

FEBRUARY, 1958

NINEPENCE

# **TABLE TENNIS**

*The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association*



LYNNE WHITHAMS, up and coming Surrey player and newcomer to women's ranking list.

**VICTOR BARNA** *discusses*

**INDIA, A PROGRESSIVE COUNTRY**



# Table



# Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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## RUSSIANS ENTER EUROPEANS

**A** NEW era of table tennis starts next month with the first European Championships in Budapest from March 2 to 9. They have been introduced to alternate with the World Championships, now switched to a biennial basis.

The Europeans will be followed by the Asian Championships in Colombo in April, and the South American Championships in Venezuela in October.

This breakdown into Continental championships is not such a retrograde step as some people are inclined to think. Remembering that the World meeting has been altered on the grounds of economy, it can be readily seen that these new meetings can give more countries the opportunity of big time table tennis.

After all it is no light matter for a South American or Far East country to send a team to Europe every year. And European nations could be faced with the same problem in reverse. It thus gives an opportunity of planning further ahead.

**Marking the introduction of the new championships is the debut of Russia. They are entering the international scene for the first time.**

Russia obviously plans to go ahead in table tennis as they have done in other sports, and the Europeans therefore offer a fine stepping stone.

### MARKED IMPROVEMENT

I am told by players who visited Moscow in the summer that when they arrived the standard of the Russians was mediocre, but that at the end of the nine days festival they had greatly improved. That improvement may well have continued and some shocks may be in store.

Meanwhile, Russia have invited England to visit them immediately after the Europeans.

Countries entered for the championships are: ALGERIA, AUSTRIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, EAST and WEST GERMANY, ENGLAND, FRANCE, GREECE,

HUNGARY, POLAND, RUMANIA, SCOTLAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, U.S.S.R., WALES, and YUGOSLAVIA.

England have been seeded No. 5 in the men's team event, while our girls have been seeded No. 2 behind Rumania.

England's official team of four men and two women will be: **Brian Kennedy** (Yorks), **Bryan Merrett** (Glos), **Alan Rhodes** (Mddx), **Ian Harrison** (Glos), **Ann Haydon** (Warwicks), and **Diane Collins** (Mddx).

### OLD BRIGADE DROPPED

It seems strange indeed to find a national side without the old brigade of Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach, who have done such valiant service in the past.

It looks like a sign of the times as they make way for younger players.

*Meanwhile, Leach will be at Budapest under his own steam. He has received a personal invitation from the Hungarians, who are providing him with hospitality.*

He is making the journey by car and takes with him three or four other players, so that England will be well represented.

The selection of the team is naturally open to criticism and with our girls appearing to hold better prospects than the men, it seems a pity the six places were not shared equally.

Meanwhile, the indications are that Hungarians may well sweep the board, for Zoltan Berczik looks out on his own among the men, while Eva Koczian, following her win over Ann Haydon in the Rumanian championship, has enhanced her claims for the women's title, with Miss Haydon and Rumania's former world champion, Angelica Rozeanu, her chief rivals.

### HARRISON EDWARDS.

The March issue of "Table Tennis" will be published late in order to carry a report and results of the Europeans.

## Official News:

The National Executive Committee meeting in the Council Chamber of the Royal Empire Society on the 4th January, 1958, lasted eight hours. Some of the matters discussed were:

### National Umpires

The Committee approved the appointment of MR. G. JAMES, MR. G. E. WHITE, MR. C. CORTI WOODCOCK as National Umpire, bringing the total to 19.

### Umpires Handbook (2nd Edition)

A request from the German T.T.A. to reprint the Association's Umpires Handbook (2nd Edition) in German was agreed, subject to a suitable acknowledgment being made to the E.T.T.A.

### Coaching Diploma

The National Executive Committee endorsed the recommendation of the National Coaching Committee that Mr. A. G. LAUNDER of Norfolk be given the Coaching Diploma.

### Unrestricted and Restricted "Open" Tournaments

The Committee agreed to a recommendation of the "Open" Tournaments Committee that for the 1958/59 season, "Open" Tournaments be re-classified as follows—

- "Unrestricted" Tournaments to become "Open" Tournaments.
- "Restricted" Tournaments to become "Approved" Tournaments.

### Election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee 1958/59

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was fixed for 26th April, 1958, in London. Dates for the Annual Election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee were agreed as follows—

- Nomination papers to be dispatched on or before the 15th February, 1958.
- Nomination papers to be returned on or before the 1st March, 1958.
- Voting papers to be dispatched on or before the 14th March, 1958.
- Voting papers to be returned on or before the 28th March, 1958.

NOTE: Only those Leagues whose Affiliation Fees are fully paid are entitled to nominate and vote.

The Proportional Representation Society will conduct the Elections and Messrs. G. W. Decker and D. Poupard have kindly agreed to act as Scrutineers. Nomination papers and ballot papers will be sent to the appointed County and League E.T.T.A. representatives. Any representative not receiving his papers by the dates in question should notify the Administrative Secretary of the Association immediately.

### English "Open" Championships

Entry forms are now available and applications should be made to the E.T.T.A. office. Dates and venues for the Championships are as follows:

Manor Place Baths, Walworth, S.E.17. March 24th and 27th.  
Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley. March 28th and 29th.

For the final stages of the Championships at Wembley, there are special rates

for orders of 12 or more tickets (made up of any price) as under—

Saturday, 29th March, 1958. 21/- for 17/6d., 15/- for 12/6d., 10/6d. for 8/6d., 8/6d. for 6/6d.

Friday, 28th March, 1958. 15/- for 12/6d., 12/6d. for 10/6d., 10/6d. for 8/6d., 7/6d. for 5/-.

The Draw for the English "Open" Championships will be held on the 3rd March, 1958, at Shell Mex House, Strand, London, W.C.2, commencing at 6 p.m.

### Wilmott Cup Competition

The Acton and District T.T.L. stage the semi-finals and final of this event on the 22nd February, 1958, at Messrs. Sperry's Sports and Social Club, Great

## 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).

West Road, Brentford, Middlesex. Further details can be obtained from the League Secretary, Mr. R. W. Boorer, 50, Southdown Avenue, Hanwell, W.7.

### J. M. Rose Bowl Competition

The Portsmouth T.T.L. have to stage the semi-finals and final of the J. M. Rose Bowl Competition at Messrs. Johnson and Johnson (Gt. Britain) Ltd., Southampton Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, on 22nd February, 1958.

Further details can be obtained from the League Secretary, Mr. C. H. Staples, 271, Francis Avenue, Southsea, Hants.

### Rating Assessments

A communication has been received from the Central Council of Physical Recreation asking for any details which our members may be able to give regarding hardships caused to our affiliated Clubs by the increase in the Rating Assessments. They ask for specific information on the following points as they affect our Clubs—

- (a) The refusal of a local rating authority to recognise a club under the terms of Section 8 of the Act and their grounds for so refusing.
- (b) Notices received of the termination of concessions made under Section 8 and the difference in amount of rates payable as the result of the termination of the concessions.
- (c) Statistics as to relative amount of rates payable by clubs under the new and the old legislation.

(d) If a local rating authority has agreed to reduce or remit payment of rates under Sub-section 4 of the Act, the amount of relief so afforded.

(e) Any other relevant matters.

Any observations regarding the above points should be forwarded to the E.T.T.A. office, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, as soon as possible.

### National Umpires Examinations

Two National Umpires Examinations arranged for the 1957/58 season, were one in Bristol on the 26th January, 1958 at the Bristol Tramways and Carriage Co. Ltd.'s Sports Centre, Bristol and one in London at the Southern Electricity Board's Sports and Social Club, Windmill Lane, Southall, Middlesex on the 16th February, 1958.

### Registered Members

Applications from the following members were approved.

S. R. BARDEN (Kent), M. H. THORNHILL (Middx.), A. THOMPSON (Yorks.), E. FISSEL (Kent), M. CLOSE (Middx.), J. VORSELEY (Cheshire).

### Team Selections

v. Wales (Mixed Seniors) at Aylesbury, 21st January, 1958. I. Harrison (Glos.), B. Merrett (Glos.), A. Rhodes (Mddx.), Mrs. D. Collins (Mddx.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey). Non-playing Captain G. V. Barna (Mddx.).

v. France (Juniors) at Rouen, 25th January, 1958. C. Gosling (Mddx.), E. Taylor (Durham), Miss J. Harrower (Mddx.), Miss M. Shannon (Surrey). Non-playing Captain L. Thompson (Bucks.).

v. Ireland (Mixed Seniors) at Belfast, 13th February, 1958. I. Harrison (Glos.), B. Merrett (Glos.), A. Rhodes (Mddx.), Mrs. D. Collins (Mddx.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey).

v. Scotland (Mixed Seniors) at Glasgow, 15th February, 1958. B. Kennedy (Yorks.), R. J. Stevens (Essex), M. H. Thornhill (Mddx.), Miss J. Fielder (Kent), Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.). Non-playing Captain J. Carrington (Essex).

v. Belgian "Open" Championships at Brussels, 8th and 9th February, 1958. B. Kennedy (Yorks.), J. Leach (Essex), Mrs. D. Collins (Mddx.), Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.).

v. European Championships in Budapest, 2nd to 9th March, 1958. B. Kennedy (Yorks.), B. Merrett (Glos.), I. Harrison (Glos.), A. Rhodes (Mddx.), Miss A. Haydon (Warwicks.), Mrs. D. Collins (Mddx.). Non playing Captain G. V. Barna (Mddx.).

## TABLE TENNIS

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# ENGLISH "OPEN" DRAWS EUROPEANS

## *Berczik defends singles*

**FOUR** titles are due to change hands in the English "Open" this year. This is the outcome of Japan having declined the invitation to compete.

Hungary's **ZOLTAN BERCSIK** will therefore be the only defending champion and probably take an extra lease of his crown, to add to Hungary's growing record in this meeting. They have provided the Men's Singles champion on no less than 11 occasions! Five of those successes were recorded by Victor Barna.

How different is the home record! **It is 33 years since Percy Bromfield was the last English-born player to win.** And that "export tag" seems unlikely to be removed this time.

Hungary are sending a team of ten, which in addition to Berczik, is expected to include Ferenc Sido, former world champion, Laslo Foldi, and Eva Koczian, conqueror of Ann Haydon in the Rumanian Championships.

Ivan Andreadis heads an entry of seven Czech's, which includes juniors,

while other countries represented will be France, Sweden, and Germany, who defend all the junior titles.

Zarko Dolinar of Yugoslavia, former singles champion, is also hoping to make the trip.

England will obviously have to rely on the girls to get among the honours.

One talking point: this is the only tournament in the country this season where sponge is allowed. Will any of our players take advantage of the temporary lifting of the ban?

Indications are they will stick to pimped rubber for they are now getting used to that surface again and it would hardly be worth while undoing the labours of the past months for the sake of using a freak bat in the English "Open."

Preliminaries are again being played at **MANOR PLACE BATHS, LONDON**, from March 24 to 27, as last year's experiment proved so successful, and resulted in such good attendances.

In response to criticism that was made, officials of the E.T.T.A. have visited Manor Place, and the following improvements as compared with last year were arranged:

(1) steps have been taken to guarantee a non-slip floor;

(2) the light coming from the roof will be blacked out;

(3) extra stewarding to ensure easier passage round the hall;

(4) improved press arrangements.

On March 28 and 29, the Championships move over to **WEMBLEY**, and here another step to meet criticism has been taken. Tickets sold on the cheap "block" basis are to be allocated on an equal basis with those sold at the box office, ensuring that those who purchase early, *en bloc*, will not receive inferior seats. It is hoped, this will result in an increase in block booking.

All leagues and clubs are urged to organise coach parties, to overcome the transport problem. Though reduced price tickets can be obtained for blocks of 12, the most economical way to plan the trip is undoubtedly to fill a coach of 30 odd people, reducing the cost of fares very considerably.

The E.T.T.A. are always anxious to hear suggestions in connection with the running of the English "Open." Our aim is to provide at Wembley a fitting climax to each table tennis season, and to make it a meeting place for as many of our members as the arena will hold. We look forward to seeing you there.

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## Personality Parade

# Stars fired her ambition

**WATCHING** entranced from a seat in the shadows high up in Wembley's vast Empire Pool the nimble, light-bathed giants of table tennis battling for their countries in the 1954 World Championships, a serious, dark-eyed girl dreamed of the day she would don an England shirt for the first time.

That was four years ago. Today the novice's dream is a burning ambition with every chance of fulfilment. For 21-year-old Lynne Whithams (*our Cover Girl*) of Kentish Town, the girl in the shadows, has caught the selectors' spotlight to take tenth position in England's ranking list—well within striking distance of the national team.

Like so many other promising players Lynne had a humble table tennis beginning. A shy girl of 16, she was persuaded by friends to join Islington Youth Club and there made her first tentative strokes on the green-topped table.

Says Lynne: "I knew right away table tennis was for me. But it was tough going at first and even after months of practice I made little progress. I must have shown my disappointment, for unbeknown to me, three lads at the club pooled their pocket money to buy me a birthday present.

### Surprise Gift

"One evening they presented it—tickets for three days at the World Championships, including the semis and finals.

"I was so impressed with what I saw at Wembley, those top-speed Japs, skilful Czechs and Hungarians, and the graceful, brilliant Angelica Rozeanu taking her fifth World

singles title, I decided to devote every spare moment to the game."

In no time at all Lynne entered her first Sunday tournament at Putney Club playing in a group of girls in which were England's Jean Head and the former Irish No. 1, Joy Owens. Several times a week she travelled the hour's journey from her Kentish Town home to mix and play with the great ones at Putney.

### Coached by Venner

Arriving early one evening, she invited a stranger for a knock-up. Realising she was out of her class, Lynne enquired his name. And so she met Harry Venner, then ranked No. 4 in England, who offered to coach her. Lynne eagerly accepted.

By October, 1954, Lynne felt ready for her first big test. She entered the Bucks "Open"—only to become a spectator after two rounds.

Came her first big break the following season, promotion to Surrey's second team for doubles matches. And so month by month, by hard work and perseverance, Lynne gradually lifted her game. Her drives became crisper, reactions swifter and soon she was regularly beating players of greater experience and age.

Last season Peggy Piper fell to her sweeping blade in a League game; Betty Isaacs suffered the same fate in the Surrey "Closed."

*Biggest progress has come this season; promotion to Surrey's first team in third place behind seasoned table tennis veterans Jean Head and Jill Rook and—the biggest prize of all—tenth ranked player in the whole of England.*

### Notable Scalps

Spurred by the coveted recognition, Lynne so far this season has tucked the Peterborough and Birmingham singles titles under her belt, toppling on the way internationals Yvonne Baker, Pam Mortimer and Joyce Fielder. All three are currently ranked above her.

Newest success—invitation from Victor Barna to join his advanced coaching sessions in company with "possibles" for the European championships in Budapest.

Training? Lynne keeps herself in trim with plenty of skipping and running around Parliament Hill Fields track near her home.

**Keep going, young lady, that England badge is yours for the taking!**



BOBBY STEVENS

## Stevens makes the grade

**WHEN** Bobby Stevens, of Walthamstow, left the R.A.F. just four years ago, a career in football was his for the asking. Leyton Orient, Millwall and West Ham had all offered him trials.

The glamour of England's premier sport was a big temptation, but to choose this would undoubtedly have been at the expense of his other sporting love, table tennis, where he had already won his place in the Essex first team.

He was faced with a momentous choice, football or table tennis? It was not easy and eventually he decided to compromise, turn his back on a professional career, and play football as an amateur so that he was still free to continue his table tennis activities.

A tug-of-war began to develop between the two sports. Essex, concerned at the way soccer injuries were interrupting his table tennis, wanted him to make a choice.

Still Stevens put off the inevitable decision. But the die has been cast, by soccer and in favour of table tennis. Recurring cartilage trouble, despite an operation, has ruled against football.

A bank clerk by profession, Stevens has been on the fringe of international honours for the past three years. He was chosen for the South of England against Czechoslovakia in 1955 but never made the expected progress—until this past few months.

Free to concentrate on one sport his game has become more solid, a point England selectors have been quick to note. In January he was included in the new ranking list for the first time at No. 11, and now he wins an England badge, against Scotland in Glasgow on February 15.

Yet, at the beginning of the season Stevens was No. 7 in the Essex ranking.

Stevens is a product of St. Mark's, Leyton, and his table tennis interest reflects to his brother Reg and sister Ann, both of whom have played for Essex juniors.

## JACK CARRINGTON'S HOLIDAY TRAINING WEEKS, 1958

MAY 17-24 — South Coast

SEPT. 7-14 — Skegness

Details from:

24 Worcester Gardens  
Ilford, Essex

# HANDICAPS OVERCOME

## The One Legged Player . . .

By Alan Lake

**FIFTY-EIGHT**-year-old John Cashmore one of the stars in the Stechford (Birmingham) Table Tennis League — yet "Pop" lost his left leg at Ypres during the First World War.

But the disability has not affected his enthusiasm for table tennis.

For each match he tosses aside his crutches—he doesn't wear an artificial leg—and hops to the table with a chair which he uses as a rest.

"I was a keen player before I lost my leg, but I didn't take up the game again until about eight years ago. Two of my sons, Ron and Les, were table tennis mad and they kidded me to get them started," says the bespectacled veteran.

"I'm not playing so well as I did a few years ago," says Mr. Cashmore, who reached the final of the Midland "Closed" veteran singles six seasons ago.

"I'm not so quick. Suppose I'm getting too old. Still, I'm not too bad for an old man in a young man's game."

### A Cricketer Too

"Pop" is a real table tennis terror but you'll never guess his favourite game. It's cricket! And up to a few seasons ago he was still playing.

Batsman? Bowler? No! He was played for his fielding! "I used to field at cover and not many balls went past me," says Mr. C., "but it became quite a job picking myself off the ground."

Then, over in Division III of the Harborne League, there's the Infantile Par-

alysis Fellowship side. They have only seven players registered — and four of those are disabled.

Table Tennis has been popular at the Fellowship ever since the table was bought, but it was Ken Joynston, a 31-year-old accountant, who had the bright idea of entering a League.

Ken, whose right arm is paralysed, which means he has to play left-handed, asked Birmingham Association secretary Maurice Goldstein if he would pop along, watch the players and then give his verdict.

Maurice watched the various players in action. Some he had to rule out, but finally he gave his "OK." But there was disappointment for the Fellowship's secretary, Len Reeves.

"I wanted to play," says Len, who has had polio since he was born, "but I can't turn out in the League as I have to hold on to the table."

They may not be great players but for real down to earth courage they are the "tops."



JOHN CASHMORE

## . . . And the Blind Umpire

By Bryan Cutress

**FIFTEEN** months ago Maurice Darbey was an average, but exceedingly keen, Bristol Table Tennis player. Now, at the age of 40, his playing days are over.

They were ended, not by the weight of years, but as the result of a dastardly parcel-bomb, which, with its

explosion, brought down the final curtain on both his playing ability and ability to play—the curtain of blindness.

Thus on 1st November, 1956, began the epic tale of his struggle for rehabilitation. It is a story of tremendous courage, of a man who refused to let such a terrible affliction stop him playing a part in his favourite sport.

He has faced up to the changed life bravely, has learned to read Braille and also to type so that he is once again back working for his living.

And he has learned to control matches by ear.

Each week colleagues take him to the local match were with the co-operation of opposing teams he is scoring a few games.

His judgment is, I understand, uncanny. He can tell who has lost a point by the sound of the ball on the bat, and he can even pick up the "lets."

Darbey has also continued as secretary of the Bishops-road Club.

Soon after the terrible outrage, the Bristol Association launched a "Maurice Darbey" Fund, which realised the sum of £1,025.

Presenting the cheque, the Association chairman, Mr. R. Salway, said, "He has shown no signs of self-pity and out of the evil of that November day has been released a flood of goodness."

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# India's Constructive Policy takes in Schools and Universities

I AM often asked, "What is table tennis like in India?" Considering that I have coached there three times in the last four years, visited the country six times altogether, and been closely informed of its table tennis development, I ought to know the answer.

To begin with, let me say that compared with other countries, especially European, the sport is fairly new. True, India took part in World Championships as long as 30 years ago; but their players were almost entirely recruited from students living in London.

When I visited India in 1938 in the company of my great friend Bellak, we found that table tennis was almost unknown, and that a mere handful of enthusiasts comprised the all-Indian Table Tennis Federation.

As the war years did nothing to popularise the game, organised table tennis in India can be considered as barely 10 years old.

What terrific progress has been made during this short time! Today, India ranks among the top 12 in the world—not far behind England—in a group with countries in which the game was firmly established as a national sport, long before the war.

## Steady Rather Than Spectacular

Maybe India's progress is not as spectacular as Japan's, but all the same it has been very steady. Year after year the number of players increases, more local associations join the Federation and the standard of play rises all the time.

To illustrate, it is enough to say that although India finished well down the list in the 1956 Tokyo World Championships, Nagaraj nearly reached the semi-final (he lost 20-22 in the fifth) and beat Leach both in the Singles and the Team Event, while his team mate, Thackersey beat Bergmann. Then in the Stockholm World Championship: last year, Thackersey gave Tanaka, the ultimate winner, the fright of his life by leading him 18-17 in the fifth.

In the 1957 Asian Championships (Japan did not take part) India tied with Vietnam for first place and Thackersey is ranked Asian No. 1.

says VICTOR BARNA

How has this progress been achieved? The answer is that Ranga Ramanujan, the secretary of the Indian Federation and the man mainly responsible for it, believes in youth, and has a very constructive policy. He concentrates almost entirely on bringing schools and universities into the game and spotting and developing their young players.

When I went to India to coach in 1954, all my pupils were teenagers; today they are the mainstay of Indian table tennis, and some of them, like Vora and Deepak Gosh, who were members of the Indian Swaythling Cup team in Stockholm, are still juniors. *And don't forget that the age limit for juniors in India is 16!*

In spite of the success of the youngsters, Ranga is still not satisfied. He is searching for more talented boys and girls and will not be content until Indian table tennis climbs right to the top. If he gets his way, as he probably will, there is little doubt that slowly but surely, he will succeed.

## Twice Champion at 19

Who are India's best prospects at the moment? In addition to the few I have already mentioned, there is Divan who retained his singles title in the recent all-India championships held at Colombo and so at the age of 19, has already won his national title twice. He is very keen and if I am anything of a judge he is destined to win many more titles. Strong on both backhand and forehand, his ball-

control reminds me of Andreadis, and he has a good, solid defence. Moreover his head is unlikely to be turned by success.

Khambatta, another young man from Bombay, played him in the final and, like Nagaraj, is the type of defensive fighter who is most difficult to beat.

## Women Not So Progressive

The high standard set by the young men is unfortunately not matched by the women. As a matter of fact, there are very few girls playing the game. It is probably tradition or an old-fashioned family outlook which stops girls taking up, not only table tennis, but any sport in India.

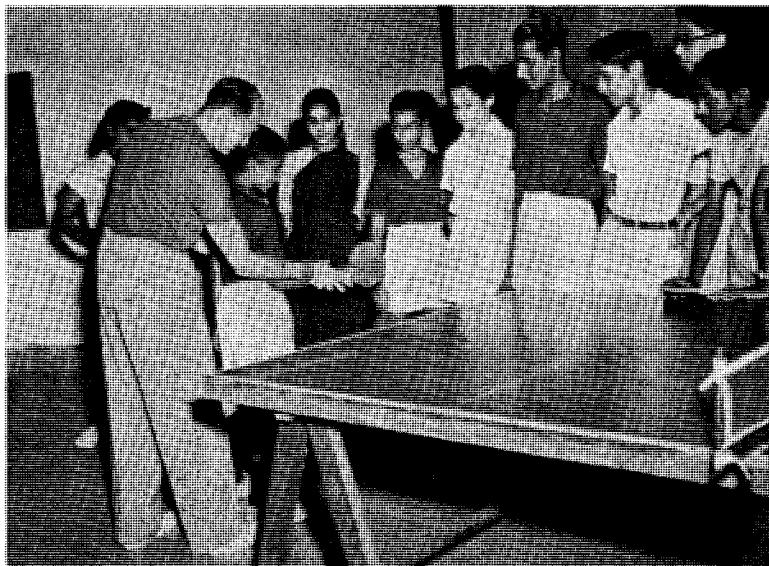
Rachel John of Madras, is the present champion. A teenager, too, she is quite a good player and two or three years ago I thought she might become a world beater. However, she has not made much progress lately and though her defence is as good as anybody's, it now looks as though she will never learn how to hit properly.

Meena Parande, who was the No. 1 for years, seems to have lost her zest for the game.

*The Indian girls must improve considerably if they are to stand a chance of playing a worthwhile part in international tournaments.*

I don't want to give the impression that Indian players are better than they really are: but they have got a constructive policy and wonderfully promising material to work on — so success is bound to come.

VICTOR BARNA with a group of young Indians in Madras





MIDLAND WINNERS: l. to r. Ann Charman, Keith Jones, Elizabeth Grove and Jack Keogh

Eagle/Girl Tournament

# STANLEY'S STARLETS

by KENNETH WHEELER

LET the soccer fan rave about Matt Busby's "Babes" and Ted Drake's "Ducklings." We've got Ken Stanley's "Starlets"; and how brightly they glitter in EAGLE events all over the country.

Such mighty atoms as George Livesey and David Stanley are already well known. Now stand by to receive another "pocket rocket" in Jackie Keogh, the 15-year-old Burnley boy who climbed to success in the Midland Regional Finals at Birmingham on January 18.

In the morning he sailed through the Birmingham qualifying round, then moved on to the Regional Finals where he was almost unstoppable, sweeping aside all opposition to the final where he outhit and outplayed Derek Allen.

If Keogh cuts and drives as vigorously with his cricket bat next season he can also look forward to success at his favourite summer game.

Keith Jones, a good all-round tactician with a winning forehand shot, met with similar success in the under 13's event.

Ann Charman was a worthy winner of the girls' senior event and her penetration of shot should give her an outstanding chance of top honours in the Grand finals in London on April 10.

Included among Ann's victims in the Midland finals was Janet Roberts, last year's GIRL junior champion.

Elizabeth Grove was the Midland junior winner.

### BRASS BROTHERS AGAIN

The Brass brothers of the Glasgow Maccabi were again shining lights of the Scottish Regional Finals.

Ronnie, twice EAGLE junior champion and senior runner-up last year, dominated the under 15 event, while brother Gary, a left-hander, won the Scottish junior event for the second successive year.

Ronnie Brass had an unexpectedly tough semi-final before beating Robert Rutherford, an unknown with an impressive left hand technique, 22-20, 21-13. Gary, greatly improved over the past twelve months, also had his stiffest test in the semi-final, where he disposed of an old rival Colin Hepburn.

The Brass brothers assured victory for Glasgow Maccabi in the Scottish Regional Team competition, but the most dramatic advance in points scored was by The Hecklers, Dundee, who with only four entrants provided the winners of both Girls' events with Sally Stewart, 15, and 12-year-old Doreen Donaldson.

### Midland Regional Finals

Boys' Senior: **JACK KEOGH** (Stanley Academy) bt Derek Allen 12, 14. Boys' Junior: **KEITH JONES** bt Roy Cutler 13, 13.

Girls' Senior: **ANN CHARMAN** bt Sheila Griffiths 11, 7. Girls' Junior: **ELIZABETH GROVE** bt Susan Brazier 15, 18.

### Scottish Regional Finals

Boys' Senior: **RONNIE BRASS** (Glasgow Maccabi) bt Charles Scott (Grangemouth Y.M.C.A.) 19, 14. Boys' Junior: **GARY BRASS** (Glasgow Maccabi) bt Jim Johnston (Glasgow Boys' Brigade) 12, 11.

Girls' Senior: **SALLY STEWART** (Hecklers) bt Elizabeth Huggins — 22, 14, 19. Girls' Junior: **DOREEN DONALDSON** (Hecklers) bt Eileen Johnston — 19, 8, 9.

These players go through to the Grand Finals in London on April 10.

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# SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

## Hungary takes the lot

**H**UNGARY swept the board at the Rumanian Championships in Bucharest, giving an indication of what can be expected in next month's European Championships in Budapest.

Zoltan Berczik, going from strength to strength, landed the triple crown.

He easily beat Rumania's M. Gantuer in the singles final, pairing with Ferenc Sido to take the men's doubles, Gantuer again being on the losing end with T. Harastosi, then for good measure carried off the mixed doubles with Mrs. G. Lantos—the former Gizi Farkus. They beat

Sido and Eva Koczian in an all-Hungarian final.

England's big hopes of a title crashed in the final of the women's singles when Miss Koczian got the better of Ann Haydon, winning 21-14, 12-21, 21-15, 21-18.

The Hungarian was perhaps a little lucky, but she was nevertheless a worthy champion, her semi-final victim being Angelica Rozeanu at 16-21, 21-14, 21-14, 21-14.

Miss Haydon worked hard for rallies but it was not her day, and she still misses her sponge bat.

Previously she had beaten L. Mosoczy (Hungary), world doubles champion, and Ella Zeller (Rumania).

England's other representative, Mrs. Diane Collins went out to Gizi Lantos 19-21, 12-21, 21-19, 21-16, 9-21. She looks somewhat erratic, and her one consolation was, it was the first time she had ever taken a game from the former world champion.

Miss Haydon and Mrs. Collins went out in the semi-final of the doubles, beaten by Miss Koczian and Miss Mosoczy 21-15, 21-18, 12-21, 21-13. Johnny Leach, England's only representative in the men's events was beaten in the last 16 by Zelyko Hrbud, the 18-year-old Yugoslav champion, 21-18, 21-18, 22-20.

Obviously the Hungarians are going to take a lot of beating when they stage the Europeans. Even without a partisan crowd to cheer them on they have been able to demonstrate that, perhaps apart from the Japanese, they still produce the best table tennis players in the world.

**Men's Singles:** Z. **BERCZIK** (Hungary) bt M. Gantuer (Rumania) 21-16, 21-11, 21-16.

**Women's Singles:** E. **KOCZIAN** (Hungary) bt A. Haydon (England) 21-14, 12-21, 21-15, 21-18.

**Men's Doubles:** **BERCZIK/F. SIDO** (Hungary) bt Gantuer/T. Harastosi (Rumania) 21-19, 21-14, 21-19.

**Women's Doubles:** I. **KEREKES**/Mrs. G. (Farkus) **LANTOS** (Hungary) bt Koczian/L. Mosoczy (Hungary) 21-18, 21-19, 14-21, 15-21, 21-14.

**Mixed Doubles:** **BERCZIK**/Mrs. **LANTOS** (Hungary) bt Sido/Miss Koczian (Hungary) 12-21, 22-20, 21-10, 21-15.

### OH MEIN PAPA

Happy item is that after many years of marriage, Ferenc Sido's wife has presented him with a son — their first child. The very likeable ex-world champion is almost hysterically delighted at being a father and has been feverishly busy telling his friends and acquaintances the world over of the event. Congratulations, Ferenc.

## ANGELICA GIVES RUMANIA THE EDGE

**A**NGELICA ROZEANU, former World Table Tennis queen, is still a formidable opponent as Ann Haydon discovered to her cost when Rumania beat England 3-2 in the Women's International in Bucharest.

Striking brilliant form, Mrs. Rozeanu gave a near-miracle display of retrieving as she went back to take Miss Haydon's full-blooded smashes. Then, biding her time, she would run in for a quick kill when the English No. 1 least expected.

Miss Haydon tried all she knew to get command but in the end went down to a narrow defeat, Mrs. Rozeanu winning 21-18, 16-21, 21-18. The partisan crowd, kept on tenterhooks by a great tussle, greeted every winning shot from Mrs. Rozeanu with roars of applause. When Miss Haydon scored there was a deathly hush. This was undoubtedly to the favour of the more experienced Rumanian star, who by this victory, as good as settled the issue. It squared the match at 2-all and Diane Collins then went down to Ella Zeller in the decider.

Miss Haydon gave England a good start by outclassing Miss Zeller, dictating the match with slow top spin with an occasional kill.

Miss Collins, who played brilliantly in patches but was generally too erratic, then lost to Mrs. Rozeanu.

*This, and her performance against Zeller, left the impression that she is in need of more top-class competitive play.*

The English girls paired up to win the doubles, beating Rozeanu and Zeller 21-19, 19-21, 21-14, for an overall lead of 2-1, but those last two singles gave Rumania victory.

Incidentally, it was good to see the way Miss Haydon and Mrs. Collins combined. They ran around each other to take their shots and seldom put a foot wrong.

Detailed results (English names first): A. Haydon bt E. Zeller 21-17, 21-7; lost to A. Rozeanu 18-21, 21-16, 18-21. D. Collins lost to Rozeanu 16-21, 14-21; lost to Zeller 19-21, 16-21. Haydon/Collins bt Rozeanu/Zeller 21-19, 19-21, 21-14.

### University Commentary

## Oxford and Cambridge both confident

**W**ITH a greatly strengthened team, Cambridge are having a successful season. Results include two victories over Northants, and a draw with a strong London University side, while the only defeats have been at the hands of Norwich in the Wilmott Cup, and in a close game against the full Cambridgeshire team.

Two outstanding freshmen, H. Wennerberg and S. Hussain have firmly established themselves in the top two positions, and with old half-blues, D. J. Bell, the captain, and D. W. Mahen, and the much-improved J. K. Ferguson available for the other two places, the University has a strong and well-balanced side.

Of forthcoming fixtures, the clash with Durham is looked forward to with much interest, and the Oxford match, on March 1 at Cambridge, with confidence.

Meanwhile, Oxford, after a rather indifferent run, are also building up renewed confidence for the Inter-Varsity match. They have recently recorded their first ever win over Oxford City by the comfortable margin of 8-2, and held the County side to a 5-all draw. For the latter match the Dark Blues were without the assistance of their captain S. L. Geogheagan.

With both varsities revealing such confidence it looks as though a close match can be expected. Oxford won last year for the first time since 1952.

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## SAM KIRKWOOD'S World Round Up

# AND NOW THE ROCKET BAT

## Rumanian Experiment

**H**AD your fill of sputniks? You can now stand by for the Rocket Bat, which would seem to be the ultimate answer to those who get hot, bothered and personal (as I know to my cost) in defending the alleged right of players to use precisely what rackets they choose, regardless of all other considerations and the welfare of the sport itself.

It is reported that the Rumanians are experimenting with a so-called "Rocket Bat," which is in fact an air bat. The basic idea of using air in rackets is not new, for it was tried out by the Germans, with unsatisfactory results.

The Rumanian weapon, however, seems to have gone one better and is reputedly standing up to tests. So far as can be gathered, it has spring-operated metal strips inside its rubber-coated blade. In its handle is a control mechanism by which the blade can be inflated or deflated, as and when required. When the rubber is inflated it gets harder; when deflated, softer.

### ADJUSTMENTS IN RALLY

The bat is very light and adjustments can be made during a rally to meet particular stroke requirements. In effect, of course, this means that a player is virtually in a position to change his bat when he feels like it.

Leading players Tomi Reiter and Paul Pesch have been experimenting with the bat and say that though it

isn't easy to use (or *operate*, rather), it could, once one has learnt to master it, be a devastating weapon.

Verdict at this experimental stage is that the bat has so much potential as a match winner that if all continues to go well it will go into mass production next season. The Rumanian Association are so impressed with it, so it is reported, that they are affording financial assistance and technical facilities to help the experiment.

"Rocket Bat," by the way, is the name given to the implement by Cismaru Cristian, well-known ex-player and now an official of the Rumanian Sports Ministry.

### TIME TO CALL "HALT"

How much more ingenious nonsense must we be threatened with before the I.T.T.F. acts like a real governing body and calls "Halt!"?

**Apropos of rackets, the I.T.T.F. have issued a statement telling us they have been notified that the Czechoslovakian and Bulgarian Associations are in agreement with standardisation but do not intend to adopt the proposal until standardisation is universal throughout the Federation.**

Red-hot favourites to take the Singles title at next month's Budapest European rally are JOSEF BERCEK and ANN HAYDON. Hardly surprising, in view of their achievements this season. Ann has been all but invincible in tournaments, while the Hungarian master of chop has to date won the "Egyetertes" and "Moatsz" international tournaments in Budapest, and titles in Scandinavia, Yugo-Slavia and Austria.

Recent Indian national championships provided an indirect but nevertheless very gratifying triumph for Victor Barna, for two of his young pupils, Divan and Khanbatta, reached the final of the Men's Singles. Eighteen-year-old Divan, who won 3-1 to retain his title, has been

coached by Victor during the past three years, while 19-year-old Khambatta has also been under The Maestro's wing for several years.

In the semi-finals Divan beat Nagray 3-1 and Khambatta defeated Schoerman (Ceylon) by the same margin. Ramakrishna, Vora, Thackersey and Irani were losing quarter-finalists.

Rachael John won the Ladies' Singles, beating Meena Parande in the final. Deepak Ghosh took the Men's Junior Singles. Thackersey and Divan won the Men's Doubles, and Thackersey and Parande the Mixed.

Men's ranking list, based on points won in tournaments, is: *Divan, Nagray, Thackersey, Khambatta, Reza, Irani, Thiruvengadam, Sampat, Somaya*, the first three or four of whom are likely to represent their country in the coming All-Asian Championships.

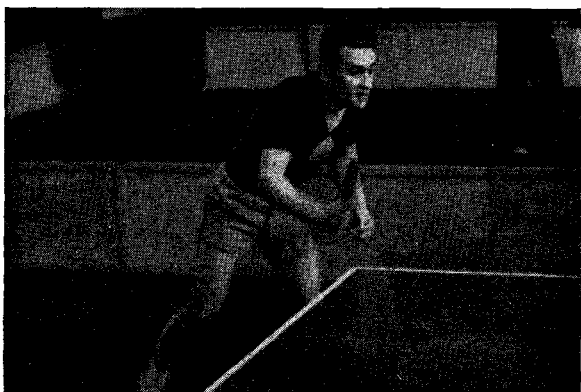
Over an indoor barbecue supper of sausages I found Norikazu Fujii to be a smiling, pleasant and ever-courteous individual. Hard to believe that the mild Japanese ex-world Doubles champion has earned, via his ferocious hitting, such titles as "The Tiger of the Green Table" and "The Bombshell."

"Norrie," Japanese national Singles champion in 1947, '48, '49, '50 and '52 (he didn't defend his title in '51) and three Doubles titles, attributes much of the astonishing success of Japan to the encouragement given to table tennis by universities and schools.

Like all his countrymen he is irritated by talk that sponge is partly responsible for their triumphs. "*We'd be just as good without,*" he contended. "*And remember that many of us, including Tomita and the new national champions—Seiji Narita and Kazu Yamaizumi—don't use it. As for those who do, well, it's my view that they'd be twice as spectacular without it.*" "Norrie" himself uses rubber.

### AN UNDERSTATEMENT

A school-teacher by profession, "The Bombshell" was philosophic about his suspension (it has been operative for six years) for being associated with the marketing of a bat after his Bombay world appearance. "I hope I'll be forgiven," he said mildly.



TOMI REITER

That was the understatement of the year, seeing that he has come halfway across the world to play exhibitions with Richard Bergmann and won't be able to do so unless his ban is lifted.

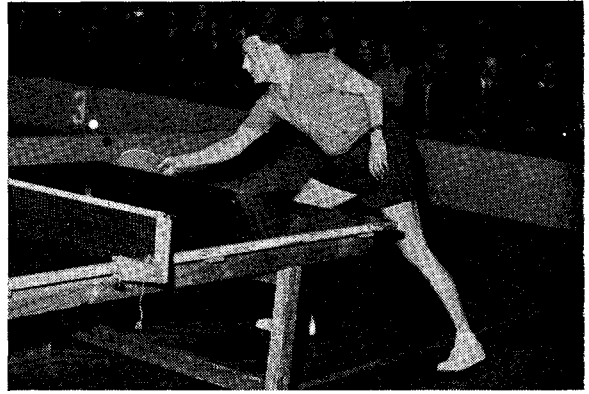
He has a nice sense of humour, as he revealed when he said he liked the description, "black-haired," given to him by a British national press writer. Said "Norrie," with a twinkle, "Whoever heard of a Japanese with blonde or red hair?" Here's hoping we'll have the chance to see the "Atomic Attacker" in action.

Let's turn, now, to "Tosh" Tanaka, that other Japanese personality. The world champion ascribes his defeat in the recent home championships to the fact that since completing his studies and taking up employment in a steel factory, he hasn't had the chance to practise as much as he used to. In spite of his defeat he hopes to be in the team competing in the All-Asia Championships, and then come to Europe for the World Series. "Tosh" says that the men he regards as his most dangerous rivals in the quest to retain his world title are (1) Berczik and (2) Andreadis.

I understand that Hungarian officials have definitely decided to support the ban on sponge. At the time of writ-

ing, and as previously reported in this column, the ban is apparently scheduled to come into effect after the European Championships. Which prompts me to ask the following delicate questions: Will the Magyars adhere to their resolution if, as is freely anticipated, they score successes in Budapest? Will they be tempted to postpone the move until after the World Series? And if they do well at that meeting, will they be willing to discard sponge? It seems hard to believe they will, particularly in view of the strong State interest in their T.T.

Still on about sponge (sorry, but while it's around you just can't ignore it) I should say we've been providing more genuine T.T. with rubber, and so the ban was utterly justified. But that ban didn't go far enough. It should have been effective for the English "Open." As it is,



IVAN ANDREADIS

our players have to meet "spongers" after several months of not facing such players. And that is likely to prove a fatal handicap, or at least a very serious one. Would such an all-out ban have affected overseas entries? In my opinion, not so as you would notice. Hungary and Czechoslovakia, for example, can field a formidable array of rubber-using stars. Also, there is the not-unimportant angle that by allowing foreigners to use whatever they like in the highly-rated "English," we are helping to encourage sponge.

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## Letters to the Editor

### THE FIRST PROTEST

REGARDING the suggestion that the E.T.T.A. should start a Pools Organisation, I must strongly protest against this. The Batley Youth Council, being a youth organisation, sponsored by the West Riding C.C., cannot lend its name or help towards any gambling project, however worthy the cause.

There are many alternatives to this immoral way of raising funds, and I am sure that a little thought—off the “get-rich-quick” line—will bear fruit.

Should the scheme come into being, we shall not distribute leaflets, etc., nor shall the scheme have any publicity of any kind.

**H. HAYES,**

(Secretary, Batley Youth Council T.T.L.)

### WHEN BALL MEETS BAT

I read the E.T.T.A. memorandum part two, “Standardisation of the Racket,” with interest, but cannot agree with some of the points.

The panic which led to the ban on sponge appears largely due to the failure to understand what happens when the racket hits the ball.

With pimped rubber, both the ball and the racket are indented at the moment of impact, and some of the kinetic energy is wasted in the form of heat and sound. With a covering of low density, thick, foamed latex, however, the material is so soft that the indentation of the ball is less. Owing to the fact that the rubber plus gas has an elasticity greater than either celluloid or pimped rubber, less energy is lost on impact. This means that the ball travels faster for a given speed of movement of a racket of given mass.

The ability to “reduce speed by absorption of the ball’s power” must come entirely from the skill of the player unless he uses a covering of lower elasticity which gives him no advantage of speed.

The “sponger” thus requires less muscular effort but greater muscular control.

With regard to spin, the ball is in contact with the sponge for a shorter length of time, which means that spin is imparted by a quick movement rather than a sweeping follow-through. In general, a “sponger” can put less spin on a fast shot but more spin on a slow one (because the sponge grips the ball more strongly and the player has more time to use this grip) than can the player using pimped rubber.

When playing against a “sponger” the following points should be noted:

- (a) *The ball travels faster for a given bat speed.*
- (b) *There is less chance of judging the spin by observation of the follow-through.*
- (c) *When defending against a sponge attack, there is usually less top spin which means that the ball will bounce higher.*
- (d) *There is no chance to judge the speed of a shot by the sound of impact.*

In my opinion, the use of a thick sponge covering makes the game faster and more varied, and therefore the experimental ban is a retrograde step.

**D. A. Turner,**  
(Woodford Green, Essex.)

### NOT CONVINCED

I FEAR that the Standardisation Memorandum will not convince other countries that sponge should be banned or even restricted in thickness.

Space prevents me analysing the Memo. completely, but a few points can be developed.

The advantage of sponge is not personal when it is open to any player to use it, but who maybe cannot or does not desire to.

Talk about more and more powerful rackets is a red herring. Such rackets would have no useful balance-of-points-gaining usability in view of their more and more uncontrollability.

As to Tradition and Cultural values of pimped rubber, other countries have their own values which may differ from ours. Arguments based on these values like arguments based on politics are best avoided.

I regret I cannot find much logic in the section “Logical Aspects.”

For example it is stated that it is not logical to standardise the table, ball and net but not the racket.

Why not? The first three have to be standardised in order that organised play between strangers can take place at all, but racket standardisation does not follow. In fact in no ball and racket game is the racket standardised.

The Memo. states that our rules were based on the game played with thin rubber rackets. This just is not true. One might just as well say they were based on the game played with wooden or sandpaper rackets.

Part two of the Memo. contains much confusion of ideas.

For example it states, that thick sponges “give extra speed by their compression and they can reduce speed by absorption of the ball’s power” which is scientifically self-contradictory.

Again it is faulty to consider the blade and the covering in isolation. What we play with is a racket—a single entity.

Any racket will, by a definite arm and wrist action, impart a definite speed and spin to the ball. With sponge, by the user’s power and touch, a larger range of speeds and spins are obtainable. It is as simple as that. Let us not be diverted along obscure side-tracks.

As to the physical energy aspect look at last year’s English Championships with many sponge players—the best Championships I have seen for many a year!

**DENIS OFFER**

### FOR SERVICES RENDERED

I FEEL that last month’s article “A BOLD VENTURE” may give the impression that it is the custom in Sussex to elect to the office of President or Vice-President for financial considerations. As a former County Secretary I can assure you that invitations to these offices were extended to persons who had rendered services to table tennis within the areas of the member leagues without thought to possible donations.

When, after some years, circumstances caused me to resign from the Secretaryship and I was appointed a Vice-President, I felt that it was in recognition of past services. I still prefer to think that to be the reason, rather than misplaced optimism on the part of Annual General Meetings.

Incidentally, in support of the new Sussex Junior “Open” Championship, the Hastings Association dropped the Junior Boys event from the Sussex “Open” in October and offered their trophy for the corresponding event in the new competition. Surely, therefore, it is four in hand and three to go.

I think that, probably due to a typographical error, part of Miss Rymill’s address was omitted. It is “Imatome,” 192, Goring Way, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex.

**W. L. GEORGE,**  
(Vice-President, Sussex C.T.T.A.)

## Kent Schools’ Team Championships

SITTINGBOURNE provide the best schoolgirl table tennis players in Kent, and Folkestone the best boys. That is the impression left by the Kent Schools’ Team Championships, which attracted some 250 youngsters, representing 64 teams, to Sittingbourne on January 18.

Sittingbourne West Secondary School repeated last season’s hat-trick by again winning the girls’ senior, under 15’s and under 13’s trophies, and for good measure two more local schools fought out the final of the under 12’s with Milton Regis beating Barrow Grove.

The main boys’ event and the under 15’s trophies were again won by Harvey Grammar, Folkestone, which was hardly surprising for their teams included Tony Piddock, now Kent’s

No. 1 senior, and two of the county junior side.

Cliftonville School, Margate won the under 13’s, while Herne Bay provided the only two entries for the under 12’s.

#### RESULTS

Boys: Senior: **HARVEY GRAMMAR**, Folkestone, bt Roan School, Woolwich, 9-1.

Under 15’s: **HARVEY GRAMMAR** bt Aylesford Sec. 9-3.

Under 13’s: **CLIFTONVILLE SCHOOL**, Margate, bt Herne Bay Sec. 9-3.

Under 12’s: **HERNE BAY SEC. “A”** bt Herne Bay Sec. “B” 9-1.

Girls: Senior: **SITTINGBOURNE WEST A** bt Harcourt Sec., Folkestone, 9-7.

Under 15’s: **SITTINGBOURNE WEST** bt Harcourt 9-7.

Under 13’s: **SITTINGBOURNE WEST** bt Christchurch Sec., Chatham, 9-8.

Under 12’s: **MILTON REGIS PRIMARY**, Sittingbourne, bt Barrow Grove Primary, Sittingbourne, 9-4.



**WELSH CORNER**

# Wales Find Form . . .

**STILL** smarting after that first ever defeat by Scotland, the Welsh team pulled itself together and scored a convincing win over Ireland by six matches to two.

Played at the Memorial Hall, Aberdare, on January 17, and organised by Association treasurer, Eddie Thomas, this match produced plenty of good play and more than a few thrills which were obviously enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic crowd.

For Wales, Norman Parker played solidly and convincingly to beat Don Mahoney, deputising for Colin Senior, while Glyn Morgan played stylishly if without bite against a still very fine defensive "veteran" Harry O'Prey. John Simonson did not do so well against the patient and accurate hitting of Ernie Allen.

Shirley Jones had an exciting and quickfire duel with Jean Lynn, a newcomer to the Irish team, and Ireland's best looking prospect yet, and Audrey Bates completely dominated Margaret Dowd. Shirley and Betty Gray won an exciting doubles against Jean and Margaret, and equally exciting was the last mixed doubles in which Shirley and Morgan just scraped home in the third against O'Prey and Jean Lynn.

New "cap" George Evans of Barry, combined effectively with Morgan, both playing steadily with the occasional hit to beat O'Prey and Mahoney.

**Scores (Welsh names first):** G. Morgan lost to H. O'Prey 17-21, 24-26. N. Parker bt D. Mahoney 21-19, 21-16. J. Simonson lost to E. Allen 18-21, 19-21. Miss S. Jones bt Miss J. Lynn 22-20. Miss A. Bates bt Miss M. Dowd 21-8, 21-11.

Morgan/G. Evans bt O'Prey/Mahoney 21-19, 21-18. Miss Jones/Miss B. Gray bt Miss Dowd/Miss Lynn 21-18, 23-21. Morgan/Miss Jones bt O'Prey/Miss Lynn 20-22, 21-19, 26-24.

## GALAXY OF STARS

Meantime, the first rounds in the Welsh "Open" were taking place down at Cardiff, and on the Saturday, all the visiting "stars" put in an appearance, and a real galaxy it was.

More detailed results are given elsewhere in this issue, but here are the experiences of the Welsh players.

Our men certainly did not shine, although Morgan did fairly well, before losing 14, 18, 13 to Terry Densham in the fourth round.

Simonson went out very ingloriously to Derek Baddeley of Birmingham 8, 18. Parker also made a second round exit, to Schofield, of Stockport, 21, 13. Our other "seed," Evans, came an "awful cropper," losing 8, 8, to Bob Griffin. Bernard Dimascio played Griffin in the next round, and only lost 16, 23, 12. This was our best performance. Stan Jones (Cardiff) lost to Raybould, Ronnie Davies went out to Densham, Everson lost to Rhodes, Jack Price to Calonius, Dennis Evans to Partos, Bryan Lewis to Morgan, Pat Crowley to Ken-

edy, and Ray Green to Hodson. All this happened in round three.

Shirley Jones disappointed in the women's singles. After beating Margaret Jones, she went out to Pam Mortimer very easily, getting only 14 and 8. Betty Gray beat Terry Spokes in the first round, but then fell to New Zealander, Joy Williamson, in the second. Audrey Bates had the best run with a good win over Yvonne Baker in the second, and close 18, 18 battle with Kathleen Best, the eventual winner in the quarter-final.

Gretta Dimascio played well to beat the Irish "star," Jean Lynn, two straight before losing to Joyce Fielder.

Gretta also partnered Audrey Bates to the semi-final of the doubles, losing to Kathie Best and Pam Mortimer. Betty Gray and Shirley Jones just lost to Joy Williamson and Lynne Whithams in the second round. Vera Rowe and Shirley Cartwright went out to Margaret Fry and Joyce Fielder, Shirley Evans and Yvonne Baker to Audrey and Gretta, and Margaret Jones with Jean Lynn, lost to Best and Mortimer.

In the men's doubles, Morgan and Simonson got to the quarters before going out to Maclaren and House, Parker and Griffin lost to Stevens and Raybould, also in the quarters.

We had some pairs late on in a very



**AUDREY BATES**

good mixed. Parker and Audrey Bates lost in the quarters to Raybould and Shirley Jones, who eventually won, while Shirley Evans with Alan Rhodes also met defeat in the quarters to Landry and Williamson. Alan Morris and Betty Gray lost to Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay.

Unfortunately there were only two entries for the girls' singles, in which, after a very good game, Sandra Morgan beat Margaret Bradnum, of Hull.

In the boys' event, there was not much outside challenge, and the Welsh boys proved best. David Parry won a good final after losing the first game to Bobbie Harries. David had beaten Dennis Cooke of Port Talbot in the one semi-final, and Bobbie's victim was Paul Cross of Abergavenny.

The Rhyd League ran a very successful Flintshire "Open" at Prestatyn, and although the Manchester Closed was on the same day, they had a good entry.

Birmingham supplied both singles winners in K. Burton and Mrs. D. D. Griffiths.

## . . . But England Too Strong

**ENGLAND** once again proved much too strong when they beat Wales by 7-1 at Aylesbury (writes Conrad Jaschke).

The surprising feature of the match was the way in which the Welsh players excelled in the doubles events, winning the mixed and going down fighting in the other two. In comparison they folded up in the singles.

England's young hope Ian Harrison set the pace with an easy win over Glyn Morgan, who was bewitched and bewildered by the Gloucestershire youth's heavy chop and hard hit.

The next event, the often-maligned women's doubles, turned out to be the best of the evening. Tall Audrey Bates, and tiny Shirley Jones, turned the tables after being outplayed in the first game by Di Collins and Jill Rook. It was anybody's match as superb rallies kept the audience cheering throughout the third game, with the English girls just getting home.

### SHIRLEY MESMERISED

Another close battle followed in the men's doubles, but the fourth event saw yet another proof of Mrs. Collins' superiority over Shirley Jones, with the score, if anything, flattering the Welsh girl as Di unwisely let up in the second game after having mesmerised Shirley most of the way.

This was Diane Collins at her brilliant

best, showing herself master of every shot and of every aspect of the game.

The fifth event finally brought Wales success in the mixed doubles, with Morgan and Miss Jones comfortable winners over Rhodes and Miss Rook.

There, however, joy ended for Wales, as Alan Rhodes beat an out-of-touch John Simonson. Jill Rook never put a foot (or bat!) wrong against Audrey Bates, and finally Bryan Merrett was actually seen to hit several winners in disposing of Norman Parker, who looked the most promising of the Welsh men.

A special mention must go to Jill Rook who suffered a heavy cold which had almost deprived her of her voice, but not of her will to win.

Non-playing captain Victor Barna expressed himself well satisfied with his team's performance. Welsh captain Roy Evans made up for his team's lack of success by delivering a scintillating speech at the cosy and delicious supper which had been laid on by the local organisers after the match.

### RESULTS

I. Harrison (Glos.) bt G. Morgan 21-11, 21-11. Mrs. D. Collins (Middx)/J. Rook (Surrey) bt A. Bates/S. Jones 21-10, 9-21, 21-17. Harrison/B. Merrett (Glos.) bt Morgan/N. Parker 21-19, 21-19. Mrs. Collins bt Jones 21-11, 21-18. A. Rhodes/Rook lost to Morgan/Jones 19-21, 10-21. Rhodes bt Simonson 21-11, 21-12. Miss Rook bt Miss Bates 21-16, 21-12. Merrett bt Parker 21-10, 21-10.

**YORKSHIRE NOTES**

# PAIRING UP



**JEAN PRESTON**

**C**ONGRATULATIONS come first. Step forward Premier Division player Jean Preston, who followed her election as "Sporting Personality of the Year" in Harrogate area with the announcement of her engagement to Colin Bentley, a fellow Knaresborough inter-league representative.

And a handshake for genial Maurice Simpson, who did so well in his Premier Division come-back against Sussex as a late replacement for Hinchliff.

Betty Kinsley, still only 15, took some of the shine off Jean's delight by beating her in straight games when Hull women beat Knaresborough 9-1. This was Betty's answer to anyone who thought she might be deterred by two earlier matches.

At city level she lost to Jean Butcher, unbeaten in Sheffield's 6-4 conquest of Hull. At club level Betty and her young Y.P.I. team-mates were shocked by Hull British Legion's trio of Shirley Train, Madge Green and Pat Close, who pushed them out of the Women's Inter-club Championship which they won last year.

In the Youths' Championship Y.P.I. Madge and "closed" champion Shirley won two each in this 7-2 semi-final victory.

In the Youths' Championship Y.P.I. beat Scarborough Y.M.C.A. 5-4. Graham

Maw won three and young Colin Gray two, while Tony Tucker bagged a brace for Scarborough.

Graham Lynch, a boy with a fine future to anticipate, had his first game for Sheffield when they overcame Hull 7-3. He beat Clive Pollard and shared a "doubles" success with Deaton.

**Go to York for 100 per cent. records.** David Poole has one in youths' inter-league matches. League teams with them are Railway Institute (Division 1), Combined Hospitals (Division 2)—and West Yorkshire Road Car Company, who have surrendered only 10 of the 90 sets that have taken them to the top of Division 4.

Bradford's individual averages are led by Terry Miller and Maurice Pitts. Top man in Division 2 is Haydn Copley, a pre-war veteran whose spin and unorthodoxy had been countered only twice at the season's turn.

Powered by Ray Hinchliff and Brian Pennington, Y.M.C.A. lead the Huddersfield League after a 7-2 win over third-placed R.A.F.A. Victoria No. 2 dropped their first Leeds League points of the season when first Y.M.C.A. and then Ministry of Works held them to draws. Jewish Institute have resigned. They had won only eight sets in seven league defeats.

**LEEDS CHAMPIONS**

Leeds have lost city player John Spencer to the Army. Just before he

left he retained the Men's Doubles "Closed" title with Victoria colleague Peter Simpson and lost in the Singles final to holder Ken Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Stead reached the final of the Mixed but failed to dethrone Park and Marjorie Lightfoot. Former County player Stanley Rosenberg reversed last year's Veterans' verdict by beating Geoff Farrar. Other winners: Women's Singles, Marjorie Rhodes; Doubles, Lightfoot and Rhodes; Youths', C. Price.

**Malcolm Hartley.**

## MIDDLESEX SET BACK

**T**HE drawn game against Lancashire has caused a set-back (only temporarily we hope) to efforts for a double championship victory in the senior and junior divisions. Maybe it was the bright lights of television which upset our players, but whatever it was Lancashire were certainly a match for the champions on this occasion.

Everything is building up towards a grandstand finale against Gloucestershire on March 22 at Messrs. Ascot Water Heaters, North Circular Road.

The juniors continue to play their part very well, their win over Suffolk taking them to the top of the Junior Division South.

The only other unbeaten team is Surrey who are visitors to Middlesex on March 18.

In the Inter-League Competition, Wembley have ended their unbeaten run in the Premier Division and Acton become firm favourites for the title with Barnets the likely wooden spoonists.

Acton's second team is at the other end of the table in Division II, where unbeaten Central lead the table.

In the third Division Uxbridge are fighting hard to regain higher status while Willesden are in difficulties at the foot of the table. Barnets and Willesden are the chief rivals for the Junior Division.

Nine teams have entered the Inter-Borough Championship for affiliated members of the Middlesex County Council Youth Organisation.

It is being played on a knock-out basis, with the final being staged by Middlesex T.T.A. sometime in April.

Talking of April, there are rumours of a revival of the Middlesex "Open." Watch out for a possible announcement and keep the end of April free just in case.

Other dates for your diary are: February 20, Middlesex v. Essex (Tottenham Baths); February 22, Wilmott Cup Finals (Messrs. Sperry's, Brentford); February 22-28 and March 1, West Middlesex "Open."

**Norman Reeve.**



**BETTY KINSELEY**

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**First Sussex Junior "Open" Table Tennis Championships (Unrestricted) Sunday, 13th April, 1958, at Littlehampton.**  
Events: B.S. and G.S., under 17, under 15; B.D., G.D., and X.D.  
Closing date: 20th March, 1958  
Entry Forms, etc., Miss L. E. Rymill, 192, Goring Way, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex.

## HERTS. DO WELL

**H**ERTFORDSHIRE have every reason to be satisfied with the results obtained by their County teams and especially by the performance of Watford Ladies who have once again reached the quarter-finals of the Rose Bowl. In the next round they are drawn away to the holders, Birmingham.

Maurice Williams, recently transferred from Middlesex, made his debut for Hertfordshire when they beat Berkshire 7-3. The three defeats were shared equally by the men who each lost one of their Singles.

Hertfordshire, although held to a draw by Hampshire, can take consolation from the fine display given by John Hunt who won both his Singles and shared a success in the Mixed Doubles with Janet White.

During the same evening the Junior team, for whom Geoffrey Seaholme made his first appearance when his brother David fell ill, drew their match with Sussex.

Fourteen-year-old Robert Ractliffe, the County Junior Champion, made the journey to the Yorkshire Junior "Open" Tournament and acquitted himself very favourably. Competing in Singles events only, he reached the final of the "under 15s" and the quarter-finals of the Junior and Youth events—in both of these he was defeated by Eddie Taylor.

These two met previously in the Kent Junior "Open" and although Taylor also won that encounter in straight games, Ractliffe obtained 18 points or more in each game and with three more seasons as a Junior, is a most promising youngster.

R. W. Barney.

## WILTS. NEW LOOK

**T**HIS season's "New Look" County League with its three Divisions for: Men (Division I), Men and Women (Division II) and Juniors (Division III), has given more players a chance of appearing for their respective Leagues in representative matches.

Biggest individual surprise in the Premier Division was Major Roddham's trio of Singles' wins over all three Salisbury players (J. Candy, T. Cash and A. Ward), who have taken the City to the top with a double over Devizes and an away win over Chippenham.

Division II leaders West Wiltshire lost their only point when entertaining Devizes. Although leading 4-1 and 5-2 the home League were unable to press home their advantage and so had to be content with a 5-5 draw.

### LEAGUE POSITIONS

DIVISION ONE	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Salisbury .....	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Swindon .....	3	2	1	0	25	5	5
West Wiltshire .....	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
DIVISION TWO							
West Wiltshire .....	4	3	1	0	27	13	7
Swindon .....	3	2	0	1	24	6	4
Salisbury .....	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
DIVISION THREE							
West Wiltshire .....	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Salisbury .....	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Devizes .....	3	1	0	2	12	18	2

D. Hillier.

## LANCS. and CHESHIRE

# WHEELCHAIR CHAMPIONS

**L**ANCASHIRE Juniors gained a win over Cheshire Juniors at the Central Police Station, Stockport on January 7. Linda Gordon of Salford, played intelligently to beat No. 4 ranking England Junior, Diane Wright of Stockport. She found herself 20-15 down in the first game, but gritted her teeth and steadily fought for and won the next five points for deuce, finally clinching the game at 23-21. Although Diane won the second game, Linda con-

tinued her fight and steadiness to gain the set.

The Macclesfield League have lost the services as Treasurer of Ernie Hackney after 30 years continuous service. He will, however, maintain his interest in the game and was recently elected Vice-Chairman. He is also a Life Member of the League and serves on the Executive Committee of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association.

*More Macclesfield news is that the "Terrible Twins" of Lyme Green, Bob Murrell and George Swindlehurst brought the 1957/58 Men's Doubles title back to Macclesfield from the National Paraplegic Championships held at Stoke Mandeville. These two ex-servicemen are paralysed from the waist down, and are confined to wheelchairs.*

Player to be watched for the future is Doreen Ridgeway, of Stockport, protégé of Eric Johnson, the Cheshire County player. This young lady possesses a fine selection of strokes and a delightful temperament but needs more power in her attack.

Lorna Bown is playing well during her first season as a Senior, having reached the Ladies' Doubles semi-finals of three Tournaments and the Ladies' Singles final of the Yorkshire "Open." She also won the Girls' Singles of the Yorkshire Junior Tournament at Hull on January 4. Eager to learn and quick thinking, there is no doubt she has benefited greatly from the help and advice she received at Lilleshall in September last.



LORNA BOWN

Eileen Grimstone.

## DURHAM NEWS-FARE

# DURHAM JUNIORS HALTED

**D**URHAM Juniors lost their first match of the season going down 3-5 to Yorkshire. Durham's only successes were registered when Eddie Taylor beat Lynch, Wilf Barker won against McGhee and together they defeated the Yorkshire pair in the Boys' Doubles. This month's return game, however, might well see Durham turn the tables.

In the Yorkshire Junior "Open," England's No. 1, Taylor, reached the semi-final of both Junior and Youth Singles, but disappointed by losing to Parry (Wales) and Poole (Yorkshire) respectively. In each match he appeared to be on top when hitting firmly, but in the deciding games too easily reverted to hit and drop tactics. Nevertheless, he played extremely well in the earlier rounds, having good wins over Ractliffe (twice) and Stoddart.

Barker, with a more helpful draw, may well have gone a long way in the "under 15" singles, but unfortunately met Livesey in an irrepressible mood and was

never in with a chance. He lost in the 3rd round of the Junior Singles and put up a defiant show against Lancashire player, Jacobson, before losing narrowly in the 1st round of the Youth Singles.

This season has certainly been a great triumph for the Sunderland teams in the Durham Senior League. Their men, women and juniors all head their respective divisions with 100 per cent. records. In fact, the juniors, represented by Taylor, Barker, Hewitt and Wright, must be one of the best sides in the country.

Sunderland men suffered their first defeat of the season at the hands of Huddersfield losing 3-5 in the 3rd round of the Wilmott Cup. Spectators were treated to a magnificent display by Gordon Lumsden who thrashed Stuart Dyson 21-14, 21-10, and won easily in the deciding end against Gordon Cowgill. Jack Stephenson also played well, defeating Cowgill and extending both Dyson and George Carrigill.

Arnold Warentz.

## SURREY HOPEFUL

SURREY go into the New Year with hope in their hearts. The loss of a precious point by Middlesex to Lancashire, puts us firmly back into the Premier Division title chase.

We received a set-back in the "Bernard Crouch" Trophy, when after winning our first two matches, we unexpectedly lost the return home game to Essex.

The County junior side, unbeaten to date, will be straining at the leash for the final game of the season, not that they will be glad it is over but to fight out, as expected, the title with Middlesex.

Having watched the juniors several times this season I know they will not be overawed by the International line up against them.

Congratulations to Mary Shannon on her international selection against France, it should be only one of many for she is undoubtedly a young player with a big future.

Wandsworth although conceding an 8-1 win to South London in the Wilmott Cup, made the experienced Jackie Head, Ron Craydon and Joe Somogyi fight through many three-game matches. Not news? But the Wandsworth team was Terry Kirby, Surrey "B" team, Terry Law and Alan Rowden. Rowden was unknown even to the knowledgeable Ron Craydon, who knows most players. Perhaps we have some more men coming along in the county.

Jim Forrest

## W. STAMP MEMORIAL FUND

The above Fund, details of which appeared in our December issue, will close on 28th February, 1958. Anyone who is still desirous of making a contribution please forward it to S. D. Cameron, 29, Dudlow Lane, Liverpool, 18, before that date.

Cheques should be made payable to "LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE STAMP MEMORIAL FUND."

## WESTERN BULLETIN

CARDIFF, with several Welsh internationals in their side, slammed Bristol "seconds" 6-2 in the Western League. Jim Evans was behind both Bristol wins beating Bernard Dimascio in the singles, then partnering J. Wotton to beat Dimascio and Stan Jones.

Cardiff were overwhelmingly strong in the women's events where they had Audrey Bates and Gretta Dimascio.

Bristol II figured in a much more exciting match when they visited Weston. After holding a 4-2 lead they were pulled back to a 4-all draw.

R. Philpott and D. Shipton beating Evans and P. Harris respectively saved the match for Weston. These two players had previously won the doubles against Evans and Wotton.

Grove Motlow

## GAMBRIDGE HIT BAD SPELL

CAMBRIDGE have certainly been going through a bad spell recently - bottom of the Southern Division last season and without a win this.

However, if the keenness of some of the local clubs is any criterion they will soon be climbing the ladder.

The most go-ahead are Abington, a new club, who show keen interest in coaching sessions. They have already had one and are now awaiting another. Let us hope more clubs in the area will follow the Abington lead.

Cambridge, who last season made an early exit, reached the Zone final of the Wilmott Cup, where they, unfortunately, found Leicester much too strong and were beaten 8-1.

In the Cambridgeshire League the race for top honours has been whittled down to two clubs, New Chesterton Institute and Wesley, N.C.I. are the favourites having just gained the edge over Wesley.

Leslie Constable

## SPORT TO CLOTHING

Jill Rook, England's No. 3 woman player, has recently taken up a secretarial appointment with Fred Perry Sportswear. She was previously with A. G. Spalding Bros.

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COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP - - - By CONRAD JASCHKE

**LANCASHIRE HOLD MIDDLESEX**

*Alcock's Fine Display*

**R**ON ALLCOCK, Lancashire left-hander, turned on a five-star performance to rob Middlesex of their one-hundred per cent. record in what was undoubtedly the match of the month.

Before a Middlesex crowd, and in the glare of television arc lights, this 28-year-old textile designer, swept all before him to register three Lancashire wins in a 5-all draw.

This is the first point the Northerners have taken from Middlesex since the inauguration of the championships in 1947, and has made the champions' position a little less secure.

Alcock, who gained the last of his four international badges as long ago as 1951, defeated both Alan Rhodes and Michael Thornhill, then paired up with Connie Spencer to win the mixed doubles against Len Adams and Margaret Fry.



**RON ALLCOCK**

The two top Middlesex men had a most unhappy time, Rhodes also losing to Geoff Pullar, and Thornhill to Jeff Ingber.

Pullar, a Lancashire cricketer, and Ingber, both 22 and former junior internationals, had previously fallen to Derek Burridge in singles and in the men's doubles where he was partnered by Adams.

It was however, the left-handed Ingber who had the responsibility of forcing a draw, for Middlesex were 5-4 when he faced Thornhill in the last tie of the evening.

Ingber may have lacked some of the finer technical assets of his opponent but proved himself a real fighter, pulling up from behind to run out a worthy winner.

Middlesex, of course, were well on top for the women's events, Diane Collins easily beating 19-year-old Ivy Haney in the singles, then with Miss Fry winning the doubles against Miss Haney and Mrs. Spencer.

**Televised**

The experiment of televising this match was highly successful and the games came over well on the screen. There was, of course, a slight rearrangement of the order of play, but the expert Middlesex organisation prevented any major snags.

*The financial angle and the atmosphere which TV can give to an event could be an important factor in the future development of the County Championships.*

Bryan Merrett lost his unbeaten record and Gloucestershire said goodbye to such hopes of the championship that remained, when they met Essex at Shenfield and were beaten 6-4.

Merrett lost to both Johnny Leach and Bobby Stevens, thus making the difference between victory and defeat, for Gloucestershire.

It was Stevens, celebrating his selection for the England team to meet Scotland, who broke Merrett's record, winning 21-18, 10-21, 21-16. His quick attacking game proved a most effective answer to the dour stonewalling of the Gloucestershire No. 1.

Stevens, however, met his match when he came up against Aubrey Simons, another counter-hitter, and lost 23-25, 15-21.

Simons also beat Bobby Raybould,

but with Mrs. Morley went down in the mixed doubles to Leach and Yvonne Baker.

Most credit for the Essex win, which now makes them safe from the fear of relegation, goes to Leach. He was at the top of his form and went through the programme unbeaten. In addition to his win over Merrett, and that in the doubles, he also beat Ian Harrison, and did not drop a game in the match.

*Gloucestershire's weakness on the women's side was again emphasised, for they lost both the women's singles and doubles.*

The same happened when Gloucestershire beat Glamorgan 8-2, though on this occasion they won the mixed doubles, Simons and Mrs. Morley beating Louis Devereux and Betty Gray.

It was an unfortunate debut for Devereux, for he also lost both his singles, being little match for Simons or Harrison.

**Going Down**

Glamorgan, with only two more matches to play, and only one point so far, look booked for a return to the Second Division along with Sussex, who lost 3-7 to Yorkshire in their home match.

Peter Shead and Brian Leach each won their singles against Stuart Dyson, while Shead and his wife Pat, provided an upset in the mixed doubles when they beat Brian Kennedy and Jean Preston.

Cheshire, with a 6-4 win over Warwickshire, the leaders, squeezed into second place in the Second Division North.

**COUNTY DIARY**

<b>PREMIER DIVISION</b>		
February 20	Middlesex v Essex, Municipal Hall, High Road, Tottenham, London, N.15	7.30 p.m.
<b>SECOND DIVISION NORTH</b>		
March 7	Cheshire v Yorkshire, Wm. Kenyons & Sons Ltd., Canteen, Railway Street, Dukinfield	7.30 p.m.
<b>SECOND DIVISION WEST</b>		
March 8	Dorset v Somerset.	
<b>MIDLAND DIVISION</b>		
February 22	Staffordshire v Northamptonshire, Stafford	7 p.m.
<b>SOUTHERN DIVISION</b>		
February 22	Bedfordshire v Norfolk.	
March 5	Hertfordshire v Bedfordshire, The St. Albans School	7 p.m.
<b>MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION</b>		
February 22	Northamptonshire v Staffordshire.	
<b>NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION</b>		
March 8	Cheshire v Yorkshire, Lancashire Hill Sunday School, Old Road, Stockport	3 p.m.
<b>SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION</b>		
February 15	Suffolk v Kent.	
February 22	Essex v Kent, Y.M.C.A., Victoria Road, Chelmsford	6.30 p.m.
February 24	Middlesex v Essex, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1	7.15 p.m.
March 8	Essex v Hertfordshire	

**HARRY VENNER**

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Fielding Ann Haydon and Pam Mortimer, Warwickshire walked it in the three events in which the girls were engaged and also surprisingly took the men's doubles. However, the Cheshire trio, V. Hankey, E. Johnson and D. Schofield took all six men's singles . . . but five of these went to three games!

Somerset moved up as chief challengers to Staffordshire in the Second Division West when they pipped Worcestershire 6-4 in one of the best matches seen in Worcester for years.

Plenty of excitement in the women's singles when Mrs. B. Shammon made a great effort to save this event for Worcester. Trailing 10-18 in the third to Mrs. M. Lindsay she levelled at 19-all then lost 19-21.

Kent "seconds" head the Southern Division following a runaway win over Norfolk, while Yorkshire upset calculations in the Northern Junior Division with a 5-3 win over Durham.

## DIVISIONAL TABLES

League Tables at January 28, 1958

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
<b>PREMIER DIVISION</b>							
Surrey	5	4	0	1	36	14	8
Gloucestershire	6	4	0	2	38	22	8
Middlesex	4	3	1	0	28	12	7
Yorkshire	5	3	0	2	28	22	6
Essex	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Lancashire	4	1	1	2	15	25	3
Sussex	5	1	0	4	13	37	2
Glamorgan	5	0	1	4	15	35	1
<b>DIVISION II NORTH</b>							
Warwickshire	4	2	1	1	24	16	5
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Northumberland	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Lincolnshire	3	1	2	0	16	14	4
Yorkshire II	3	0	1	2	13	17	1
Durham	3	0	0	3	4	26	0
<b>DIVISION II SOUTH</b>							
Kent	3	3	0	0	23	7	6
Hertfordshire	4	2	1	1	22	18	5
Berkshire	5	2	1	2	28	22	5
Hampshire	4	1	2	1	21	19	4
Suffolk	3	1	0	2	14	16	2
Buckinghamshire	3	0	0	3	2	28	0
<b>DIVISION II WEST</b>							
Staffordshire	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Somerset	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Worcestershire	4	2	0	2	25	15	4
Devon	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Wiltshire	4	1	1	2	12	28	3
Cornwall	4	1	0	3	14	26	2
Dorset	5	0	1	4	17	33	1
<b>MIDLAND DIVISION</b>							
Warwickshire II	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Derbyshire	2	1	0	1	12	8	2
Staffordshire II	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	9	0
<b>SOUTHERN DIVISION</b>							
Kent II	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Bedfordshire	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Hertfordshire II	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Norfolk	2	1	0	1	7	13	2
Cambridgeshire	3	0	0	3	12	13	0
<b>MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION</b>							
Warwickshire	3	2	0	1	15	9	4
Staffordshire	2	1	0	1	8	8	2
Northamptonshire	1	0	0	1	1	7	0
<b>NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION</b>							
Lancashire	5	3	1	1	26	14	7
Yorkshire	4	2	1	1	17	15	5
Durham	3	2	0	1	15	9	4
Cheshire	4	0	4	4	6	26	0
<b>SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION</b>							
Middlesex	4	4	0	0	39	1	8
Surrey	4	4	0	0	30	10	8
Essex	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Hertfordshire	4	1	1	2	17	23	3
Kent	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Sussex	5	0	1	4	12	38	1
Suffolk	4	0	4	6	34	0	0

**PREMIER DIVISION**  
**Middlesex 5, Lancashire 5**  
 A. Rhodes lost to R. Alcock —16, —22; lost to G. Pullar —19, 16, —16. M. Thornhill lost to Alcock 15, —16, —19; lost to J. Ingber —10, 17, —16. D. Burridge b Pullar 10, 16; b Ingber 18, —14, 16.  
 L. Adams/Burridge b Ingber/Pullar 16, —17, 13. Adams/Miss M. Fry lost to Alcock/Mrs. C. Spencer —16, —16.  
 Mrs. D. Collins b Miss I. Haney 13, 9.  
 Mrs. Collins/Miss Fry b Miss Haney/Mrs. Spencer 16, 10.  
**Essex 6, Gloucestershire 4**  
 J. Leach b B. Merrett 16, 17; b I. Harrison 15, 13. R. Stevens b Merrett 18, —10, 16; lost to A. Simons —23, —15. R. Raybould lost to Harrison 17, —9, —19; lost to Simons —16, —16.  
 Raybould/Stevens lost to Harrison/Merrett —18, 19, —14. Leach/Miss Y. Baker b Simons/Mrs. B. Morley 21, 18.  
 Miss Y. Baker b Miss S. Davies —17, 19, 11.  
 Mrs. E. Carrington/Miss B. Milbank b Miss Davis/Mrs. Morley 13, 17.  
**Sussex 3, Yorkshire 7**  
 P. Shead lost to B. Kennedy —5, —19; b S. Dyson —14, 15, 14. B. Leach lost to Kennedy —12, —7; lost to M. Simpson —14, —17. J. Quilter b Dyson 23, 17; lost to Simpson 17, —14, —8.  
 Leach/Quilter lost to Dyson/Simpson 17, —14, —8. Shead/Mrs. P. Shead b Kennedy/Miss J. Preston 17, 23.  
 Miss W. Bates lost to Miss C. Best —16, —13.  
 Miss Bates/Mrs. Shead lost to Miss Best/Miss Preston —13, —14.

**Glamorgan 2, Gloucestershire 8**  
 J. Simonson lost to I. Harrison —11, —17; lost to B. Merrett —8, —11. G. Morgan lost to Merrett —15, —17; lost to A. Simons —17, —11. L. Devereux lost to Simons —14, —14; lost to Harrison —16, —5.  
 Morgan/Simonson lost to Harrison/Merrett —14, —16. Devereux/Miss B. Gray lost to Simons/Mrs. B. Morley 10, —19, —19.  
 Miss S. Jones b Miss S. Davis 11, 6.  
 Miss Gray/Miss Jones b Mrs. Morley/Miss A. Cox 16, 16.

**DIVISION II (NORTH)**  
 Yorkshire II 5, Lincolnshire 5.  
 Warwickshire 4, Cheshire 6.

**DIVISION II (SOUTH)**  
 Hampshire 5, Hertfordshire 5.  
 Suffolk 3, Berkshire 7.

**DIVISION II (WEST)**  
 Worcestershire 4, Somerset 6.  
 Cornwall 2, Devon 8.  
 Staffordshire 9, Wiltshire 1.

**MIDLAND DIVISION**  
 Warwickshire II 6, Staffordshire II 4.

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**  
 Kent II 9, Norfolk 1.  
 Cambridgeshire 4, Hertfordshire II 6.

**MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION**  
 Warwickshire 3, Staffordshire 5.

**NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION**  
 Cheshire 1, Lancashire 7.  
 Yorkshire 5, Durham 3.

**SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION**  
 Suffolk 0, Middlesex 10.  
 Sussex 5, Hertfordshire 5.

## Leslie Woollard Introduces

# ANOTHER LIFE MEMBER

## Ivor Montagu

The most known and the least known man in table tennis. He is an Original, an all-rounder in the tradition of W. G. Grace.

Almost a junior he came in the high noon of the game's history and became the main arch over which the game grew. He has seen the tides of ALL champions ebb and flow. History will show that the despotic tyranny of which he has been so often accused, was rather a benevolent monarchy. The International Federation (of which he has been the ONLY President, 1926-1957) would have been in bankrupt state without him.

For 36 years he has dominated English table tennis. Four times E.T.A. President; 25 times Chairman; a dozen times Hon. Referee of the English "Open" Championships; roughly 150 times non-playing captain of England. Now the years push but his heart just won't give in. A boyish heart it is, apt to cock a snook at pomp and circumstance and say something quite outrageous when the scene is all dignity and strain.

## VERSATILE

Ivor is a man of paradox and passion. None has ever been more passionate in activity for table tennis. *Master of Arts, Master of Lan-*



IVOR MONTAGU

*guages, Master Gamesman. Film producer ("The Man Who Knew Too Much," "The 39 Steps"); film director (he once directed Bernard Shaw); script-writer ("Scott and the Antarctic"); author (on VERY varied subjects); broadcaster; leader-writer; war correspondent in Spain, China and the Western Front; member of the M.C.C., and player of as many games as Gargantua.*

This man does get you roused. You can be passionately against him; you can be moved to the warmest affection in the oddest of ways. BUT, you CANNOT be apathetic. Perhaps that is the genius of his successful, if occasionally stormy, leadership.

# 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>
Feb. 10-15	<b>South London "Open"</b> Central Baths, Bermondsey.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
13	<b>Ireland v. England</b> Belfast.		
15	<b>Scotland v. England</b> Govan Town Hall, Glasgow.		
15	<b>Pontefract "Open" (R) (Feb. 5)</b> Town Hall, Pontefract.	Y.S.	Mr. T. Horrocks, Rockland, Bondgate, Pontefract, Yorks.
15	<b>Gwent "Open"</b> Standard Telephones and Cables, Newport.		Mr. G. E. Motlow, 29, Carisbrooke Road, Newport, Mon.
20-22	<b>Cheshire "Open" (Feb. 3)</b> Birkenhead Y.M.C.A., Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead, Cheshire.	V.S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
22	<b>Wilmott Cup (Semi-finals and Final)</b> Sperry's Sports and Social Club, Gt. West Road, Brentford, Middlesex.		Mr. R. W. Boorer, 50, Southdown Avenue, Hanwell, W.7.
22	<b>Rose Bowl (Semi-Finals and Final)</b> Messrs. Johnson & Johnson, Southampton Road, Cosham, Portsmouth.		Mr. C. H. Staples, 271, Francis Avenue, Southsea, Hants.
22-23	<b>Hertfordshire "Closed"</b> de Havilland Propellers' Canteen, Manor Road, Hatfield.		Mr. D. B. Guilford, 86, Sweet Briar, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.
22-28 & Mar. 1	<b>West Middlesex "Open" (R) (Feb. 14)</b> West Ealing Club, Mervyn Road, West Ealing, London, W.13.	J.S.B. J.S.G. Y.S.	Mr. and Mrs. Riddick, 29, Thorney Hedge Road, Chiswick, London, W.4.
Mar. 1	<b>South Yorkshire "Open"</b> Somme Barracks, Glossop Road, Sheffield, 10.	J.S.B.	Mr. R. D. Renshaw, 7, Luna Croft. Gleadless, Sheffield, 12.
1	<b>Inter-Varsity Match, Cambridge v Oxford</b> Fenners, Cambridge.		
5-7	<b>Scottish "Open"</b>		
2-9	<b>European Championships</b> Budapest.		
13	<b>Sussex Junior "Open"</b> Littlehampton Badminton and Squash Club, Off High Street, Littlehampton.	Under 15 S.	Mr. J. Joyes, Flat 5, 7, Park Crescent, Worthing.
14-15	<b>West of England "Open" (Mar. 1)</b> Bristol South Baths, Dean Lane, Bedminster, Bristol, 3.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	Mr. D. Rowe, 380, Speedwell Road, Kingswood, Bristol.
15	<b>Cheshire Junior "Open" (Mar. 3)</b> Livingstone Street Baths, Livingstone Street, Birkenhead.	Under 15 S.	Mr. W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
18-20	<b>Irish "Open" (Mar. 8)</b> Abbey Lecture Hall, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin.	J.S.B. G.S.B.	Mrs. G. Doyle, 55, Highfield Park, Dundrum Road, Dublin.
22-23	<b>French "Open"</b>		
25-29	<b>English "Open"</b>		
April 5 & 7	<b>North East England Open (Mar. 26)</b> Burniston Barracks, Scarborough.	J.S.B. J.S.G. Y.S. V.S.	Mr. W. Mitton, 16, The Whins, Newby, Scarborough.
26-27	<b>Luxemburg International Championships</b>		

## WELSH "OPEN" SHOCKS Bergmann and Kennedy Crash

A LOT of fine table tennis, a few sensations, and a sponge—sponge at its most attractive and sponge at its horrible worst. Thank goodness there was not much of the latter in the ingredients of another successful Welsh "Open."

Sensations? Out went Richard Bergmann in the fourth round, beaten by Bobby Raybould 19-21, 21-19, 21-19. We know Bergmann does not like best of three, but this was not World Champion stuff, and his opponent revelled in high returns near the net. Well played Raybould, especially when Bergmann was creeping up at the end. But Oh! Richard.

Sensation No. 2 also came in the fourth round when Eddie Hodson beat Brian Kennedy 14-21, 21-12, 22-20. The last points after 20-all were breathtaking.

Raybould was later beaten by Ken Craigie in the semi-final, 19 and 20, while Hodson went out to Thornhill in the quarters 12 and 13.

Craigie captured some more valuable scalps when he defeated Ian Harrison by 16 and 16; Bryan Merrett by 16, —17, and 8—

this was a brilliant win; then Raybould, only to fail in a quick final to Alan Rhodes —16, —17.

Here is the winner's progress—Buckley (Bristol) 9, 14; Everson (Newport) 16, 8; Landry 14, 18; Griffin 14, 12; Thornhill —16, 15, 13; and then the final.

Full marks for a fine day's play to Michael Thornhill, and a special award for his patiently contrived victory over the unbeautifully pushed sponge bat of Lindsay. After that—Schofield 15, 18; Partos, surely a fine prospect from Bristol, 19, 15, and then Hodson. Aubrey Simons lost to Bob Griffin, in a game of 16's. Bobbie Stevens fell to Robertson of Watford.

*Ranking upsets, too, in the women's event. Kathleen Best was in great form, and her games throughout produced the best women's play of the day. Here's her path to the final—Sandra Morgan 5, 6; Margaret Lindsay 7, 18; Audrey Bates 18, 18; Margaret Fry 20, 15.*

Look at the heads that fell to Pam Mortimer. Lynne Whithams 13, 16; Shirley Jones 14, 8; Joyce Fielder 18, 16.

And the final was a grand game. Kathie took the first 21-16, led 20-15 in the second, faltered and Pam took seven in a row, but the Yorkshire girl made no mistake in the decider.

Margaret Fry's quarter-final victim was New Zealander, Joy Williamson, who had previously beaten Betty Gray.

Fine games in the men's doubles, with "spongers"



Bobby Raybould

Ken Craigie and Len Adams eventually triumphing over Stevens and Raybould, who had previously disposed of the holders, Simons and Kennedy. Bergmann and Merrett completed their misfortune by losing to Landry and Hodson!

Kathie Best won the doubles, too, partnering Pam Mortimer to victory over Margaret Fry and Joyce Fielder, after beating Audrey Bates and Gretta Dimascio. Joy Williamson and Lynne Whithams were the runners-up semi-final victims.

Shirley Jones, joint holder of the mixed title with Ivor Jones, retained it with Raybould, after some very good wins.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** K. CRAIGIE bt R. Raybould 21-19, 22-20; A. RHODES bt M. Thornhill 16-21, 21-15, 21-13.

**Final:** RHODES bt Craigie 21-16, 21-17.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** C. K. BEST bt M. Fry 22-20, 21-15; P. MORTIMER bt J. Fielder 21-18, 21-16.

**Final:** BEST bt Mortimer 21-16, 20-22, 21-15.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** CRAIGIE/L. ADAMS bt R. Stevens/Raybould 21-15, 16-21, 21-19.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** BEST/MORTIMER bt Fry/Fielder 21-19, 21-12.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** RAYBOULD/Miss S. JONES bt Adams/Miss Fry 22-20, 21-12.

**Boys' Singles: Final:** D. PARRY bt R. Harries 17-21, 22-20, 21-18.

**Girls' Singles: Final:** S. MORGAN bt M. Bradnum 21-18, 18-21, 22-20.

## Seeds Fail at Kent "Open"

THE Kent "Open" at Folkestone on 25th to 26th January once again proved a graveyard for seeded players. All were eliminated, with the exception of one man and one woman, before the single semi-finals (writes Conrad Jaschke).

Man of the moment was Eddie Hodson, of Middlesex. He failed to win a title but accounted for a class player almost every round, as he hit his way through Len Adams (Mddx.), David House (Somerset), Ian Harrison (Glos.), and Bryan Merrett (Glos.), England's No. 2.

Only Mickey Thornhill (Mddx.) in the final managed to stop the eager young Hodson, but he had his work cut out before winning 29-27, 21-19.

It was difficult to realise that this was the same Hodson who a few weeks earlier had lost all his games in the preliminary groups of the N.W. Kent "Open."

Harrison eliminated the holder Ken Craigie, while the top form Thornhill beat Alan Rhodes (Mddx.) seeded No. 2.

The Women's Singles produced equal shocks. Yvonne Baker (Essex), the No. 4 seed, fell to Mary Stafford (Mddx.) in the groups, and the two top seeds Shirley Jones (Wales) and Jill Rook (Surrey) went out to Joyce Williamson (New Zealand) and Barbara Milbank (Essex) respectively in the first round.

This left the way clear for Joyce Fielder to become the first Kent player to win a senior singles in the Kent "Open" since Dolly Evans in 1948. But even she had her anxious moments, a struggle with Peggy Piper, in the "quarters," and a real battle in the final with unranked Jean Page (Essex), who with a little luck could have scored her first major success.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** M. THORNHILL (Mddx.) bt D. Burridge (Mddx.) 21-17, 21-10. E. HODSON (Mddx.) bt B. Merrett (Glos.) 24-26, 21-13, 21-15.

**Final:** THORNHILL bt Hodson 29-27, 21-19.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. FIELDER (Kent), bt L. Whithams (Surrey) 21-13, 21-18. J. PAGE (Essex) bt B. Milbank (Essex) 21-18, 15-21, 21-18.

**Final:** FIELDER bt Page 21-18, 19-21, 21-18.

**Men's Doubles: Final:** K. EDWARDS/I. HARRISON bt L. Adams/D. Burridge 21-19, 22-20.

**Women's Doubles: Final:** S. JONES/J. ROOK bt Y. Baker/Fielder 21-16, 18-21, 21-16.

**Mixed Doubles: Final:** L. LANDRY/Miss J. WILLIAMSON bt R. Stevens/Miss Baker 21-14, 21-16.

**Youths' Singles: Final:** C. WARREN (Surrey) bt G. Robbins (Mddx.) 21-18, 15-21, 21-13.



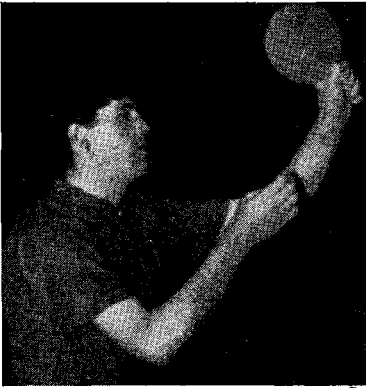
# KENNEDY WINS N.W. KENT TITLE

**B**RIAN KENNEDY found his winning form at the right time when winning the men's singles in the North West Kent "Open" at Barnehurst on January 4. It was a victory that undoubtedly influenced the selectors when they met the following day and confirmed him as No. 1 in the revised ranking list.

*Two of Kennedy's chief rivals, the Gloucestershire pair, Bryan Merrett and Ian Harrison were removed from his path by officialdom. After travelling 130 miles to the tournament they arrived late due to train delays, and were scratched.*

This, on the face of it, appears harsh treatment, but the referee explained, "We had such a big entry and the time schedule was so tight that I had to scratch these players or else the whole championships would have been held up."

Kennedy did not, however, have things all his own way. After beating Harry Venner, he came within a point of defeat before overcoming Ivor Jones 19-21, 21-9, 27-25 in the quarter-finals.



**BRIAN KENNEDY**

Then in the semi-finals he was taken the full distance by Bobby Stevens, fighting off a last desperate effort by the Essex player in the third game.

In the final Kennedy beat the Hungarian refugee, Josef Somogyi 21-19, 23-21, but here again had to reveal his recovery powers for he trailed 18-20 in the second.

Like Kennedy, Somogyi has had to change his bat from sponge to pimped rubber this season and his game was not so solid as it might have been. In fact, he looked somewhat nervous over those final crucial points.

Somogyi accounted for Johnny Leach in a very close semi-final at 24-22, 24-22.

One of the early shocks was the second round defeat of Alan Rhodes by Tony Miller.

Ann Haydon retained her title in the women's singles, easily beating Birmingham colleague Pam Mortimer 21-18, 21-9. Previously Miss Haydon had accounted for the New Zealander, Joyce Williamson, and in the semi-final Jill Rook whom she beat 21-13, 21-9.

Miss Rook's semi-final performance was most disappointing in view of her quarter-final win over Shirley Jones, of Wales, at 21-18, 20-22, 21-19.

A puncture on the way to the tournament put Mrs. Diane Collins, the No. 2 seed, out of the tournament and Joyce Fielder, after qualifying for the semi-finals, went out with 'flu, giving Miss Mortimer, who had previously beat Yvonne Baker and Peggy Piper, a walk-over into the final.

Mrs. Collins and Miss Rook had a consolation in that they took the women's doubles title, beating Miss Haydon and Miss Jones, 21-16, 21-18.

Michael Thornhill and Rhodes won the men's doubles,

beating Kennedy and Leach 21-17, 21-18, while the two singles champions, Kennedy and Miss Haydon combined to take the mixed doubles with a 21-19, 21-19 win over Thornhill and Miss Rook, who in the semi-final, toppled Leach and Mrs. Collins.

## RESULTS

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. SOMOGYI bt J. Leach 24-22, 24-22. **B. KENNEDY** bt R. Stevens 21-16, 18-21, 21-18.

**Final: KENNEDY** bt Somogyi 21-19, 23-21.

**Women's Singles: Semi-final:** A. HAYDON bt J. Rook 21-13, 21-9; P. MORTIMER w.o. J. Fielder scr.

**Final: HAYDON** bt Mortimer 21-18, 21-9.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** KENNEDY/LEACH bt G. Muranyi/Somogyi; M. THORNHILL/A. RHODES bt I. Harrison/B. Merrett.

**Final: THORNHILL/RHODES** bt Kennedy/Leach 21-17, 21-18.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** Mrs. D. COLLINS/J. ROOK w.o. J. Fielder/Mrs. J. Head scr.; HAYDON/S. JONES bt L. Whithams/J. Williamson.

**Final: COLLINS/ROOK** bt Haydon/Jones 21-16, 21-18.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** THORNHILL/Miss ROOK bt Leach/Mrs. Collins; KENNEDY/Miss HAYDON bt L. Landry/Miss Williamson.

**Final: KENNEDY/HAYDON** bt Thornhill/Rook 21-19, 21-19.

**Boys' Singles: Final: D. LOWE** bt C. Warren 17-21, 21-19, 21-18.

**Girls' Singles: Final: J. BUTCHER** bt M. Shunnon 26-24, 21-12.

## LANCASHIRE "OPEN"

**Men's Singles: R. HINCHLIFF** (Yorks.) bt D. Schofield (Cheshire) 21-10, 21-4.

**Women's Singles: Mrs. A. PETTIFER** (Lancs.) bt Miss L. Bown (Cheshire) 21-19, 21-16.

**Men's Doubles: S. DYSON/J. PITTS** bt E. Johnson/D. Schofield 21-19, 7-21, 21-18. **Women's Doubles: Mrs. PETTIFER/Mrs. WILKINSON** bt Miss P. Mortimer/Miss S. Threlfal 16-21, 23-21, 21-17. **Mixed Doubles: J. INBER/Miss P. MORTIMER** bt R. Alcock/Mrs. Pettifer 22-20, 26-24.

## FLINTSHIRE "OPEN"

**Men's Singles: K. BURTON** (Birmingham) bt R. E. Vickers (Birmingham) 23-21, 13-21, 21-14. **Women's Singles: Mrs. D. B. GRIFFITHS** (Birmingham) bt Mrs. H. Warner (Wolverhampton) 14-21, 21-19, 21-17.

**Men's Doubles: VICKERS/R. MURRELL** bt Burton/A. W. Hatfield 21-9, 21-17. **Women's Doubles: Mrs. WARNER/Miss C. CHARMAN** bt Mrs. J. D. Osborne/Mrs. Griffiths 14-21, 21-13, 21-13. **Mixed Doubles: J. N. OSBORNE/Miss CHARMAN** bt D. Mattison/Miss P. Settle 18-21, 21-16, 21-8.

**Junior Singles: C. THOMAS** (Llandudno) bt A. Fsher (Wolverhampton) 21-14, 21-18.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE "CLOSED"

Ian Harrison, with straight games wins over Aubrey Simons (Semi-final) and Bryan Merrett (Final), took the men's singles title in the Gloucestershire Closed Championships.

**Men's Singles: I. HARRISON** bt B. Merrett 21-19, 21-19. **Women's Singles: Miss S. DAVIS** bt Mrs. Morley 21-18, 21-18.

**Men's Doubles: R. MORLEY/MERRETT** bt R. Griffin/P. Cruwys 21-15, 14-21, 21-15. **Women's Doubles: Mrs. T. SPOKES/Miss J. COLLIER** bt Miss N. Mason/Miss B. Couch 21-9, 21-13. **Mixed Doubles: GRIFFIN/Miss DAVIS** bt Morley/Mrs. Morley 21-15, 21-18.

## SUFFOLK "CLOSED"

Peter Cole created a record by winning the Men's Singles, Men's Doubles (with Collins), and Mixed Doubles (with Val Martin) for the third consecutive season, in the Suffolk "Closed" at Stowmarket on 25th January.

**Men's Singles: P. COLE** bt J. Clarke 21-16, 23-21, 21-19. **Women's Singles: P. GARRETT** bt V. Martin 19-21, 21-12, 21-19. **Junior Singles: T. REDDISH** bt P. Wright 21-16, 14-21, 21-16. **Veterans' Singles: G. LIPSCOMBE** bt H. Durrant 21-15, 15-21, 21-17.

**Men's Doubles: P. COLE/J. COLLINS** bt H. Fleck/R. Perry 21-19, 21-13, 21-17. **Mixed Doubles: P. COLE/Miss V. MARTIN** bt P. Rudd/Miss A. Baldry 21-11, 21-13. **Women's Doubles: V. MARTIN/Mrs. J. JEFFERIES** bt Mrs. D. Fox/V. Moores 19-21, 21-14, 21-16.