



by Frank Miser

MENDING YOUR BIRD'S BROKEN WING OR LEG

If you have no fear of handling your bird, a broken wing or leg can be easily mended. A simple break, cared for shortly after occurrence, requires only masking tape and patience. For Psittacine birds, a reinforced or filament type tape should be used. Merely place the limb in its normal folded position next to the body and wrap around the body with tape to hold the broken limb against the body. Care must be taken to leave the other limbs and vent free. Four or five days will provide adequate healing time, but seven days is better. Then, remove the tape by cutting it in several places and

pulling it off.

On a very badly shattered break, an incorrectly mended break, a break several days old, or a break involving a very expensive bird, a well qualified veterinarian should be consulted.

PSITTACOSIS

Psittacosis is here to stay, but you can keep it out of your aviary with a little time and care. In the last issue of Watchbird, Dr. Cooper gave several feeding formulas and instructions which can be followed easily. For Budgerigars, a good recommendation is to feed Keet Life[®] to

all your flock, instead of the regular diet, for a period of 21 days, once a year. The best time is in the summer, when the birds are resting. In warmer weather, they are stronger and do not consume as much feed as during cold weather. Within 21 days, you will have a Psittacosis free flock. Be sure to have your feed hoppers filled with Keet Life as well as in a pan on the floor, where some birds like to feed. If the Keet Life is in several places in the aviary, the birds will find it at each turn and will be more likely to eat better. It is different tasting and a less palatable food than they are accustomed to. After only one course of the Keet Life, you will see your birds healthier, prettier, and in better condition to raise healthy families.

