

CAGE BIRDS

MEMO FROM THE EDITOR.

During the Industrial Exhibition a deputation from the Toronto Cage Bird Association waited on the Editor of the REVIEW, promising all possible support if a page were devoted to that increasing and beautiful fancy. As some of our readers know, we have spent both time and money in this direction before, but with no return. We now, at the request of the breeders, give this opportunity, let them avail themselves of it and see that at any rate enough encouragement is offered us to pay the running expenses of the extra pages. We ask nothing more.

CAGE BIRDS AT TORONTO.

None of the live stock exhibits at the Industrial were more admired than the beautiful and varied collection of Canaries and other birds, situated in the poultry building. Following are the prize winners : Belgian, yellow or yellow marked, 1st McDowall ; buff or buff marked, 1st Way, 2nd Detler, VHC Goggins. Scotch fancy, yellow, 1st McDowall, 2nd Brackstone, VHC Detler ; yellow marked, 1st and 2nd Detler, VHC Way ; buff, 1st and 2nd Goggins, VHC Brackstone ; buff marked, 1st and 2nd McDowall, VHC Powell. Norwich, yellow, 1st Park, 2nd Denning, VHC Naylor ; yellow, marked, 1st Cochrane, 2nd Naylor, VHC Denning ; buff, 1st Goggins, 2nd Cochrane, VHC Dunn ; buff marked, 1st and 2nd Cochrane, VHC Denning ; crested, 1st Dunn, 2nd Cochrane, VHC Way ; crested AOV, 1st Denning, 2nd Cochrane, VHC Way. Crest-bred Norwich, 1st James, 2nd and VHC Cuthbertson ; crest-bred AOV, 1st Dunn, 2nd Way, VHC Denning. Yorkshire, yellow, 1st Stevens, 2nd Naylor, VHC Dunn ; buff, 1st and 2nd Stevens ; yellow or buff marked, 1st and 2nd Stevens, VHC Goggins. Lizard, golden, 1st Dunn, 2nd Powell ; silver, 1st Dunn, 2nd and VHC Powell. Cinnamon, yellow, 1st Dunn, 2nd and VHC Naylor ; buff, 1st and 2nd Naylor, VHC Dunn ; yellow or buff marked, 1 Naylor, 2 Way, VHC Stevens. Mules, any cross, 1st Way, 2nd Naylor. Goldfinch, 1st Park, 2nd Powell, VHC Park. Bullfinch, 1st Naylor, 2nd Park. Linnet, 1st and 2nd Park. Parrot, 2nd Miss Dean. Parroquets, 1st and 2nd Powell. Best collection of cage birds, silver medal, Johnstone. Exhibitor

taking most points, bronze medal, Naylor. Member of Toronto Canary and Cage Bird Society taking most 1st and 2nds, silver cup, given by the Society, Naylor ; taking most points in Scotch Fancies, prize (value \$5), McDowall.

THE NORWICH CANARY.

The following notes are from a paper read before the Hetton le Hole Cage Bird Society on Aug. 22nd : Beginning with this, the most popular breed of Canaries, we should note its general outlines, its bold active carriage, the lovely silkiness of its feather, combined with high colour, and its different forms of variegation. These points have won for the Norwich Canary a world-wide reputation. Although so widely known and largely exhibited, the appearance of very high class specimens is rare when we consider the large number of birds that are annually bred.

Let us look at the type of bird that is wanted for the show bench. It should not exceed six and a half inches in length, measured from the tip of the beak to the end of the tail. In appearance it should be chubby and standing well forward over the perch ; the head should be round, with short thick neck, broad across the shoulders, then gradually tapering away to the roots of the tail ; the breast should be full ; the wings should be firmly placed on the back, meeting feather for feather in each wing, and not crossed at the tips ; the feather should be short, tight, and silky throughout ; the tail feathers carried close and compact, well supported underneath with a fair amount of underfeather. The colour of yellow should be even throughout, and not showing least appearance of frosting on the back. The above description applies also to the buffs, except in the colour, which should be as lustrous, but that each feather should be tipped with white, so that the feathers overlapping each other give a frosted or mealy appearance.

As to breeding, never pair young birds together. It may answer very well for a season or two, but it is a failure in the end. If the cock is 12 months old, the hen should be two or three years, for the production of strong and healthy youngsters. Both parents should be in good health and fit condition. I prefer a clear yellow cock and a buff marked hen. No. 2, pair a yellow green cock to a clear buff hen ; from this cross I have bred some grand birds, as you will find green is their foundation of colour. I was always in favor of buff hens, as I think they are much stronger than yellows. Never pair your birds before April, as I find we get stronger youngsters, less clear legs, and the hens feed a good deal better, as I think pairing too soon is the chief cause of clear eggs. With good stock, and following out these few simple remarks, all should have an equal chance.—*R. Lamb in Feathered World.*