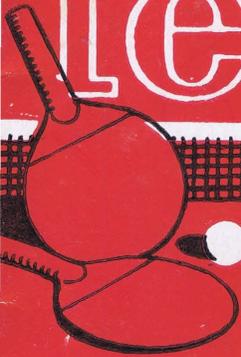


Table Tennis REVIEW

Vol. 4 No. 4
MAR.-APR. 1950



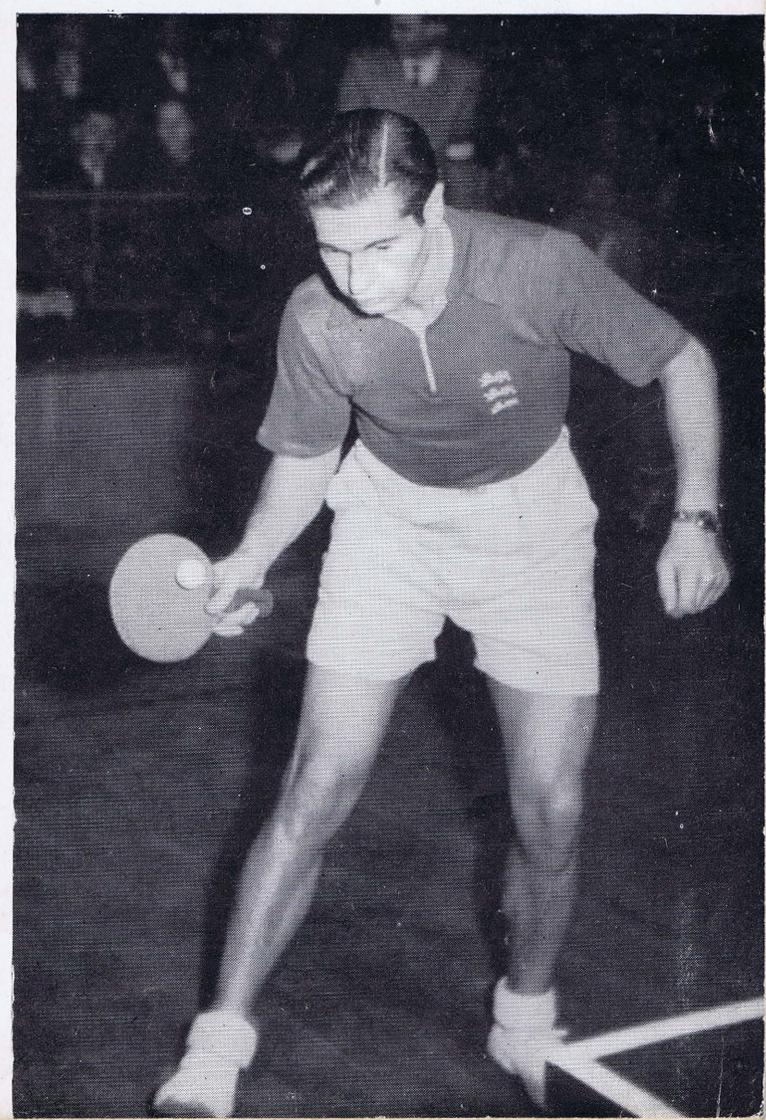
NEWS



VIEWS



HINTS



COVER PORTRAIT
RICHARD BERGMANN
(England)
World Champion





Johnny Leach

ALWAYS CHOOSES A

Halex Ball

HALEX 3-STAR

1/3 each, and
still rather scarce

HALEX 2-STAR

9d. each
and in fair supply

HALEX LIMITED, HALE END, LONDON, E.4

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

Editorial, Advertisement
and Publishing Office :
Kenworthy Buildings,
83, Bridge Street,
Manchester, 3.
Phone : BLAckfriars 0494.

Managing Editor :
ARTHUR WAITE
(1931 International).

Advertisement Rates sent on
request.

Vol. 4 No. 4

MARCH/APRIL, 1950

One Shilling

Editorial

TO win both the World's Championship and the English Open is surely a remarkable achievement and it is, in fact, the hallmark of a worthy world champion. We congratulate you, Richard Bergmann ! But for the gap of the war years it is possible that by now so many world titles would have come your way that your record would have excelled that of Victor Barna. But candidly, as an exponent of really first-class table tennis you are still second to the pre-war Barna. There is no denying you are a great player, Richard, and on many occasions you have thrilled the table tennis public with your skill, but if you are to stand out as one of the greatest players of all time, then you must never, never descend to the ignoble depths of chiselling. Such play should be beneath you, especially as you are capable of such greater things.

One day, perhaps, our organisers and rule-makers will devise some answer to this menace of unenterprising play. The lowering of the net and the time-limit rule has certainly not been sufficient. Something else is required—but what ? There is an urgent need for some deep thinking on the part of all lovers of table tennis. During the past few seasons the game has attracted a tremendous number of new players to its ranks, but it is doubtful whether it has made much headway among the non-playing public, and while “chiselling” remains part and parcel of modern table tennis we cannot expect the game to make any further extensive progress as a sporting spectacle. Is it possible that our readers can suggest any new and untried ideas ? Or what about you, Richard ? As a world champion your ideas would be respected. Perhaps you can put forward a theory which will solve our difficulties. The great and ever-present problem is, “How can we rid the game completely of all traces of Ping Pong ?”

DOWN THE WHITE LINE

By GOSSIMA

The Czechoslovakian team, winners of the Swaythling Cup were suitably rewarded upon their return home. Each player was presented with a small token of appreciation by the government, the gift being . . . a motor car each.

* * *

Miss Trudi Pritzi, ex-world champion, is now the proprietress of a table tennis saloon in Vienna.

* * *

Alec Brook and Stephen Boros touring the theatres of South Africa with their table tennis act found the notorious altitude of Johannesburg quite as bad as it is made out to be. Alex says, "I have covered more than a million miles playing table tennis in 22 countries, but never before has my timing been so upset. The ball comes at you like lightning and you are trapped into hitting it too early.

* * *

The proposed table tennis coaching scheme for Great Britain, which was to have been financed by the Board of Education has been shelved for the time being owing to Government economy measures.

* * *

English competitors at Budapest were certainly embarrassed on many occasions by money difficulties caused by devaluation. After a few days in the Hungarian capital they suddenly discovered that the baths they had been having were costing ten shillings a time!

* * *

Richard Bergman is more than proud of his three travelling cases which are covered with the labels of the various hotels where he has stayed in his travels round the world. He treasures those labels a great deal and one morning during the World's Championships he good humouredly remarked to the English

captain, Adrian Haydon, "If you want to make sure that I win the world title again then threaten to tear off my luggage labels if I lose."

* * *



After the English Championships, Johnny Leach and Jack Carrington left on the "Queen Mary" for a tour of the United States.

* * *

Pete Smith, of London, who recently won the North of England Junior Championships, plays the piano in a dance band in his spare time. Pete tells an amusing story connected with his recent visit to Manchester. He was sharing a bed with Bolton's young star, Derek Ellison, and in the middle of the night Pete was aroused from sleep by a hefty whack on the nose. Then Derek's voice was heard to say, "Hold him boy . . . twenty-all, steady on now . . ." Then came another vicious backhand flick, which Pete this time managed to dodge. Pete studied the situation, and upon noticing that Derek was using no forehands he decided it would be safer to transfer to the other side of the bed.

Your Season's Diary

Mar. 25	...	...	...	Grimsby Open
April 1-2	...	...	...	Bucks Open
April 8-10	...	...	...	North East England Open
April 12-14 & 17-22	...	...	...	West Middlesex Open
May 1-6	...	...	...	Thameside Open

Tournament Secretaries are asked to send to the Editor a small supply of Entry Forms. Readers will be supplied with these upon application. Please enclose postage.

English Selection Committee Criticised

By FRED MATHER

WITH the Swaythling Cup matches over and everyone in the south apparently satisfied, there is still a bitter taste left in the mouths of the northern and particularly Manchester enthusiasts, at the failure to invite to the trials the acknowledged numbers one and two for Lancashire, B. Casofsky and K. Stanley. Although it is difficult to single out any individual to blame for their non-appearance at the trials, I personally, feel from information received that Stan Proffitt and Geoff Harrower, two members of the selection committee are majorly responsible for this flagrant error of judgement by their failure to see that these two players received a written invitation.

These two selectors may say in their defence that they understood these players to be unavailable, but Ken Stanley assures me most definitely that he let it be known officially, via Stan Proffitt, three weeks before the trials that if selected he could obtain time off to play.

Personally, I think they would have been better advised to have sent Ken Stanley an official letter inviting him to the trials, and awaiting his own reply accepting or rejecting the invitation, instead of taking so much for granted, and assuming he could not play if chosen.

Ken Stanley has proved by his very few defeats in county matches, and by his recent wins over Simons, Crouch and Craydon (the latter he has beaten a number of times, only once being taken to three games) his right to some consideration. His lapse of form in the Merseyside Open Championship was largely due to sickness at home, which entailed considerable lack of sleep and thereby impaired his play, which obviously could not be regarded as true form.

Somewhere between Geoff Harrower and Stan Proffitt there has been a complete lack of liaison, as a result of which an England team was selected, without at least one of our best players having had a chance to press his claims.

To be a member of an England Swaythling Cup team is surely the ambition of every table tennis player, to achieve that goal demands intense practice and strict training, but to be ignored as Ken Stanley has been when his record demanded a trial, must surely be perplexing to the public and no encouragement to the player.

His treatment can only be compared with the letters sent out to some of our junior aspirants, who were invited to the trials at



KEN STANLEY

their own expense, and politely told they had little if any chance of being selected, very small incentive indeed for our up and coming young players.

I realise that the administrative bodies are busy people and that in such a vast organisation, even the best make mistakes, I do hope, however, that some official explanation which is demanded in the north, will be given to enlighten us more clearly as to the reason of the gross omission, whether by negligence, or error, of Ken Stanley from the trials, and an assurance that every care will be taken in the future to avoid any repetition of mistakes of such a serious nature.

Your Bat Needs Protection . . .

COVER (with Zip Fasteners.)

Best Quality . . . 5/- post free
Soft Waterproof . . . 3/6 post free

MELVYN LANCASTER,
94, Light Oaks Rd., Pendleton.
Lancs.

Here and There

Strolling Down Table Tennis Avenue

by Sam Kirkwood

A quality essential in a good umpire so, I insist, is moral courage. And too often I further insist, is this quality lacking in officials. My accusation is directed at those who ignore the service rule.

The rule is a simple one. The ball must be projected vertically from the flat palm of the hand before it is struck. If the ball isn't thrown upwards, or if the hand is cupped prior to delivery, the striker is guilty of a foul and must be penalised accordingly. That's simple enough, isn't it? Then why is it that so many umpires allow players to serve from hands which are cupped, often to such an extent that the fingers almost conceal the "pill"? Why is it that no foul is called when the ball is dropped, or else struck direct from the palm?

Some of us, for reasons of our own, may not like the service rule (it has been devised to eliminate illegal spin), but that isn't the point. Rules are very carefully devised by a responsible body who work in the interest of the game and all who play it, and it behoves exponents, no matter what their personal feelings, to abide by them. That much should be obvious. It is imperative that umpires should enforce regulations, even though by doing so they may upset friends, stars, or who have you.

I have played in league games and witnessed league and tournament games, and have seen flagrant breaches of the service rule overlooked by umpires, who were apparently scared of "offending" players.

This sort of thing just isn't good enough. If a person undertakes umpiring duties, he must be fully prepared to carry out his duties conscientiously and to the letter of the law. If he lacks the guts (or knowledge?) to call a foul, he would do better to confine his activities to watching. What's the use of having rules and regulations, if faint-hearts haven't the pluck to uphold them?

* * *

A dinner was thrown, just prior to the World Series, by the Sports Writers' Association, at the London Press Club, at which the guests of honour were British champions of the world. Five champs. turned up: Reg Harris (cycling), Freddie Mills (boxing), Tommy Price (speedway), Jim Dear (rackets) and our own Johnny Leach.



Sam Kirkwood

Before an assembly that included most of Fleet Street's more famous sports journalists, not to mention Lord Burghley, Johnny responding to a toast, paid a handsome tribute to members of the E.T.T.A. and his table tennis comrades. Said Johnny: "Without the support and encouragement of the Association, and without the inspiration supplied by my fellow players, I could never have won the title at Stockholm."

Sports editor of the *Evening News*, Mr. Bill McGowran, one of the S.W.A.'s leading lights, congratulated Johnny on being the first Englishman to win the title in 21 years, and then said:

"I mean no disrespect to Johnny when I say that we have with us tonight a man who is the greatest table tennis player I ever saw. I refer to Victor Barna." Victor who had come along as my guest, took a bow and received a big hand. Mr McGowran went on: "Victor, I might add, has paid this country the greatest compliment in his power, by becoming a naturalised Briton."

That was a remark much appreciated by Barna, some of whose detractors have not, through jealousy and for purposes of self-interest, been slow in referring to the fact that he is a "foreigner"—the word "foreigner" being given its meaner, dirtier implication.

* * *

Victor, by the way, does not favour the nation-wide testimonial fund launched on his behalf to commemorate his retirement

from competitive singles play. He told the authorities so, but was advised, in kindly manner, to keep his nose out of it.

It seems that half the fund is to be used to buy the ex-champ a token present, while with the other half a trophy, to be called the Barna Cup or some such name, is to be bought and presented for annual competition. The nature of this competition has not yet been decided.

Barna himself would prefer the trophy not to be competed for by players. He feels that our playing calendar is already cluttered up with too many tournaments and that another competition would be the reverse of useful. He would like the trophy to go to the person who has, in the course of a year, done the most for table tennis.

If Victor has his way, the backroom boys and girls will be in line for his cup. Nor does Barna wish to restrict the proposed competition to the home country; he wants T.T. workers in any part of the world to have a chance to gain honours.

As the ex-champ puts it: "Players receive prizes and plenty of publicity. They don't need another cup. But what of those who work behind the scenes, getting all the headaches and more often than not having brickbats thrown at them

for their efforts? It's time these splendid folk were remembered."

* * *

There's a helluva lot of truth in that. How many of us stop to think that without our backroom volunteers there would be no organised table tennis? I, for one, hope Victor has his way and that the cup is allocated to those selfless individuals who are always busy seeing to it that others enjoy themselves.

My thanks go to the Hon. Ivor Montagu and Mr. A. G. Hayward for so kindly taking the trouble to explain to me the technical details of a ball retriever and how such an instrument functions. Now I know what a ball-picker-upper is—and I am ignorant enough to be amused by it.

I presume it is the masterpiece of an out-of-work inventor who happened to hear a suffering ping-pong player groan, "Oh, my aching back!"

* * *

Behind the news that Cambridge University has decided to recognise table tennis and will in future award half blues to representative players, lies the story of a man's struggle. That man is Nawab Shiek F. Ali Akbar, of Hyderabad.

Ali it was who, when at Cambridge, captained the 'varsity team, became president of the T.T. organisation, and worked hard and incessantly to popularise the game. He it was who badgered the Cantab sports moguls to recognise the game and award blues.

While in residence, his efforts—in the blues direction—proved fruitless. Within a year of leaving the university, the game has come into its own officially, and it is conceded that Ali is the one most entitled to credit for this. That is why he is a happy person just now. It is a pity that the "recognition" didn't come while he was still an undergraduate. If it had, he would to-day be the possessor of a cherished half blue.

The Shiek, by the way, is a wonderfully versatile all-rounder. He is a lawn tennis champion, captains the All-India hockey team in London, swims, dives, sprints, hurdles, jumps, plays football, rugby, cricket, golf, squash rackets, badminton, bowls and darts. He is also a crack rifle and pistol shot, has won boxing and wrestling titles, skis, skates, mountaineers, and holds Indian long-distance push-bike and motor-cycle records. He flies and drives in motor races, and is no stranger to a horse's back.

He is a member of the Bishopgate (Central London) T.T.C., to which belongs Joyce Roberts, who gained her first international badge against Scotland on February 13.

TOMS

for the FINEST

TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT

	each
"Club" Model T.T. Bat ...	4/9
"Special" Model T.T. Bat ...	5/-
T.T. Bat to specification ...	6/6
T.T. Bat re-rubbered ...	3/-
Rubber, fast or med. (2 squares)	2/-

1 in. Tournament T.T. Table with turned legs ...	£30
½ inch Ply-top tables ...	£20
(Finished in matt cellulose).	
T.T. Tables re-sprayed ...	from £7

Money back guarantee
Special Terms for Club Secretaries.

J. G. TOMS,
18, Norbett Road, Arnold, Notts.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH

England v. Wales

On February 20th, in the first International Table Tennis match to be played in Cheltenham, England beat Wales by 9 sets to nil at the Town Hall.

Miss Rosalind Rowe had a hard tussle with the Welsh Champion, Miss Audrey Bates, who was unlucky to lose the first game at 22-20. When in the second game Miss Bates outplayed her opponent to win 21-14, it seemed to the Welsh fans present that victory was in sight, but Rosalind Rowe pulled that little extra out of the bag and won the third game 21-16.

When Ron Crayden and Brian Brumwell (England) met Michael Jones and Monty Smith, the Welsh pair took the first game 21-17 and were only narrowly defeated in the second game 21-18, but in the third game England won easily 21-9.

The best exhibition of the evening was by Richard Bergmann. Partnering Aubrey Simons in the doubles and later playing Walter Sweetland in a singles match he delighted the capacity crowd of 1,100 with his characteristic shots. His defence was faultless and his smashing worthy of a World Champion. Together with Simons he made short work of Sweetland and Stan Jones in the doubles. In the singles,

although he won 21-11, 21-13, great credit must go to Sweetland for a most enjoyable set.

Probably the best ladies' doubles players in the country, Rosalind and Diana Rowe, put up a great display, both in their singles and doubles games. They completely outclassed the Welsh pair, Miss J. Beer and Mrs. V. Rowe, winning easily at 21-7, 21-15.

Wales were gallant losers and were, perhaps, just a little unlucky not to have won at least two sets.

Full results (England names first):

B. Brumwell beat M. Jones 21-15, 21-16

R. Craydon beat M. Smith 21-15, 21-8

A. Simons beat S. Jones 21-15, 21-17.

R. Bergmann beat W. Sweetland, 21-11, 21-13.

Miss D. Rowe beat Miss A. Coombes, 21-8, 21-18.

Miss R. Rowe beat Miss A. Bates, 22-20, 14-21, 21-16.

Brumwell and Crayden beat M. Jones and Smith, 17-21, 21-18, 21-9.

Bergmann and Simons beat S. Jones and Sweetland, 21-10, 21-18.

Misses D. and R. Rowe beat Miss J. Beer and Mrs. V. Rowe, 21-7, 21-15.

ORDER YOUR "REVIEW"

If you wish to receive regular copies of *Table Tennis Review* you are advised to ask your newsagent, station bookstall, or sports dealer to order your copies in advance. If your retailer states he is unable to obtain supplies we should be grateful if you will contact us, giving his name and address. Postage will be refunded. If you have difficulty in obtaining regular copies we shall be pleased to send each issue as it appears direct to you by post upon completion of the form below.

"*Table Tennis Review*" is published during the first week of the following months: September, November, January, March and May.

..... CUT HERE

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

The World's Best Table Tennis Magazine.
Published Every Other Month. PRICE 1/-

Please send me a copy of "*TABLE TENNIS REVIEW*" for the next five issues for which I enclose a remittance for 5s. 5d.

Name

Address

Please commence with issue date

North of England Open

LEACH v STANLEY (FINAL)

THE table tennis played at Manchester, on February 11th, in the finals of the North of England Open was anything but thrilling. Manchester is now acquiring more of its pre-war standard of tournament organisation and increasing numbers of competitors from far afield are being attracted to its tournaments.

Men's Singles

Benny Casofsky, who usually provides fireworks, appeared to have a set plan of campaign when he met Johnny Leach in the semi-final. After the first ten points it was obvious that Benny did not intend to hit Johnny into the final as he had done in so many previous duels. The crowd of approximately 800 saw Casofsky in a new role—that of the cautious player waiting patiently for his openings. Leach was not at his best, and at first it looked as though the Manchester player might pull off a decisive win. Johnny Leach, however proved himself the master and if his play was dull it was certainly full of clever strategy. Leading 9-5 in the third game Casofsky could do no more than reach 11 before Leach arrived at the necessary 21 points.

The other semi-final between Ken Stanley and Ron Allcock proved to be an easy win for Stanley. Time and time again Allcock hit with little if any judgment. A good number of his drives missed the edge of the table by feet and not inches, and his rather pathetic drop-shot was actually an invitation for his opponent to come in and smash. Scores to Stanley, 21-19, 21-12.

In the final Ken Stanley played well enough to support his complaint at being left out of the Swaythling Cup trials, but he was not good enough to beat Johnny Leach. The games were interesting enough for the T.T. fan able to appreciate the finer points of the game, but not exciting enough to move the crowd to enthusiastic applause. Scores to Leach, 21-19, 21-12.

Women's Singles

Miss Eileen Grimstone (Marple, Cheshire) can always be relied upon to play an aggressive and fast game. In December she took her first Open title at Pontefract and well deserved the honour of this North of England event. In the quarter-finals she beat ex-Corbillion Cup player, Adele Wood, and then in the semi-final accounted for up-and-coming Jean Smurthwaite (Sheffield). Remember that

name, "Smurthwaite"—you are likely to see a lot of it next season.

The Women's final was far too one-sided to give the public value for their four-shillings and half-crowns. Eileen Grimstone simply overwhelmed Miss Crust (Spalding), 21-6, 21-10. In previous rounds Miss Crust put out Eileen Mansell (Liverpool), Beryl Hardman (Manchester) and Peggy Allen (Blackpool). She won the Grimby Open two years ago and is a consistent winner of Closed events. She comes most decidedly under the category of "chisellers."

Results

M.S.—Leach beat Stanley, 21-19, 21-12.

W.S.—Grimstone beat Crust, 21-6, 21-10.

M.D.—Casofsky/Stanley beat Leach/Cohen, 21-14, 21-17.

Mx.D.—Leach/Allen beat Power/Grimstone, 21-14, 16-21, 21-19.

W.D.—Benson/Mansell beat Wood/Taylor, 21-16, 11-21, 21-13.

Jr. Boys.—Pete Smith (London) beat B. D. Robinson (Stockton), 21-12, 21-16.

Jr. Girls.—Audrey Jones (Liverpool) beat Dorothy Banks (Crewe), 1-15, 21-182.

ALEC D. BROOK

(International Table Tennis Champion)

We are complete Sports Specialists and Outfitters.

Offering You

In EVERY Sport, a range second to none. A "by return of post" service. Postage paid on all orders. Complete satisfaction or money returned. Equipment and Clothing by leading Manufacturers only.

OFFICIAL E.T.T.A. TABLE-TENNIS SHIRTS

OFFICIAL E.T.T.A. Table Tennis Shirts, fitted with zip front, in Royal, Navy, Green and Maroon. Supplied from stock—26/6d. each. Men's and Women's sizes. (Also stocked in White).

Dunlop Lace-to-toe Shoes, Men's 16/5d., Ladies 14/11d. "Richard Bergmann" T.T. Shoes—Blue, 17/8d. pair. Zip bat-covers, attractive, double texture, 6/6d. each. "Alec Brook" De Luxe T.T. Posts, 12/3d. pair. Bat rubber, fast medium and defensive, 1/- per sheet. Full range of All Table Tennis Bats, including the new "Alec Brook." (Write for pamphlet).

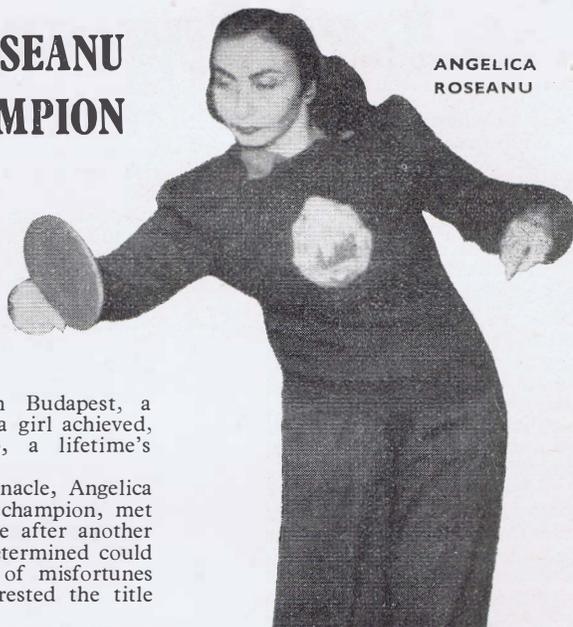
A large range of tournament and club tables a ways available.

Write for Catalogue to:

ALEC D. BROOK, 36, East Street, Horsham Sussex. Tel.: Horsham 1833

ANGELICA ROSEANU WORLD CHAMPION

By
PEGGY
ALLEN



ANGELICA
ROSEANU

ON February 5th, in Budapest, a small, dark, slip of a girl achieved, at the age of 30, a lifetime's ambition.

To reach this lofty pinnacle, Angelica Roseanu, the new world champion, met and overcame one obstacle after another and none but the most determined could have survived the series of misfortunes which have repeatedly wrested the title from her grasp.

I was lucky to be present at the World Championships at Wembley in 1948, and I saw Roseanu play on a number of occasions. She fascinated me, more than any woman player I have ever watched, and with typical feminine curiosity I longed to know more about this sad, frail, graceful creature who controlled the ball so cleverly while retaining the grace and poise of a ballet dancer. In appearance she is essentially frail and feminine. Maybe I am unduly prejudiced in this respect, but it is always a source of great delight to me to see a woman who can play well and look attractive at the same time. There are so many semi-masculine, so called "sporty" types who approach the table with all womanliness hidden behind a workman-like exterior and they seem to imagine that they must look tough to play well. Roseanu should kill that idea once and for all, in fact, I should be inclined to call her the Pavlova of our game.

Little is known about her in England and I am indebted to Ivor Montague for many details regarding her table tennis career. He has watched her progress since 1936/37 at Baden, when she made her first public appearance as 16-year-old Angelica Adelstein. Even then she was a thorn in the side of Pritzi and Depetrisova who were the accepted stars of that day.

As we were to see at Wembley twelve years later, her strength was in her agile footwork, perfect ball control and remarkably sound defence.

In 1937/38, she met the first of her many disappointments. Being Jewish, and Rumania having a strong pro-Fascist anti-semitic government, she was prevented from travelling to London for the World Championships. However, she did play in Cairo the following year. Again she was a strong contender, but the title just eluded her.

Fascist Germany annexed Pritzi from Austria for their Corbillon cup team that year and she and a strong German player captured the coveted trophy. Soon after this, during a visit to Rumania, these Corbillon cup winners (plus a third German girl) were all soundly beaten by the little Jewess and since it must never be allowed for the invincible Germans to be trounced by their Aryan inferiors, Angelica was suspended indefinitely.

When I saw her in 1948 I was greatly shocked at the change from the plump, happy looking girl whose photograph we had seen in our table tennis magazines. Surely something very dreadful must have happened to produce this thin faced, sad looking woman with such deep shadows beneath her eyes and the cool, rather aloof air.

One can only imagine, knowing, as we do now, the treatment meted out to Jews in German-occupied countries, what

Out at last THE BOOK YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

A complete course in table tennis by the man Johnny Leach calls "World's No. 1 Table Tennis Coach" and who combines a unique knowledge of the science of the game with a really remarkable gift for making his ideas clear on paper.

Here in this book is the essence of his knowledge from "first steps" to advanced play. The Chapter on *Mobility and Balance* represents a new high-level in table tennis instruction never before attempted, while the word pictures of the *World Champions* and *Richard Miles and the American game* are classic examples of the commentary-style lessons which are the typical trademark of this author.

136 pages, drawings and photos. 6/- net

★ HOW TO GET IT from any bookshop, bookstall, or newsagent who sells books. Give the title (*Modern Table Tennis*), the author's name (Carrington), the price (6/- net), the publisher's name (G. Bell & Sons) and if they can't supply from stock they'll gladly get it for you without extra charges.



horrors she must have experienced and we can marvel afresh at her courage and perseverance.

She was married towards the end of the war to a boy who for some time lived in the North of England, and she now has one small child.

Wembley, 1948, was her first post-war appearance and you have all heard how close she came to defeating Farkas in the semi-final of the world singles. Surely, no girl ever came so near to being a world champion and yet remained so far from her goal. It was a desolate Roseanu who came away from the table after that historic match and the incident will always be remembered where "time limit" games are the topic of conversation.

Rumania did not send a team and she was refused a visa for Stockholm in 1949. She tried to make the journey alone but she was turned back at the frontier, frustrated once again.

I am told that her games in Budapest this year were outstanding. Not only did she win the Corbillon cup for Rumania, but she beat the reigning world champion

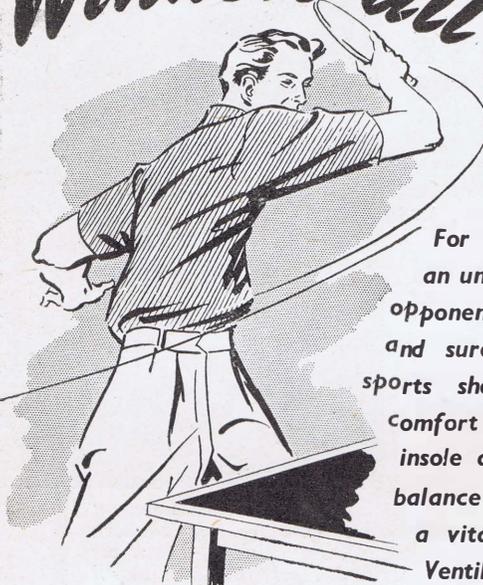
in three straight games with an air of assurance that Farkas must have found extremely galling.

She has added a devastating "close" forehand hit to her excellent defence and she has steadied and improved her attractive backhand. Even so, she still falls back on her natural defensive game when hard pressed, although retaining the ability to flash a sudden drive when the right ball presents itself.

Johnny Leach tells me that Farkas has put on weight, and was obviously out of condition, but even so, she must be at least five or six years younger than the new champion and apparently she found herself completely outclassed.

At Wembley, Roseanu favoured slacks and a black polo-necked sweater, with "Rumania" across the front in four-inch capitals. These served to accentuate her slim frailty, as indeed did her large, dark eyes and long, slender hands. She appears a small, slight, essentially feminine figure, but her courage and determination should prove an inspiration to table tennis players the world over.

Winners all the way!



For that sizzling forehand drive or an unplayable smash that leaves your opponent standing, you need to be swift and sure on your feet. Dunlop Flash sports shoes alone give the cushioned comfort of the Dunlopillo latex foam insole and that little extra speed and balance that make all the difference in a vital rally. White self-ventilating Ventilex canvas. Men's 6-12. Women's 6-8. Boys' 3-5.



WHITE FLASH:
Oxford. Black 'Hard Court' Soling Dunlopillo Latex Foam Insole.



AMBER FLASH:
Oxford. Laced to toe. White Crepe Sole. Dunlopillo Latex Foam Insole.



SPORTS SHOES
Quick as a FLASH

DUNLOP RUBBER CO. LTD. (FOOTWEAR DIVISION) SPEKE, LIVERPOOL

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ THE ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

By **AUBREY SIMONS**
(Member of the English Swaythling Cup Team)



Prologue—Austrian Championships

UNTIL we reached Vienna the weather was not bad, but the pilot of our specially chartered plane decided we must stay the night in the Austrian capital as landing conditions at Budapest were reported to be exceptionally poor. This did not worry us unduly for as it so happened, the finals of the Austrian Open Championships were being played that same evening, consequently, we saw little of Vienna, but, instead witnessed Richard Bergmann beat Bednar (Austria) in the semi-final and Just (Austria) in the final, both being easy wins. Holaritzer (U.S.A.) was beaten by Just in the other semi-final, but had the American player won, the final might have proved much more exciting as Holaritzer had beaten Bergmann in a match between U.S.A. and Austria (Richard Bergmann played for Austria on this occasion as a guest player).



AUBREY SIMONS
(English Swaythling Cup)

Vera Thomas (England), went down to Trudi Pritzi, 3-1, in a terrific struggle. Making a come-back after her forced retirement from the game Vera played extremely well, but Pritzi (referred to by some as the Queen of Chisellers) was her usual rock-life self. She doesn't go back so far these days and now has a most effective short defence.

The American touring team, of both men and women, were unable to obtain permission from their own country to enter Hungary and so they had to be scratched from all-World events. Instead, they toured Army camps in Germany and Austria, then flew down to Tunisia for more exhibitions, finally landing in England early in February in readiness for the English Open.

We Arrive—Budapest

One must certainly hand it to the Dutch Airline, K.L.M., for their hospitality during the whole trip. The plane was a converted Dakota and, although not absolutely luxurious, we were well supplied with appetising meals, chewing gum, and numerous cups of coffee. When we

finally arrived at Budapest it was easy to see why our pilot did not try to land in Budapest after dark the previous evening. The landing ground was just a large field covered with snow, a strip being marked out with a few sand-bags.

At the airport we were met by Hungarian officials and, also, Mrs. Suzy Barna who was already there to greet Victor, and from thence to the Hotel Astoria which proved to have comfortable rooms and good food. We soon learnt to keep a careful eye on incidental expenses. Owing to the rate of exchange being so poor we found items like cups of coffee costing 2/- each, and penny bus rides amounting to ninepence. Tea cakes worked out at 10/- per head. This was, of course, on account of the devaluation of the pound.

On the first day of our arrival we were given a tip that Gizi Farkas would not retain her world's title, a prophecy that, of course, eventually proved to be correct.

International Team Championships

England experienced no real difficulty in winning her first Swaythling Cup match against Wales, score, five games to nil. This was Harry Venner's first match for England. I also took part and out of the corner of my eye on another table I noticed gallant Ireland battling against the Czechs. In this match Harry O'Prey (Ireland) gave Tereba (Czech.) a hard match and, in fact, took him to deuce in one game.

Conditions of play were fairly good. The scoring was the same as used at Wembley, where-by each player has a set of number plates. Each time a point is scored the next plate is brought into view replacing the previous number. I heard of one competitor who complained that his confidence was shaken by the unpleasant habit one of the scorers had of keeping his hand constantly on his opponent's number plates.

The lighting was satisfactory but the tables had a high gloss and certainly seemed strange at first. The ball appeared to skid off and come at you just that fraction of a second quicker than our own tables. I heard Victor Barna remark that they should suit Johnny Leach.

The Brazilian team were all first-rate pen-holder players, possessing good away-from-the-table defences. I. Severo gave Leach an excellent game and was level at thirteen in the third game, but then faded badly to lose 21-13.

The Corbillon Cup match between the English and Rumanian ladies was something of a thriller. With the score standing at two matches each, Mrs. Vera Thomas then went on to play the Rumanian Kolosvary. The Rumanian girl played clever tactics keeping Vera completely bottled up on her backhand and then coming in now and then with surprise hits. Unfortunately, for England, the scores of the deciding game went to Rumania, 15-21, 21-17, 21-15.

England v. Czechoslovakia

This really was a grand match keeping people in the hall until well after midnight. At one time we led 4-1 only to lose 5-4. Individual scores were as follows, English players first.

Leach lost to Andreadis, —13, —19.
Simons beat Vana, —17, 18, 17.
Bergman beat Tereba, —20, 8, 19-18 time limit.
Leach beat Vana, 17, 17.
Bergmann beat Andreadis, 15, 11.
Simons lost to Tereba, 14, —14, —13.
Bergmann lost to Vana, —12, —13.
Leach lost to Tereba, —18, 16, —17.
Simons lost to Andreadis, —16, —9.

In the first game both Leach and Andreadis were truly keyed-up, and more than likely nervous. The Czech player kept up a slow top-spin attack while Johnny was mostly on the defence.

In the second game I had the honour of inflicting on the Czech master, Bohumil Vana, his first defeat in Swaythling Cup matches since the war.

Against Richard Bergmann, Tereba brought his whirlwind two-wing attack into full play, but Richard's defence held like a rock. The Czech won a good number of his points by following up neat drop-shots with quick hits down Bergmann's backhand. At a crucial stage in the third game with the score in favour of Richard (19-18) the game and match was suddenly awarded, on the time-limit rule, to the Englishman. There was a terrific hullabaloo and all the Czechs. came out on to the court. However, the twenty-minute rule states quite clearly that no warning is necessary if one player is in the lead.

When Vana came on to play Leach he looked as though he couldn't care less and the Englishman won in two straight games. The Bergmann-Andreadis game at one time looked as though it was going to be another pushing match. In the first

ASK TO SEE . . .

THE
BRIAN KENNEDY
AUTOGRAPHED
BAT

Price 9/3d

Specially designed to ensure the smooth working of both forehand and backhand attack whilst being equally efficient in defence.

From all Leading Sports Outfitters.

MADE BY:

R. T. DEWHIRST & SON
SPORTS GOODS MANUFACTURER
151 Dirkhill Rd., Bradford, Yorks.



Every 'LITESOME' SUPPORTER (man's essential underwear giving Life and Lift)—takes the strain, increases energy and stamina, provides an incredible sensation of security and COMFORT!
OVER A MILLION MEN, amongst them almost every great sportsman and athlete, wear 'LITESOME' and **SO SHOULD YOU!**

STANDARD MODEL 6/10

MAYFAIR MODEL 16/9

From Sports Dealers, Outfitters, Chemists:
In difficulty send C.O.D. (state waist size)
to:

FRED HURTLEY, LTD.,
Keighley, Yorks.



game Andreadis led at 15-10, but then his nerve deserted him and he lost 21-15. There was no fight left in him for that second game.

When I went on to play Tereba we were leading 4-1 and the Czechs. certainly had their tails down. With the first game in my favour at 21-14, the chances of England winning the Swaythling Cup for the first time were exceptionally bright. Unfortunately I was unable to hold Tereba in the second and third games. This must have put new heart into Vana and he really went to town against Bergmann attacking him continually.

Johnny fought gamely against Tereba but could not bring it off, and in the final match between myself and Andreadis I could never gain the initiative. Once the Czech player had a comfortable lead in the second game he sent over a lot of fancy stuff which came off and consequently he ran out an easy winner.

Result:

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 5 ENGLAND 4.

We defeated Austria easily enough (5-1) although I lost to Just in the third game. I was not present at the England v. Polish match, but I understand that Otrempo gave Leach a stiff game, taking the first game from him. The result here was also five matches to one in favour of England, Venner losing the only one to Videro.

The defeat by Czechoslovakia put England out of the running for the Cup for no other country in our half really stood an outside chance of beating the Czechs. In the other half of the contest Hungary had virtually no opposition. Their only danger was, of course, France, but without Amouretti in that team it was

a foregone conclusion that they would now play Czechoslovakia in the final. The draw (?) was fortunate for them although they claimed that they were at a disadvantage because of not getting any warming up process.

Leach Retires

During the evening match with Sweden, Johnny Leach began to develop an ugly blister on his toe. Here, England inflicted the first Swaythling Cup defeat on Sweden in this series. Leach dropped one game to Grive, but his foot was obviously giving him trouble and even if one of our team had been beaten it was decided that he must not play again that evening. As it was we won five events to nil. Recently Koczian (Hungary) had had the same foot trouble necessitating a complete fortnight's rest.

A new facility for tournament competitors was the fact that letters could be posted from the hall of play, and in addition to the many brightly coloured stamps on sale our letters and cards were franked with a special stamp to commemorate the World's Championships. The postal marking featured two table tennis bats and a ball as well as the necessary wording.

We can supply . . .

TABLE TENNIS BOOKS

TABLE TENNIS COMES OF AGE

By Sol Schiff, 8/- post free

TABLE TENNIS

By Victor Barna, 1/2 post free

MODERN TABLE TENNIS

By Jack Carrington, 6/6 post free.

Obtainable from *Table Tennis Review*, Book Dept., Kenworthy Buildings, 83, Bridge Street, Manchester, 3.

TABLE TENNIS REVIEW

BACK NUMBERS

Copies available are those belonging to Volume 3, Numbers One to Five. Price 1/- each, post free. Complete set of Volume 3, 4/- post free. Also Nos. 1 & 2, Vol. 4. Price 1/- each. Apply above address.

Bad Luck for Koczian

The match between France and Hungary was full of interest, Koczian (Hungary), winning 5-3. During the match between Koczian (Hungary) and Lanskoj (France) the star Hungarian (who was one of the favourite outsiders for winning the World's Singles) hurt his ankle and from then on was virtually a passenger. Although Hungary won, this unfortunate incident certainly had a demoralising effect on the rest of the team. Sido lost to Roothoft (France) who played a splendid defensive game and successfully held the Hungarian's attack. The score, in matches, stood 4-3 for Hungary when Roothoft went on again to play Soos. This was a touch and go affair and the Frenchman only just lost two games to one.

There was an amusing incident in the Italy v. Wales ladies' match, which took part in another room other than the main hall. Conditions were good, but the Italian lady complained, saying, that the ceiling was too low for her particular type of high top-spin game. *The height of the ceiling was almost twenty feet.*

England easily beat Ireland, but Harry O'Prey (Ireland) played on top form beating Crouch 21-18, 21-17, and only just losing to Venner. In the third and deciding game against Venner he was 18-12 up only to lose it 23-21.

Corbillon Cup Final— Hungary v. Rumania

Right from the start it looked as though the outcome of this match would depend on the result of the first event, which was Farkas (Hungary) v. Roseanu (Rumania). Farkas appeared to have grown stouter since we last saw her and if anything a little slower in her game. Roseanu is about the same. Her defence is still as sound as ever but coupled to this she now has a reliable two-wing attack.

The crowd were very partisan for Hungary and, personally, I consider this had a nervous effect on both the Hungarian girls, Farkas and Karpati. Roseanu took the first game at 21-18 and obviously shook Farkas with her ability to retrieve everything that was sent over, and then to finish off with a run in and a quick hit, down her opponent's forehand side. In the second game Farkas played well, and fought courageously to reduce a 19-16 deficit to 19-19, but Roseanu ran out at 21-19.

The Karpati (Hungary) v. Kolosvary (Rumania) match was a poor display of table tennis. Kolosvary was repeatedly warned about her services, but to me, Karpati should also have been warned as neither player was serving according to rules. Kolosvary ran out an easy winner

"For Service" . . .

THE "KEN STANLEY" (AUTOGRAPH BAT)

Made by

Messrs. Sams Brothers, Ltd.,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.

LADIES' & GENT'S MODEL

PRICE 9/11d.



Ask to see this year's improved model at your nearest sports outfitters. Also available, first-class Table Tennis tables, made by Messrs. Sams Brothers, Ltd., manufacturers of quality sports equipment for over 30 years.

in two straight games and this appeared to make things so certain for Rumania to win the Corbillon Cup that the photographers began to get busy taking photographs of the team. Hungary won the doubles event and also the following singles between Farkas and Kolosvary, making the score in events 2-2, but the deciding game between Roseanu and Karpati was never in doubt. The Rumanian girl defended almost throughout, winning 21-14, 21-12.

Swaythling Cup Final— Hungary v. Czechoslovakia

First game was between Koczian (Hungary) and Andreadis (Czech.). The play was not spectacular and I definitely think that Koczian lost, more because of nerves, rather than his bad foot which caused him to limp at times.

Sido (Hungary) then levelled the score by playing brilliantly against the Czech, Bo Vana. Always on the attack he battered his way through two games never allowing Vana to gain the initiative once.

In the third game Vana beat Koczian 21-8, 21-9 and as the score indicates it was truly a walk-over. Koczian stood up to the table, hitting recklessly, with obviously no ability to move even a yard after the ball. While appreciating that Hungary did not have a good fourth string the advisability of playing Koczian was



WORLD'S LADIES' DOUBLES CHAMPIONS
D. Beregi (England) and H. Elliot (Scotland)

seriously in doubt. It was suggested that before the game, Koczian had received a number of injections for his foot injury and consequently was far from being fit.

To defeat Andreadis in two straight games, undoubtedly, made Soos the hero of the Hungarian side. Playing a clever and confident defensive game he led at 20-18. At this point Andreadis received a high ball which he should have put safely away. Instead he missed and from the excited Hungarian spectators went up a loud "war-cry" which lasted for several minutes. Soos took the second game comfortably, never once losing the lead.

When Sido played the Czech, Tereba, he commenced with the same terrific hitting that had smashed-up Vana. At 13-8 the Hungarian was in the lead, but then came a very fine effort from Tereba which was the turning point (maybe the turning point of the entire match) and at 14-14 Sido then appeared to go into his shell and he allowed Tereba to gain the initiative. Nevertheless, as the scores of 27-25, 22-20 (in favour of Tereba) indicates the match was touch and go.

Vana was certainly the master against Soos, and Victor Baran's remark really sums up the play. He said, "Vana is seldom worried by a purely defensive player."

The Koczian v. Tereba match was merely more proof of the foolishness of

playing Koczian at all, and this gave the Cup to Czechoslovakia with five events to three.

Individual Events

In the first round Richard Bergmann had a struggle to beat Turnovsky (Czechoslovakia), scores being 19-21, 21-11, 13-21, 21-14. It was in the fifth game with the score at 11-4 in favour of the Czech. that Bergmann found himself in a difficult position. Turnovsky then gave up all thoughts of attack and dug in with a steady defensive game. The twenty-minute rule appears to constantly overshadow Bergmann's key matches, and with this rule in mind Bergmann even ran round to his opponents end to pick up the ball and so save precious seconds.

Harry Venner (England) pulled off a neat victory from India's leading player Chandara, while old-time Adrian Haydon (English non-playing captain) proved he can still play world-class stuff when he beat Roothoft (France) 3-2. (Roothoft, beat Sido in the Swaythling Cup event). Bernard Grive (Sweden) accounted for Bernard Crouch (England) 3-0.

Friday morning, of the Individual events, was Black Friday for the English girls. Thomas, Franks and Beregi all went out. Dora Beregi fought a fine rear guard action against Karpati but just couldn't pull it off.

Leach v. Haguenaer

After a really great game with Michael Haguenaer (France), the reigning world Champion, Johnny Leach, lost his title.

It was a match of the highest order and Haguenaer's defence was superb throughout. In my opinion, the Frenchman won the match in the first game when he did not sit back on the defence but hit consistently with his forehand drives aimed at either Johnny's forehand or the centre of the table. First game to Haguenaer, 21-16.

In the second game, Leach took command and led throughout, and at no time did he allow Haguenaer to rush him into making mistakes. Each time Leach waited for his openings and then put it safely away. At this stage Johnny appeared comfortable, and Haguenaer's was not half as good as in the first game . . . score 21-16.

Counter-hitting the Frenchman's forehand back to the forehand, and again bidding his time, Johnny Leach led through the third game which he won at 21-14.

In the fourth game we saw a change of mood in the Englishman, Leach seemed impetuous and on occasion hit rather wildly. Haguenaer's defence was superb

and now Johnny was unable to pass him even with his "kill" shots. In this fourth game Haguenaer led 7-3, 10-5, 16-11, 19-14, and finally 21-14.

The fifth, and deciding game, was undoubtedly a thriller. The English contingent could not help but remember that Leach has always beaten the Frenchman on previous occasions, and this fact must also have been in Michael Haguenaer's mind. Leach jumped ahead with a 3-2 lead but Haguenaer pulled up to 5-5 with some marvellous defensive work. Though the Frenchman, went ahead at 8-6, I still remained confident that Johnny's brilliant match temperament would see him through. The rallies were long, and Leach hit with perfection, often bringing the Frenchman scurrying to the table for a short drop shot—but still Haguenaer's defence held out. The Frenchman then went ahead at 14-9 but Johnny passed him twice, with lovely shots, down the forehand, reducing the lead to 14-11. At this point the atmosphere was electric and suddenly from out of the blue came two edge balls for Johnny, 14-13. Now I thought, Haguenaer must crack, but still he held on. Leach led at 17-16 and I was then fairly sure the game was safe for England. But what an amazing defence the Frenchman displayed! He defended a long way from the table but was never caught off his balance even with the best of drop shots. Leach was down at 20-18 and we hoped for a typical Leach recovery, but none came. He hit his opponent away from the table with a forehand but the ball was chopped back and it landed on the very edge of Johnny's backhand side. An unfortunate ending for a splendid match. Score 21-18 to Haguenaer.

Personally, I have never seen Haguenaer play so well and, he said afterwards, that he attributed his win to his fitness. During the war he was in a concentration camp and suffered a great deal, but prior to his game with Johnny he said he never felt fitter, otherwise he would most surely have lost his nerve when Leach had the two edge balls which helped to reduce the 14-9 lead to 14-13. The Hon. Ivor Montagu remarked, that it is interesting to remember that Haguenaer was the man who toppled Victor Barna after his remarkable run of World Championship successes.

Vana v. Bergmann

The scores of this classic game, 21-17, 13-21, 19-21, 21-19 and 21-19 in favour of Bergmann, indicate that it was full of thrills. It was also full of good table tennis. The game was not, perhaps, as fast as these two usually play for Vana did not

often let himself go all-out in attack, playing top-spin drives and waiting for his openings. Richard, was perhaps, slightly lucky to get this match played on table number one, many players being agreed that it was not an easy table on which to attack.

On the few occasions that Bergmann came in with his forehand, Vana's defence was superb. However, in the fourth game when Bergmann was down 19-15 and the time limit was drawing near Richard did go all out on the attack and picked up to 10-19 only to lose 21-19.

After the fourth game there was a very long break which brought forth much comment from the officials because if there is to be a break it should take place between the third and fourth games if the score is 2-1. When Vana led at 18-14, in this last game, it looked as though he had it nicely in the bag, but then he cracked and Bergmann ran out the winner.

More Chiselling

In the quarter-finals there was a chiselling match between Haguenaer and Soos, but the latter being superior at this type of game consequently put the Frenchman out of the contest.

It is almost certain that after this tournament, or starting next season a new

ROBERTSON'S

"ALL SPORTS"

TABLE TENNIS

Tables from £19/5/0. Tops only £13/6/0. Bats—Leach, Barna, Carrington, Hyde. Nets, Posts. All accessories. Dunlop, Villa, Halex Balls.

★

Your enquiries welcomed
for

Football, Hockey, Boxing, Fencing,
Squash, Tennis, Badminton, Croquet,
Bowls, Athletics, etc.

Dinghies, Canoes, Outboards, Fairey
"Firefly," National O/D Sailing
Dinghies.

★

97-99, BRIDGE STREET and

46 COWGATE

Phone : 2374

PETERBOROUGH



MICHAEL LANSKOJ, member of French Swaythling Cup Team.

rule will be applied as far as time limit is concerned. The new rule is likely to be that if the first game takes twenty minutes, then all subsequent games must occupy a maximum of only ten minutes.

Austria are doubtful whether they will be able to stage the World Championships next year as they haven't a hall large enough and although a new one is being built it may not be finished in time. It is possible that England may have it again. Possible venues for 1952 are India or America.

I had a chat with three New Zealand chaps, Neville Brightwell (age 24); John Stewart (age 22); and John Crossley (age 23). These three enterprising table tennis enthusiasts worked their passage to Budapest, leaving New Zealand on November 20th, 1949, and arrived at Tilbury, England, on January 2nd, 1950, spending forty-four days at sea. Their work consisted of peeling potatoes and acting as officer's stewards. Many readers will remember that New Zealand's, Russell Algie worked his passage over for the World's event when it was held at Wembley. Russell was unable to make the trip on this occasion as he is under contract with the largest sports firm in New Zealand. Non-playing captain of the New Zealand team was C. Corti Woodcock.

All table tennis players are reputed to have their "bogey-men," Sometimes they consider themselves lucky and go months without meeting any such players. In a World Championship, however, Ivan Andreadis always finds his "bogey-man," his name being "Ivan Andreadis." Andreadis probably possesses the finest all-round game in the world, but personally, I can't see him ever winning the World's title. He just doesn't possess the temperament required. Against Soos his splendid attack wasn't good enough. After amazing returns by Soos, the Czech. player would repeatedly shake his head as if to say, "I can't really beat this man." Soos won, not by playing anything particularly good but more or less through the faults and bad tactics of Andreadis.

Women's Singles Final A. Roseanu v. G. Farkas

Probably remembering her Corbillon Cup defeat, Farkas always looked the more worried of the two and anxious to get the match over. Throughout, Farkas was too impetuous against the exceedingly splendid defence of Roseanu, while the Rumanian girl played confidently, timing her sudden flashes of attack with precision.

Both girls played good class table tennis, with Roseanu often defending away from

(Continued on page 21)



**PEGGY
FRANKS**
(England)

Top left:
G. FARKAS
 (Hungary)
A. ROSEANU
 (Rumania)
D. BEREGI
 (England)
H. ELLIOT
 (Scotland)

**ENGLISH & CZECH
TEAMS**

Left to Right:
A. A. HAYDON
R. BERGMANN
V. TEREBA
J. LEACH
I. ANDREADIS
B. VANA
A. SIMONS



**ANGELICA
ROSEANU**
(Rumania)



Mrs. ROSEANU
at the Mike



**MIXED DOUBLES
CHAMPIONS**
G. FARKAS & F. SIDO
 (Hungary)

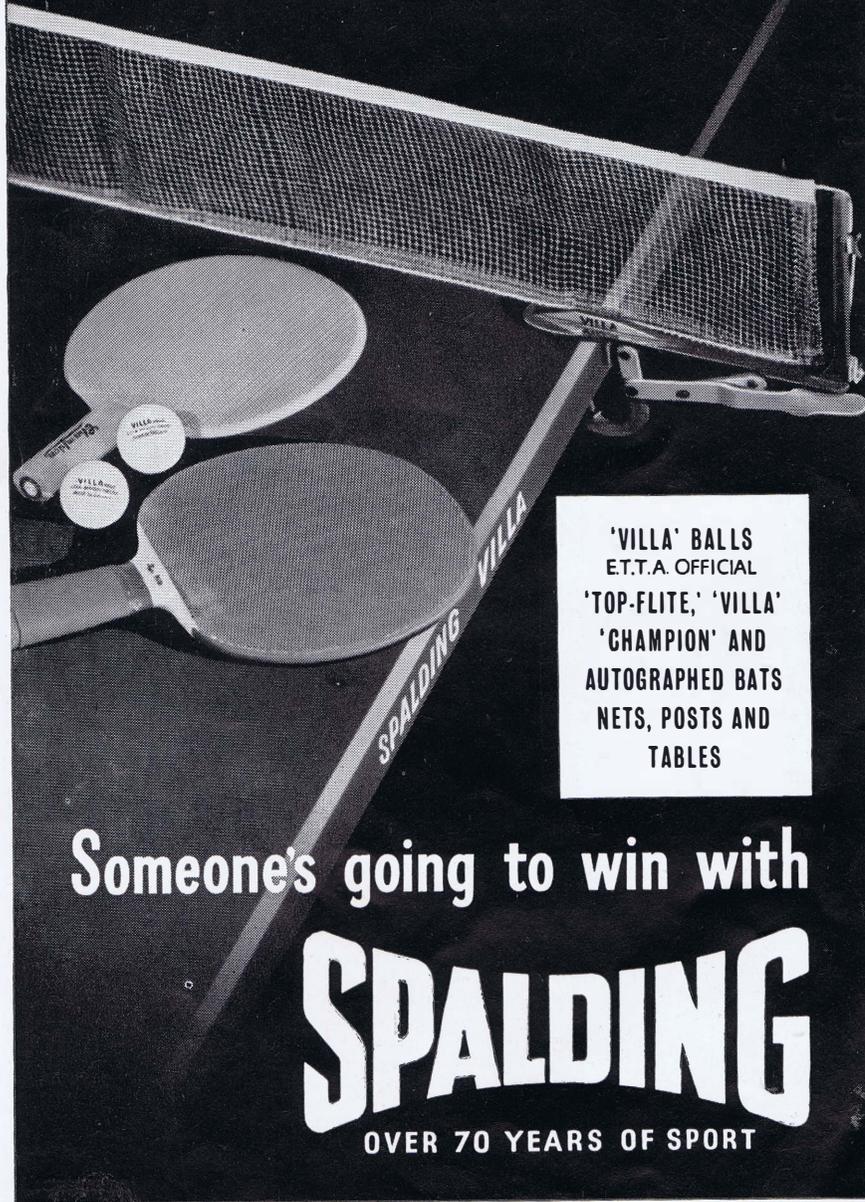


**WORLD'S
FINALISTS**
R. BERGMANN
 (England)
F. SOOS
 (Hungary)



D. BEREGI,
H. ELLIOT
 and Hon.
IVOR MONTAGU

TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT...



'VILLA' BALLS
E.T.T.A. OFFICIAL
'TOP-FLITE,' 'VILLA'
'CHAMPION' AND
AUTOGRAPHED BATS
NETS, POSTS AND
TABLES

Someone's going to win with

SPALDING

OVER 70 YEARS OF SPORT

OBTAINABLE FROM YOUR SPORTS DEALER

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP—continued.

the table, *à la Bergmann*. I think Farkas's frame of mind was displayed early in the first game. Having driven Roseanu well away from the table she then executed a clever drop shot. Roseanu only just got the ball up—in fact, it is doubtful whether she got the ball up at all before the second bounce, but the umpire awarded the point to her. Farkas, obviously, didn't think the ball was up and was very distressed at the umpire's decision.

Throughout the play it was always the Rumanian girl who looked slightly the superior. When two games down, Farkas had a glass of water and much advice from Sipos, a former world lady champion and non-playing captain of the Hungarian team. Returning to the table, Farkas then set up a devastating attack which even Roseanu could not hold. The scores went up for Farkas, 5-0, 12-6, but then she wavered and allowed Roseanu to whittle the difference in scores. At seventeen all, Farkas had run herself dry and Roseanu went in to win. The scores were 22-20, 21-15, 21-18.

Throughout the whole championships Roseanu did not drop a single game.

Men's Singles

B. Bergmann v. F. Soos

Before the commencement of this event many people were dubious about the class of table tennis likely to be seen. Both players are of the exceptionally strong defensive types, and Soos, great a tactician though he is, never hits the ball hard. This apprehension was further advanced when both boys consulted their watches before the start of the first game. Nevertheless, Bergmann did try to force the game at the beginning attempting to pass Soos with fierce forehand drives, but this did not prove successful for Soos defended well and forced Richard to make the mistakes. Down 5-0 to start made Bergmann become more cautious and the rallies became longer. Unquestionably at this stage the table-craft of Soos was the superior. Occasionally Bergmann tried to hit, but never with success, and Soos went further in the lead to 12-4. When the score stood at 15-5 for Soos, Bergmann began lobbing the balls high into the air which would have tempted even a beginner at table tennis to "have a go," but still Soos refused to hit. Personally, I think Bergmann was wrong to do this, but if he tried to prove his point that Soos would not hit at any price, then I think he succeeded. Soos ran out the winner of this first game at 21-12.

Soos again built up a five-point lead in the second game, with Richard now and then lobbing the ball high. Bergmann attempted to hit once or twice but always the ball came back. When the score stood at 7-1 Soos began consulting his watch, more in the hope, I think, that Richard would attempt to hit rashly in order to level the scores before the twenty-minute time rule was applied. Richard did, however, reduce the deficit to 18-15 before the time limit was imposed.

With two games down Bergmann was not in a good position but, in the third game he captured and held the lead. He forged ahead at 10-5 and Soos then decided he could take that game only if he attacked, but he does not possess the ability to hit through an ordinary first class defence let alone the finest defence in the world. The score in favour of Bergmann, 21-7, certainly proved this point.

At the start of the fourth game Soos gave signs that he would not, or *could not*, continue his relentless defensive tactics. He started to take more chances and Richard drew away with a 7-3 lead. At 13-5 Richard started to come in with forehand drives and he went on to win 21-14.

At this stage both boys were about all in and although contrary to the rule, there was a four minutes break. During this break Adrian Haydon worked extremely hard for Richard, bathing his eyes and massaging his legs (in fact, throughout the whole series of events Adrian worked hard for all of us.) Soos, of course, received his share of massage, etc.

If anything, I think, Richard Bergmann was the more physically tired of the two at the start of the fifth game, but mentally it was, undoubtedly, Soos who was the worse for wear. Soos again adopted a waiting game but it was not with the same determination that he had shown in the first two games. Richard took the lead at 8-1 and 10-5, but the Bergmann was faulted for coming in and moving the table while playing a drop shot. At 17-13 Bergmann had a net cord but afterwards went ahead to win 21-13.

And so again the title came to England. It is true that at times the table tennis was far from being good and there will surely be a good deal of criticism from some quarters. I merely wish to say, that while I never saw Victor Barna at his best, Richard Bergmann in my estimation is the greatest fighter I have ever seen on a T.T. table. True, if he had hit against Soos the spectators might have seen a more worthwhile final, I also think he would have lost, and I have heard him say many, many times, "I will never play a losing game."

Leach (England) }
 Farkas, L. (Hungary) }
 Marinko (Czechoslovakia) }
 Just (Austria) }
 Gaj (Poland) }
 Mai van Hoek (France) }
 Haguenauer (France) }
 Gommermon }
 Gsender }
 Vichnanovszky (Czechoslovakia) }
 Lippai (Hungary) }
 Finberg (Israel) }
 Midosi }
 Carrington (England) }
 Portal (Italy) }
 Soos (Hungary) }
 Andreadis (Czechoslovakia) }
 Trau Gunag Huy (France) }
 Severo (Brazil) }
 Lanskoj (France) }
 Eros dr. (Hungary) }
 Tokar (Czechoslovakia) }
 Flisberg (Sweden) }
 Kerdo }
 Sebo (Hungary) }
 Hartinger (Austria) }
 Gayer (Poland) }
 Roissen (Israel) }
 Maggi (Switzerland) }
 Mai va Chot (France) }
 Seacy (Ireland) }
 Stadelhofen (Switzerland) }
 Sido (Hungary) }
 Kawvzyk (Poland) }
 Rozsa (Hungary) }
 Trau van Liu (France) }
 Koudelka (Czechoslovakia) }
 Frederikssan (Sweden) }
 Urchetti (Italy) }
 Benzer }
 Pek }
 Tereba (Czechoslovakia) }
 Haydon (England) }
 Simons (England) }
 Vincenzoni (Switzerland) }
 Steinhercz (Israel) }
 Venner (England) }
 Stipek (Czechoslovakia) }
 Bergmann (England) }
 Varkonyi (Hungary) }
 Phu Guoc Huy (France) }
 Ban (Hungary) }
 Crossly (New Zealand) }
 Farkas, Z. (Hungary) }
 Jayanti (India) }
 Momon }
 Soltesz }
 Antal (Hungary) }
 Sturani (Switzerland) }
 Hook (England) }
 Szabo (Hungary) }
 Grive (Sweden) }
 Agopoff (France) }
 Vana (Czechoslovakia) }

Leach }
 Marinko }
 Gaj }
 Haguenauer }
 Vichnanovszky }
 Lippai }
 Carrington }
 Soos }
 Andreadis }
 Lanskoj }
 Tokar }
 Flisberg }
 Sebo }
 Roissen }
 Mai va Chot }
 Stadelhofen }
 Sido }
 Rozsa }
 Frederikssan }
 Urchetti }
 Tereba }
 Simons }
 Steinhercz }
 Stipek }
 Bergmann }
 Phu Guoc Huy }
 Farkas }
 Jayanti }
 Antal }
 Sturani }
 Grive }
 Vana }

Leach }
 Haguenauer }
 Vichnanovszky }
 Soos }
 Andreadis }
 Tokar }
 Sebo }
 Stadelhofen }
 Sido }
 Urchetti }
 Tereba }
 Stipek }
 Bergmann }
 Farkas }
 Antal }
 Vana }

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SINGLES

BUDAPEST—FEBRUARY, 1950

Haguenauer }
 3-2
 Soos }
 3-0
 Soos }
 3-0
 Andreadis }
 3-1
 Tokar }
 Flisberg }
 Andreadis }
 3-0
 Sebo }
 3-1
 Stadelhofen }
 Sido }
 3-0
 Urchetti }
 Tereba }
 3-0
 Stipek }
 Bergmann }
 3-0
 Vana }
 3-0
 Soos }
 14, 19, -20
 -18, 17
 Andreadis }
 3-0
 Bergmann }
 -12, -16,
 7, 14, 13
 Sido }
 3-0
 Bergmann }
 15, 18,
 -18, 23
 Bergmann }
 3-2

SWAYTHLING CUP

GROUP "A"	Versus							Matches Won
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1. Hungary	—	5-3	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	6
2. France	3-5	—	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5
3. Switzerland	0-5	0-5	—	5-3	5-2	5-1	5-0	4
4. Israel	0-5	0-5	3-5	—	5-3	5-4	5-0	3
5. India	0-5	0-5	2-5	3-5	—	5-1	5-1	2
6. Italy	0-5	0-5	1-5	4-5	1-5	—	5-1	1
7. Denmark	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	—	—	0

Winners: HUNGARY

GROUP "B"	Versus									Matches Won
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1. Czechoslovakia	—	5-1	5-0	5-2	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	8
2. England	4-5	—	5-0	5-1	5-1	5-0	5-0	5-1	5-1	7
3. Sweden	0-5	0-5	—	5-4	5-0	5-1	5-1	5-0	5-0	6
4. Austria	2-5	1-5	4-5	—	5-4	5-0	5-1	5-0	5-0	5
5. Poland	0-5	1-5	0-5	4-5	—	5-0	5-1	5-0	5-0	4
6. Wales	0-5	0-5	1-5	0-5	0-5	—	5-2	5-0	5-1	3
7. Brazil	0-5	0-5	1-5	1-5	1-5	2-5	—	5-1	5-0	2
8. Ireland	0-5	1-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	—	5-4	1
9. New Zealand	0-5	1-5	0-5	0-5	0-5	1-5	0-5	4-5	—	0

Winners: CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FINAL: CZECHOSLOVAKIA beat HUNGARY 5-3

Andreadis beat Koczian, 21-19, 19-21, 21-15. Vana lost to Sido 16-21, 13-21; beat Koczian 21-10, 21-9; beat Soos 21-14, 21-16. Tereba lost to Soos 17-21, 19-21; beat Sido 27-25, 22-20; w.o. v. Koczian. Koczian had been handicapped throughout the match by badly blistered feet, and was unable to play his set with Tereba.

CORBILLON CUP

GROUP "A"	Versus					Matches Won
	1	2	3	4	5	
1. Rumania	—	3-2	3-1	3-0	3-0	4
2. England	2-3	—	3-2	3-0	3-0	3
3. Scotland	1-3	2-3	—	3-0	3-0	2
4. Italy	0-3	0-3	0-3	—	3-2	1
5. Wales	0-3	0-3	0-3	2-3	—	0

Winners: RUMANIA

GROUP "B"	Versus					Matches Won
	1	2	3	4	5	
1. Hungary	—	3-1	3-0	3-0	3-1	4
2. Czechoslovakia	1-3	—	3-0	0-3	3-0	3
3. France	0-3	0-3	—	3-2	3-0	2
4. Austria	0-3	3-0	2-3	—	3-0	1
5. Sweden	1-3	0-3	0-3	0-3	—	0

Winners: HUNGARY

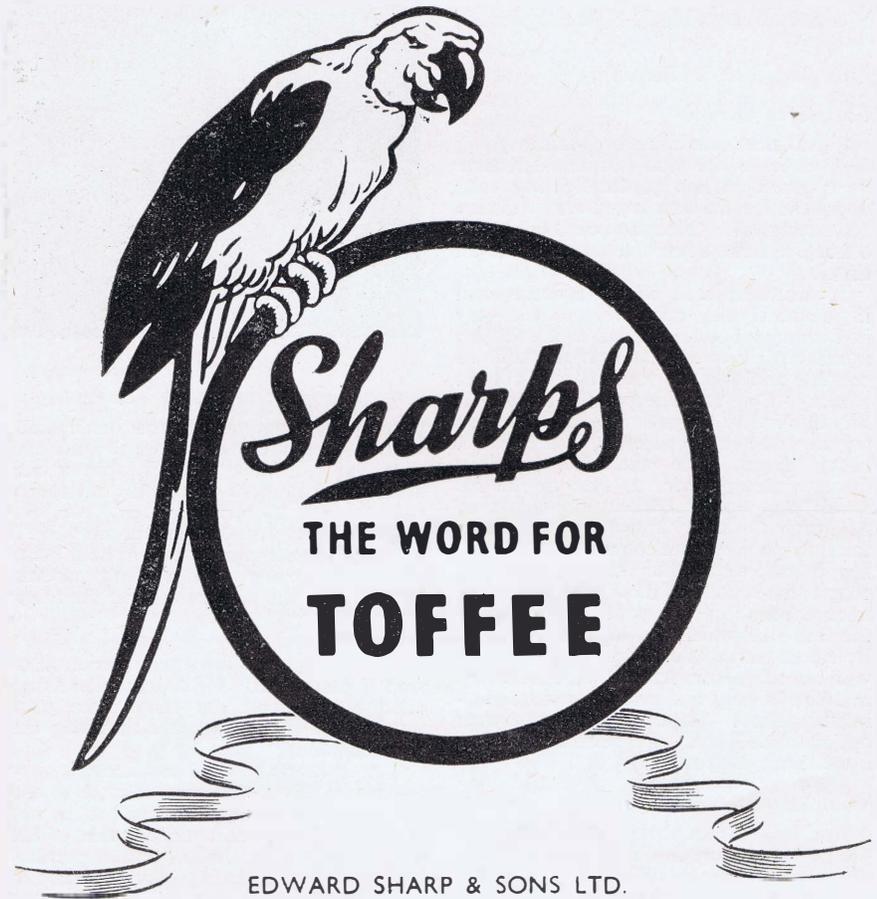
FINAL: RUMANIA beat HUNGARY 3-2

Roseanu beat Farkas 21-18, 21-19; beat Karpati 21-14, 21-12. Kolosvary beat Karpati 21-17, 21-15; lost to Farkas 9-21, 4-21. Roseanu and Slavescu lost to Farkas and Karpati 2-1.

WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Holder: Miss G. Farkas.

Farkas (Hungary)	..	Farkas	..	Farkas	..	} Winner: ROSEANU 20, 15, 18
Slavescu (Rumania)	..	3-0	..	Farkas	..	
Pithie (Scotland)	..	Furstova	..	3-0	..	
Furstova (Czech.)	..	3-0	..	Farkas	..	
Franks (England)	..	Kolosvary	..	13, —16,	..	
Kolosvary (Rumania)	..	3-1	..	12, 13	..	
Kettnerova (Czech.)	..	Pritzi	..	3-2	..	
Pritzi (Austria)	..	3-1	..	..	..
Hruskova (Czech.)	..	Hruskova	..	..	..
Sagi (Hungary)	..	3-0	..	Karpati	..	
Karpati (Hungary)	..	Karpati	..	3-1	..	
Elliot (Scotland)	..	3-2	..	..	..
Dace (England)	..	Solyom	..	Roseanu	..	
Solyom (Hungary)	..	3-0	..	11, 14, 4	..	
Mezei (Hungary)	..	Roseanu	..	3-0	..	
Roseanu (Rumania)	..	3-0	..	..	..



EDWARD SHARP & SONS LTD.

of Maidstone, Kent

"THE TOFFEE SPECIALISTS"



WIN THAT MATCH

Extracts from Sol. Schiff's book, "Table Tennis Comes of Age." (Rich & Cowan, 7/6).

PART IV

Forced to Defend

AND now one last word before going over to the study of the defensive game. When you're fighting your opponent for the attack you won't always be successful. Nobody can hold the offence against a capable attacker at all times.

If you are placed on the defence—and if you must play offensively to win—try just what your opponent was trying above: a counterdrive. Stay as near the table as possible and wait for your shot. Don't get panicky. Don't take desperate chances and hit out blindly. Be patient, and before you try to counter prepare the way with a heavy chop. The excessive backspin forces your opponent to ease up on his attack, play a drop shot or a looping drive. And you know this. You are ready. When the slow-paced return comes, drive it back, leap in, and begin your offence again. Of course, the success of these tactics depends upon the deadliness of your chop and upon the skill with which you hit back top spin. By clever tactics and adequate preparation you can often turn the tables during the middle of a rally, and even after surrendering the attack. Then watch out that your opponent isn't successful when he tries the same thing on you.

Voluntary Defence

And now for an abrupt about-face. In the previous section you were a bit wary about your defence. It creaked in spots. Now we're going to change all that.

Tactics

It's quite obvious that there is a much smaller scope for tactics when you play defensively, because your opponent has more or less control of the situation. Nevertheless, there are a few tricks worth trying.

We've already spoken about varying the spin on your chop. You have learned to use a little wrist at the right moment, to drag the ball across the entire surface of the racket, and thus get more backspin. That's one of the easiest ways to make your opponent miss his drives. Experiment with your chop until you can keep the ball on the table consistently, even though you are using various amounts of spin.



SOL SCHIFF

When you feel confident, try this. Try putting just enough chop on his topspin shot to neutralize his forward spin and send the ball back with no spin at all. Send him a floater. If you do this rarely enough and cleverly enough, you are bound to make a great many points. He'll be expecting a chopped return, he'll bring his racket up high with a lifting motion, and he'll lift the ball entirely off the table.

Placement

More important than mere variation of spin is placement. Of course, there's no good reason why you can't place your returns well and at the same time vary the spin on them.

Try to keep the ball very deep or very shallow. And if you play it close to the net, make sure that your opponent is not in position to run around the side of the table and hit it. A shallow return, particularly when played with plenty of backspin, is a very difficult shot for any player to cover, much less drive. But it's also a shot that has very little margin of safety.

In general, play your shots deep and to the centre of the table. If your opponent has good angle shots, you should rarely play to the corners, because he can get more angle on his drives and can force you to one side of the table in taking his return. Playing down the centre decreases the angle for making his drives.

But a word of warning. If your opponent is a one-sided player, that is if he has either a backhand or a forehand drive, not both, be careful of the centre shot. Theoretically it's still good, but actually he has probably had to run over and protect his weak side so many times that he has developed a strong shot hit down the

centre. The best way to play a one-sided player is to put the ball to his weakness or, if he anticipates this shot and moves to cover it, to place an angled shot to his strong point. This latter procedure usually catches him unawares and on the wrong foot.

Against a two-sided player I have always believed in returning the ball to the opposite side from which his attack is coming. This is just simple logic. Your opponent attacks, usually, with his strongest weapon. Beware of letting him hit several forehands, if that's his pet shot, and thus get his eye adjusted. Send over a return to his backhand, make him hit off the opposite side, and keep him jumping and turning around, never sure enough of the direction of your return to get set for a kill.

Aggressor

In placing the ball and in backspinning it severely you are playing a semi-aggressive game. Well, play that type of game. Slow down your opponent's game as much as possible by your variations in spin and placement. Take the ball late one time and make him wait a long while before he can get his next drive in. Then take it early, with a heavy chop. There is a certain rhythm and swing to the attacker's arm and strokes. Try to get yourself into

that rhythm and then you can anticipate the pace of his ball and, by varying it, break up his swing. Try all these tricks. But don't try so many of them that you mix yourself up and fall into easy errors.

Relaxing

First of all, when are you going to let down? The time to let down is on unimportant points.

Now here's what I mean to say. I want you to learn to play to the score. I want you to relax at certain stages of the game and thus be able to put on the pressure at other stages. It's simply impossible for you to play through a long match at high tension. So when you relax, be sure you do it at the proper time.

Start Slowly

First, start off the game slowly without trying any of your pet smashes until you get thoroughly warmed up. Get used to the conditions and to your opponent. Loosen up all your strokes and try to fall into your normal game as quickly as possible.

It's nice to have a lead, always, but unless you are playing an opponent who scares easily and gives up or a front runner who is unbeatable when ahead, you shouldn't make too great an effort to get a large initial lead.

Improve your game by reading

TABLE TENNIS

Comes of Age

SOL SCHIFF

With an Introduction by
THE HON. IVOR MONTAGU

"I became fascinated by a story written by a man who approaches his subject from a human angle. I have already put into practice some of the sound advice given and found it most useful."

SPORTING CHRONICLE.

"Explains the technicalities of the game with a conciseness and clarity which makes it a delight to read"—**DUNDEE COURIER.**

40 illustrations

7/6 net

RICH & COWAN

Important Points

Now what are the most important points? Briefly, I think, those over ten. And the last point in every group of five serves. That fifth point means a lot in many cases. Just see how important it is from a score like 13 to 11. That next point means a lead of 14 to 11 or a practically even score of 13 to 12. Even more important is the point that makes the score 16-14 or 17-13. And, of course, the super-crucial points of the game turn around the score of 18-17, 19-16, and the like. Then is when the pressure should really be turned on, and you should play your hardest.

If you have a lead of five or six points, relax a trifle. Try one or two of those shots that "should go on." If they work, you will coast along to victory. If they don't, go back to your other style of play.

Now all this may seem rank heresy to many players of the game, but you have to let off steam somewhere along the line. And I'd rather let it off during the early part of the game or while enjoying a nice lead than at the end.

And if your opponent jumps into an early lead, don't get frightened and pull your punches. Hang on grimly. He'll probably crack. The game isn't over until the last point has been won.

Hopeless Games

Now that reminds me. I've seen so many players, losing hopelessly in one game, give it up, change sides, and begin a new game. Don't make that mistake, please. I don't mean that you should fight particularly hard to win the game. It's silly to try to pull out a game when you're behind, let's say, 16 to 5, or some such score—that is, unless it's the last game. But here's what you can do. You can concentrate, keep playing calmly and paying attention to your strokes, trying to snap out of your losing streak and find out what's the matter with your game. In that way, you'll play yourself in, get your eye in tune, and be able to start off the new game with a bang.

Exploiting a Weakness

If you find a weakness in your opponent's game don't try to exploit it continually. Rather, if you can stay along about even, steer clear of it until the crucial points of the game. Then, suddenly and swiftly, attack this weakness, win the game, and go back to your other style of play. Working in this manner, you can often utilize a single weakness of your opponent to win the match. But if you play continually to his weakness, you may play him "in" and find during the last and most important stages that the weakness isn't there.

By the same theory, if you have one or two tricky serves, save them until the important points in the game before disclosing them. That's why it's important for you to be serving during the most crucial points of a game. I've told you already how you could assure this if you win the toss.

Tactics in Advance

And now, after all is said and done, after delving deep into the realms of strategy, offensive and defensive, I'll have to leave you with some very uncomfortable words of advice. You can't define your tactics in advance. They must be chosen on the spur of the moment and put into practice according to the situation.

The New World Champion

by SOL. SCHIFF

In my opinion, Richard Bergmann is the greatest player in the world. And I'm saying this despite the fact that Vana is favoured to defeat him whenever they meet. I say this because, against 90 per cent. of the world's greats, Bergmann is a much surer victor than any other player. Bergmann has been prominent for quite a few years. He reached his peak in 1937 and 1939, when he won the world singles championship. He did not play in the 1947 world championship due to his desire to concentrate on playing only in exhibitions. In 1948 he returned to tournament table tennis and swept through the tournament, upsetting the favourite Vana, in five hard-fought games to win the world's championship for the third time.

Even now Bergmann has probably the greatest defence in the game. He keeps the ball very low and makes the most impossible retrieves from 'way beyond the table. He is full of fight and always goes after every ball. He has an excellent forehand drive but he seldom uses it. I remember one year, when I was playing him in the English championships at Blackpool, he made a point every time he hit and would have beaten me easily if he had just driven more. But he is so used to defensive play that he voluntarily gave me the drive. If I had his game I might make the same error occasionally. I certainly would have confidence in that defence.

Due to the illness of the Editor, the next issue of *Table Tennis Review* will not be published till June.

Trends in Table Tennis

By A. R. MILLER

THE most positive trend in present-day table tennis is that of all-out attacking. This is, I think, the outcome of a net which enables really quick hitting to be attempted with a good even chance of its proving successful. The American-type hitting has also captured the imaginations and enthusiasms of the youngest players who, alas, therefore, try to run before they can walk. Messrs. Reisman, Miles, Nash and Schiff apart from having exceptionally good eyesight have also a good all round game and considerable experience of playing amongst first rate players.

Few of our youngsters have those assets. They would, as Mr. Stanley Proffitt recently pointed out, be better employed at improving their "middle game." This difficult co-ordination of attack and defence is that which distinguishes the very good player from the international and world champion. It is particularly noticeable in Johnny Leach's game. The switch from attack to defence is achieved with miraculous ease and control. Natural judgment and bodily rhythms are, of course, very important in attaining that co-ordination which enables the defender to make the winner off a ball hit by a faltering attacker, but the young player should attempt to link the two main facets of the game from the first. If his game gets too set, either in attack or, more probably, defence, he will find it extremely difficult to attain that switch, yet his experience will have taught him exactly when he *should* switch, and his inability will be galling indeed.

Fast tables and the low net have seen the virtual extinction of the long range defender. Only Bergmann produces first-class results with it, and apart from Sharman (who is himself, not the force he was) it is difficult to think of any other class long rangers in this country. Strangely enough, the pen-holder is another creature which is increasingly rare. The low net has not helped them, and a quick backhand has led to their high mortality rate. Only Haydon and Muller in England (Charlie Dawes defies classification) can make it a paying proposition. Notwithstanding the unpopularity of their styles, a game between a good pen-holder and defender is worth seeing and is highly attractive to the audience, much more so than an "over the table affair."

The principal weapon in the attackers' armoury is undoubtedly the forehand

drive. The Barna flick remains that gentleman's exclusive property. Other players have good flicks but at tense moments this highly delicate and somewhat nervous shot tends to miss. The forehand is safer and though more cumbersome is more powerful. The merit of the backhand is best seen at doubles when its speed, direction and placing are match-winning qualities.

In all suppositions regarding future trends and techniques, the height of the net, quality and weight of the balls and general playing conditions are of inestimable importance. A higher net would see reduced speed in attack, longer rallies and the possible re-emergence of the long defence. These would not necessarily make the sport less entertaining to the observer. The American game has been called "high grade ping-pong." At times it is certainly splashadash and unscientific. It is nearly always patchy, due to its great speed.

But table tennis is various. The secret of its success is its universality. There is room for all styles. Finally, the present trend of general play is ever improving and augurs well for this country's future as a world table tennis power.

TABLE TENNIS TABLES

and TOPS $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and 1 in. thick, cellulosed, in stock. Prices on application.

★

RUBBER SHEETING,
6d. and 10d. per piece.

★

CLUB BADGES

Any design or colour to order

Please state quantity required.

The larger the quantity the cheaper the badge

★

T.T. Nets, 2/9 each. Spring "Tauta" Nets, 6/11. Spring, "Tauta" Nets and Posts, 13/6 set. Barna, Simons, Franks, Balance T.T. Bats, 10/6 each.

QUOTATIONS GIVEN FOR T.T. EQUIPMENT

SPORTS AND PASTIMES LTD.

21, KIRKGATE Tel.: 23218 BRADFORD

"BALANCE"

Pat. Pend.

is essential in Table Tennis

A Weighted Handle

gives

ACCURATE BALANCE

and

LIGHTNESS IN PLAY

to the new "Jerry" Bat

The "Jerry" BALANCE is the only bat with a special balancing feature

Price 10/6

★ ★ ★

Other "Jerry" bats include

"TWENTY-ONE"—incorporating another "Jerry" feature—

Hollow-Ground Finger & Thumb Grips

Price 7/11

"CLUB MODEL" with

Pyramid Tapered Handle

Price 6/5

MADE BY
JOHN SMALL
BRADFORD

Specialist in design
and manufacture of all
types of Table Tennis
Bats.

The Farkas Family

Gizi Farkas, ex-world table tennis champion, is best-known of six brothers and sisters who participated in the 17th world table tennis championships held in Budapest. Gizi and her brother Jozsef were selected as members of the Hungarian National team.

Gizi's 14-year old sister Anna was the youngest competitor in the championships. From her great things are expected. Anna and her sister Teri—short for Teresa—are both studying in Budapest. Teri is an excellent student and won a scholarship to take her through college.

Eldest brother Jozsef is married and has a two-year old daughter—first liner reserve of the Farkas family, he claims. He intends to teach her to play table tennis as soon as she can bounce a ball, and hopes she will be one day a world champion, like Aunt Gizi.

Laszlo, 23-year old mechanic at the Miskolc Water-Works, has already won two provincial championships, and is a member of the Northern Hungarian handball team. He is already considered the best table tennis player in Hungary, outside Budapest.

Youngest brother Zoltan is a promising young player, and although only 20 years old, is the best player in Northern Hungary. His sister Gizi sees him as a future champion.

Both Laszlo and Zoltan are attracted by the bright lights of Budapest where, they claim, they would meet opponents more worthy of their mettle than in Miskolc.

Sandor Farkas, father of the champions and of five other children, local plumber, and sports enthusiast, taught his children their first steps in table tennis.

Back in 1938, the police dissolved the Miskolc Worker's Athletic Association of which Farkas senior was president. Banned from his favourite game, football, Farkas looked for some other sport to occupy his spare time.

One day he watched some friends playing table tennis and, seeing the potential of the game, built himself a table. His children began to learn immediately, and within a short time the Farkas home became a centre for the best table tennis players of Miskolc.

Gizi's outstanding promise led the other children to train for tournaments and, with the popularity of table tennis after the Liberation, the Farkas family hit the headlines. To-day, old Sandor Farkas has a family table tennis sextet of whom he can be truly proud.

A Practical Guide for Umpires

PART III

Knowledge and Interpretation of the Laws

By Leslie S. Woollard

THOUSANDS of matches must have been lost on account of insufficient knowledge of the laws of the game by one of the three parties concerned. Especially is this true of doubles. No player can reach top grade without knowing what can and cannot be done, and a confident accurate and intimate knowledge is an essential and a tactical advantage. One of the reasons why some of the more experienced often beat the more skilful lies partly in this.

A comparatively inexperienced player can have his concentration in a winning game completely upset by being checked or faulted by an umpire for breach of a rule of which the player was ignorant. Most of us, I think, know the effect only too well.

In a similar manner, an inefficient umpire can be responsible for a player (or pair) losing. In one open tournament this year I saw an umpire get into such a hopeless tangle and upset the four players so much that they finally ended by scoring for themselves, with obvious benefit to the more experienced.

There has been a tendency in the past for leading players of a league to know the laws fairly well, and to interpret them to their tactical advantage modified to the occasion. Because insufficient attention has been paid to umpiring, not only have these players "got away" with it, but have promoted a traditional belief in that "ruling." It is thus possible for one to find in different areas scores of quaint and unique "rules," while the rules which should be enforced appear to be quite unknown.

There can be no excuse for not knowing the laws of the game. A player should keep one of the vest-pocket copies in pocket or handbag and master it thoroughly.

The good umpire should endeavour to familiarise himself with the many and varied "Rule Book Tactics" to ensure that an unfair advantage is not taken of the inexperienced player. It is not his duty to tell or explain matters (unless he is asked). His job is to ensure that conditions and requirements are equal for both contestants. It is the duty of the player to

know the laws, for it is as much a part of his game as his playing technique.

Laws are made to ensure uniformity, and the laws of table tennis apply wherever the game is played in the world. There is only one set of laws, and a league has no power to alter them. It follows, therefore, that there can be only ONE right, and variations must be wrong.

Some umpires who have become accepted as authorities in their own league, have become conscientious purists, and insist on umpiring the lowest form of club game with the strict "guillotine" exactitude worthy of a world championship, but to the great discomfort and unhappiness of the players.

It is my considered opinion that the good umpire should have the capacity of modifying his rulings to the standard of the match, and that a friendly chat after will be far more beneficial for the promotion of better standards all round. An umpire must be neither officious nor dictatorial, but regarded as an impartial friend and arbitrator, and whenever possible and adviser, to both contestants.

Players knowledge of the laws usually march (or they should do) with their playing technique, and an umpire should interpret accordingly. In the case of beginners, etc., he might regard himself something like a coach, and, off the table, clarify various points and queries. There should always be that crusade of education aimed at raising the standards at each level.

The laws of table tennis are probably the easiest to learn and understand of any international game. There are basically about half a dozen rules; the remainder being mostly a detailed clarification of those rules. Note how concisely and logically they are built up:

Equipment: including dimensions: Laws 6-8.

Playing the Game: A Good Service (10) and a Good Return (11) OR something which is neither, a Let (12).

Losing a Point (13) and winning a Point (14) with further details in play (15).

Knotty Points (Appendix) is as much a part of the Laws as any of the other clarifications. They can be regarded as

official interpretations of doubtful points. Doubles: (17-23) cover a few modifications of the Singles Game, and are not nearly as complicated as most players like to think.

The first third of the laws require very little attention in this article. Note however that the table top should correctly be called the "playing surface." *It will be very helpful if the umpire regards the playing surface as though it were marked on the ground* (like a tennis or badminton court). Umpires are also recommended to use the official terms in preference to colloquial references.

What To Do When Errors Are Made

A frequent source of complaint is that some umpires, after an error has been made in the order of player or service, rule for a replay of the points scored since the error was made. **THIS IS DEFINITELY WRONG.**

Law 8 is quite explicit: "In any circumstances, all points scored before the discovery shall be reckoned."

If a mistake has been made in Service (wrong person serving) or ends have not been changed, the mistake shall be corrected as soon as it is discovered **UNLESS** a complete group of services or the game have been completed before discovery; **IN NEITHER CASE** will the score be affected. Any points scored during the period of mistake are **VALID**, and an umpire is breaking the laws to require a replay.

Choice of Ends and Service (6) Singles

The umpire tosses and the winner of the toss has four choices

- Winner can: (a) Elect to serve; (b) Elect to receive; (c) Choose End; (d) Require opponent to make choice of (a) (b) or (c).

And Opponent has: Choice of Ends; Choice of Ends (plus Service); Elect to serve or receive.

The "Rest" is anything but !

The "Rest" is about the most inappropriate term in table tennis, for it is the official term for what is generally called a rally. When the ball is *actually in play* for a point, that period of play is a "Rest." Note this very carefully. It is often misunderstood.

The sequence of the game is, therefore, first a Good Service, then a Good Return, and then a REST (i.e., a period of play). The Rest results in EITHER a point being scored, OR a Let.

The Service

Law 10 should by now be the best-known of all. Note that only the first and

last paragraphs apply to a ONE-handed player. Whatever one's opinion, there is now only *one* good service to be recognised for the two-handed. The ball is placed on the palm of the free hand held as flat as the server's *physical abilities permit*, and is released by lifting this hand **UPWARD**.

In interpretation of this rule, the umpire will be required to exercise considerable discretion, since numerous players are physically handicapped from making the perfect service. Yet at the same time, since such considerable and unfair advantage can be gained by various forms of finger spin, he must be on his guard to ensure that the *spirit* of the law is not infringed.

The third paragraph of Law 10 is rarely observed, and yet can give an unfair advantage to the offending server.

"At the moment of impact of the racket on the ball in service, the latter (i.e., THE BALL) shall be **BEHIND** the end lines . . . and **BETWEEN** an imaginary continuation of the side lines." Umpires should watch this point, particularly in doubles, where the same ruling also applies. The writer has seen international players "get away" with this advantage in doubles play.

Under the Special Regulations for World Championships, line judges *must* be appointed for side-lines, and end line judges will be appointed on request from any competitor. The Welsh Association has a more constructive law on this matter. Umpires are in a position to observe only the most flagrant breaches of this part of the law, and are, therefore, recommended to appoint line judges.

Note that the entire body of the server can be *outside* the service area, **PROVIDING** that the ball and the racket are inside the area at the *moment* of impact (or the moment at which impact should have been made).

Umpires should also look out for habitual offenders who serve over the end-line (the ball on **IMPACT** with bat must be **BEHIND** the end-line), and players should not be encouraged to serve too quickly (Law 12 (b)).

Service or Fault

A point can be lost without the ball having been touched by the bat of the server, for "The ball is in play from the moment it is projected from the hand in service." If, therefore, a player misses the ball when attempting to serve, it is most definitely a point against him, and **NOT** a Let.

A similar common misunderstanding arises over the number of net-cord services which may be allowed. **THERE IS NO LIMIT.** It would be possible for 20

consecutive net-cord services to be made by one server without a single point being scored.

A net-cord service is a Let, whether volleyed by the striker out or not. Note carefully that a net-cord service is one where the service is perfectly *good in every respect with EXCEPTION only* that the ball touches the net (or supports) in its passage to the striker-out's court.

A service ball which touches the net, etc., but does **NOT** touch the table surface is quite definitely a fault, and therefore, a point against the server. If such a fault is served, however, and the ball touches the *bat or bat-hand* of the striker-out (even accidentally), it becomes a volley and a point **AGAINST** the striker-out. This is an interesting aspect of the laws, for the fault of one player is, more or less, waived by the fault of the other. Note that the law for volleyed balls applies *against* the striker-out not only in service, but also in a Rest.

A Good Return

If the umpire, as suggested earlier, will think of the playing surface as though it were marked on the ground, several queries will answer themselves. The ball can be returned **OVER** or **ROUND** the net, and is still good even if it touch the net (or supports) in return. A return in which the ball travels **UNDER** the net, even although it first touches the playing surface is a **FAULT**. (Note: it could not be made if the playing surface were marked on a ground surface).

The same principle can be applied to "edge balls" (Appendix 1). Far too many points are being awarded, on edge balls, to the player who should have lost that point. Note Diagram 2 (b). A good return is made **ONLY** if the ball touches the playing surface or the edges of that surface. If the ball touches the **SIDE** edge of the table it is a fault **AGAINST** the returning player. Side line judges on the side of the table opposite from the umpire are the only really satisfactory means which an umpire can employ for an unquestionable decision in the majority of cases. Unless he is *absolutely* sure, he should declare a **LET**.

A decision can be helped by noting the path of the returned ball. If it continues in the same general direction it **MUST** be a good return. If it hits a point B (Diagram 2 (a)) and rebounds at a tangent C, it will normally indicate a fault against the returning player **IF** the ball moves in a plane below table level; if, after hitting B, the ball shoots up to the ceiling it can safely be assumed to be a point in favour of the returning player.

While dealing with edge balls, we may as well clarify the service line for doubles play. The line should be only $\frac{1}{4}$ th of an inch in width, and there will be comparatively few question marks about which side the ball touched. It is suggested that the only interpretation which can be given to a ball which actually **TOUCHES** the service line is to rule it as a **GOOD SERVICE**. Apply the principle of the edge ball and the suggested precedent of

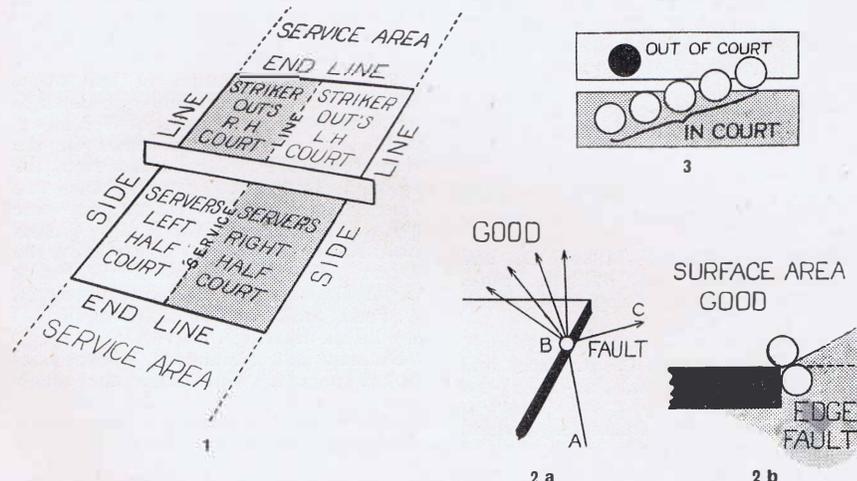


Diagram 1.—Marking and official terms. All wording marked on Playing Surface applies to Doubles only. The shaded half-courts are those to which service must always relate in Doubles play.
Diagram 2(a).—Edge Balls. An edge ball is a Fault. Only a ball that strikes the playing surface (top) can be allowed.
Diagram 2(b).—Judging edge balls by the path followed.
Diagram 3.—Judging Service Line Faults in Doubles play.

lawn tennis laws in this respect ("A ball falling on a line is regarded as falling in the court bounded by that line"), the umpire's decision can be based as on Diagram 3.

Umpires should be on their guard against one or two "smarty" players who, unprepared for a centre ball, snatch it quickly with their free hand as though a fault had been served.

A Let

Many umpires call "NET" instead of "LET." "Let" is the umpiring term. A netcord service is only *one* of four different types of Let. These are:—(a) Netcord service; (b) Service made when opponent not ready; (c) Either player unable to make a good service or a good return on account of an accident outside their control; (d) If either player would lose a point on account of an accident outside their control.

The two latter clauses are further covered by paras. 7 and 8 of the Appendix. The first covers a ball fractured in play. The efficient umpire can frequently detect a faulty ball before the players and when he does so, "it is his duty to stop play, recording a let." When a faulty ball, in

the umpire's opinion, has in no way affected a player's return during the Rest he must score the point.

The wording of para. 8 clearly states that, "A stationary spectator, fixed seating, the umpire, the light, a continuous sound of even volume, i.e., ANY RELATIVELY CONSTANT or MOTIONLESS HAZARD, should NOT be" regarded as a Let. A player who is prevented from making a good return SOLELY because spectators are sitting too close to the table, CANNOT claim a let. If, however, one or more of the spectators has encroached on the markings of the playing area *during the course of the game* to so affect a good return, a let should be allowed by the umpire.

A reasonably wide discretion is permitted to the umpire, who has the authority to declare a let at any time that he feels the fair course of the game is affected, the word "accident" being construed more as any incident, noise or interruption liable to upset one (or both) players or even himself.

After a let has been declared, the umpire should repeat the score as it was before the voided point.

STOP PRESS

ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

FINAL RESULTS:—

MEN'S SINGLES, SEMI-FINALS:—
R. Bergmann beat Aubrey Simons.
M. Hageunauer beat Maurice Kriss.

FINAL:—R. Bergmann (England) beat M. Hageunauer (France), 21-6, 13-21, 21-18, 21-18.

WOMEN'S SINGLES. —Miss M. R. Shahian (U.S.A.) beat Mrs. R. K. Monness (U.S.A.) 21-5, 21-19, 21-17.

MEN'S DOUBLES. —Z. Dolinar and V. Harangozo (Yugoslavia) beat J. Leach and J. Carrington (England), 14-21, 22-20 21-13, 21-15.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES. —Misses D. and R. Rowe (England) beat Miss P. Franks and Miss D. Beregi (England), 15-21, 21-11, 21-15, 21-14.

MIXED DOUBLES. —J. Leach and Miss P. Franks (England) beat G. V. Barna and Miss L. Barnes (England), 21-11, 25-23, 17-21, 21-19.

The favourite World Champion, Richard Bergmann, was the men's singles title of the English Open Championships which concluded at Wembley on March 11th. Bergmann, only dropping three games throughout played magnificently to defeat Western Counties Champion, Aubrey Simons, in the semi-final. The final was

less spectacular in that both 34-year-old Frenchman Michael Hageunauer and the champion resorted to pushing tactics. Whilst this was immensely interesting to the students' of the game, it was hardly colourful enough for the average public.

The greatest triumph of the whole championship, however, must go down to the 16-year-old Rowe twins of Greenford, Middlesex. Partnered together in the women's doubles they outsmarted the seasoned campaigners, Peggy Franks and Dora Beregi in the final. Again they were opposed together in the Girl's Singles final; Rosalind the right hander being the winner. They also figured in the Junior Mixed Doubles final, Rosalind partnered by Peter Smith defeated Diana (Rowe) and Derek Burridge.

Dolinar and Harangozo (Yugoslavia) proved popular winners in the men's doubles. Their game in the semi-final, against Barna and Bergmann was a classic and brought the 10,000 spectators to their feet.

The all-American women's final between Mildred Shahian and Reba Nennesse did not reach the heights expected. Miss Shahian proved an easy winner.

Complete report in our next issue.

Black Mark, Richard . .

By
CORTI WOODCOCK

ONCE upon a time, table tennis was merely "ping-pong" and was regarded as a harmless parlour pastime. To-day, it is respected all over the world as a form of vigorous athleticism, demanding the highest standards of fitness, skill, and speed. Accordingly, when two men meet to decide who is to hold the coveted title of Champion of the World, one expects to see a display which is worthy of the occasion.

This year's final was played in Budapest on the night of February 5-6th (it started at 11-13 p.m. and finished at 12-55 a.m.) between Bergmann of England and Soos of Hungary. Both are defensive players and though the table they used was admittedly a slow one, there cannot, to my mind, be any valid excuse for the appalling exhibition they put on. A best of five games match, running its full course, usually takes half-an-hour, possibly up to forty-five minutes. This one, including the quiet illegal breaks between the games, dragged on for an hour and three quarters. It was fantastic. It was a travesty, a disgrace to the splendid game which is table tennis and an insult to the spirit of sportsmanship. The Budapest crowd loved it because they thought their man could win that way: but if it had been played anywhere in England, the protesting uproar would have stopped it long before the end.

This is how the atrocity went. Soos, on defence exclusively, won the first game

21-12, in fifteen minutes. In the whole of that game, Bergmann hit the ball hard just six times, and scored two winners. Each man was content to wait, with infinite patience, for the other to make an error. In the second game, Soos led 5-0 in eight minutes, during which Bergmann attempted three hits. Then Richard introduced the farcical by gently "upping" the ball high over the net, not only tempting Soos to have a go, but also with the intention of creating the impression that he was himself the victim of his opponent's stone-walling tactics. Some while later, at 5-1, a little activity took place at the table: but the momentary flurry of drives and dropshots soon vanished and the painful process of nursery-style pat-ball resumed. At 16-8 up, Soos forgot himself and hit two balls quite hard. But he needn't have troubled, because though Bergmann pulled up in 15-18, Soos played out time (twenty minutes) and was awarded the game.

In the third game, the score stood at 1-1 all after five minutes play, and 4-5 was reached in thirteen minutes. At that moment, forty-eight minutes after the start of the match, Soos scored his first point with an attacking stroke. The crowd roared its approval: but a thousand anxious voices begged him not to repeat the frightening experiment! All the same, when he found himself 5-7 down, Soos did feel obliged to open up a little in an

Send for price list :

★

FUND RAISERS

LEGAL
FOR
BONA-FIDE
CLUBS

CRICKET
FOOTBALL
GREYHOUNDS
JOCKEYS
LETTER DOUBLES
DRAW TICKETS
CLOAK ROOM
STOP WATCH
PROBLEM
NAME CARDS

R.J.R. PRINTING SUPPLIES
18 BARON GROVE, MITCHAM,
SURREY

★

attempt to steal a lead and so bank another time-limit game: but with Bergmann defending steadily, the "Fox" (as they call him at home) let it go when he found himself behind 7-15. Time: eighteen minutes.

Bergmann won the fourth and fifth games in eighteen minutes and nineteen minutes, respectively, to win the match and the World title for the fourth time. A few people, perhaps, got some academic pleasure out of watching a battle of wits (if that is the right word) and a contest which was undoubtedly a severe strain on the nerve and stamina of both men. But, I say again, that the whole thing was a sickening experience. It saddened and infuriated me that these two, who owe what they have become to table tennis, should so far forget their indebtedness to it, as to hold this great sport up to public ridicule. In doing so, they only dishonoured themselves.

Incidentally, it so happens that it was I who donated the World's Singles trophy twenty years ago (in honour of Fred Perry's victory at the time) and in disgust at the execrable, pitiful performance, I flatly declined to present the Cup to Bergmann. In my view, the finalists had written the blackest page yet in the annals of table tennis and I felt humiliated and ashamed that an Englishman—had been party to it. A real champion, like Victor Barna, would never have dreamed of demeaning himself and disgracing the game in this way—nor, indeed, would Johnny Leach, whose loss to Haguenaer in the fourth round, though bitterly disappointing, was yet magnificent in its courageous hitting and sturdy Cockney defiance.

If Bergmann still has the capacity, and the will, to play like a World Champion, let him do so: but if: as it appears, he has now become only a pale shadow of the fine all-round player he certainly was in the late 1930's, my advice to him is to quit the game, while he still retains a fragment or two of his former glory and reputation.

ULSTER OPEN FINALS

AT BELFAST, JANUARY 6th, 1950.

WINNERS:

MEN'S SINGLES: Victor Barna.
LADIES' SINGLES: Miss H. Agnew (Belfast).
MEN'S DOUBLES: I. Martin (Belfast) and J. Fox (Portrush).
MIXED DOUBLES: V. Mercer and Miss M. J. Buchanan (Belfast).
LADIES' DOUBLES: Miss M. J. Buchanan and Miss P. Heron (Dublin).

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Small advertisements can now be accepted at the rate of threepence per word, minimum eighteen words. Box Number 6d. extra.

TABLE TENNIS COACHING — STANLEY ROSENBERG.— Half-hourly lessons. 6, Claremont Avenue, Leeds, I.

LATEST New Zealand Health free to beginners and medium collectors requesting my unique stamp approvals. Write: R. J. Stanley, 19, Hallswelle Road, London N.W.11.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—World famous method. Send for free booklet, Stanley Institute, Ltd., Dept. 211, 265, Strand, London.

LEGAL FUND raisers.—Send for our free offer to Sports Clubs. Ascot Press, 5, Ingleton Street, London, S.W.9. Bri. 6794.

MEMORY.—Use Mnemonicons for platform, stage, study, daily routine. Apply for The Gigantic Device, 5s. (Mnemo, Room 22, (TTR), 3, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

"Bad workmen
blame their tools . . ."

Wise ones buy the Best!

and the best in

TABLE TENNIS BATS

means

A 'TA-TEN' Model
including the famous Autographed
Models

The AUBREY SIMONS at 10/9
The PEGGY FRANKS at 10/6

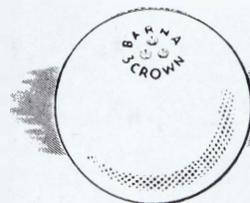
NOTE THESE FEATURES

- Not just ordinary plywood but special GABOON—more "body" without undue weight.
- Perfect Balance.
- Finest Rubber in three speeds—fast, medium and slow.

Give yourself a chance!

Sole Manufacturers:—

TA-TEN PRODUCTS,
5, Cart Lane, Bristol.



**The BARNA 3 Crown
Table Tennis Ball**
chosen exclusively for

THE ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS
1949-50
THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The BARNA Bat —
LIGHTWEIGHT — PERFECTLY BALANCED
The Best Bat Ever!

Dunlop TABLE TENNIS
EQUIPMENT



DUNLOP SPORTS COMPANY LIMITED, 19-20 NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1

50S/TT2B

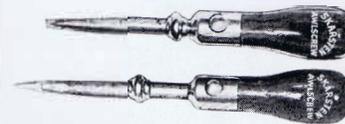


SKARSTEN SCRAPERS

with renewable hook-shaped blades for removing paint, varnish, enamel, lacquer and glue DRY from wood, metal and glass surfaces, for smoothing down wood surfaces, for removing raised grain, runs and sags from finished surfaces.

Skarsten's for Superior Smoothness

NEW DUAL SCRAPER for rough work and fine finishing, fitted with new serrated blade for stripping off hard coatings and straight blade for finishing.



"AWLSCREW"
COMBINED
SCREWDRIVER AND
BRADAWL.

Bradawl is brought into position for use by pushing up guide ring, screwdriver by pressing button on handle, which causes bradawl to spring back.

SKARSTEN MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.
HYDE WAY,
WELWYN GARDEN CITY

JAQUES



Illustrating Jaques Tournament Table Tennis Table as used for

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LAST !

JAQUES CLUB TOURNAMENT TABLES
ARE NOW AVAILABLE

1" (nominal) with Jaques Superfast cellulose playing surface. **The playing surfaces of these tables are in every way equal to our pre-war Tournament Table.** Fitted with eight independently hinged legs. **Each £40** including carriage and purchase tax.

DOUBLE RUBBER BATS OF QUALITY

"Haydon" 11/9 each "Hyde" 10/- each
"Tema" 10/- each "Bull" 11/- each

Obtainable from all good sports dealers.

JOHN JAQUES & SON LTD.

White Heather Works

Thornton Heath

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1795.

Published by A. Waite, Kenworthy Buildings, 83, Bridge Street, Manchester, and printed by PERCY BROTHERS, LTD., MANCHESTER and LONDON.