

TABLE TENNIS



No. 836

Photo: Peter Madge

ALAN RHODES
(England and Middlesex)

YVONNE ARNAUD
on Table Tennis



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by Ivor Montagu



THE WAY FORWARD
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with Leo Thompson



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of The Table Tennis World

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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No. 7

Editorial OPINION

The Pressure of Facts

NO single sport has ever reached such world-wide representation as has Table Tennis. From the 7 founder members of the International Federation in 1926 (and the gap of war years), it has grown to a membership of between 65 and 70 national associations. Those who foster the game throughout the world are inspired by a devotion to the universality of sportsmanship and are pledged to:

“so conduct their sport that, by modesty, tolerance, keenness, and understanding they help to strengthen friendship . . . among all peoples . . . to all those in every country, without distinction of race, religion, politics and philosophy . . .”

The XXth World Championships at Bucharest this month propounds prepotent issues for a sport that has become almost too successful. The Chairman of the I.T.T.F. raises a few on page 3 of this issue.

With the actual England teams to travel none can quibble. On merit, performance and proved qualities of courage, endurance and tenacity they are England's best. They will give their utmost to bring honour and credit to England and they have all that it takes to win world cups and titles. We have been so near to bringing the coveted Swaythling Cup home that we know it is possible; we know that this is a team which has the capacity to make that possibility a reality. The good wishes and the hopes of all England go with them.

But let us be realists also. Team entries increase steadily and playing standards of other nationals rise. More matches and tougher matches and climatical variations. Logically our teams should be larger so that top players can be rested for key matches while our younger reserves can be blooded in easier matches. Yet this is the smallest British party that has gone to any post-war World Championship. It has been pruned to bare minima of players and officials. The National Executive has taken this course in the belief that the country would wish them to conserve all possible resources at this time when they are making such urgent appeals for the Fighting Fund for the 1954 World's.

This policy will, we believe, be approved by a substantial number of affiliates; the National Executive decision is therefore the right one. Editorially however, we could wish that such a policy was not necessary. Only those with an intimate knowledge of international affairs can know how important is the part played by the performances of English players and officers, and also how important is the influence of such meetings, on our sport, even to remote parts. We hope that wider recognition and support of this may grow steadily, so that England may be enabled to develop her “World's” representatives for the Future. Meanwhile, may the austerity of the N.E.C. inspire a sense of urgency in our players to the building of our Fighting Fund—there is a long way to go and time is short.

Leading countries have given sport and physical training a proper place in education, now only tardily recognised in this country. Our sports representatives may surpass themselves in personal sacrifices and achievements. THEY cannot do more, but there is more to be done. What Helsinki proved, is also palpably true of Table Tennis.

So, jolly good luck, England, and also our gallant ally, Wales.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD, The Editor.

¶ ONLY those items that are clearly identified as “Official” should be regarded as such. Other opinions do not necessarily coincide with those of the Association.

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LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,
12, Campbell Road,
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A number of Special Editions are published. In each case, they comprise a complete full edition of *Table Tennis*, PLUS an additional Supplement which is Edited in the particular region and contains all the news and notices from that region. These editions are particularly good value, and every player residing in such an area should certainly be a subscriber. Enquiries for the appropriate Edition should be made direct to the following officers:—

THE WELSH EDITION. Official Journal of the Table Tennis Association of Wales. Enquiries DIRECT to Mrs. N. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Penylan, Cardiff.

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BUCHAREST, WEMBLEY — and AFTER ?

By the Hon. IVOR MONTAGU

President, International T.T.F.

THE institution of World Championships is approaching a crisis. Can they be continued? Must they be modified? The present, traditional form: Annual, with Team Matches and Individual events combined and with doors wide open to all—can it be maintained?

I am not referring here to the difficulties experienced for some seasons in achieving full representation and full meetings of all players and nations, due to the causes quite outside the realm of Table Tennis. On this the position of our own Association is clear. It is that characteristic of British sporting tradition and which enjoys, I am confident, the overwhelming approval of our members. This is, that sporting friendship and sports relations should be universal among the players of all lands, with no favourites and no ugly ducklings, that benefits should travel around and there should be a fair crack of the whip, or at least a fair turn for all. We shall continue with every patience, to try to overcome all obstacles that hinder this ideal. I raise the problems resulting solely from the growth and spread of the game itself.

Preparations for Wembley, and known intentions of Associations, already indicate that there will be at least 30 and may be 50 men's teams, and will be 20 or may be 30 women's teams, and that individual entries from visitors alone (not counting the English ones) are likely to approach 180 in the men's singles and 80 in the women's—both figures exceeding the maximum permitted by rule. If this happens under the present system of play, the Wembley Championships will become a World Championship to end all World Championships, and London will see the end of them as it saw their beginning—for I just don't see how enough halls, enough tables, enough time, can ever be provided for them anywhere.

The hurdle will be surmounted somehow, no doubt, but changes must come.

The present system originated when there were 7 men's teams and players from 9 countries; no Corbillon Cup nor even Women's Doubles, and the whole thing was easily accommodated in the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street. The enormous growth of the International Federation—to the present membership of some sixty affiliated associations—has, I am convinced, been in no small measure, due to the inviting open doors of this annual festival: let 'em all come, every title at once, Congress as well—how attractive as a missionary and propagandist occasion to every country's enthusiasts, however remote.

But now . . . The following questions (among others) arise:

1. The game is now world-wide. The Bombay Championships, together with tours by leading players, have shown that there is nothing lacking in comparative class in centres widely separated geographically: Eastern Europe, England, the Far East, U.S.A. Finance and distance impose burdens which make impossible the hope of bringing together annually all the best of all these regions. In these circumstances can the title 'world' fairly be maintained?

2. The burden of finance and distance lead to the growth of continental scale federations and championships. This tendency is inevitable, nor could any reason be found to want to resist it. But are world championships and continental championships compatible in the same season?

3. When few countries come together for a world championships, the title may be tarnished. But when many come, the time, hospitality and facilities required (already ruinous to organisers in that they already exceed any possible gate in any possible halls), will become impossible from the point of view of sport, mobilisation of umpires, exhaustion of players, etc.

Here are some of the solutions jostling one another in the field:

Hold the event biennially (or even quadrennially) with continental championships, in the intervening years; qualifying competitions for team events as well as individual events: separate the time and place of the team events from the individual events; abandon the title altogether.

I will not argue here the pros and cons of the various solutions. Nor do I think it likely that the Bucharest Congress will necessarily take drastic steps on which there could be no going back. But it will have to face the problem and make a start grappling with it.

BUCHAREST

NOW for Bucharest. 19 associations have so far entered men's teams, 12 women's. The representative character should therefore be approximately the same as in Bombay. It is sad that the Japanese and United States players are not permitted to participate this year by their respective governments.

A study of the prospective entry shows Czechoslovakia returning in full strength with 12 men (including

4 younger players) and 5 women—a mighty team, at least on paper. They include Vana, Andreadis, Ter-eba, Tokar, Turnovsky, Vhyanovsky, Stipek and Slar (Happily returned to health—one in each eight. When we remember that even such as omitted players Vlk and Moudry have shown themselves capable of beating anyone, this presents rough going, unless their lay-off has made them rusty).

The chief opposition? The entry of Asian Championship visitors—with the great and tiny Shih—Hong Kong is not yet certain, it is a question of travel costs. Hungary: Koczian and Sido are supported by hitter Gyetvai. The Yugoslavs Vilim Harangozo and Dolinar have shown great form this year. And then ourselves.

Unfortunately the French are standing down owing to expense, but Germany brings the brilliant boy Freundorfer and Rumania introduces some outstanding boy players, junior Harastasy and swimming champion Popescu. Fresh faces also come from China (whose champion has a high reputation), Bulgaria and Lebanon.

The women's phalanx is headed by the great Roseanu. While recently in Bucharest I saw an all-play-all tournament: 9 men and Roseanu, 9 women including Roseanu. In two days she played 17 best-of-five matches while each of her rivals played 8 or 9 only. She beat every woman competitor 3-0 and came out in the top half of the men's table beating all four members of the East German team that had vanquished the Rumanian men the day before. With her new doubles partner, Ella Zeller, she ranks as the best MEN'S doubles pair in Rumania. She will not want for practice—or vigour.

Her rivals? A fit Farkas; the Ros Rowe who has beaten Farkas, Pritzi and Wertl; the Di Rowe who played as one inspired against Roseanu last year; and Wertl (who should have recovered from her appendicitis operation). Of older rivals Elliot is absent, Krejcova (Fuerstova), Czech No. 1 is only recently back from illness, Hruskova, and evergreen Pritzi. The Hungarians have some newcomers we want to see: Fantusz, Almasy and Koczian's 15 year old sister, Eva, who took 2 games off Farkas in a best-of-5 the other day—and good luck to the Welsh! Good luck to the Twins too in the doubles—they'll need it facing a renewed pairing of the two Queens, Roseanu and Farkas.

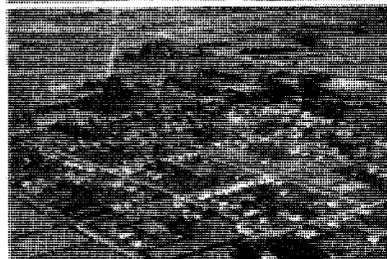
We English have our troubles. Not least, that we cannot provide a livelihood for our players that would enable them to drop their exhibition 'one-night' stands and buckle down

(concluded on page 22, col. 2)

KEN STANLEY was in 1939, predicted to be a future world-title chaser. At 12 he was playing for Manchester, then the powerhouse of internationals. At 14 he beat 2 internationals to win his first Open. In 1936-7, 1937-8, and 1938-9 he won the English Junior title. He was then 16 and was awarded England's highest honour, being "capped" for the Swaythling Cup team for the World Championships at Cairo.

Then War and goodbye T.T. When War was over, the 16 year boy emerged as a married man and a father, with 5 years experience as a P.T. Instructor in the R.A.F. Still playing for England last season, he found domestic circumstances different and missed the former high Northern standards. But in coaching, he found a latent ability that has put him among the top coaches of the country, and the distinction of being National Coach for New Zealand in an arduous 6 months tour during Summer 1952.

His fine achievements out there have brought credit to both himself and to England, and it may well be that this can be the picking up of the lost years. It is consoling to recognise that at 30, he is still of an age comparable to (and younger than many), leading internationals of the world today. ●



27,000 MILES COACHING TOUR

Go-Ahead New Zealand Aims at World Standards

By KEN STANLEY

COMPARATIVELY, New Zealand must have more T.T. players than any country in the world and have, I think, the potentials of becoming a strong force in world table tennis.

It is a grand country and a grand people. I was impressed with the deep, sincere friendship and close interest that all New Zealanders have for England. It was more like going to another part of England, rather than to another country. Outlook and even the scenery is similar to England, although one of my first sights was a butcher's shop stocked full of fine, fresh meat—and it's a long time since I have seen that in the Old Mother Country!

There is any amount of potential talent particularly in the junior fields. The enterprising Wellington Association, for instance, run special competitions for both primary and secondary schools, and in my coaching sessions at Wellington colleges I could not fail to notice the keenness. In fact, the 1951 Wellington Champion, Murray Dunn was then a 15 year-old student. In South Island especially, there were youngsters of 13 who seemed to have everything needed.

Development of playing standards has been somewhat handicapped by lack of permanent halls and isolation from strong competitive play. Generally, tables lack the speed and bite of those we are accustomed to, and this had tended to slow up the game. The women's standard is relatively stronger than the men's. Joyce Williamson looks a player who, with the opportunity, might reach world class. Last year, as a junior, she won the N.Z. senior title, and in the Australian Open won the Junior title, and was also finalist in the W.S., losing to Dora Beregi—9, 17, 18. The Maoris have fine natural gifts but, unfortunately, under-estimate the value of concentrated practice.

The enthusiasm for Table Tennis in the rural areas is simply stunning. At sessions in such places as many as 200 attended—from "mere babies" to elderly folk. I found that the custom is to hire the equivalent of our Village Hall once or twice a week for T.T. and local farmers (and often wives) regularly attend. They enjoy the game as a social sport, and believe me, they certainly do enjoy it. The keener players go so far as to build a special T.T. room on to their homesteads.

The wholehearted interest and enthusiasm of these rural centres makes me think this is a lead which England might well follow by popularising the game in country districts.

No. 839 (Left)

Three typical New Zealand scenes (Top) Acacia Bay, Lake Taupo Auckland. (Centre) Aerial View of Waverley, Taranaki, near Wanganui, one of the small centres. (Bottom) Mounts Tasman and Cook seen from Lake Matheson, South Island (opposite coast to Timaru)



No. 840

The 3 main islands of New Zealand, roughly the area of England, but 1,000 miles long. The route (about 27,000 miles) shows the principal calls of Ken Stanley. (Also, of course, of previous tourists and the Rowe Twins this summer)

When I started playing, there were 32 leagues, 588 clubs, and 10,000 members; today there are 324 leagues, 7,200 clubs, and some 145,000 members. Table Tennis has undoubtedly assumed an important place in our national sporting life. But this remarkable development has been developed mainly in and around the larger towns. For instance, several of Manchester's pre-war internationals and top players (including myself), have played no small part in encouraging membership by playing exhibitions in the inner and outer suburbs.

Why not now go out beyond the suburbs? Go out into the country areas and widen the sphere of interest, not in isolated cases, but as part of a planned campaign throughout the country. If counties and leagues consider their outlying territories and plan to take Table Tennis to the country, I am sure they would have the backing of their leading players.

A concerted effort would soon put the membership of the Association at the quarter-million mark. ●

KEN STANLEY

KENT OPEN

Folkestone, 1st February, 1953

Bb GEOFF. COULTHEAD (Abgd)

IN a tournament which maintained the record for this Year of Upsets, honours went to A. R. (Tony) MILLER and Mrs. J. BEADLE (nee Cuss). It was Tony's 2nd Open title in 8 days.

Jackie Head bt. Venner 14,—13, 15 and Claude Frecker —11, 14, 13. Ray Syndercombe played really well to bt. Head 19,—18, 15 and delight Kentish supporters. Ray Dorking bt. Terry Kirby 13, 17. Micky Thornhill bt. Dorking 11,—12, 9. Holder Alan Rhodes lost to K. Hurlock —12, 14, 19, and Dennis Miller bt. Hurlock by the unusual score of 3,20. Tony Miller bt. K. Craigie 18,—12, 17 and Roy Turner 9,—12, 12.

In the semis, Syndercombe looked the better player against Thornhill, but gave away a few points at a vital stage, to lose 20, 18. Tony bt. his casual namesake in a canter. The final was close. In the first and third games Miller had sufficient in hand to essay a few hits, and almost took the second. For the 4th game, the writing was on the wall for a chiselling match, and we had the rare (in England) spectacle of the Time Limit being rigidly enforced. Thornhill had an attack of cramp at 18-17 and several minutes were lost. Time was called at 19-all and Tony won with a forehand drive.

Mrs. J. Beadle (Chatham) was the Saturday star beating E. Carrington —27, 14, 16; D. Spooner —18, 13, 15; Joyce Roberts 21, 19; Peggy Piper 19,—18, 23. Joy Seaman had an easier passage but beat Jean Winn 18, 12. It looked like a Kentish victory for a time, but Joy was proof against all that came back.

In the Junior singles, Dorking bt. Terry Densham 6, 20 and MacLaren 15, 19 ("Mac" bt. G. Gladwish 18, 13). A. Danton bt. D. House 15,—8, 12. The final was also a chiselling match, each neutralising the other. M.S. A. R. MILLER bt. (s) D. Miller 12, 7; bt. (j) M. Thornhill 16,—21, 13, 20/19 T.L. (bt. 3 R. Syndercombe 20, 18).

W.S. Y. J. SEAMAN bt. Mrs. J. Beadle —15, 14, 16.

M.D. K. CRAIGIE/H. VENNER bt. D. Miller/M. Thornhill 23,—14, 12.

W.D. Y. J. SEAMAN/J. WINN bt. E. Carrington/D. Spooner 16, 18.

X.D. D. MILLER/M. PIPER bt. K. Craigie/E. Carrington —17, 16, 16.

J.S. R. DORKING bt. A. Danton —18, 10, 14.

England beat Scotland 9—0

Barnsley, 6th Feb., 1953

(England names first in caps)

A. SIMONS bt. M. McMillan 9,12. H. VENNER bt. J. Campbell 13, 11. B. KENNEDY bt. E. Still 10, 11. B. MERRETT bt. R. Kerr 15, 9. Miss R. ROWE bt. Miss H. Elliot 20, 18. Miss C. K. BEST bt. Mrs. M. Josephson 12, 6. **Doubles:** B. KENNEDY/A. SIMONS bt. R. Kerr/M. McMillan 11,—17, 20. B. MERRETT/H. VENNER bt. J. Campbell/E. Still 10, 11. C. K. BEST/R. ROWE bt. H. Elliot/Mrs. M. Josephson 11, 10.

VANA REGAINS FORM

CZECHOSLOVAKIA started preparing for the World Championships in October last. In the primary selection, the results were 1. Andreadis 2. Stipek 3. Slar 4. Turnovsky. (Women): 1. Hruskova 2. Cedlova. Andreadis later showed his unquestioned superiority by wins over Vana and Tereba.

12 men and 9 women were then selected for a fortnight's course and qualification test at a training camp at Lomnici in October. Andreadis, Krejcova and Posipal (Junior Champion) were not included. In the final Round Robin Vana arose to his best form and was the only player not to lose a match. The results produced the following ranking order, figures indicating ties won and ties lost respectively.

MEN: Vana 11-0. Tereba 10-1. Turnovsky 9-2. Tokar 8-3. Stipek 7-4. Vyhnanovsky 6-5. Bursik 5-6. Jirak 4-7. Branka 3-8. Kadlec 2-9. Marko 1-10. Sykora 0-11. WOMEN: Hruskova 7-1. Vyhnanovska 7-1.

A NIGHT IN THE LIFE OF AN UMPIRE



No. 842

Grafkova 6-2. Papezova 5-3. Cedlova 5-3. Zimova 3-5. Hrneirova, M. 2-6. Hrneirova, J. 1-7. Rathouska 0-8.

FROM ITALY

The Italian T.T.F. now has 150 associations in membership, but is not entering the World Championships this year because of financial reasons and Herskovic is in the U.S.A. Leading players are Sturani, Molinaro, Rondani, Faedda, Di Giorgi and Beltrame and some promising youngsters are Viviani, Salati, Ferri and Winderling.

MILAN INTERNATIONAL OPEN

8th Dec., 1952

M.S. Bednar (Austria) bt. Beltrame. Sturani bt. Salati. Rondani bt. Montorsi. Just (Austria) bt. Faedda. Rondani bt. Just 3-1. STURANI bt. Bednar 3-2; bt. Rondani 3-2.

M.D. BEDNAR/JUST bt. Ferri/Salata 3-0. In the finals of another recent open at Milan, De Barnardi (France) bt. Urchetti (Switzerland) 3-1.

About New Zealand

NEW ZEALAND ("England of the Southern Hemisphere") is a remarkable country. Those British organisers who frown worriedly over expenses for Coaching or Exhibitions can look to New Zealand for the inspiration of enterprise. The return journey is 24,000 miles; (in Ken Stanley's case) the tour was nearly 3,000 miles in addition. Work that out in cash terms and just think of the other expenses involved. And supposing there were 2 players travelling! Now look at their programme:

1950 Victor Barna and Richard Bergmann. 1951 Johnny Leach & Michael Haguenaer. 1952 Ken Stanley, National Coach, and 1953 (summer coming) Di and Ros Rowe.

BUT WAIT—the ENTIRE population of New Zealand is about equal to that of Essex County!! In the whole country there are only 16 towns with populations up to 20,000 (which is comparable to our Aylesbury, Malvern, Pontefract or Penzance)!

New Zealand has a close affinity to England and cherishes the best of English ways, just as it has sought the best of English players, and its own best players (pioneered by Russ Algie in 1947) have worked their way to England. The spirit of the New Zealanders makes molehills out of mountains. There is probably no more sport-loving country in the

world, or one where time, opportunity, Government subsidies (for centres), climate, and countryside combines to make a recreational outdoor life so encouraging for the entire family. Despite the wide field of recreation ranging from ski-ing to surf-riding, it is not surprising that Table Tennis has a prominent placing in OFFICIAL recognition.

NEW ZEALAND OPINION

Ken Stanley's work in N.Z. has resulted in a remarkable paean of appreciation from everyone, with press write-ups on a lavish scale. Typical comments include:

"My colleagues," writes Ken Wilkinson, the N.Z. Secretary, "were deeply impressed with his sincerity of purpose and devotion to the task. Corti Woodcock* sent us a first class Coach, a grand Player, and a perfect English gentleman."

The Dominion. "Stanley was like a breath of fresh air at Dunedin... His genial personality and the businesslike way he went about his difficult task has been a very great stimulant for the new Zealand game."

Wanganui Herald: "Certainly the best thing that has happened for the game here... nothing but good can come of it... Ken Stanley has left a definite mark on New Zealand table tennis."

A N.Z. Official, in a private letter: "Ken Stanley did wonders for our players."

* Corti Woodcock is the European representative for Australia and N. Zealand.

No. 841

KEN STANLEY making T.T. instructional recording in Timaru, New Zealand, which he believes to be the first of its kind



ENGLAND JUNIORS RETURN UNBEATEN

By LEO THOMPSON

N/P Captain, England Juniors, Swedish Tour, 1953

Team : Geoff. Pullar (Lancs.) ; David House (Som.) ; Ray Dorking (Essex).

ON the last day of the old year we left fog-wreathed London and sailed into the New Year on a turbulent sea en route for Sweden. 8.15 a.m., January 1st we docked at Goteborg, all a little shaken, and thankful for a good rest in steadier surroundings.

In the evening, the boys played in a Tournament, Pullar beating House in the semi and Dorking in the final. David House was still shaky, but looked so down-hearted at the prospect of missing an event, I couldn't say No, and I think he was all the better for playing. The next day, the boys beat a senior S.K.F. team 9-0 and I received the first of my 6 bunches of flowers of the tour!

Then to Valberg, where Dorking lost 1 game against a senior team, whom we beat 8-1. Next came 2½ days at Halmstead with a restful interlude in a tournament lasting 5 hours. One day in lovely Laholm and on to Falkenburg. There was a presentation after the tournament here. The Secretary who did not speak English, gave me a silver cup. I shook hands with him and walked back to my seat. The crowd were laughing their heads off, and then I discovered that I was supposed to present the cup to one of the juniors! Was my face red!!

At Ystad we had a really good junior match which we won 6-1. The Ystad team was B. Grufstedt (12 years), a 17 year old, and Jan-Erik Borgstrom (15 years), and a very good player with future promise. He beat Dorking 22, —18, 17.

Then came a tournament at Hassleholm, a match at Hogomas, and a rest day at a fine hotel at Landskrona and facilities for practice. We also visited a number of homes, at one of which was a Recording Machine. Our hosts persuaded Geoff Pullar to sing a song, which they recorded, and very good it was too.

Junior International: Sweden v. England, People's Hall, Landskrona, 13th Jan., 1953. ENGLAND went in with a really good team spirit and a happy confidence, even though we had been told that Sweden had a good team and would beat us 5-0. The Swedish lads took things seriously, and it looked as though the opening games might morally decide the issue. Ray Dorking won the first game—but only just—and put a strain on my nervous system! David House opened well, lost control in the 2nd game, then happily again took command to win his tie. Those 2 first matches were tight, but then we went on to an easy 5-0 win. House won an extra match against Bo Holmberg.

DETAILS (England names first in capitals): G. PULLAR bt. Bo Holmberg 17, 19; bt. Toni Borg 8, 11. DAVID HOUSE bt. Hans Bagner 9, —11, 7; (extra) bt. B. Holmberg 14, —15, 11; R. DORKING bt. H. Bagner —13, 15, 12; bt. Toni Borg 19, 19.

Then to Hassleburg, Nybro, Emmaboda and Mallaros. At Nybro (where they still talk of the Rowe Twins), 29-year-old Carlson proved too strong for our boys. In Boros we met two Jewish ladies from Barking who run a dress shop; the husband of one, organised the match.

Lidkoping is a lovely town, beautifully planned. The Lake made one of the most entrancing sights I have ever seen, over-towered with huge rocks festooned with long icicles. I shall remember that sight as long as I live.

Although Bolthorp is miles from anywhere, about 400 people turned up for the match, and I found that there is tremendous interest in Table Tennis there. This event was rounded off with a dance. Next came Skara and, finally, our last match at Falkoping, and a Farewell Party. Our return crossing was much better, though poor young David was none too happy as a sailor.

It was a grand tour and we made lots of friends everywhere. Our hosts, in every town, could not do enough for us, and we were loaded with souvenirs of all kinds.

Our boys made a grand team. Full of fun and high spirits, but always well disciplined, considerate and well behaved. They gave a jolly good show and everything I asked for.

Leo Thompson

SUMMARY

Played (Tournaments): 5 Sen., 2 Jun.
Played (Matches): 9 Sen., 4 Jun.
English Juniors beat all Swedish Juniors except for Borgstrom's single win over Dorking. Losses against Senior players were: Pullar 1, House 3, Dorking 7.

JAPANESE CHAMPIONSHIP

Tokushina, 18th Jan., 1953

ALL titles changed hands. Both Satoh and Hayashi fell to 2 unknown students who also later fell to unknowns. 21 year freshman Yoshio Tomita (Senshu University), ranked No. 14 beat Shiro Mizohata (Kyoto) in the final of M.S. Miss Tonie Nishimura (19) lost the W.S. to Miss Yoshio Tanaka (1950 Champion) who recently won the Asian W.D. title with India's Mrs. Nasikwala. Two 21 year olds from Tokyo's Waseda University won the M.D. Fujii was ineligible under local amateur rules, and Hayashi (with a new partner) scratched. Two 20 year old police clerks beat the top seeds in the final of the W.D. No information on the X.D.

M.S. Y. TOMITO bt. S. Mizohata —17, 14, 19, 15.

W.S. Y. TANAKA bt. T. Nishimura 13, 12, 17.

M.D. K. FURUSAWA/T. NAKA.

W.D. F. SATO/C. YAMAMOTO bt. K. Ishihara/T. Nishimura.

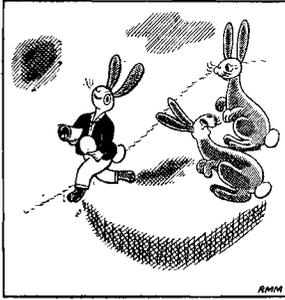
One of the last duties of the retiring Dean of Norwich Cathedral was the opening of a Social Club for ex-choristers in the old Cathedral School, reached by a narrow stone staircase that is one of the oldest parts of the building. One of the most popular parts of the club is likely to be the Table Tennis Room... dark horses in white surplises for next season?



No. 837

Betsy Drake, Cary Grant and George Winslow in a scene from the Warner Bros. picture "Room for One More" recently released, a moving little comedy of a mother who could not resist the appeal of troubled orphans, human or animal, which no one else wanted. Cary Grant—a left-hander—gives quite a nifty demonstration of a backhand drive

SOME RABBIT!



No. 844

"Lucky chap, he's taking private coaching lessons"

"...and Talking of Tables—"

BY STANLEY PRESTON

OH NO! It wasn't altogether the weakness of your team that was responsible for your losing so many matches in your first League season. You might blame it on conditions, perhaps, but isn't it, really, that you were innocent of the subtle crafts of that Game Outside the Game sometimes referred to as "The Table Gambit".

Do you remember how punctual you were in those green days of First Season Enthusiasm? Half-an-hour early, perhaps, with vague hopes of a knock-up. When you arrived for an away fixture, you found the rest of your team and (if it's your lucky night) one member of the opposing team. The Table is conspicuous by its absence. The arrival of your complete team all ready to play, arouses the lone opponent. Apologising for his singularity, he explains that their Nos. 2 and 3 will be late, but that No. 4 is due at any moment.

Meanwhile he asks to be excused, so that he can fetch the table. But your inherent decency (a quality that wears wafer-thin during the middle of Season 2) compels you and your team-mates to assist him. By the time the net is being adjusted, Opponent No. 4 arrives.

This Table Fixing is upsetting enough, but quite often (you will remember) there was a preliminary clearing to do also. If the match was in a school class-room, there would be the desks to fling into the far corners of the room. (Remember that inkwell that spurted into your No. 4's eye?)

But it is when play begins that you really feel it. There is Something Queer about that Table!

Do you remember The Unstressed Table? It fulfilled the E.T.T.A. requirements in most respects: it was painted a nice dark green, and rested on firm legs at the proper height. But the top itself was frail and unstressed;

so frail that on a warm evening it would surely curl up at the corners. The result was that every time the ball landed, the top vibrated. (You didn't do so bad to lose at 3-7, considering!)

Then, there is the "Glass-Topped" Table. (That is an ordinary wood-topped Table which has been dusted regularly by cleaners). It *sparkles!* Bright, cheerful little pin-points of light wink up at you from every angle. You lost 9-1—and you did well to win that one set—with your eyes shut).

Then you must have played on the Card-Table - Supported-Table -Top during the season. This in an ingenious 'adverse-condition', whereby a heavy Table-Top is supported by four extremely fragile card-tables. The whole set-up stands about two-feet two inches from the floor, and your drives are just simply too high, all the time. The Table-Top-Ends droop menacingly towards your feet and you are not surprised that your team lost the first eight sets.

But the greatest enemy was the Brand-New-Table. It was a perfect table, wasn't it: nice matt finish, sturdy appearance, one inch thick, well, three-quarters at least. But your opponents were crafty. They STRESSED the value of their PRECIOUS Table, and then forced you into close-play. Your sharp chops would cause the bat blade to touch The Table's surface, time and time again. Hushed groans from their Secretary would unnerve you, and upset your play. Under such circumstances, your 10-0 defeat was quite understandable.

Yes, we must face up to the fact that Tables are an adverse feature of 'away' matches, and we should, in all unfairness to our opponents, make our own Table as 'un-play-on-able' as possible.●

MIDLAND CLOSED

Nottingham, 24th Jan., 1953

A FINE performance by Anne Haydon who beat Betty Steventon in the semi and Marjorie Cumberbatch in the final. Worcester standards are improving and their S. N. Osborne had a surprise but well-deserved win over Wally Poole in the semi.

- M.S. S. N. OSBORNE bt. (1) W. Poole 18, 20; bt. (2) M. Kriss 16, 8 (bt. M. Hawkins —13, 12, 20).
 W.S. A. HAYDON bt. Mrs. M. Cumberbatch 19, 18.
 M.D. C. CRANE/W. ENGLAND bt. J. Harrison/W. Poole 16, 14.
 W.D. Mrs. HAYWARD/Mrs. WARNER bt. P. Bannister/J. Walker —11, 19, 20.
 X.D. M. KRISS/A. HAYDON bt. M. Hawkins/B. Stead —16, 12, 17.
 B.S. A. L. GOODWIN bt. M. Leverton 12, 17.

CAMBS COUNTY CLOSED

Cambridge, 30th Jan., 1953

- M.S. (Inv.) J. D. CORNWELL bt. C. Crowe 13, 9, 9.
 M.S. J. D. CORNWELL bt. R. J. Gregory 13, 7, 8.
 W.S. P. INGLIS bt. Mrs. H. Mitchell —18, 15, 13.
 M.D. J. D. CORNWELL/J. THURSTON bt. A. Lomas/P. Turner 2-0.
 W.D. M. BRUCE / H. MITCHELL bt. E. Lessey/E. Peters 13, 15.
 X.D. J. D. CORNWELL/M. BRUCE bt. R. J. Gregory / B. Blackwell —18, 17, 12.
 G.S. J. TAYLOR bt. A. Turvill —18, 19, 17.
 C. Crowe cycled 30 miles to play in the M.S. (Invitation). R. J. Gregory is the son of the Surrey cricketer.

OUTSTANDING OFFER!

Table Tennis Tables

PRICE ONLY

Limited number only. Send now to avoid disappointment.

£15.10

complete including carriage. (Scotland extra) 6 or more £14.10 each

50 only, ex. W.D. new in perfect condition. 9' x 5' x 2'6" high. In two equal hinged parts for easy storage. Excellent playing surface. 9 ply top, fully battened, 1/2" thick. Fitted six 2 1/2" square detachable legs. Matt, green finish, with white regulation border.

Ex. W.D. folding tables and chairs in stock.

J. E. LESSER & SONS, LTD.
 290, BALHAM HIGH ROAD, LONDON, S.W.17

Telephone: BALham 3617 — Five lines.

A Monthly Bulletin prepared by GEOFF HARROWER

Support for 21st World Championship Grows

FURTHER encouraging news has come to hand, from a number of directions, during the course of the last month.

Most significant has been the really splendid support promised by our friends in the trade, manufacturers and others. It is now known that really substantial guarantees have been promised from the following:—Dunlop Sports Co. Ltd., Halex, Ltd., John Jaques and Son, Ltd., A. G. Spalding & Bros. Ltd., and Sir Arthur Elvin—Wembley Stadium, Ltd. In addition, guarantees have also been received from:—Educational Productions, Ltd., G. J. Hayter and Co. Ltd., Slazengers, Ltd., John Taylor (Silversmiths) Ltd., The Wayfarers Travel Agency, Ltd., and "Table Tennis Review"—B.F.R. Publications, Ltd.

When the Guarantee Fund was first mooted many counties and leagues wrote promising their support, since when, in some instances, we have heard no more. Will each county and league who have so far sent no written guarantee (or cash), therefore, please write to Mrs. K. Pegg, English Table Tennis Association, 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, to confirm the amount they will be contributing, or an indication of the amount.

This will enable us to find out exactly where we stand.

YOUR CLUB COMPETITIONS

WHEN asking last month "What do you think about it?" I should have remembered our wonderful weather. The 'flu epidemic hit our printers as hard as anyone, with the result that the distribution of the Magazine took somewhat longer than usual, and I feel sure that a lot of enthusiasts were deterred from sending in their comments because I had given them only until February 10th. We had a few, but we wanted THOUSANDS. So please, pen to paper and write to G. R. Harrower, address above, by the 15th March.

One interesting letter came from Miss Julia Hahn, of Surrey. She favours Handicap events, and goes on to say "... The inexperienced players who do not normally enter Open Tournaments will have a real chance ... the handicaps may well enable them to win a World Championship Plaque. These tournaments will hold big chances for Juniors, who may be the stars of the future. I am sure every player in my club will enter and enjoy the tournaments, and the winners will treasure the plaques for many years to come."

I found out that Miss Hahn comes from that "sausage factory" for producing good players, the Putney T.T.C. I spoke to Bob Atherton, the popular Secretary, and asked him what are his plans. His reply was to take me to his notice board, where I was duly educated.

Bob intends to apply to the E.T.T.A. to run a "once only" Open Tournament during August, 1953, and hopes that he will get permission and also be able to award the World Championship competition plaques as additional prizes. He put up a proposition on his notice board asking for names in favour and names against. Dozens in favour and none against. He then put up a notice asking for helpers in the event of permission being granted. To date there are two columns of names, including many internationals. Amongst them I notice Michael Thornhill, Harry Venner, Keith Hurlock and Dennis Miller!

At this stage a member of the club brandished a large collecting box under my nose "1954 World Championships" it read. This box is taken round every night. But Bob is not nearly satisfied yet. "Of course", he said, "I have not forgotten the weaker players, and if we are allowed to run the Open we shall still run at least seven other competitions for our Tuesday and Friday night members." (On these nights Putney cater for the players who have not yet reached the top).

I came away wishing we had another thousand Putney Clubs. Perhaps we have. Please let me know of your efforts so that I can tell everybody.



No. 828

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS

During the course of the last week in February the gigantic task of mailing nearly 8,000 letters, one to every affiliated club in the country, was being undertaken, and, therefore, every club secretary should have received full details of the Club Competitions. If you have not, please let me know. Remember that these competitions are the big chance for every player, no matter how moderate he may be, to win a plaque which, as Miss Hahn says, he "... will treasure... for many years to come."

THE HOME COUNTIES TOURNAMENT

MEANWHILE applications continue to pour in for Entry Forms for the Home Counties. During the course of last week no less than 46 different individuals wrote for forms, and over 2,000 have now been distributed.

Please remember that there is a VERY SUBSTANTIAL reduction in entry fees for early entry—if you have not yet got your form write NOW to G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts. Some 30 odd entries have already been received. See that you add yours SOON.



English Table Tennis Association,
214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square,
LONDON, W.C.2
Administrative Sec.: Mrs. K. PEGG
Phone: TRAlfalgAr 2165
Telegraphic: ETABTENNIS, RAND

The General Council

The General Council Meeting was held in the Kent Room, Caxton Hall, London at 4 p.m. on the 14th February with the Hon. Ivor Montagu in the Chair. About 50 councillors were present. Apologies had been received from Mr. W. Stamp (who was still unfortunately unfit to travel) and a number of other league and county representatives.

The Chairman presented his report, and included a review of the complex problems created by the tremendous worldwide growth of Table Tennis, and their effect on English T.T. both for this year's World's at Bucharest and next year's World's in London.

Mr. G. Harrower spoke of the problems concerned with staging the World Championships 1954, in London. He said that far too many did not realise the urgency of getting the money into the Fund; it was really now only a matter of months! Every possible contribution, however small— or large, was urgently needed, and he appealed for everyone to redouble their efforts, in their own ways or with one of the schemes outlined in *Table Tennis*, or a combination of them.

Mr. E. G. White spoke on the progress of the County Umpiring Scheme, and future plans. Mr. L. S. Woollard spoke on the Magazine *Table Tennis*. There were several questions and some discussions on the various topics and points arising.

Mr. A. K. Vint reported that for the Election of Officers for 1953-54, Nomination Papers would be sent out on the 26th Feb. and must be returned by March 7th, and the Ballot Papers would be issued promptly. Only those General Council members (league E.T.T.A. Representatives) who were recorded with the E.T.T.A. office on the 13th February, 1953, would be eligible for voting, etc.

Table Tennis Annual

At the General Council meeting, Mr. A. K. Vint reported correspondence from Mr. G. Harrower regarding publication of the "Table Tennis Annual", which had been advertised as an official publication.

In a letter, Mr. Harrower apologised for the non-publication of the book and accepted full personal responsibility; although it was not now

practical to publish this season, he found that a considerable amount of matter was still usable and that he was proposing to bring the contents up to date and publish for next season. Meanwhile, he had made a very fair offer to recompense anyone who was out of pocket, or wished to cancel their order.

The N.E.C. subsequently accepted Mr. Harrower's proposals by renewing their authority for the Annual to be recognised as an official publication.

(Correspondence concerning the Table Tennis Annual should be addressed to Mr. G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts. and NOT to either the Magazine NOR to the E.T.T.A.)

Junior Session—Wembley

The English Open Championships Committee have arranged that the Junior Session (Junior Finals) shall take place at the Empire Pool, Wembley Stadium from 2 p.m. Saturday AFTERNOON, 11th April. Admission: 2/6d. (2/- each where a block of 12 or more tickets are taken). It is hoped that Schools, Youth Clubs, etc., will take advantage of the special facilities.

English Open Championship Draw

The Draw for the English Open 1952-3 will be made in the Council Chamber, Leyton Town Hall, at 6 p.m. on the 16th March, 1953 under the supervision of the Hon. Referee Mr. E. G. White.

Laws—Knotty Points: "Flat Hand"

The I.T.T.F. Rules Committee has issued the following addition to Law 6—"Interpretation of Flat Hand in Service" (page 183 of the E.T.T.A. Handbook, 1952/3):
"Strict observation of the prescribed method of service may be waived where the Umpire is notified, before play begins, that compliance by the player in question is prevented by any physical disability."

E.T.T.A.-C.C.P.R. Summer Coaching Course

Lilleshall. 15-22nd August, 1953, for men and women not under 17. The Hon. Director of Coaching, Mr. Jack Carrington will be in charge. Inclusive fee for the week will be £6 including food, accommodation and instruction. Preference for E.T.T.A. reservations will be given to student Coaches.

France v. England (Men)

The Men's Senior International Match arranged for March 6th (in France) has been cancelled.

Lord Aberdare to make Presentations

Lord Aberdare has accepted the invitation of the E.T.T.A. to present the Cups and Plaques to the winners of the English Open Championships at Wembley, on Saturday night, April 11th.

3 New County Associations

The N.E.C. have approved the Constitution of 3 new County Associations formed in Oxfordshire, Somerset and Wiltshire.

Obituary RALPH EMDIN

WE deeply regret to record that Mr. RALPH EMDIN died at St. Albans, Herts. on the 3rd February, 1953 of bronchitis, after a fortnight's illness.

He was 77 and would have reached his 78th birthday had he lived to July, but the years did not weary him, and his youthful spirit gave him the appearance of being 20 years younger. He was still an active worker and regular traveller to the last, and only a few days before his illness had arranged an audit for a local government centre 40 miles distant.

His life was gentle, kind and one of unobtrusive service. He possessed a rare virtue of working so efficiently behind the scenes (particularly on some of the less glamorous chores) and with such self-effacement, that only with his absence was his worth appreciated. No cause took a more dominant part in Ralph Emdin's life than that of Table Tennis. In the revival in the early 1920's he was a founder of the St. Alban's T.T.C., which became one of the individual club founder-members of the E.T.T.A. in 1926. In 1931-2 he was elected a Vice President of the E.T.T.A. and served on the National Executive from 1933 to 1939. He took keen interest in developing the game in his area, and among others, the Bedford League was founded largely through his enthusiasm.

His name is perpetuated in the records by the playing performances of his two famous daughters, Dora M. and Doris L. The former represented England in 3 Corbillon Cup competitions, plus 8 other Internationals, was England W.S. Champion 1932-3 and won 4 English Doubles titles. Doris Emdin has been "capped" 3 times, and is still playing an energetic and aggressive game for Herts. County, St. Albans and in the Civil Service League, in addition to undertaking a variety of offices in several spheres.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICES

FRANCE. Championships and Women's Match, Jan. 3-7th. Due to an ankle injury, Miss Rosalind Rowe has withdrawn from the team. Her place has been filled by Miss Joyce Roberts (Surrey). 30th Dec., 1952.

SCOTLAND. At Barnsley. 6th Feb., 1953.

A. W. C. Simons (Capt.) H. T. Venner, B. Kennedy, B. Merrett, Miss R. Rowe, Miss C. K. Best. Reserve: A. R. Miller (Surrey).

WALES (Mixed Juniors). At Hanley, Staffs. 6th Feb., 1953.

T. SEARS (n-p Capt.), C. Booth (Lancs.), G. Pullar (Lancs.) R. Morley* (Glos.), Miss A. Haydon* (Warwicks), Miss J. Rook (Surrey). Reserve: R. Dorking (Essex).

IRELAND. (Mixed). At Liverpool. 23rd Jan., 1953.

J. Leach (Capt.), A. W. C. Simons, B. Kennedy, A. Rhodes* (Middlesex), Miss D. Rowe, Miss C. K. Best.

* First international match appearance.



No. 851

Garry Marsh as the stolid English Sir Michael Anstruther, and Yvonne Arnaud as the captivating Denise Darvel in a scene from "Dear Charles" now enjoying a successful run at the New Theatre. Garry Marsh (well-known screen and stage actor) has been suggested as a double for the England Hon. Referee, Mr. E. G. White, whose picture we print on this page

Yvonne Arnaud on TABLE TENNIS

LAST December, Alan Melville's comedy "Dear Charles" (based on "Les Enfants d'Edouard" in the best French taste) opened at The New Theatre, London, bringing Yvonne Arnaud back to enchant and delight anew her thousands of admirers. This is the type of role which she has made all her own by those exquisite little touches, her captivating femininity, that fascinating accent and those famous chuckles, the flashing eye and bubbling gaiety. Here was the Arnaud supremely in her element, bringing back nostalgic memories of how gaily, enthusiastically and frequently she used to play Table Tennis.

"Yes—I certainly did use to play a lot," she mused. "but I still do when I can find time to arrange a game . . ."

We wondered (as though not knowing the answer), what she found in Table Tennis that particularly appealed to her. Gertrude Lawrence for instance, a very keen player, thought it helped her "carriage" . . . an irrepressible chuckle . . .

"Oh, I don't think so," said Miss Arnaud, "because I have seen some very fine players who—in private life—walked rather—un-gainly. But—Table Tennis DOES give you a quick eye and it does exercise your power of thinking ahead—it . . . it makes you be on your toes—mentally and physically. Yes indeed—it is a MOST interesting—and a MOST enjoyable game."

"It is friendly and sociable too—yes, that is true—UNTIL some people turn their minds to be too serious—and, oh dear—then the battle IS grim!!! But—between people who play the game just for the sheer, happy enjoyment of it—I think it is a really lovely game."

L.S.W.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICES

Swaythling Cup Competition, 1952-3
At Bucharest. 20-29th March, 1953.
A. A. HAYDON, (Warwicks.) Capt.; R. BERGMANN (Middx.); B. KENNEDY (Yorks.); J. LEACH (Essex); A. W. C. SIMONS (Glos.). Reserves (not to travel): A. R. Miller (Surrey); H. E. Venner (Surrey).

Marcel Corbillon Cup Competition, 1952-3

At Bucharest. 20-29th March, 1953.
A. A. HAYDON (n-p-c); Miss C. K. BEST (Yorks.); Miss D. ROWE (Middx.); Miss R. ROWE (Middx.). Reserves (not to travel): Miss Y. Baker (Essex); Miss M. Piper (Surrey).

Netherlands Open Championships

At Rotterdam. 21-22nd Feb., 1953.
A. R. MILLER (Surrey) has been nominated to compete. Other players authorised to compete are: R. Bergmann (Middx.); B. Kennedy (Yorks.); Miss M. Jones (Glos.); Miss D. Rowe (Middx.); Miss R. Rowe (Middx.)

Scarboro's (Easter Holiday) Open Tournament

Open Challenges (1) to anyone OVER 60, and (2) any Junior under 14 on 6th April. (Other events, see Pages 22 and 24.

TRAGIC ACCIDENT

JEAN TITTERINGTON, 18, is critically ill in Salford Hospital with both legs broken. Doctors have operated and have been fighting to save her life and limbs. Her boy friend, Alec Pearson, 22, was taking her home from the Cheshire Open on his motor-cycle and had a collision with a car at Worsley. Alec died in hospital.

Jean was England Junior G.D. and G.S. semi-finalist 2 seasons ago and one of the most promising and virile young players in the North, with the promise of a brilliant sporting career ahead. She played T.T. for the I.C.I., Blackley and the N.W.E.B. in the Manchester League, and for this season's Manchester Rose Bowl team.



NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME

NOTICE BOARD

Hon. Director of Coaching: Jack Carrington

E.T.T.A./C.C.P.R. Summer-Holiday

Coaching Course at Lilleshall

National Recreation Centre

AUGUST 15th-22nd, 1953

ALL PLACES BOOKED



Mr. George White, Hon. Referee, English Open.
See note under above picture

DRESSING ROOMS

By VICTOR BARNA

Another thoughtful and helpful article by the Grand Master of T.T. in a series that is much appreciated by progressive bodies.

IT is high time that something was done about dressing rooms. Just recently, Johnny Leach and I had our wallets stolen while we were playing in a mixed doubles final, and I am sorry to say that this was by no means an isolated instance. It is regrettable but true that many wallets have been stolen in dressing rooms before and I fear that many others will in the future, unless some steps are taken.

For the purpose of this article, I am not concerned with questions of honesty. What does seem important to me is that attention should be drawn to pilfering and I gladly take this opportunity of having my little say about it.

Seeing that table tennis tournaments today attract entries running into hundreds, I sometimes wonder whether officials and organisers appreciate the unfairness of bundling all the players into one tiny room. Usually there is some influenza about and the average competitor is so keen that rather than miss a tournament, he will disregard a slight cold. Far too often in the small changing room provided, there is not even a chair or a form to sit on and consequently, players have to put up with the discomfort of standing while they are changing their clothes. But the hygienic issue is even more important, especially as washing facilities are rarely available. A good rub down is an absolute necessity after an exhausting match.

I do not want organisers as a whole to jump to the conclusion that I have a grudge against them; for I do realise that as often as not they have no alternative, and have to make the best of the accommodation they can obtain. All the same, it does seem that their chief concern is divided between playing conditions, and seating arrangements for the spectators, and that all too frequently they give only scant attention to the requirements for decent changing rooms. Many times I have noticed that suitable accommodation was available if only organisers had had a little forethought. Certainly one is entitled to expect these facilities when events are staged in such buildings as Town Halls, and Baths.

Another "grouch" I have is that little is done to ensure privacy for the players in their dressing rooms, spectators and all sorts of people apparently being allowed to come and go just as they wish. Then, when an article gets stolen, suspicion falls on the players: and I think this is most unfair.

After all, table tennis is a major sport and as such, I suggest that the matters I have referred to should receive more care and attention than they have done in the past. There is certainly a great deal of room for improvement, which I am sure can be effected with a little more consideration.

VICTOR BARNA

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

§ NEXT MONTH's —April—*Table Tennis* will be The World Championships Number—again with EXTRA pages. The World's, at Bucharest, is not finished until late March 29th, but though special arrangements are being made to receive results etc., *Table Tennis* will inevitably be out a little later than usual. Every effort will be made to distribute before the 4-day Easter Holiday, but please do not write if it does not arrive at the usual time.

§ WE REGRET that a number of features and news items have had to be held over for lack of space. They include Tournament Topliners, photos of Whiff-Waff, Oriental Tour, T.T. in the Soviet, Hungarian and U.S.A. news reports, etc.

§ ALL letters and contributions are very carefully read and appreciated. Although they may not be used promptly, they will be considered for future issues.

§ The Editor gratefully acknowledges the many letters, and regrets it has not been possible to deal with them all promptly. In view of the quantity received, it will be helpful if the envelope is marked "Urgent", where early attention is required.

L.S.W.

"Balais" Glide

A slippery floor is all very well

For a foxtrot—

But twelve feet back it's just plain hell

For a dropshot!

LAST CALL FOR THE BIG THREE

English Open Table Tennis Championships

Big Demands
for Tickets!



International
Junior Finals
Again!

1

FRIDAY, APRIL 10th
Quarter Finals M.S.
FINALS
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles

15/-, 12/6, 10/6, 7/6, 4/-

2

SATURDAY AFTERNOON
Special Session for Youth
FINALS of
Junior Events

2/6 (2/- for 12 or more)

3

SATURDAY, 11th APRIL
Semis and FINAL M.S.
Mixed Doubles
Women's Doubles
FINALS

21/-, 15/-, 6/6

Empire Pool & Sports Arena, Wembley

★ Tickets from E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, ★
London, W.C.2

ESSEX Chairman, Mr. Corti Woodcock energetic and versatile administrator in many fields, has sent us a concise account of the activity Parliamentary work of the Sunday Freedom Association, on whose Committee he was nominated by the E.T.T.A. Mr. Woodcock has been acting as Chairman of this Association for most of the past year. Report in our next issue.

BELATED goodwishes to Mr. ALAN THOMPSON and Miss C. KATHLEEN BEST who were married at St. Austin's Church, Wakefield on Dec. 31. Part of the honeymoon was spent in Paris (over the French Championships). Alan is Yorks. captain, a coach, first-class doubles player, and a member of the National Selection Committee. KATHLEEN (who once lost her job for T.T.) is Yorks Champion and England's No. 3 Corbillon Cup choice for Bucharest.

HAMPSHIRE OPEN

Southampton, 22nd Feb., 1953

- M.S.** P. SHEAD bt. (1) S. Minter —19, 13, 18; bt. (2) L. Devereux 21, 14 (bt. W. Draper 18, 14).
W.S. S. WILLISON bt. (1) Mrs. B. Rind 17, 16; bt. (2) S. Ball 13, 12 (bt. P. Rind 17, 22).
M.D. D. BARLEY/L. WISE bt. I. Alexander/P. Shead 12, 18.
W.D. B. and P. RIND bt. B. Hewlett/Mrs. C. Whitren 17, —15, 14.
X.D. P. SHEAD/P. RIND bt. P. Pudney/S. Willison 11, 18.
B.S. R. P. HUNT bt. M. Spicer 4, 11.

CHESHIRE OPEN

Birkenhead, 21st Feb., 1953

- M.S.** C. BOOTH bt. (1) A. L. Shepherd 17, 21; bt. (2) G. Pullar 15, —14, 19 (bt. E. T. Johnson 18, —18, 19).
W.S. A. WOOD bt. S. Threlfall 18, —11, 10.
M.D. C. BOOTH/D. G. ELLISON bt. B. Hand/W. H. Pierce 10, —8, 9.
X.D. D. G. ELLISON/A. WOOD bt. D. Shaw/K. Benson 18, 19.
B.S. C. BOOTH bt. G. Pullar 14, 19, 12.
G.S. A. PICKUP.
V.S. H. GREAVES.

NETHERLANDS CHAMPIONSHPS

Rotterdam, 21st Feb., 1953

- M.S.** A. Ehrlich bt. R. Bergmann 9, 20/16, 7/10, 10/11, 11/9 (T/L games). R. Roothoft bt. B. Kennedy 8, —12, 18, 15.
R. Roothoft bt. A. Ehrlich 21, —14, 21, 16.
W.S. D. ROWE bt. R. Rowe —18, 17, 18, 19.
M.D. Z. DOLINAR/V. HARANGOZO bt. R. Bergmann/B. Kennedy —16, 19, 18, 13. (M. Haguenaur/A. R. Miller lost in Q/F to Cor Du Buy/Van Zoelen —19, —18, 18, —18).
W.D. D. & R. ROWE.
X.D. B. KENNEDY/R. ROWE bt. Z. Dolinar/C. Schuyt 13, 15, 9.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

The marriage arranged between Geoffrey Coulthead (Hon. Sec., South London League, etc.) and Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Holdway, of Putney, will take place at All Saints' Church, Putney, on the 28th March, 1953.

ON the 10th January, 1953, Miss Emily Myers Fuller, the very popular pre-war U.S.A. Corbillon Cup player and several times U.S.A. Champion, was married to Mr. George Davies Grafhn, in New York.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28th is the first of the Great Days of the *Daily Mirror's* great National T.T. Tournament 1952-3. On this day, 4 groups of 16 players each will meet at 4 different centres (mostly youth clubs). They are the last 68 players left out of the original 12,000 odd after hundreds of thrilling battles fought over the last 6 months.

Each one of these 68 is a Zone Champion and will receive a *Daily Mirror* Plaque. Each one is also an Area semi-finalist: thus, on March 28th the Zone Champions (4 men, 4 women, 4 girls and 4 boys) will meet at their Area Centre to decide the respective champion for that Area. The semi-finals will be played in the afternoon; then, in the evening, before a public audience, the exciting finals (one for each of 4 events) will be played.

Each Area will thus have 4 Area Champions (1 man, 1 woman, 1 boy and 1 girl)—a total of 16 for the country. These become eligible for the *Daily Mirror* Coaching Course in September AND also have the chance for further honours because they qualify for the Grand Finals at the Royal Albert Hall in April. From these Area Semi Finals onward, the lucky competitors are the guests of the *Daily Mirror*, with all expenses paid.

All particulars known at time of press are tabulated below (28 names are still to come). Area Final tickets are NOT obtainable from the *Daily Mirror*, BUT from the appropriate T.T. officer shown below. Proceeds go to local funds.



AREA A

AREA B

AREA C

AREA D

	AREA A	AREA B	AREA C	AREA D
PLAYED AT	Sir James Knott Youth Centre, Church Way, NORTH SHIELDS	Bolton Lads' Club, Bark Street, BOLTON	Woodfield Club, Penn Road, WOLVERHAMPTON	Romfield Y.M.C.A., Red Triangle Club, Western Road, ROMFORD
TICKETS FROM	Mr. J. R. Waugh, 107, Links Avenue, Whitley Bay	Mr. J. A. Howcroft, 30, Thorne Street, Farnworth, Bolton	Mr. J. A. Hesford, 36, Woodfield Avenue, Wolverhampton	Mr. J. D. Pigeon, c/o Y.M.C.A., at above address
PRICES	Reserved 2/6d., Standing 1/- (7 p.m.)	Reserved: 2/6d. and 1/6d. (7.15 p.m.)	Reserved: 2/6d., Unreserved 1/6d. (7 p.m.)	Reserved: 5/-, 3/6d. 2/- (7.30 p.m.)
M.S.	Robert Kerr (Portobello) Roland Hutchinson (Barrow) Edward Still (Glasgow)		Hadley Holland (Old Colwyn) William Thomas (Cardiff)	
W.S.	Mrs. C. Craigen (Edinburgh) Jean Clark (Sunderland) Margaret Gordon (Glasgow) Elisabeth Pipe (Sunderland)	Barbara Jacklin (Shipley) Mrs. D. Worthington (Ilkeston)	Iris Keeling (Rhyl) Mrs. T. Carruthers (Ashford)	C. E. Rose (Wallingford) Judith Winter (Plymouth)
B.S.	Charles Busby (Paisley) Gordon Lumsden (Sunderland)	Ronald Jackson (Hull) P. J. Cullen (Newark) Derek Finan (Dunkenfield) David Ferguson (Liverpool)	John Rowland (Chester) Arthur Bryon (Cardiff)	
G.S.	Helen Houlston (Edinburgh) Muriel Valentine (Glasgow) Dorothy Jackson (Dalton) Judith Noble (Darlington)	Jean Preston (Knaresboro') Joan Bowker (Blackburn) Barbara Slater (Spouon) Alwyn Pickup (Blackburn)	Shirley Davis (Gloucester) Sheila Fisher (Newport) Irene Kirkland (Leck) Daphne Hughes (Bedford)	Jane Hodson (Hornsey) Joyce Fielder (Eltham) Sheila Ball (Southsea)

SINISTER STREET

By LESLIE S. WOOLLARD

HOLD your fire and your lawyers awhile, folks, until you get the idea. Some pretty grand people live in Sinister Street and they can't be blamed for the name of where they live. You think of sinister as meaning something of "evil omen", I suppose? Well, it originally meant "left-handed". Look it up. My guess is that the jolly old knights in shining armour found that left-handed tourney opponents were liable to create just as much havoc in the lists as they do today: a bad omen to spot a "sinister" (left-handed opponent)!

Nowadays, the "portsiders" are real form busters with respect for none, and would seem to be getting away with more credits than usual. About 7% of people are left-handed; twice as many men as women (and left-handedness is about 4 times as common in twins). Yet one hears of 4 lefties in a doubles final; 3 in a junior county team; and top youngsters of several countries all being south-paws!

Other things being equal, left-handedness should give no undue advantage in T.T. In Lawn Tennis, the main advantage is in service; and any advantages of the left-hander in Cricket and Boxing are only comparable to T.T. in a tactical sense.

More folk are playing T.T. today than ever before. The AVERAGE standard of play is higher than it has ever been, BUT the standard of NEW top players has rarely, if ever, the genius and spectacular brilliance of the Old Masters. All over the world prewar "veterans" are still holding their own, and can make their come-backs when they wish, like Flisberg and Vana have quite recently. Even Soos—written off as an invalid and living with the current Swaythling Cup holders—can turn up after a long rest and start beating youngsters!

I've got a pet theory (who hasn't in T.T.) that a higher net for coaching and PLANNED practice would do much to elevate quite a few players. All the "Old" Masters had to learn with a higher net; it took longer, but they found a complete control of the ball, how to use their heads, vary their technique and tactics—and found a much more lasting pleasure than many youngsters will ever have today. The lower net has encouraged two types: The Basher and the Chiseller. They always play the same game whatever the opposition. They play as a HABIT. Sometimes they have amazing wins, which are followed by incredible defeats. IT IS AMAZING HOW FEW OF

SOME CELEBRITIES OF "SINISTER STREET"

Up to Early Post-War Years

Pecci, Bellak, Schiff, Haydon, Beregi, Dace (Thomas), Brook, Bublely, Rumjahns, Flisberg, and Harrower.

The New Generation

Miller (Dennis), Kennedy, Rowe (Diane), Allcock,—and now Alan Rhodes.

The Younger Generation

(Junior Internationals and County Players).

Bobby Seaman, Beryl Spooner, June Bottrill (Middx.); and among others, Anne Haydon, (Warwicks), Ingber (Lancs.), D. House (Somerset), Billy Knight (Northants), Kath Pearson (Notts.) Gladwish (Sussex), Shirley Boarder (Herts.), etc.

Then there's Lasse Pettersson (Sweden), Szepesi (Hungary), Tomie Nishimura (Japan), Jean Claude-Sala (France), J. Stauvermann (Germany) and his brilliant countryman, Konrad Freundorfer (who holds the Junior Singles titles of Germany, France and England).

... and the Ambidextrous

Apart from wizards who swop hands in play, you have Geoff. Harrower who was originally a right-hander but gained his international badge as a left-hander. I believe that His late Majesty, King George VI played Lawn Tennis with the left and Table Tennis with the right hand, and that the England Referee—George White—who writes naturally with the left, plays T.T. with the right.

Caveman drawings depict only right-handed figures; doesn't life grow complicated!

THEM CAN TELL YOU, after a game, whether their opponent was left or right-handed!

Now any style of play that upsets concentration, also upsets both psychological and technical equilibrium. The natural game of a southpaw is merely the winning tactic of using one's strongest game against the opponent's weakest. The NORMAL game of a right-hander is a fairy god-mother to the leftie. O.K. then, why not play an ABNORMAL game against him . . . ?

The average leftie (i) likes to attack, (ii) usually has a stronger-than-average forehand, and (iii) a weaker than average backhand (but don't rely on this!) (iv) tends to run round balls and take on his forehand, (v) doesn't like low, short and "soft" balls.

Generally, it is a pretty good bet to REVERSE your usual game. This will probably knock spots off your accuracy and carve up that lush style you're so proud of—in fact, the effort will probably drive you crazy. So what? Have you any idea of how



No. 852

Jean Claude Sala (French Junior (who has wins over Bergmann and Leach

unhappy you're making your opponent? Get wise. Don't be the gimmicked gosling any longer. Churn up the old grey matter more than somewhat and work out a plan. Then you won't unconsciously flop before every "portsider" you meet. Make the going tough for him (even if at the start it's tough and awkward for you too). You might even win! Probably will, if you tackle the job rightly.

Remember it's pretty good tactics to hit BEHIND a player when you want a quick winner, and if you use that priceless little muscle—the brain—you'll probably be able to make opportunity to wrongfoot him. Of course, you might get entangled with a Bellak or a Haydon and . . . that's another story. Victor Barna found the answer to that one. You know how, don't you?

P.S. to Lefties: *Keep up the good work.*

HOLIDAY TRAINING COURSES

(1) Isle of Wight:

23rd-30th May, 1953

4 Men's vacancies remain.
Priority to non-London players,
over 21.

(2) Skegness:

19th-26th September, 1953

Now booking all groups
(Men or Women).

Apply: JACK CARRINGTON,
21, Clayton Avenue, Upminster, Essex

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

I regret that so many matches were played in the second half of the month that I am unable to give adequate reports in some divisions.

PREMIER DIVISION

Middlesex have done it again. Their sixth successive triumph may be by the biggest margin ever. We must wait and see if they beat Surrey on March 10th. Success was assured by a convincing win over Essex, before an enthusiastic 700 crowd at May & Baker's at Dagenham. This firm went to a lot of trouble to put this match on in the proper manner. More co-operation like this and counties would have less financial worries!

Essex started with a 2-0 lead, Jack Carrington beating luckless Alan Rhodes and Johnny Leach proving too good for Len Adams, but that was their last success until the final match. Only real surprise was the straight game defeat of Leach and Carrington by Victor Barna and Michael Thornhill.

Best performance of the month, however, was by Yorkshireman Raymond Hinchcliff, who beat Leach. Both Hinchcliff and Thompson won both their singles against Essex, and yet Essex won 6-4! Brian Kennedy and Kathleen Best figured on the losing side five times!

Yorkshire did a little better against Surrey, with a 5-all draw, but Hinchcliff lost to Tony Miller, who took his two singles to celebrate his first appearance for his first team since last season (when he also won both matches).

Nothing goes right for poor old Lincoln. At last they had leave for Peter Skerratt, to play his first ever Premier Division match—came the floods and all Army leave cancelled. Nice gesture on part of Lincs. to allow 100 evacuees in free at Louth from neighbouring Mablethorpe and Sutton.

Essex	3,	Middlesex	7
Yorkshire	5,	Surrey	5
Devon	5,	Gloucestershire	5
Lincolnshire	2,	Glamorgan	8
Yorkshire	4,	Essex	6

Middlesex	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Gloucestershire	6	6	0	0	47	13 12
Devon	7	3	2	2	42	28 8
Surrey	5	2	2	1	33	17 6
Essex	5	3	0	2	31	19 6
Yorkshire	6	2	2	2	31	29 6
Glamorgan	5	2	1	2	22	28 5
Devon	6	1	1	4	19	41 3
Lincolnshire	6	0	0	6	5	55 0

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Middlesex made no mistake in beating the strong Essex second team by 8-2, and unless you can see them suffering defeat at the hands of Bucks, they will take this title for the second successive season. Main interest in this section, however, lies in who gets promoted—Sussex or Warwickshire. Sussex chances improved when Warwickshire crashed 2-8 to Essex. It was one of those nights when nothing went right for Warwick, three matches being lost after close fights in the third game. Alan Payne and Peter Pudney both did well to beat Maurice Kriss, whilst Barbara Milbank had a good straight games win over Pam Mortimer.

Glamorgan put up a good show before losing 2-8 to the powerful Surrey side. George Woolf hit splendidly to beat Paul Brook in straight games, whilst the two youngsters, David Phillips and Alan Morris, scored an unexpected but well deserved win over the two English Internationals Ron Crayden and Eric Filby. Glamorgan should have got a third win, but Woolf and Vera Rowe went down after leading Filby and Kathleen Vurge 20-16 in the third.

Essex	8,	Warwickshire	2
Middlesex	8,	Essex	2
Surrey	8,	Glamorgan	2

Middlesex	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Essex	6	5	1	0	46	14 11
Surrey	7	5	0	2	47	23 10
Sussex	6	4	1	1	41	19 9
Warwickshire	5	3	0	3	32	28 6
Glamorgan	6	2	0	3	25	25 4
Cambridgeshire	6	2	0	4	22	38 4
Buckinghamshire	6	1	0	5	11	49 2
	4	0	0	4	6	34 0

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Arising out of incidents in the match between Lancashire and Durham the Executive Committee of the County Championships have decided that Lancashire played two ineligible players, and that all matches played by these players are void. The result of the match shown last month as 8-2 in favour of Lancashire now becomes a 5-5 all draw.

Although playing an entirely reserve team Lancashire managed to draw with Yorkshire and win the title, thereby regaining their place in the Premier Division after only one season. Mainly they had to thank the Misses Benson and Threlfall, who won all their matches, although Geoff Pullar should be commended for

beating Ken Park 21-6, 21-14, in the final match with Yorkshire leading 5-4.

Yorkshire	5,	Lancashire	5
Northumberland	2,	Warwickshire	8

Lancashire	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Yorkshire	5	3	2	0	34	16 8
Warwickshire	5	3	1	1	27	23 7
Cheshire	5	3	0	2	30	20 6
Northumberland	4	2	0	2	22	18 4
Durham	5	1	0	4	19	31 2
	4	0	1	3	11	29 1

EASTERN DIVISION

Hertfordshire made no mistake against Cambridge, although Alan Smith had the unusual experience for him of losing both his singles for the winners. Cambridge advanced up the table with two wins over Norfolk, who are now doomed to take bottom position. In the first of these two matches R. Nunn and R. Dean both won their two singles for Cambridgeshire to contribute a major share in the victory.

Norfolk	4,	Cambridgeshire	6
Cambridgeshire	2,	Hertfordshire	8
Cambridgeshire	6,	Norfolk	4

Bedfordshire	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Hertfordshire	6	6	0	0	46	14 12
Suffolk	6	4	0	2	36	24 8
Cambridgeshire	6	2	1	3	28	32 5
Norfolk	5	2	0	3	18	32 4
	7	0	1	6	22	48 1

MIDLAND DIVISION

Hearty congratulations to Staffordshire on taking this title for the first time. They secured a really convincing win over Warwickshire by 7-3 to make sure. Against the strong men's trio of W. Care, S. Higginson and A. G. Smith, the three Staffs. men J. Birchall, F. Kershaw and V. Simin performed magnificently to take five out of the six men's singles.

Therefore Worcestershire have to be content with runners-up position, nevertheless a successful first season.

Meanwhile, Derbyshire, by beating Northants and drawing with Leicestershire crept over Warwickshire to take third place, also an excellent performance. Derbyshire owe a lot to Miss J. Walker, a tower of strength in the side, and undefeated in singles.

Warwickshire	3,	Staffordshire	7
Derbyshire	6,	Northamptonshire	4
Leicestershire	5,	Derbyshire	5

Staffordshire	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.
Worcestershire	5	5	0	0	32	18 10
Derbyshire	5	4	0	1	29	21 8
Warwickshire	5	2	1	2	24	26 5
Northamptonshire	5	2	0	3	25	25 4
Leicestershire	5	1	0	4	21	29 2
	5	0	1	4	19	31 1

(continued on next page)

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

(continued from previous page)

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Hampshire	10,	Buckinghamshire	0				
Berkshire	2,	Kent	8				
FINAL TABLE	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Kent	6	6	0	0	51	9	12
Hampshire	6	4	0	2	39	21	8
Berkshire	6	2	0	4	22	38	4
Buckinghamshire	6	0	0	6	8	52	0

NORTHERN DIVISION

Durham	5,	Yorkshire	5				
Cumberland	4,	Northumberland	6				
FINAL TABLE	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Yorkshire	6	4	2	0	46	14	10
Durham	6	3	1	2	34	26	7
Northumberland	6	3	1	2	29	31	7
Cumberland	6	0	0	6	11	49	0

JUNIOR "A" DIVISION

Sussex made quite certain in everybody's minds that they were fully entitled to win this division when they beat Surrey in the return match. Although Michael MacLaren won both his singles for Surrey, Peter and Sawyer failed to score, a tribute to the all round strength of Sussex, and those people who were inclined to think that Middlesex would have a walk over in the challenge match had better think again.

The challenge match will be played at the St. Mary's Hall, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, on Friday, 20th March, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Sussex	6,	Surrey	4				
Kent	4,	Essex	6				
FINAL TABLE	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Sussex	6	5	1	0	37	23	11
Surrey	6	2	2	2	32	28	6
Essex	6	2	1	3	26	34	5
Kent	6	2	0	4	25	35	2

JUNIOR "B" DIVISION

With big win over Notts and Cambridge, Middlesex made certain of a run-away win in this Division and a right to play in the Challenge Match, against Sussex. They have a strong all-round side with no stars, and every member of the team has pulled his or her weight in the success.

Interest still lies in who will be runners-up. If Notts can take a point from Middlesex they will secure this position, but otherwise Hertfordshire may overhaul them as they still have to play Cambridge twice.

Hertfordshire	6,	Nottinghamshire	4				
Middlesex	8,	Nottinghamshire	2				
Middlesex	10,	Cambridgeshire	0				
Bedfordshire	7,	Hertfordshire	3				
Nottinghamshire	8,	Bedfordshire	2				
FINAL TABLE	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Middlesex	7	7	0	0	60	10	14
Nottinghamshire	7	3	2	2	44	26	8
Bedfordshire	8	3	1	4	39	41	7
Hertfordshire	6	2	1	3	26	34	5
Cambridgeshire	6	0	0	6	3	57	0

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION

Sat., 7th March	Yorkshire v. Lincolnshire, Wakefield Technical School.	7.00.
Tues., 10th March	Surrey v. Middlesex, Clapham Manor Street Baths.	7.00.
Sat., 14th March	Essex v. Surrey, Clacton Town Hall.	
Sat., 14th March	Glamorgan v. Devon, Welfare Hall, Resolven, near Neath.	7.00.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Sat., 7th March	Sussex v. Warwickshire, White Rock Pavilion, Hastings.	7.00.
Sat., 7th March	Buckinghamshire v. Middlesex, Slough Social Centre.	7.00.
Sat., 7th March	Cambridgeshire x. Surrey, Y.M.C.A., Cambridge.	7.00.
Sat., 14th March	Warwickshire v. Buckinghamshire.	

EASTERN DIVISION

Tues., 3rd March	Hertfordshire v. Cambridgeshire, The Mission Hall, Royston.	7.30.
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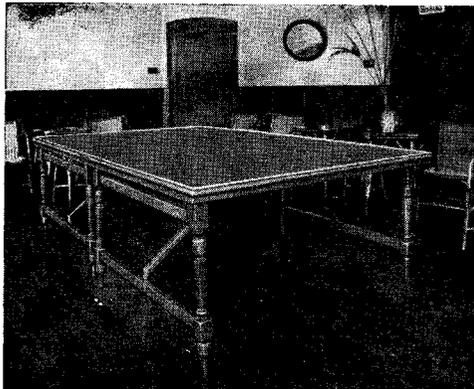
JUNIOR CHALLENGE MATCH FOR JUNIOR TROPHY

Fri., 20th March	Sussex v. Middlesex, St. Mary's Hall, Shoreham-by-Sea.	7.30.
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JUNIOR DIVISION "B"

Thurs., 5th March	Hertfordshire v. Cambridgeshire, Watford Y.M.C.A., Clarendon Road.	
Sat., 14th March	Cambridgeshire v. Hertfordshire, Cambridge Y.M.C.A.	7.00.

TOMS for the Finest Table Tennis Tables on the Market



TOURNAMENT T.T. TABLE

1" Birch Play top with eight folding legs, and a super-fast matt cellulose playing surface, absolutely free from grain or pore defects - £33
 "Club Model" as above but 1/2" top - £20
 Quality T.T. Bats - 5/-
 T.T. Bats to specification 6/6
 T.T. Bats re-rubbered - 3/6

Special Terms to Club Secs.

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World Table Tennis CHAMPIONSHIPS

The English International Team competing at Bucharest will wear "Umbro"

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

£12,000 Turnover; 9 Pithy Points; Higher Fees?

YES, you should certainly be interested!

The Income & Expenditure Account of the E.T.T.A. involves nearly £12,000.¹ Tom Blunn has simplified the mass of figures into a **PLAIN STATEMENT of NET Receipts and NET Expenses** that everyone can understand at a glance. His concise summary will be welcomed by everyone.

In addition, he has picked out what he thinks to be the 9 major points of the Accounts and makes a pertinent comment on each. You may not necessarily agree with his conclusions.

By TOM BLUNN

Lancs. County Chairman

(1) The year ends on 30th June, but the accounts are not available until the Annual E.T.T.A. Handbook is published 2. is published about 5 months later. Since we are then busy in another year, they are then not so easily understood. I would welcome the circulation of a complete financial statement, with notes, as soon as possible after June 30th.3.

(2) **REASONABLE!** Administration Expenses have increased £200 over the previous year, which compares favourably. Main items are Wages £1,100; Travelling £378; Rent £471; Telephone £290; Printing, etc., £459 and Postage £297.

(3) & (4) **TREAT OF WIDENING GAP.** I maintain that Affiliation Fees should at least cover the cost of Administration. Last year it was £738 short. Note how the gap has continued to widen each year:—

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
£111	£134	£317	£626	£738

The net amount received from Affiliation Fees rises every year with the growth of the game, but costs have risen to an even greater extent (e.g., increases in postage, telephone, paper, printing, tax, fares, etc.). In 5 years, administration of the E.T.T.A. has cost nearly £2,000 MORE than has been received from Affiliation Fees! 4.

This substantial deficit (unless it be met with increased Affiliation Fees) has to be made good from OTHER activities sponsored by the E.T.T.A. This means that each year more money has to be produced to "subsidise" affiliation fees—thus leaving LESS available to be spent on activities for the advancement of the game. IN THE LAST 2 YEARS, the Income from ALL sources has been £500 SHORT of what was necessary to meet costs!

It cost a total of £3,564 to run the Association last year.

(5) **£1,300 FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.** The World Championships will always appear as an expense. The higher costs involved in travelling to Bombay last year cost the Association £760 more than for the World's in the previous year. This obviously had an adverse effect of the year's figures.

SIMPLIFIED ACCOUNTS OF THE E.T.T.A.¹

for 1951-52, Year Ending 30th June, 1952 (1)

	RECEIPTS (Net)		EXPENSES (Net)	
	1951	In even £'s 1952	1951	1952
Affiliation Fees (4)	2763	2826	Administration (2)	2880
			Annual Handbook ²	509
	2763	2826	Total (3)	3389
Registered Players Fees	90	89	World Championships (5)	519
Open Tournament Fees	294	229	Other Open Tournaments	119
English Open (6)	513	1062	Silver Jubilee	—
Rebates (Balls and Shirts) (7)	691	733	Overseas Tours	184
Publications	67	100	Wilmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl (8)	60
Donations	12	11	Trials	32
Interest	38	68	Coaching and Practice Courses	163
International Matches	35	135	Practice Course	—
Europe Cup	52	—	Selection Committee	—
To Balance (LOSS) (9)	169	345	County Umpires Scheme	68
			Team Badges and Outfit	150
			W. J. Pope Memorial	—
			Victor Barna Testimonial	42
				—
	£4726	£5598		£4726
				£5598

(6) **THE ENGLISH OPEN.** The English Open is one of the most important items each year. Since the loss in 1948, however, an aggregate of nearly £5,000 profit has been made. Increases in Travel costs and Entertainment Tax are very important factors which are likely to have an adverse effect in the future.

(7) **BALLS AND SHIRTS.** A source of unearned income that is invaluable in stabilising the Association's finances is the rebate from manufacturers on sales of shirts and balls, which are, of course, an indirect levy on the players. The annual figure of about £700 should be maintained.

(8) **THE T.T. CUPS LOSE MONEY.** The Wilmott Cup and J.M. Rose Bowl Competitions cost the Association £105 last year, bringing the total loss to over £600 in the past 5 years in running these national team competitions. It would now need 100% increase in entry fees to avoid similar losses in the future.

(9) **THE FINAL RESULT.** The final result of the year's working was a NET LOSS of £345 (compared with a loss of £169 in the previous year). The general trend continues into this year. Expenses of the World Championships should not be so high this season, but the net profit on the English Open will be the dominating factor in the final result for 1953.

TOM BLUNN

Editor's Footnotes

1. Full and detailed accounts are published on pages 172 to 175 of the Annual E.T.T.A. Handbook, 1952-3.

2. Every year the E.T.T.A. sends a FREE copy of the current Handbook to EVERY affiliated club. This valuable reference (which last year cost £486 NET to produce), is thus available to every member, through his club secretary. The 184 pages contain hundreds of current facts, figures, records, laws of the game, rules for various competitions, tournaments, etc.

3. The Accounts involve nearly £12,000 and it will be appreciated that a reasonable period must be allowed for preparation and audit, etc.

4. The "gap" between Affiliation Fee Net Receipts and Administration Costs has been artificially widened by county development. Where a County Association operates, for example, the E.T.T.A. gives a rebate of 1/- per club BACK to the County. In effect, this means that the E.T.T.A. gets 1/- LESS—and the County 1/- MORE—of the Affiliation fees than it might appear.

In 1947 the E.T.T.A. paid back to counties £79.

In 1952 the E.T.T.A. paid back to counties £445 (as well as £57 in tournament fee rebates).

An increase of 1/- per club increase in the E.T.T.A. affiliation fee should produce over £300.

WE thank the many readers who welcomed Mr. Montagu's frank article "The Myth of the Yes Men" published in January Table Tennis. Alec Brook and Sam Kirkwood have sent in the following 'replies'. Feeling that the matter has been adequately ventilated, we do not propose to prolong discussion further on this specific matter. THE EDITOR.

Alec Brook writes :-

"I AM surprised that Mr. Montagu should, in reply to my article in the *Review*, refer to 'Yes Men' as being mythical. A person of Mr. Montagu's undoubted intelligence knows that Yes-Men are a fact: they exist now and always will. So far as table tennis is concerned, they are most predominant.

According to my dictionary, a 'Yes Man' is a characterless and a weakly person, and I reiterate that table tennis breeds these men, because we have a monopoly of men with a select few who have power, leaving the others to agree or be dropped.

Sam Kirkwood did not create the legend of Yes-Men, but is a person prepared to speak his mind as he has nothing to gain or lose by being outspoken. He also has many followers including those in official and playing capacities whose identities might shock some of the more complacent ones.

I can hear the question 'Why do they not speak up?' The answer is the same reason the respected personage 'upped and offed' at the A.G.M. He was in no position to criticise people with the power to be awkward with him in many ways. There is a great difference between being courageous and just plain stupid. If I had been in his shoes, I should have done the same thing.

I too have enough business worries on my plate without plugging legends and myths. For the same reason I am unable to attend meetings and even if I were able, much of my time would be wasted as I would get a horrible slating, having little hope of getting past the 'Yes' group.

I can bring to mind half a dozen men who during the last few years have tried to break down the barrier, only to find they had a hopeless task.

Regarding the Bergmann farce, certainly no one asked for information, let alone had a go at those responsible. Why should they? Let sleeping dogs lie seemed to be the attitude of those who—I venture to say—were scared to speak.

No one has the slightest doubt that Bergmann is No. 1 in England now, but at that time he might have been No. 20 to many people. Mr. Montagu, far from admitting a terrible boner was pulled, tried to make it seem that his associates are to be congratulated on being so fair to the player. Players have won games at

trials and been ignored, whilst others have been whacked and received honours. In this particular trial, Simons flopped badly, yet was chosen for India.

It is pleaded that money was a factor in this sorry business. To economise, we are told, a plea was made to Adrian Haydon to go to Bombay as team captain and to play if an emergency arose. Victor Barna was available and could have done this without having to be persuaded, and with no cost to the Association. No sir, this and many other arguments hold no water as far as I am concerned. Let's have new life, new blood and a progressive Association". ●

Sam Kirkwood writes :-

"THE Hon. Ivor Montagu's strange claim that I 'sired' the yes-men criticisms suggests that yes-men don't exist—that they are, in fact, mischievous imps produced by my imagination. This, as I see it, further implies I have undertaken a mission, for reasons of my own, to create discord.

Table tennis in no way affects me personally. I have no money, power, prestige, playing honours, limelight or anything else to gain, I am certainly not ambitious for such, and I derive no pleasure whatsoever for having a crack at officialdom simply because it is officialdom. This being so, there seems rather less than no point in my fabricating a 'myth'.

Our good Hon. friend also has it that Alec Brook is an innocent ensnared by my 'propaganda'. Alec—he knows more about the game, its personalities and inside organisation than I do or possibly ever shall—isn't, by a mile long chalk, an unsophisticated youngster to be influenced by yours truly or anyone like him. So far as I am aware, he has upped and spoken of his own free will because he felt there was a need to do so. To suggest otherwise is to flatter me.

The initial omission of Bergmann from last year's Cup team ties up with the yes-men issue, so please allow me a few words on it.

Mr. Montagu details the trouble and care involved in staging a special trial for Richard. The affair seems to have been a complicated business indeed, with many a "Perhaps" and "Perhaps Not" attached to it. In view of the heated controversy and hotter criticism which resulted from what I consider to be a sorry and ill-advised business, why is it no delegate asked a question

or demanded a full explanation at last May's A.G.M.? Was every single official present at the meeting satisfied that (a) it was necessary to run a trial, (b) that the trial was a sensible measure to gauge the potential of Bergmann as a Cup representative, and (c) that table tennis fans throughout the country wanted no explanation of the extraordinary affairs? In short, were all officials fully satisfied that the right thing had been done? Their silence can only be taken to mean that they were.

That, apparently, is the official attitude. The unofficial one is not so happy. Mr. Montagu asks: "Was it idiotic to have a trial just for the sake of Bergmann?" I'll give him his answer: It was. Bergmann is a table tennis phenomenon who cannot be judged by ordinary standards. He knows best how and when to prepare himself for World tournaments—he has always done so with conspicuous success, without advice or assistance from anyone. Mr. Montagu hints it was the Association who spurred Richard to make the come-back effort without which England would have looked blue in India. Richard was winning World and National titles when England and her officials were only foreign names to him. Does Mr. Montagu suggest it was somewhat generous of our committee to offer him Cup nomination if he could prove fitness, and that the player might possibly not have made his "sporting and courageous" attempt without the Association's encouragement?

It is common knowledge that Bergmann easily and speedily adapts himself to tournament conditions after sessions of exhibition play. To bring him from Paris for a one-night stand in London, then, on results which everyone knew to be fantastically misleading, to by-pass him, was an incredible piece of work, no matter which way one looks at it or how Mr. Montagu now attempts to justify it. Yet, I emphasise, not an official saw fit to raise the matter when the opportunity arose to do so.

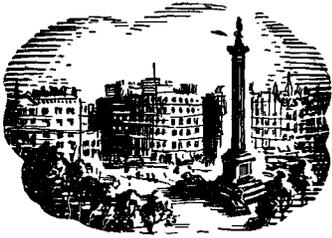
Which brings us to the yes-men "myth" itself. I say publicly what many closely connected with T.T. affairs have been saying for years and are saying now, namely, that those at the Association helm are considered to be too "possessive," too much given to liking and having their own way. Why is it complainants don't say what they have to in the open? Because, so they allege, they fear reprisals, the subtle reactions of prejudice against them. Such as? Such as loss of position, non-receipt of playing honours, loss of exhibition jobs, and the like. If you're in bad odour at the top, it is claimed, things can be made to work against you in a variety of ways. And voicing criticisms not to the liking of the powerful few, or opposing their proposals, are said to be sure ways of getting one's card marked.

It is this undesirable set-up, it is averred, which breeds yes-men. The acquiescent ones are y-men because they prefer to steer a safe course, fearing that if they do otherwise they'll be for the high jump.

The Executive is headed by very sound organisers who without question love the game. I should be the last to have to remind them that no person owns the game or even an infinitesimal fraction of it, no matter how hard or for how many years he has worked for it. The game belongs to everybody, and it should be, **must** be, a thoroughly democratic sport in every possible way, with each individual allowed his full say without fear of consequences.

It is natural, perhaps, to feel "possessive" over something for which one has slaved and laboured—nevertheless, a basic and essential truth must never for a single instant be forgotten. Honest mistakes we can all forgive, but the allegation that there exists a Big Bossdom is something which cannot be overlooked.

I congratulate Mr. Montagu on at least trying to explain things and for making the attempt to defend his associates—even though his placing of a paternity order square on my typewriter does not altogether amuse me, table tennis lone wolf that I am!" ●



ABOUT TOWN

with
Peggy Allen

ANNE HAYDON'S successful progress brings forth once again the old, old argument of "it-all provides-experience" v. "don't-push-too-hard-too-soon."

There must always be a great temptation to choose young, promising players and especially one that has already achieved distinction among foreign competitors, but we must remember that Anne's success (in singles) was among juniors, and at this stage in her career the strain of supporting the Rowe Twins in a series of vital matches could have lasting repercussions.

Many will remember Adele Wood's promise when she was only 13, and how in 1948/9 (at 16) she beat top-scorer Joan Crosby in the Corbillon Cup Trials, and was sent to Stockholm as the No. 4 player. Since that moment "Dale" has not improved. She is still very good, but many believe that her selection for the team that year put her too high too soon. Knowing that so much was expected of her every time she played, spoiled her game, and this handicap has never been overcome.

It may only apply to a highly strung sensitive girl—as Dale undoubtedly was—but nevertheless, the chance is there and since one has, at 14, so many, many playing years ahead, a couple of years spent quietly would seem to provide the best chance of brilliance and stability.

* * *

SURELY no club in the country can number so many internationals and county players among its members as Putney T.T.C. which celebrates its second birthday next month.

On a Wednesday or Thursday evening, one is positively dazzled by the talent—Venner, Craigie, Tony Miller, Head, Hurlock, Roy Turner, Dennis Miller, Thornhill, Rhodes, D. Burridge, Eric Marsh, J. Lowe, Len Adams, Joyce Roberts, 'Pinkie' Barnes, Jean Winn, Peggy Piper, Jill Rook, Joy Seaman—an endless list, all taking advantage of the excellent conditions provided and the 4 tables.

Congratulations are due to Bob Atherton (well-known Surrey official) and his player-wife Doris, for having conceived the idea, and thanks are especially due for their hard labour without which the club's organisation could never have become so efficient.

I NOTICED Peter Shead's improved form in county championship matches with pleasure. Having followed Peter's career since he was 16 when we played together in the Blackpool League, and knowing something of his tenacity and fighting spirit, I can imagine you have not heard the last of this determined young man..

At 17 he was a member of the Blackpool ballroom dancing team and was as proficient in this sphere as in T.T., but realising that he could not devote himself satisfactorily to two winter activities, he reluctantly gave up serious dancing.

In T.T., he was the Blackpool Closed Champion for 3 consecutive years (before moving to Hove), and played for Lancs. against Warwicks. in 1947/48. He has won the Sussex Closed title for the last 2 seasons and if this county does achieve promotion at the end of the season, Peter will have had quite a hand in their success. ●

Peggy Allen



No. 850

While the fancy costumes above hardly qualify for our brighter dress campaign, they won first prize at a recent Staines dance. A novel conversion of a track suit. Trust Sheila Smith (left) and Jeanne de Feu, popular well-known players, to brighten things up when they are around. Incidentally, we're glad to see Sheila back in "Open" circulation again

WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

WE occasionally report a selection of some of the entertaining team names used by Dutch T.T. Clubs. Latest choice: Dreadnought, Energy, Favourite, Americano, Effect, Dash, Twist, Tins, Milksteamers, Smash, Ready, Rapid, Shell, Plan West, Elan, Contact, Sorry, Be Quick, Vice Versa, 21 UP, Gas, Blanco, Bloemenlust, END, Never Down, Quick, Well Shot, Be Fair, Tempo.

The T.T. CUPS

WHAT an exhilarating season it has been for the two great national team competitions, the Wilmott Cup (Men's teams) and the J. M. Rose Bowl (Women's teams). It is a pity that in their closing stages they do not, at present, enjoy the excitement and glamour of the F.A. Cup (which is a comparable competition). But there is a hint of changing ways as the challenge of the former 'outsiders' gets more formidable each year. Some of the former giants have been severely rocked this season, and it is significant that 75% of the Quarter Finals have only been decided by the odd game.

The final rounds of the T.T. Cups tend to be overshadowed by international events, county matches and major tournaments, but this is the stuff for the leagues, and one of the best outlets for ordinary league players to have a jolly good crack at the stars, and perhaps stake their claim for higher honours. An Open Tournament attempt may end with one defeat, but the Cup player does, at least, get 2 or 3 matches for his money! Congratulations to all who have taken part, and particularly to "new" names which have emerged.

WILMOTT CUP

Late Zone Final results :

HUDDERSFIELD 8—Lincoln 1.
FELLOWS CRANLEIGH 6—Cambridge 2.

Quarter Finals : (A) Bromley (R. Etheridge, R. K. Syndercombe, R. C. Thorn) lost 2-7 to SOUTH LONDON (R. Crayden, H. Venner, J. Head). (B) GLOUCESTER (B. Merrett, R. Morley, M. Morgan) bt. 5-4 Bolton (D. G. Ellison, C. Booth, A. Costello). (C) FELLOWS CRANLEIGH (Grantham, R. Dorking, B. Brumwell) bt. 5-4 Birmingham (M. Kriss, M. Mohtadi, W. Gallagher). (D) HUDDERSFIELD (R. Hinchcliff, G. Wadsworth, S. Dyson) bt. 5-4 London Civil Service (K. Craigie, L. Adams, K. Sychalski).
Semi Finals: A v. B and C v. D. To be played at indoor Sports Stadium, Birmingham, on Sun. March 1st, at 11 a.m. Final 4 p.m.

J. M. ROSE BOWL

Quarter Finals : (A) MANCHESTER (A. Wood, J. Braddock, J. Titterton) bt. 5-4 Northumberland (P. Heppell, Mrs. R. Ormond, Miss E. Tulley). (B) PUTNEY (M. Piper, Mrs. P. Allen, E. France) bt. 6-3 Gloucester (M. Jones, S. Davis, M. Gibbins). (C) Albion T.T.C. (Mrs. E. Carrington, B. Milbank, Y. Baker) lost 4-5 to BIRMINGHAM (Mrs. M. Cumberbatch, P. Mortimer, J. Mackay) (D) Ilford (B. Bassett, D. Lock, B. Osman) lost 4-5 to WOOLWICH (P. Friend, P. Syms, B. Ludgater).

THE WHYS OF DEFENCE

LAST month, in our first criticism of the misleading practice of "instruction by slogan," we examined the truth of that favourite old saying: "Attack is the Best Form of Defence."

We concluded that, as a statement of the conditions ruling in our sport, this slogan was for most of the time an over simplification of the problem, and for some of the time, a plain falsehood.

Its effect on the training of many young pupils is damaging. I have often been told by Jimmy Junior that his local Sam Senior has advised him (or her) "If you get a good enough attack, you will not need any defence."

Unfortunately J.J. does not realise how long it takes to get a "good enough attack". Perhaps 3, 4 or 5 seasons . . . and perhaps never?

What happens meanwhile? Our Jimmy Junior will probably lose many matches which could have been saved by a little common-sense. In other words they acquire the LOSING HABIT, which often leads them to give up the game and which is one of the chief factors in rendering a brilliant technique ineffective.

Worse still, the youngster who scorns defence loses the great experiences of VALUING and fighting for his points. Those early *stubborn* fights for points against better players, are the basis of the much admired match temperament of your Bergmann, Barna, Leach *et cie*.

Jimmy Junior should be told that one of the quickest ways to increase

No. 2 of a
Series by

Jack Carrington

his understanding of attacking ideas, is to lie low while an experienced attacker puts him through the mill, J.J. making himself more resilient to the serious assaults.

The youngster who pictures himself gradually improving his range of attacking strokes until he can dominate all opposition, certainly has a plan—and may achieve it. IF, that is, he can smile through several disappointing seasons AND acquire first class footwork in the meantime. But his experience will come to him more slowly, since he neglects the psychological factors mentioned above—and his footwork may never make the grade, because he neglects to practice his BACKWARD movements.

And every good T.T. player needs to understand BACKWARD RECOVERY. It does not often come instinctively; we are disposed by nature to move *forward*. Unless Jimmy Junior is deliberately trained in backward movement by a coach, his finest means of acquiring it is by allocating a reasonable portion of his formative seasons to determined practice in defence.

At tournaments today, all around

us, we can see them—the stylish, dazzling but BRITTLE young attackers. Pierce the 'crust' and they collapse because they have not studied the art of 'resilience'—mechanical and psychological.

The unquestioning cult of Attack is to blame in many cases—the strange philosophy that any attacking stroke is somehow better than any defensive move. Of course Attack is more appealing to youth. It appeals to us all—but let it be good attack, built upon a fine knowledge of the game.

Here and now, I am only sounding a warning against those whose slogans would put our grand young colts into blinkers.

One Great Exception remains to inspire any aggressive Jimmy Junior who is determined to see it through and scorn Defence—ADRIAN HAYDON. But Adrian was what today's youth describe as "out of this world" in Speed of Footwork and Intensity of Fight. With such gifts, you can write your own "slogans".

It is interesting to observe, however, that the very successful 14 year-old Anne Haydon plays a balanced all-round game.●

Golf and Ping-Pong

—WHEN Brian Small of Co. Down, N.I. (one of our many readers who play both golf and T.T.) read the quotation from *The Daily Telegraph* Golf Correspondent (Dec. issue page 9, col 2) he wrote what he calls "an indignant letter" to the author.

LEONARD CRAWLEY replied:

"I think Table Tennis played by experts is one of the finest games I have ever watched. 'Ping Pong' . . . is still played in nurseries and school-rooms by children who spend most of their time trying to catch and pick up the elusive lively little ball, which they can seldom hit over the net. Golf in a frost reminds me of this. Hence my reference".

Pardon-Your Slip is Showing

"I think Brian . . . is well worth a Corbillion badge this year." Sam Leitch in *The Daily Mirror*, 30th Jan., 1953.

Can Brian really win this badge:—
It's really quite debatable
Unless, he can buy or cadge
A Bra that is inflatable.

Keith Watts

Feb. *Table Tennis*, page 10, re Metropolitan Open. (Last line 3rd para.): We congratulate D.H.S. in spotting our 12 point error in simple addition. The winner actually scored 61 against 51. Sorry "Fan" and thank you.

Jan. *Table Tennis*, page 24, col. 1: "RECIPE." The date should read "November, 1902" NOT 1952.

Introducing the improved

"VANA"

Table Tennis Bat

By the use of specially made five lamination plywood and a new type of very fast rubber this bat, designed by BOHUMIL VANA is

EVEN BETTER THAN IT WAS

The "ANDREADIS" Bat

also has been greatly improved

Both are made solely by

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Table Tennis Tables with 3/8 in. to 1 in. tops at prices from £22 to £44 and all Table Tennis Equipment obtainable from the best retailers

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24th MIDLAND OPEN

Birmingham, 7th Feb., 1953

THE finest entry since the war, with a "House Full" that appreciated a good show. An unexpected but popular win was that of Yvonne Baker/Anne Haydon in the W.D., a trim little pair with even temperament, no nerves, and lots of determination. J. Collier had a surprise win over Pam Mortimer 22-20 in the 3rd, and S. Higginson (Birmingham) did very well to put out D. Miller 20, 19 and R. Dorking 2-1. Junior D. House scotched recently "capped" Alan Rhodes 2-1. Peggy Piper played well but Yvonne Baker was the star of the W.S., beating both Piper and Cum-

berbatch and then extending Di Rowe to 18 in the 3rd of a terrific semi-final. Although Kath Best beat Stevenson she was far from her best in the final. Leach also had an off-day final.

- M.S. R. BERGMANN bt. (1) B. Kennedy 19, 12; bt. (2) J. Leach 22, 17, 19 (bt. H. Venner 19, 10).
 W.S. D. ROWE bt. (1) Y. Baker; bt. (2) C. K. Best 12, 11.
 M.D. D. MILLER / H. VENNER bt. R. Bergmann/B. Kennedy —18, 17, 19.
 W.D. Y. BAKER / ANNE HAYDON zt. P. Gall/J. Winn 16, 18.
 X.D. B. KENNEDY / C. K. BEST bt. J. Carrington/E. Carrington 10, 21.
 B.S. D. HOUSE bt. R. Dorking —19, 17, 14.
 G.S. A. HAYDON bt. P. Goldberg 11, 12.



tiTtle-
taTtle ●

EARLY in the season Brighton & Hove Maccabi T.T.C. decided that each member of their several teams should each pay 6d. for each league match in which they played, proceeds to county funds ● RAY SMITH (17) has earned a place in both Senior and Junior Crewe teams. Recently won the Flintshire B.S. and M.S. Consolation titles ● Scotland's T.T. Queen HELEN ELLIOT has not been really fit since last year's World's and has been out of regular play... She now wears spectacles for playing ● E. BARKER (Bilston Wesley T.T.C.) is reported to be developing Bromwich's Lawn Tennis ambidexterity—changing his bat from one hand to another at lightning speed to make particular shots ● HASTINGS League are to award badges to n-p captains on the same basis as for players i.e., 3 appearances (2 Second team to count as 1 First)... The League had their first practical Umpire Course on Feb. 22nd ● Yorks. T.T.A. run a County Grading Scheme, and we hear that Halifax League is now also running its own Scheme ● Mrs. MARGARET EVANS, the very capable Hon. Sec. of Leamington T.T.L., coaches at the 2-team Boys Club every Tuesday ● CORNWALL appear to be profiting from their various friendly matches and (thanks to the energetic R. Charlesworth) won 2 games of the 10 in their home return match against Devon... They introduced a woman player for the first time in Mrs. B. Hatter (formerly of Swindon and the S. W. League). Ron Anderson and Judith Winter made successful debuts for Devon ● Mr. F. W. Liddiard, a member of Winchester T.T.L. Executive for 17 years, is regretfully leaving the town. M. Jarecki still retains his 100% record in the 1st Division ● ANDY GRAVER, Lincoln City Soccer star, was the "pupil" in a recent Barna-Leach "Focus" exhibition... actually he does play quite an average game already ● RETIREMENTS: HAZEL HUNT (Eastbourne) for the season with a strained back... Great-hearted sportswoman BETTY PITHIE (Scotland) has given the game up with much regret—which we share... ANDREE JONES (Wallesey and Cheshire County) young, promising consistent player, Irish W.S. W.D. titles 1951-2 and *Daily Mirror* finalist, 1950. We hope the loss to T.T. will only be a temporary one ●



No. 845

The famous Farkas Family of Hungary of which Ferenc Gyorgy wrote last month. (L. to R.): Ancl, Laci, Zoli, Gizi, Father, Joska and Tera. Ibi and Erzsi, who make the 9, were playing at another town when this picture was taken

MIDDLESEX (Herga) OPEN

Harrow, 14th Feb., 1953

- M.S. L. Sparke bt. K. Craigie 12, 17. L. Adams bt. J. Bailey 12, 12. B. Crouch bt. M. Thornhill —14, 20, 10. A. Rhodes bt. R. Sharman 13, 19. J. Lowe bt. L. Sparke 20, 14. J. LOWE bt. A. Rhodes 14, 20, 17.
 W.S. D. ROWE bt. (1) J. Winn —18, 17, 19; bt. (2) R. Rowe 16, —13, 19 (bt. Y. Seaman —15, 5, 8).
 M.D. D. MILLER / M. THORNHILL bt. B. Crouch/J. Lowe 20, 19.
 W.D. Y. SEAMAN / J. WINN bt. D. Ellis / R. Rowe 17, 15.
 X.D. J. LOWE / R. ROWE bt. D. Burridge / D. Spooner 13, 19.

BUCHAREST—and AFTER ?

(from page 3)

to proper athletes physical and mental preparation. When they win, they master handicaps as well as opponents. For Rumania, the drama of the XXth World's largely resolves itself into two question marks: will Angelica hold the singles title? Can Rumania regain the Corbillon Cup? And the principal obstacle to this ardent hope is seen as us, England, or —to be precise—the sisters Rowe. My answer to the question there everyone asked me: if I were allowed to bet—Roseanu for the singles, but not a certainty; the Corbillon Cup—England CAN do it, but only on top form. ● Ivor Montagu.

EASTER AT SCARBOROUGH !

The North-East England Open Table Tennis Championships are to be held at the

Burniston Road Barracks, Scarborough
 Easter Saturday and Monday
 (April 4th and 6th, 1953)

Excellent conditions. 8 Events
 Juniors, Youth and Veterans Events —
 Monday only

FINALS!

At Westborough Concert Hall (opp. Station)
 Easter Monday, 7.30 p.m.
 Seats Bookable 5/- & 4/-

Entry forms and full details:—

E. MOORHOUSE,
 26, Sherwood St., Scarborough (Tel.: 3266)

SWEDISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sundsvall, 4-6th Jan., 1953

- M.S. T. FLISBERG bt. L. Larsson 19, 17, —13, —7, 15.
 W.S. S. TEGNER bt. I. Brehmer 17, —17, —18, 15, 24.
 M.D. T. FLISBERG/W. FREDRIKSSON bt. L. Pettersson/G. Tsappos 17, 14, 19.
 W.D. I. BREHMER / I. SAMBERG bt. I. Hermansson/M. Larsson 19, 7, 16.
 X.D. W. FREDRIKSSON / I. BREHMER bt. L. Larsson / I. Hermansson 11, —13, 18, 15.
 B.S. BO HOLMBERG bt. Tony Larsson 18, 13.
 G.S. SIGMUND TEGNER bt. Gerd Olsson 12, 19.

SPOTLIGHT on YOUTH

focussed by
PETER MADGE

SOUTHAMPTON OPEN

MICHAEL MACLAREN, Surrey's No. 1 notched his first junior open title with a win over newly "capped" Roy Morley in the final, scores 21, 14. "Mac" is improving steadily and with still another season as a junior looks like being in line for honours in the future.

MIDLAND OPEN

DAVID HOUSE took the B.S. title with a —19, 17, 14 win over Ray Dorking. Both did well in the M.S., House beating Alan Rhodes 15 in the third, and Dorking defeating Alan Sherwood 23-21 in the decider. Warwickshire's Goodwin beat Morley in the juniors, and was beaten by Dorking in the semi. Meanwhile Mike Spicer made House work hard for his 20, 16 win in the other semi.

KENT OPEN

WHILE Alan Danton had a good win over House in one semi, Dorking beat MacLaren in the other. (Mac had previously beaten Gladwish 2 straight). So the same players entered the final as last year, though



No. 848 (Above). The Sweden Junior Team at Lanskrone, with their n.p. captain before the International match

LEO THOMPSON (who reports 7) takes me up on my comment in Feb than the previous one. Actually, the they got there, and the simple fact 1 naments in 23 days (2½ rest days) s;

The boys, incidentally, have asked Thompson, "who lost a lot of sleep made such a good friend and compa where else".

Dorking reversed the result with an —18, 10, 15 win. The game was somewhat protracted—although not quite to Time Limit—and someone was heard to unkindly remark, "It's



Below: England Junior Team at Lanskrone, Sweden. L. to R.: Leo Thompson (n.p.c.) with his first bunch of flowers, R. Dorking, G. Pullar, D. House

Junior International Match : ENGLAND v WALES

Victoria Hall, Hanley, 6th Feb., 1953

By **TOMMY SEARS**

(the pre-war Swaythling Cup International and n.p. captain)

RAY MORLEY, in his first junior international match, gave England a good start by a 2-0 win over the steady defensive play of A. Bryon. Morley played calmly, drove steadily and made his winners confidently. Anne Haydon, displayed some fine left-handed forehand attacking that gave no chances to Shirley Jones, and drew round after round of applause from the audience of 800 odd.

Although 4 ties went to 3 games, only two were really in doubt for England. The Welsh Junior Champion, D. Phillips, should have beaten G. Pullar, but when one game up and leading by a wide margin in the second, he retreated into his shell, and Pullar plugged away and made no mistake in the third. In the doubles the Welsh boys (helped with some wild hitting by Pullar) were well on top in the 2nd and 3rd games; the English pair only just scraped home after a match point. Booth (who changed his grip a month ago) dis-

played his usual competence and showed promise of better form.

The Staffs. T.T.A. deserve high credit for the staging of the match and their generous hospitality. The teams were received by the Lord Mayor and presented with Coronation Mugs suitably inscribed. Mr. Malcolm Scott was E.T.T.A. Representative and Mr. M. Goldstein Hon. Referee.

Among those present were the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Mr. and Mrs. H. Roy Evans, Messrs. A. T. Finney, A. A. Haydon and G. Harrower.

RESULTS

(England names first in caps)
G. PULLAR bt. D. Phillips —16, 19, 12;
bt. A. Bryon 18, 15. C. BOOTH bt. E. Burford 14, —20, 12; bt. D. Phillips 12, —19, 13. R. MORLEY bt. E. Burford 15, 15; bt. A. Bryon 10, 18. Miss A. HAYDON bt. Miss S. Jones 10, 14. C. BOOTH/G. PULLAR bt. E. Burford/D. Phillips 14, —16, 20. Misses A. HAYDON/J. ROOK bt. Misses C. Jenkins/S. Jones 13, 16. R. MORLEY/Miss J. ROOK bt. A. Bryon/Miss C. Jenkins 8, 15.

ENGLAND 10 — WALES 0

a "Get-'em-back-somehow" policy, and George had to produce the tricks to make sure of the 3rd game.

THE NIMBLE SQUATTERS

THE KENT Tournament Committee permitted knocking up on vacant tables (and I might add that all events finished to schedule). The Medal, Palm and Cake for the most persistently successful Table-Grabbers was won hands down by a diminutive pair from Folkestone's Beverley T.T.C.—48 inch, 14 year old Roy Lort, and David Hayman, 2 months younger but a foot taller.

Before the net on a table had stopped quivering for the final point, these two had taken over. During one game, both players and the umpire went hunting for a ball lost in a dark corner, and as the trio returned to resume their match—need I tell you? Yes, our two enthusiasts had already reached the score 3-3 in their own first game!

MONTH'S TOP SHOW NIGHTS

Details of the following tournaments have been given in previous issues. Here are the dates of the Finals and the Venues.

FEBRUARY

- 7th—West of England Open, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay.
 14.h—West Middlesex Open, West Ealing Club, Mervyn Road, West Ealing, W.13.
 14th—Yorks. Junior Open, Town Hall, Pontefract.
 21st—Grimsby Open, Pier Pavilion and Town Hall, Cleethorpes, Lincs.
 28th—WILMOTT CUP FINALS, and Semis.
 28th—J. M. ROSE BOWL FINALS, and Semis.

FIXTURE BOOK

Date(s)	Details and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
Apr. 4	SCOTLAND v. WALES*		Greenock.
4/5	SCOTTISH OPEN* Murrayfield Indoor Sports Stadium, Edinburgh.	B.S.	Mr. R. D. Dykes, 99, Henderson Row, Edinburgh, 3.
4/6	NORTH-EAST ENGLAND OPEN (Mar. 25) Burniston Road Barracks, Scarborough.	B.S. Y.S. Vet.S.	Mr. E. Moorhouse, 26, Sherwood Street, Scarborough.
4/6	WELSH CLOSED*		Cardiff.
6	ENGLAND v. FRANCE McLaren's Social Centre, Thorpe Road, Staines.	Junior (Mixed)	Mr. L. A. Jagers, 20, Fenton Avenue, Staines.
4/6	NIGERIAN CLOSED*		
7/11	ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley.	All Events	The E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Sq., London, W.C.2.
10	IRISH OPEN*		
16/18	LANCASHIRE OPEN (Apr. 4) Squire's Gate Holiday Camp, Blackpool.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. W. E. Wood, 44, Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester 9.
13/20	SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS*		At Montevideo.
24	GUERNSEY OPEN*		
May 2/3	BUCKS. OPEN (Apr. 11) Slough Community Centre, Slough.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. Leo Thompson, Auchmead, The Avenue, Wrayisbury, Bucks.
4/9	THAMESIDE OPEN Hydro Hall, Y.M.C.A., Greengate St., Plaistow, E.13.	B.S. G.S.	Mr. L. R. Norminton, 12, Derham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.
July 27	ALL-U.S.S.R. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS*		At Kaluga.
Aug. 31/ Sept. 5	HOME COUNTIES OPEN Polytechnic Extension, Little Titchfield St., London, W.1.		Mr. G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts.
Sept. 25/27	BRAZILIAN OPEN*	Indiv.	At Rio de Janeiro.
Nov. 11/23	ALL-U.S.S.R. CHAMPIONSHIPS*		At Leningrad.

☐ Events marked with an Asterisk (*) are outside the authority of the E.T.T.A.

BREVITIES

FOR those who plan for the future, NOTE: GERMANY, with 14,000 clubs and 300,000 members, is concentrating on juniors and already has between 400 and 800 players for selection consideration. Old style is discarded, vigorous attack is encouraged . . . A Junior Championship final at Neuhausen, earlier in the season, attracted 3,500 spectators!! ● PIERRE LANGLOIS, considered by some to be one of the best Welter Weight boxers in the world thinks Table Tennis an ideal way to keep fit and plays regularly at a Normandy club ● LINDE WERTL, after an appendicitis operation, was due to commence training in February ● An unconfirmed report says that U.S.A. Glamour Girl SHARON KOEHNKE will be going to Bucharest ● In the Basle, Switzerland Open, 7th Dec. the German youngster PIFFL bt. M. Haguenaer in the semi with

a fantastic burst of attack, and won the title against fellow-countryman Seifert (who had just beaten the Swiss Urchetti) ● B. KAVASJI, who played in the Indian Open at Karachi this year, is Worthing's No. 1 Junior. Clubmate A. Kapur is No. 2 ● TONY MILLER organised an entertaining Junior Tournament at Benthalls, Kingston-on-Thames in January with 420 entries. M. MacLaren and June Bottrill (14) were singles winners. Alec and Eric Bedser presented the prizes, and Ken Craigie included a frying-pan for an exhibition with Tony ● On Feb. 14th Frank Ball married Dawn Harris at Ashford, Middx. Best man, Don Mummery. All are well-known

players of different clubs of the Staines League. Bats and Bells ● ALGERIA, in celebration mood, recalls its T.T. foundation in 1931 by Pelicer, a student, and Schwartz (a Hungarian). Aided by Boros, the Aletti Club emerged, and exhibition tournaments were arranged to aid development with Victor Barna, Butelet and Haguenaer (then only 15 years old) ●

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rio de Janeiro, Jan., 1953

M.S. RENE ROOTHOFT (France)
 bt. H. Severo 21-15, 21-22
 TL, 14-6 TL, 11-6 TL.