

TABLE TENNIS



No. 901

PEGGY ALLEN

Queen of Champions
Exclusive Interview with
Angelica Roseanu



PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Aubrey Simons



Home Counties
Tournament

Geoff. Harrower



Five Men and a Girl

by Dennis Miller



The Wirral Experiment

Tom Blunn



BACK IN TOWN

with Peggy Allen



PICTURES ★ CARTOONS
REPORTS ★ NEWS ★ VIEWS
of The Table Tennis World

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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No. 2

OPINION

reflecting the personal views
and policy of The Editor.

Signals Ahead

CAUTION to players intending to enter the World Championships we say two things :—(i) read our brief notes on page 31 mentioning some of the problems involved, and (ii) think twice before deciding to forgo your entry in the English Open.

STOP to remember that this is the No. 1 Open of the World . . . the Mecca for the champions of all nations, yet with its 12 events catering for the entire family. It is our Great Annual Get-Together, and whether it takes place at Wembley, Bristol, Manchester or elsewhere, it is the one and only English Open. Manchester and the all-Northern administration are a guarantee that it will not falter in its illustrious tradition.

GO full speed ahead to get your entry in by Tuesday, 13th October, AND DON'T FORGET that the completed Entry Form must be sent DIRECT to Mr. N. Cook, 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge, Cheshire, . . . and NOWHERE ELSE.

Playing conditions at Belle Vue should suit British players and make for faster, more spectacular play. The audience will be comfortable and cosy, with good viewing, and a generous programme for less money. **STARS?** This is going to be a Northern **HIGH** light.

☐ Details on pages 33 and 40.

FRIDAY, THE 13th NOVEMBER

Somewhere among us are the new champions. Somewhere (we hope in England) now lives the super-man the occasion demands.

It is 30 years since a native Englishman won the English title. That's much too long. We do not always have to be good losers : we can become good winners too. We know England has the technical ability to win back the Oldroyd Cup. It is not technique, courage or sportsmanship we want—it is a change of mind in our approach.

It is a curious circumstance that (contrary perhaps to the ladies) men are more successful on foreign soil. Englishmen have won their greatest honours in other lands ; visiting men usually thrive in our envied conditions. That means they are a few points better than their normal.

Is this important ? We think so. If the challengers can reach a few points higher than their normal standard over here, our players must find a way of doing the same thing. Instead of acting the apologetic host we need the inspired fire of a man defending his own.

Great deeds are done by ordinary men who can rise above their normal selves to meet and match the challenge of the time. Our players need to train to a par-plus like athletes for a special event. Let this English be our Everest . . . an occasion for rising beyond our normal to conquer the "unconquerable."

There is a big place in English table tennis for the man who can match this hour. It will be a Great Occasion to witness.

THE EDITOR.

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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, Birm'ingham.

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.**

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★ SWEATLETS AS WORN ON THE WRISTS OF ALL ★

WIMBLEDON STARS ARE NOT BANDAGES BUT ELASTIC WRISTBANDS

THE STORY OF MY SHIRT

BY
VICTOR BARNA

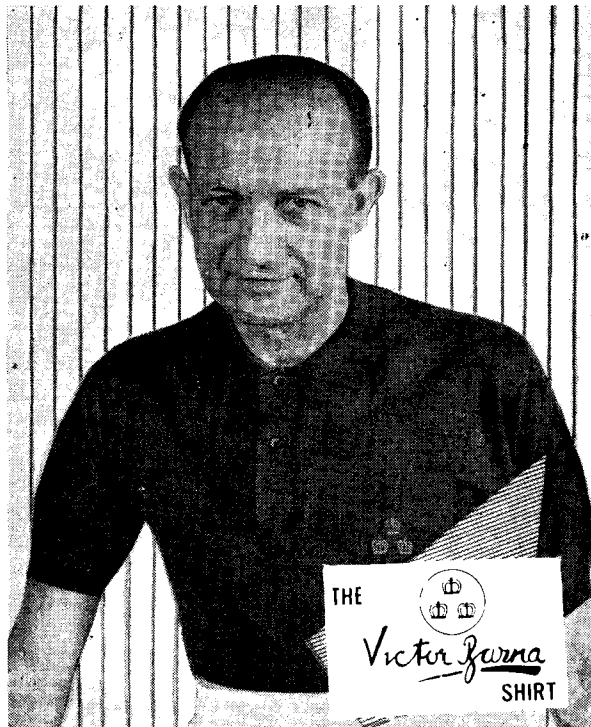
WHILE watching the tennis at Wimbledon this year I could not help noticing that nearly everyone was playing in a "FRED PERRY SHIRT." Needless to say, I congratulated my old friend and former table tennis opponent, Fred Perry, on this achievement.

WHEN talking about the shirt it suddenly flashed through our minds that this shirt in the right colours would be ideally suitable for table tennis.

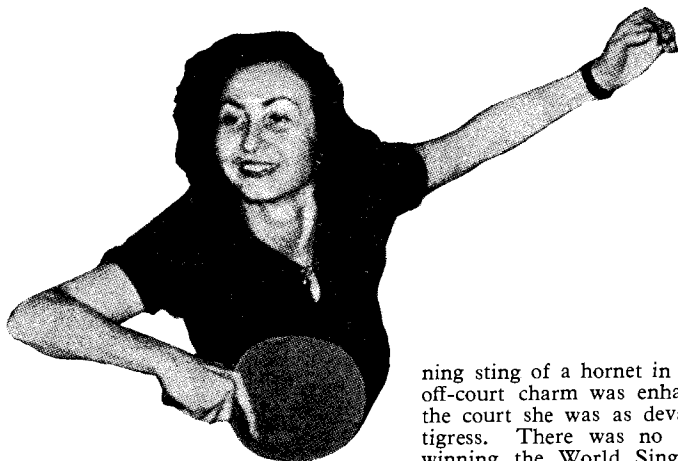
FRED and I started on this idea immediately, and I can now announce to all table tennis players that the "VICTOR BARNA SHIRT" is being put on the market in colours of Maroon and Royal Blue in a button-up style with a collar and Crew Neck style, both with a "THREE CROWN" emblem. "THE VICTOR BARNA SHIRT" is now in the shops and stores.

If you have difficulty in obtaining the shirt, please write to me :—

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★ TO STOP PERSPIRATION OFF YOUR FACE WHEN PLAYING ★



QUEEN OF CHAMPIONS

Her Serene Highness

Angelica Roseanu

Exclusive to "Table Tennis"



No. 906

ANGELICA ROSEANU . . . how beautifully the name fits its talented owner; either it has the authentic air of regal quality or we are conditioned to recognising the name as that of The Queen of Table Tennis. She is unique and will rank among the "Greats" of the table tennis world.

The young Angelica Adelstein was an eager devotee of all sports, Tennis, Cycling and Swimming being first favourites. Then, when she was 14 she was introduced to Table Tennis, and immediately, she says, "I preferred table tennis or perhaps, if you like, table tennis preferred me."

So eagerly did she take up her new sport that she soon won distinction. When she was only 16 she was of world-class and eclipsed only by the very tops. Then came War and as the long shadows cleared slowly away, Angelica Roseanu emerged as one of the great defensive players of the post-war era. Steadily she soared. Then came that gruelling, historic defensive duel at the World Championships at Wembley in 1947 against a dour Giselle Farkas when, although losing by a shade, her performance and sportsmanship won the hearts of the whole crowd. It was a remarkable performance but as she left the arena smiling a graceful acknowledgment to the cheers she determined that she would acquire a "killing" drive. Not merely a hard hit, but a hit of such force, and angle and timing that not even the talents of Farkas could withstand. For this she planned and practised with the patience and persistence that every great champion has given for success.

At Budapest in 1949-50 the new Roseanu emerged: swift as a dragonfly, graceful as a ballerina, impregnable in defence and with the light-

ning sting of a hornet in attack. Her off-court charm was enhanced but on the court she was as devastating as a tigress. There was no stopping her winning the World Singles title and sweeping the Rumanian team to victory in the Corbillon Cup. The next year, at Vienna, she was even better, repeating the performance and adding the Mixed Doubles title. And again the World Singles at Bombay in 1951-52 and yet again supremely triumphant in Bucharest in 1952-3 and with such superb artistry against the best in the world that we are moved in wonder how a woman who could have retired in honour before the War can "come-back" to such magnificent achievements.

What do we know of this Angelica Roseanu? Current World Singles Champion for the 4th consecutive year. Winner of 11 world titles. Sports editor of the newspaper *Romania Libera*. Member of the Table Tennis Commission, the Olympics Committee, the staff of a training college, and numerous offices in public affairs for which she has been awarded several decorations. She holds the

highest sports distinction in Rumania—the coveted title of Merited Master of Sport. In table tennis she can hold her own against the best men players in Rumania. Finally, she is both a housewife and a mother.

Calling at Mrs. Roseanu's flat in Bucharest we found daughter Michaela helping mother to open fan letters which arrive steadily from all over the country in huge batches. The champion is petite, dark-haired, and has that gracious charm which is ageless, and wore an elegant tailored suit. In glass-fronted cabinets all round the room are marshalled the countless cups, shields and trophies that mark her sporting prowess, but the Corbillon Cup (won again by the Rumanian women's team in 1952-3) has a position of special honour.

Little Michaela, now about 9 or 10 years old, already seems to be following in mother's footsteps and is a good swimmer and cyclist. At present, we gather, her favourite pastime (when mother is not about) is climbing trees.

We tried to find the reason and method responsible for Angelica's supremacy. She thought a moment.



No. 907

Angelica Roseanu and Michaela at home.

QUEEN OF CHAMPIONS *continued*

"It is just as difficult to give an explanation," she said, "as it would be for an artist or a poet to explain their creations. I do know that talent is not enough and even natural physical aptitude won't develop without hard, regular training work in favourable conditions. We are fortunate in Rumania because sport is greatly encouraged and we have ideal conditions and facilities at sports grounds, halls, and training camps in the mountains and by the seaside. As well as having the latest equipment, these places have excellent coaches, and the facilities even extend to the providing of special diets.

These arrangements, of course, help tremendously with one's training. My own training technique for championship play claims about three hours a day, apart from the exercises of physical training and complementary sports. I wouldn't say that I have a consistent style of play, but in my training programmes in the last two years I have paid special attention to playing technique, particularly in the precision of offensive strokes and defence. I think these demand perfect physical condition for high class performance.

Although I have often played with Sari Szasz, her style is quite different from my own and in view of the last World Championships, I am planning my future training mainly with Ella Zeller. We have agreed on a "mutual" style of play and, in this collaboration we have, so far, not

lost a single doubles match. I plan my training with an eye to forthcoming national and international competitions. In the Autumn I shall be going to camp to start my training programme for the 1953-54 World Championships which will be held in London in April.

Both as a sports writer and as a player, I think that Sport—especially the great international meetings we enjoy—is one of the finest mediums for building friendship, peace and goodwill between nations. In friendly rivalries of this kind we can get to understand and know each other as in no other way. Something of this, I think, should be the real mission of Sport. I know this spirit makes everything very much worthwhile to me.

Nerves did you say? Oh yes. Nearly always I am nervous at the start of a match but I don't let it worry me. I just play myself in and by concentrating on the game find that I become quite calm as the match proceeds.

My impression of national representative players? At Bucharest it was noticeable what an advantage the physically fittest players had over others, as the championships proceeded. Ferenc Sido, for instance, who won 3 world titles, was in tiptop condition. One remembers the Czechs for their great fighting spirit, while the English and Austrians play a spectacular style that is more appreciated by the public.●

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES CUP COMPETITION

"A Cup of Wine"

SOME welcome news comes in the announcement of a grand new Cup Competition for teams representing any University in Great Britain. This has been made possible by the generosity of Mr. H. C. Wine of Dublin (through the Dublin University T.T.C.).

It is proposed to run the Competition on Wilmott Cup lines, with (on account of the travel problem) an England-Irish final. The acting secretary for the Competition is:—

Mr. J. R. H. James, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Mr. James is anxious to hear immediately from all those interested in taking part or who have practical suggestions to make, so that an early start can be made.

It is appropriate that Mr. John James (who is this year's Captain of Cambridge University T.T.C.) is himself a former member of Dublin U. T.T.C.

This British University championship competition is not intended to supersede any existing or proposed Inter-Varsity matches. It aims at providing extra stimulus and competitive experience, improving the standard of university table tennis, and emphasizing the strong case for the award of University Colours.

We sincerely hope that this competition will be well-supported and that every University in Great Britain will be eager "to take part" in that spirit of sportsmanship characteristic of the game. Meanwhile, *Table Tennis* reminds university (and school readers) that it is always most interested to hear news of their activities.

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A GOOD CLASS Second-hand Table is desperately needed by a School that is eager to develop Table Tennis as one of its sports. It has lots of enthusiasm but not a great deal of cash to afford a first-class new table. Preferably in the Northants area. The table is needed before December and the schoolboys are raising their own fund to pay for it. Write to The Editor in the first place, please.

WANTED

One broken-down Table Tennis player in Natal requires strong healthy broad-shouldered Capetownian to carry him through the Men's Doubles in the South African Championships.

Advertisement in the July issue of the South African T.T. News.

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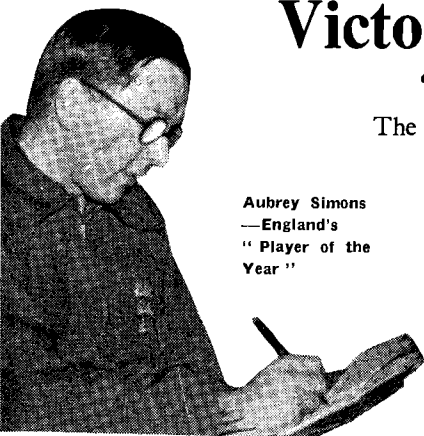
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Victor Barna Award for Simons

"Aubrey Simons name sets high standard"

The following record has been prepared for and approved by the Official Sub-Committee controlling the Award.



Aubrey Simons
—England's
"Player of the
Year"

THE decision of the committee to make Aubrey Simons the recipient of the Victor Barna Award for 1952/53 and so the first to hold this new honour in English Table Tennis was a unanimous one.

This trophy, instituted at the desire of the greatest player of all time, whose name it bears, is intended to mark each season the most notable performance of the year by an English Table Tennis player.

There is no limit or qualification. That is to say, the winning feat might equally be a consistent record through the season or a single great achievement. In judging the award, the committee takes into consideration, of course, the background of each player and what may be expected of him. Thus winning a world title does not automatically carry with it the award, the occasion and the "how" of each feat is taken into consideration, and a junior has as much right to consideration as a senior.

It would be quite invidious to compare the respective contributions of our three great players—Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach and Aubrey Simons—toward the winning of the Swaythling Cup. Suffice it to say that it would have been quite impossible for the England team to have seen success crown its long quest had not all equally played their part. Richard, losing only to Sido in his last match, achieved the wonderful score of eight consecutive wins against the top men of Hungary and Czechoslovakia, reckoning the Bombay final and the two matches in Bucharest together. Johnny, a different man from his shadow in Bombay, played throughout without the best of fortune, but as a superb fighter. Winning or

losing he stretched his opponents to the utmost, gave the champion Sido his closest contest of the entire year and marked the final point that won the Cup.

But we hope for, and even expect, such displays from Leach and Bergmann. Only occasionally in the past, as when he inflicted on Vana the latter's first post-war Swaythling Cup defeat, or by the ease with which he may sometimes clear the board in the England-France matches, has Aubrey Simons given proof of the quality his team mates have always known he possessed. Not without reason this year did they dub him their "secret weapon." And this weapon certainly came off. By winning his first match in each contest—against Czechoslovakia and against Hungary—he laid the indispensable foundation of victory, gave his team mates just the spur they required to bring out their best and left to face the strain of the decisive ninth against Czechoslovakia he did not falter.

The measure of his performance is to be found in the fact that he, an unranked player, beat on three consecutive days four players in the world's first ten (V. Harangozo, Vana, Tereba and Koczian). The champion, coming off the table after a desperate contest against him and shaking his head, observed "It is extraordinary

how badly one plays against Simons," in these words deliberately paying the highest tribute he could to the cramping power of Aubrey's severe chop down the centre of the table, and the threat of his counter-hit, against even a player in such exceptional form.

We have seen that accurate chop before, but so punishing on this occasion was Simon's counter-hit against every diagonal forehand drive of the opposition, that both Harangozo and Vana—who depended on this tactic in playing him—gave up in despair. And the crowd, sensing the tremendous effort that such accuracy was costing him, speedily made Aubrey first favourite. We will not easily forget the cry "See-mone—See-mone!" resounding not only in the hall, in play, but becoming almost a catchword in the street outside.

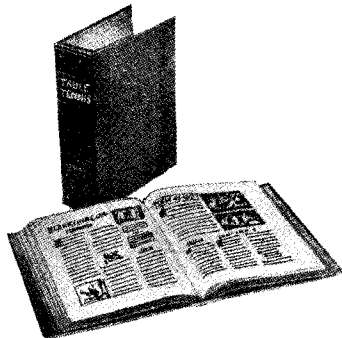
There is no reason to suppose that the achievements of the first recipient of the Victor Barna Award have reached their climax. May this trophy spur him to new successes, and bring him the good luck that is all his game needs. Aubrey Simons' name—dated 1952-3 on the trophy as its first winner—sets a standard. If it maintains this standard it will certainly fulfil the hopes of service to English Table Tennis of the illustrious player who was its initiator. ●

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FIVE MEN, A GIRL AND FESTIVAL T.T.



INTRODUCING

ON Saturday, August 1st, Kathleen Best, Alan Thompson, Ken Craigie, Ivor Jones, Derek Burridge and Dennis Miller left London for Copenhagen on the first stage of the journey to Bucharest to participate in the IVth World Youth Festival.

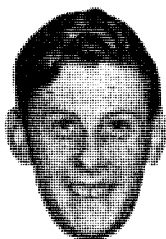
Four days, 27-lbs. of garlic sausage¹, 19 quarts of mineral water and 4 hours sleep later, the players arrived at, what in earlier days, was, King Carol's private station, to be greeted by a large and obviously delighted crowd. At least they were delighted until they realised that the six indescribable, dervish-like apparitions emerging from the train were not the new star attractions for the local 3-ring Circus. Then amazement was evoked by these humans who had lived for 4 days in the conveyance before them. Congratulatory cheers and handclaps of commiseration and friendship were our remembered welcome to Bucharest.

After 7 days of semi-tropical heat, sterling performances at the meal table, and enjoying some of the many splendid sporting and theatrical programmes presented by cultural groups from different countries, the Table Tennis Tournament opened at the beautiful Floreascu Hall (recently the scene of the 20th World Championships).

Entries included leading players of Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and representatives from 15 other countries. After a respectful interval during which—it was said—Sido (n-p-c for the Hungarians), rearranged the draw to better suit his team, the play started—at the dreadful time of 8 a.m.!

In the first round of the Men's Singles, the English players were swiftly on their best form; three of them losing! Ivor Jones took the first game at 8 against the Hungarian Junior Champion Petrefii, but quickly lost the next three. Gyetvai wasted little time with Thompson, while Craigie had a violent 5 or 6 minutes with the immaculate Andreadis. Burridge succumbed in Round Two when Vana cruised home 3-0. A corpulent Stipek dealt severely with Miller (3-0). Close observers, however, feel that Stipek was seen to wipe his brow after the second game.

Kathleen Best (suffering from a tummy upset) was unable to counter the hard-hitting of the youthful Hungarian Fantusz in the Women's Singles. In the Mixed Doubles



No. 902

DENNIS MILLER

(Middlesex and England International)
England Junior Champion, 1945-46

To know Dennis Miller is like being on a seesaw . . . He can charm you with entertaining raconteurage and he can uplift your hopes by really brilliant play (particularly in doubles) and then (just as though he hopped off his end) he'll let you down with a thump! It's that impish humour, perhaps. He will tease officialdom unmercifully but woe betide if they take him seriously—then the practical joke becomes a reality!! Therefore, when Dennis sketched out this report for us we looked for the CATCH. Sure enough, we found it! He had omitted all mention of his own fine performances, so we carefully inserted his name in appropriate places, altering his account only as necessary to do this.

Kathleen combined with Ken Craigie in a shaky progress to Round Three, where they were speedily despatched by the delightful Eve Koczian and the powerfully-attacking Foldi of Hungary.

The First Round victory of Burridge and Jones over the Dutch pair Cor du Buy and van Scheffer in the Men's Doubles was followed by swift defeat at the hands of Vana and Tokar, 16, 11, 9. Craigie and Miller turned the tables in the same event by beating Vana/Tokar (16 in the final game), and reached the final by another good win at the expense of Gyetvai and Pesch.

Andreadis won a fast, exciting M.S. final, beating Stipek 19, —22, —18, 7, 18. The incomparable Rozeanu had little trouble in beating Fantusz 3-0 to win the W.S. and (with Andreadis) the X.D. titles. Roseanu won her third title with the W.D. (partnered by Zeller) but they were fully extended by the lively Hungarians Almasy and Koczian, and only just edged home in the 5th game.

The M.D. was the only final in which England were represented, Craigie and Dennis Miller opposing Andreadis and Stipek. A slight tactical diversion preceded play; Andreadis was of the opinion that a ball must be round regardless of softness and the opposition took the contrary view that so long as the ball was hard roundness was of secondary consideration! . . . Agreement being reached, the Czech pair took few minutes to dispose of Craigie/Miller, who then retired from the scene with

- (i) a Silver Medal (pinned on chest by Mighty Sido);
- (ii) a bunch (not a bouquet) of flowers; and
- (iii) a Certificate of Merit.

On a points system of reckoning, England took third place among the competing countries.

At the conclusion of a most enjoyable—if not over successful—fortnight, the English party left by plane for London, leaving Ivor Jones and Dennis Miller to spend a further week enjoying the delights of Festival Bucharest.

It is believed that Jones and Miller are still on that train Somewhere in Europe. A small prize is offered to the first person spotting them in England.²

¹ Garlic sausage can be considered toxic to any English digestive system with one exception.

² Editor's Note: The prize has since been claimed by a member of our staff.

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Di and Ros Rowe

**SPARKLE
DOWN UNDER**



Continued from page 16 (September issue)

At Rotorua the Twins went round the thermal wonderland at Whakarewa and Fairy Springs with guide Kiddo, and despite the now familiar rain, enjoyed an enchanting few days completed with a special Maori entertainment.

The proprietor of the hotel at Whangarei was a genial and gallant host; he was Lofty Blomfield, the wrestler. It was noticed here that some people were travelling anything from 40 to 60 miles to see the show, undaunted by any hazards or weather. In fact, everywhere, the enthusiasm was unbelievable. Everywhere, audience records were completely shattered.

In the International matches, 18-year-old Joyce Williamson, of Christchurch, was outstanding. She took a game from Ros in the 2nd match and one from Di in the 4th match; playing magnificently in the 3rd match she beat Di Rowe 21, 19 and became the first New Zealander to beat a touring World star. In the doubles of this match Joyce was partnered by Margaret Hoar and they lost to the Twins 22-20, 6-21 and 19-21 after leading in the deciding game at 14-7, at 17-11 and at 19-15.

Readers will remember that in 1951-52, Joyce Williamson won both senior and junior N.Z. titles; the junior Australian title and losing in the final of the seniors to no less than Dora Beregi, 1-2. When Diane opined that Joyce was of world class, she echoed views already expressed by both Dora Beregi and Ken Stanley.

The Final International Match at Wellington was honoured by the first table tennis attendance of the Patron of the N.Z.T.T.A., His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Norrie, accompanied by their son John and the Military Secretary. The distinguished company also included the Acting Prime Minister and Mrs. K. J. Holyoake; Sir Charles and Lady Norwood; and Mr. C. O'Driscoll, President of the N.Z.T.T.A.

Ken Wilkinson sums up the tour: "We are indebted to the girls for attracting all these distinguished visitors. The tour is proving a huge success and has stimulated interest in the sport like we have never had before. The girls have proved wonderful ambassadors, their co-operation has been simply wonderful and their sportsmanship and personality outstanding... the tour was undoubtedly

the greatest we have had... simply because the girls are twins, and being so charming, sporting, and with a vivid personality captured the imagination. The radio, press, newspapers, periodical and the man-in-the-street were full of them."

At 10.45 a.m., July 22nd, the TEAL Flying Boat took off from Wellington with Di and Ros *en route* for Australia, laden with gifts, happy memories, and new jewels in their crown of reputation.

Australia's T.T. Sec., Ron Jones, writes, after their visit:

"Reluctantly I waved farewell as they boarded their aircraft at Melbourne yesterday (30th July) for their week in Adelaide.

"The girls themselves made friends wherever they went, whether those concerned were V.I.P's, T.T. officials or players, or the press. Their behaviour, both on and off the table was beyond reproach at all times. Their parents—likewise England—should be very proud of them. The E.T.T.A. could not be considered arrogant in saying that these two young girls were the best ambassadors ever to leave

their country. ... I toured the Victoria country with the girls and they were thrilled in visiting some of the largest sheep stations in Australia where we were all entertained... On the return, both Ros and Di had turns at driving my car..."

The 2 International Matches against Australia surprised everyone by their success, "Hundreds of people," reported the *Adelaide Advertiser*, "were unable to obtain admission."

And, finally, as a penultimate post-script, comes an airmail postcard from Adelaide:

"... We are both very tired but very happy that the tour has been a success... weather is excellent here now. On Thursday (Aug. 6th) we leave for home in the *Strathaird*, with one engagement at Colombo... —due in England on September 7th..."

Well done, Di and Ros and welcome home.

TABLE TENNIS COACHING

by

ERIC FILBY

(English Swaythling Cup Player)

Exhibitions arranged by leading players

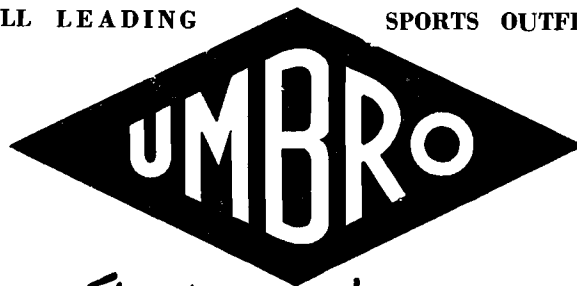
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worn in the

Table Tennis World Championships

at BOMBAY and BUCHAREST by the

SWAYTHLING & CORBILLON CUP TEAM

★ THE HOME COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS ★

Polytechnic, London
August 31 — September 5th, 1953

By
GEOFF HARROWER

IF the Home Counties Championships, run at the Polytechnic Extension from the 31st August until the 5th September, proved anything, it was that the leading players were prepared to risk their reputations, although out of practice, to aid the forthcoming World Championships, and that several young players took an early opportunity to "show their paces" to the Selectors.

It was disappointing, however, to miss so many of the regular tournament competitors who are not quite at the top. Internationals by the dozen, but the next class would not pay the extra bit of entry fee. However, a useful profit will be made, thanks largely to the generosity of the Polytechnic authorities, and the leading players.

In the MEN'S SINGLES, only one seeded player reached the semi-final. Johnny Leach was well beaten by 19-year-old Bobby Stevens, who attacked continuously and well deserved his win, whilst Aubrey Simons had no answer to Len Adams' steady attack, coupled with a sudden quick winner now and then. Neither Leach or Simons were in anything like top form, and particular credit must be given them for turning out when not ready for competitive play.

Harry Venner lost a quick hitting match with Roy Turner, always a difficult opponent in the fast Poly. conditions. The fourth seed, and eventual winner, Brian Kennedy, was in dire distress against Jackie Head, but greater consistency when well down in the third game pulled him through.

Another Yorkshireman, Ray Hinchliff, played very well to get to the semi-finals, accounting for Stevens and Eric Marsh, but his semi-final with Ron Crayden (narrow victor over Turner) was not inspired. Crayden could not get used to the pace of Hinchliff's shots, whilst the latter was rather nervous on his first appearance before a London finals crowd.

Brian Kennedy beat Len Adams in the other semi-final, and then put on a great hitting and counter-hitting display in the final. Crayden is a brainy player and tried all he knew, but Brian had the answer to everything.

Main Results: B. Barr bt. P. Brook —11, 21, 11. F. Goodwyn (Surrey) bt. B. Crouch* 16, —19, 19. P. Curtis (Essex) bt. M. Thornhill* 13, 17. K. B. Hudson (Gold Coast) bt. D. C. Burridge 18, —14, 14. L. Thompson bt. A. Sherwood 19, —11, 16. E. Marsh bt. L. Thompson 13, 16. R. J. Stevens (Essex) bt. J. Leach* 17, —20, 15. R. Hinchliff bt. E. Marsh 19, 17; bt. R. Stevens 16, —11, 12. R. Turner bt. H. Venner* 17, 18. R. Crayden* bt. R. Turner 17, —19, 19. B. Kennedy* bt. J. Head* 23, —8, 18. L. G. Adams bt. A. Simons* 11, 16. (* International)

WOMEN'S SINGLES. There were some noteworthy performances in this event. Kathleen Best was a good winner, defeating two of her principal challengers for a place in the England team, in Yvonne Baker and Jean Winn. Kathleen kept both these girls, normally attackers, on the defensive for long stretches at a time.

Two young stars considerably enhanced their reputations. Pretty Betty Isaacs has fully justified the claims made on her behalf by London Business House officials, and had good wins over Marjorie Cumberbatch and Barbara Milbank before putting up the best fight of all against Kathleen Best. Kathleen was held until fifteen-all in the final game. Barbara Milbank disposed of Joy Seaman and Betty Gray and if she can maintain this form she must be another in the running for a "cap" in the forthcoming six-a-side women's international against Wales.

Mention must be made of the dynamic hitting of Shirley Jones who hit straight through Helen Elliot, and of Joyce Fielder, still only fifteen, who gave Shirley a really hard fight.

Main Results: J. Winn bt. J. Hodson —17, 16, 15. C. Rose (Croydon) bt. E. Carrington —15, 19, 15. B. Milbank bt. Y. J. Seaman —19, 7, 17. M. Cherry (Middlesex) Pamela Gall 11, 21. S. Jones* (Wales) bt. J. Fielder 23, 15. J. Winn bt. M. Jones* —9, 15, 19. C. K. Best* bt. M. Cherry 17, —20, 9. B. Isaacs (Surrey) bt. M. Cumberbatch 18, 20. B. Milbank bt. B. Gray* (Wales) 17, —14, 12. S. Jones* bt. H. Elliot* (Scotland) 6, 17. J. Winn bt. M. Piper 19, 12. K. Best* bt. Y. Baker 17, 18. B. Isaacs bt. B. Milbank 8, —14, 13. (* International)

T-TENNIS FOR T.V.

That little white blob streaking across the TV screen next week will not be caused by electrical interference nor by optical illusion. No elusive electron or capricious cornea this, but a long-suffering table tennis ball, trying vainly to escape the flashing strokes of Bergmann, Leach, the Rowe Twins and many other fine players . . . If last year's screening is any guide, viewers will share the tense, breathless hush which prevails during fast rallies, punctuated only by the rattle of the ball pounding back and forth. Ping-pong? You'll change your mind when you watch these champions.

TV. NEWS (Weekly). 3rd Apr., 1953

There were few surprises in any doubles events, but the scratch partnership of Hinchliff/Stevens did well to beat Head/Venner 19, —4, 15, while Adams/Crayden beat D. Miller/M. Thornhill —17, 13, 16. In the Mixed, Venner/Milbank beat Thornhill B. Gray and Kennedy/Best before losing in the semi-final to R. Crayden/J. Winn (who had previously accounted for J. Leach/E. Carrington). Thus Jean Winn figured in three unsuccessful finals.

Thus ended the Home Counties Open—run out of season perhaps, but nevertheless a useful effort to aid the World Championships, and living up to its promise of giving first-class conditions. A minimum of nine feet side room between every table, and five lights instead of three made a world of difference to the competitors, many of whom thought that the conditions were the "best ever."

FINALS

M.S. B. KENNEDY bt. (1) L. Adams 14, 19; bt. (2) R. CRAYDEN 9, 10 (bt. R. Hinchliff 13, —19, 18).

W.S. K. BEST bt. (1) B. Isaacs 15, —18, 15; bt. (2) J. WINN 18, 15 (bt. S. Jones 18, 19).

M.D. B. KENNEDY/A. SIMONS bt. (1) L. Adams/R. Crayden 17, 15; bt. (2) V. BARNA/J. LEACH 18, —18, 10 (bt. R. Hinchliff/R. Stevens 15, 12).

W.D. K. BEST/H. ELLIOT bt. (1) B. Gray/S. Jones 16, 12; bt. (2) Y. SEAMAN/J. WINN 16, 15 (bt. Y. Baker/M. Piper 13, 17).

X.D. A. SIMONS/H. ELLIOT bt. (1) J. Head/Y. Seaman 19, 12; bt. (2) R. CRAYDEN/J. WINN 16, 20 (bt. H. Venner/B. Milbank —9, 11, 19).

B.S. R. DORKING bt. (1) E. Hodson 10, 12; bt. (2) M. MACLAREN 19, —16, 20 (bt. B. Barr 17, 17).

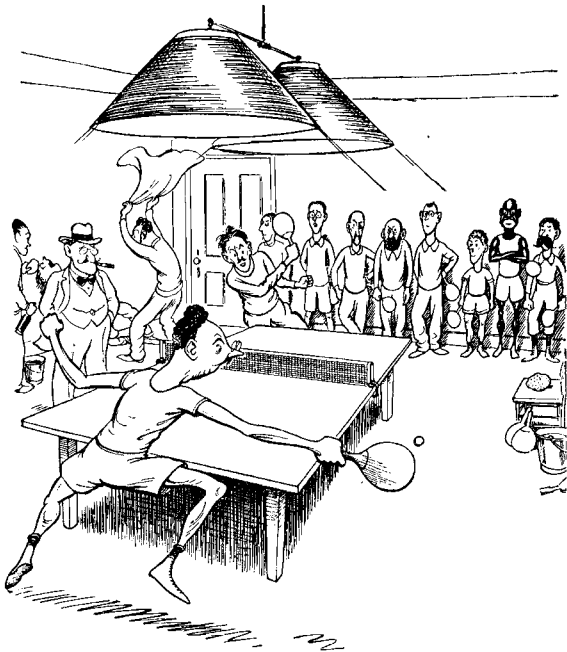
G.S. J. FIELDER bt. J. Hodson 12, —12, 19.

SUFFOLK county player Reg. Purnell has now moved to Reading . . . Greater blow to the S.T.T.A. is the emigration of Peter Ellis to the U.S.A. Peter was Chairman of the County Association and in the last 3 years was largely responsible for building the present lively organisation from the tottering wreck that remained of a few men's ideals . . . But the "Greens" will not be put down, and for the first time, boldly entered a team in the Junior Div. of the County Championships (with a silent prayer that junior girls might be found in time). Discovery rewarded energetic enterprise: Margaret Taylor (16½) and Brenda Nugent (14½) in the Ipswich area . . . The enlarged East Anglian League now has 2 Divs., No. 1 for the "giants": Lowestoft (Champions), Norwich, King's Lynn and Yarmouth. No. 2 for Dereham, Wymondham, Cromer, the new league, Harleston, and the reserve teams of Div. 1 leagues.

A. E. Durrant

Remarkable Prophecy of PUNCH

May 24th, 1922



THE PING-PONG REVIVAL.

THE CHAMPION OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE GETS INTO CONDITION FOR DEFENDING HIS TITLE BY ENGAGING A FEW SPARRING PARTNERS.

(Left) No. 911. Reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of PUNCH.

PUNCH is renowned for some of its remarkable prophecies, and this brilliant cartoon by H. H. Bateman, the world-famous cartoonist is a typical instance. It was published on May 24th, 1922, when the Ping Pong Association had hardly been formed—4 years before the founding of the International Federation and before there was any normal conception of continental or world championships.

THE PING PONG REVIVAL

“The champion of the Western Hemisphere gets into condition for defending his title by engaging a few sparring partners.”

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

PLAYERS from all parts of the world—as well as of Great Britain—regularly tell us of their intention to play in the World Championships at Wembley next April. It would be well for them to face the realities of the position.

World Championships are not open tournaments in the ordinary sense. Open tournaments are open to all players affiliated to any recognised national association; world championships are open to national associations (and players nominated by them). If there are any places left over after the allocation to national associations, the host association has the privilege of accepting individual entries (and probably arranging a pre- or qualifying competition) for the vacant places.

There are only 5 Individual Events in World series: M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D. (no junior events). Each match is the best of 5 games. The Draw for these individual events for the Olympic-sized Championships for Wembley has been increased by 50%; and now fixes the Draw at 192 places for the M.S., and 96 for the other 4 events.

Each national association has the right of claiming its specific quota of places in the draw. This is usually 4, 3 or 2 according to whether the country is ranked in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd category of ranking. (The proposed ranking for 1953-54 is given on page 35).

If every national association took up its full quota of places, this would mean that England could be assured only of about 4 places. In such case, her places would be filled by nomination only. (Allocate the 192 or 96 places between the 40 or 50 national associations expected and few places will be available).

Nevertheless, the organisers are hoping that a reasonable number of places may be available and that pre-qualifying competitors will be possible for entry into the competition proper. It is obvious that in any case these are liable to be somewhat limited, and players (who are not nominated by their national association) should recognise that they have no guarantee of securing a place in the Draw. ●

GOING... GOING... GOING...

Day by day orders for tickets for World Championship seats are pouring in . . . As we write one order has just come from Sweden for 30-odd Season Tickets . . . All the World is coming to Wembley in April. First priorities ended on September 30th. UNTIL THE END OF OCTOBER, all affiliated leagues have their chance to order tickets.

In NOVEMBER it will be the chance of the clubs. The last sure chance, for in December, sales will be open to the general public.

Apply direct to E.T.T.A.

The Special Reduced E.T.T.A. Party Rate is available to affiliated groups in minimum parties of 12 persons.

SEASON TICKETS are available to E.T.T.A. members at 42/- and include admission to all sessions, a 10/6d. ticket for both Final nights, and a 7/6d. ticket for other evenings.

TICKETS for WORLDS GOING FAST

Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. April 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th	World Cups Events	} Full Price →	15/-	12/6	10/6	7/6	4/-
Mon. & Tues. April 12-13th	Individual Events		Party Rate →	12/6	10/6	7/6	5/-
FINALS	SAT. APRIL 10th	} Full Price →	21/-	15/-	10/6	6/6	—
	WED. „ 14th		Individuals	Party Rate →	17/6	12/6	8/6

STANLEY AIMS TO HELP NORTHERN T.T.

"SPORT depends, to a very large extent on good leadership . . . a good leader needs a clear picture of his aims and means; of the kind of sportsmen that he wants his boys to become . . . There is a great need to-day of sports leaders who realise that their results cannot be measured in terms of athletic achievement or gate receipts . . . sports leaders need a spiritual and cultural background and a set of values . . ."

C. A. GRAAMANS,
Danish Ministry of Education.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES TO—

EDWARDS—VAN ZYL. July 20th, 1953. South African T.T. Champion REX EDWARDS was married to MARY VAN ZYL, at Johannesburg. Ron Litten was best man, and the Transvaal T.T.A. were well represented.

HEIR-PORT (ARRIVALS)

ADAMS.—In August, to Mr. and Mrs. Len Adams (Middlesex and Civil Service) a daughter—VIVIAN.

WHITE.—In July, to Mr. and Mrs. George White (N.E.C. and London Civil Service) a son—STEPHEN WILLIAM (a brother for Timothy).

MIXED DOUBLES MATCHES

D. Cupid, Hon. Fixture Secretary.

ALLCOCK—MORTIMER. The engagement is announced between RONALD, only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Allcock, of Moston, and PAMELA, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer of Birmingham.

SPIELBURG—SMITH. Recently, Eddie Spielburg of London, engaged to SHEILA SMITH, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Staines.



No. 902. AT HOME with the Stanley's. KEN STANLEY, who won his first open senior title when he was 12 years old and his Doublyling badge at 16 years, should certainly know the problems of youth, both from his playing experience and that of a father. Here in a happy interlude with his family, left is David (13), right Janet (6), and to "steal the picture" 19-month-old Margaret Elizabeth walks into the foreground with a very special bat . . .

ALTHOUGH still younger than most of England's top internationals, KEN STANLEY has planned an all-out drive to develop young players (and probably a few others) in the North, which should go a long way toward re-establishing their former glories.

He is so confident of the need and scope in the North that this month he opens a magnificent and complete Table Tennis Centre at Middleton, near Manchester. The hall will hold 8 top-class tournament tables with generous runback and playing space, tiptop lighting, dressing-room accommodation, and buffet-refreshment facilities, and will be open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily.

Apart from being a play or practice hall, however, it will also promote coaching and competitive tournaments to help raise playing standards. Ken himself will take the lead, and several Manchester internationals have promised to lend a hand in the evening, so that there will be an international available every evening.

Lancashire County propose giving the hall an early baptism by trying it out for their county trials and also envisage it as an admirable venue for county matches, etc. We have also heard that one or two clubs have been thinking about the possibilities of hiring a "court" for one or two days a week as their club "headquarters."

It looks as though Ken's enterprise and pushfulness may give that tonic to the Northern game which is all that is needed to inspire them to seek their accustomed high place in English Table Tennis. Ken's venture deserves success and support, and we hope to see it taking a dominant part in future Northern development. ●



No. 907
(Left)

Ronnie
Allcock
and
Pam
Mortimer

(see above)

A CUT—BUT NO CHOP

"PETER WILSON . . . is now the Mirror's top sports writer, rejoicing in the title of *The Man They Can't Gag*. Another man the couldn't gag was Freddie B. Wilson, his father, who did the same job years before him and who became notorious at Cambridge by winning the table tennis championship when playing sitting down and using a breadknife instead of a bat."

HUGH CUDLIPP

in *Publish and be Damned*.

FIGHTING JEAN ATTENDS HER OWN BENEFIT MATCH

GALLANT Jean Titterington with the solicitous help of the hospital—joined the large crowd attending her All-International, North v. South, Benefit Match held at the Y.M.C.A., Manchester on September 19th.

Harry Venner was in terrific form. Against Leach's 2 defeats should be balanced the fact that Johnny played immediately after driving to Manchester from Lilleshall (following a coaching session). Pam Mortimer's presence doubtless inspired her fiance's 2 wins—the only ones for the North team.

SOUTH 7—NORTH 2

K. CRAIGIE bt. B. Casofsky 9, 20; bt. K. Stanley 18, 16; lost R. Allcock —13, —15. J. LEACH bt. Casofsky 12, 18; bt. Stanley 14, —6, 17; lost Allcock —12, —15. H. VENNER bt. Allcock 15, 17; bt. Casofsky 15, 16; bt. Stanley 18, 16.

Readers will remember the tragic accident in which Jean's boy friend was killed and she—one of the most promising all-sports girls in the North and a wonderful sportswoman—was most critically injured, and is courageously facing a series of operations. Manchester League promptly inaugurated the Jean Titterington Fund. All the players immediately offered their services, when LESLIE JONES, Manchester Secretary, suggested the idea of this match, Johnny Leach volunteering to raise the Southern team. This was the type of gesture that Table Tennis applauds, a friendly hand in time for a fellow player with more than her share of troubles.

If anyone wishes to subscribe to the Jean Titterington Fund they can send either to The Editor or direct to Mr. Leslie Jones, 261, Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Manchester, 19.

"The way to get politicians into a proper and friendly state of mind is to give them a bat and a ball . . . If Vishinsky would play Dulles at table tennis . . . the world would be a more peaceful place . . ." Cassandra in the *Daily Mirror*

Elastic Match System for 4-10 players Wirral Makes Bold Experiment

By TOM BLUNN

THE Wirral League is trying out a new system of match play this season which will be watched with interest by many other leagues in Lancashire and Cheshire. The old rule of a fixed order of play is done away with and captains are given full responsibility for choosing the pairings of players. There will also be a latitude allowed to selection committees in the choosing of teams as there is no fixed number except that a team cannot consist of less than four or more than ten players. The main rules are:

1. A match will consist of ten singles sets of the best of three games each.
2. No player shall play more than three sets in any one match and must not play the same opponent more than once in one match.
3. Captains mark their teams on separate cards, the Home Captain on the official card, the Away Captain in the club score book, and an exchange is made.
4. Captains toss for right to nominate the first pairings and call alternately. That is, the captain decides the opponent for his own player.
5. As each set is called the score card is entered up.
6. If a player is absent when called the particular set is suspended until 8.00 p.m. then can be called

again. If the player is still absent a reserve must be played or the set forfeited.

7. The reserve position may be filled by another member of the team (subject to the limit of three sets per match), or by another player entirely.

The position of Captain is most important and to add further to his strength, authority has been given for a Captain to speak to his player during a set but only at the end of the game. A Captain, therefore, becomes a tactician and not merely the chap who fills and signs the score card.

It is claimed that this method satisfies the desires of both the five-a-siders and the three-a-siders and also gives an interest and variety to the match not provided by any known existing system.

Teams can be chosen to win or to promote games for as many members as possible. Clubs with sufficient playing nights can enter more teams and Clubs with limited playing nights can utilise more members in their one team. A new player can be tried out with only one set at stake instead of two or three as under existing systems. Every player will have an opportunity of playing the best player on the opposing side instead of this privilege being retained by the top two players in each club. These are the advantages. There may be snags but the Wirral League is sure to overcome them. ●

DO YOU REALLY "KNOW THE GAME"?

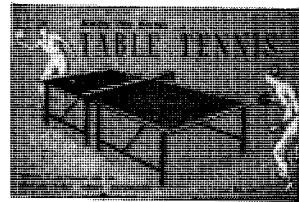
TABLE TENNIS

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Phone: TRAFalgar 2165
Telegraphic: ETABTENNIS, RAND
Chairman: HON. IVOR MONTAGU
Hon. Sec. & Treas.: A. K. VINT

PRACTICE COURSE

A weekend Practice Course is to be held at the National Recreation Centre, Lilleshall on the 26th September, 1953, for juniors and younger players whom the National Selection Committee consider might receive the most benefit. The National Executive Committee has arranged to hold its next meeting at the same time and place, to observe the training arrangements and methods at first hand.

The Selection Committee have invited the following players:

B. Barr; C. Booth; D. Burridge; B. Cartwright; R. Dorking; D. Finan; G. Gladwish; G. Landry; G. Lumsden; M. Maclaren; B. Merrett; R. Morley; A. Rhodes; A. Sherwood. (14)
Misses—Y. Baker; K. Best; W. Blades; P. Gall; A. Haydon; J. Hodson; M. Piper; J. Rook; J. Winn. (10).

AN ENGLAND "B" TEAM

AS part of its plan to develop supplementary players, the Selection Committee proposes to arrange a number of matches for an England "B" Team.

The first 2 matches have been arranged against Dutch City teams of international players; at Rotterdam on the 17th September and at Amsterdam on the 18th September, 1953.

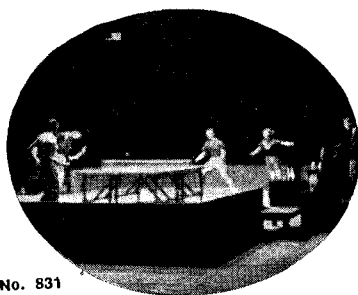
The team selected for both matches is D. Burridge (Mdsx.); B. Merrett (Glos.); and A. Rhodes (Mdsx.). N.p.c. I. Montagu.

The players will also participate in an International Tournament at Tegele on the 20th September.

15th September, 1953.

SWEDISH INVITATION

THE Swedish T.T.A. cordially invites English players to the Stockholm Jubilee Open Championships to be held at Eriksdalshallen, Stockholm, 21-22nd November. There are 2 events, MS and MD, and the closing date for entries is Nov. 5th. Svenska Bordtennisforbundet, Stockholm.



No. 831

ENTRIES CLOSE Tues. 13th OCTOBER

Completed Entry Forms must be sent to:

Mr. N. COOK,
7, NORTH AVENUE,
STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE
NOT to the E.T.T.A. or any other address

English Open T.T. Championships 1953-54

(Hon. Referee: Leslie W. Jones)

Villa XXX Balls. Jaques Tables. Equipment, etc., G. Decker. 19 ft. between tables, 17 ft. runback. First-class dressing rooms; all-day buffet; good meals. Accommodation arranged against prior application.

Rounds played from Monday, 9th November, in Belfast Suite

FINALS - FRIDAY, 13th November in King's Hall, BELLE VUE, Manchester

Tickets available from Mr. Cook (address above)

9/6, 7/6, 6/6, 5/-, 3/6 and 1/6d.

Circular, comfortable stadium; good visibility everywhere

NOTE: The ticket prices have been amended from those announced last month, on account of a revision necessary for Entertainment Tax.

NATIONAL COACHING S C H E M E



Proposed National Courses for 1953-54

November. E.T.T.A. (Coaches). Yorkshire Area.
Dec. 18-20th. E.T.T.A./C.C.P.R. General and Coaches.
Bisham Abbey.
Dec. 29th-Jan. 1st. E.T.T.A./C.C.P.R. General.
Lilleshall.
April. E.T.T.A./C.C.P.R. General and Coaches, Exeter.
Summer 1954. E.T.T.A./C.C.P.R. General and Coaches,
Lilleshall.

Full details will be published in the November Table Tennis about the Coaching Diploma which can be gained by those suitably qualified.

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION:	Sat., 17th October	Sussex v. Surrey.
	Sat., 17th October	Gloucestershire v. Lancashire.
	Sat., 17th October	Glamorgan v. Essex.
SECOND DIVISION SOUTH:	Sat., 24th October	Yorkshire v. Middlesex.
	Sat., 17th October	Devon. v. Essex.
	Sat., 17th October	Bedfordshire v. Surrey.
	Sat., 17th October	Middlesex v. Kent.
SECOND DIVISION NORTH:	Sat., 24th October	Essex v. Bedfordshire.
	Sat., 24th October	Surrey v. Devon.
	Sat., 17th October	Yorkshire v. Cheshire.
	Sat., 17th October	Warwickshire v. Lincolnshire.
EASTERN DIVISION:	Sat., 17th October	Northumberland v. Durham.
	Sat., 24th October	Norfolk v. Cambridgeshire.
	Sat., 24th October	Suffolk v. Hertfordshire.
MIDLAND DIVISION	Sat., 17th October	Northamptonshire v. Worcestershire.
	Sat., 17th October	Derbyshire v. Leicestershire.
	Sat., 24th October	Worcestershire v. Derbyshire.
	Sat., 24th October	Staffordshire v. Northamptonshire.
SOUTHERN DIVISION	Sat., 17th October	Oxfordshire v. Buckinghamshire.
	Sat., 17th October	Berkshire v. Hampshire.
	Sat., 17th October	Kent v. Bedfordshire.
JUNIOR DIVISION	Sat., 17th October	Middlesex v. Sussex.
	Sat., 24th October	Suffolk v. Essex.

HONOURS LIST

In the Coronations Honours List of 1953, Her Majesty was pleased to appoint The Dowager Lady Swaythling an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for services to the Empire.

* * *

Dennis George, Secretary of the South African T.T. Union was awarded the Coronation Medal "for services to South African table tennis in Coronation year."

* * *

His Majesty King Baudouin of Belgium has awarded the Gold Medal of the Order of the Crown to Egbert Franssen, and the Order of Leopold II to Eugene Pacquay and Horace Quettier for their work for the Belgian T.T. Federation.

WORLD RANKING CATEGORIES

The International Table Tennis Federation has proposed that seeding by countries shall be based on the following:—

SWAYTHLING CUP

1st Category: 1. England. 2. Hungary. 3. Czechoslovakia. 4. Hong Kong. 5. Japan. 6. Yugoslavia. 7. France. 8. Rumania. 9. U.S.A. 10. China. 11. Sweden. 12. Germany.
2nd Category: (a) Vietnam (Part). (b) Austria. (c) India. (d) Netherlands. (e) Bulgaria. (f) Belgium. (g) Chile. (h) Brazil. (i) Switzerland. (j) Portugal. (k) Wales. (l) Poland.
3rd Category: (a) Singapore. (b) Egypt. (c) Israel. (d) Ireland. (e) Australia. (f) Argentina. (g) Italy. (h) Spain. (i) Denmark. (j) Luxembourg. (k) Iran. (l) New Zealand.

CORBILLON CUP

1st Category: 1. Rumania. 2. England. 3. Japan. 4. Austria. 5. Hungary. 6. Wales. 7. Czechoslovakia. 8. U.S.A. 9. Scotland. 10. France. 11. Belgium. 12. Hong Kong.
2nd Category: (a) India. (b) Yugoslavia. (c) China. (d) Germany. (e) Sweden. (f) Australia.
3rd Category: (a) New Zealand. (b) Bulgaria. (c) Chile. (d) Brazil. (e) Egypt. (f) Israel. (g) Netherlands. (h) Switzerland. (i) Ireland. (j) Italy.

16th NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wellington, 11th Sept., 1953

M.S. R. V. JACKSON bt. (1) J. Armstrong 13, 21, 7; bt. T. R. O. FLINT 18, 9, 11 (bt. W. O. Jaine —19, 12, 18, —10, 14).
W.S. M. HOAR bt. J. Williamson —20, —20, 6, 15, 14.
M.D. R. JACKSON/W. JAINE bt. J. Crossley/M. Dunn 14, 12, —19, —14, 14.
W.D. T. EVANS/J. WILLIAMSON bt. Mrs. R. Bremner/M. McLennan 11, 16, 13.
X.D. V. BRIGHTWELL/Mrs. J. MAGORIAN bt. R. Jackson/M. Hoar 18, 19, 13.
Teams (Men): AUCKLAND bt. Wellington 10-2. (Women): WELLINGTON bt. Auckland 7-5.

SUMMER IN SPAIN

Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach were given magnificent receptions, press write-ups and radio interviews in their 1953 Summer exhibitions in Spain, particularly in Madrid, Barcelona, and Tarrasa. Interesting results:—

LEACH bt. Gadea —17, 14, 17; bt. Salomo 18, —18, 16; bt. J. M. Pales 14, —16, 14; bt. Bergmann 19, 20. BERGMANN bt. Ramon —16, 17, 18; bt. Albiol 12, 14; bt. Ramon —16, 13, 13; bt. Leach 16, —16, 12.

CHAMPIONS v. REST OF ENGLAND

Stars of the Counties including Barna; Leach; Simons; Di and Ros Rowe.

Victoria Hall, Handley, Staffs.

7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23rd.

Tickets 7/6d., 5/-, 4/-, 2/- from R. G. Ward, 1, Oakdene Grove, Wolstanton.

OPEN CLUBS IN LONDON

The Bishopsgate T.T. Club, Bishopsgate Institute, 230, Bishopsgate, E.C.2, have a few vacancies. The Club meets at the Institute at 6 p.m. every Monday and Friday, and

has 1 team in the London and 3 teams in the Central League. Write to Mr. R. C. Slater.

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Our sincere apologies for delays in distribution of our first issues.

2. Our gratitude for the many letters from everywhere for the encouragement of such as:

"FINALLY, thanks for a grand magazine. We table tennis fans serving in the forces out here like to know what is happening back home, and your magazine certainly keeps us well informed. May its success continue for many years to come."

(Malaya)

"HEARTY and sincere congratulations on the sparkling excellence of No. 1 of Vol. 12 of *Table Tennis*, and I assure you I mean every word of it."

(A Vice-President of E.T.T.A.)

3. It is also particularly helpful to have the frankly critical comments, your notes, your suggestions Wherever you are in the world, your notes are warmly welcome.

Table Tennis at Junior Wimbledon

EVEN the most autocratic of our friends in Lawn Tennis administration can no longer ignore the fact that some of its best young prospects are coming from the junior sport. This was particularly evident at Junior Wimbledon in early September where two of the brightest stars were junior T.T. internationals: Billy Knight (Northampton) who won the Boys' Singles title for the second year, and Ann Haydon (Warwick). Incidentally, both left-handers.

An Haydon it was who won distinction by reaching the semi-finals at her first attempt, the only player in the 8 quarter-finals to beat an older opponent.

Ann plays lawn as she plays table tennis, power drives, keen anticipation and concentration, and a superb will-to-win temperament. In the quarters, however, Diana Comerford (Surrey champion) thrived on Ann's attack and took a big lead. Ann changed her tactics, slowed the game up and took control, coming up from behind to win the first set. After that the second game was easy as when you know how. Score 9-7, 6-3. "This was the best match," said *The Times*, and in the semi, "Miss Midgley was given a hard fight by the 14-year-old Miss A. S. Haydon in a match which lasted three-quarters of an hour." This match was actually closer even than the score suggests.

On this form Ann has near-parity

with the best girls in the country, all three other semi-finalists being, at 17 years, in their last year as Juniors. Billy Knight, also, has the distinction of being ranked near the top of England's senior players. He has again been sent by the L.T.A. to Australia for concentrated match practice (and not as one T.T. official unkindly suggested); so that he should not be attracted to play T.T., of which he is so fond.

A PAGE FROM THE PAST

We have yielded to the temptation of probing into the undisclosed pages of our history. In 1927 the late Bill Pope (Hon. Sec. of the E.T.T.A.) wrote to Ann's grandfather (father of England's Swaythling Cup captain Adrian):

"I am dropping you a line in great haste to congratulate you on the wonderful performance of Adrian. You will see by the London Press to-day that he has caused quite a sensation. . . . I only hope that he will not be spoilt. He is young and you must take great care that his head is not turned. At present there is no sign of this and it will depend largely upon your good influence to see that he keeps his modesty and remains a good sportsman, and he will then be a credit to you and to Birmingham. You will, I feel, recognise the danger we run, we have so many of these young people who have done things here—especially in Lawn Tennis—and nearly all of them degenerate into conceited prigs. He is such a nice lad now . . ."



No. 909. Winners of *The Daily Mirror's* prize Training Week have an objective analysis lesson in the small, glass-sided special-study room at Lilleshall. What better subjects than the Tournament's W.S. Champion of 1952-53—ANN HAYDON (in play on left)—and LEN ADAMS (M.S. Champion, 1950-51) who has retreated from the picture to retrieve a "hot" one. Extreme left (behind Ann) is the E.T.T.A.'s Hon. Director of Coaching (in charge of the course) and Elsie Carrington. Extreme right, Harry Venner and Adrian Haydon.

National Recreation Centre, Lilleshall

September, 12th-19th, 1953

FRIDAY night and all day Saturday they came looking for the famous Golden Gates of Lilleshall, like eager Vikings before Valhalla. Here, in the heart of 600 acres of glorious parkland was the Prize of Prizes, the special treat which *The Daily Mirror*, like a benevolent uncle, had promised the lucky 16 who reached the semis and finals of their National Tournament, 1952-53: One Whole Week of Special Training—and WHAT a week!

We watched arrivals as they came through the lion-guarded arch to the forecourt, piling from cars or the 12-seater brake driven by ever-cheerful Miss Sykes. It made a noble sight. The majestic mansion—the row of cars made small before it—the green, shrubberied lawn beyond on which two families of peafowl (cocks, hens and chicks) paraded with the proud disdain of Palace guards. From the portico, a stone arch of the front terrace framed a view of beautiful gardens, sun-lit, lovely and exquisitely peaceful...

But our eager beavers were not going to lose a single moment in sight-seeing rapture. They couldn't get to their panelled rooms quickly enough, to change and run to the Gym, oblivious of nothing but the urge to play... Adrian and Doris Haydon arrived in their sleek, black Consul (oddy enough, a RIGHT-hand drive!)

bringing Ann straight from her Junior Wimbledon triumphs... but that seemed a long way from Ann's thoughts—she just wanted to get "on the table"... and so it went on... every prize winner taking the full value of this rare and exhilarating opportunity.

A group of English hockey players under the admirable Miss Cadell watched with more than ordinary interest. There is something infectious (and almost daunting) about such enthusiasms.

This was a Training Week *par excellence*. It was much, much more than a mere T.T. practice week and holiday. It combined analytical and tactical training with competitive practice balanced with outdoor and social activities.

It gave opportunity for training hard and of studying hard for longer term improvement. It gave example and competition from England's finest players. It showed how to develop short spells of high quality and a higher standard in the basic game of the longer phases. It did not overlook the underlying message that T.T. Champions are ambassadors of the game, and that their performances and manners may well be those on which observers judge the game and the sportsmanship of those who play it.

The Training was planned (for *The Daily Mirror*) by the E.T.T.A.'s Hon. Director of Coaching, Jack Carrington, ably assisted by Elsie Carrington,

Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons, Harry Venner, Adrian Haydon and Len Adams. *The Daily Mirror* was represented by Phillip Mulcahy (Tournament Organiser), his ubiquitous secretary, Dorothy Hardy, Jack Hutchinson (The Sports Editor), and Sam Leitch (the popular T.T. correspondent). E.T.T.A. observers included Mr. and Mrs. A. K. (Bill and Nora) Vint, Malcolm Scott, and Leslie Woollard (Editor, *Table Tennis*). Malcolm Scott it was who helped to arrange some of the "outside" features, e.g., entertainment and a competitive match before an audience (at the well-known Woodfield Club at Wolverhampton).

It was a really splendid week... a truly magnificent Prize. One had the conviction that these eager athletes would do much to enrich the game in their local areas in the future. *The Daily Mirror*, in this alone, has made a notable contribution to British table tennis. Finally, a well-deserved tribute to the C.C.P.R. Hosts, Jim Lane (The Warden), Mrs. Lane, Miss Sykes, the anonymous "Jeeves" (who invariably appeared at the very moment someone was needed.●)

STOP PRESS

HUNGARIANS LIGHTNING VISIT

World Champion Ferenc Sido will lead a powerful Hungarian team in a lightning tour of England in November. Three international matches are planned:—

Nov. 23. v. South of England (London).

Nov. 25. v. ENGLAND (Wembley).

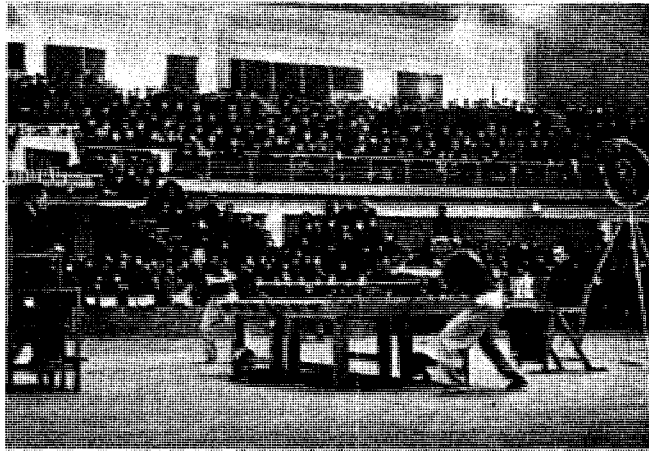
Nov. 27. v. Rest of England (Birmingham).



tiTtle- taTtle ●

PETER SKERRATT (Lincs.) has another 4 months odd with the B.A.O.R. before demob. Keeps fit by running . . . plays in German town league ● Is it correct to call a sponge bat player a "Sponger"? ● GEORGE EAGLE (Essex) is now in Angola, Portugese West Africa for 2 years . . . but can't find any T.T. ● U.S.A. Junior Champ BOB GUSIKOFF (who recently beat Reisman) plans to come to Wembley . . . so does PAULINE ROBINSON ● DOROTHIE MUNNINGS (England G.S. Ch., 1950-1) has had to retire from the game for a few months on account of illness ● NORMAN SUGARHOOD, 18 y-o son of former England Vets. Champion (Essex) is now with R.A.F. at Singapore . . . In T.T., he lost a match to E. CROUCHER, but has since gained revenge, and is now one of the best players out there ● E.T.T.A. Chairman Hon. IVOR MONTAGU attended Speech Day at Harry Levine's Briar Clyffe School, Lowestoft . . . celebrated for its outstanding T.T. players ● ALAN SHERWOOD (Hants.) and RONNIE BAKER (Manchester) are now representing English T.T. in the Maccabi (Jewish Olympic Games) in Israel . . . In the Trials, Cecil Burman was placed 2nd ● JACK GLICKMAN (former Middx. and Willesden League) is now living in New York and played in the ast U.S.A. Open ● In July, a

TOMITA BECOMES JAP No. 1



No. 903. Final of the M.S. event of the All-Japan T.T. Championships with Y. Tomita, of Tokyo (left), beating S. Mizohata, of Kyoto, —10, 14, 19, 15. Note the umpire's high chair (on the left). Other winners on page 39.

scratch English team, Dennis Miller, Keith Hurlock, and Ivor Jones, competed in a Worker's Festival tournament in Paris. They won the team event, but in the singles only Miller was successful, going out to Hungarian international Szepesi 1—3 in the final ● The Hastings League have a scheme by which anyone can become a Patron for 5/- p.a. Sub. includes 2 Free Seats at Local Championships, a copy of the local News Sheet monthly, and a special booking privilege at the County Open . . . a kind of super Supporters Club ● LESLIE BENNETT, one of the ablest organisers in Lincs. and Eastern England is now in New Zealand as an Observer in the N.Z.R.A.F. ● Glamourous REBA MONNESS (former U.S.A.

W.S. Champion was recently holidaying in Bermuda, probably *en route* to Wembley via the South of France ●

ENGLAND "B" NETHERLANDS TOUR

v. ROTTERDAM

17th Sept., 1953. Won 9—0

	Stoop Willemstein Mostert		
B. MERRETT	11, 17	11, 10	13, 5
A. RHODES	18, 18	11, 10	5, 12
D. BURRIDGE	—17, 20, 12, 17, 12	—19, 18, 9	

v. AMSTERDAM

18th Sept., 1953. Won 7—2

	Gor du Buy		Pelsor		van Zoelen	
B. MERRETT	10, 17	18, 16	14, 16			
A. RHODES	15, —13	7, 17	15, 17			
D. BURRIDGE	16, —16, 12	—16, 13, 21	—12, —18			

The 3 Dutch players are the current first 3 ranking players of the Netherlands.

TEGELEN (TOURNAMENT)

20th Sept., 1953

M.S. B. MERRETT bt. (1) N. Hogendoorn 12, 10; bt. (2) D. BURRIDGE 10, —14, 15, 18 (bt. A. Rhodes 21, 19).

M.D. D. BURRIDGE/A. RHODES bt. N. Hogendoorn/Spek 16, 14.

MIDDLESEX award county badges to Junior and Second team players . . . they are distinguished from the Premier badge by the addition of a ½-in. felt strip beneath bearing "JUNIORS" or "SECONDS." The County has made arrangements whereby strips can be supplied in any colour combinations for the benefit of member leagues ● AT 68 (not out) Middlesex claims to have twice as many County Umpires as any other county ● Since its foundation in 1946, active county membership has been nearly quadrupled:

Season	Leagues	Clubs	Teams
1946-7	9	259	449
1952-3	23	727	1,453



for WEMBLEY. The Lebanese Team have had Championship appearance at Wembley next year at Beirut. L. to R.: Marcel Barsoumian; President of the Technical Committee of T.T.; Elie Saade (Current No. 1).

STAR - LIGHT IN LINCOLNSHIRE

EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN
Butlin's Holiday Camp, Skegness
19th-20th September, 1953

POP! POP!! POP!!! and the champagne spirit starts the party going . . . rather like the East of England Open always starts the season off with its gay—almost festive—festival of table tennis: a Holiday with T.T. or T.T. in the holiday spirit, not only for players but for all their families too. It is also a Social Get-Together. And it's all jolly good fun. Unless, perhaps, you are a Scrooge of points or one of the unco-serious with a slide-rule and calculus!

This year's I thought the best E.o.E. yet. Week-end weather was superbly "arranged." Between rounds and knocks with old and new friends, familiar faces were seen in unfamiliar guises: in the swimming pool, golf course, tennis court, about and around on those fantastic vehicles known as "Social Cycles." The roller skating rink was a favourite—I arrived just in time to see trim little Jane Fairhead mar an Altwegg glide by unceremoniously using Daddy (Norfolk Sec. the genial Eric Fairhead) as a stopping block! Even Godfrey Decker, doyen of equipment, and sprightly English international (vintage 1922) was seen to make 3 successive trips on the Big Wheel. In fact, Butlin's slogan "Where you make new friends" really hit the bull.

It was an attackers paradise with a fertility of miniature talent bashing and sparkling against the breakwaters of international and county stardom. And the stars twinkled too. Genial and generous. They may be only "playing themselves in" but the most illustrious need never fear that defeat by an unknown bat will be held against him. Yet newcomers deserve the very fullest measure of their success.

Attacker's conditions made for some very lively and entertaining encounters and even accustomed defensive players put (in a manner of speaking) sequins on their play. It looked as though *anything* could happen. Sometimes it did. My note book is full of stardust and the splintered lightning of surprises.

We missed the Mancunians, but the White Rose county can be proud of their representatives on every score. "What a nice crowd the Huddersfield party are," was a typical comment. A pity Bernard Crouch could not partner the "Skegness Skyrocket"—Roy Turner from Croydon—to try to win the MD for the 5th consecutive time.

Devon's star of 4-5 years ago, sun-tanned but little changed Ron Litten, on leave from South Africa, wore a Transvaal badge on a sky-blue shirt. Still very good, but a few degrees slower at present. And old friend Harry Thullier, Irish international, and for several years fencing champion of Ireland—long, lean, lively, with buoyant Irish humour And Yip Tong, newcomer from Mauritius, *en route* for University College, Dublin.

Top honours must go to two new juniors, Florence Wright of Barnsley and D. Backhouse of West Bromwich. Flo is a neat little figure with a crisp game that for some indefinable reason reminds me of the early Ros Rowe. In the WS she sailed into Marjorie Cumberbatch like a Spitfire, absolutely undaunted by her opponent's reputation and ability. Marjorie had to fight for her victory. In the GS, Florence was first on the draw in her semi with Wendy Blades, and won—14, 17, 17. The final was point-close agony for supporters with the almost lofty calmness of left-handed Beryl Spooner triumphing.

Backhouse, slight and slender, has some indications of the latent champion. Style is orthodox but individualistic. His free arm hangs low and is seldom used which gives his game an appearance of awkwardness beat by his successes. In the BS he beat Michael Maclaren in the semi 17, —16, 22, and extended Ray Dorking (in the final) 19, —16, 17. More than a good show against the top England juniors!

I ought to mention 14 year-old, table topper Carl Brooke with his attractive footwork and a quick, angled hit (that shows Alan Thompson's influence). His elder brother Geoff tells that Carl is out to beat Brian Kennedy's younger brother, 16-year-old David.

Peggy Piper was as pugnacious, perky and popular as ever. The decisive confidence, and the flashing fury of her jet-spied kills, the bewilderingly swift change of angles, and an almost unnoticeable calmness and a "taking over the reins" at the well-judged moment put her right in England class. In her last 3 matches she stormed past Betty Isaacs 9, 17; parried, riposted, and took control from the very able, experienced Welsh International, Betty Gray—24, 14, 17 (in the semi), and then held everything which the volatile Shirley Jones could hurl at her in the final, to counter with fiery vigour to a 20-11 lead in the third. A peep of the old Peggy lost 4 points, but was hustled out by this masterly, stand-no-nonsense Peggy with a sizzling

winner that flashed past Shirley like Neville Duke.

Even the umpire found the match exciting!

Peggy was right on top of the world here. She was brilliant in the XD match (partnered by Keith Hurlock) against Dennis Miller and Betty Isaacs. Dennis must be reckoned one of the best doubles players in the country. His brilliant technique reduced the aggressive Keith Hurlock to impotence. Peggy it was who in a brilliant blaze of glory hit 9 consecutive winners to, so it seemed, make possible the impossible..

Kennedy v. Hinchliff in the all-Yorkshire MS final was something of an anti-climax after the crackling fire of earlier matches.

By-the-way results: G. Bebb/J. Bryant (Herts.) bt. E. Kennedy/M. Thornhill —14, 9, 16. R. Dorking/R. Raybould bt. R. Litten/ R. Turner 19, 25 and G. Halmshaw/ K. Park 10, 19. R. Hinchliff bt. M. Thornhill —12, 8, 16. Elsie Carrington bt. P. Lammin (Grimsby) and B. Milbank —23, 19, 12. B. Gray bt. M. Lightfoot 12, 24. S. Jones bt. M. Cumberbatch 14, —16, 17. G. Wood (Grimsby) bt. R. Dorking. J. Head bt. K. Hurlock 10, —17, 14. B. Kennedy bt. R. Turner —4, 16, 9. R. Hinchliff bt. M. Maclaren 13, 16. J. Carrington/B. Milbank bt. B. Kennedy/B. Gray 13, 20. I. Jones/S. Jones bt. K. Hurlock/M. Piper 11, 11.

RESULTS

M.S. B. KENNEDY bt. (1) J. Head 20, —19, 20; bt. (2) R. HINCHLIFF 15, 18 (bt. M. Thornhill —12, 8, 16).

W.S. M. PIPER bt. (1) B. Gray —24, 14, 17; bt. (2) S. JONES 22, —15, 16 (bt. Mrs. E. Carrington 13, —16, 15).

M.D. J. HEAD/D. MILLER bt. G. Brook/S. Dyson 16, 17.

W.D. B. GRAY/S. JONES bt. Mrs. M. Cumberbatch/M. Piper —19, 17, 20.

X.D. I. JONES/S. JONES bt. J. Carrington/B. Milbank 15, 8.

B.S. R. DORKING bt. (1) C. Brook 13, 8; bt. (2) D. BACKHOUSE 19, —16, 17 (bt. M. Maclaren 17, —16, 22).

G.S. B. SPOONER bt. (1) O. Peterson 14, 17; bt. F. WRIGHT 19, 21 (bt. W. Blades —14, 17, 17).

Sensational Success of Mai Van Hoa

Vietnam and Formosa Surprise in Asian Championships

2nd ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kishi Hall, Tokyo, 7-14th Sept., 1953

Finals and Main Results from our Far East Correspondent,

E. A. CROUCHER.

HIS HIGHNESS, the Maharajah of Baroda, the President, opened the 2nd Asian TT Championships at Tokyo on the 7th September. Although only 6 countries were represented this year after South Korea failed to arrive, the championships were full of surprises, notably the individual success of Mai Van Hoa (Vietnam) and Chen Pao-Poe (Formosa), and the partial eclipse of Hong Kong by these two countries.

The 1954 Championships (the 3rd) will return to Singapore, and from thence will be held biennially. Manila has an first option for the 1956 meeting.

Abbreviations: F—Formosa. H—Hong Kong. I—India. J—Japan. S—Singapore. V—Vietnam.

Note:—The national team championships are open to countries in Asia that are affiliated to the Asian T.T.F., and are played on the same lines as the Swaything and Corbillon Cups.

THE BARODA CUP (Men's Teams)

	J.	V.	F.	H.
1. Japan	●	5-1	5-1	5-0
2. Vietnam	1-5	●	5-0	5-2
3. Formosa	1-5	0-5	●	5-2
4. Hong Kong	0-5	2-5	2-5	●
5. Singapore	0-5	1-5	0-5	3-5
6. India	0-5	1-5	3-5	2-5

The Japanese Play



No. 908 There is much speculation on the probable combination of the Japanese teams which are expected to compete in the World Championships at Wembley in April. This photograph shows the 1953 All-Japan Champions, some of whom played for Japan in the team events of the Asian Championships. L. to R.: N. Isaka (V.S.), T. Honjo and Miss T. Nishimura (X.D.), N. Sakamoto (J.B.S.), R. Ichii (J.G.S.), Y. Tomita (M.S.), Y. Tanaka (W.S.), K. Furusawa and T. Naka (M.D.).

THE KAMALA RUMANUJAN CUP (Women's Teams)

	J.	F.	H.	S.	W.L.F.A.
1 Japan	●	3-2	3-0	3-0	3-0-9-2
2 Formosa	2-3	●	3-2	3-0	2-1-8-5
3 Hong Kong	0-3	2-3	●	3-0	1-2-5-6
4 Singapore	0-3	0-3	0-3	●	0-3-0-9

RESULTS

Initial and No. indicates country and team ranking.

M.S. MAI VAN HOA (V1) bt. Kawai 16, 21, 21; bt. S. YAMAGUCHI (J2) 10, 12, 11 (bt. Y. Tomita (J1) 12, —18, 17, 12).

W.S. CHEN PAO-POE (F1) bt. Yao-Chu (F3) 9, 16, 16; bt. K. WATANABE (J) 11, —18, 10, 15 (bt. S. Kama (J) 16, —15, —18, 18, 12).

M.D. MAI VAN HOA/TRAN CANH DUOC (V1-2) bt. I. Yamaguchi (J3)/H. Satoh 16, 17, 17; bt. K. FURUSAWA/T. NAKA 19, 11, 13 (bt. T. Hayashi/S. Mizohata (J2) —21, —10, 18, 17, 9).

W.D. K. ISHIHARA/T. NISHIMURA (J2) bt. F. EGUCHI/K. WATANABE 21, 18, 12.

X.D. K. TAMASU (J4)/Y. TANAKA (J1) bt. T. Naka/S. Narahara 18, —23, 18, 20; bt. T. HAYASHI/T. NISHIMURA (J2) 10, 18, 17 (bt. Y. Tomita/F. Sato (J4) 20, —12, 19, —19, 10).

Cons.: M.S. LI-PING (H5) bt. Kao Teh-Nang (F5) 17, 12.

W.S. T. OKAWA (J) bt. F. Eguchi (J) 15, 12.

COUNTY AND LEAGUE SECS., or officials are invited to send a Copy of their local Handbook to The Editor. They can be most helpful to the areas concerned.

NEW GLOS. SPONGE-BAT STAR

BASIL BUCKNELL, Glos. county lawn tennis player, achieved startling success in the county T.T trials playing with a sponge bat. He lost only to Aubrey Simons and Brian Merrett, but not before claiming a game off each.

With Bob Griffin, Peter Cruwys and Ray Morley, Glos. are strong in men. Margaret Fry as No. 1 will be supported by the two bright young Gloucester girls, Shirley Davis and Mary Gibbins. SECOND county last season . . . well . . . ?

Cheltenham's retiring Chairman and Hon. Sec. Len Carter and John Price have been replaced by Frank Newell and Bill Wilson (former Yorkshire stalwart) respectively. Another "tyke," Denis Holmes, is County Chairman.

The newly organised county league is specially framed to develop new players . . . a rule bars players who have represented their league in the Western or Midland Leagues . . . Welcome to the new Cirencester League, and to a number of rural leagues which are slowly being aided into the county pattern.

Ivor Eyles.

THE GREAT, GREAT GRAND-DADDY OF LEAGUES

WHEN is the "offspring" older than the "parent"? Our present E.T.T.A. grew out of the P.P.A. in 1921-2—33 years ago, yet here is a League that is celebrating its GOLDEN JUBILEE—Plymouth—with 50 years of continuous activity. They ought to be proud (and we hope they appreciate the work of their officers as they should).

We would like to know of any similar organisation ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD that has or can even approach such a record, let alone match it!!

R. W. J. Norsworthy it was that founded it in 1903. He is still a Vice-President. From the Y.M.C.A. meeting they started the "Three Towns & D. Ping Pong League" with 8—10 clubs, with teams of 6, each playing 1 opponent 3 games of 20 points. By 1910, the League had 3 Divs. They start their Jubilee Year with a record of 124 teams and a very handsome, interesting and informative fixture book of 68 inside pages and gleaming golden cover.

CLOSING DATE, ENGLISH
OPEN : Tuesday, 13th October

Entries **MUST** be sent only to Mr. N. COOK,
 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge, Cheshire.

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
Oct. 25	4th PORTSMOUTH OPEN, South Parade Pier, Southsea.	B.S. 12	Mr. A. W. Williams, 85, Lyndhurst Road, North End, Portsmouth.
30-Nov. 1 *AUSTRIAN OPEN.			
31	HARTLEPOOLS OPEN, Main Canteen, Cerebos Ltd., Greatham.	J.S. 10	(Mr. E. Reay).
31-Nov. 18 ENGLAND TOUR BY SWEDISH JUNIORS.			
31/Nov. 1	SUSSEX OPEN, Sea End and White Rock Pavilions, Hastings.	B.S. 18	Mr. K. R. Hayward, Top Flat, 10, Wellington Place, Hasting. (Mr. C. Corti- Woodcock).
Nov. *BULGARIAN CLOSED.			
2-7	EAST SUBURBAN OPEN, (Oct. 10) Y.M.C.A. Hydro Hall, Plaistow, and Baths Hall, Ilford.	B.S. 7 G.S. 7	Mr. H. D. Olley, 67, Hast- ings Avenue, Ilford, Essex. (Mr. C. Corti Woodcock).
7	HULL & E. RIDING OPEN (Oct. 29) Madeley Street Baths, Hessle Road, Hull.	J.S. 10-14	Mr. H. Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Anlaby Road, Hull. (Mr. A. Abrahamson).
9-13	ENGLISH OPEN (Oct. 13) Belle Vue, Manchester.	All Events	Mr. N. Cook, 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge Cheshire. (Mr. L. W. Jones).
11-23 *ALL-U.S.S.R. CHAMPIONSHIPS. Leningrad.			
13-15	SOUTH of ENGLAND OPEN, Power-Samas Welfare Hall, Aurelia Road, Croydon.	B.S. 8 G.S. 8	Mr. C. A. Bourne, 15a, Red Down Rd., Coulsdon, Surrey. (Mr. C. T. Dean).
14	ENGLAND v. FRANCE, Town Hall, Leeds.	(Men)	Mr. N. Rushton, 461, Spen Lane, Leeds, 6.
14	ENGLAND v. FRANCE, (Women) Eastfield Canteen, Peterborough.		Mr. E. G. Urwin, 106, Broadway, Peterborough.
16	ENGLAND v. SWEDEN, (Juniors) Assembly Hall, Stoke Abbott Road, Worthing.	Boys	Mr. W. G. Goldfinch, 11, Colebrook Close, Worthing.
21	BATH OPEN, (Nov. 7) Drill Hall, Upper Bristol Road, Bath.	No W.D. 8	Mr. L. Le Cren, 4, Newark Street, Bath. (Mr. A. L. Ollis).
26-28	MERSEYSIDE OPEN Drill Hall, Mather (Nov. 14) Avenue, Liverpool.	B.S. 8 G.S. 8	Mr. W. Stamp, Buena Ven- tura, Farndale Close, Liver- pool, 18. (Mr. F. J. Farrell).
28	DORSET OPEN (Nov. 14) Sidney Hall and Trinity Hall, Weymouth.	— 11	Mr. P. H. Northcott, 31, Hillcrest Road, Weymouth.
29	KENT JUNIOR OPEN Gordon (Nov. 7) Barracks, Gillingham.	All Events Under 17's Under 15's (10) Under 13's	Mr. F. G. Mannoch, 216, Park Road, Sittingbourne. (Mr. F. Trew).
30-Dec 5	CENTRAL OPEN (Nov. 9) Manor Place Baths, Manor Place, S.E.17.	B.S. 8 G.S. 8	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath. (Mr. G. James).

GOOD HEAVENS !

On a carpet of cloud will we play all
 the games
 When we pass through the Heavenly
 Gate ?

Will the Bats we shall use all Divinely
 be made
 And the Table, quite simply, first-
 rate ?

If our "Three-stars" seem good to
 the E.T.T.A.,

What celestial spheres will be there !
 There'll be "Six-stars" and "Ten-
 stars" (Angelic Approved)

From the "Plough," if you like, or
 "Great Bear."

Will a fine wisp of vapour suffice for
 the Net,
 With no "sag" as we find here on
 Earth ?

And will all our opponents play fair
 when they serve,
 And give finger- (or wing) spins
 wide berth ?

So if some of these fanciful things are
 to be,
 We'll be sure of some very good
 play,

And if all that is best in the Sport is
 up there
 How we'll miss the old E.T.T.A. !

Stanley Preston