K. Jayant/S. Sultana 16, 10.  
J.S. G. PULLAR bt. B. Milner 10, 18.  
Y.S. R. SUGDEN bt. A. Hanson —20, 14, 9.

## Skerratt-Munnings win

### Grimsby Open titles

17th March

#### Finals.

M.S. P. SKERRATT bt G. Halmshaw —18, 17, 13.  
W.S. Miss D. MUNNINGS bt Miss M. Crust —19, 14, 17.  
M.D. P. Skerratt/G. Simpson bt A. Hall/N. Ingham 14, —18, 17.  
W.D. Misses M. Lightfoot/D. Munnings bt, Misses B. Steventon/A. Jones 22, —15, 18

## Swedish Tour 1951

(Juniors)

By T. E. (Tommy) SEARS,  
non-playing Captain, English  
Juniors (International)

**FOUR** weeks playing T.T. in Sweden and Norway! We certainly had a wonderful and a very full time. From the day we arrived in Gothenburg to the day we left Bergen—29 days—the boys played 21 matches, an invitation tournament, and an evening of exhibition play. The statistical record is:

Played 21, won 20, lost 1. Won 130 games, lost 26 games.

	Played	Won	Lost
BOOTH, C. ...	53	47	6
INGBER, J. ...	53	43	10
HUNT, J. ...	50	40	10

Admittedly we lost our unbeaten Junior International record in the single match against Sweden 5—2. We lost to a better team from a playing standard, but no team could have been better than our boys for team and fighting spirit and will-to-win. It was touch and go and they nearly pulled it off. We beat Norway, Finland and Denmark 5—0 and won the rest of our matches.

The hospitality we received was warm and generous everywhere, and everyone did their utmost to make our visit enjoyable. In our few leisure moments we visited various works, saw ski-jumping, ice-hockey, band and handball matches, and enjoyed sight-seeing tours.

Coffee is the only thing rationed in Sweden, and chocolate was a great favourite with the boys, to say nothing of old-fashioned breakfasts of eggs and bacon, and steak dinners! Reindeer meat is a delicacy in Scandinavia and our hosts seem surprised when we refused it.

Finally, sincere thanks to the Swedish Association, the Youth Committee of Rolf Thorkert, Södergren and Karl Raban, and those who did everything to make our tour so happy and made us feel we really were among friends.

## BRITISH PLAYERS WORLD-RANKING

THE ballot for world-ranking taken by the British party returning in the plane from the World's is becoming an annual institution (writes Mr. I. Montagu). This year there were 26 voters, and the results were as follows:

**MEN.** 1, LEACH; 2, ANDREADIS; 3, SIDO; 4, Tereba; 5, Koezian; 6, Roothoft; 7, Harangozo; 8, Vana; 9, Ehrlich; 10, Haguenaer; 11, Cartland (7); 12, Reisman (5); 13, Simons and Fritsch (4).  
**WOMEN.** 1, ROSEANU; 2, FARKAS; 3, Pritzi and L. (Thall) Neuberger; 5, Wertl; 6, Karpati; 7, R. Rowe; 8, Szasz; 9, D. Rowe; 10, Elliott (11); 11, (Fuerstova) Krecjova (9); 12, Beolet (8); 13, Wouters (4).

The first three men and first two women, printed in capitals, were unanimous on all lists. The numbers in brackets following a name indicate the number of votes given to that player.

# TEENAGE PAGE

WRITTEN BY, FOR AND ABOUT UNDER 21's Contributions invited

## Pot-Hunter ?

I hear of a certain laddie who entered the junior singles of an Open tournament, and on arriving found himself drawn against Doreen Spooner in the first round of the Girl's Singles . . . I never did understand that Grading Scheme.

## At Southampton

Favourite of the crowd at the Hampshire Open was 15-year-old DAVID HOUSE—4' 10" of fighting spirit from Bath. In the first round of the Men's Singles he defeated International Brian Brumwell—15, 16, 18, and then won through two more rounds before losing to New Zealand's Trevor Flint. In the final of the junior singles he lost to Stan Brocklebank.

David has been playing for three seasons and already represents the Bath League in both Senior and Junior teams in the Western Counties League. He and Bryan Merrett form the most promising pair of young players in the West. They are living in a sparsely populated area as far as T.T. is concerned, but this is a handicap that can be overcome if they are given the right sort of encouragement by their Counties.

## Davies of Wales, star of Junior Match

reported by

Peter Madge, T.A. page Editor

### Aylesford, March 21st—

THE streamlined conditions of the Jubilee Hall provided a perfect setting for this annual clash between the two countries. The evening opened with the National Anthem and the breaking of the Union Jack, and a welcome was spoken in Welsh to the visitors.

Star of the match was MICHAEL DAVIES, of Wales, who beat the England No. 1 and 2. His quickfire hitting and beautifully timed dropshots had our boys running in circles. Jeff Ingber, try as he might, could not gain the initiative and went down in straight games. The Davies v. Booth match was undoubtedly the game of the evening; a real ding-dong struggle with the attack swinging in compass-needle fashion from side to side and the score creeping up point by point. It was a breathless crowd that saw Davies finally clinch the third game.

BRYAN MERRETT, making his first appearance for England, coasted

home in complete calm against his two opponents and promises well for the future. The Welsh No. 1, Phillips, was unable to play and Tony Griffiths, called on in his place, seemed rather overawed by the occasion and presented no problems to his opposite numbers.

Had this match been played before the Swedish tour it would have been a far more closely fought affair; the three tourists have all improved following their many and varied experiences abroad.

After the match, players and their captains were presented with inscribed leather wallets with a photograph of the two teams together to follow.

### England 8, Wales 2

C. BOOTH bt K. Pittard 15, 14; lost to M. Davies —22, 19, —18; J. INGBER lost to M. Davies —18, —18; J. HUNT bt B. Dimascio 10, 16; bt A. Griffiths 13, 7; B. MERRETT bt Griffiths 7, 14; bt Dimascio 17, 9; Booth/Hunt bt Pittard/Davies 13, 15; Ingber/Merrett bt Dimascio/Griffiths 17, 11.

## Day-to-Day Diary of England's Junior Tourists

### JANUARY, 1951

20 SAT. Late afternoon, sailed from Tilbury on the Swedish *Suecia*. Evening with exotic magazines in lounge. On deck at 10; held on to Jeff while he hangs over stern rail to see if wake came right up to ship. Then down to bed.

21 SUN. Got up at 8 a.m.; had breakfast. Sea got up; unhad breakfast. Mr. Sears said couldn't understand people who got sea-sick. Ugh! to lunch; back to bunks. Emerged 4 p.m. Couldn't find Mr. Sears anywhere!

22 MON. Up at 6 a.m., nearing Goteborg. Docked at 7 and met by Mr. Lundgren (Swedish T.T.A.), who took us on tour of town. Terrific lunch; lasted two hours. In afternoon, train to Uddevalla and 18-mile car ride to small coastal island. Practised with Swedish girl champions TYRA and SIGNHILD TEGNER. Night view outside before bed was breathtaking . . . moon shining on glittering snow-covered landscape and tiny yellow lights twinkling through the fir trees . . . a live Christmas card.

23 TUES. To local school in morning where children sang to us in Swedish and English. To Ellos in evening. Played ourselves before an audience of 350 odd. Back to a party at hotel. Sat talking to girls, eating, and drinking Socadrika. Learned quite a lot of Swedish from the girls.

24 WED. Morning practise at school. Afternoon to the Tegner's house, photographed. To Grohed in evening and won our first match 6—3.

25 THUR. Visit local newspaper works, play a few games in their sports room. After lunch, 36 miles by car to Gravarne for match. We win 5—3.

26 FRI. Return to Goteborg from Uddevalla. Stay at Hotel Heden. Play at youth club in evening. Jeff fell in love with a girl called Sive; she gave him a note which read: "What is your address? I will write you letters of love!"

28 SUN. Played Gothenburg juniors 1 p.m., winning 8—1. Jeff lost to their No. 1, ARNE TARNSTROM—who took us all to three games. To a handball match in evening. Expecting boredom, found it fast and exciting.

29 MON. Morning in town. Jeff found Sive by the lake. Midday train to Tibro. Mobbed on school-children's train. Everyone wanted autographs.

30 TUES. Morning practice at a Lingatan sports hall. Visit furniture factory in afternoon. See ice-hockey match in evening.

31 WED. Left Tibro for Tranas. Tea on arrival, look round, and bed at 9 p.m. Earliest yet.

### FEBRUARY, 1951

1 THURS. Practise in morning. Afternoon visit T.T. equipment factory and each presented with a different type of bat. Play Tranas senior team and win 7—2.

2 FRI. Arrive Norrkoping about 5 p.m. after 3-hour journey. Play juniors. Win 5—3 but did not play well. Rather tired.

3 SAT. Awful 9-hour train journey to Bollnas. Stopped Stockholm and lunched with LASSE PETTERSSON, who — just picked for Swedish Swaything Cup team — was on top of the world.

5 MON. Arrive Hudiksvall. Win evening match 6—0.

6 TUES. Look round and then to Garle, where snowing heavily but not cold. Huge lunch, chicken and fruit salad. Stayed different houses. Beat local team 9—0. Getting used to climate; playing better.

7 WED. Arrive Sandriken. Stay at hotel. We all played well to beat strong opposition 9—0.

8 THURS. Visit steelworks and then on to Vasteras. Cliff and Jeff stay boys' hostel, John and Mr. Sears (now affectionately known as "Pop") at private house. All to cinema in evening and see Bob Hope in "Fancy Pants."

(Concluded on page 5)



"I had rather suffer for speaking the Truth, than that the Truth should suffer for want of my speaking."

# Personal Comments

of Leslie S. Woollard

You are warned. These are the *personal* opinions of the writer only and deal mostly with matters raised by readers.

## THE POINT WAS MISSED

SOME critics of my February notes, "Winning Ways," question one sentence particularly. This one: "Rarely has there been such unanimity with the official choice." I stick to my words.

I do not deny that there was criticism. In effect, I have said that rarely has there been criticism of so few. One, or at the most, two selections were not agreed; it is usually the other way round.

The point of the article, however, was that one of the most outstanding teams England ever had (Perry, Bull and Haydon) was actually a scratch team of almost unknown, untried teen-agers! What a howl the critics of to-day would have had!

\* \* \* \* \*

## ON SELECTIONS

ENGLISH selectors and soccer referees are the Aunt Sallies of every Tom, Dick and Harry in sport. Leveson-Gower, chairman of the M.C.C. Selection Committee in 1930, had his life threatened because a certain player was not selected. It is a curious trait of the British character that they appoint officers with specialised knowledge and in whom they have confidence, and then proceed to machine-gun their every action or decision. Something rather like the fox-hunting instinct.

When properly elected officials (of club, league, county or country) select a team, for heaven's sake let us send that team into play with wholehearted support. Don't undermine their confidence, disunite or unnerve them. Don't condemn them (or lose the match) *before* it's played. If you want the best results then believe the best.

\* \* \* \* \*

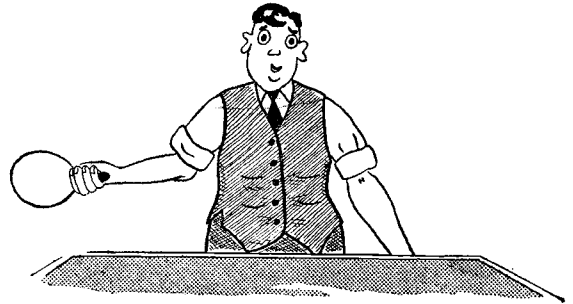
## THE "COLORADO BEETLES" OF TABLE TENNIS

SINCE the war a reprehensible type of sports pest has evolved which delights in belittling any achievement of British sports folk and who muddy every effort. They are the Colorado beetles of Sport. They poison team spirit, morale, and the whole spirit of Sportsmanship. They see good in nothing but their own spurious opinions and their own particular pets; they confuse controversy with personal malice. I think most table tennis will know just what to do with such potentially destructive pests and help in keeping the game clean from their insidious and fallacious opinions.

\* \* \* \* \*

## LEADING THE FIELD IN THE "NATIONAL"

ACTUALLY, the N.E.C. in this past year (and I am speaking with critical and factual knowledge) has been so far ahead of the critics as to be lonely. There has been earnest consideration of methods by which talented players in isolated areas can be fostered, the development and help for all member leagues, the standardisation of dress, equipment, and presentation, etc., coaching, and many matters of which some folk haven't yet thought of.



THE dress campaign for T.T. is on. Fair warning to those who don't give due respect to our sport as a Sport.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ON SELECTORS

THERE is no secret about "Who's Who" on the English Selection Committee — all six of them. The principles of E.T.T.A. selection have often been publicised. Proposals for modification were laid before the General Council last month. County Associations were reminded early in the season of their responsibilities in bringing their recommendations to the selectors. Any more questions?

\* \* \* \* \*

## A "UNITED NATIONS" OF SPORT

TO look over my worldwide post in these troubled times is to realise anew what a universal force for good this Table Tennis is. It is a bridge that rises high over the surging currents of religious and political creeds and racial differences, and unites palace with hovel. The guiding precept of the I.T.T.F. is that no nation can belong that shows discrimination of colour, race or creed. Table Tennis, alone, can unite the political divisions of Ireland and of Germany. That clause of the international constitution reflects the traditional spirit of British fair play and sportsmanship. It is a tradition of which we must be proud and always alert to preserve.

\* \* \* \* \*

THERE is a tremendous amount to be done in Table Tennis spheres. It can be done with united effort; frank, fearless constructive opinion and working for the common purpose with some degree of unselfishness. We welcome the expression and co-operation of all to this purpose.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD.

# ODD



# SHOTS

## Record of Woe, or the "Trials" of T.T. Officials

Scene: Meeting room, Glos. T.T.A.  
D.P. (which stands for either *Dramatis Personae* or Displaced Persons): 2 county executive members

10 p.m.—  
Local officers say goodnight, leaving our Two Friends in the warm to wait for the last bus at 10.45 p.m. They talk T.T. and then—Ticketty-tock, it's

11 p.m.—  
Missed bus. Hope of a 11-something train. They dash to station. Train gone; next one, 1.45 a.m. They eat to fortify some unsuccessful attempts at "hitching," and finally catch the

1.45 a.m.—  
And so blissfully to Gloucester. Then the train left Gloucester—in the wrong direction! And so to Lydney, where not a hike could be hitched, until a friendly policeman helped with a passing B.R.T. lorry of colossal size. So back to Gloucester at

3.30 a.m.—  
Where it was but an hour to wait for the 4.30, and but another hour before eventually arriving home at

5.30 a.m.—  
Who complained of the service in Table Tennis?

I. C. Eyles.

## Tournament Types

### No. 2

"Hand-shaking" Type.



Dashes round with verve, aplomb and overwhelming loquacity. Free hand looks after ball, no one ever remembers for sure what happened except him . . .

From the original idea of Geoff Coulthred (Singapore).

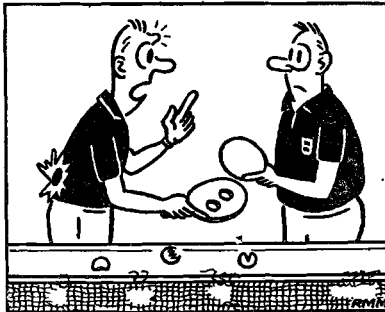
## An Extra Hard "Knock-up"

Result from a national newspaper on 2nd March:

TABLE TENNIS.—Women's inter-county hard courts championships (at Manchester): Warwickshire beat Lancashire by 7 rubbers to 2, 16 sets to 6 and 122 games to 99.

As Lancs. Chairman Tom Blunn says, "There's nothing 'soft' about Lancashire women!"

And Another!



"He just asked for a Knock-up."

FROM tiny, 20-mile-distant Iron Acton Y.C. eager teenagers travelled to challenge Gloucester Y.C. in the finals for the Stewart Granger Shield. Gloucester were victorious for the first time, while Iron Acton had only the consolation of the Senior Girls and an Iron (Acton) resolve to come back fighting next year.

J. M. Davis.

## B.S.T. (Ball Saving Times)

LAST year the Sittingbourne T.T.A. gave a special marking to the balls used in the Kent Open Championships. Quantity used went down to 10½ dozen.

This year, the same procedure was adopted. Yet despite a larger entry, the number used this year went down to 7 dozen! Local permutation experts are now trying to work out how long it will be before the organisers finish with more balls than they started with.

JOHNNY LEACH, reigning World Champion, is due to start his tour to India, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand on May 16th. He will be accompanied by Michael Haguenaer, and will be away until late September.

Six hundred odd enthusiasts witnessed the best-ever finals of the Hereford Championships recently when Norman Gawthrop beat Doug Paton in an exciting match. The presence of Johnny Leach and Jack

Carrington for exhibitions appeared to stimulate both interest and standard of play.  
P. POPPLE.

## TEEN-AGE TOPPERS

YVONNE BAKER, after beating Doreen Spooner in the J.G.S. of the Bedfordshire Open, one week later, wins the Essex Closed titles of both the J.G.S. and the Women's Singles title . . . a notable performance.

WILLIE KNIGHT (14 years old), Northampton senior champion, recently defeated Peter Holroyd, Bedfordshire Closed Champion, and also Doug Randall, Bedfordshire No. 1, the latter after being two games down. Left-hander Willie is at present one of the L.T.A. pupils under Dan Maskell.

Thirteen-year-old JOHN CHAMBERLAIN distinguished himself by winning the M.S. title (Div. 2) in the recent Spalding League Championships.

Our Dumb Blonde thinks a Table Tennis Fan is something to cool one down.

MISS MAVIS CRUST (Spalding) became the new Lincs. Closed champion (W.S.) on the 25th February, beating holger Mrs. P. Lammin (Grimsby) in the semi-final. With H. Hardy she also reached the final of the mixed, only to find their match in Derek Merryweather and Mrs. M. Coupland. Wendy Blades (Boston) beat Pat Andrew (Spalding) in the J.G.S.

The R.A.F. Association (Spalding branch), by beating Nottingham branch 6-0 in the quarter-finals of the Eastern Area K.O. tournament, now qualify to meet the winner of Northants/Leics.

## TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

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# ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are *additional* to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D. in every case. Intending entrants are recommended to apply as early as possible.

Date(s)	Title and Venue	Extra Events	Name and address of Sec.
April	<b>West Middlesex Open</b>	B.S.	J. Joyce, 7, Croft Gardens,
9-14	West Ealing Club, Mervyn Road, London, W. Referee: D. P. Lowen.	G.S.	Hanwell, W.7.
6-8	<b>U.S.A. National Open</b>		
7-8	<b>Bucks Open</b> Slough Centre, Slough, Bucks. Referee: H. Edwards.	B.S. G.S.	L. Thompson, "Auchmead," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
8	<b>FRANCE v. ENGLAND</b>		Paris.
12-13	<b>Scottish Open Championship</b> Butlin's Holiday Camp, Ayr.	J.S.	R. W. Stewart, C.A., S.T.T.A., 45, Hope Street, Glasgow, C.2.
13-14	<b>Cheshire Open</b> Fairey Aviation Works Canteen, Crossley Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport.	B.S. G.S. V.S.	R. P. Stabbs, 13, Milford Drive, Levenshulme, Man- chester, 19.
14-15	<b>Liege Open Championship</b>		
17-21	<b>North-West Kent Open</b> Barnehurst Residents' Club, 152a, Park Side, Barnehurst. Referee: G. A. Owen.		F. T. Burvill, 2, Lime Avenue, Northfleet, Kent.
<i>Note changes to particulars previously published.</i>			
30 to May 5	<b>Thameside Open</b> Hydro Hall, Y.M.C.A., Greengate Street, Plaistow, E.13. Referee: G. James.	B.S. G.S.	L. R. Norminton, 12, Derham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.
28	<b>Annual General Meeting, E.T.T.A.</b>		London.

## Bedfordshire Honours Leach and Rowe Twins

### Simons wins Title in Star Entry

Luton, 24th March

THE Players of Honour in the Bedfordshire Open were, of course, World Champions JOHNNY LEACH and the ROWE TWINS, and the Bedfordshire T.T.A. made this a Commemorative Celebration in public tribute to these great English players. In addition to the special programme for the occasion, a token personal presentation was made to each of these champions by Sir Charles and Lady Bartlett on behalf of the Bedfordshire T.T.A. to be suitably engraved with wording similar to the programme note:

"They are World Champions in every sense; in charm of manner, in playing technique, in appearance, modesty, sportsmanship and manners, their fight and tenacity, their quality of winning gracefully and their grace to lose winningly."

This fine spirit of friendliness pervaded the whole tournament, and made it not only a great meet of players, but a memorable social gathering of players from everywhere in the country. "Such was the strength of the entry," says Mr. Atherton (Surrey County), "that it was easier to count the few famous names missing than to recount those present," and more than one called it the "Little English."

The Bedfordshire T.T.A. attempted (in their first effort) to stage the perfect

Open for players and spectators. The vast hall of Vauxhall Motors Recreation Club set out with 22 courts and first-class tables was a wonderful sight. In this huge arena, between 400 and 500 persons, involving 700-800 entries, were scheduled to play through to the final in ONE day. The key problem was the finding of 88 umpires every hour for nine hours! Relying solely on volunteers, this was well nigh insurmountable, and resulted in the finals starting over an hour late, and seriously handicapped the organisers in the proper final staging they had planned.

Geoff James (assisted by L. Montgredien) was the referee and Godfrey Decker was responsible for the admirable equipment and conditions, while Vauxhall Motors Recreation Club provided ideal facilities and co-operation.

Brief notes of the many outstanding matches and personalities will appear in *May Table Tennis*.

#### FINALS

M.S.	Semi-final: J. Leach bt. M. Thornhill; A. Simons bt. H. Venner. Final: A. SIMONS bt. J. Leach 17, —11, 13.
W.S.	Final: R. ROWE bt. J. Roberts 19, 18.
M.D.	J. Carrington/J. Leach bt. R. Crayden/H. Venner 16, 18.
X.D.	J. LEACH/D. ROWE bt. A. Simons/R. Rowe 19, —21, 16.
W.D.	D. and R. ROWE bt. B. Bassett/E. King 13, 11.
J.B.S.	L. W. ENGLAND bt. S. Brocklebank —13, 15, 12.
J.G.S.	Y. BAKER bt. D. Spooner 18, 11.

## India Draws first Friendly Match

SCARBOROUGH, 25th March  
By Ernest Moorhouse

AN enthusiastic audience of 500 odd will long remember this match between the full Indian World Championships team and a scratch team of English internationals and county players which ended in a well-deserved draw (5—5). The highlight of the evening was Ken Craigie's magnificent attacking play against T. Thiruvengadam, and an unusually colourful attraction in dress and play was Miss Sayeed Sultana, the 13-year-old Indian W.S. champion.

The match was arranged at short notice by the Scarborough T.T.A. in conjunction with the Corporation, the first time that any "near" international match has been attempted. The event was so popular with all players and spectators that it is hoped that a full international match may be granted next year. Mementoes were presented to each member of the Indian team.

#### Results

K. CRAIGIE bt. R. Bhadari 12, 16; bt. T. Thiruvengadam —19, 4, 16. B. KENNEDY bt. K. Jayant 11, 16; bt. Bhadari 9, —18, 14. R. ALLCOCK lost to Thiruvengadam —14, 15, —13; lost to Jayant 9, 16. Miss M. G. FRY lost to Miss S. SULTANA 15, 16. Doubles: Kennedy/M. Kriss lost to Bhadari/Jayant 18, 20. Misses M. G. Fry/C. K. Best bt. S. Sultana/Mrs. V. P. Srivardene 16, —17, 16. Kriss/Best lost to Jayant/Sultana 14, 14.

## A New "Open" Club

VICTOR BARNA'S article (in this issue) on the advantages of centralising top players has increased interest when we hear that Mr. and Mrs. Atherton (of Surrey County) plan to do something on these lines.

On April 19th they are to open the Putney T.T.C. on well-organised lines and with the support of some of the most outstanding players of the South. It will be, in effect, a club that is open to all players anywhere who wish to become members (and with an arrangement for visitors). Although an all-the-year-round club, the number of summer sessions will depend on the demand.

A system of grading and match-making, plus a numerous variety of tournaments for every grade of player, has been arranged, including some summer practice tournaments.

Such a scheme makes a notable contribution to table tennis, and we would particularly like to see the development of similar schemes in some provincial centres where there is already an abundance of outstanding talent who only need some such experience.

TABLE TENNIS. Complete ply top, £9. Write Box No. 010, Guardian House, 644, Forest Road, E.17. (Advt.)