

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. 12

MARCH, 1954

No. 7

The Dowager Lady Swaythling, O.B.E.,

President of The English Table Tennis Association

THE Official Announcement made by the English Table Tennis Association in February that the Dowager Lady Swaythling, O.B.E., had kindly consented to become President of the Association, will give pride and pleasure to all followers of the game who know of her and her great work to establish the sport in its present eminence.

This gracious lady, renowned for her world-wide activities in the interests of the British Commonwealth and countless good causes, perpetuated her name imperishably in world table tennis when, in 1926, she was the donor of The Swaythling Cup for the men's team championship of the World. Both she and her husband were keen players from early days, and in the formative years of English table tennis in the 1920's, she was a foremost protagonist of the game, writing feature articles on its virtues in the national press. She was herself no mean exponent and some enthusiasts may recall the memorable occasion when, in the cause of a worthy charity, she publicly played an exhibition match with the famous English boxer, Joe Beckett . . . Few indeed—if any—major national associations can acclaim as President a personage of such prowess and sustained active interest in its cause.



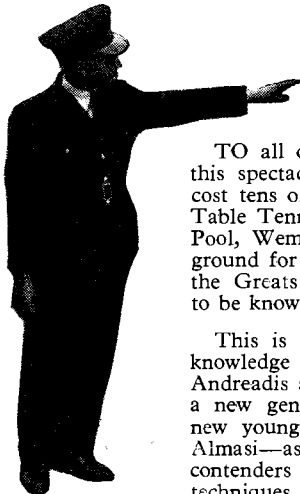
The World is at Wembley



TO all of you in England comes the privilege of making and witnessing this spectacular colossus of universal competition which, in aggregate, will cost tens of thousands of pounds to present . . . The highest pinnacle of a Table Tennis era. From the 6-14th April, 1954, the 10,000-seater Empire Pool, Wembley, will be the Cockpit for the World. It will be the battleground for National Champions from the major countries of the World . . . the Greats that we know and the New Champions and those that are yet to be known.

This is a Table Tennis era of Shocks and Sensations. No longer is knowledge complete or certain. The superb artistries of Bergmann, Sido, Andreadis and Roseanu are fierce-threatened by the thunder and lightning of a new generation . . . the flaming Wertl, furious Freundorfer, and rising new young unknowns . . . Hanschmann, Reiter, Harasztazi, Eva Koczian, Almási—as our own Ann Haydon is an exciting new “unknown” to world contenders . . . There is the phenomenal successes of old ones with new techniques and new weapons such as the amazing Tage Flisberg of Sweden.

But this is but a little . . . known and half-known. There are a host of unknowns with legendary success in their far-off spheres . . . Japan's young and exciting 8-player challenge in which they feel sure of more than a single prize . . . the inscrutable Mai Van Hoa, Champion of All-Asia . . . the fast-rising, fast-playing unknowns from China. And what of the teenagers, penholder giant-killing wizard Gonzalez from South America? And what mighty new force will the U.S.A. unleash? But this barely suggests. See page 131 and make sure of your tickets . . . any day is a great day . . . and the wise will attend the earlier rounds (of both series) . . . The April issue of *Table Tennis* will feature exclusive notes and photos of the Japanese players and other notable personalities.



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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: 5/6d. per annum, post free (9 issues). Single copies 7½d., post free. Discount rates for bulk orders on application.

Subscriptions and Renewals can be sent direct to *Table Tennis*, Hendon Printing Works Ltd., 42-44, Victoria Road, Hendon, N.W.4. Other correspondence to The Editor.

PROBLEM COVER PICTURE

HOW many champions can you spot? Our photo-montage World cover includes many famous World Championship celebrities. There are 17 you should be able to recognise plus 2 which YOU might think "catch" questions. You can check yourself on Page 140, column 1.

FEBRUARY CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across : 1. Wilmott. 6. Strain. 11. Tea. 12. Richard. 13. Stanley. 15. Aubrey. 16. If. 17. Arm. 18. An. 19. Court. 22. NTA. 24. Truckload. 27. Gin. 28. Each. 29. Imp. 30. Elect. 31. Octave. 32. UO. 33. Chic. 34. Real. 37. Most. 39. Thrift. 42. EP. 43 Pop. 45. Eye. 46. Tug. 48. Disable. 51. Vana. 52. Era. 53. Eel. 54. Hic. 55. Net. 56. Ramshackle. **Down :** 2. ITTF. 3. Lea. 4. Manooch. 5. Try. 6. Scared. 7. Thum. 8. Rab. 9. Arrange. 10. Identical. 13. Sitter. 14. Ehrlich. 19. Cuckoo. 20. UK. 21. Tomtit. 23. Ant. 25. RA. 26. Apache. 30. Eerie. 31. October. 32. Umpire. 35. EF. 36. Attack. 38. Spa. 40. Rye. 41. Agape. 42. Eden. 44. Plea. 47. UN. 49. Sat. 50. Elm. 51. Vic. 54 Ha.

ALLEN—MARSH

We understand that Peggy Allen is to marry Eric Marsh.

SPECIAL EDITIONS

A Special Edition comprises a COMPLETE full-size *Table Tennis*. PLUS the official journal of the particular area (which is edited and organised in that area and is complete with local details, news and notices). It is TWO magazines in one for little more than the price of one, and every player in such an area should certainly be a subscriber. Enquiries should be made DIRECT to the appropriate local officials.

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SUSSEX EDITION. Mr. KEITH WATTS, 6, Windsor Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

BIRMINGHAM EDITION. Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham.

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



COUNTY MATCH FIXTURES—MARCH

PREMIER DIVISION:

Sat. 6th March Middlesex v. Lancashire, Glaxo Canteen, Greenford, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 6th March Yorkshire v. Glamorgan.
Sat. 13th March Sussex v. Yorkshire, W. Edwards Canteen, Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 13th March Glamorgan v. Lancashire.
Thur. 18th March Gloucestershire v. Surrey, Town Hall, Cheltenham, 7.15 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Essex v. Sussex, Redbridge School, College Road, Ilford, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Surrey v. Glamorgan, Y.M.C.A., Wimbledon, 7.15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH:

Sat. 6th March Surrey v. Kent, Newarks, Stanmore Road, Croydon, 7.00 p.m.
Wed. 17th March Bedfordshire v. Middlesex, Liberal Club, Manchester St., Luton, 7.30 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Devon v. Bedfordshire, Modern Secondary School, Geneva Place, Bideford, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Kent v. Essex.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH:

Sat. 6th March Lincolnshire v. Yorkshire, Town Hall, Eastgate, Louth, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 6th March Cheshire v. Warwickshire.

SOUTHERN DIVISION:

Sat. 6th March Bucks. v. Oxon., Memorial Centre, East Common, Gèrrards Cross, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 6th March Hants. v. Berks., Queen Mary's School, Vyne Road, Basingstoke, Hants., 7.00 p.m.

EASTERN DIVISION:

Fri. 12th March Hertfordshire v. Cambridgeshire, Market Hall, St. Albans, 7.30 p.m.
Thur. 18th March Norfolk v. Suffolk, Jetty Dining Rooms, Great Yarmouth, 7.00 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION:

Sat. 6th March Worcestershire v. Leicestershire, Shirehall, Worcester, 7.15 p.m.
Sat. 6th March Northamptonshire v. Derbyshire, Northampton, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Leics. v. Northants., Bentley Eng. Co. Canteen, New Bridge Street, Leicester, 7.00 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION:

Sat. 6th March Kent v. Sussex, St. Luke's Parish Hall, St. Luke's Avenue, Ramsgate, 6.45 p.m.
Sat. 6th March Surrey v. Bedfordshire, Wandsworth Gas Co., The Causeway, S.W.18, 6.00 p.m.
Sat. 13th March Hertfordshire v. Suffolk, Letchworth, 7.30 p.m.
Thur. 18th March Essex v. Surrey, Billericay, 7.00 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Sussex v. Surrey.
Sat. 27th March Suffolk v. Middlesex, Lowestoft.
Sat. 27th March Hertfordshire v. Kent, Y.M.C.A., Watford, 7.30 p.m.
Sat. 27th March Bedfordshire v. Essex, Beaudesert School, Leighton Buzzard, 7.30 p.m.

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Satisfied,

Wembley Smiles a Welcome

WEMBLEY . . . is to think (in T.T. circles) of the Empire Pool . . . World Championships and English Championships . . . and (if you are knowledgeable) of Sir Arthur J. Elvin, M.B.E. (Managing Director of Wembley and Friend of Table Tennis) . . . but there is another and a very active Wembley—a table tennis Wembley . . . northern bastion of the Middlesex Association—The Wembley & Harrow T.T. League with its seventeen 12-team divisions.

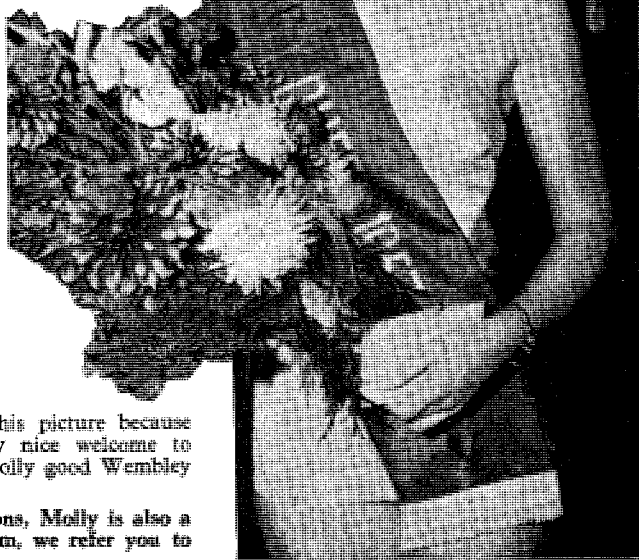
Sir Arthur Elvin is President of the Middlesex T.T.A. and he is also President of this League that is a notable member of it. Trophies witness his active interest. Member clubs surround whichever route you take to the Empire Pool . . . one indeed is within an easy stone's throw. Officers of the League (such stalwarts as Secretary Harry Finch, Chairman Bert Mayern, Vice-Chairman W. H. Mildenhall of the many) will be prominent among the hosts of voluntary workers which make the E.T.T.A. Championship organisation "The Apotheosis of Honorary Service."

This League has the unique distinction of having had more World and English Championships played in its area than any other league area in the World.

The County and also the Wembley M.S. Champion is international ALAN RHODES (remember the "Wembley Tornado"?), now undergoing National Service in the Army. It was in watching Alan in play in the Sussex Open this year that we first encountered his friend 23-year-old insurance clerk MOLLY POWELL (pictured on right), and surely No. 1 Pin-Up Girl for the Wembley Institute. We picked this picture because we thought it illustrated the double theme of a jolly nice welcome to Wembley for the World's and that there is also another jolly good Wembley (and Harrow) in the background.

P.S.—Apart from work and winning beauty competitions, Molly is also a handy player at Alan's club . . . as evidence to her form, we refer you to Page 138.

(1951)
MOLLY POWELL



ENGLAND — THE REIGNING WORLD CHAMPIONS



(988) WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, Bucharest, 1952-53. The Hon. Ivor Montagu, President of the International Table Tennis Federation presenting the Swaythling Cup to the England Captain, Adrian Haydon, after England's winning the Cup for the first time since its inception in 1926. L. to R.: Ivor Montagu, Richard Bergmann, Brian Kennedy, Aubrey Simons, Adrian Haydon, Johnny Leach.

THE best-of-3 match system is a bit of a strain on the old 'uns, says a Staines official, and it would delay their retirement if the old single game system could be adopted in the lower divisions. It would also give more players a chance to play competitive T.T. and add variety for those who play the game for the fun of it.

★ ★ ★

YOU'RE ONLY 21 TWICE

THIS year the Twins won't be out-done
They've arranged to be just Twenty One
On the day of the World's Final Night—
Which we hope that they'll celebrate right.
Be sure, Twins, we wish you the best
For the Championships—for the rest
We'll be shouting "Good Luck" and
"Well Done,"

For our darlings—Ros and Diane.

Walter Steintz

SENSATIONAL SHOCKS FOR WORLD'S STARS

French Open Championships — Wertl beats Rosenau

Coubertin Stadium, Parish, January, 1954

PARIS brought disaster to English singles hopes. It brought shocks and sensations. It was a prelude to the breath-taking surprises and tense, dramatic excitements potent in the clash for World honours at Wembley next month.

Richard Bergmann, recent brilliant conqueror of world champion Sido, beat Vy Phang (C) and Wilmert (B) by single scores. Brilliant young Rumanian newcomer Tiberius Haraztazi held him 9, 18, —14, 13. Then the left-handed Swedish veteran Tage Flisberg and a Sponge Bat! Disaster. First 2 games to Bergmann at 19 each, and then defeat, silent, agonising.

Dorking beat Dujardin (B) 3-1; lost to Amouretti 14, 11, 5. Barlovic (Y) shaded Sala 3-0. Flisberg beat Larcade, Barlovic, Amouretti 15, 18, —16, 17, Bergmann and, semi-finally, Haguenuer. Haguenuer reached the semi with easy 3-0 wins over Van Gansen (B), Bedoc (F), Agopoff (F), and Johnny Leach 9, 9, 17. Leach beat Piffl (G) and Lhomme (F) 3-0 and Gabric (Y) —19, 13, 17, —19, 12.

Rene Roothoof reached the semi with wins over B. Merrett (E) 17, 13, 14/13 T.L., Devos, Vogrin (Y) 15, —22, 11, —11, 9, and Aubrey Simons —14, 16, 17, 9. Simons beat Huy Pho Quoc (C), Gantner (R), and Alex Ehrlich 3-1 each. Bordrez (F) beat Reiter (R) 3-2, S. Cafero (F) 3-1 (victor 3-1 over M. Maclaren (E)), and M. Lansky —18, 19, 23, —9, 21. Ken Craigie beat Harangozo 19, 11, 11; bt. Freunderfer 19, —16, —21, 4, 8, and Bordrez 10, 19, 18, 15.

Gay and gallant Ken Craigie was thus the English hero and their sole survivor in the semis. After beating the Swiss Rosner 2, 13, 11, he stormed past title-holder Vilim Harangozo 17, 16, 14 and then out-pointed the left-handed brilliance of Konny Freunderfer by 19, —16, —21, 14, 8 to add the Craigie share of the chaos. Making skilful use of the softer tables and balls, Craigie took the first game of the semi against the cool competence of the amazing Roothoof and pressed the Frenchman very closely.

In the other semi, Flisberg (despite Haguenuer's abhorrence of sponge) was fully extended. The final was tense and remorseless drama, with the patient skill of Roothoof emerging triumphant over Flisberg by 14, 20, —19, —22, 8. The average age of the 4 semi-finalists was 35; the quarter finalists even higher.

If the M.S. was heavy Wagner, the W.S. had the gayer sparkle of Mozart, and the major sensations. And sensations is certainly the operative word.

Jill Rook bt. Joing and Neumann in qualifying rounds but was then shaded in a desperate close tussle by the able Jeanne Delay, who went on to beat (more easily) the formidable Huguette Boelet. The latter bt. Zeller (R) 3-2. Ann Haydon bt. B. Tegner (S) and lost a fierce encounter with Linde Wertl —17, —18, 16, —18 in a hope-stimulating match. Kathleen Best narrowly escaped the first round, beating Tarlet —23,

Sweden's Sensation Monger



No. 983

Veteran Tage Flisberg whose "come-back" with sponge rubber is the most sensational ever encountered.

—19, 17, 11, 9, and then Imlau (G) 17, 18, 19, 15, before losing 1-3 to World Champion Roseanu.

Ros Rowe had an easy path to the quarters, and was there surprisingly beaten by 33-year-old Trudi Pritzi 11, 15, 17. Christianne Watel (F) just bt. G. Roland (B) 3-2; bt. N. Van Megen (N) 3-0; and then Diane Rowe by 12, —16, —19, 20, 18. Wertl bt. Detourmay (B) 3-0; Haydon 3-1; Delay 3-0; and then Watel 15, 10, 23.

Wertl Magnificent

The W.S. Final was magnificent. If Angelica Roseanu (superb world champion unbeaten in years) was one of the Graces, Linde Wertl was fiery Fury. She took desperate risks against her opponent's exquisite perfections. It was vivid, vital, dynamic and heroically spectacular and sent the crowd into an hysteria of excitement and applause. That last 5th game of see-sawing points nerve-wracked everyone with an agony of suspense . . . points were equalised at 16 . . .

17 . . . 18 . . . 19: Then Linde Wertl achieved those two wonderful shots on which the title depended. Dishevelled and radiant Linde waltzed to the congratulatory embrace of Dr. Kunodi, President of the Austrian T.T.A., and the crowd just went wild in acclamation.

In the J.G. event Ann Haydon repeated her triumph of last year with ease, beating Thorsson (S) in the final 18, 14, 13. Jill Rook lost to the latter in the semi in 5 close games. The J.B. was full of interest with Freunderfer again the victor, beating Ray Dorking 16, 16, 11 in the final. Dorking had a tough fight with Barlovic (Y) earlier. M. Maclaren was beaten by the new French junior star, Aubain 18, 21, 17, who came very near to beating Freunderfer in the semi. The score was —17, 17, —11, 17, 20.

The Rowe Twins were happily supreme in the W.D., and made a big impression in both play and appearance. They beat 2 Corbillon Cup pairings: Roseanu/Zeller 18, 12, 14 in the semi and Pritzi/Wertl 14, 20, 10 in the final. The latter beat Best/Haydon 19, 17, 17 in the other semi.

Roseanu and Haraztazi made a powerful X.D. combination. They won the title with wins over Barna/R. Rowe (in the final)—very, very closely; J. Leach/D. Rowe 13, 14, 21; Flisberg/Tegner and Merrett/Best 11, 11, 12. Barna/R. Rowe b. Harangozo/T. Pritzi (victors over Simons/A. Haydon).

Lansky/Roothoof b. Craigie/Simons 17, 19, —17, 18 in the semi and Bergmann/Leach —16, 15, 21, —15, 18 in the final (after the latter had knocked out Barna/Haguenuer 23, —18, 18, 17).

Finals Details on page 109

1st PAKISTAN NATIONALS

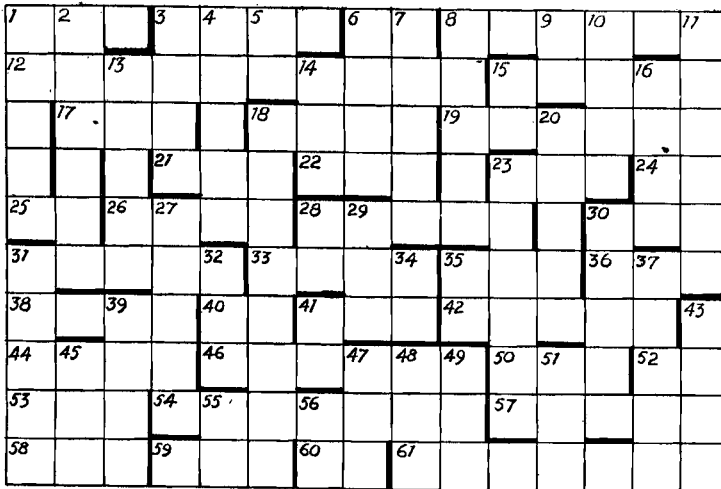
Lahore, 1-7th Dec., 1953

- W.S. R. FIKREE (K) bt. M. Fikree (K) 18, —17, 18, 17.
 M.D. S. HAROON/G. ZAIDI (K) bt. K. Javed/F. Zaman (P) 16, —18, 6, 15.
 W.D. A. D'SA/M. FIKREE (K) bt. R. FIKREE/S. FIKREE 16, 15, 15.
 X.D. G. ZAIDI/M. FIKREE bt. S. Haroon/R. Fikree 19, 19, —17, 18.
 B.S. K. SAEED (K) bt. I. Querishi (K) 10, 12, 13.
 G.S. A. MALIK (P) bt. F. Hamid (P) 9, 21.

M.S. Postponed.
 Initials following names indicate province.

TEAMS (Inter-Provincial).	K		P		B		EB		NWFP	
	K	P	K	P	B	EB	NWFP	K	P	
1. KARACHI	0	5-3	5-0	5-0	5-0					
2. PUNJAB	3-5	0	5-1	5-0	5-0					
3. BAHAWALPUR	0-5	1-5	0	5-1	5-0					
4. E. BENGAL	0-5	0-5	1-5	0	5-0					
5. N.W.F.P.	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	0					

Women: KARACHI bt. Punjab 3-0.



Brush Up Your Knowledge WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUIZ CROSSWORD

Every World Championship is represented in this crossword, and winners of (collectively) more than 80 world titles. It's not so difficult as it might appear because you can check a good many from the records. Unless otherwise stated all references are to World Championships. Abbreviations in Clues: **W.C.**—World Champion-(ships), **S.C.**—Swaythling Cup.

Solution of February Quiz Crossword on Page 122

CLUES ACROSS

1. Even half the public cannot make this the ideal T.T. Club (3).
3. Winner of 8 W.C. and 5 English titles, 1936-1951 (4).
6. Jill has lost "a pair of spectacles" (2).
8. W.D. title W.C., 1948-9, 1949-50. Mighty force but not from Troy (6).
12. Mecca of world's T.T. players in April (6, 4).
15. Playing area for W.C. must be 12 x 6 of these (5).
17. Keep handy for autographs and scores (3).
18. A national trophy when preceded by 16 down (4).
19. "Gyozo" in Hungarian and perfect title for 26 Across (6).
21. O! or you! when sound is needed (3).
22. Soft for scent and hard for shooting (3).
23. Little king, famous for the "burning" question (3).
24. South-East? See how Joy Seaman starts (2).
25. Abbreviation for the year (2).
26. Adolf, M.D. title 1946-7 and member of 2 winning Swaythling Cup teams (4).
28. "El Supremo" of T.T.; coupled with 19 Across. In every W.C. singles final from 1929 to 1935, when doctors said he would never play again! (5).
30. Lights? The Southern Electricity Board will help you out (3).
31. Only "R" could make this weirder (5).
33. "Are you ---- for a ----?" might be an invitation to play (4).

35. A good light but not necessarily for T.T. (3).
36. If everything stops for this, should the Referee call a "Let"? (3).
38. Essential for W.C. The British Government make no charge for those for April's competitors (4).
40. Might be but the X.D. winner 1935-6 has definitely lost his first and last (2).
41. Beginning for la Chapelle.
42. M.D. champion 1948-9; Consolation 1950-1 (5).
43. England Swaythling Cup player 1927-8 (4).
44. Alice Marble without end (4).
46. Hungarian doctor who won first W.C., 1926-7 (6).
50. Might be a French name (3).
52. Initials of W.S. champion 1949 to 1953, reversed (2).
54. Eleven times winners of Swaythling Cup (7).
57. Winner of 11 W.C. titles between 1929 and 1935; twice W.S. title (5).
58. M.D. champion and singles finalist 1949-50 has lost his end to make first name of Secretary of Philippine T.T.A. (3).
59. First name of England's junior hope for W.C. title never yet won by England (3).
60. All Correct here, but rather upsetting in reverse, particularly in the first round (2).
61. Three times M.D. champion and member of Swaythling Cup winners 1936-7 (7).

CLUES DOWN

1. England's 18-year-old hero in 1928-9, even if this was only title he won that season (5).
2. If at next month's W.C., he is probably a "C.U." (6).
3. England's great Champion of the Round Table (4).
4. Wembley's will be scene of terrific battles (5).
5. In short, north-eastern (2).
6. Sounds like a singular 16 Down or even a line, but the W.C. title was in 1950-1.
7. Bespotted W.C. in 1935-6, and finalist in 1932-3 (5).
8. Lord of 12 Across and a benevolent friend of English T.T. (5).
9. The French. Is found in the women's consolation winners of 1948-9 and 1949-50 (2).
10. In short, the "United Nations of T.T." (4).
11. Member of winning Swaythling Cup team in 1938-9, 1946-7, 1949-50, and 50-1. Terrific "BEATER" (Anagram) (6).
13. Member of first Swaythling Cup winners in 1926-7 (5).
14. Explosive beginning of secretary of Yugoslav T.T.F. (3).
15. Champion of Asia (from Vietnam) has lost his heart (2).
16. Famous English W.C. Referee; founder of national competition (4).
18. Won his first singles (W.C.) title in 1936-7. Member winning Swaythling Cup team 1935-6 (8).

20. An inexorable intruder in W.C. since 1935 (5).
23. Singles champion 1935-6. Member winning Corbillon Cup team 1936-7 (6).
27. Hold on! He's been twice W.C. since the war (5).
28. Fancy a Bachelor of Arts in T.T.! (2).
29. A pal in France. Add ens for M. Corbillon's home town (3).
30. Once called "The Czar of Merseyside," and obviously has some electrical current (5).
31. Secretary of the I.T.T.F. (5).
32. Hindi word to "reign," sometimes used for British in old India (3).
34. When should this be put before an old international player? (2).
35. Hat without its cap indicates position (2).
37. This at the wrong time can cost a player a world title (5).
39. "Por Dios!" What a man—and 7 W.C. titles! (4).
41. Just a little off account (2).
43. England international 1924-7; member of Swaythling Cup team 1927-8 (4).
45. First name of England Veteran Champion 195 (3).
47. A big acorn? (3).
48. British Racing Motors (abbreviated) (3).
49. International Yachting Club (abbreviated) (3).
51. No good for T.T. lighting (3).
55. A French one (2).
56. What every T.T. fan must do to Wembley next month (2).

ENGLAND BEAT FRANCE 5-3

Bordeaux, 14th Jan., 1954

(England names first in caps). R. BERGMANN lost R. Roothoof —8, 15, 16/20 T.L.; bt. M. Haguenauer 12, 18; lost M. Lansky —19, 19, 18. A. SIMONS bt. Roothoof —12, 12, 20; bt. Lansky —16, 20, 10. J. LEACH bt. Roothoof —12, 18, 16; lost Haguenauer —12, 15, —15; bt. Lansky 15, —14, 17. **ENGLAND 5—FRANCE 3.**

PRAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Prague, 2nd Jan., 1954

M.S. A. SLAR 9-0. 2. Stipek, Tereba and Vhynanovsky 7-2. 5. Tokar 5-4. 6. Posepal 4-5. 7. Turnovsky 3-6. 8. Prazak 2-7. 9. Ostavicky 1-8. 10. Matejka 0-9. (Andreadis and Vana did not compete).
W.S. 1. HRUSKOVA 5-0. 2-4. Crafkova, Krejcova and Vhynanovska 3-2. 5. Cerna 1-4. 6. Cedlova 0-5.

OSTRAVA MATCH

9-10th Jan., 1954

M.S. Andreadis bt. Tereba 5, 10; bt. Slar 17, 16. Stipek bt. Slar 15, —9, 24; bt. Tereba —19, 17, 19. Tereba bt. Tokar 2-0. Slar bt. Vhynanovsky 2-0. M.D. Andreadis/Stipek bt. Slar/Tereba —21, 12, 13. W.S. Krejcova bt. Hruskova —14, 15, 15. Hruskova bt. Cedlova 2-0. X.D. Tereba/Hruskova bt. Stipek/Krejcova 13, 18; bt. Vhynanovsky/Cedlova 2-0.

BETTER CLUB CENTRES

By LESLIE WOOLLARD

No. 3 of a series

ON page 54 (November issue) I wrote about and illustrated a basis for an ideal club centre that could be adapted to the ambitions of any league. The interest has been gratifying. Even more heartening is that there are more far-sighted officers than I had thought who realise that a long-term H.Q. Policy is a sound, practical possibility.

In this article I want to deal with the human factor, the most vital ingredient in the success (or otherwise) of any such venture. It is the average, or collective, spirit of its members that is the ESSENTIAL club. Never forget that a good club is IMPOSSIBLE without good members.

Every centre might differ in its method of organisation and administration, but it will always depend on the spirit of its members. The Putnev Club; the Grosvenor Club at Southsea; Ken Stanley's Academy at Middleton; and Arthur Pickford's week-end club at Seven Kings are each organised on different lines. Each has done and is doing some wonderfully good work. Each is organised, more or less, by one enthusiastic person. A democratic club is usually run by an elected committee including a recognised "leader."

The system is inherently good as long as the "leader" really does lead the working activities, and does not attempt to do the whole job him or her-self. When this happens, as it does too often, members are encouraged to regard the club merely as a convenience where their contribution ends with their subscription. They will tend to expect more and more for less and less in the characteristic outlook of Welfare State foundlings who "Care not for they predicament, Jack—I am doing nicely." In human nature it is the things to which one has given most or have been hardest to get that are the most highly valued.

The first thing is to be eclectic in your membership. The criterion should never be based on a person's playing ability but rather on the person's sense of "playing the game." I believe that a Code of Ethics is infinitely better than Rules and will evoke the better nature of the individual.

The essence of a club is a combination of people with like interests who agree to contribute equally to the running of the club. The contribution implies more than the mere cash subscription. It implies loyalty to the Code and also in seeing that

it is kept. It implies that the member undertakes to do his proportionate share of the "chores." If, for instance, there are 50 members, each is expected to do 1/50th of whatever "chores" there might be, and evasion would be a breach of the sportsman's code of Fair Play.

Entry should be on the basis of the Toc H's "Abandon rank all ye who enter here." Every member is an equality; there must be no privileged group and no favourites and no exceptions. The system, once installed and safeguarded by the members themselves will succeed like Success and arouse a club spirit that can overcome all obstacles. And what would have been hard work for one becomes easy work for EVERYONE. Furthermore, the "taking part" and submerging of one's more selfish human instincts to the common good will do more than almost anything in raising a person's interest and goodwill and loyalty.

The methods of sharing the "chores" may differ enormously. The services and tables and other facilities will help to decide. A general principle of procedure, such as a scrupulously fair method of booking tables, etc.; should be outlined from the beginning. One member, on a rota basis might have the "chore" of being room manager (or host) for the evening to see fair play, introduce new members, help any member, and supervise the care of equipment. Any breach of sporting conduct must be reported and penalised accordingly by fellow members, in serious cases by expulsion (and remembering that the star player has no privileges beyond that of any other member).

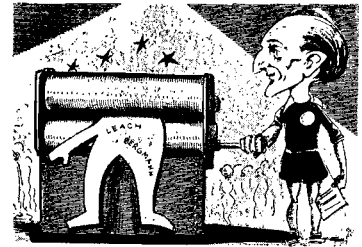
Cliques are the saboteurs of good clubs. They must never be tolerated.

Apart from the basic common interest of the club, there may possibly be a wider divergence in individual interests. This is a good thing and should be catered for accordingly. A mixed or family membership can do much to improve the social amenities of the club.

The club, perhaps, is open 6 days, or sometimes 7 days a week and should aim to interest every type of player in membership by a skilful arrangement of nights, periods and tables. Programmes can cater for League Matches; the club's own Inter-house or Inter-team matches (in 2's, 3's or 4's); challenge ladder; various tournaments, e.g., Handicap, Top-and-Bottom Pairs, Round Robins, Novelty Evenings, Double Elimination, Progressive "Drive," Married Pairs (and what a nice thought to arrange for baby-sitters); there can be Youth and

ODTTA!

(982) Below—TAGE FLISBERG, 38-y-o, left-handed Swedish World Championship hope now scoring phenomenal successes with sponge, as seen by a Swedish cartoonist, putting Bergmann and Leach through the Sponge Rubber Mangle!



(974) Below—Johnny "Never Say Die" Leach as we imagine he might look after a Flisberg match when asked his opinion of Sponge Rubber. (Photo: P. Madge)



P.S. "I also admired and thought a lot of Flisberg. He lost to Vana in the 4th round, one game going against at 25-27. A great sportsman, this player." Mechlovitz, at the World's, 1938.

Coaching Sessions; Team (and individual) Practice periods; Ladies Invitation Night; Veterans Night and so on.

The social side of the club (which may include non-playing members) will do much to improve other club and social facilities in a similar way.

Where the club is of sufficient size, the membership might be impartially divided into "Houses" who can form their own teams, etc. Each "House" could be given the supervising and organising authority for say, a week, and the House voted the most successful in enterprise, sportsmanship, ideas, etc., would hold the House Pennant for the next month.

These are very generalised suggestions mainly to suggest some possibilities. The emphatic rule must always be: Never tolerate cliques or bad sportsmanship; expect fair play from all members and be fair equally to all.●

Leslie Woollard

DIVISIONAL TABLES

As at 13th February, and not including matches in the Summary marked with an asterisk (*).

PREMIER DIVISION						
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Middlesex	5	5	0	0	36	14 10
Gloucesters're	6	2	3	1	35	25 7
Essex	3	2	1	0	19	11 5
Surrey	3	2	0	1	20	10 4
Lancashire	4	1	2	1	18	22 4
Glamorgan	4	1	1	2	19	21 3
Sussex	5	0	1	4	11	39 1
Yorkshire	4	0	0	4	12	28 0
SECOND DIVISION SOUTH						
Surrey	3	3	0	0	24	6 6
Middlesex	3	2	0	1	21	9 4
Essex	4	2	0	2	20	20 4
Kent	2	1	0	1	9	11 2
Devon	3	1	0	2	13	17 2
Bedfordshire	3	0	0	3	3	27 0
SECOND DIVISION NORTH						
Cheshire	4	4	0	0	34	6 8
Worwickshire	4	3	1	0	31	9 7
Yorkshire	4	2	1	1	25	15 5
Lincolnshire	4	1	1	2	17	23 3
Northumberl'd	5	1	1	3	18	32 3
Durham	5	0	0	5	5	45 0
SOUTHERN DIVISION						
Hampshire	4	3	0	1	25	15 6
Berkshire	4	3	0	1	23	17 6
Buckingham.	4	2	0	2	20	20 4
Oxfordshire	4	0	0	4	12	28 0
EASTERN DIVISION						
Hertfordshire	4	4	0	0	30	10 8
Suffolk	4	3	0	1	22	18 6
Cambridge.	4	1	0	3	17	23 2
Norfolk	4	0	0	4	11	29 0
MIDLAND DIVISION						
Staffordshire	7	6	0	1	49	21 12
Worcesters're	7	4	1	2	37	33 9
Derbyshire	6	3	2	1	34	26 8
Leicestershire	6	1	1	4	25	35 3
Northampton.	6	0	0	6	15	45 0
JUNIOR DIVISION						
Sussex	4	4	0	0	31	9 8
Surrey	3	3	0	0	24	6 6
Kent	4	3	0	1	24	16 6
Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	18	22 4
Middlesex	5	2	0	3	22	28 4
Essex	4	1	0	3	15	25 2
Suffolk	4	1	0	3	14	26 2
Bedfordshire	4	0	0	4	12	28 0

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Reviewed by GEOFF. HARROWER

PREMIER DIVISION

MIDDLESEX are well on the way to their seventh successive title. They beat their strongest challengers, Surrey, 7-3, thanks mainly to Michael Thornhill and Alan Rhodes, the former beating both the new Swaythling Cup players, Harry Venner and Ken Craigie, whilst Rhodes accounted for Craigie and Jackie Head.

Later in the month Surrey and Essex drew an exciting match, after Essex, minus Johnny Leach, had run off to a 5-1 lead. After Head had beaten Ivor Jones the match developed on sensational lines, Venner and Craigie again being defeated, Venner in straight games by Bobby Stevens and Craigie by Brian Brumwell. Jones and Stevens beat Craigie and Venner in the men's doubles, and the Essex girls played their part, Barbara Milbank winning a close match with Jean Winn, whilst Barbara, in partnership with Yvonne Baker, were too good for the No. 2 English seeds, Pam Gall and Jill Rook. Surrey fought back splendidly and although Essex forced all the last four ties to 3 games, Surrey proved the better finishers and gained a creditable draw.

At the other end of the table there is a great fight between Sussex and Yorkshire to avoid relegation. Sussex secured a valuable, if unexpected, point against Lancashire, Peter Shead once more being the mainstay for the Southern county, beating two more internationals in Ron Allcock and Ronnie Baker. Credit must also be given to Miss Davies for her —12, 17 and 6 win over international Adele Wood.

Yorkshire failed narrowly against Lancashire, although sponge man R. Dove won both his singles. Unfortunately for Yorkshire Ray Hinchliff had one of his rare off days, otherwise at least one point would have been secured.

games. Derek Burridge took both singles for Middlesex.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

WARWICKSHIRE are making a great bid to regain their Premier Division status, and two big wins against Durham and Northumberland left them with a chance of overhauling Cheshire in the vital final match. The only tie lost in these two matches was an unexpected one, Philomena Heppell, partnered by Mrs. Turnbull, gaining a good success for Northumberland over Ann Haydon and Jean Mackay.

MIDLAND DIVISION

STAFFORDSHIRE seem booked for their second successive title, unless Derbyshire can beat them by a convincing margin.

Derby lost their chance by only drawing with Leicestershire. Thorn in their side was J. C. Burraston, who not only beat Bird and Hallsworth, but partnered Miss Whit to a mixed doubles win over Moody and Miss Bannister.

Staffs settled Worcestershire's aspirations on the same day, but unfortunately the score sheet is not to hand.

JUNIOR DIVISION

THE inclusion of Kemal Shoaib has considerably improved the Middlesex team, and wins over Bedfordshire and Essex bring the former champions to a respectable place in the table. The top counties were not engaged until late in February, too late to report on their progress, but it looks as though the tie between Sussex and Surrey must decide. However, I'll stick my neck out and forecast that Terry Denham's considerable improvement will turn the scale in Surrey's favour. ●

County Match Fixtures for March are on Page 122

SUMMARY OF RESULTS — FEBRUARY

PREMIER DIV. Surrey 3—Middlesex 7 Glam. 5—Gloucester. 5 Sussex 1—Middlesex 9 Lancs. 6—Yorks. 4 Yorks. 3—Gloucester. 7 Lancs. 5—Sussex 5 Surrey 5—Essex 5 Lancs. 2—Essex 8 Yorks. 3—Surrey 7	DIV. II—SOUTH North'bd. 4—Yorks. 6 Warwick. 9—North'bd. 1 Durham 2—Lincoln. 8	MIDLAND DIV. Worcs. 7—Northants. 3 Leicester. 2—Staffs. 8 Staffs. 7—Worcs. 3 Leicester. 5—Derby. 5
DIV. II—NORTH Essex 3—Surrey 7 Middlesex 6—Surrey 4 Kent 6—Devon 4	SOUTHERN DIV. Berks. 5—Bucks. 5 Oxford. 5—Hants. 5	JUNIOR DIV. Middlesex 7—Beds. 3 Kent 1—Middlesex 9 Beds. 1—Sussex 9 Suffolk 5—Surrey 5 Essex 5—Herts. 5
	EASTERN DIV. Cambs. 7—Norfolk 3 Herts. 5—Suffolk 5	

England's World Championship Team

THE ACCENT of the Men's team is on experience, that of the Women's on Youth (the combined ages of the four girls total only 76 years!). YET—unique circumstance in the history of the E.T.T.A., EACH team includes 3 players classified in the World's Top Ten for 1953-54 by the I.T.F.F. Seeding Committee.

THE Men (striving to repeat England's single Swaythling Cup win in 27 years) includes 2 great defensive players, 2 consistent hitters, and one who defies definition. The Women (striving to recover the Corbillon Cup first won for England by the world-beating combination of Vera Dace, Elizabeth Blackburn and Peggy Franks), includes 2 brilliant unpredictable opportunists, a "hitting machine," and a very remarkable youngster of considerable performance and still greater promise.

THESE days of intense competition come at the end of a long, hard season. These 9 players and their captains become the target of champions from all corners of the World and the hope-bearers of tens of thousands of followers who little know the hard task of reaching inspired heights at the needful times. AT THEIR BEST these England players can fulfil all our hopes and their own too. We KNOW it and the record proves it.

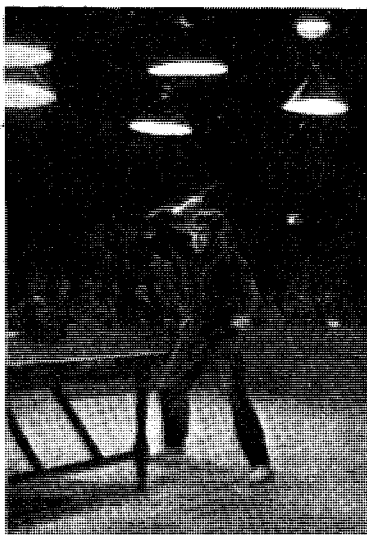
NEVER has England had so many strong players, men AND (perhaps especially) women. These are the reserves who will fling themselves into the Individual events and perhaps make their indelible mark on the Future.

These players are the standard bearers of England and in support of them must go the complete confidence, goodwill and understanding encouragement of each one of us. They are there to represent us and to give a fine account of English Table Tennis . . . Win or lose, we believe they will do that. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL and Victory to the most deserving.**

SWAYTHLING CUP

★**RICHARD BERGMANN, 34**, current World's No. 2 player. 4 times World singles champion (the first time 17 years ago!), 6 times English Champion, and the greatest Match Player in table tennis history. Has won more "lost" matches than anyone in table tennis (perhaps than anyone in any sport) and has been the mainstay of the England team since 1948-9, his team play being splendidly demonstrated in his winning all his 3 vital matches (maximum) against Hungary and Czechoslovakia in 1951-52 and 1952-53 respectively, and his truly magnificent victory over World Champion Sido at Wembley last November, which evoked a burning intensity of T.T. enthusiasm in all who saw it.

NEW SWAYTHLING PLAYER



No. 971 Arthur Pickford
KEN CRAIGIE (Surrey)

★**KEN CRAIGIE, 31**, Surrey, the only new Swaythling Award. "The Gay Cavalier" of Table Tennis. For years, so very near to top honours, has reached his finest season ever with wins over Harangozo, Freundorfer, Lanskoj, Just and Roland; acclaimed the "brightest" semi-finalist in the recent French Open. Semi-finalist in last year's English. Doubles finalist (with D. Miller) in Students' Festival, Bucharest.

★**JOHNNY LEACH, 32**, Surrey, current World's No. 5 player, twice World singles champion and 3 times r/u in World doubles. In the 1950-51 World Championships he was undefeated in any singles tie in either team or individual events. Triple U.S.A. Champion in 1949-50. Last year won the decisive match against Koczian and gave Sido his closest fight. Has beaten the greatest, and if he does tend to relax in home tournaments, he rises to his best for the team effort.

★**AUBREY SIMONS, 32**, Gloucestershire, current World's No. 4. There is no better team player. Laid foundation of England's Swaythling Cup triumph last year by beating 4 of the World's Top Ten. Semi-finalist in this year's English. Awarded the Victor Barna Award as "The Table Tennis Player of the Year" (1952-53). Is one of the most awkward players in the world to beat and has many notable victories.

★**HARRY VENNER, 31**, Surrey, English semi-finalist, 1952-53, reliable county player and leading tournament winner. Third Swaythling Cup award. Best result of a good season was in winning the Welsh Open title, beating Simons in the semi, and Haguenaucr in the final.

MARCEL CORBILLON CUP

★**KATHLEEN BEST, 21**, Yorkshire, current World's No. 9. Powerful, consistent hitter who beats the "heart-break" defensive players. Has given World Champion Roseanu hard match in their last two meetings. Outstandingly good (and very near to winning) against Farkas last November. This season, won the Home Counties and scored decisive wins over internationals of the calibre of Bates, Shirley Jones, Helen Elliot, Rougnagnou and Watel.

★**ANN HAYDON, 15**, Warwickshire, and youngest player to ever make an England World Championship team. Won English and French Junior title last year, the French and Belgian this, and the *Daily Mirror* W.S. title in 1952-53. Beat 7 internationals of 4 countries within a few weeks this season: Fantusz, Almasi, Alber, Rougnagnou, V. Rowe, Milbank and Winn, and also has wins over B. Gray, D. Rowe, Thorsson and Wouters. In 4 national championships this season, has lost only to R. Rowe (World No. 3) and Wertl (World No. 4). She reached the final of the Welsh Open and narrows the gap with each encounter.

★**DIANE and ROSALIND ROWE, 20**, Middlesex, current World's 5 and 3 respectively and one of the 3 best doubles pairs in the world, in which they have won the English title for 5 successive years and the World title (at the age of 17). This season they have won 4 national W.D. titles: Austrian, English, Welsh and French. In singles Ros (who has 2 wins over Farkas) last season won the English and Di the French; both had wins over Wertl. Young as they are, they have already played with outstanding success in England,

Concluded on Page 135, Col. 3

★ **FIRST DAY** ★

TUESDAY, 6th APRIL

The Grand Parade of All Nations fighting through the Groups of the World Team Championships from early morning... pick of the matches from 7 p.m.

The 3 seeds in each Team contest are:—

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Swaythling Cup | Corbillon Cup |
| 1. England | 1. Rumania |
| 2. Hungary | 2. England |
| 3. Czechoslovakia | 3. Japan |

Match these with many of the vivid, colourful new players from about 35 other major countries... select the best... and you have a guaranteed evening of unforgettable and exciting memories... 20 international matches in one evening!

★ **SECOND DAY** ★

WEDNESDAY, 7th APRIL

The battles of the First Day are continued, but probably some of the gayer sparklets have already fallen... but again it is contrastingly different... Another specially selected 20 international matches, with the Giants meeting new challengers.

THURSDAY, 8th APRIL

NO PLAY TO-DAY

DAY BY DAY

7 Playing Days of Vivid, Colourful, Excitement and Interest... Each Day Contrastingly Different.

NOTE ESPECIALLY the Outstanding Interest and Value of the Starred Days... and let logic persuade you.

★ **THIRD DAY** ★

FRIDAY, 9th APRIL

By evening, the ranks and the tables have thinned for the first of the Finals... Here remain the Winning Teams of each Group... 3 men's and 3 women's. To-night is the first play-off... perhaps the most exciting of them all... Who can tell? **THIS is a FINALS NIGHT** for the Londoners.

FOURTH DAY

SATURDAY, 10th APRIL

In the morning, the second of the play-offs... In the evening, the third and last—and the new team champions of the World are decided... But if you haven't got tickets for to-night, it is probably now too late.

SUNDAY, 11th APRIL

REST DAY FOR PLAYERS,
but a Meeting for Congress

★ **FIFTH DAY** ★

MONDAY, 12th APRIL

Here again are all the colourful personalities of the World in an excitement of individual matches... By 7 p.m. the 3rd and 4th rounds of the Men's and Women's Singles will be reached, and the new stars will be seen emerging through a turbulence of nearly 100 best-of-5 matches scheduled for the evening... and perhaps our last sight of those gayer, but less-skilled or more luckless, characters... A tremendous night that neither connoisseur nor thrill-seeker will miss.

SIXTH DAY

TUESDAY, 13th APRIL

All day the closing rounds of the Individuals have been fought... by evening, 8 of the great closing matches (with all the new singles champions-to-be) will be ready for an ALL-STAR, BARGAIN FINALS—THE 2 SEMI-FINALS OF EACH Men's Singles Women's Singles Men's Doubles Women's Doubles making a really wonderful evening far too exciting to be missed.

SEVENTH AND LAST DAY

WEDNESDAY, 14th APRIL

And here is the comparative calm of the last Finals Night—5 best-of-5 Final matches and the acclaiming of the new Champions of the World... but if you haven't already got your tickets, you will probably be too late.

21st WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

EMPIRE POOL AND SPORTS ARENA, WEMBLEY

6th — 14th April, 1954

ALL THE WORLD'S BEST PLAYERS ARE TAKING PART

(Teams and individuals from 40 countries are expected)

10th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	The Finals of the Swaythling and Marcel Corbillon Cup competitions.	
				21/- 15/- 10/6d. 6/6d.	
14th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	The Finals of the Individual Events.	
				21/- 15/- 10/6d. 6/6d.	
				(All Sold) (All Sold)	
6th, 7th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	Team matches in the groups.	
				15/- 12/6d. 10/6d. 7/6d. 2/6d.	
9th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	First of the Finals of the Swaythling Cup and Marcel Corbillon Cup Competitions.	
				15/- 12/6d. 10/6d. 7/6d. 4/-	
12th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	Individual Events, including 4th Round of the Men's Singles and Quarter Finals of the Women's Singles.	
				15/- 12/6d. 10/6d. 7/6d. 2/6d.	
13th April, 7 p.m.	.....	.....	.....	Individual Events, including Semi-Finals of the Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Singles and Women's Doubles.	
				15/- 12/6d. 10/6d. 7/6d. 4/-	

All morning and afternoon sessions—Season Ticket 10/-

EARLY APPLICATION IS ADVISED

For tickets and details of special party rates apply to:—

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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

All-Star Variety MIDLAND COUNTIES OPEN Birmingham, 6th Feb., 1954

ON February 6th Your Correspondent became an Astronomer all the better to report the Midland Open for you. With only one week to go before the English selectors "World's" teams nominations, the entry was a Milky Way of England's talent, soon to burst into vivid interplanetary warfare. Of the fixed stars, only Simons, Craigie and Best were invisible.

WE watched the stars come out in their variety, big and little, shooting and fixed and falling too. Old ones, new ones, shining and twinkling the brighter for the frost... Then sensation! In a flashing arc of triumph, Essex humorist Ivor Jones swept comelike into a blazing clash with Johnny Leach and Johnny was out 15, —10, 16! But Ivor's triumph was short-lived. Brian Merrett blotted him out 6, 12 in his cool orbital path to the final.

Bergmann, not at his brightest perhaps, surrendered a game to each Ronnie Allcock and Harry Venner. The Bergmann v. Merrett final was a tense battle of nerves. Merrett took an early lead to 12-8 with excellent defence and some carefully picked winners that sizzled past Bergmann at a speed and force that we waited suspiciously for the supersonic bang. The wily old master played with precise, cautious and meticulous artistry. There were rallies of careful placing, each trying to make an opening, each warily expectant of the sudden catlike spring into attack from the other. Merrett held on. He seemed to have a slight advantage in the initiative, containing Bergmann's attack. Bergmann sheathed his claws into a lulling, scrupulous defence and returns of irresistible temptation and devilish traps. From 16-all, Merrett wavered. Bergmann remorselessly enlarged his field of aggressive "non-belligerence" and with points lost by Merrett, won the first game at 17. The second game, first a gentle see-saw, saw Bergmann successfully stampede Merrett into giving him the advantage of a winning lead, which he jealously guarded to the end. Bergmann led 17-7 in this game, and 19-10, and the baffled Brian did well, perhaps, to pull up to 14-21.

Supercharged Super-women

The W.S. event was sizzling, supercharged stuff of outstanding excellence. Rosalind Rowe eclipsed Audrey Bates, Margaret Fry and Ann Haydon (12, 20 this), and then went down in a tremendous semi-final to Jean Winn 25-27, 15 and —18. Diane Rowe and Yvonne Baker disappeared in sparkling clashes with the aggressive



Welsh Betty Gray. Then gallant Joy yielded a crackling match to Joy Seaman.

JOY SEAMAN

reaches
dazzling
heights



The Seaman-Winn final was super stuff, thrill-packed, skilful and spectacular. Prolonged applause often rested play. Jean Winn's powerful attack, and her clever placings and defence, surged to a 13-5 lead. She looked invincible. But in this moment near Disaster, Joy Seaman rose to supreme and dazzling heights. Her sustained power-driving and a jewel-box of all-round skills and her dancing feet matched and mastered the outstanding skills of her opponent. It was a memorable, masterly match of outstanding excellence and rare distinction, and the packed house roared their approval loud and long.

By-the-Way: M.S.: R. BERGMANN bt. P. Pudney 10, 15; bt. R. Allcock 14, —19, 11; b. K. Hurllock 10, 8. H. VENNOR bt. M. Thornhill 12, —11, 7; bt. P. Cruwys 13, 13. R. Dorking bt. H. Walton 9, 13; lost Thornhill 15, —18, —14. M. Hawkings bt. R. Morley 18, 13. I. W. Jones bt. A. G. Smith —19, 19, 16. E. Griffin bt. C. Frecker 12, 11; bt. R. Mackay 14, 15; bt. J. Osbourne 18, 11; bt. A. R. Miller 18, 12. B. MERRETT bt. J. Head 16, —7, 14; bt. I. Jones 6, 12. R. Allcock bt. D. Backhouse 12, —19, 20. W.S.: Y. J. SEAMAN bt. S. Jones 10, 16; bt. B. Gray —14, 21, 20. Y. Baker bt. J. Mackay 12, 9; lost Gray 16, —13, —18. B. Gray bt. D. Rowe 18, 19. A. Haydon bt. P. Baird 15, 11; bt. M. Fry 9, 15; lost R. Rowe 12, 20. J. WINN bt. M. Cumberbatch 12, 15; bt. R. Rowe 25, —15, 18.

FINALS

M.S. R. BERGMANN bt. (sf) H. Venner 16, —15, 17; bt. B. MERRETT 17, 14 (bt. R. Griffin 19, 6).
W.S. Y. J. SEAMAN bt. (sf) B. Gray —14, 21, 20; bt. J. WINN —15, 14, 20 (bt. R. Rowe 25, —15, 18).
M.D. R. BERGMANN/J. LEACH bt. R. Griffin/R. Mackay 16, —16, 11.
W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. Y. J. Seaman/J. Winn 14, 14.
X.D. M. THORNHILL/R. ROWE bt. J. Leach/D. Rowe 12, 19.
J.B. R. DORKING bt. D. Backhouse —18, 15, 16.
J.G. D. WORRAL bt. K. Barlow 14, 18.
J.D. R. DORKING/M. MACLAREN bt. D. Backhouse/R. Potter 14, 17.
Vet.S. L. KINSEY bt. A. A. Wall 12, 13.

A Hit Show in The Snow

3rd KENT OPEN
Folkestone, 30th-31st Jan., 1954

NEITHER the Big Frost nor the Snow Barricade could stop the Kent Open from being a Top Hit Show. Two days of exciting play and friend-making interludes (spotlighting the rightly popular Saturday Night Party and Dance), civic support, the grouped entries and excellent conditions, were but some of the et ceteras of a notable week-end marking the triumph of "Micky" Betts and his admirable colleagues.

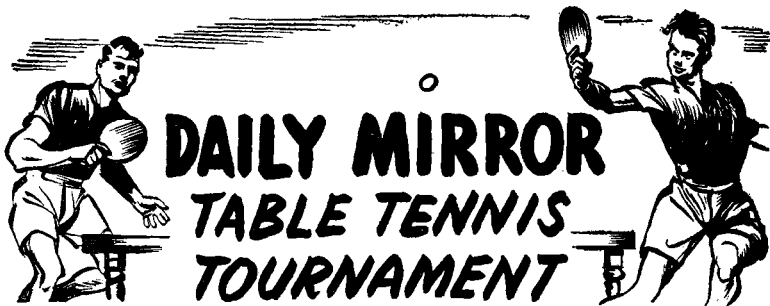
What good fun you missed if you were not there, because we have space only to be brief withal. And that is truly a shame.

Both singles title holders A. R. Miller and Joy Seaman were knocked out. Former by left-handed Peter Pudney 12, 18; the latter by Betty Isaacs 14, 16. Ray Dorking figured in a series of excitements. He beat Paul Brook 11, —23, 14 and Alan Sherwood 26, 20 to reach the semi of the M.S. In the J.S. he had a terrific semi with Brian Barr before winning —19, 30, 16. His excellent performance was marred by holding up the finals 20 minutes because of a bat which was "lost, stolen, or strayed." Jean Winn beat her "exhibition" opponent 15, 15.

YVONNE BAKER was outshining in determined and accurate aggression, reserving brilliant defence only for rare occasions. She beat Margaret Cherry, Molly Jones and Betty Isaacs before losing in a final played without quarter, to a Jean Winn spurred on to her brilliant best. In the W.D. Yvonne also scintillated (in partnership with Peggy Piper); a sparkling win over Seaman/Winn and a first-game lead over the Rowe Twins. Jackie Head won 2 first and a r/u prize to keep up his successful run. With the finals complete by 9.30 p.m. came good cheers for all and the snowbound convoy home, to seal up a weekend of pleasant memories.

By-the-Way: A. R. Miller bt. Denham 13, 19; P. PUDNEY bt. A. Miller 12, 18; K. Hurllock 14, —15, 14. G. Bebb bt. I. Jones 15, 16; bt. B. Barr —18, 18, 17. R. TURNER bt. Bebb 15, 15; bt. D. Burridge 14, —19, 15; bt. J. Hunt 12, —15, 20. A. Sherwood bt. J. Carrington 19, 17 (bt. MacLaren —14, 21, 10). R. DORKING bt. Sherwood 26, 20; bt. P. Brook 11, —25, 14. J. HEAD bt. G. Gladwish 14, 7; bt. R. Syndercombe 8, 15. W.S. J. Winn bt. D. Ellis 19, 12; bt. B. Milbank 15, 15 (bt. P. Gall 11, 11). E. Carrington bt. M. Piper 19, 21; lost J. Beadle —17, 10, —14. B. Isaacs bt. Y. Seaman 14, 16; bt. J. White 7, 14. Y. BAKER bt. M. Cherry —19, 14, 20; bt. M. Jones 16, 16.

Finals Details, Page 135, Col. 1



DAILY MIRROR TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

FUTURE CHAMPIONS AT BIRMINGHAM ON MARCH 20th

THE Area Semi-finals and Finals of the *Daily Mirror* National Table Tennis Tournament have usually been held in the four areas covered by the tournament—South of England, Midlands (including Wales), North-West and North-East (including Scotland).

This year these Finals will be held in one place—Birmingham—which was chosen as the most accessible centre from all parts of England, Scotland and Wales.

The last 64 contestants—all Zone Champions—will meet at Birmingham on Saturday, March 20th to decide the lucky 16 to play at the Royal Albert Hall on May 13th.

This year's Area Finals are sure to produce another batch of future international players and you can be sure of seeing some keenly contested and thrilling matches.

In addition, a friendly challenge match between those two past champions of the *Daily Mirror* Tournament—Diane Rowe and Ann Haydon—will give extra spice to the programme. Ann beat Di at the Welsh Open Championship . . . can she do it again?

The event will be held at the Friends' Institute, Moseley Road, Birmingham, on the evening of Saturday, March 20th, and organised by the Birmingham and District Table Tennis League. Mr. M. Goldstein, Secretary of the Association, will be responsible for all arrangements.

This is a grand chance for all Midlands to see some really good table tennis. Get your tickets (3/6d. and 2/6d.) early from Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12. Standing room at 1/6d. Cheques and postal orders should be crossed and made payable to the Birmingham and District Table Tennis Association.

FIRST ZONE CHAMPIONS

THE first available names of Zone Champions in the *Daily Mirror* National T.T. Tournament are :—
M.S.—G. Stott, Dyerth, Flint. A. Culloch, Paisley. J. Whidborne, Dalton-in-Furness.
W.S.—H. Houlston, Edinburgh. Mrs. M. Haley, Bradford. B. Water-son, Liverpool. W. Swift, Wigan. J. Segal, Glasgow. D. Jackson, B.S.—P. Tindale, Gateshead. C.

Percy, Darlington. D. Norris, Ebbw Vale. W. Phillips, Barry.
G.S.—H. Houlston, Edinburgh. J. Kennedy, Edinburgh. M. Valentine, Glasgow. M. Howard, Co. Durham. P. Goldberg, Leicester. F. Wright, Barnsley. V. Elliott, Blackburn. G. Barber, Crewe. U. Martin, St. Albans. D. Hughes, Bedford. P. Davis, Gloucester. D. Worrall, West Bromwich. R. Robbins, Ealing. P. Dyball, Bungay. S. Ball, South-sea.
Dalton-in-Furness. G. Holden, Car-diff.

THE HALF VOLLEY

By **LASZLO BELLAK**

"The Greatest Player Who Never Won a World Singles"

MY belief is that the great success of the Hungarians was based on their mastery of the Half Volley, a characteristic acquired from their early efforts with wooden bats which kept them playing close to the table.

It is not a spectacular shot, but it is an essential one. Its great advantage is that you can return the ball too quickly for your opponent to hit it hard, but—at the same time—without enough pace for your opponent to chop hard. I have often noticed how this simple shot has baffled my opponent, and has ended by his either missing or putting up a "sitter."

Practice this shot until you have perfect consistency and then concentrate on returning the ball to particular spots on the other side of the table. You should practice until you can not only return the hardest of drives, but so that you can place the ball in any spot you wish to. The half volley should be practised as frequently as possible, not only when you are a beginner but all the time you are playing, and success with the stroke should encourage you to practise even harder to acquire the real stroke play which makes the game really worth watching.●

Laszlo Bellak

OF ALL LEADING

SPORTS OUTFITTERS



The choice of champions

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

FINALS

M.S. J. HEAD bt. (sf) R. Dorking 7, 11; bt. R. TURNER 11, 14 (bt. P. Pudney —22, 15, 15).
 W.S. J. WINN bt. (sf) Mrs. J. Beadle 10, 8; Y. BAKER —19, 10, 19 (bt. B. Isaacs —21, 18, 18).
 M.D. D. BURRIDGE/J. HEAD bt. V. Barna/M. Thornhill 10, —19, 13.
 W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. Y. Baker/M. Piper —18, 14, 15.
 X.D. A. SHERWOOD/P. GALL bt. J. Head/Y. J. Seaman 18, 18.
 J.S. R. DORKING bt. (sf) B. Barr —19, 30, 16; bt. T. DENSHAM 9, 14 (bt. M. Maclaren 13, 15).

Doubles Fantastic

MIDDLESEX (HERGA) OPEN

Herga L.T. Club, Harrow,
 13th Feb., 1954

THIS Open Tournament, first played in 1922 or 3 is part of the pattern of our T.T. history. The shades of the Great Ones still frequent the warm friendliness of the club-rooms... an endless parade of might and majesty... Nanda, Suppiah, Bull, Perry, Haydon, Nicoll, K. M. Berry, F. H. D. Wilde, P. Bromfield, Barna, Szabados, Bergl... Sometimes a shade materialises. Surely that elegant figure in the snack bar is pre-war international Maurice Bergl. 5 times a winner here? He nostalgically recalls vivid splendours past and is gently a-gloom on the skills of a less than vintage era, and the Shades seem to pause to nod agreement... Visiting N.E.C. northerners, Billie Stamp and Leslie Forrest arrive to quick renewals of pre-war friendships... Internationals stand shoulder with such as two young East Londoners for whom the Past does not exist... "You should have seen Bergmann beat Sido in the Hungary match," they told us. "I was one of those that went absolutely crazy when he won... one of those written about in the *Table Tennis* magazine... There couldn't have ever been a greater match!"...

THIS famous tournament is unpretentious. It is a 3-table Open in clubroom conditions but always with a notability of entrants. "Chief Engineer" Steve Martin keeps the "engines" running so smoothly that no one knows just how hard he does work, and Wembley League Chairman, Mr. "Bert" Mayern, has just the right touch for the formalities... Then an excellent "crew." Cheerful and talented Pat Ingram is a "fair" example in play and all-round service for raffles, snacks, tickets and programmes.

A comfortably-sized entry brought few surprises and an entertaining finals programme. Fair, diminutive Laurie Landry scored high honours for his consistent and brightly valorous aggression in the J.S., although losing to the stylish defence of Dorking. Ken Craigie became unusually defensive against Jackie Head, but scraped thankfully home, with apologetic acknowledgments to a helpful "edge ball" at 19. In the final, Ken's fierce barrage of attack was comfortably contained and subdued by the thoughtful and all-round excellence of Len Adams, basically a

mobile defence and scrupulously selected counterhits. Adams had earlier removed an erratic Jimmy Lowe with a little co-operation from his opponent.

Jackie Head/Margaret Fry had a notable win over Micky Thornhill/Diane Rowe in the X.D. semi and a fantastic performance in the final against Victor Barna/Ros Rowe. The latter had won the first game at 10, and were leading 10-1 in the second. Head/Fry, with excellent force and teamwork, completely upset the balance to an 18-13 lead, by taking 17 points to their opponent's 3. And then—incredibly—they LOST at 19-21!

By-the-Way: M.S. R. Dorking bt. A. R. Miller 13, 15; lost J. Lowe —10, —9. K. Craigie bt. B. Crouch —16, 19, 13. J. Head bt. M. Thornhill —14, 17, 19. L. Adams bt. A. Rhodes 23, 19. W.S. J. Rook bt. M. Cherry 13, —16, 16; lost J. Winn 13, 19.

FINALS

M.S. L. ADAMS bt. (sf) J. Lowe 11, 17; bt. K. CRAIGIE 15, 18 (bt. J. Head 15, 19).
 W.S. R. ROWE bt. (sf) M. Fry 12, 19; bt. D. ROWE 17, 11 (bt. J. Winn 18, 17).
 M.D. K. CRAIGIE/A. RHODES bt. L. Adams/V. Barna 19, —15, 18.
 W.D. D. & R. ROWE bt. M. Cherry/Mrs. B. Trish 15, 8.
 X.D. V. BARNA/R. ROWE bt. J. Head/M. Fry 10, 19.
 B.S. R. DORKING bt. (sf) E. Calvey 18, 14; b. L. LANDRY 11, 22 (bt. M. Isaacs 14, 14).

ENGLAND'S CHOICE

From Page 130

Wales, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Austria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Sweden, India, Australia and New Zealand. After their strenuous tour in the latter countries they have been careful not to overdo matters in order to get into top form for April.

THE CAPTAINS

ADRIAN HAYDON, the most renowned and experienced of all international captains, leads the men and has himself been a player of world class for 25 years. He was semi-finalist in the World singles 1928-29, twice finalist in doubles and semi-finalist (with Victor Barna) in 1951-52 and 1952-53.

TOMMY SEARS, former Swaythling Cup player and many times an international, leads England's "youngest-ever" Marcel Corbillon Cup team. Tommy, who won the English doubles title (with Victor Barna) 33/4 and 34/5, has captained England's junior international players since the war. He has done wisely and well.●



No. 977. Real Action Final photos of the Winners taken by N. R. S. Baker of Harrow. M.S. Jackie Head, M.D. I. Jones/A. Sherwood, W.D. Y. J. Seaman/J. Winn, X.D. R. Stevens/Y. Baker, W.S. Y. J. Seaman. Reported on page 105.

ALL-STAR PROGRAMME MAKES FULL HOUSE

North-West Kent Open, Barnehurst, 23rd Jan., 1954

By CONRAD JASCHKE (Abvd.)

THE N.W.K. Open, with a score of internationals and even standing room packed out for the finals, was an almost sensational success. The smooth running throughout was a high tribute to Frank Burvill, Geoff Owen, Bill Lewis and their supporting committee, who received many commendations from players and others.

Hundreds of leaflets distributed and with the local press publishing news items and photographs for several weeks in advance obviously paid dividends in bringing the record audience.

The Rowe Twins, playing in their first Kent tournament, greatly impressed with their new, short pleated skirts and smart appearance which was matched by the quality of their play. Victor Barna was given a special ovation.

M.S. In the semis, Brian Brumwell (who had earlier beaten title holder Tony Miller 17, —18, 14) was beaten by Micky Thornhill 16, 19, and Ron Crayden's coolness in a seemingly hopeless position enabled him to beat Ivor Jones —13, 21, 23. Ivor's brilliant attack delighted the audience. Thornhill triumphed in the final against a rather un-confident Crayden.

W.S. The final was one of the most exciting matches of the evening, with Jean Winn attacking throughout and Betty Isaacs' cast-iron defence, all but getting the better of her. When all seemed lost, Jean won 5 points in a row for her deserved win. Betty Isaacs had earlier beaten Joy Seaman 17, 18.

Ivor Jones/Betty Isaacs had a sensational semi-final win 18, 16 over M. Thornhill/Diane Rowe, but Ros (partnered by Victor Barna) avenged her sister in the final to win —12, 11, 11, after easily accounting for A. R. Miller/M. Cherry in the other semi. Brian Hellberg and Joyce Fielder led Jackie Head and Joy Seaman 20-17 in the third in one match before losing 20-22. Hellberg dictated the run of the play and was, perhaps, unlucky to be on the losing side. At the ages of 18 and 16 respectively, these young players showed themselves the two most promising "seniors" in Kent.

M.S. M. THORNHILL bt. (sf) B. Brumwell 14, 19; bt. R. CRAYDEN 16, 17 (bt. I. Jones —13, 21, 23).
 W.S. J. WINN bt. B. Isaacs 20, —16, 16.
 M.D. R. CRAYDEN/J. HEAD bt. V. Barna/M. Thornhill 15, —16, 17.
 W.D. D. and R. ROWE bt. Y. J. Seaman/J. Winn 18, 16.
 X.D. V. BARNA/R. ROWE bt. I. Jones/B. Isaacs —12, 11, 11.
 B.S. M. MACLAREN bt. C. Hora 13, 14.
 G.S. J. ROOK bt. J. Fielder 12, 13.

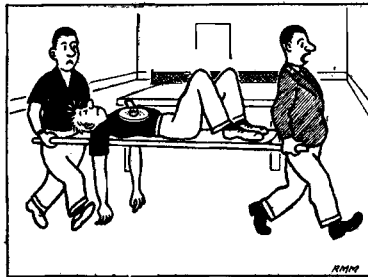
JUNIORS: ENGLAND 8—FRANCE 2

Lille, 14th Jan., 1954
 (England names first): R. DORKING bt. J. Gambier 12, 19; lost M. Auban —17, —16. M. MACLAREN bt. Gambier 12, —13, 14; lost Auban —17, 19, —19. DORKING/MACLAREN bt. Auban/Gambier —19, 19, 19. (Girls): J. ROOK bt. M. Alber 19, —23, 19; bt. M. Flament 4, 3. A. HAYDON bt. Alber 17, 16; bt. Flament 4, 10. HAYDON/ROOK bt. Alber/Flament 11, 11.

PORTUGUESE CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953-54

Teams: Men's, Women's and Juniors won by S. L. Benefica; Boys' by Sporting C.P.
 Individual Champions: M.S. OLIVEIRA RAMOS, W.S. MARIA MANUELA, M.D. A. and E. Osorio, W.D. M. Manuela/A. Maria, X.D. O.Ramos/M. Manuela.

KNOCKING-UP-OR-DOWN?



(986) "The trouble with you is that you don't know your own strength."

TABLE TENNIS TRAINING HOLIDAYS

Isle of Wight: 22-29th May, 1954
 Skegness: 4th-11th Sept., 1954
 Enrolments now being taken

Enquiries to:
 JACK CARRINGTON,
 17, St. Ronan's Crescent,
 Woodford Green, Essex

CHESHIRE OPEN

Birkenhead, 20th Feb., 1954

M.S. R. STEVENS bt. (sf) I. Jones —10, 9, 17; bt. E. T. JOHNSON —22, 9, 14 (bt. R. Markwell 11, 16).
 W.S. A. WOOD bt. S. Threlfall 14, 17.
 M.D. E. T. JOHNSON/D. SCHOFIELD bt. R. Hinchliff/G. Wadsworth —19, 25, 19.
 W.D. A. WILKINSON/A. WOOD bt. K. Benson/E. Mansell 16, 19.
 X.D. D. ELLISON/A. WOOD bt. B. Hands/A. Jones 16, 13.
 B.S. D. WILLIAMS bt. D. Finan 14, —13, 17.
 G.S. S. VARLEY bt. L. C. Bown 18, 16.
 V.S. R. MARKWELL bt. F. Bamford 18, 20.

GWENT OPEN

Newport, Mons., 20th Feb., 1954

M.S. R. WOOD bt. (sf) M. Jones 16, 20; bt. B. WHITE —11, 15, 10 (bt. R. Griffin 23, 17).
 W.S. H. ELLIOT bt. (sf) A. Bates 16, —18, 18; b. B. GRAY 10, —22, 17 (bt. S. Jones 11, 8).
 M.D. R. GRIFFIN/M. JONES bt. S. Jones/W. Sweetland 15, 16.
 W.D. A. BATES/B. GRAY bt. Mrs. I. Cababi/H. Elliot 15, 16.
 X.D. R. KERR/H. ELLIOT bt. J. Davies/Mrs. V. Rowe 16, 18.
 J.S. J. HARRISON bt. D. Griffiths 8, 18.

More International Shocks

BELGIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Brussels, Jan., 1954

M.S. J.-C. Sala (F) bt. G. Harrower 18, 17, 14. Cor du Buy (N) bt. H. Venner —13, 17, —15, 12, 20; bt. Pesch (R) 15, 18, 8. T. Harasztazi (R) bt. Merrett 15, 9/2, 8/6; bt. R. Roothoof (F) 18, —15, —19, 18; 12. T. REITER (R) bt. Roland (B) 19, 17, 16; bt. K. Craigie 8, 16, —22, 16. H. BEDNAR (A) bt. C. due Buy 10, 19, —6. T. FLISBERG bt. Sala 19, 18, —19, —24, 21. W.S. G. Roland (B) bt. Thorsson 14, 13, 15. A. Haydon bt. Wouters (B) 11, 12, 11. C. Watel (F) bt. J. Rook 18, —21, 12, 16. C. Rougagnon (F) bt. E. Zellar (R) —19, 16, 18, 8/7; bt. G. Roland 15, 17, 19. L. WERTL bt. A. Haydon 17, —21, 14, 14; bt. (sf) Rougagnon 8, 8, 11. T. Pritzi bt. C. Watel 19, —13, 16, 19. A. ROSEANU bt. Detourmay (B) 11, 14, 14; bt. (sf) Pritzi 11, 10, —17, 13. M.D. Cor du Buy/Pelzer (N) bt. G. Harrower/B. Merrett 17, 15, —15, 17; lost Bednar/Just (A) 0-3. S/F: Reiter/Harasztazi bt. Bednar/Just —13, 13, 18, —8, 15; Craigie/Venner bt. Roothoof/Sala 9, 18, 16.

International Classifications: 1. Roumania 22, 2. England 15, 3. Austria 12, 4. France 8, 5/6. Belgium and Sweden 6, 7. Netherlands 1.

M.S. T. FLISBERG bt. T. Harasztazi —19, —9, 18, 19, 10.
 W.S. L. WERTL bt. A. Roseanu 18, —7, 14, 23, 19.
 M.D. T. HARASTAZI/T. REITER (RU) bt. K. Craigie/H. Venner (E) —15, 14, 21, —20, 17.
 W.D. A. ROSEANU/E. ZELLER (RU) bt. T. Pritzi/L. WERTL (AU) 15, 11, —11, 7.
 X.D. T. HARASTAZI/A. ROSEANU (RU) bt. H. Venner/A. Haydon 19, 21; 4.
 G.S. A. HAYDON (E) bt. J. Rook (E) 15, 9, 11.

ENGLAND 9—IRELAND 0

Dublin, Jan., 1954

(England first). M.S. H. VENNER bt. S. Clerkin 16, 11. K. CRAIGIE bt. H. O'Prey 11, 6. B. MERRETT bt. E. Allen —18, 17, 15. L. ADAMS bt. V. Martin 17, 14. W.S. B. MILBANK bt. J. Owens 9, 11. Y. BAKER bt. D. Fearon 9, 10. M.D. B. MERRETT/H. VENNER bt. E. Allen/I. Martin 11, —17, 20. L. ADAMS/K. CRAIGIE bt. S. Clerkin/H. O'Prey —17, 6, 9. W.D. Y. BAKER/B. MILBANK bt. J. Owens/D. Vernon 17, 12.

SOUTHAMPTON OPEN

Southampton, 24th Jan., 1954

M.S. R. DORKING bt. L. Wise 18, 18.
 W.S. M. RAYNES bt. S. Ball 17, —17, 12.
 M.D. D. BARLEY/L. WISE bt. C. Frecker/P. Pudney 13, 19.
 X.D. P. SHEAD/Mrs. P. SHEAD bt. I. Alexander/D. Price 18, 17.

SOUTH YORKS. OPEN

Sheffield, 24th Jan., 1954

M.S. R. DOVE bt. S. Dyson 16, 26.
 W.S. Mrs. B. CASSELL bt. Mrs. J. Braddock 12, —18, 10.
 M.D. A. L. SHEPHERD/J. WORSLEY bt. K. Peers/P. Sladdin 18, —15, 9.
 W.D. J. BRADDOCK/D. WILKINSON bt. E. Grimstone/J. Walker 12, —26, 10.
 X.D. A. L. SHEPHERD/J. BRADDOCK bt. J. Worsley/D. Wilkinson —13, 19, 23.
 J.S. J. HOWIE bt. R. Jackson 18, 17.
 The W.S. winner, Mrs. B. Cassell (Kings Lynn), tall, hard-hitting "unknown" beat 4 county players: E. Grimstone, D. Wilkinson, M. Lightfoot and J. Braddock. R. Hinchliff knocked out in quarter-finals by John Beaumont 6, 10.

Double Reminder



(1987) MOLLY POWELL (Wembley) has come from Page 123 to remind you about The "World's" in her home town, 6-14th April, and to demonstrate her stylish back-hand.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICES

SWATHLING CUP, 1953-54

R. BERGMANN (Middx.). K. CRAIGIE* (Surrey). J. A. LEACH (Essex). A. W. C. SIMONS (Glos.). H. T. VENNER (Surrey). n.p.c. A. A. HAYDON (Warwicks.). (15th Feb., 1954.)

MARCEL CORBILLON CUP, 1953-54

Miss C. K. BEST (Yorks.). Miss A. HAYDON* (Warwicks.). Miss D. ROWE (Middx.). Miss R. ROWE (Middx.). n.p.c. T. SEARS (Middx.). (15th Feb., 1954.)

* First appearance in this competition.

WALES v. ENGLAND (Juniors). 23rd Feb., 1954. Boulchier Hall, N.I.B., Cardiff. 1. T. Densham (Surrey). 2. R. Jackson (Yorkshire). 3. G. Lumsden (Durham). 4. D. Backhouse (Staff.). Reserve: B. Barr (Herts.). n.p.c. L. Thompson (Bucks).
ENGLAND v. WALES. 5th March, 1954. Belle Vue Barracks, Bradford. R. Bergmann (Middx.). J. A. Leach (Essex). L. G. Adams (Middx.). B. Merrett (Glos.). Miss R. Rowe (Middx.). Miss D. Rowe (Middx.). Reserves: R. Hinchliff (Yorks.). Miss C. K. Best (Yorks.). n.p.c. A. Thompson (Yorks.).
ENGLAND v. NEW ZEALAND. 3rd March, 1954. Winchester. K. Craigie (Surrey). H. T. Venner (Surrey). A. Rhodes (Middx.). J. P. Shead (Sussex). Reserve: L. G. Adams (Middx.). n.p.c. I. Montagu.

National Coaching Scheme COACHES STUDY COURSES

IT IS regretted that the Course proposed for the early April at Exeter has been postponed owing to pressure of work connected with the World Championships. We hope to provide an opportunity for coaches in the West Country before very long and, in the meantime, interested students may wish to attend the following Course instead:—

Coaches Study Course at Lilleshall,
Nr. Newport, Salop.

Evening, Friday, June 18th

to

Afternoon, Sunday, June 20th.

All-in cost 35/- per Student.

Apply to J. CARRINGTON,
17, St. Ronan's Crescent,
Woodford Green, Essex.

LEEDing Example ?

MOST Leagues, it would seem, have a team of such apparent invincibility, that it would be a general delight to see the Giants taken down a peg . . . providing that the peg-lowering is achieved within the bounds of Sport or even, in chronic cases, the more elastic bounds of Gamesmanship . . .

Now in the austere and elegant City of Leeds, the Victoria T.T. Club has with strenuous effort become a super powerhouse whose members have helped to make Leeds and Yorkshire, ay, and even England, a force to be respected. Its members include Brian Kennedy, Alan Thompson, Ken Park, C. Bedford and Kathleen Best.

However, 3 of the 4 regular first team players had naturally entered the English Open. Since the team had a league fixture on November 11th (when the English was in play) and it was impossible to raise a substitute team, the Victoria applied to the opposing team for a rearrangement of the date. The opponents, Team X, refused and ultimately claimed the points. The League's Committee supported the claim and rejected Victoria's subsequent appeals on, we understand, the view that insufficient effort had been made to raise a team.

When 2 or more players of a team are representing the City, league rules authorise the re-arrangement of a fixture. When 2 or more players who are, in a way, representing the City in the most important National Open in the world a different view is taken. It is additionally unfortunate that the captain of Team X happens to be an important officer of the League!

We are not in the position to question the good faith of the Committee's action, but we feel that any rule which penalises players of a recognised status who may enter the National Championships is one not in the best interests or spirit of the game, local or otherwise.●

In response to many requests

GLOSSY ACTION PHOTOS

By PETER MADGE

can now be supplied of most Leading English Players.

Prices (cash with order) 1/6d. Larger sizes 3/- and 5/-. Postage free on orders of 5/- or over.

Includes Bergmann, Leach, Venner, Simons, Craigie, Miller, Head, D. & R. Rowe, Piper, Merrett, Rhodes, Crayden, Casofsky, etc.

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one of the oldest names in TABLE TENNIS

Full size tables are

TOURNAMENT	1-in. (nominal)	top	£ 40
MATCH	$\frac{3}{4}$ -in.	"	£ 33
CLUB (improved)	$\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	"	£ 24
PRACTICE	$\frac{3}{8}$ -in.	"	£ 21

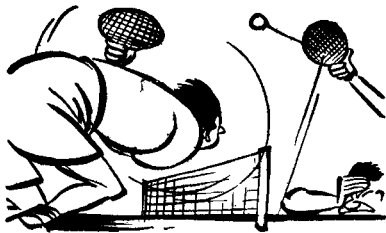
IVAN ANDREADIS will be playing at WEMBLEY in APRIL with his autograph bats made only by us at 8/3d. each. Another winning bat is the "VANA" at 8/6d. and the "ADELE WOOD" at 7/6 each.

These and ALL OTHER TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT are, always in stock and obtainable from the best retailers

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Telephone : Slough 20420



ALL that is left of Peter Madge's Junior Page this month is former Junior International John Hunt's contribution below, on a last experience before his demob. from the R.A.F.

By JOHN HUNT

HOPING to gain experience with Continentals last September, I made the half-hour journey to R.A.F. Vetersen, only to be promptly unsettled by the sight of the first table—a warped ¼-in. top on trestles. In December, I took my Continental leave in Copenhagen. Besides having a wonderful time, I got lots of T.T. and took part in the weekly coaching. The standard is about equivalent to our county level, but they are very keen, and results should come with experience.

I promised to return with a 2nd R.A.F. team the following month, but lack of funds prevented. My camp "sparring partner," former Middlesex junior Gerry Sellar, however, joined me in making the trip at our own expense. During 4 glorious days in Copenhagen, we played 3 matches, beating both Zealand and a local team 5-0 but losing 2-3 to Copenhagen K.B.K. whose team was Einar Lyttik (Denmark) and Henning Haupt (Danish Army).

The tables were slower than the English, but were true, and conditions generally better than we had met in Germany. The hospitality was superb.

Now I am at last "demobbed" I hope that some of you lucky fellows at home appreciate your good fortune and will spare an occasional thought for the National Service players abroad.●

CORNWALL COUNTY

ENTERPRISING Cornwall, disappointed but undaunted in not being in the County Championships have arranged and played several friendly matches during the season.

Falmouth, 23rd Jan. Cornwall 2—Devon 8. (Juniors): Cornwall 6—Devon 4 (A. Powning of Truro 3-0). **Taunton, 30th Jan.** Cornwall 3—Somerset 7 (Mrs. B. Hatter, R. Charlesworth and Charlesworth/G. Perriam scoring for Cornwall. D. House, Somerset, won 2 singles and doubles). **Plymouth, 6th Feb.** Devon 7—Cornwall 3; (Juniors): Devon 8—Cornwall 2 (R. Charlesworth bt. R. Abrahams 2-0; W. Pape bt. C. Lambell). Cornwall's M.D. pair of R. Charlesworth/G. Perriam are unbeaten this season.

CASSANDRA!

"... I've thrashed, whipped, beaten and totally overwhelmed Vicky, the famous cartoonist, at table tennis..."

Cassandra, in *The Daily Mirror*.

"I consider the whole of Page 117 as space utterly wasted. The cartoon is feeble and in bad taste (an outsider might think T.T. players would stoop to any dirty trick to win a game)... I have solved the crossword and would call it fair but not outstanding."

R. H. Primavesi, Banstead.

★ ★ ★

After reading Michael Maclaren's article in February's Junior Feature (page 115), Essex County player PETER PUDNEY writes:—

"I do not think that a junior player who has only been playing in competitive T.T. for 3 years should have written an article on Temperament or Mannerisms. An article of this kind should have been written by a more experienced player and one who has had a first class temperament for many years such as Aubrey Simons, Ron Crayden, Brian Brumwell or Roy Turner. In saying that players with bad tempers should give up the game, Michael is condemning many well-known tournament players. . . . Many players to whom I have spoken about this article agree with me."

IT'S TOUGH, IT'S TERRIFIC, IT'S TABLE TENNIS

UNDER this heading table tennis made Front Page News for the *News of the World* in January, in a 7-inch write-up of the Met. Open by a special feature writer Bryan Buckingham.

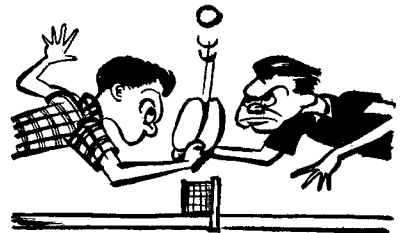
"Some of Britain's table tennis giants gave their audience an amazing demonstration of speed. . . . When 16 year-old Terry Densham took the floor with young Brian Barr, we thought we had seen everything in the speed and agility line. Then came that biff-bang battle between Venner and Rhodes—and it seemed we ought to be listening for supersonic bangs."

★ ★ ★

WANDSWORTH (P. Piper, Y. Seaman, E. France) bt. **ILFORD** (B. Bassett, D. Lock, J. Latty) 8-1, at Ilford.

Wandsworth's internationals showed the essential difference between very fine team players and the exceptional. Miss Latty stopped Wandsworth's 9-0 intent by beating Eve France —16, 12, 9, and also made Peggy Piper fight hard. Although Bessie Bassett displayed more skill and determination than did Canute, she could not stop the tide of Joy Seaman's range of beautifully controlled strokes. A night to remember.

J.S.F.



LINCS. COUNTY CLOSED

Skegness, 7th Feb., 1954

17-year-old Wendy Blades starred by winning 3 titles in an excellent entry.

M.S. G. SIMPSON bt. (sf) A. Fear 19, 15; bt. D. MERRYWEATHER 8, 18 (bt. G. Wood —11, 11, 15).

W.S. W. BLADES bt. (sf) E. Keen 12, 18; bt. Mrs. P. LAMMIN —15, 12, 13 (bt. M. Lister 19, 13).

M.D. B. FINNERAN/G. WOOD bt. B. Edlington/A. Fear 17, —17, 18.

W.D. W. BLADES/Mrs. SIMPSON bt. M. Lister/M. Smith 13, 18.

X.D. G. and Mrs. SIMPSON tt. W. V. Moran/O. Clark 7, 18.

J.S. Miss W. BLADES bt. D. Barnes 7, 15.

CZECH NATIONALS

Prague, 23/4th Jan., 1954

Organised in 3 stages: **A.** 12 groups of 5, all play all best of 3, 2 qualifiers. **B.** 24 qualifiers in best-of-5 K.O. **C.** 4 quarter-finalists play each, best-of-5.

M.S. 1. ANDREADIS bt. Tereba 12, —20, —10, 8, 12; bt. Slar 16, —14, 15, 16; bt. Stipek 13, 16, 19. 2. TEREBA bt. Stipek 3. SLAR bt. Tereba 3-2. 4. STIPEK bt. Slar 3-2.

W.S. 1. KREJCOVA. 2. Kotatkova. 3. Vhyanovska. 4. Hruskova.

W.D. Papezova/Hruskova bt. Cerna/Zelenkova 3-1.

SWEDISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

M.S. T. FLISBERG bt. C. R. Andersson 15, 17, 17.

W.S. E. THORSSON bt. I. Samberg 13, 18, 21.

M.D. T. FLISBERG/W. FREDRIKSSON bt. A. Andersson/L. Larsson —20, 11, 14, 16, 19.

W.D. I. HERMANSSON/M. LARSSON bt. G. Olsson/S. Tegner 19, 17, 14.

X.D. T. FLISBERG/S. TEGNER bt. S. Cederholm/I. Samberg 15, 10, —17, —16, 12.

V.S. T. FLISBERG bt. L. Larsson 11, 15.

J.B. H. Peterson bt. T. Borg 20, —24, 10.

J.G. E. THORSSON bt. B. Tegner 19, 9.

RUMANIA 4—FRANCE 2

Paris, Jan., 1954

Pesch bt. Hagenauer 2-1. Roothoof bt. Harastazi 2-0. Lansky bt. Reiter 2-0. Roseanu bt. Watel 2-0. Zeller bt. Rougnou 2-1.

AUSTRIA (T. Pritzi, L. Wertil) bt. **BELGIUM** (M. Detourmay, J. Wouters) 4-1. Mrs. G. Roland bt. L. Wertil 12, 11.

NETHERLANDS (C. van Megen, N. van Megen, T. de Zeeuw) bt. **FRANCE** (H. Beolet, J. Delay, M. Alber), 7-2. (Jan.).

RANKING LISTS

SWEDEN. Men: 1. T. Flisberg. 2. L. Johansson. 3. C. Osterholm. 4. W. Fredriksson. 5. C.R. Andersson. 6. B. Malmquist. **Women:** 1. E. Thorsson. 2. S. Tegner. 3. I. Andersson. 4. I. Samberg. 5. B. Tegner. 6. I. Hermansson.

We understand that PEGGY ALLEN and ERIC MARSH, the well-known T.T. personalities, are to be married in March.

The T. T. CUPS

ZONE FINAL RESULTS

(See page 105 for Draw)

WILMOTT CUP. CROYDON (R. Turner, K. Hurlock, D. Burridge) bt. Bournemouth 8-1. STAINES (M. Thornhill, B. Crouch, J. Lowe) bt. Folkestone 9-0. HUDDERSFIELD (R. Hinchliff, G. Wadsworth, S. Dyson) bt. Lincoln 7-2. MANCHESTER (R. Allcock, B. Casofsky, G. Pullar) bt. Potteries 8-1. SOUTH LONDON (H. Venner, J. Head, R. Crayden), holders, bt. Wandsworth 5-2. ILFORD (B. Brumwell, R. Markwell, P. Lawrence) bt. Bedford 8-1. BIRMINGHAM (R. Mackay, M. Kriss, R. Moseley) bt. Cambridge 9-0. READING (D. Barley, L. Wise, R. Forrest) bt. Gloucester 5-2.

J. M. ROSE BOWL. BIRMINGHAM (A. Haydon, M. Cumberbatch, P. Mortimer) bt. Bedford 8-1. SOUTH LONDON (J. Winn, J. Rook, P. Gall) bt. London Business Houses 7-2. PLYMOUTH (J. Willcocks,) bt. Oxford 9-0. MAIDSTONE (Robeson, Keeley, Clarkson) bt. Brighton 5-0. MANCHESTER (A. Wood, E. Grimstone, D. Wilkinson) bt. Blackpool 6-3. NORTHUMBERLAND (P. Heppell, — Ormond, — Turnbull) bt. Grimsby 7-2. ILFORD (B. Bassett, D. Lock, J. Latty) bt. Kings Lynn 5-4. WANDSWORTH (M. Piper, J. Seaman, D. Atherton) bt. Staines 6-3.

QUARTER FINALS

WILMOTT CUP: (Huddersfield 3 — MANCHESTER 6) v. (Croydon 2 — STAINES 7. (SOUTH LONDON 8—Ilford 1) v. (BIRMINGHAM 7—Reading 2).

J. M. ROSE BOWL: (Birmingham 4 — SOUTH LONDON 5) v. (Plymouth 3 — MAIDSTONE 6). (MANCHESTER 5 — Northumberland 4) v. (Ilford 1—WANDSWORTH 8).

BIRMINGHAM, the Cup holders, lost the J.M. Rose Bowl in the quarter-final to South London in an exciting match on the 7th February, at Bormingham, by 4-5.

Scores: A. HAYDON bt. J. Winn 17, 25; bt. J. Rook 12, 15. P. MORTIMER lost Winn —19, 17, —12; bt. P. Gall —17, 19, 21. J. MACKAY lost Rook —14, —15; lost Gall —16, —17. HAYDON/MORTIMER bt. Rook/Winn 18, 19. HAYDON/MACKAY lost Gall/Rook 15, —15, —17. MACKAY/MORTIMER lost Gall/Winn —17, 19, —16.

TABLE TENNIS ANNUAL

Mr. G. Harrower, the editor of the proposed Table Tennis Annual advises that publication has been abandoned for the time being. Meanwhile, all subscriptions have or are being refunded.

WHO'S WHO ON THE COVER

Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons, Adrian Haydon, Ferenc Sido, Angelica Roseanu, Gizi Farkas, Vilim Harangozo, Linde Wertl, Diane and Rosalind Rowe, Victor Barna, Michel Haguenuer, Hiroji Satoh, Sih Sui-Cho, Kathleen Best, Brian Kennedy, Harry Venner and The Umpire (and his table team) and The Twiddlers. Champions All.

FIXTURE BOOK

See previous issues for explanations.

Date(s)	Event and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
March 1-13	WEST MIDDLESEX OPEN West Baling Club, Mervyn Road, Ealing.	B.S. (Feb. 8) G.S. 4	Mr. W. J. S. Cox, 27, Sutherland Road, Ealing. W.13. (Mr. W. J. S. Cox).
5	ENGLAND v. WALES.	Mixed	At Bradford.
13	GRIMSBY OPEN. Pier Pavilion and Town Hall, Cleethorpes.	B.S. 11	Mr. J. Browne, 48, Roberts Street, Grimsby. (Mr. W. E. Parker).
20	WEST OF ENGLAND OPEN Civic Hall, Queen Street, Exeter.	B.S. (Mar. 1) G.S. 19	Mr. R. R. North, "Lynwood," Premier Place, St. Leonard's Road, Exeter. (Mr. A. W. Bridle).
20	"DAILY MIRROR" National Tournament. AREA FINALS.		Birmingham. See page 134.
25-27	NORTH OF ENGLAND OPEN Drill Hall, 606 H.A.A. Regt. R.A., Norman Road, Rusholme, Manchester, 14.	B.S. (Mar. 13) G.S. 10	Mr. L. W. Jones, 261, Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Manchester, 19. (Mr. H. J. Sutcliffe).
26-7	*IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS.		
	*HUNGARIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.		
	*U.S.A. OPEN.		
April	*GUERNSEY CLOSED.		Guernsey.
	*CZECHOSLOVAK CHAMPIONSHIPS.		
3-4	*NETHERLANDS OPEN.		
6-14	21st WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIPS. See PAGES 110-111.		WEMBLEY.
17-19	NORTH-EAST ENGLAND OPEN (7th Apr.) Burniston Rd. Barracks, Scarborough.	B.S. (7th Apr.) Y.S. 10 V.S.	Mr. E. Moorhouse, 26, Sherwood St., Scarborough. (Mr. W. Wilson).
17-18	*ALL-GERMAN OPEN.		
26—	THAMESIDE OPEN.	B.S.	Mr. L. R. Norminton, 12, Derham Gardens, Upminster, Essex. (Mr. G. James).
May 1	Hydro Hall, Y.M.C.A., Plaistow, E.13.	G.S. 6-8	
13	"DAILY MIRROR" National Tournament. FINALS.		Royal Albert Hall.
July	*SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD OPEN. Cape Town, South Africa.		

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