

TABLE TENNIS

TOPICS

JANUARY

Hollywood Tennis

Donnell

Intercollegiate

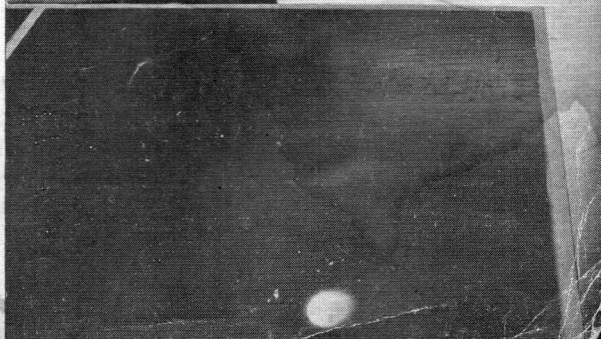
Tennis

Tennis For Intercollegiate

How to Play Table Tennis

Vol. 5 No. 1

TEN CENTS



Action On Exhibitions

- LATE NEWS—Detailed regulations governing exhibitions by USTTA members are being prepared by Chairman Elmer F. Cinnater and the Executive Committee. Meantime all exhibition players are requested (1) to apply immediately to USTTA headquarters for sanction under By-Law 8, (2) to use only titles which they possess, (3) to call table tennis by its correct name, and (4) to notify headquarters of each change of address.
- After the Nationals U.S. Champion Laszlo Bellak will make a short tour. For bookings write Sandor Glancz, Hotel Piccadilly, New York, N. Y.



DIRECTORY OF THE ORGANIZED GAMF.

U. S. TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated with the International Table Tennis Federation)

Address all communications in care of the *General Secretary*:
Joseph D. Berna, 3424 N. 23rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Why Hollywood Stars Play Table Tennis

By Dick Powell

I LIKE Table Tennis. No game is so well adapted to my needs as this fascinating sport that has half the nation crawling under tables and the other half throwing itself about in a mad frenzy after the little white ball.

In the first place, let me state my reasons for setting Table Tennis so high in my esteem and why it has achieved such popularity in Hollywood. The principal reason for its popularity here is its convenience. It requires neither the time that a round of golf demands nor the energy expended on a set of lawn tennis.

When I am working on a picture I can squeeze in a few fast games of Table Tennis without having to leave the studio. This helps one to relax between scenes. I get as much exercise out of a fast game of Table Tennis as I do out of a round of golf and it saves me just so much time. I find it as interesting as lawn tennis because I can apply the same strategy and almost the same strokes.

The relatively small playing area gives one the feeling that he is working out the plays on a scale model just as a field general might plan his manoeuvres on a military map. Playing with a doubles partner makes it even more amusing.

As for weather conditions, they enter into the picture not at all. One may don a pair of sun glasses and play in the bright sunlight or he can move the table indoors—in bad weather—and play on to his heart's content.

I have never entered into a contro-



versy concerning the question of the best way to grip the racquet. I use a kind of modified pen-holder grip which gives me a chance to play offensive as well as defensive shots. With this system I can still beat my wife (at Table Tennis).

Of course, I am not talking Table Tennis to the exclusion of all other sports but for a game of interest, skill, and downright convenience I'll talk anybody over and under the table.

● THANK YOU, Dick Powell! You have certainly stated the case of Table Tennis as a convenient recreation for busy men and women. More power to your singing—and your Table Tennis. Also many thanks to Milt Young, of Warner Bros.' Philadelphia office, for arranging for *Topics* to obtain this interesting article by Mr. Powell.

America's Teams Will Defend Its Two World Cups

THE USTTA will send teams to London, Jan. 24-29 to defend the Swaythling and Corbillon Cups captured last year.

Months of icy disagreement with the English TT A were dissolved by an exchange of apologies, whereupon, with friendly relations resumed, all rallied around to help make the 12th World Championships in London the greatest of them all.



M. B. Bassford

Vice - President
Morris B. Bassford
(Washington)

will head the American delegation sailing on the Aquitania from New York Jan. 12.

Personnel of the teams will be announced at the National Intercity at St. Louis Jan. 9. Probable lineups, subject to change as we go to press, are:

The Swaythling Cup team: Sol Schiff (New York), who at Baden last year topped the world's best with 21 victories and 1 defeat; dynamic Jimmy McClure (Indianapolis), making his 4th trip abroad; Abe Berenbaum (N.Y.), veteran of last year's team; and Bernard F. Grimes (N.Y.), and Louis Pagliaro (N.Y.), 2 hard-hitting newcomers to international play. School work prevents Bud Blattner (St. Louis) going.

The Corbillon Cup team: Mildred

Wilkinson (Chicago), America's No. 3, who nearly dethroned Ruth Aarons at last year's Nationals; Mrs. Mae Clouther (Arlington, Mass.), No. 9; Mrs. Clara Harrison (Cleveland), No. 13; and young Betty Henry (South Bend, Ind.), No. 16. Ruth Aarons (No. 1), Emily Fuller (No. 2), Jay Purves and Mrs. Dolores Kuenz, last year's world champion team, are unable to go.

On paper the men's team is as strong as last year's. The girls' squad is not as strong, with all the internationals missing, but their hard-hitting and the new low ITTF net may help them.

The teams are tentatively scheduled to play exhibitions in Paris and Brussels before the Worlds, and in England and Wales after the championships, returning to America the middle of February.

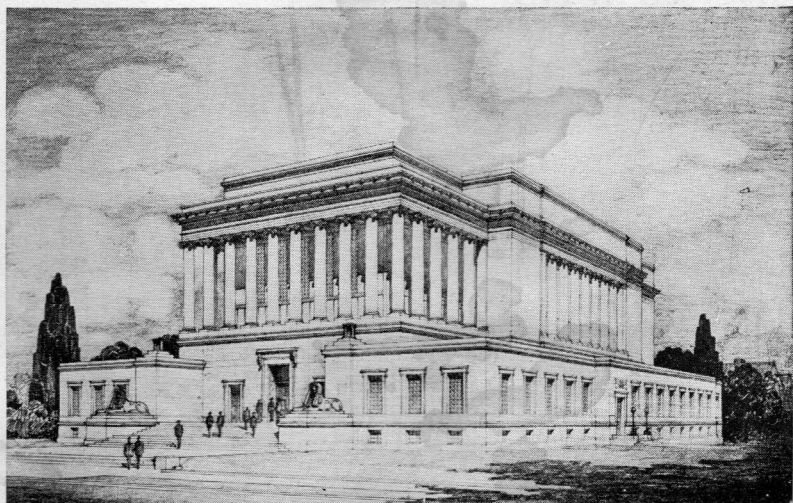
TABLE TENNIS TOPICS

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Colorful Tournaments Scheduled



Scottish Rite Temple, site of the Western Open at Kansas City

Intercity

ON Jan. 8-9 at the DeSoto Hotel, St. Louis, the first of a series of major tournaments will be played.

New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Indianapolis, Boston and Hamilton, Ohio, will battle for the National Intercity Team Championship and possession of William R. Stewart Trophy, held by N.Y.

Final plans have been completed by Elmer F. Cinnater, Chairman, who announced the following schedule of play: Saturday afternoon: New York vs. Hamilton, vs. Kansas City; St. Louis vs. Kansas City, vs. Hamilton; Boston vs. Indianapolis, vs. Chicago. Saturday evening: St. Louis vs. Boston, vs. Chicago; Indianapolis vs. Hamilton, vs. New York; Chicago vs. Kansas City; Boston vs. Hamilton. Sunday afternoon: New York vs. Bos-

ton, vs. Chicago; Kansas City vs. Hamilton, vs. Indianapolis; St. Louis vs. Indianapolis; Chicago vs. Hamilton. Sunday evening: Indianapolis vs. Chicago; Boston vs. Kansas City; New York vs. St. Louis. Play-off of tie for 1st place, if any, will follow immediately.

Western

The Western Open, at Kansas City in the beautiful and spacious Scottish Rite Temple, Feb. 26-27, promises to be the Greatest Western of them all. Plans are rapidly nearing completion under the able guidance of H. E. Russell, Chairman, who announced there will be a limit of 64 entries, out of which only 44 will be accepted from outside of Kansas City. The time of receipt, plus national and state ranking, will govern the committee's selec-

tion of entries, which close Thursday, Feb. 24.

Eastern

On the same date as the Western, Washington, D.C., will play host at the Eastern Open. In all probability this tournament will attract the best field of any tournament ever held in the East, with the exception of the Nationals. The draw will be limited, consequently entries should be sent as early as possible.

Nationals

Laszlo Bellak of Hungary has obtained leave of absence from the Hungarian army and will defend his men's singles title at the 8th Nationals March 24-25-26 at the Broadwood Hotel, Philadelphia. Chairman Robt. G. Metcalf's thorough prospectus lists 8 events: men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, mixed doubles, veterans' and boys' singles and men's singles consolation.

There will be six playing sessions, with the finals Saturday afternoon. The committee includes Eugene R. Smolens, Frank W. Yetter, E. H. Brink, Frank Kohler, Urban R. Lamay, Claude Archer, Morton Lieberman, Albert Nachsin, W. A. Knerr, Carl Zeisberg, Mrs. Violet Smolens, Benjamin Glickman, Mrs. Lee Muhleman, Thomas C. Bradley, Frank R. Veale, Jr., and Cornelius A. Furey.

Tournaments

Tournaments thus far sanctioned are listed below.

Open means open only to USTTA members from any State. Sponsors of "opens" or of tournaments held in unorganized states must obtain sanction from the USTTA, 3424 N. 23rd St., Philadelphia, Pa. Sponsors of closed tournaments in affiliated States obtain sanction from their own State Association. Members compet-

ing in unsanctioned open tournaments subject to suspension.

Jan. 8-9: 7th National Intercity (Teams), at DeSoto Hotel, St. Louis, Mo. Elmer F. Cinnater, 900 Missouri Pacific Bldg.

Jan. 13-14-15: Washington State Open at Seattle TTC, 1919½ 2d Ave., Seattle. Ray Pearson.

Jan. 16: Essex County Open at Broad & Market TTC, Newark, N. J. Morris Bernstein, Broad & Market TTC.

Jan. 22-23: Missouri Valley Open at Rome Hotel, Omaha, Neb. Virginia Perkins, Omaha TTC, Rome Hotel.

Jan. 24-29: 12th World's, (international open) at Royal Albert Hall, London, and Empire Pool & Sports Arena, Wembley.

Jan. 27-28-29: Pennsylvania State Open at Sportsmen's Show, Commercial Museum, Philadelphia. Claude Archer, 119 E. Eagle Rd., Upper Darby, Pa.

Jan. 29-30: St. Joseph Valley Open at YMCA, South Bend, Ind. W. B. Hester.

Jan. —: Pacific Coast Open at Los Angeles, Cal. (tentative).

Feb. 6-7: Ohio State Open at Columbus. Al Schuff, 321 19th Ave., Columbus, O.

Feb. 26-27: Western Open at Scottish Rite Temple, Kansas City, Mo. E. L. Hughes, 342 Mfgs. Exchange Bldg.

Feb. 26-27: Eastern Open, at Heurich Gymnasium, Washington, D. C. Geo. H. Foster, Esq., 300 Investment Bldg.

March —: Studebaker Open at South Bend, Ind. (tentative).

March —: Lake Cities Open at Toledo, Ohio. (tentative).

March 24-25-26: 8th Nationals (international open) at Broadwood Hotel, Philadelphia. Edwin H. Brink, 2454 Eldon Ave., Drexel Hill, Pa.

Honorable Mention

The following received honorable mention for 1936-37 national ranking: Merle Arens (Dayton); William Condy (Greencastle, Ind.); Harry Cook (N.Y.); Harvey Davis (Detroit); Arvid Grossman, Morton Ladin, Herman Leavitt (Chicago); Joseph J. LeBow, Jr. (Phila.); Herman Lykins (Hamilton, O.); Elwood Martin (Seattle); Marquis Neff (Dayton); Abbott Nelson (Winnetka, Ill.); Ray Pearson (Seattle); Howard Thomas (Dayton); Ernest Walker (Cleveland); V. Lee Webb (Detroit).

A Gal's Slant

By Reba Kirson

SINCE the Provincetown TTC hasn't playing quarters this season, Ida Roderick travels 125 miles week-ends to play in Cambridge . . . The directors out in Hollywood were perplexed, not knowing whether the penholder or tennis grip was correct. Result: Tyrone Power used the old-fashioned while Loretta Young defeated him with one finger on the head of her bat . . . Jimmy McClure says he's not going to compete this year (we don't believe you) . . . Mayo Rolph is called "little spitfire" by her friends . . . 14-year-old Betty Henry resembles Olivia de Havilland and has an excellent game (which is more important?) . . . The t.t. pellets used in the Sonja Henie-Don Ameche picture, "Happy Ending," are of such inexpensive material that they dent at the slightest compression . . . Sally Green is an all-around player—though her offensive game is not yet offensive enough (to her opponents) . . . Douglas Cartland, honor grad of U. of N. Carolina, is a puzzle expert—he just captured \$18,000 in New York Post contest. At t.t. he will rank among the first 5 in '38. . . . We readers of *Topics* would thoroughly appreciate an article by Octavus Roy Cohen, our h.v.p. . . . Johnny Abrahams and Sandor Glancz swim 3 times a week, claiming that t.t. doesn't afford them sufficient exercise (the charming brutes!) . . . We were advised that Mae Clouter is driving the balls these days . . . To Coleman Clark: forgive the contradiction, but we maintain that top-notch lawn tennis requires flat (and not spin) forehand and backhand drives . . . To the Mass. girl players: R.H.A. and S.G. are not coaching Lucia Farrington, so you may now get your needed sleep, for your Paula Revere misinformed youse Puritans (?) . . . Certain t.t.'ers should learn ethics of correspondence . . . There should be



He Swims, the Brute!
(Sandor Glancz)

more non-official conscientious workers of the USTTA like Gene Smolens . . . Len Sarnar, of U. of P., who ably aided Izzy Bellis in clinching the Nat'l Intercollegiate chps, proved that exhibition playing isn't detrimental to one's game. 'Tis said there will also be girls' events next year in the Intercollegiate.

1938-39 Officers

Nominations Chairman Don Vaughan, 2703 N.E. 35th Ave., Portland, Ore., is receiving suggestions for next season's slate of officers. His committee's slate will be submitted for vote Feb. 1. Any governor may submit a slate before Feb. 28. See By-Law 18.

● Lucien Portal, Switzerland's No. 1, defeated World Champion Robert Bergmann in an Austria-Switzerland team match won by Austria.

● February *Topics* will be a few days late in order to include news of the World Championships.

Table Tennis Goes To College

TABLE TENNIS pioneered into two new fields—national intercollegiate and local interscholastic team championships—at the University of Pennsylvania's mammoth Palestra in Philadelphia Nov. 26-27.

The national college title and handsome new Thomas C. Bradley Trophy were captured by Penn in a hair-raising final with City College of New York (as reported in December *Topics*) after Penn's red shirts had downed Princeton, and CCNY eliminated DePauw University from far-away Indiana, in equally exciting semi-finals. These 4 seeded schools survived group round-robins among 16 uniformed teams from 7 states.

Favored to win, Princeton's Dan Kreer & Abbott Nelson seemed on their way when Nelson upset Penn's redoubtable Izzy Bellis. But Len Sarnier, Penn's little-known fiddle-playing No. 2, conquered the Tigers almost single-handed. Summoned from his calm studying of Monday's lessons between matches, he responded to the roars of the gallery by beating Kreer, the Tiger ace, helped Bellis win the doubles and downed Nelson.



Grimes

Then, in the crucial doubles against CCNY, with Penn losing the deciding game at 13-18 and 16-19, Sarnier's daring forehand drives deuced the match, snatched victory from defeat and lifted the gallery from the depths of despair to deliriums of delight. Never were more thrilling matches played anywhere.

The strong balanced team of Wilson Teachers College, Washington, D.C., which was nosed out in its group by CCNY, won the consolation final from the black-&-red University of Cincin-

nati combination when Cincy's Lykins suffered a badly sprained ankle in the final doubles, finished the match and was carried off the floor.

Bernard Grimes, CCNY's iron man, duplicated his feat at last year's National Intercity by slashing his way through the singles undefeated, though he dropped games to Bellis and DePauw's Bill Condy. Complete results:

(Note: Abbreviated scores show loser's points, a hyphen indicating defeat).

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL TIE

U of Pennsylvania defeated City College of N. Y. 3-2: Isadore H. Bellis lost to Bernard F. Grimes 18 -13 -17, Leonard Sarnier d Irving Shera'a -19 13 17, B&S d G&S -15 18 20, Sarnier lt Grimes -11 -19, Bellis d Sheraga 14 14.

SEMI-FINAL TIES

Penn d Princeton U 3-1: Bellis lt Abbott Nelson -16 -26, Sarnier d Dan Kreer 19 -10 13, B&S d N&K 12 12, Sarnier d Nelson -15 22 18.

CCNY d DePauw U 3-0: Grimes d Bill Condy 9 -19 16, Sheraga d Paul Souder 17 15, G&S d C&S 20 12.

ROUND-ROBIN TIES

Group A (won by CCNY):

CCNY d Ohio Wesleyan U 3-0: Grimes d George Sturgiss 7 15, Sheraga d Gordon Fetter 8 10, G&S d S&F 19 13.

CCNY d George Washington U No. 2 3-0: Grimes d Harry Ceppos 13 12, Sheraga d Bernard Blankin 7 16, G&S d C&B 11 13.

CCNY d Wilson Teachers College (Washington) 3-2: Grimes d Elias V. Schuman 18 11, Sheraga lt Edwin Gee 16 -9 -12, Grimes & Sheraga d Schuman & Gee 19 21, Sheraga lt Schuman -14 -18, Grimes d Gee 12 8.

Wilson TC d GWU No. 2 3-0: Schuman d Ceppos 12 18, Gee d Blankin 17 -18 19, S&G d C&B 12 18.

Wilson TC d Ohio Wesleyan 3-0: Schuman d Sturgiss 17 9, Gee d Fetter 13 19, S&G d S&F 18 17.

Ohio Wesleyan d GWU No. 2 3-2: Sturgiss d Blankin 11 14, Fetter lt Ceppos -14 -15, S&F lt B&C -15 -18, Sturgiss d Ceppos 9 15, Fetter d Blankin 13 16.

Group B (won by DePauw):

DePauw d Loyola College (Baltimore)



(1) Colleague table tennis cartoon occupied most important position on page 1 of The Evening Bulletin on the day before the Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia. (2) It rated a sport-page 8-column streamer head in the Evening Public Ledger the day of the Army-Navy game. (3) It occupied a whole column in the Philadelphia Inquirer the day after the Army-Navy game. (4) The Record and News made it unanimously an important sporting event. (5) The Associated Press installed a special wire and telegraphed results everywhere. (6) 14 high school teams battled for the local scholastic crown.

3-1: Condy d Charles E. Euker 9 9, Souder It George Sempeles -25 -17, C&S d E&S -18 17 11, Condy d Sempeles 9 14.

DePauw d Columbus U (Washington) 3-0: Condy d Harland Crowell 12 -19 12, Souder d Francis W. Appler 4 16, C&S d C&A 14 14.

DePauw d Rutgers U 3-0: Souder d Irving Ontell 15 12, Condy d Harold Vernick -18 2 20, S&C d O&V 19 19.

Rutgers d Columbus 3-1: Vernick d Arvin Lynn 18 20, Ontell It Crowell -19 -14, V&O d L&C 19 -17 18, Vernick d Crowell 17 -18 16.

Rutgers d Loyola 3-2: Vernick It Sempeles 16 -15 -19, Ontell d Euker 11 10, V&O d S&E 13 9, Ontell It Sempeles -20 -12, Vernick d Euker 15 19.

Loyola d Columbus 3-2: Sempeles d Crowell 14 19, Euker d Lynn 19 15, S&E It C&L 17 -16 -16, Euker It Crowell 16 -17, Sempeles d Lynn 11 13.

Group C (won by Princeton):

Princeton d U of Cincinnati 3-1: Kreer d Herman Lykins 16 18, Nelson d Richard Farr 16 16, K&N It L&F -9 -20, Kreer d Farr 14 18.

Princeton d GWU No. 1 3-0: Nelson d Louis Gorin 17 13, Kreer d Leonard Summers 9 12, N&K d G&S 16 5.

Princeton d LaSalle College 3-0: Kreer d James J. Berna 12 10, Nelson d Peter Schneiders 11 7, K&N d B&S 9 19.

Cincinnati d GWU No. 1 3-0: Lykins d Summers 18 13, Farr d Gorin 9 12, L&F d G 12 17.

Cincinnati d LaSalle 3-0: Lykins d Berna 10 12, Farr d Schneiders 7 7, L&F d B&S 12 13.

GWU No. 1 d LaSalle 3-0: Gorin d Berna 18 -17 16, Summers d Schneiders 14 8, G&S d B&S 14 11.

Group D (won by Penn):

Penn d Ohio State U 3-1: Sarnar d Sam Shannon 16 15, Bellis d Harry M. Sage 15 -19 12, B&S It S&S -15 18 -20, Bellis d Shannon 14 20.

Penn d Cornell U 3-0: Sarnar d Sol Lasof 6 19, Bellis d John H. Weakland 4 4, B&S d L&W 9 14.

Penn d U of Maryland 3-0: Sarnar d Bernard Applebaum 18 -14 15, Bellis d Robert Gottlieb 15 17, S&B d A&G 15 13.

Ohio State d Maryland 3-0: Sage d Gottlieb 12 19, Shannon d Applebaum 21 18, S&S d G&A 19 13.

Ohio State d Cornell 3-1: Sage d Weakland 7 9, Shannon It Lasof -12 -20, S&S d W&L 11 19, Shannon d Weakland 19 -19 14.

Maryland d Cornell 3-0: Applebaum d Weakland 11 16, Gottlieb d Lasof -17 10 13, A&G d W&L -19 14 16.

CONSOLATION FINAL

Wilson Teachers College d University of Cincinnati 3-0: Schuman d Lykins -10 15 18, Gee d Farr -18 16, S&G d L&F 11 12. **ROUND-ROBIN TIES—First Group:** Wilson d GWU No. 1 3-0, d Cornell 3-0, d Ohio Wesleyan by default. **GWU No. 1 d Cornell 3-0, d Ohio Wesleyan 3-2, Cornell d Ohio Wesleyan by default. Second**



With Our Affiliates

en. Lobel d Shepardson, Holden. Kyger d Lobel, Holden. Shepardson d Kyger, Holden. In playoff for 3d place, Lobel d Kyger, Shepardson; Kyger d Shepardson . . . Ernest Kundig (Worcester) was elected president of Massachusetts TTA; v.p.'s, Gosse-lin (Chicopee Falls), Lloyd N. Shep-ardson (Newton); secy., Edward Hol-den (Somerville); treas., Edward Sweeny (Dorchester).

T.T. Anesthetic

● MISSOURI: Jimmy Jackson (St. Louis) played two matches with a broken arm . . . Rev. Edward W. Potts (Kansas City) accepted additional post as member of



Rev. E. W. Potts

USTTA Ex-pansion Com-mittee . . . On June 1 Missouri TTA will dis-solve into com-pact territorial associations . . . Bud Blattner is out of active competition for a year's intensive school work, then expects to return.

Orchids & Scallions

● PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia Women's League Note: Orchids to the Mack sisters (Elsie and Ruth) who travel from Collingswood, N.J., and Morton, Pa., to play in our League and scallions to Nan Erb, who deserted to a non-affiliated league . . . State rankings: Men's: 1, Isadore H. Bellis; 2, Eugene R. Smolens; 3, Joseph Le-

Bow; 4, Morris Glatt; 5, Paul Capelle; 6, Gus Wolov; 7, Hamilton Canning; 8, Albert Nachsin; 9, Raymond Lipschutz; 10, Bert Lazar; 11, Albert Butowsky; 12, Leonard Sarner; 13, William Canning; 14, Claude Archer; 15, Robert H. Forman. Women's: 1, Mrs. Matilda Rauscher Plaskow; 2, Ruth Wilson; 3, Mrs. Florence Archer; 4, Mrs. Violet Smolens; 5, Anne Kravitz; 6, Mrs. Henrietta Wright; 7, Reba Kirson; 8, Betty Kanef; 9, Betty Parker; 10, Mrs. Lee Muhleman. Men's Doubles: 1, Smolens & Capelle; 2, LeBow & Bellis. Mixed Doubles: 1, Wilson & H. Canning; 2, Plaskow & LeBow. Veterans' Singles: 1, Albert W. Hambury; 2, Paul R. Bisbing; 3, Sydney Rose; 4, Frank Krupp; 5, Thomas C. Bradley; 6, Jerry Lowenthal; 7, Raymond Higgins, 8, Carl Zeisberg.

Beware of Maryland

● MARYLAND: Officers for 1938: Pres., Vernon J. Boyd; v.p.'s, John M. McFall, Robert Neubauer, Reginald Burroughs, Jr., W. A. Bailey, Jr., Dorothy Halliday, Sally Beasley; exec. secy., W. D. Nelson Thomas; rec. secy., Gordon Barry; cor. secy., Donald P. Kahl; treas., George Campbell. All are of Baltimore except Mr. Mc-Fall (Ruxton) . . . Three leagues are operating in Baltimore with W. A. Bailey as league chairman, Mrs. W. Jones, chairman of the Women's League . . . Gordon Barry, State membership chairman, and Max Graf, Baltimore membership chairman, are out for the prize for the largest per-cent membership gain. Says Mr. Barry: "All other state membership chair-men please note—and don't say we didn't give you fair warning" . . . In the first closed tourney of the sea-son, Dec. 11-12, sponsored by the Clif-

(Continued page 14)

Big Push Against Pushing

NOVEMBER *Topics* pointed out the Rules Committee is experimenting with certain problems such as serving in doubles and anti-pushing rules in the hope of bringing back the deep defense made possible by the old 6¾-inch net.

Cornelius G. Schaad, chairman of the Rules Committee, proposes to attack the problems by appealing directly to all members.

Do players prefer the present system of five services to the same receiver, or would they like to see the rules changed to permit serving right to left, left to right, etc., as in lawn tennis? Try both methods and let your committee know which you prefer.

As to anti-pushing—remember too much attack is just as bad as too much chiseling. What is the happy medium? If the net were raised to 7 on both ends with a height of 6 inches in the center, thus practically forcing the attacker to drive through the center, would it better balance offense and defense? Remember, we want a game that is not only interesting to

play and colorful to watch, but one that does not handicap a player.

Experiment and mail in the result of your experience, with whatever suggestions you may care to make to Mr. Schaad, at 201 Washington Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.

Across the Country

(From page 13)

ton Racquetteers TTC, Manny Moskowitz won the men's singles by defeating George Sempeles. Dorothy Halliday won the women's singles and paired with Robert Neubauer to take the mixed doubles. Neubauer & Gordon Barry were victorious in the men's doubles.

● W. Vernon Tietjen, who is credited with developing the smooth flowing game typical of our great St. Louis stars (Schlude, Tindall, Blattner, Hendry and Price) covers baseball for the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* and travels with the Gas-House Gang.

● When it comes to t.t., Honorary Vice President Octavus Roy Cohen can beat H.V.P. Sidney S. Lenz, it is alleged.

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Coulson Leads for Hammond Cup Green for Wilkinson

IN the Hammond Cup race to accumulate the most points in tournament play, Earl Coulson (Indianapolis) has a 3-point lead on Alvin Nordhem (Chicago). Sally Green (Indianapolis) leads Betty Henry (South Bend, Ind.) by the same margin for possession of the Wilkinson Cup. The first standings, compiled from the Indiana State, Northern Indiana, Indianapolis, Chicago District, Southern New England Fall, and Massachusetts (all in class 3) and Illinois Membership, Missouri, St. Louis District, Philadelphia Leagues (class 4), are as follows:

Hammond Cup

Earl Coulson (Indianapolis)	32
Alvin Nordhem (Chicago)	29
Calvin Fuhrman (Hamilton, Ohio)	24
James Jacobson (New Rochelle)	24
Jerry Lavan (Chicago)	20
Sol Schiff (New York)	16
Gordon Muchow (Chicago)	14
George Hendry (St. Louis)	12
Garrett Nash (St. Louis)	12
Joe Kolady (East Chicago, Ind.)	11
Les Lowry (Newton, Mass.)	9
Forrest Sweeney (Trenton)	8

5 points: Ralph Muchow (Chi.), Roger Downs (Indpls.), Joe Filipek (Cambridge).

4 points: Merle Arens (Dayton), John Varga (South Bend), M. Serbu (E. Chi.), Joe Carter (Indpls.), Morton Ladin (Chi.), Douglas Cartland (N.Y.), Ed Filipek (New Bedford), Charles Schmidt (N.Y.), Bill Holden (Somerville), Joe LeBow (Phila.).

3 points: Ned Steele (Huntingdon), Sterling Mitchell (Indpls.), Robert Anderson (Chi.), Carl Nagy (Chi.), William Diller (St. L.), Edwin Woody (St. L.), Frank Filipek (New Bedford).

2 points: Lee Webb, Garner Gomon (Detroit); Herman Lykins (Hamilton); William Snyder (Kokomo); James Stout, James ShROUT, Joel Inman (Indpls.); Mark Neff (Dayton); Carl Breutner, Harold Goldman, Dan Mabee, A. Blumenthal, Max Rushakoff (Chi.); John McCloskey, Donald Hendry (St. L.); Eugene R. Smolens, Gus WOLOV (Phila.); Sidney Shapiro (Bridgeport); Jack Hartigan (Mt. Vernon, N.Y.); John Abrahams (N.Y.); Harvey Isham (Newtonville, Mass.); Art Sweeney (Dorchester, Mass.).

Wilkinson Cup

Sally Green (Indianapolis)	17
Betty Henry (South Bend, Ind.)	14
Mildred Wilkinson (Chicago)	12
Mrs. Clara Harrison (Cleveland)	8
Helen Ovenden (Chicago)	8
Emily Fuller (Bethlehem, Pa.)	8
Lucia Farrington (Auburndale, Mass.)	8
Barbara Shields (West Roxbury, Mass.)	5
Ruth Wilson (Swarthmore, Pa.)	5

4 points: Ruth Woodward (Chi.), May Spannaus (New Rochelle, N.Y.), Mae Clouthier (Arlington, Mass.).

3 points: Mary Baumbach (South Bend, Ind.).

2 points: M. Hart (Toledo); Angelian Ridlin, Dorothy Duckwell (Noblesville, Ind.); Mrs. Tamma Hotze and Mrs. V.B. Dueker (St. L.); Jane Stahl (Provincetown, Mass.); Madeline Teghtmeyer (Providence, R.I.); Priscilla Woodbury (Worcester); Florence Archer (Phila.).

● **LASZLO BELLAK**, U.S. Champion, writes from Budapest that he intends to defend his American title. He won a place on the Hungarian Swaythling Cup Team. "Now I am doing gymnastics every day and practicing hard for the World Championships. I hope to be successful there because I don't want my American friends to be disappointed in me."

..... "Table Tennis Activity"

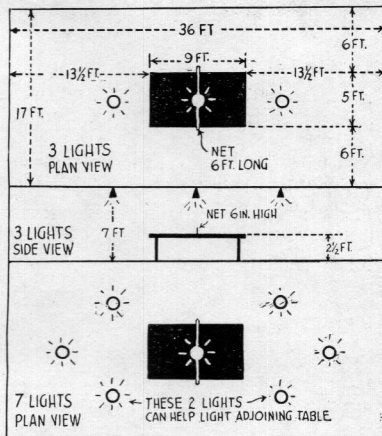
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Hints On Lighting

ADEQUATE lighting for home play is produced by three 200-watt or 150-watt frosted bulbs in deep-cone white reflectors, but clubs that pursue the game seriously should use 5 or 7 lights per table, arranged as shown in the diagram. "Plenty of lights plenty high and 'way back'" is a good motto.

Of course, you can play some sort of a game in cramped space, but the more room, the better the game, with deep defense, angled drives, foot work, hairbreadth recoveries and real strenuous exercise. Diagram shows the USTTA's minimum tournament specifications. A larger arena is required for real table tennis. If you must content yourself with a cellar set-up, remove such hazards as laundry tubs, ash cans and tonight's wash. Walls should be kept dark and balls kept clean and white with abrasive soap.



And don't forget—lots of light on the subject.

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CHICAGO, ILL.

Maryland Leads, Indiana Falls To 3rd In Race For "Topics" Cup

TAKING over the helm of the Maryland TTA, Rear Admiral Vernon J. Boyd brought his yacht up from 4th place to 1st. Their 106% increase is the largest any association has obtained since the start of the *Topics* Cup Race.

The gold paddle for the biggest monthly gain was won by Commodore Jerry Woodruff of Nebraska. Pennsylvania's Urb Lamay still leads for the Life Membership.

Fourteen State associations are trying for 3 prizes: Monthly gold paddle (col. 1), honorary life membership (col. 2) and *Topics* Cup (col. 3). Race ends May 31, 1938. Membership Chairman James J. Berna's record as of Dec. 1:



Skipper Boyd's 106% leaves the other sailors far behind. (P'raps some are seasick?)

Yacht	"Skipper"	Total June 1	Total Nov. 1	Total Dec. 1	1	2	3
					Gain (Month)	Gain (Season)	% Gain (Season)
1*	Maryland (Boyd)	30	37	62	25	32	106.6
2*	Washington (Ursic)	48	63	83	20	35	72.9
3*	Indiana (Hester)	55	76	94	18	39	70.9
4*	Missouri (McFadden)	156	197	237	40	81	51.9
5*	Nebraska (Woodruff)	99	99	145	46	46	46.4
6*	West Virginia (Warner)	35	41	44	3	9	25.7
7*	Pennsylvania (Lamay)	461	508	549	41	88	19.
8*	Connecticut (Shepherd)	60	64	65	1	5	8.3
9*	Ohio (Dr. Smith)	151	169	148	-21	-3	-1.9
10*	Michigan (MacReynolds)	106	103	103	0	-3	-2.8
11*	Rhode Island (Spencer)	62	28	60	32	-2	-3.2
12*	Massachusetts (Kundig)	319	298	298	0	-21	-6.5
13*	Illinois (McDonald)	230	205	195	-10	-35	-15.2
14*	District of Columbia (Burton)	72	72	56	-16	-16	-22.2
15	New York	107	217	242	25	135	
16	New Jersey	176	234	234	0	58	
17	Louisiana	0	7	13	6	13	
18	Oregon	15	20	24	4	9	
19	Texas	5	12	12	0	7	
20	Tennessee	0	0	6	6	6	
21	Kansas	21	21	25	4	4	
22	Wisconsin	14	15	15	0	1	
23	Colorado	8	8	8	0	0	
24	California	7	7	5	-2	-2	
Totals		2237	2501	2723	222	486	

Group Memberships: New York 60, Missouri 46, New Jersey 40, Indiana 37—total 183.
(*State-wide Associations)

Tournament Results

(From page 10)

dianapolis) in the women's finals. The doubles crown was captured by Merle Arens (Dayton) & Fuhrman from Coulson & Jim Stout (Indianapolis) 16, -17, 19, 19. Mixed doubles: John Varga & Betty Henry (South Bend) d Mark Sawyer & Clara Harrison. Veterans' singles: Paul Jackson (Indianapolis). Boys': Louis Holtzman (E. Chicago, Ind.).

Hendry . . . Kuenz

MISSOURI: Youthful George Hendry (St. Louis) captured the crown at St. Louis, Dec. 4-5 by defeating Garrett Nash 14, 18, 16. Mrs. Dolores Kuenz (Normandy) retained her title as women's champion when she downed Mrs. Tamma Hotze 20, 11, 9. Mrs. Hotze, unseeded, disposed of 3d-seeded Mrs. Lee McFadden (Kansas City) in the 1st round, then startled fans by upsetting 2d-seeded Esther Guenther. John McCloskey, also unseeded, was equally as damaging in the men's when he upset 3d-seeded Don Hendry in the 3d round, then came from behind to sidetrack K.C.'s Harry Benson, seeded 5th. In the men's doubles the Hendry brothers defeated Edwin Woody & Bill Diller. In the mixed, Bill Diller & Marjorie Blattner d Garrett Nash & Mrs. Kuenz.

Nordhem . . . Wilkinson

NORTHERN INDIANA OPEN: On Nov. 19-20 at Gary, Alvin Nordhem (Chicago) d Calvin Fuhrman

(Hamilton, Ohio) 18, 17, 21. In men's doubles Nordhem & Gordon Muchow (Chicago) d Earl Coulson & James Stout (Indianapolis). In the 1st round Ed Dugan & Anderson (Chicago) d Morrey Fulton & Bud Simpson (Peoria, Ill.) 20, 22. In the women's, Mildred Wilkinson (Chicago) d Sally Green (Indianapolis).

Coulson . . . Green

INDIANAPOLIS: Running true to form Earl Coulson downed Cal Fuhrman in the men's singles Nov. 15. The outstanding event of the tournament, however, was when Roger Downs, 15-year-old Shortridge High School youngster, upset Ned Steele, 17th nationally ranked player, -17, 18, -19, 20, 19. In the women's, Sally Green d Betty Hendry. Men's doubles: Coulson & Stout d Arens & Fuhrman. Boys' singles: Roger Downs.

Lavan . . . Ovenden

CHICAGO DISTRICT: In the ranked men's singles Jerry Lavan d Gordon Muchow in 3 straight. Helen Ovenden, former Corbillon Cup player, downed Betty Henry, losing only one game, at 19. Helen, teaming with Ralph Muchow, d Betty Henry & Varga in the mixed doubles.

Pearson . . . Fossas

SEATTLE: Ray Pearson and Georgiana Fossas walked away with 5 trophies Nov. 11-12-13. Ray won the men's singles by defeating Walter Judd, teamed with his victim to beat Elwood Martin & Ray McDonald in

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the doubles. Meantime Georgiana defeated Marian Hoffman, who had suffered a wrist injury. Having made a clean sweep so far, they won 2 more in the mixed doubles from Art Koch & Miss Hoffman. George Fossas beat Rudy Ursic to win the veterans'. No-vice singles was won by Ray Highland from Roy Ellis.

● VICTOR BARNA, 5-times World Champion, is training for the fray at London by working out with the Chelsea football club. In his native Hungary he was a star soccer player.

● Bids for the 1939 Nationals, Eastern, Western, Pacific Coast and other intersectional open tournaments should be sent as soon as possible to USTTA, 3424 N. 23rd St., Phila., Pa.

● *Topics* subscription is only 50c a year.

● DOROTHY JOSEPH, Kansas City, is the new secretary of the USTTA Organization Committee.

Approved Equipment

(January 1, 1938)

(Products listed are not necessarily equivalent in quality or merit. Official approval indicates only compliance with USTTA requirements. Look for the official red, blue and gold seal when purchasing equipment).

TABLES: Becker's No. 1 Championship and Coleman Clark. Detroit's A and AA. Durabilt's No. 6. Ken-Way's Ken-Way.

BALLS: Becker's Coleman Clark and Victory. Durabilt's Official and Mercury. Mintz's Barna. Sametz's Mercury and Olympic. Spalding's Super Villa. Tatco's Tatco Pro.

NET SETS: Becker's Sta-Rite Nos. 24, 26 and 28. Durabilt's No. 666 NS. Tatco's Association.

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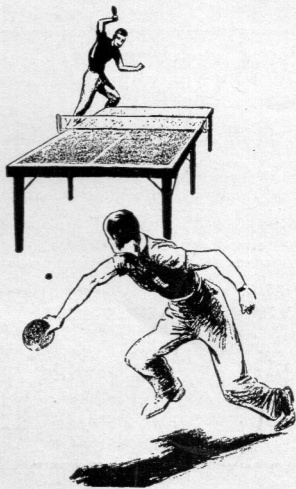
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Jeers and Cheers

By Annie Mossity

Open letter to ranking players

LADIES and Gentlemen: When you were ranked it increased your prestige, put your name in *Topics* every so often, and gave you a seeded position in tournaments.

It didn't, however, give you the privilege of coming unexpectedly to a tournament without sending any entry, and insisting on changes in the draw so that you would be in a seeded spot.

This sort of thing, naturally, does not improve the disposition of the players who entered on time and were placed in the draw accordingly only to find themselves scrambled and rearranged. Nor does it brighten the day for the committee which wants to have the best possible field in the tournament and places you in a favorable spot, thus causing a terrific howl. So the committee ends up by bringing down on its miserable heads the maledictions of everyone, including, prob-

ably, you who started the whole thing. All this inevitably disgusts one playing in his first tournament and contributes nothing to the promotion and success of later tournaments.

Everyone knows you are good and wants you to come to his tournament. Everyone wants the highest calibre of play. But this does not grant you immunity from the simple procedure of sending in an entry; in fact, your ranking increases your obligation.

Of course, all of you are not guilty of the above mentioned breach of good manners and sportsmanship, so if the shoe doesn't fit, throw it at somebody it will. If the shoe is the right size, wear it, and mend your ways, lest you bring down on your heads the dread curse of the Mossity ancestral ghosts, and the editorial cutlass of your possible but skeptical friend,

Annie

● If a return touches your racket or racket hand before touching the table or floor you lose the point.



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