

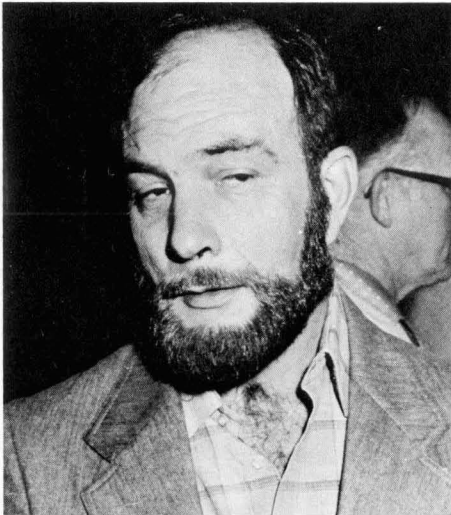
NOTICE

All correspondence intended for the editor of the Watchbird should be mailed directly to his address.

Sheldon Dingle
P.O. Box 340
Norco, CA 91760

From The Editor's Desk

Gentle reader, look around you. You don't see many bird breeders do you? Yet there are twenty million of them out there somewhere. They are lurking in secret darkened cloisters, hovering, protective arms outspread over their few pairs of semi-rare birds. Most aviculturists could pass for heroin smugglers—the same shifty eyes, the same ambiguous mutterings, the same refusal to divulge details.



Note the open, trusting expression on aviculturist H. Richard Mattice. There is not one suspicious bone in his body. Aviculture needs more such outgoing and innocent breeders.

Where are the government-estimated twenty million aviculturists? More important, where are the literally millions of rare and beautiful birds that the government knows have been imported into this country during the last few years? Where did all the Amboina king parrots go? Where are the very rare Pesquets parrots that arrived in California a few years ago? How many have been bred? Where are they now? Of the tens of thousands of African finches that came through quarantine, how many are still alive?

I hope you are beginning to fathom my dismal point. The environmentalists and conservationists know the birds have been torn from the wild and pumped through U.S. quarantine stations. But then what? We say these lucky birds have

found a place in American aviculture and will breed freely so that not a species will be lost. But American aviculture is functioning under a murky cloud, a miasmal mist. All is dark. Not even the aviculturists can see what is happening, much less the environmentalists. As things stand, when the bird imports are finally cut off, the seldom seen, furtive bird breeder will eventually wither and die and dry up in his hidden aviary and such birds as he had left will go likewise belly up.

Who wants American aviculture to end that way?

The time has come when the environmentalists, the conservationists and the aviculturists must all work together. Our basic goals are the same—the preservation of environment and wildlife species. We all know what the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, and the World Wildlife Fund are doing. They broadcast and publicize their work at every occasion. Nobody knows what aviculture is doing. If we are to survive we must change that. When these various groups see for themselves that we are indeed raising birds - that not all of the imported birds are doomed to death - then we will have established the credibility of aviculture.

Fortunately, the A.F.A. has provided precisely the tool for the job. In this very magazine, dear reader, you will find an insert headed **THE AFA ANNUAL BIRD REGISTRY**. It is self explanatory and should be filled out completely by each one of us. It is absolutely essential that a body of data on captive birds be established and the A.F.A. is unquestionably the organization to administer that data.

But you don't want your name known you say. Not to worry, the A.F.A. has always been extremely protective of its members privacy - but the data must be assembled. Even I, your humble servant, the most shifty and elusive of all bird breeders have agreed to fill out the form completely. It is now a question of aviculture dying in obscurity or proving to the world that we are engaged in an honorable and worthwhile endeavor. Please lend your help.

And now, my friends, on to another subject. Several good things came out of the 1980 convention. One of them most affecting the Watchbird is a slight change in policy (much to the satisfaction of our Science Editor Dr. Richard Tkachuck) wherein all articles of a scientific nature will be reviewed first by Dr. Tkachuck and then at his discretion by review panels of two or three experts in the specific field of the article. The experts and the authors will deal with

points of contention before we print the material and hence our scientific accuracy should greatly increase. Dr. Tkachuck always fostered this procedure which is part and parcel of scientific publishing. I, however, in ignorance and haste, occasionally ran an article without regard to procedure. When Dr. Margaret Petrak added her voice to that of Dr. Tkachuck I crumbled. I confess my sins. Henceforth and forever the scientific parts of the Watchbird will be handled by the scientists. Amen.

Now for the heart of this column, the letters. I have, alas, rambled to such an extent with my own mutterings that we have room only for the following.

Dear Editor,

I started breeding birds about three years ago beginning with cockatiels and moved on to red-rumps, Bourke's rosellas, and some conures. I feel I have had enough success with them that I am now ready to start raising some endangered species and do a very small part to help keep some kinds of birds from extinction.

I wrote to several breeders whom I knew to be raising scarlet-chested and tourquoisines I was surprised to find that most of the people were in the business of raising them for the profit of it. Some breeder's prices were fifty percent higher than others. I feel that many breeders have a total disregard for the purposes of the Endangered Species Act which is for the captive breeding of the birds to increase their numbers - not for someone to make a nice profit on them.

The average person like me cannot afford over a pair or two of these birds if any at all. Several of the breeders contacted are connected with the A.F.A. in some capacity. They seem to contradict what the A.F.A. supports.

In conversation with a friend who is a congressional aid I mentioned this subject. He said that some groups want the captive breeding endangered species rules to be made even tighter because many breeders were in it for the profit more than anything. He also said that these groups wanted endangered species raised by non-profit organizations only or to put all foreign birds on the endangered list to eliminate the chance of a big profit to be made on just a few birds.

If we cannot show the federal government that we are serious about propagating endangered species then I feel the privilege of breeding them will be taken away. We can show the government how serious we are by selling our surplus endangered birds for the expenses involved in breeding them plus a

fair price for the time spent working with them.

My friend the congressional aid concurs with my beliefs and said the breeders should wake up to the facts.

R. Wyatt — Falmouth, Kentucky

My dear Mr. Wyatt, your concern is commendable but your philosophy is flawed. Please allow me to express my opinion on the various points you raised.

You first point out the birds you have been successful with (and my congratulations on that success). If sir, you have been successful you must surely have had a surplus of young birds to dispose of. If you gave them away we have nothing to talk about, but if you sold them you have some money in your pocket. Why not use that money to buy three pair of turquoisines? Although we have twenty or so pairs of turqs I am easily confused regarding prices. It seems to me, though, that recently fledged birds go for about \$100.00 apiece. For a measly \$600.00 you can buy three pairs which should give you a fair start. Surely your successful birds have earned you \$600.00 above your expenses.

Your second point is that various breeders were raising endangered birds for a profit. Quite so, sir, but tell me, can you think of a stronger motive? What in the world is done for no profit? Who is willing to spend time at something that is unprofitable? We live in America, my friend, where the free market has made us great. The market operates for a profit or it fails. The only entity that continues to operate at a loss is the government and it takes money from the profit-makers by force. Refuse to pay your taxes and learn what I mean.

When you say that some breeders offer their birds at twice the price of others why not say some breeders sell their birds for half the price others ask? A free market economy tends to pull the prices of any commodity down. No sane person would spend \$200.00 for a bird he could get for \$100.00. There are enough scarlet-chested and turquoisines around that you can shop for the lowest prices. Some of the other endangered birds (some pheasants for instance) are even less expensive. Some of the very rare birds, on the other hand, are quite expensive because of the law of supply and demand.

Now I should like to inform you about the Endangered Species Act. It is designed to protect birds and other animals whose wild populations are quite low. It is a vehicle for control. It gives the government authority to monitor and regulate the wild populations. It can

help prevent smugglers and dealers from raping the wild populations for the various bird markets. In other words, no endangered birds can be handled without the government's great eye observing all that goes on. The law does not specifically encourage or discourage breeding of the birds already in captivity. The birds in captivity are private property and were even before there was an endangered species regulation. To my mind, captive endangered birds should be treated exactly the same as any other captive bird. A breeder should raise as many top quality endangered birds as he can - and he should make a profit at it. I guarantee you, sir, that if a hundred years ago it had been profitable to raise Carolina parakeets we would still have them in our aviaries.

Regarding your congressional aide friend. He is either poorly informed or he is a witling. To my knowledge, no group opposes breeding captive endangered species based on the profit thus made. If there is such a group its philosophy borders on dementia. Any one in this country who opposes the profit motive doesn't understand what made America great and doesn't know how the world works. Ask your friend how many non-profit organizations consistently produce a product that is for the betterment of mankind. What, my friend, does the largest non-profit outfit in the country (the government) produce that can't be gotten better and cheaper on the free market? Nothing, sir, nothing.

Please believe me, I greatly respect your feelings about excess profits. No one is less aware of bird prices than I am. No one is worse than me about squeezing the last cent out of a bird. Many times I have given birds away. I have loaned out innumerable birds and forgotten where they went. If my wife didn't handle the bird deals I don't suppose the operation would make seed money. But then my needs are easily satisfied. As long as the fences and gardens are in order and the greenhouse functions and the swan pond is clean, and the banks of the aviaries are well tended, and the kennels are kept up, and the koi pond is clear, and the rare palms and orchids grow, and my man performs his chores, why ask for more?

Now as I think of it, though, I have thought about putting a polo field somewhere on the east acreage. Hmmm. Perhaps a few prices could be lifted a bit. After all, even you, dear fellow, must agree that we shouldn't all join the ranks of the bootless and unhorsed.
Ed.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED RATES — \$5.00 minimum charge for 4 lines of type (average 7 words per line). Additional charge of 9¢ per word for ad running over 28 words. (28 words to include name, address and phone.) All copy to be **RECEIVED BY 10th** day of month preceding publication. One inch boxed ad - 58 word maximum — \$12.00.

SOFTBILLS—shama thrushes, dyhal thrushes, lilac-breasted rollers, speckled mousebirds, green wood hoopoes, touracos (captive raised). Also—hartlaub's touracos, brazilian cardinals, diademed tanagers, striated tanagers, purple and yellow tanagers, white crested laughing thrushes, red and white crakes, gold fronted leafbird. Jim Fouts, Fouts Zoological Co., Box 148 Halstead, KS 67056, (316) 835-2236, 835-2149.

FINCHES—African - Violet eared waxbills, blue breasted, black cheek, green and grey singers, combassous, red-headed aurora, strawberry, lavender, cordon bleu, silverbills, nuns, orange cheek, fire, cuthroats, bronzewing mannakin, pintail and paradise whydahs. Australian - owls, tri-colored parrot, red headed parrot, stars, societies, zebras, chestnut breasted, cherry, gouldians, hex grass. South American - crimson pileated. Jim Fouts, Fouts Zoological Co., Box 148 Halstead, KS 67056, (316) 835-2236, 835-2149.

"LIV" Protein Food Concentrate source of all vital amino acids plus vitamins, minerals, lipids. Feed "LIV" to chicks right up to maturity for improved health and vigor. You see more beautiful plumage. Diet booster. Just sprinkle "LIV" or mix with usual diets. Farm & Wildlife Products, P.O. Box 6231 Elmwood Park Station, Omaha, Nebraska 68106. Dealers wanted.

AUSTRALIAN PARAKEETS—for the serious breeder -rosellas: golden mantled, stanleys, pennants, blue, adelaide, yellow, green-princess, rock pebbliers, barabands, bourkes, elegants, many-colored, red and yellow red rumps, red and yellow kakariki, banards, red and yellow blue bonnets, kings, swifts, rose-breasted. Jim Fouts, Fouts Zoological Co., Box 148 Halstead, KS 67056, (316) 835-2236, 835-2149.

WANTED—toucans, any species, write or call with species, sex, price, will trade for any other birds we list. Also toucanets and aracarís. Jim Fouts, Fouts Zoological Co., Box 148 Halstead, KS 67056, (316) 835-2236, 835-2149.

Triton Cockatoos—breeding age pair, excellent health \$3500.00 Don Hayes, P.O. Box 26456, Tempe, Az. 85282.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: 1 pair Emerald Toucanettes. Call Frank Stowell, (714) 298-7811, eves.

Macaw babies: Blue & Golds \$850.00 each, Green Wing \$825.00. Beautifully feathered, excellent condition, hand tame. (216) 493-0560, Monday - Friday, 4-8 p.m.

Stanley, Lineolated, Plumheads, all raised in our aviaries. Mealy surgically sexed male, 1 yr. Caiques pr. surgically sexed black headed. Feathered Folly, 2275 Belding Dr., Palm Springs, Ca. 92262 714-325-9325

Rose-breasted cockatoos. 1980 hatch. Handfed, very tame, intelligent and responsive to attention. Beautiful coloring, healthy and they talk. Charlotte Tamaki, P.O. Box 865, Nipomo, California 93444, (805) 489-7730.

I am seeking correspondence with other owners of hawk headed parrots. Want to start an information exchange. Please write Larry Ring, Box 221, Davis, Ca. 95616.

For sale: vinaceous ring doves, cape doves, green wing doves, socorro doves, Florida ground doves, bronze-wing pigeons, grey jungle fowl hens. Perry Candianides (805) 643-0912. Ventura, Ca.

Super tame handfed greater sulfur crest (triton) baby. Hatched 2 June 1980. Call Vic (503) 643-4925.

Blue Princess of Wales from the outdoor aviaries of noted European aviculturist Josef Dexler. Aviary bred Australian kings, cloncurrys, 28's (green), guaranteed split blue princess and possible splits also available. Young birds, guaranteed pairs. Walter J. Willoughby, P.O. Box 22, East Windsor Hill, Ct. 06028. Tel: (203) 528-7296.

FALLOW COCKATIELS. First time this new mutation offered. Limited number for sale, \$400.00 each. Irma Vowels, 14551 S.W. 26th St., Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 33325, (302) 472-6436.

RECYCLING SEED DISPENSERS for wild birds, cages, aviaries indoor or outdoor. SASE for free brochures: Nature-Life Co., R-15, Box 763-L, N. Ft. Myers, Fl. 33903, (813) 995-4679.

Selling out exhibition breeding stock - canaries & budgies (English), 30 frills \$2200. - 12 norwich \$1000. - 18 red factors \$500. - 30 columbus fancy \$1500. Lot only - special for all \$5000 - budgies - mixed colors - lot of 50 - \$1250. - lot of 100 - \$2200. English show stock. 30 pacific single breeders, chromed. A. Chandler (213) 454-6971, P.O. Box 54, Pacific Palisades, Ca.

BABY CATALINA MACAWS: Hatched May 1980. SCARLET-CHESTED PARAKEETS: Sexed \$250 pair. PAIR TRITON COCKATOOS \$2000. WANTED: Red factor canaries male 1979-80. Yorkshire pairs. Saul G. Fruttero (213) 799-3533.

1980 hatched lutino ringnecks, rock pebbles, penants, crimson wing, mustache, princess, scarlet chested, red rumps. Also: grand eclectus M, 1 pr. orange winged amazons, surgically sexed pr. yellow collared macaws, surgically sexed pr. African greys. Ralph & Betty Woodbridge, Waterford, Ca. (209) 874-2176.

INVESTORS WANTED, for new breeding bird farm, cockatiels, doves, lovebirds, parakeets \$5000-\$10,000 investment. Returns double or more. Farm located in California. Future plans include 1650 aviaries—50 holding pens, shipping building, much more. (213) 538-2076 evenings only.

Eclectus - male, adult \$800.00. Green Magpie \$300.00. (714) 926-3618.

Hatched in my aviary & handfed. NOT QUARANTINE. All under 4 mos. Blue & Gold, Military X Green wing, & Catalina macaws. Umbrella & Citron cockatoos. African greys. Quality, not quantity. Mickey Hensel, Rt. 1 Box 222, Kankakee, Ill., 60901, (815) 932-9631. S.A.S.E.

For sale—1 pr. Cuban melodious finches \$300.00 Also adorable A.K.C. lhasa apso puppies, \$250.00 each. Lois Nelson, Escondido, Ca. (714) 741-8272.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED RATES — \$5.00 minimum charge for 4 lines of type (average 7 words per line). Additional charge of 9¢ per word for ad running over 28 words. (28 words to include name, address and phone.) All copy to be **RECEIVED BY 10th day of month** preceding publication. One inch boxed ad - 58 word maximum — \$12.00.

Cockatiels 1980 hatch - normal \$25., pied & albino \$45., ½ English parakeets, 3 young orange wings in excellent health \$85. ea., trade for breeding pairs. Rod Hug (707) 539-3413.

1980 hatch rosellas, per pair: Mealy \$400.00, Golden Mantled \$175.00, Stanley \$350.00, also Pennant, Adelaide, Rock Pebbles, Barrabands, Ornamental pheasants. Ed Benhardt, Reardan, Wash. 99029. Phone: (509) 796-5001.

GOULDIAN STAR FINCHES SHAFTTAILS

CHESTNUT-BREADED MANNIKINS

And other types. Excellent quality, raised here. Terry Dunham (813) 527-0252. Weekends or after 7 p.m. E.S.T.

For Sale: Rare Green Conure (Aratinga holochlora, pictured page 38, June/July '80 Watchbird). Approximately 2 years old, price negotiable. Richmond, Virginia (804) 262-9219.

RARE FINCHES—DUSKY TWINSPOOTS, BLACK-BELLIED FIRES, CRIMSON SEED-CRACKERS. FOR SALE OR TRADE. Richard Schmidt, 708 Sneed Rd., Franklin, Tenn., 37064, (615) 646-0105.

For sale: Galah, Swift, Cloncurry, Browns, Barnard, 28 (green), Port Lincoln, Green Rosellas, Baraband, Rock Pebbles, Hooded, Red Vented b.b., Narethae b.b., Kings, Yellow and Blue Ringneck, Hooded. Wanted: Leadbeater Cockatoos. Josef Schumacher, Hermann Lons Str. 3, 5204 Lohmar 1 West Germany. Tel: 02246/7847.

MACAWS: Blue and Golds, babies and breeding age green wings, militarys, young yellow collared and severes, proven breeding African greys, 2 pairs of greater sulphur crested cockatoos, moluccans, amazons -young, baby baby African greys. Call or write for prices. Hoffman's Aviary, Rt. 1 Box 294 A, Kings Mountain, N.C., 28086, (704) 867-8629.

For Sale: Albino Ringnecks, Lutino Elegant, Yellow Turquoisines, Lutino Personata's Brown's Cloncurry's, Hoodeds, Roseate Cockatoos and Leadbeaters. Exchange other rare birds. J.J. Postema, 9511 RC Gieterveen, Veenackers 4, Holland. Tel: 05990-48382.

RINGED WARBLING-FINCH, female wanted to pair with our male in our planted aviary. Call (609) 799-1934 or write P.O. Box 702, Princeton Jct., N.J. 08550.

MELBA FINCHES, aviary-raised related pairs, in trade for your aviary-raised exotic finches. Call (609) 799-1934, or write P.O. Box 702, Princeton Jct., N.J. 08550.

SUPER BIRDS LTD. is a breeding farm and brokerage. Fertile macaw eggs and surgically sexed macaws always available. Resale birds—amazons, cockatoos, etc.—are cultured, wormed and fat before being sold. Wholesalers make money with our birds because 100% live or are replaced. Find out why. (305) 461-6484.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Hand-raised cockatiels, conures (Suns, Jendays, hybrids), Bare-eyed cockatoo. Surgically sexed Scarlet macaws, Sun conures, male Jamaican yellow bills. Need: Females for Red-fronted macaw, Golden Mantle rosella, Pileated and Salvadori's fig parrot. Greg J. Harrison, DVM, 5770 Lake Worth Rd., Lake Worth, FL 33463 (305) 968-4929.

SUN CONURES: Tame handfed baby Blue Head Pionus, African Grey, Grand Eclectus, Yellow Napes, etc. all hatched in our aviary. Jo Hall, Thorndale, Texas. (512) 898-2552.

FINCHES—cordon blues, silver bills, lavedars, green singers, cut throat, red ears, sparrows comgassou, manakins, etc. Normal and fancy zebras, U.S. bred. Any quantity, any time call for prices and availability. Hoffman's Aviary, Rt. 1 Box 294 A, Kings Mountain, N.C., 28086, (704) 867-8629.

FOR SALE: Cockatiels & Lovebirds. Southern California breeder has many mutations for sale year round. Minimum order 25 birds. Jobbers inquiries invited. Canyon Acres Aviary, P.O. Box 1802, Escondido, CA 92025.

J & R Parrot Ranch is offering for sale: Hand-fed Yellow Napes \$450, Baby Blue & Gold Macaws \$750, and many more fine birds. Send SASE for list. 11217 Pala Place, Mira Loma, CA 91752, (714) 685-5118.

COCKATIELS: breeders and young, U.S. raised. Will ship. Normals, peds, pearlys, cinnamons, pearly peds, whites, lovebirds, canaries, mynah birds, finches. Call or write for prices and availability. Hoffman's Aviary, Rt. 1 Box 294 A, Kings Mountain, N.C., 28086, (704) 867-8629.

FOR SALE: Lady Gouldians in full color, all birds colony-bred in outside aviaries. Arthur Schultz of Escondido, California. (714) 745-1290

For Sale: Domestically-raised, May 1980 imports from noted South African avicultural veterinarian: Parakeets (Crimson-winged, Elegants, Blue-winged, Barraband's); Sun Conures; Rose-breasted Cockatoos. Greg J. Harrison, DVM; 5770 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth, Fl. 33463 (305) 968-4929.

PROBLEMS WITH FINCHES is a booklet designed to assist every finch breeder in keeping finches in good health and in handling daily problems with them. All common problems in maintaining finches are covered. Order direct from the author \$9.50 postpaid in North America. Add \$1.00 for overseas airmail. Robert G. Black, Route 10, Box 131-B, Franklin, N.C. 28734.

CATALINA MACAWS & UMBRELLA COCKATOOS. Handfed babies, cuddly. Hatched in my aviary. Brilliant colors. Mickey Hensel, Rt. 1 Box 222, Kankakee, Ill., 60901, (815) 932-9631.

FLIGHT PHOTOS of waterfowl, shorebirds, doves, sandgrouse, ibons, and swifts. Slides, \$1.50 each, or \$1.25 for 4 or more. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for list to: Grutek, 2229 Tulane Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815.

SOUTH FLORIDA BIRD FARM

4444 S.W. 74th Ave., Miami, Fla. 33155 • (305) 264-7108

SUN CONURES

\$350.00

PARROTS

Orange Wings - - - - -	\$75.00
African Greys - - - - -	\$299.00
Double Yellow Head - - -	\$255.00
Red Head - - - - -	\$110.00
Blue Fronts - - - - -	\$150.00
Yellow Napes - - - - -	\$450.00

COCKATIELS

Normals - - - - -	\$25.00
Pied - - - - -	\$39.00
Whites - - - - -	\$45.00
Pearl - - - - -	\$38.00

CONURES

Dusky - - - - -	\$37.50
Mitred - - - - -	\$38.00
White Eyes - - - - -	\$33.00
Nanday's - - - - -	\$25.00

FINCHES

Zebra's - - - - -	\$4.50
Societies - - - - -	\$7.50
Star - - - - -	\$35.00
Lady Gouldians - - - - -	\$48.00
Paradise Whydahs - - - -	\$17.00
White Hooded - - - - -	\$8.50
Melba - - - - -	\$19.00
Black Hooded Nuns - - - -	\$8.50
Spice - - - - -	\$8.00

MACAWS

Severe - - - - -	\$135.00
Young Blue & Gold - - - -	\$599.00
Yellow Collared - - - - -	\$135.00
Tame Scarlets - - - - -	\$1,250.00
Tame Buffons - - - - -	\$975.00
Green Wings - - - - -	\$850.00

LOVEBIRDS

Black Mask - - - - -	\$39.00
Fischers - - - - -	\$35.00
Peachface - - - - -	\$32.00

QUANTITY PRICES AVAILABLE

WE SHIP NATIONWIDE F.O.B. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL
TO PLACE YOUR ORDER, PHONE (305) 264-7108

Limited
supplies
available

Send for your free, up to date, price list.



