Sir.—On reading your article in the B.H.W. regarding Gurnays, an article in Fred Shaw's book regarding the coloured Gurnays would interest your American friend. According to F. Shaw. Gurnay was the runner in his youth for Hansenne and by doing this service he was rewarded by the gift of some of Hansenne's birds.

The late Gurnay purchased a bird before 1912 which had won 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the National by 30 minutes for Paul Verhove

This bird, when paired to a blue Gurnay

hen bred Old Raye (Old Mealy).

Old Raye was a good racer and breeder. being sire of Illustrious Rave, fifteen 1sts, and Bon Rave 1st Angouleme, 1st San Sebastian. and others. He was also grandsire to F. Shaw's Champ. Picture. W. BREWER

Winton, Bournemouth.

NOVICES' SOCIAL CIRCLE

By " Chairman "

I HAVE been asked if I will give my opinion of the Vandevelde strain of

pigeons. Some years ago my old friend Bill Swingler almost VANDEVELDES specialised in Vande-

veldes. He described them as "greyhounds of the air," and truly they were up to about 350 miles, and when crossed with another good long-distance strain, they were just as fast at any distance. They are inclined to be long-casted, a good length of wing and not very broad across the chest. My friend said there was nothing to and not very broad across the chest.

My friend said there was nothing to
beat them up to 350 miles.

I visited Vandevelde's loft about

I visited Vandevelde's loft about 20-odd years ago. He was an excellent fancier and kept a nice team of pigeons. Members of the Lancs. Social Circle visited his loft, and Vandevelde gave them some pigeons which they drew lots for. I believe it was the late Frank Battersby who got the best bird, which was named Napolean, and I believe a Blackpool fancier eventually got him. I understand that Napolean has been responsible for breeding some really outstanding pigeons. I do not has been responsible for breeding some really outstanding pigeons. I do not think our friend need fear introducing some good Vandeveldes. They will win the prizes up to 350 miles, and provide the money to pool the crossed Vandeveldes in the 500-600 mile races. They

the money to pool the crossed Vandeveldes in the 500-600 mile races. They are a most handsome strain.

I used to visit a Mr. Lucas, of Blackpool, who specialised in this strain, and he bred a number of blues and blue chequer silvers and they looked grand. Mainly they have rich red eyes. I believe another Blackpool fancier has now got most of Mr. Lucas's birds.

I recently received a letter from a fancier in U.S.A., about the Gurnay strain. He says: "Beginning about 1918, I purchased birds from Renier Gurnay, and continued to buy some of his better birds for the next seven or eight years. We carried on an extensive correspondence and he told me how he flew his birds under the widowhood system, how he fed during the moult, and also told me a great deal about mating and how to produce, and keep, silky feathers. Many people visited my loft and said they never saw so many heavily silky-feathered birds in one loft, and also so many excellent specimens. heavily silky-feathered birds in one loft, and also so many excellent specimens. At Gurnay's kequest, I sent him grand-children of some of the birds he sold me, he being of the opinion that these birds, raised in a different altitude and climate, would be valuable for him as a cross with his own birds, because while they were of the same strain, it would be almost like introducing new blood into the loft without any ill effects. At times he gave me as presents, several birds, one of which was the champion show bird of Belgium. I did not use any of his progeny for racing, however. It has been said that Gurnay was at one time Hansenne's loft manager and when he left his employ, Hansenne gave him heavily silky-feathered birds in one loft, left his employ, Hansenne gave him

he left his employ, Hansenne gave him some birds.

"I would doubt this as Gurnay was a most successful dealer in linens, laces, etc., and was a well-to-do man. I have read a good deal in your paper about the colour of Gurnay birds, but I have never produced any other than blues, blue chequers, pieds, dark and dark chequers and beautiful bronzes. Gurnay never described a grizzle or a red in any never described a grizzle or a red in any

of his lists. I thought it would interest my readers I thought it would interest my readers to read something about a strain of pigeons which is very popular in this country. When reading over this letter, one thing which is prominent to me, is the item in which it is said that where a pigeon has been in another loft and bred youngsters, these youngsters would be better for a cross than if they were bred in the same loft. If I send a pigeon 1,000 miles or more and he breeds under 1,000 miles or more and he breeds under

different conditions, it would not make any difference in the blood lines; it would amount to inbreeding all the same. Whether inbreeding is good for the improvement, or even to maintain the qualities of a family, is a point which has created many arguments. I always liken inbreeding to a man who is satisfied with his previous achievements and has no intention to make improvements. You cannot stand still either in business or sport, and inbreeding is like standing still—being satisfied. Mark you, crossing can be very dangerous, but in life one has to take risks, and crossing pigeons is certainly taking a risk. I or sport, and inbreeding is like standing still—being satisfied. Mark you, crossing can be very dangerous, but in life one has to take risks, and crossing pigeons is certainly taking a risk. I think introducing a good bird into your colony adds considerably to the interest of the breeding side of our sport, but one has to keep a very careful watch on the results, and of course, the results in the races is the object in view. Breeding a champion—those words are magic words. But very often, despite the great care in choosing a cross, it may turn out to be a failure; then you have to act harshly and destroy everything bred by the new cross. But I say, better to try and fail, than never to try at all. I admit willingly that I have failed more than once during my career as a pigeon fancier, but I have never regretted my actions, and I am still trying to improve my stock.

Judging by my correspondence, and although the weather has been fairly mild for the time of the year, there appears to have been a lot DISEASES of disease among pigeons—roup, one—eyed colds, greasy wattles, tumours, etc., and a fair number of cases of "going light." Most of these diseases are the results of the moult; the pigeons are not robust enough to stand up to the strain of renewing their feathers. It is a great strain on the birds' constitution, and it finds their weaknesses. Tumours are not so serious, they are blood eruptions, and similar to human beings being affected with boils, and the healthiest subjects can be affected in that manner. Roup and one-eyed colds are a sign of degeneracy, and you may look with suspicion on such subjects. Greasy wattles may be caused by a stoppage in the nasal organ; that little thin slit in

Roup and one-eyed colds are a sign of degeneracy, and you may look with suspicion on such subjects. Greasy wattles may be caused by a stoppage in the nasal organ; that little thin slit in the roof of the mouth gets blocked and needs clearing. I have used a strong solution of salt water to clear this trouble, by holding some cotton wool in a pair of tweezers and dipping it into the solution and then thoroughly wiping out all the jelly-like matter in the bird's mouth, paying particular attention to the roof of the mouth and the wattles. I have used the tip of a flight for this operation, by dipping it into the salt water and pushing it into the bird's nostrils, squeezing them slightly at the same time. You can quickly cure greasy wattles if you go about it properly. properly.

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exhiiake a where rest all LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

In your notes, Gurnays are often quoted and it appears that no one is qualified to reply. With reference to your American friend (28th Nov.), I can enlighten him on several points and if any further information is required, I should do my best to reply. By way of explanation, may I say that I threw in my lot with Fred Shaw in 1908 as a boy—a time when he knew very little about pigeons. I was in his employ until 1931 as his right hand man in business and with pigeons. All his loft managers will vouch for this and, by the way, they must be numerous because there was a new one almost yearly until he sold up in 1926. It will probably be a surprise to learn that the great A. H. Turner was his loftman at one period.

However, our American friend wanted in-

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However, our American friend wanted in-formation on Reds. Yes, there were Reds

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but they did not predominate. Fred Shaw started with Gurnays just before World War I. His first pair was a Bronze and Dk. Cheq. The second pair to come over included a Lt. Red Cheq Cock. In 1920/26, after a great The second pair to come over included a Lt. Red Cheq Cock. In 1920/26, after a great friendship had matured between Shaw and Gurnay, we had consignments of 50 and over coming each year for sale. I know that in the first consignment there were two blood reds. I remember, as I arrived with them from the station, several notable fanciers were there to have the first choice. I think my memory serves me correctly when I say that George Greenshields and his brother bought one, if not both the Blood Reds. (These fanciers will perhaps correct me, if I am wrong). Further, Fred Shaw did breed and race a Red Cheq. (In his own book he denied having had a Red in his loft.) Mr. A. H. Turner can probably vouch for this. It was named Cherry, a hen, and actually won 2nd Prize in Hyde H.S. from Granville in a N.E. wind—a gruelling dav.

With reference to Grizzies. Fred Shaw never had any and none ever came over. It is, however, possible to find traces of Grizzle on the Webbing in primary flights. Pieds and Gay Pieds we had in plenty, even as far back as 1916. While Fred was away, I bred from a Bronze Velvet and Dk. Cheq. The result was two pure Whites with just Black saddles. Personally, I have been in—breeding them for twenty seven years and get a fair percentage of Very Gay Pieds. If our American friend wishes to know where they came from, I can explain to him exactly as M. Gurnay explained to us when he was over here.

Reverting to Reds, I myself have only bred

here.

Reverting to Reds, I myself have only bred once since 1926 and, strangely enough, this was not Red in its nest feathers. I had two cocks bred in one nest—one a clean Powder Blue and the other Dk. Blue tinged with Red. Each year after the latter one moulted, it became more red. On looking into pedigrees, I found that its great, great grand sire was one of Gurnays National Winners—Old Raye who was a Strawberry Mealy. I believe the same cock was great grand sire of Picture.

The following information was from M. Gurnay himself when he was over here and told us his life story. To be very brief, he was a Hansenne's runner as a youth being a good athlete and sprinter. Space does not permit all the detail here. Later on, when Gurnay wanted to get ahead and make a

business for himself he tried several things. Finally, he settled as a tailor's merchant, travelling from town to town with a bundle over his shoulder. He was at great pains to tell us how very difficult it was to get business. Incidentally, the cloth he was selling came from Yorkshire. Hence his very great friendship with O.I. Wood (of Young Hawk fame) from Ilkley, who was a cloth manufacturer who raced Gurnays long before Fred Shaw knew a Gurnay. Eventually, in his successful days, Gurnay told us how cusmomers bought his cloth just to get hold of some of his birds! In every respect, he was a very fine man. a very fine man.

W. BROOKS.

Denton, Monchester. EYE-SIGN THEORY

Sir,

I am always interested in your Novices'
Social Circle, and note with respect, your
remarks on the eye—sign theory. My knowledge of birds, both wild and tame, will not
allow me to accept any fancier's theory concerning the eye of a pigeon, as being the
deciding factor for its homing. I shall never
believe any pigeon homes by sight, as even
when birds are trained all along the race
route several times, they fail to home, and
also as birds from the south pass over my
loft on race days, both this and last season
there were many batches of birds hedge hop-

route several times, they fail to home, and also as birds from the south pass over my loft on race days, both this and last season there were many batches of birds hedge hopping over fields, houses and trees.

As the migrator instinct is in all birds, I have long since concluded that on release, pigeons circle until they sense their direction, then point their beak towards home and fly perhaps blindly, until they reach familiar surroundings and if in a batch, drop like a stone on one's loft. Can any eye sign fan ever convince me that a bird flying for 14 hours, knows every inch of that 500 miles? Pigeons should have good eyes I must agree, but a bird which has discovered an area covering 30 miles around the loft, if sent 2, 3 or 400 miles, providing he has the right blood, will race easily to his loft. You might as well try and convince me that flyaways know where they are going. They don't—they fly blind anywhere and so get lost, too tired to get home. I had one flyaway 3 years ago, and concluded the parents were too much inbred. I destroyed them and have no repetition since.

I am breeding on lines handed down for ages, and am more than satisfied with the last three years' results with birds out morning, mid—day or evening, and no losses. When you see fanciers entering 15 to 20 birds on marking night, these are never line bred unless the fancier has dozens of breeding pairs.

To keep the fancy going, and reduce increasing expenses, breed better and fewer birds, cut out breeding from close relations, breed in to stamina, speed or colour if you like, but avoid inbreeding proper and we shall soon have more real racing, and not a chance bird, being clocked in here and there.

Keep pressing on with your views, and let's all look for keener competition.

H. BEW.

Tidmarsh, Berks.

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NORTH-WEST JOTTINGS

Another grand racing day last Saturday, but with much lower velocities than on the previous two Saturdays. Winners were making over 1100 vel. from Cheltenham and less from Mangotsfield and the coast. There was a southerly wind at Cheltenham liberations, but for most of the journey home there was a stiff northerly wind, which decidedly slowed the birds. There were big consignments of birds at Mangotsfield where South Cheshire Fed. were let go at 12.5. Altrincham F.C. result: Cowan 3.41, Kersley 3.48, Dearn 3.51. S. Balmer won Altrincham C.F.C. In Sale F.C. up at 11.30, 1st is Fecit 3.12. South Lancs, Fed. were at the coast, and were liberated at Christchurch at 10.0. Middleton H.S.: 1st F. Wilde, 3.20. 2nd J. Thomas, 3.21; 3rd Fitton and Mills, 3.24. Prestwich H.S., 277 birds at Cheltenham, up at 11.40: 1st G. Hindle, 1115; 2nd S. Goodwin, 1112-3rd, 4th A. Chadwick, 1087, 1081; 5th P. Meyer, 1074; 6th Mayor and Prippier, 1069.

I had one of my most enjoyable days last week when Manchester F.C. president, Mr. A. Chadwick, and myself journeyed to Pheasantfield, at Burton-on-the-Wirral, the lovely home of Mr. J. Thorburn, whom I have known since my "puppy" days 60 years ago. The three Lively lofts are full of grand birds of a real long-distance type, thick-set birds with fine wings, and, in particular flights with very strong quills. It is quite enough to show the strength of the lofts to say that Mr. Thorburn has won 72 ist prizes from Nantes, Fontenoy, Marennes, Bordeaux, etc. It was a day that will remain long in our memories.

"Ghosts" Can and Do Win!

memories.

"Ghosts" Can and Do Win!

Manchester F.C. sent 1.277 birds to Mangotsfield on Wednesday, May 21. Premier honours go to Mr. Arthar Wright, vel. 1441, also 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th S.W. Sect., winning a total of £73 15s, 1d., Mr. W. Proctor Smith winning 2nd, 6th, 9th and £31 1s. These two S.W. Sect members won £104 16s, 1d. out of £110 8s 9d, in the whole of this strong Sect. N.W. Sect.: 1st, 2nd J. Marsden. S.E. Sect.: 1 Whitle Bros.: 2 F. Swindells. N.E.: 1st Thomas; 2nd Dr. Wood. Mr. Wright's winner of 1st over all M.F.C. sections is a white cock bred off a son of his famous cock, The Ghost. This family of Ghosts are more substantial than "spectres," as they have won a small fortune The above Mangotsfield winner also won 2nd Mangotsfield M.F.C. as a yearling 1951.

No White or Grizzle Gurnays

No White or Grizzle Gurnays

No white or Grizzle Gurnays

F. and E. M. Denton. Northwich, write: "As you are aware, I lived at Verviers after the war and I was very friendly with Renier Gurnay, also his loft manager. Oscar Delacourt, and I practically slept there.

"I saw Fred Shaw on his periodical visits and saw every pigeon my late friend possessed during the three years I lived there, but there were no grizzles. Mealies, blues, chequers, bronze, but the two colours missing were whites and grizzles.

missing were whites and grizzles. "Old Oscar and I still exchange letters and he still has one or two birds left just to keep him busy, so he tells me. I am going to write and ask him if he had any grizzles before or after I lived there, but I am sure the answer will be no.

"No, Gurnay never had a grizzle in his loft, I am sure."

Lowe Brothers, Darwen, write: "Re your reference to grizzle Gurnays, at present I work alongside Mr. Harold Hale, loftman to the late Fred Shaw, and Dr. Anderson, of Turton. He assures me he has never seen any grizzles in the Gurnay family or in any of Mr. Fred Shaw's pedigrees. They are mostly blues and dark blues, with a very, very few reds."

never seen any grants. They are mostly blues and dark blues, with a very, very few reds."

Manchester F.C. from Poole
At a committee meeting of Manchester F.C. it was decided that if the ban were lifted in time, the Guernsey race will be flown on June 11, but if the ban be not lifted, another two races be flown from Poole on June 4 and 11, and that they stand for averages. It was also stated that birds would be marked on Wednesday for Rennes and on Tuesday for Ruffec. The club's dinner will be held on the nearest Wednesday available up to the last Wednesday in October. As ladies are to be allowed to attend the dinner the number attending at "the annual" will be greatly increased. As Mr. J. Thomas, of Middleton, had intimated he could not continue as clock-setter Mr. G. Hollinworth. Strines, Stockport, was appointed in his place. It was agreed to allow Mr. F. L. Heathcote to change the name of his membership to Mr. and Mrs. Heathcote. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. A. Chadwick and Mr. A. Shaw for the gift of a chronometer to the club. At a meeting of North West Centre Committee on May 19, F. Bailey, of Bolton, appealed against the decision of Halliwell and Dis. H.S. in awarding 1st position in the Shrewsbury race flown on April 11, 1952. to Messrs. Dandy Bros., of Atherton, on the ground that they were ineligible to compete, not being members of the Lancashire Central Fed. After a lengthy hearing the Centre Committee decided that the race was null and void, and that the club be severely censured and will have to meet all expenses in connection with the race.

Claims for outstanding performance awards for 1951 were held over until next meeting, when the Centre Committee will have considered them.

No Gurnay Grizzles

R. Clark, of Avonbridge, writes: "In reply to Mr.

Centre Committee will have considered them.

No Gurnay Grizzles
R. Clark, of Avonbridge, writes: "In reply to Mr.
H. Wright's letter re Gurnay grizzles in your Jottings.
The Racing Pigeon, May 10, I have looked carefully
through the breeding lists of the late Fred Shaw's
Gurnays, dating as far back as 1921, and they are the
direct imports from Rennier Gurnay. No grizzles
appear in any of their particulars, therefore, there
can be no pure Gurnay grizzles. The great champion, St. Vincent Le Gris, was a mosaic.

"The standing colours of the Gurnays were blue,
blue ched... bronze and pieds. In Gurnay's retiral
sale list, Dec. 25, 1936, there appears one red cheq. cock
which is a descendant from the Verhoye, who won
1st, 2rd, 3rd in the Grand National. There are also
mealies from the Verhoye, which produced and raced
very well, such as the illustrious Raye, winner of 13
1st prizes."

NOTES

Gloucester and Cheltenham
Racing season, now in full swing, has so far been easy on the N.R. birds, and if the weather changes for the longer races losses will be heavy, for so far the birds have done nothing to muscle them up. S.R. birds should be in better condition for the longer

Owing to shortage of space (and time) I shall be reporting only matters of definite interest for the hext few months. Visits I have made and hope to make to different fanciers will have to wait until after the racing season has closed. St. Vincent.

make to different fanciers will have to wait until after the racing season has closed. St. VINCENT.

Ireland
Another fast race May 17, south-east wind, with visibility good, birds toppled in from Bray (97 miles) and Arklow (126 miles).

Tommy Lee, an ex-partner of Billy Baird, was in charge of the Co. Down Fed. birds at Bray; his report of journey and assistance received at liberation was quite good. It is on the cards that Mr. Lee may be appointed permanently. This undoubtedly would be a good selection.

First Arklow result to reach me is from Duncairn H.P.S. This is headed by partners Pascoe and Son, who are no strangers to the prize list; their velocity 1363. W. H. Dodds is 5th and wins 1st pools. D. Wallace had a good win in this club's race from Bray. 2nd and 4th positions, as well as 1st all pools. Highest velocity (1474) heard of at time of going to press is recorded by R. and W. Wilson, of the Portadown H.P.S. Other fanciers whose birds topped the 1400 mark are T. M. Hull (Ballinderry), McCabe Bros. (Belfast H.P.S.), D. Craig (Antrim, Combine). Randaistown H.P.S. is again won by H. McKeown, who, I am told, timed two birds in one shuttle velocity 1395.9. An old problem was resurrected here as one of these birds is D.T.W. I believe the club paid out full odds for this dead heat.

Albert Smith wins more firsts, heading Brookfield and Belfast City Amateurs with a velocity of 1380. Frankle Braiden, of whom one does not hear much these days, won the West Belfast H.P.S.; velocity 1383. This win deprived A. Smith of a hat-trick. The "Ltd. Company" are again 1st in Ligoniel; shares soared to a high level following this latest win. First and 2nd were gained in the South Belfast Club by J. Bell and Son; they named the right one to take 1st in the pools. These two birds kept the same positions in the strangely named Millionaires H.P.S. w. and R. Hamilton got a "packet" in the Bray race; they won all pools in the Ballymacarrett. Sydenham and Belmont Clubs. Hard or easy days are apparently all the same to this strong

admired.

Galbraith Bros. won the Comber Club, closely followed by A. Bennett and Son.

Jim Brown has started his winning ways with a "D.W." bird in the Dundonald Club.

Although space is at a premium, I will still appreciate brief particulars of items of interest if sent to 16, Hesketh Park, Belfast.

Shamrock.

Athough Space is at a premium, I will still appreciate brief particulars of items of interest if sent to 16. Hesketh Park, Belfast.

Leeds and West Yorkshire

Tom Webster, of the Beeston (Leeds) Club, writes that, like most South Route clubs on May 10, his club had a fast race, but quite a few empty perches at nightfall. Tail wind races can be as disastrous as anything. Tom had a good bird from the first race at Nottingham when he tooped the Yorks. Fed. by more than 20 yards a minute.

The Beeston Club is one of the oldest in the area, having been in existence over 50 years. I should imagine it has one of the oldest active members in the sport in Joe Catherall, 87 years old and still does his trip with the basket of birds to the station when sending them off on a training spin. Going back twenty to thirty years, Joe was a tough nut to crack.

Last season another loft in Harry Kenworthy and Albert Mathews did some good winning, and I see they have opened up again.

Arthur Morton sends me results in his Fed., the N.W. Yorks. I'm sorry I can't take a lot of room up by giving race results in my column, but you can send them in for publication to The Racing Pigeon in the space specially reserved for that purpose.

Bob Hodgson is carrying on this season as he left off last, first two positions in both the Bradford and the Shipley, clubs. Fed. president, J. Walton, of Silsden, led by over 120 yards a minute, and these particulars refer to Notts. race.

I owe Norman Paley, the secretary of Shipley, a visit which had to be put off owing to the health of my wife, but I hope to be able to fulfil engagements again very soon.

Take a look at this for dispatch arrangements for Channel racing and you will cease to wonder why the sport is not booming around these parts. For those sending to Caen, only from 316 to 330 miles in the G.Y.A., except Stockton, we basket on the Monday, June 9, for the Saturday; Tuesday, June 24, for Le Mans; and Monday, July 7, for Potitiers, And for months and months afterwards we are likely to be l

be listening to the management of the heldComparative results in Fed. and Amal. of the heldover race from Hereford (1) gives food for thought
on at least one of the many causes of low or reduced
velocities. To that type of fancier who seems to
imagine convoyers as some sort of infallible foreseeing agent of pigeondom, they should make him
appreciate more fully the power of the elements as
the deciding factor between good and bad velocities.
Fed. birds were up at 9.45 a.m. and the Amal. birds
55 minutes later at 10.40. A north-east wind prevalled throughout the line of flight, and I expected
little difference between the velocities of both

organisations.

At the home end up to about 11 a.m. the weather was typical of that usually associated with N.E. winds—dull and low cloud with bright intervals and

fancier, Mr. Fred. Godfrey, of Worksop, win-ner of the King's Cup and one of Worksop's oldest fanciers. All fanciers who knew him will join with me in extending our deepest sympathy. T. H. REDFEARNE. sympathy Retford

CHIPPING

Will Mr. J. A. McCullock. of Ashford. Middlesex, please forward his full address to this office?

LETTERS

Sir,—With reference to "Midlander's" notes, Waisall and Midlands in the Birthday Number, I notice that you state my jate father took second (2nd) prize in the Midland Combine 1920. This bird won 4th, not 2nd Midland Combine. There were only 11 birds timed in on the day. This bird also won 1st North Staffs. Championship Club, and was the only bird timed in on day. It was nine years old. My father won 2nd Gt. Northern Marennes on the same day, when only 31 birds were timed in on the day. This bird was six years old.

The two birds referred to above were father and son.

A. JOHNSON

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A JOHNSON
Audiey, Staffs.

GURNAYS

Sir.—With reference to Mr. Brooks' letter regarding Shaw's Gurnays, I would like to clear up the information in regard to red Gurnays. I attended Mr. Shaw's home for several years, as when he was getting a consignment he notified my brother when they were arriving, and we were always present when the birds arrived. I had the pleasure of taking the birds out of the baskets and handling them and picked what we thought would do us some good.

I remember bringing a Blue Cheq. Cock, a son of Real Masterpiece, and this bird wiped the floor with the best show birds that were in Scotland at that time. It won Best in Show at Motherwel, and you coud not get near it for the number of people who were admiring it. This bird bred four youngsters before it escaped and the four of them all won lst prizes.

In regard to red Gurnays, there never was one in any of those consignments! When we were on the way to Denton we used to say. "I wonder if there will be any reds this time." However, there were none. There were beautiful bronze birds that looked like dark reds, but they were not red, and at no time was a red hen bred at Denton or I would have had it, as Mr. Shaw said to me often, "If I breed one, you will get it." When my birds were burned in the fire, 1949, I had a letter from Mr. Shaw to come up and take what I wanted, end he sent me a photon of all the birds he had, and they were all dark or bronze or blues and blue cheqs, Mr. Shaw had about 100 photographs of his birds, and there was rot a red amongst them. I also visited Mr. George Cloke, a real Gurnay man, and he never had a red either. I have seen red Gurnays advertised many times, so I leave you to judge for yourselves.

GEORGE GREENSHIELDS.

GEORGE GREENSHIELDS.

Salsburg.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS April 9.—Mitcham 2-Bird C.C. 10—Che.msford City (Clocks) 10—Surbiton F.C. (C.ocks and Noms.) 10—West Drayton D.H.S. 10.—N.H.U. London Centre (Committee) 11—Northfield D.H.S. (B'ham) (Clocks) 12—Wa ton D.F.C. (Clocks and Noms.) 12—Woking Premier R.P.C. 12—Woking Premier R.P.C. 13—Hampton N.R.F.C. 13—London Ch. C. (Committee) 14—Shepherds Bush F.C. (Noms.) 14—Shepherds Bush F.C. (Noms.) 14—Enfield Highway H.S. 14—Earlsfield R.P.S. (Noms.) 15—Hounslow H.S. 15—Dudley Federation 15.—Woodford D.H.S. 17—Oxted R.P.C. (Clocks and Noms.) NOTICE OF MEETINGS 7.30 7.30 7.30 8.00 2.30 7.45

8.00 8.00 8.00 8.00

SECRETARIAL CHANGES

Shalford D.F.C.—V. Steele, Mayor House
Farm Albury, Surrey.
Tidenham D.H.S.—R. S. Thompson, 4 Camp
Road, Sudbrook, Chepstow,
Felixstowe D.H.S.—A. L. Seeley. 18, Cornwall Road, Felixstowe.
Hounslow H.S.—P. R. Roake. 1, Rosebine
Avenue Twickenham.
Chelmsford City F.C.—A, Birch, 135, Shelley
Road Chelmsford.
North Cotswold F.C.—Shillam and Fifield,
Kings Arms Cottage, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos.

March

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