

TABLE TENNIS CROWN WON BY AMERICA

In Wembley's Empire Pool - the finals of the British Table Tennis championships. 10,000 spectators root for plucky Helen Elliott, young Edinburgh girl as she serves against America's Peggy McLean in the last set of a thrilling battle.

With the American girl already two sets up, the Scottish champion is playing under a handicap. Only a few minutes before coming to the table, Miss Elliott learned that a great friend of hers had been killed in the Coventry air crash. The shock proves too much for her and the game is going to Miss McLean. The American is leading 19:14, and it's her service.

And Miss McLean is the winner. A personal tragedy clouded the Scottish girl's hopes of winning the title, and for the first time in 12 years, an American walks off with Britain's highest table tennis honour.

England's Victor Barna and the bespectacled American Marty Reisman clash in the Men's final. And what a battle it turns out to be!

Both men have won two sets and this is the decider! Youth pitted against experience. Subtle tactics against dashing speed. The fast American, only 19-years-old, was not even born when Barna had already won his first world title. And this is it! Barna's backhand flip may win him the title again!

But youth tells in the end. The vigour of the teen-aged New Yorker is the winning factor and Marty Reisman is Britain's new table-tennis champ.

Congratulations to a gallant winner!