

Pigeon Notes

By Vin Blenden

Life membership of the SA Homing Pigeon Association was conferred on Messrs. L. P. E. Smith and Juttner last week.

The award was made in recognition of services rendered to the association by Mr. Smith and Mr. Juttner over a long period.

Mr. Smith began racing pigeons in 1905 and since then he has devoted his life to pigeon keeping in all of its forms.

After 60 years of intense study of all varieties he is acknowledged as one of the best judges of most breeds in Australia.

Apart from country shows, Mr. Smith has adjudicated at Royal shows in every State of the Commonwealth except WA. Vice-president of the association for many years, he has proved himself a willing helper at all times.

On the racing side of pigeon keeping, Mr. Smith has amassed a fine record in competitive events. Perhaps his greatest feat was the winning of the hard 540-mile Oodnadatta race in 1954.

Mr. Juttner is ring secretary of the association, an office he filled for eight years prior to his present term.

He also acted as clock chairman for the SAHPA for several years and although his health prevented him from taking part in races over much of

this time, he was always present to conduct clock proceedings on setting and race nights—there are few whose interest is so great that they will still work hard for the sport when they are not actually competing.

Mr. Juttner scored his only win in a major event when he won a Marree race more than 10 years ago.

DILUTE COLORS

B. P. Townsend, Nairne Club, was interested in last week's reference to dilute colors, particularly the fact that dilute colored offspring can result from a mating of two blue colored birds.

Mr. Townsend reports that he has produced duns from blue parents two years in succession. In the 1965-66 breeding season one dun was bred from a pair of blue che. parents.

He mated a blue che. daughter back to her sire this season and produced three duns—the same male has sired duns during the past two seasons. Jurion is included in the bloodlines of these birds and it is almost certain that the Whitfield is on one branch of the family tree.

The late Harold Taylor once related the Whitfield story and gave the reason for the strange red and dun colors which emerge from time to time in matings of this family.

The original Whitfield hen, an ordinary red che. was imported from Whitfield of England by Ferrier of Sydney. This hen was later sent to Adelaide and then to Bessen Bros. at Freeling where she was mated to a Mealy Taylor Jurion cock.

The progeny included a blue was later called "hen".

It was not until then was paired with Ferrier's C. the peculiar C.

Mr. Taylor today's "Whit" not emanate from Whitfield but from the Jurion male.

Hundreds of races have been won with descendants of this famous pair.

Arnold Smallacombe's "choe" winner, of 1st SAHPA Bendigo, is one which easily comes to mind.

In fact, there would not be many long-distance winners of note without a trace of this blood in their pedigree.

SHOW

Here is the schedule for the SA Canary and Pigeon Society's fixture to be held at Wayville next Tuesday night: Working

Homer (black or black che.); Carneau (red); King (AO); Mondain; Swallow (blue); Pouter (black); Carrier (black); Show Homer (blue che.); Dragoon (blue bar); Jacobin (black); (faint); Magpie (black); U.P. Tumbler (black); Helmet (black); Blondinet (black L.); Sabinette; Turbit (black); Owl (black, white).

SF Beard (black); SF Tumbler (almond, dero); Suabian; German Beard (black); Tippler (dark mottle); Archangel; Modena Sobiette (argente, magnani); Modena Gazzi (red, yellow); Trumpeter; Saddleback (black).

Result:—Race from Tarlee, 417 miles, Vitesse Club (17, 120). C. W. Kolenberg, 1 hr. 13 min. by J. Hayes. 23 sec. C. W. Kolenberg, 1.13.35 G. Johnson, 1.14.41. Special nomination: Wristlet watch won

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Regulate Clocks

Clocks should be regulated to keep as near as possible to true time if the owner is to provide a consistent record.

Clocks which vary considerably, although keeping within the allowed limit, can produce a re-sult seconds either way off the correct time. The assumption that if a clock has gained or lost 48 seconds in 24 hours, it has gained or lost two seconds every hour from starting is erroneous as any test will prove.

Clocks which gain or

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lose considerably over a period can vary a lot from hour to hour and the more a clock is allowed to fluctuate, the more the chance of a spurious result.

Such clocks can be an asset one next, but in any case, the best interests of the owners and the sport, they should be regulated to a minimum of gain or loss.

Clocks which gain or lose only a few seconds in 24 hours are those most likely to give a true record. Reports of heavy losses suffered in racing flights from over the hills have already come to hand.

Murky conditions due to the recent wet weather have not helped the inexperienced young birds to find their way and owners persist in taking chances over certain that losses will continue.

Despite what may be said to the contrary, very few birds are capable of surmounting bad weather at this time of the year. Ninety per cent. have not completed the moult, and because of seasonal conditions, no young birds have had time to become used to flying in the rain.

Most of their exercise around the loft has been done in clear conditions and it takes more than a few days for them to accept the wet winter weather.

If they are tossed from over the hills, and meet with poor visibility due to rain or fog before they have had time to adapt themselves to it around home, losses are bound to result.

Race Results

Country clubs desirous of having their results included in this column are requested to forward same to me at 153 Third avenue, Royston Park 5070, so that they are received no later than the Friday following each event. This service is open to all country clubs providing they comply with the request. Late results will not be included.

The following particulars are required:—

(1) Name of club. (2) Racepoint. (3) Distance. (4) Date. (5) Number of owners and number of birds competing. (6) First, second and third owners. (7) First, second and third velocities.

Example:—Owen club, from Bend, 70 miles, 25/5/68. Ten owners, 76 birds. J. Brown 1.42.1; R. Jones 1.41.8. L. Smith 1.41.6.

Items of interest, such as outstanding performances of individual owners and birds should also be included. Vitesse. From Murray Bridge 30 miles, 4/5/68 (14, 134).—R. Hawke 1 hr. 5 min. 18 sec.; B. Sells, 1.55.21; R. Hawke, 1.56.34.

Club News

The Port Pirie Homing Society programme of 24 races opens on June 1 and ends on October 12.

The patron is Mr. W. Blight, chairman. Mr. A. McDonald, vice-chairman. Mr. K. Saint, and the secretary Mr. K. A. Partridge, 10 Major road, Port Pirie 5540, SA (phone 290).

The programme is as follows: June 1, Two Wells and Boonah; 8, Two Wells and Boonah; 15, Pimba; 22, Tallm Bend; 29, Parachilna; July 6, Tallm Bend; 13, Kingoonya; 20, Keith; 27, Marree; August 3, Keith; 10, Kingoonya; 17, Keith; 24, Edward Creek (derby); 31, Horsham; September 7, Edward Creek; 14, Horsham; 21, Oodnadatta; 28, Horsham; October 5, Oodnadatta and Maryborough; 12, Pimba and Benalla.

The SA Pigeon Union advises that it will hold a novelty race from Bowmans or Redhill on May 18.

Union members are asked to patronise the race as the proceeds will go to the SAPU funds.

Shows

The SA Fancy Pigeon Society

keeping with other similar bodies overseas. However, this was the only issue ever printed.

"Blue Cheq" kept a complete record of performance bloodlines of famous pigeons. As those seeking facts and figures in relation to individual champions both in SA and elsewhere, a confirmed student of pedigree, there were few noted strains in the world, of which the ancestry was not known by him. So highly was he respected that he had access to most of the successful lots in SA including such notable as H. A. Taylor and C. G. Kennett.

During his most successful years on the competitive side of the sport, his loft housed many of the best birds, obtained from his friends.

His famous Orbest winner, clocked at 4.55 p.m. second day (Nov. 8, 1930) was mostly, if not all the great "Black Diamond" blood of Cliff Kennett. Only two of 106 birds completed this event in race time, with Miners Bros. taking second prize at 2 p.m. on the day.

One of the Diamond blood came from the Richardson loft produced many fine winners for other owners in er years.

Concentrating mainly on long-distance racing, "Blue Cheq" almost won the Goulburn race flown on November 22, 1929, which was taken by J. P. Trezona's famous "Lone Hand".

Three of 83 birds competing finished in race time with Mr. Richardson leading clock at 6.45 p.m. second day and Mr. Trezona with "Lone Hand" in the clock at 6.50 p.m.

George Jeanes finished third at 5 p.m. on the fifth day. Although he had a number of minor placings from Alice Springs to his credit, the major prize eluded him until 1957, shortly before he retired from the sport.

pion of the year award. He gained this distinction in 1929 with the total of 68 points—he needed a good one from Goulburn to take the honors, and got it.

Despite his inactivity over the past decade, "Blue Cheq" has left his mark to such effect—his record of service and achievement will fill a major part in SA pigeon racing history for all time.

Young Grass

Used as the greens in the diet, young grass is considered superior to lettuce, cabbage and silver beet. It is at its best, nutritionally, at about four to six weeks after sprouting.

In comparison with lettuce and the other usual greens, it contains about 19 p.c. solids against between five and six p.c.

It is rich in chlorophyll and has about 24 p.c. protein.

Pigeons will eat it with gusto if it is plucked by the hand and cut into about 1/4 inch lengths with scissors.

Result

Vitesse, from Callington, 30 miles, April 20, (16.179)—B. Cameron 1 hr. 17 min. 27 sec.; B. and K. Bowen 1.18.25, E. and K. Bowen 1.18.33.

Cricket

CARRINGTON—Grand final—Eurelia 6/791 (Maloney 61. Hombach 40; Reid 3/33) d Carrington 189 (B. Williams 116. Hombach 32; P. Manning 3/43).

STANLEY—Grand final—Blyth 364 d Mintaro 194 (G. Mitchell 54; E. Muggie 4/8. J. Eckerman 3/53). E. Muggie made 184 runs and took 4 wickets for 8 runs