

TABLE TENNIS



English

Open

Championships

Number

FULLEST RESULTS

ESSEX STARS

Barbara Milbank, Elsie Carrington and Yvonne Baker

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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OPINION

reflecting the personal views
and policy of The Editor.

The Time Limit

WHEN winners and losers both condemn the Time-Limit Rule (as they did in the English Open finals) something seems to be wrong. Three of the same four finalists had suffered badly only a fortnight before in the Austrian Open. The Time-Limit Rule introduces a permutation of factors that tend to offset individual skills and games may be decided by outside agencies such as a "marker" in the audience, or by a minor variation or an uncertainty in the operation of the rule. Table Tennis has been trying to face-up to the "marathon" game for 18 years, and it still has not found the right solution. The present rule is an unhappy compromise that pleases no one, but at least it does attempt to protect the long-suffering audience.

Time-Limit games are not necessarily bad or even dull games, and they are, in effect, not exclusive to Table Tennis. With examples such as the stalemates of Test Cricket and the heroic Drobny v. Patty marathon of the last Wimbledon there would seem to be an increasing tendency toward a playing parity between more competitors.

Our personal policy must vigorously condemn public performances detrimental to the game however much, privately, we may appreciate the skills or the individual(s) concerned. We must resolutely criticise the selection of players who are habitually involved in matches of this nature.

Public performances should compare in playing time with other fields of popular entertainment. That is obvious to retain the paying audience. How it should be done is very much of another problem. But **SOME-THING** must be done. The golden rule of success in

public entertainment is to start and finish a programme promptly, finish on a high-note, and always leave the audience crying for more.

Richard Bergmann gave his own very positive views in our issue of April, 1953, in his article "Stop These Time-Limits." These you should read. Then let us know **your** own solution. But don't, **DON'T** let us go on leaving it. If there is a better way, let us find it—without delay—between us.

* * *

IN the rounds we found the "English" the most inspiring for many years. There were some wonderful matches, especially in the men's singles, that had just everything. In fact, the only disappointing element was that too many of the rising stars could not, or would not, enter.

We are of that select company of connoisseurs which holds that even a first or second round performance of merit in the "English" can be more vital than a top place in almost any other tournament. The international blue riband is a Swaythling or Corbillon Cup badge, and the merit of selection for this high privilege must, essentially, be on performances against foreign challengers rather than against the competition of one's regular "home" opponents. Southern players handicapped by time or expense from entering might now better appreciate the problems of Northern players.

* * *

MANY of our correspondents obviously think that *Table Tennis* is run with a large staff and normal resources. At present, alas, our organisation is only comparable to that of other fields of table tennis. Please forgive us, therefore, in any delays in response. We read and treasure the letters of you all and all that you send us—please go on writing—but it is sometimes difficult to keep pace with letters (which may amount to a hundred in a day), so forgive us our occasional tardiness.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,

The Editor.

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Table Tennis warmly invites news items, opinions, suggestions, ideas, pictures, criticisms, etc., from everyone, everywhere. We invite your help in making *Table Tennis* the most lively, instructive and entertaining sports journal in the world. **Keep it SHORT.**

Post it EARLY.

Send **DIRECT** to The Editor :—

**LESLIE S.
WOOLLARD,
12, CAMPBELL ROAD,
BEDFORD**



ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1953-54

Belle Vue, Manchester, November 9—14th, 1953

Reports and Results



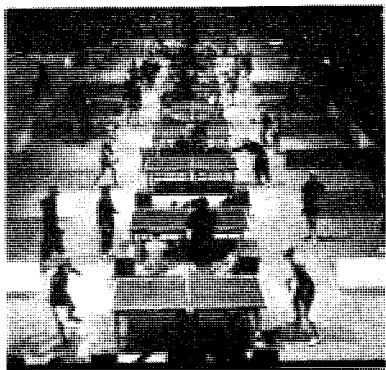
FINALS NIGHT

RINGSIDE REPORT

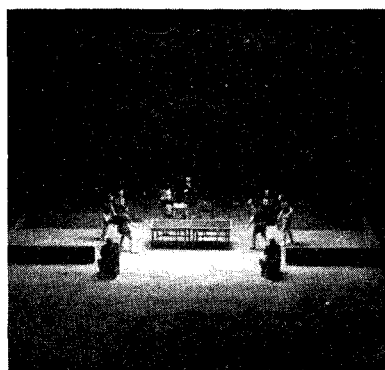
By

Harold Evans

“Manchester Evening News”



No. 940 Preliminary Rounds. P. Madge



No. 939 M.D. The Last Final P. Madge

Men's Singles Semi-Final

J. LEACH v. V. HARANGOZO

IT is 7 p.m. as Johnny Leach (twice World Champion) enters the arena to make his 9th bid to win the English title which no British born player has won for 30 years. Leach opens against the Yugoslavian with medium pace drives which his poker-faced opponent chops remorsefully back. Neither player is happy. Leach falters at 8-10 down and the score is swiftly 10-19. At game point Harangozo makes a rare hard drive to Leach's backhand—a cheeky shot—to win the first game.

In the second game Leach begins to hit cleanly on both hands, picking his winners with care. The relentless Vilim allows few opportunities. Scores see-saw tensely to 9-all and 15-all. A terrific effort and an astounding return brings Johnny to 18-15. At 19-16 Harangozo kills 2 balls stone dead in a rush to the table. Leach jumps, in anguish, but his attempted drop at 20-18 crawls over the net to make one game all. Then we see the real Leach driving hard and fast to first a 9-1 and then 16-5 lead and finally a 21-11 win. The Englishman seems all set for victory.

The 4th game is quickened by the Time Limit bogey, but Harangozo is never once caught by Leach's long drop shots and his defence doesn't give Johnny enough opportunities for his kill. The crowd roars as the Yugoslav retrieves a Leach kill and counter-attacks which Leach returns astoundingly from nearly 20 feet from the table. Harangozo leads at 19-10 and Leach makes a desperate recovery to finally miss a smash hit and lose 18-21. Harangozo gives Johnny a pat of acknowledgment as they change ends at 2 games all.

The fifth and deciding tie is tense with drama and unspectacular rallies. Leach drives, Harangozo defends, glancing at his wristwatch between every rally. At 9-all, a tray of sawdust is offered both players. Harangozo rubs his hands in it; Leach refuses. At 8.30 p.m. the score is 9-11 against the Englishman. “Eleven minutes” calls the umpire. Harangozo forges ahead aided by a few lucky shots to 18-11. It is now a thrilling race against time. Only Johnny Leach seems oblivious of the desperation of his position. He rallies and picks up point by point—6 in a row—he reaches 17-18. Can he, can he equalise? But the clock beats him . . . the umpire has called “Time.” The 91-minute marathon is over. Harangozo has won. Johnny Leach seems stunned and is not consoled when someone points out that an extra 3 minutes was allowed for stoppages.

Men's Singles Semi-Final

A. SIMONS v. R. BERGMANN

The first game was sharp, short and sudden. Simons chopped down the centre with sudden bursts of diagonal forehand smashes. But too many losers and Bergmann wins 21-13. The second game is fascinating T.T. for the player. Each opponent picks out and kills the one ball. When Bergmann drives, Simons counter-drives. Bergmann knocks the surround down in his agile manoeuvring. Simons clinches the second at 21-18 with two of his Express Specials. Pushing play that opens the third game explodes into a breath-taking exchange at 8-all. Bergmann is taking the initiative but it is close all the way. He wins at 21-16 and then pushes nearly every ball to Simons backhand, trying to quell that devastating forehand which has pulled so many games out of the fire. He succeeds. Simons is less

accurate than usual in his hitting. At 16-all it is anybody's game. Then Simons misses two badly, and Bergmann creeps thankfully ahead to win at 21-17.

Men's Singles FINAL

R. BERGMANN v. V. HARANGOZO

Now comes the sensational final. Both players check their watches and appoint their “markers.” Bergmann corrects the umpire on a point awarded him in error; Harangozo smiles his acknowledgment. Bergmann takes the lead up to 12-5, then a reversal and Harangozo is pulling hard to catch up to 17-19 (mostly on Bergmann errors). It is good play but not exciting enough for some of the crowd. They cheer ironically at Bergmann's 20-18 win, and even louder at the announcement that each game must now be decided in 10 minutes.

What a change! First Bergmann and then Harangozo drive and smash. The rallies are incredibly tense and thrilling. Harangozo is smiling, but he drops back 5-13, 9-17, 10-20 and Bergmann wins at 21-14.

I shall never forget the third game. The atmosphere is electric. The tension is relieved when at 1-1 a tabby cat, puzzled at all this excitement over a white ball, races across the arena.

Both players are consulting their watches—and playing like men inspired. At 5-4, Harangozo just fails to return 4 Bergmann smashes, and two lucky edge balls gives Bergmann the lead. Harangozo, still smiling, brings off a beautiful kill down the backhand to make it 7-8. Driven back, he gasps at the effort made for a magnificent return that has the hall cheering, then, over-excited, he runs in to hit and fails. What superb table tennis this is!

Then, Bergmann "went mad." Realising that he is behind the clock, he opens up a terrific non-stop attack, driving frantically with a lightening forehand . . . 10-11, 10-12, 11-12, Harangozo looks at his watch, remonstrates with the umpire. But he must play on, and Bergmann just wins the equaliser when time is called and 5 minutes allowed for the next point which will decide the game.

Pandemonium breaks out in the hall and a frenzied Bergmann rushes to the back of Harangozo's court, picks up the ball, and smashes a wonderful drive hard down the Yugoslav's forearm. It comes back. Bergmann smashes again and now Harangozo is 20 ft. back, scooping the ball from the floor. Another smash, another astonishing return, then one stupendous Bergmann shot wide down the backhand ends it all. Bergmann has won.

Women's Singles FINAL

Miss R. ROWE (England)

v.

Miss L. WERTL (Austria)

THE blazeaway Austrian girl regained the title she won in 1951, beating the holder in four games, though at one stage Rosalind Rowe looked like making a conquering recovery.

Wertl, relying almost exclusively on a powerful forehand drive, had Rowe on the defence from the start and after some not very exciting play ran out the winner of the first game at 21-18 with a delicate drop shot. Rowe stuck to her defensive guns in the second game, but Wertl's drives were now finding their mark more often and she led 14-7; 19-10; 21-13.

More over-the-table play and an occasional drive gave Rowe the edge on Wertl in the third game—literally as well as figuratively for after an edge ball at 10-9 Rowe never looked back, going on to 19-13. Here Wertl "lit the blue paper" and gained one point by seven hard forehand smashes. She lost 21-15.

Immediately on the start of the fourth game, Wertl speeded up her attack and went ahead 12-10 by forcing Rowe far from the table and angling her drives. Rowe recovered and took the lead 12-13. Point by point they fought then to 17-17 where after driving hard on the forearm, Rowe tried a wild shot on the backhand. Wertl seized her chance and went to 20-18. But now it was Rowe's turn to spring the surprise and after Wertl had muffed a kill, Rowe made no mistake with a high one on the forehand, and it was deuce. This was a great chance to take the issue to a decider, but Wertl made a supreme effort and a series of brilliant drives gave her the title.

Women's Doubles FINAL

Miss R. ROWE and Miss D. ROWE

v.

Miss H. ELLIOT (Scotland) and Miss L. WERTL (Austria)

Make no mistake about it, this was a classic victory by the Rowe twins, who outclassed their opponents in doubles team-play to win the championship for the fifth successive year.

The Rowe twins did all the attacking and though this suited a defensive Helen Elliot, Wertl could never get into her stride. After losing the first two games 13, 14, Elliot and Wertl had a long consultation and began the third game with a barrage of drives. This succeeded for a time, then Elliot missed an easy kill, Wertl over-drove and it was 12-16. The Rowes could win by either defence or attack and at 20-14 an edge ball gave them victory.



No. 936

P. Madge

The Rowe Twins win the English W.D. Title for the 5th successive year although not yet 21 years old.

Men's Doubles FINAL

R. BERGMANN and J. LEACH

v.

A. W. C. SIMONS and B. KENNEDY

It was past midnight when this doubles final started but there were still over 3,000 watching. They had an excellent reward.

Leach and Bergmann took the first game at 21-19 after a powerful forearm from Kennedy balanced on top of the net, then dropped back on his side. Leach and Bergmann had done all the defending, with Simons making the openings for a Kennedy pile-driver. But early in the second game, Leach and Bergmann were 5-2 down and opened fire. The result was some brilliant cross-driving and counter driving, with Simons and Kennedy sticking close to the table. Their policy paid. They won 21-14.

Leach and Bergmann were racing across the court at the back-boards from the first point. They took it, then mixed defence and attack

smoothly to win 21-17. Leach made some telling kills. In the fourth game, Simons and Kennedy set up an early lead, and managed a sudden winning spurt when Leach and Bergmann came within a point of them. Leach was still imploring himself "Oh don't do that" after a bad miss when Bergmann put the next ball off and they had lost the fourth game.

Bergmann scraped some rubber from the face of his bat in getting back a strong Kennedy drive in this fifth game. It was a point-for-point struggle, Simons bringing out a backhand flick of surprising effectiveness. The turning moment came when Leach and Bergmann sent back four smashes in a row only to see Kennedy tip the ball gently over the net when poised for a drive, and the holders lost their title 21-17 in the fifth. ●

Harold Evans

Pick of the Matches

in the Rounds

By DOUGIE SHAW

Brian Merrett beats Haguenauer

WHEN Haguenauer took the first 2 games everything seemed lost, but Merrett fought back so well that he took the next two to draw level, and hung on so grimly in the ding-dong battle of the decider in which there seemed little to choose between them, that he well deserved this second round victory over the title-holder.

Ray Hinchliff caps Lanskoj

THIS fine win, which the Yorkshireman made look easy with scores of 13, 13, —20, 10, should put Ray well in the running for international honours.

Dorking's Fight against Johnny Leach

ALTHOUGH Leach won this match 16, —14, 5, 18, Dorking put up a very fine performance and extended Johnny to the full. The 4th game could have gone either way. Well played Ray!

Cliff Booth takes game from Roothoof

CLIFFORD BOOTH took the first game from Roothoof and made this difficult Frenchman fight very hard indeed for his —17, 18, 16, 16 win. Cliff is now in H.M. Forces for the next 2 years and I hope he will get ample practice, for Lancashire cannot afford to lose his services on this fine form.

R. Bergmann v. K. Freundorfer

ON paper a classic, but alas, nothing of the sort. "Conny" found the ruthless Richard too good for him in all departments.

(Continued Col. 1, next page)

Round 4 and the Quarters

BRIAN KENNDY could not get to his counter-hit against the fiery Craigie and lost 3 straight in a brilliant match of fireworks all the way. By contrast, Len Adams used slow topspin and varied chop successfully against Hinchliff. Josef Gabric (Yugoslavia) just hit Roothoof off the table 8, 14, 14 and gave Aubrey Simons some tense moments over 5 games in the quarters. Adams fought brilliantly before losing to Leach at 16 in the 5th game.

Most Exciting Match of the Tourney

KEN CRAIGIE — and Thursday night — what a wonderful performance in his tremendous fight against the wearing down process of Harangozo. It was a match of brilliant rallies with the crowd yelling for more. How different might Finals Night have been if we could have seen him hitting like this in the King's Hall.

Doubles

AT 2 games down Peter Pudney and Roy Turner took the next two (both at 19) and led at 20-18 against M. Lansky and R. Roothoof of France. They threw 2 points away to make 20-all. Then point by point until 2 glorious hits to win game and match at 24-22. As good and as an exciting a match as you could ever wish for.

The Ladies

WHOEVER writes on the women's events MUST mention the match between Diane Rowe and Christianne Watel of France.

D. Shaw

The Real Champions

The English Open 1953-54
Belle Vue, Manchester

IN the week's bright cavalcade of friendly and feverish activity that is the English Open, a fertility of officials is invariably prominent in the public promenade. Most are as indispensable as the ball-bearings of a conveyor belt to carry the Championships smoothly, not only to the end, but beyond. Self-effacing, zealous souls and all-too rarely appreciated. Usually being noticed only when they err !! But their performances around the field of play is that of real champions. Alas, how rarely the players from the tables acknowledge the co-operation of these satellites.

ENGLISH OPEN REPORTS

CONTINUED

There is also a minority of this company who like "to strut their hour upon the stage and then are seen no more." They try to bask in the reflected glory of a job well done. Well known in their own communities for their peacock proclivities, they handicap the visiting observer in his search for the real architects, the key men and foundation builders who have been working incessantly for months.

In our search for the Real Champions we find that, Leslie Jones, the Hon. Referee and popular Manchester League Secretary, by his work throughout has raised himself to a level of national importance and established a quality and ability which would earn him an international badge in the playing sphere. English table tennis can do with men of his calibre.



LESLIE JONES, Hon. Referee

Norman Cook, Organising Secretary, has gone doggedly ahead since April to make the Championships a credit to the North, and his colleagues appreciated his effort so much that they presented him with a silver teaset and tray on finals night. Two hours later he was to succumb to the illness he had fought off while the organising work mounted to its climax. Norman Cook, earlier in the afternoon, had spoken bitterly of those who had for so long loudly clamoured for a Northern Star Event but had given an absolute NIL in support of the Championships !!

Frank ("Chris.") Christopher (i/c Umpires), and C. H. Renshaw (i/c Hospitality), fitted their appointments like a Savile Row suiting, while G. R. Yates (Treasurer) went so smoothly on his way that he was almost unnoticed. Billie Stamp was Programme Editor, a job which can speak for itself. Albert Howcroft (Press and Publicity) was a hospital

casualty (appendix) at the period when he was most needed, and apparently could not be replaced.

But there are so many backroom boys and girls who must go uncredited. We can remember such folk as tireless Harold Johnson; ubiquitous Dougie Shaw—starring in play, in umpiring and filling in wherever needed. There was Molly selling magazines (even to the Editor!). Mrs. J. Braddock and Mrs. A. Harland who typed the Draw. "Pop" Marsden—a doorway Horatius with the programmes while Jenny Cook (Norman's wife) held a multiplicity of unnamed offices. F. Morris and J. Hay with equipment, stewarding and control, etc. Every time we saw the becrutched Fitzpatrick he seemed either on his way to or from, or actually in, the course of umpiring. A very rough calculation suggests that he "umped" at least 35 best-of-5 matches.

But to mention some names is to be unfair to so many who did so much. We pay tribute to the real champions of whom we have named a few. Let them be representative of a gallant company of sports folk, and our humble apologies for so many omissions. In sincerity, we salute them all. ●

NOTE

We regret that a number of results, reports, news items, and features have had to be held over. Some arrived too late for this issue and a few made room for fuller coverage of particular events specially requested by many readers. January issue will contain a very varied selection, including the major national ranking lists, the Hungarian tour, Open Tournament Review (a new approach)—in fact, something for everyone, and perhaps the first of some new features.



No. 935

Denis Offer

An action photo of Vilim Harangozo (Yugoslavia) and Linde Wertl (Austria), runner-up and winner respectively of the singles titles of the English Open. In the X.D. event this pair beat Burridge/Gall 3-1 and Roothoof/Watel 3-2 before they were knocked out in the quarters by Craigie/Rook.

ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953-54

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

		* Seeded Player			
K. Craigie (Surrey)	{ Craigie	} HARANGOZO	} 13, —18, —18,	} R. BERGMANN	} 20/18 T.L., 21-14, 13/12 T.L.
B. Kennedy (Yorks.)	{ 12, 20, 14				
R. Baker (Lancs.)	{ Harangozo	} HARANGOZO	} 10, —18, —11,		
V. Harangozo (Yugo.)	{ 10, 6, 12				
R. Hinchliff (Yorks.)	{ Adams	} LEACH	} 16, —18, 19,		
L. Adams (Middx.)	{ 18, —13, 20, 14				
D. Burridge (Middx.)	{ Leach	} —17, 16			
J. Leach (Essex)	{ 15, 10, 15				
*A. Simons (England)	{ Simons	} SIMONS	} 15, —17, 13,		
R. Markwell (Essex)	{ —19, 7, 15, 6				
J. Gabric (Yugoslavia)	{ Gabric	} —18, 12			
R. Roothoof (Fr.)	{ 8, 14, 14				
*G. Amouretti (Fr.)	{ Amouretti	} BERGMANN	} 13, —18, 16, 17		
G. Roland (Belgium)	{ —18, 14, 16, 19				
H. Venner (Surrey)	{ Bergmann	} 16, 11, 13			
R. Bergmann (Eng.)	{ 8, 15, 15				

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

*R. Rowe (England)	{ R. Rowe	} R. ROWE	} —19, 8, 8, 15	} L. WERTL	} 18, 13, —15, 20
P. Mortimer (Wks.)	{ 12, 7, 17				
A. Wood (Lancs.)	{ Elliot	} R. ROWE	} 14, 14, 11		
H. Elliot (Scotland)	{ 17, 14, 15				
*A. Bates (Wales)	{ Rook	} J. ROOK	} 12, —17, 20, 17		
J. Rook (Surrey)	{ 19, 19, 17				
C. Rougagnou (France)	{ Best	} —19, 17, 18,			
*C. K. Best (England)	{ 9, 6, 8				
*D. Rowe (England)	{ D. Rowe	} D. ROWE	} —20, 18		
B. Gray (Wales)	{ 17, 12, 18				
F. Wright (Yorks.)	{ C. Watel	} L. WERTL	} 18, 10, —13, 17		
*C. Watel (France)	{ 6, 17, 9				
*J. Winn (England)	{ Winn	} L. WERTL	} 7, 11, 14		
G. Roland (Belgium)	{ 21, —6, 15, 16				
K. M. Benson (Lancs.)	{ Wertl	} 8, 10, 17			
*L. Wertl (Austria)	{ 8, 10, 17				

8. JUNIOR SINGLES (BOYS)—Main Results—THE FINNEY CUP

K. FREUNDORFER (Germany) bt. B. Barr 14, 17; bt. D. Finan 11, 12. Finan bt. B. Cartwright 15, 15. Barr bt. J. M. Stoddart 19, 13. M. MACLAREN (England) bt. B. T. Borg (Sweden) 6, 17; bt. P. Jones 8, 10. Borg bt. D. Backhouse —19, 13, 20. Backhouse bt. W. Morris 13, 16. LARS PETTERSSON (Sweden) bt. R. Dorking 14, 18; bt. R. Karall (Austria) 5, 19; bt. B. M. Mayfield 13, 10. Dorking bt. R. Jackson 20, 17 (bt. D. Potter 15, 20). E. ARNDT (Germany) bt. L. A. H. Jonsson (Sweden) 16, 18; bt. L. Landry 14, 21 (bt. K. Goodwin 11, 7). Jonsson bt. G. Lumsden 17, —7, 19.

K. FREUNDORFER bt. (1) M. Maclaren 17, 10; bt. HASSE PETTERSSON 13, 12 (bt. E. Arndt 12, 12).

★ ★ DON'T MISS IT ★ ★

THE JANUARY issue will be an All Star Number. It will include an intimate account of the Hungarian Tour with numerous high-speed action pictures and all scores; a mid-season Review of the County Championships; a new-style review of the major tournaments of the season; up-to-date news of the World Championships, 1953-54; report of the Women's Singles matches of the England Open; a practical example of Club Centre; an interesting despatch from Ferenc Gyorgy; and all usual features and complete results—presenting the best of the Table Tennis world to the World of Table Tennis.

DUE OUT ON JANUARY 1st, 1954

Place a regular order to avoid disappointment.

2. MEN'S DOUBLES

(From Quarters)

R. BERGMANN/J. LEACH bt. B. Merrett/R. Morley 9, 9, 16; bt. P. Pudney/R. Turner 6, 14, 20. PUDNEY/TURNER bt. K. Hurlock/M. Maclaren 21, 16, 15; bt. M. Lansky/R. Roothoof (France) —24, —13, 19, 19, 22.

B. KENNEDY/A. SIMONS bt. J. Gabric/V. Harangozo (Yugoslavia) —18, —18, 16, 17, 14; bt. S. Cafiero/J-C. Sala (France) 20, 16, 16. GABRIC/HARANGOZO bt. D. Burridge/H. Venner 15, 9, —15, 16; bt. R. Hinchliff/G. Wadsworth 17, 18, 17.

B. KENNEDY/A. SIMONS bt. R. Bergmann/J. Leach —19, 14, —17, 16, 17.

4. WOMEN'S DOUBLES

(Quarters)

D. & R. ROWE bt. W. Blades/M. Thompson 6, 14, 12; bt. A. Bates/G. Holden 15, 15, 10 (bt. C. K. Best/A. Haydon 19, —14, 21, 16).

H. ELLIOT/ L. WERTL bt. B. Gray/S. Jones —17, 17, 14, 17; bt. P. Mortimer/J. Winn 19, —20, 14, 9 (bt. P. Gall/J. Rook 7, 16, —21, 19).

D. & R. ROWE bt. H. Elliot/L. Wertl 13, 14, 15.

5. MIXED DOUBLES

J. LEACH/ D. ROWE bt. A. Simons/H. Elliot —18, 18, 20, 15.

R. BERGMANN/R. ROWE bt. K. Craigie/R. Rook 15, 12, 17 (bt. V. Harangozo/L. Wertl 11, 22, 18).

J. LEACH/D. ROWE bt. R. Bergmann/R. Rowe 16, —20, 13, 13.

VETERANS SINGLES (6 and 7)

M.S. L. C. KERSLAKE (Devon) bt. F. T. Bamford (Lancs.) 10, 5.

W.S. Mrs. C. COOK (Yorks.) bt. Mrs. G. Davies (Lancs.) 16, 18.

CONSOLATION SINGLES

M.S. K. FREUNDORFER (Germany) bt. D. Schofield (Cheshire) 8, 9.

W.S. S. JONES (Wales) bt. P. Gall (Surrey) 20, 18.

(Continued on page 71)

The IVth MACCABIAH

(Jewish Olympic Games)

Sweden Take Top Honours—Baker and Sherwood Out

Tel-Aviv, Israel, Sept. 20th—30th, 1953

AFTER five days of Mediterranean sunshine and one day of gales (which undid all the good work of the previous five days) the two-man team of Ronnie Baker and Alan Sherwood (along with 80 other British athletes) arrived in Israel to compete in the IVth Maccabiah Games.

Owing to financial problems the British organisers decided to send only two players to compete in a team competition which required a three-man team! We were not expected to win the team event—and we did not—but we were to concentrate on the individual events.

In our first match Israel proved too steady for us, the score being 5-2 against. It was noticeable that the humid atmosphere slowed the ball considerably and this was reflected in the Israeli style of play which was, without exception, long defence. Conditions were quite good except for very slack nets. We then received walk-overs against Turkey and Finland who both considered that the privilege of playing us was not sufficient compensation for braving the excessive afternoon heat. For which the British team were duly thankful!

Led 20-11 and Lost!

The following evening the key match between England and Sweden took place before a crowd of about 400. Sweden included in their team Anton Bolgar, the holder of the singles title he won in 1950 (when he beat Benny Casofsky in the final). In addition to two other keen players of a good standard, they were managed by Mr. Haskell, who is the Swedish representative to the I.T.T.F., and whose able captaincy was a main factor in their winning the team championships and the Men's Singles. In this match Sherwood led Bolgar 20-11 in the third game and LOST! (This catastrophe created so much camera-derie and so much publicity that it was almost worth-while!) Had he won this game the chances were that England would have won this match and a triple play-off would have resulted between Sweden, Israel and England. However, this was not to be, and Sweden beat Israel 5-3 to win the team championships. England gained a consolation win over Austria and thus finished third.

In the individual events Baker drew one of the leading Israelis, Feffenbaum, in the first round and won 3-1, thus reversing a result of the team event. Sherwood had a hard fight with the Australian entrant Barney

Peters (who comes from Queensland), but eventually won 3-1. In the quarter-finals he lost an endurance test with Steinhartz of Israel 3-2. Ronnie Baker reached the semi-finals and went down fighting to Bolgar, whose consistent topspin on the forehand won him the title in the final against Finkelstein, Israeli No. 1.

Accompanying the team (although not actually part of it), was Halina Littman from London who reached the semi-finals of the women's singles, the final of the women's doubles (in partnership with an Austrian girl), and the final of the mixed doubles with Alan Sherwood. All these events, however, were won by Israel, as was also the men's doubles, Baker and Sherwood losing in the semi-final to the winners.

It is interesting to note that Table Tennis was not part of the Maccabiah Games itself but a special tournament run by the Israel Table Tennis Association. Admission to the Maccabiah Games proper had been refused on the grounds that there is no distinction between professionals and amateurs in the game. Presumably, any chance Table Tennis has of being admitted to the Olympic Games would be brought to nought by this lack of distinction, which hitherto had been regarded as a model system. ●

A.S.



No. 937. HALINA LITTMAN, attractive 20-year-old shorthand typist from West Hampstead, in play at the local Maccabi Club. She also skates and swims and plays tennis. She was chosen No. 1 for the British Maccabi team, but because they had no funds to send her to Israel, she paid all her own expenses.

AN ACHIEVEMENT UNEQUALLED IN ANY SPORT

By H. ROY EVANS

General Secretary of the International Table Tennis Federation

WHEN nine National Associations met in London in December, 1926, they could have had little idea that the International Federation they then formed would ever be the truly world-wide organization it is to-day.

It speaks volumes for the universal popularity of our game that it was one of the first to get back into stride after the Second World War, and it certainly lead in its desire quickly to revive sporting intercourse between table tennis organizations who found themselves "on opposite sides" during the world conflagration.

And I believe that this had much to do with the rapidity with which new members came into the fold. When the World Championships went to Bombay, this gave rise to a surge of enthusiasm in the Asian countries, culminating in the affiliation of many who to most of us are only "names on the map." The establishment of the Asian Federation within the

framework of the I.T.T.F. and the holding of Asian Continental Championships means the preservation of international relationships within that vast continent.

New Associations have come into being in Central and West Africa, and now South America is seeing new enthusiasm for international contacts through the Federation, so that at last it is possible to say that table tennis is being played under *one* authority, to the same rules and regulations, in sixty-three countries in all the Continents of the World, an achievement unequalled, I believe, in any other sport

Nor does it end there. Even as I write, I am in correspondence with the following associations, all of whom we hope to see affiliated within the next few months:—Turkey, Venezuela, Peru, Jamaica, Thailand and Ecuador. What an enormous tree has grown from that little seed! ●

H. Roy Evans.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

PREMIER DIVISION

Middlesex strengthened their chances of victory for the seventh successive season by their narrow win over Gloucestershire — Victor Barna was sufficiently recovered in health to help towards two vital doubles successes, whilst Michael Thornhill hung on to beat Brian Merrett.

On the following day Gloucester lost a great chance when they could only draw 5-all with a weakened Essex team (Johnny Leach being stuck in a fog in Germany). Essex recovered from 1-4 down, their best success being gained in the mixed doubles where Brian Brumwell and Yvonne Baker beat Aubrey Simons and Margaret Fry.

Surrey secured a comfortable win over Lancashire, although Lancs. played better than the 8-2 result indicates. Geoff Pullar, brought in at the last minute, was the star, beating Tony Miller and only losing to Harry Venner at 22-24 in the third. Pullar led 11-1 in this final game, and lost 14 points in a row—later Ken Craigie led Ronnie Baker 11-1, only for exactly the same thing to happen to him—can anybody remember a first-class match where two lots of 14 points in a row have been obtained when losing 1-11.

Peter Shead won both his singles for Sussex against Glamorgan, but the Welsh County were the stronger team, especially in the ladies events.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Northumberland secured a meritorious draw with Lincolnshire, K. Smith winning all the three events in which he was engaged. For Lincs. Derek Merryweather took his two singles.

The Durham No. 1, K. Holland, failed to arrive for the match against Cheshire, and Durham conceded three events. The junior Gordon Lumsden fought hard for the losers, and took both his experienced opponents, D. Schofield and W. Pierce, to three games.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Bucks. unexpectedly lost to Berks., Cheshire, and Durham conceded three events, the men's doubles in partnership with D. Barley, who also won a singles.

Hampshire, who gained an 8-2 win over Oxfordshire, thus go into the lead. Oxford led by two matches to love, but although they forced five others to three games this was the

extent of their success—D. Laitt fought hard for the losers, all his three matches going to three, whilst P. Burnett and A. Boone won a singles each. For Hampshire B. James won both singles and a doubles.

EASTERN DIVISION

Hertfordshire gained an easy win over Norfolk, and with Suffolk beating Cambridge Herts. are the only 100% side in this section. The result of the Suffolk/Cambs. match was in doubt until the ninth event, in which Bean of Suffolk just got the better of Nunn. Bean won both his singles, as did John Cornwell for Cambridge.

MIDLAND DIVISION

Staffordshire are now the only 100% side in this division, but Worcestershire have dropped only one point, and their meeting on the 5th December will do much towards deciding this section.

Leicestershire nearly surprised Worcs., the key game being the men's doubles, in which Goode and Hawkins just got home, against Southam and Burraston, for the winners.

Leicestershire were concerned in another close match against Derbyshire, and although they eventually lost 3-7, there was nothing in five of the events which went Derby's way. B. Milner won both his singles for the winners, for whom the Misses Walker and Bannister contributed victories in the ladies' events. Rogers, Southam and Burraston each won one singles for the losers.

JUNIOR DIVISION

The Champions, Sussex, are going great guns, and it appears that only Surrey have a chance to halt their victorious run. Every player pulls his weight in the team, none more than Bryan Brooks, who against Essex accounted for the redoubtable Ray Dorking.

Surrey had a good win over Hertfordshire, but Terry Densham lost to Brian Cartwright. Later Herts. beat Middlesex, the young 14-year-old Middlesex boys are gaining valuable experience but are not yet able to hold their own. From December, when they are reinforced by Kemal Shoaib, it may be a different story.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS — NOVEMBER

PREMIER DIV. Middx. 6—Gloucester 4 Essex 5—Gloucester 5 Surrey 8—Lancs. 2 Sussex 3—Glam. 7	SOUTHERN DIV. Bucks. 4—Berks. 6 Hants. 8—Oxford 2 Oxford. 3—Berks. 7 Bucks. 6—Hants. 4	EASTERN DIV. Cambs. 4—Suffolk 6 Herts. 9—Norfolk 1 Cambs. 3—Herts 7 Suffolk 6—Norfolk 4
DIV. 2—NORTH Durham 1—Cheshire 9 Lincs. 5—North'bd. 5	MIDLAND DIV. Staffs. 7—Northants. 3 Derby. 7—Leicester. 3 Leicester. 4—Worcs. 6 Northants. 3—Leics. 7 Staffs. 7—Derby. 3	JUNIOR DIV. Herts. 2—Surrey 8 Sussex 9—Suffolk 1 Beds. 4—Herts. 6 Suffolk 3—Kent 7 Essex 2—Sussex 8 Herts. 6—Middx. 4

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES—DECEMBER

COUNTY DIARY

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH:

Wed., 9th Dec. Essex v. Middlesex, Green & Silley Wier, Alderman Finace Hill, Wansstead, 7 p.m.
Sat., 19th Dec. Devon v. Middlesex, Plymouth.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH:

Sat., 5th Dec. Durham v. Yorkshire, The T.I.F. Institute, Fulwood, Sunderland, 7 p.m.
Sat., 5th Dec. Chester v. Northumberland, Fairley Aviation Sports Club, Derby Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport, 7 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION:

Sat., 5th Dec. Worcestershire v. Staffordshire, Shire Hall, Worcester, 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 5th Dec. Derbyshire v. Northamptonshire, Matlock.

JUNIOR DIVISION:

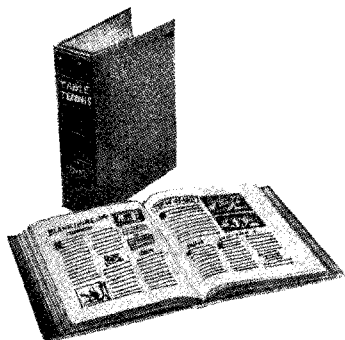
Wed., 9th Dec. Surrey v. Middlesex, Castlenau Youth Club, Barnes, 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 12th Dec. Essex v. Kent, St. David's Church, South Woodford, 7 p.m.

COMITY CUP—1st ROUND:

Sat., 12th Dec. Dorset v. Wiltshire at the T.T. Club, Parkstone.

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we want a Super Woman !!!



OUR DREAM GIRL should be used to controlling a busy office and typists' pool : be a shorthand-typist ; knowledge of any languages an asset ; be available all day from April 6th to April 14th inclusive ; be able to remain calm, unflustered and sweet-tempered under pressure ; experience of dealing with voluntary workers ; tactful, etc.



If there is such a Paragon

She is desperately needed to take control of the Office of the World's T.T. Championships at Empire Pool, Wembley. The job is vitally important and full of interest, but the hours are Long, Unpaid, and maybe Thankless. If there be any heroines with the capacity to dare the Great Job, please write to Mr. Geoff. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet—and it cannot come too soon.



The WORLD'S

For those who desire them the Plaques for the Clubs' World Championships Fund are expected to be available about mid-January on application. Correspondence to Mr. G. Harrower.

The Fund has still not reached its target and donations, guarantees, or other monies are still needed and will be welcomed by Mr. A. K. Vint.

GOING

NEXT MONTH — January — any tickets for the World Championships remaining unsold will be offered to the General Public. E.T.T.A. affiliates have had several months priorities BUT to make quite sure that no one need lose their special privilege of first choice, E.T.T.A. club members have a last 3 weeks of grace. The particulars are reprinted below. The ONLY way to be sure is to order your tickets before Christmas.

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Tuesday	Wed.	Friday	World Cups Events		Full Price →	15/-	12/6	10/6	7/6	4/-	
April 6th,	7th	& 9th									
Mon. & Tues. April 12-13th					Individual Events	Party Rate →	12/6	10/6	7/6	5/-	—
SAT. APRIL 10th					World Cups	Full Price →	21/-	15/-	10/6	6/6	—
WED. ,, 14th					Individuals						

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ENGLISH OPEN RESULTS

(Continued from page 66)

9. JUNIOR DOUBLES (BOYS)

R. DORKING/M. MACLAREN
bt. (1) B. T. Borg/L. A. H. Jonsson
(Sweden) 15, 17; bt. E. ARNDT/
K. FREUNDORFER (Germany) 18,
18, 9 (bt. B. Barr/G. Lumsden 10,
16).

10. JUNIOR SINGLES (GIRLS)

The Dresden Vase

A. HAYDON bt. O. Mielenhausen
(Germany) 18, 20; bt. B. Spooner 5,
12. Mielenhausen bt. J. Fielder 18,
20. J. ROOK bt. J. Hodson 5, 12;
bt. F. Wright 8, 9 (bt. J. Stern 14,
16). Hodson bt. H. Walz (Ger-
many) 19, 13.

J. ROOK (Surrey) bt. A. HAY-
DON (Wks.) 18, —11, 17.

11. JUNIOR DOUBLES (GIRLS)

A. HAYDON/J. ROOK bt. (1)
W. Blades/F. Wright 13, 10; bt. J.
FIELDER/J. HODSON 12, 10 (bt.
H. Walz/O. Mielenhausen 15, —15,
7).

12. JUNIOR MIXED DOUBLES

R. DORKING/A. HAYDON bt.
(1) G. Lumsden/W. Blades 16, 12;
bt. K. FREUNDORFER/O. MIEL-
ENHAUSEN (Germany) 10, 8 (bt.
M. Maclaren/J. Rook 20, 16).

INTERESTING ROUND RESULTS

By-the-Way: Men's Singles

B. Merrett bt. M. Haguenauer —19, —19.
14, 18, 18. K. Hurlock bt. K. Stanley 3-1.
P. Pudney bt. Hurlock 3-2; lost B. Kennedy
1-3. B. Kennedy bt. R. Turner 3-0. C.
Frecker bt. Jonsson (Sweden) 3-2; lost R.
Kerr (Scotland) 0-3. R. Baker bt. R. J.
Mackay 3-0; bt. Kerr 3-1. R. Crayden bt.
D. Shaw 16, —20, —13, 13, 14. R. Hinch-
liff bt. M. Lansky 3-1; bt. L. Sawyer 5, 22.
9. L. Adams bt. G. Halmshaw 3-0; bt. J.
Head 3-0. J. Head bt. R. Stevens 22, —16,
22, 19. D. Burridge bt. S. Cañero (France)
3-1. Cañero bt. P. Strulovitch 3-1. R.
Karall (Austria) bt. G. Lumsden 15, 11,
—18, —15, 20; bt. G. Wadsworth —4, 17,
—13, 15, 18. R. Alcock bt. G. Harrower
—17, 10, 12, 14; bt. A. Rhodes 19, 11, —25,
10; lost A. Simons 19, 17, 19. R. Markwell
lost Simons 1-3; bt. T. Borg (Sweden) 3-0;
bt. R. Newton 3-0; bt. V. Djordjevic
(Yugoslavia) 3-0. R. Morley bt. L. H.
Pettersson (Sweden) 3-0. J. Gabric (Yugo-
slavia) bt. Morley 15, 10, 12; bt. G. Pullar
19, 15, 11; bt. D. Backhouse 15, 15, 13. R.
Raybold lost R. Roothoof —16, 12, 15, 14.
C. Booth lost Roothoof —17, 18, 16, 16.
G. Amouretti bt. M. Maclaren 15, 19, 19;
bt. B. Barr 13, 11, 11. Maclaren bt. F.
Cromwell 3-0; bt. L. Cohen 3-2. J. Inger
bt. D. Finan 3-1; bt. L. Landry 3-0; lost G.
Roland (Belgium) 1-3. B. Cartwright lost
B. Casofsky 17, 10, 15. Roland bt. Casofsky
—19, —15, 10, 17. H. Venner bt. J. C.
Sala (France) 17, —19, 6, 12. K. Freundor-
fer lost R. Bergmann 12, —18, 13, 11.

Women's Singles

R. Rowe bt. S. Jones (Wales) —14, 16,
19, 12. Mortimer bt. W. Blades 10, 14, 16;
bt. J. Mackay 12, 17, 19; lost R. Rowe —12,
—7, —17. J. Mackay bt. J. Hodson 16, 19.
13. H. Elliot (Scotland) bt. S. Threlfall 16,
22, 11; bt. A. Wood 17, 14, 15. J. Rook
bt. M. Thompson 13, 15, 8; bt. Mrs. J.
Braddock 11, 14, 21; bt. A. Bates (Wales)
19, 19, 17. C. K. Best bt. J. Fielder —15,
16, 13, 12; bt. C. Rougnagnou (France) 9, 6,
8. D. Rowe bt. M. Booth 12, 9, 10; bt. B.
Gray (Wales) 17, 12, 18. Gray bt. M. G.

Problem Picture — Double Trouble



No. 938. A photograph cannot lie but we were certainly surprised to see this print of the right-handed Betty Isaacs of Ravensbourne apparently being partnered by a left-hand "twin"! And we are guaranteed that only one picture was taken and that Betty did not change her grips. And it was NOT done with mirrors. Nevertheless, to the relief of many players there is actually only one Betty.

Fry 18, 19, 15. F. Wright bt. Mrs. D. Rae
11, 18, —20, 16 (bt. Mrs. T. Carruthers
3-2). P. Gall bt. P. Heppell —17, 20, 18.
19. J. Watel (France) bt. P. Gall 16, —15,
—16, 16, 14; bt. F. Wright 6, 17, 9. J.
Winn bt. G. Roland (Belgium) 21, —6, 15,
16; bt. Mrs. C. Cook 6, 12, 9 (bt. E. Grim-
stone 3-1). Roland bt. E. Mansell 16, 9, 24;
bt. G. Holden (Wales) 16, 12, 18. K. M.
Benson bt. Mrs. M. Cumberbatch —16, 14,
17, 18; bt. M. Alber (France) —18, 20,
—12, 13, 13; lost to L. Wertz —8, —10,
—17. Wertz bt. A. Haydon 17, 19, 12.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

Leeds, 14th Nov., 1953

ENGLAND 5—FRANCE 2 (Men). (Eng-
land names first): R. BERGMANN bt. G.
Amouretti 12, 14; bt. R. Roothoof 16/18
T.L., 10/6 T.L., 12/11 T.L. J. LEACH bt.
Amouretti —21, 18, 19; bt. Roothoof 15, 12;
bt. M. Lansky —10, 21, 19. B. KENNEDY
lost to Roothoof —13, —19; lost to Lansky
—9, 19, —17.

Peterborough, 14th Nov., 1953

ENGLAND 6—FRANCE 3 (Women).
(England names first): C. K. BEST bt.
C. Watel —20, 15, 9; bt. C. Rougnagnou 8, 4;
bt. M. Alber 16, 15. J. WINN* lost to
Watel 14, —12, —12; lost to Rougnagnou
—20, —19; bt. Alber 5, 11. A. HAYDON*
lost to Watel 9, —21, —16; bt. Rougnagnou
15, 14; bt. Alber 15, 14.
* International debut.

Middleton, 8th Nov., 1953

ENGLAND (Juniors) 7—ALL-GERMANY
(Juniors) 3. (England names first): R.
DORKING lost K. Freundorfer —13, —17;
bt. E. Arndt 11, 20. M. MACLAREN lost
Freundorfer —18, —11; bt. E. Arndt —19,
14, 12. Miss A. HAYDON bt. Miss H. Walz
13, 12; bt. Miss O. Mielenhausen 7, 8.
Miss J. ROOK bt. Walz 8, 8; bt. Mielen-
hausen 16, —19, 9. DORKING/MACLAREN
lost Arndt/Freundorfer —20, —10. Misses
HAYDON/ROOK bt. Misses Mielenhausen/
Walz 12, 17.

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

ENGLAND 5—SWEDEN 4
17th Nov., 1953, Worthing

(English names first) (R. DORKING bt.
H. Pettersson 16, 10; bt. T. Borg 11, 18;

lost L. Jonsson —13, —14. M. MACLAREN
bt. Jonsson 17, 13; bt. Borg 17, 16; lost
Pettersson 15, —19, —13. B. BARR bt.
Jonsson —15, 15, 21; lost Borg —15, 9,
—15; lost Pettersson —17, —13.

HARTLEPOOLS OPEN

31st Oct., 1953

Organised by J. T. Groucutt

M.S. A. L. SHEPHERD bt. J. Worsley 17,
15.
W.S. P. HEPPELL bt. Mrs. G. Brown 15,
14.
M.D. A. L. SHEPHERD/J. WORSLEY bt.
G. Halmshaw/K. Smith 18, 18.
W.D. P. HEPPELL/J. PRESTON bt. Mrs.
G. Brown/Mrs. D. Wilkinson 11, 11.
X.D. J. and B. SENESCALL bt. A. Carter/
P. Heppell —14, 6, 15.
B.S. G. LUMSDEN bt. J. Oughton —19,
18, 11.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN

Croydon, 15th Nov., 1953

By-the-Way: L. Wise bt. R. Dorking 10,
18. A. Rhodes bt. L. Adams —16, 17, 15;
bt. P. Pudney 16, 21. E. Marsh bt. L.
Thompson 13, 11. Pudney bt. Marsh 14,
—16, 20. R. Turner bt. A. Sherwood 19,
—11, 14. M. Maclaren bt. R. Turner 20,
—18, 18; bt. J. Head 15, 17. L. Sawyer bt.
Maclaren 18, 15; bt. K. Hurlock 15, 12.
L. Landry bt. T. Densham 16, 23. B. Barr
bt. K. Szychalski 16, 16; lost to P. Shead
—15, —13. R. Crayden bt. A. R. Miller
16, 16. H. Venner bt. D. Burridge 16, 10;
bt. G. Bebb 21, —14, 17; bt. R. Etheridge
—17, 14, 5. W.S.: M. Piper bt. E. France
12, 11; lost to B. Isaacs 14, —19, 14. Y.
Seaman bt. M. Fry —15, 14, 11.

FINALS

M.S. H. VENNOR bt. (1) L. Sawyer 10,
14; bt. R. CRAYDEN 16, 10 (bt. P. Shead
14, 19).
W.S. J. ROBERTS bt. (1) Mrs. B. Carter
17, 13; bt. Y. SEAMAN —18, 23, 15 (bt.
B. Isaacs 19, —12, 17).
M.D. A. LOWE/H. VENNOR bt. L.
Adams/R. Crayden —15, 16, 15.
W.D. M. FRY/J. ROBERTS bt. P. Gall/
J. Rook 15, 17.
X.D. D. BURRIDGE/M. PIPER bt. K.
Szychalski/D. Spooner —19, 7, 17.
B.S. M. MACLAREN bt. R. Dorking 16, 17.
G.S. J. FIELDER bt. B. Spooner 19, 22.

COUNTY UMPIRES

Mr. C. Darley, Jnr. Yorks Match Sec. writes:

"Middlesex claim to have twice as many County Umpires as any other county. At the time our Handbook went to press, Yorkshire had 35; has Middlesex now 70 umpires."

Editor: Quite likely. The claim was made at the end of last season. The Umpires Handbook shows the "distribution" of County Umpires as at 30th June, 1953 was—in quantitative order:—Middlesex 65; Yorkshire 36; Kent 31; Cheshire and Lancs 28; Devon 23; Staffs 19; Essex 18; Warwickshire 18; Surrey 15; Bedfordshire 14; Hampshire 13; Herts 12; Sussex 12; Glos. 11; Lincs. 11; Leics. 9; Suffolk 8; Northumberland 7; Durham 6; Notts. 6; Cambs. 5; Norfolk 5; Northants 4; Derbyshire 4; Bucks. 3; Berks. 2; Worcs. 1. TOTAL 386.

YUGOSLAVIAN NATIONALS

Belgrade, 23-25th Oct., 1953

M.S. R. ROOTHOFT bt. (1) Gabric 3-1; bt. V. HARANGOZO 3-1 (bt. G. Amouretti 3-1).

W.S. L. WERTL bt. (1) Covic 3-0; bt. T. PRITZI 3-2 (bt. Harmat 3-0).

M.D. J. GABRIC/V. HARANGOZO bt. Bajic/Kovai 3-0.

W.D. T. PRITZI/L. WERTL bt. Donath/Capelmann 3-0.

X.D. V. HARANGOZO/T. PRITZI bt. (1) Kovac/Kolic 3-0; bt. ROZA/WERTL 3-0 (bt. Seifert/Donath 3-2).

CZECH WORLD'S TEAM

Prague, 9th Oct., 1953

AN exhaustive Selection Tournament to find players for the Czechoslovakian team for the World Championships at Wembley in April, ended here to-day. 36 players were grouped in sixes (6 x 6) in which all-played-all and the 2 best from each group passed to the second stage. This was 2 groups of 6. The 3 best from each group were then placed in one final group of 6 players. The placing results were:—

MEN: 1. Andreadis (unbeaten). 2. Vana (lost Andreadis and Tereba). 3. Slar (lost to 1 and 2). 4. Stipek (bt. Tereba and Kadlec). 5. Tereba (bt. Vana and Kadlec). 6. Kadlec.

WOMEN: 1. Krecjova. 2. Hruskova. 3. Cedlova.

This was only a preliminary selection, and a similar tournament will be held in Pilsen on Nov. 15th. Tokar and Vyhnanovsky (not included above) will take part in this second selection.

BE COACHED by the
SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN
CHAMPION
HARRY VENNER

Particulars:

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MITCHAM, Surrey

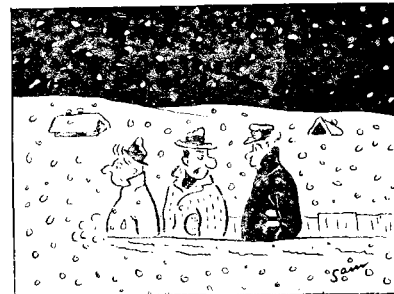
HARANGOZO AND DOLINAR IN SOUTH AMERICA

From our
South American Correspondent

THE two most important events in South American T.T. this season were the visits of the Yugoslavian pair Dr. Zarko Dolinar and Vilim Harangozo and of the German pair Vossebein and Piffel.

The Yugoslavians opened in the Argentine where they won all their matches easily, the only thrill being their own match in the final, won by Harangozo. Up to 1947 Argentine ruled the roost with players like Erwin Kohn and Egidio Consentine, but they have been steadily surpassed since 1949, particularly by Chile which gave the Yugoslavians some tough opposition. Harangozo was superb and did not lose a single game, astonishing audiences with his remarkable defence and fine "wristy" attack. Dolinar had to be content with 3rd place, losing 2 matches to Paul Riveros 18, —18, —16 and to Manuel Gonzales —13, —12. Gonzales is only 17, and a fast attacker in the penholder style who is becoming the "Big Boom" in South American T.T. He is the only player who seriously extended Harangozo.

Vossebein and Piffel entered the 4th Rio de Janeiro Open but were easily eliminated in early rounds by Ivan Severo and Dagoberto Midosi in 3 straight. They are attackers without any defence and were badly upset by the sponge bats now so popular down here. Best match of the tournament was the semi-final between the reigning S.A. Champion, Hugo Severo and Fernando Olazarri who lost very narrowly 25-27, —19, —19, the sponge bat beating the orthodox stylist. Ivan Severo beat Waldemar in the other semi. Hugo won a dull, "forget-me-not" 70 minute final against his brother, also using a sponge bat. Sponge rubber has its uses but when two Satcho followers meet one another, oh brother, it's just murder! It is difficult to attack with that surface and one is forced all too frequently to use the same "stinking" strategy of playing the waiting game.



No. 941 "I still think they might have cancelled to-night's match."

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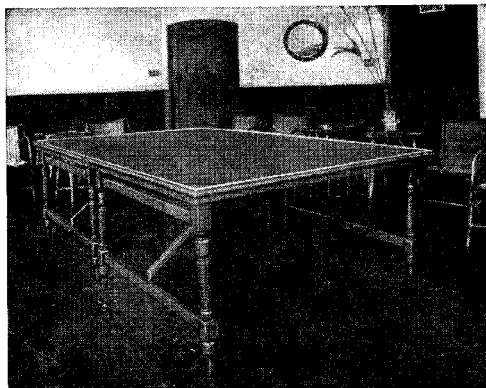
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SPOTLIGHT on the YOUNGER PLAYER



By **PETER MADGE**

who also took the photographs

THE Swedish party arrived in London on Nov. 2nd after a very rough passage on the *Britannia*, this resulted in the boat docking 10 hours late. A much needed night's rest on *terra firma* was followed by a trip to Watford for a match against the local juniors. The next day was officially scheduled as a free day in London and it was decided to give the visitors as varied as possible a programme. Therefore, I collected them at their hotel in the morning and we covered as much ground as possible in the two hours before lunch on a sight-seeing tour. During this tour Leicester Square was identified as Piccadilly Circus and the National Gallery was, by majority vote, Buckingham Palace. I restored our landmarks to their correct sites and we paused awhile in Trafalgar Square to take the photos that appear on this page. After lunch, Jack Carrington came on duty and took the team to see a Rucker match, their first experience of the game. This was followed by a brief spell of practice and then back to the hotel for dinner. This left the evening to fill. Now, I personally have never been very keen on the idea of showing visitors around factories and museums, so what better than the international language of music? So I took them to one of my own haunts, the Humphrey Lyttleton Jazz Club. To say that this was greeted with enthusiasm would be to put it mildly. Most especially by Jonsson. Lars is very fond of dancing at home but he had never seen "jiving" before, he watched intently for half-an-hour or so and then started to give a demonstration by himself in the middle of the crowd. And what a demonstration! You'll have to take my word for it that he did it really well, fitted into the beat of the music like a glove.

An audience soon gathered. Finally, Pettersson was roped in to make a twosome. This offended Toni Borg's sense of propriety so he retired to a far corner of the room! Poor Toni to be the accepted butt of all the rest. The trouble being that he comes from the small town of Arboga and all the others are town-dwellers. Toni is submitted to a constant stream of wisecracks and criticism, none of which has any apparent effect except for an occasional lunge at the offending person. However, he does "ask for it" sometimes. For instance, we were all pounding down the Strand when Toni pulled up with a jerk and announced plaintively that one of his coat-buttons was missing and if anyone saw it would they please pick it up. This was greeted with howls of derision and he was told in a variety of ways that London was not like Arboga where you could drop a pin in the street and find it three days later!

After the Lyttleton Club came a tour of the "bright lights" area which occasioned much comment on their part and explanation on mine. And so, back to the hotel at midnight in a London fog, with four tired Swedish "Londoners!"

ANN-BIDEXTROUS ?

Surrey county player Roy Turner tells me that he was watching Ann Haydon playing at the Sussex Open when a spectator asked who she was. Roy told him, and back came the reply "She's very good, does she always play left-handed?"

Congratulations to Brian Barr and Michael Maclaren, newcomers to the ranks of junior Internationals. All three are among the best players in their respective counties and promise well for the future.



Our Swedish Challengers

Pictures Left to Right:

HASSE PETTERSSON, just 16, much the biggest and youngest of the party. The strong and silent type. Junior champion of Southern Sweden and gained his first "cap" against Finland earlier this year. Has won several open titles and has two victories over ranked Swedes to his credit, one of them being Swedish No. 1 Tage Flisberg. He lives at Huskvarna, in the south of Sweden. Still goes to school. Devotes a lot of time to football which he considers good training for table tennis.

LARS-AKE JONSSON, 17, is much the smallest and much the oldest of the team. A born humorist with a permanent grin that would put most toothpaste adverts to shame . . . take a look at his photo and see what I mean! He is an all-round player, junior champion of the Sormland district, lives at Eskilstuna, 70 miles from Stockholm. An apprentice at a scientific instrument factory. Speaks quite good English.

TONI BORG, 16, played against the visiting English and Finnish teams this year. He is junior champion of Central Sweden and holder of several other junior open titles. A determined forehand attacker with the Vana characteristics of an efficient but scorned defence and little or no backhand attack. Toni is also a keen lawn tennis player, junior champion of Arboga, his home town. He works as an assistant in a leather shop.

TORD OSTNER, 29, accompanies the team as manager. He is a good player and belongs to the Minerva Club in Stockholm as well as being on the board of the Swedish T.T.A. He speaks very good English and seems an ideal captain-companion for the team.

To the Absent . . .

SPARE a thought with me for a couple of castaways on National Service who will be spending Yuletide away from home. I refer to Billy England, present holder of the *Daily Mirror* singles title, and John Hunt, former Herts and England Junior. Billy will probably be sunbathing on December 25th as he has been stationed at Benghazi in North Africa. John is somewhat nearer home at Utersen in Germany with the R.A.F. Billy is working in the R.A.O.C. stores. Also stationed with John Hunt is Gerry Sellar, former Middx. junior. They would like to be able to practice together but as they have only a half-inch top table at their disposal the prospect is not very inviting.

(continued on next page)

PETER MADGE cont.

TOURNAMENTS

We have just enough space for a brief glance at some of the more interesting results in recent weeks. At the Sussex Open Terry Densham had a quick-fire victory over newly-capped Brian Barr in the quarter-finals by 7 and 14. Terry followed this up in the same style with a 10 and 16 win against Sussex team player Jimmy Moore, all of which pointed to a ding-dong final against Ray Dorking. But it was not to be . . . Terry took us back to the days of the French Revolution and lost his head completely in bouts of hitting that threatened to make more holes in the net than in the Dorking defence. But I think he learnt a lesson, that patience is not only a virtue—it's a downright necessity! Scores were 13 and 11.

For some unknown reason, the junior draw had not been seeded. This resulted in the usual Dorking v. Maclaren conflict appearing in the second round instead of the final. A scrappy affair this, nowhere near their usual standard, and the match went to Dorking on a plate by 14 and 9. Brian Cartwright, county team-mate of Brian Barr, had an efficient win over George Gladwish in the second round and carried on to the semi-final to lose to Dorking by 9 and 10.

The next tournament was the Eastern Suburban. Apparently all the lessons of Hastings had been taken to heart for Terry Densham scored a three game win over Dorking. Such a gallant effort should have brought him the title, but not so. In the final he lost to Kemal Shoab whom he beat in the final of the Metropolitan Open last season. Well done, Kemal, and better luck next time, Terry. Did I hear someone ask what happened to the Dorking v. Maclaren match in this tournament? Well, there wasn't one. Mac had not entered owing to other commitments.

Peter Madge

FIRST TWO ROUNDS CUP RESULTS

In the following results, leagues shown in capital letters will meet in the next round. Then A will play B for the Zone Final.

WILMOTT CUP

ZONE 1: (A) HUDDERSFIELD bt. Northumberland 7-2; v. Hartlepool Ex. HALIFAX bt. York 7-2. (B) LINCOLN bt. Sheffield 5-4; bt. Chesterfield 8-1. Barnsley v. Grimsby Ext.

ZONE 2: (A) MANCHESTER bt. Barrow 9-0; bt. Stockport 6-3. Stockport bt. Burnley 8-1. BOLTON bt. Nelson 7-2; bt. Warrington 9-0. Warrington bt. Carlisle 5-4. (B) LIVERPOOL bt. Runcorn 6-2; bt. Southport 8-1 (bt. Hyde 8-1). POTTERIES bt. Chester 7-2; bt. Shrewsbury 6-3 (bt. Farnworth 6-3).

ZONE 3: (A) COVENTRY bt. Leamington 8-1; bt. Northampton 7-2 (bt. Burton Snr. 8-1). BIRMINGHAM bt. Desborough 9-0; bt. Leicester 9-0. (B) CAMBRIDGE bt. Kings Lynn 6-3; bt. Norwich 8-1 (bt. Cambridge University 6-3).

ZONE 4: (A) BEDFORD bt. St. Albans 6-3 (bt. Luton 5-4). BARNETS bt. Leighton Buzzard 7-2; bt. Watford 6-3. (B) ILFORD bt. West Essex 9-0; bt. Romford 6-3 (bt. Dagenham 7-2). Walthamstow bt. Thameside Ind. 9-0. East London bt. Southend 6-2.

ZONE 5: (A) SOUTH LONDON bt. University of London 5-4 (bt. London Bus. Hses 6-3). London Civil S. bt. London Banks 8-0. NALGO bt. Fed. London Deaf 9-0. (B) CENTRAL bt. Travel Trade 8-1; bt. London Region 9-0. WANDSWORTH bt. Barnes 9-0; bt. Edwasca 8-1 (bt. London Prov. Hses 5-4).

ZONE 6: (A) WOOLWICH bt. Thames Valley 5-4; bt. Slough 6-3. STAINES bt. N. Middlesex 5-0 (bt. Wembley 5-3). (B) N.W. KENT bt. Beckenham 8-1 (bt. Sittingbourne 8-1). FOLKESTONE bt. Bromley 7-2.

ZONE 7: (A) LEATHERHEAD bt. Sutton 5-4; bt. Byfleet 5-1 (bt. Eastbourne 8-1). CROYDON bt. Crawley 9-0; bt. Brighton 5-4 (bt. Worthing 9-0). (B) BOURNE-MOUTH bt. Southampton - ; bt. Portsmouth 6-3.

ZONE 8: (A) READING bt. Oxford University 6-0. MAIDENHEAD bt. Newbury 5-4; bt. Oxford 5-4 (bt. High Wycombe 7-2). (B) CHELTENHAM bt. Devizes 9-0; bt. Plymouth 6-3 (bt. Taunton 7-2). GLOUCESTER bt. Bristol 5-4 (bt. Bath 5-3).

J. M. ROSE BOWL

ZONE 1: (A) NORTHUMBERLAN w.o. York. BARNESLEY bt. Sheffield 5-4.

ZONE 2: (A) MANCHESTER bt. Liverpool 7-2; bt. Burnley 9-0. (B) BLACKPOOL bt. Barrow 5-4 (bt. Chester -).

ZONE 3: (A) BIRMINGHAM bt. Desborough 9-0; bt. Burton Snr. 8-1 (bt. Coventry 5-4). LEICESTER bt. Derby 7-2 (bt. Northampton 7-2). (B) BARNET bt. Watford 8-1; bt. Luton 6-1. BEDFORD bt. Leighton Buzzard 8-1.

ZONE 4: (A) ILFORD bt. Thameside 9-0; bt. Dagenham 5-4 (bt. Romford 9-0). (B) Walthamstow v. East London (bt. Southend 7-2).

ZONE 5: (A) LONDON BUS. HSES bt. Travel Trade 9-0; bt. Central 8-1 (bt. Edwasca 9-0). (B) SOUTH LONDON bt. London Banks 9-0; bt. London Civil S. 9-0 (bt. London Prov. Hses 9-0).

ZONE 6: (A) SUTTON bt. Bromley 8-1; bt. Beckenham 6-3 (bt. Byfleet 6-3). WANDSWORTH bt. Croydon 9-0. (B) STAINES w.o. Fed. London Deaf. THAMES VALLEY bt. North Middlesex 5-4; bt. Slough 6-3 (bt. Wembley 5-2).

ZONE 7: (A) N.W. KENT bt. Woolwich 7-2; v. Maidstone. (B) SOUTHAMPTON bt. Eastbourne 8-1; bt. Portsmouth 5-4. BRIGHTON bt. Bournemouth 7-2.

ZONE 8: (A) OXFORD bt. Maidenhead 9-0; bt. Newbury 9-0. HIGH WYCOMBE w.o. Gloucester. (B) PLYMOUTH w.o. Salisbury; bt. Bristol 6-3.

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ABOUT THAT SELECTION MATTER

Peggy Allen's criticism of the England Selection Committee's policy (page 47) has aroused almost violent disagreement from the great majority of correspondents. We find, however, that there is some controversy among leading players and an extraordinary lack of knowledge about all the factors involved. We are gratified to publish the following article by one of, in our opinion, the most competent and independent authorities possible. Mrs. H. (Nancy) Roy Evans was No. 7 World Ranking player in 1938, six times Welsh Champion, has played for Wales more than 70 times and is the non-playing captain of the post-war Welsh Corbillon Cup team, and—if that is not enough—she is also the General Secretary of the T.T.A. of Wales. Here is a factual, reasoned commentary by a person highly qualified to speak.

By H. (Nancy) ROY EVANS

IT SEEMS to me that when Peggy Allen so frankly disagrees with the action of the English Selection Committee in awarding seven new "caps," she is being less than fair, either to that body or to the players she considers unworthy of the honour bestowed on them.

Comment from me on the English Selectors' actions would be a breach of international etiquette, but I do think players ought to know some of the history of women's matches between our two countries, so that they will be the better able to judge whether or not Peggy has raised an unnecessary storm in a teacup.

Inasmuch as I played in the first match, and for many years thereafter, may I be forgiven for assuming that I have some authority to speak on this subject.

International encounters between English and Welsh women's teams were the first of their kind. In the early days teams were composed of as many as eight players, later to be reduced to six. The fixture continued annually until the war, and was resumed in the first year after the war, still with a larger team than is customary these days, and I cannot re-

member that there was then any great outcry that international honours were given "cheaply" to the lowest members of the English side.

The series was then discontinued at our request, because we only had one or two players whose form stayed up to international standard, and in our case giving international recognition to the others was cheapening it indeed. Instead, we made our annual men's match with England into a mixed one, and, subsequently, in collaboration with the other home countries, adopted the mixed team as a standard form for these matches.

This meant that there were very many fewer opportunities for women to gain their international "caps," but, at the time, this seemed no great embarrassment either to England or ourselves.

But it is most significant that in both countries there is an ever growing band of younger players whose general ability is much higher than their counterparts before the war. In fact, I think it has been obvious for some time now that everywhere the general standard of table tennis has improved, and "stars" no longer shine so brilliantly as they did.

For this reason, we have found the lack of that women's match with England something of a handicap, for we are unable to give recognition to players who would have earned it under the old system. Even county matches offer little scope in this respect.

We were, therefore, delighted to find that the same problem worried our traditional rivals across the border, who saw international honour being confined to a very small minority, all young enough to occupy the team positions for many years. When a women's match was suggested, we readily agreed, and when a large team was suggested, again we agreed.

From what I have seen of English girls both last season and this, I would say that there is a very big number of them who would walk into the International teams of many other countries. In other words, their form already warrants honour, and it would be unfair to them and frustrating to all up and coming youngsters if the present day smallness of women's teams made it well nigh impossible for them ever to wear an English badge.

In conclusion, may I point out that Peggy postulates a formula for International players almost impossible of achievement, and I should be interested to know who, of England's present internationals, is NOT sometimes erratic, and who NEVER loses to a weaker player. As for holding their own with reigning champions in open competition, it is my experience that many successful tournament players are NOT good players in a team match, and lack of success in such Open competitions need not preclude the capping of players who always pull their weight for their side.●

Nancy Roy Evans

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EAST SUBURBAN OPEN

Ilford, Nov. 27th, 1953

Bye-the-Way: D. Burridge bt. A. R. Miller 18, 16. B. Brumwell bt. L. Sawyer 13, 10; bt. M. Thornhill —11, 21, 18. K. Craigie bt. K. Hurlock 15, 11; bt. L. Adams —14, 12, 15. R. Turner bt. J. Carrington 13, 15; bt. H. Venner 13, 20. Venner bt. R. Grayden 19, 10. **W.S.:** Y. Seaman bt. J. Winn —16, 11, 20. D. Rowe bt. B. Milbank 17, —18, 22. J. Roberts bt. D. Rowe 8, —13, 10.

FINALS

M.S. K. CRAIGIE bt. (1) R. Turner 16, 12; bt. B. BRUMWELL —19, 14, 17 (bt. J. Leach —17, 19, 19).

W.S. M. PEPER bt. (J) B. Isaacs 17, 16; bt. Y. SEAMAN 18, 19 (bt. J. Roberts 17, —17, 13).

M.D. D. BURRIDGE/K. HURLOCK bt. J. Lowe/H. Venner —17, 17, 18.

W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. Y. Seaman/J. Winn 19, —11, 19.

X.D. J. LEACH/D. ROWE bt. J. Carrington/B. Milbank 13, 21.

B.S. K. SHOOTER bt. T. Densham 18, 20.
G.S. J. FIELDER bt. B. Spooner 19, —15, 16.

18th SUSSEX OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE usual tremendous entry travelled to this "week-end by the sea" tournament. The Sussex Open has achieved great popularity over a long period, and there is every indication that in 2053 players will still be travelling (by space ships or other futuristic means of transport) to continue the never-ending "Battle of Hastings at Table Tennis."

Craigie was in early trouble, and only scrambled out at 16, —16, 18 in the 1st round over the erratic brilliance of Keith Hurlock, also of Surrey. In the 2nd round, Craigie was again worried by Jackie Head, but once more Ken won—by 21-18—in the final game. In the same round, hard-hitting Alan Rhodes overpowered Jack Carrington by 11 and 24, and Bobby Stevens beat Eric Marsh. Another good win was that of junior George Gladwish (Sussex) over Kent county player, L. Plant. The 3rd round saw the narrow defeat of Bobby Mackay at the hands of P. Pudney (Essex), and Peter Shead once more lost to the steady defence of Ron Etheridge (Kent). Meanwhile, Aubrey Simons was quietly forging his way through the rounds, and after beating Pudney he accounted for D. Marsham 12, 16 in the quarter-finals, and was joined in the semi-finals by Ben Craigie (who beat T. Kirby 11, 17), L. Adams and Harry Venner. Adams had to fight very hard before beating Rhodes 20, —17, 14, and Venner had to bring out all his reserves before beating Ron Craydon —15, 19, 19. All the Surrey boys—1st and 2nd team—have terrific battles when they meet each other in tournaments, and they must know each others' games inside out.

SEMI-FINALS

Venner v. Adams

Adams took an early lead in the first game, getting back all that Harry could send over to him. Harry rallied valiantly, but just lost the first game to 19. In the second game, Adams again went ahead, but after some very long rallies Venner pulled level and took the game 21-17. The final game was a repetition of the other two, long rallies and half-hitting in an endeavour to force the opening for the winners, and Venner—a shade the steadier—eventually won 21-14.

Simons v. Craigie

Aubrey seemed a little tired, not surprising when one remembers that he works very hard in his sports goods business, and the long week-end in the Sussex Open is fatiguing for any player. He was unlucky to find Craigie in top form. Ken's attack was working like a machine and after taking the first game 21-18,

31st Oct.—1st Nov., 1953
Hastings Pier and White Rock
Pavilion, Hastings

BY

LESLIE M. BROMFIELD

he quickly built up a 9-1 lead in the 2nd game. It seemed like "curtains" for Aubrey, but the fighting Bristol man showed his undoubted world class in a crisis by coming out with really brilliant play, retrieving magnificently and murdering any loose balls. Aubrey won an amazing 2nd game 25-23, then Craigie tired, and Aubrey won a moderately easy 3rd game 21-14.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Internationals quickly fell by the wayside, and 1st round victims included Margaret Fry (to Barbara Milbank), Molly Jones (to Ann Haydon), J. Mackay (to J. Clarkson), M. Cherry (to Jill Rook). In the 2nd round, Ann Haydon continued her progress by beating Yvonne Baker, and Jill Rook beat Miss Clarkson (Ashford), conqueror of Jean Mackay. 16 year-old Wendy Bates of Hove took Peggy Piper to three games, and Jean Winn beat Pam Mortimer 12, 13. In the quarter-finals, Pam Gall beat Mrs. Cumberbatch, who does not seem to be playing so well this season, and Barbara Milbank beat J. White. Jean Winn hit just a little too quickly for Peggy Piper 17, 21, and Ann Haydon finished ahead of Jill Rook 10, —20, 15. To reach the final, Barbara Milbank accounted for Pam Gall 13, 15, and Jean Winn just got the better of Ann Haydon 17, —18, 17.

DOUBLES

A 1st round shock was the defeat of Bobby Mackay and K. Beamish at the hands of juniors, Gladwish and Jimmy Moore, who then fell to the Hove youngsters, Brian Brooks and Clive Roffe. The unusual combination of Jackie Head and Denis Miller survived a 4th round marathon with Aubrey Simons and Ron Allcock 21-19, 28-30, 22-20. Head and Miller then beat Harry Venner and Jimmy Lowe 20, —16, 16 and in the semi-final Keith Hurlock and Michael Maclaren 11, —20, 12. The other finalist came through as Ken Craigie and Alan Rhodes who in the other semi beat Pudney and R. Turner 16, 16.

Miss M. Fry and Miss D. Ellis did well to beat Mrs. Carrington and Miss Milbank in the women's doubles, but then made the headlines by losing to juniors, J. Fielder and J. White. The two Kent girls

then lost to Jill Rook and Pam Gall in the semi-final.

JUNIOR BOYS.

The fancied Gladwish lost quickly to B. Cartwright (Watford), and R. Dorking beat M. Maclaren with some ease 14, 9. T. Densham (London) had to bring out his best to beat Folkestone's R. J. Mund at 19, —19, 16, and Jimmy Moore (Bexhill) had a good win over his Sussex junior team-mate, Brian Brooks 19, 12. In the quarter-finals, new junior international B. Barr (Watford) found all Densham's hits going on the table and lost to the tune of 7, 14, and Densham reached the final over Moore 10, 16. He was joined by Dorking after beating Cartwright 9, 18.

FINALS

Dorking had little to do except to return the ball steadily to Densham in the boy's final. Densham produced some fine attacking strokes, but lacked the consistency to get through the defence of the No. 1 England junior, Dorking. Score to Dorking 13, 12.

The two Surrey girls, Jill Rook and Pam Gall, combined too well for the challenge from Miss Y. J. Seaman (Middlesex) and Miss Jean Winn (Surrey) and won in straight games. The mixed doubles title was taken by Harry Venner and Ann Haydon by two games to one over the newly engaged couple, Ron Allcock and Pam Mortimer.

Soon after the men's singles final, Simons v. Venner started, Geoff Harrower remarked to me that it looked like being 22-20 in the fifth. It certainly was one of those matches. Both players had every respect for each other, and a long drawn-out duel finished in Aubrey Simons' favour 13, —18, —20, 14, 18. Technically a good match, but not many thrills.

Barbara Milbank gave an excellent demonstration how to beat that prolific tournament winner, Jean Winn, taking the title 16, 18. Barbara gave Jean little opportunity to use her deadly attack, and by a judicious use of two wing attack she kept her opponent well away from the table and out of harm's way. The men's doubles championship went to Craigie and Rhodes, their offensive strokes carrying too much weight for Head and Denis Miller.

It was pleasant seeing so many old friends round the table, and leading administrators at Hastings including Bill Vint, C. Corti Woodcock (Hon. Referee), Leslie Woollard, Geoff. Harrower and many others. Adrian and Doris Haydon were there to see how their daughter, Ann, was progressing and must have been encouraged at the form she displayed in reaching the women's singles semi-final and in winning the mixed doubles.

(Concluded in Col. 1, next page)

SUSSEX OPEN—Contd.

Some of Ann's strokes are very reminiscent of her mother, Doris, who was, of course, a pre-war International and a great fighter. What more can a young table tennis player wish for than Adrian Haydon's vicious drives, tactical skill and temperament, combined with Doris Skaydon's forehand and brilliant chopped defence?

A word of praise to the organisers, and in particular to Ken Hayward (Tournament Secretary), Derek Tyler (Chairman), K. Beeching, B. R. Best-White, H. J. Oakley, Mrs. Mabbett, and others for a fine job once more.

Leslie M. Bromfield

FINALS

M.S. A. SIMONS bt. (1) K. Craigie —18, 23, 14; bt. H. VENNOR 13, —18, —20, 14, 18 (bt. L. Adams —19, 17, 14).

W.S. B. MILBANK bt. (1) P. Gall, 13, 15; bt. J. WINN 16, 18 (bt. A. Haydon 17, —18, 17).

M.D. K. CRAIGIE/A. RHODES bt. J. Head/D. Miller —14, 13, 13.

W.D. P. GALL/J. ROOK bt. Y. Seaman/J. Winn 15, 16.

X.D. H. VENNOR/A. HAYDON bt. R. Allcock/P. Mortimer 12, —17, 14.

B.S. R. DORKING bt. T. Densham 13, 12.

4th PORTSMOUTH OPEN

Southsea, 25th Oct., 1953

By LESLIE M. BROMFIELD

LESLIE SAWYER (Essex) and Joan Willcocks (Devon) are the new singles holders at this popular tournament, again staged under an admirable setting at Southsea Pier. There were many surprises, but a contributory factor to some of the "freak" results was undoubtedly a very slippery floor, which marred otherwise excellent conditions.

The ever-green Wally Muller (Southampton), "star" of so many Hampshire tournaments, lost early to the rising Vic Atterano (Kent), and Sussex county players Stan Moore and Bert Fretwell lost to Ray Morley and L. Wise respectively. Morley then defeated Eric Marsh, before falling to the unpredictable Ian Alexander (Brighton). Veteran Leo Thompson succumbed to R. Bassett (Weymouth), who in turn lost to the powerful attack of P. Pudney (Essex). David House (Bath), ex-junior international (like Morley, now in the senior ranks), was beaten by B. S. Groves (Bristol) who in his turn fell to Les Sawyer (Essex) in the quarter-finals. In the remaining quarters L. Wise (Berkshire) beat Atterano; Peter Shead accounted for Pudney, and Alexander beat young Garry Levene (Brighton). Shead and Sawyer then reached the final with easy victories over Alexander and Wise respectively.

Welsh international Audrey Bates carried too many guns for Judy Winter, the new Devon Open holder, in the 2nd round, but a shock was the defeat of Margaret Cherry (Middlesex) by Miss E. Gilbert, the left-handed daughter of the Hants. player and coach. Miss Gilbert has a very

disconcerting attack, but she was outmanoeuvred by the quick-firing tactics of Mrs. Beryl Rind (Brighton). In the quarter-finals, Sussex closed champion, Ann Davies, beat her team-mate Pat Streeter; Audrey Bates beat Mrs. Rind; Miss J. Williams (Rickmansworth) accounted for Peggy Allen, and Joan Willcocks beat Miss D. Wightman. Miss Davies had no answer to Audrey Bates' attack in the semi-final, and in the other half Mrs. Willcocks battered her way through the steady defence of Miss Williams.

The M.D. holders, Peter Shead and Ian Alexander, fell early to C. Frecker (London) and L. Sawyer (Essex). Ann Davies (Shoreham) and Pat Turner (Ditchling) had a good win over Peggy Allen and M. Cherry. One of the best matches was the semi-final of the mixed doubles when Frecker and Miss Cherry beat Peter Shead and his wife, Pat, by 17-21, 21-6, 22-20.

FINALS

The men's singles final between the two defensive experts, Sawyer and Shead, was expected by many to be a long-drawn out "chiselling" match, with the umpire specially briefed for a Time Limit match, but Peter Shead had other ideas. This improving Sussex player (with a recent win over Craigie to his credit in the County Championships), attacked continuously from the word "Go," and provided the spectators with a good final. Peter, although losing, 19-21, 17-21, showed that he has greatly improved his attack and had the courage of his convictions to try and get the first-class all-round game which is necessary to reach the top.

Audrey Bates staged fine recoveries

in both games against Joan Willcocks and showed the doughty Welsh fighting spirit, but had to give her opponent best by 19-21, 19-21. Mrs. Willcocks, a rare visitor to tournaments away from the West of England, has a brilliant attack on both wings and when things are going well with her, she is a most difficult player to beat.

Frecker and Sawyer were not unduly worried by the youngsters, R. Bassett (Weymouth) and R. Bettany (Christchurch), who had done very well to reach the last stage, but probably found the final a little nerve-racking, and Frecker and Miss Cherry took the mixed doubles over R. Lush (Portsmouth) and Miss Gilbert. The women's doubles' title was secured by Mrs. Willcocks and Miss Winter at the expense of Audrey Bates and young Shirley Evans (daughter of the famous Nancy Evans of Wales) 22-20, 21-16. Shirley showed considerable promise and (partnered by the experienced Audrey Bates) put up a good show.

John Quilter (Bognor Regis) won his first open title when in the junior singles he beat the Londoner, M. Isaacs, in straight games. The finals were concluded at 10.20 a.m. The finals details are on page 51 (November issue).

SCOTTISH CLOSED

7th Nov., 1953, Glasgow

M.S. E. STILL bt. (1) A. D. Culloch —17, 18, 17; bt. E. A. TEASDALE —16, 20, 20 (bt. V. H. Garland 19, —19, 21).

W.S. H. ELLIOT bt. Mrs. M. Josephson 12, 12.

M.D. R. KERR/M. McMILLAN bt. R. Forman/V. Garland —22, 19, 15.

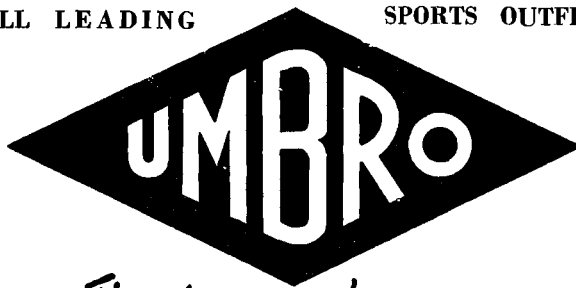
W.D. H. ELLIOT/H. HOULISTON bt. Mrs. I. Cababe/Mrs. N. Cocker 12, 19.

X.D. R. KERR/H. ELLIOT bt. A. Laidlaw/Mrs. J. Farquhar 16, 7.

J.S. E. LETHAM bt. I. Barclay 16, 16.

OF ALL LEADING

SPORTS OUTFITTERS



The choice of champions

Makers of the
Official E.T.T.A. Shirts

IT IS 6 years since the English Championships were last held at Belle Vue but the same hard-working officials still carry on. The playing conditions were excellent. Only complaint I heard was of the roof glass being unscreened. One aspect, however (for the preliminary rounds), was no better than usual—and it applies even at that "Mecca" Wembley—I mean, of course, dressing room facilities.

Wherever one plays, from Hastings to Manchester, cloakroom facilities are always pitifully inadequate. A room empty except for one or two trestle tables, no chairs, and as often as not, no mirrors is considered ample, and one could search for showers indefinitely! Continental countries provide so much that their players must find our standards pretty shocking. Our own competitors are so used to it by now that they have ceased to notice or complain. *More's the pity!*

ON THURSDAY (Nov. 12th) in the English both Richard Bergmann and Rosalind Rowe were asked to change their yellow shirts before playing. A very heated argument among player-spectators in which opinions were about equally divided. For my part it seems contradictory to permit pale blue, pale pink, or even white trimmings (such as Gabric wore) and at the same time

ABOUT TOWN



with PEGGY ALLEN

with some more
controversial topics

ban a quite deep shade of yellow against which the ball could be seen reasonably clearly. Northern officials seem to have a "bee in their bonnet" over this yellow because a similar course was adopted when Diane Rowe played in the Lancs. Open finals at Blackpool last year.

Since the T.T. officials at Wembley have allowed the Twins to wear yellow for two previous finals, perhaps it would be a good idea to have a ruling. Please, executive, could something be done?

The suggestion that when the Twins wear different colours or shades when

playing together "dazzles" their opponents is rubbish. They frequently play in different colours and many other competitors wear even more contrasting tones.

* * *

I HEARD nothing but praise for the friendliness, helpfulness and the low costs in Manchester. New-comers were surprised at the genial interest which even 'bus conductors take in one! And after paying London prices for programmes, admission and meals, a satisfying saving was effected. Even the weather was on its best behaviour. In fact, the solid 48 hours of wind and rain at Hastings for the Sussex Open made a contrast very favourable to Manchester.

* * *

NOWADAYS the junior events are among the best in the tournament. With boys like Freundorfer and Arndt and girls like Joyce Fielder, Ann Haydon and Jill Rook—attacking demons with superb ball control and clever technique—one begins to wonder just how good the next generation will be.

Jill Rook was particularly outstanding. Not only does she possess the necessary strokes but her clever placing shows a brain mature beyond her years. Jack Carrington and Ken Craigie claim some of the credit for Jill's success. They have done a good job. ● *Peggy Allen.*

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK FOR UMPIRES

Reviewed by
TOM BLUNN

THE long awaited Handbook for Umpires has recently been published by the E.T.T.A. and is available to all County Umpires. It is a small 40-page book with limp covers, but it is the crystallization of 4 years' work and 30 years of experience. The book is well compiled but at times one feels that the print could have been a little larger.

The book deals with the duties of umpires and referees in every aspect and puts in black and white many of the unwritten rules that have been built up during the history of the game. It is surprising to find that ideas which one was apt to think applied to one's own limited sphere are now part of the whole scheme. That is only to be expected because the rules have been built up from little ideas which have gradually been adopted and put into general practice.

The rules for umpires are stated clearly and concisely. No umpire should have any doubt as to what he has to do in all circumstances; this manual helps to fit him to make the right decision and to make it without hesitation. That is where the practical test comes, and is fully dealt with and the method adopted in the umpires' examination is explained. This part

of the book is more than welcome because many people have felt that their efforts had been under-estimated and that they should not have failed the tests.

In addition to rules for umpires and rules for international competitions the laws of the game are given with a list of the usual knotty points which every county umpire should know by now.

A particularly useful section is the Index. This is not an index in the ordinary sense but a schedule of all the rules, laws and regulations known to the game and it is hard to find any factor that have been overlooked. The index cover four pages and has already been referred to as "The Umpires' Friend."

A new umpire is likely to be overwhelmed with the references to International Matches and Open Tournaments, but in such cases there is always a referee and he must be referred to for a final decision. What happens if there is no referee? The decision is the umpire's and it is not clear as to what happens in all cases.

Many matters are dealt with on the basis of five sets per match and it is

not clear what happens in three-set matches, which form the bulk of the matches dealt with by the majority of county umpires.

There is a lot of emphasis on the dress and conduct of the umpire, and quite rightly so, as the prestige of the game is at stake; but what about the conduct of the player?... The umpire has discretion but he would be more powerful if he had the backing of some rules on this matter.

When the scheme started there was some talk of expenses being paid to umpires when asked to travel, but there is no mention of this in the book. Does the umpire have to make his own arrangements in this respect?

It would have been convenient to have had the addresses of all umpires so that they could be contacted if their services were required in any particular area, but probably this would take up too much space.

It is a grand effort and is an example to the Table Tennis World (as indeed is the whole scheme). Many people have had a hand in the work but no one more than George White, who has worked tirelessly to produce this book and to make a success of the whole scheme. ●

Tom Blunn

THE ALTRINCHAM & SALE T.T. League are organising an Invitation Tournament at the Atlantic Works, Altrincham, on Jan. 29th and 30th (play at 7.30 and 1.30 p.m. respectively). This should have a special appeal for northern players, particularly from Manchester and Warrington. Particulars from Mr. A. Jones, 26, Sylvan Avenue, Timperley, Cheshire.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTIFICATIONS

ENGLAND JUNIORS v. ALL-GERMANY JUNIORS (Mixed). Middleton, 9th Nov., 1953. R. Dorking (Essex). M. Maclaren (Surrey). Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.). Miss J. Rook (Surrey). n.p.c. A. Thompson. Reserves: B. Barr (Herts.) and Miss J. Fielder (Kent). (Oct. 19th, 1953).

ENGLAND v. FRANCE (Men). Leeds, 14th Nov., 1953. R. Bergmann (Middx.). J. Leach (Essex). B. Kennedy (Yorks.). n.p.c. A. A. Haydon. (Oct. 19th, 1953).

ENGLAND JUNIORS v. SWEDEN JUNIORS (Boys). Worthing, 16th Nov., 1953. R. Dorking (Essex). M. Maclaren (Surrey). B. Barr (Herts.). n.p.c. T. Sears. Reserve: G. Lumsden (Durham). (Oct. 19th, 1953).

v. SCOTLAND (Mixed). (In Scotland) 2nd Dec. 1953. A. W. C. Simons (Glos.). B. Merrett (Glos.). L. G. Adams (Middx.). R. Hinchliff (Yorks.). Miss C. K. Best (Yorks.). Miss J. Rook (Surrey). n.p.c. A. Thompson. (Nov. 17th, 1953).

SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE South American T.T. Championships for 1953 were suspended for a number of reasons which do not appear clear. Last October, Victorio Zecchi, chairman, declared the opening day would be October 31st. Uruguay were the hosts, and the venue and finances were settled. Chile asked for an extension and the date was agreed for November 15th. Uruguay required a new postponement, and Brazil cancelled its entry. Without Brazil and Chile the Championships would lose interest, and were consequently suspended this year.

ESTHONIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

12th Nov., 1953, Tallinn
M.S. A. FRANZ. W.S. E. LESTAL.

UKRAINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

12th Nov., 1953, Kharkov
M.S. SHIZER (Lvov). W.S. MAYOR (Uzkgorod). Team: LVOV.

THE MOONRAKERS

UNDER the presidency of the Chief Constable, Lt.-Col. Golden. O.B.E., Wiltshire at last have a county association of 5 member leagues. A men's and women's league competition has been organised between Swindon, Salisbury, Devizes and West Wilts. and it is hoped that Warminster and other leagues will join next season, and a County Umpires Committee has been established. Secretary is Mr. H. H. Neech, 16, St. Thomas' Road, Trowbridge, who will be very pleased to assist any interested league or club to join its activities.

Moonraker

FIXTURE BOOK

In the Open Tournaments below, Events shown are ADDITIONAL to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D. in every case. The figure in the "Extra Events" column is the number of tables to be used. A name in bold signifies the Referee. The CLOSING DATE for Entries is shown in brackets after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge, but all organisers should send information to The Editor at the earliest date possible. Events marked with an asterisk (*) are outside the authority of the E.T.T.A.

Date(s)	Event and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Dec.			
10	WALES v. ENGLAND	Women's Match	In Wales.
19	*WELSH OPEN Newport, Mons.	All events	Mrs. N. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Penylan, Cardiff.
Jan.	*POLISH CLOSED.		
4-6	*SWEDISH CLOSED.		
4-9	METROPOLITAN OPEN Polytechnic Extension, (Nov. 25) Little Titchfield Street, London, W.1.	B.S. 8 G.S.	Mr. E. S. Lee, The Polytechnic, 309, Regent Street, London, W.1. (Mr. J. Kurzman).
8-9	YORKS. JUNIOR OPEN B. & G.S. Town Hall, (Dec. 31) Pontefract.	Y.S. & Y.D. 14	Mr. S. Hanson, 22, St. Bernard's Avenue, Pontefract (J. Senescall & G. Richards).
9	FRANCE v. ENGLAND.	J. Mixed	In France.
9	*SWANSEA OPEN (Dec. 31) Canteen, Louis Marx Ltd., Fforestfach, Swansea.	B.S. 12 G.S.	Mr. K. Prosser, 151, Newton Road, Mumbles, Swansea (Mr. I. Williams).
10-13	*FRENCH OPEN.		
11-16	SOUTH LONDON OPEN Clapham Baths, (Dec. 23) Manor Street, London, S.W.4.	B.S. 8 G.S.	Mr. G. Coulthred, 20a, High Street, London, S.W.17. (Mr. E. A. B. Swayne).
15	FRANCE v. ENGLAND.	Men	In France.
16-17	*BELGIAN OPEN.		
17-23	N.W. KENT OPEN (Dec. 14) Barnehurst Residents' Club, 152a, Parkside Ave., Barnehurst.	B.S. 5 G.S.	Mr. F. T. Burvill, 2, Lime Avenue, Northfleet, Kent. (Mr. G. A. Owen).
22-23	SOUTH YORKS. OPEN Firth Browns Ltd., (Jan. 9) Saville St., Sheffield.	B.S.	Mr. E. Brownhill, 18, Warwick Street, Sheffield, 10.
24	SOUTHAMPTON OPEN Royal Pier, (Jan. 9) Southampton.	B.S. 8	Mr. K. H. Miles, 46, Bevois Road, Southampton (Mr. F. Trew).
30-31	KENT OPEN (Jan. 11) Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	J.X.S. 11	Mr. F. Betts, 8, Surrenden Road, Folkestone (Mr. F. Trew).
Feb.			
3-14	MIDDLESEX (Herga) OPEN Herga Lawn Tennis Club, (Jan. 11) Harrow, Middx.	B.S. 3	Mr. S. W. Martin, 55, Kings Way, Wealdstone, Middx. (Mr. H. Finch).
6	MIDLAND COUNTIES Friends Institute, (Jan. 20) Moseley Rd., Birmingham.	B.S. 12 G.S.	Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12 (Mr. A. A. Haydon).
18-20	CHESHIRE OPEN (Feb. 6) Chetwynd Drill Hall, Bidston Rd., Birkenhead.	B.S. 8 G.S.	Mr. F. W. Christopher, "Tarbert," Greasby, Wirral, Cheshire (Mr. T. Blunn).
26-28	SURREY OPEN (Feb. 6) Municipal Baths Hall, East St., Epsom.	B.S. 8 G.S.	Mr. C. T. Dean, 67, Osmond Gardens, Wallington, Surrey (Mr. C. A. Bourne).