

Table

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

Tennis

Vol. II. No. 7.

APRIL, 1937

ONE PENNY

REGISTERED AT STATIONERS HALL

Proposed County Championships

By F. A. AMIES, Executive Committee, E.T.T.A.

At a recent meeting of the Executive of the E.T.T.A., authority was given to the Yorkshire Association to organise a county championship next season. A meeting to discuss possibilities is to be called shortly.

The object of the proposal is two-fold. Firstly, it will provide further opportunities of play between the best players in the country. Secondly, it is hoped they will give an additional stimulus to the rising interest in the game. However closely players and public follow tournaments and inter-city matches, there is always a special attraction for a substantial part of the public in county matches. In Yorkshire it is easier for players to get time off, and to obtain Press publicity for a county match than for any other, except, perhaps, for an international match or exhibition.

The need for a new form of championship at a time when facilities for play are already so great is admittedly open to dispute. In the North of England practically every Saturday is now taken up by tournaments. One week-day is regularly occupied by league engagements and inter-league and inter-city matches, particularly if the immense possibilities of the National League are realised, are likely quickly to monopolise another. Is it wise at this stage to throw anything further into the melting pot; and is it, in fact, going to be practicable to do so without serious clashes of fixtures?

The answer is, firstly, that extended facilities for play have so far shown no tendency to overrun the expansion of support. Although tournaments and matches everywhere have this season been more numerous than ever before, they have individually attracted far more interest and in total, of course, enormously more. The time to criticise a proposal on the ground that saturation point has been reached is when some sign can be discerned of that point.

The second answer is, that at the present time we do not know what form the organisation of Table Tennis is likely to assume in the near future. It may be that interest in tournaments will flag and that there will be greater concentration on matches, or vice versa. It may be that there will be organised professionalism, and that everything else will be dwarfed by a great National League in numerous sections with complicated systems of promotion and relegation. Or the game may maintain its present many-sided form, modified, of course, as a result of experience. In view of this uncertainty there is everything to be said for giving any reasonable development an opportunity of

justifying itself, of making whatever appeal it can to players and public.

The avoidance of clashes of fixtures is mainly a question of organisation. The whole problem is to be tackled during the summer and, if the proposals for a national fixture list go through, there is no reason why difficulties should not be overcome.

A fully representative championship is not anticipated in the first seasons. It is hoped to start in a small way with the nucleus of county associations already in existence in the North. The Yorkshire Association was formed in 1924 and at present has a membership of 15 leagues. There is a county association in Durham and another in Northumberland, and an enthusiastic Lincolnshire T.T.A. has been formed this season. If support is forthcoming from Lancashire an excellent competition can be run, and in the event of further adherents coming forward these five counties could readily form one section.

Already the difficult question of qualification has been under examination, though it has not arisen in connection with the county matches played this season. Home and away matches have been suggested. The size of the team will probably be a matter of contention, since with county representation other considerations are apt to over-weigh those of expense and ease of travelling. Four or five players playing

singles and doubles may be preferred (and so far have been) to the simple three-a-side method adopted in the Swaythling Cup.

[Secretaries of County Associations, other than those mentioned, and Secretaries of Leagues, contemplating steps to form such associations, are invited to communicate with F. A. Amies, Highfield Road, Pontefract, Hon. General Secretary of the Yorkshire T.T.A.]

H.M. THE KING AND TABLE TENNIS

Immediately after lunch, six afternoons a week, the brisk tap-tap of a ping-pong ball is heard in the heart of Buckingham Palace.

Players are in a little room which is one of the three or four constituting the King's personal quarters—it is really a small annex to his private sitting-room.

And one of the players is the King, who has just taken up the pastime of Table Tennis again. He used to play years ago, and he is now becoming one of its keenest devotees.

He finds it a first-class, handy method of getting a daily half-hour or so of exercise.

His opponent is usually one of his personal secretaries or an equerry. Sets played are no pat-ball affairs but fast, lively games.

The King has a quick, sure eye. He delights in getting the utmost out of each game. He does not always win, but most of the games are very near things.

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(Reprinted from "The Sunday Referee," March 7th, 1937)

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Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on Saturday and Sunday, 3rd and 4th April, at 64, High Holborn, London, and considered a very long Agenda. There were 14 members present. Some of the decisions are dealt with elsewhere in this issue, but amongst other matters considered were the following:—

UNPAID AFFILIATION FEES.—Leagues which had not paid to be written to and debarred from taking part in the election for officers unless amounts due received forthwith.

PAID PLAYERS.—Players who had not paid Registration Fee for 1936-37 to be asked to pay before 24th April. If still unpaid then the Executive Committee to take serious notice of the matter.

Messrs. H. SWETMAN AND D. STEER.—These players played in an unaffiliated hall, for remuneration, and without applying for permission. Swetman wrote explaining the circumstances and was censured and warned that he must carry out the Regulations in future. Steer had not replied to the complaint which had been sent him, and it was decided to suspend him forthwith, and that the case would be further considered upon receipt of his reply.

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION FOR SOUTHEAST AREA OF ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—It was agreed that the affiliation of the proposed body could not be accepted. Mr. Allen Rowlandson to be informed that it was irregular for headed notepaper to be printed endorsed "Affiliated to the E.T.T.A." before such affiliation was considered by the Committee.

COUNTY BODIES.—It was decided to postpone consideration of the resolution suggesting the setting up of County Bodies until the meeting of the Committee to be held on 24th April.

WILMOTT CUP SEMI-FINALS AND FINAL.—The venue and arrangements for these matches left in the hands of the officers.

REGULATION DRESS FOR WOMEN PLAYERS.—Mrs. Bunbury reported on her efforts to obtain concessions from firms for the supply of an official uniform. She was asked to refer the firm agreeable to the officers for further negotiation.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.—Agreed to ask Messrs. Swann, Batty and Goldstein to submit a report on the working of the National League. These to be considered

by the Committee at their next meeting, and a recommendation made to the A.G.M. for the programme for next season.

OFFICIAL BALL.—It was decided not to sanction the new type of ball submitted by Messrs. Ayres Limited as official.

CLUBS BELONGING TO MORE THAN ONE LEAGUE.—It was agreed that the affiliation paid was a League fee, and that the Leagues should be asked to pay on the basis of the number of clubs in the League.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND I.T.T.F. CONGRESS, BADEN, 1937.—No official minutes having yet been received, Mr. Montagu gave a report on the Congress based on the unofficial information which had reached him. It was agreed to press the Austrian T.T.A. for the minutes as the position with regard to knuckle spin, lower net and other matters was so uncertain.



Miss GWEN CAPPER & Miss BRENDA CAPPER. In charge of our Publicity and Distributing activity. Keen "fans" and enthusiastic workers and have rendered invaluable assistance to the administration this season.

THE ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS— 1937-38

The venue for the World Championships next season being London, it was agreed that the English Championships should be fixed elsewhere. The officers were instructed to make inquiries into the possibilities of other suggested towns and to report to the next meeting.

The Executive Committee at their last meeting decided that the A.G.M. of the Association should be held in London on 1st May, commencing at 6 p.m. At the time of writing the exact venue has not been fixed but this, together with the Agenda, etc., will be forwarded to Leagues in due course.

ENGLAND v. IRISH FREE STATE

Over 300 spectators packed the Orrell club room, Liverpool, to see England defeat the I.F.S. by 10 events to 1, in the eighth match of the series. The "high spot" was undoubtedly the event between T. Ewbank, England's captain, and C. A. Kemp, won by the latter in straight but well contested games. Apart from this event, and possibly P. Rumjahn's brilliant victory over D. L. Hennessey, the standard of play failed to reach a high standard. There was a friendly atmosphere about the match, due in no small measure to the fact that the teams had in the afternoon attended the Everton v. Middlesbrough League match, and the "keynote" was the atmosphere of good sportsmanship which prevailed throughout the visitors' stay on Merseyside, thanks to the Liverpool League, and Secretary H. T. Griffiths, in whose hands the arrangements fell. The Orrell club officials did everything possible to ensure a successful event; and following the match, over 100 couples took the floor. Mr. T. G. Brandreth officiated as Referee, in his usual capable manner, and Mr. L. E. Forrest, up in his old haunts, proposed the toast to "The Visitors," to which Mr. Kemp, non-playing captain, replied.

RESULTS

L. Cohen beat H. Carlile, 21-12, 21-12. Mrs Hutchings and Miss D. Newey beat Miss T. Whelan and Miss E. Yeates, 21-19, 21-6. W. Atkinson beat H. Collins, 23-21, 21-17. T. K. and E. W. Hyde beat C. A. Kemp and H. Collins, 21-14, 21-16. P. U. Rumjahn beat D. L. Hennessey, 21-16, 21-11. E. Reay and Mrs. Hutchings beat D. L. Hennessey and Miss E. Yeates, 21-17, 21-16. T. Ewbank lost to C. A. Kemp, 19-21, 22-24. Miss D. Newey beat Miss E. Yeates, 13-21, 21-4, 21-15. Mrs. Hutchings beat Miss T. Whelan, 13-18, 21-6. T. Ewbank and F. Reay beat H. Carlile and D. L. Hennessey, 21-14, 21-16. J. K. Hyde and Miss D. Newey beat C. A. Kemp and Miss T. Whelan, 21-19, 21-18.

SUCCESS

AT

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The Wilmott Cup

NORTH v. SOUTH CLASHES IN THE SEMI-FINALS

By L. E. FORREST

Hundreds of excited "fans" at the Baths Hall, Croydon, watched the finals of one of the finest Open Tournaments ever, and one which Surrey enthusiasts are to be proud of. Comes a pause in the proceedings. Secretary Milton with small box in hand advances to the table, followed by Miss R. Smits, of the E.T.T.A. Executive, and a third person in Councillor J. Marshall, a joint President of the Tournament. Mr. Milton announces that the Semi-Final Draw of the Wilmott Cup Competition is about to be made. Miss Smits advances, and from the small box draws a slip of paper. It is unfolded, and upon it reads **Liverpool**. Who will be their opponents? Councillor Marshall draws **Surrey**, and follows an excited buzz of conversation for were we not in Croydon, the centre of Surrey League activities? Around the packed terraces one could hear Liverpool it is, and the other Semi-Final is **Manchester** (the holders) or **Sunderland** versus **South London** or **London**.

From the results, as printed below, the revised draw is :-

Liverpool v. Surrey.
Manchester v. South London.

to be played at Kennards Stores, Croydon, on May 1st, commencing at 3 p.m. Final at 7 p.m.

ROUND 3 RESULTS.

The London Derby resulted in the somewhat surprising result of 7-2 sets in favour of South London. Feature of the tie was that neither League had met previously in an Inter-League match. Bublely's loss of two events, one to Marshall, and the other to Filby was a severe reverse to London's hopes. Filby took chief honours by reason of his winning all three events against Rosen, and Joyce (deputising for Tommy Sears) in straight games, and 2-1 at Bublely's expense. Marshall's defeat at the hands of Joyce, was in the nature of a surprise, but Marshall made amends by convincing wins over Bublely and Rosen. Bublely notched the losers second point in his event with Coles, the latter having accounted for Joyce 2-1, and Rosen 2-0.

It was pleasing to see Mr. A. J. Wilmott (donor of the cup) officiate as Referee.

Manchester emerged successful in the North-East, where they triumphed to the extent of 9-0 sets over Sunderland.

Reay put up a wonderful fight in his event with Millar losing 21-23 in the deciding game. Results: H. Lurie beat T. Ewbank, 21-17, 21-16; E. Reay, 21-13, 21-14; J. Machin, 21-9, 21-9; C. W. Davies beat Ewbank, 21-15, 21-16; Reay, 21-12, 21-14; Machin, 21-15, 21-16. A. G. Millar beat Ewbank, 9-21, 21-14, 21-15; Reay, 15-21, 21-11, 23-21; Machin, 19-21, 21-14, 21-15.



Public Draw, Semi-Finals of the Wilmott Cup Competition, by Councillor J. MARSHALL, J.P. (Joint President of the South of England T.T. Championships), **Miss R. SMITS** (Circulation Sub Com., Member of the Executive of the E.T.T.A.), **Mr. C. G. MILTON, F.R.H.S.** (Organiser of the South of England T.T. Championships) at the Baths Hall, Croydon, on March 20th, 1937

Liverpool at home, retained their unbeaten certificate against Birmingham by reason of a 5-3 sets victory. Remarkable feature was that the rival No. 1 men, Ken Hyde and Adrian Haydon, did not play owing to the late hour, and Liverpool having reached five sets. Had these men met early on, and Haydon won, then the tables might quite easily have been turned. Interesting feature was, that three Welsh internationals, Lisle and Sadler (Birmingham) and Bamford participated.

Hyde beat both Lisle and Sadler in straight games, whereas Bamford engaged in terrific struggles, beating Sadler, 22-20, 23-21, and failing 20-22 in his deciding game with Lisle. D. Class, making a welcome re-appearance, accounted for Sadler and Lisle, 1-5 in straight games to Haydon, who won the loser's third point over Bamford, 2-0.

There was a strong note of contrast in the tie between Surrey and Bristol, won by Surrey, 6-3 sets. Inasmuch as Dawes, of Bristol, was the only international, and it was to his credit that he succeeded in registering two of Bristol's three wins, losing his third to H. Swetman, 20-22, in the deciding game. Bristol's other win was secured by Hipkins, who defeated Swetman 16-21, 21-14, 21-15. For Surrey, Moreton beat Hipkins, 21-16, 20-21, 21-11, and Parsons, 21-17, 21-11. Rogers beat Hipkins, 16-21, 21-19, 21-17, and Parsons, 21-12, 21-16. Swetman beat Dawes, 19-21, 21-12, 22-20, and Parsons, 21-13, 21-11.

The Manchester and South London tie will, I think, prove to be the "high spot" of the Semi-Final Draw. Provided both Leagues rely on the sides which carried them

through Round 3, then five of the six men will be internationals—Coles, of South London, being the exception. The Mancunians boast two Swaythling Cup men in Millar and Lurie, as against their opponents one in Marshall. **Manchester** can bring in Cromwell, which reminds me that "Freddy," Manchester's most popular "veteran" played for Grove House in the early days of the Manchester League ten years ago, and since then has always been at the top of the tree. Yet it was not until two years ago that he secured international recognition. Cromwell is now 26 years old and captain of the Grove House team. "Freddy" has won many open championships, and in partnership with Lurie, has provided one of England's most successful combinations since the days of Fred Perry and Charlie Bull, now better known in tennis and cricket circles respectively. From their galaxy of talent Manchester have another player of promise in Leslie Cohen.

Their convincing win over London has given the South London men confidence, and they will be all out to avenge the defeat sustained at the hands of Manchester in the 1935 Final. The winners of this tie will, I believe, become the ultimate holders of the trophy.

Surrey's enthusiasm and splendid team-spirit will compensate, in a large measure, for the loss of not having an international player in their ranks. However, I cannot see Surrey, bonny fighters as they are, overcoming the men from Merseyside, who can select from no fewer than five internationals, in the Hyde Brothers, Don Foulis, F. Bamford, and Peter Rumjahn.

WILMOTT CUP
SEMI-FINALS & FINAL
Saturday, 1st May, 1937
KENNARD'S STORES, CROYDON
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Manchester v. South London

Commencing 3 p.m.

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T.T. CHAMPIONSHIPS

By F. J. P. HILLS, Executive Committee, E.T.T.A.

THE 12th Annual Championships were concluded on 17th March, at the Headquarters of Imperial Club, kindly lent by the Board of Management of the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes. A record individual entry of 516 seemed likely to overwhelm the officials, who only had four evenings to bring the six events to a conclusion. However, a commencement was made at Lucania Hall, Draper Street, on Friday, the 12th, with the Men's Junior Competition in which 202 entries had been received. With the use of ten tables and careful handling, the quarter finals were reached in the one evening. On Monday, at Imperial Court, the Men's Singles and Doubles Championship, and on Tuesday the Women's Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles, were reduced to semi-final rounds, thus leaving an easy finals evening; and for the benefit of others it may be related that the last final was over soon after 9-30 p.m., leaving nice time for our one and only Viktor Barna to play exhibitions against the new champion and runner-up. Barna had very kindly consented to appear and present the trophies, etc., but when the Referee was able to announce that "the greatest player the world has known" would play exhibitions, the applause was deafening.

It was very gratifying to the writer to welcome a new champion in Joyce, of Hadyn Park Club. Joyce has tried very hard for several years to become Business Houses Champion, as has also the runner-up, Peter Williams, of United Dairies. These two players gave us one of the best "attacking" finals seen for several seasons (Mr. Montagu please note). Both players have represented the L.B.H. in representative games regularly for a considerable time.

Miss Hodgkinson (Lensbury) had a hard tussle to retain her title (third time in succession) against Miss Waters, of Dagenham Cables, without losing a game. These two ladies were also opposing one another in the Women's Doubles, when the order of winning was reversed. The popularity of the Doubles game, now introduced into the league games, was manifest, with an entry pairs and of 56 pairs in the Men's Doubles, 26 Mixed pairs, and 15 Women's pairs.

Amongst distinguished visitors on Finals night were Mr. Newton, Hon. General Secretary of L.B.H. A.S.A., Mr. C. Corti Woodcock, E.T.T.A., who brought a party of friends, Maurice Bergl, the Swaything Cup player, and two or three Association Vice-Presidents.

The League Tables are not yet completed; for with 102 teams participating and several clubs also competing in other leagues, the Divisional Secretaries have had a job to keep the teams up to time.

A word of appreciation for our energetic Secretary, J. E. Wright, is due for his untiring efforts throughout the season and for his loyal devotion to the game for the past eight years. There were then 20 teams in the League, and entries for the Championships numbered just over 100. Congratulations, Jack.

RESULTS.—Men's Singles Championship: Joyce (Hadyn Park) beat Williams (United Dairies), 21—17, 21—11, 19—21, 19—21, 21—14.

Men's Junior: King (W. H. Smith) beat Hill (Allenbury's), 21—15, 21—12.

Women's Single Championship: Miss Hodgkinson (Lensbury), beat Miss Waters (Dagenham Cables), 21—10, 21—18.

Men's Doubles: Carrington and J. J. Coquet (Unilever) beat Cruise and Stanton (Allenbury's), 21—6, 21—17, 21—13.

Mixed Doubles: Mrs. Warner and P. Williams (United Dairies) beat Miss Hodgkinson and Cohen (Lensbury), 21—17, 17—21, 21—18.

Women's Doubles: Misses Waters and Cabot (Dagenham Cables) beat Misses Hodgkinson and Fisher (Lensbury), 21—18, 21—18.

BIRMINGHAM CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

T. Lisle (Lucadians), the Welsh international, won the Men's Singles title, beating E. Banner (Washwood Heath) in Final 3—1 games. Lisle is playing brilliantly at present, attacking better than ever. Haydon did not compete in singles. Sadler, previous holder, also Welsh international, defeated Goldstein in an earlier round.

Miss Osborne gained Women's Singles title for third year in succession, beating Miss Lamprell, the ex-inter-City player, 3—1 games in final. Miss Osborne beat Miss Newey in Semi-Final in three straight games.

The Haydon Bros (Adrian and Tommy) beat Lisle and Sadler in Final for Men's Doubles—a new event.

Miss M. OSBORNE AND Miss W. WOODHEAD

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, following on the report given by Mr. Montagu upon the results of the World Championships at Baden, it was unanimously decided to congratulate Miss Osborne and Miss Woodhead on their success in reaching the Final of the Women's Doubles event. It was agreed that this was a splendid performance and all our readers will, we feel sure, join with us in this expression of pride in their achievement. It was also agreed to place on record our congratulations to both players for winning the Women's Doubles at Paddington Baths and becoming English Champions.

North Middlesex League

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

The Individual Championship Finals of the North Middlesex League attracted an attendance of nearly 300 at The Assembly Rooms, Wood Green, on Tuesday, 9th March.

The evening proved to be personal triumphs for W. T. Stennett and Mrs. F. Booker, who each claimed three titles.

In the Men's Singles Stennett was very sound and Carrington was not able to get his attack quite severe enough to put himself on top, although he won the first game. The score was 17—21, 21—17, 21—19, 21—16 in Stennett's favour.

Stennett and Carrington together did not have great difficulty in winning the Men's Doubles. In the Final they defeated R. Brereton and C. E. Richards 21—17, 21—19, 21—14.

Mrs. F. Booker took the Ladies' Singles title from Miss N. Bright, winning comfortably in straight games, although it must be said that the loser was badly off form.

Mrs. M. A. Carrington, who has improved considerably, was Mrs. Booker's partner in the Ladies' Doubles. This pair defeated Misses Bright and V. E. Weavers in the Final 21—13, 21—13.

In the Mixed Doubles, Stennett and Mrs. Booker played well together, and were good winners of the title. They defeated E. J. Gibbons and Miss Bright 21—11, 21—16.

At the end of the matches the trophies were kindly presented by Mrs. W. T. Bennett, wife of Mr. W. T. Bennett, the League's Chairman. Mr. Bennett had very ably acted as M.C. throughout the evening.

During the evening Mr. L. E. Forrest, Assistant Secretary of the English Table Tennis Association, said a few words on the progress of the game in North Middlesex, and congratulated the Committee on the arrangements.

The Final of the National Association of Local Government Officers, Yorkshire District Competition, between Leeds and Bradford, played at Dewsbury on the 17th March, was the best match this event has produced since it commenced in 1933. Leeds, who had held the trophy since it was presented in 1934, were at one period of the game losing 5—10, but were only beaten eventually by 13—12. The winners are to be congratulated on being the first team to overcome the strong Leeds side.

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Although no official intimation has been received, it is understood that the next World Championships have been allocated to this country. At the last meeting of the Executive Committee it was decided that if this is officially confirmed the Association will undertake the Championships in London, and a sub-committee was appointed to consider the preliminary arrangements.

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FROM ALL SPORTS DEALERS

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The Case of Miss Ruth Aarons

During the English Championships it was brought to the notice of the officers of the Association that Miss Aarons had made arrangements to give exhibitions at various theatres owned by the Paramount Picture Corporation and in the Cabaret at the Mayfair Hotel. It subsequently transpired that, having received permission from the U.S.A. T.T.A. to play such exhibitions, a contract had been signed with theatrical agents to play in England following the championships, and that she was to be partnered by Mr. M. Glickmann, a Yugoslav player now playing under the auspices of the French T.T.A.

Miss Aarons was told that such exhibitions had never been sanctioned in England, that they would contravene the Rules of our Association, and that it would be necessary for the Executive Committee to consider the matter before permission could be given. She was advised to make official application when the members of the Committee would be consulted and a decision given as quickly as possible. This was done, and it was unanimously decided that permission could not be granted.

Miss Aarons proceeded to fulfil her contract to play the exhibitions, and at the last meeting of the Executive Committee the whole of the circumstances surrounding the case were exhaustively considered and the following resolutions adopted:—

1. "The Executive Committee of the E.T.T.A. has examined the case of exhibitions given in this country for remuneration, and on unaffiliated premises, by Miss Ruth Aarons subsequently to permission for the exhibitions having been refused. The Executive Committee accepts the statement and notes the fact, not in dispute, that a contract for these exhibitions was entered into by Miss Aarons in good faith and in ignorance of the fact that the prior permission of the E.T.T.A. should have been obtained; it accepts her assurance that subsequent to refusal of permission she endeavoured unsuccessfully to secure release from the pertinent contract. At the same time it is obliged to note that it is the duty of players, whether resident or visiting, to make themselves familiar with the regulations governing their activities, and it suspends Miss Aarons from all participation in Table Tennis from 20th April, 1937, to 30th June, 1937. This decision to be communicated to all nations affiliated to the I.T.T.F."

2. "The Executive Committee of the E.T.T.A., at the same time, examined the case of similar exhibitions given in this country by Mr. Glickmann without permission previously having been requested. The E.C. accepts his statement that a contract for these exhibitions was entered into in good faith and without the knowledge that any procedure which might be necessary in respect to permission had not been carried out in order. For the same reason as that noted in the ancillary case of Miss Aarons it suspends Mr. M. Glickmann from all participation in Table Tennis from 20th April, 1937, to 30th June, 1937. This decision to be communicated to all nations affiliated to the I.T.T.F."

NATIONAL LEAGUE NOTES

By J. BATTY

Closing stage has been reached in National League (Northern Section) programme. Manchester, beating Liverpool 7—2, take the lead at the top of the table; Liverpool, 2nd; Birmingham, 3rd.

There are still several matches arranged to take place this month before title can be decided. Manchester entertain Birmingham, Liverpool and Blackpool, whilst Stockport have also a match to play.

A full report of the activities of the Northern Section, final League table, and prospects for next season, will appear next month.



The well-known London League player. Selected for England against I.F.S. and U.S.A., 1937

WESTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

SECTION "A" RESULTS.—Bath 5, Salisbury 6; Bristol 7, Salisbury 1; Salisbury 2, Bristol 9; Bath 3, Bristol 9.

SECTION "B" RESULTS.—Newport 4, Cardiff 9; Exeter 7, Cardiff 5; Newport 5, Exeter 8.

Bristol have won the leadership of Section "A," and will meet Exeter for the championship.

WEST MIDDLESEX CHAMPIONSHIPS

By T. E. SEARS

This championship proved once more to have a popular appeal, and there was a strong entry. The conditions were admirable, although the balls used were not quite up to standard. Chief honours go to Maurice Bergl, who won the Men's Singles, having to play Stennett and Filby to reach the Final, when he played me, and despite the fact that he was dead tired, having played about five games in succession, beat me 3—1 games, after losing the first 10—21.

Miss Wendy Woodhead won the Women's Singles, and Filby in partnership with Rogers the Men's Doubles. I must remark on the way this pair played in doubles, simply magnificently. They "paralysed" all the opposition with amazing hitting.

The Mixed was won by Filby and Miss Woodhead beating Contractor and Miss Dora Emdin, while Misses Wheaton and Wright took the Women's Doubles.

The tournament, as a whole, was a great success, and for me the chief spot of remembrance will be the fact that I once more beat Gilbert Marshall, much to his disgust.

The London League Closed Championships were recently held at Paddington Baths. Wendy Woodhead (Whitefields) successfully defended her title in the Women's Singles by beating her clubmate, Mrs. Hutchings, 21—16, 21—16, 21—6. Wendy has now held the Championship for five consecutive seasons. A proud performance. E. J. Filby (Wimbledon) easily beat G. W. Marshall (Kingsway) in three straight games in the Singles Proper. Marshall's spin services did not unduly worry Filby and was generally outplayed. Filby is now a much improved player. G. W. Daniels (Eton Manor) and J. H. Pickering (Finchley) provided a "chiselling" match in the Minor Singles Final. Daniels was the winner. Sparkling play was seen in the Doubles Semi-Final match between Joyce and Sears (West Ealing) and Filby and Swetman (Wimbledon). The latter pair won three games to two and went on to beat Marshall and Rogers (Kingsway) in the Final by the same margin. The pair were worthy winners of the League's first Doubles Championship. Cups and Medals were presented to the winners, runners-up and defeated Semi-Finalists by the President of the League, S. T. Westlake, Esq. E. A. V.

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"Evening Chronicle" (Manchester) Open Tournament

The finals of this popular tournament, limited to Men's Singles and Women's Singles, which is specially sponsored by the "Evening Chronicle" for average players, took place on Saturday, 3rd April, at Belle Vue, Manchester, before 2,000 spectators. In the Men's event, K. Stanley (Manchester Y.M.C.A.), 15-year-old English Junior Champion, emerged triumphant from over 1,000 entries, to beat H. Cohen (Grove House, Manchester), in the final, after losing first two games. At 2-1 games for Cohen, Referee Oldroyd stopped play and warned both players for unenterprising defensive game. After this, Stanley went on to win the next two games easily for the match.

Miss Ann Tenen (Manchester Jewish Ladies), took the Women's Trophy, beating Miss G. Bean (Manchester Social), in the final. Sensation in earlier rounds was defeat of Miss L. N. Rubens, Lancs. Open Title Holder, by Mrs. D. E. Jones (Leek). Results: Men's Singles—K. Stanley (Manchester) beat H. Cohen (Manchester), 13-21, 16-21, 21-17, 21-16, 21-6; Women's Singles—Miss A. Tenen (Manchester) beat Miss G. Bean (Manchester), 21-18, 24-22, 19-21, 21-16.

BARNA-SZABADOS BEATEN!

Following these finals, an International Invitation Tournament was staged, with G. Barna and M. Szabados (Hungary), and Millar, Davies, Cohen, Cromwell, Lurie, and J. K. Hyde, competing.

Sensation 1!—Millar defeated Szabados in two straight games in the First Round.

Sensation 2!—Hyde and Barna fought out the Final, first game going to Barna, 21-5. Then Hyde woke up. Brilliant all-round attack on both wings and steady defence, soon had Barna in difficulties. One game each, Hyde going strong. Barna leads 12-9 in the third game. Hyde pulls up, takes the lead at 19-16, and finished off with a good drop shot to beat Barna 21-19 in the third game.

Results from Abroad

HAMBURG "RED-WHITE" OPEN TOURNAMENT

Men's Singles: Mauritz beat Munchow, 17, 21, 16, 11. Women's Singles: Lindberg created a big surprise by defeat of Bussmann 21-19 in the fifth game.

AUSTRIAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Men's Singles Champion: Bergmann. Bergmann beat Pivetz, 2-1, Goebel, 2-1, and in the final Sediwy; Boros beat Hartinger; Goebel beat Andradis (new Czech boy); Sediwy beat Boros 2-0, a big surprise 2-0 win over Vana, and Papazian, 2-1.

In winning Men's Doubles Championship Bergmann and Goebel did not lose a game; they beat in final Sediwy and Pfefferbaum, 21-9, 22-20.

Kettnerova won Women's Singles. Pritzi and Werle beat Kettnerova and Holubkova to become Women's Doubles Champions. In final Mixed Doubles, Vana and Kettnerova beat Boros and Lemo, 21-11, 21-17. The matches were best of three games throughout, which was said to have been much appreciated by both players and spectators.

HUNGARIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS—BUDAPEST

Men's Singles: Gardas beat Bergmann, 19-21, 21-14, 23-21, 21-16.

Women's Singles: Gal beat Keiraby, 21-11, 21-16, 21-12.

Men's Doubles: Schmiedle and Benkő beat Manton and Rosemann, 21-19, 12-21, 21-17, 21-10.

WEST OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS, ILFRACOMBE

MEN'S SINGLES—E. J. Filby.

WOMEN'S SINGLES—Mrs. Hutchings.

MEN'S DOUBLES—E. J. Filby and A. D. Brook.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES—Mrs. Hutchings and Mrs. Booker.

MIXED DOUBLES—E. J. Filby and Mrs. Booker.

THE FIRST GRIMSBY OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The first Grimsby and District Open Championships were run on Saturday, 20th March, for the benefit of the local hospital and attracted the large entry of 300 on Cleethorpes Pier Pavilion.

The affair was a great success, arousing much local interest, and present at the finals were Sir James Blindell, M.P., Sir Walter Womersley, M.P., Assistant Postmaster-General, Sir George Moody, and Alderman E. Houghton, the Mayor of Cleethorpes.

The President's Cup awarded by Sir James Blindell was won by R. B. Dean, of Huddersfield, who was in irresistible hitting form. He did not drop a game in his last three matches, while his closest game was against F. Lammin, Grimsby's unique "Plate-grip" hitter, who failed to consolidate an 18-12 lead third game.

Miss W. I. Stott, of Leeds, was by far the best lady player, and in addition to gaining the Cleethorpes Charter Cup given by Sir George Moody, she displayed splendid stamina in carrying off the Ladies and Mixed Doubles in addition. Yorkshire's triumph was completed by the success of Denby and Marston of Leeds, in the Men's Doubles, and the easy passage of Patchett, of Bradford, in the Youths'.

RESULTS

MEN'S OPEN SINGLES—Semi-Final: R. B. Dean (Huddersfield) beat E. Denby (Leeds), 21-18, 21-13. N. Ingham (Grimsby) beat K. Russell (Grimsby), 22-20, 22-20. Final: Dean beat Ingham, 21-9, 21-18.

LADIES' OPEN SINGLES—Semi-Final: Miss W. I. Stott (Leeds) beat Miss E. Ward (Grimsby), 21-15, 21-19; Miss M. Piercey (Grimsby) beat Mrs. H. Amies (Pontefract), 21-15, 20-22, 21-14. Final: Miss Stott beat Miss Piercey, 21-14, 22-20.

YOUTHS' OPEN SINGLES—Final: E. Patchett (Bradford) beat B. Bennett (Grimsby), 21-12, 21-19.

MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES—Final: Marston and Denby (Leeds) beat Smith and Watts (Hull), 21-14, 21-16.

LADIES' OPEN DOUBLES—Final: Mrs. Amies (Pontefract) and Miss Stott (Leeds) beat Miss Piercey and Mrs. Langrick (Grimsby), 21-11, 21-14.

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES—Final: Marston and Miss Stott (Leeds) beat Mr. and Mrs. Amies (Pontefract), 21-9, 21-17.

WEMBLEY OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN'S SINGLES—W. Stennett.

WOMEN'S SINGLES—Miss D. Jordan.

MEN'S DOUBLES—T. E. Sears and G. W. Marshall.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES—Miss Dora Emdin and Miss D. Jordan (walk over).

MIXED DOUBLES—W. Livy and Miss D. Jordan.

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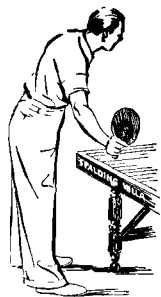
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Our Visit to Jersey

By ALFRED LIEBSTER

(We asked Mr. Liebster to let us have for publication a short article giving his impression of the tour. At first he refused, pleading his "poor English." We have now received from him an article dealing with the visit to Jersey, which we have pleasure in publishing.)

I WAS very proud when I was asked to substitute Bellak and to become one of the "Three Musketeers." The tour was marvellous, and I greet all the friends I made in the towns we visited. One event particularly stands out on my mind, and I will tell readers of "Table Tennis" about our visit to Jersey.

It is a costly business, becoming one of the "Musketeers," but on the occasion of the journey to Southampton I was lucky—I only lost 8s. at cards, so I know it was a short journey! Then we got out to join the airplane—Szabados and myself a little quiet. Victor, the old seasoned traveller, making his jokes—

"the Old Flyer," he finds it "silly to become sick. Ah, ah!" We see our machine. "It seems to be a good one, Vicki?"

I ask. "Yes," he replied, looking just as if he understood airplanes! There is a weighing machine. "Step on it," says the attendant. "But I know my weight," I reply, but stepped on it. We have ten minutes to look round. There are airplanes coming, going, starting, large ones, small ones, all colours—it is very interesting. "Ours looks like a sardine tin with wings," says Miklos. The motor starts, you cannot see the propeller, We go quick, then quicker, then slower, we turn against the wind and now with whole power we rush over the field farther, farther . . . we are in the air—a great moment.

We are lucky, it is a clear day and a marvellous view. Barna, the "old flyer," sits beside me. Down below we see fields, houses, streets like a map. Miklos, too, is inspired. "Wonderful, isn't it, Vicki," he says. No reply. We fall for a moment, go higher, fall again and go higher. I feel groggy. Victor is silent. Is anything wrong with him? Miklos winks at me. Down below, nothing but water. Zump, zump, goes the engine. We see Jersey. A beautiful island. We go down, down, down—we are over the trees and houses—and now, here we are. We are surprised—reporters, photographers, officials, police, players, a string of motor-cars waiting. I get out, Miklos follows; but where is our "Old flyer?" The cameramen wait—ah, here he comes. Pale and green is the face of our traveller. "Is it the spring which makes you look so unwell?" asks Miklos. Ah, poor "old flyer."

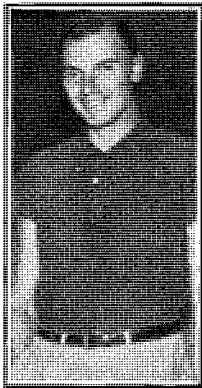
"Passports, please." Where are our passports?—lying quite comfortably in our luggage at the hotel in London, we find; but the Association President settles all our troubles. We go to the Mayor, who welcomes us to the

Island. Victor, now quite recovered, replies, and off to lunch and a trip round the Island. A marvellous day in the fresh air; the sun is shining, the sea is calm, and we see the French coast 35 miles away. We talk Table Tennis incessantly to our hosts; everyone is passionately interested in the game.

The hall is packed. Victor plays the first game. The spectators have never seen Table Tennis. They are as nervous as their players. We all play local champions and then play exhibitions. The crowd is very excited—"never seen anything like it—didn't think the game could be played like this," we hear on all sides. "Come again," everyone says. Thank you, people of Jersey, we are glad you enjoyed it. We are very tired, but sign almost every programme.

Then we go to a banquet. The menu is a "Barna," "B" for beef-steak, and so on. After drinking some nice wine, I say: "Why did you not make it a 'Szabados menu?'" They laugh and see my joke and I feel at home. Table Tennis is a band, and makes all players in the world into a big family.

Speech, speech, speech again and again. But Victor is our saviour, and he thanks them on behalf of the three. We break up and go back to our hotel. A grand day is over again. Next day we leave in the afternoon. All the players and officials are there to shake hands. Our old friend the airplane is there. "Cheerio, cheerio, come again," they cry. We wave, the plane starts, we look down and see the boys winking. Good-bye, Jersey, auf wiederchen!



ALFRED LIEBSTER

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL—ENGLAND AND WALES AT SWINDON

Long and exciting rallies were a feature of the majority of the games in this match, in which England triumphed over Wales by 7 events to 2. Miss G. Beazley (Swindon), making her debut in international matches, acquitted herself with distinction. She defeated her North Wales opponent, Miss C. Wadsworth, in straight games. The most exciting event was that played between the rival captains—Miss Wendy Woodhead and Mrs. Roy Evans (Cardiff). Aided by her peculiar spin service, Mrs. Evans led 11—5 in the first game. Long rallies drew applause. Miss Woodhead fought with great determination, but the game went to her opponent 21—14.

The tables were turned in game 2, when Miss Woodhead countered all the Welsh players' most skilful moves to take the game at 21—13. Deuce was called in the deciding game; the excitement was almost too much for the spectators, who could scarcely restrain themselves from applauding in the middle of the rallies. Then 21 all was reached, and with two superb shots which left her opponent guessing, Mrs. Evans gave Wales their first victory.

Mrs. L. Hutchings and Mrs. L. Booker had matters all their own way against the Misses Wadsworth, who, incidentally, were both newcomers to the Welsh International team. The steady defensive play of the Welsh pair was in contrast to the dashing style of the English two who won 21—13, 21—14.

Mr. C. Corti Woodcock officiated as Referee, while the arrangements were as usual well carried out by Mr. O. W. Tarrant, Swindon League Secretary.

RESULTS

Mrs. Hutchings (Watford) beat Miss V. Adams (Giffach Goch), 21—14, 21—8. Mrs. L. Booker (London) beat Mrs. S. Matthews (Penarth), 21—14, 21—15. Miss G. Beazley (Swindon) beat Miss C. Wadsworth (Rhyll), 21—19, 21—14. Miss W. Woodhead (Amersham) lost to Mrs. H. Roy Evans (Cardiff), 14—21, 21—13, 21—23. Miss C. Wheaton (St. Albans) beat Mrs. H. C. Day (Cardiff), 21—12, 21—12. Miss D. Newey (Birmingham) beat Miss E. Maloney (Swansea), 21—13, 21—12.

DOUBLES—Miss Wheaton and Miss Newey beat Mrs. Evans (Aberkenfig) and Miss Ward, 21—13, 21—19. Mrs. Hutchings and Mrs. Booker beat Miss H. Wadsworth and Miss C. Wadsworth, 21—13, 21—14. Miss Woodhead and Miss Beazley lost to Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Day, 16—21, 18—21.

The Surrey and the South of England Championships

By C. G. MILTON (Chairman, Surrey T.T.L.)

These events have been the outstanding events of the season, and the Council of the Surrey T.T. League have just reason to be proud of their efforts, having received the cordial, expressed and written, "pat on the back" of the officials of the governing body.

One of the surprising features was the diffidence shown by well-known players who did not enter until informed of the "class" player they might expect to meet. As against this swank, an object lesson was presented by Barna and Szabados. These players not only made the special journey to play through their groups, but willingly consented to be paired in Doubles with two of our Surrey boys. And didn't our lads appreciate this wonderful chance! To play against Barna and Company is an honour; but to play with him as partner was a chance of a lifetime. The Finals of the Men's Singles was a hard fought battle, won by Szabados after five games and was another lesson in Table Tennis. Szabados was pleased to win; Barna was pleased to see Szabados so happy, and we were all delighted to present Szabados with one of the 50 guinea "Star" Trophies.

Mrs. Booker is a splendid player, and thoroughly deserved to be interested in most of the Finals. Kelen was another delighted Table Tennis player; he took away, with Miss Finch, another of the "Star" Trophies. Last, but not least by any means, a word of praise for E. J. Filby and J. Rogers, who gave the county and the country a further credit by beating Kelen and A. D. Brook in the Men's Doubles. The Ladies' Doubles, won by Miss Emdin and Miss Woodhead (beating Mrs. Booker and Mrs. Hutchings), was not an easy task; it was much more like work than play.

Well, over £150 worth of trophies for this new South of England Championship, and every ounce of each was well earned and well deserved by the applause of a crowded audience. So much for the South of England. Next year we hope to get it again and, if we are successful, arrangements are in hand to engage the Baths Hall, Croydon, for the whole week, afternoon and evening sessions.

The entries for the Surrey (in conjunction with the South of England) have constituted a record; 740 exceeded the previous best anywhere in England by 120 odd; and peculiar as it may seem, only one dissatisfied player. He, after having requested and been granted the best of facilities, transgressed the rules more than any other competitor.

Correspondence

The EDITOR,

DEAR SIR,—It has been suggested that, during next season in our League, the teams of five shall play ten games, best of three, as follows: 1 play 1 and 2, 2 play 1 and 3, 3 play 2 and 4, 4 play 3 and 5, and 5 play 4 and 5, instead of the usual 25 single games as played at present. Can any of your readers, with experience of this system, let me have their opinions on it? Its advantages are, of course, that it can be played in one evening, on one table, that it employs teams of 5 (which seem popular with us) and that people are encouraged to hit by the fact that the best of three games is played.—Yours faithfully,

H. F. LIDDELL (Hon. Sec.), Staines and District League.

CHESTER AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

The EDITOR,

DEAR SIR,—Concerning "pushers," you may be interested to know that the question here has been carried a little further.

In my annual report at our annual meeting held last evening, I told the meeting that the policy of the Selection Committee during the season had been "to select only players of the modern athletic type of game, the Committee being of the opinion that only by eliminating dull play can the game progress." Having said that I asked the meeting to discuss the point, and after some discussion it was proposed, seconded, and carried with but one dissentient, that that policy be approved. This is rather a big step to take, as, in effect, it means omitting the champion of the League from inter-League matches. (As a matter of fact, the Selection Committee met after the annual meeting and chose the team for the Semi-Final of the "Hyde" Cup, and followed the lead as above.)

We feel that if this policy was pursued in all Leagues, large and small, the problem would soon right itself.

Yours sincerely,

R. JULER.

The Editorial Board regrets that owing to lack of space the Provincial Notes, N. Wales and N.E. Lancs. Notes have had to be held over until next month.

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WHITBY TOURNAMENT

Sunderland and London players contested the Men's and Women's Singles Finals at the Thirteenth Annual Tournament, held at the Spa Theatre, Whitby. Play was of an exceptionally high standard, and the games were watched by a large number of enthusiasts. A new fashion for Table Tennis players was introduced by a London competitor who played his matches barefooted.

F. Templemann and T. F. Ewbank, Sunderland players, appeared in the Men's Singles Final, which Templemann won 17—21, 21—16, 21—17, 21—16.

Women's Singles: Miss D. Jordon beat Miss Fmdin, 17—21, 21—10, 21—15, 21—15.



TRUDI PRITZI
Finalist Women's Singles
World Championships, 1937

YORKSHIRE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Manchester players carried off the chief titles in the Yorkshire Open Championships, held at Halifax. L. Cohen beat C. W. Davies in the Men's Singles Final, 21—15, 17—21, 21—19.

Women's Singles—Miss Stott (Leeds) beat Mrs. Amies (Pontefract), 21—15, 17—21, 21—12.

Men's Doubles—L. Cohen and C. W. Davies (Manchester) beat B. Casofsky (Manchester) and W. Bedford (Huddersfield), 21—15, 21—14.

Women's Doubles—Miss Stott and Mrs. Amies beat Misses Tennon and Campbell (Manchester), 10—21, 21—18, 21—16.

Mixed Doubles—B. Casofsky and Miss Roberts (Whitby) beat W. Atkinson (Leeds) and Mrs. Beerofit (Whitby), 21—16, 14—21, 21—22.

Youths' Singles—B. Casofsky beat K. Mitchell (Manchester), 2—1 games.

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