OCTOBER, 1956 NINEPENCE

TABLE TENNIS

HOWEL JONES (16) and MARGARET BRADNUM (14) the "NEWS OF THE WORLD" BOY and GIRL of the YEAR WITH THEIR TROPHIES

VICTOR BARNA writes for you . . .

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

Published by Walthamstow Press, Ltd., Guardian House, 644 Forest Road, London, E.17

Vol. 15 October, 1956 No. 1

JUNIORS ENGLISH OPEN

WHAT changes can we expect and will there be any new stars to oust those who have dominated the game since the war? These are the big questions on everyone's lips as we enter a new season.

The first big change concerns the juniors. They are to have their own English "Open" meeting.

As an experiment the junior events are being taken away from the English "open" and have been amalgamated with the Kent Junior "open" at Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay, on November 10 and 11.

This is the outcome of a committee that have been studying the question of juniors. It is felt that in the normal national meet, they have been pushed somewhat into the background—a kind of extra act outside the main programme. Now they get top billing.

A need for the streamlining of the English "open" this season has presented the opportunity to put the experiment into operation.

ONE SHORT

The amalgamation with an already established junior tournament is not likely to be popularly received. It means the juniors are going to be short of a tournament. And they are few enough as it is.

However, the machinery was already established with the Kent meeting and the E.T.T.A. have obviously taken advantage of this rather than gamble on a completely separate venue.

Another objection, as I see it, is the early date. Surely it would have been far better to have held it later in the season, then the youngsters would have been able to gain some competitive experience. I can well imagine the outcry if the seniors had to start the season off with the English championships.

Again there is likely to be some criticism of juniors who also wish to play in the senior championships—particularly those from the North—having to make two separate journeys to the South.

It is natural that the staging of this first junior meeting should be entrusted to Kent, for they have done more than any other county to foster the youngsters. And moreover they will be able to offer international competition.

Germany, France and Belgium have already promised to send representatives, while invitations have also gone to Holland, Scandinavia, and Central European countries.

This could well develop into a junior world meeting.

BERGMANN TOP

The ways of ranking committees are indeed strange. Last season they ranked Richard Bergmann No. 2 behind Johnny Leach, and it caused a big outcry. He had made only a couple of home appearances. This season, with a complete absence of home form, they have ranked him No. 1. It doesn't add up.

Richard, as always, says "Of course I am No. 1," but he did confess he did not expect to be ranked.

Making a surprise appearance in the men's ranking is that breezy Australian character Lew Laza. I suppose he has been over here so long that he is now almost looked upon as a home player.

Ann Haydon has justifiably moved up to No. 1 among the women.

Table Tennis will once again bring you full reports of the various tournaments and internationals, and a wide variety of articles.

Good news is that **Victor Barna,** "Mr. Table Tennis" himself, has promised to write for us regularly. Apart from his wide experience as a player, Victor is also concerned with the manufacturing side of the game and his first article in this issue explains why balls vary in quality.

HARRISON EDWARDS.

Official Notes:

Since the Annual General Meeting two meetings of the National Executive Committee have taken place both in the Council Chamber of the Royal Empire Society, the first being held on June 23 and the other on Saturday, September 29, 1956. Many matters were discussed, the most interesting being:—

Television

Again it is felt desirable to draw the attention of all organisers and players to the E.T.T.A. rule concerning television—

RULE 25. *No affiliated member, player or organiser may take part in a televised event in connection with table tennis unless sanction has first been obtained from one of the Officers of the Association or the event is one authorised by the Association.*

Also it is desirable to draw the attention of all organisers of Table Tennis events such as—

Open Tournaments.
Representative Matches.
County Matches, etc.

That all negotiations with the Television Authorities must be carried out by the English Table Tennis Association. Therefore should organisers of any table tennis event be approached direct they should inform the television body that they should contact the E.T.T.A. direct in all matters of this nature.

County Membership.

The attention of all Leagues, Clubs and Individuals is drawn to Rule 21 (b) (page 23 of the 1955/56 Official Handbook). This rule was amended at the last Annual General Meeting and now reads as follows—

"Membership of such County Body to be compulsory on all affiliated Leagues and Local Associations, directly affiliated clubs and individuals in the County, except that any League, Association, Club or Individual has the right to appeal to the National Executive Committee to contract out."

It should be understood that membership of the E.T.T.A. is conditional on membership with the County Association also being taken up. Where no County Association exists, or permission to contract out has been granted by the National Executive Committee, then the question of such membership does not arise. In no circumstances may any League, Association, Club or Individual belong to a County Association without being in membership with the E.T.T.A.

Invitation and Closed Tournaments.

It is desirable to draw the attention to all concerned regarding the regulation governing Invitation and Closed Tournaments:—

AN INVITATION TOURNAMENT *shall be any Tournament promoted by an affiliated body and approved by the County Association for the area in which the proposed Tournament is to be held of invited affiliated players and for which general invitations to play are not issued. In the event of an Invitation Tournament including players in the area of another County then the invitations shall be given only with the consent of the E.T.T.A. and the County Association concerned. All organisers of Invitation Tournaments must forward to the Hon. Secretary of the E.T.T.A. the names of the players they intend to invite.*

A CLOSED TOURNAMENT *shall be any Tournament the entries for which are restricted to affiliated playing members of—*

(i) a particular club.
(ii) a particular League.
(iii) a particular County.
(iv) a defined area within a County approved by the appropriate County Association or an
(v) area approved by the E.T.T.A.

English Table Tennis Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.

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

Chairman: Hon. Ivor Montagu.

Honorary Treasurer: A. K. Vint.

Hon. Secretary: D. P. Lowen.

Administrative Secretary: Mrs. Kathleen Pegg.

Office of the Association: 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: TRAfalgar 2165).

North Eastern Region.

The result of the second ballot for the election of the representative of the North Eastern Region to the National Executive Committee was:

E. Reay ... 10 votes.
J. R. Waugh 8 votes.

Mr. Reay has, therefore, been declared elected.

Co-option to the National Executive Committee.

Miss Eileen Grinstone (Cheshire) was co-opted to the Committee in accordance with Rule 12(a).

Club Competitions.

Approval was given to the continuing of the organisation of Club Competitions similar to those arranged last season to assist in raising funds to enable teams to be sent to future World Championships when organised in Asia.

"Daily Mirror" National Table Tennis Tournament.

Approval was given to the *Daily Mirror* National Table Tennis Tournament to be played during Season 1956/57. As in previous seasons arrangements were made to cover unaffiliated entrants.

"Eagle/Girl" Clubs' Table Tennis Tournament.

Sanction was given to the *Eagle* and *Girl* Clubs' National Table Tennis Tournament to be organised during the coming season.

APPROVED REGISTERED MEMBERS

L. G. Adams (Middx) (E)
G. Alderton (Warwicks)
R. Allcock (Lancs) (E)
G. V. Brand (Middx) (E)
R. Bergmann (Middx) (E)
C. Booth (Lancs) (E)
S. Boros (Middx) (E)
A. Brook Middx) (E)
B. Brumwell (Essex) (E)
J. Carrington (Essex) (E)
Mrs. E. M. Carrington (Essex) (E)
L. G. Carter (Kent)
B. Casofsky (Lancs) (E)
G. R. Cooper (Hants)
R. J. Crayden (Surrey) (E)
J. W. Crookes (Yorks) (E)
D. G. Ellison (Lancs) (E)
E. G. Evans (Kent) (E)
Miss J. Fielder (Kent) (E)
E. J. Filby (Surrey) (E)
B. G. Fretwell (Sussex) (E)
Miss M. Fry (Middx) (E)
Miss E. J. Grimstone (Cheshire) (E)
G. R. Harrower (Herts) (E)
Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks) (E)
A. A. Haydon (Warwicks) (E)
Mrs. J. Head (Surrey) (E)
J. E. Head (Surrey) (E)
R. Hinchliff (Yorks) (E)
A. Holland (Lancs) (E)
F. Holman (Kent)
Miss B. Isaacs (Surrey) (E)
S. Johnson (Essex)
I. W. Jones (Essex) (E)
L. W. Jones (Lancs)
Miss M. Jones (Glos) (E)
M. Kriss (Warwicks) (E)
L. A. Lazarus (Essex)
J. Leach (Essex) (E)
J. H. Lines (Warwicks) (E)
R. Markwell (Essex)
B. Merrett (Glos) (E)
Miss B. Milbank (Essex) (E)
Hon Ivor Montague (Herts)
Miss P. Mortimer (Warwicks) (E)
N. Nicholson (Middx)
L. J. Pickering (Kent) (E)
W. Poole (Warwicks) (E)
N. Rae (Kent) (E)
A. Rhodes (Middx)
J. Rogers (Kent)
Miss J. Rook (Surrey) (E)
E. J. Rumjohn (Lancs) (E)
P. U. Rumjohn (Lancs)
T. E. Sears (Middx)
R. L. Sharman (Middx) (E)
K. Sheldon (Surrey) (E)
A. W. C. Simons (Glos) (E)
K. Stanley (Lancs) (E)
H. W. Swetman (Surrey) (E)
G. H. Teague (Surrey)
H. T. Venner (Surrey) (E)
R. A. Warner (Warwicks) (E)
C. Corti Woodcock (Essex)
J. Worsley (Cheshire) (E)

(E) indicates available for exhibitions.

Victor Barna Award.

The *Victor Barna* Award for the season 1955/56 was made to Miss A. S. Haydon for her play in winning the French Open Singles title and in all her four matches during the season with the then reigning World Champion, Angelica Rozeanu.

World Championships, Stockholm, 7th to 15th March, 1957.

From the initial information received from Sweden the cost of travel, hospitality and local fares for the 10 days of the Championships would appear to be in the region of £60. More information will be forthcoming shortly and members will be kept advised of the details.

English Open Championships.

The English Open Championships will be held in London again during the 1956/57 season with the Semi-finals and Finals being staged at the Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley. The proposed dates of the Championships are 2nd to 6th April, 1957.

Approved Balls.

The following balls were approved for season 1956/57: Villa XXX and XX, Dunlop Barna "Three Crown," and "Two Crown," Halex "Three Star" and "Two Star," Haydon Tema "Three Star" and "Two Star."

International Matches.

International Matches have been arranged as follows:—

v. France (Juniors) at Eastbourne on 9th November, 1956.
v. Scotland (Mixed Seniors) at Barnehurst on 29th November, 1956.
v. Ireland (Mixed Seniors) at Hanley on 30th November, 1956.
v. France (Women) at Cheshunt on 2nd April, 1957.

County Umpires' Scheme.

Mr. W. G. Goldfinch, 11, Colebrook Close, Worthing, Sussex, has agreed to continue in office as Hon. Secretary of the National Umpires' Committee.

Team Selections.

Rhineland Visit. 29th/30th September, 1956.

E.T.T.A. Men's Team "A".

A. W. C. Simons (Captain, Gloucestershire), I. Harrison (Gloucestershire), E. Hodson (Middlesex), J. Ingber (Lancashire), A. Lindsay (Middlesex), J. Lowe (Middlesex).

E.T.T.A. Men's Team "B."

K. Craigie (Captain, Surrey), C. Booth (Lancashire), B. Brumwell (Essex), R. Griffin (Gloucestershire), B. Merrett (Gloucestershire), A. Miller (Surrey).

E.T.T.A. Women's Team.

R. Crayden (Captain, Surrey), Miss W. Bates (Sussex), Miss Y. Baker (Essex), Miss E. Isaacs (Surrey), Miss B. Milbank (Essex), Mrs. J. Willcocks (Devon), Miss F. Wright (Yorkshire).

Junior Table Tennis Tournament—Paris, 26th/28th September, 1956.

Miss L. Bown (Cheshire), Miss J. Harrower (Middlesex), P. Cole (Suffolk), D. Grant (Isle of Wight). Non-playing Captain K. Stanley (Lancs.).

International Tournament—Liege. 29th/30th September, 1956.

Miss J. Rook (Surrey), D. Burridge (Middlesex), H. Venner (Surrey). Non-playing Captain J. Carrington (Essex).

English Ranking List

MEN

1. **R. Bergmann (Mddx.)**
2. **B. Kennedy (Yorks.) J. Leach (Essex)**
4. **H. Venner (Surrey)**
5. **A. W. C. Simons (Glos.)**
6. **B. Merrett (Glos.)**
7. **D. Burridge (Mddx.)**
8. **M. Thornhill (Mddx.)**
9. **L. Laza (Australia)**
10. **R. Hinchliff (Yorks.)**
11. **B. Brumwell (Essex)**
12. **R. Allcock (Lancs.)**

WOMEN

1. **Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.)**
2. **Miss D. Rowe (Mddx.)**
3. **Mrs. J. Head (J. Winn) (Surrey)**
4. **Miss B. Isaacs (Surrey)**
5. **Miss P. Mortimer (Warwicks.)**
6. **Miss Y. Baker (Essex)**
7. **Miss J. Rook (Surrey) Miss B. Milbank (Essex).**

NOT RANKED

(insufficient performances)
Mrs. R. Cornett
Mrs. C. K. Thompson
Miss P. Franks

TABLE TENNIS

Published on the 10th of each month October to May inclusive. Postal Subscription 7s. 6d. for eight issues.

Circulation: The Walthamstow Press Ltd., Guardian House, 644, Forest Road, London, E.17 (LARkswood 4301).

Advertisements: E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (TRAfalgar 2165).

Editorial: W. Harrison Edwards, c/o Sports Press, 149, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. (FLEet Street 9951).

IRISH SCENE

Competitive table-tennis in Ireland does not really get under way until mid-way through October. In fact, I doubt very much if many of our players take their bats out of mothballs until a few weeks preceeding the first tournament or league fixture. Which, of course, is the wrong approach altogether to the game, and accounts so much for this country's poor showing in recent years' internationals and representative tournaments.

Of course, there are the few—too few—enthusiasts who take advantage of the long off season to improve their strokes and techniques, and year after year it is these players who capture the majority of the major tournaments.

Sean Clarkin is one name that automatically comes to mind in this respect, and there is also Joy Owens whose first love is definitely table-tennis. As a result of their endeavours these two are almost certain to win the cups presented for the outstanding man and woman of last season at the forthcoming Co. Dublin Championships.

The Irish Association in conjunction with its different branches throughout the country has done great work in fostering the game in remote parts of the provinces, and I believe that this season will see an intensified programme in this respect.

The ball will start rolling in Galway on October, 13th, when such players as Sean Clarkin, Wesley Pappin and Joy Owens from Leinster will combine with Harry O'Prey, Ernie Allen and Mary Lindsay from Ulster in what should be a really top class exhibition.

Table-tennis in the provinces is catching on more and more each year, and each season brings a considerable increase in the number of clubs. The standard, too, is definitely on the upgrade, and several of the teams I saw in action during the Provincial towns' Cup easily measure up to that of Leinster League 1 "B" sides.

The First championship of the season will take place in Belfast on October 19, and 20, where the Belfast County Open will be decided. It will be followed by the Munster Open in Cork, on the 27th.

That much discussed of events the inter-provincial competition will be held in Leinster on the 9 and 10 of November at a venue yet to be decided, whilst the Irish Open moves to Belfast on the 24—26 January.

Ireland will play both England and Scotland away and will receive Wales in Belfast on February 8.

Finally, it is with regret that I mention the loss to Irish table-tennis of two great stalwarts, Noel Kerr and Grosvenor Maher, gone to Canada and London respectively. Both have represented Leinster in the inter-provincials and have always figured prominently in the major tournaments.

S. Dignam.

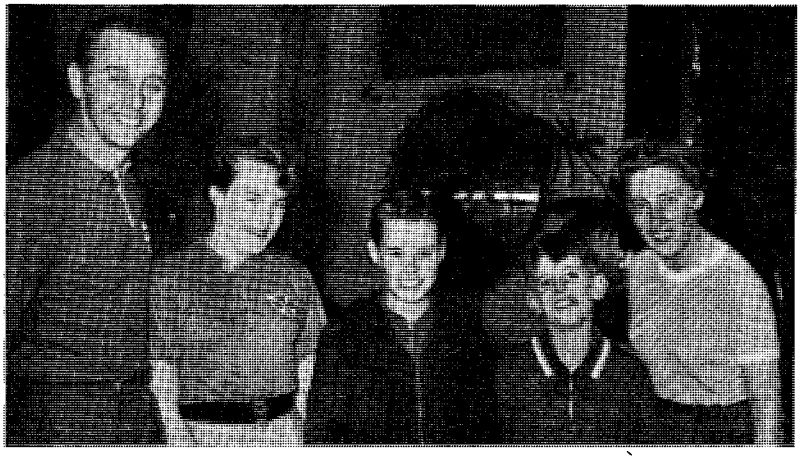
LADDER TO STARDOM

By KENNETH WHEELER

JUST think—but for service in the R.A.F. during the war which accidentally brought him into contact with other top-class players, Johnny Leach might never have found the opportunity to progress from kitchen table to World Championship table tennis.

It makes you wonder: how many other potential champions have been hiding their light under a bushel?

The National Junior Tournament for under-fifteens started three years ago by *Eagle* and *Girl* magazines, introduces hundreds of boys and girls to competitive table tennis under first-rate conditions every year, and already has helped potential champions to climb the first rung of the ladder to stardom.



Johnny Leach and Helen Elliot with three promising Scottish juniors: Pat McKenzie, Alan Chalmers and Garry Brass.

Names like Jaqueline Butcher, Margaret Bradnum, Derek Grant, Chris. Gosling and Ronnie Brass first came to national prominence as a result of the success in the *Eagle*/*Girl* Championships, and there are many more on the tip of my tongue.

Watch out for the rise of such starlets as Mary Shannon, David Stanley and Garry Brass, who were among the 25 boys and girls, chosen at various stages (purely on potentiality) for special coaching under the direction of Johnny Leach at Skegness this summer.

Last month, 14-year-old Margaret Bradnum of Kingston-upon-Hull, winner of the GIRL *tournament at Leeds in* 1955, *followed in the footsteps of Jacqueline Butcher, a previous* GIRL *champion, to win the* NEWS OF THE WORLD *Trophy which goes to the most promising British player of the year.*

EAGLE *finalists Grant, Gosling and Racey have already earned recognition in an unofficial representative match, and now last year's Senior event champions, Jean Harrower and Derek Grant have both represented England in the French junior tournament in Paris.*

In addition, of course, thanks to the generous encouragement of Hulton Press, still greater interest in the game has been stimulated among schoolboys and schoolgirls all over the country.

The entry for this year's tournament has been bigger than ever before—in London alone there are nearly 1,000 competitors—and the increasing support from readers of *Girl* is most encouraging.

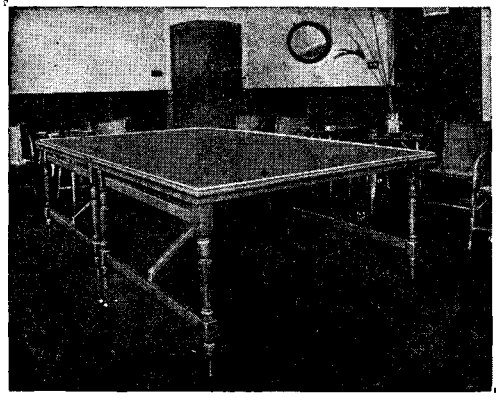
Peter Barker, Deputy Editor of EAGLE and GIRL, presents the GIRL Senior Trophy to Jean Harrower.

Twelve qualifying tournaments for the Grand Finals (on February 23 next) will be held altogether, and these include a special round at Portsmouth for boys' club members in the district. The winner of the latter will qualify for inclusion at the quarter final stage of the South London tournament.

Here are the dates of the rounds: September 26 Portsmouth, September 29 Birmingham, October 6 London North (Boys), October 13 London South (Boys), October 20 Manchester, October 27 London Girls, November 17 Leeds, November 24 Cardiff, December 8 Bristol, December 15 Edinburgh, January 5 Nottingham, January 12 Liverpool.

The winners of the Cardiff and Nottingham rounds will play-off against the Bristol and Liverpool champions, respectively, to determine places in the Grand Finals, at the Friends' Meeting House, Euston, London, on February 23.

THE BEST TABLE TENNIS TABLES AT ANY PRICE



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SAM KIRKWOOD'S World Round Up

TRUDI RETIRES

TRUDI PRITZI, one of the few pre-war stars still in world circulation last season, has decided to hang up her bat. An on-the-spot observer says she has "definitely retired."

Trudi, the Viennese "Queen of Chisellers," was world "champ" in 1937/38, winning her title in her home town. The year before, in the pre-time-limit era, she met reigning title-holder Ruth Aarons, of the United States, in the final of the Baden world singles, and both were disqualified after a plodding match which threatened to last for hours. The title was declared "vacant."

Trudi won the English singles at Wembley in 1950/51—after she was all but ignominiously "dumped" in the opening round by "Pinkie" Barnes, who, after being two sets to the good and comfortably placed in the third game, went to pieces in the most mysterious and pathetic manner.

* * *

Jayant Vora, 13-year-old junior champion of India, won the Indian Gymkhana men's singles during the summer, the youngest player ever to achieve the feat.

The pint-sized Jayant, one of Vic Barna's pet pupils, has been in devastating form and has scored wins over top-ranking seniors. His admirers feel that young as he is "Giant" has a fine chance of being in India's Swaythling team next March.

* * *

Reba Moness, U.S. girl who evoked many wolf-whistles with her leopard-skin slacks when she appeared in England, has a show-business T.T. act in Milwaukee and is, so I'm told, doing very nicely, thank you.

She has been seen in a Broadway T.T. parlour (as the Americans term a hall) escorting **Lou Nova,** handsome ex-heavyweight boxer who once made painful contact with Joe Louis for the latter's world crown.

* * *

Far East countries which have never played in the West are keen to break the ice and show their paces (and sponge, sponge-rubber and leather bats) in Sweden next year. Amongst the countries hoping to make their European debut are Korea, China, Phillipines and Singapore.

* * *

Two countries which have never staged the World Series have already placed their bids for the 1961 championships. They are Ireland and the U.S.A.

* * *

Hungary is upset at being named No. 4 in the 1956/57 world team listing, behind Japan, Czechoslovakia and Rumania.

The Magyars hastened to point out that prior to Tokyo they beat Rumania 9-1 and Czechoslovakia 5-4 in full internationals. But they **didn't** think it worth mentioning that they failed to compete in the World Series, on which the ranking list is based, whereas the Czechs and Rumanians did—and with a substantial measure of success.

The International Federation has "cocked a deaf 'un" to the protest—and rightly so, in my view.

* * *

The Hungarians, by the way, went into training in July for the Stockholm 1957 world "do." They've been going whole heartedly at running, P.T. and football and are deadly

EIGHT YEARS LATER

by Sam Kirkwood

HAVE you noticed a growing tendency for players, officials and observers to venture into print with pleas to those T.T.-ites concerned to wear smarter dress in tournaments? I certainly have—and you must forgive me if I smile just a little sardonically at what I read. Why? Because it is nearly eight years now since I embarked on a *"let's-get-rid-of-table-tennis-tramps"* campaign.

How the stick-in-the-muds raged and railed against my impudence; how venomously they snarled and waxed sarcastic at my expense because I dared to say what I thought of men and girls who disgraced themselves and the game by appearing in tatty garments!

Players wrote saying that T.T. was a "democratic" game and therefore players should be allowed to wear what they liked and how they liked. One witty gentleman artlessly enquired whether I expected men to go to the table attired in top hat and spats. The general implication was that I was eccentric with nasty, dictatorial ideas.

Everyone who troubled to enter into the controversy made no stand at all against unkempt wear; on the contrary, in a roundabout fashion they defended it. Yes, how well I remember the raising of hands in horror at the suggestion that a clothing reform was needed! Thus my slightly twisted smile.

At long last, so it seems, and so I would like to believe, folks are waking up to the fact that tournament table tennis is commercialised entertainment and as such must, to be successful, provide an element of showmanship. And an integral part of showmanship lies in the satorial appearance of performers, regardless of their skill. An act *must* be suitably "dressed."

How strange it is that so many players have failed to appreciate—and, if it comes to that, still fail to appreciate—that spectators who pay to see them in action are entitled, yes ENTITLED, *to see smartly turned-out competitors, in the same way that the public automatically expect to see faultlessly g r o o m e d performers whether it be at Lord's, Covent Garden, or Wimbledon, or the London Palladium.*

A growing awareness of the need for smartness is reflected in the fact that certain manufacturers of T.T. wear employ designers to create sleek and practical dress-items like shorts, shirts and skirts—and market them at prices within the range of all.

You know, when you come to think of it, there's not a single sound reason why any player should be other than attractively attired.

The game is suffering a slump, and there is a very real need for every "open" player to help overcome it. He can do his bit by taking a pride in his personal appearance. Not only will he then be helping to retain the support of the public, but will also be showing respect to the organisers, those fellow-competitors who take the trouble to clothe themselves decently, and the game itself.

The Rowe twins always delighted the public—and not the least important reason for this was their impeccable attire. And whoever saw Victor Barna, the "daddy" of all players in every respect, go to the table other than in flawlessly neat shirt, trousers and shoes?

keen to recover some of their lost prestige.

They say they have several young players of much talent and swear that among the new names we'll soon be hearing, and respecting, are **Berczik, Rubonyi, Varady** and **Jansco.**

* * *

Something of a mixed-up kid, language-wise, is our **Richard Bergmann.** Sending yours truly a card from Havana, Cuba, he addressed me as "Senor" Kirkwood, of "Londres, Angleterre." The message read, "Muchios Saludos." I've written to "Globetrotting" Richard saying that I'd have preferred a box of Havanas to his "Muchios Saludos" throwout. Gawdios blimeyos!

* * *

Her country's Ministry of Sport have presented **Angelica Rozeanu** with a motor car, in recognition, apparently, of her services to Rumania, who of course won the Corbillon Cup in Japan last season, thanks mainly to the great ex-world champion. There has been talk of Angelica retiring, but I think we can safely say she'll be around to help her young pupil and team-mate, **Ella Zeller,** retain that Corbillon bauble in Stockholm.

* * *

Si Wasserman, manager of and instructor at the California Table Tennis Centre in Los Angeles, where **Irwin Klein,** red-headed, sponge-using U.S. champion, learned to play, has written to tell me that the 17-year-old left-hander may forsake competitive play.

Si says: "Irwin feels that the game doesn't offer enough in the United States to warrant his spending time away from his studies. He will soon be entering the University of California at Berkeley to begin predental work."

Si also gently wraps me over the knuckles for a photograph published on my page in this magazine last March. Bob Gusikoff, the U.S. Swaythling player, was illustrated, but the caption read "Irwin Klein." I pass the can back to the Editor, who I know will accept credit where credit is rightly due.

Editor's Note: Agreed, Sam, my mistake on a wrongly-captioned picture.

HARRY VENNER

England and Surrey

Coaching and Exhibitions arranged

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Personality Parade

NOT SON OF FRED

FRED, I gather, has a two-fold purpose in life—to inspire Essex star Ivor Jones and demoralise his opponents. Fiery red, curly and soft to the touch, Fred, in the eyes of the aforesaid gentleman, has no equal—but to players facing him, ugh!

Fred—how did you guess?—is a beard. Lovingly named and nurtured by Ivor from a few prickly spikes to an abundant growth, it has become the much-stroked pride and joy of this lively young player's life.

And what does his new young wife Micki (formerly Maureen McMeekin) think of it? "It grows on me," she says with a twinkle. I—er—think I see your point, Micki.

A NEW BAT

Now Mr. Jones, as everyone connected with table tennis well knows, does nothing by halves. Not content with scaring everyone with his facial appendage (he claims to be the first bearded county player since Bill McCave of Canvey Island) Ivor has added venom to his former fierce game with a new sandwich bat. (Rubber on sponge for the uninitiated).

The aim of this 27-year-old Walthamstow commercial artist? To win the badge which he so narrowly missed last season and to improve on his great Manchester performance last March in the forthcoming English "Open" at Wembley.

At Manchester you may remember, Ivor gave one of the best English performances. He knocked out Rene Roothooft of France in the singles; with dynamic Shirley Jones of Wales, he reached the mixed final, toppling such star pairings as Josef Koczian and Agnes Almosi-Simon (Hungary) and holders Aubrey Simons and Helen Elliot on the way.

Likeable 17-year-old Micki, an accounting machine operator, who has temporarily given up a most promising table tennis career is making quite sure that Ivor is properly nourished, kept warm and in tip top physical condition for his coming battles.

"I am giving him plenty of steaks, eggs and milk to build him up, and I insist he completes his self-imposed nine minutes of physical jerks every evening." Very soon he intends to start a course of light weightlifting under a friend's guidance. "How do I keep him warm?" The rapid click of knitting needles fashioning his seventh sweater supplied the answer to that one.

Ivor (without Fred) and Micki at their wedding in July

Ivor says he intends to enter all major open tornaments and will partner Shirley Jones and Essex Colleague Bobby Stevens in the English event and, if not selected, will endeavour to pay his way to Sweden for the world contest.

Best of luck Ivor, yours is the spirit we need in English table tennis.

THE BISHOPSGATE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

230 BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2

have a few vacancies. The Club meets at 6.00 p.m. every Monday and Friday. Write Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. A. Green, 11 Tell Grove, East Dulwich, S.E.22.

Letters to the Editor

PRAISE AND CRITICISM

I wish to congratulate you on producing a virile, varied and informative journal.

I am pleased to note that although you are editing an official publication, you are not a "Yes" man, but criticise where criticism is justified.

Your editorial articles really say something, and your forthright style of writing is welcome.

I like the lay-out of the magazine with its good quality paper, clear print, and with tournament results easily readable.

The official news page is always interesting, though staid, in addition to the kind of news usually given on this page, I should like to see reports of National Executive meetings.

If leagues and clubs knew more about the work of the Executive Committee and its sub-committees, and the way their own representative was thinking and voting, perhaps a greater interest would be taken in the election of regional representatives.

News of a local character, such as "Around the leagues" and "Area news" has a very limited appeal, and while I agree that such news deserves a place in the magazine, the space devoted to it should be strictly limited.

The interest value of local news would be greatly enhanced if the writers described activities from an original or unusual angle, or mentioned difficulties and problems met with, and how these were tackled and overcome. Too many area reports are simply a recital of teams and players successes, match results, etc.

Photographs add to the attractiveness of the magazine, and I hope you will always have a supply to hand, and also the occasional humorous cartoon.

And now I have a complaint about the multitude of terms used by your writers.

Standardise Terms

A glossary of table tennis terms is needed immediately and urgently.

What, may I ask, is the correct term to indicate "21 up"? The E.T.T.A. handbook giving the laws of the game, states "game," but in recent issues of the T.T. magazine, "21 up" has also been called a "set," a "tie," a "match," and a "leg."

Writers refer to a best of three also as a "game" a "match" or a "set," and, a "rubber!"

Worse, the terms "game," "match," and "tie," have a third meaning, to indicate a contest between two teams.

None of these terms has been given a precise meaning, with the result that writers use the same terms to mean different things, and the reader becomes baffled and bewildered.

May I therefore plead with you to standardize terms for the sake of clarity?

I would like briefly, to refer to a term which has crept into the game and is now used universally. It is "deuce." The E.T.T.A. does not recognise the name, and states that the correct term is "20 all."

The fact remains that "deuce" has been accepted into the game, and is used continually. It is a convenient term, with no ambiguity as to meaning.

In concluding, may I say that your magazine has certainly stimulated my interest and my pen!

Best wishes to you, and to the success of the magazine.

Henry A. Senior.
(Darlington)

OFFICIAL REPLY

I confess to a feeling of sympathy for Mr. Senior in his bewilderment: but I don't think he is really justified in quoting terms used by contributors of TABLE TENNIS *to cast doubts on what is correct.*

"21 up" is a game (Law 5): a contest being the best of so many games (rarely a single game) is a "match" (see Law 7). Both in the Laws, and in the International Regulations, no other terms than these two, "games" and "matches"; are used: and if in a team contest, the match is said to have been won by, say, 6 matches to 4, I can't possibly concede that it is likely to baffle anybody.

The term "match" is undoubtedly correct, whether it refers to the individual events, or to the contest as a whole: and there is neither warrant, nor occasion, to use such superficial terms as "rubbers," "sets," or "ties."

At a pinch, one could admit 'rubber": but a "set" indicates a target of games-up, and a "tie" derives from the bracketing of names on a draw-sheet.

I am sorry to contradict Mr. Senior, but his allusion to the acceptance of "deuce" as a fact, is simply not so. In the old days, when we got rather cluttered up with lawn tennis types, maybe: but not now, Sir, not now.

C. CORTI WOODCOCK

SPONGE—A DOUBLE HIT

MAY I make a few fresh and I think, very material points of the Sponge Rubber issue. Most important is that when the impact of a stroke is sufficient for the ball to penetrate or compress the sponge fully, effective contact is made with the hard core, and a double hit is produced. This is as much a fault as the traditional double-hit on a plain surface.

The point first caught my attention when umpiring a match in which a sponge player was using an orthodox heavy top spin drive. The double change of direction of the ball involuntarily caught my eye for the ball was leaving the bat at a different spot from where it first struck.

On reflection it seems this must inevitably occur, when a ball penetrates to the core of a sponge bat at an angle to the blade of other than ninety degrees.

Furthermore the tension of the sponge surface takes over after the inner surface with a somewhat catapult action. It could be argued this is a triple hit.

This perhaps provides an explanation for the rather unpredictable bounces and disconcerting leaps of the balls hit by sponge. This phenomenon is universally recognised but no matter how closely the ball is watched a diminished degree of accuracy must result.

From this it follows that such near super human exhibition as were once provided by Barna, Bergmann and Vana, cannot be repeated while sponge rubber is used by any player and there must be a reduction of spectacle.

Being the first of my circle here to acquire a sponge bat, I am not prejudiced against the surface, and being progressive in all things I share what I believe is a general reluctance at home to oppose anything new in the game, partly from fear of resenting the unfamiliar. Nevertheless, I am at last convinced that for the sake of the game as a spectacle and because of "illegal" double hits, the sponge surface must be banned.

Kind regards to old friends at Slough, Ascot and Chertsey. I'm still playing the circuit though my fifth decade is almost finished. What about ultra veterans or dodderers events.

Eric Levett.
Oatley, N.S.W., Australia.

SILENCE!

ALTHOUGH I am a player and umpire I wish to express my point of view as a spectator on sponge. I am not against sponge in itself, or any other material, but against the present use of sponge. I do not refer to its effect on the speed of the game or the length of the rallies. My objection is summed up in the word "Sound".

Can you imagine a cricket lover sitting at Lords on a sunny day and, instead of hearing the sharp exciting crack of bat hitting ball, hearing only a dull plop. It is the same with Table Tennis and therein lies the insidiousness of present-day sponge.

Furthermore where rubber faced bats are used an experienced spectator may rest his eyes by looking away from the table for a moment, and continuing to follow the game by sound only.

There is however a remedy which would not offend those who consider it wrong in principle, as I do, to bar any one particular type of bat facing. Limit the total thickness of the facings (it should not prove unduly difficult to arrive, by experiment, at a reasonable maximum thickness). A bat facing could be described as "any non-rigid substance (s) that is added to the rigid surface of the bat".

To sum up, the fault with sponge lies in the thickness of the sponge normally used, not in the sponge itself.

L. R. F. G. Purser.
North Middlesex Table Tennis League.

Criticism Ends Practical Tests

By BILL GOLDFINCH

THAT well worn cliche, "*You cannot please all the people all the time,*" was made abundantly clear in regard to the Umpires Scheme at the Annual General Meeting last April. Those of us concerned with the organisation and administration of the scheme welcome constructive criticism, and it is fair to say that most of the discussion regarding umpires was in this category.

As expected the main bone of contention concerned the National Umpires Examination, the first of which was held last February. The Practical Test came under heavy fire.

Most speakers considered that this test introduced too many hazards for those under test and, in fact, created situations which were extremely unlikely to ever arise under normal match conditions. Others thought that a practical test was unnecessary as all candidates had passed one in qualifying as County Umpires, and had indeed been practising their technique before public audiences for at least three years.

It would be quite wrong to dismiss as unimportant and impractieable such suggestions as these, coming as they do from people with considerable administrative and practical experience of umpiring, and they must be weighed carefully with the equally valuable comments coming from others who take a slightly different view.

The National Umpires' Committee gave very careful consideration to all these points of view and, coupled with their own experience during a recent seven-hour meeting, have decided to discontinue the Practical Test as conducted in the first examination. However, they have reserved the right to call for some form of practical test for some or all of the candidates prior to or during subsequent examinations.

FULLER DETAILS

To assist in assessing practical ability, County Associations nominating candidates will be asked to furnish fuller details of umpiring experience. It is hoped also that, with the approval of the National Executive Committee, reports on umpiring at all National events will be made available to the National Umpires' Committee.

The Committee plan to conduct two examinations during the current season. One will probably be in London, and the other in either Manchester, Birmingham or Leeds, depending primarily on the location of the candidates.

County Associations will be informed of the current arrangements and invited to submit the names of candidates. The first examination will be held during January, 1957.

At long last the new Test Paper for County Umpires is now available, and I hope, by the time you read these notes, distributed to County Associations. The delay in the production of the paper has been most frustrating, but has allowed for considerable examination and study of the draft with a consequent number of amendments. In my opinion this No. 3 Test Paper is the best paper that has yet been produced.

There are 28 questions on the paper, all of which must be answered, carrying a total of 200 possible marks. A total of 170 (85 per cent.) is needed to pass.

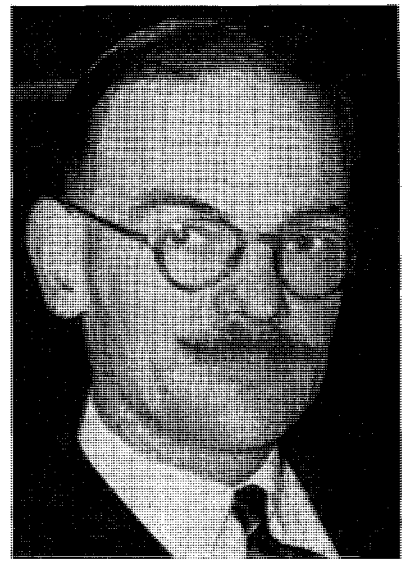
STRAIGHTFORWARD

Trick questions have been completely eradicated, and ambiguity does not appear possible. As before, all answers can be found by reference to the Laws of the Game and the Knotty Point interpretations. Candidates may complete the paper in their own time, at home, and have any reference books, including the Laws of the Game and Knotty Point interpretations, available at their elbow.

The only stipulation laid down by the National Umpires' Committee is that the answers must be the candidates own and not a copy of another person.

Unofficially, I have set a target of 250 new County Umpires during the current season, and if you have not yet qualified, you should now take the first step in obtaining from the *Secretary of your County Association Umpires' Committee* a copy of the Test Paper. Application should not be made to me for papers, but if you cannot find out locally the name and address of your County Umpire Secretary I will gladly advise you.

The whole examination is quite simple, and if you understand the game well enough to play it according to the rules then you will have no difficulty in qualifying.



BILL GOLDFINCH

On passing both written and practical examinations, you will be awarded a full certificate, a copy of the Handbook for Umpires, a metal lapel badge or brooch and be eligible to purchase, if you wish, a blazer pocket badge.

A further printing of the Handbook for Umpires is to be made shortly, and will incorporate changes in the Laws and Regulations made since the first edition was printed. Subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee, the contents will be published in the current season's E.T.T.A. Handbook. The Handbook will be available for purchase at a cost of 1/-, or 1/6d. in the case of overseas purchasers.

County Umpire Secretaries will be informed when the new Handbooks are available and notice will also be given in the magazine.

PROPER CHANNELS

A number of County Umpire Committees have criticised the practice whereby Tournament Organisers and others have approached County and National Umpires direct, seeking their services, without consultation, or approval, of the appropriate County Association.

Although no-one wishes to be obstructive in this matter, I do feel that it is only right and proper that approval should be obtained from the appropriate County Association, and I would ask for the co-operation of all Umpires in this respect in making sure, before agreeing to officiate at any public function that your County Umpire Committee has given approval.

Guest Critic

Embryo Champions

by FRANK BUTLER

"News of the World" Columnist.

THE ever-increasing popularity of table tennis was again evident this summer when the *News of the World* staged its second National Coaching Scheme in association with the Butlin Holiday Camps at Ayr, Filey, Pwllheli, Clacton and Skegness.

10,500 boys and girls entered this competition, approved by the Table Tennis Associations of England, Scotland and Wales, and 150 of them received a week's coaching holiday at Skegness during which time they were watched closely by the sport's top experts in Britain and awarded points for ball control, footwork, stroke production and general play.

As a result of this Table Tennis Festival in the first week of September, **Johnny Leach,** the former world champion, reckons that in **Margaret Bradnum,** a 14-year-old Hull girl, and **Howel Jones,** 16-year-old Port Talbot lad, the table tennis world has a couple of future champions who may one day become as famous as **Diane** and **Rosalind Rowe, Brian Kennedy** —to say nothing of Johnny himself.

A Natural

Margaret Bradnum, a left-handed attacking player seems to be a table tennis "natural" with a big future. She has the right temperament. All she now requires to add perfection to her game is a tighter defence.

Howel, discovered at the Pwllheli camp where **Harry Venner** coached a bright bunch of boys and girls, is more of a defensive player, but when he opens up he has an ideal stroke action. With a little more aggression the Welsh boy will make a name for himself.

Although Johnny Leach and the experts voted Margaret and Howel as the best prospect of 1956, they found plenty of talent from the lucky 150, and **Patricia Taylor,** a 12-year-old from Cheltenham, was only just pipped for first place. **Ann Simpson** (Sutton) who is 13, 11-year-old **Sandra Pilton** of Barrow-in-Furness, and **Sylvia Whittle,** a 14-year-old Crewe girl, are all names to note for next summer when the successful coaching scheme will again be launched on an even bigger scale.

There are also many youthful hopes among the boys apart from Howel Jones. Three Londoners—**Stuart Godwin** (17), **Gerald Robins** (15), and **Nigel Ive** (12)—all received runners-up trophies, and **Eric Hall,** an 11-year-old from Knaresbrough, Yorkshire, impressed the experts who gathered at Skegness. Quite remarkable when you consider young Eric had only played on a table in his home until he took a holiday at Butlin's camp this year. **Brian Kennedy** was the Table Tennis "Boss-Man" at Ayr and Brian was quickly impressed by Eric's ability and tenacity although the Yorkshire boy isn't tall enough to see much more than above the surface of a full-size table.

Coaches Impressed

Diane Rowe, Helen Elliot, Brian Kennedy, Harry Venner and Ron Allcock, who spent five days at Skegness giving advice and coaching under world championship conditions, were most impressed by the promis-

The final 150 with coaches (L. to R.) Ron Alcock, Diane Rowe, Johnny Leach, Harry Venner, Helen Elliot, Brian Kennedy.

ing crop of youngsters among the 10,500 who were under "starter's orders."

Johnny Leach's advice to the disappointed players who just failed to get awards is to practise harder than ever this winter in order to catch the eye in 1957 and receive the trophies from Mr. W. Emsley Carr, Chairman of the *News of the World*, and Mr. Billy Butlin, M.B.E.

Special Pavilions

Proof of the success of the scheme comes from the Butlin Camps. I understand pavilions will be built to hold 80 tables next summer. It looks as though there may well be a record entry next year. "The more the merrier," says Johnny Leach.

And so say the Table Tennis Associations of England, Scotland and Wales. The fruits of this coaching scheme may well produce a world champion in the coming years. And we certainly need to give all the youngsters every ounce of encouragement to battle against the high standard produced by countries such as Japan and Hungary.

The *News of the World* intends to play its part.

Champion County v. Rest.

Surrey Dislike Change

SURREY are not happy about the set-up for their challenge match as County Champions, against the Rest at Clapham Baths on October 23.

The National Association first requested Surrey to agree to playing eight games, then proposed nine, with a second ladies' singles taking the place of the ladies' doubles, and the elimination of the mixed doubles.

Surrey, who contend the match is a "hang-over" from last season, would prefer to play over the same test as when they won their title. They do not like to see the disappearance of the ladies and mixed doubles.

Great Partnerships

Jim Forrest, the Surrey publicity secretary, writes: *"The National Association cannot be faulted by wishing to give what they think the customers require, but can it really be said that these matches should go? Are we then in future no more to glory in the triumphs gained by Victor Barna/Rosalind Rowe, Johnny Leach/Diane Rowe, or the Rowe twins?*

"It is agreed that programmes are too long, some matches admittedly dull, but is this the answer?"

He feels that to leave these events out of the county championship would leave our world pairings merely to stray together.

Retain All-round Strength

Some streamlining is obviously needed for matches, but surely a test of strength in all phases of the game must be retained.

What are your views?

Meanwhile, the challenge match should provide its usual excitement with the best players in the country in opposition.

Surrey's team will probably be Harry Venner, Tony Miller, Ken Craigie, Ron Crayden, Jean Head, Peggy Piper and Betty Isaacs, all of whom played their part in wresting the title from Middlesex.

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VICTOR BARNA SAYS

Don't Blame The Manufacturer

READERS of *Table Tennis* have heard of the "Bergmann incident" in Tokyo, when Richard, playing his first round in the Singles, could not find a ball to his liking. He rejected one after the other and went through 24 boxes until, following an intervention by his captain, Ivor Montagu, he finally accepted a "good" one.

Well, let me say, that no other player than Richard Bergmann (and in no other country than Japan where umpires and officials were most helpful and polite) could get away with it. Richard himself tried to justify and explain his actions in the last number of this magazine, so his point of view is already known.

NOT ALONE

It is not the first time, nor will it be the last (if I know Richard, and I am sure he won't mind me saying): nor is he the only one to complain about balls. From time to time we hear somebody crying out loud and long about the "terrible quality" of the various balls and, occasionally with good cause.

No one can pretend that everything in the garden is lovely as regards ball manufacture. However, there are always two sides to a question. We usually hear the player's complaint, but very seldom hear from the people they are criticising.

TWO SIDES

As well as being an active player for over 30 years, I have also been closely connected with the manufacturing side of the game since 1932. Therefore I fully understand—or ought to, by now—both sides of the problem.

Every player, but especially the good one with perfect ball control, wants to play with a good ball. This is only natural, because if the ball is not round the player must actually watch the bounce, instead of taking it as a matter of course. Consequently, through having to take the ball later he loses precious time and also has less time than usual to watch his opponent. To an average player this might be relatively unimportant, but that is not the point. I can well understand Richard's attitude and admit that I myself was apt to be "choosey" at times—though nothing like him. The great difference between us is in the methods we adopt when selecting a ball at the table.

I suppose he, like me, wants a *"round"* ball, because to me roundness is the all-important factor. I may dislike balls which are too heavy or too light, but I can play with them if they are round. But even though it is the right size and weight, if a ball is not round I will find it difficult to keep my control.

Well, how do you test a ball for roundness? The best and only sensible way to do it is to spin it once or twice with your fingers. If it spins perfectly without wobbling, it is a round one. To make sure, play a few rallies but not haphazardly bashing—rather using a *"chop."* That's the way I and most players select a ball.

Richard's method is different. He maintains that the pressure of each half must be exactly equal and that if one side is softer or harder than the other, the ball is no good. I agree with him, but not with his method of finding it out.

He presses the ball on one side with his thumb, on the other side with his forefinger.

Now I ask you, how can you be sure that you used both fingers with precisely equal pressure?

You could consider yourself lucky if you judged it correctly once or twice, and there is no certain way of telling. Just imagine going through 24 boxes like that!

TRIED HARD

The Equipment Committee of the International Federation and the E.T.T.A. have tried hard to make high quality balls available, right from the beginning. They examine the balls submitted by the makers, they publish their findings in detail and they give the *"approved"* label only to those marks which conform to certain standards, unlike some overseas National Associations where approval is only a matter of money.

The English experts, the late A. J. Wilmott and Geoff Harrower must have spent a tremendous amount of time testing thousands and thousands of balls: and Ivor Montagu's latest report on the subject is a real masterpiece. His analysis, with hundreds of figures and complicated tables clearly setting out for comparison the relative merits of the different makes, must have been a terrific job. It also shows that he has a thorough under-

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English Open Mixed 1950/51

Miss Elliot wears **"UMBRO"** table tennis wear

standing of the situation and its many difficulties.

Naturally, I have had a lot to do with the intricacies of ball-testing technique, but I must admit I always took more interest in the practical side of it.

I firmly believe that no test, however thorough and conclusive, is adequate if it is not coupled with the practical test—that is, trying it out on the table, bat in hand.

I shall always remember an incident when I was playing on the stage. On the first night, we had a stock of a dozen or two balls which we kept in a box. They played very well indeed. The following day, we were flabbergasted to find that these same balls were like eggs.

It was quite impossible to play with them. If we hadn't used them the night before we would have cursed the makers up hill and down dale for selling duds. But we were to blame.

We left the box with the lid open and the strong lights of the dressing room ruined the balls.

It nearly ruined our act into the bargain !

HEAT CONTROL

Here I come to a point which manufacturers should publicise, players remember and testers take into account. The ball is made of celluloid.

And celluloid expands in heat, contracts in cold.

It is difficult enough to make a good ball, but even more difficult to keep it good. The best made, the perfect ball, will deteriorate if it is subjected to fluctuations of temperature.

Another snag lies in the degree of maturity of the celluloid, both before and after manufacture, and this, too, I have looked into very closely, for many years.

There isn't much a manufacturer can do once the balls have left his factory. He does not know where, and in what condition, are they going to be kept or for how long? By the time they are required for play they may have become totally different from what they were as brand-new.

What manuafcturers could do is to advise their agents, dealers and clubs where they should keep the balls and in what temperature: of course, not all dealers could take the advice but at least the manufacturer would have done his best.

I chose to write on the subject of "balls" in order to show the various points of view, and to urge the Equipment Committee not only to make greater use of practical tests but to examine thoroughly such questions as the physical properties of celluloid, its maturity, and its reaction to temperature changes.

I had thought of discussing what sort of ball—soft, hard, light or heavy—suits various players but, on second thoughts, I don't think it matters much, so long as a ball is round and true. That's the great thing.

Finally, I do not want players to be (or pretend to be) fussy about selection. There is not the slightest need to "put on an act" when trying out a ball. Besides, the great majority of tournament organisers are very careful in getting the right balls, and usually willing to co-operate if players want to try out a few, before going to the table. Anyhow, as far as they are concerned, players who complain, delay the proceedings and hold up the schedule, and are liable to become unpopular.

Victor Barna goes through a cuttings book with Joyce Fielder at the cocktail party given by Conrad Jaschke. Also in the picture are Fred Trew, Chairman of Kent, and Stan Pike, Chairman of Woolwich.
A PACE PICTURE

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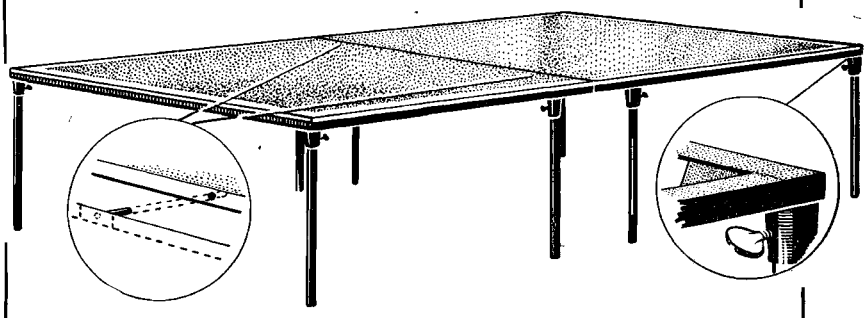

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Globe-Trotting With a T.T. Bat

By RICHARD BERGMANN

MY most recent exhibition tour with the Harlem Globetrotters took me, during England's so-called Summer, to most of South America's countries and the West Indies. My tally of lands visited in the course of my career has now soared to over 80 —and I am convinced that no sportsman, dead or alive, has trotted the globe so extensively as I—a record of which I am very proud.

However, back to this South American tour. My sparring partner was RENE ROOTHOOFT and our act was enthusiastically received wherever we went. The Globetrotters themselves were enormously successful and attracted packed houses at each stop.

Abe Saperstein, that human dynamo, who has a genius for showmanship and organisation, told me the tour was the most successful he had ever engineered for his troupe. He is a wonderful boss.

Basketball matches may be his main line of business, but, believe me, he is doing table tennis a power of good throughout the world by using exhibition acts in his shows.

Highlights? . . . experiences? . . . impressions? Let me start from the beginning.

I left England for New York on the *Queen Mary* on May 4. The most popular sport on board was table tennis—the many tables were always in use, with crowds waiting to play.

It was invited to be the celebrity guest in a "What's My Line" game organised for the ship's crew. The chairman was none other than EAMONN ANDREWS, en route to Hollywood. My identity was guessed in a matter of seconds—which proves that T.T. is not quite the obscure sport some claim it is.

I stayed with my mother for a week in New York, where I was joined by Rene, then flew to the West Indies for the opening stage of the tour. In Trinidad I ran across ROBERT MITCHUM, RITA HAYWORTH and BONAR COLLEANO, who were filming *"Fire Down Below."*

More than 40 per cent. of our games throughout the tour were played in the open air. In Port of Spain, where I met an old Viennese friend Edgar Bruen—we were members of my first club, Vindobona—we played at the cricket ground; in Carocas at the soccer stadium.

Ball-pinching boys plagued us in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Hordes of youngsters fought for the balls—some even crawled under the table. At one matinee show 200 screaming boys fought for possession of the balls, watched by 10,000 people. When we were down to our last pill I had to struggle with a youngster to keep it. And no police were around!

Rene Roothooft, Laszlo Bellak, Richard Bergmann

I managed to get in some games at the club of the SEVERO brothers, who are still Brazil's best men. Sponge is popular in that country and there are one or two very useful youngsters.

Among old friends I met in Buenos Aires, Argentine, was my former Austrian team-mate, IRVING KOHN, who reached the semi-finals in the 1935 World singles. Irving has lived in the Argentine for many years and no longer plays T.T.

Collecting Titles

Our visit to Santiago, Chile, coincided with the Chilean championships. I beat Rene 3-0 in the final and dropped only one game throughout the tournament, to RAUL RIVEROS ARAYA, a carabineros (police) captain, Chile's No. 2.

While in Lime, Peru, we took part in the Peruvian championships, and I beat Rene 3-1 in the final. In an earlier round Rene was given a stiff tussle by an all-out attacking character bearing the title, "Mr. Machine Gun," who took the game. I beat the Peruvian champion, EMILIO SOLORZANO, 3-0.

Nearly got myself arrested in Bagota, Columbia. Our hotel was rather dull and to liven things up I let off some fire-crackers I had purchased for a fiesta in Brazil. The

bangs were traced to me. The house detective and police asked me where I kept my revolver, which I denied having. Eventually, when I was about to be taken to police headquarters, I confessed to my prank. The police confiscated my fireworks and let the affair drop, relieved that I wasn't in posession of contraband arms.

No Souvenirs

In Medellin, another Columbian city, I was shown a ballroom with solid gold walls. My request to take one away as a souvenir was refused.

In San Salvadore, El Salvadore, I bumped into former French champion, AGUILAR, who emigrated from Vichy during the war. I played against him in Paris in 1938, when he was reckoned to be the country's No. 1, above Haguenauer.

"Ag" has a sports shop in San Salvadore and has been keeping the game in a thriving condition there. He told me T.T. was also prospering in Gautemala, and promised to get his country to join the International Federation. The same promise was made by Cuba, Curacao and British Guano.

Delightful surprise to meet LASZLO BELLAK, one of the original "Three Musketeers," holidaying in Cuba, Havana, which is two hours flying time from his home in Miami. I played him a friendly game and narrowly beat him. The old warhorse stills plays a very fine game indeed —and uses sponge.

The Challenge

My most catastrophic experience was in Kingston, Jamaica. Our playing venue was a football ground. On the opening day it rained heavily, naturally leaving the grass wet and slippery. Unbeknown to me, FUARNADO ROBERTS, the top Jamaican, had issued a challenge to play me and the challenge was accepted by a Globetrotters' official. When told I was to play Roberts I hotly refused, stating that I wouldn't be able to move on wet grass and that anyway a match with a low net (exhibition height) and in the open was highly irregular. Eventually, in obedience to the "show must go on" slogan, I went to the table with the Jamaican.

Roberts wasn't a brilliant player, but he played a tactically clever game, swinging the ball at an angle to one side of the table and then banging it across to the other when I was out of position. The wet grass made me foot-tied.

He won the first game 21-17, to my deep humiliation. We changed ends and again Roberts won, 22-20. I wasn't going to take this any more. I raised the net to the regulation height and swamped friend Roberts in the third. At that stage the match was deferred until the evening, as the second-house audience was waiting to enter the stadium.

Roberts agreed to turn up in the evening to continue the match. He didn't—but the West Indies press splashed reports that their "hero" had beaten me. The reports didn't bother to explain how the "beaten" player came to have won the final game, incidentally ! I was plenty burnt up.

At San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Globetrotters returned home but Rene and I flew to Trinidad again, where we had arranged an exhibition and also entered for the West Indies championships.

Reports of Roberts' *"win"* had penetrated to that territory and the local aces, who were as good as Roberts, fancied their chances against us. In an unofficial Europe v. Jamaica match, we annihilated the homesters 8-0, without dropping a game. I beat Roberts 21-9, 21-7, 21-8—and felt happier than I had done for a long time. I won the West Indies title, beating Rene 3-1 in the final.

My future plans? I sail for America on October 11 for another tour with the Globetrotters, this time in the United States and Canada.

The tour is scheduled to last to mid-May, but I have notified the E.T.T.A. that if I am selected to play for England in the world meeting at Stockholm in March, I will fly to Sweden early in March. I have also pledged myself to be 100 per cent fit.

I sincerely hope I shall be honoured with another England shirt.

FORCES CORNER

Rhine Army Champion

BY GNR. M. STEED

IN his first job after leaving school, Corporal Terry Miller found that his half-day off did not correspond with most of the other employees at Bradford Co-operative Society. He did not have the opportunity to take part in their outdoor sports activities. So he took up table tennis.

The game soon got a grip on Terry, becoming part of his life, and in Germany this year he gained his highest distinction yet by winning the Rhine Army 1956 singles table tennis championships.

Terry, whose home is at 34, Crosdale Avenue, Buttershaw, Bradford 6, is serving with the Royal Signals at Oldenburg and claims to be the first serving British soldier in Germany to be given permission by the German Table Tennis Federation to play for a German club in the Federation's leagues. For the past winter, Terry has been a member of the Schwarz and Weiss (Black and White) Sports Club's first team. The club runs eight table tennis teams.

Corporal Miller's officers believe that he is doing much to foster Anglo-German relations. Terry says that wherever he travels with the club, he is given a big welcome and finds the Germans most hospitable.

Terry thinks there is no finer game than table tennis. He says that after taking it up in 1952, he quickly became extremely keen. His unending practice and enthusiasm paved the way to later successes. In 1953 he was selected for regular coaching by Alan Thompson, the Yorkshire Table Tennis Association coach, and during the 1953/54 season, was playing regularly for Bradford Co-operative Society Sports and Social Club. He headed the Bradford and District

CPL. TERRY MILLER

league individual averages and represented Bradford Juniors. A match for West Yorkshire against West Lancashire followed.

During the earliest part of his National Service, Terry was unable to keep up table tennis seriously, but on arriving in Germany found the facilities awaiting him and was soon asked to join the German club.

In the B.A.O.R. finals Terry beat Signalman Brian Kelsey, an Essex player.

Shake Up Coaching Methods

By JOHN CORSER

(Holder of E.T.T.A. Basic Coaching Diploma)

YEAR by year, in table tennis, as in other sports, the playing technique of the top players changes and develops as new ideas are introduced. These ideas are the survivors of thousands of experiments lower down the scale.

If they prove to be sound in World Class they spread gradually throughout the table tennis firmament. Usually, however, there is a long delay before the modifications reach and are generally accepted at club level. This is largely because a slight difference in standard between two players can make it appear that an older and inferior technique is still the best.

Any country wishing to improve its international standing must seek to establish an internal organisation which will speed up the dissemination of new, sound theories of tactics and technique.

Book Knowledge

The National Coaching Scheme set up by the E.T.T.A. two and a half years ago has resulted in the award of about three dozen Basic Coaching Diplomas. This does not meet the need at present however because, for the most part, these coaches are players who have assimilated a certain knowledge of "the book," and their teaching is therefore limited to the established orthodox play. This, of course, is always slightly out-of-date and what is needed is a corps of coaches with a wide first-hand knowledge of past and present World Class play.

The ideal arrangement seems to be to have a fairly large number of coaches corresponding to the Basic Coaching Diploma standard and also a small group of top-class coaches in close touch with current World Class play.

These would need to be men of perception—their teaching would be based on a knowledge of fundamentals and not text-book stroke-play. They would be thinkers who would help to develop still further the techniques and tactics of the day.

In short, they would be to table tennis what Franz Stampfl is to athletics.

At this point it is perhaps advisable to clear up a fallacy which holds wide belief in table tennis and, as recently as last season, was affirmed by no less a person than Victor Barna. This is that one cannot be a good coach unless one has been a top-class player.

There is no good reason for this belief, for a coach's job is only to know his subject and put it across to his pupil. In all other sports and, indeed, in all other walks of life, it is rarely the great performers who make the great teachers.

I cannot find that table tennis differs fundamentally from all other activities in such a way that it should be the exception to this rule.

Thinkers Needed

The need for the corps of "thinkers" is shown by the fact that at present the official attitude of this country is that sponge is an evil which must be endured but not encouraged. It is the same with the penholder style.

Where will you find a coach in England who will teach you to play with sponge or as a penholder? Not among the recognised coaches, I think. Yet a coach should be able to teach any style in current use among the top players. No coach is worthy of the title if he cannot do that.

A new approach must be made by our leading teachers and much of our "official policy" must be revised if we are to remain one of the foremost table tennis nations. This does not mean that we should all become penholders or sponge players, for there is much merit in the rubber bat and the classic style, but since the last three World Champions and two of the runners-up have been penholders, and all six have used sponge or a similar surface, we cannot afford to ignore these things any longer.

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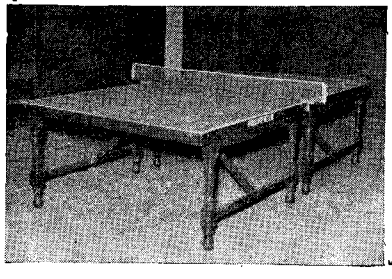

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SUSSEX OPEN COMES OF AGE

On October 27th-28th, the old-established and very popular Sussex Open Championships—often called the "Annual Battle of Hastings"—will come-of-age, this being the twenty-first tournament.

Entries should be sent to the Hon. Tournament Secretary, Mr. A. J. Peddlesden, 26, Quarry Road, Hastings, Sussex, before October 11th.

Some great names appear on the championship records, including such world-famous "stars" as G. V. Barna, R. Bergmann B. Vana, J. Leach, I. Andreadis, L. Bellak, C. H. Bull, F. Sido, Miss G. Farkas, Miss R. Rowe, Miss D. Rowe and Miss D. Beregi. The Championships commenced in the season 1927-28 with singles events only, doubles being added in 1934-35.

Since its early beginnings in a Drill Hall, the Sussex Open has progressed tremendously. The entire Championships are now housed in the White Rock Pavilion Main and Lower Halls.

Competitors are well entertained, and for many years entry in the Championships has carried with it free admission and participation in the Buffet Dance.

Area News:

HERTFORDSHIRE NEWS

NEVER before have junior players in Hertfordshire had such opportunities open to them as they will have during the new season.

The County is searching for new talent, especially girls, and those popular table tennis figures Geoff Harrower and Ken Sewell are offering scholarships for two girl players who show talent and possibilities of improvement through coaching.

Trials will be held and the two lucky girls selected will go to the Lilleshall Centre for coaching by ex-International Geoff Harrower.

Any young lady residing in Hertfordshire who would like to have a trial is asked to contact the local league secretary or write direct to Geoff Harrower at 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet.

The County have been fortunate in booking the Lilleshall Centre for the Easter period and the course will last from Easter Saturday until the following Tuesday morning, but the younger players who will not have to go back to work or school then can, if they wish, remain at the centre for a few days.

The cost of the course is being kept extremely low and it is hoped that junior players, both in and outside of the leagues, will apply to attend. The players who do attend will have further opportunities of coaching because they will be kept together for local courses within the County.

Those who went to the last County course at Lilleshall have had two practice sessions this season and several boys show promise.

The big news in the senior field is the request from Tony Rogers not to be considered for the County team. This is a sad blow and we can only hope that later in the season Tony's commitments will allow him to return to County table tennis.

It is understood, however, that Tony has informed his local League that he will be available if required for County Inter-league tournament matches.

The men's ranking list shows many changes from that of last season with Cartwright, Hancock and Boyce of Watford, King of Stevenage, and Skidmore of Welwyn listed for the first time while Wilson moves from 13th to 4th and Passant from 11th to 6th. The Ladies list shows Mrs. Baines of Hitchin and Mrs. Quartley of Welwyn Garden City who have not previously been ranked. The first six places in the ranking lists are as follows:-

MEN: 1. *Johnny Hunt (Bishop's Stortford)*, 2. *Glenn Bebb (St. Albans)*, 3. *Tom Moriarty (Watford)*, 4. *R. Wilson (Welwyn Garden City)*, 5. *Alan Smith (St. Albans)*, 6. *M. Passant (Watford)*.

LADIES: 1. *Miss J. White (Watford)*, 2. *Mrs. D. Magor (Watford)*, 3. *Miss S. Boarder (Watford)*, 4, *Miss G. Robinson (St. Albans)*, 5. *Mrs. D. Baines (Hitchin)*, 6. *Mrs. S. Davie (Watford)*.

The Stevenage Inter-works League come into the inter-league tournament for the first time and could spring many surprises with players of the calibre of Rogers, King and Townsend available.

Dennis H. Williams.

YORKSHIRE CORNER

THE Yorkshire season opens on a paradoxical note. For the first time since the county championship started in 1947-8 fewer applications were received from leagues than there are home matches to stage. And there was a big drop in the average attendance last season—325 to 175.

Is enthusiasm for the game waning? Well, Leeds League will have more teams this season, while in Bradford so many clubs want to join the league that for the first time there is a waiting list.

Rosalind (Rowe) Cornett with baby son Martin John, born in September.

I think one of the main reasons for the drop in county attendances was that venues, notably in Bradford and Smithfield, were not centrally situated.

But why this apathy from leagues? So far the Premier Division match with Kent and the Second Division fixture against Northumberland—neither fortunately until February—have still to be fixed. Perhaps leagues are chary of the county N.C.C. Sub-Committee ruling that the league staging each match must guarantee a fixed sum to the Association. This will provide a good proportion of away expenses which counties must now pay.

The Premier Division starts with an away match against Middlesex on October 6, while the first Second Division home match on the same day is almost an away fixture as well. It will be played against Durham at Northallerton Town Hall, which is in fact nearer the border leagues of Durham than a big Yorkshire league. Northallerton chairman, Mr. R. M. White, sets a fine example to some leagues in the county with larger membership.

Scarborough will stage their first county match this season, which is perhaps appropriate since the town has supplied Yorkshire with a vigorous and enthusiastic new secretary in Walter Mitton. Their fixture- is the November 17 junior "Roses" clash in which local boy John Moorhouse (16) will presumably figure.

The county's juniors have a quiet confidence for this season's programme. Besides John there will be Lilias Hamilton (16), Sheffield juniors Graham Lynch (15), Geoff Cardwell and Alan Cooper, and Dewsbury's John Fryer. Among the promising girls are Hull's trio of Betty Kinsley, Kath Whinham and Irene Allsopp.

Kathleen Best will play under her maiden name and returns to the Premier Division team against Middlesex to play in the singles and with county champion, Florence Wright, in the doubles.

Flo was the unbeaten star of a hard pre-season ladies' practice season at Leeds, where the players were so enthusiastic that they went on for six hours. Guests were Cheshire players Eileen Grimstone and Lorna Bown—and Jean Titterington, the lassie from Lancashire who was so badly injured in a motor-cycle accident a few years ago that it was thought she would never play again. Jean has earned the admiration of everyone. Margaret Spencer, recommended by Halifax chairman, Mr. J. Hitchcock, impressed as a player likely to develop.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Brian Kennedy and Raymond Hinchliff on reaching the final of the season's first open tournament (East of England). Brian was the winner.

To Raymond again, Roy Sugden (Keighley) and "Sonny" Forrest, Maurice Pitts, Gordon Jackson and Rex Marshall (Bradford), all married since last season.

Malcolm Hartley.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE SNIPPETS

THE County look forward with interest to the coming season. Great news: Stroud and Cirencester, both former members, have again affiliated, and with real live members at the helm will be a decided asset to the Association.

New members to the County Executive are Len Carter, of Cheltenham, a former member of the committee, who replaces W. E. Griffiths as a Cheltenham representative, D. W. Lewis (Stroud) and G. R. Green (Cirencester). These, with the old members, form a very fine body of administrators who, under the guidance of the Chairman, Frank Newell, of Cheltenham, will keep the County in the forefront of the game.

In the National County Championships (Premier Division), Gloucestershire visit Lancashire, Kent and Surrey, and are at home to Cheshire, at Stonehouse, Yorkshire, at Gloucester, Middlesex, at Bristol, and Essex, at Cheltenham.

In the County League, Stroud and Cirencester "cross swords" with Bristol, Cheltenham and Gloucester, and no doubt "battle" will be very keen to wrest from Cheltenham the championship they have held for the last two seasons.

The opening matches find Bristol playing Stroud on the 20th October and Cheltenham playing Gloucester on the 6th October.

The Bristol Association's handbook finds that mammoth league having 15 men's divisions and one women's division, each with 14 teams, truly a record.

The result of their summer coaching organised by George Mortimer should quickly show results amongst the younger players, while the "old brigade" will no doubt try to hold their own.

Congratulations to the "Exiles" Club, now known as "The Central" Club, who have bought their own premises for £400. They now set about the task of running nine teams in the Bristol League, and repaying the £400, which, I understand, was very kindly loaned by one of the member's mothers.

Cheltenham, who for the past few years have turned out so many good fine juniors, start from scratch, as all last season's players are now over age.

It is regretted that both Gloucester and Cheltenham have resigned from the Western League. They find the Midland League more attractive.

The Gloucestershire Championships will be held very early this year—Saturday, 3rd November, at The Montpelier Pavilion, Cheltenham. The Bristol Championships take place on Friday and Saturday, 1st and 2nd February, 1957, at Wills Recreation Hall, Bristol.

Congratulations to Terry Pomroy and John Spokes, of Bristol on their marriage. Unlike most, Terry prefers to play for the County team under her married name.

Molly Jones has taken to sponge. Bob Griffin has played very well for Gloucestershire at lawn tennis, while Aubrey Simons has again had his usual success with the Westbury Cricket Club.

Roy Morley and Ian Harrison are playing so well that the Simons, Merrett, Griffin combination, which has served the county so well, will have to look to its laurels.

Ivor Eyles.

ENGLAND WIN

HARRY VENNER (Surrey), Derek Burridge (Middlesex) and Jill Rook (Surrey), under the captaincy of Jack Carrington swept all before them in the Liege International tournament in Belgium with victories over Liege, Italy, Belgium and France.

DETAILED RESULTS

bt LIEGE 4—0: Venner bt Cardos 21—16, 25—23; bt Demolin 21—12, 21—16; Burridge bt Demolin 21—10, 21—19; Rook bt Delkey 21—13, 21—12.

bt ITALY 4—0: Venner bt Sturani 21—17, 21—15; Burridge bt Sturani 21—6, 21—19; bt Peiatti 21—11, 23—21; Rook bt Caneva 17—21, 21—13, 21—3.

bt BELGIUM 4—3: Venner bt Bertrand 21—10, 21—5; lost Roland 20—22, 18—21, Burridge lost Bertrand 18—21, 16—21, lost Roland 19—21, 17—21; Rook bt Roland 21—14, 17—21, 21—14; Venner and Rook bt Roland and Roland 21—13, 21—16; Venner and Burridge bt Bertrand and Roland 21—15, 21—23, 21—18.

bt FRANCE 4—3: Venner lost Chergui 21—14, 18—21, 21—23; lost Haguenauer 16—21, 18—21; Burridge bt Haguenauer 21—17, 21—18; lost Chergui 13—21, 17—21; Rook bt Watel 16—21, 21—16, 21—10; Venner and Rook bt Chergui and Watel 23—21, 18—21, 21—18; Venner and Burridge bt Haguenauer and Chergui 21—14, 21—12.

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SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

TALKING point in East Anglia as these notes go to press is the selection of Peter Cole to play in the Junior Tournament in Paris. Peter, obviously, was thrilled to bits, but even in the very moment of his greatest triumph his thoughts were still with Suffolk County. "I'm looking forward to the Herts Junior match on October 6th," he said. Then realising that no announcement of the team had been made he added: "Hope I'm picked, it's my birthday."

Peter, of course, spent his birthday making his 19th appearance for Suffolk Juniors, along with the three newcomers—Ann Baldry, Trevor Reddish and Ray Bumstead, plus Peter Rudd, Pauline Barry and Kay Powell, all of whom made some appearances last season.

Trevor Reddish is another product of Briar Clyffe School. He has two seasons as a junior and promises to follow in the steps of such stalwarts as Cole, Collins and Bardsley. Which reminds me that the present Principal, David Wenden, is following the grand traditions set up by Harry Levine at Briar Clyffe. I think Harry was right when he claimed that no other school in the country could compete against Briar Clyffe at table tennis. It still applies today: may it continue thus, always.

NO TRIALS

The senior side's first match is not until 17th November and the selectors have decided not to hold a trial this year. At the same time there is, in the absence of any further announcement by the Selection Board, much speculation. Some say the team will be based on youth, others say experience will be essential in the Second Division.

Meanwhile, the selectors have issued N.C.C. handbooks to only ten senior players: Cole, Collins, Nickels, A. and J. Clarke and Simon Pearson with Val Martin, Eunice Beech, Pam Garrett and Brenda Nugent, all of which gives nothing away that the average intelligent player did not know before.

A.E.D.

SURREY NOTES

NEWCOMER to Surrey this season is Jimmy Lowe, the former Middlesex international. Jimmy is now living at Leatherhead and has decided to change his loyalties. He took part in last month's county trials and took fifth ranking among the men, a position which has earned him a place in the County second team.

The trials have given the selectors a wider insight to county standards and there have naturally been changes.

Harry Venner maintains his position as No. 1 among the men, but Jackie Head has moved up from No. 5 to No. 2.

Mrs. Jean Head tops the women's list, followed by Jill Rook, who surprisingly edged Betty Isaacs into third place. Jill inflicted the only defeat of Jean.

Jackie Head and K. Sheldon (formerly Spychalski) are both using the new sandwich bat, while Ken Craigie has gone over to sponge.

The top rankings are:

MEN: VENNER, HEAD, TONY MILLER, CRAIGIE, LOWE, RON CRAYDEN, SHELDON, MICHAEL McLAREN.

WOMEN: MRS. HEAD, JILL ROOK, BETTY ISAACS, PEGGY PIPER, MARY AUSTIN, LYNN WITHAM, CLARISSA ROSE.

BOYS: C. COBB, D. CROWLEY, C. DAVIES.

GIRLS: T. KING, G. COOPER, M. SHANNON.

Surrey as County champions, are looking forward to their challenge match with the Rest at Clapham Baths on October 23. They are hoping to succeed where Middlesex failed, in inflicting the first defeat on the Rest.

Jim Forrest.

ESSEX NOTES

WIN one, lose one. That was the pattern of events at the Men's Trials held at Plaistow Y.M.C.A. on September 24 and 25.

The only exception was the unpredictable Ivor Jones who, playing with sponge, failed to win a game, losing in turn to Dorking, Stevens, Brumwell, Sawyer, McCree and Pudney. The selectors were unable to reconcile this with his recent good form—he was quarter-finalist in the East of England championship, and finalist in the men's doubles—so they decided to await further evidence before including him in the ranking list.

To add to the selectors' problems Brumwell lost to Kershaw and Sawyer, and Stevens was defeated by Curtis, Dorking and Brumwell.

Yvonne Baker was unbeaten in the ladies' trials, but Barbara Milbank lost to Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Carrington and Miss Page.

The October rankings are:

MEN: 1, J. A. LEACH; 2, F. B. BRUMWELL; 3, R. J. STEVENS; 4, L. SAWYER; 5, R. McCREE; 6=, P. CURTIS, R. DORKING and F. KERSHAW; 9=, K. BEAMISH and P. PUDNEY; 11, R. RAYBOULD.

LADIES: 1, MISS Y. BAKER; 2, MRS. E. CARRINGTON; 3, MISS J. PAGE; 4, MISS B. MILBANK; 5, MISS J. LATTY; 6, MISS I. WEBSTER; 7, MISS S. PICKARD; 8=, MRS. S. BEAMISH and MRS. I. SAWYER.

Harlow, whose clubs previously played in the West Essex League, have now formed a league of their own and staged the first premier division county match against Cheshire.

Essex have not entered the Second Division South, but will compete

Peggy Franks with baby son Anthony James.

against the Middlesex and Surrey seconds in the newly-formed BERNARD CROUCH TROPHY Competition.

A very popular junior coaching scheme was run during the summer under the direction of Jack Carrington. How successful it has been will be noted later in the season, but the County's chances in the Junior Division (South) appear to be bright. The girls are particularly strong with Shelagh Hession (reserve to the English Junior team in Paris) and the greatly improved Ann Stevens.

The Essex Senior and Junior Closed Championships are being separated this year; the Juniors at Chelmsford on January 5, and the Seniors at Southend over Easter.

Congratulations to Ivor Jones on his marriage to Micki McMeekin, last year's Kent junior champion; also to Les Sawyer and Ivy Bush.

Frank Bateman

KENT NOTES

THE advent of another season finds the Kent Notes appearing over an unaccustomed signature. We have not ejected our usual subscriber, but Conrad Jaschke is now charged with reflecting the news and views of all counties in his capacity as the new publicity secretary of the National County championships.

This looks like being our most enterprising season, and it is rather fitting that we should be celebrating the County Association's 20th year of existence.

Looking back over the 20 years I have been Kent secretary, I find a certain amount of satisfaction in reflecting that most of our daydreams of those days have now materialised. The greatest of these has been to take our place with the "giants" in the Premier Division of the county championship. It is now up to our lads and lassies to see that we remain there.

The recent county trials have proved that our team of last season is still the best and I, for one, have great faith in them. I certainly don't think we shall finish at the bottom of the table!

Daydreams Realised

Another daydream, the Kent Junior Open Championships, has now matured to the extent that it has been extended to two days. This had already been decided upon before the question of combining with the English Junior Open was considered. Whether this combination will be considered wise or not remains to be seen.

The only comment I will make at this stage is that the National championships will for once have a really representative entry and none of the contestants will have an easy passage to honour.

Once more we say "Welcome" to our friends from across the water, from Belgium, France and Germany, and maybe other countries too. The fact that they come to us each year is a pleasant encouragement to our organising committee. What if they do walk off with some of the trophies. They always bring them back.

Eve of the season disappointment has been the decision of 18-year-old George Elliott, of Sidcup, the reigning county champion, to retire from the game. His only comment was that he no longer felt able to devote time to table tennis. A great pity.

Elliott, who is due for National Service shortly, has never played for the senior team, but gained a junior badge in 1954-5.

Jimmy Mannooch.

WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

THE absence this season of Cheltenham, the First Division champions, and Gloucester has deprived the Western Counties League of much of its interest.

However, it is hoped that this is only a temporary withdrawal and that these teams will be back again next year.

The Division One line up will now be. Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff and Newport, the latter having been promoted this season. Although Newport are by no means newcomers to this Division, having been relegated only last year, they will undoubtedly find the going tough and will have to fight hard to maintain their position.

Birmingham, runners-up to Cheltenham last season, will start favourites for championship honours but will certainly experience strong opposition from the other members of the division.

The Second Division will be contested by Bristol 2nds, Weston, Taunton and West Wilts.

Relegated West Wilts will be out to regain lost prestige and their experience in the First Division should stand them in good stead.

Finally, I wish all clubs and leagues at this, the start of the 60th season of the West Counties League, every success.

Grove Motlow.

CAMBS COUNTY NEWS

AS Cambs are participating in the newly formed Southern Division this year they are eagerly awaiting the forthcoming fixtures with Cornwall, Herts, Bucks and Beds. They will be relying mainly on the "old guard," namely John Cornwell, John Thurston, Ron Nunn, John Coteman, Margaret Cornwell, Jaqueline Taylor and Avril Turcill, and if Olga Petersen is still in the district she will bring much awaited strength to the ladies' section.

The Cambs selection of Fred Larter, Bill Rogerson and Leslie Constable will have a far easier problem if Olga is available although Avis Pauley, of Impington, may be available for some matches.

A lot of coaching has been given to junior players in the county and there are quite a number who show distinct promise, especially those from 9 to 13 years. Bearing this in mind the Association will be thinking hard about reforming the junior team in a season or two.

Leslie Constable.

AROUND THE LEAGUES

Chelmsford and District League have formed a new men's division, bringing their total strength to 7 divisions. 65 teams, 15 women's, represent the 24 clubs taking part.

Herts Senior table tennis team will be under the new captaincy of G. Bebb, a county player of long standing, who takes over from K. Sewell, now a member of the selection committee.

Fines are to be imposed on home clubs not returning their score sheets by the first Monday after the match in the **Taunton and District** League.

The **Cambridge League,** which boasted a record of five divisions last season, hopes to surpass the number this year because in the recent Summer League, which has just completed its fixtures, there was very keen competition and some new clubs were in force such as N.A.L.G.O., Davies's and Cherryhinton.

The Summer League created a record in both the number of clubs entering and the balance on the financial side.

Many new clubs are entering the Winter League and some villages will be taking part for the first time.

The Summer League was capably handled by Tony Brotchie and the Winter League will be in the able hands of Jack Bangham.

The **March and District** League and the **Ely and District** League, managed by Mr. Leader and Mr. Jones respectively, are thriving and may play an important part in the future of Cambs. table tennis.

A record number of 15 Leagues have affiliated to the **London Federation.** Newcomers are **Travel Trade** and **N.A.L.G.O.(Met.).**

A club open knock-out tournament (mixed and ladies) has been inaugurated and offers an excellent opportunity for clubs in all the London leagues to meet each other.

Len Adams has succeeded Geoff Harrower as coach at the North West Jewish Boys' Club, Cricklewood.

Women have been admitted to the men's divisions of the **Croydon and District** League. There was over an hour's discussion before the ladies had their way.

Miss K. A. M. Gunn is the new secretary of the **Winchester** League. Entries for the league competitions show a slight decline from last year, 40 teams representing 19 clubs. Two new clubs are Acorn Social, Fair Oak, and Weeke Community Centre.

Woolwich player Marina Kennell has married Bexleyheath and Welling footballer Alan Dodd.

Fifty teams representing 30 clubs have entered the five divisions of the **Preston** League. Deepdale "A" are defending the First Division title they have held for the past three years.

West Bromwich girls with some of their trophies. Left to right, May Batchelor, Christine Charman, Barbara Wall, Ann Charman, Kathleen Barlow, and sitting Alison Wall.

FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are additional to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. 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.

Date	*Details and Venue*	*Extra Events*	*Organising Secretary*
Oct. 11-13	**North of England Open** Drill Hall, 606 H.A.A. Regt., R.A. Norman Rd., Rusholme, Manchester 14.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. L. W. Jones, 261, Mauldeth Road, Burnage, Manchester 19.
21	**Portsmouth Open (Oct. 12)** South Parade Pier, Southsea, Hants.	B.S.	Miss P. Wilson, 32, Winter Road, Southsea, Hants.
23	**Champion County (Surrey) v Rest** Clapham Baths, London.		
27	**Yorkshire Open (Oct 17)** Somme Barracks, Glossop Road, Sheffield 10	B.S. G.S. Y.G.S. Y.B.S.	Mr. J. Hancock, 73, Lady Pit Lane, Leeds 11.
27-28	**Sussex Open (Oct. 11)** White Rock Pavilions, Hastings.	B.S.	Mr. G. A. J. Peddlesden, 26, Quarry Road, Hastings, Sussex.
Nov. 1-4	**Austrian Open** Vienna.		
3-4	**Bucks Open (Oct. 12)** Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough, Bucks.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. L. Thompson, "Auchmean," The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
9	**ENGLAND v FRANCE** (Mixed Juniors) Eastbourne.		Mr. A. Glover, 16, Garfield Road, Hailsham, Sussex.
9-11	**Yugoslavia Open,** Belgrade.		
10	**Hartlepools Open (Nov. 3)** Hartlepools Industrial Estate Canteen.	B.S.	Mr. E. Laughton, 1a, The Green, Seaton Carew, W. Hartlepool.
10-13	**ENGLISH and Kent Junior Open (Oct. 13)**		Mr. F. G. Mannooch, 216, Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.
14-18	**Hungarian Open**		
16-17	**Birmingham Open (Nov. 3)** Friends' Institute, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.	B.S., G.S. B.D.	Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.
23-25	**South of England Open (Nov. 10)** Powers Samas Welfare Hall, Aurelia Road, Croydon	B.S. G.S.	Mr. C. A. Bourne, 15a, Red Down Road, Coulsdon, Surrey.
24	**Dorset Open (Nov. 10)** Sidney and Trinity Halls, Weymouth.	B.S.	Mr. P. Northcott, 31, Hillcrest Road, Weymouth.
Nov. 26- Dec. 1	**Central Open (Nov. 10)** Manor Place Baths, London, S.E.1.	B.S. G.S.	Mrs. E. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
Nov. 29	**ENGLAND v SCOTLAND** Barnehurst Residents' Club, 152a, Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.		Mr. J. Dawson, 140, The Drive, Blendon, Bexley, Kent.
30	**ENGLAND v IRELAND** Hanley.		Mr. M. Scott, 157, Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, Nr. Dudley.
Dec. 1	**Bath Open (Nov. 19)** Drill Hall, Lower Bristol Road, Bath.	B.S.	Mr. L. Le Cren, 4, Newark Street, Bath.
1	**Hull and East Riding Open (Nov. 22)** Madeley Street Baths, Hull.	J.S. (Mixed)	Mrs. R. Abrahamson, 35, Trafford Road, Kingston Road, Willerby, E. Yorks.
6-7 10-15	**Middlesex (Herga) Open (Nov. 19)** Herga L.T. Club Courtfield Avenue, Harrow.	B.S.	Mr. P. France, 53, Rickmansworth Road, Pinner, Middlesex.
16-22	**N.W. Kent Open (Nov. 19)** Barnehurst Residents' Club, 152a, Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. L. Pickering, 187, Bedonwell Road, Bexleyheath, Kent.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

By CONRAD JASCHKE

Up again go the entries for the National County Championship —to a new record entry of 51 teams. This is despite the withdrawal of Oxfordshire reducing the number of competing counties to 31.

Both Essex and Middlesex have withdrawn their second teams, but Kent are "fielding" a second team for the first time, while the inauguration of a new Midland Junior Division brings in teams for Northants, Staffs, and Warwickshire.

The Premier Division should see an all-out attempt by Middlesex to regain the championship, which they must have almost come to regard as their permanent property, but Surrey, a team of all-round compactness, will not easily give up the title they won last season.

Cheshire are back again, but for Kent it's a first taste of premier table tennis.

Ann Haydon and Pam Mortimer—surely the strongest county pair since the Twins—should see Warwickshire well on the way in Div. II (North), where they take Cheshire's place.

NOT FOR LONG

Div. II (South) presents an unfamiliar picture without Middlesex and Essex whose withdrawal is regretted by all, Berkshire and Suffolk have been promoted to this division, while Sussex, relegated from the Premier will be all out to make their stay a short one. Kent's new second team are lucky to have been elected to this division.

At the annual meeting of the National County Championships Bill Vint (Chairman), Ivor Eyles (Secretary) and Tom Blunn (Treasurer) were re-elected to office. Conrad Jaschke was appointed successor to Stan Kempster as publicity secretary, and during the season will keep you informed of progress in the championship.

Editor.

Dorset are newcomers in Div. II (West), where Devon and Glamorgan are likely to fight it out for the championship.

Many will feel that when Devon decided not to challenge for promotion last season, Glamorgan, as the runners-up, should have been given the chance, and it is to be hoped that the rules will be amended to allow for any such future contingency.

In the regions, the Midland Division includes teams previously in the Eastern and South Western Divisions, each of which had only three teams.

Cambridgeshire, fully confident of doing well here, will be breaking new fields by a first trip to Cornwall . . . surely the longest distance ever covered in a regional division. Relegated Bedfordshire are newcomers, whose past dilemma has been "too strong for the regional and too weak for the second division."

A most welcome innovation is the new Midland Junior Division, with Northants, Staffs. and Warwickshire.

SURREY BACK

The Junior Division North is unchanged, but the Junior Division South welcomes the return of Surrey. With the loss of their top boys, Middlesex will find it very hard going to retain their junior championship, while last year's runners-up, Suffolk, may have in Peter Cole, England's No. 1 boy.

Essex match secretary Frank Bateman fancies his team's chances, but Kent, who call on a side of seasoned county juniors, will take a lot of beating.

It is to be hoped that this time the winners of the respective junior divisions will play off for the championships. It would be beneficial for the juniors concerned in the Midland and Northern Divisions if the two could be amalgamated at some future date, giving them more varied experience than that afforded by 3-team divisions.

All in all, indications point to a good season, with divisions well

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Events: MS, WS, MD, WD, XD, JSB, JSG

Entry Forms and Finals Tickets from Organising Secretary, **S. E. Francis, "Rusthall," Maplescombe, Farningham, Kent** (Farningham 2333). **Entries close Monday, 19th November, 1956.**

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION			
October 20	Essex v Lancashire, Red Triangle Club, Plaistow, London, E.13	7	p.m.
	Middlesex v Kent, Rotax, Chandos Rd., Willesden Junction, London N.W.10		
	Surrey v Yorkshire, Y.M.C.A., Wimbledon.	7	p.m.
October 27	Gloucestershire v Cheshire, Subscription Rooms, Stonehoue, Glos.	7	p.m.
November 9	Yorkshire v Lancashire, Somme Barracks, Glossop Rd., Sheffield.	7	p.m.
SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)			
October 20	Durham v Northumberland, Y.M.C.A., Dovecot Street, Stockton-on-Tees	7	p.m.
	Warwickshire v Yorkshire, Parish Church Hall, Nuneaton	7.15	p.m.
November 3	Northumberland v Warwickshire, Vickers Sports Club, Scotswood Road, Newcastle	7	p.m.
SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)			
October 20	Berkshire v Kent, S. Elliott & Sons (Reading) Ltd., Caversham, Reading	7	p.m.
October 25	Surrey v Berkshire, Higgs-Hill Canteen, South Lambeth Road	7.15	p.m.
November 6	Surrey v Hertfordshire, Higgs-Hill Canteen, South Lambeth Road	7.15	p.m.
SECOND DIVISION (WEST)			
October 13	Worcestershire v Glamorgan, Shire Hall, Worcester	7.15	p.m.
October 20	Dorset v Devon, Municipal Buildings, Poole, Dorset	7	p.m.
October 27	Devon v Somerset, St. Matthew's Hall, The Triangle, Exeter	7	p.m.
MIDLAND DIVISION			
October 27	Warwickshire v Northamptonshire, Birmingham	7.15	p.m.
	Staffordshire v Worcestershire, West Bromwich	7	p.m.
SOUTHERN DIVISION			
October 19	Wiltshire v Cornwall, St. James's Hall, Trowbridge, Wilts.	7	p.m.
October 20	Hertfordshire v Norfolk, St. Albans	7	p.m.
	Buckinghamshire v Cornwall, Community Centre, Fernham Road, Slough	7	p.m.
MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION			
October 27	Warwickshire v Northamptonshire, Birmingham	7.15	p.m.
SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION			
October 13	Middlesex v Kent, Cowley Ex-Service Men's Club, Cowley, Uxbridge	7	p.m.
	Hertfordshire v Surrey, The Pavilion, 488, Hatfield Rd., St. Albans	7	p.m.
October 20	Suffolk v Surrey, Old Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds	7	p.m.
October 20	Sussex v Essex, Hove T.T.C., George Street, Hove	6.30	p.m.

matched, and numbers more evenly distributed, at least in the senior divisions.

A most important task will be to stop the alarming drop in county match attendances which was shown last season, and I can assure all members that the County Championships' officers are very conscious of the necessity of action.

For my part, I believe that publicity plays a paramount rôle in attracting spectators, and while there is no quick cure, I shall certainly be happy to co-operate with any county who require help in the publicity field.

This is the line-up for season 1956/57:

PREMIER

Cheshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Surrey, Yorkshire.

SECOND NORTH

Durham, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Yorkshire.

SECOND SOUTH

Berkshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex.

SECOND WEST

Dorset, Devon, Glamorgan, Somerset, Staffordshire, Worcestershire.

MIDLAND DIVISION

Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cornwall, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Wiltshire.

JUNIOR MIDLAND

Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire.

JUNIOR NORTH

Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire.

JUNIOR SOUTH

Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex.

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WELSH CORNER

NEVER before has the need for new strength in Wales manifested itself more than at present, and one can but hope that the American Tournament with which the season started was the means of giving the selectors some new assurance.

Last season this event did at least serve to confirm what was already known about the principality's best players. By holding the tournament as the season's curtain raiser, the Association evidently hopes that during the summer months some new "hope" will have been born.

Thirty men and 16 women took part, but so far it is not clear if anything excitingly new emerged.

Of last year's women who did so well to raise Wales once again to a sixth world ranking, Shirley Jones, Betty Gray and Audrey Bates are again available. Vera Rowe did well towards the end of last season, but Gretta Holden may not be playing immediately, as she and last year's new "cap" Bernard Dimascio were married at the end of September.

Let's take the opportunity to wish success to this real table tennis romance.

Beneath those are a few who are "knocking at the door," but none has yet done enough to reveal true strength.

MEN'S PROSPECTS

On the men's side, the immediate prospects are confusing, inasmuch as there is plenty of junior promise, but this is so rarely realised. This is partly to do with the National Service period, and the really keen lads are always anxious to get into the R.A.F.

Yet Donald Norris did this, and his play last year definitely suffered. It is to be hoped that playing in the Bletchley League will bring back his earlier promising form.

Glyn Morgan and Alan Morris are expected to be available again, but can they be any better than in the past?

Sponge bat John Simonson should have improved on last year's standard when he reached the final of the Welsh Closed, and the Area Finals of the *Daily Mirror*.

Bernard Dimascio, as reported above, may be preoccupied with the newly found cares of married life, whilst the form of another last season's successful international, Norman Parker, must be noted by hearsay as long as he lives in Gloucester.

Of the other youngsters of international class, David Parry from Abergavenny seems to be forging ahead most. Semi-finalist already in one English tournament, David also entered the new French Junior Championships at the end of September, quite an adventure for so young a lad. His team mate Clive Arkell, has grown taller, and has also improved.

Pat Crowley remains an enigma. Potentially good, Pat must conquer his own temperament if he wants to hit the headlines, while Bryan Lewis also needs to control his game more.

Graham Ponting, we understand, is going into the Army and may not be available.

What of the others? Newport's Trevor Jones, sponge and penholder, will undoubtedly prove as much a thorn as ever to all grades of players, without yet giving evidence that he is as good on the big occasion.

In Cardiff, Alan Thomas and Stan Jones will again be contenders for higher honours, and the new season gives them both a chance to strengthen the weaknesses that dog their game. So also with Brian Everson, of Newport, who promises so much, but disappoints in a crisis.

The other leagues all have their stalwarts. Is it too late to find sudden brilliance in such as Graham James and George Evans of Barry, Basil Evans and Narduzzo of Newport, Bryn Bowden of Swansea, Cliff Bowden of Port Talbot, and Des Milton of Ogmore? Or have we seen them at their best?

And what of David Phillips? The Seven Sisters lad has been away in South Africa this summer, one of two specially chosen from Cardiff University to go on an educational visit. No one knows yet whether he will play table tennis this season, or if his studies will be too big a call on his time.

INCENTIVE

So the prospect remains a little disappointing, the same as it does in England where no newcomers have played their way forward to don the mantles of Leach, Bergmann and Kennedy.

It is to be hoped that the prospect of a trip to Stockholm for the World Championships in March will inspire our players to hitherto unknown heights of endeavour.

In addition to the Swedish trip, there are journeys to Scotland and Ireland to be made, and England to be played at home on the eve of the Welsh Open in January.

There are also five county matches to be played, and Open Tournaments in Cardiff, Swansea and Newport.

Yes! There's plenty of incentive for those who really try.

EAST OF ENGLAND "OPEN"

By GEOFF HARROWER

MUCH early season form—or lack of it—was in evidence at the East of England Open, held even earlier than usual this year.

Frankly, the only player who impressed me as being on top form was David House, and I think we shall be be hearing more from this young man as he gathers experience. After advancing to the quarter finals in fine style, including a 21—10, 21—11 win over Billy England, he lost, partly through lack of experience to Brian Kennedy 18—21, 19—21. I feel certain that, by the end of the match, David knew that had he not tried so often to get on the attack with a slow hit (from which Kennedy gathered his pace and made repeated winners) it would have been much better for him. When House hit crisply, he looked the better player.

Another young player, Laurie Landry, had a good tournament, beating Schofield, of Cheshire, with nothing to spare, and then Len Adams, rather more comfortably, after Adams had only narrowly escaped against Alan Lindsay. Landry gained the distinction of being the only player to take a game from Kennedy, but he never looked likely to win.

Ray Hinchliff plodded through the other half with solid wins over Bobby Raybould (15 and 13), Ivor Jones (17 and 18) and, in the semi-final, Harry Venner.

Venner had had an unusual escape in an early round against Bobby Stevens. Leading 20—14 in the final game, he lost seven points in a row, only to recover and take the next three.

Kennedy retained his title by beating Hinchliff in an uninteresting final.

There was a weak entry for the women's events, the only class players being Helen Elliot, Diane Rowe, Margaret Fry and Joyce Fielder. Neither the Misses Elliot or Rowe seemed on form to me—perhaps too much coaching during the Summer? In Helen Elliot's case, it may be that she is not yet used to her new secret weapon, a thin layer of sponge underneath ordinary pimpled rubber. The final between Helen and Diane was an extraordinary affair with the Scots girl running away with the first game, and hitting everything off in the second.

Diane Rowe had difficulty in beating Joyce Fielder, and throughout the tournament seemed uncertain of her shots. This was particularly evident in an early round of the Mixed Doubles, when, partnering Ray Dorking, they almost contrived to lose to Mr. and Mrs. Senescall.

The men's doubles produced several interesting results. David House and Matt Sheader beat Brian Kennedy and Len Adams (18, 16, and 16) and then Alan Lindsay and Ian Redfern, before losing to two former Junior Internationals, Laurie Landry and Derek Backhouse at 12 in the third. The two youngsters, however, failed to hold that redoubtable pair, Ivor Jones and Bobby Stevens. The Essex pair seemed set for another title, and had several match points for a straight games win over Venner/Raybould, but the latter couple saved the second game, and never looked back in the third.

Peter Cole was a good winner of the boys singles, although being run somewhat closer than expected by J. G. Woodfords, from Weston Super Mare, in the semi-final. Margaret Bradnum, the *News of the World* "player of the year," was outclassed by Mary Hicks in the first round of the girls singles.

RESULTS

Men's singles: Semi-finals: B. KENNEDY (Yorks) beat L. Landry (Middx.) 21—10, 15—21, 21—15. R. HINCHLIFF (Yorks) beat H. Venner (Surrey) 21—16, 15—21, 21—19.

Final: KENNEDY beat Hinchliff 21—14, 21—15.

Women's singles: Semi-finals: Miss H. ELLIOT (Scotland) beat Miss M. Fry (Middx.) 21—9, 21—18; Miss D. ROWE (Middx.) beat Miss J. Fielder (Kent) 18—21, 21—16, 21—19.

Final: Miss **ELLIOT** beat Miss Rowe 21—9, 5—21, 22—20.

Men's doubles: semi-finals: I. JONES and R. STEVENS (Essex) beat D. Backhouse (Staffs.) and Landry 21—18, 21—15; R. RAYBOULD (Essex) and VENNER beat R. Dorking (Essex) and M. Maclaren (Surrey) 21—8, 21—13.

Final: RAYBOULD and VENNER beat Jones and Stevens 16—21, 23—21, 21—9.

Women's doubles: Semi-finals: Miss ELLIOT and Miss ROWE beat Miss W. Blades (Lincs) and Miss B. Wirecoon (Ceylon) 21—19, 21—8; Miss L. WITHAMS (Surrey) and Miss FIELDER beat Miss J. Preston and Miss F. Wright (Yorks) 21—18, 22—20.

Final: Miss **ELLIOT** and Miss **ROWE** beat Miss Withams and Miss Fielder 21—7, 21—9.

Mixed doubles: semi-finals: L. ADAMS and Miss M. FRY (Middx.) beat Dorking and Miss Rowe 21—17, 21—17; VENNER and Miss ELLIOT beat Raybould and Miss Fielder 20—22, 21—19, 21—16.

Final: ADAMS and **Miss FRY** beat Venner and Miss Elliot 21—18, 12—21, 21—18.

Boy's singles: Final: P. COLE (Suffolk) beat B. Thomas (Middx) 21—17, 21—2.

Girls' singles: Final: Miss J. HARROWER (Middx) beat Miss M. Hicks (Middx) 21—10, 21—11.

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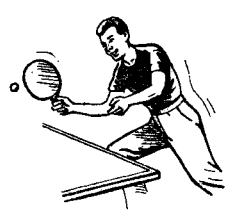

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Published by The Walthamstow Press Ltd., Guardian House, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E.17.
Printed by West Essex Printing Co. Ltd., Gazette Offices, High Street, Epping, Essex.