

TABLE TENNIS



Miss D. MUNNINGS
Scunthorpe

Contributors include:

- VICTOR BARNA
- AUSTIN CARRIS
- TONY MILLER
- PINKIE BARNES
- CORTI WOODCOCK
- LEO THOMPSON
- PETER MADGE
- FRANK GEE

Table



Tennis

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English Table Tennis Association

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SENDING

CONTRIBUTIONS

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 early as possible.

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From THE EDITOR

On The Mark

DON'T be downhearted about losing our titles. If you saw our young boys and girls in action you would be confident that we have the potential talent to win the Swaythling Cup yet. Our greatest Hungary-beating team of 1927 (Bull, Perry and Haydon) were 18, 18 and 16 years old respectively and fearless as "wild-cats." That spirit is still alive. Some of our articles are dedicated to building English world-beating combinations.

Will you please all try to sell an extra copy of *Table Tennis*? If you can all sell just one more copy a club (average) then we get 4 extra pages for our 6d. Let's try and make this a record season for circulation.

L.S.W.

WAS PINKIE RIGHT?

To win or to lose gloriously, that is the question. Which is right? See our note on page 4, col. 1. Pinkie could have probably beaten Pritzi on a time limit. Here is her view of her heroic match.

"I felt I had a good chance against Pritzi, as she is entirely defensive, so I was determined from the start to hit as much as I could. I knew if I tried to play her type of game she would get the better of me, and in any case I think time limit games are a bad advertisement for T.T. So I decided to mix it a bit, with long and short returns and to use a surprise hit.

To my great relief this worked so well that I got the first two games. When it came to the third, however, she suddenly began to get the

measure of my hitting, and by that time I was considerably hotter than she. From then on it was a process of wearing me down. Whatever I did, the ball came back and back.

Some people said I should have played to win on a time limit when I had an 11-6 lead in the third. Audiences pay to see table tennis, not ping-pong, and if Betty Blackburn and Vera Dace have beaten her by out and out hitting, I'm certainly not going to be a bad advertisement for T.T. by winning on a time limit."

Cover Picture: Dorothea Munnings

Lincs County and Scunthorpe

WE have been waiting for 12 months to give Dorothea the front page honour, and she has certainly worked hard to earn it. Our very heartiest congratulations to her on winning the English Open Junior Girls and for her wonderful win over Austria's red-headed fury Linda Werthl. Dorothea has a very steady all-round, orthodox game and has been earning an increasing number of titles in the past 18 months, all the more remarkable because she is out of the big T.T. centres. Mr. Richards (of Scunthorpe) prophesied a big future for her months ago. We're glad he's right, for Dorothea is the nicest lass imaginable, undaunted in any company.

HELD OVER



Andy Donaldson (First English Champion) on "Training and Winning the English"; Jack Carrington — "Swedish National Coaching"; Peggy Franks — "Practice for Ladies"; R.A.F. "Flying High"; "Why Affiliate," "The N.E.C. from the Inside," and "County Associations," by Leslie Woollard; U.S.A. Despatch by Reba Monness; "Ambitions," by A. A. Wall; Letters; Cartoons; "Bats, Covers and Grips" (Miscellany); Photographs; Official News, etc.

Johnny Leach's U.S.A. Trophies

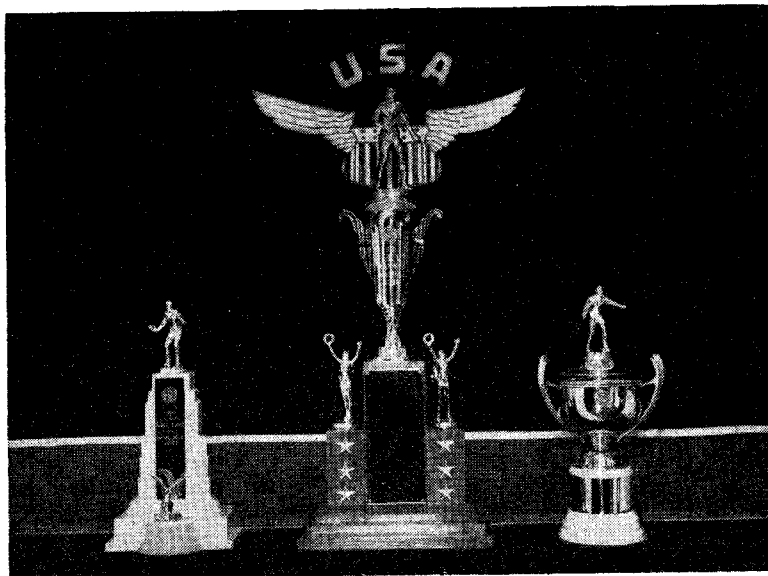


Photo by Peter Madge
Photograph of the unique trophies won by JOHNNY LEACH in the U.S.A. Nationals last April, the first U.S.A. titles to come to England. Johnny and JACK CARRINGTON have accepted an invitation to defend their titles. Good luck to both!

Man of 80,000 Candles

By AUSTIN CARRIS, *English Finalist, 1922*

GODFREY DECKER, *ageless equipment wizard of the E.T.T.A., retired from the P.L.A. last month after 40 years' service. He revolutionised lighting when he installed a single 60-watt electric lamp at St. Brides, and made this glow into the 80,000 candle-power of modern, televised English finals. His experience is older than the Association.*

We invited E.T.T.A. Vice-President AUSTIN CARRIS, finalist of the first-ever English Open Championships and a former English International (now Hon. Secretary of the Hazards Golfing Society), to remember this grand pioneer and worker.

Mr. A. F. Carris is one of the Association founders mentioned in the History (Official Handbook). Mr. Decker was also Hon. Secretary of the E.T.T.A. for 1932-33.

I WAS first introduced to Godfrey Decker early in 1922 when he joined the newly formed All-England Ping-Pong Club at Slater's in the Strand.

As President of that Club (later re-named the All-England Table Tennis Club) and of the T.T.A. and one of the chief organisers, I soon realised there had come into the fold an enthusiastic, energetic, self-sacrificing lover of the game who never spared himself to further its interests and who, by his thoughtfulness, modesty and personal charm, made

himself a great favourite with the early pioneers.

He was appointed Assistant Secretary to the All-England T.T. Club in 1922—helping to organise the first Ladies' and Gentlemen's Championships at Selfridges, Oxford Street, in 1922, won respectively by Mrs. Scott and A. Donaldson.

He also helped considerably in organising the first International Match—England v. Wales at the London Club, Baker Street, W.1, in 1923. The teams were eight a side, and he won all his eight singles.

The English team was: J. P. Bromfield, E. Woods, J. W. Swann, G. W. Decker, T. Hollingsworth, G. Belsten, E. Tapper and A. F. Carris. Reserves, G. J. Ross and R. H. Berry.

Along with your present Chairman, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, and others, he helped in the fight to change the name from P.P. to T.T., and was at all times willing to play exhibitions and give tuition freely to new-comers.

Most of the outdoor and indoor sports played in all parts of the world have emanated from our Island and owe a great deal to such enthusiastic and self-sacrificing pioneers.

AUSTIN F. CARRIS.

Playing Tip of the Month

By JACK CARRINGTON

THIS month a word about doubles tactics. The question is often asked "Can we win doubles by pure defence?" And another "Should we try to attack every ball?"

I had this latter theory, until the first time I played with Victor Barna, when he said: "What's the rush? Let's see if they are going to give us any points first."

Since then I have often found that tip useful, but not every time, of course. It boils down to this: for consistent success, whether it's singles or doubles, you must be adaptable. In doubles, given the right partner, you have the advantage that somebody watching your play very closely can drop a hint to you when something needs changing. Imagine how helpful this could be sometimes in singles!

It is impossible to lay down rules, but here is one of the secrets which have helped Johnny Leach and myself to play smoothly together:

We plan out our game on traditional "Arsenal" lines. If we are attacking, at any given moment one is the half-back doing the feeding, the other is the centre-forward, looking for shots at goal.

If we are waiting, not sure of the next developments, we are both half-backs, hoping to attack but ready for defence.

If we are defending, then the half-back becomes the full-back, sure and steady, and the centre-forward becomes the centre-half, lying back but longing to swing the game forward.

Now which role do we each take? And when do we decide to defend?

It varies according to our mood and respective form, and the mood and form of our opponents.

It is by recognising the moods and form of your partner, and by disciplining your play accordingly, that you can build yourself up as part of a good doubles team. It all boils down to "understanding"—and that is partly instinctive, partly the result of persistence and experience.

The W. J. Pope Memorial
**English Open
 Championships**
1950

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The Iron Chancellor
ALEX EHRlich
 (France)
 Men's Singles Champion, 1950-51



The Rock of Austria
TRUDI PRITZI
 (Austria)
 Women's Singles Champion, 1950-51

Men's Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles

By **TONY MILLER**

the steadily rising Surrey player who still further enhanced his reputation by reaching the fourth round without dropping a game. Consistent defence and sporadic well-timed attacks eclipsed Pho Quoc Huy, Brian Cartwright and international Brian Brumwell, and it needed the inspired BRIAN KENNEDY to put Tony out in four hard games.

Men's Singles

ALEX (Aloisjy) EHRlich won the Singles title for the second time. His first victory was in 1935. His steadiness proved too much for Reisman, Amouretti, McCave, Roothoft, and finally a tired Brian Kennedy. Reisman lacked his former speed and bite, while in the "Greek meets Greek" battle with Rene Roothoft (time limit), the Frenchman had it in him to win.

The honours, however, really go to BRIAN KENNEDY. He beat Harry Venner comfortably, then Michel Haguenaer, and next AUBREY SIMONS in a tense and thrilling semi-final, ending 26-24 in the fifth game. Brian hit brilliantly and encouraged hopes of his emergence as a world class player.

First surprise of the tournament was JACK HEAD'S 3-1 win over his

Surrey colleague, Ron Crayden, attack proving superior to defence. Keith Collar disposed of Ernie Bublely 3-1, and in five nervous games Ken Craigie put out Len Adams. Keith Hurlock then produced his perennial burst of scintillation, beating Bernard Crouch to 15 in the fifth game, and taking Lanskoj to 18 in the fifth.

Geoff Harrower fought hard against the inscrutable and puppet-like Vietnamese, Trun Van Liu, but without luck. John Davies easily beat Head, and Venner controlled Craigie. Gwyn Bebb beat Collar, and took the first game from Haguenaer. Alan Thompson (Yorks) played extremely well to beat Georges Roland (Belgium No. 1. It took Simons five hard games to dispose of Eric Filby, who showed more of his old form. Bill McCave was too strong for Maurice Kriss, and Michael Thornhill triumphed over Peter Skerratt (Lincs) in four close games, subsequently losing to Lanskoj. JOHNNY LEACH disposed of Ron Sharman and Trun Van Liu with care and attention, and in the quarter-final took the first two games from agile and consistent RENE ROOTHOFT, but his lack of attacking variations and final kill handicapped him against his opponent, who bears the hallmark of future world class.

Bill McCave vastly amused the crowd with his windmill style in the quarter-final against EHRlich, but "The Iron Chancellor" was not amused at some of Bill's angles. Three close games for Ehrlich, these 19, 19 and 19.

SIMONS, though not at his best, prevailed against Lanskoj and Kennedy against Haguenaer, each dropping one game to their French opponents.

Men's Doubles

JACK CARRINGTON / JOHNNY LEACH were the popular winners of this event, their well tried combination having that understanding which many of their "scratch pair" opponents lacked.

R. Crayden/E. Filby caused a major upset in beating M. Haguenaer/V. Barna, both of these eminent players being below form. Kennedy/Thornhill beat the impressive pairings of Craigie/Sharman and Adams/Venner. Lanskoj/Roothoft beat Ehrlich/Harrower in a close match after the latter pair had won a great struggle with the inspired Leo Thompson and Jimmy Lowe.

In the final Carrington/Leach played exceedingly well to beat the ill-matched Simons/Reisman in four entertaining games.

Mixed Doubles

THE holders, Johnny Leach/Peggy Franks, lost a great five-game struggle to hitters BERNARD CROUCH / VERA THOMAS, who provided the unusual spectacle of man keeping the ball going and the woman killing it. They were as a relentless tide that swept all before them to the final, but then ebbed against VICTOR BARNA, who played cleverly in partnership with HELEN ELLIOT.

LADIES'

Singles & Doubles

by

Pinkie Barnes

the famous English and Surrey star, who omits an account of her own heroic battle against Trudi Pritzi. Not only was "Pinkie" the only player to take any games from the "Rock of Austria," but came within an ace of beating her. In fact, all agreed that with two games up and a 11-6 lead, "Pinkie" could have won by playing out to a time limit. We interviewed "Pinkie" about this after the match — a real highlighter — and her opinion is an object lesson in tactics and controversy for all English players. Don't miss it. On Page One.

LOOKING round at the women's events during the English Open one couldn't help feeling just a little glow of pride at the British contingent. It would be difficult to find a more healthy, attractive bunch in any sport. Considering 99 per cent. of the girls are wage-slaves and do all their T.T. after office hours — unlike some of the foreign visitors who run T.T. saloons, etc.—both the appearance and performance of our ladies delighted the eye.

Outstanding visitor was 16-year-old LINDA WERTL (Austrian No. 2), who, already with several victories over the rocklike TRUDI PRITZL, would have made an all-Austrian final but for HELEN ELLIOT'S tenacity in the semi, won 22-20 in the fifth game. But Linda will remember the English girls all right, especially DOROTHEA MÜNNINGS, who beat her 16, 17 in the Girls, and EILEEN GRIMSTONE, who took her to five games, and who had previously beaten the hard-hitting French seed, HUGUETTE BEOLET.

If MARGARET FRY doesn't get international honours this season, she should be a cert for next. She beat Vera Dace Thomas in the first round, nearly pulled it off against Joyce Roberts in the next, and thoroughly merited her Consolation Singles win by beating Betty Steventon and Ghislaine Roland (Belgium No. 2).

Another surprise was Joan Crosby's win over Betty Steventon. Betty has been in top form lately but Joan's quick hit overpowered her in three straight games. And we mustn't forget Elsie Weaver's fight against Peggy Franks—Peggy beat Elsie 3-1, but they were all very close. Then Diane Rowe, in fine hitting form, went through Peggy in three games.

Mrs. Cumberbatch, of Warwick, did well to beat G. Roland, Belgium No. 2, but she in turn was defeated by Helen Elliot, who fought her way to the semi-final, disposing of Rosalind Rowe in four games. No doubt the Scottish champion would find both the twins a difficult proposition if they had a chance to play her more frequently.

The finals between Pritzi and Elliot, while not particularly spectacular, showed Pritzi's amazing ability and agility in getting back shots from any part of the table, although she stands well to her backhand side. Helen hit well, but the better she hit, the more Pritzi liked it. In beating Helen Elliot with purely defensive play, Trudi Pritzi proved once again that her "wearing-out" tactics can win titles. Yet nobody really enjoys that kind of play. So it's up to the girls to get together and do something about beating it!

LADIES' DOUBLES

Players and fans are fast becoming used to the Rowe twins retaining titles all over the country, but when they win an English Doubles two years in succession that certainly is something to sing about. Apart from their outstanding play, they outshone in looks, too. Television viewers noticed their trim tunics with initialled pockets. If there had been coloured television, the viewers would have got an even better eye-ful, for the tunics were in deep red, which suited the twins' dark colouring particularly well.

Two Surrey players, Mrs. D. Atherton and Miss M. Piper, deserve praise for their efforts against Pritzi and Wertl, whom they took to five games. Our revived combination, Barnes/Franks, surprisingly failed against the two Frenchwomen, Beolet and Betling. In fact, M. Beolet hit so effectively down either wing that the English pair were put to shame. Anyone wanting a lesson in wrist-hitting would have done well to watch Beolet. She uses the minimum of effort yet gets maximum results.

The finals between the Rowe Twins and Elliot/Thomas lasted for five exciting games, both sides hitting and retrieving well. It's good to know that those tiresomely dull women's foursomes which have characterised so many finals are becoming more rare—more power to the ladies' elbows!

Well, the next big event in the T.T. lives of our ladies is the World Championship. The selection of the Rowe twins has already been made. If they're backed by a wise choice of compatible team-mates, we've every chance of winning both the Corbillon Cup and other titles. Our fervent wishes for success go with them.

Our Visitors

by

Corti Woodcock

THE foreign entry was a big one, and with one or two major exceptions, confronted us with a series of formidable challenges from the Continent and elsewhere. Twelve overseas countries were represented, including U.S.A., France, Germany, Sweden, Austria, Vietnam, Belgium and the Channel Islands. Scotland and Wales sent big teams: Australia provided one and New Zealand three players to make their bow at Wembley.

Altogether, we welcomed some 50 "invaders," including such prominent officials as Dr. KUNODI, President of the Austrian T.T.A., Mr. ROY EVANS of the T.T.A. of Wales, and Mr. J. M. MUIR, the new Secretary of the Scottish T.T.A. Another welcome visitor was Dr. ECKHARDT, President of the newly formed Joint Board controlling organised T.T. in Germany, both in the East and the West. Dr. Eckhardt, himself a Swathing Cup player in the German team in London in 1935, was accompanied by four men and two women, one of them Hilde Bussmann, former holder of the World's Women's Doubles title with Trudi Pritzi.

Pritzi, too, came with the Austrian party and duly proceeded to steam-roller her way to the Singles title, disposing of Diane Rowe and Scotland's Helen Elliot in the process. Trudi's young compatriot, Linda Wertl, made a very good impression and seems likely to go far: and the Belgian No. 1, Mme. Roland, reached the final of the Women's Consolation event.

Among the men, Martin Reisman failed to show the devastating form we know him to possess and lost in the third round of the Singles to the ultimate winner, Ehrlich. Of the French, Haguenaer and Lansky reached the quarter-final, where Root-hoff distinguished himself by beating Johnny Leach after being two games down. Robertson, from Melbourne, and the New Zealand trio, Borough, Knowsley and Flint, found themselves in rather deep water but tried hard. Of the four, only Flint managed to survive a round. Petterson and Malmquist, the Swedish Juniors, did exceptionally well, and among others who made a favourable impression were the Austrian boys, Schindler and Pitz, and the Vietnamese, Van Lui and Quoc Huy.

VERDICT on this year's English Open? First-rate show, is the answer from most people.

* * *

Less commanding Personalities than of old, say some. Could it not be that there is *more* personality amongst the *general* run of players to-day? Less willingness to lie down and accept the "commands" of the few?

I certainly believe so. This tournament was *vital*, a merging of many interesting personal touches, and the test was that you could bring a neighbour, a business friend, a parent, and say with pride: "Look, **THIS** is table tennis."

* * *

SO many interesting matches happened, my notebook looked as solid as a hunk of cheese. But space is so short I have now to use the cheese-grater and feed you on the shavings. So here we go . . .

ENGLISH OPEN "AU GRATIN"

MARTY REISMAN. Back home to the States without a title!

Tck-Tck! Yet the ace can plead, as so many humble readers have before him:

"Had rotten luck, Dad. Met the winner in the third round."

Seriously, it was bad luck that a man needing to play himself back into form should find such a world-class non-seeded player drawn right near him in the list. This was . . . **ALOISJY EHRLICH.**

Now that we are all neatly graded and seeded, like prize potatoes, this man—whose international performances shriek for recognition—apparently did not fit into any of the seeding boxes. He plodded through in his own sweet way, and probably owes his second English title to one fantastic point in the semi-final.

ROOTHOFT led him by one game to nil, and the score stood 17—17 in the second game when the 20-minute time-bell struck. Given five minutes for the next point to decide that game, the two Frenchmen held the ball in play for 220 strokes, until Ehrlich finally lured the younger man into over-hitting.

Two more time-limit games, by no means unenterprising nor uninteresting, took Ehrlich to the final, where he made shorter work of the obligingly aggressive Brian Kennedy.

* * *

KENNEDY. A 19-year-old Englishman in the final? How ever did HE get there, you may ask. By the sheer brilliance of his left-handed attacking play.

* * *

TRUDI PRITZI, who has been competing nearly as long as Ehrlich, won the Singles with comfortable-looking scores throughout, but she suffered a terrific challenge from "PINKIE" BARNES in the second round. "Pinkie" led by two games to nil by her mixed short-and-long play.

When Trudi settled down to her heartbreak defensive tactics, "Pinkie" resolutely refused to try to win the odd game by "pushing" for a time-limit lead.

"Pinkie" was gallant, indeed. Was she right?

* * *



Jack Carrington at the English Open

* * *

That **DOROTHEA MUNNINGS** (Scunthorpe) could beat such a classy player in the Junior Girl's makes her title a most worthy honour.

* * *

BO MALMQUIST and **LASSE PETERSSON.** These two boys stood out during the Swedish summer schools, when the Swedish officials sought my views on their chances of making a showing in England. They certainly made a good showing, meeting in the final and winning the doubles; but apart from their play, their table manner and discipline was much admired. Hard luck on Pettersson to be runner-up for two years. At present he is a mechanical type of player, whereas Malmquist likes to work his points out like a chess player. He has the deft touches and the cheeky personality of Bergmann. Better learn to pronounce his name, because we are surely going to hear it a lot.

* * *

During the summer course, Pettersson did not sport a word of English, but this time necessity overcame silence and he made the beginnings of a social life.

Malmquist, however, whom we christened "Mickey Mouse" in Sweden, has still got no further than counting up to 21.

This is not calculated to expand the social life, and I must award my Medal of the Month to **SHEILA SMITH**, uncrowned queen of the Bright Young Things of Ashford, for her noble attempts at entertaining young Bo. Sheila, who has been known to talk enough for two before this, had to fall back in the end on the international language of lemonade and cakes. But seldom have I seen two such expressive pairs of eyes.

FOR a thrilling battle the palm goes to the W.S. semi-final, **HELEN ELLIOT** (Scotland) v. **LINDA WERTL** (Austria).

Before this match 16-year-old Linda asked me to play with her a while. During this time I managed to retrieve some of her over-arm forehand drives—an improvement on my Budapest form, I may say!

With a "Thank You" and a shake-hands, she said: "I shall not beat Elliot. She is mush better as me. But . . . I try."

ENGLISH OPEN DETAILS

Rose Bouquets, White and Red

By STAN PROFFITT

IT'S many winters since the North has had something to shout about, but we raise our hats and cheer BRIAN KENNEDY for his great performance and for becoming the first Yorkshire Swaythling Cup player for 20 years, since H. L. Hookins way back in 1929-30.

Brian is, incidentally, the only English player ever to gain both a Junior and Senior international badge in the same season, but never fulfilled his early promise. In the Yorkshire Open this season I wrote that he was taking the ball too late and not hitting hard enough, but now the lace is in the other boot. Not only is he hitting magnificently but he changes the pace so cleverly that if he can maintain a consistent form a big future is prophesied. Good luck, Brian . . . I'll be in Vienna to cheer you on.

A disappointing Northern entry. Though appreciating the difficulties, I am one of those diehards who consider it an honour to play in this event, which is unparalleled in the world. High honours to those who made the trek. JEAN TITTERINGTON (Manchester), in her first real season, reached the Gir.s' Singles final, shared title honours for the Girls' Doubles, and was in the semi-final of the Junior Mixed (losing to the eventual winners).

Fifteen-year-old GEOFFREY PULLAR (who is also a Lancashire boy cricketer) reached the semi-final of the Boys' Singles, losing a tight match to the ultimate winner, Swedish Bo Malmquist, and was also a finalist in both the Boys' Doubles and the Junior Mixed Doubles.

ALAN THOMPSON (Yorks) also did well to reach the third round and beating Georges Roland (Belgium No. 1) *en route*. He needed the difficult Guy Amouretti to put him out.

Congratulations also to EILEEN GRIMSTONE (Marple), who reached the quarter-finals of the Women's Singles. She beat the French No. 1 and seed, Huguette Beolet, decisively, and only succumbed to Linda Wertl, the Austrian junior tornado, by scores —17, 12, —13, 10, 15, which are comparable to Linda's scores with the redoubtable Scots lassie, Helen Elliot.

Eileen was thrilled to bits, and told me afterwards that the whole tournament is worth every penny that it costs to make the trip. That's the spirit.

MEN'S SINGLES (from the 5th Round)

M. Haguenauer (F) —13, 11, 8, 14	} Kennedy 19, 20, —17, 18	} Kennedy 19, —17, 18, —17, 24	
B. Kennedy 15, 16, —9, 16			
M. Lanskoj (F) 17, 16, 12	} Simons —19, 19, 18, 16		
A. Simons 10, 10, 11			
W. McCave —17, 14, 13, —18, 16	} Ehrlich 19, 19, 19		
A. Ehrlich (F) 7, 15, 11			
J. Leach 18, 10, 11	} Roothoft —22, —11, 13, 15, 14		
R. Roothoft (F) —14, 10, 8, 14			
A. EHRlich (France) 23, 13, 12			

WOMEN'S SINGLES (from the 4th Round)

G. Pritzi (A)	} Pritzi 14, 12, 4	} Pritzi 18, 12, 2	
J. Roberts			
D. Rowe	} D. Rowe 18, 18, 21		
M. Franks			
H. Elliot (S)	} Elliot 17, 19, —8, 19		
R. Rowe			
E. Grimstone	} Wertl —17, 12, —13, 10, 15		
L. Wertl (A)			
G. PRITZI (Austria) 18, 16, 9			

MEN'S DOUBLES

Quarter-Finals: R. Crayden/E. Filby beat B. Kennedy/M. Thornhill —14, 19, 15, 17; M. Reisman/A. Simons beat B. Crouch/P. Skerratt 13, 17, —17, 16; M. Lanskoj/R. Roothoft beat A. Ehrlich/G. Harrower 12, —13, —19, 23, 16; J. Carrington/J. Leach beat R. MacKay/M. Mohdadi 9, 7, 8.

Semi-Finals: Reisman/Simons beat Crayden/Filby 15, —14, 15, 18; Carrington/Leach beat Lanskoj/Roothoft 10, 19, 17.

Final: Carrington/Leach beat Reisman/Simons 10, 11, —12, 14.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Quarter-Finals: L. Wertl/G. Pritzi beat H. Bussmann/E. Schmidt —15, 16, 24, 15; D. Rowe/R. Rowe beat M. Jones/J. Roberts 9, 13, 17; H. Beolet/S. Betling beat L. Barnes/M. Franks 20, 18, 12; H. Elliot/V. Thomas beat J. Crosby/M. Fry 13, 12, 17.

Semi-Finals: Rowe/Rowe beat Wertl/Pritzi 11, 15, 13; Elliot/Thomas beat Beolet/Betling —19, 12, 8, 8.

Final: Rowe/Rowe beat Elliot/Thomas —18, 17, —17, 17, 15.

MIXED DOUBLES

Semi-Finals: B. Crouch/V. Thomas beat Reisman/Rowe 14, 15, —9, 14; V. Barna/H. Elliot beat Simons/Rowe 10, —22, 15, 12.

Final: Barna/Elliot beat Crouch/Thomas —20, 18, 22, 18.

MEN'S CONSOLATION SINGLES

Semi-Finals: K. Craigie beat L. Adams 16, 13; B. Crouch beat G. Roland 13, —19, 15.

Final: Crouch beat Craigie 12, 16.

WOMEN'S CONSOLATION SINGLES

Semi-Finals: M. Fry beat E. Steventon 13, 15; G. Roland beat P. George 17, 14.

Final: M. Fry beat G. Roland —19, 17, 15.

MEN'S VETERANS' SINGLES

Final: L. Thompson beat L. G. Carter —19, 17, 12.

WOMEN'S VETERANS' SINGLES

Final: Mrs. S. Betling (France) beat Mrs. D. Ball 19, 8.

BOYS' JUNIOR SINGLES

G. Pullar	} Pullar 13, 18	} MALMQUIST 20, 20	
J. Hunt			
B. Malmquist (SW)	} Malmquist 11, —24, 13		
S. Brocklebank			
M. McMillan (S)	} McMillan 15, —15, 16		
A. Danton			
D. Phillips (W)	} Pettersson 8, 19		
L. Pettersson (SW)			
MALMQUIST 20, 20			

GIRLS' SINGLES

J. Titterington	} Titterington —19, 17, 18	} MUNNINGS —18, 15, 16	
D. Spooner			
Y. Baker	} Baker 16, 20		
P. Banks			
D. Munnings	} Munnings 14, 15		
P. Inglis			
W. Blades	} Wertl 9, 10		
L. Wertl (A)			
MUNNINGS —18, 15, 16			

BOYS' DOUBLES

Semi-Finals: B. Malmquist/L. Pettersson (SW) beat D. Phillips/K. Pittard (W) 13, 16; J. Junt/G. Pullar beat S. Brocklebank/A. Danton 13, 17.

Final: Malmquist/Pettersson beat Junt/Pullar —18, 13, 17.

GIRLS' DOUBLES

Final: D. Munnings/J. Titterington beat P. Banks/P. Inglis —19, 9, 17.

JUNIOR MIXED DOUBLES

Final: L. Pettersson/D. Spooner beat G. Pullar/D. Munnings 7, —14, 14.



thank
you
everybody

I need hardly say how tremendously pleased I was to be honoured by the presentation made to me at the Royal Empire Society on November 8th.

In connection with it, I received a great number of messages of congratulation and goodwill, from abroad as well as from all over Britain; and as it is really beyond me to acknowledge individually, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my grateful thanks to all who have shown me such kindness, including, of course, all those who so generously contributed to the Fund sponsored by my good friends, the English Table Tennis Association.

Thank you, everybody,

London,
November 9th, 1950

Victor Barna

Picture: The Hon. Ivor Montagu, Chairman of the E.T.T.A. and of the I.T.T.F. making the Presentation to Victor Barna, Royal Empire Society, Nov. 8, 1950.

ENGLISH OPEN ... VETERAN EVENTS

by LEO THOMPSON

who outsmarted the Editor by winning the M.S.V. title, beating S. Sugarhood, winner for past two years, and L. Carter (in the final). It is of interest to note that at the other end of the scale, Leo had had a hand in the coaching of at least a dozen of the junior competitors.

THE "coming of age" of two leading pre-war internationals, GILBERT MARSHALL and DAVID JONES (once England's No. 1), made the Men's Veterans of special interest this year. Both were expected to appear in the final, but Marshall—unable to use his ace services—couldn't get going against the orthodox LIONEL KERSLAKE, while Jones, after beating Ashford's R. SPOONER with his old defensive game, went down to EDGAR REAY (Sunderland), winner in 1947-48, who in turn lost to the hard-hitting L. CARTER, of Kent.

Former German Swaythling player and now President of the German Association, Dr. K. Eckhardt, I. Hecht (France), J. Muir (Scotland), and our own Chairman, I. Montagu, were among distinguished entries. While the two veterans R. Spooner and C. Munnings had daughters, Doreen and Dorothea, who distinguished themselves in the junior events.

The ladies' event still, unfortunately, attracts a very small entry. Perhaps the fair sex do not like it to be known that they have reached the milestone. Mrs. S. BETLING (France) proved just a shade too good for the gallant Mrs. D. BALL in the final.

ALTHOUGH formed in 1935, Willesden League played no inter-league matches until 1946. Now they're making up for lost time with four teams in the Middlesex Inter-League Championships and entries in both Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl. They are the first Middlesex League to run two junior representative claims. League Secretary, W. G. RUTHERFORD.

UMPIRE'S CORNER

THREE enquiries received in correspondence refer to actual incidents in local league play. They have been put in question form and are here answered by Mr. E. GEORGE WHITE, N.E.C., English Referee and Chairman of the Official Umpires' Committee.

Q. Can a player change his bat during a game?

A. Yes; there is nothing in the laws of the game which compels him to use the same racket all the time.

Q. During a rally, a player transfers his bat from one hand to the other and makes a good return. Is this allowed?

A. Yes; provided the racket is in one hand or the other, it need not be in the same one all the time. I remember Ehrlich actually doing this in a second-round English Championship match against Stan Proffitt at Paddington Baths in 1936—the last time he won the Men's Singles title before his success this season.

Q. At 17-all in a deciding game, one player removes his pullover, displaying a shirt of a totally different colour. Is this permissible?

A. Our correspondent does not mention what kind of match was taking place. If it was a League match or some local closed competition, then he must consult the rules for that competition. But if the match was in a competition which is sanctioned by the National Executive Committee—for example, in the Wilmott Cup—then rule 23 of the E.T.T.A. Regulations applies, and this states that if a cardigan is worn while playing it must be the same shade of colour as the shirt.

* * *

"I read with interest the article by Mr. George White, in your September magazine on the 'Official Umpire Scheme' . . . to forward a copy of the leaflet explaining the County Umpire Scheme, and also a copy of the 'Test Paper' . . ."

J. NIES, Hon. Sec.,
New South Wales T.T.A.,
Australia.

MORRIS ROSE left Southampton in the "Pretoria Castle" on 9th November en route to South Africa, where he will be staying until early March. His first stay will be at The Queens Hotel, Sea Point, Cape Town, and he will be pleased to convey messages to any friends out there.

ODD



SHOTS

GEOFF JAMES sends the following amusing story recounted in a letter from RON SYKES, a keen London player and umpire now serving with the R.A.M.C. in Africa:

"NANYICKI, Kenya, is 7,050 feet above sea level, on the foothills of Mount Kenya, and though the Equator runs right through the hospital, it is very cold indeed . . . at night we all use hot-water bottles.

"On August Bank Holiday six of us went up into the forest to see the elephants drinking, which they do about 4.30 p.m. every day. To see this we had to climb the trees surrounding the water-hole. While they were drinking it poured with rain, but the joke of it is that the damned things decided to stay there overnight! Consequently, we had to stay up the trees all night long until noon on the Tuesday in the torrential rain! We weren't get down whilst they were there as they are extremely dangerous when they have their young."

* * *

SEEING STARS

AMONG the viewers watching the Champions v. The Rest Match was the President of the E.T.T.A., Mr. HAROLD OLDROYD, and Johnny Leach Junior. The President has written to say how much he enjoyed the performance. Young Johnny Leach, seeing Daddy for the first time on a television screen, couldn't quite make it out. "Come in, Daddy," he kept saying.

There have been good reports of the six ten-minute T.T. lessons which are running in Children's Hour Television with Jack Carrington, Johnny Leach, Cliff Michelmore, Elsie Weaver and young stars Jimmy Lowe, Doreen Spooner, John Hunt and Peggy Piper. Typical reports indicate that parents who have hitherto taken little or no interest in T.T. are now carrying bats to the screen on Friday evenings.

* * *

A member of the Essendine Club pulled me up last year, and when I explained that I had only been to the club on the day all the celebrities were there, he told me that he had telephoned his club that very same evening, and asked the lady secretary whether there was anybody there who could give him a good game.

"Oh, yes," she replied. "There's Vana, Andreadis, Stipek, Carrington and others . . ."

"Yes?" he said sarcastically, "and Bergmann, Barna, Leach and who else . . .?" and hung up, feeling quite sure she was pulling his leg. Naturally he didn't go. When he did find out that those players really had been there, he could have kicked himself.

WALTER STEINITZ.

DAGMAR ROM, Austrian world champion skier known as the "Blonde Venus," is reported nearly as hard to beat on the T.T. table. She recently won the Women's Singles and Mixed Doubles titles in the Kufstein T.T. Championships.

* * *

NO TRANSFER FEE FOR EX-WORLD CHAMPION

WE hear that JOHNNY LEACH has recently been transferred from the Spurs to Crystal Palace, but that's a little misleading. Prior to his World Championship win, Johnny went into hard and steady training and was given the facilities at White Hart Lane. Selhurst Park is now nearer to his new home.

And don't think this is just a stunt. Older players will remember VICTOR BARNA'S insistence on field and athletic training when coaching the English 1938 Swaythling team. As a schoolboy, the young Victor was a star all-round athlete considered to be of international calibre, and there were many sad-shaking of heads at the considerable time Victor "wasted" on Table Tennis!

It is all these extra little efforts that make the difference between a Champion and a good player.

Incidentally, if you see a figure in a natty claret track-zoot trotting round London-Surrey byways before early morning tea time, you'll recognise that JACK CARRINGTON also practises what he preaches.

* * *

JOHN HANNA, well-known Californian T.T. enthusiast, has recently been transferred to Hawaii, and is already working with red-hot fervour to get table tennis thoroughly organised there.

* * *

UMPIRE'S COMMANDMENTS!

WE are wondering if it is a fact that an umpire candidate, asked what matters he would refer to the referee in an open tournament, replied: "All questions of misconduct between the players and cases of blasphemy."

* * *

A moralist lived in Sedan
Who thought table tennis was wrong;

It's a curious thing
That he didn't mind Ping,
But swooned at the mention of Pong.

PIBWOB in

The New Statesman.

SOMEONE'S SLIP IS SHOWING

"Standardisation of table tennis dress is overdue. In our view athletic males in shorts of pastel shades look like elephants in petticoats."

Sports Roundabout,
Empire News.

The 'ENGLISH' O as she is interpreted by WALTER STEINITZ

STANDING in the wings during the final between Malmquist and Pettersson, someone beside me started shouting "Come on, Lassie! Come on, Lassie!" It was one of the Rowe Twins (I'll be blown if I know which!), but there wasn't a single dog in sight, and certainly no lassies playing . . . Then it dawned. Pettersson's Christian name is LASSE . . . He may have lost, but he seems to have won himself quite a fan there.

* * *

HILDE BUSSMANN told us that although she and the rest of the German team had to fight hard without getting placed, the playing conditions and organisation of the tournament were to her like a Tale of a Thousand and One Nights come true.

"A sort of Bussmann's Holiday?" I suggested.

She agreed earnestly.

* * *

THERE was a sudden commotion and great excitement among umpire and scorers. I was summoned in a hurry to a worried group. One of the young juniors of the Austrian team had wanted to walk off between games for no apparent reason! The matter was adjusted in a jiffy, quite naturally . . . Please teacher? . . .

* * *

Overheard during the Mixed Doubles:

"Can you see Vera crouch?"

"No, but I can see Marty row."

* * *

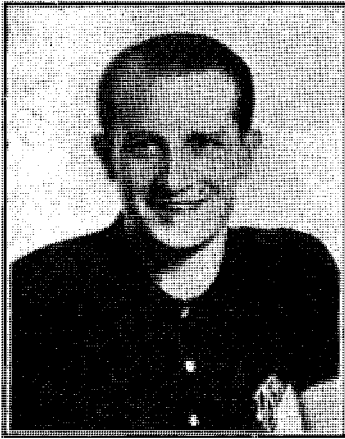
POOR little LINDA WERTL of Austria cried her eyes out after her splendid fight against Scotland's bonny HELEN ELLIOT, which she lost only at 21-23 in the fifth game.

Regarding Helen's subsequent defeat by Trudi Pritzi, I can only comment that the real Scotch only reaches full strength after being matured for seven years, and I am looking forward to some intoxicating displays in the future by this year's runner-up.

* * *

MOLLY JONES found fault with the service of one of her opponents. The umpire didn't. Jolly moans from Molly Jones.

WALTER STEINITZ.



"The Way to the Stars" How to Acquire the Essentials of a Champion

World-ranking players and Champions are very special people. They have developed their natural qualities far beyond the average, and no one to a greater or more glorious degree than VICTOR BARNA. We believe that there are English Juniors to-day who can be World Champions if only they are prepared to give all that is necessary, and have therefore asked the great world title-holder to "Show us the Way to the Stars."

Questions are invited for Victor Barna's authoritative answers.

by Victor Barna

NOWADAYS there are many books on table tennis. Every stroke is described adequately and in full detail, yet, strangely enough, one rarely sees even the slightest mention of the all-important points of fitness, training and stamina. The Editor, my good friend Leslie Woollard, has suggested that I should write something for the magazine and that the best way to do it is to answer questions. So I was very glad that his first question, for this issue, turned out to be: "How to acquire The Will to Win, Concentration and Fighting Spirit: and how to set about reaching the standard of fitness essential to a champion?"

You see, the first thought of every champion is to be mentally and physically at the very peak of condition when the big moment comes.

I know my wife will not mind my mentioning that before I married, I and my pals, Szabados and Bellak, used to love going to parties and having fun. So much so, that when we undertook our exhibition tours in this country, the late Bill Pope used to send out a circular letter to all the local organisers concerned saying that in spite of their very strenuous programme the three players were very fond of dancing and parties, and would very much appreciate entertainment of that kind being offered. It is a matter of history now that those social occasions, both formal and informal, helped a lot to stimulate table tennis and brought us, under very cheery conditions, into close contact with lots of people we would not otherwise have met; and who seemed pleased to meet us, too.

We Were Boys

The fact is that whether we were over here or at home in Budapest, we were boys. We used to practise together and spent all our evenings in each other's company: yet when a big championship was approaching—the World's, or a National—it was

amazing how the three of us disappeared about 9 o'clock as soon as we had finished our night's practice. If the question cropped up "What are you doing to-night?" well, we were going to visit a relative or we had to join in a family reunion or something of that kind. We were too young, perhaps too sensitive, to admit to each other that in point of fact we were off home to bed in order to make quite sure of getting enough sleep and so being really fit for the big occasion.

The No. 1 Answer

There is no doubt that the No. 1 answer to the fitness question is **EARLY HOURS**. From this it follows that you are bound to neglect, and *must* neglect, your boy or girl friend or friends as the case may be. I know that this is a delicate subject, which sports writers prefer to avoid: so I will do the same except for quoting what our slogan used to be in the old days: "I can see my girl friend any time of the year, but there is only one World Championship in 12 months!"

Before going any further I would like to emphasise that to become a World Champion demands heavy sacrifices. Bergmann, Vana, Haguenaer, Ehrlich, among many others, didn't reach championship rank simply because they happened to be highly talented. The fact is they worked very hard indeed, and you can take it from me that no-one can expect to become a champion unless he is willing to put in a tremendous amount of work.

What I Did

I don't want to be too long-winded about it, but just let me tell you what I used to do myself. During the off-season I played all the sports I could which improved my footwork (this being the basic requirements of first-class table tennis), and any sport which assists footwork is worth developing. I recommend particularly athletics, jumping, running, tennis and swimming. Especially important is

walking during week-ends just before a championship. The fresh air and brisk exercise, certainly in the early morning, gives a wonderful sense of well-being, and many were the walks my friends and I used to take together after a very early breakfast, sometimes in groups of 20.

Of course, I used to play a lot of table tennis as well during the summer, as this is the time to work on improving one's stroke production.

Don't Overdo Practice

As the season approached and the fixtures became known, I used to lay down a strict schedule to reach the peak of my form and condition by a certain date. Here let me say that I regard it of the utmost importance to get one or two clear days of absolute rest immediately before a big event. Some players practise unceasingly, but this can be very harmful. For example, just look at what some of our French friends did immediately before the English Championships. They travelled from Paris to Manchester on a Friday, played in the Merseyside Championship on Saturday, in the international match at Birmingham on Monday, travelled to London on Tuesday, and, although they were due to play at Wembley the next day, they started right away to get all the practice they could. I am sure that, following a good rest, a long knock-up, or (if one is lucky enough to get one) an easy first round match, is infinitely preferable to incessant practice at the beginning of a tournament.

Rest Between Matches

Another thing. Make sure you rest between your matches. If you have time, go home and lie down. Whatever you do, don't just wait about for your turn to play. Keep away from the practice table, and above all don't go trotting about from one place to another chatting to friends and acquaintances. Nothing is more tiring, and it is certainly no way to prepare oneself for hard matches ahead.

Continued on top opposite page.

VICTOR BARNA

Continued from previous page.

Consider, for example, the case of Richard Miles and some other Americans. It is no wonder he has not yet become a World Champion. Time after time we have seen him and his team mates, during a strenuous tournament, using the lunch break to practise and keep on practising. People of frail build like Miles find that their stamina, both mentally and physical, just cannot hold out. At the very moment they need to make their supreme effort, they are finished.

So far I have said nothing about will-power and concentration. But you can see that if you have the determination and good sense to plan for a long time ahead, and in so doing to sacrifice both pleasure and leisure, then you have got what it takes: and won't throw away in five minutes what it has taken you months to prepare.

I know, of course, that a lot of people here in this country play the game for the fun of it. Well and good! But the question put to me had to do with the requirements of a *champion*—and there you are!

VICTOR BARNA.

“Worth Every Bit”

MALCOLM SCOTT, lively Wolverhampton League Chairman, left home at 3 p.m. to attend the Barna Presentation ceremony, and arrived back at 8.30 a.m. the following morning just in time to take his young son to school.

“Was it worth it?” Says Malcolm, “Every bit. As an old friend and fan of Victor Barna for many years, my wife and I greatly enjoyed the few hours spent at the Presentation . . . It was once again a thrill to again meet the great man of table tennis and the many other famous players of the early days, and to be in such a great gathering of enthusiastic administrators and renew old friendships.”

Belgian Open Nationals

Brussels, 12 Nov., 1950

RESULTS

- M.S. J. Leach beat Fritsch (Austria) 14, 7, —19, 17; G. Amouretti (France) beat A. C. W. Simons 16, 20, —19, 16.
- FINAL J. LEACH beat G. Amouretti 19, 16, 11.
- W.S. Miss G. PRITZI (Austria) beat Miss M. Franks 12, 8, 14.
- M.D. J. Leach/A. W. Simons beat Trun Van Liu/Pho Quoc Huy (Vietnam) 11, 15, 16.
- X.D. J. Leach/Miss M. Franks beat Just /Miss G. Pritzi 11, 16, —18, 14.

Miss J. Roberts, the fourth member of the English team, was beaten in the first round by Mlle. Delabarre in a marathon match which included two time-limit games, the scores being: 21—19, 23—21, 13—21, 12—16, 21—10.

NORTH of ENGLAND OPEN

Manchester, 9th-11th November, 1950
By FRANK GEE

RESULTS COMMENTARY MEN'S SINGLES

Semi-finals

M. KRISS beat B. Casofsky 18, 17.
Kriess's better all-round tactics. Casofsky's usual hurricane hitting absent, and clever drop-shots never missed by Kriess.

L. COHEN beat R. Allcock 17, 15, 16
Allcock's hitting faulty. Leslie Cohen superior in experience and cast-iron defence.

FINAL

MAURICE KRISS beat Leslie Cohen 15, 17.

Dour struggle. Two mainly defensive players.

England Beat France 6-3

Simons justifies World Ranking

AUBREY SIMONS fully justified his world and England ranking by being the only one to win all his matches in the fast, furious and exciting encounter at the Birmingham Sports Stadium, when England beat France 6—3 on 27th November.

JOHNNY LEACH lost to the nimble-footed and deceptive RENE ROOTHOFT, but found splendid form to beat HAGUENAUER, while HARRY VENNER earned his place by dynamiting the immaculate Root-hoft in two tight games.

WOMEN'S SINGLES FINAL

ADELE WOOD beat Eileen Grimstone 20, 8.

First game attractive, Eileen aggressive, Adele calmly confident. The crowd's disagreement with umpire's decision on an edge ball at 20—all appeared to upset Eileen for the match.

M.D. R. BAKER/G. GOODMAN beat M. Kriss/P. J. Walton 16, 12.

W.D. E. GRIMSTONE/J. TITTERINGTON beat E. Mansell/K. Benson 19, 17.

X.D. B. CASOFSKY/E. ADAMS beat B. Hand/A. Jones 18, 13.

J.B.S. G. PULLAR beat C. Booth 9, 18.

J.G.S. J. TITTERINGTON beat Valerie Lackman 11, 20.

SCORES

A. W. C. Simons beat H. Haguenauer 17, 17; beat R. Root-hoft 15, 22; beat G. Amouretti 19, 20.

J. Leach beat Haguenauer 11, 20; beat Amouretti 8, —15, 11; lost to Root-hoft —23, 17, —10.

H. Venner lost to Haguenauer —14, —18; lost to Amouretti 15, —19, —12; beat Root-hoft 19, 18.

East Suburban Open

Ilford, 11th November, 1950

RESULTS

M.S. H. T. Venner beat L. G. Adams 17, 13; B. Brumwell beat R. Crayden 18, —6, 13.

FINAL H. T. VENNER beat B. Brumwell —19, 15, 12, 13.

W.S. Miss R. ROWE beat Miss D. Rowe 13, 13.

M.D. H. Venner/L. Adams beat R. Crayden/K. Craigie 17, —19, 12.

X.D. G. V. Barna/Miss R. Rowe beat H. Venner/Miss E. Weaver 16, 19.

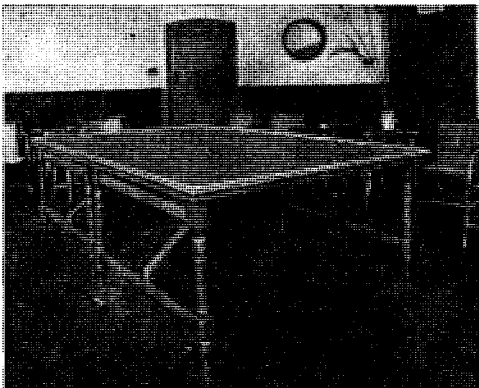
W.D. Misses D. and R. Rowe beat Miss E. M. Steventon/Miss J. Mackay 8.

CHALLENGE

“May I here and now issue a challenge to any association (league) to a four-a-side match for girls under 12 years. These girls only started playing last summer but are as keen as mustard. Are there any takers?”

A. A. WALL, Hon. Treasurer, West Bromwich T.T.A.

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Merseyside Open

By STAN PROFFITT

Liverpool, 25th November, 1950

FINAL RESULTS

- M.S. J. LEACH beat A. W. C. Simons 18, —19, 16.
 W.S. Miss A. BATES beat Miss M. Gray 15, —18, 16.
 M.D. J. LEACH/M. HAGUENAUER beat A. Simons/B. Crouch 20, 8.
 W.D. Misses V. ROWE/M. GRAY beat Misses K. Benson/E. Mansell, 14, 18.
 X.D. R. Allcock/Miss A. Wood versus D. Shaw/Mrs. V. Rowe (event not played.)

Pontefract Open

By C. DARLEY, Junr.

Pontefract, 17-18th November, 1950

FINAL DETAILS

- M.S. R. ALLCOCK beat B. Kennedy 18, —12, 19, —13, 16.
 W.S. Miss A. WOOD beat Miss E. Grimstone 8, 9.
 M.D. D. S. HEAPS/W. DEVINE beat P. Skerratt/G. Simpson 17, —17, 22.
 W.D. A. WOOD/V. TAYLOR beat A. Taylor/J. Senescal 14, 13.
 X.D. R. ALLCOCK/A. WOOD beat B. Kennedy/K. Best 13, —19, 13.
 Y.S. G. KNOWLES beat M. Mackiey 20, —20, 12.
 G.S. J. WALKER beat V. J. Whitaker —13, 20, 12.
 V.S. L. V. JONES beat A. E. Bell 22, —13, 20, 12.

'Evening Chronicle' Tournament—Manchester

By FRANK GEE

Belle Vue, 4th December, 1950

FINALS of the *Evening Chronicle* highlighted by the appearance of Reisman, Lansky, Amouretti, Leach, Simons and Casofsky, who enthralled the very large crowd. JOHNNY LEACH and BENNY CASOFSKY were as popular as ever with their hard hitting and deep returns.

JEAN TITTERINGTON was beaten by a better player, but the girls at least played attractive table tennis, which could hardly be said of the final of the men's event.

RESULTS

- Section A. M. REISMAN beat M. Lansky 16, —17, 14; beat A. Simons 21, —17, 18. Simons beat Lansky 15, —11, 18.
 Section B. G. AMOURETTI beat J. Leach —11, 19, 17; beat B. Casofsky —16, 22, 10. Leach beat Casofsky 19, —23, 14.

FINALS

- M. REISMAN (U.S.A.) beat G. Amouretti (France) —11, 16, 21.
 M.S. C. BOLTON beat R. Smith 17, 11.
 W.S. ANDREE JONES beat J. Titterington 13, 16.

East Midland Open

Nottingham

RESULTS

- M.S. H. T. Venner beat P. Skerratt —17, 18, 11; L. G. Adams beat W. T. Poole 11, 23.

- FINAL H. T. VENNER beat L. G. Adams 19, —13, 19, 13.
 W.S. Miss E. M. STEVENTON beat Miss J. Mackay 20, 17.
 M.D. H. Venner/L. Adams beat A. A. Haydon/R. J. Mackay 11, —14, 20.
 X.D. R. J. Mackay/Miss J. Mackay beat P. Skerratt/Miss D. Munnings 14, 16.
 W.D. Miss E. M. Steventon/Mrs. D. Smith beat Mrs. B. Harrower/Miss E. M. Grimstone —11, 19, 14.
 B.S. G. PALING beat D. Spiers 21, —15, 16.
 G.S. Miss D. MUNNINGS beat Miss D. Spooner 16, 15.
 J.D. D. Spiers/D. Lindley beat J. Ayers/G. Paling 14, 8.

Sussex Open

Hastings, 29th October, 1950

THE excellent Report of the Sussex Open in our December issue and the detailed results herewith were the work of

LESLIE M. BROMFIELD

County Correspondent No. 1.

FINALS

- M.S. A. SIMONS beat A. R. Miller 9, 14, 13.
 W.S. Miss F. ROWE beat Miss D. Rowe —20, 16, 9.
 M.D. A. SIMONS/K. STANLEY beat J. Carrington/J. Leach 12, 23.
 W.D. Misses R. and D. ROWE beat Miss M. Franks/Miss J. Roberts 14, 5.
 X.D. J. LEACH/Miss M. FRANKS beat G. V. Barna/Miss D. Rowe —18, 15, 18.
 J.S. D. M. EAGLES beat B. Leach 9, 20.

ALEC D. BROOK

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to which all orders and correspondence should be addressed from February 1st.

TEENAGE PAGE

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

Edited



Congratulations
to

BRIAN KENNEDY

for his magnificent performance in the English Open.

As JIMMY LOWE said on last month's T-A PAGE, the youngsters of to-day must fight to get on top *with* the Seniors, and eventually on top *of* them . . . Brian showed the way . . . he fought AND got ON top of

AUBREY SIMONS (Joint England No. 1)

MICHEL HAGUENAUER (France No. 1)

TONY MILLER (Surrey)

HARRY VENNER (England No. 4)

Great show, Brian. You've given the grandest of leads to us of what to do and how to do it.



by

Peter Lodge

MR. A. A. WALL (an officer of the West Bromwich League for 17 years) is a veteran with the right idea. The Editor has shown me a unique challenge. ". . . we are hoping to surprise people in a few years' time," writes Mr. Wall to Mr. Woollard. "Meanwhile, may I here and now issue a challenge to any Association to a four-players-a-side match for **GIRLS UNDER 12**. These girls only started last summer but they are as keen as mustard. Are there any takers?" Three cheers for West Bromwich, T.A.'ers. This is the spirit which will win England those treasured trophies a few years hence.

WATCH THIS MAN ! —

ALAN RHODES, Wembley's 18-year-old hitter, made his mark in the South of England Open by defeating **BOBBY MACKAY** (Warwick) and **BILL MCCAIVE** (Essex), both Premier County players.

—AND THIS WOMAN !

PAM BANKS (Camb), also in her first big tournament at the South of England, where she defeated **BARBARA MILBANK** (Essex Premier) in the first round. She already plays for Cambridge County in both Senior and Junior matches, and has some creditable wins, including Betty Carter and Pearl Swales among her victims.

THE JOY OF KENT

ARTHUR FIELDER was well known as an England and Kent cricketer, and his great-niece, 12-year-old **JOY FIELDER**, looks a good bet for similar

T.T. honours in the future. Playing for the R.A.C.S. in Kent's champion league—Woolwich—and against seasoned senior competitors, she is already knocking the form book about more than somewhat. Let's have some more of this Joy-ful news, please.

SWEDISH LEASE LEND

YVONNE BAKER (Highams Park and Essex), 16-year-old, had the privilege of beating Pam 16, 20 in the quarter-finals of the English Open. Big things are expected of Yvonne. At the end of last season she took the Essex G.S. and the West Ealing G.S. titles, and very early this season made T-A history by winning a Swedish junior title . . . Perhaps that encouraged **BO MALMQUIST** to make sure of the English!

AT HASTINGS

If the stars were off form at the Sussex Open the juniors certainly were not. Such enthusiasm! Such energy! Why, some of them, not content with playing all day, spent the interval before the finals letting off thunder-flashes in the Pier Pavilion; I am told that the fireworks in use were known as Boy Scout Startlers! I personally think that a noise like that would scare the pants off a District Commissioner, but then I'm not a Scout.

David Eagles, of Kent, won the junior title, beating Brian Leach in the final. Brian was the more attractive player but, as is so often the case, one stroke on one side beat the whole works on the other. Incidentally, a story with a moral stems from the Eagles-Leach duel. Brian had chewed his way steadily through the rounds and then lost in the final, so take a tip friends, never change to spearmint in the final if you have won all your rounds on bubble-gum!

ON reading the W. J. Pope quotations in the programme, it seems fitting that youth should have made such a good impression in his Memorial Championships, for it seems he was ever mindful of the younger players. Surely, then, he would wish for no better tribute than for the accent to be on youth throughout organised T.T. in England?

Only too often one hears of a league proudly boasting that it has been represented by the same players for many years! Surely there must have been occasions when they could have afforded to risk dropping a game or so to blood their junior champion?

The English selectors have set the example by inviting **BRIAN KENNEDY** and the **ROWE TWINS** to represent England in the Swaythling and Corbillon competitions of the 1951 World Championships. If selectors in every league in the country were to follow their lead and think of building for the future rather than of immediate results they **MUST** give youth a chance and experience.

One rarely thinks of Flanagan without his Allen. Natural as partners as Fish and Chips. Similarly one thinks of **THORNHILL** and **KENNEDY**, potentially one of England's best young pairs . . . I'd like—I think many would—to see the English selectors send **MICHAEL THORNHILL** with the team to Vienna for experience. And as an investment toward winning that treasured trophy.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

A study of the league tables underneath will show that, with the half-way stage of the season reached, competition is still fierce in half the divisions, whilst in the other half little imagination is needed to forecast the eventual winners.

In two sections (Premier and North Midland) no less than three counties are undefeated, and now that the 10 match games are with us, the possibility of many draws between the top teams makes "goal average" more important than ever.

In the Premier Division, Middlesex meet Surrey at the Prince of Wales Baths on the 15th January; Essex meet Middlesex at the Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, on the 24th January, and Essex meet Surrey at the Ekco Works, Southend, on the 17th February.

Key fixtures in the North Midland Division have yet to be arranged, but it looks as though, for promotion purposes, the match between Cheshire and Lincolnshire holds the key to the situation, and this is likely to be the last of the season.

Surrey 2nds and Essex 2nds are setting a hot pace in their respective divisions. There seems little

difference between the strength of the 1st and 2nd Surrey teams, and personally I wouldn't like to be a Surrey selector just now!

Bedfordshire, by their big win over Bucks, look likely to win their division for the first time, and a note received from them mentions "when we meet you in the Premier Division next year." Glamorgan will have something to say about this, and their match with Middlesex 2nds was the tightest of last month, nearly every point being hotly contested and warmly applauded by an appreciative audience, who saw a big match for the first time in Port Talbot.

Kent just beat Essex in the Junior section, and meet Middlesex on January 11th at the Prince of Wales Baths in what might be the decider, whilst Nottinghamshire secured a good win over Gloucestershire, and are now favourites to head the Western section.

With 43 teams now playing in the Championships, it was always a possibility that postponed fixtures would threaten to disrupt the organisation, but in fact only two matches have so far had to be postponed, one due to fog.

LATEST RESULTS AND LEAGUE TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION

Lancashire 2, Middlesex 8							
Surrey 9, Warwickshire 1							
Warwickshire 2, Lancashire 8							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Essex	3	3	—	0	22	8	6
Surrey	3	3	—	0	22	8	6
Middlesex	2	2	—	0	16	4	4
Gloucestershire	2	1	—	1	12	8	2
Lancashire	4	1	—	3	16	24	2
Yorkshire	2	0	—	2	4	16	0
Warwickshire	4	0	—	4	8	32	0

JUNIOR DIVISION

South Section							
Essex 8, Cambridgeshire 2							
Cambridgeshire 4, Surrey 6							
Essex 4, Kent 6							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Kent	3	3	—	0	21	9	6
Middlesex	2	2	—	0	15	5	4
Essex	3	2	—	1	21	9	4
Surrey	3	1	—	2	9	21	2
Cambridgeshire	3	0	—	3	10	20	0
Hertfordshire	2	0	—	2	4	16	0

West Section

Nottinghamshire 8, Gloucestershire 2							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Notting'shire	2	2	—	0	14	6	4
Glamorgan	2	1	—	1	10	10	2
Gloucestershire	2	0	—	2	6	14	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Kent 3, Hampshire 7							
Surrey 9, Sussex 1							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Surrey	3	3	—	0	27	3	6
Hampshire	3	1	1	1	13	17	3
Sussex	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Kent	2	0	—	2	4	16	0

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

Warwickshire 4, Devonshire 6							
Middlesex 5, Glamorgan 5							
Devonshire 4, Glamorgan 6							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Glamorgan	3	2	1	0	20	10	5
Middlesex	2	1	1	0	13	7	3
Devonshire	3	1	—	2	12	18	2
Warwickshire	2	0	—	2	5	15	0

STOP PRESS.

Premier Division.
Gloucestershire 5, Essex 5.

HOME COUNTIES' DIVISION

Bedfordshire 8, Hertfordshire 2							
Hertfordshire 3, Bedfordshire 7							
Berkshire 4, Hertfordshire 6							
Bedfordshire 8, Buckinghamshire 2							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Bedfordshire	4	4	—	0	31	9	8
Bucking'shire	3	2	—	1	16	14	4
Hertfordshire	4	1	—	3	15	25	2
Berkshire	4	0	—	4	8	22	0

EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

Cambridgeshire 6, Norfolk 4							
Essex 9, Cambridgeshire 1							
Norfolk 4, Suffolk 6							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Essex	3	3	—	0	25	5	6
Cambridgeshire	3	2	—	1	14	16	4
Suffolk	3	1	—	2	9	21	2
Norfolk	3	0	—	3	12	18	0

NORTHERN DIVISION

Durham 6, Cumberland 4							
Northumberland 3, Yorkshire 7							
Northumberland 6, Cumberland 4							
Yorkshire 9, Durham 1							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Yorkshire	4	4	—	0	32	8	8
Northumberl'd	4	3	—	1	24	16	6
Durham	4	1	—	3	12	28	2
Cumberland	4	0	—	4	12	28	0

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

Cheshire 7, Yorkshire 3							
Nottinghamshire 1, Lancashire 9							
Lincolnshire 9, Leicestershire 1							
Lancashire 7, Leicestershire 3							
Yorkshire 5, Nottinghamshire 5							
Derbyshire 1, Cheshire 9							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Lancashire	4	4	—	0	34	6	8
Cheshire	4	4	—	0	29	11	8
Lincolnshire	3	3	—	0	25	5	6
Notting'shire	4	0	1	3	14	26	1
Yorkshire	3	0	1	2	10	20	1
Leicestershire	3	0	—	3	7	23	0
Derbyshire	3	0	—	3	1	29	0

From North - South - East - West



Left to right: S. Pullar (Lancs); A. Simons (Glos); P. Franks (Essex); Col. Pearman (Camp Controller); Mrs. Freda Merryweather (Organising Sec., Lincs County Ass.); Adele Wood (Lancs); B. Crouch and R. Turner (Middle).



LEO, The Lionheart

40 again; well, he's 40 years young, not 40 years old, and will still give a hard game to the best.

He learnt the game the hard way, and says (like most good players) you can always learn something from watching good play. Once, his ambition was an International Cap and he got as far as the Trials. In recent years he has worked like a demon to build England's junior strength (Jimmy Lowe is one protégé). You only have to hear these youngsters talk to realise how he has inspired them to become tactical fighters in the finest tradition.

While he has held doubles titles with Helen Elliott, Vera Dace, Ron Sharman, etc., his proudest moment was in winning a doubles championship with Mrs. Thompson, life comrade, partner, critic, and the one whose constant help has enabled his amazing activities. He plays for Bucks County, Slough and the

Personalities

Staines Leagues; is Bucks County Secretary and Captain; Official Coach to both Middlesex and Bucks counties, among other things.

He has 18 medals for senior amateur football and is a formidable opponent in badminton, tennis and squash, yet has still found time to become a heating and plumbing engineer. Playing an orthodox game, he tries to command the game and shrewdly exploit his opponent's weaknesses, particularly with a deadly backhand flick and agile footwork. A friend said of him: "Leo's too good a sportsman to be a topline champion himself." Anyway, he's one of the best and a popular scout everywhere. May the new Thompson expected next month be a Chip off the Old Block.

FOR 26 years LEO THOMPSON has been blazing T.T. good-will trails through the home counties and the Continent. He's never been known to refuse an appeal to help the game regardless of boundary or humbleness of the organisation. It's the game, not the mirror-flash of publicity, he's given his great heart to. They say Leo won't see

LANCASHIRE WHIRLWIND

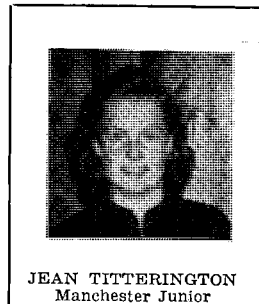
JEAN TITTERINGTON, 16-year-old machine operator, is a real chip off the old Manchester talent-Diamond. With business-like briskness and an infectious grin, she blew into Wembley for the English. "Ah've coom," she declared, and "bai goom" she had, and with the healthy vigour of older Mancunian style, swept through to the final of the English Girls' Singles and Girls' Doubles (victims including Yvonne Baker, Doreen Spooner and Sheila Smith), and to the third round of the W.S., falling to Ros Rowe.

Popular off the table, she's an aggressive whirlwind on it, and if two years can make her this good and she can keep up major

engagements, she'll certainly be a pin-up girl for future English selectors. She's certainly a credit to her coach, Frank Andrews.

Fond of cycling, she has also an open-air freshness, and nice sense of fun. She recently shared the W.D. title of Yorkshire Open; her last and winning shot was a hard and deep return, and she bustled off briskly from the table with a "That's that" air, leaving partner EILEEN GRIMSTONE to perform the courtesies! We asked her her ambition, likes and dislikes. Pat came the answers: to play for England, Potato Pie (lots of it), ill-mannered boys.

That's Jean, that was.



JEAN TITTERINGTON
Manchester Junior

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The 'Cabinet' of the E.T.T.A.



C. CORTI WOODCOCK
(Co-opted)

CORTI WOODCOCK, 51-year-old company director, is the *enfant terrible* of chiselling, intolerance, bad sportsmanship and anything likely to adversely affect the popular appeal of T.T. based on speed, skill, spectacle and athleticism. He has something of the outlook of a modern Drake, fearlessly potting the lubberly galleons of lordly Dons. His historical knowledge of T.T. is profound. His words uncompromising, varying from a depth-bomb of scathing criticism to wise counsel, or a dazzling gem of wit. As a man that is forthright, single-minded and different, he has sometimes been the "Target for To-night," but no one has ever questioned his sincerity and devotion to the game. His most ardent desire is to see England win the Swaythling Cup and win it gloriously.

Mr. Woodcock's T.T. experience is prodigious and his offices uncountable. He was the Hon. Secretary of the famous St. Bride All-England Club of 1926, when, inspired by Fred Perry's magnificent world victory, he presented the St. Bride Vase (the World's Singles trophy). He was E.T.T.A. Chairman 1933-36. Has captained England and also New Zealand teams in Swaythling, Corbillon and Internationals. Represented Australia, New Zealand, United States and Canada on the International Congress. Was founder and first Editor of *Table Tennis*. Umpired the World Singles final of 1935, refereed scores of Opens, was singles champion of West Essex 1934 . . . in fact, he seems to have been proficient in every sphere, and his T.T. travels range from United States to Hungary.

His other interests include Golf, Astronomy and Music. His offices in golfing circles are nearly as many, ranging from local, county and public schools societies. Has a charming wife (too rarely seen) and an eight-year-old daughter.

Corti Woodcock is a good man to have in the "Cabinet," and not only for his independent individualism.

President: Essex T.T. Association.
Vice-President: Central T.T. League,
Guildford and District T.T. League.
Chairman: West Essex T.T. League.

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.
Jan., 1951			
1-6	Metropolitan Open Polytechnic Extension, Little, Titchfield Street, W.1. Referee: J. Kurzman.	B.S.	E. S. Lee, Polytechnic, 309, Regent Street, London, W.1.
6-10	French Open Championships		At Paris.
13	South Yorkshire Open	B.S.	Mrs. M. Cowen, 13, Gregg House Road, Sheffield, 5.
13	WALES v. ENGLAND		At Newport.
18	Bath Open The Pavilion, Bath.	M.S. and W.S. Only	L. LeGren, c/o P.D.S.A., 4, Newark Street, Bath.
18-20	Lancashire Open Drill Hall, 645 H.A.A., R.A., Stretford, Manchester, 4.	B.S. G.S. V.S.	W. E. Wood, 44, Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester, 4.
21	Southampton Open Blighmont Drill Hall, Southampton.	J.S.	R. Sherry, 7, Thornleigh Road, Soolston, Southampton.
22-27	South London Open West Norwood Brotherhood, Knights Hill, West Norwood, SE.27. Referee: E. A. B. Swayne.	B.S. G.S. Cons.	K. F. Havill, 4, Chestnut Road, West Norwood, London, S.E.27.
25-27	Irish Open		At Belfast.
28	Kent Open Grand Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.		F. G. Mannooch, 161, Borden Lane, Sittingbourne.
Feb.			
4	Portsmouth Open		A. W. Williams, 85, Lyndhurst Road, North End, Portsmouth.
7-8	Middlesex (Herga) Open Herga L.T. Club, Harrow, Middlesex.	B.S. G.S.	S. W. Martin, 55, Kings Way, Wealdstone, Middlesex.
9	ENGLAND v. IRELAND Enquiries: W. Stamp, Buena Ventura, Farmdale Close, Liverpool, 18.		At Liverpool.
8-10	Midland Counties Open Indoor Sports Stadium, Pershore Road, Birmingham, 5. Referee: A. A. Haydon.	B.S. G.S. J.D. V.S.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
11	Jutland Open (Aarhus) Norwegian (home players only).		
18	Hampshire Open Blighmont Drill Hall, Millbrook Road, Southampton.	J.S.	Not yet appointed.
19-23	Surrey Open Municipal Hall, East Street, Epsom. Referee: K. C. Joyes.	G.S. B.S.	C. A. Bourne, 46, Elm Park Gardens, Selsdon, Surrey.
24-25	Netherlands Open		At Utrecht.
24-25	Danish (home players only)		

"Could you recommend a club (in the Croydon area) available for weekend practice? I am quite experienced at T.T. and require to keep my hand in . . ."

Suggestions will be promptly forwarded to the writer.

* * *

"Although I am an Aussie on the other side of the world, I really look forward every month to your magazine. I hope you continue to publish plenty of international as well as your own English news . . ."

JACK MURPHY,
of Executive Committee,
Victorian T.T.A., Australia.

To Solve Service Problem

D. C. F. CRISP (Lensbury T.T.C.) suggests that the following amendment to the "new" service rule would prevent finger-spin, controversy, etc., and yet permit spin to be used in service:

"The service shall be delivered by the server placing the ball on the bat and balancing it without bouncing. The ball shall then be projected into the air with the bat and then be struck so that it shall first touch the server's court . . . The ball shall be in play from the time it is projected into the air . . . The free hand shall not come into contact with the bat or ball."

The T.T. CUPS

First Round Results

(Because of space limitation, all Byes have been omitted in both events.)

THE WILMOTT CUP

Zone 1.—London Business Houses 3, Willesden 6; West London 3, Croydon 6; Central 9, High Wycombe 0; North Middlesex 9, Maidenhead 0; Staines 4, London Civil Service 5.

Zone 2.—University of London 4, London Banks 5; N.A.L.G.O. 7, Insurance Offices 2; Southend 6, East London 3.

Zone 3.—Byfleet 3, Canterbury 6; Bromley 8, Gravesend 1; Beckenham 5, Woolwich 4; Medway Towns 1, Sittingbourne 5.

Zone 4.—Luton W/O Oxford University T.C.C.; Watford 7, St. Albans 2; Leighton Buzzard 1, Bedford 8.

Zone 5.—Peterborough 4, Newark 5; Cambridge 8, Bishops Stortford 1.

Zone 6 (North).—Carlisle 5, West Cumberland 4; Hartlepool 4, Northumberland 5.

Zone 6 (South).—Chesterfield 2, Sheffield 7; Huddersfield 5, Halifax Y.M.C.A. 4; Leeds 9, Bridlington 0.

Zone 7 (North).—Blackpool 0, Liverpool 9; Manchester 6, Hyde 1.

Zone 7 (South).—Desborough 5, Kidderminster 4; Birmingham 8, Dudley Temp. 1; Burton 1, Worcester 8.

Zone 8 (South).—Brighton 9, Bexhill 0.

Zone 8 (West).—Salisbury 3, Chard 6; Bath 1, Bristol 8; Taunton 2, South Devon 7.

J. M. ROSE BOWL

Zone 1.—Slough 0, Willesden 9; Maidenhead 0, West London 9; London Civil Service 8, Wembley 1.

Zone 2.—Thames Valley 2, Insurance 7; Laindon 5, N.A.L.G.O. 4.

Zone 3.—Cambridge 6, Kings Lynn 3.

Zone 4.—Beckenham 1, Byfleet 8; Woolwich 5, Croydon 4; Gravesend 7, Sittingbourne 2.

Zone 5 (East).—Sheffield 2, Bradford 7, Zone 5 (West).—Manchester 5, Southport 0; Burnley 0, Liverpool 9.

Zone 6.—Bedford 9, Welwyn Garden City 0; St. Albans lost to Birmingham W/O.

Zone 7.—Leatherhead 7, Horsham 2; Brighton 7, Guildford 2.

Zone 8.—Salisbury C. 0, South Devon 9.

KENT County are, to our eyes, a model of efficient administration and enterprise, largely, we suspect, due to the years of tremendously hard work put in by Secretary GEORGE MANNOCCH, who last year issued 600 circulars and wrote 545 individual letters.

The County has added nearly another 1,000 members since last year, the line-up for 1950-51 being 19 leagues with approximately 5,210 members. Really good going, and with the steadily increasing strength of its juniors, it looks as though Kent will be hammering at the top door in the not too distant future.

* * *

DENNIS THOMPSON, first Chairman and founder-member of the Gloucester County T.T.A. and for many years Chairman of the Cheltenham League, recently left after ten years' residence, and the most unflinching, industrious and conscientious service to T.T. in the area which any man could give. He has taken up a business appointment at Norwich. The considerable loss to Gloucestershire will be the gain of Norfolk, and we feel sure that Dennis will have a right royal welcome there, by the keen and hospitable Norfolk enthusiasts.