

TABLE TENNIS



KATHLEEN BEST
(England & Yorkshire)

Contributors include:

FRANK GEE
E. G. WHITE
PEGGY ALLEN
R. ATHERTON
PETER MADGE
A. R. MILLER
AUBREY SIMONS
R. M. MARSHALL
GEOFF. HARROWER
JACK CARRINGTON
RICHARD BERGMANN
DIANE and ROSALIND ROWE

Table



Tennis

Official Magazine of the

English Table Tennis Association

Edited by **LESLIE S. WOOLLARD**

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EDITORIAL

The Ladies

ON behalf of the Sportswomen of Britain, world champions **DIANE** and **ROSALIND ROWE**, cut the special cake at a recent dinner arranged by the Sports Writers' Association in their collective honour, probably the first time that well-merited dues have been paid to the tremendous prestige-building achievements of our ladies in world sports.

The list of world ranking titles and honours held by our ladies indicates a superiority over comparative men, and even in Table Tennis, it is indisputable that it is the ladies who have gained the greatest international honours in team events, and also brought the tonic of vigour, dash and colour to the once derided "ladies game."

Feminine influence behind the scenes of masculine administration cannot be assessed, even by those who know the great work of people like **ANN STEVENS** and **Mrs. BUNBURY**. We believe that the organisation that selects, backs and encourages the complete emancipation of the ladies, not only in play, but particularly in the fields of administration and organisation, is laying a fine foundation for a future success and prosperity.

Before the war there were three ladies on the National Executive. Since the war, there has been but one. **Miss L. FERGUSON** and **Mrs. F. MERRYWEATHER** are the only two women county secretaries. About 16 leagues have women secretaries. The National T.T. Association of Wales has, of course, the successful and outstanding personality of **Mrs. NANCY ROY EVANS**.

Ladies like **Mrs. BROWN** and **Miss A. FOWLER** have illustrated by their Wembley umpiring performances the high standards attainable in this field, while the vigorous and fresh feminine contributions to the Dress Symposium on pages 10 and 11 of this issue exemplify the value of feminine thought in administrative argument. Both in defence and attack.

In most fields of administrative work, there are not so many things which a man can do than a woman cannot also do with comparable efficiency, and even occasional flashes of inspired genius.

Table Tennis is good for the feminine figure, and the feminine figure is good for Table Tennis. We hope to see an increasing number of the ladies taking important roles in all spheres of administrative and organising work.

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,
The Editor

★ IMPORTANT ★

¶ MSS., Articles, Reports, Letters, Notes, Photos, etc., should be addressed direct to **THE EDITOR:**
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All contributions appearing with the name of the writer are the personal opinions of that writer and are not necessarily those of the Association.

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WELSH EDITION

All enquiries for the Welsh Edition of Table Tennis, which incorporates all the latest news of Welsh activities in addition, should be sent direct to **Mrs. N. Roy Evans**, "The Rise," 16, Ty-Mawr Road, Rumney, Cardiff.

COVER GIRL

(Photo by B. Burrell)

KATHLEEN BEST, 18½-year-old protégé from Alan Thompson's Leeds 'stables' (which also gave us **BRIAN KENNEDY**), has all the vigour and fight that has made Yorkshire famous in the cricket world. Although she's been playing only 2 years, she's fought her way determinedly through all opposition, winning her first Open, the North of England, late in the 1951 season (and the Yorks. and Leeds Closed Singles in the same week), to merit a National Ranking of No. 9 this season, and the reward of an international "cap" and an exciting tour of Germany reported in this issue.

W. J. Pope Memorial Fund Opened Manchester

FOLLOWING the proposals made at the A.G.M., the National Executive Committee have decided on the purchase of a special chair, bearing an appropriate inscription, and for a framed portrait (probably an oil painting) to hang in the office, in commemoration of the late Hon. General Secretary, W. J. "BILL" POPE.

The combined cost is likely to be in the neighbourhood of £120, and since there will doubtless be many who will wish to be associated with the voluntary Fund open for the purpose, the N.E.C. have recommended that One Guinea should be the maximum to be contributed by any individual or group.

Mr. Ernest Joyce, considered one of the finest craftsmen in Great Britain, has been commissioned to make the chair, the final design of which is yet to be approved.

The Memorial Fund is now open, and all contributions will be appreciatively received and acknowledged. They should be sent to Mrs. K. Pegg, Administrative Secretary, E.T.T.A., 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

Cambridgeshire

NORMAN BRAND, newly returned from successful T.T. in South Africa, will lead the Cambs. County second team in the Eastern Division. When Cambridge reached the last 9 of the Willmott Cup in 1948-49, Norman is the man who went through without defeat.

Cornwall, Thurston, Coteman, Pam Banks and junior Pat Inglis will comprise Cambs. young and active first team in the 2nd Div. (South), Molly Lawrence unfortunately having to suspend activities for a few months on account of foot trouble.

Fred Tilbrook's coaching is producing some promising youngsters and there will be keen competition for the junior county team, and a consequent headache for the selectors. With 3 county teams quite a hectic season is anticipated, with capacity crowds of 200 in the Y.M.C.A. or the New Chesterton Institute.

Leslie Constable

THE 25th season is now in full swing with 9 men's and 3 women's divisions. Manchester welcomes the entry of two notable players, KEN CRAIGIE and HARRY VENNOR, in the North of England Open, and all Mancunian fans are hoping the ROWE TWINS will be able to compete.

The selectors are reminded of the potentialities of RON BAKER, and there are earnest hopes that this season will see Ron establish himself in the international ranks.

JEAN BRADDOCK will be hard on the heels of those two favourites Adele Wood and Eileen Grimstone. She has a splendid league record for the last two seasons, but has fallen early in open tournaments, sometimes, of course, by the luck of the draw. All in the league hope it will be third season lucky for this hard-hitting, popular player, and no one more than her famous team mate, ADELE WOOD.

Frank Gee

FIFTEEN letters arrived by the FIRST post following publication of the September "Table Tennis." The very first to be opened was a congratulatory message from that keen-eyed, grand old veteran, Mr. P. E. WARDEN, Vice-President of the E.T.T.A.

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OF ALL THE LEADING SPORTS OUTFITTERS

Things that go to make Big Match Performance

One's Mental Form

Continuing the thought-provoking and instructive article that opened in last month's "Table Tennis"

By Jack Carrington

PHOTO—THYRA (left) and SIGNHILD TEGNER (right), near twins of 18 and 17 from near Gothenberg, who will face the Rowe Twins in their tour of Sweden this month. In the centre, is Surrey's ELSIE CARRINGTON, who was in charge of the Girls Squad at the Swedish National Training Camp. Thyra has the tigerish energy of Rosalind Rowe but Signhild achieves results with a "dreamy" style in the Andreadis tradition.

ONE'S Mental Form (Item 1 b), is very open to attack by the ordinary stresses of work and social responsibility. Fortunately, it is also susceptible to stimulation by favourable emotions.

The point which we must reiterate is that these variable mental factors are beyond the control of most players, however carefully they may have trained in the physical sense.

It is easy to spot those few gifted persons who appear able to WILL their distracting emotions to keep quiet. There are, of course, several authorities who believe that a well-tuned physical condition tends to fortify you against mental worries, so to be on the safe side, we should make sure we are fit in any event.

Conversely, favourable combinations of mental and external factors may outweigh the effects of a break in training—temporarily. We have all experienced the classic instance of this in that remarkable form we sometimes strike on our first outing after an enforced absence from the game. The second attempt, after the mental stimulus of "coming back" has waned, usually reveals our true condition!

Having thus reminded ourselves of the importance of the mental factors on the Big Occasion, let us consider World Champion Johnny Leach, the subject to Mr. Fretwell's second query.

On the physical side, Johnny has certainly taken great trouble with his training and has, by will-power, removed certain tendencies to weakness. But a world champion, like other folk, has to work to live between World Championships. Therefore, he sensibly plans to gear himself up for a few prestige events during the season, and thus may be seen in between times at less than his best.

Again, Leach's playing rhythm is one of the smoothest of all; his strokes have a wide margin of error. These

attributes enable him to take Material difficulties (item 2-d), in his stride.

Most significant of all, our Champion's finest efforts have all been abroad: Stockholm, Paris, Vienna, St. Louis, etc., his few failures nearly always in England.

The reason is apparent; on a foreign trip a top-ranker has one clear responsibility: to bring back the honours. He can concentrate upon his own and his opponents' game, throughout the competition.

Back home he has to cope with the publicity ballyhoo, the social chit-chat, the back-slapping and the advice from hundreds of well-wishers. (Yes, everybody has some advice for the Champion!!)

Out in Vienna, the business in hand was simply:—Tereba, Roothoft, Andreadis and Company. The champion's house might be burning down or his bank manager might be looking for him, but such matters just have to wait.

It is, in fact, rather exceptional for a home player to win the open titles of his own country, and the secret probably lies in the more concentrated mental approach possible for the visiting challenger. The visitor is insulated from many distractions by the language barrier alone, and is also sustained by the "tighter" team-spirit which prevails among invading contingents in a foreign land.

All these intangible factors of big-time T.T. operate in varying proportion right down the ladder of competitive play.

The lesson to learn is that while youngsters must indeed strive to acquire the finest possible strokes and the fittest possible physique, they should also be guided into the paths of personal discipline and calm philosophy, if they are to bring out their best form on crucial occasions and in difficult circumstances.



England Team meet All-German Strength

GERMANY gave the English touring team a wonderful reception, and obviously had given tremendous pains to make the tour a big success. The hospitality accorded to us equalled any I have experienced.

Everyone knows of the political division of Germany into East and West Zones, and there is, of course, a Table Tennis Association for each Zone. What is less well-known, however, is that there is also a Joint Working Committee for all Germany, which associates the two zones representative activities. Another example, if any were needed, of how the sporting goodwill of Table Tennis can succeed where other efforts fail.

Our tour had been carefully planned by the All-Germany Association to give equal opportunity to both Associations, and consisted of four matches in the West Zone (including one in Berlin American sector), four matches in the East Zone, and a full All-Germany v. England international in Berlin.

The key match was, of course, this fully representative international, but although we won, the men by 5—0 and the women by 3—1 (and, in fact, won all our other matches except the first women's one), we were genuinely surprised at the high average standard of German Table Tennis. At present they are perhaps lacking in experience of competitive international play, but I have no hesitation in predicting that in 3 or 4 years, they will be able to turn out some world-ranking players.

16 years old HANSCHMANN of Dresden twice played brilliantly against us, and after a great fight against MICKY THORNHILL at his first encounter succeeded in beating him at the second meeting, while HEINZ SCHNEIDER, the No. 1 player of Eastern Germany, recently took TURNOVSKY (Czechoslovakia)

(No. 13 in world ranking) to 5 games in the Youth Festival Championships.

Our own players adapted themselves extremely well, and I must give a special tribute to our two girls, JOYCE ROBERTS and KATHLEEN BEST. They knew they were up against it from the start, as before the war, the German women's team had won the Corbillon Cup and their

It certainly is an enviable distinction to represent one's country on a table tennis tour, but let no one have any illusions about the strain involved. Nearly every day of the German tour we were on the road for at least 4 hours. In the case of the first of the two matches in Berlin, we arrived just in time to play the match after travelling for 8 hours! Then after each match, there was almost invariably a special dinner, and hardly ever any chance for the team to get to bed before midnight.

Travelling by car, we were able to see quite a deal of the country, and all admired the famous *Autobahns* that link the big cities. For those of our party who had not visited Germany before, the colossal bomb damage was appalling, even remembering what our own cities suffered. Dresden, for instance, that once great city of the world-famous china, was completely wiped out.

The International match was played in the Eastern sector of Berlin and was the subject of controversy in some sections of the Press. Contrary to some reports, the match was not used by the Eastern Germans to put over propaganda of any kind, and there were no peace slogans, doves of peace, or demonstrations. Obviously it would have been an abuse of privilege if there had been, because the venue and all arrangements for the match were in the hands of the All-German Joint Committee on a neutral basis amicably agreed by East and West between themselves.

Nearly all the walls in Eastern Germany were well adorned with slogans of some kind, and in most of the matches in the East Zone there were usually a number of slogans round the hall, mostly in German, but a few in English which read "We want peaceful co-operation with all peoples of the World," and "We desire friendship with the people of Great Britain and America."

Although so much time was taken up by travelling, after one Sunday morning match, we went down in the afternoon to see Ten Hoff training for his fight with Jack Gardner.

Finally, laden with mementoes, we came to the end of this pleasant and instructive tour, and to the aircraft which was to carry us home *via* Amsterdam, from a trip which had been thoroughly enjoyed by us all.

Australian Government give all Trophies in National Open

THE Australian T.T. season closed with a special Ball at which the fine trophies given by the Government (in celebration of their Jubilee) were presented to the winners. The Australian Open was held at Adelaide, September 24-28th with the following results: W.S.—Dora Beregi. M.D.—Phil Anderson/Lon Laza. W.D.—Dora Beregi/M. Bowler. S.D.—P. Anderson/D. Beregi. J.S.—Geoff Jennings. Miklos Szabados was unable to compete.

Victoria won the men's team event in the State Championships, and New South Wales (led by Dora Beregi) won the women's team championship.

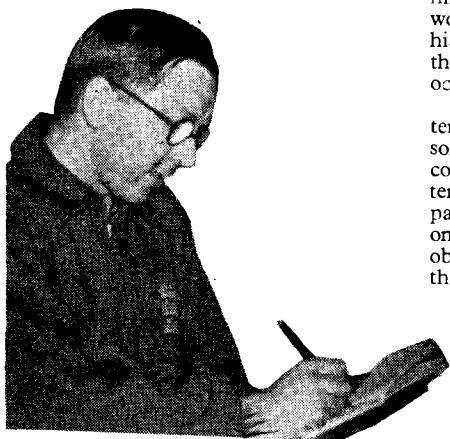
star player of those days, HILDE BUSSMAN, is still the German No. 1 and the national champion. In spite of this and the fact that both Joyce and Kathleen had earlier lost to the players they were due to meet in the International, they won all their three singles games in that all-important event, a very creditable performance.

KEN CRAIGIE played extremely well throughout the tour, and table tennis fans in this country who regard him as an all-out, attacking player would have been very surprised to see his defensive play holding the best of the German attackers when the occasion demanded.

MICKY THORNHILL'S table tennis could not be faulted, and I personally think his game has improved considerably. Really good table tennis, however, MUST be accompanied by perfect physical fitness, and on the evenings Micky lost, he was so obviously very fatigued, and I thought this played a decisive role.

By Aubrey Simons

who led the victorious team, and, for occupation specialises in the manufacture of T.T. bats.



E.T.T.A. Official News from Headquarters

THE KING'S ILLNESS

THE recent illness of our beloved Patron, His Majesty THE KING, is something which has aroused in us all most profound concern and moved us in a deep and loyal sympathy with Her Majesty and the Royal Family. In sincere expression of these emotions, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. K. VINT, addressed a suitable message to Her Majesty on behalf of the E.T.T.A. and all its members. The following acknowledgment was received:

"Buckingham Palace, September, 26th, 1951.

The Queen has asked me to send her sincere thanks to the Officers and Members of English Table Tennis Association for their very kind message. Her Majesty most deeply appreciated their sympathy at this anxious time."

FROM SIR GERALD BARRY

"NOW that the South Bank Exhibition is nearing its close, I would like to express my appreciation of the excellent co-operation we have received from your organisation on the Sports Arena. We set out to demonstrate the virility of sport in Great Britain and to show the wide range of sporting activities in which our people play their part . . .

I well know that many of your members came down to the South Bank at some cost to themselves both in time and money, and I appreciate that the payments we were able to make did not, by any means, cover the costs of your demonstrations.

I should be grateful if you would convey to those concerned, my deep gratitude for their help in making the Sports Arena such an outstanding success."

GERALD BARRY,

Director General,

Festival of Britain 1951.

24th Sept., 1951.

TRAINING HOLIDAY

THE C.C.P.R. have arranged a TT Training Holiday to be held at the National Recreation Centre, Lilleshall, Newport, Staffs., from Dec. 28th to Jan. 2nd, and have appointed Mr. JACK CARRINGTON as Coach. Men and women are eligible but must NOT be under 16 years of age. The fee for the course, including residence and tuition, is £3 15s. Od.

Enquiries and applications should be addressed direct to Miss P. C. Colson, Gen. Sec., Central Council of Physical Recreation, 6, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1952

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1952 will be held in The Brabourne Stadium, Bombay, India from February 1-10th, 1952.

Asian T.T. Associations which will probably be competing include India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Iran, Israel, Viet-Nam South, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Afghanistan, Philippines, Chinese People's Republic, Macao, Indonesia, Lebanon, Burma and Nepal.

Air passage is being arranged at concessionary rates and the cost will be between £120 and £140, to which should also be added subsistence costs for the 10 days of about £15.

Any person wishing to take advantage of these arrangements should notify Mrs. K. Pegg at the E.T.T.A. office by November 15th at the very latest.

ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE English Open will be held at Wembley in the week ending March 29th, 1952. Particulars of the special concessionary "club" tickets for the Finals will be offered to Leagues only (in the first instance), in the near future.

The responsible Committee are considering means of making the Finals Night, both Friday and Saturday, additionally attractive, and it is probable that there may also be an attraction on the Saturday afternoon.

WILLMOTT CUP AND J. M. ROSE BOWL

ENTRIES for these two great national competitions closed on October 15th. The Draws will be announced in the December *Table Tennis*.

WORLD RANKING LIST 1951

The Ranking Committee of the I.T.T.F. have announced the following World Ranking List for 1950-51:

MEN:

1. Leach, J. (England).
2. Andreadis, I. (Czechoslovakia).
3. Sido, F. (Hungary).
4. Tereba, V. (Czechoslovakia).
5. Koczian, J. (Hungary).
6. Harangozo, V. (Yugoslavia).
7. Vana, B. (Czechoslovakia).
8. Roothoft, R. (France).
9. Fritsch, W. (Austria).
10. Ehrlich, A. (Poland).
11. Haguenauer, M. (France).
12. Tokar, F. (Czechoslovakia).
13. Turnowski (Czechoslovakia).
14. Cartland, D. (U.S.A.).

WOMEN:

1. Rozeanu, A. (Roumania).
2. Farkas, G. (Hungary).
3. Neuberger, L. (U.S.A.).
4. Pritzi, T. (Austria).
5. Werth, L. (Austria).
6. Elliott, H. (Scotland).
7. Krejova, E. (Czechoslovakia).
8. Rowe, R. (England).
9. Beolet, H. (France).
10. Szasz, S. (Hungary).
11. Rowe, D. (England).
12. Karpati, R. (Hungary).

Insufficient information for Ranking purposes: Bergmann, R.; Sods, F.; Miles, F.; Beregi, D.; Monness, R.

REGISTERED PLAYERS

As required by the Regulation for Registered Members (para. 5) the Panels Commission have drafted panels of approved applicants for 1951-52 as detailed below, comprising all applications received up to 29th September, 1951.

The method of classification of Coaches is currently under review.

9th Oct., 1951.

Approved Exhibition Players 1951-52:

Adams, L. G., Alderton, G., Allcock, R., Allen, Mrs. P., Barna, G. V., Barnes, Miss L. R., Bergmann, R., Boros, S., Brook, A.D., Burridge, D., Brumwell, F. B., Carrington, Mrs. E., Carrington, J., Casofsky, B., Craigie, K., Crayden, R., Crouch, B., Evans, E. G., Filby, E., Fretwell, B.G., Fry, Miss M., Griffin, R., Hall, W. J., Harrower, G. R., Haydon, A. A., Head, J., Heaps, D. S., Hurlock, K., Jones, Miss M., Kriss, M., Lcach, J., Lisle, D. T., Lowe, J. McCave, W., Miller, A. R. Piper, Miss M., Poole, W. T., Roberts, Miss J. Rogers, J., Rowe, Miss D., Rowe, Miss R., Rumjahn, E. J., Rumjahn, P. U., Sears, T., Sharman, R., Simons, A. W. C., Stanley, K., Thompson, L., Thornhill, M., Wood, Miss A.

Approved Senior Coach 1951-52:

Barna, G. V., Bergmann, R., Carrington, J., Casofsky, B., Harrower, G., Haydon, A. A., Leach, J., Sears, T., Simons, A. W. C., Stanley, K., Thompson, L.

Approved Coach:

Boros, S., Brook, A. D., Craigie, K., Crayden, R., Filby, E., Hall, W. J., Heaps, D. E., Rosenberg, S., Rumjahn, E. J., Sharman, R.

Approved Local Coach:

Adams, L. G., Alderton, G., Allcock, R., Allen, Mrs. P., Mamford, F., Barnes, Miss L. R., Basden, S. R., Brumwell, F. B., Bryant, R. V., Crouch, B., Evans, E. G., Frewell, B. G., Gilbert, E. S. F., Head, J., Hurlock, K., Jarecki, M., Jones, Miss M., Knott, F. B., Kriss, M., Lisle, D. T., McCave, W. A., Miller, A. R., Poole, W. T., Rogers, J., Rumjahn, P. U., Tabbenor, J. H.

The Selection Committee announce that J. LEACH (Essex); A. SIMONS (Glos.) and B. KENNEDY (Yorks.) have been selected to take part in a tour of Sweden, 20th Oct.—3rd Nov., with an International Match in Stockholm on the 25th Oct. (10th Oct., 1951).

Spotlight on Youth

Focussed by

PETER MADGE



LEFT —
Billy
England

Gary, Coeur de Lion

PETER WALTON (Yorkshire) now in the R.A.F. at Felixstowe, writes to tell of an incident which befell his friend GARY BURKE of the Halifax Y.M.C.A. Apparently Gary, who is 17, bought a new motor-bike the night before the East of England Open and decided that the 100-mile trip to Skegness should be his maiden voyage. He set off in the early hours of Saturday morning, determined to arrive in time for breakfast before playing. However, this was not to be; soon after passing the half-way mark, in the uncertain light of dawn, a fleeting shadow on the road materialised into a cat. . . Gary swerved violently, too late to avoid striking the unfortunate animal, and fell heavily from his machine. Passers-by helped him to a nearby hospital where his numerous cuts and bruises were dressed.

Several hours later a battered, bandaged but triumphant Gary arrived at the tournament hall in time to play in all events. For courage and keenness I think that beats everything. Peter says that just before he left Skegness he found Gary wondering what his father would say when he saw the condition of the new bike—he wasn't sure whether to push the bike in the door first and go in later or go straight in and pull the bike after him!

★ ★ ★

Jill Seaman

With deep sympathy we record the sad and untimely death of JILL SEAMAN in Ashford Hospital on the 16th September following a motor cycling accident.

JILL and JOY SEAMAN were Twin Sisters, and both fine players with representative honours, and the news came as an immense shock to all who knew them. To Joy Seaman particularly goes our sincerest sympathy.

SOMETHING new! Watch this page each month in future for a review of one of the teams competing in the Junior County Championships. We start the ball rolling with

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

who last season tied with Glamorgan for honours in the Junior West Division. With equal points the Championship was awarded to Glamorgan on games average. This season there is only one Junior Division and the shadow of Glamorgan is removed from Notts as the Welshman have withdrawn owing to travel difficulties. The County team will be led by:

BILLY ENGLAND, 16-year-old holder of the Bedfordshire, Derby and East of England junior Open titles. Billy first began playing four years ago at a Nottingham boys' club; played his first representative junior match in November, 1949—in the Inter-Town League, and has since played regularly for Notts Juniors, Champions of the Midland Counties League (Junior Division) for the last two seasons. Billy first attracted notice outside his own county by his exploits in Northern tournaments, which I mentioned in the September Spotlight, and he has now entered his last season as a junior. . . . He's a good tip for a junior "cap" this season. Supporting Billy will be:

FRANK BADDER, who just scraped into the junior ranks this season with seven days to spare, being 17 on July 8th! Frank is a stylish all-rounder and is expected to improve greatly with experience. He, too, began playing four years ago, at the same club as his team leader, and has also represented Notts Juniors.

JIM McMILLAN, 16, is a newcomer to representative team matches. He has been playing for three years but has improved so markedly with intensive summer practice that he has earned a place in his County's Junior team. Jim is known for his determination and has pulled more than one match "out of the fire."

GEORGE CARTLEDGE, 17, is yet another who began playing four years ago and at that same club, the Dame Agnes Mellers Lads' Club. George had a good record for Nottingham Boys last season and has also improved this summer; he attacks with a skill born of small defence and has an aggressive fighting spirit at the table.

The weaker sex (barbed shaft there!) is represented by:
KATHLEEN PEARSON, 17, a vigorous left-hander who aptly enough comes from Nottingham's Tempest Club. She and her team-mate **MARGARET TAYLOR**, who is 17, both started to play two years ago and are new to team matches.

That then is the Nottinghamshire team which will meet Surrey in Nottingham on October 13th. At the time of writing the match has yet to be played, but the result will be reported elsewhere in this issue.

Ad Ardua . . .

Yet another has gone to swell the ranks of T.T. players in the R.A.F. This time it is GORDON "HENRY" COMBER, ex-Middlesex junior. Our picture shows him just before his train pulled out en route for Padgate. Quite a number of players turned up to wish him well and it was a sad little scene as the whistle blew. Henry dashed away a tear and cast his bat from him. . . . it was a fine bat so the traveller's last view of his friends was a wild scrimmage on the platform. Never mind Henry, they are all good lads at heart!



Rest of England Win Again

But they had to struggle

THE Annual Match between the Champion County and the Rest of England is fast gaining a reputation for exciting play and a close finish, and this season's version was no exception.

On paper, of course, the Champion County never stand any chance. This season the ranked Nos. 1, 2 and 3 men in England were lined up for the Rest, and on paper would be expected to win six singles, but the beauty of sport is that the certainty often never materialises, and so it was on this occasion.

Certainly the first two matches gave no indication of what was in store, for Brian Kennedy beat Bernard Crouch (21-19, 21-17) and Aubrey Simons beat Victor Barna (21-13, 15-21, 21-8). Bernard tried hard against his Yorkshire opponent, but Brian was always ahead and looking like the winner, whilst Simons found his most devastating form in the third game, and the Rest were leading by 2 matches to love.

Things looked black for Middlesex, with Johnny Leach next on the table against Michael Thornhill. But Michael played much better than he has ever done before, rising to inspired heights against the World Champion, and refusing to go back on the defensive. He took the first game at 21-14, but old and wise heads said it was a flash in the pan, especially when Johnny lead 13-8 in the second. Thornhill was not daunted, and continued to attack and counter attack, gradually caught up but was still 18-20 down. Two crafty services, the second which was returned off the table, and it was 20-all. Two more thrilling rallies, and the World Champion had lost! How the big crowd rose to the Middlesex youngster.

Next match, the ladies' doubles, and Diane and Rosalind Rowe duly obliged at the expense of Peggy Franks and Jean Mackay (21-12, 21-23, 21-8), and Middlesex were level at 2 matches all and working out that they would now win 6-4, but that win had to include the next match, the men's doubles. Crouch and Thornhill for the Champions, Kennedy and Simons for the Rest. The established pair should beat the scratch combination, they said, but they didn't, for Brian and Aubrey combined well, made less mistakes, and ran out good winners by 21-16, 17-21, 21-14.

Came the interval, with Middlesex trailing 2-3, but their optimistic captain at this point mentioned that in the three previous matches in this series they had been ahead at the

interval and always lost, so now it was the reverse so would the result be reversed! The interval served also to emphasise the splendid organisation at Aylesford, where the 900-odd crowd were speedily fed and despatched back to their seats. Nothing is too much trouble at Aylesford. Players are met from trains, meals are provided, electric score boards erected so that everyone can follow the game, special floor laid to prevent slipping, and a full house conjured up with no trouble at all, thank you.

Back to the match. The ladies' singles, with Diane Rowe opening up a large lead in the first game and Jean Mackay never recovering from a 12-1 deficit, so Middlesex were on terms again (21-10, 21-17). Not for long, however, as Aubrey Simons speedily polished off Bernard Crouch (19-21, 9-21) to restore the lead for his team. The see-saw continued, for Victor Barna and Rosalind Rowe outplayed Johnny Leach and Peggy Franks (21-15, 21-12) in a match which all the players played well but Middlesex were slightly better for most of the points, hence the score.

Four events apiece, with Michael Thornhill, conqueror of Leach, to play Brian Kennedy, and Middlesex hearts were happy, for how could their young man lose. He always beats Brian, they

said, even when they were both juniors and Brian was considered the better player, Michael always won, and so it is to-day. Wrong again! Brian rose to his best form and fully justified his selection for the match (hotly criticised in some quarters) to win in straight games (21-12, 27-25), the final ten points being almost too thrilling to watch with both players throwing away gilt edged chances of clinching the set at an earlier score.

Five-Four to the Rest, and Johnny Leach, grimly determined that he was not going through the match with a blank score sheet, to play Victor Barna. The first two games were good without being over exciting. Johnny won the first 21-14, and lost the second 21-15, and so to the thrills. Victor managed to secure three consecutive edge balls to carry him from 2-1 to 5-1, and heartened by this he ran on to an 8-2 and 10-3 lead. Leach grits his teeth, and gets down to the job of wearing out his older opponent. He catches up a little to 11-7, and then came the rally of the evening which probably won and lost the game. Barna hit three absolute backhand smashes, Leach got them back from no-where, won the point, and Victor lost his fire. He hung on, always the great team man, but Johnny caught up at 15-all and so another great match was over (21-17), the Rest triumphed for the fourth time, nearly a thousand people had an excellent evening (until they saw the fog outside!), and the Aylesford Paper Mills Sports Club added another scalp to their collection.

COUNTY DIARY

PREMIER

Fri.	2nd Nov. ...	Lancashire v. Essex, at Blackpool.
Wed.	7th Nov. ...	Glamorgan v. Middlesex, at Stokehill Guildhouse, Binley Road, Coventry, 7.15 p.m.
Sat.	10th Nov. ...	Yorkshire v. Glamorgan.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Essex v. Warwickshire, at Rounfold Y.M.C.A.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Surrey v. Lancashire.
Thurs.	22nd Nov. ...	Glamorgan v. Gloucestershire.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Middlesex v. Lancashire, Johnson Matthey, Askew Road, W.12, 7 p.m.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Worwickshire v. Surrey, Port Dunlop, Birmingham.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Essex v. Yorkshire (reversed fixture) at York.
Sat.	1st Dec. ...	Essex v. Gloucestershire, Southend.

SECOND SOUTH

Sat.	3rd Nov. ...	Essex v. Devon, at Chelmsford.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Gloucestershire v. Essex, Montpelier Pavilion, Cheltenham.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Devon v. Surrey, Exeter.
Sat.	1st Dec. ...	Cambridgeshire v. Middlesex, Y.M.C.A., Alexandra Street, Cambridge, 6.30 p.m.
Sat.	1st Dec. ...	Bedfordshire v. Devon, Bedford.

SECOND NORTH

Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Cheshire v. Lincolnshire, Y.M.C.A., Gatley.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Durham v. Yorkshire.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Lancashire v. Northumberland, Darwen.
Sat.	1st Dec. ...	Lincolnshire v. Durham, Boston.

SOUTHERN

Sat.	10th Nov. ...	Sussex v. Berkshire, St. Augustine Hall, Stamford Avenue, Brighton, 7 p.m.
Sun.	11th Nov. ...	Berkshire v. Hampshire, Boys Club Hall, Newbury, 3 p.m.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Hampshire v. Kent, Hulsea Barracks, near Portsmouth.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Kent v. Sussex, Canterbury.
Sat.	1st Dec. ...	Hampshire v. Berkshire, Taunton School, Southampton, 7 p.m.

EASTERN

Sat.	10th Nov. ...	Hertfordshire v. Cambridgeshire, St. Alban.
Fri.	30th Nov. ...	Cambridgeshire v. Norfolk, Cambridge.

NORTHERN

Sat.	3rd Nov. ...	Durham v. Cumberland, Mount Tabor Church Hall, Sunderland.
Sat.	17th Nov. ...	Yorkshire v. Northumberland, Selby.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Northumberland v. Durham, Newcastle.
Sat.	24th Nov. ...	Cumberland v. Yorkshire, St. Mary's Hall, Barrow-in-Furness.

(Continued on page 9)

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

by GEOFF. HARROWER

PREMIER DIVISION

Glamorgan 1, Middlesex 9
Yorkshire 5, Gloucestershire 5

The meeting of the Champions and the newly promoted drew a full house at Pontypool Town Hall, and although the crowd saw a fine match there was little doubt in anybody's mind that Middlesex were the superior team. Walter Sweetland scored Glamorgan's only success when he beat Bernard Crouch.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Middlesex 3, Surrey 7
Gloucestershire 6, Bedfordshire 4
Cambridgeshire 3, Essex 7

This was the first meeting between Surrey and Middlesex second teams in the Championships, and a keenly contested match went in favour of the visitors because they finished better. Almost invariably the scores crept up to 18 and 19 all, but usually Surrey emerged the winners. Tony Miller won both his singles for Surrey, whilst Ron Sharman, former Surrey man, was clearly the best Middlesex player.

Gloucestershire 2nds, making their first appearance in the Championships, rather surprisingly beat Bedfordshire, for whom Ironmonger and Randall failed to win a singles. Pickett and Cruwys each won two singles for Gloucestershire.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Yorkshire 4, Cheshire 6
Lincolnshire 5, Lancashire 5
Northumberland 8, Durham 2

MIDLAND DIVISION

Leicestershire 2, Warwickshire 8
Nottinghamshire 7, Northants 3
Derbyshire 6, Staffordshire 4

EASTERN DIVISION

Cambridgeshire 1, Bedfordshire 9
Norfolk 6, Suffolk 4
Buckingham's're 7, Hertfordshire 3

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Sussex 7, Hampshire 3
Kent 7, Berkshire 3

With Surrey 2nds, last season's champions of this division, and Devon, the previous winners, both promoted to the Second Division South, matters look bright for Sussex this year, and they made no mistake against Hampshire in their opening match, although Muller was again successful in winning his two singles for Hampshire. Kent had the unusual experience of opening the season with a convincing win, at the expense of Berkshire, newcomers to this section.

NORTHERN DIVISION

Durham 5, Yorkshire 5
Cumberland 2, Northumberland 8

JUNIOR DIVISION

Nottingham's're 6, Surrey 4
Bedfordshire 1, Middlesex 9

Cambridgeshire 3, Hertfordshire 7
Surrey 6, Essex 4
Kent 6, Cambridgeshire 4

The Junior section has got off to a flying start, with five matches played by the 20th October. The most interesting match so far has been that between Kent and Essex, and one might be forgiven for assuming that we were watching last season's match all over again, with Essex again leading 4-3 and against losing 4-6! Colin Campbell had a good match for the losers, beating both Danton and Buist, whilst Darts, after beating Eagles, could not manage to win the final match against Danton to square the match.

Hertfordshire got off to a good win, and as their team is mainly composed of youngsters who have more than one season as juniors left to them, they may possibly be springing a surprise or two before another eighteen months have passed. Smith and Boyce won both their singles, whilst little "Mousey" Cartwright may prove himself a difficult customer against players better than he.

Middlesex had an easy win over Bedfordshire, although the No. 1 Bedford boy, Phillips, another with two years as a Junior, is a more than useful player with a terrific backhand swipe, and he should benefit by experience.

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COUNTY DIARY—Continued

(continued from page 8)

MIDLAND

Sat., 3rd Nov. ... Staffordshire v. Leicestershire, Woodfield Club, Penn Road, Wolverhampton, 7.15 p.m.
Thurs., 8th Nov. ... Derbyshire v. Nottinghamshire, Derby Y.M.C.A., St. Peter's Gate.

Sat., 10th Nov. ... Warwickshire v. Northamptonshire, Birmingham.
Sat., 1st Dec. ... Northamptonshire v. Staffordshire, Kettering.

JUNIOR

Sat., 3rd Nov. ... Hertfordshire v. Kent, Watford.
Sat., 10th Nov. ... Surrey v. Kent, Wimbledon.
Sat., 24th Nov. ... Nottinghamshire v. Essex, Oliver Hind Boys' Club, Dakyne St., Nottingham, 7 p.m.
Sun., 25th Nov. ... Middlesex v. Nottinghamshire, Prince of Wales Baths, N.W.5, 3 p.m.

Addresses where tickets can be obtained

(see last month's issue for some addresses)

Lancashire: B. Casofsky, 7, Holyrood Road, Prestwich, Manchester.
Warrickshire: M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.
Gloucestershire: I. C. Eyles, 115, Wick Rd., Brislington, Bristol 4.
Devon: W. H. Davey, 14, Kennerley Avenue, Whipton, Exeter.
Cheshire: D. S. Heaps, 1, Hawthorn Grove, Broadway, Cheshire.
Durham: E. Reay, 11, Tunstall Terrace, Sunderland, Co. Durham.
Berkshire: K. E. Egginton, Belmont Cottage, Belmont Crescent, Maidenhead, Berks.
Hampshire: Miss L. Ferguson, 20, Atherley Rd., Southampton.
Hertfordshire: Miss D. Emdin, 17, Kingsbury Avenue, St. Albans.
Northumberland: A. Wilson, 7, Clifton Avenue, Wallsend, Northumberland.
Cumberland: S. Jacks, 7, Winscales Avenue, Distington, Cumberland.
Staffordshire: J. A. Hesford, 36, Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton.
Derbyshire: J. Ellison, Langley, Hackney, Matlock.
Northamptonshire: I. T. Freeman, 317, Windmill Avenue, Kettering.

"Smartness First"

Says PEGGY ALLEN

I feel that just about everything has been said on this question of Dress and any of you who were present at the A.G.M. last April will, no doubt, agree with me for this item on the agenda caused more heated discussion than all the other items put together.

Some surprising things were said and as one who hates the thought of being regimented as far as clothing is concerned, I must admit that I belong to the "Wear what you like so long as it is smart, neat, clean and tidy" school of thought.

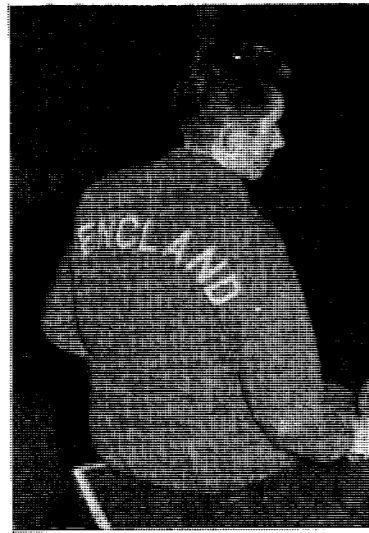
I agree that it is nice to see teams wearing similar shirts which distinguish them from their opponents and nothing looks smarter than our Swaythling and Corbillon Cup team outfits, but please let us wear, in tournaments at least, the clothing which we feel is most fitting and becoming to us.

Maybe this is a very feminine view point and men don't mind being told just what they must wear, although I fancy many of them would rebel if they had heard the Lancers representatives to the A.G.M. trying to ban shorts for men on the grounds that long, grey flannels were more dignified!

I think most players know which type of garment suits their style of play and provided it complies with the conditions I mentioned previously, I don't see that anyone can grumble.

After all, you can lay down a rule that a man must play in grey flannels, white pumps, shirt and sweater of the same colour, etc., etc., but if he is an untidy individual he can still manage to look careless, dusty, creased and dishevelled whilst still complying with the law in every way.

Let's campaign for smartness without so much stress on uniformity.



Photos of Michael Thornhill by Peter Madge

The ENGLAND TRACK SUIT ABOUT WHICH FRANK GEE SAYS—

"The only thing I didn't like was the word in yellow letters England splashed across the backs of the track suits. Surely the three golden lions and the royal blue are enough. There are few countries in the world that I haven't visited, and everywhere the three Lions of England are known (some heraldic experts say they are Leopards). I consider that the word England across the backs is unnecessary and 'beggarine' a marvellous badge. If we were Ruritania and the badge was, say, cross dioxies surmounted by a duckboard, I could understand the name of the country being necessary, but in my travels I have always found that: The Lions for Leopards of England; The Stars of China; The Eagle of the U.S.A. and the Hammer and Sickle of the U.S.S.R. are known well enough without any other reference."



"NEAT, TIDY AND ATTRACTIVE"

is the yardstick for one of the most popular Exhibition combinations in the World—World Champions and dress stylists

DIANE and ROSALIND ROWE

"ONE's first thoughts just have to be toward satisfying the many watchers of Table Tennis. They are the people who really make big-time T.T. possible and we all have some kind of duty to make the performance as attractive as possible. The

first thing required, naturally, is good exciting and competitive Table Tennis, but we have found that well-chosen clothes can add immensely to the general satisfaction.

You can't help noticing that the player whose dress is 'bitty' or whose colours and lines are poor, obviously distracts the attention of the observer. We, therefore, endeavour to keep to the darker colours

and a neat line throughout, and then add a bright sweater or cardigan to alleviate any suggestion of drabness.

We have given quite a lot of thought to the problems of dress, and do not think the introduction of white T.T. gear would be satisfactory. After the almost inevitable travelling the whites would probably be a little the worse for packing, and one would arrive at the table looking rather untidy and feeling grubby, and from then on would pick up all the dirt going. You know it's far easier to keep clean outdoors than indoors!

Ros and I pick up many of our ideas for T.T. outfits from Wimbledon, but we draw the line at G. Gussie's attire. No, readers, neat and tidy is our motto—no frills for us!

Di and I, as most of you know, are particularly fond of shorts, but this year we are going to experiment with a short skirt similar to that worn for skating.



"THE MENFOLK"—OH DEAR!!

"NO, the ladies are NOT the guilty ones. Go to any local tournament or match for proof of this. The menfolk—oh dear—dirty shoes, dirty creased flannels, and, worst of all, multi-coloured braces . . . it is surely within their means to keep shoes white and trousers creased. Our male members would be well to emulate Barna and Leach in this matter as well as in actual play.

It is not my intention to start a sex war, but let's hope that by the time we hold our next tournament that the menfolk will be as much credit to the League as are the ladies."

Jenny Roberts in Liverpool T.T. Digest.

"I THOROUGHLY agree with Mrs. Roberts, and had intended to pull the men's appearance to pieces, but you have done it for me. If I had the power, I would be tyrant enough to ban altogether playing in braces.

MOYA in Liverpool T.T. Digest.

★ ★ ★ SHORT SHORTS

Players in shorts
Give me thorts
Which vary a
Cording to their area
Et femina.

MRS. HOULBROOK'S ADVICE IN 1902 when she was a National Champion

"THERE is little to say about dress . . . The skirt should be fairly short . . . and clear the ground all round. Trains are to be avoided, as in the course of a keen game that form of skirt will surely be stepped on—which cannot fail to unsteady the balance somewhat . . . Moreover, it will in all probability injure the skirt, the knowledge of which injury will not tend to help the player to maintain the equilibrium of her temper, which has already been sorely tried by the loss of an important stroke . . . I strongly advise that long chains round the neck should be dispensed with, as the hand or racket is very apt to become entangled in it."

LEADERS TO NOTE



ERIK EXTERGREN, Vice-Chairman of the Swedish T.T.A. took a very active part in the running of the Swedish Summer Training School where JACK CARRINGTON was recently Chief Coach. He is seen here detailing the camp orders for the day, dressed (says Jack) in the "national summer costume," and gives the lead to our Symposium on Dress.

Surrey Set the Example

"Make them feel Table Tennis is really IMPORTANT"

says R. ATHERTON, Surrey Secretary

ONE of the aims of administrators in the sport of Table Tennis must be the raising of the dignity of the game, and as large numbers of people watch different events, the question of Dress is an all-important one.

Players on the whole have a long way to go in this respect, and it was the realisation that Counties must give the lead that caused Surrey to first persuade their players to buy maroon shirts; then grey flannels (or shorts if preferred); and lastly, to buy the County blazer. No mention was made of pullovers or cardigans, yet all Surrey players are in possession of maroon cardigans as well.

The reason for County blazers is that Surrey felt it was time that the sport became recognised more outside its own circle, and that its players could become its best advertisement.

One prominent member of the County team said that he felt embarrassed wearing the blazer on account of having to explain what it represented! I called him on one side.

"Look ----," I said, "When you wear the County blazer you are proud to do so. When people ask what it is you don't say: 'only the Surrey Table Tennis blazer,' in an apologetic voice; you say, 'What, don't you know? It's the Surrey Table Tennis Blazer!' confidently and proudly. It will make the hearer know that Table Tennis really is important."

The sequel to this is that I met this same player at Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships confidently wearing his S.T.T.A. blazer.

The example shown by Surrey county team seems to have given an excellent lead, for it looks as though the majority of players in Surrey dress similarly.

My personal feeling is that the E.T.T.A. missed an opportunity. Track suits are seen only by the playing fraternity and their audiences, and are a practical—if grotesque—dress. The trousers may be a necessity, but why the top? Why not a blazer which players could wear on other occasions?

I am a diehard for grey garments below the waistline, though navy blue or black can, admittedly, look smart. Once depart from grey and where can the line be drawn? On the men in my own club I have seen blue, khaki drill, brown, bright red and green—and even orange!—worn with a maroon shirt. Many people like the kaleidoscope of colour, but when looking down a ball, it is the shirts that give the colours (and not below waistline), and the range of colours is not wide enough.

Below—Fair, attractive DORIS ATHERTON and JACKIE HEAD make ideal models to illustrate the smart outfit of Surrey County. (Photo specially taken by Peter Madge.)



NEWS from EVERYWHERE

50,000 boys and girls between 16 and 21 took part in a national tournament organised by the Czech. T.T.A. recently . . . In Essex, Brian Brumwell's doubles partner **Keith Collar** returns to help his old soccer club Clapton (Isthmian League) at left back. He retired 2 years ago to concentrate on T.T. . . . Hard luck, **Molly Jones** (Glos. international) in having appendicitis when selected for The Rest of England team and good wishes to **Joan Crosby**, whom, Roy McKelvie tells us, is expecting additional company for son and daughter.

One of England's greatest little ladies, runner-up to the World's singles title in '47, is **Betty Blackburn**, who after studies in the U.S.A. emigrated to South Africa about 4 years ago. She was a powerful force in the most successful Corbillon team England has yet had. Welcome back, Betty. Meanwhile, lots of speculation on whether she stands a chance for the Bombay team . . . Another exile, **Geoff Coulthead** (Wimbledon), also makes a welcome return after 3 years in the Far East—he writes in the Mag. next month.

Sittingbourne's **Peter Eagles**, in second year Maths. at the Varsity, is managing to turn out some good figures for the Cambs. County second team . . . **Reg. Spooner** (Staines) found time to take a week in Stockholm during the summer with celebrated daughters **Doreen** and **Beryl**, who renewed their Wembley friendship with Lasse Pettersson and Bo Malmquist . . . entente cordiale plus.

ST. NEOTS T.T. League celebrated its second birthday by taking a dominant part in the Festival of Britain Carnival Week, with an Exhibition starring world-famous **Diane** and **Rosalind Rowe**, **Keith Hurlock**, **John Hunt** and **Colin Crowe**. The Public Hall was sold out weeks before, and this initial venture into world-class demonstration was a triumph for Messrs. **Denny**, **Luff**, **Olver** and **Shepherd**, and has given a great impetus to the game throughout the area.

The occasion also marked the founding of the new **HUNTS COUNTY T.T.A.** which will comprise leagues from **Fletton**, **Ramsey**, **St. Ives** and **St. Neots**.

Hunts, one of the smallest counties in the country, thus gives an encouraging example to the county movement. Chairman is **Mr. C. Denny**; Secretary, **Mr. E. Jarvis**.

* * * *

WAKEFUL WATFORD are quite sure that within the next 5 years Herts County will be tops in County Junior Championships and are determined that Watford juniors will have every chance of earing their honours quota. 18 months ago there weren't any facilities for junior practice, then the Y.M.C.A. opened a Boys' Section and T.T. immediately became the dominant activity. The tremendous success created a great flood of young enthusiasm, and other clubs opened their doors to juniors for the first time.

The substantial profits from the Watford Tournament Finals and Exhibition provided a fund for junior development and **Geoff Harrower** was engaged to coach selected pupils. Everyone is very thrilled that 4 out of 5 Herts Junior registrations came from Watford. The latest development is that the Watford Y.M.C.A. is now running a T.T. Coaching Scheme for boys and girls in conjunction with the Further Education Authority.

Watford's first six starlets are the 3 **Brians**—**Barr**, **Boyce** and **Cartwright**, **Alan Northcott**, **Malcolm Hilton** and **Tom Dobbie**.

* * * *

THIS SEASON, the Western Counties League are adopting the mixed match system of the N.C.C. (3 men, 2 ladies) and are hoping to revive the Western Counties Open Tournament. The divisions are: **Premier**; Birmingham, Cardiff, Newport, Cheltenham, Gloucester (promoted), and Bristol. **2nd Division**: Bath, Oxford University, Weston, Worcester, and Exeter (relegated from Premier).

Maurice Kriss (Birmingham) spent 3 summer months with plaster and webbing because of a displayed disc in spine. Nice to see him back, tho' not yet fit, at E. of England . . . Surrey's amiable **Ron Crayden** also started the summer with minor ops . . . **Morris Rose** is still none too well, and is back again at Worthing . . . Some improvement is reported in our President, **Mr. Oldroyd** of Manchester while Yorkshire's **Leslie Forrest**, again in action after an illness, must be watching Yorkshire's 'forward march' with considerable delight.

YORKSHIRE have, alas, had the great misfortune to have lost their former President and considerable benefactor, **Mr. T. Holdsworth** of Drighlington, whose death we regret to announce.

* * * *

Richard Miles, U.S.A. Champion, has just returned from a successful tour of Brazil (writes Jack Carrington) stopping on his way back to renew acquaintance with ex-Lancs. Chairman **Jack Thompson** at Trinidad, and amaze the local stars . . . 64 teams took part in the state championships for the U.S.S.R. Cup in Russia recently. The title was won by Iskra, who beat the Dynamos in the semi and the Spartaks in the final . . . In the Berlin Student Championships **Gizi Farkas** (Hungary) beat world champion **Angelica Roseanu** (Rumania) 3-0 . . . **Tibor Harangozo** of Yugoslavia is acting as the National Coach to the Austrian T.T.A. . . . It is reported that the Japanese T.T.A. have 300,000 affiliated players.

Duke of Edinburgh C.C.P.R. PRESIDENT

AT the A.G.M. of the Central Council of Physical Recreation (C.C.P.R.) on the 21st September, the **DUKE OF EDINBURGH** was elected President in succession to **LORD HAMPDEN**. The Duke said that he had been more and more impressed by the work of the Council.

The meeting resolved to approach the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reconsider purchase tax on sports equipment; an output of £4,800,000, purchase tax was about £1,600,000 said **LORD HAMPDEN**, and its abolishment would involve a very small loss compared with the immense gain, especially to young people. In comparing the rise in prices, **LORD HAMPDEN** mentioned that table tennis table which cost £9 17s. 6d. in 1939, were now £50 19s. 8d.

THE KING, as patron, sent a message say that he had watched the continuous growth of the council with close interest. "I am confident," said THE KING, "that the National Recreation Centre at Lilleshall, opened by Princess Elizabeth last June, will be a valuable centre for the development of British Sport."

GRADING CHANGES

The following names should be added to the Revised List of Players' Gradings as shown on pages 7 and 9 of our October issue. In some cases they are reinstatements following applications from either the players concerned or their counties, and in others they were errors of omission from the list:—

MEN

GROUP "A"

R. Bergmann (Middx.),
E. Bublely (Middx.).

GROUP "C"

E. J. Filby (Norfolk),
A. Holland (Lancs.).

GROUP "D"

A. Abrahamson (Yorks.), M. Bishop (Yorks.), J. C. Burraston (Leics.), R. Hook (Essex), R. Markwell (Essex), F. Richens (Bucks.), M. Sheader (Yorks.), J. Thurston (Cambs.), H. R. Tomlinson (Derby.).

WOMEN

GROUP "C"

Mrs. P. Allen (Lancs.).

GROUP "D"

Miss K. Peake (Lincs.).

SUSSEX OPEN

By GEOFF. HARROWER

Hastings—27/28th October, 1951

There were many shocks in the singles at this pleasant seaside tournament, including the fall of three seeded players in the early rounds.

Joyce Roberts was well beaten by Elsie Weaver 12-21, 18-21, and Elsie reached the semi-finals along with the three seeds—Diane and Rosalind Rowe and Peggy Franks, whilst in the men's singles Ronnie Allcock made the long journey from Manchester only to lose in an early round to R. Harris (Greenwich) 17-21, 21-19, 19-21.

Another seed, Ken Craigie, fared little better, for after surviving shocks from D. Ellison of Brighton (19 in the third) and Charlie Seaman from the same town (losing 18-19 in the second after losing the first), he was beaten by the coming Essex player Ivor Jones 17-21, 21-23. In the other half Harry Venner carried all before him, and was joined by Michael Thornhill, but not before Thornhill had scraped home against J. Shead, also of Brighton. Other interesting results included Head beating both Carrington and Hurlock, Thornhill beating A. R. Miller and Venner's comfortable win over Ken Stanley.

The doubles went much as expected, except for the win of Thornhill and Sheila Smith over Craigie and Joyce Roberts in the first round of the mixed.

The finals were disappointing, except for the semi-final between Jackie Head and Ivor Jones. Jones is a new finals personality that many crowds will love, and, although just on the losing side, drew the biggest ovation of the evening.

RESULTS

- M.S. H. Venner beat M. Thornhill 21-16, 21-9.
J. Head beat I. W. Jones 21-15, 17-21, 22-20.
VENNER beat Head 21-13, 21-12, 10-21, 21-15.
- W.S. Miss R. Rowe beat Miss M. Franks 16-21, 21-12, 21-13.
Miss D. Rowe beat Miss E. Weaver 21-8, 21-8.
MISS R. ROWE beat Miss D. Rowe 21-18, 21-18.
- M.D. VENNER and K. CRAIGIE beat G. V. Barna and M. Thornhill 21-16, 21-16.
- X.D. BARNA and R. ROWE beat Venner and M. Piper 21-16, 21-17.
- W.D. D. & R. ROWE beat M. Franks and J. Roberts 21-17, 16-21, 21-17.
- B.S. C. CAMPBELL beat N. Tingley 21-14, 21-8.

YORKSHIRE OPEN

By PEGGY ALLEN

Details from J. B. LEYDEN

York—13th Oct., 1951

FOR the second year in succession, KEN STANLEY carried off the men's singles title in the Yorks Open Tournament.

Competitors failing by the wayside included THORNHILL, beaten in straight games by a whirlwind ALLCOCK who, in turn, succumbed to Benny CASOFSKY in the semi-finals. Brian KENNEDY, after beating Ronnie Baker in the quarter, fell to Stanley in the other semi-final, but gained some compensation when he and Thornhill pulled up from behind to secure an excellent win against Casofsky/Stanley in the men's doubles.

Miss J. PRESTON (Harrogate) gained a third round defeat over Jean Titterington in the women's singles, an event which was won by KATHLEEN BEST in confident manner, after three very close games with young ANDREE JONES, who will be remembered as the winner of last year's Irish Open. Andree had beaten Eileen Grimstone in the fourth round and Adele Wood

in the semi-final, whilst Kathleen disposed of Dorothee Munnings.

Kathleen Best is, without doubt, the "find" of the year. However tense the situation she remains completely imperturbable, hitting throughout with ease and confidence.

RESULTS

- M.S. K. Stanley bt. B. Kennedy 13, --19, 10.
B. Casofsky bt. R. Allcock --14, 17, 22.
K. STANLEY bt. B. Casofsky 12, 19.
- W.S. C. K. Best bt. D. Munnings 12, 17.
A. Jones bt. A. Wood 18, 13.
C. K. BEST bt. A. Jones --16, 11, 20.
- M.D. B. Casofsky/K. Stanley bt. G. Simpson/P. Skerratt 11, 19. B. Kennedy/M. Thornhill bt. A. F. Holland/D. Shaw 17, 17.
B. KENNEDY/M. THORNHILL bt. B. Casofsky/K. Stanley --20, 19, 16.
- W.D. J. Titterington/A. Wood bt. K. Benson/E. Mansell 15, --25, 8. E. Grimstone/Jones bt. M. Lightfoot/D. Munnings 19, --13, 14.
E. GRIMSTONE / A. JONES bt. J. Titterington/A. Wood 17, --16, 19.
- X.D. B. Casofsky/A. Wood bt. A. Thompson/C. K. Best 19, --18, 13. K. Stanley/P. Allen bt. B. Kennedy/M. Lightfoot 19, 19.
K. STANLEY/P. ALLEN bt. B. Casofsky/A. Wood 21, 14.

North of England Open

By FRANK GEE

Rusholme, Manchester—20th Oct., 1951

THE entry was the largest on record and many entries for the M.S. had to be refused. One disappointment was the last minute withdrawal of KEN CRAIGIE owing to indisposition.

Surprises were PETER SKERRATT's defeat of Benny Casofsky in 2 straight games; PAMELA MORTIMER's (Birmingham) defeat of Andree Jones; and MARJORIE LIGHTFOOT's win over Adele Wood in the first round. In the preliminaries, Jean Titterington was beaten by Margery Leecy (Heywood), previously unknown in tournament play.

In the semi-finals, Hinchliffe's steady defence almost won the day in the first game, but RONNIE BAKER made no mistake in the second, winning 24, 13. Ron Allcock was never allowed to settle down and floundered badly at times against HARRY VENNER, who took command of the match from the outset.

The Venner v. Baker Final was one of the most brilliant games witnessed for some considerable time, enthralling the large crowd from beginning to end. If maintained, the form shown by Baker must surely earn him international honours in the near future. Venner's greater experience and very clever hitting in the third game gave him the title.

In the W.S. semi-finals, Margaret Fry's superior attack, recovering from a strange lapse in the first game, easily overcame the dour defensive play of her opponent. Meanwhile, Kathleen Best had a hard struggle against JEAN WINN, whose very good counter-hitting should put her in the late rounds of many tournaments.

In the final, Margaret Fry was all at sea in the first game against Kathleen Best, but then settled down to tempering the very powerful attack of her opponent and producing some long and interesting rallies in the process. Kathleen Best, however, had just that little bit extra to break through her opponent's gallant defence.

RESULTS

- M.S. R. Hinchliffe bt. P. Skerratt 13, 18.
R. Baker bt. L. Cohen 14, 17. R. Allcock bt. W. Poole 18, 16. H. Venner bt. J. Dood 10, 5. Semis: R. Baker bte. R. Hinchliffe 24, 13. H. Venner bt. R. Allcock 6, 13.
H. VENNER bt. R. Baker --15, 21, 12.
- W.S. M. Fry bt. B. Hardman --12, 18, 14.
M. K. Best bt. J. Winn --14, 19, 13.
C. K. BEST bt. M. Fry 5, --25, 13.
- M.D. R. ALLCOCK/R. BAKER bt. B. Casofsky/K. Stanley 20, 20.
- W.D. C. K. BEST/M. FRY bt. K. Benson/E. Mansell 15, --13, 14.
- X.D. B. CASOFSKY/A. WOOD bt. R. Baker/E. Grimstone 12, 18.
- B.S. C. BOOTH bt. G. Pullar --20, 12, 10.
- G.S. W. BLADES bt. V. Lackman 18, 17.

HARTLEPOOLS OPEN

Please note that the venue for the Hartlepool Open is now the Cerebus Canteen, Greatham, and NOT as shown in The Dairy on page 20.

My Plans . . . by Richard Bergmann

World Singles Champion 1937-8; 1938-9; 1947-8; 1949-50

AFTER our successful British tour, Boros and I left England in August and with marked success played at La Baule (France), Casina delle Rosi (Rome), and the Cirque Médraur (Paris). After this Paris engagement, Boros and I did a week's tour of exhibition matches with the top French players for the French Association, and this was my first return to competitive T.T. for 18 months.

The six-day tour opened at Besancon on September 22nd, followed with one match each day at Grenoble, Albertville, Paris, Rheims and Troyes with the results you know. (*Summarised below.—Editor.*) These exhibitions had enormous crowds by French standards, with averages of over 1,500 spectators a show.

The Championship of the Champions at Salle Wagram in Paris on the 25th was, of course, the highlight, and in beating Amouretti in 3 straight and Haguenuer 3—1 in the final (and the other results of the tour), I don't think I have done too badly considering my long absence from competitive

T.T., and the excellent form and fighting qualities of my opponents.

On September 29th, Boros and I were engaged for a week's exhibitions in Antwerp, then for seven days at Brussels, then back to Paris for a fortnight. And so it goes on, with possibilities of Spain, Switzerland Portugal, Scandinavia or South America coming next.

I have been very honoured in having been invited to represent England against France in the International at Bristol on December 4th, and am doing my utmost to get off for that. In case I have the honour and privilege of being selected to play for England in the coming World Championships, I have taken 2 weeks' off in that period and very much hope to compete.

What I would be very keen on, however, is a series of Challenge Matches with Johnny Leach. I know a lot of people neither agree with me nor see my viewpoint, when I claim to be the undefeated World and English Champion and have not lost to British players (including Johnny Leach) in open competitions for 4 years.

In my view, I think a position like this can only satisfactorily be settled by challenge matches, and consider that a series between Johnny Leach and myself would, if they could be arranged, prove popular, instructive and decisive.

RICHARD BERGMANN

Summary of Results

In the last September tour organised by the French Association, RICHARD BERGMANN won 12 of his 13 matches played, losing only once to an inspired Amouretti, whom he beat on 3 other occasions in straight games. He beat Haguenuer 3 times, conceding only 1 game in each match, and beat Roothoft twice, 3—2 and 2—1.

In the Championship of Champions in Paris, September 25th, the results were:

G. Amouretti bt. M. Lanskoj 2—0.
M. Roothoft bt. Cor du Buy 2—0.
Haguenuer bt. Agopoff 2—1; bt. Roothoft 3—2.

R. BERGMANN bt. Boros 2—0; bt. Amouretti 3—0; bt. Haguenuer 3—1.

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The Time Limit Rule

The Why, When and How
explained by

E. GEORGE WHITE

England Referee and Chairman National Umpires Committee

PUSHING play was first recognised as a menace to the game when, at the World Championships in Prague in 1936, a Rumanian team prepared to keep the ball in play, and (with the aid of slow tables and the conditions), wait for their opponents to make mistakes. Early in the tournament they defeated Hungary, holders for eight of the nine previous seasons, by these tactics.

Ehrlich of Poland determined to play them at their own game, and a single early point in his first game against Paneth lasted for two hours and ten minutes!

Elsewhere in the tournament one game of 21-up lasted seven hours and then had to be abandoned unfinished. The final of the Swaythling Cup took eleven hours to play and lasted through three evenings.

In the same season some dreary play in the finals of a big tournament organised by the London *Star* led some people to fear that similar, unenterprising play was coming to England. In any case, the complete disruption of World Championship schedules such as had occurred at Prague could not be allowed to occur again, and the following year a special rule was applied permitting the disqualification of both contestants if a match were still unfinished after 105 minutes (best of five).

This rule was enforced three times during the Championships. The most important of these was the final of the Women's Singles which resulted in the title for this event being declared vacant. The competitors in this match were the holder, Ruth Aarons (U.S.A.) and Trudi Pritz (Austria).

If a tournament—ANY tournament—is to be completed in a limited space of time, then there must be some arrangement for terminating a match which might otherwise go on for a whole day or more. Furthermore, the disruption of schedules by the deliberately prolonged play of some contestants must be unfair to others, whose subsequent matches (thus held up), may involve them not only in long waits but eventually in their having to play several rounds in rapid succession with no rest intervals between.

Faced with the need for a safeguard (as evidenced in both the Prague and the Baden World Championships), the international legislators of table tennis formulated the original Time Limit Rule, which has often been the subject of controversy. Some maintained that it should be applied only when a match exceeding the limit was dull for the spectators, but clearly, such a criterion would allow far too big a variation on the part of the umpire, and involuntary favouritism (especially in international play). The rule was, therefore, made applicable to all competitions which, by their international character, came under international regulations.

The original rule has been amended from time to time as experience of its working has shown that improvement could be made.

THE Time Limit Rule was made compulsory for all international play from the beginning, but each country was left free to do as it pleased in its own competitions. The United States, who were one of the first countries to find a need to tackle this problem, produced their own local rule, which became known as the Expedite Rule.

This rule, when brought into operation, makes the server responsible for winning the point within a set number of strokes. If the point is unfinished after these, the striker-out wins the point. In order to work fairly, the players serve alternately while the rule is in operation.

The Expedite Rule, in a modified form (the changes are chiefly concerned with the circumstances in which the rule may be invoked), has since been accepted internationally as an Alternative Rule and usable **INSTEAD** of the Time Limit Rule in any international competition **WHERE THIS HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BEFOREHAND.**

IN England, no local rule on this subject has ever been made, since the fears of 1936 have, fortunately, never materialised. We have attacked the problem on other lines, partly by improving equipment (for slow or soft tables, poor lighting and bad balls put a premium on defensive play), and



"Who's a chiseller?"

partly by moral example such as discouraging development or selection—at all levels—of unenterprising players.

However, because of any doubts or misunderstandings of the position which exists, or may have been caused (probably because of the publicity which naturally follows from the operation of the Rule in big international competitions) it may be helpful to see how local officials and organisers in this country stand, and what rights and duties they have in regard to the control of pushing play.

OPEN TOURNAMENTS. An Open Tournament (which must, in this country, have the prior sanction of the E.T.T.A.) is open to anyone who cares to enter, provided he or she is, of course, properly affiliated and not under suspension. Thus foreign players may compete and the tournament becomes subject to the rules for international competition prescribed by the International T.T. Federation. This is so whether there happen to be foreign competitors **OR NOT.** It follows, therefore, that the Time Limit Rule is applicable, **UNLESS** the organisers give due notice that they have decided to adopt the Alternative (or Expedite) Rule. The regulations printed on the entry form should state which **ONE** of the rules will be applied.

CLOSED EVENTS. The organisers of any closed event are fully entitled to apply either of the international rules for control of pushing play, **IF THEY WISH** to do so. In fairness to competitors, however, the intention to apply a particular rule should be announced clearly in advance, preferably in the entry form. Also, if some form of control **IS** to be applied, it must apply for **EVERY** match in the tournament and not just be brought in suddenly for a particular match when it happens to be desirable.

The current wording for both rules is given on the next page.

THE TIME LIMIT RULE

"Pushing Play : (a) Time Limit.—In International matches and official Open National Championships, except where the Alternative Method set out below shall have been agreed or adopted by the Association concerned, the following modification shall be added to the Laws of Table Tennis, Law 5 :—

"Provided that, where a game is unfinished 20 minutes after its commencement, the Umpire shall award the game to the player (or pair) leading, unless the two players (or pairs) shall be at equality, when he shall interrupt play, announcing 'Five minutes more—the next point wins,' and award the game to the player (or pair) scoring the next point.

"If no further point shall have been scored, and the score thus remain at equality after the further five minutes period thus permitted, the Umpire shall terminate the game, awarding it to neither player (or pair).

"Allowances shall be made for interruptions of play in reckoning these times.

"The determination of the appropriate time, and allowances, shall be the responsibility of the umpire, who shall be assisted for the purpose by a time-keeper. The interruption or termination of a game by time-limit, under instruction of the umpire, shall be effected by an abrupt sound, such as that of a gong.

"In the case of a match being terminated by the time-limit as above, where this is not a deciding game the match shall continue with the next game.

"In any match in which a game has been terminated by time-limit of 20 minutes, the limit that shall apply for subsequent games of that match, for termination if the score stand unequal or for interruption and announcement of a further maximum 5 minutes as in paragraph one above if the score stand at equality, shall be 10 minutes instead of 20 minutes. At any subsequent time in a match in which a game has been determined by time-limit, the referee shall have power to transfer further play in the match to another table, and should he so desire, to exclude spectators."

"The match shall be decided by the majority of games won, games awarded to neither player (or pair) being disregarded. In the case of the award of games to neither player (or pair) resulting in no majority of the allotted number of games for the match being won by either player (or pair), both players (or pairs) shall be disqualified in that event, if it be an individual event; in that tie, if it be a team event; and shall further be liable individually to such penalties as may be decided by the Advisory Committee on appeal by an Association concerned."

* NOTE : The exclusion of spectators shall not preclude admission to accredited officials, I.T.T.F., Officers, captain and team members (in a team event), a representative of each Association concerned (in an individual event), interpreters if needed, and anyone else whose presence is considered appropriate by the Referee."

THE "EXPEDITE" or Alternative Rule

"Pushing Play : (b) Time Limit.—Alternative Method.—In International matches where the Associations concerned shall so have agreed, and in official Open National Championships where the Association holding them shall have so in advance decided, the following modification shall be added to the laws of Table Tennis, Law 9 :

"Whenever in any game, in circumstances pre-defined or to be designated by an authority appointed for the purpose, both players or pairs shall be held to be solely and mainly concerned with keeping the ball in play themselves and not attempting to render difficult, except by exhaustion, a return in play by the opposing player or pair, the authority designated shall cause the game to be interrupted by declaration of a 'let' and the players shall be notified before the next service that the game in progress will proceed under the following rule:

"The player shall be permitted to hit the ball 12 times excluding the service stroke, and if all such strokes are safely returned by the opponent one point shall be scored by the opponent.

"The service shall alternate after each point when this rule is in force."

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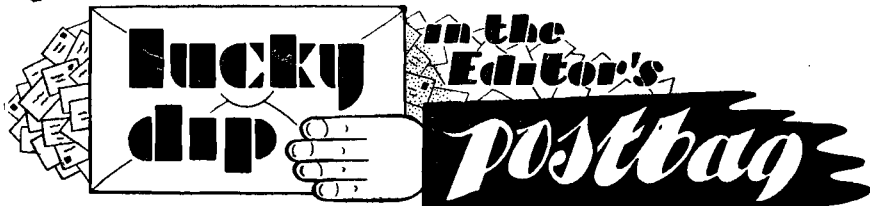
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A NEW FEATURE

The time-lag between our writing and reading rather spoils our original idea of a regular monthly competition, so we've thought of something better. We're going to call it "THE LUCKY DIP" (unless you've a better title), and this is how it will work.

We are going to have a Prize Pool, a complete assortment of practical prizes of different values. These will be sent to the best contributions or performances of each month received in time for publication. Contributions can be anything connected with Table Tennis:

A letter, cartoon, photo, idea, opinion, report, a suggestion, a joke, anecdote, a note recording an outstanding performance in play or administration, etc., or even a favourite playing notion.

A number of those published in each issue will be awarded a LUCKY DIP PRIZE, and the contribution will be identified by a symbol as a prize winner. Prizes will vary in number and value, and if all prizes are not awarded in one month, some will be "carried forward" in the prize pool. In the same way, although a contribution may not be used in a particular issue of *Table Tennis*, it will be "carried forward" for consideration each month.

Send all your contributions direct to The Editor,

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD,
12, Campbell Road, Bedford.

DO YOU COLLECT T.T. PHOTOGRAPHS? You do! Then you should try to get a copy of the Sept./Oct. issue of **TABLE TENNIS REVIEW**. Among others there is a full page new photograph of Victor Barna printed on art paper. Within its forty pages you will find articles you can get your teeth into, also a T.T. Glamour Girls' contest and Readers' Letters that win bat and book prizes. Order from your local newsagent or sports dealer. Or send 5/10d. for the season's five issues. Next issue on Nov. 15th. with more long articles and attractive photographs. Address: **TABLE TENNIS REVIEW**, Kenworthy Buildings, 83 Bridge Street, Manchester, 3.

COMPETITION RESULT: National Coaching Scheme

IT was not an easy task to decide the winner of our September competition. The standard was high and obviously much sincere thought had been applied.

After reducing a short list and a scrupulous re-scrutiny our Prize is finally awarded to **Mr. T. WILLIAMS** of Lowestoft, with a special Consolation Prize to 16-year-old **BRIAN ELLIOTT** of Portsmouth.

The consensus of opinion followed a trend of remarkable uniformity that should be a helpful guide to the National Coaching Committee. The main points emphasized by nearly every entrant were:

- (i) That a National Coach should be appointed by the E.T.T.A.
- (ii) That the National Coach and the National Coaching Committee (the E.T.T.A.) should be responsible for policy, general method, co-ordination, overall administration, with some method of de-centralisation. (Areas suggested ranged from 4 regional zones down to leagues, with counties as a common basis).
- (iii) A concern that any coaching scheme should *really* be national and available to all; emphasizing the wide variation in standards; and some fear that the big

leagues or organisations might in some way prevent the development of smaller leagues.

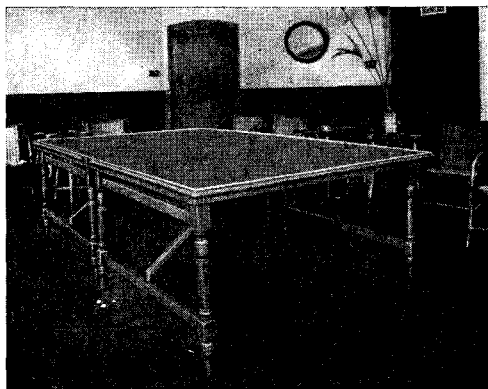
- (iv) Nearly everyone wanted some official recognition for accepted coaches. "Successful coaches should be recognised E.T.T.A. coaches and wear a distinctive badge," says S. WALLER (Scarborough), and 17 entrants suggest in some detail, Special Courses for Diplomas and Certificates.

Our prizewinner, Mr. Williams expresses the point:

"Finally, I suggest that the E.T.T.A. should organize courses for potential coaches and make some attempt to give official recognition to players who are considered competent. The psychological effect of any official ranking on local players would considerably assist a coach in his task . . . but not until he or she had a thorough knowledge of the practical and theoretical sides of table tennis and has the ability to pass this knowledge on to others."

Unfortunately, there was little inspiration on how any scheme could be financed. The National Coaching Committee have less than £100 to spend this year, and it obviously needs several times this amount to get a fully representative scheme well launched.

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Random Shots

by

A. R. "Tony" Miller

the Surrey star (already No 11 in National ranking)
wrote these views for the October magazine

AT the present time the British press is proudly announcing a resurgence in the somewhat bedraggled British sporting lion. We have recorded successes at cycle racing, rowing, boxing, table tennis, athletics, cricket and horse-racing and, recently, have lost less decisively in other sporting fields.

It should be proclaimed, however, that English Table Tennis, together with the cyclist Reg. Harris, blazed the trail of victory after a series of disastrous sporting defeats and indicated that we are far from being also-rans in some major sports at least.

Despite this, and our continued success at Table Tennis, the Press as a whole shows a marked lack of interest in our game. There seems to be two reasons to account for this: one is that Table Tennis is still a "Cinderella" sport, and the other is that its status as a major sport is still questioned.

The former reason is due to the English hatred of change. New things (apart from soapstars or American film stars) always have an uphill battle to compete with—let alone oust—the old. Yet "ping-pong" existed over 50 years ago and that name and its accompanying recollections, far from assisting in the establishment of Table Tennis, is still a drawback to its achieving wider recognition.

"Ping Pong" then, has given our dog a bad name. But even the sports writers who do know modern Table Tennis are frequently reluctant to count it as a major sport, the principal qualification for this classification apparently being "box office appeal."

Racing, Boxing, Football, Cricket or Tennis, none require more concentration, endurance, ability, intelligence and fitness than top-class Table Tennis. Certainly none of them demand quicker reactions and decisions.

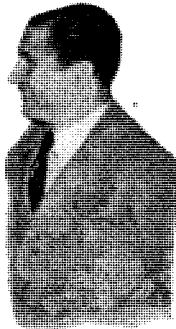
It is reported that when the Sports Editor of *The Times* was asked why he had given the results of Lacrosse, Bowls, Ski-ing, Racquets, Badminton, Schoolboy Football, etc., when on the same day he did not print the results of the English Open, he replied, "Because they've always been there."

Most good Table Tennis players are fighters, and we should all of us carry on an increasing fight to bring our sport the recognition it richly deserves.

Will he regain the Title ?

THE return of RICHARD BERGMANN to the conflict is eagerly awaited. No one yet knows where his first competitive appearance will be, but certain it is that this great player will have to settle down to serious practice well before the World Championships.

With the addition of years he will find it more difficult than in the past to overcome months of exhibition play against markedly inferior opponents. It is also certain, however, that few will be found to say that the jaunty, doughty Bergmann will not regain his title.



Tony Miller

Outstanding Doubles

THE increasing number of good class singles players in this country has not been matched by doubles pairings. It is commonly acknowledged that a good singles man isn't necessarily a good doubles man, but the disparity is still startling. In the last two seasons only one combination has clearly established itself as an international class doubles pair. This is VENNOR and ADAMS.

Stanley and Casofsky, unfortunately, seldom appear together and only LEACH and CARRINGTON keep the "veterans" flag flying.

For the consistency of their results, Venner and Adams must be ranked as the second best REGULAR Men's Doubles combination in the country.

A. R. Miller

CORNWALL

CORNWALL County T.T.A., barely 6 months old, already has 5 leagues: West Penwith, Falmouth/Penryn, Camborne/Redruth, Biscovey and North Cornwall, and has organised Inter-league Championships, a Team Knock-out and Closed Championships for 1951-52, as well as a number of representative matches as a try-out for possible entry in the County Championships next season. County Chairman is that Cornwall T.T. pioneer, Major S. E. SMITH of Oates Hotel, and Hon. Sec., Mr. R. D. I. CHARLESWORTH, Penzance.

UMPIRE'S CORNER

Amendments to Laws

In addition to the Service Rule reported in the September *Table Tennis*, the last Congress of the I.T.T.F. approved the following amendments to the Laws of the Game:

Rule 8. Out of Order of Ends or Service :

Line 6, after the word "continue" substitute : "in the sequence as originally established, the discontinuity being ignored" to the end of sentence. (Retain last sentence of paragraph).

Rule 16. Further Definitions :

A new paragraph between the present sixth and seventh paragraphs to read :

"Round the net' shall be considered as including 'under or round the projection of the net and supports outside the side line.'"

Rule 22. Out of Order of Striking-Out :

After the word "discovery" line 5, substitute :

"when the sequence of serving and striking-out shall continue as originally established, the discontinuity being ignored" to end of sentence. (Retain last sentence).

★ ★ ★

Schools Table Tennis

IN some areas of the country, Schools and educational authorities have been, or intend, organising Table Tennis Leagues. The N.E.C. is anxious to encourage this work, and would like any information of such activities. It is obviously of the greatest benefit to all concerned for such bodies to be in association with both national and local Associations.

★ ★ ★

Approved Balls

THE N.E.C. have approved the following balls for the season 1951/52 :—

"Villa "XXX" and "XX".

"Halex" Three Star and Two Star. Dunlop-Barna Three Crown and Two Crown.

FIXTURE BOOK

In the Open Tournaments below, the Events shown are ADDITIONAL to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D., in every case. All organisers are asked to check information and to advise The Editor of any amendments. The CLOSING DATE for Entries, where known, is shown in brackets after the Title.

Date(s)	Details and Venue	Extra Events	Organising Secretary
1951 Nov.			
5-10	EAST SUBURBAN OPEN (Oct. 15) Y.M.C.A. Hydro Hall, Plaistow, London, E.13.	B.S. G.S.	T. Lawlor, 32 Ellesmere Gardens, Ilford, Essex. Referee: C. Corti Woodcock.
10	HARTLEPOOLS OPEN Referee: E. Reay. (Nov. 3rd) Industrial Estate Canteen.	J.S.	W. Bowlt, 194, Seaton Lane, W. Hartlepool, Durham.
10-11	Belgian Open		
13	IRELAND v. ENGLAND Wellington Hall, Belfast		N. M. Wilson, 128 Sandown Road, Belfast.
16-18	SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN (Oct. 31) Powers-Samas S. & A. Club, Aurelia Road, Croydon, Surrey. Referee: C. T. Dean.	G.S. B.S.	C. A. Bourne, 46, Elm Park Gardens, Selsdon, Surrey.
17	SWANSEA OPEN (Nov. 5)		K. Prosser, 684, Mumbles Road, Swansea.
24	BATH OPEN (Oct. 29) Drill Hall, Upper Bristol Road, Bath.	M.S. W.S. M.D. X.D.	L. Le Gren, P.D.S.A., 4 Newark Street, Bath.
Nov. 30- Dec. 1	PONTEFRACT OPEN Town Hall, (Nov. 19) Pontefract, Yorks.	B.S. G.S. V.S.	T. Horrocks, 44, Baghill Lane, Pontefract, Yorks.
4	ENGLAND v. FRANCE Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol.		I. C. Eyles, 115 Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol 4.
7-8	WELSH OPEN (Nov. 19 approx.) St. Athans R.A.F. Station. Finals: Cardiff.	B.S. G.S.	Mrs. H. Roy Evans, The Rise, 16, Ty-mawr Road, Rumney, Cardiff.
8	BOURNEMOUTH OPEN Town Hall, (Nov. 19) Bournemouth.	J.S.	N. N. Read, 21, Gains- borough Road, Bourn- mouth.
12	ENGLAND v. FRANCE (Women) Eltham Baths, Eltham, S.E.9		F. H. Derbyshire, 55, Rennets Wood Rd., London, S.E.9.
9-15	CENTRAL LONDON OPEN Prince of Wales Baths, (Nov. 24) Kentish Town, N.W.5.	B.S. G.S.	Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
17	SCOTLAND v. ENGLAND St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow.		J. M. Muir, Kemsley House, 67, Hope St., Glasgow, C.2.
28 and Jan. 1-5	METROPOLITAN OPEN Polytechnic Extension, (Nov. 29) Little Titchfield St., W.1.	B.S.	Metropolitan Champs. Com- mittee, Polytechnic Exten- sion, Little Titchfield St., London, W.1.
5-8	FRENCH OPEN		Paris.
7-12	SOUTH LONDON OPEN Brotherhood Hall, (Dec. 22) Knights Hill, West Norwood, S.E.27.	B.S. G.S.	K. G. Havill, 4, Chesnut Road, West Norwood, S.E.27.
11	WALES v. ENGLAND (Juniors)		Mrs. H. Roy Evans, address as Welsh Open above.