

Table Tennis REVIEW

Vol. 2 No. 1
APRIL-JUNE, 1947

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
Souvenir Number



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★

COVER PORTRAIT

MRS. GIZI FARKAS

(Hungary)

World Champion

★

I/-





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TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

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Vol. 2 No. 1

APRIL-JUNE, 1947

One Shilling

A Little Trumpet Blowing

WITH this issue, we feel we can rightfully claim to have produced the world's best table-tennis magazine. Never before in the history of table tennis has a magazine featured such a team of contributors. We are proud to present for your interest and instruction, articles from such world-famous players as Bohumil Vana, Richard Bergmann, and Victor Barna. In addition, other well-known players and writers have helped to fill the following pages, not forgetting our popular artist "Ben." We have set a high standard, but it is one we will endeavour to maintain. The present world champion has promised to write frequently, and our past writers will appear from time to time with their views and news. We think you will agree that unlike other table-tennis magazines that have appeared, it is not a "one-man" affair. Since we first appeared in September last, our circulation has grown with each issue and with this particular number we are able to make a further claim of having the largest circulation of *any* present-day periodical dealing with our well-loved sport. With the commencement of next season it is our desire to offer you a monthly magazine of this size, providing the paper situation improves, and at a less price. In the meantime, we will appear again in July as a quarterly publication. You can assist us, if you will! Tell your friends about *Table Tennis Review*, or send us their names and addresses and we will send them a free specimen copy. Many readers have written about the difficulty they have experienced in obtaining regular copies, but in the majority of cases this has been the fault of the newsagent or sports dealer. Many newsagents have an antiquated idea of table tennis and their minds still travel along the old "ping-pong" track. They feel that the game does not justify the publication of a magazine. Can we rely on you to educate your newsagent? Insist that he obtains a copy for you regularly. In doing so, you will be giving the game publicity and at the same time help us to achieve the above ambition. Place an order with your newsagent NOW for the July number.

DOWN THE WHITE LINE

By GOSSIMA

FOUR deaf and dumb boys from Middlesex played in the world's championships. They travelled about Paris as much as anybody, eventually finding the Deaf and Dumb Institute where they were just in time to take part in a tournament, winning a very attractive Cup. Congratulations, boys!

Richard Bergmann hired men to distribute leaflets outside the Palais des Sport. The leaflets were printed in four languages and they repeated his challenge to any player in the world for a side-stake of £500. The leaflets were also distributed outside Wembley Stadium on the night of the English Open. Richard told me, "One of my weaknesses is spin serves, but the new rule makes it impossible for any great spin to be put into a serve, and so I now feel more confident than ever that I can beat any player who cares to accept my challenge." Richard Bergmann has now teamed up with S. Boros in a table tennis stage act. Watch out for them at your local theatre. Victor Barna and Alec Brook are also on another stage tour of this country, hence the reason why they were unable to enter the English Open.

Just prior to the English Open representatives of the Press Association approached Northern star players asking why they were not taking part in the championships. Was this a matter of finance and not being invited? The answer was in

the affirmative. A few days later a player withdrew from the tournament and Benny Casofsky was invited to take his place. Apologies were given for having overlooked him in the hurry and bustle. Still, these mistakes do happen. The same thing happened a few years before the war to another Northern star.

We have included in this feature, a photograph of a famous table tennis player and his charming wife. Readers, allow us to introduce you to Mrs. Suzy Barna, not forgetting the great Victor. Looks a very adoring husband, doesn't he? Appearances are not deceptive either for before taking this snap, the photographer had to wait while Victor took off his washing-up apron!



MR.
and MRS.
BARNA

Ten thousand people watched the English Open while only four to five thousand witnessed the World's Championships in Paris—so what?

The popular Northern player, Freddie Cromwell, had arranged to go to Paris with his wife. He had paid £58 to cover the cost of the trip when four days before the date of departure, he slipped and broke his ankle. After making inquiries, he found that no refund of the amount paid was possible. Not to be outdone, Freddie bought a crutch and went to Paris on one leg.

Miss Elisabeth Blackbourne travelled back to America by air with the two Americans, Solly Schiff and Richard Miles. She will take part in the U.S.A. National Championships to be held in Chicago. Elisabeth will remain in the States for a time taking a course at one of their colleges.

In order to send their players to Europe, the U.S.A. Association raised a sum of 3,500 dollars. A special Fighting Fund was organised to which affiliated members were asked to contribute. Exhibitions, tournaments and "raffles" all helped to swell the fund.

The American table tennis public were invited to vote who they thought was the greatest U.S. player of all times. Richard Miles topped the poll with 38 per cent. votes, and Sally Green was voted the greatest U.S. lady player, receiving 33 per cent. of the votes. Sally was prevented from going to Paris by illness.

In answer to inquiries, the initials "D.S.C." on Victor Barna's sports shirt stands for "Danube Sports Club," being a club of which he was a member when he lived in Hungary.

Irish Open Finals

By DONALD HILL.

IN one of the most thrilling Irish Open singles finals ever witnessed Ivan Andreadis (Czechoslovakia), defeated his fellow countryman, Bohumil Vana, the world champion, in a close five-set match, at the National Boxing Stadium, Dublin, on March 22nd.

The semi-finals also provided an abundance of thrills, as both Andreadis and Vana were brought to five sets by their respective opponents, Johnny Leach (England) and Ladislav Stipek (Czechoslovakia).

A feature of the final, was the winner's brilliant whip-like forehand drive, which frequently caught Vana out of position. Vana won the second and fourth games rather easily, and led 18-17 in the decider. Andreadis, however, won the next three points to lead 20-19. Vana forged ahead at 21-20, but Andreadis cool and unperturbed, emerged the victor at 23-21.

The ladies' final was rather disappointing, for Miss Vera Dace was never extended by Miss Helen Elliot.

The only Irish player to figure in the honours list was Miss Mina Minshull, who combined with Miss Elliot to win the ladies' doubles title.

RESULTS.

Men's Singles—Final: I. Andreadis (Czechoslovakia) beat B. Vana (Czechoslovakia), 21-18, 12-21, 21-17, 13-21, 23-21.

Ladies' Singles—Final: Miss V. Dace (England) beat Miss H. Elliot (Scotland), 21-12, 21-15.

Men's Doubles—Final: B. Vana and A. Slar (Czechoslovakia) beat Andreadis and L. Stipek (Czechoslovakia), 18-21, 21-17, 21-23, 21-12, 21-17.

Ladies' Doubles—Final: Miss V. Dace (England) and Miss Minshull (Ireland) beat Mrs. Vana (Czechoslovakia) and Miss Elliot (Scotland), 21-11, 21-15.

Mixed Doubles—Final: Vana and Mrs. Vana beat L. Cohen (England) and Miss Elliot (Scotland), 21-14, 21-17.

Value of County Associations

By GEOFF HARROWER

RECENTLY one has heard much talk about county associations, but so few people really know what a county association is, that I feel an article giving some of the "gen" might be of interest.

With the game once more approaching its 200 leagues, it is obvious that the National Association, no matter how efficiently conducted, cannot keep adequate personal contact with all the leagues. There should be a liaison somewhere, and this is where the county associations come in. A county association comprises from four to twenty-four affiliated leagues, according to the size of the county, and the amount the game is played in that county, and it is safe to say that the officers of each association are well known to all the affiliated league officers. Take Middlesex as an example. We are geographically a small county, with nine leagues in membership; six of these leagues are represented on the Executive Committee of our Association, and 99 per cent of the officers of these leagues are known personally by my chairman, Mr. Mortlake Mann, and myself.

I unhesitatingly say that never before have the North and South been on such good terms as at the moment, brought about largely by friendly meetings of county officials. The next goal, a real county championship, with a premier division, as in county cricket. Think what a blessing to the international selectors these county matches would be. Open tournaments are all very well, but in these you are playing for yourself. Playing for your

county is only one step behind playing for your country. The same nervous tension; the same conditions under which international matches are played.

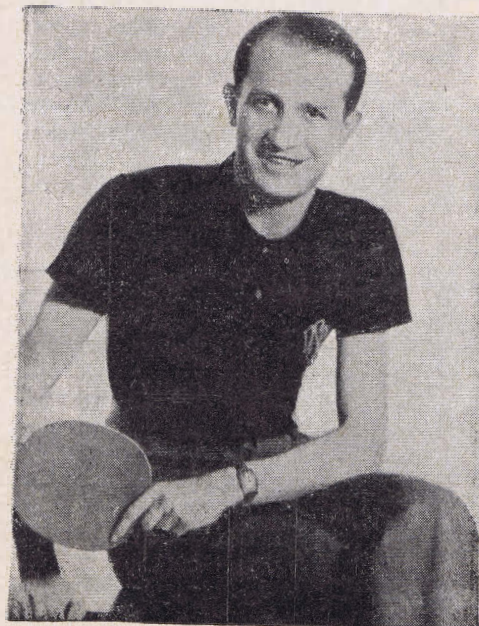
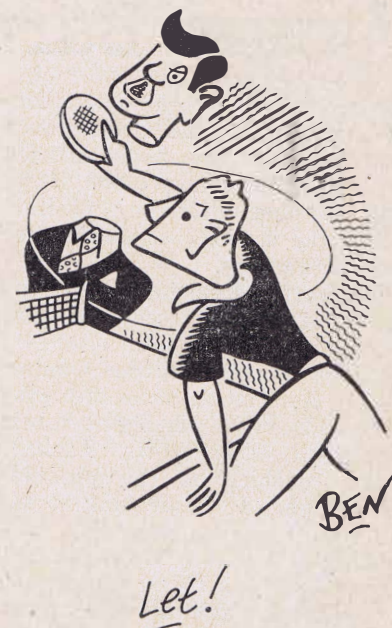
Another step which many county associations are contemplating is the coaching of promising young players. Never before in this country have nearly all the leading players been "veterans." Encouragement to the youngsters is long overdue, and I feel that the counties are the best medium to impartially bring them on. Each individual league may be rather biased in viewing their own youngsters, while the National Association is rather remote in some cases. What better than a county association? Just think of the encouragement to a youngster, keen to improve, who is "noticed" by his county, and has as his or her goal the ambition to play for that county.

To sum up, therefore, a county association is a body which co-ordinates the efforts of its member leagues; encourages competitions in its own area; endeavours to improve the standard of play in its locality; assists the formation of fresh leagues; acts as the liaison officer of the National Association in encouraging fresh leagues and youth leagues to affiliate; fosters publicity for the game, especially by inter-county matches; gives practical help to member leagues in difficulties; settles disputes, often before they reach serious proportions; and, in short, becomes the personal contact from the National Association endeavouring to improve the lot of all its members.

COMPETITION for League Secretaries

★

We will donate one guinea to the funds of the League which in our consideration possesses the most useful handbook. Size will not be taken into account, but points will be awarded for the work of the printer. We have already received a number of handbooks, but the competition will be kept open until June 20th. The final decision will be made by a committee of one player, one County Official, and the Editor.



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Victor Barna

*Ex-World Champion five times—
writes on How English Table-
Tennis Can Be Improved*

THE recent world championships and English Open proved that this country is badly in need of some fresh young blood if we want to hold a leading position among the nations competing for world supremacy.

The dearth of capable and young players is, on the face of it, hard to explain, as our sport is one of the most popular in the country and the Association has more registered and active playing members than many other sports. Lack of proper coaching is the probable explanation. It is amazing to see that while in lawn tennis, golf, etc., teaching is essential, in table tennis every player has to rely on himself or herself, although the most important factor in the game is a proper beginning. It is far more difficult to correct a bad stroke than acquire a new one.

CENTRALISED PRACTICE

I often find people who ask me: "What about the Continent and U.S.A.? They have not got (as far as we know) much coaching and still they can produce a number of great players and champions." Well, the answer is that in the Continental countries (those which produce champions) table tennis is more centralised. Practically all their good players belong to one town (Budapest, Prague, Vienna) and they not only play every tournament against each other, but they practise day after day among themselves, constantly improving their own game. The young ones have every chance of playing with first-class players and model their game accordingly. This applies to the U.S.A., and you will notice that their present team includes three from New York (Miles, Pagliaro, Schiff), hotbed of America's

table tennis, and one from Chicago (Holzrichter), also a strong centre of the game. To prove my theory I have only to mention pre-war Germany, where table tennis was not centralised. They never had a team worth mentioning.

Many countries have come to appreciate the importance of sound and experienced basic instruction, and reports indicate that they intend to improve. Among the better known players, Andreadis is coach to Sweden, and Vana to Egypt, and there are many lesser known players who have acquired minor but, nevertheless, important positions as teachers.

NATIONAL COUNTY ASSOCNS.

How else can we improve our game? How about the county championships? I am glad to hear that plans have been made for next year. This is great, and I am sure will put table tennis more firmly on the map than ever, all over the country. Enthusiasm is already running high and I have heard quite a lot of argument—whether Middlesex can beat Essex, and what about Lancashire? Team matches are the foundations of the whole game, and I think we shall see tremendous rivalry between counties and players, which is so badly needed in order to reach a higher standard. And what a chance for coming young players, who can achieve their first ambition and become county players and then play against internationals—not in exhibitions, but in serious matches—what experiences to be gained!

Just one more word about this. The staging of these matches is very important. *They must be attractive to the public.* An unattractive and unduly long programme can do a great deal of harm.

EXTEND TOURNAMENT PLAY

While talking about county championships and organisation, let me tell you my opinion of open tournaments. Nowadays there are many of these and most of them are run in one day, frequently in one afternoon or evening. This is unfair to the players, unfair to the public, and also unfair to the organisers.

To the players such an open tournament is little more than a test of stamina, as all rounds, semi-finals and finals have to be played off practically without a break. Sometimes, or shall I say usually, there is no time available for the players to get any refreshment at all.

Then there is the public. If the finals are held in the same hall as the preliminaries, there is not enough time to dismantle tables and lights, and re-arrange the seating, etc., therefore, the public has to wait outside often for a long time before gaining admittance. At recent open tournaments I have seen a half-mile long queue—45

minutes after the scheduled opening of the finals. Now, is this a good advertisement for the game?

Just imagine, too, the headaches of the organisers. They have a lot of responsibility and hard work before, during, and after a tournament, and all my sympathies are with them! I propose that *open tournaments* should last at least two days. *All* the players should, if required, play on the previous night as well, which would simplify matters. I know I will have quite a lot of opposition from people who will object that many players are working and cannot get off. But what about lawn tennis and other sports? Their tournaments invariably last more than two days, and still the players are there.

I have visited and played in practically every country where table tennis is played, and participated in many grand tournaments; but abroad, I have *never* had to play all my matches in one day. In addition, the number of entries are far larger here—so you can draw your own conclusions!



Photo by permission of "Manchester Evening News"

THE AMERICANS versus MANCHESTER Y.M.C.A.

Left to Right.—(U.S.A.): Mrs. M. Clouter, Miss R. K. Monness, Louis Pagliaro, Solly Schiff; (Manchester Y.M.C.A.): Ken Stanley, Stanley Proffitt, Ron Allcock, Andrew G. Millar.

The American team beat the Manchester Y.M.C.A. players without losing a game.

CHOOSING A RACKET

Are We Sufficiently Racket Conscious?

CHOICE OF RACKET

THERE is one aspect of table tennis which, although discussed quite openly in a superficial manner, is I feel, treated far too lightly and unimportantly by players generally—namely, the choice of racket.

Unquestionably, the main connection with the racket, and I would add, a connection that is absolutely vital in table tennis, is that of confidence. With that confidence, derived only from using the racket best suited to him, the player is all set to improve his game, and providing he is wise enough, will study it wholeheartedly. Without it, all his efforts to better his play are in vain, for whilst there exists the slightest doubt in his mind concerning the grip and general use of his racket, his confidence is automatically affected and subsequently the chances of improving his game.

It has always been a noted fact in English table tennis that a great number of players who reach international status market their own design of racket and thus add to the ever-increasing collection of weights, shapes and sizes, that can be purchased in normal times. Note, however, that I stated "normal times." The advents of the past few years have been far from normal, with the result that the nation-wide shortage of table tennis rackets compelled many players to resort to tactics that they had hitherto never dreamed of—that of making their own racket. Force of circumstances made them experiment with pieces of plywood—

By MAURICE KRISS
Midland 'Closed' Champion
Lanarkshire and Murrayfield
Open Champion

experiments that had previously been left to players of international standard, for after all, when had the "player" found it necessary to go to this trouble, with rackets cheap and plentiful, and designs numerous.

MY IDEAL RACKET

In order to pursue my point, let me briefly refer to a personal issue.

For many years I used a four-ply racket, and though at times with great success, there always existed at the back of my mind that slight lack of confidence in my racket. Whilst experimenting during recent months, I ordered a racket to be made to my own specifications, but instead of a normal four-ply racket, to my astonishment, I was handed a seven-ply! To-day, I am using this racket weighing eight ounces—to the amazement of all my T.T. friends, who shudder when they handle it—and I am perfectly convinced that it is the first racket to give me complete confidence during my playing career.

What does this add up to? Does it necessarily mean that because I can use an exceptionally heavy racket, I advocate others to do so? Of course not. Similarly, neither does it mean that a player who purchases a racket with a "name" is on the same road to success as the designer enjoys.

I reiterate that T.T. is essentially a game for the individualist. If you lack confidence because of your racket, it need not be a question

Continued on next page.

Pagliari's Views on Professionalism

WHILE in Paris, a *Table Tennis Review* representative approached the American Swaythling Cup player, Louis Pagliaro, and asked him the following question, "Do you think Richard Bergmann has been wise in making the decision to restrict his future activities to professional table tennis?"

The answer of this world-famous player was as follows:—

"Yes, I certainly do. From the American angle Sol Schiff and myself have given up approximately fifteen years to the game and have never earned anything like a living from it. In practically every instance, we have to pay our own expenses to tournaments, and at times this has resulted in the loss of a job. Bergmann's methods are winning marvellous publicity for the game."

"Top-class table tennis is a full-time occupation and the National Associations should employ their leading players, giving them a decent livelihood and using them in tournaments and exhibitions. Players cannot be expected to give the game the time it demands if it injures their means of earning a living."

CHOOSING A RACKET

Continued from previous page

of the "workman blaming his tools." Contentment will not lead to success, especially in a sport in which you're wholeheartedly keen.

Experiment for yourself, especially if you find you can't procure the right type of racket.

With a slight alteration of grip, weight or size, you may find the answer to your worries, and with the new confidence gained therefrom, be able to fully develop your own particular style of play.

Back Numbers Available

Back numbers of *Table Tennis Review* can still be obtained from the publishing address: Kenworthy Buildings, 83, Bridge Street, Manchester, 3. The magazine has been published monthly from September, 1946, to February, 1947, Nos. 1-6, Vol. 1, price 6d. each plus postage 1d.

Past numbers include articles by Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach, Ron Sharman, Fred Cromwell, Helen Elliot, Pinkie Barnes, etc. There is a complete course of instruction by Stanley Proffitt, a number of joke sketches by "Ben," and many photographs of the stars. One or two of the numbers are running low, so write now if you require to make up a complete set of Volume One.



NEXT ISSUE

JULY 1st.

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matter, by our team of star contributors.

BOHUMIL VANA

World Champion

Writes on "THE DROP SHOT"

England beats Scotland

In an international match played at Sunderland, on March 29th, England defeated Scotland by ten events to one. Miss Helen Elliot was the only Scotch player to win, defeating Miss Molly Jones (Cheltenham) who is the West of England champion.

RESULTS: Miss H. Elliot (Scotland) beat Miss M. Jones (England), 21-8, 21-11; Miss V. Patterson (England) beat Mrs. Norrie (Scotland), 21-17, 25-23; B. Casofsky (England) beat J. Hillan (Scotland), 21-10, 21-13; A. W. Simons (England) beat K. R. Young (Scotland), 21-9, 21-3; R. Litten (England) beat J. Edwards (Scotland), 21-13, 21-8.

Casofsky and Stanley beat Hillan and Edwards, 21-14, 21-9; Simons and Litten beat Gillis and Young, 21-11, 21-7; Litten and Miss Patterson beat Gillis and Mrs. Norrie, 21-4, 21-11; Simons and Miss Jones beat Hillan and Miss Elliot, 21-18, 21-16; Miss Jones and Miss Patterson beat Miss Elliot and Mrs. Norrie, 21-17, 23-21.

Ulster Open at Belfast

FINALS.

Men's Singles: I. Martin (Belfast) beat V. Mercer (Belfast), 21-11, 21-15, 21-12.

Ladies' Singles: Miss C. Egan (Dublin) beat Mrs. B. Cooper (Dublin), 21-17, 25-27, 21-16.

Men's Doubles: Mercer and Martin beat J. McKimm (Ards) and H. Cavan (Ards), 21-11, 21-15, 21-12.

Ladies' Doubles: Mrs. Cooper and Miss Egan beat Misses Workman and Buchanan (Belfast), 21-15, 21-18.

Mixed Doubles: Mercer and Miss Buchanan beat Martin and Miss A. Coombs (Dublin).

Table Manners

By CAVIARE

The net is up and the table prepared.

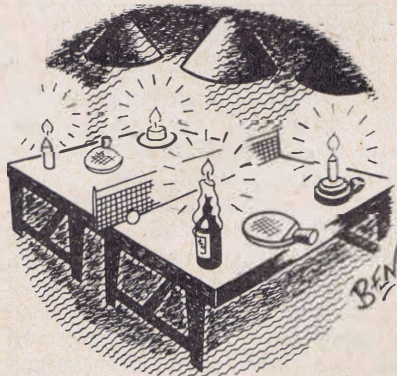
The player remembers and appreciates all the preparatory work that has been done before he arrives on the scene.

He knows that there is much to criticise in the organisation and administration, but will not let too much "grouse" mar his "game." He knows that the officials have plenty on their "plate" without his hindering them with another "helping."

He intends to play the game, to put the game first and self last, to use brain as well as brawn, and to leave all "bounce" to the manufacturers.

If he can never be a "Barna," and not often a great "victor," he can always be a grand loser. He has the will to win gracefully, and the grace to lose cheerfully.

Who is this player? Can it possibly be you?



"Highlights" of Season 1946-47.

How You Can Win More Games

By RICHARD BERGMANN
(Ex-World Champion)

WHEN a player is being coached he is taught the forehand and backhand strokes, both attack and defence, and he is also trained in the drop-shot and the smash on both wings, but it is not sufficient to be able to combine all these. The most important asset a player can possess is the ability to judge just when is the right moment to use any particular stroke.

A player must have patience and wait for his "winners." You cannot go on to the table and just blaze away at everything, hitting the lowest shots hard and from impossible angles. That period of waiting for the right moment is an art which must be studied like any other stroke of the game. Even first-class players like Vana, Tereba, Barna and so on, are all tied down by this rule, and they never smash away, point after point, even if their opponent is only of average standard.

While I wish to stress upon you the importance of waiting for returns which are suitable to your best shots, I do not want you to obtain the idea that during such periods your game should be static. You should learn how to manoeuvre your opponent so that he plays the ball in the manner which you are waiting for it to be returned.

All players have their strengths and weaknesses, and possibly you are a player with only one shot which you can rely upon as being a point-winner. Unless you are able to pave a way for that particular attacking stroke, a crafty opponent will keep you waiting so long that the game will fall into the "chiselling" category.

Let us discuss an imaginary game. Bert has a strong forehand attack,

but his backhand attack is too weak to be used seriously in match-play. While still trying to improve his backhand during ordinary practice, in match-play he uses the ordinary push-stroke to return shots given to his backhand side.

One night, Bert is playing for his club in an important match and naturally, he must give off his best. The first game commences and his opponent is one of those awkward people who don't look good players, but possess the knack of immediately pouncing on a weakness such as Bert's. Sure enough, every shot is placed neatly on his backhand side, and soon Bert loses his patience, and though in bad position for doing so, hits a few backhands into the net and off the table. The points begin to pile up against him. Having the right temperament, Bert's opponent presses on, tempting him to risk everything. Through his inability to dominate the game, poor old Bert eventually succeeds in beating himself in spite of the fact that his opponent was probably below his class.

Bert should have shown more control during the waiting period and at the same time his task was to prepare for his forehand drive. He should have kept alert and on his toes, dancing about so that at times he could have moved like a flash to his backhand corner and in perfect position for a quick forehand.

Finally, let me say that in every game you lose, there is a reason why you lost. As you rub yourself down with towel, go through the game almost point for point and find out just where you fell short. The next time you should know what to do, so go to it and gain from your mistakes.

Yorkshire Association

Owing to pressure of work, Mr. Frank B. Walker, of Barnsley, has resigned from the position of Hon. Secretary to the Yorkshire Association. Mr. Walker was first associated with the Association in 1934. He became Match Secretary in 1936, which position he held until 1939. During the war years and until quite recently, he officiated as Hon. Secretary. Quite apart from his services rendered to the game in Yorkshire, Mr. Walker was well known in the North. Fortunately, he will continue to guide the activities of the Barnsley League, but the County Association regrets the loss of an official.

With Mr. Walker's resignation, changes have been made. Mr. L. E. Forrest becomes Hon. Secretary, while the positions held by Mr. Forrest are shared between Miss N. Senior, Yorkshire's leading lady player who becomes Match Secretary, and Mr. J. Hitchcock of Halifax Competition Secretary. Mr. G. Lodge of Bradford is Assistant Hon. Sec. Mr. A. D. Shivers, the well-known Sheffield player is Chairman, with Mr. C. Bedford of Leeds, Hon. Treasurer.

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Tournament and Match Results

FINAL RESULTS.

MIDLAND OPEN (February 8th).
Men's Singles.—V. Barna beat J. Leach, 15-21, 21-16, 20-15, 21-18.

Ladies Singles.—E. Blackburne beat M. Jones, 21-9, 21-11.

Men's Doubles.—Barna and Haydon beat Leach and Carrington, 21-19, 21-18.

Ladies' Doubles.—E. Blackburne and V. Patterson beat M. Jones and J. MacKay, 16-21, 21-17, 21-14.

Mixed Doubles.—Leach and Blackburne beat Carrington and Patterson, 21-14, 21-16.

Junior Singles.—Robbins (Wolverhampton) beat Morris (Wolverhampton).

SCOTTISH OPEN (February 15th)

Men's Singles—Semi-Finals: B. Casofsky (Manchester) beat S. Schiff (U.S.A.); L. Pagliaro (U.S.A.) beat K. Stanley (Leyland). *Final*: L. Pagliaro beat B. Casofsky 22-20, 21-17.

Ladies' Singles—Semi-Finals: H. Elliot (Edinburgh) beat R. K. Monness (U.S.A.); M. Clouther (U.S.A.) beat C. Norrie (Dundee). *Final*: H. Elliot beat M. Clouther, 21-12, 21-23, 21-14.

Men's Doubles—Final: S. Schiff and L. Pagliaro beat B. Casofsky and L. Cohen.

Women's Doubles—Final: Elliot and Lithie (Edinburgh) beat Clouther and Monness (U.S.A.)

Mixed Doubles—Final: L. Pagliaro and Monness (U.S.A.) beat Schiff and Clouther (U.S.A.)

Junior Singles—Final: R. Falconer (Hamilton) beat G. Paterson (Aberdeen) 21-18, 21-11.

EUROPE CUP.

In the inter-zone final of the Ladies' European Cup, England defeated Czechoslovakia by six events to one. The English team being Misses Vera Dace, Betty Blackburne and Peggy Franks.

The men's team consisting of J. Leach, E. Bubley and J. Carrington, lost to France, 3-2.

BRISTOL OPEN (February 22nd) FINALS.

Men's Singles: A. W. Simons beat P. Grant.

Ladies' Singles: M. Jones beat J. Crosby.

Men's Doubles: Simons and Hutchings beat Hopkins and Pickett.

Women's Doubles: Jones and Mason beat Rind and Crosby.

Junior Singles: W. Rowe beat R. Allcock.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SOUVENIR PAGES

MEN'S SINGLES

Reported by LESLIE COHEN (English International)

IN the huge Racing Club de France, not far from the Bohemian quarter of the Montparnasse, Paris, players of twenty-one nations gathered together during the period February 28th—March 7th, 1947, to decide the titles of the world's table tennis championships. The team contests for the men's Swaythling Cup and the Women's Corbillon Cup were played off first and then commenced the individual tournament.

Prior to the Swaythling Cup final between Czechoslovakia and U.S.A., Richard Miles (U.S.A.) was still something of a mystery man and was fancied by many to carry off the major title. However, his three defeats by the Czechs shook both his own and the confidence of his supporters. As the first rounds began, the favourite was, of course, Bohumil Vana (Czechoslovakia).

As was expected, the English Swaythling Cup team was not strong enough to achieve very much, but both Johnny Leach and Benny Casofsky had played so well that it appeared they might go far in the singles event.

EARLY SHOCKS

The first round brought early disappointments for England. Victor Barna (ex-world champion five times) was defeated in three straight games by Louis Pagliaro (U.S.A.), his standard of play being a mere shadow of its former self. Then followed the exit of Casofsky who fell to Turnofsky (Czechoslovakia),

and George Goodman also dropped out to Stipek (Czechoslovakia).

The wickets were certainly falling fast, then along came Johnny Leach to make a really noble stand. It was then the turn of the other countries' stars to fall to an English player. Out went Agopoff (France), Miles (U.S.A.), and later Tereba (Czechoslovakia).

A MARATHON MATCH

Next, came one of those games which is part and parcel of a world's championship. It was a quarter-final match between Pagliaro and Erlich (Poland). It appears that the night prior to this game Erlich told Pagliaro that he intended to chisel away on to the American's backhand and "push him for ever." Pagliaro accepted the challenge to this duel of defence and so after ten minutes play was 6-2 for Pagliaro in the first game. After eight minutes another point was added, making the score 6-3. Erlich then noticed the clock which had been placed near to the table, and hit a winner. Pagliaro did the same, and then Erlich missed a smash, score, 9-4 for Pagliaro. The time limit of twenty minutes for one game had been reached, and in accordance with the rule, the game was awarded to the player holding the lead. (Pagliaro remarked later that it was the first time he had ever won a game by scoring only nine points.)

The players were spoken to by an official and the second game commenced with Pagliaro hitting slowly.

At 8-8, the American appeared to tire of such monotonous play and hit out more frequently. Erhlich too, ventured forth with a moderate attack. Pagliaro led at 20-17 in the second game, then the Pole hit two winners . . . 20-19, the third smash Erhlich missed and the game went to U.S.A. At the end of the third game which resulted in another win for Pagliaro, the crowd clapped with sheer relief that a fourth game would not be necessary. One question that must have entered the minds of many was, "Who said higher the net?"

OTHER QUARTER FINALS

Sido, a tall burly Hungarian, wearing a blue head-band, red shirt, and blue football shorts gave one the impression of being an all-in wrestler rather than a table tennis player, but what a delightful exhibition he gave against Haguenauer (France). The French player won the first game, but failed to hold the terrific two-wing attack of his opponent in the following three games.

In another quarter-final, Johnny Leach easily beat his club mate and doubles partner Jack Carrington, this being more of an exhibition than a serious tussle.

Bohumil Vana adapted his game splendidly to the soft and slow tables and against Soos (Hungary), he worked his attack up gradually to a lightning speed, winning in three straight games.

SEMI-FINALS

(Played at the Palais de Sports)

Pagliaro *v.* Sido. Keeping to his usual style of play, Pagliaro defended with extremely heavy chop, but Sido played magnificently, hitting with terrific speed from his forehand. Pagliaro took the first game at 21-13 and thrilled the crowd with his spectacular defence, sending back

returns a great distance from the table. Sido put on great pressure and proved too much for the gallant little American.

Leach *v.* Vana. The first game went to Vana who began to attack right from the start. In the second game, Leach cleverly made the favourite move about and frequently succeeded in gaining the attack. At 17-14, Johnny had the lead and then ensued a long and well-fought point . . . 18-14 . . . 18-15 . . . 18-16 . . . 19-16. Leach played the game of his life, refusing to be forced far away from the table and so create opportunities for Vana's deadly drop-shot. Leach kept the lead and the scoring continued, 20-17 . . . 20-18 . . . 20-19 . . . 21-19. The games score was then level at one each. The third game was another ding-dong struggle with Johnny Leach leading most of the time right up to 17-17, when Vana took the lead at 18-17 and succeeded in gaining two lucky shots which took the score to 20-18. Brilliant defensive work by Leach levelled the scores at 20-20, but two weak shots by the Englishman gave this vital third game to Vana. In the fourth game, Vana was the master. Johnny's retrieving was first-class, but his forehand drive was weak—still, he might easily have won that third game—and then what?

FINAL

Vana *v.* Sido. The final was not in the least spectacular and from the first to the last, it was purely a "slogging" match. In his efforts to stand up to the Czech, Sido often hit wildly. Now and then, Vana fell back on defence, but even that was too good for Sido, and so Bohumil Vana, 27-year-old Czech won the world's final in three straight games.

LADIES' SINGLES

SEMI-FINALS

V. DACE (England) *v.* G. FARKAS (Hungary). The defeat of the English girl was one of the biggest surprises of the tournament, especially as so many expected Miss Vera Dace to return from Paris with the world's title. In spite of losing the first game Farkas went on to win the next three in no uncertain manner. Dace lacked confidence and even when she had the openings for her winners, her strokes lacked power. Farkas beat her time after time with well-placed back-hand shots.

E. BLACKBOURNE (England) *v.* T. PRITZI (Austria). Faced with the "Queen of Chisellers," Betty Blackbourne played table tennis that was worthy of a world champion. In three straight games she made the ex-world champion appear like a novice. Her stroke play was perfect, and her fierce attack came from both sides of the table. She obtained numerous points from a clever drop-shot which again and again caught Pritzi completely off her balance.

FINAL

In the first game Miss E. Blackbourne tried hard to play in her attack, but she appeared nervous and it was obvious that she was not in the same good form as she had been all through the week. In the Corbillon Cup she had beaten Mrs. Gizi Farkas easily, but for individuals final she found Farkas playing in a much more confident manner. The first game went to the Hungarian girl. In the second game, Blackbourne seemed to be having trouble with her opponent's chop, but attack carried her through to a lead of 19-16. At 19-18 Miss Blackbourne played three careless shots which presented her opponent with the second game. In the third game the scores were level at 8-8 with Blackbourne hitting well and Farkas playing exceptionally well in defence. Then the English girl began to fall for heavy chop and the scores began to grow widely separated, 10-8 . . . 13-8 . . . 16-12 . . . 21-12! Mrs. Gizi Farkas (Hungary), won the world's women's singles by three straight games. She is a clever tactician, has a sound and attractive defence and possesses a winning back-hand flick which she also plays well when running in to return a drop-shot.

MEN'S DOUBLES FINAL

VANA and SLAR (Czechoslovakia) *v.* J. LEACH and J. CARRINGTON (England). In the first game the English players were winning 5-2, but before they realised



Miss
ELISABETH
BLACKBOURNE

what had happened the score was 21-8 for their opponents. In order to reach the final, Leach and Carrington had played exceptionally well, beating such pairs as Miles and Pagliaro, Agopoff and Dubouille, and Tereba and Stipek, but one could not help thinking that had, Barna and Leach been paired together, the title would have come to this country. In the second game, Leach and Carrington improved, but failed to make the most of their opportunities to hit winners. The second and third games ended in scores of 21-14 and 21-15 for the Czechs.

LADIES' DOUBLES

In the second round, Dace and Blackbourne were beaten by Pritzi and Farkas, 18-21, 22-24, 21-18, 21-9, 21-19, while Peggy Franks (England) and Helen Elliot (Scotland), were beaten by Kettnerova and Hrushova (Czechoslovakia), 21-7, 13-21, 17-21, 21-10, 20-22.

In the final event, Pritzi and Farkas beat Monness and Clouther (U.S.A.), 22-20, 21-14, 21-19.

MIXED DOUBLES

In the semi-finals, Victor Barna, and Peggy Franks, lost to Soos and Farkas and Slar and Depetrisova beat Holzrichter and Hawthorn 21-9, 21-6 and 21-12.

Final.—Soos and Farkas beat Slar and Depetrisova, 17-21, 21-13, 21-18, 21-15.

CONSOLATION SINGLES

Turnofsky (Czech) beat B. Casofsky.

2ND ROUND.

Andreadis (Czech) ..
 Evalenko (Belgium) ..
 Bishlamy (Egypt) ..
 Erhlich (Poland) ..
 Pautou (France) ..
 Bailleul (France) ..
 Mercer (Ireland) ..
 Boutry (France) ..
 Moudry (Czech) ..
 Koezian (Hungary) ..
 Zahnd (France) ..
 Amouretti (France) ..
 Urchetti (Swiss) ..
 Stoop (Holland) ..
 Pagliaro (U.S.A.) ..
 Anderson (Sweden) ..
 Stipek (Czech) ..
 Sivaraman (India) ..
 Vlk (Czech) ..
 Stadelhoffen (Swiss) ..
 Schiff (U.S.A.) ..
 Sido (Hungary) ..
 Bedoc (France) ..
 Cronerya (Sweden) ..
 Rubini (France) ..
 Chugg (Wales) ..
 Bublely (England) ..
 Tokar (Czech) ..
 Haguenaer (France) ..
 Slar (Czech) ..
 Farkas (Hungary) ..
 Kabil (Egypt) ..
 Turnofsky (Czech) ..
 Hartwich (Austria) ..
 Van Ham (Holland) ..
 Sweetland (Wales) ..
 Crapet (France) ..
 Eckl (Austria) ..
 Vana (Czech) ..
 Lesueur (Jersey) ..
 Bordrez (France) ..
 Mackay (England) ..
 Holzrichter (U.S.A.) ..
 Haydon (England) ..
 Soos (Hungary) ..
 O'Prey (Ireland) ..
 Thunnissen (Holland) ..
 Becart (France) ..
 Tereba (Czech) ..
 Vithal (India) ..
 Schiff (Palestine) ..
 Marinko (Czech) ..
 Miles (U.S.A.) ..
 Leach (England) ..
 Chales (France) ..
 Cohen (England) ..
 Carrington (England) ..
 Lanskoj (France) ..
 Mohtadi (Iran) ..
 Willnes (Luxembourg) ..
 Eros (Hungary) ..
 Dubouille (France) ..
 Portal (Swiss) ..
 Evans (Wales) ..

Andreadis ..
 Erhlich ..
 Bailleul ..
 Mercer ..
 Moudry ..
 Amouretti ..
 Urchetti ..
 Pagliaro ..
 Stipek ..
 Vlk ..
 Sido ..
 Bedoc ..
 Chugg ..
 Bublely ..
 Haguenaer ..
 Farkas ..
 Turnofsky ..
 Sweetland ..
 Eckl ..
 Vana ..
 Bordrez ..
 Holzrichter ..
 Soos ..
 Becart ..
 Tereba ..
 Marinko ..
 Leach ..
 Cohen ..
 Carrington ..
 Mohtadi ..
 Eros ..
 Portal ..

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP

MEN'S SINGLES PARIS—MARCH, 1947

Erhlich ..
 21-8, 21-17
 21-15

Pagliaro ..
 9-4, 21-9
 21-13

Pagliaro ..
 24-22, 21-13
 20-22, 21-9

Sido ..
 21-13, 17-21
 21-7, 22-20

Sido ..
 22-20, 21-17
 21-8

Sido ..
 21-23, 21-18
 21-11, 21-15

Haguenaer ..
 21-18, 21-9
 18-21, 21-16

WINNER :
B. VANA
 (Czechoslovakia)
 21-10, 21-14
 21-9

Vana ..
 21-9, 21-9
 21-12

Vana ..
 21-10, 21-11
 21-18

Soos ..
 16-21, 21-16
 21-15, 21-9

Vana ..
 21-10; 19-21
 22-20, 21-16

Leach ..
 13-21, 21-12
 21-10, 21-14

Leach ..
 21-12, 21-13
 21-15

Carrington ..
 22-20, 21-16
 20-22, 21-18

(Interesting results of First Round See page 20)

World Championship—Ladies' Singles

PARIS, MARCH, 1947.

3RD ROUND.

Depetrisova (Czech)	Hruskova	Dace	21-14, 21-16	Farkas	13-21, 21-18	21-11, 21-15	WINNER :
Hruskova (Czech)							
Dace (England)	Dace	Dace	21-19	Farkas	13-21, 21-18	21-11, 21-15	Farkas (Hungary)
Hawthorn (U.S.A.)							
Farkas (Hungary)	Farkas	Farkas	21-10, 21-11	Farkas	13-21, 21-18	21-11, 21-15	21-15, 21-19
Ketnerova (Czech)							
Siegrist (Swiss)	Patterson	Patterson	21-12	Farkas	13-21, 21-18	21-11, 21-15	21-12
Patterson (England)							
Elliot (Scotland)	Elliot	Blackbourne	21-12, 14-21	Blackbourne	12-21, 21-13	21-11, 21-15	21-12
Clouther (U.S.A.)							
Blackbourne (England)	Blackbourne	Blackbourne	12-21, 21-13	Blackbourne	12-21, 21-13	21-11, 21-15	21-12
Votrubcova (Czech)							
Abou Heif (Egypt)	Abou Heif	Pritzi	21-5, 21-15	Blackbourne	12-21, 21-13	21-11, 21-15	21-12
Betling (France)							
Pritzi (Austria)	Pritzi	Pritzi	21-9	Blackbourne	12-21, 21-13	21-11, 21-15	21-12
Furstova (Czech)							

EARLIER ROUNDS.

1ST ROUND: Depetrisova (Czech) beat Osborne (England); Thall (U.S.A.) beat Roy Evans (Wales); Siegrist (Switz.) beat Norrie (Scotland); Bates (Wales) beat Haidinger (Austria).

2ND ROUND: Patterson (England) beat Detournay (Belgium); Elliot (Scotland) beat Anderlick (Hungary); Blackbourne (England) beat Bates (Wales); Abou Heif (Egypt) beat Swatman (England); Pritzi (Austria) beat Monness (U.S.A.); Furstova (Czech) beat Franks (England).

Men's Doubles Results

We give only those results which are likely to be of interest to our readers.

FIRST ROUND

Vana and Slar (Czechoslovakia) beat Thuillier and O'Prey (Ireland); Lahana and Gordon (Belgium) beat Sweatland and Jones (Wales); Cohen and Kay (England) beat Barbach and Fisher (France); Barna and Haydon (England) beat Larcade and Rubini (France); Mackay and Walton (England) beat Skovgaard and Nilsen (Denmark); Filby and Casofsky (England) beat Becart and Boutry (France); Turnofsky and Vlk (Czechoslovakia) beat Bublely and Goodman (England); Mercer and Martin (Ireland) beat Brook (England) and Mohtadi (Egypt); Leach and Carrington (England) beat Bordrez and Lanskoj (France); Eros and Farkas (Hungary) beat Brown and Coia (Scotland); Collier and Bedoc (France) beat Chugg and Burrows (Wales); Du Buy and Thunnissen (Holland) beat Montague (England) and Nidy (U.S.A.).

SECOND ROUND

Cohen and Kay beat Lahana and Gordon; Barna and Haydon beat Hef-Hana and Hef (Egypt); Eckl and Schuch (Austria) beat Mackay and Walton.

Turnofsky and Vlk beat Filby and Casofsky.

Flisberg and Anderson (Sweden) beat Mercer and Martin;

Leach and Carrington beat Miles and Pagliaro (U.S.A.).

THIRD ROUND

Vana and Slar beat Cohen and Kay; Barna and Haydon beat Juhl and Moller (Denmark).

Leach and Carrington beat Agopoff and Dubouille (France).

SEMI-FINAL

Vana and Slar beat Soos and Sido (Hungary);

Barna and Haydon beat Marinko and Tokar (Czech);

Tereba and Stipek beat Turnofsky and Vlk;

Leach and Carrington beat Eros and Farkas.

FINAL

Vana and Slar beat Leach and Carrington, 21-8, 21-14, 21-15.

Swaythling Cup Games Chart

(MEN'S TEAM TOURNAMENT)

CLASS "A."	Czecho-	Ireland.	Scotland	Pales-	Sweden	Denmark	Luxem-	Austria	Egypt
Nations.	slovakia		time.	Sweden		bowg			
Czechoslovakia	—	5-0	w/o. w.	5-0	5-0	5-0	6-0	6-0	5-0
Ireland	0-5	—	w/o. w.	5-4	0-5	5-3	5-0	0-5	0-5
Scotland	w/o. L.	w/o. L.	—	w/o. L.	w/o. L.	0-5	w/o. L.	w/o. L.	w/o. L.
Palestine	0-5	5-4	w/o. w.	—	0-5	5-2	5-0	1-5	2-5
Sweden	0-5	5-0	w/o. w.	5-0	—	5-0	5-0	3-5	5-0
Denmark	0-5	3-5	5-0	2-5	0-5	—	5-2	0-5	2-5
Luxembourg	0-6	0-5	w/o. w.	0-5	0-5	2-5	—	0-5	1-5
Austria	0-5	5-0	w/o. w.	5-1	5-3	5-0	5-0	—	5-1
Egypt	0-5	5-0	w/o. w.	5-2	0-5	5-2	5-1	1-5	—

CLASS "B."

Nations	United States	France	Switzer-land	Belgium	England	Holland	Wales	Hungary	India
United States	—	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-2	5-0	5-1	5-1	5-0
France	0-5	—	5-0	5-0	5-3	5-0	5-0	5-2	5-0
Switzerland	0-5	0-5	—	4-5	2-5	5-4	5-2	2-5	4-5
Belgium	0-5	0-5	5-4	—	4-5	5-0	2-5	0-5	5-0
England	2-5	3-5	5-2	5-1	—	5-0	5-0	3-5	5-0
Holland	0-5	0-5	4-5	0-5	0-5	—	4-5	0-5	2-5
Wales	1-5	0-5	2-5	5-2	0-5	5-4	—	0-5	1-5
Hungary	1-5	2-5	5-2	5-0	5-3	5-0	5-0	—	5-1
India	0-5	0-5	5-4	0-5	0-5	5-2	5-1	1-5	—

Swaythling Cup Placings

CLASS "A."

Countries	Pts.	Gms.	Wins.	Dfets.
Czechoslovakia	8	8	8	0
Austria	7	8	7	1
Sweden	6	8	6	2
Egypt	5	8	5	3
Ireland	4	8	4	4
Palestine	3	8	3	5
Denmark	2	8	2	6
Luxembourg	1	8	1	7

CLASS "B."

Countries	Pts.	Gms.	Wins.	Dfets.
United States	8	8	8	0
France	7	8	7	1
Hungary	6	8	6	2
England	5	8	5	3
India	3	8	3	5
Belgium	3	8	3	5
Switzerland	2	8	2	6
Wales	2	8	2	6
Holland	0	8	0	8

Final Result: CZECHOSLOVAKIA beat UNITED STATES 5-2.

Corbillon Cup Placings

(LADIES' TEAM TOURNAMENT)

CLASS "A."

Countries	Pts.	Gms.	Wins.	Dfets.
Hungary	7	7	7	0
Czechoslovakia	6	7	6	1
Wales	5	7	5	2
Holland	4	7	4	3
Austria	3	7	3	4

CLASS "B."

Countries	Pts.	Gms.	Wins.	Dfets.
England	6	6	6	0
United States	5	6	5	1
Belgium	3	6	3	3
Switzerland	3	6	3	3
Scotland	2	6	2	4
France	2	6	2	4
Sweden	0	6	0	6

Final Result: ENGLAND defeated HUNGARY 3-0.

My Table-Tennis Career

By BOHUMIL VANA (Czechoslovakia)

(Specially written for "Table Tennis Review.")

I STARTED to play table tennis when I was a young boy of twelve and a half years, and at thirteen I played in my first tournament which was the junior championship of Prague, held at the Y.M.C.A. I reached the final of this tournament and there I met a Mr. Vesley who was a member of the Foreign Office and also chairman of the popular Sporta Club. Mr. Vesley invited me to play regularly at his club and to meet the very best of opponents such as Kolar, World Champion 1936, and other players of world top-class.

Mr. Vesley and my brother often watched me play and gave me much advice. They bought me books on lawn tennis so that I might gain from the theory and tactics of that game. I feel I owe a lot to those books on lawn tennis, and I studied them very thoroughly, eventually being able to recite whole pages from memory.

When I was fifteen years, I became the champion of Czechoslovakia and a member of my country's Swaythling Cup team, and in 1935 I participated in the World Championship in London. I then wore short pants!

BARNA BEATEN

At the age of 16 years, I played in an international match in Prague between Hungary and Czechoslovakia, beating Victor Barna 2-1. I look upon that event as the beginning of my table tennis career. Two years later, I beat Richard Bergmann in the World's championship final, defeating Barna in the semi-final, 3-0.

In 1938, I went on a tour of America where I was undefeated, meeting such players as Johnny McClure, Grimes and other American

stars, but a year later I lost to Bergmann in Egypt, the score being 21-19 in the fifth game.

Then came the war and during those years I did not leave Prague, but in 1946 I took part in what was regarded as the unofficial world's championship, at the Wembley Stadium, beating my old rival Richard Bergmann 3-0. This of course, being the English Open. In the semi-final of this event, I beat V. Barna 3-0.

At the commencement of the present year I went to Egypt to coach their leading players. This time I was accompanied by my wife, who is ranked as number five in the Czech team. I was in Egypt for almost three months before travelling direct to Paris for the world's championship, where I beat Sido, Hungary, in the final by three straight games, also winning the doubles title partnered by Slar.

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND

Results which are likely to be of interest to the majority of our readers:—

Mercer (Ireland) beat Kolarik (Czech).
Pagliaro (U.S.A.) beat Barna (England).
Stipek (Czechoslovakia) beat E. Goodman (England).

Bedoc (France) beat Walton (England).
Chugg (Wales) beat Thuiler (Ireland).
Turnofsky (Czechoslovakia) beat Casofsky (England).

Van Ham (Holland) beat Burrows (Wales).
Vana (Czechoslovakia) beat Flisberg (Sweden).

Thunnissen (Holland) beat Coia (Scotland).
Vithal (India) beat Jones (Wales).

Leach (England) beat Agofsoff (France).
Willnes (Luxembourg) beat Gillis (Scotland).

Eros (Hungary) beat Martin (Ireland).
Holzrichter (U.S.A.) beat Filby (England).

My Impressions of the English Players

By LESLIE COHEN
(English International)

JOHNNY LEACH

He rose to a height few people thought possible. His defence was amazingly brilliant. On the form shown, he was definitely number two to Vana, and had he possessed a harder and more consistent forehand drive he would have won the title. In the Swaythling Cup matches, his record brought great credit to English table tennis, winning our only three games against Hungary, and our only two against U.S.A. He appears to have the ideal match temperament.

BENNY CASOFSKY.

I rank him as England's No. 2 on the week's play in Paris. He was not chosen to play in the team matches against Hungary and U.S.A. yet he beat Bordrez and narrowly lost to Amouretti in the match against France. Praise must be given for the manner in which he adapted himself to the slow tables, and for his performance in reaching the final of the Consolation Singles. (He was defeated in the first round of the Men's Singles by Turnovsky, Czechoslovakia.)

ELI GOODMAN.

He played some good games and fought hard, but often attempted impossible "winners" at crucial points of the game. His defence was good and his back-hand half-volley was very effective in enabling him to maintain his attack in the face of strong pressure.

ERNEST BUBLEY.

Cardidly, he was disappointing. His style of play makes him a reliable player against weaker men, but against the stars he was out-classed. Nevertheless, he never gave up trying.

ERIC FILBY.

He never settled down to the conditions, the slow tables being a big handicap to him.

ARTHUR A. HAYDON (Non-Playing Captain).

After Leach, he was the most valuable man on the team. He was the perfect captain, keen, encouraging and clever tactician.

LADIES.

Miss ELISABETH BLACKBOURNE

In all the Corbillon Cup matches and right up to the final of the Ladies' Singles, she appeared to be a sure winner of the world's title. Against Trudi Pritzi (Austria) in the singles semi-final, she gave the finest exhibition of all-round stroke play that I have ever seen from a girl. She had a wonderful back-hand and forehand attack, and often made good use of well-placed drop shots. Her defence was sound, and in fact she had everything it takes to make a world champion. I can only account for her defeat in the final by Mrs. Farkas (Hungary) through nervousness and the lack of a really big-match temperament.

VERA DACE.

Everyone expected a great deal from Vera, but the slow tables exposed her as being a one-stroke player. She was unable to make her forehand drive work effectively and with nothing else to fall back on, she could not rise to the heights for which we hoped. She urgently needs to improve her defence.

PEGGY FRANKS.

She has all the shots of the game but not enough power to make them real winners. She played well and gave a good account of herself, but she too, suffers from "nerves."

ENGLANDS No. 1—JOHNNY LEACH

JOHNNY LEACH, is undoubtedly England's No. 1 and, if it is possible to make a forecast of the so distant future, we should say he is a safe bet for the next world's championship.

Johnny is 24 years old and he commenced playing 11 years ago through his father's keenness for the game. Just before joining the R.A.F. in 1940 he won the Romford Closed Championship, this being his first title.

While serving in Ireland he met Jack Carrington, the popular English International, and there he settled down to make a determined effort to improve his game. With the aid of Jack's expert coaching he won the Irish Open Singles within nine months, and successfully defended it the following year.

Johnny's first success in England was to win the Central London Open in 1944, but in the March of the same year he had won through to the final of an invitation tournament, being beaten by Richard Bergmann, then world champion, in the final by three games to one.

From then success followed success, and the end of the 1945-1946 season found Johnny Leach finishing on a really high note, beating Richard Bergmann in the final of the Wembley Open, the fifth and deciding game being 24-22.

He has travelled many thousands of miles playing table tennis in such countries as Italy, Austria, Greece, Yugoslavia and France.

During the present season he beat Victor Barna in the final of the Welsh Open, and in the Swaythling Cup games in Paris he had the astounding record of losing only two single matches. In the world's singles tournament each round found him growing in strength

and he accounted for such famous players as Agopoff (France), Miles (U.S.A.), and Tereba (Czechoslovakia). In the semi-final he made a valiant effort to beat Vana, but was defeated 3-1. Partnered by his friend and coach, Jack Carrington, the English pair reached the final of world's doubles.

Along with Jack Carrington he runs the Albion Table Tennis School, with branches at West Kensington and Hackney, to whom we are indebted for the accompanying photograph.

Prior to the world's championship Johnny went into serious training, and throughout all the bad weather he attended the Tottenham Hotspurs' football ground almost daily, where he was taken in hand by the Club trainer.

"I found that training was well worth while," says Johnny, "for on a number of occasions during the championship I had to play matches at midnight and then be on the table again the next morning at nine o'clock."

He is determined to win the world's title next season and this summer will find no relaxation on his part in his efforts to make even further improvements in his standard of play. While he is keenly interested in tennis he feels that it would not help his table tennis to indulge in this game during the Summer.

Johnny Leach is the father of a ten months' old baby boy, so if he can pull off that world's championship next year he should create a record as being the first father to do so. Good luck to you, Johnny, and many thanks, Mrs. Leach, for unselfishly allowing your husband so much time to devote to T.T. and give England a hope for the future.



Johnny Leach (England's No. 1).

NEW RULES FOR NEXT SEASON

AT the conference of the International Federation held in Paris during the week of the world's championship, the Hon. Ivor Montague (Chairman of the English Association), was re-elected as President.

At this conference, two important new rulings were made for next season, these being:—

1. THE SERVICE. The American rule to be adopted which says, that the hand of the server must be perfectly open and flat, with the fingers straight and the thumb free. In other words, the ball will have to be tossed up from the palm of an open hand.

2. RESTRICTION OF 'CHISELLING.' This is another American rule and it is to be applied at the discretion of the referee. When players are indulging in 'chiselling,' or unattractive play, the referee shall

give them notice that the game must be completed with each player serving alternately. It is then necessary for the server to score within twelve strokes or else lose the point. A further statement will be made later concerning international contests, as it is obvious that an evenly balanced committee of referees is necessary to decide when the above rule should be brought into force.

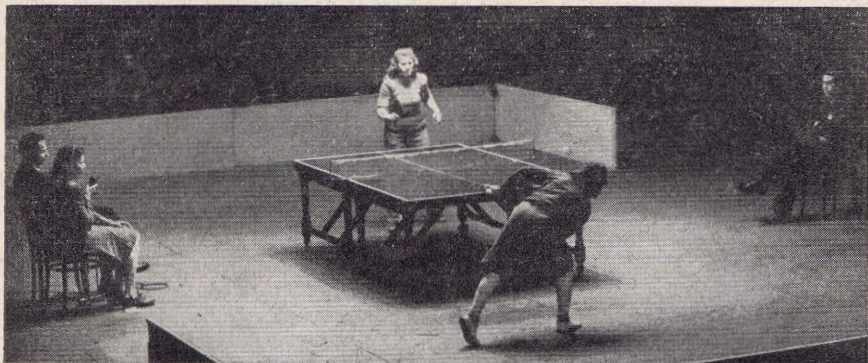
In our next issue

Leslie Forrest

writes on

"COACHING OFFICIALS"

on sale July 1st.



WOMEN'S SINGLES FINAL. Mrs. G. Farkas (Hungary) v. Miss C. Votrubcova (Czech).

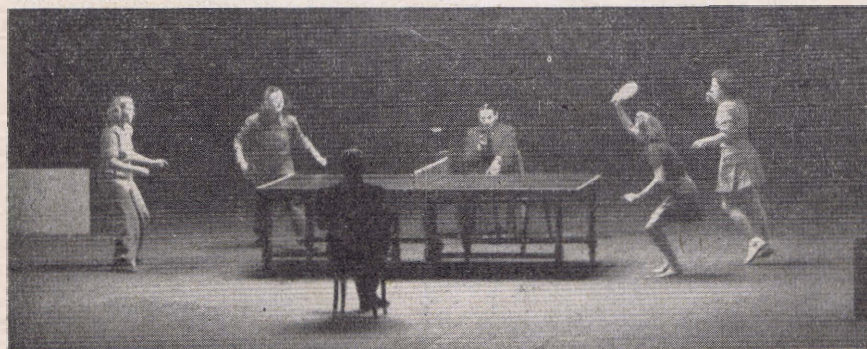
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 1947.**



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V. Tereba
 (Czechoslovakia)
 Winner
 Men's Singles.



WOMEN'S DOUBLES FINAL. Mrs. G. Farkas (Hungary) and Miss Trudi Pritzi (Austria) v. Misses E. Blackbourne and V. Dace (England).

English Open Championships

PLAYED AT WEMBLEY STADIUM

TEN thousand people packed the Wembley Stadium on March 15th to watch the final events of the English Open Championships, but one cannot say that this great audience which had travelled from all parts of the country were raised to any pitch of great enthusiasm. Maybe the absence of English players from the men's singles and doubles accounted for that atmosphere of "quiet interest."

VANA BEATEN

The Czechs completely monopolised both the men's singles and doubles.

In one singles semi-final, Tereba created a surprise by beating the new world champion, Vana.

The first two games were won by Vana who mixed his game with a fair amount of defensive work. In the third game, Vana led at 12-8, then suddenly Tereba began to put on pressure. His attack became fierce and accurate and Vana found it impossible to get in with his own attack. Tereba's counter-backhand hits were superb and he took the third game at 21-15. The fourth game also went to Tereba, who at one point led 11-1. He hit splendidly and constantly from both sides of the table. In the fifth game Vana fought tenaciously and in a desperate effort to gain the attack, he made errors which cost him the match.

These five games provided the crowd with some good class table tennis.

MEN'S FINAL

After beating Slar by three games to two, Andreadis faced Tereba in the final. Andreadis played in a slow graceful manner, his main style being that of defence. His forehand

chop is made with a wide sweep across the body, sometimes following through as far as the left shoulder with the racket.

The match went the full five games and lasted fifty minutes. The rallies were often long and provided some nice table tennis—but not thrilling table tennis. Tereba lost a good number of points with weak drop-shots that fizzled into the net. Andreadis frequently returned a forehand drive by Tereba with a quick and well-placed backhand flick that caught his opponent well out of position. Tereba was the winner.

LADIES' DOUBLES

The atmosphere of the great stadium changed suddenly when the two English girls, Misses Vera Dace and Elizabeth Blackbourne began their final match in the doubles against the world's title holders, Mrs. G. Farkas and Miss Trudi Pritzi.

The English girls looked delightfully feminine in their short sports skirts, deep blue shirts, and scarlet cardigans. What a great difference it makes from the showman's point of view when a doubles pair are dressed exactly alike.

It was evident that Dace and Blackbourne meant business and they attacked almost every ball. At 11-2 they were down, but their attack did not falter, instead it began to get played in and the first and second games went to England. In the third game, the English attack was not quite so accurate, but the fourth game was an easy affair. Blackbourne frequently won points with her skilful drop-shots. In fact the final point in the score 21-10, was won by a drop-shot from the Exeter girl.

League Brevities

By Hon. Sec.

BOLTON.

Leading player is Alan A. Shepherd who, before the war won the Lancashire Junior and Senior Championships. While in the Forces he won the Canal Zone Championship. Other promising players are W. Warburton and G. Duckworth, who are both only sixteen years.

HASTINGS.

Individual Men's Singles was won by left-handed, thirty-year old H. J. Oakley. Oakley and K. C. Elphick won the Men's Doubles. In the Ladies' Singles, Mrs. F. E. George beat Miss J. E. Sackett, 31-29, 21-18. In the Junior Singles, five-foot Ron Foord beat six-foot three T. Jenner. Hon Sec. D. Tyler writes that it has been a most successful season.

HUDDERSFIELD.

Twenty-four teams have played regularly and both the Secretary and Chairman

W. Bedford and W. Davies respectively, deserve a great deal of praise for the work they have done. The sound financial position of the league is due to the enterprise of Mr. Bedford. Four local players were chosen to represent Yorkshire, these being W. Bedford, G. Mitton, C. Whitely and G. Long.

MANCHESTER.

One of the most attractive events of the season is the Manchester *Evening Chronicle* Invitation tournament in which the following players took part: Bohumil Vana, R. Miles, S. Schiff, B. Casofsky, J. Leach, H. Lurie, J. Carrington, K. Hyde. Vana won the tournament, beating Miles in straight games. A result that delighted the Manchester audience was the defeat of Schiff.

English Open Championship Results

WEMBLEY, March 15th, 1947.

Men's Singles—Quarter-Finals: Slar (Czech) beat Soos (Hungary); Andreadis (Czech) beat Sido (Hungary); Vana (Czech) beat Holzrichter (U.S.A.); Tereba (Czech) beat Merrett (England). *Semi-Finals:* Andreadis beat Slar; Tereba beat Vana. *Final:* Tereba beat Andreadis.

Ladies' Singles—Quarter-Finals: Depetrisova (Czech) beat Blackburne (England); Votrubcova (Czech) beat Franks (England); Farkas (Hungary) beat Jones (England); Dace (England) beat Monness (U.S.A.). *Semi-Finals:* Votrubcova beat Depetrisova; Farkas beat Dace. *Final:* Farkas beat Votrubcova.

Men's Doubles—Semi-Finals: Tereba and Stipek (Czech) beat Soos and Sido (Hungary); Vana and Slar (Czech) beat Litten and Simons (England). *Final:* Vana and Slar beat Tereba and Stipek.

Ladies' Doubles—Final: Blackburne and Dace (England) beat Farkas (Hungary) and Pritzi (Austria).

Mixed Doubles—Final: Vana and Votrubcova beat Leach and Dace.

Boys' Singles—Final: W. D. Rowe (Torquay) beat N. Appleby (London).

Veterans—Final: F. L. Taylor (Middx.) beat W. J. Spurgeon (Harrow).

Men's Consolation Singles—Final: Tokar

(Czech) beat Mackay (Birmingham). *Women's Consolation—Final:* Mrs. Bromfield (Middx.) beat Miss J. Boyd (Lancs.)

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Lancashire County Notes

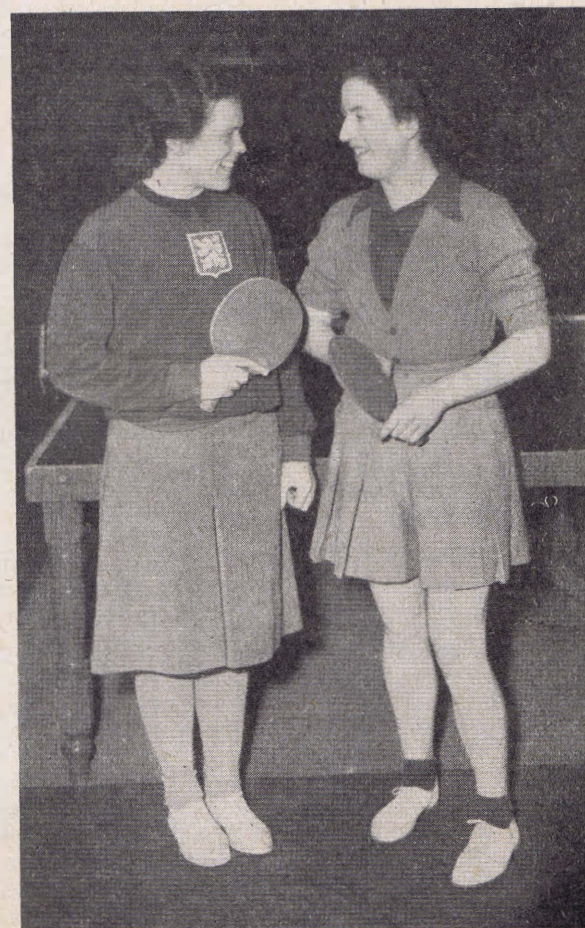
A newcomer to table tennis and who is swiftly pushing her way to the top is Miss Booth of Blackpool. She is only sixteen years of age and first handled a racket last October. The Lancashire League Individual Closed, played on March 29th, was her first tournament, and in this she reached the final of the Junior Ladies' Singles, being beaten by Adele Wood of Manchester, two games to one. The winners of other events in this contest were:—*Men's Singles:* Devine (Chester); *Ladies' Singles:* E. Mansell (Liverpool!); *Men's Doubles:* McDermott and Davies (Manchester); *Ladies' Doubles:* Wood and Marshall (Manchester); *Junior Men's Singles:* Allcock (Manchester).

Winners in the League Team Championships were: *Central:* Altrincham; *South-West:* Manchester "A"; *South-East:* Bolton; *Cheshire Ladies:* Crewe. Shepherd, of Bolton, was the only player to complete the fixtures with an unbeaten record. The three men's teams mentioned above will play-off for the "Sydney Richardson Cup."

The success of the first post-war season of the Lancashire Association is undoubtedly due to the splendid work put in by Secretary E. Worsley.



Miss V. Dace (England) and Miss V. Votrubcova (Czechoslovakia)



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So you want to learn Table Tennis

(Reprinted by kind permission of the United States T.T. Association and taken from their official magazine, "Table Tennis Topics")

BASIC PRINCIPLES

THE purpose of spin is to win points and to stop your opponent from winning points. It is used because it is the only way you can hit the ball with a great amount of speed and have it land on the table. It is the only way you can possibly return a burning drive.

You must master two types of spin in order to play table tennis properly. They are the "top-spin" and the "chop-spin." The top-spin is an offensive stroke for driving the ball and is accomplished by striking the ball with an upward swing of the racket. By striking the ball with this up-swing you apply a spin that makes the ball come off the table low and fast when it strikes your opponent's court.

The chop-spin is a defensive shot for returning a drive and is accomplished with a downward or chopping swing of the racket. When you strike the ball with this down-swing you apply a reverse spin that makes the ball come up slowly so that it will be difficult for your opponent to return it.

COUNTERACT SPIN

We are now ready to go into the actual execution of these strokes, but first let us realise two important rules. For one thing, *keep your eye on the ball at all times*. Never look away from the ball or look where you are going to hit it. Advanced players who are "off their game" will almost always find that it is due to the fact that they are not watching the ball at all times. The second rule, use of proper spin, is easy to remember.

Always counteract your opponent's spin. If you keep your eye on the ball at all times you cannot help but note the stroke he executes. If he swings up (top-spins), you stroke down (chop). If he strokes down, you swing up. You must counteract his spin by chopping when he drives and by driving when he chops. To counter-drive a drive or chop a chop is difficult and risky.

FOREHAND DRIVE

Now that you understand the purpose and use of chops and top-spins we will point out the actual method of executing the two strokes. From now on we will call the top-spin a drive, because that is actually what it is. The forehand drive is executed in the following manner. Turn your body about half-way around to the right and stand about eighteen inches from the table. Stand with your feet apart in a natural position, right foot behind your left foot, not too far apart but not too close together either. Just be natural. Relax. Exact angle of the racket varies with individual players but we suggest that the top of your racket be turned in slightly (but only slightly), towards your opponent. As you swing, swing up and out. Use an even, smooth swing—absolutely no wrist motion. Meet the ball just at, or very slightly before, the top of its bounce. Remember, at the moment of impact with the ball your racket will be moving up and out. Do not cut your swing short, but use a full swing and be sure to follow-through.

PERFECT YOUR ACTION

Whether or not you are swinging properly can be determined by the finish of your swing. If at the end of the swing your racquet is to the left of the centre of your body you are not swinging properly. That would mean that you are coming across the ball and not putting top-spin on it. Every once in a while check your swing during practice. Hold the racquet just where you finish your stroke and you'll be amazed at what you note. See if your racket is turned in too much towards your opponent. If so, you turned your wrist slightly. Do not use wrist motion in your forehand drive. If you use your wrist in the forehand drive you are going to lose your accuracy.

CHOP STROKES

To execute a chop, stand in the same position and swing down with a stroke similar to that of chopping wood. The exact swing varies with each player but after a little practice you will soon develop a natural style. The stroke is started about shoulder high and is a sharp stroke. Concentrate on putting a biting spin on the ball. It will take you a little while to get the range. Once you do, concentrate on returning the ball low over the net. Try to make it land just over the net, a difficult shot for your opponent to drive. Another pointer on the forehand chop is to make sure your left knee is bent slightly. On both the forehand drive and chop the weight will be on your left foot when you meet the ball.

SIDE-SPIN

Perhaps you will note that we have made no mention of "side-spin." Side-spin is applied by coming across the ball with your racket, either left to right, or right to left. As far as learning table tennis is concerned, side-spin won't

return a drive or chop and you cannot use it to execute a drive, so forget about it for the time being.

TO SUM UP

Practice the forehand drive and chop as outlined in this article and when you start to gain control, concentrate on placing your shots in particular spots. Make your chop land just over the net. Keep it low. Practice making your drive land deep in your opponent's court. Make it hit closer to the net but at a sharp angle to the left. Do not kill your shots. First you've got to master control. Later you will build up your power. Practice hitting your shots with a smooth stroke, a fairly good speed but no "kill." Above all, remember to "Keep your eye on the ball."

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OUR MAIL BAG . . .

The boys in my district are eager to join the Crewe League, but they have no full-size table. Their enthusiasm is terrific and I have tried hard to obtain a table either new or second-hand. If I could acquire a specification I would have a shot at making one myself, for these boys are too good to be denied equipment. I am chiefly worried about the preparation of plywood. If any of your readers could help in any way I should be exceedingly grateful.

J. W. GROCOTT,

Wells Green S/Station, Wistaston, Crewe.
(Would any reader care to answer this S.O.S.?—Ed.)

★

Stan Proffitt's instructional articles in the *Review* have been really good. More to come we hope

CHRIS. STONES, Sheffield.

(We shall continue to add to our team of contributors, but Stanley's articles will appear frequently from time to time. His services have been re-booked by a north Lancashire club as cricket professional, and we wish him a most successful season.—Ed.)

★

I should like to say how much I enjoy reading your excellent magazine, and I am looking forward to the time when it will become a monthly once more. I have placed a regular order with my newsagent for future copies.

R. E. JAKEMAN, Clifton, York.

(This is only one of the scores and scores of similar letters received, and while it is impossible to answer each one, we wish to assure writers that each one is welcomed and gives us a great deal of encouragement.—Ed.)

★

You will be interested to know that your magazine has penetrated to Singapore. I received a letter from a friend of mine, Norman Choularton, who is in the Signals out there, and he states that *T.T. Review* is just what the doctor orders. You may not remember Choularton, but about eighteen months ago he was getting rather good and then was called into the Army. He beat Eli Goodman in some Manchester trials. Norman says he has been playing for the Chinese Y.M.C.A. and was beaten in the quarter finals of the Singapore Open Championships by Mr. Chua Kim Hern, the Chinese Champion.

It seems that nearly all the Chinese players adopt the penholder style and some of them are pretty hot stuff. This Hern fellow claims to have been narrowly beaten by Szabados three years ago and to have improved considerably since then. Norman tells me that T.T. balls cost 3/6 each and they are pretty poor ones at that.

JOHN POOLE, London.

(Thanks a lot, John, for an interesting letter, and best wishes to you, too, Norman. We should like you to contact this Chua Kim Hern chappie and ask him to write for the *Review*—but for the love of Mike, have it translated first!—Ed.)

★

Lancashire Association officials should view with alarm the decline of their internationals, especially when we consider that Southern internationals are in the ascendancy. The North is in a serious plight and it is high time that the leading players were given a rota of coaching duties. Talent spotters should get busy, for new blood must be found. This is the only way for the North to gain its rightful place within the international sphere. Many ideas forthcoming from the Executive Committee of the E.T.T.A. do not find favour with players and officials in Lancashire, but the only sure way to remedy all this bungling is more sterling performances by Northern players, then the mighty men housed at Victoria Street, London, will sooner or later have to take serious notice.

ONLOOKER, Manchester.

(Viewed from the men's point of view we cannot see that the South is in any better plight than the North. The South has Johnny Leach and the North, Benny Casofsky; after those two nobody seems to have anybody! As to the E.T.T.A., well, they have just as many critics in the South as they have in the North.—Ed.)

★

In the January issue of *Table Tennis Review* H. M. Evans states that the play of most of our promising young players has deteriorated since they joined the Forces. I may be an exception, but since I joined the Army six months ago my play has improved. I think this is accounted for by the fact that I have played with so many different players each with a different style. I have also had the good fortune to play against some Polish players who are stationed

in this area and who play T.T. of a high standard. I agree with H. M. Evans when he says that most N.A.A.F.I. playing conditions are very low, but surely we should take Johnny Leach's advice and take the good with the bad and learn to concentrate more. N.A.A.F.I. tables force you to watch the ball like a hawk as you never know which way the ball is going to bounce. I agree that the E.T.T.A. should endeavour to make arrangements for Service players to come under coaching schemes.

ENTHUSIAST, Tidworth.

(On another page you will find the outline of a coaching scheme. If this could be brought into being it should be possible for a coach to visit Army camps.—Ed.)

★

The article by H. M. Evans is an accurate description of my own case. I have found my own call-up into the R.A.F. a great set-back to my table tennis. In civvy street I was receiving coaching by A. Haydon, who took an interest in teaching me the strokes of the game—now this is all ended.

DENNIS PRYCE, York.

(Is there no fairy godmother among all the Generals and other officers in the services who could do something for these Cinderellas of table tennis? Now if the Hon. Ivor Montague was to get his call-up papers we might get somewhere! —Ed.)

★

I should like to reply to the letter of J. S. Ebling, of Wallasey, in your last issue, in which he stated he wished "something could be done for the publicity of the game in Liverpool, as hardly anything ever appears in the Press and that he is completely in the dark regarding any League organisation in operation."

Table tennis news, both local and national, appears twice a week in the *Evening Express*, and when any big event is taking place there is always plenty of publicity also in the Birkenhead and Wallasey papers. There has been something about Liverpool in every one of your previous issues, together with an advert. regarding the Merseyside Open in the November number. Mr. Ebling states that he has "read your excellent magazine since No. 1." I suggest that he does not require the name of the organisation which is in operation, but the services of an oculist.

W. STAMP, Hon. Sec.,

Liverpool & Dist. League.

(For your information, Mr. Ebling, you will find that Billy Stamp is in the heavyweight class. Care to meet him at the Stadium?—Ed.)

With reference to an article I saw in the *Table Tennis Review* last month about non-acceptance of entries for the Metropolitan Championship. I cannot say anything about Miss Franks' non-acceptance, but I do know that several well-known players, including Ron Sherman's entry, although in before the closing date, was not accepted. It seems that the way some people are running open tournaments is to run them open to a certain number and after that not to accept any entries. This, I think, is most unfair and certainly cannot be called an open tournament.

I myself and a friend were, a year before last, excluded from a tournament for the same reasons and only after I had spoken my mind on how they were running the tournament and the unfairness of it was my entry, and my friend's, eventually accepted. I did not want this to happen, but felt it only fair as we had been finalists the previous year. If players who have supported the tournaments during the war years now have their entries refused because of the numbers, I think a strong protest should be made, and any such tournament should be definitely not called open. If the number of players wishing to enter into these tournaments is getting so numerous, a different form of tournament will have to be held. A good idea would be to have a tournament for the not-so-good player, banning all internationals and players who have been finalists, for example, of open tournaments, or the tournaments must be run over a longer period. Another way to greatly decrease the number of games played during a tournament would be to do away with groups; this system always means playing a lot more games than the knock-out method. Something should be done very soon and, if possible, put into operation next season, as surely tournaments cannot be run satisfactorily under the present system.

ROY MARKWELL, London.

(We invite letters and articles from Tournament Secretaries giving suggestions for the improvement of tournament organisation.—Ed.)

COUNTY MATCH (March 22nd).

Men: Lancashire beat Yorkshire by seven events to three.

Ladies: Lancashire drew with Yorkshire, four events each.

Played at Huddersfield.

National Coaching Scheme

We give below details of a National coaching scheme which is being discussed by many notable people. It is not expected that the English Association will adopt any plans of this type, but if it met with the general approval of affiliated players, then the views of the majority might have some effect in bringing it forward for serious consideration. It has a number of weaknesses, but the most important thing is that we do require a coaching scheme of some kind, as pointed out by Victor Barna on another page. We will be glad to hear your views.

WORKING on a conservative estimate of 50,000 affiliated members paying twopence per week, this would bring in an income sufficiently large enough to employ six coaches and one leading coach at satisfactory salaries. These coaches could be selected by a ballot of all the league and county secretaries, or by a specially selected committee.

A hall could be hired in one of the biggest and most enthusiastic towns and six or eight tables installed. The duties of the coaches could be so planned that four were constantly on duty at the hall while the other two roamed the country reaching inaccessible spots.

The system of selecting students for coaching could be done in many ways, and each one selected would be invited to the Central Hall for a stay of one week, all expenses, such as fares, food, and hotel, being paid. (Students would, of course, be both men and women). The scheme would run continuously month after month, the Central Hall being opened in the Summer so as to accommodate those students who desired to make their stay a week of their annual holiday.

THEORY AND PRACTICE

Immediately the student arrived at the Central Hall he would be taken in hand by one of the coaches

and would then be given 35 to 40 hours of intensive theoretical and practical coaching. Towards the end of the week the coach would request the leading coach to take a look at the pupil and if his report was sufficiently encouraging then a recommendation would be made for the student to have a return visit.

Progress charts of each student would be filed methodically and on each chart would be kept a record of the student's performances in open tournaments, etc.

EXHIBITIONS BY COACHES

The staff of coaches could give a number of exhibitions during the year with no cost to the leagues, and all paying members of the scheme would be entitled to tickets at reduced prices.

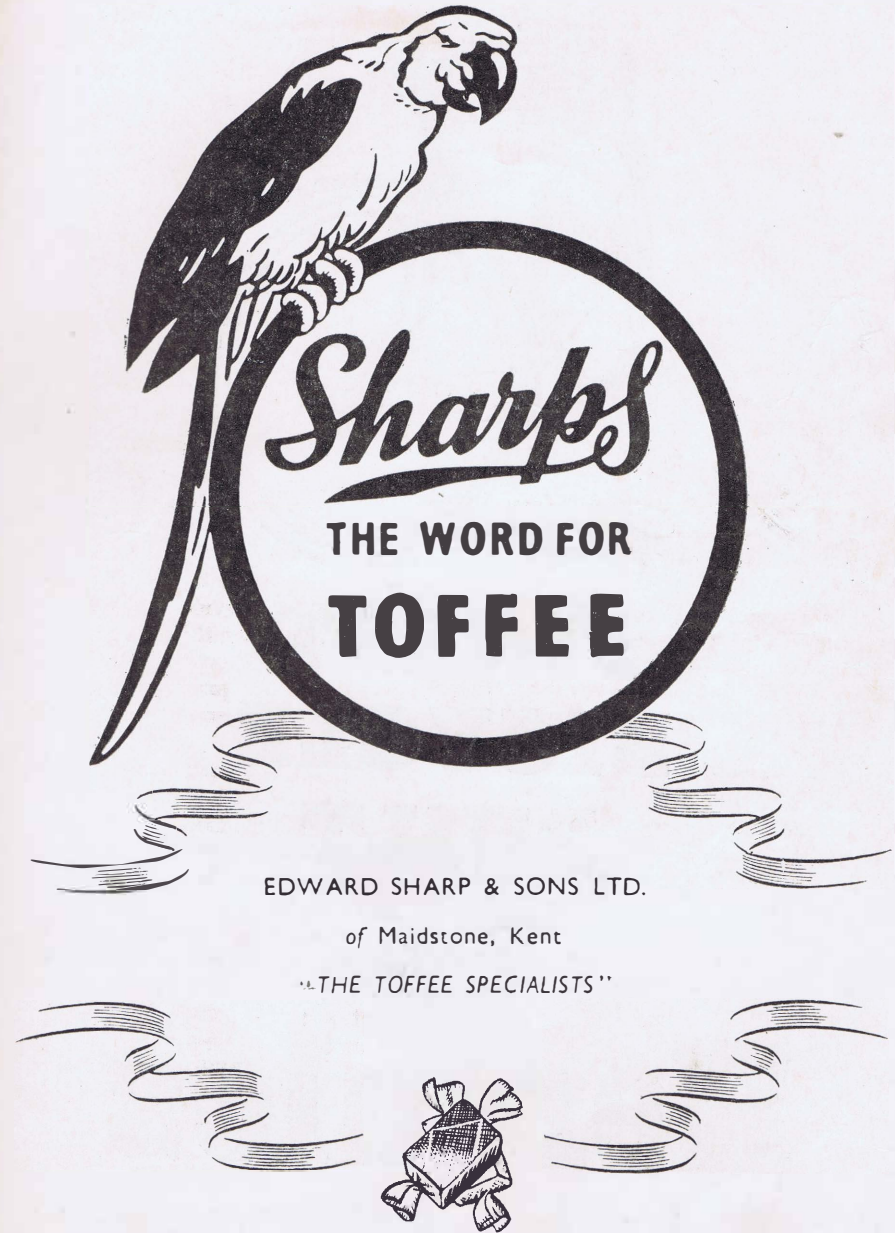
The Central Hall could be used as a place of practice, where our leading players could gather from time to time, in order that they might obtain that practice with one another which is so necessary for their progress.

International matches and other major events could be held at the Central Hall, creating a source of revenue which might eventually be a means of reducing the weekly payment figure.

The collection of the weekly payments, is, of course, one of the difficulties, but each club could appoint a treasurer for this task.

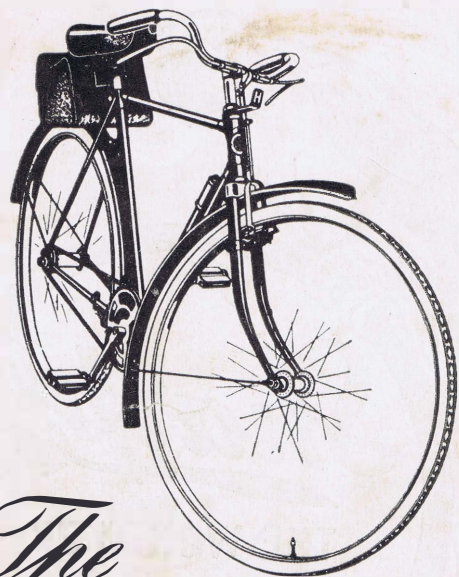
It should be possible to coach approximately 1,000 students each year, excluding the work done by the "floating coaches."

Coaches would be engaged for a limited period of five years, but their contracts would be rebooked if they proved suitable. One coach would attend all open tournaments in the role of a talent scout.



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