

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

### A Salute to Jean Rose, Central Office Director



Mrs. Rose

Too often we know our friends in the Fancy only through their work in this field when many times there is an interesting and unique personality in private life, totally unknown to us. When I first became acquainted with Mrs. Rose, in 1958, I knew even then that she, as Recorder, was a most capable and efficient person, handling as she did a large work-load quietly and without fanfare. She has bred and shown cats even as you and I, having registered her first pedigreed Red Persians in 1950. In 1957, in Dayton, Ohio, she was elected CFA Treasurer. In 1958, however, the President, Mrs.

John Bloem, appointed her Recorder; she then resigned as Treasurer and gave full time to the heavy task of record-keeping for CFA.

In the words of Mr. Robert Winn, CFA Attorney, it finally became necessary for "CFA to move off the Rose's kitchen table into an office." A suitable office was found and Mrs. Rose continued working but the office name of "Recorder" was dropped and now it was to be called the "Central Office"; part of the work of the Secretary was transferred to this office. This was a much needed change as far as progress goes, and an effective way of stepping up the operation of CFA business. Now, understandably, it placed an added responsibility upon Mrs. Rose since she had the full management of the Central Office as Director. Further, in this same year, she was elected, once again, as CFA Treasurer. As the burdens began to pile up, it became necessary for her to hire and train employees; they had to be initiated into the mysteries of cat and cattery names, as well as into other arcane systems known only to the cat fancy.

CFA has continued to grow at such a rapid pace, that not only has it left the kitchen table but better ways of doing things had to be sought in order to keep up with the formidable deluge of mail and registrations. After Mrs. Rose and the CFA Board came to the conclusion that the computer would offer the only solution, she went to school at night to learn all about Data-Processing which would be applicable to the needs of the Central Office. This has been a great boon to CFA but it has also added considerably to the duties of the Director.

CFA Treasurer Rose also serves as Treasurer for the CFA Foundation. During her tenure she has been instrumental in recommending investments which have produced additional capital.

Today there are eight employees in the Central Office and an-

other milestone has been reached. Beginning in 1970, Mrs. Rose has started publishing the **CFA Quarterly** which contains the pertinent data needed by all CFA Clubs. Realizing that the many additional services of the Central Office will require more space, a new building area was leased which will allow room for the inevitable growth and expansion.

The Year Book, which first appeared upon the scene in 1958, was the brain-child of Jean Rose, who felt the need of a publication which would sum up all of the activities, operations and objectives of CFA each year. The first Editor went to Mrs. Rose for information and guidance in launching this project. The book has proved to be almost a necessity, as Mrs. Rose had foreseen.

Championship status increase has been phenomenal; "it is imperative," Mrs. Rose stated, "that the requests for confirmation of championships be mailed the same day they arrive, otherwise many exhibitors would not be able to enter their cats in shows." Some additional office help the past three years has been furnished by Jean's daughter, Merilee Davis, who is the proud mother of Gilbert and Jean Rose's only grand-child, Christopher. Other children are Katherine, who attends art school in New York, specializing in fashion illustration and design, and Peter, off at Graduate School at the University of Arkansas, working on Technical Theatre Studies toward a Masters Degree.

After Mrs. Rose left college, and finished business school, she worked for the Air Force during the war. The cat population at the Rose home in New Shrewsbury, New Jersey, has, in earlier days, soared to as high as fifteen Red Persians, but lately it has dropped to only one Persian neuter and a "very independent American Short Hair, with wildish ways, called Junior," who deigns to drop in occasionally.

It would seem that a woman who has been successful in business and listed in **Who's Who, American Women**, would have been too involved with a career to have time for home and hobbies. This is not the case however, for Mrs. Rose has a fine bright-green thumb and not only gardens in her lovely flower and rock garden but operates a seasonal routine in her greenhouse. In free moments the whole family heads for the Rose swimming pool for fun and recreation. Bowling and knitting are some of Jean's other hobbies, with a number of Aran Fishermen's type sweaters to her credit.

In recent years she has been interested in car racing, and has entered her Corvette, driven by a professional driver, in a series of National Car Racing events. How she has managed to attend every CFA Annual but one, is one of those enigma's only she can explain. There is one thing certain, she knows the secret of stretching time very far; enough to include the things she has to do and the things she wants to do, in what must surely be a very full, enriched and gratifying life. One can only say that CFA has been the richer too for her many years of dedicated service.

C. S.