

# TABLETENNIS



No. 900

**ADELE WOOD**  
(England and Lancashire)

## The World Champion

*Exclusive Interviews by  
Ferenc Gyorgy  
Lawrence Kirwan*



## My reply to Bergmann

*Geoff. James*



## BETTER CLUB CENTRES

*Leslie S. Woollard*



## Rowe Twins Sparkle "Down Under"



## Open Tournament Regs. and Official News



## A Literary T.T. Match

*Art Buchwald*



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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## EDITORIAL OPINION

### Policy and Progress

(Reflecting the personal views and policy of The Editor)

**T**HIS magazine is dedicated to help and serve Table Tennis and the great majority who play it.

It presents the voice of Authority and it presents the voice of the Critic. Occasionally it has displeased both and will doubtless do so again. It "sets the cause above renown" and it loves the game beyond adherence to personalities. It aims for 100% accuracy in its facts. It believes that its readers are intelligent enough to judge the individual opinions they read. It welcomes honest expression and it welcomes criticism. It presents the best T.T. writers in the world and it welcomes everyone.

We intend to face facts boldly because some of our more explosive problems need boldness. We believe in Progress. We believe in Changes for the game must be a plant, not a fossil. It needs to be constantly revitalised with new ideas and new blood. It must be kept clean and sweet. We want to perpetuate the good things and correct the bad things. We want to improve upon the best, for we cannot go forward by standing still.

#### SIR JACK HOBBS

**T**HE knighthood for Jack Hobbs put a golden seal on a memorable Coronation Year. It made happy the thoughts and warm the congratulations of millions for this incomparable prince of sportsmen who characteristically found time from his greatness to help lay the foundations for the English Table Tennis Association.

Our present history begins with the revival of the game (then called Ping-Pong) in 1921-2. The All-England Club was opened at 393, The Strand, London, in February, 1922, and was the original parent of our present Association. Jack Hobbs was a Founder Member of this organisation and an active member of the first Executive Committee.\* As one of the best T.T. players in the country, Jack (partnered by fellow cricket international Andy Ducat), made the first exhibition film of Table Tennis for public audiences. A T.T. table was installed at the Oval and the game became immensely popular (as it still is) with leading cricketers.

Jack Hobbs is the epitome of our most cherished sporting ideals. His play was a sheer artistry of all per-

fections; a magnetic genius who attracted the records and fame which he scorned to chase. To him, the "spirit of the game" was always paramount, and it kept him the most selfless, self-effacing and kindly of all men, yet gracefully charming and with a shrewd but kindly wit and a glorious sense of fun.

Sir Jack Hobbs is our ideal of a truly great "amateur" sportsman, a living model of the traditions we want to see preserved forever in this sport. We should be proud to see him a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A.

#### COVER GIRL: ADELE WOOD

ALL-ROUND sportsgirl "Dale" Wood (now Mrs. Pettifer) the "Sweetheart of the North," reminds that the English Open is at Manchester in a few weeks.

Dale is one of the most attractive players—both in person and performance—in England. In the English Open of 1947-48 she won the Junior title. The next year, even better, she again won the title (over Di Rowe) and was finalist in the senior W.D. event. The same year, only 17, she was in England's Corbillon Cup team at Stockholm.

Some say that she was "blooded" too early and some say that circumstances or authority subsequently never gave her the chance of fighting her way to the real heights of which she was capable. She is still one of England's topline players, however, and hundreds of friends acclaim her sweet personality, good sportsmanship, and star quality. She is only 21 now and we hope to see her shining amid the stars for many years to come.

L.S.W.

*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



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#### 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.

**THE WELSH EDITION.** Official Journal of the Table Tennis Association of Wales.  
Mrs. N. ROY EVANS, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Penylan, Cardiff.

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

\*This Executive included 2 of the present Vice-Presidents of the E.T.T.A.: Austin F. Carris (of the famous Junior Golf Competition) and H. R. McDonald (celebrated sports writer).

# "I TRAIN THAT I SHALL BEAT THEM"

say World Champion FERENC SIDO

Two Special articles Exclusive to "Table Tennis"

By FERENC GYORGY

WHEN I called at the luxurious apartments of reigning World Champion Ferenc Sido in Budapest it was almost as though I had entered a film set.

In a surrounding of Biedermayer furniture and oriental carpets, the giant form—clad in glamorous pyjamas—reclined restfully. All these domestic comforts have been made possible by his national and world supremacy, his lifelong thriftiness and exemplary adherence to an athletic way of life.

"I drink nothing stronger than orangeade," he declares earnestly, "I do not smoke ever . . . in fact I think I have no vices . . . and I love none but my own dear little Gizi."

The big man is serious. There is no smile. There is a warm and understanding affection between the Champion and his tiny wife. You will always see her in a ringside seat when her Feri is playing in a big competition. It is almost as though she plays for him too with all her heart as she tightly clutches her handkerchief, squeezing it as she watches point by point. And never does her Feri forget—win or lose—to come straight and first to her from the table and presents his kiss to her.

"Feri actually weighs 100 kilos," she says, and adds, with a mischievous smile, "but he will never, never admit it . . . You should just see how he eats! But it surely gives me a good heart for preparing his favourite dishes."

Gizi's menus fully justified themselves by the champion's perfect condition at Budapest . . . I asked him whether the several matches he had lost locally before the World Championships affected his confidence or mood.

"But of course not," he replied promptly and emphatically. "I am in training. It is not the players here that I must beat—it is those players I am to meet in Bucharest that I must beat . . . so I train that I shall beat them."

"I practice much with Szepesi and Gyetvai in my training. Every ball—it is HIT. Every drive—it is counter-attacked. I practice and practice this way and I become such a hitter as I have not before been. I have always hit hard but now I hit accurately also. I could not miss a ball. I learn the way of the big ones like Barna, and Bergmann, and Leach and Vana."

I looked at this modest 6 ft. 4 ins., 15-stone giant. It seemed almost fantastic to think that this man had made an unprecedented World Championship record. He had played 36 matches without a single defeat in the individual or the team events. He had won all the 3 World Titles which were possible for him to win! His victories included those over Bergmann (2-0 in the team match) and Andreadis (3-0 in the singles final).

"Of all your triumphant matches at Bucharest," I asked, "what is the most memorable recollection you have of the Championships?"

"The final against Andreadis," Sido replied immediately. "I was leading 2 games to nil and 20-16 in the third game. I needed but one single point to become the Champion of the World . . ." He closed his eyes in silent memory.

"Didn't you believe that you had already won?" I prompted.

The big man was instantly alert; aggressively emphatic.

"No, never! That must be the first lesson for a champion. Always. It is only at the 21 that the game is decided. Anything can happen before that may come . . . Andreadis hit two terrific backhand drives and the score was 20-18. Be calm, Feri, I said to myself. You have only to get the ball back . . . only to hold him until HE loses the point . . . It was then my service and as I picked up the ball I knew I was wrong. I knew, with a sudden instinctive certainty, what I must do. If you will now be a World Champion, Feri, you must WIN this point. You must hit it and hit it so hard that it comes not back."

"I served sharply. Andreadis returned it sufficiently high for me to pound it with a backhand. Miraculously it came back . . . I must hit, HIT, I thought, and put all my weight into a forehand drive . . . It must be a winner, yet no . . . amazingly, Andreadis had made a return!!! Again I go to hit . . . but check—the ball is off the table. I'd won . . . won . . . won! I was the Champion of the World."

"How can one describe that supreme moment of 15 years' effort . . . Tenseness goes and leaves one limp for a few uncontrollable seconds . . . Shame can be shame . . . I just could not help the tears of a supreme happiness from brimming."



No. 893 World Champion Sido

One great satisfaction to me of these Championships is that I have now the talent to "hold" the ball as well as to hit the One that marks the point. That is how I beat the great Bergmann. Richard can return a series of drives better than anyone; it is the ONE which gets him into trouble. My two games with him lasted 34 minutes because I had to wait for the opportunity of making that ONE-shot winner!

Feri Sido goes to bed punctually and it is time to say "Goodnight," but before I leave I look over the large cabinet with its almost uncountable collection of sports trophies. Proud and prominent are the 4 cups won at Bucharest. His hand, so large against mine, touches the St. Brides Vase gently, almost paternally. A suggestion of a smile softens the earnestness of his expression and words:—

"I will try hard that it shall be here next year too!" he says. The smile, perhaps, was for petite Mrs. Sido who was playfully but affectionately holding his other hand. The earnestness will certainly be concentrated in his play for those who will see him in the World Championships at Wembley next April.

## LIFE PORTRAIT

by LAWRENCE KIRWAN

IT was in 1936 when Ferenc Sido, just 13, first showed the makings of a champion.

Big moustached Peter Sido, a workman in Pozsony (Bratislava) just over the Hungarian border in Czechoslovakia, saw the lad's talent and decided he must get him trained.

After work, no matter how tired he was, the father took young Ferenc to the local P.T.E. Club for coaching.

## FERENC SIDO (continued)

The boy soon achieved results. In 1938 he was already the junior champion of Slovakia. He learned a great deal of table tennis technique and tactics from the famous player Moravek.

In 1939 the Sidos moved to Budapest. Young Ferenc became a stoker in the Elzett factory. But he had to drop his coaching, for the family now had not enough money to pay for tuition, which was not free in those days.

He continued playing, however, and a year later 17-year-old Ferenc became a member of the Hungarian national team and was ranked second in the national championships.

In 1942 he moved to Diosgyor, to work in the iron and steel factory. He became a wages clerk, just like two other table tennis players working in the same plant—Joseph and Gizi Farkas.

The sturdy Ferenc took up football at this stage and played in goal for the MAVAG N.B. team in several championship matches. In 1944 he got married in Diosgyor, and it was here that the Liberation found him.

In 1945 he moved back to war-battered Budapest, took a job in the Electric works, and resumed table tennis in the factory's sports club.

At the World Championship in Paris in 1947 world table tennis first heard the name of Sido. He came second to Vana in the men's singles. On his return his Government decorated him.

But Sido was not satisfied. With a conscientiousness taught him by his father he set about correcting his deficiencies. While he had a formidable forehand, his backhand was much softer and he believed his defence was weak.

The correcting process brought a crisis in Sido's playing. The feared and respected attacking player started to be defensive—and immediately became less formidable.

But gradually his backhand improved and he learned again to attack courageously.

In the international match at Pozsony, he won the men's singles, and in the Stockholm world championship he became World's mixed doubles champion with Gizi Farkas.

He did well in the world championships at Vienna, Budapest and Bombay, finishing at the head in every section, but he still did not succeed in the dream of every table tennis player—to become world champion in the men's singles. He was nearly always second or third.

When the Helsinki Olympics were taking place he studied the reports of the successes of the Hungarian sports groups, and resolved he would make

a similar tremendous effort based on specialised training.

With the help of the two coaches Laszlo Varkonyi and Joseph Juhos he not only succeeded in getting rid of his disturbing surplus weight, but also acquired the ability to use his strength as never before. He discussed the questions of tactics and tricks of playing with his coaches and theoretically prepared himself beforehand for all kinds of opponents.

In spite of a few setbacks, Sido was now in the greatest form of his life. He knew it was important for him to make his opponent play according to his, Sido's, fancy.

He must be able to attack when he thought it correct to do so, but he should defend only when he wanted to and not when his opponent forced it upon him. He carefully studied the play of the redoubtable Bergmann, and put his theories to the test in the team match against him.

In the individuals final he met the Czech. Andreadis, whose arrestingly easy style has a psychological effect that is unusually oppressive on the opponent. If the Czech. wins a number of points in succession—and this can happen with anyone even in the most important matches—then the opponent, seeing Andreadis light as a butterfly, with a dispassionate expression on his face, easily falls into the belief that Andreadis is only playing with half his strength against him.

Sido was not deceived by this. He decided that he would let Andreadis attack, and then suddenly try to get points by counter-attacking.

He did this in the first game and was leading 11-4. Then came Andreadis's row of points, bringing him the lead at 14-11. Sido did not lose his head. He kept to his plan and won the game. The second game was on the same pattern—Sido leading 19-16, then Andreadis leading 20-19.

Sido thought: "Well, at worst, I've lost the game, but the set is certainly mine. I'll hit out, and maybe he won't defend." He did this and Andreadis did not defend, and Sido won.

The third game was the most exciting. The score was 20-16 to Sido. One point was lacking to make him world champion. He felt far from calm.

Andreadis attacked violently, brought the score to 20-18. Sido thought: "I can't let him carry on attacking, otherwise there will be trouble for me. I must hit out!"

Andreadis gave a long stroke with his backhand; Sido smashed it back across the table. The ball came back, another backhand followed, and Andreadis hit the ball right off the table. Sido was world champion.

What are his plans for the future? To train as many as possible new talented table tennis players in the sports clubs, and to gain as many new world championships as he can for the honour of his country.

He is already in training again. Even on the evening of his victory he drank only lemonade, smoked no cigarettes, accepted congratulations at the banquet, shook hands with many acquaintances and unknown friends, and then, with a smiling "It's getting late," said goodbye to them all and went to bed.●

## WHEN IS A JUNIOR?

I was interested in Mr. Harry Levine's article on the age of Juniors (in the May *Table Tennis*). Many of his points are outstanding.

As the donor of the English Open Junior Singles trophies, I always thought the maximum age should have been 16, but as the E.T.T.A. and the I.T.T.F. thought 17 the maximum, I concluded after full consideration that the present system, after all, is more acceptable for Juniors.

One solution for Mr. Levine's complaint is to run English "Schoolboys" T.T. Competitions with the maximum age of 15.

These could be run by the schools themselves (to avoid any additional burden on the E.T.T.A.) providing they were in harmony with the E.T.T.A. and the appropriate regulations and affiliations, etc.

A. T. Finney,  
Vice-President, E.T.T.A.

## THEY SAY—

Colonel Harry Llewellyn, Britain's crack show jumper (of Foxhunter fame), speaking of the decision not to include equestrian events in the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne: " . . . If horsemen all over the world have no gold medal to aim at for a period of 8 years, we may as well take up ping-pong."

Alan Hoby, famous sports writer, says that he once asked Sidney Wooderson the secret of his success in running. Wooderson replied:

"I suppose it is that, while the others are playing ping-pong in the club house or drinking beer, I am out training hard."

Editorial comment: We believe that Sidney Wooderson may have subsequently changed his view for we understand he became a Vice-President of the Beckenham T.T. League. Alan Hoby (with Peter Wilson) are two of the handiest of the many T.T. players in Fleet Street.

# NEW REGULATIONS FOR OPEN TOURNAMENTS

## The Vague Unspecific

THE airy phrase "open tournament conditions" has a ring of authority that is belied by its vagueness. County Championship rule 30 requires that "E.T.T.A. tournament rules on playing conditions shall be observed" but what these are and where they can be found is another matter. You can search in vain through the 184 pages of the E.T.T.A. Handbook (as one or two of our diligent readers have discovered) and remain little wiser.

There has for long been a need for authoritative guidance on this subject. Where regulations or conditions exist they should be available to every organiser and player; where there are recommendations they should be published for guidance. For the last few years the Open Tournaments Sub-Committee has been conscious of this need and in April last they produced 9 closely typed, foolscap pages of Report and Recommendations. Closer perusal showed it to be less formidable than might be supposed.

## Current Regulations

PART ONE presented all the current rules, etc., concerning Open Tournaments. These are:—

1. E.T.T.A. Rules 25 (General requirements) and 23 (concerning dress). Pages 27-8 of E.T.T.A. Handbook.

2. Registered Members' Regulations 1 (c), (d) and (e) concerning payments and rewards. Page 31 of Handbook.

3. I.T.T.F. Rule 21 defining that an "Open" tournament shall be one that is open to players of any association in membership with the I.T.T.F.

4. I.T.T.F. Disciplinary Regulations 4 and 6 (referring to payments and prizes, etc.).

5. I.T.T.F. Regulations for International Competitions where applicable to Open Tournaments; dealing with:—

- (i) Equipment and conditions.
- (ii) Clothing.
- (iii) Referee, Umpire, Committee (Jurisdiction and Appeal).
- (iv) Advice to Players during play.
- (v) Rest period during play.
- (vi) Time Limit regulations.

6. General Regulations issued by the Open Tournaments Sub-Committee to Organisers of Open Tournaments. These deal with Seeding; the Draw; Qualifying Groups; Finals; implementing the Service Rule, etc.

## New Proposals

PART TWO consolidates most of the above into 17 regulations and these are to operate for Open Tournam-

ments in the Season 1953-54. Presumably, when the regulations are finally published they will include appropriate extracts from I.T.T.F. Regulations (for reference), e.g., the Time Limit Rule.

## Types of Tournament

PART THREE defines different types of Tournament:—

1. An Open Tournament is one that is open to players of all associations in membership with the I.T.T.F. (Any English Open has to be sanctioned by the E.T.T.A.)

2. A Closed Tournament restricts entries to affiliated players of a specific club; league; county; defined area of a county; or an area approved by the E.T.T.A.

3. An Invitation Tournament is one in which particular affiliated players are invited to compete and general invitations are not issued. It must be approved by the County Association. Where players of another county are to be invited, the Tournament also needs the consent of the E.T.T.A. as well as that of the county associations concerned.

4. A General Competition is defined. Requires sanction of E.T.T.A. who will decide appropriate conditions. The *Daily Mirror* Tournament is such a competition.

## Specific Proposals

Main recommendations for Playing Conditions specified. The minimum playing space during rounds shall be 12 ft. runback and 5 ft. between tables (or between a table and surround or wall). For finals and staged rounds, the minimum playing space shall be 36 ft. by 18 ft.

Lighting. No light shall be less than 9 ft. 9 ins. from the ground. Measured at table height in foot candles, minimums shall be: 40 over the table; 20 to edges of an area 26 ft. by 3 ft.; 5 to limits of playing area; and 2 reflection from near surface of the ball at table end.

Floor should be of hard, non-slip wood of unreflecting surface; not stone or linoleum. Background should be of uniform dark shade and neither light nor patchy.

In the paragraph referring to Programmes it is recommended that the names of Umpires be included for the Final events. If they are E.T.T.A. County Umpires, the designation "C.U." should follow the name.

## Information on Request

Only a brief summary of the proposed Open Tournament Regulations has been given. We invite readers to write and tell us of any matters in

which they have a particular interest or opinion or would like explained. Some recommendations for this season will probably be adopted as regulations for future seasons, so everyone interested should take an articulate part in helping to ensure that the final rules are the best possible.

## Speculation

At this stage it might also prove interesting to speculate on the character of future open tournaments. A higher standard of minimum conditions hints either a limitation or some form of simple grading such as Major (for those fulfilling all requirements) and perhaps Minor (for those unable to get the requisite facilities). The possibility that future World Championships may cease to operate on the present overwhelming expensive Annual basis adds interest to speculation, since the resultant trend might be in an increasing entry of other international players into our major tournaments. ●

## HEIR PORT (Arrivals)

CONGRATULATIONS and good wishes to Johnny and Daisy Leach on the safe arrival (on 9th August, 1953) of Jeffrey James, a brother for Johnny Junior. 7 lb. 6 oz.

## TORONTO SUMMER OPEN

Toronto, 9th August, 1953

From James Shrimpton

(ex-Editor, Birmingham Edition, *Table Tennis*)

THE international atmosphere of this meet suggests immigrants flocking into Canada from everywhere. I saw a Chinese boy beat an American while I, an Anglo-Saxon, was knocked out by a Nigerian. None of the 4 seeds reached the semis, in fact, No. 1, Lithuanian Pranas Guildys lost in his very first match. Both losing semi-finalists in the M.S. and the losing finalist of the W.S. came from Latvia. The M.S. final was between an Estonian and a South American from British Guiana. The latter won a tight, sometimes spectacular, attack-defence match.

Canadian rules insist on All-White Dress, and the standard of play was about that of English top-club class, but the game is growing with the country, which is FAST.

M.S. R. FERRIERA bt. (1) I. Kulitis; bt. (2) H. Jurman 17, —14, 11, 12 (bt. V. Apsitis).

W.S. JOAN JESSOP bt. (1) H. Sanders; bt. (2) J. Kapostins 14, 18, —18, 18 (bt. D. Wisman).

M.D. C. Mercer/D. Rathlour bt. Ferreria/Raboulsky.

X.D. Rathlour/Jessop bt. Guildys/Sanders.

# — WAS BERGMANN SERIOUS ?

By GEOFF. JAMES

against the 20-minute rule is that it must be applied to all games including the very small minority of spectacular games which last so long. Yet when a rule is framed which meets his point, "the so-called Expedite Rule," we are told it is "officialdom gone haywire." This rule is applied only when neither player is seeking to make the opponent's returns difficult and is without any time limit. Admittedly it has defects but, surely, they are capable of amendment and worthy of more than the ungenerous remarks made about the rule's inventors.

To deal with Richard's numbered recommendations :—

1. In the absence of any constructive alternative, Time limits must stay. (I appear to be an English minority as far as the expedite rule is concerned.)
2. Extensions of the time limit defeat the whole object of the rule and if the majority of players are satisfied with the 10-minute limit on subsequent games it seems that this is a case where the spectator should be looked after and the rule retained.
2. (a) At all national tournaments a precision clock is certainly essential and will I hope one day become a regular thing rather than a rarity.
2. (b) There is no reason for ambiguity over stoppages as I.T.T.F. regulations insist on time allowance for major hold ups such as lost or fractured ball, etc. To stop the clocks every time the ball is out of play would really mean extending the time limit and would require the limit to be reduced to say 15 or 18 minutes.
3. To make Open tournament singles the best of 5 games is a very big issue which would need an article on its own. Suffice to say that money is again the guiding factor. I am told that conditions in most opens are now much superior to pre-war. These have to be bought and the biggest portion of the revenue of an Open tournament consists of the entry fees. Reduce your entry and fees to accommodate the longer matches and I fear that most tournaments would be in dire straits. Incidentally, my information is that in pre-war England the 5-game match was even more of a rarity than it is now.

Richard either cannot or will not see the evils which would result from

all matches deteriorating to wars of attrition but as far as English officials are concerned let me assure him that in this matter their one desire is the continued progress of the game, which is surely very much in the interest of great players like Richard Bergmann. May be that is why so many of these players accept the Time Limit.●

## THAMESIDE OPEN

Plaistow, 9th May, 1953

Notable performance by Welsh junior Shirley Jones, who won 4 titles.

**M.S. K. CRAIGIE** bt. (1) R. Crayden 18, 14; bt. (2) A. R. Miller 18, —19, 18, 19 (bt. J. Lowe 17, 17).

**W.S. S. JONES** bt. (1) B. Gray 16, 15; bt. (2) P. Gall 19, 16 (bt. Y. Baker 19, —19, 16).

**M.D. K. CRAIGIE/A. RHODES** bt. R. Crayden/J. Lowe 12, —11, 17.

**W.D. B. GRAY/S. JONES** bt. M. Cumberland/J. Mackay 14, 12.

**X.D. I. JONES/S. JONES** bt. A. Rhodes/J. Roberts 13, —14, 18.

**B.S. M. MACLAREN** bt. R. J. Dorking —13, 18, 18.

**G.S. S. JONES** bt. J. Fielder 10, 12.

**S**PORT, which still keeps the flag of Idealism flying, is perhaps the most saving grace in the world at the moment, with its spirit of rules kept, and regard for the adversary, whether the fight is going for or against. When, if ever, the fair-play spirit of sport reigns over international affairs, the cat force which rules there now will shrink away and human life emerge for the first time from the jungle. ... ..

John Galsworthy

singles final were 0-15, 15-0 and 3-0 (under the old 20-minute rule without the 10-minute qualification), any serious attempt was being made to win points. As in most of these endurance tests both players were determined not to lose points and patiently waited for the opponent to make the mistake. This then was a World's Final in which two people failed to score 21 points between them in three games and gave a display reminiscent of the old dining-room table days. Yet according to Richard the public must chance this "as they do in other sports"! Let the precarious position of most of the County Cricket Clubs with their three day matches in comparison with the near opulence of Northern League Cricket with its one day programme serve as sufficient warning.

Surely Stockholm showed how farcical "pushing" play can become and if legislators introduce farcical rules to cope with it how can it be said they are wrong.

Any extension of absolutely negative play would in the end finish our game. Richard's only valid complaint

## WEST AFRICAN T.T.

At Lagos in May, Nigeria beat Gold Coast 17 ties to 8 in a representative international match. Teams of 5, each playing each, best of 3 games. Individual wins and losses were :—

**For Nigeria:** Alli 5-0; Ayanlaja 4-1; Chinwuba 4-1; Dosumtu 3-2; Okungbowa 1-4.

**For Gold Coast:** Mullings 3-2; Ayerh 2-3; Netty 2-3; Hammond 1-4; Laing 0-5.

## PERSONALIA

WHAT a year to remember . . . The Coronation . . . winning the Swaythling Cup . . . regaining The Ashes . . . superb athletic achievements . . . What an encouraging opening to the New Season. Now where is everyone and what have they been doing? . . . ● Congratulations to live enterprise on founding county associations for Dorset; Oxfordshire; Shropshire; Somerset; and Wiltshire. ● While Twins **Rosalind** and **Diane Rowe** have made "royal progress" "down under," **Victor** and **Susie Barna** have been holidaying in Spain. ● T.T. Champion of Bath for 6 years running, county rugger full-back, and Somerset cricketer, **H. T. F. (Bertie) Buse** took the wrong match for his first Benefit . . . It finished in one day! He has notched another good season. Do Sheffield remember the time when the "Galloping Major" claimed 6 wickets (including Len Hutton's) for 33 and Yorkshire, all out for 77, were forced to follow on? ● Former Junior International, **Louis Devereux**, has made a promising debut for Worcestershire, and **Derek Merryweather** has done well for Lincs. County, including a 74 against Cambs. ● **Harry Walker** (Essex Sec.) took a team of East London Juniors up to Lowestoft (for the second year) to match **Harry Levine's** brilliant Briarcliffe protege's ● Staffs. Chairman **Malcolm Scott** on fortnight's vacation in the Channel Islands got in some early practice with the J.T.T.A. folks . . . He was recently given pride of place (as T.T. rep.) at Good-

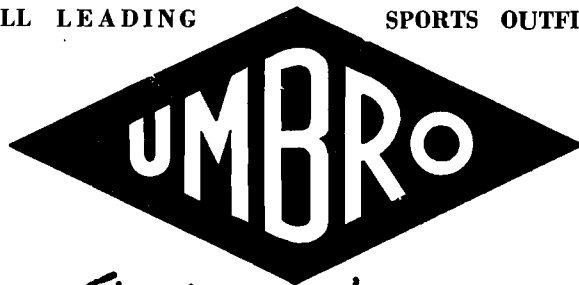
year's local Sportsmen's Dinner at Wolverhampton. ● Lancs. Junior International **Geoff Pullar** is reckoned the best left-handed bat in the Central Lancs. Cricket League and also a handy bowler. Has notched more than 450 runs this season against such bowlers as Ramadhin (W.I.), Ried (N.Z.) and Barnett. Geoff has been selected for the Under-18 team of the Lancs. C.F. to tour the South. ● Our No. 1 photographer **Peter Madge** suddenly flew off to Stockholm recently for a fortnight. "Want to see where our juniors go every other wintertime," he declared, and ". . . not so much as a para. from me for September." (Well, we did make a para. of it, Peter!) ● Last year's Editor of the Birmingham Edition of *Table Tennis*, **Jim Shrimpton**, has well and truly gone west, but only in the best sense of adventure and enterprise . . . Emigrated to Canada for journalistic experience the hard way. Has landed job with *Trail Daily Times*, B.C. . . . Writes in this issue . . . Good to hear, Jimmy; best of luck. ● "Table Tennis Player of the Year"—Winner of the Victor Barna Award—**Aubrey Simons**, has played less club or county cricket than usual . . . has managed to include restful holiday with wife Jeanne, and further improve his already popular T.T. bat-manufacturing business. ● There is great news from the North of **Ken Stanley's** considerable summer T.T. activities of which we hope to print more details next month. It's some of the most heartening news that has come out of the North for a long time . . . A really grand effort. ●

Czechoslovakian Open.  
Netherlands Open.  
6—14 WORLD CHAMPION-  
SHIPS. Wembley.  
17—19 NORTH-EAST ENGLAND  
OPEN.

MAY  
Apr. 26—1 THAMESIDE OPEN.  
May 13 Finals, "Daily Mirror"  
Tournament.

OF ALL LEADING

SPORTS OUTFITTERS



*The choice of champions*

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

## ANNUAL PROGRAMME

as notified at time of going to press. Amendments and additions will be published as received.

September and October Events  
on page 20.

### NOVEMBER

- Oct. 31—1 SUSSEX OPEN.  
31—1 Austrian Open.  
Bulgarian Closed.
- Nov.  
2—20 Swedish Juniors England  
Tour.  
2—7 EASTERN SUBURBAN  
OPEN.  
7 HULL OPEN.  
9—13 ENGLISH OPEN. Man-  
chester.  
13—15 SOUTH OF ENGLAND  
OPEN.,  
14 England v. France (Men).  
Leeds.  
14 England v. France (Women).  
Peterborough.  
11—23 All-U.S.S.R. Championships.  
Leningrad.  
16 England v. Sweden (Juniors).  
Worthing.  
21 BATH OPEN.  
26—28 MERSEYSIDE OPEN.  
28 DORSET OPEN.  
29 KENT JUNIOR OPEN.

### DECEMBER

- Nov. 30—5 CENTRAL OPEN.  
Dec. 10 England v. Wales (Women).  
Wales.  
10—12 Welsh Open.

### JANUARY, 1954

- Polish Closed.  
4—6 Swedish Closed.  
4—9 METROPOLITAN OPEN.  
8—9 PONTEFRAC T OPEN.  
9 England v. France (XD.J.).  
France.  
10—13 French Open.  
11—16 SOUTH LONDON OPEN.  
15 England v. France (Men).  
France.  
16—17 Belgian Open.  
17—23 NORTH-WEST KENT.  
21 England v. Ireland (XD.).  
Ireland.  
22—23 SOUTH YORKSHIRE  
OPEN.  
24 SOUTHAMPTON OPEN.  
30—31 KENT OPEN.

### FEBRUARY

- Jan. 31—6 MIDLAND OPEN.  
Rumanian Closed.  
Feb.  
3—13 MIDDLESEX (Herga)  
OPEN.  
8—9 BUCKS. OPEN.  
18—20 CHESHIRE OPEN.  
23 England v. Wales (Juniors).  
Wales.  
26—28 SURREY OPEN.  
27 T.T. CUPS Semis & Finals.  
(concluded on page 8, col. 1)

# THE ENGLISH HERE ALREADY

“Meet Me in Manchester . . .”

NOVEMBER AND NORTHWARD HO! Just a few, quick-passing weeks before this year's English Open heralds a hectic season. ‘Meet me in Manchester’ is the rallying cry for 1953. A cheery, hearty welcome (yes, and a challenge too), from the North to the rest of England and the World. Come up in your hundreds, you southerners, as the North regularly comes South to Wembley in the years between. The North wants to greet you, meet you, see you, know you and—if possible—beat you.

A northern English is a splendid thing. It brings new interests and rare opportunities to a host of players. A change venue gives fresh opportunity to more than a few “regulars.” Players who are but names can, even without triumph, become personalities. Best of all is to see Northern organisers running the event themselves, and this display by the “Northern Lights” should prove that England has a “reserve” of men capable of administrative and organising work on a “national” level.

#### A little advance information briefly :

**Dates :** Monday, 9th November to Friday, 13th November. A shock for anyone superstitious about “Friday, the 13th” (although many tell us it is really a lucky date!), and a surprise night for the Finals which should make travelling problems easier.

**Venue :** Belle Vue, Hyde Road, Manchester. Rounds played in the Belfast Suite. Finals in the Kings Hall.

**Route :** Arriving in Manchester, take trolley or ‘bus marked for HYDE or DENTON. Frequent service all day. Piccadilly or outside London Road Station are the most convenient transport stops.

**Accommodation :** Accommodation can be booked in advance on request to the organisers. Prices (approx.) : from 15/- bed and breakfast.

**Playing Conditions :** 9 Jaques Tables, 19 feet between each, 17 feet runback. Excellent flooring. Equipment and fitting by Godfrey Decker. Villa XXX balls.

**Facilities :** Ample dressing-rooms complete with toilets and wash. Running buffet open all day and good meals ; the Restaurant is in the hall and parallel to the courts. 7 prepayment telephone booths are in the hall. All facilities under the one roof, near-at-hand and readily accessible.

**FINALS :** It is proposed to stage ALL Finals on Friday, the 13th November. Full moneys-worth indeed! REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT HALF AS MANY SEATS AS AT WEMBLEY and ORDER EARLY. The Kings Hall is circular and the seats are tiered throughout so a really good view will be enjoyed by all. Prices range from the best ringside seats at 7/6d., 6/-, 5/- and 3/7d. (all reserved) to a limited number of unreserved at 2/6d.

### WHO'S WHO

**Organising Secretary :** NORMAN COOK, 7, North Avenue, Staly-bridge, Cheshire.

**Hon. Referee :** Leslie Jones (Hon. Sec. of Manchester League).

**Programmes :** Tom Blunn and Billie Stamp.

**Press and Publicity :** Albert Howcroft (Hon. Sec., Bolton League).

**Hospitality :** C. H. Renshaw (Chairman, Cheshire County).

**Finance :** T. Blunn, G. R. Yates (Hon. Treas., Lancs. T.T.A.), F. Farrell (Match Sec., L.T.T.A.).

**Committee Members :** L. E. Forrest, I. Montagu, E. Reay, A. K. Vint and E. G. White.

# Di and Ros Rowe



## SPARKLE DOWN UNDER

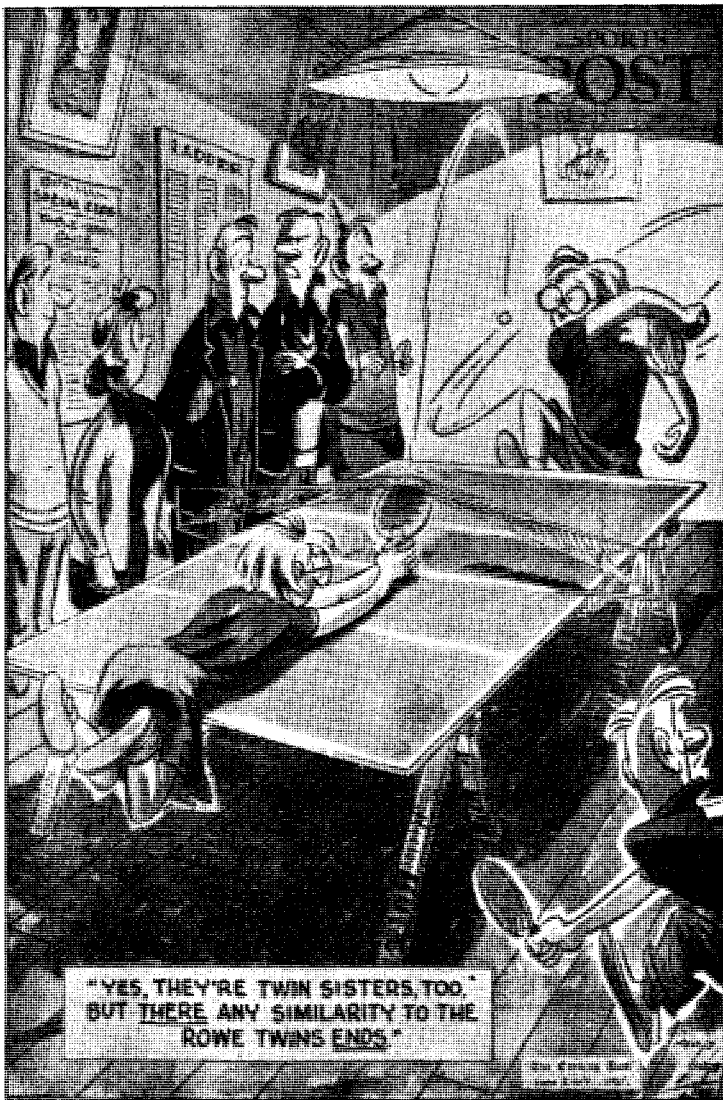


HERE is a tale as fresh as Spring and as welcome as a smile. An odyssey of gay adventure and sparkling achievement that is without any obvious villains.

The news that makes this memorable tale has come in a way like that of Spring. First a few odd letters. Then a swift, overwhelming burgeon of fertility. Reports, cuttings, newspapers, magazines, supplemented with masses of detail from that prolific and active European Representative of Oceania, Mr. C. Corti Woodcock.

To all these our editorial gratitude for the delight and pleasure they have given us in reading of one of the most outstanding "crusades" for Table Tennis—through personality and performance—since those vintage years nigh a quarter century back when Victor Barna, an emperor among kings, was in his full, brilliant, invincible, breath-taking glory. It is heartening to hear such news as this. It is remarkable that young ladies have achieved such success. How proud we can be of these English girls, exhibiting to our related world all that is best in the British way of play and performance.

A translation of a Greek proverbial phrase from the first Olympic Games emphasizes the spirit of our game: "Let those who have the light—pass it on." It has been England's proud heritage and privilege to "pass on" much of that which is best in many sports, but reading the eye-witness accounts of the Rowe's 1953 Tour, it must be held that the British tradition has nowhere been more worthily upheld. It was an inspiring crusade for Table Tennis which one Australian high-up has estimated to be worth £10,000 value for the game in the southern hemisphere.



No. 892

The front page of *The Sports Post* (New Zealand) for June 27th, 1953. One of the many front page tributes to the Rowe Twins on their New Zealand Tour.

THERE is always a T.T. season somewhere in the world. The English summer is the winter (or T.T. season) in the southern hemisphere. On May 2nd (18 days after their 20th birthday) the Rowe Twins sailed away in the *Mataroa* (on which the shipping company had thoughtfully installed a special practice table) on their 41-day, 12,000 mile voyage to the "England of Down Under." Sir Frederick Doidge, High Commissioner for New Zealand, gave them a send-off.

"At first," wrote Diane, "the boat trip seemed as though it would be endless . . . but we made many friends and time went quickly . . . We had opposite cabins and every afternoon slipped off to bed for a

quiet snooze . . . A life of luxury, but it didn't stop us feeling a little homesick . . ."

The *Mataroa* was no sluggard and arrived at Auckland, the "Queen" City, a full day ahead of schedule. At 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 13th, Di and Ros walked on to New Zealand soil. Any prior apprehensions (on either side) were soon dispelled. At the hotel, the press boys and photographers somersaulted from hospitable interest to an avid enthusiasm, starting Front Page news publicity of unprecedented magnitude that was to precede, follow, and boost the Tour to the heavens.

Enthusiast Brian Johns and colleagues threw a dance-party for 45-50 guests in the hall beneath their house

at Mount Eden in the evening. English lawn tennis player Paddy Roberts was there and had quite a chat with Di. Brian's father presented some special Kiwi Honey—(Hillary, conqueror of Everest, was an advocate of its virtues!)—with instructions to eat it just before the next World Championships! It was a gay, informal and friend-making party; the Official Welcome was yet to come. Everyone was wonderfully friendly; only the weather disgraced itself (as it was to continue to do). New Zealand winters (which are our summer months) are pleasantly temperate, but this was the worst spell in years with much rain and cold southerly winds.

The "Limited Express" from Auckland-Wellington is one of the few things which works on Sunday in Kiwi Land, and the Twins travelled sleeper for the 14-hour trip to Wellington, the capital city. A large reception awaited their arrival, headed by N.Z. Secretary Ken Wilkinson, Norm Ballinger and T. S. Williams. The train emptied and anxiety intruded when no twins appeared. Carriages were being searched when Di and Ros, serene, and blissfully ignorant of the anxiety they had aroused, appeared. They had slept well but rather long. Everyone was happy. John Crossley appeared to give the girls a friendly kiss of welcome.

Another avid press "do" at the hotel, and then "Morning Tea" in James Smith, Wellington's big departmental store, where the escorts nearly lost the Twins at a hat sale! The afternoon was crowded with press, radio and publicity folk; a gentler evening of pleasant chats with many, and John Stewart renewed acquaintance.

Tuesday, 16th June, and the Official Welcome and Start of the Tour. Parliament House at 10 a.m. and a special Morning Tea Reception when the Hon. W. A. Bodkin, Minister of Internal Affairs tendered an official welcome on behalf of the New Zealand Government and presented them with a Commemorative Album which is only presented to distinguished visitors. This was a signal honour for the English sisters. "The girls made a great impression and looked most charming in their attractive outfits."

On arrival Di and Ros wanted to make arrangements to have their hair set before the actual tour began, and this was done. The incident found its way into print as: "Yesterday's well-planned hustle through radio and press interviews was thrown right out of gear because, with typical male ignorance, the planners had not allocated time for the most important appointment—the hairdresser."

## ROWE TWINS TOUR

So to the first playing appearance that night at Lower Hutt, with the cold wind and heavy rains encouraging folk to stay by the fireside. And there had been many prophets of doom and gloom who doubted whether any woman players would attract justifiable crowds!!

"PEOPLE CLING TO WINDOW SILLS TO SEE ROWE TWINS" was the banner headline of *The Dominion* next day.

"Every part of the hall was crammed with spectators and many were locked out when the doors had finally to be forced shut. Some of these stayed and in the bitterly cold southerly rain clung precariously to windows to get a glimpse of the English women table tennis players, Diane and Rosalind Rowe . . ."



No. 840

Throughout the country, the Twins had completely captured the imagination. They were front page news, headline importance, and topline attraction.

"THESE WONDERFUL TABLE TENNIS TWINS." "New Zealand has known nothing quite like the Rowe Twins, Diane and Rosalind . . . wonderfully accomplished players . . . charm and personality, their humour . . . and even their diplomacy . . ."

" . . . The chic Londoners in their short shorts . . ." who "never spared themselves in 20 minutes of furious play . . ." " . . . will succeed in making a deep impression to a greater degree than any previous visitor from overseas . . . the justified touch of showmanship, never abused . . . each umpire received a handshake as well

as the opponents—a gesture with a ton of meaning."

" . . . The Rowe girls are proving the most popular visitors known here . . . The complete absence of gesture or pose . . . approachable and friendly . . . They do not need to lean on their unusual kinship as a pointer to their popularity. They have talent, spirit and personal charm . . . create a favourable impression from the moment they take their places at the table. They are not gallery players—their behaviour is exemplary on any sporting standards . . ."

" . . . And one thing which crowds—and we do mean crowds that are overflowing at all the twins' appearances—have not been slow to notice and appreciate, is the obvious willingness of the Rowe sisters to appreciate good play against them, a characteristic which should mean immense encouragement to our own girl players. And that, after all, is a prime reason for the tour."

There were 20 "dates" with local teams, each match being concluded with a rousing best of 3 between Di and Ros. (Wins in the first 13 were Di 5 and Ros 8). These exciting matches sent enthusiasms for T.T. skyhigh. In addition, there were the 4 international matches (results elsewhere). Altogether, more than 2,000 miles were covered by boat, car, coach, train, airplane or flying boat.

The New Zealand girls displayed tremendous keenness and no little latent talent. A teenage Maori, Ahou McCrae, was reported as a promising player. When the Twins again reached Auckland on the 30th June they met sterner opposition in the N.Z. Team Champions (Women): Margaret Hoar (W.S. Champion), Val Leach, Barbara Packwood and Barbara Williams. Left-hander Barbara Packwood was headline heroine in this match by taking the first game from Diane 21-19, though losing the next two 6 and 9.

Next day, the Wellington team proved of similar calibre, but the left-hander Charlotte Savage found a more dominant Diane could hold her to a tight 15, 7.

Meanwhile, in a hurried note, the Twins tell us that the "food is really wonderful, and they are sure to have put on weight before the end of the tour . . . We stayed with our Uncle and Aunt for 2 days . . . and Aunt came with us for a whole week . . . the publicity is beyond all measure," and words of high praise for the New Zealanders.

The fact that Di and Ros are Twins made quite an appeal in New Zealand, but what an amazing coincidence when, at one of their exhibitions,

(Concluded on Page 16)



English Table Tennis Association,  
214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON, W.C.2

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

### THE T.T. CUPS COMPETITION National Team Championships

Entry forms for the Wilmott Cup (Men) and the J. M. Rose Bowl (Women) have now been sent to all affiliated leagues. THE CLOSING DATE IS 30th SEPTEMBER, 1953.

Finals and Semi-Finals for both competitions are to be played on Saturday, 27th February, 1954, and the N.E.C. invites enquiries from any League which would like to stage either or both of these events. (This does not necessarily involve such League in financial liability.)

### THE T.T. CUP COMPETITIONS

Mr. Ivor Eyles alerted the April A.G.M. of the Association when he proposed that the Wilmott Cup and the J. M. Rose Bowl Competitions (the national team championships) should be played out to the Zone Finals at ONE venue (for each zone) over one week-end, on a similar basis to the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup competitions. Expenses and any profits to be pooled.

The proposal has many attractive features, and the Committee went into the matter very thoroughly, preparing schedules and individual detailed reports. The consensus of opinion, confirmed by some members of the N.E.C., is that the proposal—though highly commendable—is not at present practical nor desired by a number of leagues.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

THE N.E.C. have allowed the appeal that the Universities of Cambridge and of Oxford should be permitted to enter the T.T. Cup Competitions as representative teams in their own right.

### "FOCUS ON TABLE TENNIS"

THE "Focus on Table Tennis" series of exhibitions 1952-53, organised by the C.C.P.R. (by arrangements with the E.T.T.A.) gave a total of 11 performances by Victor Barna and Johnny Leach, and were seen by more than 4,500 spectators.

In view of the heavy commitments it is not proposed to organise a full series for 1953-54, but special exhibitions may be arranged against demands.

### "DAILY MIRROR"

#### TOURNAMENT, 1953-54

THE E.T.T.A. have sanctioned the organisation of this Tournament for 1953-54. Entry forms are now available and the CLOSING DATE for entries is MONDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1953. Fuller details on another page.

#### GRADING SCHEME

Following the discussion at the A.G.M. in April it has been decided to discontinue this Scheme.

#### APPROVED BALLS, 1953-54

Dunlop Barna 3-crown and 2-crown. Villa XXX and XX. Halex 3-star and 2-star. Haydon 3-star and 2-star.

#### REGISTERED PLAYERS' BALLÓT

THE ballot for the Registered Players' Committee 1953-54 resulted as follows:—

Elected: A. W. C. SIMONS, 21. G. V. BARNÁ, 19. Mrs. P. ALLEN, 17. J. CARRINGTON, 14. K. STANLEY, 14. A. A. HAYDON, 13.

Not Elected: L. Thompson, 10. R. Crayden, 8. J. Leach, 8. L. S. Woollard, 7. L. G. Adams, 6. A. D. Brook, 6. Miss M. G. Fry, 6. H. Venner, 6. A. Thompson, 5. K. Craigie, 3. B. Crouch, 3. Miss A. Wood, 3. E. J. Filby, 2. Miss M. Jones, 2. R. Allcock, 1. Mrs. E. Carrington, 1. B. Brumwell, 1.

22nd July, 1953.

#### SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

No. 1 (1st July). The Committee have approved the playing of 5 International Matches (Women's teams) as under:—

The England team will be: Miss R. ROWE (Captain) and Miss D. ROWE.

v. NEW ZEALAND: 1. Dunedin, July 9th. 2. Christchurch, July 10th. 3. Auckland, July 13th, and 4. Wellington, July 21st.

v. AUSTRALIA: Melbourne, July 29th.

### PLAY IN OPEN NATIONALS

A new regulation recently adopted by the N.E.C. affects all players affiliated to the E.T.T.A. who "may take part in the open national championships of other Associations" but ONLY if they have first obtained permission from the E.T.T.A. to do so.

The main purpose of the regulation is to assist administration to arrange its schedules.

Those national associations which wish to invite E.T.T.A. players to participate in their open national championships have been asked to send their invitation to the E.T.T.A. rather than to the individuals.

These associations have also been invited to advise the E.T.T.A. at an early stage of their proposals with regard to E.T.T.A. players for coaching, exhibitions or play.

22nd July, 1953.

### OFFICIAL HANDBOOK, 1953-54

Counties and Leagues are reminded that particulars for the Official E.T.T.A. Handbook, 1953-54, should have reached the E.T.T.A. Office by the 31st August.

#### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1953-54

THE A.G.M. of the Association of April last approved a new regulation to elect 2 additional members to the N.E.C. on a national basis. The regulation to come into immediate effect.

The postal ballot was held during April and resulted as follows:—

Elected: G. R. HARROWER (94). J. CARRINGTON (72).

Not Elected: T. Blunn, 65. A. A. Haydon, 57. L. W. Jones, 28. L. M. Bromfield, 18. W. Goldfinch, 17. Mrs. F. Merryweather, 15. J. Waugh, 15. E. J. Fairhead, 12. R. Atherton, 11. N. Rushton, 10. P. Hyde. F. Milligan. I. T. Freeman. L. Swale. D. J. Rowley. E. G. Urwin. A. E. Durrant. F. Betts. F. A. Winter. S. L. Lewis. D. R. Plews. A. Bolt. J. B. Hauser. H. Newton.

12th June, 1953.

### PUBLICATIONS

The following publications can be obtained from the Office of the Association. The price quoted includes postage in the British Isles:—

	Instruction Books	Publisher
VICTOR BARNÁ	Fundamentals of Table Tennis 1/3d.	Sporting Record.
ALEC BROOK	Table Tennis Quiz 1/6d.	Alec Brook Ltd.
JACK CARRINGTON	Table Tennis Tips 1/6d.	—
	Modern Table Tennis 6/-	Bell Ltd.
	Table Tennis (Know the Game) 2/3d.	Educational Prod.
JOHNNY LEACH	Table Tennis for All 8/6d.	Nicholas Kaye
IVOR MONTAGU	Table Tennis 10/-	Pitman's
LESLIE WOOLLARD	Table Tennis 2/6d.	Foyle's

#### Miscellaneous

Laws of Table Tennis, on Card with cord for hanging in Clubroom	.....	1/6d.
Size 21½" x 14½"	.....	
Laws of Table Tennis, vest pocket size booklet	.....	4½d.
English Open Championship Programme, 1953, full scores	.....	2/-



No. 891

THIS magnificent photograph has captured a little of the atmosphere of Finals Night of a *Daily Mirror* National Table Tennis Tournament at the Royal Albert Hall, London. In the inescapable flood of brilliant light two young players from Somewhere in Great Britain battle tensely for the supreme honour. More than 10,000 critical eyes watch from the tiers packed from ringside to rooftop circles. Probing T.V. cameras project the tense battle on to several thousand screens.

These are all young players. Not one of them had ever won any important title when they entered. Now they are focussed in the national spotlight in the famous hall. Out of 12,000 entries, 16 players have fought through to the last. This night is a testing time of match-nerves as well of techniques, but it is a proud and memorable night to have joined those illustrious names which have been applauded in this mighty hall.

But these Finals can be the Beginning of greater things. The *Daily Mirror* could think its work well done with the many prizes and its grants to local leagues and clubs, but it shows the sincerity of its avowed intention by taking the 4 best prospects from each zone (16 in all) and giving them the best possible opportunity to develop their natural abilities.

The 16 survivors of the *Daily Mirror* Tournament 1952-3 are now to enjoy ONE WHOLE WEEK OF SPECIALISED COACHING dedicated to develop their individual talents. EVERYTHING—accommodation, fares, and all fees—are paid by the *Daily Mirror*.

This will take place at the famous Lilleshall National Recreation Centre in Shropshire, from September 12th to the 19th. Jack Carrington, the Hon. Director of Coaching, E.T.T.A., will, of course, be in charge of the Course, and be assisted by Johnny Leach, Aubrey Simons, Harry Venner, Len Adams and Elsie Carrington, with Adrian Haydon to demonstrate and explain his own highly individualistic (and successful) style.

In addition to the personal and concentrated instructions and play, the Course will include analytical processes, match training, mutuals, discussions, and periods of relaxation and social life. As with all coaching, the benefits which can be obtained on such a Course depend on the individual pupil, but no one can deny that the *Daily Mirror* has spared no effort to make this Coaching something of a real and permanent value, and not only to the players, but to the areas from which they come and to the game as a whole.

The 16 players to gain this rich experience are noted below with their final placings, ages and leagues. They are names to watch in the future.

**M.S.** 1. Billy England, 19, Nottingham.  
2. Michael Maclaren, 17, Croydon. 3. Fred Kershaw, 22, Wolverhampton. 4. Eddie Still, 19½, Glasgow (ex-Aberdeen).

**W.S.** 1. Anne Haydon, 15, Birmingham.  
2. Pamela Gall, 24, West Norwood. 3. Elizabeth Pipe, 25, Southwick, Sunderland. 4. Lily Rimmer, 22, Wallasey.

**B.S.** 1. Gordon Lumsden, 17, Sunderland.  
2. Roy Morley, 17½, Gloucester. 3. Ron Carpenter, 17½, North Middlesex. 4. Pat Cullen, 17½, Newark.

**G.S.** 1. Joyce Fielder, 16, New Eltham.  
2. Dorothy Jackson, 17½, Dalton-on-Furness.  
3. Barbara Slater, 17½, Derby. 4. Shirley Davis, 17, Gloucester.

## NOW FOR THE FUTURE

The *Daily Mirror* National Table Tennis Tournament, 1953-54, has now opened. Everyone (except many of the upper group of players) has splendid chances of winner medals or more valuable prizes, making many new friends, and enjoying some really first-rate match experiences. Entry Forms are obtainable from all league and most club secretaries affiliated to the national associations of England, Wales or Scotland, or direct from The *Daily Mirror* (Table Tennis), Geraldine House, Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4. ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE *DAILY MIRROR* NOT LATER THAN FIRST POST

MONDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER

## BUCKS. OPEN

Slough, May 3rd, 1953

**M.S.** J. LOWE bt. (1) I. Venner, (2) B. Brunwell (bt. C. Frecker).  
**W.S.** S. JONES bt. Y. Baker.  
**M.D.** K. CRAIGIE/I. VENNER bt. B. Crouch/J. Lowe.  
**W.D.** B. GRAY/S. JONES bt. Y. Baker/B. Milbank.  
**X.D.** A. RHODES/P. MORTIMER bt. J. Head/V. Seaman.  
**B.S.** R. DORKING bt. D. House.  
**G.S.** S. JONES bt. J. Fielder.

## ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Parma, 3rd May, 1953

**M.S.** G. RONDANI bt. L. Sturani 3-2.  
**W.S.** A. FREDIANI bt. A. Tamborini 3-0.  
**M.D.** F. Belmontesi/C. Winderling bt. L. Beltrame/L. Sturani 3-2.  
**W.D.** I. Colombo/A. Frediani bt. M. Malvane/A. Tamborini 3-2.  
**X.D.** F. Radice/I. Colombo bt. W. Gnasse/M. Guglielmetti 3-0.  
**B.S.** L. Winderling bt. A. Busca 3-2.  
**G.S.** M. Guglielmetti bt. L. Parigi 3-0.

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Orders will be numbered on receipt and dealt with in strictest rotation. Binders against prompt orders will be delivered toward the end of October, but send your ORDER right NOW.

It is not economical to make a binder for one year’s issues, therefore, to give maximum and real bargain value to our readers this new Self-Binder will hold 3 YEARS’ MAGAZINES. There can be no cheaper, easier, or more satisfactory binding system.

These handsome and unique Self-Binders would normally cost at least 15/- each, but by a combination of happy arrangements and the goodwill of our publishers (The Hendon Printing Works Ltd.) we are especially delighted to offer them at 10/- each (which includes Postage, Packing, Insurance, Instructions, etc.). There is nothing more to pay. This is no catch, commercial offer but a genuine service to readers on a non-profit basis.

To get the lowest prices has meant placing a bulk order with the manufacturers, and it may not be possible to offer such wonderful terms when the first consignment has been cleared. Readers are recommended to order promptly.

## And an Index

To match the splendid arrangement mentioned here, I am proposing from this issue (Volume 12, No. 1) to number pages consecutively throughout the volume and to include an INDEX for the season at the end. In a survey made last season I found that more than 90% of readers keep their copies of *Table Tennis* and that most of these refer to back numbers regularly. These proposals will, I sincerely hope, therefore, be welcomed and supported by many, and be an earnest of the Service which *Table Tennis* endeavours to give its readers.



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## ROWE TWINS TOUR

(continued from page 11)

Diane and Rosalind Rowe, 20-year-old identical twins from London, were introduced to Diane and Rosalind Rowe, 12-year-old identical twins from Stokes Valley! In both cases, Rosalind is the elder—by a few minutes.

In Wellington, Di and Ros paid a surprise call on Arthur Meachem in the local hospital. Arthur is one of the G.O.M. of N.Z. Table Tennis and was once the national Sec. and Treas. Apparently he was a remarkable character. Crippled from childhood, he could play only with the aid of crutches, yet such was his agility and strong short chop that he won many more games than he lost.

(To be concluded)

## INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

### ENGLAND 5—NEW ZEALAND 0

Dunedin, 9th July, 1953

Audience 2,000, a New Zealand record.

R. ROWE bt. M. M. Hoar 11, 11; bt. Mrs. J. L. Magorian 9, 14. D. ROWE bt. Mrs. J. L. Magorian



No. 894

### "AN AFFAIR OF STATE"

At a special Morning Tea Reception at Parliament Buildings, Wellington, N.Z., on the 16th June, 1953, Diane and Rosalind Rowe are officially welcomed by the New Zealand Government and presented with a Commemorative Album reserved only for distinguished visitors. The Twins are seen at the ceremony in company with Mr. Bodkin, Minister of Internal Affairs, and Mrs. Ross, Minister of Social Welfare.

## XXI WORLD FUND CLUB COMPETITIONS

From Geoff. Harrower

WHEN I last wrote 439 competitions had been promised. This figure has risen slowly to 650. As a result of another circularisation to all clubs and with the advent of a new season, we expect that this total will be swelled considerably in the near future.

Clubs are reminded that for 24/- (singles) and 32/- (doubles) total entry fee, a handsome plaque will be awarded for each singles event and two plaques for doubles events. Full details have been included in circulars to all clubs, but if you are a new club secretary, write NOW to G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts, for full details.



IN YOUR OWN CLUB  
ANYWHERE IN ENGLAND

YOUR  
NAME



18, 19; bt. A. Snarskyte —18, 10, 15. D. and R. ROWE bt. D. Beregi/A. Snarskyte 10, 14.

### ENGLAND 5—AUSTRALIA 0

Adelaide, 3rd August, 1953

R. ROWE bt. M. Bowler 17, 6; bt. A. Snarskyte 7, 10. D. ROWE bt. M. Bowler 11, 11; bt. A. Snarskyte 14, —18, 16. D. and R. ROWE bt. M. Bowler/A. Snarskyte 17, 5.

## A TOPICAL REMINDER

DON'T forget that entries for the East of England Open Tournament must be in by 11th September. (See details on Page 20). This is always a popular meeting place for players from all parts of the country and a practice or try-out for the season. The most surprising results may occur—and usually do—but the seaside holiday-camp atmosphere and facilities are real compensations and nearly every one enjoys themselves thoroughly—win or lose.

Do you want to  
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We are not qualified to teach you table tennis, but we are at *Your Service* if it is anything to do with printing, especially fund raisers.

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**H**AD I the whimsical gaiety of Danny Kaye's Hans Andersen, I would give you this tale in song because it's that kind of tale. Last May I kept a date in Birmingham, city of one-way traffic and ancient ties, memories of 3 generations of Haydon (of Adrian and AdriANNE), and the largest civic association in the world—larger, indeed, than many national associations.

The T.T. season was at that time when most of us strain like chrysalis to break the cocoon that has tight-held us through the winter. The time when T.T. enthusiasms tend to wane like the moon before daylight. But—as I had long vowed—THIS I must see!

Knowing the superb organising genius of Maurice Goldstein (and the quality of his Marshals), I expected a clickety-click efficiency. If—season-jaded that I was—I expected merely a better-than-average End-of-the-Season affair, I could not have been more wrong! It was like opening a gate and finding a fairyland instead of a tidy garden.

I arrived at the Tower Ballroom especially early, and was parked precariously on a miniature cliff overhanging the water. Dress suites and evening gowns flowed steadily past me. Early as I was, 10, 11 or perhaps 12-hundred T.T. fans had beat me to it. Almost before opening time many were being

## “WONderful . . . WONderful BIRMINGHAM . . .”

turned away. They thronged through the hall, these good folk of Birmingham, in a gloriously happy confusion of friendship. (I resented my unjust doubts about white tie and tails!)

The Grand Parade of Prizes is incredibly displayed on a row of tables end-to-end that stood along one side of the ballroom. In packed congestion they were arrayed 3 feet deep to a length of some 50 to 60 feet. Great shields, huge trophies, cups, prizes, certificates of the widest diversity (for some club winners are permitted to choose their own prizes). There was enough to stock a wholesale warehouse. The exact number is not known, but there are many more than a 1,000. One blanched at the thought of an unending, tedious presentation ceremony. Again how wrong! Without obvious haste, the complete job was calmly, miraculously, completed in one hour flat.

Birmingham Chairman Adrian Haydon, immaculate in evening dress (like so many here) controlled at the mike with the calm confidence of a B.B.C. announcer. The Prize Parade moved down the line with the smooth efficiency of a time-and-motion demonstration class. Presentations and handshakes were done with a regal charm by Mrs. K. Thomson (or do you remember her as Claire Bullock?). Her husband, the irrepressible Ken Thomson (perpetrator of the biggest hoax in T.T. history) produced a “loving cup” at the beyond of the last trophy to sustain the redoubtable Claire, whose more obvious need for the evening appeared to be a spare hand.

What a splendid evening it was, lasting all the way to the early morning. I am sure that the prettiest girls in “Brum” are T.T. fans! There was colour, friendliness, gaiety and enthusiasm all the way, but the jackpot question was always “Why hasn't Marjorie Cumberbatch got her international?” and the runner-up question concerned Pam Mortimer. (It was a relief to realise I wasn't on the Selection Committee!)

The burly figure of Malcolm Scott glided into the last dances with all the light grace and accomplished technique of a dancing master. Then lastly, almost too late, immaculate Maurice glided hastily into the Last Waltz with Mrs. Goldstein. A swirl of coat-tails and they have swept away into the great crowd that circles rhythmically in the soft gloom, dapping colours and an aura of the sentimental.

“WON-derful . . . won-derful . . . Co-pen-hagen,

Friendliest old town that we know . . .”

How easily, how rightly, Birmingham could replace Copenhagen . . . the lilting tribute accompanied me all my long, long way home. I have many pleasant memories of Birmingham. This night will go with them.

Birmingham knows that in Maurice Goldstein they have a quiet pleasant, and one of the most brilliant organisers in the country, but they prefer to appreciate his virtues locally than to acclaim and lose him to any office in the national sphere. We do not blame them.

Despite its colossal membership, Birmingham cannot seem to produce many great male stars, but when it can evoke a spirit of such happy unity and fraternity as was evident on this night, I wonder if it has not found something infinitely more important.

One believes, after such a night, that there is no obvious reason why Birmingham League should not have its own central or H.Q.—shades of the old “21”!!!

L.S.W.

## A LITERARY TABLE TENNIS MATCH

**A** WEEK or so ago the publishing house La Table Ronde (The Round Table) held a table tennis tournament on the Place St. Sulpice in which the competition was limited to members of the staffs of literary magazines published in Paris.

The publishing house transformed the place into a regular table tennis arena with a white picketed fence, ten table tennis tables, a display of posters of the teams in competition, a bar stocked with white wine and animal crackers and in the centre of the enclosure on a wooden stand a tall silver object—La Coupe de la Table Ronde.

Around the fence were stationed a large number of policemen presumably to disperse any non-literary crowds. They spent the afternoon chasing table tennis balls that slipped through the picket fence. La Table Ronde officials even had an old man fitted out in rubber boots to wade into the fountain to retrieve any balls that were hit there.

The only American team in the competition was from *The Paris Review*, represented by artist William Rene Du Bois who won the Cabin Class championship on the Ile de France two years ago and George A.

By ART BUCHWALD

With Acknowledgments to the “New York Herald Tribune” (Paris edition)

Plimpton who owned a racket that was left with him by a writer in exchange for a loan.

The tournament started late because one of the French teams protested that if the competition was called La Table Ronde they saw no reason to play on rectangular tables. But they were overruled by the judges.

The Americans took an early lead. Plimpton defeated an editor from Juilliard who had drunk too much white wine and kept swinging at pigeons in the Place St. Sulpice instead of the ball.

Du Bois defeated his opponent by smashing balls across the table into the Fountain of the Four Bishops, which caused some of the spectators to murmur un-American remarks. Plimpton won his next match against a member of Le Seuil's B team who confessed that he was a rugby player and couldn't follow the small ball. Antione Blondin, author of “Les Enfants due

Bon Dieu,” who was one of the players to protest against the rectangular tables, lost to Du Bois, and Plimpton got into the semi-finals by defeating an opponent from *La Revue Musicale*, who was afraid of mashing his fingers between the paddle and the table.

Both the Americans found themselves in the finals, a very unpopular place for an American team to be these days. Their opponents were from Le Seuil's A team and the honour of France was at stake. The spectators started writing “Americans Go Home” on the chairs and a few people in the crowd started to chant “La France, La France.” Du Bois and Plimpton tried to go home but the crowds forced them to stay and the Americans were defeated soundly by the French team.

The Americans were so relieved to have been beaten that they jumped across the net to congratulate the French team, reversing the usual felicitations.

After the game the teams toasted each other in champagne, Plimpton and Du Bois were each given a table tennis ball for their splendid sportsmanship. ●

## ★ Opportunities for Every Junior ★

ENGLAND Juniors ought to present an Illuminated Appreciation to Kent Secretary F. G. Mannooch for they have no more ardent ally. He does not shout about his work, thought and painstaking persistence that has been spent to promote Junior interests. One result has been the wonderfully successful Kent Junior Open which (outside the English) is the premier Junior Tournament of England, and quite probably the finest of its kind in the world. All the best features of a first-class Senior Open are offered to Juniors. It is not surprising that the event is getting itself associated with the annual Junior International Trials.

(Advertisement)

**WANTED, Second-hand full size Table Tennis Table. Bedell, Greenaway Cottage, Limpsfield, Surrey.**

This season Kent has completely surpassed itself with the liveliest, go-ahead offer we can ever remember being offered to Juniors. It is the event of the year for them. The events include :—

**UNDER 17: B.J.S., G.J.S., B.J.D., G.J.D., J.X.D.**

**UNDER 15: B.J.S., G.J.S., B.J.D., G.J.D., J.X.D.**

**UNDER 13: B.J.S., G.J.S.**

And the entry fees are amazingly low: 1/6d. singles and 1/- each doubles. There are also handsome trophies for all the Under 17 events. Book the date—Kent Junior Open—November 29th. Look out for particulars in the Fixture Book.

## ★ COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE A.G.M. of the County Championships was held in London on 20th June. A number of important changes to rules were approved, the most interesting being that the dates of ALL matches are to be fixed before the beginning of the season.

The final line-up of County Teams for 1953-54 is given hereunder. There are no county matches until October. The Championship will be dealt with more fully in our next issue.

**PREMIER DIVISION:** Essex, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex, Yorkshire.

**SECOND DIV. SOUTH:** Bedfordshire, Devon, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey.

**SECOND DIV. NORTH:** Cheshire, Durham, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Yorkshire.

**MIDLAND DIV.:** Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire.

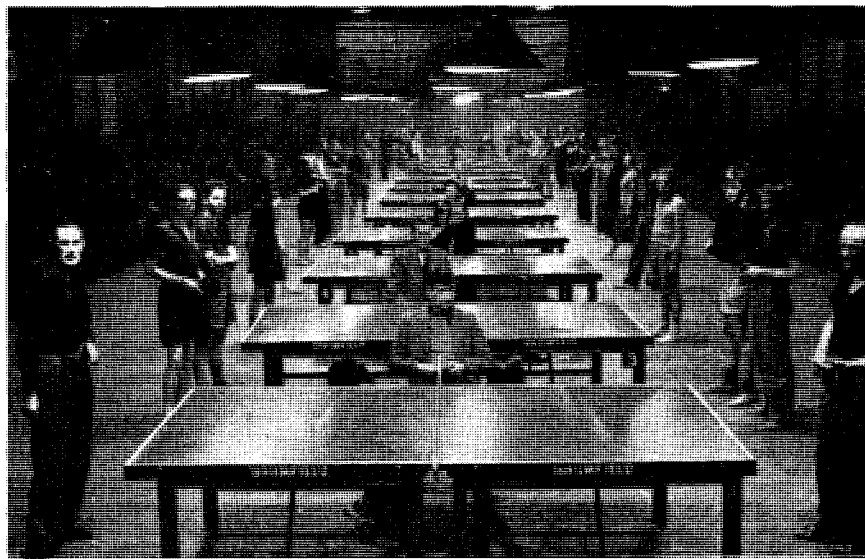
**SOUTHERN DIV.:** Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire.

**EASTERN DIV.:** Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk.

**JUNIOR DIV.:** Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Suffolk, Surrey.

**COMITY CUP:** A K.O. competition restricted to counties in the South-Western region of England: Cornwall, Devon 2nds, Dorset, Glos. 2nds, Comersert, and (probable) Wilts.

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# BETTER CLUB CENTRES

By Leslie S. Woollard

**A**T rock bottom the conditions under which any game is played are unimportant so long as it is played ; it is the Spirit of the Game which is vital.

Back-street cricket and football or the fantastic improvisations used in out-of-the-way places are all an acceptable and invaluable part of "playing the game." Some of them, indeed, have more fun and display better sportsmanship than their aristocratic peers.

The most important thing is the taking part; "playing the game" in both senses. But this primitive life has its place justified by condition and circumstance. It is the aboriginal or Prep School stage for the happy dabblers. A beginning or a make-shift.

Table Tennis is still a young sport, much of it is still in this early stage. Thousands of league matches are still played in improvised conditions and in hole-in-the-corner rooms not easily let for other purposes. Even these facilities are often secured only with extreme difficulty.

I do not condemn these. I know and applaud the strenuous efforts so many of these "little" clubs have to make. Most of them show a grand spirit. They deserve all encouragement.

I believe that the time has come, however, when something can, and should be done. I believe that it can be done by cumulative local effort. Players are developing in quantity and quality at a greater rate than facilities can accommodate. The game is kept in bounds of comparative smallness because so many of its leaders have the habit of thinking in small terms. They measure their ambitions by looking back to what has been done.

To do big things it is necessary to think big things. To live vigorously in the Present and to plan imaginatively for the future. Table Tennis has grown up. Let it come out from its holes and corners. Let it show its face boldly and proudly in the main public places. Let it stand shoulder-to-shoulder with other sports. Football, cricket, tennis, golf, and billiards, etc., each have their own dominant publicly recognised centres

in every locality. So too must Table Tennis.

It is time we established our own rights. It is time we ended those harrowing worries (common from club to county) of finding match halls and having so often to manage with a makeshift between pillar-and-post, to say nothing of the frantic arrangements for staging, refreshments and dressing rooms, etc., and then finding that we have only got the room because there is another big event on locally.

We need our own prominent and dominant, publicly recognised centres in every locality with first-rate facilities for all clubs and players, coaching, competitive practice, and adaptable for the Big Occasion.

This is the only satisfactory answer to the scores of problems affecting most leagues throughout the country. It may sound imaginative for your particular locality but that's probably just the tonic you need. This article will suggest some practical ways and means, and also include some ideas for better and brighter T.T. clubs.

*To be Continued*

(Advertisement)

**MAGAZINES FOR SALE.** Perfect condition. Complete your sets. 22 copies of *Table Tennis*, March, 1951, to September, 1953. 9 copies *Table Tennis Review*, June, 1950, to December, 1952. Cost £1. Accept 12/6d. or offer (for lot of 31). B. W. Atkins, 182, Pampisford Road, S. Croydon.

## DAILY DEMANDS FOR SEATS AT THE XXI WORLD'S

The E.T.T.A. Safeguards Members' Interests

NEVER in the history of Table Tennis has there been a World Championship of such universal representation. Never has so colossal a demand for seats been so assured as for this wonderful occasion, when each day and each hour, will be alive and memorable with colour and interest. Demands for seats are coming (from home and abroad), and mount steadily day by day.

To safeguard the interests of members, the E.T.T.A. is—after much thought—to offer tickets in 4 ranges

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.

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/-
<b>FINALS</b>	SAT. APRIL 10th World Cups	} Full Price →	21/-	15/-	10/6	6/6	—
	WED. ,, 14th Individuals		Party Rate →	17/6	12/6	8/6	—



No. 896

Nidia Redes Caceres, the current W.S. and W.D. Champion of Paraguay. Nidia plays for the Orion Club, Asuncion, which recently won the Paraguayan Club Championships (mixed teams).

## LONDON CLUB FACILITIES

*Table Tennis* is always pleased to give information about T.T. facilities existing in the central London area that are open to all players. The latest addition is the famous St. Bride's Club (once the home of the All-England T.T.C.).

We understand that the present facilities are being extended to accommodate 6 tables, with ample runback and good lighting. It is not known at the time of writing whether the existing St. Bride's T.T.C. (under its popular Hon. Sec., Miss Robbins) will be that from next month (October) the large hall and tables will be open for hire on two or three evenings a week (5-10) and all day Saturday (9.30 a.m. to 10 p.m.). Buffet taking up all the facilities, but it is probable services are available.

of priority and in 4 successive periods. Applications **MUST BE MADE PROMPTLY** in the appropriate period or the opportunity of getting tickets may be LOST.

1. **FIRST**—in September—to those who are helping, or who are supporting the Guarantee Fund.
2. **SECOND**—in October—those leagues not included above.
3. **THIRD**—in November—affiliated Clubs.
4. **FOURTH**—in December—the general public.

The following details of programme and prices is given to assist organisers of parties and the secretaries of interested leagues and clubs.

## SUB-COMMITTEES, 1953-54

THE first meeting of the new N.E.C. took place at Caxton Hall, London, on June 20th, and the following Sub-Committees were appointed:

**COACHING:** J. Carrington (Hon. Director of Coaching); M. Scott; T. Sears\*; E. G. White; L. S. Woollard.

**COUNTY BOUNDARIES:** H. J. Amery; G. R. Harrower; F. G. Mannoch; A. K. Vint.

**DISCIPLINARY:** M. Goldstein; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; M. Scott; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint; E. G. White; L. S. Woollard.

**ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953-54:** Officers *ex-officio*: T. Blunn\*; N. Cook; L. E. Forrest; L. W. Jones\* (Referee); W. Stamp; E. G. White; G. Yates\*.

**INCORPORATION:** G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; E. G. White.

**MAGAZINE:** L. S. Woollard (Editor and Circulation Manager). G. R. Harrower (Advertisement Manager). J. Carrington; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint.

**OPEN TOURNAMENTS:** I. C. Eyles; M. Goldstein; G. R. Harrower; G. James; I. Montagu; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint; C. Corti Woodcock\*.

**REGISTERED MEMBERS PANELS COMMISSION:** M. Scott; W. Stamp; H. Walker.

**RULES:** I. C. Eyles; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; E. G. White.

**SELECTION AND RANKING:** I. Montagu (Chairman); H. J. Amery (Secretary); N. Cook; I. C. Eyles; A. A. Haydon\*; T. Sears\*; A. Thompson\*.

**UMPIRES:** N. Cook; Miss L. Ferguson; G. James; F. G. Mannoch; H. Walker; E. G. White; C. Corti Woodcock\*.

**VICTOR BARN AWARD:** G. V. Barna\*; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu.

**WILMOTT CUP AND J. M. ROSE BOWL:** M. Goldstein; G. James; F. G. Mannoch; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; C. Corti Woodcock\*.

**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953-54:** I. Montagu (Chairman); G. R. Harrower (Organising Secretary); M. Goldstein; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint.

\* indicates that the person whose name precedes it is not a member of the N.E.C. but has been co-opted to that Sub-Committee.

### Representatives

The following representatives were also appointed: **County Championships Council:** H. J. Amery and A. K. Vint. **Central Council of Physical Recreation:** I. Montagu. **Sunday Freedom Association:** C. Corti Woodcock.

# 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
Sept. 5	HOME COUNTIES OPEN.		Mr. G. R. Harrower.
6-13	*2nd ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.		Tokyo.
9-12	*N. ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.		Auckland.
19-20	EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN, (Sept. 11)	B.S. G.S. 17	Mrs. F. A. Merryweather, c/o Ruston-Bucyrus Ltd., Lincs. (Mr. J. D. Blades).
	Butlin's Holiday Camp, Skegness, Lincs.		
25-27	*BRAZILIAN OPEN.		Rio de Janeiro.
Oct. 3	DEVON OPEN, Gymnasium, R.N. Barracks, Devonport.	B.S. G.S. 14	Mr. H. Moran, 11, St. Levan Road, Keyham, Plymouth. (Mrs. F. Jarvis).
5	FRANCE v. ENGLAND.	Men	In France.
10	YORKSHIRE OPEN, Railway Institute, York, (L. E. Forrest & F. Hare).	V.S. 18	Mr. J. B. Leyden, Cliffoney, Hartley Park View, Pontefract, Yorks.
23	CHAMPIONS v. The REST. Victoria Hall, Hanley, Staffs.	Mixed Match	Mr. R. G. Ward, 1, Oakdene Grove, Wolstanton, Staffs. 7 p.m.
23-25	*YUGOSLAV OPEN.		In Yugoslavia.
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)	B.S. G.S. 7	Mr. H. D. Olley, 67, Hast- ings Avenue, Ilford, Essex. (Mr. C. Corti Woodcock).
	Y.M.C.A. Hydro Hall, Plaistow, and Baths Hall, Ilford.		
7	HULL & E. RIDING OPEN (Oct. 29)	J.S. 10-14	Mr. H. Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Albert Road, Hull. (Mr. A. Abrahamson).
	Madeley Street Baths, Hessle Road, Hull.		
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. 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.