

NOVEMBER, 1959
ONE SHILLING

Table Tennis

The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association



"News of the World" picture

NIGEL IVE and **DIANE FITZGERALD**, winners of the "News of the World" Boy and Girl of the Year Awards at Butlins Camp.

Frank Butler writes on the popular Summer competition which attracted over 1,500 entrants, on page ten.

Table Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by W. HARRISON EDWARDS

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No. 2

WELCOME TO CHINA

THIS month we extend a warm welcome to new friends from far away China, who constitute the biggest threat yet to Japan's domination of World Table Tennis.

Twelve of their leading players are visiting England as part of their European tour and will meet our international team in six matches, starting at Slough on November 19 and ending with a farewell encounter at Tottenham on November 26.

It will be the first time a team from the Chinese Republic has visited these shores. Although members of the side are not known to us, their fame precedes them for already they have annihilated Europe's elite, the Czechs and the Hungarians.

This is sufficient indication of their high standard of play and for a further example let us turn to Bill Vint, the E.T.T.A. Chairman who was a spectator at the recent Chinese national championships and writes: "**The reigning world champion Jung Kuo-Tuan, who carried all before him at Dortmund as recently as March, failed to win a place among the first 12 in China!**"

By our standard, the Chinese party are all young, with ages around 21. They come here direct from the Hungarian Championships and when they leave will go to Scandinavia.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HOPES

The results achieved will be closely watched in China, for, from among these players, will come the backbone of the team with which they hope to capture major world titles in Peking in 1961.

Make no mistake, the aim of the Table Tennis rulers in the New China is to capture for the first time the Swaythling and Corbillon Cups.

Table tennis is of tremendous importance to the Chinese sporting public, ranking second to basketball in popularity.

There is, of course, also a wider significance in

this visit. It shows how sport transcends all boundaries, ignores political prejudices and differences, and creates goodwill among nations.

With more than 70 nations affiliated to the International Federation, table tennis has a record second to none in this respect.

ATHLETIC EXHIBITION

Like most Asians, the Chinese excel in physical fitness. Their play is an athletic exhibition, and they believe in attack. Thus they will provide the English players with a supreme test and an opportunity to gain valuable experience.

The Chinese visit has already caught the public imagination and a heavy demand for tickets is expected. It may well be that some of the halls may prove too small to accommodate all who wish to see these new wizards from the Far East.

Incidentally, applications for tickets must be made to the organisers and **not the E.T.T.A.**

CHINESE PROGRAMME

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Nov. 19 | Slough Social Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.
Organiser: Ian White, 8, Parkland Avenue, Slough. |
| .. 21 | Sun Lounge, Marine, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
Organiser: John F. Wyles, 48, Manor Road, Hastings. |
| .. 23 | Town Hall, Oxford.
Organiser: D. E. Thompson, 32, Holywell Street, Oxford. |
| .. 24 | Central Hall, Corporation Street, Birmingham.
Organiser: Maurice Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12. |
| .. 25 | Town Hall, Cheltenham.
Organiser: Frank Newell, 202, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham. |
| .. 26 | Municipal Hall, Town Hall, Tottenham.
Organiser: F. Smith, Entertainments Manager, Tottenham Borough Council, London, N.15. |

OFFICIAL NEWS

Umpire's Secretary Resigns

THE National Umpires' Committee have accepted the resignation of their Hon. Secretary, Jack Senescall (Yorkshire) with great regret. Pressure of work has forced his decision, and the N.U.C. have placed on record their appreciation for the sterling work he has done in the past.

The secretarial duties have now been divided between Colin Clemett (Surrey) and Norman Cook (Lancashire) who will be carrying on this work pending official confirmation by the National Executive Committee on December 19.

The next meeting of the N.U.C. is scheduled for December 20. Correspondence should be addressed to COLIN CLEMETT, 49, WINDEMERE ROAD, COULSDON, SURREY. (PHONE: UPLANDS 0935).

Team Selections

The following England international teams have been chosen for the forthcoming matches against the Chinese touring side: **Slough, Nov. 19:** I. HARRISON (Glos.), B. MERRETT (Glos.), Mrs. B. BIRD (Surrey), Miss A. HAYDON (Warwick). **Hastings, Nov. 21:** I. HARRISON, B. MERRETT, Mrs. B. BIRD, Miss D. ROWE (Middx.). **Oxford, Nov. 23:** I. HARRISON, B. MERRETT, Miss A. HAYDON, Miss P. MORTIMER (Warwick). **Birmingham, Nov. 24:** I. HARRISON, B. KENNEDY (Yorks.), Miss A. HAYDON, Miss P. MORTIMER. **Cheltenham, Nov. 25:** I. HARRISON, B. KENNEDY, Miss K. BEST (Yorks.), Miss D. ROWE. **Tottenham, Nov. 26:** I. HARRISON, B. KENNEDY, Miss K. BEST, Miss D. ROWE.

RON CRAYDEN (Surrey) is non-playing captain for all six matches, which will consist of four men's singles, two women's singles, one men's doubles and one women's doubles.

Seeding List

The National Selection Committee wish to point out that the list published in last month's TABLE TENNIS is not a ranking list, but only a seeding list for guidance of tournament organisers.

The first ranking list for this season is due to be published some time next month, when there has been more opportunity of assessing current form.

English "Open"

Arrangements are now being finalised for this season's English "Open" championships. Rounds will be played

during morning, afternoon and evening sessions at Manor Place Baths from Monday to Friday, March 21-25 and on Saturday morning and afternoon. All five finals will take place at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday evening.

Men's and women's singles quarter-finals will be staged on Thursday

English Table Tennis Association

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen.

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

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

Deputy Chairman: I. C. Eyles.

Honorary Treasurer: T. Blunn.

Secretary: D. P. Lowen.

Office of the Association: 652, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2. (Telephone: TRAFalgar 2165).

evening with the semi-finals and junior singles finals on Friday evening.

FINAL TICKETS CAN NOW BE RESERVED FROM THE SECRETARY, E.T.T.A., AT PRICES RANGING FROM 6S. 6D. TO 21S. THERE ARE SPECIAL REDUCTIONS FOR BLOCK BOOKINGS OF 12 OR MORE TICKETS, AND FULL DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED BY TELEPHONING TRAFALGAR 2165.

Geoff James (Middx.) has again been appointed Hon. Referee, and Geoff Owen (Kent) continues as Assistant Referee. Colin Clemett (Surrey), and Frank Bateman (Essex), are chairman and secretary of the Stewards' and Umpires' Committee.

Godfrey Decker has once again undertaken the task of looking after the equipment, as he has done for so many years with great distinction. Jimmy Mannooch (Kent) continues as programme editor. Bill Luff (Middx.) is in charge of trophies and awards.

The Championships' Committee are conscious of the need to ensure adequate publicity and advertising, and this task has been delegated to a Press and Publicity Committee consisting of Conrad Jaschke (chairman), Ron Sykes (secretary), Bill Vint and Peter Lowen, who will be pleased to consider any suggestions for additional publicity which members may be able to make.

Car Badges

At the recent Sussex "Open" at Hastings a brand new Anglia car parked in front of the venue attracted considerable attention partly because of the E.T.T.A. badge on the bumper. This very smart metal badge is now available to all members and can be obtained from the secretary, price 27s. 6d.

Supporters' Club

The English Table Tennis Supporters' Club is continuing to make steady progress with its aim of providing finance for furthering the game.

Last year they contributed a worthwhile sum towards the cost of sending English teams to the world championships. An even larger contribution towards specified activities of the E.T.T.A. is anticipated this season.

Ivor Eyles, chairman of the club management committee, has set a target of doubling the number of agents this season. Anyone interested in acting as an agent, either individuals, clubs, leagues or even counties, should write to the Chief Organiser, MR. J. ASHLEY, 19, LAWRENCE HILL, BRISTOL, 5.

Agents are entirely free either to retain the commission on sales, or to utilise these for the benefit of local table tennis organisations.

New National Umpires

The National Executive Committee has confirmed the following successful candidates as National Umpires: L. J. DEWING (Surrey), F. GROOM (Kent) and C. M. WYLES (Sussex).

LETTER

Reference *Team Selection*—The *New Look* by Ivor Eyles in October issue, the selectors wish to emphasise that "When two players are considered of equal playing ability and there is a noticeable discrepancy in their ages, preference will be given to the younger player.

R. J. Crayden.

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Hon. Associate Editor & E.T.T.A. Liaison Officer: Conrad Jaschke, 35 Eynswood Drive, Sidcup, Kent, (FOOTscray 5845).

REVISE COACHING IDEAS

by JOHN CORSER

THE function of coaching in table tennis is a matter upon which opinions vary widely but it is clear that this season our players will require all the assistance they can get with the return of sponge. It seems, therefore, an appropriate time to consider coaching in this country and to decide whether we are making the best use of the available material.

It will be remembered that last season the Chairman of Selectors said he hoped to persuade an Asian Coach to come to this country to teach us to play. This is, of course, a criticism of our own coaches, but in view of the sponge ban then operating here I feel that this did not do much credit to his judgment.

In my view coaching falls broadly into two categories—firstly, teaching beginners and, secondly, improving

the standards of established players. All coaching requires knowledge, experience and perception, and the second of these categories even more than the first.

Many people hold the view that little can be done for the players whose games are already formed, but if the basis for this argument is that little has been done in the past then I think this is a reflection on our coaches or coaching methods.

In all sport today competition is so fierce that the player who reaches the very top flight unaided is almost non-existent.

It should be possible for us to produce coaches who will be able to advise players on technical and tactical matters, and also instil into them a philosophy which will enable them to compete in World Class. This last is one of the most important functions of a coach for have we not all seen the player who sets his sights too low or the one who gives up because he is frustrated by a

single "bogey player" when he should be aiming far above that player's standard?

Coaches should also be able to advise players on physical training for fitness has always been vital in top World Class and is now becoming important in all grades of international play.

The great fault of the coaching set-up in this country is centralisation. Only a very few coaches are officially regarded as capable of teaching our better players and there have been cases of players who have been coached to international class being taken over by an official coach and taught in an entirely different way.

Since, so far, no coach of the stature of Harry Hopman or Franz Stampfl has yet come to light in table tennis we must make the best of those we have, **even though most of them tend to produce only certain types.**

As talent is always in greater supply than the finished article it is

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evident that some considerable amount must be wasted. Therefore, surely, the sensible way to approach this problem is to give a free hand to as many coaches as possible provided they have proved themselves to some extent. By this means we shall waste some talent (i.e., those players with a particular coach who do not fit in with his "type") but in return we ought to produce a number of good players of varying types.

The trouble with sending all the very promising players to one coach is that he is liable to ruin, or at any rate not help, all the players who do not fit in with his requirements or knowledge. This is always assuming that we have not found our Franz Stampfl.

It may be thought that talent is not so plentiful as I suggest but this is surely a matter of organisation. It is there if we like to go and find it! For a start there should be conferences of coaches to exchange ideas not only on coaching but on finding new talent.

It is well known that there is a necessity for young people to have an interest. Table tennis offers more than many other pursuits in the way of opportunity and this point should be publicised in the schools and among Education Authorities.

I believe that table tennis is still in its infancy. Many new ideas will have to be accepted and old ideas discarded before we really come of age. Our progress is at present impeded by people holding narrow views. Some of them seem to think that because table tennis has solved very well the amateur/professional problem that our organisation is in every way up to date. In many respects it has rested on its laurels after that excellent start.

Drastic changes have taken place in the E.T.T.A. administration since last season. Let us hope that the people now in responsible positions will be perceptive and open-minded, and that they will recognise the need for new ideas.

There is ample scope for allowing the men with ideas in the technical fields to have a free hand to follow through those ideas. The game is far too varied at present for anyone to be dogmatic on any aspect.

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

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

COUNTY HISTORIES . . . I

YORKSHIRE—FIRST IN THE FIELD

By MALCOLM HARTLEY

YORKSHIRE has more acres and history than any other table tennis county.

They were the **first** county association to be formed, held the **first** closed tournament, staged the **first** county match and produced the **first** printed county magazine.

About the only field in which they have not been first is the national county championship table but they have twice been runners-up.

Four people put Yorkshire table tennis on an official footing on April 16, 1924, by forming the Y.T.T.A. at a meeting in Leeds.

In the twenties local organisations were clubs, not leagues, so that when a West Riding League was organised in 1927 the teams were Pontefract, Dewsbury, Bradford, Harrogate, Leeds, Wakefield and Cleckheaton.

The first ever county match was staged by Bradford in 1928. Yorkshire beat Lancashire 15-10 (five a side) and among the players in opposition were B. L. Hookins and L. E. Forrest—two men who stand among the giants in Yorkshire history.

Bernard Hookins (Pontefract) was one of the four founders, a Swaythling Cup player in 1929-30 and secretary of the E.T.T.A. for a short spell in 1929.

First winners of the Yorkshire Closed in 1922-3 were both from Whitby—J. H. Johnson (another founder) and Miss B. Roberts. The little coastal town was a table tennis stronghold in those days and supplied the English Open women's champion of 1926 in Miss G. Vasey.

Yorkshire inaugurated the original county championships—forerunner of the present-day set-up—in the mid-thirties.

STERLING FIGURE

It was around this period that another sterling figure was first elected president—H. N. Smith. Succeeded by Maurice Shaffner in 1951-2, he became patron.

The county produced a brilliant player in Eric Hardman (Sheffield), who became an English international of great promise before he was killed on active service in the war.

Leeds had the proud record of maintaining activities throughout the

war, A. S. Carr being a strong personality. M. W. Robinson and Frank Walker were others who did much to keep the game alive in the county at that time.

Les Forrest, Yorkshire secretary in 1947-8, had been Liverpool League E.T.T.A. representative, chairman of the Wembley League and assistant E.T.T.A. secretary before the war and has represented Yorkshire since 1945. He was one of the first to be honoured with life membership of the E.T.T.A.

He started the first printed county magazine *White Rose*, in November, 1947, with Maurice Shaffner as associate editor. It was crammed with news from all over Britain's broadest county and many a time these two tireless enthusiasts wrote and re-wrote material until 1.30 in the morning.

FOUNDER MEMBERS

Yorkshire were founder-members of the present national county championships in 1947 and are the only northern county to have retained continuous premier division membership. The county has a grading scheme for leading players; there are inter-league championships (organised for many years by Alan Cook) and trophies are presented at an annual dinner; the *White Rose Annual* is the most comprehensive of county handbooks.

On the playing side Brian Kennedy, Kathleen Best, Ray Hinchliff and Marjorie Lightfoot have topped the half century of county appearances. Brian has been Yorkshire's most successful player internationally with five Swaythling Cup outings.

On the administrative side Jack Senescall has been another hard worker who has been county secretary and treasurer, E.T.T.A. representative and secretary of the national county umpires' sub-committee.

Alan Thompson, vigorous coach and shrewd non-playing captain, has been elected this season a member of the national junior selection committee.

Chairman since 1954 has been genial Harry Flinton (Hull). Making their marks as secretary and treasurer are Walter Mitton (Scarborough) and Norman Rushton (Leeds).

DEFENSIVE WEAKNESS**TONY MILLER REPLIES**

IT often seems to me that there are two kinds of people commenting on table tennis. On the one hand there is the player who has come through the mill of experience or is going through it and on the other there is the amiable spectator who may have played the odd game but is basically a spectator—particularly when criticising and laying down the law—occupational diseases with ALL spectators—to players in the top grades.

Mr. Ivor Montagu, in his interesting article "**Defensive Weakness**" makes a number of remarks from the theoretical and spectator points of view many of which I cannot relate to practical experience. Nor can I discover what he is trying to establish.

The essence of his article appears to be that "If defence scored . . . a point . . . it could be for only one reason the opponent gave it away."

Joke or Theoretical

This is, of course, either a good joke or completely theoretical. The spectator sees a player hit the ball off and cries "Why on earth did he throw that point away?" The answer is that the player has been forced into error.

The error may have been due to a chop or positional variation or to the strain inflicted on the attacker by the

defender. It is very seldom that a hitter "gives a point away."

Mr. Montagu, despite apparently seeing no advantage whatsoever in defence, singles out Bergmann, Leach and Rozeanu and admits that they occasionally attacked and employed variations which worried their opponents into errors.

Defensive Stars

The success of these players was, however, based firmly on **defensive** and not attacking strength. This also applies to such exponents as Berczik, Reiter, Roothoft and Ehrlich.

When Mr. Montagu speaks of being "defensive-minded" no doubt he means "negative", and he does well to point to attacking play which can be very negative. The fact that a ball is top-spun does not make it an attacking shot. This is one of the weaknesses in applying the time-limit rule in this country. (A rule which encourages rather than discourages negative play.)

Whether or not a defence is "weakness" depends entirely on individual circumstances. Is the player negative whatever his opponent? Everything depends on his speed and the height of his return, and on his positional play.

Bergmann, for example, always gave the hitter a hitable ball and relied on his stamina and retrieving



A. R. (TONY) MILLER, of Surrey, is renowned for his stonewalling tactics, which have brought him many victories over established internationals.

capacity to return the hitter's best shots. In "pushing" episodes he ceaselessly varied his returns ensuring that every ball was an **attacking** problem.

There is no intrinsic merit in either hitting or defending. Players use these methods for a bewildering variety of reasons. Many defensive players are so because, although aggressively-minded, their attacking strokes are not sound or quick enough to penetrate a good defence or quick hitter.

Many attackers are so because they have not the necessary patience for defence.

In a nutshell, attackers and defenders adopt their methods because, with their particular temperaments, strokes, footwork, timing and stamina they think they have chosen the most suitable method for them for the purpose of winning matches. If they have chosen the "weakness" of defence maybe they and not the spectator know best.

Suggestion to Beginners

The carrot of generalisation looms before all writers—but it behoves them to nibble it very gingerly. Those who lay down the law to players without having tested them in good class play are like those who, seeing a cultured pearl on display in a jewellers' window, have no knowledge of whence it came or by what exhaustive processes it has been produced.

May I end with a suggestion to beginners? Start attacking and try to win by attack, if you cannot win, don't despair maybe you CAN win by defence!

UMPIRES' CORNER

By COLIN CLEMETT

SENESCALL RESIGNS

As you will see in this month's Official Notes, Jack Senescall has been compelled to resign his position as secretary of the National Umpires' Committee because of pressing responsibilities in other quarters.

It is typical of the efficiency with which Jack has carried out this job during the past two years that he decided to resign as soon as he foresaw that he would not be able to devote so much time as before to the work of the committee. Added to this was the difficulty he faced living in York which is far

from the hub of activities which usually centre on London.

Discussing the reorganisation of the Committee we realised how enormously the N.U.C.'s field of activity had grown during the past few years.

It was first created for the organisation and administration of the County Umpires' Scheme, but things were not allowed to stop there. A development was the National Umpire qualification, involving further examinations and interviewing of candidates.

The Committee frequently exercises its right to appoint umpires for national events with records to be kept of their performances. Then there is the drafting of official replies to judicial enquiries, which comes from both home and abroad.

With so much administrative work, no single Committee member was prepared to take on the secretaryship so, subject to N.E.C. confirmation, Norman Cook and I will be sharing the task in the coming season.

I would like to emphasise that we still welcome letters on umpiring matters from anyone who is interested and, as in the past, we shall try to ensure that every letter is given the attention it deserves.

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SOUTH AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**NEW CHAMPIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA**

IT was all change in the South African championships at Durban in September, where a new crop of title holders emerged.

The biggest upset was provided in the men's singles where the vastly improved Max Rabinowitz, an unranked player from the Transvaal, took over the title vacated by Derek Wall, of Western Province.

There could be no dispute as to his claim to the title for he accounted for the two favourites, eight times former champion Rex Edwards (Transvaal) in the semi-final, and Mike Fry (Transvaal) the 1954 winner, in the final.

Rabinowitz made short work of Edwards at 21-18, 21-15, 21-6. but had a much tougher struggle before overcoming Fry 7-21, 21-17, 21-15, 23-21. Fry had led 17-13 in the fourth set only to be caught at 19-all then passed.

Mavis van Jaarsveld regained the women's singles after a break of three years, beating Western Province colleague, Lulu Levine 22-20, 21-15, 21-14.

The first game provided a keen struggle, but after she had won this Miss van Jaarsveld took complete command.

Marta Foldy (Transvaal), the defending champion, lost her title in the quarter-final, where she found Mrs. Levine too strong. However, she had the consolation of winning the women's doubles with Hester Botha (Transvaal) and the mixed with Ken Stretton (Eastern Transvaal).

Fry and Eric Ruggier (Natal) won the men's doubles. It was Fry's third win in the doubles, each time with a different partner.

Finals Results:

Men's Singles: M. RABINOWITZ (Tvl.) bt M. Fry (Tvl) 7-21, 21-17, 21-15, 23-21. **Women's Singles: M van JAARSVELD** (W.P.) bt L. Levine (W.P.) 22-20, 21-15, 21-14.

Men's doubles: FRY/ E. RUGGIER (Natal) bt T. Paitaki/L. Strumpman (W.P.) 21-10, 21-14, 21-15. **Women's Doubles: M. FOLDY/H. BOTHA** (Tvl) bt L. Levine/S. Cohen (W.P.) 21-14, 22-20, 18-21, 23-21. **Mixed Doubles: K. STRETTON** (E. Tvl)/Miss Foldy bt S.

DOWN UNDERBy **CLEM M. GRUBER****AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

INTERNATIONAL, Cliff McDonald, the national junior champion, completed a brilliant double when he won the men's singles title in the Australian Championships in Perth in September.

Playing brilliantly he defeated John Klesman 18-21, 21-16, 21-10, 21-12 to reach the final where he beat P. Anderson 21-16, 18-21, 21-17, 21-15 after an amazing third game recovery from 0-11 and 5-15 down.

Biggest upset of the championship came when Bob Lim the Victorian junior champion, gained a 12-21, 22-20, 21-17, 21-17 victory over Geoff Jennings (N.S.W.) who, in the absence of Arden Robinson, had been seeded No. 1.

Suzu Javor retained her women's singles title by again beating L. Murphy in the final by 21-14, 19-21, 19-21, 21-15, 21-19.

However Miss Murphy had consolation in the teams' championship by inflicting the first defeat on Miss Javor since her arrival in Australia three years ago.

Men's Singles: C. McDONALD bt P. Anderson 21-16, 18-21, 21-17, 21-15.

Women's Singles: S. JAVOR bt L. Murphy 21-14, 19-21, 19-21, 21-15, 21-19.

Men's Doubles: G. JENNINGS/M. WILCOX bt T. Sokolowski/T. Maraczy 24-22, 21-17, 14-21, 14-21, 21-18.

Women's Doubles: MURPHY/J. STANAWAY bt Javor/A. O'Brien 22-20, 21-18, 18-21, 21-12. **Mixed Doubles: ANDERSON/Miss P. HUGHES** bt Wilcox/Miss Murphy 22-20, 21-17, 22-20.

Junior Men's Singles: WILCOX bt McDonald 21-12, 21-16. **Junior Girls' Singles: Miss MURPHY** bt Miss Stanaway 21-17, 21-7.

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

Australian Rankings, Men: 1. C. McDONALD (N.S.W.), 2. P. ANDERSON (W.A.), 3. G. JENNINGS (N.S.W.), 4. J. MARTON (Vic.), 5. M. WILCOX (N.S.W.), 6. A. MARACZY (Vic.), 7. B. LIM (Vic.), 8. J. KLESMAN (N.S.W.), 9. T. SOKOLOWSKI (Vic.), 10. C. WHEELER (N.S.W.).

Women: 1. S. JAVOR (Vic.), 2. L. MURPHY (Queensland), 3. A. O'BRIEN (Vic.), 4. J. STANAWAY (Queensland), 5. P. HUGHES (W.A.), 6. H. LAW (Vic.), 7. J. GROVE (N.S.W.), 8. L. PROWSE (Vic.), 9. V. COX (S.A.), 10. L. COHEN (Vic.).

Phitides (Tvl)/Mrs. E. Bass (E. Tvl.) 21-9, 21-14, 21-10.

Following their championships successes, Rabinowitz and Miss van Jaarsveld were both promoted to the top of the new South African rankings announced as follows:

Men: 1, M. RABINOWITZ (Tvl.); 2, M. FRY (Tvl.); 3, R. EDWARDS (Tvl.); 4, G. SABIAN (N. Tvl.); 5, R. SHELL (W.P.); 6, E. MACKIE (E.P.); 7, K. STRETTON (E. Tvl.); 8, E. RUGGIER (Natal).

Women: M. van JAARSVELD (W.P.); 2, L. LEVINE (W.P.); 3, M. FOLDY (Tvl.); 4, G. PRETORIOUS (N. Natal.); 5, P. ROBERTS (Natal.); 6, E. BASS (E. Tvl.); 7, V. BARBER (E.P.); 8, A. MILLER (Tvl.).

SOUTH AFRICAN**JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

RONALD SHELL (Western Province) proved himself the most outstanding young player South Africa has produced by winning all three titles in the National Junior championships at Cape Town.

After a tough semi-final against David Ticktin, Shell had a much easier 21-6, 21-10 victory over left hander, Derek Lipman to retain the singles title he won last year.

Later Shell partnered Lipman to success in the boys' doubles beating Smyth and Kamfer and then, paired with Sorrell Morris, the girls' champion, completed the "hat-trick" by winning the mixed doubles final against Berold and Stewart.

Miss Sorrell after some poor early season form, retained her girls' singles title beating Daphne Schlebush in the final for the second successive year.

Miss Schlebush gained consolation by taking the girls' doubles title when partnered by Louise Theron she defeated Miss Fourie and Miss Levin.

In the Inter-Provincial match the Western Province team of Shell, Lipman Ticktin and Wolfe won the boys' section beating Transvaal in the final while in the girls' final Transvaal (Santana, Geccelter) beat Western Province (Morris Kavnat and Saidman), who had won the title for the previous two years.

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GUEST WRITER

PICK OF THE BUNCH

by Frank Butler

News of the World Columnist.

THE *News of the World* National Table Tennis Coaching Scheme, staged in conjunction with Butlin's Holiday Camps, has again produced new names to note among the teenagers.

During the Festival Week at the Clacton Holiday Camp in September the talent was so promising that Johnny Leach and his squad of coaches had a tough task in deciding the "Boy of the Year" and the "Girl of the Year."

The "Boy" title went to **Nigel Ive**, from North London. Ive, a 15-year-old apprentice sports journalist, fully deserved his success after being runner-up for three years. Yet even so, he was adjudged only fractions of a mark ahead of Barry Midgley, a 16-year-old player from Southsea.

Midgley is an aggressive match player who won the *News of the World* Coach and Pupil trophy with Diane Rowe as his partner last season. But Nigel won the award because of his all-round ability—the result of the hours he gives up to practice and to special training.

Popular Verdict

The verdict of the coaches was popular as demonstrated by the crowd as Nigel stepped up to receive his trophy from Sir William Carr, the *News of the World* chairman, and Mr. Billy Butlin, boss of the holiday camps.

Watch Nigel Ive in the next couple of years. In March he became school-boy champion of Great Britain in the annual *Eagle* championship, and in the summer he had success with Diane Rowe.

But not only the winners showed promise at Clacton. Johnny Leach, with an expert eye for talent, tips us off to pay special attention to 15-year-old Brian Hill from Boston, Lincolnshire. Young Brian also caught the eye when he defeated

David Stanley in the recent English Junior Trials.

There is an aggressive performer in Michael Dainty, who is 17, and hits the ball harder than most players around his age.

And younger prospects to watch are Birmingham's Roy Cutler and Harry Pearce, a South Londoner who is only ten, but has been performing with bat and ball for five years.

Cutler had broken his collar-bone playing rugby and had only been unstrapped a couple of days before turning up at these finals.

It was even a tougher task to sort out the "Girl of the Year," but most of the crowd present approved the choice of **Diane Fitzgerald**, a 15-year-old from Manchester.

Diane, who is five feet tall, is a pupil at Whalley Range Grammar School and was really "discovered" at the coaching scheme at Clacton two years earlier. She uses her sandwich bat to advantage and is an all-rounder rather than a brilliant individualist, although her forehand is particularly strong.

Others to Watch

Other girls to keep in mind are Kay Stokes, a 12-year-old from

Folkestone; 17-year-old Sylvia Whittle, who hails from Crewe; Cynthia Blackshaw of Doncaster, who is 15.

The encouraging statistics about the *News of the World* scheme is that there were 15,600 competitors. This was a record, beating the previous year's total by 169.

Vital Statistics

To emphasise the enthusiasm of the competitors I should point out that it is reckoned in all they travelled best part of 225,000 miles in order to take part, and I've Johnny Leach's word for it that the little white celluloid ball crossed over the net more than 2,500,000 times. If your figure doesn't agree, blame Johnny, because I didn't stop to count for myself!

Another mark of interest is that 80 per cent. of the finalists used the sandwich bat.

And finally it was noticed that although the average age dropped from 15 to 14 years this summer, the standard was as high as ever. An encouraging sign which suggests that our players should be brought to a peak earlier in their careers. That is, if we want to seriously challenge the rest of the world at table tennis.

INVITATION FROM SOUTH AFRICA

ENGLISH Table Tennis may break new grounds next summer with a series of matches in South Africa (writes Bryan Cutress).

An invitation for England to send a team there for a six to eight weeks tour any time between April and September has been forwarded by the South African Union.

It looks all nice and straight forward, with all expenses paid, but there is one big snag.

Because of the racial problems, table tennis in South Africa has two controlling bodies, the European Union and the non-European Board. But only the Board are officially recognised by the International Federation.

Black is not allowed to meet White in Southern Africa by government law, thus the Union cannot fulfil the I.T.T.F.'s rule regarding non-discrimination, and as a non-affiliated association, has therefore been deprived of international competition.

The E.T.T.A. has made the necessary application to the I.T.T.F., of which a "high level" sub-committee has authority to deal with such matters.

If permission is granted, and this is dependent on the fulfilment of difficult conditions, there is a great trip in the offing for three men and two girls.

THIS month we are pleased to introduce a new regular feature by **JOHNNY LEACH**, England's twice world champion.

A shrewd assessor of a player's abilities, Johnny, who has now dropped from the international scene after 150 appearances for England, will write on the man and woman he considers have been the outstanding players of the month.

My Players of the Month

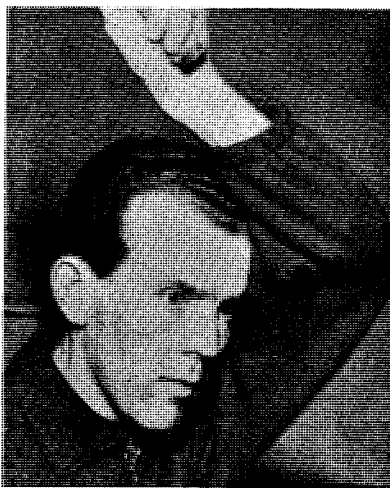
by Johnny Leach

THE two players who get top marks from me for their standard of play during October are **Betty Bird** and **Alan Rhodes**—Betty for the obvious reason that she has been the most successful tournament player so far; Alan for his notable "come-back" at the Sussex "Open" and strong hint of future success.

Betty, whom we all knew as the unspectacular but ever-reliable fourth-ranking Miss Isaacs before her marriage in 1956, has this season regained her international status.

Notable "Hat-trick"

In taking the East, North and Sussex "Open" Championships she has started off with a notable "hat-trick" of triumphs, while in the "Top Ten" in which she tied for first place with Pam Mortimer and Kathie Best, she gave the best performance I have ever seen from her. The outcome is a place in England's team against the Chinese.



ALAN RHODES

I give a lot of credit for Betty's sudden appearance in the table tennis headlines to her husband, Ron. He has encouraged her to do extra practice and training and has cheerfully undertaken household duties, including the care of Lesley, their 18-month-old daughter, in their new home at Chelmsford. Although now resident in Essex she continues to represent Surrey in the County Championships.

Betty attributes much of her success to the fact that she enjoys regular competitive practice against men in the Putney club's week-end tournaments.

Just where you girls would be without us men I can't think!

Betty has remained faithful to the pimped rubber bat, and bases her game on a very sound defence plus an accurate forehand smash which she uses sparingly. It is clear that she has an ideal temperament, which was shown to advantage recently in the Sussex "Open" final when she fought back from a losing position to beat the holder, Joyce Fielder. She is also an ideal doubles partner, having won four out of five of the events in which she has participated.

However, if this 24-year-old former typist is to tap her way to the summit she must move a little quicker on her feet so that she gets more snap into her hits, and vary the amount of backspin and the height of her returns so that her defensive strokes become a bit more aggressive.

Difficult Choice

Among the men, I have found it difficult to choose between such title winners as Ian Harrison, Bryan Merrett and Derek Burridge, so in the end I have settled for 27-year-old Alan Rhodes who, on the strength of his 21-15, 21-17, defeat of Ian Harrison at Hastings is already racing back into the ranks of our Top Ten.

With his favourite sandwich bat and much of his old confidence restored, this fair-headed commercial



BETTY BIRD

artist from Wembley is hitting the come-back trail with a vengeance.

It was good to see some of that old bite and sparkle, which in the past have enabled him to score victories over such world stars as Sido, Tsunoda, Narita, Amouretti, Roothoof and Foldi, return to his game at Hastings.

Alan's aggressive style demands tremendous self confidence, and this will come with more experience. He has already represented England in two world championships—at Utrecht in 1955 and Stockholm in 1957—and in the European championships, but he has yet to make the most of his pronounced natural ability.

I am glad to note that he is now getting in twelve hours serious practice every week, which is the best insurance he can take out towards an ambition to win the English "Closed" and a passage to Zagreb and China.

KENNEDY'S COFFEE BAR

YORKSHIRE'S Brian Kennedy has embarked on a new business venture. Not for him the sports business, which attracts other players, but a Coffee Bar in Leeds.

"I've been so busy getting everything ready for this month's opening that I have had no time for tournament play," said England's No. 2. "However, as soon as things are running smoothly I expect to be playing regularly again."

They beat the Teddy Boys

by Bryan Cutress

DEEP in the heart of Dockland, where Teddy Boys run rife and street corners are as populated as coffee bars, stands a dark, modest-looking building, prominent only because of the chicken wires across its windows.

This is the deceptive exterior which greets visitors to the ST. LUKE'S TABLE TENNIS CENTRE in Canning Town, which Essex County look upon as the show-piece of their activities.

Inside it provides a perfect meeting place for table tennis, with five tables, each with plenty of elbow room. The whole place has been painted "Table Tennis" green.

Yet only five years ago this same hall was used as a children's cinema and an indoor football centre. The change over was the first sign to the man in charge, the Rev. Father Goose, that his golden dream would materialise.

It all began in 1933 when, straight from college, he was appointed curate at St. Luke's Church for a two years' term. Like the vicar, the Rev. Father Moore, who arrived around the same time, he saw the popularity of table tennis and together they began to develop the club, and have stayed there ever since.

The first step in their ambitious programme was to increase the number of tables, until they had one jammed in the entrance hall and two more side by side in a room now considered big enough for changing!

About this time Jack Carrington came on the scene. "He persuaded us to have all our tables the same height at each end and keep the net in the middle," says Father Goose.

Steadily table tennis at St. Luke's prospered with an ever growing keenness among its members. By their own efforts the youngsters saved up and bought four inch-top tables, thus saving the expense of having to hire them.

The standard of play also improved with Brian Brumwell leading his services, as coach for the past five seasons. In local competition they won the under-14 league and cup.

"All the youngsters were armed with sandwich bats supplied—lawfully or not—by Johnny Leach's (then) little son some months before they came on the general market," said Father Goose, "and they did not drop a set the whole season."

Brumwell, wisely advised that the time had come to seek higher competition, and that they should approach the East London League.

The snag was facilities would have to be improved for home matches. By a coincidence it was around this time that the Hydro Hall, at Plaistow Y.M.C.A. was turned into offices, leaving the district without a central hall for tournament.

St. Luke's decided to kill two birds with one stone by providing a permanent home for the game. They converted the hall at the back of the Youth Club, where they played. Nothing could have been better, but it was painted WHITE!

"That difficulty was soon overcome," comments Father Goose with a twinkle in his eye. "Out came the brushes, the paint roller and the paint and the lads got busy. They painted green on everything, including themselves. In fact our vicar, taxed with the problem of redecorating his huge 90 feet Church dreamed the boys had painted that green as well."

This is typical of the enthusiasm of these youngsters, all of whom are members of the St. Luke's Choir, which is, as Father Goose jokingly remarks, "Jolly awkward when the Essex 'Open' clashes with All Saints' Day."

And that devotion for their sport was emphasised when local Teddy Boy gangs tried to break the place up. Night after night they broke windows and caused as many difficulties as possible.

But the club members would not be beaten. They helped to put up the close wire mesh guards and the chicken wire, so prominent as you now approach the centre.

"Table tennis certainly saved the moral of our members," said Father Goose. "Slowly our devotion to the

Continued on page 20



" ALL THE TABLE TENNIS WORLD MEETS AT ST. LUKE'S "

This pictorial map provides a background as Father Goose watches over his young boys reaching coaching practice

TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTSConducted by **LAURIE LANDRY**

SUSSEX SUCCESS

TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS, introduced last January to give players and officials the opportunity to air their views with the object of bringing them closer together, has scored a notable success over the **Sussex "Open."**

Players complained about the Sussex finals being held on the stage at the White Rock Pavilion, claiming it had a noticeable slope.

Giving the other side of the picture, go-ahead tournament secretary Derek Tyler pointed out that as the finals were held on a Sunday no charge could be made at the door except for fixed seating. The only fixed seating is the balcony and the stage is the only place that can be viewed from there with a normal field of vision.

The only way in which the finals could be held at ground level was for tickets to be sold beforehand, a considerable risk in the case of non-sale of tickets.

However, Derek Tyler and his committee decided to take the risk and it came off. **Not only were the finals played in far better conditions**

but the receipts were up . . . by sixpence!

Here are some of the Players' answers when asked what they thought of the new conditions, compared with previous years.

- Men's winner **Derek Burridge**: "Terrific—much better than before."
- Women's winner **Betty Bird**: "The conditions were very good."
- **Bobbie Raybould**: "Conditions were good, a great improvement."
- **Alan Rhodes**, rather non-committally: "Good, I'd say much better than in previous years."
- **Joyce Fielder**: "What do you think?"

This is proof enough. The change was popular with the players while the organisers, able to use the stage for seating purposes, suffered no reduction in receipts.

Thus we can chalk up victory No. 1 for "**Tournament Talking Points**," and a greater co-operation between players and officials.

Eric Johnson is spokesman for the players in the **Cheshire "Open,"** where he says the entry was rather

low. As most of the players were called upon to play at 9.30 a.m. everything was through by 4.45 p.m. leaving a 2½ hours wait before the finals.

It was a wait many players and prospective spectators were not prepared to make. Consequently there was a poor crowd.

It is not easy to anticipate the size of an entry but with week-end tournaments it is always advisable not to have a long gap between the earlier rounds and finals. But there is always the danger of carrying on too long and overshooting the starting time.

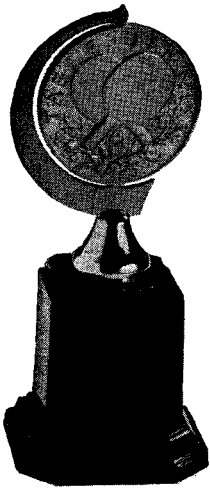
It is a difficult problem which can only be solved by experience and the tournament organisers.

A note of congratulation to Les Jones and the **North of England** committee. With a new venue, this year's tournament went on without a hitch.

The **Portsmouth "Open,"** with the yearly help of Lou Hoffman, was more successful from the organising side than it has been for some years. But, oh, what a lack of class players. Let's hope this year's success will bring the players next season.

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CHINESE NOTEBOOK

By **BILL VINT** *Chairman of E.T.T.A.*

AT this year's Congress of the International Table Tennis Federation it was decided to hold the 1961 World Championships in Peking. Many countries have staged the World Championships, but none will have given more contemplation, thought and considered deliberation to the many problems involved than China.

Within weeks of returning from Dortmund, Chen Hsien, the President of the Chinese Association, had made the necessary arrangements to invite the Officers of the International Federation to visit Peking and other cities during the period of the First National Games (which included Table Tennis) to be held in China, and so provide an opportunity to see and hear first hand about the arrangements for 1961.

So it was that Roy Evans, the Hon. Secretary of the I.T.T.F., and myself, together with our wives, left the sunshine of England for the blue skies of China about the middle of September.

From the moment of setting foot on Chinese soil—after a whirlwind flight of 23 hours which included a five-hour break in Moscow—to the time of saying "au revoir" there was an ever-present spirit of friendliness and kindness in all quarters.

The graceful art of living, so happily understood by the Chinese people, was apparent from the first cup of green tea served at the Airport (while our luggage was being sorted) to the traditional farewell supper.

Incidentally this was a fascinating meal where the main dish of the twelve served was brought to the table to be cooked by the guests on a charcoal stove and then immediately eaten, with chopsticks of course, before the meat could toughen or lose its delicious flavour!

During our tour we marvelled at the provision of first class facilities for all kinds of indoor and outdoor sports. Clearly there is a proper understanding of the value of a fit body and mind in the New China and those responsible have obviously

taken care of the future in this respect.

The most interesting of the many sports centres visited was the **Peking Workers' Stadium** (shown in our picture) a modern building seating 80,000 spectators, constructed in under 12 months for the First National Games this September.

Caters for All Sports

The whole stadium covers an area of nearly 100 acres. In addition to the main building there are two practice fields for athletics, each of them with a 400 metres track; three outdoor and one indoor swimming pools; an artificial lake for canoeing in the Summer and skating in the Winter, complete with sports club house; tennis, basket-ball and volley-ball courts.

It is next to this Stadium that the Hall which will house the World Table Tennis Championships and 15,000 spectators will be built.

Under the grandstand of the main stadium a four-storey building has been constructed, with over 300 rooms on the second, third and fourth floors providing living quarters for over 1,500 athletes.

The ground floor includes rooms

for gymnastics, acrobatics, weight-lifting, fencing and other indoor sports, as well as a cinema and a dining hall.

All these facilities give great convenience to competitors, enabling them to practice on the spot and get the maximum amount of rest in their own rooms during competitions.

It was interesting to find that the most popular sport in China today is basket ball but table tennis comes a close second. Much time and money is being spent in providing good playing conditions for all games and sports.

The National Games, which included 36 events ranging from football to shooting, were a triumph of organisation and many World and National records were broken. As far as the table tennis championships were concerned we were much impressed by the high standard of both play and organisation, which left us fully convinced that every endeavour will be made by the Chinese Association to make the World Championships one of the best ever.

Great stress is laid upon the training of young players and it is interesting to note that although the World Champion, Jung Kuo-Tuan, was playing in these Championships

he did not make one of the first 12 places in the final reckoning.

One of the meetings to discuss the arrangements for the World Championships involved nearly 50 people consisting of the regional table tennis representatives, from all parts of China, the organising Committee for the National Championships in connection with the Games, and the officials of the Chinese Association.

It was convened to give those present a general outline on the organisation of a World Championships and acquaint them with some of the problems.

Roy Evans gave a masterly address on the subject for nearly two hours which was much appreciated by his audience. Subsequent meetings were more informal and gave opportunity

Results in the Chinese National Championship at Peking on September 27. Finals:

Men's Singles: WANG CHUAN-YAO bt Chuang Chih-fu 21-15, 13-21, 16-21, 24-22, 21-15.

Women's Singles: HU KO-MING bt Yeh Pei-chiung 21-19, 23-21, 20-22, 21-15.

Men's Doubles: CHIAN YUNG-NING/CHUNG CHIA-FU bt Wang Chuan-yao/Chuang Tse-tung 15-21, 20-22, 21-17, 21-10, 21-17.

Women's Doubles: CHIU CHUNG-HUI/YEH PEI-CHIUNG bt Chu Paiming/Chih Hui-fang 21-14, 21-17, 21-10.

Mixed Doubles: CHUANG TSE-TUNG/CHIN CHUNG-HUI bt Chou Lan-sun/ Yung Yueh-yen 15-21, 22-20, 23-21, 22-24, 21-10.

RANKINGS:

MEN: 1, WANG CHUAN-YAO; 2, CHUANG CHIA-FU; 3, CHIANG YUNG-NING; 4, LI FU-JUNG; 5, YANG JUI-HUA; 6, YUAN CHIH-HSIANG; 7, HAU YEN-SHENG; 8, CHEN HSIEH-CHUNG; 9, TSAI MING-SHU; 10, CHUAN TSE-TUNG; 11, CHOU LAN-SUN; 12, HU PING-CHUAN.

WOMEN: 1, HU KO-MING; 2, YEH PEI-CHIUNG; 3, SUN MIA-YENG; 4, CHIU CHUNG-HUI; 5, CHIH HUI-FANG; 6, CHEN SU-HUA; 7, YUNG YUEH-YENG; 8, YUNG CHIAO-LAI; 9, MA KUANG-HUN; 10, YUNG CHI-WEN; 11, WANG HSIU-LAN; 12, HAN YU-CHENG.

for discussing in detail some of the tricky questions facing the organisation.

From Peking we went on tour. Our first visit was to Wuhan where a new Iron and Steel Corporation is being built. Here, also, the famous bridge over the Yangste River has been constructed. Comprising a highway for cars and pedestrians on the top deck and a double railway track below, it is a magnificent piece of engineering which has given China something she has needed for hundreds of years—communication between north and south.

Next stop was Shanghai where we found many signs of Western in-

fluence which were completely absent elsewhere.

Space does not permit to tell the many stories of different experiences, but one occurs—with appeal to our female readers.

This was the morning we spent in the barber's shop. I say "we" because my wife, our interpreter (male) and I all had our hair cut, washed and set in the same salon!! It took two hours to wash and set my wife's hair. The result was an exquisite piece of hairdressing and the cost was 1 yuan—about 3s.

We had another interesting afternoon with a one-time capitalist owner of a factory which he now shares with the State. He spoke remarkably good English and seemed delighted to entertain British guests to afternoon tea.

Shopping was an adventure. When we got out of the car to go into a shop, the whole street would follow us in—just to see what we were buying!

From Shanghai we went to Hangchow, one of the scenic beauty spots of China. The Chinese have a saying "Above there is Paradise, on Earth we have Hangchow."

UP GO SUBSCRIBERS *By Geoffrey Harrower*

WEDNESDAY, 28th October, was a red-letter day in our circulation drive. For on that day the number of subscriptions received this season from County Associations and other affiliated bodies passed the total received from similar sources for the whole of last season.

Even allowing for the fact that the special 7s. 6d. subscriptions for the season were in force, this is still excellent progress, and we can only hope that the counties will forge ahead from there.

Certainly counties as a whole are giving more support. Possibly the ten guinea prize generously offered by the Publishers to the county achieving the best figures for the season, pro rata to their membership, has acted as a fillip.

From next month we shall be publishing a "League Table" showing how your county stands.

As far as subscriptions are concerned, Middlesex are in the lead in quantity at present, followed by Essex. Special bouquet to young Laurie Landry, whose total of 30 direct subscribers from the Willesden League is the main reason that Middlesex lead.

A hundred chaps like Laurie throughout the country and we would have no worries!

Taking membership figures into consideration, Bucks, Devon, Herts, Leicester, Oxford and Sussex are all

Situated on the West Lake it is certainly a glorious spot and the home of tea plantations, Buddhist Temples and the Silk Industry. We then returned to Peking.

My notebook contains innumerable records about events, people, places and things, all of which make fascinating reading and it would be true to say we have many vivid impressions—some happy, others tragic. However, I cannot leave this short pen picture without expressing admiration for the vigour and vitality being shown by the Chinese people in their superhuman task for overcoming the tremendous problems which confront them. Less courageous people might have shirked the difficulties.

Our visit was comparatively short and our time was fully occupied in one way or another but we were still able to find time to have many pleasant and personal conversations. We know we have left behind many new friends and in a small way we hope we have made a contribution towards deepening the warm and cordial relations existing between our respective Associations.

doing well. I hope next month's "League Table" will show every county in a prominent position.

Members of the National Executive Committee have been prominent in leading the sales drive, none more so than Maurice Goldstein and Harry Walker. Maurice, notwithstanding the 101 other jobs he does in and around Birmingham, is tireless in trying to improve the Midlands total, and is taking an extra 150 copies for the China International at Birmingham. Harry Walker is always emerging with bright ideas to help. His latest is to ask local artists to design their own posters to improve sales at local events.

This poster idea also came from Mr. R. H. Davey, the Cheltenham Magazine Secretary. To date Mr. Davey has produced more subscribers in Cheltenham than all the rest of Gloucestershire put together, and intends to have his own table, complete with posters, at the China International at Cheltenham, for which he has ordered 144 extra copies. Perhaps it is only a coincidence, but Mr. Davey hails originally from Essex!

We shall be only too pleased, each month, to note good efforts, and interesting ideas. Please write to me as often as you please, for by combined effort we shall go forward together and keep the Magazine alive.

YORKSHIRE NOTES

HULL FOSTER SCHOOLS

YOUTH-CONSCIOUS Hull have given a lead to other Yorkshire centres. They have formed two leagues for school teams, one open age and the other for under 15's. Man behind this venture is the enthusiastic Rea Balmford.

Nine schools have entered 15 teams and Boulevard High School, who could not arrange their playing facilities until after the leagues had been formed, will play a series of friendlies.

What a contrast to Bradford, where there seems to be little attempt to promote enthusiasm for the junior game.

The entry of 96 teams for the senior Hull League is up on last year. Interesting curtain-raiser was the clash of champions Y.P.I. and runners-up Argyll House. Clive Pollard and Dave Bartlett beat Eddie Beedle—but Argyll made it by 7-5.

Main news from Huddersfield is that the well-known Slaithwaite club, Yorkshire champions in 1956, has disbanded.

The players have split up, Stuart Dyson joining Kirkburton, George Carrigill moving to R.A.F.A., Jack Daffern returning to Y.M.C.A. and Bob Cratchley linking with Roberts Castings.

Ray Hinchliff continues with Electric Sports, now in division four.

A majority of top players, including Dyson, have switched to the sandwich bat.

Most of the leading Leeds men have made the change, too. Weekly practice sessions are now held at St. Cuthbert's Institute, a short bus ride from the city centre. A surprise selection for Leeds "B" in the first inter-league match against Halifax was penholder Gordon Caines (Ministry of Works).

A NET GAIN

Although the Bradford League has lost seven clubs there are nine newcomers to take their places and keep the team total at 140. Not once since the war has there been a membership decline—and there is still a waiting list.

After an illness that has kept him out of the game for two seasons, Terry Miller has returned to Clayton Heights, the only team with continuous first division status.

Gordon Brewerton has teamed up with fellow city "B" players Kelly and Payne at Lister's.

Yorkshire juniors had their fling in the North of England championships. Three who showed the benefit of the most intensive pre-season coaching and practice for years were Cynthia Blackshaw and Linda Gordon (girls' finalists) and Harvey Coward, a Sheffield boy of rich promise.

But it was 14-year-old Lesley Proudlock who shook everyone by reaching the women's doubles final with Marjorie Harrison. She was previously unknown outside Sheffield.

Malcolm Hartley.

NORFOLK NOTES

Hat-Trick for Mrs. Cassell

BETTY CASSELL (Kings Lynn) completed a "hat-trick" in the Ipswich Y.M.C.A. Invitation Tournament on September 28, but only after a tense singles final against Mrs. Rogers (Ipswich Y.M.C.A.), whom she beat 22-20, 19-21, 22-20.

The two players teamed up to take the women's doubles beating Mrs. Brown (Ipswich) and Hilda Ewles (Norwich) 21-7, 21-14.

Mrs. Cassell's third title came in the mixed doubles where she partnered C. Crowe (Luton) to beat R. Wells and Mrs. Rogers 21-13, 19-21, 22-20.

Tony Fox, the only seeded player from Norwich fell in the fourth round to Collier (Ipswich), but had a better run in the mixed with Hilda Ewles before going out in the semi-final to Crowe and Mrs. Cassell 21-19, 16-21, 18-21.

Gordon Wood, now playing with sandwich, also went out in the singles fourth round to M. Darlington (Luton), after a great win over P. Rudd (Lowestoft).

Yarmouth, who have entered the Willmott Cup after a break of several seasons, are planning a series of invitation evenings in an effort to find and encourage young players.

The Town Handicap tournament is being concentrated into one week instead of being spread over the season, while the Championships have been brought forward to mid-February.

An innovation is the Divisional Championships, with each division holding its own knock-out tournament.

Newcomer Tony Archer (Yarmouth) provided one of Norfolk's successes when they lost 2-8 to Buckinghamshire. He beat Tony Wickens, who is the reigning Norfolk champion!

Les Holden scored Norfolk's other win at the expense of D. Jones.

Robin Wickens

DERBYSHIRE'S LOSS

A SAD blow to Derbyshire is that Barbara Webster, the county singles champion, will be unavailable for most of the season. Last season she lost only one singles match in the National County championship.

Making her debut for the county is Matlock's leading player Eileen Pidcock. A sound all round player Eileen has been playing for Matlock "seconds" for the past two seasons.

Meanwhile, Derbyshire eagerly await the result of their first match against Durham when the team will be Colin Deaton (Chesterfield), Tony Hunt (Chesterfield), Tony Bird (Burton), Joan Walker (Burton) and Eileen Pidcock (Matlock), with F. Moody (Buxton) as non-playing captain.

The County League is again expected to develop into a battle between Derby (holders) and Chesterfield, the latter being handicapped by the absence of Tony Hunt from Town matches.

It is pleasing to see more Derbyshire players entering "open" championships. Colin Deaton, the county champion, figured prominently in reaching the last sixteen of the North of England "open," with wins over V. Hankey (Cheshire) and Terry Densham, the English international.

Derby champion Ron Hallsworth is experiencing the changeover from rubber to sandwich and is most certainly expected to be challenging for a county place soon.

P. H. Norman (E.T.T.A. coach) has been organising coaching rallies at Buxton and Clay Cross, while Derek Freer, holder of the Teaching Certificate, has been running coaching classes for the County Council.

FEW GIRLS

Progress among juniors in Derbyshire is promising, but few girls are taking an interest in the game. The reason for this could well be the absence of a junior girls event at the annual "closed" championships.

However, Carol Reeves, of Derby, looks a bright prospect for the future.

The County championships will again be held at the Beckett-street Drill Hall, Derby, in March. Tony Chatwin, the county secretary, will act as tournament secretary.

CAMBRIDGE LEAGUE DECLINE

The record influx of new clubs which last season pushed the entry for the Cambridge League up to 69 and forced the start of a seventh division seems to have been only a temporary sign of encouragement.

This season the entry has totalled only 57 so the number of divisions has returned to six. The main reason for this is that some clubs, whose finances are at present a little tight, have been unable to raise more than one team.

New Chesterton Institute, the title holders, will again have a strong team but this season face a new test because doubles are being included in the Cambridgeshire League for the first time.

Both Cambridge teams have again entered the Willmott Cup and Rose Bowl competitions and are determined to improve even upon their performances of last season when they reached the Zone Finals.

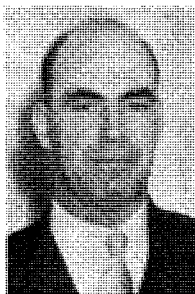
Administrative change this season has been the disbanding of the Cambridgeshire Council in favour of an Executive. The Council enabled all clubs to be represented at the meetings but over the past two years the attendance has been disappointing so by a majority vote it was decided to function again with an Executive meeting.



STUART DYSON

WILTSHIRE'S SAD LOSS

IT is with deep regret that I have to report the death on 25th September of Mr. David Kethero, of Swindon, after an illness of just over a month.



Mr. DAVID KETHERO

Mr. Kethero, who was 53, had been associated with the game for upwards of 32 years during which period he held the following posts: Chairman Western Counties and Wessex Leagues; founder Chairman of the Wilts Association and County Umpires' Committee; committee man, assistant secretary, secretary, chairman and vice-president of the Swindon and District League.

It was with regret that Mr. Kethero's resignation from the Presidency of the County Association was received by the Wilts A.G.M. in August last, owing to his ill-health.

Mr Kethero was presented with a silver statuette of a table tennis player at the Third Annual Wilts 'Closed' last March as a recognition of his services to the County Association while at the last Swindon Championships he was presented with an electric clock by League Chairman Maurice Turner following his decision to retire after more than 32 years unbroken service to the League.

This season the Wiltshire League will again consist of 13 teams divided into three divisions as follows:

DIVISION ONE: (Three men) Swindon

(champions), West Wiltshire, Salisbury, Devizes, Corsham C.C. and Chippenham.

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

DIVISION THREE: (Three Juniors) West Wilts (champions), Salisbury and Swindon.

Of this season's affiliated leagues only West Wiltshire show an increase of teams with 39 from 19 clubs in three divisions, an increase of four teams on last season's total. Salisbury have 41 teams (nine down) in four divisions, Swindon 90 teams (seven down) in eight divisions—although they report a net gain of one new club—while Devizes field 22 teams (two down) in three divisions.

Donald Hillier

HOPEFUL WARWICKSHIRE

WITH the new County Championship set-up Warwickshire have, at last, a real and definite hope of promotion to the Premier Division. If this materialises we can look forward to a revival of interest in the game throughout the County.

During the past few years, our matches have been sadly lacking in spectator value which has resulted in a state of apathy among the majority of our members. Added to this is the financial burden of away matches—a journey to Northumberland or Durham makes a large hole in the bank balance.

Now we are standing at the crossroads again a little more support will act as a splendid tonic to our team, so please let us see some really good turn-outs for the home matches.

Warwickshire's prospects?—brighter on the male side than for some time. Cadwallader, Tubb, Cox and Allen of Birmingham, together with Billington and Dingley of Leamington, are certainly showing the shape of things to come. On the women's side however, things are different. We have our four ladies, Ann Haydon, Pam Mortimer, Mrs. Griffiths and Mrs. Carless and, for the first time for nearly 30 years, nobody (at the moment) to follow in their footsteps. This is a sad state of affairs indeed and one for which there appears to be no immediate remedy.

At the County Annual General Meeting all the Officers were returned unopposed. They have all done excellent work and deserve re-election. The Warwickshire League has been abandoned this season as only Birmingham and Leamington entered teams. This would appear to be yet another case of apathy.

In the Midland Counties' League Leamington got off to a shaky start losing all three matches to Birmingham. Coventry lost both the Men's matches to Walsall but beat the Ladies' and Veterans' convincingly.

Margaret E. Evans.

LEICESTER YMCA

LEAD

LEICESTERSHIRE opened their season in Division 2 (Midland) by losing 3-7 to Worcestershire. Charlie Jacques and Philip Reid each won a singles and Johnny Burraston partnered Charlie in a successful Mens Doubles. Outstanding feature of the match was that five singles matches of the seven were sandwich v non-sandwich and in every case the sandwich-user won.

The only fixture so far in the Midland League has been a ladies' match v. West Bromwich 'B'. Rita Seith and Pat Kilsby have returned to the team after a season's absence and the result was a 10-0 win for Leicester

In the Leicester & District League, Leicester Y.M.C.A. again lead the way in the first division, followed by Bentleys, who have acquired the services of Jim Phillips. He has not so far touched peak form, but is obviously a very big asset to his side.

Leicester Y.M.C.A. also head Division 2a with a sets aggregate of 50-0. However, Clarendon Park, with town first-teamer Brendon Thompson in their side, are also undefeated. Looks like a great battle when they eventually meet.

Revermacs are likely promotion candidates in 2b. Roy Tester is their outstanding player and will take a lot of beating. A.E.I. Lamps II lead in 3a where Whitwick Colliery are also unbeaten in this division. Frank Hayward is still turning in some top-class performances and appears to have lost none of his old dash.

The return of Jimmy Jackson has improved Wilts to such an extent that they already look outstanding in 3b. It will be no surprise at all if they return to the second division after only one season's absence.

Civil Service I and Leicester Y.M.C.A. V are the only teams with maximum points in 4b. Penholder grip player J. Leonard is the Civil Service star man while Brian Bordoli is showing good form for Y.M.C.A.

Good out-of-town news is that Market Harborough, for long 'outsiders' are likely to affiliate this season. If they do this the possibility of a Leicestershire Town League will become a distinct probability.

In cup competitions Leicester Y.M.C.A. have already been knocked out of the Saracen Cup by Frears Biscuits who look favourites for the title, particularly with C. Measey playing so well. In the Rose Johnson Memorial Trophy the semi-final stage has already been reached. Ashleigh, with Pat Webster and Joan Cortoni in the side could do well. In the Rose Johnson Cup all the leading clubs are still interested.

Captains in the Midland League teams have now been chosen. They are: Mens First Team, Johnny Burraston; Mens Second Team, Paul Newby; Womens, Team, Miss Pauline Davis; Intermediates, Gordon Murray; Juniors, John Hubbard (non-playing).

Philip Reid

Middlesex Quartet Ranked

THREE Middlesex boys brightened the county's future prospects by gaining places in the English junior ranking list. Brian Wright (Willesden), David Creamore (Acton) and Nigel Ive (North Middlesex), the "Boy of the Year" in the *News of the World* competition, took 5th, 6th and 8th positions respectively.

Jean Harrower is top girl for the third successive year.

Middlesex had an easy start to their county programme beating Lincolnshire 9-1 but their next match, against Surrey on November 29, will be much tougher and could well provide the key to the championship.

The Middlesex Schools' tournament, which was so successful last year, is taking place again and already entries are rolling in.

In the Inter-League Championship the set-up for the premier division will be the same now that North Middlesex, who were bottom last year, have withstood the challenge of Staines by 5-4.

WELSH CORNER

FIRST WELSH TOURNAMENT WINNERS

ACTIVITIES in Wales started when Ron Davies, Bernard Dimascio, Norman Parker, Stan Jones and Alan Thomas went up to meet a North Wales team at Llandudno, and won easily by 11-0.

Emil Emecz took a game from Ron Davies but that was the only slight Northern success. Emil's colleagues were Colin Thomas, Don Mattison, Alcock and Radcliffe.

This was a very enjoyable match and thanks are due to Stan Shone and our North Wales officers.

Tournament time followed, the first event of the season being at Port Talbot, where Audrey Jones and her young helpers put on a good show. Thanks, too, to Eddie Thomas for stepping into the breach as referee.

Despite some uncertainty among converts to the "sandwich," there was some good play, particularly in the men's events where the surprise of the day was the form of Ken Bull, a Post Office player in the Cardiff League. He beat Glyn Morgan convincingly before losing in the semi-final to Bernard Dimascio.

In the other semi-final George Evans gained revenge over Ronnie Davies for his defeat in the final of the "Closed" Championship and then went on to beat Dimascio in the final.

Betty Gray won the women's singles title from a small entry after beating Audrey Jones in the final. These two finalists then paired up to form a winning doubles partnership against Margaret Jones and Margaret Phillips.

Dimascio and Stan Jones won the men's doubles title, beating Glyn Morgan and Alan Morris. However, Morgan gained his revenge when he partnered Audrey Jones to victory over Stan and Margaret Jones in the final of the mixed doubles.

Geoff Morgan, a new youngster to this meeting, showed some real promise in the boys' event before losing to Ian Gibson in the final.

In their opening matches in the Premier Division of the National County Championship, Glamorgan have lost to Essex and beaten Lincolnshire.

We should have drawn with Essex, and this would have given us a real chance to remain in the First Division. After a surprising start in which George Evans easily beat Raybould and Ron Davies defeated the Essex captain, Curtis, we slid downhill. Dimascio found Bobby Stevens in irresistible form, and then we lost the women's doubles, which was unexpected. Elsie Carrington certainly played well, but Gretta Dimascio looked as if she had not yet got control of her sandwich bat.

Davies and Evans were smashed off the table by Stevens and Raybould, but we thought Audrey Bates would have taken the singles.

She led 20-16 in the first, but lost it, and with Mrs. McCree's good defence getting better, Audrey lost the fire she had shown in the doubles and went down 2-1.

There was still hope for us, but George Evans, after taking the first from Curtis, went to pieces when the latter "put up the shutters," and then it was all over. Dimascio and Betty Gray, not a good partnership, went down to Curtis and Mrs. Carrington. Dimascio also lost a good match to Raybould, and Ron Davies, although he took a game from Stevens, fell away badly in the third.

Against Lincolnshire, after the long journey to Boston, our side showed good form. All the Glamorgan players were a bit tentative, but Evans again got us away to a good start, and although Dimascio lost to Skerratt, Davies beat Shearer to give us the lead.

We had a good women's doubles win, Gretta Dimascio showing very much improved form, so that Mrs. Eanor and Mrs. Moran had no chance.

Davies and Dimascio had an excellent doubles win over Shearer and Edlington, and then Audrey Bates, hitting hard on both wings, beat Mrs. Eanor quite comfortably.

Dimascio then clinched matters with an exciting win over Edlington, but Evans and Mrs. Dimascio lost to Skerratt and Mrs. Moran.

Evans then won a dull game against Shearer, the Barry man being still uncertain when his opponent refuses to

hit, but the final match between Davies and Skerratt was brilliant, with Davies defending brilliantly and counter-hitting to win in two straight games.

With only two Saturdays gone in the Welsh League programme, it is too early yet to see any pattern of form. Cardiff and Swansea won their opening games; Cardiff accounting for the Public Services and Rhondda, and Swansea for Newport (5-4) and Eastern Valleys.

Port Talbot easily beat Abergavenny, but lost to Public Services, for whom Barry's George Evans is now turning out.

Eastern Valleys beat Rhondda, and Abergavenny lost to Newport, so that Eastern Valleys and the newly promoted Rhondda are both without a win.

In the Southern Section, Cardiff Seconds beat Bridgend 5-4; Public Services Seconds beat Rhondda Seconds 6-3.

Tredegar surprisingly lost to Abergavenny Seconds in the Northern Section, but they beat Brecon 8-1. Brecon also went down badly to Merthyr. Aberdare, playing their first match in this section, beat Abergavenny Seconds 6-3.

In the Junior Division, Abergavenny beat Newport 7-2, Swansea beat Port Talbot 6-3, and Aberdare beat Cardiff 6-3, while the only match in the women's section resulted in a 7-2 win for Cardiff over Public Services.

CAMBS. FIRST LIFE MEMBER

LESLIE CONSTABLE, one of the stalwarts of the Cambridgeshire Executive Committee, has been made the first life member of the County Association.

A former county player, Constable first took an interest in the administrative side when he was elected to the executive at the inception of the Cambs. Association in 1936. Since then he has been secretary, treasurer, President and has in fact filled

almost every position on the executive committee.

This busy, tireless worker is also a coach and a county umpire, a member of the selection committee and E.T.T.A. representative, county publicity officer and regular contributor to this magazine.

Speaking of his award, Mrs. Margaret Cornwall, the Cambs. honorary secretary said: "Duties assigned to him have been quietly and efficiently carried out without question, and the time and hard work he has put in has been of great help to the association."

NEW SURREY SELECTORS



JACKIE HEAD

JACKIE Head, repaying, as too few players do, his debt to the county of which he was so distinguished a member, has taken charge of Surrey Juniors this season. He has succeeded Bob Atherton as Chairman of the Junior selectors.

Head will receive valuable assistance, and added judgement, from his wife, Jean, whose retirement last year caused such a gap in the national arenas.

Another new Surrey selector is County Umpire Bill Comber. He serves on both the Senior and Junior Committees.

The Surrey selectors evidently do not agree with the national seedings, judging by the new county rankings. They put unseeded Harry Venner above Ken Craigie, who the England selectors seeded No. 9.

The Surrey ranking is:

Men: J. SOMOGYI, H. VENNER, K. CRAIGIE, A. R. MILLER, M. MACLAREN, T. KIRBY, G. CHAPMAN and C. WARREN (jointly), D. LITTLEWORT, A. ROWDEN, D. LOWE.

Women: Mrs. B. BIRD, M. PIPER, M. AUSTIN, M. SHANNON, C. ROSE, Mrs. WHITEHOUSE, S. PRIOR, Mrs. H. CLEMETT.

Jim Forrest

SUFFOLK NEWSREEL

EAST ANGLIA BAN "SQUEAKERS"

HIGHLIGHT of the opening of the season was the Ipswich Y.M.C.A. Tournament which proved such a great success. The way in which club, town and county officials, under the direction of Y.M.C.A. table tennis secretary Ken Rodwell, co-ordinated themselves into an organising team, was one of the most heartening things I have seen in East Anglian table tennis for years.

Although the officials were, at times, hard pressed to keep the four tables operating the Finals were started by

during the sitting out periods. Ipswich has not only made a name for itself in the staging of this tournament but has also rendered East Anglia a great service.

Much has been written lately in the East Anglian press about "Squeakers" — shoes which, to quote E.J.F. in a recent *Eastern Evening News* article — "give out a nerve shattering shriek every time they meet the floor." It is worth recording that at its A.G.M. the East Anglian League unanimously decided to ban "squeakers" in all E.A.L. matches. As one who has had my nerves well and truly shattered by this menace I would commend officials of organisations in other areas to give this matter their full consideration.

It is worth a mention that the Ipswich League has emerged this season as the

largest in East Anglia. Its 85 teams is one more than that of Norwich which, for years, has been the biggest organisation in East Anglia. Ipswich, incidentally, has seven divisions against six at Norwich.

Both Lowestoft (champions for the past eight seasons) and Ipswich will again participate in the East Anglian League of Leagues together with Norfolk's Norwich, Yarmouth and King's Lynn. In the 2nd division Lowestoft "B" are the sole Suffolk side, their opponents being the "B" teams of Norwich and Yarmouth and the 1st or "A" sides of East Dereham and Wymondham.

Like most other areas Suffolk has felt the impact of the Sandwich bat : nevertheless, many players are still playing with rubber. Some of those who have changed to sandwich are showing considerable success but others are finding control somewhat difficult.

A.E.D.

IPSWICH Y.M.C.A. WINNERS
Men's Singles: C. CROWE bt S. Pearson 21-13, 21-11. **Women's Singles:** Mrs. B. CASSELL bt Mrs. P. Rogers 22-20, 19-21, 22-20.
Men's Doubles: J. CLARKE/P. RUDD bt A. Cooper/R. Cooper 21-15, 21-23, 21-17. **Women's Doubles:** CASSELL/ROGERS bt H. Ewles/B. Brown 21-7, 21-14. **Mixed Doubles:** CROWE/Mrs. CASSELL bt R. Wells/Mrs. Rogers 21-13, 19-21, 22-20.
Junior (Mixed) Singles: D. HALLIDAY bt H. Osborne 21-8, 21-10.

eight o'clock and the Tournament was successfully concluded well before eleven.

Participants were particularly appreciative of the hot meals available and the pleasant rest rooms at their disposal

A GLUTTON FOR WORK

George Wenham, new Essex assistant secretary, must be one of the busiest persons in table tennis. Here is a list of his other jobs : County Umpire, Essex magazine secretary, match secretary for Essex Juniors, General secretary-treasurer of the Billerica League, and joint secretary of his own club, Bentley.

These jobs naturally result in his being on several sub-committees, both at county and league level.

In his spare time, George works in Chelmsford and sleeps in Brentwood. The Chelmsford League report that the Marconi club has come to the aid of Springfield Trinity, a club forced to withdraw from the League at the last moment when they lost their home venue. Trinity are now able to use the Marconi Canteen and have cancelled their withdrawal. This is a nice friendly gesture which has averted the break up of yet another club.

What is the answer to the ever increasing rents being asked for many halls? One club of about six members near Brentwood has had its rent increased from fifteen shillings a night to ten shillings an hour. But they are lucky— they have found another hall.

Jim Sargent

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KENT DATES

THE North West Kent "Open" which this season has been brought forward by three weeks to November 22-28, is still as popular as ever. Already entries have been received from Ian Harrison and Johnny Leach while several other top-liners have promised their support.

Missing from the county's comprehensive tournament programme is the popular Folkestone Invitation. However, it is hoped that its absence is only temporary and that it will be back on the list next year.

Dates and venues of the major tournaments are: Kent Junior "Open," Marine Pavilion, Folkestone on November 7-8; North West Kent "Open," Barnehurst R.C., Barnehurst on November 22-28; Kent "Open," Marine Pavilion, Folkestone on January 30-31; Kent Junior "Closed," Hollyhedge House, Blackheath on January 13; Kent Junior "Closed," Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay on March 6.

Congratulations to both the Bromley and Gravesend Associations who are celebrating their 25th anniversaries this season. A special vote of thanks must go to founder members, Ted Boorman (Bromley) and Hubert Fieflo (Gravesend), both of whom are chairmen of their respective associations.

Following the County trials the new Kent rankings are:

Men: 1, H. BUIST (N.W. Kent); 2, A. PIDDOCK (Folkestone); 3, M. WONG (Woolwich); 4, D. WHITTAKER (N.W. Kent); 5, G. ELLIOTT (N.W. Kent); 6,

THEY BEAT THE TEDDY BOYS

(Continued from page 12)

sport we love won the respect of the Teddy Boys and they went off and left us, never to return."

No wonder George Eagles and Henry Walker, the respective Essex chairman and secretary, share a keen interest in St. Luke's and see they have plenty of County fixtures.

St. Luke's claim they have the first inch-top Junior table in the game. It is of 1926 vintage, made of one inch planks slotted into each other by a cunning craftsman in a local wood-yard, which was burnt out in the blitz.

It now hangs as a background to a 100-inch long pictorial map of the world, the centre of which is a Table Tennis table supporting a photo of the church and club. It signifies, "ALL THE TABLE TENNIS WORLD MEETS AT ST. LUKE'S."

Maybe not all the world has been to St. Luke's yet, but they have featured the West German junior international side and several county fixtures and more are still to come.

The success of this St. Luke's venture is a shining example to the game everywhere.



JOYCE FIELDER

R. COUSSENS (Medway Towns); 7, A. PAYNE (Woolwich); 8, K. JARVIS (Woolwich); 9, A. CORNISH (Woolwich); 10, R. TUTT (Woolwich).

Women: 1, J. FIELDER (N.W. Kent); 2, J. BEADLE (Medway Towns); 3, S. THOMAS (N.W. Kent); 4, M. DODD (Woolwich); 5, B. LANDIMORE (N.W. Kent); 6, P. BUTCHER (Gravesend); 7, J. PILFOLD (Woolwich); 8, A. HALLETT (N.W. Kent); 9, B. KENWARD (Woolwich).

Juniors. Boys: 1, M. PASS (Folkestone); 2, D. BASDEN (Woolwich); 3, C. BLOY (Folkestone); 4, A. ELLIOTT (Folkestone); 5, S. CONQUEST (Woolwich); 6, T. MORRIS (Gravesend); 7, A. COVENEY (Folkestone); 8, D. SCHOFIELD (Gravesend).

Girls: 1, S. THOMAS (N.W. Kent); 2, S. DEAKIN (N.W. Kent); 3, K. STOKES (Folkestone); 4, K. BEAL (Folkestone); 5, C. CARTER (Woolwich); 6, D. DOWNING (Sittingbourne); 7, C. CORDEN (Sittingbourne); 8, V. FIELD (Folkestone).

Len Pilfold.

JUNIOR UPSURGE

DEREK SCHOFIELD wins North of England "open"; George Livesey ranked England's No. 1 junior.

That's the great start-of-the-season boost to Lancashire and Cheshire where table tennis appears to be booming.

The Lancashire and Cheshire League, just getting under way, is a clear indication of growing interest for a new division has been added, making it ten.

The new division is the direct result of increased interest in the ever-growing junior division which has now been divided geographically, with the respective winners to play off for the junior championship.

The Oldham Schools' championships which have done much to foster the game among the youngsters, resulted in John Wood, an 11-year-old from Clarksfield, and Hazel Clarkson, of Counthill

Grammar, becoming the new champions. Wood, who beat Raymond Badby in the boys' final, reached the last 16 in the under 13's title of the Eagle tournament in Manchester last year, and has reaped the benefit of a coaching course given by Eric Johnson.

Hazel Clarkson took the title by beating her cousin Sheila Duskin, last year's winner, in the girls' final.

John K. Kennerley.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE SNIPPETS

ST. STEPHEN'S CLUB, Cheltenham, have achieved a feat which only Middlesex can equal—four players in the English junior ranking list.

David Bevan and Martin White occupy 7th and 10th places among the boys while Pat Taylor and Sheila Griffiths are 7th and 9th respectively in the girls' list.

The Gloucestershire "Closed" championships brought few surprises. Ian Harrison retained the men's singles title, beating Bryan Merrett after a titanic struggle; Joan Collier, of Bristol, took the women's title after a break of nine years, beating Mrs. Terry Spokes in another close game while Bob Griffin and Shirley O'Brien won the mixed doubles for the fifth time.

Gloucestershire will have to pull their socks up to maintain our position in the Premier Division particularly after the poor display against Yorkshire. Only Bryan Merrett was on form winning both his singles.

Personality of the month is 14-year-old Peter Brooks of the Page Boys' Club, Bristol. His tigerish approach to the game makes the luke-warm attitude of some of the seniors pale to insignificance. Yet this seriousness does not overshadow his sportsmanship for, win or lose, he does so with grace.

Cheltenham stalwart, Mr. W. Griffiths is retaining the treasuryship of the local league but has vacated the secretary's job which has now been taken on by Mr. Sid Turner.

Both Gloucester and Bristol have changed their secretaries. Mr. Cedric Moon takes over in Bristol and Mr. Vic Herbert in Gloucester.

Les Davis.

Cornwall's Best Start

CORNWALL made their best start in recent years in the National County Championships, beating Wiltshire 6-4 and Dorset 7-3 in away matches in October. Stars of the Cornish team were newly-promoted No. 1, John Bassett, Geoff Cornelius and Mrs. Barbara Hatter. John Bassett, 19-year-old hard-hitting left-hander from St. Ives looks as though he is in the County team to stay.

The West Cornwall League, the only table tennis league in Cornwall, continues to flourish, having started a St. Austell area 2nd Division this season. Talent is not over-abundant in Cornwall, but what the youngsters lack in this respect they more than make up for in enthusiasm.

R. D. I. Charlesworth.

FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are additional to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. Tournaments marked (A) are Approved. The closing date for entries is shown in brackets after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge but all organisers should send information to The Editor at the earliest date possible.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Details and Venue</i>	<i>Extra Events</i>	<i>Organising Secretary</i>
Nov. 13-15	HUNGARIAN "OPEN" Budapest.		
20-21	Birmingham "Open" (Nov. 9) Friends Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.D.B. V.S.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.
21	Hartlepool "Open" (A) (Nov. 14) North-East Trading Estate Canteen, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham.	J.X.S.	E. Laughton, 7, Lovat Grove, Owton Manor, West Hartlepool.
22	Bournemouth "Open" (A) (Nov. 7) The Drill Hall, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth.	J.X.S.	C. B. Cashell, 16, Victoria Avenue, Winton, Bournemouth.
22-28	North-West Kent "Open" (Nov. 2) Barnehurst Residents' Club, Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	M. C. Heasman, 77, Welling Way, Welling, Kent.
24-28	Leinster "Open" (Nov. 13) Abbey Lecture Hall, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin.		Mrs. G. Doyle, 55, Highfield Park, Dundrum, Co. Dublin.
28	Bath "Open" (Nov. 16) Drill Hall, St. Peter's Church Hall, Lower Bristol Road, Bath.	J.S.B.	J. A. Butcher, 1, South View Road, Twerton, Bath.
28	Peterborough "Open" (A) (Nov. 16) Messrs. Baker Perkins, Ltd., Westwood Works, Peterborough, Northants.	J.S.B. J.S.G.	E. Kent, 14, High Street, Eye, Nr. Peterborough.
Dec. 6-8	SCANDINAVIAN "OPEN" Boras.		
Dec. 12-13	Middlesex "Open" (Nov. 28) Hanwell Community Centre, Westcott Crescent, W.7.	B.S. G.S.	Miss I. Moss, 49, Okehampton Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.10.
12	Yorkshire "Open"		
Jan. 2	Yorkshire Junior "Open"		
15-16	WELSH "OPEN" Cardiff.		
16	Lancashire "Open" (Jan. 2) De Havilland Propellers Ltd., Lostock, Bolton, Lancs.	J.S.B. J.S.G. V.S.	A. Howcroft, 30, Thorne Street, Farnworth, Bolton.
23	Pontefract "Open" (Jan. 12) Assembly Rooms and Town Hall, Pontefract, Yorks.	J.S. V.S.	T. Horrocks, "Rockland," Bondgate, Pontefract.
30	Gloucestershire Junior "Open" (Jan. 20) Public Baths, Barton Street, Gloucester.		G. O'Brien, 4, Barrington Drive, Hucclecote, Gloucester.
30-31	Kent "Open" (Jan. 11) Marine Gardens Pavilion, Folkestone.	Y.S.B. Y.S.G.	G. N. Harding, 7, Joyes Road, Folkestone.
15-20	South London "Open" (A) (Jan. 20) Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road, Slough.	J.S.G.	L. Thompson, Auchmead, The Avenue, Sunnymeads, Wraysbury, Bucks.
Feb. 13-14	Bucks "Open" (Jan. 18) Central Baths, Grange Road, Bermundsey.	J.S.B. J.S.B. J.S.G.	E. G. Stafford, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
20	Grimsby "Open" (Feb. 13) Augusta Street Barracks, Grimsby.	J.S.B.	H. G. Vincent, 4, Orby Grove, Grimsby.
26-27	Midland "Open" (Feb. 15) Friends' Institute, 220, Moseley Road, Birmingham.	J.S.B. J.S.G. J.B.D. V.S.	M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP

by CONRAD JASCHKE

This Could Be Yorkshire's Year

THE manner in which Yorkshire have started their season's campaign suggests they will be a force to be reckoned with in the coming months. In fact, not until they meet Middlesex and Surrey on successive Saturdays next March do I expect the championship to be decided.

The odds may still be against Yorkshire taking the title north for the

first time when it comes to those key matches, but a pointer to raise "White Rose" hopes was the men's doubles win by Ray Hinchliff and Stuart Dyson over Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett in Yorkshire's 7-3 win over Gloucestershire.

Coupled with Brian Kennedy's win over Harrison (for the second year in succession in this fixture) and Kathie's Best's devastating display against the luckless West Country girls, who can blame the northerners if they are optimistic?

Apart from Merrett, who collected

two singles wins, the only Gloucestershire player who felt at home was Peter Partos. He did not win, but had the consolation of being able to converse in his native Hungarian with the wife of Yorkshire's evergreen match secretary Leslie Forrest . . . a pleasure one would perhaps not expect on a visit to Bradford!

Yorkshire, who are again staging all their home matches at the Mechanics' Institute, are determined to entertain their customers. Apart from serving up good table tennis, they have now installed gramophone music (not while play is in progress!) and for sixpence they provide a 16-page programme which I can only describe as a de-luxe production. Their reward: over £50 in advance season ticket bookings, and increased gate receipts.

Essex and Middlesex, second and third last season, started their programmes with wins over newly promoted Lincolnshire and Glamorgan respectively. Peter Skerratt was Lincolnshire's face-saver when he defeated Laurie Landry—playing for the first time at No. 1 for Middlesex—in the last set of the evening at Louth. Earlier Mrs. Eanor almost pulled off a surprise when she lost narrowly 19-21 in the third to Jean Harrower.

SHOCK FOR ESSEX

Essex had a nasty shock at Cardiff when Glamorgan took a 2-0 lead with wins by G. Evans and Ron Davies over Bobbie Raybould and Percy Curtis, but Bobby Stevens turned the tide with a hard-fought win over Bernard Dimascio, and after that it was plain sailing for Essex, who coasted to their biggest win for 18 months.

I hear Davies was most impressive, and is expected to trouble quite a few premier players now that he is getting good class opposition.

Glamorgan spirits revived somewhat when the Welsh side had an unexpectedly decisive 8-2 win over Lincolnshire at Boston the following week.

Again it was Skerratt who collected the home side's only singles win, but in the final set he was no match for Ron Davies, who confirmed his previous good form.

All matches were won in straight games here, with Skerratt and Mrs. Moran winning the mixed doubles—Lincolnshire's only other success.

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER DIVISION

November 14	Yorkshire v Glamorgan, Mechanics' Institute, Bridge Street, Bradford	7 p.m.
	Gloucestershire v Lincolnshire, Hoffman's Canteen, Stonehouse	7 p.m.
November 23	Surrey v Middlesex, Coronation Hall, Kingston	7 p.m.
December 5	Essex v Yorkshire, Ekco Canteen, Southend.	
	Gloucestershire v Lancashire, Y.M.C.A., Cheltenham	7 p.m.
	Lincolnshire v Surrey, Church Hall, Scarthoe, Grimsby	7.15 p.m.
	Glamorgan v Middlesex, Regal, North Road, Cardiff	7 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

November 14	Northumberland v Yorkshire, Youth Centre, Y.M.C.A., Church Way, North Shields	7 p.m.
	Cheshire v Derbyshire, Sports Club, Fairey Aviation Co. Ltd., 35, Derby Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport	7.15 p.m.
December 5	Yorkshire v Cheshire, Boys' Club, Roper Street, Hull	7 p.m.
	Derbyshire v Northumberland.	

SECOND DIVISION WEST

November 14	Somerset v Devon, British Cellophane Ltd. Canteen, Bath Road, Bridgwater	7.30 p.m.
	Dorset v Wiltshire, British Drug Houses Canteen, Butts Road, Poole	7 p.m.
December 5	Cornwall v Somerset, Devon v Dorset, St. Thomas Methodist Hall, Cowick Street, Exeter	7.15 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

November 7	Hertfordshire v Sussex.	
November 14	Hampshire v Berkshire, The Drill Hall, Redan Hill, Aldershot	7 p.m.
December 5	Kent v Hampshire, Perry Street Conservative Club, Gravesend	7 p.m.
	Berkshire v Hertfordshire.	

SECOND DIVISION MIDLAND

November 7	Worcestershire v Bedfordshire, The Shirehall, Worcester	7 p.m.
November 14	Staffordshire v Leicestershire.	
December 5	Warwickshire v Staffordshire, Bedfordshire v Leicestershire.	

MIDLAND DIVISION

November 28	Warwickshire v Nottinghamshire.	
December 5	Oxfordshire v Glamorgan.	

SOUTHERN DIVISION

November 14	Kent v Buckinghamshire, The Rowing Club, Deal	7 p.m.
December 4	Norfolk v Cambridgeshire, C.E.Y.M.S. Rooms, Norwich	7.30 p.m.

NORTH JUNIOR DIVISION

November 14	Durham v Cheshire, Fence Houses Y.M.C.A. Sunderland	3 p.m.
	Durham v Lancashire, T.L.F. Welfare Institute, Fulwell Road, Sunderland	7 p.m.
November 28	Yorkshire v Cheshire, Technical College Hall, Lord Street	3 p.m.
	Yorkshire v Lancashire, Technical College Hall, Lord Street	
December 2	Cheshire v Lancashire, St. Andrew's T.T. Club, Stockport	7 p.m.

MIDLAND JUNIOR DIVISION

November 14	Warwickshire v Oxfordshire, Staffordshire v Leicestershire.	
December 5	Oxfordshire v Leicestershire, Warwickshire v Staffordshire.	

SOUTH JUNIOR DIVISION

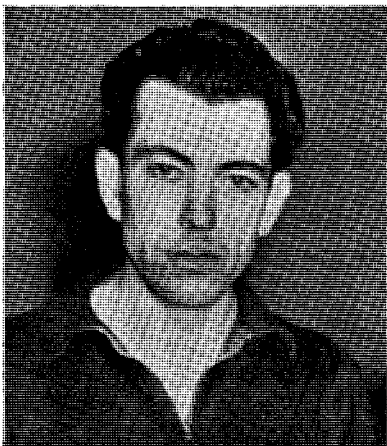
November 14	Kent v Middlesex, Bowaters, Kemsley, near Sittingbourne	3.30 or 6.30 p.m.
	Essex v Sussex, St. Luke's Institute, Jude Street, Canning Town, London, E.16.	
November 21	Hertfordshire v Kent, The Electrical Apparatus Club House, New Barnes Avenue, St. Albans	7 p.m.
	Sussex v Surrey.	
December 5	Sussex v Surrey, Suffolk v Essex, Manganese Bronze Sports Club, Hadleigh Road, Ipswich	5.30 p.m.

In Div. II North, Northumberland showed tremendous improvement while narrowly going down 4-6 against promotion candidates, Cheshire. Last season Northumberland failed to gain a point, but it should be a different story this time.

Derek Schofield was the only Cheshire man to win both singles, but he and Eric Johnson were surprisingly beaten in the men's doubles by J. Oughton and newcomer Roland Earl.

Cornwall, who last season finished pointless at the bottom of the Div. II West table, have made a wonderful start to the new season. On a round trip, they beat Wiltshire and Dorset on successive days, having lost to these two sides by 1-9 and 2-8 respectively at home last season.

The departure of Glamorgan (promoted) and Staffordshire and Worcestershire (to Div. II Midland) has left



PERCY MORECROFT

this division very much weaker than last season, and certainly Cornwall will now finish no lower than third. With home matches against Devon and Somerset, they can, perhaps, do even better.

Sussex hopes of an early return to the premier division received a severe setback when the seashiders went down by 2-8 to Hampshire, at Worthing.

Peter Shead beat Fred Bradley but lost to George Stevens. Only other Sussex winner was Mrs. D. Barontini who beat Mrs. E. Gray. Prospects were boosted by a 7-3 win over Berkshire at Deal. Percy Morecroft, who retired last year but has returned, shocked Kent when he completely outfoxed Ming Wong in the opening singles. However, Henry Buist and Tony Piddock soon put the home side on the winning path.

Brian Barnes, playing with sandwich as were all the Berkshire men,

DETAILED RESULTS

PREMIER DIVISION
Lincolnshire 1, Middlesex 9
 B. Edlington lost to A. Rhodes —4, —16; lost to D. Burridge —6, —14. P. Skerratt lost to Burridge —13, —11; bt L. Landry 19, 15. M. Sheader lost to Landry —12, —18; lost to Rhodes —10, —16.
 Sheader/Edlington lost to Landry Rhodes —7, —25.
 Mrs. W. Eanor lost to Miss J. Harrower 17, —14, —19.
 Mrs. Eanor/Mrs. C. Moran lost to Miss Harrower/Miss M. Fry —19, 19, —11.
 Skerratt/Mrs. Moran lost to Burridge/Miss Fry —15, —18.

Yorkshire 7, Gloucestershire 3
 B. Kennedy lost to B. Merrett —19, 12, —10; bt I. Harrison 11, 17. R. Hinchliff lost to Harrison 23, —17, —11; bt P. Partos —17, 12, 7. S. Dyson bt Partos 16, —19, 17; lost to Merrett —12, —14.
 Dyson/Hinchliff bt Harrison/Merrett 10, 17.
 Miss K. Best bt Mrs. S. O'Brien 9, 4. Miss Best/Mrs. M. Harrison bt Miss S. Griffith/Miss P. Taylor 11, 10.
 Kennedy/Mrs. Harrison bt Partos/Mrs. O'Brien 20, 17.

Lincolnshire 2, Glamorgan 8
 B. Edlington lost to G. Evans —17, —17; lost to B. Dimascio —12, —21; P. Skerratt bt Dimascio 15, 15; lost to R. Davies —13, —18; M. Sheader lost to Davies —15, —12; lost to Evans —16, —13.
 Sheader/Edlington lost to Davies/Dimascio —13, —18.
 Mrs. W. Eanor lost to Miss A. Bates —10, —10.
 Mrs. Eanor/Mrs. C. Moran lost to Miss Bates/Mrs. D. Dimascio —13, —12.
 Skerratt/Mrs. Moran bt Evans/Mrs. Dimascio 16, 16.

Glamorgan 2, Essex 8
 G. Evans bt R. Raybould 9, 10; lost to P. Curtis 14, —12, —15. R. Davies bt Curtis 14, 22; lost to R. Stevens 17, —12, —12. B. Dimascio lost to Stevens —19, —13; lost to Raybould —23, —14.
 Davies/Evans lost to Stevens/Raybould —8, —13.
 Miss A. Bates lost to Mrs. J. McCree —20, 17, —17.
 Miss Bates/Mrs. G. Dimascio lost to Mrs. E. Carrington/Mrs. McCree —12, 17, —16.
 Dimascio/Miss B. Gray lost to Curtis/Mrs. Carrington —12, —18.

DIVISION II (NORTH)
 Cheshire 6, Northumberland 4.
 Durham 7, Derbyshire 3.

DIVISION II (SOUTH)
 Kent 7, Berkshire 3.
 Sussex 2, Hampshire 8.

DIVISION II (WEST)
 Dorset 3, Cornwall 7.

DIVISION II (MIDLAND)
 Leicestershire 3, Worcestershire 7.
 Warwickshire 8, Bedfordshire 2.

SOUTHERN DIVISION
 Buckinghamshire 8, Norfolk 2.
 Suffolk 0, Kent 10.

MIDLAND DIVISION
 Nottinghamshire 8, Oxfordshire 2.

JUNIOR DIVISION (SOUTH)
 Middlesex 9, Sussex 1.
 Kent 6, Surrey 4.
 Hertfordshire 10, Suffolk 0.
 Essex 5, Kent 5.
 Surrey 9, Suffolk 1.

provided the finest table tennis of the evening when he just pipped Buist in a scintillating last match.

Newly promoted Leicestershire had a tough initiation to Div. II Midland when they entertained the strong Worcestershire side at Leicester. The new boys did well to keep in the game at 3-4, but then lost the last three matches each of which went to three games.

In the Midland Division, Nottingham proved too strong for Oxfordshire in the first ever encounter between the two, at Nottingham. Mary Spencer made her debut for the victorious home team, played well in the women's doubles and was not affected by the occasion.

Buckinghamshire and Kent II got off to a good start with big wins in the Southern Division. Buckinghamshire, after being 2-1 down to Norfolk, recovered to win the rest, while Kent II made it a clean sweep against Suffolk, with Julie Pilfold making a successful debut.

CONVINCING START

Middlesex started defence of the junior championship with a convincing 9-1 win over Sussex at South Ruislip, G. Whalley gaining the only Sussex victory

Essex brilliantly saved a point from their match against Kent after being 2-5 down, by winning each of the last three matches 21-19 in the third!

Keith Fallan was the local hero, winning both his singles in his very first county match, at his home venue, St. Luke's.

Full of praise for the wonderful playing conditions at this table tennis Mecca in dockland, were Essex county chairman, George Eagle, and county secretary, Harry Walker.

Kent just pulled it off the following week when they beat Surrey 6-4 at Folkestone, but it was Mary Shannon and Carol Bagshaw who stole the show with a fighting display for Surrey, who should benefit a lot from the guidance of Jackie Head, who has taken over as junior captain.

PLEASE NOTE

That Michael Maclaren can take Action Photographs and produce 4 10" x 8" Glossies for 1 Guinea. 12 Proofs submitted.

For information write:—
M.G.M. PHOTOGRAPHY
 75 Oaklands Road, London, N.W.2

SUSSEX "OPEN"**Two for Betty . . .**

ALL the "seeds" in the men's singles event were "buried" before the semi-final stage in the surprise-soaked Sussex "Open" at Hastings on October 24 and 25.

The title eventually went to Derek Burrige, who after recovering from 13-17 down in the third game beat Josef Somogyi, 12,—16, 20), proved too steady for Alan Lindsay and, in the final, Alan Rhodes.

Rhodes, now back in top form, had hard fights against both Michael Maclaren (15,—18, 16) and Bob McCree —18, 17, 14), then caused the biggest shock of the event when he mastered a lethargic Ian Harrison by 21-15, 21-17.

Henry Buist cleared the path to the semi-final for Bobby Stevens when he repeated his victory of last season over Bryan Merrett (—19, 19, 16).

Stevens, using rubber, later overcame hard-hitting Buist by 21-13, 21-18, and then defeated Peter Shead (19, 19).

With Harrison, Merrett and Somogyi already out of the reckoning prospects looked bright for unseeded Johnny Leach, making his first tournament appearance of the season. But Lindsay, following victories over Laurie Landry (—17, 20, 19) and Tony Condon (—19, 18, 13), went vigorously about his task of beating Leach.

This was the first meeting between the two and Lindsay triumphed decisively by 21-15, 21-19.

Betty Bird, who has found amazing form this season, won her third successive women's singles title with a 21-17, 13-21, 21-16 success over Joyce Fielder in the final.

This was an excellent game with Miss Fielder playing better than at any time last season. She has not got complete control of her bat at the moment but she made Mrs. Bird fight for every point until 15-all in the deciding game.

Mrs. Bird had earlier met some equally spirited determination from Judy Williams, the fast-improving Hertfordshire junior.

Judy fought extremely well and for the second time this season extended Mrs. Bird the full distance before going down by 19-21, 23-21, 11-21.

THE "OLD FIRM"

The men's doubles title was retained by the "old firm," Raybould and Stevens. In the semi-final they had to beat Landry and Rhodes, a feat they accomplished with something to spare. In the final they defeated the unusual combination of Burrige and Ron Crayden.

Earlier Burrige and Crayden had scored a close straight games win over Harrison and Maclaren, who had given good account of themselves when eliminating the fancied Leach and Somogyi.

Mrs. Bird took a second title when she partnered singles runner-up Joyce Fielder to victories over Peggy Piper and Diane Rowe in the semi-final and Elsie Carrington and Jean McCree in the final.

George Elliott and Miss Fielder won their first-ever joint title, beating Raybould and Miss Piper in the final of the mixed doubles.

Scratch pair, Kevin Edward and Judy Williams gained good wins over Stevens and Mrs. McCree (9 and 15) and Rhodes and Shelagh Hession (21,—8, 10) to reach the semi-final.

Leo Thompson won the newly-established veterans' singles, beating B. Fretwell.

Men's Singles: Semi-finals: A. RHODES (Mddx.) bt R. Stevens (Essex) 22-20, 19-21, 21-14, D. BURRIDGE (Mddx.) bt A. Lindsay (Mddx.) 21-10, 21-12.

Final: BURRIDGE bt Rhodes 21-9, 15-21, 21-17.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals: MRS. B. BIRD (Surrey) bt Mrs. J. Beadle (Kent) 21-19, 21-18; J. FIELDER (Kent) bt. S. Hession (Essex) 21-18, 3-21, 21-16.

Final: BIRD bt Fielder 21-17, 13-21, 21-16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals: STEVENS/R. RAYBOULD (Essex) bt Rhodes/L. Landry (Mddx.) 21-9, 16-21, 21-13; R. CRAYDEN (Surrey)/BURRIDGE bt I. Harrison (Gloucs.)/M. Maclaren (Surrey) 21-18, 21-19.

Final: STEVENS/RAYBOULD bt Crayden/Burrige 21-18, 24-22.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals: BIRD/FIELDER bt P. Piper (Surrey)/D. Rowe (Mddx.) 21-11, 21-17; MRS. E. CARRINGTON/MRS. J. MCCREE (Essex) bt J. Williamson (Middx.)/M. Know 21-15, 21-15.

Final: BIRD/FIELDER bt Carrington/McCree 21-10, 23-21.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals: G. ELLIOTT / MISS FIELDER (Kent) bt R. Henderson/Mrs. S. Foster (Hants.) 21-12, 16-21, 21-13; RAYBOULD/MISS PIPER bt K. Edwards (Gloucs.)/Miss J. Williams (Herts.) 21-15, 12-21, 21-13.

Final: ELLIOTT/MISS FIELDER bt Raybould/Miss Piper 12-21, 21-18, 22-20.

Veterans' Singles: Semi-finals: L. THOMPSON (Bucks.) bt R. Markwell (Essex) 21-19, 21-18; B. FRETWELL (Sussex) bt C. Downham (Sussex) 21-11, 21-17.

Final: THOMPSON bt Fretwell 21-16, 14-21, 21-16.

PORTSMOUTH "OPEN"**A LOCAL CHAMPION**

GEORGE STEVENS (Hampshire) and Shelagh Hession (Essex) collected their first-ever senior singles title from the Portsmouth "Open" at Southsea, on October 18.

Stevens brought the men's singles trophy back into local possession with a fine all-round display which conquered Colin Crowe by 21-17, 22-20 in the semi-final and then, after another close fight, Tony Condon by 22-20, 21-19.

Miss Hession had a comfortable semi-final success over Mrs. S. Foster but in the final came to within a point of defeat against Mrs. Ivy Sawyer before surviving by 20-22, 25-23, 21-16.

A second title went to Miss Hession when she partnered Mrs. Beamish to a 12-21, 24-22, 21-18 victory over Mary Shannon and Alma Taft in the final of the women's doubles.

Brian Wright, England's junior No. 5, won the mixed junior singles beating David Offenbach 21-15, 21-16 in the final.

Two of the girls who shone during this event were Mary Shannon and Judy Williams, who are joint No. 2 in the ranking list. Miss Shannon beat Barry Midgeley in straight games before going down 19-21, 14-21 to Wright, while Miss Williams beat Surrey's top junior Finnucane and then fell victim to Offenbach by 21-19, 21-16.

. . . and Three More

By LAURIE LANDRY

THE North of England tournament in its new venue at Old Trafford, on October 9-11, not only enjoyed the success due to the efforts of its organisers but showed us all that rubber can still be used to telling effect.

Derek Schofield was obviously the hero, for not only did this vastly under-rated player win in great style, but did so with possibly the hardest draw.

He beat Ray Hinchliff 16, —20, 15, Laurie Landry 13, 18, and Maurice Pitts in the quarter-final 15, 13, before getting the better of Len Adams in a point-for-point semi-final.

Adams had a good win over Muranyi, who had previously beaten fellow Hungarian Kerekes, conquerer of Ron Allcock.

The other semi-finalists, Jeff Ingber and Joe Somogyi both took full advantage of a good draw.

Somogyi, favourite in the absence of Brian Kennedy, failed to produce anything like his best form against the tight play of Ingber. In fact Ingber after winning the first game fought back from 5-12 to 16-12 to win the second at 17.

The final was as good a game as any. It was full of control with both using rubber, and turned into a thriller after they had shared the first two games.

Schofield, who had gradually assumed command from the second game and was coming in with well-timed hits, gained a lead of 15-11. At this stage Ingber showed

both his fighting spirit (to take a lead of 16-15) and his end-of-game nerves to miss a "sitter" and lose 16-21.

The women's singles was less open, for Mrs. Betty Bird was the only ranked player taking part. She not only took the singles, but went on for the triple crown by winning the women's doubles with Mrs. Philomena Clarke (Heppell) and the mixed with Landry.

It says much for Mrs. Clarke's fight and dourness in defence that she took a game from Mrs. Bird.

In the doubles it was interesting to see Marjorie Harrison, in a scratch partnership with 14-year-old Lesley Proudlock, reach the final and take a game from the winners.

The mixed was not overloaded with regular pairings, but Doreen Ridgeway, who had earlier in the week shown her improvement with a win over Lancashire's Winifred Swift, shone in a scratch pairing with Phil Strulovitch, reaching the final and taking a game from Landry and Mrs. Bird.

There was little constructive co-ordination in the men's doubles pairings and it was left to one of the more regular partnerships, Muranyi and Somogyi, to beat Ingber and Strulovitch in an interesting final.

TRIALS CLASH

The junior events were somewhat affected by the clash with the junior trials, but nevertheless produced some good play. Colin Thomas, the young Welsh boy, beat David Stanley, while Carol Blackshaw gained a well deserved win over Linda Gordon.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: D. SCHOFIELD (Cheshire) bt L. Adams (Middlesex) 22-20, 21-19; J. INGBER (Lancashire) bt J. Somogyi (Surrey) 21-9, 21-17.

Final: SCHOFIELD bt Ingber 11-21, 21-13, 21-16.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: Mrs. B. BIRD (Surrey) bt M. Bradshaw (Lancashire) 21-14, 21-12; Mrs. P. CLARKE (Northumberland) bt M. Leigh (Lancashire) 21-19, 19-21, 22-20.

Final: BIRD bt Clarke 21-16, 16-21, 21-8.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: G. MURANYI/SOMOGYI (Surrey) bt E. Hodson (Middlesex)/T. Densham (Hertfordshire) 21-18, 21-17; J. INGBER/P. STRULOVITCH (Lancashire) bt E. Emez/C. Thomas (Wales) 21-15, 21-19.

Final: MURANYI/SOMOGYI bt Ingber/Strulovitch 21-15, 15-21, 22-20.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: BIRD/CLARKE bt Leigh/W. Swift (Lancashire) 21-19, 21-17; M. HARRISON/L. PROUDLOCK (Yorkshire) bt M. Dyson/P. Morton (Yorkshire) 21-16, 12-21, 24-22.

Final: BIRD/CLARKE bt Harrison/Proudlock 12-21, 21-15, 21-9.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: L. LANDRY (Middlesex)/Mrs. Bird bt E. Johnson/Miss D. Wright (Cheshire) 21-11, 21-12; STRULOVITCH/Miss D. RIDGEWAY (Cheshire) bt M. Shearer/Miss P. Chadwick (Lincolnshire) 21-19, 19-21, 21-8.

Final: LANDRY/Mrs. BIRD bt Strulovitch/Miss Ridgeway 21-16, 19-21, 21-11.

Boys' Singles: Semi-Finals: C. THOMAS (Wales) bt P. Duncombe (Yorkshire) 21-19, 21-15; D. STANLEY (Lancashire) bt M. Symonds (Lancashire) 21-12, 19-21, 21-5.

Boys' Singles: Final: THOMAS bt Stanley 21-8, 21-14.

Girls' Singles: Semi-Finals: C. BLACKSHAW (Yorkshire) bt P. Dainty (Yorkshire) 21-10, 21-13; L. GORDON (Yorkshire) bt D. Fitzgerald (Lancashire) 14-21, 21-11, 21-19.

Final: BLACKSHAW bt Gordon 21-12, 21-8.

RESULTS

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: G. STEVENS bt C. Crowe 21-17, 22-20; A. CONDON bt R. McCree 21-18, 21-11.

Final: STEVENS bt Condon 22-20, 21-19.

Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: S. HESSION bt Mrs. S. Foster 21-19, 21-12; Mrs. I. SAWYER bt J. Williams 21-19, 21-17.

Final: HESSION bt Sawyer 20-22, 25-23, 21-16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-Finals: A. GOLDSACK/R. HENDERSON bt Condon/L. Sawyer 10-21, 21-16, 21-14; B. HELLBERG/M. WESTOBY bt R. McCree/K. Beamish 21-18, 21-19.

Final: HELLBERG/WESTOBY bt Goldsack/Henderson 22-20, 21-13.

Women's Doubles: Semi-Finals: Mrs. I. SAWYER/S. BARRETT bt Mrs. J. Veneer/Mrs. R. Gifford 19-21, 21-18, 21-13; Mrs. S. BEAMISH/HESSION bt M. Shannon/A. Taft 12-21, 24-22, 21-18.

Final: Mrs. BEAMISH/HESSION bt Mrs. Sawyer/Barrett 21-15, 21-10.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-Finals: CROWE/Miss B. CASSELL bt Condon/Miss Hession 18-21, 21-17, 21-16; B. MIDGLEY/Miss SHANNON bt Stevens/Mrs. D. Gray 21-18, 21-19.

Final: MIDGLEY/Miss SHANNON bt Crowe/Miss Cassell 21-16, 17-21, 21-13.

Mixed Junior Singles: Semi-Finals: B. WRIGHT bt G. Whalley 21-16, 17-21, 21-16; D. OFFENBACH bt K. Fallan 21-13, 21-14.

"TOP TEN" TOURNAMENTby **HARRISON EDWARDS**

HARRISON AND MERRETT TIE

A TIE in the men's singles and a triple dead heat among the women left a somewhat inconclusive result to the "Top Ten" Tournament at Finchley Drill Hall on October 24.

The Gloucestershire pair of Ian Harrison and Bryan Merrett shared the men's singles with four wins each. The main honours, however, must go to Merrett, England's No. 4 who beat two of the three players ranked above him, Harrison and Josef Somogyi.

His win over Harrison was not quite the surprise it appears for he knows the No. 1's play so well.

Merrett's one black mark was against Yorkshire's Brian Kennedy, who gained revenge for his defeat when they met in the county championship earlier in the month.

The tables were similarly turned when Harrison beat Kennedy.

It was typical that Merrett, so well known for his stonewalling tactics,

little away himself. It was dour play, but it brought the results.

Kennedy, although out of competitive practice, was most impressive with his wins over Merrett, Landry and Thornhill. Some of his forehand kills were devastating. His defeat by Somogyi was a touch-and-go affair, with an advantage first game, and the third going to 19.

A disappointing Jean Harrower failed to record a win in the women's singles, where Kathie Best, with the best games average, Pam Mortimer and Betty Bird each won two.

Men: I. Harrison (Glos.) bt L. Landry (Middx.) 21-17, 21-19; bt M. Thornhill (Middx.) 21-10, 21-23, 21-11; bt B. Kennedy (Yorks.) 24-22, 21-13; bt J. Somogyi (Surrey) 21-17, 21-18; lost to B. Merrett (Glos.) 21-17, 21-7, 21-16.

Merrett bt Thornhill 8-11 (time limit), 8-7 (t.l.), 16-4 (t.l.); bt Somogyi 21-15, 21-15; bt Landry 21-7, 21-4; lost to Kennedy 21-19, 14-21, 12-21.

Somogyi bt Kennedy 21-23, 21-16, 21-19; bt Thornhill 21-9, 21-15; bt Landry 21-16, 21-15.

Kennedy bt Landry 21-13, 21-11, bt Thornhill 21-19, 21-16.

Thornhill bt Landry 24-22, 21-14.
Women: P. Mortimer (Warwick) bt J. Harrower (Middx.) 21-16, 7-21, 21-14; bt B. Bird (Surrey) 21-17, 21-18; lost to K. Best (Yorks.) 19-21, 9-21.

Best lost to Bird 15-21, 18-21; bt Harrower 21-8, 21-15.

Bird bt Harrower 19-21, 21-12, 21-12.

CHESHIRE "OPEN" DISAPPOINTING

IN a playing sense this year's Cheshire "Open," held at Birkenhead, was a very disappointing tournament. A contributory factor was the withdrawal of a group from Yorkshire which included some well fancied players.

Local people, however, found much to enthuse over in the success of Liverpool players A. C. Taylor and W. Allanson, who reached the men's doubles final before being beaten, in the best match of the evening, by the greater experience of Derek Schofield and Eric Johnson.

Rubber surfaced bats triumphed over sandwich in the men's singles semi-finals where Schofield bt J. Clayton 14-21, 21-19, 21-9, and Colin Deaton defeated W. Orme 21-19, 21-11.

In the final Schofield produced some very strong hitting down both wings to completely unsettle Deaton and win 21-17, 21-13.

Greater accuracy in defence carried Miss W. Swift to a straight games win over Miss M. Leigh in the Women's singles final. Miss Leigh produced some good forehand drives without matching the consistency of the winner.

They then paired up to win the women's doubles final against Linda Gordon and Diane Fitzgerald, a very young combination who had given a good account of themselves in getting so far.

The mixed doubles went to V. Hankey and Mrs. D. Wilkinson, who in an exciting final beat E. Johnson and Miss D. Wright 14-21, 22-20, 21-18.

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals: D. SCHOFIELD bt J. Clayton 14-21, 21-19, 21-9; C. DEATON bt W. Orme 21-19, 21-11.

Final: SCHOFIELD bt Deaton 21-17, 21-13.
Women's Singles: Semi-Finals: M. LEIGH bt Mrs. M. Bradshaw 21-17, 13-21, 21-16; W. SWIFT bt J. Lloyd 21-19, 21-18.

Final: SWIFT bt Leigh 21-15, 21-16.
Men's Doubles: Final: SCHOFIELD/E. JOHNSON bt A. C. Taylor/W. Allanson 21-15, 15-21, 21-17.

Women's Doubles: Final: LEIGH/SWIFT bt D. Fitzgerald/L. Gordon 22-20, 17-21, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles: Final: V. HANKEY/Mrs. D. WILKINSON bt E. Johnson/Miss D. Wright 14-21, 22-20, 21-18.



BRYAN MERRETT

should be involved in a time limit match. This was against Mickey Thornhill whom he beat 8-11, 8-7, 16-4.

Merrett pushed and chopped to force his opponents into errors, giving

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TOURNAMENTS

NORTH WEST KENT "OPEN," Barnehurst Residents' Club, 152a, Parkside Avenue, Barnehurst Kent. Finals Night: Saturday, November 28. Tickets from Mr. K. Daniel, 22, St. Michael's Road, Welling, Kent, price 2/6 and 4/- (reserved).

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