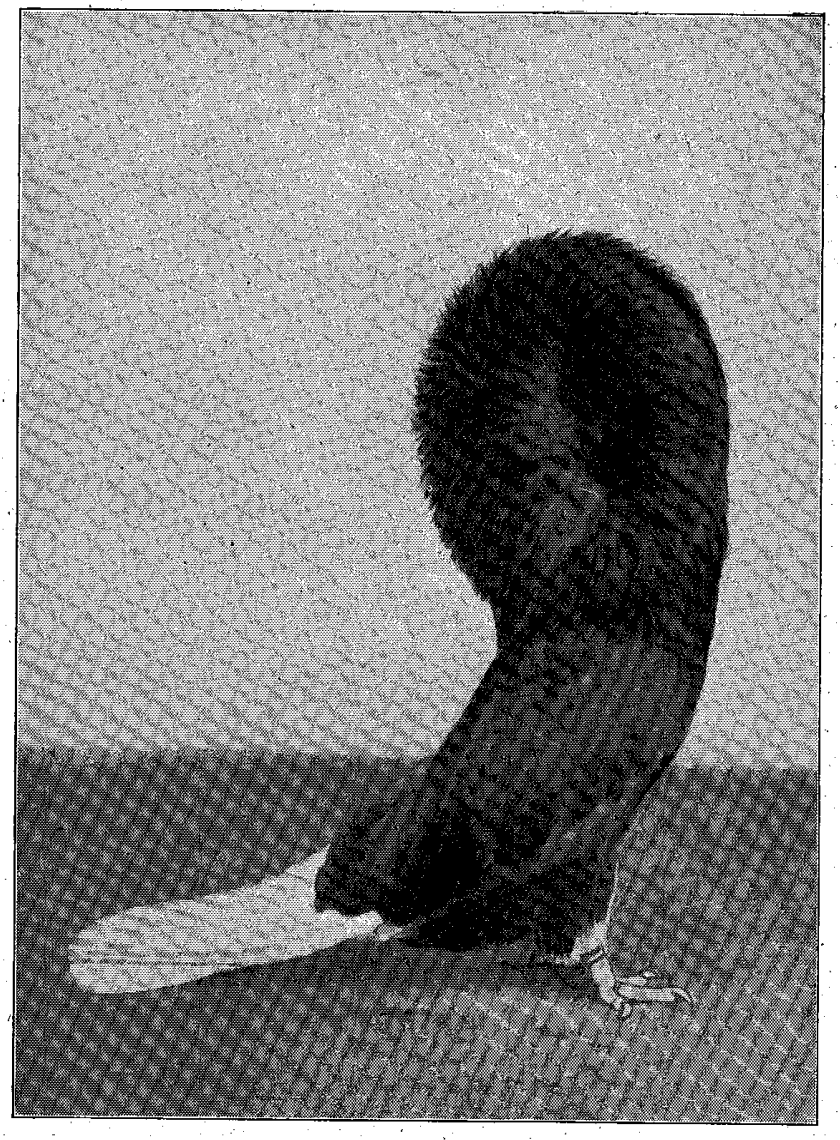


BLACK FEMALE 1930 1st Prize, Best E. Madison Square Garden, 1930–'31, New York. Breeder-owner: Frank W. Gorse, Needham Heights, Mass.

# The Jacobin

De Structuur Duiven
C.A.M. Spruijt 1931
as translated from
By the Pigeoncote.com 2026
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German: Perückentaube
English:. Jacobin
French: Pigeon Capucin

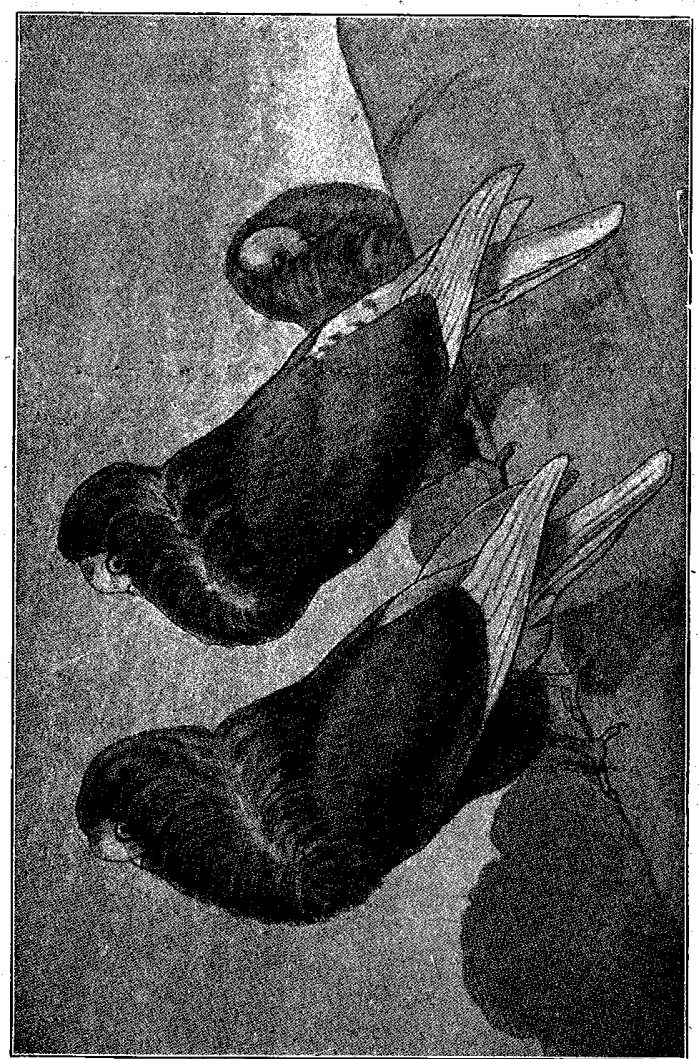
## HISTORY

The  is one of the oldest and best-known breeds of domestic pigeon in existence. It is a breed that has spread across the entire globe and has been bred for centuries. The history of the  can be traced back to approximately 1550, and detailed accounts from earlier times provide much information regarding the development and distribution of the breed. The  is familiar to anyone with even a passing knowledge of pigeon fancying and breeding; it stands as one of the purest,perhaps even *the* purest, representative of the group of pigeons characterized by specialized feather structure. What English and American breeders have achieved over the last ten years in terms of feather construction and development is truly incredible, leading one to wonder,with some trepidation, whether the limit has been reached, or if it is still possible to attain even greater feather length and density.  From the perspective of the art of breeding, the , along with the English Pouter and the Carrier, ranks among the very best. In fact, we would go so far as to place the  on the same level as the English Pouter (often called the "king of pigeon breeds"), especially given that both breeds can only be improved through selection and crossing within the breed itself. No other existing

breed is, or for any reason whatsoever, qualifies to be crossed with the breed, with the aim of improving one or more of its characteristics. Any such crossbreeding would set the breed back by many years, indeed, by many generations, from the progress already achieved. For this reason, it remains all the more admirable that, over the years, e breeders have managed to attain remarkable improvements from within the existing population itself. There are some authors who claim that the progress of the breed over the last 100 years has not been particularly significant, and that around 1830–1850, breeders already possessed outstanding stock, even suggesting that, long before that time, there existed magnificent birds that would hardly have been inferior to the very best specimens we see today.

We are happy to listen to such claims, but we must respectfully decline to believe them. The illustrations from that era, which vary in their degree of success, offer no evidence to support this, even if one might be led to a different conclusion based solely on written descriptions. One must, however, bear in mind the perspective from which these animals were viewed at that time. Bearing in mind what the birds of 1800–1825 looked like, it is truly no surprise that people considered the "improved" and more systematically bred birds of around 1850 to be something quite extraordinary, just as we, in turn, found the birds of around 1900 (and even later) to be more than magnificent, never dreaming that around 1922–1930 a would emerge that would leave even these creations in the shade. This came into being under the most favorable conditions, drawing upon the well-known and proven laws of genetics, as well as knowledge regarding rational feeding, housing, general care, and health management ,all thanks to the energetic efforts of a large group of highly skilled and deeply enthusiastic breeders. The likes of which are only very rarely encountered in the history of the pigeon fancy. And that is not even mentioning of the currently availability of the easy exchange of birds, and the ease with which good breeding stock can be obtained .

All these contributing factors, which are so significant for the development of a breed, have played a major role for the breed and no one can convince us that, around the year



*ROODE ENGELSCHE RAADSHEEREN UIT DE JAREN 1850*
*Een vederconstructie, ongeveer als tegenwoordig de Schmalkander Moorkoppen hebben*

1800, conditions were anywhere near as favorable as they are now.

The general knowledge of breeding, housing, and general care, are also greatly improved. Aviary breeding, is an absolute necessity for the Jacobin breed, is only passively dealt with in this assessment.

Regardless of how beautiful the descriptions from earlier times may be, we are convinced that the quality of today's Jacobins is the highest ever achieved, and that we have now reached, or very nearly reached, the limits of what is attainable regarding the major characteristics of structure, size, and type.

This is excluding, for the moment, factors such as color (though already very good), markings, eyes, and similar secondary details, which are of secondary or tertiary importance.

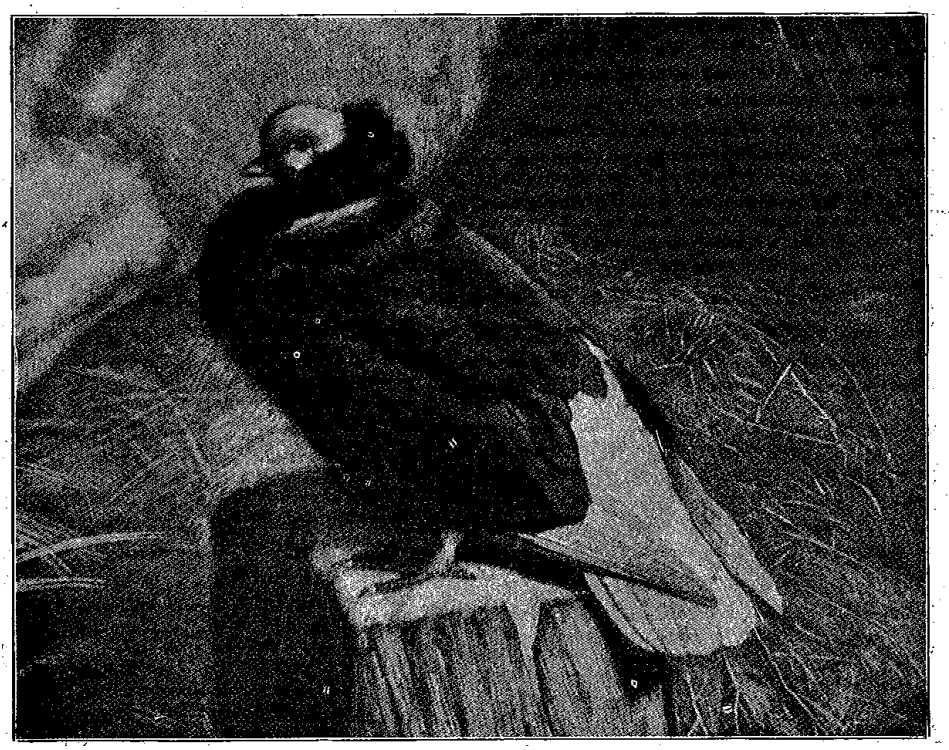
As for the origins of the Jacobin - an unsolved case - They first appear to have been known in the Netherlands, although the English claim to have obtained the original birds from Germany, even though there is no evidence to suggest that this breed, like so many other pigeon breeds, was the product of German breeders.

When we consider how difficult it is to maintain the standard of this breed, let alone improve it, we can appreciate that a great deal of skill and strategic effort must have been required to develop it in the first place. Such an achievement was only possible in regions where the art of poultry breeding was well understood; that is where a breed like the Jacobin could have been created, though we must bear in mind that these birds looked quite different from the modern specimens we see today.

We are all too inclined to attribute the origin of anything whose history we cannot trace to "the East", that obscure part of the world, still so little known, from which the most fantastic tales reach us. It is also believed they came to us from Asia, whether by sea, brought by Dutch mariners, or overland via Russia.

And so how the breed first became known in Middle Europe is not well understood. It cannot be ruled out that they came to Europe in both ways; which is likely to be understood from the history of the breed, insofar as certain aspects have been known and preserved.

For a proper understanding of the development history of the Jacobin, we must first consult the older literature. We find that the



**Red example from the 1850's**
Short, stocky. Square head, with a short, thick beak

earliest accounts of this breed were left to us by the German ornithologist Conrad Gesner, who, in 1555, described 'Cyprian' pigeons in such a way that the description could only refer to the breed. And it is believed that these birds were brought to Holland and Belgium, by Dutch seafarers from the East Indies, long before that time.

The scholar Aldrovandi (c 1600) was well acquainted with this breed; he provides an illustration of a solid-colored bird and notes that such birds were well known in Holland and Belgium, where they were referred to as "kappers" ,a name derived from the ruff or hood that adorns them.

Early English breeders also used very distinctive names for the breed: and Capuchin were the most common, the former of which has remained in use to this day. In our view, however, a distinction should be made between the Jacobin and the Capuchin even though the two types are likely closely related.

The illustration itself makes this quite clear. The Jacobin was bred in solid-colored, monk-marked, and mottled (tiger-patterned) varieties, appearing in a range of colors. The "Capuchin," by contrast, always featured a white tail,a characteristic familiar to us from various breeds of Tumblers and "Seagull" (Meeuw) pigeons. Furthermore, the overall body structure reveals a very clear difference between the two breeds.

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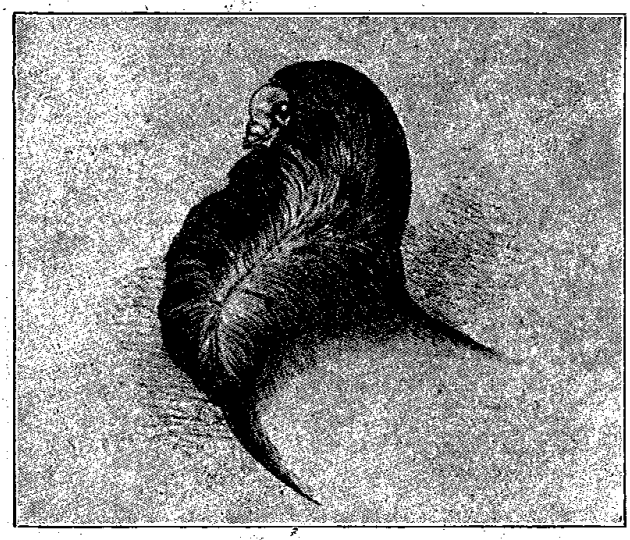
Today, the Capuchin has all but disappeared; at most, a few individual birds may still exist in Germany. In 1923, we received two fine specimens in the black color variety, sent as part of a larger shipment of various pigeon breeds from Southern Germany. We never encountered them again after that.

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Willughby (1678) provides a good description of the Jacobin and even includes a typical illustration, showing a bird with a short beak, bright white eyes, and feathered legs. This last feature, in particular, was a characteristic of the Jacobin of that era; the fact that this remained the case for years is evidenced by Moore, who, in 1735, also mentions the feathered legs of the Jacobin. Moore, interestingly, claimed that the Jacobin was among the smallest and slimmest pigeon breeds he knew.

They came in solid red, black, yellow and blue, with white head, tail and flight feathers, which corresponds completely with the mottled markings as we know them today. He also knew "mottles", which were probably the striped birds

In German literature one further finds the report of J. L. Frisch, who described the era around 1743. He then called the breed "Schleyer,", or "Paruquen-taube". They were quite large and robust,



**Black Jacobin**

*from the time period, Moore ± 1735*

appeared with both light feathered and smooth legs. However, they were always monochrome and very beautifully deep and warm in color.

Until very recently, well before the World War I, the monochrome type continued to occur in Germany, especially in Saxony; actually, it is not so very long ago that people generally spoke of English and German types, whereby the former were large and robust, the latter smaller and shorter; yet finer in color.

However, the number of breeders in German decreased very rapidly and after the war, all German Jacobins disappeared. Breeders knew

nothing other than the birds bred according to English standards and views.

In our own literature we find nothing told about the breed, but here again it was our unsurpassed artists from the 16th and 17th centuries who, showed us the breeds on their paintings



**A TYPICAL DEPICTION**

*Pigeons in an old Dutch painting*

Furthermore, a 'Non' (Nun) pigeon, a 'Turksche duit' and a few 'Schildmeeuwen' (Shield Seagulls Owl). These delightful paintings reveal which types of poultry and ornamental birds that lived in our country. In one of his well-known large-scale works, currently hanging in the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Melchior d Hondecoeter depicted, among others, a blue Jacobin with markings resembling a monk's habit. In this specimen, too, the legs are covered in short, stiff feathers. Though not a full-fledged ruff, it leaves no doubt that the bird is a Jacobin.

In 1929, at an auction in The Hague, we saw a small over the mantel painting by an unknown 17th-century artist. It depicted turkeys, crested and bearded fowl, and crested ducks, along with two pigeons,one brooding and one flying in which, without a doubt, were intended to represent the breed.

Both birds featured the characteristic "monk" head pattern, white tails and flight feathers, and a fairly substantial ruff, which was, in fact, more than just a large shell crest. Their color was a very dark, blue-black. We would have liked to photograph the piece, but were unable to find the opportunity. It appears to have been sold abroad; at least, subsequent inquiries pointed in that direction. Although the history is highly significant, our primary interest lies in the breed as it exists today.

The Jacobin is, above all, a breed defined by its structure and form; color and markings are of secondary importance. Breeders have so much to attend to regarding the former aspects that they cannot devote too much attention to the latter. These are a few facts that every breeder must keep firmly in mind if they wish to make progress in their breeding efforts and achieve success. Type, characterized by good body conformation and proper posture,is a crucial factor.

Without the hallmark upright stance, good length, a well-arched neck, and spirited action, even a Jacobin with the best color and markings will fail to satisfy us. There will be something about such a bird that simply does not please. Birds that are somewhat broad and heavy across the shoulders and back, in particular, present a challenge when it comes to accurate assessment. The bird even with a great abundance of feathers; that fails to display this abundance is quite simply not a good Jacobin

It is impossible for a bird to have too many feathers. Today the most modern American specimens demonstrate this clearly, effectively disproving any notion to the contrary.

The opinion held by prominent breeders some eight or more years ago, genuinely believed that, as far as feathering was concerned, one ought not to go any further.

The feathers should be long, firm, and possess very broad vanes. The quality of the feather is of great importance; yet, the length of the feather must never come at the expense of its quality. Long, thin flight feathers are undesirable and have no place on a first-class bird, a flaw, that unfortunately still occurs all too frequently. Not only in the head plumage but also in the flight and tail feathers. It goes without saying that, when judging one should not focus exclusively on the feathers and their structure.

The very best specimen will always be the high-quality, all-round bird one that, without necessarily excelling in any single feature, achieves the highest overall average. It is the most well balanced bird, with its various physical attributes in the best possible proportion to one another.

Breeding such birds for exhibition purposes should be the goal of every breeder in this endeavor But birds that excel in specific individual traits can serve as valuable assets. Finding the right combination pairing with a bird that has an excess of one trait with one that has a deficiency in another is the sport the game, or the true art of the breeder.

## BREED DESCRIPTION

While the Jacobin should create a harmonious and pleasing impression in its overall appearance, the primary focus and the area demanding the most attention is the feather structure of the head and neck. This was already the case among the earliest fanciers, and it remains the breed's greatest asset today.

### Hood, Chain, and Mane

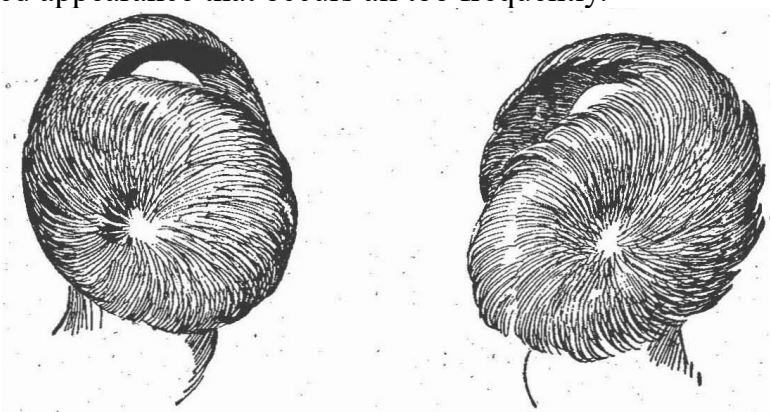
The most notable plumage consists of a hood, a chain, and a mane. The portion that arches over the head which, in other crested birds, would be situated just below the back of the skull is referred to as the hood .

The chain consists of feathers on either side of the head and neck, beginning at the level of the beak, while the mane refers to the feathers on the neck that converge as extensions of the chains. Originally, these manes did not exist; in fact, the hood was not yet well developed either. At that time, the Jacobin essentially possessed only a pair of feather chains that terminated in a small crest or collar above the head.

The fact that these chains now join together firmly, both at the front of the neck and chest, and at the back of the neck is a development from the last 20 years, and it has contributed significantly to the breed's growing popularity. In an excellent specimen, the hood, chain, and mane form a single, indivisible whole. It should be impossible to discern where the hood transitions into the chain or where the chain ends to form the mane; while the feathers, stiff and strong, will not hang around the bird like loose like fringe, swaying and shaking.

When the bird is in a display posture and viewed from the side, the crest should arch forward boldly and freely, extending as far as or even beyond the nostrils, while leaving ample space between the skull and the crest feathers. It should resemble a prominent, overhanging rather than flat lying rigid against the skull. It must certainly not give the impression that the crest originates from the back of the head

When viewed from above, the crest should form a near-semicircle; its outline must be clean and well-defined, avoiding the angular or lopsided appearance that occurs all too frequently.



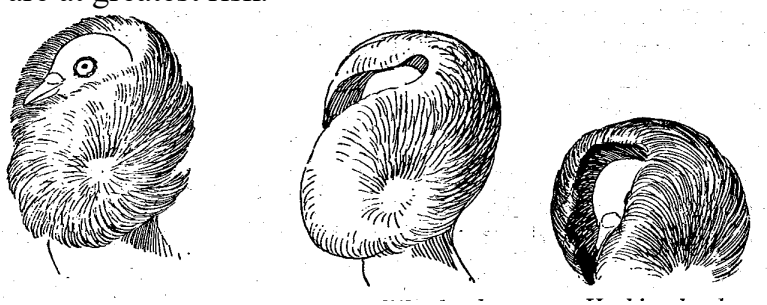
*Spitse, gedeelde eenzijdige hoed*

*Losse hoed en manen Goede ronding*

The ends taper off, or rather they seem to do so, and yet taken together they appear to form a single unified whole. Naturally, it is a flaw if some feathers grow too far forward, or if the ends lack sufficient cohesion and hang down in an irregular, notched fashion. In such cases, the crest is either too sparsely feathered, or the feathers themselves are too limp. It may also happen, particularly in very heavily feathered large birds, that the crest appears somewhat rough. This is generally not considered a major defect. Pointed crests, however which taper to a tip in the center thereby losing the elegant semi-circular arrangement of the feathers, are considered a serious flaw. For breeding purposes, one should not

hesitate to exclude birds that exhibit this flaw. It is quite common for the feathers on the skull to develop excessive length and vigor, eventually growing through the hood or crest or pushing it aside in places.

Since these cranial feathers, the white feathers that form the head markings, often grow much more rapidly than the other feathers the young are at greatest risk.



Short, open hat; uneven hat; angular hat and chain

This serves as a cue for the breeder to keep a close watch on young birds. If it becomes apparent that the skull feathers are growing too vigorously, they should be trimmed back slightly, though not too much as they must continue to serve as a support structure for the hood. If they are trimmed too severely the hood, especially if it is heavy and thick, may collapse forward onto the head. It is often impossible to correct this later, unless the entire hood is trimmed away to allow the skull feathers to develop anew.

If following a molt, a particular skull feather suddenly grows out in an unruly or overly robust manner, piercing through the hood, the only solution is to trim that feather off at its base. Trimming the white skull feathers is not generally permitted during an exhibition and any intervention should be limited to simple correction.

The second significant feather attribute of the the feathering is the chain, that cluster of feathers which originates at the level of the eyes and runs in a long, thick, wavy row of feathers towards the breast and the wing arch.

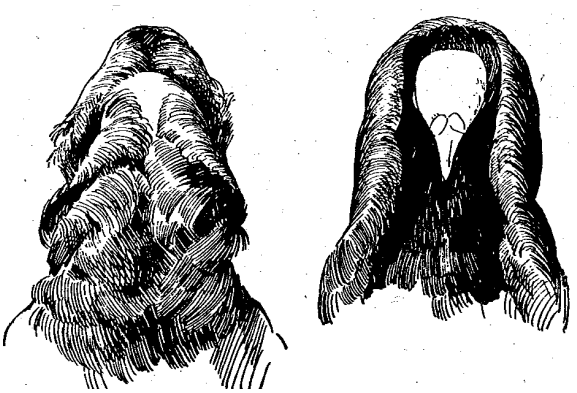
The longer the feathers of the chain are, the better, provided they are also thick and firm. If one views the bird from the front, the two chains must, as it were, form two high feather ridges and not a pair of narrow thin lines.

Broad in the feather, the bird must be seen from the front. The more feathers the greater the quality, but they must be well filled. This naturally the also plays a major role and will likewise go together. If the chain is well developed on both sides, then this rarely leaves anything to be desired. Most remarkable, however, is that the chain on the left and right is not always developed the same. Often, one side is fuller and denser than the other, and one is longer than the other.

A well-formed chain will completely cover the eyes and the beak towards the top, while the two ends will touch each other very briefly on the breast. If one views the bird from the front in parade position, the head, beak, and throat will almost be invisible. The more of these parts one can see, the more open the chain is, a consequence of the fact that the feathers are too short. However, the reverse also occurs, especially where the ends of the chain have become too long and too heavy, creating a confusing, intermingling mass of feathers. The one is just as faulty as the other. Nevertheless, these fully feathered birds, especially if they are hens, are excellent for breeding.

Better than birds that have uneven strings, which unevenness can sometimes be very great: This fault is very hereditary and it is best to exclude such birds from breeding; if one continues to breed with them, then will often undo the chains, leaving much to be desired.

Even the shape,of the hood can also become distorted, frequently resulting in lopsided or asymmetrical crests. In highly developed, modern specimens, one can hardly speak of a distinct chain, hood or mane sections anymore.



Uneven, rough-textured chain; open-link chain

To achieve a full, rounded, and voluminous mass of feathers, the original separation between the chains and the manes has been reduced to a single point, or, at the very least, a very small area. This central point, from which all the feathers now emerge, is based on its appearance referred to as the "rosette." Indeed, this rosette is clearly present in all purebred specimens.

The manes are the feathers that emerge from this rosette and sweep backward around the neck. The right and left manes meet at the back of the neck, forming a firm ridge or seam. Their tips meet but do not grow across or over one another.

Well developed manes are a beautiful sight. They never fail to captivate the observer and naturally, the breeder as well. This is so even though the manes are not the primary feature. Perhaps this is also the reason why, for a very long time, such significant extra value has been placed on the manes.

Attention has been paid to form, length, and quality, resulting in modern birds being endowed with exceptionally heavy manes though not always of the best quality. Many birds exhibit loose, limp feathers, which in turn lead to open feather chains and short crests, often even very pointed crests. For good development of the mane and, crucially, for displaying it properly a well formed neck and good posture are essential. In fact, when it comes to showcasing the bird as a whole, type is the primary consideration, followed by neck length. What is the value of a bird with magnificent feather structure if it cannot display it effectively? Many birds possess an abundance of feathers and are truly exquisite when held in the hand; yet, once placed in a cage, where they might stretch out or stand tall, much of that beauty vanishes. The mane, in particular, is the first feature to suffer, as the feathers often prove too limp or loose

Most breeders make the mistake of pairing two long-feathered birds, especially those that excel in their mane development. While this may well result in offspring with even longer feathers, those feathers will also be weaker and looser. Such birds might pull their plumage together when startled in a cage, but when left to their own devices, the hood, chain, and mane fall open and slack, leaving little of their former beauty.

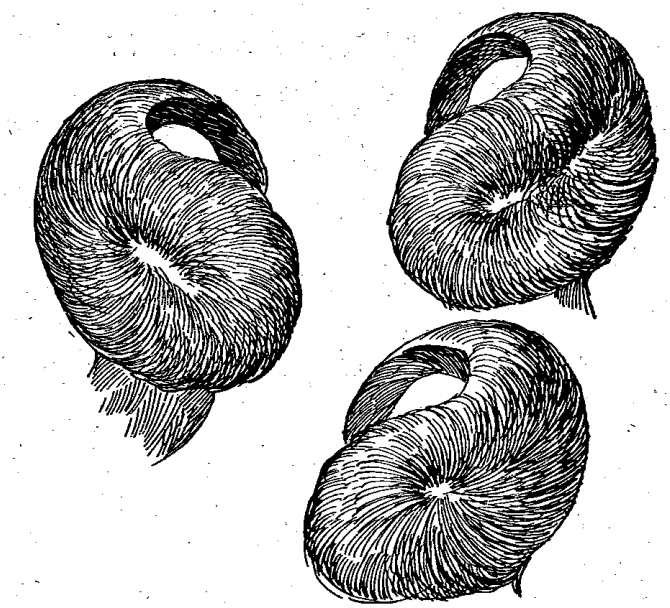
Therefore, one must breed for sufficient strength alongside feather length. It is far better to pair well built cocks, those that excel in feather density, with long-feathered hens, rather than consistently pairing long-feathered birds with other long-feathered birds. Above all pay attention to a good hood and a long full chain the mane will then come naturally once these two elements are in order. This is precisely why we consider the hat the most important component, followed by the chain, and then the mane in third place.

Here, too, as with every breed, the goal is not the absolute maximum in any one element which is often all but unattainable anyway.

Rather an abundant development that exists in a pleasing, harmoniously proportional to the bird's overall length and its other physical aspects.

In short: the highest possible average in every respect. We have already touched upon the central point from which all the feathers that form the head ornamentation, the rosette emerges. It is, however, worth taking a closer look at this detail.

Double rosette



Stretched rosette

Too high rosette

Many breeders do not place high demands on the rosette, yet it is a feature of the greatest beauty when it is perfectly formed, that is, when it is absolutely perfectly round, like a large crown. It should be situated precisely at the center of the entire feather structure. From this central point the feathers radiate outward transitioning forward, upward, and backward into the chain, hood, and mane. The rosette is set deep and possesses a beautifully thick, arched contour as shown above.

The feathers grow outward from this point. The thicker and higher the curvature, the more attractive the effect. It follows naturally that the quality diminishes as the rosette becomes more oval shaped or even elongated. In the latter case, in particular, the feather structure deteriorates significantly, making it nearly impossible to achieve a proper well arched, full, continuous, and cohesive arrangement. The rosette is important not only as the central point from which the feathers emerge, but also as an aesthetic feature, especially in yellow and red birds, due to the characteristic curvature. The feathers in the rosette, the center will be white while transitioning themselves into those deep yellows and reds, thereby creating that strong beautiful contrast.

The circular rosette, with that single white point, is an excellent feature. In the black and blue color varieties, the rosette is darker, because the under fluff in these colors is naturally much darker. This serves as an incentive to breed for the lightest possible under fluff, being especially important in the black and blue variety. Very good results have been achieved in this regard, although breeding for this should never be the primary objective; it remains a secondary consideration.

How long, in fact, should the feathers of the Jacobin be? That is a question asked very frequently asked. The answer is quite simple. They should be as long as the feathers remain true feathers and do not turn into long, thin, hair-like strands. If that happens, particularly if the hackle and saddle feathers begin to show this defect, then one has gone too far.

There was a time when breeders attempted to develop the Jacobins with a very short beak and a thick, round head. They reached these goals relatively quickly, but in the process, they produced a bird that had lost a significant amount of body size as well as feather length.

And from an anatomical perspective, this is entirely correct, given that the beak, the claws, and the feathers all share the same anatomical origin. For this very reason, it is impossible to breed fully feathered Chinese Owls that are also tiny, with small, short, rounded heads and beaks. Such were the results of their breeding efforts. And even if this, too, was an exaggeration, with the feathers having become somewhat loose and limp due to their impossible length. It became clear that breeding for a shorter beak and a smaller body size had been entirely the wrong approach.

It must be one or the other, or perhaps a compromise somewhere between the two extremes. It was not until after 1890 that leading breeders in England and Germany changed their approach.

A few well known Scottish breeders had paid no heed to the obsession with breeding for small size and short beaks. Instead, they focused on feathers, and more feathers, resulting in larger, broader, and heavier birds with long necks and graceful, fluid forms. While these birds also possessed long beaks and refined heads, they were, without exception, adorned with hoods, chains, and manes that were truly a sight to behold.

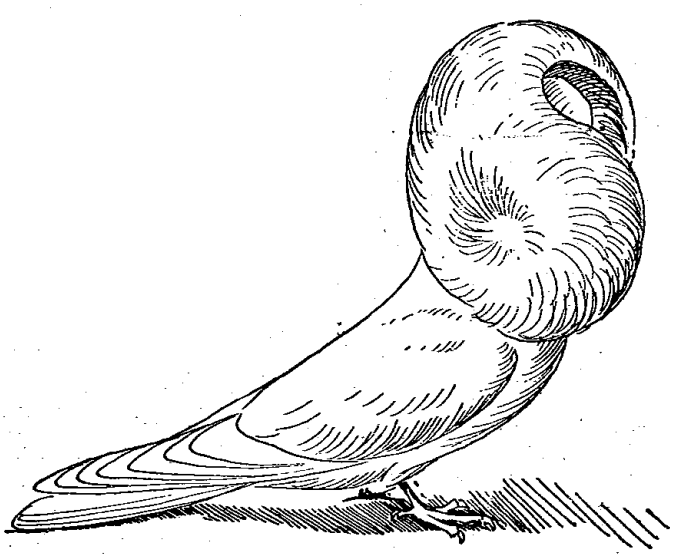
There arose an enormous demand for the "Scottish" birds, and these, when combined with other, shorter bodied types, very quickly gave rise to our modern, well-balanced Jacobin The kind we desire to see. In such a bird, the length, structure, and quality of the plumage must be in perfect harmony with its overall size, build, and posture. This is a matter of taste, of a discerning eye and an intuitive sense. Something each individual must determine for themselves. The bird must be completely "finished," as the English say, a single word that encapsulates everything we have discussed in detail above. Naturally, training plays a role, but the inherent, high quality traits must be present to begin with; otherwise, even the most skilled trainer cannot conjure them out of thin air. More on this, however, in a dedicated chapter later on.

We have already briefly mentioned that there was a time when the head, including the beak, was considered one of the most important features of the Jacobin. At that time, the skull was expected to be thick and round, and the beak short and powerful. Today this has changed. The preference is now for a substantial, somewhat longer head, neither too narrow nor too flat. It would be more accurate to say that breeders have gravitated in this direction, as it is physically impossible to breed a bird that possesses both a short head and beak and long, supple feathers. Any progress toward achieving more abundant, longer feather structures inevitably results in a narrowing and refinement of the head and beak. When one examines these refined birds closely, this becomes immediately apparent; furthermore, the bird's overall appearance is significantly enhanced, provided, of course, that one does not go too far and end up breeding a with a beak like that of a long billed Tumbler.

Those who truly understand the breed will grasp what we mean here. A medium length, fairly robust beak, slightly curved at the tip is the most desirable trait. Since the Jacobin is bred exclusively with a white head across all color varieties, it follows naturally that the color of the beak remains the same for every color variety.

Furthermore, an unconditionally light, flesh colored beak, both the upper and lower mandibles, is required. Beaks with dark markings or colored tips are considered a serious fault and will, therefore, never be found in high-quality specimens. What one may occasionally encounter is a slightly discolored lower mandible, either on one side or both, in the black and blue Jacobins with short head markings. That is, in birds where the line separating the white of the head passes directly through the eye. In otherwise excellent birds, this is sometimes overlooked. English breeders, in particular, do not consider this a disqualifying defect to such a degree.

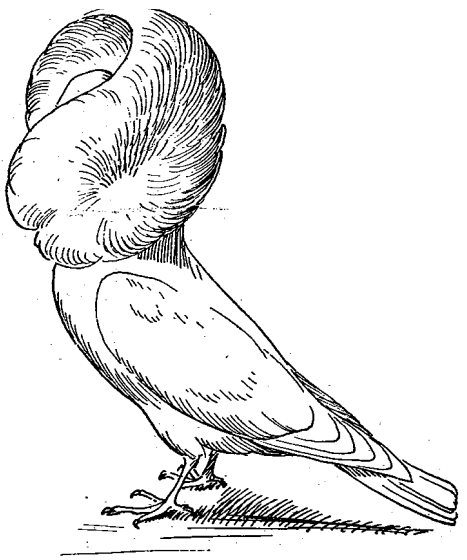
Flight feathers usually occurs in combination with 4x5 or 5x3 feather pattern markings. The eye is pearl-colored in all color varieties, at most featuring small red veins within the retina. This white eye gives the bird a characteristically fiery expression, which is further enhanced by the pale, somewhat yellowish eye ring, a feature with a very fine texture that completely encircles the eye. This desirable pale yellow eye-ring is not always present.



*Good length, good feather structure, but set too low.*

All too often, the rim around the eye is colored anywhere from light to dark red. As the intensity of the color increases, the texture also becomes coarser; it cannot be denied that this results in a loss of the overall impression, specifically the impression of refinement. For breeding purposes, such birds are usually of great value, as these traits indicate strength and resilience. If bred with care, such birds can certainly be included in a breeding program. Furthermore, this particular feature is not a decisive factor when judging for top prizes. In the case of an otherwise very fine bird, this is often overlooked.

In general, one is less lenient regarding color deviations; in particular, one should be very strict when it comes to birds with two dark eyes, a trait that occasionally occurs. A single "barred" or "broken" eye or at a stretch, even one dark eye, might be overlooked, but one should certainly go no further than that.



*Too short, bulky, and open chain*

Often, a combination of faults appears: a partially colored lower mandible, a barred eye, head markings that are too short, or white flight feathers, all of which naturally cause the bird's overall appearance to drop in quality. For breeding purposes, birds with a broken eye or a single dark eye may still be used, provided that the other half of the pair is completely free of such defects.

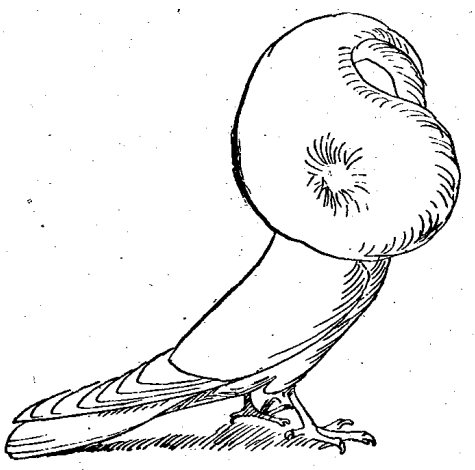
The beak is covered by two small, delicate, white-powdered opercula (nasal wattle flaps) that lie very flat against the beak and possess a fine texture. In older birds. These opercula can some times become coarser and larger, developing a number of irregular wrinkles.

The neck of the Jacobin should, above all, be long. Without length, it is impossible to achieve a proper volume of feathers; furthermore, length, and thus surface area, is essential for displaying that plumage effectively.

In addition, the neck must be sufficiently flexible so that it can be bent well backwards, in order to give the bird an upright, proud posture.

The chest follows suit; it is carried high, is not too wide but rather long and deep, and transitions into the belly with a smooth line. The belly is likewise long, as the preference, for it is a long bird. It goes without saying that the back conforms to the chest and belly. The long back transitions into the long tail in a smoothly descending line, while sloping upward toward the head. The abundance of the mane dissolves, in reality continuing into the long neck, which is arched strongly backwards.

The entire body is long but not very high; it is well-rounded, in terms of the back, chest, and belly, and the narrower the distance between the back and the belly, the better. Excluding the tail, the body would be an elliptical in shape.

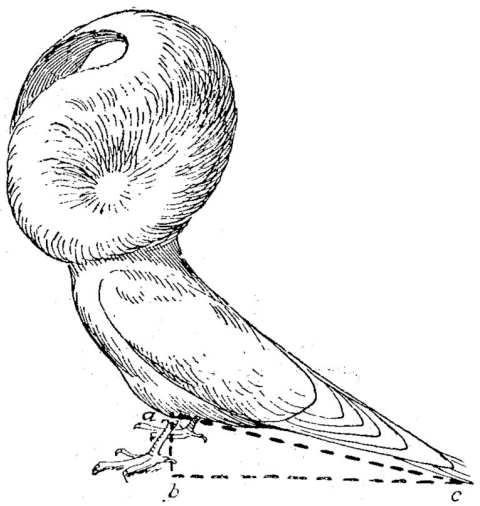


*Too broad a tail*

The whole is supported by a pair of moderately long legs. In this breed, the legs play a more significant role than many might think. One must consider not only the length of the legs but also their placement and the manner in which they are set. The legs should be positioned well towards the rear to ensure the front part of the body appears long. The greater the body length in front of the legs, the better. The long tail ensures that the bird does not appear too short at the rear.

The legs should not be set too close together; otherwise, they have a strong tendency to incline inwards, which results in "knock-knees."

The length should be such that one cannot speak of an overly long bird, yet it must also allow the front part of the body ample opportunity to rise high. In full action, the body and tail should form a sharp, distinct angle. It is precisely in this action—the upright posture and the extended body, that the greatest value of the bird usually lies. Not only must this be an innate trait, but a proper amount of training is also required to ensure that the bird fully expresses itself in every respect; this is an aspect that is all too often neglected. A fine, well trained bird presents a taut, trim appearance. In this state its form, proportioned plumage and beauty are well presented and exemplify an elegance and grace that immediately captivate the observer.



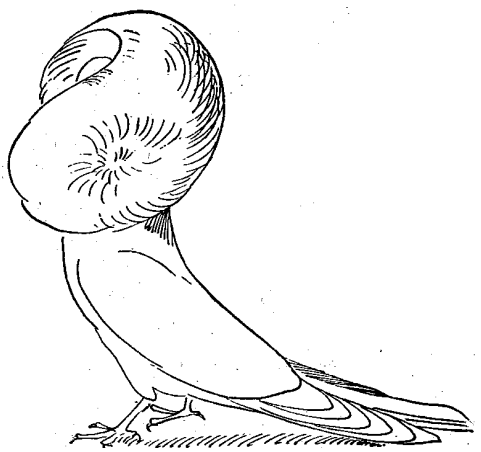

*Correct stance and position of rosette*

This stands in stark contrast to birds that lack any training, those with stiff, wooden looking necks that shrink inward at the slightest provocation, crawling along the ground or huddling timidly in a corner.

The wings are long and narrow, with the primary flight feathers often being quite elongated. The wings are carried close to the body, with their tips resting upon the tail. This is a significant factor, as one all too frequently encounters otherwise excellent birds that simply tuck their wings away dragging their tails, or more

accurately, letting them trail along the ground, with flight feathers that have greasy, soiled outer quills.

Weak, drooping primary feathers are also a fault. These are all deviations resulting from excessive inbreeding from breeding with overly small, weak hens that lack any natural resistance, and whose only merit was probably nothing more than an rich abundant plumage.



*Sabre wings and swishing tail*

Therefore, it is essential to use large, robust hens for breeding, one might almost say, exceptionally large hens, that possess plenty of vigor and a high degree of natural resistance.
The cocks may be slightly smaller, perhaps even a bit more compact, though this is not to suggest that one should choose a bird with a short neck or a short, stocky build.

It goes without saying that the bird's entire plumage will be rich, more than rich, in fact, exceedingly abundant. The bird is exceptionally well feathered over its entire body and is furnished with an abundance of downy feathers. This is especially noticeable on the belly, the thighs, and the hindquarters. In this respect, they share characteristics with, among others, the richly feathered Bokharan Trumpeter pigeons.

The belly feathers are long and can be worn loose and hanging at will, or drawn up high, smoothed down, and held tightly in place, giving a rounded appearance to the lower body.

Although the Jacobin is, first and foremost, a breed defined by its form and feather structure, the markings and the color associated with them still play a significant role in such a highly developed breed. There are some breeders who consider markings to be entirely superfluous, not even worth the effort of concern. However, they are very much in the minority; in England, America, and Germany, Jacobins with inadequate markings or poor coloration stand absolutely no chance of winning top prizes. Birds with significant flaws in their markings do not even qualify for the lowest tier awards, regardless of their type or feather structure. And rightly so.



*Coarse eye-ring, broken eye, head markings too low, good beak color and shape*



*Excessively high crown profile, dark eye, colored lower mandible*



*Correct head markings eye color; eye ring and beak.*

A fancy pigeon such as the Jacobin must meet high standards regarding its plumage; not only the cut, but also the color and pattern of the feathers must harmonize and align to exemplify the qualities of the bird itself.

With the exception of entirely white specimens, all Jacobins are bi colored. The best known variety is the 'monk-marked' type, which features a white head pattern, white primary flight feathers and tail feathers, as well as white under the tail coverts. All other plumage is colored.

However, this specific pattern presents many challenges, starting, first and foremost, with the head markings. The most 'correct' head marking is one where the white of the head is delineated from the

colored plumage of the neck by a straight line, drawn from the corner of the beak, passing through the center of the eye, and extending into the neck, neither higher nor lower.

This is the well known 'monk' pattern, which we encounter in many other pigeon breeds. At most, one might accept a straight line that begins at the corner of the beak and runs just below the eye into the neck; however, that is the absolute limit of what is permissible. In fact, any other type of marking will negatively affect other aspects of the bird's appearance, most notably the color of the belly and the number of white primary flight feathers.

If the dividing line runs below the eye, the number of white flight feathers will increase, potentially exceeding the minimum count of ten, and white patches will also appear on the belly, around the legs, and near the vent. If the dividing line runs above the eye, the number of white flight feathers will decrease significantly and become highly uneven; often, there may be fewer than five on each side. Furthermore, the under the tail coverts will be colored, and there is a very high probability that one or both eyes will become darkly pigmented.

All of these are deviations that detract from the quality of the bird. It is clear, therefore, that the marking is a point of significant importance, one that certainly should not be neglected. Further, other defects occur in birds with "high-capped" (overextended hood) markings. Small colored spots, often referred to as "whiskers", appear between the base of the beak and the eye. In well marked birds, these are not present; while they can usually be removed, in such specimens they often grow over the eye, stain the eye ring, or even result in a spotted beak.

These flaws cannot be corrected and, to a greater or lesser extent, detract from the bird's appearance. Thus, even though the standard calls for 10 white flight feathers in each wing, a count of 8x8 or 8x7 is frequently encountered in these patterned pigeons.

Every additional flight feather causes the markings to expand. Conversely, having too few can result in the head markings becoming too small, the under the tail coverts becoming crowded, and the wing shield losing its desired egg-shaped pattern.

However, the breeder should not assume that all such birds are worthless. On the contrary, he should use both those with too many and those with too few flight feathers for breeding, pairing birds with an excess to those with a deficiency, to maintain a balance in the markings. He must strive to find the specific combination of "many" and "few" that produces the best marked offspring. Birds with an excessive number of white flight feathers often also exhibit white on the wings, or within the "chain" (the row of spots along the side) and the "marren" (the spots or markings on the flanks).

Conversely, colored feathers may appear on the head, or the outer tail feathers may be colored, though rarely the two central ones. In such cases, the under the tail coverts will also show color, and the sharp demarcation between the upper tail coverts and the back will likewise be altered. Thus, an experienced breeder can discern from certain specific features what the bird truly looks like, that is, its natural appearance before any grooming or artificial enhancement, and he will take this into account when evaluating the bird.

Color Varieties. The breed does not offer a particularly wide range of color varieties, yet in my opinion, it provides more than enough to satisfy any taste. A greater number of color varieties could potentially lead to a decline in quality, as focus would inevitably become more diluted. It is precisely this relatively small number of color varieties that makes it possible to maintain high quality. Conversely, the immense challenges involved in increasing the number of color varieties, act as a significant deterrent introducing. dull colors, faded, or similar shades, which without even mentioning compromising the breed's many other superior traits.

Which will emerge from the crossing of various colors with one another, whether or not in combination with white,. They should not, in my opinion, be considered as standard colors. This applies even to the "brindled" (striped/mottled) specimens, which are quite highly sought after in our country, yet are rarely seen elsewhere. We would recognize only red, black, yellow, white, and blue as standard colors, and would classify all other colors, including the brindled ones, as non-standard (faulty) colors.



*ROODE RAADSHEER COCK*
*A fine bird, from German stock. Excellent,*
*particularly in terms of its build and the placement of the rosette.*

We desire depth and luster for all colors. For the red color, very dark blood red with a very high gloss over the entire body. A brightly colored, high-gloss bird in red is something one never tires of looking at. But, they are scarce, especially in the last 10, 15 years, they have not improved.

On the contrary, many are too blunt, and too dull in color. The deep red has at times been reduced to a mere reddish-brown color that

lacks any depth. Some have even developed "scalloping", a dark edging around the small wing feathers, resulting in a pattern like appearance. And with a blueish cast has emerging on the tail and belly. The original luster on these parts of the body has vanished entirely.

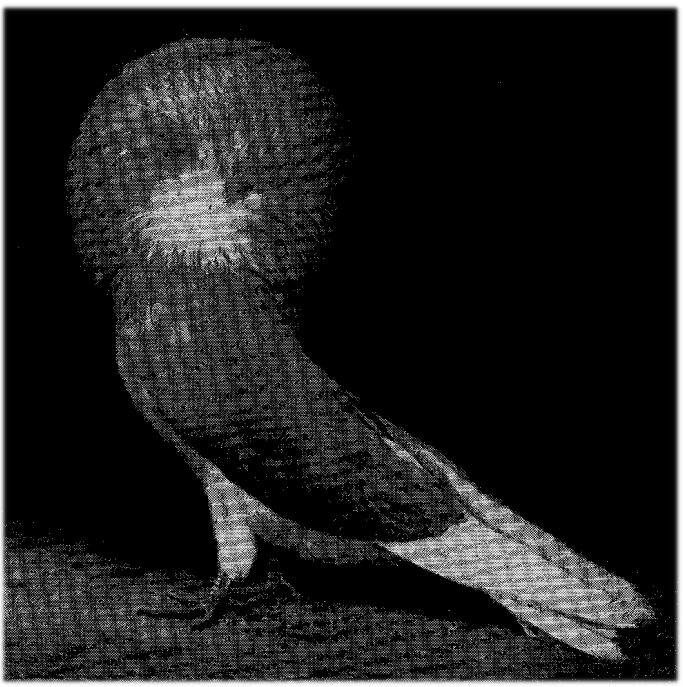
Hens with the desired depth of color and luster are particularly scarce, though cocks are still available in sufficient numbers. Undoubtedly, extensive crossbreeding with white and black birds has compromised the red variety. The only effective remedy is more systematic breeding using top quality red specimens, on the part of both the hen and the cock. When making selections, one should also evaluate the under color of the feathers, especially the down.

Very few breeders pay sufficient attention to this. Poultry breeders, however, are well aware of its importance that the color of the under down plays.

Well, let us apply this time tested principle to the Jacobin breed as well, and use only those birds that possess the darkest down. Birds with white or grayish down should not be used for breeding red colored pigeons. The color of the down is best assessed on the thighs and the belly. It is a well-established fact that this down color depends on the color of the outer plumage and the sex of the bird. In general, hens have a lighter down color than cocks. Consequently, hens with white down should not be used for breeding red pigeons; doing so would result in a further loss of color intensity, an even whiter belly, a deterioration of the head markings, and a significant increase in the number of white flight feathers.

Hens with a bluish-gray down color can be exceptionally useful for improving the blue color variety. Pigeon fanciers have long been aware of this, having bred their fine blue barred birds from such red colored stock.

The Yellow Jacobin, belong is the most sought after and it is almost unbelievable what quality has been bred into them. Currently, all over the world the yellow Jacobin stands at the forefront.

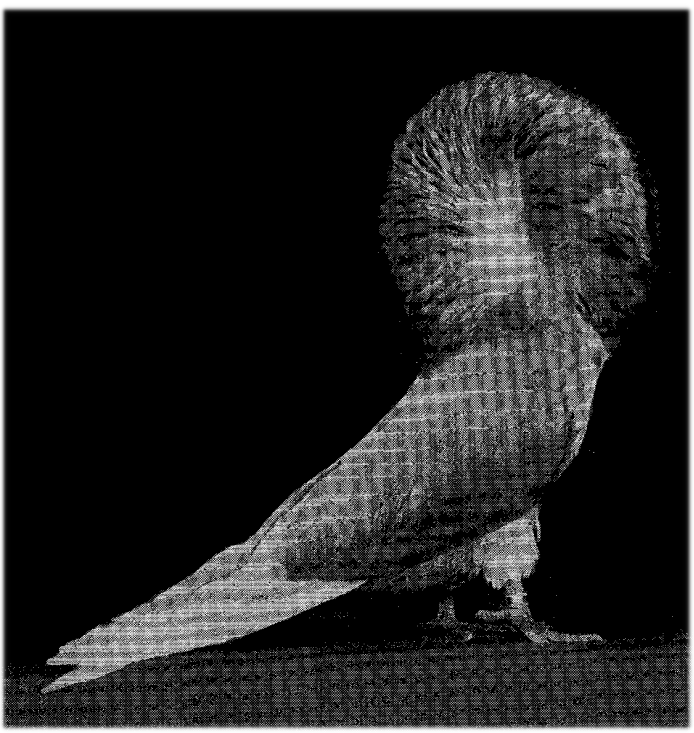


**Yellow e .1930**

***Best Young Madison Square Garden, New-York***
***1930-:-1931***
***Breeder-owner: Frank W. Gorse. Needham Heights, Mass.***

Magnificent is the feather structure and deep and gleaming plumage. The yellow will be dark gold colored, while the mantle feathers will also be equally fully colored.

Birds with molting issues or abnormal plumage, such as those with fungal growth on the covert feathers or white tips on the feathers of the mantle and mane, are worthless. Conversely, the further the coloration extends into the down, the more valuable the bird. Ideally, the down in the chain (neck/breast area) and the rosette should also be deeply colored.



**Yellow Jacobin Cock: 1928**
***Best Young Madison Square Garden, New-York***
***1928-:-1929***
***Breeder-owner: Frank W. Gorse. Needham Heights, Mass.***

It is recommended that the breeder continue breeding in the same color, provided that the animals are chosen with care. For the yellow color variety, however, this is not advisable.

Most breeders know this well and resort to red. Which is very correct. The wisest breeder, however, pays close attention to the

specific shade of red being used; only the very best, the deepest, darkest reds, are suitable for pairing with yellow. If birds with a grayish-blue under color are used, the resulting yellow will appear dull and lackluster, with a distinct bluish cast and a grayish hue on the belly and thighs. If red birds with white (in their plumage) are used, the yellow will become even paler, and the wing coverts will take on a mottled or scaled appearance. The best approach to achieve the desired result is to pair a yellow cock with a red hen. The offspring are then paired back to the yellow birds.

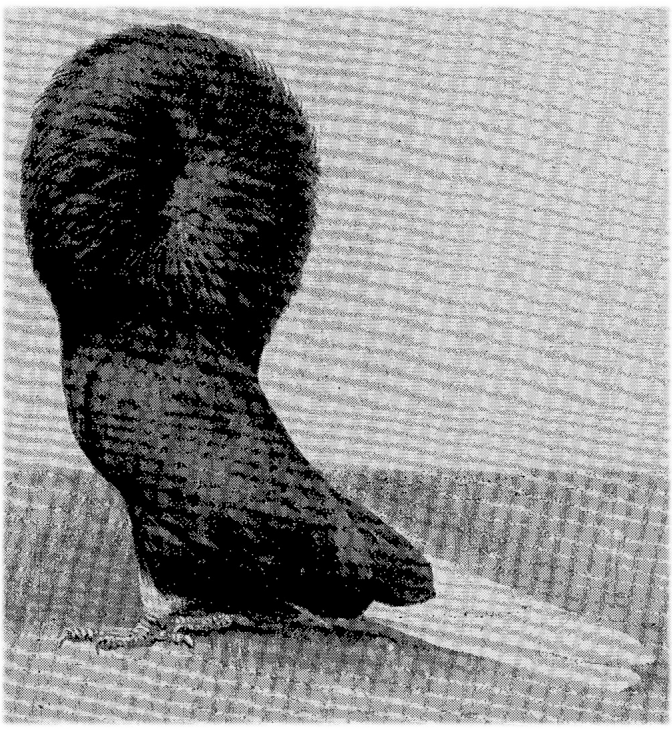
While it is difficult to breed high quality hens in the red variety, in the yellow variety, it is significantly easier to produce high quality cocks in terms of color depth and luster, than it is to produce hens. This is, in fact, a common phenomenon across many breeds of colored pigeons. When evaluating the offspring, one should exercise the greatest possible caution. Yellow is a remarkable color; the true, desirable hue, and most certainly the luster, often only emerge after the molt

The finest, most deeply colored young birds can deteriorate into worthless, scaly, dull looking specimens, while those that appear pale or washed out may, following the molt, reveal themselves to be true champions. A classic example of this was the champion cock in America in 1928, a magnificent bird belonging to Mr. Gorse.

As a young bird, it was hardly worth a second glance, whether in terms of color, luster, or feather quality. After a successful molt, however, it became perhaps the finest bird ever bred, going on in 1929 to win every top prize available at the most prominent exhibitions in America.

The black Jacobins are also of extraordinary beauty. It is almost incredible what the best breeders of this color variety manage to present, year after year. Upon seeing these magnificent birds, one cannot help but wonder to himself, what could possibly still be

improved here. Type, stance, spring construction, depth of color, sheen, everything is equally beautiful. The black is as deep as one could possibly imagine.



**Black Jacobin Cock: 1928**
***Best Old: Madison Square Garden, New-York***
***1929-:-1930***
***Breeder-owner: Frank W. Gorse. Needham Heights, Mass.***

The black is of the deepest that one can imagine,while the high sheen green feathers help to further enhance the depth of color. Naturally, when it comes to black birds of this caliber, great attention is also paid to the markings.

Birds that leave something to be desired in this regard end up at the bottom of the rankings. Naturally, there are also inferior black specimens, specifically dull blacks, where the black color leans more toward dark brown and, quite often, faint bars become visible. Such birds are usually perfect in terms of type and feathering, and are particularly pure in the color of their underparts and flanks. While they may be entirely unsuitable for exhibitions, they are very useful for breeding, provided they are paired with a well colored bird that exhibits a strong, green toned sheen.

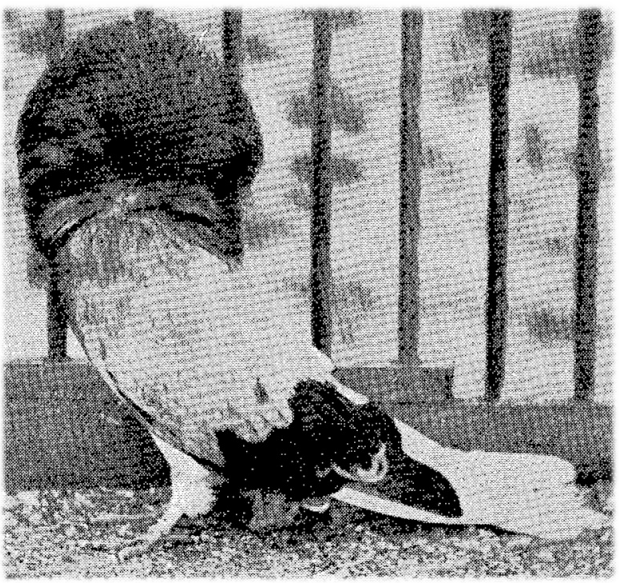
We see the same principle here as in the breeding of all colored pigeons. If two highly colored, glossy birds are paired together, the offspring will often fall significantly short of the parents; conversely, pairing a glossy bird with a dull-colored one usually yields good results.

Naturally, birds with a bluish cast are excluded; while they might be useful for breeding blue colored birds, they should never be used for black, and even less so for red. Although there are some breeds where red and black can be successfully paired, this is not the case for the Jacobin a point that breeders would do well to keep in mind.

The blue color variety of the  has taken the longest to reach a high standard of individual perfection, a fact likely due to most breeders simply not knowing how to go about improving the blue color. Time and again, they paired blue with blue, with the result that there was no progress in type or feathering, and a decline in color.

And yet, a perfect blue  is a jewel to behold, so much so that even the red and the flawless yellow birds pale in comparison. The bright blue of the wing shield, with deep black bars, very dark cap, necklace, and hackles, on top of that the white flight and tail feathers form such an exquisite combination that one never tires of looking at them.

In particular, the purity and brightness of the color on the wing coverts determine whether the bird's value rises or falls. The purer the color, the more beautiful the bird, and the better markings will also enhance the intense the coloration of the neck, wing bars, and

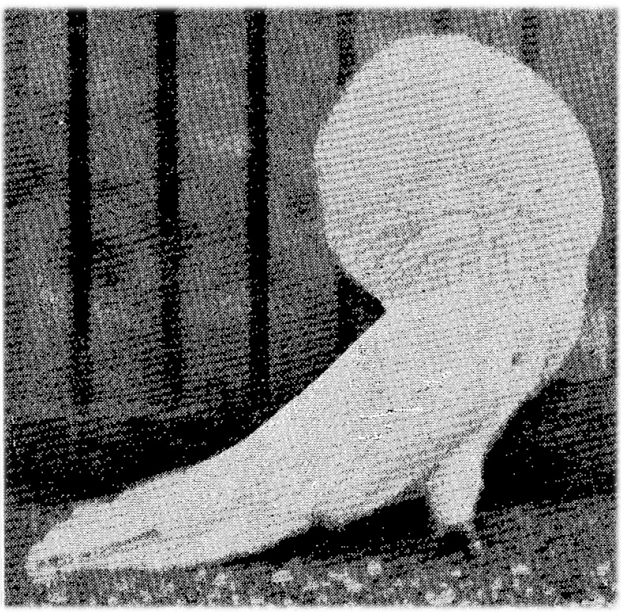


**Renowned**
*Celebrated German prize winner of 1923–1925.*

tail band. It goes without saying, though that white in the belly, thighs, and around the vent is not desired.

To improve the blue-colored birds, one may use white flighted birds or light-mottled speckled birds. Alternatively, one might use brownish black birds, derived from a black breeding line that exhibit a strong blue sheen on the belly and thighs. In such a cross, it is advisable to use a blue cock and pair him with one of the aforementioned hens. One should not expect to breed good blue birds immediately.

Many poorly marked specimens will inevitably appear; the shade of blue may even regress, but that is of no consequence. By selecting the least flawed hens and mating them back to a blue, one should be able to produce high quality offspring. Once you have secured a truly **good** hen, the battle is won, and superior specimens will quickly follow.



**White Cock**

*Excellent German bird of 1923*

It is remarkable, then, to observe what has been achieved in the years that have passed, and one cannot imagine what was required to build up this quality. The capital then, has yielded its interest to a significant degree.

The only single colored bird among the Jacobins is the white one. In fact, this one is not even white, but rather variegated or very lightly striped. Yet, 25 years ago, several single colored specimens existed in Germany including blacks and yellows. But their numbers had already declined sharply before the war, and during the war, the remainder vanished entirely.

Today, all solid or self colored varieties, with the exception of the white, have completely disappeared, and none were ever bred outside of Germany.

A pure white bird is a magnificent specimen. They have long excelled in feather structure and color, though their type, and their posture, could not have been better. Over the last ten years, breeders have succeeded in bringing the whites to the highest level of perfection. In particular, the tightness and smooth, close lying nature of the feathers are qualities in which these birds truly excel.

A common fault is the presence of barred or dark eyes, a serious defect that is heavily penalized. This occurs when breeders make the mistake of pairing two whites together, which is simply not viable. A colored eye is an indication that the bird is not, in fact, a true white. Therefore, they should be paired with light tigered (mottled/speckled) birds or with blacks mottles. The latter pairing, in particular, is highly recommended. Such pairings produce pure, crisp white birds with perfect eye color, free from any yellow tinting on the chain, or mane. They are snow white, not cream colored. Pairing white with yellow or red, a practice some are quite fond of, under the assumption that red and yellow belong to the so called soft colors, This is absolutely incorrect.

For every crossbreeding, one should always use a white cock. From pairings involving tiger-patterned (mottled/variegated) birds. One should retain not only the white mottled individuals but also the very dark mottled ones, as these are excellent for further breeding. Furthermore, one should bear in mind that a white mottled bird is rarely born as such. If a bird is pure white as a nestling, you can be certain that its eye color will dash all your expectations; either one or both eyes will be dark. And a barred or marked one will exhibit every shade, from light to dark, tiger like in appearance. It is only during the molt that white feathers replace the colored ones.

In particular, those young birds that display blue gray feathers in the nest, sometimes even tinged with red, attain their finest plumage after the very first molt.



**Yellow Cock 1929**
Winner of many top prizes: Paisley, Edinburgh, York, Palace (London), etc.
Breeder: George Raeside, Irvine

It follows from the foregoing, therefore, that he who breeds white headed birds is automatically also a breeder of brindled ones. These are color varieties, which are indivisibly linked to one another.

Improving the one simultaneously results in an improvement of the other, with the only difference being that the greatest improvements will always accrue to the brindled ones.

Often, white-collared and tiger-patterned birds are grouped into the same class. Nothing could be more incorrect. Even if a white collared bird is, in theory, no different from a tiger-patterned one, we view them differently as exhibition specimens. In terms of quality, especially size, the white collared variety all too often falls short of the tiger patterned ones. Therefore, separate classes for white collared and tiger patterned birds are essential.

The nature of the tiger patterning is purely a matter of taste; there are no set guidelines in this regard. Naturally, a regular uniform pattern is the most pleasing, yet an irregular pattern can also possess a charming harmony that is quite agreeable. The tastes of a judge and a breeder can differ vastly, and, consequently, so can their assessment of the bird. Do not despair.

As with all established breeds, there are, in addition to the recognized standard colors, a number of other color variations, which can sometimes create significant difficulties when it comes to classification. It is our opinion that, for any breed, one should strictly adhere to the standard colors; all others should either be kept at home or culled. An exhibition bird should feature a finished, perfected product, not something that merely resembles one, or from which a standard conforming bird might potentially be bred.

Off colored, red barred, yellow scaled, or even poorly patterned Jacobins may be of interest to the breeder, but they rarely hold any appeal for a judge, a visitor, or a fellow breeder. That is the reason they should remain home and why we shall leave them unmentioned.

The is a fancy bird, and consequently, an aviary bird. Anyone who cannot provide an aviary, one that is perfectly dry, free from drafts, and well sheltered, will not be able to breed Jacobins successfully It
need not be luxurious, but it must be solidly and well built.

It must be spacious, especially in terms of floor area, and covered with plenty of sawdust and sand. The nesting boxes are best placed on the floor along the sides; 1 x.60 x .50 are the ideal dimensions.

Jacobins are excellent parents and raise their young with great care, provided that one trims away the feathers of the hood and those hanging over the eyes. Cutting a half circle out of the crest on either side, and removing a portion of the itself, is sufficient. Admittedly, it does not look very attractive, and one has to look at it all summer long, but it is both effective and necessary.

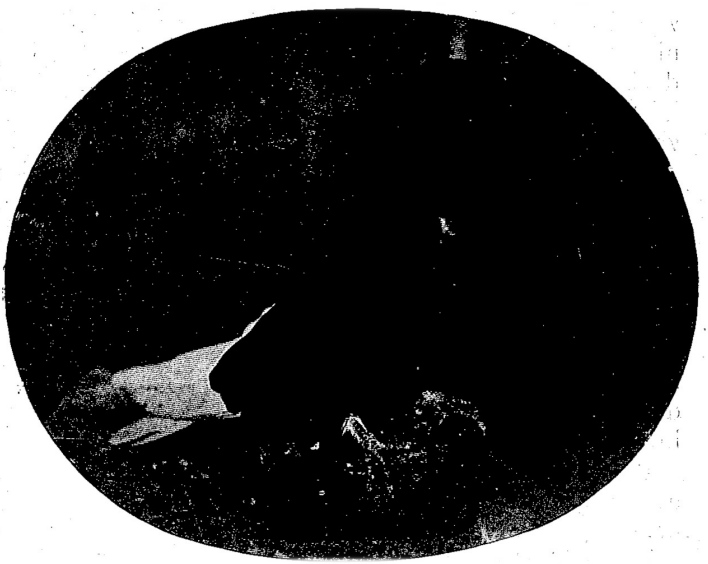
Trimming the feathers around the vent is also highly recommended to ensure successful fertilization. If one is unwilling to trim one's Jacobins in this manner, then foster pigeons must be used. Untrimmed ones cause nothing but trouble and frustration during the breeding process. Otherwise, Jacobins are excellent breeders, and the young grow up quite easily.

To ensure proper feather development, it is best not to pair them before the end of March. Until then, the birds should be kept separate and fed a somewhat restricted diet. It is advisable to check on the young regularly while they are still in the nest. Around the twentieth day, in particular, one can clearly observe their vigorous feather development.

At this stage, one must ensure that the feathers on the skull do not grow through the hood as this would eventually leave a gap that will never close. Such feathers should be trimmed back, though not so short that they can no longer serve as support feathers for the hood. If they are cut too short, the will collapse forward and this, too, is incorrect.

Furthermore, behind the eye, the feathers sometimes grow out too vigorously, which later spoils the chain development in that area. With a bit of attentiveness and a love for breeding, one can certainly learn to overcome these difficulties.

Once the young are independent, the tufts of hair, which hang down over their eyes, are trimmed away, so that they can better fend for themselves, especially when it comes to finding food and water. This also allows them to more easily select a spot for themselves and, if necessary, defend their position. A separate section for the young animals should always be provided.



**HIGH-QUALITY BLACK E**

*.Resplendent , chain, and rosette. Sturdily built deeply colored, correctly marked.*
*German bred, 1925*

Young Jacobins are often slow eaters. One should take this into account when preparing their feed, avoiding an excess of large or heavy grains. A varied mix of small seeds, such as cracked corn, small wheat grains, and fine vetch, is the best choice. Later, at three to four months of age, the feed can be made more substantial. Care should be taken to ensure the birds do not become too fat. Only firm, lean birds will possess tightly fitting plumage, a primary

requirement for a  that one should strive for from the very beginning.

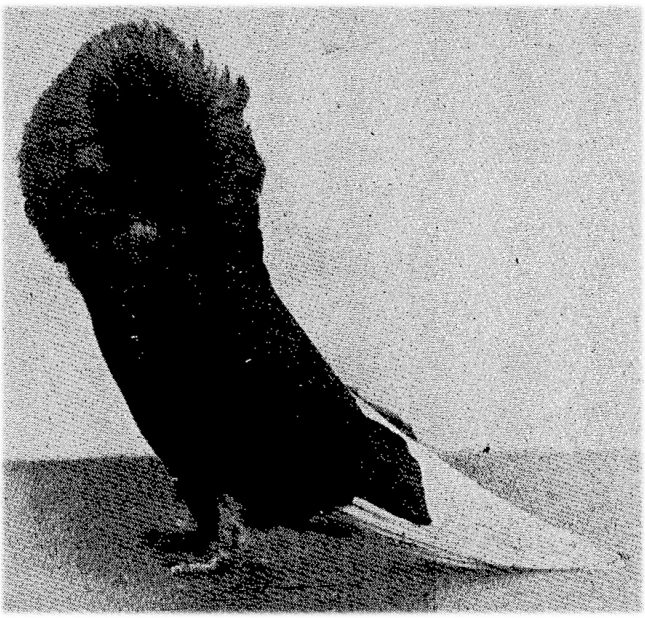
Because  Jacobins  due to their heavy feathering, struggle to rid themselves of parasites entirely on their own, it is essential to examine the birds for such pests regularly.  Even in young birds, lice can be found on the belly and around the vent; feather lice are also often present in the hood and the chain.

The best approach is to thoroughly dampen these areas with rubbing alcohol (denatured alcohol); this works excellently and eliminates feather lice.  Lice on the hindquarters can be driven away by applying a few drops of salad oil to that area, ensuring that the oil penetrates all the way down to the skin.  Meticulous cleanliness of the aviary, nesting sites, and perches is an absolute necessity.  Providing regular access to bathwater, two or three times a week, is highly recommended for both adult and young birds. By the beginning of August, the breeding season should come to an end.  At this point, it is advisable to restrict the feed given to the adult birds for a few days; this helps trigger the onset of the molt.

Now, one must pay close attention to ensure that the feather growth develops correctly, preventing any gaps from appearing in the hood or chain.  Once the birds have finished molting, care must be taken to ensure they remain in good condition, avoiding any damage to their plumage, so they are ready for exhibition.  Proper training in exhibition cages is essential.  The birds must feel at ease in its cage at the show; it should know how to locate its food and water, and, most importantly, how to present itself before the judge. It should stand proud and unconstrained, neck extended, back tucked in, the hood and chain well-defined and closed, and the mane feathers pressed firmly together.  There should not be a display of fright or fear, but rather one of self assurance. The realization of the vision held by the breeder and trainer: the artist who has sculpted this living  model

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One should be careful not to make the animals too tame, which, incidentally, is a very simple trick to pull off. Such birds no longer show any respect for a judge's pointer and become fast friends with everyone. The result being that they simply sit there watching, allowing their chains to be unfastened, let their hoods be tipped,



BLACK COCK 1924
*1st Paisley, 1st Stransear, 2nd Edenburg, 2nd York, 2nd Palace 1929*
*Breeder: George Raeside, Irvine*

and get into positions that will not be judged well. It will certainly take until the next season before such specimens will show themselves again.

One sees that dressage can also be exaggerated. One does not keep Jacobins together with other breeds. Only he who is willing to dedicate himself entirely to the breeding, style, possesses patience, energy and can endure setbacks, is likely to excel in the breed.

Let's share few points to avoid any major disappointment.

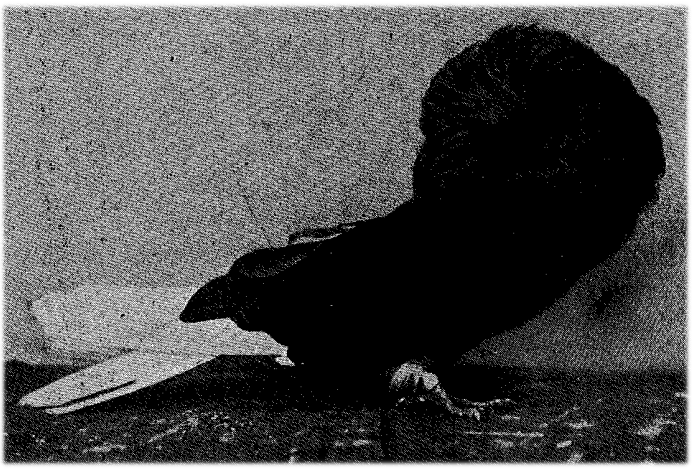
If one has given all of this careful consideration, then breeding Jacobins can be a source of great pleasure and provide much satisfaction. The breed is known throughout the world and is bred with varying degrees of success in many countries. Scotland, England, and America undoubtedly possess the largest and best breeding operations, and there is a lively trade between breeders in these nations. The Palace Show and the New York poultry exhibition at Madison Square Garden are the premier annual events for the breeders.

Large sums of money are paid for top quality specimens. Germany, too, has produced excellent breeders and high quality stock for many years. Meanwhile, here in our own small country of the Netherlands, the quality of our birds is in no way inferior to that of our neighbors. Although the number of breeders has never been large, they have always managed to hold their own, attracting enough interest to ensure the breed remains well established.

Names such as Masselink, De Boois, Berentsen, Stuivenberg, and others are closely linked to the breeding of Jacobins. Mr. Berentsen, in particular, can be considered our most significant and successful breeder. It is only to be regretted that, following his death, his magnificent collection was scattered in all directions.

Belgium has produced only a few good breeders or high quality birds. While France, by contrast, has produced many excellent ones. Richardson, of Roubaix, was the greatest among the great, a successful breeder who could hold his own against the best English and American breeders. Australia has many good breeders and high quality birds, while Spain has shown a great deal of interest in the breed in recent years. However, there is still too little exchange between these regions to gain a clear understanding of the status of the breed in those countries.
Let us hope that the Jacobin will continue to hold an important

place in our country. The breed is absolutely worthy of it and should certainly be represented at all of our major exhibition.



BLACK HEN

*An excellent bird in every respect. Magnificent in neck, , chain, and mane, Deep in color and of outstanding type.*
*A well-known German prize-winner.*
*Breeder: K. Keunen, Berlin*

STANDARD
Country of Origin: India.

**Size:** Rather small than large.

**Stance:** Proud and very upright. The neck is extended, forming a very sharp angle with the back. The head is held high and carried horizontally. The chest protrudes strongly forward. The tail touches the ground. The legs are straight. Everything about the bird conveys pride and self-assurance.

**Body** Slender and elegant. The chest and abdomen are somewhat pointed. The shoulders are rounded and sloping. The body tapers toward the tail.

**Head:** Long and narrow, with a small forehead. The skull is well-arched, transitioning smoothly toward the back of the head.

**Beak:** Medium-length, quite strong, and slightly curved at the tip. For all color varieties, without exception, both the upper and lower mandibles are light flesh-colored.

**Nostrils:** Small, lying flat against the beak, and covered with a white powdery bloom.

**Eyes:** Pearl-colored; applicable to all color varieties, including white.

**Eye-rings:** Fine in texture; for all color varieties, they have a very pale yellowish tint.

**Neck:** Very long, strong, and highly mobile. When in a display stance, it is held fully extended, forming a sharp angle with the back.

**Chest:** Narrow, well-rounded, and carried with a very strong forward projection.

**Abdomen:** Long, yet narrow.

**Back:** Long, sloping steeply, and rounded. Tail: Long, carried in line with the back, reaching the ground, yet well-closed.

**Wings:** Very long and narrow, though quite powerful; carried tightly against the body and always resting on the tail. The tips reach as far as the end of the tail.

**Legs:** Proportional to the size of the body, though tending more toward short than long. Positioned as far back as possible. Always unfeathered, small and round; straight, and not set too close together. Toes small and well-spread.

**Plumage:** 1 The . Long and densely feathered, perfectly rounded, meaning without any projections or angles, extending well over

sweeping across the head, reaching as far as the nostrils. It never rests upon the crown of the skull. Viewed from above, the edge of the "hat" () forms an almost perfectly shaped semicircle.

**Plumage:** 2 The chain (ruff). Very long and densely feathered. It lies flat against the cheeks—covering the eyes and beak well when viewed from the side—and extends toward the breast, becoming dense and full; it is of equal length on both sides of the body. The feathers are thick, strong, and fit together tightly.

**Plumage:** 3. The mane. These are the neck feathers, which meet from both sides of the neck to form a ridge or crest; this crest transitions imperceptibly upward into the and blends downward into the back feathers. The mane feathers should be long and strong, not limp or hanging loosely to the sides of the neck.

**Plumage:** 4 The rosette. The central point from which the , chain, and mane originate, with the feathers transitioning so smoothly that it is nearly impossible to discern where one group of feathers ends and the next begins.

**Markings:1**. "Monk-marked" (ed/capped). The head, the 10 primary flight feathers, and the tail are pure white; the rest of the body is entirely colored. In a correctly marked specimen, the dividing line between the white on the top of the head and the colored feathers of the neck runs from the corner of the beak, through the center of the eye, to the back of the head. Everything above this line is white; everything below it is colored. The tail is sharply demarcated from the colored back at the rump, while the under-tail coverts are also pure white, separated from the colored belly by a distinct line.

**Markings: 2** Self-colored (solid-colored) birds, which include only the white varieties, as no other self-colored forms are recognized.

**Markings: 3** Mottled (or "tiger-marked") birds: A white background featuring a regular or irregular distribution of colored feathers or small plumes. The more regular the pattern, and the more symmetrical it is on both sides of the body, the more desirable it is. There is no specific required pattern or distribution.

**COLORS:** Solid white—pure, snow-white, without any yellowish tint or lilac sheen. Black-ed (or "monk-marked" black): A very deep black with a strong green sheen, particularly on the , "necklace," and mane. The belly is dark, and the downy under-plumage is dark gray. There should be no white on the belly or thighs; the rosette (patch) color must also be dark. Red-ed (or "monk-marked" red): A deep, warm red with a strong green sheen, though less lustrous on the belly and thighs. The wings should be full and lie flat. The bird must be free of any bluish or grayish cast, and the under-plumage should be devoid of such tones. Yellow-monked. Dark golden-yellow. Very deeply colored over the entire body. The wing shield is full and smooth, not scaly or

streaked. The mantle feathers are also fully colored, as are the tips of the "cap" (head) feathers. The belly and thighs are colored, free of any white. The rosette in the center is colored, though perhaps somewhat lighter. Blue-monked. The wing shield is a pure, bright blue with two dark black bars. The cap, chain (neck markings), and mane are darker in color. The rosette is colored, though less intensely so. The belly and thighs are also colored. There is a strong green, beetle-like sheen on the cap, chain, and mane. Tigered (mottled). Primarily white, with colored feathers present in varying quantities.

**Serious faults:** Too short, too stocky. Insufficiently upright posture. Dragging wings. Loose, slack feather structure. Angular or irregular shape of the cap. A short, loose, or irregular chain (uneven on the left and right sides). Poor head markings; fewer than 5 white primary flight feathers in the "monked" varieties. Head markings that are positioned too high or too low. Insufficient depth of color. A lilac sheen on black or red birds. A dark eye.

**Minor faults:** Spotted eyes; colored eye-rings; white on the belly or thighs; insufficient markings on the upper or under tail coverts. Too large or too robust; a rosette that is too big. Insufficient color in the rosette. Colored feathers on the skull.