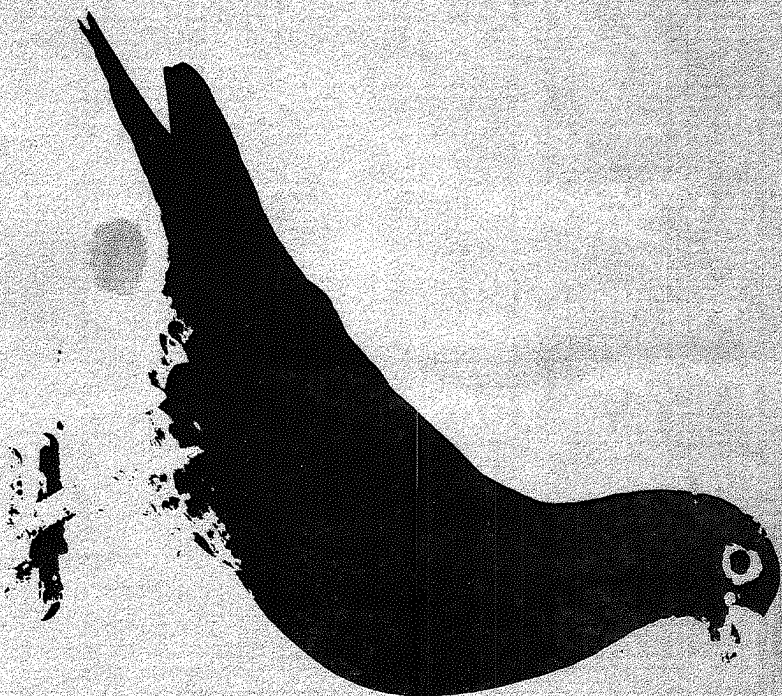


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TOM SMITH

TOM SMITH'S SPORTS TALK

A PERIODIC PRESENTATION OF NEWS AND NEWS FROM AROUND THE RACING PIGEON WORLD

THE WRITINGS OF F. W. MARRIOTT

By THOMAS L. SMITH

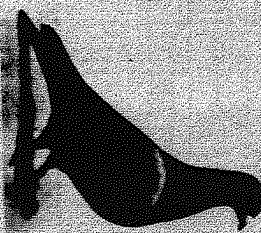
Hedford, N.Y. 11769

That is the title of a most interesting series carried in the British Homing World. It is a reprint of the late Herbert Waring's "Marricot" having won the first cup (national) flying over the hills of the East of England. It is also the founder and editor of the British Homing World weekly paper.

One of his reported articles from the 1930's dealt with a number in his time and which were very common today.

I recently received a letter from a young man who mentioned a start in the family. He stated that he had been informed that the Gurney strain of pigeons was only suitable for distances of 60 to 800 miles and when it comes to racing 500 mile races, they are hopeless. I am afraid our friend has been mistaken.

The Gurney strain of pigeons will race and win at all distances just the same as any other strain of birds.



THE OLD BLUE HEN

Mons. Gurney's foundation bird whose progeny won over \$100,000. She was later sent to Fred Shaw whom she also bred winners.

There are a lot of fanciers who, when they talk of Gurney pigeons, think of them in terms of the widowhood system. It is quite true that they are specially adapted for working on those lines, because they are generally in excellent health and top condition. They generally come into form quicker, also they keep in condition longer than most strains. That is the reason they are used so extensively for racing under the widowhood system.

There are many which would not stand the enormous strain on the nervous system, as well as on the physical system, as do the Gurnays. Therefore I consider that if the Gurnays are treated and trained on the same lines as the other strains for the long classical races, they will put up quite as good a job as others. Of one thing I am more pleased to see there are Gurnays. The colors are either pea, blue, blue checker, or dark checker. Another point in their favor is that they will cross with almost any strain of pigeons, and this I think is a very vital point.

If we want to improve our stock, we

CHAMPION RACING PIGEONS - A LESSON FROM HISTORY

By THOMAS L. SMITH, JR.
812 Northgate Drive
Uniondale, N.Y. 11553

must look for the right bird for the job. Mind you, I am not speaking in any way derogatory to any other strain. I am only answering our friend and only from what I have been told but also from actual experience.

Some years ago, Mr. Fred Shaw raced the Gurnays to such an extent in the Metropolitan area that I think it was a relief to many when he retired. His record will bear comparison with the best racers in this country.

From "The British Homing World"

I know many specialists in this sort of racing and very seldom do they have young birds in the flock. They fly their birds utterly "tame". This has never been my goal. I try to get my youngsters in the very best feather condition to start the races. The early youngsters are the easiest to have in that condition. The moment to have a first primary flight starts when they have a nest, but at that moment they have already removed their bars and small feathers and look like yearlings.

Besides, the youngsters born two months later moult much faster. On May 20, youngsters of the second round have already moulted two flights and moult just about all summer. The condition of their feathers is less suitable to fly them in the months of July and August. I don't think that I have to tell your readers that the races with young birds today are important, because with young birds of good strain handled by a good method there is a small fortune to be won yearly.

Question: How are your young birds fed?

Answer: All birds get a commercial mixture, including the young birds, but my young birds get quite a bit of barley so that the food fed them is quite light. As soon as the youngsters show signs of running to the drinking fountain, feeding is stopped. Those still hungry get some barley in the food box.

Question: Do your young birds get some kind of cure or antibiotic?

Answer: Indeed, every year before the training starts they are given an anti-tetranonase (antibiotic) cure. This product is sold under different trade names. But this cure is given only once. I have known this advice to many, but some have overdone it, birds more harm than good.

(Continued)

If the original Gurnays existed to day they would dispel the theory that today's racing pigeons are superior to those of yesterday. The Gurnays were the best racing pigeons Belgium could produce, as is attested to by their records.

Mons. Gurnay's "St. Vincent le Gris" (the Grey St. Vincent) competed in 22 races of 450 to 560 miles, winning 21 prizes. He won the first prize in the prize list. LE GRIS averaged three years per season, finishing in his ninth year of age by winning 20th St. Vincent National 550 miles, and 17th St. Vincent 360 miles. LE GRIS was from a long line of champion Gurnays, his father being the famous racing pigeon, the first prize in each, and he had a brother, FRED, who won first National Linings, 375 miles and \$9,000.

BON BLEU was stopped at winning nine consecutive firsts by the outbreak of WWI. He won big money prizes each time and won in all the great races including the classical Antwerp. BON BLEU sired many champions for Mr. Gurnay and Fred Shaw of England, whom he was sold to for \$800, including BRONZE FAVORITE, the winner of first Grand National Angoulême (450 miles) by half an hour.

PELITTE ECALLE VERZON was Mons. Gurnay's greatest pre-WWI racer. He won 16 top prizes in 15 races, including first National Verton, 385 miles and over \$8,000. PELITTE sired many prize winners including Fred Shaw's CHAMPION AVOI, LO, who won first prize from every racepoint. One of PELITTE'S GRAND FAVORITE was the dam of BEAUVE, of Mons. Gurnay, who won the first Grand National Angoulême, 450 miles, by half an hour.

ANGOLLEME, a rosinator to Petite Ecalle Verzon, was described by M. Gurnay as being "unique as a racer, breeder and exhibition bird." Indeed he was, for he won the \$200 prize in the one National and 14th prize in the Grand National among other prizes. Angoulême sired prize winners for Mons. Gurnay and when sold to Fred Shaw sired first prize winners at the

age of nine, ten, 11, 12, and 13 years old. One of his grandsons sired to L. Wood's famous racer YOUNG HAWK, winner of 19, first, second, and third prizes in races over 250 miles and 95 first dual prizes.

BRONZE EXCELLENCE was another of Mons. Gurnay's champions. He was never beaten in the exhibitions and was an outstanding producer. He was bred from a brother and sister of LE GRIS, as Mons. Gurnay believed in inbreeding.

The Gurnays were undoubtedly superior athletes, but there was also the Gurnay System of conditioning and racing them, which was formulated by Mons. Gurnay. The Gurnay System of conditioning, described by Fred Shaw, varied from the widowhood, but the Gurnay System was the system Mons. Gurnay used. Only a few other fanciers of the time knew of this system and dominated the competition by keeping it secret. In essence, the Gurnay System favored separation, that is, instilling in the racing cocks a keen desire of home and mate and, at the same time, keeping them in top condition by separating them from their hens. The racing cocks were allowed to see their hens only before shipping and after they had homed.

The Gurnay racers were all cocks, two years of age or older. Mons. Gurnay felt that cocks were stronger than hens and that they could be handled with more of a desire of home and mate. Thus, cocks were considered the ideal racer. Although hens were not raced under the Gurnay System, they were exercised vigorously to keep them in shape. The master knew they had to be in good condition as hens, which had its foundation on the fact that only a few hens, usually developed birds, which mature, quickly developed and are totally conditioned to accept management, should be raised. Young birds were allowed to mature for two years, without strenuous training or racing, until they were physically and mentally ready and able to undertake their task—to race medium to long distances work after work. Mons.

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words of life our outlook

"And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full."
I John 1:4

Some years ago I had a conference with a rather rebellious young man and a wife and family, he obliging some of his duties and his obligations to a wife and family, he said, "I have a right to be happy, haven't I? I told him that God never ordered him to be happy, but that He has commanded him to live a responsible, clean and honest life. I also suggested that the person who lives only to pursue happiness will never find it. It is rather a by-product of a life of full surrender and complete obedience to God.

Psalm 1 gives us the recipe for real Christian joy and contentment. It first admonishes us not to listen to the advice of the wicked, those lawless ones who acknowledge no authority but their own will and recognize no law but their own desires. You will always **win principles** if you do. Secondly, **do not imitate the conduct of sinners**, for this will involve you in evil practices.

Thirdly, **do not sit in the company of sinners** (Gymnast free-thinkers who mock the things of God), especially on **YH Fests** (Sabbaths) and did not join us to find delight in God and His word, meditating upon His truths by day and even in the wakeful hours of the night.

The believer who lives this kind of life is compared to a tree growing up beside a beautiful river where its roots are constantly moistened, making it a picture of health and vitality with abundant fruitfulness and with leaves that are perennially fresh. Moreover, such a person can go his way with the joyous assurance that God constantly sees and cares for him. The consciousness that "the Lord knoweth

Champion Racing Pigeons

Gurnay did not expect a child to do a man's job. At the same time, the way in which the birds were being trained naturally without being stunted by strenuous young bird and yearling racing.

The system would induce well man-aged pigeons to very great speed, but it required constant attention. The birds were studied all year around. The loft was the first consideration. There had to be a separate section for young birds, breeders, cocks and hens. The racing cocks were to be out of sight and sound of their hens. The cock's racing section was to have no perches, only one nestbox was allowed

PAGE FOUR

An article translated in the Racing Pigeon of England tells of a terrible weekend experienced in Belgium when thousands of pigeons were lost in the races. This was the weekend of June 15, 16. It claimed that the biggest tragedy to ever happen in Belgium happened on these days as pigeons were released for races at various distances from 200 to 500 miles. It claimed that over 250,000 pigeons were lost valued at more than 1½ million dollars. No explanation or reasons could be given for the huge losses.

The same journal in various articles tells of the problems liberators in England have with criticism, which happens here as well, when the liberator doesn't or does liberate and a bad race is the result. Everything is fine when the pigeons can be released on schedule and the race turns out well as happens the majority of times but when a race turns out to be a smash and many pigeons are lost there is often much undo criticism. It is well to give this matter deep consideration as the 1½ races will be in reports we very soon. However, the members are not satisfied with the decision of one man, a liberating COMMITTEE should be formed which will have charges of the liberation and then the responsibility will not rest with one man un-

the way of the righteous," and is giving smiling approval to his daily life. His heart of the matter is only the word "exuberant" and "a life of joy, satisfaction and genuine happiness!"

H.V.L.

That: JOY comes by putting Jesus first. Others second, and Yourself last. taken from OUR DAILY BREAD

to each cock.

The nestboxes in themselves were specially made, and had a specific purpose. Each was divided in half by dovetailing: on one side the hen was placed to await the return of her mate through both which were hung over the entrance. Once the cock entered his side of the nestbox he could not escape. Mons Gurnay used many different types of nestboxes in his 50 years of racing. This is one of his most successful types.

Mons Gurnay's racing team, which usually numbered 20 to 30 pairs, was paired up a few weeks before the racing season and each was allowed to raise one youngster. The cocks were exercised one half hour until about

less the man with the birds don't cooperate with the home end liberator which we have heard of on occasions.

The same issue of the Racing Pigeon tells of BRITISH OLYMPIAD PLANS for shows they will be holding for determining the best pigeons to represent them in the Olympiad which will be held at the end of next January. We have been told that plans were being formed for this year for our kind people but that this year our kind people nothing definite has been worked out or published on this matter. Once before much criticism resulted from efforts which were made to select pigeons to represent the U.S.A. in the Olympiad and the birds selected were not permitted to be sent.

Let's not have a repetition of this for the coming Olympiad but get the right plans made and let the entire fancy know about them well in advance of the dates when shows will be held. Since this will be an entirely new venture for American fanciers they will have to be informed as to the requirements for the birds to be entered for consideration. Since the AFRP is the official member of the Olympiad they should appoint a committee to draw up the plans and have shows add the Olympiad classes in the areas where this is desired. Selections should be made in different areas that the winners in these areas brought together for the final selections to get the best possible representation.

the time the youngsters were ten days old. At that time, their hens were removed to another section of the loft and extensive training and exercising of the cocks began. The youngsters were hand fed water soaked beans in the morning and afternoon, while their sires exercised for an hour or more around the loft. Mons Gurnay exercised his racers every day, no matter what the weather, and when necessary by flagging.

The Gurnay System was changed at different times, for Mons Gurnay was not complacent and constantly tried to improve his system. One of his other methods was to pair up the racers three weeks before the races, allow them to sit for a few days, then remove the hen and allow the cock to sit alone until he abandoned the eggs. Extensive training and exercising began. The Gurnays could race in Belgium in the late summer with a complete set of flights under this system, because at lowering the cocks to brood over a period of time delayed their moult. In fact, this method was sometimes used by Mons Gurnay in the middle of the racing season to allow his birds to be able to race as late as August.

As the racing season began, the racing cocks were confined to their nestboxes and their youngsters were

placed in another section of the loft. Mons Gurnay greeted each race with a little cheer, feed which he handed from his first few short training losses. On these initial flights the racing cocks were not allowed to see their mates before they departed or after they returned. The hen was kept in the nestbox, and she was kept in the nestbox in flight and sound of the cock, but out of his reach. The cocks were then basketed and sent ten or more miles away in the line of flight. The cocks returned through the open windows, straight to their half of the nestbox—their hen awaiting them on the other side. Mons Gurnay would handle the racer, then allow him to be with his mate and have contact with her for 15 minutes or so. The hen was then removed to her section of the loft out of his sight and sound.

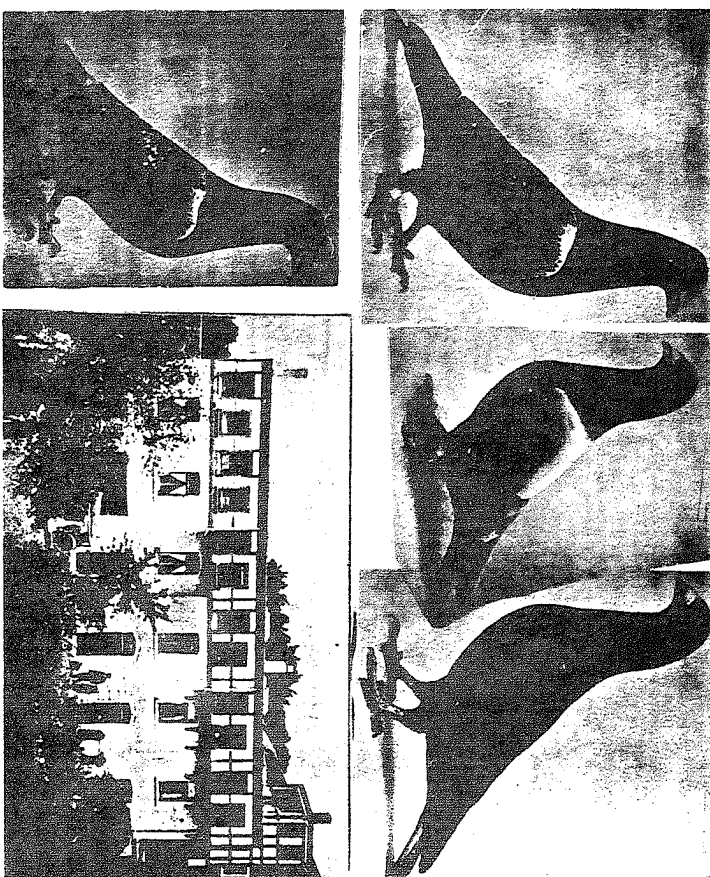
This process was repeated with every training loss. Under the Gurnay System the racers were sent on a short training loss before each race. They were allowed only to see their mates, no contact was allowed, before being basketed and taken to the marking station for the next race. When a Gurnay returned home from a race he was given a bath in and a drink of "vin rouge" (Permananganate of potash) to cleanse and disinfect his body inside and out. He was then allowed to stay with his mate an hour or so. The hen was then removed until the next training loss or race. In this way the cock stayed contented and in top condition.

Mons Gurnay was very careful with all his birds, especially his racing cocks. He sat in the loft observing them for hours, not only to ascertain which racers were keen that week and

to pick his good bird, but also to make sure that every racer was responding to his forward-separation system. Some times birds would pipe and call every time they were released. If this did not occur, he would place them in the brooding loft for a time and try the system on them later in the season. Forward separation was not natural to the birds; Mons Gurnay knew this and accounted for it.

Gurnay darkened in racer's loft after training flights if he felt it was necessary for the cocks to have absolute rest. Also upon a racer's return from a race the loft could be quickly darkened by rolling the blinds down over the window, thus, making it easier to handle the bird.

The Gurnay System was described as a "mathematical system," because the Gurnay genius left nothing to chance, everything was done precisely.



CHAMPION RACING PIGEONS, Pigeons and loft of Mons Gurnay. Top row, PETIE ECALIE VIERZON, BON BLEU and BRONZE EXCELLENCE. Bottom, ANCOULEME and the Gurnay loft at Verrieres, Belgium, home of the world's greatest winning strain of racing pigeons. Male birds in windows on top floor and lookout at right. (These are old prints and it is hard to know just how they will reproduce.)

PAGE FIVE

Chicago Chatterbox

GREATER CHICAGO COMBINE AND AU CENTER NEWS

By JAMES A. RIZZEK

Publicity Director

2239 South Highland Avenue

Berwyn, Illinois 60402

I just returned from the sparkling city of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, after partaking in the opening ceremonies of the 53rd annual convention of the Kiwanis International. Upwards of 7000 members from many of the 28

Each racer had to respond to the Gu-rnay System favorably before he was raced. Indigestion was tolerated in the race, but sickness was not. Any bird sick for one day was culled. Each racer was weighed to ascertain his condition. The amount of feed given each was weighed. Their pulse was taken and they were given a special paste for vitality. Each racer was given two years to prove himself. If he failed in the race he was culled, no matter what his percentage might be. All the Gu-rnays were fed a special, fully formulated feed consisting of Zola, Thar, Beans, wheat, greens, barley, etc. Hemp or canary seed was never fed, but colza was fed once a week.

M. Gu-rnay said of his system: Fan-clers must persuade for pigeons must become acclimated to the new system and in the end it surpasses all others. The system will not make champion racers of mediocre ones, but will induce well-managed pigeons to very great speed. Indeed, his racing record proved this beyond a doubt.

1968 A.U. CONVENTION, Oct. 31, Nov. 1, 2, 3 Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, Mass. Bill Gault, Jr., secretary, Southis Avenue, Plymouth, Mass. Mel Wood, Convention Book, 14 Hillcrest Road, E. Weymouth, Mass. 02185.

representative nations were antici-pated. Their convention differs from ours in that they permit all the chil-dren to accompany the parents. Spe-cial guidance groups look after the children with care, taking movies, treats and trips. For example, on Sunday they took a bus trip to Niagara Falls, whereas the parents were being royally entertained at the Royal York Hotel. This hotel, one of the tradi-tional chateau-style hotels, is irresi-stible to those who seek a delicious blend of security and grandeur.

We were also entertained at the Maple Leaf Gardens, as every sport fan will know, the home of the world famous Maple Leafs hockey team. On Sunday afternoon was the convention dinner, a long list of sparkling headline attractions, with the emphasis on music and the emphasis on enter-tainment. The Honorable Robert C. Byrd, U.S. Senator from West Virginia was the principal speaker at the open-ing session at the length of the Garden. And so, for all the length of the convention, excitement for all prevailed. How-ever, I had to hurry back due to my official AU secretarial duties to get this article off to the journals.

My object in attending this affair, as a guest, was to release six pigeons atop the roof of the Royal York to carry back to the Kiwanis general offices in Chicago and the local bar-rywn Kiwanis Club, a message from James M. Moller, president of the In-ternational. They were selected in this great Kiwanis spirit to return to the United States and to all the countries where the problem is a concern.

The birds were sent down in ad-vance to Mr. Coomber, secretary of the Toronto Club. However, Canadian customs would not release the birds, because the health certificate, which originally accompanied the birds, be-came lost, although the envelope in which it was placed was still allied

to the crate. Upon our arrival I had a copy of a statement made by the express agent, attempting to find out that they would not have accepted shipment without the health certificate. And, after considerable persuasion, finally convinced the health customs official of the Agriculture Depart-ment, to release them. The release was dependent upon a duplicate copy, which I had sent to Mr. Coomber special delivery and was delayed in the mail somewhere along the mail, and over three hours was spent in getting the birds out of quarantine.

The birds were fed and watered and released on Sunday, June 26, at 10 a.m. Four of the birds arrived on Monday and two are still carrying the mail. In Canada, we visited with members of the club who were knock-ing off time in the evening after one of their races. It was a rare oppor-tunity to chat, even if briefly, with our counterparts from another country.

At home, our championship Ben De-bates Derby was flown from Colum-bus, Neb., and at the same time we shipped our 600 mile race to Burwell, Neb. Not being able to contact our secretary, Mr. Byzek, I was informed, unofficially by my able informant, that the race was a success and that there were no day birds. In Seattle, the following day, it is said, Nelson timed the derby, which with E. Lange and the late Mrs. Berco of the Berco

On a week's previous race from Columbus, a man sprinkling his lawn

alternate one is flown and the winner supposedly was Joe Barla, with Jim Brita second. As soon as we have an official report, we will supplement this one with official, correct information.

On the west side, I understand that Rich Kaiser won first on the 600 mile race, with Dan Smicklas and Jim Tin-tera third. Many prizes were still open. In the city, W. Mager won the average from 100 to 300 miles; George Spannenberg won it from 100 to 300 miles; and Rich Kaiser won it from 100 to 600 miles.

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1968 CONVENTION — SHERATON-BOSTON HOTEL, Boston, Mass. — October 31, November 1, 2 and 3

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PAGE SIX

DECEMBER, 1968 AMERICAN RACING PIGEON NEWS

"Thomas Watson, Dual Purpose Gurnay Specialist"

By THOMAS L. SMITH, JR.

England has many champion showmen and breeders of birds. Thomas Watson of Durham, England is the exception; he is a champion racing fancier and showman, having won 43 first prizes in the races in the last five years and an Olympic Gold Medal in the short distance sporting class at the 1965 London Olympiad.

Mr. Watson does not specialize in showing, but because his family of birds are all pure Gurnays, he has been successful in show-benches; he just could not pass up the oppor-tunities for showing. Mr. Watson is a top racing fancier having won from every club and federation race point.

Over the years since 1944, when he began breeding racing pigeons, he has won 17 trophies, seven shields, two gold medals, a bird's wrist watch, two china cabinets, a number of roses, hundreds of diplomas, and about each year.

Mr. Watson's Gurnays are true dual pur-pose pigeons, heavily combined with racing ability, just as Mags, Bentor Gurnays, intended them to be. The Watson Gurnays can be traced directly back to Mags Gurnay through several great Gurnay specialists as A. E. Brown, W. Strover and O. L. Wood, whose birds were his foundation stock 19 years ago.

All are inbred in the Watsons' blood. All are inbred in the Watsons' blood. All are bred, and says there is only one way to produce a true family of racing champions and that is by inbreeding over and over again, eliminating the weak and keeping the strong.

Young birds and old birds are trained heavily because they are very good exporters around the loft. The old birds feed about 100% of weight before racing and young birds, six or eight before racing. This is the mutual system, with great success. Mr. Watson is not a mad bird, yet with an aver-

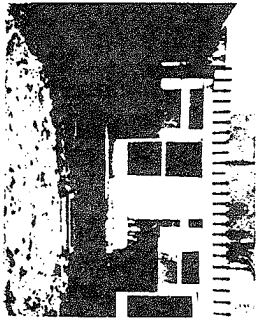
age of 280 birds and an average federation entry of 2,000 per race, he has won from 80 to 100 races in the last five years and top federation winner out of the last five years.

In 1956 Mr. Watson had the only bird in race time from his federation 408 mile sta-tion. It was a three day race and his Gurnay won in the second day. In 1965 he had a grandchild of that bird, the only bird on the day, again from 408 miles. One Wat-son bird has won 17 races in the last five years with a victory of 17th place. He has won many handicap races of less distance with victories of 800 yards. The Watson Gurnays win from 80 to 100 miles in fast or hard races.

Breeding dual purpose Gurnays (yet also make up a majority of Mr. Watson's Gurnays and he has never had one of the great Gurnay strain with a wobbly washy comb. This Gurnay's are marathon speed, all possessing the ability to fly for 400 miles or more, either and known as "Yield". The bird's eyes "good bankers" and handers, and good race-ers.

In the shows the Watson Gurnays have done extremely well, although showing is secondary to racing with Mr. Watson. His birds are not "hot houses" pigeons, but are bred in that purpose, racing pigeons. Every bird in the Watsons' loft has carried his 172nd racing series.

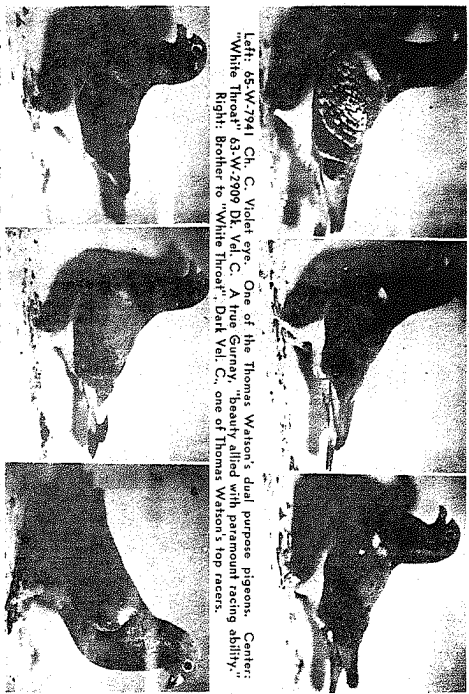
Blue checked rock No. 2941 is a fine example



The Loft of Thomas Watson at Washington, Co. Durham, England



Thomas Watson's 14 yr. old son and helper, holding the Gurnay hen, "Jimmy"



Left: 45-W-7941, Ch. C. Violet eye. One of the Thomas Watson's dual purpose pigeons. Center: "White Throat", 63-W-2909, Dr. Vel. C. A true Gurney "hen" allied with permanent feeding ability. Right: Brother to "White Throat", Dark Vel. C., one of Thomas Watson's top racers.

of Mr. Watson's dual purpose Gurnays. This violet-eyed Gurnay has won 1st club, 6th Federation, 2nd club, 11th Federation and 1st club, 1st Federation (300 miles) four times and 400 miles twice. Number 7941 is also a first prize winner in the shows.

Undoubtedly, the best example of Mr. Watson's talents as a breeder of dual purpose pigeons is champion "White Throat." White Throat, a nut brown eyed, dark velvet cock has won six firsts, including 1st Selby Open, 1st Federation Grantham (2,164 birds); and has also won 2nd club and 2nd Federation (300 miles) four times and 400 miles twice. White Throat had been raced only 10,300 miles and was one of England's best show racers, thus he was selected as a member of England's National Short Distance Sporting Class team to represent England in the Olympiad. This was indeed an honor with such famous birds as Lancashire Rose, N.F.C. Pau Grand National winner, Fechan Lass, Scottish National winner, Stephen, L.N.R.C. Thurso winner, and Chester Express winner of year 1947 in racing prizes. White Throat was bred by Mr. Watson, Frank George, Louis Messarola, and other outstanding fanciers represented England in the sporting class. But it was even more of an honor when White Throat competed at the Olympiad against selected National teams from twelve countries and won an Olympiad Gold Medal. (Although the accompanying photo of White Throat was made

by an amateur, it should give an idea of his type. Photos do not do justice to this bird.)

The Olympiad Sporting Class Gold Medal was won by White Throat in a second round race that when I asked Mr. Watson what his fondest win was, he cited the performance of a brother to White Throat, a nut brown-eyed young cock, who competed in the Welwyn Young Bird National race and won 1st club, 1st Federation, 1st two bird championship, 2nd Section and 15th Combine against 7,400 birds. Other Watson Gurnays placed 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th club in the Federation for they had wiped the boards clean. Brother to White Throat won six prizes in six races as a young bird, the Welwyn young bird National was his sixth race. He went on to win 1st club, 5th Federation, 1st club, 1st Federation, 1st club, 3rd Federation, 1st club, 3rd Federation, 1st club, 3rd Federation, 1st club, 3rd Federation, etc. Another one of Mr. Watson's top Gurnays is "Hurricane Jack," a violet-eyed, dark velvet cock who has won four firsts, one second, and three thirds in the best Federation races, despite being a notoriously bad tripper. Hurricane Jack, so named by Mr. Watson's club mates, is not only a champion racer but also a champion producer, having bred ten winners to date; one of his sons being "Jinney," a violet-eyed, dark velvet hen

is also an excellent racer as well as producer. She had been raced very little but has won 1st club, 1st Federation Redford (172 miles) against 2,280 birds; 3rd Newark (172 miles) against 2,220 birds; 1st Newark 1st club, 4th Federation Selby (81 miles) against 2,280 birds.

Another of Mr. Watson's excellent racing Gurnays is "Bronzy," a violet-eyed, dark velvet hen. "Bronzy" is a multi-prize winner, having won 1st and 2nd Newark; 1st and 2nd Grantham Open; first Welwyn by an hour and 35 minutes; and twice 2nd Federation, among other prizes.

Thomas Watson with his team of Gurnays has started the 68 season off by winning two sections, four prizes and a fourth bird victory. The 1968 Old Bird season throughout England has been a particularly hard one. In one of Mr. Watson's club's channel races, there were very few birds that returned, only one on the day, and one of the Watson Gurnays clocked at 4:55 the next morning, winning second. He is very well up in the standings for club and Federation average speed awards and hopes to keep up his percentage of eight firsts per season. Redford Open, he also won second overall and noted that the birds had already bought their corn for the season.

The Watson Gurnays fly and show with the best of them, which attests to Thomas Watson being one of the true champions of the racing pigeon sport—a dual purpose champion at that.

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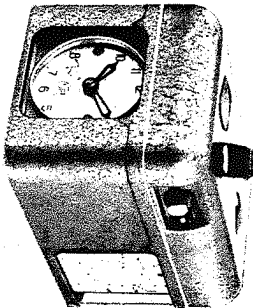


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The Pure Strain Case

By THOMAS L. SMITH, JR.

The controversy over pure strains was recently brought to mind when an auctioneer at a show said: "Here's a fine bird fellow, it's a Barker." A few minutes later he said, "It's a Barker." Then he finally got it straight and said, "Oh, for the sake of Barker, it is not a Barker." "Well, what?" he asked. "It is a clonched bird, it's a good bird." Several fanciers grimaced and sighed, but I just thought to myself, because if this fancier thinks it doesn't matter what strain a bird is, he needs to read *Violette*, *Whitney*, *Lange* or any of the other internationally known authorities, and find out something about breeding racing pigeons.

Many fanciers who do not believe there is a difference between pure strains because they say birds of the same strain are alike in shape and color, are wrong. Why? Because they have not taken the words "pure strain" in their context, that is, what they mean to the racing pigeon fancier. "Pure strain" does not necessarily mean complete uniformity of all characteristics of all birds of a particular strain. What it does signify is that all the birds of that strain have been perpetuated without an outcross by another fancier.

When a pigeon is said to be a pure Stassart, for example, it means that the bird has descended from birds bred by Mons G. Stassart. All of its ancestors are Stassarts and there has never been an outcross with another strain since the ancestors which originally left Mons Stassart's loft. The original fancier, after whom the strain is named, can make as many crosses as he likes, all the progeny bred by him will be known by his name, not the cross he used, and after they leave his loft they will be referred to by his name and as being pure. If at any time after he has died, his birds are crossed by another fancier with another strain, they will no longer be considered pure.

Some fanciers outcrossed year after year, thus their birds never were of a particular type. Take for instance the Massarellis of England. The Massarella Loft is full of champion pigeons, but of all strains and types, thus there is no similarity of type in the Massarellis. On the other hand take the Pepermans. Mons Lantier Pepermans used many different birds in his loft, but he was a fancier who preferred to show a dozen or more families, but all the Pepermans look alike why? Because Mons L. Pepermans had an "ideal" and every bird he introduced had to fit that ideal. Thus the Pepermans are not a pure family.

Other fanciers have line and inbred extensively and did in fact create pure strains, distinct in type. Many of the world's greatest fanciers bred not only for racing ability, but also for beauty, which includes size, color, eye, feather and body type. Just as the well

known Dr. Leon F. Whitney says, "There certainly are pure-bred families of racers just as certainly as there are pure breeds of dogs." As an example take the Tresidiers of England. Dr. Tresidier inbred his family for in 1907. His birds were fine birds in every way. He was a member of the Royal Lofts. From these were bred a look-alike family of mostly medium-sized blues that excelled at the long distances.

An even better example of a highly inbred strain of racers is the "world's greatest winning strain of racing pigeons," the Gurnays. Mons Renier Gurnay of Verriers, Belgium inbred his family of racers for over 50 years and only one cross, that of the Veroyers, is known. Mons Gurnay based his strain on the Hansenne hen, the "Old Blue Hen," whose progeny won over \$500,000 for him. In 1919 Mons Gurnay sold all but 20 pairs of his birds to Fred Shaw of England. From then on the Gurnays were even more highly inbred. The Gurnays were noted for possessing the most outstanding feather texture and the most beautiful, distinctive coloring possible. The Gurnays have an inherent type, but all were distinct in different types, but all predominant type had dark, bright bars on violet eyes, noble head, thick neck, high wings, short legs, big feet and a little larger than medium body. Mons Renier Gurnay had an ideal to which he adhered. He could find no better birds than those he had in his own loft, so inbred his family to his ideal.

Pure Gurnays exist today in the same form as they did over 30 years ago in Mons Gurnay's loft. Just take a look at the Gurnays of France, or Phil Smith of England, or in point, Mons Lantier, the well known writer from Belgium, who knew Mons R. Gurnay and his birds personally, recently visited P. G. Smith and found his Gurnays to be of the same type as he knew in Belgium over 30 years ago. Mons Lantier was amazed to find these replicas of the old Gurnays existing and racing successfully in England today. Phil Smith was quite pleased at Mons Lantier's remarks, because it has been his ambition for the past 30 odd years to perpetuate the perfect Gurnay strain in its purity.

Certain strains do have distinct characteristics. One has only to look at the Hurstons-Van Riels, Swing Clears, R. McDonnells of Scotland, the Plethicks, etc. But fanciers must remember that each fancier tends to breed in and out certain types in all strains according to their personal likes and dislikes. Our own Dr. Whitney has a long term project of trying to produce inbred families of pigeons. He says, "If anyone says there

are no pure bred pigeon families, these inbred families are here to contradict him. Some have been mated brother to sister for several generations. And with each new generation, more and more birds are becoming more and more alike.

If a strain is inbred or inbred the pureness is there. The inbreeding genes and inbreeding genes are there. The genes are there when a strain of outcross origin is set, led on by a fancier. If it is kept together, it is like and inbred keeping them pure bred. Take for instance the pure N. Barkers of today, which are descended from M. Northrop Barker's disposal of 1909. There were 63 different strains being used by Barker as Gones, Gays, a mixture of Gals, Van Gants, Duchonoux and Verriers, pure Barkers is misleading unless it is taken in the context of the pigeon fancier.

And this is where the necessity of a pedigree comes in. A pedigree is a list of ancestors, true, but it can be of great value to a fancier and should not be overlooked. First, it can tell you if your bird is from an inbred or out cross family, and to what degree. Second, it can tell you whether it is of a long or short distance family. Third, it can tell you whether or not the bird is descended from a long line of winners. It is used to tell you how long and where the bird can be used and the strain very definitely comes into the picture.

When one talks about pure strains and inbreeding there are always those that say an inbred strain soon deteriorates and that it is impossible to be successful year after year without bringing in a cross. What they seem not to realize is that a cross of the same strain can be brought in from another fancier who keeps the same strain pure, and with equal success as an outcross. Ted Bennett of Hampshire, England, who has had great success in breeding from the Lamballe Young Bird National Pen with the N.P.C. with his pure Gurnays and Ve. Robinson, says: "An inbred family will deteriorate, but it is up to the fancier to bring in the stimulant, the other bird of the same strain and use it properly. The selection and culling must be very strict with the basket being the ultimate, and each race individualized."

When dealing with all established strains one must remember that families become inbred to the type of management used which covers and to the total environment which settles on a bird and on the bird. Different strains supposedly excel in different weather and at different distances. Just take a look at the Belgian short distance pigeons as compared to the long distance pigeons. Yet we must not overlook the individual, for even though of the same strain, all pigeons are individuals. When a racer of a long distance strain excels at the short distances but not the longer races, he is the variable which

would have been called under the management of the strain's originator. He must now be treated as an individual or cull.

Many authorities suggest that fanciers settle on a pure strain. Why? Because an already established pure strain has much more of predictable results than an untried group of birds. The pure Gurnay family of England has out of their turn at the middle distances (100 to 400 miles) and says: "Outcrosses are known for their initial success, but that does not solve anyone's problem really, because where do you go from there? All you really have is a mongrel. I think there is only one way to breed and that is to inbreed over and over again, keeping nothing but the strong and the healthy. The heart and the basket will do the rest. The heart and the basket who is a confirmed inbreeder. The champion of Bourmont in England, The Dayton Gurnays "resemble identical pairs from one pod" and excel at the long distances. They won the Nantes National in 1958 and were 4th National in '68. They also have an outstanding record in the Breton National. Another fancier who depends on an inbred family is C. S. Comblanch, England's "fish track." The Comblanch family has a blood track. The Comblanch "Champion Novelist" was to John Thrope's far west of England 711 miles from Corwall and 622 from Hannu. Their record is unequalled in Cornwall.

In America, even more so than in Europe, pure strains and inbreeding have been a success. Who does not know the success of such great fanciers as Lewis F. Curtis, with his pure Stons, Stassarts, Busbins and Gurnays; C. D. Fisher, with his Groeters, Tom Keyes, his St. Barneys, and Charles Heitzman, with his St. Barneys, and Charles Heitzman, with his St. Barneys. And the list of fanciers with champions inbred, pure strains could go on and on.

The controversy over pure strains will likely go on for ages, but the pure strain case has now been presented for all to see. Case closed.

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Why the Gurnay Strain is Truly
"The World's Greatest Winning Strain of Racing Pigeons"

by Thomas L. Smith Jr.

Through the annals of racing pigeon history one name stands supreme, the name of Gurnay. Gurnay of Verviers, the greatest fancier that Belgium, and indeed the world has ever seen.

But you say "what of Stassart, Sion, Eastin, Dordin, De Smet and the other great champions?" Yes, what of them! Only one man in the history of the racing pigeon sport has been proclaimed "The Emperor" of pigeon racing and of course, that was Mons. Renier Gurnay. Only one strain compiled such a victorious racing record that it is known as "The World's Greatest Winning Strain of Racing Pigeons"—the Gurnay strain. Only the great Gurnay strain has come to be known as "The Most Successful Strain to use as a Cross."

The Belgian journals referred to Mons. Gurnay as "the champion of the pigeon world" and as "the giant in the history of the pigeon art." Among the many descriptions written of the Gurnays when they flew in Verviers was this one: "Beautiful race! Powerful race! Energetic race! Characteristic race! Unconquerable race! Oh the race of the Gurnays! Perfection in pigeon!"

Need I add more? Yes, you say. Then let us look at the racing records Mons. Gurnay created that have never been surpassed. In one season, a team of 15 Gurnays won \$25,000. In seven seasons a team of 25 Gurnays won \$225,000. Six Gurnays won two National races in eight days and \$20,000 pool and prize money. In 1922, one of Mons. Gurnay's best seasons, a team of 25 Gurnays consisting of 14 yearlings, 5 two year olds, & 4 four year olds won \$47,000.

Overall between 1886 and 1936 the Gurnays won over \$600,000 in the most competitive competition in the world.

If this does not convince you that the Gurnays are "The World's Greatest Winning Strain" then let us recall some of the Gurnay champions.

"Fred" 1st Limoges National; "Bronze Favorite" 1st Grand National Angoulême; "Bon Vierzon" 1st Vierzon National; "Jon Bleu" 1st Grand Nation Angoulême;

"Petite Ecaille Vierzon" 1st Vierzon National;
"Ronce Angoulême" 1st Grand National Angoulême by ½ hour;
"Bariolier" 1st Grand National Angoulême; "Verhoeye Rave"
1st Grand National Angoulême; "Little Blue Cock" 1st Grand National Angoulême; "Champion Mealy" 1st Grand National Angoulême; "Bon Rave" 1st Angoulême 1st San Sebastian;
"Illustrious Rave" 15 First prizes; "Cigarette" 12th Grand National; "Bronze Vierzon" 9th National 20 prizes in 3 years and \$2,400; "Le Gros 1st Limoges" "Old Rave" 8th Grand National & \$2,250; "Leon" 2nd Vierzon National; Angoulême 14th Grand National \$2,000.

For over 21 years Mons. Renier Gurnay was the champion of the strongest club in Verviers which had over 240 members. For 13 successive years the Gurnays won the most money, the most prizes, and the most 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. This was usually accomplished with a team of 25 racing cocks.

Ah, now you say "yes, Mons Gurnay was the master of the sport and his strain was superior, but what have they done in the hands of others?"

In their first racing season in England, a team of yearling Gurnays won 10 firsts in 11 races for Fred Shaw. In five seasons competing in 30 OB races Shaw's Gurnays won 14 firsts, 10 seconds, 8 thirds, etc in the strongest club in England, the Manchester Flying Club. Shaw bred 50 different first prize winning Gurnays in the six years he raced.

Another loft won 299 first, second and third prizes in 17 years in races over 200 miles. This was O.I. Wood's famous loft of Gurnays located at Ililley, England. The O.I. Wood Gurnays also won 902 first pool prizes in this time.

The names of E. L. Jones, J. Jasseby, A. F. Brown, Jack Green, D. Forbes, J. J. Jasper, R. G. Silsby, Billy Love, J. E. Hart, F. & D. Perkins, J. Streeter, Lee Ford, Jim Lyons, Van Rortwich and many other highly successful Gurnay fanciers have gone down in history and in the record books.

Mons. Gurnay laid a solid foundation that is still bearing fruit today. Many fanciers are still winning with pure Gurnays although many have been crossed into other strains with great success.

Andre Berteaux, J. Pullen, J. B. Beebe, Ted Barnett, Eric Dreyton, Al Beckman, Quigley, Seares, Craven, Rowbottom and many other Gurnay specialists are flying the Gurnay flag high today.

The traditionally great Gurnay strain in the right hands is still "The World's Greatest Winning Strain of Racing Pigeons," and shall be for years to come.

International Loft Gurnays

REFERENCE PEDIGREE

The WATSON COCK
 NHH068H31 Bronze Cocker
 bred and flown by
 Tom Watson, England

***** INTERNATIONAL LOFT *****
 Thomas I. Smith
 Medford, New York 11763

author of the Racing Pigeon Bulletin
 series "METHODS OF THE MASTERS" and
 "SPORTS MARK"

REFERENCE

Dark Pled 66R7601 flew 300m. in '66 tak-
 ing 4th club; flew 300m. in '67 again
 taking 4th; 1968 damaged her wing in the
 beginning of the season but flew the
 channel 408m. later

SIRE PEDIGREE

flown 200m. as yb; flown 300m. twice
 as a yearling; 1968 flew channel 3
 times - 2nd Beauvais 408m.; clocked 455
 m. only one day bird; 7th Lille 350m.;
 and flew Tours smash 424m.

Granddam 6044646 Checked Spreoc bred direct from A. Brown Gurnay's flown 400 m. but a better breeder 2 years in a row bred the Beauvais 408m. winner and bred other winners from 80 to 300 m. a great hen	Grandaire 63W2909 Bronze Olympiade Gold Medal winner Flown 200 as yb 1st club open; 1964 1st c 1st Fed. 160m by 67pm, 2nd 16th Fed. and many other wins	Granddam 65W7932 Dark & white flew 200m as a yb very consistent; 66 flew 300m. twice and 3rd 180m. '67 4th 200m. 4th 200m. again	Grandaire 65W7941 Checked unraced as yb 66 twice 300m. winning 1st 9 Fed; 67 2nd 11 Fed, 300 channel twice; 68 2nd 3 all pools 11c 3rd 200m. and fle channel 3 times won C & Fed Snow 2x
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A. BROWN Direct	A. BROWN Direct	Grandair 58T948 Dark Hen see below	Grandair 61Z8864 Dark Velvet see below	Grandair 62 flew all stages inland, first channel race home 62 flew all stages inland, first channel race home next morning, fortnight later channel again winning 1st club, also has 3rd and 4th at channel	Grandair 61Z8864 Late bred, 300m. twice as a yearling 2nd club, 3rd club 200m. 63 2nd club 140m, 4th club 300, 64 1st club 6 Fed. 200, 2nd club 300, then kept for stock	Grandair 58T948 Dark Hen two seconds, two thirds, see above three fourths, HURRICANE JACK 58T931
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The Bold One - son of the Lerwick Cocker (McDougal) imported



Black Inbred Tybalt Hen - daughter of Tybalt - imported

International Lofts ----- The Smith Gurnays

You have read the fantastic history of the Gurnays, how they beat the records of the immortal Alexander Henseme, how they won the title of the "world's greatest winning strain," how they won in every country they were introduced into, and how they also dominated the shows. But what of today?

Today the Gurnays are still firmly established. Wons. Gurnay laid such a prepotent foundation that they are still winning today. They are winning in England, Germany, Japan, Canada, America and other countries today. Just take a look at some of the testimonials on Smith's Gurnays. They have won in the north, south, east and west in the 1970's. The great Gurnays, true to type and performance, are still in existence. In America Tom Smith, owner of International Lofts, has become known as a "Gurnay Specialist" because of his dedication to preserving and perpetuating it. Youngsters are sold around the world on a "money back guarantee." This is one reason why fliers keep coming back to International Lofts for birds.

The International Lofts house the finest family of Gurnays in North America. Importations have been made from all over the world to improve the Smith Gurnays. Some have clicked, some have not. Gurnays have come from England, Ireland, Scotland, and parts of America from such well known fanciers as B. Beebe, R.G. Wales, Arthur Mellor, Wm. Mellor & Son, Avona Lofts, P.G. Smith, Eric Craven, W.R. Black, Tom Watson, ~~Beekman~~, Beekman, Hefner (J. Lyons), Willomere, Bob Holmes, Seidman (Hart), etc. Today the Smith Gurnays are bred around three main birds: Champion TYBALF of the Perkins Brothers of Mill Hill, England; Champion IERWICK COCK (also known as McDougal) of Basil Beebe of England; and last but certainly not least, the prepotent foundation WATSON COCK bred and flown by Tom Watson of England. Of course there are other outstanding bloodlines such as that of IRISH WONDER winner of 4 firsts and a second as a yb, then imported from Ireland and stocked. Another outstanding introduction recently made was SAINTE LOUELLA, daughter of the champion SAINTE Gurnay owned by Louis Massarella of England.

The breeding program at International Lofts is on of line-breeding, inbreeding and "crossing" the different Gurnay lines. Many of the breeders are sons or daughters of the WATSON COCK. His direct children never flew outstandingly, but his grandchildren and great-grandchildren have won out of turn all over the country. Therefore most of WATSON's offspring are kept for stock, usually with outstanding results.

If the background of the Smith Gurnays is studied you will find that they emanate from three of the greatest winning Gurnay specialists in the history of the sport: Wm. Streeter, Perkins Brothers and A.F. Brown. They were friends, had each others birds and won consistently from 100 to 500 miles with cocks and hens. Wm. Streeter had many of his friend A.F. Brown's Gurnays. Streeter competed in the tough Western Home Counties Combine against several hundred fliers. He had the distinction of clocking the only bird on the day from Thurso (over 500m.) twice and once from Fraserburgh on the hard North Road course. On one occasion he sent 10 Gurnays to Thurso and won eight prizes in the first 16 places and had the only bird on the day! Perkins Brothers established their loft on the Streeter Gurnays. They won 65 trophies in 11 seasons until one of the partners was killed in an auto accident and the birds were sold at auction. Beebe bought many Streeter and Perkins pigeons direct, as did Avona Lofts. Watson bought Gurnays directly from A.F. Brown.

Names mean alot. Some of Streeters most well known champions were Trevors Choice, Spencer, Ohello, Seguro Servidor, Iago, Young Romeo, Ramses, Horatio, Fabian, Hamlet, Orpheus, Wacbeth, Desdemone Ophelia, Madame Bovary, Veronica, Prou Frou, Grizelda, Antionette, etc. The Perkins Brothers most well known Gurnays were Tybalt, Suzy, Oberon, MacDuff, Puck, Iysander, Mistress Quickly, Nerissa, Isabella, Miranda, Portia, Stephano, Jaques, etc. You will find these in the pedigrees of most of the top Gurnays today.

The Gurnays at International Lofts are bred for performance, body, feather, eye, and type. They are mainly Dark Checkers, Bronze, Velvet, some with whitelights or splashed, a few Blues, Silvers, and Reds.

The Gurnays at International Lofts are housed separately from all other families to insure purity. They are bred in a well lit, well ventilated loft. Everything possible is done to produce strong, healthy youngsters, able to carry on their winning tradition. Each pair has a large 2 foot x 3 foot x 1 1/2 foot nestbox. Every bird sent out has a money back guarantee.

Many fanciers that purchase Smith Gurnays settle them and then breed from them the next year with success. Others cross them into their own family with success. The Gurnays are known for their success as a cross. Because they have been linebred and inbred for so many years they produce that "hybrid vigor," the whip in the blood, when crossed in. Some fanciers have even taken the chance of flying them the first year, with success. It is up to you. These Gurnays get better the older they get. They can win the short and long oldbird races and youngbird races. They can win the fast and slow races, it all depends on the handling. This has been proven. No one can truthfully guarantee winners, but these Gurnays have won all over the country in varying climates, over varying terrain, and under different systems of handling. They have a winning past and the prospects of a winning future. I will do my best to set you up with a winning foundation. You know, your winning with my family of birds is the greatest advertisement I can get. A satisfied customer comes back.

Bookings will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Please book early. A deposit will book them. All shipping charges incurred are charged to the purchaser: This includes replacement (uncut band returned within 30 days of purchase) or return. Birds can be banded with your bands or mine. Shipment is made by Air Freight collect. Please supply your phone number and closest airport.

I do not usually print up a breeding list because my family is so closely bred and I know my breeders better than you. You must have trust in me. You can request specific bloodlines. Here is an example of some of the matings: Son of WATSON x Tybalt Hen; Son of Lerwick x Dau. of WATSON; Craven Cock x Dau. of WATSON; Son of WATSON x Dau. of Lerwick; GSON Tybalt x Dau. of WATSON; Irish Wonder x Silver Beauty; Thurso Cock x Inbred Dau. WATSON; Son of a Champ x Holmes Hen; Noble Red x Inbred Mistress Quickly;

Perfecta II x Watson Hen; Inbred Tybalt Cock x Dau. of Tybalt; Red Son of Lerwick x Dau. of a Champ; Irish Lady x Son of Watson; G Son Tybalt x Dau. of Watson; etc. These matings may stay the same or they may be changed but the basic family is still in tact. The breeding team is made up of both imports and domestics, everyone a Grand specimen of the real GURNAY strain. These are the finest Gurnays that money can buy! These Gurnays are a family unlike any other. Once you own a few of them and race successfully with them, you won't want another strain..... Such is the magic of the GURNAYS.

Youngbirds are available according to bookings. I only keep 30 birds so the availability is not unlimited. Birds are sent around the world and a number must be kept for our own use. So book your ybs early. A deposit will hold them. Your bands or mine. All birds sold with a Money Back Guarantee (buyer pays all shipping charges) Guaranteed to Please upon Arrival or Your Money Back Upon Return. This guarantee is for your peace of mind. Smiths Gurnays are the finest Gurnays obtainable in North America. All birds come with pedigrees.

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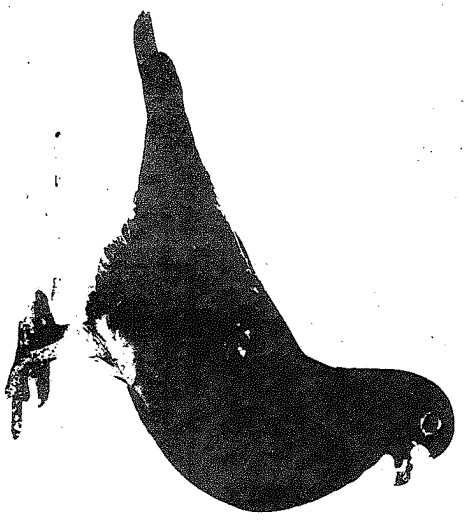
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MC DOUGAL (THE LERWICK COCK) Dark Ch.
 NUHW5913355
 Bred and raced by John Basil Beebe, Lincs., England



Thomas L. Smith

International Lofts Smith's Gurneys

Author of the Pigeon Bulletin series Methods of the Masters and breeder of the Gurney strain

MEMPHO, N.Y. 11763

The LERWICK COCK (McDougal) NUHW5913355 Dark Ch. Gurney Cock bred and flown by Basil Beebe of England, a top breeder and winner of 1st Northallerton; 5th Morpeth vel. 706, hard race; Couper Angus smash on the day; 6th Durham; 4th Perth; Fraserburgh smash 2nd day; 9th Selby; 1st club, 1st Federation Gooler; clocked three times from Lerwick 500 m., was found in the loft in 1964 but still placed 67th Open North Road Championship Club Lerwick National. A true to type racing Gurney whose progeny are breeding today at International Lofts.

DAM NU57MHE378 B.Ch.Pd.
 #53 Wm. Streeter's sales list
 dam of many winners

SIRE NU57MHE378 Dark Ch.
 #45 Wm. Streeter list
 another great breeder

GrandDam Frou-Frou NURP56RA10899 #23 Streeter (NU56WHB477) A great breeder looks like Fred Shaw's SERENADE	GrandSire Fidus Achates A.N. Other 1950 RCH unrugg which was the fate of luck in- that he became a top producer	GDam Madame Boverly NU52 N8089 Velvet Pd. bred & stocked by A.F. Brown, then stock for Wm. Streeter #19 his list	GSire Iago NUHW52CC94 NURP52ZK94 Velvet last son of Spen- cer, a great breeder of many winners
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Frou-Frou bred from that great pair, Young Romeo x Juliet Young Romeo NURP 550C1390 Velvet bred from NU51N 9083 cock winner of 1st Weymouth, 6th Sect. KRC Nat. Guernsey, 2nd Sec, NRC Nantes Nat. Dam of YR is Ophelia Juliet is bred down from Wons. Gurnays Reel Wor- der, Lady Manager & Petit Joli de Madame	Fidus Achates sire is SPENCER the 600 m. champion FA's dam is Pique Dame 46-14 Fidus Achates bred winners of club, Federation and combine races from 100 to 500 m.	Madame Boverly's sire is great "SEGUHO SERVIDOR" NURP48BF13 46 BCh won many prize s, crossed channel 4 times with Nat. F.C. 335, 602, 335 & 598m. Sire of 1346 is 42D 6528 from O.I. Wood's Champ 39. Dam of 13- 46 is daughter of Spencer's mother Madame Boverly's dam 50-2022 a gdaw. of Aston Boy and a gdaw. of Champion 39 Aston Boy won 1st Worcester Fed. by 10 ypm	Iago's sire was Spencer NURP45AA 247 DOH flown Lerwick 600m. 4 x and won at all other race points. 247's sire The Resident NUHW42D 3174 presented to AFBrown by Streeter Dam of Spencer is 34-2382 Flown Melun & Nears 600m twice winning 4 prizes She was bred from F. Shaw's Apollio, Picture, Masterpic- ce blood. Iago's dam is Ophelia NURP37M#234 DrkVel hen #18 Streeter
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Won 1st Northallerton, 5th Morpeth vel. 706, Couper Angus smash on the day, 6th Durham, 4th Perth, Fraserburgh smash, 9th Selby, 1st Gooler, 1st Fed-eration, clocked three times from Lerwick (over 500 m.) in the National, found in the loft 1964 and still won 67th Open National North Road Champion-ship Club. Won a fortune in pools. A champion racer and producer. His grand-parents William Streeters well known IAGO, MADAME BOVARY, FIDUS ACHATES, and FROU-FROU. Grandparents: Spencer 600m, 4 times, OPHELIA, SEGUHO SERVIDOR, Gden of ASTON BOY, SPENCER, PIQUE DAME, YOUNG ROMEO, and JULIET- the great-est Gurney champions.

The progeny of this great cock are breeding today in INTERNATIONAL LOFTS South, Medford, New York.
 International Lofts - Tom Smith

Thomas L. Smith

International Lofts
Smith's GURNAYS

Author of the Racing Pigeon Bulletin series Methods of the Masters and breeder of the Gurney strain

MEDFORD, N.Y. 11766

Reference pedigree of Champion TYBALF
 N061W4233/N061M4E183 Black Velvet WF. Cock - Perkins Bros., England
 an outstanding racer and breeder - in one season alone this wonderful racer won
 5th Newark; 6th Berwick; 5th Thurso 450 5th Fed., 5th Combine; 6th Thurso;
 2nd Fraserburgh, 30th Combine winning the Federation Long Distance Trophy
 and the coveted Ransome trophy for the best Average Speed on his own!
 The progeny of TYBALF are breeding today at International Lofts.

DAM NURP57RA10922
 1st Doncaster Club & Federation,
 4th Huntingdon; then stocked

SIRE NUG6WHG1206
 1st club, 6th Fed. Doncaster;
 3rd Retford; 6th Berwick; 6th Doncaster
 2nd Berwick; etc.

G. Dam JULIET
 N04856789 Drk. Pd.
 J. Tompkins of
 Gloucester, a great
 breeder, worth her
 weight in gold,
 bred many winners
 when mated to
 Romeo

YOUNG ROMEO
 N0485301390 Vel.
 a great producer
 bred by AF Brown of
 Aston Cross
 prepotent breeder
 a true descendant
 of Apollo, Picture
 & Ponce Angouleme
 etc.

N059WHF1144 CELIA
 8th Essendine,
 2nd Newark,
 6th Thurso,
 5th Berwick,
 3rd Northallerton
 4th Northallerton
 4th Thurso
 etc.

ODDEYS
 N056WHB425
 4th Newark,
 2nd Retford, 2nd c
 17th Combine, Doning
 1st C. 8th Fed. North
 2nd 6th Fed N.,
 3rd Retford,
 5th Doncaster,
 etc. a great racer
 and breeder

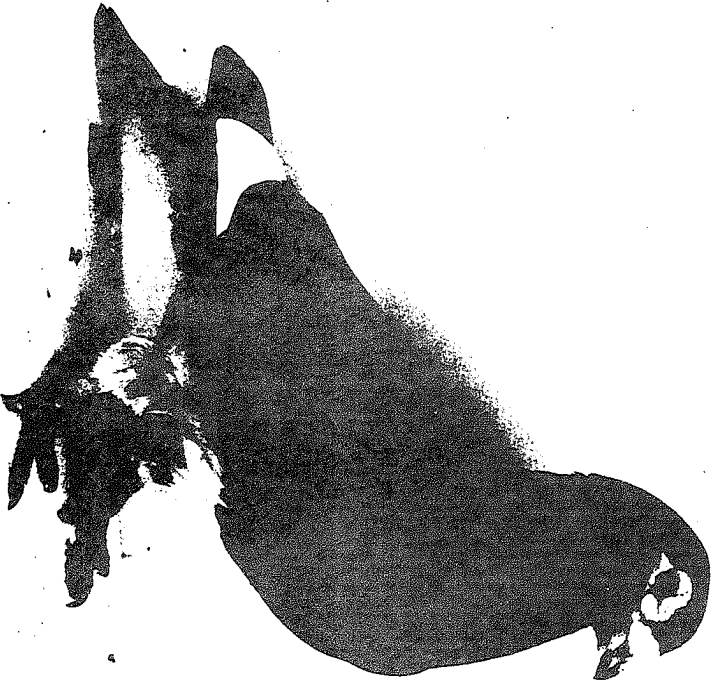
Juliet's sire
 NURP37P11 bred
 from Mealy Hen 36
 U457 (nestmate
 to AF Brown's
 Champion Mealy) x
 NURP351K596 (grand
 son of Mons.
 Gurnay's REAL
 WONDER x LADY
 MANAGER)
 Juliet's Dam from
 846 x 3888. 846
 from Belge 28-1034
 32, a brother of
 Petit Joli de La-
 Dame, x Belge 29-
 1037751 both bred
 by Kenler Gurnay

Young ROMEO's sire
 N051N9083
 noted producer and
 1st Weymouth, 6th
 Sect. Gurnsey Nat.,
 2nd Sect. NFG Nantes
 National. Dam NURP
 37NW234 (old ring
 bred '48) D. Vel.
 OPHELIA AF Brown's
 famous stock hen
 down from Young Hawk
 sire LeFeymen,
 champion of Europe,
 Real Wonder who won
 9 firsts for Gurnay,
 Lady Manager, and
 nestmate of Champ-
 ion Mealy

CELIA's sire 2563
 winner of 3 firsts,
 bred from Pidas
 Achates, also known
 as A.N. Other 1950,
 2nd Spencer 600 miller
 x Pique Dame 46-14.
 Pidas Achates x Fron
 Fron. FF from Young
 Romeo x Juliet
 Celia's dam is 672
 SUZY top racer and
 breeder

ODDEYS is grandsor
 of Wm. Streeter's
 4 time Larwick 600
 mile cock SPENCER
 who was grandson of
 OIWOOD's Champion

Champion "Tybalf"



Testimonials on Smith Gurneys

Roger Homewood, Iowa

Friend Tom,

Many pleasant hours have been spent with the Gurneys I purchased from you. I raced ybs. off them and was very pleased with their performances.

They won a first place 86 miles 1098 ypm; won a first place from Ames 114m, a very tough race, 772 ypm two hours ahead; a 2nd from Ames in the same race; a second from Fort Dodge 115 miles, another tough one 707.5 ypm; won a 4th place diploma from Sac City 156 m; and 7th place in the NE Iowa Futurity from Loveland 226 m.

We sent a Gurney cross to the Grainbelt Futurity in Omaha and won 20th at 1326 ypm.

We are very impressed with your Gurneys and would be interested in obtaining more.

RH

Juliam Kasprzyk, Mass.

Mr. Smith,

We won 4 yb races, yb Futurity and yb average speed. The Gurneys won a race in OBS and several seconds in ybs. They look good. I do like them very much. They are a nice bird, just beautiful.

JK

Howard Holtin, Iowa

I have got some birds off your imports from a few fliers that bought birds from you. They fly very good for me. I am interested in buying some yos from you.

H.H.

Lyman Danton, Pottsville, Pa.

The last time I wrote you about longdistance Gurneys and you answered me, I never wrote back because of the tragedy of losing our son in an accident. He was the one who first introduced your Gurneys to our loft. Now the wife and I are getting back into the birds and we want yours. When we had the birds before they flew very well for us. We gave some to a friend S & H Speiss. They mated one of your Gurneys on a Peterson and bred a Black cock that won 5 times and 3rd Concourse! I gave his wife a young Gurney and it won 1st 200m. and was she proud! We proved to our club that the Smith Gurneys are darn good pigeons. They come across on a tough race when most are late or don't clock at all. Your Gurneys proved to be very smart, strong, fast pigeons. In the oldbird races a yearling Gurney flew 70 miles an hour winning 1st club and 1st Concourse! We would like you to sell us some pigeons. We would like about 20 Gurneys. I'll do my best to keep the Gurney strain a popular strain of pigeons.

Newspaper clipping from local newspapers and Phila. Inquirer:

Pigeon Racing

An entry from the lot of Sanguis Boys, T.C. 18317; Sanguis Boys, T.C. 18320; N. Perole, H.C. 18319; Pegs Paris, Pa. 18301; N. Perole, H.C. 18314; J. Twardak, Sanguis Boys, T.C. 18318; J. Twardak, season, averaging 70 miles an hour in the 100 mile flight from Buckeystown, Md. Lyman Danton, Pa. 18234; S & F. Lot 306, 19130; E. Marman, S.V. 19130; J. Twardak, Sanguis Boys, T.C. 18317; Marman, S.V. 19130; J. Twardak, Sanguis Boys, T.C. 18317; S. 18925; C. R. Kries, T.C. 18906; S. Masshaus, T.C. 18446; R. Maloy, T.C. 18734; P. Kapschock, S.V. 18703; C. R. Kries, T.C. 18809; J. Maloy, T.C. 18675; M. Baddeck, H.C. 18674; R. Edmonds, T.C. 18645; Irene Selger, T.C. 18612; John Maloy, T.C. 18625; R. Edmonds, T.C. 18620; R. Maloy, T.C. 18421; S. Treadle, H.C. 18343; Masshaus, T.C. 18187; S. Twardak, S.V. 18177.

Robert Gallagher, Ohio

From that nice kit of Gurneys you sent me I raced 306, 2nd 100m., and 309 was very consistent. Those stocked bred good bird like 345 4th diploma 100m. already. I was 3rd Average Speed in ybs with the Gurneys and I missed two races. I want some more ybs and some Vanhees.

Testimonials on Smith's Gurnays from International Loft

J.S., Mass.

I like these Gurnays very much. One has won 3rd club, 16th N. Sect. 1199 birds from 107 lofts, 21st overall 2426 birds from 219 lofts a tough race in the Boston Concourse.

B.H., Chicago, Ill.

Birds off your Gurnays have flown well for us. One Red cock off yours won 4th Concourse, 9th Combine 209 lofts 2618 birds. Another Red cock won 8th Concourse, 15th Combine 200 m. 172 lofts 1937 birds. 1st Club 5th Fox Valley Combine 300 m. was won by a youngster off your Bronze cock that we gave to our friend L.C. Two other birds were prize winners in the North East Ill. Special Race 315 m. The hen also won 3rd Concourse, 15th Combine 197 lofts 2540 birds 200 m. as a yb. in a tough race with no day birds. I want another kit of youngsters.

E.A., Virginia

Tom I love these Gurnays of yours and am going to keep nothing else. They have flown well for me considering my lack of time and the lack of longer tosses. My highest position so far was 4th Concourse.

G.M., Ohio

The birds you sent me are doing real good. I am getting rid of most of my Trentons and Sions. I won a 2nd and a 7th with two out of yours, but we had a real bad season and lost over 80% of my ybs.

P.S., NY

These Gurnays are getting better and better the older they get, just as you said.

E. A., Ill.

I like these Gurnays Tom. I have a great looking yearling team for next year.

Dr. T.J., NY

Tom you have the finest family of Gurnays that I have seen in years. They are the real thing and you are certainly on the right track. I have visited your so called Gurnay breeders and they don't compare. You have the best.

Testimonials on Smith's Gurnays

Homer Mc Ewen, Nebraska

Bred some good ones with Smith's Gurnays. See Aug. 19, 1974 Bulletin, Iowa - Nebraska 5 Bird Derby 600. McEwen wins 1st with Sion x Gurnay cross yearling hen.

D. Miller, Ohio

I have five out of eight left racing. Got 4th dip. with one and have high hopes of winning the futurity. Will let you know how the rest of the races go.

A. McKee, Hawaii

I received some great birds on the 29th. THANKS! They really look good and are even getting better.

A.J. Tipton, Texas a fellow Gurnay breeder for many years

I received the ybs today. They sure look good and I'm anxious to see the pedigrees.

Dr. Kasimazak, NJ

Tom these Gurnays are beautiful - the real thing. When I get my loft set up I'll be over to select a bunch as my foundation stock.

F. Weber, Md.

Tom, a friend told me a Gurnay cock of yours bred some good ones for him and he'll be contacting you to get a few more.

Alvin Becker, Florida

Tom I like these Gurnays, especially the Black ones. When you have some more inbreds for sale let me know. I have found that they come through when the going gets tough.

Testimonials on Smith's GURNAYS from International Lofts

Bill Herman, Bronx Club (over 60 Members), New York:

Your Gurnays were 1st, 2nd and 3rd clock birds for me many times winning many prizes. In one of our 150 m. special races one of your dark Gurnays won 1st and a week later he was near the top again. One of the ybs flew the 250 well so I shipped him back the next week - but that was my mistake, I lost a good bird. I want some more ybs next year.

Al Beckman, Michigan

In the annual Gold Band Race of the 500 m. State Homing Pigeon Club of Central Michigan flying 270 m. in '72 you won 2nd out of area; in '69 flying 240 m. you were 10th out of area; and in '70 you were 7th and 8th out of area.

Shiow Song Jui, Taiwan, Republic of China:

I like the birds you sent me very much and want more next year.

Bill Nance, Calif.

I won a 1st and a 2nd in my club with two youngsters out of your hen. I sent a yb out of yours to a friend in Modesto and it won the 200 m. race by an hour!

J. K. Mass.

The young birds out of your Gurnays have flown great: One was 1st Club, 7th Combine in her first race and was 2nd for me in the second race. Another was the 5th for me in the first race and 1st Club, 1st Combine in the second. Not too bad? A year later: These bronze Gurnays are still winning for me.

S. J. B., Ohio

The youngsters you sent turned out beautifully and we are so very pleased with them. Do you have any extra cocks? We need a few to fill out pairs.

L.D., Penna.

I received the pigeons on Friday and they are in great shape. They came safely and are very healthy. A year later: Those Gurnay youngsters flew real good and were there when the races got tough. I want more of them.

Frank Golab, Pa.

I mated the two cocks I got from you to two of my hens. The BB Cock bred a COMBINE winner in our Futurity race! The DCB cock bred a pool winner.

Stan Garwal, Ga.

I have 6 Gurnays direct from your loft through purchases. They are sharp! One is a cock bred direct from your birds that won a 500 mile race for J. Slaughter.

Al Becker, Florida

I like these Black Gurnays. I settled some and have clocked them.

Joe Min Kuo, Taiwan, Free China

The birds you sent me in '75 are quite beautiful. I will breed some together and some on my own to see which way they produce better. I want more Gurnay ybs next year.

Irwin Moore, Virginia

Just a little something on the birds I got from you. I bred 3 ybs out of one pair. 1272 was one of them and he won 1st 100m., 1st 100m., 1st 130m., 1st 185m., and 1st 200m! He was awarded was Best Bird in the Club. We also won Average speed and Points Championship.

Gene Amato, NY

I really like these Gurnays! They have done very well for me. I want some breeders from you at the end of the season.

Chat Skorpyski, Mass.

I have youngsters from the pair of Gurnays I bought from you that are two years old and will go to the 500 and 600 this year. They have performed well to this point. It will be interesting to see how they perform at the long races.

Fletcher Brothers, Arizona

I have a bird bred from your Gurnays that you sold to a fellow in Rochester NY. It has bred some good racers when crossed on my Hayskens Vanhiefs. I would like to buy a few pairs of Gurnays and I am also interested in Vanhees

Stankowsky, N.J.

Dear Sir:

The Big Blue I bought from you did his part this year and last year. He took the board a few times, but did not win for me yet as he is very hard to trap. He will always be in the first group but for the hell of me he just won't trap.

The ybs you sent this time are everything that I wanted. You pick a good bird. I was very pleased with them.

And the Gurnays are winning in the South too!

News from Don Algermon of the Mobile Club in Mobile Alabama. He won 6 out of 9 yb races with Gurnay youngsters bred out of a kit of Smith Gurnays!

Don entered an average of 5 birds per race and was no lower than 6th. His club has about 8 active lofts. In the first 100 mile race there were 147 birds from 7 lofts. Don entered 9 and won 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th vel 893.29. In the second 100 mile race the Gurnays were 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, vel. 1104.00, only 8 entered by Don. In the 300 mile 1 bird Dirby Don also won 1st vel. 1000.33. He wind out the competition with his Gurnays. and he's not flying against novices - some members have 40 years experience.

From a fancier who flew in Moscow, Idaho, now Penna. a phone call: Tom the pair you sold me turned out to be 2 cocks, so I mated them on my Sions and they bred club winners that were high up in the Combine also.

1974 Northeast Center Auction

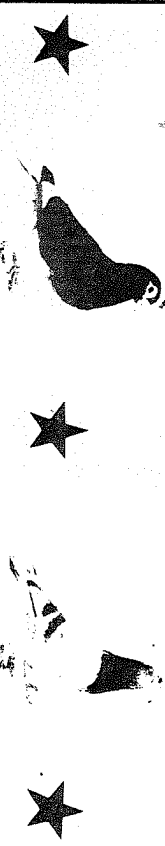
Tom your Red Gurnay cock, that you donated, was judged by the show judges as the best bird in the auction against 50 birds from such fanciers as Hearl, Kasprzyk, Soares, Apollo Loft. And it was 3rd highest priced!

Norman Dock

"The World's Greatest Winning Strains"

• **RENIER GURNAYS**
Beauty plus Paramount
Racing Ability

• **G & M VANHEES**
The Super Pigeons
Speed plus Endurance



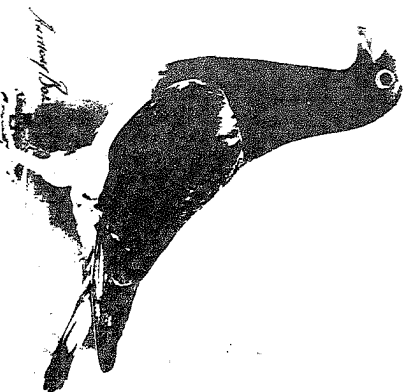
TYBALT

MOTTA

International Lofts houses the largest yet most select stud of Vanhees and Gurnays in America. Winners have been reported throughout the USA and as far away as the Republic of China. In 1978 the entire 1st, 2nd and 3rd rounds are being offered. Write for a copy of our new Vanhee brochure or our Gurnay brochure. FoundationKits - our specialty. Bookings now being accepted. All YB's guaranteed to please.

TOM SMITH — INTERNATIONAL LOFTS

P. O. Box 656, Medford, N. Y. 11763
New Phone 516-289-7299



The Thurso Cock

Tom Wolf, Louisiana

Here is how the youngsters bred off your Gurnays flew for me in '75 ybs. The first few races I had to put up with a strong South wind, we fly west to east, and I am 40 miles south of the closest flier!

first 100m. 27 (Gurnay&Vandevelde), 28, 29 Gurnay
second 100 7th, 23, 25, 26 (Gurnay)
first 150 24, 25, 26, 27

third 100 8 (Gurnay), 9, 14, 15 (all Gurnay)
first 200 2nd Gurnay & Vandevelde, 12, 17 Gurnay
second 150 1st Gurnay, 2nd Gurnay, 3rd Gurnay, 4th Gurnay
first 300 1st, 2, 6, 8 Gurnay
third 150 2, 3 Gurnay, 15, 23

The last two 300's were smashes, rain all day. I lost only 4 Gurnays prior to these smashes, then 10 between the them. I was second ybs going into these last two races, but wound up third. A storm front 100 miles wide shut me out. The northern fliers had their day. That's the way it goes! I am very satisfied with the birds, both straight and crossed. Just thought you would like to know.

Glenn Raddatz, Milwaukee
I like these Gurnays very much and clocked them in a couple of races.

Charles Murphy, Mass.
Received the birds in good shape. They appear smart. After checking their pedigrees, they should score.

Don Algermon, Alabama
The Gurnays are tops! Anytime you need a testimonial use me as a reference. Right now I am flying a team of latebreds and birds that have had only 2 or 3 yb races against birds with 4, 5, 6 years experience and I am leading in loft points and am by far the top pool winner. And I fly a team of 10 or less birds!

Charles Rhoads, Pa.
I like these Gurnays very much. I am well pleased with them. I always name my birds after the man I get them from, so all yours and their young are called "Salty's".

Tom's Testimonial:

Hello Tom,
The Gurnays arrived in great shape. I like the Bronzes very much. I am sure the other members of my club will be impressed by these fine birds. Can't see how they can miss. They have everything.

RT Henderson, Wisconsin

Tom,
The Gurnays you sent me won 3 firsts in club, # 2847, 2802, and 2812. They were 10th, 11th, and 8th Goncourse. In the 265m. race I won by an hour. In our bond race I was beaten by a bird bred from one of yours.

Lyman Danton, Pa.

Dear Sir,
I had a great producing Gurnay from you but someone stole him and 7 other birds. I had three yearlings out of him this year that raced really well for me. One of them won the 500 for me - the first time in 7 years we had day birds. There were only 4 day birds out of 24.5 birds. They were tossed at 6:00 PM and I clocked the winner on the day at 6:45 PM.

Jim Buffinbarrer, Flving D Loft
Wren, Ohio

Mr. Wolf,
Your ad in the bulletin for latebreds interests me. I got a pair of Gurnay ybs from Ed Madzaski of Buffalo, a beautiful pair of Bronzes. These birds are within bloodlines. He clocked a brother of these two at our 100 two weeks ago for 2nd in the Buffalo Association. I am very impressed with the type of these birds and I want to buy a pair from you.

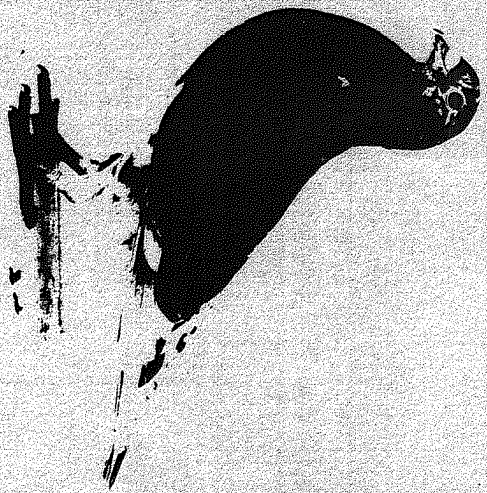
Howard Skivinton, Niagara Falls, NY

MOBILE MUNICIPAL BIRDS
MOBILE AL

Please Hire Birds Insured

O.K. TOM,
Send me 10 Van Hees. I'll put them to a good test. Incidentally, I won my first race of the season which also was the first one I entered. 9 lofts 257 birds, I only entered 7 birds, did not clock my 2nd bird because I only had 6 training losses after redeeming my birds. I look 1st place and would have had 5th. with my 2nd. Race 2... which was the 1st combine of the season, I sent only 6 birds against 27 lofts, 396 birds. I took 2nd, 3rd club and combine. These 2 birds were found in the loft, so I believe I would have been 1st & 2nd. combine had I been there when they arrived. These are Gurnays of the type you sent me in 1972, one is BL12879 Velvet Dock from 1976.
SEND BIRDS SAME AS LAST TIME: DON L. ALBERTSON

Typical Smith Gurnays



Red Son of TYBALIN - Irish Import



Irish Lady 315 Imported breeder