

TABLETENNIS

The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association



England's triumphant European Championships team with their trophy—JILL ROOK, DIANE COLLINS, ANN HAYDON and VICTOR BARNA (non-playing Captain)

English "Open" Special

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. 16

April, 1958

No. 7

A BOB A NOB

TABLE TENNIS looks like costing the tournament player more next season.

A recommendation for what amounts to an *Entry Tax* will be one of the big points of discussion when the E.T.T.A. hold their annual general meeting in the Lecture Hall, Kingsway Hall, London, W.C.2, on April 26 (3.30 p.m.).

The suggested figure is a shilling a head, juniors to be exempt.

Increasing costs, which have already "killed" several tournaments, is the trouble. Organisers claim that the 12½ per cent. of entry fees they have to pay to the E.T.T.A. under existing rules often turns what might have been a small profit into a loss. Naturally they have asked for some relief.

The E.T.T.A. have administrative costs and cannot afford to forego this income, so they have taken a leaf from the lawn tennis notebook by putting forward this suggested levy.

The matter has already been widely discussed in the various areas and general reaction appears in favour of the motion.

Incidentally the shilling levy will be for entry into a tournament, irrespective of taking part in one, two or three events.

THE YEAR IS UP

It is just a year since the E.T.T.A. decided to experiment with racket standardisation by permitting the use of pimped rubber only in this country. Surprisingly enough there have been less moans and groans than expected.

However, the meeting will have to confirm whether or not the ban on sponge and other freak surfaces is to continue. Maybe this is what the "spongers" have been waiting for.

One voice in protest is almost certain to be Johnny Leach. *"It is not so much that I want to*

revert back to a sandwich bat," he told me, *"but I feel that ban should be lifted so that we can get practice against sponge ready for next year's world championships."*

Meanwhile, several of the Continental countries have followed England's lead.

END OF AN ERA

The annual meeting will also mark the end of an era. We might almost call it the Montagu Era.

After 21 years in his third term of office as Chairman, Ivor Montagu is not seeking re-appointment. Instead, subject of course to the confirmation of the meeting, he will succeed his mother, the Dowager Lady Swaythling, O.B.E., as President.

Ivor Montagu was the Association's first President from 1927 to 1931, and during the first two years held the joint office of chairman.

He was succeeded as president by H. Oldroyd. His second term as chairman was for one season, 1932-33.

Altogether he has served the game for over 30 years. Some have been stormy years. He has made his enemies, been accused of being a dictator, but he has had a genius for leadership.

And with the move of Ivor Montagu to the presidential chair also ends a record in length of service in any one office, Bill Vint, treasurer since 1931, is handing over his books and accounts to Tom Blunn, to become the new chairman.

Like Ivor Montagu, Bill Vint has been one of the great administrative pillars of the English Association and for five years he carried the joint appointment of Hon. Secretary with that of Hon. Treasurer, until shifting part of the burden to Peter Lowen two years ago.

HARRISON EDWARDS.

Official News:

THE National Executive Committee held a short meeting at the Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley on Saturday, March 29, 1958. Some of the matters discussed were:—

Administrative Secretary.

The Secretary reported that Mrs. Pegg-Lewis had announced that she wished to retire from the service of the Association as from April 11, 1958.

Table Tennis Balls.

The Secretary reported that he had received several letters of protest regarding the general increase in the price of table tennis balls. The Secretary was instructed to approach the manufacturers concerned to enquire into the reasons why an increase in price had been found necessary.

Table Tennis in Schools.

The Secretary reported that he had been given an opportunity to discuss this matter with an official of the London County Council. The main difficulty which arose in connection with the introduction of table tennis in the schools appeared to be the cost of the equipment. The Secretary was instructed to enquire further into the question to see what progress could be made in this direction.

Sunday Freedom Association.

The Annual General Meeting of this Association has been arranged for May 11, 1958, in Central London.

It was agreed to ask Mr. C. Corti Woodcock and Mr. G. James to attend this meeting on behalf of the Association.

Presentation to the President of the Association.

Owing to the retirement of the Association's President, The Dowager Lady Swaythling, O.B.E., on April 26, 1958, a presentation was made to her on Saturday, March 29, 1958, at the English "Open" Finals at Wembley in appreciation of her services to the game in this country. The presentation was made on behalf of the members of the Association by the Chairman, the Hon. I. G. S. Montagu.

A letter has been received from Lady Swaythling expressing her appreciation and pleasure at receiving the enchanting gift and the kind thought which left her thrilled and quite overcome.

Election of Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee 1958/59.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association has been fixed for April 26, 1958, at the Lecture Hall, Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, London, W.C.2,

commencing at 3.30 p.m. and the voting for the various members of the National Executive Committee has now been completed. The Office of Chairman has already been filled as Mr. A. K. Vint, O.B.E., was elected unopposed as was Mr. T. Blunn for the office of Hon. Treasurer of the Association.

English "Open" Championships 1958

Souvenir programmes of the English "Open" Table Tennis Championships containing complete results can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2 (Price 2/6d. including postage).

Publications.

The following publications can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office for

**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, O.B.E.

Hon. Secretary: D. P. Lowen.

Administrative Secretary: Mrs. Kathleen Pegg-Lewis.

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

those of our members who desire literature regarding Table Tennis:— each

1. Rules of the Game in Cardboard. Size approx. 21½in. x 14½in. with hanging cord attached (suitable for hanging in Club rooms) 1/6d.
2. Know the Game—Table Tennis 2/3d.
3. Table Tennis—I. Montagu 10/0d.
4. Table Tennis Tips—J. Carrington 1/6d.
5. Modern Table Tennis—J. Carrington 7/6d.
6. Table Tennis for All—J. Leach 9/6d.
7. Table Tennis—L. Woollard 2/6d.
8. Table Tennis Quiz—A. Brook 1/6d.
9. Rules of the Game in Booklet Form 4½d.
10. Table Tennis My Way—J. Leach 2/6d.
11. The Twins on Table Tennis—D. and R. Rowe ... 8/6d.
12. How to Win at Table Tennis—Victor Barna ... 6/0d.

Official Tie.

Have you bought your official tie yet? We have these on sale to ALL,

but ONLY male members of the Association, price 12/6d. each. The tie is an attractive one, with the Association's crest placed over a Royal Blue background. All orders for same should be sent to the E.T.T.A. office.

Badges.

We have these available at the reasonable price of 2/3d. each or 24/0d. per dozen. The badge is very neatly made with the letters E.T.T.A. on a blue background. Perhaps you would bring this to the notice of your Club members.

Central Council of Physical Recreation—Table Tennis Courses.

A number of table tennis courses have now been arranged by the Central Council of Physical Recreation at Lilleshall Hall, Staffordshire. The dates of these Courses are as follows:—

1958		
June 14—June 21.	Fee.....	£8 10 0
July 12—July 19.	Fee.....	£9 0 0
Aug. 30—Sept. 6.	Fee.....	£9 0 0

Should any of our members be interested in these courses, further details can be obtained from the Secretary, Central Council of Physical Recreation, 6, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

Registered Members.

An application from Mr. I. Jones (Essex) to become a Registered Member has been approved.

Team Selections.

v. East Germany (DDR) Juniors—Park Royal, London. March 27, 1958.

G. Livesey (Lancs.), Miss J. Butcher (Midxx.), Miss J. Harrower (Midxx.), Miss M. Hicks (Midxx.), Miss M. Shannon (Surrey). Non-Playing Captain, L. Thompson (Bucks.).

The following additions were made to the Teams announced in the March, 1958 issue:—

v. Hungary (Mixed)—Birmingham—March 25, 1958. I Harrison (Glos.).
v. Hungary (Mixed)—Leeds—April 1, 1958. A. Rhodes (Midxx.).

v. Hungary (Mixed)—Leicester—April 2, 1958. B. Merrett (Glos.).

v. Hungary (Mixed)—Cheltenham—April 3, 1958. A. Simons (Glos.).

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).



NO EASY WAY TO THE TOP

By RON CRAYDEN

WHENEVER our game is under discussion, either in or out of the club, it is amazing how often we hear the

plaintive cry, "Where are our stars of today?" This is a potent question which, when we exclude our Ladies, has a very truthful ring about it. More than that it is completely mystifying when we consider the time, care and attention that is lavished on the young to help them attain championship status.

It is not for me to say whether our present Internationals are as good or better than those of yesteryear: such comparisons are always difficult and usually distasteful. However, it is an accepted fact that today there are more players and more opportunities for players than ever before. Why then, no world beaters? Do other nations have a secret "know-how," or, do they possess a magic formula?

Personally, I have a sneaking feeling that with so much help being given, too many are taking too much for granted. Admittedly, the general standard of the country is higher than it has ever been but the gulf between this standard and that of the world stars is a wide one. Are our players tending to rely too much on others, rather than their own personal effort?

COACHING

Much has been written about the benefits of coaching and most of it is true, but we must be careful of attendant pitfalls, the biggest of which is complacency. Let me explain.

Experience has taught that there is a section of the community with the wrong opinion that coaching is a quick, easy and certain route to the top.

Coaching might be compared with schooling. It is a necessary agent in the development of the young, and progress of the pupils can usually be measured by the amount of homework done. It must also be borne in mind that only on leaving school do we fully realise how much we have still to learn.

A good coach can be an invaluable asset. He can correct stroke production, direct energies into their proper channels, improve the mental approach and build up morale always providing he has full co-operation and willing workers. He is not, and

never will be, a machine into which pennies can be put, and then "hey presto!" out comes an end product.

Coaching points the way, the rest is up to the skill, fortitude and effort of the individual. Half measures are no good. Training and practise must not be a haphazard affair but a complete operation.

Most of the past champions scaled the heights without coaching, because then, coaching as we know it was virtually non-existent. Such was their enthusiasm and determination to succeed that they achieved greatness in spite of the fact that they had no helping hands to direct and guide.

Today, the majority seem to have a more apathetic approach to the game and apathy in any shape or form will never be a stepping stone to greatness.

If we are to develop even one dependable successor to Johnny Leach then we must find those who will let the game take precedence over all else. The attitude of mind must be that coaching is not an end in itself, but a means to achieve an end.

THE CHALLENGE

As the English in the "thirties" were the considered masters of soccer, so the Continentals were the accredited rulers of table tennis. Today, however, the pendulum has swung in another direction and a fight is on to regain lost prestige. It is a fight which in many cases is sponsored by the State and from behind the Iron Curtain the approach is a disciplined one.

Intensive training schedules designed to improve not only technique, but strength, speed and stamina, are all part of the programme. V.I.P. treatment and incentives are there for those likely to aspire to glorious achievement.

It is a monumental challenge and we can only compete if we gear our factory and raise our output accordingly.

To swell the ranks of the ambitious youngsters on show today we need much new blood. Recruits who have the strength of purpose and determination to succeed at all cost. The number of "top-raters" is always a small percentage of those who participate, but from a striving quantity there is bound to come quality

THE SUMMING UP

In no way is this article intended as a reflection on those who are already giving so much and getting

some fine results. It is a personal opinion as to why we are losing face and lagging behind the top nations.

International sport is no longer a playing arena for the "chicken-hearted" but a place for those who have the desire for competition and the will to win. We can no longer afford to overlook this fact.

We often hear the phrase that "champions are born; not made," doubtless there is an element of truth in this for most of them seem to have that indefinable something. But no champion has ever succeeded without hours of painstaking effort. There is just no easy way to the top.

Table tennis occupies only a small corner in the field of sport, but if we wish to cultivate that corner and make it flower abundantly then we must sow and toil.

KENT NOTES

Miss S. Thomas and M. Pass captured six titles between them in the Kent Junior "Closed" championships, which after several disappointments over venues, were eventually held at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath on March 1.

The results were: Boys: A. CORNISH bt M. Ellis 21-15 21-16. CORNISH/M. PASS bt. C. Bloy/M. Ward 21-16, 15-21, 21-19.

Girls: A. JACOBS bt. S. Benton 18-21, 21-14, 21-17. JACOBS/J. DILNOT bt K. Beal/Benton 24-22, 21-15.

Mixed: ELLIS WARD/DILNOT bt Ward/Benton 21-13, 28-26.

Under 15's: Boys: PASS bt D. Basden 21-9, 21-18. BLOY/PASS bt Basden/S. Corden 21-11, 21-14.

Girls: S. THOMAS bt K. Beal 21-14, 21-17. THOMAS/BEAL bt G. Corden/D. Downing 21-7, 17-21, 21-15.

Under 13's: Boys: D. LLEWELLYN bt I. Perkins 21-10, 21-15. LLEWELLYN/D. CANE bt M. Adams/M. Fenner 21-12, 21-10.

Girls: S. THOMAS bt K. Stokes 21-18, 21-16. STOKES/V. FIELD bt J. Cade/C. Owen 21-9, 21-15.

In the Kent Umpires' championships held in conjunction with the Junior championships G. H. Savage beat G. A. Owen 21-10, 21-16.

The Kent Schools' Association are hoping to fulfil an ambition by holding individual titles in addition to the team championships at Chatham on April 26.

DURHAM NEWS-FARE

Durham's hopes of winning the Junior North Division ended when they lost 3-5 to Lancashire, who grab the title by a single point. George Livesey proved Durham's stumbling block when he beat both Eddie Taylor and Wilf Barker.

Taylor had some measure of revenge when he beat Livesey to win the under 17's title in the Cheshire Junior "Open." He then partnered Barker to win the doubles.

The senior county side lost 2-8 to Lincolnshire in their last county match. Taylor made his senior debut but lost both his matches. The experience should, however, do him good for the future.

ARNOLD WARENTZ.

SAM KIRKWOOD'S World Round Up

European Union may ban Sponge

DELEGATES at last month's European Championships in Budapest were almost unanimous in voting for a ban on sponge—a complete and utter ban, with no compromise on standardisation, thickness, or anything else.

The Russian representative said he was in favour of a ban but had not his Association's permission to cast a vote. Only the Yugo-Slav delegate stood out against the majority—but after watching some of the sponge matches at the tournament even he admitted he was halfway to changing his mind.

The motion was put forward that if the International Federation take no action on sponge the European Union should seriously consider applying a ban at the next European Championships.

CURIOUS REQUEST IGNORED

Incidentally, the I.T.T.F. requested that delegates should not discuss sponge, the Federation claiming that the issue was one for them to decide.

The written request was promptly ignored by angry, table-thumping delegates.

Another Budapest decision was that a European ranking list be issued. The rankings are to act as a "seeding" guide for future European Championships. Since the tournament takes place every two years, during which time form can vary enormously with a champ becoming a chump and *vice versa*, the list is to be revised three months before a "European" and will be based on performances in the World Series and major international tournaments.

BELGRADE NEXT

The next European Championships take place on April 4—11, 1960, in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Experts consider the Paskivitsius, the Russian who was the only man to beat Josef Berczik in Budapest, is a very fine player indeed and might well develop into a world "great." In his early twenties, "Paski" is an orthodox-style player.

Extract from the German magazine, DEUTSCHEN TISCHEN-TENNIS: "Victor Barna, England's non-playing captain, after congratulating Germany on her

victory over England [in the European Championships], remarked that this was the first time in 30 years that England had been beaten by Germany, and expressed the hope that it would be another 30 years before this happened again."

Would it be unkind to say that, looking around at the male talent at our disposal, Victor was being just a we bit optimistic?

Jupe Schlaf, Secretary of the German Association, reveals that since the banning of sponge in his country there has been a great increase in the number of players, while tournament "gates" have been doubled.

Richard Bergmann and Norikazu Fujii were a big success on their recent exhibition tour of Germany and Austria. Bergmann lost a match or two to home players, but "Norrie" conquered all challengers. While the tour was in progress, the Japanese Association reaffirmed its life suspension on the luckless Fujii.

World champion "Tosh" Tanaka and ex-champ "Ichy" Ogimura have written to Berczik, asking the Hungarian ace to side with them in fighting to keep sponge "legal." Zoltan's reaction on being asked to form what some might call an "Unholy Trinity?" Although he likes sponge and is used to it, he would not be unduly perturbed by a switch to rubber. "All it would mean," he said, "is that I should have to practice ten hours a day instead of eight."

The 1958/59 "Open" Scandinavian Championships will take place in Stockholm on November 28—30, or November 30—December 2.

CREDIT TO MELLSTRÖM

The Swedes are handing most of the credit for their fine team performances this season to Bjerne Mellstrom, their No. 1, who is almost certain to be ranked in Europe's top ten. Bjerne has also done well in most of the international "opens" in which he has competed. In January he won the Swedish National Singles title, beating Tage Flisberg in the final. Tage won the Veterans' Singles.

I understand that Ann Haydon and Diane Collins, who performed so magnificently in winning the team event in Budapest, contemplate playing together a lot next season. Prior

Get the Best out of the Game

WITH

Bukta

**ACTION
TAILORED**

TABLE TENNIS OUTFITS

FULLY TAILORED to give perfect fit for easy movement

MEN'S SHORTS
from 27/6 pair

LADIES' SHORTS
from 30/- pair

**LADIES' AND MEN'S
TABLE TENNIS SHIRTS**

are made in the regulation design with Extra Body Length. Made in popular colours, Small, Medium, Large. LADIES' and MEN'S from 16/-.

Obtainable from all good sports outfitters or if any difficulty write to the

Publicity Manager, Bukta, Stockport, Cheshire



planning prevented them teaming up for the English "Open."

Many are the theories forwarded on Ann's much-publicised losing finals. Strange that her countless winning finals should be overlooked. Some of us tend to take for granted her wins and look for excuses on the rare occasion she loses—you know the guff: she's tired, she's strained, she's nervous, her opponent played above herself, and so on.

Ann is a great player but she is also human, and as such is liable to ups and downs like anyone else. Look through the records of all out-

LA LOUP PUT ON THE MAP

by ELSIE CARRINGTON

THE town band turned out, a women's pipe band turned out, and so it appeared did most of the population. It was a Red Letter Day for La Loup.

This small French town of only 2,500 inhabitants was being put on the sporting map as a venue for a table tennis international.

It seemed that everyone wanted to get into the village hall but with accommodation for only 500, more were shut out than could get inside. Although naturally rooting for their own country, it little mattered that England beat France 7-2 in this women's international. They were seeing something new and cheered every shot.

But oh, what a fluttering in the dovecots when Joyce Fielder and I arrived to find no signs of Ann Haydon and Pam Mortimer. The time ticked and we were wondering just what we could do when it was learned their plane was late.

Meanwhile the start was put back an hour.

MONIQUE ALBER STEALS SHOW

Once underway, however, and this brand new table tennis audience had plenty to cheer, and not only from England. For Monique Alber stole most of the honours.

She beat both Joyce and Pam and gave Ann a tough fight. Indeed, Ann had to pull out that little extra to come back from behind and win the second game at 19.

Monique Alber is a greatly improved player and could become quite a power on the Continent.

Pam Mortimer, back in the England team for the first time since 1956, fully justified her recall, doing all that was asked of her. Even though losing to Alber, she extended the match to three games.

All three of the English girls beat Simone Tarlet and Claude Rougnou, who were not up to the same standard as Monique.

England 7, France 2.

A. Haydon bt C. Rougnou 21-12, 21-12; bt Alber 21-11, 21-19; bt S. Tarlet 21-9, 21-19. P. Mortimer bt Tarlet 21-12, 21-16; bt Rougnou 21-10, 21-18; lost to Alber 21-15, 16-21, 8-21. J. Fielder lost to Alber 20-22, 10-21; bt Tarlet 21-9, 18-21, 21-15; bt Rougnou 21-19, 21-18.

Following the match came a Civic Reception then, the next morning, a 3½ hours car drive to Tours for the French championships where we were joined by Eddie Hodson and Ian Harrison.

Ann, making up for her disappointment in the European championships carried off the women's singles, beating Agnes Simon, the former Hungarian who now lives in Holland. Ann's winning score was 21-18, 21-8, 21-18.

She then partnered Zjelko Hrbud, of Yugoslavia to win the mixed doubles, and was runner-up in the women's doubles with Pam Mortimer, to Eva Koczian and Livia Mossoczy. Pam played particularly well in this final.

Joyce Fielder fell at the first round having the misfortune to run up against Monique Alber, while Pam lost to Mrs. Simon in the second round.

Hodson lost to Guy Amouretti of France, while Harrison went down before Ferenc Sido. In the doubles they lost to Sido and Zoltan Berczik, after having beaten the Yugoslavs Vladimir Markovic and Dusan Osmanagic.

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

(Tours)

Men's Singles: Z. BERZIK (Hun.) bt F. Sido (Hun.) 21-11, 13-21, 21-15, 21-16. Women's Singles: A. HAYDON (E) bt A. Simon (Holl.) 21-18, 21-8, 21-18. Women's Doubles: E. KOZCIAN/L. MOSSOCZY (Hun.) bt Haydon/P. Mortimer (E) 21-16, 15-21, 21-18, 21-18. Men's Doubles: BERZIK/SIDO bt H. Schneider/L. Pleuse (W. Germ.) 21-13, 13-21, 20-22, 21-7, 21-14. Mixed Doubles: Z. HRUB (Jugo.)/HAYDON bt E. Gyetvai (Hun.)/Mossoczy 21-12, 21-15, 21-18.

English Results

LADIES' SINGLES

Fielder lost to Alber 15, 10, 14. Mortimer bt Graud 15, 18, 12; lost to Simon 14, 14, 15. Carrington bt Fougner 3, 14, 15; lost to Mossoczy 12, 20, 11. Haydon bt Collignan 7, 8, 9; bt Mittelstadt 12, 6, 16; bt Graf 5, 4, 7; bt Mossoczy 15, 10, 17; bt Simon 18, 8, 18 (Final).

LADIES' DOUBLES

Fielder/Carrington lost to Mielenhause/Van Megen —16, —13, 11, 19, —20. Haydon/Mortimer bt Freville/Poirier 8, 12, 6; bt Rougnou/Tegner 14, 8, 12; bt Williamson/Whithams 8, 5, —12, 14 (semi-final); lost to Koczian/Mossoczy —16, 15, —18, —12 (Final).

MIXED DOUBLES

Fielder/Harrison lost to Pleuse/Rodel —8, —22, —14. Mortimer/Hodson bt L'Homme/Beolet 14, 18, 29; lost to Haydon/Hrbud —12, 17, —14, —19. Haydon/Hrbud bt Grebonval/Delaubert 17, 11, 15; bt Hodson/Mortimer 12, —17, 14, 19; bt Schneider/Mittelstadt —20, 15, 12, 16; bt Sido/Koczian —18, —21, 12, 18, 19; bt Gyetvai/Mossoczy 12, 15, 18 (Final).

MEN'S SINGLES

Harrison bt Devos 8, 10, 14; bt Calinsky —14, 14, —13, 21, 11; bt Barough 20, —15, 20, 14; lost to Sido 19, —14, —10, —15. Hodson bt L'Homme —12, 8, 16, 9; bt Djordjevic —16, 10, 15, 15; lost to Amouretti —13, —13, 13, —7.

MEN'S DOUBLES

Harrison/Hodson bt Osmanovic/Markovic 16, 20, —19, 19; lost to Sido/Berczik 11, 12, 17 (Quarter-final).

LATE NEWS

CORBILLON DIES

Marcel Corbillon, one of the founders of the French Table Tennis Association, and donor of the "Marcel Corbillon" Cup for the women's world table tennis championship, died on Wednesday, April 2. A Vice President for Europe he was also deputy President of the I.T.T.F.

standing players and you will find they had their defeats, even when they were at their peak.

Instead of futile theorising and excuse-making, let's be practical and say that when she gets beaten it is because she met a player who, on the day, was better and deserved to win. Psychological twaddle will get no one anywhere.

The truth of the matter is that no player was ever invincible, and no one has the right to expect Ann to be the exception.

WHATEVER THE SPORT

The "Know the Game" and "Play the Game" series provide complete, official and fully illustrated guides to the rules and coaching instruction. "Know the Game" books cost 2/6 each, "Play the Game" titles from 4/- to 7/6—at your local bookshop and sports dealer or from:

EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTIONS

EAST ARDSLEY, WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP - - - By CONRAD JASCHKE

Middlesex Again Champions

YORKSHIRE presented the Premier Division championship to Middlesex, when they defeated Surrey by 7-3 at Bradford.

Surrey led 3-2 at the halfway stage, and Peggy Piper almost made it 4-2, but just lost 19-21 in the third to Kathie Best. Yorkshire, having thus drawn level, proceeded to take the remaining four sets, for their best performance for a long time. Winning five men's singles against the strong Surrey trio—with ironically Brian Kennedy dropping the only one for them—presented Surrey with a most unusual experience.

Thus ended the faint hope Surrey held of snatching the title from Middlesex, who, in any case, followed up by beating Gloucestershire 9-1 to become champions for the tenth time.

Glamorgan took a point off a weakened Lancashire team, but again it means relegation for Glamorgan, and Sussex, who thus alternate between premier and second division each season.

Cheshire and Kent have comfortably won their respective sections of the second division, while Staffordshire just pipped Somerset on set average in Div. II West. It means a play-off between the three counties for the two premier vacancies.

Many officials in Kent and Sussex feel that there is a strong case for enlarging the premier division, to make room for counties who are too strong for second division play, but cannot keep their place while the premier is restricted to eight teams.

In the Midland Division, Derbyshire and Warwickshire II top the table equal on points and sets, with Warwickshire gaining the advantage by the narrowest possible margin... 42-26 games as against Derbyshire's 43-27.

Kent II have won the Southern Division, and Staffordshire, winners of the Midland Junior, are challenging Lancashire and Middlesex, the other junior division winners, for a play-off to decide the title of "junior champion."

At the recent Rules Meeting of the County Championships, a Middlesex proposal to revert to the financial arrangements which had been in force for premier division matches some years ago, whereby gate money and expenses are shared between home and away teams, was defeated. On the question of number of sets

played in premier matches, there was unanimous approval amongst premier counties that the sets should be reduced from ten to eight, but no agreement could be reached on the make-up of the eight sets. Matches will therefore continue to consist of ten sets. No doubt the premier division counties will consult amongst each other, to try and arrive at a solution acceptable to all.

PREMIER DIVISION

Lancashire 8, Sussex 2
 J. Ingber bt I. Alexander —19, 13, 11; bt J. Quilter 9, 13. R. Allcock bt Quilter —11, 10, 7; beat P. Shead 18, —13, 18. G. Pullar lost to Shead —17, —21; bt Alexander 11, 16.
 Ingber/Pullar lost to Alexander/Quilter 11, —16, —11.
 Miss I. Haney bt Miss W. Bates 18, —17, 15.
 Miss Haney/Mrs. C. Spencer bt Miss Bates/Mrs. P. Shead 21, —17, 17.
 Allcock/Mrs. Spencer bt Shead/Mrs. Shead 17, 15.

Essex 8, Sussex 2

R. Raybould bt I. Alexander 16, 16; bt J. Quilter —19, 11, 17. J. Leach lost to Quilter 12, —20, —16; bt P. Shead 20, 9. R. Stevens lost to Shead 11, —13, —11; bt Alexander 12, 15.
 Raybould/Stevens bt Alexander/Quilter 13, 20.
 Miss J. Page bt Miss P. Turner 15, 6. Miss Page/Miss E. Milbank bt Miss Turner/Mrs. P. Shead 9, 15.
 Leach/Mrs. Milbank bt Shead/Mrs. Shead 14, 8.

Yorkshire 7, Surrey 3

S. Dyson bt A. Miller 15, 18; bt K. Craigie 13, 16. B. Kennedy lost to Craigie —19, —17; bt H. Venner 21, 20. R. Hinchliffe bt Venner 20, 15; bt Miller 18, 18.
 Dyson/M. Pitts lost to Craigie/Venner —11, —19.
 Miss K. Best bt Miss P. Piper —18, 13, 19.
 Mrs. J. Farnsworth/Miss M. Lightfoot lost to Miss Piper/Mrs. H. Head —17, —6. Kennedy/Miss Best bt J. Head/Mrs. Head 8, 11.

Glamorgan 5, Lancashire 5
 Middlesex 9, Gloucestershire 1

DIVISION II NORTH

Cheshire 8, Yorkshire II 2.
 Northumberland 2, Cheshire 8.
 Warwickshire 6, Northumberland 4.
 Durham 2, Lincolnshire 8.

DIVISION II SOUTH

Suffolk 4, Hampshire 6.
 Buckinghamshire 0, Kent 10.

DIVISION II WEST

Dorset 1, Somerset 9.
 Wiltshire 2, Somerset 8.
 Devon 1, Staffordshire 9.
 Cornwall 2, Staffordshire 8.
 Worcestershire 10, Devon 0.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

Staffordshire II 6, Northamptonshire 4.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Hertfordshire II 1, Bedfordshire 9.
 Kent II 10, Cambridgeshire 0.

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

Cheshire 1, Yorkshire 7.
 Durham 6, Cheshire 2.
 Durham 3, Lancashire 5.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

Staffordshire 8, Northamptonshire 0.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

Essex 6, Hertfordshire 4.
 Hertfordshire 2, Kent 8.
 Middlesex 8, Surrey 2.

FINAL TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Middlesex	7	6	1	0	54	16	13
Surrey	7	5	0	2	46	24	10
Gloucestershire	6	4	0	2	38	22	8
Yorkshire	7	4	0	3	37	33	8
Essex	7	3	1	3	33	37	7
Lancashire	7	2	2	3	31	39	6
Glamorgan	7	0	2	5	23	47	2
Sussex	7	1	0	6	17	53	2

DIV. II—NORTH

Cheshire	5	5	0	0	39	11	10
Warwickshire	5	3	1	1	30	20	7
Lincolnshire	5	2	2	1	27	23	6
Northumberland	5	2	0	3	23	27	4
Yorkshire II	5	1	1	3	23	27	3
Durham	5	0	0	5	8	42	0

DIV. II—SOUTH

Kent	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Hertfordshire	5	3	1	1	31	19	7
Hampshire	5	2	2	1	27	23	6
Berkshire	5	2	1	2	28	22	5
Suffolk	5	1	0	4	20	30	2
Buckinghamshire	5	0	0	5	3	47	0

DIV. II—WEST

Staffordshire	6	5	1	0	46	14	11
Somerset	6	5	1	0	44	16	11
Worcestershire	6	4	0	2	44	16	8
Devon	6	3	0	3	25	35	6
Wiltshire	6	1	1	4	16	43	2
Cornwall	6	1	0	5	17	43	2
Dorset	6	0	1	5	18	42	1

MIDLAND DIVISION

Warwickshire II	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Derbyshire	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Staffordshire II	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Northamptonshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
Warwickshire win on games average of 42-26 to 43-27.							

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Kent II	4	4	0	0	34	6	8
Bedfordshire	4	3	0	1	24	16	6
Hertfordshire II	4	2	0	2	19	21	4
Norfolk	4	1	0	3	11	29	2
Cambridgeshire	4	0	0	4	12	28	0

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIV.

Warwickshire	4	3	0	1	23	9	6
Staffordshire	4	3	0	1	23	9	6
Northamptonshire	4	0	0	4	2	30	0
Warwickshire win on games average of 52-25 to 49-27.							

NORTH JUNIOR DIV.

Lancashire	6	4	1	1	31	17	9
Durham	6	4	0	2	29	19	8
Yorkshire	6	3	1	2	27	21	7
Cheshire	6	0	0	6	9	39	0

SOUTH JUNIOR DIV.

Middlesex	6	6	0	0	54	6	12
Surrey	6	4	1	1	37	23	8
Essex	6	4	0	2	33	27	8
Kent	6	2	2	2	30	30	6
Hertfordshire	6	1	1	4	23	37	3
Suffolk	6	1	1	4	17	43	3
Sussex	6	0	1	5	16	44	1

Letters to the Editor

AN EDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

AN editor may publish what he will, provided he be sufficiently insensitive to the effects upon circulation. But a responsible editor, publishing wildly unorthodox views, should at least name the author so that the reader may judge for himself whether it is worth the effort of trying to winnow a grain of sense from a page apparently all chaff.

In the March issue of "Table Tennis" you printed an article under the title "Are Umpires Necessary?" and over the pseudonym "A. Scorer." I know, from comments during the English "Open" Championships by many match officials whose ability and service I respect, that this article gave very great offence. It is not only that these good people are pilloried by your shy contributor as unwanted and misguided exhibitionists. The offence is the graver because they do not know who is their critic. Is he a crank, or a silly person merely exposing his own ignorance—someone who, like most anonymous writers, deserves to be ignored? Is he a coach, jealous that there are more umpires qualified than coaches? Or is he a serious and ex-

perienced observer who might profit from enlightenment and who merits a reasoned answer?

May I suggest that you remove the screen of your coat-tails and let your readers see who is Mr. A. Scorer. Then the Umpires of this country, whose efficiency and impartiality are so widely acknowledged and, indeed, envied throughout the table tennis world, can decide for themselves whether he is worth educating.

George White

(Past Editor, "Table Tennis")

Editor's Note: It is a generally accepted rule among Editors of newspapers and periodicals that a contributor, providing he supplies his name and address, may use a pseudonym. We have the name and address of "A. Scorer" but respect his request to remain anonymous.

It has always been the policy of this magazine to publish controversial articles and at the same time encourage those who hold different points of view to express them in print.

We feel that "A. Scorer" and many others would profit from any "enlightenment" and "reasoned answer" Mr. White would care to offer.

UNIFORM DRESS

THE recent list of proposed amendments to rules of the N.C.C. shows an effort to uniform dress of county teams playing in this competition—something which is long overdue.

We all know that there has been a serious decline in the standards of dress at all levels of the game during the past two seasons or so and drastic efforts must be made to rectify this—not only in N.C.C. matches but in "opens" and other leading events.

Irrespective of the vote at the N.C.C. Rules meeting, Suffolk has tabled Dress of its own teams at the next meeting and a move is afoot to put their own house in order in this matter. Nevertheless, both the N.C.C. and E.T.T.A. must make this question of dress a definite rule and not merely a recommendation.

There is one point in the N.C.C. definition of Standard Dress that appears most unsound, that of the term "Grey Skirt." I have no doubt that the administrators do not mean the garment worn outside the game on all occasions. Nevertheless, if a

rule is brought in under this definition any skirt of any length and design could be worn provided it was grey.

Why cannot the E.T.T.A. define this garment in suitable terms. Would, say, Dinky Skirt be appropriate?

Arthur E. Durrant

(Lowestoft)

RACKET STANDARDISATION

"TODAY I REALISE THAT RUBBER (PIMPLED), WITH ITS CAPACITY FOR HEAVY CHOP, IS IMPROVED DEFENCE FAR MORE THAN ATTACK, AND THEREFORE IT MUST BE HELD MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MENACE OF TIME-LIMIT GAMES WHICH IS THREATENING TO RUIN TABLE TENNIS. IF 'CHISELLING' IS TO BE ELIMINATED, I AM CERTAIN THAT THE TIME LIMIT RULE WILL NOT DO THE TRICK. THE SOLUTION MUST BE FOUND IN EQUIPMENT WHICH GIVES GREATER ADVANTAGE TO THE ATTACKER THAN TO THE DEFENDER, AND BY THIS, I DON'T MEAN THE LOWERING OF THE NET."

Surely this must be Denis Offer repeating what he has written before!

Not so—it is the great Victor Barna in his article "Time Marches On" in the 1950 English "Open" programme.

As if in answer to Victor's prayer the Japanese exploited the sponge bat to hit off the top class defensive players. Their example has been followed by many attacking and all-round players in other countries and almost wholly defensive pimped rubber players have been eliminated in International tournaments as soon as they have been opposed by an efficient attacking sponge player.

This is as it should be if we don't want tournaments clogged up by rubber defensive players who can be successful by a series of time-limit games.

In all other ball and racket games the

National Pools Scheme

YOUR correspondent, Colin Slater, displays a fine sample of muddled thinking in his rather hysterical opposition to the idea of a pools scheme for table tennis. What on earth have shamateurism, illegal payments and other rackets to do with pools?

They are the outcome of outdated rules on amateurism—of the soccer maximum wage and transfer rules and would still be with us if the pools stopped tomorrow.

It is significant that the sport with the worst shamateurism record—lawn tennis—has absolutely no connection with pools or lotteries.

Then Mr. Slater's heartrending plea to "keep our game clean" by not raising money in this way. How does he think that hundreds of clubs, leagues and county bodies keep their heads above water?

Lotteries have been run in table tennis circles for years and what rackets has this practice led to? If church clubs dislike it then they don't handle any tickets—I think it is usual not to send them in these cases anyway.

Incidentally, it is often these clubs who object most to paying affiliation fees and would be horrified at the economic fees which would be needed if lotteries were ruled out.

Don't let table tennis join the ranks of the hypocritical organisations which profess high-minded principles openly but subsist on what they call tainted money. I think the N.E.C. has come into the open—after all, individual members views on other subjects are not reported in the official news, why should they be on the pools discussions?

Keith Watts

(Sussex)

purely or even mainly defensive player is non-existent in their tournaments or quickly eliminated.

This means the rubber racket is out-moded in the hands of mainly defensive players IF SPONGE IS ALLOWED. But rubber is not out-moded in the hands of the attacking or all-round player when opposed to sponge, as was demonstrated in the recent English "Open."

The opposition to sponge is surely psychological. There is room for both rubber and sponge.

Incidentally I was informed at the English "Open" by an overseas player who is connected with the manufacturing side, that he has given up sponge as it was a bad advertisement for business. Sponge rackets last longer than rubber, and are not so heavy on the balls. With balls now eightpence each this is a consideration! Such a possible argument had not occurred to my amateurish mind but does indicate dangerous cross-currents which might be at play in the racket controversy.

When the question has been voted upon by the I.T.T.F., and if the vote goes against England and some other countries, need I express the hope that we will accept it in a democratic spirit and not attempt to form or join splinter parties involving the disruption of the I.T.T.F.

DENIS OFFER.

HARRY VENNER

England and Surrey

Coaching and Exhibitions arranged

Enquiries 66 TAVISTOCK CRESCENT,
MITCHAM, SURREY.

WELSH CORNER

SHIRLEY FAILS AT HOME

FROM triumph in Budapest to disaster at Port Talbot! Such has been the unfortunate experience of little Shirley Jones, and she must surely be wondering how long some of her bogies are going to be with her.

At the English "Open" I spoke to Hungarian, Yugoslav and French players, and they were all loud in Shirley's praise for her first class efforts in the team championship and the individual events. Not surprising, therefore, they could not believe that she failed to win a title in her home town tournament!

But it was so, and at the Port Talbot "Open," run in conjunction with the Festival of Wales, Shirley did not win a single event. In the singles, she went out easily to Betty Gray, her team mate in Budapest, and never really looked like winning. She and Betty, with a sensational win over ex-World Champions Roseanu and Zeller amongst their Budapest successes, then lost the doubles to Londoner Peggy Piper and Audrey Coombs, and in the mixed Glyn Morgan and Shirley went down to Alan Morris and Betty Gray.

Glyn Morgan won the singles event, having more trouble earlier on with Alan Thomas than he did in the final with Bernard Dimascio. Betty Gray won the women's event, but Audrey Bates has only herself to blame for that. She lead 16-5 in the first and looked an easy winner, only to fritter away point after point, losing the first at 19, and the second at the same score despite a belated recovery.

Alan Thomas teamed up with Ken Milson in doubles, and they had some good wins to their credit, before running Glyn and John Simonson to three in the final.

Earlier in the month we had the Swansea "Open." The tables were too close together in the main hall, and the entry was rather poor. More than ever it is essential that tournament dates are

fixed before the commencement of the season, and adhered to.

Glyn Morgan beat Bryn Bowden in the men's final, and Glyn and John Simonson took the doubles title. In the women's event, weakened by the absence of Shirley Jones, Betty Gray and Audrey Bates, was a carve-up for the Cardiff girls. Gretta Dimascio beat club mates Shirley Evans in the semi-final and Cynthia Jenkins in the final. Shirley and Cynthia won their first title, beating Gretta and Elsie Davenport. The mixed was unfinished as the Cardiff players had to leave to catch the only train.

Meanwhile, in the Club Team Championship of Wales, Roath Road "A" beat their "B" side 7-2, Barry Central beat Treharris 8-1, Overseas won an exciting match 5-4 against Pontypridd Y.M.C.A., and Port Talbot Y.M. still have to play Park Club, Penarth. The draw for the semi-final sees Overseas opposed to the winners of the latter tie, and Roath Road to play Barry Central.

Most of the positions in the Welsh League have now been resolved, and outstanding matches can have no effect in any of the divisions except the women's, where neither of the two Cardiff-Swansea matches has yet been played.

In Division I, Swansea, despite a shock defeat by Newport, have won, with Barry likely to be second, and Newport probably third. At the bottom, Aberdare and Cardiff Public Services cannot now escape relegation. Eastern Valleys have won the Northern Section, but cannot be promoted as they have a side in Division I. Brecon are second, their best performance yet.

Newport, with one more match to play, are undefeated in the Junior Section, and should win their last match against Cardiff, thus assuring themselves of the Championship, with Swansea second.

Our last National Counties match was something of a farce. Losing the way,

coming by car, the Lancashire side did not arrive in Cardiff until a quarter to nine, and the match was played in an atmosphere of unreality after that. We should have won — not that victory would have saved us from relegation, but it would have been some consolation. Our girls had little trouble, but our men slipped against opponents who were tired and ought to have been beaten.

In the English "Open," Shirley Jones got to the fourth round with Raybould, leading Vogrinc and Helen Elliot, two games to one and 20-17, only to see victory slip from their grasp. David Parry only lost at two 20-all's to Chris Gosling the eventual winner of the boys' event. Had David been in the other half, he could well have been in the final.

We record with pleasure that Mr. J. Simpson, of Llandudno, has taken over the Secretaryship of the North Wales Association, and we are looking to him to revitalise the organisation up there.

CAMBS. NOTES

JOHN CORNWELL, a stalwart of the county team, gave a unique performance to become the first player in the history of the Association to win six titles in the Cambridgeshire "Closed" Championships.

New Chesterton Institute have regained the Cambridgeshire League championship which they lost to Wesley last season.

University Press, helped by unbeaten Roy Nunn, narrowly defeated G.O.R.B. in the final of the Cambridgeshire League Handicap Knock-out trophy by 5-4.

RESULTS. FINALS

Men's "Closed" Singles: **J. CORNWELL** bt J. Thurston 21-14, 22-20. Men's "Closed" Doubles: **CORNWELL/THURSTON** bt R. Dean/R. Nunn 21-15, 21-13. Men's "Radius" Singles: **CORNWELL** bt Thurston 21-12, 22-20. Men's "Radius" Doubles: **CORNWELL/THURSTON** bt D. Sleight/R. Williams 21-16, 21-15. Men's Handicap Singles: **CORNWELL** bt A. Prince 38-36, 38-36.

Women's Singles: **Mrs. H. MITCHELL** bt Mrs. A. Pauley 21-17, 12-21, 21-18. Women's Doubles: **Mrs. M. CORNWELL/Mrs. P. SLEIGHT** bt Mrs. Mitchell/Mrs. Pauley 18-21, 21-19, 21-19.

Mixed Doubles: **CORNWELL/Mrs. CORNWELL** bt R. Dean/Mrs. Mitchell 21-12, 22-20.

Leslie Constable.

University Commentary

LONDON'S GOOD SEASON by D. E. COX

AFTER an extremely successful run in the Wilmott Cup, London University had their hopes of winning the event well and truly dashed by Bristol in the semi-finals to the tune of 5-1. Progress to this stage had been unexpected, but a series of exciting 5-4 victories—the most meritorious perhaps being the defeat of the holders, Civil Service—emphasised that team spirit can make a vital contribution.

M. Wong (Woolwich Polytechnic) and G. Muranyi (School of Pharmacy) recorded some fine performances. Wong defeated such worthy opponents as Len Adams, Laurie Landry, and Aubrey Simons in the course of the competition, and, at long last, has caught the attention of the Kent selectors.

Inter-Varsity matches resulted in two 5-5 draws against Cambridge, a 10-0 win and another draw against Oxford, and wins against Birmingham and Southampton.

London captured both U.A.U. titles,

Muranyi winning the singles quite comfortably while Wong and K. Snaith (Woolwich) scored their second successive victory in the doubles event.

Wong added to his laurels by taking the London University title against Muranyi.

The University League teams have been doing well, with good prospects of finishing top of the Central League and second in the London League, which is unfortunately reduced to only one division owing to lack of support. N. Mistry and B. Kalinka (both Woolwich), B. Little (College of Estate Management), L. Wilson (Imperial College), and C. Goldsmith (University College) have all given creditable performances for London.

Although there have been a number of administrative difficulties owing to the scattered nature of the colleges throughout London, this has truly been a vintage year. We can only hope that next year is even better.

**JACK CARRINGTON'S
HOLIDAY TRAINING
WEEKS, 1958**

●

SOUTH COAST WEEK NOW FULL

Vacancies for:
SEPT. 6-13 — Skegness

●

Details from:
**24 Worcester Gardens
Ilford, Essex**

ENGLISH "OPEN" SPECIAL

THE 1958 English "Open" Championships will go down as Sido's meeting. FERENC SIDO, burly Hungarian former world champion, swept all before him to land the triple crown, taking the men's singles, the men's doubles with ZOLTAN BERCZIK, and the mixed doubles with EVA KOCZIAN.

He is the first man to achieve such a feat since Victor Barna in 1938, and the third successive Hungarian to win the title.

Seldom has Sido, a regular contender for our titles played better over here, yet he made an indifferent start and in the international at Birmingham which preceded the championships he was beaten by Ian Harrison.

AGNES SIMON, former Hungarian, who now lives in Holland, won the women's singles, while England's lone senior success was in the women's doubles won by ANN HAYDON and PAM MORTIMER.

It was a championships of shocks, which started on the opening day at Manor Place Baths, Walworth, and continued through to the final day at the Empire Pool, Wembley. With seeded players tumbling like ninepins, we were prepared for almost anything, except perhaps the sensational dethronement of Berczik, the defending title holder and also European champion, in the semi-final.

Josip Vogrinc, 34-year-old Yugoslav, beat him 21-17, 22-20, 20-22, 18-21, 21-18, in what must surely be the biggest table tennis upset for years. Berczik had been sweeping all before him on the Continent and building up a reputation of being almost unbeatable.

Broke His Heart

Berczik broke his heart against the inspired defensive play of Vogrinc, who got everything back and also found time to add quite a few punches of his own.

THE CHAMPIONS . . .



AGNES SIMON

FERENC SIDO

Sido's Championships

BURLY HUNGARIAN SWEEPS BOARD

I think it is quite safe to say that no one was more surprised than Vogrinc. In fact in the third game when he dropped a match point against a desperate back-to-the-wall hit or miss effort, and in the decisive fifth, it looked as though the occasion was proving too much for him.

It was almost as though Vogrinc was saying to himself, "I'm going to win. This cannot be true."

His game temporarily lost its edge and he came near to throwing it away

Ann and Pam save England's face

with a series of shots which carried just that little too far and went over the edge of the table.

Berczik pulled up from 11-17 to 18-19. Then Vogrinc hit two winners, followed by a tremendous roar of applause to greet what was the outstanding performance of the evening.

Berczik, in my opinion, lost because he concentrated too much on defence. On the occasion when he really hit out he won the third game from a losing position.

No one could have been more pleased at Vogrinc's success than Sido, for it presented him with the singles title. It is extremely doubtful if Sido would have beaten Berczik, despite the fine form he showed when hitting Johnny Leach off the table in the "quarters" and Josef Somogyi in the "semis."

As is so often the case when an outsider topples the champion, Vogrinc was not the same power in the final. He was much more tentative, showing traces of "nerves."

Then, of course, there was the generalship of Sido. He varied his tactics more to help break up the Yugoslav's rhythm and played a waiting game. He slowed the pace, then used a back-hand counter hit with devastating power.

Although he took the third game Vogrinc was by that time as good as

beaten and the final was something of an anti-climax after the thrill of the semi-final.

Sido's triumph very nearly turned to tragedy when partnering Eva Koczian in the mixed final against Zjelko Hrbud, of Yugoslavia, and Ann Haydon. The Hungarians were a set-all and leading 19-15 in the third. Suddenly there was a gasp from the crowd. Sido, going for a wide shot suddenly collapsed and lay writhing in agony. He had twisted his knee—the recurrence of an old football injury.

Sido was helped to the umpire's chair, obviously in great pain. It looked as though he would be unable to finish and that the title would go to Hrbud and Miss Haydon.

But Sido was made of sterner stuff and after eight minutes while his knee was heavily strapped, he resumed. He quickly hit the two points necessary for the game and a 2-1 lead, but there was still a long way to go.

With Sido almost hopping on one leg the Hungarians lost the fourth game.

By this time the crowd were beginning to write off the Hungarians, but great tactician that he is Sido dictated the fifth and, well backed up by Miss Koczian, took the game for the match and his "hat-trick."

Standing out among the shocks of the early rounds of the men's singles was the dismal failure of England's European Championships team. They went out like a light, three of them, Kennedy (to unknown Gordon Taylor), Alan Rhodes (to Bobby Stevens) and Ian Harrison (to John Hunt, of Herts.) in their opening matches.

Harshly Treated

Bryan Merrett alone survived a little longer. He too figured in a first round shock—but on the winning side. He stonewalled his way through three time-limit games to beat seeded Alex Ehrlich, of France, a former champion, 13-12, 10-9, 16-13.

Merrett then beat Bobby Raybould before falling to Ken Craigie, of Surrey.

Another former champion failing to survive his opening match was Zarko Dolinar, of Yugoslavia. He lost to Raybould 14-21, 21-16, 18-21, 21-12,

19-21. Raybould finished in a rush taking the last five points in a row.

Great as Raybould's win was, my sympathies go to Dolinar.

I am not alone in thinking that he was somewhat harshly treated in being forced to play almost immediately he arrived after more than two days travelling with no sleep.

It appears that Dolinar was under the impression only preliminary rounds were being played the first two days and that he would not be required until the next day. This

By Harrison Edwards

could be well understood for England were playing Hungary 120 miles away the same night and those players were excused until the Wednesday.

Surely a point could have been stretched in view of the circumstances.

Elemer Gyetvai, of Hungary, who was originally expected to be Berczik's

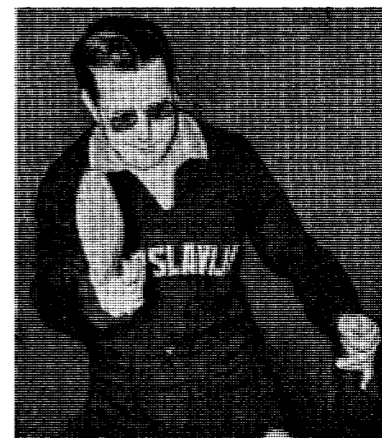
THE CHAMPIONS
Men's Singles
FERENC SIDO
 (Hungary)
Women's Singles
AGNES SIMON
 (Netherlands)
Men's Doubles
FERENC SIDO and ZOLTAN BERCZIK
 (Hungary)
Women's Doubles
ANN HAYDON and PAM MORTIMER
 (England)
Mixed Doubles
FERENC SIDO and EVA KOCZIAN
 (Hungary)

chief rival, lost to Josef Somogyi, who, after just scraping through his opening match against Laurie Landry, reached the semi-final where he fell to Sido.

Harry Venner scored a great win when he beat Hrbud, but he too fell to Sido in the third round as did Ivor Jones in the fourth and Johnny Leach in the "quarters."

Two other home players reached the quarter-finals, Michael MacLaren, who lost to Berczik but took a game,

. . . AND THE RUNNERS-UP



JOSIP VOGRINC



HELEN ELLIOT

ENGLISH "OPEN" SPECIAL

and Ken Craigie, who went down to Somogyi.

Lew Laza, the Australian who has now settled in Lancashire, was Vogrinc's victim in the last eight.

Never at any time did there look any likelihood of the title, last won by an Englishman in 1924, coming home to this country.

England's big hopes of a singles title were of course centred on Ann Haydon, but they were surprisingly crushed by a home player . . . Kathie Best, making a welcome return to form. She beat Miss Haydon 21-17, 14-21, 21-9, 21-17 in the quarter-finals.

Miss Haydon, who the previous night had to scratch from the international against Hungary, was not at her fittest, and, indeed, had found the going hard before meeting Miss Best. She was within a point of being two games down to Barbara Milbank in her opening match.

Once again there was that strange lapse in Miss Haydon's play which has cost her premier honours and



ANN HAYDON

usually appears around the fourth game. She was leading 9-7 when she lost eight points in a row.

With the match slipping away fast Miss Haydon made a desperate gamble to get back into the running and actually recovered to within a point of her opponent only to lapse again and lose another five points in a row leaving Miss Best holding six match points. Ann saved three of these but the task was too much.

Miss Best thoroughly deserved her

win for she always carried the attack and so dictated the course of play that Miss Haydon was never allowed to take the initiative.

Said Ann afterwards, "The chill I caught in Paris took the edge off my speed and you have to be fit to beat Kathie. She played well."

It is doubtful if Miss Best, who in private life is Mrs. Alan Thompson of Leeds, has ever had such a consistently good spell.

She beat Shirley Jones, the dynamic little Welsh player in her opening match by 21-14, 21-7, 21-8, then Livia Mossoczy, of Hungary, co-holder of the world doubles title with Agnes Simon, 21-14, 14-21, 21-19, 21-19, before conquering Miss Haydon in the "quarters."

This great run was cut suddenly short in the semi-final where Scotland's Helen Elliot proved too strong and won 21-15, 21-12, 21-13.

Miss Elliot also proved the stumbling block for Pam Mortimer, Yvonne Baker and Joyce Fielder.

It was a bad meeting for European champions for Eva Koczian fell in the semi-final to Mrs. Simon, after having beaten Jill Rook in the previous round.

Mrs. Simon's quarter-final victim was Diane Collins, who never found her touch and was crushed 21-7, 21-11, 21-16.

Miss Elliot, who was making her third appearance in the singles final—she lost to Peggy McLean in 1949 and Trudi Pritzi in 1951—will never come closer to winning the title. She led 2-1 and asked for the break permitted after the third game instead of playing through. That was her undoing.

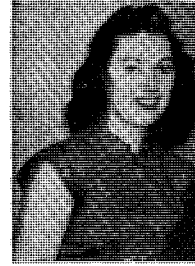
VALUABLE BREAK

Mrs. Simon, who had won the first game, was looking exceedingly worried, and continually glancing over to the court side where her husband was sitting. It was almost as though she was asking, "What can I do against this." For Miss Elliot was dominating the exchanges with powerful counter hitting.

Obviously she was given valuable advice in that five minutes break for the tables completely turned. Miss Elliot never looked like winning after that.

She had gained her earlier advantage by forcing her way through the former Hungarian's solid defence by sheer weight of stroke. This sapped her energy and Mrs. Simon looked much the fitter at the end.

It is easy to be wise afterwards but Miss Elliot's chance lay in a quick win and that is where the interval



PAM MORTIMER



KATHIE BEST

from her point of view was the big mistake.

The women's doubles, always a great standby for England, once again proved a face saver, with our two top pairs fighting out the final.

Pam Mortimer and Ann Haydon won the title with only three matches, for such was the re-arrangement of the draw following the re-pairing of Shirley Jones and Mrs. P. Clarke of Northumberland after each had lost their original partner, that the Birmingham pair went through to the quarter-finals before playing their first match!

Surely it would have been better to have brought Mrs. Clarke down to the bottom half of the draw to join Miss Jones than moving Miss Jones up to join Mrs. Clarke as was the case.

UNNECESSARY

This meant only one first round match, which would have been unnecessary and prevented the Haydon-Mortimer combination having two byes.

It is a little thing like this that can cause discontent.

Miss Mortimer and Miss Haydon showed great powers of recovery in the final when they fought back after being 1-2 down to beat Mrs. Collins and Miss Rook 21-17, 11-21, 16-21, 21-11, 21-14.

Miss Mortimer gave an outstanding display in the final and was mainly responsible for them weathering that critical period.

Mrs. Collins appeared to become a bit too tentative over those last couple of games.

In the semi-finals Miss Haydon and Miss Mortimer beat Miss Elliot and Mrs. Simon, while Mrs. Collins and Miss Rook accounted for Miss Koczian and Miss Mossoczy, the top seeds.

Miss Rook figured in another seeding upset in the mixed doubles, partnering Michael Thornhill to beat Gyetvai and Miss Mossoczy 21-12, 23-21, 20-22, 21-12. They eventually

ENGLISH "OPEN" SPECIAL

fell in the semi-final to Hrbud and Miss Haydon, who of course lost in that dramatic final to Sido and Miss Koczian.

Other good performances in this event were by Raybould and Shirley Jones. They beat Mellstrom and Miss Mortimer and Somogyi and Mrs. Simons, before going out to Vogrinc and Miss Elliot, who had indeed been lucky to survive their match with Bobby Stevens and Yvonne Baker, winning at 23 in the fifth.

Johnny Leach and Diane Collins, our chief hopes for the mixed doubles went out unexpectedly to Hrbud and Ann Haydon, who were originally in the other half of the draw but were moved when the Yugoslav Association cabled a protest because all their four men were in the same quarter.



JOHNNY LEACH

DIANE COLLINS

This was of course a freak of the draw for there is no seeding by nomination when pairs are not of the same country.

The mere moving of Hrbud and Miss Haydon in place of a pair who had been scratched brought plenty of criticism, which could have been avoided by drawing for the place they were to fill.

It was of course hard lines for Leach and Mrs. Collins to find themselves confronted with new and tougher opposition without prior notice.

Forewarned is forearmed and it is only on these grounds they can really complain for champions have to beat all comers.

Had Leach and Mrs. Collins not been the victims there would have been no criticism. It would have slipped by unnoticed.

Leach figured in another shock doubles defeat. He and Mellstrom, top seeds for the men's doubles, were bundled out by the Staffs. County champions Derek Backhouse and John Osborne who came back from the loss of the first two games to win 17-21, 20-22, 21-17, 21-18, 21-18.

Osborne was the player who did most of the damage, particularly when Backhouse appeared to be having a shaky patch in the fourth game.

Brian Brumwell, last minute acceptance, had a great run with Elemer Gyetvai, who due to a misunderstanding had been omitted from the original draw.

They sank the only seeded all-English pair Alan Rhodes and Michael Thornhill, and followed up with a win over Harrison and Merrett before losing to the eventual champions Sido and Berczik in the semi-final.

The Hungarians left no doubt as to their superiority when they beat Vogrinc and Hrbud in the final 21-14, 21-13, 21-17. Hrbud gets the title of unluckiest loser. Two finals . . . no title.

REFLECTION: The over-all standard was not so high as some championships of the past.

● *England badly need new talent but as yet there are no signs of a future champion among the men.*

● *Was it really necessary to rush the women's singles through to the final in one day. Makes it seem like a test of stamina rather than table tennis.*

● The umpires did a great job, with no squabbles. Line judges were a great innovation though at first a little unsettling to players who did not realise they were operating.

The number of faults they called revealed that a great many players have been getting away with serving wide of the table.

● RULES GOVERNING THE DRAW AND RE-ARRANGEMENT ARE TOO ELASTIC AND CAN BE READ ALMOST ANY WAY TO SUIT THE SITUATION. THEY MUST BE TIGHTENED UP, AS EVEN REFEREE GEORGE WHITE AGREES.

● Press arrangements were the greatest ever with good facilities, and even typewriters and telephones laid on.

● **And a Press complaint: Why such a hallaballoo when a Press photographer tried to take a picture of the injured Sido. He was there to do a job and give the news in pictures.**

AND THIS WAS A NEWS PICTURE.

Reporters were not told they must not write about the incident, so why stop the camera man?

SORRY I CANNOT SHOW YOU THE PICTURE OF SIDO NURSING HIS KNEE, BUT THAT'S THE FAULT OF THE OFFICIALS.

RESULTS

Men's Singles : Second Round : F. SIDO (Hungary) bt D. House (Somerset) 15, 13, 16; H. VENNEN (Surrey) bt Z. Hrbud (Yugoslavia) 10, 15, —16, 22; I. W. JONES (Essex) bt R. Kerr (Scotland) 13, —8, —18, 22, 13; S. O. HAMMARLUND (Sweden) bt E. T. Johnson (Cheshire) 10, 15, —4, 12; G. ZAIDI (Pakistan) bt N. Isbell (Middlesex) —12, —15, 19, 17, 11; G. MURANYI (Middlesex) bt P. Partos (Gloucestershire) 18, 15, 14; J. HARRINGTON (Surrey) bt H. Joyce (Middlesex) 10, 17, 18; J. LEACH (Essex) bt D. Scholfield (Cheshire) 11, 12, 9.

J. SOMOGYI (Surrey) bt B. Mellstrom (Sweden) 14, —17, 18, —18, 16; D. OSMANAGIC (Yugoslavia) bt D. Whitaker (Kent) —20, —20, 17, 16, 23; E. GYETVAI (Hungary) bt K. Whetlor (Middlesex) 7, 15, 12; R. DORKING (Essex) bt P. Brook (Kent) 17, 15, —19, 17. L. ADAMS (Middlesex) bt D. Backhouse (Staffordshire) 5, 20, 11. K. CRAIGIE (Surrey) bt T. Densham (Hertfordshire) 13, 14, 18. R. RAYBOULD (Essex) bt S. Jacobsen (Middlesex) 11, 9, 15. B. MERRETT (Gloucestershire) bt A. EHRLICH 13—12 (time limit), 10—9 (t.l.), 16—13 (t.l.).

J. VOGRINC (Yugoslavia) bt I. Barclay (Scotland) 15, 8, —18, 10. A. W. C. SIMON (Gloucestershire) bt R. L. Sharmman (Middlesex) 10, 11, 11. Z. SCHRAMM (Surrey) bt T. Caldwell (Essex) 11, 22, 19. R. J. STEVENS (Essex) bt A. Rhodes (Middlesex) —16, 21, 15, 17. F. GOODWYN (Surrey) bt B. Cohen (Bedfordshire) 14, 13, —19, —19, 16. B. BRUMWELL (Essex) bt J. Martin (Middlesex) 14, 17, 13. L. LAZA (Lancashire) bt J. Hunt (Hertfordshire) 17, 12, 13. E. HODSON (Middlesex) bt G. Amouretti (France) 18, 18, 18.

G. TAYLOR (Middlesex) bt B. Kennedy (Yorkshire) 18, 19, —17, —9, 14. M. WONG (Middlesex) bt G. Chergui (France) 17, 18, 8. M. MACLAREN (Surrey) bt K. Campbell (Middlesex) 12, 11, 6. J. O'HARA (Middlesex) bt C. Crowe (Bedfordshire) —19, 16, 17, 18. D. C. BURRIDGE (Middlesex) bt D. Hope (Middlesex) 17, 9, 16. T. LARSSON (Sweden) bt M. Thornhill (Middlesex) 16, 13, 17. M. CREAMER (Middlesex) bt J. Osborne (Staffordshire) 12, —16, —14, 12, 19. Z. BERCZIK (Hungary) bt H. Buist (Kent) 14, 11, 17.

Third Round: SIDO bt Vennen 10, 17, —20, 13. JONES bt Hammarlund 15, 18, 19. MURANYI bt Zaidi 12, 16, 17. LEACH bt Harrington 13, 15, 15. SOMOGYI bt Osmanagic 16, 19, —21, 13. GYETVAI bt Dorking 13, 13, 18. CRAIGIE bt Adams 15, 19, 16. MERRETT bt Raybould —16, 17, 16, 19.

VOGRINC bt Simons 9, 15, 19. STEVENS bt Schramm 18, 10, —18, 14. BRUMWELL bt Goodwyn 16, 14, 15. LAZA bt Hodson 12, 14, 13. TAYLOR bt Wong —18, 19, 13, 16. MACLAREN bt O'Hara 21, —10, 20, 19. LARSSON bt Burrige 21, 19, 24. BERCZIK bt Creamer 11, 16, 17.

Fourth round: SIDO bt Jones 10, 16, 20. LEACH bt Muranyi 8, 16, 4. SOMOGYI bt Gyetvai 19, 17, —2, 18, 11. CRAIGIE bt Merrett —14, 15, —21, 14, 16.

VOGRINC bt Stevens 16, —19, 19, 13. LAZA bt Brumwell 18, 12, 14. MACLAREN bt Taylor —14, —16, 14, 16, 12. BERCZIK bt Larsson 9, 16, —20, 17.

Quarter finals: SIDO bt Leach 16, 10, 14. SOMOGYI bt Craigie 10, —13, 18, 19. VOGRINC bt Laza 9, 17, 14. BERCZIK bt MacLaren 13, 18, —19, 10.

Semi-finals: SIDO bt Somogyi 13, 17, 17. VOGRINC bt Berczik 17, 20, —20, —18, 18.

Final: SIDO bt Vogrinc 13, 17, —17, 10.

ENGLISH "OPEN" SPECIAL

Women's Singles. Second Round : A. HAYDON (Warwickshire) bt B. Milbank (Essex) —17, 20, 13, 17. D. HUGHES (Bedfordshire) w.o. J. Mackay (Warwickshire) scr. C. K. BEST (Yorkshire) bt S. Jones (Wales) 14, 7, 8. L. MOSSOCZY (Hungary) bt Mrs. E. Cassell (Norfolk) 10, 14, 8.

J. FIELDER (Kent) bt R. Welch (Hertfordshire) 15, 15, 3. L. WITHAMS (Surrey) bt I. Webster (Essex) 17, 7, 13. Y. BAKER (Essex) w.o. J. Lynn (Ireland) scr. H. ELLIOT (Scotland) bt P. Mortimer (Warwickshire) 19, 20, 16.

Mrs. D. COLLINS (Middlesex) bt M. Austin (Surrey) 8, 16, 15. J. WILLIAMSON (Middlesex) bt D. Ridgway (Cheshire) 5, 15, 11. B. LANDIMORE (Kent) bt Mrs. J. Head (Surrey) —12, 13, 17, 22. Mrs. A. SIMON (Netherlands) bt M. Cherry (Middlesex) 12, 12, 8.

J. ROOK (Surrey) bt Mrs. P. Clark (Netherlands) —11, 11, 12, 18. B. WIREKOON (Essex) w.o. B. Gray (Wales) scr. M. FRY (Middlesex) bt J. Williamson (N.Z.) 11, —19, 13, 15. E. KOZCIAN (Hungary) bt M. Piper (Surrey) 19, 9, 16.

Third Round. HAYDON bt Hughes 7, 15, 11. BEST bt Mossoczy 14, —10, 19, 19. FIELDER bt Whithams 16, 19, 14. ELLIOT bt Baker 13, 9, —21, 21.

COLLINS bt Williamson 7, 13, 16. SIMON bt Landimore 10, 12, 5. ROOK bt Wirekoon 16, 12, 9. KOZCIAN bt M. Fry (England) 19, 20, 19.

Quarter-finals : BEST bt Haydon 17, —14, 9, 17. ELLIOT bt Fielder 8, 11, 16. SIMON bt Collins 7, 11, 16. KOZCIAN bt Rook 11, —14, 16, 13.

Semi-finals : ELLIOT bt Best 15, 12, 13. SIMON bt Koczian 8, 14, 16.

Final : SIMON bt Elliot 16, —19, —18, 8, 12.

Men's Doubles. Second Round : D. BACKHOUSE/J. OSBORNE bt J. Leach/B. Millstrom —17, —20, 17, 18, 18. R. RAYBOULD/R. STEVENS bt N. Crayden/J. Head 16, 14, 17. R. S. NICHOLLS/W. NORTHCOTT bt P. Burnett/G. Chapman 23, 15, —19, 15. G. MURANYI/J. SOMOGYI bt T. Densham/J. Hunt —19, 11, 12, —19, 20.

E. HODSON/L. LANDRY bt R. Bradstreet/B. Turner 11, 8, 9. T. LARSSON/S. HAMMARLUND bt K. Craigie/H. Venner 9, 20, —13, 10. R. DERHING/D. HOUSE bt C. Deaton/B. Scott 16, 19, 11. J. VOGRINC/Z. HRBUD bt C. Crowe/D. Ironmonger 15, 16, 12.

A. RHODES/M. THORNHILL w.o. M. Close/A. Hill scr. E. GYETVAI/B. BRUMWELL bt A. Lindsay/F. Redfearn 17, 17, —14, 14. I. JONES/M. MACLAREN bt M. Darlington/L. Wise —17, 15, 19, 16. I. HARRISON/B. MERRETT bt A. Miller/A. Rogers 13, 9, 14.

L. ADAMS/D. BURRIDGE bt P. Partos/A. Simons 17, 18, 16. H. BUIST/D. WHITTAKER bt E. Fibby/H. Joyce 17, 11, 12. V. MARKOVIC/D. OSMANAGIC bt P. Brook/R. Gregory 13, 11, 12. Z. BERCZIK/F. SIDO bt Z. Dolinar/B. Kennedy 16, 18, 15.

Third Round: RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Backhouse/Osborne 14, 19, 11. MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt Nicholls/Northcott 7, 15, 12. LARSSON/HAMMARLUND bt Hodson/Landry 14, 27, —10, —20, 19. VOGRINC/HRBUD bt Dorking/House 7, 16, —18, 13.

GYETVAI/BRUMWELL bt Rhodes/Thornhill 16, —21, 14, —21, 8. HARRISON/MERRETT bt Jones/Maclaren 23, 12, 18. ADAMS/BURRIDGE bt Buist/Whittaker 13, 8, 9. BERCZIK/SIDO bt Marcovic/Osmanagic 15, 14, 15.

Quarter-finals : MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt Raybould/Stevens —20, 10, —17, 12, 13. VOGRINC/HRBUD bt Larsson/Hammarlund —17, 18, 16, 16. GYETVAI/BRUMWELL bt Harrison/Merrett —17, 12, 14, 11. BERCZIK/SIDO bt Adams/Burridge 10, 19, —18, 13.

Semi-finals : VOGRINC/HRBUD bt Muranyi/Somogyi 15, 11, 11. BERCZIK/SIDO bt Gyetvai/Brumwell 8, 8, 15.

Final : BERCZIK/SIDO bt Vogrinc/HRbud 14, 13, 11.

Women's Doubles. Second Round : E. KOZCIAN/L. MOSSOCZY bt M. Fry/B. Milbank 16, 17, 16. M. PIPER/C. K. BEST bt D. Atherton/M. Austin 14, 9, 16. D. HUGHES/S. LAMPARD bt J. Lewsey/L. Murray —14, 18, 16, —17, 14. D. COLLINS/J. ROOK bt D. Spooner/M. Cherry —17, 13, 2, 17.

A. HAYDON/P. MORTIMER w.o. B. Gray/S. Jones scr. L. WHITHAMS/J. WILLIAMSON bt M. Stafford/J. Williamson 17, —15, 13, 16. J. FIELDER/J. HEAD bt D. Ellis/J. Riddick 10, 15, 10. H. ELLIOT/A. SIMON bt Y. Baker/B. Wirekoon 23, 7, 15.

Quarter-finals : KOZCIAN/MOSSOCZY bt Piper/Best 17, —14, 13, —14, 17. COLLINS/ROOK bt Hughes/Lampard 8, 4, 13. HAYDON/MORTIMER bt Whithams/Williamson 17, 16, 15. ELLIOT/SIMON bt Fielder/Head —15, 14, 12, —19, 14.

Semi-finals : COLLINS/ROOK bt Koczian/Mossoczy —16, 14, —11, 17. HAYDON/MORTIMER bt Elliot/Simons —18, 14, 29, 21.

Final : HAYDON/MORTIMER bt Collins/Rook 17, —11, —16, 11, 14.

Mixed Doubles. Second Round : M. THORNHILL/Miss J. ROOK bt E. Gyetvai/Miss L. Mossoczy 12, 21, —20, 12. J. BRAITHWAITE/Miss M. AUSTIN bt C. Denton/Mrs. P. Clark 18, —17, 18, —9, 20. P. BROOK/Miss B. LANDIMORE bt Z. Schrumin/Mrs. B. Moody 16, 21, 16. T. LARSSON/Miss B. MILBANK bt N. Isbell/Miss I. Webster 18, 18, 18.

A. LINDSAY/Mrs. J. Riddick bt P. Dean/Miss C. Rose 12, —15, 15, —21, 14. C. CROWE/Mrs. B. Cassell w.o. F. Lynch/Miss J. Lampard scr. Z. HRBUD/Miss A. HAYDON w.o. L. Hoffman/Miss G. Burns scr. J. LEACH/Mrs. D. COLLINS bt E. Johnson/Miss D. Hughes 5, 9, 17.

J. VOGRINC/Miss H. ELLIOT bt R. Wills/Mrs. D. Burnett 10, 11, 10. R.

STEVENS/Miss Y. BAKER bt D. Osmanagic/Miss B. Wirekoon 11, —19, 10, 15. J. SOMOGYI/Mrs. A. SIMON bt A. Rhodes/Mrs. J. Head —14, 13, 19, 10. R. RAYBOULD/Miss S. JONES bt C. Millstrom/Miss P. Mortimer 13, 20, 20.

L. ADAMS/Miss H. FRY bt I. Harrison/Miss J. Fielder 18, 16, 14. B. KENNEDY/Miss C. K. BEST bt A. SIMON/Miss J. Koehnke 14, 17, 18. R. CRAYDEN/Miss L. WHITHAMS bt L. Landry/Miss M. Piper —20, 15, 9, 10. F. SIDO/Miss E. KOZCIAN bt R. Bradstreet/Miss M. Cherry 17, 13, 17.

Third Round: THORNHILL/ROOK bt Braithwaite/Austin 8, 12, 11. LARSSON/MILBANK bt Brook/Landimore 16, 17, 18. LINDSAY/RIDDICK bt Crowe/Cassell 17, 11, 13. HRBUD/HAYDON bt Leach/Collins 14, 18, 13.

VOGRINC/ELLIOT bt Stevens/Baker 5, —14, 19, —19, 23. RAYBOULD/JONES bt Somogyi/Simon 17, —15, 19, 18. KENNEDY/BEST bt Adams/Fry 19, —11, 8, 19. SIDO/KOZCIAN bt Crayden/Whithams 21, 17, 19.

Quarter-finals : THORNHILL/ROOK bt Larsson/Milbank 22, —14, 11, —14, 19. HRBUD/HAYDON bt Lindsay/Riddick 17, 10, 13. VOGRINC/ELLIOT bt Raybould/Jones —21, —18, 11, 20, 14. SIDO/KOZCIAN bt Kennedy/Best 11, 14, —19, 16.

Semi-finals : HRBUD/HAYDON bt Thornhill/Rook 12, 19, 3. SIDO/KOZCIAN bt Vogrinc/Elliot 19, 19, 15.

Final : SIDO/KOZCIAN bt Hrbud/Haydon 17, —16, 19, —14, 17.

Women's Veteran Singles. Final : Mrs. V. CHERRIMAN (Mdx.) bt Miss E. Davis (Dorset) 13, 21.

Men's Veteran Singles. Final : R. L. SHARMAN (Mdx.) bt R. Markwell (Essex) —19, 16, 10.

Women's Consolation Singles. Final : L. MOSSOCZY (Hungary) bt L. Whithams (Surrey) 13, 15.

Men's Consolation Singles. Final : Z. DOLINAR (Yugoslavia) bt Z. Hrbud (Yugoslavia) 18, 8.

Important News for T.T. Players

RUBBER

Pre-war Continental Champions used a fine larger pimped rubber. With it YOU can attack, defend chop or spin. This rubber is again being produced exclusively for us, and is now available at 1/3d. a piece.

BATS

An entirely new T.T. bat — ideal for defence or attack — just the bat for which you are looking. 10/- each. Can be sent on approval to a club.

TABLES

A few A.D.B. Tournament Tables available at the old price of £39.15.0d. ½" models £23.10.0d. Up to £10 allowed on your old table.

Write for Trophies Catalogue

ALEC BROOK (Sports Equipment) LTD.

and

ALEC BROOK (Trophies) LTD.

85 DUKE STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telephone : MAYfair 3113-5775

ENGLISH "OPEN" SPECIAL

Neighbours Win Junior Titles

CHRIS GOSLING and **Jean Harrower**, two bright hopes of the future, brought both junior singles titles back to this country, or to be more precise to a little spot in New Barnet, where they are almost next-door neighbours.

They are members of the Gallants Farm Club and both are coached by Jean's father Geoff Harrower, the former international.

And the big feature of their success is that Gosling will be young enough to defend next year while Jean has two more seasons as a junior.

England were totally eclipsed in last season's championships, when all



JEAN HARROWER and CHRIS GOSLING

the titles went to Germany, and this success sent the home stock soaring.

Derek Grant and **Shelagh Hession** followed up by winning the mixed doubles, and Scotland took a share in a title when **Ian Barclay** teamed up with **Jean-Claude Treinen**, of France, to win the boys' doubles.

The only title to go completely overseas was the girls' doubles won by the formidable East German pair **Miss C. Bannach** and **Miss I. Woschec**.

Gosling and Treinen have met twice previously with the score one-all. This time on his home ground Gosling proved too sound in all departments of the game for the spectacularly hard-hitting 16-year-old French boy and won by 21-10, 21-19.

In the previous round he beat G. Schwaning, of West Germany, by 21-13, 21-17, while the toughest opponent was Conny Warren (Surrey), against whom he dropped his only game.

Probably the most exciting match of the event was the semi-final

by **BRYAN CUTRESS**

between Barclay and Treinen, who in the previous round had beaten England's No. 1 Eddie Taylor, by 21-14, 22-20. Both are essentially attacking players and many fine rallies ensued before the French boy retrieved deficits in both games to eventually win.

Brian Hamill, ranked No. 3 in the country, looked set for a good run when he defeated "seeded" player, H. Fromm (East Germany) 22-20, 21-18, but he was little match for Schwaning in the quarter-final, going down 13-21, 17-21.

Welshboy, David Parry also reached the quarter-final stage where he put up a spirited challenge before losing to Gosling 21-16, 25-23.

Jean Harrower, only 15, was probably the most accomplished competitor on view. She played with the care and patience of an established senior international, playing just well enough to win her early rounds and gradually building up a more powerful force.

In the semi-final she completely trounced Kent's Ann Jacobs who had earlier removed Miss Bannach 19-21, 21-6, 21-17.

MATURE GAME

Miss Harrower's mature game was most evident in the final where she met her rival-of-many-matches, Shelagh Hession, of Essex. Having won the first game with little difficulty she found herself 12-20 down in the second. Instead of giving up the game she tightened her play and pulled up to deuce before the nervous Miss Hession won the point she had wanted for so long but which was now of little use.

This timidity at crucial points nearly caused the downfall of Miss Hession in the semi-final where in the deciding game her substantial lead was slowly whittled down until she acquired the three points necessary for victory over Miss Woschec.

Miss Hession claimed three German victims, Miss I. Schmidt (E.G.), Miss E. Koch (W.G.) and Miss Woschec. She did not meet an English player until the final.

It was surprising that the two singles champions, although both coming from the same club, did not successfully click as a doubles pairing. They lost their opening match

15-21, 21-18, 15-21 to East Germans Fromm and Miss Schmidt, who went on to reach the final, where the winners, Grant and Miss Hession were brilliant.

Again in the girls' doubles the obvious favourites, Miss Harrower and Miss Hession failed to combine successfully being easily beaten in the final by Miss Bannach and Miss Woschec by 21-10, 21-12.

Ian Barclay, partnered by Fromm proved a particularly strong combination to beat Gosling and Treinen 21-17, 17-21, 21-18 in a thrilling final. This match was filled with top class play and Barclay and Fromm won solely by virtue of the more consistent steadiness.

Junior Results

Boys' Singles. Quarter-finals: J. TREINEN (France) bt E. Taylor (Durham) 14, 20. I. BARCLAY (Scotland) bt M. Konietzka (W. Germany) 15, 14. C. GOSLING (Mddx.) bt G. Schwaning (W. Germany) 13, 17.

Semi-finals: TREINEN bt Barclay 19, 19. GOSLING bt Schwaning 15, 13.

Final: GOSLING bt Treinen 10, 19. **Girls' Singles.** Quarter-finals: J. HARROWER (Mddx.) bt V. Lambert (Ireland) 19, —17, 14. A. JACOBS (Kent) bt C. Bannach (E. Germany) —19, 6, 17. S. HESSION (Essex) bt E. Koch (W. Germany) 19, 18. I. WOSCHEE (E. Germany) bt J. Koehnke (U.S.A.) 16, —20, 11.

Semi-finals: HARROWER bt Jacobs 10, 9. HESSION bt Woschec 13, —17, 17.

Final: HARROWER bt Hession 16, 23.

Boys' Doubles. Quarter-finals: R. NICHOLLS/W. NORTHCOTT bt T. Leverno/J. Nicholls 17, 19. E. GOSLING/J. TREINEN bt D. Parry/P. Racey 19, 20. I. BARCLAY/H. FROMM bt A. Emberson/B. Hidgeley 6, 11. D. GRANT/B. HAMILL bt G. Schwaning/M. Konietzka —12, 18, 15.

Semi-finals: GOSLING/TREINEN bt Nicholls/Northcott 17, 17. BARCLAY/FROMM 13, —17, 10.

Final: BARCLAY/FROMM bt Gosling/Treinen 17, —17, 18.

Girls' Doubles. Quarter-finals: J. HARROWER/S. HESSION bt W. Klein/A. Schmidt 11, —18, 20. J. DILNOT/S. THOMAS bt J. Koehnke/V. Lambert 19, —6, 18. C. BANNACH/I. WOSCHEE bt A. Jacobs/M. Shannon —19, 12, 16. E. KOCH/R. GORDES bt J. Butcher/M. Hicks 19, 13.

Semi-finals: HARROWER/HESSION bt Dilnot/Thomas 9, 10. BANNACH/WOSCHEE bt Koch/Gordes 19, 8.

Final: BANNACH/WOSCHEE bt Harrower/Hession 10, 12.

Junior Mixed Doubles. Quarter-finals: H. FROMM/MISS A. SCHMIDT bt M. Ellis/MISS J. Dilnot 7, 10. D. PARRY/MISS H. HICKS bt P. Racey/MISS J. Koehnke 16, —17, 16. D. GRANT/MISS S. HESSION bt A. Cornish/MISS A. Jacobs 18, 19. M. KOHETZKA/MISS E. KOCH bt B. Hamill/M. Shannon 19, 17.

Semi-finals: FROMM/SCHMIDT bt Parry/Hicks —17, 11, 10. GRANT/HESSION bt Konietzka/Koch 9, —13, 12.

Final: GRANT/HESSION bt Fromm/Schmidt 18, 18.

Yorkshire Teenagers in Hurry

MEET Yorkshire's tearaway teenaged trio—Dave Lamb, Mike Dainty and Betty Kinsley.

They travelled to meet Cheshire juniors and had two and a half hours to catch the return train. So they trounced the locals 7-1 in 90 minutes—all straight games—and tripped off with two points and an hour in hand.

The Dysons took home three trophies from the Yorkshire "Closed" at Bradford. Stuart won the men's singles and the doubles with Maurice Pitts, while Mavis retained the women's title by scrambling from behind and passing the experienced Marjorie Lightfoot on deuce.

In the men's semi-finals a tired Ray Hinchliff beat a tired Maurice Simpson but he couldn't stand up to the rampant Dyson who hit one "kill" so hard that his glasses flew off!

Hans Soova, a young Estonian member of Bradford's champion Metal Box team, performed with great credit. He beat Carrigill and Beaumont, two of Huddersfield's county men, to reach the semi-final and led Dyson 15-9 in the first and 15-13 in the second before going under 21-23, 17-21.

David Wood (Halifax) was a surprise

winner of the youths' event, beating Dainty in the final. Jean Preston won two doubles events with Marjorie Rhodes and Maurice Simpson her respective partners.

Why was the date of these championships not announced until February? Because of this late decision the event clashed with the Hull "Closed" and Cheshire Junior "Open," which Kathy Best had previously promised to play in the West of England.

A glance at the inter-league scoresheet shows that Hull had a meritorious 7-3 win over Huddersfield "B," Dave Bartlett and Pete Smith winning two each. Huddersfield's first team went to Sheffield and won six matches before relaxing to a comfortable 7-3 win. George Carrigill was unbeaten.

Mike Watson (Knaresborough) has a frustrating time against Harrogate "B." He was beating Jack Lancaster 19-11 but lost 19-21; then he was losing 12-20 to Bob Adams and pulled up to deuce—but lost 20-22!

At 17, lanky David Poole became York's youngest "closed" men's champion. John Lyon, in hospital recovering from appendicitis only a month before, beat holder Jack Senescall in the semi-final and teamed with him to win the doubles. Jack and his wife won the mixed for the fifth year running. Mrs. J. Pears retained both women's singles and doubles (with Mrs. C. Pottinger).

At the Hull "Closed" Betty Kinsley won the girls' title for the third year in succession and beat the holder, Shirley Train, in the women's final.

Other winners: men—Dave Bartlett; doubles—Eddie Beedle and Ron Jackson; Bartlett and Kath Whinham; and Whinham and Irene Allsopp; youth—Dave McGee; veterans—John Robinson, who beat king George Watts, wearer of the crown since it became available six years back.

Malcolm Hartley

BRISTOL HAVE OWN H.Q.

CONGRATULATIONS to Aubrey Simons who won the West of England men's singles title for the fourth time. The "old maestro" improved as the finals day progressed and gave the impression that with more regular first class practice he could still account for most of the toppers.

Gloucestershire's only other finalists were Ken Griffiths (Cheltenham) who with "visiting partner," M. McLeish of Leicester lost in the men's doubles and Bob Nichols (Bristol) who paired with W. Northcott (Cornwall) to lose in the Junior Doubles.

The tournament was played under excellent conditions at South Baths but, because, like most tournaments these days, the audience for the finals consisted mainly of competitors, Bristol can expect to be on the wrong side of the final balance sheet.

Bristol have at last secured their own Headquarter premises. The Bristol H.Q. committee led by George Mortimer, the Chairman, and Anne Archdale, the Secretary, feel confident of raising the annual rent from members who, for a small sum can use the club summer and winter. Top class playing conditions will be provided and an intensive course of coaching is also anticipated for juniors and seniors.

Frank Newell, of Cheltenham, was the only successful candidate at the recent exam. for National Umpires held in Bristol. Gloucestershire can now boast three National Umpires.

TABLE TO DATE

	Sets				
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F. A. P.
Cheltenham	6	5	0	1	39 21 10
Bristol	4	3	0	1	23 17 6
Birecoster	5	1	0	4	21 29 2
Stroud	3	0	0	3	7 23 0

D. N. Andrews.

WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

Birmingham suffered their first setback in the Western Counties League when they were surprisingly beaten 5-3 by Newport.

Birmingham, however, were not at full strength due to county match commitments, and it is to their credit that after trailing 1-4 they pulled up to 3-4 with two singles victories by Miss B. Keye and Miss D. Foster before acknowledging defeat in the final match of the evening.

By trouncing Weston 8-0, Birmingham put themselves at the top of the table but are still in danger of being ousted from their position by either Cardiff or Bristol, whose close win over Newport kept them in the running for League honours.

In the Under-21 League Bristol scored a 5-3 victory over Newport, who but for this defeat would have won the title. Now if Bristol can also beat bottom-of-the-table Weston, in their last match, they will have to "play off" with Bath to decide the championship.

LEAGUE TABLES

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Birmingham	5	4	1	0	32	8	8
Cardiff	4	3	1	0	22	10	6
Newport	5	3	2	0	21	19	6
Bristol	3	2	1	0	13	11	4
Bath	5	2	3	0	14	26	4
Bristol 2nds	5	1	3	1	17	23	3
Weston	5	0	4	1	9	31	1

UNDER 21's

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Bath	3	1	0	2	13	11	4
Newport	3	1	1	1	12	12	3
Bristol	2	1	1	0	8	8	2
Weston	2	0	1	1	7	9	1

Grove Motlow.

MacLaren Wins Surrey Title

SURREY JUNIORS have again to bow to the superiority of Middlesex who defeated them 8-2 in the deciding match of the Junior Division championship. Our congratulations to a fine side whose demeanour and application on the table was exemplary.

For the first time since the war a new name will be engraved on the Men's Singles "Closed" Championship Cup other than the recognised first team players.

Michael MacLaren, giving one of his finest performances, defeated Harry Venner in the semi-final and Tony Miller, who appeared past the challenge of Ken Craigie, in the final. Parts of his game against Venner and the whole of the first game against Miller were so good that the only comparison that came to mind was Andreadis.

Jean Head, defeating Lynne Whithams by a margin for her third successive hold on the Women's singles title, proved

again her right to the County ranking she has borne for so long. Miss Whithams had a fantastic win over Peggy Piper in the semi-final but could not sustain this form. The losing semi-finalists in the Men's singles, Venner and Craigie, gained revenge in the doubles final by narrowly beating MacLaren and Miller 23-25, 22-20, 21-16.

RESULTS. FINALS

Men's Singles: M. MACLAREN bt A. R. Miller 21-8, 13-21, 24-22. **Women's Singles:** Mrs. J. HEAD bt L. Whithams 21-11, 21-9.

Men's Doubles: H. VENNER/K. CRAIGIE bt Miller/Maclaren 23-25, 22-20, 21-16. **Women's Doubles:** Mrs. HEAD/M. PIPER bt M. Austin/J. Williamson 19-21, 21-18, 21-8. **Mixed Doubles:** CRAIGIE/Miss PIPER bt J. Head/Mrs. Head 21-16, 19-21, 21-15.

Youths' Singles: C. WARREN bt D. Crowley 21-19, 17-21, 21-19. **Girls' Singles:** M. SHANNON bt C. Bagshaw 21-12, 21-9.

Jim Forrest

STAFFORDSHIRE KNOTS

COUNTY CHAMPION BEATEN

A Most Successful Season

ENJOYING their most successful season for some considerable time, the county team made the long journey to Truro to record a fine 8-2 victory over Cornwall and keep their noses in front of Somerset at the head of the Second Division West by the narrow margin of one set.

There is going to be a great finish in this Division with the title depending on the last matches in which Staffs. entertain the improved Devon side and Somerset visit Wiltshire. It looks as if sets average will decide who takes the honours.

Staffs. made one change for their trip to the West Country, Dorothy Worrall coming into the side as Women's No. 1



DOROTHY WORRALL

in place of Beryl Broad. She fully justified the selectors' confidence by coming through the evening undefeated.

Following in their Senior's footsteps the Midland Division team moved up in the table to be on level terms with the leaders Warwickshire by virtue of a 6-4 win over Northants.

The Junior side, once more all West Bromwich players, and all from the Y.M.C.A. club, had a convincing 8-0 win over Northants. Juniors at the same venue.

The highlight of the county activities during February was the Staffordshire "Closed" Tournament held at the Woodfield Club, Wolverhampton. This produced a succession of shocks. County No. 1, Derek Backhouse, defeated in the final of the Men's Singles by Wolverhampton's Ron Poyner, who gave a brilliant exhibition of defensive play to retain his title. Then the defeat of Beryl Broad, County No. 1 women's player in two straight games in the semi-final of the Singles by Barbara Wall, who then went under in the final to Dorothy Worrall.

Backhouse and John Osborne, the County men's pair and favourites for the Doubles title were surprisingly eliminated in the first round by Deeley and Carter of West Bromwich, the title eventually went to Ron Poyner and Jeff Robbins.

It was an unhappy day for Beryl Broad who with her County partner, Christine Charman, were considered certainties for the Women's Doubles. Barbara Wall and May Batchelor thought otherwise and proceeded to upset all calculations with a convincing win.

As a measure of consolation for their other reverses Backhouse and Broad won the Mixed Doubles.

Not to be out done by the Seniors the Juniors threw in their share of shocks, the biggest being the defeat of Ann Charman by the vastly improved M. Upton (Potteries) in two straight games. Miss Upton also teamed successfully with fellow Potteries player, A. Yates, to win the Junior Girls' Doubles. Among the boys, Clive Swallow further emphasised his superiority by taking the singles and doubles titles.

Following on the Staffs. "Closed," Wolverhampton held their own championships the next week.

John Osborne retained the men's title against Bruno Vilunas, making his thirteenth unsuccessful attempt.

Staffs. champion, Ron Poyner went out in an early round to Brian Dent. J. Robbins and Poyner repeated their Staffs. success in the Men's Doubles. Marjory Warner regained the women's title and together with Jeff Robbins retained the Mixed Doubles, but went out in the Women's Doubles final to Dot Osborne and Olive Plimmer.

FIRST FOR 20 YEARS

Congratulations to West Bromwich Ladies' "B" team who have given the town their first Midland title for 20 years by winning the Ladies' "B" Division.

Well done Marjory Warner and Chris Charman—they travelled up to Cheshire and came away from the "Open" Tournament proud possessors of the Women's Doubles Trophy.

A near miss for Backhouse and Osborne too, in the same tournament, they were narrowly defeated in the final of the Men's Doubles.

The County Club championship is now nearing its successful conclusion, and the semi-final line-up is: Longton "A" v Y.M.C.A. (West Brom.); Sandford Hill (Potteries) v Woodfield (W'ton).

It was good to see the face of County Captain, Jimmy Hayward at the Staffs. "Closed" Tournament. Making a good recovery from his operation he is now beginning to take an active interest again and is hoping to be back in full swing by next season.

Alec Backhouse

Ex-Devizes Junior champion, Bob Pollard, scored a marathon 19-21, 23-21, 23-21 win over the new Wilts. and West Wilts. Junior champion, John Ford, when West Wilts. beat Devizes 8-2 in a Third Division match. This means that West Wilts. have again retained the championship with two matches yet to play.

Salisbury and Swindon are engaged in an exciting struggle for Premier Division honours with the City leading by one point but having played one more match than Swindon.

West Wilts. lost their outside chance of becoming Division One runners-up when beaten 7-3 by Devizes. Former Gloucestershire junior, Roger Febery, who is doing his National Service locally with the Pay Corps, scored a hat-trick for Devizes including a 11-21, 21-15, 21-16 win over County player, Tommy Edwards.

The Second Division title is almost within Salisbury's grasp because their nearest challengers, West Wilts., have dropped three points.

WILTS. "CLOSED" CHAMPIONSHIPS at Trowbridge (Finals)

Men's Singles: F. GARRETT (Swindon) bt E. Snook (Swindon) 24-22, 21-16. Women's Singles: Mrs. G. HORN (Salisbury, holder) bt Mrs. G. Rushen (Salisbury) 21-12, 21-13.

Men's Doubles: A. WAID/T. CASH (Salisbury, holders) bt A. J. Pearce/A. E. Craymer (West Wilts.) 27-25, 21-14. Mixed Doubles: J. CANDY/Mrs. HORN (Salisbury) bt A. Ward/Mrs. P. McDonald (Salisbury) 21-18, 21-11.

Junior Singles: J. FORD (West Wilts.) bt K. Charlton (holder) 21-15, 21-14.

LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION ONE					
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F. A. P.
Salisbury	8	7	0	1	60 20 14
Swindon	7	6	1	0	59 11 13
West Wilts	8	4	1	3	47 33 9
Devizes	8	3	0	5	32 48 6
Caine Y.M.C.A.	9	3	0	6	24 66 6
Chippenham C.C. ...	10	1	0	9	27 72 2

DIVISION TWO					
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F. A. P.
Salisbury	5	5	0	0	41 9 10
West Wilts.	6	4	1	1	38 2 9
Swindon	6	4	0	2	45 15 8
Devizes	7	1	1	5	20 50 3
Kennet Vale	6	0	0	6	6 54 0

DIVISION THREE					
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F. A. P.
West Wilts.	4	4	0	0	33 7 8
Devizes	5	1	1	3	19 31 3
Salisbury	4	1	1	2	17 23 3
Swindon	3	0	2	1	11 19 2

D. Hillier.

Northamptonshire "Closed" Championships Finals

Men's Singles: C. S. HOGG bt D. Obee 18-21, 21-14, 22-20. Women's Singles: M. COLEMAN bt Mrs. V. Grubb 21-11, 23-21.

Men's Doubles: B. A. BOND/HOGG bt A. Porsz/P. Sargent 11-21, 21-14, 21-14. Women's Doubles: Mrs. GRUBB/Mrs. G. HOOPER bt Mrs. Hails/Mrs. Wattam 21-16, 21-13. Mixed Doubles: PORSZ/Mrs. WATTAM bt Bond/Mrs. Grubb 21-19, 4-21, 21-9.

Boys' Singles: D. JENNINGS bt P. Grundy 22-20, 21-15. Girls' Singles: R. CROSS bt V. Spencer 21-10, 21-7.

Lowestoft Championships

Men's Singles: P. COLE bt J. Clarke 21-17, 21-11, 21-19. Women's Singles: B. MAIDMENT bt Mrs. E. Williams 21-16, 21-15.

Men's Doubles: COLE/J. COLLINS bt Clarke/R. Hubble 21-11, 21-13, 21-13. Mixed Doubles: COLE/Miss V. MARTIN bt R. Bennett/Mrs. Williams 21-19, 21-13.

ESSEX FAIL

AFTER fighting their way to the top of the Bernard Crouch trophy with a fine 5-4 victory over Surrey, Essex "seconds" failed to consolidate their position when they crashed 9-0 to Middlesex the following week.

A good crowd turned up to see this latter match and it is only to be hoped they did not gain the impression that the play served up by Ray Dorking and Ken Whetlor was typical of county matches.

Dorking must take most blame for this travesty of a game—one point alone took seven minutes—because Whetlor did attempt a few attacking shots, while Dorking was simply content to get the ball over the net.

When will competition officials learn to realise that the only antidote to this type of play is the expedite rule? Why should the paying public have to suffer ten or even twenty minutes of unenterprising pushing play which the time limit rule allows?

Although perhaps not quite so good as last year, the junior team were well above average and finished third in the championship table. Both Trevor Leverno and Mark Sweeting show promise.

Leverno who had a 100% 2-straight record in the boy's doubles with Jim Nicholls, and also had his first "open" success when he won the West of England Boy's Singles title, beating Nicholls 20-22, 23-21, 21-18. These two also won the boy's doubles.

Congratulations to both Romford and Chelmsford juniors on being undefeated in the Essex League Championships. They recently fought a 5-5 draw, but Romford take the title with a one game better average.

Chelmsford have a very young team and should win the championship next year—all their players being still under the junior age limit.

Ken Gladwell had a hard battle before beating G. Ivory 23-21, 13-21, 21-12 to win the Essex League men's singles title for the sixth successive year.

It was fourth time lucky for Ann Baldry who won the women's singles title after three years as runner-up.

Men's Singles: K. GLADWELL bt G. Ivory 23-21, 13-21, 21-19, 21-12. Women's Singles: D. BALDRY bt Mrs. D. Clark 21-19, 25-23, 21-18.

Men's Doubles: GLADWELL/P. DAY bt R. Caley/M. Caley 21-18, 21-17, 21-16.

Mixed Doubles: E. BAKER/Mrs. J. RAWSTHORNE bt B. Rowlen/Mrs. Clark 21-6, 21-13, 22-20.

Boys' Singles: D. FIELD bt M. Davies 21-14, 21-19.

Frank Bateman.

Staines and District League Championships Finals

Men's Singles: M. THORNHILL bt R. Sharman 21-10, 21-7. Women's Singles: J. BOTTRILL bt Mrs. B. Smith 21-13, 21-7.

Men's Doubles: SLIFKIN/SMITH bt Perry/Thornhill 21-14, 21-17. Women's Doubles: J. BOTTRILL/R. CONNELL bt Mrs. M. Fairhead/Mrs. Smith 21-18, 22-24, 21-9. Mixed Doubles: M. HERRING/Miss BOTTRILL bt Thornhill/Mrs. D. Walker 19-21, 21-14, 21-19.

SOMERSET NEWS

Treble and a Double

MARGARET LINDSAY (née Doonham), who played for Wiltshire last season, carried all before her to win the triple crown in the 3rd Somerset "Closed" Championships at Bath on February 15th. She won the Ladies' Doubles with Rasma Maggs and the Mixed Doubles with husband Jack.

David House retained his Men's Singles title defeating Don Smith in the Final without undue trouble. He also won the Men's Doubles with brother Bob, to add a further family touch.

The following week Mrs. Lindsay continued in good form to win the Ladies' Singles and Doubles, again with Mrs. Maggs, in the Bath "Closed." In these championships Tony Goldsack, ex-Portsmouth, had the mortifying experience of reaching four finals but failing to win one.

SOMERSET "CLOSED"

Men's Singles. Semi-finals: D. HOUSE bt J. Lindsay 24-22, 21-19; D. SMITH bt D. Hebden 21-17, 21-17. Final: HOUSE bt Smith 21-18, 21-12.

Ladies' Singles. Final: Mrs. M. LINDSAY bt Mrs. Bonner 21-14, 21-14.

Men's Doubles. Final: D. and R. HOUSE bt D. Shipton/G. Woodforde 21-13, 21-15.

Mixed Doubles. Final: J. LINDSAY/Mrs. LINDSAY bt D. Shipton/Mrs. Bonner 21-12, 21-12.

Ladies' Doubles. Final: Mrs. M. LINDSAY/Mrs. R. MAGGS bt Mrs. Bonner/Mrs. H. Fitzpatrick 21-11, 21-18.

Junior Singles. Final: M. JEFFERIES bt V. Zasiawski 21-12, 21-17.

BATH "CLOSED"

Men's Singles: D. SMITH bt A. Goldsack 21-16, 21-13, 21-4.

Ladies' Singles: Mrs. M. LINDSAY bt Miss C. Long 21-11, 21-13.



MARGARET LINDSAY

Men's Doubles: D. and R. HOUSE bt A. Goldsack/D. James 21-13, 21-17, 21-8. Ladies' Doubles: Mrs. M. LINDSAY/Mrs. R. MAGGS bt Mrs. H. Fitzpatrick/Miss G. Curtis 21-11, 18-21, 21-18.

Mixed Doubles: D. HOUSE/Miss C. LONG bt A. Goldsack/Mrs. H. Fitzpatrick 21-14, 26-24.

Junior Singles: M. JEFFERIES bt C. Hanny 21-10, 21-9.

The clash between "Top of the Table" Somerset and Staffordshire at Weston-Super-Mare on February 1 did not resolve the leadership of Division II (West) as the hard fought match resulted in a 5-5 draw. Key match in the division now becomes the Devon v. Staffordshire match, as Somerset should win comfortably against Dorset and Wiltshire.

B. Denis George.



are the makers of the official E.T.T.A. shirts which are worn by the English International Teams and the principal players in table tennis. You should wear one as well.

OBTAINABLE FROM ALL LEADING SPORTS OUTFITTERS



IRISH SCENE

SCOTS TAKE IRISH TITLES

SCOTTISH players who had, two nights earlier, trounced Ireland 7-1 in an international at Birr, swept the board at the Irish "Open" Championships, winning all the titles. And well they deserved their victories.

They played grand open table tennis, which well merited the applause received from the spectators.

Although he did not win the men's title, perhaps their most impressive player was junior, Ian Barclay.

In his earlier rounds, against really good opponents, he displayed a match sense and determination beyond his years. His open attacking style, which was based principally on a most lethal and consistent whipped forehand, repeatedly cut opponents' defences to ribbons.

After winning the Boys' Singles in most convincing manner from Irish international, Tommy Coffrey, he failed to hit top form in the men's semi-final against the eventual winner of the title, fellow Scot Bertie Kerr.

Barclay was really seen to advantage however in the men's and mixed doubles, where his quick and accurate hitting won for himself and his partners both titles.

Kerr, the new Irish champion, is of frail physique and possesses a somewhat unorthodox style. He is extremely fast around the table and it is his great fighting spirit rather than brilliant play that earned him the title. In the final he beat his team-mate J. Braithwaite by three sets to one.

In the women's event world ranking Helen Elliot defeated English international, Margaret Fry, rather

easily in a disappointing decider. She thus regains the title she last held in 1955.

Elliot and Helen Houliston completely outplayed locals Gamon and Phillips in the women's doubles final.

This Irish "Open" proved a total eclipse for Irish players. M. Behan who reached the men's semi-final could never get going against Braithwaite; the Misses Gamon and Phillips were outclassed in the women's doubles; Coffrey had no answer to Barclay's all-round superiority and V. Mercer was the weak link in the men's doubles.

Men's Singles : Semi-finals : J. BRAITHWAITE bt M. Behan 21-12, 21-13, 21-9; R. KERR bt I. Barclay 21-7, 15-21, 21-19, 27-25.

Final : KERR bt Braithwaite 21-17, 21-19, 17-21, 21-13.

Women's Singles : Final : H. ELLIOT bt M. Fry 21-17, 21-11.

Men's Doubles : Final : KERR/BARCLAY bt Mercer/Braithwaite 11-21, 21-18, 21-19, 21-14.

Women's Doubles : Final : ELLIOT/HOULISTON bt Gamon/Phillips 21-11, 21-12.

Mixed Doubles : Final : BARCLAY/Miss HOULISTON bt Braithwaite/Miss Fry 21-18, 21-10.

Boys' Singles : Final : BARCLAY bt T. Coffrey 21-10, 21-17.

Ireland's hopes of winning at least one international this season were shattered at Birr, Co. Offaly, where Scotland scored an overwhelming 7-1 victory. This was, I believe, one of the worst performances ever by an Irish side, brightened only by veteran Harry O'Prey's lone victory over Kerr.

S. Dignan.

West of England "Open"

AUBREY SIMONS won the men's singles in the West of England "open" for the fourth time, with a convincing 21-11, 21-8 victory over Laurie Landry, of Middlesex, in the final at Bristol.

After disposing of Hungarian George Muranyi, with a whirl-wind attacking display in the semi-final, Landry tried the same tactics against Simons. This suited Simons, who soon out-generalled his young opponent with his many varieties of spin and quick hits.

Mrs. Kathleen Thompson (Best) of Yorkshire, swept the board in the women's events, winning the singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles.

Margaret Fry, who just won a close semi-final against up-and-coming Lynne Whitmans of Surrey, after being 15-20 down in the decider, was no match in the final for Mrs. Thompson who won by 21-19, 21-8.

Essex "twins" T. Leverno and J. Nicholls had a "battle royal" in the Boys' Singles final. Leverno finally emerged victor 20-22, 23-21, 21-18.

RESULTS. FINALS

Men's Singles : A. SIMONS (Glos.) bt L. Landry (Mddx.) 21-11, 21-8.

Women's Singles : Mrs. K. THOMPSON (Yorks) bt M. Fry (Mddx.) 21-19, 21-8.

Men's Doubles : D. HOUSE/R. DORKING bt. D. Griffiths/M. McLeish 21-18, 21-17.

Women's Doubles : Mrs. THOMPSON/L. WHITHAMS bt D. Spooner/B. Spooner 21-13, 21-17.

Mixed Doubles : HOUSE/Mrs. THOMPSON bt Landry/Miss M. Austin 14-22, 21-14.

Boys' Singles : T. LEVERNO (Essex) bt J. Nicholls (Essex) 20-22, 23-21, 21-18.

Girls' Singles : S. MORGAN (Wales) bt J. Butcher (Mddx.) 16-21, 21-15, 22-20.

Cheshire Junior "Open"
Championships

(at Birkenhead)

Boys' : E. TAYLOR bt G. Livesey 21-18, 21-13. **Girls' :** M. HICKS bt D. Wright 21-18, 21-18. **Boys' :** W. BARKER/W. TAYLOR bt J. Keogh/D. Parry 15-21, 21-15, 21-17. **Girls' :** M. HICKS/J. KOEHNKE bt D. Wright/A. Johnson 21-13, 16-21, 21-16. **Mixed :** M. CREMER/M. HICKS bt L. Gordon/G. Livesey 21-17, 21-18.

Worcestershire Championships
Finals

Men's Singles : R. LUSH bt J. Smith 21-17, 21-11, 21-14. **Women's Singles :** Mrs. B. SHAMMON bt Mrs. J. Lloyd 21-11, 21-19.

Men's Doubles : LUSH/SMITH bt C. R. Davies/Gwilliam 21-18, 21-18. **Women's Doubles :** Mrs. SHAMMON/Mrs. LLOYD bt S. Melley/R. Kidley 21-12, 22-20. **Mixed Doubles :** R. GOODE/Mrs. LLOYD bt Lush/Mrs. Shammon 23-21, 21-15.

Junior Singles : C. J. MAPP bt R. Senter 21-19, 12-21, 21-16. **Veteran Singles :** R. LEWIS bt C. Jarvis 21-18, 21-11.