

# TABLETENNIS



No. 171

**KEN STANLEY**  
(England and Lancashire)

## ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS NUMBER

Reports by PEGGY ALLEN, A. R. MILLER, P. MADGE, G. COULTHEAD

### BUCHAREST REPORTS

*Adrian Haydon*



### Too Much for too Few?

*A. A. Wall*



### County Averages 1952-3

*Geoff. Harrower*



### Reform Junior Rating

*Harry Levine*



### BETTER CLUB CENTRES

*Leslie S. Woollard*



### HOME ADVANTAGES

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### National Coaching Report



### CARTOONS ★ PICTURES

REPORTS ★ NEWS ★ VIEWS  
of The Table Tennis World

# 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. 11

MAY, 1953

No. 9

## Editorial OPINION

### A CALL TO ENGLAND

**T**O all Table Tennis players everywhere. In the cities and in the villages. In spacious halls and in humble clubs. In the North and in the South. In the East and in the West and wherever they may be.

This is a testing time for England. A testing time for the 150,000 recorded players and their friends who are part of the pattern; for the officials and the ordinary people who have made this game what it is—the very same folk on whom England now relies to achieve its “finest hour.”

A kingdom was lost through lack of a horseshoe nail. The local effort which you can inspire might be that nail. We are a friendly but a rather happy-go-lucky fraternity, usually content to leave things to someone else, and not always being concerned in seeing if anything is done. That is our great weakness. **DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN NOW.** It must not be.

England has an Olympian task: a World Championships of a magnitude **DOUBLE** that of anything the World has ever seen, with a mammoth audience of all nations to see what the table tennis players of England can do. It is on such occasions that England becomes great. Her enduring strength lies in the **UNITY** the occasion demands: a fine, proud spirit that (even if they oppose the idea), they will “never let the team down.”

The Occasion is majestic and magnificent. Let us each match our nature to the Hour. An amnesty to our personal grievances. A resolute shining determination to maintain goodwill and unity for the good of England and the game. The past cannot be changed but we **CAN** go forward and change the future. Let us face it as “One equal temper of heroic hearts, strong in will to strive, to seek, to find.”

Everyone must applaud the choice of **GEOFF. HARROWER** as “Supreme Commander.” He has the “achievement-capacity” of Hercules. He might have been “born” for the Great Task. But the greatest of Commanders cannot win battles without an army, without materials. Close the breaches and rally behind him as a solid united England. Speed forward the work by raising the Fighting Fund. Don't, don't let it be too little, too late. No more champagne promises. Your actions will advertise your worth. Chance won't do the graft. Hope is not enough. Only personal effort, your effort, can do it. Time is short. Each day is precious. Only a few months remain. Christmas time is zero; do your part in making it memorable.

Now to our tasks. England relies on **YOU.**

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, The Editor.

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12, Campbell Road, BEDFORD

¶ See Editorial Note on Page 24.



Elizabeth R  
1953



Portrait by Dorothy Wilding

*Loyal Greetings  
to Our Gracious Queen  
and Patron*



Coronation 2nd June, 1953

Her Majesty is wearing the Sash and Star of the Order of the Garter. The necklace was a wedding present from the Nizam of Hyderabad. The diamond and pearl circlet has been worn by the Queens of England since Queen Victoria. Gown of ivory brocade with gold and turquoise.

## Lady Swaythling Presents Cup

*English Open Finals, Wembley.*  
The world-famous sportsman, Lord Aberdare, C.B.E. was given a warm reception when he presented the trophies and prizes to winners and runners-up on Saturday night.

An ovation was accorded to the victorious England World Championship team when they appeared, in playing uniform, to receive The Swaythling Cup from the hands of its gracious donor, the Dowager Lady Swaythling.

"What a thrill it is," said her Ladyship after the presentation, "to be able to welcome home the Swaythling Cup after 27 years. We all want to thank and congratulate the winning team on their splendid achievement . . . Now we can say 'Do it again, please.'"

Sir Arthur Elvin, M.B.E., a good friend of Table Tennis (and President of Middlesex T.T.A.), occupied his usual seat and watched the programme with all the appreciation of a player.

### OTHER UNIVERSITIES

*Table Tennis* invites university clubs to send news and notes of its personalities from time to time. Dublin University T.T.C. have recently toured England playing the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London and

Manchester, and have offered a trophy for which a Great Britain University Team Competition on Wilmott Cup lines.

### NORTHUMBERLAND CH., 1952-3

April, 1953

M.S. J. HILLYER bt. M. Aden 13, 14.  
W.S. P. HEPPPELL bt. Mrs. R. Ormond —15, 15, 9  
M.D. J. HILLYER/P. WILSON bt. R. and B. Bain 22, 16.  
W.D. P. HEPPPELL/E. TULLY bt. Mrs. R. Ormond/Mrs. J. Waugh —22, 11, 20.  
X.D. J. HILLYER/Mrs. R. ORMOND bt. A. Coffey/Mrs. Kauffman —15, 12, 15.  
Y.S. & B.S. J. OUGHTON.

Junior International Phil Hepppell (18), Jack Oughton (17), Peter Wilson (18), and Peter Tindle (not yet 14) are some of the outstanding players of the year.

### To The Editor—

"AS a left-handed player myself, I beg to differ with your statement in the March issue that "Other things being equal, left-handedness should give no undue advantage in T.T. . . ."

The very fact that 'southpaws' are in a minority, automatically gives them an advantage because they have more experience in dealing with right-handed players than is the reverse . . ."

Lawrence Cooklin

## SUMMER FIXTURES

May 3rd—Finals, BUCKS. OPEN. Slough Community Centre, Slough.

May 9th—Finals, THAMESIDE OPEN, Hydro Hall, Y.M.C.A., Greengate Street, Plaistow, London, E.13.

July 27th—All-U.S.S.R. Junior Championships, Kaulga.

★ *About May/June.* VETERAN'S OPEN (Singles) Tournament at Slough. (Any profits to World's 1954 Fund). Particulars from The T.T. Secretary, Community Centre, Slough.

★ *August (last fortnight).* OPEN TOURNAMENT, Putney, T.T.C. Particulars from Mr. R. Atherton, 173 Wimbledon Park Road, London, S.W.18.

★ *Aug. 31st-Sept. 5th.* HOME COUNTIES OPEN (Net proceeds for World's 1954 Fund). At Polytechnic Extension, W.1. Particulars from Mr. G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.

## SPECIAL END OF THE SEASON OFFERS

CLOTHING	E.T.T.A. Official shirts in Maroon, Royal, Navy and Green.....	21/-	6 or more
	Non-Official shirts, same colours .....	14/6d.	19/- each
	Full length zip-cheaters .....	28/6d.	13/- each
	Bergmann blue shoes .....	23/7d.	27/- each
	Tailored grey shorts .....	45/6d.	
	Khaki shorts .....	23/6d.	
	"Table Tennis" by Sol. Schiff .....	7/6d.	Special price
TENNIS RACKETS	English hand-made rackets, laminated frame, perfect balance, guaranteed the finest value in tennis rackets to-day :—		
	Queens Club .....		50/-
	The Conquest :—		
	Strung gut .....		45/6d.
Strung nylon .....		39/6d.	
The University Junior .....		34/6d.	
TABLES	Alec Brook Tournament. Used in many open championships, County matches, Wilmott Cup, etc. ....	£33 15 0	
	Jaques Tournament .....	£44 17 6	
	A.D.B. $\frac{3}{4}$ " Match .....	£23 2 6	
BATS	Hire purchase terms. Carriage paid. Part Exchange. All tables in stock.		
	World champion crepe or sponge .....	10/-	each
	Re-covers with fast, medium, slow or continental .....	4/9d.	
	Bat rubber as above .....	1/3d.	piece
	Bat covers .....	6/6d.	
	Badges made from any design. Cups from 18/9d. Plaques 13/6d. and 18/6d. Medals from 3/9d.		

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### Guarantees Still Needed

A NUMBER of clubs have sent donations for a pound, I hope as a result of my appeal in *Table Tennis*! However, I have talked to quite a few club secretaries who say "There's plenty of time yet, it's still a year before the Championships."

There isn't plenty of time, you know. The organisation will be handicapped unless we can be **QUITE SURE** that we have the money to ensure the efficient organisation of the championships. **SEND YOUR POUND NOW.**

Gloucestershire had a whip round at their Closed Championship finals which raised the fine sum of £6 10s. 0d., and Staines raffled a magnificent basket of fruit on the occasion of the England/France Junior match which realised £3 14s. 0d. Thanks a lot, Gloucestershire and Staines.

### BIG MATCH MAY RAISE £30

On the 29th April the two strongest leagues in Middlesex, Acton and Staines are playing a challenge match, on county championship lines, and devoting the entire proceeds to the Guarantee Fund. Peter Lowen tells me that at least £20 profit will be made, and it is hoped to reach £30. Everybody is paying for admission, even the officials and their wives.

Diane and Rosalind Rowe, Ken Craigie, Len Adams and Peter Lowen represent Acton, whilst Staines will choose from Michael Thornhill, Bernard Crouch, Jimmy Lowe, Leo Thompson, Ron Sharman, Doreen Spooner, Joy Seaman and Sheila Smith.

**What about it, other areas? Can't you also run matches on similar lines. How about Manchester v. Liverpool, Huddersfield v. Leeds, Portsmouth v. Southampton, etc.?**

### First Claim for Helpers

*It has now been decided that the first opportunity to buy tickets for the World Championships will be given to leagues, clubs and individuals who have supported our efforts. Whether they have sent donations, promised to run club competitions, or offered some of their annual leave to officiate, they are the ones who will be given the first chance at the best seats.*

*There is no need to write to us, at the end of August or beginning of September we shall circulate you giving full details and you will be given two or three weeks to make application for tickets before tickets are made available elsewhere.*

### HOME COUNTIES

#### LAST CHANCE REDUCED FEES

Since I last wrote there have been over 100 further requests for entry forms, but I wish I could report the entries coming in as rapidly!

Please remember that it is **MUCH CHEAPER** to enter before the 15th May. Don't delay and find you have been left out because it is a very early tournament. If you are going to enter three events you can save 5/6d. by entering **NOW**. Send your entry to G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

RECENTLY letters were sent to some 200 persons who regularly assist with the organisation of the English Open and other important events, inviting them to take some of their annual leave to help in the organisation of the World's biggest tournament.

So gigantic is the task that we shall need about 150 officials on duty at every session—over 50 of these will be umpires! Actually not only Umpires but Stewards, Interpreters, Hospitality Workers, Scoring Machine Operators and Press and Publicity Helpers are also needed.

Hospitality workers to meet arrivals are needed from the 3rd to the 6th April and others from the 6th to the 14th April. It is suggested that help on consecutive days is far more important than odd days, and we are forming teams to work from the 6/9th April and 10/14th April.

Maybe you have not received a letter and would like to help—if so write to Mr. G. James, 19, St. Ann's Villas, Kensington, London, W.11.

Umpires are also needed for the Home Counties Championships, each evening from Monday to Friday, August 31st to September 4th, from 5.30 p.m. Write to Mr. A. E. Clewer, Town Hall, Leyton, London, E.10.

### THE CLUB COMPETITIONS

**A**T THE 18th April 206 clubs had promised to run 439 competitions—a good start but not nearly good enough. Our minimum aim is 2,000 competitions, and with 7,600 affiliated clubs in membership this seems a small enough total.

The trouble is our national characteristic of leaving everything to the last minute. The earlier you return the green card the easier it is for the organisers to deal with the work necessitated. PLEASE, 200 clubs from 7,600 is less than 3%.

Remember that you can run the competitions during the Summer, if you wish, or during October to December, and every winner gets a handsome plaque, similar to that sketched below. All clubs have had full details, but if you have mislaid your leaflet and card, write to G. R. HARROWER, 68, GLOUCESTER ROAD, NEW BARNET, HERTS., and another copy will be sent to you.

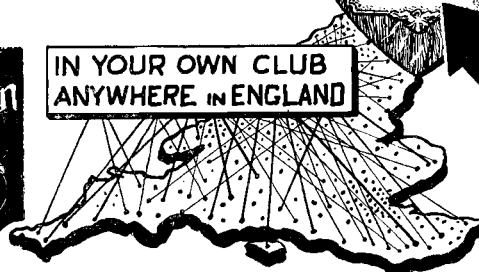
#### 15 SUGGESTED EVENTS :

Men's singles; Men's handicap singles; Women's singles; Women's handicap singles; Mixed singles; Mixed handicap singles; Junior singles; Junior handicap singles; Men's doubles; Men's handicap doubles; Women's doubles; Women's handicap doubles; Mixed doubles; Mixed handicap doubles; "Extraordinary" handicap doubles (e.g. two men or two women partners in a mixed handicap doubles).



IN YOUR OWN CLUB ANYWHERE IN ENGLAND

YOUR NAME



# THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Caxton Hall, Westminster, 25th April, 1953

CLINCHING an N.E.C. meeting smartly on time, Chairman Ivor Montagu and Hon. Secretary A. K. Vint led the Executive Committee into the Tudor Room at 3 p.m. to open the A.G.M. The hall was well-filled with animated groups of old and new friends. Blithe greetings, lively arguments. Good to see some fresh faces; disappointing to miss some of the "regulars."

Almost reluctantly members sorted themselves out. On the dais, behind a massive table heavily laden with papers, etc., the Chairman took his place in the high-backed chair. Mr. Vint sat on his left; Mrs. K. Pegg on his right. "Bang-bang" with the gavel, and the meeting was "under starter's orders." For one minute all stood in silent homage to the late President, Mr. H. Oldroyd.

The Chairman said that the A.G.M. was the occasion when members had the constitutional right to express opinions, to criticise, or air any sense of grievance. He hoped that everyone would relieve themselves frankly and freely before they left. They would all have the opportunity of doing so.

The Meeting briskly tackled the 30 items comprising the Annual Report. Discussion produced some interesting facts or views; sometimes a ripple of smiles; occasionally a sunny wave of laughter. Ivor Eyles (Bristol), bluff and imperturbable, good-humouredly put his points in plain words; Tom Blunn (Lancs.), shrewd and logical, probed with more subtlety, giving some "cud" to the more thoughtful; Jack Kurzman (London) "shot from the lip" with his customary forthright vigour. This trio of "regulars" led the floor. (What a useful part they serve in enlivening the A.G.M.'s, eliciting information and in "clearing the air," by their frank approach.)

The T.T. Cups (Wilmott and Rose) entry fees are to be increased to 10/-; no exemptions for preliminary rounds; directly affiliated clubs will not be eligible. Mr. Eyles suggestion of playing Zones off at a single session (like Swaythling matches) is to be seriously considered. Open Tournament Regulations have been very thoroughly and systematically overhauled and some far-reaching changes are to be introduced for 1953-4.

Geoff. Harrower, in a debate on the Grading Scheme, gave an interesting review of the excellent achievements accomplished by its introduction, notably in connection with Open Tournament organisation. In view of the commitments immediately ahead (in

which we needed the concentration of everyone), he had—reluctantly—considered it might be as well to suspend the Scheme for the season—providing that players would be guaranteed the right of entry in Opens. Finally, it was decided to discontinue the Grading Scheme. (3 contrary votes, several abstentions.)

Replying to D. Tyler (Hastings), George White said that practical instruction for Umpires was the function of the County. The national committee could assist locally-organised courses. Other interesting points were clarified. Mr. White revealed that umpire's knowledge and training had been considered by the Coaching Committee; some umpire's knowledge would, in fact, be required for the proposed Coaching Award.

The Magazine is grateful to Mr. Blunn for provoking comment on its progress and activities, and how its circulation could, and should, be improved in the North (e.g. Lancs.). Geoff. Harrower and Leslie Woolard replied. Leslie Forrest spoke of the good work done in Yorkshire and the co-operation he had received from the 2 officers concerned.

Adroitly by-passing the very warm feelings and appreciation on his own work expressed by the entire meeting, Mr. Vint spoke of the splendid work and co-operation given by Mrs. Kathleen Pegg, her patience, impartiality, and helpfulness, very often "beyond the line of duty." (Acclamation.)

Mr. Vint also said that Geoff. Harrower would not be on the N.E.C. next year. "Geoff.," he said, "is one of those persons who never seem happy unless they are loaded with work. When a man successfully does it, we are apt to—unfairly and without thought—pile on too much! Geoff.," he said, smiling, "seems happiest in a lively argument—but only a few of us know what a tremendous amount of work he has got through for Table Tennis. . . . Now he's got the biggest job of all—organising the World's Championships. Perhaps in the future we shall welcome him back to the N.E.C." Mr. Vint had, it seemed from the acclamation which followed, expressed the sentiments of the meeting.

Mr. Vint reported the results of the Ballot. Corti Woodcock (losing candidate for Chairman) congratulated Mr. Montagu on winning the poll, and said they could now close the ranks and—in the vital year ahead—unite in the selfless service that was necessary to achieve maximum success. (Applause.)

One or two speakers criticised a letter which had been circulated to the General Council over the names of some Members of the Executive. No expense to the E.T.T.A. was involved.

After the A.G.M., some members stayed to see the N.C.S. film show, arranged by Jack Carrington, assisted by Mr. Monk. Groups moved slowly away, continuing animated and informal meetings; some to reinforce new friendships; some to official committee meetings. And so, to the accompaniment of Northern twangs and Southern burrs, the A.G.M. was over. A New Year had begun. Not merely another year, but a real testing time for English Table Tennis that appealed to all for THEIR bit towards making this English occasion THE MOST MOMENTOUS IN THE HISTORY OF WORLD TABLE TENNIS. ●

# RESULTS OF BALLOT 1953-4

## Officers (National Election) :

Chairman: **IVOR MONTAGU** (262),  
C. Corti Woodcock (126).

Hon. Secretary/Hon. Treasurer: **A. K. VINT**, Unopposed (Re-elected).

## Members (Regional Elections) :

London (2 seats) : **E. G. WHITE** (49), **G. JAMES** (34). (R. Ather-ton 17; M. G. A. Brown 16; H. Finch 12; P. Hyde 12.)

Midland (2 seats) : **M. GOLDSTEIN** (53), **M. SCOTT** (43). (D. J. Rowley 14; S. D. Sugden 6.)

North-East (1 seat) : **E. REAY** (Unopposed).

North-West (2 seats) : **N. COOK** (52), **W. STAMP** (41). (L. W. Jones 9; E. Worsley 8.)

Southern (2 seats) : **F. G. MAN-NOOCH** (41), Miss **L. FER-GUSON** (25). (L. Thompson 16; F. Betts 12; R. J. Sewell 12; K. Watts 7; B. Carrier 3.)

South-West (2 seats, including 1 additional) : **H. J. AMERY** (31), **I. C. EYLES** (17). (A. Parsons 16.)

Yorkshire (1 seat) : **L. E. FORREST** (Unopposed).

Eastern (2 seats) : **L. S. WOOL-LARD** (50), **H. WALKER** (43). (E. Fairhead 21.)

Postal Election conducted by Proportional Representation Society. Certificate of Poll dated 22nd April, 1953.

Scrutineers (appointed by E.T.T.A.): G. Decker and D. W. Poupard.

Percentage of Electorate Voting: 60%

**CHANGES:** There are only 2 changes: G. James replaces G. R. Harrower in the London Region, and I. C. Eyles fills the new vacancy in the South-Western Region.

## EDITORIAL NOTICE

Twelve months ago *Table Tennis* introduced the following usage in publishing the results of Men's Doubles and of Women's Doubles events:—

The names of partners are given in alphabetical order of their surname, thus Algernon/Blackwood or Carleton/Hobbs, and NOT *vice-versa*. The method is recommended. In Mixed Doubles, the Man's name precedes the Woman's.

Time Limit games are indicated by an oblique between the two scores concerned, thus 18/17.

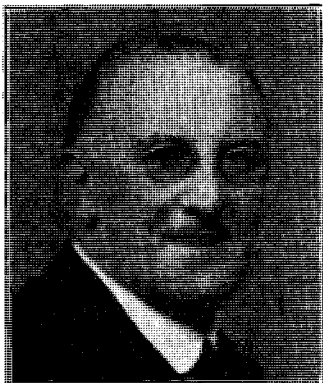
Ladies names are normally given without titles, except where it is definitely known to be "Mrs."

Another innovation used in recent months avoids needless repetition of names. Thus, instead of publishing the results of semis and final as:—

M.S. Aske bt. Bray 18, 20; Cart bt. Horse 14, 16. ASKE bt. Cart 13, —18, 14.

we now print:—

M.S. ASKE bt. (1) Bray 18, 20; bt. (2) Cart 13, —18, 14 (bt. Horse 14, 16).



## H. OLDROYD

President of The English Table Tennis Association, 1931-1953

—○—  
"His life was gentle ; and the elements  
So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world 'This 'was a Man' !"

### AN APPRECIATION

by D. W. POUPARD, Hon. Sec., E.T.T.A., 1930-1932 and  
Vice-President, E.T.T.A.

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. Harold Oldroyd, at his home in Stockport, on the 8th April, 1953, at the age of 77, after a long period of indifferent health and frequent illness.

Mr. Oldroyd, a Manchester textile manufacturer, was a great sportsman in every sense. Prior to the First World War he was one of the fastest bowlers and greatest hitters in Lancashire League Cricket. He became a popular golfer, handicap 2. His memories of table tennis went back to the amiable velleum racquet days of the 1890's and the more competitive period of the early 1900's. In the early 1920's he had one of the first full-sized tables in Manchester and his home was open to all enthusiasts. In 1928 he became the first President of the Manchester League.

"I believed then," he said, "that the E.T.T.A. was a responsible body, mostly to encourage and develop youth with its character-building qualities. I did not for one moment foresee its growth to such mammoth proportions with thousands of members, and still less myself having the very great honour of being its President."

He believed in the inherent goodness of the game, whether "for those who play the game, as I do, for the pleasure it affords and the friendships it makes" or for our players who "with skill, sportsmanship and serenity win World Championship honours." He was profoundly conscious and proud of the part played by the English Association in strengthening good international relations.

"May we go on climbing," he said, "keeping our heads and minds on all that the game can mean in providing physical fitness, healthy amusement, and that spirit of friendly rivalry which can do so much to build up character."

(continued foot of next col.)

A PHRASE worn threadbare by constant use, not always deserved, sums up, in my opinion, the character of our well-loved President—"A Nature's Gentleman." Always ready to discuss any question, to listen to any point of view, however "daft," quietly smiling, never complaining, always willing to help any lame dog over a stile—these are my impressions of a man I have had the honour and pleasure of knowing for practically a quarter of a century.

It seems hardly possible that he is no longer with us, and that no longer will he be able to grace the meetings and functions of the E.T.T.A. with his presence; but I am sure that his calm guidance in the years that have gone by will continue to benefit the association for a long time to come.

His delightful, unassuming manner charmed all those who met him, although few of them knew of his sufferings, more particularly of recent years. Almost from the time I first met him, he was a victim of arthritis, which as the years went by gradually got a greater and greater hold. And yet, all that an enquiry as to health would produce would be a quietly smiling rejoinder, "Oh I mustn't complain, although my leg has been a bit stiff." There was, I think, nothing he liked better than a trip from Manchester to London, to attend the A.G.M. of the Association, and to meet and listen to all those enthusiasts who used to gather together on the Saturday afternoon prior to the Meeting. These unofficial meetings usually formed the pattern of the A.G.M. which in the early '30's actually took place on the Sunday. I can see him now, sitting in at our meetings, listening to our arguments, chipping in where necessary, but *only* when necessary, and only when he felt his remarks would be of assistance.

This reminds me of a personal anecdote illustrating just one instance out of many, of his never-failing readiness to help. Quite a number of us had foregathered in the lounge of a certain Hotel in London, after an interminably long A.G.M., and when we had been talking for some time, Mrs. Poupard and I suddenly realised we had lost our last train home. Without any fuss, and in spite of vehement protests on my part, Mr. Oldroyd insisted upon our staying the night at the Hotel, as his guests—so we continued to talk T.T. until the small hours of the morning!

In 1934, the idea of Trophies for the Singles Championships was mooted, and once again Mr. Oldroyd came forward by presenting a very handsome Cup for the Men's Singles—the Oldroyd Cup.

His passing will be mourned by Table Tennis Officials and Players, not only of this country but of other nations as well; in fact, by all those who, like myself, had the privilege of his friendship.

D. W. Poupard

Mr. Oldroyd was elected President of the English Table Tennis Association in 1931 (in succession to the first President, the Hon. Ivor Montagu) and—sustained by the warm affection of all members—he has worthily retained the dignity of that office unto his death, a span of 23 years. He

was also President of the Lancashire and the Cheshire County Associations.

The funeral ceremony took place at Stockport on Saturday, 11th April 1953, when the Chairman, the Hon. Ivor Montagu represented the English Table Tennis Association.●

L.S.W.

# DICK MILES USA CHAMPION

By PAULINE ROBINSON

**D**ICK MILES won the U.S.A. national M.S. title at Kansas City in March for the 7th time. (Has any national title ever been held more than 7 times?\*) Miles beat Johnny Somael of New York in 4 close games.

Leah (Thall) Neuberger became W.S. champion for the 5th time, equalling the record of her final round opponent Sally Green Prouty, although Sally's wins were all in a row.

The women's field was exceptionally strong this year. In the quarters, Peggy McLean Folke bt. Peggy Ichkoff, Prouty defeated last year's finalist Lona Flam; and I lost to Mildred Shaihan. In the semis Sally beat Peggy McLean, and Leah beat Shaihan.

Bob Gusikoff (New York), whom I mentioned in an earlier letter as an up-and-coming youngster, won the Juniors from Dave Krizman in 4 games. Little Erwin Klein, 14 year old California wonder, took the Boys, defeating Krizman in the finals (although Krizman had beaten him in the semis of the Juniors!) Dave's

little sister Sharlene took the Junior Girl's from the holder Carolee Liechty.

The M.D. went to R. Miles/J. Somael; the Senior Singles to Sol Schiff; and the Esquire Singles to Bill Gunn. All from New York.

Pat Pulsford of England did not go home empty handed as she left with the Runner-up trophy in the Consolation Singles, losing to Carolee Liechty in the final. It was a fascinating tournament with notable upsets, the chief of which were the defeats of Tibor Hazi in the 8ths and Bernard Bukiet in the quarters by Jerry Gharamanian, champion of Iran, who is in school here. Jerry also took the first game from John Somaek.

**FINALLY**—hearty CONGRATULATION to the E.T.T.A. from the U.S.T.T.A. on the occasion of England winning the Swaythling Cup.●

Pauline Robinson

\* Helen Elliot won the Scottish Open W.S. title for the 8th successive time last month.

English J.S. Final: "Some lads are champions like Freundorfer—and some Arndt," says Walter Steinitz.

## GRIMSBY OPEN

Cleethorpes, 21st March, 1953

M.S. R. HINCHLIFF bt. (1) R. Crane 5, 7; bt. (2) G. Brooks 17, —23, 15 (bt. S. Dyson 11, —18, 12).

W.S. M. LIGHTFOOT bt. (1) Mrs. M. Hardy —18, 12, 19; bt. (2) Mrs. K. Simpson 16, 14 (bt. M. Jameson —26, 12, 22).

M.D. R. CRANE/W. ENGLAND bt. G. Brooks/S. Dyson 20, 14.

W.D. D. MUNNINGS/Mrs. K. SIMPSON bt. Mrs. P. Lammin/M. Rimmer 11, 19.

X.D. R. HINCHLIFF/M. JAMESON bt. G. Wadsworth/M. Lightfoot 15, —12, 19.

Y.S. J. BEAUMONT bt. B. Pennington 27, 19.

## 2nd NORTHANTS CLOSED

Peterboro', 26th March, 1953

M.S. B. ADAMS bt. (1) J. Warwick; bt. (2) J. W. Jones —14, 19, 19 (bt. A. Bartlett).

W.S. Mrs. K. Y. BUFFHAM bt. (1) Mrs. J. W. Jones; bt. (2) Mrs. V. M. Grubb 10, 9 (bt. Miss Tye).

M.D. P. MILLER/P. WESTLEY bt. B. Bond/C. S. Hogg 14, 16.

W.D. Mrs. M. BOSWORTH/Mrs. J. W. JONES bt. Mrs. Buffham/Mrs. Grubb 18, 20.

X.D. J. W. JONES/Mrs. JONES bt. B. Bond/Miss Tye 12, 15.

B.S. A. P. BILLINGHAM bt. M. Craddock 14, 15.

G.S. S. KISBEY bt. P. Grubb 17, 18.

Entry of 150; 25% increase over last year. Won by a "dark-horse"

—B. Adams (Northampton) over No. 1 seed, J. W. Jones. Showed good defence and determination. Adams' form was unknown because he is at University.

## TABLE TENNIS TABLES RESURFACED AS NEW

VERY REASONABLE COST

### Have it done Now and Enjoy Your Game

"The best resurfacing job I have seen or ever played on."

(Signed)

KEN CRAIGIE  
MICHAEL THORNHILL  
HARRY VENNER

CONSULT

LEO THOMPSON

and

NICK NICHOLSON

The T.T. Experts

"Very good job . . . so pleased . . . After having one table done we intend to have the rest of our tables resurfaced."

(Signed)

BOB ATHERTON,  
Putney Club Secretary

"AUCHMEAD", THE AVENUE, SUNNYMEADS, WRAYSBUURY, BUCKS

# 28th ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Empire Poll & Sports Arena, Wembley, 7—11th April, 1953

## MEN'S EVENTS

Reported by TONY MILLER

**T**HE matches on Wednesday and Thursday evenings were the most interesting and surprising seen there for a long time. Three members of England's victorious Swaythling Cup team were beaten and the fourth member was within a point of extinction. The players who had come from the World Championships may have been suffering from tiredness or reaction but they still had to be beaten—and beaten most of them were. Only two seeds were left for the quarter-finals!

Richard Bergmann, barely recognisable as the holder, found himself two games down and only scraped the third at 19 in a second round struggle with Brian Brumwell whose rushing unorthodox attack ran a bewildered Bergmann to 17 in the fifth. Bergmann, hesitant and groping, entirely lacked his touch and confidence, and his defeat in the next round by Belgium's Georges Roland was not unexpected, although he led 12-8 in the fifth; only to lose 15-21.

Aubrey Simons lost a close five-game contest to Bryan Merrett who hung on grimly and produced some fine shots when all seemed lost. Brian Kennedy fell 1-3 to Hants. County player Alan Sherwood, who hit with power, speed and control, preventing the Yorkshireman from using his best game. A fine win. Alan Rhodes (though he had come near defeat to Surrey's Spychalski) once again hit at his brilliant best against René Roothoft and, partly aided by a listless display by his opponent, romped home in three quick games.

Michael Thornhill found the usually dour Ehrlich in an hap-hazard and indifferent attacking mood and took full advantage; 3-0. 47 year-old Lionel Kerslake of Devon had an amazing match with the former Czech, Max Marinko who began playing with his sponge bat but found Kerslake's sponge most disconcerting and at 3-11 down changed it for his outsize wooden bat. He lost that game 4-21 and, unnerved, the next two.

Harry Venner was in top fettle and beat Roland with a convincing display (3-1) and later fully extended Hagenauer in their quarter-final clash. The Leach-Amouretti tussle was very tense, with the Englishman winning—19, 19, —17, 10, 20. Leach was 17-20 down in the fifth and Amouretti, with his neat and concise strokes,

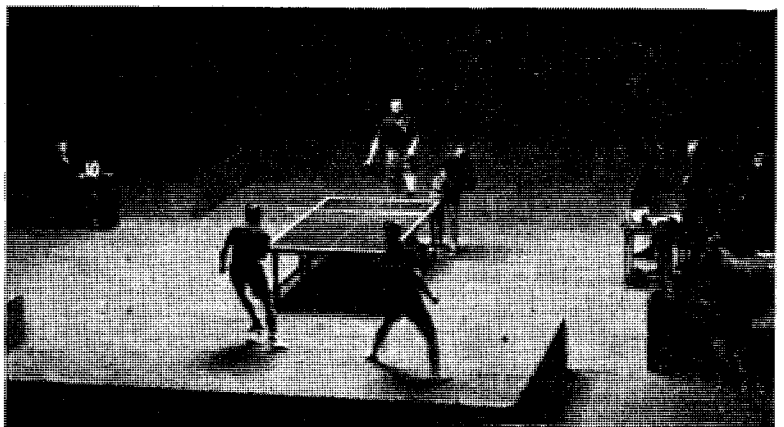
looked the winner, but Leach remained cool and with the assistance of one net-cord took the next 5 points in an exciting and desperate finish.

The play on Friday night opened attractively with the Ken Craigie—Sherwood counter-hitting clash won 3-1 by Craigie who had earlier beaten the dangerous Konrad Freundorfer in 4 close games and Rhodes over 5; two very good wins. Neither Leach with Head, nor Lansky with Thornhill, had a moment's difficulty and, apart from Venner's efforts against Hagenauer, the quarters lacked tense-ness—the quality which most appeals to the large, rather cold audiences in the vast Stadium.

The semi-finals were good matches. Craigie extended Leach with patient top spin and quick-angled kills from

his very safe forehand drive. At one stage Craigie appeared to have a chance of leading 2-0, but after, rather unluckily, losing a close second, Craigie weakened considerably in the third and fourth games, and never looked like taking them. Michael Lansky with his beautifully fluent two-wing attack sustained a punishing offensive against Hagenauer but never varied his game by the use of drop shots or occasionally slowing his drives. (There are *world class* players who do not appear to make anything like the best use of their games.) Lansky and Harangozo fall into this category. Intelligence and the tactical sense are worth many points, but only the greatest players in the world class can combine those qualities with robust, forceful play into a winning

(please turn over)



No. 882

Peter Madge

Two fine action shots of the Men's Doubles Final showing the Swaythling Cup champions in action. TOP—Bergmann (back left), makes a deep chop to a hard, left-handed drive from Kennedy (front right); Simons (front) and Leach (back) move in rapidly. BOTTOM—Simons moves quickly to short-chop a smash drive from Bergmann, while Leach (back left) is already in position to drive Simons' return. (FRIDAY evening).

amalgam). It was, however, a good hard-fought match and revealed Haguenuer defending at his best with some excellent returns and heavy angled chop applied with untiring energy.

### THE FINAL.

The English hopes were high that Leach would keep the title in England but from the outset it was obvious that Haguenuer was immensely determined, fit and playing splendidly in defence with his occasional hard forehand working with speed and fury. Both players opened cautiously, with great respect for each other's defences. Play, though understandably tentative was perhaps over cautious, but with the title at stake *neither could afford to present the public with an exhibition match and his opponent with a gratuitous trophy.*

Suddenly Haguenuer flashed three wristy forehands to Leach's backhand and took a quick lead which he grimly held until the end of the first game. The rallies were long and nerve-racking and each game looked likely to "break the clock."

The beginning of the second game saw Leach pick his time and opportunity with a few placed forehand kills, and he took an 8-3 lead, strangely, he then made two errors pushing nervously into the net and off the table—8-5, an unexpected and fatal respite for the Frenchman who chopped harder and completely triumphed over his usual excitability. He finally levelled at 10-10, and the game went on with great care until 15-all, then a cramped forehand-off from Leach and after long rallies, Haguenuer got to 20-17—the ball was lost and a new one produced. Could Leach do it? One point—yes, but Haguenuer had the feel of the new ball and got the next point for game 18.

Leach could now either chance a quick attack or rely on solid defence and outlast his opponent. He did a little of both and fell between two stools, Haguenuer going to a 12-3 lead. After a number of trying rallies Leach levelled at 15-all. Once again he hit off and the Frenchmen continued to chop getting to 20-16 when the first and only time-limit of the championships halted the match with Haguenuer the clear and deserved winner.

### MEN'S DOUBLES

THE world championship runners-up, Leach and Bergmann did not experience much trouble in winning this event, though they were often given a good game, notably by Crouch and Adams. In the final Simons and Kennedy could not achieve the necessary understanding and rhythm in attack to beat the strong defences before them.

### MIXED DOUBLES

VICTOR BARN A won his seventh English Mixed Title and his 19th English title when, with Rosalind Rowe he beat Leach and Diane Rowe 3-2 in an excellent final. Barn appeared fitter and in better form than for some time.

There were many close and thrilling matches, leading results being the defeats of Simons/Elliott and Haguenuer/Pritzi by Derek Burridge and Peggy Piper, and the victory of Lanskoj/Roberts over Bergmann/Werti.

### MEN'S VETERANS

ALEC BROOK lost his title to

Lionel Kerslake in a lengthy nervous final. Veterans and Juniors have one thing in common—they both play better in the ordinary singles events!

### SUMMING-UP

THE tournament over, one's chief impression is first of early shocks and then of the ever-improving standard of all-round play—especially juniors and women. I feel that the Saturday finals programme is too long, perhaps the presentation of prizes could be cut by some method. The standard of umpiring was, as always, in the highest English tradition. ●

A. R. Miller

## ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1952-53

### MEN'S SINGLES (from the 4th Round)—THE OLDROYD CUP

G. Roland (Belgium)	{ Venner 14,	} <b>HAGUENAUER</b> —14, 19, 12, 18 16	} <b>M. HAGUENAUER (France)</b> 20, —13, 12 15, 18, 21/16 T.L.
H. Venner (Surrey)	{ —14, 18, 16		
R. Crayden (Surrey)	{ Haguenuer	} <b>HAGUENAUER</b> 20, —13, 12	
*Haguenuer (France)	{ 18, 18, —14, 20		
B. Merrett (Glos.)	{ Lanskoj	} <b>LANSKOY</b> 9, 11, 12	
M. Lanskoj (France)	{ 15, 15, 14		
R. Hinchliff (Yorks.)	{ Thornhill	} <b>LEACH</b> 14, 14, 18	
M. Thornhill (Middx.)	{ —13, 18, 10, 21		
*J. Leach (Essex)	{ Leach —19,	} <b>LEACH</b> —20, 13, 15, 15	
G. Amouretti (France)	{ 19, —17, 10, 20		
J. Head (Surrey)	{ Head	} <b>LEACH</b> —20, 13, 15, 15	
C. Booth (Lancs.)	{ 13, 17, 12		
*B. Kennedy (Yorks.)	{ Sherwood 19,	} <b>CRAIGIE</b> 9, —17, 15, 16	
A. Sherwood (Hants.)	{ —17, 20, 18		
K. Craigie (Surrey)	{ Craigie —20,	}	
A. Rhodes (Middx.)	{ —19, 14, 14, 15		

\* Seeded Player

### WOMEN'S SINGLES (from the 3rd Round)—THE NICHOLLS CUP

*R. Rowe (Middx.)	{ Rowe	} <b>R. ROWE</b> —18, 19, 21, 14	} <b>R. ROWE (England)</b> 17, 14, —14, —24, 16
J. Winn (Surrey)	{ 16, 17, 15		
A. Haydon (Warwicks.)	{ Haydon	} <b>R. ROWE</b> 16, 15, —18, 16	
*B. Gray (Wales)	{ 11, 12, 12		
*C. K. Best (Yorks.)	{ Best	} <b>C. K. BEST</b> 18, —13, 13, 15	
Y. Baker (Essex)	{ 13, 12, 13		
E. Crews (Wales)	{ Pritzi	} <b>H. ELLIOT</b> 18, 11, 14	
*G. Pritzi (Austria)	{ 8, 4, 8		
*H. Elliot (Scotland)	{ Elliot	} <b>L. WERTL</b> 20, 16, —20, 19	
J. Mackay (Warwicks.)	{ 16, 8, 10		
A. G. Bates (Wales)	{ Rowe	} <b>L. WERTL</b> 20, 16, —20, 19	
*D. Rowe (Middx.)	{ 17, 19, 15		
*M. Piper (Surrey)	{ Isaacs 12, —15,	}	
B. Isaacs (Surrey)	{ 15, —18, 19		
M. Cumberbatch (Wks.)	{ Werti —17, 8,	}	
*L. Werti (Austria)	{ —21, 19, 21		

\* Seeded Player

### JUNIOR SINGLES (BOYS) (Performances of Quarter-Finalists)—THE FINNEY CUP

E. ARNDT (Germany) bt. B. M. Brooks 15, 16; C. Booth 17, 16; B. T. Barr 17, 15; J. ROSS (France) bt. D. Blacknell 7, 12; G. J. Bradford 12, 15; H. G. Boyce 13, 13; R. MORLEY (Glos.) bt. P. J. Grimstead 9, 10; K. Shoab —11, 9, 8; D. G. PHILLIPS (Wales) bt. G. Gladwish 15, 17; bt. G. Holden (Ireland) 15, 18; D. A. HOUSE (Somerset) bt. L. Landry 15, —19, 8; A. Danton 15, 14; B. G. CARTWRIGHT (Herts.) bt. C. Pursell (Scol.) 17, —7, 19; S. Nicolson (Sweden) 20, 17; L. Shopper —15, 20, 13; R. DORKING (Essex) bt. A. Logue 16, 11; R. Martin 17, 16; D. Robinson 18, 21; K. FREUNDORFER (Germany) bt. B. Wright 17, 5; T. Foster 10, 11; R. Dorking 12, 18.  
K. FREUNDORFER bt. (1) D. House —12, 12, 14; bt. (2) E. Arndt 16, —19, 12 (bt. R. Morley 14, 18).

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A. R. Miller

## ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1952-53

### MEN'S SINGLES (from the 4th Round)—THE OLDROYD CUP

G. Roland (Belgium)	{ Venner 14,	} <b>HAGUENAUER</b> —14, 19, 12, 18 16	} <b>M. HAGUENAUER (France)</b> 20, —13, 12  15, 18, 21/16 T.L.
H. Venner (Surrey)	{ —14, 18, 16		
R. Crayden (Surrey)	{ Haguenuer	} <b>HAGUENAUER</b> 20, —13, 12	
*Haguenuer (France)	{ 18, 18, —14, 20		
B. Merrett (Glos.)	{ Lanskoj	} <b>LANSKOY</b> 9, 11, 12	
M. Lanskoj (France)	{ 15, 15, 14		
R. Hinchliff (Yorks.)	{ Thornhill	} <b>LEACH</b> 14, 14, 18	
M. Thornhill (Middx.)	{ —13, 18, 10, 21		
*J. Leach (Essex)	{ Leach —19,	} <b>LEACH</b> 14, 14, 18	
G. Amouretti (France)	{ 19, —17, 10, 20		
J. Head (Surrey)	{ Head	} <b>LEACH</b> —20, 13, 15, 15	
C. Booth (Lancs.)	{ 13, 17, 12		
*B. Kennedy (Yorks.)	{ Sherwood 19,	} <b>CRAIGIE</b> 9, —17, 15, 16	
A. Sherwood (Hants.)	{ —17, 20, 18		
K. Craigie (Surrey)	{ Craigie —20,	} <b>CRAIGIE</b> 9, —17, 15, 16	
A. Rhodes (Middx.)	{ —19, 14, 14, 15		

\* Seeded Player

### WOMEN'S SINGLES (from the 3rd Round)—THE NICHOLLS CUP

*R. Rowe (Middx.)	{ Rowe	} <b>R. ROWE</b> —18, 19, 21, 14	} <b>R. ROWE (England)</b> 17, 14, —14, —24, 16
J. Winn (Surrey)	{ 16, 17, 15		
A. Haydon (Warwicks.)	{ Haydon	} <b>R. ROWE</b> 16, 15, —18, 16	
*B. Gray (Wales)	{ 11, 12, 12		
*C. K. Best (Yorks.)	{ Best	} <b>C. K. BEST</b> 18, —13, 13, 15	
Y. Baker (Essex)	{ 13, 12, 13		
E. Crews (Wales)	{ Pritzi	} <b>H. ELLIOT</b> 18, 11, 14	
*G. Pritzi (Austria)	{ 8, 4, 8		
*H. Elliot (Scotland)	{ Elliot	} <b>H. ELLIOT</b> 18, 11, 14	
J. Mackay (Warwicks.)	{ 16, 8, 10		
A. G. Bates (Wales)	{ Rowe	} <b>L. WERTL</b> 20, 16, —20, 19	
*D. Rowe (Middx.)	{ 17, 19, 15		
*M. Piper (Surrey)	{ Isaacs 12, —15,	} <b>L. WERTL</b> 12, 10, 16	
B. Isaacs (Surrey)	{ 15, —18, 19		
M. Cumberbatch (Wks.)	{ Wertl —17, 8,	} <b>L. WERTL</b> 12, 10, 16	
*L. Wertl (Austria)	{ —21, 19, 21		

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K. FREUNDORFER bt. (1) D. House —12, 12, 14; bt. (2) E. Arndt 16, —19, 12 (bt. R. Morley 14, 18).



## Voted The Best FINAL



No. 878 (Left)

Diane Rowe (right) is first to congratulate Twin sister Rosalind immediately after her spectacular win.

### W.S. FINAL: ROSALIND ROWE bt. LINDE WERTL (Friday Evening, April 10th)

THE first two games to Ros Rowe who dived and darted like quicksilver, retrieving every ball with an accurate and varied defence. Gradually Wertl settled down and fought back. Her killing forehand increased in power and desperation, lifting her form to last year's high level; but whereas last year Ros had no answer to those hard hit winners on her backhand wing, now she was confident and able to hold the initiative with a strong backhand counter hit.

This shot, developed since last year's hard lesson, was all that Ros needed to turn the scale. In the 5th game, with a crowded house sighing, hoping, longing for an English victory, Rosalind played for us—as no English girl has played for years. She demonstrated—as though in exhibition play—a perfect long defence, a devastating forehand and this newly acquired backhand counterhit which, played off Wertl's explosive forehand, was a backhand indeed!

Thus the title came back to England after 13 years. Perhaps 1953 will be remembered as "the first year" in which Rosalind Rowe, that friendly, gentle, brilliant Middlesex Twin won the English Open title, for she now possesses everything necessary to hold that trophy for many years to come. ●

Peggy Allen

### JUNIOR SINGLES (GIRLS) (Performances of Quarter Finalists)— THE DRESDEN VASE

A. HAYDON (Warwicks.) bt. J. Botttrill 16, 15; M. Skindoris (Germany) 13, 18. S. JONES (Wales) bt. R. Reed 6, 11; M. Alber (France) 12, 6. F. LAUBER (Austria) bt. J. Hodson 14, 19; B. Spooner 11, 14. J. ROOK (Surrey) bt. M. Roger (C.I.) 8, 10; G. Arnaud (France) —14, 10, 12.

A. HAYDON bt. (1) S. Jones 14, 14; bt. (2) J. Rook 16, —12, 19 (bt. F. Lauber 6, 19).

### MEN'S DOUBLES (From Eighths)

R. BERGMANN/J. LEACH bt. (1) I. Jones/A. Sherwood 11, 16, 10; bt. (1) L. Adams/B. Crouch 14, —18, 21, 14 (bt. K. Craigie/H. Venner —18, 22, —12, 16, 16). V. BARNA/M. HAGUENAUER bt. (1) T. Jones/W. Thomas 9, 9, 14; bt. (1) B. Merrett/R. Morley —18, 17, 13, 15 (bt. P. Cruwys/R. Griffin 20, 12, —12, 16). B. KENNEDY/A. SIMONS bt. (1) P. Pudney/R. Turner 14, 15, —18, 18; bt. (1) R. Etheridge/D. Phillips 17, 16, 15 (bt. C. Frecker/R. Hook 12, 10, 18). B. BRUMWELL/K. COLLAR bt. (1) G. Amouretti/S. Nicolson 12, 17, 14; bt. (1) R. Crayden/E. Filby 24, 10, 15 (bt. A. R. Miller/K. Spychalski 21, 18, 9).

R. BERGMANN/J. LEACH bt. (S/F) V. Barna/M. Haguenauer 14, 13, 20; bt. (Final) B. Kennedy/A. Simons 17, 15, 14 (bt. (S/F) B. Brumwell/K. Collar 11, —15, 10, —17, 15).

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES (From Quarter-Finals)

P. GALL/J. ROOK bt. Mrs. E. Carrington/B. Milbank 12, 11, 18. M. FRANKS/J. ROBERTS bt. S. Jones/Mrs. V. Rowe 14, —13, 11, —24, 11. Mrs. M. CUMBERBATCH/J. MACKAY bt. P. Baird/P. Mortimer 16, 18, —13, 15, 19. D. & R. ROWE bt. C. K. Best/M. Piper 19, 18, 15.

D. and R. ROWE bt. (S/F) Cumberbatch/Mackay 5, 18, —19, 18; bt. (Final) Gall/Rook 13, —11, 9, 15 (bt. (S/F) Franks/Roberts 17, 12, 15).

## LADIES EVENTS

Reported by PEGGY ALLEN

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

THE first international to topple was Joyce Roberts who lost to an accurate, determined Peggy Franks who looked almost her old self. Having beaten Ros Rowe at Scarborough only three days before, she looked to be well in the running. Then after her Essex team mate Yvonne Baker had beaten her 3-1, Peggy's "mixed" partner failed to arrive and Joyce Roberts (her W.D. partner) pulled a muscle during a vital semi-final game. Poor Peggy, it certainly wasn't her tournament.

Excluding the Final, the two outstanding matches were played by girls who, although within an ace of beating Pritzi and Wertl, have yet to gain their international caps.

Popular Joy Seaman (Middlesex No. 3) possesses a brilliantly consistent attack on both wings, and she used it so effectively that she led Pritzi 12-8 in the 5th game. Then a lapse of confidence and within seconds she was 12-17 down. Another burst from Joy and it was 19-all! The crowd roared applause for the tenacious hitter who time and again, angled her swift drives through that notorious defence. At 21-all Joy faltered. Two tentative shots and the match went to Trudi 23-21 in the fifth.

The other brilliant match was the 3rd round meeting between the frail Linde Wertl and pleasant Marjorie Cumberbatch, probably the most unorthodox woman player England has produced. Marjorie's fierce backhand (which reduced the fiery little Austrian to a nervous uncertainty) is one made with the face of the bat from the backhand wing. This shot, so difficult to anticipate, was still surprising Wertl as late as the 5th game, but Marjorie's luck deserted her when she needed it most, and Wertl ran out the winner at 22-20 with a deceptive edge ball on the baseline. What a gallant fight! No matter what her style, anyone who can so nearly beat the current No. 3 in the world cannot be far from international recognition.

### QUARTER FINALS

Kath Best beat Trudi Pritzi in a classic quarter-final. Other notable quarter-finalists were 14-year old Ann Haydon and Betty Isaacs (Surrey) who lost to R. Rowe and L. Wertl respectively. Scotland's Helen Elliot (another player with muscle trouble) conquered Diane Rowe, and went through to put on a brave fight in the semi-final where she lost 1-3 to Wertl.

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(concluded from previous page)

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

The outstanding pair were junior Jill Rook and 19 year old Pam Gall (who so far has not even represented her county). After defeating Elliot/Wertl they went on to beat Franks/Roberts, but this match was marred by Joyce Roberts unfortunate ankle injury.

The Rowe Twins took the title comfortably (for the 4th successive year), but Pam and Jill are to be congratulated on their calm display which made the final less one-sided than might have been expected. ●

Peggy Allen

### MIDLAND IMPRESSIONS OF WEMBLEY

By E. G. URWIN, Chairman,  
Northants County (Abd.)

THE more lasting impressions: the smooth efficiency with which everything is run; the almost "monumental" dignity with which the Umpire marches out with his team and their immaculate performance; the friendliness of everybody, stars chatting with unknowns, old friends meeting and being introduced to new friends.

And the players? The women scored over the men both in attractiveness of play and their dress. (The men obviously didn't carry an iron with them: the ladies must have done!) Outstanding? Of course, Rosalind Rowe. Not only for that wonderful performance on Friday against Wertl, but also (winning her triple title) in the X.D. with Barna. The grand display in the Girls' Final and the pluckiness of Pam Gall and Jill Rook in the W.D. Final.

The men? Our present first raters have nothing on the pre-war vintage. Losing semi-finalists Lanskoj and Craigie would, we think, have made a more rousing final. (Incidentally when a service touches the net, it is a "Let"; when a played ball touches the net, its either good luck or bad luck—which ever side it falls. Seems illogical).

The boys played a rather polite, apologetic kind of game. The two German boys, Fruendorfer and Arndt—particularly the latter—were spirited and aggressive. No wonder they took the scalps. They deserved to.

We arrived home 3 a.m. Sunday morning. Was it worth it? Emphatically YES.

• E. G. Urwin

### English Open "Roundabout"

By GEOFF. COULTHREAD

MAX MARINKO (entering from Austria) was sensationally defeated by 47 year old Lionel Kerslake (Exeter) with his sponge rubber bat, in the 1st round. (4, 20, 17). In the Consolations, Derek Burridge (just released from the R.A.F.) beat Marinko 30-28 in the third. Thus Max featured (on the wrong side) in games of 21-4 and 30-28!

KATHIE BEST proved that *Trudi Pritzi* (after Roseanu and Farkas, the hardest player to beat) can be HIT off . . . Bespectacled, benevolent Belgium No. 1 *Georges Roland*, played in by *Les Sawyer* and *Jack Carrington* had the achievement of his life in beating *Bergmann* 17, —15, —17, 14, 15. In the last 16, however, Venner found his vulnerable spot in front of the body.

EHRlich was beaten 3-0 in the 3rd round by *Micky Thornhill* (18, 19, 17.). *Tony Miller* won a 5-game duel with *Maurice Kriss* but though tired, Tony fought a hard battle with *Rene Roothoft*—a full 5 games—and the Frenchman showed little resistance left for his next match with his "bogey" *Alan Rhodes* who (repeating last year's performance) beat him 3-0.

French juniors *Ross* and *Gambier* did quite well, the latter closely beating *Keith Hurlock* (—13, —10, 19, 21, 13). *Guy Amouretti* led *Johnny Leach* 10-4 in the 5th game (last 16) after being 2-4 down, helped by 4 netcords. Johnny pulled up to 11-12. Guy led at 17-13 and 20-17. Two good winners plus Johnny's only piece of luck in a very short return, and 2 winners (5 points in a row) to clinch the match. The Press reported "Lucky Leach"! I would say Amouretti was the lucky one.

Again we saw the annual miracle of *Helen Elliot*. HOW she retains her form without top-class competition is remarkable. She beat *Di Rowe* and (despite a pulled muscle) gave *Linde Wertl* a fright in the semi-final. In this match, Linde was 2-0 and 20-21 and in making a return on the run, moved the table, and therefore lost the point and the game. She then took her 5-minute rest period and consulted Dr. Kunodi (Austrian team manager). In the 4th game, Helen pulled up from 15-20 to 19-20 before losing.

Bill McGowan, *Evening News*, wrote up Mrs. *Vera Rowe* (Wales) as the "Glamour Girl" of the tournament. *Audrey Bates* (last 16) lost to *Ros Rowe*. *Shirley Jones* and *D. G. Phillips* also did well. The Irish contingent showed great enthusiasm and looked very smart in their emerald shirts.

*Peter Burnett* (Oxford University and Wimbledon) won through the qualifying competition and fought his way to Round 3 where he was beaten by international *Brian Merrett* (after taking the 3rd game). A performance all the more meritorious because Peter's wife had been taken seriously ill on the previous day.

Last year, The Editor had the contents of his car stolen. This year *Ron Sharman* went one better: his car was stolen. The police recovered it next day—with 2 gallons of water in the tank!

*Diane Rowe* showed what Stephen Potter might call "Twinmanship" (emotional fellow-travelling) watching twin sister Ros in the W.S. Final. She suffered every agony of suspense and frustration combined with extremes of jubilation and exhilaration during the final pulsating, nerve-tingling game as Ros overcame the dynamic little Austrian. ●

Geoff. Coulthead

### MIXED DOUBLES (From Quarter-Finals)

J. LEACH/D. ROWE bt. (4) K. Craigie/J. Rook —15, 18, —16, 16, 18; bt. (S/F) M. Lanskoj/J. Roberts 16, 15, 20 (bt. (4) A. Rhodes/M. Fry —16, 20, 15, 14). V. BARNA/R. ROWE bt. (4) R. Crayden/J. Winn —23, 13, —19, 10, 17; bt. (S/F) D. Burridge/M. Piper 11, 16, 7 (bt. A. Simons/H. Elliot 16, 18, 16).

V. VARNA/R. ROWE bt. J. Leach/D. Rowe —18, 15, —14, 12, 16.

### MENS VETERAN SINGLES

FINAL: L. KERSLAKE (Devon) bt. A. D. Brook (Sussex) 17, —11, 16.

### WOMEN'S VETERAN SINGLES

FINAL: Mrs. I. B. BELL (Essex) bt. Mrs. D. Tudor (Leics.) 7, 15.

### JUNIOR DOUBLES (BOYS)

A. DANTON/R. DORKING bt. (S/F) T. Densham/D. Robinson 15, 19; bt. (F) D. House/R. Morley 18, —15, 14 (bt. C. Booth/D. Phillips —15, 15, 20).

### JUNIOR DOUBLES (GIRLS)

A. HAYDON/J. ROOK bt. (S/F) B. Spooner/M. Skindoris 12, 12; bt. (F) S. Jones/F. Lauber —24, 18, 18 (bt. J. Bottrill/J. Hodson 10, 17).

### JUNIOR DOUBLES (MIXED)

D. PHILLIPS/F. LAUBER bt. (S/F) K. Fruendorfer/M. Skindoris —21, 15, 15; bt. (F) C. Booth/J. Rook 7, 16 (bt. D. House/S. Jones 19, 13).

### CONSOLATION SINGLES

M.S. D. BURRIDGE bt. J. Lowe 13, —18, 17.

W.S. Y. J. SEAMAN bt. Mrs. G. Roland (Belgium) 10, —13, 17.

## ENGLISH OPEN

In *Table Tennis*, March, 1951, Jack Carrington showed how ambitious players profit by observation, picking out 18-year-old Alan Sherwood as a future hope capable of learning this way. And so—to a quarter-final of this year's English.

By JACK CARRINGTON

**A**LAN SHERWOOD is typical of many a young talented player. Having devoted a whole article (in *Table Tennis*, March, 1951) to the assessment of one of his matches, it was with special interest that I attempted to re-assess him on the occasion of his first appearance on Wembley's Centre Court.

From London University final to English Open quarter-final constitutes a creditable rate of progress for two seasons, especially as there were no flukes about Alan's victories. He crashed through the clever tactical defence of ex-international Sharman, and rattled current Swaythling Cup player Kennedy into defeat.

Superficially there seemed little difference between the Sherwood of 1951 and that of 1953. He still carries too much weight for a young athlete, but he is speedy in lateral movement, darting across from backhand to forehand corners brilliantly to impose his forehand domination of the game. He rarely uses a chop or any defensive stroke.

Against a sudden switch in the reverse direction his movement is nearly as fast, and he has a smart backhand half-volley to help cover up the tender spots. His mental reflex is especially quick in deciding when to change his hoped-for forehand counterhit to a defensive backhand block. It was the mental attribute which saved him against Brian Kennedy's left hand drives to the body.

As the score shows, Sherwood met his match, and more than his match, in Craigie. Let's face it. Ken Craigie is a class above Sherwood. But so is Kennedy. The interesting and teasing question for all of us at times is, "If I can rise to win over one better man, why can't I do it with another?"

The answer in this case is that Craigie "saw Sherwood coming"; Kennedy didn't!

\* \* \* \*

AS ALAN arrived for the Friday evening session, he remarked "Oh, only one table!" A moral advantage here to Craigie, who has been "out in the centre" in many places before.

Technically speaking, Craigie can either duplicate or counter Sherwood's stroke equipment and tactics as he

wishes. In addition, he knows full well the value of occasional restraint, even if, being one of the gay cavaliers of the game, he scorns to use it.

Against such odds, Sherwood did what most people do in their first Centre-Court game: flung the first game away as fast as possible (9-21). Very creditably he steadied himself for Game 2, and gave me a chance to study his movements. Most noticeable improvement to the 1951 Sherwood was the addition of a good and free Reisman backhand drive from the body to follow up his resourceful forehand work. (This Reisman stroke defeats brief description, but can be seen in the current Halex film of the "Stockholm World Championships"). Also his forehand drive action has at last loosened up, resulting in better speed and angling.

Less noticeable, but more important to the 100% attacker, was a slight improvement in footwork, viz., the yielding of 18 inches or so from the baseline, without ceasing to counter-attack, when the opponent was pressing him.

The lesson here is that, whereas stubbornness of policy may be necessary and even profitable, stubbornness of stance is inexcusable.

Sheer fighting power took Alan 14-16 to 18-17 in this 2nd game and here he showed his improved self-control by slowing down a little to allow the situation to play on Craigie's nerves. Craigie obliged in this instance with three rather shaky shots to concede the game.

After that, however, everything went to plan; Craigie's plan! albeit with Sherwood well in the game at all times.

Perhaps another time we will take a close look at the bold and aristocratic play of Craigie. This time we are interested in our upper-middle-class man, 23 year-old Sherwood, whom we have seen improve in fluency and speed and tactical knowledge. *Strategically*, he is at the cross-roads, facing the problem of all the hit-'em-quick, sweep-'em-off-their-feet lads.

Deadly in the club-rooms, dangerous in the hustle-bustle of the earlier rounds, they are seldom effective in the calm and lofty arenas where the big stuff is played.

Crayden, Crouch, Venner, all discovered this, and in due course, adapted their play.

You can climb small cliffs by rushing at them, but when it comes to big ones, you must know how to hang on, too.

Said Sherwood afterwards, "What else could I do?" The answer is "Nothing, at the moment. Your tactics were right, gambling on upsetting the better man!"

"Now you have to take a long view. Can you by hard work and practice learn to vary your rhythm of attack? Can you learn to use a little more of the back space in order to cushion your opponent's attacking efforts?"

Well, at least it will be fun finding out.

Jack Carrington

## "Home Advantage"

By C. E. DAVIES

**T**HE match venue was a church hall and the bells tolled for us as our recce party searched for the T.T. room. We found a table in the crypt. A place of similar appearance to a section of an underground railway.

Our team began to change and were in various stages of undress when I walked a visiting ladies team! (Blessings on the head of the still absent organising genius!) Then what the popular writers might describe as an embarrassed confusion of hasty covering and demure blushes!

Eventually the two home teams arrived and after a hasty pow-wow, it was arranged that the ladies teams would improvise on a table "somewhere up above."

After starting half-an-hour late, we had reached the 4th set. Then—without warning—darkness fell on the crypt as swiftly as the guillotine... Feminine giggles suggested that the girls were unsuccessful as amateur electricians.

After all attempts at repair had failed, the electricity authority was contacted... "An electrician will be there in 10 minutes," they said.

In the hour following in which we waited for an electrician's 10 minutes to pass, the refreshments were prepared by torchlight—biscuits and a thick potion of dubious flavour and unrecognisable origin.

Eleven o'clock pip emma struck as mournful as the Inchcape Bell and heralded the arrival of the tardy, 'authority' and the subsequent bringing of light to our darkness. But when the match (a Cup match, by the way), was resumed, we three had been thoroughly conditioned by the circumstances, the 'cryptic' brew and the darkness... Our resistance was weak... We were demoralised.

Even the bells and the clocks had gone on strike from striking as we slunk wearily out into the still, darkness of the night... going home far, far wiser in the tactics of how a match can be won. And lost! ●

C. E. Davies

# TOO MUCH FOR TOO FEW!

By A. A. WALL

**T**WENTY YEARS ago the West Bromwich T.T.A. was founded by "practical idealists" who organised the game in the district for evening recreation. Later we played a few representative inter-league matches that brought us civic recognition.

Now things are getting a little beyond control. We have 3 teams (Men's, Women's and Junior) in the Midland League; 2 teams (1 Men's and 1 Women's) in the South Staffs. League; and we are now invited to enter a team for the new County League. All these provide play for just the few top players. We pay for halls, lighting, refreshments, equipment and transport—all for the few! Apart from a few inter-league matches, wouldn't this amount of money be better spent for our very many juniors?

Income from these matches is NIL. Our spectators are out-numbered by the visitors; just as on our away matches, our supporters out-number those of the home side. (On a recent occasion, our THREE supporters out-numbered the home side's by 3 to 1!)

What has caused the fall in audiences? Firstly, too many matches. 27 in the Midland League and 16 in the South Staffs: a total of 43 inter-league matches in one season. Now there will be the County League. (It would help, perhaps, if we had a hall that could house 3 matches in one evening so that we could play the Men's, Women's and Junior teams of one town together).

With our own district league competitions, cups competitions, and various tournaments, in addition to the inter-town matches, we shall soon have playing indigestion!

From an income point of view, County matches have given inter-league matches a back seat. Even so, we were shocked after staging a County Match at West Bromwich, when after catering for 480 spectators only 56 turned up! We could, collectively, rightly be accused of apathy . . . and yet, our league of 8 divisions is thriving, the individuals are keen, and our K.O. tournaments have the highest entry for years.

We must face it. What was once a welcome attraction has lost its appeal through its abundance. Audiences are split over many matches. The constant booking of halls, etc., often interferes with the local league programme. Hasn't it come to a position of too much for too few? ●

A. A. Wall

(See top next column)

SO FAR as county matches are concerned several letters suggest a contrary view to that of Mr. Wall. Typical extracts say, "We staged a county match at ---- last month and I think that the good it has done is beyond measure. They were very appreciative and 100% helpful . . ."

"As you know I was never keen on our joining the County Championships . . . and a recent match . . . amazed me by the burst of local enthusiasm which followed . . ."

"Before an enthusiastic 700 crowd at May & Baker's at Dagenham. This firm went to a lot of trouble . . . More co-operation like this and counties would have less financial worries." (Geoff Harrower's report, March issue).

On the other hand, Lincs. T.T.A. lost nearly £26 on a County Match! (Entertainment Tax accounted for £20). Both Durham and Northumberland County T.T.A.'s (running 2 teams each) are "feeling the pinch" inevitable to the more isolated areas.



No. 868  
A general view of the Chinese P.R. T.T. Championships at Pekin during a session of the W.S. events. See Page 18.

Cambridge County team were travelling to Luton for their match with Bedfordshire when the players looked at a copy of the *Cambridge Daily News*, and read clearly and unmistakably the RESULT and SCORE of the match they had yet to play: "Eastern Division, Beds. 10, Cambs. 0." (It turned out to be 7-3) If it is of any significance, the date was Friday the 13th (March).

## SCOTTISH OPEN

Murrayfield Indoor Stadium

M.S. S. JONES bt. (1) W. Sweetland —11, 8, 18; bt. (2) J. Davies —11, 13, 13, —6, 22 (bt. J. Braithwaite 12, 16).

W.S. H. ELLIOT bt. (1) S. Jones —9, 12, 20; bt. (2) B. Gray —23, 7, 15 (bt. M. Josephson 18, 12).

M.D. J. DAVIES/S. JONES bt. D. Phillips/W. Sweetland —10, 22, 8.

W.D. B. GRAY/S. JONES bt. H. Elliot/H. Houlston 18, 17.

X.D. P. KERR/H. ELLIOT bt. D. Phillips/S. Jones —14, 15, 18.

G.S. D. BLACK bt. H. M. Houlston —19, 15, 20.

HELEN ELLIOT retained the W.S. for the 8th successive year and the X.D. for the 4th. With 15 year old H. Houlston she lost her W.D. title.

## BRITISH RAILWAYS CHAMPIONSHIPS

London University, 28-9th Mar., 1953

THE British Railways T.T. organisation was founded 25 years ago; their Championships of Great Britain, inaugurated 14 years ago, has grown more successful each year. Not so surprising when you know they have such officers as Fred Websper (Hon. Sec), Harry Finch, and Marjorie East. B. R. players have included internationals, county and numerous league representatives.

This year's event was extremely successful. A random glance shows entries from as far afield as Edinburgh, Doncaster, Cheshire, Tondu, et. (We wonder if they have travel grants!)

DAVID HOUSE, 16 year-old junior international from Bath, was the outstanding player, winning the title at his first attempt with fine displays in attack and defence. He did not compete in the junior event. Wally Hall (Wembley) played 7 matches in 2½ hours! In the last 7 championships Hall has won 7 firsts and 7 R-U awards in M.S., M.D. and X.D. events. Mrs. D. Ormond (Newcastle) was a popular winner in the W.S.

M.S. D. HOUSE bt. (1) B. Evans 16, 20; bt. (2) W. Hall 11, 14, 13 (bt. R. Williams 7, 16).

W.S. Mrs. D. ORMOND bt. J. Reynolds. M.D. M. HARRIS/R. WHITE by W. Hall/R. Morgan.

W.D. P. LINCOLN/J. REYNOLDS bt. M. Ellard/B. Osborn.

X.D. C. HANN/Mrs. D. ORMOND bt. W. Hall/P. Lincoln.

B.S. K. HALLARD bt. D. V. Keen.

V.S. M. HARRIS bt. A. E. Day.  
TEAM: NEWPORT (Mons.) bt. (1) Wembley 5-3; (2) Birmingham 5-0 (bt. G.W. London 5-3).

(Advertisement)

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# WHEN IS A BOY NOT A BOY?

Mr. Harry Levine is the Principal and Headmaster of Briar Clyffe School at Lowestoft, a school that is founding a remarkable T.T. school-sport tradition. The School's first team have just won the Premier Championships of Lowestoft League.

It should be noted that recognition of the Junior Age as 17 has been accepted as a recommendation of the International Federation, but opinions such as this are always welcome.

By **HARRY LEVINE**

**W**HEN is a boy not a boy? The answer apparently is when he enters for the Junior Singles of any Open or Closed Table Tennis Tournament. The constitution of the E.T.T.A. has ruled that the age of a Junior player should be 17.

I have always been amazed by this particular rule in the E.T.T.A. constitution, even when I had no connection and no interest in school table tennis. That a game which prides itself on its appeal to the vigour, agility, and enthusiasm of youth; in which world championships can be won at 16; that administrators who have proved themselves more than equal to their formidable task, should have chosen, with deliberation and care, the adolescent age of 17 as its line of demarcation between Senior and Junior—this has always filled me with astonishment.

No great harm was done at first, play unless they were as fortunate as Very few boys were encouraged to Adrian Haydon, whose father taught him to play in early years. But it is a different story when we consider the *Daily Mirror* National T.T. Tournament. Boys in their hundreds from the ages of 8 to 15 confidently sent in their entries, but what chance had even the more talented like George Gladwish (13), Terry Denham (13), and John Collins (14) against the giants in height, and weight, and strength, and experience who were permitted by the absurd official definition of the age of a normal boy to compete. Surely there is all the difference in the world between a youth of 16-17, and a boy under the age of 15. Even some of the 15-year-olds of my own school—like David Bardsley—can appear like a Goliath to the less mature Davids!

When the Government raised the compulsory school leaving age to 15, they answered the question of how long a boy remains a boy. National competitions in cricket and football, as well as county and town leagues, have managed to satisfy all well-wishers and supporters by fixing 15 as the maximum age for a Junior. In the Schoolboys Football International, Wales v. England the age limit was 15, and they played on the same size "pitch" as Senior Internationals and Cup Finalists. I suggest, in all seriousness, that the time has come

when this common-sense way should be applied to Table Tennis.

Tournaments all over the country have witnessed the over-15's defeating their Seniors, and even reaching the last 8. They can look after themselves. The UNDER-15's—and we have at Briar Clyffe promising players of 8, 9 and 10—need fathering and encouraging. One of my T.T. dreams is to see two boys of this type fighting out the Final of a so-called Boy's Singles, instead of two 6-foot youths who look anything between 17 and 21.

An Age Analysis of the Area Champions in the *Daily Mirror* Tournament is interesting:

**MEN'S EVENT:** Ages 19, 22, 16 and 18 respectively.

**Average Age:** 18.75 years.

**BOYS' EVENT:** Ages 17, 17, 16 and 17 respectively.

**Average Age:** 16.75 years.

**Surely the 17's could have held their own with the Men (average age 18), when there is all the difference in the world between 15 and 17.**

I think this reform is urgently needed, and I hope that the "powers that be" will re-examine the position. What we want to see is **SCHOOL-BOY'S** Table Tennis. ●

H. Levine

## GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS (CLOSED)

1st Feb., 1953

**M.S.** K. FREUNDORFER bt. (1) Hberg; bt. (2) K. Seifert 9, 18, 13 (bt. H. Schneider).

**W.S.** B. CAPELLMANN bt. (1) L. Rodel 11, 11, 12; bt. (2) I. Donath 15, 18, 18 (bt. A. Horn 14, 16, —12, 16).

**M.O.** H. ARMANSA/B. VOSSEBEIN bt. Dettmer/Wilke.

**W.D.** HANFT/HERBER bt. Capellmann/Schlerth.

**X.D.** HOFFMANN / CAPELLMANN bt. Hanschmann/Hanft —19, 22, 18, 19.

**Team:** HERFORD.

"Conny" Freundorfer (holder of the Junior titles of England, Germany, France and Sweden) is 16; Ilberg 22; Hans Schneider 20 and Liane Rodel 17. Kurt Seifert is now using a sponge rubber bat.

## SCOTLAND 3—WALES 6

Greenock, 3rd April, 1953

(Welsh names first). **SINGLES:** D. Phillips bt. J. Braithwaite 10, 15. W. Sweetland bt. E. Still —18, 14, 16. S. Jones bt. R. Kerr 9, 17. J. Davies bt. M. McMillan 18, 14. Miss B. Gray lost Miss H. Elliot 14, —11. —15. Miss S. Jones bt. Mrs. I. Cababi 11, 13. **DOUBLES:** B. Gray/S. Jones lost to I. Cababi/H. Elliot —16, 16. —19. J. Davies/S. Jones lost to R. Kerr/M. McMillan —14, —17. D. Phillips/W. Sweetland bt. J. Braithwaite/E. Still 13, 15.



No. 957 Peter Madge  
JOHN HORN, the prominent young British Lawn Tennis international is a keen T.T. player. Is now working in association with Alec Brook, Eric Filby and Jackie Head.

## ENGLAND 10—FRANCE 0 (Juniors—Mixed)

McLaren S.C., Staines, 6th Apl., 1953

By **TOMMY SEARS**

THIS was the first "mixed" junior international match to played against France. Last year, at Berck Plage, our boys lost narrowly 4-5 but this match gave us more than ample "revenge."

Despite valiant efforts the French did not win a single game but nevertheless took their defeat in the most sporting manner. Three of them had come to England by air only that day, and had suffered from air sickness, but even had they been at their best it is doubtful that they would have been a match for the strong England team.

There was an interchange of tokens and gifts, and a dinner after the match. The Staines League organised the affair with conspicuous efficiency and generous hospitality. Mr. A. K. Vint made the journey from Hastings to be present.

**DETAILS** (England names first in caps.)—**C.** BOOTH bt. J. Ross 10, 16; bt. J. Gambier 11, 9. **R.** MORLEY bt. J. Ross 14, 19; bt. J. Gambier 13, 23. **Miss A. HAYDON** bt. Miss' M. Alber 12, 6; bt. Miss G. Arnaud 20, 14. **Miss J. ROOK** bt. Miss M. Alber 12, 13; bt. Miss G. Arnaud 7, 16. **BOOTH/MORLEY** bt. Gambier/Ross 15, 15. **HAYDON/ROOK** bt. Alber/Arnaud 13, 18. **N-P-Captain:** Mr. Tommy Sears. **Referee:** Mr. Leo Thompson. **E.T.T.A. Rep.:** Mr. Geoff. Harrower.

## GLOS. COUNTY CLOSED

April, 1953

**M.S.** A. SIMONS bt. B. Merrett 18, 15. **W.S.** M. FRY bt. T. Pomroy 14, 12. **M.O.** C. PICKETT/A. SIMONS bt. P. Cruwys/R. Griffin 20, —4, 20. **W.O.** M. FRY/M. GIBBONS bt. J. Collier/T. Pomroy —14, 14, 12. **X.D.** A. SIMONS/J. COLLIER bt. R. Griffin/M. Fry 21, 17. **B.S.** R. MORLEY bt. M. Spicer 14, 12. **G.S.** S. DAVIS bt. M. Gibbons 17, 13. **J.D.** R. MORLEY/M. SPICER bt. K. House/C. Williams 17, 12.

# WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FULL REPORTS

By Adrian Haydon  
(England Captain)

ENGLAND's record in the individual events at Bucharest, although not fulfilling hopes and expectations, was nevertheless, reasonably good. We figured in 2 finals and 4 semi-finals, but without taking a title.

## ENGLAND FINALISTS

HOW Leach and Bergmann failed to win the M.D. from Sido and Koczian is a mystery. They led 20-18 in the first game—and lost. They won the next two games. Led 16-10 in the fourth—and lost. And finally led all the way in the fifth until the very end. History was repeated; they were runners-up for the second year in succession after beating Barna and myself 3-1 in the semi (as last year).

Victor and I had two good wins on the way against Gyetvai/Szepesi (Hungary) and Stipek/Tereba (Czechoslovakia).

Our other finalists, the Rowe Twins, took a long time to settle down against Roseanu and Farkas in the W.D., and were 0-2 down in a matter of minutes. They put up stiff resistance in the third but it was too late to save the match.

The Twins beat the Anglo-Austrian pair Kathleen Best/Linde Wertl 3-0 in the semi-final of the W.D.

## WOMEN'S SINGLES

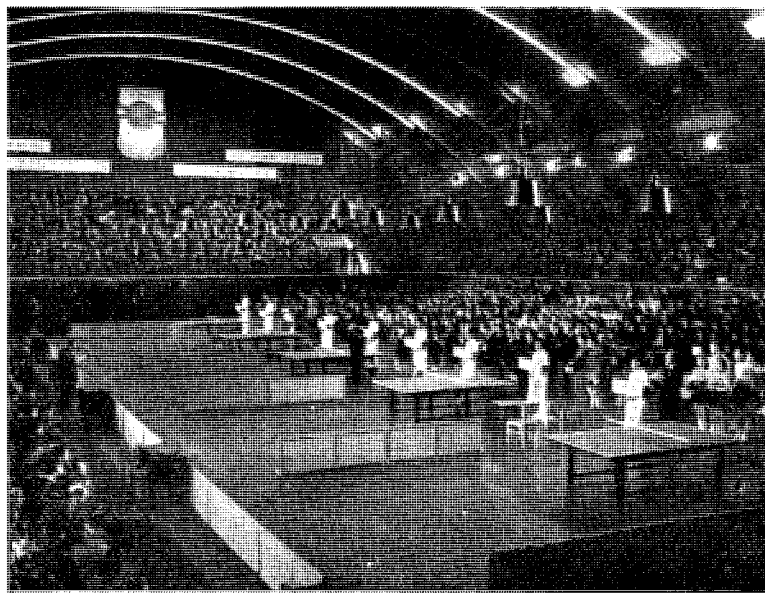
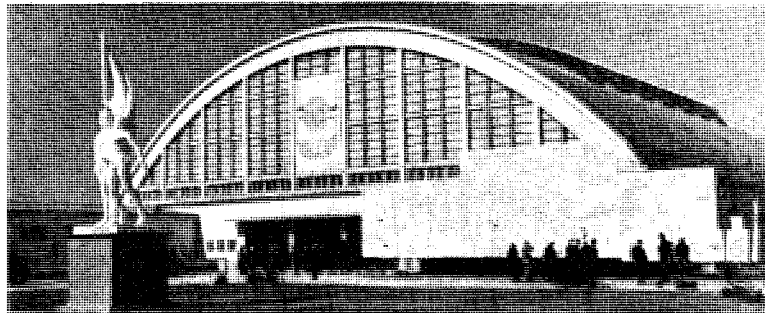
DIANE ROWE had no difficulty until she met Roseanu in the semi-final. Then she failed to produce her best form (which had the champion in trouble last year) and lost 3-0. Rosalind gave us a shock in the 2nd round against young Almasi (Hungary). She was 2-all and 19-16 down, but a superhuman effort brought victory at 21-19. Ros. met Farkas in the other semi-final but could not repeat her cup win, though she won the first game and led 20-18 in the second; only to falter, and Farkas gained control to win 3-1.

## MIXED DOUBLES

PROBABLY our greatest disappointment, with our three strongest pairs going out within half an hour of each other. Kennedy/Best to Koczian/Farkas 1-3; Leach/D. Rowe to Dolinar/Wertl; and, surprisingly, Barna/R. Rowe to Foldi/Eve Koczian 2-3.

## MEN'S SINGLES

AFTER Richard's Cup performances and with Johnny playing better, I honestly thought we had a wonderful chance. Both reached the last 16.



No. 873

The outside (top) and inside (bottom) views of the Floreascu Hall, Bucharest, venue of the World Championships, 1952-3. Other matches were played in the nearby Dynamo Hall. The lower picture shows the Opening Ceremony with the England team farthest away. England captain, Adrian Haydon, is standing just behind the standard bearer, holding (as are most of the players) a floral bouquet.

Then Johnny met Tokar. In the 5th game Johnny led at 17-14, then Tokar made a wonderful late recovery. At 20-17 Johnny crashed five successive forehand smashes, each one looking a winner . . . but somehow they came back, and Tokar took the initiative and the match at 22-20.

Richard was jumpy against his old foe Stipek who usually hits him all over the table for 2 games and then fades out. But not this time. Bergmann lost the 1st; led 18-14 in the 2nd, had an attack of the jitters (which I have never before seen in him!) and lost 18-21. Won the 3rd easily but failed to clinch the 4th. Thus our two great hopes went out.

Aubrey Simons, known by this time as our "Secret Weapon," reached the 3rd round where he was beaten by the Rumanian Reiter. Were it not for the tremendous effort he had put into the Cup matches, I am quite certain that Aubrey would have advanced

probably to the last eight where he would have met Andreadis, but he had not just that little bit extra in reserve needed to pull him through.

Brian Kennedy lost in the 2nd round to Roothoft after a good fight, and I lost to Szepesi in the next round.

## THE FINAL

In the first game Andreadis was trailing 4-11 and then took 9 points in a row to lead 13-11. After that he was never in the picture, and Sido won 3-0. He is undoubtedly much improved from last season. His temperament is better and his backhand passing drive straight down the line is terrific. Altogether a worthy champion. He then went on to complete the treble by winning the M.D. and the X.D. in partnership with Koczian and Roseanu respectively. The X.D. Final against Dolinar/Wertl went to 5 games, and was a very fine match indeed.

(continued from previous page)

Angelica Roseanu also gained the treble, winning the W.S. title against Gizi Farkas 3-1 making her World Champion for the 4th year in succession.

#### KATHLEEN BEST

I must not forget to mention Kathie Best's fine effort in the W.S. She beat Krecjova and Lauber before meeting Roseanu, when she became the first woman to take a game off the Champion, hitting right through her to win the first game 21-17! I noticed the press boys sharpen their pencils for a great sensation, but Kathie wasn't accurate enough, although it was a great show.

#### SUMMING-UP

FINALS NIGHT play fell short of many that I have seen. The best matches by far were the Men's and the Mixed Doubles. There was a packed house of over 5,000, and this was followed by a banquet and dance which extended throughout the night until early Monday morning when we left for home.

The Rumanian Association must be congratulated on their wonderful organisation of the XXth World Championships. The players comforts were admirably catered for. Hotel, food, transport, etc., absolutely first-class. Altogether a very memorable trip. ●

#### "THE SUPREME MOMENT..."

WHEN you suddenly achieve something for which you have been fighting for 26 years, you can understand why I feel entitled to think that I am the proudest man in English table tennis today.

When the Swaythling Cup was presented to me (representing the first English team that had ever received it), my memory leap-frogged back over all those past battles and to my first appearance in the England team—at Stockholm in 1927/8.

I was only a schoolboy then, and we tied for first place—only to lose in the play-off, partly because Fred Perry was injured... Then Budapest, 1950: England 4-1 against Czechoslovakia and Simons leading game and 16-9 against Tereba... just 5 points needed for victory, but we lost 4-5!... And last year—with the Cup virtually in our pocket in the final tie with Hungary—and then—Aubrey Simons' tragic ankle injury, and a 4-5 loss!... Is it any wonder that some people believed there was a jinx that prevented England winning the trophy! But now the spell is broken.

It seems only poetic justice that the selfsame team—Johnny, Aubrey and Richard—should bring the victory.

The unbearable tension of these matches has to be lived through to be appreciated. The greatest single fac-

tor in our success this year was Team Spirit. Every single man went to the table determined to give his utmost; and did. Without exception everyone was magnificent. May I say—

"Thank you, Johnny, Richard, Aubrey and Bryan, for that one supreme moment in my Table Tennis life." ●

#### BUCHAREST "BYE" WORDS

WHEN we arrived at Prague, our match with Czechoslovakia was cancelled because of the death of President Gottwald. The queue to see the Lying in State was 3 miles long but we were privileged to enter without waiting. A most impressive sight with the courtyard and every room packed with wreaths.

\* \* \*

THE Training Quarters of the Czech was a large gymnasium with restaurant attached. P.T. and T.T. had been arranged throughout the winter, and the players had not been able to return home for the last month because of the strict schedule. They all looked mighty fit and made some of our team look thoughtful!

\* \* \*

THE Czech Women's Team were already in Prague preparing for the 1956 Olympics. That gives you an idea of Sport through Central European eyes.

\* \* \*

THE English team made an enviable reputation everywhere for its singing. Admirably led by Kathie Best many fine renderings were made in bus, aeroplane and terminals. Our "Lili Marlene," however, was less popular on account of its Nazi associations.

\* \* \*

IT cost us £6 to fill the Swaythling Cup with champagne when, after our win, we celebrated in a select party at the hotel. Dickie Bergmann's "The Keyhole in the Door" was vastly entertaining. Mohandei (*Reuters*) and George Harley (*Daily Mirror*) obliged with some lively items that kept Bergmann busy translating for our guests.

\* \* \*

JOHNNY LEACH won the unofficial Golf title of the English-speaking community on the 6-hole course. He played exceptionally well against the Legation "champ" Phil de Houe, and I was most impressed by his possibilities.

\* \* \*

THE Floreascu Hall was ideal for play. Tables fast but a little "skiddy," lights and floor good. Audience capacity 5,000. 6 courts, ample dressing accommodation, with showers, lounge and free buffet.

Adrian Haydon

## CALLED TO ACCOUNT

"MR. BLUNN is to be congratulated on a very sincere attempt, not only to present the accounts in a simplified form, but also to explain the how and why... I am sure that he has, by such presentation, succeeded in stimulating more interest than is usually engendered by the mass of detail... Thanks, Mr. Blunn, for your effort." Thus writes Mr. L. J. Bloxham of Derby, and a number of other readers have also expressed appreciation.

Mr. Bloxham makes interesting observations on all the points raised. re Handbook: "Alternatively you could charge 6d. for it." re the "Gap": In practice "no one... expects affiliation fees to pay for the administration." And "increased affiliation fees? Heaven forbid!"

"County Associations do a lot more for the great majority. They are more in touch and a good, lively Association can 'spread the gospel' to some purpose."

Mr. Bloxham points out that the £1,300 cost for the Bombay World's is more than 1/5th of the net expenditure, and nearly one half of the affiliation fees. He weighs the expense of "benefiting the chosen few" against what might be done for the "bread and butter clubs" and encouraging the game.

The ball and shirt rebates (thinks Mr. Bloxham) is "a truly fine way of making money... perhaps capable of expansion... those who play, pay." The same applies to the T.T. Cup competitions. "I'm all for them, for the fanatics, etc., who go for them... They love them, they want them, then let them pay for them... If it needs 100% increase in fees—let's have them."

Finally, "there will always be No. 1's in any sport... but I cannot help feeling that a great deal is spent in energy, time and money on events in which they participate—perhaps to the detriment of general playing members... I would like to see more encouragement of playing the game for the game's sake and not merely for the purpose of becoming a No. 1 at it."

#### SUFFOLK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lowestoft, 31st Jan., 1953

Interrupted by the Great Flood. Completed 17th March.

M.S. R. J. GREGORY bt. (1) C. Bean 18, 19; bt. (2) A. F. G. Nickels 14, 17, 19 (bt. J. Moore 16, —10, 22).

W.S. V. MARTIN bt. E. Beech 18, —19, 10.

M.D. J. PEARSON/T. WILLIAMS bt. H. Pettigill/R. Purnell 13, 7, 13.

W.D. P. BANKS/P. INGLIS bt. V. Martin/V. Moores —18, 14, 6.

X.D. J. PEARSON/E. BEECH bt. J. Gregory/P. Banks —11, 19, 19.

J.S. D. BARDSLEY bt. A. Hawkes.

# National County Championships

By GEOFF. HARROWER

## PREMIER DIVISION

### MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
J. Leach (Essex) ...	8	7	1	87.5
B. Kennedy (Yorks.) ...	12	10	2	83.3
A. Simons (Glos.) ...	12	10	2	83.3
R. Griffin (Glos.) ...	14	10	4	71.4
L. Adams (Middx.) ...	12	8	4	66.6
W. Sweetland (Glam.) ...	12	8	4	66.6
R. Sharman (Middx.) ...	6	4	2	66.6
H. Venner (Surrey) ...	14	9	5	64.3
A. Rhodes (Middx.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
K. Craigie (Surrey) ...	10	6	4	60.0
J. Carrington (Essex) ...	12	7	5	58.3
R. Hinchliff (Yorks.) ...	12	7	5	58.3
B. Merrett (Glos.) ...	12	7	5	58.3
J. Head (Surrey) ...	14	8	6	57.1
M. Thornhill (Middx.) ...	14	8	6	57.1
J. Davies (Glam.) ...	12	6	6	50.0
B. Brumwell (Essex) ...	10	5	5	50.0
R. Thompson (Yorks.) ...	14	6	8	42.8
A. Hall (Lincs.) ...	14	5	9	35.7
L. Kerlake (Devon) ...	14	5	9	35.7
R. Stevens (Essex) ...	6	2	4	33.3
S. Jones (Glam.) ...	10	3	7	30.0
A. Bridle (Devon) ...	6	1	5	16.6
A. Nuttall (Devon) ...	10	1	9	10.0
D. Merryweather (Lincs.) ...	14	1	13	7.1
D. Wilkes (Lincs.) ...	10	0	10	0.0

### WOMEN

Miss D. Rowe (Middx.) ...	6	6	0	100.0
Miss C. Best (Yorks.) ...	7	5	2	71.4
Miss M. Franks (Essex) ...	6	4	2	66.6
Miss B. Gray (Glam.) ...	6	4	2	66.6
Miss M. Piper (Surrey) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Mrs. J. Willocks (Devon) ...	7	3	4	42.8
Miss M. Jones (Glos.) ...	3	0	3	0.0
Mrs. M. Hardy (Lincs.) ...	6	0	6	0.0

## SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

### MEN

R. Crayden (Surrey) ...	14	13	1	92.8
J. Low (Middx.) ...	8	7	1	87.5
B. Crouch (Middx.) ...	14	12	2	85.7
A. Rhodes (Middx.) ...	6	5	1	83.3
J. Shead (Sussex) ...	14	11	3	78.5
A. Payne (Essex) ...	14	10	4	71.4
D. Burrigade (Middx.) ...	10	7	3	70.0
C. Seaman (Sussex) ...	10	7	3	70.0
P. Brook (Surrey) ...	6	4	2	66.6
F. Mohtadi (Warw.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
R. Turner (Surrey) ...	12	7	5	58.3
P. Pudney (Essex) ...	14	8	6	57.1
M. Kriss (Warw.) ...	12	6	6	50.0
S. Moore (Sussex) ...	8	4	4	50.0
R. Stevens (Essex) ...	8	4	4	50.0
D. Phillips (Glam.) ...	12	5	7	41.6
G. Woolf (Glam.) ...	12	5	7	41.6
C. Bowden (Glam.) ...	8	3	5	37.5
A. Bury (Warw.) ...	6	2	4	33.3
B. Fretwell (Sussex) ...	6	2	4	33.3
K. Hurlock (Surrey) ...	6	2	4	33.3
J. Thurston (Cambs.) ...	14	4	10	28.5
L. Thompson (Bucks.) ...	12	3	9	25.0
W. Gallagher (Warw.) ...	8	2	6	25.0
J. Cornwell (Cambs.) ...	14	3	11	21.4
J. Unsworth (Bucks.) ...	14	3	11	21.4
C. Wilson (Bucks.) ...	14	3	11	21.4
R. Mills (Cambs.) ...	12	2	10	20.0

### WOMEN

Miss J. Rook (Surrey) ...	3	3	0	100.0
Miss Y. Seaman (Middx.) ...	7	6	1	85.7
Miss B. Milbank (Essex) ...	6	5	1	83.3
Miss J. Roberts (Surrey) ...	4	3	1	75.0
Miss D. Briggs (Sussex) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Miss P. Mortimer (Warw.) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Miss S. Jones (Glam.) ...	6	2	4	33.3
Miss J. Williams (Bucks.) ...	7	2	5	28.5
Miss P. Inglis (Cambs.) ...	5	1	4	20.0

## SECOND DIVISION NORTH

### MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
C. Booth (Lanes.) ...	8	8	0	100.0
R. Baker (Lanes.) ...	6	6	0	100.0
R. Alcock (Lanes.) ...	6	5	1	83.3
R. Sugden (Yorks.) ...	6	5	1	83.3
A. Moberley (Warw.) ...	6	4	2	66.6
D. Schofield (Cheshire) ...	6	4	2	66.6
S. Dyson (Yorks.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
J. Harrison (Warw.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
K. Park (Yorks.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
A. Shepherd (Cheshire) ...	10	6	4	60.0
J. Hillyer (Northumb.) ...	10	5	5	50.0
R. Murrell (Warw.) ...	8	4	4	50.0
N. Roberts (Durham) ...	8	4	4	50.0
R. Bell (Northumb.) ...	8	3	5	37.5
C. Parry (Cheshire) ...	6	2	4	33.3
W. Devine (Cheshire) ...	6	1	5	16.6
C. Middlemiss (Durham) ...	6	1	5	16.6
J. Hewitt (Northumb.) ...	8	1	7	12.5

### WOMEN

Miss A. Haydon (Warw.) ...	5	4	1	80.0
Miss A. Wood (Lanes.) ...	4	3	1	75.0
Miss A. Jones (Cheshire) ...	3	2	1	66.6
Miss P. Heppell (Northumb.) ...	5	3	2	60.0
Miss J. Bycroft (Yorks.) ...	4	1	3	25.0
Mrs. G. Brown (Durham) ...	3	0	3	0.0

## NORTHERN DIVISION

M. Pitts (Yorks.) ...	8	8	0	100.0
K. Dyson (Yorks.) ...	6	5	1	83.3
D. Norburn (Yorks.) ...	6	5	1	83.3
K. Hoiland (Durham) ...	10	8	2	80.0
G. Brook (Yorks.) ...	10	7	3	70.0
K. Smith (Northumb.) ...	9	6	3	66.6
J. Whittingham (Durham) ...	10	6	4	60.0
K. Kerr (Northumb.) ...	6	3	3	50.0
P. Wilson (Northumb.) ...	10	3	7	30.0
F. Huggon (Cumberland) ...	9	2	7	22.2
L. Lapping (Cumberland) ...	7	1	6	14.2
A. Brady (Cumberland) ...	12	1	11	8.3

### WOMEN

Miss E. Tully (Northumb.) ...	5	4	1	80.0
Mrs. C. Cook (Yorks.) ...	4	3	1	75.0
Miss J. Metcalf (Durham) ...	4	1	3	25.0
Miss E. Sullivan (Cumberland) ...	5	1	4	20.0

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

### MEN

R. Etheridge (Kent) ...	12	12	0	100.0
D. Eagles (Kent) ...	12	9	3	75.0
R. Syndercombe (Kent) ...	12	9	3	75.0
L. Wise (Berks.) ...	12	9	3	75.0
F. Bradley (Hants.) ...	8	6	2	75.0
N. Wilding (Hants.) ...	12	8	4	66.6
P. Morecroft (Berks.) ...	10	4	6	40.0
R. Forrest (Berks.) ...	10	4	6	40.0
R. Dale (Hants.) ...	6	2	4	33.3
L. Robey (Bucks.) ...	6	1	5	16.6
C. Busche (Bucks.) ...	10	1	9	10.0
D. Norton (Bucks.) ...	6	0	6	0.0
A. Catchpole (Bucks.) ...	12	0	12	0.0

### WOMEN

Mrs. J. Beadle (Kent) ...	6	6	0	100.0
Mrs. G. Horn (Hants.) ...	3	2	1	66.6
Miss L. Beaver (Berks.) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Miss S. Flax (Bucks.) ...	5	0	5	0.0

## MIDLAND DIVISION

### MEN

P. Burchell (Staffs.) ...	10	9	1	90.0
R. Guise (Wores.) ...	8	6	2	75.0
M. Hawkins (Wores.) ...	8	6	2	75.0
A. Robbins (Staffs.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
S. Higginson (Warw.) ...	10	6	4	60.0
J. Jones (Northants) ...	10	6	4	60.0
J. Osborne (Wores.) ...	10	6	4	60.0
A. Bird (Derby) ...	10	5	5	50.0
P. Southam (Leics.) ...	8	4	4	50.0
J. Rogers (Leics.) ...	10	4	6	40.0
C. Hogg (Northants.) ...	8	3	5	37.5
W. Curre (Warw.) ...	6	2	4	33.3
H. Mycroft (Derby) ...	6	2	4	33.3
N. Rigby (Northants.) ...	6	2	4	33.3
P. Moody (Derby) ...	6	1	5	16.6
J. Burraston (Leics.) ...	8	1	7	12.5

### WOMEN

Miss J. Walker (Derby) ...	5	4	1	80.0
Mrs. J. Jones (Northants.) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Miss B. Steed (Wores.) ...	4	2	2	50.0
Mrs. J. Hayward (Staffs.) ...	5	2	3	40.0
Miss M. Whitt (Leics.) ...	3	1	2	33.3

## FINAL AVERAGES—

Season 1952-53

## EASTERN DIVISION

### MEN

	P.	W.	L.	%
G. Bebb (Herts.) ...	10	10	0	100.0
J. Hunt (Herts.) ...	6	6	0	100.0
C. Crowe (Beds.) ...	16	14	2	87.5
D. Ironmonger (Beds.) ...	16	13	3	81.3
C. Reeve (Cambs.) ...	6	4	2	66.6
P. Holroyd (Beds.) ...	16	10	6	62.5
C. Bean (Suffolk) ...	12	7	5	58.3
A. Smith (Herts.) ...	12	7	5	58.3
R. Nunn (Cambs.) ...	16	9	7	56.2
R. Dean (Cambs.) ...	16	8	8	50.0
J. Edwards (Herts.) ...	10	5	5	50.0
A. Nickels (Suffolk) ...	16	7	9	43.7
G. Whittaker (Norfolk) ...	10	3	7	30.0
J. Pearson (Suffolk) ...	16	4	12	25.0
G. Brown (Norfolk) ...	6	1	5	16.6
H. Fleck (Norfolk) ...	6	1	5	16.6
L. Branson (Norfolk) ...	6	0	6	0.0
I. Holdom (Norfolk) ...	6	0	6	0.0
W. Minors (Norfolk) ...	8	0	8	0.0

### WOMEN

Miss P. Jackson (Herts.) ...	3	3	0	100.0
Miss B. Sadler (Norfolk) ...	5	4	1	80.0
Mrs. B. Carter (Beds.) ...	8	5	3	62.5
Miss V. Martin (Suffolk) ...	7	4	3	57.1
Miss M. Bruce (Cambs.) ...	8	0	8	0.0

## JUNIOR "A" DIVISION

### BOYS

R. Dorking (Essex) ...	8	7	1	87.5
G. Gladwish (Sussex) ...	12	10	2	83.3
J. Quilter Sussex ...	10	8	2	80.0
M. Maclaren (Surrey) ...	12	9	3	75.0
A. Danton (Kent) ...	12	7	5	58.3
G. Levene (Sussex) ...	12	6	6	50.0
L. Davis (Essex) ...	10	5	5	50.0
D. Sawyer (Surrey) ...	10	5	5	50.0
R. Cundry (Essex) ...	12	4	8	33.3
E. Peter (Surrey) ...	12	4	8	33.3
C. Ilora (Kent) ...	10	2	8	20.0
R. Whale (Kent) ...	6	0	6	0.0
R. Munday (Kent) ...	8	0	8	0.0

### GIRLS

Miss J. Fielder (Kent) ...	6	5	1	83.3
Miss J. Rook (Surrey) ...	5	4	1	80.0
Miss W. Bates (Sussex) ...	6	3	3	50.0
Miss S. Sugarhood (Essex) ...	5	0	5	0.0

## JUNIOR "B" DIVISION

### BOYS

L. Shopper (Middx.) ...	16	15	1	93.1
M. Leverton (Notts.) ...	16	13	3	81.3
B. Barr (Herts.) ...	16	12	4	75.0
R. Seaman (Middx.) ...	16	12	4	75.0
L. Flack (Middx.) ...	10	7	3	70.0
D. Blacknell (Notts.) ...	16	10	6	62.5
B. Boyce (Herts.) ...	12	7	5	58.3
B. Phillips (Beds.) ...	16	8	8	50.0
R. Goodman (Beds.) ...	8	4	4	50.0
B. Cartwright (Herts.) ...	12	5	7	41.6
R. Gill (Beds.) ...	16	6	10	37.5
B. Mayfield (Notts.) ...	16	6	10	37.5
C. Walters (Cambs.) ...	12	1	11	8.3
L. Hayden (Cambs.) ...	16	1	15	6.2
A. Jackson (Cambs.) ...	16	0	16	0.0

### GIRLS

Miss J. Hodson (Middx.) ...	6	6	0	100.0
Miss R. Seymour (Beds.) ...	8	6	2	75.0
Miss M. Cobb (Herts.) ...	5	2	3	40.0
Miss P. Bacon (Notts.) ...	7	2	5	28.5
Miss J. Taylor (Cambs.) ...	3	0	3	0.0
Miss A. Turvill (Cambs.) ...	4	0	4	0.0



No. 867

The winners of the 1952-3 All-China P.R. T.T. Championships at Peking on October 12th, 1952 (reported in December issue). An audience of 7,000 saw the finals, including I.T.T.F. President, Ivor Montagu, who addressed the Parade. The M.S. and W.S. winners respectively are (on the left in each case) Chiang Yung-ning and Sun May-ying, who made their "World's" debut at Bucharest. The other Chinese names have so far defied our efforts to translate.

MARJORIE CUMBERBATCH has played for West Bromwich more 70 times ● OLDHAM (Terry Cooper, Keith Goodwin, Ken Perrin) have won the Junior Div. of the Lancs. & Cheshire League . . . 3rd successive win for Oldham ● LINCOLN (D. Merryweather, D. Wilkes, E. Taylor) have won the Haigh Cup Lincs County competition ● H. YATES, inside-forward for Headington U.F.C. won the M.S. title of Oxford last month . . . He was the M.S. T.T. Champion of Darlington for 2 years ● K. PENDLETON, 17 year-old of Runcorn won the M.S., J.S. and M.D. titles in the Widnes League championships ● Newport recently beat Exeter 6-4 . . . A. Narduzzo bt. L Kerslake ● BUCKNALL C.A. Ladies (B. Wareham, M. Boughey, D. Sant and E. Walker) won the Ladies Div. of the Potteries League without a single defeat ●

#### CIVIC SPORTS CENTRE

LED by Winchester T.T. League, local sports bodies are pressing for the reinstatement of a building for a City Sports Centre. Should the result be favourable 2 rooms would be available to the T.T. League. They would be well equipped and rented to affiliated clubs. A large hall (for 2 badminton courts) would be available for tournaments. Mr. H. A. Richards (Hon. Sec. Winchester League) is

acting as hon. secretary of the sports organisations.

WALTER STEINITZ thinks:— "That some of the 'seeds' which went to earth in this year's English, will bear fruit again next spring," but he's glad "to see Victor Barna win so many matches in a Rowe!"

## EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN

Scarborough, April, 1953

By E. MOORHOUSE (Abd.)

SURPRISE results in the M.S. were the 2-0 defeat of Benny Casofsky by C. Skaj and Alan Sherwood's win over Ron Allcock. Georges Roland (Belgium) just lost in the quarters to M. Thornhill. Johnny Leach gave a grand final display against an aggressive Brian Kennedy.

Peggy Franks made an exciting come-back, beating Rosalind Rowe in the semi but losing to Diane in the final. Dale Wood was in good form and Pam Mortimer impressed as an international prospect. She crushed Diane 21-7 in the first game of the quarter-final and lost the next two—10, —18; a little more steadiness might have made the difference. Partnered by P. Baird, Pam beat the seeded Best/Franks pair in the W.D. England junior internationals Pullar, House and Dorking impressed.

The 500 entries included the biggest number of stars yet, indicating the increasing popularity of the Easter Week-end by the sea.

M.S. J. LEACH bt. (1) M. Thornhill 18, 14; bt. (2) B. Kennedy —15, 18, 21, —15, 12 (bt. K. Craigie 10, 17).

W.S. D. ROWE bt. P. Franks —13, 16, 12. M.D. K. CRAIGIE/J. LEACH bt. B. Kennedy/M. Thornhill 15, 16.

W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. D. Wilkinson/A. Wood 13, —22, 12.

X.D. B. KENNEDY/R. ROWE bt. J. Leach/D. Rowe 9, 17.

B.S. G. PULLAR bt. D. House —22, 17, 18.

Y.S. R. DORKING bt. C. Skaj —13, 18, 21.

V.S. E. MOORHOUSE bt. E. Turton 15, 15.

Over 60. A. HARRISON bt. G. Hurlock 13, 11.

OF ALL LEADING

SPORTS OUTFITTERS



*The choice of champions*

*worn in the*

**Table Tennis World Championships**

at BOMBAY by the

**SWAYTHLING & CORBILLON CUP TEAM**



English Table Tennis Association,  
214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON, W.C.2  
Administrative Sec.: Mrs. K. PEGG  
Phone: TRAlfalgAr 2165  
Telegraphic: ETABTENNIS, RAND

### H.M. QUEEN MARY

ON behalf of the Association a message of sympathy was conveyed to H.M. The Queen and the Royal Family on the death of the well-beloved Queen Mary.

### THE SWAYTHLING CUP

MESSAGES of congratulations on England's winning The Swaythling Cup have been received from the Lawn Tennis Association, Australian T.T.A., Croatian T.T.A., Messrs. John Jaques & Son Ltd., Lincs. T.T.A., Lowestoft, Cheltenham and many other leagues, clubs and players. ". . . I feel sure that this victory will do a lot of good to first class Table Tennis in this country," wrote Mr. D. W. Poupard, "I am sure that you must be very proud of the team that you have sent out, and exceptionally satisfied with the result."

### SWEDISH JUNIORS TOUR

A team of 3 Swedish Juniors (Boys) and a n-p-captain will probably tour England from about 2nd-20th November 1953. County Associations have been offered the opportunity to act as hosts for 2-3 day visits to their area.

### ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953-54

THE 29th English Open Championships 1953-54 will be staged at Belle Vue, Manchester from the 9th to 13th November 1953.

### PRESS RECEPTION

A Press Reception for the English Open Championships was held at The Royal Empire Society, London on 1st April. Most of the national newspapers were represented and the party included the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Mr. and Mrs. Vint, C. Corti Woodcock, G. R. Harrower, E. G. White, Mrs. K. Pegg, Mr. and Mrs. Barna, S. Kempster, G. Decker, T. Sears, L. Woollard, R. Marler, S. Leitch, P. Mulcahy, R. W. Willis, G. Rutherford, P. Reekie, G. Whiting and other prominent sports writers.

### v. FRANCE (MIXED JUNIORS)

At McLaren's Social Centre, Staines  
April 6th

N-p-c: T. SEARS. C. Booth (Lancs.), R. Morley (Glos.), Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey). (30th Mar.)

### ENTERTAINMENTS TAX

THE E.T.T.A. (represented by Mr. A. K. Vint) has, in association with other major sports bodies, made vigorous representations for the easing or lifting of the abnormally heavy Entertainments Tax. Some details provided by members was helpful in making out a case. It is gratifying to record that relief was granted by the Chancellor in his Budget on the 14th April.

### NOTICE TO ORGANISERS

Table Tennis learns from the Department of Customs and Excise that exemption from tax will NOT be allowed UNLESS an application has been made at least 14 days beforehand.

The Notice of the conditions is No. 97. A copy can be obtained from your local Collector of Customs and Excise. (The address is obtainable from any Post Office).

The organising body must show that the event is conducted for the furtherance of amateur sport, is not conducted for profit (in the commercial sense), and that no payment or reward is made to anyone taking part except for prizes of reasonable number and value. First applications should be supported by a copy of the Rules, etc., and last financial statement.

### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1952-3

The England teams met on and stayed the night of Sunday, March 15th at The Waverley Hotel, London. Left London Airport at 7.30 a.m. on March 16th by Sabena Flight No. 608. On arrival at Prague, they were met by the E.T.T.A. Chairman (I. Montagu). On March 18th the party flew to Bucharest. The return journey was made by the same route on March 30th. All players wore black armbands in mourning for Her late Majesty, Queen Mary.

### COUNTY DURHAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunderland, 6th April, 1953

M.S. K. HOLLAND bt. C. Middlemiss 15, 18, 14.  
W.S. Mrs. E. DODDS bt. N. Dunn 12, 12.  
M.D. L. LOWES/C. MIDDLEMISS bt. T. Clark/H. Jones 16, 13, 20.  
W.D. Mrs. E. DODDS/J. EMMETT bt. Mrs. G. Brown/Mrs. D. Wilkinson 14, 21.  
X.D. E. & G. BROWN bt. L. Lowes/L. Svenson 13, 9.  
B.S. G. LUMSDEN bt. B. Beeston 13, 19.  
G.S. M. HOWARD bt. J. H. Noble 15, 15.  
TEAMS: Men—Stockton. Women—Hartle-pools.

Keith Holland is 18. Gordon Lumsden, 16, county (senior) player, is locally reckoned one of the most promising players in the North. Maureen Howard (15) is another future hope.

### Oxford v Cambridge U.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY beat Oxford University 9-1 in the annual inter-varsity match played at Oxford on 28th February. Oxford had won in the previous two years by 7-3 and never contemplated losing by the heaviest defeat on record. The strength of Cambridge can be reckoned by the inclusion of the two County players Eagles and Mills. The clashes involving these and the Dark Blues Burnett and Buchanan were full of life, interest and sparkle. The details are below.

*It is of interest to note that the first Inter-varsity match in this series was played in 1922, being arranged by the Hon. Ivor Montagu, then captain, founder and organiser of the Cambridge University T.T. Club. When Mr. Montagu wrote his first T.T. book, "Table Tennis To-Day" in 1924, he donated all profits to the C.U.T.T.C.*

Both Universities are pursuing their claim for Blue status but have met with continued opposition from the old diehards who cannot consider "ping pong" as a Sport. There is, however, a more moderate view that if the University playing strength was comparable to that of, perhaps, a County, a more favourable attitude might be given.

Among Cambridge players is J. E. Watkins, a former champion of Western Australia. Former junior international George Eagles (Kent) is likely to take the place of his brother Peter next year.

Unlike Cambridge, Oxford have to pay for their club (£30 p.a.) and their grant from the University Athletics Board is only 2/5ths that of Cambridge. The financial handicap necessitated their withdrawal from the Western Counties League, thus regretably curtailing much-needed competitive play. Prospects are brighter, however, as many freshmen are improving under the helpful guidance of coach Harry Venner.

OXFORD.—P. C. Burnett, captain (Lincoln College, Leicestershire and Wimbledon); D. Buchanan (Pembroke College and Lanes.); E. J. Goudion (St. Peter's Hall); G. Gurney (Worcester College); B. Thompson (St. Peter's Hall).

CAMBRIDGE.—P. Eagles, captain (St. John's College, Cambridgeshire and Sittingbourne); R. G. Mills (Jesus College, Cambridgeshire and Guildford); B. Lomas (Downing College and Oldham); J. James (Dublin University); P. Turner.

(Cambridge names first)—SINGLES: Eagles bt. Buchanan 19, 14; bt. Burnett 16, 13. Mills bt. Buchanan 9, —13, 12; bt. Burnett —12, 20, 15. Lomas bt. Goudion 13, 21; bt. Gurney 18, 23. James bt. Goudion 11, 15; bt. Gurney —22, 9, 11. DOUBLES: Eagles/Mills lost Buchanan/Burnett —19, —13. Lomas/Turner bt. Gurney/Thompson 17, 21.

# WHO SAID "A YOUNG MAN'S GAME"?

## Obituary

### ARTHUR E. HAYDON

WHEN Sam Leitch reviewed Leslie Woollard's book "Table Tennis," in the *Daily Mirror* last November, his commentary aroused lively comment from a number of the "Ping-Pong" pioneers of the 1900's.

G. W. Conibear (Horsham) was playing in Llanelly in 1898 with a bat "as good as anything I see to-day... and up to all the tricks practised to-day." Arnold C. ("Ping-Pong") Parker wrote to deny the legendary story of his defeat by the rubber-faced bat of E. C. Goode in 1902-3.

Age does not weary these Grand Old Men who laid the foundations and floor boards of the game. Their eyes are still keen, matched only by their interested enthusiasm and loyal adherence to the game they did so much to build. They were contesting games before most of the World's Champions were born. Can there be many who can say as much?

There is F. ROBERTS (88), President of Herts. County and Watford League, still active, and proud of his certificate from the Swedish T.T.A. A. T. FINNEY (who was also playing in 1898), Staffs. County President; etc., and donor of the England junior trophies. There is, of ever-green memory, P. E. WARDEN (Taplow), who started his own dress campaign in the 1900's and helped to frame the rules of the E.T.T.A. in the 1920's. JACK THOMPSON (Comity Club, Bristol), who was winning titles in 1908, yet came to win the *Daily Mirror* Championship in 1922, and subsequently an international badge, yet still looks only in his forties. Or O. W. TARRANT (Swindon) who, at a youthful 75-odd, still plays nearly every day, and, until a year or so ago was still playing in his local league. PERCY BROMFIELD mentioned last month. All the above are honoured Vice-Presidents of the E.T.T.A.

There is that wonderful gentleman, H. N. SMITH, now President of

Yorkshire, who has done and given so very much—and always anonymously—to the causes of Lawn and Table Tennis, two games he still enjoys to play. ARNOLD PARKER, prominent in 1900's was still a hardy adversary to the best in 1922-3 and is still hale and hearty. The "Junior Veterans," merely in their 60's are a spry and jovial group who still enjoy their games: A. Harrison (Scarborough), G. Hurlock and G. Crouch (Fathers of the current internationals), Primavisi and Mary Westmoreland (of Bournemouth) . . . but the list grows apace.

And lest you should think that old England has a monopoly of real veterans, a recent visitor from the U.S.A. was PETER W. ROBERTS, the extremely agile and active Historian of the U.S.T.T.A. He is 78 years old—just 8 days younger than Winston Churchill—yet he won the 3-day T.T. tournament on the liner coming over, and on his return journey, was persuaded to act as T.T. coach to promising pupils among the passengers and the officers!

PETER ROBERTS is quite a personality. He contributes T.T. articles to the Encyclopædia Britannica Year Book, World Scope Encyclopædia, Information Please Almanac, New York World Almanac, and All Sports Record, etc. He is probably the only person to be featured in Who's Who in America solely for his T.T. activities.

Mr. Roberts, however, was formerly an Englishman and emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1911. He was previously interested in the building of cathedrals and public buildings. Mrs. Annie T. Roberts, his wife, who, we regret to record, died in Chicago last year, left hometown Wallasey, England, 31 years ago. ●

(See page 5 also)

We deeply regret to record the death in February of ARTHUR E. HAYDON at the age of 71. He was a staunch pioneer of Table Tennis, and a founder member of the Birmingham Association in 1922, of which he was a Vice-President.

English Table Tennis will always cherish his memory, however, for having encouraged and helped his school-boy son on the dining room table, thus sowing the seed that produced one (if not the) greatest of British born players, England captain and Birmingham Chairman—Adrian Haydon. His daughter Marjorie (Adrian's sister) was Hon. Sec., of Birmingham T.T.A. in 1928-9 and subsequently also an international. In addition to having international Doris Jordan as daughter-in-law, he lived to see his granddaughter Anne make her startling international debut. He must have been a proud and happy man.

### ESSEX CLOSED

Plaistow, 21st March, 1953

- M.S. L. SAWYER bt. (1) A. R. Payne 9. 7; bt. (2) J. Carrington 15, 18, 13 (bt. P. Curtis 19, —18, 13).  
 W.S. Y. BAKER bt. B. Milbank 17, 10.  
 M.D. B. BRUMWELL/K. COLLAR bt. J. Grantham/A. Payne 19, 20.  
 W.D. Y. BAKER/B. MILBANK bt. E. Carrington/J. Page 16, —14, 11.  
 X.D. B. BRUMWELL/Y. BAKER bt. A. Payne/B. Milbank 16, 12.  
 B.S. R. DORRING bt. B. Wright 14, —14, 10.  
 G.S. M. BLANKING bt. P. Cornford —18, 14, 13.  
 V.S. S. H. SUGARHOOD bt. R. B. Dean 14, 17.

### HERTS. CLOSED

Letchworth, March, 1953

- M.S. G. BEBB bt. (1) J. Edwards 8, 15; bt. (2) J. Hunt —14, 15, 18, 18 (bt. A. Rogers 16, 18).  
 W.S. D. ROWE bt. (1) Mrs. G. Hayward 16, 11; bt. (2) P. Jackson 12, 19 (bt. C. Goode 17, 20).  
 M.D. A. GOULD/A. SMITH bt. K. Steinfeld/A. Taylor 16, —16, —16, 14, 12.  
 W.D. P. JACKSON/Mrs. J. Matthews bt. Mrs. R. French/M. Lowe 14, —19, 16.  
 X.D. J. MAGOR/D. ROWE bt. J. Edwards/S. Beeson 11, 19.

## MIDLAND T.T. LEAGUE

## FINAL TABLES

1952-53

ABC Order	MEN'S SECTION			WOMEN'S SECTION			JUNIOR SECTION			INTER SECTION		
	Pos.	W-L-F-A	Pts.	Pos.	W-L-F-A	Pts.	Pos.	W-L-F-A	Pts.	Pos.	W-L-F-A	Pts.
Birmingham	4	6-3-53-28	12	1	9-0-69-12	18	1	4-2-38-16	8	1	5-0-37-8	10
Burton	9	1-8-19-62	2	6	5-4-40-41	10	—	●	—	—	●	—
Cheltenham	8	3-6-29-52	6	9	1-8-15-66	2	—	●	—	3	2-3-21-24	4
Coventry	5	5-4-50-31	10	7	4-5-47-34	8	—	●	—	5	1-4-13-32	2
Hereford	10	0-9-12-69	0	10	1-8-11-70	2	7	0-6-11-43	0	6	1-4-13-32	2
Leicester	6	4-5-41-40	8	2	7-2-47-34	14	5	4-2-30-24	8	—	●	—
Nottingham	2	8-1-57-24	16	4	5-4-46-35	10	2	4-2-32-22	8	4	2-3-16-29	4
West Bromwich	7	3-6-29-52	6	5	5-4-42-39	10	4	4-2-30-24	8	—	●	—
Wolverhampton	1	8-1-61-20	16	3	5-4-52-29	10	3	4-2-31-23	8	—	●	—
Worcester	3	7-2-50-31	14	8	3-6-36-45	6	6	1-5-17-37	2	2	4-1-35-10	8

# WITH THE JUNIORS AT WEMBLEY

By Peter Madge



No. 877 Peter Madge  
Erich Arndt (left) and Konrad Freundorfer (right) finalists in the English Open B.S. event. Won by Freundorfer for the 2nd year in succession. Both are left-handers; both from Germany.

STAR of the B.S. was ERICH ARDNT (Germany), a Little Lad with a Great Big Hit. He looks about 11 years old, is actually 14. He beat No. 1 seed, Cliff Booth, 17, 16 in the 2nd round, but I think the result might have been different had they met later in the week. In the all-German final, Konrad Freundorfer kept his title in an entertaining match with Arndt.

The House v. Freundorfer semi-final was the best match of the event. House took the first game by tight defence and well-timed attacking bursts. In the third game, English hopes were high as House shot ahead to a 7-0 lead; then a few errors and the German boy forged through to win.

Ray Dorking made Freundorfer work hard in the quarter. Earlier, Robinson (Yorkshire) impressed with a win over Gambier (France) and a good show against Dorking.

In the semis of the G.S. Anne Haydon beat Shirley Jones and Jill Rook beat Frieda Lauber (Austria). ANNE took over the title from holder Jill in a high standard final. In the G.D. Haydon/Rook had a close final with Jones/Lauber, the Austrian girl showing a very good doubles sense.

The X.D. pair Phillips/Lauber proved surprisingly strong and beat, in succession: Dorking / H a y d o n ; Ross/Alber ; Freundorfer/Skindoris and, in the final, Booth/Rook.

Alan Danton kept his half-share in the B.D. title, this time with Ray Dorking, beating House/Morley (winners over Booth/Phillips) in a brisk final. Densham/Robinson did well; in the quarters they beat the French Gambier/Ross pairing.

## OUT OF COURT

STIG NICOLSSON was studying the Draw for the Consolation Singles as I came by. "It is very sad," said he, "... I have to play Malenkov!" Thinking the overseas entry was larger than I had realised, I hastened to look. Stig's mistake ... he meant Marinko!

JACQUES GAMBIER was most impressed with the endless stream of people, coaches and cars pouring into Wembley early Saturday afternoon. I hadn't the heart to tell him that this was the 55,000 crowd making for the Amateur Football Cup Final in the Stadium.

"CONNY" FREUNDORFER was the only one of his party who had crossed the Channel without sickness, and he was proud of it. When Geoff James was taking them on a London sight-seeing tour and they were waiting to board a river-bus, everyone began to tell "Conny" that, even if he had never been seasick, the "rough" River Thames would soon alter that! The young champion followed his companions on board, but at the last minute did a neat sidestep to the shore. "Nein, nein," he cried to all pleas, and the harmless leg-pull cost genial Geoff a taxi fare from Westminster Pier to pick up the wary mariner.

JACQUES ROSS's honesty cost him 6d. at Baker Street Underground. He put 1/- in a 6d. ticket machine, which instantly shot out the ticket and 6d. change which Jacques just as quickly put back in again. 'Two' bad!

## COACHING

Harry Venner - Jackie Head

### WIMBLEDON TABLE TENNIS SCHOOL

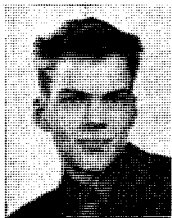
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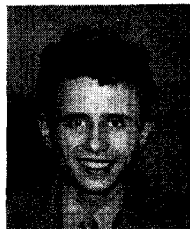
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876 Nicolsson



874 Ross



875 Gambier

STIG NICOLSSON (16), Sweden's only entry, made his chance by winning a Handicap Tournament in Stockholm (including wins over Tage Flisberg and Bo Malmquist). His Scottish father has lived in Sweden for 20 years, and Stig's English is quite good. He will be spending his June holiday in England to improve it. Ranks about No. 6 among Swedish Juniors so has a chance to make the team for the Swedish Juniors' England tour in November.

JACQUES ROSS (17), a law student from Charente. Works part-time as an interpreter for the U.S.A. Forces. Says he can understand "American" English better than ours!

JACQUES GAMBIER (16), house painter from Amiens, where he says, there are only 30 players. At Wembley his pet pastime was picking out some of our juniors as "comedians" ... He missed the biggest comedian of all— Jacques Gambier!

## ★ TEAM OF THE YEAR ★

No.880. England's Junior "Team of the Year." Sussex entered Junior County Championships for the first time this season, won their Division (against Surrey, Essex, Kent) and, finally, the Junior Championships with a sparkling 7-3 win over Middlesex. A wonderful performance. Here are the new Champions: L. to R.: (back row) Jimmy Moore, John Quilter, Garry Levene; (front) Wendy Bates, George Gladwish, Rosalind Davis and Mr. W. G. Goldfinch (n-p-captain) who has worked so hard to inspire success.



## DERBYSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Matlock Bath, 7th March, 1953

M.S. A. T. BIRD bt. (1) R. Tomlinson 20, —15, 9; bt. (2) B. Milner 17, 18, 19 (bt. D. O'Hara —23, 18, 17).

W.S. B. SLATER bt. Mrs. J. Jackson 8, 5. J. Haynes/W. Reeves 12, 18, 13.

M.D. A. T. BIRD/G. LITHEIRLAND bt. W.D. P. BANNISTER/J. WALKER bt. M. Bradbury/Mrs. E. Hurst 8, 20.

X.D. A. T. BIRD/J. WALKER bt. W. Reeves/—, Buckley 12, 20.

J.S. A. HUNT bt. L. Millward 16, 16.

V.S. F. MOODY bt. J. Ridgard 14, —19, 13.

Mr. R. A. SWALE, County President, as last year, made a donation of £5 toward the club of the Junior Champion.

## SUEZ CANAL ZONE, EGYPT

FOLLOWING the recent R.A.F. (Egypt) T.T. Championships, the Army, unofficially, challenged the R.A.F. to an Inter-Service match.

The Army team was selected from an *ad hoc* tournament which had 64 single, and 22 pair, entries. The match was played at Abu Suedir and was an enjoyable occasion for players and spectators alike. The R.A.F. won 7-3 (games 16-11), but the Army put up stiff resistance as their confidence increased, and 7 of the 10 ties went to 3 games.

R.A.F. (EGYPT)—AC Lindsey (Salisbury). LAC Jones (Neath), LAC Curtis (Cardiff). LAC Oddy (Halifax).

ARMY (CANAL ZONE)—Spr. Radley (Lincoln), Pte. D. Gilbert (Wimbledon), Pte. A. White (Ilford), Pte. Lawrence (Dagenham).

## TV LAST NIGHT

"TABLE TENNIS is the ideal sport for TV. The English Open Championship finals from Wembley last night allowed viewers to sit almost beside the table.

The mixed doubles—with Leach, Barna, and the pretty Rowe twins dancing all over the screen—were fascinating to watch.

Max Robertson's quiet, laconic, and explicit commentary was a lesson to all those TV commentators who are so infuriating verbose."

Moore Raymond,

Sunday Dispatch,

12th April, 1953.

## IT DEPENDS ON THE COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Table Tennis receives many letters critical of T.T. administration. Some are obviously sincere and are sympathetically read by The Editor. Names are not disclosed without permission, but where practical, specific cases have been taken up, and have often ended happily to all concerned.

In quite a number of cases, however, writers do not realise that where a County Association exists it is primarily RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GAME IN ITS AREA. The faults of local administration, where they exist, cannot be blamed broadly on the "E.T.T.A." Such matters as selections for county teams, efforts to encourage and develop the local game, what is done about coaching promising players, local top players being unhelpful or setting bad examples, etc. THESE things are the responsibilities of local leagues and County Associations. Under good leadership and the lively co-operation of leagues and players, county associations are capable of immense good. Some are efficient and doing splendid work. Some are handicapped by frictional feelings and some are young in experience. Ask then, WHAT is your County doing; and what are YOU doing to help it?

## MANCHESTER "EVENING CHRONICLE" TOURNAMENT

Free Trade Hall, 13th April, 1953

AN audience of 2,500 were "spell-bound" for 4 hours at an exciting Match-Exhibition by England's World Champion Team and the Finals of the *Evening Chronicle* T.T. Tournament 1952-3.

Arnold Shepherd (22) was runner-up for the second successive year, losing 3-0 to junior international, Cliff Booth (17) in the M.S. In the W.S. Margaret Booth (22) of Blackpool bt. Barbara Ingham (Y.C., Crewe).

Details:—

M.S. C. BOOTH bt. A. Shepherd 12, 18. W.S. M. BOOTH bt. B. Ingham 13, —22, 17.



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# PROGRESS OF NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME

AT its 1952 A.G.M. the E.T.T.A. inaugurated the National Coaching Scheme and appointed Jack Carrington, the Hon. Director of Coaching.

(The basis was a Three-Year Plan, outlined on pages 163-4 of the E.T.T.A. Handbook, 1952-3. A free copy of this Handbook is issued for every affiliated Club.)

## The First 9 Months

The report of the Director covers the first 9 months. 4 E.T.T.A. Training Courses have been held: 1 Northern, 1 Southern, 1 General, and 1 for Schoolchildren. A 5th (August Holiday) Course has been arranged. Some 100 players, including 10 Student Coaches, attended. All were fully booked many weeks in advance.

The first 2 films acquired for the N.C.S. Film Library have been circulated to more than 40 centres. Various affiliated bodies have received practical forms of assistance; some local schemes including Student Coaches. Effective liason has been maintained with the C.C.P.R., the Press, Educational and Industrial organisations etc., throughout the country. Some Student Coaches who attended the 1951 Lilleshall Course have done excellent work in their own areas, notably in Kent, Suffolk and Norfolk. The Yorks. T.T.A. Scheme was a Pattern Course for County Coaching Schemes. Other enterprising counties and other organisations (e.g., Staffordshire and Birmingham) have organised coaching on their own initiative, though these have, naturally, been mostly concerned with the coaching of players.

## Methods

Activities have so far been of a "pilot" nature, recognising that the greatest good must be taken to the greatest number. The N.C.S. does not seek to absorb into a mass pattern; it is a flexible service that can be adapted to local abilities and circumstances—to help local bodies (who ask)—toward a local self-dependance.

Group, or "mass" coaching, has never been intended to replace individual coaching. It broadens knowledge and appreciation, intensifies enthusiasms, raises average standards, encourages mutual help, and—when rightly conducted—should pass on naturally gifted players for promotion in training of a more individualistic character. Thus there is likely to be an increasing need of good coaches at every level of the game from school and beginner to representative standard.

The primary aim of the Scheme is to encourage and develop players who will become coaches in their own areas (called Student Coaches). This in-

volves technical knowledge, a better appreciation of the game, the avoidance of stereotyped instructions, a new sense of personal responsibility, etc. In the early stage this involves (i) Coaching for player's improvement, as well as (ii) Teaching the arts of instruction.

In actual practice it is found that potential coaches emerge from general instruction courses as they find unsuspected talents and new enthusiasms. The Coaching Committee are anxious to establish Coaching Awards by which the Student Coaches can be tested and "passed out" as qualified to coach in their localities. This matter is to have early priority.

## The Long Term View

The long term vision of the Coaching Committee is that every County should ultimately have its own County Coaching Scheme organised to suit the needs of its community, including arrangements for the specialised training of outstanding individuals. When a sufficient number of counties are operating such schemes, considerable progress can be made. Coaching discussion and refresher meetings can be arranged and systems developed for the progress of talented pupils, etc.

The responsibilities and possibilities of a National Coaching Scheme are immense and magnificent. Clearly, there is a call for all county associations to take their responsibility seriously and give the lead to their member leagues. ●

## LANCASHIRE OPEN

Blackpool, 18th April, 1953

M.S. R. HINCHLIFF bt. (1) R. Alcock 14, —11, 22; bt. (2) B. Kennedy 17, 17 (bt. R. Baker —14, 15, 10).

W.S. A. WOOD bt. E. Grimstone 12, 6.  
M.D. C. BOOTH/B. KENNEDY bt. B. Casofsky/K. Stanley 14, 18.

W.D. Mrs. M. CUMBERBATCH/J. MAC-KAY bt. P. Heppell/J. Preston 19, 11.

B.S. G. PULLAR bt. D. Finan.  
"By-the-way": R. Baker bt. B. Casofsky 2-0. Pam Mortimer bt. K. Best 15, 15. Eileen Grimstone bt. P. Mortimer and M. Cumberbatch. D. Finan bt. G. Ingber 19 in the 3rd.

We understand that the X.D. event was scratched.

## MIDDLESEX CLOSED, 1952-3

M.S. A. RHODES bt. (1) E. Marsh 14, 15; bt. (2) L. Adams 14, 17, —17, 20 (bt. B. Crouch —17, 20, 16).

W.S. M. FRY bt. M. Cherry —13, 15, 18.  
M.D. L. ADAMS/V. BARNA bt. R. Etheridge/R. Syndercombe 16, 11.

W.D. M. CHERRY/ Mrs. B. IRISH bt. E. Benstead/S. Smith 12, —17, 16.

X.D. M. THORNHILL/Y. J. SEAMAN bt. A. Rhodes/M. Fry 17, 17.

B.S. L. SHOPPER bt. R. Seaman —13, 2, 0, 17.

G.S. J. HODSON bt. J. Bottrill 13, 19.

Minor: M.S. P. PIZEY bt. S. Gelfarb.  
W.S. G. HAFENDEN bt. Mrs. T. Carruthers.



No. 881 P. Madge  
Regular magazine correspondent and South London T.T. livewire GEOFF. COULTHREAD on the occasion of his marriage to BETTY HOLDWAY on March 28th.

## THINK BIG and

10 times £4,000 should be easy to U.S. Spread over our 150,000 recorded members it's roughly 6d. per head!

Think how very much smaller, numerically, are the following organisations:—

THE Questors, famous amateur dramatic company of Ealing, needed £5,000 to buy their own theatre a little while ago . . . They raised the money in 7 months by social and other functions, donations, etc.

\* \* \*

THE Women's Squash Racket players needed £1,200 to send a team to the U.S.A. . . . They raised it by the energetic disposal of sweepstake tickets. (The men have not been able to send a team since the war!)

\* \* \*

THE British Golf Foundation needed money to pay professionals to lecture and coach schools and youth clubs . . . They have raised £5,000 is LESS than a year from voluntary contributions and competitions.

\* \* \*

THE Liverpool Dockers needed £23,000 for a Sports Stadium . . . They raised the money by each of the 10,000 members contributing TWO-PENCE a week—which represents £4,333 a year!

A local jumble sale nets £33 net in less than an hour. Local sales of work, dances, and draws, bring in amounts between £40 and £280 net.

You think nothing of buying a mineral water for a friend! Yet that's about the equivalent of the E.T.T.A. Appeal to YOU. Perhaps some leagues could invite players to "Give a Tanner" when they register next season?

A group of the Club Prize Competitions noted by Geoff. Harrower on page 3 (to cater for every group in YOUR Club)? Run as a novelty during the summer.

Who ever you are, wherever you are, please do something. Don't mind sending ANY amount.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

THIS issue completes Volume II. The next issue is not due until September 1st. (Don't forget to place Order or renew Subscription.) September *Table Tennis* will be prepared in JUNE and JULY, going to press in August. Already we have much popular material: the request article re "Ideal Clubs" (regretfully withdrawn from this number); an exclusive story of the current World Champion Ferenc Sido; Review of County and League Handbooks, etc., etc.

FINALLY, my very sincere thanks for the practical help, encouragement and co-operation which so many have given me. I wish that I could name them all. And another "Thank You" to all those very many—all over the world—as well as Great Britain who have written. How welcome they all are. All outstanding answers should be cleared within the next few weeks—but I'll be looking out for many more from everywhere.

Leslie S. Woollard, The Editor.

### LONDON T.T.L. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wimbledon, 18th April

M.S. H. VENNOR bt. K. Craigie 23, —19, —15, 17, 7. M.D. L. ADAMS/K. CRAIGIE bt. J. Head/H. Venner 12, 19, —16, 19.

### LONDON BUSINESS HOUSES T.T.L. CHAMPIONSHIPS, Southwark, 24th April

M.S. B. E. CROUCH bt. R. Crayden. W.S. B. E. MILBANK bt. K. Burge. M.D. B. E. CROUCH/J. R. King. W.D. Y. Dovey/J. Slade. X.D. B. CROUCH/M. C. Rowntree. B.S. B. Kelsey. G.S. B. Isaacs. V.S. S. Straker.

### NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS, London, 24th April

M.S. L. ADAMS bt. K. Craigie 9, 24, 18. W.S. M. Cherry bt. Mrs. J. Lauper —18, 17, 16. M.D. L. Adams/K. Spychalski bt. M. Close/K. Craigie 18, 18, 18. W.D. M. Cherry/J. Lauper bt. W. Dakin/S. Wright-Swatman 11, 18. X.D. L. Adams/J. Lauper bt. M. Cherry/K. Spychalski —15, 18, 24.

Essex player, A. W. Pickford has opened The Grove T.T. Club at Grove Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex, where he intends to run a series of Sunday Tournaments, through the summer.

## STOP PRESS

### "DAILY MIRROR" FINALS

Albert Hall, 30th April, 1953

M.S. W. ENGLAND bt. (1) F. Kershaw 15, 19, 9; bt. (2) E. Still —19, 18, 19, 14 (bt. M. Maclaren 15, 19, 20).

W.S. A. HAYDON bt. (1) E. Pipe 13, 18, 14; bt. (2) P. Gall 18, 15, —17, 18 (bt. L. Rimmer 16, 18, 11).

B.S. G. LUMSDEN bt. (1) R. Carpenter 13, —17, 18, 19; bt. (2) R. Morley 19, —19, —14; 11, 19 (bt. P. Cullen 14, 13, 11).

G.S. J. FIELDER bt. (1) B. Slater 15, —17, 12, —15, 14; bt. (2) D. Jackson 12, 9, —19, 15 (bt. S. Davis 18, —14, —13, 20, 19).

International Trophy. R. BERGMANN bt. (1) V. Barna 14, 19; bt. (2) J. Leach 9, 13 (bt. A. Simons —14, 16, 19).

## IRISH OPEN

10th April, 1953

M.S. J. LEACH bt. (1) S. Clerkin 16, 13, 12; bt. (2) M. Marinko 17, 13, —13, 16 (bt. A. Ehrlich —18, 17, 7, —19, 19).

W.S. L. WERTL bt. (1) J. Owens 12, 6; bt. (2) M. Lyons 17, 12 (bt. D. Fearon —8, 20, 19).

M.D. M. W. HERON/J. LEACH bt. A. Ehrlich/B. Huet —21, —12, 10, 18, 16. W.D. — FRANCES/L. WERTL bt. D. Fearon/J. Owens 10, 13.

X.D. M. MARINKO/L. WERTL bt. J. Leach/— France 19, 18.

B.S. G. HOLDEN bt. M. Behan 12, 12.

G.S. P. RITCHIE bt. G. Ludlow 7, 8.

## 1st WORCESTERSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Worcester, 18th April, 1953

M.S. R. GUISE bt. (1) I. Simmonds 5, 15; bt. (2) M. Hawkins 12, 17, —16, 9 (bt. J. N. Osborne —16, 20, 17).

W.S. B. STEED bt. (1) Mrs. A. Hall 10, 8; bt. (2) Mrs. M. Hough 20, 10 (bt. N. Knott 13, 12).

M.D. M. HAWKINS/R. M. GOODE bt. L. Devereux/D. J. Moss 8, —19, 19.

W.D. J. KEMP/G. MATHISON bt. A. Andrews/B. Steed —17, 19, 18.

X.D. M. HAWKINS/B. STEED bt. J. Webster/G. Mathison 7, 9.

J.S. A. L. GOODWIN bt. (1) B. W. Holland 12, —16, 18; bt. (2) A. Smith —14, 13, 17 (bt. P. J. Kasch 19, 16).

## R.A.F. CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1952-3

Finals at Slough, 20th March, 1953

833 entries in the Individuals and 282 in the Team Events (184 men's, 98 women's), played in geographical zones. President, Air Vice-Marshal R. G. Hart, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., presented the trophies at the Final. Org. Sec. and Treas. respectively are Flt.-Lieuts. A. H. Butler and R. G. Balchin.

M.S. L.A.C. R. STEVENS bt. (1) Barnes; (2) Cpl. D. Burridge 3-2 (bt. Frayer).

W.S. Sqn. Of. PADDOCK bt. (1) Trout; (2) S.A.C.W. Slater 2-1 (bt. Matthews).

W.S. (P.) A.C.W. CREWDSON bt. A.C.W. Lowe 2-0.

M.D. BURRIDGE/R. STEVENS bt. Cohen/Rivett 3-1.

W.D. BOYD/SLATER bt. Hollis/Robinson 2-0.

X.D. L.A.C. STEVENS/Cpl. HARNESS bt. Burridge/Flateau 2-1.

TEAMS: R.A.F. Commands: MAINTENANCE (Stevens, Moseley, Gunson, Draper) bt. BOMBER (Burridge, Doley, Fear, Jones)

5-2. W.R.A.F.: HOME bt. Maintenance 5-4.

Stations: R.A.F.: Stafford bt. Yatesbury 5-3. W.R.A.F.—Medmenham bt. White Waltham 5-2. W.R.A.F. (P.)—Collaton Cross

bt. Linton-on-Ouse 5-4.

## LEACH REVERSES ENGLISH DEFEAT

Belfast, 14th April

3 days after his English Open defeat Johnny Leach bt. Haguenaer decisively —19, 14, 3 and M. Lansky 18, 19. Haguenaer bt. A. Simons 12, —10, 26.

## COVER MAN: KEN STANLEY

KEN STANLEY (1952 Coach to the New Zealand T.T.A.) needs a whole page write-up, both as a player and as a coach of achievement. It is good to see him taking his part in the National Coaching Scheme.

*Table Tennis* believes that it will do a great good for English T.T. when the North has a playing parity with the South. We believe they have the talent. We believe (and Yorkshire is showing) that with the will and unity of all concerned, that those talents can be developed.

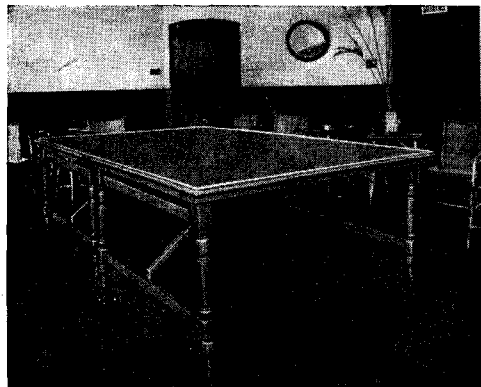
LESLIE JONES, Manchester T.T.L. Sec., one of the ablest, quietly sincere, and efficient administrators in the country, is the kingpin of the English Open, 1953-4 at Manchester in November. His invitation to all Southern players is warm. Book the date. Enter in your battalions. Make it the liveliest, most stimulating English the North has yet seen.

DIANE and ROSALIND ROWE leave England on May 2nd for a Summer Tour of Australia and New Zealand, returning early September.

JACK and ELSIE CARRINGTON start a coaching tour at Belfast on May 3rd for the Irish T.T.A.

We learn that AUBREY SIMONS has given a trophy for the Glos. County J.S. title and 6 FREE coaching lessons. Another of the numerous contributions to T.T. made by this modest, great-hearted and justly popular sportsman.

## TOMS for the Finest Table Tennis Tables on the Market



### TOURNAMENT T.T. TABLE

1" Birch Play top with eight folding legs, and a super-fast matt cellulose playing surface, absolutely free from grain or pore defects - £33  
"Club Model" as above but 1/2" top - £20  
Quality T.T. Bats - 5/-  
T.T. Bats to specification 6/6  
T.T. Bats re-rubbered - 3/6

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