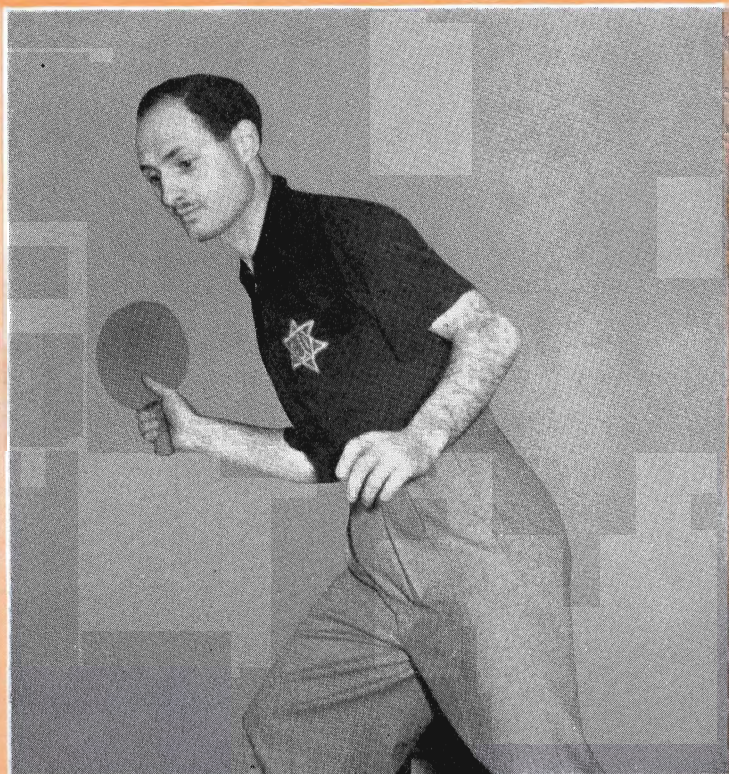


TABLE TENNIS



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20
PAGES

Table



Tennis

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English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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SENDING

CONTRIBUTIONS

1 Letters, articles, anecdotes, news, etc., are always welcome. Should be as brief as possible, and sent direct to The Editor: **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**, 12, Campbell Road, Bedford. Until increased circulation justifies extra pages, space is limited, and some items may have to be condensed. Send early as possible.

A SPECIAL NOTE

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

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5 **ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, LONDON, W.C.2. Admin. Sec: Mrs. K. Pegg.

From THE EDITOR



Why and How

A S THIS is being written, our October number is only just going out. In view of this lateness, it has been decided to combine the issues of November and December, and increase to 20 pages, price still 6d. (This is the size we can have regularly if your League Mag. Sec. can sell those few extra copies).

The delay and difficulty has been occasioned solely through the recent Printing Trade Dispute, which also stopped publication of *The Radio Times*, and probably 100 other national periodicals. We at least made strenuous efforts to make alternative arrangements. Despite my own worries, I had a very real sympathy for the Hon. Circulation Manager, Geoff. Harrower, who had worked as hard as any could for us to reach the dead-line.

Our September issue was completely sold out. A second print likewise. A third reprint was prevented by the Printing Dispute, so no further copies are available of September issue. Now we have to start our circulation drive again. Every additional copy sold will help to make a bigger magazine. **BUY** a copy — **DON'T** borrow. We hope in future issues to tell you of the **STAR** counties who are achieving their circulation target.

It is really grand to get all your letters, and a wonderful help. There are too many for me to reply to all individually so please make clear if an acknowledgement is wanted. By the way, have you glanced through the numbered paragraphs on the left? They're quite important. It is especially important that Paragraph 2 should be understood and appreciated.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD.

The highlight of the month is the English Open. Look out for details and stop-press news in the following pages.

DURING the war, H.M. Government commended the playing of sports on Sunday, yet loopholes in centuries-old laws still make it possible for Common Informers (or Snoopers) to prevent many worthy activities yet be powerless against some of less repute.

We believe that in any democratic Christian community, each citizen should have a personal right to act within his conscience and beliefs, and not be frog-marched to the dictates of medieval laws initiated by Common Informers with a keen sense of business. To this purpose, we invited Mr. K. Day, Hon. Gen. Sec. of the S.F.A. and Hastings Entertainments Manager to present his case that local groups should be entrusted to decide for themselves.

The Lord's Day Observance Society, (L.D.O.S.) operates from expensive Fleet Street offices. Their well-paid and publicity-loving General Secretary is Mr. "Misery" Martin.

This Sunday Business

Tournament Finals—Admission Free

Bid to let everyone decide for himself

By KENNETH F. DAY

(Hon. Gen. Sec. Sunday Freedom Association)

IT ALL STARTED in the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings. The L.D.O.S. suddenly objected to the playing of the Finals of the Sussex Open on a Sunday (after twenty-two years). The only possible action—admittance free—was taken, and "Misery" Martin took an instant dislike to table tennis.

Mr. Martin challenged the writer and subsequently attended a public debate at Hastings, at which the E.T.T.A. were represented. The outcome was the formation of what is now the Sunday Freedom Association, dedicated to straightening out the hundreds of anomalies.

Many Sunday workers and tradesmen are regularly breaking the Law under the Acts of Charles I. By the payment of a small entrance fee you can form a Sunday Club for dancing, entertainment or sport. No one can do anything about it, and the Common Informer loses his job.

At the seaside, you can bathe, make trips in speedboats, flock to fun-fairs and dodg'em cars. The B.B.C. can run a continuous variety programme. The cinema can show films, including much old junk, and so on. But a clean, harmless 'live' show is out. Most table tennis tournaments are held at weekends, the only time that players can travel, but, as one of the L.D.O.S. organisers has declared with un-Christian venom. "I am going to stamp out Sunday sport before I'm through."

Charity events seem especially singled out for the maleficent attention of the L.D.O.S. Many artistes and sportsmen can only give their services on Sunday for the many causes that depend en-

tirely on charity. The R.A.F. Battle of Britain Funds has had many setbacks from L.D.O.S. activities.

Many big national associations, such as the National Cyclists Union as well as the E.T.T.A. have joined the S.F.A., and membership may be open to individuals in the near future. With the assistance of Mr. John Parker, M.P. (Dagenham) a Bill has been drafted which it is hoped to be taken before Parliament. The Bill will contain local option; in this, the common sense of the people will be ample safeguard. This would operate similarly as for Sunday Cinemas where a local poll is taken. Let the people decide whether they want sport and entertainment on Sundays.

We are not agitating for nor fostering a spirit of the "Continental Sunday." We seek only to amend out-of-date laws, abolish the odious practice of the 'professional' Common Informer and ensure that there is equitable justice, Christian tolerance and safeguard of personal liberties.

Playing Tip of the Month

By JACK CARRINGTON

MANY a lesson can be learned from Richard Bergmann's match play.

After quelling Vana at Budapest this year, he faced Sido in the semi-final of the World's Singles.

The mighty first-time wallops of Two-Ton Sido, the hefty Hungarian, meant real danger for Bergmann, whom he had defeated before. At the same time, when Sido settles down to defend he can hold the Bergmann style of hitting or counter-hit it with great effect.

"O.K. then," said Bergmann, "No settling down for Sido tonight," and he proceeded to dictate many of the rallies by a series of half-speed drives which would not have worried a county-class defender.

But they worried the world-class hitter.

Had they been hard drives, Sido would have known he must defend and would have blasted one back every so often from his defensive line. Instead, these "creepers" forced him to make a decision every time, and generally your "bump" hitter prefers to act by reflex rather than reflection.

In most cases in this particular match, the slow-driven ball had dropped below the point of counter-hitting danger before the big hitter could make his decision.

THE LESSON IS

1. "Attack" need not necessarily mean fast-flowing strokes. It can mean simply keeping the initiative away from your opponent.

2. If you have a bogey man, it is probably because his normal thrives on your normal style.

It is sometimes worth changing your normal style, even at some risk, to present new problems to your opponent.

NEWS, NOTES and GOSSIP



from Jack Carrington

A Good Man Down Under
MICHAEL SZABADOS, world-famed sparring partner of Victor Barna, recently won the Australian Singles title for the second time. What's news about that? Only that the first occasion was thirteen years ago.

As Johnny Leach always says: "If the class has been there, it is always capable of showing itself again."

It almost makes one sympathise with the youngster who remarked, after reading Morris Rose's "Fighting Words" in September *Table Tennis*:—"In table tennis there aren't any HAS-BEENS . . . Only BLOOMING-WELL-UGHT-TO-HAVE-BEENS!"

Doubles and No Quits

LAST month I mentioned the good doubles effort of BRIAN KENNEDY and ALAN THOMPSON, at Skegness. A fortnight later, at Drighlington, they accounted for the well-tried team of Stanley and Casofsky.

But history repeats itself. At Skegness they went on to lose, deuce-in-the-3rd, to Allcock and Holland. At Drighlington they went on to lose the final of the Yorks. Open, deuce-in-the-3rd, to ALLCOCK and HOLLAND!

The Yorks. pair had 20-18 too, but they didn't lose through poor play. Ron Allcock had been sickly all day, and Arthur Holland had been doing nearly two men's work. Finally the strain told on him and several weak shots gave the Yorkshiremen the match lead 20-18.

Suddenly Ron Allcock screwed his remaining strength together and sent over four piledriver forehands.

22-20, thanks for the game!

No Chop with the "Chips"

THIS Holland plays consistently good doubles, not only with Allcock, but also with 15-year-old JEAN TITTERINGTON who benefits greatly from his clever placing and philosophical approach.

Mind you, one needs to be a philosopher to partner the dashing Ronnie. He can punch you out of a crisis and he can punch you into a crisis; whatever happens, life is never dull.

Little Jean herself is a chip off the Eileen Grimstone block:—"What's this? A ball? Let's bust it!"

'Ware Walton

NOTE this name too: PETER WALTON. He's twenty and hails from Halifax, clubmate of Ron Thompson. In last year's Yorks. Open he beat Ken Stanley; in this year's he accounted for the holder Kennedy.

Thereafter he found Stanley (the eventual winner this time), waiting for revenge, but young Peter still played a class game against the Lancs. No. 1.

Novel Idea Doubles Match Interest

STAINES & District League (under which peaceful title lurks the young lions' den of Ashford) has made a good move to extend the interest of their league matches.

They have twelve ties per match, and the winners can earn a full four points only if they win by 8-4 or better. 7-5 earns three points, with one to the losers; 6-6 of course means two points each.

In this way, there is something "on" every game until one team reaches the figure eight.

I'm all for this. What say you?

Manchester Players take Two World Titles

BENNY CASOFSKY and "GEORGE BELI GOODMAN did a good job out in Tel-Aviv, where they took for England the T.T. Championship of the Jewish Maccabiah Games.

So they brought home nice gold medals to go with their smart issue of royal blue blazers, berets, and slacks. These two Mancunians were chosen with Ernie Bublely to represent England, after trials in London in which such strong players as Harry Rosen, Jack Glickman, and Maurice Kriss took part. Youngster who made the best showing was another Manchester lad, Ronnie Baker, selected as first reserve.

Ronnie, who missed the Junior International boat two years ago by one place only, can count himself unlucky this time too. After getting his passport and documents, and a brand new vaccination, he was told "NOT WANTED ON VOYAGE."

He may be pardoned for a wry

smile when he learned that Ernie Bublely did not after all make the journey, and the team had to be made up by a volunteer, Levy by name, from amongst the English football contingent.

"It wouldn't be so bad, Ronnie said, "but it's five years to the next Games—and my vaccination certificate only holds good for three years."

The wheel will surely turn for a youngster who can take disappointment with a wisecrack like that.

"A Nice Guy"

TOUCHING down in Paris for a few hours on the homeward flight, Benny sauntered along the avenues and ran right into GUY AMOURETTI, that brilliant exponent of the "attacking 'chop'" theory.

Amouretti comes from Nice, and it is not toying with words to say that he is a Nice Little Guy. Nice to see him in England again, otherwise our youngsters are growing up without ever knowing what it is like to play against real chop.

Shady Business

SIR,

I cannot understand these complaints about the FLICKER Lighting System used at the Blankshire Semi-Closed.

I played there, and can assure you that I saw my opponent several times quite clearly, when he came in to the net—at certain angles, of course.

After all, if they can save 30s. by having it done by the chairman's nephew, why not?

We use the same lighting system in our club, but we don't often switch it on as we find it more economical that way. Also there is a fairly large cinema across the road and sometimes the neon signs are working.

Possibly my professional work as a poacher has improved my eyes?

Yours light-heartedly,

A. NIGHTHAWK.

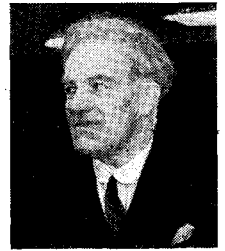


J. MORRIS ROSE

The T.T. Cup

National Team Competitions.

OVER 150 LEAGUE TEAMS LINE UP



The late A. J. WILMOTT

THESE two splendid Team Competitions (the F.A. Cups of T.T.) will already be in play when this is read. The first round is to be played not later than 18th November; the second by 9th December; the third by 6th January.

Both competitions were instituted for the express purpose of developing high standards of team and match play and to encourage the humbler leagues to meet increasingly stronger players under match conditions. Their value and importance will not be underestimated by any shrewd observer, and the competitions also play an important part in such things as Grading, County Qualification, etc.

The ardent table tennis player can only hope to see the day when every League will automatically enter, and have half-a-crown's worth. You are in good company even if you lose in the first round, and have lost nothing, but with much to gain. Last year there was even—

Champagne for the winners



MR. E. A. W. EAST, Chairman of the South London League was heard to say he would give a dinner if their team won the trophy. After that there was no stopping them winning the Wilmott Cup. It was even whispered that Ron Crayden saved his appetite for the occasion!

This picture shows the full party of twenty at the Stork Club, Streatham, happily awaiting the grand feast and dance/social to follow. Mr. East is behind the Cup; the President, Mr. J. M. Rose and Mrs. Rose on his left. R. Crayden, H. Venner, J. Head, Elsie Weaver can also be spotted.

The Wilmott Cup has a special display—a miniature T.T. table, a background board with details, flanked by two bats inscribed with names of the team and officers.

And, of course, the Cup was filled with champagne! Additional congratulations to South London on the "Stork's successful delivery" and of having Mr. East.

Our Juniors for Sweden

THIS season it is England's turn to visit Sweden in the Annual reciprocal Junior International Tour to take place sometime before the World's. From negotiations proceeding it is probable that this will be the most memorable of the series to date. The lucky and deserving youngsters selected will be away a month, during which it is hoped to arranged a five-

nation junior team contest and the possibility of a return via Norway and a game in Oslo.

The tour of Sweden will be of great educational value giving the boys opportunities of studying another nation's way of life and mixing in good fellowship with the boys of four European nations. On the last tour visits were made to large firms engaged in printing, paper making, production of nylon, rug-making, cutlery, engineering, match making, saw mills, etc., etc.

THE DRAW

WILMOTT CUP COMPETITION ROUND 1

Zone 1: Thames Valley, Bye; London Business Houses v. Willesden; West London v. Croydon; Central v. High Wycombe; North Middlesex v. Maidenhead; Staines v. London Civil Service; Wembley, Bye; Slough, Bye.

Zone 2: Fellows Cranleigh, Bye; Laindon Bye; University of London T.T.C. v. London Banks; Nalco v. Insurance Offices; Southend v. East London; Manhattan T.T.C., Bye; South London, Bye; Thameside Ind., Bye.

Zone 3: Byfleet v. Canterbury; Bromley v. Gravesend; Beckenham v. Woolwich; Medway Towns v. Sittingbourne.

Zone 4: Luton v. Oxford University T.T.C. Watford v. St. Albans; Leighton Buzzard v. Bedford; Welwyn Garden City, Bye.

Zone 5: Kings Lynn, Bye; Boston, Bye; Norwich, Bye; Peterborough v. Newark; Cambridge v. Bishops Stortford; Lincoln, Bye; Scunthorpe, Bye; Grimsby, Bye.

Zone 6 (North): Carlisle v. West Cumberland; Hartlepool v. Northumberland.

Zone 6 (South): Chesterfield v. Sheffield; Huddersfield v. Halifax Y.M.C.A.; Leeds v. Bridlington; Burnley, Bye.

Zone 7 (North): Nelson, Bye; Chester, Bye; Preston, Bye; Blackpool v. Liverpool; Manchester v. Hyde; Southport, Bye; Darwen Bye; Bolton, Bye.

Zone 7 (South): Desborough v. Kidderminster; Birmingham v. Dudley Temp.; Burton v. Worcester; Northampton, Bye.

Zone 8 (South): Den T.T.C., Bye; Bournemouth, Bye; Leatherhead, Bye; Brighton v. Rexhill; Boenor v. Grosvenor Sports T.T.C.; Horsham, Bye; Southampton Civil Service T.T.C., Bye; Guildford, Bye.

Zone 8 (West): Salisbury v. Chard; Bath v. Bristol; Taunton v. South Devon; Reading, Bye.

J. M. ROSE BOWL COMPETITION ROUND 1

Zone 1: Central, Bye; North Middlesex, Bye; Slough v. Willesden; Maidenhead v. West London; London Civil Service v. Wembley; Reading, Bye; High Wycombe, Bye; Staines, Bye.

Zone 2: South London, Bye; East London Bye; London Banks, Bye; Thames Valley v. Insurance Office; Laindon v. Nalco; Iford, Bye; London Business Houses, Bye; Southend, Bye.

Zone 3: Boston, Bye; Cambridge v. Kings Lynn; Grimsby, Bye; Bishop's Stortford, Bye.

Zone 4: Beckenham v. Byfleet; Woolwich v. Croydon; Gravesend v. Sittingbourne; Medway Towns, Bye.

Zone 5 (East): Northumberland, Bye; Sheffield v. Bradford; Burton, Bye; Leeds, Bye.

Zone 5 (West): Crewe, Bye; Manchester v. Southport; Burnley v. Liverpool; Blackpool, Bye.

Zone 6: Luton, Bye; Bedford v. Welwyn Garden City; St. Albans v. Birmingham; Watford, Bye.

Zone 7: Leatherhead v. Horsham; Brighton v. Guildford.

Zone 8: Bath, Bye; Salisbury C. v. South Devon; Bristol, Bye; Bournemouth, Bye.

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

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

The N.E.C. at Birmingham

THE National Executive held their last meeting in Birmingham, adjourning after a five hour session to see the Finals of the Birmingham Open at the Sports Stadium, and were given a cordial welcome by the organisers. Responding, the Chairman, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, referred to the fine history, strength, support, and high standards of Birmingham.

Later in the evening the Committee had a preview of a Dunlop Sports Film covering the recent visit of Victor Barna to Australia.

* * *

Umpires

ON 7th October, fifteen counties had formed Umpire Committees and nine counties had not made any response to the scheme. Of the first twenty-three papers received there was a pass ratio of two to one.

The Committee have decided that any candidates being unsuccessful with their first tests should be allowed one more attempt in the same season.

It has not been found practicable to publish an Umpire's Handbook for this season, but it is proposed to publish for next to include *inter alia*, latest I.T.T.F. regulations, rulings and recommendations.

Orders have been placed for the attractive County Umpire's Badge, and these should be available in the very near future.

* * *

Selection of Players

IN a discussion on national selections, it was again pointed out that county secretaries can help a very great deal in ensuring prompt consideration of any player, by addressing any recommendation, records, outstanding performances, etc., direct to The Selection Committee, at the E.T.T.A. headquarters.

The Committee received Open Tournament records, and access to N.C.C. matches. Entries in major Opens, such as the English, were particularly watched. It was also made clear that sympathetic consideration would always, as in the past, be given in special cases, where there was financial difficulty in a player's participating in such events. This, as the question of any player's availability for international matches, were matters for which the county was the guiding authority.

* * *

The E.T.T.A. Goes North

FOLLOWING the visit of the N.E.C. to Birmingham, it has now been decided to hold the meeting of the General Council in Liverpool in early February. Leeds was also seriously considered for the venue.

Registered Players Committee

AT a meeting of the Registered Players Committee held on the 4th October, Victor Barna was elected Chairman and Jack Carrington, Hon. Secretary of the Committee.

A Panels Commission has been set up, on which the three elected members of the N.E.C. are H. J. Amery, W. Stamp and E. G. White.

A first list of Exhibition Players has been approved, and meanwhile it is proposed to approve three grades of Coaches classified according to record, qualifications and ability.

* * *

BERGMANN

—Press Statement

THE CHARGE against Richard Bergmann, which occasioned his suspension, was, as is known, the playing of table tennis abroad for remuneration, without first seeking and obtaining sanction of the English Table Tennis Association in accordance with the Rules. Subsequently, a second charge has arisen — that of playing table tennis since his suspension.

The Executive Committee of the English Table Tennis Association met on the 4th November, 1950 in Birmingham. The Committee had before it written material from Richard Bergmann, constituting an appeal and request for re-instatement. The fact of the offence is in essence not denied, the appeal taking the form of a claim of extenuating circumstances. The Executive Committee was unanimously of opinion that, on the basis of the material before it, the claim was not sufficiently clearly established to warrant the lifting of the suspension. The entry of Richard Bergmann to the English Open Championships is therefore refused, as that of a player not eligible owing to suspension. This decision has been communicated to Richard Bergmann at his last known address abroad, and at the same time he is informed that he will be afforded the opportunity of a personal hearing should he so desire, at an early date after his return to this country.

Official Ranking List

MEN: 1, R. Bergmann*; 2, J. Leach and A. W. C. Simons; 4, H. T. Venner; 5, R. Crayden; 6, K. Stanley; 7, B. Crouch; 8, M. Thornhill; 9, K. Craigie; 10, Casofsky.

In first ten, but not ranked: G. V. Barna; A. A. Haydon.

WOMEN: 1, Miss D. Beregit (Devenny); 2, Miss M. Franks (Hook); 3, Miss J. Roberts (Miller); 4, Misses M. Jones, D. Rowe; R. Rowe; 7, Miss E. M. Steventon; 8, Miss L. R. Barnes; 9, Miss A. Wood; 10, Mrs. J. Crosby.

In first ten, but not ranked: Mrs. V. Thomas (Dace).

* subject to suspension.

† now a member of the Australian T.T.A.

* * *

From U.S.T.T.A.

PETER ROBERTS, Chairman of the U.S.T.T.A. History Committee mentions, in a letter, the desirability of mentioning a player by his first full name, not his initials, in all official reports. Many European reporters, apparently, have tended to ignore the importance of this point, despite the increasing numbers of players of similar or identical surnames.

Selection Committee

THE Selection Committee have announced the nomination of JOHN VY LEACH (Essex), AUBREY SIMONS (Glos.) PEGGY FRANKS, (Essex) and JOYCE ROBERTS (Middlesex) to participate in the Belgian Open Championships, Brussels on 11/12th November. (2nd Nov. 1950).

* * *

Coaching Committee

AS announced in a previous "Table Tennis," all County Associations had now been invited to send nominations of those whom they wished to participate in the National Coaching Scheme sponsored by the E.T.T.A. and which it is proposed to hold at Bisham Abbey near Marlow (with the co-operation of the C.C.P.R.) some time in January.

By 4th November, only three county associations had responded. A further circular is to be issued shortly giving further details, and county authorities are recommended to make a prompt response if they wish to take advantage of the Scheme. It should be noted that the expenses are borne by the E.T.T.A.

* * *

Festival of Britain, 1951

THE E.T.T.A. has been allocated three days in May and three days in September in 1951 in which to represent Table Tennis in a large outdoor arena. The authorities wish that the training and coaching of Youth should be included.

* * *

World Championships, 1950-51

THIS year's World Championships, 2nd to 11th March, 1951, are being organised by the Austrian Table Tennis Association and will be held in the Wiener Konzerthaus, Vienna.

The E.T.T.A. have already made preliminary enquiries for charter plane(s) and accommodation, and anyone interested in travelling should write to the Secretary, E.T.T.A. in the near future.

* * *

Future World Championships

OPTIONS for the venue of future World Championships are: 1952, India (Bombay); 1953, Czechoslovakia (Prague); 1954, England (London).

* * *

Official Handbook 1950-51

THE delay in the publication of the Official Handbook is almost entirely due to the recent Printing Trade dispute, and all the copy has been in the hands of the printers for some time. Nevertheless, it is noted with regret that some nineteen bodies have not sent particulars of their organisation to the Secretary.

The Incomparable Champion

World Tributes in Presentation Ceremony

Pictures and Letters in January issue

ON Wednesday 8th November 1950 one of the most unique and historic occasions in the history of Table Tennis took place in the Royal Empire Society, London.

In simple fact, this was the Presentation of the Victor Barna Testimonial Fund. Symbolically, it was the crystallised tribute and sincere goodwill of the whole table tennis world accorded to the greatest name in the game over its entire history.

Cricket has had its W. G. Grace. Golf its Harry Vardon. And the pedestal of honour for Table Tennis now becomes worthily filled by Victor Barna and his name has become permanently and inextricably woven into the history of the game. How fortunate are those who saw The Maestro at the peak of his dazzling career and before the accident to his playing arm shaded his magic.

The 100-odd guests represented scores of organisations, the Press and B.B.C. and included some of the most distinguished names in the game. They were received by the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Victor and Susie Barna.

Mrs. Kathleen Pegg presented a bouquet to Mrs. Susie Barna, who looked as elegant and charming as ever.

Many messages had been received, including those from the Dowager Lady Swaythling, Sir Arthur Elvin, Sir Stanley Rous, the Lawn Tennis Association, the C.C.P.R., etc.

"... in the early days," wrote the E.T.T.A. President, Mr. H. Oldroyd, "I saw a great deal of this wonderful man, and in my placing of him, I should compare him to the Great Ranji of cricket fame, and those of us who remember that great cricketer realise what that means..."

Norman Wilson, Secretary of the Irish T.T.A. expressed the sentiments of all:

"Victor Barna has been the magic word in table tennis for the past twenty years... through a stage of growing pains to a graceful art... probably the greatest missionary of the game... added more disciples than those of us who only preach. He has won every title of importance throughout the world, but more than that, he has won the esteem and friendship of untold thousands... his dependable co-operation at all times

... his complete absence of that ego normally associated with temperamental sopranos; his charm of manner both at and off the table... his unselfish regard for the wishes of the public.

The Hon. Ivor Montagu, in making the presentation, said that 127 donors had subscribed to the Fund, but some of the collective lists represented several hundreds. He recalled the first emergence of Victor twenty years ago, the first victory of Haydon, the classics of the next decade, in which Szabados would so often share.

He spoke of Barna as "The Great Champion," and referred to that particular gracefulness of which so many had spoken. This outstanding characteristic which had enabled him to serve both his country of birth and the country of his adoption and yet retain the affection and respect of both. Even more, it had materially contributed to his achieving such outstanding success both in play and with the lady of his choice. With mock ruefulness, Mr. Montagu confessed that when Victor Barna entered the Veteran Competitions, he would feel that he had no chance left!

Of the cumulative Fund, an amount had been allocated for a Television Set leaving a balance for a personal gift. The greater part of the Fund was then to be (a) spent in the purchase of a suitable trophy to be awarded annually to the player who had done most for the game, and (b) the balance invested in a Scholarship Fund to be devoted toward helping meritorious junior(s).

The Presentation was then made.

Victor Barna responded with the charm and modesty to which so much allusion has been made, enlivened with touches of humour. As a youngster, his main thought had been to win a world title, but in his progress he had felt he had won something infinitely more valuable — the friendship of many. He had been touched and deeply moved by the gesture expressed in this presentation.

* * *

TABLE TENNIS is delighted to announce that the great VICTOR BARNa will be writing special articles for this Magazine. The first of which will appear in the next issue, January 1951.

"Rose is Wrong"

declares FRANK FREWIN

MORRIS ROSE'S article "Youngsters Win by Attack" in your September issue is based on two fallacies that could be dangerous to young players and positively fatal to older ones.

Mr. Rose's proposition is that young players, because their reactions are quick, should ATTACK; and that older players, with slower reactions, have to defend. The fallacies in this are:

1. *That a player with a slow reaction should defend.* It is clear that the opposite should, in fact, be the general rule. The defender has a fast-moving ball coming towards him and must consequently have a quick reaction. The attacker usually has to watch a chopped, slower moving ball and thus does not need such a quick reaction.

2. *That young players always have quicker reactions than older ones.* This is quite often true, but to base an argument on its ALWAYS being true is absurd. Quickness of reaction is determined by many other factors than age. For example, a factor equally important is the standard of intellect, which generally varies inversely with rapidity of reaction.

The intellectual is rarely a first-class T.T. player. It is the man with a moderate intellect who has not a "complex" mind, who has the fastest nervous reaction: there is, so to speak, nothing between him and the ball. AGE is merely one of many other factors that combine to determine an individual's reactions.

The best advice to give any player, young or old, is to ascertain by experience whether Defence or Attack (or a combination of both) brings him the best results. Certainly not to be misled by such facile generalisations as those Mr. Rose formulates.

* * *

A DOUBLE garage provided the first T.T. headquarters of the 200-bungalow Dene Estate Residents at Whifton, near Twickenham, whose enthusiastic energy was recently rewarded by the opening of the new Social Centre and a T.T. demonstration by the indefatigable LEO THOMPSON and star pupil JIMMY LOWE, from which a lot of useful knowledge and experience was gained.

With two mens' and one ladies' team in the S.W. Middlesex League, and the improving play of such as RUDIE PALMER and GORDON TAYLOR, and the most junior, BARRY KEMPSTER, Secretary P. B. Smith feels quite sure that one of their players is likely to be noted in the near future.

Juniors Dorothea and Jean twinkle in **YORKS. OPEN**

By **STAN PROFFITT**

Yorkshire Open, Drighlington, 14th Oct., 1950.

FOR those who still have faith in the ability of ADELE WOOD the news that she won the Yorkshire Open Women's Singles title at Drighlington on 14th October will come as a breath of fresh air.

Only opponent to provide the young Lancashire star with any opposition was BETTY CLOUGH, of Bradford. The set went the full distance in games and Betty, being a tough defensive player, requires a lot of beating.

Biggest surprise was the first round defeat of Essex County player, EILEEN ADAMS by a young Manchester girl JEAN TITTERINGTON. Young DOROTHEA MUNNINGS (Scunthorpe) disposed of Cheshire County stalwart, EILEEN GRIMSTONE. And a good show by KAY BENSON (Blackpool) who reached the final without conceding a game.

BENNY CASOFSKY, sizzling like a chinese cracker ended as a damp squib against KEN STANLEY. Holder, RONNIE ALLCOCK, struggled

through to the semi-final and lost hopelessly to RAYMOND HINCHLIFFE (Huddersfield) 12, 15. All credit to Hinchliffe who should strengthen the Yorkshire County side.

Stanley proved the master tactician in the final and won in a canter from the Huddersfield man. Though handicapped with a strained side PETER SKERRATT (Scunthorpe) had more control than a year ago and by mid-season should be in real trim. Twice already he has beaten Ronnie Baker (Manchester) which, believe me, is no mean feat.

Probably the most interesting game of the tournament was the David-Goliath affair between P. J. WALTON (David) and BRIAN KENNEDY (Goliath). Walton deserved the verdict after a tense struggle, 23-21, 14-21, 22-20. But neither player hit the ball hard on the forehand. I noticed this particularly with the majority of the Yorkshire boys including Brian Cartwright. The fault as I see it lies

in that they all take the ball too late (i.e. after the crest of the bounce). Thus not only is the speed retarded but the late impact calls for a huge back-swing and telegraphs the intended direction of the stroke.

A reasonable entry, a nice atmosphere and a useful profit (no pun) for the Yorkshire Association rounded off a pleasant day.

FINALS

- M.S.** K. STANLEY beat R. Hinchcliffe 11, 12.
W.S. Miss A. WOOD beat Miss K. Benson 7, 13.
M.D. R. ALLCOCK/A. HOLLAND beat B. Kennedy/A. Thompson —10, 15, 20.
W.D. Miss E. GRIMSTONE/Miss J. TITTERINGTON beat Miss J. Smurthwaite/Miss J. Davidson —13, 18, 17.
X.D. B. CASOFSKY/Mrs. E. ADAMS beat G. Mitton/Miss M. Lightfoot 16, 15.

Selection Reminder

Extract from E.T.T.A. Circ. to all COUNTY SECS., dated 18th Oct., 1950, reprinted as a reminder for COUNTIES to keep the Selection Committee up-to-date:

The Selection Committee rely on your co-operation in forwarding immediately all outstanding performances both Junior and Senior in League and County matches.

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 Solitaire. 10s. 9d. Skates. 11s. 6d. and 27s. 6d.
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Rowe Twins Delight Continent

By MARGARET KNOTT

English Ladies' Non-Playing Captain

and as Margaret Osborne, popular former international and twice winner of the English Open W.S.

Margaret
KNOTT

Tuesday, 3rd October

I MET the two charming twins, ROSS and DI ROWE at Victoria for the first time, but we were very soon getting on splendidly together *en route* for Paris. A smooth crossing, an excellent lunch, and train from Calais to the Gare du Nord, Paris, where M. Belot, Mme. Betling and Mlle. Beolet were waiting to greet us, whisk us off to our hotel and then take us out to dinner where we all three enjoyed large steaks, and finished off with bananas and cream.

Wednesday, 4th October

PRACTICE in the morning, and then by train to Chantilly where the first match against L'Oise was to be played.

First, however, we were taken over the Chateau Chantilly, a delightful old castle complete with moat, which was followed by a visit to M. Bousac's famous racing stables where we saw Galcador, this year's Derby winner, and over 100 other race horses. Altogether a most interesting afternoon.

The Twins proved much too good for their opposition in the evening, recording a 5-0 victory. Back to our inn at 1 a.m. in the morning ready for bed, we were a little put out to find the sheets damp, but resourceful as ever we removed them and rolled ourselves in the blankets, much to the amazement of the good lady who brought us tea the next morning in the largest cups I have ever seen.

Thursday, 5th October

RETURNING to Paris, we were taken round by taxi to see all the sights. I afterwards going to the celebrated Golfers Club and watching bridge being played at £1 a 100, while the Twins were off in search of nylons and cream cakes.

In the evening match, Paris v. London, Di temporarily lost confidence in her forehand hit, but they won the match 3-2.

Friday, 6th October

AFTER a friendly match in the afternoon, we went on to Aulnay-sous-Bois where we were put up privately. The hospitality and welcome were most kind but the attention from livestock, etc., was a little overwhelming.

Saturday, 7th October

WE duly arrived at the Hotel de Ville ready for the big match, in which both girls played excellently to win 3-2. Congratulations to Mlle. BEOLET, who won both her singles but the Twins made no mistake in beating Mlle. DELAY and in winning the doubles.

After the match we were taken dancing and a most enjoyable evening ended in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Sunday, 8th October

AFTER a friendly match in the afternoon we were taken back to Paris and the Chatelet theatre to see *Annie due Far West*, (the French version of "Annie Get Your Gun"), a pleasant relaxation from table tennis.

Monday, 9th October

IN the morning we were rushed by furniture van back to Paris just in time to catch the train to Brussels. Here we spent the afternoon spending the rest of our money in the shops, and had a really early night for a change, ready for the International v. Belgium on the next night.

Tuesday, 10th October

SO far the Twins had come right through without losing a match, but they did fall at the last fence and lose to Belgium 2-3. I think it was because the girls had had a hard week and the nervous strain was beginning to tell, because neither girl played her usual game and seemed unduly nervous. However, they were far from disgraced and were most popular with spectators and officials alike.

Wednesday, 11th October

UP early, we had a very good journey back to Victoria where I was able to hand over my charges to Mr. and Mrs. Rowe, who were waiting to meet us.

Altogether an enjoyable eight days which should give valuable experience to Ross and Di, who I am quite sure have all the makings of real champions.
MARGARET KNOTT.

BELGIUM v. ENGLAND

Mme. Roland beat Miss R. Rowe 16, -16, 17, 18; beat Miss D. Rowe -16, -20, 23, 18, 19.
Mlle. Wouters beat Miss D. Rowe 13, 14, 14; lost to Miss R. Rowe 11, 16, 8.
Mlle. Wouters/Mme. Detournay lost to Misses D. and R. Rowe 16, 17, 20.

England Wins Maccabiah T.T.

From PAUL KOHN

IN Jerusalem's magnificent Y.M.C.A. the finals of the International Jewish T.T. Tournament of the Third Maccabiah (Jewish Olympic Games) was won by England who defeated Israel 5-2 on 3rd October.

BENNY CASOFSKY delighted with an immaculate display, taking three sets without dropping a game. He beat VARDI 17, 10; beat STEINHERZ 9, 13; and FINKELSTEIN 15, 15. GOODMAN beat Vardi 14, 15; and Finkelstein 17, 14. LEVY lost to Finkelstein -14, -17, and to Steinherz -19, 20, -14. En route to the finals, England had beaten Holland, Belgium, Austria and Sweden.

In the singles, nine countries were represented in the last thirty-two, with semi-finalists from four different countries. In the quarter-finals Goodman was beaten by Finkelstein, and Casofsky had a narrow escape at 2-1 down to Vardi, but pulled through -18, 18, -18, 12, 16. The final between Casofsky and BULGAR of Sweden was an example of brighter table tennis, the young Swede defending brilliantly against Casofsky's tireless driving to win the title -15, -18, 13, -16.

In the Mixed Doubles final, Casofsky and KUBEAU (Holland) lost to Finkelstein and Leifnick (Israel) in three straight. The tournament was a great success, and has given a great fillip to the game in Israel.

PAUL KOHN.

From 22 Year Exile

IT was only through the kindness of Mrs. Cinnater (U.S.T.T.A.) that I learned that you issued an official Magazine. Pardon my ignorance—I haven't been home since 1928.

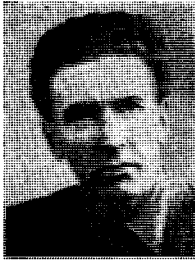
I am not, therefore, in a position to judge our comparative standards, but after the defeat of the Chileans in Stockholm, I don't think we should have a great chance against your best.

Two years ago, the current Peruvian champion OSCAR PANCORVO, A. Ghio and my son Freddie travelled to Chile at their own expense to gain experience, and were easily beaten by the top players there. T.T. has since improved enormously in Peru however, and the Chileans would not have an easy job to beat them.

EMILIO SOLORZANO, Peruvian Champion for the last two years, is an excellent player, but unfortunately is handicapped by his physique.

H. E. SKINNER,

Lima, Peru.



ALAN HOBY

Ace Sports Writer ALAN HOBY

(of *The Sunday Express*)

is

Outspoken

ALAN HOBY'S avowed ambition is to see British sport back where it belongs: at the top of the heap. He started journalism at sixteen and a half under Richard Dimbleby's father and by sheer merit has become a top-liner all-sports commentator, travelling over most of Europe. Few readers are not excited by his outspoken opinions—one way or the other! But knowing him you respect his passionate sincerity and respect him for having the courage to declare honestly what HE THINKS is for the best for British Sport.

FORGIVE the personal note but this comes straight from the heart. I have been waiting to say it for a long time. Quite simply and without, I hope, sounding too trite it is this.

I love this game. Like countless thousands of others I have loved it since, as a kid, I clouted the little celluloid ball around on a bumpy, home-made wooden table.

Not only do I consider it magnificent training for youngsters who want to take up any type of ball game, but it is so fascinating, so full of character and colour — not to mention a spot of low cunning on occasions, especially if there's an out-and-out chiseller at the other end! — that as an indoor sport I don't think it can be equalled.

During the war, in the services, it gave me many hours of pure enjoyment. Even to-day, whenever I can, I dash off to "The Falcon," a delightful tavern behind Fleet Street where there is a first-class table, lighting and equipment and where the landlords have really put themselves out to make conditions as enjoyable as possible.

Here, incidentally, I often play Peter Wilson, famous *Daily Express* sports columnist. Peter is another table-tennis devotee and a pretty good one too. Of course, as celluloid-clouters neither of us is in the top bracket. But we're willing to tackle any other two-man combination at singles or doubles. The only proviso we make is that they **MUST** be journalists and that Victor Barna, not to mention Jack Carrington, isn't one of them! *

Believe me, however, I didn't really start out to write about myself. Although table tennis is my favourite indoor game my worship of it doesn't blind me to its black spots.

No. 1 on the list is **THE BERGMANN CASE**.

* Since this was written, the challenge is now restricted to T.T. players of Fleet Street!!

● I may be criticised for allowing Alan Hoby's comments on the Bergmann case. I have done so because similar PERSONAL opinions have already been freely aired in the public Press and I consider it my duty to refute the implications entirely. And I know most of the facts. Read this through. It boils down to "WHAT-EVER he has done . . . Bergmann MUST be reinstated." And as for the E.T.T.A. 'not particularly loving Dickie,' Lord knows where that idea came from!

The latest official Press statement re Bergmann is on Page 9, and since the matter is more or less sub judice this is not the time to say anything else except "Do not be misled by the expressed opinion of any individual. You can decide when you know all the facts. —Leslie S. Woolard (Editor).

Whatever he has done the World Champion should be reinstated before the world championships in Vienna next year. I know that the English Table Tennis Association don't particularly love Dickie. I know too that he is under suspension for undertaking his tour of South Africa without (so it is alleged) having first sought and obtained official permission.

WHAT I DON'T LIKE — AND THE PAYING PUBLIC CERTAINLY DOESN'T LIKE IT — IS THE WAY BERGMANN HAS BEEN TRIED AND SENTENCED IN HIS ABSENCE. HE IS THE WORLD CHAMPION AND HE SHOULD BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF.

Bergmann may be wrong. He may be the supreme individualist. He has been the centre of these teacup storms before. But I ask the E.T.T.A. to remember this. Bergmann, like cyclist Reg Harris, is one of our rare world champions. Like Harris he didn't consult others on the best way to bring home the bacon. He went ahead himself and won the title in the most difficult of political and playing conditions. Surely the E.T.T.A. could do the generous thing and lift his ban.

No. 2 Blackspot

No. 2 black-spot is **PLAYERS' SLOVENLY DRESS**.

This is not my moan alone. Many people in the game think along these lines. The blame lies in the rules. As

presently constituted, as long as a player doesn't use white or light-coloured clothing he can wear what he likes at major tournaments. So what do we see? All sorts of outfits, some clean, some scruffy; some downright fantastic.

You don't see Wimbledon stars wearing full or half-sleeved shirts in blue, red, pink, green, puce, khaki or even black! I wasn't there but I am told that at Wembley in the 1948 World Championships one Swaythling Cup player rolled up in lounge suit, collar and tie and walking-out shoes. He simply removed his jacket and went to the table. No one protested.

Superficially this may not seem very important. But Table Tennis is a big boy now. It is an adult sport and it has come a long way since its pat-ball, ping-pong days. All major sports insist on regulation wear. So should Table Tennis. Untidy and slipshod attire robs this growing sport both of dignity and prestige.

Fantastic Service

My final arrow is directed at **THE FANTASTIC SERVICE NOW IN USE**. I wrote about this some time ago in the *Sunday Express* when I characterised it as "negative." I added: "Ever since the tossing-the-ball-up-from-the-flat-of-the-palm technique was introduced "service" has become a piffing, negative stroke."

Despite being pilloried by some and praised by others I stick to this contention. Attack, in any game, should never be inferior to defence. This current service often gives the defensive competitor a big advantage.

I am all against knuckle and finger spin. But these twin allies of the Crafty Claudes of the game were banned years ago. The excuse, of course, is that these excrescences have crept in again.

As a result the attacking service formerly allowed — and which, incidentally thousands of ordinary players still use — has been banned, robbing Table Tennis of much of its virility and enjoyment. Now "service" is simply a means of opening play.

All Delighted

Well, that's about it. To end on a pleasant note may I say how delighted all sports writers are at the way Table Tennis has honoured the man who, more than anyone else, helped to make it great — Victor Barna.

It is more than just the money that counts with the Barna Presentation. It is the warm and sincere tribute to the man himself. Victor is, and always has been "The Maestro." In dress he is immaculate, in temperament a gentleman both on and off the table. He is the greatest player and sports man the game has ever produced—a world-renowned name. Who will ever forget his backhand flick?

Johnny Leach Wins Birmingham Open

By STAN PROFFITT

Sports Stadium, Birmingham, 4th Nov.

AMONG the many surprises in the Birmingham Open was the defeat of England's No. 1 woman player, Peggy Franks by Betty Steventon in the final of the women's singles. Peggy's defence was far too high and why she didn't use to advantage her range of attacking strokes, your guess is as good as mine. Nevertheless Betty was in superb form having already beaten Adele Wood in the semi-final 21-19, 12-21, 21-8.

Johnny Leach clowned through his final against Geoffrey Harrower. Only real opposition Johnny had was against Ronnie Allcock who had previously defeated Jack Carrington 22-20, 20-22, 23-21 in the most spectacular game of the tournament.

Congratulations to Ronnie Hook for reaching the semi-final. He did not give much of a show against Harrower but the masterly way in which he disposed of Gilbert Smith 11-17, after the latter had conquered international Wally Poole, was creditable.

Andree Jones had a good tournament taking Peggy Franks to three games. I'm told she won the first and was 20-18 up in the second. Nice going. The Boys' Junior Final was a classic. Both Geoffrey Pullar (Oldham) and Stanley Brocklebank (Canterbury) gave the best provincial junior final I've seen for some time.

RESULTS

- M.S. J. LEACH beat G. Harrower, 8, 16, 11.
 W.S. Miss E. STEVENTON beat Miss M. Franks, —18, 18, 17.
 M.D. J. Leach/J. Carrington beat A. A. Haydon/R. McKay, 14, —14, 10.
 W.D. Miss E. Steventon/Miss A. Jones beat Miss A. Wood/Mrs. V. Taylor, —18, 17, 11.
 X.D. J. Leach/Miss M. Franks beat R. Allcock/Miss A. Wood, 19, 3.
 J.B. G. PULLAR beat S. Brocklebank, 16, 12.

LOOKING BACK

Notes from No. 8, Vol. 1, of *Table Tennis*. August 1936. Price 1d.

LESLIE FORREST, Secretary-founder of Liverpool League is appointed permanent Asst. Secretary at E.T.T.A. London Headquarters . . . International Tournament held at Lane's Club, London, to test new slate table. Entries include I. Montagu, C. Corti-Woodcock, G. Marshall, T. E. Sears, Eric Findon, E. Bublely, with Marshall beating W. Stennett in the Final . . . P. E. Bromfield and A. A. Haydon are appointed official coaches to the Association . . . Pitman's publish first edition of the book *Table Tennis* by Ivor Montagu at 2/6d. . . . The National Executive propose organising a National League . . . Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer release film short to put Table Tennis over as a great game . . . Tables advertised at 7 guineas; balls at 3d. . . . The N.E.C. lay down rules for dress at open tournaments . . . Rose's advertise tiering service for exhibitions, etc.

International Ranking

The I.T.T.F. Ranking Committee issues the following ranking list for season 1950/51:

MEN'S TEAMS: 1, Czechoslovakia (CZ); 2, England (E); 3, Hungary (H); 4, France (F); 5, Yugoslavia; 6, U.S.A.; 7, Sweden; 8, Austria (A); 9, Poland; 10, Switzerland.
WOMEN'S TEAMS: 1, Rumania (R); 2, Hungary; 3, England; 4, U.S.A.; 5, France; 6, Austria; 7, Belgium; 8, Scotland (S); 9, Yugoslavia; 10, Sweden.

MEN (SINGLES): 1, R. Bergmann* (E); 2, F. Sido (H); 3, B. Vana (CZ); 4, F. Soos (H); 5, V. Tereba (CZ); 6, I. Andreadis (CZ); 7, J. Leach (E); 8, M. Haguenaer (F); 9, A. Ehrlich (F); 10, A. W. C. Simons (E).

WOMEN (SINGLES): 1, A. Roseanu (R); 2, G. Farkas (H); 3, S. Szasz (R); 4, G. Pritzi (A); 5, R. Karpati (H); 6, H. Elliot (S); 7, M. Shahian (U.S.A.); 8, Hruskova (CZ); 9, R. Monness (U.S.A.); 10, D. Beregi (Australia).

Omitted owing to absence from competition during whole or part season: R. Miles* (U.S.A.); M. Reisman* (U.S.A.); P. McLean (U.S.A.); Koczian (H); Fuerstova (Krejcowia) (CZ); V. Thomas (E).

* Currently under suspension.

MIXED CHOP

Served by TONY MILLER

THE defeats of Vana by his compatriots Andreadis, Slar and Tereba and the strength of Stipek and Tokar are, I think mainly due to their practising with him. Familiarity has bred confidence. The others, though fine players, would not I opine, otherwise have beaten him. When the great Czech plays his rivals he has nothing to gain by winning, whereas they have everything. World T.T. owes much to Vana, Czechoslovakian T.T. can never clear its debt to him.

* * *

THE Czechs, Hungarians and Americans have their central pool of players where the opposition is such as to maintain and improve their form. Richard Bergmann in winning the title had no such advantage, no one in this country could fully extend him and his victory was the more remarkable for this.

* * *

THE Ancients are ever-young! Look at B. B. and V. they say, and at Szabados, Bellak, Haydon and the rest. They used to say a player was finished at twenty when Bergmann and Vana were seventeen! I think the answer to this is that we are considering rather special Ancients, with remarkable abilities. Youth does not make the player, nor does an additional twenty years entirely ruin the great one. There is a certain limit, however, when the age disparity is too much, the Bergmann-Barna *Daily Mirror* match illustrates this, and lent support to the idea that Barna should retire from all international play. Not because he cannot hold his own, but because his name is too renowned to risk being demolished by exhibitions unworthy of his former skill.

* * *

THERE is a suggestion that we adopt tennis scoring (more climaxes and longer sets) and add inches to the end of the table, this it is said, will make for more enterprising play. That is conjecture, but both proposals deserve careful consideration and perhaps a try-out.

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BALLS. Leach, Villa, Barna etc., Grade 1, 15s. doz., Grade 2, 9s. doz., Grade 3, 6s. doz., Halex No. 1 at 5s. doz.

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BOOKS, by Jack Carrington; T.T. Tips, 1s. 3d., Modern T.T., 6s.

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National County Championships

by Geoff. Harrower

ESSEX AND SURREY MAKE STRONG START.

PREMIER DIVISION

RESULTS

Gloucestershire ... 8	Yorkshire 2
Warwickshire 3	Essex 7
Lancashire 3	Surrey 7
Essex 7	Lancashire 3
Surrey 6	Gloucestershire ... 4
Middlesex 8	Warwickshire 2
Yorkshire 2	Essex 8

The early season results seem to indicate that Essex, Surrey and Middlesex will be concerned in a great fight for the Championship, whilst Yorkshire, Warwickshire and Lancashire, each with two defeats, will have to go all out to avoid the threat of relegation.

Essex and Surrey both secured great wins over Lancashire, by identical margins. The Lancashire men, on paper so strong (Stanley, Casofsky and Allcock) lost all six singles to Surrey. A Lancashire player said afterwards that Venner, Crayden and Craigie were too good. Certainly the advent of Craigie into the Surrey team has given them a great chance of their first title.

The chances of Essex cannot be despised. With Johnny Leach and Peggy Franks likely to be available for nearly every match, and with Brumwell and McCave showing good form, Middlesex will be hard pressed to retain the title they have held for the past three seasons.

Nevertheless, Middlesex made a good start by beating Warwickshire 8-2, although they were without Rosalind Rowe (ill).

At the other end, a stop press in the Yorkshire magazine, referring to the loss to Gloucestershire, heads it "Nil Desperandum!" The loss to Essex was an even bigger blow, as Essex played without Leach and Franks.

Warwickshire are also alive to the danger of relegation, and Adrian Haydon is playing regularly in the doubles. He is still a great player and personality, and Warwickshire are capable of producing a surprise or two before the season ends.

Lancashire, so strong on paper, and with Adele Wood playing well, still remain a threat to any county, and they could easily surprise Middlesex later this month.

JUNIOR DIVISION

RESULTS

Cambridgeshire ... 4	Kent 6
Surrey 1	Essex 9
Middlesex 7	Hertfordshire ... 3
Kent 9	Hertfordshire ... 1
Surrey 2	Middlesex 8

(West Section)

Glamorgan 4	Nottinghamshire 6
Gloucestershire ... 4	Glamorgan 6

Notwithstanding Middlesex having lost all their last season's Juniors, they made a good start by beating Herts. and Surrey, but the testing time will come when Kent, Cambridge and Essex are met.

Cambridgeshire, newcomers to the junior competition, put up a splendid show against Kent, Coteman beating Brocklebank, whilst the Misses Banks and Inglis are formidable opposition.

Essex also have a strong team, and in Miss Baker they have an outstanding girl player.

Only three teams make up the west section, and they are very evenly matched, and the struggle to emerge victors to oppose the South section winners is likely to be tense.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

RESULTS

Sussex 5	Hampshire 5
Kent 1	Surrey 9
Hampshire 1	Surrey 9

It seems from the early results that the Surrey 2nd team should have no difficulty in winning this section. Their team is almost as strong as the Premier Division side, and, in fact, Head and Miller have already beaten Venner in Open Tournaments this season.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

RESULTS

Glamorgan 9	Warwickshire 1
Middlesex 8	Devonshire 2

The title "Glamorgan" conceals the identity of the entire Welsh Swaythling and Corbillion Cup teams, and they must be strong challengers for a place in the Premier Division. Like Surrey, the Middlesex second team is nearly as strong as the first, and a great battle should take place between these two Counties.

HOME COUNTIES DIVISION

RESULTS

Buckinghamshire 8	Berkshire 2
Hertfordshire ... 4	Buckinghamshire 6
Berkshire 2	Bedfordshire 8

Bucks. and Beds. appear likely to contest top place in this division, but the advance of Berkshire, last season so weak, into a much stronger team shows the advantage of a season's competition against better players. Berks. may provide surprises before the season is out.

EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

RESULTS

Suffolk 3	Cambridgeshire .. 7
Norfolk 4	Essex 6
Essex 10	Suffolk 0

It is early yet to say who is the strongest team in this section, but it is known that Cambridge are very keen to gain promotion, and that they have spent a lot of time and money on coaching their young players. Their two matches with Essex should be worth seeing.

NORTHERN DIVISION

RESULTS

Cumberland 3	Northumberland 7
Durham 3	Yorkshire 7
Northumberland 7	Durham 3
Cumberland 1	Yorkshire 9

This division once more resolves itself into a fight between Yorkshire and Northumberland for the top place. With two such evenly matched teams, it is dangerous to predict what might happen.

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

RESULTS

Yorkshire 2	Lancashire 8
Cheshire 6	Nottinghamshire 4
Derbyshire 0	Lincolnshire 10
Lancashire 10	Derbyshire 0
Leicestershire 3	Cheshire 7
Nottinghamshire 4	Lincolnshire 6

The North Midland division is one of the most open since the start of the Championships, with Lincolnshire, Lancashire Seconds and Cheshire all having excellent chances of carrying off the title, with Nottinghamshire ready to bring off a surprise or two if necessary. Derbyshire and Leicestershire appear doomed to fight out the bottom position, but they lack nothing in keenness, and one hopes that before long they too will be challenging the leaders.

Terrific Match at Kentish Town

Middlesex Nearly Beat Strongest "Rest" Side

After one of the most exciting matches seen for many years, the powerful Rest of England side, containing a host of world and English Champions only just managed to beat the Middlesex side. Excitement was maintained literally to the last point.

Principal fact in the Rest's win was the devastating form of Aubrey Simons. He has only to maintain this showing to stand a first rate chance of a world title.

In the opening match, the unpredictable Dennis Miller got the better of Ken Stanley after a shaky start, to give Middlesex an early lead. This advantage, however, was neutralised when Aubrey Simons scored a good win over Victor Barna, and the Rest took the lead when Johnny Leach had little difficulty in beating Bernard Crouch.

First of the "key" matches came with the ladies singles, for Joyce Roberts had to beat her "bogy" girl, Molly Jones, for Middlesex to win. Joyce is always at her best in a tight corner, and when playing for her county, and although Molly played at the top of her form Joyce emerged a

popular winner. With the score at two all, the other key match, the mixed doubles, followed, and Middlesex suffered an early blow by losing the toss. This eventually decided the match, and many people consider that the time has come to find a solution which evens up the advantage winning the toss gives in certain doubles matches.


Simons continued in his best form to beat Dennis Miller, and the Rest led 4—2. Middlesex came again, and Crouch just got the better of Stanley, displaying slightly more initiative, and the Rowe Twins levelled the scores once more with a comfortable win over Peggy Franks and Pinkie Barnes.

Therefore everything depended on the final match, between Victor Barna and Johnny Leach, and the writers of popular fiction could not have devised a more unlikely ending. After Johnny

had won the first game, the scores in the second game crept slowly up, point for point. 15 all, 16 all, 17 all, were called. Barna led 18—17, and suffered a cruel blow losing the next point to an unreturnable net cord. The two great players fought on: 20 all, 21 all, 22 all were called. The audience were enthralled.

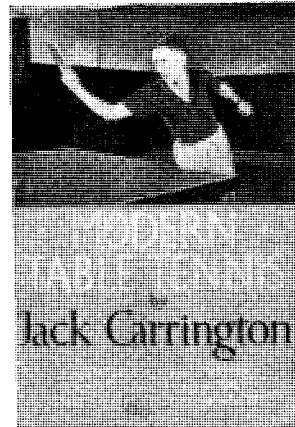
Then, at 22—23, Barna hit seven consecutive backhand flicks, the final one so angled and hard that it seemed impossible to return. But Johnny got it back and a great match was over.

Scores:—(Rest first) J. Leach beat G. V. Barna 15, 22; beat B. Crouch 16, 9. A. Simons beat Barna 16, 14; beat D. Miller 15, 10. K. Stanley lost to Crouch 11, —16, —19; lost to Miller 14, —13, —16. Miss M. Jones lost to Miss J. Roberts —18, 12, —16. Miss Franks and Miss Barnes lost to Misses D. and R. Rowe —18, 20, —12. Leach and Miss Franks beat Barna and Miss R. Rowe —12, 12, 16.

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MANCHESTER

HIGHLIGHT of Manchester's news is their League players capturing the men's and women's Singles and Doubles titles of the Yorkshire Open and sharing the Mixed.

It is especially pleasing to see KEN STANLEY and ADELE WOOD again on top. Ken is well-known as a player and as a very charming personality. He was completely overlooked by the selectors for last season's Swaythling Cup team, and it is earnestly hoped that this will not be repeated.

While Adele managed to beat her one-time hoodoo KAY BENSON in a flawless 2-straight, we cannot see this attractive young lady reaching and remaining in the top flight until she cultivates a real winning forhand drive of the Vera Thomas or Gladys Horn (Salisbury) type. Club pair EILEEN GRIMSTONE and JEAN TITTINGTON are playing ladies' doubles in a way that deserves them for major honours.

The success of these Manchester players is keenness. For the Birmingham Open, they will start at 7 a.m. one morning and return at 3 a.m. the next morning. It is understandable why the first two county matches were all Manchester players.

On 17th November Manchester League has a fixture with the R.A.F. whose team is to be selected from Kennedy, Thornhill, Isaacs, Forrest, Thurston and (ladies) Fl/O. Paddock, Fl/O. Northover and A.C.W. Harness.

Promising junior GEOFFREY PULLAR is now with Ladybarn House, under the eagle eye of League Secretary LESLIE JONES, the energetic "Back Room Boy", who has always produced the goods.

FRANK GEE.

Watford's Good Books

WE THINK that a comparison of handbooks, a discussion on what they should contain, an appraisal of their use as an advertising medium . . . might provide an interesting article and food for thought. After all the League Handbooks are our "shop windows." Do we take enough trouble to dress them attractively?

A record season with forty-three clubs and ninety-seven teams, and hope to pass the century next season with Accent on Youth . . . Finals night is going to be a big show as we have engaged the Town Hall with 2,000 seats and hope to widen the public eye for T.T. in Watford by staging a Star Exhibition on Finals Night.

Maybe we have bitten off more than we can comfortably chew, but we feel you have to take that risk if Table Tennis is to progress as a national game.

J. N. RENSHAW,

Page Fourteen



OVER THERE

I've handed over Page 15 to the young Boys and Girls to run themselves. I think you of the younger generation can make this the liveliest feature in the Magazine. Write your own live letters, send your ideas, sketches, etc., get your pals interested.

Before I get off Your Page, I want to introduce PETER MADGE. He's no "Uncle" Peter. He's one of you, and I've invited him to be your Chief Scribe and Editor. He is one of our photographers, a handy player, gets around quite a lot, knows the game well . . . in fact, seemed just the laddie to look after your interests.

NOW, IT'S UP TO YOU. Wherever you are, if you're under 21, you've got something to say here. Send it along to Peter.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, Editor

NOVEL ——— ERIC A. IDEAS ★ LEVETT

IT'S no use proposing startling ideas at an A.G.M. unless others have had the opportunity of trying out the worth or otherwise of the practice involved. Something even better may result from the publication of these ideas. Anyway, here's "my selection" and you have the time ahead to think, talk and try.

No More Net Cord Points

Net cord points, particularly those which decide key matches, are undesirable from every angle of the game. Only by having a half-inch table surface *outside* the white line could edges be eliminated, yet there is a much more interesting solution:

I PROPOSE that a Let be claimable *if desired by either player,*

- (a) AFTER a player has made a good return providing the ball has touched the net cord in passing, and,
- (b) BEFORE the striker (of above) makes his next return, OR, by the receiver of the net cord ball providing the claim is made before he strikes.

Time for claiming a Let is extended by one stroke and thus allows time for the player to make his decision. It is possible for one player to suffer in returning a Net Cord, but he should not be penalised if his opponent is not. An advantage of the option is that many Net Cords do NOT affect play.

Chiselling and Slap Dashing

The best interests of the game demand *encouragement* for the skilled attacker, for counter-attacking play, (surely the most exciting spec-

tacle of all), and the *discouragement* of Defence-For-It's-Own-Sake. The Achilles Heel of our game is the threat of Defence to be more victorious than attack.

I PROPOSE that the table be extended to 10 feet length, narrowed to 4½ feet width (for a time). Existing tables are converted merely by turning the two halves round sideways and re-marking.

The attacking player could then hit his way out of a chiselling match, but — what is of equal importance — this would make the drop shot much more dangerous for the defender. Both players would strive to put the other on the defensive, instead of the frequent opposite (a chisel), and counter-attacking would be encouraged.

Clothing

WE must have some uniform standards from club matches upwards.

We MUST NOT introduce rules which might handicap the poorest player more than possible. Therefore

I PROPOSE that dark blue or grey shirts (or blouses) and shorts (or skirts) or Grey flannels be worn for all matches played under E.T.T.A. rules.

All of these items can be worn for other purposes and are NOT therefore an additional expense to the match player.

To play Table Tennis matches in ordinary or any disreputable set of clothing is a slight to the opponent, the spectators and the game. The public status of Table Tennis demands it.

TEEN AGE PAGE

Edited by Peter Madge



MY FRIEND, the sage of Ashford, Jimmy Lowe, apart from his prowess at table tennis also possesses some talent as a writer and he is occasionally going to contribute to this page. Here is his first effort which he has called . . .

STEPPING into the SENIORS By JIMMY LOWE

HOWEVER good a player has been as a Junior it is difficult for him to step into the senior ranks and carry on in winning vein. Against senior players, quite apart from their greater experience, he finds heavier chopping, harder hitting and a much quicker game altogether.

It may be somewhat disheartening to a young player to find that he is losing in the early rounds and not reaching semi-finals and finals as before. In nearly every case he will need at least two seasons before he finds his feet in the senior ranks. Much hard work and perseverance will be called for but it can be done; one has only to consider the example of such players as Micky Thornhill and Brian Kennedy to prove this. These two have really put their backs into 'getting somewhere' since they left the Juniors, Kennedy with his grim determination and Thornhill with his confidence in his own ability. Both are now Senior Internationals and holders of open titles.

Confidence is a great thing but not over confidence, as an amusing incident once showed me. When just learning to play ping-pong I was playing with two friends in my garden next to a work shed. A man who was working there was watching us with some interest and when one of the boys (no names given) went to retrieve the ball he saw the spectator and said to him "Don't you wish you could play like us?" Another man in the shed nearly persuaded him to have a game with us but luckily he did not. I say luckily because the spectator turned out to be LEO THOMPSON!

To press on: here is a motto for young players who want to reach the top. "When you are not playing Table Tennis you are reading about it, when you are not reading about it you are thinking about it and when you are not thinking about it you are dreaming about it." Who do you think said this? Someone who has made the grade through sheer hard work and will-power, Len Adams. He followed this motto and proved his own words true.

When playing among the Juniors one finds young players with good consistent defences and flowing attacks but a big difference is soon noticed when one comes up against players such as Simons with his extra vicious chop and snap hitting, or Leach with his nerve-racking consistency of getting everything back and occasionally hitting it back too! This is what one has to face up against and what a job for the Juniors! It can be done, but a will to win through is essential. The Seniors of to-day are fighting to keep on top and the youngsters are fighting to get on top with them, and eventually on top of them. I say again, it can be done, as Thornhill, Kennedy and Adams have shown. If they can do it, so can you. Let's see all the young players fighting their way up the ladder of success and soon this country will be the home of world beaters. We cannot wait another twenty years for a World Champion!

* * *

Them's fightin' words Jimmy, but you must agree that he has something. All the beautiful strokes in the world cannot combat experience so take heart lads and lasses; remember Jimmy's motto and don't worry if the old pen-holder down at the club beats you in his waist-coat and smoking a pipe. That's experience for you!

FANTASIE IMPROMPTU . . .

ACT I.

Scene: B.B.C. Television Studios, London, towards the end of the first of a series of demonstrations of T.T. by Jack Carrington . . . Jack has explained the elements of the game and is winding up with a painstaking five minutes instruction on the legal service. He stresses that the ball shall be held in the flat of the hand, released without spin, etc.

ACT II.

Scene: The same, a week later, during the second of the series . . . Jack introduces Doreen Spooner and

Open Letter . . .

To all tournament organisers.

Dear Sirs,

When your tournaments come round this season are you going to warn all your stewards to be ready at a moment's notice to seize the "mike" and say "No knocking on Table 3" or any other table? May I ask you to think twice about this?

Has it ever occurred to you that very few of the younger players get a chance to play under good conditions other than at tournaments? Do you realise that many young players do not know their own ability until they play on a good table?

Imagine a player from a poorly equipped club entering his first tournament; he goes to the table for his first round and then . . .

Wow! Home was never like this. People playing on either side, a long way to go to pick up the ball and the table! Jet propulsion? No, just a solid one inch top. He mistimes the ball, serves off the end and loses in no time. He may have real possibilities but his first contact with the outer world of table tennis is hardly encouraging, is it?

So how about it, organisers?

You don't need extra helpers to see if a match is in progress on a table; you have been known to keep a player waiting for his next round and you do insist that players remain in the hall to listen for their names; let them pass the time more pleasantly than leaning on a wall figuring the odds against survival, and your meetings will be the more popular.

Yours sincerely,

PETER MADGE.

Puzzle Corner . . .

Writing from Sunderland, Alan Hill tells me that since he got a new job he has been hitting much harder; the job? He cuts out jig-saws with an electric fretsaw and he says that when he is working on the expensive models with three wiggles to an inch, arm movements have to be pretty snappy!

Jimmy Lowe as good examples of orthodox young players and then asks them to play a game before the cameras. Over to the table they go and Jimmy gets away to a flying start by putting across a very nifty finger-spin service. Doreen retrieves this from the floor and sends back her own very praiseworthy imitation of the same thing. However, she fails to make any impression on Jimmy as he is obviously used to that sort of thing and is past fooling.

Dear, dear! Suppose someone had seen them do it!

HASTINGS BATTLE FOUGHT AGAIN

Record Entry in Sussex Open

Joyce Roberts Unlucky

October 28th—29th,
Pier and White Rock Pavilion,
Hastings.

ONCE again the Sussex Open attracted a record number of competitors, and this "week-end by the sea tournament" must surely be one of the most popular events in the South. An innovation was the segregation of the sexes, the ladies being expelled from the main hall on Hastings Pier to the adjoining White Rock Pavilion. The girls were there allowed to play off their singles and doubles games without the noise of men in the offing, and on the Sunday afternoon they were brought into the main hall for the mixed doubles.

I don't know if the men appreciated having their girl friends in a separate hall, but I understand that the older married men, with wives competing, welcomed the scheme.

Anyway, the play was fast and furious, and the standard did not suffer from the absence of foreign competitors, and there were of course, three British ex-world champions in action, although these "stars"—Peggy Franks, Victor Barna and Johnny Leach — played only in the doubles events.

In the men's singles, an early casualty was Keith Hurlock who fell to C. Russell, from Acton, and another unlucky entrant was the Sussex closed champion, Stan Moorc, who drew Harry Venner in his group. Marsh could make little impression on Simons and Craigie disposed of Glickman in straight games, whilst Venner defeated Lowe. Jack Carrington, however, came unstuck to Tony Miller by 19—21, 21—12, 13—21. The young Surrey player, who is knocking hard on the door for an International badge in the near future, defended excellently and his sudden counter-hits proved too good for Carrington, who nevertheless put up a grand battle and as usual was in the game to the end.

Miller then went on to bring off a major upset by beating the Swaythling Cup man and No. 2 seed, Harry Venner, in the semi-final. The score to Miller was 23—25, 21—17, 22—20, and a facetious onlooker was heard to remark that the Surrey county selectors were going to promote all their second team players this season to the

first team, and to relegate the seniors to the seconds! Miller, of course, represented Surrey 2nds all last season, but as he is still improving he should soon gain his senior colours. Anyway, Venner couldn't get past him at Hastings, although too much importance must not be attached to early season defeats of top rankers.

In the other semi-final, Simons resisted a strong challenge from Ken. Craigie, but after some early setbacks, Aubrey was well on top and received many applauding comments from his sporting opponent who was at times left standing by the Bristol man's fierce drives.

Joyce Roberts Out

The young Kent player, Pauline Cantor, was the "giant-killer" in the women's singles, and after beating Mrs. R. E. Bromfield (Sussex) and Miss V. Seaman (London), she put out the No. 1 seed, Joyce Roberts, in the third round. Miss Cantor, who was attacking brilliantly, had Joyce all at sea in the first game which she took 21—10, but the international rallied in the next game to 21—15, but in the final game, Pauline turned on the heat and was through at 21—15.

In the semi-finals, Miss Cantor seemed a little overcome by the occasion, and put up little more than a token resistance to Diane Rowe. Rosalind's opponent was Pinkie Barnes who had been quietly beating player after player without much trouble, and Pinkie put up a grand fight before losing in three games. Some of her returns off Rosalind's hardest drives had to be seen to be believed, but the winner kept her head well in the crisis and won by 12—21, 21—16, 21—16.

It was nice seeing C. Corti Woodcock as Referee again, and Corti has been coming to Hastings for more years than I care to remember, and "Bill" Vint was as usual in action behind the scenes. Well done, tournament Secretary, Ken Hayward, and his band of workers.

Finals

In the men's singles final, Aubrey Simons gave an excellent demonstration how to beat a first-class defender. Tony Miller was never really in the

picture. Tony played as well as he was allowed to by Simons who showed why he is now ranked equal No. 1 with Leach in the national ranking. Simons, with his close to the table game, kept Miller on the run throughout, never giving him a chance to counter-hit, and when he persuaded Miller to put the ball a little higher than usual — Whoosh! — point to Simons. Tony, however, did extraordinarily well to get so far in a strong field, and I shall watch his further progress with keen interest.

The women's singles final between the Rowe twins saw Rosalind on top after a close first game which was secured by Diane at 22—20. Thereafter, Rosalind maintained a consistent attack and despite strenuous efforts by her sister, she secured the championship with clear-cut scores in the second and third games, 21—16, 21—9.

New County Association

AN 11-year-old dream was realised on 22nd July 1950, in the founding of a new county association — Northamptonshire T.T.A.

Not a great deal is known about our playing standards, and a County League embracing Northampton, Desborough, Wellingborough, and Peterborough has been organised to assess available talent, towards entering the County Championships next year.

Efforts are also being made to arrange some Friendly county matches this season and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. L. G. DEELEY, 34, Larch Road, Kettering, will be very pleased to hear from any County Secretary who can help. A first inter-county friendly has been arranged with Bedfordshire.

Mr. F. PARKER (Northampton) is Chairman of the new Association.

J. T. FREEMAN.

T.T. Historian has Premonition of Death

THE *Encyclopædia Britannica*, as most readers may know, produces a Year Book, and in its files for the preparation of the 1950 edition it has letters from two contributors who had a premonition of death.

CARL ZEISBERG, a former President of the U.S.T.T.A. and a great enthusiast, ardent gardener, and lifelong journalist, always wrote the Year Book article on Table Tennis. When he sent his last copy he wrote seemingly with a curious premonition, ". . . in case anything happens to me . . . it would save you some trouble if you had these table tennis addresses."

He died shortly after!

LAST CALL for The ENGLISH OPEN

The W. J. Pope Memorial English Open T.T. Championships

Here's My Tip

by LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, *Editor.*

THERE'S something in these particular Championships I've been longing to see since the war — the first strong challenge of a new era. I tip this Wembley as a tonic for all who love table tennis. It will put heart into you. Make you believe that old England's future is going to be good. I believe this is the beginning of The New Era. The pattern is already changing.

This "Finals-Night-or-Nothing" is a bad old tradition. It needs de-bunking in a show like this. There's so many worth seeing, and the later you go, the less you see, or learn by seeing. The Semi-Finals night, Friday, for instance: two tables, and all the players who will appear the next night PLUS the added attraction of as many more top-rankers.

Last year, of the Men's Singles, the Friday-nighter saw Kriss, Haguenaer, Simons, Berginann, Venner, McClure, Hurlock, and Ehrlich, but the finalist saw only the first four. See what I mean?

Anyway, if you haven't got your ticket YET, then the Friday night is your best chance of getting in. And grab the chance quickly. I'm not promising that there will be any. And apply to the E. T. T. A. Office (No. 5 paragraph, page 1) — NOT to me. The prices of the tickets for both finals nights are 21/-, 10/6, 7/6, 6/- and 3/6, but huge numbers of these have already been sold. FRIDAY, 1st DEC.—Semi-Finals, 7 p.m. SAT., 2nd DEC. Finals Night, 7 p.m.

I hope to meet many of you there and have a chat.

NOTE

MANY TOURNAMENT RESULTS AND REPORTS HAVE BEEN HELD OVER, and will be brought RIGHT UP TO DATE in the JANUARY issue, which will also contain a full and detailed report of the ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS.

WANTED

MATCH TABLE — JAQUES or Similar
Wanted. Details to General Secretary,
Central Y.M.C.A., Gt. Russell St., W.C.1.



COVER NOTE Maurice Kriss

MAURICE KRISS hit the national spotlight in the English Championships of 1949-50 when, reaching the semi-finals, he found Haguenaer in top-class form and a shade too strong. Nevertheless, he impressed by his steady fighting ability, and his victories over internationals Kennedy and Venner *en route*.

Although still a young twenty-six, this Birmingham estate agent has been playing the game for fifteen years, and first represented Birmingham in Senior Inter-City when he was thirteen. Actually, he first started playing, with three brothers when he was eleven years old, on the dining room table with a net strung between two chairs! Like most top Birmingham players he had no coaching and had to fight for recognition by sheer merit. His most valuable instruction came from hours and hours spent watching experienced players.

Loyalty to his club, league and county in a very full match programme has tended to limit Maurice's entry into many Open tournaments, and the possible recognition which that might bring. He won the Eastern Suburban Open in 1943, and was the first British player to beat Sebastek, and while stationed in Scotland in 1945 won every possible title. He was the Midland Closed Champion 1947-48, and is the present Warwickshire Closed Champion.

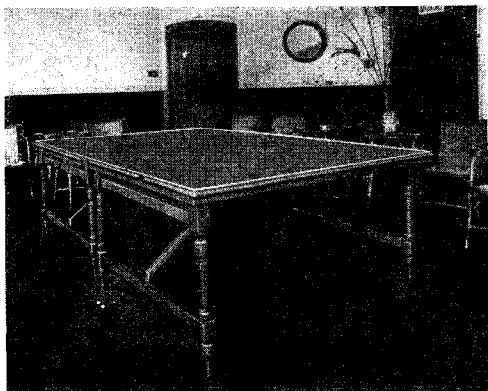
Slimly built, he has a stylish orthodox game based mainly on defence, and favours an orthodox topspin attack whenever given a suitable opportunity. Some of his friends think a decisive 'kill' would make all the difference to his number of wins.

Maurice really loves the game, and thoroughly enjoys playing—win or lose. His T.T. ambition is to get an International. He would like to see the net raised slightly, and he doesn't think much of players who refuse to wear regulation dress.

Happily married, Maurice overcomes the difficult problem of apparently conflicting interests by encouraging Mrs. Kriss to accompany him wherever possible, and enjoy the social side of the game by meeting new people and new faces.

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18, NORBETT ROAD
Arnold - - Notts.

Miles staging Come-back?

American Notebook

of
World Ranking American Champion, Glamorous
Reba Kirson Monness

HELLO AGAIN.

DICK MILES is playing very well and is expected to ask the U.S.T.T.A. for reinstatement; me-thinks he has never lost to MARTY REISMAN on American soil. During the summer Dick taught lawn tennis (to which he is a comparative new-comer) at one of the resorts in upper New York State. Neither Miles nor Reisman has completed his high school education.

BOBBY RIGGS, the lawn tennis champion has won copious amounts playing T.T. matches. Lawn tenniser PAULINE BETZ has a good T.T. game also. However, I maintain that lawn tennis is not beneficial to table tennis and *vice versa*; the strokes and the follow-throughs are completely different and the strategy . . . but there is *beaucoup* to be written on this subject.

* * *

DOUGLAS CARTLAND, who originally hailed from North Carolina, is one of the best in this country at solving all forms of puzzles and is financially very successful at it. That is what he does when he is not wielding a T.T. racquet.

MAE CLOUTHER has been running a public T.T. playing establishment at Cambridge, Mass. for many, many years; last spring her place burned to the ground . . . LEAH THALL Neuberger is playing T.T. daily in Manhattan; her husband has been suspended by the U.S.T.T.A. (and not because of inferior playing ability). Before her marriage, Leah did stenographic work in her home town of Columbus, Ohio . . . Sister THELMA is not competing in T.T. since her betrothal . . . MILDRED SHAIHAN is a Boston, Mass. stenographer.

It is Gordon Barclay's sweetheart who won the 1950 Girls' National T.T. Championship. She continued playing just to please Gordon . . . Wally Gundlach's father is an intellectual school teacher in St. Louis, Missouri, where he is very T.T. minded . . . Laszlo Bellak is now tubby, domesticated husband, working with his Hungarian-born brother-in-law.

* * *

MOST of the best U.S. players with whom the British are familiar are from Eastern sections of America, yet there are several players from the West who will soon comprise the U.S. team. It truly grieves me that I shall be unable to "try-out" for the 1951 U.S. team. The date and place for the Eastern trials was changed twice, and on this now-definite day I am appearing on television in one of a series of commitments which this writer has had for a few months . . . *C'est la vie!*

SANDOR GLANCZ and Yours Truly have been playing T.T. exhibitions throughout New York and New Jersey, and have been thrilled at the tremendous ovations from the girls and boys . . . there is something clean and unadulterated in feelings and reactions at that age.

Among other nice plans in the offing I have been invited to play exhibitions in South America.

'Bye now, Happy Thanksgiving Day to you all.

REBA MONNESS.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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



NORMAN COOK

(North-West)

Hon. Secretary Lancashire T.T.A.

Hon. Secretary Cheshire T.T.A.

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LAST CALL for The ENGLISH OPEN

The W. J. Pope Memorial English Open T.T. Championships

Here's My Tip

by LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, *Editor.*

THERE'S something in these particular Championships I've been longing to see since the war — the first strong challenge of a new era. I tip this Wembley as a tonic for all who love table tennis. It will put heart into you. Make you believe that old England's future is going to be good. I believe this is the beginning of The New Era. The pattern is already changing.

This "Finals-Night-or-Nothing" is a bad old tradition. It needs de-bunking in a show like this. There's so many worth seeing, and the later you go, the less you see, or learn by seeing. The Semi-Finals night, Friday, for instance: two tables, and all the players who will appear the next night PLUS the added attraction of as many more top-rankers.

Last year, of the Men's Singles, the Friday-nighter saw Kriss, Haguenaer, Simons, Bergmann, Venner, McClure, Hurlock, and Ehrlich, but the finalist saw only the first four. See what I mean?

Anyway, if you haven't got your ticket YET, then the Friday night is your best chance of getting in. And grab the chance quickly. I'm not promising that there will be any. And apply to the E. T.T.A. Office (No. 5 paragraph, page 1) — NOT to me. The prices of the tickets for both finals nights are 21/-, 10/6, 7/6, 6/- and 3/6, but huge numbers of these have already been sold.

FRIDAY, 1st DEC.—Semi-Finals, 7 p.m. SAT., 2nd DEC. Finals Night, 7 p.m. I hope to meet many of you there and have a chat.

NOTE

MANY TOURNAMENT RESULTS AND REPORTS HAVE BEEN HELD OVER, and will be brought RIGHT UP TO DATE in the JANUARY issue, which will also contain a full and detailed report of the ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS.

WANTED

MATCH TABLE — JAQUES or Similar Wanted. Details to General Secretary, Central Y.M.C.A., Gt. Russell St., W.C.1.



COVER NOTE Maurice Kriss

MAURICE KRISS hit the national spotlight in the English Championships of 1949-50 when, reaching the semi-finals, he found Haguenaer in top-class form and a shade too strong. Nevertheless, he impressed by his steady fighting ability, and his victories over internationals Kennedy and Venner *en route*.

Although still a young twenty-six, this Birmingham estate agent has been playing the game for fifteen years, and first represented Birmingham in Senior Inter-City when he was thirteen. Actually, he first started playing, with three brothers when he was eleven years old, on the dining room table with a net strung between two chairs! Like most top Birmingham players he had no coaching and had to fight for recognition by sheer merit. His most valuable instruction came from hours and hours spent watching experienced players.

Loyalty to his club, league and county in a very full match programme has tended to limit Maurice's entry into many Open tournaments, and the possible recognition which that might bring. He won the Eastern Suburban Open in 1943, and was the first British player to beat Sebastek, and while stationed in Scotland in 1945 won every possible title. He was the Midland Closed Champion 1947-48, and is the present Warwickshire Closed Champion.

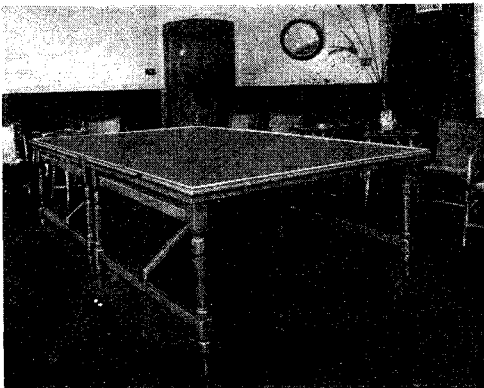
Slimly built, he has a stylish orthodox game based mainly on defence, and favours an orthodox topspin attack whenever given a suitable opportunity. Some of his friends think a decisive 'kill' would make all the difference to his number of wins.

Maurice really loves the game, and thoroughly enjoys playing—win or lose. His T.T. ambition is to get an International. He would like to see the net raised slightly, and he doesn't think much of players who refuse to wear regulation dress.

Happily married, Maurice overcomes the difficult problem of apparently conflicting interests by encouraging Mrs. Kriss to accompany him wherever possible, and enjoy the social side of the game by meeting new people and new faces.

TOMS

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FINEST TABLE TENNIS
EQUIPMENT IN THE WORLD



PRICE £30
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A TOMS Tournament T.T. Table with lin. BIRCH plywood top, and hardwood beading to protect table edges.

All Goods Carriage Paid

TOMS

18, NORBETT ROAD
Arnold - - Notts.

Miles staging Come-back?

American Notebook

of

World Ranking American Champion, Glamorous
Reba Kirson Monness

HELLO AGAIN.

DICK MILES is playing very well and is expected to ask the U.S.T.T.A. for reinstatement; me-thinks he has never lost to MARTY REISMAN on American soil. During the summer Dick taught lawn tennis (to which he is a comparative new-comer) at one of the resorts in upper New York State. Neither Miles nor Reisman has completed his high school education.

BOBBY RIGGS, the lawn tennis champion has won copious amounts playing T.T. matches. Lawn tenniser PAULINE BETZ has a good T.T. game also. However, I maintain that lawn tennis is not beneficial to table tennis and *vice versa*; the strokes and the follow-throughs are completely different and the strategy . . . but there is *beaucoup* to be written on this subject.

* * *

DOUGLAS CARTLAND, who originally hailed from North Carolina, is one of the best in this country at solving all forms of puzzles and is financially very successful at it. That is what he does when he is not wielding a T.T. racquet.

MAE CLOUTHER has been running a public T.T. playing establishment at Cambridge, Mass. for many, many years; last spring her place burned to the ground . . . LEAH THALL Neuberger is playing T.T. daily in Manhattan; her husband has been suspended by the U.S.T.T.A. (and not because of inferior playing ability). Before her marriage, Leah did stenographic work in her home town of Columbus, Ohio . . . Sister THELMA is not competing in T.T. since her betrothal . . . MILDRED SHAIHAN is a Boston, Mass. stenographer.

It is Gordon Barclay's sweetheart who won the 1950 Girls' National T.T. Championship. She continued playing just to please Gordon . . . Wally Gundlach's father is an intellectual school teacher in St. Louis, Missouri, where he is very T.T. minded . . . Laszlo Bellak is now tubby, domesticated husband, working with his Hungarian-born brother-in-law.

* * *

MOST of the best U.S. players with whom the British are familiar are from Eastern sections of America, yet there are several players from the West who will soon comprise the U.S. team. It truly grieves me that I shall be unable to "try-out" for the 1951 U.S. team. The date and place for the Eastern trials was changed twice, and on this now-definite day I am appearing on television in one of a series of commitments which this writer has had for a few months . . . *C'est la vie!*

SANDOR GLANCZ and Yours Truly have been playing T.T. exhibitions throughout New York and New Jersey, and have been thrilled at the tremendous ovations from the girls and boys . . . there is something clean and unadulterated in feelings and reactions at that age.

Among other nice plans in the offing I have been invited to play exhibitions in South America.

'Bye now, Happy Thanksgiving Day to you all.

REBA MONNESS.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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



NORMAN COOK

(North-West)

Hon. Secretary Lancashire T.T.A.

Hon. Secretary Cheshire T.T.A.

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ENGAGEMENTS

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

Date(s)	Title and Venue	Extra Events	Name and address of Sec.
Nov. 17-18	Pontefract Town Hall, Pontefract, Yorks. Referee: L. E. Forrest.	V.S. B.S. G.S. Y.S.	Stanley Hanson, 22, St. Bernards Avenue, Pontefract, Yorks.
18-19	South of England Welfare Hall, A. & T. Social Club, Aurelia Road, Croydon. Referee: K. C. Joyce.	B.S. G.S.	C. A. Bourne, 46, Elm Park Gardens, Selsdon, Surrey.
22-25	Merseyside (Finals) Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool. Referees: N. H. Holland & C. B. Miller.	J.S.	W. Stamp, Buena Ventura, Farmdale Close, Liverpool, 18.
27	ENGLAND v. FRANCE Enquiries: M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Rd., Birmingham, 12.		Indoor Sports Stadium, Per-shure Rd., Birmingham, 5.
Nov. 28 Dec. 2	English Open Championships		Details on Page 18.
Dec. 8-9	Welsh Open		Mrs. H. R. Evans, The Rise, 16, Tymawr Rd., Rumney, Cardiff.
9	Bournemouth Open Town Hall, Bournemouth.	J.S.	N. N. Read, 21, Gainsborough Rd., Queens Park, Bournemouth.
11-16	Central London Open Prince of Wales Road Baths,, Kentish Town, N.W.1. Referee: E. A. B. Swayne.	B.S. G.S.	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
	All-India Open		At Colombo.
Jan. 1951.			
1-6	Metropolitan Open Polytechnic Extension, Little, Titchfield Street, W.1. Referee: J. Kurzman.	B.S.	E. S. Lee, Polytechnic, 309, Regent Street, London, W.1.
6-10	French Open Championships		At Paris.
13	South Yorkshire Open	B.S.	Mrs. M. Cowen, 13, Gregg House Rd., Sheffield, 5.
13	WALES v. ENGLAND		At Newport.
18	Bath Open The Pavilion, Bath.	M.S. and W.S. Only	L. LeGren, c/o, P.D.S.A. 4, Newark Street, Bath.
18-20	Lancashire Open Drill Hall, 645 H.A.A., R.A., Stretford, Manchester, 4.	B.S. G.S. V.S.	W. E. Wood, 44, Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester, 4.
21	Southampton Open Blighmont Drill Hall, Southampton.	J.S.	R. Sherry, 7, Thornleigh Rd., Soolston, Southampton.
22-27	South London Open West Norwood Brotherhood, Knights Hill, West Norwood, S.E.27. Referee: E. A. B. Swayne.	B.S. G.S. Cons.	K. F. Havill, 4, Chestnut Rd., West Norwood, London, S.E.27.
25-27	Irish Open		At Belfast.
28	Kent Open Grand Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.		F. G. Mannoch, 161, Borden Lane, Sittingbourne.

Hartlepoons Open

A 63-year-old Competitor

By E. SHORT

Hartlepoons, 7th Oct. 1950

WITH a very good entry, this was the most successful tournament yet held, with the first surprise in title-holder KEN PARK (Leeds) second round defeat by K. SMITH (Newcastle).

Veteran T. H. JEAL (Stockton) beat county champion V. PISCIKAS (B. Auckland) in a welcome return to form, while 45-year-old finalist TOMMY EWBANK gave an example to many youngsters losing only on deuce in the third to a much younger and fresher opponent. Winner R. HESLOP (Gateshead) played an excellent game of slow top-spin attack.

Miss P. HEPPLER beat county champion Mrs. E. DODDS and played extremely well throughout, while junior J. HILLYER (Newcastle) was outstanding; in the senior event he reached the Quarter-Final to lose 18, 13 to the new champion.

The oldest competitor was 63-year-old Mrs. F. WESTMORELAND (Bournemouth), who although losing in the 1st round of the singles, reached the 3rd round of the mixed doubles.

RESULTS

M.S. S/F	T. Ewbank beat K. Smith 19, 15.
S/F	R. Heslop beat T. H. Jeal 14, 13, 15.
FINAL	R. HESLOP beat T. Ewbank 10, 19, 20.
W.S. S/F	Miss D. Smith beat Miss E. Robson 19, 11.
S/F	Miss P. Hepple beat Mrs. E. Dodds 15, 16, 16.
FINAL	MISS D. SMITH beat Miss P. Hepple 17, 15, 18.
M.D.	G. Taylor/T. Ewbank beat L. Kurtzmann/L. Rose 13, 11.
W.D.	Miss D. Smith/Mrs. M. Waugh beat Misses B. Watson/G. Wondles 12, 13.
X.D.	L. Kurtzmann/Mrs. M. Waugh beat E. Reay/Mrs. E. Dodds 13, 20.
J.S.	J. HILLYER beat L. Rose 18, 12.

White Hot in a Black Spot

STAFFORDSHIRE may be one of the "black spots" in the table tennis world, but in the extreme north of the county, there is a small town of under 20,000 population glowing with enthusiasm. LEEK, though in the heart of the moorlands, runs twenty men's and eight ladies' teams in three divisions and organises seven individual competitions during a playing season, with a grand Seven-Cup Finals Night to wind-up.

A leading player, Mrs. MARY KIRKLAND, recently provided a surprise by coaching 14-year-old daughter IRENE up to first team standard, and they now both play in the same team.

R. RUTTER.