

Stud Book Fanciers Association

About a year and a half ago four ardent Stud Book Fanciers met for lunch and a discussion of the stud book situation. All of us were firmly convinced that CFA must continue to publish these vital records and felt that their sale could be increased if only breeders could be educated in their use. We, ourselves, found their study not only rewarding for planning our breeding schedules but also fascinating.

Shortly after this luncheon the Stud Book Fanciers Association was formed. To our surprise and delight the SBFA immediately began to grow. Letters came pouring in and our secretary was swamped. We knew that there must be others like ourselves who recognized the value of the Stud Books but were surprised none-the-less at the result of our very limited advertising — most of it by letter and word of mouth.

The SBFA is an unaffiliated association dedicated to the preservation of all stud books, magazines, records, etc., of the Cat Fancy as a whole, to the appreciation of these records and to the preservation of all future records. We realize that these records, once destroyed or lost, can never be duplicated.

Even now, when the Fancy has not even reached middle age we are

hampered by the loss of the older magazines in which so much necessary information was documented.

We would like, eventually, to found a library where these stud books, magazines, etc., might be preserved. We are sure that the Cat Fancy, in some form or other, will be with us always. We want these records preserved not only for ourselves but for future generations.

We wish to educate all breeders in the proper use of records and to bring into contact persons who share "a common enthusiasm for pedigree tracing, the history and development of the various breeds and colors, and the history of the Cat Fancy in general."

Many of us have found that pedigree tracing is not only essential for proper breeding but also intensely interesting. You keep telling yourself you'll check "just one more generation" but you keep on. Famous cats keep appearing and reappearing, you learn where the good and bad points come from and how to eliminate the bad ones. Interbreeding, off the edge of your pedigree, may make you decide to forego breeding with a proposed stud. Good points in a line may make you hunt up heretofore unconsidered breedings. Color lines can be traced and the reason for that "odd-ball" in a litter pinned down. There is no limit to the information to be found in the Stud Books.

As the SBFA becomes older and more firmly established we hope to offer awards to cats showing the most winning progeny each year. We have many plans for making this association one to which all breeders will wish to belong. We already are tracing pedigrees for breeders unable to do so themselves. We hope to be able to furnish a ten-generation pedigree blank soon.

The SBFA furnishes to all members a copy of our constitution, a membership list and our News Letter. Our first election was held this Spring and the pro tem officers returned to office.

At the June Board Meeting of CFA it was agreed that CFA would turn over to us the back Stud Books as well as a sum of money sufficient to get us started on the printing of the more current numbers. Once this sum of money is expended future Stud Books will be dependent upon the sales of the older ones. As we receive the money from you who benefit from the Stud Books we will continue their publication. Whether we ever catch up is problematical since CFA is now about six volumes in arrears. Disregarding the cost of printing the Stud Books, the labor necessary to get them ready for printing is terrific and must, perforce, be voluntary.

The Board of CFA has made it very plain that this will be the last attempt to publish the Stud Books. If the SBFA fails here will be **no more Stud Books**. Upon you, the cat fanciers, depends the success of our endeavor.

Mrs. A. M. Dickie, President

SBFA

Breeders, Fanciers and interested readers, I urge you to take advantage of the offer of this dedicated organization and buy your early set of Stud Books. They are being sold at about one-fourth original cost, and can help enormously to increase your knowledge of your breed and cats in general. The work of SBFA is all voluntary and is done purely in the interest of continuance of Stud Book publication. Don't delay, order now. C. S.