

TABLE TENNIS



JILL ROCK
(England and Surrey Junior)

Contributors include:

FRANK GEE
A. A. WALL
PEGGY ALLEN
PETER MADGE
PEGGY FRANKS
REX MARSHALL
R. ST. G. GOOD
IVOR MONTAGU
FERENC GYORGY
WALTER STEINITZ
K. S. VARADACHARI
GEOFF. HARROWER
GEOFF. COULTHREAD

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

Published by **Hendon Printing Works Ltd., Victoria Road, London, N.W.4.**

Vol. 10

MAY, 1952

No. 9

From the EDITOR

A Time for Action

THE success of Table Tennis, whether national or local, substantially depends on the decisions and activities taken during the summer weeks. This truism, which becomes annually more self-evident, is still not realised by the great majority and because of it, a deal of trouble, dissatisfactions, and a lack of progress results.

RIGHT NOW (before the season is finished), is the time to go into action and elect the folks who will have the responsibility of planning and arranging for next season. **NOW** is the time, and **NOT** the end of the summer, and the officials elected should have an authority for positive action. The National Executive and progressive local organisations do this already, but many are out of step. The result is that information is not available for the Official Handbook, the best dates for halls cannot be reserved, fixture dates for important occasions cannot be arranged, leagues forget to enter the Wilmott Cup or J. M. Rose Bowl in time, etc., and officials spend the rest of their season in a harassed and hectic chaos.

★ ★ ★

With the Silver Jubilee and the inspiring saga of those "25 Wonderful Years" behind us let us all be alive to the golden chances of our new era. We have paid tribute to our founding fathers and a memorial to the greatest of them—**W. J. (BILL) POPE**—whose place in our memory and affection will be ever green.

Our founders knew not the word "Impossible". Unsustained by encouragement or resources they achieved success by their vigorous boldness. Let us—let all England—show that we too can match their spirit with our own. Let us unite in answering the appeal on page 3 with such force and faith and vigour that no club is absent from the list. Let us show England and the World that Table Tennis can still point the way to sporting achievement. **THIS CANNOT WAIT.** Your guarantee must come within 4 weeks.

★ ★ ★

And what else to work for in the times to come? Our personal ideas are manifold. To see:— every county have a county association; every League entering the Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl Competitions; increasing numbers of T.T. headquarters and better playing facilities for matches and tournaments; England win the Swaything Cup; a National Coaching Scheme integrated with every league and county in the country; the Universities acknowledge T.T. with full Blue status; every affiliated member subscribing to this magazine. Above all, the remembrance that T.T. is a Sport; that the game is always greater than any individual and that it is the majority (and not individuals) who make the game.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,

The Editor

★ IMPORTANT ★

¶ MSS., Articles, Reports, Letters, Notes, Photos, etc., should be addressed direct to **THE EDITOR:**

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,
12, Campbell Road, Bedford,

and be posted as Early as Possible.

* * *

Circulation and Advertising Manager :

G. R. HARROWER,
68, Gloucester Rd., New Barnet, Herts.

* * *

The English Table Tennis Association
(Administrative Secretary : Mrs. K. PEGG), 214, Grand Buildings,
Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

* * *

Subscription Rates :

5/6d. per year (9 issues) post free, or
7½d. per single copy, post free.

* * *

All contributions appearing with the name of the writer are the personal opinions of that writer and are not necessarily those of the Association.

* * *

WELSH EDITION

All enquiries for the Welsh Edition of Table Tennis, which incorporates all the latest news of Welsh activities in addition, should be sent direct to **Mrs. N. Roy Evans, "The Rise,"** 16, Ty-Mawr Road, Rumney, Cardiff.

The ONLY WAY to be SURE

This is the last issue of *Table Tennis* until September 1st. Make sure of receiving your copy on publication date by sending 5/6d. to Hendon Printing Works, Victoria Road, Hendon, right away.



SEVERAL letters and articles of recent months have called for more glamour in Table Tennis. I had not thought a lot about this until I saw the glamorous creation in which one young lady played during the early rounds of the English championships. The playsuit was of regulation colour and gave freedom of movement but it was just NOT the thing for the game. On the beach, perhaps, but for Table Tennis, "No, no, a 'thousand times NO'."

There is wide scope within the regulations governing dress for ladies for some very attractive outfits without "beginning the bikini" in the game (For the record the young lady was NOT Sharon Koehnke.)

★ ★ ★

JEAN WINN had my sympathy in her game against Watel as these two girls played on the table adjoining the Craigie/Venner — Barna/Bergmann match. Due to the arrangement of the tables and screens, spectators encroached on the playing area of Jean's table and the umpire was forced to speak strongly to these people. It is difficult to arrange games so that spectators can see all that is going on at any particular time but if 8 tables

LET'S & EDGES

called by

By GEOFF COULTHREAD

only were to be used in the Wembley restaurant, with a low back screen on tables 5—8 and chairs were put all the way round the room, a better view would have been possible and interference to other games would have been greatly reduced.

★ ★ ★

BETTY BLACKBOURNE, looking the same as ever, despite moving from Reading to Guildford during the time of the championships, could not resist coming up for Friday's play, though not actively engaged in the events. Hope that this means that the fair Elizabeth will take part in a lot of Table Tennis next season and that she will grace many a finals night with her presence.

★ ★ ★

RON CRAYDEN won the three events in the Wandsworth "Closed"

on April 5th, but as it was in the middle of moving house to a new flat at Clapham, it shows how little spare time players have for their private lives during the season. Ron was bewailing the fact that he had not yet got power for his radiogram and he could not play his swing records.

★ ★ ★

Odd how many of the pre-war players entered this year's "English". One familiar face of pre-war days was BERT BRIDGE who used also to play centre-half for Wimbledon F.C. back in the days of "Doc" Dowden, Leslie Smith and Howard Barnes (Pinkie's brother and also a player in the old Wimbledon club days).

★ ★ ★

Thanks, JILL ROOK, for winning the Junior Girls' event. In my write-up of the West Middlesex I stated that I did not expect to see the English title for this event go abroad and my fellow Wimbledonian did the right thing by winning, thus saving me a VERY red face.

Geoff Coulthread

Introducing a *different* bat . . .

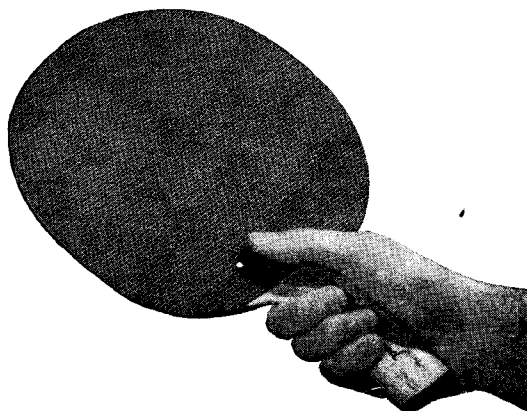
IN THE HAND OF

Adele Wood

this bat, designed by her and bearing her name is taking her higher and higher among the Internationals.

With it IN YOUR HAND

you may not become an International but you certainly will improve your play.



OBTAINABLE FROM THE BEST RETAILERS AT 8s.6d. EACH

J. ROSE & SON LTD.

269/270 ARGYLL AVENUE, TRADING ESTATE, SLOUGH, BUCKS
TELEPHONE: SLOUGH 20420

England's Call to

YOUR CLUB

The National Executive cannot answer, the A.G.M. cannot answer, Counties and Leagues cannot answer,
ONLY the Clubs can answer—YOUR Club. All can do their bit

ONLY 4 WEEKS LEFT FOR ACTION



Send a Copy of this
by **JUNE 1ST**

To The Hon. Secretary,
English Table Tennis Association,
214, Grand Buildings,
Trafalgar Sq., London, W.C.2

**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS,
ENGLAND, 1954**

**WE guarantee to raise a minimum
of £1 by January 1st, 1954, for the
above Fighting Fund.**

Club/Individual*

* Please write Name and Address

Has YOUR club responded ?

COUNTIES CAN

help the cause by ensuring that the appeal is not forgotten and themselves reminding leagues and clubs in their official notices. Any balance that may be surplus will be returned proportionately.

LEAGUES CAN

held by contacting clubs directly (particularly where secretaries are known to be lax) and by aiming to get a 100% response. In some cases it might be simpler for the League to take a collective responsibility for all their clubs.

Extracts from the Appeal sent to All Clubs

"The game has grown so enormously that the expense of the World Championships is now almost more than any independent and unsubsidised sports organisation can possibly bear unaided.

When the Championships started, running them meant hospitality to players of only half-a-dozen nations. Last time they were held at Wembley, more than twenty came. The International Federation now embraces Table Tennis Associations of more than fifty countries, in all parts of the world. It might well be that the great majority of these would wish to send teams if the event is once more held in England.

Recent World Championships have all received outside financial backing. One recent

Championship saw its entire expenses taken over and defrayed by State backing to the host Association. Another saw a guarantee of £6,000 forthcoming from the municipality of the capital city in which the event was held. In another case—that of an Association granted the option for a date a few years hence—the State is organising nationwide lotteries to help meet the deficit.

All this is impossible for us here in England. Firstly, particular sports do not get that kind of backing in our country; secondly, the economic position of the nation does not make backing of this kind possible.

Careful investigation of the probable costs of running the event here on its present scale shows that the minimum deficit can be in the neighbourhood of £4,000.

... no ticket scheme can solve the problem. We shall have to have ticket sales and a fine response to them anyway—but the estimated loss is ABOVE the success of any possible ticket sales. How can we meet the deficit?

If Table Tennis supporters throughout the country want to, this can be done easily. BUT DO THEY WANT TO? If 4,000 clubs would raise £1 each the job could be done.

Obviously, such a sum would be a big one to vote or allot from club funds (including boys' clubs) just like that. But would it be difficult to raise, say by one or two special handicaps, dances or whist drives, directed to this purpose in 1952 and 1953—ten shillings a year? "

FIGHTING FUND FOR ENGLAND TO HAVE THE World Table Tennis Championships 1954

Ladies accept Challenge

BEDFORD LEAGUE have taken up the "Challenge to Ladies" made by N.E.C. member Miss LENA FERGUSON in the February *Table Tennis*, and think they have a feminine record it would be difficult to equal.

Mrs. ETHEL ALDRIDGE has been Hon. Sec. since 1945, and Assist. County Sec. since 1950, has held the County W.S. twice, edits and duplicates the league magazine and countless league notices, is a County Umpire and was a member of the Rose Bowl team (semi-finalists in the 1952 competition). Mrs. BETTY CARTER is Hon. Magazine Sec., twice County (and current) W.S. champion and the backbone of the Rose Bowl team. Both of these are county team players. Mrs. EDITH PACEY is an impeccable Hon. Tournament Sec., and Mrs. STELLA KING is the Catering Sec., who has organised the catering for every county and inter-league match held in Bedford and tournaments. Mrs. KATH COLLINGS is Assist. League Sec., a Rose Bowl team player, Ladies' Captain, Social Secretary and the mother of junior county player Heather Collings who recently remarked that when she's "old" she would be a league secretary! Both Mrs. Aldridge and Mrs. Collings umpired at the U.S.A. International match in 1950. Bedford have 8 divisions.

HOW FIT ARE YOU?

Tests were made recently in America on trained and untrained athletes. Each one had to press a bell push immediately a light flashed in front of them. In every single case the trained man's time was quicker than that of the untrained, proving that one's reactions to a sudden signal can be improved by training. **HOW WELL THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO TABLE TENNIS!** A successful player is surely the one who reacts quickest to the various strokes played by an opponent. In the Summer issue of

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

READY JUNE 1st, PRICE 1/-

a Chartered Physiotherapist begins a series of articles on getting fit for table tennis.

In the same issue are many other articles on varying topics and a generous supply of photographs, including some of the Japanese players.

BOOK YOU ORDER NOW WITH
YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER
or send 1/- to

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW
83, Bridge Street, Manchester 3

SPANISH PROGRESS

THE Spanish T.T. has just published the first number of its official magazine *Tenis de Mesa*, and Spain is taking an increasing interest in international play. For the first time, a representative Spanish team went out of the peninsula and played France at Toulouse on 19th March, losing 1-4. Belgium beat Spain at Brussels 3-2, and Alberto Dueso (Spanish Champion) and José Ramon played in the French Jubilee Tournament in Paris. Dueso lost 3-2 to Roothoft; he was leading 13-8 in the 5th game, but changed his all-out attack and lost 21-18.

Our old friend, Xavier Vila Sumoy, writes that the rates of exchange for Spain are extremely favourable and hopes that some British players will take advantage and spend their summer holidays out there, and has kindly offered to introduce to clubs, any players visiting Barcelona, the home of the famous Tivoli Club.

14-YEAR OLD TOPS FOUR COUNTY PLAYERS

THE Hull and East Riding League's new M.S. champion is 14-year-old RON JACKSON (No. 5 in the Young People's Institute team), who won in a strong entry which included Hull's 4 County players. He also reached the finals of the Y.S. and (with Bob Guild) the M.D. In the latter they should have beaten county players Eddie Beedle and Malcolm Mackley when leading 20-13 in the final game, but over-keenness lost them the match at 21-23. Hull are proud of the new champion and are sure he will make headline news again.

A. Abrahamson

STAFFS. CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Yarnfield, Stone, 12th April

JEFF ROBBINS, 25-year-old Wolverhampton draughtsman, became the first M.S. champion of Staffordshire by defeating the hard-hitting Potteries player Phil Burchall in the County Association's first Closed Championships. Robbins defended with relentless accuracy and flicked with lightning precision. Wolverhampton star JOYCE HAY WARD also had a fruitful day winning the W.S., the W.D. (with M. Warner) and the X.D. (with V. Slimm).

In 9 months, the Staffs. Association has worked wonders in consolidating the county's table tennis, and the standards of this tournament indicate that Staffs. will soon be holding its own with the best.

R. Rutter

KENT MEET SUSSEX JUNIORS

22nd March

SUSSEX, not yet in the Junior N.C.C., played a friendly match with the Junior Champion county, resulting in a strongly contested loss 3-7. Considering the difference in experience this is most encouraging. 13-year-old GEORGE GLADWISH (for Sussex) gave a promising performance. Although he can hardly see over the table, his game is almost identical to Charlie Seaman, and like Charlie, he is also left-handed and attacks from the word "go". Again, like Seaman, he also has an array of trick services.

L. M. Bromfield

LAGOS M.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nigeria, 31st March

Chinwuba bt. Igbore 17, 12. Ayanlaja bt. Olowo 19, —18, 19.
CHINWUBA bt. Ayanlaja 14, 12.

SOME FINAL TABLES

MIDLAND TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

| | MEN'S DIVISION | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| | P. | W. | L. | F. A. | Pts. |
| Coventry | 8 | 7 | 1 | 49 | 23 14 |
| Birmingham | 8 | 6 | 2 | 48 | 24 12 |
| Nottingham | 8 | 6 | 2 | 41 | 31 12 |
| Wolverhampton | 8 | 5 | 3 | 42 | 30 10 |
| Leicester | 8 | 4 | 4 | 43 | 29 8 |
| Worcester | 8 | 3 | 5 | 30 | 42 6 |
| West Bromwich | 8 | 2 | 6 | 23 | 49 4 |
| Cheltenham | 8 | 1 | 7 | 25 | 47 2 |
| Hereford | 8 | 1 | 7 | 16 | 56 2 |

| | LADIES' DIVISION | | | | |
|---------------|------------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| | P. | W. | L. | F. A. | Pts. |
| Birmingham | 7 | 7 | 0 | 49 | 14 14 |
| Coventry | 7 | 6 | 1 | 43 | 20 12 |
| West Bromwich | 7 | 4 | 3 | 35 | 28 8 |
| Leicester | 7 | 3 | 4 | 34 | 29 6 |
| Wolverhampton | 7 | 3 | 4 | 28 | 35 6 |
| Nottingham | 7 | 3 | 4 | 27 | 36 6 |
| Worcester | 7 | 1 | 6 | 25 | 38 2 |
| Cheltenham | 7 | 0 | 7 | 11 | 52 0 |

| | JUNIOR DIVISION | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----|----|-------|-------|
| | P. | W. | L. | F. A. | Pts. |
| Nottingham | 6 | 6 | 0 | 44 | 10 12 |
| Birmingham | 6 | 5 | 1 | 41 | 13 10 |
| West Bromwich | 6 | 4 | 2 | 33 | 21 8 |
| Cheltenham | 6 | 2 | 4 | 24 | 30 4 |
| Worcester | 6 | 2 | 4 | 22 | 32 4 |
| Leicester | 6 | 2 | 4 | 18 | 36 4 |
| Wolverhampton | 6 | 0 | 6 | 8 | 46 0 |

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION
Birmingham v. Worcester play-off.

WESTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

| | DIVISION II | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|----|----|----|------------|
| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. A. Pts. |
| *Worcester | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 42 38 9 |
| *Exeter | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 42 38 9 |
| Weston | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 46 34 8 |
| Oxford Univ. | 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 37 43 7 |
| Bath | 8 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 33 47 7 |

* Play-off on May 3rd.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

| | DIVISION I | | | | |
|--------------|------------|----|----|----|------------|
| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. A. Pts. |
| Bolton A | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 76 24 19 |
| Manchester A | 10 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 76 24 17 |
| Liverpool A | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 51 49 10 |
| Manchester B | 10 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 50 50 10 |
| Wigan A | 10 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 23 77 3 |
| Macclesfield | 10 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 24 76 1 |

| | DIVISION II (SOUTH) | | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|----|----|----|------------|
| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. A. Pts. |
| Stockport | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 51 29 12 |
| Ellesmere A | 8 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 47 33 12 |
| Chester | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 48 32 9 |
| Liverpool B | 8 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 41 39 7 |
| Ellesmere B | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 13 67 0 |

| | WOMEN'S—DIVISION I | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|----|----|----|------------|
| | P. | W. | L. | D. | F. A. Pts. |
| Liverpool | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 37 23 9 |
| Manchester | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 37 23 9 |
| Blackpool | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 33 26 6 |
| Bury | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 19 41 0 |

COUNTY UMPIRES SCHEME THE PRACTICAL TEST

IN an endeavour to ensure a minimum standard of performance for County Umpires, the National Umpires Committee have, during the season, issued a uniform standard for marking in Practical Tests for Probationary C.U.'s. The Committee is anxious that all candidates should be fully aware of the basis of marking before they are tested, and County Committees are given full discretion as regards revealing marks gained to both successful and unsuccessful candidates.

A. SCORING:

| | | |
|------------|-----|---|
| Accuracy | ... | 5 |
| Audibility | ... | 3 |
| Timing | ... | 1 |

B. APPLICATION OF LAWS

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----|
| D. PRESENTATION | ... | 6 |
| C. CONTROL | ... | 1 |
| PASS MARK—14. | Possible— | 20. |

NOTES

A. ACCURACY, possible 5. 2 errors no marks: More than 2, fails test.

(i) **Audibility to Players**, possible 2. Clearly audible but not easily understood (accent, impediment, careless diction)— $\frac{1}{2}$. Clearly spoken but not loud enough— $\frac{1}{2}$. Neither clear nor loud enough—0.

(ii) **Audibility to Spectators**, possible 1. Deduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ or more according to degree of fault.

(iii) **Timing**, possible 1. (To complete announcement of score just as players ready to begin next rest.)

B. APPLICATION OF LAWS, possible 6. Major faults (i.e., incorrect order of serving or striking out, particularly in doubles; neglect of service law; failure to penalise movement of table or free hand touching table) deduct 2 marks. Two errors fails test. Minor faults (i.e., those not mentioned above), 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 marks according to circumstances.

C. CONTROL, possible 4. Bearing, authority, calmness—2. Freedom from hesitation—1. Correct judgment (e.g., edge balls)—1. Officiousness as well as weakness in umpire to be penalised.

D. PRESENTATION, possible 1, over complete match. Faults such as calling "deuce" or "each" to be penalised. Qualities to be considered include securing maximum interest by good intonation, and good applause control.

Our sincere sympathy to Mr. Leslie Forrest on the death of his mother on the 2nd April, 1952, at the age of 80 years.

J. "MORRIS" ROSE

Vice-President and a founder of the E.T.T.A. Donor of the J. M. Rose Bowl (for the National Women's Team Competition). Hon. Referee of many English and several World Championships.

WE DEEPLY regret to announce the death of Mr. J. M. (Morris) ROSE on Saturday, 19th April, 1952, at his home in Worthing after a long illness, and nearly 30 years of devoted service to Table Tennis. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. M. Rose.

A Memorial Tribute is published on page 12.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE (Official)

England Juniors v. Germany Juniors, 31st March, Clapham Baths, S.W.4: B. Merrett (Glos.), D. House (Somerset), W. Knight (Northants), Miss J. Rook (Surrey), Miss D. Spooner (Middx.). Non-playing captain: T. Sears. (26th March, 1952)

AN ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL SHIRT

Mr. W. R. LUCAS, of Aylesbury, has found that an English International Shirt was accidentally left among their kit during the English Championships at Wembley. Would the owner please claim.

The Annual General Meeting

Caxton Hall, 3 p.m., 26th April

NEARLY every county and more than 50 leagues were represented in a 5-hour meeting which, to the majority, proved both interesting and objective.

Result of Election

The election had resulted in all the Officers and Members being returned to office.

Business

Some interesting discussions (with amusing interludes) took place. Messrs. T. Blunn, I. C. Eyles and E. A. B. Swayne taking prominent parts.

Of the general interesting results of the meeting, the following may be briefly mentioned. (Some of these will be dealt with as special features in the September *Table Tennis*.)

Some interesting changes in the Wilmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl Competitions. Leo Thompson's popularly supported recommendation that Open Tournaments should be graded before players, though not at present practicable. That the National Executive had given sanction for *The Daily Mirror* to run a National Competition in 1952-3. The meeting supported the appointment of Mr. Jack Carrington as the National Director of Coaching without a dissentient.

Mr. Vint said that he had had a lot of wonderful letters guaranteeing support for the World Championship Appeal. They were all most moving and encouraging, but it was only when he came to total the amounts up that he realised how many clubs had so far failed to respond. Many speakers said that it was a little too early yet and spoke of some special efforts still being made; some secretaries were recognised as weak links. Mr. Kethero thought it should be made clear that any unused monies would definitely be returned proportionately to clubs. Suggestions were made, such as that each club could have a box into which players could put a 3d. each time they played; this would result in some extra money being saved for club funds. The vital importance of the short time was emphasized. The clubs, or individuals, should know that the money need not be sent for nearly 2 years, but the guarantee MUST come within a few weeks.

There was again some lively discussion on the dress rule, and the meeting were decided on the point that moral suasion by precept,

and by the action of officials and selection committees and the majority of players, would succeed where the rule had failed.

A considerable amount of business was raised to be dealt with by the incoming Executive which cannot be dealt with, unfortunately, in the space available here. Official Handbooks was one, and some members complained that some League and/or Club Secretaries never made the Handbook readily available to their members.

Mr. Leslie Jones (Manchester) concluded the meeting with a special vote of thanks to the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer and all Members of the National Executive for the great volume of work they had done through the year, and he wished Mrs. Kathleen Pegg, their charming Administrative Secretary, to be associated with the vote, which was carried with acclamation.

The Meeting closed a 8 p.m. and delegates adjourned to the Dance and Social.

THE EXHIBITION

The Wall Exhibition of charts, photos and souvenirs organised by Mr. Leslie Forrest proved a popular centre of interest. A considerable amount of work must have gone into the preparation, and Rex Marshall, Miss Marjorie Lightfoot and H. Litchfield (who so ably helped Mr. Forrest) in preparation and arranging deserve the highest praise.

THE W. J. POPE MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Chair and the Framed Portrait of the late W. J. (Bill) Pope were on view at the Annual General Meeting, and were acclaimed as fine pieces of work. Readers are reminded that this Fund is still open, and it is felt that many old friends might wish to be associated with the Memorial before the Fund is closed.

THE JUBILEE DANCE AND SOCIAL

The Jubilee Dance and Social went off extremely well, attendances fluctuating between the dance hall, lounge, bar, and exhibition gallery. Most of to-day's T.T. celebrities were present or looked in during the evening, and it would most assuredly have been a full house if players had realised what a pleasant evening was assured. It is regretted that a fuller account cannot be given in the space available.

The Silver Jubilee Luncheon

St. Ermin's Hotel, 26th April

THE Jubilee Luncheon placed a silver seal, hallmarked with excellence on the first wonderful 25 years of the E.T.T.A. It was a fine and fitting celebration that achieved, and right worthily, a support and success beyond all expectation. The atmosphere bubbled like champagne with conviviality. In this hall were gathered enthusiasts representing every successive table tennis dynasty for half a century. Meeting revived memory, and memories brought a youthful buoyancy and a gay sparkle to the older fraternity. The years slipped away like minutes as the silver flux of common enthusiasm welded into a goodwill union that was, for the while, ageless.

After the Loyal Toast, proposed by The Chair (Secretary, Lawn Tennis Association), prop extempore and, inspired perhaps by the mox attention and spirit of the company in a speech everyone to a fervent climax.

Then, the slow amiable, reluctant disintegration of a Paul Jones, as they were called and in a procession of tedious speeches, but a truly

There were just on 100 present; and in addition Executive and their ladies, the company included Carris, J. Thompson, H. R. McDonald, Mr. Dawson, E. B. Jones and G. A. MacPartlin. Editor, "Daily Mirror", W. J. Hicks (Spec. "Anglo-American News"), Roy McKelvie ("Mrs. Graves (formerly K. Berry, W.S. Champion, A. A. Haydon, T. Sears, D. & R. Rowe, (Dace) Thomas, R. Bergmann and others.

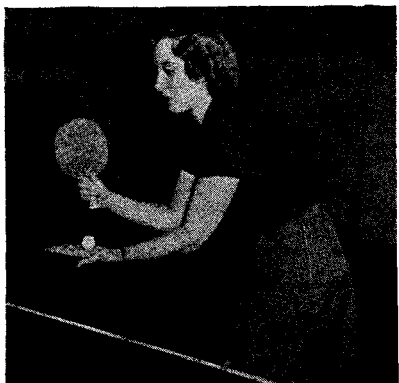
PART 3 OF A NEW PICTORIAL T.T. COURSE

Peggy Franks

Famous England and Essex Star

Acknowledgments

This instructive course was recently featured in *GIRL*, and we gratefully acknowledge the courteous co-operation and permission of The Editor and The Hulton Press Ltd.



SERVICE

Above you see the correct position for serving, I stand well back so that at the moment I strike the ball it will be behind the edge of the table. I am also well within the width of the table, and I hold the ball on my outstretched palm because the rules forbid use of fingerspin. When I actually serve, I throw the ball straight into the air, releasing my left hand and bringing my bat forward at the same time so that it strikes the ball at net height. I make the ball bounce one in the centre of my own court before it crosses the net. Don't attempt to win points with your service—you may give them away instead if you do. Regard service simply as a means of putting the ball into play, but place the ball, and keep it low enough to avoid giving your opponent the initiative. When you know more about spin you can use top, bottom or side spin with your service.



TOPSPIN (FOREHAND DRIVE)

This is the most useful attacking stroke in table tennis. When topspin is imparted on the ball it causes it to spin on its own axis in a forward direction, so that when it bounces, on the other side of the net, it kicks away at speed and with upward momentum. Topspin is achieved by striking the ball at the highest point of its bounce from below, and with an upward sweep, so that the ball is virtually lifted over the net. The first picture above shows the moment of impact, and the second demonstrates the complete follow through after striking. Hit in this manner the ball starts its journey in a fairly high curve, dipping sharply as it crosses the net and developing upward momentum as it bounces. By adjusting the angle of the bat, as you did for the push stroke, and controlling the amount of lift you impart, topspin can be used against practically any shot that crosses the net, backhand or forehand.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Leach/Franks match pictures which should go here were lost in the theft reported elsewhere, and it is regretted that no substitutes could be obtained

In the pictures above you see me I move into position, with my eyes on my bat, wait for the ball to reach the strike it from below with an upward against the ball it produces topspin. I weight on back foot, with feet well apart my upward sweep I take a short pace for transferring my weight from back to whole body. As soon as I have completed the table.

Minister Presents Prizes



The Rt. Hon. Miss Florence Horsburgh, M.P., the Minister of Education presents the Finney Cup to Konrad Freundorfer (Germany) after he had beaten Bryan Merrett (Glos.) for the Boys' Singles Championship of England, 1952. Wembley, March 29th.

LEACH AND BERGMANN TEAM UP FOR WORLD TOUR

RICHARD BERGMANN and JOHNNY LEACH, almost before our season ends, will be off one of the most strenuous world tours attempted. For six hectic months they will be ceaselessly on the move circling the world and exhibiting the best of British table tennis to new worlds. Their tour starts on May 4th with France and Portugal, back to London, over to Pakistan, Karachi, Hong Kong, Singapore, India, Vietnam (Indonesia), Thailand (Siam, Bangkok), Japan, Philippines, Australia and New Zealand. Negotiations are also proceeding with South American countries, Port of Spain, and the West African Associations, and there are many hopes that they will also visit the U.S.A. The problem is to fit everything into the most suitable times.

Richard and Johnny both intend finding out, authoritatively, just how good the oriental standards are by our own and both have promised to send reports and notes of their Odyssey for *Table Tennis*. The first should be available in the September issue. (Have you sent your subscription for 5/6d. a year to Hendon yet?)

Walter Steinitz

(Who, makes such a good No. 1 Interpreter for the E.T.T.A.)

YOUNG Freundorfer won the boys' singles entirely on his own "merrets". Although only 15, he's not allowed by the German Association to complete in senior events, and is afraid that before they let him loose on the seniors, he'll be an "old man". . . . THERE was no "veneration" in the way that Guy Amouretti dealt with our Guy, Venner . . . Vicente Gutierrez (from Chile) speaks only Spanish. How I managed to persuade him that he must change into darker trousers is still a mystery. He assured me that our climate is ever so much "chillier" than Chile. Would you believe it? . . . Zarko Dolinar isn't the "big noise" he used to be—he's put rubber on one side of his big, hand-made wooden bat. On the back of this bat he has a large Skull and Crossbones with a list of the "scalps" taken from many "crowned" heads in the T.T. world . . . Linde Wertl confided that she was terrified by "Little Audrey" Bates, near twice her size and very experienced. Linde very nearly lost to Audrey in a tough 5-game battle.

MUCH ADD ABOUT SHERRY

Some think that Sherry's the absolute top
And say she's more Gorgeous than Gussie.
Some say that the papers should know when to stop
To picture this publicised lassie.
Some say that she plays an extremely good game
And some whispered she can't play for toffee.
Some wonder how to pronounce her name
And some think she's "the cream in their coffee".
But whatever the others may whisper or say—
All those who have known her a bit
(And this includes me) during her short stay,
She's just really a grand little kid.

Sherry must have been disappointed in failing to win a title, but the public was even more disappointed at not seeing our American Glamour Girl on Prize Night. Her mother had arranged to go to a big party at Brighton on their last day here because the poor girl had had nothing but publicity and no fun since they arrived. Perhaps she was right, but let's hope we see more of her next year, because she's quite a girl, and this is your old friend Walter telling you . . .

A P.S. ON THE WORLD'S

The way those Japs erased most names from the top of our World Ranking List and put down their own with a firm **penholder-grip**—after **blotting out** all opposition, makes you think they learnt the game by **correspondence course**, doesn't it? **WALTER STEINITZ**

THANK YOU . . . and PLEASE

THE English Finals at Wembley will be remembered by many for the fierce blizzard that raged and made long distance transport difficult. None more so than I. After finally leaving Wembley at 2 a.m. in the morning after and driving through the blizzard at its height with one lense of my spectacles smashed, I finally—after a succession of adventures—was enveloped in a huge snowdrift. The only action possible was to abandon the car and carefully lock the doors, etc. Locked in that car was nearly every Table Tennis picture I possess in two cases. (These were taken to Wembley as selections for the Exhibition.) All the Peggy Franks instructional series and the painstaking collection of years. Yes, the lock was forced and the car looted, and the whole lot gone. Worst of all, a tragedy for which I do not know what to do, there were many pictures loaned to me (for the English Programme, etc.); irreplaceable copies of many years loaned to me in trust!! What can I do after rewards and appeals have failed?

I am most anxious to buy all possible T.T. pictures, current and historical, to try and make good the loss. Meanwhile there's £25 Reward for the above loss.

ALTHOUGH we do not publish again until 1st September, we have already started work for the new season, and we are hoping that it will be possible to again increase size. If you send your subs. of 5/6d. in promptly, that will help and encourage us.

In the next few weeks I am very anxious to get correspondents in EVERY part of the country—even if they only send newspaper cuttings. I am always interested in good pictures, news cartoons, features, etc., and welcome every letter. It is only possible to make satisfactory arrangements in the few weeks between and we shall start going to press in July. Suggestions and criticisms also, are very welcome, and opinions on the things you like.

I have, alas, not been able to keep up to date with acknowledging all the wonderfully helpful letters, but hope to do so soon, and propose using some of the MS. later also. Next season, I sincerely hope that new arrangements will enable me to acknowledge all your letters promptly.

Anything on Table Tennis is always welcome, home and overseas. So do please go on writing and sending, and trying to get one or two more subscribers for OUR magazine.

Send your copy and enquiries direct to me at the address below, please—and THANK YOU everyone, sincerely.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, 12, CAMPBELL ROAD, BEDFORD

THE SMALL CLUB SHOWS HOW

I FEEL very strongly about the E.T.T.A. Appeal for a Guarantee Fund as I am sure that we should all be much ashamed if the World Championships cannot be held in England for lack of financial backing.

Ours is a very small club of 20 members. As President I am guaranteeing £1 and I am asking our Treasurer to get Group guarantors in units of £1 (4 of 5/- or 8 of 2/6d. or 20 of 1/- or mixed) and I sincerely hope that our little club will guarantee at least £2.

If every club would do something like this, there would not be the least difficulty in raising the Guarantee needed . . . but it is no sinecure, it will almost certainly be called upon.

Richard H. Primaven,
Bournemouth Corinthians T.T.C.

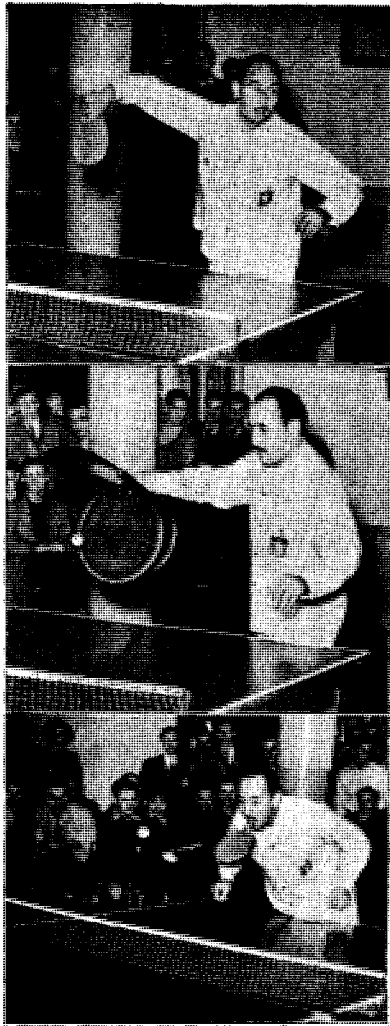
SCOTTISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Murrayfield, Edinburgh, 19th April

A very good tournament, with the all-Irish M.S. final being exceptionally good. Miss HELEN ELLIOT scored a treble success for the third successive year.

RESULTS

M.S. V. MERCER bt. I. E. Martin 13, 10, —19, 17.
W.S. H. ELLIOT bt. J. Mackay 12, 13.
M.D. I. B. MARTIN/V. MERCER bt. R. Griffin/A. Metcalfe 16, 17, 13.
W.D. H. ELLIOT/E. L. PITTHIE bt. E. Grimstone/D. Wilkinson 6, 13.
X.D. R. KERR/H. ELLIOTT bt. V. Mercer/— Mercer 18, 19.
J.S. C. PURSELL bt. R. Park 15, 17.

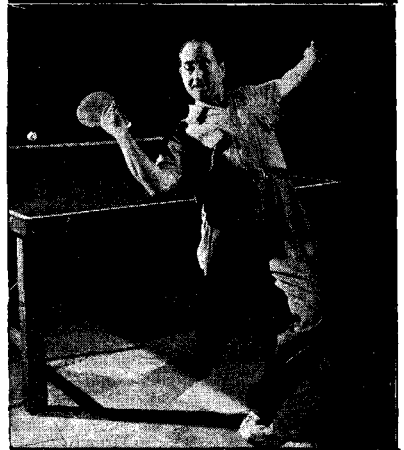


Vicente Gutierrez in Just for Fun

WHEN writers speak of a player having "all the strokes" they cannot have seen the fantastic antics of the Chilean ace VICENTE GUTIERREZ whose colourful clowning introduces just about everything except any known shot. Viewers were most intrigued at his recent exhibition with Victor Barna. Some T.T. purists may frown on such performances (yet wistfully remember Laszlo Bellak!) and we shall doubtless have critics for publicising it. Nevertheless, it has brought humour, variety and colour into the game and, perhaps, reminded us not to take things too, too seriously.

Gutierrez cannot altogether curb his flair in matches but his showmanship delights many. In exhibitions he returns the ball from half-way under the table, lying down, between his legs, backwards, as well as in such typical actions shown on this page.

In serious play he can be quite good—but can he be serious in play? After the World's at Bombay, the Indian T.T.A. asked him to stay on for a few weeks. Now, after the English Open, Vicente has decided to stay in England for another 3 months after all.



Manchester Welcomes "Sherry" Koehnke

"EVENING CHRONICLE TOURNAMENT"

HUNDREDS were turned away at the doors of "The Evening Chronicle" tournament, staged in the magnificent rebuilt Free Trade Hall, and one would think that half Manchester had turned out to welcome the overseas visitors to judge by the number of tricolours and "Old Glory".

SHARON KOEHNKE was given a riotous welcome, whilst her mother, Mrs. G. Koehnke later presented the prizes, and in a brief speech thanked everybody connected with Table Tennis in England for the kindness they had shown them.

The normal singles finals were poor due mainly to the heavy atmosphere making the ball "float" and the

players having insufficient experience to deal with such contingencies.

In the International Exhibition, the great crowd was enthralled with the play and the final resulted in a win for JOHNNY LEACH, playing with great precision on a table that so obviously suited him.

Frank Gee

RESULTS

M.S. J. INGBER bt. A. L. Shepherd —19, 17, 15.

W.S. S. THRELFALL bt. J. Braddock 9, —16, 23.

International Invitation Tourney

Exhibition: SHARON KOEHNKE bt. Jean Braddock 21, 20.

Section A.: R. BERGMANN bt. R. Roothoft 13, 23; bt. Casofsky —15, 13, 10.

Section B.: J. LEACH bt. G. V. Barna 17, 16; bt. G. Amouretti 10, 18.

G. V. BARNA bt. Amouretti —19, 15, 16.

FINAL: J. LEACH bt. R. Bergmann 9, 17.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE CLOSED

Cambridge, 16th February

M.S. J. D. CORNWELL bt. R. G. Mills —17, 26, 14.

M.S. J. A. THURSTON bt. G. W. O. Lawrence 14, 17, 13.

W.S. Miss P. BANKS bt. Miss P. Inglis.

J.S. N. D. SOUTH bt. M. Knights —17, 14, 14.

Sheila in Starlight



SHEILA SMITH (of Ashford, Middx.) is an attractive and vivacious 19-year-old starlet of the Staines League who just bubbles with cheerfulness and adds a spot of gaiety to most home-county tourneys. She just loves it all and shows it. In office hours she's a book-keeper-cum-typist in an estate agency. Generally considered a defensive player, she has a nice forehand wallop and a counter-hit which makes some folks think she is either an attacker or ought to attack more frequently. Anyway, her game has been good enough to match the fierce competition for a place in one of the Middlesex teams (Seconds) and Simpsons' of Piccadilly have had her in their Barna/Brook exhibition for the last two years. Almost inevitably (from this district) she had some coaching from that grand "overtime" worker, Leo Thompson, and started by winning the Surrey Junior Open in 1950 and a number of closed titles since. Her great hope is to play in an English final at Wembley. She's a good sport and a good sportsgirl, and bad sportsmanship is about the only dislike she can find in T.T. By the way (in case you should be writing), there are five daughters in the family and all their Christian names begin with an "S"—Sylvia, Stella, Shirley, Suzanne and, of course, our Sheila.

BRITISH RAILWAYS CHAMPIONSHIPS

University of London, 6th April

King's Cross ladies were successful in all their events, with Newport were the outstanding club in the men's events, also beating Wembley 5-1 in the team championship. Wally Hall, M.S. holder 4 times, lost in 5 thrilling games to C. Hann.
M.S. C. HANN (Newport) bt. W. Hall (Wembley) —17, 13, —17, 17, 11.
W.S. J. REYNOLDS (King's Cross) bt. B. Osborn (Birmingham) 5, 16.

JILL ROOK, 15-year-old Merton Park schoolgirl, has earned a warm place in English affections by her successful defence of the English Junior Girls' title against the formidable challenger from the United States, talented

COVER GIRL

Jill Rook

English Junior Girl Champion 1952
England and Surrey Juniors

S H A R O N KOEHNKE, two years her senior. Jill has much of the modest charm and sportsmanship we like to think of as typically British.

and has proved that she has a natural talent and a will-to-win that can take her a long way in the future. She celebrates her birthday on Guy Fawkes Day, but there are no damp squibs about her performances. Her

mother was determined to give Jill every chance she could and started teaching her when she was 11 years old. Two years ago we suggested the twin target of the Surrey Juniors and (in two years) the winning of the English Junior Open, and exactly on schedule Jill obliged. Jack Carrington took control of her coaching, and those who were at Lilleshall will note how much she has advanced. She has consolidated her gains and gone forward steadily, confidently and surely. May she continue to do so and with the same fine spirit.

The 'Wembley Tornado'



ALAN RHODES, the 19-year left-handed "Wembley Tornado" has been rising rapidly nearer to his great ambition of playing in the Swaythling Cup, and has already earned the reputation of being a "giant killer"—still further enhanced by his decisive victory over the brilliant Roothoft in the English Open. An embryo signwriter by profession, he started playing on the domestic table about 5 years ago, had a little coaching from Frischer, W. Hall and then Jack Carrington. This season he has won the Kent and the Middlesex Open Singles, and a number of other titles, and skittled his way to some near misses, finally playing for Middlesex. Vana, with his lightning hit and delicate drop has been the inspiration, but father has been the solid background for practical possibility, yet oddly enough, he has a mild apprehension at his parents seeing him play. He is a left-handed, forehand hitter, hard and quick, with a deadly kill down the line made from the backhand side. We hear that he

is also improving his defence, and our photographer, Peter Madge, seems to have caught him at it.

"IT'S NO NIGHTMARE!"

Says L. J. BLOXHAM

IN the April issue, Mr. Andrews referred to the Service Rule as the "Umpire's Nightmare". What rubbish! There's no nightmare about it. Never mind what the Continent or any other country does, if Mr. Andrew is a County Umpire, then let him umpire—not wonder.

There has been far too much moaning and I can only think it is by players who don't wish to lose the advantage of a crafty service.

Is there any difficulty about the service? Of course not. For Heaven's sake, let's all play the game according to rule and—County Umpires—you can do the best service to the game by **INSISTING** on correct service, and not by pleading for someone to lean on.

L. J. Bloxham, Leicester

LANCS./CHESHIRE CLOSED

Bolton, 22nd March

- M.S. B. CASOFSKY** bt. A. Smith 15, 13. R. Alcock bt. A. Holland 17, 17.
B. CASOFSKY bt. R. Alcock —18, 18, 18.
W.S. A. WOOD bt. M. Booth 14, 11.
M.D. C. BOOTH/D. G. ELLISON bt. R. Alcock/B. Casofsky 16, 20.
W.D. M. BOOTH/S. THRELFALL bt. P. Walker/D. Wilkinson —12, 13, 13.
X.D. B. CASOFSKY/A. WOOD bt. D. G. Ellison/A. Jones 11, —20, 13.
B.S. C. BOOTH bt. C. Brooks 13, 10.

The M.D. was an exceptionally fine performance by Booth/Ellison in a wonderful match.

F. Gee

Stars in the East

By K. S. VARADHACHARY

JAP SUPER CONCENTRATION

THE oriental concept of master-pupil relationship was reflected in the importance the Japanese team gave to their Coach, Mr. Daimon. They insisted on his going with the team in the March Past, and after the girls had won the Corbillon Cup they only permitted themselves to be photographed after the photographer had agreed to take a picture which included Mr. Daimon.

I don't know whether Mr. Daimon was responsible for their method of practice but I was certainly impressed at the tremendous concentration shown when I saw four players practising on one table with two balls. Each pair was playing diagonally across the table—like two separate single matches—and one pair did not appear in the least disturbed by the play of the other pair.

The Japanese players were traditionally polite, and would bow from the hips when they wanted to say "hello," "sorry" or "thank you". They move rather slowly and deliberately until they get on the table—then they become volcanic. Their affection for topspin is even reflected in the way they invariably pass the ball to their opponent.

THE "TWO MARVELS" OF CHINA

The HONG KONG contingent also impressed and fought hard against Hungary in the Swaythling Cup match. 24-year-old CHUN CHIN SING, the captain, showed a masterly defence in beating Sido. He is ranked fourth in Hong Kong and uses a standard bat in the orthodox style. Of SHIH SUI CHO, the No. 1, it has been said that his "superb backhand drives find no equal in China". A top player for ten years, he uses a penholder grip and can hit with speed and control on both hands. He and his doubles partner, FUCHI FANG, are known as the "Two Marvels of China," and nearly beat Bergmann/Leach, winning the first 2 games (—17, —13, 18, 18, 15). The team's veteran, CHENG KWOK WING, has been playing for 20 years and uses a tiny wooden racquet made by himself.

His parents, he told me, used to think he was wasting too much time at table tennis and locked him up in the evenings, but the young Cheng regularly jumped out of the window and went for his three hours' play. Now he has a son of 13 and in his turn does not want his son to play since he feels it would upset his studies!

I was intrigued by a small, almond-shaped root which the Chinese players keep chewing and which, they say, maintains stamina. It is extremely bitter and, after tasting it, I concluded that it definitely needed some stamina to keep on chewing it!

In vogue for so long, the penholder style is now considered old fashioned, and more and more players are using the orthodox grip. Or were, until the Japanese victory!

The ladies are not so strong. Mrs. YIP YEUNG WAI BUN is No. 1 with a good half volley defence and a ready forhand attack; she holds several athletic honours and has been selected for the Olympic Games. Miss WONG BIK YU is a 25-year-old livewire and an hotel accountant by profession. She speaks in halting English, and the way she makes her excellent backhand drive reminds one of a ballet dancer.

SINGAPORE REALISE AMBITION

The souvenir of the Singapore team, five men—all penholders—reads in part: "This trip is sponsored with two sincere wishes: that the players glean finer points of the game from the world's top-notch players and that they do not finish far from the bottom placings in the team championships." They did exactly what they set out to do.

SULTANA GOING FOR ATTACK

The Indian women's team failed our expectations. The Indian "girl wonder" SAYEED SULTANA, was in poor form, although winning the Consolation Singles. When I asked why she was playing such a purely defensive game, she replied, "I am the youngest in a family of six sons and one daughter. All these days I have been practising with the two of my brothers who are attacking players. Now I am going to play with one of my brothers whose strength is defence, then I shall improve my attacking strokes".

K. S. Varadhachary

Lady Swaythling presents the Shah's Cup



The Shah of Persia originally donated the Iran Cup to the international T.T. Federation as the trophy for the M.D. Championship of the World. Since the Czech holders Andreadis/Vana were unable to travel to Bombay, the Iran Cup was not available for presentation to the Japanese winners, Fujii and Hayashi.

At the English Open Championship Finals at Wembley on March 29th, the Cup was presented by the Dowager Lady Swaythling, a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A. and the donor of The Swaythling Cup. The photograph shows Mr. K. Asakia (Chief Japanese Government Representative in England) receiving the Cup on behalf of his compatriots. Mrs. Takako Asakia is in the centre.

FRENCH INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

FRANCE (G. Amouretti/S. Cafiero) bt. SWITZERLAND (Meyer, Urchetti) 4-1. (Meyer/Urchetti bt. Amouretti/Cafiero 20, 21, 8). FRANCE (M. Haguenauer/R. Roothoft) bt. YUGOSLAVIA (Z. Dolinar/V. Harangozo) 3-2. (Harangozo bt. Roothoft 8, 16, 20); Dolinar/Harangozo won —12, 14, —14, 13, 14. FRANCE (G. Amouretti/M. Lansky) bt. AUSTRIA (H. Bednar/Just) 4-1. (Bednar/Just bt. Amouretti/Lansky 10, 17, 15, 18). FRANCE (Agopoff/Roothoft) bt. BELGIUM (De Kemper/Roland) 4-1. (Belgium won doubles 17, 18, —10, 10). FRANCE (G. Collier/M. Lansky) bt. SPAIN (A. Dueso/J. Ramon) 4-1. (Spain won doubles 3-2). FRANCE (Collier/Haguenauer) bt. HOLLAND (Cor. Pelsler/W. Stoop) 4-1. (Holland won doubles —18, —11, 19, 20, 14).

NATIONAL RANKING LISTS

U.S.A. (MEN): 1. R. Miles, 2. M. Reisman, 3. D. Cartland, 4. W. Holzrichter, 5. J. Somael, 6. T. Hazi, 7. S. Schiff, 8. W. Price, 9. H. Hershkowitz, 10. G. Ferris. (WOMEN): 1. L. Thall-Neuberger, 2. P. Itchhoff, 3. P. McLinn. CZECHOSLOVAKIA (MEN): 1. I. Andreadis, 2. V. Tereba, 3./4. F. Tokar/B. Vana, 5./6. Stipek/Vyhanovsky, 7./8. Slar/Turnovsky, 9. Moudry, 10. Vlk. (WOMEN): 1. Krecjova, 2. Kotakova, 3. Hruskova, 4. Zelenkova, 5. Vyhanovska. SWEDEN (MEN): 1. T. Flisberg, 2. W. Fredriksson, 3. B. Grive, 4. P. Croneryd, 5. L. Larsson, 6. S. Cederholm, 7. S. Elmblad, 8. L. Johansson, 9. B. Nicander, 10. Tor Jonsson.

IN MEMORIAM

J. M. (Morris) ROSE

J. M. (Morris) ROSE died on Saturday, 19th April at his home in Worthing after a long illness.

Morris Rose was one of the founders of the English Table Tennis Association, a keen sportsman, the second of our model series of Championship referees, a buoyant and original organiser, the initiator of the Villa ball, the donor of the J. M. Rose Bowl, a happy companion of English teams abroad and once non-playing captain (Cairo 1938-9), the resourceful friend of a generation of clubs seeking equipment in times of scarcity, a mainspring of local liveliness wherever he lived—successfully South London, Harrow and Worthing—a real lover of the game.

In his last role, as would-be peacemaker in South Africa, which he was visiting in search of health, he won the confidence and liking of both rival organisations, and the I.T.T.F., to whose South Africa Sub-Committee he was elected in Bombay, will miss his aid.

Comparatively young, Morris Rose had hoped to find, in early retirement from business, a different opportunity to serve the sport of which he was so fond. But it was not to be. Instead he earned the admiration of his friends by the courage with which he fought, and eventually faced, what at the last became inevitable. This is the third serious loss to English Table Tennis in three years. Such prodigality we can ill afford. The sympathy of us all to Mrs. Mildred Rose, who helped him fight so well.

IVOR MONTAGU

The engagement of the well-known Lincs. County players, Miss KATHLEEN PEAKE and Mr. GEORGE SIMPSON, both of Scunthorpe, was announced on the 21st March. ● Dr. W. G. PENNEY, who helped to make the world's first A-Bomb and will probably head Britain's Atomic weapon tests in Australia, has been busy teaching 10-year-old Christopher how to play table tennis. More atomic hitting on the way? ● IVOR MONTAGU, E.T.T.A. Chairman, had several interested spectators when he demonstrated the Satoh-type Sponge Bat in the English Championships. ● Cambs. County Sec. LESLIE CONSTABLE has high praise for Devon's hospitality and conditions of play. ● Liverpool League are winding up their season with another River Dance Cruise. Some years ago, Liverpool had their own die cast (should it be "Stamp"?) from which to make their medals, and they have a different colour enamel (with ribbons to match) for different competitions. ● Congratulations to new permanent "doubles pairs" well-known Yorkshire players, EDDIE BEEDLE/DOROTHY CLOUD and CEDRIC WHITELEY/PAULINE ARMITAGE who were recently married. Our best wishes. ● The Bognor Free Churches

recently protested at the holding of the Bognor and Chichester T.T. Championships on a Sunday and provoked editorial comment from the local press which concluded "... In 1668 John Wells recorded with smug satisfaction how a vintner, inviting guests to drink on a Sunday was 'by a wonderful justice and power of God carried into the air on a whirlwind and never seen or heard of more.' Promoters of the table tennis championships may, it

BREVITIES

seems, have a lively future as Flying Saucers!" ● We hear that our versatile correspondent GEOFF COULTHREAD is specialising in making tailor-made shorts for Table Tennis. ● The Philippine T.T.A. celebrated the 30th year of their foundation this year. ● The South American Championships 1952 will be played in Asuncion, Paraguay, in August. ● Bedford's COLIN CROWE is the new closed county champion, the first time the title has ever been held by anyone other than D. IRONMONGER or D. RANDALL. ● The

GLOS. COUNTY CLOSED

Bristol, 19th April

15-year-old R. MORLEY sprang a big surprise by beating fellow townsman, international BRYAN MERRETT in the J.B.S. and reaching the semi of the M.S. to lose to BOB GRIFFIN, the winner. Morley showed some wonderful attacking shots. Gloucester provided all finalists in the junior events, left-handed MARY GIBBING winning the J.G.S. and partnering international MARGARET FRY in taking the W.D. title from the holders, Terry Pomroy and Joan Collier.

RESULTS

M.S. R. Griffin bt. R. Morley 9, 13. B. Merrett bt. P. Cruwys 19, 13.
R. GRIFFIN bt. B. Merrett —12, 18, 13.
W.S. T. POMROY bt. M. Fry 20, 14.
B.S. R. MORLEY bt. B. Merrett —8, 22, 18.
G.S. M. GIBBONS bt. S. Davis 13, 18.

TREVOR FLINT GOES HOME

TREVOR FLINT sailed on the *Stratheden* on the 27th March homeward bound for Christchurch, New Zealand. Trevor was one of the Anzac pioneers who made the N.Z. Swaythling Cup team in the 1950-1 World Championships, and coming to England in November, 1950, has been here ever since. A keen T.T. fan, a grand sport and one of the nicest of good fellows who has made friends wherever he has been. He takes all our good wishes. To his many friends he says, "Thanks a million for the grand times on and off the table. I hope to be back sometime... it was great to be in Britain." And thank you, New Zealand, for sending so popular an ambassador.

National Football Club (T.T.) have won the Uruguayan Team Championships for 7 years running. ● MARTY REISMAN and DOUG CARTLAND, the U.S.A. stars who were touring Europe in T.T. exhibitions (with the Harlem Globetrotters) have had an astonishing itinerary which has included Bombay, Bangkok and Barcelona. ● The Hungarian Defence Minister, Mr. Farkas, recently stated that it was Hungary's wish that their youth should meet at international sports gatherings. Let us hope that this indicates that we shall again witness the participation of Hungarian players in England, and our championships. ● Miss ADELE ("Dale") WOOD, English J.G.S. Champion in both 47-8 and 48-9, and Manchester's attractive international, is to be married to Mr. Pettifer on the 5th July. ● We also hear that Miss BETTY BLACKBOURNE, a highly qualified chiropractor now in Guildford, is to be married shortly. ● For the 6th year in succession, Nottingham Juniors have won the Junior Division of the Midland Counties League, this year with a 100% record. P. 37, W. 35, L. 2, F. 251, A. 82. Nottingham Boys have won the Junior Division of the Notts. Inter-Town League, and all players have one more year as juniors. ●

Ladies-during Summer

By LEN ADAMS

THE ladies' singles game — apart from a few players—has become stereotyped. It has a degree of interest but little enterprise.

I suggest this is due to a complete absence of backhand attacking strokes OVER THE TABLE. Not necessarily strokes that win points outright.

Played at a "safe" speed the proper use of the backhand push drive (altering length and direction) more easily splits the best defence and creates openings for forehand winners. A similar stroke that places the ball wide on the opponent's backhand (or forehand) side, prevents the opponent "getting in" to hit down the backhand. Thus one simple stroke enables the initiative to remain where it should be—at your end of the table.

WRIST action is the secret of backhand success. It can disguise both direction and speed and the amount of spin. A slowly revolving wrist can drop the ball long or short; it depends on the amount of turn before the bat makes contact with the ball. A sharp turn produces the deceptive ball that travels sluggishly through the air but has a lightning kick off the table, and is usually a point winner.

In conjunction with the wrist, the thumb and the index finger (and their pressure on the bat) decide the direction of the ball.

So I strongly recommend that the ladies practice control of the backhand this summer. Those who do will, next season, be the better able to control their opponents.

Len Adams

DORA BEREKI

AS the European playing season ends, the new seasons are starting in South Africa and Australia, and news comes that DORA BEREKI (Devenny) is already giving seasonal exhibitions in Sydney. One of her pupils is quite promising but the comparative dearth of good clubs in Sydney is a big handicap. Baby Johnny is growing fast and runs round their garden with a T.T. bat, hitting anything and everything. His mother hopes that he will one day play in England.

The Will-to-Win of Ilonka

By FERENC GYORGY

THIS is the true and astonishing record of a sportswoman's dramatic "final" battle with Death leading 21-20! Never did that "damned two points" seem so hopeless and seldom was so super-human a will-to-win needed.

Brown haired, blue eyed and charming ILONKA SOLYOM was a very talented tennis player who took up table tennis. With a natural agility and graceful style she became quite good, and then had the good fortune to be coached by Geza Erdelyi (at present one of the best coaches in Hungary). She became a worthy pupil and gained her international rank in one year. As a member of the Hungarian team in the Vienna World Championships she led R. Rowe 19-18 in the deciding set and thus just failed to win.

In 1951, though seriously ill, she obstinately continued to play, and was defeated in succession by each of her major adversaries. She was not ranked in the first 10 and slid down to the humble 12th place. Her perplexed coach insisted on her seeing a doctor whose diagnosis sounded horrible: Struma 76% (illness of the *kachexia strumipriva* gland). It was a question of life or death. In the critical four-hour operation, Ilonka's throat was cut from nearly one ear to the other.

But now the charming Ilonka has made a wonderful recovery. She returned to her work in the Hungarian Radio and helped their team, the Antenna to remain undefeated in the 1st Class National Championships. But this "resurrection" was not enough for Ilonka.

"I WILL and I SHALL recover my place among the top Hungarian players," she said. "Geza says that I must be the first Hungarian player after Gizi Farkas, and Geza knows!"

Physicians and her circle of fans smiled benevolently at such an obvious impossibility. Nevertheless, the tremendous will of the young girl defeated not only the sceptical ones but, besides Gizi Farkas, every Hungarian top player. This year, in two successive national competitions, she has twice defeated each of her adversaries, including the well-known internationals Rozsi Karpati, Ilona Kiraly, Loretta Gyorgy and the new hope, Edit Sagi, and proved beyond all doubt that she is at this moment—after Gizi Farkas—the best Hungarian woman player, possessing a complete all-round game and an extraordinary accuracy.

There is an additionally happy ending to this true story, for she is now enjoying her honeymoon, and in the times when she is not playing I suspect she conceals the marks of the scars on her neck—with the arms of Mr. Hubby.

Ferenc Gyorgy

NORTH - EAST ENGLAND OPEN

Scarborough, 14th April

M.S. J. LEACH bt. B. Kennedy 13. —11, 9, 14.
W.S. Miss R. ROWE bt. Miss D. Rowe 21, 20.
M.D. K. CRAIGIE/J. LEACH bt. R. Allcock/B. Casofsky 17, 12.
W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. C. K. Best/P. Heppell 15, 13.
X.D. J. LEACH/D. ROWE bt. B. Kennedy/R. Rowe 14, 17.

BUCKS OPEN

Slough, 6th April

M.S. J. LEACH bt. M. Thornhill 9, 28, 16.
W.S. Miss J. WINN bt. Miss J. Roberts 18, 11.
M.D. J. LEACH/M. THORNHILL bt. K. Craigie/H. Venner 8, 4.
W.D. M. FRANKS/J. ROBERTS bt. M. Cherry/J. Winn 21. —19, 19.
X.D. K. CRAIGIE/J. ROBERTS bt. D. Miller/M. Franks 12, 10.
B.S. I. JONES bt. M. Sugarhood 22, 20.

The Satoh Racket

An Authoritative and Complete Review on the 'Sponge' Bat

By IVOR MONTAGU

President of the International Table Tennis Federation and Chairman English Table Tennis Association

THE SATOH RACKET

THE decisive victory of H. Satoh¹ in the World Championship Men's Singles using a soft rubber racket has led to an agitated propaganda against this type of play, and the rule which makes it possible.

Most of this agitation derives from panic or sensationalism on the part of the ill-informed. A review of the facts should be helpful.

1. Satoh's racket surface is made of soft, spongy, aerated rubber about 5/16th inch in thickness. For half its thickness it is embedded into the surface of its square wood blade, as a picture in a frame. The rubber, like soft india rubber, is very easily abraded or broken, and to prevent its abrasion by shaking during carriage, Satoh keeps it in a soft-lined box, as the ordinary racket is kept in a canvas cover.

The effect of the soft rubber is:—

- (a) To impart an unfamiliar degree of spin (i.e., the degree cannot be foreseen by the opponent on the basis of the arm movement he sees, interpreted in the light of his experience of the ordinary racket).
- (b) To impart an unfamiliar speed (i.e., the margin of speed between a "floater" returned with a stop-motion of the hand, and a springy plain hit or half-volley return of the opponent's hit, is surprising to those not familiar with the style).
- (c) To heighten the surprise in speed and direction of hit by the lack of sound in the stroke.

2. Law 4 of Table Tennis ("The racket may be of any material, size, shape or weight . . .") is not an exceptional quirk or mistake on the part of the founding fathers.

It is part of the genius and history of the family of games to which Table Tennis belongs. The size of a cricket bat is limited—true—for obvious reasons connected with its function and the size of the wicket. But there is no rule defining or limiting the racket in any way whatever in Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Rackets, Squash Rackets or Badminton.

Tennis started with the bare hand, then covered with leather, then with strings stretched across the palm, then wood, then a short-handled racket. Lawn Tennis has seen metal frames, wire-string frames, large rackets, round rackets—all at Wimbledon. Besides the Satoh-type racket, Table Tennis has seen wood, vellum, sandpaper, gut, wire, as well as the nowadays ordinary pimple-studded thin, hard rubber, and all sizes. It is well to remember that so late as 1926 devotees of wood were demanding the banning of the last-named surface on the ground that it "spoiled the game".

Long before the victory of Satoh started the bee buzzing in other heads, but too late for formal consideration at the I.T.T.F. Congress in Bombay, the Japan T.T.A. proposed adoption of a standard definition and limitation of the racket. Asked why, its spokesman replied that such a definition—preserving either, hard rubber or soft rubber—seemed logical. Before deciding on it as necessary, it might be well to reflect that the co-existence of hard and soft rubber in Japan seems to have affected neither the popularity of the game there (with 250,000 registered players), nor its skill, spectacular quality or enterprise (witness Fujii, Hayashi, Narahara and Nishimura).

3. Soft rubber of the Satoh type, and the Satoh-type game, are no novelties.

To hear some people talk, one would suppose they did not remember that last year in Vienna Fritsch of Austria, using sponge rubber, beat a succession of the world's top players and that this year he was ranked in the world's first ten.

One would suppose also that English fans had forgotten Charlie Dawes of Bristol, who, not long ago, beat three internationals in succession at the English Championships, using soft rubber. And more recently still nearly won the Wilmott Cup for his side.

It is a curious reflection on the care with which the E.T.T.A. official magazine is read, that not one of the English team, astonished at Satoh, appeared to have taken in the interview wherein, only a few months ago, our respected Vice-President, P. E. Warden, now 81, gave it as his opinion that his style, reborn to-day, would confound the moderns. P. E. Warden's racket was home-made, of pimple-studded rubber with a layer of thick velvet pasted between the surface and the wood. He started with it in 1900-1904, and already elderly in 1926, was then still pushing around to the limit the first of the moderns with exactly Satoh-type defence, namely, persistent floating spinners, but without the lethal Satoh-surprise hits.

G. W. Decker long used cotton wool or sponge rubber padding. So did I, for over 20 years. We had a theory that the soft impact facilitates play for short-sighted people. (Satoh, by the way, is bespectacled.²)

Sponge rubber is used by contemporary players in France as well as Austria and England. Nishimura used it in Bombay for continuous hitting. In this type of game, it seemed to give her no noticeable advantage in comparison with her team-mate Narahara (ordinary hard pimple-rubber). Neither of these two was good enough to trouble the first-class chop defences of Rozeanu, Farkas, Pritz, Elliot—though either, by a heavy top-spin attack Haydon-style, could knock the twins off attack on to defence (just as Wertl does, with orthodox racket), making them vulnerable.

Satoh's victory was not due to his racket but to his skill and cleverness in exploiting its potentialities.

4. Some people say that, because Satoh is not the top player in his own

NOTES

¹ Satoh's scores: v. Koczian 19, 17, 14; Roothoft 19, 15, 19; Sido —19, 20, 4, 13; Bergmann —10, 13, 15; Leach —18, 10, 13; Amouretti 5, 8; Reisman —18, 12, 15, 12; Lansky 12, 10; Tran V.L. 8, 5, 12; Cafeiro 10, 14, 9; Braum 6, 20; Than 14, 15; Jayant 16, 7; De —20, 13, 17; Lim T.V. 14, 6; Majboor 10, 3; Sherif 17, 13; Gonzalves 5, 11; Ramos —16, 15, 23.

² The second bespectacled world champion, Kolar was the first.

³ And that Simons, in excellent form as his wins over Hayashi and Fujii testified, familiar with Dawes' game through being the latter's team mate, and himself possessing just the right game for the purpose—low chop and sudden hit—was disabled.

⁴ Most experienced players do a great deal of unconscious anticipation (as do car-drivers, cyclists, etc.). It was noteworthy that the defenders who rely most on experience (e.g., Bergmann) mostly did worse against the Japanese (hard or soft) than one like Roothoft, who relies more on agility. The penholder grip doubles the difficulty of direction anticipation for them. Certainly, it has its own weaknesses, but this is another story.

country (he is ranked No. 5) he is a lucky winner and not a worthy champion.

This is poor logic and poor history. World titles, and not only at Table Tennis, are repeatedly and worthily won by players who rise to chance and the occasion. (Indeed, in Table Tennis history only Barna can be said to have made the Men's Singles a foregone conclusion.) Perry's title was the first tournament he ever won; he then ranked England's No. 3 and he lost that year in nine English Open Tournament finals. Kolar was certainly not the best Czechoslovak in his year. Could Leach, but for his Stockholm victory, have been ranked that year above Bergmann? Only two years ago the Hungarian No. 3 nearly took the title. What about such as Petra and Falkenburg at Wimbledon? Or Savitt, who did not even make his country's Davis Cup Challenge Round team? Or the F.A. Cup?

The Champion is better on the day. More cannot be asked of him.

5. It is suggested that the way in which Satoh won his matches spoiled the game for the spectators. This is silly. The denigrators, their attention drawn to the obvious excitement of the spectators and delight in his matches, insisted that this was only due to novelty, that if his play became general crowds would melt away, etc. This is a speculation based on a speculation. Anyone can get a Satoh racket, but how many can play with it as well as Satoh?

They argued that it gave an "unfair" advantage which spoiled the game and must, therefore, be barred, as finger-spin service was barred. The analogy is false. A player who perfected finger-spin could win the majority of services by a wide margin, and so the match, without necessarily possessing any special skill at Table Tennis (e.g., with his racket). A player cannot be outstanding with a soft racket unless he is outstandingly intelligent and skilful as an all-round executant.

They argued that Satoh's method of "blanketting" his opponent—swathing him, as it were, in a large, soft pillow-case—is unbeautiful and unspectacular.

It is true that two hitters came to grief against Satoh—Sido and Reisman. The former in particular after he seemed to have solved the puzzle and had the game well-won. But Reisman has lost this year to Ehrlich, Roothoft, Amouretti and even Freundorfer. And how many times have we not see Sido collapse similarly against orthodox defenders—and for the same reason, an attack of nerves and retreat into his shell (a half and half game, neither defence nor attack)?

THE SATOH RACKET

by IVOR MONTAGU

But the main exclamations were evoked by Satoh's thoroughness in dealing with world-renowned players who tried to push him—Bergmann, Leach, Amouretti and Roothoft. Is it any crime to puncture reputations? These are all players with attacks too weak to overcome each other's defences. They have been ruling the roost in these days when the young geniuses are all too nervous to keep it up for 21 points against them, but when they meet each other (or Haguenauer, Soos, Ehrlich) the crowd settles down for five games of all-in wrestling with a few rewarding high-spots.

Satoh very competently floated back their efforts at attack, and when they tried to play steady, lulled them to sleep with ultra-gentleness and then suddenly punched them as full of holes as a cheese. How anybody unbiassed (or indeed anyone except the victims) could honestly say this was not fascinating, skilful, and about ten times as exciting as any of the said victims' wrestling matches with each other has me beat.

6. Satoh is not in the least unbeatable. There are said to be about 50 soft racket players among Japan's quarter-million. They don't carry off the Championships, and several Japanese beat Satoh regularly. Playing in Hong Kong on their way to Bombay, the Japanese team saw Satoh beaten there. The Hong Kongers say about 30 of their players, too, play with natural, raw rubber. They are used to its effects, and have no fear of Satoh. It seems that in both Japan and Hong Kong he is beaten chiefly by hitting (but hitting with heart).

If Satoh is to be thought of as in any sense lucky, it is that he did not have to meet anyone who knew his game before Bombay or anyone twice at Bombay.³ (Familiarity is certainly a part of the battle. At Vienna, Fritsch went down easily in the singles to a player whom he had beaten in the team matches but who had had time to think him out. And, even in the year when Dawes was knocking down English internationals like ninepins in the English Open, he failed to win the Veteran event. The old 'uns are not so dumb.) And also in that the Czechoslovaks were absent, for they are all hitters. He can be hustled, and a weakness of soft rubber is that it does not return hits so low and fizzing and unputawayably as hard rubber.

It was extremely significant that he had no answer whatever to Koczian's steady play, interspersed with sudden accurate forehands on his own ac-

count, until Koczian lost his head and his grip and, to all intents and purposes, threw the match away.

That, indeed, was the way most players lost to him. Unable to anticipate by the usual signs (arm movement, sound, etc.)⁴ the only way they could cope was by watching each ball separately with super-concentration on to their own rackets. Winning this way a big lead, or even the first game, they would relax an instant, either from over-confidence or by exhaustion reaction. In what seemed a terrifying short space of time their hard-won lead would have disappeared, either from themselves sliding unwatched balls in the net or off the table, or from Satoh hitting past them balls they had slid too high. Then they panicked and the game was over.

Note, please, all the world, how much difficulty Satoh had in beating De and Ramos, by no means class Indian and Portuguese players, before these knew he was any good—compared to the surrenders of the champions in mortal panic after Bergmann and Leach had shown the way to ruin.

7. To sum up:

There is no reason whatever for desperation measures.

The "all-in" attitude to rackets is not accidental in Table Tennis: but part of the tradition common to itself and its cousins, contributing much in the past to its variety and development.

Neither Satoh's racket nor his style is new, only the skill with which these are employed.

So far at least his victories have been fascinating and exciting to the spectator.

There is no reason to suppose he cannot be beaten, and indeed much available data confirming that he can.

It is possible that his method embodies a mastery of the steady defensive players who have reigned so long in the west. If so, and if this produces in other countries a new cycle of hard and enterprising hitters with guts (like his own compatriots) with the ambition to beat him and his like—where's the harm?

Fifty years ago, and again thirty years ago, the so-called modern orthodox style and racket mastered in the west and generally effaced the penholder and the sponge. Let the youngsters of to-day learn and repeat the feat of their fathers. Table Tennis will be livened and freshened by the task.

Let Satoh be champion until someone is good enough to beat him.

For heaven's sake don't let's be like those politicians of whom it is said that, when they lose, they change the rules.

Ivor Montagu

March 15th, 1952.

GRADING CHANGES

Changes taking effect after the **THIRD PERIOD** (16th December to 27th January).

PROMOTIONS

MEN

From **Group C to Group B**
 B. Merrett (Glos.)
 A. Rhodes (Middx.)
 From **Group D to Group C**
 R. Thompson (Yorks.)
 From **Ungraded to Group D**
 S. Dyson (Yorks.)
 C. Seaman (Sussex)
 E. Thompson (Kent)

WOMEN

From **Group D to Group C**
 Miss B. Milbank (Essex)
 From **Ungraded to Group D**
 Miss D. Ellis (Middx.)
 Miss E. Pomroy (Glos.)
 Mrs. A. Taylor (Yorks.)

RELEGATIONS

From **Group A to Group B**
 B. Crouch (Middx.)
 S. Jones (Glam.)
 W. Sweetland (Glam.)
 From **Group C to Group D**
 K. Hurlock (Surrey)
 D. Lowen (Middx.)
 D. Merryweather (Lincs.)
 S. Rosenberg (Yorks.)
 From **Group D to Ungraded**
 R. Bolton (Notts.)
 J. Burraston (Leics.)
 R. Gregory (Surrey)
 R. Heslop (Northumb.)
 C. Pickett (Glos.)
 N. Timmins (Leics.)

From **Group A to Group B**
 Miss J. Roberts (Surrey)
 From **Group B to Group C**
 Miss L. Barnes (Surrey)
 Mrs. M. Cumberbatch (Warw.)
 Mrs. E. Carrington (Surrey)
 From **Group C to Group D**
 Miss W. Dakin (Essex)
 Miss M. Lightfoot (Yorks.)

(Advertisement)

COACHING CLASSES

Geoff Harrower (E.T.T.A. Senior Coach) announces that he has a few vacancies in his advanced and intermediate coaching classes to be run during June, July and August. Enquiries to (and coaching at)—68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.

North-West Kent Open

Barnehurst, Finals 26th April, 1952

Although clashing with the E.T.T.A. Jubilee Celebrations, there was quite a good entry for this tournament, and several good performances were witnessed.

Jean Winn continued her advance and was a more than comfortable winner of the ladies' singles, whilst the new mixed combination of Paul Brook and Pat Mortimer did splendidly on their way to the final to beat such pairs as Ron Crayden and Jean Winn (15, —21, 27) and Len Adams and Pinkie Barnes, and rounded these performances off with a convincing final win over Ken Craigie and Joyce Roberts.

RESULTS

M.S. B. Brumwell bt. J. Head 15. 13. R. Crayden bt. D. Burrige 11. 19.
CRAYDEN bt. Brumwell —20. 17. 11. 14.
W.S. J. Winn bt. P. Allen 13. 17. J. Roberts bt. L. Barnes.
J. WINN bt. J. Roberts 10. 14.
M.D. K. CRAIGIE/R. CRAYDEN bt. D. Miller/R. Dutru 16. 13.
X.D. P. BROOK/P. MORTIMER bt. Craigie Roberts 12. 18.
W.D. J. ROBERTS/D. SPOONER bt. P. Mortimer/P. Baird 19. 13.



The choice of champions

MISS HELEN ELLIOT

Winner of the following titles :

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| World's Women's Doubles | ... | ... | 1949/50 |
| Scottish Women's Singles | ... | ... | 1945/51 |
| Scottish Mixed Doubles | ... | ... | 1949/51 |
| Scottish Women's Doubles | ... | ... | 1946/51 |
| English Open Mixed | ... | ... | 1950/51 |

Miss Elliot wears "Umbro"
 table tennis wear

OF ALL THE LEADING OUTFITTERS

THE TABLE TENNIS ANNUAL

* * *
 Edited and Compiled by
GEOFF HARROWER

* * *
 for the
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
 AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

* * *
 160 Large Pages (8½" x 5½")
READY SEPTEMBER, 1952
ONLY 2/6d.

* * *
A BOOK YOU CANNOT DO WITHOUT

* * *
 Orders and enquiries to **G. R. Harrower,**
 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.

National County Championships

By GEOFF HARROWER

Although Warwickshire were drawn at home, Glamorgan won the play-off by 6-3, and retained their status in the Premier Division, whilst Warwickshire accompany Lancashire to the 2nd Divisions.

PLAYERS' AVERAGES

PREMIER DIVISION

MEN

| | P. | W. | L. | % |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| J. Leach (Essex) ... | 12 | 12 | 0 | 100.0 |
| A. Simons (Glos.) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| H. Venner (Surrey) ... | 14 | 11 | 3 | 78.5 |
| G. Barna (Middx.) ... | 12 | 8 | 4 | 66.6 |
| B. Kennedy (Yorks.) ... | 12 | 8 | 4 | 66.6 |
| R. Baker (Lancs.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| B. Brumwell (Essex) ... | 14 | 9 | 5 | 64.3 |
| B. Merrett (Glos.) ... | 14 | 9 | 5 | 64.3 |
| R. Crayden (Surrey) ... | 12 | 7 | 5 | 58.3 |
| K. Stanley (Lancs.) ... | 12 | 7 | 5 | 58.3 |
| K. Craigie (Surrey) ... | 14 | 8 | 6 | 57.1 |
| M. Thornhill (Middx.) ... | 14 | 8 | 6 | 57.1 |
| R. Griffin (Glos.) ... | 14 | 7 | 7 | 50.0 |
| R. Hinchliff (Yorks.) ... | 14 | 7 | 7 | 50.0 |
| R. Allcock (Lancs.) ... | 12 | 6 | 6 | 50.0 |
| W. McCave (Essex) ... | 14 | 6 | 8 | 42.8 |
| W. Sweetland (Glam.) ... | 14 | 6 | 8 | 42.8 |
| J. Davies (Glam.) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| R. Mackay (Warw.) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| R. Thompson (Yorks.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| F. Mohtadi (Warw.) ... | 8 | 3 | 5 | 37.5 |
| B. Casofsky (Lancs.) ... | 12 | 4 | 8 | 33.3 |
| M. Jones (Glam.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| M. Kriss (Warw.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| P. Cruwys (Glos.) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| K. Ghosh (Warw.) ... | 8 | 0 | 8 | 00.0 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|------|
| Miss B. Gray (Glam.) ... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 75.0 |
| Mrs. M. Cumberbatch (Warw.) ... | 7 | 5 | 2 | 71.4 |
| Miss M. Franks (Essex) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| Miss D. Rowe (Middx.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| Miss A. Bates (Glam.) ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | 66.6 |
| Miss J. Roberts (Surrey) ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | 66.6 |
| Miss C. Best (Yorks.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| Miss M. Fry (Glos.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| Mrs. E. Carrington (Surrey) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Miss A. Wood (Lancs.) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

MEN

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|---|-------|
| P. Skerratt (Lines.) ... | 10 | 10 | 0 | 100.0 |
| C. Booth (Lancs.) ... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 87.5 |
| R. Baker (Lancs.) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| A. Hall (Lines.) ... | 10 | 8 | 2 | 80.0 |
| R. Sugden (Yorks.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| D. Merryweather (Lines.) ... | 10 | 6 | 4 | 60.0 |
| C. Parry (Ches.) ... | 10 | 5 | 5 | 50.0 |
| K. Park (Yorks.) ... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 50.0 |
| W. Devine (Ches.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| J. Hillyer (Northumb.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| A. Holland (Lancs.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| D. Heaps (Ches.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| R. Heaslop (Northumb.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| N. Roberts (Durham) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| J. Hewitt (Northumb.) ... | 10 | 2 | 8 | 20.0 |
| D. Gillon (Durham) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| T. Jeal (Durham) ... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 12.5 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Miss A. Jones (Ches.) ... | 3 | 3 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss D. Smith (Northumb.) ... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 80.0 |
| Miss J. Bycroft (Yorks.) ... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 75.0 |
| Miss J. Titterton (Lancs.) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Miss D. Munnings (Lines.) ... | 4 | 1 | 3 | 25.0 |
| Miss G. Wandless (Durham) ... | 4 | 0 | 4 | 00.0 |

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

MEN

| | P. | W. | L. | % |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| P. Cruwys (Glos.) ... | 6 | 6 | 0 | 100.0 |
| D. Burredd (Middx.) ... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 87.5 |
| J. Head (Surrey) ... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 87.5 |
| J. Lowe (Middx.) ... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 87.5 |
| A. Miller (Surrey) ... | 8 | 7 | 1 | 87.5 |
| A. Rhodes (Middx.) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| L. Adams (Middx.) ... | 10 | 7 | 3 | 70.0 |
| R. Turner (Surrey) ... | 10 | 7 | 3 | 70.0 |
| J. Cornwell (Cambs.) ... | 12 | 8 | 4 | 66.6 |
| L. Sawyer (Essex) ... | 12 | 6 | 6 | 50.0 |
| J. Thurston (Cambs.) ... | 12 | 6 | 6 | 50.0 |
| C. Pickett (Glos.) ... | 10 | 5 | 5 | 50.0 |
| W. Ifall (Essex) ... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 50.0 |
| H. Haydon (Glos.) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| K. Hurlock (Surrey) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| C. Crowe (Beds.) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| A. Nuttall (Devon) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| A. Payne (Essex) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| A. Squire (Devon) ... | 12 | 3 | 9 | 25.0 |
| R. Wood (Glos.) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| D. Ironmonger (Beds.) ... | 12 | 2 | 10 | 16.6 |
| M. Leach (Glos.) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| J. Coteman (Cambs.) ... | 12 | 1 | 11 | 8.3 |
| D. Randall (Beds.) ... | 12 | 1 | 11 | 8.3 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Miss J. Winn (Surrey) ... | 5 | 5 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss Y. Seaman (Middx.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| Miss Y. Baker (Essex) ... | 5 | 3 | 2 | 60.0 |
| Mrs. B. Carter (Beds.) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| Miss P. Inglis (Cambs.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| Mrs. B. Bonner (Devon) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |

MIDLAND DIVISION

MEN

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---|---|------|
| S. Higginson (Warw.) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| N. Timmins (Leics.) ... | 8 | 6 | 2 | 75.0 |
| C. Crane (Notts.) ... | 10 | 7 | 3 | 70.0 |
| J. Rogers (Leics.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| R. Murrell (Warw.) ... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 62.5 |
| V. Slimm (Staffs.) ... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 62.5 |
| D. Walker (Derby) ... | 10 | 6 | 4 | 60.0 |
| A. Hiscock (Staffs.) ... | 10 | 5 | 5 | 50.0 |
| B. Rawlings (Staffs.) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| J. Burraston (Leics.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| W. Knight (Northants.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| P. Southam (Leics.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| E. Tranter (Derby) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| D. Bosworth (Northants.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| R. Woollacott (Notts.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| H. Tomlinson (Derby) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| F. Moody (Derby) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| A. Porsz (Northants.) ... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 12.5 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Miss E. Steventon (Notts.) ... | 5 | 5 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss P. Mortimer (Warw.) ... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 80.0 |
| Miss J. Walker (Derby) ... | 5 | 3 | 2 | 60.0 |
| Miss J. Perry (Leics.) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Mrs. M. Warner (Staffs.) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Mrs. V. Grubb (Northants.) ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 00.0 |

NORTHERN DIVISION

MEN

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|---|---|------|
| B. Milner (Yorks.) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| R. Bell (Northumb.) ... | 10 | 8 | 2 | 80.0 |
| V. Piscikas (Durham) ... | 8 | 6 | 2 | 75.0 |
| F. Forrest (Yorks.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| K. Smith (Northumb.) ... | 10 | 5 | 5 | 50.0 |
| L. Tolchard (Durham) ... | 10 | 5 | 5 | 50.0 |
| F. Downey (Cumb.) ... | 8 | 3 | 5 | 37.5 |
| E. Reay (Durham) ... | 8 | 3 | 5 | 37.5 |
| L. Kertzman (Northumb.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| A. Brady (Cumb.) ... | 10 | 2 | 8 | 20.0 |
| D. Miller (Cumb.) ... | 6 | 0 | 6 | 00.0 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|------|
| Miss P. Heppell (Northumb.) ... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 80.0 |
| Mrs. M. Jameson (Yorks.) ... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 80.0 |
| Miss B. Adams (Cumb.) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Miss J. Metcalf (Durham) ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 00.0 |
| Mrs. D. Wilkinson (Durham) ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 00.0 |

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MEN

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|-------|
| C. Seaman (Sussex) ... | 10 | 10 | 0 | 100.0 |
| S. Moore (Sussex) ... | 12 | 10 | 2 | 83.3 |
| R. Etheridge (Kent) ... | 12 | 9 | 3 | 75.0 |
| L. Muller (Hants.) ... | 12 | 9 | 3 | 75.0 |
| B. Fretwell (Sussex) ... | 8 | 5 | 3 | 62.5 |
| J. Shead (Sussex) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| L. Wise (Berks.) ... | 12 | 5 | 7 | 41.6 |
| K. Egginton (Berks.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| L. Plant (Kent) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| P. Bradley (Hants.) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| D. Driver (Kent) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| P. Morecroft (Berks.) ... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 12.5 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|------|
| Mrs. J. Beadle (Kent) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| Miss D. Briggs (Sussex) ... | 4 | 3 | 1 | 75.0 |
| Mrs. G. Horn (Hants.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| Miss L. Beaver (Berks.) ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 00.0 |

EASTERN DIVISION

MEN

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|---|---|------|
| E. Filby (Norfolk) ... | 10 | 9 | 1 | 90.0 |
| L. Thompson (Bucks.) ... | 10 | 8 | 2 | 80.0 |
| C. Wilson (Bucks.) ... | 10 | 8 | 2 | 80.0 |
| J. Edwards (Herts.) ... | 8 | 6 | 2 | 75.0 |
| A. Nickels (Suffolk) ... | 10 | 7 | 3 | 70.0 |
| W. Minors (Norfolk) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| F. Richens (Bucks.) ... | 6 | 4 | 2 | 66.6 |
| J. Pearson (Suffolk) ... | 10 | 6 | 4 | 60.0 |
| G. Bebb (Herts.) ... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 50.0 |
| R. Nunn (Cambs.) ... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 50.0 |
| J. Robertson (Herts.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| I. Barnett (Beds.) ... | 8 | 3 | 5 | 37.5 |
| W. Tildsley (Beds.) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| P. Holroyd (Beds.) ... | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30.0 |
| E. Mills (Cambs.) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| R. Purnell (Suffolk) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| T. Gawthrop (Cambs.) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| C. Whittaker (Norfolk) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |

WOMEN

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Miss V. Martin (Suffolk) ... | 5 | 5 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss B. Sailer (Norfolk) ... | 4 | 4 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss D. Emdin (Herts.) ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | 66.6 |
| Miss J. Williams (Bucks.) ... | 5 | 2 | 3 | 60.0 |
| Mrs. E. Aldridge (Beds.) ... | 5 | 1 | 4 | 20.0 |

JUNIOR DIVISION

BOYS

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| W. England (Notts.) ... | 14 | 14 | 0 | 100.0 |
| A. Danton (Kent) ... | 14 | 12 | 2 | 85.7 |
| H. Buist (Kent) ... | 12 | 10 | 2 | 83.3 |
| S. Wickelholz (Middx.) ... | 10 | 8 | 2 | 80.0 |
| D. Eagles (Kent) ... | 14 | 11 | 3 | 78.5 |
| I. Jones (Middx.) ... | 14 | 11 | 3 | 78.5 |
| A. Smith (Herts.) ... | 12 | 9 | 3 | 75.0 |
| R. Seaman (Middx.) ... | 8 | 6 | 2 | 75.0 |
| C. Darts (Essex) ... | 14 | 10 | 4 | 71.4 |
| R. Dorking (Essex) ... | 12 | 8 | 4 | 66.6 |
| C. Campbell (Essex) ... | 14 | 9 | 5 | 64.3 |
| T. Densham (Surrey) ... | 12 | 7 | 5 | 58.3 |
| J. McMillan (Notts.) ... | 14 | 7 | 7 | 50.0 |
| J. Miller (Cambs.) ... | 14 | 6 | 8 | 42.8 |
| B. Boyce (Herts.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| V. Rappaport (Middx.) ... | 10 | 4 | 6 | 40.0 |
| F. Badder (Notts.) ... | 14 | 5 | 9 | 35.7 |
| D. Rhodes (Surrey) ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 33.3 |
| B. Phillips (Beds.) ... | 14 | 4 | 10 | 28.5 |
| C. Reeve (Cambs.) ... | 14 | 4 | 10 | 28.5 |
| B. Barr (Herts.) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| E. Basterfield (Beds.) ... | 8 | 2 | 6 | 25.0 |
| T. Gawthrop (Cambs.) ... | 14 | 3 | 11 | 21.4 |
| R. Gill (Beds.) ... | 14 | 3 | 11 | 21.4 |
| J. Vincent (Surrey) ... | 14 | 3 | 11 | 21.4 |
| B. Cartwright (Herts.) ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16.6 |
| D. Caulder (Surrey) ... | 8 | 1 | 7 | 12.5 |
| A. Northcott (Herts.) ... | 6 | 0 | 6 | 00.0 |

GIRLS

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Miss D. Spooner (Middx.) ... | 7 | 7 | 0 | 100.0 |
| Miss J. Rook (Surrey) ... | 6 | 5 | 1 | 83.3 |
| Miss J. Page (Essex) ... | 7 | 4 | 3 | 57.1 |
| Miss J. White (Kent) ... | 7 | 4 | 3 | 57.1 |
| Miss P. Inglis (Cambs.) ... | 6 | 3 | 3 | 50.0 |
| Miss M. Howell (Beds.) ... | 3 | 1 | 2 | 33.3 |
| Miss K. Pearson (Notts.) ... | 7 | 2 | 5 | 28.5 |
| Miss M. Cobb (Herts.) ... | 3 | 0 | 3 | 00.0 |

Spotlight on YOUTH

FOCUSED BY PETER MADGE

British Lawn Tennis & Squash has this year introduced a youth page on the lines of Spotlight. It is edited by 17-year-old Bobby Wilson, one of our leading tennis juniors, and is entitled "Junior Point of View". Here's wishing the venture every success.

BREVITIES

Wembley: Credit to Bill England for taking a game off Rene Roothoft . . . Nottingham's Colin Crane last seen on finals night disappearing via East Exit in general direction of Stockholm—could the very attractive Signhild Tegner be

responsible? . . . In West of England, Norman Wilding fulfilled promise by beating Bryan Merrett 2-0 and David House 2-1 . . . Top marks for Kent Junior Open. Everything well-nigh perfect and an example for some full-scale

opens . . . Since joining the R.A.F., Derek Burrige has played regularly for Middlesex II's and Bomber Command team. Last month flew to Germany for 4-day tour; other players accompanying were Peter Smith (Essex) and John Cornwell (Cams.).

Middlesex Junior Review



L. to R.: D. Spooner, V. Rappaport, J. Bottrill, I. Jones, B. Spooner, S. Wickelholz

IVOR JONES, 17, completes his junior career in possession of a Junior "cap" and two Open titles won from nine appearances in J.S. finals. Started playing three years ago in Ashford, has an attractive all-round game which suffers somewhat from fluctuating confidence. Also plays cricket and football. Favourite star: Amouretti.

SIGMUND WICKELHOLZ, 17-year-old Austrian, holds the South London Open J.S. and has played for Middlesex in two seasons. Plays neat and intelligent all-round table tennis, with a preference for attack.

BOBBY SEAMON, 16, otherwise known as "Brumas," followed brother Teddy into the county team this season and hopes to stay there for the next one. In public he is a left-handed forehand hitter but secretly practises long-range defence!

VICTOR RAPPAPORT, 17, is a student of the American school and adopts Martin Reisman as his favourite star. Employs a rather erratic short-swing forehand bit and a generally "jumpy" type of game.

DOREEN SPOONER occupied an entire column in last month's issue and Spotlight—which can only, at the best of times, offer a humble paragraph—refers you to that.

BERYL SPOONER, 14, has three more seasons as a junior and hopes to bring a second junior "cap" to the Spooner household. Has a left-handed attacking game. Favourite star: Harangozo.

JUNE BOTTRILL, 15, still at school. Also left-handed and specialises in half-volley play. In her first season for Middlesex and has two more as a junior.

RUTH CONNELL, 15, has a quiet disposition which belies her all-hitting game. Made the team for the first time this season, and has two more to keep her place.

Herts Junior Review



L. to R.: A. Northcott, J. Stark, B. Barr, M. Cobb, A. Smith

ALAN SMITH, 17, No. 1, has played for 4 seasons—the last 3 in the county team. Has a tactical attacking game. Ambition is to play in any event on a Wembley finals night. Recently won the J.S. at the West Middlesex Open. Favourite star is Dick Miles.

BRIAN BARR, 15, has two more junior seasons—this is his first for the county. Plays a vigorous hitting and countering game. Doesn't like chisellers. Favourite star is Victor Barna.

BRYAN BOYCE, 16, has played for two years; ambition is to play in the Herts. senior team. Plays the same sort of game as Brian Barr, with a slight defence for good measure. Dislikes bad losers. Barna is his favourite star too.

BRIAN CARTWRIGHT, just 15 and still at school, actually approves of the present Service Rule! Brian's game . . . "mostly forehand hit, not much of a defence". Favourite star—Johnny Leach.

ALLAN NORTHCOTT, 16, must be the largest junior in the ranks and he still has one more season to go. Plays an all-round game, favouring attack. Also plays rugby and cricket at school. His star is Bergmann.

SHIRLEY BOARDER, 16, has been playing for just on a year. Has a useful all-round game. Would like to see all nets and edges scored as lets. Stars: The Rowe Twins.

MARGARET COBB, 16, has one more season to realise her ambition to win the Herts. Closed J.S. Defends mainly but attacks when there's plenty in hand. Stars: The Twins again.

JO STARK, 17, has completed her first and last season as a junior. Her ambition is now to make the Herts. senior team. Plays a mainly defensive game. Stars? You've guessed it—The Twins!

RITA REED, 16, and **SHIRLEY TWIGG**, 16, both started playing a year ago at the Water Lane Club in Bishop's Stortford. Both defend and want to hit, both miss John Hunt while he's in the R.A.F. The only difference I can find is that Rita likes Ros. Rowe and Shirley likes Di. Fair enough?

A Net Dis - Cord

By R. ST. G. GOOD

LEADING players in this country are viewing with concern the growing practice among County and Open Tournament Organisers of using the wide mesh net and spring loaded supports.

The lower section of this net is not clearly defined, mainly due to the fact that coupled with the width of the mesh the material is usually coloured a dark shade of green which coincides with the colour of the table, consequently players find themselves feeling for the net "as it were" instead of playing confidently to their opponent's side of the table.

The method of supporting the net by means of the spring loaded supports (or posts) which when erected draws the top band of the net taut, gives the effect of having a steel wire or fine steel rod threaded through the top band. Here again the confidence of the player in the equipment is clearly undermined because when the ball comes into contact with the top of the net it behaves in a most unusual manner.

To illustrate my point, allow me to describe an incident which happened during the course of a Rally in a recent County match where this type of equipment was being used.

A player hit a ball down on to the top of the net, the ball leaped fully four feet into the air and dropped at least six inches behind the base line at his opponent's end of the table without touching the table in flight. At the same time a curious low whine was heard like the noise one would expect to hear from a banjo string when plucked with a plectron.

No net should respond in this manner. First-class players need first-class equipment, but if they are going to give of their best they must have confidence in the equipment.

The equipment I have described above does not instil confidence in the player. It is not my intention to unfairly criticise the advisers to the makers and distributors of Table Tennis equipment, but I do feel it would be worth testing the reaction of Senior Players to any proposed new, or experimental, equipment before issue to the open market for sale.

R. St. G. Good



LOOKING back on the 1952 English Open I expect we all have our own pet memories, and being particularly interested in the women's events, mine was, without doubt, that long, tense battle between TRUDI PRITZI of Austria and our English PEGGY FRANKS. Usually we speak deprecatingly of time limit struggles, dismissing them as tedious, boring affairs, but this was a glorious victory, a game which will go down in the annals of table tennis as Peggy's finest hour.

It proved to be a "cold war" test of nerve and stamina and Trudi was the first to crack.

There are many who felt that in beating the holder thus, at her own game, Peggy morally won the tournament. At any rate, she merited the loudest cheers we heard in Wembley restaurant this year!

ANOTHER notable achievement which seems to have been omitted from the official reports was DALE WOOD's good win over the always difficult Beolet of France. One would have expected both Beolet and Watel to have progressed further in this tournament (Watel lost in three straight games to Audrey Bates), and in view of the fact that Beolet beat both Rowe twins and Kathleen Best in the December international, Dale's victory must be regarded as a welcome return to form. Dale, playing well, can upset the toughest opposition at times. Don't forget that it was she who won a "straight games" victory over Ros in the Birmingham Open last November, only to lose to Margaret Fry in the next round!

WERTL's easy slaughter of both Rowe twins came as a shock to their many admirers. Particularly was much expected of Ros after her successes against Farkas and Pritzi in Bombay.

If English Open form is anything to go by it looks as though there might be a slight reshuffling of the world ranking sometime soon!

AUDREY BATES really played brilliantly against Wertl in the semi-final and was unlucky to lose. Nevertheless, I do feel, and I think she would agree with me,

ABOUT TOWN

with

Peggy Allen

that she was fortunate in so far as her natural game was the one most likely to unsettle the Austrian girl. Her half volley and quick, backhand hit left Wertl very few opportunities to introduce her cracking forehand shot and it is something to remember that Audrey won the fourth game 21-8!

WHATEVER contrasting views we may hold regarding players and events there can be no argument over one aspect of Wembley and that is the shatteringly cold atmosphere prevailing in that colossal building.

More than one competitor, complaining of these conditions, muttered that colds and chills were the inevitable sequel to the English Open each year and I really think that were it not a national championship, very few players would be willing to enter.

Earls Court has been suggested as a warmer alternative. Is it too much to hope that its seating capacity and facilities might be investigated one of these days?

JOYCE ROBERTS gained a triple success in the Central London Closed Championships which were held in the University Union during April and her opponent in the singles final was newcomer PAM GALL who played well to beat Pinkie Barnes in the semi-final. Joyce was partnered by Sheila Wright-Swatman in the ladies' doubles and Jimmy Lowe in the mixed event.

It is heartening to notice that both finalists in the men's singles, Jimmy Lowe and Derek Burridge, are still in their teens and seem to be emerging from the "neither one thing nor another" stage which our Junior internationals have to pass through before becoming senior top liners. I have a feeling that these two boys, like Dennis Miller and Micky Thornhill before them, will hit the international headlines before long.

Derek, at present in the R.A.F., is lucky in being stationed at High Wycombe, thus constantly improving his standard with regular practice in the London area.

JIMMY LOWE, now pupil teaching, is due to enter Loughborough Physical Training College in the Autumn when, for three years, he will be compelled to divide his attention among a number of different games. It would be a tragedy if his early promise as a table tennis player should be shattered by the dissipation of his energies in becoming an "all round" sports master.

Give the "Nearly There" Players a Chance

asks A. A. WALL

I WAS very pleased to read in a recent issue of *Table Tennis* the report of an unseeded tournament in the South of England, as I have always been a strong advocate of this type of competition.

Table Tennis organisations depend greatly on the income received during the year and to augment this income it is necessary to pander a little to the public by arranging (as far as possible) for an attractive final for any major tournament. Tickets are sold well in advance and before it is possible to know who will be in the final matches, but in "seeded" programmes, one can be sure that the four best players will be in the semi-finals. There is the isolated surprise, but even so, that still means the four leading performers will be there amongst the prizes.

In the recent Midland Open, no one begrudges the wins of Leach and the Rowe twins, but it must be heart-breaking to those who are just not quite good enough to look at the draw and find that the twins are due to

meet in the final, even before the tournament starts. What a sense of satisfaction it would give a number of women players to see in the FIRST round—D. Rowe v. R. Rowe !!

Although usually an "out-first-round" player myself, on two glorious occasions I had a very good doubles partner and experienced the thrill of appearing in two finals of unseeded tournaments. This was due partly to the play of my partner and also to the luck that caused most of the better pairs to slaughter each other in the other half of the draw. Admittedly, from a spectator's point of view, one of those finals was probably not worth watching, nevertheless, it did cause a few to say "Well, if HE can get there, surely I've a good chance next time". Now, I'm not making that up for the sake of illustration, it's true.

The ideal tournament to my mind is that in which each round is drawn separately, but, of course, that can only be done over a long period. I realise that on the day, one has no time to deal with each round and time

counts. I have seen players look at the draw and say to themselves, "I can beat Brown and Smith all right, but look, there's Robinson sure to come through in the fourth round, so 'I've had it'." Still, we can't help that, but I would ask that every encouragement be given to the "nearly there's". There are one or two pot-hunters in every organisation, we know, but we should try to particularly encourage the triers.

Take, for example, a league where there are two outstanding Junior players. If seeded, it means that these two will probably monopolise the Junior Singles for possibly two or three years. The "nearly there's" will not even get a chance of appearing in the final and their time is limited.

May I ask, therefore, that more and more tournaments drop the seeding idea and revert to the proper function of a knock-out competition—a free draw and sudden death!

A. A. Wall

1000 IN TWO WEEKS!

We sold over this number of SPONGE and CREPE bats in the first two weeks, after announcing they were available.

Our aim is SERVICE not only with table tennis but with all sports. Let us help you this summer and be sure of satisfaction.

| | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| CRICKET | Flannels | 58/6d. | Caps | 6/3d. | Boots | 30/4d., 38/8d. |
| | All wool County socks | 10/- | Shirts | 21/6d., 25/6d. | Cable Sweaters | 58/6d. |

| | | | |
|--------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| TENNIS | The Super Club racket. English frame, Nylon strung | 39/6d. | |
| | Tennis shorts | 30/- Men's; 28/3d. Ladies'. Tennis shoes from | 16/6d.—38/5d. |
| | Windcheaters | £1, 22/9d. All colours and sizes. Shirts | 14/6d., 22/6d. |
| | T vests | | 7/-, 8/-, 9/-, according to size. |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| TABLE TENNIS | Official shirts now | 22/6d. Utility | 13/4d., 14/- and 14/8d. | Sponge bats | 10/-. |
| | | Crepe bats | 10/6d. | | |

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------|------|
| Special Offers | Sleeveless Athletic vests at | 3/9d. | T.T. Tables on H.P. terms | Badges from | 3/-. |
| | Meteor balls | 7/6d. doz. | Prizes for Athletic meetings (Cups, plaques. Books at half price). | | |

ALEC BROOK, Ltd. (International Champion)

KLIX HOUSE, 85, DUKE STREET, LONDON, W.1 TEL.: MAYFAIR 3113-5775

(50 yards from Selfridges and the American Embassy)

Also at East Street, HORSHAM, SUSSEX.