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**TABLE
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DIGEST**

Official Magazine

OF THE

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Table Tennis Digest

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COMMENT

THE late start of League matches has long been a bone of contention among clubs and has many times given rise to much unpleasantness.

The limit really seems to have been reached, however, when a week or so ago we were told that a match was not completed until the clock needed but fifteen minutes to midnight.

We should indeed be surprised to discover that one match in fifty started at 7-30 this season, and doubt very much if the proportion was much higher if we made it 7-45.

It is rare in fact, for the teams to assemble in sufficient number to make a start much before 8 p.m., which to our way of thinking is a far from satisfactory position.

We do not know the reason for the recent laxity in prompt arrival. Teams are assembling in town at 7-30 to travel to a club on the city boundaries. Players are missing from a team for long periods, and holding up the progress of matches besides depriving both captains of the right of choosing the sets to be played.

We appreciate that there are times when a player cannot help arriving after the match has commenced. By the courtesy of the opposing captain they may be allowed to play if he is so willing, but in such a case it is incumbent on such a player or his captain to obtain permission beforehand and not to arrive anything up to two hours late and expect to play as a matter of right.

This common failure to ask for permission is yet another example of bad manners of which we fear we have had more than a little this season. One of these days a courageous skipper will follow the relevant rule to the letter and this slackness may then be curtailed.

While this situation continues however, may we suggest that the tea interval, a notorious time-waster, is cut down to a minimum, and where club conditions permit the match continues while the majority enjoy the tea and biscuits.

A late finish to a match may not be an important matter to many players, but we know of at least one youngster who has left the game because an invariable late arrival home on match nights resulted in a parental bar.

Three hours is nearly always long enough to complete a match, and therefore any match should be concluded by 10-30. Remember that the next time your last bus or tram is missed and you are faced with a long trek home.

From the Secretary's Desk

TUESDAY LAST DAY TO ENTER FOR THE CLOSED

By W. STAMP.



I HOPE you have not overlooked the fact that **Tuesday** next, March 24, is the closing date for entries to our Closed League Championships. Should your secretary have exhausted his supply of Entry Forms, send me a stamped addressed envelope and receive one by return of post—but *do it now* as time is getting short.

In previous years there has always been some misunderstanding regarding the Women's Regional Singles, and to remove any doubts the Management Committee have decided to call it a "Restricted Singles" and have given it a regulation all to itself which reads: "Event 8 is open to all women players, except those you have represented Liverpool during the past three seasons. Previous winners are not eligible.

The Open Singles are, of course, still available to them as well, and between these two events and the Mixed and Women's Doubles, we hope that all our members of the fair sex will be represented in this our 21st Championships.

Two Prices

The preliminary rounds are at Dingle Vale School from April 13 to 17, with the finals on Wednesday, April 22, at the Y.M.C.A., Mount Pleasant. There

are only two prices for the final, 1/- and 2/-, and the ticket arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Don Brown, the South Region secretary, who will be circularising all clubs, and, with his small band of helpers, hopes to make personal contact with you before the end of the season to find out your requirements.

The seating capacity at the Y.M.C.A. is 422 but we have never yet been able to fill it. We always look to our own members, rather than the general public, to support this domestic event which brings to an end our season.

I hope that every club will be represented.

The last open tournament within easy reach of northern competitors takes place at Squires Gate Holiday Camp, near Blackpool, on Saturday, April 18, where the Lancashire Open is to be staged. There will be 16 tables, and restaurant and running buffet will be available at reasonable prices.

I have a supply of entry forms and should there be sufficient applications, a coach will be arranged and would leave St. John's Lane at 9 a.m., the cost being approximately 10/-. The closing date for entries is April 4.

Cup Finals—See page 19.

How Green was My Volley

By HAROLD REYNOLDS (LINNET)

AS this is my first feeble venture into the literary field, (and after reading this you will no doubt hope that its my last), I thought of writing under a nom-de-plume, but being unable to think of a suitable one (no comments, please) I hit upon the crafty idea of using my own name and cracking on it was a nom-de-plume, thereby (I hope) fooling everybody and avoiding assassination. (For what you are about to receive may you be truly thankful, that you didn't write it).

On reaching the tender age of 21 I found that I was too old for most youth clubs and finding the winter evenings long and uneventful (sic), I made inquiries amongst my friends. One of them said: "Take up knitting or something."

Another said "Yes, knitting or something."

Having successfully disposed of them both I asked some of my workmates what they would suggest. The only reasonable suggestion I could get out of them was: "Join a table-tennis club."

Lucky Pin

Having been given some names and addresses of clubs, I stuck a pin into the list—"Linnet" it said, so off I went to see the hon. sec.

"We are a new club" said the hon. sec. "And we want some young players. You seem to have the right idea and I think with a little more practice you might possibly make the C team."

About three weeks later, my first match. I was quite happy about this and the opposing team were a friendly lot. That is until they got on to table, then—Whew!!

My turn at last. I picked up my bat, went to the table and giving my opponent a nice friendly smile, we began by having what I believe they call a knock-up, for me it certainly was. All I seemed to be there for was to serve the ball to my opponent for him to clout it back at me. Whether it went on the table or not didn't seem to matter.

After he had hit me in the eye, on the nose and given me the 'flu with the draught of the ball passing me, the umpire said: "Are you fit, boys?" Well, my opponent was anyway.

The umpire borrowed a penny from me, tossed it up and my "friend" called wrongly so I was given the ball to serve first. After the umpire had settled down with a cup of tea and a cigarette, we were ready to begin.

"Love all" he called, and I served. "Love all," what a joke! My opponent crouched down with a wicked scowl on his face and a murderous glint in his eye.

What followed is best left unsaid, except that the only thing I won that night was the toss. I lost the set and the penny I had loaned to the umpire and after the game my opponent grabbed my hand and proceeded to crush the fingers to a pulp, at the same time thumping me on the back. I still have a curvature of the spine, and my fingers have never been the same since.

Wending my way sadly home I thought: "no wonder they call table-tennis a 'Hammercher' sport."

All that happened twelve months ago

and I am pleased to say that since then I have won a couple of sets and pinched other peoples' pennies. But I will always remember that first match and the two-faced son-of-a-gun who smiled at me and was nice and friendly one minute and the next looked at me as if I was a big juicy steak that he was about to eat . . . "Bicarbonate anybody?"

Victoria Park will be losing Frank Simms at the end of the season. This hard hitting player has had a grand season but is emigrating to Canada, leaving a big gap for the Park to fill next term.

The Liverpool Y.M.C.A. side achieved further honours at Manchester recently when in the inter-Y.M.C.A. tournament the junior side emerged victorious. Although they had the valuable assistance of D. Ferguson, of Rafters, it was nevertheless an outstanding performance.

ALL FIVE PLAYED THEIR PART

CONGRATULATIONS Balfour, on a runaway league victory! They have a clear ten points margin over their nearest rivals.

Led by Reg Hetherington, the team is a sound one, with a wonderful team spirit. All of them have played their part equally in their success. Well done, Reg, Norman Jones, Les Davies, Ken Harold and Eileen Mansell.

Eileen's 75 per cent record against men is worthy of special mention and is a reflection of her ability. Their success points more to experience than youth being their main forte.

I've noticed a continuing migration of our division players to clubs in the Wirral League. It means that some players are getting at least two matches a week plus cup games.

Temperament Lack

I hope this match play will develop a higher standard in Liverpool, but I have my doubts as I believe only play with superior players and constant attention to stroke play is a means of bringing out the younger player. I'm afraid I've not seen any possible champions among us this season.

Bill Pierce leads the younger ones, but he has not the temperament for the bigger occasion and I am afraid a senior international will elude him unless he does much better in city matches and open tournaments.

African Oil and 15th Crosby lie second and third, followed by Balfour A and Acacia. Except for Bohemians and Balfour B, the other teams in the division have done quite a shuffle.

Most league games have gone as expected recently. Oakhill did well to draw with African Oil. H. A. Reed and J. Dancaster (two each), M. Oakes (one) for Oakhill; W. Pierce (two), Bell, Coveney and Glass (one each), being set winners.

Acacia had a good win 7-3 over 15th Crosby. R. Jones won two sets, Hobbs beat Watts, Egerton beat Morison, and Clewitt beat Delamere and Morison. Crosby's sets were won by Hand beating Hobbs, Bamford beating Rowan and Watts beating Egerton.

It has been interesting to note that to keep up producing sixty players weekly

to maintain our fixtures, we have called upon 94, twelve of whom have not won a set.

The best percentages are:—E. J. Rumjahn 90, W. Pierce 88.8, R. M. Rumjahn 88.8, R. Jones 77.7, R. Hetherington 76.4, L. Davies 76.3, P. U. Rumjahn 76.3, E. Mansell 75, B. Hand 75, W. Rowan 70.8, F. Bamford 70.5, N. Jones 69.4, and V. Chesham 69.4.

In Readman Cup matches Rafters A beat Balfour 6-4, and Acacia beat Livex 8-2 to enter one semi-final. Crosby beat African Oil 7-3 and met and defeated Lucem 9-1 in the other semi-final.

The three-side Stamp Cup has reached the final stage when Rafters beat Balfour 9-0 and Acacia beat Oakhill 8-1.

This month's tip—Young players attend the cup finals and enter the "Closed" to study the tactics and strokes of the more experienced player.

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Just Not Good Enough

I AM convinced that none of the top teams in this division, unless considerably strengthened, is good enough to enter the First Division next season.

This was made clear to me when 15th Crosby defeated Lucern 9—1 at Anfield in the semi-final of the Readman Cup. Believe me, it was no hard luck story, just an exhibition of confidence and experience. Don Foulis, Lucern's veteran, was the only player to win a set, this being against J. Coogan, 15th Crosby's No. 3.

Keen Competition

So far, in this division, the competition has been keen, and the sportsmanship top class, and the complaints have been few. During the second half, the usual official fiddles of arranging the teams to suit the occasion have been carried out, in some cases successfully.

So far as Cheshire Lines, Bootle Y.M.C.A., Lucern, Victoria Park, Oak-hill and Wavertree are concerned, only four points divide them in the middle of the league, and being free from any championship or relegation worries, it is a grand feeling just to play for fun.

In the relegation zone, Liverpool Police are certain to go down, as they have, so far, only gained one point, but I.C.I., Waterloo Dock and Balfour C. all have the same number of points and will battle it out right to the end of the season.

MATCH I SAW

Liverpool Y.M.C.A., by beating Anfield A 6—4 on their home table

moved into first place in the division. And what an exciting match it proved to be, with both teams confident of victory. D. Rigby and E. Mandeluff, by winning two sets each, killed any hopes Anfield had of the division.

The most exciting game was when Anfield's captain, little Charlie Fay, who when his side were down 3—2, went on against D. Rigby, Y.M.C.A.'s No. 1, to play a great game. The first was even, Rigby just managing to scrape home 21—18. But the next game saw a reverse, when Fay, playing on the top of his form, won 21—12 by attacking throughout and allowing Rigby no chance.

In the third and decider they were level up to 19—all, when Rigby got a net which brought the chance to kill. Then came the long rally for that vital point which, if Charlie won, would give Anfield a fighting chance. But, alas, it wasn't to be, and Rigby won 21—19.

But Anfield were not beaten and with determined spirit D. Bruce beat Cyril Bradshaw 21—15, 21—19, and with the score 5—3, Jack Hughes of Anfield met John Hughes of Y.M.

This game was vital and in a tense atmosphere it would have been possible to have heard a pin drop as the players began their game, but with steady play, Hughes of Anfield finally won 21—18 21—19.

Ken Cunliffe, Y.M.C.A.'s reserve who came in vice A. Roberts, met Ken Corey in the last set. And the scores, in the Y.M.C.A.'s favour, speak volumes in showing how close the games were—22—20 25—23 and 21—18.

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Grim Battles at Both Ends

THE promotion race enters the last lap with but three teams in the Rafters, now tearing along at breakneck speed, winning all before them, are confident of ultimate success.

Linnets faltered at Osterley and then collapsed at Rafters, so that their championship hopes are fast fading.

Litherland have still to face their two main contenders, and there is so little between the teams that nerves may well be the deciding factor. He would be a bold man who, even at this stage, would predict the final placings, but being bold I venture to suggest this order and risk incurring the great displeasure of the Linnets—champions, Litherland; runners-up, Rafters.

Maybe this will spur Linnets to greater efforts. In any case it is a great fight with no disgrace to the unlucky club.

Miracle Needed

Switching to the other end of the table the fight is equally grim. Oakhill have lost all chance; only a miracle can save them from the unenviable position of wooden spoonists. They are going down fighting but their players have not the ability to recover so much lost ground.

In a different light appear Anfield, second only to Rafters as the team of 1953. Their improvement since the turn of the year has been remarkable. Their points tally is now almost in double figures. They may still be relegated, but never have I seen such a transformation. If they do escape, as they may well, they will be a force to be reckoned with next term.

Linacre are their closest companions and they will need to watch their step carefully if they are not to change places with Anfield.

The four middle-of-the-table clubs are not so far ahead, although apparently safe, which shows how even the league matches have been this season. Osterley, for instance, with their draw with Linnets, may well influence the championship and yet they themselves are only head and shoulders out of the mire.

Cup news brings personalities into print. D. Ferguson, Rafters' *Daily Mirror* competition aspirant, achieved

what is regarded as the almost impossible in our sphere by beating A. C. Taylor on a deuce in the third game of his set in the Rumjahn Cup, thus helping Rafters to dispose of Litherland 7—3.

Rafters followed this with a convincing 10—0 win over the Fourth Division leaders, Liverpool Y.M.C.A. A and entered the final.

Taylor can be allowed a lapse. His remarkable record shows but three defeats in two seasons, all of which were in cup games.

Full credit goes to Bohemians for a great 6—4 victory over Victoria Park. New boy West, recently promoted from a junior side, scored a convincing double and captain Joe Alcock, in sacrificial position No. 2, notched a good win. Hard luck on Frank Simms, Park's No. 1, who, scoring a double win, appeared to be the star of the side.

Bohemians will find Rafters a tough proposition and although I know they will fight hard, I take Rafters to win the cup by a comfortable margin.

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Not Such a Black Week-End

TO the Liverpool party who travelled to Scotland, last week-end will for a long time be remembered as Freddie Bamford's black week-end.

Of course, two carloads of table tennis folk travelling some 200-odd miles on Friday the 13th were naturally asking for things to happen. And happen they did to Fred when he crossed the border. Here's his list of misfortunes for that fatal day:

Stopped by the police for alleged speeding in a built-up area.

We regret to state that we did not receive any Fourth Division Notes from our contributor.

A flat tyre when he arrived at Glasgow.

Beaten in both his singles sets and in the doubles with Bernard Hand in the match against the West of Scotland League.

And then to cap it all on the following day Bernard Hand lost his wallet containing several pounds.

Yet in spite of it all and the fact that they were beaten 6-4 by the Scots in a match which they might just as easily have won by a similar score, all enjoyed the trip.

It is not making excuses for the defeat to say that six or seven hours travelling in a car, particularly, as in the case of Bamford, when one is driving, does not help one to play at the best. Taking into account also that they were opposing a team of Scottish international, the result was a creditable one.

Our four sets were gained by Bernard Hand winning two singles, Ron Rumjahn another

and Ron and Arthur Taylor winning their doubles, while Dave Rigby won a specially arranged junior set which did not count in the match.

There was compensation on the following day when Rumjahn and Taylor won the men's doubles title in the Lanarkshire Open Championships at Hamilton by beating A. Metcalfe and W. McCandlish 21-9 21-18 in the final. Considering that they had never played together before it was remarkable how well our pair teamed up; so much so that the result was never in doubt.

We all had our fingers crossed when Ron met Harry O'Prey, the Irish international, in the final of the men's singles and our hopes began to soar when Ron, with judicious table tennis and some cleverly played drop shots, went

Continued on page 11.

D. M. SINGER

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LEAGUE TABLES

To 14th March, 1953

First Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Balfour	20	18	1	1	143	57	37
15th Crosby ...	20	11	4	5	115	85	27
Balfour A	20	12	6	2	111	89	26
African Oil	20	10	5	5	112	88	25
Acacia	20	9	8	3	107	93	21
Rafters	20	8	7	5	99	101	21
Anfield	20	8	8	4	92	108	20
Rafters A	20	9	10	1	103	97	19
Oakhill	20	6	10	4	88	112	16
Livey	20	6	11	3	90	110	15
Balfour B	20	1	14	5	76	124	7
Bohemians	20	2	16	2	64	136	6

Second Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
L'pool Y.M. ...	20	15	2	3	141	59	33
Anfield A	20	15	2	3	125	75	33
Cheshire Lines ..	20	11	5	4	111	89	26
Victoria Park ...	19	11	6	2	110	80	24
Bootle Y.M.	20	9	6	5	111	89	23
Lucem	19	9	5	5	108	82	23
Oakhill A	20	6	7	7	98	102	19
Wavertree C.C. ...	20	6	10	4	87	113	16
Waterloo Dock ...	20	5	10	5	89	111	15
Balfour C	20	5	12	3	83	117	13
I.C.I.	20	5	13	2	82	118	12
L.P.A.S.	20	0	19	1	45	155	1

Third Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Rafters B	20	15	2	3	134	66	33
Linnets	20	14	2	4	140	60	32
Litherland	19	15	2	2	129	61	32
Victoria Park A ..	20	12	5	3	116	84	27
Cadwa	20	11	6	3	111	89	25
Osterley	20	4	7	9	94	106	17
Tech. Students ...	20	6	10	4	92	108	16
English Electric ..	20	6	10	4	88	112	16
Bohemians A ...	20	6	12	2	88	112	14
Anfield B	19	4	13	2	74	116	10
Linacre	20	4	14	2	70	130	10
Oakhill B	20	2	16	2	54	146	6

Fourth Division

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
L'pool Y.M. A	20	17	0	3	154	46	37
W'tree C.C. A	20	12	4	4	118	82	28
Bath Street	19	12	4	3	120	70	27
African Oil A ...	19	12	6	1	101	89	25
Bootle Y.M. A ...	19	10	6	3	111	79	23
Livey A	20	9	7	5	103	97	23
Bohemians B ...	20	8	8	4	93	107	20
Domestic Miss'n ..	20	8	11	1	92	108	17
St. Michaels ...	19	5	8	6	89	101	16
Aigburth	20	4	15	1	79	121	9
Harold House ...	20	2	15	3	60	140	7
R.A.F.A.	20	1	17	2	60	140	4

WOMEN'S—Division I

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Balfour	20	17	2	1	156	44	35
Lofters	20	15	0	5	148	52	35
Bibbys	19	15	3	1	138	52	31
Oakhill	20	12	5	3	122	78	27
Rafters	20	9	4	7	114	86	25
Linnets	20	11	7	2	112	88	24
Bohemians	20	7	7	6	103	97	20
Anfield	20	4	10	6	86	114	14
Littlewoods ...	20	4	13	3	71	129	11
Cheshire Lines ..	20	2	14	4	65	135	8
Leyfield	19	1	14	4	39	151	6
Aigburth	20	1	19	0	36	164	2

WOMEN'S—Division II

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Linnets A	20	15	3	2	128	72	32
Waterloo Park ..	20	15	4	1	123	77	31
Brenka	20	12	3	5	126	74	29
Wavertree C.C. ...	20	12	5	3	125	75	27
Ogdens	20	9	6	5	118	82	23
Osterley	20	11	8	1	114	86	23
Lofters A	20	9	8	3	109	91	21
Bohemians A ...	20	8	9	3	92	108	19
Littlewoods A ...	20	8	10	2	92	108	18
Beauchair	20	4	13	3	80	120	11
Lucem	20	1	17	2	55	145	4
Catholic Metro ..	20	1	19	0	38	162	2

NORTH REGIONAL I

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Waterloo Park ..	19	17	0	2	153	37	36
Lofters	19	14	2	3	131	59	31
Brenka	20	14	4	2	132	68	30
English Elec. A ..	19	12	7	0	105	85	24
Everton Y.M.	20	10	7	3	119	81	23
Litherland A ...	18	9	6	3	100	80	21
Littlewoods	19	8	8	3	89	101	19
W'loo Dock A ...	20	7	9	4	91	109	18
Warbreck Moor ...	20	5	13	2	72	128	12
15th Crosby A ..	20	3	14	3	60	140	9
RAF Movements ..	20	2	14	4	66	134	8
Tech. Students A ..	20	1	18	1	52	148	3

NORTH REGIONAL II

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Raw Cotton Com ..	20	17	0	3	144	56	37
Maghull	20	16	3	1	129	71	33
W'loo Park A	20	13	3	4	139	61	30
Bootle Y.M. B ...	20	14	5	1	136	64	29
Lofters A	20	13	7	0	122	78	26
Litherland B ...	20	10	6	4	122	78	24
St. Dominics ...	20	10	10	0	90	110	20
English Elec. B ..	20	8	12	0	94	106	16
Anfield D	18	3	14	1	56	124	7
W'loo Park B ...	19	3	16	0	57	133	6
Tech. Students B ..	20	2	17	1	48	152	5
Bootle Police ...	19	1	17	1	43	147	3

SOUTH REGIONAL

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Victoria Park B	20	17	0	3	163	37	37
Linnets A	20	16	0	4	159	41	36
Beauclair	20	16	3	1	145	55	33
W'tree C.C. B...	20	13	4	3	125	75	29
Aigburth Meths	20	13	6	1	131	69	27
Cheshire Lines A	20	9	10	1	115	85	19
Lucem B	20	8	10	2	90	110	18
Linnets C	20	7	11	2	77	123	16
Cadwa B	20	4	15	1	70	130	9
Vauxhall Sports	20	3	16	1	43	157	7
Cheshire Lines B	20	2	17	1	37	163	5
St. Peters	20	1	17	2	45	155	4

EAST REGIONAL

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Victoria Park C	20	17	2	1	146	54	35
Cadwa A	20	14	3	3	139	61	31
Holly Mount	20	14	3	3	139	61	31
Vagabonds	20	13	3	4	131	69	30
Old Xaverians...	20	14	5	1	135	65	29
Balfour D	20	9	6	5	118	82	23
Leyfield	20	8	11	1	85	115	17
W'tree Labour	20	6	13	1	74	126	13
L.P.A.S. A	20	4	12	4	82	118	12
Osterley A	20	5	13	2	76	124	12
Comet	20	1	17	2	37	163	4
Beauclair A	20	1	18	1	38	162	3

CENTRAL REGIONAL

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Panto	20	19	1	0	172	28	38
Lucem A	20	16	3	1	148	52	33
L'pool Y.M. B...	20	15	4	1	129	71	31
Anfield C	20	13	7	0	120	80	26
Linnets B	20	10	9	1	113	87	21
Oakhill C	20	9	9	2	106	94	20
Vagabonds A	20	9	9	2	95	105	20
Lussac	20	8	10	2	100	100	18
Catholic Metro	20	6	10	4	92	108	16
I.C.I. A	20	3	14	3	51	149	9
Old Xaverians A	20	1	17	2	45	155	4
Leyfield A	20	2	18	0	29	171	4

The Fixture Secretary reminds all clubs that all league matches must be completed by March 27th.

Over the Border

Continued from Page 9.

into the lead. But O'Prey, if not a thrilling player to watch, is one who never slackens and it was this factor that eventually had Ron beaten 21—15, 21—10.

But a title and a half is not a bad result from a tournament which contained at least half a dozen internationals, and our only disappointment was that Dave Rigby did not win the junior singles which we all felt he was capable of doing. He was unlucky to meet in the semi-final, the beaten finalist when the latter had an inspired spell.

Finally a tribute to the Scottish audiences for the applause they gave to our players just as readily as to their own, and to the Scottish officials for the warm welcome they gave us.

Their hope is that the inter-city meeting can be an annual event, a wish which all who went will endorse.

Here are the details of the Glasgow match:—

Singles

R. M. Rumjahn beat E. Still 21—23, 21—19, 21—12; lost to J. Braithwaite 8—21, 20—22.

F. Bamford lost to Braithwaite 19—21, 12—21; lost to Still 12—21, 13—21.

B. Hand beat M. McMillan 21—18, 20—22, 21—14; beat W. K. McCandlish 21—10, 20—22 21—10.

A. C. Taylor lost to McCandlish 21—23, 17—21; lost to McMillan 16—21, 12—21.

Doubles

Bamford and Hand lost to Braithwaite and McMillan 13—21 18—21.

Rumjahn and Taylor beat Still and McCandlish 15—21, 21—18, 21—18.

Junior

D. Rigby beat C. Purcell 21—19 21—19.

INSPIRATION THAT WON MATCH

By J. H. C. HUGHES

ODDS, bodikins and catfish, this Third Division is a pretty kettle of fish. At the start of the Linnet v. Litherland match the position was thus : Litherland, played 18, points 32. Rafter B, played 19, points 31. Linnet, played 19, points 30.

At the end the position was even more interesting, for Linnet won 7—3 and with Litherland's next match being against Rafter B—who recently beat Linnet 8—2 and were more than interested spectators at this match—the whose-for-promotion is anybody's guess.

Fine Spirit

As could be expected there was terrific keenness and every point was fought for with great determination. Each man gave of his best and the team spirit on both sides was good to see.

All this, however, did not prevent the match being played in the most friendly manner. Despite the tenseness never once was there the slightest sign of anything but real good sportsmanship. Now I know that is as things should be, but I also know that it is not always the case.

I once said that the game of Mason of Linnet was 90 per cent perspiration and 10 per cent inspiration. Well, in this game, although he still had plenty of perspiration, he increased his percentage of inspiration.

In winning both his sets after losing the first game in each, he perhaps did more than any other player to give Linnet their win.

In Anderson he found a young opponent willing to push until the right ball came along and then able to put it away in no uncertain manner.

It was at 6—10 down in the second game, having lost the first, that Mason had his inspiration. Changing to slow, well flighted topspin down to Anderson's backhand, he altered the whole complexion of the game. Anderson could never combat it and Mason went on to win 2—1.

With Litherland having pulled up from 1—5 to 3—5, Mason again found himself one game down, this time to Clayton whose half volley backhand was working well. Again Mason changed to slow topspin, only this time putting it down his opponent's fore-

hand, and he not only pulled off his second well-merited win but clinched the match for his team.

The set between Thomas and Hoatson was a smash, bang, wallop affair, the former winning 26—24 in the third after losing a lead of 13—4.

Taylor had little difficulty in winning both his sets for Litherland and showed himself the class player. Linnet's Robinson with his penholder grip, proved a problem neither Hoatson nor Clayton could solve.

Short also won his sets for Linnet. His match with Henwood was a strange affair. His first game, which he won 21—19, was a long drawn-out affair, neither taking any chances, but the second was over in no time, Short hitting everything in sight to win 21—6.

Henwood managed to get Litherland's third set when he beat Green 2—1. Green only showed his best form when he won the second game 21—6.

Youngsters Impress

The players who impressed me for the future were Anderson of Litherland, though he lost both his sets he seemed to have ability, patience and the right temperament—and Thomas of Linnet, who, I understand, has worked his way up from the C team in quick time. He also showed many good shots and hits a ball as if he hates it. I would, however, advise him to take things a little calmer and not to be in quite so much of a hurry.

Taylor, of course, we know, and he further underlined the fact that he is one of our hopes for the future.

Finally I would like to thank both teams for a most enjoyable and sporting night's play. Well done, everybody, including the Rafter umpires.

The following players are nearing their limit of 26 league matches :— L. Cohen (Bohemians), J. Grayson (Cheshire Lines), H. Sanderson (English Electric) and S. Yeoman (Livex).

At least one Everton supporter did not reach Villa Park for the recent F.A. Cup-tie. Eric Wall, of Oakhill, was involved in a car crash on the way as a result of which he had to have four stitches in his hand.

Last Match May Decide

FEBRUARY was not a lucky month for Bibby's. They suffered their first defeat of the season when beaten by Balfour 8-2 and Lofters 7-3.

The Balfour match was by far the most exciting. Seven of the sets went to three games, only Lil Robinson winning in straight games against Lil Rimmer and J. Dinwoodie, and M. Perry against M. Evans, who also lost to J. Dinwoodie.

Two sets only went to three games against Lofters. M. Bannister beat her former clubmate, D. Hogg, 10-21, 21-15, 21-13 and J. Dinwoodie lost to M. Griffiths 13-21, 21-15, 13-21, who also had a close game against M. Perry before losing 27-25, 22-20.

With a fine second half recovery Linnets avoided defeat and forced Balfour, who were leading 4-1 at the interval, to a draw. Star of the match, N. Markson, was in great form to beat O. Dickenson and A. Brunskill. E. Palmer, M. and E. Murphy also scored one set each. The honours were evenly shared by the Balfour team.

Stiff Hurdles

Lofters are now the only undefeated team of the season in league matches, having only dropped points by drawn matches. If they can overcome their next two stiff hurdles against Bohemians and Linnets there should be plenty of excitement when they play Balfour in their last match of the season.

The result will probably decide the championship. With Balfour all set to avenge their previous defeat and Lofters out to win the championship in their first season, the winners will be worthy champions.

I am sure Oakhill would be excused should they strongly fancy their chances for the Bartholomew Cup. If their tail can wag as successfully as in their fine 6-4 quarter-final victory over Balfour they will take some beating.

Scorers for Oakhill were E. Moore (2), M. Rubert (1), L. Upton (1), L. Jenkins (2). For Balfour, O. Dickenson (1), A. Brunskill (2), L. Robinson (1). They will also have gained further confidence by their recent 6-4 victory over Bibby's in their league match, when E. Moore accounted for both G. Brown and L. Rimmer.

Ogden's are the proud representatives of the second division to play against Oakhill in the semi-final of the Cup. They beat Brenka 6-4 in the quarter-final. A. Houghton won both her sets to clinch victory with the rest of the team each winning a set. Dot Davies won both her sets for Brenka, with E. Cantwell and Pat Hughes contributing a set each.

Losing to both Littlewood's A and Osterley, Wavertree's chances of promotion have deteriorated. For Littlewood's A. J. Lloyd beat J. Jones 13 and 18, and J. Hughes 21-18, 17-21, 23-21, M. Jennings beat J. Maguire 22 and 21 and P. Adams 21-17, 14-21, 23-21, and M. Wattleworth beat J. Hughes 13 and 20 and P. Adams 21-17, 14-21, 23-21.

R. Trampnow and L. Waine each won both their sets for Osterley, with M. Dewey and D. Fredrickson adding one each. Scorers for Wavertree were J. Richardson (1), J. Maguire (2), and J. Jones (1).

Third Time Lucky

There will be a new name on the Bartholomew Cup this year as Rafter's, who have been the holders for the last four years, were beaten in the semi-final by Bibby's 7-3.

It was third time lucky for Bibby's against Rafter's in cup ties, having been runners-up to them the last two years, and they will doubtless be hoping their luck will hold out in the final.

Bibby's fully deserved their victory as they were the better team on the evening. Their recent reverses having no ill effects, they were all in excellent form. Highlight of the match was the exciting set K. Rumjahn won against M. Perry to reduce Bibby's 3-1 lead. Kay won 22-20 in the third after being 12-17 down by retrieving almost impossible returns from the corners and walls.

M. Swindells made a gallant attempt to level the score in the next set, only losing to J. Dinwoodie 22-24, 21-18, 18-21, which gave Bibby's a 4-2 lead at the interval. R. McMullen was the only winner for Rafter's in the second half, beating J. Dinwoodie 21-18 in the third game which brought out the best in each player.

A WORD TO THE LOWLY

THE final issue of the magazine will probably be giving the limelight to league championships and players, so I intend this month to give a word of encouragement and a pat on the back to the lowly and the faithful.

To Technical Students' A and B teams, who occupy the last position in Division 1 and the eleventh place in Division 2 respectively, I say "Well played." Their victories have been so few that they could be forgiven if towards the season's end they had slacked in their obligations. But they have not. In any walk of life the fighter who can take it earns the admiration of friend and foe.

It is often said that one man never made a team. That may be true, but it cannot be denied that Joe Lovelady is half a team. Since his inclusion in the 15th Crosby A side in recent weeks, they have picked up some points, so much so that Crosby may avoid relegation with a point or two to spare.

Keen and Efficient

Let us salute R.A.F. Movements, so aptly named for their players may be "posted" at any time. Corporal Bates has shown the same keenness, efficiency and friendly outlook as his predecessor Jack Bennett.

Bootle Police, though bottom of Division 2, have never been a spent force. Their players give evidence week by week of studied improvement. Secretary Sergeant Jones is a non-player but his interest is tremendous. He is not yet fully conversant with the rules of the game or the League, but if he considers something is a slight on all that is just, despite rules, I warn you to look out.

He played hell with me one morning over the telephone and, of course, a North Regional secretary won't be "got at." We had a fine row but I loved every minute of it.

Anfield D, who joined us to make up our complement when the season was well on its way, have made themselves popular. Quickly picking up arrears of matches, Secretary Reg Gray's main object has been to give new players a game and experience. A wise policy not to be measured by points secured.

Do you remember that at the beginning of the season I advised clubs to try to win not only points but every possible set. More than one league position of importance looks like being settled on sere average.

While I remember. A few clubs are, at this particular phase of the season, checking anxiously on players' appearances with an eye on Number 26. Learn the lesson now. A player who has been absent but has had a score inserted against his name has also had an appearance recorded against him. Crime doesn't pay!

Fred Bamford telephoned me to say he would give six medals to be competed for by inter-regional women's teams on the same basis as the Micklesfield Medals. On behalf of the ladies, Mr. Bamford, I thank you. I will confer with my co-regional secretaries in the immediate future.

Once again the North Region is indebted to an old player and constant friend of ours for making the region tournament possible. I refer to Jack Lambert. Accept our sincere appreciation, Jack.

The dates of our tournament are March 25-26 at English Electric, with the finals at a central venue on Friday, March 27. Closing date, March 20.

Nerve Wracking

Congratulations to Everton Y.M.C.A. and Waterloo Park on reaching the semi-final of the Hyde Cup. Litherland A, with a weakened side, lost at home to Panto, who are a strong tip for the cup. Lofters, after a nerve-wracking journey through four rounds, were well beaten by Vagabonds in a replay.

Lofters' record in this cup competition is of interest :- drew at Linnet, won the replay 6-4; beat Leyfield 9-1; drew at home to Victoria Park C, drew the replay at Victoria Park and won the tie by 25 games to 24; drew at home to Vagabonds, lost the replay 6-4 after being 6-0 down.

Of those first fatal six sets four went to three games and in the third game in three of the sets ended 25-23, 24-22 21-19.

Vauxhall's New Top Pair

BARRING some inexplicable eleventh hour result, it is a moral certainty that Victoria Park B have won the Region this season.

In the return battle with Linnet A, which ended in a draw, they were in arrears from the beginning, and were indeed 4-2 down at the interval, but in the last four sets Park showed real determination and appeared to have more fight at that point.

The key-set was at 4-3 in Linnet's favour. Bob McCormick (who had previously beaten Harry Arden) defended grimly against Len Hunter to win the first game fairly comfortably. With Hunter feeling worried McCormick, for some unknown reason decided to attack, and not only lost the second game 13-21 but gave Hunter all the confidence to win the final game to 15.

This was followed by George Cope beating a nervous Charlie Grimes 21-19 21-15, to let Park lead 5-4 for the first time all night. Linnet won the last set, but a draw was not enough for them.

Neck and Neck Race

It has been a real neck and neck race between these two all season, and both teams being undefeated has kept interest alive throughout. If Victoria Park, as now appears certain, move to Division 4, it will be a well earned promotion and they will carry with them the good wishes of the South, including the Linnets.

There have not been many transfers this season, but Vauxhall have acquired a new top pair from Wavertree Labour. Although it is too late for them to bring about any great rise this season I believe that next term Vauxhall will show well into the top half of the table. Such is my hope anyway, because such a move will surely strengthen the South.

I have heard whispers of other projected moves before next season, and I think the region will be much more equable as regards team strength if they materialise.

I went to see Beauclair play Waterloo Park in the Hyde Cup on the Park's table, a visit well worth while for, apart from the result (6-4 for Waterloo) it was a thoroughly enjoyable match.

I was again impressed by 17-year-old Keith Horne. His game has expanded

a lot since last season. S. Porter also played extremely well, but he needs to acquire more "bite" in his attack to win those extra few points per game. My advice is that he should develop the "killer" instinct and then, I am sure, he will be an outstanding player.

Both Porter and Horne won their two games, while Farrell, McKim and Atherton suffered double defeat. The outstanding game of the night was that between Horne and Musker, won by the Beauclair boy 21-11 in the third. The first game was an endurance test, which Horne clinched at 31-29.

The date for the South tournament is March 24-25-26 and the venue is Cheshire Lines. I hope for a 100 per cent entry. Come along, enjoy yourself and support the South. I am grateful to the Cheshire Lines Committee and to Mr. Grayson for their efforts in once again housing our tournament.

I am holding a final trial shortly for our region team. Picking ten players I shall make my final selection from them. Some who have already played are just not quite what is required; some fill the bill entirely, and some new faces will be seen again this time and obviously form at Cheshire Lines will be noted carefully.

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for

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SIDELIGHTS ON THE SEASON

AGAIN we are rapidly approaching the end of yet another season and looking back there are several points that come to mind.

Firstly we have the proof that fixture lists need not be chopped about. It is thus clearly shown that re-arrangement of dates has been avoided by general endeavours of both players and team secretaries, and to all concerned I personally say well done and keep it up.

Secondly there are too many matches that finish far too late and I am convinced that in many cases the fault is due to late arrivals, lengthy knock-ups, extensive tea breaks (almost banquets and the usual after dinner speeches) and players who wish to arrive late, or alternatively, to leave early.

Thirdly there is dress—we get too many lounge suits and collar and tie players. To have an open-neck shirt does help quite a lot, because to be dressed rightly we feel right and to feel right assists us to play a better game as our thoughts are all to the game and not divided with a tight collar or a weak pair of bracers.

Good Example

In this last respect I must point out how well turned out is our team from Wavertree Labour, with their badges and uniform type of black shirt or blouse. Ask them, they will say it helps to feel right.

After the above moans we will turn to the league tables which during the last few weeks have remained almost the same. Vagabonds have not done as well as I had expected, but otherwise the leaders have kept up their form and retained the positions much the same.

Last week the vital match between Victoria Park C and Old Xaverians was played, and after a long and hard fought match the Park came out victors by 6-4 after trailing one set behind until 4—all was reached, taking the lead at the critical time.

Unless Balfour D can bring forth some extra form against Victoria Park it seems almost certain that they will head the final tables.

In the last three matches there are some very interesting fixtures which can make or break the remaining leaders. These matches can alter the second, third and fourth places—Vags. v Cadwa A and Cadwa A v Hollymount. So it is right up to the end before positions will be finalised.

In the Hyde Cup we now have only one team left—Vagabonds—who reach the semi-final by a good win over Lofters in the replay at West Derby. To Vagabonds may we extend our best wishes for further advancement.

Lastly is our regional tournament, for which I am still unable to give you a firm date. However, the information in last month's issue still holds good and I will advise each club of the exact date which I expect will be immediately following Easter and will therefore not interfere with the last of our fixtures.

There has been some controversy recently concerning height of Acacia's table at the ends. We now hear rumours that those who raised doubts as to the exactness of the height, have been proved right and that Acacia have taken steps to rectify the mistake.

We do not know if our recent comment on the filling in of scores of sets not played has had anything to do with it, but during the last month the number of absentees rose sharply.

The playing of short teams is a sorry confession of failure by a club. If, however, our comment has done something to reveal more fully the extent of the problem, maybe our league officials will appreciate its magnitude and take steps to safeguard the interests of the majority who do not fall down on the most important duty of turning out a full team.

Won Cup Tie on Points

BY the time you read these notes the semi-finals of the Hyde Cup will have been played and we will know whether we are to be represented in the final.

But whether or not, congratulations to Panto on qualifying to meet Waterloo Park, who were incidentally responsible for the dismissal of Anfield C, in the penultimate stage.

The Lussac and I.C.I. A tie in the in the third round took some deciding. The first match at Lussac was drawn (13 games all) and the replay at Leece Street also resulted in a draw on sets and games. All heads were then bent over the score books and it was some time before agreement was reached between the mathematicians that I.C.I. had won by 13 points after over six hours play.

In both matches the I.C.I. had held a comfortable lead, 4-1 and 4-2 respectively, and in each case had stood 5-4.

First Victory

There is little chance of any further changes at the top of the region table, but there has been a change at the other end. Old Xaverians A have finally recorded their first win and have moved from the bottom on set advantage over Leyfield A.

Mention of Leyfield brings me to a distasteful situation. On at least three occasions they have forfeited points for cancelling matches on the day of the fixture. That is not too heavy a penalty for the trouble it causes to their opponents.

But to fail to turn up at all, without any notification, is to my mind the height of rudeness and bad sportsman-

ship. That happened when they were due to play Lucem A. Having stayed in town for tea, as is their usual practice, and having provided refreshments the Lucem team were some 15/- out of pocket into the bargain.

Having intended to see the match, it was also a wasted evening for me. What excuse have Leyfield to offer for such behaviour?

Fine Jump

Another movement up the table worthy of note is that of Anfield C. In the past five weeks they have moved from fourth from bottom to fourth from top. Five places in as many weeks is certainly progress.

Their recent success seems mainly due to the play of J. L. Roberts, their No. 1, who has collected some creditable wins in those five weeks. In Anfield's 7-3 defeat of Liverpool Y.M.C.A. B he beat both Lane and Richmond in two straight.

The regional team will have been chosen by the time you read this and will no doubt be ably led by Bert Harkness (Panto), who is the only player to maintain 100 per cent.

The following players had records of 75 per cent and over after 17 matches had been played :-

At Nos. 1 and 2.—J. L. Roberts (Anfield) 92.85; W. G. Slater (Panto) 91.17; R. Mason (Panto) 88.23; R. Shone (Lucem) 78.88; J. Storey (Vagabonds) 77.77; P. Atridge (Catholic Metro) 75.

Other positions :—H. J. Haskayne (Lucem) 86.66; P. Coulter (Panto) 85.29; D. Stroud (Y.M.C.A.) 83.33; P. Routledge (Y.M.C.A.) 83.33; R. Webster (Anfield) 78.47.

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These are your Letters

THAT "CAKE BREAK"

SIR.—I heartily endorse Ken Boden's comments regarding the time-wasting "cake break." What other athletic contest pauses at half-time while the contestants gorge themselves with sandwiches, cakes and biscuits, to say nothing of several cups of tea?

I have often wondered why this "stuffing" takes place—fortification for the second half, refreshment after the first half, or is it to discuss the social round.

Apart from the effect on the waistline and the lethargy it produces, the greatest condemnation of the "cake break" is time-wasting. Few matches start before eight o'clock and allowing 15 minutes a set in a tight match, the game-time alone brings the finishing time to 10-30.

After pushing back the table tennis table, setting up the tea tables, finding chairs, the whole operation will certainly take 20 minutes (without two cups of tea), so that the grand table tennis and eating match ends about 10-50 p.m., just in time to catch the last bus—if you're lucky.

Let's have no more of it. We're here to play table tennis; not hold tea parties.—**HAROLD COHEN (C.A.D.W.A. — Cakes and Drinks we Abhor).**

REMARKS RESENTED

SIR:—We of the Crosby club strongly resent the remarks of T. Blunn in the January issue in which he suggested that Peter Rumjahn makes excuses when defeated, implying that he cannot take a defeat.

I would like to say that my association with Peter is of over 20 years' duration, considerably

longer than Mr. Blunn has been inflicting his person on local table tennis circles. Peter's behaviour is unquestionably faultless.

I have beaten all the Rumjahns at times—certainly not as often as I would like—but never has an excuse been made for losing. Having also played in the same team as Peter I know he is quick to give credit to opponents.

Peter Rumjahn said the table at Acacia seemed high at the ends when he played there. Is it true that after Acacia-Balfour match two inches were taken off the table legs and that Mr. Blunn is 2/6 poorer as a result of a wager regarding the height of the table.—**FRED BAMFORD (15th Crosby).**

THE DIGEST

SIR:—If Mr. Barooha would re-read my last letter he will see that I clearly stated that the views expressed were my own.

He asks for constructive criticism and suggestions. Here goes:

Improve cover to something on the lines of a national publication so as to catch a reader's eye.

Insert a photograph or two and a cartoon. There must be budding cartoonists among the T.T. ranks of Merseyside.

An article by a Merseyside international would also be of interest.

Cut club reports by half. Comments on matches are all right if they are brief and to the point, but a person in the First Division (or in any other division or region) is not interested in whether a player in the North Region has a swollen head.

Better quality paper. Cheap paper makes the whole publication look cheap.

A number of my suggestions will cost money but if table tennis enthusiasts on Merseyside are interested in their league they should be prepared to pay the same as for a national publication.

Selling the *Digest* on the city's bookstalls would also increase the revenue. — NORMAN HOYER (Technical Students).

NO SLUR INTENDED

SIR :—In reply to Mr. McCaig's criticism of my January article, it appears that in his haste he did not read the article correctly. The subject was controversial and my notes were written with the utmost respect for both clubs, in the fairest manner possible allowing for my limitations as a writer.

My main point was that it was unfair to force Taylor of Litherland to play for a city team on the evening of such a vital league game. That I submit, is no slur on Rafter's' high sporting spirit.

The second point is that the management asked clubs to avoid Friday as a match night because of representative matches. Therefore, if agreement is given, as in Rafter's' case, they should not benefit by it, or, as I put in my article, opponents should not suffer as Litherland undoubtedly did in this instance.

No one to my knowledge has complained, or unable to take a

beating or failing to give credit to clubs, which makes Mr. McCaig's third paragraph pointless.

Now that the whole business is stirred up again and Rafter's will probably gain promotion by the narrowest margin, it is more unfortunate that the selectors chose Taylor on that evening, but perhaps if a recurrence of the incident is prevented we will be indebted to Mr. McCaig for entering the debate.

—E. CAMERON (Victoria Park).

Cup Finals

The following arrangements have been made for staging our Cup finals :—

Stamp.—Rafter's v. Acacia, at Christ Church Schools, Lark Lane Monday, March 30.

Rumjahn.—Rafter's B v. Bohemians A, at Waterloo Dock, Tuesday, March 31.

Readman.—Bootle Y.M.C.A., Wednesday, April 1.

Bartholomew.—Bibby's v. Oakhill, at Christ Church Schools, Lark Lane, Friday, April 10. All matches commence at 7-30 p.m.

The finalists of the Readman and Hyde Cups are not known at the time of writing and will appear in the local Press, together with all teams, as and when announced by the clubs.

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RELEGATION BOGEY AVOIDED

LIVERPOOL'S A team have considerably eased their relegation problem by taking three points from their last two matches. These put them in a comparatively safe position in the league and as the remaining matches are against Manchester's and Bolton's second teams further points should be forthcoming.

A draw was obtained against the Manchester B team which included junior internationals Pullar and Ingber. Ron Rumjahn was on form and won his three sets, defeating Pullar in the final game to earn the draw. Other set winners were Peter Rumjahn and the doubles.

At Linnet a comfortable victory by seven sets to three was scored over Bolton B. Set winners were Ron Rumjahn, Peter Rumjahn and Reg Hetherington (two each) and the doubles

Ted Rumjahn has been troubled with fibrositis and has not been playing recently. In this connection may I say that in my previous notes the term "domestic" was used as opposed to "business." Anyhow, it would appear that apron strings stand a very poor chance against table tennis strings.

Still Winning

The B team continued their winning ways with a 10-0 victory over Widnes who gave a very "end of the season" display. Chesham, Taylor and Townsend proved their superiority in such a way that the game was over at 9-30.

The championship depends on the match with Runcorn which will have been played by the time the magazine is issued.

Congratulations to Beryl Waterson on the award of her badge. Her recent performances have merited this recognition.

At Blackpool the women's team were too good for the home side and won 7-3. Set winners were E. Mansell (3), B. Waterson (2), and K. Casselman (1)

and the doubles. Kay Benson was once again the mainstay of the home side, winning two sets and losing after her usual battle with Eileen Mansell.

Division I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Bolton A	5	4	0	1	34	16	9
Manchester A ...	6	3	1	2	34	26	8
Liverpool A.....	8	3	3	2	38	42	8
Stockport	8	1	3	4	36	44	6
Manchester B ...	6	2	3	1	30	30	5
Bolton B	5	0	3	2	18	32	2

Division 3—West

Liverpool B	8	8	0	0	64	16	16
Runcorn	7	6	1	0	53	17	12
Wirral B	7	4	3	0	44	26	8
Warrington	6	1	4	1	20	40	3
Widnes	10	1	8	1	23	77	3
Ellesmere Port B	1	5	0	16	44	2	

Women's Division

Manchester	6	5	0	1	42	18	11
Liverpool	6	4	2	0	37	23	8
Blackpool.....	5	2	3	0	22	28	4
Bury	7	1	3	2	29	41	4
Crewe	6	1	4	1	20	30	3

Congratulations to Lil Rimmer who has qualified to play in the area final of the *Daily Mirror* tournament at Bolton, by her excellent win over Beryl Waterson in the last local round.

Technical Students' forceful No. 2, Elder, is nearing the end of his studies and returns to his native Wales in a few weeks. A loss to his club and the league.