

HAL KOONTZ TO HEAD EXOTIC BIRD RETRIEVAL PROGRAM

Mr. Hal Koontz, a Los Angeles area attorney formerly with the Appellate Department of the Superior Court, has been named to head the A.F.A. Exotic Bird Retrieval Program.

Mr. Koontz will lend his administrative skills to the organization and management of the Statewide effort to recapture escaped Indian Ringneck Parakeets, Nanday Conures, and Canary-Winged Bee Bees, all three of which will become prohibited species subject to confiscation, if the program is unsuccessful.

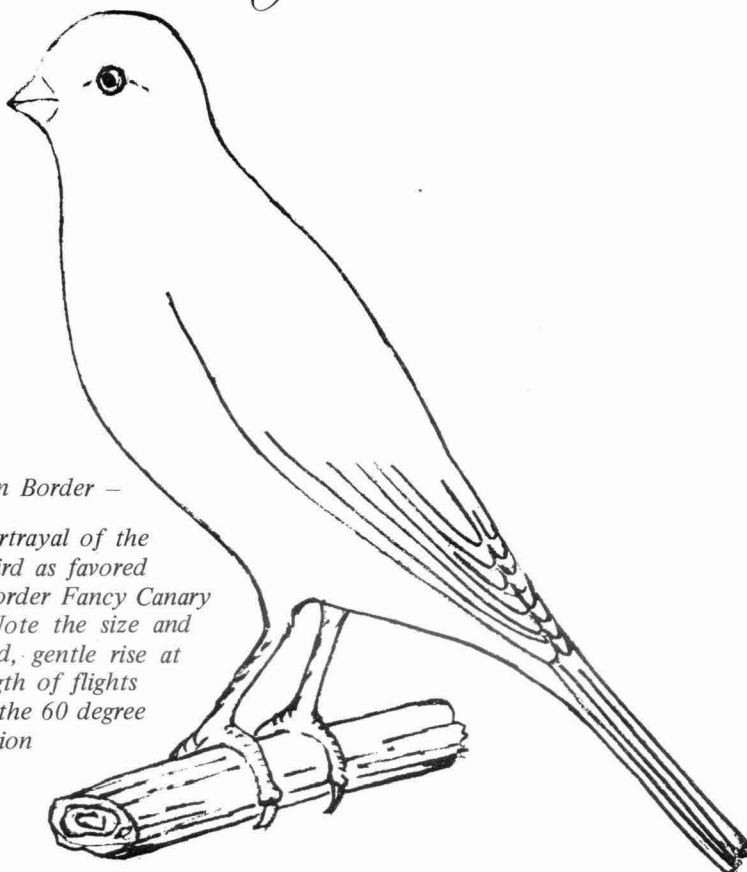
Retrieval team members have spent several hundred manhours in the field observing exotic birds and their routines in efforts to formulate plans for retrieval. Activities to date have resulted in the capture of sixteen Ringnecks, one Double Yellow-headed Amazon, and one Monk Parakeet.

A.F.A. members have been active in the field from San Francisco to San Diego. Mr. Phil Dubois, A.F.A. northern California co-ordinator, recently chaired a seminar for Bay Area team members in Santa Clara. Mr. Denis Griffin, biologist for the Dept. of Food and Agriculture, outlined joint State-A.F.A. guidelines for the program and answered questions. Other state representatives in attendance included Clyde Butler, biologist from Ceres, CA.; Everett Henning, Alameda County Dept. of Agriculture; Cosneo Inslanco, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture in San Jose; and Del Clark, Pest Control, from Sacramento.

With Mr. Koontz's appointment, it is expected the retrieval program will embark upon a period of aggressive activity.

Canary Culture

by Tony Bucci



*An Exhibition Border –
A life-size portrayal of the ideal show bird as favored by leading Border Fancy Canary Exhibitors. Note the size and shape of head, gentle rise at shoulder, length of flights and tail, and the 60 degree stance in relation to the perch.*

It was in 1882 or thereabouts that the "Border Fancy Club" was formed.

In Scotland the bird was known as the "Common Canary". Right across the border in England, it was called "The Cumberland Fancy". This bird was bred primarily in the border counties of Dumfries, Roxburgh and Selkirk in Scotland. A heated controversy took place at that time between the breeders in Scotland and England. Each country claimed their country as the bird's origin. Finally, both countries decided upon the name "Border". I believe that a controversy still exists as to the bird's origin. But whatever the origin, "Border" is the most popular type canary in the world.

The Border is hardy and easily bred. Although bred mainly for type and show, it is a very good singing pet.

The standards of excellence and scoring points for Border Fancy Canaries are as follows:

POINTS

Head – Small, round, and neat looking; beak, fine; eyes, central to roundness of head and body 10
Body – Back, well filled and nicely rounded, running in almost a straight line, from

the gentle rise over the shoulders, to the point of the tail; chest, also nicely rounded, but neither heavy nor prominent, the line gradually tapering to the vent 15
Wings – Compact, and carried close to the body, just meeting at the tips, a little lower than the root of the tail 10
Legs – Medium length, showing little thigh, fine, and in harmony, with the other points, yet corresponding 5
Plumage – Close, firm, fine in quality, presenting a smooth, glossy, silken appearance, free from frill or roughness 10
Tail – Closely packed and narrow, being nicely rounded and filled in at the root 5
Position – Semi-erect, standing at an angle of 60 degrees; carriage, gay, jaunty, with full poise of the head. 15
Colour – Rich, soft and pure, as level in tint as possible throughout, but extreme depth and hardness resulting from colour feeding is not permitted. 15
Health – Condition and cleanliness shall have advantage 10
Size – Not to exceed 5½ inches in length 5
TOTAL 100

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