

NOVEMBER 1947

Sixpence

TABLE TENNIS



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

TABLE TENNIS

Official Magazine
of the
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION
69, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.1



Publishers :
VAWSE & WILES, LTD.,
Guardian House,
London, E.17

Edited by JACK CARRINGTON

Vol. VI. No. 3

NOVEMBER, 1947

From the Editor's Chair

The Belle Vue stage is set. Producer Worsley has keyed his cast up for their big effort; our tame critic Proffitt has risked his last prophecies in these pages. Now another small piece of table tennis history will fall into place and next month we shall record for you the proud achievements, the pathetic "might-have-beens."

The calendar moves on. Soon, very soon now, the searchlight will switch to London, where that Biggest Show on Earth, the Wembley World Championships, is in preparation.

The players may flit from one arena to another, but the "producers," veterans all, know that once they have set their hand to this task, there will be no respite this side of February.

Bill Pope, apart from being over-all secretary of the whole affair, must allocate and account for some 50,000 tickets spread over 20 sessions. Morris Rose as Referee must somehow get diverse pairs and teams to the tables at the rate of one match every 2 minutes throughout most sessions.

Ivor Montagu wades through the formalities, technicalities and etiquette of international relations; Mortlake Mann must get several hundred guests fed and to bed—and out of bed, if we know table tennis players! And so it goes on; space does not allow us to mention all who are putting their backs into this job.

You, too, can help, if you can spare a morning or afternoon to take a turn as Umpire or Steward at Wembley. Geoff. Harrower will welcome your offers; address—34, Gallants Farm Road, East Barnet, Herts.

But meanwhile, DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS! Here is a summary of ticket prices; send applications with cash to MR. W. J. POPE, "Maisonette," Woodside Avenue, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Ticket Summary :

- For all 20 Sessions: Season Tickets 25s.**
(transferable to friends).
**For Evening Sessions or Saturday after-
noon : Individual tickets (reserved)**
21s., 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d. and 6s.
For Morning or Afternoon Sessions :
10s. 6d. (arena level) and 3s. 6d.

Sessions of Play :

- Wed., Feb. 4 :** Morning - Afternoon -
Evening.
Thurs., Feb. 5 : Morning and Afternoon
only.
Fri., Feb. 6 : Morning - Afternoon -
Evening.
Sat., Feb. 7 : Morning - Afternoon -
Evening. (Probable
Finals of Team events).
Sun., Feb. 8 : No play.
Mon., Feb. 9 : Morning - Afternoon -
Evening.
Tues., Feb. 10 : Morning - Afternoon -
Evening.
Wed., Feb. 11 : Morning - Afternoon -
Evening. (Probable
Finals of Individual
events.)

OUR COVER PICTURE

This month's subject needs little introduction to followers of post-war English table-tennis. In Johnny Leach's hands, so most critics agree, rest our best chances of a male English victory in this month's Open Championships at Belle Vue, Manchester. While the brilliance of Benny Casofsky, or the craft of Ernie Buley and George Goodman, may remove some very strong challengers from the lists, these products of the late pre-1939 school are all vulnerable to certain styles of opposition. Leach, however, is equally at home in either attack or defence, and once he has adapted his game to a star opponent he seems to grow rapidly in strength in his chosen tactics. This adaptability brings him open respect from even the greatest of the Continental and American experts.

Naturalised Players may Represent England—HOW THE OFFICIAL DECISION WAS REACHED

At its last meeting on 4th October, the E.C. of the E.T.T.A. after a long discussion came to a decision which may be briefly summarised as follows:

"That all members of the E.T.T.A. duly qualified under the rules should be regarded as eligible for selection to represent it."

This decision is an innovation, because up to now, the practice has been slightly different, namely:

(a) All E.T.T.A. members have been regarded as eligible to be entered to compete in Championships.

(Thus Bergmann and Barna, although they had only been resident a short time in England, were, as duly recognised members of the E.T.T.A., allowed to play in the World Championships at Cairo in 1938/39. They could not have entered otherwise, as the Austrian T.T.A. (to which Bergmann had belonged) had disappeared with Hitler's seizure of Austria, and the Hungarian T.T.A., under the influence of the then fascist government in Hungary, had expelled Barna.)

(b) All have been regarded as eligible to represent E.T.T.A. in Championships.

(Thus Barna was nominated and seeded as E.T.T.A. representative in Singles, Doubles and Mixed in the English, French and World Championships last year.)

(c) All those qualified (i.e., by nationality, according to I.T.T.F. law vii, 8) have been regarded as eligible to represent E.T.T.A. in international matches other than cup matches.

(Thus Beregi, who as Mrs. Devenny, is a British subject by marriage, played for England v. Wales some years ago. Barna and Bergmann were not qualified until this season, but this year both Barna, who has made his home in this country for many years now, and Bergmann, who served throughout the war in the R.A.F., have become naturalised British subjects.)

(d) The E.T.T.A. would not select for Cup Matches "cup-tied" players, i.e., players who had previously represented another Association in the Swaythling or Marcel Corbillon competitions.

It is this last practice—(d)—which has been altered by the new decision.

Obviously, followers of the game will be interested in an explanation, and in some account of the reasons which weighed with the Executive in coming to this decision.

The qualification for the Swaythling

Cup, Marcel Corbillon and Europe Cups is as follows (I.T.T.F. law ix, 10):

Birth:

or Residence for two years immediately preceding a tie.

(Note—nationality has nothing to do with it, under the rules).

If a player has once represented a country (in one of these competitions) he can always represent it (i.e., even if he ceases to live there) and shall represent no other, subject to the following exceptions:

If a player played for a country under the Birth qualification and wants to play for another under the Residence qualification—or vice versa—he shall be eligible to do so provided—

- (a) He has represented no nation in the competition during the previous two years; and
- (b) He has the express permission of the Association he previously represented.

It is evident that in coming to their decision, the E.C. had to be aware that it must affect the position of Barna, Bergmann and Beregi, all of whom might well be expected if eligible to "catch the selector's eye" on one or another occasion. It is equally evident, from the rule, that all these three players—if they obtain the necessary permissions (Bergmann has already, I learn, obtained the necessary sanction, with its good wishes from the A.T.T.A. J.C.)—would be abundantly and exactly qualified under the laws.

But this does not by any means exhaust all that can be said "for and against" on this rather important question. Here then are some of the most weighty arguments that have been raised.

FOR: "There are no such things as first-class and second-class citizens in Britain. Nor are there first and second-class members of E.T.T.A. Therefore every member of the E.T.T.A. should have the full rights to which he is entitled under the Laws of the bodies to which the E.T.T.A. is affiliated (the I.T.T.F.)."

AGAINST: "The laws in this respect are only *permissive* not *obligatory*. No association needs to take advantage of them. If a country prefers not to select cup-tied players it has discretion to do so."

FOR: "This is not a new law. It has governed the T.T. Cup Competitions ever since they were founded. When those who drafted the laws made them more elastic than those that govern the Davis Cup (in the Davis Cup, a player who has played under Residence can revert to playing for the country of his birth, but not the other way round) they did so deliberately, and no one has ever moved an

alteration. Why scout a law that has always hitherto been accepted?"

AGAINST: "It will rouse confusion and adverse criticism abroad."

FOR: "Not so. Whenever the matter has been raised—not by E.T.T.A. but by Czechoslovakia—at recent international T.T. conferences, it has been agreed unambiguously, and more than once, to interpret the qualification law in the most favourable possible light—its provisions are even being stretched currently by the I.T.T.F. Advisory Committee in a particular case—in the sense of seeing that no player should be lost to or barred from these big competitions by reason of the changes of domicile and allegiance involved in the recent great upheavals. No question at all was raised when last year in Paris a former Polish Swaythling Cup Player played in the Swaythling Cup for Palestine."

AGAINST: "It will rouse adverse comment at home."

FOR: "The E.T.T.A. is responsible for taking right decisions, and if it believes the decision right, should not be deterred by the fear of adverse comment."

AGAINST: "It will discourage Juniors who are trying hard to improve so as to make the Cup teams."

FOR: "Why should it? When Bull, Perry, Haydon put England near the top at Table Tennis they did not represent England because they were 18, 18 and 16 years old, but because they were the best players. What glory is there in being picked for an international team merely because other players better than you have for one reason or another been kept out? The better the England team is, the higher the mark for youngsters to aim at, the more their ambition will be fired."

AGAINST: "I don't care what the rules are, a representative team should include only players who have grown up in and learnt their table tennis in the country it represents."

FOR: "On the contrary, a representative team should include all these players who are best representation of, and qualified to represent, the game in that country at the time it is picked."

AGAINST: "I don't care how good the reasons are. I don't like it. I shouldn't mind so much if Barna and Bergmann weren't so good. I can see that it's unfair to them, especially now they are full British subjects, not to give them the same rights as anyone else in relation to these competitions, but it's the idea that England, after not winning for so many years, might win as a result of including what seem 'outside' players that I don't like. If we were sure to lose, I should be delighted and honoured to have such players as Barna and Bergmann play for us. Or, if we had won before under other circumstances. But I should feel most embarrassed if the E.T.T.A. by some good fortune won a Cup just through playing them."

FOR: "You admit that it is fair and just that players in their position should be allowed to play? Then, would it be fair or just to keep out this particular pair of players just because they happen to have made themselves so good?"

Well, those are the arguments. With the E.C., it may be briefly summed up, "justice" prevailed over "sentiment."

Of course, the question whether these or any other similarly placed players, supposing them to have obtained the necessary sanctions, are actually selected for any particular teams remains a matter entirely for the Selection Committee. What has been decided is only the principle of eligibility

I. M.

Miss Curtis Regrets

Into the mighty edifice of black glass and chromium which is the office of the London *Daily Express*, a delicate morsel of metal was tenderly carried, one day last week.

This precious object, heroically rescued from the milling traffic of Fleet Street, was in fact a silver medal, bearing the following inscription:—

MISS M. CURTIS,
Table Tennis Championship, 1943-44
25 M.U.

Did this hard-earned trophy fall from a chain around the neck of an ex-WAAF? Did she cast it away as of no account, being now a winner of more impressive triumphs?

Or did she fling it from her in one of those awful moments when even the best of us swear that "we will never play this wretched game again"?

Whatever the reason, the situation is retrieved: if Miss Curtis will apply to Miss Hodge at the "Express" Office (Central 8000, extension 138), her medal will be restored to her in all its glory.

"PIONEER" HONOURED

At the Annual Meeting of the St. Albans and District League, Mr. Ralph Emdin was elected an honorary life member of the League in recognition of his services to table tennis in the district for well over 20 years. Those who remember also his willing work in the national sphere will know that such an honour is well deserved by Mr. Emdin. He has the distinction of being the father of two lady internationals, Miss Dora and Miss Doris Emdin. Dora, perhaps the more brilliant player, unfortunately died after a short illness during the war, but Doris is still carrying on the family tradition and was elected vice-captain of the St. Albans Table Tennis Club.

NORTHERNER'S

ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAST THOUGHTS

To some of you sitting thrilled with the current spectacle of our English Championship afoot at Belle Vue, and perhaps reading the pages of "Table Tennis" for the first time, the course of the draw for placements in this monster event is just one of those things. But I can tell you quite frankly that on 25th October, and well into the reaches of the 26th morning when at Bill Worsley's house the names came tumbling out of the bag, wild excitement ensued which subsequently has been buzzing among players and fans alike ever since.

Much regretted is Victor Barna's absence due to a long-termed theatrical contract. It was Victor, when in his hey-day who said, "I am very proud to have won the English Championships; it's a greater personal honour to me than being World Champion." A fine tribute to our National titles; and that explains why the 5,500 capacity may not be adequate enough to meet the demands at the finale.

WHO'S YOUR FANCY ?

Spotting the winner is as vague and variable as communications. There'll be a feast of top-notchers in table tennis flesh straining for the coveted prize. World-ranking stars from at least six different nations rub shoulder to shoulder with British aces. The pace is certain to be a "sizzler."

All eyes are focused on Richard Bergmann, who declined to defend his World title in Paris last year. Instead offered a £500 challenge match to all comers. Now Richard has forgotten his money-making masquerade and joined the rank and file as a naturalised British subject in search of the crown held currently by Tereba.

by STANLEY

PROFFITT

Swaythling Cup International

He (Bergmann), at the extreme top half of the men's singles is bursting with confidence. Here I share his views for the latest open-hand service ruling will handicap rather than assist his nearest rival, Bohumil Vana, who is similarly placed in the lower portion of the draw. The flaxen-haired Swedish maestro Tage Flisberg having a 2-1 lead and then only narrowly losing to Vana last term is strongly fancied. And our home-grown No. 1, Johnny Leach—at present training on the Tottenham Hotspur football ground—is said to be in real shape. There are many tough hurdles among the 80 men's entries; Haguenaer, Amouretti, Agopoff, Bordrez from France; the two Dutchmen Hogendoorn and Du Buy; Casofsky, Carrington, Harrower, etc. But authoritative forces forecast Bergmann, Andreadis, Leach,



KEY-MAN ?

RICHARD BERGMANN

NOTE - BOOK

. . . . Lancashire's Own Star Reporter Looks Around

Soos, Bublely, Sido, Flisberg and Vana to come out punching to the quarter finals.

Our Ladies, bless 'em, add a refreshing touch of colour to the setting. We blush to tell it, but often throughout the years they have brightened the International field rendered dull by the failure of our men. Opinions are wide apart as to who will win the fair-sex's trophy. Prospects of Britain annexing the singles loom large.

SCOTLAND'S HOPE

Swaythling Cup player, Ken Stanley, informs me he has added five points to Scottish Helen Elliot's game during the summer months. Whispers from London circulate of Peggy Franks returning to Corbillon Cup form after an illness. And there's Pinkie Barnes whose play always pulses with life. Unfortunately all are clustered in the bottom half along with Vera Dace (now Mrs. Thomas), which leaves Hungarian Gizi Farkas (present holder) a comparatively easy run through to the final.

"WOOD" YOU BELIEVE IT!

There are only two people by the name of Wood in the whole tournament and they would (excuse the pun) have to meet in each of the first round ties of the ladies' senior and junior events; an amazing coincidence; 15-year-old Adele Wood (Manchester) and W. R. Rowe (Torquay) are expected winners in their respective events. Who said table tennis was only a game for the young. Grand old "war-horse," Mr. Tarrant of Swindon hopes to prove otherwise. With 83 victories out of a possible 100 in League engagements last winter—it's a fair enough record for a 70-year-old; isn't it? Better look out, veterans.

I'm told the "live" broadcast is between 8 o'clock and 8.30 on the Friday night and that Denham Film Studios may send Eric Marsh along to take a few shots; quite unique, don't you think?

STONE-AGE STONEWALLERS ?

Thumbing through the record books for the Table Tennis origin, Japan claims she (if Japan was ever feminine at all)



Sturdy Frenchman AGOPOFF will probably give the favourites some anxious moments

played a species of the sport some 2,000 years ago, calling it "Pom-Pom;" America contends to have indulged in the game 150-200 years ago, christening it "Whiff-Whaff;" Britain's claim is more modest, for it is alleged that—at least our Army officers, played Gossima, a form of Ping-Pong in India during the '80s.

What we do know however, is that the English Championships were inaugurated in 1921, when a Durham schoolmaster, A. Donaldson, emerged men's champion (he played in a collarless shirt, waistcoat and hobnailed boots against the dinner jacket and diamond tie pin of A. Farris, a Londoner). In turn, M. Cohen, and a year later P. Bromfield of Kent took over. Those were the days before the foreign invasion. Since 1923, no Englishman has ever won the title.

Nevertheless Table Tennis has been a giant bestriding itself. Pioneers of Ping-Pong would rub their eyes to see a present-day National tournament. The almost fantastic transformation in a period of comparatively few years from an obscure, and (let it be whispered),

(Continued on next page)

somewhat effeminate, parlour pastime, into a tremendously popular sport with tentacles spreading all over Europe and heaven knows how many points West. Certain it is that one would be driven, hard to find a parallel between its phenomenal rise and that of any other progressive sport.

AND AFTERWARDS ?

THE " MERSEYSIDE " !

It's the " English Open " played all over again, says Billie Stamp.

He's referring of course to the Merseyside Championships taking place at Liverpool. All the foreigners are invited, the majority of whom are expected to accept.

Preliminary canters are set in the Gordon Road Institute, on 26th/28th November, being switched over to the Stadium on the 29th for the finale, commence 7 o'clock.

You can bet Johnny Leach will be hot on the trail for on the last occasion he looked all over a winner only to fall in the fifth game to Barna. This time Bergmann is in his path with possibly Vana, Andreadis, the Frenchmen, Casofsky, Lurie, etc.

We haven't a Lancashire lassie capable of hoisting the flag so what price Pinkie Barnes, unless Mrs. Gizi Farkas stays over?

Of all tournaments North of the Birmingham line, the Merseyside gives me the greatest cup of pleasure and I for one will be among the multitude of sportsfolk crammed into the Stadium to witness the finals.

OUR EXPORT DRIVE

Miss Eileen Dake (now Mrs. Alex Jackson of Johannesburg)—picture on right, will not be there to enjoy the thrills and spills, she having joined the exodus of Table Tennis fans to South Africa which includes Ken Twitty (Manchester), Renee Bracewell (now Mrs. Patterson formerly of Blackpool), with Norman Davies (Manchester) and International Betty Blackbourne (Exeter) to follow.

SOME MATCHES I SAW

First of the Lancashire County sponsored inter-city clashes left an audience well pleased with a Manchester "A," 6-3 victory over Bolton on 14th October.

I enjoyed the fiery antics of Sydney Levy, a product and team colleague of Benny Casofsky at the British Legion club. Levy is a younger edition of London's Glickman in style, and when the rough edges are smoothed over he should push ahead. Of Shepherd, though he notched two games for Bolton, frankly his form was disappointing.

Not so that of Jean McKay making a debut to big-time table tennis in the Lancashire v. Warwickshire Premier Division, National Counties Championship competition at Blackpool on 18th October. Jean, who was at school during the war years, hails from Birmingham and to my mind is not at extravagant odds to obtain an England badge before long. Warwickshire were handicapped with Kriss and Hall playing in the final trials on that day; still they gave a creditable performance, losing only by the odd game.

Scores were (Lancs. names first):—
 J. P. Shead beat C. Alderton 21-15, 21-15; K. Stanley beat W. Poole 21-18, 17-21, 21-17; Mrs. Allen lost to Miss J. McKay 17-21, 17-21; P. Rumjahn beat C. Alderton 22-20, 21-17; K. Stanley beat R. McKay 21-19, 21-12; P. Rumjahn lost to R. McKay 15-21, 10-21; J. B. Shead lost to W. Poole 12-21, 16-21; Mrs. Allen and J. P. Shead lost to Miss J. and Mr. R. McKay 21-18, 10-21, 17-21; K. Stanley and P. Rumjahn beat C. Alderton and W. Poole 21-18, 21-18.



MISS EILEEN DAKE, OFFICIAL OF LIVERPOOL AND LANCASHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS, BECOMES MRS. ALEX JACKSON

THE BIRMINGHAM OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Finals 1st November, 1947)

The Indoor Sports Stadium (scene of the forthcoming Europe Cup match with France) added to its reputation as a comfortable meeting-place for players and spectators in the first of the "big-time" tournaments of 1947/48.

As the results indicate, there was no break-through by the younger generations; but there were some good fights put up, and the Mixed was in fact won by a "junior" team, Doris Rivett and Dennis Miller. Miller had beaten Bobby Mackay in the singles, but had no answer to Carrington's attack. The latter had to stave off strong challenges from Jack Head (South London) and Wally Poole (Birmingham), as did Harrower when faced by Brian Brumwell (East Ham) and Wally Hall (Birmingham)—a deuce job, that last! Young Brumwell repeated his Trials win over Kriss.

Peggy Franks, out on a trial spin after a slight illness, was beaten by Mrs. D. Smith, who played extremely well to do so.

Semi-finals were quite attractive, Harrower making Leach think (and work) harder than perhaps he expected. Bergmann, after having swept Carrington "off his feet" in the first game, had to battle for every point in the second and finally concede it at deuce. A masterful first 5 points assured him a deserved grip on the deciding game.

The usual "Saturday Night at Nine" fixture then ensued between Bergmann and Leach. First set was 18 minutes of waiting tactics, with Bergmann superior simply by virtue of his more sudden forehand drives. Second set a shorter repeat of the 1st. Leach changed tactics in the

3rd and found a much cleaner hit to pierce his opponent's renowned defence, much to the joy of the 800 crowd. Bergmann, quick as ever to sense the threat, swapped punches in the 4th set and developed an unusually savage flat forehand hit. Had it gone to 5 sets, none could have forecast the winner; as it was, a fine match went to the faster and cleverer player on the night's play.

The audience rose to the spectacular exchanges by the four "big guns" in the Men's Doubles Final, in which the Essex pair added to their long list of wins.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS SURREY 5, ESSEX 4 (Premier Division)

Essex first two, Leach and Carrington, won their singles: Leach beat Crayden and Sharman, Carrington beat Crayden and Merrett. Wheeler, the one-time Brighton champion, playing No. 3, had nothing to worry Sharman or Merrett, which meant that Essex must hope to win one of the events including women. As Mrs. Vera Thomas wore Surrey colours, and Vi Patterson was incapacitated by accident, all 3 matches went to the Surrey side.

Scores (Surrey first):—

Crayden lost to Leach, 10—21, 17—21; lost to Carrington, 19—21, 21—15, 17—21.
Sharman lost to Leach, 21—23, 18—21; bt. Wheeler, 21—11, 29—27.
Barnes/Thomas bt. Rivett/Patterson, G., 21—13, 21—14.
Crayden/Mrs. Thomas bt. Leach/Rivett, 20—22, 21—10, 21—15.
Mrs. Thomas bt. Miss Rivett, 21—4, 21—11.

LANCASHIRE II 7, CUMBERLAND 2 (Northern Division) YORKSHIRE II 7, CHESHIRE 2 (Northern Division) DURHAM 5, NORTHUMBERLAND 4 (Northern Division)

In this match Moore and Jeal turned the scale for Durham.

Results: (Durham first):—
Moore bt. Kertzman, bt. Hewitt.
Jeal bt. Kertzman, bt. Puncheon.
Reay lost to Hewitt, lost to Puncheon.
Mrs. Dodds lost to Miss Smith. Reay and Mrs. Dodds bt. Hewitt and Miss Purves. Mrs. Dodds and Mrs. Bell lost to Mrs. Waugh and Miss Purves. Mrs. Dodds lost to Miss Smith.

SUSSEX 5, KENT 4 (Southern Division)

(Continued on page 9)

SCORES OF FINALS SESSION:—

Men's Singles Semi-Finals—

J. Leach beat G. Harrower 21—12, 21—18.
R. Bergmann beat J. Carrington 21—7, 20—22, 21—11.

Final—

Bergmann beat Leach 21—18, 21—12, 17—21, 21—16.

Women's Singles Final—

Miss E. Steventon (Notts) beat Miss A. Bates (Cardiff) 21—17, 19—21, 21—18.

Women's Doubles Final—

Miss D. Rivett and Miss V. Patterson beat Mrs. D. Smith and Miss Steventon 22—20, 21—16.

Mixed Doubles Final—

Miss Rivett and D. Miller beat Miss Patterson and G. Harrower 27—25, 21—16.

Men's Doubles Final—

Leach and Carrington beat Bergmann and A. A. Haydon 21—14, 13—21, 21—8.

AUSTRALIAN GOSSIP

In London recently was Mr. K. E. Cooper, chairman of the Table Tennis Association of the State of Victoria in Australia. He was very thrilled to see a good match between Barna and Leach in the Exhibition at Walthamstow Town Hall and expressed a hope that these or other world stars could soon go out and show Australian Youth the right way to set about this game.

Young Australia (so keen and determined in the pursuit of cricket, and, more recently, lawn tennis) is now ripe to take up Table Tennis with sweeping enthusiasm, but there are few good stylists out there to give them a lead. The chief centre of the game is in Melbourne, Capital of Victoria, but down in Sydney a flourishing Table Tennis School is run by Szabados, world famous partner of Barna in the days of the Hungarian "Three Musketeers."

STYLISTS ARE SCARCE

Competitive play is very popular, with pen-holder players still holding most of the honours. Sad news is that the most promising Australian yet discovered, Ken Adamson, was killed while flying with the R.A.A.F. from a U.K. base.

Leagues in Australia play for a "Pennant" and a league team is always called a Pennant Team. Here Mr. Cooper explained an interesting variation from our system. On the completion of the original home and away fixtures, the top four teams play a knock-out for the actual trophy. Thus, a team need not lose interest just because the first position is out of its grasp.

"NEEDLE" CHALLENGE MATCHES

In fact, it oftens happens that the No. 4 team upsets the order in the knock-out rounds. If, however, a team which has earned first place without losing a match throughout the season should be unfortunate enough to lose in the semi-final or final, they have the right to re-challenge the winners in a grand "Super Challenge Match." It all sounds a bit complicated, but anyone who has seen the intensity of the Australian Cricket Team can well imagine the keen atmosphere of a Challenge Game.

Incidentally nearly all the table

A "PLUM" FOR HERNE BAY

SPECTACULAR MATCH EXPECTED

Kent fans will have an opportunity of watching good play on 24th November, 1947, when a friendly International Match,

ENGLAND v. HUNGARY

will be played in the famous Pier Pavilion at Herne Bay.

Hungarian team will include the tiny retriever KOCZIAN, and the mighty hitter SIDO, and of course, GIZI FARKAS the present World Champion.

After a week's practice at the "English Open" at Manchester the players should be in really sparkling form.

The England team will include :—

Mrs. V. THOMAS (DACE)

J. LEACH

J. CARRINGTON

Other selections will be announced later.

Ticket enquiries to :

P. G. MANNOOCH,

161, Borden Lane, Sittingbourne.

tennis teams "down under" are organised as sections of the well-established cricket clubs.

Australia has, so far, ventured abroad into the International Arena only once. This was in 1940 when, strange as it may seem, a triangular tournament between Japan, Australia and the U.S.A. was staged in Japan. This was part of some Japanese "international friendship" scheme, which sounds like the cue for a hollow laugh nowadays! Australia actually beat the rather weak U.S.A. team but both lost to Japan, whose players showed a really high standard of skill.

In passing, Mr. Cooper mentioned that the words "ping-pong" have a doubly unfortunate sound in Australia, as they are reputed to be the Chinese words for B.O.

We fear there is not much hope of seeing an Australian team over here for some time as the steamer fare is over £100 per man and the air fare something like £250.

TABLE TENNIS IN THE CLOUDS!

by J. DICKER

Reading Mr. Chris Clark's interesting article on war-time T.T. prompts me to write these few lines in the hope that some of my old Middle East colleagues may recall some pleasant evenings spent at this sport in garrison days.

Whilst in Cairo, 1941 to 1943, I made several attempts to organise something in the Abbassia Garrison, but lack of equipment prevented any big developments. However, I do remember our team of five from the Soldiers' Club receiving quite a trouncing from the Egyptians of the National Sporting Club. I think our morale was shaken when the Egyptians tripped out in those gaudy shorts and shirts of all shades!

January, 1944, found me posted to Asmara in Eritrea, and here, perched no less than 8,000 feet above sea level, a pukka table tennis league was soon in action.

There was one American Signal Unit in the league, and a finer bunch of fellows never played. Their team of five won the league, and a grand match was arranged between the Yanks and the Rest. Watched by 300 Service folk, this was a grand climax, and I can still see that match between our Sergt. Billy Hill and the American McMichael.

The others in our team were Capt. Jim Stalibrass (now back with Epsom T.T.C.), Capt. H. C. Myers and Sergt. Smith. Wherever they are now, I wish them good table tennis always.

You have heard of teams travelling long distances to play, but have you ever heard of a team having to take a plane and climb 8,000 ft. in addition to 250 miles along the ground? Well it happened when a challenge came from the garrison team of Khartoum. Twice they

were coming—twice I spent uncomfortable evenings explaining matters to the home supporters.

The R.A.F. types dumped them on the crag at the third attempt.

Possibly the flip unsettled them; the cliff-dwellers ran out easy winners.

When I left for home in May, 1945, the league was still going strong. Table tennis certainly proved a blessing to many of us stationed in the "Dark Continent."

Trying Their Hands—Literally

Slough T.T. League have restarted this season and look forward to big developments. Interested players in that area should write to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Cresswell, 294, Stoke Poges Lane, Slough, Bucks.

On 18th October the league held a special meeting to explain the new service rule. Leo Thompson, now living at Wraybury, gave practical demonstrations on the table of what could and could not be allowed, and invited members to come up and try their hand. The results were not too successful, except in causing merriment for the not-so-brave ones who remained in the audience! Obviously quite a fair amount of practice is needed to accustom the hand to its new movements, and the Slough example of practical instruction by an expert is strongly to be recommended.

(Continued from page 9)

Results (Sussex first):—

Breerton bt. Hook, bt. Tebbenor. Fretwell bt. Holman, bt. Hook. Oakley lost to Tebbenor, lost to Holman. Mrs. Clarke lost to Mrs. Evans. Oakley and Breerton lost to Holman and Tebbenor. Fretwell and Mrs. Clarke bt. Hook and Mrs. Evans.

HAMPSHIRE 8, HERTFORDSHIRE 1 (Southern Division)

...Results (Hampshire first):—

Minter bt. Strauli, bt. Bebb. Muller bt. Strauli, bt. Lee. Whitren bt. Bebb, bt. Lee. Miss Davis lost to Mrs. Brigden. Miss Davis and Mrs. Wilson bt. Mrs. Brigden and Miss Emdin. Muller and Miss Davis bt. Strauli and Miss Emdin.

SURREY II 5, MIDDLESEX II 4



This is VANOVA (pronounced "Vahn-yova"), or as we would call her, Mrs. Vana, wife of the Czech World Champion.

A tenacious and constantly improving player herself, she is to be seen almost everywhere where her husband is doing battle on the table.

Prevented from travelling during the German occupation, Mr. and Mrs. Vana have certainly made up for it since. They have been to England twice, Sweden, France, Egypt, and now are planning to make a rapid tour of the Indian continent.

Although she had travelled thousands of miles before visiting Dublin for the Irish Open Championships last season, the return trip to Holyhead was actually Mrs. Vana's first experience of sea travel. Almost all the rest had been by air.

Incidentally the Vana-Vanova combination won the Irish Open Mixed Doubles title—and Mr. Vana definitely did not do all the work! This is believed to be the only instance on record of a married couple annexing a National title.

HULL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

25th October, 1947

Men's singles. C. Mitton (Halifax) beat G. Lang (Middlesbrough), 17-21, 21-8, 21-16, 21-9. Women's singles. Miss P. Barnes (London) beat Miss E. Robson (Middlesbrough), 21-12, 21-18. Men's doubles. Mitton and Whitley (Halifax) beat Senescall and Lang (Middlesbrough), 21-18, 21-12. Women's doubles. Miss N. Queskey (Hull) and Miss Lightfoot (Leeds) beat Miss Isaacs and Miss Lammin (Grimsby), 21-18, 18-21, 21-4. Mixed doubles. W. Bedford (Middlesbrough) and Miss Lightfoot (Leeds) beat Miss Barnes and C. Hurlock (London), 22-20, 15-21, 21-16. Youths' singles. B. Kennedy (Leeds) beat M. Shearer (Scarborough), 21-17, 19-21, 21-14.

4. Why We Teach The "Sideways" Stance

Let us recall the main points emphasised in our previous two "Footwork" articles.

These were:

1. Don't rest on your heels—poise on the ball of your foot.
2. Don't over reach for wide balls—follow them with your feet.
3. Relax the knees—BUT ALWAYS!!
4. Cultivate a constant shifting of balance, left-right, left-right, when anticipating the ball.
5. Pass your weight forward as you attack and rearwards as you defend.
6. Cultivate small quick-shuffle steps for preference.
7. Try to achieve a sideways stance.

All this was designed to encourage you to move your feet. To move them EASILY, to move them QUICKLY, but above all, to move them WILLINGLY. Without that last, you are doomed, as a T.T. player.

Now in following up with a discussion of the sideways stance, we begin to leave the department of footwork and overlap into that of bodywork and arm movements.

Your arms and trunk, as well as your feet, must be taught to move EASILY, QUICKLY, and WILLINGLY.

And in that word "taught" you have the key. The Coach's insistence on the "sideways stance" is based not only on the immediate advantages for stroke learning but also on the need to teach you certain good habits of movement which will stand you in good stead when you reach the higher grades.

Let us confess here and now, that in advanced play, there is not always time for this side-turning business. Sometimes, as Haydon points out, it may be a disadvantage when it

by Jack Carrington

(English International)

discloses the intention in an attacking stroke.

At Belle Vue, Manchester, this month, you will see many good shots and good returns, played from an apparently "square" position.

Don't be tempted. Sir Malcolm Campbell could drive your car without touching the clutch pedal. *Can you?*

You can (I hope) run up the stairs two at a time. *What happens when Baby tries to copy this deceptively simple operation?*

No, if you are wise, you will learn slowly and listen to the Coach when he begs you to turn sideways—left side forward for forehand strokes and right side for backhand.

For he is thinking of these advantages:

1. You can move quickly in to the net or back from the table, without overbalancing and without changing your body angle (relative to the table).
2. A full and free arm swing is possible—very helpful when building up strength and consistency in your attacking strokes.

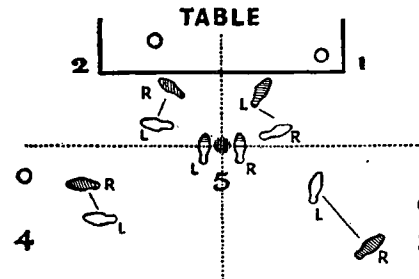
consistency in your attacking strokes.

3. The most natural swing—i.e. across your body L. to R. or R. to L. coincides with the soundest approach to the ball, i.e. along its line of flight rather than across it.
4. Your body presents less of a target to your opponent and your arm can more easily be drawn back to soften his sudden hits.
5. A partly side view of the ball tells you much more about its speed, spin and trajectory than a head-on view.
6. By turning sideways, to the backhand especially, you extend your reach without overbalancing.

Now there is one disadvantage, at first sight. Obviously, if you turn fully to the side, more of an effort is required to cover the other side. In fact a turn of 180° is necessary. Because of this, a good plan is to carry the feet around to a half-right or half-left position only, and complete any further turn by a combined movement of the knees, waist and shoulders.

The diagram shows you the respective foot-positions according to this plan.

But your Coach is still right if he insists on a complete turn each time. *Because in so doing, you will learn to strike the ball more truly, and will develop an agile turning-reaction which will save you many a point when you have left your T.T. school-days behind.*



Examples of Correct Stance

1. Forehand Drive.
2. Backhand Drive.
3. Forehand Chop.
4. Backhand Chop.
5. Receiving Service.

(Body weight rests mainly on the shaded foot).

Dora Devenny (Beregi), we are pleased to say, has recovered from her recent illness and is at present visiting Hungary, where it is feared her family suffered losses during the Occupation.

EASTERN SUBURBAN OPEN TOURNAMENT

3rd—8th November, 1947

by INKSPOT

The title "Suburban" was rather misleading for a tournament which drew together a more truly metropolitan array of talent.

The somewhat cramped conditions of the North Ilford Lawn Tennis Club hall gave an added appearance of speed and tenseness to numerous hard battles.

Instead of groups, there were preliminary knock-out rounds—a concession to the modernists, I suppose. But a consolation was . . . a Consolation event! In this it was nice to see several juniors making their way through a few rounds, notably Parmenter, of Romford, who reached the semi-final.

Stars soon fell by the wayside, amongst them Carrington to Hook, and—sorrow in Whitechapel—Bubley to Crayden, the giant who is also a giant-killer! In this tie Bubley appeared very timid and Crayden soon sensed that his long arms could easily hold the half-hearted flicks of his renowned opponent. Just as Hook could not reproduce his first-round form, losing to Marsh, so

also Crayden appeared a satisfied man and rather tamely handed two games to Harrower, each at 19. Harrower, however played a well-varied defensive game and clinched several critical points with his sudden forehead drive.

Marsh then lost a long tussle (and a place in the semi-final) to his old rival, Sharman. Meanwhile Bergmann had been placidly forging through, and Leach had made similar progress, but not without trouble. Both Brumwell, with —15 and —19, and Miller, with —19 in 2nd set, had given him respectable opposition.

In Ladies' Singles, apart from Mrs. Milburn's deuce win over Pinkie Barnes (who, except for that short lapse, had been playing really well), results went fairly to form. Youngsters Rivett and Patterson showed that they have overcome their panic when facing the great Vera Dace (Mrs. Thomas), and this time their odd 13 or 14 points per game were earned rather than presented.

Mrs. Lentle and Audrey Fowler proved to be a good pairing, as witness their close finish with Dace-Franks in the Final.

The unlikely looking combination of sleepy Dennis Miller and dynamic

(Continued on page 16)

THE INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COURSE

Designed by an ex-international who has met and played the greatest players of the past twenty years, and who has made an intensive study of the technique of Table Tennis tuition. Entirely individual in character, this course shows how to gain those few vital extra points that turn the novice into the good club player, and the good club player into the International. To the player who doesn't seem to improve—to any keen player who wishes expert advice on his game the INTERNATIONAL Course brings real assistance.

Write for full details to

THE INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COURSE,

THE SHIP HOTEL, SWINDON, WILTS.

(Advertisement)

THE "J. M. ROSE BOWL"

Season 1947/48

Draw. Round 1.

- ZONE 1.**
Beckenham Lge. v. Sittingbourne Lge.
L.B.H.A.S.A. v. Woolwich Lge.
Central Lge. v. London Banks Lge.
Civil Service Lge. v. London Lge.
- ZONE 2.**
Bye—South London Lge.
Bye—South-West Middlesex Lge.
To Play—
Croydon Lge. v. Thames Valley Lge.
Staines Lge. v. Leatherhead Lge.
- ZONE 3.**
Southend Lge. v. St. Albans Lge.
North Middlesex Lge. v. East London Lge.
Wembley & Harrow Lge. v. Willesden Lge.
Romford Lge. v. Chelmsford Lge.
- ZONE 4.**
Byes.—Salisbury Lge., Southampton Lge.,
Bournemouth Lge.
To Play—
Brighton Lge. v. Portsmouth Lge.
- ZONE 5.**
Bristol Lge. v. South Devon Lge.
- ZONE 6.**
Nottingham Lge. v. Northampton Lge.
Birmingham Lge. v. Bedford Lge.
- ZONE 7.**
Byes.—Huddersfield Lge., Blackpool Lge.,
Liverpool Lge.
To Play—
Southport Lge. v. Manchester Lge.
- ZONE 8.**
Bye—Sunderland Lge.
To play—
Grimsby Lge. v. Northumberland Lge.

The draw for the J. M. Rose Bowl and the Wilmott Cup was made at the English Table Tennis Association Offices, on Friday, 17th October, 1947, by the Wilmott Cup and J. M. Rose Bowl Management Sub-Committee, and in the presence of Mr. A. J. Wilmott.



THE "WILMOTT" CUP

Season 1947/48

Draw. Round 1.

- ZONE 1.**
Byes.—Central Lge., Civil Service Lge.,
Staines Lge., London Business Houses,
A.S.A., University of London Club, South
London Lge.
To Play—
London Lge. v. South-West Middlesex Lge.
NALGO Lge. v. London Banks Lge.
- ZONE 2.**
Wembley & Harrow Lge. v. Romford Lge.
Chelmsford Lge. v. East London Lge.
North Middlesex Lge. v. St. Albans Lge.
Willesden Lge. v. Southend Lge.
- ZONE 3.**
Byes.—Maidstone Lge., Sittingbourne Lge.,
Croydon Lge., Woolwich Lge., Leather-
head Lge., Sutton Valence Club.
To Play—
Medway Towns Lge. v. Thames Valley
Lge.
Reigate, Redhill & Dist. Lge. v. Becken-
ham Lge.
- ZONE 4.**
Bye—Newbury Lge.
To Play—
Southampton Lge. v. Bournemouth Lge.
Southampton Civil Service Club v.
Portsmouth Lge.
Salisbury Lge. v. Brighton Lge.
- ZONE 5.**
Bristol Lge. v. South Devon & Torbay Lge.
- ZONE 6.**
Byes.—Kings Lynn Lge, Peterborough Lge.
To Play—
Lowestoft Lge. v. Bedford Lge.
Cambridge Lge. v. Northampton Lge.
- ZONE 7.**
Grimsby Lge. v. Retford Lge.
Nottingham Lge. v. Lincoln Lge.
- ZONE 8.**
Byes.—Radcliffe Lge., Blackpool Lge.,
Liverpool Lge., Halifax Y.M.C.A. Club.
To Play—
Keighley Lge. v. Chester Lge.
Halifax Red Triangle Lge. v. West
Craven Lge.
Leek Lge. v. Manchester Lge.
Huddersfield Lge. v. Southport Lge.
- ZONE 9.**
Bye—Sunderland Lge.
To Play—
Northumberland Lge. v. West Cumberland
Lge.

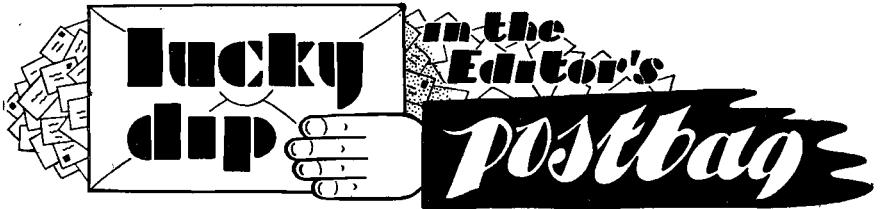
YOU CAN'T HELP FEELING HAPPY

when you see how happy this young couple are. And why should they not be, seeing that they are young, and in love, and have just won the East of England Mixed Doubles Championship, held at Butlin's Camp, Skegness.

Then they must be . . . yes, they are . . . NORMA QUESKEY and MARCUS BISHOP of Hull. Marcus, the energetic Publicity Secretary of the Hull and East Riding T.T.A., drily writes to correct a recent misprint:—

"The lady's name is not QUASHY nor QUESKY, but QUESKEY. Never have I known a name to be mis-spelt so often! However, before long it will be BISHOP, thank goodness, and my troubles will be over."

Norma and Marcus, on behalf of our readers, may we wish you "No troubles, but lots of Mixed Doubles!"



VETERAN INTERNATIONAL'S VIEW

May I be allowed to congratulate you on the general excellence to which you have brought *Table Tennis*, and then to offer a few words of criticism?

"Well said, Sir!" is your comment on a letter which appeared in the *Evening News* on table tennis. Mine would have been "Ill said, Sir." Apart from the mistake in the spelling of a word which is surely in common use in table tennis circles, the letter ends with this provocative enquiry. "Are we still too old-fashioned to admit that *Table Tennis* is the fastest and most fascinating sport?" I should reply with the expected, unhesitating "No," but, like many other sportsmen, should hasten to add "Not too old-fashioned but too experienced."

I have played many games—some with considerable success—and have taken a lively interest in quite a number of others. I have played some of the best in the world at badminton, lawn tennis and table tennis. I have probably got more fun out of the last than out of any other, but I have always recognised that some of the claims made for it by inexperienced enthusiasts are—well, amusing. The speed required by badminton, lawn tennis and boxing is certainly equal to that required by table tennis, and it is much more exhausting by reason of the greater length of the speed and skill efforts, both as regards time and space. There is where the superior skill demanded by tip-top badminton and lawn tennis comes in.

Long live table tennis, for it fills a great want and fills it just as well despite its miniaturiness.

P. E. WARDEN.

DEAF ENTHUSIASTS

For 10 years now the Institute for Deaf has been in membership of the Wolverhampton & District Table Tennis Association, except for a short gap during the war years. This season they are running two teams and have the reputation of being right in the top flight of sportsmanship, if not the most skilful of our players.

As in Ireland, our boys use their own umpire to assist the "speaking" umpire, but his services are really superfluous as the players are keen enough to know the score without being told. However, he does come in handy for a doubtful point.

A. E. HASKEW.

The publication of a letter does not imply that the writer's views are in any way official. It is seldom that the "man-in-the-club" has all the facts at his disposal. But his views will always be interesting. Replies are invited, but please be brief and to the point.

JUST ONE MORE JOB

There is one main concern, as I see it, of the E.T.T.A. That is the question of coaching. I would like to suggest that all County coaches should hold a proficiency certificate from the E.T.T.A. Coaching is not anyone's job—it is a highly skilled one, and furthermore, all coaches so appointed should meet at the commencement and end of each season to discuss future plans, new coaching ideas—in fact, hold a school amongst themselves.

There is another question, of course—finance—the usual stumbling block. I would suggest circumventing this in two ways.

(a) Raise the affiliation fees a small amount—say 3d.—this would help considerably to defray expenses.

(b) Why doesn't the E.T.T.A. produce—and I mean produce—a comprehensive book, amply illustrated, on the art of playing table tennis. The authorship could be left to the County coaches under a guiding chairman. This would be valuable help for the League coaches, for the young player—who could then "swot" up the mechanics of the game—and furthermore the royalties from the sale of this book would be another source of help in financing any plans undertaken to help the promising youngster.

G. A. OWEN.

ENLIST THE SCHOOLMASTERS?

I was especially interested in the article by Ron Langner on Table Tennis in Schools, which appeared in your last issue. All power to his elbow in his attempt to organise Table Tennis in our schools so that it becomes recognised on an equal basis with other games. It is to be hoped, too, that Mr. Williams' pioneer effort at Southsea will be emulated in other areas.

You might be interested to know that a club, composed exclusively from the staff of one Walthamstow school, used to compete in the London League from 1929-33. Under the name of "Studio," the club, whilst at no time hitting the headlines, invariably gave a good account of itself. One player, S. A. Hinde, gained London League representative honours and appeared in International Trials.

In 1932 the school was closed, and shortly afterwards the club disbanded. I was a member of the team during the latter part and believe I am the only one still playing in competitive Table Tennis.

If there was such enthusiasm by schoolmasters for the game when it was little known to the general public, I am sure plenty can be found to-day who will be willing to help to establish Table Tennis in our schools.

C. H. TEBBOTH.

* * *
West Byfleet T.T.C. 'finding itself a little "off the map,"' although affiliated to Surrey County T.T.A., appeals to readers for friendly matches. They have one or two young players of promise who need match practice.

THE

"BARNA - BERGMAN - BEREGI"

DECISION

THIS READER DOES NOT AGREE

Heaven knows—some really good Swaythling cup victories in February, against the Czechs, Hungarians, Americans and French, etc., would be a marvellous tonic capable of banishing all thoughts of the size of the bacon ration, 'bus queues and winter 'flu.

Whether or not these can be achieved remains to be seen, but, in any event, win or lose, it is quite time we stopped talking this disgraceful and harmful nonsense about playing those two great players, who are now permanently amongst us, Victor Barna and Richard Bergmann.

Way back in the twenties in Stockholm; Bull, Perry and Haydon were good enough to thrash the all-conquering Hungarians by five rubbers to two and if Leach, Bublely, Carrington, Casofsky, Sharman, Goodman, Marsh, Crayden, Stanley, Simons and the rest can't do the trick again, *let us search the four corners of this country of ours until we find someone who can.*

It is incredible and outrageous to think that those who have reached the top rung of the ladder of success in other lands and won their spurs on foreign fields should be given the opportunity or chance to bar, probably for all time, many of those who from all parts of England have sweated and toiled to reach the pinnacle of their ambition—a place in our Swaythling Cup team. Such action would be a death blow struck at the heart of English Table Tennis and would be an insult to the pride and independence of our nation.

THEY HAVE THEIR PLACE

That Victor Barna is the greatest figure in the history of our game I could not and would not forget, but his greatness is above the national level—witness the example of his influence on the game in France—and the same might be said to a lesser degree of the other two. Three great people in every sense with every legal right to fight with us but without the slightest moral justification.

Rather, let those who have chosen this land of ours as their home devote as much time as possible to coaching our young and striving enthusiasts and many of their seniors too, who in the majority of cases would welcome and seize upon such expert opinions. The names Barna,

Bergmann and Beregi are household words in the Table Tennis world and the halls of our towns and villages would not be large enough to contain those who, in their tens, hundreds and thousands would throng to witness their skill and seek their advice. Make no mistake, Victor, Richard and Dora, England has a great need of you and the benefits you can bestow on us are so immeasurable as to be never repaid. *We are, however, and always will be a nation of great self-respect and for that reason Leach, Bergmann and Barna must not be tolerated any more than Dace, Franks and Beregi.*

D. NICHOLLS.

A FAMILY CHALLENGE

We would like to express our appreciation of your very excellent magazine to which we look forward so much and have taken regularly from the very first issue.

We are a family of Table Tennis enthusiasts—Husband, Wife, Son and Daughter—and would like to challenge any similar family in the country. Would anyone like to take us on?

We are prepared to travel any reasonable distance.

J. RIND.

75, Polsloe Road,
Exeter, Devon.



A
SURREY
"COLT"

Photo shows KEITH HURLOCK, one of Surrey's best juniors, a product of the Epsom T.T. Club. Nursed along by Surrey Coach Harry Swetman and Club Secretary W. D. Robertson, Hurlock has an agile defence and the beginnings of a sound attack; plays especially well in doubles. At nineteen he appears a likely lad to follow in the footsteps of Eric Filby and the Merrett brothers.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Date	Tournament or Event	Address for Enquiries or Entries
Nov. 22 & 23	Sussex Open	D. N. Tyler, 1, York Buildings, Hastings.
Nov. 24	Sussex Open Championships	At Hastings.
	ENGLAND v. HUNGARY	At Herne Bay. See Special Notice.
Nov. 27, 28 & 29	Merseyside Open	W. Stamp, 3, Farndale Close, Liverpool, 18.
Dec. 1 to 6	Central London Open	G. James, 19, St. Ann's Villas, London, W.11.
Dec. 3 to 6	Ulster Open	N. Wilson, 128, Sandown Road, Belfast, N.1.
Dec. 6	Pontefract Open	L. Forrest, 15, Briarfield Road, Frizing-Hall, Bradford.
Dec. 6	North Midland Open	J. A. Brown, 34, Big Barn Lane, Mansfield Notts.
Dec. 12 & 13	Welsh Open Championships	H. Roy Evans, 16, Tymawr Road, Rumney, Cardiff.
1948		
Jan. 3 (finals)	Metropolitan Open	E.T.F.A. Office, 69, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
Jan. 9	England v. Wales	At Bath.
Jan. 10 (finals)	Scottish Open Championships	
Jan. 11	Kent Open	At Herne Bay.
Jan. 17	Southampton Open	
Jan. 31 (finals)	Hampshire Open	At Bournemouth.
Feb. 4 to 11	THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	At Wembley.
Feb. 10 to 14	Leinster Open (Dublin)	
Feb. 12 to 14	North of England Open	At Manchester.
Feb. 12 to 14	Lancashire Open	
Feb. 14 to 15	Brighton Open	
Feb. 21	Surrey Open	At Croydon.
Feb. 28 (finals)	Midland Open	At Birmingham.
Mar. 6	West of England Open	At Bristol.
Mar. 8 to 13	Middlesex (Herga) Open	At Harrow.
Mar. 13 (finals)	Cheshire Open	At Wallasey.
Mar. 20	Grimsby Open	
Mar. 24 to 27	Irish Open (Belfast)	
Mar. 27	North Eastern Open	
Apr. 3 (finals)	London Open	

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES

Nov. 22	Yorkshire v. Middlesex	At Sheffield. Miss M. Senior, 66, Morgan Road, Sheffield, 5.
Nov. 26	Kent v. Middlesex II	At Woolwich. F. Trew, 46, Chelsworth Drive, Woolwich, S.E.18.
Dec. 13	Yorkshire II v. Cumberland	(Not decided.)
Dec. 13	Sussex v. Hertfordshire	At Eastbourne.
Dec. 20	Hampshire v. Middlesex II	At Bournemouth.
Dec. 20	Essex v. Yorkshire	At Romford.

(Continued from page 12)

Howard Walton turned out to be a success. They "saw off" the alleged attacking pair, Crayden—Merrett, in overpowering style. Close on 11 o'clock they stormed, with no respect for reputations, into the old firm of Carrington—Leach. After losing the first game 10—21, the international pair displayed great resource in adapting their defence to the short run-back and pulled thankfully, out by 21—18, 21—14.

* * * *

Outstanding impressions of a well-staged Finals Night were: 1, Why, Oh Why, must organisers inflict Consolation finals on a paying public, causing them to miss some of the finest play of the evening owing to the late finish?

2, What a great player is this Leach when fully tested! Unperturbed by Bergmann's growing confidence following on vacant victories, he decided to attack the whole time and just hit

through the world's best defence. Chasing every ball, mixing and swinging his drives, stubbornly counter-hitting Bergmann's own drives, dropping cleverly, and unrelentingly fighting that terrific "deuce" spasm in the 2nd game, England's own table tennis genius played invincibly.

A sufficient comment is to say that Bergmann played marvellously... he played marvellously! Now look at the score:

Men's Singles Final:

J. LEACH bt. R. BERGMANN,
21—15, 22—20, 21—15.

Other results:

M.S. semi-finals Leach bt. Harrower, 21—13, 21—15. Bergmann bt. Sharman, 21—11, 21—14.

L.S. finals: Mrs. Thomas bt. Miss M. Franks, 19—21, 21—12, 21—10.

L.D. final: Thomas/Franks bt. Lentie/Fowler, 21—18, 21—19.

M.D. final: Carrington/Leach bt. Bergmann/Sharman, 21—13, 21—14.

X.D. final: Leach/Thomas bt. Bergmann/Franks, 21—17, 21—15.