

CAT · GOSSIP

VOL. 1

Phone: Battersea 4358

Edited by H. C. BROOKE

No 26

JUNE 1st, 1927

Price 3d., post free

LONGHAIR LORE AND WEEKLY GOSSIP.

BY MRS. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

NORTHERN news from Mrs. Higginbottom announces that the Newcastle Ch. Show is fixed for December 14th, with popular judges in the persons of Mrs. Soames, Mr. Ambrose, and Mr. P. P. Connor. All who have visited this pleasant fixture carry away a delightful remembrance of our warm-hearted North Country Fanciers, and the kindness of their Hon. Secretary and Manager. Last year, when London exhibitors arrived from King's Cross, on a particularly snowy evening the night before the Show, this kind lady was waiting on the platform to give us help and instructions—much appreciated by all. We all united in wishing Mrs. Higginbottom the best of luck with her beautiful Silver Tabbies. Ch. Silveta is well, but at present without kittens.

Mrs. Gilbert, of Gateshead, has mated her winning L.H. Tortie, Pompilia, to Toto. She is due to kitten in about a fortnight. She only returned home on the 23rd, and we hope is none the worse for her long journey from the South.

On January 7th, 1926, the Midland Cat Club, one of the oldest of our clubs, held their Ch. Show at Cheltenham, and among the ardent local fanciers I noted the Misses Fisher, and the following is "novelty news" from their Cattery: "Last year we had a very nice Blue L.H. queen given to us, Blue Jean of Havant, who at one time belonged to the late Mrs. Streeter. This season Jean has had four lovely kittens by Hafiz of Highcliffe, three males and one female. The males are all sold. We are expecting a good litter of kittens from Elizabeth of Highcliffe, by our stud, Dandy Black. She is due to kitten on Whit-Monday, and as Elizabeth is a granddaughter of Magog o' Mendip, the Ch. cat of Australia, we are looking forward to something very nice. Dandy Black is a son of the late Ch. Azure of Hadley, ex Nancy Belle of Highcliffe. Dandy Black has inherited his father's most gorgeous orange eyes."

The Misses F. and G. Fisher have also a team of Pekingeses, who are likewise great pets.

If these notes should come under the eye of Mr. Aubrey, Hon. Treasurer of the M.C.C., would he be so kind as to send me some reminiscent notes of the Midland Cat Club—its founders, when founded, etc., etc.—its first committee members and records of its Birmingham Shows?

Now I hope you have all remembered that time for the sending in of additional names for the Stud Book and Stud List is growing short. Such names should be sent at once to Mrs. Eric Nathan, 127, Park Road, Hanover Gate, London.

Everyone admires that grand Chinchilla, Ch. Langherne Felix, belonging to Misses Cotterell, Grant, and Trefusis, and will be interested in the following from the pen of Miss Cotterell: "Felix is now enjoying life (he doesn't during the show time), and has had an excellent 'season.' His litters have been numerous, fours or fives, strong fine kittens of grand quality, so I hope his children will do him credit at next winter shows. The hot weather makes him lazy, so in the summer I give him a rest from his labours. I hear two of his last year's males were 'wonders,' but, alas! their owners only required them as pets, and both were neutered. I have had the misfortune to lose my two Chinchilla queens—Hyver and Alder-moor Don Strain—but my partners, Misses Grant and Trefusis, have a lovely litter of five by Felix from their winning Queen. Though Chinchillas are my speciality, I have a beautiful son of Buzz-Buzz—Nailstone Omar. He is getting a good connection among the Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset blue ladies, and it is amazing what a number of people breed L.H. Blues in these parts. Omar has a splendid head, and sires really good kittens. I only have a couple of blue queens, Mendip and Blue British Strain, so you see my Cattery is very modest! All the cats live out of doors in a lovely 300-year-old garden (wired), and they are a happy healthy lot. I get plenty of fresh fish and rabbits, which, mixed with wheat-meal or Force, makes excellent meals, and we have plenty of new milk. We intend to have another photo of Felix taken later, when in winter coat (with his Hyver Cup), and hope to send one to 'Cat Gossip' with his stud advertisement."

Mrs. MacWatt, of Wareham, is advertising this week some promising young stock—in particular the Cream Male, which Mrs. MacWatt is most unwillingly obliged to part with. His sire, Bubbles of Hanley, on his appearance as an adult at the last S.C.C.C. Show, created quite a sensation, annexing the Championship. It will be remembered he was bred by Mrs. Stevenson, and is full brother to Mrs. Yeend's Binkie of Bredon, that beautiful Cream who went abroad. It was through the good judgment of Mrs.

Kennaway that Mrs. MacWatt entered Bubbles for the Southern Counties Show.

Kindly Note.—If anyone received a large Cream queen, for mating, about six or seven weeks ago, from Althorne, Essex, will they kindly communicate with Mrs. MacWatt, The Gables, Wareham, Dorset.

G. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

By an accident Miss Raper's advertisement of the birth of four kittens appeared in the deaths notices. We apologise for this error, and are placing it in order this week.

We understand that through the medium of "Cat Gossip," M. Armand Steens has purchased from Miss Fitzwilliam her young Siamese, grandson of Litabois. Mrs. BURKE (Chelsea) has suffered a sad loss in the death, through virulent influenza, of her Siamese stud, Minoh Ming; a kitten and a young queen have also fallen victims. As these cats never left the premises it is thought a visiting queen may have introduced the disease.

By the time you read this we shall hope to be in Paris. Please send all news items to Mrs. Campbell-Fraser, The Approach, Hendon, for the next fortnight, and Advertisements, Births and Visits to Mrs. Sheridan-Jones, 11, Tunley Road, S.W. 17.

THE CATS' PROTECTION LEAGUE.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting of friends of cats took place at St. Ermin's, Westminster, on May 16th, to inaugurate a special society on their behalf, bearing the above title.

The following proposed objects to be worked for were fully discussed and adopted:

- 1.—To ensure the proper understanding and treatment of cats by means of educational propaganda, lectures, literature, etc.
- 2.—To endeavour to check the present over-production of unwanted kittens with a view to preventing the sufferings of strays.
- 3.—To secure the proper carrying out of necessary operations, and to stop their performance by unqualified persons.
- 4.—To watch narrowly all legislation affecting cats.
- 5.—To provide, in a manner to be decided later, suitable homes for cats during the absence of their owners.
- 6.—To co-operate with all well-conducted shelters, and to assist them with educational literature, etc.

Mrs. Avery has kindly consented to act as hon. secretary. Subscriptions and communications may be addressed to her at 104, Barons Court Road, W. 14, and Mr. Ernest Bell will be treasurer.

BIRTHS.

Births and Visits: 1d. a word; 36 words for 2s. 6d.)

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

May 24.—Miss Fitzwilliam's Siamese, **Semiramis**, 7 lovely kittens by **Brian de Listinoise**. (One dead.)

PARIS CAT SHOW.

MAY 27th & 28th.

My dear Colleague,—“We reckon on your being at the Salle Wagram before nine, so that we can start judging at nine, to be finished by eleven, and ready for the official inauguration.” Such was the pleasing message which dragged me, against my better judgment, early out of bed, only to find, as I had expected, on arrival, that half the cats had not yet arrived, and a lot of the pens were not yet up. The well-known Salle Wagram gives hardly any daylight, and has, consequently, to be artificially illuminated all the way through, which makes it most difficult to arrive at a correct appreciation of eye colour, etc.

SIAMESE FAVOURITES IN FRANCE.

The Siamese were by far the strongest section, and of very good quality. I think there are more chocolates in proportion than with us. They are also more divided as to colours in the classification, which, of course, gives more exhibits a chance, e.g., Light Siamese (café au lait), half-dark Siamese (beige), and dark (chocolate). The Short-hair section was very very bad, averaging 1½ per class. Nothing in “Europeans” worth mentioning, but a B.E. White. Yellow-and-green-eyed Whites are recognised. An “Abyssinian,” a winner of prizes, was really a very nice foreign type Blue. The judges painstakingly reckon up all the points even in the case of a tenth-rate cat alone in its class, which system would hardly do at one of our big shows. In Long-hair, Madame Péreyroi, who has been buying a number in England, had a good entry. I noticed her Hendon Dame Carruthers, with baby family, looking very fit.

Mrs. Nathan was at the Show, and judging some L.H. classes. Amongst the “Persans irreguliers” was a very strikingly marked black and white, with a large number of small black spots, including two on forehead and one on nose, a very showy exhibit. In the Burmese Temple Cats, the well-known Manon de Madalpour was alone. A “Turkish” Cat was nothing but a pale reddish cream Tabby. How terrible the light was may be guessed from the fact that going round in the morning I thought I'd discovered a clinking S.H. Cream with which to do some winning next season, but, removed from the pen, it proved a bad white. The pen decorations were many and varied, temples, pagodas, and even a thatched country inn, with “bird concert,” being on view, and certainly added to the brightness of the show.

The cat from the Trappist Convent at Staouli, Algeria, was a handsome L.H. Brown Tabby.

Manx—two—one a really good one.

(To be Continued.)

VISITS.

May 24th.—Mrs. Oglethorpe's **Dainty Lady of the Court**, by Barry Blue Prince, ex Dewdrop of the Court, Lady Eardley Wilmot's **Dazzler of Henley**.



L.L.

INSTEAD of Longhair Lore, may the above in this article stand for "Love Loveliness," and contain a few words of encouragement to the novices in our delightful Fancy. Beauty in every form is a real joy, and in the animal creation what more beautiful than a Persian kitten. Perhaps our first kitten is the gift of a friend; if so its value is enhanced, and the pleasure begun before the arrival of the little stranger. But no matter in whatever manner the kit has come to us, it will be a thing of charm. If still a tiny mite, recollect that its capabilities of feeding are also small, and that time must be allowed between meals. Too little is better than too much. As the old saying goes, "Too much of a good thing is good for nothing." Light food given in moderation, plenty of sleeping time, for the wee brain must not be over-excited; introductions, and even "cat and kitten" parties must be enjoyed in moderation by this youthful debutante! Then quietly we can enjoy to the full its pretty quaint ways, and kitten rearing is full of pleasure.

Can I hear some one saying they wish their kitten could remain a kit always? Then they have still to learn what the friendship of an adult can mean, and while we feel there is still something to learn, it means something to live for. In my time I have

had many adult friends amongst my cats, each one with their own specially "fetching" ways, each with a lovable disposition, never wearying of paying us little attractive attentions, always giving to us far more than we give in return—selfish humans that we be!

Now a word to those novices who are thinking of starting with a brood queen, and I am glad to see that a great many have joined the Fancy this year—success attend them!—and I am sure if any of we older breeders can give them a helping hand we are theirs to command. The few following hints may be borne in mind: Aim high; seek after perfection; start with the best pedigreed queen you can obtain; the best to the best is a good motto, whatever strain you choose to follow.

Feed your adults, of either sex, well, liberally, and with common sense. A queen going to have kittens must have extra food in order to bring strong and sturdy kittens into the world, and stud cats must have strengthening food likewise. Grass is the adult cat's natural physic, therefore don't skimp it! Water is a necessary drink, therefore let it always be of the freshest!

Now again may I ring the changes on my two "L.L.'s?"—"Love Loveliness," either in the shape of a Persian cat or kitten, and you will never be "Love-Lonely."

G. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

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B.P.C.S.

MISS KATHLEEN YORKE has kindly presented to the above Club the gift of a Silver Challenge Cup, to be awarded to the best blue female kitten (bred by exhibitor).

The above should have appeared in the notice of the B.P.C.S. General Meeting last week. I trust Miss Yorke will accept my apologies for the oversight.

G. CAMPBELL-FRASER, Hon. Treas.

BOOKS REVIEWED.

THE 1926-7 Year Book of the Amateur Menagerie Club is just to hand, and affords interesting reading to all animal lovers. Probably what will most appeal to readers of "Cat Gossip" is a picture of a tame otter with its cat foster-mother. L. R. Brightwell, F.Z.S., writes about Continental Zoos; Norah L. Walker on "Monkey Mania"; G. de Southoff on Menageries in Italy; H. C. Brooke on "Hairless Rodents" and "Strange Passengers on a Banana Boat," with illustrations of *Nyctomys* and *Rhinoceros Mouse*; the Cornish Chough, Wallabies, and Tragopans are also dealt with. The editor is Mr. G. Tyrwhitt-Drake, of Sandling, Maidstone, the well-known private menagerie proprietor and secretary of the A.M. Club.

PIP'S ADVENTURE.

PIP was a handsome, calm-eyed tabby cat, much beloved by his master and mistress.

He was also adored by a family of young people living near by, and when his own master and mistress went away for week-ends, before setting out they walked down with him to his "other home," where he contentedly settled down, paying periodical visits to his residence up the road to see if his own people had returned.

His one streak of "bad luck" came when his master acquired a motor car. Pip was much "intrigued" with this new acquisition. He thoroughly inspected it as it stood outside the gate, and finally took upon himself the position of guardian.

At first he would not get on it, but lay on the path by its side, never budging till his master came out. Before long he tried sitting in the driver's seat. He liked that, and for several days, when the car was outside, he made that his chosen resting place, purring long and loudly with pleasure.

Last of all, after thoroughly testing, he settled down on the comfortable seat at the back, always springing out when his master came to start the engine.

One evening, however, while his master was dining, Pip kept his usual guard at the back, and the waiting time being longer than usual, he eventually fell asleep. Darkness came on, and still Pip slept. His master at last came out, jumped into the car, and, without seeing Pip at the back, started off with all speed.

The cat, awakened by the jerk, found himself in this great rushing monster, tearing through noisy traffic, brilliantly lighted streets, to which he was quite unused, and lost his head. He had only one mad desire, to spring out of the car, and yet he dared not.

When his master slowed up at the Vicarage gate, before it had stopped, out sprang Pip and dashed off, any way, anywhere, again unobserved by his owner, who paid his call, and soon afterwards drove home again.

Late at night Pip was missed, and then the calling and searching began. They could not do much that night, but next day the search was resumed, the friends from his "other home" joining in, but all to no purpose. Pip seemed irretrievably lost, and there was much grief in the two homes.

A fortnight passed. One afternoon his mistress was calling at the Vicarage, when she caught a glimpse of a cat among the bushes that looked like her lost darling. She called him by name, but he slunk off, apparently scared. She called again and again, walking up and down calling "Pip," "Pip" very softly. After some time the cat crept shrinkingly towards her, and finally allowed himself to be stroked and fussed, and then picked up.

His mistress quite forgot her Vicarage call. She carried him home. Poor Pip was much thinner, his eyes furtive, and his face sharp, but he was fed gradually and carefully, and soon regained his former cared-for appearance.

There was much rejoicing over his return. He is now very grateful and very loving, but nobody has since been able to induce him to go anywhere near his master's car.

R. E. ALLEN.

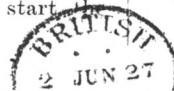
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MRS. TAYLOR (Editor "Cat Courier") Wants "Cat Gossip" Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5. 704, Henry Clay Hotel, Detroit, Mich., U.S.A.

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PORTRAITS. Cats standing at Stud (not less than 5 insertions) can have their portraits published for the price of block and postage. Block becomes property of owner. Portrait may be repeated within the year for inclusive fee of **One Guinea.** For Cats not advertised at Stud the Portrait Fee with Block will be 2/-

All Correspondence to be sent to the Editor, H. C. BROOKE, BISHOP'S HULL, TAUNTON. Assist. Editor, London Agency and Book Reviews: M. Sheridan-Jones, 11, Tunley Road, London, S.W. 17.

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