

tant lofts are so affected by the change of climate or conditions under which they are kept that it is impossible to get them to work like those bred at home, and yet used as stock birds the same unreliable birds may produce youngsters better even than your own stock. Many valuable birds have been put on the road and lost at short distances, and I believe the reason is the change of locality has affected them, not that the blood was no good.

I have had the opportunity of trying many birds bred in other States, and the majority have proved worthless from a racing point of view, and yet some of these useless ones have bred stock to hold their own in any country.

I seem to have switched off the track somewhat in these notes, and will go a little further off by referring to stock birds. What I want to say is—Beware of the old birds. Many fanciers stick to the same stock birds, past their prime, for the reason that they have bred good birds when younger. I say treat with suspicion anything over 5 or 6 years of age, especially hens. A good old cock, mated to a 2 or 3 year old hen, may prove worth experimenting with, but it seldom pays with an old hen.

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ADVERTISEMENT NOTICES.

Mr. W. A. Hockey, of Jamestown, South Australia, advertises in this issue his 1920 breeding list, consisting mainly of a very fine collection of Vassarts and Grooters, got together at very great expense. Mr. Hockey went direct to

the fountain-head to get his stock, and it will not be possible this year to obtain youngsters from the original Vassarts that were lately owned by Ashton-Hansen, as they are now the property of Geo. Oldham until the end of the present season, when they will be permanently added to the A.R.P. lofts, and no youngsters will be sold from them during the present season. We therefore strongly advise intending purchasers to get in touch with Mr. Hockey as soon as possible. It is from the second generation that best results are obtained from imported birds. In strongly recommending the Vassarts we are advising confidence we possess ourselves. The above-mentioned arrangement re the original Vassarts proves this.

Mr. V. A. Ryder, of Auckland, New Zealand, is offering, through our columns, birds that have already proved their quality. His splendid successes show that he has got the right blood; it is not an unknown quantity, but a proved fact. New Zealand fanciers have no need to import from Australia when good proved birds like these advertised are available. The prices are very small. It is only lack of loft space that necessitates these birds being offered.

VINCENT A. RYDER

Chairman Northern Racing Pigeon Club, Auckland, N.Z.

WINS LAST OLD BIRD SEASON.—

Gold Medal, Ohakune; 1st. Ohakune; 2nd Ohakune; 3rd Ohakune; 1st Palmerston Yearling; 2nd Palmerston Old Bird Championship, 3rd Te Awamutu.

WINS LAST YOUNG BIRD SEASON.—

Gold Medal Taumaranui; 1st Taumaranui; 2nd. Taumaranui (43 minutes ahead of any other bird).

Special medal, 1st, 2nd prizes, Special Pool and Special Cheque, Young Bird Derby, Ohakune; 3rd Te Kuiti; 3rd Huntley, and 6th and 8th positions in Palmerston North Championship.

A FEW CHOICE WINNERS FOR SALE.

In order to reduce my loft, I offer an exceptional chance for enterprising fanciers to purchase, not just homers, but actual winners, at reasonable prices.

I do not offer unflown birds at fancy prices, actual results can only warrant a fair price, and as I am in the fancy for a hobby, not a money-making concern, somebody is going to be pleased with their bargains, and incidentally obtain birds at a reasonable price which have brains and energy, and which should be flown again to win.

Short pedigrees given here to save space.

1. "Storm," B.C. Cock, A.F.C.371, strain Marmion. Won 1st Christchurch (475 miles), Gold Medal Palmerston North (245 miles). Price £2.

2. "Empress," B.C. Hen, 115, Clutterbuck. Won 2nd Palmerston Yearling (245 miles), flown Christchurch (475 miles). Price £2.

3. "Kismet," Blue Bar Cock, ARP19. 5282, 2nd Derby Race, Ohakune (180 miles), flown Palmerston North. Off Nos. 1 and 2. Price £2.

4. "Radium," R.C. Cock. NRPC279. 14. Osman. 1st Palmerston North; 2nd

Ohakune; 2nd Te Kuiti (season 1918); 2nd Ohakune, and only bird home Wellington Championship smash (308 miles) on the day, unfortunately homed to his old loft, too late to clock in. Price £3.

5. "Sky Pilot II," NRPC19.1035. R.C. Cock. 3rd Te Kuiti Young Birds (104 miles), son of my crack "Sky Pilot I," winner of 1st Ohakune, first series, and 3rd Ohakune, second race. Strain Osman. Price £2.

I have also twelve young birds off the above birds; they need no fancy phrases, every one is a good, well-bred bird, all flown 245 miles. Price £1 each

With all birds purchased, I send full pedigrees, and photos of their parents, certified by our worthy Club Secretary.

Squeakers—only a very limited number may be booked from my lofts, deposit, 10/-, balance 10/-, on delivery.

All birds f.o.b. securely caged, fed and watered by first available steamer.

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