

JANUARY, 1961  
ONE SHILLING

# Table Tennis

*The Official Magazine of the  
English Table Tennis Association*



European Champion, Zoltan  
Berczik, favourite for the  
English "Open"

# 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. 19

January, 1961

No. 4

## A Supreme Effort Needed

**ENGLAND** will definitely send a team to the World Championships in Peking in April. That is a fact.

What has still to be decided is the size of the team. That is dependent on what support is forthcoming from the various schemes now operating throughout the country and the generosity of friends of the sport.

And Table Tennis is not lacking in friends, particularly on the manufacturing side. Firms like Messrs. **Halex, Dunlop, Spaldings** and **Jagues** have all promised donations the same as they did when we sent a team to Tokyo in 1956.

It is most heartening to find the people of the trade so responsive, particularly at this time. This could well have been a year when they left us high and dry.

**But we must not sit back on promises of the trade alone. All must make a supreme effort to see that the association suffers no liabilities in this costly business of sending a team so far away.**

It is estimated that at least £1,600 will be needed, a big figure, but one that is not impossible if everyone gives their support.

### Big Prizes

The E.T.T.A. Supporters Club are doing grand work with their big Fund Raising Scheme, which offers Premium Bond Prizes of £100, £50, £20 and £10 plus many consolations of £1.

Remember, Premium Bonds give you the chance of winning up to £5,000!

So by partaking in the Supporters Club efforts you not only help to send that team to Peking but also help yourself.

**This is not an all-the-one-way scheme. There is the added incentive that those taking part also help their own leagues. For the Funds raised**

**are being divided between the World Championships Fund and the Leagues in proportion to the money they raise.**

The Supporters Club scheme was launched in October and continues until February. Winners will be announced in March.

Time is running out, so come forward and do your little bit for the lads and lassies to uphold England's flag in Peking.

Everything is being directed towards the raising of the necessary funds and another in which the sport can help itself is through Club Competitions.

### Club Competition

All your club has to do is to write to the E.T.T.A. for permission to run a Club Competition, which can be one of 15 types, ranging from straight-forward singles and doubles to handicap events.

The E.T.T.A. issue specially designed plaques, incorporating the English badge, for these events. All the clubs have to pay is 24s. for each singles, and 32s. for each doubles competition held, irrespective of the number of entries.

Many clubs have taken advantage of this scheme, which was first inaugurated some six years ago. It has helped towards sending our teams to each succeeding World Meeting.

Why not get your club to do something about running one of these competitions?

England can get by with sending three men and two women plus a non-playing captain to Peking, but ideally it would be better to send three women so that there is one in reserve in case of illness.

All this, however, is dependent on the success of the various fund raising schemes, and that is where your help is most necessary.

# OFFICIAL NEWS

**T**HE National Executive Committee met in the Council Room, Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2, on Saturday, December 10, 1960, with Mr. I. C. Eyles in the Chair. The meeting lasted five hours and some of the items discussed were as follows:

**Wolfenden Committee on Sport.** The members of the Committee had considered the Report circulated by the Central Council of Physical Recreation and were in agreement with the various proposals made by the Wolfenden Committee regarding the furtherance of sport in this country.

**Archives.** Mr. Woollard, who acts as the Association's Librarian, reported that further books had been received, but, that the Library was still short of a number of titles. Any member who would like to donate a book to the Association's Library should send the copy to Mr. Woollard at 12, Campbell Road, Bedford.

**European Club Championships.** A letter from the European Union Secretary was considered and it was agreed not to enter a team in this event for the current season.

**Coaching Awards.** The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Coaching Committee that the Coaching Diploma be awarded to:

MR. P. TAYLOR (Kent), MR. E. REAY (Durham), and MR. D. G. HATHARIMANI (Ghana).

**Director of Coaching.** The Committee agreed to enter into a contract with Mr. J. H. CARRINGTON regarding his appointment as the Association's Director of Coaching for a period of four years commencing on July 1, 1960.

**English "Open" Championships.** The Committee agreed to the appointment of MR. N. K. REEVE (Middlesex) as the Hon. Press Officer for the English

"Open" Championships from January 2-7.

**Expedite Rule.** The Committee referred to the National Umpires Committee for their consideration a letter received from the United States Table Tennis Association regarding the question of using the "Expedite Rule" more extensively in matches of a "pushing" character.

**Registered Members.** The applications of the following to become Registered Members were approved and this list should be read in conjunction with the lists already published in the previous issues of the Magazine. This gives a complete record of members who are permitted

## 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: 652, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: TRAfalgar 2165).**

to receive payments in connection with table tennis activities:

L. G. ADAMS (Middlesex), D. L. BLOY (Kent), C. BOOTH (Lancashire), L. M. BROMFIELD (Sussex), A. BROOK (Middlesex), D. F. BURTON (Essex), J. H. CARRINGTON (Essex), MRS. E. CARRINGTON (Essex), J. T. DENSHAM (Hertfordshire), MRS. W. EANOR (Lincolnshire), J. G. EVANS (Kent), R. E. ETHERIDGE (Kent), L. E. FORREST (Yorkshire), J. INGBER (Lancashire), A. A. HAYDON (Warwickshire), MISS A. S. HAYDON (Warwickshire), L. KEREKES (Middlesex), MRS. K. E. LEMILLIERE (Devon), A. R. MILLER (Surrey), MISS P. MORTIMER (Warwickshire), P. H. NORMAN (Derbyshire), D. W. PAGE (Kent), W. REEVES (Derbyshire), MISS D. ROWE (Middlesex), R. L. SHARMAN (Middlesex), M. M. SUGARHOOD (London Banks), J. H. TABBENOR (Kent), R. A. WARNER (Warwickshire).

**County Secretaries Conference.** A Conference of County Secretaries and Representatives was held at the Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2, on December 10, 1960. Representatives

of the following Counties attended: Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Durham, Devon, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk, Surrey, Staffordshire, Sussex, Wiltshire, Worcestershire and Yorkshire.

Items of interest especially to County Associations were discussed at the Conference, at which Mr. I. C. Eyles "took the chair." The minutes of the conference will be circulated to all County Associations during this month.

**Team Selections.** The following teams have been selected:

**v Yugoslavia.** January 3, 1961. Municipal Hall, Tottenham, N.17. I. HARRISON (Gloucestershire), J. INGBER (Lancashire), A. RHODES (Middlesex). Non-playing Captain R. J. CRAYDEN (Surrey).

**v Germany D.T.T.B. (Juniors).** January 9, 1961. Warrington. M. BILLINGTON (Warwickshire), B. HILL (Lincolnshire), B. WRIGHT (Middlesex), H. COWARD (Yorkshire), D. STANLEY (Yorkshire). Non-playing Captain L. W. JONES (Lancashire).

**v Germany D.T.T.B. (Juniors).** January 11, 1961. Slough Social Centre, Farnham Road, Slough. M. BILLINGTON (Warwickshire), B. WRIGHT (Middlesex), B. HILL (Lincolnshire), D. OFFENBACH (Middlesex), R. E. RACTLIFFE (Hertfordshire). Non-playing Captain F. B. BRUMWELL (Essex).

**v Germany D.T.T.B. (Juniors).** January 12, 1961. St. Lukes T.T. Centre, Canning Town, E.16. M. BILLINGTON (Warwickshire), B. HILL (Lincolnshire), B. WRIGHT (Middlesex), N. IVE (Middlesex), D. OFFENBACH (Middlesex). Non-playing Captain F. B. BRUMWELL (Essex).

**v Germany D.T.T.B. (Juniors).** January 13, 1961. Oxford. M. BILLINGTON (Warwickshire), D. HALLIDAY (Suffolk), M. WHITE (Gloucestershire), R. E. RACTLIFFE (Hertfordshire), M. MORDECAI (Gloucestershire). Non-playing Captain L. F. LANDRY (Middlesex).

## KING GEORGE'S JUBILEE TRUST SILVER JUBILEE NATIONAL APPEAL

Grant to E.T.T.A. Coaching Scheme

The English Table Tennis Association coaching course for junior players receives a £300 immediate grant from King George's Jubilee Trust following a meeting of the Council, presided over by H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester. This grant, which is one of twelve announced by the Trust, is made from donations to the Trust Silver Jubilee Appeal which was launched on April 29, 1960.

Published on the First Saturday of each month October to May inclusive. Postal Subscription 10s. for eight issues, post free.

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

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

**Editorial:** W. Harrison Edwards, c/o Sports Press, 142, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. (FLE 5352).

**COUNTIES SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE****Administrative Changes Favoured**

**A** KENT proposal for revolutionary changes in the structure and administration of the E.T.T.A., provided the big talking point of the six-and-a-half-hour meeting of the County Secretaries Conference at the Royal Commonwealth Society on December 10.

Basically they want to see the structure of the national body on a League-to-County and County-to-E.T.T.A. basis instead of the existing League-to-E.T.T.A. and County-to-E.T.T.A. relationship.

They also ask that more responsibility should be delegated to the County Associations, who should, in turn, receive a greater proportion of the League's affiliation fees to enable them to expand their activities to the full.

It was claimed this arrangement would ease the burden of administration on the E.T.T.A. office and provide a sound, progressive relationship from individual up to national level. Leagues and Counties would gain from the closer contact possible between one level of administration and another.

**A General Council**

A corresponding change would have to be made to the constitution of the N.E.C. and here the arrangement favoured by Kent was the establishment of a General Council composed of County representatives, which would act as an electoral college for the appointment of a smaller Executive Committee.

The meeting was asked not to become too involved with the detailed mechanics of the scheme but to give their views on the broad principles.

Several speakers, including Keith Watts, of Sussex, spoke in favour of the Kent proposal which was an extension of the Sussex proposal of voting rights for counties and the annual general meeting of the Association.

The main opposition came from Edgar Reay, of Northumberland, who instanced his experience with a similar system in amateur football administration.

"The extra work at County level proved too much for voluntary officials to carry out efficiently and instead of progressive relationship up at national level, leagues were left completely isolated by the stagnation

of the intermediate county administration," said Reay.

Summarising the debate, Ivor Eyles, who was in the chair, expressed his satisfaction at the general support for such reshaping of the constitution, since the N.E.C. Rules Committee had prepared a scheme embodying many of the points included in the Kent proposals. Previously they had not been entirely satisfied that current opinion favoured such revolutionary change.

**Majority in Favour**

**Voting revealed a majority of 15-2 for the Kent proposals, with four counties, whose delegates had not received a mandate, abstaining.**

An allied topic was the National County Championships, recently the subject of rumoured "take-over" bids. It was noticeable that most of the comments referred to the Premier Division.

Both Harry Edwards (Middlesex) and Harry Walker (Essex) spoke feelingly of the continuing financial losses sustained in the running of the first teams.

Several delegates favoured the streamlining of the Championships, including the possibility of running them from the E.T.T.A. office in the same way as the Wilmott Cup and Rose Bowl Competitions.

This was opposed by Kent, who considered too much work was already being placed on the office and this competition could easily be run by voluntary organisers.

Ivor Eyles suggested that, since this was mainly a domestic question for the N.C.C. Committee, those counties keen to make changes should submit amendments at the A.G.M. of the Championships and, as N.C.C. Secretary, he would undertake to see any proposals were given full consideration.

**Selection Concern**

Sussex, through Charles Wyles, expressed concern at the policy of the England Selection Committee in continuing to pick representatives who played purely negative table tennis, and claimed it discouraged youngsters from developing a variety of strokes.

Reference was also made to the practice of selecting strongest possible sides irrespective of opposition, and suggestions were made for two grades

of international badges, an "A" and a "B".

As Chairman of the Selectors, Ivor Eyles explained that at the recent Home Counties conference, delegates from other associations had said most vehemently that for England to send less than their best possible teams would be considered an insult to their players.

**Defending the Selection Committee's policy in respect of styles of play, he said that in his view the primary object of selection was to pick a winning team, and the way they won was less important.**

Director of coaching Jack Carrington expressed the view that pushing play was not particularly prevalent among young players, but it might be significant that the only youngsters who had asked to be taught exclusively defensive play came from Gloucester!

Hampshire's Jack Randall observed that some so-called invitation tournaments were failing to abide by rules that entitled them to exemption from the tournament levy. It was agreed the matter should be put to the open tournaments committee of the N.E.C.

**Lower Qualification ?**

Umpiring problems were also discussed and it was generally agreed that except in an open event like the English "Open" it was practically impossible to approach the ideal of having every match controlled by a qualified umpire.

The Umpires' Committee are naturally concerned about this and their secretary said that they were considering the possibility of a lower introductory qualification.

The surprising measure of agreement on some of the most important matters was an indication that the strength of County feeling must soon become a force to be reckoned with in the affairs of the Association.

**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



# THE MATCH I REMEMBER MOST

by ANN HAYDON

**H**AD I succeeded in winning the Women's Singles final in the World Championships, I should have no difficulty in selecting the most memorable occasion of my table tennis career. As it is, I prefer, for obvious reasons to turn my thoughts to happier things.

All careers are marked by rises in standing, and sport is no exception. I can see every important step forward clearly imprinted in my memory—my climb from top junior to top senior, my first county match and, of course, my first appearance as a representative of my country.

But, the occasion that stands out furthest from all these, marked my transition from another good player of table tennis to one of top world class: the first time I ever conquered "the queen", Angelica Rozeanu, in Paris in 1956.

I had felt this last improvement on its way for some time during that season, but I had been unable to consolidate it. I should have accomplished the feat a few weeks previously in Sweden, but something just failed at the last moment.

## Visibly Nervous

This time, however, I felt myself to be "on top" from the word "go". It was a semi-final match and Rozeanu was visibly nervous.

First she objected to our allotted table and had it changed. Then had the net measured, and finally a gross of balls to pick from (and, of course, she chose the softest one there).

When she had done her worst, the stage was set and with the arbitre's words of "Allez-y" play finally commenced.

The match took its usual course with me on the attack and Angelica retrieving all my normally point-winning hits. I was full of confidence in myself and the sponge bat with which I had started the season.

I was just beginning to use the deadened dropshot and the slightly speedier and more acutely angled attack to advantage. Despite this, the first game was neck-and-neck throughout but, at eighteen all, Rozeanu was more jittery than previously and I was able to deal with three higher-than-usual returns with certainty to win.

The second and third games followed a similar pattern with one victory hers and one mine.

After a very nerve wracking five

minute interval with neither of us knowing quite what to do to relieve the now considerable tension, we started the fourth and happily the final game. Again it was point for point until eighteen all. Now my confidence seemed to have deserted me and the next three rallies I shall never forget; they seemed to last a lifetime.

It took me longer than ever to work the ball and myself into position for

the kill, but I finally plucked up courage to crunch one—two winning forehands through the "stone wall."

The match winning shot?—well it was an edge and, one might say, a little fortunate but I can recall plenty of occasions when Lady Luck was on my opponent's side!

For me it was a great victory and I never lost again to World Champion Mrs. Rozeanu of Rumania.

## THE CIRCULATION DRIVE

By GEOFF HARROWER

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE SET TARGET

**H**AVING just finished working out the League Tables, was feeling a wee bit depressed. All efforts at this end seem only to be holding on to the advance we made last season. Very few noticeable increases, although (inevitably), Cambridgeshire have piled it on a bit more, setting the other counties a huge target.

Middlesex, as expected, are now over the 100 per cent. following upon the Middlesex Open, but as against this one or two counties have fallen just below. Then, out of the blue, came a most welcome letter from Ron Nicholls, of Plymouth. As I have mentioned before, this League is largely responsible for the big Devon increase this season, but just listen to this, and I quote from the letter . . . "We have sold our four dozen Mags. for this month. Why not try say five dozen more via Laurie Landry for the West of England on Saturday? . . . Please send an extra two dozen for our Championships on January 7th and also an extra two dozen for our N.C.C. match on February 4th . . ."

Devon's percentage of 183 does not include any copies which may be sold at the West of England "Open," so watch out for a big jump in the January table. How about it, you other Leagues in Devon. A couple of you supporting the drive and you would be right up to Cambridgeshire!

May I once again appeal to Magazine Secretaries not to forget their "Closed" Championships. Obviously it isn't good enough just to hold on to last season's increase. We must push ahead. Costs continue to rise, so circulation must rise at least as fast as the costs. Nothing would please me more than to have some new names to mention in this column. When saying this, please don't think I am forgetting our old friends who

may not have been mentioned for a month or two. Or new friends like young Michael Turner of Essex, who is surprising even Harry Walker by his energy and enthusiasm.

#### THE "OVER 100" COUNTIES

	Per cent.
HERTFORDSHIRE	238
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	161
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	146
ESSEX	127
NORFOLK	127
MIDDLESEX	105
HAMPSHIRE	103
WARWICKSHIRE	98
SURREY	97
KENT	96
DURHAM	77
LINCOLNSHIRE	62
LANCASHIRE	55
SUSSEX	54
YORKSHIRE	34
STAFFORDSHIRE	23
CHESHIRE	20

#### THE "UNDER 100" COUNTIES

	Per cent.
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	308
WILTSHIRE	245
SUFFOLK	193
DEVON	183
DERBYSHIRE	138
OXFORDSHIRE	118
CORNWALL	90
NORTHUMBERLAND	82
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	43
LEICESTERSHIRE	40
BEDFORDSHIRE	34
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	28
WORCESTERSHIRE	26
SOMERSET	22
BERKSHIRE	19
DORSET	12
SHROPSHIRE	12

# Editor's Postbag . . .

## EXPEDITE—THE ANSWER

**A**FTER watching the "Expedite Rule" in force in the recent East London championships I am convinced this is the answer to unspectacular play.

The match between Bob McCree and Les Sawyer was so boring that we went off to the refreshment room. Hearing that the "Expedite Rule" had been enforced we returned out of curiosity.

The transformation was amazing. An unenterprising match became one of the most spectacular I have seen this season.

What a pity the N.E.C. were not there in force for I am sure they would have been as convinced as I am that this is a must for British Table Tennis if not international matches.

JOHNNY LEACH  
(Essex).

\* \* \*

**A**FTER seeing the "Expedite Rule" applied in one of the semi-finals in the recent East London League's Individual Championships, I feel that this is the obvious answer to the present controversy which exists regarding long-drawn-out and uninteresting matches.

It was applied quite simply and brought the audience back into the room from the canteen where they had retired.

There may be snags, which are not evident, but I think that there is a case for very careful examination by the N.E.C. Rules Committee and possible experiment in the very near future.

HARRY WALKER  
(Essex. Member of N.E.C.)

\* \* \*

## SANDWICH KILLS

**I** AGREE wholeheartedly with the comments of Ernie Power (December issue) that sandwich bats are killing the game. There is no doubt that unless new legislation is introduced then really great games will become a thing of the past.

My own introduction to first-class table tennis 11 years ago was a match between Simons and Bergmann in the West of England "Open." What a game; what entertainment and what a fillip to the sport in the West Country!

This is still remembered by all who saw it and is still mentioned whenever tournaments are the topic of conversation.

Has any reader seen an "Open" final played with "sandwich" which they will remember in 11 years' time? I doubt it.

If this present trend continues table

tennis will eventually consist of very little except tricky serves and smashes.

All over the country players of average ability are turning to sandwich bats in the hope that a couple of freak services are going to improve their results. The tragedy is they often do.

To ban "sandwich" at this stage, however, would not necessarily produce better games and "chisellers" would still head the England rankings.

**To brighten the game hitters must be given some positive encouragement. The obvious step to me is that the net should be lowered by at least half an inch.**

No doubt there would be an outcry but, after all, the same moans were expressed when last the net was lowered and the same fears of "mad hitters" carrying all before them were proved groundless.

TOM ANSON  
(Plymouth).

\* \* \*

**I**N your December issue I noticed the subject of local and foreign news cropping up. We here, naturally enough, have always felt that much more prominence should be given to international affairs. The English readers apparently prefer a club magazine. It is hard to strike a happy medium.

If every issue were as international as your December one, lots of players here would take subs.

CLEM GRUBER  
(Australia).

\* \* \*

**I** AM a member of the Victorian Executive, specialising in Umpires and Refereeing. I hope, therefore, that you will continue "Umpires Corner."

Over here the bulk of your magazine has little interest, catering as it must for local club activities. I therefore join with a correspondent of yours who urges more news of the international aspect and table tennis in general.

I hope, of course, for the day when you publish an "Overseas" edition. Congratulations on what you are doing.

J. HORSFIELD  
(Victoria, Australia)

\* \* \*

**A**S a subscriber for over fourteen years I should like to say that I

read TABLE TENNIS primarily for the "Open" Tournament and foreign results and if the form of the magazine is to change I should like to see the following:—

The same amount of "Open" Tournament space. More foreign results and news from the real table tennis centres (e.g., Hungary, Japan, China). Less news from the outposts (Australia, Africa, etc.). Not more than one page of all local news. At least one article a month on current techniques.

To explain two of these points, I think that people are not interested in local news from other areas than their own and the majority of readers will already know their own local news.

Foreign news should be that which could or does have a bearing on world table tennis. However, it is all a matter of balance and it is interesting to read occasionally of such friends as Arden Robinson, Max Marinko and Wally Franklin. But I am not in the least interested in umpires in Timbuctoo.

JOHN CORSER  
(Watford)

\* \* \*

Congratulations, Newbury, on your very enjoyable "Open"!

Good conditions, no long periods of waiting, but with arranged intervals for meals. Stewards and umpires were so well organised that countless calls for players, scratchings, and "no knocking-up" were unheard. In fact, the public address system didn't monopolise the tournament as so often happens these days.

I nearly forgot, on the way out some delightful person actually thanked us for coming.

PETER SHEAD  
(Brighton)

\* \* \*

## ILLEGAL BATS

**R**EFERENCE the picture in the December issue showing the bat of Hans Alser, being examined by Victor Barna.

My Committee have instructed me to raise this matter owing to the number of types of bats being used which openly violate the existing rules. In the picture in question the bat is not "dark in colour" and is obviously of the "reflectable" type.

Is it pertinent to ask why the Tournament organisers allowed a competitor to take part, so openly violating the rules. We would like some guidance for the future, as to whether the Executive intend to amend the rule, as it now stands, or to issue positive instructions as to the interpretation of the existing rules.

R. G. PARSONS  
(Sec. South London T.T.L.)

# LEACH TAKEN TO TASK

I HAVE been disappointed to note that both in his newspaper articles and in your magazine, Johnny Leach has postulated proposals which, I feel, he would not have done when he was a member of the England teams. He is perfectly entitled to criticise selection, but I personally feel that it is unfortunate coming from him.

On the question of what sort of team England should send to the Quadrangular Tournament, my feelings are at variance with his. As it concerns Wales I am compelled to voice my opinion.

We naturally have no desire to interfere with the internal affairs of the E.T.T.A., but I must say that Ireland, Scotland and Wales very much appreciate the action of the English selectors in sending their best side.

Let's face it. There are not the personalities in table tennis to attract the public and without being able to offer the presence of England's top men and women we other associations could not hope to get a good public response.

It might interest readers to know that for the recent Quadrangular in Cardiff, the Welsh Association was obliged to run a prize draw and because of the atrocious weather even the proceeds of that will not prevent us making a loss on the event.

Does Johnny really believe what he wrote about the public welcoming the opportunity to see "exciting new personalities in international action for the first time"?

## REMEMBER NEWPORT

Come, come, Johnny. Let's have some realism, and don't assume, because you cannot remember it, that Wales has not extended England since the war. I well remember an occasion at Newport when Adrian Haydon was literally biting his nails when Wales led 4-2.

I agree with a lot of what Johnny says about bleeding new players, but I am grateful for the knowledge that the English selectors acknowledge that one way they can help we poorer associations is by sending their strongest players to the Quadrangular.

H. ROY EVANS

(Chairman, Table Tennis Association of Wales)

## TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS

Conducted by Laurie Landry

# THREE GREAT TOURNAMENTS

For three weeks running the Tournament scene has been blessed with examples of well-run Tournaments. They were:—

### YORKSHIRE "OPEN"

held at the Railway Institute, York. **KEN PARK** and his band of hard workers made a great job of the Yorkshire "Open." The enormous Railway Institute would normally provide a big problem in continuity, but the committee here got over this handicap. They used large placards with the table numbers on them and, when a table was free the steward of that particular section would hold up the appropriate placard.

I don't know what would have happened if the games had not been put on so quickly. The huge programme was just through in time to be able to stage the finals.

It was the first year that this committee had run the Yorkshire and I don't think any substitutes will be required next year.

### NEWBURY "OPEN"

held at the Corn Exchange, Newbury.

A special bouquet should go to the Newbury "Open" committee, for very rarely have I heard so much unsolicited praise for a tournament. This, too, when it was the first year that this rather small league had attempted to organise an event of this magnitude.

It was unfortunate that quite a large number of entries were rejected, but it says much for the foresight of the committee that they took this step because, like the Yorkshire, the pro-

gramme was finished in just sufficient time for the Finals.

The committee were very keen to learn, and they asked players for ideas for possible improvements. A number of these ideas were forthcoming and it is quite possible that this tournament will in future be spread over two days. This could mean that the tournament will become an "Open" instead of an "Approved Open," for with two days to complete the programme, one less table could be used, giving the required space.

The Newbury "Open" could well be one of the really popular Tournaments, particularly as the prizes were so popular.

### MIDDLESEX "OPEN"

held at Hanwell Community Centre.

As usual the Middlesex "Open" was very successful as well as having possibly the strongest entry of the year. It seems that the Middlesex is still the only tournament that has a constant supply of Umpires and I should say that they rely less upon players to do this chore than any other tournament in the country (Newbury was not far behind).

The one thing that Middlesex has on other tournaments is that they run to a time schedule which only went slightly off course when the Mixed Doubles finished late.

If all tournaments could keep up to the standards set by these three, this feature of the English Table Tennis Programme would be far more popular.

## Book Review

# A BEST SELLER

**MODERN TABLE TENNIS**, by Jack Carrington, the E.T.T.A. Director of Coaching, has moved well into the class of "best sellers" among sporting books.

Originally published in 1938, the fourth edition has just been brought out by Messrs. G. Bell and Sons, at a price of 10s. 6d.

It is a must for all table tennis players, whether they are beginners or experienced. It is the recognised manual of the game, an authority on the technical study of the game.

This latest edition has been brought up to date and the main changes are concerned with the international decision on the sponge bats, and the Japanese invasion, including the technique of their champions.

There are numerous diagrams and photographs of leading world players.

Carrington has long been regarded as one of the world's foremost coaches and no one is more fitted to provide a text book on the game.

He takes the complete raw material for his opening chapters, introducing the novice to the equipment and instructing on how to play.

He moves on through early practice, to Tactics and Championship play. There is something for everyone.

Carrington knows all the champions of the past and present and when weighing up the "Japanese Technique" he expresses the opinion that they are not unbeatable. Pointing out that every reigning style has developed its own counter-style, Carrington expresses the opinion that **the Japanese Technique will eventually be eclipsed by pepped-up all-round style.**

## WELSH CORNER

## ENGLAND SWEEP THE BOARD

THE second Quadrangular International Competition, like its predecessor, once again provided England with an overwhelming victory. They beat Ireland, Scotland and Wales without dropping an event, finishing with an aggregate of 30-0.

For the Principality, the event was a disappointment. Not only did the Welsh play leave much to be desired, but torrential rain, which eventually caused serious flooding in Cardiff, ruined the attendance on the Saturday.

Despite England's superiority the Quadrangular is going to become one of the highlights of the home season.

There may be some feeling in England that their best side is not needed for the event, but the fact is the other Home Countries want England to send only their best as a crowd puller.

There is little that can be said of England's victory that is not evident by the scores. Nevertheless, Ireland's Jean Johnson and Val Lambert held three match points against Jean McCree and Diane Rowe.

Wales gave England little trouble but it was encouraging to find junior international Colin Thomas making his senior debut and taking a game from Ian Harrison.

Emil Emezc, another newcomer to

the Welsh team, tried hard, while Gretta Dimascio and Margaret Jones did well in the first game of their doubles against Miss Rowe and Mrs. McCree.

After a good start by Allen Thomas and a shaky win by Ron Davies, in the match against Scotland, Wales slid slowly to a 6-4 defeat. Colin Thomas marked up his first international win against McMichael and Mrs. Dimascio beat Mrs. Olive Hawkins for the other Welsh win.

Wales faded away completely against Ireland and were beaten 7-3. The bright spots were the excellent wins of Audrey Bates and Gretta Dimascio over Lambert and Johnson, and Miss Bates' singles win over Mrs. Johnson.

The other Welsh success was gained by Ron Davies over Mahoney in the last match. Colin Thomas, undoubtedly the most promising Welsh player, neglected his attack far too much in going down to Mahoney, while Emezc, who on his form against England had been expected to do better, surrendered the initiative and lost to both Caffrey and Allen.

The most exciting match of the tournament was that between Scotland and Ireland, where fortunes "see-sawed" and it eventually ended up with a five-all draw.

## THROUGH THE CAPTAIN'S EYES

by RON CRAYDON

IN the Dumfries Hall, Cardiff, on the first week-end of December, England again won the Quadrangular and without conceding a set. At singles the English players were noticeably superior to the opposition

## FRIDAY SCENE

The tournament opened on Friday evening with England playing Ireland and Scotland against Wales.

It was Ireland who prevented England from making a clean sweep last year, with a fine win by Tommy Caffrey, and they all but did it again.

**Two little girls in green tenaciously savaged Diane Rowe and Jean McCree to lead 20-17 in the final game. Their hour in the sun, however, was not to be, for the English girls somehow pulled themselves together, levelled the scores at deuce and won the next two points.**

The Irish captain, Joe Veselsky, was, I thought, rather disappointed that his shining star, Tommy Caffrey, did not play Merrett, and remembering last year I have a sneaking suspicion so, too, was Brian disappointed.

## SATURDAY SESSIONS

Play began in the afternoon with the host country against England and the green-shirted Irish against Scotland.

Wales capitulated against England, only young Colin Thomas putting up a spirited resistance.

With a victory already under their kilts, the Scots were confident of taking the measure of the young Irish team. Ireland, however, had other ideas, and an exciting battle ensued, which ended in an honourable draw.

## A GREAT NIGHT FOR THE IRISH

The evening session, which brought some exciting matches but few spectators, got underway with England against Scotland and Wales against Ireland.

England had things much their own way and notched a comfortable 10-0 victory.

In the other court tension was mounting, for Ireland took an early lead and with confidence high romped away to a 7-3 victory. This earned for them the second position as they had a better games average than Scotland.

It was indeed a great night for the Irish as only last season they were the wooden spoonists. This year it fell to the lot of Wales to hold the wooden spoon, and at the reception it was ceremoniously presented to them by the jubilant Joe Veselsky.

## DETAILED RESULTS

## QUADRANGULAR COMPETITION

## Detailed Results

## England 10, Ireland 0 (England names first)

B. Merret bt D. Mahoney 10, 10; bt E. Allen 14, 20. J. Ingber bt T. Caffrey 15, 13; bt Mahoney 10, 13. I. Harrison bt E. Allen 10, 12; bt Caffrey 23, 20.

Miss D. Rowe bt Miss V. Lambert 11, 12; Mrs. J. McCree bt Mrs. J. Johnson 10, 12.

Ingber/Merrett bt Caffrey/Allen 5, —19, 13.

Rowe/Mrs. McCree bt Lambert/Johnson —20, 11, 22.

## Scotland 6, Wales 4 (Scottish names first)

T. McMichael lost to A. Thomas —21, —16; lost to C. Thomas —17, 15, —14. R. Kerr bt C. Thomas 14, 17; bt R. Davies 15, —18, 18. I. Barclay lost to Davies —17, —22; bt A. Thomas 12, —15, 17.

Miss H. Elliott bt Miss A. Bates 20, 15. Mrs. O. Hawkins lost to Mrs. B. Dimascio —16, —12.

T. Gilmour/McMichael bt C. Thomas/Davies —18, 14, 14.

Elliott/Mrs. Hawkins bt Bates/Mrs. Dimascio 18, 17.

## Ireland 5, Scotland 5 (Irish names first)

Allen bt Gilmour 16, 20; bt Barclay 18, 17. Mahoney lost to Barclay —6, —13; lost to Kerr —20, —12. Caffrey bt Kerr 14, 15; bt Gilmour 18, 12.

Miss V. Lambert lost to Miss Elliott —19, —11. Mrs. Johnson bt Mrs. Hawkins 12, —19, 12.

Allen/Caffrey lost to Gilmour/McMichael —17, —17.

Lambert/Mrs. Johnson lost to Elliott/Mrs. Hawkins —22, —14.

## England 10, Wales 0 (English names first)

Ingber bt E. Emezc 13, 14; bt C. Thomas 18, 11. Harrison bt C. Thomas 11, —23, 9; bt R. Davies 14, 18. Merret bt R. Davies 13, 12; bt Emezc 14, 11.

Miss Rowe bt Miss B. Gray 3, 8. Mrs. McCree bt Mrs. Dimascio 16, 6.

Ingber/Harrison bt C. Thomas/A. Thomas 6, 16.

Rowe/Mrs. McCree bt Mrs. M. Jones/Mrs. Dimascio 19, 9.

## Ireland 7, Wales 3 (Irish names first)

Allen bt Emezc 21, 19; bt C. Thomas 15, —10, 14. Caffrey bt R. Davies 19, 12; bt Emezc 11, 16. Mahoney bt C. Thomas 20, —11, 21; lost to R. Davies —10, —16.

Mrs. Johnson lost to Miss Bates —18, —15. Miss Lambert bt Mrs. Dimascio 12, 11.

Mahoney/Caffrey bt C. Thomas/Emezc 12, 16.

Lambert/Mrs. Johnson lost to Bates/Mrs. Dimascio —12, —18.

## England 10, Scotland 0 (English names first)

Ingber bt Gilmour 7, 8; bt Barclay 15, 16. Harrison bt Barclay 14, 17; bt Kerr 7, 17. Merrett bt Kerr 13, 15; bt Gilmour 14, 15.

Miss Rowe bt Miss Elliott 12, 10; Mrs. McCree bt Mrs. Hawkins 13, 11.

Merrett/Harrison bt Gilmour/McMichael 15, —16, 13.

Rowe/Mrs. McCree bt Elliott/Mrs. Hawkins 10, 12.

**JACK CARRINGTON'S NOTEBOOK**

**BACK YOUR FAVOURITE . . .  
DON'T RIDE THEM**

**YOU** might not expect your Director of Coaching to have to give "Advice to the Love-lorn," but some of my "cases" come remarkably close to falling into that category.

For example, the enquiry which I received recently: "**How can I help my young lady to overcome her nerves on match days?**" may call for an answer quite outside the normal terms of reference of a Coach!

Without knowing the people concerned one dare not attempt to advise—it may indeed be the would-be helper who is the cause of the trouble.

In such cases the correct advice might well be: "Stay away from her on match days; let her grow up in table tennis stature by her own efforts."

The presence and influence of an over-anxious or over-ambitious loved one so often has the opposite effect from its well-meant intention.

It is an old saying that "Love is blind," and in Table Tennis circles it is usually at least half blind and short-sighted at the same time!

Broadly interpreting the term "love" to mean a close or special relationship, how many of the following situations do you recognise . . . in your own League? In your Club? Of course not in your own family?

**OVER-FOND PARENT**

We all know over-fond parents, spouses, or coaches who are forever advertising their protégé's successes. This could perhaps be tolerated more easily if it were not so often accompanied by a shameless glossing-over of their poor performances or behaviour.

**These advertising agents don't seem to realise the harm they do to their favourites, who before long may forfeit the friendly respect of their contemporaries and the support of the spectators; both of which can be valuable factors in a player's progress.**

At least twice recently I have known parents buttonhole selectors to explain that their offspring "can play much better than this, you know; he(she) is nervous today because it is so important."

What do they think they are doing, these parents—**recommending** their children?

Let's face it, quite often youngsters and wives are nervous because of the sudden withdrawal, on the important

occasion, of the mollycoddling and self-pitying atmosphere to which they have been conditioned by the constant propinquity of their doting protectors.

Just look around and note how many youngsters, wives and fiancées are trying in a match to satisfy not only themselves, but also their captain, and a parent (or coach, or both) all at the same time.

As a New Year privilege, the Editor is permitting me to air my own **quite unofficial** opinion on this point of coddling.

If you can't take your Jimmy or Doreen to the Blankshire Junior, why not attach him or her to some other juniors or to another escort for a change?

**THINK OBJECTIVELY**

If you think your protégé needs you beside the table during a match, let's think objectively about it. If you really are such a help, is it fair to Jimmy or Doreen's opponents, who may not have such a genius to assist them?

But if the opponent also has a "shadow," why don't the advisers play it out and let the youngsters go and have an ice-cream together?

Speaking personally, I would like to scrap all this business. I think parents, coaches, advisers, non-playing captains, are for **preparing** players to give a good account of themselves in matches, while **matches** are straightforward tests of the individual's capabilities.

These capabilities include **their own brain-box** and **their own will-power** and courage. If these don't stand the test, let the backroom boys get busy again **after** the match.

The rules are not with me on this—yet.

\* \* \*

Coaches also fall into the trap of binding the pupil too closely. Some are too kind, and wonder why the youngster crumples against hostile opposition; others are too dominant, and wonder why the pupil can never take charge of a game; others, too possessive, try to prevent the pupil hearing any other views but their own.

Frequently I see greybeards "knocking-up" with their protégés, while all around them are youngsters of differing styles who would provide far more stimulating practice.

Then again in my work as a

Coach I am always firing questions at youngsters, because I want to see how their minds react, and how much confidence they have to answer. But far too often the parent or adviser jumps in first and answers for the pupil.

In trying to help, he is really hindering the pupil's development.

Finally, we all have one special favourite, and that is **OURSELF**. We do love ourselves, and it makes us blind.

Example: you want sympathy for the match you lost; your friends see it as a spineless effort. They are not unfair, simply not in love with you.

Or your rival, selected over your head, plays badly in the big match. You are convinced, quite sincerely, that **you** could have won the match he lost. Yes, you **could** have, but **would** you have done so?

You are not unfair in thinking so . . . only in love with your favourite picture of yourself, in perfect form, relaxed, everything going right. The selectors, unlike you, may have remembered your other performances.

\* \* \*

So here's wishing you and your pupils or protégés a more determined and clear-sighted New Year.

I shall be glad to hear from any reader wishing to dispose of their rose-coloured mirrors after reading this. As a matter of fact I could do with one myself. You see I have lost a few matches lately; it's not that I played badly, but one just doesn't have much time, what with writing all these articles. Well, see what I mean?

**NOTICE TO COACHING CANDIDATES:**

**A COACHES' Study Session** will be held in London area on a Saturday in late February/early March. This will be an opportunity for the Director of Coaching to assess the progress of candidates who have not recently attended any of the official meetings, and at the same time to explain the syllabus requirements to any others who wish to take up the study of Coaching whether theoretical or practical.

Details will be forwarded on application (with stamped addressed envelope) to  
**E.T.T.A. Director of Coaching,  
 24, Worcester Gardens, Ilford,  
 Essex.**

# THE LOOP DRIVE

## —IT'S NOT NEW

says **IVOR MONTAGU**  
(PRESIDENT E.T.T.A.)

**A** SUB-TITLE to this article might be "Lessons from the recent Hungarian-Yugoslavian tour in Japan," or, perhaps, as we shall see, "Nothing new under the (rising) sun."

Mr. Moriya Konami, a Japanese sports fan, has been kind enough to write to me repeatedly during the last few years, keeping me up to date with table tennis happenings in that country. It has been most generous of him and nothing has been more interesting than his latest account.

He writes that "nowadays in Japan the loop-drive ball with violent top-spin is in fashion." He quotes Berczik as calling it the "terrible new ball," and saying that his first job after getting home would be to get training against the loop drive and to teach it to young players.

What is a loop drive? It is said to be different from a normal drive or a lob; it goes high over the net but its curve flattens before impact on the table; just before bounce its forward movement is weak, but after the bounce its violent spin resumes its effect, making the ball jump ahead suddenly with great speed the moment it touches the table, while at the same time it glides downwards.

### Misjudge Force

The player returning such a stroke is apt, it is said, to misjudge its force and put the ball up.

Leading Japanese players with the "shake hands" grip are quoted as describing their great difficulties before getting used to it.

To execute the shot, a hardish surface to the racket is necessary with little "give." There must be no

forward movement: "It is a knack of strong loop drive that a ball must be scraped up by a racket surface put perpendicularly without rebound or concave of surface and no collapse. Thick sponge is useless for the purpose and hence sponge may disappear irrespective of the rule," writes Mr. Konami.

After quoting many tributes to the effectiveness of the loop drive, and adding that it was used for the first time by Nakanishi in 1959, Mr. Konami says that players have been training intensively together to develop it for the coming international matches. He very sportingly adds that it will be good for the sport for English and other European players to hear about it and study it.

### Violent Drive

He concludes: "Anyway the loop drive is surely a new technique containing an epoch-making power that will influence table tennis history. Perhaps it should be called not the loop but the 'violent drive.' Will this new style be in fashion throughout Japan and the world for some time? Will it be an influence for good or wrong? Perhaps it will solve old problems, perhaps it will create new ones. Perhaps after the era of speed and sponge will come an era of spin, though, ironically, not back spin but top spin. And what will come after it?"

The fascinating thing about this letter is that the detailed description of this novelty, the loop drive, exactly coincide with the description and diagrams given in old books by me "donkeys' years" ago of — what?

### The style of play of Adrian Haydon.

Adrian, long time non-playing captain of England, was for over 20 years a world-class player and with almost only this one shot, played against all strokes and at all speeds—with a peculiar all-forehand grip (differing from, but in effect not unlike, a penholder).

Indeed, it would be possible to inspect the slow-motion film record I made in 1928, the year Adrian first appeared as a 16-year-old schoolboy, and won his way straight into the first half-dozen of world ranking, only with this stroke, which you will see executed in the exact manner, and causing the ball to behave in the exact manner, described by Mr. Konami.

First: A reflection (and causing an old fogey like me to shake his head and sigh), T.T. does not progress, it goes in cycles.

It is worth remembering that none of the Japanese "innovations" has been really new. Youth and skill, not novelty has put them over.

Penholder? When I first came to table tennis in the early 1920's more than half the players in this country used penholder.

Sponge? Charlie Dawes used sponge ages before the Japanese. So did I.

Indeed, it was a sample racket of mine, taken out in a gift parcel of equipment by my mother in the between-war period, that introduced sponge to Japan. And I learned it from a player (Mr. P. E. Warden) who had used a similar principle in the early 1900's.

### Haydon Again

And now the "loop drive": Young Adrian Haydon comes again! Not that Haydon was unique. The very season after his first appearance in Budapest, devastating the Hungarians and defeating the favourite (Barna), our friends from Hungary turned up with an exact echo, or rather a mirror image, in Laszlo David. Adrian Haydon was left-handed (like Ann) but David was right-handed, and to see the two bashing at either end, with every shot a "loop" or, as Mr. Konami says "violent," full-blooded drive (and they jumped with every stroke) was—admittedly—like nothing seen till the sight of, say, Tanaka and Ogimura leaping and "belting" each other.

We have had loop drives from

## PUTNEY INTERNATIONAL T.T.C.

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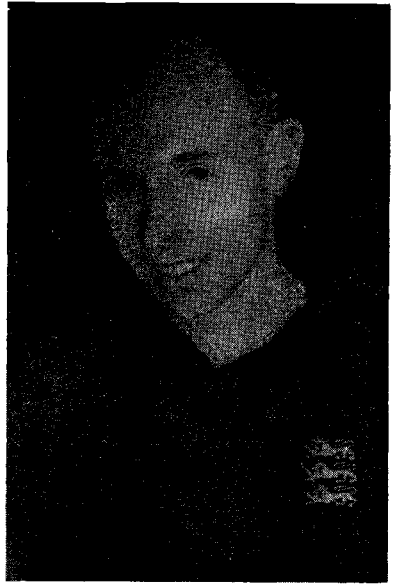
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others, certainly—Sido compares them with the strokes of the Indian, Vyas, and Jacobson is said to use the same principle.

But I must admit that neither of these employs the fast footwork and energy necessary to keep up the incessant vigour of attack important for this style.

Second: A lament. How sad that these varieties of the game go so out of fashion that when they suddenly reappear, no one of the latest generation has seen them or knows how to play against them.



ADRIAN HAYDON

The penholder has reappeared at a period when Europe is extraordinarily poor in backhand drives ("shake hands" is superior to penholder only if you can attack both forehand and backhand. If you are confined to a one-surface attack, you might just as well have penholder; you can cover more of the table with it. Note the successes against the Japanese of older men like Sido and Andreadis, the only two-winged attackers currently in Europe).

Sponge reappeared when most of Europe's dominators were long-defence players (who depend enormously on anticipation and on regularity from the attacker, and are always foxed by changes of height-angle or speed). Now, apparently, everyone has forgotten the loop.

Why these cycles? I suppose the explanation is: coaches can only teach, youth can only imitate what they themselves have seen. As soon as style A conquers style B, everyone imitates style A. When style B reappears no one remembers how to

play against it, so now, supported by youth against age, it must inevitably conquer for a time in its turn.

Third: A word of advice from the past. Alas, Adrian is probably now too respectable and too long in the tooth to take the waistcoat off and give the necessary "loop" practice to Europe's present generation before its journey to Peking.

### Strength and Weakness

But as his old captain I can tell you something of the strengths and weaknesses in a game based on loop "violence." **It will always beat a chop defence (if the chop defender has nothing else).**

Why? Because the loop drive is struck, with its lifting movement, almost at the exact top of the bound; the ball is then nearly stationary and spinning less than when rising. Thus, however the defender chops he can never keep the ball low enough to prevent the looper from keeping up his regular, perpetual attack.

Also, the looped ball, by its springy bound, forces the chopper back on the defensive. So the loop attacker can take his time, maintain the offensive for ever, driving the defender away and from side to side, and waiting as long as he likes for the ball to come up just a little higher, with the defender a little out of position, and then bang it down faster and less looped (as he can if the ball has come to him higher) and it will always catch the rut-trapped chopper.

On the other hand — if the chop defender is a quick enough mover and thinker, able to leap suddenly in from the defensive to put away a loose ball, he will take the point, for the looper is too near the table.

But these are very big ifs. A weak defender used to try to keep the ball to one-surfaced Haydon's backhand (his quiet side) and then, pinning him there, would have—if he got a chance for a hit—to try it to the empty side

(the stronger forehand, side) giving Haydon the best chance to leap across for a counter-hit. The players strong enough to beat him defended to the forehand while Haydon did his worst and then, when the chance came, hit to the backhand a winner that Haydon, out of position, could only catch in his free fist.

**These are matters of tactics against the loop. There are also styles with which it cannot easily cope, but you have to be a master to play them well enough.**

One is the half-volley. I have seen Mechlovits beat the loop by standing up and half volleying it. Of course, this needs such speed and accuracy that you lose many points, but it forces the looper to repeat his lengthy upward arm-swing (and jumps) so rapidly, with so little interval between each stroke that he rapidly becomes exhausted.

This tendency to exhaustion is a weakness of the looping style because the looper's loop is an endless repetition of the same stroke and so puts extra strain on the muscles.

Barna once forced Haydon to repeat his stroke so regularly that he induced cramp. And Liebster, a tall man, I have seen stand well away and, not chop, but lob-topspin steadily back. As the looper must take the ball at the top of its bounce this meant that a short man, like Haydon, had to "climb up a ladder" for every stroke, once more taking much more out of himself than out of his opponent.

To defend against strength so as to hit against weakness; to be quick enough to jump in though defending afar; to be accurate enough to half volley; skilful enough to wear down with a repeated freak stroke — all these ways of exploiting weakness of loop, requiring brilliant ability for their exploitation, only demonstrate the loop's strength. **But they at least show that in this "novelty" there is no magic, so should be no panic.**

## TABLE TENNIS OUTPOST

The quiet but highly efficient Yorkshire table tennis outpost of Northallerton boasts one team per 380 head of population (writes Malcolm Hartley). At that rate Leeds would have 1,270 teams! Northallerton officials wonder whether this average is bettered anywhere.

Drawing on a population of about 14,000 within five miles of the town hall, the league has 36 teams in three divisions.

And it is a measure of its efficiency that one team—R.A.F. Topcliffe—travels 15 miles into the town and pays for the hire of a room so that they can compete.

Yorkshire officials had nothing but praise for Northallerton's presentation of the Division Two (North) match against Northumberland.

There was a sets scoreboard, while numbered cards at two corners of the arena recorded the score as the umpire called each point. The neat surround was marked "Northallerton League", and to complete an impressive set-up there was a 12-page programme.

Some of the Yorkshire players travelled further for this home match than the away team.

Capable Mr. R. M. ("Bill") White, chairman of the league, was all-England badminton champion in 1933 and 1935.

Other hard-working officials are Mr. C. K. Palmer (secretary), Mr. L. Atkinson (inter-league secretary) and Mr. S. Hannah (treasurer).

## JOHNNY LEACH Reports

*THE SCANDINAVIAN "OPEN"*

**D**IANE ROWE had her worst tournament for years in the singles event of the Scandinavian "Open" Championships. Seeded No. 1 (with China's best, Hu Ke-Ming, and bogey player Agnes Simon drawn in the opposite half) Di, who had a first-round bye, started off in grand style by beating West Germany's Christa Bannoch 21-10, 21-13, 21-10.

But a few hours later, when opposing Georgeta Petica of Rumania, Di, for no accountable reason, played at times a good ten points below par. She lost the first game narrowly at 18-21 and won the second 21-12. Then the sudden lapse occurred, and before you could say "Paschkeavichus" she was out of the tournament, having lost the next two games 12-21, 10-21.

It wasn't a case of the under-dog playing well above herself to beat the champion. On the contrary, Petica's game was quite ordinary. It must have been just one of those off-days for Di.

Agnes Simon, the winner of this event, was outstanding. She out-classed her opponents, including both Chinese girls. Hungarian born, and now of West Germany, Agnes is complete master of the backhand half-volley with which she ties up her opponents before spreadeagling them with a precise forehand kill, which seems to become faster and more consistent each time she plays.

**It could be argued that her strokes are limited, but Agnes is so dedicated, has such determination with a first-class temperament, and is so clever tactically, that if given four to six weeks concentrated play in Japan I would put my shirt on her to pull off the World Singles crown at Peking—if, of course, we were allowed to bet!!**

**Eye Catching**

The only promising newcomer who caught my eye in the women's singles was attractive 19-year-old Danish girl Lis Ramberg. Lis didn't achieve anything really startling. She narrowly beat 17-year-old Swede Britt Anderson (the girl who gained that famous victory over Livia Mossoczy in the European Championships last season) and was then crushed by China's Ma Kuang-Hung 21-10, 21-14, 21-8. But what impressed me was her speedy footwork, ball control, all-round ability and cool temperament.

The women's doubles was a one-sided affair with the Chinese pair, Hu Ke-Ming/Ma Kuang-Hung win-

ning all their matches in straight sets, defeating in the final Rumania's team of Alexandre/Petica. Diane, partnered by Birgitta Tegner, did not form a strong partnership and was beaten in the semi-final by Rumania's finalists.

The men's singles event was a catastrophe for England. Both Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett went out in the first round! Bryan put up a very hard fight before succumbing to Ladislav Stipek 17-21, 21-17, 20-22, 21-19, 19-21, retrieving some "impossible" smashes.

Ian, on the other hand, was extremely disappointing, and only a shadow of himself. Hans Alser, the recent Sussex "Open" winner, simply toyed with him, and it was so one-sided that the Swede led 10-0 in the second game and 7-0 in the third before winning 17-21, 11-21, 11-21.

**Self Discipline**

**Whether or not Harrison will become the great champion many of us expect, depends entirely on how quickly he can improve his temperament. He could do this overnight if only he would discipline himself to follow the simple rule; "Forget the points won or lost and concentrate only on the point being played."**

Nerves, as we understand them, do not come into it. That Ian is blessed with good nerves goes without saying, but his trouble is that he is apt to get angry with himself for playing a bad point, dwelling on it, and losing the next two or three as well. By this time he has convinced himself that he cannot attack, or cannot defend, whichever department of his game has caused him to fritter away the points.

When this happens against a player beneath his own standard he normally pulls himself together before it is too late—but when facing a player of Alser's calibre, he inevitably gets a bad loss on his card.

So my advice to Ian and to all table tennis players who experience similar difficulties is: "Only have one thought in your head when playing a match and that is the POINT YOU ARE PLAYING."

What of the other players in the championships? The Chinese winner, Yang Jui-Haa, and runner-up Chau Lan-Sun were good — but speaking personally, I was as bored with their final as I would be watching two out and out pushers in action. They simply hit the ball at each other and I'm afraid it is not the type of table

tennis I enjoy because tactics don't come into it.

Interesting tactics create the spectacle for the audience, and are a big part of the fun of playing. Sometime or other we have all blamed sandwich and back-side rubber bats for the game's lack of spectacle at the present time, but I'm convinced that the main blame rests on the players' shoulders. With few exceptions, everyone tries to play the same game as his opponent instead of playing each ball on its merit.

The players who did impress me tremendously were Vlado Miko, 17, and Jaroslav Stanek, 19, of Czechoslovakia, and 17-year-old Wolfgang Prandke, of West Germany.

In the doubles Harrison/Merrett played extremely well before losing a closely fought five-setter to Mellstrom/Larsson in the semi-final, and the new mixed doubles combination of Rowe/Harrison is fast becoming formidable. Diane was really back on form for this event and our team went down fighting in the semi-final to Yang Jui-Hua/Hu Ke-Ming 9-21, 21-13, 21-18, 19-21, 13-21. It was the second Chinese pair, Chou Lan-Sun/Ma Kuang-Hung, who won the title.

In the men's team event, after decisively beating Finland 3-0 England was unable to repeat its previous week's victory over Yugoslavia, who went on to win the cup. Harrison was in great form this time, winning both his singles against the formidable Markovic brothers but, unfortunately, Bryan Merrett, although on many occasions gaining winning leads could not pull off a single or, with Ian, the men's doubles.

Czechoslovakia caused the big shock by defeating China, the red-hot favourites, in the semi-final. But they just could not retain the same form in the final against Yugoslavia.

**INTERESTING NEWS:** Ivan Andreadis is still Czechoslovakia's outstanding player and, according to the Czech team, is in such form that "he can beat everybody in straight games with ease."

**BAD NEWS:** There is still no sign of him representing his country abroad.

**GOOD NEWS:** Josip Vogrinc, of Yugoslavia, forced out of the game through a serious eye ailment, is now making a speedy recovery and hopes to be back in action in the near future. I am sure that everyone in England would like to join me in wishing Josip well and all the luck in the world in his come-back bid.

# NEW KENT TOURNAMENT

**T**HE amazing forward march of Kent table tennis continues. First an increase in affiliated membership at a time when the general tendency is downwards; then the dramatic upwards swing not only in the performances of the county team, but also in the overall playing standard.

Now the County Association announce another important "break-through" with news that a countywide tournament for individual players is to be organised for the first time ever in Kent. This new scheme, the brainchild of chairman Conrad Jaschke and secretary Jimmy Mannooch, is on the same lines as the fabulous *Daily Mirror* tournament of years gone by, except that it is restricted to Kent residents.

The *Kent Messenger* are the sponsors, and their proprietor, Mr. Pratt-Boorman (President of the Newspaper Proprietors Association) has underwritten any possible financial loss.

The event will be run in four sections, men's, women's, boys' and girls' singles, and entries close on January 16th, 1961. Jimmy Mannooch acts as organiser, and the entry fee is a nominal 1/- per event, to cover part of the postage expenses involved.

Valuable trophies and prizes are to be given to all event winners, and prizes to runners-up.

The competition is to be zoned in eight geographical areas. "Home" players are to be advised the name and address of their opponent, and are responsible for arranging a suitable date and venue. The winning player sends in the signed score card, and receives a card for the next round. The eight zone winners in all events are to be brought together at a central venue for quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals, at the expense of the promoters.

## YORKSHIRE NOTES

**T**ABLE tennis bridges race, colour and politics. At York, George Psorakis, a 16-year-old West African, became the youngest player to win the annual Bagshaw Trophy handicap competition. He was still unbeaten after seven York League matches in Division Two.

Playing in the Leeds League are teams from the Young Communists' League, Bramley Liberal Club and Rowland Road Working Men's Club, whose team last year represented South Leeds Conservative Club!

Sheffield surprised Huddersfield in the inter-league clash of giants, following a great spell from Maurice Simpson, who beat both his Premier Division teammates, Hinchliff and Dyson. Ronnie Ridge overcame Dyson and Harvey Coward edged out George Carrigill at duce in the third.

The doubles were actually the turning point with the score 2-2. Ray Hinchliff and Bob Hirst won their first game against Simpson/Ridge and led 16-9 and 20-18 in the second—but lost; and after

taking their first game 21-7, Stuart Dyson and Carrigill yielded the others.

**So Sheffield triumphed 7-3 to dissolve Huddersfield dreams of a men's-women's-youths' treble and to become hot favourites for the title.**

The Barnsley banner is being carried high this season. The men polished off the young Doncaster side 9-1 and in a 7-3 win at Hull, Chick Robinson and Peter Kenyon each won two singles.

Without Lillias Hamilton the women held Bradford to a draw and Eileen Starkie secured her first win over Betty Clough.

Malcolm Hartley.

# CAMBS TAKE FIRST POINT

**C**AMBS, despite the absence of John Cornwell, managed to take a point from their first County Championship match of the season against Norfolk at Histon.

John Thurston and Keith Chapman were the heroes of the Cambs side. Between them they took four singles victories without losing a game and also the

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mrs. Joan Constable, wife of Mr. Leslie Constable, Cambridgeshire E.T.T.A. representative and Press secretary.

Mrs. Constable passed away suddenly on December 9.—EDITOR.

men's doubles against Billy Minors and Culyer.

The Junior coaching sessions, now being held at the Y.M.C.A. every Saturday, have already produced several promising youngsters.

New Chesterton Institute are still monopolising the First Division of the Cambs League.

Press and Wesley, who were among the top liners last season, are now struggling in the bottom half of the table. However, Keith Chapman is now able to help out the Press on occasions, and John Cornwell will soon be in action for Wesley.

Leslie Constable.

## SUSSEX NOTES

**D**AVE GARMAN has returned to form after an illness and was the winner of the Charlie Seaman invitation trophy beating club-mate Graham Whalley in the final. The Nicholls invitation cup was won by Daphne Barontini from Joyce Coleman.

Crawley are leaders in Division One of the inter-league competition but Brighton are second and unbeaten. Division Two is led by Brighton "B", followed closely by Eastbourne "B".

The Sussex tournament contingent is having consistent successes with Peter Shead's near-treble at Birmingham taking top place. Ann Woodford's win over Margaret Fry at Hanwell was noted as

was Len Gunn's defeat of Brumwell. Young Whalley is also a player to watch following wins over Ivor Jones and Laurie Landry at Newbury.

Arrangements are going ahead with Kent to try and combine the final stages of the inter-club championships for both counties next season. The four semi-finalists in each county will enter a Kent-Sussex competition. J.W.

## STAFFORDSHIRE KNOTS

**N**OVEMBER was one of the most hectic months of the season for Staffordshire with two tournaments, as well as two first team and one second team matches in the National County Championships.

From the county match aspect honours were more or less even. The "A" team after being 3-0 down, eventually drew 5-5 with Leicestershire and were very unfortunate to lose 4-6 to a very strong Warwickshire team, which included Pam Mortimer.

The "B" side had better luck against the Oxfordshire senior team, winning a very good match 6-4.

The Restricted (Non-County) Tournament was won by hard-hitting, left-hander John Piggott (Wolverhampton), whose display merits a place in our next county "B" team match.

The other tournament, the Woodfield Invitation Open, was won in fine style by county No. 1, Derek Backhouse, beating off challengers from most of Birmingham's top players.

M. Evans.

## ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

# THREE FOR OGIMURA

**F**ORMER World Champion Ichiro Ogimura collected the triple crown when Japan swept the board in the Asian Championships in Bombay on December 18.

He beat Lee Dal Joon, of Korea in the men's singles final 22-20, 21-13, 21-12, 21-12, then took the men's doubles with Teruo Murakami, with whom he holds the world title, and the mixed doubles with Kimiyo Matsuzaki.

Miss Matsuzaki, world singles champion, collected a second title in the women's doubles with Kazuko Yamaizumi, who also collected two by winning the singles.

### ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men's Singles: Ichiro Ogimura bt Lee Dal Joon (Korea) 22-20, 18-21, 21-13, 21-12.  
Women's Singles: Kazuko Yamaizumi bt Yoshiko Murakami 21-10, 21-12, 21-19.

Men's Doubles: Ogimura/Teruo Murakami bt Nuo Uya Hoshimo/G. Shibutani 21-14, 21-15, 21-14.  
Women's Doubles: Kimiyo Matsuzaki/Yamaizumi bt Choi Kyang Ya/Hwang Yul Ja (Korea) 21-12, 21-17.  
Mixed Doubles: Murakami/Yamaizumi 21-17, 13-21, 22-20, 15-21, 21-17.

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP

by CONRAD JASCHKE

# MIDDLESEX LEAD ON AGGREGATE

**MIDDLESEX** edged Yorkshire out of the leadership of the Premier Division with an 8-2 win over Essex. They move to the top on games aggregate, both counties each having seven points.

Essex tried a new venue at Rotary Hoes, West Hordon, for the Middlesex match, and attracted one of the most enthusiastic audiences for some five years.

There could not have been a better advertisement for the game, with good attacking play of the highest order.

Many of the 250 crowd were watching top-class table tennis for the first time and after this show they will certainly want to come again.

Strong local patriotism was obvious to the many "Ah's" and "Oh's" to the Essex points, particularly in the exciting men's doubles where Laurie Landry and Alan Rhodes beat Bob Raybould and Bob Stevens at 18 in the third, to take Middlesex into the lead.

### ESSEX START WELL

Essex had started in great style with Raybould beating Landry, and Brian Brumwell getting the better of Michael Thornhill for a 2-0 lead, but they could not keep it up.

Nevertheless, six of the ten events went the full distance of three games.

**Jean Harrower, hitting hard at the right moments, beat Jean McCree in straight games, and joins Yorkshire's Kathie Best as the only women players still unbeaten after four matches.**

Thanks to a fighting display by Maurice Simpson, Yorkshire defeated Essex by 6-4 to keep level with Middlesex in the championship race. Simpson, giving his best performance of the season, defeated Brian Brumwell and Bobbie Raybould, and also won the men's doubles partnered by Ray Hinchliff.

Johnny Leach captained the Essex side which made a good start when Raybould beat Stuart Dyson. Hinchliff squared matters with a win over Bobby Stevens, and then Simpson put the home team ahead.

In the absence of Jean McCree, who was on England duty, Essex were no match for the Yorkshire girls in the doubles, and when Raybould and Stevens lost in the men's doubles Yorkshire took a commanding 4-1 lead.

Kathie Best made no mistake in the singles against Elsie Carrington, but then Stevens reduced the Essex arrears against Dyson and Brumwell/Shelagh Hession just got home 23-21, 23-21 in an exciting mixed doubles to make it 5-3.

At this stage Simpson made sure of victory by beating Raybould, and though the evening finished on a perplexing note for Yorkshire—their most successful player, Hinchliff, was completely unable to cope with Brumwell—they were happy that the two points kept them well in the championship hunt.

**Yorkshire next receive Kent on February 4th, and on current form it would take a brave man to forecast**

**the result. If the northerners overcome this hurdle, then the premier title will probably be decided on March 17th and 18th, when Yorkshire make a round trip to play Middlesex and Surrey.**

A bad cold kept Tony Miller out of the singles when Surrey entertained Kent at Putney, and his place was taken by County No. 4, Gordon Chapman.

Chapman, who plays for Kingston Y.M.C.A. in the South London League, has never hit the headlines, and at 30 cannot be called a "young discovery," but he certainly took his chance!

With a brilliant display of two wing hitting, he left Dennis Whittaker, a former Kent No. 1, standing to give Surrey the lead.

Tony Piddock mastered the old fox Ken Craigie, and then Henry Buist put Kent ahead with a narrow victory over Michael MacLaren.

Surrey made it 2-2 when their girls won the women's doubles, with young Mary Shannon quite outstanding.

"Invalid" Miller teamed up with Craigie in the men's doubles, and the Kent pair just scraped home.

### JOYCE IN FORM

With Peggy Piper in such fine form Surrey had hopes in the women's singles. But these soon faded as Joyce Fielder, showing her best form for at least two years ran out an easy winner.

Chapman gave another fine display against Piddock, who must have been highly relieved when he just held on to win 21-19 in the third.

MacLaren and Miss Piper, the reigning England champions, did not have matters all their own way in the mixed doubles, where they just managed to pip George Elliott/Joan Beadle at 21-19 in the third. Then MacLaren beat Whittaker, to pull Surrey back to 4-5.

Craigie v Buist was a real thriller. Buist was rather lucky to take the first game at 21-19, then set up a commanding 17-6 lead in the second with his power hitting. But suddenly Craigie was back in the game; 18-10, then 19-16, and to thunderous applause from a most sporting and unbiased crowd, deuce. I have never met a player with a better temperament than Buist and he needed it all and a bit of luck, to win the next two points.

Can Warwickshire get back to the premier division? Despite the heavy loss sustained by the retirement of

## COUNTY DIARY

### PREMIER DIVISION

January 11 Essex v Surrey.  
January 21 Kent v Lancashire, British Oil & Cake Mills, Erith, Kent. 7 p.m.

### SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

January 21 Hertfordshire v Hampshire.

### MIDLAND DIVISION

January 14 Oxfordshire v Warwickshire, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford. 6.30 p.m.  
January 21 Staffordshire v Nottinghamshire.  
January 28 Warwickshire v Staffordshire.

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

January 14 Norfolk v Suffolk, C.E.Y.M.S. Rooms, Norwich. 7 p.m.  
January 27 Hertfordshire v Cambridgeshire.

### NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

January 4 Lancashire v. Cheshire.  
January 28 Lancashire v Yorkshire.  
Cheshire v Yorkshire.

### MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

January 14 Oxfordshire v Warwickshire, St. Margaret's Hall, Polstead Road, Oxford. 2.30 p.m.  
January 28 Warwickshire v Staffordshire.

### SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

January 21 Essex v Surrey, John Knight Ltd., Silvertown, London, E.16. 4.30 p.m.

Ann Haydon, their chances look brighter than for some time past, for their men are undoubtedly coming on by leaps and bounds.

In their 6-4 win over Staffordshire at Stoke-on-Trent, each of Warwickshire's trio won a singles, and England junior No. 1, Maurice Billington also partnered W. Gallagher in a winning men's doubles.

Pam Mortimer beat Dorothy Worrall in the singles and also teamed up with Doreen Griffiths in winning the women's doubles to give Warwickshire two valuable points.

**Their clash with Glamorgan on February 4th will decide the division, and somehow I don't think that the Midland Division II winners will fail in the bid for promotion.**

Though Bedfordshire went under by 4-6 at Leicester, this was another triumph for their two 18-year-old

rising stars David White and Paul Racey. They won four singles between them, and surely these two youngsters will lead a Bedfordshire revival before long.

I am told the last match of the evening, between Leicestershire's C. Jacques, who probably has the best defence in the Midlands, and Racey with his brilliant forehand attack, was the best seen in Leicester for years. Racey just won by 20-22, 22-20, 21-19.

**YOUTH POLICY**

Lincolnshire without Peter Skerratt and Mike Sheader, crashed 0-10 to Yorkshire II at Boston. Yorkshire are now adopting a policy of fielding young players in their second team, and this was another wonderful success for D. McGarry, D. Lamb, M. Dainty and Misses P. Morton and C. Blackshaw who had previously beaten Northumberland 8-2. The Yorkshire selectors must be congratulating themselves on their youth policy.

Hampshire's 6-4 win over Kent II at Southampton has put them in a very strong position in Division II South. Once again Sheila Foster contributed two wins to the Hampshire total to remain unbeaten in county matches this season. However she had her work cut out to beat Kent's 16-year-old, Susan Thomas 21-17 in the third. The Holes twins chalked up another women's doubles success for Hampshire, while Ken Jarvis, who was unbeaten, was Kent's star turn.

Hertfordshire, without John Hunt, had a hard struggle before defeating bottom-of-the-table Berkshire by 6-4

at Apsley. This was an excellent show on the part of Berkshire who were without their best player, Brian Barnes. The finest performance was that of Miss M. Upton who defeated Herts' former Junior international Alma Taft 24-22, 16-21, 21-19.

With Herts leading 5-4, Terry Densham (Herts) and Percy Morecroft (Berks), who had both won their earlier singles, had a tremendous battle before Densham won 21-19, 23-21. I remember writing some seasons ago about Percy's "retirement" from the county team, and here he was playing at No. 1 for Berkshire!

Somerset made a bad start against Cornwall, at Taunton, when G. Philpot lost to A. Powning, but after that Somerset ran away with the match, winning all matches in straight games with the exception of the men's doubles, in which they just pipped

It looks very much as if the Somerset v Worcestershire match on the very last day of the season will decide Division II West.

**Sussex gained their first point in the Junior (South) division when they drew 5-5 with Surrey.**

T. Orguipde won two boys' singles for Sussex, P. Hammond and T. Hamilton added one each, and Evelyn Wyles, daughter of Sussex county secretary Charles Wyles, also opened her winning account in the girls' singles.

Essex juniors maintained their 100 per cent record by beating Suffolk 7-3, but Dave Halliday won another two singles. That makes six wins and no defeats for the Suffolk lad in county singles so far.

**DIVISIONAL TABLES**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Middlesex	4	3	1	0	32	8	7
Yorkshire	4	3	1	0	26	14	7
Kent	4	2	1	1	22	18	5
Gloucestershire	3	1	2	0	16	14	4
Essex	3	1	0	2	14	16	2
Surrey	3	0	1	2	10	20	1
Lancashire	1	0	0	1	4	6	0
Cheshire	4	0	0	4	6	34	0

**DIV. II MIDLAND**

Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Glamorgan	2	2	0	0	13	7	4
Bedfordshire	3	1	0	2	10	20	2
Staffordshire	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Leicestershire	3	0	1	2	13	17	1

**DIV. II NORTH**

Yorkshire II	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Durham	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Lincolnshire	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Northumberland	4	1	0	3	13	27	2
Derbyshire	3	0	0	3	6	24	0

**DIV. II SOUTH**

Hampshire	3	3	0	0	19	11	6
Hertfordshire	2	1	0	1	11	9	3
Kent II	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Sussex	2	1	0	1	9	11	1
Berkshire	3	0	0	3	10	20	0

**DIV. II WEST**

Worcestershire	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Somerset	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Devon	3	1	1	1	18	12	3
Wiltshire	3	1	1	1	12	18	3
Cornwall	4	1	1	2	15	25	3
Dorset	3	0	0	3	9	21	0

**MIDLAND DIVISION**

Nottinghamshire	3	1	2	0	16	14	4
Oxfordshire	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
Staffordshire I	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Warwickshire II	2	0	1	1	9	11	1

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Suffolk	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
Buckinghamshire	2	1	0	1	6	14	2
Cambridgeshire	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Norfolk	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Hertfordshire I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION**

Warwickshire	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Oxfordshire	2	1	0	1	14	6	2
Staffordshire	1	0	0	1	0	10	0

**NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION**

Lancashire	2	2	0	0	11	5	4
Yorkshire	2	1	0	1	11	5	2
Durham	2	1	0	1	8	8	2
Cheshire	2	0	0	2	2	14	0

**SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION**

Hertfordshire	4	3	1	0	27	13	7
Essex	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Middlesex	3	2	1	0	23	7	5
Surrey	4	0	2	2	18	22	2
Kent	4	1	0	3	12	28	2
Suffolk	3	0	1	2	11	19	1
Sussex	3	0	1	2	7	23	1

**DETAILED RESULTS**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

**Surrey 4, Kent 6.**

G. Chapman bt D. Whittaker 18, 11, lost to A. Piddock —16, —19. K. Craigie lost to Piddock —12, —19, lost to H. Bulst —19, —20. M. Maclaren lost to Buist —26, 19, —18, bt Whittaker 20, 14.

Craigie/A. Miller lost to Buist/Piddock —14, 20, —19.

Miss P. Piper lost to Miss J. Fielder —17, —14.

M. Shannon/Mrs. B. Andrews bt Miss Fielder/Mrs. J. Beadle 13, —14, 15.

Maclaren/Miss Piper bt G. Elliott/Mrs. Beadle —18, 12, —19.

**Yorkshire 6, Essex 4.**

S. Dyson lost to R. Raybould —18, 18, —12, lost to R. Stevens —19, —16. R. Hinchliff bt Stevens —18, 18, 11, lost to B. Brumwell —9, —11. M. Simpson bt Brumwell —20, 17, 17, bt Raybould —15, 18, 16.

Hinchliff/Simpson bt Raybould/Stevens 19, 13.

Miss K. Best bt Mrs. E. Carrington 13, 14.

Miss Best/Miss L. Hamilton bt Mrs. Carrington/Miss S. Hession 16, 13.

Dyson/Miss Hamilton lost to Brumwell/Miss Hession —21, —21.

**Essex 2, Middlesex 8**

R. Raybould bt L. Landry 16, —17, 19; lost to M. Thornhill —18, —12. B. Brumwell bt Thornhill 18, 19; lost to A. Rhodes 12, —16, —13. R. Stevens lost to Rhodes 19, —14, —16; lost to Landry —19, 18, —18.

Raybould/Stevens lost to Landry/Rhodes —18 20, —18.

Mrs. J. McCree lost to Miss J. Harrower —13, —20.

Mrs. E. Carrington/Mrs. J. McCree lost to Miss Harrower/Miss D. Rowe 21, —19, —12.

**DIV. II MIDLAND**

**Staffordshire 4, Warwickshire 6, Leicestershire 4, Bedfordshire 6.**

**DIV. II NORTH**

**Lincolnshire 0, Yorkshire II 10, Northumberland 7, Derbyshire 3.**

**DIV. II SOUTH**

**Hampshire 6, Kent II 4, Hertfordshire 6, Berkshire 4.**

**DIV. II WEST**

**Somerset 9, Cornwall 1, Dorset 1, Devon 9.**

**MIDLAND DIVISION**

**Nottinghamshire 6, Staffordshire II 4.**

**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

**Cambridgeshire 5, Norfolk 5.**

**SOUTH JUNIOR DIV.**

**Surrey 5, Sussex 5, Essex 7, Suffolk 3.**

## WESTERN COUNTIES

## BULLETIN

**A**UBREY SIMONS, making a welcome return to the Bristol side, made champions Cheltenham, really fight for their narrow 5-4 victory in the Western Counties League.

The former international was unbeaten in his three matches, although hard pressed by Bob Griffin and K. Edwards, but the rest of the Bristol team could muster only one other victory. This was scored by E. Buckley who defeated P. Cruwys in three games.

Another 100 per cent. performance was given by Brian Everson in Newport's 7-2 victory over Bath.

An all-international Cardiff side were too strong for Bristol II whom they defeated 9-0. Bernard Dimascio, Ron Davies and Alan Thomas won all their matches in straight games.

Bristol trounced the young Cheltenham side in the Women's Division of the League and conceded only one game.

Grove Motow.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE SNIPPETS

**I**N an effort to encourage a better playing standard among women players in the County, a special Women's League has been formed and will start after Christmas.

Teams from Bristol, Gloucester and Stroud Leagues will compete for the championship.

Congratulations to county player, Mrs. Shirley O'Brien on the birth of a son, Mark Gregory, on November 23.

## WILTSHIRE WANDERINGS

**A**FTER a short spell as County secretary, Don Hillier has been succeeded by Salisbury's Tony Ward. Ward, who took over as Treasurer following the resignation of Doug Parsons, will now combine both posts.

The Wilts team have been provided with shirts and it is hoped that the county badge will be worn by players for their visit to Somerset in February.

The Junior Division of the County League is the biggest ever, with Warminster, for whom local champion, David Garrett is unbeaten, holding a narrow lead.

**PEKING :**  
**WORLD T T CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**APRIL, 1961**

See the Games and see China.

For information Contact Britain-China Friendship Assoc., 228 Grays Inn Road, W.C.1., or Progressive Tours Ltd., 100 Rochester Row, S.W.1.

## 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 parenthesis after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to the Editor at the earliest date possible.

Date	Title and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
1961			
Jan. 2-7	<b>ENGLISH "OPEN"</b> London.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b> <b>J.D.B.</b> <b>J.D.G.</b> <b>J.X.D.</b> <b>V.S.</b>	E.T.T.A., 652 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.
13-14	<b>WELSH "OPEN"</b> Drill Hall, Dunfries Place, Cardiff.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b>	Mrs. N. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-Y-Grant Road, Cyncord, Cardiff.
14	<b>Lancashire "Open"</b> (Jan. 4) De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Lostock, Bolton.	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b> <b>V.S.</b>	A. Howcroft, 94 Bradford Street, Farnworth, Bolton.
21	<b>Pontefract "Open"</b> (A) (Jan. 10) Assembly Rooms & Town Hall, Pontefract	<b>J.B.S.</b> <b>J.G.S.</b> <b>V.S.</b>	T. Horrocks, 2 Weeland Terrace, Pontefract.
21	<b>Bath "Open"</b> (Jan. 9) Drill Hall (Lower Bristol Road), St. Peter's Hall, Dorset Street, Bath.	<b>J.B.S.</b>	J. A. Butcher, 1 South View Road, Bath.
28	<b>Gloucester Junior "Open"</b> Gloucester Baths, Barton Street, Gloucester.		L. T. C. Davis, 8, Westfield Avenue, Brockworth, Gloucester.
28-29	<b>Kent "Open"</b> (Jan. 11) Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	<b>Y.S.B.</b> <b>Y.S.G.</b>	H. Stamp, 48 Foord Road, Folkestone, Kent.
Feb. 11	<b>Midland "Open"</b> (Feb. 1) Friends Institute, 220 Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	<b>J.S.B.</b> <b>J.S.G.</b> <b>J.B.D.</b> <b>V.S.</b>	M. Goldstein, 415 Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
11	<b>South Yorkshire "Open"</b>		
17-19	<b>South of England "Open"</b> (A) I.C.T. Ltd., Aurelia Road, Croydon.		S. H. Buchan, 124, Portnalls Road, Coulson, Surrey.
18	<b>Grimsby "Open"</b> (Feb. 11) Augusta St. Barracks, Grimsby.	<b>J.S.B.</b>	H. G. Vincent, 4 Orby Grove, Grimsby.
18-19	<b>BELGIUM "OPEN"</b>		
25-26	<b>GERMAN "OPEN"</b>		
March 4	<b>Cheshire Junior "Open"</b> (Feb. 20) Livingstone St. Baths, Livingstone Street, Birkenhead.	<b>J.S.B.</b> <b>J.S.G.</b> <b>J.B.D.</b>	R. A. Bissell, 75 Southdale Road, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.
18-19	<b>Bucks "Open"</b> Slough Social Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.		L. Thompson, Auchmead, The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraybury.
18	<b>WELSH "CLOSED"</b>		
19	<b>Sussex Junior "Open"</b> Assembly Hall, Worthing, Sussex.		A. L. West, 7 Coutlands Terrace, Goring Road, Goring-by-Sea, Sussex.
21-25	<b>Leinster "Open"</b> (March 11) Abbey Lecture Hall, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin.	<b>B.S.</b> <b>G.S.</b>	R. I. Gill, 4, Oaklands Park, Balsbridge, Dublin.

**MIDDLESEX "OPEN"**

**DEFINITELY No. 1**

**I**AN HARRISON again stressed his right to a "solo-ranking" when he defeated his colleague at the top of the English list Bryan Merrett in the final of the Middlesex "Open" at Hanwell.

After losing the first game, Harrison found the right mixture of attack and defence and went on to win 11-21, 21-16, 21-11.

Merrett, the defending champion, came through in majestic style and was only extended by Peter Shead.

Harrison dropped a game to both Henry Buist and Les Sawyer before finding his true form in the semi-finals.

Jean Harrower won the women's singles for the third time but did not have things all her own way. In the semi-final she beat Peggy Piper 22-20 in the third, and dropped a game to Jean McCree in the final.

Bobbie Raybould and Bobby Stevens showed they are the leading doubles pair in the country when they beat Harrison and Merrett by 21-7 in the deciding game.

Lesley Beil had a very successful week-end. She won the girls' singles, easily defeating Judy Williams, and with Julie Pifold reached the final of the women's doubles.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** I. HARRISON (Gloucs) bt A. Lindsay (Middx.) 21-14, 21-16; B. MERRETT (Gloucs) bt A. Khanna (Middx.) 21-12, 21-12.

**Final:** HARRISON bt Merrett 11-21, 21-16, 21-11.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. HARROWER (Middx.) bt P. Piper (Surrey) 21-10, 19-21, 22-20; J. MCCREE (Essex) bt M. Shannon (Surrey) 21-18, 21-7.

**Final:** HARROWER bt McCree 17-21, 21-15, 21-14.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** R. RAYBOULD/R. STEVENS bt K. Craigie/Lindsay 21-9, 22-20; HARRISON/MERRETT bt L. Gunn/P. Shead 21-16, 21-9.

**Final:** RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Harrison/Merrett 18-21, 21-17, 21-7.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** MCCREE/E. CARRINGTON bt B. Barber/J. Beadle 21-14, 19-21, 21-15; L. BELL/J. PILFOLD bt J. Williams/D. Baines (Herts) 19-21, 21-17, 21-12.

**Final:** MCCREE/CARRINGTON bt Bell/Pilford 21-8, 21-13.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** MERRETT/Miss WILLIAMS bt M. Maclaren/Miss Piper 21-14, 14-21, 22-20; J. INGBER/Mrs. CARRINGTON bt Stevens/Mrs. McCree 21-18, 24-22.

**Final:** MERRETT/Miss WILLIAMS bt Ingber/Mrs. Carrington 21-17, 21-17.

**Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:** R. RACTLIFFE (Herts) bt O. Quaye (Ghana) 15-21, 25-23, 21-18; C. BLOY (Kent) bt R. McKewon (Surrey) 18-21, 21-10, 23-21.

**Final:** RACTLIFFE bt Bloy 21-14, 21-18.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:** BELL bt C. Holes (Hants) 21-13, 21-14; WILLIAMS bt Shannon 21-16, 21-18.

**Final:** BELL bt Williams 21-7, 21-13.

**YORKSHIRE JUNIOR "OPEN"**

**HOME SUCCESS**

**H**ARVEY COWARD, the confident crew-cut cavalier from Sheffield, beat off a strong challenge at Bradford to keep the Yorkshire "Open" Junior championship in the home county.

He topped Maurice Billington, England's No. 1, in the semi-final with some aggressive play, and won the final against Derek Basden two straight.

Coward repeated his success over Billington in the mixed, which he won with Cynthia Blackshaw, and came near to a brilliant treble in the boys' doubles with Kevin Whittingham before losing to England's top pair, Billington and Hill, in the final.

Big surprise in the junior boys' event was the 21-6, 22-20 defeat of David Stanley by Michael Ford (Sunderland), whose steady play earned him the cup.

The senior girls' competitions ended in triumph for the Red Rose. Diane Fitzgerald and Linda Gordon, the Manchester pair, accounted for Yorkshire girls Cynthia Blackshaw and Lesley Proudlock in the singles semi-finals, and underlined their superiority in the final of the doubles.

**Under 17's**

**Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:** H. COWARD (Sheffield) bt M. Billington (Leamington) 14-21, 21-17, 21-14; D. S. BASDEN (Woolwich) bt P. Walmsley (Manchester) 21-15, 21-11.

**Final:** COWARD bt Basden 21-13, 21-16.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:** D. FITZGERALD (Manchester) bt C. D. Blackshaw (Doncaster) 21-11, 8-21, 21-13; L. GORDON (Manchester) bt L. Proudlock (Sheffield) 21-14, 21-11.

**Final:** FITZGERALD bt Gordon 21-10, 21-15.

**Boys' Doubles: Semi-finals:** BILLINGTON/B. HILL bt D. Neale/M. Ford 22-20, 21-10; COWARD/D. K. WHITTINGHAM bt Basden/D. Stanley 13-21, 21-14, 23-21.

**Final:** BILLINGTON/HILL bt Coward/Whittingham 21-13, 13-21, 21-15.

**Girls' Doubles: Semi-finals:** BLACKSHAW/PROUDLOCK bt C. Carter/P. Dainty 21-18, 21-17; FITZGERALD/GORDON bt I. Allon/L. Twidale 21-18, 21-12.

**Final:** FITZGERALD/GORDON bt Blackshaw/Proudlock 21-16, 21-6.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** BILLINGTON/FITZGERALD bt B. Farnworth/Gordon 21-17, 21-19; COWARD/BLACKSHAW bt P. Williams/Dainty 21-15, 19-21, 21-15.

**Final:** COWARD/BLACKSHAW bt Billington/Fitzgerald 21-16, 22-20.

**Under 15's**

**Boys' Singles: Semi-finals:** M. FORD bt T. Holmes 21-16, 18-21, 21-15; G. R. FRENCH bt Williams 19-21, 21-15, 21-12.

**Final:** FORD bt French 21-11, 21-17.

**Girls' Singles: Semi-finals:** MAUREEN BILLINGTON bt Allon 21-19, 21-15; DAINTY bt Twidale 21-19, 21-13.

**Final:** DAINTY bt Billington 21-9, 21-14.

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**CARDIFF "OPEN"****MORRIS REWARDED**

**A**FTER the disappointments of the Quadrangular, play in the Cardiff "Open" was like a breath of fresh air, with the hitters coming more into their own.

It was good to see Alan Morris, always attractive to watch, at last getting reward for his initiative when he carried off the men's singles.

**The final, in which he beat Emil Emezc 21-19, 10-21, 22-20, brought out a lot of the old traditional type of table tennis and could not have been closer. It was a battle between Alan's delightful attack and Emil's defence.**

Emezc, whose selection for Wales was something of a surprise, more than confounded his critics. If only he would use his attack more often, he would be very good indeed.

In the semi-finals Emezc beat Bernard Dimascio, who had done well to beat Brian Everson, while Morris, after two ding-dong games, ran out an easy winner in the third against Ron Davies.

George Evans went out to Emezc, as he did in the Swansea "Open"; Alan Thomas lost to Morris, Stan Jones found Dick Hopkins too strong, and Ken Bull was disappointed to lose to Tony Huish.

**Audrey Bates, in excellent attacking form, won the women's singles without dropping a game, winning the final against Margaret Phillips 21-5, 21-12.**

Miss Bates also had good wins over the stylish defence of Mrs. Broad, from Stoke, and Margaret Jones at 21-9, 21-13, in the semi-final.

Miss Phillips played well to beat a below par Gretta

Dimascio, then won a long battle with Worcester's Mrs. Lloyd.

Miss Bates gained a second title in the mixed doubles with Glyn Morgan, when they beat Ron Davies and Mrs. Broad 18-21, 21-14, 21-17. However, her bid for the triple crown foundered in the final of the women's doubles, where she partnered Mrs. Dimascio.

They were beaten 21-13, 21-17 by the defending champions, Margaret Jones and Margaret Phillips.

Ron Davies and George Evans won the men's doubles, beating Morgan and Morris in the final 15-21, 21-16, 21-16.

In the semi-finals Davies and Evans accounted for Brian Everson and Basil Evans, while Morgan and Morris disposed of Stan Jones and Bernard Dimascio over three games.

**Men's Singles: A. MORRIS** bt E. Emezc 21-19, 10-21, 22-20.

**Women's Singles: A. BATES** bt M. Phillips 21-5, 21-12.

**Men's Doubles: R. DAVIES/G. EVANS** bt Morris/G. Morgan 15-21, 21-16, 21-16.

**Women's Doubles: M. JONES/M. PHILLIPS** bt A. Bates/Mrs. G. Dimascio 21-13, 21-16.

**Mixed Doubles: MORGAN/Miss BATES** bt Davies/Mrs. Broad 18-21, 21-14, 21-17.

**Boys' Singles: M. MORDECAI** bt P. Brookes 21-4, 22-20.

**NEWBURY "OPEN"****HARRISON LAYS BOGEY**

**T**HE most notable happening in the new Newbury "Open" was Ian Harrison's victory over his erstwhile bogey, Stan Jacobson in the men's singles final.

Perhaps it was Peter Shead who really showed him the way to deal with Jacobson. Completely ignoring the fact that he could hardly be described as anything but defensive, Shead hit practically from start to finish only to lose narrowly at 19 in the third.

Harrison followed suit going straight onto the offensive and gave a brilliant display of sustained hitting from both backhand and forehand.

David Creamer put up a fairly good fight against Harrison after he had defeated Piddock in an earlier round by 21-11, 15-21, 21-6.

Shock of the meeting was Laurie Landry's defeat at the hands of Graham Whalley of Sussex.

Gwen Robinson caused a big surprise by winning the Women's Singles with a three game victory over Shelagh Hession in the final. For Gwen, this was only her second "Open" title.

Pauline and Christine Holes scored a good success in the Women's Doubles after a very close semi-final match with Micki Jones and Gwen Robinson.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals: I. HARRISON** (Gloucs.) bt D. Creamer (Middx.) 21-11, 21-16; **S. JACOBSON** (Middx.) bt P. Shead (Sussex) 19-21, 21-15, 21-19.

**Final: HARRISON** bt Jacobson 21-11, 21-10.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals: G. ROBINSON** (Herts) bt J. Petengell (Middx.) 21-5, 21-14; **S. HESSION** (Essex) bt C. Holes (Hants) 21-13, 21-18.

**Final: ROBINSON** bt Hession 21-5, 4-21, 21-14.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: T. DENSHAM/L. LANDRY** bt D. Jones/J. Healey 25-27, 21-12, 21-18; **I. HARRISON/K. EDWARDS** bt L. Cooper/A. Piddock 21-18, 21-18.

**Final: DENSHAM/LANDRY** bt Harrison/Edwards 22-20, 21-18.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: C. HOLES/P. HOLES** bt M. Jones/G. Robinson 21-13, 13-21, 21-19; **S. FOSTER/S. HESSION** bt B. Jones/M. Pemberton 21-11, 21-16.

**Final: HOLES/HOLES** bt Foster/Hession 21-18, 21-19.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: R. HENDERSON/S. FOSTER** bt A. Ward/P. Holes 21-16, 21-16; **L. HOFFMAN/G. ROBINSON** bt I. Jones/M. Jones 21-19, 15-21, 21-17.

**Final: HENDERSON/FOSTER** bt Hoffman/Robinson 17-21, 21-18, 21-16.

**Junior Mixed Singles: Semi-finals: E. LLOYD** bt J. Coffell 21-11, 21-9; **R. McKEWON** bt A. Robinson 21-8, 14-21, 21-19.

**Final: LLOYD** bt McKewon 21-16, 24-22.

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**YORKSHIRE "OPEN"**

by **MALCOLM HARTLEY**

# STARKIE IN TWO UPSETS

**B**RIAN STARKIE from Barnsley, unknown outside his own county, figured in the two major upsets of the Yorkshire "Open" at York Railway Institute.

In the first round of the men's singles he knocked out number two seed Laurie Landry 15-21, 21-17, 22-20. Then he and his Barnsley colleague Fred Jones beat the powerful Middlesex pairing of Landry and Alan Rhodes 21-19, 13-21, 21-19.

Starkie and Jones went on to shock Yorkshire's Maurice Pitts and George Carrigill in three before going down to Wilf Barker and Eddie Taylor in the quarter-final.

The Durham lads reached the final, where over-eagerness, especially on Taylor's part, was their downfall against the experience of Stevens and Raybould.

Eddie, however, stopped Starkie in the singles quarter-final before going out to Jack Clayton, who had demolished Bobbie Raybould 21-9, 21-8.

Derek Schofield toppled top seed Alan Rhodes in two straight but then tumbled to Stevens in three.

Stocky Bobby Stevens made the play in the final against Clayton. He ran up an 11-6 lead and lost it, went ahead to 19-16 and then returned three serves into the net.

**From then until the end of the game it was point for point with Clayton edging through both games on deuce to take the title.**

Consolation for Landry came in the mixed, which he won with Diane Wright. Their hardest fight was the quarter-final, which they took at 24-22 in the third against Rhodes and Win Leigh.

Jill Mills beat the women's holder, Pam Morton, in a three game semi-final but then lost to Jean McCree. She made a great recovery in the third and hit some

lovely smashes but could not quite get home.

Jill and Jean teamed up to beat the doubles holders, Wright/Ridgeway, in the final.

The organisation of the event was easily the best for years and reflected great credit on Ken Park, the new tournament secretary, and his committee. Stevens considered it the best one-day tournament he had ever played in.

**Men's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. CLAYTON (Lancs) bt E. Taylor (Durham) 21-5, 25-23; R. STEVENS (Essex) bt D. Schofield (Cheshire) 21-15, 16-21, 21-16.

**Final:** CLAYTON bt Stevens 27-25, 23-21.

**Women's Singles: Semi-finals:** J. McCREE (Essex) bt P. A. Clark (Northumberland) 21-17, 14-21, 22-20; J. MILLS (Surrey) bt P. Morton (Yorks) 15-21, 21-14, 21-17.

**Final:** McCREE bt Mills 17-21, 21-15, 21-19.

**Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:** STEVENS/R. RAYBOULD (Essex) bt R. Crusham/K. Forshaw (Lancs) 21-10, 21-16; W. BARKER/E. TAYLOR (Durham) bt B. Cregan/E. K. Duthie (Lancs) 18-21, 21-8, 21-8.

**Final:** RAYBOULD/STEVENS bt Barker/Taylor 21-16, 18-21, 21-12.

**Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:** McCREE/MILLS bt L. Hamilton/L. Gordon (Yorks) 21-3, 21-12; D. WRIGHT/D. RIDGEWAY (Lancs) bt W. Leigh/W. Swift (Lancs) 21-8, 21-14.

**Final:** McCREE/MILLS bt Wright/Ridgeway 21-12, 14-21, 21-13.

**Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:** L. LANDRY (Middlesex)/Miss WRIGHT bt R. Allcock/Mrs. C. Spencer (Lancs) 21-12, 21-12; RAYBOULD/Mrs. MILLS bt G. Stanley/Mrs. W. Eanor (Lincs) 21-16, 21-15.

**Final:** LANDRY/Miss WRIGHT bt Raybould/Mrs. Mills 21-16, 21-11.

**Veterans' Singles: Final:** H. NIXON (Manchester) bt E. A. Brown (Stockport) 21-12, 21-13.

**HERTFORDSHIRE NOTES**

## DAPHNE'S HAT-TRICK

**D**APHNE BAINES gained a brilliant hat-trick of titles in the Stevenage "Closed" Championships.

She retained her women's singles; partnered Pauline Worland to beat the women's doubles champions, J. Canham and J. Luhman, and later added the mixed doubles title to her collection.

S. Bailey won the men's singles title beating the holder G. King in the final.

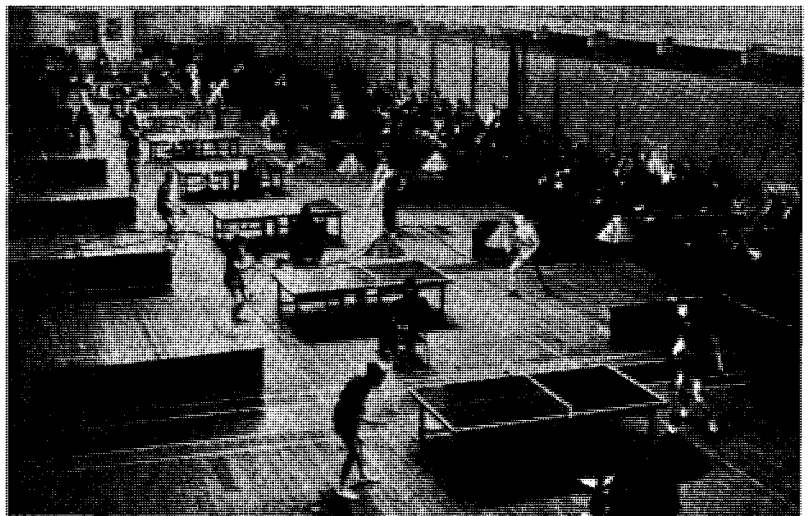
As expected the men's singles trophy in the Watford "Closed" Championships went to Brian Barr for the third successive year.

St. Albans have again reached the zone finals of the National Inter-League Competitions, so it is not surprising to find them setting the pace in the County competition also.

Their Rose Bowl trio of Judy Williams, Alma Taft and Gwen Robinson were joined by Densham and Ractliffe at the Bournemouth "Open", and between them reached five of the six finals and shared three titles.

The County junior team continued their unbeaten run when gaining their first-ever win over their "bogey" side, Kent by 9-1.

G. P. H. Butcher.



Conditions at the Yorkshire "Open," played at York Railway Institute, were praised by many entrants. Complete arenas were built with surrounds owned by the institute and an additional 360ft. borrowed from Dunlop's. Nine of 13 tables can be seen in the picture, which is reproduced by courtesy of the "Yorkshire Post."



## ESSEX USE EXPEDITE RULE —A SUCCESS

THE score was one game all in the four men's singles semi-final between Bob McCree and Les Sawyer in the East London League Championships.

As all too often happens on such an occasion the spectators had drifted away to the canteen wondering why they had taken the trouble to support the "Finals" instead of watching TV. Suddenly it was announced that the third game would be played under the "Expedite" rule.

Tea cups were downed, half eaten cakes left, and there was a sudden rush in the hall, everyone curious to see how the Expedite rule would work.

They were delighted. The two players were hitting and counter-hitting! It was the best game of the evening, McCree eventually winning 21-18.

There is no doubt that the Expedite rule is the answer to pushing play. Some leading administrators have told me the rule is not practical. But it presented no problem at all to a tournament committee endowed with commonsense and the courage of their convictions.

It was good to see Micki Jones, out-hitting Jean McCree in the semi-final of the ladies' singles. Jean takes great credit for weathering the storm and coming out a close winner in the third game.

It was an unhappy tournament for Brian Brumwell the Essex No. 1, who failed to reach a final—but Brian is essentially a team-man as all Essex supporters know.

Men's Singles: P. Pudney bt R. McCree 21-17, 21-15. Women's Singles: Mrs. J. McCree bt Mrs. E. Carrington 21-7, 21-15. Men's Doubles: R. Raybould/R. Stevens bt Pudney/L. Sawyer 22-20, 21-11. Women's Doubles: Mrs. Carrington/Mrs. McCree bt Mrs. M. Jones/Mrs. I. Sawyer 21-12, 21-12. Mixed Doubles: K. Beamish/Mrs. McCree bt Stevens/Mrs. Carrington 21-17, 21-18.

Frank Bateman.

## NORFOLK NOTES

SHOCK result in the second division of the East Anglian League was Dereham's 6-4 victory over Yarmouth "B".

Brian Loveday, the reigning Dereham singles champion, was in good form, winning his two singles as well as the doubles with Maurice Thompson. The two juniors, M. Blanch and F. Leak, also played well.

Norwich, the reigning East Anglian League champions have had their hopes of retaining the title crushed by recent defeats from Ipswich and Lowestoft.

Lowestoft were given a shock at Yarmouth and just scraped home 6-4. Tony Archer was again in top form for Yarmouth, and beat Pearson and Rudd in the singles and also scored a doubles victory with Jack Fuller.

Archer was Lowestoft's only winner in the Wilmott Cup against Ipswich, beating Halliday, Osborne and Purnell.

Yarmouth had an encouraging 6-3 win over Norwich in the Rose Bowl, after trailing 0-3.

Two friendly matches against Northamptonshire (on January 21 and April 15) will give the county selectors a chance to look at some of the up and coming youngsters.

R. Wickens.

## NORTH BUCKS "CLOSED"

The outstanding feature of the North Bucks "Closed" was the appearance of junior Leslie Wooding in three finals. He was successful in the men's doubles with D. Snaith.

A little more control over temperament and the right sort of encouragement and Wooding can be a future asset to the county.

Men's Singles: A. Wickens bt L. Wooding 11-21, 21-15, 21-9. Women's Singles: M. Cullty bt Mrs. I. Cox 21-10, 21-8.

Men's Doubles: Wooding/D. Snaith bt G. Kirk/L. Plaxton 21-6, 19-21, 21-14. Mixed Doubles: K. Jeffrey/Mrs. Cox bt Wooding/Miss J. Wooding 21-9, 20-22, 21-12.

## LLANDUDNO "CLOSED"

ALAN DAVIES (Lansdowne) took full advantage of the absence of holder Colin Thomas, a Welsh international, to win the men's singles title in the Llandudno "Closed" Championships.

But the day's honours really went to H. T. Williams (All Saints) who, playing his first competitive event of the season, reached the final against Davies and also won the men's doubles with club-mate W. Curtis.

J. S. Overton (Youth Centre) won the junior singles title, beating A. Berno (Penmaenmawr) in the final.

## JUNIOR GIVES OXFORD FIRST "OPEN" WINNER

COUNTY Junior, Evan Lloyd (Y.M.C.A.) recently hit the local headlines by being the first-ever Oxford and Oxfordshire player to win an "Open" title.

His success came at the Newbury "Open" on December 4, when he won the Junior Singles title against a much fancied Surrey youngster, R. McKewon by 21-16, 23-21.

Evan also did well in the Senior Singles only narrowly losing to Laurie Landry, a seeded player, 17-21, 19-21.

Another Oxfordshire Junior who played particularly well was 15-year-old Stanley Hahn.

Oxfordshire's No. 1, Alf Davies, had a tough preliminary round before beating Dennis Thompson 21-19 in the third.

One often hears players complain about "Open" Tournaments, but I would like, on behalf of Oxford, to give credit, praise and thanks to the organisers of this Tournament.

Oxford Juniors now head their section in the Berkshire Inter-Town League.

Oxford gave an excellent account of themselves in the Wilmott Cup Competition at Slough on November 27 before losing to near rivals, Maidenhead in the Zone Final. Their defeat was not unexpected, for Maidenhead had previously eliminated the Staines (Middx.) side, which included International, Micky Thornhill.

The Oxford Women's team did not, however, fare well in the first round of the J. M. Rose Bowl, and unexpectedly lost to Newbury 5-4.

Dennis Thompson.

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