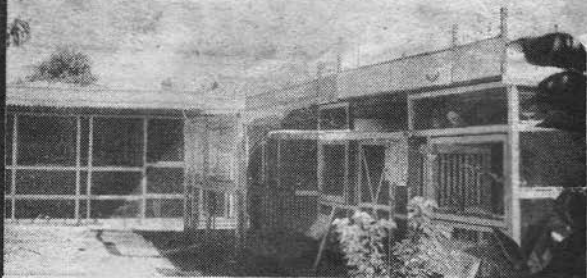


# PIGEON NOTES



## Gordon Allan

SA Pigeon Union chairman Gordon Allan, 49, is an accomplished owner and breeder, as well as a top administrator.

Gordon and his wife Dorothy last season trained the winners of nine races.

Their successes came over a variety of distances.

Dual wins from Pinnaroo, Carrieton and Mittyack were followed by Temora, Morundah and Tarcoola victories.

The Allans won the Millswood points for the second successive year.

In 1971 they took top position in the union aggregate points.

However, not all their racing has been with the union.

When flying with the SAHPA in 1962 the Allans took out second place in the derby.

Shortly after their marriage, Gordon and Dorothy moved to live at Black Hill.

They returned to Adelaide about 17 years ago and took up the sport two years later.

Their loft was established with birds from the loft of West Torrens flyer George Downer.

They have since produced winners with these birds, and others from the loft of former Millswood and Colonel Light Gardens flyer Bill Lindner.

Bill, Gordon's uncle, gave him a good hen which formed a successful breeding basis.

A cockbird bought from Ron Colner (former South Suburban and Hyde Park owner) and hens from the lofts of Warren Moyle (Union 1972-73 aggregate winner) and Vin Blanden (Skyline-Cont.) have completed the foundation.

Warren Moyle gave the champion hen to Dorothy — adding weight to the old saying that the most valuable



stock birds in a loft are generally given, not bought.

The Allans flew in association races with West Torrens and Hyde Park and this year when union, combine and association joint events are held, many old acquaintances will be renewed.

Gordon and his wife start each season with about 90 race birds.

Dorothy takes care of the chores around the loft when her husband has to work. She keeps a close eye on training and feeding schedules.

The birds' diet consists mainly of wheat and peas, with small seed on the birds' return.

They are trained around the loft each morning between 45 minutes and 1½ hours. If they are not working around the loft they are taken once a week for a training toss.

All racebirds are spelled over the week-end.

The Allans place a great deal of store on training and treatment of pigeons, saying that success must follow if owners look after their charges properly.

Good foundation stock is another key pre-requisite.