

Table

The OFFICIAL ORGAN of the E.T.T.A.

Tennis

VOL. I. No. 2.

DEC., 1935-JAN., 1936.

ONE PENNY.

REGISTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

Second Wind.

WE have got our second wind and we feel both thankful and grateful that the first issue of TABLE TENNIS received so warm a welcome. Within a week of publication, we knew that our editorial treatment was "just what the doctor ordered." A little later, supplies began to run so low that another 2,000 had to be printed, and though we called a halt at that point, we feel that an initial sale of 7,000 copies is an encouraging start.

The Barna Tour has been a great success. Seventeen Leagues have acted as hosts to the three Hungarians—seventeen times have we received glowing accounts of superlative play before delighted tightly-packed crowds. The tour is fully detailed elsewhere in this issue and it will reveal that well over 20,000 people massed to see the visitors. On leaving for the continent, Barna, Szabados and Bellak begged us to convey, through this magazine, their earnest thanks for the kindnesses they say had been showered on them everywhere: and, in so doing, we can, for our part, assure them that we were delighted to have as our guests such a trio of brilliant players and universally-liked sportsmen.

Judging by the bare bones of the score, Hungary appears to have given us a thorough hiding at the International match at Birmingham, on

10th December. True, one or two games were lost by the proverbial street, but generally speaking, play was so close as to make the match a really thrilling encounter. Our opponents thoroughly deserved their victory for each man was in great form. Haydon's win against Szabados was noteworthy, not only because it spared us the ignominy of a 9-0 landslide, but because it was the first time for seven years that Szabados had lost to an Englishman.

The season begins to move rapidly. Only just ahead lie several important tournaments (specially to be noted is the first Essex "Open"), then the English, early in February, and the World's in mid-March. It is good to know that Czecho-Slovakia's offer to stage the Championships at Prague has been accepted, and with memories of their solitary Swaythling Cup defeat there in 1932, one wonders if Hungary may perhaps suffer a little apprehension—not for the first time. Many important inter-League matches and exhibitions are due for early decision, and as reports of intense activity all over the country are now streaming rather than trickling, it looks as if issue No. 2 will have to be enlarged.

The English Table Tennis Association wishes all players and officials the happiest of Happy New Years.

ARTHUR HAYDON FOR LONDON!

We learn that Haydon is to take up an appointment with F. H. Ayres, Ltd., on Jan. 1. Birmingham's loss is the South's gain.

ENGLAND v. I.F.S.

The following have been invited to form the English team to oppose the Irish Free State in Dublin, on Saturday, 18th January:— J. Silto, Swindon (Capt.); C. W. Davies, Manchester; A. J. Wilmott, London; N. Litten, Exeter; Mrs. F. Booker, London, and Miss D. Newey, Birmingham. The match was originally fixed for 14th December, but circumstances forced its postponement for five weeks. We offer our congratulations to the three new Internationals, Davies, Wilmott and Litten, and trust that they, and the ladies, will support "Captain" Silto in ensuring our seventh consecutive victory in this series. The Irish are noted for their kindness and generous hospitality, so the team can look forward to a thoroughly enjoyable trip.

DOUBLE UP, DOUBLES PLAYERS!

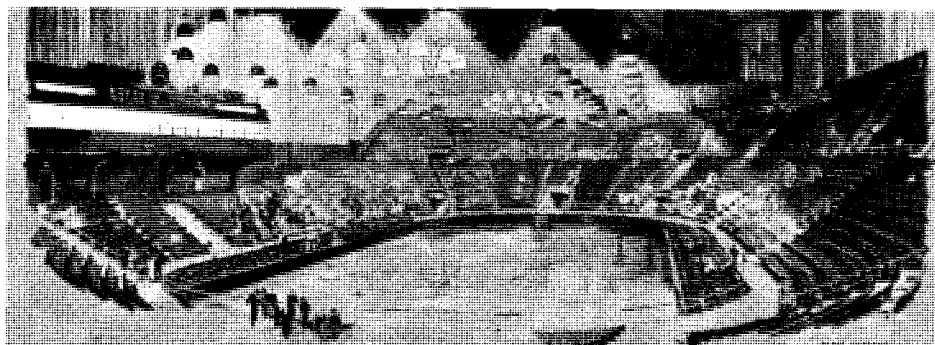
There seems to be a shortage of good doubles teams. Many people consider the four-handed game more interesting than singles, not only to play, but to watch, and we think there is plenty of scope for those who care to specialise in the foursome. Moreover, a whisper reaches us that the selectors are on the prowl for promising partnerships and that they do not want to encourage scratch pairings in representative matches.

Shall we see a couple of comparatively indifferent singles players get their England badges this year as a team, simply because they have listened to a word in season and "got down to it"? It wouldn't surprise us.

AN AMERICAN WORLD-CHAMP?

It was generally agreed last February that the American teams put up a surprisingly good show, especially as it was their first appearance in Europe. Jimmy McClure made a particularly favourable impression, and his team-mate, Solly Schiff, walked off with the Consolation Singles at Wembley. They will do better still next time. Now we begin to hear things about the U.S.A. women's No. 1, Miss Ruth Aarons. She is being specially trained by Sandor Glancz, the Hungarian star, and it is said she is already good enough to step into Kettnerova's shoes. Our informant, just returned from the States, declares she is incomparably the finest woman player he has ever seen, and he has seen them all. Miss Aarons will certainly be with the American team at Prague next March, so we'll see what fireworks look like.

Good news is that plans for World's Champs., Chicago, 1937, are proceeding nicely.



The New Empress Stadium, Earl's Court. English Championships, February 8th.

Official Circular.**TO ALL LEAGUE AND CLUB SECRETARIES.**

It is proposed to issue an Official Circular to all local officials through the medium of our Magazine, bringing to the notice of all members in the country, information about the work of the Organisation and bringing them into the administration of the game as component parts of the machinery. As a National Governing body we are, I think, unique in the realm of sport, inasmuch as we are generally representative of all our affiliated bodies and it can truly be said that the E.T.T.A. is the Leagues and Clubs and the Leagues and Clubs are the E.T.T.A. So this circular must be looked upon as a personal word to each of those to whom it is addressed, and whilst it will often contain an appeal to members to undertake work for the Association, it will also offer the services of the Association, its Officers and Executive Committee, to help the game and the local organisations in the work they are doing in their districts.

The need of an official circular to broadcast news is not so urgent now that we have our own Magazine. The work of the Association is made clear in these columns. The tour of the Hungarian players, reports of Open Tournaments, the publication of the Official Handbook, details of the International Matches, Trials, the World and National Championships, are in the news. It is only left to me on this occasion to deal with a few points of administration.

The Handbook.

This has now been despatched to all League and Club Secretaries, and if it has not been received by any such official, please write me at once. It reveals our tremendous growth and the figures are:—121 Leagues, 2,125 Clubs, 36,287 approximate registered membership. The contents include, as well as the names and addresses of all Clubs and Secretaries in the country, the Constitution and Rules of the Association, History of the Game, complete records of all Championships, the current Fixture List and the latest Rules of the Game. It is a mine of information and should be in the hands of every player. 213 pages and the price is 1s., post free, 1s. 3d. for individual copies. To Leagues ordering a number, we pay postage and I appeal to all Secretaries to help us to sell this publication. Have them on view at all matches, tournaments and meetings.

Rule Cards and Rule Books.

It does not appear to be generally known that we sell cards containing the Rules of the Game, Knotty Points, &c., suitable for hanging in Club Rooms. Every Club should have one and then disputes can be easily settled. They measure 15 in. by 22½ in., are corded for hanging, at 1s. each, plus postage 9d. If Leagues order a supply postage is paid, and I can quote a reduction for quantities. The Rule Books are tiny and suitable for the waistcoat pocket. Here again I can quote a reduced price for a quantity and where the local league Handbook does not contain the Rules of the Game, there should be a great demand.

The New Headquarters.

We are now getting into working order at Featherstone House, 64, High Holborn, London, W.C. 1, and it is proposed to make the premises real Headquarters for all interested in the game. A cordial invitation is extended to all London and Provincial players to call, and all literature and news will be made available. We are open all day and the 'phone number is Holborn 9544.

The National Championships.

The new Empress Stadium holds 7,000 people. We must pack it! We are hoping for an invasion from the provinces and another real "Gala" night. The World's best players will be on view and the DATE IS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, 1936.

Yours for the game,

W. J. POPE,
Hon. General Secretary.

THIS MAGAZINE
Dates of Publication.

It will be seen that this issue of TABLE TENNIS has been dated December, 1935—January, 1936. This has been done because it has been found that some subscribers expect to receive their Magazine during the first days of the month in which it is published. Readers will remember that the first number was issued on the 22nd November. It is still intended that the subsequent numbers should be published at the end of each month, but in order that the Magazine may be in circulation during the whole of the month in which it is dated, it has been decided to issue the present number as stated above. The February number will, therefore, be published on the last Thursday of the preceding month, i.e., January, and so on until the May issue (No. 6). During the summer it is intended to publish during the alternate months of July and September; thus completing the eight issues, comprising Vol. I.

Hungary Beat England by 8 - 1.

Haydon Scores Our Only Win - Against Szabados.

Hungarian Trio in Brilliant Form.

[By our Special Correspondent.]

Two thousand wildly enthusiastic spectators packed the Central Hall, at Birmingham, on Tuesday, 10th December, when the annual International three-a-side match, between England and Hungary, took place. England have never yet beaten Hungary in this series—their best effort was when they ran the Swaythling Cup-holders to a close 5—4 win two years ago. Hungary rubbed it in at Birmingham, however, winning eight sets to one for England by Haydon.

Sometimes it appeared that England might easily have made the score no worse than 6—3 or 5—4 in Hungary's favour, but again and again the spectators were treated to superb exhibitions of how the continental "stars," and Hungary in particular, can pick up to win when nine or ten points behind with their opponent on the 19 or 20 mark. Haydon lost two games which he appeared to have well in hand, and Jones looked a certain winner against Szabados, and yet . . .

In the opening match, Bergl opposed Barna. The Harrow player was said to be in fine form, already having won two open titles decisively. Although he secured a substantial lead against Barna, however, Bergl did not appear to be playing too well, his "chop" returns being too high, while he missed several opportunities of smashing short ones. He played a spectacular kind of game, but with two or three shots Barna gradually forced him to make higher and higher returns which were eventually killed rather easily. Barna made several mistakes in this set, which he won comfortably in two straight games, and it appeared that he was conserving his energy.

And then came Haydon, in opposition to Bellak, and although Bellak appeared to give away the second game after winning the first, it looked as if England would draw level at one set each. Haydon actually led Bellak by 19—11, and the crowd got ready to cheer the Birmingham player's winning shot. But it did not come. Instead, Bellak used his forehand drive to smash his way to Haydon's attack and half-volley defence, and the Hungarian caught up at "deuce," and ran out an amazing winner at 22—20.

David Jones played a superb defensive game against Szabados, and although he only scored nine points in the intermediate game, Jones played wonderfully in the third. Szabados was leading 17-13 when Jones made his great effort, and catching up at 17 all, the Londoner forged ahead, led by 20—19, and 21—20, and then lost by 21—23. And again the crowd clapped and sighed. 3—0 down and we might have been 2—1 up.

Set No. Four was the tit-bit of the evening: Haydon v. Barna. Could Haydon (who has been suffering from lack of practice) get the better of the world champion in his home town? And just how true was the story about Barna's cramp in his playing arm? With Haydon smashing Barna's defence to pieces (as the crowd thought), the Birmingham man led by 17—7. But Barna won the game at 21—19, and the next at a similar score! Down 4—0 and we might have been 3—1 up!

Szabados won the match for Hungary in the next event, beating Bergl in two straight with terrific forehand hitting, mixed with clever drop-shots and accurate cross-court angling. The Bellak v. Jones match was a comparatively easy win for Hungary, too, Jones appearing to play well below the form he showed in his match with Szabados.

And then Haydon provided England with our only win, and a victory in two straight games at that, and against Szabados! Haydon just got home by 22—20 in the first game, and although he led 15—5 and 20—12 in the second, the Hungarian was not beaten until 21—17 was called in Haydon's favour.

But that was definitely England's last chance of victory. In the next event Barna gave David Jones a tremendous beating, whipping the ball against Jones's defence with deadly accuracy with his backhand. Barna's famous flick appeared to be working as well as, if not better than ever, and although Jones made some wonderful returns and engaged in longish rallies, Barna eventually secured the point—usually with a really vicious shot down Jones's backhand court after three or four down the Londoner's forehand wing.

Bellak was in glorious form too, and after beating Bergl by 21—5 in the first game, he proceeded to help Haydon very nearly to beat Barna and Szabados in an exhibition doubles match. Winning the first game by 23—21, Haydon and Bellak only just lost the second, and the world men's doubles pair were very lucky to take the third at 22—20.

Details:—

G. V. Barna (Hungary) beat M. B. W. Bergl (Harrow and England), 21—19, 21—13.

L. Bellak (Hungary) beat A. A. Haydon (Birmingham and England), 21—17, 19—21, 22—20.

M. Szabados (Hungary) beat R. D. Jones (London and England), 16—21, 21—9, 23—21.

G. V. Barna beat A. A. Haydon, 21—19, 21—19.

M. Szabados beat M. B. W. Bergl, 21—16, 21—9.

L. Bellak beat R. D. Jones, 21—16, 21—16.

A. A. Haydon beat M. Szabados, 22—20, 21—17.

G. V. Barna beat R. D. Jones, 21—9, 21—12.

L. Bellak beat M. B. W. Bergl, 21—5, 22—20.

Barking: Invitation Tournament.

At Barking recently, Stanley Proffitt celebrated his return to form by winning an invitation tournament organised by the Faircross Club. The players invited were: S. Proffitt, H. Hales, T. Sears, E. Findon, G. Marshall, A. D. Brook, M. Ayub and M. Bergl.

The play was, on the whole, rather average, but the final was without doubt a thriller from the word "go." Proffitt played an aggressive game, and by well-timed forehand and backhand smashes he beat Hales in three straight games.

While the finalists were resting Sears and Findon had a hard game, in which Sears did some lusty hitting and Findon some gallant retrieving. Sears won in the third game—the match being best of three.

Proffitt, in the course of the evening, beat Findon, Sears, Ayub and Hales. The runner-up, Hales, beat Brook, Marshall and Bergl. A handsome cup was presented to the winner and a replica to the runner-up.

These Exhibitions!

To the Editor.

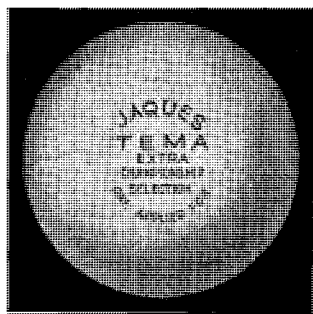
Sir,—As a staunch supporter of first-class table tennis exhibitions and one who travels miles to see Internationals, I am in a position to voice a word of protest against a little article that appeared on page 6 of the first issue of TABLE TENNIS under the heading "Make Them Real Exhibitions."

Some of us are getting a bit tired of being treated like children by these expert players. It is painfully obvious sometimes, that either one or the other is dropping a game simply to make the match go the distance. This is not fair to the spectator! We don't want to see acrobatics or planned manoeuvres, but table tennis with a punch. We want to see a motive behind each shot and a desire to win a point.

On the other hand, isn't it detrimental to the International's game to have to give high balls so that an opponent who is out of form can hit back? Surely this type of game is dangerous to practice.

A suggestion I would make to all exhibition managers is that, in every case possible, an invitation tournament should be run with a small trophy or prize for the winner and runner-up. This would stimulate interest for the players and also give the enthusiastic supporter something genuine for his money.

Yours faithfully,
"WATCHER."



AS USED AT
1935 WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

R.D.
JONES



Famous Players Interviewed.

No. 2: R. D. JONES.

David Jones, England's No. 2 ranked player, winner of the *Sunday Referee* Nation-wide Singles Tournament in 1932, and twice conqueror of Barna in Swaythling Cup matches, has some interesting views on various aspects of the game.

Here are some of them, given in reply to searching questions put to him by our "Roving Reporter" recently:—

R.R.: "Looking back over the years of your experience as a Swaythling Cup player, what event stands out as the turning point in your playing career?"

Jones: "My first tour round England, with Fred. Perry and Charlie Bull. After two weeks, during which time I played at a different town every evening, I had only lost one game. It was the result of these matches which gave me the confidence which I consider is essential if a player is to reach International standard."

R.R.: "What makes the difference between being just 'a good player' and becoming a Swaythling Cup International?"

Jones: "This question leaves me 'stone cold'! It's a case of continued practice, plus 'something the others haven't got'!"

R.R.: "What was your most brilliant table tennis victory?"

Jones: "England were losing by 4 matches to 3 to Germany in the Swaythling Cup when I had to play their No. 1 player. I was playing as England's third man and had already lost to Germany's No. 2 and No. 3. My unexpected win over their No. 1 player (who reached the Semi-Final of the World's Singles Championship that year) saved the match for England."

R.R.: "What is your opinion on the 'too old at 26' theory?"

Jones: "I am 28—what do you think?"

R.R.: "Is defensive play finished, and is all-round play likely to be the way to success in the future?"

Jones: "Most certainly."

R.R.: "What is the most important stroke in the game?"

Jones: "There is no one stroke more important than another, but a loose ball must be put away no matter how the stroke is executed."

R.R.: "Are finger-spin services worth while to the good player?"

Jones: "They are a waste of time when playing another good player."

R.R.: "What are your views on 'professionalism' in table tennis? Do you agree with the 'paid player' idea?"

Jones: "I certainly do. To become a first-class player can be quite expensive."

WOMEN'S TABLE TENNIS.

By Mrs. H. M. BUNBURY
(Chairman, Women's Executive Committee,
1933-35).

It was with great pleasure that I received an invitation from the Editor of the Official Magazine to write a few words on the women's side of table tennis. Table tennis magazines have come and gone, and now at last we have our own publication. I sincerely hope it will be supported enthusiastically by the women, not merely because of its own immanent merits, but because it will form a channel of authoritative information between those at headquarters and the women players in all parts of the country.

One of the desires of the Editor is, I am sure, to create and maintain that personal touch between the many thousands of players and officials up and down the land, and those who have the care and responsibility of looking after their interests and welfare.

There are many signs and portents that table tennis is rapidly becoming more popular among women. For a long time the Women's League in Manchester was the only one in the country, but there is now another one at Stoke, and I prophesy that there will be others in the New Year.

At the present time there are certain difficulties in the way. There are fewer women's organisations such as clubs and so forth as compared with those for men, though here I might interpolate that table tennis, to my own personal knowledge, is making headway amongst Girls' Clubs, Health and Beauty centres, the Rangers, and so on.

At the present time many women, amongst whom are included some of our best players, actually play in men's leagues. By so doing they, of course, reap the advantage of playing with and against the best men players. Naturally their own game benefits accordingly. But the time is coming, if the number of women players increase at the present rate, when they will inevitably have to play in their own leagues. There is, of course, no *prima facie* reason why they should not play in both. I do not want to give the impression that women should play less with men than they do now. Quite the contrary, the more they can play together, the better. This brings to mind the question of mixed doubles, the general standard of which, in this country, is lamentably low. One only has to go the rounds of many of the big tournaments as I do, to see the deplorable standard of most of the scratch combinations who enter for these events. How often do we see on the entry forms for these tournaments, "partner wanted"? This is palpably a bad state of affairs from the women's point of view. Until it is altered, there is little hope of our achieving either National or International prestige in mixed doubles.

To those to whom my remarks may give food for thought, I should mention that the E.T.T.A. will always be happy to give advice and assistance.

There are many phases of the women's game on which I should like to dilate, but as I have run my allotted span, I must leave these for future issues of the Magazine. I would like, however, to take the opportunity of expressing the season's greetings to all women table tennis players, whether members of the E.T.T.A. or not.

Hints on Umpiring.

A FEW PROS. AND CONS.

Umpiring is still too little regarded as being a necessity to the proper conduct of a table tennis match.

Some players might be inclined to regard the umpire as a necessary evil, but no important match should ever be played without one. On such occasions it should not be left to the players' discretion as to whether a service was fair or foul, whether a doubtful return was "up," or the ball had touched the playing surface or not. Besides deciding these doubtful points, the umpire has to keep the score for the players.

On the face of it, umpiring would seem to be quite a simple job. It is—provided you keep your mind on it and have a good knowledge of the rules of the game.

It is in these two fundamental points of umpiring that many people fail.

A good umpire can give "tone" even to a match between players of quite moderate ability, but a really bad umpire can spoil the most attractive game.

When you are asked to umpire a match, your first thought must be to *concentrate* on the play.

Stand or (if a chair is provided), sit well away from the table—about 5 feet distant if playing conditions permit, and you should be straight in line with the net.

When umpiring a doubles match, it is essential that you have a clear view of the white line running down the centre of the table and if a high chair is not available, it will be best for you to umpire standing up. You will thus be in a position to judge with certainty the question of whether or not a service is served on to the wrong half of the table—a not uncommon occurrence in doubles matches.

How to Call the Score.

When service and choice of ends have been made and the first point has been decided, call the score, beginning with the server's score, "love—one," until change of service; *i.e.*, suppose the server loses 4 out of the first 5 points, after calling "1—3," your next call will be "4—1," indicating the lead the new server has obtained. A common and confusing practice is for the umpire to say "1—3" then "1—4" and then "service 4—1,"—which besides being unnecessary, takes too long and means that you may disturb the players by calling out the score when they are waiting to get on with the game. Try to time your calling of the score so that you finish well before the server begins his next delivery. It is important that you call the score so that it can be heard by anyone who may be watching the match.

This applies particularly if you are umpiring a tournament or exhibition match and there are spectators present who wish to know exactly how the match is progressing. The writer has been present at important tournament matches when the umpire has "called" the score silently so far as the spectators are concerned!

Avoid shouting, but call the score clearly and distinctly in a tone above ordinary conversational level.

If you are umpiring a "big" match, announce the players' names to the spectators and state what the match is and that it is best

of so many games. Then indicate who is who of the two players by saying at the commencement of the match "Barna (or whoever it may be) serving."

Foul Services and Doubtful Points.

Most umpires are extremely diffident about "foul servicing" a player, owing to the fact that it is often very difficult to judge when the rule is actually being broken. No warning need be given (as some people seem to think) and if you do honestly consider a player is serving over the baseline or outside the sides of the table, you should not hesitate to call "fault." Make up your mind at once and stand firmly by your decision. This applies also to "lets," "net ups" and "edge" balls. Do not argue about the fact. You are there as sole judge of facts during the match and your decision is final. You may, of course, actually be doubtful about whether a ball touched the table surface or not, owing to your being temporarily unsighted. In such case you may ask the players or near-by spectators opinion. Avoid doing so whenever possible.

Mistakes.

Errors in calling the scores are generally due to nervousness or carelessness on the umpires part. Concentration on the job is the certain cure in either of these cases. Remember you have a job to do and just get on with it, without thinking about who the players may be.

It sometimes happens, however, that the umpire is mistaken over a happening in the play, and wrongly credits one player with a point. Under such circumstances it is best to correct your own error rather than persist in an opinion which often annoys both players and spectators. "Efficient, but not officious!" should be the umpires motto.

READY FOR WALES.

The 14th annual match between England and Wales will be held at the headquarters of the Young Wales Association, 11, Mecklenburgh Square, London, W.C., on 11th January, at 7 p.m.

So far, England has won ten matches to Wales' three, but the Welshmen sprang a surprise at Cardiff last year, when they won 6—3, for the first time for eight years, and in consequence, a great struggle is anticipated this year.

The visitors have been busy with trials, and reports indicate that their team will be unusually strong, but England will also field an almost full-strength team, with the exception of R. D. Jones, our No. 2, who, as an "ex-Welshman" himself, has kindly consented to referee the match.

Neither country, however, is divulging its teams, which will remain a secret until mutually exchanged by the respective captains on the eve of the match.

HERTFORDSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Editorial Board regret that through an oversight, the above Championship was not included in the list of approved Tournaments and dates published in our last issue. But the "Hertfordshire," since its inception in 1932-33, has deservedly become one of the most popular of major events in the South of England, and we feel sure that none of the tournament "regulars" would have been disturbed by such an obvious printers error of omission.

EXHIBITION MATCHES AT LILLE.

By A. A. HAYDON.

I have just made a short visit to Lille, and there had the opportunity of playing against my old friends, Haguenauer of France and Erhlich of Poland, in a triangular match.

In addition to the above matches, which were arranged by the newspaper "Echo du Nord," there was also played off the final of their novices tournament.

About 2,000 people watched the games and their enthusiasm reached a terrific pitch at times.

From a playing point of view, I did not have a good time, but I should like to pay tribute to the hospitality of the people of Lille. They certainly gave me a great time and I shall be very happy to visit them again should the opportunity occur.

With regard to Erhlich, whom I regard as an infinitely better player, I might have beaten him, but for his really nasty finger spin service. Erhlich beat Haguenauer comfortably and is a strong candidate for world honours.

Results: Haguenauer beat Haydon (21—12, 21—17, 21—19); Erhlich beat Haydon 22—20, 21—19, 21—17). Final: Erhlich beat Haguenauer 3—1.

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No table tennis event—not even the world championships—has aroused such enthusiasm, nor drawn such consistently large crowds as the tour of the Hungarian "Musketeers," Barna, Bellak and Szabados.

Town after town, North, South, East and West, has added its quota to the tale of "full houses" and "wild enthusiasm" which has followed the world stars everywhere.

At Plymouth 2,500 crowded to the show; at Newcastle over 2,000; in all, seventeen leagues have acted as hosts and given glorious receptions to the tourists.

Mere hitting of a ball over a net, to whatever degree perfected, could not have produced such results. What is the secret that has made this mission tour one of the happiest ideas ever conceived by the E.T.T.A.?

Mr. C. Corti Woodcock, Chairman of the Association, hit the nail on the head, speaking at one of the many crowded exhibitions.

Personality.

Table tennis, like all games, depended for success on its personalities, he said, in Barna, Szabados and Bellak they had three of the outstanding personalities—the Jack Hobbs of their particular sport—who had helped to raise the game to its present high standard.

Certain it is that the tour has done wonders in raising new adherents to the table tennis standard. Magnificent play, coupled with a highly-developed sense of showmanship, made the Hungarians a riot wherever they went.

Barna's backhand flick; Szabados' incredible retrieving and smashing forehand; and above all, the incredible antics and fooling of Bellak, juggling with bat and ball, shuffling comically round the table, bouncing the ball up and down on his bald head, have won a foothold for table tennis in a thousand new homes.

Honours have showered thick and fast on the likeable trio. Notability crowded to their shows . . . "the mayors and corporations sent congratulations" . . . in a phrase, success undreamed of has been the reward of the E.T.T.A.'s pioneering.

Here are a few notes from the towns visited:—

LEEK, NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

First port of call, and despite all reports to the contrary, it was shown thus early in the tour that Barna's accident early in the year had affected his form, if only by loss of practice. He lost 21—16, 18—21, 21—15 to H. Lurie, the young Manchester hope.

The dance floor surface of the Leek Town Hall, however, was not free from blame. It was very slippery, and earlier in the evening, Barna fell on his right arm—the one he had broken in his motoring accident.

He was unhurt, but it was not surprising that thereafter he was cautious in his footwork. Szabados also beat him during the evening.

Mr. H. Oldroyd, the President of the E.T.T.A., was among the record crowd, and paid tribute to the work of the organisers.

Amongst the local players taking part were K. Stanley, the 13-year old Lancashire junior champion, and N. Stanyer and W. Buxton of the Leeks League.

A

MESSAGE TO ENGLAND.

Now that we have played the last games of our tour, we feel we cannot leave England without expressing our heartfelt gratitude for all the kindnesses we have received in every city and town that we have visited.

Thanks to the hospitality of the leagues where we have played, to the efficiency of the E.T.T.A. and of Mr. Pope in particular, and to the sportsmanship of the players that we have met, our visit will remain always a delightful memory.

Signed—

GYOZO BARNÁ.

LAZLO BELLAK.

MIKLOS SZABADOS.

HULL.

Lurie also accompanied the "circus" to Hull, and the party, with Miss D. Roberts and Miss N. Norrish, were entertained by the Hull and East Riding League.

Here Barna had his revenge on both Lurie and Szabados. Bellak also beat Lurie, but lost to Szabados. Mixed and men's doubles added to the crowd's enjoyment, while in straight games, Barna beat E. Smith (Hull Y. P.I.) 21—11; and Miss Norrish, who had previously beaten Miss Roberts by two games to one, beat Miss Boston (Hull) 21—10.

NEWCASTLE.

A record attendance of over 2,000 at the New St. James's Hall made the Newcastle visit an unforgettable one.

Lurie (Manchester), T. Ewbank and E. Reay (Sunderland), A. Willis and G. R. Brennard (Northumberland) and Misses G. M. Kay and M. E. McBride (Northumberland), also gave exhibitions.

Barna was again a loser, though there was nothing but praise for his strokes, and was beaten by both Bellak and Szabados. Against Bellak he could not get his famous "flick" working and the score of 10—21, 18—21 rather disappointed the crowd.

There was ample compensation in store, however, for the champion's game with Szabados was a marvel of speed and skill. Barna's backhand flicks alternating with Szabados' powerful forehand in lengthy rallies, which we are confidently, but trust erroneously, assured by a local newspaper, "literally brought the house down."

LEEDS.

Another vast enthusiastic crowd at the Brunswick Stadium, with Lurie and Cromwell completing the "circus." Another Bellak victory over Barna, too, and the "comic" of the party was now establishing himself as the star player, too.

Bellak beat Szabados, Barna and Cromwell here, and crowned a great performance by partnering Cromwell in a winning match against Szabados and Lurie.

The latter was again well beaten by the champion, which puts a truer value upon his rather fortunate win at Leek, but beat Cromwell in a very fine match.

BOLTON.

From Leeds to Bolton, where the party was officially welcomed by the Mayor and Mayoress. A "full house" of well over 500, and another triumph for Bellak, who was the outstanding player during the evening.

The exhibition was organised by Mr. G. Roylance and members of the Bolton Y.M.C.A., with the support of the Bolton and District League, while the Y.M.C.A. presented the players with beautifully inscribed cuff-links.

Amongst the judges was Harry Goslin, the Bolton Wanderers right half.

LIVERPOOL.

The last port of call in the North, aroused tremendous interest, particularly in the Hungarians' progress in the Merseyside Open Championships.

Once again Bellak shared the honours with Barna, though the latter revealed his old form in the championships final, beating Bellak in five sets and proving that he can still pull out the little bit extra when wanted.

BRISTOL.

A grand crowd of over 1,200 gave the tourists a fine send off in the West Country. Bristol and District League were the promoters and A. A. Haydon, A. G. Millar, and the local players, C. Dawes and F. Thrush, joined in the matches.

A welcome from the Lord Mayor at the Clubhouse, and presentation of caddy spoons with the Bristol coat of arms.

In the play, Dawes created an early surprise by beating Millar in three games and then Bellak again beat Barna, his forcing drives and smashing to the corners keeping the champion mainly on defence.

Barna later beat Szabados and Haydon, though both took a game off him, and Haydon played really well in the doing.

PLYMOUTH.

So to Plymouth, where the crowd of 2,500 is believed to be the record for the tour. An unfortunate misunderstanding which resulted in the Mayor waiting nearly an hour in the Guildhall to welcome the Hungarians. But tact works wonders, and all was well.

Tea before the match at "Woodbine," home of Mr. Jack Woolland, seemed to suit all the players but Barna, who again lost to Bellak and—sensational of the tour—to Haydon (21—11, 15—21, 25—23).

Bellak again excelled himself and his sleight of hand brought roars of applause.

Other players taking part, Haydon, Millar, R. Freeman, L. French and G. Brice. Silver pencils inscribed Plymouth, 1935, proved valued mementoes for the Hungarians.

PAIGNTON.

Barna back to form. He beat Haydon in two "straight" games and his 3—1 victory over Szabados was the tit-bit of the evening.

Bellak lost to Szabados, and seems to have transgressed the rules somewhat on beating Millar, judging from a contemporary's report of his "forceful volleying."

Haydon, Millar, F. R. Langmead and T. R. Rossiter were the co-opted players, and a celebration dance followed the exhibition.

SOUTHAMPTON.

Official welcome by the Mayor and Sheriff, literally columns in the local press, 1,200 spectators at the Central Hall—a wonderful reception.

Barna brought up his average against Bellak and went through the evening unbeaten.

H. Burt and W. Muller (Southampton), E. Gilbert and N. W. Lawrence (Bournemouth), F. Gould and R. V. Bryant (Salisbury) and J. Duffin and H. Barrett (Portsmouth) figured in an exhibition of local stars.

Barna Tour—continued from page 5.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.

Another civic reception, and the Mayor presented souvenirs—silver ash trays with the Island crest—to the Hungarians, and Haydon and Millar, who again accompanied them.

Barna pulled up on Bellak again, lost to Szabados, but easily beat Haydon, who was less brilliant than usual, and lost 13—21, 17—21 to Millar.

Local champions, G. Young and T. W. Warrington, played a "curtain-raiser."

SOUTH LONDON.

A wildly enthusiastic crowd of over 1,000 at the Kennington drill hall, and an all-star audience, which included Miss Joyce Gardner, the woman billiards champion, and well-known Rngby and soccer stars.

Also Mr. C. Corti Woodcock, chairman of the E.T.T.A., whose well-chosen words of welcome, and of encouragement and praise for the promoters, the South London League, inspired the Hungarians to a prolonged appreciative war-cry.

Bergl joined the tourists, and took a game off Bellak, but Barna was again at his best and was unbeaten.

Mr. Woodcock also paid warm praise to Mr. J. M. Rose, the President, and his South London League colleagues for staging the biggest table tennis display the district had ever known.

DARTFORD.

The Mayor and Mayoress, directors of J. & E. Hall, Ltd., whose table tennis section organised the display, the Town Clerk and various Councillors, were joined by Mr. C. Corti Woodcock and Mr. W. J. Pope, chairman and hon. secretary of the E.T.T.A., in welcoming the players.

Barna, invincible again, though T. Sears and A. Haydon, both played very well against all the Hungarians.

Fully 400 spectators.

GREENWICH.

The Greenwich exhibition took the form of a match between Barna's team, consisting of himself, T. E. Sears and G. W. Marshall, and another composed of Szabados, Bellak and J. Rogers.

Szabados' team won 4—3, Barna failing to win a game at all. Sears, however, put up a grand show in beating Szabados 21—6, 21—16, and established himself as public hero No. 1 with a delighted crowd.

BATH.

The Mayor, Town Clerk and Sir Guy and Lady Nugent welcomed the stars to Bath, where Haydon, Silto and J. Offer joined in the play, and Mr. A. W. Clipham, hon. secretary of the Bath League, made a well-chosen speech of thanks to the distinguished guests.

Haydon nearly surprised Bellak, but was just overhauled and the latter completed another good performance by beating Barna and Szabados again.

Barna beat Szabados, and Silto by 21—11, 21—16.

SOUTHEND.

Some 800 spectators at the Kursaal included Ald. Frith, the deputy Mayor and Reg. Taylor, the Essex county cricketer.

Unfortunately a Loudon League v. Southend League match before the start—London, represented by M. A. Symons, W. Livy and J. Rogers, won 9—0—curtailed the Hungarians' display, and at the close only single games were being played.

Barna and Bellak shared honours at a game all, as did Szabados and R. D. Jones, and the latter also took a game off Barna, playing very well indeed.

The Southend team, playing the Hungarians, fared as follows:—Cooper lost to Szabados 21—15 (after leading 10—7); T. Rogers lost to Bellak 13—21; Brown lost to Barna 10—21.

News from the Provinces.

ILFRACOMBE AND DISTRICT.

Boy's Club "B" team have lost their five years' unbeaten home record! The Boy's Club is an Ilfracombe team and their strength on their own table is well known in the district. Liberal "A" team were the winners and now wear an immortal crown for having smashed such a formidable record. Ilfracombe reversed the defeat they sustained at the hands of Exmouth last season by winning handsomely at Exmouth by 18 games to 7. H. Roberts, the Ilfracombe star, won all his games with comparative ease.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

Birmingham have the most impressive popularity record. During the last four seasons they have progressed from 10 clubs in the league to 140. Birmingham is proud of its achievements. A Midland Counties League has been formed, composed of Birmingham, Leicester, Nottingham, Coventry and Evesham.

Birmingham City Club have lost the services of A. A. Haydon, who has registered for Moseley Old Boys.

SITTINGBOURNE AND DISTRICT.

In an exciting encounter against the Chatham Dockyard League a few days ago, Sittingbourne were fortunate to carry the spoils home. After having established a lead of 10—4, they dropped off and were being led by 16—12 before making an effort which fortunately won them the match at 18—17.

The Sittingbourne Team included:—C. Gates, H. Feaver, A. Jordan, Mannoeh, Jones and Harper. Chatham sent out:—Kitts, Balcomb, Collins, Wardle, Pinfold and Newport.

LIVERPOOL LEAGUE.

Ennismore remain undefeated in the First Division of the Liverpool League, with maximum points from ten played matches.

Their five players, F. Bamford (Liverpool League Champion), H. Knibbs, L. J. Whitby, T. Smith, and J. Bennett, have all represented Liverpool in inter-City matches.

A great fight is being staged for the Second Division Championship, where the Breckside Co-op and Falkland both remain undefeated. These teams have each played ten matches, but whereas Breckside have lost only one point, Falkland have played no fewer than five draws.

Twelve regional teams, having won their way through the preliminary rounds, are ready for the Readman Challenge Cup competition proper, at which stage the First and Second Division teams enter.

THE JOKER.

A nice little story came to light the other day. A mutual friend overheard Barna and Szabados each declaring that he was better known and the more popular in Budapest. To decide it, the mutual friend offered to accompany them into the street and put the question to the first stranger they met. Finding one, the friend said, "Excuse me, Sir, but do you know either of these gentlemen?" And the reply came, "I'm afraid I don't, Mr. Bellak!"

This story comes from—Mr. Bellak: and Barna listens to it with an enigmatic smile.

STOCKPORT AND DISTRICT.

Stockport beat Macclesfield by 13 games to 12 in an inter-town match recently. With the score at 12 all, Airey faced Norbury. The latter started well for Macclesfield, but Airey rallied and eventually won the match for Stockport by 22—20.

BATH AND DISTRICT.

Bath suffered a defeat at the hands of Birmingham. The score was in favour of the Midlanders at the end of the evening by 6 matches to 4. Franklyn distinguished himself for Bath by snatching a set from Lisle, the Welsh International.

NELSON VERSUS BLACKPOOL.

In their eagerly awaited match, Nelson beat Blackpool by 15 games to 7. This is a new fixture for the Nelson League and the attendance of 150 strong was encouraging.

NOTTINGHAM BEAT COVENTRY.

Nottingham League successfully beat Coventry by 6 matches to 3. B. Joy played remarkably well for Coventry, but his efforts were useless. C. Sketchley was foremost in the Nottingham attack.

BRISTOL TO THE FORE.

Bristol have to congratulate themselves on a fine win over Swindon by 15 games to 10. J. Silto, the English International, was beaten by C. Dawes, of Bristol, who subsequently came specially under the eye of the International Selection Committee—a well-deserved honour.

SHEFFIELD BOW TO LEEDS.

Atkinson and Roberts, of Leeds, were the deciding factors in the match with Sheffield for the Yorkshire Inter-League Cup. Sheffield struggled hard, but eventually fell by 6 games to 3. Is Roberts a Leeds man? Perhaps he plays at Bradford, too!

BLACKPOOL LEAD THE WAY.

When the World's Championships looked like having a blank season, Blackpool stepped in with a great offer—they undertook to stage the whole affair. However, they are being played in Prague, but Blackpool can rest assured of an offer when foreign stars are touring. Such enthusiasm will not go unrewarded. Not discouraged by their defeat against Nelson, they have fixed up a match with Bury. They realise that it is by representative matches with stronger sides that their players will develop. It is unusual to find, in these days, that a Club resigns from a League owing to shortage of players. The unfortunate club was Fylde Water Board.

CHELMSFORD "PIP" WEST ESSEX.

These two played their first Inter-League Match on 6th December at Chelmsford, the home team winning an exciting scrap by 13—12. Peter Smith, the Essex County cricketer, turned out for Chelmsford, and is to have his batting colleague, Reg Taylor with him when they take on Southend, on 3rd January. The return against West Essex is fixed for 31st January, and will probably take place at Epping.

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Four Big Championships—Results.

LURIE'S TRIUMPH IN MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Beats Davies in "3 Straight."

There was a very strong entry for the Midland Championships; London, Manchester and Liverpool, being well represented. Birmingham's players had rather a poor time against the Northern and Southern "cracks."

H. Shalson, of London, did well to beat both Eric and Ken Hyde in the fourth and fifth rounds, but Proffitt succumbed to C. W. Davies who is now playing with great confidence.

In the semi-finals, Lurie beat Shalson 22-20, 21-4, and Davies beat F. Cromwell, of Manchester by 12-21, 21-13, 21-11.

The Final was very evenly contested, but Lurie had just two points to spare in each of the first three games, winning 21-19, 21-19, 25-23.

Miss Osborne disappointed Birmingham "fans" when, failing in the Semi-Final, but met an inspired opponent in Miss D. Newey, whose brilliant hitting thrilled the large and enthusiastic audience. Miss Woodhead lost in the other Semi-Final to Mrs. Booker, 9-21, 22-20, 11-21, the winner's forehand strokes being very consistent.

Miss Newey failed to quite reproduce her semi-final form when opposed to Mrs. Booker in the Finals, and the London players extra steadiness proved the vital factor in her victory by 21-11, 22-20.

The brothers Hyde reversed the Lancashire Championship result against Cromwell and Lurie in the Men's Doubles Final, winning 21-19, 21-18.

Miss Newey won the "Mixed" with Lurie, and with Miss Woodhead, beat the holders, Miss Osborne and Miss Vaughan.

Other events:—

Junior Singles: R. Callaghan beat T. Hayden 21-18, 21-19.

Veteran's Singles: A. J. Willmott beat F. S. B. Lawes 21-19, 21-18.

Men's Consolation Singles: W. Dawes beat C. Laurence (Bristol) 21-7, 21-9.

Women's Consolation Singles: Miss Warwick beat Miss Machin 21-16, 19-21, 21-17.

BARNA BEATS BELLAK 3-2 IN MERSEYSIDE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL.

Miss Osborne Wins Women's Title.

G. V. Barna, the world's most famous table tennis player, upheld his reputation at Liverpool, when he again won the Merseyside Championship, beating his fellow countryman, the spectacular Laslo Bellak, in the final by 21-16, 21-17, 16-21, 11-21, 21-15.

Barna also won the Men's Doubles Championship in partnership with M. Szabados. They defeated F. Cromwell and H. Lurie, both of Manchester, by 21-14, 21-16.

The Women's Singles went to Miss M. Osborne who, in an all-Birmingham Final, beat Miss D. Newey 21-16, 21-17 to retain her title.

Bellak and Miss N. Norrish (Liverpool's No. 1 player), were successful in the Mixed Doubles Final against Barna and Miss J. Bartholomew, by 21-16, 11-21, 21-11.

The Men's Singles Final was a battle between Barna's defence and Bellak's,

and for long periods the world-renowned Barna flick was not in evidence. On the few occasions that he essayed this shot, however, the champion nearly always scored a point.

Szabados had rather a poor tournament, going down badly to Bellak in the Singles Semi-final 21-10, 21-18.

The Men's Doubles Final provided some thrilling and spectacular play. Cromwell and Lurie have developed into a fine combination and, although they lost in straight games, they put up a fine fight against the world champion.

Other results:—

Junior Singles (W. S. Romain Challenge Cup): B. Casofsky (Manchester) beat R. Stanier (Leek), 10-21, 21-18, 21-9.

Men's Consolation Singles:—S. A. Atkinson (Liverpool) beat P. Sacoloff (Manchester) 22-20, 21-15.

Women's Consolation Singles: Miss W. Stott (Leeds) beat Miss N. Foulis (Liverpool) 21-18, 21-13.

WIN FOR STANLEY PROFFITT IN NORTH LONDON CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Bergl Beaten in the First Round!

Most of London's leading players made the long "trek" to North Finchley for the North London Tournament, held in aid of the Wright-Kingsford Home and sponsored by the enterprising Finchley Table Tennis Club.

Stanley Proffitt again showed that he is in "England form" by winning this tournament, beating in succession, J. Joyce (2-0), M. Ayub (2-0), H. H. Bridge (2-1) and then H. J. Hales, in the Final, by 21-19, 13-21, 23-21. It was unfortunate that the Final had to be reduced to a "best of three" match, owing to the lateness of the hour.

Surprise was caused by the defeat of the hitherto all-conquering Maurice Bergl in the first round. His conqueror was the redoubtable Mahommed Ayub, who beat him 21-16, 21-19.

Hales had to beat Marshall to get to the last eight, and managed to do this after a hard match in which the American's big hitting was much appreciated by the crowd.

A feature of the tournament was the excellent showing of E. Bubley, of the Manhattan Club, who won his way to the Semi-final very easily and then opposed Hales. Hales could do little against the steady half-volleying of Bubley, and as the scores neared 21 there was never more than one or two points difference between the two players. Eventually Hales got a lead of 20-19, but Bubley drew level. At game point 21-20 there was a very long rally—181 strokes—before Bubley missed a backhand flick. Hales won the second game fairly comfortably.

In the Women's Singles, Miss Dora Emdin, of St. Albans, gained her revenge over Miss V. Bromfield for her defeat in the "Home Counties" Championship, winning 24-22, 14-21, 21-18.

With only one player allowed to go through from the preliminary groups to the competition proper, there was a small but select "field" for the Ladies Singles' Championship. Those "left in" were Miss Wood,

(Continued on page 8, column 1.)

Miss MARGARET OSBORNE of Birmingham.

England's Champion and No. 1 lady player for the last two seasons; and so modest, you'd think she was ranked 1001. Dark, slender, attractive and not yet 21. Though not a powerful player, Margaret can force the pace when she likes. Generally her game is beautifully steady and her resourcefulness more than atones for lack of an orthodox backhand. Pet aversion—to lead 12-2 anybody whose name begins with a "K."

Miss M. Osborne



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Championship News—continued from page 7, column 2.

Mrs. Holt, Miss V. Bromfield, the sisters Emdin, Mrs. Boker and Miss W. Woodhead.

Miss Bromfield's chop stroke was far too steady for Mrs. Holt when they met in the first round, and Miss Dora Emdin was easily victorious against her sister, winning 2-0. A fine match was seen when Miss Wendy Woodhead opposed Mrs. Booker. The latter player repeated her Midland triumph, beating Miss Woodhead by two games to one.

In the Semi-finals Miss Bromfield was again an easy winner, this time against Miss Wood, and Miss Dora Emdin played in world championship form against Mrs. Booker, and although the match went to the third game, the St. Albans player won it 21-10.

The Final was a battle of stroke play versus chop defence, and Miss Emdin was a worthy victor by 24-22, 14-21, 21-18.

Ayub and Proffitt gained another Doubles Championship—their third successive tournament victory. They beat Stennett and Brook, both of the well-known West Ealing Club, by 2 games to nil.

Other results were:—

Mixed Doubles—Brook and Miss Bromfield beat Contractor and Miss Dora Emdin 21-16, 21-18.

Women's Doubles—Miss D. M. Emdin and Miss Bromfield beat Miss D. L. Emdin and Miss Wood 2-0.

BERGL BEATS MARSHALL IN HERTS CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL.

Maurice Bergl, so surprisingly beaten in the first round of the North London Championships, regained some of his lost prestige by easily retaining his title of Herts Open Champion at Watford, on Saturday, 14th December.

Notable absentees from the tournament were T. G. Sears and L. D. Jones, neither of whom has yet entered an open tournament this season.

Bergl was too steady for Ayub when the pair met in the Semi-final of the Men's Singles Championship, and Gilbert Marshall, the American Swaythling Cup player, accomplished a good performance in beating S. Proffitt, who had won the North London Championship a few days earlier.

In the Final, Bergl won the first game 22-20, lost the second 10-21 and took the last two games 21-18, 21-14. Marshall hit well at times, but Bergl's fine defence and clever top spins proved too difficult for him to counter.

Proffitt and Ayub are building up a great reputation as a doubles pair this season and again proved triumphant, beating Contractor and Joyce in the Final. N. K. Contractor and Miss D. M. Emdin gained the Mixed Doubles title when they beat an unusual combination in Miss Woodhead and H. W. Swetman in the Final, by 2 games to nil.

It was pleasing to see Miss May Osborne, England's No. 1 woman player, in action again. She beat a local player in Miss W. Woodhead, in the Final of the Women's Singles Championship. Later, partnered by Miss Woodhead, she was also successful in the Women's Doubles event against Miss D. M. Emdin and Mrs. Booker, winning by 2 games to nil.

SOUTH LONDON SEES HUNGARIAN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONS.

Prompt to the minute, at 7 o'clock on Sunday, 8th December, commenced the South London Table Tennis Exhibition, sponsored by the South London League and ably stage-managed by Mr. J. M. Rose, the League's President. Well over a thousand spectators were present.

Barna, Bellak and Szabados, the three Hungarian "aces"—Nos. 1, 2 and 4 in present world ranking—supported by M. B. W. Bergl, played some thrilling matches.

As might be expected, Barna was successful in all the events in which he took part, although Bellak (whom the referee said "had beaten Barna in the tour more times than Barna had beaten him") played sparkling table tennis at times and took a game off the champion.

Szabados and Bellak opened in a best-of-three singles match. We are used to seeing Szabados giving a perfect exposition of the half-volley, to which he adds a very workmanlike backhand stroke and follows these up with a truly terrifying forehand smash, but on this occasion it was his long-distance chop defence which was the admiration of all. Bellak's galaxy of brilliant shots to all parts of the table were sent back by Szabados by beautiful low-chopped returns and the ex-world champion deservedly won by 15-21, 21-14, 21-16. Following this match Bergl stepped into the fray to oppose G. V. Barna. Those of the audience for whom this match provided their first glimpse of the world champion, gasped as they saw Barna's "miracle" shot—his famous backhand flick.

Barna's wiles were too much for Bergl, who succumbed 13-21, 12-21. Next we had a doubles match: Barna—Szabados, six times world doubles champions, against Bellak—Bergl.

Those who expected a "picnic" for the champions, must have been surprised—and delighted—at the excellent showing made by the Anglo-Hungarian pair. They took the first game to 13, but the extra steadiness of the champions won them the next two games 21-15, 21-16.

Bergl was again called upon to play in the following event—a singles match—against his doubles partner, Bellak. Bergl defended well in the first game, and with Bellak missing many forehand smashes, the Englishman won 21-19. It was neck and neck for some time in the second game. The Hungarian, however, tempted Bergl to lash out at unsuitable returns and levelled

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A New Score-Board.

The problem of supplying an electric score-board for important matches and big exhibitions has been solved by Mr. Micheal.

At the Faircross Club's recent invitation tournament at Barking, the spectators were kept informed of the games' progress by illuminated signs. Across the top were the names of the players and under each name was the word "Service." When the ball changed hands for service, so one sign was extinguished and the other turned on. In that way one had only to glance at the board to see who was serving.

The score, in points, of the game in progress was flashed on sometimes before the umpire had time to call it. The score, in games, completed the board.

The players agreed that it was the finest score-board ever seen in table tennis, and some went so far as to say that it was far superior to the electrical boards at Wimbledon for the Lawn Tennis Championships. It certainly looks as if this interesting new device has big potentialities.

(Continued from previous column.)

matters at 21-15. The third game was all Bellak, whose fierce forehand often clipped the lines. He won it at 21-8.

Barna v. Szabados was rather a disappointment to the crowd. The champion's brilliant flick shots unsettled Szabados, and Barna won easily, 21-9, 21-16.

Szabados had his revenge later, against Bergl, who lost the first game 21-12 and, despite all his efforts, the second at 22-20.

Barna—Bellak provided the best match of the evening. The champion was in masterful mood and was much too consistent for his brilliant opponent. Score: Barna won 21-18, 18-21, 21-12.

In a doubles match additional to the original programme, Barna—Bellak beat Szabados—Bergl by 22-20, 23-21.

Messrs. H. H. Bridge, G. W. Marshall and D. Stubbs capably umpired the matches.

Mr. C. Corti Woodcock, Chairman of the E.T.T.A., in a short speech made during the interval, praised the enterprise and splendid organisation of the South London League in presenting such excellent exhibition table tennis for South London entertainment, and said that the game was fortunate in having three such masters as Barna, Szabados and Bellak to demonstrate its merits so convincingly.

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