

Table Tennis

NOVEMBER, 1960
ONE SHILLING

*The Official Magazine of the
English Table Tennis Association*



CHESTER BARNES and
LESLEY BELL, winners of the
"News of the World" Boy
and Girl of the year trophies.

Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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No. 2

WOLFENDEN REPORT

TEN million pounds a year to be spent on Sport.

That is the No. 1 recommendation of the Wolfenden Report, which, after three years and 58 meetings, has now been made public.

That's lots of lovely lolly, but before you rush off and want to start spending it, pause and remember this is only a recommendation. It is not fact yet.

And also remember that it is ten millions to be spent on sport for the community and not any particular sport.

Just what share Table Tennis could expect is something that must wait until such time this all becomes fact, if it ever does.

Who would spend the money? Here the suggestion is that it should be controlled by a Sports Development Council of six to ten persons.

Sport Ministry Rejected

Any ideas of a Ministry of Sport are completely and utterly rejected. Control must be left in the hands of the present governing bodies.

The recommendation is that the £10-million should come in two ways—£5-million from the taxpayers and £5-million from the local rate-payers.

The two major political parties in the pre-election campaigns advocated a National grant from sport and both mentioned that figure of £5-million.

It may sound a terrific amount to the smaller sports, who have to count the finances in hundreds of pounds, but as the committee reports, "We do not think that this figure would disturb the whole of the national economy." And so say all of us. So let's hope that not too many years will be wasted in providing State-aid. It is wanted now.

Quite rightly the report emphasises that it has been primarily concerned with sport for the masses. And these sports range from the likes of

dancing and rock climbing, to the big field competition such as football, athletics, and of course table tennis.

At the same time the committee do not overlook the needs of those who show outstanding promise, neither does it ignore the spirit of nationalism.

It recognises that national prestige is involved in international contests, and that it is proper to want to win them. But it stressed that these feelings of patriotism should be kept within reasonable bounds.

Above all, the committee emphasise that they want more sport and recreation facilities so that all people who want to take part in active leisure can do so.

The report points out that the most serious shortage of facilities is that for indoor games and sports and this can only be met by the action of local authorities. It suggests, the provision of large "barns" could meet many of the needs.

It also suggests that industries which have their own sports facilities could help by allowing others to use these when they are not employed to capacity.

E.T.T.A. Invited

Generally the report has met with the approval of most sporting bodies but as far as table tennis is concerned, the National Executive have not as yet had time to discuss it. This will take place at the next meeting, for the C.C.P.R. have invited the E.T.T.A. to be prepared to attend a meeting to give consideration to the proposals.

Undoubtedly they will welcome the proposals although they may well be in disagreement with some of the conclusions.

It must be emphasised however that whatever proposals are prepared, whether by a national council or a local authority those responsible must ensure there are adequate facilities for indoor games.

OFFICIAL NEWS

N.E.C. Meeting. A meeting of the National Executive Committee took place during the English "Closed" Championships at Butlin's Holiday Camp, Bognor Regis, on September 17 and 18 and lasted some six hours on the Saturday and three-and-a-half hours on the Sunday. Among the many items discussed were:—

Ghana T.T.A. It was agreed that two members of the Ghana T.T.A. (D. G. Hathiramani and E. A. Quaye) should be allowed to sit for the Coaching examination of the E.T.T.A. when they come to England in November, 1960. It was also noted that Master Okine Quaye (aged 13 years) would also be travelling with these two members in order to participate in "Open" Tournaments in England so as to improve his play.

Press and Publicity. It was agreed that the Office of the Association should carry out this duty for the 1960/61 season.

Associate Editor-Liaison Officer of Official Magazine "Table Tennis." It was agreed that C. J. Clemett should undertake this duty for the 1960/61 season.

Hon. Life Members. The Committee received a report from the sub-committee dealing with the question of the various privileges to which Hon. Life Members should be entitled and it was agreed they should receive:—

1. *A suitably worded congratulatory letter signed by the President.*
2. *A non-transferable E.T.T.A. Official Pass for Self and Guest.*
3. *A free Life Subscription to the Official Magazine.*
4. *Invitations to attend*
 - (a) *National "Open" Championships.*
 - (b) *National "Closed" Championships and*
 - (c) *an International Match or National Team Championship Finals. (where staged within reasonable distance of their current residence).*

New E.T.T.A. Sub-Committee. Miss M. Fry, T. Blunn, I. C. Eyles, C. Jaschke and A. K. Vint together with the Secretary of the Association were elected to meet the sub-committee of the National County Championships Competition in an exploratory discussion regarding the National County Championships Competition being run by an E.T.T.A. sub-committee.

Archives—Table Tennis Library. It was agreed that any writer of Table Tennis books should be invited to

send an autographed voucher copy of their book to L. S. Woollard (librarian) for inclusion in the E.T.T.A. Library.

County Secretaries' Conference. The Secretary was instructed to arrange for this Conference to take place on December 10, 1960, in London, beginning at 10.30 a.m. and ending at approximately 4 p.m.

Professional Secretary. It was agreed that a further contract be entered into by the Association for a term of three years with Mr. Lowen as Professional Secretary to the Association.

Approval of Balls—1960/61 Season. The following balls were approved:—
Dunlop "Barna" Three Crown and Two Crown.

Halex Three Star and Two Star.
Jaques "Haydon Tema" Three Star and Two Star.
Spalding "Villa" XXX and XX.

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).

Victor Barna Award. Season 1959/60. The Committee endorsed the proposal of the Victor Barna Award Committee that **Ian Harrison** be awarded the Trophy for the 1959/60 season for being the first Englishman to win the Men's Singles title in the English "Open" Championships since the formation of the E.T.T.A. in 1927. The trophy will be presented to Harrison at the Finals of the forthcoming English "Open" Championships at the Royal Albert Hall on January 7, 1961.

Reception Panel. Miss M. Fry, Miss I. Moss, E. R. A. Connell, H. T. Edwards, S. R. Dane and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Phillips were appointed to this panel for the 1960/61 season.

Coaching. The N.E.C. agreed to endorse the following proposals of the Coaching Committee:—

Basic Coaching Diploma Awards: **E. J. Rumjahn** (Lancashire), **N. A. Palmer** (Yorkshire), **B. Beale** (Shropshire), **R. E. Etheridge** (Kent), **G. W. Rowley** (Warwickshire), **J. M. Smith** (Shropshire), **L. C. Howick** (Hertfordshire), **G. H. Willcocks** (Devon), **T. G. Anson** (Devon), **Mrs. J. Willcocks** (Devon).

Teaching Theory Certificates: **T. W. Grant** (Hampshire), **D. S. Williams** (Hertfordshire), **J. R. Green** (Lancashire), **J. R. Locking** (Lincolnshire).

U.S.S.R. Tour of England. The Hon. Referees and E.T.T.A. Representatives at the five matches of the Tour were appointed.

17.10.60. Bristol. I. C. Eyles (hon. referee); R. J. Nicholls (E.T.T.A. Representative).

18.10.60. Birmingham. M. Goldstein; M. E. Scott.

19.10.60. Manchester. N. Cook; T. Blunn.

20.10.60. Sunderland. E. Reay; T. Blunn.

22.10.60. Greenwich, London. G. Owen; C. Jaschke.

Junior International Matches. The match versus Wales (Juniors) to be played on March 3, 1961, at Birkenhead.

A Tour of England will be made by the German DTTB Juniors from January 9 to 16, 1961.

Hungarian "Open" Championships. (November, 10-14, 1960). It was agreed that an invitation from the Hungarian Association to send two women and a captain to the Championships be accepted.

Yugoslavian "Open" Championships (November 16-21, 1960). An invitation from the Yugoslavian Association to send four men, two women and a captain to the Championships was agreed.

An International Match v Yugoslavia on November 18, 1960, will be played at Maribor.

World Championships. Very welcome donations have been received to date from:— Mr. E. R. A. Connell, John Taylor (Silversmiths) Ltd., Avon India Rubber Co. Ltd., Wayfarers Travel Agency Ltd., British Aluminium Co. Ltd., Sams Brothers Ltd.

English "Open" Championships. It has now been decided that the rounds of the English "Open" Championships for the 1960/61 season will be held at Greenwich Baths, Trafalgar Road, London, S.E.10, between January 2 and 7, 1961. All Finals will be played at the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London, S.W.7, on Saturday evening, January 7, 1961, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Ticket order forms will be circulated during November to our mem-

NEW JUNIOR RANKINGS

By LAURIE LANDRY

bers with prices ranging from 21s. each to 6s. 6d. each. Party rates will again be available for block bookings of 12 or more tickets. Full details are available from the office of the Association.

It is known that the Hungarian, Swedish and Yugoslavian Associations will be sending their leading players to the Championships and invitations are being sent to other European Associations. The German D.T.T.B. Association's Juniors will also be competing.

Official handbook. It is hoped to receive this publication early in November and copies will be forwarded to Clubs as quickly as possible during this month. Copies may be purchased from the Office of the Association by any member at a cost of 2s. 6d. each.

Junior Final Trials. These trials were played at Messrs. Ultra Sports & Social Club, Western Avenue, W.3 on October 15 and 16, 1960. Thanks are due to Messrs. Ultra Sports & Social Club for the use of their premises, excellent conditions and equipment.

Top Ten Tournaments. The first of the season's "Top Ten" Tournaments was arranged on October 23, at the Drill Hall, 444, High Road, Finchley, N.12, and the following players were invited to take part: **I. Harrison** (Gloucestershire), **B. Merrett** (Gloucestershire), **D. C. Burrige** (Middlesex), **J. Ingher** (Lancashire), **A. Rhodes** (Middlesex), **A. Lindsay** (Middlesex), **S. Jacobson** (Middlesex), **Miss D. Rowe** (Middlesex), **Miss C. K. Best** (Yorkshire), **Mrs. B. Bird** (Surrey), **Mrs. J. McCree** (Essex), **Miss J. Harrower** (Middlesex).

TEAM SELECTIONS

Team Selections: DIANE ROWE (Middlesex) and JEAN HARROWER (Middlesex) have been selected for the Hungarian "Open" Championships on November 11 to 13.

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ALTHOUGH only one of the top seven boys on last year's ranking list is still a junior, the recent English trials were far from disappointing.

In fact, Brian Wright, ranked 5th last season, could only manage to move up into equal second place with Brian Hill. This shows the increasing standard of play among juniors.

Maurice Billington, of Leamington, was the outstanding player. Unranked last year, he now has all the strokes and is not afraid to use them.

Another surprise was the form of left-handed Dave Halliday, of Ipswich, who came into sixth position.

Of the boys taking part for the second year, Nigel Ive, improved only two places; Martin White went up from 10 to 7 while Bob Ractliffe fell one place to No. 10.

VENNER AGAIN

THE Surrey "Closed" Championships, held only two weeks after the County Trials, have given the selectors plenty to think about. After a mediocre showing in the trials Harry Venner came back to top form to win the singles title that he first won 11 seasons ago, this time without the loss of a game. His hard-hitting final match with that other "veteran", Ken Craigie was a refreshing reminder of past battles.

The only seeded player not to reach the semi-finals was Michael Maclaren. He was knocked out in the quarter-final by unranked Vic Ireland, who could not, however, reproduce this form in his semi-final against Harry Venner.

Triple champion, Peggy Piper had her hardest match in the Women's Singles Final against Clarice Rose, winning on a net-cord at 22-20 in the third.

Ken Craigie and Harry Venner retained their men's double title in a rather one-sided match against David Lowe and Tony Meekings, while Peggy Piper and Mary Shannon beat Barbara Andrews and Joy Faulkner to take the women's doubles. Mrs. Andrews figured in another final, the mixed doubles with Ken Craigie, but was again on the losing side, this time to Michael Maclaren and Peggy Piper, present holders of the English "Closed" Championship.

R. McKewon won the Boys' event and Mary Shannon almost inevitably took her fourth successive Girls' title to equal Jill Rook's record in this event.

Mary recently set a record of her own by becoming the first Surrey Junior to represent the County in a Premier Division County match, when she partnered Barbara Andrews in the women's doubles.

Colin Clemett

Lesley Bell, of course, swept strongly into the girls' ranking list. After reaching the final of the English junior championship last year and having since shown consistently good form, she has come into the list for the first time at No. 2.

She is headed by Mary Shannon who is ranked for the fourth successive year—a record surpassed only by Jean Harrower.

Along with Miss Bell there are three other newcomers to the list, Cynthia Blackshaw, Lesley Proudlock and Christine Holes.

JUNIOR RANKING LISTS

Boys: 1, MAURICE BILLINGTON (Warwickshire) (—); joint 2, BRIAN HILL (Lincolnshire) (—) and BRIAN WRIGHT (Middlesex) (5); 4, HARVEY COWARD (Yorkshire) (—); 5, NIGEL IVE (Middlesex) (7); 6, DAVID HALLIDAY (Suffolk) (—); joint 7, DAVID OFFENBACH (Middlesex) (—) and MARTIN WHITE (Gloucestershire) (10); 9, DAVID STANLEY (Yorkshire) (—); 10, ROBERT RACTLIFFE (Hertfordshire) (9).

Girls: 1, MARY SHANNON (Surrey) (2); 2, LESLEY BELL (Essex) (—); 3, JUDY WILLIAMS (Hertfordshire) (2); 4, CYNTHIA BLACKSHAW (Yorkshire) (—); 5, SUSAN THOMAS (Kent) (5); joint 6, CHRISTINE HOLES (Hampshire) (—) and LESLEY PROUDLOCK (Yorkshire) (—).

MEMBERS WELCOME

THE Holiday Fellowship, which started out some years ago as a walking club then gradually spread their activities to other sports, are showing growing interest in table tennis.

Such is the keenness of the South West Section that for the second successive season they are hiring Wimbledon Baths on Tuesday nights.

With four tables operating they meet from 7.30 to 10.30 p.m.

Says their Press Secretary, Arthur Pratt, "We would welcome new members but can cater only for those of an average standard. This is because our facilities are somewhat limited, although we hope to add two more tables later."

Anyone interested in joining the London Fellowship should write to Mr. Pratt at 27, Wilverley Crescent, New Malden, Surrey.

Bergmann Has Kramer Ideas For Table Tennis

by JOHNNY LEACH

HOW seriously should we take Richard Bergmann's latest venture—the launching on October 13 at Madison Square Gardens of the first ever World Professional Table Tennis Championships?

Richard, I am sure, would be the first to admit that the four contestants, which include himself, are not the best in the world at the moment, though as Richard told me by transatlantic telephone, "You must learn to walk before you can run, and I'm prepared to take my time over establishing these championships."

Bergmann has not in the past been particularly noted for his business acumen, but this time I really believe that he might be on to a good thing.

His venture is being backed by the famous sports promoter Abe Saperstein, and a series of matches are to be played during intervals of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball engagements all over North America for the next five-and-a-half months.

Bergmann has already registered a company under the name of **World Professional Table Tennis Promotions Ltd.**, with offices in London, New York, Chicago and Tokyo, and this

time I think that amateur officials should take serious note—otherwise another Kramer could be arising in their midst.

Worldwide experience on tour with the Globetrotters has given Richard a new shrewdness and maturity which lead me to believe that he could make a go of this project.

In one way he is doing a real service to the game, because the one thing he insists upon is that the



RICHARD BERGMANN

players he hires should be "showmen." And let's face it, spectacular table tennis is what everyone is crying out for at the present time.

Besides, Bergmann himself, who can claim four World Singles Titles, there is Nikatsee Fujii, the Japanese with the cannonball drives, Rene Roothoft, France's greatest defensive player with a ballet dancer's footwork, and Bernie Bukiet, the Polish-born American who I would rate as one of the world's most consistent attackers—so this is no mean quartet.

Of course, any player joining Richard's circus faces probable suspension by the I.T.T.F., but if the series should prove successful this is not likely to stop a queue from forming to jump on the bandwagon.

Just another of Richard's amusing escapades? Don't be too sure! This could be the start of something really big.

GOOD START BY HERTS. JUNIORS

OUR "new look" Junior team opened their National Championship programme with a 7-3 win over Suffolk at Ipswich. As a result of trials three new juniors gained places in the team and together with Bob Ractliffe and Judy Williams they gave a creditable performance.

The two new boys, Brian Sykes (Letchworth) and David Heppell (Watford) each won one singles, while the Stevenage youngsters Jacqueline Canham and David Tuckwell won the Mixed Doubles. Miss Canham also partnered Judy Williams to win the Girls' Doubles.

After this impressive start the selectors announced an unchanged team to meet Middlesex in the next match. This match may well indicate the chances of Middlesex retaining the Championship of the Junior Division (South).

Last season Hertfordshire was the only county to take as many as three games off the champions, including the Challenge matches for the National Title.

Hemel Hempstead have entered the Inter-League competition this season and with the re-entry of Bishop's Stortford and Watford "B" there will be nine teams in the Senior Section. However, in the Junior Division, Hertford and Letchworth "B" have withdrawn leaving only six teams this season.

Last season Len Howick, one of North Hertfordshire's most enthusiastic administrators, gained his County Umpire's Badge. Now comes news of a Coaching Diploma award for Len, to whom we offer our congratulations.

G. P. H. Butcher

LATE NOTE: Hertfordshire Juniors drew 5-all with Middlesex.

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We will send a greetings card to say who has sent the gift.

TABLE TENNIS ON WHEELS

By IRIS MOSS

HAVE you ever tried playing table tennis sitting on a chair? Difficult, isn't it? Yet there are a group of people who regularly play in wheel-chairs, and play to a remarkably good standard, too.

This year I was the "new" umpire who joined Frank Bateman, Stew Dane and Charlie Mayne on a trip to Stoke Mandeville to help at the National Games for the Paralysed.

The players are grouped in classes according to the degree of their disability, but one of the rules of the Competition is that they must all play in wheel-chairs.

MODIFIED LAWS

The Laws of the game have been modified slightly and the "old hands" warned me of the traps I might fall into if I didn't take care. I did not realise how carefully I kept my eye on the ball, even when it went out of play, until I started umpiring at Stoke Mandeville. Because the players cannot retrieve the ball, they start off with a few balls in their laps, and immediately one point is completed they pick up another ball to serve again.

The unwary umpire can easily miss a service while waiting for the return of the ball used for the previous point!

Another difficulty I found is that in doubles, these players do not have to take alternate shots. It would obviously be impracticable to expect a player in a wheel-chair to get out of the way so that his partner can take the shot.

The only other modifications, that the service is a let if it goes over the

side-line and that if the ball comes into contact with a player's bat outside the edge of the table it shall not be deemed a volley, were fairly easy to apply.

The Table Tennis Competition ran very smoothly, mainly due to the marvellous organisation on the part of the staff of Stoke Mandeville Hospital. I would like to pay tribute to these organisers as it is not easy to run competitions concurrently when players are competing in two or three sports in different parts of the grounds.

They did a marvellous job and personally I was amazed that despite the weather and all the other difficulties everything finished in time.

Even the weather was eventually brought under control, and Dr. Guttman had his final "wheel past" in brilliant sunshine.

THE "PARALYMPICS"

The National Games were of particular importance this year. The Olympic Games were to be held in Rome, the "Paralympics" should also be held there. This is the first occasion that these International Games have been held abroad, and there was great rivalry to qualify as part of the team to take the trip.

On completion of the National Games, 51 competitors were chosen to represent Great Britain in Rome, and they came back with 21 Gold, 15 Silver and 18 Bronze Medals. Not a bad haul, and a far better record



MARION EDWARDS

than that of their physically fit predecessors.

TWO FOR TOM

So far as table tennis is concerned, the players brought back 3 Gold, 1 Silver and 5 Bronze Medals. Tom Taylor won a Gold for the Class "A" Men's Singles (those with the greatest degree of disability) and with Michael Beck won the Class "A" Men's Doubles. Michael also gained a Bronze in the Singles.

One of our girls, Barbara Anderson, won the other Gold Medal in the Class "A" Women's Singles. Di Gubbins won a Bronze in the Class "C" Women's Singles and with Marion Edwards won a Silver in the Doubles.

The other three Bronze Medals were all won in Doubles events and went to Sue Masham and Eileen Froggart (Class "B" Women's), Ron Foster and Dudley Phillips (Class "B" Men's), and "Ginger" Swindlehurst, once again with Dudley Phillips (Class "C" Men's).

Well done, all of you, and I hope to see you win even more top places when the International Games are held—this time back at Stoke Mandeville—in the summer.

£5,000 Could Be Yours

HELP to send England's team to the World Table Tennis Championships in Peking next April, help your league financially and perhaps help yourself to £5,000.

That's the tempting bait of the latest Fund Raising Scheme of the English Table Tennis Association Supporters' Club.

The new competition, details of which have already been circulated to leagues and clubs, carries Premium Bond Prizes of £100, £50, £20 and £10 with many consolations at £1.

And if you could win one of these bond prizes, even the consolation, and "Ernie" decided to be extra kind to you, then there is the chance of that five-thousand.

The scheme came into operation in October and will continue to February, with the winners being announced in March.

Early reports are that it is already catching on in a big way.

The success or failure of this latest venture rests with the Leagues, and providing they give it wholehearted support there need be no mention of failure.

How does this help the Leagues? Simply that the Funds raised will be divided between the E.T.T.A. and the Leagues, in proportion to their support.

A large League of say 400 clubs could possibly enrich themselves to the tune of £1,000.

Further details are available from Jack Ashley, Chief Organiser, at 29, Lawrence Hill, Bristol 5.



TOM TAYLOR and MICHAEL BECK

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

NEW CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FOR EUROPE

By NANCY EVANS

A CLUB team championship of Europe may be the next step to boost international table tennis.

A proposal to this effect was put forward by Germany at Zagreb last April and comes up for discussion when the European Table Tennis Union meets in Vienna on November 6.

A broad outline is that the Europe Trophy should be contested by men's and women's teams on alternate years. To cut down travelling costs the proposal is for countries to be divided into four groups, the winners of which to play off for the trophy.

Originally the idea was for the new competition to get under way this season—some countries have already sent in entries—but there are so many points to be clarified that this now seems unlikely.

The financial aspect is naturally a big problem, so the whole project must be given a lot of thought before it can be successfully launched.

There is nothing definite as to how many clubs can be allowed per country and means have got to be found of deciding who would be the strongest clubs for the purpose of seeding.

Then on a more local aspect there would be the problem of deciding which clubs should go forward to represent their countries.

Undoubtedly this could be a good thing for the sport, and I have no doubt that it will eventually come into being.

Incidentally Sweden are to be hosts for the next European Championships in 1962, and England have the first option and Wales the second for the 1964 meeting.

Mrs. Nancy Roy Evans, of Cardiff, is the new General Secretary of the European Union. The other officers are: President: Josef Vandurek (Czechoslovakia), Vice - President: Jupp Schlaf (Germany—D.T.T.B.). The Committee is: Dr. G. Lakatos (Hungary), P. J. Scheffer (Netherlands), Franz Linhart (Austria), Jean Mercier (France), S. Vajler (Yugoslavia) and (co-opted) A. Eriksson (Sweden).

land's perhaps not so bad, placings in the European team rankings.

Hungary top both lists.

Men: 1 HUNGARY, 2 SWEDEN, joint 3 CZECHOSLOVAKIA and ENGLAND, joint 5 YUGOSLAVIA, RUMANIA, GERMANY (WEST), joint 8 POLAND, GERMANY (EAST), AUSTRIA, 11 BULGARIA, joint 12 U.S.S.R., DENMARK, joint 14 BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND.

Women: 1 HUNGARY, 2 ENGLAND, joint 3 CZECHOSLOVAKIA, RUMANIA, joint 5 NETHERLANDS, U.S.S.R., GERMANY (EAST) GERMANY (WEST), 9 POLAND, joint 10 BULGARIA, YUGOSLAVIA, 12 SWEDEN, 13 FRANCE.

European Rankings

SECOND place among the women and joint third with Czechoslovakia among the men. That is Eng-

Canadian Debut

JOYCE OWENS, former Irish international who now lives in Canada, played a big part in helping her new country to beat the U.S.A. 6-5 in a women's international at Toronto on September 9 and 10.



JOYCE OWENS

Of her three singles matches she lost only to Lea Neuberger.

The American men and juniors made up for this defeat by winning their matches against Canada also in Toronto on the same dates.

RESULTS

Men: U.S.A. bt Canada 6-1. (Individual scores, U.S.A. names first.) Schiff bt Schultz —17, 17, 18; bt Marinko 18, 15; Vegh bt Gvildys 15, 24; Lippai bt Marinko 18, 13; lost to Poulin 10, —20, —16. Burns bt Schultz 16, —11, 15.

Schiff/Burns bt Schultz/Poulin 17, 13.
Women: Canada bt U.S.A. 6-5. (Canadian names first.) Owens bt Chaimson 6, 13; bt Lescares —19, 9, 7; lost to Neuberger —20, —15; Gadanyi bt Buell —16, 14, 15; lost to Neuberger —14, —12; lost to Chaimson —15, —12; Marinko bt Neuberger 19, —15, 15; bt Chaimson 18, 17; bt Lescares —19, 13, 7.

Owens/Gadanyi lost to Neuberger/Lescares 19, 19; Marinko/Aminis lost to Neuberger/Chaimson —14, 19, 10.

Juniors: U.S.A. bt Canada 3-1 (U.S.A. names first). Goldstein bt Sikols 13, 12; bt German 7, 8; Hebson lost to German —21, 16, —18.

Hobson/Goldstein bt German/Sikols 13, 18.

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JAPAN TOO STRONG

EUROPEAN prospects at the World Championships in Peking in April are not encouraging, judging by the six weeks summer tour of Japan by a joint Hungarian-Yugoslavian team.

Although the team consisted of Zoltan Berczik, Ferenc Sido, Vilim Harangozo and Josip Vogrinc, Japan thrashed them 7-3, 9-1, 8-2, 8-2 in the four official internationals.

Of the other 12 friendly matches played, the Europeans won only two.

The record of individual matches for the visitors was: Singles: won 30, lost 68. Doubles: won 15, lost 19.

Only Sido came out of the tour with any real credit. He won 15 of his 29 singles and with Berczik won 10 of their 18 doubles.

Berczik, who is of course European champion, won only five singles and lost 18. One of his victories was at the expense of former world champion Ogimura in their first match. It was the only defeat suffered by Ogimura who then went on to mark up 21 wins.

Unbeaten

Murakami had an unbeaten record of 18 wins for the Japanese.

In assessing Sido's results it must be pointed out that he lost five times each to Ogimura and Murakami and twice to Hoshino, his wins coming against lesser players.

The failure of the Europeans must

have been a big disappointment to the Japanese fans who were seeing Berczik, Sido, Harangozo and Vogrinc for the first time. Yet these players had given Japan some of their toughest matches in the Swaythling Cup.

It seems clear that the Japanese have learned to tackle the flat defensive strokes of their opponents.

New Stroke

One Japanese observer notes that, while all played with rackets that conform to the new rule, most of the Japanese players developed and exploited a new type of stroke that seemed specially troublesome to the Europeans.

It was a so-called loop-drive, "Produced by a swing sliced from low to the right upwards, that curves over the net like a lob, bounds fast and far after touching the table".

Towards the end of the tour, Berczik gave up defending against these tactics and tried to counter-attack by developing this loop-drive himself.

It is noteworthy in respect of Sido's relative success, that he—like Andreadis another of the few Europeans often able to play on even terms with the Japanese—makes use of attacking strokes in both backhand and forehand.

In the old day's (1920's and earlier), when the penholder grip was common

in Europe a two winged attack was thought indispensable against it.

It is curious that while none of the Europeans seemed to be able to cope with the Japanese attack by defence alone, Shibutani, least successful of the home players (won seven; lost eight) is a "shake-hands" grip defensive player who not only troubles the Japanese penholder attackers but won the national title against them!

It would appear that Europeans must drastically review their tactics if they are ever to break the Japanese supremacy.

SUCCESSFUL RETURN

HELEN ELLIOT, making her first major tournament appearance since retiring two years ago, won two titles in the Scottish "Closed" Championships in Glasgow on October 16.

Showing much of the old form, which made her one of the most feared women in Europe, Miss Elliot cruised through the singles, beating Mrs. O. Hawkins, of Glasgow, 21-7, 21-9 in the final, and



HELEN ELLIOT

then won the women's doubles in partnership with Miss M. Julias.

Ian Barclay won the men's singles title beating Bertie Kerr by 21-13, 21-15.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: I. BARCLAY bt T. McMichael 21-14, 12-21, 21-19; R. KBERR bt T. Gilmour 21-14, 19-21, 21-14.

Final: BARCLAY bt Kerr 21-13, 21-15.

Women's Singles: Final: H. ELLIOT bt Mrs. O. Hawkins 21-7, 21-9.

Men's Doubles: Final: GILMOUR/MICHAEL bt Kerr/McMillan 21-18, 21-17.

Women's Doubles: Final: ELLIOT/M. JULIAS bt E. McOnville/M. Terras 21-16, 21-18.

Boys' Singles: Final: J. DAW bt E. Tough 21-9, 21-13.

Girls' Singles: Final: JULIAS bt D. Donaldson 28-26, 21-13.

Helen Houlston, who paired with Miss Elliot to gain many international doubles successes, has formed another partnership. On October 22 she married Allan Nicholls, who plays table tennis for the Edinburgh City Police.

J. D. More.

ASTONISHING VETERAN

By GYORGY FERENC

ONE of the most interesting and astonishing figures in the world of table tennis is undoubtedly Laszlo Varkonyi, of Hungary.

This 52-year-old "youngster," whose power-play is still equal to that of most first-class players, competes in the Hungarian National Team Championships and rarely loses a match.

Eleven years ago, Varkonyi won the singles title in an international competition in Goteborg from an entry which included Sido, Koczian, Soos, Andreadis and Miles.

"Since then," said Laci, "I have naturally learned something and because it is well-known that sport makes us strong, I have grown stronger, too."

Laci's son played not long ago in the first-class matches. However, I must admit, that Laci won more matches than young Varkonyi

Together, the father and son partnership won a big Hungarian doubles competition, but it was again "Dad" who secured the deciding points.

"Why doesn't your son still play in the first class?" I asked Laszlo.

"He is already 28. He grew old," was the reply.

"And how much longer will you be playing?" was my next question.

"Only 20 years. Alas, my son grew old as I told you. I must wait for my grandson. I'll play with him in the doubles."

"In the first class of the National Championship, you mean," I said jokingly.

"Of course."

He did not smile, and the earnest determination in his eyes warned me not to grin either.

DOWN UNDERFrom **CLEM GRUBER****AUSTRIAN TAKES AUSTRALIAN TITLES**

THE Australian National Championships at the Albert Park Centre, Melbourne, September 5-9, with the most colourful entry on record, brought a change of title holders in all senior events except the women's singles.

Victor Hirsch, the Austrian champion, who arrived in Australia only five weeks earlier, waltzed through the men's singles without loss of a game.

After easily accounting for Tasker (N.S.W.) and Sanders (Victoria), he annihilated State-coach K. Javor 8, 17, 9, and in the semi-final trounced defending champion Cliff McDonald (N.S.W.) 14, 16, 13.

Although Geoff Jennings (N.S.W.) put up a good fight in the final, he was no match for Hirsch's brilliant hitting and went down 11, 20, 18.

Suzy Javor won the women's title for the third successive time beating Norma Buckland in the final 10, 13, 3.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

Men's Singles: V. HIRSCH (Vic.) bt G. Jennings (N.S.W.) 21-11, 22-20, 21-18.

Women's Singles: S. JAVOR (Vic.) bt N. Buckland (Vic.) 21-10, 21-13, 21-3.

Men's Doubles: D. SPECHT/M. THOMSON (S.A.) bt J. Hibbell/S. Morgan (S.A.) 21-16, 24-22, 11-21, 21-15.

Women's Doubles: S. JAVOR/L. COHEN (Vic.) bt L. Murphy/J. Stanaway (Q'land.) 21-13, 21-13, 21-19.

Mixed Doubles: G. STIRLING/Miss COHEN (Vic.) bt J. Marton/Mrs. Javor (Vic.) 14-21, 21-17, 21-19, 14-21, 21-14.

Boys' Singles: M. WILCOX (N.S.W.) bt S. Morgan (S.A.) 15-21, 21-12, 21-15.

Girls' Singles: L. MURPHY (Q'land.) bt P. Rynne (Q'land) 21-14, 11-21, 21-15.

Team Championships: Men: 1, Victoria; 2, N.S.W.; 3, Queensland. Women: 1, Victoria; 2, Queensland; 3, N.S.W.

In the Australian Rankings McDonald lost his No. 1 spot to Jennings, but Mrs. Javor still leads the women.

RANKINGS

Men: 1, G. JENNINGS (N.S.W.); 2, C. McDONALD (N.S.W.); 3, R. LIM (Vic.); 4, M. WILCOX (N.S.W.); 5, J. MARTON (Vic.); 6, K. JAVOR (Vic.); 7, M. THOMSON (S.A.); 8, R. BOND (Q'land.); 9, S. MORGAN (S.A.); 10, P. ANDERSON (W.A.).

Women: 1, S. JAVOR (Vic.); 2, L. COHEN (Vic.); 3, N. BUCKLAND (Vic.); 4, L. MURPHY (Q'land); 5, M. RALPH (N.S.W.); 6, M. LINDSAY (N.S.W.); 7, L. PROWSE (Vic.); 8, A. O'BRIEN (Vic.); 9, E. MATTHEWS (N.S.W.); 10, J. STANAWAY (Q'land).



Margaret Lindsay, formerly of Bath, is already figuring prominently in Australia and is No. 6 in their National Rankings

Australia, represented by Suzy Javor and Leone Murphy, failed to win a game, and were beaten 5-0 in the women's test matches against Japan at Sydney and Melbourne. Perhaps this was not too surprising for the Japanese team consisted of Kimiyou Matsuzaki, the world champion, and Kazuko Yamaizumi, the world doubles champion.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE NOTES

ONCE again the Cambridgeshire League has attracted a large entry and in all 60 teams will compete in the six divisions.

The newcomers to the League are Civil Service, Northern Assurance, Coleridge Youth and Harston Youth.

New Chesterton, who "field" the same team as last season, are again favourites for the championship with Wesley and Press as their main challengers.

There may be one or two new faces in this season's Wilmott Cup team. John Thurston, Chris Reeve and Reg Dean are available but Keith Chapman and John Cornwell are doubtful starters.

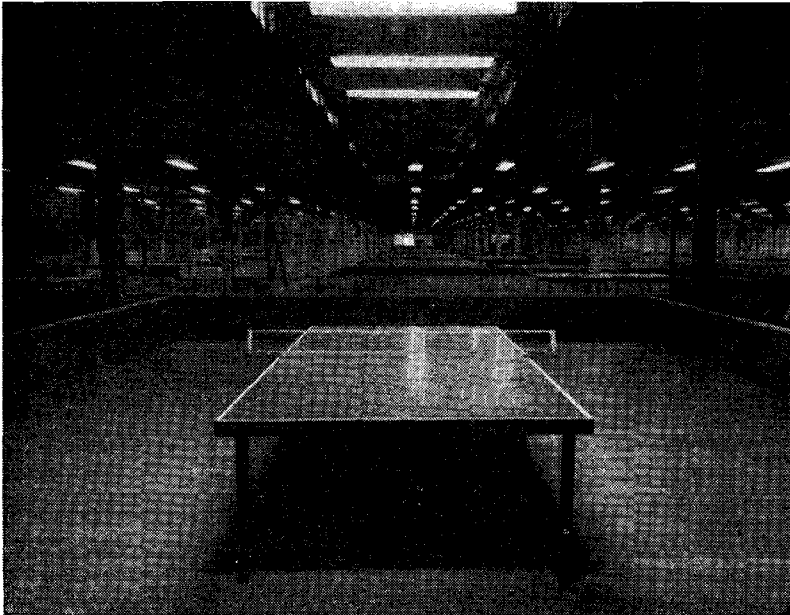
The Women's team will be strengthened by Beryl (Speechley) Sebley, who joins forces with Margaret Cornwell, Avis Pauley, Heather Mitchell and Avril (Tarvill) Dring.

Two heartening facts which have recently emerged in Cambridgeshire are the increase of Umpires and the interest shown in the league by more village teams.

Leslie Constable

SWEDEN WIN

Sweden beat Yugoslavia 5-4 in the final of the International Club Tournament in Duisberg. Ten countries took part.



Interior of the vast Melbourne Table Tennis Centre. More than 40 tables are available

Editor's Postbag . . .

Disagreement

I DISAGREE with the statement made in the October issue that matches in the forthcoming U.S.S.R. tour "have been spread out over the country so that all areas can get a chance to see them".

Over the past few years my friends and I have willingly travelled to Slough and Tottenham for similar events and surely the attendances at these venues warranted a further booking. As it is we will be unable to see any of the matches.

DONALD ASKEW
(Luton).

Praise

I must compliment you on an excellent magazine. I started to read TABLE TENNIS only last year but have enjoyed each addition so much that I am sure I will be a regular reader for many years to come.

E. S. KEEN
(South Yardley).

Criticism

The blatant disregard of foreign news, especially Japanese, Chinese and Hungarian, in the magazine is making me think twice before I renew my annual subscription.

I am not interested in mediocre British table tennis and I'm quite sure its pre-eminence in your magazine does the game a lot of harm.

BERNARD BLANO
(Westcliff-on-Sea).

Carelessness

ARE table tennis players becoming careless?

On September 14 I had a request

Open All Summer PUTNEY INTERNATIONAL T.T.C.

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HARRY VENNER
86 GARSFELD ROAD, BALHAM,
LONDON, S.W.12

for Essex "Open" entry form from a player living in Middlesex—yet the finals had been held three days earlier.

Then on October 11 I had two entries (with remittances) from Berkshire. Although their Essex entries were received before October 13, as specified on the form, they had mistaken the year, which read 1959.

HARRY SPRAGGE
(Essex Hon. Tournament
Secretary 1959 and 1960).

The Clown Prince

AT last I can hold my head high . . . at last I can scorn the sneers of my nearest and dearest . . . for in the October issue of "Ping" Conrad



"I'm not eccentric" IVOR JONES appears to have forgotten something

Jaschke has scotched the malicious rumours that have been circulating the clubs to the effect that I am an English international.

The main reason I write to you, however, is to deny the charge of eccentricity and I enclose a photograph to prove my point.

I have taken this measure because I am making what I laughingly call a "come-back" and would not want to give my detractors valuable ammunition.

IVOR JONES (Essex).

Attackers Needed

Jack Carrington, Director of Coaching, answers last month's letter from R. Greensmith.

I THINK the majority of students of the game agree that good attackers are needed, Mr. Greensmith. It is very rare indeed, but it does happen occasionally of course, that a pupil asks to be initiated in the arts of a purely defensive game.

Our experience is that the character of a player who is willing to accept coaching is usually a fairly enterprising one, interested enough to want to know what is on the next page, so to speak.

As for the Coaches, almost all of them are so in love with table tennis that they always want to teach it as a whole game, expounding all departments equally. Coaches are often compelled to nag players into taking the openings which are so obviously there, so the choice of "defence only" is almost certainly a personal choice of the player at some stage of his development.

Of course, very frequently a Coach has to tell a youngster not to take the opening which obviously isn't there, so the youngster may say "my Coach tells me not to hit."

Our basic coaching is aimed at equipping a player to see the openings in advance, and to be fast enough and well-balanced enough, to exploit them. On balance I would think that Coaches do favour the attacking prospect—it is more usually the captain of his team, or indeed his team-mates who nag him into not-hitting at a vital stage.

But these people who are affected in this way by captains and colleagues, surely have not the characters to make their mark in the international field.

Looking around our junior boys, who I feel are quite good this season, I do not see many defenders. Will the stress of match play take away their dashing spirit in due course? We, as E.T.T.A., will encourage them to show enterprise, but in the long run it is just a matter of personality.

The Bishopsgate Table Tennis Club 230 Bishopsgate, E.C.2

has a few vacancies for this season. The Club meets at 6.15 p.m. every Monday and Friday.

Write to the Hon. Secretary,

H. A. Packett,
10, Marloes Road, Kensington, W.8.

JACK CARRINGTON'S NOTEBOOK

HIDDEN TALENT

THAT frequently-used phrase "backwaters of sport" should not be used in Table Tennis, but I certainly found some real backwaters in that flooded first week-end of October.

My travels took me from Bognor through low-lying Havant, to Taunton and Chard in Somerset. It meant some soakings, but the Coaching meeting at Taunton Y.M.C.A. was enough to warm anyone's heart.

Some 31 enthusiasts gathered from Taunton and the surrounding villages for a two-day course, organised by Mr. R. Murch.

One of my pleasant duties was to declare open the New Table Tennis Room and I did so by delivering a special "googly" service to the oldest playing member Mr. Wesley Homer. My veteran friend promptly whipped it straight past me, using the "old-fashioned" penholder grip.

Recalling how easily the Chinese return their compatriots' twisting services with the relaxed, dropped penholder style, I thought how the coach these days must be alive to the new-old ideas.

Witness Stan Jacobson's exploitation of the new-old loop-drive technique. He has no doubt heard that the Japanese have adopted this most seriously.

The Japanese are probably imparting a stronger degree of top-spin to their shots and it may well be the death-knell of many defenders . . . for the time being at any rate.

However, that subject will be fully discussed as a separate article shortly.

Another "old" friend making a welcome appearance at Taunton was Mrs. Adele Pettifer, who as Miss Wood of Lancashire was our youngest Corbillon Cup international.

Still in her early twenties, Adele's personality and natural grace of movement make her a prize for the coaching team down Taunton and Bridgwater way and I urge the young local girls not to let her out of their sight.

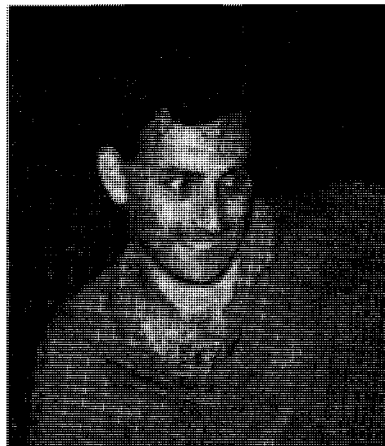
Navy Joins In

Two days after Taunton I staged an instructional afternoon at H.M.S. Collingwood, the Royal Navy establishment near Fareham. Cynics predicted this would be a parade of "defaulters and sick", but a lively contingent of ratings, cadets and officers (to reverse the usual order of precedence) turned up and there was a lot of good-natured barracking of the guinea pig pupils.

A special squad, described as the "Top Six" turned out and proved to be 15 strong. Among them was the Royal Navy Lawn Tennis champion Lieut. David Hawkswell.

Officer in charge of Sport at Collingwood is Cdr. G. G. Tordoff, who has captained the Somerset County cricket team, and I also had occasion to meet H. W. Stephenson, when safely delivering 15-year-old Pamela Stephenson to her Taunton home after the *News of the World* Bognor festival.

Table Tennis still suffers a little from not being fashionable among followers of the major sports, but I



STAN JACOBSON

found both these experts of the large bat, sympathetic to our efforts.

Among other places I have visited since last reporting are Falmouth, Huntingdon, Letchworth, Leighton Buzzard, Ramsgate, Newcastle, Sunderland, Middlesbrough and Doncaster.

It is surprising how remote areas often hide youngsters, who have almost every quality, except experience, to make the international grade. And I make such judgements only when confirmed by colleagues of experience.

But too frequently, possibly on the ground of expense, many of these youngsters have little thought to the possibilities outside their home towns. Yet often I find that there is a club, league or local paper or just a staunch older member willing to help when they know what the lad or lass needs to get to a higher class.

What is being done about firing the interest of youngsters of school age? There are some excellent school com-

petitions and coaching arrangements in some places but not others. It seems mainly a question of an adult having the time and enthusiasm to establish a knot of youngsters for after school hours.

A classic example of this is the Crescent Club, run by Jimmy Mannooch, the Kent secretary at Sittingbourne.

Jimmy is retired, and two or three afternoons a week you will find him running his splendid group of nearly 100.

The Crescent Club has developed to the point where they stage an invitation Tournament of almost international renown and their party for the Kent Junior "Open" fills a 30-seater bus.

Everything has to start small so how about some stay-at-home Mums, having a chat with the headmaster on the lines of an after hours club?

Note for worried schoolmasters . . . the Crescent Club has its own "Homework Room".

Young Enthusiast

During my visit to Leighton Buzzard, I greatly admired the keenness of 9-year-old Paul Harmer. Mr. and Mrs. Harmer and 16-year-old Hugh are all keen players, and Paul was included in their team, the Pelicans, in the local League.

Apparently promotion prospects were not bright enough for Paul, who asked, and received, authority to form his own league team. He is the secretary and treasurer, but it was thought best to allow 14-year-old Tim Skevington to be the captain, because of his experience!

The boys pay their own subscription and hire their room for matches, but practice takes place (almost continuously) in Mr. Harmer's garage.

Mrs. Harmer still has her place in the scheme of things of course, when "Labrador" badges need embroidering, or sandwiches have to be provided.

For my session at Brooklands Secondary Modern School, which is about 800 yards from the Harmer house, the youngsters decided that an extra table would be helpful, and between them, the team carried the table carefully over and set it up.

This was a noble effort by such young lads, and shows that excellent spirit of co-operation which symbolises Table Tennis as a sport. In the circumstances it is perhaps a pity

Continued on Page 13

THE NATIONAL CUPS

MANCHESTER SEEK FOURTH WIN

ENTRIES for the **Wilmott Cup** and **J. M. Rose Bowl** National Inter-League Competitions, which have now got under way, show a slight decrease on last season.

Manchester have 80 challengers against 86 last season for the Wilmott Cup while there is a drop of two with 61 entries for the Rose Bowl, being defended by London Business Houses.

Manchester, who have now won the men's cup for the past three years, will be in a strong position to retain the trophy with Jeff Ingber as their spearhead.

Their chief opposition is likely to come from Cheltenham, last year's runners-up, who can call on Ian Harrison, the English champion.

London Civil Service and East London should both go far.

Birmingham, whose run of five successive wins in the Rose Bowl, was ended last season by London Business Houses, expect to be strengthened by the return of Pam Mortimer, but for a real chance of regaining the title,

they would also need Ann Haydon, whose table tennis future is still in the air.

L.B.H., providing they can still call on Diane Rowe and Margaret Fry, will take a lot of beating, but surprise runners-up last season, St. Albans, must not be overlooked.

The first round was due to be completed by October 30, the second by November 27, the third by December 25, Zone finals by January 22, Quarter-finals by February 12, and semi-finals by February 28, with the Finals being staged by agreement at a later date.

J.M. ROSE BOWL
(Draw for First Round)

To be played by 30th October, 1960

- ZONE 1**
Sheffield bye, Leeds v Huddersfield, Grimsby v Halifax, Northumberland bye.
- ZONE 2**
Chester bye, Oldham v Blackpool, Manchester v Burnley, Liverpool bye.
- ZONE 3(A)**
Kettering v Leicester, Birmingham bye.
- ZONE 3(B)**
Norwich bye, Wisbech v Great Yarmouth, Kings Lynn v Cambridge, Ipswich bye.
- ZONE 4**
Watford v Aylesbury, Stevenage v Letchworth, Bedford v St. Albans, Luton v Harlow.
- ZONE 5(A)**
London Business Houses, Croydon byes, Willesden v East London, London Civil Service bye.
- ZONE 5(B)**
Dagenham, Bromley byes, Leatherhead v Woolwich, Beckenham bye.
- ZONE 6(A)**
Sutton, North Middlesex byes, London Banks v Romford, Wembley bye.
- ZONE 6(B)**
South West Middlesex v North West Kent, Basildon v Southend.
- ZONE 7**
Portsmouth, Southampton byes, Crawley v Bognor, Worthing bye.

- ZONE 8(A)**
Staines bye, Newbury v Oxford, Slough v Maidenhead, Reading bye.
- ZONE 8(B)**
Bristol v Gloucester, Cheltenham bye.

WILMOTT CUP
(Draw for First Round)

To be played by 30th October, 1960

- ZONE 1(A)**
Halifax, Leeds byes, York v Northumberland, Bradford bye.
- ZONE 1(B)**
Doncaster bye, Sheffield v Grimsby, Lincoln v Chesterfield bye.
- ZONE 2**
Liverpool v Oldham, Blackpool v Manchester, Mid Cheshire v Burnley, Chester bye.
- ZONE 3(A)**
Birmingham, Kettering byes, Potteries v Leamington, Leicester bye.
- ZONE 3(B)**
Wisbech, Norwich byes, Kings Lynn v Great Yarmouth, Ipswich bye.
- ZONE 4**
St. Albans v Aylesbury, Bedford v Watford, Stevenage v Buckingham, Letchworth v Luton.
- ZONE 5(A)**
Sutton bye, Basildon v London Banks, London Business Houses v Croydon, North West Kent bye.
- ZONE 5(B)**
Wembley bye, Willesden v Wandsworth, London Civil Service v Dagenham, North Middlesex bye.
- ZONE 6(A)**
Romford bye, South London v Woolwich, South West Middlesex v Crawley, NALGO bye.
- ZONE 6(B)**
Bromley v Travel Trades, Southend v London University, East London v Beckenham, Leatherhead bye.
- ZONE 7**
Portsmouth v Brighton, Southampton v Bognor, Eastbourne v Worthing, Winchester bye.
- ZONE 8(A)**
Newbury v Staines, Chalfonts v Maidenhead, Oxford University v Reading, Slough v Oxford.
- ZONE 8(B)**
Plymouth v Gloucester, Cheltenham v Bristol.

CARRINGTON NOTEBOOK

Continued from Page 12

that historical truth compels me to report that the Labradors were rather tired after the coaching, and sloped off to their "kennels," leaving the girls' squad to take the table home again!

Readers of this Notebook will have realised that I do get around to many places in the course of my E.T.T.A. duties. It is the National Executive's wish, and my pleasure, to lend a hand to any of our organisations who want to foster new membership and perhaps also fan the old flames a little, by any form of instructional or leadership activity.

My itineraries are too complicated to be fully printed in advance, but I find that I can usually make contact before very long with any interested enquirer. So do not hesitate to write for information.

The C.C.P.R. Christmas Course at Lilleshall is now practically booked up, but a quick application might still find a place. Period: December 28, 1960 (evening) to January 1, 1961 (morning). Cost: £5 10s. 0d. inclusive of board-residence. Apply to C.C.P.R. 6 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

Promising Pupils' Squad: We may be able to include one, perhaps two more junior boys of good standard, in the special E.T.T.A. squad on this course. Apply as above.

WILLESDEN SEEK RECORD

WILLESDEN, winners for the past three years will be out for an all-time record when the Middlesex Inter-League competition gets under way shortly. With Laurie Landry and Stanley Jacobson as well as the youngsters, Brian Wright and David Offenbach in reserve, they will start firm favourites. The Middlesex Inter-Schools competition introduced two years ago is again being held this season and entries are already rolling in.

The Middlesex "Open" takes place at Hanwell Community Centre on December 10 and 11. Entry forms can be obtained from **Geoff James, 19, St. Ann's Villas, W.1.** The "closed" championships are being held over until March 4-5 at Ultras Ltd., N.W.10.

The future looks bright for Middlesex with the inclusion of three boys in the English Junior Ranking list, **Brian Wright** (equal 2), **Nigel Ivo** (5) and

David Offenbach (equal 7). Not so bright on the girls side though . . . no one at the trials. It appears there is no one yet ready to follow in the footsteps of Jean Harrower.

Shock for Middlesex in the County Championship . . . they were held to a 5-5 draw by newly-promoted Kent. This followed the day after Middlesex had thrashed Cheshire 10-0.

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**

TWENTY THOUSAND YOUNGSTERS

by FRANK BUTLER
Sports Editor "News of the World"

TWENTY-THOUSAND youngsters can't be wrong. That's why the *News of the World* coaching scheme, which attracted this vast entry, is the greatest event of its kind in table tennis.

At Butlin's Camp from May until September boys and girls—many introduced to the game for the first time—went through weekly siftings under the expert guidance of coaches with nearly 150 qualifying for the final festival at Bognor.

There, Lesley Bell, 14, from Romford, and Chester Barnes, 13, from Forest Gate, were picked out as the "Boy and Girl of the Year".

They received their trophies from Sir William Carr, Chairman of the *News of the World*, and Mr. Billy Butlin at a most spectacular presentation in the Camp Theatre.

Pause while we capture the scene. The curtain lifts to reveal Johnny Leach, organiser-in-chief, and his six

coaches Ian Harrison (Clacton), George Muranyi (Bognor), Helen Elliot (Ayr), Diane Rowe (Filey), Louis Kerekes (Skegness) and Bryan Merrett (Pwllheli).

A brief introduction then a turntable of Palladium proportion slowly swings round for the colourful scene of the finalists all in their track suits. The coaches come round to take their places and on to the stage come Sir William and Mr. Butlin.

Hushed Expectancy

Everything is now set and an air of hushed expectancy awaits the announcement of the winners. Then some 1,500 spectators burst into a crescendo of applause as tiny bespectacled Lesley Bell, and equally small crew-cut Chester Barnes make their excited way to the front to receive their awards.

It was a most moving ceremony with all the best theatre traditions of presentation behind it.

To be picked out from twenty-thousand as having the greatest potential in the sport is no mean

achievement and it is mere coincidence that both these stars of the future should hail from Essex.

Blonde, pony-tailed Lesley was already well-known before the coaching started, for as the daughter of Mrs. Brenda Bell, reigning English veteran champion, she has been brought up in a table tennis atmosphere.

Last season, after a shock win over the then reigning champion Jean Harrower, she reached the final of the English junior championship, to be narrowly beaten by international Mary Shannon.

This in no way influenced her choice as "Girl of the Year".

Background means nothing in this great scheme; all are marked on a points system and Lesley came out on top with 129 in competition with such junior internationals as Judy Williams and Alma Taft.

To counteract the difference in ages six bonus points are awarded for every year a competitor is under the age of 17. Yet, despite her 18 bonus points, Lesley would still have been the winner.

It was, however, the 24 bonus

points he received that edged Chester Barnes to the Boys Trophy, with a total of 126.

He is not so well known, and can claim to be a *News of the World* discovery for it was at Clacton in 1958 that he first caught the eye of Harry Venner. Chester now attends the Putney International Club which is run by Venner.

Commented Johnny Leach at the end of the festival, "There was so little to choose between these youngsters that it was a difficult task picking the two winners. But I don't think there can be any disagreement with the ultimate choice."

Close to winning the peak awards were a brother and sister, Peter (13) and Judy (16) Williams of Hatfield. They received runners-up mementoes along with Patricia Dainty (13), of Doncaster, Lesley Proudlock (15) of Sheffield, Cynthia Blackshaw (17) of Doncaster, Colin Cadwallader (16) of Birmingham, Brian Hill (16) of Boston and Maurice Billington (16) of Leamington Spa.

All these and many more besides are the names that will figure prominently in table tennis in the next few years.

This is the sixth year of the *News of the World* coaching scheme and it has grown in status with each succeeding year.

Bognor was added to the list of Butlin's Camps this season and plans are afoot to extend it even further

next year by bringing in the Butlin's Hotels.

So look for an even bigger search for talent to assure the future of British Table Tennis.

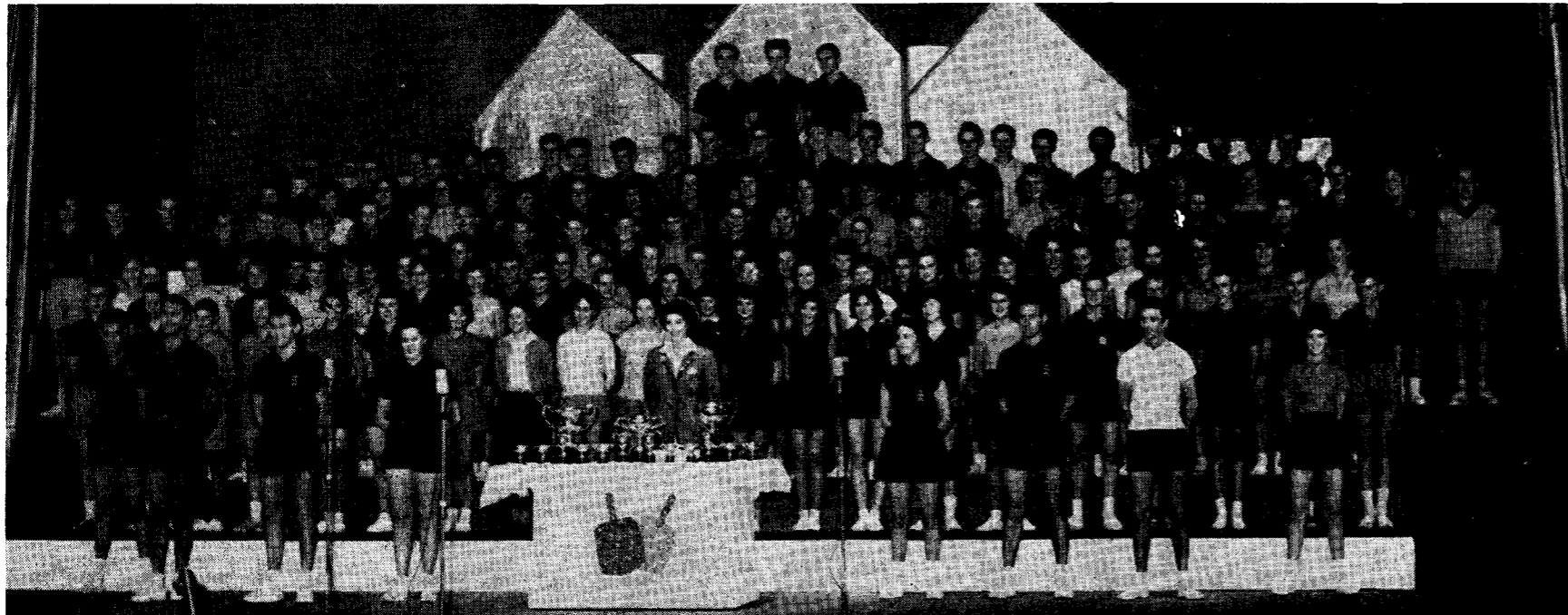
In addition to the coaching scheme there was also the Coach and Pupil Challenge Cup. Each of the six coaches chose a pupil of the opposite sex and played off an Inter-Camp

League, with Pwllheli, represented by Bryan Merrett and Judy Williams going through unbeaten to win the trophy.

In the past two years of the competition Diane Rowe had been the successful coach, but this time with Peter Duncombe, of Doncaster, found Pwllheli just too strong and finished runners-up.



Johnny Leach and the coaches, Ian Harrison (Clacton), George Muranyi (Bognor), Helen Elliot (Ayr), Diane Rowe (Filey), Louis Kerekes (Skegness) and Bryan Merrett (Pwllheli) on parade



The impressive scene as the coaches and nearly 150 finalists await the announcement of the Boy and Girl of the Year



Bryan Merrett and Judy Williams received the "Coach and Pupil" Trophy from Sir William Carr, and Mr. Billy Butlin

THE RUSSIAN TOUR

by **GEOFF HARROWER**

(with the co-operation of **RON CRAYDEN** and **LEN ADAMS**)

FROM October 17 to 22, a small party of Russian Table Tennis players and officials came to England, played five matches, and returned home with five convincing victories tucked under their belts.

In countless homes inquests have been taking place ever since. Are the Russians world beaters? Are our players the worst ever?

Comments range between these two extremes. The short answer to both questions is "no."

In a space of four to five years the Russians have emerged with a team which can hold its own, or almost so, with the best in Europe, but they still have some way to go to compare with the Asian stars.

Watching their games, there seems little, if anything, to choose between our top men and theirs. The styles of play are similar. What, then, is the difference? Ron Crayden sums it up well when he says that the Russians are more match tight, that they space each game out better—especially their two older players, from Lithuania.

NOTHING TO CHANGE

Additionally, they seem fitter, and, possibly, faster. It goes without saying that the Russians leave nothing to chance on that score. It might even be that this was the essential difference. Or perhaps it was their ability to raise their games at the right moment.

Time and again an England man led by several points, sometimes as many as six to ten points, yet in the end the Russian would win at 21-19 or 22-20. Perhaps it is the fatal

English weakness of playing over-carefully at critical moments.

The Russians play carefully, too, but when the opening comes, wham! With our boys it is a slower hit in a crisis, and of course nine times in ten it comes back.

Whatever the inquests, it cannot be denied that all too few enthusiasts saw the tourists. After a fairly good start, with 950 at Bristol (capacity 1,250), there were only 450 at Birmingham and 1,000 at Belle Vue, Manchester, hardly gave the appearance of a full house.

Teaching them English

Next time the Russians come to England maybe they will be able to talk with our players without the aid of an interpreter.

At any rate, after their final match at Greenwich they were presented with an English Linguaphone Course by the Kent Chairman, Conrad Jaschke.

This is a system of teaching languages by lessons on gramophone record, used in conjunction with specially prepared books.

Jaschke is the export manager of Linguaphone.

Sunderland attracted a 450 capacity house, then on to Greenwich for the final match and only 250, possibly because of the bad weather and 2 p.m. start.

At least for the time being, Table Tennis in big halls is dead in this country; dead in more ways than one.

Not only is it financially unprofitable to hire large halls which are half empty or worse, but the atmosphere is lacking.

It is significant that the only really good match was at Sunderland, where the packed audience saw a thrilling encounter, with every player at his best, reacting to the atmosphere.

Talking to Len Adams during the Greenwich match, I said it was of considerably better quality than at either Bristol or Birmingham. Len was of the opinion that the Sunderland match was several stages above Greenwich!

It would seem that the way to attract back our lost audiences is to play matches in small halls. But you can't make enough money in small halls to pay expenses. So where do we go from there.

What of the Russian players? The best was Aljigimantas Saunoris, a 32-year-old surgeon from Vilnius, capital of Lithuania. The number two is Rima Paschkeavichus, who is a 26-year old fur cutter, also from Lithuania.

ATTACK, ATTACK

The Russians do not believe in defence, and they are currently teaching all their young players to attack, attack, attack.

The first product of this policy we saw in the 18-year-old Gennadi Avarin. Of course, he CAN defend, but you have to watch him a long time to find this out! His comparative inexperience made him more vulnerable than the other two. It must be born in mind, however, that the Russians invariably relaxed as soon as they had won the match. This was particularly so at Birmingham, where the score went from 5-0 to 5-3, and in the final match of the tour, where Paschkeavichus put up only a token show against Merrett.

How are we going to do better? Well, our players need plenty of experience against overseas opposition. Playing amongst themselves is just not good enough. Prior to the tour, we had a confident Ian Harrison carrying all before him against other English players. After an awful night at Bristol, where he lost confidence and lapsed into his unfortunate mannerisms, he seemed to get over this, and by Greenwich played well. Yet the following day, in the Top

Continued on Page 17

DETAILED RESULTS

England 2, Russia 7 (Bristol)

B. Merrett bt G. Avarin 14, 17; lost to A. Saunoris —19, —17; bt R. Paschkeavichus 19, 16.

I. Harrison lost to Paschkeavichus —19, —14; lost to Avarin —18, —17; lost to Saunoris —17, —19.

A. Rhodes lost to Paschkeavichus —20, —16; lost to Saunoris —7, 17, —18; lost to Avarin —13, —18.

England 3, Russia 6 (Birmingham)

Merrett lost to Avarin —19, —20; lost to Saunoris —18, 15, —18; lost to Paschkeavichus —16, —14.

J. Ingber lost to Paschkeavichus —20, —17; bt Saunoris 16, 18; lost to Avarin —18, 17, —14.

Rhodes lost to Saunoris —16, —14; bt Avarin —16, 19, 18; bt Paschkeavichus 11, 20.

England 1, Russia 8 (Manchester)

D. Burridge lost to Saunoris —13, —16; lost to Avarin —11, —14; lost to Paschkeavichus 12, —18, —16.

Harrison lost to Paschkeavichus —15, —18; lost to Saunoris 11, —16, —18; bt Avarin 13, 20.

Ingber lost to Avarin —15, —22; lost to Paschkeavichus —17, —12; lost to Saunoris —16, 19, —18.

England 1, Russia 6 (Sunderland)

Ingber lost to Saunoris 17, —17, —13; lost to Avarin —18, —21.

Burridge lost to Avarin 8, —18, —13; lost to Paschkeavichus 19, —17, —16.

Harrison lost to Paschkeavichus —17, 16, —16; lost to Saunoris —17, —15; bt Avarin 13, 19.

England 3, Russia 6 (Greenwich)

Harrison lost to Paschkeavichus 20, —19, —19; lost to Saunoris 19, —11, —20; bt Avarin 14, 20. Burridge lost to Avarin —18, —19; lost to Saunoris 24, —15, —16;

lost to Paschkeavichus —18, —12; Merrett bt Paschkeavichus 10, 8; bt Avarin —11, 19, 13; lost to Saunoris 14, —13, —12.

Table Tennis in New China

by CHUNG HSIN-HSA

WHEN players from all over the globe gather in Peking next April for the World Championships they can expect an enthusiastic welcome. For China has become a country which numbers its players in millions!

No matter where you travel from the capital to the town and villages table tennis equipment and large numbers of players are to be found in any factory, enterprise, government office, school or people's commune.

To get some idea of the tremendous hold table tennis has gained let us turn back to November, 1959. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League called for

the launching of a table tennis competition campaign on a mass scale.

The immediate result was a high tide of competitions with the numbers of participants ranging from thousands to hundreds of thousands, and in some municipalities and provinces they exceeded a million!

With this vast number of enthusiasts it is not surprising that there are some families in which everyone of the members is a keen player.

In the 1959 competitions at Fukien Province sports meet, there was a quarter-final match between a mother, Ouyang Hsin, and her 15-year-old daughter, Lin Hs-meng. After five fierce games the mother won and was placed fourth in the final rankings with her daughter fifth.

Among the other four members of their family, only grandma and the youngest son are not table tennis enthusiasts. But husband, Lin Hao-jan, is a member of the Fuchow City team, while their 13-year-old son Lin Hsi-yen plays for the city juniors.

Master of Sports, Wang Chuan-yao, also comes from a table tennis playing family. Wang and his sister-in-law Chih Huei-fang are among China's top players.

As a result of extensive development of the game, outstanding players have emerged in large numbers together with rapid progress in the technical standard.

A WORLD CHAMPION

To increase knowledge and learn from the outstanding players of other countries, Chinese players have competed in world championships since 1953.

With each succeeding World meeting China has stepped up the ladder of world ranking until at Dortmund in 1959 Jung Kuo-tuan smashed his way to the coveted singles crown.

And Chinese players won five third places in the other events.

Now as hosts to the World Championships in April China hope to do even better.

To build up their younger players last season China sent an eight-strong "B" team on a European tour. They played in Hungary, Britain and Sweden, registering a number of brilliant victories which caught the eyes of the European circle. Among the players who gave Europe a foretaste of what to expect in Peking were



HU KE-MING

Chuang Tse-tung, Li Fu-young, and Hu ke-ming.

China, taking the opportunity of having the world's top players at Peking, are hoping to arrange several friendly matches, and will look forward to an exchange of experience. And above all they will be watching closely, anxious to pick up all the knowledge they can for the further advancement of their own techniques.

E.T.T.A. BOOKSHOP

The following books and publications can be obtained through the E.T.T.A. office, 652 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London W.C.2.

HOW TO WIN AT TABLE TENNIS by Victor Barna Price 6s.

TABLE TENNIS MY WAY by Johnny Leach...Price 26s. 6d. and 5s.

TACKLE TABLE TENNIS THIS WAY by Ann Haydon. Price 10s. 6d.

MODERN TABLE TENNIS by Jack Carrington Price 7s. 6d.

TABLE TENNIS QUIZ by Alec Brook Price 1s. 6d.

TABLE TENNIS by Leslie Woollard Price 3s.

HANDY POCKET EDITION OF THE LAWS (the booklet every player should carry) Price 4½d.

LAWS OF TABLE TENNIS printed in black on large white card (21½ in. by 14½ in) and corded for hanging in club room Price 2s. 6d.

RUSSIAN TOUR

Continued from page 16

Ten encounter at Finchley, he lost to Ingber, Jacobson and Rhodes.

I am not slating Ian, only agreeing with Ron Crayden when he feels the need for a confident No. 1, upon whom the rest of the team can rely. Our chaps CAN play well. Alan Rhodes, a fumbling player of not much talent at Bristol was transformed into a smashing all-out attacker only the following night—unfortunately after the match had been lost.

Jeff Ingber, hesitant in attack in his first two encounters in his first match, took my advice and hit out against Saunoris, and won. Derek Burrige was rather unlucky; now in business on his own account, he has too little practice, and was just a shade off his best, whereas it would have been necessary for him to be right on top in order to win.

Bryan Merrett was the most successful player as far as results were concerned. He played his well known waiting game, with the (very) occasional hit, and I feel it true to say that he kept his normal form. Normal form or slightly above from the rest of the team ALL THE TIME, and we would have had five matches turning out according to Ron Crayden's pre-first match forecast —5 —4 one way or the other.

The Russians were extremely sporting opponents, and the audiences appreciative and not partisan. Good play was applauded at all times, from wherever it came. Tours of this nature can do so much good, what a pity audiences are not bigger so that we could have more of them.

TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS

TOP TEN SHOCKS

By LAURIE LANDRY

THE English "Closed" held in the Butlin's Camp at Bognor was played under much better conditions than the two previous early season tournaments—also staged at Butlin camps.

The main advantage it had over the East of England and the Essex events was that it was unnecessary to use heavy curtaining to keep out the light and therefore made the ball more airy and prevented the close atmosphere which rather spoilt the other two tournaments.

In fact, apart from the slightly sluggish floor the conditions and organisation at Bognor were nearly perfect.

It was also pleasing, after the previous week-end, to have a card to admit us to the camp without payment. A little preliminary organisation was all that was needed.

The North of England was once again high on the list of well-organised events. There were three or four committee men permanently out by the tables, bringing score-sheets back and forth and also finding umpires—usually the loser of the previous game.

Umpires Grabbed

There were rarely any gaps in the flow of games and the umpires were grabbed before they had a chance of getting away. However, there was no ill feeling over this as most players are beginning to realise that without their help in umpiring any tournament will be a flop.

There was also an improvement on the catering side which this year was privately organised. This led to a general reduction in price and increase of choice.

After the English "Closed", Stan Jacobson was heard to say that he has yet to lose to an Englishman this season. Quite true too apart from winning the Essex "Open," Stan lost to Louis Kerekas in the East of England and Josef Somogyi in the English.

Having read a letter in last month's magazine asking why there was no news from the north leads me to suggest that perhaps this column could be used for the purpose. If there are any interesting Talking Points just send them in, care of, this column.

LAURIE LANDRY

THE "Top Ten" tournament at Finchley on October 23 once again showed the unpredictability of the leading men.

Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett, the joint No. 1's, both flopped, and it was Jeff Ingber, 25-year-old Manchester textile merchant, who came through as the surprise winner.

He suffered one defeat in his six matches . . . to Stanley Jacobson, the 31-year-old Willesden newcomer to

never really extended, confirming her position as England's top woman.

The main interest was Jean Harrower's victory over Jean McCree, her second this season. This would indicate she is now due for a jump in the ranking list.

She also beat Betty Bird, who is ranked above her.

Owing to illness in her family, Kathie Best was unable to take part.

TOP TEN RESULTS

MEN

J. Ingber (Lancashire) won 5 lost 1: bt Burridge 19, 16; bt Harrison —15, 16, 12; bt Lindsay 16, 16; bt Merrett —15, 18, 15; bt Rhodes 15, —13, 16.

D. Burridge (Middlesex) won 3 lost 3: bt Jacobson —14, 13, 18; bt Lindsay —13, 15, 15; bt Rhodes 13, 18.

S. Jacobson (Middlesex) won 3 lost 3: bt Harrison 17, 12; bt Merrett 14, 19; bt Ingber 13, 22.

B. Merrett (Gloucestershire) won 3 lost 2: bt Burridge 16-15 (time limit), 11-10 (t.l.); bt Lindsay 21-14, 20-17 (t.l.); bt Rhodes 14, 16.

A. Rhodes (Middlesex) won 3 lost 3: bt Harrison 10, 16, bt Jacobson —18, 10, 20, bt Lindsay 22, 16.

I. Harrison (Gloucestershire) won 2 lost 3: bt Burridge 20, 20; bt Lindsay —16, 7, 11.

A. Lindsay (Middlesex) won 1 lost 5: bt Jacobson 5, 14.

WOMEN

D. Rowe (Middlesex) won 3 lost 0: bt Harrower 10, 19; bt McCree 9, 17; bt Bird 17, 12.

J. Harrower (Middlesex) won 2 lost 1: bt McCree 10, 14; bt Bird 13, —16, 11.

J. McCree (Essex) won 1 lost 2: bt Bird 18, 8.

B. Bird (Surrey) won 0 lost 3.



JEFF INGBER

this level of play, who proved giant killer in chief.

Staging a repeat of his Essex "Open" performance, Jacobson, with his heavy top-spin shots, beat both Merrett and Harrison.

Curiously enough Jacobson failed against all three of his Middlesex colleagues, Alan Lindsay, Alan Rhodes and Derek Burridge, and it would appear that you have to know Jacobson's play to have a chance of victory.

Ingber, of course, also beat both Harrison and Merrett, and came out top of the list almost unnoticed, for many had tended to write him off after he had lost his opening match to Jacobson.

Disastrous Meeting

It was a disastrous meeting for Harrison who also went down to Rhodes. His only successes were against Burridge and Lindsay.

With Burridge, Jacobson, Merrett and Rhodes all finishing equal two behind Ingber, selectors must be wondering, where do we go from here.

The women's event was much more straightforward with Diane Rowe

NORFOLK NOTES

EXPANSION is reported from the Wymondham league where they are organising two divisions this year. This shows a big increase in enthusiasm for only a short while ago the membership was as low as five teams.

Ten years ago there was a thriving league in Cromer but unfortunately National Service took many of the young players away and the league collapsed. The County Association are now hoping to re-awaken interest in the area by staging a get together at Cromer of some of the lesser lights in its affiliated leagues.

The Norfolk "Closed" will again be held at the Norwich Lad's Club and, as in the past two years, the triangular system will be used for the first round of the men's singles. The trophies will be presented by Mrs. Cassell, our county president.

Robin Wickens

Copy for publication should reach the Editor by the 10th of each month.

WELSH CORNER

Top Twenty Trial Shocks

As expected, the Top Twenty Trial provided quite a few shocks, and proved that some of our best players are as yet far off the form that brought them honours last season.

George Evans (Barry) was unable to turn out because he had tonsillitis, and Basil Evans (Newport) was also an absentee. Hugh Plummer, Tredegar's promising youngster came in as reserve but Group "A" was one short of the planned five.

Kerry Cutler started the shocks by completely outplaying Ron Davies in the opening game of their match, and it was only after Ron had scraped home in the second that he took command. Throughout the day Davies played very patchily. He finished at the top with Alan Thomas in the final groups, but it was in spite of his form and not because of it.

Alan Morris, always looking good without quite getting the results, beat George Davies and Cutler, but lost narrowly to Ron Davies.

George Davies, who beat Cutler but lost to Morris and Davies, is still much too erratic.

Ron Davies finished best in this group, with Alan Morris second, George Davies third and Cutler last.

Stan Jones, now living at Swansea, won Group "B" without dropping a game, although he had two deuce games with Ian Gibson, who, although considerably improved, had a disappointing record in this group. John Davies (Eastern Valleys), improved as the day wore on and secured three wins.

Cyril Gray (Newport) played well but was not quite good enough to shake Stan Jones.

Group "C" results brought the first real upset, with Brian Everson managing only third place behind easy winner Alan Thomas and Ken Bull (Cardiff).

Of the two youngsters in the group, Hugh Plummer (Tredegar) got the edge by beating John Davies, the Abergavenny Junior International.

Junior Champion Colin Thomas from Llandudno won all his matches—Group "D". He scored a decisive victory over Bernard Dimascio, whose attacking game showed the tentativeness that has so often been his downfall.

Dick Hopkins who was second in this Group showed considerable fight to beat Dimascio after losing the first game to 5.

Tony Huish (Newport) finished fourth, below Dimascio, with Roy Fowler bottom.

In the Group Finals, Ron Davies and Alan Thomas shared top place with two wins and one loss followed by Colin Thomas and Stan Jones with one win and two losses. Alan Thomas admitted afterwards that Colin ought to have finished above him, for in their match the Llandudno junior lead 16-10 in the third, but lost ten points in a row!

John Davies (Eastern Valleys) and Alan Morris topped the runner-up group.

There were some sparkling games in Group "C", which Brian Everson won without loss.

Ian Gibson at last struck better form in the fourth group and with good wins over Cutler and Fowler, shared the top spot with Bryn Bowden and Roy Fowler.

SUSSEX RANKINGS

PETER SHEAD'S status as the leading Sussex player received an early season boost at the English "Closed" in which he beat Bob McCree, Tony Pidcock and Johnny Leach.

County No. 1 Mrs. Ann Woodford was a Diane Rowe victim but reached the final of the consolation singles.

The new county ranking lists are: 1, P. SHEAD; 2, P. YATES; 3, G. WHALLEY; 4, R. PIERCE; 5, W. NEWMAN; 6, L. GUNN; 7, J. DOBELL; 8, D. GARMAN; 9, O. BAKER.

Women: 1, MRS. A. WOODFORD; 2, MRS. D. BARONTINI; 3, MRS. P. PIERCE; 4, MISS J. COLEMAN; 5, MRS. G. BAYLEY; 6, MRS. C. LINDSAY-LEAKE.

The Sussex inter-league men's competition has been increased in size this season and now comprises 15 teams.

J.W.

WELCOME BACK



PAM MORTIMER, the attractive Birmingham star is back playing again following the birth of her daughter four months ago.

Ranked No. 3 when she dropped out last season, Pam has already made her presence felt, being runner-up in the North of England "Open."

In private life, Pam is the wife of Alan Lake, a Birmingham sports writer. They already have a four-year-old son Kelvin.

YORKSHIRE'S SAD LOSS

YORKSHIRE mourns the death of H. N. Smith, the quiet benefactor with an odd eccentricity. He insisted that all correspondence be addressed plain "H. N. Smith," without any "Mr." or "Esquire". Letters always began "Dear H.N." or "Dear H. N. Smith".

But H.N., president from 1935 to 1951 and a patron since, did a lot to help table tennis.

At a cabaret organised to boost Yorkshire funds he bought tickets to give away to people who could not afford them. He started an appeal fund in 1952 to raise Kathleen Best's Corbillon Cup fare to Bombay with a £50 cheque.

In the mid-forties he was instrumental in bringing first-class coaching to Halifax, which made the league a power in the county.

Brook Motors hope to make a speedy impact on the Huddersfield league. Members for the first time, they have entered seven teams. That beats RAFA's entry by one.

Because of staff departures Passenger Transport cannot maintain their First Division side but are continuing in Division Four.

An increase in team entries gives the league eight divisions compared with last season's seven; and Barnsley have grown from six to seven groups.

At Sheffield, the Albion club, having fought their way up from the bottom division, are furnace-hot favourites for Division Two. Premier Division player Maurice Simpson has joined Ronnie

Ridge there, and so has Doug McGarry, who is also still turning out for Barnsley North End.

Yorkshire club champions, Metal Box, are aiming for their sixth successive Bradford league title and showed they mean business by sweeping aside last year's runners-up, Nomads, by 9-1 in their opening match.

"Closed" championships will be held in mid-season at Huddersfield (week beginning January 30) and Leeds (Saturday 28).

George Carrigill (Huddersfield) has been showing good early season form in the Hull Young People's Institute centenary invitation tournament. However, the experience of Maurice Simpson proved too much for him in the final.

Lillias Hamilton of Barnsley, beat Betty Clough (Bradford) in the women's event and teamed with Margaret Bradnum (Hull) to take the mixed from the home partnership of Betty Kinsley and Irene Allsopp.

Michael Dainty and Colin Gray did well to reach the men's doubles final, where they were outplayed by Carrigill and Maurice Pitts.

The Yorkshire "Open" at York on November 26 will be the best for years, vows Ken Park, the County's keen new tournament secretary.

Several top-line stars are to be invited to boost the standard and pull in a bigger crowd.

Malcom Hartley

SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

THE main features of late September and October were the Ipswich Y.M.C.A. tournament, junior and senior trials, a visit from Harry Walker, junior N.C.C. matches and the introduction of a Suffolk invitation Tournament.

St. Joseph's College at Birkfield on the outskirts of Ipswich made a splendid job of staging the junior county matches. Directly affiliated as "Paulred" Club, named after its two main organisers, Brother Paul and Brother Ealred, St. Joseph's is fast making itself known in the table tennis world.

Ten tables cater for over a hundred youngsters all keen to play the game but many promising boys, Brother Ealred told me, are being neglected because they cannot be given adequate coaching. Even adequate competition cannot be afforded them because the College cannot commit itself to participating in the local league. However, consideration is being given to playing a team in the junior division of the S.I.T.L.

All five of last season's teams Ipswich, Lowestoft, Peasenhall, Stowmarket and Sudbury are again participating in the senior division of the S.I.T.L. but Peasenhall have dropped out of the junior division leaving only Ipswich, Lowestoft and Stowmarket. This will entail double fixtures.

The second Ipswich Y.M.C.A. tournament, like most other early season events, had its fair share of shocks. In fact Dave Halliday was the only holder to retain his title. He won the junior singles and only failed at the last stage in the men's singles after beating the holder, Colin Crowe.

Mrs D. Griffiths had a "field" day taking three titles.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: P. COLE (Lowestoft) bt D. Halliday (Ipswich) 21-16, 21-15.

Women's Singles: Mrs. D. GRIFFITHS (Birmingham) bt H. Hawkes (Ipswich) 21-11, 21-16.

Men's Doubles: COLE/J. COLLINS (Lowestoft) bt C. Crowe/P. Racey (Luton) 21-15, 21-16.

Women's Doubles: Mrs. B. CARLESS/Mrs. GRIFFITHS (Birmingham) bt Mrs. E. Cassell (Lynn)/Mrs. P. Rogers (Ipswich) 21-14, 21-12.

Mixed Doubles: R. WARNER/Mrs. GRIFFITHS bt Crowe/Mrs. Cassell 18-21, 21-18, 21-18.

Junior Singles: HALLIDAY bt Miss J. Pedder (Essex) 21-11, 21-12.

SURREY NEWCOMERS

SURREY have welcomed two distinguished ladies to their ranks in Mrs. Barbara Andrews (née Milbank) and Mrs. Joy Faulkner (née Seaman). These two former internationals, who have both qualified by residence, were runners-up in the women's doubles at the Surrey "closed," while Mrs. Andrews has already made her county debut in the Premier Division match against Gloucestershire.

EAGLE/GIRL TOURNAMENT**FROM KENNETH WHEELER****ANOTHER TEN THOUSAND**

WITH an entry of 10,000 boys and girls who were under 15 on January 1 last, the seventh annual *Eagle/Girl* Championship of Great Britain got under way in October with qualifying rounds held in schools and clubs all over the country.

This time a certain amount of streamlining has been necessary in the organisation. Qualifiers will be eligible to play in one of five Area finals at Cardiff, Birmingham, London, Manchester or Glasgow. Only two Regional rounds will be held—in London, for South, Midlands and Wales; and Manchester, for North and Scotland. Winners of Regional Finals will compete in the Grand Finals in London on March 11 or 18.

The club or school in each Region with the highest number of team points, based on entry and playing

results, will be awarded a Club table tennis table. The team achieving the best playing results in Britain, irrespective of entries, will receive a special match table.

Doncaster Youth with an entry of 400 players, are making a strong bid to retain the titles of Top Team in Britain, and in the North, which they won last year, but a significant challenge comes from Nicholls Secondary School for Boys, Manchester, whose qualifying tournament counts also for School Individual and House trophies.

Top entry in the South comes from Ramsey Secondary Modern School, Huntingdonshire, who are newcomers to our tournament but who have entered a total of 500 children in the four events.

First of the Area Finals is the Scottish at Glasgow on Saturday, December 17.

NORTHANTS NOTES

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE have once again decided not to enter the National County Championships. They have, however, arranged some friendly matches against nearby Counties in an effort to maintain the interest and standard necessary for any eventual re-entry into the Championships.

This month 28 players took part in the County trials. Among these was Tom Moriarty, ex-Hertfordshire player, who now lives in Northampton.

In an effort to foster more interest in local and national affairs, Northamptonshire are making a big drive to increase the circulation of this magazine within the county.

E.D.

variation designed to let the selectors see what the constituent leagues in the way of younger players who could possibly benefit from specialist attention. Those on view showed that a definite policy towards them, with experienced senior players giving them guidance, could ensure a reasonably bright future for the County in the future.

ESSEX NOTES

Congratulations to 13-year-old Chester Barnes of Forest Gate, and 14-year-old Lesley Bell of Romford, on becoming the first Essex juniors to win the *News of the World* Boy and Girl of the Year Trophies.

These two also helped to establish another county precedent when together with David Garner, Danny Pryor and the Sayers twins they formed the youngest ever side "fielded" by Essex.

The seniors made a good start in their bid for the Premier Division honours by beating Cheshire after a most enjoyable match.

Frank Bateman

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NEWS

THE Inter-League Championships continues to attract more and more teams from our eight Affiliated Leagues. This season's line-up of 29 teams in four Divisions, promises tougher opposition than ever for the Slough teams in their quest to maintain their supremacy.

After the County trials which were marred by the absence of the complete contingent of senior men and women from High Wycombe, the following ranking lists were issued:

Men: 1. D. Jones; =2. J. Husbands, L. Thompson, P. Ward; 5. J. Healey; 6. G. Jeffery; 7. G. Walder.

Women: 1. K. Ward; 2. M. Norton; 3. I. Cox; 4. J. Wooding; 5. M. Murphy.

Intermediate Men: 1. R. Pettit; 2. D. Richards; 3. B. Rowlands; 4. P. Shirley. The intermediate group was an inno-

ENGLISH "CLOSED"

Final results in the Consolation Events at the English "Closed" Championships were:

Men's Singles: B. H. K. MIDDLEY (Hants.) bt C. Warren (Surrey) 21-14, 18-21, 21-18.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: G. M. ROBINSON (Herts.) bt Mrs. J. Woodford (Sussex) 22-20, 21-17.

I.T.T.F. Youth Commission

by TOMMY SEARS

THE Youth Commission was formed by the I.T.T.F. in 1954 and it is more than likely that only a few people in this country are aware that there is such a body.

As laid down by the I.T.T.F. "The Commission was to discuss by correspondence, the problems affecting the promotion of the game amongst juniors." On the face of it this was quite straightforward and England played her part by stating what we conceived to be the objectives of the junior game and outlining what had been done in England to achieve these objectives.

However, voluntary workers in other countries are even slower in their correspondence than in England and we in this country received very little information. This must have been general, as the I.T.T.F. in 1959 found it necessary to make a new president, Karl Morhard (W. German) and secretary, Jean Robert (Luxembourg) who, on coming to office were unable to obtain any files from the previous president.

The new president immediately instituted a fact finding enquiry and once again England replied promptly, but still in 1960 only 17 replies have been received, 15 from Europe.

Age Limit

One of the first questions to be discussed was the age limit for juniors and it has been found that Bulgaria, France, Luxembourg, Rumania, Poland, Holland, New Zealand and U.S.A. have different age limits.

The Youth Commission has proposed, therefore, that existing age limits should remain in each country, but for international competition the present I.T.T.F. recommendation, under 17 on July 1, should be accepted.

Reports on the remainder of the questionnaire — numbers of young players, best players at present, management of the game for young players, etc., are to follow.

England originally suggested that the objectives in developing junior table tennis should be to gain adherents to the sport who will continue to play after they have reached the age limit, to raise the standard of play from early days, to take part in international meetings, not only from a table tennis viewpoint, but as educational value and also the development of international friendship.

Guided by these objectives, we have in the past been against pro-

posals for Continental or World championships for juniors or conceptions which view junior table tennis as an end in itself. It would be interesting and helpful to have the views of readers on the subject. The latest questionnaire contains numerous questions on which some discussion has taken place.

UNIFORMITY OF UPPER AGE LIMIT. DIVISION INTO VARIOUS AGE GROUPS. SHOULD YOUNG PLAYERS PARTICIPATE IN WORLD OR CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS OF SENIORS?

On "AGE" some countries think that the present recommended limit should be higher, whilst others feel that there should be divisions at various ages and that the present upper limit, in view of past experience, should be retained. Many countries have rules excluding juniors from taking part with seniors not only in table tennis but in other sports as well. Even so, exceptions have been made from time to time and it would appear to be feasible if proper precautions were taken to shield the young players from bad examples and late nights so often unavoidable in senior play.

WHICH TYPE OF RACKET SHOULD YOUNG PLAYERS HAVE. FIXING HEIGHT OF CHILDREN'S TABLES.

The advent of sponge has raised the former question and here again opinion is divided. Some think that young people should be allowed to follow their own choice, while others feel that to learn with sandwich would not be to their advantage. Brazil is in favour of smaller tables for children (but what size?); other countries think they would form bad habits and that it would not be practical or economic.

The promotion of table tennis among juniors is a main factor in our thoughts and at once **FURTHURING OF TABLE TENNIS IN SCHOOLS** jumps to mind.

In England, some counties have fostered competitions in their area and the *Eagle* and *Girl* competition has done good work nationally but until schools are provided with standard tables and there are sufficient coaches, table tennis will make slow progress here.

It is possible, of course, to publicise the game by arranging exhibitions and demonstrations during school hours

and this would be a start until facilities are provided by the Ministry of Education and/or local authorities.

The Ministry of Education has made a grant towards a paid national coach this year and certain local Education Authorities make funds available to Youth Clubs for table tennis coaching. We can also hope that the Wolfenden report will be implemented and that the English Table Tennis Association will be helped in its efforts to bring young players in to such a satisfying sport as ours.

Many other questions are down for discussion and these will continue. It is hoped that from these there will be found solutions of value to problems of individual countries and table tennis as a whole.

STAFFORDSHIRE KNOTS

HOPING to ease the acute shortage of young players in Staffordshire, two keen club leaders in the Walsall League have formed junior teams to compete in the men's divisions.

One of these three-strong teams has an average age of just over 12 and it is said that the youngest, 11, can only see his own half of the table.

An addition to the County Towns' League his season is Shrewsbury, who, although in Shropshire, have joined our growing Association.

The senior county teams seem to have a tough season ahead with Warwickshire and Glamorgan as two of their adversaries. However it is hoped that Derek Backhouse, now free from University studies will take up where he left off, a stalwart of the side.

M. Evans

KENT NOTES

N.W. Kent "B" have burst the Kent League championship wide open by taking a point from each of the top sides, N.W. Kent "A" and Woolwich.

Playing a big part in this success has been Brian Hellberg now taking a more serious interest since completing his national service with the R.A.F.

While the men's division becomes so interesting the women's division is expected to go to N.W. Kent, with Woolwich threatening to take the junior title from Folkestone.

After eight years as Bromley treasurer, Brian Hartley has retired. He will, however, continue to play for Bromley. Don Terry is the new treasurer.

Kent also have a new treasurer in Brian Fuller, a chartered accountant who lives near Sittingbourne—nice and handy to county secretary Jimmy Mannooch.

Always seeking new opportunities for juniors, Kent are to run a second junior team for friendly matches against other counties.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UPby **CONRAD JASCHKE****CHAMPIONS HELD TO A DRAW BY KENT**

DRAWS abounded on the first day of the new championships season—there were five in all—but none of these was less expected than that between champions, Middlesex and newly promoted Kent, at B.E.A., South Ruislip.

Sometimes referred to as the "yo-yo" kids, Kent have for some years pursued a vigorous youth policy in the county selection, which has on some occasions sacrificed immediate results for the sake of building up a team strong enough to retain premier status. This was their best ever show, contrasting with the 10-0 thrashing by Middlesex in 1956, and the 9-1 flop in 1958.

In fairness it must be added that Middlesex were without their stars Diane Rowe and Derek Burridge, but even so, they "fielded" four internationals, and there was little doubt before the match that Middlesex would win.

Henry Buist and Tony Pidcock were the Kent heroes, winning all their four singles against Alan

Rhodes, Laurie Landry and Alan Lindsay respectively. Landry and Lindsay were much too strong for Kent's 19-year-old newcomer Alan Cornish, while Jean Harrower again showed up her absurdly low England ranking with a polished win over Joyce Fielder.

Middlesex took the mixed and men's doubles, and Kent scraped through in the women's doubles when Joyce Fielder/Joan Beadle beat Jean Harrower/Margaret Fry at 19 in the third.

Gloucestershire started off with a match against Yorkshire, the only side to beat them last year. Playing a reserve for Bryan Merrett, who had food poisoning, Gloucestershire had to be content with a 5-5 draw. With Kathie Best, Yorkshire had a strong pull in the women's events, but Ian Harrison took two singles as expected, while David Griffiths and Bob Morley contributed one each. Harrison/Griffiths won the men's doubles.

Gloucestershire were held to 5-5

again when they visited Surrey at Sutton. It's a strange looking Surrey side without Jo Somogyi, Harry Venner and Betty Bird, and in the circumstances they must be pleased with the point they salvaged.

Griffiths gave Gloucestershire a good start with a clear win over Michael Maclaren, and then Merrett beat Tony Miller in a time-limit match 21-14, 7-6!

Kent Craigie restored the Surrey spirits, and certainly saved a point with a sparkling win over Harrison.

Surrey's new doubles pair, Barbara Andrews (née Milbank) partnered by talented new England No. 1 junior, Mary Shannon, made it 2-2, but Surrey again slipped behind when the "scratch pair" of Craigie/Ron Crayden went under to England's top men's doubles combination, Harrison/Merrett.

Peggy Piper again equalled the scores with a runaway win over Gloucestershire's Miss Dando. Maclaren was beaten in three games by Merrett, but then teamed up with Miss Piper to win the mixed doubles.

COUNTY DIARY**PREMIER DIVISION**

November 12 Cheshire v Yorkshire,
Kent v Gloucestershire, Bowater's Sports Club, Kemsley,
Sittingbourne 7 p.m.
November 24 Middlesex v Surrey, Municipal Hall, Tottenham, London, N.19. 7.15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

November 11 Yorkshire v Northumberland,
November 12 Derbyshire v Lincolnshire, Bass & Co. Canteen,
Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire. 7.15 p.m.
November 19 Durham v Northumberland.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

November 5 Sussex v Hertfordshire.
November 12 Berkshire v Hampshire.

SECOND DIVISION WEST

November 12 Devon v Somerset,
Wiltshire v Dorset, The School, Sanford Street, Swindon. 7.15 p.m.
Cornwall v Worcestershire, Village Institute, Polgooth,
St. Austell. 7 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

November 5 Bedfordshire v Glamorgan.
November 12 Leicestershire v Staffordshire.

MIDLAND DIVISION

November 5 Warwickshire v Oxfordshire.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

November 12 Suffolk v Buckinghamshire.

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

November 12 Durham v Lancashire, Fence Houses Y.M.C.A. 3 p.m.
Durham v Cheshire, T.L.F. Welfare Institute, Sunderland. 7.30 p.m.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

November 5 Warwickshire v Oxfordshire.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

November 12 Middlesex v Kent, Whitbread & Co. Ltd., Chiswell Street,
London, E.C.1. 4 p.m.
Sussex v Essex.
Hertfordshire v Surrey, English Electric Aviation Ltd.,
Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. 7 p.m.
November 19 Kent v Hertfordshire, Bowater's Sport Club, Kemsley,
Sittingbourne. 3 p.m.

HERO CRAIGIE

Hero Craigie gave Surrey the lead for the first time by beating Griffiths, but Miller was no match for Harrison, and so a thrilling, if overlong, match ended with honours divided.

The battle of the roses was again a tense struggle, with Yorkshire winning 6-4 at Bradford. Stuart Dyson could not hold J. Clayton, but Ray Hinchliff, the Yorkshire No. 1, completely outplayed Ron Allcock.

Lancashire's pride, Jeff Ingber, put the visitors ahead when he easily defeated Maurice Simpson.

The women's singles and doubles went to Yorkshire as usual, while Ingber/Clayton were much superior to Dyson/M. Pitts in the men's doubles.

With the score 3-3, Dyson struck an important blow for Yorkshire by beating Allcock, but Lancashire once again squared matters when Allcock, partnered by Mrs. G. Spencer, took the mixed doubles.

At this stage the outlook was grim for the home side. However, Simpson excelled by beating Clayton, and then Hinchliff put up his best performance for a long time with a brilliant 15-21, 22-20, 21-19 win over Ingber.

Good news from Yorkshire is that

Leslie Forrest is up and about again, and I know his countless friends will wish this great champion of the County Championships complete return to health after his recent illness.

Cheshire are struggling at the foot of the premier table. They had an unprofitable round trip when they lost to Middlesex (0-10) and Essex (2-8) on successive days. They also went down 3-7 to Kent at Stockport. Henry Buist, Tony Piddock and Joyce Fielder were undefeated for Kent. Cheshire matched their visitors' attacking table tennis all the way, and Buist actually found himself on the defensive for once when opposed by Vincent Hankey, who went down fighting with colours flying.

Not only Hankey, but Eric Johnson, Derek Schofield, Doreen Ridgeway and Diane Wright, played attractive table tennis, but they could only muster two singles wins plus the mixed doubles, and appear once again booked for relegation. This is a pity, because they are a side that is a credit to the game.

At this early stage, it looks as if Middlesex might have less trouble than last year in retaining their title, for with the exit of Somogyi, Venner

and Kennedy, the Surrey and Yorkshire challenge appears less dangerous.

This only leaves Gloucestershire, who have already dropped two valuable points, for none of the other counties appear to carry enough ammunition at present to jostle the champions.

On the other hand, should Middlesex slip, then the field is wide open . . . there appears to be very little in between the other counties with the exception of Cheshire.

C. Jacques played brilliantly for Leicestershire against Glamorgan. Although the Welshman won 6-4, Jacques had wins over Alan Thomas and Ron Davies, plus a men's doubles victory partnered by John Burraston.

There are likely to be some very close battles in the Midland Second Division, with Staffordshire and Warwickshire unlikely to let Glamorgan have it all their own way.

In Div. II North, Durham and Lincolnshire made a good start to their bid for the title with 9-1 victories, and even at this early stage it looks as if the clash between these two sides in February will decide who challenges for promotion.

A. Hunt won Derbyshire's only match against Durham, at the expense of Wilf Barker, while Mrs. P. Clark beat Mrs. W. Eanor to register Northumberland's sole victory against Lincolnshire.

Kent's second team, average age 20, defeated Berkshire by 7-3 in Division II South. In this match, 15-year-old Susan Thomas won her first senior county singles.

In Division II West, Worcestershire are going out to win every game because they think the division may be decided on averages following their draw with Devon. Cornwall made a good start with three points from their first two matches, but they have the two strongest opponents to play yet.

Oxfordshire's first point in the Midland Division had a touch of disappointment about it. They looked all set for victory when they went out to a 4-1 lead, but lost the next four games. It was then left to Alf Davies to share the spoils when he beat left-hander K. Shaw 9-21, 21-12, 21-15.

There were several long matches, including one of 55 minutes and another of 45 minutes.

DETAILED RESULTS

PREMIER DIVISION
Middlesex 10, Cheshire 0

L. Landry b E. Johnson 15, 15; bt V. Hankey 15, 12. D. Burridge bt Hankey 8, 18; bt D. Schofield 15, 7. A. Rhodes bt Schofield 15, 6; bt Johnson 11, 14. Landry/Rhodes bt Hankey/Schofield 19, 18.
Miss J. Harrower bt Miss D. Ridgeway 18, —17, 16.
Miss Harrower/Miss M. Fry bt Miss Ridgeway/Miss D. Wright 16, —12, 20.
Burridge/Miss Fry bt Johnson/Miss Wright 11, 14.

Essex 8, Cheshire 2

R. Raybould bt Johnson —24, 13, 13; bt Hankey 18, 20. B. Brumwell lost to Hankey —18, —19, bt Schofield 6, 18. R. Stevens bt Schofield —15, 10, 18; bt Johnson 12, 16.
Raybould/Stevens lost Hankey/Schofield 18, —17, —15.
Mrs. J. McCree bt Miss Ridgeway 16, —12, 11.
Mrs. McCree/Mrs. E. Carrington bt Miss Ridgeway/Miss Wright 14, 10.
Brumwell/Mrs. Carrington bt Johnson/Miss Wright 17, 17.

Cheshire 3, Kent 7

Johnson bt A. Cornish 15, —16, 19; lost to A. Piddock —19, —16. Schofield lost to Piddock —12, —20; lost to H. Buist —12, 17, —15. Hankey lost to Buist —17, —20, bt Cornish —5, 16, 17.
Hankey/Schofield lost to Buist/Piddock —14, —15.
Miss Ridgeway lost to Miss J. Fielder —14, —13.
Miss Ridgeway/Miss Wright lost to Miss Fielder/Mrs. J. Beadle —21, —17.
Johnson/Miss Wright bt Cornish/Mrs. Beadle 21, 18.

Middlesex 5, Kent 5

A. Lindsay bt Cornish —19, 16, 14; lost to Buist —10, 18. Rhodes lost to Buist 17,

—20, —14, lost to Piddock —9, —18. Landry lost to Piddock 7, —18, —17, bt Cornish 11, 18.
Lindsay/Rhodes bt Buist/Piddock 15, 18. Miss Harrower bt Miss Fielder 17, 22.
Miss Fry/Miss Harrower lost to Miss Fielder/Mrs. Beadle —10, 23, —19.
Landry/Miss Fry bt Cornish/Mrs. Beadle 22, 11.

Gloucestershire 5, Yorkshire 5

R. Morley bt S. Dyson —14, 25, 12; lost to M. Simpson —13, —18. I. Harrison bt Simpson 10, 16; bt R. Hinchliff 19, 10. D. Griffiths lost to Hinchliff —15, —15; bt Dyson 16, 23.
Griffiths/Harrison bt Dyson/Hinchliff 21, 17.
Mrs. E. Spokes lost to Miss K. Best —4, —8.

Mrs. Spokes/Miss J. Dando lost to Miss Best/Miss L. Hamilton —17, —14.
Morley/Miss Dando lost to Simpson/Miss Hamilton —10, 20, —14.

Surrey 5, Gloucestershire 5

M. Maclaren lost to Griffiths —13, —17, lost to B. Merrett —8, 17, —14. A. Miller lost to Merrett —14, 6-7 t.l.; lost to Harrison —9, —15. K. Craigie bt Harrison 19, —8, 17; bt Griffiths —17, 16, 13.
Craigie/R. Crayden lost to Harrison/Merrett —16, 20, —9.

Miss P. Piper bt Miss Dando 9, 9.
Mrs. B. Andrews/Miss M. Shannon bt Miss Taylor/Miss Griffiths 7, 16.
Maclaren/Miss Piper bt Griffiths/Miss Dando 13, 16.

Yorkshire 6, Lancashire 4

Dyson lost to J. Clayton —11, —17; bt R. Allcock —18, 10, 17. Hinchliff bt Allcock 11, 13; bt J. Ingber —15, 20, 19. Simpson lost to Ingber —12, —10; bt Clayton —19, 9, 17.
Dyson/M. Pitts lost to Clayton/Ingber —16, —13.
Miss Best bt Miss M. Leigh 13, 16.
Miss Best/Miss Hamilton bt Miss Leigh/Mrs. C. Spencer 18, —18, 14.
Pitts/Miss Hamilton lost to Allcock/Mrs. Spencer 19, —16, —23.

DIVISION II MIDLAND
Bedfordshire 1, Warwickshire 9. Glamorgan 6, Leicestershire 4.

DIVISION II NORTH
Derbyshire 1, Durham 9. Northumberland 1, Lincolnshire 9.

DIVISION II SOUTH
Berkshire 3, Kent II 7. Hampshire 6, Sussex 4.

DIVISION II WEST
Cornwall 5, Wiltshire 5. Worcestershire 5, Devon 5. Cornwall 6, Dorset 4. Worcestershire 9, Wiltshire 1.

MIDLAND DIVISION
Oxfordshire 5, Nottinghamshire 5. Oxfordshire 4, Staffordshire 6. Nottinghamshire 5, Warwickshire II 5.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION
Oxfordshire 10, Staffordshire 0.

SOUTHERN DIVISION
Norfolk 4, Buckinghamshire 6.

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION
Kent 4, Essex 6.

Middlesex 5, Hertfordshire 5. Suffolk 5, Surrey 5. Suffolk 3, Hertfordshire 7. Sussex 1, Middlesex 9. Surrey 4, Kent 6.

LEAGUE TABLES

PREMIER DIVISION	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Middlesex	2	1	1	0	15	5	3
Kent	2	1	1	0	12	8	3
Yorkshire	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Essex	1	1	0	0	8	2	2
Gloucestershire	2	0	2	0	10	2	2
Surrey	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Lancashire	1	0	0	1	4	6	0
Cheshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
DIVISION II WEST	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Worcestershire	2	1	1	0	14	6	3
Cornwall	2	1	1	0	11	9	3
Devon	1	0	1	0	5	5	1
Wiltshire	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Dorset	1	0	0	1	4	6	0

ROOM 652

FROM YOUR OFFICE—19 feet long by 16 feet wide—where two telephones never seem to stop ringing, and three typewriters pound out reams of letters, we intend to give you each month the interesting happenings of 652, Grand Buildings.

At this stage of the season we have numerous enquiries from our members and overseas visitors for clubs where they can play. We usually put them in touch with the nearest League secretary.

The beginning of the new season has been quite a busy time, for in addition to the routine work we have been able to arrange the tour of the U.S.S.R. players and officials. We hope as many of our members as possible have been able to see the five international matches.

We have been receiving from the Chinese Association preliminary documents dealing with the World Championships in Peking from April 5 to 14. You are of course aware of the various efforts by the N.E.C. to obtain sufficient funds for England to send a team, and also the intentions of the E.T.T. Supporters' Club to this end, but did you know we have our own private scheme at Room 652.

We have secured an empty GIN BOTTLE and all visitors are asked to help fill it—with sixpences. So far everyone has entered into the spirit of the thing, especially as Angela Yarrow has written and attached to the bottle this little poem dealing with the World Travelling Expenses Fund:

*This bottle once was filled with gin,
But now we want it for Peking,
By this I mean for your sixpences,
To help us with the teams' expenses.
In April '61 you see,
Our teams go on a long journey,
For China is their destination,
The World to beat their realisation.
Whilst in Peking we hope our team
Will show themselves to be supreme,
So please be kind and give your pennies,
To help England and Table Tennis.*

YOUR OFFICE is open to all to call for advice, and we are always pleased to see you. But, please, don't come in a party or we will not have room to seat you.

Had you popped in during the last few weeks you might have bumped into Richard Bergmann, on his way to America, Mrs. Rosemarie Korn, from Hamburg, staying in England for a few months with her husband, or Derek Wall, from South Africa.

The Office Duplicating Service appears to be expanding and among our recent customers have been Cheshunt and District T.T.L., Middlesex T.T.A., Staffordshire T.T.A., Kettering (Senior) T.T.L., North Somerset T.T.L., Hertfordshire T.T.A., Surrey T.T.A., Wembley and Harrow T.T.L., Watford and District T.T.L., Romford T.T.L., and Central T.T.L.

Why not send us your duplicating; we are sure that we can carry out your instructions to the letter and cheaper than elsewhere.

See you next month.

PETER LOWEN
(Secretary).

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
Nov. 5	Hull & East Riding "Open" (Oct. 26), Madeley Street Baths, Hessle Road, Hull.	J.S.B. J.S.B.	K. H. F. Jordan, 6 Blackburn Ave., Brough, E. Yorks.
5-6	Kent Junior "Open" (Oct. 15) Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.D.B. J.D.G. J.X.D.	F. G. Mannoch, 216 Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.
5-6	AUSTRIAN "OPEN"		
11-12	Merseyside "Open" Dunlop Rubber Co. Ltd., Speke, Liverpool, 24.		Miss M. Lindner, Flat D1, Eaton Grange, Eaton Road, Liverpool 12.
11-12	HUNGARIAN "OPEN"		
12	Swansea "Open"		
18-20	YUGOSLAVIAN "OPEN"		
19	Birmingham "Open" (Nov. 12) Friends Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.X.D. V.S.	M. Goldstein, 415 Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
26	Yorkshire "Open" York.		K. Park, 7 Moss Rise, Leeds, 17.
27	Bournemouth "Open" (A) (Nov. 5) The Drill Hall, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth.	J.S.	C. B. Cashell, 16 Victoria Ave., Winton, Bournemouth.
27-29	SCANDINAVIAN "OPEN"		
Dec. 2-3	QUADRANGULAR HOME INTERNATIONALS Cardiff.		
4	Newbury "Open" (A) Corn Exchange, Newbury.		A. A. J. Mosson, 29 Croft Road, Newbury, Berks.
10	Yorkshire Junior "Open" (Nov. 29)		K. Park, 7 Moss Rise, Leeds, 17.
10	Cardiff "Open"		
10-11	Middlesex "Open" Hanwell Community Centre, Westcott Crescent, Hanwell, W.7.	J.B.S. J.G.S.	Miss I. Moss, 49 Okehampton Road, London, N.W.10.
17	West of England "Open" (Dec. 3) H.M.S. Thunderer, Royal Naval Engineering College, Crownhill, Plymouth.	J.B.S. J.G.S. J.D.	R. J. Nicholls, 27 Palmerston Street, Stoke, Plymouth.
1961			
Jan. 2-7	ENGLISH "OPEN" London.	J.B.S. J.G.S. J.D.B. J.D.G. J.X.D. V.S.	E.T.T.A., 652 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.
13-14	WELSH "OPEN"		
14	Lancashire "Open" (Jan. 4) De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Lostock, Bolton.	J.B.S. J.G.S. V.S.	A. Howcroft, 94 Bradford Street, Farnworth, Bolton.

NORTH OF ENGLAND "OPEN"

INGBER TAKES TITLE

HELPED by an easy draw and mediocre opposition, Jeff Ingber won the men's singles title without loss of a game, in the North of England "Open" at Manchester.

He was not pressed at all until after the quarter-finals, even then his rivals, Bobbie Raybould and Jack Clayton, offered little in the way of testing opposition.

Jackie Keogh, a junior last year, caused the main surprises of the event when defeating Maurice Pitts and then Terry Densham in a thrilling quarter-final match by 21-18, 20-22, 21-14.

However, Clayton, who had earlier conquered Laurie Landry, put a swift end to the giant-killing run of Keogh, winning their semi-final encounter by 21-12, 21-16.

Jean Harrower won the women's singles title after an exciting final with Pam Mortimer. Miss Mortimer came to within two points of success in this match, which contained some of the best rallies of the tournament, but eventually went down 21-19, 23-25, 24-22.

Derek Schofield and Clayton won the men's doubles while Judy Williams and Phil Clark took the equivalent women's title.

Laurie Landry retained his mixed title but with Margaret Fry this time instead of Betty Bird.

Yorkshire youngsters, David Stanley and Lesley Proudlock, won the junior singles titles. Main surprise here was the 21-7, 21-11 defeat of Judy Williams by Cynthia Blackshaw.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: J. INGBER (Lancashire) bt. R. Raybould (Essex) 21-5, 21-18; J. CLAYTON (Lancashire) bt J. Keogh (Lancashire) 21-12, 21-16.

Final: INGBER bt Clayton 21-12, 21-13.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: J. HARROWER (Middlesex) bt A. Taft (Hertfordshire) 21-9, 21-15. P. MORTIMER (Warwickshire) bt P. Clark (Northumberland) 21-12, 17-21, 22-20.

Final: HARROWER bt Mortimer 22-19, 23-25, 24-22.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: CLAYTON/D. SCHOFIELD (Cheshire) bt L. Landry (Middlesex)/T. Densham (Hertfordshire) 21-13, 21-23, 21-13. E. JOHNSON/G. TEMPERTON (Cheshire) bt Ingber/G. Carrigill (Yorkshire) 21-19, 21-14.

Final: CLAYTON/SCHOFIELD bt Johnson/Temperton 25-23, 12-21, 21-13.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: CLARK/J. WILLIAMS (Hertfordshire) bt C. Spencer/D. Fitzgerald (Lancashire) 21-10, 15-21, 21-16. D. RIDGWAY/D. WRIGHT (Cheshire) bt Mortimer/M. Fry (Middlesex) 21-18, 21-18.

Final: CLARK/WILLIAMS bt Ridgway/Wright 24-22, 21-19.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: LANDRY/Miss FRY bt Clayton/Miss Mortimer 23-25, 21-17, 21-13. M. PITTS/Mrs. M. DYSON (Yorkshire) bt V. Hankey/Miss M. Bradshaw (Cheshire) 21-12, 21-16.

Final: LANDRY/Miss FRY bt Pitts/Mrs. Dyson 21-7, 21-15.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: D. STANLEY (Yorkshire) bt M. Waite (Lancashire) 21-19, 21-10. H. COWARD (Yorkshire) bt M. Symonds (Lancashire) 17-21, 21-13, 21-6.

Final: STANLEY bt Coward 21-15, 21-18.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: L. PROUDLOCK (Yorkshire) bt P. Dainty (Yorkshire) 21-8, 17-21, 21-16. C. BLACKSHAW (Yorkshire) bt L. Gordon (Lancashire) 21-17, 18-21, 21-11.

Final: PROUDLOCK bt Blackshaw 21-18, 21-11.

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Men's Singles: P. SHEAD bt E. Barnes 21-8, 21-14.

Women's Singles: M. HICKS bt M. Shannon 21-15, 21-18.

Men's Doubles: A. LINDSAY/S. JACOBSON bt L. Gunn/Shead 21-19, 16-21, 21-15.

Junior Singles: S. Ogundipe bt D. Basdeb 21-14, 21-15.

Women's Doubles: C. HOLES/P. HOLES bt S. Foster/I. Sawyer 23-21, 21-19.

Mixed Doubles: LINDSAY/Miss A. TAFT bt C. Crowe/Mrs. Ronaldson 21-14, 21-14.

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UMPIRE'S CORNERBy **COLIN CLEMETT****DERBYSHIRE DIARY****Studying Referee's Job**

WHEN the new edition of the E.T.T.A. Handbook is published the sub-committee appointed by the N.E.C. to look after umpiring matters will be under the new heading of "National Umpires' and Referees' Committee", a title which recognises the extension of the Committee's work in the field of refereeing.

This really began last season when the N.E.C. first asked the Committee to consider what were the qualifications required of a referee for an international match or an "Open" Tournament, and to see whether some measure of a referee's ability could be devised, similar to those applied for county and national umpires.

This obviously required long and careful thought, and as a basis for the future establishment of standards they began by preparing a list of those who had acted in the capacity of referee and were known to have the necessary experience and ability for the job.

Meanwhile, the whole question of the responsibilities of the referee in different events is being studied and it is hoped that later it will be possible to publish a Referee's Handbook, on the lines of the Umpire's Handbook, either as a separate item or as an appendix to the existing publication.

One of the difficulties encountered has been the very different interpretations put on a referee's job, particularly in "Open" Tournaments.

In many such events the referee is appointed by the Tournament Committee and thereafter plays no part in the conduct of the event until the competition begins, when he makes a token attendance at the venue. Any question relating to the draw is probably decided by the competition secretary, and in the unlikely event of an umpire's interpretation of the laws being disputed the matter is probably settled by the nearest officials.

But this is not what is intended by the I.T.T.F. regulations for "Open" Tournaments, and if the N.U.R.C. is to bring about any measure of uniformity it will have to start by making sure that "Open" Tournament organisers understand what is required of the various officials and see that the person who is called the referee is really the one who does the referee's job.

There is no basic difference in the responsibilities of the referee for an "Open" Tournament or a team match, and one of the N.U.R.C.'s first steps will be to draft a definition of these

responsibilities which is applicable to either and which takes account of the detail differences.

It was obvious from the first few tournaments of the season that the problem of light-coloured bats and clothing is still with us, and may even have increased.

The best way of overcoming the difficulty is for players not to support the sales of such items, but it seems that light yellow is the fashionable shade for rubber this season and if something is not done to discourage this trend we may soon see bats of "shining white" or even "whiter than white".

So far, I have not heard of a player being prevented from using one of these bats in a competition although several have been warned that this could happen to them in the future.

Until some standard of lightness is established the best policy for an umpire who has any doubts about the legality of a bat, or a shirt, is to make sure that the opposing player knows of his right to appeal to the referee. There is of course nothing to prevent the umpire reporting the matter to the referee.

**INDIFFERENT START
BY DERBYSHIRE**

ONCE again all hopes of premier division table tennis were banished by the County's disappointing display and 9-1 defeat against Durham. Only Tony Hunt, producing his true form, saved Derbyshire from complete humiliation.

Colin Deaton, playing his first major match since his illness, was only a shadow of his former self and obviously needs plenty of Tournament play.

Carol Reeves (Derby) making her County debut at the age of 17, continues to show promise and should be a useful player in years to come.

The County League is now well under way and in the first match of the season, Chesterfield, the holders, defeated Matlock 7-3.

The following officers were elected for the forthcoming season. Both Chairman J. Hughes and Secretary T. Chatwin were re-elected with popular Fred Moody as County Selector and Match Secretary. Chesterfield's Laurie Swale is once again President of the Association.

It is pleasing to hear of players throughout the County wishing to become County umpires. Chesterfield's Dave Sugars set the ball rolling after being a keen umpire in local table tennis. Any more enthusiasts interested should contact the County Secretary.

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