An Ambition Achieved.

One by one, and at an increasing tempo, the objectives of the E.T.T.A. are being reached. This, the launching of our own magazine, Table Tennis, will be neither the last nor the least. The occasion calls for no flourish of trumpets but rather carries with it a sense of quiet satisfaction that a long-cherished ambition is now realised.

It is not claimed that this publication is, to begin with, anything but a promising infant. Walking lessons must precede sprinting practice. But we are quite certain that this editorial youngster will prove a welcome visitor in table tennis clubs and leagues up and down the country. Our mission is to inform, to interest, to instruct, to entertain. In short, to do anything that print and paper can do to knit more closely than ever the ties binding the thousands of units of our great family of table tennis devotees: and to establish new ones. Above all, Table Tennis is intended to be of service to every affiliated member, League, Club and Individual, including the parent body itself. Its subscribers can count upon an editorial policy with which, while giving full rein to the expressed wish of the public to inform, to interest, to instruct, to entertain, Table Tennis will unfailingly act on them if possible; and it will constantly set before itself the aim of informing, informing, informing. We ask your forbearance.

Following the stormy excitement of last season, with teams from 19 countries here in London for the World's Championship, with a crowd of nearly 8,000 at the finals in Wembley's splendid sports arena, with the intense attention of the public focussed on this dramatic rebirth of our sport, it might be thought that coming events will run a more tranquil course. This is not so. In progress, there can be no tranquility—and table tennis, so powerful now is its hold, must push on fast. How many know the financial outcome of the World Championship? How many would believe that it involved the E.T.T.A. in a loss of £500—that, accordingly, the organisation, so patiently built up during the years, was faced with sheer ruin? Thanks to the inherent qualities of the game as a game, to the incessant labourings of a devoted band of workers, to the whole-hearted support of the national press and to the unfeigned enthusiasm of our thousands upon thousands of spectators, it would appear that Table Tennis had been installed well above the high-water mark of fickle popularity. So indeed it has: and it was all the more important therefore, to see that the deficit was rapidly made good in order that the new-found prestige of our sport should be equally unassailable. The required sum has now been secured, by loan and donation. The position is stronger than ever before and the future can now be faced, not with resolution only, but with the confidence begotten of sturdy weapons, tried and proven true.

CURRENT PROBLEMS.

What then of 1935/6? The season has begun with the expected rush of new Leagues seeking affiliation. Last April's total of 99 is now 130, the individual membership somewhere between 50,000 and 60,000. Next came difficult negotiations which, on November 1st, resulted in the E.T.T.A. acquiring its own office and staff for the first time in the history of the game. This is an important development and will prove to be a wise one. At the same time were being solved the many problems incidental to the publication of this paper and to the intricacies of the Hungarian Tour. Our first issue coincides with the arrival in England of our old friends Barna, Szadokos and Bellak, and we hasten to extend the heartiest of welcomes to this awe-inspiring trio. Nearly 30 towns are to be included in the itinerary planned for them during the next three weeks, and the Leagues which have been enterprise enough to "book" them can look forward to magnificent exhibitions by players who are as popular as they are brilliant.

The English Championships are to be played this year in the brand-new Empress Stadium at Earl's Court, London. It is already clear that the authorities there are wide awake to the enormous possibilities of the events as a spectacle. Conditions for play and for the public will be perfect in every way, and there is good reason to suppose that the "Open" will command the same degree of feverish excitement we so joyfully witnessed last February.

As to the acknowledged short-comings of this our first modest issue we have no illusions—and no excuses. We commend it to you hopefully and earnestly. We ask your forbearance and your support so that we may the sooner strengthen our hands to present you with an enlarged publication more truly worthy, not merely of your subscription, but of the great Sport the broad interests of which it is designed to serve on your behalf.
"Exhibitions": Disciplinary Action at Last.

Ever since its foundation, an essential part of the Association’s educational work has been directed to the organizing of first class demonstrations, with the two-fold object of teaching its members how to improve their play and of edifying a constantly growing public following. But it has always been essential that the performers themselves should be of the required standard, and with this in view, a rule was laid down many years ago stipulating that all proposed exhibitions must first receive the sanction of the Executive Committee, or any member of it.

Though this rule is widely known and its wisdom respected, there have been occasions when members, either through vanity or obstinacy—or ignorance—have chosen to flout it. Such an incident occurred a few weeks ago at the Locarno, Streatham, and as a result the new Disciplinary Committee, set up by the Executive, imposed the following penalties: G. Woodcock, 6 months’ suspension; D. Steer, 2 months’ suspension. Subsequently, the periods were reduced to 3 months and six weeks, respectively.

We understand, further, that a number of leading players recently participated in a non-sanctioned tournament, and that this offence, too, is shortly to be considered by the Disciplinary Committee.

THE "PROFESSIONAL" QUESTION.

Most people will have read in the Press details of the important decisions arrived at by the I.T.T.F. and the E.T.T.A.; and although they have been widely circularised in CIRCUMSTANCES. circumstances concerning to the law, we desire to call the special attention of every player to the actual provisions of the new policy.

1. The words “amateur” and “professional” are now deleted altogether from the rules and the word “player” substituted.
2. There is to be no distinction between players who receive, or do not receive, money for playing, so far as open tournaments, representative matches, league matches, &c., are concerned.
3.(a). No player may receive, or affiliated body pay, any expenses or reward for playing table tennis (otherwise than a tournament prize as provided in the rules) unless sanction has been previously obtained from the Executive Committee.
(b). No player may enter into a contract providing for the exclusive use of certain materials, or exclusive play on certain premises controlled by a firm, in ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

The new rule is to operate for an experimental period of 12 months. The Executive Committee have decided to compile a special register, and it is now open for any player who wishes to avail himself of the revised regulations, to apply to the Hon. General Secretary for enrolment. The fee is 5s.

Players are strongly urged to remember whatever can be done, constitutionally, until and unless their names appear on the Special Register.

National Championships at New London Sports Palace.

The National Championships this year bid fair to be an instant success, and the E.T.T.A. congratulates itself in securing the new Empress Stadium, Earl’s Court, London, for the staging of the finals.

This magnificent stadium, the latest of London’s outstanding sports centres, offers perfect accommodation for between 8,000 and 9,000 spectators, and the finals are likely to rival the world’s championship finals at Wembley in presenting table tennis as a first class sporting spectacle.

It is worthy of note that Wembley were sufficiently pleased with the World’s Championships to wish to stage the National Championships also, but arrangements had already been concluded with Earl’s Court—on a very satisfying financial basis.

The Championships take place on 6th, 7th, and 8th February, and full details of the venue of the early rounds, details of which have not yet been settled, will appear in our next issue.


In the course of his speech at the Annual General Meeting in April, Mr. Corti Woodcock, the Chairman, said: “The Swatthing Cup trials this season were even more exhaustive than those of last season. The teams selected were the best, undoubtedly, though I do not shrink from admitting that certain decisions were reached only with the greatest difficulty.” Then having paid warm tributes to the members of the Selection Committee, to the ladies who had been co-opted to it with such success, and to those responsible for the organizing of the trials on nation-wide lines, Mr. Woodcock proceeded: “I am bound to add that, in my opinion, the meticulous ‘weeding out’ of the trials process during the last two seasons has achieved its object. The evidence it produces is entirely out of proportion to the time, labour, and expense incurred. And it tells us nothing new. I consider that the selectors now have a perspective of national form adequate for their task, and I am positively opposed to further trials on the widespread plan hitherto described to a collective opinion:­

MEN.
1. Haydon.
2. Proffer.
4. Millar.
5. Hales.

WOMEN.
1. Osborne.
2. Woodhead.
4. Bromfield.
5. Wheaton.

ROSE’S TOURNAMENT TABLE

As used by over 100 Clubs in Leagues in London and District
Illustrated Catalogue from J. ROSE & SON, 39, London Road, S.E.1
Telephone: WATERLOO 5021

Believe it or not, this is Mr. W. J. Pope, as our cartoonist indicates. Perhaps we should say ‘was,’ for as everybody knows he has now returned to office as the Hon. General Secretary of the Association, having meantime worked a series of miracles as Organiser-in-Chief of the World’s Championships.

Mr. W. J. Pope
Energetic Vic. E.T.T.A.

1934/5 RANKING.


1934/5 RANKING.


The following official lists were issued at the end of last season—the first time the Selection Committee have ever subscribed to a collective opinion:­

MEN.
1. Haydon.
2. Proffit.
4. Millar.
5. Hales.

WOMEN.
1. Osborne.
2. Woodhead.
4. Bromfield.
5. Wheaton.

7. Norrish.
11. Hutchings.
12. Wood.
15. Bartholomew.

7. Norrish.
11. Hutchings.
12. Wood.
15. Bartholomew.

ALL THE WORLD KNOWS
Barna “Circus” Starts Great Mission Tour.

By a happy coincidence this first issue of the official magazine makes its bow just as three of the world’s outstanding players are commencing a “mission” tour of England.

G. V. Barna, the world’s champion, M. Szabados, the runner-up, and L. Bellak, ranked fourth in the world, have accepted the invitation of the E.T.T.A. to play a number of exhibitions all over the country with the object of stimulating our players to greater deeds and enticing newcomers to the fold.

The idea has proved popular beyond all anticipation with the local organizations, and a tour originally planned to last a fortnight, now seems likely to extend well into a month.

Here is the itinerary of the Barna “Circus” as so far planned:—

25 Nov. Leek (Staffs).

26 Hull.

27 Newcastle.

28 Leeds.

29 Bolton.

30 Liverpool. To take part in Merseyside Championships.

2 Dec. Bristol.

3 Plymouth.

4 Paignton.

5 Southampton.

6 Isle of Wight.

8 South London.


11 Bath.

12 Dartford.

13 Woolwich.

14 Southend.

“CIRCUS” FOR AMERICA TOO?

America is following the example of England in arranging for tours by Hungarian and Czechoslovakian stars.

The tour is likely to start about 21st March and will probably include an exhibition at the Nationals or Philadelphia on 2nd, 3rd and 4th April.

Famous English Players Interviewed.

No. 1: A. A. HAYDON.

Our “Roving Reporter” interviewed Arthur Haydon recently and found the famous Birmingham International in a reminiscent mood. The conversation went thus:—

R.R.: “When did you first start playing table tennis?”

Haydon: “About 1918, when seven years old.”

R.R.: “What made you take up the game?”

Haydon: “My father being an old champion, we had a table at home.”

R.R.: “When did you first become a good player?”

Haydon: “In season 1927/8 I was ranked sixth in the world. 1 improved suddenly, as the previous season my form was comparatively moderate.”

R.R.: “To what do you attribute your success as a player?”

Haydon: “( i ) My unorthodox style of play. (2) Accuracy of hitting. (3) Good match temperament—I can rise above my usual form when required.”

R.R.: “What is your opinion of English table tennis?”

Haydon: “Against Barna in the final of the English Championships, at Buxton, 1933. We had a terrific match and I only lost 21-18 in the fifth game.”

R.R.: “What was your most amusing match?”

Haydon: “( i ) Reaching the semi-final of the World’s Singles Championship, 1928/9 and 1932/3.”

R.R.: “What is your opinion of English play to-day compared with, say, 1928/9?”

Haydon: “General standard is much better to-day, but there are no new stars—with the possible exception of Luttre.”

R.R.: “Why do we get so few players in the world’s first ten over a period of years?”

Haydon: “Because our players as a whole take up the game too late. Abroad they play table tennis in the schools and the game is especially fostered in boys’ clubs, of which there are a great number, In Prague there is a club with 23 tables.”

R.R.: “What was your most amusing table tennis experience?”

Haydon: “When a Jewish acquaintance whom I had known for years offered to play me for 2s. 6d. If I played lefthanded. I am a left-handed player!”

R.R.: “What are your other sporting interests?”

Haydon: “Mainly cricket. I play for Warwickshire’s and eleven (batsman).”

All the Tournament Dates.

Following is the list of tournament and championship dates approved by the English Table Tennis Association:

1935.


29-30 “ Merseyside Open.

7 Dec. Runcorn Open.

12 Jan. Kent Open.

13 Regal Cinema, Edmonton, Tournament.


24-25 “ Dorset” England Open.

27 Jan.-1 Feb. Middlesex Open.

6-8 Feb. English National Championships.

10-22 London Open.

27-29 “ Cheshire Open.

March World’s Championships and International Tournament.

2-14 Mar. Wembley Open.

9-21 “ Surrey Open.

21-29 Sussex Open.

23-28 “ West Middlesex Open.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES


4 April, 1936 Wales v. England (Women) (Wales).

Full details of Secretaries, &c., of any of the above tournaments can be found in the E.T.T.A. handbook, or on application to the new E.T.T.A. offices, Featherstone House, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

THIRTY NEW LEAGUES.

New leagues continue to swell the strength of the Association, and no fewer than 30 had been accepted into membership for the present season.

To the following, and to any others since accepted, the E.T.T.A. extends a warm welcome to the ranks of organised table tennis:—


AYRES ANNOUNCE

the introduction of a new Table Tennis Bat—the “G. W. MARSHALL” made to the specifications of the AMERICAN SWAYTHLING CUP PLAYER of all Dealers

F. H. AYRES, LTD, III, Aldersgate Street, London

1935 WORLD’S CHAMPIONSHIPS
First Two To Bergl. A Success For Sears.

The Table Tennis Tournament Season opened officially with an Invitation Tournament held at Messrs. Yardley's, Stratford, E.1, early in October.


The final provided a most thrilling and spectacular match, Sears, after giving a wonderful display of all-round stroke play, beating Hales 21–19 in the fifth game.

Maurice Bergl, of Harrow, is now justifying the confidence long reposed in him by the English International Selection Committee. He has won—in most convincing fashion—the first two major open tournaments held in the London area, the "Home Counties" and the "South London" Championships.

Home Counties Championships.

The Home Counties Championships, held at Whitehall's Club, Toplady Hall, Tottenham Court Road, W.1, from 14th to 18th October, attracted a very large entry for the Men's Singles, including nearly all the best London players.

In the early rounds Bergl beat Marshall 2–0, and Proffitt was in great form, beating the Indian, M. Ayub, 21–15, 21–16, and later the holder, H. J. Hales, also in two straight games. The Men's Singles semi-finalists were Bergl and Brook, and Proffitt and M. A. Symons. Bergl's combination of patience, defence and varied top spin attacks proved too good for Brook, and the Harrow man won comfortably in two straight.

Proffitt also reached the final, beating Symons—a after an exciting first game, when he recovered brilliantly from a 15–9 deficit.

The final saw Proffitt valiantly endeavouring to place Bergl's steady, long defence and also unable to shake off his opponent's clever counter attacks. Bergl took the first two games and, although Proffitt hit brilliantly to win the third, Bergl won the fourth game and the match.

The Women's Singles proved a triumph for a Whitfield Club player, the well-known International, Miss Violet Beanfield, entwined English Open Champion, who beat Mrs. Booker in the Final by two games to nil. It was little unfortunate for Miss Doris Emdin that she had to play Miss Beanfield in the first round, Miss Woodcock, the popular player from Amersham, was not able to attend from the Tournament. Ayub and Proffitt scored a fine victory in the Men's Doubles, while the South London Championship, held there from 22nd to 25th October, saw Miss Doris Emdin and Miss N. Wood, and winning Miss Beanfield in the final.

The South London Championships.

London's largest table tennis hall, the "London, Elephant & Castle, was well attended for the South London Championships, held there from 22nd to 25th October.

As expected, Bergl retained his title of "South London" Champion, defeating M. Ayub, India's Sweeper Cup Captain, by three games to one in the Final. (Continued on page 5).

The Original English Team.

This very interesting picture is of the team which opposed Wales on the occasion of the very first International Table Tennis Match. It was played at the London Club, King Street, Baker Street, London, on Friday, 9th March, 1923. Each man (eight aside) had to play each of his opponents one game of 31 up—a total of 144 games in all. We know the England won (perhaps diamond shirt-studs dazzled our opponents into defeat) but their actual scores have sunk deep into antiquity.

Immense interest was aroused by the meeting of Manchester and Liverpool on Monday, November 16th. This was the eleventh inter-city encounter of the series, and Liverpool had high hopes of averting last year's 6-4 defeat. They turned out a strong team, consisting of R. Hyde, D. Foulis, F. Bamford, E. Hyde and J. Roberts.

Manchester led off with A. Millar, and after losing the first game to Foulis, "Andy" took the next two 21-8, 21-9. H. Lurie then beat K. Hyde 2-1, and from this point Manchester never relaxed their advantage. L. Cohen beat both E. Hyde and Roberts, two straight, and Millar and Lurie beat Hyde and Foulis in their cross-singles, two straight in each case. C. W. Davies lost to Roberts 2-1, and F. Cromwell to E. Hyde 2-0, but both beat Bamford 2-0. Manchester therefore won by the decisive margin of 8-2.

Each team included three international players, and the struggle was a tense one from beginning to end. Lurie was doubtless delighted to score off Ken Hyde, as the latter had recently deprived him of his players, and the struggle was a tense one and although actual details have not yet the well-known Swindon international, by

... and Liverpool had high hopes of avenging its last year's loss. One interesting competitor was S. Santows Ratanagkash, a very young Indian boy, hardly taller than the table. He displayed a clever chop stroke, but inexperience of competitive play led to his defeat early in the Tournament. The winner was J. H. Pickering, of the "Samuel Jones" Club, who beat J. W. Contois (Civil Service) in the Final by two games to nil.

The Lancashire Open Championships.

L. Hurst, of Manchester, regarded by many as England's most promising young player, lost his Lancashire Championship title, being beaten by J. K. Hyde (Liverpool) 14-21, 21-19, 21-14, 21-19 in the Final.

The "Novices" event (for players who had never previously played in an Open Championship) created great interest as the form of many of the competitors was quite unknown. One interesting competitor was S. Santows Ratanagkash, a very young Indian boy, hardly taller than the table. He displayed a clever chop stroke, but inexperience of competitive play led to his defeat early in the Tournament. The winner was J. H. Pickering, of the "Samuel Jones" Club, who beat J. W. Contois (Civil Service) in the Final by two games to nil.

W. J. Pope - To You!

Little! - But Not for Long?

"Our" Magazine is out at last!

Many will be disappointed by its size - but be born in that old saying, "Little but Good." We shall try hard to be "good," and with every enthusiast's assistance we shall not be "little" for "long!"

It will be run by specialists in every branch of the game. Through the medium of its columns the most distant news will be brought to the fireside - in fact every player will be kept up to date with the activities of our neighbours near and far.

As National Secretary I am in touch with a large number of people I have never seen and I hear of the work they are doing. This places me in a position to realise, perhaps better than anyone else on the administrative side, what is taking place all over the country.

I know that this little effort will be read eagerly by a large number of "fans" from Lands End to John o'Groats. When you read this remember that what you are thinking - which we hope is encouraging - thousands of others are also thinking. May all your thoughts be kind, and above all remember that a little bunch of enthusiastic E.T.T.A. members are doing their best "after office hours" to supply you with the most up-to-date and interesting news of table tennis gleaned from the four corners of England.

On page 6 will be found a subscription form. If you have not done so already fill it in and help your Association and satisfy your own natural craving for news. If you have ordered your copy pass this form on to a friend who might be interested.

These are the columns to watch for the only authentic announcements of the English Table Tennis Association.

For Speed... play SPALDING BATS, BALLS and "VILLA" TABLE

Of all Dealers everywhere.

(Continued from page 4)

Ken Hyde Beats Lurie in Lancashire Championships Final.

Berg's achievement in winning this Tournament was an even more meritorious one than his "Home Counties" triumph, for he had to beat in successive rounds W. Levy, P. Preffitt, G. Marshall, H. Shalson, and then L. Ayub. This he accomplished with the loss of only two games!

Ayub had a very easy draw by comparison, and he started off in the Final like a champion, returning every hit Bergl could put over and using great discretion in choosing the right balls to hit. He won the first game 21-10 and led 9-1 in the second game. Bergl then improved and reduced his opponent's lead to thrLe...
MAKE THEM REAL EXHIBITIONS.

Do our exhibition players play too much to their reputations?

The following American viewpoint, reprinted from "Table Tennis Topics," might equally well apply to exhibitions in this country:

"Too often they resolve into uninteresting do-or-die struggles for victory, with little thought of pleasing the public.

"An exhibition should be an exhibition—not a battle unto death, or a tournament where loss hurts your ranking.

"Let's see that players are selected for exhibitions who can sell the game to the public...to heck with winning. Don't stoop to a push game—put on a show."

COACHING

H. R. NEWMAN
(Registered E.T.T.A. Coach)
122, Muswell Hill Road, N.10

TERMS: £1 per hour—Club Coaching by arrangement.

Telephones: Tudor 3654 and North 3882.

HERTS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS
WATFORD
Commemrating Tuesday, 10th Dec., 1935

Men's & Women's Singles and all Doubles

ENTRY FORMS from:
Telephone : Watford 4982. King's Langley 7140

Sole Medallists for WORLD'S TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
London, February, 1935

CONTRACTORS TO THE E.T.T.A.
H. I. V. PETERS & Co., Ltd.
183, High Road, Loughton, Essex

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS' SENSATION.

At the moment of going to press, the International Table Tennis Federation announces that arrangements to hold this year's Congress in Zagreb have been cancelled. This is an unprecedented happening, all the more unfortunate as the Jugo-Slavian T.T.A. had given a definite undertaking. There had been hopes of securing Royal patronage.

We understand that all nations are now being invited to submit alternative proposals. On the face of it we envisage the possibility of the world's championships being declared void for the first time since the foundation of the I.T.T.F., but we are assured every effort will be made to avoid this. The situation is being anxiously examined, and we hope to be able to acquaint our readers with further developments in the next issue of TABLE TENNIS.

APPRECIATION.

The Editorial Board feels that the first issue of TABLE TENNIS cannot go to press without a tribute to the excellent work of Mr. W. C. Charlton, who has accepted the arduous post of Business Manager, and his Assistants, Misses Capper and Smits of West Ealing.

RECOGNITION AT LAST—THE PRESS IS WON OVER.

Nothing has been more gratifying, nor more striking proof of the rise of table tennis than the aroused interest of the Press.

It took the success of the recent World Championships to arouse newspapers to the genuine "pull" of the game, but now table tennis news is a commonplace rather than a rarity, and more than one paper gives weekly "How to Play" hints.

More striking still is the number of newspaper competitions being organised, and the consequent publicity cannot fail to benefit table tennis tremendously.

Easily foremost is the Home Counties tournament of The Star. This paper is spending large sums and offering fine prizes in support of their competition, and the total entry of over 5,000 has proved gratifying both to them and to the hard-working band of officials who did so much to stimulate their interest.

The Manchester Evening Chronicle has also embarked on a new singles tournament, open to all players in their area who cannot be ranked first class.

Other prominent provincial papers running competitions include the Bristol Evening Post (men's and women's singles) and the Birmingham Evening Dispatch; while more locally valuable work is being done by smaller newspapers, such as the South London Press, whose well-established team tournament has, this year, attracted a record entry for their limited area of close on 200 teams.

ORDER FORM

To THE BUSINESS MANAGER,
"Table Tennis,"
64, High Holborn,

I enclose herewith

Cheque
Postal Order

to the value of

£1-
2/-

for

copies of "Table Tennis"

monthly during the season. Please send them to the following address:

Name

Address

* "Table Tennis" is published monthly during the season (October—May) at the following charges:—1 copy per month 1/-; 4 copies per month 2/6; larger quantities at the rate of 2/6 for 4 copies.

Printed by McCrindle & Co., Ltd., 43, Cardington Street, London, N.W. 1; and Published by the English Table Tennis Association, 64, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

"Barna"
The Master Table Tennis Ball
4/- per doz. to Clubs

"Barna"
The Master Table Tennis Racket
£ per each

WALTER BRIGGS, LTD., LONDON, E.C.1