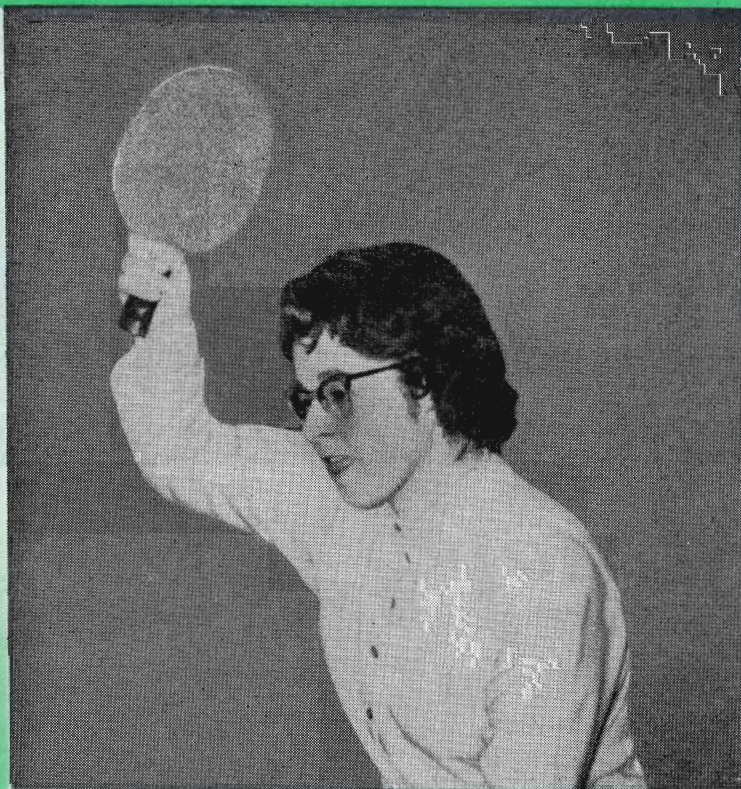


# TABLE TENNIS

*The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association*



SHIRLEY JONES, the brilliant young Welsh player, who got off with a flying start to the new season, by winning three titles in the East of England and North of England Tournaments.

*English Junior Rankings*

# Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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

Vol. 17

November, 1958

No. 2

## STANDARDISATION ALMOST CERTAIN

**T**HE Standardisation of the racket should become an accomplished fact at the 1959 Congress in Dortmund, Germany, next April. This is indicated by the statement issued by the International Federation following the special meeting of their Advisory Committee.

It makes these salient points :

● *THE great majority* (our italics) OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BELIEVE THAT STANDARDISATION IS NECESSARY IF UNITY WITHIN THE I.T.T.F. IS TO BE RESTORED.

● BY FAR THE LARGEST GROUP OF ASSOCIATIONS FAVOURS STANDARDISATION BY PIMPLED RUBBER AS THE SIMPLEST AND MOST SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

TABLE TENNIS is in the position to give you the latest line-up of countries on this vital question. Only 32 of the I.T.T.F.'s 70 affiliated countries had replied to the questionnaire when the Advisory Committee met, but the figures given here include replies which have come to hand since and also countries who have since changed their views.

**Twenty-one associations are in favour of standardisation by pimpled rubber:** ARGENTINE, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CANADA, ENGLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY (West), GERMANY (East), GHANA, HUNGARY, IRELAND, NEW ZEALAND, RUMANIA, SPAIN, SWITZERLAND, U.S.A., WALES.

**Four associations are in favour of standardisation by specified thickness:** CHINA (5 mm.), CZECHOSLOVAKIA (5 mm.), SWEDEN (2 mm.), U.S.S.R. (5 mm.).

**Three associations are in favour of standardisation but express no definite preference of method:** DENMARK, INDIA, NORWAY.

**Six associations are opposed to standardisation:** BRAZIL, EGYPT (U.A.R.), JAPAN, JERSEY, PORTUGAL, YUGOSLAVIA.

A recent development was the change of Australia and New Zealand from "thickness" to pimpled rubber. Also, it is known that Sweden, in

the interests of unity, are prepared to support a pimpled rubber definition, if 2 mm. fails to get the necessary backing.

**Sweden feel that some standardisation is essential, and that pimpled rubber would be acceptable to them as a second choice.**

Denmark and Norway have also indicated that they would be much influenced by Sweden's attitude.

The figures quoted make it obvious that the only large measure of agreement exists amongst the countries who favour pimpled rubber, and from these it is difficult to see how any other form of standardisation could be acceptable to a majority of countries.

*Meanwhile, Netherlands have stressed how important it is to reach agreement by laying down conditions for their "Open" championships. While not banning sponge, they are prepared to pay the expenses only for players using pimpled rubber!*

In considering this complex problem, we have the advantage of a 24-page booklet recently published by the I.T.T.F., setting out the views held by its President, the Hon. Ivor Montagu.

It gives a brilliant summary of the situation and the following extracts are of special interest :

Montagu writes : "*My conclusions are that it is urgently necessary in the interests of maintaining our game as an international sport that the racket be standardised, speedily, and within relatively narrow limits.*"

He goes on : "*If, in reaching this conclusion, I have altered the views which I expressed at the London and Utrecht Annual Meetings, this has largely been due to the experience gained during the past few years, and the fact that I am obliged to recognise that expectations which I voiced at that time have not been realised.*"

Later on, Montagu says : "*The decision twice taken by the I.T.T.F. to rebuff standardisation proposals in no way diminished the demand for*

*(Continued overleaf)*

standardisation. The demand is indeed much stronger than before."

Discussing various forms of standardisation, this is Montagu's conclusion: "I favour this (i.e. pimped rubber) because it is the simplest. The experiences of the countries who adopted it last season show that as a law it is not difficult to operate. It is easy of application, simple to understand at mass level, and unlikely to lead to quarrels at international level. In adopting it, we should know what we are doing.

"With 99.9 per cent. of rackets covered with pimped rubber the game spread to 70 I.T.T.F. countries, and though beset by some difficulties, was by no means at a dead end, unpopular, or disunited. It is the system favoured by a majority of those already favouring standardisation."

Montagu leaves no doubt that if pimped rubber fails to obtain the necessary majority, then, rather than see no standardisation at all, he would favour a compromise solution, of some other form "within relatively narrow limits."

The attitude of the E.T.T.A., and many of the other countries is, of course, that pimped rubber is the only satisfactory solution. The reasons for and against have been written about at great length, and by now most of those interested know both cases.

It should not be our policy to repeat cases

already stated over again, though any new factors should of course, be aired.

Pimped rubber, when adopted by the E.T.T.A., was far from favourable to our chances of success internationally. Our top woman player, and most of our best men (including our No. 1 at that time) played with sponge or sandwich bats. **The E.T.T.A. decision was taken in the interests of the game as a whole, not out of self-interest.**

Equally, the Japanese cannot in any way be said to favour sponge out of self-interest. They have equally good players using pimped rubber. Indeed, it is not unlikely that they would gain internationally by pimped rubber standardisation.

Montagu, in his booklet, urges strongly that recriminations and accusations of self-interest should be avoided by all concerned. We agree with this view entirely.

This is a vital question on which strong and conflicting views are held by many countries. We are only too anxious to believe, and in fact are convinced, that these views are held honestly, and that countries are guided not by narrow interests, but by conviction.

It is our earnest hope that a solution will be found. As an Association we believe that the figures available to us show that standardisation by pimped rubber is the only solution which can create an atmosphere of unity in the game today.

## MORE THAN 90% OF ALL COMPETITORS at the WEMBLEY CHAMPIONSHIPS wore



Men's shirt

### VICTOR BARNA Sportswear

Whether it is Ladies' or  
Men's Sportswear of any  
description, inspect first  
the

**VICTOR BARNA RANGE**

made by



Ladies' shirt and skirt

**FRED PERRY SPORTSWEAR LTD.**

14 Golden Square, London, W.1

# Official News:

## International Selections

England selectors (senior) relied mainly on the big names for the foreign tours arranged for the early part of the season. The only exception was EDDIE HODSON (Middlesex), who came in because Bryan Merrett was unable to get time off for the prolonged mid-European tour.

IAN HARRISON (Gloucestershire), JOHNNY LEACH (Essex) and MICHAEL THORNHILL (Middlesex), with JACK CARRINGTON (Essex) as non-playing captain, were picked to meet a "select German team" at Julich on October 15, and won comfortably by 5-2. Harrison was unbeaten.

HODSON joined LEACH and THORNHILL for the tour of Czechoslovakia, Austria and Yugoslavia, with KATHIE BEST (Yorkshire) and DIANE ROWE (Middlesex) looking after the women's events.

The tour opened with an international against Czechoslovakia in Prague, England losing by an aggregate of 6-7. The men were beaten 3-5, while the women won 3-2, surprisingly losing the doubles. Miss Rowe also dropped one of her singles. None of the men were able to beat either Andreadis or Stipek.

Leach is captain for the tour, which started on October 21 and ends on November 12, taking in the Austrian "Open" in Vienna, and the Yugoslav "Open" at Zagreb.

For the international against Scotland at Oxford on October 31, the selectors gave a chance to players further down the ranking list, DEREK BURRIDGE (Middlesex), JEFF INGBER (Lancashire), ALAN RHODES (Middlesex), PAM MORTIMER (Warwickshire) and PEGGY PIPER (Surrey), with AUBREY SIMONS (Gloucestershire) as non-playing captain.

Teams for the Junior Internationals were: **Against France** at Willesden on November 7: GEORGE LIVESEY (Lancashire), PAUL RACEY (Bedfordshire), MARY SHANNON (Surrey), DIANE WRIGHT (Cheshire). Non-playing captain T. SEARS.

**Against Germany** at Deal on November 10: CHRIS GOSLING (Middlesex), LIVESEY, RACEY, JEAN HARROWER (Middlesex), Miss SHANNON, Miss WRIGHT. Non-playing captain L. THOMPSON.

## Further 1958/59 appointments

Victor Barna (Middlesex) has been appointed non-playing captain of both the Swaythling Cup and Corbillon Cup teams in Dortmund next Spring. The appointment of a team manager is still under consideration. Geoff. James (Middlesex) has been

appointed Hon. Referee for the English "Open" in succession to George White (Civil Service) who has acted in this capacity for several years, but did not wish to be considered this time.

James, Assistant Referee last year, will continue to take an interest in the umpiring arrangements during the championships with the assistance of Colin Clemett (Surrey).

Conrad Jaschke (Kent) will be in charge of press arrangements, while Jack and Elsie Carrington (Essex) will again look after the hospitality.

Bill Luff (Middlesex) in charge of trophies, Godfrey Decker, equipment and Jimmy Mannooch (Kent) as programme editor, are other English "open" appointments.

Bill Vint (Sussex) is chairman of the committee, with Peter Lowen as secretary, and Tom Blunn (Lancashire) as treasurer.

## English Table Tennis Association

**Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.**

**President: Hon. I. G. S. Montagu.**

**Chairman: A. K. Vint, O.B.E.**

**Deputy Chairman: I. C. Eyles.**

**Honorary Treasurer: T. Blunn.**

**Secretary: D. P. Lowen.**

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

The championships will be at Manor Place Baths, Walworth, London, from April 6 to 8, and the Empire Pool Wembley from April 9 to 11.

## Metropolitan "Open"

In a determined effort to overcome the shortage of top class "open" tournaments in London, the E.T.T.A. have decided to revive the Metropolitan "Open" this season. It will be held at Artillery House, Hande- street, London, W.C.1 from January 20 to 24, 1959.

Previously run privately at the London Polytechnic, this was one of the most popular tournaments in the country.

Taking place only a short while before the World Championships, it is expected that the "Met." will attract most of the leading players.

As there is insufficient room at the venue for mass attendance, tickets will be sold in advance. Early

applicants can obtain tickets (price 2s. 6d.) from the Secretary, E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Building, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

## National Cups

The draw for the Wilmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl was made in London on October 3 by Messrs. Colin Clemett, Geoff. James, Conrad Jaschke, Peter Lowen and Jimmy Mannooch.

The women's entry showed an increase of five teams, to a total of 68, but the men were one down with 90.

It was decided to play off Zones 1a, 3a, 8a and 8b in one day, with Norman Rushton (Leeds), Maurice Goldstein (Birmingham), Ian White (Slough) and Ivor Eyles (Bristol) as the respective organisers.

## Standardisation of the Rackets

Judging by recent inquiries there appears to have been some confusion over the rule governing the Standardisation of the Racket. It reads:

*"The racket, though it may still be of any size, shape or weight, must be dark coloured, and its blade must be continuously and evenly rigid. IF ANY COVERING BE APPLIED TO THE SURFACE, THIS MUST BE OF ORDINARY PIMPLE-STUDDED RUBBER, NOT MORE THAN 2 MM. IN TOTAL THICKNESS. ONLY THE NECESSARY QUANTITY OF ADHESIVE MAY BE USED."*

Ordinary pimple-studded rubber will be defined as follows:

*"A single covering with pimples outwards, evenly distributed, not fewer than 60 nor more than 330 to the square inch, of rubber which, whether natural or synthetic, is non-cellular, and of which the total thickness, includes not only the height of the pimples but also the thin textile backing, if any, to the rubber sheet."*

## TABLE TENNIS

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

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

**Circulation Manager: G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, Barnet, Herts. (Barnet 7470).**

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

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

**Associate Editor: Conrad Jaschke.**

# Trials or Tournament Performances?

By **HARRISON EDWARDS**

**S**HOULD a ranking list be based on trial results alone or should tournament performances also be taken into consideration? This is the question posed by the latest junior list.

**GEORGE LIVESEY**, of Burnley, the 15-year-old protégé of Ken Stanley, has moved up from No. 5 to head the boys, while 15-year-old **JEAN HARROWER**, of New Barnet, is once again top girl.

There can be few arguments about these. Livesey came through the trials with flying colours, to follow up his winning of the North of England junior title, while Miss Harrower is so supreme among the girls that she was given her placing without taking part in the trials.

Looking further down the list it is a different story, with puzzling placings which indicate the selectors have gone on the trials results alone.

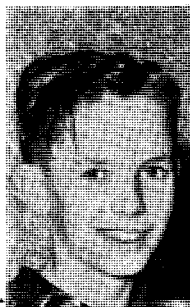
That can only be the explanation of the high placing of Diane Wright, of Stockport at No. 3, a position that earned her places in the England junior teams against France at Willesden and against Germany at Deal.

*It does not add up with her tournament results, for in the East of England after a shock women's singles win over Peggy Franks, she lost to Judy Williams (Hertfordshire) in the girls' singles, while in the North of England junior event she fell to Linda Gordon (Lancashire) in the final.*

Miss Williams got the No. 4 spot in the ranking list but Miss Gordon



**JEAN HARROWER**



**GEORGE LIVESEY**

was not invited to the trials and was classified in Group A. While such omissions are made a ranking list is sure to cause discontent. A boy with a similar harsh treatment story is Brian Hamill, of Middlesex, ranked three last year, but not invited to the trials, and put in the Group A category.

The elevation of Jackie Keogh (Lancashire) to No. 6 is mystifying. According to my observer he won only three out of eight matches and was worthy of no higher than Group A.

Maybe the fact that he was runner-up in the North of England junior to Livesey had some influence but in the East of England he was eliminated by Trevor Leverno (Essex), one of the Group A boys.

Chris Gosling is perhaps a little lucky to share joint No. 2 ranking

## English Ranking List (Juniors)

1. George Livesey (Lancs.)
2. Chris Gosling (Mddx.) and Paul Racey (Beds.)
4. Derek Grant (Hants.)
5. Wilf Barker (Durham)
6. Jackie Keogh (Lancs.)

### Group A

- David Creamer (Mddx.)  
 Michael Dainty (Yorks.)  
 Malcolm Ellis (Kent)  
 Brian Hamill (Mddx.)  
 Trevor Leverno (Essex)  
 Michael Pass (Beds.)  
 David White (Kent)

### GIRLS

1. Jean Harrower (Mddx.)
2. Mary Shannon (Surrey)
3. Diane Wright (Cheshire)
4. Judy Williams (Herts.)
5. Margaret Bradnum (Yorks.)
6. Alma Taft (Herts.)

### Group A

- Ann Charman (Staffs.)  
 Linda Gordon (Lancs.)  
 Susan Thomas (Kent)  
 Meryl Upton (Staffs.)

with Paul Racey, though here selectors would appear to have taken previous form into consideration.

I wonder if the selectors gave any thoughts to the crowd pulling powers of local internationals when they picked the team to meet the French juniors at Willesden on November 7?

At any rate they left out Jean Harrower and Chris Gosling, the two national junior champions, who both play for Middlesex, yet picked both for the match against Germany at Deal three days later.

This is hardly in the interests of economy, for Diane Wright had to travel about 200 miles, as did Livesey, for the Willesden match, while Gosling and Miss Harrower had to make a journey of some 80 miles for the Germany fixture.

Maybe they wanted to let France down lightly.

## Searching the Schools

**OLDHAM** have their eyes to the future. They realise only too well that from the children of today come the players of tomorrow. So they are fostering the young idea and searching the schools for possible talent.

First step in this direction was a School Knock-out competition for boys and girls under the age of 15, sponsored by the OLDHAM CHRONICLE in conjunction with the Oldham and District League, who provided the organisation, and the Oldham Service of Youth, who provided the playing facilities.

The competition has now run for two years and has proved a big success. But Oldham League were not content to let it rest there. They have taken it a stage further by running a coaching course for the most promising of this year's contestants.

Once again it has been a combined operation with the Oldham Service of Youth placing a room at the League's disposal.

Eric Johnson, the Cheshire County player and holder of a National Coach-

ing Diploma, was engaged to direct the scheme on eight successive Fridays. He also brought along several instructional films and was assisted in his untiring efforts for leading players from the Oldham area.

Names at this stage are not important, but the ages of the pupils ranged from ten to 14 which indicates that in Oldham there is a firm foundation on which to build future champions.

It has proved so successful that already there are indications that the Oldham League will carry out a similar programme next year, possibly on an even more intensive scale, so that promising juniors are not allowed to wander in the wilderness and probably be lost to the game for good.

Oldham are to be congratulated on their foresight in running this scheme, which other areas could do well to copy.

There must, after all, be plenty of talent in the schools of this country just waiting to be discovered.

JOHN K. KENNERLEY.

## The International Picture

Ivor Eyles, writer of the above feature in the October issue, wishes to express his regrets at omitting the name of Jimmy Mannooch, of Kent, from the Junior Selection Committee.

## BUCKS. "OPEN"

The Buckinghamshire "Open" is not being held this season due to inability to agree a date with the E.T.T.A. and venue. Leo Thompson, the county secretary says that Buckinghamshire hopes to have this popular tournament back on the list next season.

## SAM KIRKWOOD'S World Round Up

### BRAZIL DOMINANT

IN the absence of Chile, who in recent years have monopolised the women's events, Brazil made a complete clean sweep of the South American championships, played last month (October) in Caracas, Venezuela. The Brazilians won every available title, both individual and team. Biriba, the 13-year-old boy sensation mentioned in this column last month, was the hero of the meeting, winning all three events in very convincing style and, according to on-the-spot observers, showing the hallmark of a future world champion. Incidentally, has any youngster of 13 ever before won all three senior titles at an all-continent, international tournament? In the team finals, Chile beat Argentine 5-0 in the men's event, and 3-0 in the women's. In every game the Argentinians could do no better than earn a maximum of 10 points! Individual winners: Men's Singles, Biriba; Ladies' Singles, Nakma Cruz; Men's Doubles, Biriba-Jacques Roth; Ladies' Doubles, Nakma Cruz-Edith Avila; Mixed Doubles, Biriba-Nakma Cruz. Note that Miss Cruz was also a triple winner.

England is sending a team of three—two men and a girl—to compete in an international tournament being played in Pakistan on January 11-17. The tournament is an annual one and invariably attracts a strong entry. Last year the Hungarians participated.

The Hungarians recently staged their yearly "Top Ten" round-robin tournament. In both the men's and women's sections there were ten competitors and the winners, aptly enough, were the European champions, Josef Berczik and Eva Koczian, who currently are in full training for the World Series.

Good news for the Czechs is that Ivan Andreadis is likely to have his long-standing suspension lifted in time for him to be able to represent his country in the World Championships.

Last month I mentioned that Victor Barna and Alec Brook had been invited to tour Ghana and Nigeria. The tour is now definitely on. Victor emphasises that by accepting the invitation he is not emerging from his retirement. Purpose of the trip, he stresses, is to play exhibitions, coach,

and help generally to heighten interest in the sport in Africa. He is practising hard and exercising daily to be at peak fitness for the venture. He and Alec are scheduled to fly to Africa on January 15 and expect to be away for three or four weeks.

The United States T.T.A. have introduced regulations which have put an end to the multi-coloured clothing worn by their players. Aim, of course, is to "sober down" apparel and keep in check those flamboyant individuals given to eye-dazzling, and quite unsuitable kits. The Americans, by the way, have applied to be hosts for the 1961 World Series. They have never staged a global rally and it would be a fine thing for them, and the game, if the Federation acceded to their request. Many believe our friends across the Atlantic would make an excellent job of organising the tournament.

### T.T. ROMANCE

Shirley Jones, of Wales (this month's cover girl), and David House have announced their engagement.

Shirley, of Wales, and David, of Bath, are "exiles" now living in London.

Mixed doubles partners as juniors, they have known each other for eight years, but it was not until about a year ago that they began walking out together.

When will the wedding be? "We are not saying yet," said David.

### EUROPEAN RANKINGS

ENGLAND'S men have slumped badly in the European Ranking list, but our prestige has been saved by the women, who come out top as a nation, and fill three individual places with Ann Haydon as No. 2 to Eva Koczian, of Hungary.

Our men are a lowly seventh, while we have to rely on Hungarian exile Josef Somogyi, for one of our two individual placings. He is joint ninth with half-a-dozen Continentals.

Johnny Leach at 17 is the only English-born man listed.

These placings bear no comparison with the English rankings, where Leach is No. 4, and Somogyi No. 8.

Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett, and Michael Thornhill who share the top spot in England do not appear among Europe's listed 20.

Our girls, however, are in their English order among Europeans, with Miss Haydon at No. 2, Diane (Rowe) Collins at 8, and Kathie Best at 9.

Countries: Men: 1 Hungary, 2 Czechoslovakia and Rumania, 4 Yugoslavia, 5 Germany, 6 Sweden, 7 England, 8 France and U.S.S.R., 10 Austria, Poland, and East Germany.

Women: 1 England, 2 Rumania, 3 Hungary, 4 Wales, 5 Czechoslovakia and Poland, 7 Germany, Belgium and U.S.S.R., 10 Sweden and France, 12 East Germany.

#### MEN

1. Berczik (Hungary)
2. Gyetvai (Hungary)
- Sido (Hungary)
4. Harangozo (Yugoslavia)
- Vyhnanowsky (Czechoslovakia)
6. Stipek (Czechoslovakia)
7. Vogrine (Yugoslavia)
8. Gantner (Rumania)
9. Freundorfer (Germany)
- Foldi (Hungary)
- Barouh (France)
- Larsson (Sweden)
- Mellstrom (Sweden)
- Reiter (Rumania)
- Somogyi (England) and
- Szaunoris (U.S.S.R.)
17. Harastoz (Rumania)
- Leach (England)
- Kusinsky (Poland) and
- Paskavicius (U.S.S.R.)

#### WOMEN

1. Koczian (Hungary)
2. Haydon (England)
3. Rozeanu (Rumania)
4. Simon (Holland)
5. Mosoczy (Hungary)
6. Zeller (Rumania)
7. Lantos (Rumania)
8. Collins (England)
9. Elliot (Scotland)
- Best (England)
- Graf (Germany)
- Jones (Wales)
- Kerekes (Hungary)
- Ramanaukaita (U.S.S.R.)
- Skuratovicz (Poland) and
- Tompa (Rumania)

### The Football Pool

Like most other sports associations the E.T.T.A. are in need of funds. It looked as though they had found the complete answer when it was decided to seek the indirect aid of football, by backing a Football Pool run by the E.T.T.A. Supporters' Club.

There were pipe-dreams of money rolling in, but the support has not been so good as expected.

There appears to be the usual apathy among many of the game's followers. Perhaps there has not been sufficient drive.

To make this a success—and remember it is for your own sport—agents are urgently needed.

Join the Supporters' Club now. The membership fee is only 1s. and that entitles you to take part in the pool. By helping the Fund, you may well help yourself for the more money collected the bigger the prizes.

Agents are vital. The aim is at least 200. So why not become one yourself and help to enroll new members. Liberal commission is paid and postage met by the Club. Write to the Chief Organiser, 19 Laurence Hill, Bristol, 5, for full particulars.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**ORDER OF PLAY IN DOUBLES**

I CONSIDER that the winning of the toss in doubles can have a far more important bearing on the result of a match than it should have, and I am sure that many players will agree.

A perfect example of the unfairness of the present Law governing the matter (Law 20) is on the occasion of two pairs having to meet who have never seen each other play before. Inevitably the pair winning the toss elect to serve which means that their opponents have only a 50 per cent. chance of choosing the best (for them) order of striking out. If they happen to choose incorrectly, their opponents can take advantage of this by keeping the same order of play in the second game.

There is, of course, no point in criticising the present method without offering alternatives. It is suggested the following would be fairer:

1. *That the pair losing the first game of a 3-game match should be allowed to choose the order of play in the second game.*

2. *That the order of play be automatically reversed in the second game of a 3-game match.*

In both cases, the present law giving the pair that served first in the deciding game the right to alter their order of striking-out or that of their opponents at the score 10 would still apply.

I should be very pleased to hear the views of all players interested in improving the present Law, and it may be that someone can offer an even better way than either of the two suggestions given above.

JACK SENESCALL  
(Yorks.)

**RIGID DATES**

EACH season's handbook of the Willesden League gives the definite dates upon which all league matches have to be played.

It is to the credit of all club secretaries that these dates are adhered to, despite having frequently to play reserves in order to fulfil fixtures.

If Willesden can function so efficiently why are other leagues so very slack in this respect?

A favourite rule is "matches to be played in week commencing . . ."; seven days to fiddle about arranging the match and probably a last minute appeal for players. Often it ends up in a postponement as one of both sides cannot "field" a strong team.

Almost all clubs have ample reserves to fill the breach and its poor sportsmanship to deny them the chance of playing for their club.

W. HUDSON  
(Kensal Rise, London)

**HARDLY WITHIN THE RULES**



Okine Quaye, a 12-year-old table tennis enthusiast from Ghana sends this picture of himself with a request for a pen friend in this country. Okine, who says he is junior champion, started playing at the age of seven. He has certainly found one way of seeing over the table top. His address is Okine Quaye, c/o Y.M.C.A. P.O. Box 738, Accra, Ghana.

**SKILL OR ENDURANCE**

I ARRIVED at the Portsmouth "Open" at 8.30 a.m. after 2½ hours travelling. Apparently 95 per cent. of the players were told they would be required to play at 9 o'clock I would say 15 per cent. were required at this time.

During the course of the morning the players were informed in no uncertain manner that if anyone left the hall for half an hour for lunch they were liable to be scratched. So I had no lunch.

At about 8.30 p.m. I started what one might describe as an endurance test. I had to play SEVEN games running, as follows: one quarter-final men's singles, two rounds men's doubles, including the semi-final, and four rounds of mixed

doubles including the final. However, when I arrived home at 3 a.m. the following morning I consoled myself with the thought of my prize—AN ASH TRAY.

BRIAN BRUMWELL  
(Essex)

**ENGLAND WIN 5-2**

By JACK CARRINGTON

(Non-playing Captain)

England 5, Germany 2 (England names first): M. Thornhill lost to Langer 14-21, 21-10, 22-24; bt Wenninghof 21-12, 21-12. J. Leach lost to Langer 12-21, 19-21; bt Wenninghof 21-17, 21-18; bt Berger 21-18, 21-12. I. Harrison bt Berger 24-22, 18-21, 21-12; bt Wenninghof 21-18, 14-21, 21-17.

THIS match was played in the small Rhineland town of Julich to celebrate the 10-year jubilee of the Julich Table Tennis Club, and a very warm welcome was given to our representatives.

Although our train did not arrive until well past midnight, every member of the Club turned up to escort us from the station.

The play was very closely contested and it may be that the German team was unlucky in the order of play, otherwise the victory might have been delayed further. An excellent team spirit prevailed, and the play of our men promised well for the coming season, although lacking some of the brilliance we are accustomed to.

This may have been due to the necessity of feeling their way on the German table, which was definitely "different."

Thornhill lost to Langer in an unlucky desperate burst of hitting by the German, which included a net cord and an edge ball. Langer was then inspired against Leach and produced first-time hitting such as we have seldom seen anywhere.

At 18, he plays something like Gyetvia with rubber, but somehow conveyed the impression that one would be surprised if he won at all.

Speaking generally, the Germans were hard working, fighting and fit, and our own were equally praiseworthy in this respect with a little more experience to call on. Harrison showed the ability to win when not playing really confidently, which must certainly go to his credit.

The match was played in a School Hall with perfect television lighting, but a small arena and there was room for only about 300 spectators.

The dress of our players was clean and smart and the Germans paid equal attention to this point. Our team was officially welcomed in the Burgermeister's Council Room, and viewed with interest the relics of Julich's Roman past.

**WIRRAL WERE IN ORDER**

I HAVE been taken to task by Treasurer Tom Blunn, on behalf of the Wirral League over a letter from J. Watts, of Liverpool, which was published in the May issue and headed "Strictly Illegal."

This asked why Wirral were allowed to use "serve anywhere" rules in doubles, when the legal service was diagonal.

A footnote was added that the experiment of no doubles line was discontinued after the necessary report was made to the International Federation and if still carried out by Wirral it was against the rules.

Unfortunately there was a misunderstanding over this. Up to the end of last season a league could alter the laws of the game to suit its own purpose. Only matches governed by I.T.T.F. laws—internationals, "open" tournaments, etc.—were under direct authority of the E.T.T.A.

The A.C.M. held just prior to the publication of Watts' letter ruled that from the end of the season all play must be under E.T.T.A. rules, and this is where the misunderstanding arose.

EDITOR.

JOYCE WILLIAMSON'S Coaching Article has regretably had to be held over this month.

## MINE OWN ADMINISTRATOR By LEN ADAMS

ONCE upon a time an Englishman thought of a game and before you could say "let" there were so many wanting to play that from among themselves they had to set up an organisation to administer it. Courageous men they were with a youthful and far-seeing outlook, and posterity will forever be indebted to them.

As the "thing" grew a different type of person joined in the game, not as a star performer but as an administrator. Invaluable can hardly describe the service that these people gave freely to the game and posterity will forever be indebted to them.

The years went by; famous players came and went, and famous administrators came and stayed, until one day the Central Council found that none of its members had played the game at all for years, during which time tactics had altered to counter the administrative changes in the laws.

Eventually the news seeped out to some of the players, and in true rebellious style they brought off a bloodless coup d'état and substituted themselves as player/administrators. Unfortunately they could never get enough players together to form a quorum and administer, as the fixture

lists and meeting arrangements always seemed to go wrong.

One of the former administrators, more sensitive than the rest, now saw the opportunity of becoming the saviour of the game. By practised stealth he arranged for all the players in his area to turn up at the same club at the same time and before they realised they weren't playing a match, they were listening to his thesis on reconstruction.

His first proposition that all former administrators be reinstated immediately was met with a few growls, but he was allowed to continue. He then proposed amidst growing support that each year a player who had represented the League in the past should be added to the League Committee whilst a former administrator retired. Thus after a period of years, during which time players, some now ex-players, would be apprenticed to administrators, the whole committee would be composed of people who had actually taken part physically, and with some skill, in the sport.

With applause still ringing in his ears the administrator, now League Chairman, departed with his brief to resuscitate the County organisation. Although it was rather more difficult

to overcome the opposition, it was finally agreed that a past or present County player should be invited to join the Committee each year whilst displacing a pure administrator.

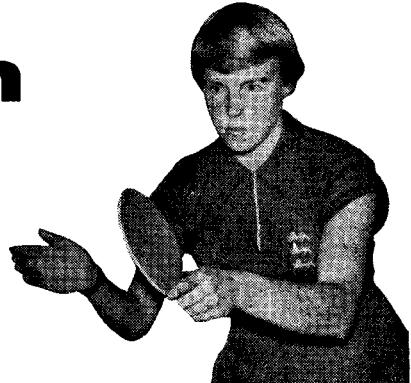
By now the League Chairman, also Chairman of the County Association, was committed to exhorting other County Associations by press and television to do likewise. Eventually the day of the first A.G.M. of the new era arrived, and out of courtesy our erstwhile administrator was asked to take the chair.

His speech so often declaimed, he only had to change the player or ex-player to one of International rank instead of County or League. The ayes and noes mingled with the pros and cons until a ballot tie gave the Chairman the opportunity of exercising his casting vote in favour of the motion. Voting then took place to decide the person of International status who would become the first addition to that august body, the Central Council. There merely remained the task of retiring an existing member. With one accord the administrators plumped for—the Chairman. And posterity will forever be indebted to him.

*FOOTNOTE: A prize of 10s. will be given to the sender of the first letter opened which gives the moral of Len Adams's story.*

# Ann Haydon

## TACKLE TABLE TENNIS THIS WAY



In this colourful book Ann Haydon has drawn upon her wealth of experience to press home some shrewd advice. Known for her devastating forehand and exceptional fighting spirit, her book is both stimulating and instructional. She is also, of course, a celebrated lawn tennis player and was a

member of Britain's successful Wightman Cup team in addition to reaching the semi-final of the Wimbledon Singles Final in 1958.

*Tackle Table Tennis This Way* will appeal strongly to all young players seeking advice on how to improve their game. **10s. 6d.**



STANLEY PAUL

178-202, Great Portland St. London, W.1.

## BOOK REVIEWS

## ANN HAYDON—AUTHORESS



ENGLAND'S No. 1 at table tennis and joint No. 2 at lawn tennis, Ann Haydon has now become an authoress. She has written a book, "TACKLE TABLE TENNIS THIS WAY," published by Stanley Paul and Company, price 10s. 6d.

This is not, as the title would suggest, a straight forward instructional book but is mainly an autobiography with instruction combined.

The task has been tackled cleverly so as to make it far more interesting reading than the normal text book instruction which can, of course, make heavy reading.

Ann traces her own career from the start and as her game progresses so she introduces the instructional text. Thus the reader can learn to play almost step by step with the progress of this talented young Birmingham player.

#### Family Concern

Ann—full name Adrienne—might almost be said to have been born with a table tennis bat in her hand. Both her parents—father, Adrian and mother, the former Doris Jordan—were formerly international players while her grandfather was an excellent ping pong player and one of the founders of table tennis as it is played today.

But as Ivor Montagu writes in his preface, "No-one was ever good at anything whatever they were born with unless they were ready to work hard at it and be devoted." And Ann reveals it has taken plenty of hard work to become a world class star.

#### Disliked Game

Despite this family background it is perhaps surprising that Ann has become the brilliant player she is for she admits that at the age of eight faced with the alternative of travelling around to matches with her parents or being left at home, she grew up to dislike the game. She was always anxious to run off to enjoy herself with neighbours' children.

It was a serious illness at the age of 11 which caused her to spend many months in bed and awakened her real interest in the game. After recovering and being allowed a certain amount of exercise she turned every excuse into an opportunity to play games.

On table tennis club nights she played before matches began, made a nuisance of herself at tournaments by "knocking up" and, as she improved she became more keen.

Ann was 12½ before she started

playing seriously and regards this as an excellent age for any youngster to begin. Anyone younger than that she feels is usually too tiny to be able to gain the proper fluent strokes.

Miss Haydon traces her progress from her first match in a men's team at the South Birmingham Club through tournament successes and internationals, telling the story of her battles with Linde Wertl, Angelica Rozeanu and the Japanese girls.

There are first-hand accounts of her six losing world finals.

She devotes a special chapter to the controversial sponge question and how she objected to it at first but was persuaded by her father to use this surface which helped her register her first victory over Miss Wertl.

#### Sponge Comment

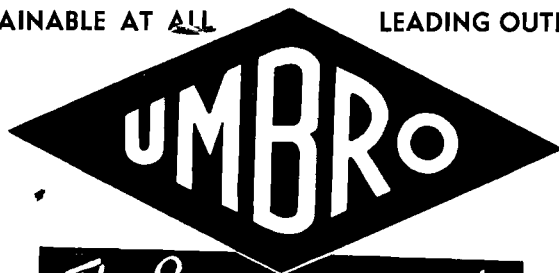
Commenting on the sponge ban, Miss Haydon points out that it is penalising home players when they take part in international competitions run under International Federation rules, but says: "Personally, I don't mind whether sponge is banned or not, but it must be done universally OR NOT AT ALL.

A stimulating book which is thoroughly recommended to all followers of table tennis.

("Tackle Table Tennis This Way" by Ann Haydon price 10s. 6d.)

OBTAINABLE AT ALL

LEADING OUTFITTERS



*The Sportswear people*

*are the only makers of the official E.T.T.A. shirts which are worn by the English International Teams and the principal players in Table Tennis.*

You should wear one as well.

"UMBRO" IS LITERALLY THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS!

## EAGLE BOOK OF SPORT

Table Tennis claims a fifteen-page chapter all to itself in the EAGLE BOOK OF SPORT, published by Hulton Press, price 12s. 6d.

Written by Kenneth Wheeler, a regular correspondent of TABLE TENNIS, this is just the book to give your favourite nephew for Christmas. It tells you how to play a variety of games the experts' way.

All the tips on table tennis are brief and to the point, and have been given to Wheeler by Johnny Leach, who demonstrates in a series of pictures the right way to play various shots.

Wheeler winds up with this advice: "Don't run before you can walk. Make up your mind to learn each stroke thoroughly before passing on to the next."

## PERSONALITY PARADE

## THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE STALWART

By LESLIE CONSTABLE

**G**IVE John Cornwell of Cambridge a ball and he is happy, no matter whether he has to hit it with a bat or merely kick it. For he is one of those gifted all-rounders who can turn his hand to almost any sport.

He plays for Cambridgeshire at both cricket and table tennis, and he has had a soccer trial for Lincoln City . . .

The purpose of this story, however, is to trace his career with that little celluloid ball. It is a career that runs hand in hand with Cambridgeshire's progress in the National County championship.

## Winning Debut

It all started ten years ago and there was no more excited youngster in the whole of Britain when Cornwell received the news he had been picked for the opening match against Hertfordshire in the then Home Counties Division.

He was 17 at the time and had already shown he was a born player. His debut was to beat Glyn Bebb,

the Herts. No. 1 in an exciting match at Welwyn Garden City.

I can still recall it now, going the full distance of three games, with Cornwell running out the winner at 21-19 in the third.

John put up a terrific defence against Bebb's unorthodox scorching attack, to gain a victory that was to put new life into the Cambridgeshire team and set him on the road to further honours.

## Yopngest Team

The Cambridge team consisting of Cornwell, John Thurston, also 17, and George Lawrence, 18, was probably the youngest in the competition and although they eventually lost 4-5 to Herts., it was an encouraging start.

From that day Cornwell became automatic first choice for the county and is now the stalwart of the team. He also became the star of the Cambridge team in the Wilmott Cup.

Cornwell has never gained international status but he has gained quite a few victories over internationals in the past ten years. His first was over Eric Filby in the match against Norfolk and he again beat the former

Swaythling player when Cambridge clashed with Norwich in the Wilmott Cup.

This was the start to a series of good wins over Filby, who beat him only the once, a later County match against Norfolk.

On Election Day, 1950, Cornwell beat Len Adams, in a county match with Middlesex, and he was later to



JOHN CORNWELL

# Get the Best out of the Game

WITH

## Bukta

ACTION  
TAILORED

TABLE TENNIS OUTFITS

FULLY TAILORED to give perfect fit for  
easy movementMEN'S SHORTS  
from 27/6 pairLADIES' SHORTS  
from 30/- pairLADIES' AND MEN'S  
TABLE TENNIS SHIRTSare made in the regulation design with Extra  
Body Length. Made in popular colours, Small,  
Medium, Large. LADIES' and MEN'S from  
16/-.Obtainable from all good sports outfitters or  
if any difficulty write to the

Publicity Manager, Bukta, Stockport, Cheshire



account for Wally Poole, of Birmingham in the Wilmott Cup, then Brian Kennedy, when Cambridge unsuccessfully challenged Yorkshire for a place in the Premier Division. And what is more Cornwell gained that two-sets victory in Leeds before Kennedy's home crowd.

Cornwell had given Cambridgeshire the opportunity to challenge Yorkshire by what I consider one of his finest ever wins when he beat Louis Devereaux 21-10, 21-8 in the deciding match of the inter-divisional tie with Devon.

## Five Titles

Cornwell has naturally been a dominating player in the Cambridgeshire "closed" championships and last year went through the book winning all five titles.

He has been and still is the outstanding player in Cambridgeshire and the county have every reason to be proud of him.

Moreover he has served the county well on the cricket field, scoring a brilliant century last season.

# PUTTING IT BACK

By **BRYAN CUTRESS**

**T**O be on equal terms with table tennis, 37-year-old Peter Lowen, the new E.T.T.A. secretary, has always strived to put back into the game some of the pleasure he has taken out.

With this as his chief objective, Lowen has filled numerous administrative posts since first taking up the game seriously with Cyclax, a cycling-cum-table tennis club, in 1937.

Shortly after the war he joined the West Ealing Club and it was then that he began taking a helping hand on the administrative side as treasurer of the Acton and District League, a task which was to last from 1946 to 1954.

Lowen never reached the top as a player, but he did turn out for Middlesex in 1949 in the East



PETER LOWEN

Anglian Division of the National County Championships, when his best tournament achievements were to reach the semi-finals of the West Middlesex "Open" championships and the men's doubles final (with Jack Glickman, who is now in America) at the Bucks. "Open" tournament.

It was around this time that this fair-haired father of two sons, Paul, aged six, and Jeremy, 2, found his administrative tasks rapidly multiplying. He became Middlesex County treasurer in 1951 and two seasons later took on what turned out to be a four-year post as County secretary and treasurer.

In 1954 he gave up competitive play and in the following season came his first national appointment—Assistant Secretary to the E.T.T.A. He was promoted to honorary secretary in 1956/57, on the retirement of Bill Vint.

Although he now plays very little Lowen can frequently be seen at the table in the role of county umpire. Here, too, he has found success and has umpired several matches in the English "Open" championships at Wembley.

"The best match, in my opinion, that I have ever umpired was between Bergmann and Sido in the England v. Hungary match," Lowen reflected.

Despite all these commitments table tennis does not commandeer all the time he spends away from his work as a qualified accountant.

Cricket—an opening bat and wicket-keeper—squash rackets and lawn tennis are also on his agenda not to mention his Saturday afternoons supporting his favourite soccer club, Brentford.

So to this all-round sportsman and back-room boy of table tennis, we wish the best of luck in his new appointment.

## WOMAN AT THE HELM

**KAY BENSON**, although not nationally known for her table tennis ability, has one distinction which stamps her as unique among players of this country . . . she is the only woman to captain a county team in the Premier Division of the National Championship.

As well as captaining the Lancashire team, Miss Benson, a former county player of seven years service, has other duties to perform.

She is, as she has been for the past ten years, the women's representative on the Lancashire Executive Committee and this year she took up the post of county match secretary.

As if this did not take up enough time, Miss Benson, a civil servant, also takes a competitive part in the game, much to the discomfort of many of her rivals particularly in the Blackpool singles championship which she has won for the past six years.

During the summer months, Miss Benson turns her sporting ability to lawn tennis. Here again she is better than average having been her club singles champion seven times.

The pet hates nursed by Miss Benson number only two, but they are the two which revolt any respectable player; dirty plimsolls, which she finds more prevalent in table tennis than lawn tennis, and players who belittle their opponents by playing in track suits.

"This," says Miss Benson, "includes some of our own internationals who should know better!"

Who can fail to agree? These lackadaisical and "big-headed" attitudes adopted by a large number of players do not create a good impression with the public.

## AS ALWAYS . . .

### Something for T.T. Players

#### RUBBER

Manufactured specially for us . . . the finest post-war rubber . . . this type was used by most of the pre-war Continental Champions. Obtainable only from us.

#### TABLES

As an advertising offer . . . a certain number of our famous A.D.B. Tournament Tables can be purchased for £34 17s. 6d. First come—first served.

#### CLOTHING

Ladies' and Men's Shorts and Shirts. Blue Swetlets specially for T.T. at 2s. 6d. per pair. Send for complete list.

#### BADGES

Send sketch for quotation. Printed badges from 1s. each.

**ALEC BROOK (Sports Equipment) LTD.**  
(Dept. E)

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

Telephone: MAYfair 3113/5775

**AREA NEWS**

**HERTS. SUMMER COACHING REAPS DIVIDEND**

**T**WO wins for the juniors and one for the seniors. Hertfordshire summer coaching scheme is certainly paying dividends judging by this grand start to the new season.

The juniors walloped Suffolk 8-2, then followed up with a shock 6-4 win over Surrey. Playing his part in both these victories was Nick Szeremeta, a newcomer to the side. He won both his singles and doubles against Suffolk, and turned the tide against Surrey, after Hertfordshire had trailed 1-3.

At the best Hertfordshire had only hoped to share the match with the strong Surrey team, which included Mary Shannon, the junior international, and Stephen Bublely, who played No. 1 for Sussex last season.

Bob Ractliffe staged a fine come-back after losing the first game, to beat Bublely.

Hertfordshire juniors have already caught the eyes of England selectors, with Alma Taft, Judy Williams and Ractliffe all being invited to take part in the junior trials at Wolverhampton.

The senior team evidently meaning to outshine the junior trounced Suffolk 10-0 at Stevenage. Terry Densham (W.G.C.) formerly of Surrey, is a most valuable acquisition, and with Brian Barr (Watford) and John Hunt (Bishop's Stortford) give a hard core of three former junior internationals to the side, which was completed by Janet White and Mrs. Magor.

Local schoolboys were specially invited to this match as part of the plan to spread the gospel of table tennis among the youth of the county. They were quick to show their appreciation of the play. Let us hope we have won some new recruits.

Incidentally Hertfordshire funds have profited by over £2 through the ordering of TABLE TENNIS. This is certainly good news for the County Chairman Geoff Harrower, who has a dual interest in that he is also Circulation Manager of the magazine.

Hertfordshire County Umpires are keeping pace with the progressive trend and it was pleasing to note that ten of them were active during the two home matches, while five of them attended both.

National Umpire Dennis Ingreby, and County Umpires Dennis Guildford, A. Seaholme, Bill Dale and Gus Ractliffe can always be relied upon to be ready to control. Looks as though Hertfordshire are gaining strength in all departments.

**O. B.**

**CLUB BADGES**

Attractive cloth badges can now be supplied in any quantity from six upwards at low prices and with quick delivery. Made entirely to your own design and suitable for wear on blazers or sweaters, etc. Free assistance given in designing your badge if required. Details from S. A. CORY AND COMPANY, 20 St. John's Hill, LONDON, S.W.11

**PIDDOCK HEADS KENT RANKINGS**

**J**OYCE FIELDER and Tony Piddock again established themselves as the top players, in their respective sections, when the Kent trials took place at Barnehurst last month.

The men's number two spot which was held by county stalwart Ron Etheridge, until his retirement during

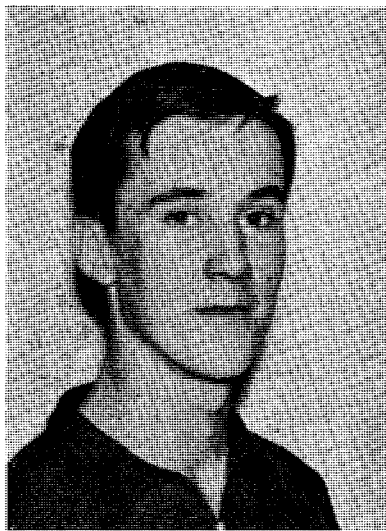
last season, was taken over, as expected, by Henry Buist.

The full ranking list is: **Men:** TONY PIDDOCK (Folkestone), HENRY BUIST (N.W. Kent), DENNIS WHITTAKER (N.W. Kent), GEORGE ELLIOTT (N.W. Kent), MING WONG (Woolwich), ALAN PAYNE (Woolwich), ROY COUSSENS (Medway Towns), BARRY MIESEL (Woolwich).

**Women:** JOYCE FIELDER (N.W. Kent), JOAN BEADLE (Medway Towns), MARINA DODD (Woolwich), BETTY LANDIMORE (N.W. Kent), JOYCE REEVES (Maidstone), JULIE PILFORD (Woolwich), AUDREY HALLETT (N.W. Kent), ANN JACOBS (Sittingbourne).

Major surprise in Division I of the Kent League was the defeat of Woolwich "A," the holders, by their "B" team, who won Division II (North) last season. This result together with the application for a transfer by Ming Wong, their number one player, to rivals, Bromley, will make it even harder for Woolwich "A" to win this division for the sixth successive year.

The county once again has a comprehensive tournament programme which includes: The Folkestone Invitation at the Marine Pavilion Folkestone on November 30, the North West Kent "Open" at Barnehurst, December 28 to January 3, the Kent "Open" at the Marine Pavilion Folkestone, January 31 and February 1, the Kent "Closed" at the Pier Pavilion Herne Bay on March 8, the Kent Junior "Closed" at Holly Hedge House Blackheath on February 21.



**TONY PIDDOCK**

**Len Pilfold.**

**EAGLE/GIRL TOURNAMENT**

By **KENNETH WHEELER**

**SEVEN THOUSAND ENTRIES**

**A** record-smashing entry topping 7,000 competitors has been received for this season's *Eagle/Girl* Tournament which promises to be the most successful ever held.

Already the qualifying tournaments of 100 schools and clubs, as far-flung as Dundee, Londonderry, Saltash in Cornwall and Wymondham in Norfolk, are taking place. These clubs seem more determined than ever to earn the title of "Top Team in Britain," for in every case they have raised their number of entries.

Entry points alone are rather less significant in the team competition this season, but clubs like Wymondham Secondary Boys' School and Friends School, Saffron Walden (South), Doncaster Youth, Ainthorpe High School and Liverpool Bluecoat School (North), Kyrle Hall Boys Club (Midlands) and Dundee and District (Scotland) have certainly got away to a flying start where numbers are concerned.

The 400-strong entry from Wymondham Secondary Boys' School, Norfolk is particularly interesting. Writes A. G. Launder, the P.E. master who is a qualified table tennis coach: "I am introducing table tennis into the Physical

Education scheme this year, and therefore every child will have the opportunity of playing. Your tournament, brought to my notice by several boys, will be an ideal way of creating the initial interest and for maintaining it in the future."

Because of a limited number of tables, Mr. Launder's qualifying tournament is being spread over several weeks. This is a course that many entrant clubs choose to adopt, and quite within our rules so long as the qualifiers are found before the end of the year.

So far as individual competitors are concerned we are breaking new ground to such an extent that most of them are "unknowns," though amongst the under-15's, there remain a hard core of distinguished "veterans" such as Ian Gibson (Wales), Gary Brass (Scotland), David Stanley, Richard Broad, Nigel Iye, Keith Jones, Susan Thomas and Ann Brown, all of whom have figured in past Finals.

A newcomer we shall be watching with considerable interest is Janet, daughter of Ken Stanley whose starlets have shone with such consistency in all our tournaments.

**YORKSHIRE NOTES**

**LEEDS GET TOUGH**

SEVERAL players in the Leeds League got fed up last season with poor playing conditions. One or two were badly hurt in going for shots which cramped arenas would not allow.

So following complaints the league decided to get tough on the subject this season and laid down minimum playing conditions.

Among the consequences has been the withdrawal of a team which won promotion last spring.

Without Brian Kennedy and Ken Park, Leeds opened their inter-league season with a draw away to Huddersfield "B." Peter Simpson (Leeds), and Bob Hirst (Huddersfield) were unbeaten.

Burly Kennedy is fighting his way back to the top. Already he has done some effective counter-punching after being knocked down the ranking list to number five.

He started at Cheltenham, where he blazed his way through Merrett and Harrison, two of his successors on the ranking pinnacle.

Next came his first "open" success of the season, the North of England title at Manchester during which he did not drop a game until the final, where he overcame Harry Venner.

So he returned in triumph to Yorkshire's home table at Bradford and beat Ingber and Allcock in the "Roses" duel.

Yorkshire will be challenging southern supremacy again this season in the county championship. Kennedy's two great wins led them to a splendid victory over Gloucester, while Stuart Dyson's whirlwind hitting drove him to success against Jeff Ingber to help Yorkshire avenge last year's "Roses" defeat.

Maurice Pitts enjoyed considerable success in the North of England when he took the scalps of Eddie Hodson and Derek Schofield before going down to

Kennedy's fire in the semi-finals. Michael Dainty (Doncaster) reached the junior semi-finals.

Bradford have followed Yorkshire's lead by deciding to play all home matches at one venue. The selected home inter-league table is at the Institute for the Deaf, and the women's team opened the season's programme there against Sheffield with a 9-1 victory.

Sheffield countered with a 7-3 verdict over Bradford in the youths' league.

Fancied to do well in the second division of the Huddersfield League, David Brown's received an early shock when they were defeated by newly-promoted Roberts Castings.

**Malcolm Hartley.**

**BERKSHIRE NOTES**

MAIDENHEAD, the Berkshire inter-town league champions, will have to overcome some really tough opposition from the other competing teams, Reading, Didcot and Newbury, if they hope to retain their title this season.

Brian Barnes, the county champion, and Percy Morecroft, who has been a regular county player for several seasons, are the stalwarts of the Maidenhead team and should be capable of warding off this serious challenge.

Didcot, who have already beaten Reading by 8-2, can call on T. Densham and Barbara Peisley, while Reading, despite their early set-back, look a good side with experienced county players, Les Wise, Mike Darlington, Derek Barley, a previous county champion, and D. S. Heaps, an ex-Cheshire player.

Newbury should also give a good account of themselves before the competition is finally settled in January.

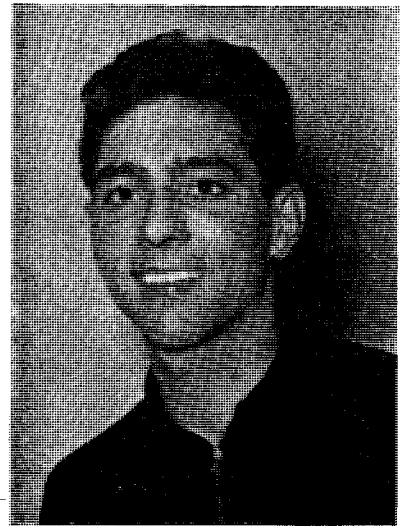
**M. W. Jerome.**

**Successful Essex Invasion**

It is a good many years since Essex players were able to win both the men's and women's singles at an "open" tournament, but this was the achievement of Bobby Stevens and Jean McCree when the county made a 30-strong raid on the Portsmouth titles. And for good measure they captured the women's and mixed doubles and had a half share in the men's doubles. A most successful week-end.

Nearly all the players came from the East London League, who recently celebrated their Silver Jubilee with a match against a team of internationals raised by Mickey Thornhill.

The all-round strength of the league is among the highest in England and all



**BOBBY STEVENS**

those on the county ranking list, with the exception of Shelagh Hession (Romford) are among their members.

Essex rankings are: **Men:** 1, J. LEACH, 2, R. STEVENS, 3, B. BRUMWELL, 4, R. RAYBOULD, 5, R. MCCREE, equal 6, P. CURTIS, R. DORKING, L. SAWYER, 9, P. PUDNEY, equal 10, K. BEAMISH, A. CONDON, I. JONES.

**Women:** 1, B. MILBANK, 2, MRS. E. CARRINGTON, 3, MRS. J. MCCREE, equal 4, S. HESSION, S. PICKARD, 6, MRS. I. SAWYER, 7, MRS. I. COX (Webster).

Shelagh Hession, of Romford, last year's junior international, won further sporting honours in the summer, with a regular place in the Essex County women's cricket team.

A brilliant all-rounder, Shelagh is an opening bat, and a useful spin bowler, as well as a strong fielder.

In the county championship the youngest ever Essex team got off to a good start with a 9-1 win over Sussex. Surprisingly enough it was the No. 1, Trevor Leverno, who dropped the only match, being beaten by Graham Whitley in the final event of the evening.

**Frank Bateman.**

**GREAT NEWS!**

Our famous **MEDALLION-TROPHY** with table tennis centres now available in seven sizes  
 19/6, 18/-, 14/-, 11/-, 10/-, 7/6, and 6/6  
**WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE**  
 of inexpensive cups, plaques, etc. Wonderful value.

---

The **"BROMFIELD" CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE**  
 used in 50% of International Matches in England  
 in recent years




**DE LUXE**  
 £39. 15. 0

**STANDARD**  
 £37. 16. 0

**BROMFIELD (SPORTS) LTD.**  
 80a, HIGH STREET, STEYNING,  
 SUSSEX. Tel.: Steyning 2004

## LEICESTERSHIRE NOTES

LEICESTERSHIRE, with newcomers Miss Davis, Mrs. Wilson and Miss Butler, heralded their return to the National County Championship with an 8-2 win over Oxfordshire.

Their superiority, however, was mainly in the men's singles where C. A. Jacques, J. C. Burraston and P. Reid won all their matches in straight games.

Despite the loss of several leading players, prospects for the season still look good, and a particularly encouraging sign is the large number of juniors available. Muriel Whit, now a Canadian international, is returning within the next few weeks and will be a useful asset.

The talking point of the Leicester and District League—only senior league with the county—is the form of Gordon Murray, 17-year-old Y.M.C.A. player. So far in the first division he has beaten two of the town second team players and has only to maintain his present progress to be in the running for a first team place.

Joyce Knight, of Coalville, has suddenly shot to the forefront with some splendid performances in the second division, where she is so far unbeaten.

In her first match for the town against Kidderminster she won both her matches easily and looks to be a real find.

Unlike last season, there is no outstanding junior but with Trevor White, Brian Kimble and Raymond Jones still available from last season plus Barrie Clark, they should do well.

The intermediate team, with two of last year's juniors, Gordon Murray and John Blackburn, are hoping for better results.

Leicester captains for the season are: Men's first: Johnny Burraston. Men's second: David Aston. Intermediate: David Branson. Juniors: John Hubbard. Women's first: Pauline Davis. Women's second: Mrs. Frith.

Philip Reid.

## DURHAM NEWS FARE

SUNDERLAND, holders of all three sections of the Durham senior league, appear to have a good chance of retaining their titles this season.

Their full strength men's team of Wilf Barker, Eddie Taylor, Gordon Lumsden and Dennis Gillon, who top the town's rankings, make a formidable quartet.

Stockton, should again be the chief challengers, being able to call on Eric Lund, Harry Jeal, Alan Welsh, Joe Whittingham (last year's side), Ken Skipp and Colin Campbell.

Hartlepoons and Middlesbrough are sides to watch and their respective No. 1's Keith Holland and David Saul will be hard players to defeat.

Of the other towns, Durham have two useful players in Strickland and Morgan. Darlington's Percy is capable but temperamental, Stanley, runners-up in the county team of three last season, could do well, and Philadelphia's ranking list, produced from trials, is led by Hampton, Day, Beckwith and Rodgers.

The women's division should be very closely contested. Hartlepoons have

Olive Holland, now accustomed to rubber, Stockton are led by Sally Ellis, Philadelphia possess the services of the unpredictable Jean Brown, while county champion Grace Brown turns out for Sunderland.

The Wearside juniors although being able to call on Wilf Barker and Leslie Hewitt will be hard pressed for honours with the rest of their team made up by inexperienced players.

Stockton, Hartlepoons and Philadelphia, on the other hand, will "field" players of much more town match experience.

Congratulations to Eric Lund, whose wife has presented him with a daughter, and Dennis Gillon and Ronnie Timble both of whom were married last month.

Arnold Warentz.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

### Cambridgeshire League Record

FOR the first time in its history the Cambridgeshire League will have to run seven divisions to accommodate the record entry of 69 teams received this season.

This influx of new clubs is a most encouraging sign particularly as so many of them are young teams who are rapidly coming into prominence and also taking an active interest in County affairs.

Wilburton, a strong village team, have entered the Cambridgeshire League for first time and have also put two sides into the Ely and District League.

Another newcomer to the League is the Torchbearers Club who are attached to the Salvation Army. They have entered four teams and I understand that they have some useful players in their ranks.

Eastern Electricity are yet another team making their debut. They previously played in the Old Business Houses League which they won the last year it was held.

New Chesterton Institute are determined to retain their position at the top of the table but can expect strong challenges from Wesley, last season's runners-up, and Telephones, who can always be relied upon to give a good account of themselves.

Coaching sessions are now beginning in the county and there have been many requests for these from local youth organisations and clubs.

Leslie Constable.

## WILTSHIRE WANDERINGS

ALTHOUGH the Moonrakers scored their biggest league success with a 9-1 win over Cornwall in their opening National Counties (Second Division West) championship match, a week later they suffered a 10-0 reverse at the hands of Glamorgan.

Freddy Garrett, the reigning Wiltshire and Swindon singles champion, has announced his retirement from inter-county play but it is pleasing to report that Wiltshire's premier woman player for a number of seasons, Mrs. Gladys Horn (Salisbury), has now returned to the county side.

David Kethero, founder chairman of the County Association for the past five

seasons and who has held various offices in the game for 31 years, told the Wiltshire A.G.M. at Devizes of his intention not to seek re-election.

Mr. Kethero said that the game had truly been part of his life and his retirement had been a hard decision to make. Swindon League Secretary Geoff. Pickett was elected to succeed Mr. Kethero as County Chairman.

This season the Wiltshire League will consist of 16 teams—three less than last season's record total—divided into three divisions as follows:—

DIVISION ONE: (Three men) Salisbury (champions), West Wiltshire, Swindon and Devizes.

DIVISION TWO: (Three men and two women) Salisbury (champions), Swindon, West Wiltshire, Warminster and Devizes.

DIVISION THREE: (Three juniors) West Wiltshire (champions), Salisbury, Swindon and Devizes.

Of the season's five affiliated leagues only Devizes show an increase of teams with 24 from 13 clubs in three divisions, being an increase of two teams and four clubs on last season's total. West Wiltshire have 35 teams in three divisions with Salisbury again fielding 50 teams from 20 clubs; divided into four divisions while Swindon can boast 97 teams in nine divisions.

Donald Hillier.

## WESTERN COUNTIES

### BULLETIN

AFTER the first three matches of the season it is obvious that the new set-up of three players per team for the Western Counties League is going to be a success.

It is of greater interest for the players, who have to be more keyed up throughout the evening, and also for spectators. Bath made a successful start to their bid for top honours, beating Bristol Seconds by 6-3 and Newport by 5-4.

Don Smith was the outstanding player against Bristol Seconds, beating Frew Wiggins, Colin Feltham and B. Groves.

Bath were soon 0-2 down in their match against Newport following the defeats of Smith and Jack Lindsay by Brian Everson and Basil Evans. However they made a great recovery and, helped by Bob House with wins over Everson and Huish, Smith, who retrieved a deficit of 7-13 to beat Evans, and a top form Lindsay with the defeat of Everson, took the next five games in a row.

In the other match Cardiff inflicted a crushing 8-1 defeat on Weston.

G. Brown caused the surprise of the evening by first beating Alan Thomas, a Welsh international, in a thrilling three-game match, and then extending Bernard Dimascio and Stan Jones, two other internationals, to a third game.

Grove Motlow.

## HARRY VENNER

England and Surrey

Coaching and Exhibitions arranged

Enquiries 66 TAVISTOCK CRESCENT,  
MITCHAM, SURREY.

## WELSH CORNER

# American Tournament points the way

GLAMORGAN got away to a good start in their bid to regain Premier Division National County status, winning their Second Division (West) tie against Wiltshire at Cardiff without loss of a game.

The Glamorgan side of Ronnie Davies, Donald Morris, Audrey Bates and Gretta Dimascio, plus Alan Morris, deputising for the chosen Norman Parker, acquitted themselves well against a team who were ever ready to "have a go."

In the best conditions at the Regal this was the best policy, and there were some fast and furious exchanges, with the greater steadiness of the Welsh players in the final points always evident.

## Unfinished

The team had been picked after the usual beginning of the season American Tournament a fortnight earlier. Twenty-four men took part, playing in four groups of six. Owing to ties cropping up in two of the groups it was impossible to complete the finals but the selectors had seen enough to give them a line on current form.

In Group "A," Glyn Morgan, the expected winner, started indifferently dropping a game to Newport's Tony Huish, then losing to George Davies, who was playing well. Meanwhile Alan Thomas, after a shaky start, beat David Parry, Huish, and Derek John, the hard hitting youngster from Merthyr, only to lose in straight games to Morgan. Thomas and Morgan thus finished level in this group.

Davies and Morris were the winners in Group B, Morris winning a close game when they clashed. Davies was hard pressed by Stan Jones, but won his other matches comfortably whereas Morris only just scraped home against Basil Evans and Clive Arkell.

There was another tie in Group "C." Norman Parker sailed along fairly easily against Roger Ponting, Dick Hopkins, Roy Fowler and Ian Gibson, only to lose to John Simonson, who in turn suffered defeat at the hands of Hopkins. Gibson and Hopkins were impressive in this group.

Donald Norris, showing a welcome return to form won Group "D," beating Bernard Dimascio, the runner-up at 21-16 in the third after a very fine match. Cliff Bowden was next best, with the Port Talbot youth Dennis Cooke, also doing quite well.

There were 19 contestants in the women's section, with some sparkling play being provided by the lesser lights.

Shirley Jones won all her events in Group "A," but was given a brisk battle by the effervescent Jean West, and dropped a game to Lilian Coombs. The next best in the group was Dorothy (Greenslade) Attenborough, although she lost easily to Shirley and had a ding-dong three "setter" with Jean West.

Group "B," with a player short, was won by Audrey Bates, who had little trouble with Margaret Phillips, Shirley Cartwright, and Jean Beer, making a welcome return to the game. Miss Phillips was runner-up.

Betty Gray won Group "C," beating Margaret Jones, Mavis Counsell, Shirley (Evans) Sturgess, and Jean Maidment without much trouble.

There were some excellent matches in Group "D," won narrowly by Gretta Dimascio after dropping games to Audrey Jones, Ann Marcus, and getting home 23-21 in the third against a much improved Sandra Morgan. Newport's Norah Hutchinson showed that she is better this season, while Audrey Jones played well up to a point, and Ann Marcus looked quite good.

## Brilliant Shirley

**Shirley Jones played her best ever in her semi-final with Audrey Bates, attacking at every opportunity with some really accurate hitting. Audrey did manage to get the initiative after being well down in the second game, but Shirley was not to be denied, and won comfortably in the third.**

Gretta Dimascio, who had not been playing too well, found inspiration to gain her first ever win over Betty Gray in the other semi-final at 22-20 in the

third. She then put up a good show in the final before going down to Shirley Jones.

There were some curious results in the first week of the Welsh League. Champions Swansea lost in the last game of the last match to Newport; Port Talbot paid the penalty of fielding a weakened side against Barry; Cardiff similarly failed against Eastern Valleys, because of a Western Counties clash of dates, and a much improved Aberdare beat Abergavenny.

## "Whitewashed"

In the Southern Section, Eastern Valleys beat Aberdare "seconds," and Rhondda beat Bridgend 7-2. Merthyr overcame Abergavenny by the same margin in the Northern Section, where Tredegar "whitewashed" Brecon.

Newport's juniors, the champions, overwhelmed Swansea, while in a women's match Cardiff beat Newport 8-1, the games being better than the score suggests.

Up in the North, Anglesey report 26 teams in their league, while at Bangor they have maintained last season's figures. Both leagues are looking forward to taking part in the North Wales section of the Welsh League, which was expected to get under way after the North Wales Association meeting on October 18.

In the West, Ron Bacon has returned to the area and hopes to take a hand in reviving interest. Ex-Swansea Alan Lewis, and his wife, are also down there now and together with Joe Ackroyd they should be able to get activities started on a healthier basis than in the past two or three seasons.

## SURREY'S FIRST LADY

Jill Rook is Surrey's new "first lady" of table tennis. She has succeeded to the title left vacant on the retirement of Jean Head, by topping the county's first ranking list of the season.



JILL ROOK

Immediately behind her comes Mrs. Betty (Isaacs) Bird, now playing again following the birth of daughter Leslie, Peggy Piper, and Lynne Whithams. Also graded among the seniors for the first time are Mary Austin and Mary Shannon.

It is likely that Miss Shannon will be "blooded" in senior matches during the "Bernard Crouch" fixtures with Middlesex and Essex this season.

Joe Somogyi, former Hungarian international, took the top spot in the men's list followed by Ken Craigie, Harry Venner, Tony Miller, Ron Crayden, Michael Maclaren, Terry Kirby and Denis Littlewort.

There was one slight revision of the men's list for the November rankings with Venner, making his usual recovery from the summer coaching sessions,

switching places with Craigie.

**Good news is that our county matches with Lancashire (November 22) and Middlesex (November 29) are to be televised in part. No doubt amicable financial arrangements will be agreed between the opposing counties but it is perhaps time a definite ruling on this was made by the N.C.C.C. Committee.**

Congratulations to Peggy Piper on winning an England badge against Scotland. It is good to see her back on the international scene.

In the "A" and "B" squads announced by the National Selectors it is difficult to follow the logic of the men's places. While we offer sincere congratulations to Michael Maclaren in "B" squad it seems that years count for too much when looking at our own county ranking list.

South London looks like having a problem on their hands when choosing their Rose Bowl team. Jean Head, who is considering playing in this event, Jill Rook, Betty Bird, Lynne Whithams will all be challenging for the three available places as will Pam Gall if her application for re-instatement is granted.

Jim Forrest.

## EMBROIDERED BADGES

We welcome your enquiries. Send sketch or sample.

Official Embroiderers to E.T.T.A.  
FREEMAN BROS. (Crofton Pk. Ltd.), 399-405, Brookley Road, London, S.E.4. Phone Tideway 1701

# SEVEN TIMES CHAMPION

By PETER J. THOMPSON

**A**UCKLAND'S Bob Jackson, winner of the Australian title in 1956, established a new record in the New Zealand championships at Wellington in September by carrying off the men's singles for the seventh time. This beat by one the six wins of Russell Algie.

In a final of 40 thrill-packed minutes, which had a crowd of more than a thousand strong tense with excitement, Jackson beat Murray Dunn, of Wellington, 21-17, 17-21, 21-13, 15-21, 21-19.

It was generally acknowledged one of the greatest matches seen in New Zealand, and enabled Jackson to wipe out his only defeat by a fellow Kiwi since 1954.

Jackson won a quiet first game but after that the match see-sawed to a thrilling climax, which in the fifth set saw Jackson lead 10-5 at the change over only to trail 15-18, level at 19-all then snatch the last two points for victory.

Dunn retrieved magnificently, and also kept up a consistent and accurate attack. Jackson concentrated on Dunn's backhand with a long ranged defence, looping the ball high to slow down the pace. Dunn was often on tip-toes in his efforts to get over the high kicking returns.

Jackson was at his best in that grandstand finish, directing a highly accurate medium-paced attack deep to the forehand, forcing Dunn to overhit.

**Ichiro Ogimura, former Japanese world champion, has expressed the opinion that Jackson's top spin de-**

**fensive play is a great improvement on the technique of many Europeans, and that with his anticipation and ball control he is capable of attaining world ranking.**

John Crossley, Scottish "open" champion of 1950, fell in the fifth round, while another former Scottish champion Garry Frew, was unexpectedly defeated in the quarter-finals by Brian Foster, the New Zealand junior champion.

Prior to the individual titles, Jackson, along with A. R. Tomlinson, P. J. Thompson, R. G. Taylor, and G. V. Wilkinson, helped Auckland retain the New Zealand team championship (Kean Challenge Shield).

Canterbury (P. Purdom, F. Inglis, T. May, D. Donald and J. Shadbolt) won the women's Teagle Shield.

**RESULTS**

**Men's Singles :** R. V. JACKSON bt M. L. Dunn 21-17, 17-21, 21-13, 15-21, 21-19.

**Women's Singles :** T. E. HALE bt J. E. Magorian 21-14, 18-21, 21-16, 9-21, 21-11.

**Men's Doubles :** JACKSON / R. A. TOMLINSON bt W. O. Jaine/G. A. J. Frew 21-11, 22-20, 7-21, 21-8.

**Women's Doubles :** MAGORIAN / P. M. PURDOM bt B. I. Powell/V. M. Rolston 21-18, 21-12, 21-18.

**Mixed Doubles :** FREW / MISS N. DAVIS bt B. A. Foster/Miss V. Braumann 21-14, 21-17, 21-18.

Singles winners in the provincial championships were:

North Island: R. V. Jackson; Miss J. Brown.

South Island: J. Armstrong; Miss J. Magorian.

Auckland: Jackson; Miss B. Packwood. Taranaki (North): P. J. Thompson; Miss T. Hale.

Taranaki (South): G. Smith; Miss M. Broadbent.

Hawkes Bay: E. Hutchinson; Mrs. Robinson.

Wellington: M. Dunn; Miss Brown. Nelson: Thompson; Mrs. Pretty.

Marlborough: Sheridan; Miss J. Sara. Westland: P. Alexander; Miss L. Butts.

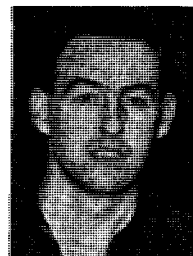
Canterbury: Armstrong; Miss F. Inglis. Otago: B. Foster; Miss P. Crowe.

## KEEPING HIS PROMISE

**A** PLAYER in Division Five of the Huddersfield League recently beat a Gloucestershire county player 18-21, 21-16, 21-8 and took a game off a Lancashire county player, Geoff Pullar, at 21-7.

That sounds pretty sensational (writes Malcolm Hartley). And so it is—but not quite in the way one would imagine.

For this star shining from the depths of obscurity is not unknown. He is Raymond Hinchliff, England International and 58 times a Yorkshire county player.



**RAY HINCHLIFF**

first division with Y.M.C.A.

His old colleagues frequently asked him to return to their team and Ray told me: "Eventually I promised them that if Y.M.C.A. won the league last season I would do so. We won both the league and the Yorkshire club championship—so now I am keeping my promise."

The obvious question was: "Won't playing in a division of inferior quality impair your play?" His reply: "I don't think so because I shall still have special practice. That is essential no matter which division you are in—even the first—because league play alone is never enough to keep you at county standard."

So Ray is joining Derek Wright and Donald Fleet, in the attempt to win the fifth division for Electric Sports. "And I think we have a fair chance," was his modest comment.

It will be interesting to see if anyone in the division manages to take a game from the county star.

## SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

Suffolk opened both the junior and senior County programmes with two devastating defeats, both at the hands of Hertfordshire teams. At Stowmarket the juniors lost 2-8 and at English Electric, Stevenage the seniors failed to win a game. The Hertfordshire senior side are the best they have had for years and may well be at the top of Second Division (South) at the end of the season.

Hans Fleck of Ipswich qualified for his Suffolk badge in this match and, in view of having won a Norfolk badge in his Norwich days, this is something of a unique record in East Anglia.

The new Dress Rule has certainly smartened things up. Both the Hertfordshire and Suffolk teams, seniors and juniors alike, looked grand in their respective uniform outfits.

The bad news of the collapse of the Felixstowe League after a brief life of four years is mainly due to their being unable to replace their former secretary, T. D. Houlden, who now lives at Ipswich and has assumed a position of

divisional secretary with the Ipswich League.

Ipswich Convent has again affiliated and 18 girls are receiving regular coaching from Ipswich senior players.

The Ipswich League has shown great enterprise in getting the Northgate Boys Grammar School interested in coaching and 58 boys are now receiving weekly visits from the local coaches under Derek Morley. It is hoped that Northgate may later affiliate.

Local Ipswich coaches are also helping out Suffolk with visits to the Peasenhall League. An Exhibition by County players was held at Peasenhall during early September and was watched by a young and enthusiastic audience.

Efforts are being made to interest players of the local leagues in the magazine TABLE TENNIS. Miss Ann Baldry has been appointed Magazine Secretary and she is dealing with prospective Lowestoft sales as well; Ken Rodwell is looking after Ipswich sales and Basil Last those in Stowmarket.

A. E. D.

## THE BISHOPSGATE TABLE TENNIS CLUB 230 BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2

have a few vacancies for the coming season. The Club meets at 6.30 p.m. every Monday and Friday. Write Hon. Secretary, H. A. Packett, 10, Marlees Road, Kensington, W.8.

# FAREWELL HELEN

By **BRYAN CUTRESS**

**T**ABLE Tennis generally, and Scotland in particular, will be much the poorer this season with the retirement of Helen Elliot, for several years among the world's leading players.

Such has been the success of this pleasant looking, yet viciously battling star, that her name is associated with Scotland as easily as Wright with England, Blanchflower with Ireland and Charles with Wales.

But a more insignificant beginning to such a brilliant career can hardly be imagined.

## NATURAL APTITUDE

Miss Elliot first took up the game in an A.R.P. Post in 1943 at the age of sixteen. She quickly showed a natural aptitude and was encouraged to take it more seriously. She did not need much encouragement.

However, she had to make her own way through the trying times of initiation and learn all she could through the bitter experience of continual defeat, for there was no-one in Scotland to give her any coaching.

Fortunately she soon began to turn these defeats into victories and in 1945 took the first step on the ladder to the top by winning an open tournament.

She began to make rapid progress and in the following season made her

first of over 100 international appearances.

Then she began playing in the Highland "Open" singles—an event for both men and women—and one year beat Scotland's leading man, Vic Garland, in straight sets. After such a performance she did not play against the men again, considering it might be unfair to them and have an adverse influence on their grading.

Next came the Scottish singles championship, a title she held for the following 12 years, and shortly after this she began her first assault on the World Championships.

Nine times she challenged for the world's top honours and has twice won the women's doubles and once the mixed doubles title.

Space does not permit listing the rest of her many honours, such as being the only player during the Corbillon Cup series of 1957 to win a game against the Japanese, but suffice to say she has established an unprecedented record which will probably never be equalled.

## SPONGE TO WOOL

The reason for Miss Elliot's retirement is her decision to change from sponge to wool. At the beginning of last month she started a small wool shop and this does not allow her enough time to practice. "It was an opportunity not to be missed," said



**HELEN ELLIOT**

her husband Bob Dykes, Scottish T.T.A. Secretary.

She has not, however, severed all connections with the sport, but her activities will be confined to local administration work for the association, her league and her club plus a little coaching although only in an advisory capacity.

So ends the Scottish era of Helen Elliot, who has carved her name in the record books of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Germany, Belgium and the world championship. It is an era which has lifted Scotland from the class of poor relations into one of the rich uncles.

## CHANGE OF DATE

The Bath "Open", originally arranged for November 29, will now take place at St. Peter's Church Hall, Lower Bristol-road, Bath, on March 21.

## BRISTOL "CLOSED"

Men's Singles: **P. PARTOS** bt C. Feltham 21-13, 14-21, 22-20.

Women's Singles: **Mrs. T. STOKES** bt J. Collier 21-10, 21-12.

Men's Doubles: **PARTOS/R. WOOD** bt R. Haydon/T. Dimambro 21-17, 17-21, 21-12.

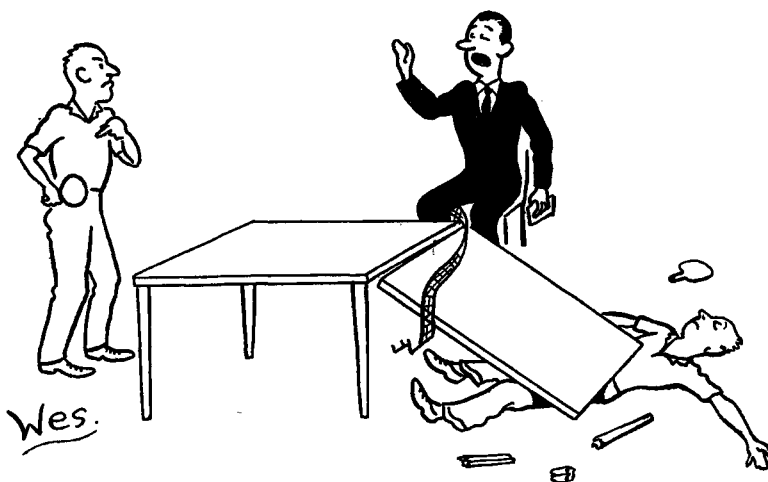
Women's Doubles: **Mrs. STOKES/M. MASON** bt Mrs. D. Meech/D. Jenkins 19-21, 21-17, 21-18.

## BEDFORDSHIRE "CLOSED"

Men's Singles: **C. CROWE** bt H. Bell 20-22, 17-21, 21-8, 21-5, 21-16. Women's Singles: **Mrs. J. WHITING** bt Mrs. J. Cox 21-13, 21-18.

Men's Doubles: **BELL/B. CLARK** bt Crowe/S. Lawson 21-19, 21-16. Women's Doubles: **J. RACEY/D. UNDERWOOD** bt Mrs. G. Dean/Mrs. Whiting 21-13, 21-19. Mixed Doubles: **CLARK/Miss R. SEYMOUR** bt P. Racey/Miss Racey 21-19, 21-6.

Boys' Singles: **D. WHITE** bt Racey 20-22, 21-11, 21-19. Girls' Singles: **A. EAGLES** bt S. James 21-14, 21-14.



**"NO, IT'S A LET!"**

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP - - - By CONRAD JASCHKE

**BOLD SURREY-YORKS. CHALLENGE**

**SURREY** and Yorkshire are going to make a strong bid to break the Middlesex hold on the Premier Division title. That is the message from the season's opening matches in the National County Championships.

Yorkshire, vividly remembering last year's disastrous start when they lost the "Battle of the Roses," gained full revenge with a 6-4 win over Lancashire to follow up a 7-3 victory over Gloucestershire. Surrey also gained maximum points from their first two matches by beating Gloucestershire 7-3 and Cheshire 8-2.

Brian Kennedy showed in no uncertain way his views of his No. 5 England ranking with convincing wins over Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett, Jeff Ingber and Ron Allcock. Only Harrison managed to take a game from him.

Stuart Dyson also did well for Yorkshire, winning three out of his four singles at No. 3, while brilliant Kathie Best saw to it that they took full points from the women's singles and doubles, in which she was ably assisted by Mrs. J. Farnsworth.

Surrey, too, have a most formidable side and only Merrett prevented their 7-3 win over Gloucestershire being a complete rout. He defeated Josef Somogyi, and Ken Craigie in the singles, and won the doubles with Harrison.

European ranked Somogyi adds considerably to the Surrey strength, while Harry Venner, who started the season as the county's No. 3, has already climbed to No. 2 and can be expected to keep hard on Somogyi's heels.

With Jill Rook in singles and mixed doubles (partnering Somogyi), freshly "capped" Peggy Piper, Lynne Whithams and Betty (Isaacs) Bird,

Surrey have no fears about their women letting them down.

At the other end of the scale, Cheshire avenged their defeat of two years back when they beat Kent 6-4 at Maidstone, thus making Kent favourites in the "relegation stakes."

Cheshire's Derek Schofield put up a brilliant performance with wins over Tony Piddock, Henry Buist, and carried much of the weight in winning the men's doubles. If Schofield was outstanding—as indeed he had been against Middlesex when he defeated Alan Rhodes—one could not help but admire the Cheshire No. 3 V. Hankey, who has usurped the team place formerly held by Arnold Shepherd.

**Hankey, not the most stylish of players, showed great fighting qualities in overcoming opponents with a greater repertoire of strokes.**

Joyce Fielder's wins in women's singles and mixed doubles, victory for Kent's new women's doubles pair, and a solitary men's singles win for Dennis Whittaker, failed to save a point.

Although Cheshire have lost heavily to Middlesex and Surrey their hopes of permanent premier status have not suffered a really severe set-back, for these are not the two teams they hope to beat if they are to stay up!

**3-0 START**

In Division II (North), Warwickshire started their promotion campaign with a draw against Yorkshire II. With Ann Haydon and Pam Mortimer in a second division team, Warwickshire virtually start 3-0 up in every match they play, but this was not enough in a match where their opponents included such experienced men as Maurice Simpson, M. Pitts and G. Carrigill, of whom only the last named conceded a singles, to I. Harrison.

Warwickshire played Pam Mortimer in singles and Ann Haydon in the two doubles.

A feature of the match was that all but one set finished in two straight games. The exception was K. Burton's narrow 16-21, 21-18, 19-21 defeat at the hands of Simpson.

Lincolnshire, also contenders in this division, gathered two valuable points when they defeated Northumberland by 6-4 at Newcastle. P. Skerratt, Mrs. W. Eanor and Mr. C. Moran won five of the six sets between them, with M. Sheader chipping in one singles victory.

Kent II scored a surprise 8-2

**COUNTY DIARY**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

November 12	Essex v Surrey, British Moulded Plastics, North Circular Road, Walthamstow, London, E.17	7 p.m.
November 15	Kent v Yorkshire, St. Luke's Institute, Southlands Road, Bromley	7 p.m.
	Cheshire v Gloucestershire, Fairy Aviation Sports Club, Derby Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport	7 p.m.
November 22	Lancashire v Surrey, Atkinson Vehicles, Ltd., Social Centre, Winery Lane, Walton-Le-Dale, Preston	2.15 p.m. or 7 p.m. (according to TV)
November 29	Middlesex v Surrey, Handel Street Barracks, London, W.C.1	2.15 p.m.
December 6	Yorkshire v Essex, Mechanics' Institute, Bridge Street, Bradford	7 p.m.
	Lancashire v Gloucestershire, Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, Manchester	7 p.m.
	Middlesex v Kent, Ultra Social & Sports Club, Western Avenue, Acton, London, W.3	7.15 p.m.

**SECOND DIVISION NORTH**

November 15	Warwickshire v Lincolnshire, Flavells Ltd., Leamington Spa	7.15 p.m.
November 29	Yorkshire v Northumberland, Northumberland Church House, Romanby Road, Northallerton	7 p.m.
December 6	Durham v Derbyshire, Darlington	7 p.m.

**SECOND DIVISION SOUTH**

November 15	Berkshire v Hampshire	
December 6	Hampshire v Kent, Johnson & Johnson Factory Canteen, Southampton Road, Portsmouth	7 p.m.
	Suffolk v Sussex, Ipswich	7 p.m.
	Hertfordshire v Berkshire, Therm Sports Club, Eastern Gas Board, Eywood Road, St. Albans	7 p.m.

**SECOND DIVISION WEST**

November 15	Devon v Somerset	
	Wiltshire v Dorset, St. Michael's Hall, Roman Road, Salisbury	7.15 p.m.
	Cornwall v Glamorgan	
December 6	Cornwall v Somerset	
	Worcestershire v Wiltshire	
	Dorset v Devon	

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

December 6	Cambridgeshire v Norfolk, Impington Village College, Histon	7.15 p.m.
------------	---	-----------

**NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION**

November 15	Durham v Cheshire, Sunderland	7 p.m.
	Durham v Lancashire, Fence Houses Y.M.C.A.	3 p.m.
December 3	Cheshire v Lancashire, Stockport	7 p.m.
December 6	Cheshire v Yorkshire, Liberal Club, Queen Victoria Street, Macclesfield	3 p.m.

**SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION**

November 15	Surrey v Sussex, Y.M.C.A., Victoria Road, Chelmsford	6 p.m.
	Kent v Hertfordshire, St. Luke's Institute, Southlands Road, Bromley	3 p.m.
November 29	Essex v Suffolk	
December 6	Sussex v Kent	

victory over Berkshire at Reading, in Division II (South). Kent's first team only defeated these opponents by 6-4 last season, so the second team's margin of victory was unexpected. The explanation could be that Berkshire had to field two reserves.

George Elliott, Alan Payne and Mrs. Joan Beadle were outstanding for Kent, while old stager Percy Morecroft "stole" the mixed doubles for Berkshire. Brian Barnes gained the only singles success for Berkshire by beating London University player Ming Wong.

Hertfordshire, counting amongst their men three former England junior internationals in John Hunt, Terry Densham and Brian Barr, scored an overwhelming 10-0 win over Suffolk, taking every set two straight! Suffolk are not as bad as all that, so it looks to me that Hertfordshire will take some beating.

Glyn Bebb, now on the sidelines as non-playing captain, must nurse more than a faint hope of steering Hertfordshire into the premier division for the first time.

Sussex, who have alternated with Kent as favourites in this division in recent years, took a 4-6 tumble to Hampshire at Bournemouth, despite a strong fight back after being 1-5 down.

George Stevens was the most successful Hampshire player, winning two singles—he beat Peter Shead—and the men's doubles with B. James.

Mrs. Daphne Gray, was also undefeated in singles and doubles, with Ruth Welch. This probably ranks as Hampshire's best show for a number of years.

### CORNWALL CRASH

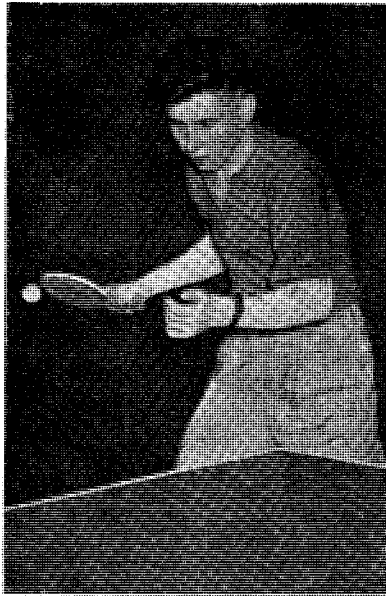
Cornwall have started disappointingly in Division II (West), crashing 2-8 to Dorset, and 1-9 to Wiltshire on a round trip. The ladies were concerned in such successes as Cornwall achieved in these two matches, Mrs. B. Hatter being successful in women's singles and doubles (with Mrs. A. Charlesworth) against Dorset, and Mrs. Charlesworth teaming with R. Bunt in a mixed doubles win against Wiltshire.

Wiltshire's joy was short lived, for they were "whitewashed" by Glamorgan the following week in Cardiff.

Newcomers Oxfordshire and Leicestershire met at Oxford in the Midland Division, and Leicestershire gained a clear-cut victory.

Middlesex juniors were off to their usual whirlwind start in the South Junior Division, with a 10-0 victory over Sussex and an 8-2 win over Kent, who had hoped to do better with the score at 2-2!

In their opening match Middlesex



JOHN HUNT

fielded both the *News of the World* winners, Hilde Brautigam and David Creamer. In Creamer they have acquired valuable support to Chris Gosling and Brian Hamill.

Hertfordshire also made a good start in this division, beating Suffolk 8-2 and Surrey 6-4, while Essex had little difficulty in disposing of Sussex by 9-1. G. Whalley gained the only Sussex success in the last set of the evening, with an excellent 10-21, 21-18, 21-8 win over highly-rated Trevor Leverno.

Congratulations are due to N.C.C. secretary Ivor Eyles, and to Middlesex for their joint enterprise in taking the **Champions v The Rest** match to Bristol, where it will be staged at the Victoria Room, Clifton, on Saturday, December 20, at 2.30 p.m.

The B.B.C. have secured television rights for the match, which should turn out to be one of the, if not the, star attraction of the season. At least half a dozen contenders for England's world championship teams are sure to be engaged in bitter struggle for positions, making this much more than "just a match."

## DETAILED RESULTS

### PREMIER DIVISION

Middlesex 8, Cheshire 2  
D. Burridge beat V. Hankey 16, 8; beat E. Johnson 18, 19. M. Thornhill beat Johnson 8, 18; beat D. Schofield 8, 8. A. Rhodes lost to Schofield —16, 16, —18; beat Hankey 19, 19.  
Thornhill/Rhodes beat Schofield/Johnson 14, 17.  
Miss J. Harrower lost to Miss L. Bown 20, —19, —11.  
Miss Harrower/Miss M. Fry beat Miss Bown/Miss M. Young 12, —18, 8. Burridge/Miss Fry beat Hankey/Miss Young 20, 19.

Gloucestershire 3, Yorkshire 7  
P. Partos lost to S. Dyson —9, —13; lost to R. Hinchliff 18, —16, —8. B. Merrett beat Hinchliff 11, 13; lost to B. Kennedy —13, —15. I. Harrison lost to Kennedy —14, 16, —17; beat Dyson 9, 17.  
Merrett/Harrison beat Hinchliff/Dyson 12, —17, 16.  
Mrs. E. Morley lost to Miss K. Best —19, —18.  
Mrs. Morley/Mrs. T. Spokes lost to Miss Best/Mrs. J. Farnsworth —15, —17.  
Partos/Mrs. Spokes lost to Kennedy/Mrs. Farnsworth —19, —9.

Yorkshire 6, Lancashire 4  
S. Dyson lost to G. Pullar —19, —13; beat J. Ingber 17, —7, 12. B. Kennedy beat Ingber 19, 20; beat R. Allcock 13, 12. R. Hinchliff lost to Allcock 9, —19, —16; lost to Pullar —21, 7, —14.  
Hinchliff/Dyson beat Ingber/Pullar 11, —17, 17.  
Miss K. Best beat Miss I. Haney 7, 6. Miss Best/Mrs. J. Farnsworth beat Miss Haney/Miss C. Spencer —16, 17, 14. Kennedy/Mrs. Farnsworth lost to Allcock/Miss Spencer —18, 17, —15.

Kent 4, Cheshire 6  
D. Whittaker lost to V. Hankey —18, —22; beat E. Johnson 16, 12. A. Piddock lost to Johnson —16, —12; lost to D. Schofield —13, —19. H. Buist lost to Schofield —19, 9, —10; lost to Hankey —17, —19.  
Piddock/G. Elliott lost to Schofield/Johnson —16, —17.  
Miss J. Fielder beat Miss L. Bown 17, 17.

Mrs. M. Dodd/Miss B. Landimore beat Miss Bown/Miss M. Young 13, 17. Elliott/Miss Fielder beat Hankey/Miss Young 16, 14.

Surrey 7, Gloucestershire 3  
H. Venner beat R. Morley 9, 18; beat I. Harrison —21, 9, 14. J. Somogyi beat Harrison —20, 13, 18; lost to B. Merrett 16, —11, —19. K. Craigie lost to Merrett —13, 16, —10; beat Morley 15, 17.  
Craigie/Venner lost to Harrison/Merrett —16, —19.  
Miss J. Rook beat Mrs. B. Morley 14, 16.

Mrs. B. Bird/Miss P. Piper beat Mrs. Morley/Miss A. Cox 12, 9. Somogyi/Miss Rook beat Morley/Miss Cox 19, 11.

Surrey 9, Cheshire 1  
H. Venner beat V. Hankey 13, 18; beat E. Johnson 11, 18. J. Somogyi beat Johnson 13, 17; beat D. Schofield —15, 11, 18. K. Craigie lost to Schofield 18, —7, —16; beat Hankey —16, 14, 14.  
Craigie/Venner beat Schofield/Johnson 9, 14.

Miss J. Rook beat Miss L. Bown 18, 13. Miss P. Piper/Miss L. Whithams beat Miss Bown/Miss M. Young 18, 13. Somogyi/Miss Rook beat Hankey/Miss Young —21, 11, 14.

DIVISION II NORTH  
Warwickshire 5, Yorkshire II 5.  
Northumberland 4, Lincolnshire 6.

DIVISION II SOUTH  
Hertfordshire 10, Suffolk 0.  
Berkshire 2, Kent II 8.  
Hampshire 6, Sussex 4.

DIVISION II WEST

Cornwall 2, Dorset 8.  
Cornwall 1, Wiltshire 9.  
Glamorgan 10, Wiltshire 0.  
Devon 3, Worcestershire 7.

MIDLAND DIVISION

Oxfordshire 2, Leicestershire 8.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

Sussex 0, Middlesex 10.  
Suffolk 2, Hertfordshire 8.  
Middlesex 8, Kent 2.  
Sussex 1, Essex 9.  
Hertfordshire 6, Surrey 4.  
Middlesex 7, Hertfordshire 3.

JUNIOR DIVISION NORTH  
Yorkshire 8, Cheshire 0.

# 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 marked (A) are Approved. 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>
14-16	<b>South of England "Open" (A) (Oct. 31)</b> Power Samas Welfare Hall, Aurelia Road, Croydon.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	C. A. Bourne, 15a, Reddown Road, Coulston, Surrey.
21-22	<b>Birmingham "Open" (Nov. 11)</b> Friends' Institute, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	J.S.B., V.S. J.S.G. J.D.B.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
21-22	<b>IRISH INTER-PROVINCIALS</b> Dublin.		
22	<b>Yorkshire "Open"</b> Railway Institute, York.		K. W. James, 25, Hallfield Road, Bradford.
23	<b>Bournemouth "Open" (A) (Nov. 8)</b> The Drill Hall, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth.	J.S.	C. B. Cashell, 16, Victoria Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth.
29	<b>Peterborough "Open" (Nov. 17)</b> Baker Perkins, Ltd., Westwood Works, Peterborough	J.S.B. J.S.G.	K. Kent, 14, High Street, Eye, Near Peterborough.
28-30	<b>SCANDINAVIAN "OPEN"</b> Stockholm.		
Dec. 6	<b>Swansea "Open"</b>	B.S.	
Dec. 11-13	<b>Cheshire "Open" (Nov. 29)</b> Birkenhead.	V.S.	W. H. Gawne, 9, Eric Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
13-14	<b>Middlesex "Open" (Nov. 26)</b> Hanwell Community Centre, Hanwell.	J.S.B.	Miss I. Moss, 49, Okehampton Road, London, N.W.10.
28/Jan. 3	<b>North West Kent "Open" (Dec. 1)</b> Barnehurst Residents' Ass. Club, 152a, Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	R. G. Heasman, 77, Welling Way, Welling, Kent.
Jan. 16	<b>Yorkshire Junior "Open"</b>	Y.S., Y.D. G.S., Y.X.D. J.X.S.	K. W. James, 25, Hallfield Road, Bradford, 1.
16	<b>WALES v. ENGLAND</b> Wales.		
16-17	<b>WELSH "OPEN"</b> Dumfries Place Drill Hall, Cardiff.	B.S., G.S.	Mr. N. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff.
16-17	<b>IRISH "CLOSED"</b> Drogheda.		
17	<b>Lancashire "Open" (Jan. 10)</b> De Havilland Propellers, Ltd. Lostock, Bolton, Lancs.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	A. Howcroft, 30, Thorne Street, Farnworth, Lancashire.
19-24	<b>Metropolitan "Open" (Dec. 31)</b> T.A. Drill Hall, Handel Street, London, W.C.1.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2.
24	<b>Pontefract "Open" (A) (Jan. 13)</b> Assembly Rooms and Town Hall, Pontefract, Yorks.	J.S.B. V.S.	T. Horrocks, "Rockland," Bondgate, Pontefract, Yorkshire.
31	<b>Gloucestershire Junior "Open" (Jan. 15)</b> Gloucester Public Baths, Barton Gates, Gloucester.	Under 17 J.S.B., J.D.B. Under 15 J.S.B., J.D.G. Under 17 J.S.G., J.X.D. Under 15 J.S.G.	V. Herbert, Springhill Cottage, Old Road, Maismore, Gloucestershire.
31/Feb. 1	<b>NETHERLANDS "OPEN"</b>		
31/Feb. 1	<b>Kent "Open" (Jan. 12)</b> Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	Y.X.S.	F. Betts, 88, Surrenden Road, Folkestone.

**Laurie Landry reports****NORTH OF ENGLAND "OPEN"**

A GREAT fighting come-back by Brian Kennedy, determined to regain No. 1 ranking, and a second successive triple crown for Shirley Jones, were the highlights of the North of England "Open" at Manchester on October 9-11.

Kennedy, playing with unusual care, came away with the men's singles, reaching the final without loss of a game.

Harry Venner, who gave Kennedy his stiffest match, put up a fine display in the final and led in the early stages of the vital third game. It was not until he slowed down the pace that Kennedy managed to get ahead and win 21-11, 12-21, 21-15.



BRIAN KENNEDY

disposing of Eddie Hodson 21-17, 9-21, 21-16, and Derek Schofield 21-18, 15-21, 21-18, before falling to Kennedy.

Schofield had previously beaten Ray Hinchliffe and Stuart Dyson, while Dyson eliminated Bobby Stevens over three games.

Arnold Shepherd, following wins over Ray Dorking and the new England "cap" Jeff Ingber, suffered a lapse of form when he came up against Venner in the semi-final and was beaten 8 and 14. Venner's earlier victims included Ron Allcock (19 and 20), who had in turn disposed of Bobby Raybould.

*Irrepressible Shirley Jones had a clear run through to the women's singles final where she gained her revenge for last year's defeat by beating Joyce Fielder 17-21, 21-17, 21-14. It was in fact a repeat of the East of England final, only this time Miss Fielder managed to take a game.*

Miss Fielder, who hit well, but was not quite consistent enough, had earlier shown her fighting power by saving seven match points when recovering from 12-21, 13-20 down to beat the Lancashire starlet Ivy Haney 12-21, 24-22, 21-8.

Miss Haney became somewhat nervous as the Kent international gradually pulled the points back.

Shirley and Joyce joined forces to win the women's doubles final against Lorna Bown and Betty Cassell at 21-17, 21-6, then Shirley completed her treble by winning the mixed doubles with David House. They beat Venner and Lynne Whithams in the final 21-17, 21-12.

House teamed up with Laurie Landry to complete a double of doubles, their final victims being Schofield

On his way to the final Kennedy beat Ken Stanley 21 and 10, Jack Clayton 15 and 21, and Maurice Pitts 15 and 12 (semi-final).

Stanley accounted for last year's winner David House, taking the last 11 points in a row to win 23-21, 14-21, 21-13. Clayton beat Laurie Landry 21 and 18.

Pitts, left-handed Yorkshireman, handed out a few shocks by

and Eric Johnson with a score of 21-13, 17-21, 21-8.

Cheshire pairs took much of the limelight in the men's doubles, with D. Cartwright and V. Hankey beating Raybould and Stevens 21-15, 20-22, 22-20; and Schofield and Johnson dismissing Kennedy and Venner 21-13, 18-21, 21-18.

Last year's final was reversed in the boys' singles, George Livesey beating his old rival Jackie Keogh 21-16, 22-20. Linda Gordon won the girls' final after a close match with Diane Wright at 21-19, 14-21, 21-19.

*The tournament was well organised by a committee headed by Les Jones. The one objection: the price of tea, 5d. for a small cup. It's all right for those who can afford it!*

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** B. KENNEDY bt M. Pitts 21-15, 21-12. H. VENNER bt A. Shepherd 21-8-21-14.

**Final:** KENNEDY bt Venner 21-11, 12-21, 21-15.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** S. JONES bt C. Moran 21-16, 21-13. J. FIELDER bt L. Whithams 24-22, 21-13.

**Final:** JONES bt Fielder 17-21, 21-17, 21-14.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** D. HOUSE/L. LANDRY bt E. Hodson/R. Dorking 22-20, 13-21, 21-15. D. SCHOFIELD/E. JOHNSON bt D. Cartwright/V. Hankey 21-17, 17-21, 21-19.

**Final:** HOUSE/LANDRY bt Schofield/Johnson 21-13, 17-21, 21-8.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** FIELDER/JONES bt M. LEIGH/W. SWIFT 21-18, 21-16. L. BOWN/B. CASSELL bt L. Whithams/C. Bagshaw 15-21, 21-12, 21-10.

**Final:** FIELDER/JONES bt Bown/Cassell 21-17, 21-6.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** HOUSE/Miss JONES bt R. Stevens/Miss Fielder 21-15, 14-21, 21-13. VENNER/Miss WHITHAMS bt Schofield/Miss Bown 21-15, 22-20.

**Final:** HOUSE/Miss JONES bt Venner/Whithams 21-17, 21-12.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:** G. LIVESEY bt M. Dainty 21-14, 22-20. J. KEOGH bt D. Stanley 21-17, 21-15.

**Final:** LIVESEY bt Keogh 21-16, 22-20.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:** L. GORDON bt A. Taft 21-15, 21-16. D. WRIGHT bt C. Bagshaw 21-13, 21-15.

**Final:** GORDON bt Wright 21-19, 14-21, 21-19!

**and PORTSMOUTH "OPEN"**

A LARGE contingent of Essex players, led by Bobby Stevens, who retained his singles title with a careful and sometimes brilliant victory over Peter Shead, all but swept the board in the Portsmouth "Open" at Southsea on October 19.

Jean (Page) McCree gained her first ever "open" title in the women's singles, Sheila Pickard and Ivy Sawyer took the women's doubles, Les and Ivy Sawyer carried off the mixed doubles and Essex also had a share in the men's doubles when Bobby Raybould formed a winning partnership with Laurie Landry of Middlesex.

Only in the junior singles, won by Derek Grant, of the Isle of Wight, were Essex missing from the awards.

Stevens's toughest matches were against D. Page, of Kent, whom he beat 23-21, 18-21, 21-17, and his Essex compatriot Alan Gazeley where the score was 21-19, 16-21, 21-19.

Shead, with his feet firmly on the ground, moving the ball extremely well and coming in with well timed hits, beat both Raybould and Landry, before accounting for Bob McCree in the semi-final.

Two marathon matches, bearded and bespectacled Don Smith, of Somerset, taking 90 minutes to beat Les Sawyer, and local player George Stevens needing two-and-a-half hours to overcome John Quilter, of Sussex, led to a late finish.

Mrs. McCree beat Betty Cassell in the women's final, recovering after losing the first game to win 19-21, 21-19, 21-12. Her only trouble in getting to this stage was against ever-improving Mary Shannon whom she beat 21-12, 17-21, 21-16.

Miss Shannon was runner-up in the doubles with Marina Dodd losing after two close games to Miss Pickard and Mrs. Sawyer, for whom it was their first success.

No fewer than five husband and wife partnerships took part in the mixed doubles, where Les and Ivy Sawyer won an all-Essex final against Brian Brumwell and Jean McCree.

Stevens and Ken Beamish lost their men's doubles title

(Continued at foot of next page)

## SUSSEX "OPEN"



HARRY VENNER

## VENNER WINS AGAIN

- BEATS LANDRY IN UNFORGETTABLE FINAL
- SHIRLEY JONES HALTED



LAURIE LANDRY

**H**ARRY VENNER, written off by many when he could do no better than Group A in the English rankings, let it be plainly seen that he is still a major force in table tennis when he carried off the men's singles in the Sussex "Open" at Hastings on October 25-26.

In an unforgettable final—probably the best in the history of the meeting—Venner beat Laurie Landry, 19-year-old London University student, 15-21, 21-17, 21-17.

It was the fourth time Venner had won the title and provided him with sweet revenge. For, four years ago he unwillingly put Landry into the headlines by losing to him in the Eastern Suburban "Open."

There were thrills in plenty to keep the spectators on tenterhooks with excitement. It looked odds on Landry when he took the first game and went to 8-2 in the second. But Venner is a fighter.

*He suddenly clicked into the form which had taken him through the previous rounds without loss of a game and hit through Landry to make it one game all and take a 6-1 lead in the decider.*

It was then Landry's turn to fight back and he made it 17-all before succumbing to Venner's final onslaught.

In many respects though, this was Landry's tourna-

ment. He turned on a giant killing act to beat the two Hungarian exiles seeded Josef Somogyi (21-19, 21-16) and George Muranyi (21-15, 21-18), Roy Coussens and Dennis Whittaker.

Venner beat Tony Miller (21-18, 21-14), Ray Dorking (21-12, 21-16), Ian Harrison (21-14, 21-17), and Terry Densham (21-13, 21-19).

**This popular tournament had more than its quota of surprises, for all the seeded players were eliminated before the men's singles semi-finals.**

The biggest shock was the 21-7, 21-17 defeat of the holder Alan Rhodes by little-known Gordon Chapman, who failed to survive the next round, losing to O. Baker, who, in turn, fell to Whittaker.

Derek Burridge, after beating David House, conqueror of Michael Maclaren and Bobby Raybould, surprisingly fell to Terry Densham (21-13, 21-14).

Shocks were not confined to the men's singles for New Zealander Joyce Williamson ended Shirley Jones's run of tournament successes with a score of 21-17, 23-21. She went on to beat Margaret Fry and in the semi-final a much-improved Jean McCree (13-21, 22-20, 21-11).

**The Kiwi's performances, particularly her win over Miss Jones, paved the way for Joyce Fielder to gain a popular victory in the final with a 21-16, 19-21, 21-11 win over Miss Williamson.**

It was a case of third time lucky for the Kent girl who had been runner-up to Miss Jones in both the East of England and North of England finals.

On her way to the final Miss Fielder gained the measure of Joan Beadle, Barbara Milbank, and in the semi-final Jill Rook (21-12, 21-19).

Miss Jones did not come away empty handed for she partnered Raybould to win the mixed doubles final beating Muranyi and Miss Williamson 21-19, 21-19.

Raybould gained a second title in the men's doubles with Stevens. They beat Maclaren and Harrison 17-21, 21-10, 21-18.

Jill Rook and Peggy Piper won the women's doubles 21-12, 16-21, 21-10 against Miss Jones and Miss Fry.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** H. VENNER bt T. Densham 21-13, 21-19; L. LANDRY bt D. Whittaker 21-16, 21-13.

**Final:** VENNER bt Landry 15-21, 21-17, 21-17.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. FIELDER bt J. Rook 21-12, 21-19; J. WILLIAMS bt Mrs. J. McCree 13-21, 22-20, 21-11.

**Final:** FIELDER bt Williamson 21-16, 19-21, 21-11.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** R. RAYBOULD/R. STEVENS bt R. Dorking/D. House 2-18, 21-18; I. HARRISON/M. MACLAREN bt J. Hunt/T. Densham 21-17, 21-19. **Final:** RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Maclaren/Harrison 17-21, 21-10, 21-18.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** ROOK/M. PIPER bt Williamson/L. Whithams 12-21, 23-21, 21-19; S. JONES M. FRY bt J. Mortimer/Mrs. B. Bird 21-16, 17-21, 21-19. **Final:** ROOK/PIPER bt Jones/Fry 21-12, 16-21, 21-10.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** RAYBOULD/MISS JONES bt Harrison/Miss Rook 21-19, 21-13; G. MURANYI/MISS WILLIAMSON bt G. Elliott/Miss Fielder 21-15, 21-16. **Final:** RAYBOULD/MISS JONES bt Muranyi/Miss Williamson 21-19, 21-19.

## PORTSMOUTH "OPEN" (Continued from previous page)

when they fell to Jack Harrington and Terry Kirby, beaten in turn by Stan Jacobson and Alan Lindsay, who reached the final without dropping a game only to find Raybould and Landry too strong.

*The organisation of this tournament worked hard against the overwhelming odds of having no umpires. Either tournaments must arrange a constant stream of umpires through the local leagues or a condition of entry should be "LOSERS UMPIRE." We must face the facts, there is no other way out of it.*

**Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:** R. STEVENS bt D. Smith 21-7, 21-19. P. SHEAD bt R. McCree 21-16, 21-14.

**Final:** STEVENS bt Shead 21-17, 21-18.

**Women's Singles: Semi-Finals:** J. MCCREE bt P. Turner 21-6, 21-11. B. CASSELL bt M. Dodd 21-15, 21-17.

**Final:** MCCREE bt Cassell 19-21, 21-19, 21-12.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** L. LANDRY/R. RAYBOULD bt B. Brumwell/R. Dorking 17-21, 21-9, 21-18. S. JACOBSON/A. LINDSAY bt R. Bond/L. Sawyer 21-17, 21-18.

**Final:** LANDRY/RAYBOULD bt Jacobson/Lindsay 21-17, 19-21, 21-14.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals:** S. PICKARD/L. SAWYER bt McCree/A. Stevens 21-19, 21-14. M. DODD/M. SHANNON bt R. Gifford/Cassell 21-17, 21-9.

**Final:** PICKARD/SAWYER bt Dodd/Shannon 22-20, 21-18.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals:** SAWYER/Mrs. SAWYER bt D. Page/Miss A. Hallett 21-16, 21-12. B. BRUMWELL/Mrs. MCCREE bt A. Dodds/Mrs. Dodds 21-11, 19-21, 21-12.

**Final:** SAWYER/SAWYER bt Brumwell/McCree 21-10, 10-21, 21-16.

**Junior Singles: Semi-Finals:** D. GRANT bt P. Racey 21-12, 15-21, 22-20. B. HAMILL bt B. Carlisle 21-5, 21-17.

**Final:** GRANT bt Hamill 21-7, 21-15.

**ESSEX "OPEN"****Big Week-end for David Creamer**

**T**HE Essex County Committee are to be congratulated upon finding a splendid new venue for big Table Tennis. The Essex "Open" Championships were excellently staged on November 1 and 2 at Marconi's Canteen at Chelmsford. Conditions were first-class in all respects, and there was more than enough room for spectators to wander about at leisure without interfering in any way with the players.

The groups went very much as expected, with the sole exception of young David Creamer. This 15-year-old Middlesex lad played exceptionally well to beat Peter Pudney in straight games, and only just lost to Brian Brumwell at 22-20 in the third game. He had his reward when he got through the group on games average. Although he lost narrowly to Ken Beamish in the first round

(19 and 20), David distinguished himself once more, in the boys' singles. The new Junior ranking list looked sick when Bob Ractliffe beat Brian Hamill and Graham Whalley defeated joint No. 2 Paul Racey. Then little David beat both Ractliffe and Whalley, and rounded off by disposing of Malcolm Ellis in the final.

Joyce Fielder scored another ladies' singles success. She was hard pressed on three occasions, but every time played her best at the end of the final game. After a hard struggle with Lynne Whithams, she found herself 14-all in the third against 15-year-old Jean Harrower, in the semi-final. Overcoming this hurdle, she was 15-all in the third against Jill Rook. Yet again she proved to have the staying power. Clearly she deserves to be in the first four in England. Unusual note—all four "seeds" reached the semi-finals in the women's singles!

The top seeds didn't fare so well in the men's singles. The weakness of the present system was again exposed for poor Alan Rhodes, completely out of touch at the moment, couldn't get beyond round 3, being ousted by Bobby Stevens, who in turn lost to a rejuvenated Len Adams.

Adams went on to win his first major title for some considerable time. He was hard pressed in the semi-final, almost losing to Stan Jacobson, who had blasted Josef Somogyi—another seed—in the third round. However, in the final, Adams displayed a neat backhand counter-attack which first of all rattled, and then wore down Ken Craigie. Earlier Craigie had done well to dispose of Derek Burrige, who had seemed to be playing well enough to win the Championship.

Harry Venner's come-back bid took a jolt when he was hit off in the first round by the mercurial Bobby Raybould. Raybould later fell easily to Burrige.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** L. ADAMS bt S. Jacobson 16-21, 22-20, 21-19; K. CRAIGIE bt D. Burrige 21-18, 13-21, 21-7.

**Final:** ADAMS bt Craigie 17-21, 21-17, 21-9.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. FIELDER bt J. Harrower 16-21, 21-15, 12-17; J. ROOK bt S. Jones 21-18, 21-10.

**Final:** FIELDER bt Rook 16-21, 21-13, 21-17.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:** D. CREAMER bt G. Whalley 21-11, 21-14; M. ELLIS bt D. Offenbach 22-20, 21-14.

**Final:** CREAMER bt Ellis 21-12, 21-18.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:** J. HARROWER bt J. Williams 21-11, 21-16; M. SHANNON bt M. Bown 21-10, 21-6.

**Final:** HARROWER bt Shannon 21-17, 21-13.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** L. LANDRY/A. RHODES bt R. Raybould/R. Stevens 19-21, 21-14, 21-17; G. MURANYI/J. SOMOGYI bt T. Densham/J. Hunt 21-19, 21-19.

**Final:** MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt Landry/Rhodes 21-13, 21-17.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** M. PIPER/J. ROOK bt Mrs. E. Carrington/B. Milbank 21-17, 21-9; M. FRY/S. JONES bt M. Stafford/J. Williamson 21-16, 21-17.

**Final:** PIPER/ROOK bt Fry/Jones 21-17, 21-17.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** R. STEVENS/Miss L. WHITHAMS bt B. Brumwell/Miss J. Rook 21-23, 25-23, 21-18; R. RAYBOULD/Miss S. JONES bt L. Landry/Miss J. Williamson 21-14, 19-21, 24-22.

**Final:** STEVENS/Miss WHITHAMS bt Raybould/Miss Jones 22-20, 11-21, 21-13.

**ENGLAND v. SCOTLAND**

The local organisers did a good job of work in staging the annual England versus Scotland mixed International match at Oxford on the 31st October, although, from the spectators' point of view, the excitement was kept until the dying moments of the match.

Whereas Derek Burrige and Jeff Ingber played competently, and were clearly superior to their opponents, and Pam Mortimer was devastating against Helen Houlston, Alan Rhodes, in contrast, gave another out-of-form exhibition, and assisted Bertie Kerr to score the first ever win by a Scotsman over an Englishman in this series of Internationals.

Earlier in the evening Rhodes had scraped home against Gilmour, scoring a lucky net cord to edge out at 21-19 in the third. Against Kerr, Rhodes was ill at ease against the sandwich bat, often putting his service returns far too high. Bertie Kerr, snatching his unexpected opportunities, deserved to win.

There was nearly another major surprise when 19-year-old Diana Black, from Dundee, playing in her first International, almost beat Peggy Piper. Miss Piper, making a return to the England team after four years, was understandably nervous, but in the end it was nerves which beat Diana Black, in the second half of the final game.

Details (English players first): A. Rhodes lost to R. Kerr 21-16, 15-21, 15-21; beat T. D. Gilmour 13-21, 21-14, 21-19. D. C. Burrige beat Kerr 21-18, 21-5; beat I. Barclay 21-14, 21-16. J. Ingber beat Barclay 21-17, 21-10; beat Gilmour 21-9, 21-9. Burrige and Rhodes beat Barclay and Kerr 21-9, 20-22, 21-10. Miss P. Mortimer beat Miss H. Houlston 21-7, 21-5. Miss M. Piper beat Miss D. Black 21-23, 21-19, 21-15. Miss Mortimer and Miss Piper beat Miss Houlston and Miss Black 21-17, 21-13.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS**

6d. per word (minimum 10)

Advertisements in these columns must be addressed to Advertisement Dept., Table Trafalgar Square,

prepaid and all communications should be Tennis, E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, London, W.C.2.

**COACHING CLASSES.** Geoff Harrower is now taking names for junior coaching course starting in April.—Apply: 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.

**DRAW SHEETS** for 64 entries—1/6 each, 20 for 27/6. Result pads 2/6 per pad of 100 leaves. Available from **Walthamstow Press Ltd., Guardian House, Forest Road, London, E.17.**

**NORTH WEST KENT TABLE TENNIS CLUB,** 152a, Parkfield Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent. Membership: £1 per annum. Five tables. Tournament conditions. Refreshments on premises. Members licensed bar. Tournament each Sunday. Practice nights Wednesday and Thursday.—Apply: **R. Taylor, 6, Martens Avenue, Bextey Heath, Kent.**

**HANDY POCKET EDITION OF THE LAWS.** The booklet every Table Tennis player should carry. Price 43d. Obtainable from the E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

**KENT v YORKSHIRE.** Premier Division match at St. Luke's Vestibule, Southlands Road, Bromley, on Saturday, 15th November (7.30 p.m.).

**WEST NORWOOD CLUB** extend an open invitation to any County or League team to visit them at their headquarters for Sunday fixtures. Mixed teams are suggested, and refreshments will be provided. Anyone interested should contact **R. E. Skinner, 32, Pallett Road, East Dulwich, London, S.E. 22.**