MISSION TO MOSCOW
H. Roy Evans

GUEST CRITIC
Sam Letch

ANN HAYDON
Lawn Tennis Champion

WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
Elsie Carrington

DO YOU TAKE CRAMP?
Kenneth Rawnsley

ANN HAYDON
With the British Junior Lawn Tennis Trophy
LOOK TO THE FUTURE

PLAYERS and fans together, we approach the new season. After the heroic effort of the year, and the hectic storms with which the season culminated, we might hope for calm, but there are still squalls ahead.

Can the old European artists resist the challenge of young Japan? Can the old style produce youngsters as swift and active? Who among the old "uns will follow the Flisberg trail and take to sponge? Rumour has it that Tereba and Stipek are already doing so. What sort of super-sponge will follow sponge?

These are a few of the problems in prospect.

Our general standard remains splendid, probably higher than anywhere in the world. But at least on the men's side we must find and keep talented youngsters if we are to hold our own, with such as Freundorfer and Harasztozi in a few years time.

The girls' story is better. What a wonderful thing to have in one country four girls ranked among the world's best women—and their total ages amount to hardly more than eighty.

Task No. 1

Our present is good, our best can still have years of good table tennis ahead of them—as the evergreen Victor Barna has shown. But to hold our own in the future we must do what others are doing—put the accent on youth. The Association must study and give a lead, true, but this—our chief job now—is one of those interesting tasks that can only be tackled by the team-work of all, and calls for sacrifice, interest and keeness at local level, and unselfish co-operation from the older players. Let us define it this year our Task No. 1.

With this issue we greet a new editor, Mr. W. Harrison Edwards, and take leave of an old one, Leslie Woollard. We also take leave, with much thanks, of the Hendon Printing Works and return to an old love as printer, in the Walthamstow Press.

To Leslie, as all regular readers of this magazine know, this Association owes a great deal. He brought to the job a technical knowledge and experience that no one among our executive could at the time supply. He set himself to improve the news service, improve the topicality, improve the technical quality and appearance. Despite difficulties, he helped us to get out a magazine that bore a worthy appearance to the casual reader, and contained good meat for the regular. He maintains, of course, his interest in table tennis and I am sure our readership will read new, and maybe more uninhibited, contributions from his pen.

Be Punctual

To Mr. Edwards, no less professionally expert, we bid a warm welcome. He will no less conscientiously and capably give readers the paper they deserve. But one word to the wise. If you, Mr. Reader, gentle or rough, are one of those who contribute to this magazine, either by sending results, writing articles or in any other way, be prompt, be punctual, and don't let us down on time. This is the only way—by helping Mr. Edwards—that you will make it possible to get the paper out on time, to meet the printing costs so as to keep the price per copy to the present exceptionally low figure for a paper of its type today, to enable the paper to be distributed properly to satisfy old customers or make new ones, indeed the only way this paper will be able to carry on.

Very well, go to it, with racket, ball or pen. And a happy season to you all!

IVOR MONTAGU
A 5-hour meeting of the National Executive Committee held at the Royal Empire Society on Saturday, 25th September, there was a long Agenda for consideration. Some of the more interesting decisions and matters discussed were:

**National Selection Committee.** The Committee appointed, for the season 1954-55, Adrian Haydon, Captain of the Swaythling Cup team and Tommy Sears, Captain of the Corbillion Cup team. It was also decided that players selected for both these teams should be required to place themselves entirely at the disposal of the Selection Committee for the two weeks prior to the World Championships (15/24th April, 1955).

**Official Magazine.** Mr. W. Harrison Edwards has consented to act as Editor of "Table Tennis" for the coming season with The Walthamstow Press Ltd. publishers and the E.T.T.A. dealing with the advertisement side. It is proposed that for 1954-55 there will be 8 issues published on the 10th of each month. The National Executive Committee placed on record their appreciation of the valuable services rendered for a number of years by Mr. Leslie Woollard as Editor and Mr. G. R. Harrower as Advertising and Circulation Manager.

**World Championships, 1954.** A deficit of £1,991 on the World Championships, 1954, was reported. It was decided to keep the World Championships Guarantee Fund open as it is elected for both these teams would be required to place themselves entirely at the disposal of the Selection Committee for the two weeks prior to the World Championships (15/24th April, 1955).

**English Table Tennis Association**

**Patron:** Her Majesty The Queen.
**President:** The Dowager Lady Waymaning, O.R.E.
**Chairman:** Hon. Ivor Montagu.
**Honorary Secretary/Treasurer:** A. K. Vint.
**Administrative Secretary:** Mrs. Kathleen Pegg.


During the course of the summer a number of matters have taken place, a summary of which is set out below.

**National Association of Mixed and Girls’ Clubs.** Arrangements have been made for the above Association to be brought into ‘good standing’ with this Association. This affiliation nationally puts all clubs and associations into ‘good standing’ with the E.T.T.A. and the County Associations. It is, of course, understood that where clubs played in local E.T.T.A. Leagues, the clubs concerned would be required to pay the normal subscription to the League in question. We hope very much that this affiliation will result in a close and friendly link being forged between the local clubs of the National Association of Mixed and Girls’ Clubs and the County Associations, and the Leagues of the E.T.T.A. The National Association of Mixed and Girls’ Clubs has suggested that their local Association should contact the Secretary of the County Table Tennis Association concerned.

**Victor Barna Award.** The National Executive Committee at their June meeting unanimously approved that the Misses D. and R. Rowe should be jointly awarded the Victor Barna Award for the season 1953/54. The recommendation reads as follows:

“Victor Barna Award for 1953/54. Jointly to the Misses D. and R. Rowe for advancement of the prestige of English Table Tennis during the season by their skill and conduct in the game at home and abroad, noting particularly:

(i) The Australian and New Zealand Tour;
(ii) Recovery of the World Doubles title;
(iii) Undefeated in National Women’s Doubles competitions; winning in the one season the Austrian, English, French and Welsh titles;
(iv) In the World Championships comprised the team which defeated Japan, the eventual winners of the Corbillion Cup competition.”


**World Championships, 1953/54.** The office still have a supply of World Championships Souvenir Badges (2/each) and the Souvenir Programme giving complete results (2/6d.). Orders should be made direct to the office.


## RANKING LISTS 1954/5

### WORLD'S MEN
1. I. Oginlura (Japan)
2. I. Andreadis (Czechoslovakia)
3. T. Flisberg (Sweden)
4. R. Bergmann (England)
5. F. Sido (Hungary)
6. V. Tomita (Japan)
7. Z. Dolinar (Yugoslavia)
8. R. Roothooft (France)
9. R. Miles (U.S.A.)
10. V. Harangozo (Yugoslavia)
11. V. Tereba (Czechoslovakia)
12. Mai van Hoa (South Vietnam)
13. J. Leach (England)
14. ?. Stipek (Czechoslovakia)
15. T. Reiter (Rumania)

### WOMEN
1. A. Rozeanu (Rumania)
2. F. Eguchi (Japan)
3. E. Wertl (Austria)
4. G. Gervai (Farkas) (Hungary)
5. Y. Tanaka (Japan)
6. R. Rowe (England)
7. K. Watanabe (Japan)
8. E. Koczian (Hungary)
9. G. Pritzi (Austria)
10. D. Rowe (England)
11. C. Watel (France)
12. A. Haydon (England)
13. C. J. Best (England)
14. E. Krejcova (Czechoslovakia)

### NATIONAL MEN
1. R. BERGMANN (Middx.)
2. J. LEACH (Essex)
3. A. W. C. SIMONS (Glos.)
4. H. T. VENNER (Surrey)
5. K. CRAIGHE (Surrey)
6. B. KENNEDY (Yorks.)
7. B. MERRETT (Glos.)
8. L. G. Adams (Middx.)

### GROUP “A”
- R. J. CRAYDEN (Surrey)
- J. HEAD (Surrey)
- R. HINCHLIFF (Yorks.)
- A. RHODES (Middx.)
- J. P. SHEAD (Sussex)
- M. H. THORNHILL (Middx.)

### GROUP “B”
- R. ALLOCK (Lancs.)
- R. BAKER (Lancs.)
- B. BRUMWELL (Essex)
- D. C. BURRIDGE (Middx.)
- R. DORING (Essex)
- R. GRIFFIN (Glos.)
- D. HOUSE (Glos.)
- I. W. JONES (Essex)
- J. LOVE (Essex)
- M. G. MACLAREN (Surrey)
- R. J. STEVENS (Essex)

### NATIONAL WOMEN
1. MISS K. ROWE (Middx.)
2. MISS D. ROWE (Middx.)
3. MISS C. K. BEST (Yorks.)
4. MISS A. HAYDON (Warwieks.)
5. MISS J. WINN (Surrey)
6. MISS Y. SEAMAN (Middx.)
7. MISS B. MILBANI (Essex)
8. MISS J. ROOK (Surrey)
9. MISS Y. BAKER (Essex)
10. MISS M. FRANKS (Essex)

### GROUP “A”
- MRS. E. CARRINGTON (Essex)
- MISS M. H. CHERRY (Middx.)
- MISS M. CUMBERBATCH (Warwieks.)

### GROUP “B”
- MRS. M. H. CHERRY (Middx.)
- MISS M. FRY (Glos.)
- MISS M. JONES (Glos.)
- MISS J. MACKAY (Warwieks.)
- MISS A. WOOD (Lanes.)

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Three
Ann Haydon Wins Junior Wimbledon

by Harrison Edwards

What do table tennis players do in summer? A look around the many lawn tennis tournaments appears to provide the answer. Table tennis players have been frequent contestants in the court game and several have performed with distinction.

Pride of place, however, goes to 15-year-old Ann Haydon, of Birmingham, who now has further claim to fame as the British Junior Lawn Tennis Champion. She won the title at Wimbledon last month, sweeping aside all the promising talent of the country, with the loss of only one set. And that was to a TT rival, Jill Rook, of Surrey, in the semi-final.

The table battles of Ann and Jill are well known—Jill took the English “open” girls title from Ann last season but this was their first meeting at the court game. And it proved to be one of the toughest matches of the championships.

The two girls presented contrasting styles. Ann, a left hander, forceful and attacking relying on her tremendous pace, while Jill was content to play more from the baseline using well directed cross court strokes and varied length and pace to make the openings.

Missed Chances

Jill certainly made more use of the court in the early stages and should have had the match won in the second set, when she led 5–4, 30–15—only two points for victory. A couple of forehand mistakes proved costly and Ann, fighting a tremendous battle with herself to get her service under control, saved the game to level at 5–all.

Followed a drama-packed 11th game with both girls showing signs of nerves, and Jill dropping three game points. That was the crisis of the whole match and from that stage, Ann, by sheer weight of stroke, gradually got the upper hand, and eventually dashed through the final set to win the match at 4–6, 7–5, 6–2.

In contrast, Ann’s final against the Lancashire favourite, Sheila Armstrong, was a somewhat one-sided affair for she won at 6–1, 6–4.

Double International?

On this form Ann obviously has a big future in Lawn Tennis and may well emulate Vera Dace (now Mrs. Thomas) by becoming an international at both table tennis and lawn tennis. However, the two sports are so specialised that like Billy Knight, the former junior table tennis international, who won the boys’ singles at Junior Wimbledon in 1952 and 1953, and is now a Davis Cup player, she may well have to make a choice between the two.

Another junior table tennis international to show his skill at Junior Wimbledon was Terry Densham, of Surrey. He was eliminated in the second round of the boys’ singles.

Terry Densham

Densham and Miss Rook had the previous week won the single titles in the Surrey junior lawn tennis championships, where both completed doubles, Jill being on the winning side in the mixed doubles, and Densham sharing the boys’ doubles.

Swaythling Cup player Ken Craige has also had a successful season at Lawn Tennis. He showed exceptionally good form for Cambridge in the Inter-counties championships and was also a quarter-finalist in the Roehampton Tournament.

Globetrotters

Johnny Leach and Richard Bergmann must hold strong claims to being the world’s most travelled table tennis players. The off-season to them has meant something like 45,000 miles of travelling. Johnny has now called a halt with a return home to prepare for the new season, but many thousands of miles more travel face Richard before he comes back to England.

Johnny parted company with him after their successful tour of Australia, where they won all four test matches without defeat, and Richard is now making his way to U.S.A., where he has signed up with Dicky Miles, the U.S. champion, to tour with the famous Harlem Globetrotters Basketball team.

It is Richard’s first ever visit to U.S.A. and he is looking forward to spending a few days with his mother who he has not seen for several years.

The Leach-Bergmann globetrotting began with a Continental tour, which took them through France, Germany and Switzerland. Playing seven nights a week they covered 10,000 miles in ten weeks. Johnny took his car with him, and did all the driving, often as much as 350 miles in a day.

They were accompanied by several Continental players and for the French part of the trip divided into two parties, Leach, with Ehrlich, Amouretti and Malmquist going to the South, and Bergmann, Agopoff, Lanskoy, and Cor du Buy going to the North.

Returning to England on July 26 they flew to Australia three days later, visiting every State in a five weeks visit and making a round journey of 35,000 miles.

The Australian T.T.A. Newsletter describes the trip as the most successful ever by visiting players, attracting widespread enthusiasm.

Five
MISSION TO MOSCOW

by

H. ROY EVANS (Secretary I.T.T.F.)

IT'S interesting to observe that table tennis players have been amongst the first British people of any walk of life to penetrate the mysterious Iron Curtain. When we went to the World Championships in Budapest in 1950, our trip was regarded with amazement, and although Rumania in 1953 didn't create quite as much stir, we seem to have been very much in the lead in conducting sport activities in the countries where Russian influence is supreme.

And now, ahead of more famous people who have caused infinitely more tongue wagging, we've been to the very centre of the community which to all but a tiny proportion of our population is just a big question mark. How did we get there? The Russians invited the senior officials of any world organisation to which they belonged, to be their guests at a National Sports Festival in the Dynamo Stadium, Moscow, during July. Accordingly, since we admitted the U.S.S.R. to the International Table Tennis Federation at the Annual meeting in April, Ivor Montagu and myself were invited, and flew there and back via Stockholm, Helsinki and Leningrad.

Nothing Too Much Trouble

As, within the scope of this article, I must confine my remarks to sport, and because I don't want to start a political argument, I'll content myself with dismissing all the rest of this fascinating visit by saying that we stayed for six days in one of the best hotels in Moscow, we were 'wined and dined lavishly, and nothing seemed too much trouble for them to arrange on our behalf.

Each sports delegation was looked after by the particular section of the Central Committee dealing with that sport. Thus Ivor and I were regularly assisted occasionally by other English speaking officials.

Kollergorsky, who was also there, a school teacher, only known to us as Margaret, acted as a very efficient interpreter most of the time, assisted occasionally by other English speaking officials.

25,000 Athletes

The Sports Parade itself was a quite fantastic piece of organisation, reminding one of the American film industry's epic extravaganzas like the "Birth of a Nation". Those overworked superlatives Colossal! Stupendous! Gigantic! Tremendous! whirled around in my mind as over twenty-five thousand athletes put on a four and a half hour show of non-stop mass gymnastics, rhythmic movement and almost ballet-like entertainment in a brilliant kaleidoscope of colour. The march past Malenkov and his Government colleagues, in a sort of "Royal Box" quite near us, was a vivid manifestation of the sporting potential of a great nation, and also a pungent note of warning to all Western sports authorities that the Russians are a big factor in whatever activity they enter. Significant indeed, was the fact that their illustrious band of Masters of Sport contained many world champions in gymnastics and track events. Interesting, too, to note that several of these have since carried off most of the honours at Berne.

It's a fairly safe bet that if the Russians participate in any sport they take seriously, for it seems to be a point of principle that they never enter an international event if there is any danger of their being decisively beaten.

Not This Year

This may mean that we shan't see them in the World Table Tennis Championships for a season or so, for their standard at present is definitely not up to World class.

But don't run away with the idea that they'll be long in that state! Quite obviously those at the head of the table tennis organisation have an acute awareness of what is required, and every effort is being made to bring about a rapid improvement. There is no lack of coaches, and I am convinced that the one drawback, lack of good style to copy, will soon be eradicated. We did notice one fundamental error in the play of most of these players—a proneness to adopt a square-to-the-table stance for the forehand hit, with the result that the stroke went across the body. This may be due to a tendency to concentrate on the back-hand, influenced no doubt by the similar tendency of coach Dzindzilauskas, the old Lithuanian player who played top-class table tennis during the Victor Barna world regime.

v. Poland

In Leningrad, we saw the Russians play a two-day match against Poland, a fairly strong World class country at one time, but little in evidence since the war. The Poles were better stylists than the Russians, were probably slightly more ready to attack, and I think their men were a shade better than those of the home side, with a more all-round game. Neither would be in the first category of world teams, but I think they would do reasonably well in the second class.

The women on both sides were also in the second class, but seemed to me to have the better chance of a quick jump up in their standard. As a more personal matter, may I say that I found the men more anxious to pick up tips, particularly about that forehand "swipe", than the men.

I liked best of the Russians, Grouenberg, their No. 1, solid and accurate, only weak in attack, and the two Armenians, the girl Anokyan and the man Ananyp, both of whom had a good style and a mature game. A powerful girl, Balaiisjene, hits hard and uses a strong topspin, and once she gets her forehand under control, should be good.

The organisation of these matches was most impressive. Two tables were used simultaneously, each with a single high light, which seemed insufficient, but was yet surprisingly adequate. If anything, the discipline required of table officials and players was too firm. The contestants marched
on rather like prisoners under arrest, preceded by and followed by the officials in dark blazers and white trousers. Formal introductions were made to the large and enthusiastic crowd, but players were not allowed to change around or shake hands until the umpire had completed his announcement. We found this a bit too rigid, but they liked it, being determined to present the game properly, a forgivable desire when one sees the deplorable lack of presentation in some events here at home.

Electric Scorer

A very impressive feature of the purely mechanical side of the match arrangements was an electric scorer, controlled from the umpire's table, a considerable advance on the rather awkward contraptions so far used at our various world Championship Events. It wasn't made specially for table tennis, but it had been most ingeniously adapted.

Their tables were made from tongued and grooved boards, and those that I saw were fairly new. The surface seemed good, but one wonders if cracks won't appear when the wood starts to shrink. Balls used were British.

Though they don't yet rank as a world power in the game, their officials, particularly Mr. Lasics and his charming wife, have a profound knowledge of the history of table tennis, and their comparative newness to it hasn't prevented their giving a lot of thought to measures for its improvement. The fact that they personally have had no experience of the game outside Russia has not made them diffident about making suggestions to alter our Rules! Some of those "that I saw were fairly new. The British.

IT is fairly safe to say that it will not be long before to Kent falls the honour of having one of the County's players chosen as an England international. The hopes of Kent rest, of course, on 16-year-old Joyce Fielder, who this season was understudy to Jill Rook and Ann Hayden. With Jill "over-age" this season, there is every hope of Joyce achieving her ambition of international honours.

At the Kent Closed championships this year, Joyce for the first time won the Women's Singles, defeating Mrs. Joan Beadle who had held the title for two years. Joyce also won the Mixed Doubles, partnered by 18-year-old Brian Hellberg. In the Closed of her own League, N.W. Kent, Joyce won the Women's Singles and Doubles, as well as Mixed with Hellberg. She also competed in the Woolwich Closed, where she carried off the Women's Singles and Doubles, partnered by another N.W. Kent player, Gladys Tandy.

Joyce also did extremely well in Open tournaments last season, winning the Girls' Singles in the South of England, Home Counties, Metropolitan and Eastern Suburban tournament.

Although ranked Kent No. 2 "senior" for most of the season, Joyce has yet to be picked for the Kent senior team. Junior fixtures were invariably on the same date as senior matches, and it was felt that Joyce could not be spared from the Junior team.

I confidently forecast that Joyce will reign supreme amongst the Kent ladies for many seasons to come, and so marked has been her improvement during the past season, that even the most extravagant hopes for her table tennis future are not unreasonable.

Son for "Pinkie"

Doubles has now become a three-some for "Pinkie" Barnes, former Corbillon Cup player, and her husband Sam Kydd, stage film and TV actor, with the arrival last May of a son Samuel Jonathan Howard. "Pinkie" former Surrey No. 1, retired from competitive play after her marriage two years ago.
MULTI-REGISTRATION

The registration of a player for more than one club is a problem which I think appertains more to clubs situated in areas where several leagues operate, e.g., London.

The fault is with clubs who, despite the abundance of members desiring the opportunity of match play, prefer to run after certain players who, flattered by such attentions, form an opinion of themselves far in advance of their actual prowess, and certainly cannot be expected to be 'club proud' when their attentions are spread over more than one club.

We have all heard of cases where players have been registered with several clubs, playing only in matches affecting the ultimate destination of the league championship or cup competition. One is at a loss to understand the attitude of members of clubs who encourage these 'multi-club-players,' as obviously they must be omitted from the team on occasions to make way for the appearance of the 'star' or 'stars.'

The solution is to restrict the registration of a player to one club throughout a season. This would not debar a player from joining a number of clubs for the purpose of practice to improve his or her game, and it may well be that as his or her standard improves, he or she would be advised to register with a different club the following season, and in this way reach the top of the ladder.

Clubs would know the players they had at their call and be able to fulfill a more comprehensive fixture list, including, perhaps, county cup competitions. A club supplying a player for representative honours would have the satisfaction of knowing that the 'player' was theirs and not shared with other clubs.

I am sure this system would eventually foster a better sense of team spirit in the game. It would, perhaps, mean that the clubs with the best conditions and organisation would attract the good players. They, in turn, would demand a well-conducted league and thus, to a certain extent, a number of league in a small area would be graded—however, that is another story.

H. E. PEARCE.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the players who took part in the World University Summer Games in Budapest recently—Joyce Fielder, Shirley Jones, and myself—I would like to thank Mrs. Carrington, our non-playing captain, for the fine, efficient and patient work she did throughout the trip. While we enjoyed ourselves, Mrs. Carrington, unfortunately not in the best of health at the time, had to attend lengthy meetings, but despite this we all managed to get too much of the sun.

May I also extend our appreciation to Mrs. Pegg for the necessary but considerable work involved in the organisation and preparation for such a trip.

EDDIE STILL.

DOUBLES LINES

I have just read Jack Carrington's article "Abolish the Doubles Line," which I considered excellent.

After reading it, I practised a double game without the "doubles" line, and observed that practised so, the game is much more attractive and free, and no great difficulty will exist to the receiver or the partner. The umpire's task is much easier, too.

I noticed that Jack Carrington's idea is very interesting and simple, and I wonder why that was not observed before.

... it's like Columbus' egg!

From MAJOR JOAQUIM LIBANIA,
May, 1954.

Odd Shots

New Kent Umpires' Secretary

F. G. Mannooch (Sittingbourne) has given up the secretarialship of the Kent County Umpires Association because of increasing County and E.T.T.A. commitments. He has been succeeded by C. Wykes (Broadstairs), F. Betts (Folkestone), non-playing captain of the Kent senior team, is the new chairman.

Mr. Mannooch will continue to serve on the committee with C. Jaschke, F. Burvill (both N.W. Kent), H. E. Herridge and T. Kitney (both Sittingbourne).

Mr. Mannooch said at the Association's A.G.M. "Kent have 40 active county umpires but this could have been almost doubled had not 35 candidates failed their written test." County Umpires classes have been suspended as the best means of preparing aspirants for the test.

* * *

Merthyr Tydfil Prospects

New challenges in the First Division of the Welsh League are Merthyr Tydfil, who carried off the Second Division title at their first attempt last season. Team includes Ron Wilson and Des Adams, Borough singles champion and runner-up, and brothers Jackie and Ronnie Williams, the doubles champions.

* * *

T.T. Motorcyclists

On Tour

London Central Y.M.C.A. who combine motorcycling with table tennis, found a true friend on their Whitsun trip to Norfolk, in Eric Fairhead, the county secretary. One of the party of six had difficulty with his "bike" so Fairhead placed his garage at their disposal, lent a hand with the repairs himself, then with his charming wife invited the whole team to lunch. He then mapped out an interesting tour of the county for the travellers.

Says Leslie Searles, Y.M.C.A. secretary, "While T.T. has such men in key positions it is a privilege to serve in any capacity however small to enhance the status of the game."
DON'T FORGET THE OFFICIAL!

Says

SAM LEITCH of the "Daily Express"

I DON'T think I know of another sport which so proudly boasts its playing stars yet relegates the unpaid official to the tolerated rôle of back-stage necessity.

And if your eye can be diverted for a page or two from the player, his or her bat, his or her prospects for the new season, his or her own and others' ups and downs on the game in general, let me hand out a bouquet to the official.

Players will forgive this mild rejection (if they really worry about such things).

Let it be clearly understood from the start that this is not an inspired product. I have not been hired by the English Table Tennis Association to attract more officials to the game. Simply this: I get a bit fed up now and then with the diet of hokum served up about the player.

The official makes table tennis tick. The man in Middlesex shares the same vitality for the sport as the woman in Manchester. They are all voluntary folk who, because of an unfailing gusto for table tennis, surrender a healthy proportion of their leisure time to the game. And not for headlines or player-worship—certainly for no material rewards.

And this opinion, I stress, is a personal one and not a newspaper's one.

I remember an incident not so long ago when one player very nearly ruined a tournament by his pantomime, frolic, bad taste and lazy play.

It was a small tournament. Had it been one of the established major events I have no doubt that impertinently 'has been' would have been dealt with at a national level.

My Hero

In the course of travelling many miles with officials and players I have noted this: generally speaking the official praises the player; rarely does the player praise the official.

It is the 'done thing' I fear to be critical of the official. I can't understand why. He is my hero.

Speaking personally I have found the officials' attitude to the press man cordial and helpful. Their example could be copied with success by their counterparts in older and major sports. Information is rarely withheld in table tennis; elsewhere there is a growing disciplined abruptness by tin-pot officials who think it is the 'done thing' to be haughty to the reporter.

Out of this trend shoots the obvious question: Why does table tennis there­fore not receive better national press publicity?

Now comes the thin ice. There are two major causes, in my opinion. And this opinion, I stress, is a personal one and not a newspaper's one.

The game has been 'mothered' by one section of the national press. It has enjoyed magnificent publicity. But some of the other sections have apparently felt neglected. They have shown that neglect by a minimum of publicity.

Which is better . . . to be trumpeted triumphantly in one section or receive a fair and adequate coverage of your sport in all sections? What's your view?

Same Faces

Second reason is that for years there have been the 'same old faces, the same old circus of names' belief in many newspaper offices . . . Bergmann, Leach, Simons, the Rowe twins.

Now that is not the fault of the players. Nobody can blame them for being talented enough to stay at the top. But the monotony in which they have dominated tournament after tournament in the country—and abroad—has led Sports Editors to murmur, 'Same story again.'

And that's whether the tournament venue is Skegness, Manchester, York, Hastings or the Metropolitan.

Heavy stuff, eh? Well for the player, his or her bat, his or her prospects for the new season, his or her rhapsodies and desairs on the game in general, carry on reading . . .

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Says

ENGLAND'S WORLD CUP TEAMS, 1954

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Satisfied.
WHEN I was asked to captain a team to the World University Games in Budapest in August last, I was delighted. Having visited the Hungarian capital in the winter of 1950 I was naturally interested to see the city again in summer. Then it was creating a precedent to lead a British team (Joy Fielder, of Kent, Shirley Jones, of Wales, and Eddie Still, of Scotland) as distinct from an English team.

Our big adventure started when we left Airways Terminal at 6.30 a.m. on July 29, and with the exception of Eddie, it was to be our first experience of flying. Naturally we were all fascinated with the various regulations and formalities, and also the serving of breakfast in the air, but to our big disappointment low cloud spoilt visibility, and there was little to see in the hour and forty minutes’ trip to Brussels.

Nightmare Taxi

After a three hour wait we took to the air again, this time direct to Prague, enjoying a delicious lunch, despite a somewhat bumpy trip. Waiting for us at the airport was Ivan Andreadis, who escorted us on a nightmare taxi trip to the Hotel Esplanade, where we awaited our train tickets for Budapest. Seven in a four-seater taxi was not our idea of fun, particularly when we travelled at fantastic speeds through little side streets.

From Prague it was night sleepers on the train to Budapest, where we were met by Eva Kramer, who was to act as interpreter for our stay, and Mr. Behari, Secretary of the Hungarian T.T.A.

We were all given tickets for the Ballet at the Open Air Theatre on lovely Margareta Island, but I was forced to miss some of the programme to attend a Meeting of Delegates and a Jury Meeting.

Sunday saw the start of the Games with an impressive Parade of Nations in the Peoples Stadium. The only other English competitors were a basketball team, but Scotland, who were also represented at football and boxing, paraded separately.

No “Let”

Monday morning started the table tennis, but we were due for early disappointment, with first round defeats of Eddie Still by the Chinese player Vang-st-Tien, and Joy Fielder by Tamaska, of Hungary.

Shirley Jones did better and reached the quarter-finals before losing in straight games to Eva Koczian, at 11—21, 18—21, 19—21. Shirley played very well, and all who saw her were most impressed. During the matches a film was being made and extra lights were switched on and off at random without the calling of a “let”. This was most disturbing and during Shirley’s match with Koczian I had to ask for a cameraman, who had invaded the arena, to be removed.

In the mixed doubles Shirley and Eddie, after a first round win against Hamori and Simon at 21—19 in the fifth, lost to the Rumanians, Günther and Zeller, in the next round. Partnered by a young Hungarian Horvath, Joy created a surprise by defeating the Hungarians Muranyi and Jansco, but they also lost to Günther and Zeller.

Kerekes won the women’s singles, playing with sponge and beating a rather nervous Koczian 3—2 in the final. Koczian appeared to me to pay more attention to brother Josef’s gesticulations from the side-lines, than the game itself.

Kerekes, incidentally, is the first girl, apart from the Japanese, I have seen using sponge. I understand she had been using it only five weeks, but to be perfectly honest I did not think her game had improved since she was here for the World Championships.

The finals ended on the Wednesday and we had the rest of the week to ourselves. Because of the smallness of our team we had a big Packard put at our disposal instead of the coaches or buses allotted to the larger teams.

We made the most of the glorious sun—temperature was in the “nineties” — spending every available moment out of doors, swimming and sun-bathing.

The Chinese Delegation gave a reception to the English, Scottish, Irish and Australian contingents one evening and in the return for the Chinese girls entertaining us with their
national songs, we were called upon to sing. The English sang "It's a long way to Tipperary", and "Daisy" for an encore.

The Scots obliged with "Old McDougal Had A Farm", the Irish with "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", and the "Aussies" of course gave us "Waltzing Matilda". Then when someone called for a song from Wales, little Shirley had to give a solo, "We'll Keep A Welcome In The Hills.".

A pleasure cruise on the Danube, and a trip into the hills on the Pest side of the river, eventually brought our visit to an end. It was rather sad saying goodbye to Eva Kramer, who had been so sweet and helpful to us throughout our stay, when we entrained for Prague on Sunday evening. We had time for a quick look around Prague, before flying on to Brussels through a thunderstorm which was somewhat unsettling. But if that trip was bumpy, the last hop from Brussels to London was silky smooth. We hardly appeared to have taken off before we were over London, looking like fairyland with its twinkling lights.

And so our little band came home. We had all enjoyed our trip—for the other three their first trip abroad—and although we had been very well looked after were all pleased to be home, because, you know, there just is no place like home.

Aglory by defeating Bremen 7—2.

Once the matches were over the boys went on to the Sports School at Basum where they spent a happy time, but spent the best part of one day attending the German A.G.M. without understanding a word of the language.

AN appeal for players, particularly juniors, to have the first day of an overseas tour free of matches, and for the most important fixtures to come in the middle of the trip, has been made by Leo Thompson, following his experiences as team manager of the junior tour of Germany in July.

Thompson had three youngsters under his wing, Laurie Landry (Middlesex), Terry Densham (Surrey), and Derek Backhouse (Staffs.). They arrived at Munster at 7 a.m. after a night without sleep and the same evening were taken to the hall for the most important match of the tour—against a German representative side. The match was billed by the Germans as an international, though not recognised as such over here. Tired and travel weary the lads were well below form and beaten five matches to nil.

They moved on to Laggerbeck where West Germany, whose team included a senior player beat them 5—3. Here Landry and Densham avenged their defeats by Hofmann in the previous match. A little luck and this could have been a draw for Fietmeyer beat Densham 22—20 in the third.

The boys were now back into form and wound up the trip in a blaze of

**RESULTS**


Eleven
ARE you aspiring to the ranks of the Champions? Whether you play for high stakes in tournaments or just “for the fun of the thing” you will, no doubt, have had the experience of being unable to attain the highest possible degree of perfection no matter how much practice you have put in. You just cannot “make the grade” as do the “shining lights” even though you eat, sleep and think table tennis! What is holding you back, consistently dogging your efforts? Is it a sense of frustration, an inferiority complex or is it really that you “take cramp” so often and at a critical moment?

Of all the problems that beset table tennis players (and there are many!) cramp stands out supreme! Do you during a game get a tense feeling in the wrists? Does a dull, aching feeling commence at a most critical moment when you are about to make the Perfect Shot? If such be the state of affairs then you definitely “take cramp”!

Players Cramp

Why is it that the novice is particularly susceptible to “players cramp”? Usually it is because in all forms of skill, whether it be table tennis, hockey, billiards or golf the beginner throws far more effort into the game than is physically necessary. He works constantly under a feverish desire to outmatch his opponent and though this is a creditable attitude both towards the game and himself yet if not curbed it places a great strain on the physical prowess of the player particularly if the game be a lengthy one.

What then has he to do in order to relieve this strain? Attitude of mind is one factor which contributes in no small measure to this failure to relax. Relaxation of mind and hand are sure ways of combating this evil but there are other methods which, while helping to relax the whole nervous system, automatically relax the arms, hands, wrists, fingers and even the legs and thighs, for cramp can “hit” you in the lower extremities too!

What really causes cramp? Many theories have been expounded by players and trainers as to what causes REPEATED attacks of cramp. Even the National Loaf has been blamed for it! Other more sensible lines of thought have been that it is due to a run-down condition when vitality is at its lowest ebb. The purpose of this article is however to explain how cramp creeps into the system and how to prevent it!

White Hands

Cramp is but a condition of the blood—“lack of circulation” as natural health practitioners call it. When the blood is circulating freely through the body, the arteries are said to be “full”. When poor and feeble circulation is the order of the day the arteries are deficient and it is the extremities of the body which suffer. That is why you have “white” hands, cold feet and a feeling of shivers run down your spine. Because the blood is not powerful enough to circulate all through the system, preferring to concentrate itself round the heart and other organs of the “inner circle”!

Excessive perspiration is another direct cause of cramp since during this condition terrific quantities of sodium chloride (salt) are forced or pumped out of the body disturbing the natural rhythm of the blood. That is the reason why doctors administer salt or saline solutions directly into the bloodstream. When the pulse weakens or the circulation fails or when there is a constant feeling of lassitude in the lymphatic system. During the War men serving in the Eastern climates often had a mild solution of salt and water injected into them in order to restore the deficiency which excessive sweating under the heat of tropical suns created. The net result was a recharging of the human batteries—AND GREATER ENERGY followed by a lesser susceptibility to cramp!

Fatigue or the constant tired feeling—that restless, lethargic “dose up” sensation—is also another contributing factor to cramp, though here again this is actually lack of good circulation.

Champion boxers and wrestlers have long made a practice of “topping” up their fatigue reserves about half an hour before a fight by taking tablets containing a high percentage of potassium chloride, calcium and dextrose or even by taking Barley and Glucose in the form of “sweets”. Though it is true that too much salt sprinkled on food can cause serious results to those in middle life by creating hardening of the arteries the curious fact remains that all of us require a certain proportion of salt in our bodies, otherwise we could never hope to live! Therefore, if excessive perspiration is causing you to get cramp you must make up the deficiency, though not by taking in more salt!

Old Fashioned Remedy

Try an old-fashioned but none-the-less effective remedy which our Grandmothers used when they lost their quota of salt through hard work! Obtain 1 oz. of Cramp Bark Herb from your nearest herb shop and pour one pint of boiling water over it. Flavour with Honey and when cold drink a wineglassful two or three times a day half an hour after meals. If you fear an attack during a crucial moment “in play” drink a wineglassful half an hour before you go into action. You will be surprised at the results! You can also obtain this remedy in pill or tablet form from a good herbal practitioner.

And should you be subject to attacks of cramp while in bed jump out quickly and stretch your legs or arms as the case may be as far out as they will go. Massage the offending limbs thoroughly! A preventative method is to place a small block of Camphor at the feet, another at the knee joint and a third at the thigh. This is not an “old wives tale” but sheer commonsense. Try it and see.

So now you know what really does cause cramp—AND HOW TO PREVENT IT.

If you follow my advice (I am hoping you will, otherwise I have been wasting a perfectly good typewriter ribbon) then you need no longer fear cramp threatening your success!
HAVING been asked to write a few lines for the first issue of the 1954-55 season, I think I shall take the opportunity to pass a few remarks on my impressions of the World’s and European table tennis.

First, the praise, bushels of it, for the superb organizing and unfailing kindness of the officials at Wembley, both table tennis ones and employees of the Empire Pool. In my own case, being one of the very few unfortunate to have their wallet stolen, I was issued a new one in a matter of minutes without a single word of what could have been justifiable annoyance from the gentlemen of the control room.

Great sportsmanship, and not so great . . . Great playing, and disappointing playing . . . It was all there, as it had to be. The most brilliant players, Andreadis and Roseanu. The most promising, Haydon, Best, Koczian, etc., etc. Must confess that I watched the girls more closely than the men!

Noticeable, the over emphasis of youth, youth, youth, infuriating to those over 21, though obviously no fault of their own!

Not so nice . . . the freezing cold of the arena, utter misery for those used to playing in heated auditoriums only. I, frankly, never took my overcoat off from the 6th to the 14th.

Wonderful . . . the thrill of all those thousands of people streaming into the Pool.

Amazing . . . the Japanese serves . . .

Fantastic . . . the dogged determination and man-on-the-flying-trapeze playing of Bergmann. What that man can do to get a ball back.

I have always read, and never seen before, about the ‘charm, savoir-faire, and good looks of the French. It has proved to be true, for each and every member of the French and Belgian teams had it, very definitely!

Disappointing . . . so darn much to learn.

Biggest thrill . . . every single minute spent at Wembley. I think that once you play in the World’s you will want to play again and again, until your bones creak and the effort to walk out to the table is just too much.

Thank you all so much for being so kind to all of us from across the Atlantic. I hope we see you again soon.

Ken Stanley says:

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LET KEN STANLEY SHOW YOU!
Looking back at the World’s

by

DAVID BLACKNELL

LAST April I took a fortnight’s holiday to see the “World’s” at Wembly. After seeing every event I was naturally looking forward to reading the reports and opinions in “Table Tennis” May issue and seeing how they compared with mine. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the articles and congratulate the staff on covering such a difficult task. There were however a number of factors which did not appear and which I would respectfully like to point out.

Firstly that the Japanese team which did so splendidly was totally different from the one which performed equally well only two years ago at Bombay. Not one single player was in both teams. Also note the national ratings of the Japanese men: Ogimura (No. 1), Tomita (No. 11), Tamasu (No. 9) and Kawai (No. 10); an extraordinary selection! What about Nos. 2 to 8? Compare with our selection of the Swaythling Cup side. Always the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (and they have been the same for years) plus either the No. 4, 5, 6 or 7.

Champions Galore

A horrible thought (from the English point of view) struck me when I realised these facts. It appears very much to me that Japan can produce world-class players just like rabbits! How sharply this speedy production contrasts with the slower methods of other countries.

The outlook from our men’s point of view is gloomy indeed. Only Richard Bergmann performed creditably at the Wembly campaign. True we finished third in the Swaythling Cup but once again it was the old brigade that pulled us through (practically all Bergmann). We have to face it. Our top three are definitely going over the hill. The seeding of Simons at No. 4 and Leach at No. 6 was absolutely farcical. The real reason for pessimism, however, is that we could not possibly put out a different team without severe loss of face.

Our two main hopes for future world class, Merrett and Rhodes, were eliminated early in the singles by fortunately and Vogrine of Yugoslavia respectively in straight games. Not an encouraging sign.

Then look at the performances of other countries’ youngers. K. Freudenficher, 17 (Germany), beat Slar (Czech) and Dolinar (Yugo); Tamasu (Japan), 18 (Hungary), beat Tamasu (Japan), Erlich (France) and Somael (U.S.A); J. Posejal, 17 (Czechoslovakia), beat Amouretti (France) 6, 16 and 16. Other outstanding young players were Sala and Genton (France), Reiter and Hamsztozi (Rumania). Most of these will figure prominently in future world ranking lists.

Fortunately our women give us more reason for cheer. Our four youthful English girls (R. Rowe, D. Rowe, K. Best and A. Haydon, plus that real Welsh surprise packet Shirley Jones upheld British prestige in the women’s sphere and obviously because of their youth will continue to do so for many years to come. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of the men.

The chances of a world women’s singles title coming to this country are debatable. At the moment of course Roseanu dominates the scene but at the age of 32 she has limited time in front of her. Even when she has gone though there are a number of other world ranking girls as young as our own who will do their utmost to prevent any British triumph. To mention but a few there are Wertz (Austria), Koczlan (Hungary), Farkas (Hungary) who is younger than most people think, and the Japanese quartette, Watanabe, Eguchi, Tanaka and Goto.

NEW ESSEX LEAGUE

The affiliation of Braintree League opens up a new part of the county in Essex. Along with Colchester they will be new challengers in the Essex Inter-Leagues Championship.

He Throws His Voice

Table tennis followers who have noticed a similarity between Arnold Shepherd, winner of the season’s first ‘open’ tournament and Les Arnold, the ventriloquist they may have seen around the Devon and Cornwall resorts during the summer, can set their minds at rest. They are the same person.

What time he can spare from entertaining with his inanimate ‘family’, the 24-year-old Shepherd devotes to table tennis.

Hailing from Sale, he has played for Cheshire for the past three years in the County Championship, and last season carried off the singles and men’s doubles in the Hartlepools ‘open’, the mixed doubles in the Grimsby ‘open’, and the men’s and mixed doubles in the South Yorkshire ‘open’.

Good Luck, Joy

Joy Seaman, Middlesex international, has announced her engagement to Dennis Faulkner, a County Umpire, who plays T.T. in the South London League and Lawn Tennis for the West Norwood Club... Also engaged, Ray Dove, of Sheffield, South Yorks “open” champion, and Yorkshire County player, to Miss Anne Margaret Tyler, of Heaton, Bolton.
LILLESHALL FOR ALL

The cool summer of 1954 offered less temptation that usual to lay down one's bat, with the result that Coaching schools and Courses had a busy time.

A popular centre for combining sports instruction with pleasant social atmosphere is Lilleshall Hall, the National Recreation Centre, near Newport, Shropshire. Administered by the Central Council of Physical Recreation, it is a spacious "country-house", comfortably modernised without any loss of tradition, and set in the most beautiful countryside.

Considerable publicity has been given lately to "Lilleshall" as a T.T. training centre and club players may wonder just how one can join a Course there.

Naturally, some of the Courses are organised for special selected pupils, but each year there are several which are open to applicants of any standard. Beginners, however, might be well advised to pair up with a friend and to indicate their modest standard when applying.

Even the E.T.T.A. Study Courses are open to anybody wishing to look more closely into the theory of the game, whether or not they propose to take the Coaching Diploma.

The C.C.P.R. itself runs full-week Holiday Courses each summer, and 3-day Courses at the Christmas-New Year Period, under instructors approved by the E.T.T.A.'s National Coaching Committee.

Students attending any "group" instructional activity should not of course expect sustained periods of individual attention, but short spells of individual advice and analysis are well reinforced by controlled practice periods, discussions, demonstrations, etc. Even the watching of other players, good or mediocre, is an art which the student can learn and turn to personal benefit.

Details of forthcoming Courses will appear in these columns as they are arranged. Early application is essential as vacancies are quickly snapped up.

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**FIXTURE ENGAGEMENTS**

In the Open Tournaments below, events shown in the column are additional to M.S., W.S., M.D., W.D., and X.D. in every case. 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.

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<td><strong>Birmingham Open (Oct. 13)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Friends Institute, Moseley Road, Birmingham 12.</td>
<td>B.S., G.S.,</td>
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<td><strong>Portsmouth Open (Oct. 9)</strong>&lt;br&gt;South Parade Pier, Southsea, Hants.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. C. H. Staples, 271, Francis Avenue, Southsea, Hants.</td>
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<td>30-31</td>
<td><strong>Sussex Open (Oct. 14)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sea End and White Rock Pavilions, Hastings.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. K. Hayward, Top Flat, 10, Wel­lington Place, Hastings.</td>
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<td>Oct. 30/</td>
<td><strong>Austrian Open</strong>&lt;br&gt;Viena</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. D. Olley, 67, Hastings Avenue, Ilford.</td>
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<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td><strong>Eastern Suburban Open (Oct. 9)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Y.M.C.A. Hydro Hall, Plaistow, and Baths Hall, Ilford.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Anlaby Road, Hull.</td>
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<td><strong>Hull and East Riding Open (Oct. 28)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Madeley Street Baths, Hull.</td>
<td>J.S.</td>
<td>Mr. H. Flinton, 28, Albert Avenue, Anlaby Road, Hull.</td>
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<td>5-7</td>
<td><strong>Yugoslavia Open</strong>, Belgrade.</td>
<td>G.S.</td>
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<td>8-13</td>
<td><strong>South London Open (Oct. 23)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Manor Place Baths, London, S.E.17.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mrs. E. G. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.</td>
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<td><strong>Hartlepool Open (Nov. 6)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hartlepool Industrial Estate Canteen.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. J. T. Grocott, 2, Sheridan Grove, West Hartlepool.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td><strong>England v. France (Jnrs.)</strong>&lt;br&gt;J. E. Hall's Canteen, Dartford.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>F. G. Mannooch, 216, Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td><strong>Kent Junior Open (Oct. 23)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. C. A. Bourne, 15a, Red Down Road, Coulsdon, Surrey.</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td><strong>England v. Belgium (Jnrs.)</strong> Broadstairs.</td>
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<td>19-21</td>
<td><strong>South of England Open (Nov. 6)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Powers Sams Welfare Hall, Aurelia Road, Croydon.</td>
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<td><strong>Bath Open (Nov. 8)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Drill Hall, Upper Bristol Road, Bath.</td>
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<td><strong>Merseyside Open (Nov. 12)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Drill Hall, Mather Ave., Liverpool 18.</td>
<td>B.S., G.S.,</td>
<td>Mr. P. Northcott, 31, Hillcrest Road, Weymouth.</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td><strong>England v. Wales (Women)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Bolton, Lancs.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mr. J. Wildman, St. Davids, 8, Eastgate, Deeping St. James, Nr. Peterborough.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td><strong>Dorset Open (Nov. 17)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sidney and Trinity Halls, Weymouth.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td><strong>Peterborough Open (Nov. 15)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Baker Perkins Canteen, Westwood Wks., &amp; Lincoln Rd. Drill Hall, Peterborough.</td>
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<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td><strong>Central London Open (Nov. 9)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Manor Place Baths, London S.E.17.</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.</td>
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<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td><strong>Welsh Open</strong>&lt;br&gt;Drill Hall, Upper Bristol Road, Bath.</td>
<td>G.S.</td>
<td>Mrs. E. Johnston, 141, Ingram Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.</td>
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_Ellevate_
NORTH MIDLAND OPEN

Manchester players took the major honours when the Nottingham and District T.T.A. revived the popular North Midlands "Open" after a break of four years to give a grand send-off to the new season at Beeston, Nottingham, on September 11.

Arnold Shepherd won the men's singles and doubles in partnership with R. Newton, and Adele Wood won the women's singles and doubles with Miss J. Wilkinson.

Relying on a strong and steady defence, and seldom attempting anything adventurous, Shepherd played a lone hand in tumbling the "seeds," Maurice Kriss, Ray Hinchliffe, and Ronnie Allcock in that order. He went through the tournament without loss of a game.

Allcock had a somewhat precarious passage to the final, showing only spasmodic patches of brilliance and was taken to three games no less than four times.

Miss Wood was a decisive winner of the women's title, her only strenuous match being against Pam Mortimer who she eventually beat 21-12, 21-19 in the semi-final.

Nottingham gained a local success when 16-years-old Brian Mayfield went through without loss of a game to win the boys' singles. He also had a good run in the senior event, reaching the 16. He beat an experienced county player, J. H. Osborne, of Wolverhampton, and was unlucky to lose to G. W. Temperton (Manchester) at 19 in the third game on a final edge ball.

Stylish 14-years-old Stockport schoolgirl Lorna Bown won her first "open" title, when she beat Barbara Wall, of West Bromwich, in the girls' final after being a game down.

The tournament proved an exhausting test for the players, starting in the early morning and not finishing until near midnight.

RESULTS:


Women's Singles: Semi-finals: A. WOOD (Manchester) beat P. Mortimer (Birmingham) 21-12, 21-19; D. WILKINSON beat J. Braddock (Manchester) 21-18, 21-19.

Final: A. WOOD beat D. Wilkinson (Manchester) 21-7, 21-11.


Boys' Singles: B. MAYFIELD (Nottingham) beat B. Parks (Birmingham) 21-15, 21-12.


Boys' Doubles: B. PARKS and J. SIMS beat S. Larvin 23-21, 21-17.


Boys' Doubles: B. PARKS and J. SIMS beat S. Larvin 23-21, 21-17.

Twelve

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Nineteen
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEWLY promoted Cheshire and Berkshire came in for some heavy handling when the new season's campaign opened in the National County Championship on October 2.

Cheshire failed to win a single match when they crashed to a ten-nil defeat by Surrey in the Premier Division. So overwhelming was their defeat that only two matches went to three games.

Berkshire were beaten 9–1 by Hertfordshire, another promoted team in the Second Division (South). Essex were given a tougher match than expected, before beating Glamorgan 6–4 in the Premier Division, while Lancashire and Gloucestershire shared the ten games in their tie.

Sussex, relegated last season, made a good start in an attempt to regain Premier Division status when they defeated Essex 6–4 in the Second Division (South).

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

PREMIER DIVISION:

**SURREY** 10—**CHESHIRE** 0
**ESSEX** 6—**GLAMORGAN** 4
**LANCS.** 5—**GLOUCESTER** 5

DIV. II (SOUTH):

**HERTS.** 9—**BERKSHIRE** 1
**DEVON** 3—**SURREY** 7
**SUSSEX** 6—**ESSEX** 4
**KENT** 4—**MIDDLESEX** 6

DIV. II (NORTH):

**YORKS.** 8—**DURHAM** 2
**NORTHUMBERLAND** 5—**LINCS.** 5

EASTERN DIV.:

**SUFFOLK** 3—**BEDS.** 7
**NORFOLK** 4—**CAMBRIDGE** 6

EAST OF ENGLAND "OPEN"

Shock followed shock with the elimination of the top four "seeds," when Bobby Stevens, of Essex, carried off the men's singles in the East of England "open," at Butlin's, Skegness, on September 17-18.

In what was generally voted the best ever final at Skegness, Stevens beat Keith Hurlock (Surrey) 21–15, 20–22, 25–23. Both were at the top of their form in an all-out attacking and counter-attacking rubber.

The "seeds," all of whom failed before the semi-finals, were Brian Kennedy, of Leeds, beaten by C. King (Manchester); and Ronnie Allcock (Manchester), who had to give best to A. Rogers (Stevenage).

The surprise of the women's singles was Shirley Jones' (Swansea) great win over Helen Elliott (Edinburgh) in the semi-final, but the young Welsh girl was well and truly beaten in the final by her compatriot Betty Gray (Swansea), who in the semi-final had disposed of Margaret Fry (London).

Miss Gray obviously holds the secret of stemming Miss Jones' fierce attacking game, and won at 21–16, 21–18.

The two Welsh girls teamed up to take the women's doubles for the second successive year, beating Miss Jones and Fry in the final 23–21, 21–14, and Miss Jones also partnered Ivor Jones (London) to retain the mixed doubles with a 21–18, 17–21, 21–11 win over Miss Gray and A. Sherwood (London).

Sherwood gained a second title, carrying off the men's doubles in partnership with Peter Pudney. They beat Kennedy and L. Blyth.

RESULTS:


Final: MISS B. GRAY (Swansea) beat Miss S. Jones (Swansea) 21–16, 21–15.


**Boys' Singles:** Semi-finals: D. BACKHOUSE (Birmingham) beat L. Oman (Scunthorpe) 21–9, 21–11; A. TEAL (Hull) beat S. Mayfield (Nottingham) 21–18, 21–15.


**Girls' Singles:** Semi-finals: MISS F. WRIGHT (Barnsley) beat Miss B. Duff (Scunthorpe) 21–7, 21–8; MISS J. CHADDERTON (Manchester) beat Miss J. Harrower (New Barnet) 20–22, 21–11, 21–16.


CIVIL SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

(King Edward Buildings, G.P.O., April 30th)

**Men's Singles:** L. G. ADAMS beat D. Light 21–14, 21–8, 21–11.

**Women's Singles:** MISS M. H. CHERRY beat Mrs. J. Lauper 21–17, 21–11.

**Men's Doubles:** ADAMS and K. SPYCHALSKI beat M. A. Abbott and N. Lodge 21–12, 21–11, 21–18.

**Women's Doubles:** MISS W. DAKIN and MISS E. M. STEVENVON beat Miss Cherry and Mrs. Lauper 21–11, 21–19.

**Mixed Doubles:** SPYCHALSKI and MISS CHERRY beat G. Haywood and Miss Dakin 21–17, 21–19.