

MAY, 1951

SIXPENCE

TABLE TENNIS



JEAN TITTERINGTON

Contributors include:

IVOR MONTAGU
JACK CARRINGTON
VICTOR BARNA
ANDY DONALDSON
PETER MADGE
GEOFF. HARROWER
N. ADAMS

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

Published by **Walthamstow Press, Ltd., Guardian House, London, E.17.**

Vol. 9

MAY, 1951

No. 8

From THE EDITOR

THIS is the last issue of *Table Tennis* until September, when we shall bring you all the up-to-date news and official reports ready for the new season. Order now to make sure you will receive it immediately it comes out.

This year has been the gravest ever known in the history of publishing. Prices of raw materials have doubled and the supplies position is desperate; the printing trade dispute hit us at a critical time. Thanks, partly to increased circulation, we have been able to maintain our standard size and price, and have, indeed, slightly increased contents.

These circumstances have prevented us making the enlargements we so much hoped for. They have made enormous difficulties in deciding what is finally to be published. Some features have had, unfortunately, to be curtailed.

As Editor, I have endeavoured to represent all sections and opinions impartially and have been largely guided by the views expressed in your letters as to what is wanted by the majority. Favourable letters have easily outweighed the critical, but the

latter are, nevertheless, usually the most helpful.

In the next few weeks, important plans and decisions must be made for next season's *Table Tennis*. If you have any suggestions on how it can be made better or our distribution system improved, please do write as soon as possible.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WE HAVE had letters and discussions about the desirability of having our own playing facilities in the London area where our provincial and overseas visitors could meet, and numerous events be arranged. Many would like to see the E.T.T.A. headquarters in the same building, and it has been suggested by some that it would be well worth looking into this matter as a long-term investment and an eventual economy.

This was one of Bill Pope's dreams and the suggestion has been made that it would be a fine living memorial, worthy of his life work, to name such a Hall after him.

Suggestions have ranged from glorified huts to small Wembley stadiums. Incidentally, we hear that the Australian T.T.A. proposes to found a national headquarters on stadium lines.

We particularly invite your views on this, and your suggestions (if favourable) of what would make the ideal Headquarters and any scheme that would make it possible.

Thank You

IT has been a wonderful and moving experience to have had the countless letters and co-operation from all over the world which I have had. It has been encouraging, helpful and stimulating. I earnestly hope they will continue. It is difficult to express, for us all, the very big appreciation for the magnificent help accorded by so many of the leading personalities (led by Victor Barna and Jack Carrington) which has given *Table Tennis* such a high, authoritative, and worldwide reputation.

COUNTIES MUST COME

THE article on County Associations, with others, must again be held over. Meanwhile, I would sincerely and earnestly urge all those leagues without a county body to consider forming one during the "off season." I will be only too happy to help in any way I can. As a secretary of a "small" county and intimately associated with others, I am absolutely convinced that county associations can be of great benefit and service to the lower scales of play.

Decentralisation is necessary. The E.T.T.A. will have to operate (as they did for the Coaching Scheme) through representative channels, i.e., county associations, more and more. Non-county leagues are in some danger of losing maximum benefits and wise league administrators with any vision will surely appreciate the potential advantages.

MEANWHILE, I shall look forward to a continuance of your letters and news from wherever you may be, in preparation for season 1951-52.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, Editor.

The Magazine Sub-Committee of the E.T.T.A. 1950-51 were: Ivor Montagu, A. K. Vint, E. G. White, M. Goldstein, J. Carrington and

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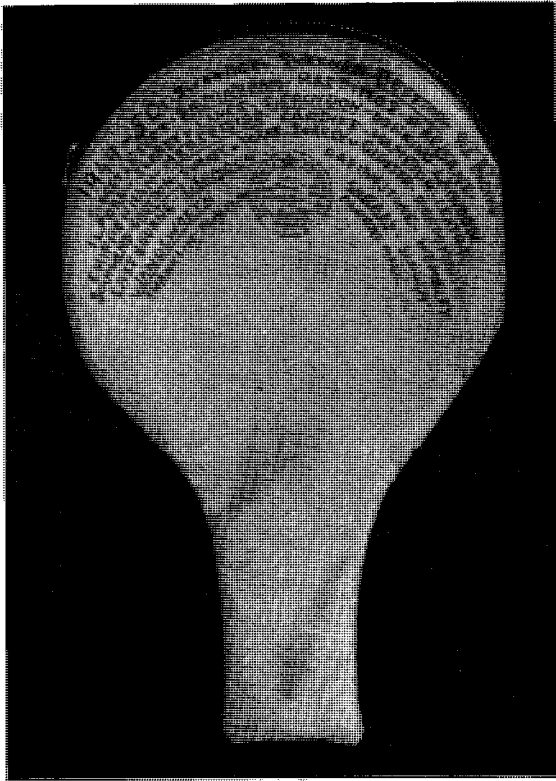
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Administrative Secretary: Mrs. K. Pegg.

214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

Cover Picture

This picture was chosen because it symbolises the determination, concentration and aggression of the Northern youngsters, evident in both Lancashire and Yorkshire, and which is likely to stake a strong claim to high honours in the next two years. The covergirl herself is junior Jean Titterton (Manchester) in action at Wembley, runner-up to the Junior Champion, Dorothea Munnings.



Welcome to Champions' Roll 1951

OUR special congratulations to all the under-mentioned players who have won their first OPEN Senior Singles title in 1950-51. (In the case of veterans we can only include post-war records.) E. & O. E.

MEN

RON BAKER (Manchester), W. C. DAWES (Bristol), R. HESLOP (Gateshead), KEITH HURLOCK (Surrey), A. R. MILLER (Surrey), LEO THOMPSON (Bucks), PETER SKERRATT (Lincs).

WOMEN

Miss J. COLLIER (Devon), Miss ANDREE JONES (Liverpool), Miss D. MUNNINGS (Lincs), Miss Y. SEAMAN (Middlesex), Miss J. WALKER (Derby), Miss E. WEAVER (Surrey), Miss C. K. BEST (Yorks).

Eighteen-year-old ANDREE JONES (a finalist in the *Daily Mirror* Tournament last season) won the Irish Open, beating Ireland's No. 1 and 2, and Scotland's strong No. 2.

. . . DOROTHE MUNNINGS, still a junior, and recent winner of the Grimsby Open, is also the current English Junior Champion (an occasion when she beat the world-ranking Linde Wertl—a performance of outstanding merit).

. . . 18-year-old KATHLEEN BEST is a product of a revitalised Yorkshire, and is developing—under Alan Thompson—into a feminine Kennedy. In her second year of serious play she has won all her county singles matches, and lost only 1 set of 4 Ladies' Doubles in the Premier Division. In the same week as she won the North-East England Open, she won the Yorks and the Leeds Closed titles. Adele Wood, J. McKay, and Marjorie Lightfoot are among her "scalps" . . . RON BAKER, TONY MILLER and PETER SKERRATT are all young county players who are making a forceful impression the hard way and of whom we shall certainly hear more. . . Skerratt must hold the record for match point games.

Bat Cover (left) Tells the Story

THIS addition to our collection of original bat covers belongs to Surrey's ELSIE WEAVER, and records her entry into competitive T.T. and her "engagements." The postmark is the

(Concluded on page 15)

ALEC BROOK

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(plus 9d. postage) " " " " Three Star - 42/6.
POSTS, Super De Luxe 13/9. Nets 3/3 and 3/6. " " " " Two Star - 35/-.

POSTAGE PAID ON ALL ORDERS (except Shoes).

We are still at East Street, Horsham, but correspondence and orders will be dealt with from London in future, where ALEC BROOK will be glad to see you and to help whenever possible.

A Lively Annual General Meeting

GOOD humour and critical frankness characterised the well-attended A.G.M., held at Caxton Hall, London, on the 28th April.

After a silent tribute was made to the memory of the late Bill Pope, the meeting decided to invite leagues and individuals to make small donations for a commemorative Chair for the Council Chamber and a framed photograph. Longer term projects were also considered.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Pertinent questions on selections of juniors and World Championship teams were asked. Mr. Montagu left the Chair to reply at considerable length and detail, mentioning factors which, to themselves, had not been satisfactory. Nevertheless, there had been no disagreements in committee of selections made. An emergency selection had had to be made for the Corbillon Cup team, and Mr. Vint said that Mr. Proffitt had written a letter on this matter.

Mr. Montagu reiterated the duties and principles of selectors, and said that it was obviously desirable that they should work out a new formula and publish their recommendations, measures taken, N.E.C. observations, etc., at the beginning of the season. This would be done. He also thought that the time had come when an international match should be "sold" on its own merits, and organisers should not expect the Selection Committee to nominate star names well in advance simply to provide a draw.

CLASHING OF COUNTY MATCHES AND OPENS

Mr. Scott and Mr. Eyles wanted some action taken to avoid clashes between county matches and open tournaments which made conflicting demands on leading players. Mr. Harrower contended that efficient counties could minimise this to a high degree by arranging their county matches to the tournament programme.

Mr. Kurzmann opened a discussion on new tournament regulations. There had been considerable improvement generally; inquiry was being made into cancelled or incomplete events and late starting of finals.

RICHARD BERGMANN

On the 7th April, Bergmann had made a request for a hearing in regard to his suspension. By telegram, he was offered the 17th April before the Disciplinary Committee (formerly designated the Appeals Committee, and now a permanent standing sub-committee). He accepted, but subsequently withdrew.

SUNDAY FREEDOM ASSOCIATION

Mr. Corti Woodcock explained the origin and worthy objects of the S.F.A., and that its only intention was to give to every per-

son and community their right to decide for themselves what they should or could do on Sunday. It aimed at amending 16th century laws and restricting the activities of the Common Informer; it was not trying to introduce any irreverent disregard. The Association was supported by an imposing number of national organisations, M.P.'s, etc. Individual membership was now possible at 2/6d. p.a. or clubs 10/6d. The Secretary was Kenneth F. Day, Director of Entertainments, Hastings. Mr. Woodcock had some explanatory/application forms and hoped that they would be received by members of the leagues.

Representatives of Bristol, Wolverhampton, Cheltenham, Middlesex, Surrey, Staines and elsewhere spoke for, and promised support, although in some cases an individual said he—personally—was not in favour of the forms being sent to leagues through E.T.T.A. official channels. It was decided that a supply of forms would be available at E.T.T.A. office and would be sent to any individual or league asking.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. A. K. Vint) said that while we appeared in a strong financial position, we must take great care not to jeopardise it by introducing expensive schemes in the present uncertain position. We were faced with rising costs of paper, post office charges and almost certain increases to the permanent staff, etc.—and should proceed cautiously. In observing that affiliation fees exceeded administration costs, Mr. Blunn suggested an increase in affiliation fees and found support in the hall. Mr. Vint urged that this should not be done if possible; he felt it desirable that fees should be increased by bringing new leagues into membership.

NEW RULE ON DRESS

The general concern over appearance and manners was reflected in the animated discussion on the proposed amendment to Rule 23, which, on pressure of a block vote, was adopted 922 votes to 655. The issue was not so much on the new rule, but whether it went far enough.

There were appeals for team uniformity and some scathing criticisms of players who appeared to completely disregard both the spirit of regulations and common courtesies. Players who kept on their track suits or similar overgarments when playing a lesser player insulted their opponents, was a general opinion. Mrs. Peggy Allen thought the main thing was to be neat and trim, and she hoped that players—particularly the ladies—would be allowed to retain some individuality.

The general view was that administrators should encourage improved dress standards, etc., by precept, in a similar way in which the pusher type of player had been discouraged by opinion and neglect by selectors. It was obvious that a keen interest will be taken in dress standards and manners in the future.

Mr. H. E. Oldroyd was re-elected President, and Miss Ann Stevens, Mr. A. T. Finney and Mr. H. R. McDonald were unanimously elected Vice-Presidents.

The E.T.T.A. are still very anxious to find the present whereabouts of Mr. Percy Bromfield, and would be grateful for any information which anyone can give. It has been suggested that Mr. Bromfield's daughter, the former Miss Valerie Bromfield, may be able to help if her present name and address are known.

Many tributes were paid to the very hard work and co-operation given by Mrs. Kathleen Pegg, Administrative Secretary, in the past difficult year.

THE NEW EXECUTIVE

The result of the postal ballot for the election of Officers and National Executive Committee of the E.T.T.A. for 1951-52 was announced at the Annual General Meeting (28th April):

Chairman: I. Montagu, 207 votes, elected.
A. E. Richards, 70 votes, not elected.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: A. K. Vint, unopposed.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

N.E. Region: E. Reay (unopposed).
N.W. Region: N. Cook, W. Stamp.
Yorkshire: L. E. Forrest (unopposed).
Midland Region: M. Goldstein, M. Scott.
Eastern Region: L. S. Woollard.
S.W. Region: H. J. Amery.
London Region: G. R. Harrower, E. G. White.
Southern Region: F. G. Mannooch, Miss L. Ferguson.

There is only one change, Mr. M. Scott (Wolverhampton) replaces Mr. D. J. Rowley (Worcester) in the Midland Region. 61 per cent. of the total electorate returned papers, although this varied between 48 and 83 per cent. in particular regions.

Liege Open Championships Belgium—14th-15th April

Team Championships

Final: ENGLAND 4, FRANCE 2

J. LEACH bt. G. Amouretti 17, 10, 13;
bt. M. Haguenauer —15, 13, 16. M. THORNHILL lost to Amouretti 15, —13, —9, —10; lost to Haguenauer —19, 18, —13, —15. Miss R. ROWE bt. Miss G. Watel 17, —19, 13, 13. J. LEACH/R. ROWE bt. G. Amouretti/G. Watel 8, 13, 14.

Individual Championships (Finals)

M.S. J. LEACH bt. M. Haguenauer 17, 14, 19.
W.S. R. ROWE bt. G. Watel 11, 17, 13.

Surrey Open

EPSOM — 23rd FEBRUARY

Semi-finals

M.S. (i) J. Leach bt J. Lowe 21—13, 21—15; (ii) B. Crouch bt. R. J. Turner, 10—21, 21—17, 23—21.
W.S. (i) M. Franks bt W. Dakin, 21—17, 21—15; (ii) L. Barnes bt J. Winn, 13—21, 21—18, 21—16.

Finals

M.S. J. Leach bt B. J. Crouch, 21—10, 21—7, 21—14.
W.S. M. Franks bt L. Barnes, 21—6, 21—13.
M.D. J. Leach/J. Carrington bt J. Lowe/L. Thompson, 21—8, 21—18, 21—9.
W.D. Miss Piper/Mrs. Atherton bt Miss Seaman/Miss Seaman, 21—14, 21—18.
X.D. L. Adams/Miss Barnes bt J. Carrington/Miss E. Weaver, 11—21, 21—16, 21—15.
J.M.S. R. J. Stevens bt I. O. Jones, 13—21, 21—12, 21—19.
J.W.S. Miss Y. Baker bt Miss J. Rook, 21—10, 21—18.

E.T.T.A. National Coaching Scheme

FRIDAY the THIRTEENTH turned out to be the day which long-sighted, nationally minded administrators have hoped for years to see. It marked the inauguration of the National Coaching Scheme of the English Table Tennis Association.

England has lagged behind some nations and other sports in evolving a national scheme, partly, but not entirely, through financial responsibilities. With a low limit to what can be sent, it is not easy to decide exactly how the greatest benefit can be passed equitably throughout the country.

It has been made clear that this course was an experimental one, and future endeavours would depend largely on its degree of success and the response it evoked nationally.

THE EXPERIMENTAL SCHEME

All county associations were invited to nominate two players for coaching to become coaches in their areas. The initial response was, generally, somewhat dilatory. Finally, 15 counties nominated 26 candidates. These were accepted for the course at the National Recreation Centre, Lilleshall, over 13-15th April. Fares and expenses were borne by the E.T.T.A. and the C.C.P.R., co-operated with accommodation, so that no cost whatever accrued either to the player or his local body.

Counties taking advantage were: Beds, Cambs, Devon, Essex, Glos, Hants, Herts, Kent, Lancs, Norfolk, Northants, Suffolk, Surrey, Warwicks, and Yorks.

THE SYLLABUS

Jack Carrington had been appointed Chief Instructor and had freedom and full responsibility for preparing the syllabus. This had to allow for unknown factors such as widely varied knowledge, experience and stewards. Players were placed in five groups, each with a leader, and, as far as possible, of comparative standards. A. W. Simons and W. Poole were assistant coaches and Mrs. E. Carrington a personal assistant.

The syllabus covered an incredibly wide field in the period available, including the Framework of Table Tennis, Demonstrations, Discussions, Mutual Instruction, Basic Skills, Practical Tests, Coaching Technique, Specific Problems, Constructive Criticism, Analysis of Trainees' Play, etc.

Jack Carrington's talks on technicalities, with blackboard and table demonstrations, were particularly appreciated and interested even the most knowledgeable.

ORGANISING A NATIONAL SCHEME

Mr. W. LATTO, Senior Technical Adviser of the C.C.P.R., presented an authoritative, most interesting and concise outline (implemented with blackboard and diagrams) on the "Wider Aspects of Coaching."

He showed that a National Coaching Scheme already operates efficiently for every major, and most minor, sports. The benefits of the older schemes were now becoming obvious in both national

and international spheres, and he prophesied a continued rise and success in British performances. Of greater interest to them, however, was the active membership increase following introduction of a national coaching scheme. The A.F.A., 500 per cent, and Grand National Archers Society, 400 per cent, were two examples.

Initially, there had been considerable scepticism and doubt, but this no longer existed in the minds of any qualified to judge. It was important who was the coach. The best players were not necessarily the best teachers; the best coaches usually came from top-class players who were also keen students and had found within themselves the happy knack of imparting and inspiring.

The ideal coach, said Mr. Latto, should have an unselfish love of the game. He should know all about it and be able to play it well. He must be a teacher, planner, administrator, missionary, diplomat, technician, official, leader, psychologist, etc., and enlarged on this theme.

The prime function of this course was the production of a coach. The fundamental principle was always that there was—*basically*—only ONE right way of moving, of making a particular stroke, etc. The good coach appreciated that this right way had to be modified to varying physiques, etc., and he must always be alert to spot natural genius, and help it to develop rather than restrict it.

The ideal coach, in the speaker's opinion, was an unusual person and he thought the E.T.T.A. were fortunate in their selection of JACK CARRINGTON, a player who had made a highly specialised study of the art of table tennis coaching, for many years with proved success.

Mr. Latto then gave detailed examples of the national coaching organisation of other sports. In each case, there was a Coaching Committee at the national executive level, and Director of Coaching (or Chief Coach). This man, in well-developed schemes, was a full-time paid officer who, in addition to being a first-class coach, must have an aptitude for organising and administration. Walter Winterbotham (*Football Association*), Geoff Dyson (*Amateur*

Athletic Association), Dan Maskell (*Lawn Tennis Association*) were examples.

The national organisation was then broken down to area (and more successfully) county committees, a chief county coach, assisted by other coaches at various levels. The great mass of coaching was on a voluntary basis.

Some organisations, such as the A.A.A., had substantial grants from the Ministry of Education (via the C.C.P.R.) for coaching, and it was unfortunate that the E.T.T.A. had been just too late to receive advantages because of economy cuts.

Mr. Latto concluded his address by emphasizing the 12 vital principles of coaching, dealing with specific problems, and a summary of the work and organisation of the C.C.P.R.

A PRACTICAL TEST

The six tables (supervised by G. W. Decker) were set along one side of the ballroom, with one table in a glass-sided room for special microphone commentary and play analysis. On Sunday morning, the course had the opportunity to put their acquired knowledge to practical test when Brigadier Brown brought a large party of officers and their families over from Donnington. They thoroughly entered into the spirit of being coached by "student" coaches, with every sign of interest and enjoyment. This session proved valuable to the coaches as it brought out several difficulties and handicaps and enabled Jack Carrington to show the best approach to such problems.

THE RESULTS

Mr. A. K. Vint and the Coaching Subcommittee of the E.T.T.A. (Messrs. E. G. White, T. E. Sears, and L. S. Woollard) were close and critical observers of the course. It was obvious that the experiment had been a huge success and everyone was convinced that it was something of such undoubted national benefit that activities should be continued. How this could best be done—within the limitations—was, however, a big problem and kept the E.T.T.A. Coaching Committee in active discussion until 3.30 in the morning to decide their recommendations and report to the National Executive.

Mr. E. G. White was in charge of the administrative side of the course at the Hall.

Everyone was full of appreciation for Mr. J. Lane (the Warden) and Mrs. Lane, who made such charming and courteous hosts, and contributed so largely to the smooth and happy working of the Scheme.

The E.T.T.A. also acknowledges the magnificent co-operation of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, without which the course was not practicable in such a form.

The Inspiring Zoltan

A Memorial Tribute

by

IVOR MONTAGU

Zoltan Mechlovits, dramatic, autocratic but beloved captain of Hungarian table tennis, died in Budapest on March 29th, 1951.

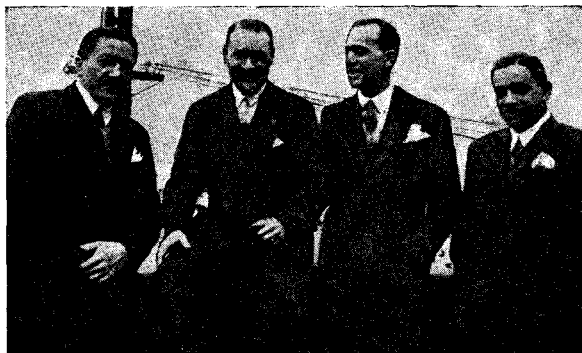
YEARs ago—twenty-five to be precise—the first Hungarian team came to England. It consisted of one rather portly dignified individual (Dr. Jacobi), one extremely tall and graceful individual (Dr. Pecs), and one rather stout and tubby individual, extremely dark (Zoltan Mechlovits). Their play was a revelation. They astonished us—in the home of the game—and swept the board of all titles.

Reinforced, they set out the next year for Stockholm to defend what they had won. We took out a challenging batch of youngsters, aged 16, 18, and 18. The Swaything Cup was not then reduced to an inflexible order and system as it is now. Mechlovits was now in charge, and before the game I told him our boys' ages, asking that, when the match was over and the score reached 5, the Hungarians should not finish but continue, to give them experience.

Everyone knows how the boys won victory over the champions. The crucial game (it made the score 5-2) was between Bull and Mechlovits. Mechlovits was a penholder grip player, the only one ever to gain a world title. He was a perfect master of varying speed, varying length, varying placement. His knowledge was immense, he was a tremendous fighter, and inflexibly calm. Bull must have run miles. He, a cricket professional in good training, was flat out and gasping at the end, his foot-soles steaming.



A quarter of a century ago, two eager pioneers reach Yorkshire in a country-wide tour to develop the game. Mechlovits and I, Montagu (Chairman of the E.T.T.A.).



The Hungarian team of 1926. B. Kehrling (capt.), Dr. R. Jacobi, Dr. D. Pecs and Z. Mechlovits. All three players gained world titles.

I went to Mechlovits, who was lying back bathed in sweat and quietly fanning himself with a programme, to ask that—in face of such exhaustion—we should be allowed to forget the two final games, as Bull, who had one more to play, could not continue.

"Then I will go on," he said, rising. And then, bowing to us, "It is now we who ask you to be kind enough to finish the lesson."

In the end, honour was saved by playing the last two matches simultaneously on two tables.

That was the real beginning of what became a lifetime friendship. It was not only personal, but extended to cover a special and intimate mutual interest between the table tennis players of the two countries that was to prove a tower of strength to the development of the game in both, and indeed, of the Federation itself.

Mechlovits won the singles that year, although the unpredictable Bellak held 8 match points against him in the final. Subsequently he came to England with several tours, reached an English Open singles final, was invited over to win—and won—our first Veterans' title. He never gave up playing to the very end, though he soon gave up important matches. In the foundation years he was a discriminating, able and intelligent counsellor, invaluable through the teething years of the International Federation.

But it was as a captain, trainer, inspirer of teams, discoverer and inspirer of young people especially, that he was truly marvellous. What an eye he had for seeking out the weakness of an opponent, the exact moment at which pressure must be applied, precisely the tactics or strokes that the enemy did not want, the moment to continue inflexibly and the moment to change, the youth who had talent and inward fire and would repay fostering. At all this there was not, and could never be, anyone like him.

Many was the time during a match when Zoltan would murmur to Bill Pope or me, and predict not only the result but almost the exact score that would result.

The supply of young Hungarian geniuses, under his leadership, seemed inexhaustible. I can well remember the first year, in Budapest, of Victor Barna,

Szabados and Kelen, all three aged 17 to 18 (his answer to our three), and how—before an important match—he would keep them at home, quietly choose from among them, and then arrive just beforehand, a burly figure in bowler hat and black overcoat with Astrakhan collar, with one tiny creature nestling close to him on each side, under each wing so to speak, as they jostled through the crowd. And then—released thunderbolts.

Inflexibly loyal to his friends, with a sense of humour that sometimes only made his tongue more cutting, he was not—to all—an easy man to get on with. He was too dictatorial, stubborn. He led the young players under him a dog's life. On tour he would rule them with a rod of iron and sometimes make them beg for tuppence of pocket money. How they hated it. Victor would tell you! Some never forgave him, but the friendship of others (although he was by temperament a lonely man) he retained to the end. Still others would admit that it was the making of them.

Table Tennis was his life and he had more to bring to it than most men. His terms were hard. Knowing his value and despising, frequently too obviously, the views of others, he understood co-operation with others to be their subordination, and as new generations grew who had not known him in his prime, this was impossible. But his friends loved him.

When Fascism gripped Hungary more tightly before the war, not only Zoltan, but all the other table tennis great who had not emigrated, were thrust into the background. He survived the war after escaping twice from transports to the death camps (once leaping from a moving train), but having undergone nameless horrors and privations and with his health permanently ruined. A taxi bump in the back, shortly after liberation, nearly finished the job.

When he came to England after the war as the guest of Bill Pope and myself at the Wembley Championships, he was already very ill. He lay full of toxins in my cottage and the doctor despaired of his life. Nevertheless, he insisted on rising to play his first round in the first-ever Jubilee Cup (restricted to players who took part in the first

(Concluded on Page 13)

Playing Tip of the Month

A page by

Jack Carrington



FOR your Playing Tip, and perhaps a smile, this month, take a peep into the notebooks of some of the candidates on the E.T.T.A. Coaches' Course held at Lilleshall in April.

I asked the students to criticise certain games, and from a number of excellent reports I cull the following, extracted, of course, from their full contexts:

[Initials A, B and C are used in place of the names of the three players concerned.]

A criticises B

"... the power in his forehand could have been used in more selected phases of the game, instead of ... in opportunist spasms ..."

B criticises C

"... his determination to attack—with his forehand was his undoing in the end. He should have steadied a little and waited for his winners when his opponent started to return everything."

C criticises B

"... I think that time would be well spent in *smoothing* his forehand attack; at present it is snatched and there is no full follow-through."

B criticises A

"... forehand attack at fault ... through not being in good position. His game could be improved by making his forehand drive more consistent, with emphasis on correct footwork ..."

Well, we don't need three guesses to know what B will be practising this summer, do we?

Summing up in a more general way, the Tip is this—once again:—

WRITE THE OTHER FELLOW A LETTER POINTING OUT HIS MISTAKES . . . AND THEN — POST IT TO YOURSELF !

JACK CARRINGTON.

Vienna P.S.

continued from last month .

MARTY REISMAN'S play only confirmed the impression that his 18 months' suspension has tamed him on the table as well as off. He will have a hard and long struggle to put himself on terms again with the top men. He has the skill and the touch of a champion but has no idea how to get the most out of them.

What a contrast is the other American, DOUG CARTLAND. He has neither the skill, the touch, nor the speed of a great champion, but he knows how to get every ounce of value out of what Cartland has . . . and what the opponent has not.

His defeat of Vana in the Swaythling Cup match was a classic. Possessing neither a drive which could pierce Vana, nor a chop which could worry him, the left-handed Yankee so rung the changes in the play that he won out in the third game of what must have been one of Vana's longest sets ever.

Cartland chopped Vana round to his backhand, then pushed the second drive wide to Vana's forehand, and kept this up several times each point until the Czech was losing his speed. Then out would come a last-minute backhand drive to force Vana on to defence. Using short balls near the net, high loose topspins to the baselines, counterhits to the body, and his disguised backhand slow drives, and fighting, fighting every second, Cartland won this match against the master when his own side were being swamped.

It gave us an idea of what a strong American combination might achieve with a few months hardening experience in Europe before the world series.

TALKING of Cartland reminds us of AUBREY SIMONS, for the American removed England's second hope in the second round of the singles (25—23, 21—9, 21—10).

Allowing for Aubrey's weakness against left-handers, it is sad to report that in this tournament he looked a lesser man than last year at Budapest. Yet he is clearly an improved player, with a very good record in the earlier Continental engagements this season.

It was just one of those things. It happens to all of us, and Aubrey is not the first one to ask himself "Why must it happen to me NOW?"

AUDREY BATES (Wales) reached the final of the Consolation singles, losing narrowly to the Czech girl Krejcova (née Fuerstova). This is the second time Audrey has achieved this position, previous occasion was Stockholm, 1949. A high official ventured the opinion that Audrey's medals were the first world's awards to go home to Wales.

True or false? Let's say, forgetful. Did not Dolly Gubbins, as Welsh as they make 'em, reach the first World Singles final in 1927?

Dolly, now Mrs. Evans, lives in Maidstone, and her daughter, June, is one of the rising stars of Kent.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

Before a large crowd at Lincoln, Glamorgan made no mistake and succeeded in beating the home county by 7—2, thus winning promotion to the Premier Division in their first season in the Championships.

There is no doubt that Glamorgan, who can call on all the Welsh World Championship teams, will be an attraction in the higher sphere, and should hold their own somewhere in the middle of the division.

PLAYERS' AVERAGES PREMIER DIVISION

The outstanding feature of the season has been the maintenance of a 100 per cent. record by Ken Craigie, a fine performance, although he did not have to meet Leach, Barna or Simons.

MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
K. Craigie (Surrey) ...	12	12	0	100
J. Leach (Essex) ...	10	9	1	90
A. Simons (Glos) ...	10	9	1	90
M. Ironhill (Middx.) ...	8	7	1	88
H. Venner (Surrey) ...	12	10	2	83
G. Barna (Middx.) ...	10	7	3	70
R. Crayden (Surrey) ...	12	8	4	66
D. Miller (Middx.) ...	6	4	2	66
B. Kennedy (Yorks) ...	12	7	5	58
R. Allcock (Lancs) ...	12	6	6	50
B. Brumwell (Essex) ...	10	5	5	50
B. Casofsky (Lancs) ...	10	5	5	50
R. Hinchliff (Yorks) ...	12	5	7	42
W. McCave (Essex) ...	12	5	7	42
K. Stanley (Lancs) ...	12	5	7	42
B. Crouch (Middx.) ...	10	4	6	40
W. Dawes (Glos) ...	8	3	5	37
M. Kriss (Warwick) ...	8	2	6	25
W. Poole (Warwick) ...	12	3	9	25
R. Griffin (Glos) ...	12	2	10	17
R. Mackay (Warwick) ...	12	1	11	8
G. Mitton (Yorks) ...	12	1	11	8

WOMEN

Miss D. Rowe (Middx.) ...	2	2	0	100
Miss M. Jones (Glos) ...	5	4	1	80
Miss J. Roberts (Middx.) ...	4	3	1	75
Miss M. Franks (Essex) ...	5	3	2	60
Mrs. V. Thomas (Surrey) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss J. Mackay (Warwick) ...	6	2	4	33
Miss A. Wood (Lancs) ...	6	2	4	33
Miss L. Barnes (Surrey) ...	3	1	2	33
Miss M. Lightfoot (Yorks) ...	3	0	3	0
Miss J. Smurthwaite (Yorks) ...	2	0	2	0

EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

MEN

J. Cornwell (Cambs) ...	10	10	0	100
R. Langner (Essex) ...	12	10	2	83
L. Sawyer (Essex) ...	10	8	2	80
J. Grantham (Essex) ...	12	9	3	75
J. Thurston (Cambs) ...	8	6	2	75
E. Mills (Cambs) ...	8	4	4	50
J. Coteman (Cambs) ...	6	3	3	50
A. Nickels (Suffolk) ...	12	5	7	42
E. Filby (Norfolk) ...	10	4	6	40
H. Fleck (Norfolk) ...	8	3	5	37
C. Weintroub (Suffolk) ...	8	2	6	25
W. Minors (Norfolk) ...	6	1	5	16
G. Whittaker (Norfolk) ...	6	1	5	16
T. Williams (Suffolk) ...	6	1	5	16

WOMEN

Miss E. Bassett (Essex) ...	3	3	0	100
Miss W. Dakin (Essex) ...	2	2	0	100
Miss M. Lawrence (Cambs) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss E. Beech (Suffolk) ...	6	2	4	33
Miss P. Banks (Cambs) ...	3	1	2	33
Miss M. Murray (Norfolk) ...	3	1	2	33

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
L. Adams (Middx.) ...	10	9	1	90
G. Chugg (Glam) ...	12	9	3	75
S. Jones (Glam) ...	8	6	2	75
G. Harrower (Middx.) ...	12	8	4	66
W. Sweetland (Glam) ...	10	6	4	60
A. Squire (Devon) ...	12	7	5	58
A. Bury (Warwick) ...	10	4	6	40
G. Smith (Warwick) ...	8	3	5	37
D. Bevins (Warwick) ...	6	2	4	33
L. Suter (Devon) ...	6	2	4	33
L. Devereux (Devon) ...	8	2	6	25
A. Nuttall (Devon) ...	8	2	6	25
W. Hall (Warwick) ...	6	1	5	16

WOMEN

Miss Y. Seaman (Middx.) ...	5	4	1	80
Mrs. J. Crosby (Devon) ...	6	4	2	66
Miss A. Bates (Glam) ...	6	3	3	50
Miss H. Egerton (Warwick) ...	4	1	3	25

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

MEN

R. Baker (Lancs) ...	12	12	0	100
F. Daly (Lanc) ...	8	7	1	88
A. Holland (Lancs) ...	12	10	2	83
P. Skerratt (Lincs) ...	12	10	2	83
R. Bolton (Lincs) ...	6	5	1	83
C. Parry (Cheshire) ...	12	9	3	75
D. Merryweather (Lincs) ...	12	8	4	66
E. Anderson (Notts) ...	12	7	5	58
W. Devine (Cheshire) ...	12	7	5	58
C. Crane (Notts) ...	12	7	5	58
D. Heaps (Cheshire) ...	12	6	6	50
N. Timmins (Leics) ...	8	4	4	50
M. Pitts (Yorks.) ...	6	3	3	50
G. Simpson (Lincs) ...	6	3	3	50
P. Walton (Yorks) ...	12	5	7	42
J. Burraston (Leics.) ...	0	4	6	40
F. Moody (Derby) ...	8	3	5	37
R. Woollacott (Notts) ...	8	3	5	37
C. Whiteley (Yorks) ...	6	2	4	33
H. Tomlinson (Derby) ...	10	3	7	30
F. Forrest (Yorks) ...	6	1	5	17
L. Swale (Derby) ...	6	1	5	17
D. Walker (Derby) ...	8	0	8	0
J. Rogers (Leics.) ...	6	0	6	0

WOMEN

Miss D. Munnings (Leics.) ...	3	3	0	100
Mrs. B. Hardman (Lancs) ...	2	2	0	100
Miss A. Jones (Cheshire) ...	2	2	0	100
Mrs. M. Mosley (Yorks) ...	2	2	0	100
Miss E. Steventon (Notts) ...	5	4	1	80
Miss J. Perry (Leics.) ...	3	2	1	66
Mrs. P. Lammin (Lincs) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss L. May (Lancs) ...	3	1	2	33
Miss E. Grimstone (Chesh.) ...	4	1	3	25
Miss J. Walker (Derby) ...	5	1	4	20
Miss B. Clough (Yorks) ...	2	0	2	0
Miss M. Whait (Leics.) ...	2	0	2	0

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
J. Head (Surrey) ...	8	8	0	100
A. Miller (Surrey) ...	10	9	1	90
R. Turner (Surrey) ...	10	8	2	80
L. Muller (Hants.) ...	12	8	4	66
B. Fretwell (Sussex) ...	12	7	5	58
S. Minter (Hants.) ...	6	3	3	50
J. Shead (Sussex) ...	12	6	6	50
R. Etheridge (Kent) ...	12	5	7	42
S. Moore (Sussex) ...	12	5	7	42
H. Wynne-Williams (Kent) ...	6	2	4	33
S. Davies (Hants) ...	10	1	9	10
S. Brocklebank (Kent) ...	6	0	6	0

WOMEN

Miss R. Mead (Hants) ...	3	3	0	100
Mrs. R. Bromfield (Sussex) ...	5	4	1	80
Miss M. Piper (Surrey) ...	4	3	1	75
Miss P. Cantor (Kent) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss E. Davis (Hants.) ...	3	1	2	33
Miss V. Keeley (Kent) ...	2	0	2	0
Mrs. L. Ringier (Kent) ...	2	0	0	0

HOME COUNTIES DIVISION

MEN

D. Ironmonger (Beds) ...	12	10	2	83
G. Bebb (Herts) ...	10	8	2	80
L. Thompson (Bucks) ...	12	9	3	75
C. Crowe (Beds) ...	12	8	4	66
F. Richens (Bucks) ...	12	8	4	66
K. Egginton (Berks) ...	8	5	3	62
R. Straczek (Bucks) ...	8	4	4	50
P. Morecroft (Berks) ...	12	5	7	42
D. Barley (Berks) ...	6	2	4	33
D. Randall (Beds) ...	12	4	8	33
R. Islip (Herts) ...	12	2	10	17
C. Busche (Berks) ...	6	1	5	17
J. Bryant (Herts) ...	10	1	9	10

WOMEN

Mrs. C. Bridgen (Herts) ...	3	3	0	100
Miss D. Emdin (Herts) ...	3	3	0	100
Mrs. B. Carter (Beds) ...	6	2	4	66
Miss Beaver (Berks) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss S. Flax (Bucks) ...	4	1	3	25
Miss P. Coles (Bucks) ...	3	0	3	0
Mrs. J. Egginton (Berks) ...	4	0	4	0

NORTHERN DIVISION

(Excluding Durham v Northumberland)

MEN

K. Park (Yorks) ...	12	11	1	91
R. Heslop (Northumb.) ...	10	8	2	80
E. Beedle (Yorks) ...	10	7	3	70
T. Jeal (Durham) ...	10	6	4	60
H. Dignan (Northumb.) ...	8	4	4	50
V. Piscikas (Durham) ...	6	3	3	50
J. Hillier (Northumber.) ...	8	3	5	37
G. Stafford (Durham) ...	6	2	4	33
F. Huggon (Cumb) ...	12	3	9	25
F. Downey (Cumb) ...	10	2	8	20
A. Brady (Cumb) ...	12	2	10	17

WOMEN

Miss C. Best (Yorks) ...	3	3	0	100
Mrs. A. Taylor (Yorks) ...	3	2	1	66
Miss D. Smith (Northumb) ...	5	3	2	60
Mrs. W. Burbush (Cumb) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss H. Wilkinson (Cumb) ...	2	1	1	50
Miss M. Martin (Cumb) ...	2	0	2	0
Mrs. E. Dodds (Durham) ...	4	0	4	0

(Cont. Col. 1, page 8)

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Continued from Page 7)

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)

(Excluding Cambs v Surrey)

BOYS

A. Danton (Kent) ...	10	10	0	100
S. Brocklebank (Kent) ...	10	9	1	90
R. Stevens (Essex) ...	10	9	1	90
H. Joyce (Middx.) ...	6	4	2	66
J. Grantham (Middx.) ...	8	5	3	62
A. Smith (Herts) ...	10	6	4	60
D. Eagles (Kent) ...	10	5	5	50
J. Coteman (Cambs) ...	8	4	4	50
J. Hunt (Herts) ...	8	4	4	50
J. Moore (Surrey) ...	8	4	4	50
J. Hunt (Middx.) ...	6	3	3	50
B. Shepherd (Essex) ...	10	4	6	40
C. Campbell (Essex) ...	6	2	4	33
A. Warwick (Herts) ...	8	2	6	25
B. Rissen (Surrey) ...	8	1	7	12
J. Stimpson (Surrey) ...	8	0	8	0
D. Morley (Cambs) ...	6	0	6	0
B. Nicholls (Cambs) ...	6	0	6	0

GIRLS

Miss Y. Baker (Essex) ...	5	5	0	100
Miss D. Spooner (Middx.) ...	2	2	0	100
Miss P. Banks (Cambs) ...	4	2	2	50
Miss S. Willison (Surrey) ...	4	2	2	50
Miss J. Robeson (Kent) ...	5	2	3	40
Miss I. Barker (Middx.) ...	3	1	2	33
Miss D. Clarke (Herts) ...	4	0	4	0

JUNIOR DIVISION (WEST)

BOYS

B. Merrett (Glos) ...	8	7	1	88
D. Phillips (Glam) ...	6	5	1	83
W. England (Notts) ...	6	4	2	66
G. Paling (Notts) ...	6	4	2	66
K. Pittard (Glam) ...	8	4	4	50
M. Morgan (Glos) ...	8	3	5	37
D. Lindley (Notts) ...	6	2	4	33
D. Spiers (Notts) ...	6	2	4	33

GIRLS

Miss S. Jones (Glam) ...	4	4	0	100
Miss B. Buckley (Notts) ...	4	2	2	50
Miss S. Hardiman (Glos) ...	3	0	3	0

NORTH-WEST KENT OPEN

Barnehurst. 21st April.

By FRANK T. BURVILL.

REFEREE G. A. OWEN received many compliments on the smooth efficiency of the first North-West Kent Open, which beat schedule by half an hour. This new-comer of open tournaments earned appreciation for the N.W.K.T.T.A. all round in fact. The luxurious Barnehurst Club provided splendid conditions, with ample distance between the five tables, and a rearranged hall accommodating 400 for the finals.

Freddy Sadler unsuccessfully did his best to provide a surprise against Jack Carrington, who had little difficulty with Ron Hook in the semi. After taking the first set from Tony Miller, Harry Venner seemed to lose touch. The Miller v. Carrington final was a fine display of strategy and technique.

The W.S. final went a similar way when Joyce (Miller) Roberts completed the second Miller "married double" by beating Peggy Franks, who made an exciting recovery to level at 20-all in the second game.

The unrelated and quite opposite Miller namesakes, Tony and Dennis, took the M.D. against Driver/Hook, who failed to maintain their previous form. D. Spooner/E. Weaver were never really extended in the W.D.

The Way to the Stars—No. 5

Secrets of the World Champions

Summer and Table Tennis

THE QUESTION OF THE MONTH IS

"What are your recommendations for summer activities for the ambitious Table Tennis player?"

answered by Victor Barna

FOR the ambitious player, young or old, there can be only one answer: play as much as you like, play as much as you can. In giving this advice, I am simply drawing on my own experience. When I was young, and even as I grew up, I played on right throughout the summer. I found that while older players, who gave the game a good rest during the summer months, found it hard work to recapture their old form when the next season commenced, my pals and I, including Bellak, Szabados, Hazi, and David, played very much better than we had done in the previous season and that our summer practice had brought us on by leaps and bounds. I firmly believe that our tactics helped us tremendously in our efforts to master the game though, to be frank, I must confess that our real reason for playing during the summer was not because we were advised to do so, or that we thought we would get benefit from it, but because we loved table tennis. We would have played all day and every day, if we had had the chance to do so.

There are people, I know, who advocate complete rest from table tennis during the off-season, with the thought of recommencing playing in the following season fully refreshed and with an "itch" to resume competitive table tennis. That is all right with me provided a player has nothing new to learn. But ask yourself the question—is there anyone who could say that he has learned all these is to know? The fact is that even the world's best can "till learn—never mind the youngsters. And isn't summer the best time to concentrate on intensive practice and to experiment with new strokes when there are not tournaments or other serious events to worry about?

To return again for a moment to my own young days. Many people will perhaps be surprised to hear that I won my first World Championship without hitting a backhand—by which I mean to say that I did not know how to hit

one! I taught myself how to do it in the course of the following summer.

Now what is the best way to set about off-season practice? Simplest of all, is just to play the game for the love of it and, in enjoying it to the full, it will keep you in perfect trim. If it is undertaken seriously, then, of course, a plan is required and planning, in turn, means "work." But what more pleasant work can one have than that which improves your game? So just make up your mind what it is you wish to learn, or improve. Get your plan and stick to it and don't be put off by early setbacks or failures or disappointments which are bound to crop up.

The favourite method adopted by my friends and me was to play our table tennis outside in the fresh air. Even the mildest breeze affects the flight of the ball and it made a very big difference, we found, whether we were playing "up wind" or "down wind." The great thing about it was that it gave us "ball control," which I consider to be far more important than mere strokes. It is this very aspect of ball control which even the greatest Champions require to practise and improve. How many players can juggle with the ball as Bellak did? How many can control it like Szabados—returning the fastest smash with a half-volley, if he was not given time to get back for a shot from the deep? Believe me, even to-day there are precious few who possess the art of ball control.

It is in this department where the Continentals are really ahead of us. Think of Andreadis, Vana, even Sido and Soos, and you can see what I mean. If we are to improve our youngsters, the essential thing is to teach them the all-important art of ball control. Once they get that, stroke production is easy.

I am afraid, though, that I am rather drifting away from my text. But there is just one other query I would like to answer and that is whether lawn tennis or any other summer sport is harmful to table tennis. In my humble opinion, the playing of other sports during the off-season is definitely beneficial. You hear people talking of "ball sense" and there is certainly general agreement that players who play one ball game well are good at others. This is, I think, perfectly true; and I also believe that such activities as running, jumping, swimming and rowing are of great benefit to the athlete—in which term I definitely include the table tennis player.

SEMI-FINALS

M.S. A. R. Miller bt H. T. Venner —9, 18, 16.
J. Carrington bt R. Hook 18, 10.

FINAL

M.S. A. MILLER bt J. Carrington 14, 20.
W.S. J. ROBERTS bt M. Franks 13, 20.
M.D. A. Miller/D. Miller bt D. Driver/R. Hook 16, 12.
W.D. D. Spooner/E. Weaver bt M. Franks/J. Winn 9, 10.
X.D. H. Venner/J. Winn bt T. Bailey/B. Milbank 14, 12.



A. K. VINT

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

Holding a similar office in at least two other national organisations, this seemingly tireless Peter Pan of Administration has always been bigger than his job. He has an honest and vigorous hatred of being publicised and this feature will very surely occasion his strong displeasure. That we regret sincerely, but on entry to his 21st consecutive year of office account it our privilege and duty to pay tribute where tribute is so patently due. Only two men appear qualified to write on "Bill" Vint (both his intimate friends and colleagues from the first). They are Chairman of the E.T.T.A., Mr. I. Montagu, and Mr. Corti Woodcock. Here is what they write:

A. K. VINT

Hon. Treasurer

21st

consecutive year of office

IVOR MONTAGU :

"BILL" (A. K.) VINT is the greatest man in Table Tennis. He has been so ever since he first appeared, 21 years ago.

How he first turned up, I can't now even remember. Probably he just took on the Treasurership, as he does everything else, from a sense of duty. I can very well remember what it was like before he came, however, in the Biblical expression: "without form and void." Plenty of milling around and plenty of chaos. Then after he arrived—apple-pie order.

Are you mathematical? I'm not. Accounts are more or less magic to me. I've had trouble enough trying to datat my own expenses sheet ever since I was a kid. Anyway, it was Bill Vint who convinced me that, in the hands of some people at least budgets can balance.

In his hands, budgets are more than figures. They are tools. They enable the job to be done this year and they enable one to think of doing it (if one can) better the next year. And they get bigger and bigger, so that one can do more and more.

Bill does everything so well that everybody leaves everything to him. This makes him work too hard. One day he may rebel and then where should we be? Also he is too conscientious for his own good. The moment he sees a thing badly done he is ready to do it right. It was in such a way that he took on the I.T.T. Federation accounts when they were in a mess—just in passing, so to speak—and now the I.T.T.F. is in a fair way not to know itself, it's become so orderly, too.

While Bill Pope and I were doing the flamboyant things out in front, conquering new territory for the game at home and abroad, there was Bill Vint, at our shoulder all the time, unobtrusively consolidating the gains. It was we who quarrelled and shouted and provided the drama, it was Bill Vint who handled the box office so that the show could go on again the next day.

And just to show how easy the other man's job is, a short while ago he and his sprightly wife Nora took

on the captaincy of a team and inspired England's first win over Czechoslovakia for 20 years.

Everybody respects him. He is just. Everybody wants to know what he thinks before they make up their own minds. Nearly everybody thinks that they can run the Association better than the other people who run it, but everybody's plan for improvement takes it for granted that Bill Vint will still be there to help, and they would run screaming from the prospect that they might ever have to do that part on their own.

We depend on him more than—often—we remember to remember. Long may he and Nora be here to keep us in such servility.

IVOR MONTAGU.

CORTI WOODCOCK :

FEW people know as well as I what a tremendous debt table tennis owes to this quiet, unassuming, self-effacing son of Sussex. I first "discovered" him when I was refereeing the Sussex Championships at Hastings in the late 1920's, and immediately recognised how valuable a man he would be in the national field.

He has all the qualities of a man doing a man-sized job. He is quite alarmingly efficient. He is prudent, long-sighted and diplomatic. He possesses the virtue of patience and the breadth of mind to incline sympathetically to the other fellow's point of view.

With the happy knack of seeing right into the core of a problem and of a quick assessment of values, he is scrupulously fair and well balanced in his judgments: and in his entire make-up there is no room for pettiness. Add to all this, a flair for organisation, both in mastery of detail and vision for planning of broad policies, a gift of easy and persuasive oratory, a specialised command of accountancy, a character of utmost integrity and a personality which endears him to all who know him—there is a small tribute to a man I am proud to count my friend. Bill Vint has well earned for himself a very special claim on the esteem and gratitude of the organisation he has served so long and devotedly.

CORTI WOODCOCK.

West Middlesex Open

West Ealing, 14th April

From Peter Lowen

NOTABLE ITEMS: PEGGY PIPER beat Joyce Roberts and Joy Seaman in the quarter and semi-finals respectively. . . . TONY MILLER knocked out Jack Head, Alan Rhodes and Len Adams. . . . ALAN RHODES/JILL SEAMAN

(a young local pair) beat R. Crayden/D. Rowe in the Mixed.

THE M.S. final was a rousing game with both Craigie and Venner at the top of their form, Craigie keeping a constant barrage of attack and Venner coolly blocking with angled half-volleys and snatching some very fine winners on opportunity.

Peggy Piper took the first game from Diane Rowe in the W.S. Final, but Diane then found her hitting form and

won the next two. These two were also opposed in the ladies' doubles, where Miss Piper was partnered by Mrs. D. Atherton and Miss Rowe by Mrs. P. Lowen, a fellow club member (Rosalind being at the Liège International). The Surrey pair won quite convincingly.

S. Brocklebank, beating the improving J. D. Jones, again proved a claim to being one of the best youngsters in the South, while Doreen Spooner reversed her defeat (in the Middlesex Closed) by Irene Barker. Results Page 14.

Peggy Piper in Form at Bucks Open

Slough. 8th April.

THE Bucks Open, which seems to improve every year, reached a new height this time. The numbers and the quality of the entry reflected the keen interest, and the organisation and conditions were highly satisfactory. The finals started punctually to time at 7.15 and finished about 10 p.m.

Johnny Leach was much below form, and his 2-straight defeat by **RON CRAYDEN** in the quarter-finals was not quite the shock it would appear. Aubrey Simons this time kept Brian Kennedy well in hand.

PEGGY PIPER played an inspired game and touched the heights to beat both Peggy Franks and Rosalind Rowe, before she was beaten by **DIANE ROWE** in the final.

Junior International **JOHN HUNT**, who has so obviously benefited from the Swedish tour, created one surprise by defeating Jackie Head in the earlier rounds.

SEMI-FINALS

M.S. A. Simons bt. B. Kennedy 15, 15;
R. Crayden bt. L. Adams 8, 17.
W.S. M. Piper bt. R. Rowe —17, 17, 18;
D. Rowe bt. M. Fry —19, 13, 15.

FINALS

M.S. A. SIMONS bt. R. Crayden 9, 13, 16.
W.S. D. ROWE bt. M. Piper 6, 16.
M.D. B. KENNEDY/M. THORNHILL bt. J. Carrington/J. Leach 17, —12, 18.
W.D. D. and R. ROWE bt. D. Spooner/E. Weaver 23, 12.
X.D. J. LEACH/M. FRANKS bt. M. Thornhill/J. Winn 14, —13, 18.
B.S. S. BROCKLEBANK bt. V. Rappaport 19, 19.
G.S. Y. BAKER bt. D. Spooner —15, 19, 13.

Kennedy beats Simons

WEST OF ENGLAND OPEN

Exeter. 31st March.

WITH the Indian team, and top English and Welsh internationals in force there was formidable, colourful and varied opposition confronting the very big entry. For the men's singles event alone there were 250 competitors, easily a new high for Exeter. Everything was well organised, play starting at 11 a.m. on 19 tables in two halls, and clicking its way through the schedule to prompt finals at 7.45 in the Exeter Civic Hall, where the prizes were presented by Mrs. G. J. Greenslade, wife of the Sheriff of Exeter.

The Indians provided new interest and colour and succeeded in annexing two titles. **SAYEED SULTANA**, 13-year-old senior champion of India, had no problems in winning the Girls' Singles, and also reached the final of the W.S. She moves very

little and is vulnerable against hard hitters and good angles, as **AUDREY BATES** (already victorious over Fry and Crosby) in glorious form, quickly proved. **JAYANT** has benefited from his World's experience, and with Bandhari, they make an excellent doubles pair.

Simons showed nothing of the form of the previous week (when he beat Johnny Leach in the Beds. Open) as he faced the boisterous **BRIAN KENNEDY** in the final. This is no reflection on the Yorkshireman, however, who was in a confident, winning form, and is in line for becoming a bit of a bogymen to England's No. 2.

After battling past the strong combinations of Mackay/Mackay and Kennedy/Fry, Carrington/Weaver found Simons/Crosby had too many guns in the finals of the Mixed. **DAVID HOUSE** (Bath) claimed another junior open title in very convincing manner.

SEMI-FINALS

M.S. B. Kennedy bt. K. Jayant —19, 15, 15; A. Simons bt. R. Mackay 12, 11.

FINALS

M.S. B. KENNEDY bt. A. Simons 18, 17, 15.
W.S. A. BATES bt. S. Sultana 8, 10.
M.D. K. JAYANT/R. BHANDARI bt. B. Kennedy/W. Sweetland 18, 20.
W.D. A. BATES/B. GRAY bt. Mrs. J. Crosby/M. Fry 18, 11.
X.D. A. SIMONS/J. CROSBY bt. J. Carrington/E. Weaver 19, 14.
B.S. D. HOUSE bt. H. G. Banfield 7, 16.
G.S. S. SULTANA bt. J. Winter 4, 15.

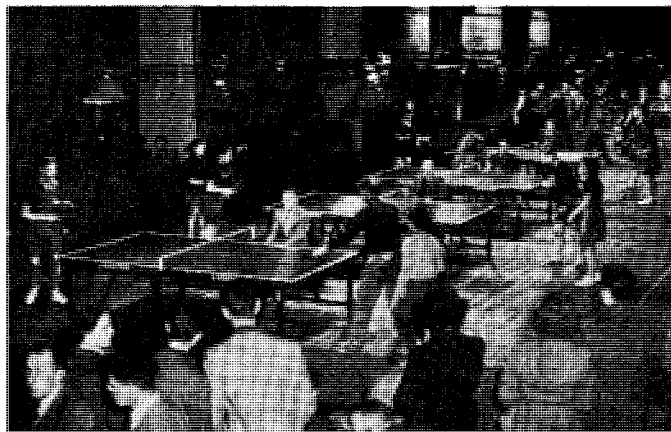
Girls were Stars

THE CHESHIRE OPEN

Stockport. 14th April.

By F. GEE.

THIS tournament proved a fitting close to the Northern season. The Fairey Aviation canteen provided excellent con-



Acknowledgments to "The Vauxhall Mirror,"
A corner of the Beds. Open on Easter Saturday, showing the Mixed Doubles being played on some of the 22 tables in the large hall.

ditions, and the finals were graced by the Mayor of Stockport, and supported by Messrs. N. Cook, W. Stamp and H. Worsley.

Benny Casofsky was not at his best, in striking contrast to his team mate, **RON ALLCOCK**, who, after battering Leslie Cohen, out-generalised his Yorkshire opponent, **HINCHLIFE**.

MARJORIE LIGHTFOOT played what must have been the best match of her career in winning the women's title, beating en route the popular favourite, hard hitting Eileen Grimstone.

JEAN TITTERINGTON avenged her Wembley defeat by beating the English Junior Champion, **DOROTHE MUNNINGS**, in the junior girls' event in one of the most attractive matches of the tournament. Both finalists in the boys' spent a lot of time picking and choosing and I would have preferred more sparkle and enterprise when civic dignitaries are present.

SEMI-FINALS

M.S. Semi-Finals: R. Hinchliffe bt. B. Casofsky 18, 19; R. Allcock bt. L. Cohen 10, 10.

FINALS

M.S. R. ALLCOCK bt. R. Hinchliffe 15, —15, 22.
W.S. M. LIGHTFOOT bt. E. Mansell —17, 13, 14.
M.D. G. SIMPSON/P. SKERRATT bt. G. Mitton/C. Whiteley 21, 18.
W.D. E. GRIMSTONE/J. TITTERINGTON bt. K. Benson/E. Mansell 10, —13, 15.
X.D. R. ALLCOCK/M. BOOTH bt. D. G. Ellison/A. Jones —11, 18, 15.
B.S. C. BOOTH bt. W. England —14, 11, 16.
G.S. J. TITTERINGTON bt. D. E. Munnings 12, —19, 15.
V.S. H. AIREY bt. H. Needles 18, —15, 21.

Wembley Juniors Champions

IN the first year that Wembley and Harrow entered a team in Middlesex Junior Inter-League they have won the championship by beating Willesden 6—3.

The two Willesden boys, Ivor Kay and J. Beach showed good ability, but had a nervous intensity which might be remedied by more competitive experience.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE the E.T.T.A. 1950-51

("The Cabinet of the E.T.T.A.")



Photograph taken before the meeting on 7th April. The three members not included, but mentioned below, arrived just too late. The letters in brackets after a name indicate sub-committees on which that member has served in 1950-51. The key is below.

Left to right—Front Row (seated): W. Stamp (C, H); Mrs. K. Pegg (*Administrative Secretary*); Hon. Ivor Montagu (*Chairman*, C, D, E, F, G, I, K); A. K. Vint (*Hon. Treasurer*, B, C, D, E, F, K, L); Miss L. Ferguson.

Back Row (standing): L. S. Woollard (*Editor*, A, D, F, J); N. Cook; W. G. Goldfinch (D, K); D. J. Rowley; H. J. Amery (B, C, H, I, L); G. R. Harrower (*Circulation Manager*, B, C, E, F, G, J); E. Reay; E. G. White (A, D, E, F, G, H, J, C); F. G. Mannooch (D, K).

Not included: L. E. Forrest; M. Goldstein (C, F); C. Corti Woodcock (D, E, G, K).
Sub-Committee Abbreviations: A—Coaching, B—Boundaries, C—Disciplinary (Appeals), D—English Championships, E—Incorporation, F—Magazine, G—Open Tournaments, H—Regd. Players' Panel, I—Selection, J—Umpires, K—Willmott and Rose Competitions, L—Reps. to N.C.C. Council.

"The University of Sport"

"Lovely Lilleshall, you have all the wonder of a fabled empire where men are gods . . ."

LILLESBALL HALL, once the stately, chateau-like Shropshire seat of the Duke of Sutherland, is now a national recreation centre—a "University of Sport"—run by the C.C.P.R. (Central Council of Physical Recreation).

Its grounds are famed for their beauty. Trim, spacious, flower-decked lawns, islanded with clusters of beautiful trees, bowers and occasional temples surrounding the charms of the lily pools, the Dutch garden and other enchantments. From the Promenade Terrace, a 600-foot long rose-and-apple arbour hoods the pathway to the Grecian Temple, and in the distant woods are the ruins of the ancient abbey. The parkland opens to rolling woodland and meadows hemmed with the distant Wrekin and Cleve Hills.

The Hall, a vastness of 150-odd rooms, high panelled walls and richly decorated ceilings, a grand stairway mounting to the main tower, once familiar to kings and princes, now echoes the enthusiasm of the graduates of every sport. The Hall is reached by a mile of tree-flanked drive entered through the Golden Gates which first opened for King Edward VII. On June 8th (next month) they will stand open in welcome for his great-granddaughter, H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth.

The present facilities of the "University of Sport" include a 10-acre games field, tennis courts, athletics training areas, basket and netball courts, a golf course and an indoor pavilion.



It is said "Youth is a fault which improves itself every minute"—these two certainly have plenty of minutes before them, as their combined ages total only 29. The two smiling kids you see here are the "White Hopes" of Hungarian Table Tennis.

ASTRID NAGY, 15-year-old daughter of a Budapest physician, is a slim youngster, well matured in build and personality. After only two years of competitive play she has lifted the Junior Singles of Hungary

"I don't want to be a Phenomenon" said Miki

by Ferenc Gyorgy

for 1950 and has already had considerable success in adult play.

She has a correct and well-balanced style, with intelligent tactics. After any tournament success she is accustomed to receive an additional "Family Prize" from Papa; in the case of the junior championship this was a smart little handbag (and inside was a 100-forin note, conveniently "forgotten" by Mama).

MIKLOS PETERFFY. This little chap of 14, who looks out at us so optimistically, yet serenely, is the son of a Budapest headmaster. He is a ball-juggler in the class of the one and only Ferenc Soos.

At 14 he is a complete player, needing only experience to place him among the famous of the T.T. world.

Amongst his many Premier-Class victims last season were the National Federation Captain Matravolgi, and the most renowned defensive expert in Hungary, Javor!

However, like young Astrid, Miklos is fond of his school studies, too, and when he overheard somebody remarking: "He's going to be a phenomenon," he piped up: "Not me! I don't want to be a phenomenon, I want to be an architect . . ."

On another occasion, when he was congratulated upon winning three out of his five matches one evening, he replied: "Yes, but I lost two . . . My, if only I had a really good bat."

Perhaps we should mention that the two opponents whom Miki did not beat were—Sido and Soos!

Not so different 30 years ago

By Andy Donaldson

Winner of the First English Open Singles 1921-22

The still sprightly Mr. Donaldson, of Durham, now one of the keenest R.U. followers in the country, has some pertinent advice to would-be champions. The Mr. Carris mentioned is the still very active Vice-President of the E.T.T.A., Austin Carris, donor of the Cup for the famous Gold Competition which bears his name.



MANY of the present generation of table tennis fans are sceptical regarding the style of the game played 30 years ago. They nurse the erroneous impression that the players merely poked the ball across the net towards each other until a mistake by one surrendered the stroke.

When Sunderland Table Tennis Association was formed in 1910 not one kindred association existed in Great Britain. The game which had flourished a few years previously had almost died out. We in Sunderland could therefore alter rules to suit ourselves, and the height of the net was reduced from 6½ in. to 6 in. so as to further speed up the game. That net height I am led to understand is adopted universally to-day. Our local game became quite as fast as it is to-day, due, no doubt, to the predominance of plain wooden racquets, though all sizes and compositions were tolerated.

The resuscitation of the game in the South of England some 30 years ago was due to the courageous and persistent efforts of a small band of enthusiasts. Those Grand Originals rendered such excellent service, often at great expense to themselves, that I suggest the E.T.T.A. should make the few still alive Life Members. They had to rebuild entirely from scratch.

Besides, they had to buy the game out of the hands of a monopoly which was doing nothing to promote it.

On my descent upon London in April, 1922, to play in the initial Championship, I found the net still of the old height and had to change the game to suit it. In the opening round I met a most patient and defensive rival in Mr. W. E. Tucker, of Ealing, and was fortunate to progress further. I eventually pulled the game out of the fire during the last few strokes of the fifth and final game by stagnating his play, as I frequently did locally when an opponent led me, in returning the ball at various paces upon the same spot till he lost his length.

As I progressed in that competition with my hard wooden racquet I was regularly advised to change to a rubber-faced racquet in order to stand a chance of overcoming the leading rubber exponent, Mr. P. Bromfield, of Beckenham, who became 1924 Champion, and who would spin me out of the game. I had been trained more than 20 years previously by the members of what must have been one of the best rubber-faced racquet clubs in the country, and rubber had no terrors for me! In the semi-final Mr. Bromfield gave me many anxious moments, but I had no qualms as to the result. Nor had I

any regarding the final against Mr. A. F. Carris, of Finchley. My opponent was of less than medium height so I played most of my strokes short, a plan which locals will remember as characteristic of my attack. At that time a player was allowed to place his non-playing hand on the table, and the very active Mr. Carris, the father of two renowned county cricketers and rugby footballers, often knocked me off my strokes, though he never assumed the ascendant.

To budding enthusiasts I offer no advice which I haven't carried out myself. Walking, running and skipping are as essential to the welfare of a table tennis fan as they are to a footballer. So are the exclusion of alcohol and smoke, and any eatables outside the usual plain food.

I had access to an Institute long before opening time, and regularly opposed budding aspirants singly in order to perfect a certain stroke or to eliminate a fault by concentrating upon it for even hours at a stretch. That practically explains why my old club, Southwick Trinity, and its players won, at least once each, all the six local competitions open to them. These young lads were encouraged to think two or three strokes in advance, or to play for an opportunity to kill, but to delay the latter until the correct moment to execute it presented itself.

The Inspiring Zoltan

Continued from page 5

World Championships 21 years before). He proposed to me (with his tongue in his cheek) that we carry him there on a stretcher and he would rise dramatically from his supine position when his name was called! It would have been very effective, especially if we had added a trumpet. And it almost came to something of the kind. I shall not easily forget the sick man's scorn as an obtuse acquaintance asked him why he was so insistent on playing as, surely, he did not expect to win.

He lived, with all his toxins, another

three years—or, as he would put it—another three championships, and he still had his triumphs training the Hungarian champion club team two years running. He was there last year, in Budapest, as sage, deliberate and dignified as ever. Players of all nations who knew him still sought his counsel. And several of ours, not least Johnny Leach, will remember his encouragement. This February found him in hospital, sinking, and in desperate pain. The Congress was just in time to elect him, unanimously, an honorary life member.

In the last 12 months we have had to take leave of three great friends—Willmott, Bill Pope and now Zoltan.

Mechlovits' memorial lies partly in that wonderful record: 8 Swaything Cups out of the first ten, 10 out of the first fifteen, and 77 individual World Championship titles out of the 141 so far played—an immortal inheritance on which the new Hungary is now building what was once a fad of a few aristocratic Budapest clubs into a mass recreation for tens of thousands.

Twenty-five years ago the loss of three such men would perhaps have meant that there would never have been a globe sport of Table Tennis such as we know it now.

The fact that they can pass and the earth not be shaken is their epitaph.

IVOR MONTAGU.

OPINION

Selections from Readers' Letters

West Middlesex Open Results

(Continued from page 9)

SEMI-FINALS

M.S. K. CRAIGIE bt. R. Crayden —23, 11, 11; H. Venner bt. A. R. Miller —17, 15, 15.

W.S. D. ROWE bt. Mrs. B. Irish; M. Piper bt. J. Seaman.

FINALS

M.S. H. VENNER bt. K. Craigie 15, 13, —16, 21.

W.S. D. ROWE bt. M. Piper —17, 18, 17.

M.D. K. CRAIGIE/R. SHARMAN bt. L. Thompson/J. Lowe 14, 19.

W.D. M. PIPER/Mrs. D. ATHERTON bt. D. Rowe/Mrs. P. Lowen 18, 11.

X.D. K. CRAIGIE/J. ROBERTS bt. R. Sharman/M. Fry 18, —18, 9.

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

THANK YOU, ENGLAND

"Through the medium of your excellent publication, I would like to express the sincere thanks of we three New Zealanders who participated in some of your English tournaments . . . for the excellent treatment and courtesies we received from officials, players and people generally. It would be impossible to thank everyone personally, so I would indeed be grateful if you would record our appreciation in *Table Tennis* . . .

I am homeward bound, but T. R. D. Flint and J. E. Knowsley will be staying for some time, so if they appear in any of your remaining events this season, please don't regard them as ghosts . . . I am only sorry I could not have stayed longer myself . . .

If any English T.T. players are emigrating 'way down under' I shall be only too pleased to facilitate their entry into New Zealand table tennis circles.

With the very best wishes to your popular magazine and English table tennis generally, and with kindest regards to our many friends in England."

JACK BOROUGH,

Captain, N.Z.T.T. Team, 1951.
S.S. Stratheden, Bombay.

SMALLER TABLES

"I think the suggestion of smaller tables for youngsters (February *Table Tennis*) a very good idea, but wouldn't a youngster find adjustment to a standard size provide new handicaps? If a young person is going to take T.T. seriously, I think he should start practising on a standard size."

BERNARD G. SHARP,

Pemb.

This is the only comment received on this subject. Any more opinions?

PEN FRIEND WANTED

"I am nearly 17, very keen on table tennis and in my last year at school . . . I have had some success at the game, winning the Australian Junior title last year and most of the other junior titles in this country, and fair success in the seniors . . . I am wondering if you could find a pen friend (or even two) for me who is interested in table tennis . . ."

JOHN KLESMAN,

Sydney, Australia.

Letters will be forwarded to John, who has, incidentally, been a student at the Table Tennis Academy run by Miklos Szabados.

THE STARS ON . . .

"I WOULD like to see the feature 'Engagements' enlarged to accommodate names of leading players such as the Rowe Twins (of whom I am a great admirer) participating. Such notice would enable us to watch them in action more frequently . . ."

ALAN PETERS,

Leagrave.

NO SMOKING

"I understand that a NO SMOKING rule is applied to Open Tournament Finals on the Continent. Would it not be desirable to apply the same rule here?"

With extra lighting generating more heat and a 'smoky' atmosphere, the foul and unhealthy atmosphere in which many tournaments in this country are played place an unnecessarily great physical strain on the players."

A. V. MEYERN,

Chairman, Wembley and Harrow.

Mr. Meyern's proposal has been passed to the Open Tournaments Sub-Committee. Other readers' views welcomed.

★ A Constructive Proposal ★

"We have talent in England to beat the World, which should encourage us to look for further successes—I know we can find them if the Powers-that-be tackle the matter in the right way . . . my views (particularly for Ladies) are:—

"A long term policy. The E.T.T.A. to choose about 20 players, 14-19 years old, and arrange for the coaching . . . paid by the E.T.T.A. The League concerned to send a monthly return of all their games . . . The E.T.T.A. to hold a one-week Summer School where all could get together with coaches and officials. Expenses on a 50-50 basis. The venue to be central, and players who show up best to be given a fair share of representative matches to gain big match experience."

FRANK ANDREWS, Manchester.

The National Executive has been considering this quite recently. What IS "the right" way is a subject of conflicting opinions. Doubtless selections would be also! The National Coaching Scheme, still in experimental stage, is not the present answer.

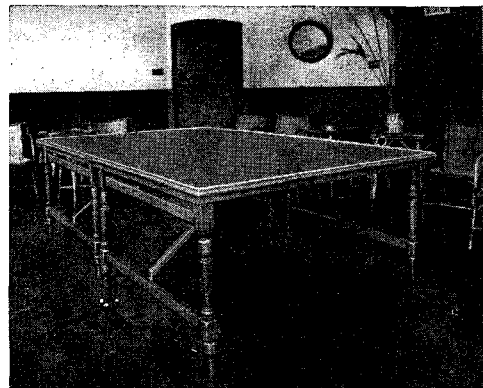
The N.E.C. are considering what can be done for talented younger players, particularly in "isolated" areas. Many problems are involved apart from the expense,

such as venue, accommodation, time from work or school, type of training, etc., required, basis on which selection should be made, etc.

This is a constructive matter on which we invite the frank opinions and suggestions of ALL readers, and possibly a suggested list of candidates. Some recommendations already made include: Skerratt, Munnings, Lowe, Andree Jones, Titterington, House, Baker, and Pullar.

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T.T. Table with 1in.
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ing to protect table
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SHOTS

Congratulations

THE many friends of those attractive Yorks. players, MARCUS and NORMA BISHOP (Hull), will be delighted to hear that Mr. Sork called on Sunday, 11th March, and left the treasure of a little "White Rosebud," to be christened Angela Denise. Our best wishes to them all.

* * *

*"Clubs are not made by men afraid of someone getting ahead,
If all will work and no one shirk
You can raise a club from the dead.
And if you play your personal part
Your neighbour will play his, too.
Your club will be what you want it to be:*

"It's not the club, it's YOU."

From the notice board of the Mossley S.F.C. Supporters' Club.

* * *

CLAIMS DEPT.

WILLESDEN Schools' Sports Association claim to be unique in having a Boys and Girls T.T. Championship. Any challengers?

Their Finals on February 28th provided an inspiring evening marked by great keenness, sportsmanship and a high standard of play before a large audience, which included the Mayor.

M. Thompson (Mrs.).

* * *

LEO THOMPSON is organising coaching classes during summer week-ends at the Slough Social Centre with the assistance of leading players. The extent will depend on the response.

JEANETTE ALTWEGG AT FINALS

The 6th Finals of Beckenham League was quite a gathering of celebrities, including 2 Mayors and Mayoresses, civic and industrial dignitaries, Jeanette Altwegg (World Ice Skating Champion), Sydney Wooderson, Ron Stedman, W. J. Hicks. Denis Compton was not able to make it on this occasion.

Jeanette Altwegg and Vic Fildes (the Ice Hockey player) challenged the Mixed Doubles winners to a match and were only defeated 21-15, and sympathies were definitely with the losers.

Ron Etheridge won the M.S. Championship and Miss Wostear the W.S. titles.

THE BAT COVER (Concluded from page 2)

special T.T. one of last year's World Championships. Elsie has been getting near the top for some time. In the South of London alone, for instance, her victims included Doris Heading, Peggy Piper, Peggy Veal and Diane Rowe, and she lost by only 18 in the third game to Peggy Franks. Next day she reached semi-final of Kent Open, and added another Doubles title (with Doreen Spooner) to her several. Elsie and Doreen are certain to win more doubles yet. Elsie Weaver is another of Jack Carrington's pupils . . . a rather special one, in fact . . . for to many she is better known as Mrs. Carrington, and Jack's assistant coach.

Hounslow T.T.C. have been unbeaten in the S. W. Middlesex League for four years—until their very last match of the season. Their victors were their second team, all under 18's, and including Harry Joyce, winner of the Junior title in the South of England Open.

* * *

JACK CARRINGTON has been given the job of organising the six Table Tennis Demonstrations for the Festival of Britain. They will be held in the open air Sports Arena on the South Bank site. In view of the notorious unreliability of British weather, it sounds a "headache," but Jack usually manages to find a solution. Meanwhile, he's looking for young volunteer enthusiasts who would like to take part in the fun. Write to Jack Carrington, c/o the E.T.T.A.

* * *

Fully extended and scored programmes of the 1951 World Championships can be obtained from Dr. Kurt Kunodi, Schulgasse 90/31 Vienna 18. Price 3 Austrian shillings, by international money order.

* * *

We admire the enterprise of the Scandinavian Airlines who, in this year's World Championships Programme, advertise flights to Bombay for next year's Worlds.

* * *

Best Profitee of the Year

STAN PROFFITT, writing in the English Open Programme: "The ever-green Aloisj Ehrlich was perhaps seen at his best in 1935 . . . what amazing fitness these veterans have, for they continue to pop up . . . and I wouldn't be surprised if one of them does not notch the title again . . ."

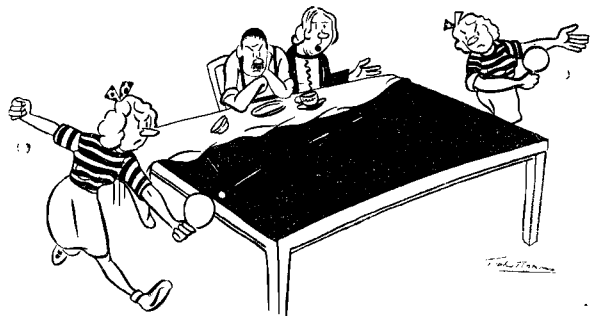
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Ten Rules for Coming Clubs

—after Karlheinz Simon in "Tisch-Tennis" (official German T.T. magazine)—

If you want your team to be good :

1. See to it that all its members are friends and sportsmen.
2. That it is led by an experienced person.
3. See that the best players are selected, not the wealthiest nor most popular.
4. Match it against better players. If it can face a heavy defeat and still show pleasure and fighting spirit, then it is able to improve.
5. See that it keeps in good training and that each player, as far as possible, plays one opponent whose style he does not like.
6. See that it includes strong doubles players, for doubles matches are often decisive.
7. See that it takes all opponents seriously.
8. See that its members always pull together, even outside the club room.
9. See that none of its members become conceited, or the weaker ones grow jealous of the best—that is the beginning of the end.
10. See that it takes every loss smiling, for that is the test of the real champion.



"Yes, dears, I know you might be as good as the Rowe Twins with practice—but MUST you play when father's having his tea?"

ENGLAND beat INDIA 8-1

Eltham, 3rd April

By N. B. Adams

WORLD Champions Johnny Leach and the Rowe Twins received a tumultuous reception in their appearance in the international match against India.

The crowd of about 900 included Corti Woodcock, E. G. White, G. Harrower, F. G. Mannooch, selector Tommy Sears, Ron Jones (secretary Australian T.T.A.) and H. N. Smith, former President of the U.S.T.T.A.

Thornhill, apparently nervous, could not hold the persistent attack of R. Bhandari in the first match. K. Jayant (considered the best Indian player for a quarter century) set hearts quickening when he trounced Aubrey Simons in the first game, but recovering his vicious forehand drive, Simons made quite sure of the next two.

Thornhill gained confidence with every stroke against the solid defence of India's No. 3, T. Thiruvengadam, and won in straight sets. Simons made the score 3-1 by beating R. Bhandari, although by a cleverly mixed play the Indian took the middle game. Diane had no difficulties with Mrs. V. P. Siriwardene.

Johnny Leach's match with Jayant soon brought gasps from the audience. With occasional bursts of powerful counter-hitting, Jayant forced Leach to the defensive, but Johnny was not to be denied his "kill," and took the match in his stride.

Thirteen-year-old Sayeed Sultana was almost as great an attraction as Rosalind Rowe, who beat her in a confident bout of fine stroke play.

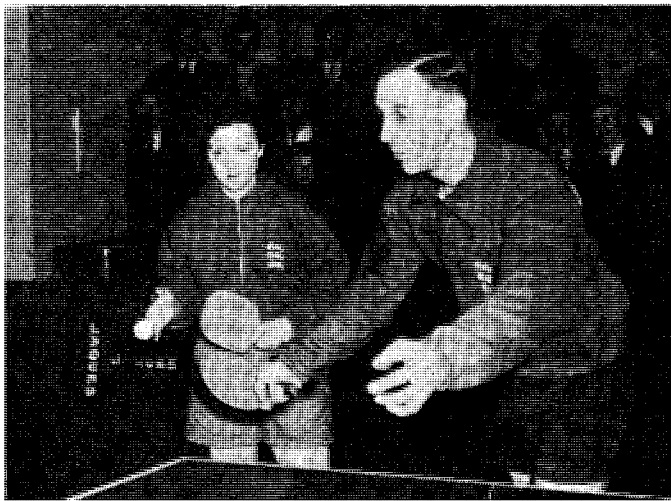
Bhandari/Jayant hit with great accuracy against Leach/Thornhill, but found the English pair even more steady, and, in the second set especially, Thornhill matching the hitting of Leach. The Rowe Twins, in a superb exhibition of doubles play, completely outclassed the tenacious Indian pair.

Conditions were excellent, and Mr. T. T. Ramnajan (secretary, All-India T.T.A.) seemed extremely pleased with all arrangements.

England 8, India 1

J. LEACH bt. K. Jayant 15, 15. A. SIMONS bt. K. Jayant -12, 18, 14; bt. R. Bhandari 10, -18, 12. M. THORNHILL bt. T. Thiruvengadam 19, 10; lost to R. Bhandari -12, -16. Miss D. ROWE bt. Mrs. V. P. Siriwardene 7, 7; Miss R. ROWE bt. Miss S. Sultana 18. **Doubles:** LEACH/THORNHILL bt. Bhandari/Jayant 17, 13. D. AND R. ROWE bt. Siriwardene/Sultana 14, 8.

No Summer Break for Johnny



Acknowledgments to "The Vauxhall Mirror"

World Champion JOHNNY LEACH (here seen partnering DIANE ROWE in a Mixed Doubles match) will have a busy T.T. summer. Immediately after the international match in Paris on May 8th he leaves London Airport (accompanied by Michel Haguenaer) for Calcutta. Then follows a 10-day Indian tour, 10 days in Singapore area, four weeks' New Zealand tour, and about six weeks' Australian tour.

He will probably be back about mid-September, and plans a definite few days holiday. His friend and partner, JACK CARRINGTON, who is looking after Johnny's interests in his absence, tells us that autumn exhibition engagements are already coming in.



Round-up

By PETER MADGE

THE T-A PAGE proposes to award the M.M. (Metaphorical Medal) to the favoured few worthy of special recognition. . . . No one will dispute the claim of the ROWE TWINS for the Best Performance of the Year . . . then one each to MICHAEL THORNHILL and BRIAN KENNEDY. . . . An M.M. for Keenness goes to Kent's STAN BROCKLEBANK. He lives way down in Canterbury, but is rarely absent from any Southern tournament. Those conversant with transport facilities in that part of the world will realise that this is no mean feat. When are they going to take the solid tyres off the East Kent buses, Stan? Just for the record, the Brocklebank sideboard bears

CRYSTAL BALL DEPT.

JUNIORS. This season's hopes in the South—Brocklebank, Hunt, Joyce and Stevens—all pass into the Senior grade, leaving regrettably few players of promise behind them. Best prospect at the moment is Ivor Jones, Ivor is yet another product of Ashford, which has been referred to as a Young Lions' Den . . . is it my imagination, or do all the cubs seem a little sleepy.

In the North we find BOOTH, INGBER and PULLAR, all with two more seasons to go as Juniors and destined to scrap amongst themselves for tournament honours; the balance, if any, being slightly in favour of Cliff Booth. Great things are hoped for from Jeff Ingber, whose improvement since the Swedish tour may be measured by his two recent victories over Pullar.

A little further East another challenger has arisen of late — this is BILLY ENGLAND, of Nottingham.

the trophies for six junior Opens, runner's-up plaque for two others, and cups for winning all three titles in the Kent Junior Closed. He has twice made the 250-mile round trip to Southampton, each time lifting the Junior title by beating DAVID HOUSE in the final.

A week-end tournament for Stan starts at 5.19 a.m. on Saturday morning, when he gets the first train to London—it finishes at 7.35 on Monday morning when he arrives back at Canterbury just in time for work, having spent the night on Victoria Station and caught the 5.10. Happiest day of Stan's life was when he had a ten-minute walk to the Kent Junior Closed, which was held in Canterbury; what's more—he was home again at 11 o'clock . . . the same night!

Finally—M.M. of the season for Determination, and this goes to an anonymous 15-year-old hero in a Southern tournament who took off his pullover at 6-19 down in the second game against Johnny Leach, having lost the first at 8!

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

Owing to unavoidable circumstances the April issue has been cancelled. Next issue will be;

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