

# NOTICE!

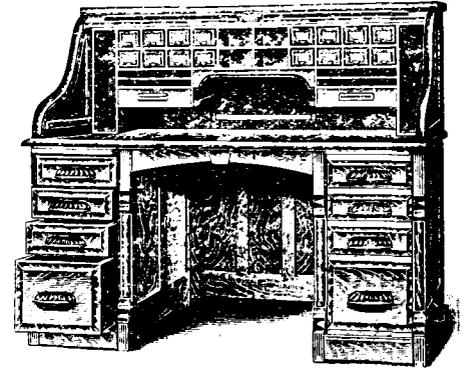
Due to raising costs of everything,

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(\$2.50 plus 50c handling for a single copy or back issue.)

## From The Editor's Desk

by Sheldon Dingle



If you have any complaints regarding the last issue of the Watchbird please direct them to your humble servant, S.L. Dingle. During the publication of that issue I was in the process of moving. Those of you who know how absent-minded and unorganized I am can envision the chaotic disaster that resulted.

For a month now I've been in the new home and still haven't found my desk. The last thing anyone remembers is me raking the papers and books off of it prior to the move. Sooner or later, no

doubt, one or another of the mountain of packing boxes will shift and expose a corner of the desk and we'll know where to excavate. Until then, however, I'll assume full responsibility for whatever confusion creeps into the "Watchbird".

The other evening while pondering the whole mess I was rummaging around the pocket of my smoking jacket looking for a match to light my pipe (the one that was in my mouth during the move - I can't find the others) and I came upon the following letters.

### MOVING?

Please send us your new address so you won't miss your next issue of Watchbird.

NEW ADDRESS: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

OLD ADDRESS: Name \_\_\_\_\_

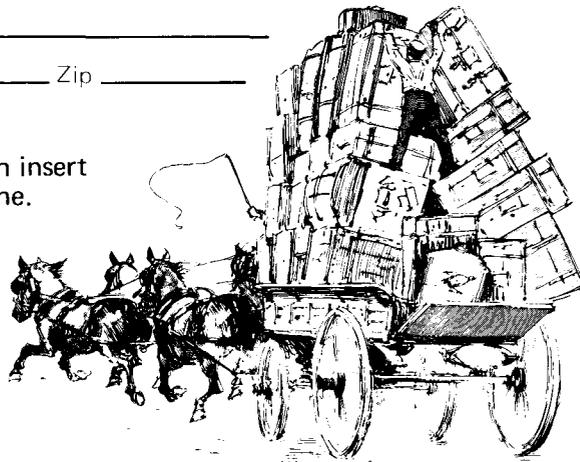
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City \_\_\_\_\_

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See tear out form on insert sheet in this magazine.

Mail to:  
A.F.A. Change of Address  
P.O. Box 1125  
Garden Grove, CA. 92642



Dear Sir:

I have recently purchased four pairs of finches. My hopes are to breed my little friends in my home aviary. Having exhausted the local library and learning almost nothing about the habits and needs of my three species of finches, I am requesting any information you may have that would be useful in my project.

J.B. Shirley  
Annapolis, MD

*In Maryland there are at least two bird clubs that belong to the A.F.A. Those clubs are listed in the front pages of this magazine. If you contact the delegates listed I'm confident they will introduce you to other aviculturists in your area and you can learn first hand about how various finches are handled in your part of the country.*

*I'd offer some personal advise but I can't find any of my finch books right now. I'm not quite sure where my finches are either.*

Editor



Dear Editor:

I have two short questions and my thanks for the content and quality of the A.F.A. Watchbird.

First, what is the Auk? In several articles this publication is mentioned or footnoted — the latest being the April/May 1977 issue on page 7 following Mr. Rae Anderson's excellent summary of Indian Ringneck breeding expectations. I'd like to learn more on the subject and would like to find the Auk.

Second, can I obtain April/May covers (Indian Ringnecks) without staples or fold? Or, as an alternative would you inform Ms. Salan, the photographer, of my interest?

Thanks,  
R.W. Moye Jr.  
Van Nuys, CA

*The Auk is a quarterly publication of the American Ornithologists' Union. Oliver Austen Jr. is the editor and it is published by the Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C. 20560. The publication is devoted to all subject areas of research regarding birds. The price per copy is \$3.50 but you can usually find the Auk in any large library or university.*

*Regarding the Ringneck cover, all of our Ringneck pictures are wrapped around the April/May copies of the Watchbird. Unfortunately this includes folds and staples. I understand your anguish, for occasionally I find a particularly interesting centerfold that has staples in the most inappropriate places.*

*In your case Ms. Janee Salan is working out a solution. She has plans to provide the picture suitable for framing. You can contact Ms. Salan at P.O. Box 957, West Covina, California 91793.*

*In my case my wife won't let me work on a solution although I've come up with some excellent ideas.*

Editor

Dear Mr. Dingle:

In the April/May 1977 issue of the A.F.A. Watchbird you replied to an inquiry about a previous publication, "Aviculture" erroneously.

To begin with, your comments about contacting your "oldest" friends and then the "more ancient folks" might have struck a sensitive nerve of some of the senior aviculturists in the country.

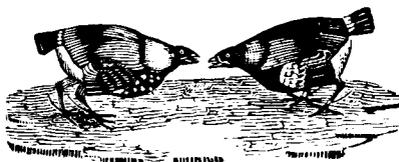
Evidently you did not do your homework thoroughly by contacting someone from the era preceding the "ancient folks" and I am certain that you have survivors of that period still active in California. Mr. Ganey was correct that a publication called "Aviculture" was printed in LA. In the 1930's and perhaps the 1940's this was the official publication of the Avicultural Society of America.

In reference to the Avicultural Bulletin, you are correct in stating this is the present publication of the ASA. I joined the ASA about 1940 when they still published a fine bulletin. I'm not sure why the publication ceased but in a mimeographed list of members distributed around 1952 I noted that I was the only member not a resident of California so I dropped my membership. I had the impression that one or more of the officers squandered or mismanaged the treasury shortly after WW II. But I can't be certain that statement is correct. Please note the copy of the front page of a 1938 issue. I have about 100 issues dating back to 1930 or earlier.

Sincerely,  
Eugene E. Woehler,  
Madison, Wis.

*Many thanks for your very informative letter. If you ever move to California I can guarantee you a job as chief historian on the Watchbird staff. Our current man is rather prehistoric and a bit negligent regarding his homework.*

Editor



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## THE PERILS OF BUYING IMPORTED BIRDS *contd from page 16*

been thoroughly cleaned and properly disinfected. No visitors should be allowed.

(Some clubs may want to consider such a quarantine facility as a club operated project.)

If the above best method is impossible, then quarantining the birds for at least a month on an isolated part of an aviary premise is in order as next best. Here, again, a separate attendant, who has no contact with other birds, separate equipment, and "off-limits" to everyone else are required. This separate attendant can be a member of the family who will take care of the quarantined birds during the isolation period, shower each time after taking care of them, and who will stay completely away from the aviary proper during this time.

If the aviculturist must take care of the quarantined birds himself, either on the separate premises or on an isolated part of his aviary premises, he should do this last after taking care of all of the needs of his aviary. This is much less satisfactory than any of the two previous procedures and he must be meticulous in seeing that no possible contagium is carried from the quarantine facility to the aviary proper.

Nothing must be taken from the quarantine facility. Disposable head wear, coveralls (long sleeves preferred), and rubber boots (high enough to tuck coverall legs in) should be used when servicing the quarantine facility. After service, boots should be cleaned and disinfected, inside and out, with an approved disinfectant on leaving and left there for next day's use. Remove coveralls only in clean plastic bags for laundry before reuse. Wash hands, fingernails and arms in disinfectant, take a shower and wash hair, and dress in clean clothes before returning to the aviary proper.

The least satisfactory form of isolation would be in quarters (a separate room) not apart from the aviary proper. If this is the only way possible, strictly following the instructions in the paragraph above may possibly help to avoid spread of contagious disease if such disease should exist in the newly purchased birds.

To buy new birds from any source and put them directly into the aviary is asking for trouble and sooner or later trouble will occur.

The purchasing of new birds, especially imported birds, will always be accompanied with risk.

## THE VET'S CORNER Parasitic Diseases *contd from page 29*

applied, this system may be easier, but it may not be 100% effective. The dosage of the drug is critical and a slight overdose will kill. For this reason, I won't publish the dosage in this sort of general article. If you still want to try it, I will tell you how to proceed personally. It should also be repeated several times.

Some experienced breeders swear by the use of hargate spray. I have only word of mouth confirmation of its effectiveness, but it is worthy of consideration.

IV. Mosquitoes, flies, lice and fleas are insects which may carry several kinds of diseases, including parasitic, bacterial, and viral, in addition to causing damage by themselves. If it is at all possible to exclude these insects from the environment, many problems may be avoided, such as malaria and canary pox.

Unfortunately, there is no single procedure or drug which will solve all of your problems. Each parasite has its own peculiar habits and susceptibilities and must be approached with full knowledge of its weaknesses. Your own veterinarian can often be very helpful to you in achieving and maintaining a parasite free flock. You will also find many fine books and magazine articles on the subject which will help you.

### READING LIST

- Petrak, Margaret L., *Diseases of Cage and Aviary Birds*, Philadelphia, Lea & Febiger, 1969.
- Hofstad, M.S., *Diseases of Poultry*, Ames Iowa, The Iowa State University Press, 1972.
- Schrag, L., *Healthy Pigeons*, Obersteinhausen 66, West Germany, Verlag L. Schober Hengersperg 1974.
- Davis, John W., *Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of Wild Birds*, Ames, Iowa, The Iowa State University Press, 1971.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**CLASSIFIED RATES** — \$3.00 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 15th day** of month preceding publication.

**FOR SALE:** Exquisite hand crafted furniture, quality parrot stands — \$105. Also handmade wire work, decorative cages for the discriminating bird — \$250. Limited number of the new *Parrots of the World* book — \$35. Marcy Hula, 5824 Parfour Ct., Decatur, GA. 30038, (404) 981-4232.

**FOR SALE:** Canaries — \$17.50. Cockatiels-gray, \$25.00, Pied, \$50.00. All birds are close banded, sexed and healthy. Southwest Aviaries, 281 Luna Chaparral, New Mexico 88021. (505) 824-4814.

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**FOR SALE:** TWO FINE BOOKLETS to help with care and training of Cage Birds. "Raising Parakeets for Pleasure and Profit". "Raising Canaries for Pleasure and Profit". \$3.00 each — or both for \$5.00. Mrs. A.D. Myers, 6076 — 82nd Terrace, Pinellas Park, Florida 33565.

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**LIVE MEAL WORMS** encourage breeding, provide natural vitamin-packed nutrients for growth and development. Fun to hand feed for taming! Wholesale to Club Members: 5000 @ \$9.25; 10,000 @ 17.50, 20,000 @ 32.00. Handy cups of 500 in bran only \$15.60 per dozen. **SO POOL YOUR ORDERS!** Call tonight (714) 298-5678 until 7 p.m. Olympic Meal Worms, Dept. A.F.A., Box 2500, La Jolla, CA. 92038.

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**FOR SALE:** Guaranteed accurately surgically sexed and tattoo identified African Greys, \$850. per pair. Also, sexed Macaws and other birds — prices on request. Arcadia Resaca Aviaries, P.O. Box 1933, San Benito, TX 78586. Phone (512) 399-7187, Michael Coffey, M.D.

**FOR SALE:** 1 Rainbow Lorikeet. \$150.00 or other offer. Bernard C. Feldman, 1601 1/2 E. Oakland Ave., Bloomington, IL 61701. (309) 829-8297.

Books on Birds and other wildlife. FREE 30 page catalog listing over 800 wildlife books. "We supply wildlife professionals around the world" ZOO BOOKS, 520 N. Dixie Hwy, Hollywood, FL 33020.

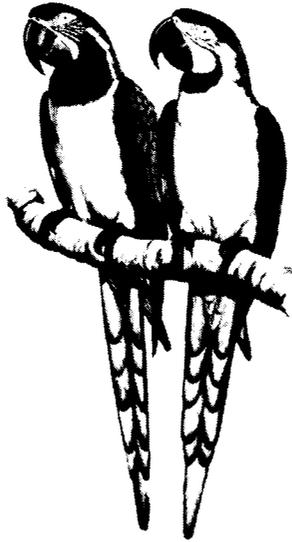
**FOR SALE:** BUDGIES, Exhibition Type; CANARIES, Columbus Fancy Crested & Crest/Breds, Red Factors. Arlene Chandler, PO Box 54, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272. (213) 454-6971.

**WANTED:** NORWICH CANARIES. "PARROTS OF THE WORLD" Original Publication. Arlene Chandler, PO Box 54, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272. (213) 454-6971.

**FOR SALE:** 3 to 5 month old normal cockatiels. \$45.00 each. 10% discount for orders of 10 or more birds. Twin Oaks Bird Farm, Rt. 3, Box 114A, Chandler, Okla. 74834. Phone 1-405-258-2791.

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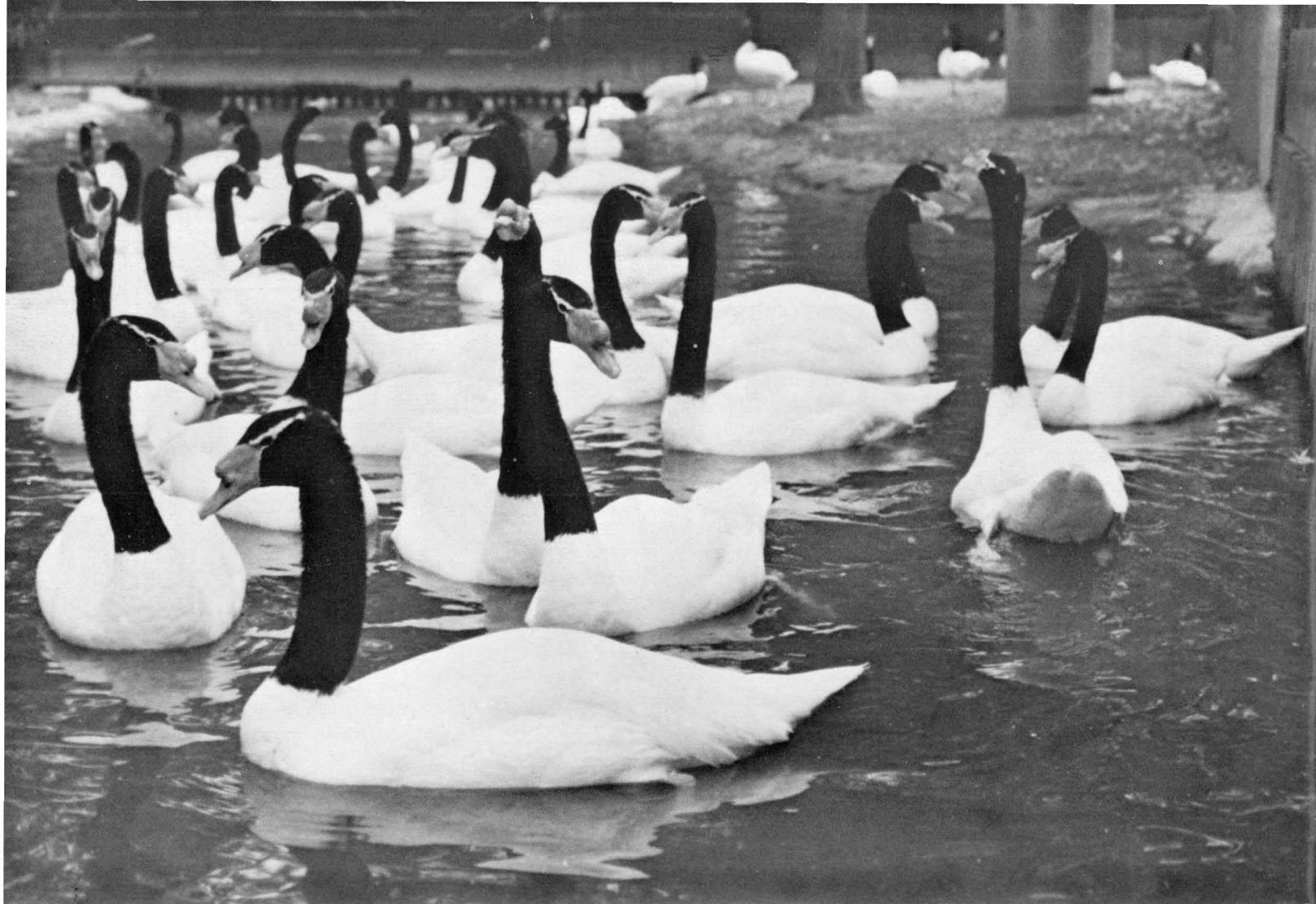
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