JAPANESE TEAM with SWAYTHLING and CORBILLON CUPS

Left to right — I. OGIMURA, K. TSUNODA, T. TANAKA, T. MIYATA, Mr. MINAMI (Team Manager) C. HODOTSUKA (N.P.C.), K. WATANABE, T. NAMBA, T. OKAWA, F. EGUCHI
STANDARDISATION COMING?

So the Japanese have done it again. With five out of the seven titles, at Stockholm, including both the Swaythling and Corbillon Cups, they have left little doubt as to their world supremacy in table tennis.

It is their best performance yet and European players instead of overhauling the Japanese would appear to be falling behind. Are we to see the day when the Japanese make a clean sweep?

Yet, how different the story might have been with a little luck and perhaps a re-arrangement of that finals day. It could quite easily have been three titles for England.

The sympathy of all readers must go out to Ann Haydon for the bitter disappointment of appearing in three finals, yet coming away empty-handed. Moreover, they were three finals which went the full distance of games, while in the singles she was only two points off being the "champ."

TOO MUCH STRAIN

The strain of having to play through five rounds of mixed doubles on the same day as the finals undoubtedly took its toll. What other sport would subject the finalists to such punishment. At the Wimbledon lawn tennis championships the finals are kept for a separate day.

The I.T.T.F. must see that such arrangements are never allowed to happen again.

For those of us unable to make the trip to Stockholm, Sam Leitch, of The Daily Herald, gives us a graphic description of the meeting in the following pages. We are indeed most grateful to Sam.

Well, the sponge question is still not settled. It has been referred to a working committee of delegates from five nations, England, Wales, Germany, Japan and Sweden, to go into the matter and submit recommendations to the I.T.T.A. by July 1.

This is a step nearer a solution. Most of the European nations including France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania and Austria have indicated support for the English proposals for pimpled rubber.

It appears that a majority of nations consider that some degree of standardisation would, if possible, be desirable.

Those rapidly developing T.T. powers, China and U.S.S.R., definitely favoured the principle of standardisation but felt that countries who were for any reason "suspicious" of standardisation should be allowed more time to study.

RESOLUTIONS WITHDRAWN

Japan and Sweden, where the cult of varied rackets is very strong, opposed the idea of standardisation at this stage, and in between the two camps were a number of smaller countries who wished to be reasonable to both schools of thought and therefore abstained.

However, England and Wales having opened the minds of the rest of the nations, withdrew their resolutions for the time being, feeling that in such an important matter it was preferable to try for a unanimous agreement even if it took a little longer.

Meanwhile the aim must be for standardisation and not merely a ban on sponge. All nations are invited to try out their own standardisation ideas. Sufficient margin must be allowed for the game to move, but at the same time keep bats within distance of each other.

Incidentally, it is well worth noting that sponge alone does not win titles. Fujie Eguchi, the new women's champion, proved that rubber can get the better of sponge when she beat Ann Haydon.

And a whisper of a new surface. Dolinar has, I understand, patented a new bat with a duralumin frame strung with rubber strips on similar lines to the lawn tennis racket.

HARRISON EDWARDS.
**ON Tuesday, March 26 the Association's Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. K. Vint, attended the Investiture held at Buckingham Palace to receive the O.B.E. awarded to him in the New Year's Honours List from Her Majesty The Queen, in recognition of his services to the game. Accompanying Mr. Vint as his guests were his wife, Nora, and the Association's Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. P. Lowen.**

Visit by Officials and Players from Japan.

Two officials and eight players are at the moment visiting this country and taking part in the English Open Championships they will be appearing in three Mixed International matches which have been arranged to take place. The venues are as follows:

- **April 1, 1957, Birmingham.**
- **April 8, 1957, London (Tottenham).**
- **April 11, 1957, Cheltenham.**

Visit by Officials and Players from France.

A team of three French women players, together with M. Haguenauser as non-playing Captain, will be playing an International Match versus England (Women) on April 2, 1957 at Waltham Abbey. They will also be staying on to take part in the English Open Championships.

National Umpires.

At the last meeting of the National Executive Committee, the Committee gave approval to the recommendation of the National Umpires' Committee that Mr. C. CLEMETT (Surrey), and Mr. A. W. LEIGH (Sussex) be registered as National Umpires. This now makes the total of registered National Umpires 10.

**Election of Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee 1957/58.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association has been fixed for April 27, 1957, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.I., commencing at 3 p.m., and the voting for the various members of the National Executive Committee has now been completed. The office of Chairman has already been filled as the Hon. I. Montagu was returned unopposed as was Mr. A. K. Vint for the office of Hon. Treasurer of the Association.

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**HARRY VENNER**

**England and Surrey**

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**English Open Championships 1957.**

Several times of the English Open Table Tennis Championships containing complete results can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office, 214 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2 (Price 2s. 2d. including postage).

**Official Tie.**

As reported last month the National Executive Committee have authorised the adoption of an official tie. These are now on sale to all but only members of the Association, price 12s. 6d. each. The tie is an attractive one, with the Association's crest placed over a Royal Blue background. All orders for same should be sent to the E.T.T.A. office.

**Badges.**

Have you bought your official pin badges? We have these at the reasonable price of 2s. 3d. each or 24s. per dozen. The badge is very neatly made with the letters E.T.T.A. on a blue background. Perhaps you would bring this to the notice of your Club members.

“Daily Mirror” National Table Tennis Tournament.

The area finals and the National Finals of the events in the *Daily Mirror* National Table Tennis Tournament are to be played on Saturday, April 13, 1957, at Manchester. Together with these finals certain of our Japanese visitors will be playing exhibition matches.

**Club Competitions.**

The total number of Competitions now arranged to be run and duly permitted has increased by only two since last month, now making the total of 114. We would like to see this figure increased by quite a good margin by the close of the 1956/57 season and if your Club has not run a Club Competition then why not ask your Club Secretary to organise one straight away. Club Secretaries might consider an additional event in their Club Championships this season and when one considers that the Club competitions can take almost any form (singles or doubles, handicapped or not), it gives plenty of scope for whatever event the Club might desire.

Full details of how the Competitions run can be obtained from the E.T.T.A. office; all your Club Secretaries need do is to return the BLUE Card, or if he/she has no Blue Card, then a letter to 214, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2 and we will do the rest. Fifteen suggested Competitions are as follows:

- **Men’s Singles, Men’s Handicap Singles, Women’s Singles, Women’s Handicap Singles, Mixed Singles, Mixed Handicap Singles, Junior Singles, Junior Handicap Singles, Men’s Doubles, Men’s Handicap Doubles, Women’s Doubles, Women’s Handicap Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Mixed Handicap Doubles (i.e., two men or two women in a mixed handicap doubles).**

**Team Selections.**

v. **Japan (Mixed) Birmingham—April 1, 1957.**

- **R. Bergmann (Middx.), B. Kennedy (Yorks.), J. A. Leach (Essex), Miss J. Fielder (Kent), Miss A. S. Haydon (Warwicks.), Mrs. K. Thompson (Yorks.).**

- **Non-Playing Captain: A. A. Haydon (Warwicks.).**

v. **France (Women) Waltham Abbey—April 2, 1957.**

- **Miss M. Fry (Middx.), Miss A. S. Haydon (Warwicks.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey).**

- **Non-Playing Captain: T. E. Sears (Middx.).**

v. **Japan (Mixed) Tottenham—April 8, 1957.**

- **R. Bergmann (Middx.), J. A. Leach (Essex), M. H. Thornhill (Middx.), Miss A. S. Haydon (Warwicks.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey), Miss D. Rowe (Middx.).**

- **Non-Playing Captain: G. V. Barna (Middx.).**

v. **Japan (Mixed) Cheltenham—April 11, 1957.**

- **R. Bergmann (Middx.), J. A. Leach (Essex), A. Rhodes (Middx.), Miss A. S. Haydon (Warwicks.), Miss P. Morton (Warwicks.), Miss J. Rook (Surrey).**

- **Non-Playing Captain: A. A. Haydon (Warwicks.).**

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**TABLE TENNIS**

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The 24th world table tennis championships brought complete world mastery of the sport to Japan — thrust forward the fact that Ann Haydon, of England, has the spirit and the strokes to win that singles title in Dortmund in two years time — and proved, night after night, that table tennis at this level is still one of the great and thrilling spectacles of modern sport.

My report of this Swedish championship meeting must begin with a spotlight on Ann Haydon, an 18-year-old with class, who came within two points of winning the world title which has eluded an English girl since the championships started.

Come and sit beside me on Row 8 and Seat No. 229 on that hot and stuffy Friday finals night (it was snowing and freezing outside) for a fantastic match of thrills, recoveries, nail-biting tension and unendurable moments as Ann, two games down, nearly pipped the tigress of Tokio, 22-year-old Fujie Eguchi, a textile worker and current Japanese champion.

The nervous opening was sufficient indication as to how both girls felt the tension of this match. I spoke to Ann before the match, sitting with her knees up and resting her already blistered feet after five games of mixed doubles (what lunacy that finalists should have to go through this marathon on the most vital and important night of their table tennis lives!) and frankly I thought she had the wrong attitude.

She was resigned to being beaten by Eguchi before the final began.

Yet by her performance she showed she was as good as Eguchi. Perhaps had she been more optimistic about her hopes before the match she would have won.

She lost the first two games. She was 14—17 down in the third. But that meant nothing. For the night before I had seen her 5—10 down in the fifth to plump wins by point and second by second Eguchi levelled to 20—all and actually led 21—20 before being finally mastered in this game to lose 21—23.

Ann led 6—2 in the fifth. But the strain and tension told, although I personally thought, at this stage, that the title was for Ann and England.

Shaken But Recovered

Eguchi, having lost the third, was very shaken. She only recovered her poise from losing the third game when she was 20—15 down in the fourth. Yet, point by point and second by second Eguchi levelled to 20—all and actually led 21—20 before being finally mastered in this game to lose 21—23.

Ann led 6—2 in the fifth. But the strain and tension told, although I personally thought, at this stage, that the title was for Ann and England.

Three
Here praise must be given to the sporting Japanese girl for her fight-back. Indeed the most vivid impression of the entire championships for me was the way the Japanese could never be considered defeated until the very final ball of the match. Their tenacity is tremendous—and here is one of the vital reasons why they are such world masters of the sport.

I have written more about this match than I intend to do any other for the simple reason that I think English table tennis in 1957 has only one hope of a world title and that is the Haydon girl.

Let’s not attempt to kid ourselves any longer about how we stand in the world of table tennis. We were a battered and bruised company in the men’s singles. We were stunned by Yugoslavia in the Swaythling and humiliated by Austria when non-playing captain Victor Barna attempted to bleed the young men.

In the women’s singles we had only Ann. Here I must insert my one and only sentence of criticism of Ann. I hope that she does not suffer any reaction from five world title defeats.

The individual events proved decisively that dapper, tiny Toshiaki Tanaka is the supremo among the brilliant Japanese men. Although I have a hunch that English table tennis in 1957 has only one hope of a world title and that is the Haydon girl.

I calculate that, although she is only eighteen, she has been now in five world finals—the women’s doubles in London in 1954, the mixed doubles in Tokio in 1956 and the three she reached in Sweden—and she has lost the lot.

I hope that she does not suffer any reaction from five world title defeats.

The shock Hungarian pair of Livia Mosoczy, a sponge-playing unknown who shot into prominence with her emphatic defeat of Shirley Jones (“Couldn’t even see the ball for the first two games”) and Diane Rowe (“Never even heard of her before”) and Agnes Simon struggled painfully to win this title.

It was Stipek’s sense of humour which so frequently relieved the tedium of Andreadis—and it is when he is playing so tightly that the popular Ivan loses much of his natural ability.

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Ichiro Ogimura, the deposed world title-holder, is the better against European opposition.

What a reflection on the rest of the world that these two have dominated the men’s singles event since the Wembley world championships in 1954. Then Ogimura won it. Tanaka won it in Utrecht in 1955. Ogimura regained it in 1956 in Tokio. Now Tanaka again in Sweden.

Though their final was not the spectacular affair many people expected, for me it produced spasms of unbelievable long-range play.

Here is an honest, non-advertising thought: If there are any readers who have not seen the Japanese then go now. For they are magnificent and they provoked roar upon roar of applause from simply dumbfounded Swedes. Surely, so many of the fans thought, we are watching the ping pong impossible.

Next to the women’s singles final, I liked the men’s doubles where the jolly Ladislav Stipek was the key man in the Stipek/Ivan Andreadis win over the Japs, Ogimura and Tanaka.

It was Stipek’s sense of humour which so frequently relieved the tedium of Andreadis—and it is when he is playing so tightly that the popular Ivan loses much of his natural ability.

[MEIOCRE CHAMPIONS]—PATHETIC FINAL

I don’t think I have ever watched such a pathetic affair as the women’s doubles.

There will probably be no need ever again to partner Ann Haydon and Diane Rowe, but there is just no sense in playing two left-handers like these girls together simply because they happen to be the best players individually in the country.

Add to this the fact that Ann was a weary figure and you saw a doubles pair of unbelievable mediocrity winning the world title.

The shock Hungarian pair of Livia Mosoczy, a sponge-playing unknown who shot into prominence with her emphatic defeat of Shirley Jones (“Couldn’t even see the ball for the first two games”) and Diane Rowe (“Never even heard of her before”) and Agnes Simon struggled painfully to win this title.

It was frail, pale Agnes who later caused a minor uproar in Stockholm by disappearing from her hotel and seeking asylum in Sweden.

Briefly the English exits . . . our No. 1 man, RICHARD BERGMANN, was out-witted and out-clocked by the very talented Toma Reiter, the dour Rumanian. Bergmann bought two alarm clocks to make sure he would not be confused over the time-limit. But before the clocks could ring he was two-up on Reiter and looking a confident second round winner.

By the time the clocks were brought into the game they tolled the downfall of Bergmann.

What has gone wrong with Bergmann? Simply too much exhibition play has put the brake on his once very fine match play. But I for one don’t think he has done the wrong thing in seeking a living through table tennis.

I fully agree with him that this is the first time he has not been a star turn for England at a world championships. But I think he has worn his last England Swaythling Cup shirt. I may be wrong. I hope so in some ways.

JOHNNY LEACH? He had a convincing win against the Vietnam wonder boy, 16-year-old Huynh Van Ngoc from Saigon. It looked as if he had the form and the
The New Singles Champions

**FUJIE EGUCHI**

**"TOSHI" TANAKA**

luck to do well again in his happy Stockholm hunting ground. But the fourth round saw his downfall against young Frenchman L. Foldi. The G.erman was showering congratulations on players, the next con-}

**BRIAN KENNEDY?** Poor Brian. It is frequently such a tough life being a newspaper reporter. One night you are showering congratulations on players, the next con-}

**Sufficient said.**

**The happiest scenes of the tournament were when Schneider beat the Japanese Miyata. The German was kissed, hugged, pounded and then posed so contentedly for the massed ranks of cameramen.**

**P.S.: In case you think I have forgotten about “Boom Boom” Berczik of Hungary, please wait till team reports!**

**HOW ENGLISH PLAYERS FARED**

**MEN'S SINGLES — ENGLISH RESULTS**

Kennedy bt Ronzani (Italy) 11—21, 21—17, 21—19, 21—13; bt Rido (Hungary) 21—17, 16—21, 21—12, 20—22, 21—11; bt Utchetti (Switzerland) 21—6, 21—23, 20—21, 21—19, 17—21; lost to Ehrlich (France) 20—22, 21—15, 18—21, 22—20, 18—21.

Harrison bt Black (U.K.) 21—12, 21—16, 21—10; lost to Harangozo (Jugoslavia) 21—4, 21—8, 21—10; lost to Mosoczy (Hungary) 21—19, 12—21.

Thorsdottir bt Bergman (Sweden) 21—15, 21—9, 21—10; bt Michel de Motta (Brazil) 18—21, 21—4, 21—17, 19—16; bt Wang Bi-Ping (China) 21—18, 21—13, 21—15; bt Kuszniki (Poland) 21—16, 16—21, 21—10, 21—15; lost to Andreadis/Stipek (Czechoslovakia) 8—21, 21—19, 9—21, 13—21.

Leach bt Ngee van Haynch (Vietnam) 21—14, 21—12, 12—12; lost to L. F. Laidlaw (Scotland) 17—21, 26—24, 19—21, 16—21.


Munkberg (Finland) 21—5, 21—8, 21—10; lost to Mosoczy/Simon (Hungary) 21—17, 21—23, 21—12, 16—21.

Rhine lost to Reiter (Rumania) 21—14, 21—16, 17—21.

Bergmann bt Granier/Saul (France) 21—17, 21—16, 16—21, 16—21, 21—16; bt Arbach/Buple (Poland) 21—9, 21—9, 21—15; bt Belanger/Poulin (Canada) 21—17, 19—21, 21—17, 21—10; lost to Andreadis/Belpek 8—21, 21—19, 9—21, 13—21.

Rhodes/Thorshill bt Callaway/Baxter (Scotland) 21—11, 21—14, 21—8; lost to Gantar/Reiter (Rumania) 16—21, 21—23, 18—21.

Corner/T. Harrison lost to Gyevai/Sido (Hungary) 6—21, 5—21, 9—21.

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**


Jones/Lacey (Holland) bt Hermansson/Larsson (Sweden) 21—17, 21—9, 21—14; lost to Schlaf/Priedler (Germany) 16—21, 19—21, 12—23.

Harrison/Rooke lost to Schlaf and Priedler (Germany) 11—21, 27—17, 18—21.

**MIXED DOUBLES**

Thorshill/Rooke lost to Schneider/Wiskandt (Germany) 6—21, 21—18, 15—21, 15—21; Harrison/Jones lost to Tokar/Krejcova (Czechoslovakia) 10—21, 17—21, 18—21.

Kennedy/Oloson (Sweden) lost to Harangozo/Gontlop (Rumania) 17—21, 15—21, 18—21.

Carrington/Mrs. Carrington lost to Tokar/Krejcova (Czechoslovakia) 9—21, 14—21, 19—21.

Rhodes/Fielder bt Oesterholm/Franz 21—9, 21—5, 21—8; lost to Gansker/Szeiler (Rumania) 17—21, 15—21.

Haydon/Andrews (Czechoslovakia) bt Bertrand/Delabarre (Belgium) 21—14, 21—8, 21—14; bt Pleas/Rodei (Germany) 21—12, 22—20, 21—15; bt M. Peterson/Mooney (Hungary) 21—17, 21—19, 21—19; bt Tanaka/Watanabe (Japan) 16—21, 21—17, 21—15, 21—13, 21—14; bt Thynec/Ntmba (Japan) 21—6, 18—21, 21—14, 21—9, 21—18; lost to Ogiimu/Isaghi (Japan) 16—21, 21—19, 18—21, 21—10, 19—21.

Five
FOCUS ON THE TEAM GAMES

THERE were only two vital issues to be settled in the Swaythling and Corbillon Cup events although there were thirty-six countries competing.

First: Could the new European wonder boy, Zoltan Berczik, master the Japs? and

Two: Could England's girls master the Orientals?

These were settled quite comfortably. The answers being...

First: Berczik, at first attempt, was not lap-happy and

Two: England's girls flopped — but against the wrong Orientals. We did not pass the Chinese hurdle and so did not get the chance of clashing with the vastly superior Japanese, who later whipped China 5–0.

To avoid confusion and continual switching let us review the teams events separately. First the SWAYTHLING CUP.

This was retained by Japan who beat Hungary 5-2 in the final without a great deal of effort although there were moments in the men's final which made it the best team clash I have ever seen.

Formidable Record

What about Berczik? This 19-year-old Hungarian who trains and practices with a zealously and fanaticism which astounds so many of his fellow Europeans was the key figure in the early stages of the team events. He had come to Stockholm with the formidable record of having won the Austrian, Yugoslav, Rumanian and Italian singles titles.

Berczik, the Hungarian camp thought, was a powerful reason why Hungary might win the Swaythling Cup. But, they stressed, it all depended on how Berczik tackled the Japs.

This newcomer to international table tennis has a vicious 'chop, an occasional hit which is accurate and venomous, and tons of tenacity.

Close to the table he looked a mighty man indeed. When he stood there in his drubbing of Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach - a menacing, panther-like figure - he was mighty impressive.

But when he was pushed away from the table by the Japanese, Ichiro Ogimura, he just looked another Jap victim.

When that issue had been decided it was easy for Japan.

What of England? Their downfall can be traced to the first Friday night of the championships when they met the formidable Yugoslavs. It was Bergmann versus the popular and likeable Josef Vogrinc in the opening game. Richard paralysed the Slav in the first set to win 21–5. Then he became ensnared in time limit problems which were to prove his undoing in this event and later in his pride-shattering second round exit to Toma Reiter in the men's singles.

Bergmann lost ... and the defeat of this stalwart, I think, had drastic repercussions in the clash, which Yugoslavia won 5–2.

Johnny Leach led old rival Vilim Harangozo 19–15 and 20–18 in the decisive third game — yet lost. It is this vital weakness at the critical stage in games which is costing England so many defeats nowadays in world table tennis. Conversely it is the Japanese super-concentration at this stage (e.g. Ogimura was down 15–20 in the fifth to Vogrinc in the singles yet won) that makes them such world masters.

Brian Kennedy kept English hopes alive when he quietly out-sponged Dolinar to win his game 21–17, 24–22. And Leach polished off another of Bergmann's bogeys 21–15, 21–13 when he beat Vogrinc.

Those were our only victories. Ten
minutes from midnight Dolinar ended a ghastly night for English table tennis when he beat Leach 21—12, 21—15.

It was one of the first occasions when I can remember Bergmann completely falling in the Swaythling Cup. Just how secure an anchor he has been in the past was seen by this result.

Barna was Right

The following day non-playing skipper Victor Barna decided, quite properly in my view, to toss in Alan Rhodes and Ian Harrison with Brian Kennedy against Austria. Barna knew this was no push-over because earlier the Austrians had taken two games against the Yugoslavs, just as England had.

'Many people tried to make this out a fantastic gamble. Nonsense. English hopes were wrecked the night before. Barna calculated that, allowing for Hungary beating Yugoslavia (which they did), England would still have to beat Hungary 5—1 to win the group. And that was a virtual impossibility, even with a top-form Bergmann.

What of the Corbillon Cup?

England briefly met no country of note until 9 a.m. on Saturday morning—an unreal hour, I agree, for table tennis to be played. Then they toppled to two Chinese students, Sun Mei-ying and Yei Pei-chun.

Vital defeat in this encounter was that of Ann Haydon who was boxed in so cleverly on her back-hand by Sun Mei-ying, a young lady who might have provided more upsets in the singles events had she not been forced to withdraw because of a shoulder injury.

Exit English girls.

I have deliberately kept down my comment on the English Corbillon Cup girls to devote more space to the performances of the Scottish and Welsh girls.

That most popular player, Helen Elliot of Edinburgh, put in one of her hardest working championships. She was terrific. When the Swedish Association made awards at the end of the championships to certain players for outstanding performances, one of the winning of titles, their one glaring omission was Helen.

She is Scotland. With gallant 19-year-old Helen Hourston they certainly made a proud contribution for their country in Stockholm.

Helen's best performance was against the Japs. This was another 9 a.m. clash and Helen succeeded in beating the most emotional of the Nipponese women, Kiko Watanabe, 21—9, 21—16. Later in the singles, partnered by a 17-year-old Rumanian girl, Helen reached the semi-finals of the women's doubles.

Credit Shirley Jones of Wales with a fine and flourishing victory over Diane Rowe. The Welsh trio of Betty Gray, Audrey Bates and Shirley landed convincing wins over Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Switzerland and America—with two reverses at the hands of England and China.

Has anyone ever thought what a three-girl BRITISH team of Ann Haydon, Helen Elliot and Shirley Jones could do to the Japanese girls?
SWAYTHLING CUP

GROUP 1

China 2-5, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Rumania 2-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Indonesia 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Belgium 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Scotland 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Portugal 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Switzerland 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
Luxembourg 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5

GROUP 2

Japan 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Vietnam 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
France 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5
South Africa 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5, 0-5

GROUP 3

Czechoslovakia 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Germany 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Austria 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Italy 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Norway 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Denmark 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0

GROUP 4

Hungary 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
U.S. 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Italy 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Canada 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0

CORBILLON CUP

GROUP 1

China 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Korea 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0
Jugoslavia 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0
Sweden 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0
Poland 3-1, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0
Ireland 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0

GROUP 2

Japan 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
U.S. 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0
Japan 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0, 5-0

GROUP 3

U.S. 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1
Canada 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1, 3-1

GROUP 4

U.S. 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0
Canada 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0, 3-0

FINALS

Japan bt China 5-2. Omiyura bt Chang Yung Ning 21-16, 21-19; lost to Wang Chuan Yao 21-8, 21-15; lost to T. Yokoyama 15-21, 21-10; lost to P. Chen 21-6, 21-12; lost to C. Lai 21-13, 21-11.

World Champions: JAPAN.
Wales at Stockholm

We went to Sweden knowing that the task of maintaining a sixth position in the Corbillon Cup ranking was a difficult job. The fact that we only dropped one place is a great tribute to the ability of our three girls, admirably captained by Mrs. Roy Evans.

From his experience in Tokyo, Mr. Roy Evans knew that the Chinese and the Koreans had improved, and the Welsh side was warned to expect a shock. The Chinese, whom we beat in their first World Championships at Bucharest, certainly turned the tables on us this time, but they also trounced the English, too, so we were not disgraced.

Shirley Jones, at last touching world class form, of which we have always known she is capable, was the mainstay of the side throughout and reached her peak with a decisive victory over Diane Rowe.

Both Betty Gray and Audrey Bates had some bad moments, but both rose to the occasion to win the other singles, and in turn to combine with Shirley to victory in doubles.

SHOOK ENGLAND

We beat Norway and Holland without losing an event, faltered to drop one to Switzerland, Denmark and Belgium, but were blitzed by China at the end of the second day.

The last day was our best. In the morning came a fine 3–0 victory over America; then we shook England. Although Ann Haydon was too good for both Shirley and Audrey, both put up a great fight against Diane and Ann in doubles, where they unluckily lost the first game, took the second to 12, and only faltered after leading to halfway in the third. Then of course there was Shirley's singles win over Diane.

We finished seventh out of the 26 finest teams in the world. That's something for all Wales to be proud of!

In the Swaythling Cup we won two and lost five in our group. England, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, as expected, beat us handsomely, but we should have beaten Holland, to whom we lost 2–5. We might have done better than the 2–5 defeat by Austria, although it must be remembered that this was the side that inflicted the surprise defeat on England.

Our victories were against Lebanon and Spain, an improvement on Utrecht form where we lost to much the same Spanish side.

BEST OF THE MEN

Alan Thomas had the best record, maintaining his usual top form throughout. John Dimascio found his sponge not so effective against players who could use it a lot better, while Bernard Dimascio faded a bit after a really top class performance against Bergmann in the opening match.

The strain of playing in all the matches took its toll in the Swaythling Cup. Best performance was that of John and Alan, who took one of the Vietnamese pairs to the fifth game, while Shirley reached the semi-final of the Consolation singles, losing to the No. 3 Japanese girl Namba, who beat Helen Elliot in the final.

All in all, we did well, and those enthusiasts who helped to send the team to Stockholm may be happy that their efforts were not wasted. Our girls carried the Welsh name rightly proud in the highest circles, while our men, although breaking no records, showed that experiences such as this is a must if we are to see our fortunes revive.

SWAYTHLING CUP


CORBILLON CUP


MEN'S SINGLES


WOMEN'S SINGLES


MEN'S DOUBLES


WOMEN'S DOUBLES


Gray/Jones lost to Koczan/Kereses (Hungary) 15–21, 14–21, 21–15, 19–21.

MIXED DOUBLES

Thomas/Bates lost to Poldi/Simon (Hungary) 11–21, 15–21, 15–21.

Eleven
Why do more stars wear the table tennis clothes designed and worn by VICTOR BARNA (above)?

Because they know the greatest ever world champion has thought of every detail which aids freedom and improves style.

T.T. Shirts, from $15/6
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Ask your local dealer to tell you in detail of the unique features of VICTOR BARNA T.T. clothes or write to:

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Look for this Shirt on the Stars
WE’VE KIDDED OURSELVES
says Johnny Leach

We have got to face facts and take our heads out of the sand. The Japanese are well and truly our masters at table tennis.

Their sweeping successes in the Stockholm championships have shown that we in Europe have been kidding ourselves in believing that we had the beating of them with a strong defence based on heavy back-spin with occasional accurate hitting.

Zoltan Berczik imparts more back-spin on the ball than any other player I know, and it is now history what happened to him when he came up against Ogamura.

**Change Ideas**

Obviously we have to change our whole ideas if we are ever to get the better of them. We have got to learn to hit harder and with more speed.

Speed is the main essential. It is the only way to exploit the Japanese main weakness—their pen-holder grip style, which means running around shots to take everything on the forehand.

And our attack has to be on both wings, with accurate placing to get them out of position. At the moment our fastest drives are mere tickles compared with the driving of Tanaka, Ogamura and Tsunoda.

Since they first burst on the world scene at Bombay in 1952 the Japs have continued to improve and they will be even more formidable in the future.

**Attack is Best**

They have learned from us; now we have to learn from them. They believe that attack is the best form of defence and take calculated risks at any stage of the game. Even when forced as much as 15 feet away from the table they can kill the ball at unbelievable speed.

They are like greased lightning with their movements. Their slight build helps them it is true, but their footwork is superb and it is all the outcome of abnormal time spent on physical training.

We cannot hope to achieve that in weeks or months: it would need almost perpetual training. Can our people afford that time?

Even I, as one of the so-called “professionals,” who the Japanese would like to have banned, cannot afford so much time on training. I have other work to do and a living to make. That goes for other players in the country.

The Japanese, however, are drawn mainly from the Universities where they have the time to concentrate on the game and without the worries that face the average player over here.

**Cash Easier**

Again, there would appear to be more money in the game in Japan. It cost them something like £4,000 to send a team to Stockholm. They apparently get it without any difficulty. It is a far different story over here. Witness the club competitions and cap-in-hand methods to get money together to send our teams to the championships.

---

**The Bat That Has Not Been Banned**

**The “Johnny Leach” “Two in One” Sandwich Bat**

Used by International Champion Players

All Over the World

Made from a special imported sponge, and pimpled rubber

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Thirteen
THIRTY-NINE of the Federation's seventy member nations were represented at the Annual Meeting in Stockholm, and four others were represented by proxy.

All the Continents were there—the regulars from Europe; Lebanon and Iran from Near East; China, Japan, Vietnam and South Korea from the Far East, and India. We also had Australians, New Zealanders, and the Brazilians. The U.S.A. was there, and, for the first time were Canada and, significant, the South African Table Tennis Board. From North Africa came Egypt.

THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION provided the now usual instantaneous translation system, and this is so effective that one wonders how we ever got through all our business without it.

We had two long sessions of the Annual Meeting, and the following meetings of sub-committees: three of the Advisory Committee, two of the Standing Orders Committee, two of the Development Committee, one of the Rules Committee, two of the Classification Committee, one of the Equipment Committee, and one of the Membership Committee.

Minutes! There are almost enough minutes in that little lot to make up days! And even then would have been too short to the huge room we were in at the luxurious Malmen Hotel.

I had four regular helpers provided by the Swedish Association, and one full time shorthand typist. Quite a staff, but even with all that we were hard at it up to midnight nearly every night!

I did not see much of the table tennis. In fact, it was something of a shock to come down into the hall from my office and to see a little of the subject of all our mass of papers upstairs.

Of course, the big topic of our deliberations was that subject—spare. Although my own Association has been in the forefront of the attempt to ban this since 1954, I cannot, as Federation Secretary, make any comment other than what will appear in the official minutes.

What I can say is that whatever the personal views of those in whose hands the destiny of the Federation lies, they must always have foremost in mind the prime object of preserving the unity of the Federation.

Revolutionary changes forced on a minority can lead to the formation of splinter groups, a most undesirable feature in any organisation, and the officers have to work hard to follow a course of action acceptable to all.

During the past few years we have been faced with the realisation that Associations in other parts of the world have advanced rapidly, both in playing ability and in administration.

No longer are the Europeans the only powerful Associations, and it has to be recognised that the world of the traditional founders of the Federation no longer stands above challenge.

This is the changing pattern of world organisation against which big issues show up as problems of compromise rather than of straightforward flights to an irrevocable decision.

The policy of the Federation has always been to move slowly and carefully for services at Stockholm have only served to illustrate that changes cannot be bullied through, but must be eased along gently with all shades of opinion taken into account at every step, until the change becomes something desired by everyone.

Only thus can unity be preserved. An organisation our size cannot be driven. It has to be led, gently. Believe me, that's quite a job.

CONGRESS NOTES

STANDARDISATION TEXT

The following is the text of the resolution on the standardisation of the bat, unanimously adopted by the I.T.T.F.:

"As a result of enquiries made among those attending this meeting, it is clear that opinion is divided on the question of the racket. Some Associations are convinced on the basis of their experiences that standardisation is necessary and urgent. Others believe equally strongly that no change in the law is required. It appears that a majority consider that some degree of standardisation would, if possible, be desirable.

"A Committee should be appointed to work out alternative draft standardisation measures, taking into consideration the definitions already before the meeting, and also all others may be forthcoming. One draft shall define the racket covering thickness and material. Those drafts to be worked out and circulated before July 1st, 1957.

"All Associations willing to do so are authorised to adopt as a trial either of these drafts, for play in their own territory. Matches and Open Events held under the I.T.T.F. laws for international competitions must be exempt unless the Associations concerned otherwise agree. It is strongly recommended that as many Associations as possible should undertake these trials.

"All Associations are urged to keep in touch with the Advisory Committee in respect to their opinions on the subject, and, should it appear that, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, a sufficient consensus of opinion has moved by May 1958 towards a change, the Advisory Committee is authorised to call, at any time between July and the middle of September 1958, a special General Meeting for the purpose of submitting a proposal for a change of law providing for racket standardisation.

"It is of course clear that no change in the law—that is, no change obligatorily applicable to all international competitions, World Championships, etc.—can be adopted except by a three-quarters majority of the votes either at the Special General Meeting or at any other.

"On being one of the seven members of the I.T.T.F. Advisory Committee elected in Stockholm, Mrs. H. Roy Evans becomes the first woman to receive such recognition for services to the game over a long period.

In the top bracket of world class just prior to the war, Mrs. Evans has since devoted her energies to the Table Tennis Association of Wales, of which she is the Secretary. As a member of the Advisory Committee she will have the opportunity to look after women's interests in the higher spheres of the game.

Mrs. Evans has also been elected to the European Championships Board, charged with the task of organising Championships in Europe in the years between the World Championships.

EUROPEANS: NO OFFERS

Up to the time of writing no country has offered to stage these events in 1958, although there is just a possibility they will be in Hungary. In 1960 they will be in Yugoslavia.

Ivor Montagu, Roy Evans and Bill Vint have been unanimously re-elected to their offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Roy Evans is the Secretary of the special sub-committee which has been set up to investigate the possibilities of a standardisation of the racket. Jack Carrington is the English representative, and the other members will be representatives of Germany, Sweden and Japan.
STOCKHOLM MEMORIES

by ELSIE CARRINGTON

ANOTHER World Championship is over. How sad to think that we must wait two years for the next one. Another two years before we can once again feel that special atmosphere of a World Championship; the meeting of old friends we haven't seen for a year or two; the making of new ones; the little discussions with foreign players, when languages don't matter because of the common interest; the joy and heartbreak of matches won and lost.

You will read elsewhere in these pages of the actual matches, many of them unforgettable. But in a World Championship meeting there are very many small incidents that are also unforgettable.

NET CORD COST CROWN

I shall always remember the composure of Tomi Okawa when she lost to Ella Zeller on a net-cord in the time-limit fifth game, when the score stood at 12–11 with five minutes to play for the deciding point . . .

The parade of nations, when the biggest cheer was for the 200 Swedish officials, all dressed alike in their perfectly cut suits of light navy gaberdine, with the Association's badge of three golden crowns on the pocket. All wore white shirts, blue tie and yellow pullovers and all were paid for by individuals themselves.

The Civic Reception in the beautiful golden room of Stockholm's City Hall, where only a few months earlier our own Queen had attended a State dinner in her honour: The perfect English of the Public Relations Officer who conducted us around the building. He told us he had never been to England, but had acquired his accent by listening to the B.B.C.

INTERNATIONAL SAUSAGE

The Varum Korv (hot sausages to you) that could be bought at any hour of the day or night from the street vendors. There must have been an international flavour to these sausages, as the queue always contained customers from several different continents.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPECIAL

WHAT NEXT?

The sight of Leah Neuberger in her "Bermuda" shorts . . . She assured me they were the height of fashion in the States and she was convinced that everybody in England would be wearing them next year. I, on the other hand, am convinced that nobody would be seen dead in them in England and Leah and I have a shilling bet on it.

"Bermuda" shorts are narrow-legged, knee-length, grey flannel affairs, with a front fly fastening! With the shorts go knee-length socks of any colour to suit your fancy.

Revolting! Our own Ivor Montagu from Holland. Dancing the rock-and-roll on the ferry boat from Denmark to Germany. We rocked, while the boat rolled!

Yes indeed, Stockholm leaves a host of pleasant memories.
A new approach is needed
says CONRAD JASCHKE

DURING the past two or three seasons, English table tennis has seen a definite decline, and the sooner we face this fact the better. Don't misunderstand me; I am not an apostle of doom . . . rather an incurable optimist.

However, the fact remains that not only has our playing prestige slumped badly, but all is not well in other respects.

We have failed to take all the opportunities offered by publicity, and by television. Look how swimming misjudged the public; I am not an apostle of doom . . . rather an incurable optimist.

It breeds suspicion and defeats the ex-
committees, of which the officers are automatic 'members, must be abolished.

The invidious system of shelving delib-
erate on the shoulders of the County Asso-
ciations. It is wrong, therefore that they have a say in things.

Finance would prevent frequent meet-
ups, but perhaps twice a year they could be brought together to receive a full report of activities from the N.E.C. It would help bring fresh faces into the administrative side, to learn and eventually take more responsible office. I would stress, however, that no N.E.C. member should represent his county on the council.

Headquarters
A tremendous fillip would be given to the game by the creation of the Association's own permanent H.Q. Even if our friends in the trade should be unable to help (and they usually do!) it would probably be cheaper to borrow the money to purchase a freehold property than to continue paying high rents for offices and committee room.

In addition it would make a permanent coaching centre possible.

Training of Players
Our playing prestige is at an all-time low in the world, particularly where the men are concerned. "The Cupboard is Bare," said Victor Barna in a recent issue.

Yet in this country we have an asset which makes us the envy of most foreigners—the finest coaches in the world.

Barna, Jack Carrington, Geoff Har-
rower and many others have done miracles with young players who have caught their eye. However, it does not follow that their talents have always been employed on the best "raw material" available.

Probably 90 per cent of potential stars have never had a chance to be noticed by them. A Table Tennis H.Q., incorporating playing facilities and dormitories could rectify this.

Even established young players would benefit from such facilities where they could be watched and advised by experts and put into fighting trim before im-
portant contests.

Publicity
More determined efforts must be made in the direction of publicity and a step in the right direction is the N.E.C. re-
commendation to create a Press Officer with a seat on the N.E.C.

Great opportunities exist in this field but publicity must also be stepped up in the local and regional areas, not merely on a national angle.

It is up to every county to have their own Press Officer whose task is to see that his own local papers are kept fully informed.

Moreover, any Press Officer appointed who fails to bring about visible improvement within one season, should not be considered for re-election.

If this article does not earn me a fair quota of abuse I shall be surprised. I realise that whoever jumps ahead first into controversy must expect it. However, whom, there may even be some people who agree with me.


e are the makers of the official
E.T.T.A. shirts which are worn
by the English International
Teams and the principal
players in table tennis. You
should wear one as well.

OBTAINABLE FROM ALL LEADING SPORTS OUTFITTERS

Seventeen
KLEIN STILL AROUND

SI WASSERMAN, who manages and instructs at the Los Angeles T.T. centre, apparently had hold of the wrong end of the stick when he wrote to tell me that Irwin Klein, reigning U.S. champion, was packing in the game in order to concentrate on dental studies.

Red-headed Klein, now 19, is, in fact, studying in San Francisco, but has stated that he has no intention of leaving the sport. He was, indeed, extremely keen to make the U.S. Swaythling team but because of insufficient tournament appearances was overlooked.

AFTER U.S. TITLES

So it seems that Irwin, plus his sponge racket, will be around at the U.S. championships later this month at South Bend, near Chicago, Illinois. Dick Miles failed to qualify for the same reason, but he made his own way to Stockholm for the individual events.

The official U.S. teams were flown to Sweden by the American Army, on the understanding that the players repaid the favour by staying in Europe to serve up exhibitions to Servicemen.

Mr. Kirkpatrick's ventures into the great big world over the seas seems to me to reveal his unawareness of the sponge issue as it affects T.T. communities in real T.T. countries. I confess that even I would not be bold enough to brandish opinions on controversial happenings in places thousands of miles beyond my ken—like New England for instance.

Still on about sponge. No surprise that England's "let's standardise rackets" proposal was thrown out by the International Federation. The sponge bat has gained too powerful a hold to be thrown out just like that. The Austrian delegate's reaction to the Federation was vehement and to the point.

They vowed they will not organise an Austrian Open until sponge is banned.

Youth Festival in Moscow during July.

The Festival will feature table tennis, but Victor, if he goes, will only watch, not play.

The next All-Asian championships will be held in Colombo, Ceylon, in March next year. With no world tournament taking place in 1958, it
is likely that Japan, non-starters in the last series, will compete.

Angelica Rozeanu has hinted that she may have played in her last world tournament. Can't help feeling that had she retired two years ago, while still champion after an amazing string of successes, she would today be regarded as a legendary figure rather than as a once-great player who stayed around a little too long.

New Zealand girl Joyce Williams, who made her own way to Sweden to compete in the Stockholm series, has come to England and plans to stay here for at least a year.

Pre-"world" headline news that Jill Rook was ill due to tournament nerves was a trifle misleading. Truth of the matter is that the pretty Surrey girl had eaten Swedish cream which was a little too rich for her. The indisposition was a very minor one and she was out and about as large as life next day.

THE BEAST

What a rush there was to make news capital of Zoltan Berezik, whose alleged robust appetite and pastoral table etiquette were used as a hook on which to hang on him the unflattering title of "The Beast." The national press boys went to town in a big way on the youthful Hungarian, whom I mentioned as far back as October as "one to watch." Zoltan fell down when he met the Japs, but let's remember that he hadn't faced anything like those pen-holding wonders before.

After the defeat, the 19-year-old said, "I'll practise twice as hard, and even harder if necessary, to beat the Japs—and beat them I will."

Obviously the boy has a fighting heart as big as his appetite.

Swedish top players were keen to enter the "English" and were even prepared to pay their own expenses for the trip, but in the excitement on their doorstep overlooked sending in their entry forms in good time. Their entries were refused.

Richard Bergmann may have had his bad moments in Stockholm, but before playing there enjoyed adulation with his Harlem Globetrotters exhibition act in America and Canada. Amongst the many celebrities who saw him in action were Elvis Presley, Stewart McPherson, Esther Williams and Archie Moore.

Richard finished as a tournament player? Don't believe it. He may never again be world champ, but I'm quite certain he'll make quite a few ambitious young 'uns sit up for some years to come.

THE BEST TABLE TENNIS TABLES AT ANY PRICE

Tournament table as illustrated £33 12s.

Club Model similar to above except it has folding legs £21 15s. 6d.

Top Table with folding legs £19 7s. 6d.

Hire Purchase and Rental Terms available.

JOHN G. TOMS
18 Norbett Road, Arnold, Nottingham. Tel.: 268912

THE HARD CORE

by Bryan Cuttress

It is quite unlikely that you have ever heard of Percy Moorecroft unless you live in Berkshire.

He has never been, or ever thought likely to become a national table tennis star, but he made his mark in the annals of the Berkshire Association by playing in his fifteenth match for the county.

Although sport has always played a big role in his life, having won school medals for soccer, cricket, running, swimming and boxing, it was not until he joined the Army that Moorecroft began playing table tennis. Even then only on a small scale in order to relieve boredom.

However, shortly after being demobbed in 1947 and following a cartilage operation, which put a premature end to his soccer career, he took up the sport seriously.

He joined the Slough Social Centre where watching the better exponents of the game made him decide to play competitively.

He began to practice and also resumed his stringent soccer training programme, which took up five hours of his time every Sunday and included a weekly three miles run in Army boots.

Then in December of the same year he made his County debut, and since that date has been one of the mainstays of the team having played continuously except for a short spell in the 1951-52 season.

Percy Moorecroft

In 1948 he began his collection of trophies, by winning the Maidenhead singles. and also started his first of nine seasons as the captain of the Maidenhead Association Division One team, Legion Tigers.

Recently Moorecroft also began taking a hand in the administrative field by becoming the secretary of the British Legion Club.

Apart from his many table tennis commitments this well-liked player also finds time for a game of darts for which, incidentally he has won five medals, while in the summer his attention turns to the Maidenhead Cricket Club for whom he is the opening bat.

To sum up, Percy Moorecroft is a great asset to table tennis. He is not one of the big names, but one of the thousands of obscure workers without whose help table tennis would cease to exist.

To quote one of his own officials: "He never complains however adverse the conditions. Is always willing to help officials and youngsters and is in fact, a real good sport."
Letters to the Editor

BLACK MARK, E.T.T.A.

Members of leagues in Middlesex and the surrounding area are extremely dissatisfied with the way in which the tickets for the England-Japan match at Tottenham Town Hall on 8th April have been distributed.

Boycott Threatened

I wish to register the strongest possible protest against the way the E.T.T.A. of arrangements for the forthcoming match between England and Japan to be played at Tottenham on Monday.

The E.T.T.A. should in future ensure that every international match gets the widest publicity possible by notification to all members in the area concerned, not just the favoured few.

Can you imagine the comments of football followers if the F.A. arranged a match against Japan that "we deliberately did not publicise this event widely because we wanted to sell the tickets for the English Open" is no consolation to football followers if the F.A. arranged a match at Highbury and also advertising the match locally. Tickets were sold out in a few days.

The E.T.T.A. should in future ensure that all members of the Association to clubs or leagues advertising events and indeed any league or county fixture if possible.

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JEAN BROOKS

(West Harrow)

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JEAN BROOKS

(West Harrow)

GO TO ENGLISH OPEN

To Roy Evans and all our Welsh friends, for whom I have the utmost admiration, I would say that my remarks in the February issue were a joking matter, on the grounds that Welsh wooden racket period with the implication that the Welsh sons might be reaping the sins of their fathers.

My friend Jack Carrington's article is at least notable for two important admissions.

The first that sponge has more control, I did not ascribe to him the opposite view.

The second, that we may be allowed to advance from 15 m.p.h. (?) pimpled rubber) to 30 m.p.h. (?) some kind of sponge). Charges of spongemanship, gimmicks, etc., will get us nowhere.

I have yet to see sound reasons stated for banning sponge.

I advise all who can see to the Japanese magazine, Coach, etc., sponge players at the English Open and form their own opinion.

DENNIS OFFER.

U.S.A. DEFENDED

Gentlemen, especially Mr. Carrington,

While I concur heartily with the basic criticism of junior player Kilpatrick's absurd letter, spoken, I am sure, from lack of experience in the game, I feel that I must on behalf of the U.S.T.T.A. correct the misapprehension of the part of Jack Carrington regarding the players from the U.S.A. who entered the World's and English Open.

Not one of these players was ELIGIBLE to play for the team for one of the two following reasons:

(a) Some players did not have enough points to be CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION (And this includes Miles and Cartland).

(b) The others were not SELECTED for the team due to simply not WINNING a place on the team.

Not ONE of these players requested to be left off the team to concentrate on individual events because NOT ONE OF THEM WAS IN A POSITION TO STATE SUCH A THING.

Also, certain of the American youngsters travelled at their own expense, for love of the game ONLY, so I must also take exception to Jack's statement that:— When he suggested to young players in the U.S. that they might be in the running for a U.S. badge (or as it really is in case, a jacket) that the response was a "honest" answer to the question. "How much 'dough' will that get me?"

The actual truth of the matter is that ANYBODY who plays in America with perhaps two or three exceptions, plays for the love of the game because EVERYBODY knows that there never has been, and is very unlikely to be in the future, any financial remuneration worth taking up the game to receive.

I would say that 99 per cent. of U.S. Table Tennis players play because they love the game, and want to play no matter what it COSTS them (let alone what nebulous financial benefits they might reap !!).

As far as the popularity of the sponge but in America goes, I think I am quite safe in stating that it has NOT swept the entire country by storm, and that there are many players who feel, as does the E.T.T.A., that it would be a distinct benefit to the game to standardise the standard (40mm). It was not the rubber that was the problem.

I for one, could not agree more with Jack's example three, and his whole outlook on Sponge. BUT I feel that you have taken hold of the wrong end of the stick about we Americans Jack!!

PAULINE ROBINSON

(New York).

Due to a misprint in the article "Jack Carrington as Hit Rock" (March issue) he is down as saying "I have said sponge has less control". This should of course have read, "I have NEVER said sponge has less control."

Twenty-one
MORE LETTERS

LONGER SHORTS
Reference Tibby Wegnor’s article “Clean up Scruffiness” in the January issue.

I must agree that the standard of turn out of T.T. players in general could be better; and none can deny that there has been an improvement in quality and variety of sportswear.

However, I would point out that although local stockists can offer me shorts which the manufacturers have assured them will suit me, in fact they don’t, and I humbly suggest that some of us, having passed the first flush of youth wouldn’t like our shorts just a little longer.

Also manufacturers PLEASE let’s have some balls which we know will be decent quality wood and some pre-war quality pimpled rubber.

You see I like spending my money—NOT throwing it away.

R. F. BOWLES
(Bristol).

Tibby Wegnor replies: The manufacturer does not refuse to make longer or shorter shorts, but the retailer is not ready to stock those various styles. He wants stocks that he knows are certain sellers, and keeps them to a bare minimum. It is on these that the manufacturer has to budget. “Specials” therefore belong to the department of the ordinary tailor. However, we hope that one day retailers will consider the needs of all their customers.

DOUBLES DIVIDED
Replying to Mr. Hudson’s letter in the November issue concerning the Dividing Line in doubles, I am also nearing the 50 mark, but assert that in all cases the player should be alert and active.

The line makes very little difference except that you have to know your partner’s movements, especially after service. I say give it a season’s trial and Mr. Hudson will change his mind and probably be the best doubles player in his club.

L. J. OWEN,
(Hampstead).

Editor’s Note: Mr. Hudson objects to the above. He believes the dividing line for doubles in Willeton League matches, an experiment being carried out with the permission of the E.T.T.A.

WRONG TERM
I have been perturbed in the past by the way in which the term “Deuce” has appeared in “Table Tennis,” which is the official magazine of the English Table Tennis Association.

In November, 1956, “deuce” occurs twice; on pages 7 and 13.

Since this term is not recognised by the E.T.T.A., I think its appearance so frequently in “Table Tennis” is a bad mistake, as it will encourage those people who use the term to believe it does in fact have the approval of the E.T.T.A.

The official magazine of the English Table Tennis Association.

Willesden League matches, an experiment being carried out with the permission of the department of the ordinary tailor. However, we hope that one day retailers will consider the needs of all their customers.

I must agree that I am writing this letter as an independent person, and not as a member of the Sussex County Umpires’ Sub-Committee.

A. W. LEIGH
Shoreham-by-sea.

BAD MANNERS
Over the past few years I have umpired several International Matches, etc., and I am becoming increasingly astonished and disgusted by some of the comments made by players who should know better while they are at the table.

The sort of remarks to which I am referring are these: “My God, fancy missing a shot like that” — “I am silly” — “He’s too good for you,” and so on.

I do feel that this sort of thing is completely out of place and certainly does not reflect any credit on the players concerned, and I think that a few gentle hints dropped in the right place might well do some good.

C. N. GRIFFIN,
County Umpire, Birmingham.

Like Victor Barna (February issue) I quite agree that the County matches must be made more attractive to the general public.

The proposal to cut down the number of matches is quite sound, but let us not do it at the expense of the ladies. It would appear that when suggestions are mooted it is always the ladies who suffer from the lack of games.

I would suggest cutting the teams to two men and two women — and the number of matches to eight — two men’s and women’s singles, two mixed doubles and men’s and women’s doubles. All players would then have the same number of games.

I agree with Victor that games on either my lines or his would give public quality and not quantity. Games would become tougher and that in itself would add more spectacle to play. Further it would make the task of the player much harder to reach his or her County team. There would also be a very substantial saving in travelling expenses.

Again I do not agree with Victor, namely that when the audiences do start coming in again to revert back to the old system and expand the teams. No, let us get the very best players in the teams and stick to it.

J. J. LEDWICH
(Sutton and District League).

I think it is a wonderful idea to ban “two men and two women — and the retailer is not ready to stock those various styles. He wants stocks that he knows are certain sellers, and keeps them to a bare minimum. It is on these that the manufacturer has to budget. “Specials” therefore belong to the department of the ordinary tailor. However, we hope that one day retailers will consider the needs of all their customers.

HELEN HOULISTON
From her early teens a member of Edinburgh’s famous Gambit Club, Helen Houliston has put to good use the long hours of coaching bestowed upon her by Edinburgh’s other Helen, Miss Elliot.

The young Scots international has obviously modelled her style on that of her elder counterpart.

As with Miss Elliot so for Miss Houliston the watchword is obviously tenacity and the general appearance with the two playing together in a doubles match is one of such forbidding determination and extreme agility that they must surely start most matches with a psychological advantage.

For the record Miss Houliston has so far gathered at one time or another the following titles: Irish Open Women’s Doubles (with Shirley Jones, 1954); “Daily Mirror” Women’s and Girl’s Singles, 1954; every Scots Women’s Doubles title with Helen Elliot; Scottish Open and East of Scotland Mixed Doubles (with Ian Barclay); Mid Ulster Open Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles; County Down Women’s Doubles.

Although only 19, Helen has already represented her country in three world championships, at Stockholm, Utrecht and at Wembley.

Unlike many other girls of her age Helen is not an addict of dancing but she quite enjoys club dances and is especially partial to those held subsequent to the Irish tournaments. Helen’s eyes lit up as she told me this and it is obvious that Miss Houliston, for one, would be strongly in favour of Scottish tournaments taking a more social turn.

Twenty-three
MAKE WAY FOR YOUTH

by PETER LAKER

of the "DAILY MIRROR"

A new generation is ready to march in on the top brass of British table tennis.

Nothing will halt the march because Britain hasn't known world class table tennis for some three years. Three years without a world title!

Oh, I know Birmingham's Ann Harrower might have bagged a hat-trick of titles in one go at the recent Stockholm world championships. But even if Ann had won three finals, it would have been a one-woman show ... and of little "boost" value to our national prestige.

No, I am afraid the cruel truth is that our stars are getting old and stale. They are no longer good enough to beat off the sweeping challenge of our youngsters.

I say this because I believe that the standard of our young players has never been higher. And, my, their keenness ... the entry figure of 11,720 for this season's DAILY MIRROR National Tournament is higher than that of the previous year and is second only to the tournament record tally of 12,133.

The pick of the bunch, the "last sixty-four," contest the Area and National semi-finals and finals at Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on April 13th—and I assure you that they have an awful lot to offer the sport.

[Hunting Doubles]

If I single out three names for special mention, I trust I will be forgiven by the remaining sixty-one.

First, Colin Thomas, the Llandudno schoolboy. Colin, 13 and pencil-slim, is through to the Area finals.

I rate this a particularly fine achievement, for the last time I saw this Welsh lad he was a very disappointed young man indeed. That was last April at Liverpool, just after Colin had been eliminated from the "MIRROR" boys' semi-finals.

Well, Colin is back on the scene in TWO events, THERE'S REAL FIGHT FOR YOUTH.

Finally to Connie Moore, 26, from Heywood, Lancs. Connie is what is called a Keen Type. She is keen, in fact, that she BUGHT HER OWN SHOE SHOP IN ORDER TO GET TIME OFF FOR TABLE TENNIS!

No sporting "bump" can bite deeper than that. Yet the Moore Case is really nothing more than a symbol of the spirit of the "MIRROR" tournament, indeed, of table tennis throughout Great Britain.

Long may it flourish.

**WHAT A MAN!**

BY BILL BAGSHAW

Old Man Hurlock was down against me in the Daily Mirror Tournament. Imagine my surprise when he came to this smallholding, where we have our Table Tennis room, one Sunday morning with a broken ankle. He was by himself and I was amazed when he said he would still like to play if my young son would pick up the ball.

Well, I did my utmost to win but the old-timer had me completely foxed and thrashed me three games straight.

I am not sure of his age, I believe it is around 65. While stalwarts like Mr. Hurlock are about Table Tennis will still be my favourite game to watch and above all don't the young players look fit.

DORSET "CLOSED" FINALS

Men's Singles: R. BASSETT bt W. Bryer 21-13, 16-21, 21-16.


* * *

CHELMSFORD AND DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

FINALS RESULTS


Women's Doubles: Sitch/Mrs. J. Andrews bt Shipstone/Mrs. S. Well 23-25, 21-9, 21-12.

Mixed Doubles: Condon/Miss Sitch bt W. Fell/Mrs. Fell 21-17, 21-16.

Boys' Singles: B. Scobrook bt R. Shelby 21-11, 21-12.

Men's Singles: M. Thorhill bt R. Sharman 22-20, 21-17.

Women's Singles: R. Connell bt J. Bottrill 19-21, 21-19, 21-16.


JEAN HARROWER

If my young son would pick up the ball, imagine my surprise when he came down against me in the Daily Mirror Tournament. Imagine my surprise when he came to this smallholding, where we have our Table Tennis room, one Sunday morning with a broken ankle. He was by himself and I was amazed when he said he would still like to play if my young son would pick up the ball.

Well, I did my utmost to win but the old-timer had me completely foxed and thrashed me three games straight.

I am not sure of his age, I believe it is around 65. While stalwarts like Mr. Hurlock are about Table Tennis will still be my favourite game to watch and above all don't the young players look fit.
**DURHAM CLAIM: TOP VARSITY**

Annually the University Athletic Union hold a knockout team competition, spread over the whole season, and embracing all the English Universities except Oxford, Cambridge and London. This year the title has been won by Durham, who beat Leicester 11-3 in the final at Sheffield.

With a friendly win of 10-0 against Cambridge, who held London to a draw, Durham may justly claim to be the top University in table tennis.

Congratulations won have been recorded all season, especially in the competition, where on the way to the final they beat Hull 12-3, Sheffield 14-1, Leeds 15-0, and Cardiff, the holders, 12-3.

Early in the season Durham had the services of Gordon Lumsden, the former junior international. Unfortunately injury, illness and now examinations, have kept him out of the side since before Christmas. His only match, against Sheffield, saw him in fine form, and far too strong for the opposition.

This loss has been made more than good by the return to the University in January of Ron Hunter, rated number two in the North East.

A regular player for Northumberland, winner of the county title last year, and a “Mirror” semi-finalist, Hunter is regarded as the best player to come to the University. Unbeaten in University matches this year, his reliability has been an encouragement to the rest of the team.

J. Oughton, at number two, is known as one of the most spectacular figures in the North East, and on his day is likely to beat anyone by sustained aggression. In local competitions his victims include John Hillier, the Northumberland number one, and Ron Hunter.

Tom Howie, of Derby, the No. 3, relies on a dour defence coupled with a strong counter attack, and gives little away. He was a junior international, reserve against Wales and held the Derby junior and senior titles in 1954/5. Returning to the game after a year's absence, his form has been most impressive.

Completing the team of five are Peter Chaplin, of Portsmouth, who relies mainly on defence, and Peter Tucknutt, an all-round player who prefers to attack, winning both his singles in straight games, beating first D. S. Phillips of Cardiff, were unable to take part.

An experienced Welsh international, Phillips is the best of our opponents this year.

Durham will be unchanged next season and it is hoped that all the team will be able to compete and perhaps bring the individual title to the north.

Durham look forward to keen games throughout the year, but not without some degree of confidence. However, many new students come to the universities each year, and it is quite possible for a winning team to be produced from anywhere. It is this uncertainty which makes the competition interesting and gives all teams a chance.

**P.C.**

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**OXFORD UNBEATEN**

Oxford University crowned a successful season with their first victory over Cambridge since 1952 in the Inter-Varsity match at Oxford.

Although they won by the closest possible margin of 4-1, the Dark Blues never really looked in danger of being defeated.

Cambridge won the first match but from then on Oxford took command and at the half-way stage led 4-1, after which there was little doubt as to the final result.

David Eagles, former junior international, was given some tough opposition in his singles matches before beating L. A. Charlier, the Dark Blues captain, and P. R. H. Davis, each match going the full distance.

Charlier and Davis, however, gained some measure of revenge by beating Eagles and G. O. J. Cooke in the doubles.

Old loyalties did not bother S. L. Geoghegan, a former Cambridge man who played exceptionally well for Oxford, winning both his singles in straight games, beating first D. S. Buck and then D. W. Mahen.

Oxford having also defeated Reading and Birmingham Universities and drawn with London, have an unbeaten record against University sides this term.

**HANDBICAP OVERCOME**

A young lad who refuses to let a physical handicap deprive him of the pleasure of table tennis is Maurice Mitchell, now playing for Redditch "C" in the Nottingham and District League.

Maurice, a victim of infantile paralysis, has been left with a crippled leg, which makes footwork difficult. He gets round this by placing his left hand on the knee-cap and pushing the leg into position in order to balance himself for his stroke.

It is sheer will power that gets him by, and with his useful backhand, he has been able to beat physically-fit players.

In a recent league match, Mitchell came up against another handicapped player, M. Church, of Hyson Green "B", who wears leg iron and boots because of a disability.

They had a terrific battle with each trying to out-position the other. Church eventually won 21-11, 21-16.

**JACK CARRINGTON'S HOLIDAY TRAINING WEEKS, 1957**

1. South Coast; 1—7 June (Men only; Ladies places fully booked).
2. Clacton: 14—21 September (Either Sex).

Details from: 24, Worcester Gardens, Ilford, Essex.
IN spite of the game’s popularity in most countries of the world, table-tennis continues to be the Cinderella sport in the British Army. In Germany, for example, where sport plays an important part in the lives of British troops, the game is not officially recognised throughout the Rhine Army.

This seems a sorry state of affairs considering that most of our young players from club players to internationals have to do two years military service.

The Army has extensive facilities for nearly every sport: the Army soccer side usually fields about six internationals, the cricket team plays against several first-class counties and the rugger fifteen draws thousands to Twickenham when an inter-services match is played. The Army lawn tennis tournament is an impressive affair and squash and badminton both have their big moments. Why, then, is table-tennis given such a raw deal?

There is interest in the game as a visit to any unit will show, but interest is not enough. Enthusiasm must have the support from the powers that be, for unless a sport is officially recognised it is doomed to failure.

To quote one instance of bad management: The 2nd Infantry Division decided to hold individual championships at Hilden, but the event was cancelled due to lack of support. This was surprising as the game has quite a strong following in this Division. The reason was not hard to discover—lack of publicity. The only notification some units had of the event was through a small paragraph in the Divisional newspaper and official newspapers are not read with enthusiasm in most quarters. Thus it is doubtful if many table-tennis players realised that such a tournament was ever planned.

2nd Infantry Division News

Table-tennis was not officially recognised by the Divisional Sports Committee until last season, when a team competition was held for the first time. Sixteen teams competed the eventual winners being the 3rd Hussars. A Divisional team went to Berlin to play the Berlin Independent Brigade and an enjoyable game ended in a 5-5 draw.

This season there were twenty-one entries for the team competition and at the time of writing the semi-finals are due to be played. Both the 3rd Hussars and last season’s beaten finalists, H.Q. 2nd Inf. Div., are still in the running.

1st Essex Regiment, who arrived from Hong Kong too late to compete in the tournament, have played several matches without defeat. The petrol shortage has not made it any easier to arrange friendly matches.

The next big event on the calendar is the B.A.O.R. Championships, Corporal T. Miller (Royal Signals), the holder, having been demobbed, there is no accepted favourite for this event.

SOME fairly well-known players from home are playing together here in Singapore for the respective camps, Changi and Seletar. The latter have the majority of the best players and, at the time of writing, Changi’s ‘A’ team just have the edge over Seletar’s ‘B’ team.

Seletar have three teams in the Singapore League, but Changi, who were too late to enter, have been playing friendly matches with Seletar and Chinese clubs.

This is Seletar’s first attempt in the League, and unfortunately, they are meeting with little success.

Most of the players in Singapore are Chinese. Their remarkable agility, combined with peculiar penholder styles and sponge bats, make them difficult players to beat. However, there has been noted improvement in the Seletar team after every match. Recently, Changi beat a Cantonese side by 6-1.

Some excellent work is being done by Paul Preston, the Seletar secretary. Recently he organised an inter-wing League on Seletar Camp, which looks like being a great success. He is also trying to form a R.A.F. Singapore Command team, which is hoped in due course to play other Commands, and top Chinese clubs.

In February, an unofficial R.A.F. Singapore team, played Nanyang University, only losing 3-6. A few weeks previously the University had won the Singapore business houses tournament, winning all their eight matches by 5-0!

Some credit must be given to the R.A.F. side for giving such a fine performance. The team was J. Gibbons, D. Gillon, P. Huxford, and D. Wright of Seletar, and B. Baker, C. Hora, and K. Rodwell, of Changi.

Naturally, all are keen to get home and play again in their local Leagues. Changi player Chris Hora, has ambitions to make the Kent team when he gets home, and the other players have similar aspirations.

KEN RODWELL.

Twenty-six

R.A.F. PLAYERS IN SINGAPORE (left to right) Back row: L. Hood (Canterbury), R. Baker (Lincoln), P. Huxford (Portsmouth), C. Hora (Bromley), D. Gillon (Durham), P. Ward (Dublin), Front row: R. Barleich, J. Gibbons (Birmingham), K. Rodwell (Ipswich), J. Best (Kensington).
**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP .... by CONRAD JASCHKE**

**Sussex See-Saw**

Up one year down the next, Sussex have become like a shuttlecock being tossed backwards and forwards between the Premier and Second Divisions. They look set for the lower sphere if their unexpected 10-0 win over Herts, has assured them being runners-up to Surrey II in the Second Division. Thus going forward to join Glamorgan (Second West) and Lincolnshire (Second North) as the promotion candidates.

Only two up so far means a challenge competition, and one in which luck plays a big part. Two teams are drawn out of the hat and play each other with the winner going up.

The loser gets another bite at the cherry by meeting the third team for the other place. Thus the team between Division II and the Regional Division in successive seasons, will be remaining in the lower sphere this time. Their 4-6 defeat against Norfolk, has lost them the lead. If Norfolk can beat Wiltshire — it has been a struggle for many. Only the generosity of car owners have kept many counties going. Certainly, things should be back to normal by next season.

Reduce Teams

I should have liked to see some thought given to the suggestion made by the Editor some time ago, regarding the reduction of the size of teams. Two men (playing 4 singles), one wooden singles, and three doubles, making eight sets, appears the right length for a game to me. Also, the reduction of a team to four players, would solve many transport problems when cars are used for conveyance. It could result in a very considerable saving in expenses, and some counties may be persuaded to run extra teams. I think the suggestion merits more serious consideration than it has been given so far.

**COUNTY DIARY**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

April 27 Surrey v Kent, St. Saviours Hall, Guildford

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Up in the hat gets only one chance. While Sussex, Glamorgan and Lincolnshire fill their thoughts with promotion, the dark gloom of relegation hangs over Cheshire, Kent, the two teams that were promoted last year, and Lancashire.

Nothing can save the pointless Cheshire and by the time these notes appear the Kent and Lancashire issue will probably have been decided. If not then Kent will have to await their match with Surrey at Guildford on April 27.

That 10-0 thrashing Lancashire handed out to next-door-neighbours Cheshire may well prove the decider if it comes to match average.

The Premier Division issue will have been settled by now, through the Middlesex v Essex and Yorkshire v Cheshire matches, which were too late in March for inclusion here.

Bedfordshire, who usually alternate far as the N.C.C. are concerned, is the relaxation in petrol rationing. The counties have managed, but it has been a struggle for many. Only the generosity of car owners have kept many counties going. Certainly, things should be back to normal by next season.

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We welcome your enquiries. Read sketch or sample.

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**DETAILED RESULTS**

**PREMIER DIVISION**

Lancashire 10, Cheshire 0

J. Ingham bt E. Johnson; 13, 11, Miss W. Swift bt Miss L. Bowen; 17, 16. Miss W. Swift/Miss S. Threlfall bt Miss Bown/Miss M. Young; 17, 12, 18.

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**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

Norfolk, Beds 6

JUNIOR NORTH

Cheshire 5, Lancashire 3

Yorkshire 7, Cheshire 1

JUNIOR SOUTH

Herts 5, Essex 8

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**PREMIER DIVISION**

Cheshire 5, Lancashire 3

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**DIVISIONAL TABLES**

(Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope)

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For full particulars of my weekly summer coaching and training courses, write to MEY KEN STANLEY

St. James's Hall, St. James's Row, Burnley, Lancs. Tel: Burnley 6263

(please enclose a stamped addressed envelope)

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Twenty-seven
JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

The only new England cap, he never displayed form his opening match against Howell Jones, and could easily have lost. Only his fighting spirit carried him through. Peter Cole was anything but convincing in his opening match against Arkell and Dave Parry. In contrast, Tony Piddock once more demonstrated that he is the England winner against him. Bloy later beat Parry, but interest was too much for both, Clive Arkell and Dave Parry. Miss J. Harrower gained a second title when she won the women's doubles with Miss Spokes. Jackie Head had some consolation when she partnered Miss Piper to win the women's doubles and her husband, Jackie Head to win the mixed doubles.

Chief interest was shown in Douglas Bloy's display. The only new England cap, he never displayed form his opening match against Howell Jones, and could easily have lost. Only his fighting spirit carried him through. Peter Cole was anything but convincing in his opening match against Arkell and Dave Parry. In contrast, Tony Piddock once more demonstrated that he is the

WEST MIDDLESEX "OPEN"

J. SOMOGYI, the Hungarian refugee, collected his second title when he won the men's singles in the West Middlesex Open at Ealing on March 2. Following a three games win over Derek Burridge he beat Ken Craigie in straight games in the final 21-19, 21-15. Margaret Fry took the women's singles, beating Peggy Piper in the final 21-15, 26-24. Miss Piper provided an upset in the semi-finals with a great win over Mrs. Jean Head over three games.

Mrs. Head had some consolation when she partnered Miss Piper to win the women's doubles and her husband, Jackie Head to win the mixed doubles.

Last year's juniors, Eddie Hodson and Laurie Landry are now settling down to one of the best men's partnerships in the country and accounted for the international pair Len Adams and Burridge in the final at 21-17, 15-21, 21-19.

The junior singles finals were somewhat one-sided. Chris Gosling won the boys', beating D. Seaholme 21-7, 21-12, while Jean Harrower crushed Shelagh Hession 21-5, 21-9.

RESULTS


Women's Doubles: Final: PIPER/Mrs. HEAD bt Baker/B. Isaacs 21-10, 21-19.


Boys' Singles: Final: C. GOSLING bt D. Seaholme 21-7, 21-12.


RESULTS

Men's Singles: R. GRIFFIN bt P. Cruwys 21-14, 21-12, 21-16.

Women's Singles: J. COLLIER bt Mrs. E. Spokes 21-18, 21-14, 21-16.


Women's Doubles: Mrs. SPOKES/COLLIER bt Mrs. V. Rowe/Mrs. Cartwright 21-11, 21-15.

Mixed Doubles: A. MORRIS/Mrs. G. DIMASCIO bt D. Evans/Mrs. Rowe 21-16, 21-16, 21-17.

Boys' Singles: B. PARRY bt C. Arkell 21-17, 21-16.

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

England 8, Wales 1 at Sutton (played 9th March, 1957)

A PIDDY, a spirited early resistance, Wales collapsed and England emerged with a comfortable victory. Tony Piddock once more demonstrated that he is the leading English boy with an excellent display which was too much for both Clive Arkell and Dave Parry. In contrast, Peter Cole was anything but convincing in his opening match against Howell Jones, and could easily

Chief interest was shown in Douglas Bloy's display. The only new England cap, he never displayed form his opening match against Howell Jones, and could easily have lost. Only his fighting spirit carried him through. Peter Cole was anything but convincing in his opening match against Arkell and Dave Parry. In contrast, Tony Piddock once more demonstrated that he is the

GWENT "OPEN"

ONCE again these championships attracted an excellent entry, especially from nearby English Counties (writes Grove Motlow).

Two new singles champions emerged in the places of Bob Griffin won the men's singles beating Peter Cruwys in the final, while Miss Joan Collier defeated Mrs. E. Spokes to become the new women's title holder.

Griffin and Cruwys teamed up to win the men's doubles, while Miss Collier gained a second title when she won the women's doubles with Miss Spokes.

The organisers deserve a word of praise for the smooth and efficient way in which the championships were run. That much preparation and careful thought prior to the tournament helped a great deal was conclusively proved by the fact that although 336 games were played all events were completed at the respectable hour of 9.30 p.m.

That much preparation and careful thought prior to the tournament helped a great deal was conclusively proved by the fact that although 336 games were played all events were completed at the respectable hour of 9.30 p.m.

FINALS


RESULTS


Boys' Singles: Final: D. PARRY bt C. Arkell 21-17, 21-16.


Results

April 5-6 ENGLISH OPEN
Empire Pool, Wembley.

8 ENGLAND v. JAPAN
Municipal Hall, Tottenham.

11 ENGLAND v. JAPAN
Cheltenham.

13 Daily Mirror National Finals
Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

20-22 North East England Open
Scarborough and Westborough Concert Hall, Scarborough.

(Entries close April 10 to Mr. E. Moorhouse, 26, Sherwood Street, Scarborough).