SEPTEMBER, 1953

TABLE TENNIS

The World Champion
Exclusive Interviews by
Terence Gyorgy
Lawrence Kirwan

* My reply to Bergmann
Geoff James

* BETTER CLUB CENTRES
Leslie S. Woolard

* Rowe Twins Sparkle
"Down Under"

* Open Tournament Regs.
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Art Buchwald

* PICTURES * CARTOONS
REPORTS * NEWS * VIEWS
of The Table Tennis World

No. 903

ADELE WOOD
(England and Lancashire)
EDITORIAL OPINION

Policy and Progress

This magazine is dedicated to help and serve Table Tennis and the great majority who play it.

It presents the voice of Authority and it presents the voice of the Critic. Occasionally it has displeased both and will doubtless do so again. It "sets the cause above renown" and it loves the game beyond adherence to personalities. It aims for 100% accuracy in its facts. It believes that its readers are intelligent enough to judge the individual opinions they read. It welcomes honest expression and it welcomes criticism. It presents the best T.T. writers in the world and it welcomes everyone.

We intend to face facts boldly because some of our more explosive problems need boldness. We believe in Progress. We believe in Changes for the game must be a plant, not a fossil. It needs to be constantly revitalised with new ideas and new blood. It must be kept clean and sweet. We want to perpetuate the good things and correct the bad things. We want to improve upon the best, for we cannot go forward by standing still.

SIR JACK HOBBS

The knighthood for Jack Hobbs put a golden seal on a memorable Coronation Year. It made happy the thoughts and warm the congratulations of millions for this incomparable prince of sportsmen who characteristically found time from his greatness to help lay the foundations for the English Table Tennis Association.

Our present history begins with the revival of the game (then called Ping-Pong) in 1921-2. The All-England Club was opened at 393, The Strand, London, in February, 1922, and was the original parent of our present Association. Jack Hobbs was a Founder Member of this organisation and an active member of the first Executive Committee. As one of the best T.T. players in the country, Jack (partnered by fellow cricketer international Andy Ducas), made the first exhibition film of Table Tennis for public audiences. A T.T. table was installed at the Oval and the game became immensely popular (as it still is) with leading cricketers.

Jack Hobbs is the epitome of our most cherished sporting ideals. His play was a sheer artistry of all-perfections; a magnetic genius who attracted the records and fame which he scorned to chase. To him, the "spirit of the game" was always paramount, and it kept him the most selfless, self-effacing and kindly of all men, yet gracefully charming and with a shrewd but kindly wit and a glorious sense of fun.

Sir Jack Hobbs is our ideal of a truly great "amateur" sportsman, a living model of the traditions we want to see preserved forever in this sport. We should be proud to see him a Vice-President of the E.T.T.A.

COVER GIRL: ADELE WOOD

ALL-ROUND sportgirl "Dale" Wood (now Mrs. Pettifer) the "Sweetheart of the North," reminds that the English Open is at Manchester in a few weeks.

Dale is one of the most attractive players—both in person and performance—in England. In the English Open of 1947-8 she won the Junior title. The next year, even better, she again won the title (over Di Brown) and was finalist in the senior W.D. event. The same year, only 17, she was in England's Olympian Cup team at Stockholm. Some say that she was "blooded" too early and some say that circumstances or authority subsequently never gave her the chance of fighting her way to the real heights of which she was capable. She is still one of England's topline players, however, and hundreds of friends acclaim her sweet personality, good sportsmanship, and star quality. She is only 21 now and we hope to see her shining amid the stars for many years to come.

Table Tennis warmly invites news items, opinions, suggestions, ideas, pictures, criticisms, etc., from everyone, everywhere. We invite your help in making Table Tennis the most lively, instructive and entertaining sports journal in the world. Keep it SHORT. Post it EARLY.

Send DIRECT to The Editor—

LESLIE S. WOOLLARD.
12, CAMPBELL ROAD, BEDFORD

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SPECIAL EDITIONS

A Special Edition comprises a COMPLETE fullsize Table Tennis, PLUS the official Journal of the particular area (which is edited and managed in that area and is complete with local details, news and notices). It is TWO magazines in one for little more than the price of one, and every player in such an area should certainly be a subscriber. Enquiries should be made DIRECT to the appropriate local officials.

THE WELSH EDITION. Official Journal of the Table Tennis Association of Wales.
Mrs. N. Roy Evans, 1, Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Penylan, Cardiff.

SUSSEX EDITION. Mr. Keith Watts, 6, Windor Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
"I TRAIN THAT I SHALL BEAT THEM"
say World Champion FERENC SIDO

Two Special articles Exclusive to "Table Tennis"

By FERENC GYORGY

WHEN I called at the luxurious apartments of reigning World
Champion Ferenc Sido in Budapest it was almost as though I
had entered a film set.

In a surrounding of Biedermayer furniture and oriental carpets, the
giant form — clad in glamorous pyjamas—reclined restfully. All these
domestic comforts have been made possible by his national and world
supremacy, his lifelong thriftiness and exemplary adherence to an athletic
way of life.

"I drink nothing stronger than
orangeade," he declares earnestly, "I
do not smoke ever . . . in fact I think
I have no vices . . . and I love none
but my own dear little Gizi."

"Feri actually weighs 100 kilos,"
she says, and adds, with a mischiev­
ous smile, "but he will never, never
admit it . . . You should just see
how he eats! But it surely gives me
a good heart for preparing his
favourite dishes."

Gizi's menus fully justified them­
selfs by the champion's perfect con­
dition at Budapest . "I asked him
"Didn't you believe that you had
already won?" I prompted.

"Feri Sido goes to bed punctually
and it is time to say Goodnight,"
but before I leave I look over the
large cabinet with its almost uncount­
able collection of sports trophies.

"Of all your triumphant matches
at Bucharest," I asked, "what is the
most memorable recollection you have
of the Championships?"

"The final against Andreadis,
Sido replied immediately. "I was
leading 2 games to nil and 20-16 in
the third game. He needed but a
single point to become the Champion
of the World . . ." He closed his
eyes in silent memory.

"But of your champion matches
at Wembley next April."

"That ONE-shot winner! "
Feri Sido went to bed punctually
and it is time to say Goodnight,
but before I leave I look over the
large cabinet with its almost uncountable
collection of sports trophies.

The big man is serious. There is
no smile. There is a warm and
understanding affection between the
Champion and his tiny wife. You
will always see her in a ringside seat
when her Fed is playing in a big
competition. It is almost as though
she plays for him too with all her
heart as she tightly clutches her hand­
kerchief, squeezing it as she watches
point by point. And never does her
Feri forget—win or lose—to come
straight and first to her from the table
and presents his kiss to her.

"How can one describe that
supreme moment of 15 years' effort . . .
Teneness goes and leaves one limp
for a few uncontrollable seconds . . .
Shame can be shame. .. I just
earnestness will certainly be concen­
trated in his play for those who will
see him in the World Championships at Wembley next April.

LIFE PORTRAIT
by LAWRENCE KIRWIN

I T was in 1936 when Ferenc Sido,
just 13, first showed the makings
of a champion.

Big moustached Peter Sido, a work­
man in Pozsony (Bratislava) just over
the Hungarian border in Czechoslo­
vakia, saw the lad's talent and decided
he must get him trained.

After work, no matter how tired he
was, the father took young Ferenc
to the local P.T.E. Club for coaching.
FERENC SIDO (continued)

The boy soon achieved results. In 1938 he was already the junior champion of Slovakia. He learned a great deal of table tennis technique and tactics from the famous player Moravek.

In 1939 the Sidos moved to Budapest. Young Ferenc became a stoker in the Elzett factory. But he had to drop his coaching, for the family now had not enough money to pay for tuition, which was not free in those days.

He continued playing, however, and a year later 17-year-old Ferenc became a member of the Hungarian national team and was ranked second in the national championships.

In 1940 he moved to Diosgyor, to work in the iron and steel factory. He became a wages clerk, just like two other table tennis players working in the same plant—Joseph and Gizi Parkas.

The sturdy Ferenc took up football at this stage and in 1942 he moved to Diosgyor, to a job in the Electric works, and resumed table tennis in the factory's sports club.

At the World Championship in Paris in 1947 world table tennis first heard the name of Sido. He came second to Vana in the men's singles, and then, with a smiling "It's getting late," said goodbye to them all and went to bed.

WHEN IS A JUNIOR?

I was interested in Mr. Harry Levine's article on the age of Juniors (in the May Table Tennis). Many of his points are outstanding.

As the donor of the English Open Junior Singles trophies, I always thought the maximum age should have been 16, but as the E.T.T.A. and the I.T.T.F. thought 17 the maximum, I concluded after full consideration that the present system, after all, is more acceptable for Juniors.

One solution for Mr. Levine's complaint is to run English "Schoolboys" T.T. Competitions with the maximum age of 15.

These could be run by the schools themselves (to avoid any additional burden on the E.T.T.A.) providing they were in harmony with the E.T.T.A. and the appropriate regulations and affiliations, etc.

A. T. Finney, Vice-President, E.T.T.A.

THEY SAY—

Colonel Harry Llewellyn, Britain's crack show jumper (of Foxhunter fame), speaking of the decision not to include equestrian events in the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne: "... If horsemen all over the world have no gold medal to aim at for a period of 8 years, we may as well take up ping-pong."

Alan Hoby, famous sports writer, says that he once asked Sidney Wooderson the secret of his success in running. Wooderson replied:

"I suppose it is that, while the others are playing ping-pong in the club house or drinking beer, I am out training hard."

Editorial comment: We believe that Sidney Wooderson may have subsequently changed his view for we understand he became a Vice-President of the Beckenham T.T. League. Alan Hoby (with Peter Wilson) are two of the handful of the many T.T. players in Fleet Street.
NEW REGULATIONS FOR OPEN TOURNAMENTS

The Vague Unspecific

The airy phrase "open tournament conditions" has a ring of authority that is belied by its vagueness. County Championship rule 30 requires that "E.T.T.A. tournament rules on playing conditions shall be observed." But what are these and where they can be found is another matter. You can search in vain through the 184 pages of the E.T.T.A. Handbook (as one or two of our diligent readers have discovered) and remain little wiser.

There has for long been a need for authoritative guidance on this subject. Where regulations or conditions exist they should be available to every organiser and player; where there are recommendations they should be published for guidance. For the last few years the Open Tournaments Sub-Committee has been conscious of this need and in April last they produced 9 closely typed, foolscap pages of Report and Recommendations. Closer perusal showed it to be less formidable than might be supposed.

Current Regulations

PART ONE presented all the current rules, etc., concerning Open Tournaments. These are:—

2. Registered Members' Regulations 1 (c), (d) and (e) concerning payments and rewards. Page 31 of Handbook.
3. I.T.T.F. Rule 21 defining that an "Open" tournament shall be one that is open to players of any association in membership with the I.T.T.F.
4. I.T.T.F. Disciplinary Regulations 4 and 6 (relating to payments and prizes, etc.).
5. I.T.T.F. Regulations for International Competitions where applicable to Open Tournaments; dealing with:
   (i) Equipment and conditions.
   (ii) Clothing.
   (iii) Referee, Umpire, Committee (Judisdiction and Appeal).
   (iv) Advice to Players during play.
   (v) Rest period during play.
   (vi) Time Limit regulations.
6. General Regulations issued by the Open Tournaments Sub-Committee to Organisers of Open Tournaments. These deal with Seeding; the Draw; Qualifying Groups; Finals; implementing the Service Rule, etc.

New Proposals

PART TWO consolidates most of the above into 17 regulations and these are to operate for Open Tournaments in the Season 1953-54. Presumably, when the regulations are finally published they will include appropriate extracts from I.T.T.F. Regulations (for reference), e.g., the Time Limit Rule.

Types of Tournament

PART THREE defines different types of Tournament:—

1. An Open Tournament is one that is open to players of all associations in membership with the I.T.T.F. (Any English Open has to be sanctioned by the I.T.T.F.)
2. A Closed Tournament restricts entries to affiliated players of a specific club; league; county; defined area of a county; or an area approved by E.T.T.A.
3. An Invitation Tournament is one in which particular affiliated players are invited to compete and general invitations are not issued. It must be approved by the County Association. Where players of another county are to be invited, the Tournament also needs the consent of the E.T.T.A. as well as that of the county associations concerned.
4. A General Competition is defined. Requires sanction of E.T.T.A. who will decide appropriate conditions. The Daily Mirror Tournament is such a competition.

Specific Proposals

Main recommendations for Playing Conditions specified. The minimum playing space during rounds shall be 12 ft. runback and 5 ft. between tables (or between a table and surround or wall). For finals and staged rounds, the minimum playing space shall be 36 ft. by 18 ft.

Lighting. No light shall be less than 9 ft. 9 ins. from the ground. Measured at table height in foot candles, minimums shall be: 20 over the table; 20 to edges of an area 26 ft. by 3 ft.; 5 to limits of playing area; and 2 reflection from near surface of the ball at table end. Floor should be of hard, non-slip wood of unreflecting surface; not stone or linoleum. Background should be of uniform dark shade and neither light nor patchy.

In the paragraph referring to Programmes it is recommended that the names of Umpires be included for the Final events. If they are E.T.T.A. County Umpires, the designation "C.U." should follow the name.

Information on Request

Only a brief summary of the proposed Open Tournament Regulations has been given. We invite readers to write and tell us of any matters in which they have a particular interest or opinion or would like explained. Some recommendations for this season will probably be adopted as regulations for future seasons, so everyone interested should take an articulate part in helping to ensure that the final rules are the best possible.

Speculation

At this stage it might also prove interesting to speculate on the character of future open tournaments. A higher standard of minimum conditions hints either a limitation or some form of simple grading such as Major (for those fulfilling all requirements) and perhaps Minor (for those unable to get the requisite facilities). The possibility that future World Championships may cease to operate on the present overwhelming expensive Annual basis adds interest to speculation, since the resultant trend might be in an increasing entry of other international players into our major tournaments.

HEIR PORT (Arrivals)

CONGRATULATIONS and good wishes to Johnny and Daisy Leach on the safe arrival (on 9th August, 1953) of Jeffrey James, a brother for Johnny Junior. 7 lb. 6 oz.

TORONTO SUMMER OPEN

Toronto, 9th August, 1953

From James Shrimpton
(ex-Editor, Birmingham Edition, Table Tennis)

The international atmosphere of this meet suggests immigrants flocking into Canada from everywhere. I saw a Chinese boy beat an American while I, an Anglo-Saxon, was knocked out by a Nigerian. None of the 4 seeds reached the semis, in fact, No. 1, Lithuanian Pranas Guildys lost in his very first match. Both losing semi-finalists in the M.S. and the losing finalist of the W.S. came from Latvia. The M.S. final was between an Estonian and a South American from British Guiana. The latter won a tight, sometimes spectacular, attack defence match.

Canadian rules insist on All-White Dress, and the standard of play was about that of English top-club class, but the game is growing with the country, which is FAST.

W.S. JOAN JESSOP bt. (1) II. Sanders bt. (2) J. Kapostins 14, 18, —16, 18 (1st. D. Wiseman).
M.D. C. MEREDITH bt. (1) D. Rathlour bt. Ferriera bt. (1) M.S. R. FERRIERA bt. (2) M.D. C.
X.D. Rathlour/Jessop bt. Guildys/Sanders.

5
against the 20-minute rule is that it must be applied to all games including the very small minority of spectacular games which last so long. Yet when a rule is framed which meets this point, "the so-called Expedite Rule," we are told it is "officialdom gone haywire." This rule is applied only when neither player is seeking to make the opponent's returns difficult and is without any time limit. Admittedly it has defects but, surely, they are capable of amendment and worthy of more than the ungenerous remarks made about the rule's inventors.

To deal with Richard's numbered recommendations:

1. In the absence of any constructive alternative, "Time limits must stay. (I appear to be an English minority as far as the expedite rule is concerned.)"

2. Extensions of the time limit defeat the whole object of the rule and if the majority of players are satisfied with the 10-minute limit on subsequent games it seems that this is a case where the spectator should be looked after and the rule retained.

2. (a) At all national tournaments a precision clock is certainly essential and will I hope one day become a regular thing rather than a rarity.

(b) There is no reason for ambiguity over stoppages as I.T.T.F. regulations insist on time allowance for major hold ups such as lost or fractured ball, etc. To stop the clocks every time the ball is out of play would really mean extending the time limit and would require the limit to be reduced to say 15 or 18 minutes.

3. To make an Open tournament singles the best of 5 games is a very big issue which would need an article on its own. Suffice it to say that money is again the guiding factor. I am told that conditions in most opens are now much superior to pre-war. These have to be bought and the biggest portion of the revenue of an Open tournament consists of the entry fees. Reduce your entry and fees to accommodate the longer matches and I fear that most tournaments would be in dire straits. Incidentally, my information is that in pre-war England the 5-game match was even more of a rarity than it is now.

Richard either cannot or will not see the evils which would result from all matches deteriorating to wars of attrition but as far as English officials are concerned let me assure him that in this matter their one desire is the continued progress of the game, which is surely very much in the interest of great players like Richard Bergmann. May be that is why so many of these players accept the Time Limit.

**THAMESIDE OPEN**

Plaistow, 9th May, 1953

Notable performance by Welsh junior Shirley Jones, who won 4 titles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R. E. D. Jones</td>
<td>14, 12, 13, 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Lowe</td>
<td>13, 14, 11, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. F. Gall</td>
<td>16, 16, 16, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Baker</td>
<td>10, 10, 10, 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. R. Miller</td>
<td>18, 18, 19, 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Roberts</td>
<td>12, 13, 18, 18</td>
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<td>J. Roberts</td>
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<td>B. S. M. MacLaren</td>
<td>12, 13, 14, 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. J. Dorking</td>
<td>15, 16, 17, 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. S. Jones</td>
<td>10, 11, 12, 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPORT**, which still keeps the flag of Idealism flying, is perhaps the most saving grace in the world at the moment, with its spirit of rules kept and regard for the adversary, whatever the fight is going for or against. When, if ever, the fair-play spirit of sport reigns over international affairs, the cat force which rules there now will shrink away and human life emerge for the first time from the jungle...

-- John Galsworthy

**WEST AFRICAN T.T.**

At Lagos in May, Nigeria beat Gold Coast 17 ties to 8 in a representative international match. Teams of 5, each playing each, best of 3 games. Individual wins and losses were:

For Nigeria: Ali 5-0: Ayanlaja 4-1; Chinwuba 4-1; Dagunnu 2-4; Obiokwoala 14.

For Gold Coast: Mullings 3-2; Ayoro 3-3; Netsee 3-3; Hambrook 1-4; Ealing 0-5.
PERSONALIA

WHAT a year to remember . . .
The Coronation . . . winning the
Swaythling Cup . . . regaining The
Ashes . . . superb athletic achieve­
ments . . . What an encouraging
opening to the New Season. Now
where is everyone and what have they
been doing? . . . Congratulations
to live enterprise on founding county
associations for Dorset; Oxfordshire;
Shropshire; Somerset; and Wilt­
shire. . While Twins Rosalind and
Diane Rowe have made "royal pro­
gress" "down under," Victor and
Susie Barna have been holidaying in
Spain. . T.T. Champion of Bath for
6 years running, county rugger full­
back, and Somerset cricketer, H. T. F.
(Bertie) Buse took the wrong
match for his first Benefit . . . It finished
in one day! He has notched another
good season. Do Sheffield remember
the time when the "Galloping Major," a
wicket (including Len
Hutton's) for 33 and Yorkshire, all
out for 77, were forced to follow on?
Former Junior International, Louis
Devereux, has made a promising debut
for Worcestershire, and Derek Merry,
weather has done well for Lines.
County, including a 74 against
Cambs. . Harry Walker (Essex Sec.)
took a team of East London Juniors
up to Lowestoft (for the second year)
to match Harry Levine's brilliant
Brier Cliffie protect's. Chairman
Malcolm Scott on fortnight's
vacation in the Channel Islands got in
some early practice with the J.T.T.A.
fellows. . He was recently given
pride of place (as T.T. rep.) at Good­
year's local Sportsman's Dinner at
Wolverhampton. . Lancs. Junior
International Geoff Pullar is reckoned
the best left-handed bat in the Central
Lancs. Cricket League and also a
handy bowler. He has notched more
than 450 runs this season against such
bowlers as Ramadhin (W.I.), Ried
(N.Z.) and Barnett. Geoff has been
selected for the Under-18 team of the
Lancs. C.F. to tour the South. . Our
No. 1 photographer Peter Madge
suddenly flew off to Stockholm re­
cently for a fortnight. "Want to see
where our juniors go every other
wintertime," he declared, and ". . .
not so much as a para. from me for
September." (Well, we did make a
para. of it, Peter!) . Last year's
Editor of the Birmingham Edition of
Table Tennis, Jim Shrimpton, has
well and truly gone west, but only in
the best sense of adventure and enter­
prise . . . Emigrated to Canada for
journalistic experience the hard way.
Has landed job with Trail Daily
Times, B.C. . . . Writes in this issue
. . . Good to hear, Jimmy; best of
luck. . . "Table Tennis Player of the
Year"—Winner of the Victor Barna
Award—Aubrey Simons, has played
less club or county cricket than usual
. . has managed to include restful
holiday with wife Jeanne, and further
improve his already popular T.T. bat­
manufacturing business. . There is
great news from the North of Ken
Stanley's considerable summer T.T.
activities of which we hope to print
more details next month. It's some
of the most heartening news that has
come out o' the North for a long time
. . . A really grand effort.

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Czechoslovakian Open.
Netherlands Open.
6—14 WORLD CHAMPION­
SHIPS. Wembley.
17—19 NORTH-EAST ENGLAND
OPEN.

MAY

Apr. 26—1 THAMESIDE OPEN.
May 13 Finals, "Daily Mirror"
Tournament.

OF ALL LEADING SPORTS OUTFITTERS

Makers of the
Official E.T.T.A Shirts
ANNUAL PROGRAMME
as notified at time of going to press.
Amendments and additions will be published as received.

September and October Events on page 20.

NOVEMBER
Oct. 31—1 SUSSEX OPEN.
31—1 Austrian Open.
Bulgarian Closed.
Nov.
2—20 Swedish Juniors England Tour.
2—7 EASTERN SUBURBAN OPEN.
7 HULL OPEN.
9—13 ENGLISH OPEN, Manchester.
13—15 SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN.
14 England v. France (Men), Leeds.
14 England v. France (Women), Peterborough.
11—23 All-U.S.S.R. Championships, Leningrad.
16 England v. Sweden (Juniors), Worthing.
21 BATH OPEN.
26—28 MERSEY SIDE OPEN.
28 DORSET OPEN.
29 ROENT JUNIOR OPEN.

DECEMBER
Nov. 30—5 CENTRAL OPEN.
Dec. 10 England v. Wales (Women), Wales.
10—12 Welsh Open.

JANUARY, 1954
Polish Closed.
4—6 Swedish Closed.
4—9 METROPOLITAN OPEN.
8—9 PONTFRACT OPEN.
9 England v. France (X.D.J.), France.
10—13 French Open.
11—16 SOUTH LONDON OPEN.
15 England v. France (Men), France.
16—17 Belgian Open.
17—23 NORTH-WEST KENT.
21 England v. Ireland (X.D.), Ireland.
22—23 SOUTH YORKSHIRE OPEN.
24 SOUTHAMPTON OPEN.
30—31 KENT OPEN.

FEBRUARY
Jan. 31—6 MIDLAND OPEN.
Rumanian Closed.
Feb.
3—13 MIDDLESEX (Herga) OPEN.
8—9 BUCKS. OPEN.
18—20 CHESHIRE OPEN.
23 England v. Wales (Juniors), Wales.
26—28 SURREY OPEN.
27 T.T. CUPS Semis & Finals.
(concluded on page 8, col. 1)

THE ENGLISH HERE ALREADY
“Meet Me in Manchester . . .”

NOVEMBER AND NORTHWARD HO! Just a few, quick-passing weeks before this year’s English Open heralds a hectic season.

“Meet me in Manchester” is the rallying cry for 1953. A cheery, hearty welcome (yes, and a challenge too), from the North to the rest of England and the World. Come up in your hundreds, you southerners, as the North regularly comes South to Wembley in the years between. The North wants to greet you, meet you, see you, know you and—if possible—beat you.

A northern English is a splendid thing. It brings new interests and rare opportunities to a host of players. A change venue gives fresh opportunity to more than a few “regulars.” Players who are but names can, even without triumph, become personalities. Best of all is to see Northern organisers running the event themselves, and this display by the “Northern Lights” should prove that England has a “reserve” of men capable of administrative and organising work on a “national” level.

A little advance information briefly:

Dates: Monday, 9th November to Friday, 13th November. A shock for anyone superstitious about “Friday, the 13th” (although many tell us it is really a lucky date!), and a surprise night for the Finals which should make travelling problems easier.

Venue: Belle Vue, Hyde Road, Manchester. Rounds played in the Belfast Suite. Finals in the Kings Hall.

Route: Arriving in Manchester, take trolley or bus marked for HYDE or DENTON. Frequent service all day. Piccadilly or outside London Road Station are the most convenient transport stops.

Accommodation: Accommodation can be booked in advance on request to the organisers. Prices (approx.) : from 15/- bed and breakfast.


Facilities: Ample dressing-rooms complete with toilets and wash. Running buffet open all day and good meals; the Restaurant is in the hall and parallel to the courts. 7 prepayment telephone booths are in the hall. All facilities under the one roof, near-at-hand and readily accessible.

FINALS: It is proposed to stage ALL Finals on Friday, the 13th November. Full moneys-worth indeed! REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT HALF AS MANY SEATS AS AT WEMBLEY AND ORDER EARLY. The Kings Hall is circular and the seats are tiered throughout so a really good view will be enjoyed by all. Prices range from the best ringside seats at 7/6d., 6/-, 5/- and 3/7d. (all reserved) to a limited number of unreserved at 2/6d.

WHO’S WHO
Organising Secretary: NORMAN COOK, 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge, Cheshire.

Hon. Referee: Leslie Jones (Hon. Sec. of Manchester League).

Programmes: Tom Blunn and Billie Stamp.

Press and Publicity: Albert Howcroft (Hon. Sec., Bolton League).

Hospitality: C. H. Renshaw (Chairman, Cheshire County).


HERE is a tale as fresh as Spring and as welcome as a smile:
An odyssey of gay adventure and sparkling achievement that is without any obvious villains.

The news that makes this memorable tale has come in a way like that of Spring. First a few odd letters. Then a swift, overwhelming burgeon of fertility. Reports, cuttings, newspapers, magazines, supplemented with masses of detail from that prolific and active European Representative of Oceania, Mr. C. Corti Woodcock.

To all these our editorial gratitude for the delight and pleasure they have given us in reading of one of the most outstanding ‘crusades’ for Table Tennis—through personality and performance—since those vintage years nigh a quarter century back when Victor Barna, an emperor among kings, was in his full, brilliant, invincible, breath-taking glory. It is heartening to hear such news as this. It is remarkable that young ladies have achieved such success. How proud we can be of these English girls, exhibiting to our related world all that is best in the British way of play and performance.

A translation of a Greek proverbial phrase from the first Olympic Games emphasizes the spirit of our game: “Let those who have the light—pass it on.” It has been England’s proud heritage and privilege to “pass on” much of that which is best in many sports, but reading the eye-witness accounts of the Rowe’s 1953 Tour, it must be held that the British tradition has nowhere been more worthily upheld. It is an enspiriting crusade for Table Tennis which one Australian high-up has estimated to be worth £10,000 value for the game in the southern hemisphere.

HERE is always a T.T. season somewhere in the world. The English summer is the winter (or T.T. season) in the southern hemisphere. On May 2nd (18 days after their 20th birthday) the Rowe Twins sailed away in the Mataaroa (on which the shipping company had thoughtfully installed a special practice table) on their 41-day, 12,000 mile voyage to the “England of Down Under.” Sir Frederick Doidge, High Commissioner for New Zealand, gave them a send-off.

“At first,” wrote Diane, “the boat trip seemed as though it would be endless . . . but we made many friends and time went quickly . . . We had opposite cabins and every afternoon slipped off to bed for a quiet snooze . . . A life of luxury, but it didn’t stop us feeling a little homesick.”

The Mataaroa was no sluggard and arrived at Auckland, the “Queen” City, a full day ahead of schedule. At 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 13th, Di and Ros walked on to New Zealand soil. Any prior apprehensions (on either side) were soon dispelled. At the hotel, the press boys and photographers somersaulted from hospitable interest to an avid enthusiasm, starting Front Page news publicity of unprecedented magnitude that was to precede, follow, and boost the Tour to the heavens.

Enthusiast Brian Johns and colleagues threw a dance-party for 45-50 guests in the hall beneath their house
ROWE TWINS TOUR

So to the first playing appearance that night at Lower Hutt, with the cold wind and heavy rains encouraging folk to stay by the fireside. And there had been many prophets of doom and gloom who doubted whether any woman players would attract judicia­ble crowds! 

"PEOPLE CLING TO WINDOW SILLS TO SEE ROWE TWINS" was the banner headline of The Dominion next day. 

"Every part of the hall was crammed with spectators and many were locked out when the doors had finally to be forced shut. Some of these stayed, and in the bitterly cold southerly rain clung precariously to windows to get a glimpse of the English women table tennis players, Diane and Rosalind Rowe...."

Throughout the country, the Twins had completely captured the imagination. They were front page news, headline importance, and top line attraction. 

"THESE WONDERFUL TABLE TENNIS TWINS." "New Zealand has known nothing quite like the Rowe Twins, Diane and Rosalind... wonderfully accomplished players... charm and personality, their humour... and even their diplomacy..." 

"... The chic Londoners in their short shorts..." who "never spared themselves in 20 minutes of furious play..." "... will succeed in making a deep impression to a greater degree than any previous visitor from overseas... the justified touch of showmanship, never abused... each umpire received a handshake as well as the opponents—a gesture with a ton of meaning."

"... The Rowe girls are proving the most popular visitors known here. The complete absence of gesture or pose... approachable and friendly... They do not need to lean on their unusual kinship as a pointer to their popularity. They have talent, spirit and personal charm... create a favourable impression from the moment they take their places at the table. They are not gallery players— their behaviour is exemplary on any sporting standards..."

"... And one thing which crowds—and we do mean crowds that are overflowing at all the twins' appearances—have not been slow to notice and appreciate, is the obvious willingness of the Rowe sisters to appreciate good play against them, a characteristic which should mean immense encouragement to our own girl players. And that, after all, is a prime reason for the tour."

There were 20 "dates" with local teams, each match being concluded with a rousing best of 3 between Di and Ros. (Wins in the first 13 were Di 5 and Ros 8). These exciting matches sent enthusiasms for T.T. skyhigh. In addition, there were the 4 international matches (results elsewhere). Altogether, more than 2,000 miles were covered by boat, car, coach, train, airplane or flying boat.

The New Zealand girls displayed tremendous keenness and no little latent talent. A teenage Maori, Abou McCrae, was reported as a promising player. When the Twins again reached Auckland on the 30th June they met sterner opposition in the N.Z. Team Champions (Women): Margaret Hoar (W.S. Champion), Val Leach, Barbara Packwood and Barbara Williams. Left-hander Barbara Packwood was headline heroine in this match by taking the first game from Diane 21-19, though losing the next two 6 and 9.

Next day, the Wellington team proved of similar calibre, but the left-hander Charlotte Savage found a more dominant Diane could hold her to a tight 15, 7.

Meanwhile, Charlotte Savage found a more dominant Diane could hold her to a tight 15, 7. "Meanwhile, in a hurried note, the Twins tell us that the "food is really wonderful, and they are sure to have put on weight before the end of the tour... We stayed with our Uncle and Aunt for 2 days... and Aunt came with us for a whole week... the publicity is beyond all measure," and words of high praise for the New Zealander.

The fact that Di and Ros are Twins made quite an appeal in New Zealand, but what an amazing coincidence when, at one of their exhibitions,
THE T.T. CUPS COMPETITION

National Team Championships

Entry forms for the Wilmott Cup (Men) and the J. M. Rose Bowl (Women) have now been sent to all affiliated leagues. THE CLOSING DATE IS 30th SEPTEMBER, 1953.

The N.E.C. invites enquiries from any League which would like to stage either or both of these events. (This competition is to be played on a League in financial liability.)

Finals and Semi-Finals for both competitions are to be played on Saturday, 27th February, 1954, and Wednesday, 1st March, 1954, at London. The J. M. Rose Bowl Competitions should be played out to the Zone Final stage at one venue (for each zone) over one week-end, on a similar basis, expenses and any profit being distributed amongst the affiliated leagues. Expenses and any profit are to be pooled. The proposal has been worked out very thoroughly, with the Committee going into details, and the proposal involves no league in financial liability.

THE T.T. CUP COMPETITIONS

Mr. Ivor Eyles, the N.E.C. Secretary, has written to the April A.G.M. of the Association when he informed the members of the proposal, and of Oxford should be permitted to enter the T.T. Cup Competitions. THE CLOSING DATE IS 30th SEPTEMBER, 1953. The N.E.C. invites enquiries from any League which would like to stage either or both of these events. (This competition is to be played on a League in financial liability.)

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National Team Championships

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UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The N.E.C. have allowed the appeal that the Universities of Cambridge and of Oxford should be permitted to enter the T.T. Cup Competitions as representative teams in their own right.

"FOCUS ON TABLE TENNIS"

"The "Focus on Table Tennis" series of exhibitions 1952-53, organised by the C.C.P.R. (by arrangement with the E.T.T.A.) gave a total of 11 performances by Victor Barna and Johnny Leach and were seen by more than 4,500 spectators.

In view of the heavy commitments to discontinue this Scheme.

APPROVED BALLS, 1953-54

Dunlop Barna 3-crown and 2-crown. Villa XXX and XX. Halex 3-star and 2-star. Haydon 3-star and 2-star.

REGISTERED PLAYERS' BALLOT

The ballot for the Registered Players’ Committee 1953-54 resulted as follows:—

G. V. BARNA, 19.
M. P. ALLEN, 17.
J. CARRINGTON, 14.
K. STANLEY, 14.
A. A. HAYDON, 13.

Not Elected: L. Thompson, 10.
R. Crayden, 8.
J. Leach, 8.
L. S. Woollard, 7.
L. G. Adams, 6.
A. D. Brook, 6.
Miss M. G. Fry, 6.
H. Venner, 6.
A. Thompson, 5.
K. Craigie, 3.
B. Crouch, 3.
Miss A. Wood, 3.
E. J. Filby, 2.
Miss M. Jones, 2.
R. Allan, 1.
Mrs. E. Carrington, 1.
B. Brunswell, 1.

22nd July, 1953.

SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

No. 1 (31st July). The Committee have approved the playing of 5 International Matches (Women’s teams) as under:—

The England team will be: Miss ROWE (Captain) and Miss D. ROWE.

v. NEW ZEALAND: 1. Dunedin.
2. Wellington.
3. Auckland.
5. Melbourne.

2. Sydney.
3. Adelaide.

UNION OF TABLE TENNIS (U.T.T.)

The report of the U.T.T. has been received by the N.E.C. and has been approved by a number of leagues.

PUBLICATIONS

The following publications can be obtained from the Office of the Association. The price quoted includes postage in the British Isles:—

Instruction Books

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALEC BROOK</td>
<td>Table Tennis Fundamentals</td>
<td>1/3d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>Table Tennis Quiz</td>
<td>1/6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. R. ROWE</td>
<td>Table Tennis Tips</td>
<td>1/6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>Modern Table Tennis 8/6/-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>Table Tennis (Know the Game)</td>
<td>2/3d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>Table Tennis for All 8/6d.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>L. WOOLLARD</td>
<td>Table Tennis 2/6d.</td>
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Miscellaneous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALEC BROOK</td>
<td>Laws of Table Tennis, on Card with cord for hanging in C.Iubroom</td>
<td>1/6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>English Open Championship Programme, 1953</td>
<td>2/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. CARRINGTON</td>
<td>Table Tennis (Know the Game)</td>
<td>8/6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. R. ROWE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. WOOLLARD</td>
<td>Table Tennis 2/6d.</td>
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</table>

12th June, 1953.
This magnificent photograph has captured a little of the atmosphere of Finals Night of a Daily Mirror National Table Tennis Tournament at the Royal Albert Hall, London. In the inescapable flood of brilliant light two young players from Somewhere in Great Britain battle tensely for the supreme honour. More than 10,000 critical eyes watch from the tiers packed from ringside to roof-top circles. Probing T.V. cameras project the tense battle on to several thousand screens.

These are all young players. Not one of them had ever won any important title when they entered. Now they are focussed in the national spotlight in the famous hall. Out of 12,000 entries, 16 players have fought through to the last. This night is a testing time of match-nerves as well as of techniques, but it is a proud and memorable night to have joined those illustrious names which have been applauded in this mighty hall.

The 16 survivors of the Daily Mirror Tournament 1952-3 are now to enjoy ONE WHOLE WEEK OF SPECIALISED COACHING dedicated to develop their individual talents. EVERYTHING—accommodation, fares, and all fees—are paid by the Daily Mirror.

NOW FOR THE FUTURE

The Daily Mirror National Table Tennis Tournament, 1952-54, has now opened. Everyone (except many of the upper group of players) has splendid chances of winner medals or more valuable prizes, making many new friends, and enjoying some really first-rate match experiences. Entry Forms are obtainable from all league and most club secretaries affiliated to the national associations of England, Wales or Scotland, or direct from The Daily Mirror (Table Tennis), Geraldine House, Regents Buildings, Battersea, London, E.C.4. ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DAILY MIRROR NOT LATER THAN FIRST POST

MONDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER

BUCKS. OPEN

Slough, May 3rd, 1953

M.S. J. Lowe, bt. (1) H. Venner, (2) B. Huntwell (bt. C. Preker).
W.S. S. Jones, bt. Y. Baker.

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Parma, 3rd May, 1953

M.S. G. rondani, bt. L. Starnari 3-2.
W.S. A. FREDIANI, bt. A. Tamborini 3-0.
G.S. I. Windtorplng, bt. A. Banca 3-2.
G.S. M. Guglielmetti, bt. L. Parisi 3-0.
**A VERY SPECIAL OFFER**

**Introducing the**

"Bind-As-You-Go" BINDER for "TABLE TENNIS"

A 3-year search to find the Ideal Binding arrangement for "Table Tennis" ended immediately I saw this outstanding Self Binding Device. It's the perfect answer in every way. Merely insert each magazine directly it arrives each month and it becomes a bound reference volume, that will last your lifetime. No more lost magazines. No more frayed, ruffled, torn magazines. No more trouble wondering where a particular issue might be. Each issue is in a second or so clipped and held in position directly it arrives.

The Binder itself is of extremely strong board finished with green cloth and with the title in gold blocking on the back. The special metal device for holding the magazines makes it a particularly strong, long-lasting job. It has a neat and handsome appearance and can take its place proudly among books of any company.

When the Binder is open it lays perfectly flat, so whether it is holding one or twenty copies every word can be read easily without any need to press back the pages. If it is opened at any page it will lay flat and open at that page. This Binder is always neat, tidy and efficient whether it holds one single magazine or whether it is full. It can be used as a permanent or a temporary binding.

**To Order:** Write your name and address clearly on a piece of paper. Add the words "Binder please." Enclose 10/- Send to The Editor, Table Tennis, 12, Campbell Road, Bedford.

Orders will be numbered on receipt and dealt with in strictest rotation. Binders against prompt orders will be delivered toward the end of October, but send your ORDER right NOW.

It is not economical to make a binder for one year's issues, therefore, to give maximum and real bargain value to our readers this new Self-Binder will hold 3 YEARS' MAGAZINES. There can be no cheaper, easier, or more satisfactory binding system.

These handsome and unique Self-Binders would normally cost at least 15/- each, but by a combination of happy arrangements and the goodwill of our publishers (The Hendon Printing Works Ltd.) we are especially delighted to offer them at 10/- each (which includes Postage, Packing, Insurance, Instructions, etc.). There is nothing more to pay. This is no catch, commercial offer but a genuine service to readers on a non-profit basis.

To get the lowest prices has meant placing a bulk order with the manufacturers, and it may not be possible to offer such wonderful terms when the first consignment has been cleared. Readers are recommended to order promptly.
ROWE TWINS TOUR
(continned from page 11)

Diane and Rosalind Rowe, 20-year-old identical twins from London, were introduced to Diane and Rosalind Rowe, 12-year-old identical twins from Stokes Valley! In both cases, Rosalind is the elder—by a few minutes.

In Wellington, Di and Ros paid a surprise call on Arthur Meachem in the local hospital. Arthur is one of the G.O.M. of N.Z. Table Tennis and was once the national Sec. and Treas. Apparently he was a remarkable character. Crippled from childhood, he could play only with the aid of crutches, yet such was his agility and strong short chop that he won many more games than he lost.

(To be concluded)

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

ENGLAND 5—NEW ZEALAND 0

Dunedin, 9th July, 1953
Audience 2,000, a New Zealand record.
R. ROWE bt. M. M. Hoar 11, 11; bt.
Mrs. J. L. Magnani 9, 11. D. ROWE bt.
M. M. Hoar 11, 11; bt. Mrs. J. L. Magnani
10, 11.

ENGLAND 5—AUSTRALIA 0

Adelaide, 3rd August, 1953
R. ROWE bt. M. Bowler 17, 6; bt. A.
Snarskyte 7, 10. D. ROWE bt. M. Bowler
11, 11; bt. A. Snarskyte 14, 18, 16. D.
and R. ROWE bt. M. Bowler/A. Snarskyte
17, 6.

A TOPICAL REMINDER

DON'T forget that entries for the East of England Open Tournament must be in by 11th September. (See details on Page 20). This is always a popular meeting place for players from all parts of the country and a practice or try-out for the season. The most surprising results may occur—and usually do—but the seaside holiday-theme atmosphere and facilities are real compensation and nearly everyone enjoys themselves thoroughly—win or lose.

No. 894 "AN AFFAIR OF STATE"

At a special Morning Tea Reception at Parliament Buildings, Wellington, H.Z., on the 16th June, 1953, Diane and Rosalind Rowe are officially welcomed by the New Zealand Government and presented with a Commemorative Album reserved only for distinguished visitors. The Twins are seen at the ceremony in company with Mr. Bodkin, Minister of Internal Affairs, and Mrs. Ross, Minister of Social Welfare.

XXI WORLD FUND CLUB COMPETITIONS

From Geoff. Harrower

WHEN I last wrote 439 competitions had been promised. This figure has risen slowly to 650. As a result of another circularisation to all clubs and with the advent of a new season, we expect that this total will be swelled considerably in the near future.

Clubs are reminded that for 24/- (singles) and 32/- (doubles) total entry fee, a handsome plaque will be awarded for each singles event and two plaques for doubles events. Full details have been included in circulars to all clubs, but if you are a new club secretary, write NOW to G. R. Harrower, 68, Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Herts, for full details.

Do you want to Improve Your Service?

We are not qualified to teach you table tennis, but we are at Your Service if it is anything to do with printing, especially fund raisers.

T. L. JACEY & NATIONAL PRINTING Co., Ltd.
57, JAMESTOWN ROAD, CAMDEN TOWN, N.W.1
GULiver 5428/9
What a splendid evening it was, lasting all the way to the early morning. I am sure that the particular night in question is "WONDERFUL BIRMINGHAM . . ."

Bon Dieu," who was one of the players to protest against the rectangular tables, lost to Du Bois, and Plimpton got into the semi-finals by defeating an opponent from "Le Quotidien Musicale," who was afraid of mashing his fingers between the paddle and the table.

Both the Americans found themselves in the finals, a very triangular place for an American team to be these days. Their opponents were from Le Seuil's A team and the French team was at its zenith. The spectators started writing "Americans Go Home" on the chairs and a few people in the crowd started chanting "La France, La France." Du Bois and Plimpton tried to go home but the crowds forced them to stay and the Americans were defeated soundly by the French team.

The Americans were so relieved to have been beaten that they jumped across the net to congratulate the French team, reversing the usual felicitations.

After the game the teams toasted each other in champagne, Plimpton and Du Bois were each given a table tennis ball for their splendid sportsmanship.
ENGLAND Juniors ought to present an Illuminated Appreciation to Kent Secretary F. G. Mannnoch for they have no more ardent ally. He does not shout about his work, thought and painstaking persistence that has been spent to promote Junior interests. One result has been the wonderfully successful Kent Junior Open which (outside the English) is the premier Junior Tournament of England, and quite probably the finest of its kind in the world. All the best features of a first-class Senior Open are offered to Juniors. It is not surprising that the event is getting itself associated with the annual Junior International Trials.

This season Kent has completely surpassed itself with the liveliest, go-ahead offer we can ever remember being offered to Juniors. It is the event of the year for them. The events include:

- UNDER 17: B.J.S., G.J.S., B.J.D., G.J.D., J.X.D.
- UNDER 15: B.J.S., G.J.S., B.J.D., G.J.D., J.X.D.
- UNDER 13: B.J.S., G.J.S.

And the entry fees are amazingly low: 1/6d. singles and 1/- each doubles. There are also handsome trophies for all the Under 17 events. Book the date—Kent Junior Open—November 29th. Look out for particulars in the Fixture Book.

**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The A.G.M. of the County Championship was held in London on 20th June. A number of important changes to rules approved, the most interesting being that the dates of A.I. matches are to be fixed before the beginning of the season.

The final line-up of County Teams for 1954 is given herewith. There are no county matches until October. The Championship will be dealt with more fully in our next issue.

PREMIER DIVISION: Essex, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex, Yorkshire.

SECOND DIV. SOUTH: Bedfordshire, Devon, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey.

SECOND DIV. NORTH: Cheshire, Durham, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Yorkshire.

MIDLAND DIV.: Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire.

SOUTHERN DIV.: Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire.

EASTERN DIV.: Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk.

JUNIOR DIV.: Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Suffolk, Surrey.

COMITY CUP: A K.-O. competition restricted to counties in the South Western region of England: Cornwall, Devon 2nds, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, and (probable) Wiltshire.

**FREE INSURANCE ON YOUR NEW “BROMFIELD” TABLE!!**


- 5 in. Tables £33 12 6
- 3 in. £26 10 0
- Jaques £44 17 6
- Spalding "Villa" £45 0 0
- Deferred terms—please ask.

Part Exchange Allowances.

First-class Table Reconditioning Service. Old tables mad as new.

**L. M. BROMFIELD**

80a, HIGH STREET, STEYNING, SUSSEX

Telephone: Steyning 2004
A T rock bottom the conditions under which any game is played are unimportant so long as it is played; it is the Spirit of the Game which is vital.

Back-street cricket and football or the fantastic improvisations used in out-of-the-way places are all an acceptable and invaluable part of "playing the game." Some of them, indeed, have more fun and display better sportsmanship than their aristocratic cousins.

The most important thing is the taking part; "playing the game." in both senses. But this primitive life has its place justified by condition and circumstance. It is the aboriginal or Prep School stage for the happy dabbler. A beginning or a make-shift.

Table Tennis is still a young sport, much of it is still in this early stage. Thousands of league matches are still played in improvised conditions and in hole-in-the-corner rooms not easily let for other purposes. Even these facilities are often secured only with extreme difficulty.

I do not condemn these. I know and applaud the strenuous efforts so many of these "little" clubs have to make. Most of them show a grand spirit. They deserve all encouragement.

I believe that the time has come, however, when something can, and should be done. I believe that it can be done by cumulative local effort. Players are developing in quantity and quality at a greater rate than facilities can accommodate. The game is kept in bounds of comparative smallness because so many of its leaders have the habit of thinking in small terms. They measure their ambitions by looking back to what has been done. To do big things it is necessary to think big things. To live vigorously in the Present and to plan imaginatively for the future. Table Tennis has grown up. Let it come home and abroad; let it show its face boldly and proudly in the main public places. Let it stand shoulder-to-shoulder with other sports. Football, cricket, tennis, golf, and billiards, etc., each have their own dominant publicly recognised centres in every locality. So too must Table Tennis.

It is time we established our own rights. It is time we ended those harrowing worries (common from club to county) of finding match halls and having so often to manage with a makeshift between pillar-and-post, to nothing of the frantic arrangements for staging, refreshments and dressing rooms, etc., and then finding that we have only got the room because there is another big event on locally.

We need our own prominent and dominant, publicly recognised centres in every locality with first-rate facilities for all clubs and players, coaching, competitive practice, and adaptable for the Big Occasion.

This is the only satisfactory answer to the scores of problems affecting the league system throughout the country. It may sound imaginative for your particular locality but that's probably just the tonic you need. This article will suggest some practical ways and means, and also include some ideas for better and brighter T.T. clubs.

To be Continued

LONDON CLUB FACILITIES

Table Tennis is always pleased to give information about T.T. facilities existing in the central London area that are open to all players. The latest addition is the famous St. Bride's Club (once the home of the All-England T.T.C.).

We understand that the present facilities are being extended to accommodate 6 tables, with ample runback and good lighting.

It is not known at the time of writing whether the existing St. Bride's T.T.C. (under its popular Hon. Sec., Miss Robbins) will be included in these "little" clubs have to make. Most of them show a grand spirit. They deserve all encouragement.

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To be Continued

DAILY DEMANDS FOR SEATS

The E.T.T.A. Safeguards Members' Interests

NEVER in the history of Table Tennis has there been a World Championship of such universal representation. Never has so colossal a demand for seats been so assured as for this wonderful occasion, when each day and each hour, will be alive and memorable with colour and interest. Demand for seats are coming (from home and abroad), and mount steadily day by day.

To safeguard the interests of members, the E.T.T.A. is—after much thought—to offer tickets in 4 ranges of priority and in 4 successive periods. Applications MUST BE MADE PROMPTLY in the appropriate period or the opportunity of getting tickets may be LOST.

1. FIRST—in September—to those who are helping, or who are supporting the Guarantee Fund.
2. SECOND—in October—those leagues not included above.
3. THIRD—in November—affiliated Clubs.
4. FOURTH—in December—the general public.

The following details of programme and prices is given to assist organisers of parties and the secretaries of interested leagues and clubs.

SEASON TICKETS are available to E.T.T.A. members at 42/- and include admission to all sessions, a 10/6d. ticket for both Final nights, and a 7/6d. ticket for other evenings.

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, April 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th  |  World Cups Events
Mon & Tues, April 12-13th  |  Individual Events

Full Price → 15/- 12.6 10/6 7/6 4/-
Party Rate → 12/6 10/6 7/6 5/- —

Finals SAT. April 10th  |  World Cups WED., 14th Individuals
Full Price → 21/- 15/- 10.6 6.6 —
Party Rate → 17/6 12.6 8/6 — —
**FICTION BOOK**

In the Open Tournaments below, Events shown are ADDITIONAL to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D. and X.D. in every case. The figure in the "Extra Events" column is the number of tables to be used. A name in bold signifies the Referee. The CLOSING DATE for Entries is shown in brackets after the title. Suitable entries are inserted in this diary without charge, but all organisers should send information to The Editor at the earliest date possible. Events marked with an asterisk (*) are outside the authority of the E.T.T.A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event and Venue</th>
<th>Extra Events</th>
<th>Organising Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>HOME COUNTIES OPEN.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. G. R. Harrower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6–13</td>
<td>&quot;2nd ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tokyo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9–12</td>
<td>*NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Auckland.</td>
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<td>19–20</td>
<td>EAST OF ENGLAND OPEN, (Sept. 11) Buttlin’s Holiday Camp, Skegness, Lincs.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Mr. F. A. Merryweather, c/o Ruston-Bucyrus Ltd., Lincs. (Mr. J. D. Blades).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>DEVON OPEN, Gymnasium, R.N. Barracks, Devonport.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. Moran, 11, St. Levan Road, Keyham, Plymouth. (Mrs. P. Jarvis).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>FRANCE v. ENGLAND.</td>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>Mr. J. B. Leyden, Cliffoney, Harleton Park View, Pontefract, Yorks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>YORKSHIRE OPEN, Railway Institute, York. (L. E. Forrest &amp; F. Hare).</td>
<td>V.S.</td>
<td>Mr. R. G. Ward, 1, Oakdene Grove, Wolsington, Staffs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>CHAMPIONS v. The REST. Victoria Hall, Hanley, Staffs.</td>
<td>Match 7 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23–25</td>
<td>*YUGOSLAV OPEN.</td>
<td></td>
<td>In Yugoslavia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>4th PORTSMOUTH OPEN, South Parade Pier, Southsea.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. A. W. Williams, 85, Lyndhurst Road, North End, Portsmouth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30–Nov. 1</td>
<td>*AUSTRALIAN OPEN.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>HARTLEPOOLS OPEN, Main Canteen, Cerebos Ltd., Greatham.</td>
<td>J.S.</td>
<td>(Mr. E. Reay).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31–Nov. 1</td>
<td>ENGLAND TOUR BY SWEDISH JUNIORS.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>31/Nov. 1</td>
<td>SÜSSSEX OPEN, Sea End and White Rock Pavilions, Hastings.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. K. R. Hayward, Top Flat, 10, Wellington Place, Hasting. (Mr. C. Corti Woodcock).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>*BULGARIAN CLOSED.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>2–7</td>
<td>EAST SUBURBAN OPEN, (Oct. 10) G.S. ings Avenue, Ilford, Essex.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. D. Olley, 67, Hastings Avenue, Ilford, Essex. (Mr. C. Corti Woodcock).</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>HULL &amp; E. RIDING OPEN, Madeley Street Baths, Hessle Road, Hull.</td>
<td>J.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Albert Road, Hull. (Mr. A. Abrahamson).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9–13</td>
<td>ENGLISH OPEN, (Oct. 13) Belle Vue, Manchester.</td>
<td>All Events</td>
<td>Mr. N. Cook, 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge Cheshire. (Mr. L. W. Jones).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13–15</td>
<td>SOUTH of ENGLAND OPEN, (Oct. 8) Power-Samas Welfare Hall, G.S.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. C. A. Bourne, 15a, Red Down Rd., Coulsdon, Surrey. (Mr. C. T. Dean).</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ENGLAND v. FRANCE, Town Hall, Leeds.</td>
<td>(Men)</td>
<td>Mr. N. Rushon, 461, Spen Lane, Leeds. 6.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUB-COMMITTEES, 1953–54**

The first meeting of the new N.E.C. took place at Caxton Hall, London, on June 20th, and the following Sub-Committees were appointed:

**COACHING:** J. Carrington (Hon. Director of Coaching); M. Scott; T. Sears*; E. G. White; L. S. Woollard.

**COUNTY BOUNDARIES:** H. J. Amery; G. R. Harrower; F. G. Mannooch; A. K. Vint.

**DISCIPLINARY:** M. Goldstein; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; M. Scott; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint; E. G. White; L. S. Woollard.

**ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953–54:** Officers ex-officio: T. Blunn*; N. Cook; L. E. Forrest; L. W. Jones* (Referee); W. Stamp; E. G. White; G. Yates*.

**INCORPORATION:** G. R. Harrower (Organising Secretary); M. Goldstein; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint; C. Corti Woodcock*.

**MAGAZINE:** L. S. Woollard (Editor and Circulation Manager); G. R. Harrower (Advertisement Manager); J. Carrington; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; E. G. White.

**OPEN TOURNAMENTS:** I. C. Eyles; M. Goldstein; G. R. Harrower; G. James; I. Montagu; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint; C. Corti Woodcock*.

**REGISTERED MEMBERS PANELS COMMISSION:** M. Scott; W. Stamp; H. Walker.

**RULES:** I. C. Eyles; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; E. G. White.

**SELECTION AND RANKING:**

I. Montagu (Chairman); H. J. Amery (Secretary); N. Cook; I. C. Eyles; A. A. Haydon*; T. Sears*; A. Thompson*.

**UMPIRES:**

N. Cook; Miss L. Ferguson; G. James; F. G. Mannooch; H. Walker; E. G. White; C. Corti Woodcock*.

**VICTOR BARNÁ AWARD:**

G. V. Barna*; G. R. Harrower; I. Montagu; L. S. Woollard.

**WILMOTT CUP AND J. M. ROSE BOWL:**

M. Goldstein; G. James; F. G. Mannooch; I. Montagu; A. K. Vint; C. Corti Woodcock*.

**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1953–54:**

I. Montagu (Chairman); G. R. Harrower (Organising Secretary); M. Goldstein; W. Stamp; A. K. Vint.

* Indicates that the person whose name precedes it is not a member of the N.E.C. but has been co-opted to that Sub-Committee.

Representatives


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