

# CAT · GOSSIP

VOL. 1

Phone : Battersea 4358

Edited by H. C. BROOKE

No 25.

MAY 25th. 1927

Price 3d., post free

## Gossip of the Week.

MRS. NEATE, who is very busy nowadays, takes time to write as follows:—I have sold my Brown Tabby stud, Brown Sultan, to Mrs. Coppard. I am glad to notice a revival of interest in this grand old breed. My first Red Persian, The King's Own, was the son of a brown tabby, and by crossing some of our good red queens with a brown tabby stud—or the other way about, as I see Mrs. Singleton advocates—should soon give the Fancy some handsome tawny tabbies once more. I must admit though (judging by the tabby lady visitors I have had this season) this variety has plenty of character.

WE THINK all real lovers of the Cat must be interested in the Cats' Protection League, the notice of which will be found in another column. The name of Mr. Ernest Bell, Editor of "The Animals' Friend," is in itself sufficient guarantee of the genuineness of the organisation, and that it will be an active and businesslike affair. There is a very great deal of work to be done to ensure proper regard for the Cat in the public mind.

TWO NEW STUDS, Miss Busteed's Siamese Robinsboi, and Mrs. Neate's Blue L.H. Rigside Norman, are announced in our business columns this week.

A WRITER in the "Daily Mail" announces the death of a cat at the age of 24, and, what is yet more extraordinary, she only had one kitten, and that when 17 years old. Could one but say to the ordinary house cat, "Go thou and do likewise!"

MRS. MACWATT writes about an unpleasant experience she has had, which may serve as a warning that one needs to be very careful when putting out queens on breeding terms. It appears she sent two queens to a party who seemed to be all right, but then could get no satisfactory reply as to the kittens, neither were her baskets returned. She now writes:—"Last week, being in London, I hired a car and drove 45 miles to see about them; I found the man away, and that his wife had left him; his furniture had all gone, and all the stock on what I was told was a large farm were a few goats and dogs. My cats were each in an empty room, the kittens had no box or straw or anything to sleep upon. The queens were rather thin, but in good coat; anyhow, I got some boxes

from the local shop, and removed them all, and have heard no word since. The kittens, all by Bubbles, were a nice lot, of many colours."

MISS BOWDEN-SMITH has purchased the smoke queen, Selma Susie, from Mrs. Coltart, and hopes she will do well when mated to Ch. Goblin.

IT IS unfortunate that the cat in the fowling scene is so hard to distinguish. Miss Fitzwilliam tells me it was very distinct in the sculpture, and it is also to be made out in the photo, a very small cat, climbing anxiously up the papyrus stem with its tail out stiffly to balance itself. It is on the third bent papyrus to the rear of the decoy-bird. Miss Fitzwilliam was informed that though hunting with cats was frequently the subject of old Egyptian paintings, it was but very rarely made the subject of the sculptors' art, which makes this specimen of the greater interest.

TWO BRUTES were fined £3 at Brighton for burying kittens alive. While this is better than the 5s. with which some of our "justices" reward such deeds, it makes one think but little of a civilisation where people can do such things and escape with such a trifling penalty. It goes to prove how badly work such as is outlined in the prospectus of the Cats' Protection Circle is needed, to instil some sense of proportion into the minds of a vast number of people, who regard the vilest cruelty to a cat as a mere trifle. It is far cheaper to burn a cat or bury it alive than to walk a horse with a slight corn through the street!

AT LAST moment we learn that Mrs. Campbell-Fraser has just sent (through the intermediary of "Cat Gossip"), a queen and some kittens to France, to Madame Leon Pereyrol.

WE ARE glad to be able to congratulate the B.P.C.S. on a successful year's working. Twenty-three new members, and some new Challenge Trophies, is quite satisfactory, and must be pleasing to all, especially the Club officers.

## VISITS.

March 23.—Miss Hill's **Ch. Princess Salyana**;  
 April 16.—Mrs. Moore-Blunt's **Wuffie** (brown tabby);  
 May 10.—Mrs. Soames' **Soame Red Rocket** (his daughter), all to Mrs. Neate's **Ch. Red Leader**.  
 April 21.—Mrs. Soames' **Soame Miss Detroit** to Mrs. Neate's **Brown Sultan**.  
 May 2.—Mrs. Wallace Dunlop's **Miana** to Mrs. Neate's **Cream Conqueror**.  
 April 21.—Miss Richardson's **Crinkle** to Mrs. Higgins' **Jetsam** (Manx).

## DISEASES OF THE CAT. (HAMILTON KIRK.)

BY THE EDITOR.

We can safely assert that this book, probably the most complete work ever published on this comparatively little understood subject, ought to find a place on the shelves of every person who goes in for cat breeding. It contains 418 pages, with a large number of illustrations, and every page is instructive.

Captain Hamilton Kirk is one of the new school of veterinary practitioners, and the spirit in which he approaches his really difficult task is shown by his remarks on page 1: "Cats labouring under disease require a great deal more care and consideration than is generally realised to ensure their recovery, and the haphazard methods which were common twenty or even ten years ago have now given place to highly scientific observation of detail, and a care and precision founded upon much more skilled knowledge of feline pathology. . . . The poor cat suffers only too frequently from the ignorance or neglect, or even excessive attention, of its owner, and this may be specially true in questions concerning disease. When a cat is ill, people are very apt to indulge in experiments in diagnosis, and having hit upon some condition which appears to fit the symptoms, hie themselves to the chemist for a bottle of 'Cure-All,' which (being only for a cat) is probably consistently prescribed."

How true are these words! It is pleasant to note that Captain Kirk renders all due homage to the many years of yeoman service put in by Mr. Henry Gray in endeavouring to raise feline practice to a plane of proper importance.

Where all is good, it is difficult, in the scope of a review like this, to know what to mention first. Amongst the illustrations we note instructive diagrams of the results of cats swallowing various foreign bodies; of parasites; of the deformity which may be caused in the ear by neglect of parasitic canker (which condition, until the illuminating remarks of Miss "Joan Conquest," published in "Cat Gossip" 23, 24, we had thought probably the basis of the Chinese Drop-Eared Cat Legend!). In this connection we note the author states he has used our own favourite remedy, Balsam of Peru, with success for otacariasis. Novices can with great advantage study the remarks on the ease with which cats can be poisoned by the injudicious use of certain dressings, or by the white-washing of catteries with preparations containing carbolic or creosote. "There have been numerous instances of cats and dogs playing with Easton's syrup tabloids (for human use, which have been accidentally dropped on the floor), and swallowing them, with fatal results." Great care, too, must be taken in dosing cats for worms. The "Hairball" trouble, that bughbear of the L.H. breeders, receives due attention.

The various forms of skin disease and of internal parasites all receive due attention, though we failed to find—we may have overlooked it—reference to the prickly worm which sometimes makes its home in the nostrils of the cat. We venture to say it is unknown to 99 in 100 of Cat Fanciers; we have ourselves only observed it once, in the case of the grandmother of Ch. Katzenjammer, thirty-five years ago! The chapter on pyorrhœa, that horrible disease which papfeeding is rendering so common in humans, cats, and dogs, is well worth study. In view of the allegations so frequently made by scaremongers, both lay and medical, that the cat is a disseminator of diphtheria, too much prominence cannot be given to the definite statement, backed by competent medical authorities, that the human diphtheria bacillus finds no home in the cat.

The weakest parts in the book, to our thinking, are those on the History of the Cat tribe—a matter of practically no importance in a work of this nature—where we find repeated the quotations from those writers who consider the marten to have been the animal kept as a house cat by the Greeks and Romans, and the suggestion that the Siamese derives from the large Bay Cat (*f. temmincki*), a most improbable thing in our opinion.

The kindly spirit of the author is again shown in the opening lines of Chapter XII.: "The practice of rendering an animal unconscious to pain should in every possible case be carried out."

Really, the book is one which the **Cat-breeder cannot afford to be without.**

"Diseases of the Cat," by Capt. Hamilton Kirk, M.R.C.V.S. Price 10/6. Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. (See advertisement.)

### CAT-CALLS.

#### INFORMATION WANTED.

I have had an inquiry, and will be obliged to any Fancier who can tell me if there is a breed of cats called "Angora Blue," and if so who is a breeder of these? Also what are the special points and colour of eyes?

E. C. BUSTEED, Hon. Sec. S.C.C.

The Editor "Cat Gossip."

#### THAT "SOMETHING DIFFERENT."

We do so much appreciate your articles about Egyptian and other wonderful cats! News of the Cat Fancy is, of course, all very well, but there must be plenty who want to read something about cats, apart from breeding and exhibiting. Your paper seems to be the only one that ever touches on such matters, and we hope you'll continue. Please tell us more about the Sacred Burmese Cats, or any other strange felines, which you alone seem to be informed about.

ADA & MARGARET NEVINSON,

Folkestone.

The Editor "Cat Gossip."



**LONG-HAIR LORE.**

BY MRS. CAMPBELL FRASER.

MISS E. M. HILL writes me this morning that Mrs. Shacklock's queen, "Dame Courtly," has two torties (like the dam) and two reds (like their handsome sire, "Whatmer"). I hope they will inherit his magnificent head.

Black kittens are so scarce that it is pleasant to hear that Mrs. McClure has seven of this fascinating variety. "Patsy Dinah" was only a kitten when her first litter was born; she had then been mated to "To-To," a son of "Ch. Nanook." This time her visit is to be to Mrs. Bazeley's beautiful Champion. Mrs. McClure is delighting in a spacious cat house, with grass run attached, which she has recently had erected.

Mrs. Berry sends me a kind invitation to go and see her at Worcester Park. I much admired her "Brookside Babbette," shown at Croydon last season. Her second queen, "Fluffles," has four fine kittens by "Champion Billy Bumpet," and "Angela," a very nice brood queen, has been mated to "Milord o' Mendip"—this ought to bring good results. "Angela" was one of a first prize litter at a Champion Show.

It was pleasant to hear Miss Atkinson's voice on the 'phone, sending me the interesting news that she has two stunning Chinchilla kittens by "Lang-

herne Woof," also a family of blues by "John of Downside."

My friend from "Gaybrook," Miss L'Estrange Walsh, writes me "gaily" that an angelic litter of white babes, by "Ch. Minley Surprise," ex "Ch. Minley Venus," are the best kittens she has ever bred. "Sprite" and "Puffie" and two other white queens are shortly to add their "quota" to this dainty Oxon cattery.

At our Blue Persian Committee meeting I met Miss Evelyn Langston, and the following are some of the latest news items of her beautiful cats. Miss Kathleen Yorke is to have the pick of my "Ch. Marise" litter. "Langherne Rose" is due this week, and looks like a big litter, from "Gimlette of Pittacher." "Jay of Allington" is due in a fortnight to "Jamie," and I hope "Ch. Prudence" will prove in kitten to "Mercury of Pensfold." "Evdue's" litter, by "Milord o' Mendip," went west for some unaccountable reason (it was the similar mating that produced "Eros of Allington" and "Sweet September of Hawkhurst." I now have mated her to "Plick-a-Maroo," as I thought, as she is just seven years old, a youngster might be most suitable. "Melusine" has been in season three times, but as she is only eight months old, and doesn't worry or go off her food, I've not mated her.

A new denizen of the Hendon Cattery is "Lorina of Hadley"—this black female has already won two

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Championships, and is bred from the old black Earlsfield Delta strain. Another black inmate of the cattery is a daughter of the late "Blue Robin," ex "Ebonette."

A change of date of the S.C.C.C. Show, from January 19th to January 26th, 1928, has been arranged in order to accommodate the M.C.C.

### BLUE PERSIAN CAT SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Blue Persian Cat Society, preceded by a Committee Meeting, was held on Thursday, May 19th, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, and proved a very enjoyable fixture.

The following were present on Committee: Miss Evelyn Langston (chair), Mrs. Bergman, Mrs. Oglethorpe, Mrs. Osmond Hill, Miss B. Langston, Mrs. Campbell-Fraser (hon. treas.), Miss J. M. Fisher (hon. sec.).

Members attending General Meeting: Mrs. Bazeley (chair), Mrs. McClure, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Tom Wood, Miss Sybil Robinson, Miss J. Langton, Miss Nichols, Miss Harmer, Miss Nepean, Miss Campbell-Fraser, Mr. Freeman.

The hon. treasurer and hon. secretary were re-elected, as also the two annually retiring members. A new name was brought forward for Committee. The Delegates recently voted for by postal vote stand as follows: Miss J. M. Fisher, Mrs. Wade.

The balance sheet passed in Committee was confirmed by the General Meeting. The bank balance showed a substantial improvement, and the Hon. Secretary read a gratifying report of the year's work, during which time 23 new members had joined the Club.

In Committee, Cups and Trophies to be offered at the various Championship Shows were arranged, and Spoons and Medals were allotted to the smaller fixtures—in all about 17 Shows would be supported.

Mrs. Bazeley, at the meeting, signified her kind wish to present a Silver Salver, to be called "The Colneside Ch. Billy Bumpet Challenge Trophy," to be awarded for the best Blue L.H. Female Adult in Breeders' Class (first prize winner only).

During the year Lady Eardley Wilmot and Miss Joyce Fair had generously offered to replace the Cups won by them—these Cups to be named respectively "The Henley Ch. Cup" and "The Northway's Cup."

A letter of congratulation on her recovery was voted by the Committee to be addressed to Mrs. Yeates.

G. CAMPBELL-FRASER, Hon. Treas.

### DEATHS.

May 14.—Miss Raper's **Kitchee**, four kittens by Mrs. Hindley's **Simzo** (Valetta, Godalming, Surrey).

May 25.—Mrs. Burke's Siamese, **Minoh Ming**, from virulent influenza; also, same week, a male kitten and a young queen.

### THE SIAMESE CAT CLUB.

THE SHOW Committee met on the 12th inst., at the Office of Messrs. Fallowfield, Ltd., by the kindness of Mr. Hindley. The classification was gone into, and it was arranged to make a few alterations. The Chocolate Class will read "Chocolate Pointed," and be amalgamated with the "Blue Pointed" Class. The Novice Kitten Class will be divided into Male and Female, as last year, and the Group Class will be deleted. Three extra rosettes will be given, one each to the Male and Female in Championship Classes, second prize winners, and one to the second best Kitten.

Three offers of Specials were gratefully accepted from Mrs. Veley, Mrs. Cran, and Miss Dixon. The Schedules will be sent out to all fully paid up members by the 22nd of August, and the entries must be in by the 6th September, the date of the Show being September 21st, at the Philbeach Hall, Earl's Court. The Judges will be Mrs. Basnett for Adults and Mrs. Wade for Kittens. All Members who have not already paid their subscriptions, must do so immediately if they wish to have the Schedules in good time, as non-members of the Club are supplied last. The arrangements for the Show will be much the same as last year.

It was decided to offer a Club Bronze Medal to the Madresfield Show and to Sandy. Prize winners of these must be S.C.C. members.

E. C. BUSTEED, Hon. Sec.

### BIRTHS.

**Births and Visits: 1d. a word; 36 words for 2s. 6d.)**  
May 11.—Mrs. Lawrence's **Shadow of Argovie**, six beautiful blues, by Mrs. Campbell-Fraser's **Hendon Alexis**.

May 5.—Miss Busteed's **Justina**, four kittens by owner's **Robinsboi** (prematurely).

February 15.—Mrs. Soames' **Soame Flannette**, five kittens.

April.—Miss Knight-Law's **Red Chichona**, four kittens, both by Mrs. Neate's **Ch. Red Leader**.

April 18.—Miss Wakeford's **Kitzu**, three creams, one blue cream, by Mrs. Neate's **Cream Conqueror**.

April 29.—Miss Bowden-Smith's **Cinderella**, three kittens by Mrs. Stevens' **Magnus o' Mendip**.

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**BOOKS REVIEWED.**

By M. SHERIDAN-JONES.

**RUSTLE OF SPRING**, by Clare Cameron.

Although this book is described as the "simple annals of a London girl," let no one imagine that it is dull. Clare Roberts, the little girl born in the home of working-class parents, has a wider outlook than the majority of her acquaintances, and manages to crowd into her days all the delightful fancies which brighten and elevate the lot of those so fortunate as to possess her vivid imagination. Through the struggles of the family, the irritation caused by blundering and interfering relatives, there is a glimpse of the solidity that must ever be associated with those who regard home as the fount to which they may take all sorrows or all joys, sure of sympathy and understanding. And the cat! Never was one more pampered than "Tim." Father, coming in tired, cut off a piece of meat for "Tim" before he ate his own; Aunt Millie, a little "wanting," brings her offering from the restaurant where she works wrapped up in tissue paper. Mother, although she may occasionally "drat the cat," who will get under her feet when she is washing, shepherds him in out of the cold, and pampers and spoils him to his heart's content. This is one of the most charming books it has been my lot to read for a good long while.

"Rustle of Spring," by Clare Cameron.  
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