

# THEY'RE EVENING UP A BRISK SPORT

## **M**IGRANTS *are boosting table tennis in Australia.*

They comprise 50 to 60 per cent of Australia's top players, says the secretary of the Australian Table Tennis Association, Mr. Ray Carlile.

And in Victoria, he says, they represent 80 per cent of the top players.

To meet some of Australia's migrant table tennis aces — and other migrants, who like to play for relaxation — "The Good Neighbour" called at the Victoria Table Tennis Association's centre at Albert Park, Melbourne, the biggest of its type in the world.

As players sent balls flashing across the tables at the centre, Mr. Carlile said: "Migrants have improved table tennis no end in Australia."

"They are not only good players. They are good sports, too."

"Many seem to come to the Albert Park centre virtually straight from the ship."

Migrants and "old" Australians are mixing freely at the centre.

Miss Barbara Evitts, 23, of West Preston Melbourne suburb, said: "The sport is a wonderful help to assimilation."

"It gives migrants more opportunities to meet Australians, improve their English, and generally feel more at home."





TOP LEFT: Hungarian John Marton, 24, shows his skill and concentration. He was number two player in Victoria and number five in Australia last year. He hopes to be naturalised next year: "I want to represent Australia overseas — as an Australian."

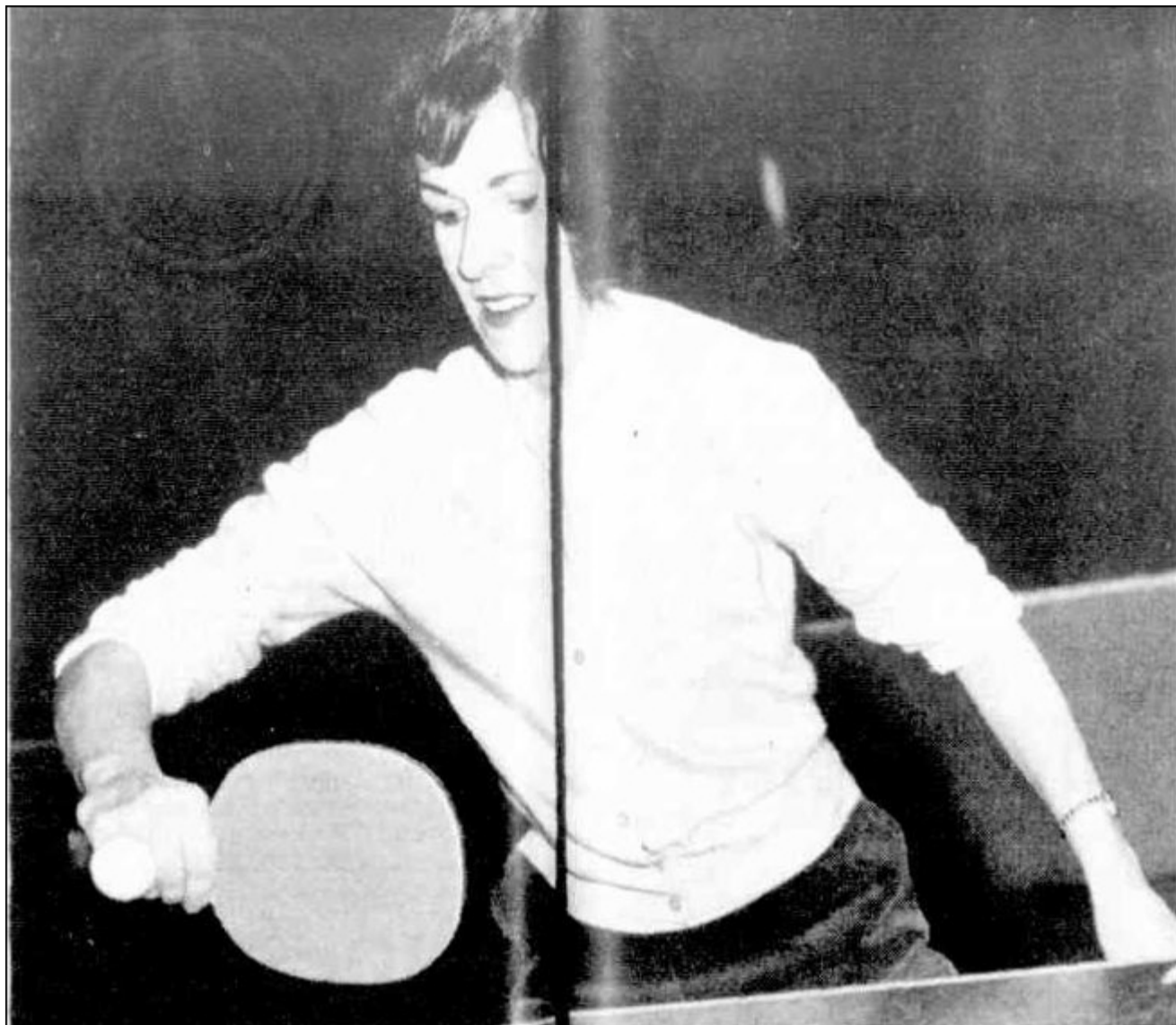






RIGHT: Here is the scene  
RIGHT: How is the scene inside the Victorian Tables

inside the Victorian Table Tennis Association's centre at Albert Park, Melbourne. It is the biggest centre of its type in the world and is attracting an increasing number of players. Many find the sport relaxing after a day at work.



RIGHT: Playing the game because she enjoys it. Miss Barbara Evitts, 23, of West Preston,

has been playing table tennis since September last year.





ABOVE: Here's an attractive young table tennis enthusiast from Malta — Miss Rosy Curvama, 17. She has been playing at the centre for the last six months. "I love it," she claims.





RIGHT: One of Holland's most popular sportsmen, Cornelis du Buy, who was nine times Dutch table tennis champion. Cor first won the Netherlands Table Tennis Championship in 1936-37, and last held the title in 1954-55. He was joint holder of the men's doubles title seven times and the mixed double five times. He has played table tennis in nearly every country in Europe. He was a former member of the Amsterdam City Council and migrated to Melbourne last year.





BELOW: Players at the centre include this foursome: From left: Hans Pappon, 28, from Germany; Bill Sheehan, 28, a former Victorian Railways Institute State Champion; Patricia Pagram, 18; and Albert Robergs, from Latvia, who started playing table tennis in a camp in Germany.