

TABLETENNIS



DIANE ROWE
(England & Middlesex)

Contributors include :

JACK CARRINGTON

G. HARROWER

P. WARGRAVE

P. MADGE

JACK FARNSWORTH

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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From THE EDITOR

"To put into the game all that is best in us and thereby get out of the game all that is best in life."

THIS is the season of the E.T.T.A. Jubilee celebration, and Table Tennis enters it with sparkling hopes, ambitious ideas, and definite promise.

The definite promise is that (almost alone among national periodicals) we are NOT going to increase in price, and also, that with the November issue we shall have a minimum of **FOUR EXTRA PAGES**. This is a remarkable achievement in present circumstances, but it indicates our determination to make *Table Tennis* the finest value of sports journalism in the world.

We plan to have it on sale on the first day of each month complete with Stop Press details of the very latest important results. There is a whole treasury of ideas to introduce in the months ahead.

Now great achievements are the sum of many small efforts, so once again I warmly invite your letters, ideas, criticisms and suggestions. It is they which help to decide the contents of the magazine. Wherever you are and whatever you say will always be welcome. It is **YOU** who can make this Magazine.

One writer claimed that at least 100 people had read his copy from cover to cover. It is good to hear this and it is good for the game, but it does not help us to make bigger and better magazines. Sixpence a month is within the reach of everyone, so please buy and **DON'T BORROW** your copy. This will help us to help you.

Table Tennis is obtainable through local leagues, newsagents, the publishers, or the Circulation Manager, etc. If you have any difficulty whatever, let us know immediately.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD (Editor).



Victor Barna, the "greatest name in World Table Tennis," has the answer to a poser from Aubrey Simons while Johnny Leach smiles appreciatively. Three of the world's most popular player-experts who will write regularly for "Table Tennis."

Table Tennis will present the most brilliant team of players and writers in the world in a cavalcade of helpful, interesting and absorbing articles. It will bring you the latest news of tournaments and matches; secrets of the stars; official E.T.T.A. news; "table talk" from the dressing rooms and stories of the players. With correspondents in nearly every country in the world, it will present the best of the Table Tennis world to the World. It will have pictures, cartoons, humour and competitions. It will have interest for everyone of every age.

● Cover Girl

Who could better illustrate the happy, eager vitality of Table Tennis at its zestful best at this time than England's "Princesses of the Table," the youthful World Champion Rowe Twins? Here, in a preliminary knock of the season, is the left-handed half of the famous combination, **DIANE ROWE**.

WELSH EDITION

A Special Welsh Edition of "Table Tennis" is published in association with the T.T.A. of Wales. This includes the Official News Magazine of the Welsh Association. Enquiries for this Edition should be sent direct to: Mrs. N. Roy Evans, "The Rise," 16 Ty-Mawr Road, Rumney, Cardiff.

★ IMPORTANT ★

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WHEN it comes to framing rules, drafting forms and questionnaires, or refereeing the English Open, then it's a matter of "Leaving it to George". Our photographer has caught E. G. WHITE in an appropriate pose, "quoting the appropriate authority." For George White is an officer in the Civil Service.

His emergence in post-war TT administration is not meteoric for it seems he has always been a solid (too, too solid, he might say) figure in the shadows round the lime. His sister preceded him as a member of the N.E.C.

George is left-handed, only just tips the 30 years mark, has a lusty son, Timothy. A club-player uncle started him on the dining room table in mid-twenties, from where he advanced to school TT, receiving the dubious distinction of getting concussion from TT! Has been TT minded ever since. He became a regular pre-war tournament contender, reaching several double semis and finals. Played for a Wimbledon club whose members included A. J. Wilmott, E. J. Filby and "Pinkie" Barnes, and held many official league and C.S. positions. During war service played in Cairo, Rome, Florence and Trieste once in an Italian Palazzo within two miles of enemy lines! In 1939 was editing the official Magazine single-handed, an outstanding distinction for a lad of 21.

But don't imagine that George is a one-sport man. Somehow he managed to find time to play for the L.C.S. 1st Rugger XV, and captain the "A" team for two seasons. (International C. G. Woodruff was then captain of the 1st XV.) Has played representative games in hockey and cricket (wicket-keeper), and was keen on lawn tennis until administrative work wrecked summer leisure time.

(Continued on page 15)

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



E. G. WHITE

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International Selection

Announcing Plans, Method and Purpose for 1951-52

THE proceedings of the English International Selection Committee of 1950-51 have been criticised in the Press and at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

They were, indeed, open to criticism. Not (where criticism is so often made) in relation to results or choices. (These, with few exceptions—and in this respect there are always, inevitably a few exceptions—have been generally found acceptable). Main criticisms have been in relation to procedure. There were a lot of last moment decisions, decisions made by telephone and wire, and, very important, the Table Tennis public were not able to be sufficiently aware of what was going on.

This acknowledgement is not intended in any way as a reflection upon the contribution of any or all individual members of the Selection Committee, who by their keenness and service have regularly placed the Association in their debt; and all, whether continuing on the Committee this year or not, are hereby thanked. Since the war, until last season, the Committee always contained at least one Administrator. Members chosen for their knowledge and judgment of the game cannot also be EXPECTED to be administrators; if they are the Association is more fortunate. However, experience has shown that it is desirable to have as a member of the Committee someone capable of bearing the administrative work.

These thoughts were in the minds of the National Executive Committee at the start of the new season, and it was decided that steps should be taken, in the light of experience, to remedy any faults and to prevent their recurrence. In pursuance of this object it was decided that some of the steps taken should be reported to the members of the Association through our Official Magazine.

The Committee

The new International Selection Committee appointed for the 1951-52 season is: Hon. I. Montagu (Chairman), G. R. Harrower (Hon. Secretary), H. J. Amery, N. Cook, A. A. Haydon, T. Sears and A. Thompson.

The first meeting of the new Committee was held on Saturday, June 30th, 1951, and it was resolved that at least two further meetings should be held before the selection of the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup teams, the next meeting to be on September 8th, 1951, and the following meeting at the weekend of December 15/16th.

Methods

It was clear that no Selection Committee can function properly unless all members are in possession of all relevant results, and unless all members take steps to regularly watch candidates for selection. Therefore: (a) Arrangements are being made for all results of Open Tournaments, County Matches, Wilmott Cup and J.M. Rose Bowl matches, etc., to be collated by the Secretary and circulated frequently to members; (b) to facilitate the collection of results, a special form is being printed giving the names of players in the first two groups of the new Graded Players

list. Additional names will be added if necessary, and a list will also be prepared during the season of promising junior players. These forms will be distributed before the events to organisers; (c) it was decided that members of the Selection Committee should be present at all Open Tournaments where several candidates for selection were playing. The Tournament Secretary will be advised in advance which member or members of the Committee will attend, and organisers of Tournaments, County Matches, etc., are asked to give the courtesy of free admission to any member of the Selection Committee who attends in an official capacity. Each member of the Committee will hold a letter of appointment.

Trials

Consideration was given to the necessity, or otherwise, of Trials during the coming season. It was felt that only Junior Trials should be arranged for the coming season as there would be ample opportunity during the year to observe the play of the Seniors. Steps were being taken to include girls' events in some of the Junior International matches, and if girls' Junior Trials were not arranged, then it is possible that a North v. South Junior Girls' match might be played.

World Championships: It is hoped to send four men players (one a playing captain) and three women players to the World Championships in India next February. A. A. Haydon has been selected as playing captain of the men's team and non-playing captain of the women's team.

Developing Talent

The question of assisting talented players to still further increase their skill at the game was discussed, and it was agreed to hold a long weekend Practice and Training Course at the Lilleshall National Recreation Centre, from September 7th to the

STOP PRESS
EXCLUSIVE

THIS IMPORTANT ARTICLE
HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY
DRAFTED AND APPROVED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL SELEC-
TION COMMITTEE.

TOUR OF GERMANY

The International Selection Committee announce that the team to tour Germany from the 14th to the 25th September will be:— A. W. C. Simons, K. Craigie, M. Thornhill, Miss J. Roberts and Miss C. K. Best.

Matches will be played in both West and East Germany, with an International in Berlin on the 19th September.

9th, 1951. A total of fourteen players have been invited, eight boys/men and six girls. Selection was made by vote based upon the selectors' views as to the possibility of the potentialities of the players, and not necessarily because they were considered to be the best players at the moment.

Making the Selection

With the considerable number of International Matches, Tours, Invitations to send players representing the Association to Foreign National Championships, etc., it is obvious that, whilst some teams, such as the Swaythling Cup and Corbillon Cup teams, will be finally selected at actual meetings of the Committee, in some cases only the broad outlines of teams can be shaped at these meetings, and final decisions taken by correspondence and postal vote. In the latter cases arrangements will be made to delay the notification to the Press by approximately 48 hours, in order that any persons who should know the composition of teams shall have the opportunity to learn this before it appears in the Press. Such persons, including the players selected, are to be asked not to divulge this information to anyone until the morning of the Press release.

There have been cases in the past where players selected have been found to be not available, and it was agreed that this season each player in the first two groups of the Graded Players list should be sent, at the beginning of the season, a list of International Matches, Tours, etc., and requested to inform the Selection Committee before accepting any clashing engagement. Whilst it is not suggested that all players in these two Groups are candidates for International Honours, obvious candidates for places will be found on the lists.

There's Chances in Thousands for YOU — this year . . .

says Jack Carrington

Springtime in September

THAT might be our theme-song in this first issue of the season.

This is the time when the keen T.T. player sees the first buds of promise and hope, and hears the young birds warbling loudly, and maybe a little inaccurately, of the joys of the season to come.

For the high-rankers, here it comes again, the perennial battle to wear the treasured England blue. It does not need a clairvoyant to see that our teams for the World Championships this year cannot carry any "passengers."

With air-fares to Bombay at some £120-odd per head, our selectors have no margin for interesting experiments. The bare numbers to do the job will no doubt be chosen, and as we have two World titles to defend (Johnny Leach and the Rowe twins), and another world champion, Bergmann, back in circulation after his season's suspension, there will be quite a bottleneck near the winning post for the other runners.

Moreover, although the World's does not start until early February, decisions must be made much earlier to enable those selected to acquire the necessary inoculations, etc. This will make the early tournaments and matches especially vital for a small circle of aspirants.

For the disappointed, consolation in the fact that the English Open will keep things "alive" as late as the end of March.

Just One Step Down

IF YOU consider this talk of Bombay and Wembley rather above your head, just one rung down the ladder of fame will bring you much closer to home. I refer to the National County Championships. Do you realise that on average working some 200-300 players can represent their county this season, with another 40-50 in the Junior competition? Is it unreasonable to suggest that this group of honours represents a perfectly practical target for almost a thousand contenders?

Then there are Tournaments. Is it going to be your target to reach, say, a semi-final of an Open singles or a final of a Doubles? A study of the home fixture list reveals that, even omitting the National events as "above our heads," this target can be reached during the coming season by over 700 of our readers. Several thousands of you must surely be within practical reach of those 700 honours placés.

Inspiration enough for all in this short catalogue is there not? Certainly nobody can charge our organisers with failing to provide the incentives.

Choosing a Target

If we look at things this way, even the humblest of us can find a target to make this a really interesting season.

For the younger, the rising stars, choosing a Target is easy.

How about Targets for the Seniors (which in American means the over-35's)? And do not forget the Esquires—with which title the sentimental Americans have dignified the over-50's? Let them not fade away; let them also choose a Target for the season. It could be a matter of a particular stroke, particular tactics, curing a bad habit, adaptation of style to physique . . . or it may not concern the individual himself, by the promotion of his team, his town, or some young local junior player. Or an administrative achievement.

JACK CARRINGTON wrote these notes just before his trip to Sweden, where, for the second year, he has been appointed Chief Coach to the National T.T. Coaching Scheme of the Swedish T.T.A. who no doubt congratulate themselves that juniors of last year's course supplied both finalists for the English Open Juniors last season and also beat the English Junior team!



Jack Carrington's PAGE

Playing tip of the Month

WE frequently hear the young tournament entrant complain "They don't give you much time for a knock-up before your match here."

True, and with tournament entries swelling as they are, you are never likely to have more time than you now get. Yet how do our Jimmy Juniors use those precious few moments? You know the answer, don't you, Jimmy? Two or three smashes with your backhand or forehand, retrieve the ball from the spectators once or twice, and then the Umpire calls "Ready."

Those first games are vital and many of them are frittered away because one of the players has "no touch."

Unless you are very experienced, it really pays you better to devote the short knock-up time to finding the right touch, by pushing the ball cautiously around, and chopping when necessary. **Touch** that ball as many times as possible in the period allowed and your muscles will learn a safe reaction.

Remember, too, that the correct touch varies according to the type of table, ball, floor, and even the atmospheric conditions of the hall.

At the same time, you need not forgo the few minutes' practice necessary to get your drive going sweetly. Not at all—hide yourself in a quiet corner and swing your arm in vertical circles until your shoulder is thoroughly loose. No ball, nor table, needed for this kind of warm-up . . . just a little air!

Spotlight on Youth

Focussed by

PETER MADGE



LEFT — Peter Madge



RIGHT
Cliff Booth, leading the formidable trio, wins Cheshire Open Junior

WRITING for the season's first issue is like planning a house in a cloud—there's nothing to build on. However, welcome back table tennis and the best of luck in the months ahead.

The last lonely walk back to the pavilion has yet to be taken, the last double fault has yet to be served . . . but by Issue No. 2, the fold should be full and the din of battle sounding through the leagues of England.

In May, I mentioned BILLY ENGLAND (Nottingham) as a challenger to the formidable trio of Booth, Ingber and Pullar. Challenger he certainly is for in the Cheshire Open he defeated Ingber and Pullar before narrowly losing to Cliff Booth in the final. A few weeks before he won the Bedfordshire Junior title by beating Brocklebank in the final. Great stuff. Watch him.

The South will have to work hard to give worthy opposition to the Northern contingent at the next junior trials. . . . It seems a pity that the only time N. meets S. in the junior field should be at these trials. I should like to see a North v. South junior team match at least once a season. Perhaps it could be timed to coincide with an Open and the visitors play in that too. Snags? Probably hundreds, but worth a thought.

Junior Seniors

TWO most outstanding up-and-comers are also from the North—19-year-old RONNIE BAKER (Manchester) and KATHIE BEST (Leeds), who is 18. Both have represented their counties in senior teams and are bright hopes for future international honours. Down South, Surrey's PEGGY PIPER is turning more serious attention to singles play, and as a result of intensive summer practice, is a Piper who will probably call her own tune this season.

Teddy Bear and Brumas

"GIPSY ROSE" LOWE has been crystal gazing, but the big brass earrings and shawl don't fool us, Jimmy Lowe. Off with the motley and tell us about the Young Lions Den of Ashford (Middlesex).

"Ashford," declares Jimmy, fixing us with a sentient eye, "raises bears as well as lions, and last season two cubs from this here part caught the eye of Staines and county selectors. They were Ted and Bob Seaman. Ted is 17 and is known as Teddy Bear, while Bob, just 15, is known as Bobby Bear or Brumas. Both are left-handers with good defences. Teddy Bear has already played for Middlesex juniors and I don't think it will be long before Brumas does the same. Watch 'em both. They're really grizzly on the table."

HI, THERE! Just to remind you this page is by, for, and about all youngsters up to 21. Your news, views and pics always welcome . . . Start shooting . . . The freedom of the page is yours.

INS AND OUTS OF THE R.A.F.

MICKY THORNHILL completed his R.A.F. service in June, and BRIAN KENNEDY is due to "collect his cards" towards the end of the year. Fortune has smiled on DEREK BURRIDGE. He has been posted to within a few miles of his home and gets there nearly every



night. Someone unkindly suggested that Derek achieved this by specially requesting a posting as far as possible from home! With Thornhill and Kennedy out of the R.A.F. team, Derek should be well in the running for the representative team.

U.S. Queen of Table Tennis

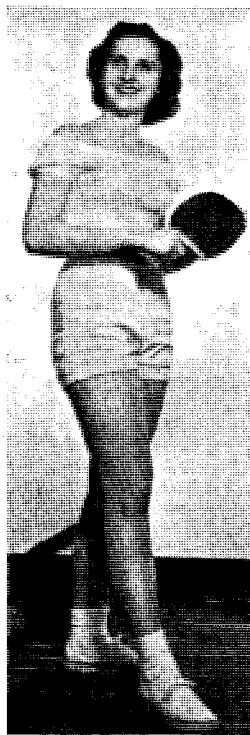
at 16



Now, boys, don't say that juniors lack the glamour touch. Here's a new fashion note presented by 16-year-old High School SHARON KOEHNKE, hailed as 1951 All-American Girl and the Queen of Table Tennis for 1951.

And the experts didn't judge on looks alone but included athletic accomplishments, and Sharon is certainly a teen-topper. Not only is she the 1951 National Junior Miss Table Tennis Champion of the USA, but is also the Chicago Speed Skating Champion, to say nothing of a string of titles for Lawn Tennis and Swimming.

Any candidates for Young England?



NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by **GEOFF. HARROWER**

YET ANOTHER BIG INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

In our September issue last year, when giving a list of the teams competing in the Championships for that coming season, I said . . . "The day when the National County Table Tennis Championships achieve a 100 per cent. membership cannot be too far distant. The coming season sees the figures rise to 43 teams from 27 counties, truly a National competition."

Well, the days of 100 per cent. membership have drawn yet nearer with the advent into the Championships this season of Northamptonshire and Staffordshire, and 29 counties have now provided no less than 49 teams for the coming season. The size of the Premier Division has been increased to eight counties, Glamorgan being the addition, whilst another new innovation is the creation of two Second Divisions. The Second Division South, in particular, seems very strong, and for the first time the second teams of Essex, Middlesex and Surrey will be able to battle for supremacy in one division.

But more of this next month. For the moment, just a list of the competing teams :—

PREMIER DIVISION Essex Glamorgan Gloucestershire Lancashire Middlesex Surrey Warwickshire Yorkshire	SECOND DIV. SOUTH Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Devon Essex Gloucestershire Middlesex Surrey	MIDLAND DIVISION Derbyshire Leicestershire Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire Staffordshire Warwickshire	EASTERN DIVISION Bedfordshire Buckinghamshire Cambridgeshire Hertfordshire Norfolk Suffolk
SECOND DIV. NORTH Cheshire Durham Lancashire Lincolnshire Northumberland Yorkshire	JUNIOR DIVISION Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Essex Hertfordshire Kent Middlesex Nottinghamshire Surrey	NORTHERN DIVISION Cumberland Durham Northumberland Yorkshire	SOUTHERN DIVISION Berkshire Hampshire Kent Sussex

CHAMPION COUNTY (MIDDLESEX) v. THE REST OF ENGLAND.

This big match will for the first time be played outside Middlesex when on Tuesday, 16th. October, 1951, it will be staged at the Aylesford Paper Mills, Larkfield, near Maidstone, Kent.

Tickets will shortly be available at the low prices of 5/-, 3/6d. and 2/-, and can be obtained direct from Mr. L. Presland, Hon. Sec., Table Tennis Section, Aylesford Paper Mills Sports Club, Larkfield, near Maidstone, Kent.

In all probability the Rest side will include Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons (these two players having already accepted invitations to play), Brian Kennedy, Peggy Franks and Molly Jones, whilst Middlesex are sure to include Victor Barna and Diane and Rosalind Rowe.

Full details next month, but do not delay in ordering your tickets. The match will NOT be televised this year.



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Pictures and News from Jack Farnsworth

4,000 MILES away, where the West African coastline makes a sharp right turn over the Equator, is the land once known as the White Man's Grave. The mercury bubbles in the thermometer and it must be the hottest hotspot for Table Tennis in the world.

Nigeria is about eight times the size of England. Its capital, Lagos, a sprawling cosmopolis about the size of Coventry. The Lagos T.T.A. has only been founded two years but has already 48 teams.

"There is a natural interest in the game everywhere," says JACK FARNSWORTH, Chairman of both the L.T.T.A. and the Nigerian T.T.A. (which has just been formed).

"I am certain to find a table set up in a shady corner of a backstreet. The youngsters seem to acquire a table proportionate to their size."

Practically all league matches are played out of doors, usually starting about 4 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday. Indoor playing rooms and the cost of light are a big handicap, but they aim to play all First Division matches indoors in the coming season.

D. MCKAY, a former Essex player, is Captain of the Coasters (the only all-European team), and has done considerable good work in coaching. GORDON FORREST (of the Civil Service League) was the only European to merit entry in the representative match against the Gold Coast (Accra).

The first Lagos Open Tournament for Spalding's "Villa" Cup was held in April, VAUGHAN beating CHINWUBA in the final, which was attended by His Excellency the Governor, Sir John MacPherson, and Lady MacPherson.

At the end of April, a Gold Coast team flew the 350 miles from their capital city, Accra (a town about the size of Bournemouth) to play a marathon match, teams of 6-a-side, all play all, over 4 days. After a very even

(Continued bottom page 9)



1. (Top) The youngsters just can't keep away. Table and net to size, of course.
2. Same game, but much more style when the Merry Brethren meet the Harbour & Immigration (Police).
3. Garden City provides a little shade when Fisher (Garden City) meets Drake (Coasters).
4. (Bottom) And the Bristol Hotel when topline Gordon Forrest (Coasters) and Salvador (U.A.C.) meet. The Umpire's "throne" is, of course, a monument.

UMPIRE'S CORNER

We give Gold Medals . . .

— says W. G. LANCASTER

in a scheme to encourage Good Umpiring

WHY is the County Umpiring Scheme not having the big number of entrants one would expect?

To find out, I approached a number of players personally with an application form. Most were interested, but the majority took one look at the questions on the form and said, "Crikey—this is beyond me!" or words to that effect. Some were more interested in playing and were not keen on spending time umpiring.

With another former executive member of the Worthing League, I am offering a Gold Medal to any Worthing League player who will pass as full County Umpire during the season 1951-52, and a Silver Medal to any who pass as Probationary County Umpires.

The successful medallists will then be invited to help others to pass the County Umpire Test, either in mass classes or such other ways to enable a better understanding of the rules and their application under tournament conditions.

I think this will be a much more interesting method and one likely to appeal to those many practical people who do not care for book and paper work. From it, we hope to turn out more efficient umpires in a shorter period.

Actually, this is just a rough outline of my scheme, which I admit has plenty of room for adjustment. Any comments will be very welcome.

W. G. LANCASTER

● *but the Bark is worse than the Bite . . .*

— say The Experts

A number of qualified County Umpires have written to us confirming their initial consternation on seeing the form for the County Umpires Test. From their comments, however, it would seem that there is really "nothing to it" if you take the questions in small doses over a period and don't hesitate to check up those things you are not quite sure of. Attempted in this manner, assert our correspondents, the test can be as interesting as a competition. Indeed, when you have completed it you will have a wonderful self-confidence in your knowledge of the laws and their application.

T.T. Hotspot concluded

start, Accra suddenly pulled ahead to a shock win of 24-12. The Governor and Lady McPherston again attended, being accompanied this time by the new Chief Secretary and Mrs. Benson. The nationalist leader, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, also attended and presented his cup for an annual inter-colonial competition.

Accra TT was established two years before that of Lagos and the players are mostly penholders, while those of Lagos are of the orthodox style. The Accrans have a better match temperament than the Nigerians, and their approach to the game is dour, poker-faced and determined. PETER ENGLISH (from Yorkshire) is a hard-hitter stationed on the Gold Coast.

Doubles play has yet to be accepted and is rarely seen outside exhibition matches. Women are just beginning to show an active interest. In the next 18 months it is hoped that some of the 18/19 year olds will be up to our county standard.

PUGNACIOUS PEGGY PIPER

DON'T be deceived by the casual air or the poker-face of this compact figure in the ultra-smart piped Surrey blazer. Meet 19-year-old South London clerk PEGGY PIPER, five-foot-something of Determination and Dynamite blasting her way to the Selectors' Eye. On the table, casual is the *very* last word to describe her.

So far she's concentrated on Doubles play and toward the end of last season clicked eight open titles: viz., W.D. of Surrey, West Middlesex, Hants and Southampton (with Doris Atherton), and X.D. of Kent, Hants, Southampton, and Bournemouth (with Harry Venner). But her Singles performance in reaching the Finals of both the Bucks and West Middlesex Opens at the tail of last season promises something really good, for her victims included Ros. Rowe, Peggy Franks, Joyce Roberts and Margaret Fry! Since then, Peggy has won the South London Closed.

Peggy adores Table Tennis. She started playing in 1946 as a more active way of spending the lunch hour. Ron Sharman gave a hand then, and since, and during the summer, Ron, Peggy and Harry Venner have been having a real tightener-up at the Atherton's Putney Open T.T. Club. She gets real joy out of playing Table Tennis and watching Table Tennis (from which she learns a lot), and for occasional variety a good speedway match. Her game is not unlike a right-handed Vera Dace—steady push on the back-hand and deadly aggression with the fore-hand.



While she will fight like a wildcat for the last point, and for victory, she has the particular charm of being just as cheerful whether she wins or loses. In fact, she always says that you won't get far unless you *can* be a good loser.

A typical instance of her team spirit and will-to-win once occurred in a league game when she was 13—20 down in the deciding game. She was wearing slacks and, in bending swiftly to retrieve a ball, was horrified to hear a ripping noise. The worst had happened! She hastily donned her mac and promptly continued the game—and, moreover, won it!

Peggy is a twin, and (we suspect) has always been a little sorry that sister Pat has never taken to Table Tennis. There's still time, however, for Pat is already enthused and has acquired a more than useful backhand.

At her present rate of progress and performance, Peggy has a pretty good chance of playing in a World Championship—and BEFORE she's a veteran.

The "Panther" shows his Claws

Dick Miles back to the Top Again



DICK MILES, within a month of his welcome return from the backwoods of suspension, has risen as naturally to the top as cream on milk, winning the Men's Singles Championship of the United States in a spine-tingling final with **MARTY REISMAN**.

Miles rocketted through to the final without conceding a game. Reisman chased up in the other half, having a tight fight with the South Korean champion, **KENNY CHOI**, 22, 20, 22, and also dropping two games to Doug Cartland in the semis.

Then came the dramatic final.

Reisman ("The Cat"), with his lightning reflexes, versus the sleek smoothness of Miles ("The Panther"). Reisman shattered Miles to a two big game lead, then incredibly, Miles evened up to two games

all. Marty Reisman put on the pressure in the final game and was leading 16—9, within five points of the title, but he could only make one more point against the ice-cool wizardry of Miles' defence, and so for the sixth time (and third against Reisman) Richard Miles became U.S.A. Champion.

RESULTS

- M.S.** R. MILES bt M. Reisman —15, —18, 10, 12, 18.
- W.S.** L. NEUBERGER bt P. Ichkoff 16, 7, 9.
- M.D.** W. Holzrichter/M. Reisman bt R. Miles/D. Cartland 14, —10, —19, 17, 15.
- W.D.** L. Neuberger / M. Shahian bt P. Ichkoff/S. G. Prouty 17, 17, 17.
- X.D.** D. Cartland/L. Neuberger bt R. Miles/S. G. Prouty 18, —19, —12, 19, 16.

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

*Important matters are summarised
here monthly.*

The President

OUR President, Mr. H. Oldroyd, of Manchester, is gravely ill, and we know that all followers of Table Tennis, particularly those who ever had the privilege and good fortune of being associated with him, will wish to send him sincere wishes for a steady recovery to good health.

★ ★ ★

Swedish Juniors' Tour of England

THE Swedish Junior Team, consisting of three junior players and a non-playing Captain, are due to visit England from the 10th to the 24th March, 1952. This will be the annual "exchange" tour by which English and Swedish juniors tour each country in alternate years.

Besides playing matches, it is desirable that the Swedish boys should have opportunities of seeing how we live, and have visits to local factories, sports, and other places of interest. County Associations have the opportunity of inviting the Swedish players for a two- or three-day visit, and the details have been sent to each County Secretary.
July 17, 1951

★ ★ ★

Bergmann and Boros

FOLLOWING an appeal for the lifting of his suspension by Richard Bergmann, and the receipt of assurances as to future conduct, this player is reinstated as from July 1, 1951.

Stephen Boros' suspension is also terminated from July 1, following a similar appeal and assurances.

★ ★ ★

At the first meeting of the new National Executive Committee, the following Sub-Committees were appointed:—

Coaching: T. Sears, M. Scott, E. G. White, L. S. Woollard, J. Carrington.

County Boundaries: H. J. Amery, G. R. Harrower, A. K. Vint.

Disciplinary (formerly Appeals): M. Goldstein, G. R. Harrower, I. Montagu, W. Stamp, A. K. Vint, E. G. White, C. Corti Woodcock.

English Open Championships: F. G. Mannooch, I. Montagu, A. K. Vint, E. G. White, C. Corti Woodcock.

Incorporation: G. R. Harrower, I. Montagu, A. K. Vint, E. G. White, C. Corti Woodcock.

Magazine: Editor, L. S. Woollard; Advertising/Circulation Manager, G. R. Harrower; Committee, J. Carrington, M. Goldstein, I. Montagu, A. K. Vint, E. G. White.

Open Tournaments: G. R. Harrower, I. Montagu, A. K. Vint, E. G. White, C. Corti Woodcock.

Registered Players Panels Commission: W. Stamp (Chairman), H. J. Amery, E. G. White.

Rules (new Sub-Committee): G. R. Harrower, E. G. White.

Selection & Ranking: I. Montagu, H. J. Amery, N. Cook, G. R. Harrower, A. A. Haydon, T. Sears, A. Thomson.

Grading Section: I. Eyles, G. James, G. R. Harrower.

Umpires: E. G. White (Chairman), N. Cook, Miss L. Ferguson, G. R. Harrower, G. James, A. Montgomery, M. Scott, L. S. Woollard.

Willmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl Management: F. G. Mannooch, I. Montagu, A. K. Vint, C. Corti Woodcock.

★ ★ ★

Registered Members' Committee for 1951-52

THE Ballot resulted in the following being elected to the Committee: Mrs. P. Allen, Messrs. G. V. Barna, J. Carrington, A. A. Haydon, S. Proffitt, and A. Simons.

Dr. Roland Jacobi

WE deeply regret to record the death of DR. ROLAND JACOBI, the first Men's Singles Champion of the World. He died only a month after his successor to the world title—Zoltan Mechlovits—had passed on. Our deep sympathy goes to the Hungarian Association.

Dr. Jacobi, Dr. Pecsi, Z. Mechlovits and the remarkable Mednyansky came to the first World Championships (in London) in 1926-27, and between them took every title and asserted the Hungarian supremacy which was to last so long. Dr. Jacobi figured in a dramatic incident in the team event at these first championships. Hungary tied with Austria and on the day of the play-off, Dr. Jacobi received news of his father's death and had to return immediately. Baron de Kehrling, the famous Davis Cup star took his place and by sheer determination and steady nerves succeeded in winning the deciding match against the clever Austrian player Pillingier.

Kenneth F. Day

We deeply regret to record the sudden and unexpected death of MR. KENNETH F. DAY, Director of Entertainments, Hastings. A great friend of Table Tennis, and the secretary and one of the founders of the Sunday Freedom Association.

Advertisement

DO YOU KNOW VICTOR BARNA?

We all look on Victor Barna as the Don Bradman of table tennis. Who wouldn't like a personal introduction to him? And what a host of questions you would like to fire at him. Well, sorry, we can't arrange that for you all but we have done the next best thing. In the September/October issue of **TABLE TENNIS REVIEW** there is a long personal interview with Victor written by one of his intimate friends. There are lots of other features and photographs, including a really unique instructional article. You are sure of a good bob's worth in **TABLE TENNIS REVIEW**.

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Kenworthy Buildings, 83,
Bridge Street, Manchester 3

County Umpires Important Proposals

THE National Umpires Committee met on August 18th and subsequently released the following information:—

ALL correspondence in connection with the County Umpiring Scheme should now be addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the Committee:

**Miss L. Ferguson,
20, Atherley Road,
Southampton.**

A new Test Paper is in course of preparation but may not be generally available until the New Year. The first Test Paper will therefore remain current until superseded by the new. The Committee do not propose to relax the rule by which candidates cannot make more than two attempts at the same paper.

County Umpire Committees are recommended to review and approve their Panel of Umpires at the beginning of each season.

Future Proposals

Several important plans, still in the committee stage, will be submitted for N.E.C. approval in due course. These include a system for the taking and scoring of Practical Tests for Umpires; an Umpire's Manual, and it is hoped, draft proposals for a higher grade of Umpire.

There have been numerous enquiries as to whether an unsuccessful candidate can be told the questions on which he has failed. It has been found difficult to do this without some detriment to the Scheme, but the Committee propose to design the new Test Paper in such a way that the unsuccessful candidate could, in many cases, be told that he was weak in a particular group or groups of questions.

The "Flat Hand" Service

The last Congress of the International Table Tennis Federation made some amendments to the Laws of the Game. These included a rewording of the Service Rule. The Umpires Committee of the E.T.T.A. emphasises that this does **not** affect the operation of the Flat Hand service. It is rather an attempt to clarify the wording. Umpires must not relax observance of the rule by all players. On the contrary.

LAW 10 now reads:—

A Good Service. The service shall begin by the server projecting the ball by hand only, without imparting of spin, vertically up into the air. The ball shall then be struck so that it touch first the server's court and then,

35,000 miles of Table Tennis

Johnny Leach, "Prince of Sportsmen," back

JOHNNY LEACH comes flying home crowned with personal triumph as a great player and a fine British sportsman. Each mail plane brings letters applauding him and saluting England.

On May 15th, Johnny left London by air for an exhibition tour with MICHEL HAGENAUER which was to take him more than 35,000 miles in the next fifteen weeks. Round one side of the world and back again. The second day out he is 6,000 miles away in the heat of India. Then after Bombay and Calcutta, 1,600 miles to Singapore. Here, representatives of Hong Kong were so delighted with his performance that they persuaded him to call at Hong Kong on his return.

From Singapore, the long hop to Sydney, Australia; across to New Zealand, back to Australia and the thousands of miles to Perth, Darwin, Singapore, Hong Kong and a final flying tour of India (Madras, Delhi and Bombay). Many places, after seeing him, have wanted to extend the tour, but Johnny is anxious to get home for the English season.

KEN WILKINSON (Secretary, New Zealand T.T.A.) has sent one of the most interesting and detailed accounts, including some reports by other observers.

"Ever since our visitors landed their personality has made an impression that has been echoing throughout the North Island and resounding in the South Island. . . . I was introduced at the morning tea reception tendered by the Government. . . . My first impressions were similar to that of others. Johnny in particular made a tremendous impression. I liked his easy flowing style, his modesty, his friendliness and his ability to be at ease and to make you feel at ease.

Like other table tennis tourists who have been to this country his first words, echoed by Michel, were: 'Any

mail, Ken?' Fortunately I had two letters for Johnny, but alas, none for Michel, which made Johnny remark, 'You've had it tonight!' meaning that the four successive wins Michel had achieved would end that night. And right he was. Leach won 16, 15."

Inevitably, there was some comparison by the frank and hospitable New Zealanders (as with Australians) between these tourists and Barna/Bergmann (and some who still remember the Barna/Bellak tour). Victor Barna, apparently, still holds the accolade of impeccable audience-pleasing showmanship, Grand Master that he is.

"At Motueka, where the population is only about 2,000, a crowd of 500 saw them play, which will give you an idea of their attraction."

"We left Auckland for Tauranga," writes ERRAL CHEAL, "and as we passed the College where my boys were boarders, Johnny and Michel stopped for a cup of tea and gave the pupils of the College a thrill with a one-game exhibition and Johnny did his novelty with one of the boys. I think the appreciation given by the schoolboys was more enthusiastic than anywhere else on the tour . . . although it may have been a little thing to Johnny and Michel, it was really wonderful for the boys."

* * *

Being a World Champion and an ambassador of British sport is no light crown to wear and wear it well. A resting time for many players, Johnny has had the most hectic table tennis summer imaginable and we are sure that none will grudge him a long-planned, well-earned holiday with Mrs. Daisy Leach and Johnny, junior, to say nothing of checking up on his Croydon sports outfitting business. Johnny Leach has not had more than about two week-ends with his family since Christmas!

So welcome home, Johnny. Congratulations and best wishes from us all. Make the most of that holiday, and come back fit and fighting for England.

At the Indian Championships in Calcutta in the first few days of the tour, Johnny was badly affected by the rapid changes of climate but, although not at his best, reached the final to lose to Hagenauer 16, 14 and 18.

In the semi-finals, Hagenauer beat Jayant -10, 15, -15, 16, 18, and Leach beat Thiruvengadam 16, -18, 8, 15

Leach/Hagenauer beat Bhandari/Jayant -14, 10, -18, 14, 16. The 15-year-old Sayeed Sultana, who made such a colourful and successful debut in the World's, continued her upward career by taking 3 titles.

passing directly over or round the net, touch the striker-out's court.

The free hand, while in contact with the ball in service, shall be open, flat and horizontal, with the fingers straight and together, thumb free and the ball resting on the palm without being cupped or pinched in any way by the fingers.

At the moment of the impact of the racket on the ball in service, the latter shall be behind the end line of the server's court and between an imaginary continuation of the side lines.

Knotty Point 6, Appendix to Laws, now reads:

"Flat Hand" in Service: Interpretation.— Umpires will remember that Law 10 is not intended to impose on the server an exact geometrical pattern, but to prevent attempts to secure advantage by either evasion of the rule or general careless disregard. The free hand must not turn over or move sideways.



NOWADAYS nobody pays much attention to excuses. The story is told of the late arrival at an Open Tournament who apologised to the Referee thus:

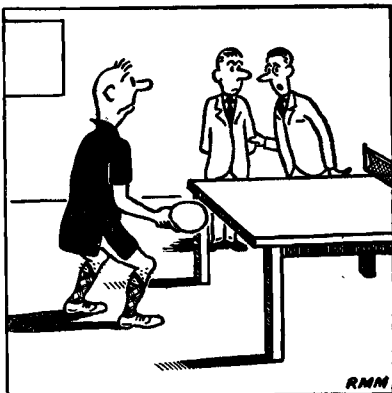
"Sorry I'm late. It took me longer than I expected to strangle my aunt."

"Glad you could manage it," replied the organiser. "You're just in time to avoid being scratched."

NEC Member, Liverpoolian secretary Billie Stamp (with colleague D. Crouch) was not able to forget table tennis while holidaying in Hastings recently. The Merseysiders attended the AGM of the Hastings Association at the invitation of Mr. A. K. Vint, the local President. For once, they had to keep silent, but were conscripted as scrutineers.

Keith Watts

Don't worry if your game is poor,
And your successes mighty few,
Remember that the mighty oak
Was once a nut like you.



"Oh, he's just had the pants whipped off him!"

KNIGHTS OF THE NINE BY FIVE

By RALPH BARKER

Under the spreading arc lamps
The table, stout and green.
The edges shine
With a thin white line,
And the sound is crisp and clean,
For it's ball upon wood
And the game is good
And the players alert and keen.
And whether you're playing a tournament match
Or just a friendly game—
You love the tussle
And strain each muscle
To glorify the name
Of the prince of sport
On an indoor court—
There's nothing quite the same.
You struggle with every nerve
you've got
To keep the ball in play.
You may not win,
But you'll never give in,
And many a man may say
That fighting the fight,
With all our might,
May fit us for moments less gay.

At the A.G.M. of the Clacton Urban Council, two table tennis balls decided an electoral fate. The balls were inscribed with the names of councillors J. E. Ball and A. Brooke and placed in a bag for a draw to decide who was the councillor to be returned unopposed for the Central Ward. The right ball failed Mr. Ball, Captain Brookes' ball being the first drawn. To be white-balled is better than to be blackballed.

G. Cloog

* * * *

"... Although as an organisation we exist primarily for the purpose of promoting the game of Table Tennis in our area, our greatest achievement is the creation of a goodly body of firm friends.

The beginning of a new season is always a good time to recall the words of our first President, the late Mr. J. Sowrey: 'I always believe that I should play every game with the intention of winning it, BUT, more important, I should play it in such a manner that my opponent and I will be lifelong friends.'

And so, with those fine sentiments always in our mind, we go into our new season. . . ."

From the News Sheet of the Staines League.

'NEW SERVICE' Kit for UMPIRES

"Just the Job" —Armchair Critics Review

This will solve all New Service Problems

Contents Include:

- 1 Tin Plasticine For levelling off hollow palms.
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- 1 Straight Edge The fingers must be straight.
- 1 Feeler Gauge The fingers must be together.
- 1 Wedge The thumb must be free.
- 1 Plumb-line Ball must rise vertically upwards.
- 1 Cine-camera with tele-photo lens Ball must not spin before contact with the bat.
- 2 Theodolites To observe imaginary continuations of the sidelines.
- 1 Periscope To keep an eye on the striker-out meanwhile.
- 1 Packet Voice Pastilles For obvious reasons.

Now in Production

Available Soon

My Nightmare Tournament

by Mrs. F. A Merryweather

EVERY possible detail had been arranged, but we reckoned without our removal contractor who was responsible for collecting the tables. He decided to do a quick removal job first, but it took longer than he expected. Meanwhile, the boiler which was to heat the tournament hall had burst, and despite frenzied efforts refused to respond to any treatment.

Now the hall had been arranged in co-operation with Service authorities with astonishing results (as you will see)—but even that wasn't enough! The man from whom we had hired the chairs had sent them all out to somebody else!

All of this had happened within a couple of hours on the actual tournament day, and I, in blissful ignorance, arrived in good time complete with the balls, pencils, rubber, pins, string, chalk, etc. *Nothing* had been forgotten. And then I saw the hall! A disastrous sight of everything gone wrong.

The lights were in position, certainly, but where the tables should have stood was a huge gun! The room was icy cold. There were only two poor lonely chairs. A few early competitors huddled in a corner, still wearing their overcoats, scarves and gloves, gazed at me with mournful and reproachful eyes.

As the day went on, we managed to right many of the wrongs, but the great gun and bitter coldness remained with us for the rest of the day. And in my memory for ever.

However, despite all the unknown "dangers," tournament organising has given me some of my happiest moments, and I always look forward to sorting out large piles of entries from everywhere, some of whom have sent too little money, some (very few!) too much, and some none at all. Not to mention the player who wishes to "partner Jones if he comes, or if not Brown if he is not already fixed up with Smith . . ." etc. To say nothing of the exciting hope that, by some miraculous chance, my husband should win it!

F. A. Merryweather

Mrs. Merryweather, Organising Secretary of the popular East of England Open Tournament, the first major Open of the season. Husband is Derek Merryweather, talented Lines County player in both TT and Cricket.

Table Tennis for All

by Johnny Leach

Published by Nicholas Kaye Ltd.

PRICE 9s. 6d.

Reviewed by Peter Wargrave

"I HAVE tried," writes Johnny in his introduction, "to make this a complete book of instruction on the game of Table Tennis," and in the simple, straightforward friendly way in which he speaks, he sets out to do just that.

Table Tennis for All should interest the juvenile table-tipper to the 83 year old who still worries about his backhand, and also to those disabled in diverse ways.

This is a sincere and personal book, and Johnny shows you how he approached a problem and eventually found the answers. In a chapter on Dress and that controversial question of Shorts v. Longs, he recounts that he only started wearing shorts during his 1950 United States tour largely because of necessity. "The result surprised me I found that my footwork speeded up tremendously. I came back with three United States titles and a vow that shorts would be my choice for competitive play from then on."

For highest honours, you must, "above all, have patience not only the patience to wait, and go on waiting, for the opportunity to play the shot that will win the point, but the patience to carry on when that shot, by some miracle, is returned. . . . It is chiefly patience which distinguishes the great player from the really good one."

The reader is guided gently through clearly-defined preliminaries to The Strokes: How and When to Play Them, in a Part 2 comprising 19 chapters. These are always interesting coming from a world champion and Johnny does not disappoint.

He offers some valuable advice under Some Tactical Lessons.

"You lose matches either because the other fellow's play is better than yours, or because your play is worse than his. There is no other reason. . . . This is a lesson everyone needs to learn—using defeats as a means of finding out how to win next time."

And again: "Never say that you lost because the conditions were bad . . . when I happened to hear a scrap of conversation that went something like this: 'Yes, I know the conditions are pretty awful, but it won't make much difference in the end—the best player will win all the same. . . .' This was so obviously true that I

forgot my worries about the playing conditions. . . ."

And so from the intricacies of tactical singles to the subtleties of Doubles, which "must be played as a team game. The best individual player in the world is no use at doubles unless he is a good partner."

It is good, also, to read: ". . . You will hear spectators comment, 'Smith is playing so well tonight if only Jones could back him up more they would win easily.' Nine times out of ten, Jones is playing a big part in the match, making sure that Smith has the chance to play those brilliant shots and if they win, he will deserve as much credit as his partner."

This is a straightforward British sportsman's book bearing the imprint of one of England's most reputable sports publishers. If you are a beginner, then you can take Johnny's introductory advice and use this as a handbook for a two or three year course, letting Johnny show you his way up the ladder to a success unequalled by any British-born player.

There will obviously be less value for the more advanced player, although most players would benefit from following the advice, hints and recommendations for higher match play, including those on Table Manners.

There are no diagrams or scientific theories, but there are 16 pages of photographs specially taken by Peter Madge (photographer of *Table Tennis*).

It is typical of the double World Champion's natural modesty and loyalty to dedicate his book "To my father, without whose help my table tennis career would not have been possible," and later, when he "met up with Jack Carrington, who took my game in hand and really set me on the road to success. . . . beginning of a partnership and friendship which are still as strong as ever."

Johnny is a great guy. He's won most of the most important titles in the world and that most glorious title of all—being a grand British sportsman.

Peter Wargrave

Planning a National Coaching Scheme

COACHING is akin to medical science and can be as dangerous in the wrong hands. It can make or it can mar. Teaching of play is only one of its responsibilities. Before we can have a National Coaching Scheme, we have to agree—all over the country—on fundamental principles,

Despite apparently diverging opinions, all the great sources of teaching inspiration *do* agree on fundamental principles of play. Yet these principles are not followed by many who coach in their locality. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing, yet with a little specialised experience, that same man can become a highly successful local leader. Instead of mass-producing mere stroke players he will learn to encourage the innate individualism of future stars.

Table Tennis is wonderfully rich in human appeal. The coach must know how to appeal to all the senses, including humour. He must be able to suggest all its vital, dynamic, endearing qualities. He must make it LIVE.

Table Tennis so closely combines physical and mental activity that you cannot divorce them. The coach then becomes much more than a teacher of strokes. He enters the field of Teaching. Specialist teaching, in the field of Physical Education. It is in recognition of this essential fact that the Ministry of Education is doing so much for the development of British Sport through the medium of the Central Council of Physical Recreation.

The E.T.T.A. Coaching Committee covered a considerable amount of ground in their experimental week-end course at Lilleshall in April, but the potential field of coverage is so vast that the Coaching Committee would obviously benefit from a consensus of national opinion.

JACK CARRINGTON (the Chief Instructor at Lilleshall) raises many of the problems in his detailed advisory report to the Committee. It is interesting to note that Jack refers to the "ETTA Education Scheme," which, he says, implies "broad leadership, example and active promotion work from above." He emphasised the desirability of giving equal "opportunity to all, rather than specialised help to the talented few," and that the "ETTA task must be to equip our teachers to pass on to young recruits not merely one particular technical theory, but all the richness of our sport." This object is, of course, ever present in the minds of the Coaching Committee,

PRIZE OFFER

Athletics, all major and many minor sports in England have their own National Coaching Scheme. The outstanding exception is Table Tennis.

There are numerous unco-ordinated local schemes and the E.T.T.A. Coaching Committee tackled the problem last year. Some of the considerations are mentioned on this page. *Table Tennis* invites all readers, players and officers to send in a brief Outline of how, in their opinion, the Coaching Committee should organise a National Coaching Scheme in the circumstances. The article on this page is intended as a guide.

For the best Outline received, *Table Tennis* will present a dozen top-grade balls. Other prizes may also be awarded.

Send your Outline to The Editor, 12 Campbell Road, Bedford, to arrive, if possible, by September 14.

A tentative scheme envisages the "full employment" of all our national talent, including the registered player,

but this would entail the working out of a Master Plan of Co-ordination at the highest level and the preparation of some kind of "Manual" that would give a very clear idea of the accepted basic principles and ideals of coaching, showing how each affiliated organisation could make the maximum benefit of the Scheme.

In present circumstances, the ETТА cannot spend more than one or two hundred pounds in the year. Yet its responsibility is to offer compatible benefits to ALL members. How can it do this except by providing an authoritative plan of progress and co-ordination, some form of centralised administration, and perhaps by the provision of such invaluable media as visual aids, projectors, film strips and loops, and advisory memoranda?

The tremendous popularity and success of coaching schemes in many leagues and some counties is clear proof that those with sufficient interest and enthusiasm CAN find the financial means. An E.T.T.A. National Scheme would permit greater economies and more values through co-ordination, etc.

How have other sports bodies organised their National Coaching Schemes? In almost every case on the same lines:

NATIONAL COACHING COMMITTEE
(with a Director of Coaching or similar title)

COUNTY COACHING COMMITTEE
(with Chief County Coach)

LEAGUE COACHES
(and in some cases, Club Coaches)

(Concluded from page 2)

His most memorable experience occurred when he was umpiring the World's W.D. Final at the Royal Albert Hall in 1938 and was booed by a crowd of 5,000. The score was 23-all, and most of the crowd, in the intense excitement, could not know that there had been a protest over wrong order of serving which fully justified his verdict of a "Let."

Despite his serious mien, George has a pleasant sense of humour, which often peeps through at the most unexpected moments. Likes to hear all available sides of a question before deciding, a caution for which some have criticised him. Nevertheless, it is this quality of impartiality and full consideration which has increased his worth among diverse and more volatile spirits. It is significant that George White's duties have increased each season and that he has introduced such major issues as the County Umpiring Scheme and other schemes for the better administration of the game.

FIXTURE BOOK

In the Open Tournaments below, the Events shown are ADDITIONAL to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. All organisers are asked to check information and to advise The Editor of any amendments. The CLOSING DATE for Entries, where known, is shown in brackets after the Title.

Date(s)	Details and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
1951 Sept. 10-15	DERBY OPEN (Aug. 25) Y.M.C.A., St. Peter's Churchyard, Derby. Referee: A. E. Rhodes.	J.S.	G. H. Gilman, Y.M.C.A., St. Peter's Churchyard, Derby.
14-24	Tour of Germany by English Team	(3 men, 2 women.)	
22-23	EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN (Sept. 14) Butlin's Holiday Camp, Skegness, Lincs.	B.S. G.S.	Mrs. F. A. Merryweather, c/o Ruston Bucyrus Ltd., Lincoln.
Oct. 4-7	Yugoslavian Open		Belgrade.
6-14	Indian Open		
13	YORKSHIRE OPEN (Oct. 1) Railway Institute, York Referee: L. E. Forrest.		J. B. Leyden, "Cliffoney," Hartley Park View, Ponte- fract, Yorks.
13-14	Adriatic Cup		Yugoslavia.
16	N.C.C. CHAMPION COUNTY v. THE REST Aylesford Paper Mills, Larkfield, nr. Maidstone, Kent.		L. Presland, Aylesford Paper Mills Sports Club, Lark- field, nr. Maidstone, Kent.
18-20	NORTH OF ENGLAND OPEN 606(M) H.A.A. Regt. (T.A.), Drill Hall, Rusholme, Manchester 19.	B.S. G.S.	L. W. Jones, 261, Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Man- chester 19. Closing Date: Oct 6th.
20	PORT TALBOT OPEN (Approx. Oct. 6)		G. Heycock, 53, Talbot Road, Port Talbot.
20 to Nov. 3	Tour of Sweden by English Team	(3 men.)	
27-28	SUSSEX OPEN (Oct. 15) White Rock and Sea-End Pavilions, Hastings. Referee: C. Corti Woodcock.	B.S.	K. R. Hayward, Top Flat, 10 Wellington Place, Hastings.
28 and Nov. 2-3	BIRMINGHAM OPEN (Oct. 13) Indoor Sports Stadium, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Referee: A. A. Haydon.	B.S. G.S. J.D. V.S.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.
3	HULL and EAST RIDING OPEN (Oct. 25) St. John's Ambulance A. Drill Hall, 194 Anlaby Road (rear), Hull. Referee: A. Abrahamson.	J.S.	H. Flinton, 28 Albert Ave., Anlaby Road, Hull, Yorks.
3	CARDIFF OPEN (Approx. Oct. 22)		W. K. Milsom, 33, Pencisely Road, Cardiff.
1-4	Austrian Open		
5-10	EAST SUBURBAN OPEN (Oct. 15) Y.M.C.A. Hydro Hall, Plaistow, London, E.13.	B.S.	T. Lawlor, 32, Ellesmere Gardens, Ilford, Essex.
10	HARTLEPOOLS OPEN Referee: E. Reay.	J.S.	S. V. Peppert, 10 Bently Street, West Hartlepoons. Durham.
10-11	Belgian Open		
13	IRELAND v. ENGLAND at Belfast.		Mixed Match (4 men, 2 women).
16-18	SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN (Oct. 31) Powers-Samas S. & A. Club, Aurelia Road, Croydon, Surrey. Referee: C. T. Dean.	G.S. B.S.	C. A. Bourne, 46, Elm Park Gardens, Selsdon, Surrey.
17	SWANSEA OPEN (Nov. 5)		K. Prosser, 684, Mumbles Road, Swansea.

Midland Counties League

NOTTINGHAM had an excellent season, winning both Men's and Junior Sections. They have now won the Junior Section four times in succession and their boys are easily the best in the Midlands. It was the first time Nottingham had won the Senior title, and they lost only to Birmingham, who had played their "B" team throughout the competition. Since the League commenced in 1935, only Coventry has hitherto succeeded in taking the Senior title from Birmingham.

Birmingham won the title in the Ladies' Section without losing a single match. Nottingham were placed second.

M. Goldstein

EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN

Intending competitors are assured that none of the disasters mentioned are likely to occur in the East of England, which will be held in "luxury" conditions. The venue will be the big hall at Butlin's Holiday Camp, Skegness, with all the facilities for a Table Tennis weekend holiday. There will be eleven Jaques tables, each with a 14-foot runback, and play will start about 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 22, and finish by about 5 p.m. the next day. The closing date for entries is Friday, September 14.

Champions for 14 years

CHARLIE SEAMAN and Bert Fretwell retained their doubles title in the Sussex Closed by beating Peter Shead and Stan Moore 15, 18, 17. They have been champions continuously since 1937 and, in top form, paid scant respect to their opponents' unbeaten record in county matches.

The singles titles were taken by P. Shead and Miss D. Briggs; the W.D. by Mrs. Bromfield/Mrs. Farnell and the X.D. by P. Shead/Miss P. Rind.

Leslie M. Bromfield

Edmonton, Canada (April 8, 1951)

ABE GOLDSTEIN won the Alberta JT Championship with a brilliant, close-fought victory, 21, 18, -23, 18, over last year's champion, Herman Martell, who had previously beaten Vic Tulinaukas. **CLIFF LOUIS** was a two-way winner, taking the Novice and Junior Men's events with victories over Bert Patterson and Modestis Atkocienus respectively.

THAMESIDE OPEN (Plaistow, May 5)

M.S. K. CRAIGIE bt M. Thornhill -17, 12, -18, 18, 18.
W.S. J. ROBERTS bt D. Rowe 18, -15, 17.
M.D. J. Carrington/J. Leach bt B. Brumwell/K. Collar 16, 14, -13, -19, 15.
W.D. D. & R. Rowe bt M. Fry/M. Hook 17, 13.
X.D. K. Craigie / D. Rowe bt D. Miller / R. Rowe 14, -15, 21