CHISELLING: LAST WORDS.

By Hon. I. V. Montagu.

My first article was designed to raise a row. It has.

In this summary, on the contrary, I want to write nothing except that which will raise universal agreement.

When a house is on fire the first thing to do is to wake everybody up.

When they are awake the unity of everyone is needed to save the situation.

It would be fatal if there were to be any split on this question. The help and agreement is needed of the chisellers just as much as of every other player and follower of the game.

Let me remove the first obstacle to unity by shouting at the top of my voice: There is intended no personal criticism whatsoever of the character, characteristics or anything else personal of any chiseller. I most pain-takingly tried to put this over last time. I thought I had put it over to anyone who did me the credit of reading carefully. But that many do not read carefully is shown by the army of knights who leaped to the pro-

It has.

There is no question that Prague, though it is possible that
to blame. I and I alone acknowledged that if my team could have played the same way, and won, I should have encouraged it to do so. I and I alone refused to blame Ehrich for countering with the same tactics. It is impossible justly to blame either player of a pair for doing their best according to the rules. But it is none the less the true that what the pair are doing is not sport, and that table tennis as a sport will not survive it if it happens often.

You may reply to me: "What does it matter if chiselling does occur occasionally? At every sport there are periods of dullness—stone-walling at cricket, outside traps at football, hugging and stalling at boxing, yet these sports survive."

Friend, you do not realise your house is burning. Table tennis is not so long established that it can survive such a period. These other sports have age-long traditions behind them, and followers with memories who will not desert them easily. (Even so, boxing has had to introduce a "No Contest" rule.) Table tennis will not prove so viable.

To live, it must expand and make new friends. Every match seen must press the thought for the first time. Spectators, and they come again, bringing their friends. Chiselling, and they will melt like snow.

People in England even yet do not realise what happened in Prague. Unfortunately most of the accounts available have been written from the point of view of disappointed players. Many of these, mingling rather with their fellows with whom they could communicate, than with the public, whose language they could not understand, still themselves do not fully realise that disaster. The Czechs committed grave errors, both of taste and of organisation. These will be discussed at a more fitting occasion, which is certainly not now, in hot blood and by the sufferers from them. But such errors were in the main mere symptoms, of much graver injury inflicted on the Czechs. Let those who in England saw in last year's world championships the worthy culmination of a life's aspiration, the reward for devoted hours of sacrifice and preparation, reflect on what would have been their feelings if by the third day already they could see: jeering and contemptuous spectators; a hostile press; an empty box-office; a threatened police-prosecution (for continuing after the statutory hour); and this at the request of two visiting teams). Worse even then the disaster of the week, is the thought of the public for years to come. I should like to think that our organisers would not have panicked when faced by similar ruin, but I am not conceited enough to feel at all confident about it.

There is no question that Prague, though they hold one of the team cups and five out of the eight world championships now dare not run another table tennis event until the public memory has forgotten. Think what that means. Surely it's serious enough in all conscience. And it would be the same in England if we ran a tournament with chiseller X versus chiseller Y, occurring in it more than so often, with consequence (Continued overleaf).
CHISELLING: LAST WORDS.

SUGGESTIONS TO OVERCOME THE "SLOW GAME." (Continued from previous page.)

are bound to cause heartburning because his impertiality, though not spectacular, none the less becomes questionable. But I recognise that if no other way works, this may have to be tried at least for a few years: and even now its advantages might outweigh its disadvantages in local play, where young players styles are formed. What about experimenting with it for a tournament or two?

I prefer two different paths. Change of objective conditions and moral suasion.


Mr. Warden, too, recognises the necessity of this. He suggests limiting the run-back. A pity, from the point of view of spectacle. Also, it would prevent the defender beating the hitter, which we want less than we want to discourage two defenders from poking one another, which it would not affect, and which can only be affected by making an occasional hit easier for the latter.

There are two ways:

(a) Material;
(b) Rules.

(a) Means always good balls and fast tables. Fast tables mean fast floors. We may have to bar all tournaments on lino-leum, like the Indian Students, or on hollow wood, like Puddington Bathes or the ice-rink blocks. Research must get us the definite data for this. An affair for our I.T.T.F. and E.T.T.A. Committees. Their responsibility. They must have.

(b) Means trying out changed ideas. I, personally, believe we should go very slow to it and have little patience with those who don't doubt that they have table tennis at heart just as much as everybody else. Nobody suggests that they should wildly indulge in hitting and throw games away playing one's best and hardest. But what we do urge is that they should commit suicide, as chisellers, i.e. help us by not opposing and themselves being in the forefront with proposals to help advantage the forcing game and discourage young players from following their own example. Let is acclaim throughout the world the example of Berenbaum, last year's U.S. champion, who, after defeating Haidon, came to the tournament executive and said: "I won only because the balls were soft. It would be a calamity if I were to beat Barna only because the conditions are similarly unfair. I have said in my last article that the poker (chiseller), the player who only defends without manoeuvring or even working for an occasional hit, is only a half-player. I repeat it and have little patience with those who deny it.

I recognise how good such can be. Hall, unstinted, to Warden! Hall to the Romanians! But no the less, they are less good than the others. It is no secret, and the most rubbishy and idiotic argument conceivable to point out that they have beaten the best. An analogy from lawn tennis will remove the dispute from the personal and enable my chiseller readers to see the point without subjectiveness. Sharpes has beaten Cochet. Peters is the only Englishman who has beaten Tilden. Yet no one suggests they should play in the Davis Cup. Mr. Warden hit the right nail on the head when he said that the chiseller wins so often because the hitter wins one and all and his best and people are rarely at their best. But the time above all when they may be expected to play their best is in the Davis Cup. "True, they may not be, but how can you risk it? How can you play a man whose usefulness, even at his best, is dependent on his opp­onent not being at his best?

Granted that there is more of a case to be made for a pokers under conditions of "Swaything" Cup than of "Davis" Cup. Alone the fact, for example, that, the matches being played in quick succession, the contrast of styles may give an advantage in having one chiseller on the side. Yet I have seen it often not come off, and merely have the effect of "playing in" the great opp­onents so that he won his two, two, like even a good-length bowler against a good batsman. But if chisellers preen themselves when we select them for the tactical possibili­ties they undoubtedly possess, become conceited, acquire imitators and multiply their kind, we just can't afford the luxury of selecting them, that's all.

Among the ideas proposed are:

3. Lowers Naze. People say it will make hitting easier, and angles. I am afraid it may make defence easier, lower, and thus hitting more difficult. Try.

LOWER TABLE. People say (a) it will make hitting easier; (b) it will make poking more difficult by afflicting the persistent poker with a crick in the back. Try.

Wardens say. People say it will make angles easier, defence need more running. Try.

VOLLEISING. People say if one's opponent is playing really low then one might be feasible and surprise him. Maybe. Try.


I have said in my last article that the poker (chiseller), the player who only defends with­out manoeuvring or even working for an occasional hit, is only a half-player. I repeat it and have little patience with those who deny it.

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IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

Congratulations, Stanley !!!!!

We are sure that every table tennis enthusiast will join us in wishing Profitt, the English International, a very good season with Essex County Cricket Club.

This gives us three county cricketers who also wear the English lions—C. H. Bull and L. Todd are both showing promising form with Worcester and Kent, respectively.

The eye training of table tennis helps these lads considerably, and we have heard them say that the cricket ball looks like a football after following the white sphere.

Haydon and Barna.

Latest; playing in 35 cities within a month is hardly what we should call a rest cure for V. Barna, ex-world champion.

Haydon and Barna.

Their many matches are causing great excitement in the U.S. As an example of this let us quote some of the headlines that appeared after they have played:

"Smash game thrills hard boiled American Sportsmen."

"Barna the Wizard, and Haydon the Hitter amazed 1,500. . . . and so on and so on.

Women's Side.

There seems to be such great enthusiasm, even at the tail end of the season, amongst our women competitors, that next season we are bound to see a great improvement in the general standard of play.

The dress also will be considerably more regular than it has been in the past. The sooner male members of clubs begin to take this pride of appearance that is hereditary to the female the more prestige will the game get in England.

If you are in Doubt.

The English E.T.T.A. will more than be delighted to settle any disputes relative to the game. A card with the questions will receive the prompt attention of the organisation of the Association.

Efforts on your behalf.

Throughout the past season the Executive side of the E.T.T.A. worked so hard in furthering the interests of the game that two of the foremost members of the Committee had to take a compulsory holiday.

W. J. Pope, our worthy Honorary Secretary, is now recuperating in Russia after such a hectic rush from tournament to tournament. Mr. Corti Woodcock is suffering from nerve strain and has had to resign from the chairmanship to enable himself to get a complete rest.

We hope that no more valuable workers have to leave their posts owing to indisposition. All our sympathies are with our friends, and their quick recovery is our main hope. We cannot afford to be without such staunch supporters.

MISS MARGARET OSBORNE.

Made an International in 1933. The following year selected to play in the Corbllon Club. At that time had never won an open tournament. On returning from abroad, won the London and North of England titles in successive weeks, and finished the season by winning the English Championships in London. Ranked No. 1 in England from then until the present day. In season 1934-35 won every event at the English Championships.

Q.: "How long after starting the game were you made an International?"
A.: "In my third season."

Q.: "What were your reactions?"
A.: "I played only in the doubles in my first International. This made me all the more keen to become good enough to play as the first singles player."

Q.: "Do you think a regulation women's dress should be compulsory, if so, what design would you suggest?"
A.: "No. I think that women—and men too—should always change into suitable dress for the game. Women should certainly not play in fancy afternoon frocks, which I have seen even at big tournaments."

Q.: "Do you like International Matches?"
A.: "Yes, but I prefer playing in tournaments."

Q.: "Are you very nervous before playing?"
A.: "Not now, I used to be, but have overcome this by playing in a large number of tournaments."

Q.: "Which was in your opinion your best match?"
A.: "Beating Fraulein Krebsbach in the English Open Championships this year."

Q.: "Which was your worst match?"
A.: "There are several very poor ones. The worst was probably losing to Mme. Kettnerova after leading 12-4 in the final game in the World Championships, 1935."

Q.: "For match play, which town do you like best apart from your home town, and why?"
A.: "I would rather play anywhere in England than in my home town—I can very rarely find my form in Birmingham. I prefer Liverpool best, where I think the most consideration is given to the players."

SUMMER PRACTICE.

Now that the season is definitely ended and the strain of match play has been lifted the enthusiast can turn his thoughts to serious practice for next season.

A few hints and tips on the all-important point of how to improve one's game would not come amiss. Therefore, in this short article, coupled with one other in the next issue, we will endeavour to head our readers in the right direction.

In the first place a defensive player must cultivate an attack. It is impossible to explain how to reach that end, but one or two rules are essential to the steady hitter.

1. The bat must go through the ball and follow it as far as possible before the follow through takes it round the body.

2. The nearer the net the more top-spin to ensure the ball returning into play.

3. Hit a ball on top of it's bounce.

4. Turn your body to the ball and transfer your weight from right foot to left for a forehand and from left to right for a backhand.

Bear these points in mind and you cannot go very far wrong. While practising these new shots take great care not to hit the wrong ball. One cannot hit a short low return with any degree of safety so leave them alone and content yourself with a half-volley.

And now for the attacker who wants a defence. As in the previous case there are many points to be borne in mind throughout the practice.

1. Footwork and body control is far more important than simply scratching the ball back.

2. A good defensive player finds himself in a central position after each shot enabling him to move quickly in any direction.

3. The "chop" must be kept as low as possible with a slight forward push at the moment of impact.

4. Slow top-spin makes a very good defence and rather tempts the attacker to overhit.

A method of controlling your hits and making you accurate is to place a match-box on the other side of the table and pitch your smashes in that area. After a little practice you should be able to strike the box once in every six shots.

The defensive player can also use this method, but he drops his ball on to the box.

In the next issue we will deal with tactical play and general polish of stroke production. Stick to your guns throughout the summer and a big improvement will be seen next season.
TABLE TENNIS.

Mechlovits to Montagu—and Us.

ON "WHAT'S WRONG WITH ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS."

The following extract from a letter to me from Zoltan Mechlovits, the Trainer and Founder of Table Tennis supremacy, will be of interest. He responds for three years past. The Tourna­

ament results, however, show that in the International field England remains still in the same place as years ago: in third to fifth place in world ranking, with Haydon, Jones still the best, and nothing whatever to indicate that meanwhile table tennis as a sport in England has increased tenfold or even thirtyfold! In Hungary there are, in all, no more than perhaps 500 active players, in England 40,000, and yet Hungary stands at the head of the Nations! and it can by no means be said that our younger generation is always seeing Barna, Szabados, Bellak, &c., play and just simply copies every­

thing from our "Masters." The players named have lived abroad for years now, they come home seldom and when they are home play little, either in Tourna­

ments or practice. How then does it come about that Hungary is always able to put new, and again new, strong players into the International arena? As it is no secret, I shall briefly tell you.

"First, the players of England used to be, and I have no doubt are, just as gifted as our players, and yet they get no better. In my opinion there are two causes for this: first, there is no sport specialization in England; he who plays table tennis takes part in other sports at the same time—perhaps table tennis secondary and exclu­

sively which is also part of any other game just so much and no more than will suffice for physical development. O.K. for hiking, swimming, rowing, tennis, boxing, but quite casually, not going out for results, and chiefly only to get the table tennis player into the open air. Besides this, every single day, or at least four times a week, serious play, always of at least 12—15 games and against different opponents. Second, play throughout the entire year. Our best players have become so good precisely owing to this circumstance, that they have played more industriously in summer than in the ordinary season. We have said again and again that summer practice is the most important practice. In summer there are no Tournaments, one can try everything, change one's style, try out new hits, attackers learn to defend, and the opposite. In summer one has chances that never occur during the season, when the season arrives, one has played away, no first-class player has then any time to spare on learning, Barna, Szabados, Bellak, Kelen, Glancz, &c., that is, all our best of three, all played for five years throughout, with twenty hours a day, the whole time in the open air. The generation now coming forward is still following this plan in Hungary, so I am sure they will learn a tremendous amount by such summer training.

"These are the two chief factors, the main difference between the English and Hungarian systems. Do you think that in England you will ever be able to overcome this difference? In table tennis talent without serious development training is quite useless.

"More Tournaments during the season! and always best of five. One must practice over the longer stretch. And the Club matches should be not one game up but best of three.

"Many more interesting matches! For example: regular annual team matches between Towns or Leagues, on the knock-out system, three a side or better still on Davis Cup lines. The final could be played each year in connection with the English Open Championships. The purpose of these matches would, in the first place, be inter­

ational games, showing games to the public—secondly and chiefly that they would lead to keen competition to get into these selected or known or unknown, the result would be that the better players would get more representative practice and thereby routine.

"Regular International Matches, not only in England, but also on the Continent! Against Franco, Czecho-Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, would be highly advisable! With women also, if it doesn't cost too much. I know from my own experience that such Internationals invariably improve the form of the players.

"And finally, the most important! In order that the above good advice may be carried out, the English Association must get hold of a first-class, tactically and technically perfect official Association Coach who shall visit every League separately throughout the year, busy himself with the good players, particularly the young ones, give advice that must be followed to the League and Club Executives, to carry out the training for the World Championships and the most important International Team Matches, &c. Of course the Coach must be a professional, in the sense, at least, that he must carry out his task seriously and responsibly. Of course the Coach must also be a first-class expert. I believe that same simple means could soon be found to overcome the material obstacles, and with a series of English successes, which would certainly follow, the public interest would rise still further and the considerable costs of such a scheme thus easily be returned.

"I know thoroughly the talents and great sportsmanship of all English players; I am sure that in the hands of a good expert, the results would show that English table tennis strength could be underestimated only with peril.

"There may be some few other matters, but these are unimportant. I think and hope I've set out here the main points. It would make me very glad indeed if my advice should prove a help."

Ivor Montagu analyses these proposals (for which we must all thank Z.M.) as follows:

1. More Tournaments. These are increasing. So far, in spite of encouragement, only the National Championships are best of five.

2. One Game Up Club Matches. We have been fighting these for years, and I'm not sure we are getting the better of them.

3. Inter-City or Inter-League Matches. These show a welcome increase. The "Wilmott" Cup, instituted for this purpose, will prove a help.

4. More International Matches, also abroad. We hope to increase these in future. International "Circus" tours; we intend to encourage more "matches" and fewer "Exhibitions" and hope Leagues will support us in this.

5. Efforts by the players themselves—(a) more specialization. I am afraid over here few players will adopt this, but the positive side of it, using other and especially outdoor sports for physical building up is desperately important. All our young players tend to drop points and leads once gained in little patches of unconscious tiredness and loss of concentration which would not occur if they were fitter. To be good at anything, a game just as business, a player must study or work hard. There is no short road. This applies particularly to the (b) summer practice period. It sounds as though the player must ask how can a player expect to be accurate, and how can he expect to be all round, and able to change his game according to his opposition, unless he will conscientiously practice at all the things he is bad at and not use the strokes he is good at, a thing very difficult to have character enough to do in competition time! Here especially also Clubs can help, because nowadays they would think it impertinent for any rising young player to stay each night on the table continuously for a dozen games against various opponents. They must try to collaborate with us if we pick promising "trainees" for such a privilege.

6. On the Coach question, we hope to be able before the end of the season to make an important announcement.

In general, Mechlovits' suggestions are all constructive and fit in many places with our own plans. We are glad to have them.

Ivor Montagu.

TABLE TENNIS NEWS.

H. Shalson, the English International, continued his success by winning the North London Invitation Tournament. In the final he beat Stennett, a promising player, by the small score of two to one.

In a recent exhibition match Mrs. Booker demonstrated considerable strength in all departments by beating Miss Dora Emdin in straight games. During the evening Eric Findon and Stanley Proffitt beat A. D. Brook with great ease. Brook must show better form than this to keep his position.

I. Joyce, who recently dislocated a finger, is playing again—better than ever.

Towards the end of the season a team of exhibition players sprang into the limelight of first-class shows. Their games all mix well, and anybody looking for the perfect combination could do a lot worse than select A. D. Brook, E. Findon, all "Swaythling" Cup players, and J. Joyce, International.
News from the Provinces.

BATH AND DISTRICT.

Buse Retains Singles Title.
The 1950/51 season of the Bath Table Tennis League Championships, held at Brock Street Hall recently, drew an excellent crowd in spite of dull and rainy weather.

The fourth time in succession, H. T. Buse (Y.M.C.A.) won the Singles. In the Semi-Final he defeated F. G. Huck (Y.M.C.A.) in 3 straight games and qualified to meet J. E. Ogden (A), who was a grand tussle with Buse slightly the better man all the way.

In the Final, Buse slightly the better man all the way, despite dull and rainy weather, and qualified to meet J. Hall recently, drew an excellent crowd in and D. Dawes resulted in an exciting victory and Bristol, participated, was warmly received. The first match between J. Suter (Y.M.C.A.) and D. Dawes was a hard battle between Buse and Dawes, both players proving themselves master tacticians and employing cunningly placed shots.

Mr. H. G. Ralph, representing Sir Montague Burton, said that Montague Burton Cup the Liverpool League officials on the record entries.—328—for this year’s championships, and to say how delighted Sir Montague was to learn that there were 328 competitors for the cup he had presented for the Men’s Singles Event.

It was Sir Montague’s hope, said Mr. Ralph, that the spirit of goodwill would always be inspired by those competitions and that future efforts would create an even bigger interest.

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Dr. W. Channon, W. C. Taylor, and R. C. Dawson, who have played in the Hastings Open Singles, are to play in the Hastings Open Singles later in the year.

The “F. L. Forrest” and “G. B. Hyde” Challenge Cups have yet to be decided.

The “F. L. Forrest” and “G. B. Hyde” Challenge Cups have yet to be decided.

BAMPFORD RETAINS “MONTAGUE BURTON” CUP.

Two Liverpool players retain Liverpool Table Tennis League titles for another 12 months.

They are F. Bamford (Ennismore) and Miss N. Norrish (Boodie). Bamford won the Men’s Singles of the closed Championship and Miss Norrish won the Women’s title for the fourth successive year.

In the Final, Bamford beat Don Foulis 20—22, 21—18, 21—17, and Miss Norrish beat Miss J. Bartholomew 20—22, 21—7, 22—20.

It was a hard battle between Bamford and Foulis, both players proving themselves master tacticians and employing cunningly placed shots.

Mr. H. G. Ralph, representing Sir Montague Burton, said he had been asked by Sir Montague Burton to congratulate the Liverpool League officials on the record entries.—328—for this year’s championships, and to say how delighted Sir Montague was to learn that there were 121 competitors for the cup he had presented for the Men’s Singles Event.

It was Sir Montague’s hope, said Mr. Ralph, that the spirit of goodwill would always be inspired by those competitions and that future efforts would create an even bigger interest.

Mr. C. E. Bartholomew, president of the Hastings and District Table Tennis Association, said that the spirit of goodwill would always be inspired by those competitions and that future efforts would create an even bigger interest.

High Standard.

Mr. Woodcock said that though the entry was exceptionally good, he was not so pleased with that as with the standard of play exhibited. The sprinkling of Internationals lent tone to the proceedings, and he was glad to see relatively unknown players hitting the ball intelligently and with purpose. It was a matter of great interest to those of the work put in by the Hastings officials lent tone to the proceedings, and he was glad to see relatively unknown players hitting the ball intelligently and with purpose. It was a matter of great interest to those of the work put in by the Hastings officials lent tone to the proceedings, and he was glad to see relatively unknown players hitting the ball intelligently and with purpose. It was a matter of great interest to those of the work put in by the Hastings officials lent tone to the proceedings, and he was glad to see relatively unknown players hitting the ball intelligently and with purpose.

The prizes were presented by Commander J. Drinkwater, who remarked that table tennis had gone through a difficult uphill career, and only in the last few years had it achieved its present standard in this country. Mr. Corti Woodcock expressed appreciation of the work put in by the Hastings officials with regard to the Tournament. Mr. Corti Woodcock expressed appreciation of the work put in by the Hastings officials with regard to the Tournament.
Annual General Meeting.

At The Memorial Hall, London, on Saturday, May 2nd, 1936.

Present: Mr. H. Oldroyd (President), Messrs. C. Corti Woodcock (Chairman), A. K. Vint (Treasurer), and 47 representatives of Leagues.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all present, and read a cable from the Secretary, despatched from Moscow, regretting his absence. It was explained that Mr. Pope had had to take a holiday for health reasons.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held 27th April, 1935, were taken as read, and adopted subject to alteration regarding Rule 9, "Honorary," before the Secretary and Treasurer, and "The Executive Committee shall have power to create and fill any other office which in its opinion is necessary and be at liberty to remunerate any officer who is not appointed on an Honorary basis.

The Chairman, in presenting the Executive Committee report, explained that at the last Executive Meeting it had been agreed that a comprehensive report of the Executive Committee work during the past year should be read in place of the Chairman's report. Mr. Montagu, in seconding the adoption of the report, referred to the note that no mention was made of the excellent service rendered by our Chairman, C. Corti Woodcock, who, owing to illness, was unfortunately unable to continue in office for the coming season. Proposed by F. A. Amies and carried unanimously, that Mr. Montagu's remarks be added to the report.

The Chairman, in introducing the Treasurer, said how greatly he appreciated all that Mr. Vint had done during the past year. Mr. Vint then presented a Receipts and Payments Account to date, remarking that an increase in revenue should be noted in affiliation fees, royalties, whilst the probable total of the foreign tour would be £500, resulting in a profit, after deducting expenses, of £150. The National Championships resulted in a profit, in fact the total receipts of £625 was a record, profits were also reported for the area committee account. The donor explained that his health prevented his being present to give the Executive Committee on the excellent report be adopted, with congratulations to the President, Vice-Presidents and Auditors, and agreed. Proposed by B. C. Amies, seconded by - Waller, that the Treasurer’s report be adopted, with congratulations to the Executive Committee on the excellent financial position.

The new rules for the Wilmott Cup, which had been circulated, were then discussed, Mr. Montagu giving a detailed explanation on same. The donor explained that his reason for presenting the cup was to find new Swaythling or Marcel Cup lines resulted in favour of Swaythling by 14 to 10. Regarding ball used, — Rose (South London) suggested the visiting team might have the choice, Executive Committee asked to note.

After discussion, question 9a to remain, and agreed that player can only play for one league in the season.

N.B. E.C.— (This suggestion to be adopted for all inter-league matches. Rule 17— "Balls " to be taken out and inserted after "postage up to £1."

F. A. Amies formally moved the amendments to rules as set out on the agenda, Montagu, in seconding, asked that Rule 22 be redrafted so as to accommodate the dress of foreign players.

Rule 3.— Insert after the word "Officers" on line 2, "local Associations," and adjust other rules where necessary—carried.

Rule 11a.— Add "with the exception of the President"—carried.

New Rule.—Widely discussed enquirers being assured it was not compulsory for all leagues within the area to join, and an amendment that the grant should not exceed 50 per cent. of the deficiency in the area committee account was defeated. On voting for new rule, 232 for, 167 against, defeated on insufficient majority.

Rule 12.—(N.B. delete suggested clause (d) as new rule failed), delete and substitute:—

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of

(a) The President, Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. General Secretary of the Association.
(b) Eight members elected annually by the General Council.
(c) The Secretary shall be three women members co-opted annually by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt not more than two other members of the Association.

Rule 15.—Add new clause—"shall be the duty of the Annual General Meeting to elect the President, Vice-Presidents and Auditors, who shall take office from the day following the meeting.

Substitute for line 5, "when the Annual Report of the Executive Committee and statement of accounts...made.

Rule 12.—Add—"all match competitors must wear a dark sports shirt, grey flannel trousers or shorts, and rubber soled shoes," carried subject to re-wording re dress of foreign players.

(Continued on page 7, column 1.)

TABLE TENNIS.

(Continued from previous page.)

Results.


Miss Dora Emdin and Miss Donovan (London) beat Miss Dora Emdin and Miss Finch 21-19, 21-17, 21-15.

Women's Singles—Semi-Finals: Miss Dora Emdin (St. Albans) beat Miss C. M. Hollick (Brighton) 21-11, 21-9, 21-10. Final: Miss Dora Emdin beat Miss Minnie 21-11, 21-9, 21-10.

Miss Dora Emdin and Miss Donovan (London) beat Miss Dora Emdin and Miss Finch 21-19, 21-17, 21-15.

Women's Doubles—Semi-Finals: Miss Dora Emdin and Contractor beat Miss C. J. Buckley (Brighton) 21-17, 21-19.


CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The recent selection of Miss Connie Wheaton and Miss Doris Bridge for England, prompts a writer in a London Newspaper, to ask why it was that in a population of 28,000, one of the town's best-known old girls should have been left out of the list. This is the town in which the population as the town can now lay claim to. In old directories, for the population has increased from 5,000 to 9,000, and with the exception of the Villa Ball, which was due to lateness of fixture.

The "VILLA" BALL

[Continued on page 7, column 1.]
Rule 24.—Clause (g) — delete—carried.

Rule 25 (a).—Proposed by — Vint, seconded by — Waller, delete “opening date.”

Rule 4.—The substitution to this rule put forward by the Civil Service T.T.A. was defeated.

N.B. E.C.—The proposed English League by which the country would be divided into two areas was put forward by L. E. Forest (Liverpool), and seconded by — Thompson, that the matter be deferred to the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Mr. Montagu gave an interesting detailed report on I.T.T.F. matters, such as the future of the World Championships, which might be limited to just the Swarthley and Marcel Cup events; ballot question, tables, clothes, all of which had been dealt with in the agenda of the I.T.T.F. Congress. Proposed by — Swann, Seconded by — Milton, the report be adopted.

Mr. Montagu informed the meeting that Major English had been made Chairman of the Advisory Board of the I.T.T.F., and Mr. Goldstein English Language Secretary—congratulations were extended to both members.

Mr. Woodcock, in proposing the re-election of our President, Mr. Oldroyd, stated how greatly we appreciated his keen interest, seconded by — Manning, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Oldroyd, in addressing the meeting thanked all for their kindness in again electing him as their President, and assured them that he would do all in his power to further the game.

Vice-Presidents.—Proposed by C. Corti Woodcock, seconded by — King, that the present Vice-Presidents be re-elected en bloc, and it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Woodcock’s name be added to the list. Proposed by C. Corti Woodcock, seconded by — Milton, that Mr. A. J. Key, of Croydon, be elected. Proposed by — Milton, seconded by — Tassell, that Mr. Driscoll, with which proposition Mr. Woodcock wished to be associated. Proposed by — Hills, seconded by — Swann, that Mr. Wilmott be added to the list.

Hon. Auditors.—Proposed by C. Corti Woodcock, seconded by — Swann, that Messrs. Forrest and Coldrick be re-elected.

The President read the report he had received from the P.R. Society, stating that of the 123 papers issued, only 70 had been returned.

Chairman: Hon. L. Montagu, Mr. Woodcock had withdrawn.

Treasurer: A. K. Vint, unopposed.

Hon. Secretary: W. J. Hope, unopposed.


Mr. Montagu, before taking the Chair, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Woodcock, expressing the hope that we should have him back with us in the next season.

A.O.B.—G. W. Marshall gave his commenda tional speech, which were duly noted.

The practice of canvassing for election votes was commented upon.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

TABLE TENNIS.

SOUTHAMPTON.

A big success was achieved by Mrs. Enticott (of the Albion Tennis Club, Eastleigh) recently, when she won the Southampt on Table Tennis Association Ladies’ Singles Championship.

In the final, played at Mrs. Hayward Avenue Road, 21-9, 21-10, 21-10. Mrs. Hayward, holder of the title, has been unseated in league matches for the past two seasons.

This is the first time Mrs. Enticott has won the championship despite the fact that it is not her first final appearance.

HULL TAKE STEPS.

The first steps towards increasing the playing strength of Hull and improving the standard of play has been taken. A special table tennis club will soon be in existence where the members and also the public can play at moderate charges for the use of the table.

LOFTUS AND DISTRICT.

The concluding game in the Loftus and District League was played some short time ago between West End Rovers and the Rest of the League, the former winning by 11 matches to 7.

Mr. B. L. Holeman, Vice-President of the E.T.T.A., was there to present the cup and medals.

TABLE TENNIS IN THE EIFFEL TOWER.

A table tennis floor has been allocated in the Eiffel Tower for enthusiasts in Paris. Between matches they can gaze at a beautiful panorama of the city.

Clubs are springing up rapidly in France, and there is a move on foot to stage an International Tournament at the International Exhibition next year.

THE NEXT ISSUE.

The next issue of Table Tennis will appear during the month of July. All copy for that issue should, however, be sent in good time to avoid the delay that is caused by late news.—Editor.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mrs. D. L. Bunbury gave the report of the Women's Dress Sub-committee, which resulted in shorts and trousers being barred, and if a cardigan was to be worn this should be worn underneath. And if a cardigan was to be worn this should be worn underneath.

The question of reducing the fee for the English Championships was raised, and it was pointed out that a sub-committee was being formed.

Mr. Hills also mentioned again his suggestion that preliminary rounds for the English Championships should be run over the whole season to qualify for the event.

E. C. Amies (Leeds) asked if the Annual General Meeting could alternate between the North and the South.

Meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks.

"N.B. E.C." refers to a definite matter to be placed before the new Executive at their first meeting.

THE EXHIBITIONIST AND THE MATCH PLAYER.

How many people go to an exhibition match, thoroughly enjoy the games, return home enthusiastically looking forward to their Club meetings, only to be disillusioned when they see two first-class players matching brain against brain and not brawn against brawn?

If match play apparent chances are missed by the hundred. The ball sits up, hovers in the air asking to be hit, but it is only stroked by the over-cautious player.

It is not possible to achieve outstanding recognition at anything, especially sport, if you are not prepared to take a chance. How many people remember the historic final between Barua and Szabados for the world's single's crown at Wembley some months back? Barua, when facing defeat, took what must have been the biggest chance in his career—he attacked forehand. Apart from being a good tactical manoeuvre it was a stroke of genius. Szabados admitted afterwards that this forehand onslaught completely upset his equilibrium and not the fact that Barua stopped the game on account of a wrist injury.

Let's take another sphere of sport—cricket. What do the papers, and what is more important the spectators, say when the opening batsmen stonewall for an hour in an effort to steal 20 or 30 runs for his side? He is bood for his cautiousness. A cricket ball is made to be hit, and the human side of sport gives him a conservative estimate of 25 per cent. of deliveries slow enough, high enough or loose enough to be hit to the boundary.

One of the greatest sporting events of recent years was the England-Australia air race. Could those airmen fly at a comparatively slow speed and be sure of reaching their objective in reasonable time to be considered " in the race?" The obvious answer is in the negative—they had to take a chance and they, little band of sporting aviators took the biggest chance of all in risking their lives.

And so like that famous song, "The Music Goes Around," we could go from sport to sport and find that the outstanding personalities are those who are prepared to throw their whole spirit into a race or match. This is the feeling that we want in table tennis. If one player takes a risk the other will follow suit. The foundations of the game are laid, but you can be a pioneer of table tennis even at this stage by making the foundations of the game stronger and more appetising to the sporting tastes of the spectators.

A few players of outstanding ability are leading this crusade. They are coaching stonewallers and teaching them how to hit with the accuracy that they themselves have achieved. A. A. Haydon takes a chance. R. D. Jones takes a chance on his backhand, Eric Findon is always taking chances. So console yourself by the fact that if you lose the match your flag has been lowered in style. What worse nightmare is there than, after having lost a cautious match, you depress to the belief you should have hit and pushed back even though eventually you lost the point.

The spirit next season should be taken from those famous words of Shakespeare, "...like greyhounds straining on the leash."
PLAYER AND HIS STRENGTH

By Eric Findon.

The other day at a gathering of E.T.T.A. officials I was responsible for a laugh, inasmuch as I suggested that a "shot" wasn't a "shot"! This is purely a matter of opinion, but I'm sure if a sub-committee of the Association was appointed to deal with the question they would reach a decision. However, I don't intend to dwell on this unconsciously humorous remark, but dive deeper into a topic that I was about to expand before being laughed out of court.

Each and every International has in his or her make-up one or more "shots" that makes him or her an International. His or her "strokes" on both sides may be perfect, but still not being consistent winners they cannot, in my humble opinion, be classified with the former.

As a first-class example we can take the mighty V. Barna, whose backhand is his chief weapon. I wouldn't suggest for one moment that he has no forehand. On the contrary his forehand is strong but hardly muscular enough to win for him the coveted crown. Take Barna's backhand from him and where would he find himself?

That "shot"—the Barna flick—is a winner. He has played hundreds of matches in this country and I'm sure that the majority of my readers will have seen him in action at some time or other. Have you seen Szabados work away at his forehand in an effort to make him use it? And have you seen Barna work right across the table on his backhand leaving his court only half guarded? Have you seen Szabados or Bellak smash a winner down that line that normally would have been guarded if Barna wasn't backhand mad?

And so we analyse all the players one by one. Szabados would be feeling the drafts if his forehand suddenly gave him the air. He would have to play solely on defence with the occasional use of his backhand which cannot be classified with that of his colleague.

Take Haydon's forehand from him and he would be in the novice class again and would have to fight hard for his place in an ordinary club team.

Lurie, without his backhand, would also be a weakened player to such an extent that he would not be in his present position.

And so every player of repute has his main "shot" with which he wins games. Stroke production is all very well in its way, but if you have an unorthodox stroke that makes winners, cultivate it until it is eventually classified in the orthodox section.

When watching exhibition matches you'll find it interesting to find the main points of a player's game and mentally plan moves that would frustrate them. In that way you will be learning to sum up your opponent—an asset that is not found in many of our players, even Internationals.

C. A. Scott, a player of repute in London, had an index of players to which he used to refer before meeting them in a match. That is the spirit that wins games. Don't be downhearted because you have a stiff match ahead. Study your future opponent's game and counterplan. Never say die—and your efforts will be rewarded.

I should welcome any letters on the above items from any player who has views on them. I repeat the above is merely my own humble opinion.

(excerpts from the newspaper article about table tennis)