



This department is devoted to pets which do not otherwise have a special section in the magazine.

ZOOLOGICAL JACKPOT

Officials of the Philadelphia, Pa., Zoo were rubbing their hands in glee over the arrival of one of the world's rarest mammals—a Pacarana, *Dinomys branickii*. Never had one been seen in the Zoo before, only three or four have ever reached America alive, and—in so far as is known—it is the only Pacarana now on exhibition in any zoo. Warren Buck, animal dealer of Camden, New Jersey, who imported the animal, sent it to the Zoo with the remark, "Here's a new one on me, maybe you know what it is." The Zoo men had to consult the natural history books to be sure of the identification.

The Pacarana is a rodent about the same size as a ground hog, but it has a broader head, sizable tail, and is boldly striped with white on a ground color of dark brown. The Zoo's specimen not only is a prize zoologically, but it also is as tame as a kitten. It disdains eating on all fours; instead it picks up a carrot, potato, or apple and sits erect on its hind legs, firmly grasping the food. It greets visitors with a cheerful grunting noise.

The Pacarana was not discovered until 1873 when one was found wandering about through a Peruvian orchard. Not even the natives had seen one previously. Professor Peters, of the Berlin Museum, described it scientifically the same year, but another specimen did not turn up until 1904. During the latter year a pair from the Upper Purus River, in Brazil, were received at the Goeldi Museum in Para. Others were collected subsequently in southern Columbia, eastern Ecuador, eastern Peru, and adjacent Brazil. A very few have come out of South America alive, and most of them died a short time after arriving

in northern climates. The Philadelphia Zoo has its fingers crossed, but, judging from the new Pacarana's appetite and disposition, it may well be the first to survive in captivity for any length of time.

Peaceful and timid by nature, the Pacarans dig burrows in order to escape their many enemies. They are hunted by the Indians and their skulls are hung in the huts as trophies. Professor Peters, in his original account, said that the animal was a fierce monster and it required "two powerful sabre strokes to lay it low." Actually these animals are almost defenseless and show no inclination to bite.

Scientists classify the Pacarana between the capybaras (largest of all rodents) on the one hand and the pacas and agutis on the other. The paca is a common spotted animal that looks somewhat like the Pacarana. The name "pacarana" is of native origin and means "false" paca.

COLOR BREEDING

The popularity of color breeding of domestic mice appears to be increasing, and many new catalogues and price lists are arriving. The mouse fanciers and commercial dealers are listing a wide variety of new and attractive colors including gray, fawn, black, blue, lilac, pearl, cinnamon, chocolate, silver, champagne, yellow, cream, sooty, bald, spotted, tri-colored red, red and white, chocolate and orange, black and white, cream and orange, black and white, cream and white, chocolate and white, dove and white, silver and white, blue-faced and white, blue and gold, and black and tan. In addition to the color varieties of domestic mice, the dealers are quot-

(Continued on Page 65)

Pets Are Real Pals

By Charles I. Grant

This is a true experience story. It is woven around a man and his wife who operated a gas station on a lonely desert stretch of a continental highway in one of our western states, and their wonderful police dog "Pal",

One evening while standing near their station admiring the slowly setting sun and its purple shadows, their attention was drawn to a moving speck on the desert sand in the distance. It seemed to be slowly coming nearer. Finally, the man concluded it was a wolf and went to the station and got his gun and set out in that direction. As he came in gunshot he noticed the animal was in great distress. He hurried forward and found a large gaunt police dog, its strength exhausted, its tongue protruding, its feet sore and bleeding from desert wandering.

He carefully put the large dog across his shoulder and carried it back to the station. His wife met him part way, as she had heard no shot and noted he carried a burden. She, disliking dogs, prevailed upon him to kill the dog and end its misery, but as soon as he arrived at the station, and on through the night, he bathed and nursed the dog, giving its famished body limited water and food. In the days that followed the dog came into its own and was his constant companion. The dog kept his distance from the station and his mistress, as she held to her opinion, and continually prevailed upon disposition of the dog. The husband finally decided to find a good home for Pal.

One day, a trip of some distance for station supplies included a mission to find Pal a new home. The mistress operated the station alone

(Continued on Page 65)

"MEXICAN BURROS"

Selected healthy stock for immediate shipment by express. Note: All my burros are nice, gentle, suitable for children to ride on, etc. Youngest just starting to eat by itself. Cute. For children up to 8 years \$45.00. Young for older children \$35.00, or two males for \$65.00, or pair male and female for \$70.00. Young male and Female special for breeding purposes for raise \$75.00 pair. Mother with beautiful baby for \$70.00. Pregnant that will breed in a short time, \$50.00. Jacks special for breeding purposes \$50.00. Medium or large size for adults to ride on or for wagons, saddies, harness, pack, for burro tracks, \$45.00. Special for baseball team of 15—females selected strong, ask price for team. Shipments loose uncrated with live delivery guaranteed. Prices F.O.B. Laredo, Texas

ANTONIO CAVAZOS

BOX 516

Laredo, Texas

that day and about noon a big car pulled in and the driver instructed the tank be filled. The woman's attention was drawn to a man slumped over in the back seat of the car, and immediately the driver pulled a gun and said, "Lady, I want your money, fork it over or you will get just what my buddy got when we tangled with the law."

She screamed, and without warning the great police dog Pal came upon the scene. He lunged upon the driver, knocking his gun from his hand, crushing him to the ground, and chewing him bodily before she could recover her wits and grab the gun, and call the dog off. Pal moved only a few feet from the man, and under this tension, which seemed an eternity, she kept him covered until finally a couple drove into the station and she was relieved. The holdup men were bound and taken to be turned over to the law.

When the station man arrived home that evening, his first words of greeting were, "Well, I have found a good home for Pal and the man will be here in the morning to get him." Then he exclaimed in alarm, "Where is Pal! He always greet me?" She led him quickly, into the station and there stretched on a pallet, with food nearby, lay Pal, contented. Having his mistress's forgiveness, and also having been her day's protector, Pal fervently greeted his master. She related the full details of the tragic experience of the day and they walked from the station with Pal between them and viewed another desert sunset.

In the twinkling of an eye, folks may have experiences that not only change their attitudes but their hearts.

Pets are real Pals, they walk into a fellows' heart, they give without stint, there is always a human story woven around pets. Why not share your uplift experience? Write it briefly and address Pet Pal Editor, All Pets Magazine.

Color Breeding

(Continued from Page 64)

ing prices on wild and semidomesticated deer mice, meadow mice, kangaroo mice, hairless mice, short-eared mice and the popular domestic waltzing mice.

A report has been received that a clergyman in England has succeeded in developing a strain of green mice, but we are awaiting scientific confirmation of this fact before making any positive statement. (Staten Island Zoological Society.)

ARISTOCRATIC FANTAIL

(Continued from Page 55)

under modern show conditions, it will be only fair to point out that the Fantail calls for constant care and most careful housing. To keep a good Fantail in show condition for any length of time is a difficult undertaking. The very nature of its tail formation will soon suffer from crating and too long confinement in the show pen. Frequently one sees a Fantail looking like the proverbial "million dollars" when first penned, then after a long confinement it becomes listless and bedraggled looking.

As one expert points out, getting a bird into proper show condition is half the battle. The tail especially requires considerable and expert attention. It should be laced correctly. The knack to this important job is soon acquired, however, and when correctly done, adds much to the appearance of the bird, and enhances its possibilities of success. Good natured judges, when they have the time, often do this job unasked, but it is best to acquire the knack before hand and do the job yourself.

It is a waste of time and money in express charges, etc. to send a Fantail to an important show unless it is "put down" in faultless show condition. This is known as show preparation, in which the present day showman is a past master, and as some frankly admit, is fifty per cent of their success, and a phase of their success they are most willing to teach others to acquire.

To foster the interests of the Fantail there are specialist clubs organized. There are two or more in the eastern states, and one, newly organized in California which is a hotbed for the "fan," as it is familiarly called.

The title of the new club is: The Western Fantail Association. The energetic secretary is Mr. F. W. McBride, 10401 Burford, Inglewood, California. If one desires more information about the Fantail standard, the secretary of this enterprising club will oblige.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Our Horned Toad is really a Lizard.
Our Belgian Hare is a Rabbit.
Our American Robin is a Thrush.
Our American Buffalo is a Bison.
Our Moose is an Elk.
Our Elk is not an Elk.
Our Mountain Goat is not a Goat.
Our Antelope is not a member of the Antelope family.

Budgerigar History

(Continued from Page 26)

flight feathers and long tail feathers are white, in the case of the Blue birds, and yellow in the case of the Green birds, rather an interesting combination.

It will be seen from above that it is possible to produce a tremendous number of different colors and shades by crossing the already known and distinct varieties. It is likely to be many years before all the possible crosses have been produced. Budgerigar breeders have a very interesting time in front of them, even if no further mutations occur, and this is hardly likely in view of all the other mutations that have occurred.

RAISE WESTMINSTER

Pure strain white mice. Colored and fancy mice in all colors. Waltzing mice. 3 colored mice, hairless mice and others. Pet shops and fanciers write for special prices.

D. E. NELSON
3840 Westminster Pl.
St. Louis 8, Missouri
Sept 7

FOR SALE

MAGPIES

(For Pets) Pair \$5.00

SEE 'EM ALIVE ZOO - Red Lodge, Mont. tf

Lewis Culps--Pulaski, Tenn.

Red fox, Gray fox, Chipmunks, Flying Squirrels, Woodchucks, Red Fox Squirrels, Gray Squirrels, Bantams, Buff Cochins, Silver Seabrights, R. C. Silver Hamburg Bantams.

15 EGGS PREPAID—\$2.50
New Hampshire Reds Exhibition pen
15 Eggs Prepaid \$3.00

oct74

Resurrection Plants

(Never Die)

FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT

Just place in water and immediately open beautiful green.

\$2.50 per 100 or \$15.00 thousand
or 5000 for \$60.00
Guarantee good delivery. Cash with order.

ANTONIO CAVAZOS tf
Box 516 Laredo, Texas

NEWS OF ALL CLUBS
ON PAGE 18