Hungarian's Flying Visit

ROUND AND ABOUT
Peggy Allen

Official Diploma for Coaches

WORLD CHAMPIONS at first attempt
Tomie and Shizuka

Full Draw for T.T. CUPS

Hungarian Sensation
by Ferenc Gyorgy

U.S.T.T.A. NEWS
by Pauline Robinson

PICTURES & CARTOONS,
REPORTS, NEWS, VIEWS
of The Table Tennis World

No. 915

CHAMPIONS OF ENGLAND
Victor Barna and Rosalind Rowe

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
IT is a source of continual astonishment to use that so few officials recognise an important fundamental characteristic of Table Tennis. This is the simple truism that Table Tennis is a "Participant" sport rather than a "Spectator" sport.

In other words the great majority of folk prefer to play than surrender playing time to become spectators. This is, really, not surprising when you reflect the amount of time which every player, perforce, spends in watching the game being played. One watches players while waiting for a turn at the table, watches in a club or a friend's match ... quite a percentage of every club time which every player, perforce, spends in watching the game being played. One watches players while waiting for a turn at the table, watches in a club or a friend's match ... quite a percentage of every club evening becomes, essentially, also a series of "watching briefs."

Many of these players remain impervious to the multifarious appeals for inter-league, county, exhibition and open tournament finals. In actual fact there is a vast audience for the big Table Tennis occasion but members of this potential audience do NOT want to see the kind of stuff similar to what they see every club night ... they want to be thrilled, excited and - dare we say - inspired by example. When organisers in search of audiences realise this basic truth and stage their matches with some kind of hallmark of spectacle, entertainment (and please, not overlong), we believe they will find audiences that are prepared to pay a fair price for fair value.

With the ladies providing some of the most attractive matches nowadays we are beginning to wonder if the tendency will be for the men's matches to be relegated to minor obscurity or a semi-privacy, while enlarged ladies teams will do the public honours in representative matches!!

We want to see a vigorous renaissance in the spirit of the men players. It is our hope that the English Open at Manchester (finals on Friday, November 13th) will be a beacon to show the way. We want Englishmen to go in fighting. We want to see an exciting and spectacular British win in the M.S. We hope to see again something like that glorious Linde Wertl-Rosalind Rowe Final. The presence of 1953's Terror of European Tournaments, vigorous Vilim Harangozo and the ever-rising "Conny" Freundorfer are among many notables likely to provide a few fireworks ... and the conditions should make this year's an English Open Finals for the Spectators' Benefit.

This English Open can mark the changing tide of English brilliance ... it has some of the makings of a Great Occasion ... let the audience be worthy of the Occasion. All surrounding counties, leagues and clubs will, surely, be organising their coach trips for the Great Day. It is easier to join in than to be sorry that you missed something worthwhile ... And so our rallying cry - this year - is "I'll Meet you in MANCHESTER on Friday, the 13th November."

On another page, Peggy Allen has a frank disagreement with the Selection Committee. Sometimes we do not agree with them either. But on this occasion we are in very strong disagreement with Peggy, and from our correspondence it would appear that most of our readers are enthusiastic about the Selection Committee's policy. More of this next month.

We are very grateful to all those readers who have "ticked us off" about the delay in the distribution of Table Tennis and giving us definite facts. We sincerely hope this particular issue may be out punctually, and every player in such an area should certainly be a subscriber. Enquiries should be made DIRECT to the appropriate local officials.

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 -

LESLEY S. WOOLLARD,
12, CAMPBELL ROAD,
BEDFORD
World Champions at their first attempt

THE STORY OF

TOMIE AND SHIZUKA

They were "not very strong players" but they made the biggest sensation of any World T.T. Championships

ONE of the most entertaining aspects of Table Tennis (depending on one's point of view) is that the most surprising things can come to be. It is characteristic of most of us ordinary mortals that the dream of the heroic ... passing from youthful daydreams in which we are Jack the Giant Killer ... David ... Hereward the Wake ... and a whole cavalcade of characters famous for the masterly ease with which they have confounded all the might and majesty arrayed against them.

It happens in Table Tennis too. Isn't every "international"—of whatever vintage—fair game, a coveted "sculptor" for every ambitious "brave" upon his warpath. A mighty, never-to-be-forgotten deed as continuous as a film loop. And it can really happen in Table Tennis...for instance (to spur on your fading hopes) what more of a fairy-tale-come-true could you have than the True Story of Tomie and Shizuka. It's no good saying it couldn't happen because it ACTUALLY DID.

It happened that, although Professor Tsuboi introduced "Ping-Pong" to Japan more than 50 years ago (when it was played mostly in universities), it was not until the 1920's that any popular interest in the game was shown. Following Lady Swarthling's visit in 1931, the Japanese T.T.A. was founded, and subsequently it was played in most schools and nearly every school. When the World Championships went to Bombay in 1951-52 Japanese T.T. leaders had their longcherished ambition of participating in the World event. At that time they had more than 250,000 players and more than 10,000 clubs and were still growing. The known strength was in the men's play, as the ladies were only really beginning to take a more active role. Doubles play did not assume much importance until about 1950.

The 4 post-war year dominance of Mejii had been eclipsed by the vigorous attacking style of Hayashi and Fujii, and the postscript surprise of Sato's Sponge Bat. It was certainly a team which shook the world, and the astute Japanese Secretary-Coach, Daisuke Daimon, was justified in his claim.

"But our girls are not yet very strong players," he said, "We have brought only two of our better ones, and are hoping that they will gain the great benefits of international match experience in these Championships."

This is where 19-year-old, left-handed Tomie Nishimura and 24-year-old Shizuka Narihara came in: two tiny five-foot high girls at the first great international meeting they had ever seen. . . And do you know what these two petite, gentle, almond-eyed innocents did? They not only won the Corbillon Cup (famed women's team championship of the world) but they also won the Women's Doubles Championship!

And do not dismiss this lightly for they beat the teams of England, Rumania, Austria, Hungary, Hong Kong and India, and in the doubles event such formidable combinations as Roseanu/Szasz, Elliot/Wertl, and the reigning world champions Di and Ros Rowe! Thus were experts and champions dumbfounded and confounded to give inspiration and new hope to the humblest of unknowns.

Could they do it again? They haven't been out of Japan since. They could not afford to go to Singapore for the 1st Asian Championships and despite high hopes they were not permitted to go to the last World's at Bucharest. Perhaps at Wembley...? And yet, with the universality of modern World T.T. Championships something else, equally exciting and unexpected, may happen . . .

Exactly 12 months ago (in the year of her achievement), the hard-hitting Shizuka Narihara married a 26-year-old clerk, Yoshikata Yamawaki, and they now live in northern Osaka. Dressed in the traditional flowered kimono, Shizuka makes an admirable housewife. As the wife of a simple clerk she cannot afford domestic help, so must polish the floor, cook the food and mend the clothes like any other woman of the house.

She was born in Mihara in 1928. When she was 17 she entered the Girls' College at Hiroshima some 50 miles away. It was just about this time when the A-Bomb was dropped.

"I was on the way to school," she remembers vividly but with little emotion, "and had just stepped from the
CROWN PRINCE WITH THE T.T. TOUCH

Why a Rally is called "A Rest"

The other day the query was put to me: "Why is the word "rest" used in our rules to express the period during which the ball is in play, and what exactly does it mean in this sense?" It sounds wrong, for when the ball is moving it is the reverse of restful!

The word happens to be the correct English term for exactly what it means, and with a good pedigree. The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (Page 1718) gives 30 different meanings for the noun "rest" and 38 for the verb "rest," both being divided into three principal groups. One word "rest" belongs neither to the restful group, meaning repose, nor to the arrest group, meaning stop, but, curiously enough, to the resting behind group, meaning remainder, in which it is numbered 5 and so defined "in Tennis or Battledore, a spell of quick and continuous returning of the ball..." Evidently from the O.E.D. definition, the more restful the rally, the less appropriately we use the correct name "rest." I.M.

TOMS for the Finest Table Tennis Tables on the Market

TOURNAMENT T.T. TABLE
* 1" Birch Ply top
* 8 folding legs
* Self-aligning stubs and plates fitted
* Rigid when erected
* Can be stored in a space 5' x 4' x 7'
£30

Club model, 1" top ... £20

H.P. and Rental Terms

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

JOHN G. TOMS
18, NORBETT ROAD, Arnold - - - Notts.
THE E.T.T.A. COACHING DIPLOMA

The National Executive of the E.T.T.A. has approved the institution of a COACHING DIPLOMA that will be open to all affiliated members.

The Diploma will constitute an official recognition that the holder has reached an approved standard as a Table Tennis Coach to the satisfaction of the E.T.T.A. National Coaching Committee. This standard will include practical and theoretical instructional ability, background knowledge of the game and its organisation, and experience in the problems of learners.

The Diploma conveys the right to be designated "Holder of E.T.T.A. Coaching Diploma" and to wear the appropriate badge.

**Official Announcement**

(d) Of sufficient maturity and good standing in the game as to secure a recommendation from his or her County (or alternative local) Association.

**Method of Qualifying for Diploma**

All those wishing to become candidates for the Coaching Diploma must apply to the E.T.T.A. National Coaching Committee on the official form (Reference No. NCS/15). These forms are now available from the secretaries of all county associations. Where no county association is in being or where any difficulty is experienced in obtaining the form, candidates may apply for the application form to the E.T.T.A. Office in London by post.

Suitable applicants will be notified of their acceptance as candidates, and will then normally need to show:

(a) satisfactory standard of theoretical work on at least one Coach's Study Course (officially recognised as such by the N.C.S. and the E.T.T.A.), and

(b) satisfactory practical work as an Instructor on a Coaching Course (officially recognised as such by the N.C.S. and the E.T.T.A.).

 Candidates who satisfactorily fulfil the requirements will receive the E.T.T.A. COACHING DIPLOMA.

**Exemptions**

In the preliminary stages of the scheme, coaches who have already shown the necessary proficiency in respect of requirements stated above may be exempted, at the discretion of the National Coaching Committee, from further qualifications in respect of either or both (a) and (b).

Accepted Candidates will be informed of all suitable, officially recognised Courses at which they may either improve their experience or qualify finally for the Diploma, and they will be given priority (over non-candidates) for vacancies on courses conducted or controlled by the E.T.T.A. and the N.C.S.

**DEVON OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Devonport, 3rd October, 1953

By C. H. LAMBELL (Abvd.)

**Highlight**: B.S. Final. Arnold Powning (Truro) after beating seeded E. Bradshaw, showed brilliant defensive tactics in the final against the all-out attack of David Pritchard (Plymouth). First-class performance by both.

**Unattractive**: M.S. Final. Brian Merrett/Roy Jarvis (Plymouth) beating Brian Merrett/Roy Morley (Glos.) with a strong attacking game.

**Place Honours**: Plymouth provided 11 finalists who won 4 titles and shared a fifth. Plymouth.


X.D. D. HOUSE/Mrs. J. WILCOCKS bt. B. MERRITT/A. THORN 12, 9, 19.


G.S. J. BENNYTT bt. M. Phillips 17, 16.
TOPIC of the moment — and source of amazement to many — is the England selectors unprecedented announcement of seven new women internationals.

Discussing it lately with many varied types of players I have yet to find anyone who approves of such an extravagant distribution.

Given thus, the badge savours more of a Consolation Prize than the supreme achievement, and no good can come of belittling such a signal honour. It is generally felt that the player worthy of international recognition should NOT be erratic, should NEVER lose to a weaker player, and should have proved that she can hold her own against internationals in open competition. In addition, consistent success in England should not blind the selectors to a true assessment of her chances against foreign opposition. Unless all these conditions are fulfilled it is hard to see on what basis international "caps" can be awarded.

It would indeed be a happy idea if, at such a time, the selectors issued a statement explaining their reason and justification for such an extraordinary step.

Three of the players deserved the honour long ago. It must deprive them of considerable satisfaction when others without even an open tournament win to their credit — receive exactly the same amount of recognition.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.

DI and ROS ROWE are now back in the West Ealing fold where a very successful Welcome Home Dance was held for them last month. They look very sunburned after their long sea voyage, but — I thought — rather tired in spite of the enforced rest.

Friends notice an ever-increasing divergence of their personalities, probably more obvious after 5 months absence. Quiet, dignified DI has become the complete chatterbox, whilst Ros, quicker than before, plays with all the determination and precision of a future World Champion.

Both are learning to drive (a car, not a ball!) and the thought of acquiring a car for their varied excursions is causing more excitement than any tournament final.

Driving tutor is Len Owen, West Ealing stalwart who has already taught Dot Ellis and Joy Seaman to pass their tests on the first attempt.

Don't tell me it will serve to encourage the younger ones. It has been known to have exactly the opposite effect when earned too easily and, after all, an international badge is not intended to encourage but to stand, in the distance, the supreme and glorious goal.
YORKSHIRE OPEN
York, 10th October, 1953.

By Ernest Moorhouse (Abvd.)

Never have I seen such a devastating annihilation in top-class play as Brian Kennedy’s 7, 5 semi-final defeat of Harry Venner. Harry tried gamely but Brian fore-stalled every tactic, and Harry was the first to credit his performance after the match, without any personal excuses. Maybe Venner had reaction from the gruelling afternoon rounds. In the other semi, Ray Hinchliff gave a superb display, dictating the match against a rather unsure Johnny Leach to a clear 13, 16 win. Is Ray a “bogey” for Johnny?

The M.S. Final was unworthy of an Open Tournament. Had it been best-of-five, I think Brian would have chanced his “death-or-glory” style. As it was, he played the way he knows how to beat Hinchliff—high-bouncing, deep balls with little spin—subsequently apologising with a hand-shake for having to humiliate his friend. Right tactics, perhaps, but how boring.

Only Ron Allcock and Adele Wood ventured out from Lanes. “Dale” was close-patrolled by Philomena Heppell’s strong defence in the W.S. Final, but her better match temperament saw her through. Pam Mortimer beat her in the W.D., but in the X.D.—partnered by fiancé Ron Allcock—she was on the losing side of an interesting tactical duel against Kennedy/Wood.

Johnny Leach and Harry Venner, obviously on a re-instatement mission, won the M.D. in an exciting and spectacular climax to the day.

M.S. B. KENNEDY bt. (1) H. Venner 7, 4; bt. R. HINCHLIFF 18, 8 (bt. J. Leach 13, 16).
W.S. A. WOOD bt. P. Heppell 18, 16.
X.D. B. KENNEDY/A. WOOD bt. R. Allcock/Mortimer 16, 9, 16.

SUMMER IN STOCKHOLM
By PETER MADGE

My recent visit to Stockholm—because of an almost complete shutdown in summer T.T. activity—provided little copy. Even the summer camp had to be cancelled because Ehrlich (the coach engaged) was unable to keep the appointment.

At 2 of the 3 public T.T. halls I found facilities for a variety of players. At the St. Erikshall, playing costume of the better players seemed to be swimming shorts and tennis shoes only. Off-duty policemen and bus conductors played in their uniforms while Swedish business men played in their ultra-correct dress.

Three tables were in use then, the remaining space being taken up with a 9-hole Crazy Golf Course with hazards including revolving doors, narrow arches, water jumps and hoops, etc. In the winter this course is replaced by 4 more tables, which can be hired for 2 kroner (about 5/-) an hour. Wall notices forbid smoking, wearing hard shoes, spitting, bad language and—the largest notice—the wearing of hats while playing. There was one tube of fluorescent lighting to each table. The cafeteria sells soft drinks, food, and bats (about 10/- each) and balls (top-grade English about 1½d.).

Sweden is a wonderful country. If next year’s Juniors could have a preview of their Touring ground, I am sure that competition would be all the keener.

No. 922. At the East of England Open at Skegness (reported fully last month), the Editor discussed with Photographer, Peter Madge, about taking pictures of known and new or promising talent. We found the results surprising. Here is the best one—BARBARA LEAF from Leeds. When we tackled Peter about the Table Tennis angle he reminded us that the E.o. E. at Skegness offers other attractions between tournament rounds and that Barbara’s choice was swimming. She looks as attractive at the T.T. table (said Peter) as she does here.

OF ALL LEADING SPORTS OUTFITTERS

UMBRO

The choice of champions
MISS HELEN ELLIOT

winner of the following titles:

World’s Women’s Doubles 1949/50
Scottish Women’s Singles 1945/53
Scottish Mixed Doubles 1949/53
English Open Mixed 1950/51

Miss Elliot wears “UMBRO” table tennis wear
English Finals
13
November, 1953

English Open T.T. Championships 1953-54
(Hon. Referee: Leslie W. Jones)

Rounds played from Monday, 9th November, in Belfast Suite

FINALS – FRIDAY, 13th November
in King’s Hall, BELLE VUE, Manchester

Tickets from, either:
Mr. N. Cook, 7, North Avenue, Stalybridge, Cheshire, OR
Messrs. Lewis Ltd., Market Square, Manchester

9/6, 7/6, 6/6, 5/-, 3/6 and 1/6d.
Circular, comfortable stadium; good visibility everywhere

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES (November)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nov.</th>
<th>Match and Venue</th>
<th>Organising Secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ENGLAND v. FRANCE, (Men) Town Hall, Leeds</td>
<td>Mr. N. Rushton, 461, Spen Lane, Leeds, 6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ENGLAND v. FRANCE, (Women) Eastfield Canteen, Peterborough</td>
<td>Mr. E. G. Urwin, 106, Broadway, Peterborough, 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>ENGLAND v. SWEDEN, (Juniors) Assembly Hall, Stoke Abbott Road, Worthing</td>
<td>Mr. W. G. Goldfinch, 11, Colebrook Close, Worthing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>SOUTH OF ENGLAND v. HUNGARY, Bristol</td>
<td>Mr. I. C. Eyles, 115, Wick Road, Bristol, 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>REST OF ENGLAND v. HUNGARY, Birmingham</td>
<td>Mr. M. Goldstein, 415, Moseley Road, Birmingham, 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>ENGLAND v. HUNGARY Mixed Empire Pool &amp; Sports Arena, 7 p.m. Wembley</td>
<td>Mr. A. K. Vint, 69a, St. Helens Park Road, Hastings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAST SURE CHANCE FOR WORLD TICKETS

The Special Reduced E.T.T.A. Party Rate is available to affiliated groups in minimum parties of 12 persons.

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 | Full Price | 15/- 12/6 10/6 7/6 4/- |
| Mon. & Tues. April 12-13th Individual Events | Party Rate | 12/6 10/6 7/6 5/- |
| SAT. APRIL 10th World Cups WED. 14th Individuals | Full Price | 21/- 15/- 10/6 6/6 |
| | Party Rate | 17/6 12/6 8/6 |

GUIDE

TO GET THE BEST SEATS

ONLY ONE way — DIRECT from the person who has them. Tickets are now on sale for the 8 major international events shown on this page Guide. NOTE PARTICULARLY, that in EVERY case, they are obtainable from a different person.

ESPECIALLY NOTE: ONLY World Championship tickets should be ordered from the E.T.T.A. Repeat: Tickets for the World’s ONLY from the E.T.T.A.

In ALL other cases order DIRECT from the Organising Secretary of the event at the address shown on this page.

LAST CHANCE FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TICKETS

THE QUEUE for tickets for the great World T.T. Championships stretches over some 40-50 countries YET—for YOU—there is no waiting. You (one of the privileged affiliates of the E.T.T.A.) can MAKE SURE of your Ticket(s) for this wonderful occasion.

NOVEMBER IS YOUR LAST CHANCE

From December 1st, 1953, sales will be open to the general public and the world.

UNTIL November 30th, members of all affiliated clubs have a priority and can BOOK THEIR SEATS where they wish. Your Club Secretary has the Special Priority Order Form. Make sure he has your Ticket Order and sends it to arrive at the E.T.T.A. Office by November 30th, 1953.

APPLY TO E.T.T.A. ONLY

212, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS 1953-4

By GEOFF. HARROWER

Note: Owing to earlier press day reports include only those matches played on the 17th October, 1953. Later results are included in the Summary of results.

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

The Gloucestershire/Lancashire battle was so close that it might almost be true to say that it was "even closer than the result!". The scene was set right from the first match, when Ron Allcock, after losing the first game to Bob Griffin 21-15, only just saved the second at 23-21, to give Lancashire a canter by 26-24 in the third.

After Aubrey Simons had put his side on level terms with an easy win over Cliff Booth there was another desperate struggle, this time between Bryan Merrett for Gloucestershire and Ronnie Baker for Lancashire, and again Lancashire were successful, this time by 21-14, 20-22, 26-24. Other games were equally close, Lancashire having to thank mainly Allcock and Adele Wood for their point, whilst Aubrey Simons displayed his best form and was a tower of strength for Gloucestershire.

Surrey secured their expected win over Sussex, but not before Peter Shedd and Stan Moore had given them some anxious moments. Shedd played splendidly to defeat Craigie, and with a little luck might have accounted for Venner, whilst Moore has never hit better than he did against Craigie.

The Essex stars in the narrow win over Glamorgan were Johnny Leach and Barbara Milbank—especially Barbara for her crushing 21-10, 21-12 win over Audrey Bates. Glamorgan hearts were gladdened by Mr. Carrington and Betty Bassett in the women's doubles. Middlesex scored their anticipated win over Kent, but not before Ray Syndercombe had run Derek Burridge to 18 in the third, and Vic Aterano had taken the first game off Jimmy Lowe. Joy Seaman avenged a tournament defeat at the hands of Mrs. Joan Beadle.

Middlesex's closest rivals, Surrey, also secured their expected victory over Bedfordshire, but full marks to Colin Crowe and Peter Holdroyd for their men's doubles victory over internationals Ron Crayden and Ken Hurdlock (15-21, 21-13, 21-17).

SECOND DIVISION (SOUTH)
Bedfordshire, Devon, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey.

Devon can consider themselves somewhat unfortunate in losing both points to Essex, as three of their four victories were secured in straight games, whilst four of the matches lost went to three. Lionel Kerslake, who did so well in the Premier Division last season, had the unusual experience of losing both his singles, Alan Payne and Jack Grantham being the victors, each match taking over three-quarters of an hour. Mrs. Joan Willecocks again played splendidly, beating Elsie Carrington in the singles and with Miss Winter beating Mrs. Carrington and Betty Bassett in the women's doubles.

Middlesex scored their anticipated win over Kent, but not before Ray Syndercombe had run Derek Burridge to 18 in the third, and Vic Aterano had taken the first game off Jimmy Lowe. Joy Seaman avenged a tournament defeat at the hands of Mrs. Joan Beadle.

Middlesex's closest rivals, Surrey, also secured their expected victory over Bedfordshire, but full marks to Colin Crowe and Peter Holdroyd for their men's doubles victory over internationals Ron Crayden and Ken Hurdlock (15-21, 21-13, 21-17).

SECOND DIVISION (NORTH)
Cheshire, Durham, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, Warwickshire, Yorkshire.

As THE time of going to press we have only a report on the Yorkshire-Cheshire match, another of those which could have gone either way, the vital tie being the second one, between D. Schofield for Cheshire and G. Wadsworth for Yorkshire. Schofield just getting home after 20-all had been called in the third game. As Schofield also beat D. Norburn his was the major contribution towards Cheshire's success. Another Cheshire star was Mrs. D. Wilkinson, who beat Miss M. Butler in the women's singles and partnered Miss G. Edwards to a women's doubles success over Miss Butler and Miss F. Wright.

Warwickshire, favourites for promotion, enhanced their prospects by a good win over Lincolnshire, after Lincs. had taken the first two matches—the win of D. Wilkes over Maurice Kriss being especially commendable. However, Bobby Mackay was in his best form for Warwick, whilst Anne Haydon beat Wendy Blades 21-7, 21-5. Finally Derek Merryweather completed an unhappy day for Kriss by a two straight win in the last match.

Northumberland were too strong for Durham, who included several young players including last season's "Daily Mirror" boy champion, Gordon Lumsden. Lumsden found R. Bell and L. H. Tolchard too strong for him, but partnered A. Carter to a good men's doubles win.

SOUTHERN DIVISION
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire.

NEWCOMERS to the Championships, Oxfordshire, made a strong fight against Bucks., and their two leading men players, D. Laitt and A. Boone both played very well. In

(Continued on page 51)

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
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES—NOVEMBER

PREMIER DIVISION:
Fri., 29th Nov. Middlesex v. Gloucestershire, Kodak Recreation Centre, Headstone Lane, Wealdstone, 7 p.m.
Sat., 30th Nov. Essex v. Gloucestershire, Brentwood School, 7 p.m.
Sat., 30th Nov. Surrey v. Lancashire, Y.M.C.A., Wimbledon, 7 p.m.
Sat., 30th Nov. Sussex v. Glamorgan, St. Augustine’s Hall, Stanmore Ave., Brighton, 7 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION NORTH:
Sat., 21st Nov. Lincolnshire v. Northumberland, Mint Street Chapel, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

SOUTHERN DIVISION:
Sat., 7th Nov. Hampshire v. Devonshire, Brunelmouth.
Sat., 7th Nov. Oxfordshire v. Berkshire, Women’s Conservative Club, 21, George Street, Oxford, 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 24th Nov. Buckinghamshire v. Hampshire, Slough Community Centre, Slough, 7.15 p.m.

EASTERN DIVISION:
Sat., 7th Nov. Hertfordshire v. Norfolk, Dunlop Court, Walton-on-Crouch, 7.30 p.m.

MIDLAND DIVISION:
Sat., 7th Nov. Derbyshire v. Leicester, Tube Works Canteen, Chesterfield, 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 21st Nov. Leicestershire v. Warwickshire, Armstrong Siddleley Motors, Wooton St., Leicester, 7.15 p.m.
Sat., 21st Nov. Staffordshire v. Derbyshire, The Millwards, 7.15 p.m.

JUNIOR DIVISION:
Sat., 7th Nov. Sussex v. Essex.

COACHES' STUDY COURSES

The best match was between Wendy Bates and June Hodson, again winning position, although top marks are fortunate to have the same players must go to 14 year old Laurence

Landry for his fine win over George Gladwish. The turning point came when, at two matches all, Middlesex contrived to lose the boys' doubles after leading 20-14 in the final game, and in the very next match June Hodson lost the girls' singles after winning the middle game to 6. This "knocked the stuffing" out of Middlesex, and Sussex quickly took the last four ties.

FACTOR TRAFFORD WINS

British Coaching Board have asked the all-comers for the English tournaments to British Coaches’ Association. It is requested that an application be made for the British Coaching Board to the English Coaching Board.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS—OCTOBER

PREMIER DIV.
Glos. 5—Lancs. 5
Sussex 1—Surrey 9
Glamm. 5—Essex 6
York 3—Middlesex 7

MIDLAND DIV.
N’Hants. 4—Worcs. 6
Worcs. 5—Derby. 5

DIV. 2—SOUTH
Devon 4—Essex 6
Middx. 10—Kent 0
Beds. 1—Surrey 9
Essex 9—Bedf. 7
Surrey 8—Devon 2

JUNIOR DIV.
Kent 7—Bedf. 3
Middlesex 2—Sussex 8
Suffolk 2—Essex 8

DIV. 2—NORTHERN
Warwicks. 7—Lincoln 3
York 4—Cheshire 6
North’d. 5—Durham 2

SOUTHERN DIV.
Berk’s 3—Hants. 7
Oxon. 4—Bucks. 6

EASTERN DIV.
Norfolk 4—Cambs. 6
Suffolk 4—Herts. 6

STOP PRESS

CHAMPIONS v. REST OF ENGLAND

Hamlet, Staffs., 23rd Oct., 1953

REST OF ENGLAND 7—MIDDLESEX 3

(Rest of England names first): - J. LEACH
bt. L. Adams 11, 13, 12; bt. J. Lowe 17, 17.
R. ROWE 17, 17, 17.

NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME COACHES' STUDY COURSES

These Courses are intended for the advancement of candidates toward Diploma standard.

HARrogate. Amended dates: November 28th-29th.

BISHAM ABBEY. December 18th-20th.

Applications to the Hon. Director of Coaching.

4TH PORTSMOUTH OPEN

Southern, 25th Oct., 1952

M. S. L. SAADER bt. (1) E. Wise 8, 15; bt. P. SHEAD 19, 17 (bt. I. ALEXANDER 8, 17).
W. J. WILLCOCKS/J. WINTON bt. A. BATES/B. EVANS 21, 16.
C. FRIEBER/M. LEWIS bt. E. GILBERT/E. LASH 18, 8.
J. D. J. QUILTERT bt. M. ISAACS 10, 12.
HUNGARIANS HERE AT LAST

At long last you can have the spectacular thrills for which you have asked for. The world-famous Hungarians are at last making a special flying visit to England. Here is a dazzling World’s preview in three glorious matches which might well recapture all the thrills of a Swaythling Cup Final. Our links with Hungary are ancient and strong. Hungarian players have been too long absent from this friendly shore. They are players worthy of our metal. Our hope is that this lightning visit is but the prelude to more frequent visits.

On page 49 you will find all the particulars that will ensure your thrill and enjoyment of this rare and welcome treat. The prize titbit is, of course, the full International at Wembley, which one extravagant enthusiast has described as the match of the century, but thanks to the enterprise of Maurice Goldstein and Ivor Eyles, this magnificent attraction has been made open to wider fields.

Hungarian supremacy (as Victor Barna can tell you) is founded on the recognition that—because Table Tennis is an athletic sport—it requires perfect physical fitness. Angelica Roseanu also stressed this point in last month’s Table Tennis.

When arrangements for these matches were made, a number of the Hungarian stars were selected for training. The actual players to make the tour (not known as we go to press) was to be made from this group. This training is no mere “sprint round the block.” The tour is taken with all the seriousness with which Gordon Pirie or a prospective world heavyweight faces his most important match. No human effort is left to chance.

Training is primarily based on all-round physical fitness which is planned by the specialist Hungarian Coaches, Laszlo Varkonyi and Josef Juhas. Before the day’s work, the players go through a programme of gymnastic exercises, a cross-country run, skipping with a final round of basketball.

After the day’s work comes the specialised practice with Table Tennis. When whole days are available, other sports are introduced into the training schedule, e.g., putting the shot to increase wrist flexibility and power; high jumping for agility; and sprints for speed. World champion Sido is always fit enough to clear a 5-foot bar with ease. Gizella Farkas (now Mrs. Gervais) can sprint a 100 metres in 14 seconds.

The Hungarian stars to be seen in England this month will, therefore, be in perfect fighting form, whoever they are, and formidable and spectacular opponents. FERENC SIDO, World Singles (and Doubles) Champion, and GIZI FARKAS—3 times World’s Singles Champion are said to be certainties. Other probables are: JOSEF KOJCZIAN, small, wiry, agile, with superb defence and flashing drives who shares the World’s M.D. title with Sido.

ELEMER GYETVAI, 25-year-old clerk known as “The Hitting Machine,” who counter-attacks counter-attacks, and includes Kocziian among his victims.

KALMAN SZEPESI, 23, brilliant left-hander and seasoned champion with victories over Sido, Koczian, Soos and Haguenauer. His right-hand has been paralised since he was two, and his service is made with 2 fingers. LASZLO FOLDI, 18, another left-hander, is one of the sensational new young Hungarians who has already blitzed a spectacular win over Sido on his way to world stardom.

EVA KOCZIAN, 17, Josef’s young sister and acknowledged successor to world-star Gizi Farkas. A brilliant defence and dazzling forehand attack. AGNES ALMASI, 17, attractive girl with a beautifully complete all-round game and notable victories over Hungarian internationals.

SUIZSI FANTUSZ, 19, is the jet-age girl player with a whirlwind of continuous and accurate forehand attack that has demoralised most of the Hungarian internationals.

TABLE TENNIS COACHING

by ERIC FILBY

(English Swaythling Cup Player)

Exhibitions arranged by leading players

Apply for details to:

32, BARNFIELD AVENUE,
SHIRLEY, SURREY

“YOUR SUCCESS IS MY AIM”
A PLAN FOR YORTOWN

Tonight I have brought a model of the Table Tennis Stadium that is to be built in Yortown. With considerable help from the Borough Engineer and Councillors of the Town Planning Committee, more than 60 suggested sites have been considered for this building.

Only three of these sites have all the virtues we consider desirable. One is a fine site on the south side of the Memorial Park; a second is the old Picturedrome, and the third is Smith's Warehouse just off Market Square. In both latter cases much of the existing buildings could be adapted.

If you look at this model carefully you will note that not only can it be adapted to the size of the community it is to serve, but that it can also be built in sections from time to time.

Our first decision is the most suitable adaption for Yortown. Do NOT, however, make the mistake of considering this on present activities! Think in terms of the most ambitious (and economical) potential. We dream up our Castle in the Air—but then we have to put concrete foundations beneath it to attain reality.

There are 3 main sections of the building: 1. The Stadium itself; 2. The general club rooms and offices; 3. The special games rooms beneath the tiered seating. These sections can be integrated or kept comparatively isolated according to circumstances.

By Leslie S. Woollard
No. 1 of this Series appeared on page 19
(September issue)

I want you to especially note that the basic design is planned to satisfy the most exacting table tennis. Of EQUAL importance, however, is that it is also planned so that it can be an ideal venue for a multitude of activities outside Table Tennis. The Stadium itself, for instance, could be profitably hired out on occasional nights for such varied events as Boxing, Wrestling, Dancing, Roller Skating, Basketball, Netball, Badminton, Exhibitions, Pageants, Shows, Displays, etc.

Remember that the greater the versatility of the building, then the more assured will be its success. A single night’s programme of Boxing, for instance, might produce enough profit to run the Stadium for several weeks or more, and still not interfere with normal T.T. club activities.

Consider the building as a community club for all local sports organisations. Indeed, why not make a Yortown T.T. & All-Sports Club with an income from direct and affiliation fees. The front building includes (in varying degrees), ordinary club rooms, cafeteria, offices, cloakrooms, rooms for conference and committee, etc., in fact, a profitable and interesting club in itself. If you possibly can, however, try to keep the name “Table Tennis” ever prominent in the public title, a non-stop reminder that Table Tennis really is “up top” in sporting circles.

The special feature is the series of games rooms which are built beneath the tiered seating. The number, positioning and size of these games rooms will depend very much on the construction and size of the stadium.

These rooms can, like other facilities,

(Continued on Col. 1, Page 58)
U.S.A. JUNIORS TO CHALLENGE EUROPE?

THE very hot and humid New York summer did not prevent many players practising long and hard. The weekly Friday night tournaments were enlivened by the presence of Reisman, Cartland, Somael, Schiff et al. The New York Summer Open (August 29th-30th) was won by Johnny Somael over Lou Pagliaro 17-3, 10, 12. I won the W.S. title, but you ought to know there was only one other entrant in this event besides myself—the Staten Island champion, Helen Fowler.

Bernard Bukiet (Chicago) won the Canadian Nationals with a 3-0 win over Pagliaro in the final. "Paggy" was the only top New Yorker to attend this year, except for Leah Neuberger (as in the past few years) took over Pagliaro in the final. "Paggy" over Lou Pagliaro -17, many players practising long and this year, except for Leah Neuberger.

Other from Manitoba. Derek Glazer, cate an improving higher standard in Provincial Team Championships this recent of London, England, played in New York.

Two other ex-Londoners now resident in New York are Jack Glickman and Bob Parrish. As partners in the M.D. they reached the semi of the N.Y. Summer Open. They also gave glowing reports of the prowess of the Rowe Twins and (after seeing a few of our girls) said that we should certainly have "interesting" games with them.

On December 5th the National Team Matches will be played to determine the U.S.A. teams for the World Championships at Wembley. I can tell you that there will also be several other Americans in London to play besides the official teams. Me, if I don't make that team! I've just got to come! The U.S. Nationals will be held in March so you should be seeing the very latest American Champs. The event will again be held in Cleveland, Ohio, home-town of affable T.T. Patron Sanford Gross.

Last May, the National Junior Inter-Cities (teams of boys and girls) was held for the first time and was a great success. Future hope is to send a U.S.A. Junior Team to play European juniors... The All-American Novice tourney was held at the same time. (Last year, Sharon Koehnke won the Women's Novice). The Midget Girls' event was won by Susan, daughter of Mildred Shipman.

Pauline Robinson

The U.S.A. Ranking List will be published in December if not included in this issue.

ADDING POINTS TO YOUR GAME!

THE Meachem Memorial Cup is to be awarded to the Association (in membership with the New Zealand T.T.A.) whose players win most points in the National Championships. Points basis: Senior events, 2 points singles; 1 point doubles. Junior events, 1 point singles; ½ point doubles.

West Bromwich, matches are decided by the best of nine ties (playing teams of 3). Two seasons ago, however, it was noticed that one team won its first 6 matches 5-4 and another (in the same division) lost 4-5. Yet there was a difference of 12 points in the team placings.

"We tried adding a doubles game to the match,"—says Mr. Wall—"to give the chance of a draw—but this made too long a match, especially for youngsters. In the Summer League, however, we experimented with one small variation in scoring and found it made all the differences. There would still be 2 points for every win, BUT a team losing 4-5 would earn one point." (This gives a similar effect to the 1 point awarded for a draw as there are no draws in the W.B. matches). A point (AFTER the match performance). Juniors playing in senior matches may gain points towards a junior badge.

The U.S.A. Ranking List will be published in December if not included in this issue.

The Lowestoft League award badges on a Points System. 15 points are necessary and are allocated by the Selection Committee: a maximum of 5 and a minimum of 1 point (AFTER the match performance). Juniors playing in senior matches may gain points towards a junior badge.

WORCESTER will miss their star JOHN OSBORNE who moved to Wolverhampton last month, but (happily) they will still have first call on his services in the County team... Welcome newcomer is county cricketer and former T.T. international LOUIS DEVEREUX... Great things are expected of the improving MICK HAWKINS and this may help to make up for County Lawn Tennis player DICK GUISE who will not be able to play so frequently this season.

B. P. Moss (Mrs.)
That "WONderful... WONderful BIRMINGHAM"

On page 17 (September issue) we published an abbreviated account of the Presentation Ceremony of the phenomenal number of trophies and prizes, etc. The display of these prizes requires 10 full plate photographs to cover the full number, and since it is impracticable to reproduce these in Table Tennis, our artist has given us this impression of the display. When you see such unprecedented achievements as this you will be surely convinced that Table Tennis must be an activity worthy of classification as "major."

BINDERS

First orders for the Special Table Tennis Binder (see page 59) will be delivered during the first week in November.

We thank all those who have expressed their confidence by ordering and are sure they will be completely satisfied with the good value of Binder. We look forward to hearing opinions from the recipients in due course.

DECEMBER ISSUE

The December issue is now in course of preparation. This will be a full English Open Championship Number, and will, we hope, have 4 extra pages.

Have you placed an order for a copy regularly? From your news-agent, league or club secretary (if they are live wires!) or direct from the Publishers (5/6d. for a year's supply, post free).

BETWEEN OURSELVES

If you've a grouse against this paper Don't tear your hair and cut a caper.
But tell us how we've done you wrong And make your letter good and strong.
Be frank—we're tough and we can take it.
Our heart withstands attempts to break it.
We try to serve you when you read us And hope to help you when you need us.

With acknowledgments, appreciation and agreement with Mr. A. D. Mackie, editor of the Edinburgh Evening Dispatch.

NO! You didn't put up a good fight—
you tripped over the barrier going in.
THOUSANDS of National Servicemen are T.T enthusiasts, but the R.A.F. is the only one of the fighting services (in Britain) who have had a sufficiently up-to-date outlook to recognize T.T. as a sport. The R.A.F. Association owes much to the R.A.F. is the only one of the fighting services (in Britain) who have had a vicen1en are T.T. enthusiasts, but the enterprise and energy of its former ranking officers, headed by Air Vice Marshal R. G. Hart and D. A. Boyle.

The R.A.F. Association has more than 130 stations participating in its competitions, and arranges representative matches with counties, civil service, etc. It also organizes Inter-Command and Inter-Station Competitions for both R.A.F. and W.R.A.F., and a 7-event Individual Championship which, last year, attracted 480 entries in 5 zones. This year, 8 zones will be necessary.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICES**

* First International appearance (1919)

**ENGLAND v. FRANCE (Men)**

Paris, 8th Oct., 1953
B. Bergmann (Middlesex), captain, J. Leach (Essex), A. Simons (Gloucester), Reserve: R. Kennedy (Yorkshire).

(26th Sept., 1953)

**ENGLAND v. FRANCE (Women)**

Portobello, 14th Nov., 1953
Miss K. Best (Yorkshire), Miss A. Haydon* (Warwick), Miss J. Winn* (Surrey).

(4th Oct., 1953)

**ENGLAND v. WALES (Women)**

In Wales, 13th Dec., 1952
Miss B. Isaacs (Surrey), Miss M. Piper* (Surrey), Miss Y. Baker* (Essex), Mrs. M. Cumzel (Yorkshire), Miss A. Haydon* (Yorkshire), Miss K. Craigie (St. Andrews), Miss P. Mortimer (Warwick).

(24th Oct., 1952)

**SOUTH OF ENGLAND v. HUNGARY (Mixed)**

Bristol, 23rd Nov., 1953
R. Bergmann (Middlesex), Miss A. Haydon* (Warwick), Miss J. Winn* (Surrey).

(18th Oct., 1953)

**ENGLAND v. HUNGARY (Mixed)**

Empire Pool, Wembley, 25th Nov., 1953
R. Bergmann (Middlesex), J. Leach (Essex), A. Simons (Gloucester), Miss C. K. Best (Yorkshire), Miss D. Rowe and Miss R. Rowe (Middlesex), Miss J. Winn* (Surrey).

(12th Oct., 1953)

**REST OF ENGLAND v. HUNGARY (Mixed)**

Birmingham, 21st Nov., 1953
R. Kennedy (Yorkshire), J. Leach (Essex), B. Merrett (Gloucester), Miss C. K. Best (Yorkshire), Miss A. Haydon (Warwick), Miss D. Rowe (Middlesex).

(12th Oct., 1953)

OSSI BRUCKER recently wrote a brief history of table tennis from the light solid balls with a web coverinR introduced home-made celluloid balls. The remainder of his comments, however, is tap in the international history of Table Tennis.

Before the turn of the century, "Ping Pong" became a craze. It came. Disappeared. Then it came back again. In 1900 it was played mostly cafes or hotels. There was a Ping-Pong Cafe in the Victoria-Luise Platz, Berlin, which had several tables arranged like tennis courts. Scoring was similar to Lawn Tennis. By 1907 when the German Championships were organised by law student William Bab the venue was dignified by the name of the Nollendorf Casino. In Prague, there was the Deutsche Haus; and in Vienna, the Hotel Continental where a tournament was played in 1907. In Austria then, it was a society game where players (of both sexes) had to wear evening dress. The Austrian Championships of 1907 were played in such circumstances. Rolf Kinzel won the title from Worisek in an amusing way. A fortnight after the tournament, Kinzel had never in his life held a T.T. racket in his hand. Then a friend wagered that he could win if he tried. He could and he did. In the last round of this tournament, Dr. Alexander Hartwich was playing a Hungarian magician, Laszlo. This Hungarian was an "artist" of ball control. One of his tricks was to place 2 glasses in his opponent's court near the net, or the table edge, or anywhere required. He would then start playing, and ask into which of the glasses you wanted the ball placed and he would play the ball into the desired glass with uncanny accuracy. In those days it was not considered the thing to hit hard and there was none of the technique of modern play. The star lawn tennis players of Prague, Kurt von Wesely, Fritz Pippes and Rudi Bertrand could, therefore, be understood for the scorn and contempt they accorded the game.

Until 1925, "Ping-Pong" was nohing more than "Ping-Pong." Then, on November 8th, 1925, Dr. Kemler organised 28 organisations into the German Table Tennis Association, and the game began to be a sport. In 1925, the T.C.-1900 Yellow-White Club of Berlin announced the first official open All-German Championship. The highlight of this event was the appearance of the Indian, P. Nanda. Then the world's best player, Nystad, had an infinite variety of ways of hitting the ball (at least ten distinct methods), and these skills, hitherto unknown, made him invincible. His most difficult opponent was the Hungarian, von Kehrling, who could not make much headway. The crack German player, H. G. Lindenstett, was no more fortunate.

The first World Table Tennis Championships were held in London in 1926, and most of the participants were lawn tennis players who played the indoor game in the winter. A name I particularly remember is that of Prenn, who competed in the 1926 World T.T. Championships and in the '50's was in the World Ranking List of Lawn Tennis Players. I also remember the Englishman, Fred Perry, World T.T. Champion in 1928-29 and a few years later World Lawn Tennis Champion. There was von Kehrling of Hungary who captained his team in London, and the Indian Davis Cup player, Nystad. And there was the Czechoslovak lawn tennis and ice hockey champion, Malecck.

But times changed and the rules and regulations changed with them, demanding new techniques. Most countries in the mid-thirties had to face up to the most obstrusive enemy of any championship—the "spooner" or "fisheiler." In the Prague World Championship of 1938, the Polish player Ehrlich (even now, at 40, one of the world's gallant sportmen) played a single rally with the Romanian Paneth, without a fault, for 2 hours and 10 minutes. The French Champion Haguenauer played the Romanian Golberger in a match that lasted 7 hours—the longest game in the history of table tennis. This World Championships was eventually finished at 3 a.m.—by the police intervening. Such monster marathons could not take place under modern rules.

Once upon a time, when it was played on the dinner-table and made that sound, it was called "Ping-Pong." Now it is an obsolete title. Table Tennis has become a great game in sport. Play is dictated by the need and contempt they accorded the game.

By OSSA BRUCKER
BETTER CLUB CENTRES

(Continued from Page 54)

be hired out to individual clubs or groups for short or long periods. Adequate storage, dressing rooms, toilets, baths, etc., should be included.

From the more self-centred interest of the T.T. player and the local organisation, the normal arrangements might be:

1. The arena to be set out with a number of cross courts (like Wembley during rounds), a table and lighting to each court. These could be hired to individuals or groups or used for coaching, etc.

2. Tables could also stay permanently in the special games rooms below the seating. Clubs or teams could hire these completely fitted "match clubrooms" either on a full-time basis or book for specific days/ nights each week, and also enjoy the other club facilities.

3. The arena could be used for various tournaments, competitions or league matches, and for the Big Occasion (a County Match, Tournament Finals, etc.), could be cleared similarly to Wembley.

* * *

THIS is only an outline. It may sound ambitious; but then it is ambitious. If we believe and want Table Tennis to become publicly recognised as a major and athletic sport, we ought to start getting out of our holes and corners, our crypts and back alleys. Every sport started in humble beginnings. Let us have a few ambitions. Stop being victims of circumstances — let us make circumstances. Let us each spare a little from our immediate selfishness and give it to making a bigger and better game for those that follow us.

I believe something like the above is really practical for the larger area, town or district. Not immediately nor quickly perhaps, but within a few years. What others can do, we can also do, and be all the better for enlarging our minds. You can start now with the thought consciously in your mind. THAT LITTLE THOUGHT might well be the tiny acorn which cradles a mighty oak of the future.

(To be continued)

Future articles will cover various forms of club centres, headquarters, money raising, social activities, etc. Opinions, suggestions and reports welcomed.

THE DECIDING MATCH

HAROLD BETTS (Norwich Sec.) recently told us (with an affable twinkle) the story of his club's name. Starting in 1936 with a School Staff Club, in 1938 they had to make a new start and find a new name. They talked for so long about it, that folks soon began to speak of "those people still mardling about all the time." (In Norfolk dialect "to mardle" is to gossip or chat idly).

And so, for 15 years the club has borne the name of "THE MARDLERS."

HEIR-PORT (Arrivals)

CONGRATULATIONS and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Ken Stanley, of Leyland, Lancs., on the safe arrival of SUSAN MARION, an adorable little daughter who is steadily improving the 6 lbs. 9 ozs. she weighed on arrival — 11th October, 1953.

HONOURS LIST

MR. RON JONES, Hon. Secretary of the Australian T.T. Association for 16 years, has been elected a Life Member of the A.T.T.A.

BALL DRAWN FOR WORLD'S

1954.

In London on the 1st July representative samples of the 3 table tennis balls approved for the 21st World Championships were put into the draw. They were: Barna 3 Crown, Halex 3-Star, and Villa 3X. The President of the I.T.T.F. drew the Villa 3X before a representative gathering and this ball will therefore, be used for the Championships.

THE "DAILY MIRROR" NATIONALS 1953-54

11,000 entrants for another great Daily Mirror National Table Tennis Tournament have all been notified of their first round matches (or byes). The result of each match much reach the Daily Mirror not later than the first post of the dates notified to each contestant: either October 28th, November 2nd, or November 9th. The results of the first round will reduce the number to 8,000 for the second hurdle of the 5-month path to find the Last 64 Zone Finalists and thus to the Last 16 who will enjoy such privileged prizes as the Training Week mentioned in October's Table Tennis.

THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME

"To set the Cause above renown,
To honour while you strike him down,
The foe that comes with fearless eyes,
To count the life of battle good,
And dearer yet the brotherhood
That binds the brave of all the world."

Sir Henry Newbolt.
Three-Quarter Summer-Time

ARE we the only league which runs a Summer League?

For many years we have run a Summer League for the ladies (excluding the top-notchers). Then 3 seasons ago we tried a "Junior-Junior" division which interested quite a number of 8 and 9 year olds. Las summer the Men raised 2 divisions.

NOW THIS YEAR, our Summer League has comprised 4 Divs. Men; 1 Ladies Div. and 10-team Junior Div. Our Winter League has 8 divisions; our Summer League has 6 divisions.

How long before Summer beats Winter?

A. A. WALL, Hon. Sec., W. Bromwich.

---

ENGLAND BEAT FRANCE

Stade de Coubertin, Paris, 6th Oct., 1953

IN the 26th international match against France, England enjoyed a comfortable 5-2 win. Johnny Leach made a notable record of three 2-0 wins against players who have often been his bogeys. France had made a special billing of this match as the World Champion Team.


ENGLAND 5 - FRANCE 2

---

THE PERFECT BINDER FOR "TABLE TENNIS"

Strong board, green cloth, gold title; long-lasting

Normal cost at least 15/- Special price ONLY 10/-

Ideal for home, club, libraries, etc.

→ Strong Cover, holds 3 years’ magazines

→ New copy inserted in a moment

→ Lays perfectly FLAT whether 1 or 20 copies

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.
England Team Championships

FULL DRAW

THE complete Draw of the National Team Championship Cup competitions are shown below. All first round matches must be played by OCTOBER 25th, 1956.

With the exception of the 3 major universities (Cambridge, Oxford and London) no individual clubs are this year eligible to compete, and it is hoped that the players concerned will thus be available to attract attention and improve the performance of their representative leagues.

THE WILMOTT CUP

(Men's Teams)


J. M. ROSE BOWL

(Women's Teams)


Zone 2 (A): Blackpool by: Barrow v. Chester; Liverpool v. Manchester; Bumler by.


FIXTURE 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.

Date(s) | Event and Venue | Extra Events | Organising Secretary
-------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------
11-23 | *ALL-U.S.S.R. CHAMPIONSHIPS. | | Leningrad.
13-15 | SOUTH OF ENGLAND OPEN. B.S. | Power-Sawms Welfare Halls, G.S. | Mr. C. A. Bourne, 15a, Red
| | | | Down Rd., Coulson, Surrey.
| | | | (Mr. G. T. Dean).
21 | BATH OPEN. (Nov.) No W.D. | Drill Hall, Upper Bristol Road, Bath. | Mr. L. Le Cren, 4, Newark
| | | | Street, Bath. (Mr. A. L.
| | | | Ollis).
26-28 | MERSEYSEIDE OPEN | | Mr. W. Stamp, Buena
| | Drill Hall, Mather | | Ventura, Farmdale Close, Liver
| | | | pool, 18. (Mr. F. J.
| | | | Farrell).
25 | DORSET OPEN (Nov.) | | Mr. P. H. Northcott, 31,
| | | | Hillcrest Road, Weymouth.
29 | KENT ЮНИОР OPEN | | Mr. F. G. Mannooch, 216,
| | | | Park Road, Sittingbourne.
| | | | (Mr. F. Trew).
30-Dec | CENTRAL OPEN (Nov.) | | Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141,
| | | | Ingram Road, Thornton
| | | | Heath. (Mr. G. James).
Dec. | 5-12 | BIRMINGHAM OPEN | | Mr. M. Goldstein, 415,
| | | | Moseley Road, Birmingham,
| | | | 12. (Mr. A. A. Haydon).
10 | WALES v. ENGLAND | | Ms. Mary Evans, 1,
| | | | Llwyn-y-Grant Road, Peny
| | Women's | | gan, Cardiff.

Jan. | *POLISH CLOSED. | | |
4-6 | *SWEDISH CLOSED. | | |
4-9 | METROPOLITAN OPEN | B.S. | Mr. E. S. Lee, The Poly
| | | | technic, 309, Regent Street,
| | | | London, W.1. (Mr. J.
| | | | Kuzman).
8-9 | YORKS. ЮНИОР OPEN | B.S. | Mr. J. B. Leyden, "Clift
| | | | foney," Harley Park View,
| | | | Pontefract. (A. Cook
| | | | and C. W. Llanwarne).
10 | FRANCE v. ENGLAND | J. Mixed | In France.
13 | *FRENCH OPEN. | | |
11-16 | SOUTH LONDON OPEN | B.S. | Mr. G. Coulthard, 20a,
| | | | (Mr. E. A. B.
| | | | Swancott).
15 | FRANCE v. ENGLAND. | | In France.
16-17 | *BELGIEN OPEN. | | |
17-23 | N.W. КENT OPEN (Dec.) | B.S. | Mr. F. T. Burville, 2, Lime
| | | | Avenue, Northfleet, Kent.
| | | | 152a, Parkside Ave., Barnehurt. (Mr. G. A. Owen).