

Excellent reading for Historians, Collectors,  
and all Lovers of our Great Sport



Mally's 1901 Patent No. 8601



Hamley's Ping Pong Bat

Hamley's Ping Pong racket, squared head, cane single vellum.  
With citation of Mally's 1901 Patent No. 8601. Very rare.

# Table Tennis History Journal



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## Publishing Schedule:

**June 1** Submit articles by **May 15**  
**Oct 1** Submit articles by **Sep 15**  
**Feb 1** Submit articles by **Jan 15**

## From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 95<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Table Tennis History Journal*. We are fast approaching the 100<sup>th</sup> centenary edition!

We begin this edition with a salute to the **Tokyo Olympics Games**, with congratulations to all the athletes, organizers & volunteers.

**Fabio** presents his fabulous collection of **Heiloway bats**, along with a variety of other findings, and we are grateful for his sharing with us. **Alan Duke (ENG)** concludes his fine series on early newspaper articles, also a piece about Hon. **Ivor Montagu**.

**Jorge Arango (COL)** continues a new series, focusing on children's games during the Ping Pong era. **Bruno Lancon (FRA)** reports on Ehrlich and the thick sponge bat, and some other items.

The **Philatelic Update** introduces many more stamps and postmarks, all with an Olympic theme. Special thanks to Tang Ganxian for the many Chinese images. **Auction Action** reports on recent trends, with some surprising discoveries and prices.

Hope you enjoy the new issue. Feedback always welcomed. Next edition scheduled for **February 1, 2022**. Please send any inputs by January 15.

For our sport, Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

*Chuck*

## Erratum

In the previous edition of the *Table Tennis History Journal*, No. 94, the editor had to make a last minute substitution, inserting an article about a German Tennis club staging a Ping Pong tournament in 1902. This included a mention of the year 1899, and I mistakenly wondered about a possible Ping Pong tournament in that year. **Steve Grant (USA)**, known for his excellent research, points out that '1899' was actually part of the name of the tennis club, not a reference to a tournament in 1899. Thank you Steve - this is why we would like to see more articles by you!

## In this issue ...



Cover:  
**Mally/Hamley**  
Single vellum  
racket



**Tokyo Olympic Games**  
3-5



Fabio

**Heiloway Bats**  
+ more  
6-15



Alan Duke

**Early Newspapers**  
16-23  
+ **Montagu**  
34-45



Bruno Lancon

**Ehrlich**  
+ more  
24-27



Jorge Arango

**Children's Games**  
28-33



**Philatelic Update**  
46-50



**Auction Action Trends**  
51-63

**Back Page:**



**Rozeanu bio**



The Tokyo Olympic Games, after a full year delay due to the pandemic, are now in the record books. Congratulations to the athletes, organizers and volunteers. A new event was added for Olympic Table Tennis, the Mixed Doubles, with an upset result. Presented here is a summary of the Table Tennis events. A complete record of all games scores is provided at this link: <https://olympics.com/tokyo-2020/olympic-games/en/results/table-tennis/olympic-schedule-and-results.htm>



**MA Long** won the **men's singles** over Fan Zhendong by the slimmest of margins, **4-3**: -7, 6, 3, 8, -5, -7, 10, in a thrilling Final, Ma scoring only 4 points more than Fan for the entire 7-game match!  
Bronze: Ovtcharov (GER) d. Lin Yun Ju (TPE) 11, -9, -6, 4, -4, 13, 7  
Ma also won the men's singles Gold in Rio, and he won 3 consecutive Singles titles at the World Championships. G.O.A.T. !

**Chen Meng** won the **women's singles** Gold over teammate Sun Yingsha: **4-2**: -9, 6, 4, -5, 4, 9  
Bronze: Mima Ito (JPN) d. Yu Mengyu (SGP) -6, 8, 7, 7, 6







**Jun Mizutani and Mima Ito** won the Gold medal in the inaugural Mixed Doubles, overcoming a strong effort by China's Xu Xin and Chen Meng: **4-3**  
-5, -7, 8, 9, 9, -6, 6

Bronze: Lin Yun-Ju/Chen I-Ching d.  
E. Lebesson/Yuan Jianan 8, 7, 8, 5

The Chinese women won the Gold medal final against the Japanese team **3-0**

Chen Meng/Wang Manyu d. Ishikawa/Hirano -9, 6, 8, 7

Sun Yingsha d. Mima Ito 8, 5, -3, 3

Wang Manyu d. Miu Hirano 5, 9, 3

Bronze: Hong Kong d. Germany 3-1



The Chinese Superstars Fan Zhendong, Ma Long & Xu Xin won the Men's team Gold **3-0** over Germany

Ma Long/Xu Xin d. Boll/Franziska 7, 3, 9

Fan Zhendong d. D. Ovtcharov -3, 6, -9, 5, 3 and Ma Long d. Timo Boll 5, 9, -11, 7

Bronze: Japan d. Korea Rep. 3-1

**Liu Guoliang:** "The reason why China is so dominant in table tennis is because we have a proud tradition and culture in the sport. We are consistently good because we work hard together, generation after generation. Everyone from the coaches to the backroom staff, and players have all made many sacrifices and our performance over the last two weeks here in Tokyo is a validation of our hard work. We have the same goal for every Olympics and that is to win the gold medals each time we compete. It will get tougher each year as it's like China taking on the rest of the world, ... "

Now that we have honored the Olympic Champions, let's have a look at some interesting viewing statistics for our sport during the Olympic Games. The ITTF recently released some impressive numbers, and I quote from their summary:

"TV figures skyrocket as table tennis remains the most-watched sport in China. Popularity of the sport also soars in Japan. Table tennis is the number one and most-watched sport in China at the recent Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. According to figures released by CSM Media Research, close to 350 million unique viewers, the largest audience of any sport at the games, tuned in to watch CCTV-5's coverage of the Women's Team Final from the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium.

A total Chinese audience of close to 75 and 74 million also watched the Women's Single and Men's Single finals live respectively, where more than 190 hours of airtime on CCTV-5 were given to table tennis. During the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, the audience rating for the Men's Team final reached 4.45%. There were 19 million hashtag reads with post impressions reaching 47.57 million. The audience rating for the Women's Team final followed closely with 4.36% with the finals for both the Men's and Women's Team ranked among the top three sports in CCTV-5's broadcast. The audience ratings for the Men's and Women's Singles finals went as high as 3.73% and 3.65% respectively, making it into the top 10 list of CCTV's sports broadcast schedule.

On WTT's official Chinese social media channels, the entire platform gained an increase of 270,000 followers. Weibo had over 100 million impressions and 300,000 engagements whilst Douyin, its short video platform enjoyed over 200 million video views and reached more than three million engagements. There were also more than 50 hot trending topics related to table tennis on Weibo with the most popular being the Mixed Doubles final and Ma Long, the most decorated table tennis Olympian in history with a record of five gold medals.

Viewership figures for the sport in Japan have also soared, indicating the significant level of interest for table tennis from Japanese consumers watching matches on television and online has increased. In a recent poll conducted by Japanese media Asahi Shimbun, the most memorable event for the Japanese during the Olympic Games was the table tennis mixed doubles final ahead of judo, baseball, softball and the track and field events. Jun Mizutani, and Ito outplayed China's Xu Xin and Liu Shiwen to win the gold medal for Japan in the inaugural event. That historic victory meant the host nation had claimed its first-ever gold medal across all table tennis disciplines at the Olympic Games since the sport's debut at the Seoul Olympics in 1988

More than 17% of Japanese polled ranked table tennis as one of their most popular sports. 16% chose judo, followed by 12% in baseball, 6% in softball and track and field. In the same poll, 22% of the female audience believed the most impressive event at the Games was table tennis whilst 12% of male audiences choose table tennis too.

Some general stats from the IOC:

205 National Olympic Committees + the IOC Refugee Olympic Team (EOR).

42 competition venues (for the Olympic Games).

33 sports and 32 International Federations.

339 medal events, including 18 mixed/open events.

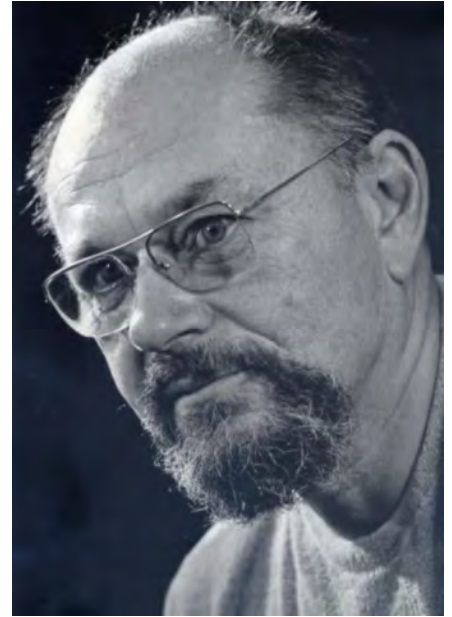
Five new sports have been added to the programme for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 – karate, skateboarding, sport climbing, softball/baseball and surfing.

As a result, the Tokyo 2020 Games are more youthful and more urban.

# Heiloway - the Ferrari of Table Tennis Bats

by Fabio Marcotulli

As an anecdote I tell you how I discovered the existence of this artisan. In a TT US Open 2006, Las Vegas, in which by the way I met Marty Reisman and we made a nice friendship, there was a veteran German player using an old bat that kept my attention. When I asked him about it, he said that was a very old anatomic bat he got many years ago and that in his opinion it was the best he has ever tried. It was not the Butterfly anatomic bat, but it was similar. When I got back home I got in touch with Osthén (Rarepaddles) who didn't have any idea about Heiloway. He could find some samples for me (about 12), which I used to write the article for TTC63. Some time later he contacted me and said that after some laborious research, he has contacted the heirs of Mr Heiloway and they told him they had a box with rackets and other things, as explanations about the bats, and that they wanted to sell it as a whole lot if they get an offer. So I made them an offer that they couldn't refuse. That is how I got the biggest Heiloway's bats collection. The technical explanations about most of the bats are incredibly complete. It is curious that the modern players are so amazed when they have in their hands the grip of a Butterfly Anatomic bat.



James Heiloway (GER) 1922-2000



















*More from Fabio !*



Above: an original of an unusual pistol grip bat. Fabio made a reproduction previously shown in TTH.  
Below: a group of balls, including early Ayres and cork balls, and 1930s mesh balls





Above, a fine Mally wood bat with textured surface.  
Below: a scarce Stiga Sado (Satoh) thick sponge bat







Photo of 1931 World Champion Miklos Szabados playing table tennis with a mirror, with 3 balls in play!

ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO FROM LONDON  
PLEASE USE CREDIT

WHAT! -- NO OPPONENT ?

MIKLOS SZABADOS, TRIES TO BEAT HIMSELF AT HIS OWN GAME, AS HE PRACTICES TABLE TENNIS WITH A MIRROR TO PROVIDE AN IMAGE OF HIMSELF AND THE THREE BALLS WHICH HE HAS IN PLAY, JUST TO MAKE THINGS A LITTLE MORE DIFFICULT.

SZABADOS, WHOSE REFLECTED SELF HAS NOT YET SUCCEEDED IN BEATING HIM, IS SEEN IN ACTION IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

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LONDON, E.C.4.  
PHONE-CENTRAL 1515 (11 Lines)



Above: Eric Findon bat. He was an English international (b.1913 d.1941)  
Below: Ron Sharman bat. He teamed with Bergmann, Barna, Leach & Aubrey Simons to win Bronze for England in the 1949 Swaythling Cup.







Bamforth hardbat



Jaques hardbat



Montana hardbat in original box, Michael Lansky, who won Bronze for France in the 1947 Swaythling Cup

## "Read All About It" – PART 12 (1924 to April 1927)

by Alan Duke

This final part in the series includes national and international championships and the birth of both the ITTF and ETTA.

1924

**Folkestone Express**

**1 March 1924**

The finals for the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex in the British table tennis championships were played at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, on Wednesday in last week when there was an entry of 154 for the three counties, the men's event provided some excellent games. ...

The final was keenly contested in a match lasting over 1½ hours, L. J. H. Waldron, who just managed to beat J. H. Jones by 20–22, 21–17, 25–23, was therefore the winner of the men's championship. It is interesting to note that Mr. Waldron is a good all round sportsman and has won some 150 cups and trophies at boxing and rowing. He will now meet the other area champions in London for the British championship. [I assume that this refers to the All-England Championship, but it is interesting to read of qualifying rounds for the finals. Those finals took place at the Stadium Club on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, where Percy Bromfield beat James Johnson 21–14, 21–10, 21–11.]

**Sheffield Daily Telegraph**

**11 March 1924**

The third annual inter-'Varsity table tennis contest was won by Cambridge yesterday by 27 games to six. F. C. Peters (Brasenose), the Oxford captain, won four games.

**Belfast News-Letter**

**8 April 1924**

### ULSTER TABLE TENNIS FINALS.

... The finals for the Ulster ladies's singles championship were also played [at Clarence Place Hall on Saturday last], the gold medal being won by Miss Carter, of Bangor. Miss Nelson was runner-up. Owing to the lateness of the hour the final for the Ulster gents' singles competition ... had to be deferred, after Messrs. R. McCleery and Hugh Graham had won the qualifying rounds.

**Daily Mirror**

**9 April 1924**

### TABLE TENNIS TROPHY FINALS.

The finals of this year's official table tennis championships, the winners of which will hold *The Daily Mirror* trophies for a year, will be held at the Stadium Club, 85, High Holborn, W.C., on Saturday at 8 p.m. Earlier in the day at St. Bride Institute preliminary finals will be played off.

Tickets (3s. and 5s. each) may be obtained from the Sports Appeal Secretary, National Institute for the Blind.

**Daily Mirror**

**14 April 1924**

### SCHOOLGIRL'S TRIUMPH.

Miss K. Berry, the clever London schoolgirl player who won the women's table tennis championship for *The Daily Mirror* trophy and motor-car last year, repeated her

triumph on Saturday night at the Stadium Club, Holborn, when she beat Mrs. Parsons, of Eastbourne, in the final.

Mr. Percival Bromfield, regarded as London's finest stylist in the game, gained the men's championship by defeating Mr. Moss Cohen, last year's official champion [and then beating James H Johnson in the Final].

Mr. J. Thompson, of Bristol, the winner of *The Daily Mirror* cup and motor-car last year, was beaten by Mr. Cohen in the preliminary finals during the afternoon. As the championships this year were adopted by the Table Tennis Association as the official singles championships, Miss K. Berry and Mr. P. Bromfield now hold the official titles as well as *The Daily Mirror* trophies. The latter were presented to the winners by Lady Crutchley, on behalf of the National Institute for the Blind, in whose aid the championships were organized.

**TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONS.** Lady Crutchley presenting to Miss Berry at the Stadium Club *The Daily Mirror* trophy for the table tennis championship which she has won two years in succession. Inset, Mr. Percival Bromfield, winner of men's championship.



**Western Mail**

**14 April 1924**

### TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The conclusion of the Welsh Table Tennis Association's Championships at Cardiff Y.M.C.A. on Saturday, resulted as follows:—

Club Championship.—Cardiff Y.M.C.A. beat Penarth Y.M.C.A. by 13 points.

Individual Championship.—C. Mossford (Cardiff Y.M.C.A.) beat H. Geen (Penarth Y.M.C.A.)—50-31.

**Hull Daily Mail**

**7 May 1924**

### SEMI-FINAL OF NATIONAL TROPHY.

A match of much interest was played on Saturday at Whitby. Birmingham, the national trophy holders, and Whitby, the North of England champions, met in a real battle of giants. The match was the semi-final round for the national trophy. Birmingham won by 22 to 3 ... Birmingham now meet Ealing at London in the finals [one unconfirmed listing naming Ealing as the winners].



## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*The Graphic*

7 June 1924

TABLE TENNIS. By Ivor Montagu. (Heffer.) 1s. 6d. Table tennis in some form or other, notably as Ping Pong, has been played for many years. This little book is more advanced in scope than most, and includes the official rules: with five photographs.

[Note: Full title of book is 'Table Tennis To-Day'.]

*Shields Daily News*

1 October 1924

### PERSISTENT "PING-PONG."

With the darker evenings the table tennis hosts come to life again. The All England T.T.C. open at St. Brides's Institute on Friday, October 3 [having agreed the move to a new headquarters at a General Meeting on 2 November 1923] ...

*West Middlesex Gazette*

18 October 1924

A successful exhibition of table tennis was given at the West Ealing Club, Mervyn-road, Northfields, on Wednesday evening. A great attraction was the meeting of Mr. S. N. Nanda, the Indian champion, and Mr. P. Bromfield, the English champion, while others who took part were Mr. M. Cohen (champion of England 1923), Mr. H. A. Bennett (finalist *Daily Mirror* competition, 1923), Mr. G. Ross (all-England team), and Mr. W. Tucker, a local player.

1925

*Western Mail*

19 January 1925

### ENGLAND BEATS WALES IN LONDON BY SEVENTY-ONE POINTS.

England defeated Wales in the third international table tennis match played at the All England Club, London, on Saturday by 71 points. The Englishmen used the rubber-faced racquet, which is not permitted in Wales. The margin was narrower than in the two previous matches. Scores:—

ENGLAND.		WALES.	
A. C. Brown .....	43	H. G. Geen .....	50
W. Tucker .....	50	W. Thatcher .....	38
L. Farris .....	50	A. E. Hodges .....	45
C. G. Mase .....	50	J. Pleece .....	41
M. A. Cohen .....	50	T. A. Schiele .....	26
G. Ross .....	50	M. E. Lewis .....	44
C. W. Allwright ..	50	A. H. Wiggins .....	49
#P. Bromfield ....	50	*C. Mossford .....	48
H. A. Bennett ....	50	S. Stone .....	42
R. H. Berry .....	50	W. Waite .....	39
Total.....	493	Total.....	422
#English champion.		*Welsh champion.	

*Leeds Mercury*

19 January 1925

### Table Tennis Match.

England beat Wales by 493 to 462 [*sic*] in a table tennis match of ten-a-side played on Saturday night at St. Bride's Institute, London. The best individual game was between P. Bromfield, champion of England, and C. Mofford [*sic*], champion of Wales, won by the former, 50-48.

The English Championships took place on 24-25 April, again at the Stadium Club, where "P. N. Nanda, a tall and lithe young Indian, the captain of the Indian Students Hostel team" emerged the winner "after hard five-game

struggles with P. Bromfield in the semi-final and C. Allwright in the final. He used a racket with a rubber face for serving, and wooden face for all other strokes." (*Table Tennis*, 1 November 1926). [Kathleen Berry retained her title in the ladies' event, with Gladys McCosh the runner-up.]

*Northern Whig*

13 April 1925

### ULSTER CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS IN BELFAST

By the contests on Saturday in the Ulster Hall it was demonstrated that table tennis, despite the claims of rival sports, continues to enjoy a large measure of popularity, and the display of skill was of a very high order. The competitions, which took the form of Ulster championships, were arranged by the Belfast and District Table Tennis League. ...

There were 150 entrants taking part. Of these in the gents' singles there were 94; in the ladies' singles 22, and in the doubles 20 pair. Mr. R. M<sup>c</sup>Cleery (9th Old Boys) won the gents' singles last year, and repeated his success on Saturday [beating W. J. Maze (Sandy Row) 21-12, 21-16]. [The ladies' singles] was won last year by Miss Carter, of Bangor. On Saturday Miss Carter reached the semi-final stage, but the winner of the final was found in Mrs. Roberts, of South Belfast [beating Mrs. Gaw (Bangor) 21-12, 21-15]. The doubles championship resulted in favour of W. Roy and S. M<sup>c</sup>Keown [beating R. M<sup>c</sup>Cleery and H. M<sup>c</sup>Dowell 14-21, 21-16, 21-15].

*New Britain Herald (Conn, US)*

29 April 1925

### GERMANS REVIVE PING-PONG

Berlin, April 24.—Ping-pong has returned to favor in Berlin. A table tennis club was recently established and 50 organizations joined it. A tournament is being planned for next fall.

1926

*Western Mail*

18 January 1926

### TABLE TENNIS.

#### WALES' FIRST VICTORY OVER ENGLAND.

The fourth table tennis international between Wales and England was played at the Central Y.M.C.A., Cardiff, on Saturday and resulted in Wales scoring their first victory over England, by the margin of only eight points [430-422]. ... M. E. Lewis, Welsh champion, was well beaten by Bromfield [50-35] ... and that although he was first champion of England about twenty years ago.

#### WISHES FROM GERMANY.

At the reception held afterwards at the Dutch Café ... it was announced that a cablegram had been received from the International Table Tennis Federation in Berlin wishing every success to the evening's match. It was signed by Lehmann (Germany), Pope (England), Jacobi (Hungary), Freudenheim (Austria), and Gruber (secretary).

[This must have been one of the very first actions of the ITTF, as it was only formed provisionally on 15<sup>th</sup> January,

## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

at the Clubhouse of the Tennis Club 1900 Berlin Gelb-Weiss, with a full foundation meeting to be held at the end of the year following a planned European Championships in London.]



G J Ross, Hon. I G S Montagu, Dr Lehmann, Dr Jacobi, W J Pope, Herr Gruber, The Treasurer, Zoltan Mechlowitz, Herr Wilhelm, Herr Freudenheim (Berlin, January 1926)

W. J. Pope, president of the London Table Tennis League, who was picked to play at Cardiff, but was unable to as he was captaining an English team of six playing Germany and Austria in Berlin last week, learned his table tennis at Newport, and was one of the founders of the Newport League in pre-war days.

### **Gloucestershire Echo** 19 April 1926

Suppiah, an Indian student, beat L. Farris (London), and won the all-England table tennis men's singles championship at [the Yarborough Hotel,] Grimsby on Saturday. Miss Vasey (Whitby) won the women's event [beating Bessie Roberts in the final].

### **Table Tennis** 1 October 1926

The Table Tennis Association of England, on behalf of the [International Table Tennis] Federation, has now published preliminary details of the Congress and Tournaments to be held in London, opening on December 5th, 1926. At the Congress it is hoped to establish a permanent International Table Tennis Federation, and appoint its first officers for the inaugural year.

### **Uxbridge & District News** 12 November 1926

TABLE TENNIS.—Numerous interested spectators assembled at the Herga Tennis Club [Bonnersfield Lane, Station Road, Harrow] on Monday evening to witness games between 20 of the best of this country's exponents of the popular indoor game. It was a distinct honour to the Herga Club that their headquarters should be chosen as the venue for this event which was arranged with a view to selecting the English team to compete for the International Table Tennis Federation team championship cup. Several players from the North of England figured amongst the contestants, and a high standard of play was reached in some particularly keen and exciting games. At the conclusion of the games Mr. Ivor Montague [*sic*], president of the International Table Tennis Association [*sic*], thanked the players for their attendance, and particularly the enthusiasts from the North, also the Herga

Club for the reception accorded them that evening and on other occasions. In his opinion the Herga Club was the finest venue in the country for such an event. The Herga ladies, we understand, intend making a good bid for the ladies' singles of the European championships. ...

### **Ill. Sporting & Dramatic News** 20 November 1926

**The T.T. Congress.** (From 'Sport & Sportsmen' article by Shan) The first International Table Tennis Congress, to be held in London next month, is fortunate to have an enthusiast like the Hon. Ivor Montague [*sic*] behind it. No one has done more for the game at the 'Varsities or sort to extend the good news of ping-pong throughout the world. Montague was a prominent figure in the revival of a few years back, and has written a very charming book on the game.

I remember how popular his table tennis parties at Kensington were, and the interesting athletes connected with other games one met there. In those days he was often to be seen at the All-England Table Tennis Club, which used to meet twice a week under a restaurant in the Strand. The old Cantab is now chairman and provisional president of the English Table Tennis Association, the body who are staging the coming congress under the auspices of the International Table Tennis Federation.

All sorts and conditions of champions are coming to England for the international championships—team and otherwise—which are to be run in connection with the Congress.

The Indian, S. Suppiah, the present English champion, is said to be a very fine player who will take some beating by overseas players, while Percival Bromfield, the former English champion, has a mind, I am told, to win back honours for the old country. On the women's side England is fixing her hopes on Miss K. Berry, who has not lost a competitive game for five years.

### **Table Tennis** 1 December 1926

<p><i>International Table Tennis Federation</i> (English Table Tennis Association.)</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">An International Tournament</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Will be held on Dec. 8, 9, 10 &amp; 11, at the Memorial Hall, FARRINGTON STREET. E.C.4.</p>
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LORD AND LADY SWAYTHLING have very kindly placed Kensington Court at the disposal of the International delegates for the Conference to be held on Sunday, December 12th, to consider the formation of the proposed International Table Tennis Federation.

### **Westminster Gazette** 2 December 1926

#### TABLE TENNIS BOOM.

#### INTERNATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

The first International Table Tennis Congress will be held this month under the auspices of the International Table Tennis Federation. In conjunction with the Congress, a Table Tennis "Wimbledon" will be held, comprising six events.

The blue riband of the tournament is the International team championship for a challenge cup presented by



## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Lady Swaythling. For this event seven countries have entered — England, Wales, India, Austria, Germany, Hungary, and Czecho-Slovakia.

Players from Sweden, Spain, and Rumania will compete in the other events.

England will in all probability number in her team Mr. P. Bromfield, whose “flick stroke” revolutionized table tennis 20 years ago. Another “star” is Miss K. Berry, who, since winning the Ladies’ Singles Championship at age 16, has not lost a single tournament game in the last five seasons. Her greatest rival is Mrs. Wildam, who has never been defeated on the Continent.

The “Courts” are: The Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street; the Herga Club, Harrow; the Indian Students’ Hotel, Gower-street; and Unity House, Euston-road.

**The Scotsman**

**13 December 1926**

Lady Swaythling, accompanied by Grul Rubid Zichy, the Hungarian Minister, on Saturday night at the Memorial Hall, London, presented the Swaythling Cup for international team table tennis. The result of the tournament having been a tie between Austria and Hungary with five games [matches] each, the cup was presented jointly, and the tie will be fought out to-day by the two teams. Lady Swaythling, in presenting the cup, said that table tennis had not hitherto been treated seriously, but she hoped, as a result of the first international table tennis tournament, that the game would receive more attention. It developed quickness of the eye and alertness of mind and body, and was a game open to all, and especially to those with little leisure.

**Daily Mail**

**13 December 1926**



**Birmingham Daily Gazette**

**13 December 1926**

Two Hungarians contested the final of the International Table Tennis tournament for the world’s championship\* in London on Saturday, when Dr. R. Jacobi beat Zoltan Mechlowits by three games to nil.

[\* These ‘European’ Championships were renamed as World Championships by the Preliminary Meeting of the ITTF on 7<sup>th</sup> December in the Duke of York’s Room, Stadium Club, Holborn.]

In the ladies’ singles final Maria von Mednyansky (Hungary) beat Miss Gubbins [Wales] by two games to love. [For reports in *The Times* see TTC 54, pages 6-7]

In the men’s minor singles<sup>#</sup> final M. Billinger (Austria) beat F. S. B. Lawes (Birmingham) by two games to love.

[<sup>#</sup> Entries open to all, except first four nominated players (Men’s Singles Championship) of each Nation.]

**Northampton Chronicle**

**13 December 1926**

**DAVENTRY TO-DAY (1600m./5XX).**

7.40 (app.).—The Hon. Ivor Montague [*sic*]: “Table Tennis.” [until 7.50.] [*This talk was also broadcast on many other stations at the same time e.g. London 2LO, Nottingham 5NG, Leeds-Bradford 2LS, etc.*]

**Daily Herald**

**14 December 1926**



FRAULEIN WILDAM, of Austria, regarded as favourite in the finals of the international table tennis tournament, now taking place in London.

**Western Mail**

**14 December 1926**

Mr. C. H. Hallett, of Penarth (hon. secretary of the Welsh Table Tennis Association), has been elected hon. secretary of the International Table Tennis Federation, with headquarters at Cardiff.

**HUNGARY DEFEAT AUSTRIA IN DECIDING MATCH.**

In the last match of the international table tennis tournament Hungary beat Austria by five games to four on Monday.

Dr. Jacobi, who won the world’s championship on Saturday last, was unable to play for Hungary owing to the sudden death of his father. He is now on his way back to Hungary. The Hungarians were thus deprived of their best player and considerably weakened.

## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*The Times*

15 December 1926

### TABLE TENNIS.

Mr. Ivor Montagu states that an International Table Tennis Federation has been formed on the lines of the International Lawn Tennis Federation. [TTC 56/7]

*Ill. Sporting & Dramatic News* 18 December 1926

### HUNGARY TO THE FORE: "PING PONG" AT THE MEMORIAL HALL.



SOME TABLE TENNIS CARICATURES: THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING.

The nations were at grips last week at the Memorial Hall in Farringdon Street, where the International Table Tennis Championships were contested. Hungary captured the limelight decisively, the men's singles final being confined to representatives of that country, Dr. R. Jacobi beating Zoltan Mechlowits. The ladies' final was won by the Hungarian, Maria von Mednyansky from Miss D. Gubbins, of Bridgend, while Hungary also won the team final against Austria. Such famous lawn tennis players as Dr. A. H. Fyzee, Mr. A. A. Fyzee and Baron Von Kehrling were among the competitors.

(Caricatured by Will Owen.)

The Congregational Memorial Hall, designed by Messrs Tarring and Son of Basinghall Street in a "richly ornamental Gothic" style, stood on the eastern side of Farringdon Street (Number 14), not far from Ludgate Circus, on part of the site of the former Fleet Prison. It was constructed of grey stone and red granite, with the highest tower standing imposingly about 160 ft. above street level. The



foundation stone was laid on 10 May 1872, and the building finally opened on 19 January 1875. The hall on the second floor measured 86 ft. by 46 ft., 42 ft. high at its highest point, and could accommodate 1000 people (or four tables in line surrounded by chairs!). A narrow gallery ran along each side of the hall, with a wider gallery at the Farringdon Street end and a platform at the opposite end. This magnificent structure was demolished in 1968. (*Bradford Observer*, 20 January 1875; *Illustrated London News* and *The Graphic*, 30 January 1875; et al.)



OPENING CEREMONY IN THE GREAT HALL

1927

*Western Mail*

17 January 1927

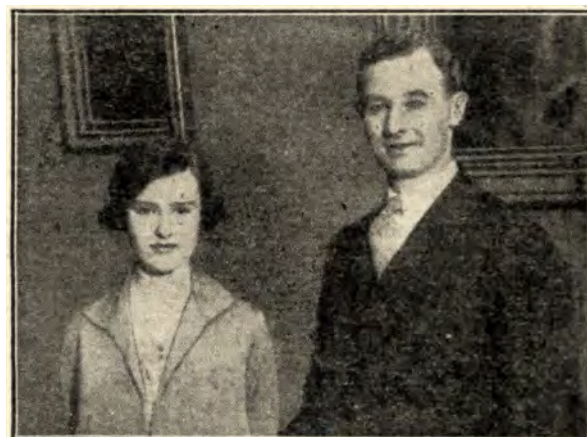
### WALES DEFEAT ENGLAND IN LONDON.

Wales beat England at table tennis at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, E.C., [on Saturday] by 71 points. It was the fifth annual contest, and Wales have now won two and England three in the series. The scores were:—

- A. D. Matthews lost to F. B. Lawes 45–50.
- I. R. Thomas beat M. Armstrong 50–38.
- S. Stone beat C. G. Mase 50–45.
- T. Coles beat L. Farris 50–30.
- C. Williams lost to F. Burtles 36–50.
- W. H. Thatcher beat A. Donaldson 50–35.
- M. E. Lewis beat B. Bernstein 50–21.
- C. Mossford [capt.] beat J. Thompson [capt.] 50–44.
- H. Penny beat H. Bennett 50–32.
- H. Geen lost to C. Allwright 35–50.
- Wales won by 466 to 395 [and by 7 games to 3].

*Leeds Mercury*

18 January 1927



YORKSHIRE TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONS.—Miss Vasey and Mr. Johnson, both of Whitby, winners of the Hull Table Tennis Tournament for the second year.



## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*Hull Daily Mail*

18 January 1927

The fourth annual Hull open table tennis tournament was held on Saturday at the Young People's Institute, Charlotte-street. ...

Ladies' Final: Miss Vasey beat Mrs Jenkins.

Gents' Final: Mr Johnson beat Mr Hewitt.

*Sheffield Daily Telegraph*

21 February 1927

### Northern Table Tennis Championship.

The final stages of the Northern Counties Table Tennis Association championship tournament took place at the Scarborough Spa on Saturday night. Results:—

YOUTHS.—Final: A. Smith (Beverley) beat G. Hunt (Beverley), 21-15, 21-18, 21-15.

LADIES.—Final:— Miss G. Vasey (Whitby) beat Miss B. Roberts (Whitby) 19-21, 17-21, 21-20, 21-16, 21-8.

MEN.—Semi-finals: W. Hewitt (Bradford) beat J. H. Johnson (Whitby), 21-8, 14-21, 14-21, 21-8, 21-14; J. Baynes (Scarborough) beat A. Harrison (Scarborough), 21-17, 21-18, 21-14. Final: W. Hewitt beat J. Baynes, 21-14, 18-21, 21-18, 21-18.

*Uxbridge Gazette*

25 February 1927

### MIDDLESEX TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The fourth annual open table tennis tournament for the Middlesex championships are being decided this week at the Headquarters of the promoting club, the table tennis section of the Herga Lawn Tennis Club. The 215 entries [from] 125 competitors constitute a record for any tournament of its kind. A feature of this year is the introduction of doubles championships. Considering that the matches to be played are double those of last year, the hon. Referee, Mr. A. R. Summers has done exceptionally well to get through so many matches in the qualifying rounds on the first four evenings. ...

A notable [competitor] in the tournament on Wednesday was the Hon. Ivor Montagu, youngest son of Lord Swaythling, head of the banking house of Samuel Montagu & Co., whose secret marriage on January 10th last to Miss Eileen Hellstern, a Brixton stenographer, was announced on Wednesday and caused a stir in society circles. The Hon. Ivor, who is a keen table tennis player and president of the T.T.A., confessed to the officials and fellow competitors that he was glad of being able to attend that tournament as a refuge from the legion of journalistic and personal enquirers consequent upon the revelation of the news of his marriage. He was dismissed from the tournament by Mr. J. C. Rogers, one of the joint secretaries [the other being Miss W H Land].

*Uxbridge & District News*

4 March 1927

### HOLDERS RETAIN THEIR TITLES.

The fourth annual open table tennis tournament for the Middlesex championships ... proved a record success. ... The qualifying rounds were decided from Monday to Friday, and the final rounds on Saturday attracted numerous spectators.

In the gents' singles, ... [holder] R. G. Suppiah ... in the semi-final earned the right to contest with C. Bull by reason of extreme patience against B. Bernstein, a player of the stone-walling type, against whom it was impossible for the champion or anyone else to play their normal game. This set was a protracted and somewhat tedious one; ... Suppiah scored a popular win 19-21, 21-18, 22-20. The final was finely contested. Some of the rallies were productive of brilliant play, and Bull had the satisfaction of doing remarkably well against and fully extending a more experienced player [losing 21-18, 21-11, 11-21, 17-21, 18-21]. [Amongst others qualifying for the final stages were F J Perry, W J Pope, A H Fyzee, P C Warden, H A Bennett and L Farris.]

In the ladies' singles ... for the fourth year in succession Miss Land was one of the finalists, only to again lose to Miss Berry, the holder, [15-21, 12-21] who thus won the cup outright, having won it twice previously.

Winners of doubles events were:

Ladies' — Miss Land and Mrs Spiring

Mixed — H A Bennett and Miss Land

Men's — P Bromfield and L Farris.

*Uxbridge Gazette*

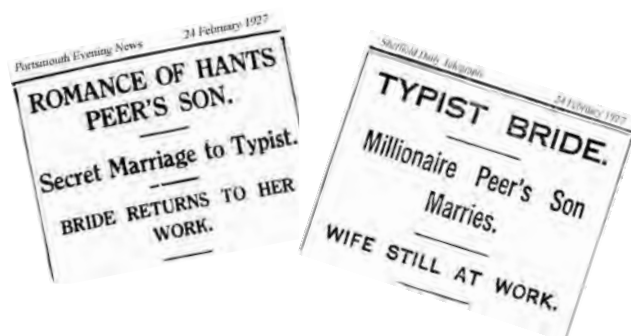
25 March 1927

HERGA T.T. SUCCESSES.—The members of the table tennis section of the Herga Tennis Club scored creditable victories in the City of London table tennis championships, held at the headquarters of the All England Club, St. Bride's Institute, last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Of nine events the Herga representatives won five.

The outstanding individual performance was that of Miss W. H. Land, who produced such form as to give her a premier position among lady players of this country. In her progress to the final of the ladies' singles she beat Miss Berry, the English champion, to whom she lost a few weeks ago at the Herga Clubhouse in the final of the Middlesex ladies' singles championship. In the semi-final Miss Land dismissed Miss J. Ingram, a clubmate, and won the final against Miss Grundy.

In the handicap singles Miss Land, with the same handicap, again overcame Miss Berry—this double victory over the English champion being no mean achievement—but in the final she lost to Miss J. Ingram (Herga). Of the other Herga successes, Miss Land and Mrs. Spiring won the ladies' doubles; Miss Land, with Mr. H. A. Bennett, the open mixed doubles; and with Mr. G. J. Ross the handicap mixed doubles. ...

Miss Land and Miss Ingram have been chosen to represent London in the match with Birmingham at Birmingham on Saturday, April 2nd.



## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*Belfast Telegraph*

4 April 1927



TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS.—SOME OF THE COMPETITORS AT THE ULSTER TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE 9th OLD BOYS' HALL, BELFAST.

*Belfast Telegraph*

5 April 1927

### TABLE TENNIS IN ULSTER.

The Ulster Table Tennis Association, which was inaugurated in 1923, has at present some fifteen clubs, and the keenest enthusiasm was evinced at the annual championship, which took place on Saturday in the hall of the 9th Old Boys' Association, Fitzroy Avenue, Belfast.

*Northern Whig*

5 April 1927

### NORTHERN IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The final matches of the Northern Ireland table tennis championships were decided at the 9th Old Boys' Hall, Fitzroy Avenue, last night. This brought to a close a tournament in which the play reached a high standard, and which showed an improvement on former years. The ladies' singles were decided on Saturday, when Miss Meta M<sup>c</sup>Candless (Annahilt), who has never been beaten, defeated Miss S. Harper (9th Old Boys) by 2-0.

In the gentlemen's singles ... R M<sup>c</sup>Cleary (the holder) ... lost the first game in the final [to R. Bell] (19-21), and won the second (21-19). He also won the third (21-16), thus retaining the cup for another year.

The doubles championship goes to Ballyclare [J. M<sup>c</sup>Clean and S. Mackey] in three good games.

*Hastings Observer*

9 April 1927

### Table Tennis.

The hitherto unbeaten Hastings Y.M.C.A. team will be severely tested to-night (Saturday), when exhibition matches in aid of the East Sussex Hospital take place at the Hastings Pier Tea Rooms. They will meet a team from the English Table Tennis Association composed as follows: P. Bromfield (capt.), English champion, 1921-22, 1924-25; R. G. Suppiah (India), present English champion, and winner this year of the Kent open, Middlesex open and City open championships; C. H. Bull, winner of the London League singles championship, 1926-27, and runner-up in the Middlesex and City open championships; H. H. Briggs, winner of the London Business Houses singles championship, 1926-27; L. S. E. Farris, runner-up in the Kent open championship and London League singles championship, 1926-27; and either I. Montagu or W. J. Pope.

W. Lygo, winner this year of the Hastings open singles championship, will captain the Y.M.C.A. team, which will include H. Veness, runner-up in the previous year.

The ladies team to play Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, ladies, will include Mrs. Parsons (Hastings Club), past runner-up in Daily Mirror All England competition, and winner of the Hastings ladies' open singles championship; and Miss M. Reeves (Central), winner of the same championship last year.

The exhibition begins at 6 p.m., and tickets can be obtained at the doors.

*Western Mail*

11 April 1927

### TITLES RETAINED BY MISS D. GUBBINS AND S. STONE.

S. Stone, Cardiff Jewish Social Club, and Miss D. Gubbins, Bridgend, respective holders of the Welsh championships for men and women, successfully defended their titles at the Cardiff Y.M.C.A. on Saturday, when the finals of the various annual competitions of the Table Tennis Association of Wales were played.

Stone defeated C. H. Vaughan, Cardiff Y.M.C.A., in the semi-final by nine points, and C. Mossford, captain of the Welsh international side and a former champion, in the final by three points. Miss Gubbins defeated her challenger, Miss M. E. Davies, of Barry, by eight points. In the club championship of Wales, Cardiff Y.M.C.A. beat Barry Y.M.C.A. by 30 points—379 to 349. The awards were presented by the Lady Mayoress.

*Hastings Observer*

16 April 1927

What proved to be the finest exhibition of table tennis ever seen in Hastings, took place at the Hastings Pier Tea Rooms on Saturday night, when the hitherto unbeaten Y.M.C.A. team met a picked London team, captained by Mr. [P.] Bromfield, the English champion, and were beaten by 32 games to 4.

Though beaten the losers were not disgraced, but put up a very good game, their captain, W. H. Lygo, winning two events, and H. Veness two. ...

Mr. W. J. Pope, the Secretary of the English Table Tennis Association, ... thanked the public for the splendid reception they had given them, congratulated the Y.M.C.A. team on their good display, and invited them to enter some of the open competitions. He pointed out that table tennis was not the baby game that some people thought, but was an ideal game for young people of both sexes. ... The exhibition was arranged ... in the hope of popularizing the game for next winter, when the league system will be adopted.

[For the visitors, Bromfield, Suppiah and Bull were unbeaten, Perry and Briggs each lost one game, and Pope lost two.]

The Hastings v. Eastbourne ladies' match was unfinished, only three rounds being played, Eastbourne leading by 12 events to six [Mrs. Parsons winning three for the home team]. ...



## EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*Leeds Mercury*

25 April 1927

### PING PONG CHAMPIONSHIPS.

#### SEVENTY COMPETE FOR ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS HONOURS.

The Ping Pong championships—or more properly the sixth annual championships of the English Table Tennis Association\*—were contested in the Memorial Hall, London, on Saturday.

Girls with bobbed hair and short frocks engaged in keen contests, showing more agility than the male competitors. Their brightly coloured dresses and the gay pullovers worn by some of the men relieved the gloominess of the hall.

Fifty men and twenty women from different parts of the country entered for the championships, and keen games were witnessed.

Mr. R. G. Suppiah, the English champion, defended his title, as did also Miss G. Vasey, of Whitby, the lady champion.

The final results were:—

MEN'S SINGLES (Championship of England).—R. G. Suppiah (London), holder, beat B. Bernstein (London).

WOMEN'S SINGLES (Championship of England).—Miss D. Gubbins (Wales) beat Miss Joan Ingram (Harrow).



Miss Joan Ingram, of Harrow, a Harrow Lawn Tennis Club member

[As newspapers at that time were very formal in their reporting of names, usually printing just an initial and surname (sometimes just a title and surname), perhaps it's time to rectify that with a few first names: Charles Allwright, Bernie Bernstein, Kathleen Berry, Henry Briggs, J P (Percy) Bromfield, Charlie Bull, Austin Carris, Moss Cohen, Andrew Donaldson, Lionel Farris, Doris (Dolly) Gubbins, Ivy Fenton, Joan Ingram, James H Johnson, Frank Lawes, William Leadbeater, Gladys McCosh, Prashant N Nanda, John J Payne, F J (Fred) Perry, W J (Bill) Pope, Bessie Roberts, Florence Scott, Raja Gopal Suppiah, Greta Vasey.]

*With thanks to Colin Clemett, Steve Grant and John Ruderham.*

MEN'S DOUBLES COMPETITION.— P. Bromfield (London) and L. S. E. Farris (London) beat F. S. B. Lawes (Birmingham) and W. A. Leadbeater (Birmingham).

WOMEN'S DOUBLES COMPETITION.—Miss D. Gubbins (Wales) and Miss Joan Ingram (Harrow) beat Miss K. N. Berry (London) and Mrs. H. Laurie.

MIXED DOUBLES COMPETITION.—Miss Joan Ingram (Harrow) and L. S. E. Farris (London) beat Miss Roberts (Whitby) and H. H. Briggs (London).

MEN'S SINGLES COMPETITION.—F. J. Burls (London) beat F. J. Perry (London).

\* A National Delegate Conference held in London at the Indian Students Hostel, Gower Street, on April 24<sup>th</sup> 1927, approved a new constitution, which provided for the new title "The English Table Tennis Association" (*Handbooks of the English Table Tennis Association*, 1927-8 and 1931-2). Bringing us up to date, the Association was re-branded Table Tennis England on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (*Table Tennis England* news article, May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014).

*Although this is the final part in the regular series, there will be an Addenda in order to present a few further discoveries of early items of particular interest.*

[Corrections to Part 11 of this series (TTH 94): Thanks to Steve Grant for pointing out that the *sic?* against 'home and home' (p. 23) can be removed, as this term, more commonly now referred to as 'home and away' (with the same meaning), was correct for that period and is still in use in some American sports.

With regard to Kathleen Berry's year of birth (p. 26), following further research Steve and I have now agreed on 1907. Further details will be included in a brief Biographical Updates article, following release of the 1921 Census next January. Who could have anticipated that there were two Kathleen Mary Berrys born and living in north London around the same time, both with a father (H Berry) who was a Head Teacher?!

## THE MUSIC OF TABLE TENNIS

by Alan Duke

Update to lists in TTC 29 and 49 (and updates in 52, 56, 61, 73, 83):



TITLE	COMPOSER(S)	Date	ARTIST(S)
My Queen of Ping Pong	George V Hobart Ludwig Englander	1902	
Ping Pong	John Read	c1902	John Read
Ping-Pong *	Justin Clérice	1905	
Ping Pong Galop *	Albert John Weidt	1913	
One World (WVC 2018 Theme Song)		2018	Tim Kelly

\* From IMSLP (*International Music Score Library Project*) website, aimed at the creation of a virtual library of public domain music scores. Ross Boyle, a collector of music hall songs, brought this site to my attention whilst seeking help in adding a couple of Ping Pong titles to his collection (and to the site).



## Alex Ehrlich & the Early Thick Sponge Racket

by Bruno Lancon (FRA)

### NOUVELLE TECHNIQUE

#### Le revêtement "Mousse"

utilisé pour la première fois avec succès en 1952,  
à Bombay où le Japonais HIROJI SATOH remporta  
le titre de Champion du Monde.



La palette 2 faces "Mousse"  
ALEX EHRlich



Bruno reports that the S.P.O.R.T. Company was managed by Jean Pruliere, president of FFTT from 1944 to 1959. Ehrlich was a proponent of the thick sponge bat soon after Satoh's success at Bombay 1952 World Ch.



**S.P.O.R.T.**  
**TENNIS DE TABLE**

*présente le Champion*

**ALEX EHRLICH**

Champion de Pologne 1934-1935

Finaliste des Championnats du Monde  
1936-1937 1937-1938 1939-1940

Champion de France International  
1937-1938 1938-1939

Champion d'Angleterre International  
1935-1936 1950-1951

Champion d'Irlande International  
1949-1950 1950-1951

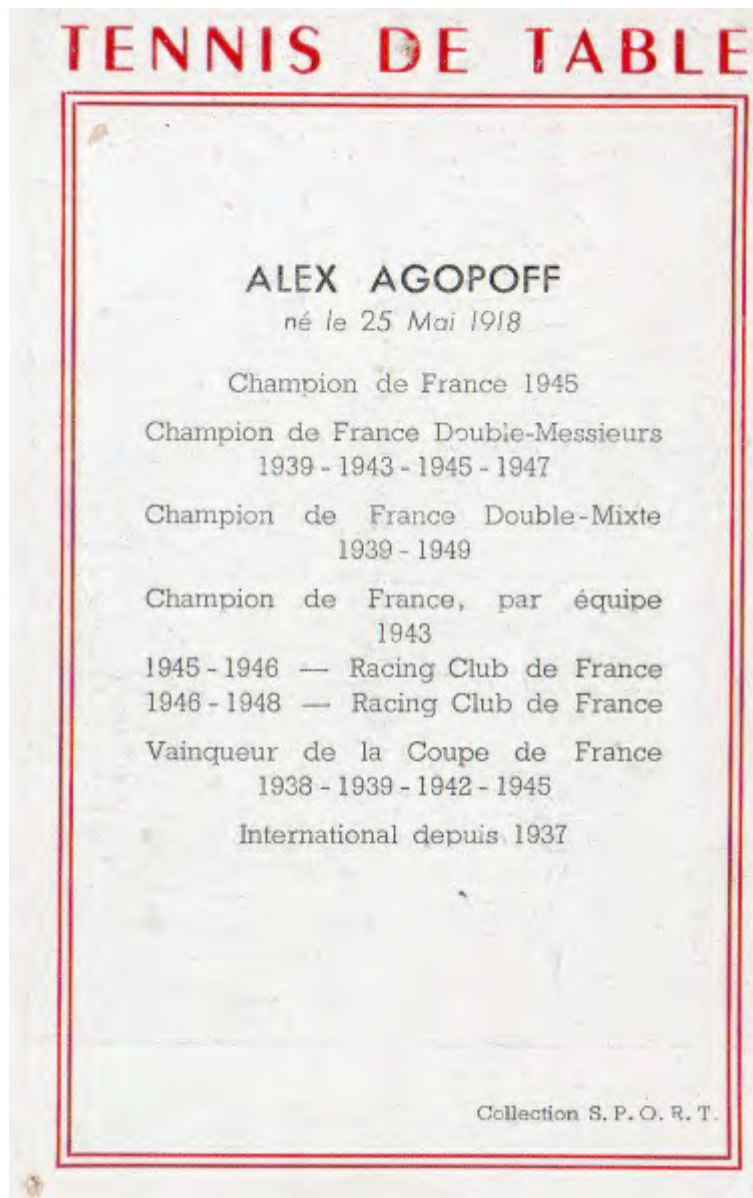
Champion de Hollande International  
1950 - 1951

Champion de Suisse (Double) International  
1950 - 1951 - 1953



Bruno reports an error in Wikipedia for the record of Alex Agopoff. Below is the accurate record.

Thank you Bruno !





... som allt vad DUNLOP gör ...



**Dunlop BARNÄ**  
BORDTENNISBOLLAR  
OCH  
BORDTENNISRACKETS

*kvalitetsprodukter*

**DUNLOP**

DUNLOP RUBBER Co AB - NORRKÖPING



Dunlop "BARNÄ" bordtennisbollar användes vid VM-tävlingarna i bordtennis i Paris 1947 och London 1948. En garanti för högsta kvalitet

Swedish Dunlop Barna bat advertisement from 1949.  
Looking closely at the grip you can see that it is nailed !

## CHILDREN'S GAMES - PART 2

By Jorge Arango

This is the second part of my series about antique table tennis/ping-pong children's games.

### THE EXCELSIOR BOXED SET



French boxed set. Dimensions of the box: length 30 cm, width 19.5 and height 4.3 cm.



The balls are tiny, 2.0 cm in diameter, and I think they are original because the container has the same width. The game has wood supports.



The game included instructions in English and in French:

**English:** Excelsior or Parlour Tennis

A special light ball made of xylonite is substituted for the usual India-rubber one.

Neither in serving nor in returning a ball shall the battledore be raised above the level of the shoulder.

Should the ball, in serving, touch the top of the net, it is a let, and another service is allowed. Two lets count as a fault.

**French:** Le jeu d'Excelsior Tennis n'est autre que le jeu de tennis, mais arrangé de telle façon qu'on puisse y jouer sur un table de salón, salle a manger ou sur un billard.

Dans le cas ou un lustre ou une suspension se trouverait au-dessus de la table, il faudrait tirer celle-ci un peu de côté afin de ne pas être gêné.

En servant il y a faute, si la balle touche le filet en passant par dessus.

Le service doit être fait en arrière du bout de la table et les raquettes doivent toujours être tenues de façon que la partie ovale soit en bas.

**Translation into English:**

The game of Excelsior Tennis is none other than the game of tennis, but arranged in such a way that it can be played on a living room table, dining room or on a pool table.

In the event that a chandelier or a pendant lamp is located above the table, it should be pulled a little aside so as not to be inconvenienced.

While serving there is a fault if the ball hits the net passing over it.

The serve should be back from the end of the table and the rackets should always be held so that the oval part is at the bottom.

**Commentary:** Two different rules regarding the net service.

## PING PONG OR GOSSIMA BOXED SET



I consider this boxed set is for children because the box and the rackets are very small. The dimensions of the wooden box are: length 31.5 cm, width 14.2 cm and height 7.7 cm. The length of the racket is 25 cm.





The dimensions of the illustration are: length 29 cm and width 10.9 cm.

The set has antique wood supports and the net is to be fastened below the table.

The ball has two perpendicular seams, as can be seen in the figure; I highlighted them to be better seen.



Rare net fixtures introduced in Gossima 1891



DRAWN BY JOHN HASSALL.

SHE : Do you play Ping-Pong ?  
HE : No jolly fear ! I 've chucked kids' games.



WONDER WHY?  
She—Why don't you like ping pong.  
He—I wan't tell.

LIDS OF BOXED SETS



To be continued



## Montagu Miscellanea - Part 1

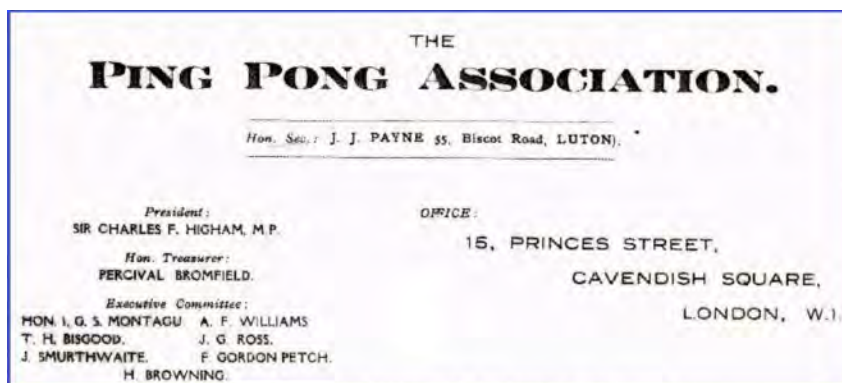
by Alan Duke

**The Honourable Ivor Montagu** (1904-84) could never be accused of having lived a quiet, uneventful life. Even if there is some truth in his 'Recreations' listed in "Who's Who?" ("washing up, pottering about, sleeping through television"), then he had probably earned the right to a less hectic life at that stage. He was born into a life of privilege as a member of a wealthy banking family, but quite early on rebelled against all that it entailed e.g. a speech at Bermondsey Town Hall on 4 March 1933: "We of the working class movement ...". He joined the Socialists and later the Communist Party, the latter to have a huge impact throughout his life.



From an early age his interest in zoology appeared to be his chosen career path, but at University he discovered a love of film, leading to work as a "film critic, editor, director, writer, producer". To this could be added translator, for his language skills were also put to use in films, books and magazine articles (and he modestly claimed were the reason for his nomination as first chairman of the ITFF). He was also a writer and journalist, notably of pro-Soviet literature, and as such was a very active distributor of Russian propaganda, and as discovered later, also a supplier of valuable information to Russia.

Representing his many roles he was at various times a member of a number of Trade Unions (ACT, AScW, NUJ) and Clubs (Southampton FC Supporters Club, MCC, Hampshire County Cricket Club). But throughout his whole life, there was never any doubting his love of, and commitment to, table tennis.



Letter header, September 1922 (with thanks to Colin Clemett)

This two-part article is not intended to be a biography (there are other excellent sources listed at the end), but rather to present some possibly lesser-known items (demonstrating his wide diversity of interests), and to explore in more detail the Security Service files built up on him from 1926 to 1950 (and quoted from in a number of recent books); extracts are shown here as shaded. His later exposure by the Venona project as a spy is explored in Part 2. A Timeline has been included gathering together many of the notable events in his life.

Note that in faithfully transcribing text I have throughout this article retained whichever spelling of his surname was used, without the usual note ('sic') on the many occasions when an 'e' was erroneously added.

### Westminster Gazette

8 September 1921

Montagu participated at the National Junior Lawn Tennis Championships at Surbiton, where comment was made of "the good team work of many of the boys' pairs in the Doubles". Although he and his regular partner, Charles Weinberg, were successful in the round reported on, there was some advice for Montagu!

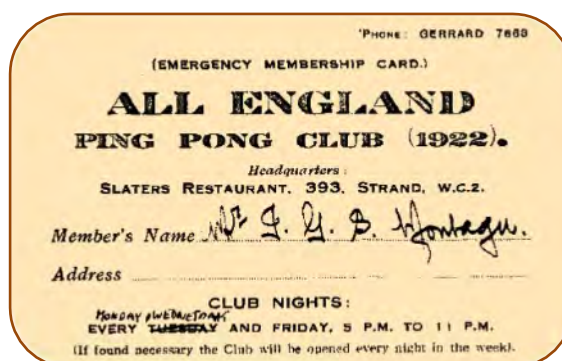
"I. G. S. Montagu and C. H. Weinberg had all their work cut out to win against J. Barrow and R. H. Milford at 6-3, 5-7, 6-4. Montagu must endeavour to improve his back-hand and to be a little more decisive in his net play."

### The Tatler

23 August 1922

Plenty of private tennis going on at lots of country houses all this month. ... Lady Swaythling and her

son, Ivor Montagu, always have plenty of friends with them down at Southampton during the summer months, and they will be a very big party for the Southampton tournament. ...



## Montagu Miscellanea

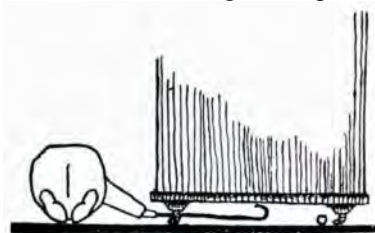
Daily Mirror

7 October 1922

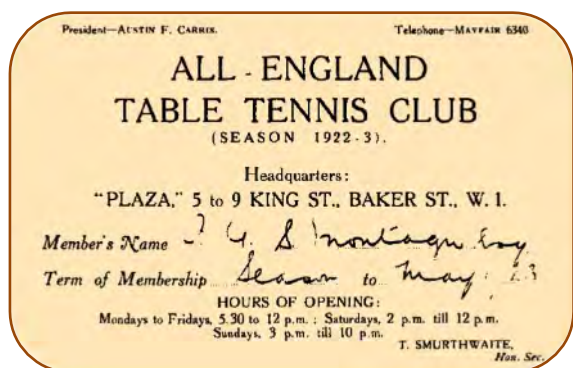
### 'Varsity Table Tennis.

Lord Swaythling's youngest son, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, is a keen table tennis player, and is President of the Cambridge Table Tennis Club, which now has tables set up in the rackets court. The game is becoming popular at both Oxford and Cambridge, and I understand there is to be an inter-'Varsity game this year. There are plenty of good players at Cambridge, Ramaswami, the lawner Blue, being very good at the table game.

reading his book, "Table Tennis To-day." For the hard things of the past let me apologise, and as an "amende honourable" let me beg that there be reproduced below Mr. Montagu's tail piece:



Mr. Montagu's tail piece from "Table Tennis To-day".



The Sphere

6 September 1924

[See also 'Early Newspaper Articles Part 12'; 7 June 1924]

W. HEFFER & SONS, TABLE TENNIS TO-DAY.  
By Ivor Montagu. 1s. 6d. net.

Illustrated London News

24 January 1925

AT a recent meeting of the Zoological Society Mr. Ivor Montagu read a most interesting paper giving his results of his hunt in the neighbourhood of Hódmezovásárhely, Hungary, for that most extraordinary yet little-known creature, Spalax, the Mole-rat. Even in its native haunts in South-Eastern Europe ... it is but seldom seen, and it is to be doubted whether, throughout its whole range, its singular characteristics are even so much as guessed at by the natives. As the term "Mole-rat" implies, it partakes of the nature of both these animals, yet it is related to neither. ...

The Sportsman

19 June 1924

### 'VARSITY NOTES.

By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Do you remember that about a year since I had a regular breeze with one Ivor Montagu about ping pong? Despite me this same Ivor has made table tennis a living force (so to speak) within the University. I am almost a convert, and I have been

### Security Service files

M O N T A G U, HON. IVOR GOLDSMID SAMUEL

Ivor Montagu's links to Communist organisations and societies, and his importing of Soviet films, brought him to the attention of the Security Services, resulting in 4 files of information on his movements and contacts throughout the years 1926-1950. He was subject to numerous Home Office Warrants for the interception of his incoming mail (and telegrams), phone tapping, and listing in the Special Branch Port Subject Book (in order to monitor his international departures and arrivals). This large amount of data (held at the National Archives, Kew) is the source for all the information in these sections. All 27 references to table tennis have been included (however minor, even though some are perhaps a little generous regarding his expertise), together with information either of general interest or serving to illustrate the reason for the files.

This early reference in a memo of 9 April 1925 is an example of the latter:

Information was sent to S.I.S. that Ivor MONTAGU, born in 1904, was writing to Comrade Yarotski, of the Trade Delegation here, calling him "Tovarish". From the letter it would appear that MONTAGU had already asked Tomsy to get him a visa to enter Russia for which he apparently had applied a month before. If he could get a visa by the beginning of May it would suit him quite well.

The Bioscope

7 May 1925

### Novel "Film Society" Formed

To organise private exhibitions of unusual films is the primary object of the Film Society, an association now in course of formation by well-known amateurs of cinematography.

It is proposed that the exhibitions shall be given on Sunday evenings, commencing next October, on lines similar to those of the Sunday play societies.

The directors of the Society are the Hon. Ivor Montagu (a son of Lord Swaythling) and Hugh Miller (the film factor). Among the associate members ... are:- G. Bernard Shaw, ... Noel Coward, ... Sidney L. Bernstein and Adrian Brunel.

## Montagu Miscellanea

### Belfast Telegraph

7 May 1925

The Hon. Ivor Montagu, the brilliant young zoologist, and son of Lord Swaythling, who is about to visit Russia on behalf of the British Museum, has formed a new organisation to be known as the Film Society, for the purpose of encouraging the production of really artistic films. It has been founded on the lines of the Stage Society, and all who are interested in the development of art in the cinema will be welcomed as members.

"Many wonderful films are never seen except by the trade," said Mr. Montagu to a "Daily Express" representative, "because so many film men imagine that these pictures are above the ordinary intellect. My society will be a sort of try-out house for pictures. We shall show them first privately to members of the society. These performances will be unhampered by the censor ..."

### Leeds Mercury

13 May 1925

#### **SCIENCE PREFERRED TO FINANCE.**

Dealings in the bullion markets, where the family fortunes were made, have apparently no attractions for Lord Swaythling's youngest son, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, who has left London for Russia to collect more specimens of rats and mice in the interests of science.

Although he only attained his majority in April, Mr. Montagu has already done a good deal of rodent hunting in the Balkans, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia, and the Hebrides.

### Leeds Mercury

8 July 1925

#### **The Zoo Baby.**

... A rival for popular favour at the Zoo ... is a tiny black bear cub that Ivor Montagu ... has brought

back with him from Russia. It is a charming little animal, and was no trouble at all to its owner on the way home, but behaved just as a puppy might have done. Ivor Montagu always seems to be taking animals to and from Russia. He goes back there next week with several setters, which he is taking to improve the breed of dogs in the Soviet dominion.

He does not confine all his interests to animals, however, as he is busy at the moment in organising a highbrow film society. I hear from Iris Barry, another director of the enterprise, that everything is fixed for them to begin early in the autumn. At first the idea was to give the performances on Sunday evening, but they have decided to give them in the afternoon so as to avoid clashing with the Sunday evening play producing societies.

### Derby Daily Telegraph

28 October 1925

The Labour Party's club—the 1917—has acquired quite an aristocratic flavour. ... The Hon. Ivor Montagu (Lord Swaythling's son) [is] among recent additions to a membership which also includes half a dozen members of the gilded chamber.—"Daily News."

### Sheffield Daily Telegraph

9 November 1925

...[At] a reception given last night by ... the Soviet emissary in the old Russian Embassy, a reception announced to be in celebration of the overthrow by the Bolsheviks of Kerensky's Socialist Government ... Lord Swaythling's son, Mr. Ivor Montagu, was also noticed in a crowd of young men in tweeds with red ties and red rosettes. Some of the short-skirted young female Communists had decorated their dresses with the hammer and sickle of the Third International.

27.9.26: Letter received from A M Peermahomed, Secretary of the provisional All India TTA:

With reference to your undated card, I have great pleasure to be able to tell you that we, the Indian Students' Union, have formed provisionally an all India T.T.A. with the following Officers:-

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Dr. A. H. Fysee,</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>K. K. Benjamin.</b>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	<b>A. M. Peermahomed.</b>
<b>MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>Messrs h.G. Suppiah, B.C. Singh, A.A. Fysee, P.L. Gupta, with two places to be filled in at the General Meeting.</b>

11.10.26: Postcard from W J Pope (re the forthcoming Tournament [TTC 54/6-7 and 'Newspapers-12, Dec. 1926]):

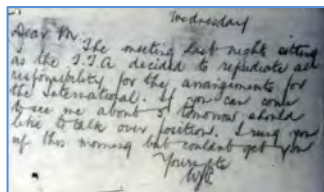
Dear M.

Should like to see you tomorrow (Tuesday) before the meeting at Cookes if it is at all possible. If you can call here about 5 before going we can chat over a cup of tea: if not will you ring me up. Have tried to see Ring [?] but on both occasions couldn't get in as no-one there. Am not keen on it and have been to several other places, including [? Memorial ?]. Think that would take some beating and it is vacant. £17.17.0 all day Saturday. For all day Friday & Saturday £31.10.0. Small Hall Friday & Big Hall Saturday £26. Think both these amounts could be considerably reduced by negotiation. We could deal with lights. If you could slip around and have a look. With one table or even two would be ideal. Grimsby have affiliated. No replies [sic] from others.

Yours etc WJP.



13.10.26: Follow-up postcard on Wednesday from W J Pope (still not able to make contact!):



Dear M.

The meeting last night sitting as the T.T.A. decided to repudiate all responsibility for the arrangements for the International. If you can come to see me about 5 tomorrow should like to talk over position. I rang you up of this morning but couldn't get you.

Yours etc. WJP.

Portsmouth Evening News 24 February 1927

The secret wedding is revealed of the Hon. Ivor Montagu, third son of Lord Swaythling, the Hampshire peer and head of the great banking house of Samuel Montagu and Co., to Miss Eileen Hellstern, of Mostyn Road, Brixton, a typist.

The wedding took place at the Bloomsbury register office on January 10.

Mr. Montagu is employed by the Gainsborough Film Studios, Islington, to "edit" films that have been made, and to cut or otherwise alter them to suit the tastes of English and foreign markets. He was at Chatham yesterday on behalf of his firm, and he communicated with them by telephone, saying he would not be back that afternoon. He had apparently been informed by friends that news of his marriage had leaked out, and he kept away from all his usual haunts during the evening. The club at which he was in the habit of dining did not see him last night, though he had often been there with his wife.

#### Zoologist by Profession.

The bridegroom's profession was given in the register as "zoologist," and his father's name and occupation as "Louis Samuel Montagu, banker." The bride's profession was given as "stenographer," and her father was described as "Francis Anton Hellstern, deceased, surgical boot maker (master)."

The bride returned to her work after the wedding, and has not given it up.

A friend of Mr. Montagu's described Mrs. Montagu to a "Daily Express" representative last night. "She is tall," he said, "with shingled fair hair, and a vivacious expression. I always understood that she was Lady Swaythling's secretary."

Lord and Lady Swaythling were unaware until some days after the ceremony that their son was married.

Mr. Montagu was only 22 years of age. .... He first began to emerge into the limelight in the pursuit of his peculiar hobby—rats and mice. He spent long months in the Balkans, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia, the Hebrides, and Russia catching rare specimens of these animals.

Probably the most far-reaching of all his enterprises was the foundation of the Film Society, organized to infuse a loftier inspiration into kinema production. The society has been in existence for two years, and includes in its membership Cabinet Ministers, leading novelists, and playwrights.

Mr. Montagu is also an authority on table tennis.

Lord Swaythling, the bridegroom's father, was the first Jew to inherit a peerage from his father. He is probably one of the richest men in the country.

New York Times

24 February 1927

## HON. IVOR MONTAGU MARRIES A TYPIST

Lord Swaythling's Son's Secret  
Wedding to Daughter of Shoe-  
maker Just Revealed.

BRIDE RETURNS TO WORK

Sheffield Daily Telegraph

24 February 1927

Society is intrigued by the news that the Hon. Ivor Montagu ... was married at a London register office on January 10th, to Miss Eileen Hellstern, a London typist, who lives at 3, Mostyn Road, Brixton.

News of the wedding did not leak out until yesterday, so secretly had the ceremony been performed, and so closely had the fact been guarded. Since the marriage the bride has been attending at her office daily.

Interviewed last night by a Press representative at her home, Mrs. Montagu said, "I believe Lord and Lady Swaythling did not like the idea of our being married at first, but ultimately they gave their consent." She added that she has been obliged to continue at her work for the present in order to fulfil her contract, but she would be resigning in a few days. ...

Mr. Montagu, who is a keen scientist and film expert, visited Russia two years ago on behalf of the British Museum. Later, he founded the Film Society. He is deeply interested in politics, in which he holds somewhat advanced ideas. While at Cambridge he was the President and organiser of the Cambridge Table Tennis Club. His father, Lord Swaythling, is the millionaire head of the banking firm of Samuel Montagu and Company, of Old Broad Street, London, and has two other sons, both married, and a daughter.

[See also 'Early Newspaper Articles Part 12'; 25 Feb. 1927]

Dundee Courier

25 February 1927

**A Character.**

Lord Swaythling's youngest son, the Hon. Ivor Montagu, who has been secretly married to Miss Eileen Hellstern, a typist, is one of the most extraordinary young men in London. His is a character which would have delighted Disraeli. He may be seen walking around the streets without a hat. He is tall, with a great shock of curly hair, the bent shoulders of a philosopher, and an expression which is a queer combination of earnestness and detachment. He was profoundly interested in the Russian revolution, and paid a visit to the country of the Soviets last year, bringing back a number of rare zoological specimens. Since then, he has published a book on table-tennis, and become the prime mover in the Film Society, which has helped to brighten the British Sunday.

Daily Mirror

25 February 1927

**SHY TYPIST BRIDE**

People hurrying to business along Mostyn-road, Brixton, yesterday, glanced at No. 3 in the hope of catching a glimpse of the typist, Miss Eileen Hellstern, whose marriage to the Hon. Ivor Montagu, third son of Lord and Lady Swaythling, has just been announced.

They were disappointed, as the bride did not leave home for business at the usual time, and declined to see callers.

"She is a jolly sort of girl, and always had a laugh and a joke when she bought her paper," said Mr. F. Fletcher, a newsagent, whose pitch is at the corner of Mostyn-road.

The neighbours of Mr. Ivor Montagu in that most picturesque part of Lincoln's Inn, Old Square, were less surprised than most people when the news of his secret wedding leaked out. They had often seen him out with Miss Hellstern, and they remembered a certain joyous party one night, obviously in celebration of some event of unusual importance. Mr. Montagu, too, had been inquiring for a larger flat, the one he had at that time being chock-a-block in art treasures and first editions.

**19.10.27:** Telegram to Yarotski regarding message from Rose Cohen (his first Soviet recruitment?):

```
ROSE ASKS ME COME MOSCOW AS DELEGATE IS THIS OFFICIAL
READY START BY AIR INSTANTLY HOW AND WHERE DO I GET
VISA REPLY MONTAGU CEPHALOPOD WESTCENT LONDON
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**12.1.28:** Notes of correspondence:

Russian Trade Houses had been approached on MONTAGU's behalf in the matter of sending sample rubber racquets to Russia.

Westminster Gazette

14 January 1928

**BOOM IN PING-PONG.**

One of the most popular games of 1928 is to be ping-pong or table-tennis.

Instances of the tremendous revival of interest in this British game were given to a Westminster Gazette representative yesterday by the Hon. Ivor Montagu (brother of Lord Swaythling), who is president of the English Table-Tennis Association.

Mr. Montagu leaves London shortly with a team of five English and Welsh players to take part in the second international tournament at Stockholm on 24 January. ... A schoolgirl aged 17, Miss Joan Ingram, who won the recent table-tennis tournament with ease at Dulwich, and is said to be the finest feminine table-tennis player in this country, is also going to Stockholm to take part ...

The Hungarians have adopted it as their national game. Germany, Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Sweden, Latvia and Czecho-Slovakia are all sending teams to the International Tournament. Indian players are included in the British teams, France and Norway are awaiting admission to the League, and matches have been arranged between Japan and China.

"It is a purely English game," said Mr. Montagu. "It was invented about the middle of last century at the same time as lawn tennis."

After Stockholm, Mr. Montagu and his team will go to Berlin, where the tournament may be held next year. The fourth tournament, in 1930, will probably be held in Cardiff.

Westminster Gazette

28 January 1928

**TABLE TENNIS TIE TO BE REPLAYED.  
(From the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Captain of the British Team.)**

STOCKHOLM, Friday.

As the result of the team Table Tennis championship matches to-day, England, Hungary, and Austria top the list with seven matches each. The triple tie will be replayed. ...

The other scores are: Latvia, 5; Sweden, 4; Czecho-Slovakia, 3; Germany, 2; Wales, 1; India, 0.

Among the results of the men's singles were:

... Perry beat Thum, 21-16, 22-20, 21-8. The youngest player, Haydon, beat Jacobi, the world champion, 26-24, 18-21, 22-20, 21-16; ... Kalmodin beat Montagu, 21-4, 21-13, 21-14.

In the women's singles Miss Gubbins reached the semi-final, beating Mlle. Stridh, 21-10, 21-8, 21-7. Miss Ingram, the 17-year-old English girl, beat Frau Brandt, 22-20, 21-9, 19-21, 21-14.

**20.2.28:** Memo from S.S.1:

"MONTAGU, who is an extremely able film impresario runs a film business under the name of Brunel & Montagu, and is president of the Film Society. He moves in curious circles and was at one time interested in the production of Russian films in this country."

**Ivor Goldsmid Samuel Montagu**

- 23 April 1904 Born in Kensington, London, the third of four children ('The Youngest Son') of Louis Samuel Montagu (2<sup>nd</sup> Baron Swaythling) and Gladys Helen Rachel née Goldsmid.
- 1911 Attended preparatory school in Sloane Street. Home was 28 Kensington Court, or the country house at Townhill Pk, Soton.
- 1913 Attended private school at 43 Rosary Gardens, London.
- 1917-19 Attended Westminster public school.
- 1918 Joined Central London Branch of British Socialist Party (until 1919).
- 1919 Passed entry exams for King's College, Cambridge, but too young for acceptance.
- 1919-21 Took Zoology and Botany courses at Royal College of Science.
- c. 1920 Became first President of Southampton FC Supporters' Club.
- 1921-24 King's College, Cambridge; graduated in Zoology with BA (followed later by MA).
- Lent 1921 **Founded Cambridge University Ping-Pong Club** (re-named **Table Tennis Club** in October 1922).
- 28 April 1922 **Elected member of Executive Committee of Ping-Pong Association** (re-formed on 2 Nov. 1922 as the Table Tennis Assoc.).
- 1922 Field trip to Islay and Jura; first scientific paper.
- March 1923 **Played for Cambridge University against Oxford University.**
- 1923 Expedition to Yugoslavia.
- 1923 Started *Cambridge University Times* (newspaper format).
- 1923-24 Contributed to *The Granta* student magazine, reviewing books, plays, etc.
- Early 1924 Joined National Union of Scientific Workers (later Association of Scientific Workers).
- April 1924 Bought, edited and wrote for *The Cambridge Mercury* (film reviews, etc).
- c. May 1924 **'Table Tennis To-day' published** (Heffer).
- Summer 1924 Expedition to Hungary.
- 1925 Joined Society for Cultural Relations (between GB and USSR).
- April 1925 First entry in Security Service files.
- 6 May 1925 Launched the Film Society (Chairman until 1939).
- May 1925 First visit to Russia.
- Late 1925 Living in small furnished flat at 20 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London.
- Nov. 1925 Film critic for *The Observer*, until June '26.
- 15 Jan. 1926 **Attended tournament and meeting at Tennis Club 1900 Berlin; formation of provisional ITTF** [See 'Newspapers-12'].

**Daily Mirror** 23 March 1928

The Hon. Ivor Montagu, C. H. Bull, F. H. D. Wilde, W. Ernest and Miss [J] Ingram will represent London against Paris in a table tennis match in Paris on Saturday and Sunday.

**Yorkshire Post** 18 April 1928

**HUNGARIAN STARS PLAYING YORKSHIRE TO-NIGHT.**

... This match [at Pontefract] is the first of a small series to be played in this country.

The Hon. Ivor G. S. Montagu, president of the English Table Tennis Association, will act as referee.

**New York Times** 12 August 1928

**H. G. Wells has been persuaded to write original stories for the screen, and Ivor Montagu will direct six two-reel comedies based on them.**

**The Bioscope** 2 January 1929

**LONDON TRADE SHOW**

**"Table Tennis To-Day" Brunel & Montagu, Ltd American Co. Theatre, 11.30** (Tuesday 8 January)

Brunel & Montagu, Ltd., will be showing a short entitled, "Table Tennis To-day," and at the same time there will be four shorts shown by the Film Society.

**The Bioscope** 9 January 1929

**"TABLE TENNIS TO-DAY"** (*Brunel Montague*). 1,750 feet. Certificate: U. Arranged by Ivor Montague this authoritative survey of one of our chief indoor games provides a striking demonstration by the various present-day champions, both English and foreign. The film contains a slow motion analysis of the various shots and how they are to be attained, besides instructions as to size of table, the correct rackets, etc. Though the film is intended for private exhibition only, terms for public exhibition will be supplied on application to the producers at 80-82, Wardour Street, W.1.

**Yorkshire Post** 9 January 1929

***A Table Tennis Film.***

Thanks to the initiative of the Hon. Ivor Montagu, founder of the Film Society and President of the English Table Tennis Association, English players of the game will now have an opportunity to improve their play by studying an excellent little two-reel film which he has specially made with this intention. For as with other games, both the World's title and the English title have deserted England.. The great centre of the game now is Hungary, where the English team will soon be fighting in the championships, and both champions are Hungarians.

"Table Tennis To-day," as the film is called, is an admirable illustration of the methods of famous players, and includes numerous "slow-motion" studies. It shows the veteran English player, Mr. P. Bromfield, who won the first championship in 1903, and was largely responsible for developing the



modern attacking game; Miss Joan Ingram, the leading English woman player; R. G. Suppiah, the Indian master of defence; Fraulein Metzger, holder of the English Ladies' Championship, and the reigning champions, Dr. Peci and M. [sic] Mechlowitz. We learn all about tactics and topspin, and in the end are forced to realise — perhaps a little sadly — that even table tennis nowadays requires the most vigorous scientific study from anyone who ever hopes to reach the first rank of players.

*The ETTA were keen to promote the sport and in February 1929 Ivor Montagu led an All-England team on a northern tour. His team-mates, zig-zagging across the country that winter, were Charlie Bull, Charles Allwright, David Jones and C G Mase, with a few other guest appearances during the week. The tour began in the far north-east at the table tennis stronghold of Sunderland on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, and then re-located the next day over 100 miles south-west to Manchester.*

**Manchester Guardian** 21 February 1929

**All-England Team in Manchester.**

The All-England table tennis team, recently returned from the world's championship at Budapest, gave a demonstration of the game against a Manchester League team at the Manchester Social Club last evening. Of the 25 games played the National team won all but two. [W J (Bill) Pope stood in for Montagu in this match.]

It was reported that following this match "the Mancunians immediately changed *en bloc* to the open grip and soon became really "Table Tennis" minded, forgetting their close-to-tha-table [pen-holder] Ping Pong struggles and learning to use their feet as well as their heads."

*Only short journeys for the team the next day, 40 miles north-east to Pontefract for an afternoon match, then 12 miles west to Leeds for the evening.*

**Yorkshire Post** 22 February 1929

**ALL-ENGLAND TEAM IN LEEDS.**

Leeds was last night favoured with its first visit from an international table tennis team when a side representative of Yorkshire opposed the All-England team in the Cinema Exchange Ball Room in a five-a-side match, the internationals gaining a victory by 12 games to 2. In the afternoon the English team defeated a West Riding League side 17 games to 2.

In the [afternoon] match B. L. Hookins (Pontefract) and W. Hewitt (Bradford Central, North of England champion), both of whom have played for England, each defeated the Hon. Ivor Montagu, president of the English Table Tennis Association and the International Federation [21-15 and 21-14 respectively; Montagu defeated C. L. Hobkinson and H. Hitchin (both Harrogate) 21-12 and 21-17 respectively].

Early 1926	Commenced film editing/directing work with Adrian Brunel at 6 Dansey Yard, Soho
10 May 1926	First issue of many Home Office Warrants, as "known to associate with the inner ring of the Communist Party".
8-11 Dec. 1926	<b>Referee of 1<sup>st</sup> World Table Tennis Championships, London.</b>
12 Dec. 1926	<b>Elected Chairman of newly-formed International Table Tennis Federation.</b>
10 Jan. 1927	Married Eileen Mansfield Hellstern ("Hell") at St Giles' Register Office.
24 April 1927	<b>Elected President and Chairman of English Table Tennis Association.</b>
May 1927	Moved into a flat at 43 Leicester Square.
11 June 1927	His father died, leaving Ivor with a Trust Fund of £20,000, generating an interest equivalent to his previous allowance, a figure reduced following his marriage!
12 Aug. 1927	Became partner in new company Brunel & Montagu Ltd (Company No. 223756): Offices in Canada House, Norfolk Street, with hall at 80-82 Wardour Street for exhibiting films.
19 Oct. 1927	Telegram sent with his queries regarding request from Comintern to visit Russia.
10 Nov. 1927	Attended Congress of Friends, Moscow, as invited delegate.
Late Jan. 1928	<b>NPC of England squad at World Championships, Stockholm.</b>
Mid-1928	<b>Produced short film <i>Table Tennis To-Day</i> (Brunel &amp; Montagu).</b>
15 Oct. 1928	Elected to Executive Committee of SCR.
February 1930	Moved into new flat at 19 New Park Court, Streatham, London SW2.
11 Mar. 1930	Arrived in New York on <i>SS Majestic</i> (dep. Southampton on 5 <sup>th</sup> ) on first visit to USA. Returned, First Class, on <i>SS Aquitania</i> , arriving at Southampton on 10 December.
June 1930	Played tennis with Charles Chaplin.
February 1931	Visited Trotsky on Prinkipo (his island home near Istanbul), after <b>World Championships (Budapest).</b>
August 1931	Joined Communist Party; Treasurer of Friends of the Soviet Union.
Sept. 1932	Elected to Permanent International Anti-War Committee.
October 1932	Joined Gaumont-British Picture Corp. as an associate producer (until 1 Nov. 1936).
May 1934	Moved to Flat 29, Ranelagh Gardens, Stamford Brook Avenue, London W6.
May 1935	Elected Vice-President of Association of Cinematographic Technicians.
May 1936	<b>'Table Tennis' published</b> (Pitman).
Nov. 1936	Directed (and operated second camera at) filming of Spanish Civil War.

(Continued in Part 2)

## Montagu Miscellanea

Fred Perry, the world's champion, did not appear at Pontefract, but he later displaced the English president in the encounter at Leeds.

[J. H. Johnson, G. R. Day and J. G. Bayne joined Hewitt and Hookins for Yorkshire; the other All-England players were C. H. Bull (Bromley), R. D. Jones (London), C. W. Allwright (London) and C. G. Mase (London).]

*The tour then continued west another 60 miles (past Manchester again!) to Liverpool.*

**Liverpool Echo** 22 February 1929

### ALL-ENGLAND TABLE TENNIS.

The "All-England" table tennis team plays the Liverpool League on Friday night, February 22, at the Strand Café, Wellington Buildings, Water-street, at 7.30 p.m.

The Hon. Ivor Montagu is the brother of the present Lord Swaythling, and is well known as a film producer. He is a very keen table tennis enthusiast, and visited Berlin, Stockholm, and Budapest in the three last international competitions. He has produced a film on the game of table tennis.

**Liverpool Echo** 23 February 1929

### ALL-ENGLAND TEAM OPPOSE LIVERPOOL LEAGUE.

A large gathering of Table Tennis enthusiasts attended ... last evening on the occasion of the visit of an All-England Table Tennis team. The visitors played a number of competitive games with members of the Liverpool and District League, and also gave exhibitions of singles and doubles [including a brilliant display by Bull and Haydon (*Walton Times*)]. The English players were too good for their opponents [who included Don Foulis, later to go on to become a five-times Liverpool champion], and won the six contests by 12 games to love [plus the doubles].

... The visiting team was captained by the Hon. Ivor Montagu, president of the English Table Tennis Association. Mr. W. J. Pope, secretary of the association, accompanied the visitors. [A. A. (Adrian) Haydon, Birmingham, joined the team for this match.]

*For the final match of the tour, at Whitby on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>, the team headed back east 125 miles coast to coast. They were by then probably grateful that a planned match at Longton, Staffordshire, the next Monday, had been cancelled!*

### *All England v. Liverpool At Table Tennis.*



The Hon. Ivor Montagu (left) and the Liverpool champion, Mr. J. R. Bather (right), before the start of the games in the All-England v. Liverpool Table Tennis match last night. [Montagu won his match against H Piper 2-0.]

#### 14.3.29: Information justifying the maintenance of a Home Office Warrant:

The Hon Ivor Montagu , who virtually runs the Film Society and is at the same time a prominent member of the Society for Cultural Relations with Soviet Russia, is the principal agent for the importation of Soviet Propaganda films into this country.

**Dublin Evening Herald** 17 April 1930

### Ping-Pong's Inventor.

The inventor of ping-pong has died, unsung and, so far as I know, unlaurelled. Mr. James Gibb, for such was his name [d. 14 April; TTC 67-68], deserves nevertheless more than passing mention, for he contrived a game which enjoyed a tremendous vogue

about thirty years ago, and has had a noticeable [revival] of late. The Hon. Ivor Montagu, one of the greatest enthusiasts and patrons of the game, stated not long ago that there were 150 table-tennis tables in London and 600 more in various parts of England and Wales. ...- "The Dragonian" in the "Daily Express."

## Montagu Miscellanea

26.6.30: Further information justifying the maintenance of a Home Office Warrant:

This individual, who is mainly responsible for the Film Reason Society and is at the same time a prominent member of the Executive of the S.C.R. with Soviet Russia, has been the principal agent for the importation of films into this country. He has now gone to Hollywood where he is to collaborate with the Soviet film producer Eisenstein.

For purposes of supervising the introduction of Soviet Films into this country it is desired to maintain touch with Ivor Montagu's doings.

**Liverpool Echo**

2 July 1930

The Liverpool and District League announced a "drastic change in the playing of league matches". Teams would remain as before, as 5-a-side, but instead of each member playing each member of the opposing team one game of 21-up, each player would play just one opposing team member one set, best of five games 21-up.

This new rule was suggested by the Hon. I G S Montagu, president of the English Table Tennis Association, as being the best way to raise the standard of play, and therefore enable England to compete and hold its own in the world's competitions.

**Western Morning News**

12 February 1931

... In the world's table tennis championships at Budapest, yesterday, the English captain, Ivor Montagu, was defeated in the men's singles by G. Barna, of Hungary, who is the singles champion of the world.

**Daily Express**

29 August 1931

Mr. Montagu, though born into a very wealthy family of Jewish bankers, has been a Communist for some time.

He has had a varied and unusual career. ...

Among his activities have been:-

Collecting rare rats and mice ...

Founding the Film Society ...

Playing ping-pong, at which he is an expert, having captained an international table-tennis team.

Translating French plays.

Producing films, including a spell at Hollywood, with Eisenstein, the famous Soviet film director. ...

31.8.31: From Metropolitan Police to S.S.2:

It may be of interest to you to know that information has reached us from a reliable source that Ivor MONTAGU may shortly take the final step of becoming a full fledged member of the Communist Party.

**Belfast Telegraph**

20 October 1931

### NEWS FROM MONTE CARLO.

How many lives has "ping pong?" To my knowledge it has died a score of deaths, and now it has come to life again—and at Monte Carlo, of all birthplaces, for a "parlour game." The Hon. Ivor Montagu has had a lot to do with this revival. He is one of the world's best table tennis players, and during a recent visit interested a typical Monte Carlo set in the game. Mr. Montagu is but 27, yet he has revealed brilliant qualities as a zoologist and has been to Russia on behalf of the British Museum. His interest in the cinema, revealed in his university days, developed when he founded the Film Society, and became responsible for the presentation in this country of many notable foreign films. He has studied and worked in Hollywood, ... been a journalist, and he is our table tennis champion.

13.7.32: Trotsky's verdict!

..... "Ivor MONTAGU has, or had, some personal sympathy for me, but now he is even on that small scale paralyzed by his adherence to the party."..

28.7.32: Memo from S.9 to S.10:

The Hon. Ivor MONTAGU, a younger son of Lord Swaythling, was one of the founders of the Film Society and its prime mover. This Society was formed for the production of advanced films of various descriptions and of Russian films in particular, some of which had not been passed by the Board of Film Censors.

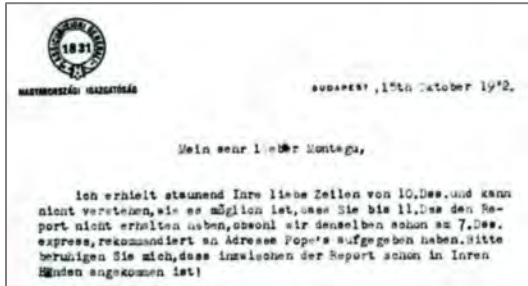
For some years MONTAGU has been closely associated with members of the Communist Party and enthusiastic about all things Russian. ...

MONTAGU is about 27 years of age, broad-shouldered, over six feet, has dark curly hair and is of distinctly Jewish appearance. His eyes are dark brown and his complexion is pale. He is generally rather dirty and untidy.



Montagu Miscellanea

15.10.32: Extract from letter from Zoltan Mechlovits (the source of much puzzlement to the Security Services - was it a coded message of some sort?!):



My very dearest Montagu,

... And now to the matter of the ball! It is true that the tests on the ball have taken too much time, but you will surely understand that, when one has to make a decision in important questions involving the sport of table tennis, it cannot be taken lightly and without

careful consideration. I can assure you that it lasted many months, until I finally came to the right standpoint, and even now I don't know for certain, that our report has been done correctly. The ball question seemed at first to be very easy to solve, but later I began to realise how wrong I was! ... And finally, I also of course have my additional occupation in order to provide for myself, and today one must work so hard to be able to earn and live, more than I have ever had to do before. The ball trials, which lasted many months, have robbed me of a huge amount of time in the office, and you also know what that means! ...

The "Tema" balls are so pitifully poor, not only in Hungary but also in Vienna and Czechoslovakia, that not even 20%, but only 5% are usable. I myself was there, when a completely new gross of "Tema" balls arrived, and it was with great difficulty that I myself was able to find just 8 good balls out of the 144! All the players and clubs are coming to me and complaining about the "Tema" balls. This can't continue! Yesterday I spoke to Bodánszky about the matter, and we are both agreed that, as the Equipment Committee, we can't tolerate these anomalies with "Tema" any longer. ....

Please also consider that here and in other countries people are playing with a wide range of balls: Hano [*sic*], Ayres, Slazenger etc. that are by no means good, but they are however much better than "Tema". And we should not be continuing with a ball, which is the worst among all those generally available. This is also Bodánszky's opinion.

Yours

19.10.32: Letter from the Treasurer of the DTTB:



Dear Mr Montagu,

We have received your letter of the 7th inst. Although we are not aware of any case, where English players, who were not members of the E.T.T.A, have played at German tournaments, we will however make reference again to the playing ban in our official magazine "Tisch-Tennis", a sample copy of which has since been sent to you.

We remain

With sporting greetings

Fritz Zinn

## Montagu Miscellanea

19.10.32: Letter from Fritz Zinn [Fellow Member of the ITTF Advisory Committee from 1926-34, and also present at the preliminary gathering in January 1926], also the cause of some puzzlement (see below):

Dear Mr Montagu,

I have heard nothing more from you about my letter concerning the Hanno ball, and I would be very grateful for your response.

I would also like to remind you that the company Franz Krebs (Hannover) sent you some time ago 2 net tensioners, and have not yet heard whether you are in possession of these. Since Mr Krebs wishes to lodge the patent internationally, he would like to hear your opinion of this net tensioner, which we consider to be extremely useful.

Mr Oskar Müller, the husband of Mrs Müller-Rüster, has asked me to give him your address. The two parties are currently separated and Mr Müller is spying on his wife. He will write to you, wanting to know the addresses of the tournament organisers in Liverpool and Birmingham, so that he can learn about the comings and goings of his wife during her stay in England this year. ....

With best wishes

Your very devoted  
Fritz Zinn

8.11.32: Memo to M.I.1.c. (querying the details in both letters above)

I wonder if you could get us anything about Zoltan MECHLOVITS of Budapest, Connected with him there appears to be one BODANSZKY.

The reason of our tentative interest in these people will appear to you rather quaint. They write interminably to Ivor MONTAGU about Table Tennis and the trying out of Table Tennis balls. The exercise of this occupation over a period of many months has so eaten into Zoltan MECHLOVITS' time that he has informed MONTAGU that he cannot go on with it. MONTAGU is, of course, known as a Ping Pong enthusiast well at the heart of the Table Tennis International, but even in England, which is not noted for sanity in this respect, we find it hard to believe that a gentleman can spend weeks upon weeks upon weeks testing Table Tennis balls. Moreover, in another instance, we have on record a warning to MONTAGU from Berlin that a Doctor in that city when writing to him, apparently on Table Tennis, will really be furthering his divorce proceedings against his wife.

We should be grateful if you could tell us whether the individuals in Budapest I have named to you are known to be queer in any other way.

6.12.32: Report to M.I.5:

Zoltan MECHLOVITS.  
BODANSZKY.

Our Representative has now informed us that the Hungarian Police authorities have nothing on their records regarding the above named men and have obtained no information as a result of enquiries made.

[Mechlovits should need no introduction as World Champion in 1928 (although this fact seems to have eluded investigators at the time!), and was a Member of the ITTF Advisory Committee from 1928-34. He also served on the ITTF Equipment Committee, together with his elusive fellow countryman, F Bodansky, from 1932-34.]

## Montagu Miscellanea

December 1932: Extracts from memo to M.I.1.c. in reply to above report:

.... In a superficial way one would judge from the documents that we have seen that MECHLOVITS and BODANSZKY are perfectly solid individuals, who spend their time testing table tennis balls. ...

Finally, Herr ZINN informed MONTAGU that Herr Oskar MUELLER, the husband of Frau MUELLER-RUESTER was going to write to MONTAGU asking for the address of the tournament organisers in Liverpool and Birmingham. Herr ZINN wanted to warn MONTAGU of Herr MUELLER's ulterior motives. ...

I know this all seems very trivial, but when one looks at it closely it is also puzzling, and I think it would be well if you could find out something about Herr ZINN, the firm Franz KREBS in Hanover, and Herr Oskar MUELLER, who is stated to be using the channels of international table tennis for this curious piece of domestic espionage.

P.S. Do you think your representative in Budapest could himself stroll along and find out whether the address given for MECHLOVITS does exist.

6.1.33: Lancashire Constabulary report of a speech given by Montagu at Trafford Park, Manchester ("No seditious remarks were made."):

The description of the speaker is - ... very round full face, stout build, black thick curly hair, clean shaven. Dress: no head dress, no collar or tie, ... brown heavy overcoat...Jewish appearance.

23.1.33: Report to M.I.5:

Our Representative in Berlin reports that Fritz ZINN is a German who was born on 24.2.93. in Berlin. His address is: Berlin-Charlottenburg, Waitzstrasse 13. He is treasurer of the German Table Tennis Association, which meets at Pension Hollywood, Kurfürstendamm 167, Berlin.

The Berlin Police Authorities have no evidence that ZINN or his associates are engaged in politics, but they are suspected of running an illegal gaming club.

12.2.33: Special Branch report to M.I.5 on Montagu's arrival from Ostend; Passport description 'Zoologist and Film Director': His description is:- height 6ft; well built; black hair; dark complexion; hooked nose, wearing horn rimmed spectacles.

6.7.33: Information justifying the maintenance of a Home Office Warrant:

Ivor MONTAGU, 19 New Park Court, S.W.2., is the younger son of the late Lord Swathling.

He was one of the founders of the Film Society, and its prime mover. It was in connection (a) with his close association with members of the Communist Party, and (b) with the arrangements for importing Russian films which he entered into with TOMSKI and YAROTSKI of the Russian Trade Unions in 1927, that he first came prominently to notice.

In 1930 he became a prominent member of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Cultural Relations with the Soviet Union, and later collaborated with the Atlas Film Company, the main distributing body for Soviet films, exhibitions of which were given by the Federation of Workers Film Societies.

In 1931 he had become the Treasurer of the Friends of the Soviet Union Delegation Fund, and in 1932 he was elected a member of the National Committee of the F.S.U., and National Treasurer.

His activities in this sphere have recently increased and he is now an important centre for information both as regards the spreading activities of the F.S.U., which he links up with those of the S.C.R., and in respect of the effort to renew film propaganda both in London and in outlying centres such as Glasgow, Liverpool etc.





## PHILATELIC UPDATE

This edition of the Philatelic Update includes many more new items, published in honor of the Tokyo Olympic Games. Special thanks to Tang Ganxian (CHN), Hans-Peter Trautmann (GER) and Marc Templereau (FRA, AFCTT)



The host country for the Olympic Games Japan issued on 23.6.2021 two Table Tennis stamps, each in a sheet of 25 showing Olympic sports.



Singapore, issued 23.7.2021



Syria, in set of 6 plus imperf block. Perf stamp issued 23.7.2021 in multi-sport sheets of 36, with 6 table tennis stamps per sheet.



Syria FDC dated 23/7/2021 with Imperf block



Chinese stamp for the Mixed Pairs, in sheet/12 with weightlifting stamp



Nanning, Guangxi Province  
Mixed Doubles



Xi'an, Shaanxi Province 7.23



Tianjin 7.23



Wuxi, Jiangsu  
Province 7.23



Changshu county, Jiangsu  
Province, Closing day  
21.08.08



Jian, Shandong  
Province 7.23





Men's Singles Gold Medalist: Ma Long (CHN)



Women's Singles Gold Medalist: Chen Meng (CHN)



Men's Singles Medalists. Silver: Fan Zhendong (CHN), Gold: Ma Long (CHN), Bronze: D. Ovtcharov (GER)



Women's Singles Medalists: Silver: Sun Yingsha, Gold: Chen Meng, Bronze: Mima Ito



Men's Team Gold Medalists, China: Fan Zhendong, Ma Long, Xu Xin



Women's Team Gold Medalists, China: Chen Meng, Sun Yingsha, Wang Manyu



Mixed Pairs Medalists: Silver: Xu Xin/Chen Meng, Gold: Jun Mizutani/Mima Ito, Bronze: Lin Yun-Ju/Chen I-Ching



Chinese Mixed Doubles: Xu Xin/Chen Meng (Silver) with stamp and special postmark





Poland, for the 16<sup>th</sup> Paralympic Games  
Issued 15.7.2021



Monaco, printed June 2, 2020  
Officially issued November 11 2020



Romania 23.7.2021



Hong Kong  
issued 23.7.2021



Hong Kong TT stamp, in multi-sport sheetlet/4,  
and a second TT stamp in block showing HK  
medalists (3x in the middle, Bronze medallists,  
Women's team)

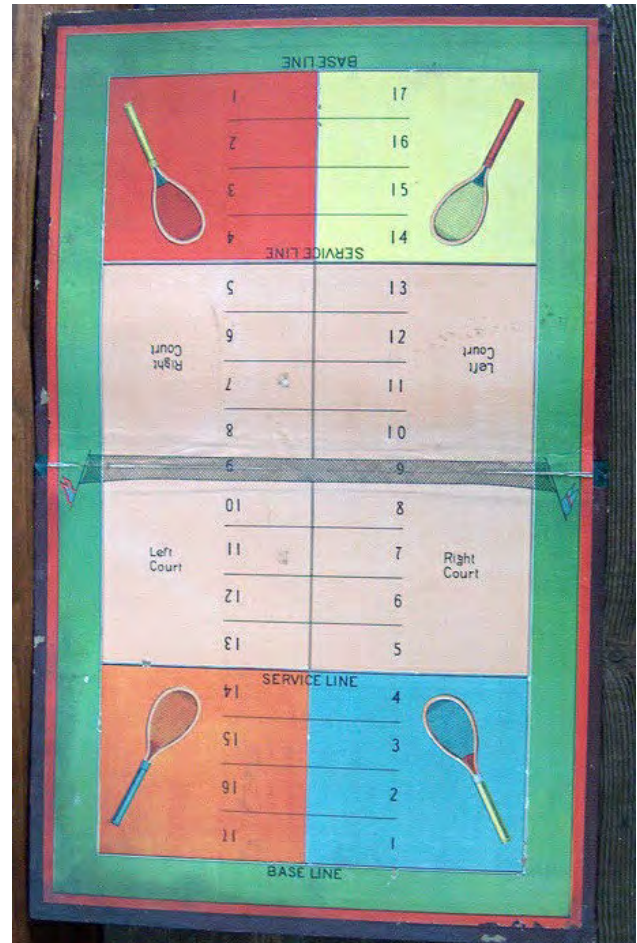




# Auction Action - Results & Trends



J.H. Singer's 'Table Tennis' board & dice game from 1887. This very rare game, the earliest known use of the name 'Table Tennis' on an actual game product, sold for \$1545. It is missing the dice and shaker cup, and the rules, as shown in the ITTF Museum.



Spalding set with pair of medium length cane single vellum rackets & box of balls. Initially priced high at \$1495, settled for undisclosed 'Best Offer' price on ebay.





Sterling Silver bat with shield. One side wood surface, the other cork. Sold for \$1900 including fees





Wind-up tin toy, missing the ball, which goes back and forth with the rocking motion. There are many collectors of tin toys, reflected by the high selling price of \$1500







Ping Pong Cigars tin, 'Made in Holland' c.1902 \$195  
I had the honor of presenting one of these as a gift to  
the Dutch volunteers at my exhibition at the World  
Championships in Rotterdam 2011



Pair of earrings \$7.50 Faux pearls for balls





Bussey boxed set, pair of vellum rackets, wrought iron net posts. 410GBP



Horsman boxed set sold at Marshall Field \$224.50



McLoughlin Bros (NYC) boxed set with free standing net apparatus \$400



Ingersoll Table Tennis set, with US edition of Arnold Parker's 'Ping-Pong / The Game and How to Play it'. Remarkable bargain price of \$300, for a mixed lot of various sports equipment, including two early table tennis sets, boxing gloves ...





With some exceptions, the price trend for early Ping Pong picture postcards is down. This page shows some examples with lower than usual prices. Of course the condition is always an influencing factor - very fine+ cards will always sell higher.

This Tuck Lance Thackeray card showing cricket star W. Grace sold for only 5.50 GBP

Punch Stone Age postcard sold for 3.20GBP



Ping! Pong! 6 GBP  
Handwriting on the front is usually detrimental



Red Star Lines, \$16

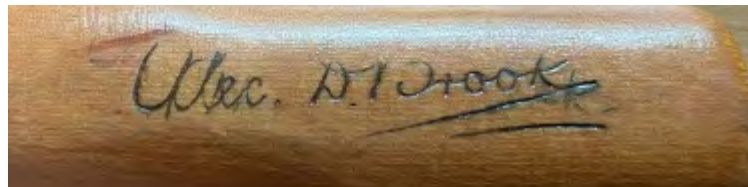


Fairyland III, 3.66GBP





Pair of No. 2 size vellum battledores. 23GBP



Alec Brook thick sponge bat, c.1950s. 25GBP. Alec was a member of the English team that won Swaythling Cup bronze in the 1933 World Championships.



Peggy Franks hard bat, 2.20GBP. Peggy was an English internationalist in the late 1940s and 50s



1935 World Championship pin. Missed the selling price but expected to sell in the 20 to 40GBP range



Right: Poster for the finals of the 1937 English Open. 29.5 inches (74.93 cm), 71GBP



Fan-shaped racket in customized wood box. The shape is similar to the Stiga 'Sado' (Sato) racket from the early 1950s. \$46



**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

PARIS	1946-7
LONDON	1947-8
BUDAPEST	1949-50
VIENNA	1950-51

Barna Table Tennis Ball exclusively adopted.

The BARN 3 CROWN BALL, adopted for World Championships, the BARN 3 BAT and the BARN 3 "CHAMPIONSHIP" TABLE, NET and POSTS—this is the range of Dunlop Table Tennis Equipment designed by Victor Barna.

The net, of wide mesh as recommended by the I.T.T.F., is supported on revolutionary spring-loaded Barna posts which keep it always taut and tidy. A unique bayonet-type slot in the posts makes assembly and dismantling simplicity itself, and enables tension on the net to be relaxed when not in use.

**SPORTS EQUIPMENT BY *Dunlop***

DUNLOP SPORTS COMPANY LIMITED, 17/19 NEW BOND ST. LONDON, W. 1  
 Dealers and Distributors throughout the World

Barna ad c.1951 showing the full range of Dunlop Barna equipment



Dunlop Barna bat with red teardrop logo. 29GBP





Bergman "Personal" Model hardbat \$127



Barna 3-crown 38mm balls. 47GBP



Dunlop Barna with white insets, the Barna name is rubbed 27GBP  
Unusual to see the green color rubber,





Stylish letters  
in Dunlop logo

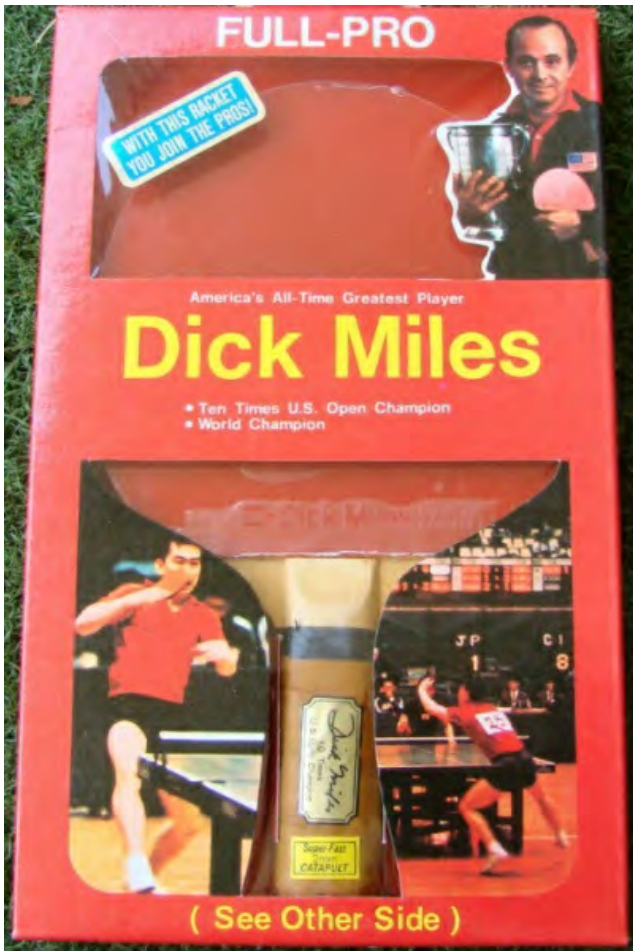


Sold for less than  
25GBP after an  
ebay 'Make Offer'



Pair of mint condition Dunlop Barna hardbats with red teardrop logos.  
From a Dunlop 'Warwick' boxed set that sold for only 11.50GBP





Dick Miles 'Full-Pro sponge bat in original box. Dick was 1948 World Mixed Doubles Champion (with Thelma Thall) an 10-time US Open Champion.



Set of 4 hardbats named after Ted Williams, famous baseball star who played for the Boston RedSox 1939-1960 \$24 Another great baseball star, Honus Wagner, also endorsed Table Tennis products.



# Collector Directory

**Günther Angenendt**

Langacker 10a 44869 Bochum, Germany  
+49-2327-77117 [ttanpp@gmx.de](mailto:ttanpp@gmx.de)  
Pre-war World Ch Programs; all Tt items  
German boxed sets & bats; TT pins

**Jorge Arango** [jharango@une.net.co](mailto:jharango@une.net.co)

Cl. 10 No. 25-103 Ap.116 Medellin Columbia  
Philatelic & general TT items

**Michael L. Babuin, PhD** USA

416 Charles Ct., Cary NC 27511  
[mikebabuin@aol.com](mailto:mikebabuin@aol.com)  
Pre-1905 books, old film copies, programs

**Oliver Born** Germany

[born4TT@freenet.de](mailto:born4TT@freenet.de) [www.old-butterfly.de](http://www.old-butterfly.de)  
Old Butterfly rackets, especially Korpa

**Keith Bowler** In Memoriam**Fabrice Chantriaux** France

10 Rue des Chevreuilles F-45130 Saint-Ay  
02.38.88.82.11 Fax: 02.38.45.94.29  
[F.chantriaux@wanadoo.fr](mailto:F.chantriaux@wanadoo.fr) Stamps, cancels,  
Postcards, posters, old papers on TT

**Colin Clemett** [colin.clemett@gmail.com](mailto:colin.clemett@gmail.com)

2 Watermill Court, 10 Springwell, Havant  
PO9 1ED UK Historical documents

**Fabio Colombo** Italy [drfabioc@gmail.com](mailto:drfabioc@gmail.com)

[www.colombofabio.com](http://www.colombofabio.com)  
Table Tennis books, World Rankings. Author  
Seeking STIGA Stipancic rackets

**Ron Crayden** (ENG) In Memoriam**Andre Demeure** (BEL) In Memoriam

**Jean Devys** Residence La petite vigne,  
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**Axel Dickhaus** Germany

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[axel.dickhaus@freenet.de](mailto:axel.dickhaus@freenet.de) TT balls, phone cards

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History, music & photo record of TT items

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21209 410 602 0267 Pins,,badges,medals

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710 N.Waverly, Dearborn, MI 48128 USA  
+1 313 278 5271 c.1900 sets, equipment,  
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**Scott Gordon** USA [sgordon@hardbat.com](mailto:sgordon@hardbat.com)

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Historic films,classic era hardbats, old books

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(Guest, organizer, player, press, etc)

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Ping Pong Diplomacy, Early 1900s TT

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**Gerald Gurney** In Memoriam**Rex Haggett** [rex.haggett@ntworld.com](mailto:rex.haggett@ntworld.com)

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Warwickshire, CV37 9PJ England  
+44 (0) 1789 269352 Philately

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c1890-1902 vintage sets, books, unusual items

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19 Little Hardwick Road, Streetly  
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[barry\\_hayward@LHRstreetly.freeseerve.co.uk](mailto:barry_hayward@LHRstreetly.freeseerve.co.uk)  
Website: <https://tabletennislibrary.co.uk>

**Chuck Hoey** Honorary Curator, ITTF Museum

[museum@ittf.com](mailto:museum@ittf.com) [ittfmuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:ittfmuseum@yahoo.com)  
Art bats, unusual bats, historic photos,  
Important medals, museum quality items

**Martin Holland** [mjh44now@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mjh44now@yahoo.co.uk)

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sheets, color proofs, minister/artist sheets,  
errors, postmarks, meters, FDCs, specimens

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TT stamps, cancels, postcards, autograph  
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Newspapers, score-lists, books, posters ...

**Jan Kleeven** [sjangkleeven@planet.nl](mailto:sjangkleeven@planet.nl)

Margrietstraat 63 6373 NN Landgraaf  
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Phonecards, stickers

**Matti Kolppanen** Finland

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TT history, TT postcards

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Stamps mint, postmarks, red meters, FDC

**Hans Kreisler** +34965698195

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03111 Spain [hanskreisler@hotmail.com](mailto:hanskreisler@hotmail.com)  
[www.ttmuseum.nl](http://www.ttmuseum.nl)

**Bruno Lancon** FRA [bruno.lancon@gmail.com](mailto:bruno.lancon@gmail.com)

Rackets, especially Barna, Stiga Haguenaer

**Kevin Lau** USA [kevintennis@yahoo.com](mailto:kevintennis@yahoo.com)

Philatelic, pins, coins, memorabilia, souvenir  
& decorative items

**FRANCESCO LUCESOLI** Italy

VIA DEI FAGGI 16  
I-60018 MARINA DI MONTEMARCIANO  
Stamps, FDC, special postmarks, varieties

# Collector Directory

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csleff@aol.com Table Tennis pins

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356050 e-mail: nley@hotmai.com  
Stamps, mint perforated FDCs red meters,  
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**Robert Op de Beeck** In Memoriam

**Florian Pagel** Germany flo.p@gmx.net  
Older Banda, Stiga, Joola, Butterfly, Imperial

**Park Jeong Kye** fifaball@hanmail.net  
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**Gregory Pinkhusovich**  
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and Dolinar. Table Tennis plus chess.

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## New Bio of Legendary Angelica Rozeanu

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The life of Angelica Rozeanu is the story of a young girl, who contracted scarlet fever when eight years old, received a table tennis set from her brother to aid her recovery and progressed to establish records that have never been equalled and may never be equalled.

Sheer determination, a will to win, returning stronger from defeat are the elements of her character that shine through. She experienced unprecedented problems. Only 18 years old when war broke out in Europe; during the years when players are at their peak, she was banned from table tennis halls owing to her Jewish faith. Later when international play returned, she established herself firmly as the best female player in the world.

Legend is a word often over-used to describe an outstanding personality, it is not the case regarding Angelica Rozeanu, she is not just a legend, she is a true legend.

Great triumphs, great pain  
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