

Aug 57

BUDGIE NEWS



Budgerigar
Council of
Australia

"A V I A R Y W A L K"

JOHN BARKER
5 PEARCE STREET,
SOUTH CAULFIELD.

* * *

SPECIALISING IN SALE OF . . .
HIGH CLASS BUDGERIGARS
FROM PRIZE-WINNING STOCK.

* * *

AVIARIES OPEN FOR INSPECTION WEEKENDS.

* * * * *

ALL BIRDS ARE OWN RUNG
AND BRED ON OUR PREMISES.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME

TELEPHONE: LF 4127

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BUDGIE NEWS

No. 2

AUGUST, 1957

EDITOR:

E. R. CARTER,
269 CAMBERWELL ROAD,
CAMBERWELL.

BX 4943

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

THE BUDGERIGAR COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA IS HAPPY TO INFORM MEMBERS OF THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF "BUDGIE NEWS."

I AM SURE MEMBERS APPRECIATE THE WORK INVOLVED IN EVEN SUCH A SMALL PUBLICATION AS OURS, AND THE BURDEN CARRIED OUT SO CHEERFULLY BY OUR EDITOR, TED CARTER.

HE PERFORMS HIS TASK WILLINGLY, BUT TO ENABLE HIM TO DO IT WELL, HE MUST NOT BE STARVED OF SUITABLE MATERIAL FOR EACH ISSUE.

THEREFORE, I APPEAL TO ALL CLUB SECRETARIES AND PUBLICITY OFFICERS TO SEE THAT TED IS REGULARLY SUPPLIED WITH ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST AND NEWS OF CLUB ACTIVITIES.

QUESTIONS FROM FANCIERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, AND AUTHORATIVE ANSWERS WILL BE GIVEN PROMINENT ATTENTION IN THESE PAGES.

LET US ALL, THEN, PLAY OUR PART IN ENSURING THE SUCCESSFUL AND CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION OF "BUDGIE NEWS."

FRANK GARDNER,
PRESIDENT.

COUNCIL MEETING

THE AUGUST MEETING WAS HELD AT THE VIC-MET ROOMS, OWING TO THE TEMPERANCE HALL BEING DEMOLISHED. IT ATTRACTED THE LARGEST ATTENDANCE FOR YEARS, 24 DELEGATES BEING PRESENT.

THE REVISED COUNCIL CONSTITUTION WAS UP TO BE PASSED, BUT AS SOME WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE CONTENTS, IT WAS DECIDED TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON AUGUST 29TH.

APPOINTMENTS FOR JUDGING WERE MR. GARDNER, LILYDALE,
MR. GOLDIE, WARRNAMBOOL.

MUCH OTHER BUSINESS WAS TRANSACTED DURING THE EVENING.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

LAST MONTH THE DATE WAS ANNOUNCED FOR THE UNBROKEN CAP SHIELD AS 16TH. NOVEMBER. ALL ARE ASKED TO TAKE NOTE THAT THIS IS INCORRECT. THE DATE IS NOVEMBER 18TH, AND THE PLACE CAMBERWELL TOWN HALL.

NORTHCOTE ANNUAL SHOW.

IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT DETAILS MISSED LAST MONTH BY ONE DAY. THIS ISSUE SHOULD REACH MOST MEMBERS BEFORE THE SHOW WHICH IS ON SEPTEMBER 7TH. AT THE CLUB ROOMS, GOOCH STREET, THORNBURY. SCHEDULES HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALL SOCIETIES AND THIS SOCIETY IS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON THEIR ACTION OF PUTTING ON CLASSES FOR OPEN, NOVICE, BEGINNER AND JUVENILE, AS WELL AS THE FINCH SECTION. IF YOU ARE NOT EXHIBITING, BE SURE AND GO ALONG AND SEE THIS FINE DISPLAY OF BIRDS.

NEW SOCIETIES.

TWO NEW SOCIETIES ARE ABOUT TO FORM AND TO DATE THE NEWS IS ONLY DAYS' OLD, BUT TO THOSE INTERESTED, THE FOLLOWING IS ALL TO HAND. A SOCIETY IS TO BE FORMED AT CHELTENHAM AND THE INITIAL MEETING IS AT THE RETURNED SOLDIERS' HALL ON AUGUST 29TH. PERSONS INTERESTED MAY CONTACT MR. H. GOLDIE, 4 MIDDLETON STREET, HIGHETT. THE OTHER SOCIETY IS TO BE AT HEIDELBERG AND INTERESTED PEOPLE CAN CONTACT MR. E. CAMPBELL OF THE NORTHCOTE SOCIETY. MORE DETAILS WILL BE GIVEN NEXT MONTH.

ROYAL SHOW.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO ENTER UNBROKEN CAPS AT THIS EVENT, ALTHOUGH THE ADULT SECTION IS CLOSED. INTERESTED EXHIBITORS MAY OBTAIN SCHEDULES FROM THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MAY BE SENT IN FOR PUBLICATION EACH MONTH AND MUST REACH THE EDITOR BY 20TH. OF EACH MONTH. CHARGES: £4.0.0 PER PAGE OR 5/- PER INCH (DEPTH) OR PART THEREOF. CASH TO BE FORWARDED WITH THE COPY.

A WORD TO ALL

RECENTLY THE BUDGERIGAR COUNCIL AMENDED THE NAME CLASSIFICATIONS OF BUDGERIGARS AND EXPECT ALL SOCIETIES AND MEMBERS TO FALL IN LINE. WE REALIZE THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME, BUT A WORD HERE SHOULD ASSIST. THE WORDING OLD BIRDS IS VERY MISLEADING AND PEOPLE AT SHOWS EXPECT TO SEE BIRDS ON CRUTCHES AND IN WHEEL CHAIRS.

THE ADOPTED NAMES FOR BIRDS NOW ARE:

ADULT BIRDS ARE ALL BIRDS OVER THE YOUNG BIRD CLASSES
YOUNG BIRDS ARE CURRENT YEAR BIRDS, HAVING ATTAINED THE PLUMAGE OF ADULT BIRDS. ON THE 30TH. JUNE EACH YEAR, THESE BIRDS, IRRESPECTIVE OF AGE (INCLUDING LATE BREED UNBROKEN CAPS) BECOME ADULT BIRDS.

UNBROKEN CAPS. ON THE 1ST. JULY EACH YEAR NEW RINGS ARE ISSUED. THE BIRDS RING ARE UNBROKEN CAPS UNTIL THE MOULT AT VARYING TIMES UP TO FOUR MONTHS. AFTER THIS MOULT THEY BECOME YOUNG BIRDS.

CLUB NEWS

NORTHCOTE

AUGUST MEETING. ALL BREEDERS ARE BUSY BREEDING, BUT AN AVERAGE BENCHING OF BIRDS WERE HAD. THE JUDGE WAS MR. E. CAMPBELL. THIS BEING HIS FIRST TEST IN OPEN COMPANY AFTER HEADING THE AGGREGATE OF POINTS AT THE COUNCIL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION. ALL WERE IMPRESSED WITH HIS COMMENTS ON THE BIRDS. NINETEEN NEW MEMBERS WERE ENROLLED AT THE MEETING. NEXT MEETING 11TH. SEPTEMBER AT THE WENCLIFF HALL, GOOCH STREET, THORNBURY.

AWARDS: BEST ADULT BIRD - MR. G. ROBERTS
 BEST YOUNG BIRD - MR. G. ROBERTS
 BEST UNBROKEN CAP - MR. J. MASTERS
 BEST CAGE BIRD - MR. G. HAYWOOD

HAWTHORN DISTRICTS

AUGUST MEETING ATTRACTED A FULL HOUSE. THE MAIN ATTRACTION BEING A LECTURE ON BREEDING MANAGEMENT BY MR. A. BUGG. THIS PROVED AN EXCELLENT TOPIC AND HE GAVE IT HIS VERY BEST AND WAS ONE OF THE BEST TALKS HEARD FOR MANY A DAY. MEMBERS RESPONDED WITH QUESTIONS WHICH WERE PROMPTLY ANSWERED. THIS HELPED TO MAKE AN ENJOYABLE EVENING. IT WAS DECIDED TO RESUME OUR XMAS. SOCIAL IN DECEMBER. THIS WAS A FEATURE A FEW YEARS AGO. A SOCIAL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO CONDUCT THIS EVENT.

CORIO BUDGERIGAR SOCIETY

THE MONTHLY MEETING AND CLUB SHOW HELD IN THE TRADES HALL, MYERS STREET, GEELONG WHICH IS THE NEW CLUB ROOM, THE OLD ROOM BEING TOO SMALL NOW. A GOOD ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS WAS HAD AND A GOOD SHOW OF ADULT COCKS AND ADULT HENS. THE AUGUST MEETING ATTRACTED A GOOD MUSTER OF MEMBERS. THE JUDGE FOR THE NIGHT, MR. J. HARKEW, HANDLED 50 BIRDS TO THE SATISFACTION OF ALL. THE BIG ATTRACTION WAS THE SCREENING OF THE COUNCIL BUDGIE SLIDES. MR. W.C. NILIKIE, THE HON. SECRETARY, GAVE A LECTURE ON BIRD SLIDES TO THE SATISFACTION OF ALL PRESENT.

THE BEST BIRDS: ADULT COCK - VIOLET COCK - G. FARRAR.
 (ALSO BEST IN BLUE SERIES)
 ADULT HEN - CLEAR WING BLUE - J. ROWE
 BEST IN GREEN SERIES - G. FARRAR.

WESTERN SUBURBS

THE EVER-INCREASING POPULARITY OF THE BUDGERIGAR WAS FURTHER ENHANCED ON THURSDAY 22ND. WHEN THE NEW WESTERN SUBURBS BUDGERIGAR & CAGE BIRD SOCIETY HELD THEIR AUGUST MEETING IN THE CLUB ROOMS, C. OF E. HALL, PAISLEY ST., FOOTSCRAY. AN ATTENDANCE OF 137, INCLUDING 18 NEW MEMBERS AND 86 BIRDS BENCHED WAS PLEASING, AND FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 26TH. SEPTEMBER WHEN UNBROKEN CAPS AND ADULT BIRDS WILL BE SHOWN, THE CLUB EXPECTS TO ECLIPSE THIS TOTAL. THE JUDGE FOR THE NIGHT WAS MR. RAVEN, WHO COMMENTED FAVOURABLY ON THE BIRDS AND GAVE A SHORT TALK ON SCALY BEAK AND ITS CURE.

HIS FINAL AWARDS WERE: BEST HEN - MR. WILLS. CLEAR WING GREEN
 NOVICE - MR. ROWE. GREEN
 OPEN - MR. FARRAR. COBALT
 JUNIOR - MASTER HUNTER. YELLOW.

THE KEEN BUYING OF SHOW CAGES AND A BUREAU ORGANISED BY THE CLUB FOR THE BUYING AND SELLING OF BIRDS BETWEEN MEMBERS WAS POPULAR, ALSO THE ELECTION OF MR. JOHN CLARKE, THE (PIED MAN) AS A DELEGATE TO THE BUDGERIGAR COUNCIL.

VICTORIAN-METROPOLITAN

VIC-MET. HELD ITS MONTHLY MEETING AT TOBRUK HALL, VICTORIA ST., ALBERT PARK ON 19TH. AUGUST, MR. G. MITCHELL PRESIDING. WHILST MR. WHITTAKER JUDGED THE BIRDS, MR. GARDINER GAVE MEMBERS A MOST INSTRUCTIVE TALK ON "SELECTIVE COLOR BREEDING." THROUGH "BUDGIE NEWS" VIC-MET. WOULD LIKE TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION OF THE FINE WORK THE PANEL JUDGES ARE DOING PER MEDIUM OF LECTURES AND JUDGING OF BIRDS THROUGHOUT THE VIC. CLUBS. THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE NIGHT'S JUDGING BY MR. WHITTAKER WERE AS FOLLOWS:

OPEN	-	C. BUSH	LUTINO
NOVICE	-	J. DON	L. YELLOW
JUVENILE	-	MASTER BROWN	GREY WING COBALT
HEN CLASS	-	MRS. MULLIGAN	L. YELLOW

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING A SILENCE OF ONE MINUTE WAS OBSERVED IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MR. L. MATTHEWS, A LIFE MEMBER OF THE CLUB AND A NOTED CIVICULTURIST. THIS NEXT MEETING OF THIS CLUB IS ON MONDAY, 16TH, SEPTEMBER. ADULT BIRDS - UNBROKEN CAPS - HEN CLASS - ALL WELCOME.

BAYSIDE CLUB

MORE THAN 120 FANCIERS GATHERED AT ST. JOHN'S HALL, BIRCH STREET, SOUTH CAULFIELD FOR THE AUGUST SHOW MEETING. A VERY INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL LECTURE IN BUDGERIGAR FEEDING WAS GIVEN BY MR. H. GOLDING. A LIBRARY HAS BEEN STARTED WITH A LIBRARIAN. THIS SHOULD DEVELOP INTO AN EXCELLENT ASSET FOR THE CLUB. MR. F. DORHMAN, AS JUDGE FOR THE EVENING, DID HIS FINAL JUDGING OVER A MICROPHONE AND EXPLAINED THE REASONS FOR HIS DECISIONS. THIS METHOD PROVED INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE TO ALL IN ATTENDANCE.

AWARDS: OPEN OLD BIRDS - F. MOSS. UNBROKEN CAP - F. MOSS
 NOVICE OLD BIRDS - J. SKEPPER. UNBROKEN CAP - P. SKEPPER
 JUVENILE OLD BIRDS - R. THOMPSON. UNBROKEN CAP - R. THOMPSON

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH..

MANY THANKS TO THE SOCIETY PUBLICITY OFFICERS FOR PROMPT NEWS OF THE MEETING RESULTS. NEXT MONTH'S NEWS MUST BE WITH ME BY SEPTEMBER 27TH.

EDITOR.

"BIRDIE" WRITES

BIRDIE IS A MAN WHO WISHES TO DEVOTE HIS PEN TO HELPING THE FANCY IN GENERAL. HE WILL GIVE YOU HINTS EACH MONTH. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HEAR YOUR PROBLEM AND ANSWER THEM SO THAT HE CAN PASS IT ON TO OTHERS IF ANY MEMBERS KNOW OF ANY PRODUCTS WHICH WILL BENEFIT OUR FANCY, LET HIM KNOW AND HE WILL PUT IT TO TEST AND LET YOU KNOW THE RESULT. ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO "BIRDIE", c/w BUDGIE NEWS.

GREENS

GREENFOOD AND GRASSES CONTAIN MINERALS AND TRACE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE BIRDS. I FIND IT IS BEST TO OFFER IT EARLY IN THE DAY, NOT LATE AT NIGHT, SO THAT THE BIRDS WILL FILL UP ON CANARY AND MILLET BEFORE DARK. IF GREENFOOD IS OFFERED LATE IN THE DAY, SOME OF THE BIRDS WILL HAVE EMPTY CROPS BEFORE MORNING.

PLUCKING

I HAVE OFTEN BEEN ASKED ON WHAT COURSE ONE CAN ADOPT WHEN A HEN PLUCKS HER YOUNGSTERS. THE BEST PLAN IS TO MOVE THE CHICKS TO OTHER NESTS WHICH CONTAIN YOUNGSTERS OF ABOUT THE SAME AGE. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, AND THERE ARE NO MORE THAN FOUR CHICKS AFFECTED, THEY CAN BE LEFT IN THE NEST BOX AND THE OFFENDING HEN REMOVED. IN MOST CASES THE COCK WILL REAR THEM SATISFACTORILY. ANOTHER COURSE, IN CASE THE COCK WILL NOT FEED THEM, IS TO RUB COD LIVER OIL ON THE CHICKS, AND IN SOME INSTANCES THIS WILL DETER A HEN FROM FURTHER PLUCKING. IF THE YOUNGSTERS ARE AT LEAST THREE WEEKS OLD, THEY CAN BE

TAKEN FROM THE NEST BOX AND LEFT ON THE CAGE FLOOR.
BUT LEAVE THEM WITH PLENTY OF SEED HUSK (DEEP LITTER)
TO KEEP THEM WARM.
NO DOUBT MANY FANCIERS HAVE HAD FEATHER-PLUCKING
TROUBLES, SO PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE EXPERIM-
ENTED IN THIS DIRECTION SUCCESSFULLY.

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN THE NEST

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A NEST-FEATHER BIRD IS PLENTY OF
WIDTH BETWEEN THE EYES; THAT IS A BROAD SCULL.
SECONDLY, I LIKE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OVER THE EYE,
ESPECIALLY IN YOUNG COCKS. SIZE OF BODY IS ALSO
IMPORTANT; IN FACT, YOUNGSTERS CAN AFFORD TO BE A
TRIFLE FAT, BECAUSE MUCH IS TAKEN OUT OF THEM WHEN
THEY MOULT.

IT IS REMARKABLE HOW SOME BIRDS ALMOST COMPLETELY
MATURE WHILE THEY ARE STILL IN THE NEST BOX. OTHERS,
WHICH MAY TAKE TWELVE MONTHS OR MORE TO DEVELOP FULLY,
IN SOME CASES NEVER APPEAR ON THE SHOW BENCH UNTIL
THEY ARE ADULTS, AND THEN THEY SEEM TO DO A LOT OF
WINNING.

I BELIEVE THAT MOST LUTINOS IMPROVE WITH AGE, NOT ONLY
IN SIZE BUT ALSO IN COLOUR. A NUMBER OF YOUNGSTERS
APPEAR TO BE ONLY MODERATE IN QUALITY UP TO THE MOULT
AND THEN THEY BLOSSOM FORTH INTO EXHIBITION SPECIMENS.
FOR THIS REASON IT IS WISE TO KEEP ALL BIRDS WHICH
HAVE NO MAJOR FAULTS UNTIL THEY HAVE REACHED MATURITY.
VERY SMALL YOUNGSTERS OR NARROW-HEADED ONES CAN BE
SOLD AS PETS.

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ADVICE FROM "BIRDIE"

I'M SURE THAT WHATEVER COLOUR WE GIVE UP WE SHALL ALWAYS
HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR THESE BROWN-WINGED BIRDS - THE
CINNAMONS.

DON'T MIX CINNAMONS WITH LUTINOS. I'VE TRIED IT, BUT IT
MAKES THEIR COLOUR TOO PALE. DEPTH OF COLOUR IS NEEDED
IN LUTINOS, AND THE CINNAMON TENDS TO LIGHTEN ALMOST ALL
COLOURS. DON'T INTRODUCE CINNAMONS INTO ANY NORMAL COLOUR
IF YOU WISH TO KEEP THEM PURE. THEY ARE SEX-LINKED, AND
THEY WILL SOON CAUSE A STRAIN OF, SAY, LIGHT GREENS TO
PRODUCE CINNAMONS IN NUMBERS GREATER THAN YOU REQUIRE.
(BUT TODAY I HAVE YET TO FIND ANY PURE BIRDS. WHAT WITH
DIPPING INTO OPALINES TO GET SPOTS - OR SO WE THINK - AND
DIPPING INTO CINNAMONS FOR FINE TEXTURE OF FEATHER, WE CAN
EXPECT ALL KINDS OF COLOUR IN ANY BIRD WE BUY AS AN
OUTCROSS. BUT STILL, WHO CARES AS LONG AS THEY BREED
QUALITY?) DON'T WORRY ABOUT BODY COLOUR IN CINNAMONS;
IT'S OFTEN DARKER IN COCKS THAN IN HENS - THAT APPLIES TO
WING MARKINGS TOO.

CARE OF THE BIRDS IN THE BREEDING CAGE

THE BREEDING SEASON IS THE MOST INTERESTING TIME OF THE YEAR FOR BUDGER-
IGAR PEOPLE. IT IS THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION (AT LEAST BY THE BIRDS
ANYWAY) OF FORETHOUGHT AND PLANNING, PRIOR TO PUTTING THE BIRDS INTO THE
BREEDING CAGE, AND THE HOPES OF THOSE IDEAS AND PLANS CRYSTALLIZING INTO
SOMETHING AFTER THE SEASON HAS FINISHED AND THE SHOWS ARE UNDER WAY.
ALTHOUGH THE MOST INTERESTING, IT IS ALSO ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT
SEASONS OF THE YEARLY CYCLE.

THERE IS, OF COURSE, PRE-NATAL CARE AND AFTER CARE, ESPECIALLY OF THE YOUNG IN THE FORM OF TRAINING FOR THE SHOW BENCH. HOWEVER, WHAT WE WISH TO DISCUSS HERE IS THE CARE DURING THE BREEDING SEASON. MOST OF US HAVE OUR OWN IDEAS ON CARE, AND THESE IDEAS ONLY CHANGE WHEN WE LEARN SOMETHING BETTER, EITHER BY READING OR FROM PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. IT IS HOPED HERE THAT WE CAN ASSIST SOMEONE, AT LEAST, DURING THE BREEDING SEASON.

FIRSTLY, THE BIRDS MUST BE KEPT WARM. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT OUR AVIARY BIRDS BREED EARLIER THAN THE WILD ONES AND ALSO THAT THE WILD BIRDS HAVE A WARMER, DRIER, CLIMATE THAN THAT EXPERIENCED IN THE SOUTHERN PARTS OF VICTORIA. WE MUST ALSO SEE THAT THE BIRDS ARE KEPT FREE FROM DRAUGHTS BUT HAVE PLENTY OF AIR. THE NEST BOX IS AN ENCLOSURE WITHIN A BIRD ROOM, BUT THE HOLLOW LOG IN WHICH THE WILD BIRDS BREED IS, IN ITS NATURAL STATE, A DRAUGHT FREE COMPARTMENT THAT NOT EVEN THE RAIN PENETRATES, ALTHOUGH IT IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE ELEMENTS.

SOME OF US ALWAYS USE SAW-DUST IN THE NEST BOX RIGHT FROM THE VERY START. IT SEEMS THAT THE HEN LIKES TO PREPARE THE PLACE FOR HER YOUNG AND DELIGHTS TO SCRATCH AND THROW THE STUFF ALL OVER THE PLACE. SHE WILL ALWAYS GET RID OF IT ALL BEFORE SHE LAYS, BUT IF SHE WERE NOT DOING THIS SHE WOULD BE TEARING THE NEST BOX TO PIECES WITH HER BEAK AND STILL SHUFFLE AROUND TO GET THE PIECES OUT OF THE NEST BOX. A GOOD TIP IS TO PLACE A PIECE OF BARK ABOUT THE SIZE OF A MATCH BOX IN THE NEST AS SOON AS YOU PAIR UP THE BIRDS. THIS WILL KEEP HER MIND OFF THE ACTUAL NEST. IT IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO SPRINKLE SOME D.D.T. POWDER UNDER THE WOODEN PLATE IN WHICH THE CONCAVE IS SHAPED. THIS HELPS TO CONTROL VERMIN.

AFTER ALL THE YOUNG ARE HATCHED, SOME BREEDERS ADVOCATE THE USE OF SAW-DUST IN THE NEST UNTIL THE SECOND BATCH OF EGGS ARE LAID. THIS HELPS TO KEEP THE NEST BOX CLEAN AS THE DIRT AND SO FORTH CAN BE CLEANED OUT EVERY DAY WITH THE SAW-DUST MAKING IT EASIER TO CLEAN. IN THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THE BIRDS CAN KEEP THEMSELVES CLEAN WITHOUT ANY HUMAN HELP WHATSOEVER.

BECAUSE OUR CULTIVATED BIRDS ARE UNABLE TO ROAM THE WILD OPEN, IT IS UP TO US TO SEE THAT THEY GET AS MANY AS POSSIBLE VITAMINS AND MINERALS THAT THEY WOULD RECEIVE IN THEIR FORMER STATE. TO OVERCOME THESE DEFICIENCIES, EACH OF US DO IT IN DIFFERENT WAYS TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND THOUGHTS.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO SEE THAT THEY GET A REGULAR SUPPLY OF GREEN FOOD. SEEDING GRASSES ARE THE BEST AND THERE ARE PLENTY AROUND DURING THE BREEDING SEASON. IT IS KNOWN THAT SOME BREEDERS GROW GREEN FOOD PARTICULARLY FOR THEIR BUDGERIGARS AND THUS HAVE AN ALL-ROUND-THE-YEAR SUPPLY AVAILABLE. SILVER BEET, LUCERNE AND EVEN SALT BUSH, WHICH IS A NATURAL PLANT TO THE WILD BIRDS, ARE GROWN, TO MENTION A FEW.

A LARGE NUMBER OF US SUPPLY EXTRA LITTLE TIT BITS TO THE BIRDS IN THE BREEDING CAGE. OF COURSE, SHELL GRIT IS NEVER FORGOTTEN, BUT LITTLE EXTRAS LIKE A PIECE OF CHARCOAL FOR ITS POTASH CONTENT, A LUMP OF ORDINARY SALT, OR BETTER STILL, IODISED SALT SPRINKLED OVER THE SEED ONCE OR TWICE A WEEK, A LUMP OF MORTAR OR CUTTLEFISH FOR THE LIME, ONE EXTRA FOOD THAT IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE NOTICE OF US ALL IS COD LIVER OIL, MIXED WITH THE SEED ONCE OR TWICE A WEEK. THIS HAS THE SAME EFFECT ON THE BIRDS AS IT HAS WITH HUMANS, AND HELPS TO BUILD UP THE SYSTEM AGAINST WINTER CHILLS, ETC.

ONE MUST NOT FORGET THE ORDINARY SEED WHICH FORMS THE BULK OF THE DIET AT ALL TIMES. A MIXTURE OF SEEDS SUCH AS PANNICAN, PLAIN CANARY SEED, JAPANESE MILLET, AND OTHERS SHOULD BE FED BY THE BREEDER ACCORDING TO HIS KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT THE BIRDS LIKE. SOME BIRDS LIKE ONE SEED IN PREFERENCE TO ANOTHER AND IT WILL BE NOTICED THAT BIRDS LIKING FOR DIFFERENT SEEDS WILL CHANGE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. CANARY OATS SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN BUT SHOULD NOT BE FED AS REGULARLY AS OTHER SEEDS UNLESS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

BEGINNER.