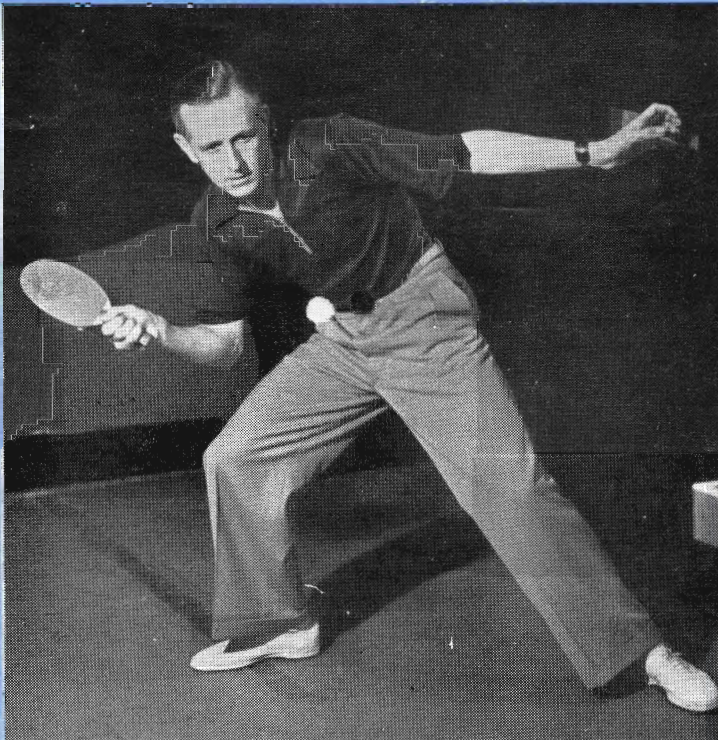


TABLETENNIS



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Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

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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ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION,

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



W. J. POPE
1888-1950.

Hon. General Secretary, E.T.T.A., 1927-29,
1935-50. Secretary, International T.T.
Federation, 1926-50.

An Appreciation

NEVER was a sports personality so rightly mourned. Never has a sport had one single personality who has meant so much to it. Seldom is tribute so universal. In Madras they stand in silence. In Scotland they join our sorrow. Some emphasize the sense of shock, others his irreplaceableness. Some "his efficiency," "his loyalty and conscientiousness," "his record of service that outshines every other contribution in the world."

Business houses, players, visitors all pay their tribute. One League writes "English secretaries have lost one who always stood for them." "No one," confirms another, "ever asked in vain for some point, no matter how small or how trivial, to be clarified."

It is hard to overcome the illusion that Bill is here, by my shoulder, cheerful and irrepressible, a grin of good fellowship embracing the whole bundle of letters and their authors everywhere: "Pity they didn't appreciate me like that when I was about."

But we did, Bill. And your memory shall be as green with us as that green corner of yours in Beaconsfield. We know what we owe . . .

He joined us in 1926 and, as General Secretary, made it what it is to-day. He came from Newport (Mon.), shook us up, reconstructed us, and established a democratic basis, insisting that the national organisation should be based on Leagues. He knew every one of them and his longing to maintain the personal touch "in the old way" cost his physical and mental resources dear.

Even greater than his energy and devotion was his charm. Truculent as a bantam cock, yet in seconds the best of friends with his victim. He was straight, direct, honest, tireless and never bore

W. J. POPE

malice. When young, he won everyone. Older, and tired with illness, he let some aggravate him a little.

Once a very good, hard-hitting, penholder player, he got equal top results in the trials of 1926, and turned down an international "cap" to go to Berlin on that trip which led to the foundation of the I.T.T.F.

Grave illness during the late war made Table Tennis work, on top of his trade union work, an arduous strain. Even when he retired two years ago, we feared a breakdown unless he rested. He took the risk with his eyes open and we did not discourage him. After he had given Table Tennis so much of his life, how empty it would have become without Table Tennis.

Nothing could daunt that inexhaustible monster of Table Tennis devotion that devoured him from inside. He was a dedicated man. Then came his last great illness. He began to get better from this. Just a week before the end, for the first time I talked to him again about Table Tennis. He told Ann Stevens how happy it had made him; he felt he was coming back into circulation.

On June 9th he woke better in body and mind, and was extremely cheerful. Then, quite suddenly, he died.

Bill's absence will leave a gap in the lives of his friends. It will leave a tearing gap in the resources of the Association. The organisation of a game like ours could never be possible without the keenness and help of thousands. Certainly any facet of Bill's many-sided ability could be matched in the talents of others who have worked for Table Tennis. But not his personality.

However much we think we know now, only time will teach us the full extent of what it has meant to Table Tennis to have his ungrudging, unbounded vigilance all these years. We must go carefully, not to forfeit, but to preserve; not to throw away, but to build high upon the splendid foundations he laid and has bequeathed us.

IVOR MONTAGU.

A "W. J. Pope Memorial" monograph is in course of publication, and will be made available in due course.

A "W. J. Pope" Memorial?

There have been many expressions that some permanent, worthy Memorial—dedicated to the cause which Bill Pope loved beyond himself—should be established. Suggestions have included the founding of a Trust for the ultimate purpose of establishing a national Headquarters completely fitted for every purpose. The National Executive are giving much consideration to the whole matter from every point of view. Meanwhile, The Editor invites correspondence on this subject.

OPEN HONOURS Up-to-date

Winners of Open Titles 1949-50 - - By Request

IN response to many requests the "tournament ranking" record has been brought up to date to include all known results for season, 1949/50.

It is emphasized that this is a record of interest and has no official significance, and it does not necessarily reflect the national ranking of any particular player. Several notable players participated in few events only.

I have used the same weighting of points as in May, viz.:

	Singles	Doubles
World's ...	20	10
National ...	5	3
Open ...	2	1

Other awards have been suggested. It would, in fact, have been desirable to grade tournaments to competition and standards, and weight accordingly. This may be possible next year.

Lastly, it is too easy to err in compiling such statistics, so, E. & O.E. Please.

Leslie S. Woollard.

	† International	• New International	Singles	Doubles	Mixed	Including National Titles	Total Titles	Tournament Points
†J. Leach	8	8	9	10	25	54
†R. Bergmann	7	—	2	7	9	50
†A. Simons	4	4	2	2	10	19
†J. Carrington	1	7	—	—	8	16
†R. Crayden	2	3	2	1	7	9
L. Adams	3	2	2	—	6	10
†K. Craigie	1	3	3	—	7	8
*M. Thornhill	2	2	2	—	6	8
†B. Kennedy	2	1	1	—	4	6
*R. Allcock	2	—	1	—	3	5
HONOURS—4 points: †B. Casofsky; †D. Miller; †R. Sharman; *H. Venner.								
" 3 points: †B. Crouch; D. Heaps; L. Devereux; K. Park; *J. Lowe.								
" 2 points: J. Head; *W. Poole; Minter; R. Rumjahn; †K. Stanley.								
†P. Franks	6	3	3	3	12	25
*R. Rowe	4	6	9	1	19	25
†D. Beregi	1	—	2	1	3	23
*D. Rowe	3	4	9	1	16	19
†V. Thomas	2	—	2	3	4	13
†L. Barnes	—	4	3	2	7	11
*J. Miller	4	—	2	—	6	10
†A. Wood	2	2	3	—	7	9
†E. Steventon	2	—	2	1	4	8
E. Grimstone	3	—	1	—	4	7
M. Fry	1	1	4	—	6	7
N. Bishop	1	1	2	—	4	5
HONOURS—3 points: P. Allen; †J. Crosby; S. Wood.								
" 2 points: R. Atherton; McKay; N. Senior; D. Smith; J. Smurthwaite; V. Taylor; E. Weaver.								



This Game of TABLE TENNIS

By
VIC OLIVER

Comparatively few know that this world-famous artist is a table tennis player of no mean merit. It has, indeed, been said of him that with practice he would soon be in county class. Vic Oliver, who is now appearing in Tom Arnold and Emile Littler's big current success "Latin Quarter, 1950" at the London Casino, combines with his great successes as a comedian the running of one of the few unsubsidised symphony orchestras in England. The British Concert Orchestra, conducted by Vic Oliver, has been giving concerts throughout England for the past four years with unqualified success.

Vic Oliver plays 18 holes of golf a day, auditions music hall artists and concert performers, and gives two shows nightly and a Symphony Concert or Celebrity Concert every Sunday.

"If I relax I feel ill," says Vic Oliver.

THE other day I walked by chance into a Table Tennis Club. When I saw what was going on, I jumped up on one of the tables and shouted, "Does anybody want to give me a game of Ping-Pong?"

When I awoke in the hospital next morning, the local Sports Editor explained to me that it was a grave offence to refer to the game of Table Tennis by any other name and that certainly one must never use the expression "Ping-Pong." Times have certainly changed since the days when I first played the game as a young scholar. I know

that many of you will say, "Can he remember that far back?" but to those evil tongue-wagging individuals I reply, "Yes, I can remember. It was in the days when Napoleon flew his first jet-propelled aeroplane over the Russian border." That was the year that I won the European Ping-Pong championship by two pings to one pong!

Seriously though, I am an ardent Table Tennis fan. In fact, so much so that I engaged the two champions, STEVE BOROS and ALEC BROOK, to give nightly exhibitions in my show last year and I never missed

seeing one of their performances. They are both fine players and good sportsmen into the bargain.

At one time, I was quite good at the game, but then I switched to Lawn Tennis and tended to neglect the celluloid ball for the larger rubber one. I have personally organised many Table Tennis competitions and I have bought innumerable sets of equipment for youngsters, who were keen on the game. I for one hope that Table Tennis will continue to prosper in this country, as it is a game which

has all the essentials of a good sport—it is healthy, active and fast.

I do not see any reason why in future years we should not have a Table Tennis Wimbledon, run on the same lines as the famous annual Lawn Tennis Championships. I myself would love to take part, but unfortunately the net always gets in my way and my bat seems to have more holes than my local golf course!

However, don't be surprised if some day you should see me at Wembley with all the other famous personalities. Of course, if you do see me there, it won't be at the Table Tennis Championships—I shall be watching the Greyhound racing!

Good luck and a good back-hand to you all!

Yours sincerely,
VIC OLIVER.

"As long as there has been Table Tennis, there have been Table Tennis Umpires; both good ones and bad ones. In recent years the number of good ones has increased, the proportion of bad ones has dropped. Now the time has come when we can set a standard of good umpiring and provide those of proved ability with

badges to show that they are recognized as qualified officials. This will be at once an acknowledgment of the efficient service which the Umpire gives and a help to organisers who have to ensure that matches are controlled by capable people."
—From the leaflet explaining the County Umpire Scheme.



At Last — Official Umpire Scheme

GEORGE WHITE (seen above), English Referee and Chairman of E.T.T.A. Umpiring Committee, explains the scheme introduced this season.

AFTER a year's research into the umpiring (or refereeing) arrangements in other sports an E.T.T.A. Executive Sub-Committee has produced a scheme which introduces into our game an official with a new status—the County Umpire.

The idea of having tested and approved umpires for all important matches is not a new one. The difficulties of a scheme of this kind are considerable however and the National Executive has wisely waited until it is felt the time was ripe for it to be undertaken with good prospects of success throughout the country. It has also been careful to ensure that the scheme adopted is one which can be worked without overburdening officials (both local and national) with new tasks too big to be carried out satisfactorily.

Standard Criterion Essential

If we are going to say that Mr. So-and-so is a good umpire whom we can trust to control properly any match which we like to give him, and if we are going to give Mr. So-and-so a badge as evidence of our faith in him as an umpire, then we must be careful that we are not being unfair to someone else equally keen and efficient, whom we do not happen to know quite so well. The only way to avoid this is to have some uniform standard by which to measure all umpires, and to give the same acknowledgment to any who come up to this standard.

The Standard

What is this standard to be? If it is set too high, there will not be enough qualified umpires to cover the number of matches they are needed for. If it is set too low, we may have

some unsatisfactory umpires accepted.

The decision has been to start by setting a standard which should ensure that approved umpires fulfil the minimum requirements for proper control of matches played before a public audience. Later on, when the scheme is well established, there will no doubt be a higher standard set for top-grade umpires who can tackle successfully matches where International regulations have to be applied as well as the ordinary Laws of the Game. But for the moment we are going to walk before we run. Let us see how we get on this season with County Umpires, for that is what the new qualified umpires will be called.

Having set the standard, the next problem is how to find out whether the individual comes up to it. This is no easy thing to settle, because it is necessary to take into account not only whether the umpire knows what he should do in all the tricky situations that can arise in a match, but whether he uses that knowledge correctly when those situations actually arise (as they always do) without any warning and with no time for solemn reflection. Other matters apart from correct application of the rules must be taken into consideration, too. It is no use being a perfect umpire as regards knowing and applying the rules unless, for example, you call the score accurately, at the right moment, and loudly enough for both the players and the spectators to hear it clearly.

It soon becomes obvious that before anyone can be accepted as a County Umpire, there must be a check-up on how he gets on when actually officiating "in public," to make sure that he measures up to practical requirements. But it is pretty clear, too, that you can go on watching one umpire for seasons on end without discovering that he is ignorant of one particular rule—because it may easily happen that he just never has had to apply that rule in an actual

match. So there must be some other test, too, in order to make sure that he knows *and understands* all the Laws of the game, and the Knotty Point interpretations that go with them.

The Ideal

No doubt the ideal would be to have a test paper answered under examination-room conditions, thus testing the candidate's memory as well as his understanding of the Laws. Or some form of interview panel. Or perhaps both. The difficulties of arranging for such tests are fairly obvious. I hope that we shall have between one and two thousand County Umpires before the end of the present season; you can imagine the work involved in arranging examinations or interview panels for all these—and for the unsuccessful candidates as well.

The ideal, therefore, is not at present a practical proposition. Nor, indeed, can it be said to be strictly necessary when you remember that we are not aiming at finding a few brilliant umpires, but a large number of those who measure up to minimum standards.

The Test Paper

The alternative which has been adopted is to set a Test Paper which can be answered at home, with a rule book at your elbow and as much time as you care to spend on it. This test paper has been devised not only to see that the candidate knows all the rules, but that he understands how they should be interpreted and can apply them in situations which are likely to occur in actual matches.

It does not matter if the candidate did not know the correct answer to a particular question before he sat down

(Concluded on page 16.)

NEWS, NOTES and GOSSIP

On The Outside, Looking In . . .

ONE great attraction of travel is coming home again, and to me, one attraction of going to America and leaving *Table Tennis* in the capable hands of my editorial colleagues, was that, on my return, I could buy a copy and read it just like an ordinary reader.

Believe me that was quite a thrill to be "on the outside looking in" for a change. Our foreign friends are sincere when they tell us that they envy us our magazine. There always seems to be so much going on.

International Exchange

THE International Federation has bravely and wisely launched its own official journal.

It's called . . . you'll never guess! . . . "TABLE TENNIS—TENNIS DE TABLE—TISCH TENNIS" and it comes out every two months. Editor is Mons. MARCEL CORBILLON, donor of the famous international trophy; he and his printers deserve our admiration for their valiant efforts to produce all articles in three languages, English, French and German. One senses still more back-room work here for that man of many tongues, the I.T.T.F. Chairman, IVOR MONTAGU.

British Lawn Tennis Exiles

MARY HARDWICK, the lawn tennis pro, now married to CHAS. HARE, the England Davis Cup player, have carved out a nice little niche for themselves in U.S. lawn tennis society.

We met them in the gleaming Chicago sports shop owned by Gus Holzrichter, brother of Billy. Back of the shop was a well-planned table tennis salon, with 7 lights per table and plenty of room.

Chicago citizens talk openly of the day when their city will be the commercial and political, as well as the geographical centre, of North America. This feeling is abroad in Chicago T.T. too, and is indeed justified if the 5,000 entries for their Novices tournaments are any guide.

Young America

THESE Novice competitions are very American in their encouraging attitude to the young. They believe that everybody has a right to express their own personality at an early age and that material rewards, in the shape of elaborate trophies, should be within the reach of all.

So they have, not one, but three grades of junior boys and girls:

"Intermediates" between 15 and 17, "Juniors" between 12 and 14, and "Midgets"—under 12.

One such "midget," Jackie Koekake, aged 8, wandered around at the American Nationals, in St. Louis, complaining because her father hadn't entered her in the Juniors. Dressed in

from

Jack Carrington



cowboy kit, she pulled her guns on all and sundry, while obliging 6-foot American males fell groaning to the floor. When Johnny Leach was two games down to McClure, this midget came over and rebuked me: "You shouldn't let your buddy Leach drink Coca-Cola in the middle of a match!"

Nor are the boy midgets backward. Scrawled in red ink across the draw sheet of a Juniors tournament on a big Club's notice-board I read these words:

"When are you going to let me enter? I can beat all these guys except Hankinson.—Jim Arnold, age 11."

So much for the Midgets. What's the betting that before long they'll have a "Tot's" class, for the under 8's? and if they do, what will *their* elaborate trophy be called?

A Totty Pot, do you think?

Oh, well . . . I was only wondering.

From Tots To Tops

NOBODY in U.S.A. disputes that MILES and REISMAN are the tops in play, although in "public relations" their ranking was definitely low. These two have fought out every final for two years until their suspension last year.

Miles, five times National Champion, professes a "couldn't-care-less" attitude to this suspension business. Favourite topic among his New York fans is not whether Miles can beat Vana, Bergmann, Sido and Co. but how many points he can "spot" each of them!

And this great reputation is founded, not upon his forehead hitting, which upset the European defenders, but upon his remarkable chopping, which enables him to win everything back home (on their slower tables), without hard labour.

Reisman, however, seemed genuinely upset to be excluded from the game, and it is good to hear that he will be back among his peers this winter.

A Bergmann-esque character is Marty with his knack of saying or doing the not-so-clever things at the not so appropriate moments. Yet they give zest to our game, these soldiers of fortune. I like the story of the big tournament final, in which Reisman and Miles had been chopping and punching their way

for an hour or so to the inevitable "deuce-in-the-5th." At 23-23 you could have heard a pin drop.

So the shrill call of a telephone crashed into the tense atmosphere like an atom-bomb.

As an official scurried out to cut off the ringing, the irrepressible Marty called after him: "If that's for me, tell 'em I haven't won yet!"

Wot, No Score?

NOW it can be told. . . . A patrol of the Office of Public Safety in Vienna duly filed a report reading:

"At 19.00 hours on January 25th a crowd numbering 2,000 attended the Vienna Concert House to watch table tennis match between Austria and U.S.A.

There were no incidents." Poor old BILL HOLZRICHTER. Beats Bergmann and never gets a mention! (Austria won 5—2.)

Toujours La Politesse

YVONNE BAKER, that lively young cricket from Essex who won the West Middlesex Junior last April, has been enjoying a "school exchange" holiday in Sweden.

Writing to her nominated guest, Yvonne (hopefully) enquired "Do you play table tennis?"

The young Swedish girl (equally hopefully) replied "No, I do not play this game of table tennis. But I am quite willing to learn."

Other Bats

IN the Minor Counties cricket fixture Gloucestershire 2nd v. Devonshire, early in June, top scorer for Gloucester with 60, was AUBREY SIMONS. Top score for the match, however, went to another table tennis notable, JIM STALIBRASS.

Left-hander Jim, now an Exeter Town player, was formerly in the Epsom T.T. club. He was also a Corinthians footballer.

YET ANOTHER BIG INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The day when the National County Table Tennis Championships achieve a 100 per cent. membership cannot be too far distant. The coming season sees the figures rise to 43 teams from 27 counties, truly a National competition.

There will be time to deal with the prospects in some detail next month, but for the present a list of the teams competing:—

PREMIER DIVISION

Essex
Gloucestershire
Lancashire
Middlesex
Surrey
Warwickshire
Yorkshire

EAST ANGLIAN DIVISION

Cambridgeshire
Essex
Norfolk
Suffolk

HOME COUNTIES DIVISION

Bedfordshire
Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Hertfordshire

NORTHERN DIVISION

Cumberland
Durham
Northumberland
Yorkshire

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION

Cheshire
Derbyshire
Lancashire
Leicestershire
Lincolnshire
Nottinghamshire
Yorkshire

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Hampshire
Kent
Surrey
Sussex

SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION

Devonshire
Glamorgan
Middlesex
Warwickshire

JUNIOR DIVISION—SOUTH

Cambridgeshire
Essex
Hertfordshire
Kent
Middlesex
Surrey

JUNIOR DIVISION—WEST

Glamorgan
Gloucestershire
Nottinghamshire

CHAMPION COUNTY v. THE REST OF ENGLAND BIG MATCH FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES BATHS

Venue for this season's Champion County v. The Rest of England will be the

PRINCE OF WALES BATHS, PRINCE OF WALES ROAD,
KENTISH TOWN, N.W.5

On MONDAY, 30th OCTOBER, 1950, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are priced the same as last season, 7/6 and 5/- (reserved) and 3/- (unreserved), whilst members of County Associations can obtain the reserved seats for 6/- and 4/- respectively.

It will be remembered that last year Middlesex, although without Victor Barna, at that time touring Australia and New Zealand, put up a terrific fight, and after leading 4-1 at the interval, only just lost to the powerful Rest team, which included Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons and Peggy Franks, by 5-4.

This season both teams will be stronger. The Rest team has already been selected, and will comprise Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons, Ken Stanley, Peggy Franks, Molly Jones and Pinkie Barnes.

The Middlesex side has not yet been selected, but is certain to include Victor Barna, whilst the form of Joyce Roberts and the Rowe twins will give them a great chance of victory against their all-International opponents. In fact, there is a distinct chance of 12 internationals, 6 in each team, playing in the one match! And all of the Internationals will have played for England in the last 18 months.

Early applications for tickets, to G. R. Harrower, at 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts, is advised. Tickets will be available in late September.

ARE YOU IN A "BACKWARD" COUNTY

Many of our readers will be surprised to learn that there are still some counties who are making little or no effort to sell our Magazine.

In a few cases it is because the present officials are so overworked that they just cannot take on any more work. What is YOUR county doing? Even if they are well organised as regards the Magazine, no doubt they could do with some extra help.

LATE NEWS

As we go to press news comes to hand that the E.T.T.A. are about to publish the first Official Ranking List for many years. Full details next month.

Also they plan to introduce an ambitious Grading Scheme, the first of its kind in this country. It is understood that after its introduction in October the scheme will work automatically, and be based purely on results. Full details next month.

★ ★ ★ STARDUST



By REBA MONNESS

U.S. Singles Champion, glamorous, forthright and provocative, REBA MONNESS is a topline American, personality appearing several times weekly on radio and television, exhibitions, etc. In addition to making films, she plays violin, piano, writes, paints in oils, is a lyric soprano, and has trophies in nearly every sport. In fact, she needs an article to herself.

ships, therefore, when he was called to appear at a far table, I excused myself and strolled down the aisle. Stopped to greet some friends, however, and this story ends as it began. I still haven't seen the magnanimous Ivor Montagu play a match.

CHIC and sartorially minded Britishers must have been disappointed at the head-dress (or lack of it!) of the U.S. female team. In America, the new trend is short-trimmed coiffures.

Playing T.T. is excellent exercise for the eyes, and superb for the waist-lines, ladies. Y'know when you pick the ball from the floor . . . but more about that later. Methinks it would be beneficial to T.T. if the I.T.T.F. legalized ALL-WHITE apparel.

Brevities

DO YOU, also, nearly shout "Correction" when another says "ping-pong?" Please enlighten the ignorant . . . In the U.S.A. we use the colloquialism "Warm Up" instead of your "Knock Up." Your expression has quite a different meaning over here . . . Tony Miller is wrong in thinking my game is similar to Mae Clouther's . . . Truly, some of the best American players have not played their real games on foreign soil . . . sensitivity o' sensitivity . . .

"Bye now.

I TRUST Jack Carrington will not take personal offence when I state that he has under-rated American players as players. When they were here, Jack and Johnny did not see or play with many of the best U.S. stars on American tables . . . such fellows as Dick Miles, Marty Reisman, Doug. Cartland, Sol Schiff, Ed. Pinner, Sy Sussman (all of New York), and neither Nash nor Holzrichter were up to their par at St. Louis.

Miles is probably the best player in the world on American tables—his chop deadly and almost impossible to lift and coupled with it his super fore-hand drive. Ed. Pinner (who beat Johnny in a Manhattan exhibition) has always been a joy to watch—courage,

nice strokes, fight, and clean movement of an intelligent athlete. He's 26. Too bad work prevents his greater participation.

Reisman asks the E.T.T.A. to forgive his past behaviour, saying he is older now (at 20) and has more sense. The U.S.T.T.A. have reinstated both he and Cartland. In July, Reisman won the South American title at Rio de Janeiro, being the only foreign entry in the tourney, which was for men only. The best S. Americans use the penholder. He did not find opposition too tough.

I HAVE never yet seen that great leader and benefactor of World T.T.—Ivor Montagu—play a match. During the 1950 English Champion-



MAGDA RURAC, former Roumanian Lawn Tennis star, and now a U.S. citizen in California, not only contends lawn tennis, but also devotes *beaucoup* time to T.T. In her first National tournament she lost to Leah Thall Neuberger by scores 10, 20, 20.

KEUN HANG CHOI of Seoul, Korea, played in the U.S. Championships and recently won a tournament in California where he is now stranded. He is anxious to get back to Korea and find his wife and child, from whom he has not heard since the outbreak of the Korean war.

A Bat for a Bouquet in U.S.A.



10-year-old ROGER BREAK presented JOHNNY LEACH and JACK CARRINGTON with this outside T.T. bat (4½ft. x 3½ft.) at Detroit in April, on behalf of 50 youngsters from the enterprising Royal Oak area. The "V.F.W." stands for Veterans of Foreign Wars. President of the Royal Oak, Hammersmith-born ED. DICKINSON (who sends us this picture) is visiting his mother in St. Austell, Cornwall, in September.

Photo by courtesy of "Daily Tribune," Mich., U.S.A.

Fighting Words

from

MORRIS ROSE

“Youngsters-Win by Attack”

PRE-WAR play in men's finals, except for rare instances, was never so drab as it has been since.

I do not think we shall ever again see such a marvellous exhibition in a final as we saw between VANA and BERGMANN. Vana won the first two games by hitting but Bergmann won the next three also by hitting. If there had been no war, young players would have had the most glorious examples in Vana and Bergmann, and we should have had many young players using the same attractive styles and always keen to go one better than these two masters.

But these and other prominent pre-war players are ten years older, losing the quick reaction essential to answering hit with better hit. They now depend on their brains, craftiness and chiefly DEFENCE.

Certainly one sees a hit to end a rally, but rarely use of attack during the rally. Vana still bases his play on attack, but we unfortunately see too little of him. How can one player affect the general example? Because the older players rule the roost, their styles are the only ones our youngsters have to follow. The whole time I have watched our youngsters, I have only seen one, Thompson of Yorkshire, show determination to win by ATTACK.

If young players would speed up their games and continuously attack they would succeed in beating these older players. Even if the veterans still depended on defence, their nervous reactions would not be quick enough. They would be taken out of their stride. Mistakes would follow.

We always maintained, and rightly so,

that top class table tennis was a game for men of not more than about twenty-five. We maintained that it was the fastest ball game of any, and it needed Youth, and all that Youth has, to play it successfully at the topmost level. The older players are proving us wrong on all counts, and it's up to the youngsters to prove us right by altering their tactics.

If we speed up the game, it will be unnecessary to legislate on Time Limits. It is an atrocious idea that a serious match should be won, NOT by the player who first reaches 21 points but by the player who can, by craft, keep one point ahead for 20 minutes regardless of the utter boredom of the spectators.

This is not a matter for legislation. It is one that can be cured by the natural energy of junior players all over the world. Clubs, Leagues and Associations (County and National), must lend their help wisely in the following ways.

Coaching

Let no coach be employed who has not got a natural ability to teach players to ATTACK scientifically and accurately, and using defence only when it is necessary. Let national associations appoint a Coach-in-Chief who can instruct coaches to teach table tennis on these lines.

Selecting

Choose players who have the right idea to make table tennis an attractive spectacle, have the verve and ability to win, and encourage any player who shows the right promise.

and here's HOW . . .

PRACTISE your attack until you can hit a ball from any angle on to a halfpenny. Perfect a drop shot both from near the net and from the back of the table. Perfect your defence but only use it until you can go in to the attack. **WIN** your points **YOURSELF** and don't expect any from your opponent's mistakes.

MORRIS ROSE

Playing Tip of the Month

By JACK CARRINGTON

SEPTEMBER—HO . . .

and it's time to brush the cobwebs off our favourite bat.

Haven't we read that before? Of course we have, somebody says it every September. But just for a change, how about brushing the cobwebs from the mental department where they do collect rather easily?

For instance, do you practise sensibly? Can you really control even a "dead" ball?

Here's a good test. Mark the doubles line down the centre; then a parallel line each side of it, 6 inches distance, making a 12-inch lane.

Now agree with your partner to play every ball "Down the Avenue"—not to win points—but to break records for consistency. You can run a little contest between pairs. Would you like to know the record score? Well before we come to that, just look at the other side of the story.

Over several years my records show that of every 50 club players invited to take part, 47 had lost control by which stroke d'you think? The 10th? The 7th? No, no, friends—THE SECOND STROKE!!

A little practice, and it's simple; but that's just the point. People neglect to practise the simple things. And people lose matches on simple things.

Not you, of course. ALL THE SAME, PERHAPS A LITTLE PRIVATE CHECK-UP, WHEN THE CLUB'S NOT TOO CROWDED ?

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.

FOLLOWING the A.G.M. the first meeting of the N.E.C. (National Executive Committee) elected several sub-committees. These included English Championships; Magazine; Wilmott Cup and J.M. Rose Bowl; Coaching; Umpires; Open Tournaments, etc.

All of these Sub-Committees have done a considerable amount of work during the summer months, and have come to some definite and important recommendations. These will be treated in more detail in future issues, the introduction to the County Umpires Scheme taking precedence in this number.

Some of the more important decisions are reported briefly below.

English Open Championships

THE 1950/51 English Open is a Jubilee—the 25th English Championships—and in honour of our late Hon. Secretary, is to be called the “W. J. Pope Memorial English Open Championships.”

The tournament will be played from November 28th (Tuesday) to December 2nd (Saturday) at Wembley Empire Pool.

Semi-finals, Friday evening, 1st December.

Finals, Saturday evening, 2nd December.

Prices and special club rates have been sent to all affiliated clubs. Details in next month's *Table Tennis*.

Open Tournaments

A CIRCULAR has been issued to all organisers of Open Tournaments for their guidance in avoiding certain matters which have given rise to trouble in the past. Paras. 1 to 5 of this circular are to be added to Rules 25 (a) to 25 (g) in the E.T.T.A. Handbook.

Special attention is to be paid to umpiring.

Registered Players

ELECTIONS for the Committee resulted in the following being successful: A. A. Haydon, Mrs. P. Allen, A. Simons, G. V. Barna, J. Carrington and S. Proffitt.

Two of this number with 3 from the N.E.C. will constitute the Panel Commission concerned with approved coaches and exhibition players.

Northamptonshire County Association

The N.E.C. has approved the constitution of the Association.

R. Bergmann

AT a meeting of the National Executive Committee held on June 10th, R. Bergmann was suspended indefinitely from all participation in table tennis, as from June 31st, 1950. This action was taken as a result of a paid playing trip in South Africa which Bergmann undertook without having first sought and obtained permission from the E.T.T.A., thereby breaking a regulation about which he had previously received warning. The E.T.T.A. has informed the I.T.T.F. of this suspension, which, under the rules of the Federation, is effective throughout all the member Associations.

Co-option

The N.E.C. has co-opted Miss L. Ferguson and Mr. C. Corti Woodcock.

Official Balls

The following have been sanctioned for the current season:

Halex 3 Star and 2 Star,
Spalding Villa XXX and XX,
Dunlop Barna 3 Crown and 2 Crown,

Haydon 3 Star and 2 Star.

The Villa XXX ball will be used for the English Open Championships.

Percy Bromfield

WILL anyone knowing the present address of Mr. PERCY BROMFIELD, please send it to the E.T.T.A.

“Daily Mirror” National Tournament

WE have been advised by the *Daily Mirror* that they do not propose to hold their National Tournament for the season of 1950/51.

Continental Tours

TWO British players, Ron Crayden (Captain) and Harry Venner, have been officially selected to take part in the Yugoslav International Championships at Opatija, Croatia, from the 14th—18th September. Results will appear in our next issue.

Subject to final confirmation, arrangements have been made for a young English ladies' team to go on a French tour in early October.

New Service Rule Leaflets

Owing to a printer's error, some reprints of the New Service Rule were issued with the words “or dropping away” after the line “Ball released by raising the hand.” Corrections were made immediately on discovery. Replacements will be made on return of erroneous copies, or the three words should be deleted.

LOOKING BACK

Notes from No. 1, Vol. 1, of *Table Tennis*. November, 1935. Price 1d. THE E.T.T.A. acquires its own office and staff for first time. . . . Disciplinary action over “Exhibitions” taken following experimental introduction of Registered Players Scheme. The words “amateur” and “professional” deleted from rules, and replaced by the word “player”. . . . The Barna “Circus” (including Szabados and Bellak) arrive for 20-town tour. . . . Selection Committee publish official ranking list (for first time) down to No. 20. Haydon and Osborne respective No. 1's of Men and Women. . . . Tournament Tables for £6 10 Match Balls 4d. . . . *The Star* Tournament, with a 5,000 entry won by Maurice Bergl. . . . Corti Woodcock E.T.T.A. Chairman 15 Open Tournaments sanctioned.



PERSONALITY PAR

**Barbara
Millbank
(Essex
and Ilford)**

BARBARA, Ilford shorthand-typist, has been playing three years. Spotted by former Essex Veteran champion JOHN PICKARD in '49, she jumped at his offer of help, and after concentrated open game practice (as distinct from routine coaching), became Ilford champion within a month at the age of 17.

In 1948-49 Barbara became an automatic choice to represent Ilford League and Essex (Home Counties), also playing twice in the Premier Division. Her greatest thrill was, indeed, representing her county against Yorks at Bradford. Probably her best performance so far was in taking DIANE ROWE to 17-21 in the fifth game in the Area Final of the *Daily Mirror* Tournament.

Her pet aversion is untidily dressed players, and her attitude is “If a shot is worth making—it is worth making whether the score is love-all or 20-21.” Her weakness is Margaret Pickard's trifle, and light classical music for relaxation. Her hobby is Table Tennis and—more Table Tennis. Yes, it is her great ambition to play for England, and with her rising form and still only 19 she's certainly going the right way.



The World's Greatest Ever Woman Player

“Chess-board brain . . . exquisite touch”

By

C. CORTI WOODCOCK

JUST as Zoltan Mechlowitz is referred to as the Grand Old Man of table tennis, so is MARIA MEDNYANSZKY entitled to be regarded as the Grand Old Lady. Indeed, expressed in terms of World Championship titles, she has a record which surpasses even Victor Barna's, with a tally of five singles, eight doubles — all consecutively between 1927 and 1934, plus six mixed doubles—19 in all: and it is impossible to imagine that it will ever be approached, in our lifetime, at any rate.

In her heyday, Mednyanszky was just as outstanding among the world's best women players as Victor was in his department. Judged by modern standards, her game was neither powerful nor spectacular, but was marked by wonderful ball control, anticipation, and a superlative tem-

perament. From the very first point, she somehow conveyed to the spectators—and to her opponents—that she was bound to win, that nothing could check the effortless flow of shots placed (and paced) with meticulous accuracy. All her matches went the same way, inevitably and relentlessly, the short sturdy figure completely dominating the play against all comers, her chess-board brain perfectly linked with exquisite touch and icy coolness.

Mednyanszky came to this country only twice; early in 1927 to become the first woman table tennis Champion of the World (played at the Memorial Hall, Ludgate Circus, London) and again in 1932, when she won the English open singles, the doubles with Mrs. Martin, and the mixed with Szabados.

When our party landed at Budapest airport on January 28th this year, there she was, with Mechlowitz, waiting to greet us, looking a little older, of course, and, unhappily, now become nearly deaf. She attended the World Championship matches practically every day, and it was delightful to see her with her former partner, ANNUS SIPOS (this year's non-playing captain of the Hungarian Corbillon Cup team), with whom she won the World's Women's Doubles six times in a row from 1930 to 1935. That she, for her part, was equally happy to see us and renew old friendships, there could be no doubt.

Salute to Maria Mednyanszky, the greatest player of her day and age, who has so well earned her honoured niche in the Hall of Fame.

CORTI WOODCOCK.

PERSONALITY PARS

New Internationals of 1949-50

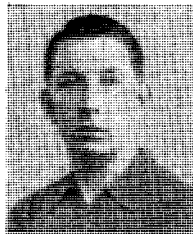
THIS pleasant, modest 29-year-old Birmingham draughtsman started playing when he was 16, and learning by careful observation, practice and thought, was representing Birmingham 2 years later. His approach to the game is methodical and quite unruffled whatever the score, and this dour match temperament added to some unorthodox and awkwardly placed returns, makes him one of those “awkward players” that it takes a good man to beat. He stands square to the table, rather solidly, yet still gets back shots he shouldn't on the form book.

The things he doesn't like is the other “blokes” nets and edges, but who does? Off the table Wally has a nice sense of humour, is a keen lawn tennis player, while his favourite recreation is a motor cycle tour through the countryside.

After winning the Midland Open last year, Wally was “capped” for England against both Scotland and Ireland.



WALLY POOLE
(England and Warwick)



RONNIE ALLCOCK
(England and Lancs.)

THERE is a lazy, diffident air about Ronnie Allcock which hides a dour tenacity. His game is solid, close to the table, left-handed, and when stimulated enlivens to a really hard attack with cleverly angled drives. Six foot, light-haired, usually dresses in shorts and always spruce, this 21-year-old textile designer came into the national spotlight by winning the East of England Open last year, then the Yorks. Open, thus meriting his selection for the English team against Scotland and Ireland.

He's been playing since he was 15 (less 2 years in army) but most Manchester folk will tell you that his sudden success was the result of his spending his entire demob leave in concentrated practice. Still, even at 17, he was good enough to beat Casofsky, and was included in the Manchester Y.M.C.A. team of Proffitt, Stanley and Millar against the American tourists.

Ronnie neither smokes nor drinks, and is a keen cyclist and swimmer. While he disappointed some of his supporters by erratic form last season, he has established himself firmly as someone to be watched in the future.



YOU HAVE TO BE OVER FORTY before they'll consider you in this team. **MALCOLM SCOTT**, Chairman of the **Wolverhampton Association**, started the season by organising a **Veterans' Team**, which is registered for play in the **First Division of ten**.

"Only one of its kind in the country," thinks Malcolm. **Rash claim** in any sport.

In some of the **Continental countries** a club match does not consist simply of the usual meeting between two full-strength teams. They have, in addition, two preliminary matches between their **Junior and Old Boy sides**, and—they all count for points!

This is a grand way of keeping the club and team spirit alive. **Don't scrap** the veterans; let them keep scrapping.

English Junior Champion, JIMMY LOWE, won both Senior, Junior and Men's Doubles titles in the Byfleet League Tournament, and Mrs. P. GEORGE won the W.S. for the third successive year.

CONGRATULATIONS to English Referee **GEORGE WHITE** on becoming father to a lusty son, christened **Timothy** . . . no relation to any other firm of the same name.

"ALL table tennis players are conceited," was the shattering remark once made by an otherwise attractive young lady. *It may have been but a pin to prick the boy friend's balloon, but like the sight of the master's cane, there is a chastening reaction when you think: Could that apply to me? Snag is, you KNOW it NEVER could!*

Still, have you ever met anyone who's played table tennis for a year or so who does NOT lay claim to being an authority or an Ex Pert or Champion?

Listen to the anecdoting parent or his Reismantic son anywhere where the game is played or talked. See what we mean?

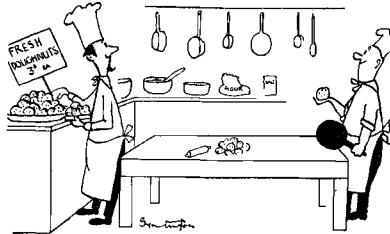
A Champion Claim

GIVE a big hand to **RAY SMITH** of Grays, Essex. He's a new champion in the administrative arena. Though still under 19 years old, he's taken on the **County Secretaryship** for Essex. It's a healthy sign to see young blood coming in to fortify and graduate with the hard-pressed oldsters.

HISTORY has been made in Cornwall. Last year, **Camborne and Redruth** formed a League . . . the very first in Cornwall. **Two exhibitions, Carrington and Leach, and Barna and Bergmann**, gave a wonderful fillip during the year and there's high hopes of new leagues and even, perhaps, a county association, in a not too distant future.

Cornwall, in September you're hosts to **Mr. Edward J. Dickinson**, President of the **Royal Oak T.T.A., Michigan** (see another page). He would like to meet any **T.T. enthusiasts** down there.

Bedford League had such an enthusiastic demand for a Summer League that two divisions had to be formed.



"CARE FOR A GAME?"

X-Ray Form

A PROGRAMME of one event of the recent **Brook/Boros** tour of South Africa carried the cryptic message "Biological Notes of the Players." That seems to be going a bit far.

Nevertheless, the two tourists were given a wonderful reception everywhere, had a marvellous time, which included an introduction and chat with **Field Marshal Smuts**.

Sub-County Champion

A NEW kind of team competition starts with the **London T.T. Federation** this season. This will bring new fields to the group of top league and near-county players. There will be representative teams from such strong associations as **Civil Service, Business Houses, Nalگو, etc.,** in and around London.

B.R. Championships

WALLY HALL regained the **Singles** title from **C. Hann** in the finals of the **British Railways Championships**. **Miss East** held the **Women's Singles**. **Newport** beat **Manchester 5-0** in the finals of the team events.

A New Bergmann

THE Spartak, Yugoslavia's crack T.T. team which includes the **HARANGOZO** brothers, managed to win all their matches in a recent tour of **Israel, Tel-Aviv** taking them to 4-5. **Israeli champion, VARDI**, scored the only win over **V. Harangozo, 19, -16, 19**.

Current Israeli ranking is probably **Vardi, Finkelstein, Heinharz, Fineberg and Szenes**, the first three comprising **Israel's first ever Swaythling bid** in last year's **World's**.

New juniors are outstanding. Star discoveries are **OSER**, dark and spectacular, the serious **GITT**, and **JOSEPH BERGMANN**, whose name and play provides a happy augury for **Israel's future**.

PAUL KOHN (Haifa)

Indians for Australia

REPRESENTATIVE matches will be included in the **Australian tour** for which an **Indian team** left on 1st September. The party includes **U. M. Chandarana (capt.), R. Bhandari, V. Swaramani, M. S. Vittal and Ranga Ramanujin (manager)**. They have an engagement at **Singapore en route**.

No Flies on Them!

From a Report: "... who, if given proper coaching would make Jamaica's Swatting Team something to be reckoned with."

"Residential" Qualification

CHARMING PEGGY ALLEN, current **Yorks. Open W.S. Champion**, formerly of **Lancs. and Blackpool**, seems to be acquiring a "residential" qualification for **Middlesex**. She and ex-schoolmaster husband have taken over the **Central Hotel, London**, where **Peggy** is determined to make all her services good ones.

Club Plays Swaythling Team

JACK ADDICOTT (Exeter) tells us of an enterprising, **T.T. Holiday Tour** where 22 of their members had a grand time in **Jersey and Guernsey**. Matches had been arranged with the local associations and the **Jersey Swaythling Cup team**. The latter won 8-4 after a keen match against the **Exeter team**, which included **BERT SQUIRE (Devon County player)**.

Your Opinions and Ideas

FROM National Executive, County and League contact is made with the player through the Club Secretary. He is the key man and so often the weakest link.

As a county official, a league treasurer and club secretary, I am always meeting illustrative cases. After working overtime on arrangements for a short-notice Willmott Cup match, you find one fellow who leaves all his club's tickets on the mantelshelf and doesn't pass on the news of the match to his members.

Again, when I've been handing out magazines to my own club members, some of the visiting team frequently ask for a few copies. "The Secretary's a busy chap . . . we don't see much of him," I was told, yet tackling this very secretary some time later on this point, "I did mention it to one or two," he replied, "but they didn't seem very keen so I didn't bother."

Clearly there is insufficient co-operation between club secretaries and players. I know some clubs elect as secretary those who are least loud in their refusals, instead of a man capable of advancing the interests, and to whom they will give whole-hearted backing. The club secretary is more important than their No. 1 player and, when capable and assisted by members, can inspire the league and county executives, with a resultant better service all round.

LEN BURGESS.

TURN THE TABLES

ERNIE LEVETT (you'll meet him anywhere between Slough, Ascot and Chertsey) has some bright new ideas to shake you up. More about these in a future issue. One that will make you think is to really "turn the tables," viz., the length increased to 10ft. and width narrowed to 5ft. (made by turning each half sideways), and Ernie makes out a very good case for it.

JOHN OLIFF (famous lawn tennis player and *Daily Telegraph* correspondent) has suggested widening the table to stop chiselling.

Ernie's ideas extend to optional lets and dress. You'll be interested. We were.

NO MORE NET CORDS!

WALLIE WHERRY (Salisbury) claims to have reduced the Net Cord Problem 90 per cent. You, too, can try his solution, and let us know how you get on. It is merely a thin strip of metal foil stretched or folded over the top of the net, which provides a sufficient bounce as to rule out the element of luck, and also helps the umpire by every net making an audible "click."

* * *
FRANK GEE (Urmston) thinks we should have some posters printed with small photographs of top-ranking stars to publicise *Table Tennis*. He has met hundreds of players who are unaware of its existence . . . One or two readers like the idea of an E.T.T.A. Diary, suggesting Open Tournament particulars as one important note . . .

* Good sports, good players, but DON'T FIGHT HARD ENOUGH" says

"John was ill for 3 weeks and gave us a lot of worry, but is now O.K. and very happy again.

"This is a lovely country and the people are grand, but the housing situation is terrible. . . I am playing quite a lot of T.T. and last week managed to win the State Championship and Doubles. . . Next month we are going to Brisbane to play in the Australian Open. The Team Championships are played the same time and I'm pleased to say that I have been selected as No. 1 for New South Wales.

"I've had a wonderful reception here, but though everyone treats me so well, I do miss England and all my friends there, and, of course, those grand tournaments. I shall never forget the

wonderful years I've spent in England. Perhaps one day, with God's help, we shall all come home on a visit.

"I've started coaching already, and will tell you all about it later when I write that article for you. All I can say for the present, is that the happiest moment in my T.T. career was when—selected to play for England—I was able to help England win the Corbillon Cup, by beating that grand player Gizi Farkas.

"Your English girls are grand sports, good players, but they don't fight hard enough.

"Tell them for me: no matter who they face, don't worry but go right in and fight to the last point."

DORA BEREGI from Australia

Readers will remember that as Mrs. Duvenny, Dora emigrated to Australia with husband and baby son John some months ago, and it looks very much as though she will soon qualify to be the first person ever to have three different international caps for the same sport.

TWO LETTERS

" . . . two people who played were a disgrace to the game. One a leading county player and the other well known at tournaments and an inter-league representative player — disreputable flannels, grubby shirts and shoes . . . the outfit of the players who should set an example."

"I have never been to any tournaments until last week, when I saw the Surrey Open . . . I would like to say how very much I was impressed by the friendly rivalry among the contestants, far more so than in lawn tennis."

A STRAIGHT ONE-TWO FROM DWYER

A. V. DWYER, of Sutton Coldfield, is brisk, lively and original in his proposals to cut "chiselling." 1. Scrap the flat-handed service rule. 2. Let's have volleying.

Think of lawn tennis without volleying, he says it would be rather like the wishy-washy stuff which now passes for table tennis. Think what a marvellous new range of shots would be available. Sparkle, skill and spectacle would replace the "weary, stale, flat and unprofitable" endurance tests into which modern table tennis is likely to degenerate.

OUR COVER PICTURE

HERE'S a picture of the National Table Tennis Coach of Sweden. And if you think it looks like JACK CARRINGTON, then you get full marks, for it is indeed Jack, who thus brings a title of a new kind to the honour of England.

Jack's two-month Swedish engagement ends in September, and he returns to a heavy list of coaching engagements, including arrangements for some of the "Daily Mirror" finalists.

Increasing demands in this sphere of his affection and success has necessitated his resignation from the Editorial Chair of "Table Tennis," to the regret of all his associates. He has been associated with the magazine since 1938, and only those most intimate with him know how much his conscientious loyalty has frequently been at the cost of personal advantages.

Happily, we are not losing him. Typically, he has placed his talents as a writer, shrewd observer, lively commentator, player and coach at the service of "Table Tennis," and will continue to represent the magazine and write popular feature and instructional articles each month.

One day we will write our pen picture of Jack. This is merely a regretful farewell to our post-war Editor, a tribute and salutation to his work, and a welcome back to our company in a new capacity.

Acknowledgments to G. Bell & Co. Ltd., and P. Madge for photograph.

A One-Man United Nations

by **WALTER STEINETZ**

No. 1 Official Interpreter to the E. T. T. A.

SCENE: International events of the E. T. T. A. during recent years.

A SPOTLIGHT focuses on the Referee's table. See that rather tall, dark, handsome and important-looking chap leaning about? Yes, that's the fellow. The one with a white disc pinned on his manly chest. Seems to be the only one with nothing to do but enjoy himself, chat to interesting personalities, and watch thrilling table tennis. Let's have a close-up and read the lettering on the white disc. There:

"INTERPRETER No. 1"

Well, folks: That's Me!

When I volunteered for the job some years ago I, too, thought it would be the nice soft job it looked, and it was not until I had proudly pinned my first badge on (a No. 3) and went to enjoy myself, I found that "all is not gold that glitters."

To start with, I only speak English, French, German and (less fluently) Italian, and there are often many, many more nationalities represented. Fortunately, most of them can speak one of the tongues I know.

Then the Buts begin—with a big B.

Merely knowing the language gets you precisely nowhere, fairly quickly. You've got to talk, and understand, TABLE TENNIS in all those languages AND be a Reception Committee-

cum - Umpire - cum - Steward - cum - Announcer - cum - Guide - cum - Diplomatic Appeaser, etc., almost, in fact, a one man "United Nations."

Imagine trying to understand a Pole, Roumanian, Portuguese or Egyptian speaking his own brand of French!

Or a Czech, Hungarian, Yugoslav or Scandinavian addressing you in his German!!

Anyway, I'm proud to record that by now I can usually manage to find my way through the jungle of accents and proper tongues.

What really does get me down, however, is when of all the Britishers present spot my white disc, only the chosen few use the King's English with me. If they have the slightest smattering or even the most advanced lore of a foreign tongue, they needs must try it out on ME—and nearly always when I least expect it! Even our own Geoff Harrower invariably addresses me in pidgin English, a 'foreign' language he has really mastered.

My trickiest job occurred during the last London World's. The English Referee and the President of the French Federation had become involved in intricate and complex discus-



sions on certain table tennis problems. You know what they can be like even in one language! I was rather nervous and dead seriousness itself, conscious that any misinterpretation in meaning might have international repercussions. I'm glad there were none. In fact, I greatly profited by this experience. That is much of its charm . . . you never stop learning.

Why, now I can even interpret American into English . . . or can I?

Yes, the job has its fun, its interests and its headaches, but—believe me—it's not such a soft or irresponsible job as it looks. AND if you do see me idling there and wish to speak, please, please, PLEASE speak to me in ENGLISH.

From *THE EDITOR*

It Just Won't Go!



**NOTE ADDRESS
ON PAGE ONE
TO AVOID DELAY
WHEN WRITING**

I've tried hard, but I just can't get a quart into a pint pot. Despite small type and cramming, I've had to hold over many bits you'd like to see. And it hurts to see good stuff like this not being used. I need at least four extra pages, and I'm asking you to give them to me. It's for you to say whether you want a bigger and better Magazine.

You see, if we can sell so many extra copies, then right away we get the extra pages, and you get so much more for your tanner.

Too many readers borrow. One friend estimated that about 60 read his copy!! Everyone who borrows instead of buying is stopping our bigger magazine. A penny odd a week shouldn't hurt anyone's pocket.

Will you sell one or two extra in your club instead of lending?

My warm and sincere thanks for the hundreds of letters. . . I am trying to answer each personally. Many suggestions will be followed as we grow. Grateful acknowledgment also to the many stars who, so spontaneously, have promised to contribute.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD.

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.

<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Title and Venue</i>	<i>Extra Events</i>	<i>Name and address of Sec.</i>
Sept. 23-24	East of England Butlin's Holiday Village, Skegness	J.S.	Mrs. F. A. Merryweather, c/o Ruston Bucyrus Ltd., Lincoln.
29-30	North Midlands Ericsson Telephones Ltd., Social Hall, Beeston, Nottingham. Referee: M. Goldstein.	B.S. G.S. J.D.	C. R. Draper, 48, Warren Avenue, Haydn Road, Nottingham.
Oct. 7	Hartlepoons Referee: E. Reay.	B.S.	E. Short, 52, Milton Road, West Hartlepool.
14	Yorkshire Holdsworth Hall, Drighlington, Nr. Bradford.	—	V. R. Wood, 20, Redesdale Gardens, Leeds 6.
28-29	Sussex Sea End, Pier Pavilion, Hastings. Referee: C. Corti-Woodcock.	B.S.	D. N. Tyler, 1, York Buildings, Hastings.
Nov. 2-4	Birmingham Indoor Sports Stadium, Pershore Road, Birmingham 5. Referee: A. A. Haydon.	V.S. B.S. G.S. J.D.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.
6-11	Eastern Suburban North Ilford L.T.C. & Baths Hall, Ilford.		Not yet appointed.
9-11	North of England Drill Hall, 465 H.A.A. Regt., R.A., Stretford Road, All Saints, Manchester.	B.S. G.S.	L. W. Jones, 261, Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Manchester 19.
11	Hull & East Riding St. John's Ambulance Drill Hall, Anlaby Road, Hull. Referee: A. Abrahamson.	J.S.	Harry Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Anlaby Road, Hull.
11-12	Belgian Championships		
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. Miler.	J.S.	W. Stamp, Buena Ventura, Farmdale Close, Liverpool 18.

British Maccabiah T.T. Team Chosen A World Title for England?

THE MACCABIAH (the Jewish Olympic Games) are being held in Israel from Sept. 27th—Oct. 8th, with 20 nations competing.

At the final trials of the British Maccabiah T.T. team, outstanding triallists were: Bubley, Casofsky, Goodman, Rosen, Kriss, Glickman and Ronnie Baker. The first three were seeded and undefeated. Goodman's protégé, 18 year Ronnie Baker, led Bubley at 17-10, and at 18-12 in the third; had he kept his head, he must have won. His style reminds one of Reisman.

Bubley, Casofsky and Goodman were selected, and will fly to Israel at midnight on Sept. 21st, with 74 other British athletes competing in athletics and the various sports. I think this trio should pull off a world title.

SAM KIRKWOOD.

UMPIRE SCHEME

(Continued from page 4)

to answer it, or even that he only realised the right answer after he had thrashed the whole thing out in a long discussion with some other umpire. What is important is that, when he has finished his answers, he should know everything that he needs to know about the rules.

The only thing which has to be taken on trust is that the candidate has not merely copied out someone else's answers; this is covered by a declaration at the end of the paper that the answers are the candidate's own. I don't think that anyone who wants to become a County Umpire is going to use someone else's answers and declare them to be his own, knowing that he will be called upon to apply rules which he does not understand.

The Practical Test

Anyone who does try this on will probably be found out in the practical test, which will follow after a satisfactory test paper has been sent in. Here, the candidate will be watched to see that he is able to apply the rules promptly and correctly whilst a match is in progress; that he keeps the score correctly and announces it clearly and audibly to both players and spectators; and that he understands the importance of the part he plays in presenting a table tennis match before a public audience.

How to become a County Umpire

The new scheme will be operated through the County Associations, who have been asked to set up County Umpire Committees to mark test papers (in accordance with standards set nationally) and to decide which candidates measure up to the practical requirements which I have indicated.

If you want to become a County Umpire, then, the first thing you should do is to send to your County Association for a copy of the leaflet about the scheme and the current test paper. When you have completed this (if you show sufficient knowledge of the Laws of the Game) you will be accepted as a probationary County Umpire, and you will be given chances of officiating at matches. If you have the necessary practical ability, you will then get your County Umpire badge.

The C.U. Badge

This badge is now in production; I hope you will agree that it is well worth the half-crown which you will be asked to pay for it. In any case, if you cease to use it, two shillings will be returned when you send it back.

All about the new Graded Players' Scheme in October "Table Tennis."