

DECEMBER, 1957

NINEPENCE

TABLE TENNIS

The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association



EDDIE TAYLOR, 16, of Sunderland,
Surprise leader of the new Junior Ranking List



Seasonal Greetings to all Readers



Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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No. 3

A BIG RISK

IN these days when the public are becoming more than ever liability conscious, sports promoters must spare a thought to the consequences should a spectator, or even a player for that matter, meet with an accident. They could find themselves faced with a heavy bill for damages.

The big promoters of course are well aware of this and guard against it by insurance. But how many table tennis associations, leagues or clubs putting on shows give any thought to this question? Very few, I doubt. Yet it is a real risk.

The National Executive Committee have had their attention drawn to this by the Essex secretary and have been making full enquiries into the whole matter, seeking expert advice.

It appears that national or county associations or individual leagues or clubs staging a public event are liable for the spectators, players and officials, etc.

The liability may, however, be limited in respect to spectators only by clearly inserting on the ticket, "*No liability whatsoever is accepted by the association, their members, servants or officers for any loss, damage, or injury to spectators or their property howsoever caused.*"

Such notices should also be exhibited in cloak-rooms, and at the pay desk of "pay-at-the-door functions."

OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY

The owner of a hall hired for an event would be liable on his contract with the promoters if he let it in a dangerous condition and would probably be liable to indemnify the promoters against damage caused by his, the owner's, negligence.

In the event of a person, and this includes a player, sustaining an injury his claim is against the occupiers of the premises where the injury occurred if he can prove that the accident was **caused by failure to take reasonable care. It would be an action against the particular Club, League**

or Association concerned as promoters and occupiers and not against the owner of the hall and E.T.T.A. as had been suggested.

On the question of food poisoning this is a matter of legal liability on the part of the supplier.

It had been suggested that the E.T.T.A. should effect an insurance to cover all affiliated clubs, but this is not necessary. Our expert, however, takes the view that any event of any size should be separately insured against legal liability for any claim and that this should be made a condition precedent to any event being allocated or approved. The cost is small and cover can easily be effected.

It is also advisable to guard against damage to property by persons attending an event. This would depend on the circumstances of each particular case and the risk could also be included in any insurance cover taken out.

ALL TOGETHER

The cheapest way of insurance, however, would obviously be collectively with all clubs getting together to take out a policy in the name of the E.T.T.A. A premium for such a scheme would possibly work out as low as 1s. 6d. per club, but this figure would of course be determined by the number of clubs participating.

Obviously the budget of the E.T.T.A. would not stand for them taking out the insurance without a cost to the clubs, for based on a total of 8,000 clubs this would mean £600.

Clubs must give serious thought to this question and not wait until after a claim has been made.

Congratulations to Ann Haydon on her successes in the Scandinavian championships. Judging by her victories in the women's singles, where she beat Agnes Simon, and won the doubles with Eva Koczian, the switch from sponge to rubber has no adverse effect on her game. She is still Europe's No. 1 woman.

HARRISON EDWARDS.

Official News:

THE National Executive Committee met in the Council Chamber of the Royal Empire Society on November 2, 1957. Some points of interest discussed were:—

I.T.T.F. Handbook Supplement.

A communication has been received from Mr. H. Roy Evans that the 1957/58 I.T.T.F. Handbook supplement (English Language) is now available and can be purchased at the price of 1/- per copy. Members wishing to obtain a copy should write direct to the Secretary of the International Table Tennis Federation at 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff, Wales, enclosing the appropriate remittance.

Permanent Table Tennis Library.

National Executive Committee member Mr. L. S. Woollard has undertaken to pursue the question of commencing a permanent table tennis library so that the Association's archives are as complete as any other Association's in the World. Would members interested in donating any book which they feel would be of interest, please communicate with Mr. Woollard at 12, Campbell Road, Bedford.

National Executive Committee Members' PASSES.

Arising out of a discussion, it was agreed to draw the country's attention as a whole to the fact that each member of the National Executive Committee has been issued with an official pass. This pass entitles the member concerned to gain admittance to Open Tournaments and Representative events sanctioned by this Association. It is hoped that all organisers of such events will recognise the validity of these passes and admit members of the Committee without trouble.

Scandinavian Championships.

Ann Haydon, Richard Bergmann, and Johnny Leach were invited to take part in the Scandinavian Championships in Stockholm from November 29 to December 1, 1957.

National Coaching Committee Appointment.

Approval was given to the nomination made by the National Coaching Committee that Mr. L. G. Adams become a member of that Committee.

National Umpires.

Approval was given to the appointment of Messrs. G. James, E. G. White and C. Corti Woodcock as National Umpires. This makes the total of National Umpires now 19.

Wilmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl Competitions.

No communication has yet been received from any of our members asking permission to stage the Semi-finals and Finals of either of the above named National Competitions. The date for the Semi-finals and Final of each event is February 22, 1958, and it would be appreciated if any League interested would make application as soon as possible to stage these events.

Time Clocks.

The Association has received, as a gift, from the German Table Tennis Association, two time Clocks which are suitable for use in time limit matches. These clocks are for use in the forthcoming English Open Championships but applications from our members to use them would be given consideration.

Mr. D. Cartland.

The Association has received notification from the Executive Committee of the United States Table Tennis

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.

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

Association that Mr. Douglas Cartland, of New York, has been placed on temporary and indefinite suspension. The suspension, effective as from October 10, 1957, precludes his participation in all U.S.T.T.A. and International Table Tennis Federation activities.

Coaching Rally.

It was reported that in conjunction with the Preston League, the hon. Director of Coaching, Mr. J. Carrington, has arranged a North of England Coaching Rally. The suggested and probable date for the rally is March 9, 1958.

English Open Championships.

As already reported these Championships will take place on March 24 to 29, 1958. Arrangements have been made to stage the meeting at Manor Place Baths, London, S.E.17,

on March 24, 25, 26, and 27, and at the Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley, Middlesex, on March 28 and 29, 1958.

A communication will be sent to all Clubs and Leagues shortly after Christmas 1957 giving details of special party rates for the Finals of the Championships at Wembley. Reductions are being made for orders of 12 or more higher priced tickets on both March 28 and 29.

It is early days to know who is likely to take part but it will be noted that the Championships are to be held very shortly after the European Championships in Budapest and together with this fact, invitations have already been sent to the players of Hungary, Rumania, Japan, China and Russia.

Clubs and Leagues are advised to state their requirements as soon as possible after receipt of the communication as certain priced seats usually sell rather quickly. In the event of a demand for any particular price of seat being in excess of the number available the proportionate allocation will be made.

Official Handbook

The official Handbook for season 1957/58 is now being dispatched to all Leagues. We are grateful to the printers for their kind co-operation in arranging for the Handbook to be out at the same time this season as last, although this year's Handbook contains greater detail.

Club Competitions.

Many of our members are now writing in, asking for permission to run Club Competitions and the total number duly permitted within a week of the literature being sent out from the E.T.T.A. office was 25.

This is most gratifying and it is hoped that many more of our Clubs will return the BLUE card to the E.T.T.A. office, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, stating that they wish to have permission to stage such a Competition.

The Competitions can take one of 15 different types, singles or doubles, all of which are noted on the BLUE card.

If your Club has not run a Competition, then ask your secretary to organise one; alternatively, if your secretary does not know the details of how the Competitions work, then please ask him/her to write to the E.T.T.A. straight away.

Each Competition helps to gather further finance in the World Championships Travelling Expenses Fund which will doubtless be needed when our players next have to travel to Asia to compete in the World Championships.

Practice Session.

On December 21, 1957, the National Selection Committee have arranged a Practise Tournament for some of the Association's leading players. It is to be held at the 290th Regiment R.A. (City of London) T.A., Artillery House, Handel Street, London, W.C.1. Play will commence at approximately 10 a.m. and continue until 6 p.m. Any of our members interested in attending can apply to the E.T.T.A. office for a Complimentary Ticket which will be forwarded as soon as possible after application is received.

Belgian Open.

Notification has been received that dates of the Belgian Open Championships have been changed from February 1 and 2 to February 8 and 9, 1958.

Open Tournaments.

It is felt desirable to again draw the attention of our members to the fact that all Open Tournaments this season have been placed into one of two categories (Unrestricted and Restricted) based on the facts supplied by organisers regarding the playing conditions. The following definitions apply—

UNRESTRICTED. *The Unrestricted Tournaments are those which have*

been able to satisfy the Open Tournaments Committee that they are able to comply with the playing conditions as laid down under Regulation 12, page 50 of the 1957/58 E.T.T.A. Handbook and are open to all affiliated members of the E.T.T.A. and I.T.T.F.

RESTRICTED. *The Restricted Tournaments are those which have not been able to satisfy the Open Tournaments Committee that they are able to comply with the playing conditions as laid down under Regulation 12, page 50 of the 1957/58 E.T.T.A. Handbook and are limited to affiliated members of the E.T.T.A. only, and no other Association, which includes Ireland, Scotland and Wales.*

It should be noted that the Unrestricted and Restricted categories do not have any bearing upon the racket standardisation experiment. In both types of Open Tournament the experimental standardisation of the racket law applies.

Registered Members.

The following Registered Members applications for 1957/58 have been approved.

G. Alderton (Warwicks).
D. C. Burridge (Middx).
S. Boros (Middx).
Mrs. D. Collins (Middx).
G. R. Cooper (Hants).
E. J. Filby (Surrey).

B. J. Fretwell (Sussex).
Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks).
A. A. Haydon (Warwicks).
M. Kriss (Warwicks).
J. A. Leach (Essex).
J. H. Lines (Warwicks).
B. Merrett (Glos).
A. R. Miller (Surrey).
Miss P. Mortimer (Warwicks).
A. Rhodes (Middx).
Miss J. Rook (Surrey).
A. W. C. Simons (Glos).
R. L. Sharman (Middx).
J. H. Tabbener (Kent).
R. A. Warner (Warwicks).

Team Selection.

v. Ireland (Mixed Seniors). December 5th, 1957. Belfast. A. Rhodes (Middx.), B. Merrett (Glos.), I. Harrison (Glos.), Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks) and Mrs. D. Collins (Middx.) Non playing Captain R. J. Crayden (Surrey).

TABLE TENNIS

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STANDARDISATION OF THE RACKET

E.T.T.A. Memorandum

AS a contribution to the necessary deliberations on this complex problem, the E.T.T.A. is circulating to all members of the International Table Tennis Federation a Memorandum explaining the viewpoints on which it has based its appeal for world-wide standardisation.

The following extracts indicate some of the salient points in the Memorandum:—

PROPOSED STANDARDISATION OF THE RACKET

We are pleased to note from the Japan T.T.A.'s memorandum dated 16th September that in certain circumstances Japan would agree that definition of the Racket would be necessary.

We agree with J.T.T.A. that the sponge and "special" rackets are more powerful in play than the traditional "thin-rubber" (pimpled) racket-coverings.

We agree that "sponge" is a technical advance—in manufacture, but unfortunately we do not think it leads to a technical advance in play.

It is a great change, a development, but is it really an **improvement**? We believe it makes Table Tennis less pleasant to play, and to watch.

For example, a paint-spraying machine is "more powerful" than a paint-brush, but does it encourage such artistry, or give such enjoyment?

We feel strongly that a universal sport like Table Tennis must be allowed to retain its enjoyment and its artistry. PROBLEMS AND ARGUMENTS LIKE THESE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US, LEADING TO DIS-UNION, UNTIL LAW 4 IS MADE MORE PRECISE TO PROTECT THE QUALITIES AND CHARACTER OF OUR SPORT FROM SERIOUS AND SUDDEN CHANGES WITHOUT CONSULTATION.

To simplify discussion, we suggest that it be considered in two stages, namely:—

Stage 1 . . . WHY IS IT DESIRABLE TO CONTROL THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RACKET?

Stage 2 . . . WHAT DEGREE AND METHOD OF CONTROL ARE DESIRABLE AT THE PRESENT TIME?

Stage 1

Reasons in favour of a Definition of the Racket have both a Sporting aspect and a Logical aspect.

(a) **The Sporting Aspect:** We think all sportsmen will agree that HUMAN QUALITIES should always have much more importance than the qualities of the IMPLEMENT.

The present rule permits players to investigate new and more powerful rackets (even force-assisted) and in our experience, when they do this, they are not in the least thinking of "improving the game of Table Tennis."

They are thinking only of gaining advantage for themselves.

To be properly Sporting, the opportunities of gaining personal ADVANTAGE - from - MATERIALS must be **strictly limited**. Advantages should only be possible by improvement of the HUMAN QUALITIES or SKILLS.

In Sport, too, matters of Tradition and the passing-on of experience from old to young, have important cultural value.

This is why I.T.T.F. has protected the character of the game by requiring a three-fourths majority for any proposed change.

But, owing to the mistaken looseness of Law 4, any minority, or even a **single player**, can at once cause a drastic change in the character and style of the game — by introducing a new IMPLEMENT.

FOR THE BEST SPORTING REASONS, THEREFORE, WE URGE THAT THE PLAYING IMPLEMENT SHOULD BE CLOSELY CONTROLLED — AS ARE ALL OTHER FEATURES OF THE GAME.

(b) **The Logical Aspect:** All sports consist of competitive human efforts, under certain agreed conditions. These agreed conditions form, in effect, a mathematical equation between the Possibilities and the Difficulties in each sport.

In Table Tennis, the important factors in the Equation are:—

The TABLE . . . Its construction and Measurements.

The BALL . . . Its construction and Measurements.

The NET . . . Its construction and Measurements.

(Other factors, less important, include Playing Space, Lighting Strength, Service Restrictions.)

All these factors have been agreed, after international discussion.

IT IS NOT LOGICAL for the nations to devote so much care and thought to

these factors, while leaving uncontrolled another factor — the IMPLEMENT — which can unbalance the whole equation.

(In fact, all our existing rules and Laws have been based on the game as played with the "traditional" thin-rubber rackets.)

IT IS NOT LOGICAL to claim that more powerful rackets must improve the play. For instance, when every player has the "ultimate" powerful racket, each point may be won by a **single hit**!

IT IS NOT LOGICAL to expect players to improve their skill in pace with new materials. All recent experience shows that material development easily out-paces human ability — and that, as Implements become more effective the users become less skilled, physically.

IT IS NOT LOGICAL to claim that "faster" play is always **better** play. It can become so fast that the player has no time to plan, and the spectator no time to understand, the play. Speed is not the only thing to be admired in good Table Tennis.

IT IS NOT LOGICAL to suggest that a "free" Racket Law is desirable because it allows everybody a free choice. In fact it forces everybody to play with the latest and most powerful Racket, in self-defence.

Now the enjoyment of Table Tennis is conditioned not only by what the player plays **with**, but also by what he plays **against**. We have found that a large majority of players **do not enjoy** playing against thick-sponge, etc.

Thus when everybody is using thick-rubber or special rackets, very few people will enjoy their games of Table Tennis. This, we fear, will soon kill the general enthusiasm for Table Tennis — especially amongst those who have learned the attractions of the game with thin-rubber.

All these points suggest that there is a standard, somewhere, at which "force," "speed," "novelty," etc., cease to bring good qualities out of the players. Therefore, we recommend, new and increased methods of "force" or "speed" should only be introduced to Table Tennis under careful control.

We conclude our Stage 1 comments by observing that, if Table Tennis is to remain a universal **Sport**, the Racket must not be allowed to become too effective, so that in over-shadows the desirable qualities of HUMAN skill, effort, and enjoyment in the play.

THE RACKET SHOULD BE DEFINED NOW. BEFORE MORE DAMAGE IS DONE.

(End of December extracts)

Extracts from Stage 2, which deals with **degree** and **method** of control of the Racket, will be given in our next issue.

Footnote: The Japanese memorandum referred to above, argued that sponge and new rubbers had improved technique but that if materials did out-pace playing skills, some control might be desirable. They suggested that a thickness maximum of 8 mm. would be appropriate.

ODE FOR A SPONGER

(with apologies to Cyril Fletcher)

*Playing tennis on the table,
He's a player as long as able,
To hit or chop within the court,
For longer than he really ought.*

*During the time he's playing the game,
He may or may not make a name,
Using bats with different faces,
Putting opponents through their paces.*

*Now he's choice is much restricted,
No more sponge, its been evicted,
Pimpled rubber is the covering
For him to use when shots he's smothering.*

*Ping without the Pong is out,
Now all can hear the mighty clout;
Heavy swipe and flat return
Do not cause as much concern.*

*Spongers now have lost their weapon,
With pimpled rubber they have to reckon*

*For the players with a will,
It's once again a game of skill.*

D. C. F. Crisp
(Men's captain of Lensbury)

THE RED DEVIL

By C. J. MOORE

"I DON'T suppose you remember Sid Jenkins, do you?" asked Fred.

The rest of us in the dressing room of the Stebton Y.M.C.A. shuddered. From anyone else this would have sounded like a normal question but from Fred, our number four, it meant the start of one of his stories. And if Fred was allowed to begin a tale we were likely to stay in the dressing room all night. However we'd just beaten the Y.M.C.A. and all being in a good mood we gave him the go ahead.

"Well," he began, "All this happened a long time ago. I'm not quite sure about the date."

We nodded understandingly. Fred was never quite sure about the date. There were too many record books on the market for his liking.

"Sid Jenkins was the idol of thousands, especially around Olchester, his home town. For not only was Sid a top-ranking player, he was a personality. A real crowd-puller, if you know what I mean. It was his hair that did it. Red as a fox's brush it was, and twice as thick. The Red Devil they called him and he really was a bit of a devil at the table.

"I was a press photographer on the 'Oldchester Morning Post' at the time and I followed Sid up and down the country wherever big matches were played. Week after week, month after month, I would crouch by the table waiting for one of those fantastic shots that made him famous. After the game I often talked to him in the dressing room while he combed that great mop of hair back into place. As the years went by the hair of other players turned to grey, but not Sid's. He kept his red hair and his popularity until he was nearly forty."

"Come to the point, Fred" I said. "It's getting late." With a hurt look he continued.

The Mainstay

"Well, Sid reached the height of his career at a time when England were going through a lean spell and eventually he became our number one player for the World Championships which were to be held at Wembley. No one gave England a chance that year — our team was made up of tired old men and untried youngsters.

"However they scraped through their first match after an inspired showing by Sid who won all his games. Then another victory was marked up, and another and another until, almost before we realised what was happen-

ing, England had won their group. Sid, of course, was unbeaten in all the games."

"Of course," said Herbert our captain. Fred's heroes were never beaten. Our story teller pretended not to hear and carried on.

"Fans all over the country were flabbergasted at the way one man had guided the national team to the final. 'My money's on the Red Devil to bring us the Cup,' said the newspaper headlines. Sid was photographed everywhere he went, practising, training and even combing the famous hair. And on

BILL STAMP MEMORIAL

THE Management Committee of the Liverpool League have decided to perpetuate the name of their late Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and N.E.C. member, BILL STAMP by instituting in the League "THE STAMP AWARD" and also by launching a "STAMP MEMORIAL FUND."

The "Stamp Award" would be presented to either a player, official or club who, in the opinion of the Management Committee had rendered outstanding service to the League. It would not necessarily be awarded every season but presented only when merited, sometimes perhaps more than once in a year.

Donations to the "Stamp Memorial Fund" from any member of the League or anyone outside who had connections with the League or Mr. Stamp should be sent to: THE HON. TREASURER, MR. S. D. CAMERON, 29, DUDLOW LANE, LIVERPOOL 18, AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE.

It has been decided that the proceeds from this fund should go to providing a Teak seat, suitably inscribed, in the grounds of the Sefton General Hospital, Liverpool, with which Mr. Stamp had many connections.

The hospital have signified their appreciation of the gift and worthy sentiments that prompt it.

that memorable evening at Wembley the biggest cheer of the evening was for Sid, not a hair out of place, as he walked into the middle for the opening game.

"His opponent, a young lithe continental, had twice been World Champion but reputations did not bother Sid. He beat him three straight and England were one up.

"The next three games went against us but then Sid brought the crowd to their feet with a tremendous win after being five down in the last game. The rest of the team pulled themselves together after this and managed to level the match at four all. So it was up to Sid and his doubles partner to clinch the match for England.

"You could have heard a pin drop as they started that last game. Things didn't go too well for the English pair and after losing the first game they were soon trailing well behind in the second. Then someone in the crowd shouted to Sid's partner: 'Just get 'em back and leave the rest to the Red Devil,' and that's just what he did. The English pair recovered as Sid, his red hair all over the place, scored point after point.

"Suddenly it was all over. England had won the cup. As the umpire called 'Game and Match' officials, reporters, photographers and spectators rushed towards the table. Sid was chaired around the arena by a shouting, cheering crowd. In front of the Royal Box the procession stopped to watch Sid receive the trophy. Then it happened. Were was Sid?

Absent Hero

"I was on the outskirts of the crowd and saw it all. One minute he was there — the next he was gone. After a few minutes searching officials decided that the presentation must go on, so up stepped the England number two to receive the cup. The cheering was just reaching its height when I saw why Sid had vanished.

"There it lay, unnoticed by thousands of people. As the crowd yelled 'We want Sid. Where's the Red Devil?' I walked slowly out of that huge arena. I found him in the dressing room, sitting quietly in a corner knowing, as I did, that he had played his last game. His eyes lit up when I handed him what I had found in the arena."

"What was it?" asked Herbert and I together. Fred answered, a little sadly.

"It was a bright red wig!"

TABLE TENNIS ADDED TO ASIATIC GAMES

A Stepping Stone to Olympics

SURPRISING item of news is that the Asiatic Games, to be held in Tokyo next summer, will include table tennis. This has never before figured in the Games schedule, and the innovation is freely regarded as part of a campaign by the Japanese to get the sport on the Olympic Games itinerary.

The Japanese, as is well known, have been pressing for table tennis to be included in Olympic meetings, and they are, so it is reported, working hard to have their way. *The introduction of the table game into the Asiatic get-together is merely another indication of their eagerness to achieve this objective and the outcome is awaited with interest.*

PUZZLING

Why they should want a tournament in the Olympic Games when we have our own regular World Championships, is a puzzle which only they can answer.

Personally, I don't think the Olympic Committee will ever accept table tennis—nor, frankly, is there a single sound reason why they should.

One way and another players in the Far East are going to be very busy next year, even though there will be no World Series. Quite apart from the Asiatic Games, the Asian Championships are to be held, with Colombo as the venue.

It comes as no surprise that the Japanese stars are already in hard training and that they have their eye on scooping the bulk of all available titles, but it will be astonishing if those bouncing, quick-hitting bundles of super-energy, don't!

At the end of the month the All-India Championships are being staged at Colombo and a big entry has been received.

PLENTY OF TALENT

Meanwhile Victor Barna has just finished his coaching assignment in India and should be back in England any day now. His duties took him to Calcutta, Bangalore, Madras and Delhi, and he reports that he found an abundance of youthful talent of world-class potential.

He was very pleased to note that several of the boys and girls he coached when last in India have developed into fine players who are not only effective in action but attractive to watch.



JOSEF BERCIK

Only unpleasant feature about his trip was that he suffered a nasty bout of Asian 'flu. The complaint was appropriate enough to the terrain, anyway!

Hungarian team of Berczik, Gyetvai and Sido lost 5-3 to the Czechs. Berczik lost to Stipek, and Sido lost all his three matches.

Other Hungarian titbit is that Laszlo Foldi and Eva Koczian are reported to be in great form.

Big Hungarian news is that they have decided against sponge, but are deferring a final decision to ban it until after the European Championships in March.

FROM THE U.S.

A U.S. correspondent has written to tell me that the introduction of sponge in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, Massachusetts and New Hampshire has greatly increased interest in table tennis in general. Good for them. It would be nice if we in Europe could say the same!

Douglas Cartland, contemporary of Dick Miles and Marty Reisman, has had an indefinite suspension ban imposed on him. Cartland was one of the U.S. Swaythling team we saw over here in the 1948 World Series at Wembley.

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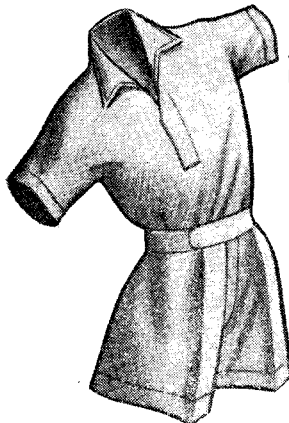
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TWO MORE LIFE MEMBERS

C. Corti Woodcock

IVOR MONTAGU, in his classic book "Table Tennis" (first published 1936) especially acknowledges the help of Mr. C. Corti Woodcock. A typical tribute of many sincerely made over many years. Yet these two men are as opposite as the poles in everything but their love for table tennis.

Corti, I.M.'s only serious contestant for office, has, in his time, sparked even more controversy than the latter, mainly for his outspoken condemnation of things bad for the game. Corti is aiming always at perfect presentation compatible to major sport; the courtesy or correct dress for players and officials; the faultless efficiency of umpires; and an expectance that public play should demonstrate the finest features of the game. In exchange, in his three years' Chairmanship of the E.T.T.A. he worked night and day, and in the end successfully won, the interest of the national press and the B.B.C.

Corti was in the game only a little later than Montagu. He was Hon. Secretary of the All-England Club when Fred Perry won the World M.S. title. With unrestrained elation, Corti immediately dashed out, bought, and presented the "St. Bride's Vase"—which remains today that most coveted of trophies for the Singles' Championship of the World.

For more than 30 years, Corti has written regularly and authoritatively on table tennis. He founded, in fact, the Official Magazine in a chain of activities fostering promotion of the game. It was in the office of Hon. Referee of the Sussex Open that he "discovered" Bill Vint, and successfully proposed him for the Treasurership. Corti it was who was the keenest proponent for taking the game to Wembley Stadium and make a great sporting spectacle of it.

Leslie Forrest

It is difficult to realise that Leslie Forrest has been a "person of authority" in the game for 35 years! He has grown old in the service of

the game which has kept him young.

The N.E.C. appointed Leslie to our Trust in his absence, and Leslie performed, as always, with integrity, zeal and loyalty. But when he discovered

that his own name was to be recommended he flatly refused! Only when the N.E.C. unanimously insisted did Leslie accept the Honour he so patently deserves.

Cheshire born, Leslie was a founder of the Barry League (in Wales) in 1922/3. Three years later (1926) he founded the Liverpool League, and for the next 10 years worked tirelessly for the game in Lancashire and Cheshire. In 1936 (to 1938) he became Assistant Secretary of the E.T.T.A. and took the Chairmanship of the Wembley League "en passant" in 1938-9. In the post-war years, he was a leading worker in the magnificent reformation work of the Yorkshire T.T.A. Was? He still is. Only last season, he organised a mammoth School Children's Tournament in Bradford, securing entries from 27 schools. Leslie was the most enthusiastic youngster of the lot.

But although wedded to Table Tennis for 35 years, Leslie has also remained true to his first love—the Y.M.C.A. Wherever he has been, T.T. and the Y.M.C.A. have gone together. Holder of many past offices, he is now a Member of Board and Council of the City of Bradford Y.M.C.A.



LESLIE FORREST

NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME

THE Coaches' Up-grading Course at Stratford (East London) on 23rd November, was attended by 25 candidates for the Basic Diploma, with several young and adult "guinea-pig" pupils standing by for the student-coaches to work on.

Candidates were instructed and examined by Jack Carrington, the E.T.T.A. Hon. Director of Coaching and Len Adams, newly elected member of the National Committee. Mr. Adams takes the place of Tommy Sears, who has worked on the Committee since the inception of the scheme in 1951.

During this meeting Diplomas were presented to A. R. Payne (an Essex candidate now affiliated to Kent), G. N. Harding (Kent), and D. H. Paul (Middlesex). In accordance with the whole spirit of the Scheme, these successful candidates put in a good day's work helping newer candidates to improve their work. Recommendations for other awards will be placed before the N.E.C.

A similar short course will be staged at LEICESTER on Saturday, January 11. Others are planned for a Lincolnshire venue, the probable date being February 22, and for PRESTON, Lancs., on either March 1/2 or March 9/10.

Candidates or potential instructors interested in the above meetings should

apply to **J. CARRINGTON, 24, Worcester Gardens, Ilford, Essex**, for fuller details, giving some information of their own experience in playing or instructing.

A Coaching Demonstration Evening at HASTINGS on October 28 was attended by six selected promising juniors and six senior leaders.

COACHING COURSES—1958

The National Coaching Committee has been asked by the Central Council of Physical Recreation to recommend coaches or assistant instructors for the following courses:—At Bisham Abbey, from April 10-17 (14 adult pupils); at Lilleshall Hall, from June 14-21 (18 adult pupils); at Lilleshall Hall, from August 17-24 (30 boys, being part of the Boys' Brigade Midland Area Camp of some 750 boys).

It is customary for all expenses and accommodation of the instructors to be met by the organising body. Anyone wishing to be considered for these appointments should apply to Mr. J. Carrington, address above.

Anyone wishing to attend as a student on one of the first two courses mentioned above, or on the other open course at Lilleshall from July 12-19, 1958, should apply promptly to the C.C.P.R., 6, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

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TONY PIDDOCK, former junior international who paved the way for Kent Schools to beat Germany.

THEY BEAT GERMANY

Kent Schools' Association, formed four years ago, recently made its debut in a national field with two matches against visiting teams to the Kent Junior "Open" Championships.

Represented by Tony Piddock and I. Pepper, both of the Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone, they beat Germany 2-1. Piddock accounted for Wolfgang Prandke 25-23, 21-15, while Pepper lost 15-21, 18-21 to Martin Ness. The same four boys then met in the doubles with Piddock and Pepper winning 21-13, 24-22.

The Schools then thrashed Glamorgan 6-0 in a mixed match. The scores were: A. Cornish (Roan School, Woolwich) beat D. Parry 21-16, 21-17; M. Pass (Harvey Grammar) beat P. Cross 19-21, 21-14, 23-21; M. Ward (Harvey Grammar) beat R. Probert 21-4, 21-14.

Miss J. Johnson (School of Art, Margate) beat Miss S. Morgan 21-14, 21-10; Pass and Ward beat Parry and Probert 21-10, 21-10; Cornish and Miss D. Downing (Sittingbourne West Secondary School) beat Parry and Miss Morgan 51-21, 21-10, 21-18.

Harvey Grammar are holders of the Schools' "under 17's" and "under 15's" team championship, while Sittingbourne West hold all three girls' team championships, "under 13's," "under 15's" and "under 17's."

Jimmy Mannooch, hon. secretary of the Schools' Association, says: "I believe we are the only County with such an association, but it has had a wonderful effect upon the junior aspect in Kent, who should now be well provided with players for many years to come!"

STAFFORDSHIRE NOTES

SUNDAY SUCCESS

THE County team were off to a fine start in their Western Division programme with a convincing 9-1 win over Dorset. Deprived at the last minute of the services of Geoff Robbins they brought in Bruno Vilunas who, although sadly lacking in match practise, was not short of spirit and came through undefeated. To enable Dorset to get back home at a reasonable hour the match was played on a Sunday afternoon and proved a great success. What a pity it is that more County matches cannot be staged at this time. Everyone felt as fresh at the conclusion as at the start. A fact especially appreciated by the umpires.

TRIPLE CROWN

The highlight in the County during November was the annual Woodfield Invitation Tournament, which has raised a considerable sum of money for charity. Star performer was Derek Backhouse of West Bromwich, who carried off the triple crown. This season Derek has been producing form, which could well mean a move towards the national ranking list.

The Ladies' singles title was retained by Mrs. D. Griffiths, of Birmingham, but in partnership with Mrs. G. Warner she created a minor sensation by going under to the Worcestershire pair Mrs. Lloyd

and Mrs. Shannon in the final of the Ladies' Doubles.

Frank Harris (Wolverhampton) repeated last year's success over Harry Spiers (Birmingham) in the Veterans' section, and the promising B. Tubb of Birmingham took the Junior title.

The county have suffered a blow with the loss of the services of E.T.T.A. coach and county captain Jimmy Hayward. He underwent an operation on November 7 and is likely to be out of action for some considerable time. His many friends will be pleased to learn that up to the time of writing he was making satisfactory progress and it is hoped he will have a speedy and complete recovery.

The National Junior Trials at Wolverhampton were certainly an eye-opener for the local officials who had not previously seen these Juniors in action. The standard was much higher than expected and as one who had the privilege of umpiring a considerable number of the girls' matches I would like to put on record their impeccable behaviour at the table. Always on the spot ready for their games, not one decision queried and a complete absence of self comment during play. (Seniors please note). Thank you, girls, you made umpiring a real pleasure.

Alec Backhouse.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Unrestricted)

Public Baths, Gloucester
SATURDAY, 1st FEB., 1958
(Closing date for entries Jan. 12th)

ALL EVENTS
Excellent conditions

FINALS: 7 p.m.
(Admission: 3/6, 2/6, 1/6)

Entry forms and details:-

L. Davis, 8 Westfield Avenue,
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STRONG NOTTS. CHALLENGE

NOTTINGHAM must be the most improved side in this season's U.A.U. team championship, which reaches the semi-final stage this month. They have won the Midland Division, convincingly beating Leicester, Loughborough, and Birmingham. Star of the Notts team is Valentyik, their No. 1, who has gone through the programme unbeaten so far.

In the South, Bristol meet Reading for a semi-final place, both having beaten Southampton and Exeter. A good win was that of Derek Eneas of Bristol over K. Daniel of Southampton, winner of the U.A.U. individual title in 1955-56. Eneas, who comes from Portsmouth, is a well known tennis player and looks a possibility for U.A.U. representative honours.

News from the Welsh Division indicates that Cardiff will qualify to meet either Bristol or Reading.

In the North, where the division is split into two parts, Leeds and Manchester fight it out to play Durham, who have convincingly beaten Hull and Sheffield. The winner will meet Nottingham in a match which will probably decide the whole competition.

The U.A.U. individual championships will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, January 25. If secretaries have trouble getting entry forms they should write to the U.A.U. office—the closing date is January 10.

U.A.U. results:—Southampton 6, Bristol 9, Southampton 7, Reading 8, Bristol 14, Exeter 1, Reading 13, Exeter 2, Nottingham 10, Leicester 5, Nottingham 11, Loughborough 4, Nottingham 13, Birmingham 2, Cardiff 7, Bangor 5, Bangor 8, Aberystwyth 7, Liverpool 6, Leeds 9, Durham 15, Sheffield 0, Durham 14, Hull 1, Hull 8, Sheffield 7.

WELSH CORNER

MIXED FORTUNES

November matches in the National County Championship brought Glamorgan mixed fortune.

At the Treharris Boys' Club on November 2nd we fought back to wrest a draw from Essex, chiefly as a result of defeats unexpectedly inflicted on Bobbie Raybould by both Norman Parker and John Simonson. Shirley Jones was also in good form against Barbara Milbank, while the doubles win of Norman Parker and Ronnie Davies was probably the turning point of the game.

This should have been an inspiration for our long trip to Bradford, especially as Yorkshire had not been doing well. Unfortunately our mostly defensive type of play was just what they wanted and we were well beaten. Even Shirley Jones, tamely, surrendered the initiative to Kathleen Best, and never at any time controlled the trend of the game.

Our next encounter is with Champion County, Middlesex, and we shall need to play with a great deal more resolution if we are to make any impression on them. The match is being staged in the Gymnasium of the Porth Y.M.C.A., a new venue which looks extremely good, and it is hoped that Rhondda enthusiasm will receive a much needed filip as a result.

A BAD DAY

Our mixed international match with England is fixed for January 24th, at Aylesbury. There seems to be an increasing trend on the part of the other home countries to fix these matches for Fridays. The reason advanced is: demand on halls for Saturdays for dances and other such functions. Although the Friday solution may suit the home team it certainly makes it difficult for our players to get time off. However, in present circumstances there

appears to be no other way out.

In home circles the season's programme is taking more shape. Swansea, who left the fixing of their "Open" Tournament until too late, will be holding it in the New Year, while Port Talbot, who have at last got their league going, have also applied to hold an "Open" event. Arrangements for Cardiff's "Open" on December 14, at the Llandaff North Drill Hall, are well in hand.

Entry forms for the Club team championship of Wales will be available shortly. This is an event for teams of three playing on Swaythling Cup lines, and gives clubs from different leagues the chance to meet each other.

With the later rounds often dominated by the same clubs, it was decided to exclude international and county players, to strike a more even balance. This has not brought the increased entry expected and it may well be that the event will once more be open to players of all grades.

In the Welsh League, Swansea, the champions, although not apparently as strong as last season, are maintaining a strong front against the challenge of Newport and Cardiff.

At one time it looked as though Barry, who were reinstated in Division I following the withdrawal of Mumbles, were going to be the shock team. They started off with wins over Cardiff, Abergavenny and Aberdare. However, the fact that George Evans is not always available is undoubtedly a handicap for without him they lost to Newport and Swansea.

Cardiff, who it might be thought were strong enough to field a good Welsh League side despite simultaneous Western County commitments, find that this is not so, and initial defeats by Barry and Eastern Valleys have rather spoilt their chances. It's true they beat Swansea, with a weakened side, but a 5-4 home win did not look too good when they just scraped home at 5-4 against Abergavenny.

Newport are having a better season. Their important clash with Swansea has been postponed, while their match with Cardiff is not this month.

Aberdare are probably not doing as well as they had hoped. Cardiff Public Services, after an initial defeat of Eastern Valleys, and a 2-7 loss to Swansea are plagued by an exasperating run of 4-5 losses.

Jack Price is having his problems at Abergavenny, too. Clive Arkell is putting up some good performances, but David Parry appears to be confusing himself and everyone else about his future in the game.

KENT NOTES

ETHERIDGE RETIRES

NO player has done more for the steady rise in Kent's table tennis fortunes than Ron Etheridge. An automatic choice for the county since making his debut in his late "twenties," he marked up his 50th appearance in the match against Hampshire on December 7, then announced his retirement from the first team.

Fittingly this match was played in Bromley before his home crowd. He has been the Bromley "closed" champion for eight successive years and has been given the cup "for keeps."

Kent now look well on the way for promotion to the Premier Division and Etheridge has chosen this time to step out so that some of the rapidly improving youngsters can be groomed for the matches in the higher sphere.

Etheridge, currently ranked No. 2 in Kent, is also a county selector, and non-playing captain of the Second team. He was Kent "closed" champion from 1949 to 1954 and is still one of the most

feared players in the county.

He has now taken on several administrative posts, but intends to go on playing in club and league matches.

The First Division of the Kent League seems to be developing into a three-cornered fight between the "A" teams of Bromley, N.W. Kent and Woolwich. After the recent Bromley v. Woolwich draw, the top positions are:

	P	W	D	L	Games	Pts.
N.W. Kent	3	3	0	0	19-11	6
Bromley	3	2	1	0	22-8	5
Woolwich	3	2	1	0	19-11	5

All the other 7 sides in the division have already suffered defeats.

Sweet 17

It is pointed out that a slip up by the Kent press officer was responsible for two of Kent's young players being described as "18-year-olds" in his column. In fact, neither Tony Piddock (Folkestone) nor Julie Johnson (Broadstairs) will be 18 until sometime in 1958. It's just that they play like veterans!

HARRY VENNER

England and Surrey

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MITCHAM, SURREY.

ESSEX WORST EVER START

ONLY one point from their first two matches puts Essex at the foot of the Premier Division table and gives them the worst start to a season they have had for many years.

This single point came from their 5-5 draw with Glamorgan which although very exciting—all ten matches went the full distance—was also disappointing because Bobby Raybould, playing for the first time at No. 1, was well below form, losing both his singles.

Johnny Leach returned to the side for the match against Surrey but although he won both his singles Essex were never really in the hunt eventually losing 3-7. Brian Brumwell gained the only other Essex success by beating Tony Miller.

Essex fared even worse in the Bernard Crouch Trophy losing 4-5 to Middlesex and 3-6 to Surrey.

Peter Pudney, who has recently married and now lives in Southend, showed the best form, beating Eddie Hodgson in the first match and both Michael Maclaren and "Spike" Sheldon in the second.

Several of the county's juniors went to Ramsgate for the Kent Junior "Open" championships and met mixed fortunes.

Diane Oakley, taking part in her first ever tournament, partnered Pauline Martin, runner-up in the "under 13" singles, to win the "under 13" doubles title.

Jim Nichols and Lionel Parks also

took part but were both eliminated by England's No. 1, Eddie Taylor. A somewhat similar fate awaited Shelagh Hession being beaten in all three events by the eventual winners.

East London League have once again made a good start in the Premier Division of the Essex Leagues Cham-

pionships by defeating Barking 8-2. They are now strongly fancied to retain the title, especially as Ilford, last year's runners-up, dropped a point to Romford.

They will, however, have a much harder task in the junior division, a title which they have always held. Romford have a very strong side this season and have defeated Southend by 9-1.

Frank Bateman.

DURHAM PROVIDE No. 1 BOY

THE highlight of the month, from Durham's point of view, has been Eddie Taylor's brilliant performance at the England Junior Trials which gained him top position in the ranking list and a place in England's Junior team to meet Germany.

Eddie is only the second junior international we have had — Gordon Lumsden played against Wales in the 1952-53 season — and though unknown down south has for several years been much feared by north-eastern players.

Our other representative at these trials, 14-years-old Wilf Baker, was not so successful, winning only one of his games. However he has two more years as a junior and may well make the international grade during that time, particularly if he maintains the standard he set in the Hartlepoons "Open" where he reached the final of the "under 18"

singles and the quarter-finals of the men's singles.

In the latter event he beat Keith Holland, the reigning County Champion, who had earlier disposed of Lumsden.

Taylor had a rather disappointing tournament, losing to Sheffield's Johnson in the first round of the junior singles and K. Heslop of Northumberland in the 3rd round of the men's singles. Nevertheless he did quite well in the doubles, first with Gordon Lumsden and then Alma Johnson.

The men's section of the Durham Senior League may well be settled when the two unbeaten sides, Stockton (the holders) and Sunderland, meet at T.L.F. This game is also expected to have some bearing on the selection of the County side to play against Northumberland, but Lumsden and Holland, if available, seem likely to be playing.

Arnold Warentz.

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IRISH SCENE

ALLEN WINS AGAIN

CHAMPIONSHIPS here are now well under way, and judging by the results to date it seems as though Ulster will sweep the board in most of the major tournaments.

A very strong contingent travelled to Dublin for the Leinster "Open" and returned with all the senior trophies.

Ernie Allen, who had earlier defeated Harry O'Prey in the final of the Co. Down "Open"—taking about 2½ hours to do so—repeated the dose here in a game that fell away after a bright start.

Allen seems to be playing much more steadily now than ever before, and has revealed a tremendous fighting spirit and tenacity of purpose. The manner in which he overcame O'Prey was a pleasure to watch. He worked for his opening before delivering the winning stroke and under this policy of hitting—waiting—hitting, O'Prey's defence slowly wilted.

In his semi-final against the leader of Leinster's inter-provincial side, Mick Behan, Allen got on top right from the

hoped that he may be persuaded to change his mind.

Leinster's leading lady, Deidre Fearon has also intimated that she will not be playing in championships this season, and it now seems that 15-year-old Vivian Lambert will come to the fore through lack of opposition.

Miss Lambert is a very promising youngster but has a lot to learn, and a quick promotion may do her more harm than good.

For quite some time now I have been harping on the fact that championship table tennis, in Leinster particularly, is slowly but surely dying. This was borne out by the attendances at the Co. Dublin and Leinster "Open" events.

The halls, apart from the players taking part, were almost empty, and even competitors who were beaten in the early rounds took no further interest in the proceedings—not even on "finals" night.

I have been trying to put my finger on the reason for this apathy, but cannot, and neither can the harassed officials who work so hard to make these events a success.

In my opinion, and in the opinion of some of the people who take a great interest in the game in Leinster, complete reorganisation is necessary, and a fresh outlook required, if the decline is to be arrested.

I have talked to several of the leading players and they too seem to have lost interest—a position that constitutes grave peril for the game.

It is to be hoped that a blind eye is not being turned to the position and that something will be done quickly.

S. Dignam.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

TWO interesting items are on the agenda for Leeds Executive Committee's next meeting.

First they will consider the case of the abandoned match. University "D" were leading G.P.O. "D" 5-3 when in walked the caretaker. "Time to lock up," he said, and remained adamant despite the protests. It seems likely that this Division Five match will be replayed.

Second, they will consider the odd case of Phil Sladdin.

He has been match secretary of Castleford and Pontefract League for a few years but joined G.P.O. in the Leeds League last season. In inter-league events he continued to represent C/P.

Leeds shook everybody when they selected Phil to play for them in the first inter-league match of this season—against C/P! Phil told Leeds he would not be playing FOR them. Instead he played AGAINST them. And he beat Ken Park and helped Stan Dunford to a doubles win over Kennedy and Spencer! Leeds nevertheless won, 7-3.

Leeds also beat Huddersfield "B" 8-1 and the sights of their second team are trained on Division One, where only

Huddersfield have two resident teams. They started with a runaway 9-1 win over Rotherham and added a 6-4 triumph over York, for whom Jack Senescall and Dave Poole each won two.

Huddersfield, champions for six years, brushed aside promoted Hull's challenge 10-0.

In 24 hours Bradford completed a notable double at Sheffield. The men's 6-4 victory included the straight games conquest of Maurice Simpson by Maurice Pitts and two wins by Hans Soova. In the women's meeting next evening Bradford won 8-2.

Bradford Women also beat Knaresborough 9-1 and Betty Clough defeated county girl Jean Preston 14-21, 22-20, 21-16. But the leading ladies of Leeds—deprived of the championship only once since 1951—started with 10-0 trots against Knaresborough and Huddersfield "B."

In Hull Youths' 8-2 win over Scarborough present county junior Dave McGee beat past county junior John Moorhouse in straight games.

Stepping to the fore in Huddersfield is hard-hitting Trevor Cockcroft (R.A.F.A. "A") who was unbeaten in the first month of league play and won both his sets for Huddersfield "B" in their 7-3 success against Bradford.

Back in the Bradford League is Mrs. Joan Farnsworth. As Miss Bycroft she won the county singles in 1954 and has represented Yorkshire 22 times. She is playing for Y.W.C.A. and has won three of four sets for Bradford Women, her only defeat being to Jean Preston in three games.

Sheffield's Graham Lynch won the Merseyside Open junior singles only a week after taking the Hull Open title.

Malcolm Hartley.

WESTERN COUNTIES BULLETIN

NEWPORT opened their season with a home victory over Bath by 6-2. Bath unfortunately were without L. Lindsay and A. Goldsack, both victims of Asian 'Flu, and this undoubtedly made a big difference to their side, though Jack Butcher, one of the reserves, put up a good fight against A. Narduzzo before going down 21-23 in the third.

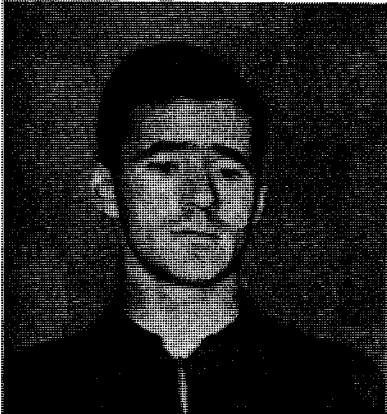
With Lindsay and Goldsack back in the team and both winning their matches, Bath were comfortable winners at 6-2 against Bristol II.

Cardiff were away to a good start with an 8-0 win over Weston, but later crashed 1-7 to Birmingham, their only success being in the doubles with B. Dimascio and P. Crowley. For the rest of the matches Birmingham were much too strong.

In the under 21's league Bath drew 4-4 with Newport. This provided plenty of excitement, particularly in the mixed doubles, which Bath won 22-20, 22-20 to force the draw. Five of the eight matches went to three games.

Bath later marked up a 5-3 win at the expense of Bristol, when Miss Curtis beat Miss Bye, and A. Rixon and Miss Fraser overcame D. Porter and Miss Moget in the last two events to clinch the match.

Grove Motlow.



SEAN CLARKIN

start and never allowed his opponent time to settle down.

O'Prey defeated Colin Senior in the other semi, and then these two in partnership came from behind to beat Don Mahony and Behan in the men's doubles decider—a title the Leinster men should have taken.

Miss Jean Lynn has improved vastly since last season and with her smashing forehand drives and neat backhand flick she completely outplayed the more methodical Mrs. Dowds to take the women's title.

Sean Clarkin did not play in the championship and neither was he available for selection in Leinster's inter-provincial team. In fact it is rumoured that he intends to retire from the game at the end of the season.

He won the Co. Dublin championship earlier on, and he may be taking part in the East of Ireland event which is promoted by his own club, Anglesea.

Sean's retirement would be a great loss to the game in Ireland and it is

MIDDX. JUNIORS LEAD 29-1

MIDDLESEX have made a good start towards retaining the senior and junior inter-County titles. The first team however, have a tough programme ahead with games against Lancashire, Yorkshire, Essex and Gloucester in the New Year.

The current form of the players keeps hopes high, especially if Alan Rhodes maintains his present power.

The juniors have a games average of 29 to 1 and show great promise. Special congratulations to all (and it is nearly the complete team) who appear in the first national junior ranking list.

The Middlesex coaching scheme which has been in operation some years, and which has recently been extended to seniors under the watchful eye of Victor Barna, is returning good dividends.

The inter-League tournaments are well under way although it is early to forecast the likely outcome. In the Premier Division, North Acton, with yet another imported player, must be well placed to retain their championship title, while in the Second Division it is anybody's guess how the struggle between newly relegated Staines first team and the second teams of the other leagues will work out.

South West Middlesex must stand a good chance of winning Division 3, in which they were runners-up last season. In the junior section it is the turn of North Middlesex to win this season in the event in which they and Willesden appear to have a monopoly.

Six matches will be played by each county in the Bernard Crouch Trophy this season. Middlesex won the game against Essex by 5-4 in the first encounter of the programme.

Several county umpires have accepted nominations for the 'National Umpires' test and there are hopes that there will be a few more Middlesex names to be added to the select band. Volunteers to umpire at all events in the county are always required from those on the Middlesex list. Above all if you receive an enquiry from Iris Moss, our new Umpires' Secretary, it should be helpful comment (and even polite) to let her have a reply. A blunt remark perhaps, but unfortunately applicable in many cases.

YOUTHS' SCHEME FLOURISHING

It is pleasing to be able to report that the scheme to affiliate the many Youth Leagues operating under the auspices of the Middlesex County Council is beginning to get under way. Nearly 50 per cent. of these leagues are now in "good standing" and it is hoped to inaugurate an inter-Borough tournament very soon. The object of the scheme is to increase the interest of the many young people concerned, in the activities of the County Association and of the E.T.T.A.

If the idea progresses satisfactorily and the objects are achieved it is hoped that the E.T.T.A. will ultimately amend its rules to allow the full affiliation of



ALAN RHODES

these organisations. It is felt that a lot of good can result from the scheme and Middlesex would welcome the views and experience of our counties in this sphere of activity.

Last, but by no means least, the date of the "Closed" is February 8/9, 1958 at the Ultra Electric Canteen, Western Avenue. Entry forms have been circulated and if you have still not received one contact Geoff James immediately. The usual volunteers for assistance, particularly umpiring, are strongly invited.

Norman Reeve.

CAMBS. FAIL

DESPITE a determined effort to register their first-ever success in the Southern Division of the County Championship, Cambs. were defeated 6-4 by Bedfordshire in their opening match of the season.

Chris Reeve lost to Dennis Ironmonger in the first match and then to the great disappointment and surprise of the Cambs. supporters John Cornwell lost to Peter Holroyd.

However, John made amends later by defeating Colin Crowe and, partnered by John Thurston, gaining a convincing doubles victory against Crowe and Holroyd. The recovery, however, came too late.

The Cambs. women performed well, winning the doubles with Margaret Cornwell and Avis Pauley, while Heather Mitchell gave a creditable display but just failed to clinch her singles match against Joan Whiting.

A good fight is in progress for the leading position in Division I of the Cambs. League. New Chesterton Institute who beat Wesley, their strongest challengers by the odd game, are, at present at the top but can expect tough opposition right to the end of the season.

The U.S. Air Force, Lakenheath, lead Division V by a comfortable margin and have some attractive players in their ranks.

In a friendly game against Cambridge University, Cambs. "A" won 7-3, J. Loker winning both his singles.

Wilburton, closely followed by Littleport, are leading the Ely and District League.

Leslie Constable.

BURNLEY VACATE TITLE

The Lancashire and Cheshire League are running nine Divisions, comprising six for Men, two for Ladies and one for Juniors.

Burnley, winners of Division I Ladies last season, have not entered a team. This is unfortunate, especially for their promising young player Ivy Haney, who recently reached the semi-final of the East of England, losing to Yvonne Baker, and later put up a hard fight in the North of England before falling to Joyce Fielder in a close third game.

Lancashire appear to have made a wise move by including her in their team. With youth on her side and with experience she should prove an asset to the County.

Manchester men are all out to retain their place at the head of Division I, while their Ladies' Team are fully bent on recapturing the place they lost to Burnley last season, having already beaten Wirral 9-1 and Bury 8-2, Lorna Bown holding to date an unbeaten record.

Dolly Wilkinson makes a welcome return to the northern scene and will be of valuable assistance both to Cheshire and to Manchester. She is now the proud mother of a fine looking son. Her baby sitters, by the way, on match nights are Manchester Chairman, G. H. Jones and Mrs. Jones.

Eileen Grimstone.

MIDLAND 'OPEN' CHAMPIONSHIPS (Unrestricted)

Friends Institute, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12

7th/8th February, 1958

(Closing date for entries 27th January, 1958)

ALL EVENTS

Excellent conditions and prizes.

FINALS 7 p.m.

Admission 5/-. 3/6d. 2/6d.

Entry forms and details: M. Goldstein, Esq., 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.

GLOS. EXPERIMENT PAYS

WITH an eye to the future the Gloucestershire selectors decided to "blood" two young players in the Women's Doubles event during their match against Sussex.

This experiment paid dividends and was a personal success for 16-year-old Adrienne Cox, of Cheltenham, and 20-year-old Betty Morley, the wife of former junior international, Roy.

Combining well, they helped Gloucestershire to an 8-2 victory, by beating Pat Turner and Mrs. Pat Shead, 22-20, 9-21, 21-13. Neither player showed any signs of first-match nerves and their display earned a second selection for the match against Lancashire.

Another new county venture will be the Gloucestershire Junior "Open" Championships which will be held at Gloucester Baths on February 1. All enquiries should be sent to the championship Secretary, Mr. L. Davis, 8, Westfield Avenue, Brockworth, Gloucestershire.

The county are again arranging the South-West Zone of the Wilmot Cup and Rose Bowl competition to take place on one day, and this season the Cheltenham Association will be hosts at the Pavilion on December 21.

Entries have been received from Bath, Exeter, South Devon, Salisbury, Cheltenham, Bristol, Plymouth, Stroud, Devizes and Weymouth.

WEDDING BELLS

Incidentally, Shirley Davis will be absent from the Cheltenham Rose Bowl team due to a "higher selection"—her marriage takes place on the same day and we all wish her every future happiness.

The recent Bristol coaching scheme is already showing successes to its originator, George Mortimer, and his able band of coaching officials.

The most notable of these has been in the recent Kent Junior "Open" where Morley Mordecai, of the Page Club, Bristol, reached the final of the "under 13" singles and partnered by club-mate, Peter Brooks won the "under 15" doubles event. Mike Kimber and David Allen of the same club, also did well to reach the last 16 in the "under 15" singles.

Further honours came to Peter Brooks, when he won the Zone final of the "Eagle" Tournament "under 13" event defeating Clem Davis (one of the famous Gloucester table tennis family) in the final, and to Mike Kimber who won the "under 15" final.

Another of the Davis "clan," 11-year-old Jennifer, received a medal without playing! She was the only entrant in her age group.

Hungarian, George Muranyi, now at London University, still retains his membership of Alfred Sports Club in Bristol. He recently paid a visit to successfully defend his singles title in the Bristol "Closed" after a grand fight with fellow clubman, Roger Haydon.

D. N. Andrews.

VENNER'S 50 FOR SURREY

Congratulations to Harry Venner, who in the match against Essex, completed his 50th appearance for Surrey in the National County championships. All who saw this brilliant player will agree he looked good to complete the century.

Some surprise has been caused by the non-appearance of Joe Somogyi in the Surrey ranking list following the special registration granted to the talented ex-Hungarian international. Selectors are doubtless aware of the difficulty Somogyi is experiencing in changing from the sandwich bat with which he was such a power last season. Class will tell, but it speaks highly of the Surrey stalwarts Venner, Miller and Craigie, that they can fight off such a challenge.

Our successive wins over Gloucestershire, Essex and Lancashire inspire hope that Surrey will once again pip Middlesex for the Premier Division title. Certainly the ladies will not let us down. Jean Head is still preferred for the singles, despite taking a lower national ranking than Jill Rook, and Peggy Piper has regained her women's doubles partnership with Mrs. Head, as well as national ranking. Then it was good to see starlet Lynne Whithams, with only four years play behind her, get a first team place against Gloucester.

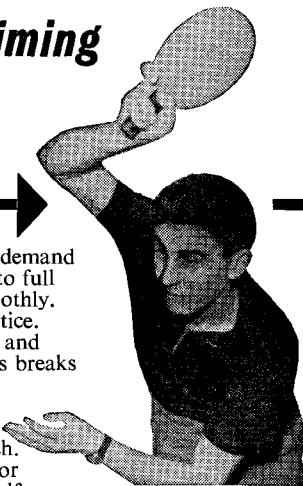


HARRY VENNER

The future outlook is bright judging by the juniors where Mary Shannon and Carole Bagshaw, stand out among the girls, and Richard Clode and Cornelius Warren, two newcomers, have been creating a big impression among the boys.

Jim Forrest.

Split second timing comes with Elliman's



A forehand drive, a backhand flick, demand split second timing. Muscles tuned to full pitch. Tuned to react instantly, smoothly. Tuned to react at a split second's notice. How to achieve this? With massage and Elliman Athletic Rub. For Elliman's breaks through the barrier of 'cold', stiff, over-tensed muscles: relaxes you, warms you, helps you to play your best game from the start of the match. Get Elliman Athletic Rub today — for the pace it brings. Follow the free self-massage instructions now included for the best results. And remember you're guarding yourself against fatigue and after match strain, too!

NEW **ELLIMAN**
ATHLETIC **RUB**

2/8 per bottle from chemists and sports shops

Middlesex Head For Tenth Win

VENNER FAILS TO SAVE SURREY

BY beating Surrey 6-4 at Guildford, Middlesex appear well on the way towards their 10th premier division championship. Even a top-form Venner failed to save Surrey. He won both his singles and the men's doubles, but the only other set Surrey could salvage was Tony Miller's win over Derek Burridge.

Jean Head, a "jinx" for Di Collins on past occasions, could not hold the brilliant Middlesex left-hander this time, but biggest disappointment for Surrey was the double defeat of Ken Craigie, who had been unbeaten in the three previous county matches.

After match comment from Surrey county secretary Colin Clemett: "Now our hopes rest on Essex or Gloucestershire beating Middlesex. Our team played well, but Middlesex just had the edge. The match between Venner/Craigie and Adams/Burridge was the best men's doubles I have ever seen."

Said jubilant Harry Edwards, deputising for India bound Victor Barna as Middlesex captain, "When Burridge, in the first set of the evening, pulled back from 6-14 down to beat Craigie 22-20 in the second, that set the pace for the evening, and after that I was always confident. Though we finished 6-4, we were 6-2 up at one stage."

Up to Gloucestershire

Middlesex are now the only unbeaten team in the division, but they'll have to watch Gloucestershire, with Merrett and Harrison in sparkling form just now. Surrey, with three good wins behind them, would certainly take advantage of any Middlesex slip.

Harry Venner made his 50th

appearance for Surrey against Essex, a match which marked a return to something approaching his best form by Johnny Leach. He beat Venner and Miller in two exciting encounters, but could not prevent a Surrey victory.

Essex are now perched precariously at the bottom of the table, following an excellent performance by Glamorgan who held them to a draw.

Yorkshire finally broke their duck when they convincingly beat the Welsh side, thus Sussex and Glamorgan's hopes of avoiding relegation would appear to be centred on pulling back Essex.

Sitting Pretty

In Div. II (South), Berkshire collected three points from their matches with Bucks and Hants, but at the time of writing Kent seem to be sitting pretty for the championship, as even a draw with Hampshire (on December 7th) would appear to assure them of the title, unless Bucks or Suffolk improve very considerably on their early form.

Kent scored with unexpected ease against Hertfordshire, but the 8-2 score does not reflect the tension of the first three men's singles, each of which could have gone the other way. Having lost these, however, some of the fight seemed to go out of Herts, who only took the men's and mixed doubles. Seventeen year old Kent No. 1 Tony Piddock was the outstanding player on view, beating experienced campaigners Tony Rogers and John Hunt two straight.

In Div. II (West), Somerset are emerging as surprise challengers, and their No. 1 David House has a lot to do with that. Staffs are in a strong position on top of the table,

having defeated the dangerous Worcestershire side by 6-4. Warwickshire seem to have a good chance of taking the Midland Junior Championship off Staffs, while Lancashire, with a wealth of junior talent to call on this season, look like de-throning Yorkshire in the Junior North.

RESULTS

PREMIER DIVISION

Glamorgan 5, Essex 5
R. Davies lost B. Brumwell 20, —15, —13, lost L. Sawyer —13, 18, —9. N. Parker lost Sawyer —7, 18, —7, bt R. Raybould —13, 14, 15. J. Simonson bt Raybould —18, 14, 18, lost Brumwell —12, 15, —12.
Parker/Davies bt Brumwell/Sawyer —13, 21, 17.
Miss S. Jones bt Miss B. Milbank —16, 11, 12.
Miss Jones/Miss B. Gray bt Miss Milbank/Miss Y. Baker —12, 20, 20.
B. Dimascio/Miss A. Bates lost Raybould/Miss Baker —15, 17, —18.
Surrey 7, Essex 3
K. Craigie bt B. Brumwell —13, 17, 14, bt L. Sawyer 19, 5. H. Venner bt Sawyer 10, 13, lost J. Leach 6, —19, —18. A. Miller lost Leach 15, —15, —14, lost Brumwell —17, 12, —18.
Venner/Craigie bt Brumwell/R. Stevens —18, 9, 17.
Mrs. J. Head bt Miss Y. Baker 12, —18, 17.

Mrs. Head/Miss P. Piper bt Miss Baker/Mrs. Carrington —16, 7, 18.
J. Head/Miss J. Rook bt Leach/Mrs. Carrington —13, 16, 17.

Yorkshire 8, Glamorgan 2

S. Dyson bt R. Davies 17, 14, bt J. Simonson 13, 15. B. Kennedy bt Simonson 16, 18, bt N. Parker 8, 18. R. Hinchliff lost Parker —16, 20, —20, bt Davies 15, 14.
Dyson/M. Pitts bt Parker/Davies —20, 14, 9.
Miss K. Best bt Miss S. Jones 15, 17.
Miss J. Preston/Miss M. Rhodes lost Miss Jones/Miss B. Gray —18, 18, —17.
Kennedy/Miss Best bt Simonson/Miss Gray 9, 17.

Gloucestershire 8, Sussex 2

I. Harrison bt J. Quilter 22, 8, bt B. Leach —12, 13, 14. B. Merrett bt Leach 14, 14, bt P. Shead 18, 18. A. Simons lost Shead —17, —12, bt Quilter 12, 17.
Merrett/R. Griffin bt Leach/Quilter 15, —24, 18.
Miss S. Davis bt Miss P. Turner —12, 18, 16.
Miss A. Cox/Mrs. B. Morley bt Miss Turner/Mrs. P. Shead 20, —9, 13.
Griffin/Miss Davis lost Shead/Mrs. Shead —16, —9.

Surrey 9, Lancashire 1

K. Craigie bt P. Strulovitch 6, 4, bt J. Ingber 16, —16, 13. H. Venner lost Ingber —22, 13, —14, bt G. Pullar 20, 13. A. Miller bt Pullar —16, 19, 15, bt Strulovitch 10, 14.
Venner/Craigie bt Pullar/Ingber 17, 16.
Mrs. J. Head bt Miss W. Swift 13, 16.
Mrs. Head/Miss P. Piper bt Miss Swift/Miss I. Haney 8, 12.
J. Head/Miss J. Rook bt Strulovitch/Miss Haney 16, 15.
Surrey 4, Middlesex 6
K. Craigie lost D. Burridge —16, —10, lost M. Thornhill —18, —17. H. Venner

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION

January 8 Glamorgan v Gloucestershire, Newport 7 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

December 14 Cheshire v Durham, Townley Street Sunday School, Macclesfield 7.15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION WEST

January 4 Worcester v Somerset, Shirehall, Worcester 7.15 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION

January 4 Warwickshire v Staffordshire. NOT KNOWN

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

January 4 Warwickshire v Staffordshire. NOT KNOWN

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

January 8 Cheshire v Lancashire, Stockport 7 p.m.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

December 14 Surrey v Essex, Putney T.T. Club, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15 3 p.m.

bt Thornhill 17, 20, bt A. Rhodes 18, —19, 11. A. Miller lost Rhodes —15, 20, bt Burridge 17, —18, 16.
 Venner/Craigie bt Burridge/L. Adams 18, —17, 19.
 Mrs. J. Head lost Mrs. D. Collins —14, —16.
 Mrs. Head/Miss P. Piper lost Mrs. Collins/Miss M. Fry —20, 19, —14.
 J. Head/Miss J. Rook lost Adams/Miss Fry 17, —20, —14.

DIVISION II (SOUTH)

Hampshire 5, Berkshire 5.
 Hertfordshire 2, Kent 8.
 Berkshire 9, Buckinghamshire 1.

DIVISION II (WEST)

Staffordshire 9, Dorset 1.
 Somerset 8, Devon 2.
 Dorset 5, Wiltshire 5.
 Staffordshire 6, Worcestershire 4.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Cambridgeshire 4, Bedfordshire 6.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

Staffordshire 3, Warwickshire 5.

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

Yorkshire 4, Lancashire 4.

Yorkshire 7, Cheshire 1.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

Surrey 8, Suffolk 2.
 Hertfordshire 1, Middlesex 9.
 Sussex 3, Surrey 7.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Sets					
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. P.
PREMIER DIVISION						
Surrey	4	3	0	1	27	13 6
Middlesex	2	2	0	0	15	5 4
Gloucestershire	3	2	0	1	18	12 4
Yorkshire	3	1	0	2	14	16 2
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	8	12 2
Sussex	3	1	0	2	9	21 2
Glamorgan	3	0	1	2	11	19 1
Essex	2	0	1	1	8	12 1
2nd DIVISION NORTH						
Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	15	5 4
Lincolnshire	1	1	0	0	6	4 2
Northumberland	2	1	0	1	10	10 2
Durham	1	0	0	1	1	9 0
Yorkshire	2	0	0	2	8	12 0
Cheshire	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
2nd DIVISION SOUTH						
Kent	2	2	0	0	14	6 4
Hampshire	2	1	1	0	15	5 3
Berkshire	3	1	1	1	18	12 3
Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	10	10 2
Suffolk	1	0	0	1	2	8 0
Buckinghamshire	2	0	0	2	1	19 0
2nd DIVISION WEST						
Staffordshire	2	2	0	0	15	5 4
Wiltshire	2	1	1	0	11	9 3
Somerset	1	1	0	0	8	2 2
Worcestershire	2	1	0	1	11	9 2
Cornwall	2	1	0	1	10	10 2
Dorset	4	0	1	3	13	27 1
Devon	1	0	0	1	2	8 0
MIDLAND DIVISION						
Derbyshire	1	1	0	0	9	1 2
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	9 0
Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Warwickshire	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
SOUTHERN DIVISION						
Bedfordshire	1	1	0	0	6	4 2
Cambridgeshire	1	0	0	1	4	6 0
Hertfordshire	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION						
Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	12	4 4
Staffordshire	1	0	0	1	3	5 0
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	7 0
NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION						
Lancashire	2	1	1	0	11	5 3
Yorkshire	3	1	1	1	12	12 3
Cheshire	1	0	0	1	1	7 0
Durham	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION						
Middlesex	3	3	0	0	29	1 6
Surrey	3	3	0	0	22	8 6
Essex	1	1	0	0	8	2 2
Hertfordshire	3	1	0	2	12	18 2
Kent	1	0	0	1	0	10 0
Suffolk	2	0	0	2	4	16 0
Sussex	3	0	0	3	5	25 0

WOMAN'S VIEW

COACHING UMPIRES

By **ELSIE CARRINGTON**

COACHING classes for players are common but a coaching class for umpires is surely new. Derek Tyler of Hastings, who has done so much to make the Sussex "Open" a popular event, has inaugurated one.

It is a splendid idea. I am sure many more people would take up umpiring if they could be helped in this way. There are plenty who know the rules inside out, but lack the confidence to take the Umpires Test.

Derek's classes, held in the waiting room of his father's dental surgery, are designed to assist the layman in correct match procedure, clear calling of the score and—very important this—WHEN to call the score.

many admirers. Moreover, behind the scenes he plays his part as a club and league official.

Not content with this, his loyalty to the County sides is such that he has supported every Essex County match this season (both first and second teams), paying his own expenses, and even travelling as far as Cardiff, to see Essex play Glamorgan. He is the first to encourage players

A WEEK ABOUT

Many of you will remember the thrill of receiving your first trophy, and many others are no doubt looking forward to this thrill.

Just what it means to youngsters was brought home to me the other evening when young Pauline Martin, proudly showed me the Cup which she won, with her partner, Diane Oakley, for the "under-13" Girls' Doubles, in the Kent Junior "Open."

"Are you going to keep it for six months and then hand it on to Diane?" I asked.

"Oh, no," said Pauline, "We are each having it for a week at a time!"

* * *

I went to Jill Rook's 21st birthday party last month. How time flies! It seems only a couple of years ago that Jackie Head brought the 12-year-old Jill to our school at Morden and recommended her as a great potential.

She is another of the good ex-juniors who have made their mark as seniors. Who will be the next? Jean Harrower—yes, but who else is going to follow the examples set by the Rowe Twins, Peggy Piper, Yvonne Baker, Joy Fielder, and, of course, Ann Haydon. I have not seen many indications of such class in the junior field to-day, despite the many opportunities for them.

* * *

My reference, last month, to Len Adams' hint about whitening shoes brought a protest from Bobby Stevens, who tells me he has done this for years, and claims to be the originator!

It is not only in matters of dress that Bobby is a good example to young players. His aggressive and sporting style of play has won him



JILL ROOK

who have temporarily deposed him in the ranking list.

I feel we could do with a few more in the game to-day with his unselfish attitude, loyalty and team spirit.

WRONG TEAM

It has been pointed out by Mr. Percy Ashley, the Hon. Secretary and Manager of Corinthian Ladies' Football Club, that Diana Wright did not make her tour of Portugal with Oldham Ladies' F.C. as stated in Elsie Carrington's article last month.

Diana was in fact a member of the Corinthian Ladies' touring side and played for the Nomads.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused the Corinthian Ladies' F.C.

Could any established Table Tennis Club help? We are forming a new Club and require accommodation for one night per week, Central London area. We are prepared to assist financially.—Please write Box TT/RH, Guardian House, 644, Forest Road, London, E.17

250 NOT OUT

JIM HOLDCROFT is Bradford's keenest player. His name has not been missing once from the league's weekly batch of scorecards for over nine seasons. And next month (January) he expects to make his 250th consecutive appearance (*writes Malcolm Hartley*).

Jim set about building this record in 1948-9. The previous season he missed three matches. His excuse for this lapse was that he broke a leg



JIM HOLDCROFT

playing football. Yet after three weeks absence he was back at the table and playing with the help of a walking stick!

The nearest he has come to missing a match since then was an occasion when he was in bed with 'flu and disobeyed the doctor's orders to travel five miles on a foggy night to avoid letting his team down.

Jim is now playing with Sandoz, his fourth club. He was in the unbeaten St. Wilfrid's team which won Division Two in 1949-50 and he helped Clayton Heights to the same title in 1954-5. His other club was the Y.W.C.A. men's side.

He has been on the Bradford League's management committee for three seasons and is in his first year as inter-league secretary.

Jim is a sparkling example to some players who fail to turn up for league matches for feeble reasons and let down both their own club and their opponents.

Bradford enthusiasts wonder whether Jim's city record is a national one.

Book Review:

BARNA TELLS HOW

DO you want to know how to become a more effective player and win matches? Of course you do. Therefore, Victor Barna's new book, *How to Win at Table Tennis*,* is just what you need.

This fascinating offering, with its virile venture into a new field of self-help advice, has been long overdue. As the title implies, it is not just another instruction book for beginners, but a work whose purpose, as the distinguished author emphasises, is "to teach players *how to win* rather than *how to play* . . . to help players to put their technical knowledge to its best tactical use *with the object of scoring points*."

When he reigned as the world's greatest player, Barna had a flair for spotlighting an opponent's weaknesses and using them to his own advantage. Now, as probably the world's finest coach, he explains how this can be done and stresses, as well as elucidates on, the importance of knowing when to play a given stroke, as distinct from knowing *how* to play it.

Barna enlarges on several angles which by no means conform to the orthodox pattern. For example, he has less than no time for mass coaching, because, so he points out, **IT CANNOT CATER FOR THE INDIVIDUAL.**

"If you must have coaching use one tutor only," he urges, "and so avoid the risk of getting hopelessly confused by conflicting ideas and methods."

Barna, incidentally, does not think a coach strictly necessary, although he agrees that one can be useful in helping the beginner.

He also makes it clear that he is firmly against the "keep your eye on the ball" school of thought. Instead, he advocates—and keeps on stressing the point—"keep your eye on your opponent," and gives very sound reasons why you should do so.

Barna devotes a special chapter to sponge, outlining the best way of coping with it and reaffirming his well-known conviction that rubber, despite the successes of the sponge-using Japanese, is the finest material for all-round play and perfect ball control and that it will in time be universally accepted as such.

He offers illuminating advice on temperament, which he defines, tersely, as self-discipline, and asserts that anyone can acquire a good match temperament. As proof of this he quotes his own case, revealing that at the onset of his career he was a bad-tempered player—until he realised

that "blowing his top" undermined his concentration and cost him matches. He learned to control his temper and as a result became a better player.

In all he writes about, Barna is eminently readable and interesting, as well as practical and helpful, and he covers an extremely wide field, ranging from service, chop, chopped-chop, footwork, defence and attack, to counter-attack, the drop shot, half volley, tactics, the all-round game, practice, anticipation and fitness methods.

Helping the reader further along the path of victory are several "the right way, and the wrong way to do it" action illustrations of Barna and Diane Rowe, plus easy-to-follow diagrams, while the last chapter is devoted to snappy reminders for speedy reference to all the main points contained in the manual.

This brilliant book by a brilliant master is a "must" for every ambitious player, as it is indeed for all who prefer winning to losing. And that means *everybody!*

* Published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, at 6/-.

THIS COULD BE EXPENSIVE

The following is an extract from the magazine of the Lensbury and Britanic House T.T. Club. No doubt their are many players who hope this will not give the E.T.T.A. ideas.

The Men's 1st team have decided to institute a system of match fines based on the following:—

1. Swearing 6d. per word.
2. Not being ready to play when required 6d. each occasion.
3. Being improperly dressed for play 6d. each occasion.
4. Forgetting bat 6d. each occasion.
5. Putting left hand on floor or table during play 6d. each offence.
6. Failing to umpire at least one set when official umpire not available 6d. per evening.
7. Foul services 1d. per point.
8. Volleying during play 3d. per point.
9. Requesting to play out of order or leave early 6d. each occasion.

Match Levee.

- 6d. per player for losing a match.
- 3d. per player for 5-4 win or draw.
- No charge for win 6-3 or better.

Ah, that's better

*Proceeds of the above to be used towards an evening's entertainment at the end of the season for all who have played in the Men's 1st team during the season.**

NATIONAL CUPS

LONDON CIVIL SERVICE and Birmingham, the respective holders, are going great guns in defence of the Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl.

Civil Service have dropped only one game in the first two rounds, while Birmingham have won through by maximum margin.

WILMOTT CUP

Second Round Results

ZONE 1 (A)
Halifax 3, Sunderland 6.
ZONE 1 (B)
Sheffield 7, Lincoln 2.
Grimsby 9, Grantham 0.
ZONE 2
Liverpool 8, Ellesmere Port 1.
Burnley 4, Bolton 5.
Mid Cheshire 3, Southport 6.
Manchester 5, Stockport 4.
ZONE 3 (A)
Birmingham 1, Leicester 5.
Shrewsbury 5, Stoke Youth 4.
ZONE 3 (B)
Cambridge 5, Norwich 4.
King's Lynn 7, Wisbech 2.
ZONE 4
St. Albans 3, Letchworth 6.
Barnets 2, Luton 6.
ZONE 5
East London 9, Ilford 0.
S.W. Middlesex 0, Wandsworth 9.
Barnes 0, Wembley 9.
South London 9, Leatherhead 0.
ZONE 6
Willesden 5, Bromley 2.
Thames Valley 5, Sutton 4.
Romford 4, London University 5.
London Civil Service 6, North Middlesex 0.

ZONE 7
Southampton 2, Bournemouth 7.
Portsmouth 9, Worthing 0.

Third Round Draw

(By December 22, 1957)

ZONE 1 (A)
Leeds or Huddersfield v Sunderland

ZONE 1 (B)
Grimsby v Sheffield

ZONE 2
Manchester v Southport
Liverpool v Bolton

ZONE 3 (A)
Leicester v Shrewsbury

ZONE 3 (B)
Kings Lynn v Cambridge

ZONE 5
East London v Wembley
South London v Wandsworth

ZONE 6
Lon. Univ. v Lon. Civ. Ser.
Willesden v Thames Valley

Zone Finals

(By February 19, 1958)

ZONE 4
Luton v Letchworth

ZONE 7
Portsmouth v Bournemouth

ROSE BOWL

Second Round Results

ZONE 1 (B)
Sheffield 5, Huddersfield 4.

ZONE 2
Manchester 8, Stockport 1.
ZONE 3 (A)
Birmingham 9, Leicester 0.
ZONE 3 (B)
Kings Lynn 5, Cambridge 4.
ZONE 4

Watford 6, Barnets 3.
Letchworth 2, St. Albans 7.
ZONE 5

Beckenham 0, Ilford 5.
Sutton 5, Wembley 4.
Thames Valley 2, N.W. Kent 5.
Willesden 8, Croydon 1.

ZONE 6
North Middlesex 1, East London 8.
London Banks 8, Bromley 1.
South London 9, Dagenham 0.
London Bus. Hses. 9, London Civ. Ser. 0.

ZONE 7
Southampton 0, Portsmouth 9.
Maidstone 8, Worthing 1.

Third Round Draw

(By December 22, 1957)

ZONE 5
Sutton v Willesden
Ilford v N.W. Kent

ZONE 6
London Bus. Hses. v London Banks
South London v East London

Zone Finals

(By January 19, 1958)

ZONE 1 (A) & ZONE 1 (B)
Sheffield v Northumberland or Leeds

ZONE 3 (A) & ZONE 3 (B)
Birmingham v Kings Lynn

ZONE 4
St. Albans v Watford
ZONE 7
Portsmouth v Maidstone

VICTOR BARNA'S

HOW TO WIN AT TABLE TENNIS

THE MASTER

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Conrad Jaschke of the E.T.T.A.

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FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are additional to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. Tournaments not marked with an "R" are unrestricted. The closing date for entries is shown in brackets after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to The Editor at the earliest date possible.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Details and Venue</i>	<i>Extra Events</i>	<i>Organising Secretary</i>
Dec. 14	Gloucestershire "Closed" Montpelier Pavilion, Cheltenham.		Mr. P. Cruwys, 20, Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham.
21	Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl (Zone 8B), Montpelier Pavilion, Cheltenham.		Mr. I. C. Eyles, 26, Allison Road, Brislington, Bristol 4.
Jan. 30-	North West Kent Open (Dec. 3)	J.S.B.	Mr. L. J. Pickering, 187, Bedonwell Road, Bexleyheath, Kent.
4	Barnhurst Residents' Association Club, 152a Parkside Avenue, Barnhurst, Kent.	J.S.G.	
4	Yorkshire Junior Open Madeley Street Baths, Hessle Road, Hull.	Under 15 S.	Mr. K. W. James, 25, Hallfield Road, Bradford.
4	Flintshire Open Ffrith Pavilion, Prestatyn.		
17-18	Welsh Open (Jan. 8) Drill Hall, Cardiff.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mrs. H. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff.
25	Lancashire Open (Jan. 18) De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Lostock, Bolton.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. A. Howcroft, 30, Thorne Street, Farnworth, Lancs.
25-26	Kent Open (Jan. 6) Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	V.S. Y.S.	Mr. F. Betts, Elmsmycdene, 88, Surrenden Road, Folkestone.
31-	Polish Open		
Feb. 2			
Feb. 1	Gloucestershire Junior Open (Jan. 10) Public Baths, Gloucester.	Under 15 J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. L. C. T. Davis, 8, Westfield Avenue, Brockworth, Glos.
8-9	Belgium Open		
7-8	Midland Open (Jan. 27) Friends Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.B.D. V.S.	Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
10-15	South London Open Central Baths, Bermondsey.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
15	Pontefract Open (R) (Feb. 5) Town Hall, Pontefract.	Y.S.	Mr. T. Horrocks, Rockland, Bondgate, Pontefract, Yorks.
20-22	Cheshire Open (Feb. 3) Birkenhead Y.M.C.A., Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead, Cheshire.	V.S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
22-28	West Middlesex Open (R) (Feb. 14)	J.S.B.	Mr. and Mrs. Riddick, 29, Thorney Hedge Road, Chiswick, London, W.4.
& Mar. 1	West Ealing Club, Mervyn Road, West Ealing, London, W.13.	J.S.G. Y.S.	
Mar. 1	South Yorkshire Open Somme Barracks, Glossop Road, Sheffield, 10.	J.S.B.	Mr. R. D. Renshaw, 7, Luna Croft, Gleadless, Sheffield, 12.
2-9	European Championships Budapest.		
14-15	West of England Open (Mar. 1) Bristol South Baths, Dean Lane, Bedminster, Bristol, 3.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. D. Rowe, 380, Speedwell Road, Kingswood, Bristol.
15	Cheshire Junior Open (Mar. 3) Livingstone Street Baths, Livingstone Street, Birkenhead.	Under 15 S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.

England Juniors Outclassed

ENGLAND table tennis juniors once again found the Germans too strong, crashing to an 8-1 defeat at Deal on November 11. It will be recalled that a year ago we collected only one out of 12 matches, but this time there were some encouraging signs that the gap is narrowing.

Chris Gosling provided our only success when he comfortably beat Wolfgang Prandke, the German No. 1, 22-20, 21-13, after wearing down the left-handed German with a great display.

Gosling also came within an ace of repeating his Kent Junior "Open" win over Martin Ness, going down at 19 in the third.

This was the best encounter of the evening and came at a time when Germany had already made the match safe with a 5-1 lead. Having lost the first game, Gosling appeared to have taken the command by winning the second. Then in the decisive third, the German boy threw caution to the winds and brought out many winners to get home by 21-19.

Another good match was that in which Heide Dauphin beat England's Jean Harrower, 21-19, 21-17. The German girl deserved her success but had her work cut out, for Miss Harrower has greatly improved since they first met two years ago. Another year and she may well overhaul the German No. 1.

Remember, although England's No. 1 girl, Jean is still only 14, and has three seasons as a junior!

England were certainly away to a bad start when our No. 1 boy Eddie Taylor, of Sunderland, failed to reproduce his trials form and was beaten -14 and 15 by Ness.

Without any real previous experience Taylor found the occasion too big, although he fought courageously. Again in the last match of the programme Taylor had no answer to the superior stroke play of Prandke and lost at 10 and 11.

Ann Jacobs, 16, had looked a "safe" bet for England against 13-year-old Jutta Fischer, but was well below form and lost over three games.

Shelagh Hession gave a somewhat dispirited display against the stonewalling of Ursel Ehebrecht and went down in straight games.

It was the same in the doubles where the Germans provided much better balanced pairs.

We must face facts. The Germans were much too good. But perhaps next year it may be a different story. Gosling and Jean Harrower will still be available, while there are other good youngsters now waiting to fill any gaps.

Now for a criticism. The staging of a junior international on the day following the exhausting Kent Junior "Open" is unfair to the youngsters. It puts too great strain on them and there were unmistakable signs of tiredness among the team.

Something should be done to give them at least a day's break between the tournament and the international. It is no good waiting for harm to be done before the seriousness of this problem is brought home.

The organisation at Deal was first-class, while the advertising and publicity helped to bring in a capacity crowd.

Detailed results (English names first):

E. Taylor (Durham) lost to M. Ness 14-21, 15-21; lost to W. Prandke 10-21, 11-21. C. Gosling (Middx) beat Prandke 22-20, 21-13; lost to Ness 18-21, 21-12, 19-21.

Miss J. Harrower (Middx) lost to Miss H. Dauphin 19-21, 17-21. Miss S. Hession (Essex) lost to Miss U. Ehebrecht 12-21, 13-21. Miss A. Jacobs (Kent) lost to Miss J. Fischer 9-21, 21-18, 16-21.

Taylor/Gosling lost to Prandke/Ness 13-21, 17-21. Miss Harrower/Miss Hession lost to Miss Dauphin/Miss Ehebrecht 17-21, 16-21.

Eagle/Girl Tournament

BREAKING FRESH GROUND

by KENNETH WHEELER

AS results and reports from the 86 decentralised qualifying rounds come pouring in, from all parts of Britain, it becomes increasingly apparent that the new-style "EAGLE/GIRL" tournament is an all-the-way winner.

Best of all, in many cases we are breaking into fresh ground — as for instance at Wheelers Lane Secondary Modern School, Birmingham, from where Harry Levine, the local organiser, writes:

"This competition has given me the opportunity to introduce table tennis into the school. We have not yet been able to achieve the dignity of a proper table. All the games have been played on four dinner tables placed together, and play has taken place during school lunch hour.

"I arranged an American tournament amongst the players who showed most promise, and William Taylor showed himself clearly the best, and quite worthy of the Award which I hope you will grant him."

Because our aim is to stimulate interest and help to achieve general im-

provements, at this stage we intend to encourage, without discrimination, every type of organisation. William Taylor will get his award, and go through to the Regional Final where he will be able to get first-hand advice from Johnny Leach, and have his first taste of competition under championship conditions. Before this, Mr. Levine is arranging for him to attend practice sessions on a standard table.

Of course, Wheelers Lane School is an exception. Most competitors are able to play their qualifying rounds under first-class conditions, and the standard of play is high.

When Ainthorpe High School, Hull, held their finals in the School Hall, on November 14, the teaching staff, pupils, members of the local inspectorate, officials of the Hull T.T.A. and parents, enjoyed a splendid evening's play, which was augmented by exhibition matches in which five former students, including junior starlet Betty Kinsley, took part.

So much interest was created by the round organised at the Washington Youth Club, County Durham, that club leader Chris. Slowther intends to bring all thirty participants to Manchester in

support of their four Regional Finalists.

A surprise from Leeds was the defeat in the Market District Boys' Club round of Elizabeth Hall, a former finalist. On the other hand, Paul Racey, runner-up to Chris Gosling in last season's Boys' Senior event, came safely through the stiff opposition he encountered in the well-attended tournament organised by the Letchworth and District T.T.A.

Most advanced competitor so far is D. Kimber, of Doncaster, who gained the title of Boys' Senior champion at the round organised by the Doncaster Youth T.T. League, and then went on to win 2-1 against S. Hope, of Rotherham, in a first round match of the Regional Final.

With a total of 94 points the Doncaster Youth T.T. League club are well-placed in the Regional Team competition, though top-of-the-table for the whole country at present are the Willesden Schools League who have amassed 166 entry points. Others who have scored well are Market District Boys' Club, Leeds, and Hillfields Youth Club, Bristol.

In this year's tournament, Johnny Leach will adopt a new system in his selection of the 24 most promising players to attend our summer coaching course. The sixteen Grand Finalists will all qualify automatically for this award, but eight more will be selected for the promise they show at any stage, in any event, of the four Regional Finals.

MERSEYSIDE "OPEN"

ANN HAYDON stole the honours at the Merseyside "Open," revived after a break of three years at Liverpool on November 9, but not so much by her triple success as by the brilliance of her play which fully justified her rating as England's No. 1.

Her 21-12, 19-21, 21-15 victory over Pam Mortimer in the singles final was a perfect example of her skill and fine ability to fight back.

The ease with which she took the first game, mainly by forcing her opponent into errors, appeared to have lulled Miss Haydon into a sense of false security. At any rate she soon found herself trailing in the second game where Miss Mortimer produced all the viciousness of her strong attack.

It was not until she was 11-18 down that Miss Haydon recovered her command, and although she fought back to within a point of her opponent she failed to save the game.

But Miss Haydon had now taken the initiative and produced her best form in the thrilling final game. She mixed brilliant attack with equally brilliant defence while Miss Mortimer also went out boldly for winning shots. However, Miss Haydon's greater control of the ball and wider repertoire of strokes proved the deciding factor.

Miss Haydon and Miss Mortimer combined to win the women's doubles, then Miss Haydon carried off the mixed doubles with Hungarian J. Somogyi, giving another dominating display to beat Brian Kennedy and Kathie Best.

Kennedy, who also lost in the singles semi-final to



Scene at Dunlop Canteen with Merseyside in Progress

another Hungarian, G. Muranyi, showed that he is still somewhat at sea with pimpled rubber. Time and again in both the singles and mixed doubles his timing was faulty and he had a frequent tendency to overhit.

Kennedy still needs a lot of tournament play and practice to get back to the form he produced last season with his sponge bat.

The men's singles final was an all-Hungarian affair with Muranyi beating Somogyi 21-18, 16-21, 21-19. It was more tactical than spectacular with both players sparring for an opening like a couple of boxers. Once again the change of bat surface was in evidence, for

Somogyi is not yet completely at home with rubber, and too often overhit.

It was his backhand flick, usually his best winning shot that cost him the match, for he used it twice to send the ball off the table at 19-all in the deciding game.

Muranyi and Somogyi also took the men's doubles, beating the Stockport pair D. Schofield and E. Johnson 17-21, 21-15, 21-13. Johnson failed to maintain his form of the first game, otherwise it may have been much closer.

G. Lynch (Hull) and J. Keogh (Burnley) gave a lively display in the boys' singles final, with Lynch carrying the greater weight of shot to win his second title in a fortnight.

One of the difficulties which have beset the Liverpool League in organising the tournament in recent years has been the lack of a suitable venue. Now in the canteen of the Dunlop Rubber Company's works at Speke they have found the ideal setting. *And what capped it all was the ability of players and spectators to obtain a hot lunch.*

Men's Singles: semi-finals: G. MURANYI bt. B. Kennedy 21-17, 20-22, 21-17; J. SOMOGYI bt D. Schofield 21-18, 19-21, 21-16.

Final: MURANYI bt Somogyi 21-18, 16-21, 21-19.

Women's Singles: semi-finals: A. HAYDON bt Mrs. A. Pettifer 21-9, 21-9; P. MORTIMER bt K. Best 22-20, 21-17.

Final: Miss HAYDON bt Miss Mortimer 21-12, 19-21, 21-15.

Men's Doubles: semi-finals: MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt G. Lynch/R. Ridge 21-19, 21-15; E. JOHNSON/SCHOFIELD bt Kennedy/G. Pullar 21-15, 21-16.

Final: MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt Johnson/Schofield 17-21, 21-15, 21-13.

Women's Doubles: semi-finals: Miss HAYDON/Miss MORTIMER bt L. Bown/E. Grimstone 21-6, 21-10; S. NEWTON/M. YOUNG bt C. Moore/I Haney 21-17, 21-16.

Final: Miss HAYDON/Miss MORTIMER bt Newton/Young 21-13, 21-7.

Mixed Doubles: semi-finals: SOMOGYI/Miss HAYDON bt Schofield/Miss Moore 21-11, 21-17; KENNEDY/Miss BEST bt Muranyi/Miss Mortimer 23-21, 21-18.

Final: SOMOGYI/Miss HAYDON bt Kennedy/Miss Best 21-19, 17-21, 23-21.

Boys' Singles: semi-finals: G. LYNCH bt J. Jacobson 21-6, 23-21; J. KEOGH bt J. Mangham 21-11, 21-18.

Final: LYNCH bt Keogh 21-14, 21-13.

EAST OF SCOTLAND "OPEN"

Men's Singles: L. KERESKES (Edinburgh) bt. T. Gilmour (Dundee) 21-18, 21-14. **Women's Singles:** H. ELLIOT (Edinburgh) bt. H. Houliston (Edinburgh) 21-19, 21-10.

Men's Doubles: R. KERR/I. BARCLAY (Edinburgh) bt. J. Braithwaite/ M. McMillan (Glasgow) 21-17, 20-22, 21-14. **Women's Doubles:** ELLIOT/HOULISTON bt D. Black/I. Dunbar (Dundee) 21-10, 21-6. **Mixed Doubles:** KERR/MISS ELLIOT bt. H. Baxter (Hamilton)/Miss N. Cruickshanks (Glasgow) 21-12, 21-10.

Boys' Singles: BARCLAY bt. K. Farrer (Edinburgh) 21-12, 20-22, 21-11. **Girls' Singles:** J. CAMPBELL (Edinburgh) bt. P. McKenzie (Edinburgh) 21-10, 21-18.

HIGHLAND "OPEN" ELGIN

Men's Singles: R. KERR bt L. Kerekes 21-11, 21-15.

Women's Singles: H. HOULISTON bt A. Butler 21-11, 21-10.

Men's Doubles: KERR/I. BARCLAY bt V. H. Garland/E. Still 22-20, 21-11

KENT JUNIOR "OPEN"

(Ramsgate, 9/10th November, 1957)

ALTHOUGH numerically the brilliant German Juniors once again scored, securing four out of the five titles in the under 17 events, and 2½ of the 5 under 15 titles, English supporters can take heart inasmuch as the German defences were breached in no uncertain manner, what is more, this was achieved mainly by two youngsters who will be still be Juniors next season—Chris Gosling and Jean Harrower.

It will be remembered that last season Germany swept the board in the under 17 events, 3½ of the under 15 titles. This time they dropped two of the principal titles which is a sign of progress for our Juniors.

Pride of place undoubtedly goes to Chris Gosling, just sixteen, who won the under 17 boys' singles without losing a single game, and in so doing beat in successive games, German champion Wolfgang Prandke, French No. 1 Jacques Helaine, and, in the final, German newcomer, Martin Ness. Helaine was slaughtered 21-5, 21-8; Prandke was beaten with something to spare, but Ness played with determination, and it was a near thing in the second game.

Prandke, that brilliant little left-handed hitter of last season, came back with a more mature game, and a reasonable defence, yet was lacking that vital spark that made him so deadly last year.

England's No. 1, Eddie Taylor from Sunderland, was disappointing, and after a hard game with 14-year-old Robert Ractliffe went down in straight games to the French No. 2, J. Treinen. Eddie lacked the big match experience so necessary to these international encounters, and it is a great pity this is his last season, for he has plenty of determination, and keenness to learn.

Attempted Too Much

Talking point of the girl's events was: Should Jean Harrower have skipped the under 15 events to concentrate on trying for the under 17 girls' singles? This is a question that no one can answer. Certainly it seemed that on Saturday she could beat anyone, whereas on Sunday she was below this form. Was she over-tired by the final, after twice beating German champion Ursel Ehebrecht, as well as a hard game with Kent's Ann Jacobs? Or would Heide Dauphin have proved too good for her in any event? All that can be said is that certainly she would not have lost to Dauphin in the final so convincingly had she not played about twenty matches previously.

Last season Miss Harrower lost three times to Miss Ehebrecht. This year she proved clearly superior. In the under 15 girl's final she won 21-10, 21-17, and again in the under 17 girl's semi-final she was successful in straight games, although on this occasion the scores were much closer.

Other impressions:—Excellent performance by former Kent girl (now Sussex) Margaret Ashby in beating the German No. 3 Judda Fischer; another stout performance by Mary Hicks, who again beat Jackie Butcher and, for the second successive year, put up a brave show against Heide Dauphin; the intelligent play of little Linda Gordon, from Salford, in helping Jean Harrower to defeat the German pair; the promise of young D. Creamer, yet another Middlesex player; how the Germans monopolise the mixed doubles—obviously they study this side of the game, and we don't; the considerable promise shown by the two under 13 singles winners, Susan Thomas from Orpington and Graham Blankley from New Barnet.

The main English challenge appeared to come from one club—the Gallants Farm club of New Barnet! In addition to Chris Gosling, Jean Harrower and Graham Blankley, they provided two semi-finalists in the under 15 singles in Judy Williams and Robert Ractliffe. Ractliffe was also a finalist in the under 15 mixed doubles.

RESULTS (under 17 events)

Boys' Singles: **C. GOSLING** (Middlesex) bt M. Ness (Germany) 21-12, 21-19.

Girls' Singles: **H. DAUPHIN** (Germany) bt J. Harrower (Middlesex) 21-10, 21-13.

Boys' Doubles: **W. PRANDKE/NESS** (Germany) bt J. Helaine/J. Treinen (France) 21-16, 21-16.

Girls' Doubles: **DAUPHIN/U. EHEBRECHT** (Germany) bt S. Hession (Essex)/Miss Harrower 21-9, 21-14.

Mixed Doubles: **PRANDKE/MISS EHEBRECHT** bt Ness/Miss Dauphin 21-23, 21-19, 21-18.

(Under 15 events)

Boys' Singles: **PRANDKE** bt T. Caffrey (Ireland) 17-21, 21-17, 21-9.

Girls' Singles: **HARROWER** bt Ehebrecht 21-10, 21-7.

Boys' Doubles: **D. CREAMER** (Middlesex)/**PRANDKE** bt E. Emberson/B. Midgeley (Hampshire) 21-13, 21-11.

Girls' Doubles: **L. GORDON** (Lancashire)/**HARROWER** bt Ehebrecht/J. Fischer (Germany) 21-17, 22-20.

Mixed Doubles: **PRANDKE/MISS EHEBRECHT** bt R. Ractliffe (Herts)/Miss Harrower 21-19, 21-15.

(Under 13 events)

Boys' Singles: **G. BLANKLEY** (Middlesex) bt H. Mordecai (Gloucestershire) 21-19, 21-19.

Girls' Singles: **S. THOMAS** (Kent) bt P. Martin (Essex) 21-9, 21-15.

Boys' Doubles: **MORDECAI/P. BROOKS** (Glos.) bt P. Cain/D. Llewellyn (Kent) 21-9, 21-11.

Girls' Doubles: **MARTIN/D. OAKLEY** (Essex) bt K. Stokes/V. Field (Kent) 21-15, 21-11.

HULL "OPEN"

Men's Singles: **D. SCHOFIELD** bt R. Hinchliff 21-18, 21-15.

Women's Singles: **P. HEPELL** bt B. Cassell 21-10, 21-17.

Men's Doubles: **S. DYSON/M. PITTS** bt P. Skerratt/B. Edlington 21-14, 21-18.

Women's Doubles: **Mrs. C. MORAN/Mrs. P. LAMMIN** bt Heppell/N. Blades 21-16, 21-17.

Mixed Doubles: **SKERRATT/Mrs. MORAN** bt Pitts/ Miss Heppell 13-21, 21-13, 21-18.

Boys' Singles: **F. G. LYNCH** bt M. Dainty 21-11, 21-9.

Girls' Singles: **B. J. KINSLEY** bt D. Wright 15-21, 21-11, 21-12.

HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES

HERTFORDSHIRE'S prospects for the future were greatly enhanced at their recent trials with the fine form shown by Tony Rogers, Maurice Williams and Brian Barr, who have now returned to competitive play. The only disappointment was that Alan Smith has asked not to be considered this season.

These trials also brought to light the fact that although Miss Carol Deal, of Cheshunt, has played in previous seasons, she has now improved out of all recognition and may well prove an added strength to the women's team.

The top names in the new ranking list

are: Men: 1. J. HUNT, 2. A. ROGERS, 3. M. WILLIAMS, 4. B. BARR, 5. G. BEBB, 6. R. WILSON. Women: 1. MRS. D. MAGOR, 2. MISS J. WHITE, 3. MISS C. DEAL, 4. MISS G. ROBINSON.

Another aspect of the game which has so far this season, been very encouraging, is the excellent support received by the county teams at their home matches.

There was a good crowd to see the first team lose 2-8 to Kent at Watford and when the juniors played Middlesex at St. Albans, there were 150 present.

To prove the value of this enthusiasm a collection taken at the junior match realised £5 which will go towards an ambitious scheme to subsidise at least

eight juniors at a coaching course at Lilleshall, organised by County Chairman, Geoff Harrower. Other places on the course will be available to juniors but they will have to meet their own expenses.

After convincing 8-2 wins by the first and junior teams against Suffolk at the beginning of the season, Hertfordshire have experienced something of a slump.

The juniors have since lost to Surrey by 3-7, and Middlesex by 1-9 and the senior team has suffered a 2-8 defeat by Kent.

Let us hope this slump is only temporary.

R. W. Barney.

BUCKS "OPEN"

IAN HARRISON, the 18-year-old Gloucester youth gained what must surely be his greatest success yet when he carried off the men's singles in the Bucks "Open" at Slough on November 10 (*writes Conrad Jaschke*). It was not his first open success, but it was the first time he has taken a senior singles from a really representative field. The manner in which he did it, shows that his trip to Stockholm with the Swaythling Cup team was not a waste of time.

Harrison claimed no fewer than four internationals as his victims, Jackie Head in the fourth round, Harry Venner in the quarter-final, Michael Thornhill in the semi-final, and Johnny Leach in the final. It was a tremendous performance which indicates Harrison is booked for a big jump up the ranking ladder.

He dropped only two games in eight rounds and these were to Venner and Thornhill, but the final proved something of an anti-climax for Leach never appeared to be in it.

Alan Rhodes, favourite for the title fell an early victim to Harry Venner, dropping away badly after winning the opening game. Rhodes never looked happy and in the final game trailed 0-11 before Venner went on to win 11-21, 21-17, 21-7.

Best match of the early rounds was Thornhill's 21-13, 19-21, 21-19 win over Bobby Stevens. This would have been worthy of a final with a thrilling deciding game, in which Thornhill lost three match points before clinching it on the fourth when Stevens had pulled up to 19-20.

There were no major upsets of form in the women's singles where Diane (Rowe) Collins repeated her Sussex "Open" success to beat Shirley Jones, of Wales 21-18, 21-19 in the final. Mrs. Collins was in a deadly mood and looked the winner all the way.

On her way to the final Mrs. Collins accounted for Joyce Williams, of New Zealand, Audrey Bates, of Wales, and Peggy Piper, of Surrey, all internationals, while Miss Jones beat both Jean Head and Joyce Fielder.

Thornhill and Rhodes received some consolation for their singles defeats by winning the men's doubles, as did Miss Fielder and Mrs. Head in the women's doubles.

Mrs. Collins was the only player to reach two finals, but partnered by Ray Dorking, found herself on the losing side against Bobby Raybould and Peggy Piper in the mixed doubles.

Alter Levy Plea

There was a strong feeling among the organising committee against the 12½ per cent levy on entry fees collected by the E.T.T.A.

Leo Thompson told me, "*My committee think it is all wrong for the E.T.T.A. to collect this percentage of entry fees, when we may be making a loss on the event. If a levy is made it should only be on the profit (if any). It is essential that the E.T.T.A. look into this urgently before many more tournaments disappear.*"

RESULTS :

Men's Singles : Semi-finals : J. LEACH bt K. Craigie 21-13, 17-21, 23-21. I. HARRISON bt M. Thornhill 23-21, 21-23, 21-14.

Final : HARRISON bt Leach 21-16, 21-13.

Women's Singles : Semi-finals : Mrs. D. COLLINS bt P. Piper 15-21, 21-15, 21-12. S. JONES bt J. Fielder 21-17, 21-15.

Final : Mrs. COLLINS bt Jones 21-18, 21-19.

Men's Doubles : Semi-finals : A. RHODES/THORNHILL bt Leach/R. Raybould 17-21, 21-14, 22-20. L. ADAMS/D. BURRIDGE bt. E. Hodson/L. Landry 17-21, 21-18, 21-12.

Final : RHODES/THORNHILL bt Adams/Burridge 21-19, 21-14.

Women's Doubles : Semi-finals : FIELDER/Mrs. J. HEAD bt Mrs. D. Collins/J. Williamson 18-21, 22-20, 22-20. Y. BAKER/L. WHITHAMS bt Jones/M. Fry 18-21, 21-11, 21-17.

Finals : FIELDER/HEAD bt Baker/Whithams 21-15, 21-18, **Mixed Doubles : Semi-finals :** RAYBOULD/Miss PIPER bt Adams/Miss Fry 21-19, 21-12. R. DORKING/Mrs. COLLINS bt Rhodes/Mrs. Head 14-21, 21-18, 21-12.

Final : RAYBOULD/PIPER bt Dorking/Collins 21-19, 22-20.

Boys' Singles : Final : D. WHITE bt J. Martin 21-14, 21-13.

Girls' Singles : Final : M. HICKS bt J. Butcher 21-18, 21-17.

BOURNEMOUTH "OPEN"

SHIRLEY JONES, the Welsh No. 1, and Joyce Fielder, England's No. 4, appear fated to clash every time they enter the same "open" tournament. It happened yet again in the final of the Bournemouth "Open" on November 24 when the compact little Welsh player again proved her superiority by taking the title.

Miss Jones has now won three of the four meetings between the two and was most convincing with a score of 21-12, 21-14. Miss Fielder never at any time looked like holding the Welsh champion.

Miss Jones captured a second title when she partnered Margaret Fry to win the women's doubles. Miss Fry also helped the men's singles winner, Laurie Landry, complete a double in the mixed final.

Landry, after scraping through his semi-final against Alan Lindsay with an "edge" and a net cord as his winning shots, was a comfortable winner of the men's final against Alan Gazley, who had earlier provided the shock of the tournament with a semi-final win over David House.

Lindsay, by the way, figured in an hour-and-three-quarters marathon, before beating Ron Etheridge in the earlier rounds. Some of the most entertaining play came from the junior singles, where little known Malcolm Jeffries, of Bath, won his first "open" title.

The revival of the Bournemouth "Open" after a break of several years, fills a gap in attracting local players who do not usually go too far afield. There was a capacity entry and some 40 received after closing date had to be turned away.

Playing conditions were ideal while there was no shortage of umpires, 30 being available throughout the day for the ten tables. And this did not include players who were willing to take their turn.

Men's Singles : Semi-finals : L. LANDRY bt. A. Lindsay 21-18, 21-19. A. GAZLEY bt. D. House 14-21, 21-19, 21-15.

Final : LANDRY bt. Gazley 21-18, 21-12.

Women's Singles : Semi-finals : S. JONES bt. M. Fry 21-17, 23-21. J. FIELDER bt. B. Landimore 21-8, 21-16.

Final : JONES bt. Fielder 21-12, 21-14.

Men's Doubles : Semi-finals : P. BROOK/M. CLOSE bt Collins/W. DEVINE 19-21, 21-16, 22-20. HOUSE/ LANDRY bt. L. Cooper/R. Etheridge 21-14, 21-16.

Final : BROOK/CLOSE bt. House/Landry 19-21, 23-21, 21-17.

Women's Doubles : Semi-finals : FRY/JONES bt. Mrs. G. Bridson/Mrs. Whitren 21-19, 21-13. M. AUSTIN/J. WILLIAMSON bt. P. Northcott/D. Spooner 21-16, 21-17.

Final : FRY/JONES bt. Austin/Williamson 23-21, 27-25.

Mixed Doubles : Semi-finals : LANDRY/Miss FRY bt. G. Stevens/Miss D. Wightman 21-9, 17-21, 21-19. HOUSE/Miss JONES bt. A. Sherwood/J. Fielder 22-20, 21-17.

Final : LANDRY/FRY bt. House/Jones 24-22, 21-19.

Juniors Singles : Semi-finals : M. JEFFRIES bt. A. Cornish 21-13, 16-21, 21-18. J. MARTIN bt. Miss M. Hicks 21-18, 21-11.

Final : JEFFRIES bt. Martin 22-20, 16-21, 21-19.

NORFOLK "CLOSED"

Men's Singles : A. WICKENS bt A. Fox 21-15, 21-19, 21-13. **Women's Singles :** Mrs. B. CASSELL bt Mrs. H. Bales 21-7, 21-14.

Men's Doubles : R. DUNSTAN/WICKENS bt G. Arnison/P. Gaskin 21-23, 21-17, 21-14. **Women's Doubles :** Mrs. CASSELL/Mrs. EWLES bt Mrs. P. Bexfield/Miss E. Brown 21-10, 21-14. **Mixed Doubles :** M. EWLES/Mrs. CASSELL bt A. Hipperson/Mrs. M. Harrison 21-13, 21-19.

Youths' Singles : R. SYDER bt R. Harvey 21-18, 20-22, 21-14. **Girls' Singles :** M. FROST bt V. Hanner 21-12, 21-19. **Veterans' Singles :** G. WHITTAKER bt R. Dunstan 21-23, 21-19, 21-17.