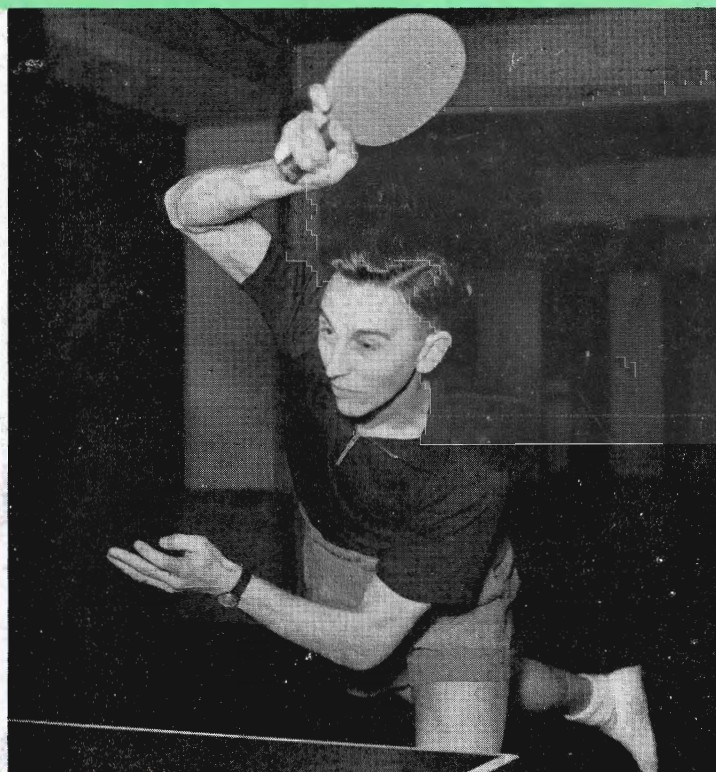


TABLE TENNIS



JOHNNY DOES IT AGAIN!

Contributors include:

VICTOR BARNA

JACK CARRINGTON

MICKY THORNHILL

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GEOFF HARROWER

PETER MADGE

**World
Championships—
Swaythling and
Corbillon Cup
Dispatches**

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

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No. 6

MAGNIFICENT!

SUNDAY, March 11th, was a truly red-letter day for English Table Tennis when, for the first time in the history of International Table Tennis, English-born players won two World titles.

Johnny Leach disposed of the brilliant young Frenchman, Roothoft, in the quarter-finals after a hard-fought game, and followed this with a semi-final victory over Tereba, member of the victorious Czechoslovakian Swaythling Cup team, to meet Ivan Andreadis in the final of the Men's Singles. Andreadis had been playing in brilliant form throughout the championships, and in the Swaythling Cup Final had won his three games to give Czechoslovakia their 5-4 victory over Hungary.

Johnny played a clever and often brilliant game in slowing down his mercurial opponent, and after he had contrived to win a close third game in 19 minutes the ultimate result was seldom in doubt.

In the Corbillon Cup the Rowe twins had been the mainstay of the England side, and although they failed in the singles against Austria, they won all their doubles matches in convincing style. However, it was in the Women's Doubles Championship that they really came into their own, and at their first attempt won the coveted cup—a remarkable feat when one realises that they are still only seventeen years of age.

In the semi-final Diane played superbly, encouraging her sister over an early attack of nerves, and they won a hard-fought game against the former World Champion Mrs. G. Farkas and Miss R. Karpati of Hungary. In the final they were opposed to Miss A. Roseanu, who was the outstanding woman player in the Championships, and Mrs. Szasz of Rumania. Roseanu was playing at her brilliant best and it was essential for the twins to attack consistently and notwithstanding the brilliant counter-hitting of Roseanu, their policy of relentless topspin eventually broke down the Rumanians and they won the final game to 12.

SCORES

MEN'S SINGLES.—Semi-finals: J. Leach (England) beat V. Tereba (Czechoslovakia) —21, 9, 22, 11. I. Andreadis (Czechoslovakia) beat F. Sido (Hungary) 14, 19, —13, 20.

Final: J. Leach beat I. Andreadis —16, 18, 18, 12.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES.—Semi-finals: Misses D. and R. Rowe (England) beat Mrs. G. Farkas and Miss R. Karpati (Hungary) 14, —6, 15, —15, 12. Miss A. Roseanu and Mrs. Szasz (Rumania) beat Mrs. L. Thall-neuberger and Miss Ichkoff (U.S.A.) 17, 19, —16, 19.

Final: Misses D. and R. Rowe beat Miss Roseanu and Mrs. Szasz 20, 19, —19, —20, 12.

Results, reports and eyewitness accounts will appear in our April issue.

England Salutes
3 World Champions



Johnny Leach



Diane Rowe

Rosalind Rowe



Johnny Leach and the Rowe twins arrived back in triumph after their magnificent performances in Vienna.

Something Must Be Done

"... do not let us argue County Matches
OR Tournaments"

by IVOR C. EYLES

Hon. Sec. Glos. T.T.A.

IN Gloucestershire we consider that County Matches must take pride of place (immediately after Internationals and National Opens) in order to live. Yet we must face that Open Tournaments must have stars to attract the public. Therefore we must devise some method of avoiding clashes between the various competitions.

A solution I suggested (and which was well supported at the recent N.C.C. meeting considering Rules) was that County Matches should all be played on a certain Saturday in the month, on similar lines to Football Leagues. The fixtures, drawn up in June, could be circulated to all Open Tournament organisers who, I believe, could quite easily fit in their own particular tournaments. This arrangement need not bar any county from playing on a date more suitable.

The Home Counties who normally play on evenings other than Saturday could, of course.

I think County Matches are more beneficial to the game than Open Tournaments, which are (in my view) still too poorly organised, and the expenses involved are beyond the pockets of many young players. County matches provide ideal conditions, tense atmosphere, the team incentive, and expenses paid to travel over the country meeting the best, etc. I cannot imagine better training for English teams.

But do not let us argue County Matches OR Tournaments. Support my proposal, or devise some other method by which both may go on in complete harmony. If you agree, write to Geoff Harrower; I know he would appreciate your views.

Avoid These Clashes

urges MALCOLM SCOTT
Chairman, Wolverhampton T.T.
Association.

EARLIER this season I saw the finals of one of our best major Opens spoilt for the spectator, solely because star players (who would have prevented one-sided contests) were required for county matches elsewhere.

This is all wrong. It's not fair to the organisers nor to the public. At present there is a conflict of opinion as to which should have priority of support, Open, Tournament or County match. Surely, even if not simple, there is a practical solution. Why can't the County Championships make a firm fixture list taking into consideration the dates of the major Tournaments at the beginning of the season?

I know there are difficulties and various points of view, but obviously *something* must be done, for the position will obviously get worse every season. Has anyone a better idea?

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SWAYTHLING AND CORBILLON CUPS

Dispatches from Vienna

March 4 (5.30 p.m.)

The English Men's team had no difficulty in winning their first three matches, and it appears that their only real obstacle to reaching the final will be Yugoslavia.

March 4 (11.30 p.m.)

Anxious hopes of regaining the Corbillon Cup rose when Diane and Rosalind Rowe put up a magnificent show against Hungary to win by three matches to two. The two lost matches were against former world champion Gizelle Frarkas, but with a little bit of luck they would each have beaten her.

March 5 (5.30 p.m.)

England continued to-day (Monday) their efforts to regain the Corbillon Cup, with Peggy Franks and Joyce Roberts taking over during the morning and afternoon sessions against Yugoslavia and Italy respectively, easy wins being recorded in each case.

Meanwhile, our men also had an easy win over Luxembourg, Leach and Simons being rested for the evening match against Yugoslavia.

* * *

Unfortunately, the Welsh girls could not keep up their big effort of Saturday and Sunday, and losses to Rumania and Belgium put them out of the running. Audrey Bates played well against last season's world semi-finalist, Mrs. Szasz, nearly winning in two straight games.

* * *

The sensation of the tournament has been the play of the 13-year-old Indian girl, Miss Sayeed Sultana. Miss Sultana is the youngest player ever to play in the team events at the world championships, and she has already won seven out of her ten singles and taken a game from the reigning world champion, Anglica Roseanu.

This is the first time that an Eastern winning team has ever played outside the Eastern hemisphere.

March 5 (10 p.m.)

England were surprisingly beaten by Yugoslavia 5-4 in the Swaythling Cup to-night (Monday). Only Johnny Leach played in anything like his normal form and won his three matches in good style.

The Yugoslavs sprang a surprise by dropping Dolinar and replaced him by Vogrinc, and this proved a

turning point in the match, with Vogrinc beating Simons when England were leading 4-3.

In the evening, however, Wales showed the form which enabled them to beat Scotland and Czechoslovakia, and scored an excellent win over France, Audrey Bates again being in fine form to beat the French star, Miss H. Beolet, at 21-11, 21-12.

This enabled Wales to win 3-1 and move up to joint third place in their group.

As anticipated, the Welshmen had no difficulty in beating Luxembourg 5-0, and they seem likely to take fourth place in their section.

March 6 (5.30 p.m.)

The Welsh and Scottish girls did extremely well to-day, beating Holland and India, both by 3-0, while Scotland had a sensational day beating Czechoslovakia 3-1 and France 3-0.

* * *

The Welshmen, as expected, lost 5-0 to Yugoslavia, but all three players put up a fine show, and Stan Jones in particular, by taking a game from Dolinar, gave the Welsh contingent something to cheer for.

* * *

There were some extraordinary feats of endurance to-day. In the Corbillon Cup Trudi Pritzi (Austria) once again figured in a time-limit match, beating the Yugoslav Miss Temunovic 4-3, 21-9.

It took 18 minutes to play the first three points, and the players were level at three-all after 20 minutes. They were given five minutes to play a final point, and Miss Temunovic pushed the ball off after 1½ minutes. Later, an even longer match took place between Phe Quoc Huy, of Viet-Nam, and Eckl, of Austria. The Viet-Nameese won the first game 8-4 with the score being only 2-1 at 18½ minutes, and the second game ended with the even more ridiculous score of 3-2 to Eckl!

March 6 (9.30 p.m.)

Despite a brilliant display by their No. 1, Harangozo, Yugoslavia lost 3-5 to Hungary in the first leg of the three-cornered Swaythling Cup final.

Owing to the long rallies in this match, the England versus Austria ladies' game did not start until after 10 p.m. (9 p.m. Greenwich mean time).

It opened disastrously for us, for

Rosalind Rowe was comfortably beaten 14-21, 14-21 by the 16-year-old Austrian girl Linda Werlt.

It was a big disappointment when Diane and Rosalind Rowe could not manage to beat Austria in the group final of the Corbillon Cup, and so England failed to reach the final of either team event. Only consolation was the twins' very easy win over Linda Werlt and Trudi Pritzi, 11-21, 15-21, in the ladies' doubles.

SWAYTHLING CUP FINAL Czechoslovakia 5, Hungary 4

March 7 (9.30 p.m.)

Details: Andreadis beat Koczian 21-17, 21-12, beat Sido 19-21, 21-17, 21-18, beat Szepesi 21-9, 22-20; Tereba beat Szepesi 21-17, 21-13, lost to Koczian 14-21, 15-21, lost to Sido 16-21, 15-21; Vana lost to Sido 18-21, 21-17, 19-21, beat Szepesi 21-12, 21-6, lost to Koczian 13-21, 20-22.

In the afternoon Czechoslovakia easily beat Yugoslavia by 5-1 once more, only Harangozo putting up a show. This evening, however, there was a tense final between Czechoslovakia and Hungary. On paper Czechoslovakia should have won fairly easily, but Sido and Koczian put up a great fight for Hungary, and winning two singles each levelled the score at four-all after being love-two down at one stage. Hungary nearly won 5-3 with Sido leading Andreadis 17-13 in the third game, but at this stage his back-hand flick failed him and three quick points were lost.

CORBILLON CUP FINAL Rumania 3, Austria 1

March 7 (11.45 p.m.)

Details (Rumanian players first): Miss Roseanu beat Miss Werlt 21-17, 21-18; Mrs. Szasz beat Miss Pritzi 21-15, 15-10; Roseanu and Szasz lost to Pritzi and Werlt 21-13, 16-21, 21-23; Miss Roseanu beat Miss Pritzi 21-7, 21-2.

There was an appropriate finish to four days of surprises, Austria, overwhelmingly strong favourites to win the Corbillon Cup, were beaten 3-1 in the final by Rumania.

Even more surprising was the fact that Trudi Pritzi was beaten in both her singles, losing an amazing final match 21-7, 21-2 to Anglica Roseanu. Earlier she had been out-generalled by Mrs. Szasz, who often finished a lengthy pushing rally with an outright winner. Even so, the second game ended on the 20-minute time limit.

So you enjoyed that Final ? But— did you learn anything from it ?

This month's Tip is something quite different. The whole page is devoted to a tournament match between two young players. It can teach you how to learn by close observance, a lesson well known and constantly practised even by World Champions. Keen observation of others' play, AND learning from it, is one of the keys to success.

IT is common knowledge that we all may learn from watching the best players in action.

But, often enough, the inexperienced eye cannot pick out the lessons behind the apparently effortless styles. In fact, the lessons are sometimes clearer to us when watching *average* performers, if we admit that **WHAT-NOT-TO-DO** is as valuable a lesson as **WHAT-TO-DO**. Of course, we get these ingredients in varying proportions according to the class of the players !

For our lesson this month, then, I have selected an actual match between two players of fairly high standard but relatively inexperienced.

This was the final of the Men's Singles of the London University T.T. Association, in which **ALAN SHERWOOD**, of Bournemouth, and London School of Economics, beat **STEPHEN GREENBURY**, of Middlesex, and Northampton Polytechnic, by 21—15, 21—16, 18—21, 13—21, 21—14.

The Cast

Both contestants are 18; there the resemblance ends. Sherwood is dumpy, heavily built, jerky but resourceful in play; Greenbury is taller, better balanced and fluent in stroke-play.

FIRST GAME

Sherwood set a fast pace, with whippy little forehand drives, alternated with small backhand pushes. His soft touch on these stop-shots was remarkably good, but as he gave the ball a very minute top-spin effect, it did generally sit up more than the classic Bubby stop-shots which kill the ball dead by a minute *back-spin* effect.

As luck had it, it was the very "looseness" of these shots which lured Greenbury to his undoing for 2 whole games.

Greenbury was over-keyed for the occasion. I am prepared to believe that normally he has a good degree of success in killing such short balls, but at 0—8 he should have realised that his touch was well out.

Sherwood, looking a little surprised, soon found himself 2 games up.

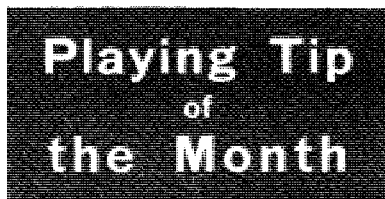
CRISIS 1:

At this point I award Sherwood **CREDIT** for (1) Tactics—rushing the stylish stroke-player around and breaking the rhythm; (2) Nerve—standing his ground when Greenbury tried to knock him back from the table, and (3) Judgment—in his use of the unusual forehand half-volley and counter-hits.

But we were yet to see him really tested; he had been playing a leading game throughout.

And the award to Greenbury: **CREDIT** only for Courage, he fought well but not wisely. **FAULT**, however, for (1) Tactics—this was a 5-game match, his opponent was heavier and slower, and had deliberately chosen a "sudden death" tempo. Greenbury, by rushing everywhere to the pitch of the ball; by chancing his arm on doubtful balls, *helped Sherwood to exchange points rapidly* with little expenditure of physical or mental stamina. **Fault** (2) for Judgment—his natural shots were just failing him. He fell into the trap of trying even more difficult "long shots." Particularly desperate was that frequently attempted counter-flick *on the reach* against Sherwood's wide-placed backhand drive.

Not one player in 50 can use a counter-flick properly, Stephen.



by Jack
Carrington

THE THIRD GAME

Clearly Greenbury had been thinking during the moment's pause between games. (That's a good way to use the pause, boys and girls.)

Playing coolly at last, he revealed a severe low chop defence on both wings, far preferable to the hasty pushing of the first two games. Occasionally he would counter-hit quite slowly from about 1-ft. behind the table.

Alan Sherwood, keyed up for speed, was at first completely puzzled; no longer could he play by impulse—instead he had to make many decisions, for which his experience was not quite adequate.

So he trailed behind by 1—8. There was no hope of this game—until his opponent again took a hand. Greenbury fretted to exploit his 8—1 lead by speeding up again, and forgetting entirely that the precious 8 points had been earned by the slowing-down process. When a ball sat up high, he tried to atomise it, whereas a placed kill would easily pass Sherwood, who had committed himself to half-volley defence.

Result: Sherwood now led by 9—8! Both players were by now thoroughly scared, both of their opponent and of themselves. Johnny Leach, also watching, commented: "They're trying to give it to each other!"

CLIMAX

Climax came when Sherwood led 18—17. Perspiration flooded his spectacles.

While he got busy with the towels, Greenbury soothed his own nerves by making a one-man circular tour, pausing with elaborate unconcern to remove a fag-end from the arena.

Back came Alan Sherwood, anxious to clinch a 3—0 victory. Too anxious. With monumental calm and every sign of a carefully prepared plan, he placed his first service—full toss into the net!

18—all, and before our sympathetic smiles had faded, it was 18—21 and Stephen Greenbury was back in the fight. In fact, he was completely on top in that 4th game, which Sherwood appeared to devote to thinking over his lost chance.

CRISIS 2:

At 2 games-all I could now award Greenbury: **CREDIT** for Tactics and Judgment, for obvious reasons outlined above.

And the award to Sherwood: **FAULT** mainly for Judgment. He failed to note Greenbury's new tactics and failed to realise that he himself was slowing a little and therefore no longer surprising Greenbury with his snap hits.

(Club players do not have enough experience of best-of-5 tactics. One lesson, quickly learned, is that "rush" tactics can bring a 2—0 lead, but seldom a 3—0 win. Those of us who have battled with Bergmann speak feelingly on this point.)

FAULT, a bad one this, for Tactics—too much bat-shaking after a mistake, Alan. You must not give your opponent the slightest excuse for optimism.

FAULT here to both players for the Tactical error of missing their kills after working hard to produce the positions. They persisted in trying to put them away with every ounce of their strength.

About three-quarters strength allows for more accurate timing and cuts out the balloon barrage effects, boys.

FIFTH GAME

Grand stuff. Greenbury played confidently at last, like a man who has come into his own, but Sherwood took a new hold on himself and determined to challenge his opponent at his own long game.

After a few fruitless snap-hitting attempts, he began to build up his rallies with long drives. This turned out to be the master-move; the radical change at this stage was just enough to unsettle Greenbury.

Nevertheless, Stephen, you showed defeat in your face 4 points before it had really arrived.

Summing Up

I class this as a fine match, with something for all of us, because, frankly, both players are of equal capability, and everything hinged on Studying the situations as they developed.

Not forgetting—studying the man at the other end—**AND THE MAN AT THIS END!**

Thanks, Alan. Thanks, Stephen.

**Irish Lose 0-9 but
Fight Hard
Liverpool, 9th February**

It was a novel experience to sit in the plush comfort of a theatre and witness an international match on the stage. It must have been a delight to players and audience to enjoy the clean air of "No Smoking." The magnificent Liverpool Philharmonic Hall provided a venue of elegance and dignity for the visit of the "Fighting Irish" against the full England team for the World Championships (with the exception of the Rowe Twins).

And what improving players these Irish are. Undaunted by their formidable opponents, they stormed in like Spitfires with all guns blazing, and neither the result nor the scores give sufficient credit to a lively match which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, including the gallant losers. A study of the scores is interesting.

Results

J. LEACH beat V. Mercer 20, 17, 12 ; A. SIMONS beat I. E. Martin 10, 20 ; B. KENNEDY beat H. O'Prey 16, —20, 11 ; R. ALLOCOCK beat J. Fox 21, —16, 15 ; Miss M. FRANKS beat Miss H. Agnew 16, 17 ; Miss A. WOOD beat Miss C. A. Egan 19, 12.

J. LEACH/R. ALLOCOCK beat I. E. Martin/J. Fox 16, —20, 19 ; A. W. SIMONS/B. KENNEDY beat V. Mercer/H. O'Prey 13, 12. M. FRANKS/A. WOOD beat H. Agnew/C. A. Egan 9, 9.

They Challenged England



"The Youngest Team in England"

West Bromwich seems to lead the followers—in young ladies!

These teen-toppers (all under 12) really hoped that someone would take their challenge up, but though disappointed, they were not downhearted. They entered the Ladies Team K.O. (receiving only 4 points) and met a local works team, average age 22. Yes, they lost 1-8, but nearly took another game. Dorothy, indeed, once deputised in the ladies league match and won all her 3 games! May we introduce: Diana Badham, 11½; Josie Scottock, 11½; Barbara Wall, 10½; Dorothy Worrall, 11½, and they really are a team.

Another 4-girl team—all under 9—are practising hard to beat their "seniors," and if that enthusiasm is not enough, Barbara's 5-year-old sister must also "have her go" standing on a special little platform!

**Stanley and Andree Jones
win Irish Open Titles
Belfast, 27th-28th January, 1951**

WINNER of the J.S. last year, the steadily improving teen-ager **ANDREE JONES** (Liverpool) continued and confirmed her steady progress to national honours by winning the Irish W.S. title. In her passage she beat both C. Egan and H. Agnew, the Irish Nos. 1 and 2, and played coolly and cleverly to beat the strong attack of Miss Pithie, Scotland's No. 2, in the final. She was subsequently selected as reserve for the England v. Ireland match in Liverpool.

A. H. COSTELLO (Bolton), now with the R.A.F., fast, keen and severe, distinguished himself in beating Irish internationals Mercer (No. 1) and J. Fox (No. 3) to reach the final.

Results

M.S. Semi-final: A. Costello bt. J. Fox 18, 16, 17. K. Stanley bt. I. Martin 16, 17, 19.

Final: K. Stanley bt. A. Costello 16, 5, 16. W.S.: A. Jones bt. B. Pithie —18, 8, 12. M.D.: J. Carrington/K. Stanley bt. I. Martin/J. Fox —16, 20, 19, 17.

W.D.: A. Jones/H. Agnew bt. Boyle/Mercer 19, 20.

X.D.: O. Prey/B. Pithie bt. Kerr/Coombe 14, 12.

J.E.S.: N. Hurkin bt. H. McBride 18, —9, 16.

**North meets South
in**

**J. M. Rose Bowl Battle
From FRANK GEE**

The focal point of the Rose Bowl fixture Manchester v. West London was, of course, the first visit of the **ROWE TWINS** to Manchester and, viewed from playing ability, turn-out, deportment, and personality, Manchester has never before seen such a charming pair. **ADELE WOOD** proved that, at present, she is the only player of world class in Manchester. She had difficulty with Diane's powerful and cleverly varied attack, but against Rosalind it was a "toss-up" to the end, with two very sound tactical players trying to outwit each other.

The Manchester weather duly obliged in the way it alone can and Mr. Wiggins (with the West London team) even carried his umbrella everywhere he went inside the building.

Manchester beat London Civil Service 6—1 in their Wilmott Cup match on 19th February, Ken Craigie, in a quickfire hitting match with Alcock, being the only visitor to win.

West London 7, Manchester 0

D. Rowe bt. A. Wood —17, 9, 11; bt. J. Titterton 15, 16. R. Rowe bt. A. Wood 19, —15, 15. D. Ellis bt. E. Grimstone 13, —14, 15; bt. J. Titterton 22, —20, 14. R. Rowe/D. Ellis bt. E. Grimstone/J. Titterton 15, —18, 9. R. Rowe/D. Rowe bt. E. Grimstone/A. Wood —15, 10, 18.

**England beat Scotland 9-0
Cheltenham, 13th February**

England's 9—0 win over Scotland was decisive. With 5 of England's World Championships teams, it was "facing fearful odds" for Scotland, and the scores do not do justice to the resilience and improving qualities of the visitors. Best match of the evening was Rosalind Rowe's win over Edinburgh's hard-hitting Betty Pithie. Helen Elliott, great Scots champion and world-ranking player, had a bad night and found Diane Rowe's fast and forceful left-handed game much too good.

Cheltenham maintained their traditional reputation of hospitality and presentation. More than 1,000 spectators filled the fine Town Hall and the Mayor presented commemorative plaques (on behalf of the C.T.T.L.) to each member of the teams. After the match, officials, guests and players adjourned to an enjoyable supper party.

Results

J. LEACH beat V. Garland 7, 4 ; A. SIMONS beat R. Forman 5, 8 ; B. KENNEDY beat M. McMillan 16, 16 ; K. HURLOCK beat J. Hillan 14, 18 ; Miss R. ROWE beat Mrs. B. Pithie 18, 18 ; Miss D. ROWE beat Miss H. Elliott 10, 18. J. LEACH/K. HURLOCK beat V. Garland/R. Forman 10, 16 ; A. SIMONS/B. KENNEDY beat J. Hillan/M. McMillan 7, 10. D. ROWE/R. ROWE beat H. Elliott/B. Pithie 15, 16.

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

Important matters are summarised here monthly.

The W. J. Pope Memorial booklet has now been circulated, and many letters of appreciation have been received. Mr. Austin Carris (a Vice-President) has donated 10/- towards the cost. Copies are available from the E.T.T.A. at 1/- each.

Dress Regulations.

THE N.E.C. have been reviewing the rule regarding Dress, which in some cases is not being carried out. There were also complaints of pullovers, etc., being in common use which were of different colour than the shirt. It was unanimously felt desirable that all representative teams should be uniformly dressed. Meanwhile, a sub-committee has been appointed to draft a rewording of Rule 23.

Further Concession to Youth Clubs.

A FURTHER concession is to be made to encourage the affiliation of Youth Clubs to local leagues. Instead of an affiliation fee of 4/- for each bona fide youth club, plus 2/6 for each additional team, this is to be 3/- and 1/6 respectively. In effect, this makes the E.T.T.A. affiliation fee a nominal amount, for the cost of the Handbook and County Rebate costs between 1/6 and 2/-.

Open Tournaments.

THE Open Tournaments Sub-Committee has recommended some amendments to the Rules governing Open Tournaments which have not always been adequately covered this season. These refer to the classification of tables and balls, the completion of all scheduled events, the calling of players long before required, and the late commencement and finish of the finals.

Dress for the England Teams.

THE England teams taking part in the World Championships in Vienna are to be officially provided with a uniform style of dress, consisting of track suits, shirts, shorts and shoes.

Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl Competitions.

IT is proposed to recommend that the entry fee for these competitions should be increased to a flat rate of 5/- instead of the existing 2/6 for each round.

Festival of Britain, 1951.

JACK CARRINGTON has been asked to organise the demonstrations of Table Tennis, which are to be arranged in connection with the Festival of Britain in May and September.



Progress of County Umpire Scheme to 1st February.

Extracted from the Report of the Hon. Secretary,
GEOFF JAMES

TWENTY counties had fully qualified Umpires' Committees, and 5 additional counties were in course of qualification. Middlesex, using their closed championships to qualify Probationary Umpires, now had 47 qualified umpires. Hants., Kent and Devon, with 16, 15 and 14 respectively, were next in numbers. There were 170 qualified Umpires (68 full, 102 probationary), and it was expected to have 600-700 by the end of the season. A practical Umpire's Guide and Handbook is being considered, and Devon, Kent and Suffolk have submitted excellent recommendations.

Experience gained this year will be valuable in improving the scheme in many ways and also extending it for a higher grade. Badges are being issued and have been very well received. The English Open was umpired exclusively by County Umpires.

Stolni Tenis

THE words STOLNI TENIS explain themselves when we mention that the Yugoslavian T.T. Federation now publish their own magazine under this title. Tibor Harangozo, the official national coach, is editor. Incidentally, Tibor has also recently been coaching the Austrian teams for the World's Championships.

Yugoslavia have four major tournaments a year, and every quarter-finalist and up is awarded points, the total result deciding his ranking and selection. During February, the Yugoslavian team is engaged in international matches in Germany, Sweden and Denmark prior to the World Championships at Vienna.

Successful General Council Meeting in the North

Liverpool, 10th Feb.

THE Chairman, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, opened the General Council with an omnibus report covering Incorporation, Administration, the Selection Committee, International T.T. Federation matters, Bergmann, etc. Delegates appreciated his scrupulous impartiality and attention to detail, particularly in dealing with Selection and Bergmann and questions.

Mr. Montagu spoke for nearly three-quarters of an hour to an absorbed meeting, and few present knew, or would have guessed, from his clear concise exposition, that some hours before he had been at the draw of the World Championships in Vienna, flying half across Europe non-stop, catching the Liverpool express by a margin, conducting a three-hour session of the N.E.C. which (after the General Council) would continue until past midnight.

Administration

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. K. Vint, made reference to the difficulty of adequately filling the void created by Mr. Pope's death, and spoke appreciatively of the sterling work of the Admin. Sec., Mrs. K. Pegg, and the universal good will and co-operation. Matters of past, present and future importance were mentioned.

Following a brief discussion, it was unanimously recommended that the offices of Hon. Secretary and Treasurer be combined in the 1951 elections. Mr. Vint, in a reply, agreed to stand for the joint office.

The Magazine

The subject of *Table Tennis Magazine* created a precedent by provoking the liveliest interlude of the meeting in which many delegates took part. Many constructive suggestions were made, and also some critical comments. "We have good photographers in the North," reminded one. "Why were 3,200 words used to cover the English and only so many hundred for such and such an event?" "Why were some events reported and in comparable ones only the results given?"

The Editor, Mr. Woollard, was delighted with the healthy interest shown and hoped the frank and friendly North would continue to bombard him with such helpful criticisms and suggestions. He mentioned economic and other difficulties; of how some leagues had efficient magazine correspondents and a sales organisation, and through these efforts benefited accordingly. Mr. G. Harrower gave figures of improved circulation and advertising, which, in face of the printing dispute and other hazards, must be considered as very satisfactory. Mr. E. G. White (a former Editor of the Magazine) wound up.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

Middlesex Win Title For Fourth Time Running

Interest was maintained until the end in most divisions of the Championships, with exceptionally exciting finishes in the Premier Division and the Junior West Section

Herewith the honours list (Divisional winners):

Premier—Middlesex,

Junior South—Kent,

Junior West—Glamorgan.

Southern—Surrey,

Northern—Yorkshire,

Home Counties—Bedfordshire.

North Midland—Lancashire,

East Anglian—Essex,

and (not yet decided)

South-Western — Glamorgan or Middlesex.

There was an extraordinary finish in the Premier Division, with at-the-top-of-the-table Surrey just failing to overhaul Middlesex, with Middlesex the winners by the smallest margin since the championships began, whilst at the other end the finish was even closer, and Yorkshire and Warwickshire tied on both points and games.

There is nothing in the Rules to cover this situation, and there will either have to be a play-off, or else both counties remain in the Premier Division, and increase the number of counties to eight, which is now possible by the revised rules which come into force for next season.

Four counties have challenged for a place in the Premier Division, and the draw resulted as follows:—

Cambridgeshire v. Glamorgan.

Bedfordshire v. Cheshire or Lincolnshire.

I said "four challengers." for, of course, only one out of Cheshire or Lincolnshire, whoever wins their postponed match, can be the challengers. It should be explained that if a second team from a county heads a divisional table, then the highest county, not a second team, can challenge. This has happened in the case of Cambridgeshire and either Lincs. or Cheshire.

It would not be right to close these notes without especially congratulating the Glamorgan Juniors, who put up the best performance of the month with their 9-1 win over Nottingham to secure the title on games average.

London readers, too, might like to know that a special challenge match is being played between Surrey and Middlesex (first teams) at the Croydon Baths on Monday, 19th March, starting at 7 p.m.

LATEST RESULTS AND LEAGUE TABLES

FINAL TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION

Lancashire 6, Gloucestershire 4

Warwickshire 6, Gloucestershire 4

Surrey 9, Yorkshire 1

Yorkshire 4, Lancashire 6

Essex 4, Surrey 6

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Middlesex	6	5	1	0	44	16	11
Surrey	6	5	1	0	42	18	11
Essex	6	3	1	2	33	27	7
Lancashire	6	3	0	3	28	32	6
Gloucestershire	6	1	1	4	27	33	3
Warwickshire	6	1	0	5	18	42	2
Yorkshire	6	1	0	5	18	42	2

JUNIOR DIVISION

(South Section)

Hertfordshire 6, Cambridgeshire 4

Middlesex 5, Essex 5

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Kent	5	5	0	0	37	13	10
Essex	5	3	1	1	33	17	7
Middlesex	5	3	1	1	30	20	7
Surrey	5	2	0	3	16	34	4
Hertfordshire	5	1	0	4	17	33	2
Cambridgeshire	5	0	0	5	17	33	0

(West Section)

Nottinghamshire 1, Glamorgan 9

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Glamorgan	4	3	0	1	26	14	6
Nottinghamshire	4	3	0	1	26	14	6
Gloucestershire	4	0	0	4	13	27	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Sussex 4, Surrey 6

Hampshire 8, Kent 2

Surrey 5, Hampshire 5

Kent 2, Sussex 8

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Surrey	6	5	1	0	47	13	11
Hampshire	6	2	2	2	28	32	6
Sussex	5	2	1	2	26	24	5
Kent	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

NORTHERN DIVISION

Cumberland 3, Durham 7

Yorkshire 7, Northumberland 3

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Yorkshire	6	6	0	0	49	11	12
Northumberland	6	4	0	2	35	25	8
Durham	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Cumberland	6	0	0	6	15	45	0

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

Middlesex 6, Warwickshire 4

Warwickshire 3, Middlesex 7

Glamorgan 10, Devonshire 0

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Glamorgan	5	4	1	0	36	14	9
Middlesex	5	3	1	1	30	20	7
Devonshire	5	2	0	3	18	32	4
Warwickshire	5	0	0	5	16	34	0

HOME COUNTIES DIVISION

Hertfordshire 7, Berkshire 3

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Bedfordshire	5	5	0	0	37	13	10
Buckinghamshire	4	2	1	1	21	19	5
Hertfordshire	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Berkshire	5	0	0	5	15	35	0

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

Lancashire 6, Lincolnshire 4

Derbyshire 3, Yorkshire 7

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Lancashire	6	5	1	0	45	15	11
Cheshire	5	4	1	0	34	16	9
Lincolnshire	5	4	0	1	36	14	8
Yorkshire	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Nottinghamshire	5	1	1	3	24	26	3
Leicestershire	5	1	0	4	16	34	2
Derbyshire	6	0	0	6	8	52	0

EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

Essex 9, Norfolk 1

Suffolk 0, Essex 10

Suffolk 6, Norfolk 4

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Essex	5	5	0	0	44	6	10
Cambridgeshire	4	3	0	1	21	19	6
Suffolk	6	2	0	4	18	42	4
Norfolk	5	0	0	5	17	33	0

OPINION

Selections from Readers' Letters

Personality Par

The More The Better

"In your February issue, Geoff. Pacey complained that the English Open Finals made too long a sitting.

"Our party left Nottingham at 7 a.m. on the Saturday and arrived home at 5 a.m. the following morning. On a day's outing like this an extra hour or so of play makes it all the more worthwhile undertaking the journey.

"I realise it is a strain on the players to play a hard semi-final followed with the Final, but they don't seem to complain! These Finals are, perhaps, the only time when we can see world-class players, so the more we see the better. If the semi-finals were omitted on the Saturday night, we should miss the chance of studying the play of the losing semi-finalists.

"I only wish the quarter-finals could be played off in the afternoon of the same day, then we really should see a good variety of players."

(Miss) H. KEYWOOD,
Nottingham.

Want to Call Us Names ?

"OUR club usually has six or seven league teams which have been distinguished by the letters "A," "B," "C," etc. It has been suggested that our teams be given different names (no rude remarks, please!) but up to now, no suitable titles have been thought of except the usual uncomplimentary ones.

"Can any of your many readers help us to solve this problem?"

J. ADDICOTT,
Exeter E.C. Community Centre.

St. Mary's Club, Bletchley, entitle their three teams Trojans, Comets and Nomads. Dutch clubs have some rather suggestive titles which include: Batswingers, Vice Versa, Well Shot, Barna, Never Down, Quick, Advance, Rapid. A name instead of a number certainly seems calculated to foster the team spirit.

Any suggestions ?

Should Loser Win ?

M. MARCEL CORBILLON has raised a matter that may provoke you to debate. Pointing out that in athletics it is only the final result which counts, M. Corbillon suggests that the player who has scored the most points should be the winner of a match.

For example, in last year's World Championship, Farkas beat Finberg, 21—19, 14—21, 21—18, yet Farkas scored only 56 points to Finberg's 58.

Or again, Lansky beat Urchetti (Switzerland) 5—21, 21—19, 21—12. Thus the winner only gained 47 points to the loser's 52.

Why Not ?

"TWO young friends have become good at doubles play, but all the Open Tournaments that are near enough for them to enter do not include JUNIOR doubles. WHY ?"

F.F., London, N.21.

Salute to England from Chile

"Your review is just great. The best of all. My congratulations for the superb work you are doing with the T.T. Magazine; I want to salute you and all the people concerned.

"It is very good to see Victor Barna now writing in the magazine; he knows so much about the game, and Jack Carrington's articles (and his comments and gossip) are very interesting. There is always so much that can be learned.

"Our Federation were intending to send a team to the World's, but the Argentine Association had organised the Pan-American Championships at Buenos Aires for March 17-26th. We shall miss the trip very much, as the experience would have benefited our game enormously. However, we are now in training for the Pan-American, and can be sure that there will be many thrilling 'affaires'!"

FERNANDO OLAZARRI
Champion and No. 1 of Chile.

CHARLIE SEAMAN (Sussex and England)

CHARLIE SEAMAN (Brighton) developed a deep-rooted affection for table tennis from the age of 12 when grandfather presented him with a set. Joining Sea House T.T.C. in 1931, he won the M.S. of the Brighton League the following season, and repeated the performance 9 times, in fact, he is the current title-holder, and has gained a total of 21 Brighton titles in his career. He first won the Sussex Closed in 1933, and about 7 times since, winning 2 cups outright.

He has been "capped" 5 times for England; France twice, Wales twice, and Ireland once, defeating Haguenaier in one. Charlie says he was helped immensely by the encouragement and coaching of that grand player, Victor Barna.

In 1939, he partnered Alec Brook in the first ever T.T. exhibition on ice, and, following a successful tour, volunteered for H.M. Forces in 1940.

His game is based on a very strong left-handed forehand drive backed by excellent deep defence. Naturally, he has lost some of his former speed, but is nevertheless still a fine player and formidable opponent. In Sussex T.T. he reigns supreme as a sportsman, and, winning or losing, always has a smile. This season Charlie has announced his retirement from first-class Table Tennis, and Sussex will not find it easy to replace his worth.

L.M.B.

ALL-YORKSHIRE REVELS

TO HELP COUNTY COACHING

19th January, 1951

FROM all parts of Yorkshire coaches of T.T. fans converged on Saltaire to throng the Sportsmen's Dance, organised in aid of the county coaching scheme.

It made a delightful, original and entertaining evening, for dancers and non-dancers alike. A real get-together in a county where this is rarely possible.

The programme was a replica of a table tennis bat (in size and shape) overprinted in blue, one of many charming ideas of Mrs. Aranka Forrest, whose ingenuity, taste and hard work were very much in evidence. A white rose on emerald ground made a suitable backcloth for the staging of the cabaret which ranged from classical music, Hungarian dances in national costume, and burlesque.

The highspot of the evening, however, was an exhibition match between Jack Carrington (Yorks Coach-in-Chief) and Victor Barna.

The Yorkshire press described it as "superb," "exhilarating," and "a thrilling climax."

"Three Girls and A Boy" of the Bradford League was another top favourite meriting insistent encores. Betty Clough and her team rivalling the Andrews Sisters in a close harmony rendering of "Civilisation." When the encore "had to be in the same tune," a few local characters suspected that their legs were being pulled, but this naturally added to the fun.

County badges were presented during the evening, but Brian Kennedy (away on R.A.F. duties) was unable to receive the illuminated testimonial which the county association is presenting to him on his selection for the Swaythling Cup team.

* * *

The 3rd Annual Championships of the County of London T.T. Army Cadet Force will be held at the Drill Hall, Sloane Square, S.W.1, at 6.30 p.m., on 17th March.

The Way to the Stars—No. 3

Probably the most long-standing and controversial Question in Table Tennis is boldly answered in no ambiguous terms by one who has an unrivalled reputation for winning in spectacular style from the hardest opponents the game has had. This is the unhesitating answer of a champion of champions, and his advice to those ambitious in international competition.

THE QUESTION

“Which, in your opinion, is the right approach to the game—(a) to win, regardless of how the match might appear to spectators, or (b) to risk losing by attempting to maintain a more spectacular game?”

answered by **Victor Barna**

IF any of you read *World Sports* regularly, then you will already know my answer to this question, as I recently had quite a battle on this subject in the correspondence columns of that magazine.

I was accused of advocating “winning (or rather ‘trying to win’)—never mind how,” and so disregarding British sporting spirit and everybody’s right to the enjoyment of a game for its own sake.

Just as I did on that occasion, I must explain right away, before going any further, that my views are in regard to *international* competition, and not to sport on the village green cricket sense, which is quite a different matter.

Rightly or wrongly, the modern world (if you can call the world of to-day “modern”) regards international competitive sport in the same way that it does art or science, and attaches a lot of prestige to it. Therefore I say that one should try with everything possible to **win—and never mind how**. Naturally this is not to be taken to mean **unfairly**, because that is a word which should not be in the vocabulary of any sportsman. No, I mean that one should try to win by attack, by defence, by tactics, by sheer guts and fighting spirit; or even by chiselling (if we are pinning it down to table tennis).

Up to the last World’s Meeting in Budapest, I maintained that the Men’s World Singles title was always won by an attacking player, or, shall I say, by an attacking game. But last February it was all different, and Bergmann’s chiselling games with Soos in the final went on for a very long time indeed. Unfortunately, lots of people blamed Bergmann for this, and said that a player of his class should not allow himself to drag the game down to such a low level. Some went even further, saying that if this sort of thing continued, table tennis as a sport and as a spectacle was finished.

Personally, I think Richard was justified—and his justification is that he *won!* That was the only thing that really mattered. If there was nobody good enough to out-hit him,



Victor Barna talking to Johnny Leach and Aubrey Simons.

then in my opinion he was not only justified in what he did, but deserved his win as well.

Besides, in the record books it will not be stated how he won. People have very short memories, therefore in the long run it becomes of no importance.

This brings us to the other question: will chiselling ruin table tennis? Well, frankly, our game is now so well established, and so popular, that nothing can ruin it. Certainly not chiselling. It would be just as crazy to say that cricket is done for, simply because there are times when players spend hours at the wicket scoring a very few runs—playing a strictly defensive game.

Incidentally I read with great interest Pinkie Barnes’ and John McIlveen’s opinions on this subject in relation to the Pritzi-Barnes match in the English Open; which, according to Pinkie, she only lost because after winning the first two games and having a good lead in the third, she preferred to continue her spectacular play. Needless to say, I am on John’s side in this argument and feel bound

to say I consider that Pinkie’s views on the subject were a little hasty.

Look at it this way. She won the first two games by hitting, and was leading 11—6 in the next, still playing the same kind of game, still attacking. Up to that point, her method had paid a good dividend. Why, and how, could she possibly tell that as from that moment, chiselling would have been better tactics? Besides, Pinkie is not good at pushing, and it is very, very doubtful whether she could have beaten Pritzi at her own game.

Remembering the successes of Bergmann, Soos, and recently Ehrlich and Roothoof, we must admit that the defensive type of game seems to be on top for the moment; very likely because the present standard (I am still talking about men) is not as high as it has been in the past. Consequently I still maintain that the proper approach to the game for a real Champion is to learn and to know **how to score points**; not merely to defend and wait for the other fellow’s mistakes.

In any event when you are playing an important match, don’t bother whether you are playing a spectacular game or not. Have only one thing in your mind—that is, PLAY TO WIN; because if you are debating in your mind whether or not to play to the gallery, your concentration is bound to suffer. And that means “you have had it!”

Victor Barna

Tournament Types

No. 1

“Friend-of-the-Stars” Type



Picks on someone he’s never seen before and tells them how he has advised several World Championship winners. Favourite gambit: “So I said to Victor, ‘The trouble with your flick, old boy, is . . .’”

From the Original idea of Geoff Coulthred (Singapore)

More “Types” coming up.

TOM BLUNN

Chairman, Lancs. T.T.A.

Looks over the Accounts

I THINK the most significant fact shown by the comparative figures is that the cost of administration has increased 23 per cent., while revenue from affiliation fees has only increased by 17 per cent.

Considering these figures (and also that affiliated clubs have risen by only 7 per cent.), we must conclude that only an increase in affiliation fees can keep a working balance, particularly as new premises and incorporation will increase administrative costs in subsequent years.

For several years the E.T.T.A. has existed on the profit from the English Open, and the present balance owes much to the proceeds of the past three years.

Postages, printing and stationery show increases, which, like telephone charges (with an increase of nearly £100), reflect the ever increasing activity of the Association. Headquarters rental is up by £130, and will be even higher in a full year.

I am surprised to find no reserve for legal charges, as a fair-sized bill must be mounting up for incorporation activities over two years.

National championships and touring teams, home and abroad, are the business of the E.T.T.A. and nobody

can grumble at the costs provided they are within reasonable limits. The receipt of £187 this year is a windfall from the previous year. Incidentally, one or two 1949 items have somehow managed to creep in.

I seem for ever pointing out the necessity of increasing the entry fees for the Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl competitions. Losses of £40, £46 and £112 in three successive years speak for themselves!

For the first time there has been a net profit on International matches. And surely Open Tournament Fees, Ball and Shirt Rebates can be classified as "unearned income"? Sundry expenditure of £150 is mainly in respect of the Barna Fund.

The Balance-sheet raises little comment, but will somebody please tell me what is the "Comity Cup Fund"?

Again nothing has been included in respect of Office Equipment, Trophies and stock (e.g., stationery). These items must be considered as an undisclosed reserve.

Once more give thanks to an over-worked Treasurer who stuck to his job. It is a pity that the printer did not do the same.

TOM BLUNN.

A copy of the 189 pp. Official Annual E.T.T.A. Handbook is sent FREE to the Hon. Secretary of every affiliated club (and certain other officers), and is in this way available for the use of every individual member. The accounts to which Mr. Blunn refers are shown in detail on pp. 176-9 of the current edition. The figures below are condensed from the detailed comparisons prepared by Mr. Blunn. Our apologies for the brevity.

Income and Expenditure Account (Condensed) for the Year Ended 30th June, 1950, with Comparative Figures.					
Expenditure.	1949.		1950.		Income.
	£	£	£	£	
Wages, etc.	627	798	Affiliation Fees, ...	2,513	2,937
Travelling	355	316	Less County Rebates	291	365
Rent	138	264			
Administrative Expenses	736	1,102			
				£2,222	£2,572
<i>Add Cost Handbook ...</i>	<i>401</i>	<i>409</i>	Fees, Donations, etc. ...	304	511
World and National Championships ...	580	637	Rebates (Ball, Shirts) ...	490	781
International Matches ...	45	—	English Open ...	1,827	1,462
Europe Cup	361	—	International Matches ...	—	129
Touring Teams, etc. ...	151	272	Europe Cup	—	187
Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl	46	112	Tourists in England ...	73	—
Dress, Trials, etc. ...	102	69	Sundry Publications ...	97	66
Sundries	—	150			
SURPLUS for season ...	1,371	1,579			
	£5,013	£5,703		£5,013	£5,703

Middlesex (Herga) Open

Harrow, 17th February.

The competition was somewhat marred by the withdrawal of leading players for county matches, etc.—D. Burridge and A. Rhodes being particularly noted; the latter will go a long way with a little more consistency to his devastating attack. The Miller v. Adams was a dour fight; Miller looked a beaten man when losing the 3rd game to 10, yet emerged a worthy winner to a grand loser. The Men's Doubles final was the highlight of the evening, going to 5 grand games. The young challengers in the ladies' events were a little nervous, but showed promise for the future.

—Notes from S. W. Martin.

Results

M.S.	A. R. MILLER beat L. Adams 17, —18, —10, 21, 16.
W.S.	Miss J. ROBERTS beat Miss D. Spooner 12, 17.
M.D.	R. SHARMAN/L. ADAMS beat A. R. Miller/D. Burridge 20, —16, 15, —19, 16.
W.D.	Miss J. ROBERTS/Mrs. P. GEORGE beat Misses S. Smith/Y. Baker 15, 15.
X.D.	J. HEAD/Miss D. SPOONER beat D. Miller/Miss J. Roberts 15, 15.
J.B.S.	S. BROCKLEBANK beat I. Jones 19, 14.

IS IT A RECORD?

Husband Tony Miller won the Men's Singles; Mrs. Tony Miller (Joyce Roberts) the Women's Singles. Has this "Double Singles" been done before?

Table Tennis in Russia

INTEREST in table tennis is expanding in Soviet Russia as everywhere else in the world, and the Finals of the first U.S.S.R. Championships, held in Moscow in November, had an audience of more than 1,000.

Competitors came from as far afield as Armenia, Ukraine and the Baltic countries and included three former Swaythling Cup players from Lithuania. This country, indeed, took most of the titles.

The tournament was played on all-play-all system, winners being placed in order of results. VILIUS VARIAKOJIS (Lithuania) just managed to gain the title after equalising with FIMA DUSKESAS, five times Moscow champion and winner of the consolation in the World Championships of 1938/39. ONA ZALIVICUTE, member of a champion basketball team, easily won the women's title.

The *Soviet Sport* wrote enthusiastically of table tennis as a sport and a spectacle, saying that it merited equal place among other popular sports, and urging the equipment industry to increase and improve the supply of equipment.

ODD



SHOTS

TEN RULES FOR T.T. PLAYERS

after Karlheinz Simon
in **Tisch-Tennis** (German official magazine).

Even if you are not a Champion :

1. Always give your best in play and practice.
2. Always try to be an example of good sportsmanship.
3. Always remember that you are only one among thousands working for the good of the game.
4. Always fight your hardest for victory.
5. Always see your opponent as a fellow sportsman, not an enemy.
6. Always be loyal to your club and loyal to your team.
7. Always support your club and league, both by your presence and what small services you can.
8. Never be fanatical and prejudiced; appreciate the opponent's good points and performance.
9. Be loyal to our sport, because you belong to a great family of table tennis players.
10. And—even if you are not a Champion — always strive to become one.

THOSE "WINNING" WAYS

"I'm glad we've won—we're such bad losers!"

NORMAN WILSON, Hon. Sec. of the Irish T.T.A., is an inexhaustible bubble of good humour, and while he can speak with passionate eloquence on the virtues of table tennis better than most, he can tell a tale in a way that is sheer delight.

"Now Mr. L— came to our meeting," recounted Mr. Wilson, "and he had a problem. It seemed his league wanted a cup for their Ladies' Championship. Now cups cost a lot of money, so, of course, we dithered a bit. Then Mr. L— made it clear. It wasn't a cup he was after wanting. Appeared that they had had a cup given them, but it was one of these second-hand cups which already had an inscription. All that was wanted was to recondition the cup and put on a new inscription. It was felt that the present inscription would hardly be appreciated by the Ladies. The cup was produced and the inscription soberly read by all. It read: 'Awarded to the Best Bitch in the Show!'"

A correspondent complains that his laundry girl starched and ironed his shirt so that it resembled stage armour. One of life's little ironies.

Congratulations.

Gooseberry bushes are out-moded and T.T. babies are born under T.T. bats, or so England's Veteran Champion would have us believe. But we have to delightedly congratulate Miss TERESA (Terry) THOMPSON—all 6lb. 11oz. of her—on choosing Leo and Iris Thompson, of Bucks, for her parents, arriving on Sunday the 11th February, Leo is so experienced at "fathering" youngsters that she couldn't have made a better choice—particularly since she has those magic initials—T.T.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT

by **J. N. Renshaw (Watford)**

- 1 dash of Imagination ;
- 1 enthusiastic Committee ;
- 1 central Hall ;
- 1 lighting and equipment Expert ;
- Both hands full of Courage ;
- Bags of Hard Work.

Stir up well for 12 months, add a dash of Leach and Barna, and bring to Boiling Point on Finals Night. Serve with relish. Customers should receive with hands open, palm flat and thumb free.

EASTER "FIXTURE" LIST

Our sincere good wishes to:

... Popular, well - known **LEN ADAMS** (Middlesex and Civil Service) is to wed Miss **JOY COLE**, of Kirkburton, Yorks, before Easter. Honeymoon, Bournemouth. Keynote is **A FLAT**, unfurnished, London. Need urgent. Any goodwill suggestions?

... Beds County player **COLIN CROWE** is to marry Miss **SYLVIA MAXEY** on 17th March. Interrupts honeymoon to play in Beds. Open.

... Yorkshire's **ABE ABRAHAMSON**, who recently married Miss **ROSE FELDUN**, of Hull.

HARRY JOYCE (Middx.), holder of the South of England junior title, notched his second "open" when he defeated Bob Stevens (Essex) in the final of the South London Open junior event. There was some consolation for Bob — he won the Consolation Singles, beating fellow-countryman Les Hall in the final.

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

Conspiracy?

Two results from the Metropolitan

Open:—

W.S., 2nd Rd.: E. Weaver bt. M. Piper.
W.S., Cons.: Winner, M. Piper.

Two results from the South London

Open:—

W.S., 2nd Rd.: E. Weaver bt. M. Piper.
W.S., Cons.: Winner, M. Piper.

Spanish Ranking List

1, Alberto DUESO; 2, Jaime A'GUERRI and José Ma RAMON; 4-6, Jaime CAPDEVILA, Carlos GIL, Jorge SOLER; 7, Jaime BASSA; 8-10, Juan SALOMO, Torruella, Jorge Valeri.

J. M. ROSE was taken ill on his recent visit to South Africa, and had to return to London, though successfully performing several useful services for the E.T.T.A. May he soon be well. . . . **NORMAN COOK** seems to have started something with his recent broadcast in the Northern Region, for both juniors **JEFF INGBER** and **CLIFF BOOTH** were subsequently called to the "Mike." . . . Jeff wrote from Sweden to his uncle, Mr. J. LIVINGSTONE (President, Manchester League) that in visits to watch and pen factories they had each been presented with a watch and pen. Mr. Livingstone hopes they do not visit a steam-roller factory! . . . A well known T.T. official is reported car-rooning round the country with a parody on "I Taut I Taw . ." The words are not official. . . . Exhibition season everywhere. Prize to date goes to Watford, splendidly successful and highly profitable. The proceeds go mainly to youth development schemes.

ARTHUR WAITE, editor-publisher of *Table Tennis Review*, has been seriously ill, so that publication has been delayed. We are very pleased to hear he is now thoroughly fit and in harness again, and as may be seen from the announcement on page 14, the *Review* is to resume regular publication immediately.

Obituary

With deep regret we have to record the deaths of

Col. C. D. SHELDON,
for many years the beneficent
President of Kent T.T.A.,
and of

KENNETH NICHOLSON,
a former member of the N.E.C. and
a devoted worker for the cause of
Table Tennis.

TEENAGE PAGE

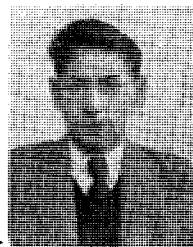
WRITTEN BY, FOR AND ABOUT UNDER 21's Contributions invited

MICHAEL
THORNHILL
(England,
Swaythling Cup,
R.A.F.,
Middlesex)

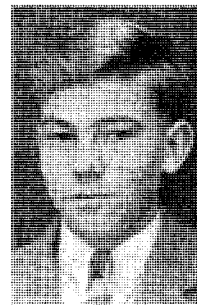


Edited by

Peter Inge



JEFF INGGER
(above)
See Feb. Magazine



JIMMY LOWE has already dealt very well with the subject of "Stepping Into the Seniors," but he did forget one other step that has to be taken shortly after by most male juniors—one that takes them right into the land of boots and brass. Here then is **MICHAEL THORNHILL** to offer a few words of advice and comfort to those awaiting Call-up.

★ STEPPING INTO THE SERVICES ★

By Michael Thornhill

Most ex-juniors will have experienced only one season in senior table-tennis before being called up for two years' service in the Forces. This, we know, is a long time to be away from the game, but it need not be looked upon as wasted time, for in many cases valuable experience can be gained.

I would advise T.T. enthusiasts to serve their two years in the R.A.F., as this is the only Service which is affiliated to the E.T.T.A. If any league has an outstanding player who is about to join the R.A.F., please contact Flt.-Lt. Butler, H.Q., Bomber Command, High Wycombe, Bucks.

The R.A.F. has a full fixture list, including matches with the Civil Service and the United States Air Force. These matches are apart from inter-station and inter-command events, and you will also find that most camps have one or two teams in the local league, so there is plenty of competition.

The R.A.F. team is very strong, including such players as B. Kennedy, D. Shaw, A. Costello, J. Thurston, M. Isaacs, P. Smith, J. Cornwall and many others.

To give you some idea of the strength of the R.A.F. team, here are some of this season's fixtures and results:—

R.A.F. v. Civil Service, won 7—3.
R.A.F. v. U.S.A.A.F., won 9—0.
R.A.F. v. Manchester, drawn 5—5.
R.A.F. v. Civil Service, lost 4—5.
R.A.F. v. Bristol, lost 1—8.

The opposition is very strong in all these matches, including such players

as Aubrey Simons, Ken Craigie and Len Adams.

On the last two occasions of the English Open the R.A.F. entered Brian Kennedy and myself, and what a reward they had for taking this enterprising step. Brian's feat in reaching the final of the Men's Singles is now common knowledge, and to crown this marvellous display he has now been picked for the Swaythling Cup team to go to Vienna.

The annual R.A.F. Championships are held at Slough Community Centre and last year they were a great success. Inter-command and inter-station matches are played throughout the season on a knock-out system, and the finals of these are played at Slough on the same day as the finals of the individual events. This year the Championships will be held on the 4th and 5th of April, with the finals on the 6th.

To all players about to enter the R.A.F., very best of luck, and may you be as fortunate as I have been.

Michael modestly omits to mention that he, too, has been selected to go to Vienna with the Swaythling Cup team . . .

Here is a classic example of a player who has fought his way into the top flight . . . no meteoric rise to fame for Mickey; it was way back in 1945 that he first started to play

INTRODUCING (Right)

Gloucester's **BRYAN MERRETT**, selected for the England Junior team to play Wales on the 21st of this month.

Bryan is 16 and has one more season in the junior grade. Says he has no other reason for living than table-tennis!!! A defender in the Bergmann tradition, he occasionally essays a burst of hitting that is forceful if not tactical. Likes playing in tournaments and wishes they were not so scarce around his part of the world. Bryan has the hallmark of the West Countryman—even temper and quiet determination. If he has any marked likes or dislikes they relate to dress and wishes tournament committees would take a firmer hand in this matter. He likes to see doubles pairs dressed exactly alike.

* * *

AT HERNE BAY . . .

Under-21's broke through to every final at the Kent Open, but pride of place must go to **DEREK BURRIDGE** for his fine performance in reaching the final of the men's singles. He disposed of both Louis Devereaux and Keith Hurlock before losing to Harry Venner. Partnered by Tony Miller, Derek also reached the doubles final, where once more he found himself on the losing side against Venner.

Derek will soon be called up for his National Service, but is meanwhile enjoying a "final fling" of good form; recent victims including Tony Miller and Ken Craigie.

EDDIE SPIELBERG, 20-year-old London player, is fast improving . . . his straight games win over title-holder Jackie Head should not be the last we hear of him.

Yorkshire fans will be interested to know that **MAURICE SHEADER** is as keen as ever. He made an all-night 140-mile motor-bike trip to Herne Bay from his R.A.F. camp in Wiltshire. He was unlucky to find Derek Burridge in his group—their three-game struggle was as spectacular as any of the day; spectators were impressed by Maurice's immaculate forehand hitting—a delight to watch.

Interesting side-light on this tournament was that the single coach from London returned bearing the winners and runners-up of all events.

Hampshire Open

Southampton, 18 February

Semi-finals

- M.S. L. W. Muller beat L. Devereux 20, 9.
H. Venner beat S. Minter 19, —18, 16.
W.S. Miss E. Weaver beat Miss N. Piper 19, 13.
Mrs. D. Atherton beat Mrs. A. Fry —14, 12, 14.

Finals

- M.S. H. VENNER beat L. W. Muller —12, 16, 12.
W.S. Miss E. WEAVER beat Mrs. D. Atherton —16, 11, 7.
M.D. H. VENNER/J. HEAD beat B. Crouch/B. Brumwell 15 18.
W.D. Mrs. D. ATHERTON/Miss N. PIPER beat Misses E. Weaver/D. Spooner 20, 20.
X.D. H. VENNER/Miss N. PIPER beat B. Crouch/Miss E. Weaver —19, 14, 14.
J.S. S. BROCKLEBANK beat D. House 18, 12.

Southampton Open

January 21st

15-year-old D. HOUSE (Bath) reached the last 16 from an entry of 187, his victims including international B. Brumwell and R. Dale. Of the two New Zealanders, Trevor Flint was beaten in the quarter finals in a sparkling game with S. Minter (Portsmouth), and Jack Knowsley (partnered by Mrs. Atherton) lost the semi-final of the mixed doubles to B. Crouch/Miss E. Weaver. L. W. Muller (Southampton) gave H. Venner a shock by taking the first game in the final, and was formidable enough to prevent the England player taking any chances. Results in February issue.

—Notes from Miss L. Ferguson.

English Junior Internationals

Lose to Sweden

THE English Junior International team which, under the captaincy of T. E. Sears, has recently returned from their Swedish tour, were placed second in the International Junior Tournament by losing to Sweden. Eye witness accounts report, however, that the scores do not give justice to the fight put up by the English boys, who, throughout the tour had played with great success and were of comparable standard with our junior teams of previous years. Fuller details in the next issue of *Table Tennis*.

SWEDEN v. ENGLAND (JUNIORS)

B. Malmquist beat J. Hunt 16, 17; lost to J. Ingber —14, —19. L. Pettersson beat J. Ingber 11, 16; beat C. Booth 16, 15; beat J. Hunt —17, 8, 19. Skaj beat J. Ingber 20, 15; lost to C. Booth —20, 13, —19.

Midland Counties Open

Birmingham, 8-10 February

THE entry of Victor Barna and the Rowe Twins proved a big attraction, and the latter enhanced their growing reputation with a spectacular display in the Finals.

There were many surprises. The biggest, the defeat of Barna/Haydon. Leading 18—12 in the third set, Casofsky was hitting magnificently against Haydon, and with Stanley surged ahead to take the title.

Hazel Egerton (Birmingham) beat Betty Steventon and junior G. Pullar beat Keith Hurlock 18, —24, 18, in the first round, and W. Poole subsequently beat Pullar comfortably, although this promising Oldham boy easily won the Junior title.

One of the best matches of the day was the exciting semi-final in which Diane Rowe beat Margaret Fry (Bristol) 18, —19, 14.

Head and Stanley both fought well for the finals, but Aubrey Simons again proved his match to all but Leach. Altogether, a very good tournament.

- M.S. A. SIMONS beat K. Stanley 16, 20, 14.
W.S. Miss R. ROWE beat Miss D. Rowe 15, —15, 17.
M.D. B. CASOFSKY/K. STANLEY beat V. Barna/A. A. Haydon 20, —13, 18.
W.D. Misses D. & R. ROWE beat Miss J. Mackay/Mrs. D. Smith 19, 17.
X.D. A. SIMONS/R. ROWE beat V. Barna/D. Rowe 11, 10.
V.S. D. PATTERSON beat F. Smith 20, —20, 14.
J.S. G. PULLAR beat G. Paling (Notts) 14, 17.
J.G. D. SPOONER beat J. Titterton 19, 15.
J.D. B. MERRETT/M. MORGAN beat A. Goodman/J. Gwilliam 19, —10, 16.

On Sale March 14th . . .

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

March issue, to be followed by issues on

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

IF you were trespassing, Mr. W. ("Billie") STAMP has the kind of aggressive personality you can imagine, with inner misgivings, bearing down on you, only to find your hand firmly grasped in warm friendship.

Billie is blunt, direct, as rugged as a rock, and may sometimes appear just as uncompromising. He is "quick to resolve and slow to yield." Yet the bluff exterior conceals a warm personality, rich with all the human qualities which draw one's affection like a magnet. Our photographer has caught that ray of kindly humour nicely. Yet Billie stands four-square to the world and will face any storm that blows like a Captain Ahab.

He started playing T.T. 20 years ago, becoming first a club secretary and, in 1937, the Hon. Organising Secretary and Treasurer of the Liverpool League, where he has been ever since. During the war, almost single-handed, he kept that league alive, and, largely by his own herculean efforts, has since seen it flourish into 16 divisions with 1,300 players. Many International matches and tournaments have been staged on Merseyside under his guidance, and with outstanding distinction.

He despises those people who wish to take everything out of the game and give nothing in return. His great hope is to hear individual members clamouring and working for their own headquarters where T.T. could be taught, developed and talked about to the benefit of all.

The Liverpool League has been fortified by his shrewd guidance, the Lancs. and Cheshire League, of which he is a member, much helped by his counsel, and the N.E.C. a wise counsellor, and members a good friend.

Mr. Stamp, who is a member of the Lancs Selection Committee, Chairman of the Registered Players Panel, former Chairman of the Lancs League, and former member of the English Selection Committee, wears in his buttonhole the distinctive badge to which only Members of the E.T.T.A., "Cabinet" are entitled to wear. Under the England badge is a plinth imprinted "Member of the National Executive Committee."



W. ("BILLIE") STAMP
(North-Western Region).

Dress Reform

WELL done, Surrey. First county to adopt official blazers (maroon with Cambridge blue piping) for county players.

Nor do their supporters have to languish unseen. The Surrey tie is already gracing some hundreds of masculine necks. Just a little something wanted now for the lady supporters, Surrey, and then many counties will be following suit.

Or should it be suits?

* * *

Donor: "Anonymous"

Isn't life frustrating? The sort of person with the strength of character to donate a silver cup anonymously; is just the sort of person we'd like to thank publicly!

* * *

The Great Leveller

AT the Middlesex Championships, I spotted one of the Rowe twins. You know how to tell them apart, of course. One is left and t'other right-handed.

But this one had both hands in her coat pockets.

Again, one is slightly taller than the other . . . Sitting down?

But I have a little private means of identification (and it's not a mole on the left shoulder, Buck Ryan!)

I went confidently up to Rosalind. "Hallo," I said. "Isn't Diane playing to-night?"

The answer shook me . . . "Yes, I'm playing, but Ros is staying at home to-night."

I apologised, and confided to Di that my secret system was this: Rosalind has decidedly rounder cheeks than Diane.

"That's right," said Di cheerfully, "but I had a tooth out this afternoon."

* * *

Your Best Friend Will Tell You

HERE'S a true tale:—

A young fan exclaimed: "One of these days I'm going to come home from the Merseyside Open with that Cup."

His pal replied: "The only way you will ever do that is to buy a car and give Johnny Leach a lift back."

* * *

AND talking of Leach, I am indebted to Johnny Leach, junior, for this STORY OF THE "WEEK":

Young Johnny, aged four, proudly told his daddy that he had been learning the days of the week at school.

"Well, let me hear you say them," says Daddy.

"Monday — Tuesday — Wednesday — Friday — Saturday — Sunday," pipes up Sonny.

"Haven't you left one out?" asked Big Johnny.

"Oh, I don't like Thursdays," said the Modern Child. STICK TO TABLE TENNIS, Daddy!

News, Notes

and Gossip

The Hand That Launched a Thousand Flicks

Another true tale:

AFTER seeing Victor Barna in action for the first time, a young Yorkshire player remarked: "What a lovely backhand he has. He keeps it up so easily, without any footwork at all!"

Young lady, the maestro in this respect is a brother of the magician—the Quickness of the Foot deceives the Eye.

Anyone who employs backhand as his main line of attack needs more active and accurate footwork than most.

You will not see Barna plodding or scampering around, but he certainly covers the ground at tremendous speed in between his strokes. "Gliding" is the word, I think.

* * *

The Lion Shows His Teeth

SUCCESS of the Teen-Age Page prompts the thought—ought we to have a Veterans' Page, too?

How about Leo Thompson, veteran champion of England, for the first Vet., Ed.?

Incidentally, Leo, did you misread our January issue? We said you had a Lion's Heart, but you showed us your Lion's Teeth at the Met. Finalist in a major tournament of 400 entrants, indeed!!!

Careful now, you'll frighten all the Teeny Teen-Agers!



by

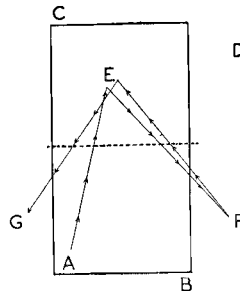
Jack Carrington

now in Vienna with the English Teams and writing up the story of the World Championships for the April issue.

Last Month's Problem

ONE answer to the block-shot E—F, is to lift your drive higher and slower than usual, towards SAMMY SENIOR'S backhand corner, i.e. the corner nearest to D.

But far the best answer is to RECOGNISE TEMPORARY TACTICAL DEFEAT AND REFRAIN FROM DRIVING AT ALL. Instead, learn to scoop the ball back with chop, low and slow. Let it drop even further below the table before playing it, so that it has a long journey back to the table. During that long journey JIMMY JUNIOR can recover his stance and position central to the table with little advantage to his crafty opponent.





Important There are several alterations in the Diary to previously published lists. Attention is particularly drawn to notes in Col. 3

Note

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.
March 2-11	WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS		Vienna.
	Danube Cup		Invitation only.
13-18	Hungarian Championships		Home and Invitation only.
	Czechoslovakian Championships		Home and Invitation only.
	Swiss Championships		
17	Grimsby Open Cleethorpes Pier Pavilion. Referee: W. E. Parker.	Y.S.	J. Browne, 321, Hainton Avenue, Grimsby, Lincs.
17	Semis and Finals—ROSE BOWL White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.		
17	Semis and Finals—WILMOTT CUP Drill Hall, Maidenhead.		
21	Junior International ENGLAND v. WALES Aylesford Paper Mills, Kent.		L. Presland, Aylesford Paper Mills, Kent.
24	Bedfordshire Open Vauxhall Motors Rec. Club, Kimpton Road, Luton. Referee: G. James.	J.B.S. J.G.S.	D. W. Ironmonger, 47, Rycroft Way, Stopsley, Luton.
24-26	North-East of England Open Burniston Road Barracks, Scarborough, Yorks. Referees: L. E. Forrester, W. Wilson. * See news report in Col. 3, this page.	J.S. Y.S.	E. Moorhouse, 26, Sherwood Street, Scarborough.
31	West of England Open Exeter. * See note in Col. 3, this page.	J.B.S. J.G.S.	H. J. Amery, 12, Kennerley Avenue, Exeter.
April 4-6	West Middlesex Open	B.S.	J. Joyce, 7, Croft Gardens, Hanwell, W.7.
9-14	West Ealing Club , Mervyn Road, London, W. Referee: D. P. Lowen.	G.S.	
6-8	U.S.A. National Open		
7-8	Bucks Open Slough Centre, Slough, Bucks. Referee: H. Edwards.	B.S. G.S.	L. Thompson, "Auchmead," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
13-14	Cheshire Open Fairey Aviation Works Canteen, Crossley Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport.	B.S. G.S. V.S.	R. P. Stabbs, 13, Milford Drive, Levenshulme, Manchester, 19.
14-15	Liege Open Championship		
21-22	North-West Kent Open County Modern School, Brook Street, Northumberland Heath, Erith. Referee: C. F. Simmons.	B.S. G.S. J.X.	F. Burvill, 2, Lime Avenue, Northfleet, Kent.
30 to May 5	Thameside Open 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	Annual General Meeting, E.T.T.A.		London.

THE HUNGARIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

2,126 teams have entered for the Hungarian team championships. The men's teams are 5 a side, and the women's and juniors' are played on Swaythling Cup lines.

In the individual Hungarian Championships the results were:—

M.S. S/F	Sido beat J. Farkas 3-0; Koczian beat Soos 3-0.
Final	J. KOCZIAN beat F. Sido 12, 17, 18.

W.S. S/F	G. Farkas beat L. Gyorgy 2-0; R. Karpati beat Sagi 2-0.
Final	G. FARKAS beat R. Karpati 2-0.

The (Netherlands) Dutch T.T. Board has nearly reached an affiliated membership of 10,000. In the national championships, COR DU BUY provided a surprise by losing to COR PELSER, at 26-24 in the fifth game, a controversial edge ball deciding the winning point. Henny van Woezik is the new Women's Champion.

SCARBOROUGH presents for the fourth year, their Easter holiday Open by the Sea: the North-East England. Play commences early afternoon on Easter Saturday, but Juniors and Youth events will only be played on the Monday, instead of the full week-ends, thus reducing their expenses. The Y.S. event covers ages 16-19; 8-12 tables; first-class conditions (including shower baths).
See particulars under "Engagements."

West of England now at Exeter

THE West of England Open Tournament is to be held at EXETER on 31st March, and NOT at Bristol, as stated in last month's "Engagements." Applications should be made to Mr. H. J. Amery, 12, Kennerley Avenue, Exeter.

See Engagements

THE T.T. CUPS

THE WILMOTT CUP

Fourth Round.

Manchester beat Liverpool 7-2;
Southampton C.S. beat Brighton 5-4.

Zone Finals.

London C.S. beat Central 7-2;
South London beat Fellows Cranleigh 6-3;
Bromley beat Canterbury 6-3;
Luton beat Welwyn Garden City 5-3;
Scunthorpe T.T.C. beat Lincoln 5-4;
Manchester beat Birmingham 5-4;
Southampton C.S. beat Bristol 5-2.

Quarter Finals

Manchester beat London C.S. 6-1;
South London beat Luton 5-4;
Leeds beat Scunthorpe 6-3;
Southampton C.S. beat Bromley 7-2.

THE J. M. ROSE BOWL

Zone Finals

West London beat Central 6-3;
South London beat Ilford 7-2;
Grimsby beat Cambridge 5-4;
Woolwich beat Byfleet 5-4;
Manchester beat Leeds 5-2;
Birmingham beat Luton 9-0;
Brighton beat Leatherhead 8-1;
Bristol beat South Devon 7-2.

Quarter Finals

Birmingham beat Bristol 5-3;
West London beat Manchester 7-0;
Brighton beat Woolwich 7-0;
South London beat Grimsby 9-0.