

# We want News about YOUR Cats !

CAT GOSSIP. June 22nd. 1927

## CAT · GOSSIP

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### LONGHAIR LORE AND WEEKLY GOSSIP.

By MRS. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

A WELCOME letter comes from a new correspondent, Miss May Elliot Inchbald, of Roseleigh, Corsham, who writes as follow:—"As you are interested in the longhair side of 'Cat Gossip' I thought, perhaps, you might like to hear about my very modest cattery. I only have two queens, but they are great pets. Polydeare, a black, I showed at the M.C.C. Show in 1926; she was a kitten then, and won 2nd prize." (En passant, I may say I criticised this kitten as having a good head. She was beaten by Soame Romany Rye, since dead, after a notable show career as a kitten.) "I am only a novice, but I think Polydeare is a very good shape, and has small ears and good coloured eyes; but of all, she is an excellent mother. Last summer, in her first litter, she had two beautiful males, so big and firm. I had a most pleasing letter from one purchaser, who remarked, 'He is just perfect; when we first weighed him he was 4lbs. 11½ozs., a splendid weight for a kitten of his age; now he turns the scale at 5½lbs.' The kitten at this time was just over four months. My other queen, Miss Matty, is a blue, with the thickest of coats, of a sound shade; she is expecting her first litter early next month. Both cats live a free life, sleep in outside houses all the year round, and are very healthy and strong. I must add before closing that I hope 'Cat Gossip' has come to stay. I am going to do the best I can for it by advertising in it in my small way."

A good sentiment, which I hope will be followed by many of our other kind friends!

It was thought to include classes for "Cats" in the Fanciers' Association Show at Pershore, Worcs., on August Bank Holiday, but, unfortunately, owing to the plum crop having been ruined by the late frosts, the show has had to be much curtailed.

I was pleased to meet Lieut.-Colonel Colquhoun-Fitzgerald at our last S.C.C.C. Show, it is so pleasant to find "menkind" taking an interest in the Fancy, and "Crieff" is a good step from London, 443 miles! Mrs. Fitzgerald tells me that that handsome Chinchilla stud, Gimlette of Pittachar, possesses a garden of his own, 80ft. long, with flowers and shrubs. Happy cat! Hotstuff, the blue L.H., next to him

in an equally nice enclosure. There are some good Chinchilla kittens, ex Stenna, a daughter of Gimlette, sire Timothy Topnot. This latter Chinchilla was a son of that cat of old fame, Lord Birmingham, ex Heroine of Hyver, and was bred by Mrs. Greenwood at one time one of our notable Chinchilla breeders.

All the Pittachar cats are real sportsmen! Blues and Chinchillas alike bringing in spoils in the shape of rats and mice. The queens have a free life, in garden and wood, coming in for their food and to sleep. All the cats are brought in at night. Gimlette and Hotstuff have sunny little rooms, where they can stay all day should it be too wet to take them out.

Gimlette is siring many fine litters this season. He is a worthy son of Ch. Cupid of Hyver.

Mrs. Mackenzie has sold the black male Persian kitten she advertised in "Cat Gossip."

Being an inquisitive fancier, I inquired of Mrs. Yeend, "Why do you like creams best?" and here with her reply:—"I'm not sure if I do!" (Oh! the frailty of women!) "I think Chinchillas are the aristocrats of the cat fancy; blacks and whites are fascinating, too, but the creams, the good ones, especially my Ch. Meg, Ch. Endymion of the Balcony, Ch. Shere Khan o' the Coombe, and Ch. Mignonette, Budge of Hanley (the latter, in my opinion, having the best head of any cream male shown last season), always appeal to me as being so handsome and so much more attractive than other colours or breeds." Perhaps I am prejudiced. Yet my own special pet is Yveend, a lovely blue Persian, daughter of that grand old cat, Milord o' Mendip. She is an aristocrat in every way, and commands respect and admiration even from visitors who have a lifelong antipathy to anything feline; yet they even fall in love with Meg and Mick, on account of their beauty and friendliness, and several of them have gone as far as to say, 'I'd love a cat or kitten like yours!' "Whisper! I believe that Mrs. Yeend has a heart large enough to embrace all pets among our felines, notwithstanding diversity of colour—read between her lines!

Mrs. Newton, of Correnden, Tonbridge, has four lovely Chinchilla kits, two months old, by Ch. Felix, ex a charming daughter of the late Don Carlos and Tyneside Silver Girlie. They promise to be real

beauties, so she hopes to have something for the show bench. Later Mrs. Newton is looking for a fine blue litter from Lady Dinks, sire Mercury of Pensford, Mrs. Bergman's young pale blue stud. Lady Dinks is a daughter of Barry Blue Prince, so for colour this should be a good combination. Silver Sprite of Boreham, who won premier honours at Croydon under Miss White-Atkins, was bred by Mrs. Macleod and Miss Tunks, but, apart from her show career, Mrs. Newton has not found her very lucky as a breeding queen, but is hoping that her next litter will be more fortunate.

The S.C.C.C. are holding their next committee meeting on June 23rd, at which the number of trophies to be awarded at the different shows—championship and otherwise—will be decided. The meeting is to be held at Raymead, Hendon, N.W., by the kind invitation of Miss J. Langton.

#### LYSOL AS A CURE FOR ECZEMA.

A fancier writes:—It may be of interest to those in the cat fancy to know of a cure for eczema. I sold a kitten, 10 weeks old, to a lady. When about one year old he got eczema. No vet. could cure him, and he continued to have it off and on, on head, ears, and body. At last this lady's maid prepared a bath of tepid water, and put a little Lysol in, just a very little. She held the cat in the bath for about 10 minutes, completely covered with water. The cat got soon free from eczema, and has not had it since, and it is now about a year since he had this bath. He is a huge neuter. I certainly think this remedy might well be worth trying in an obstinate case, for a severe attack of eczema is most persistent and difficult to get rid of.

Query? Should be glad to know from Mrs. Yeates if I was right in saying I believed she possessed three living champions (L.H.), viz., Ch. Devonshire Duchess, Ch. Zolanda, and Ch. Sally Cat?

Brabourne Witch, formerly the property of Mrs. Neate, now owned by Miss E. H. Hill, has six handsome kittens by Galdorn, five dark red and one cream. Bravo, Galdorn and little mother, for there is plenty of room in your world for such as you and your children! Some novice, like our old painters, in love with "Venetian red," ought to feel incited to start a cattery at once. Brabourne Witch is dam of Prince Bosco, and has a pedigree full of champions.

News from the North: A fancier friend believes to have discovered two tortie males amongst the newly-born litter of Mrs. Gilbert's Pompelia.

Just heard from Miss Langston that the Marise kittens are lovely, and doing well, and that as Prudence and Evadne both missed (the minxes) she says if they are not good this time, Marise will be mated again to Barry Prince Blue, and will have to keep the Allington flag flying! Her Chinchillas are flourishing, the kits promising, a young son of Corinna's (almost unmarked), by Champy of Betley, she

sold last week. Miss Langston goes on to speak enthusiastically of the care given to live stock by the exporters, Messrs. Van Oppen, as well as the moderation of their charges. Take note all ye exporters of cats!

### COMING CATS.

#### No. 3. BLUE L.H. KITTENS.

Miss Joyce Fair, Northway Shelmerdine, Ting-aling, and Billy Bunch; Mr. Bellamy, Kruger and Downend; Mrs. Yeates, Constant Nymph and Winsome Witch; Mrs. Elliott, Mistress Billy Bumpet; Mrs. Goddard, Ashton Tam o' Shanter; Miss George, Mistress Love, Sugar Boy, and Blue Hepatica; Messrs. Brown and Wilson, Hampstead Blue Fox and Blue Mite; Mrs. Robinson, Fairy Elf and Alina; Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Chittabob of Runnymede; Mrs. Brunton, Larkspur and Hyacinth of Dunesk; Mrs. Stevens, Merlin o' Mendip; Miss Langston, Melusine of Allington; Mrs. Newton, Don of Correndon; Mrs. Flanders, Betty of Brighton; Mrs. Franklin, Minerva of Pensford; Miss Murray, Braw Hieland Laddie; Miss Bateman, Christine; Mrs. McLeod and Miss Tunks, Puff o' Smoke of Boreham; Mrs. Logan, Logan's Lady; Lady Eardley Wilmot, Gay Gallant and Peter Pan of Henley; Miss Beaven, Grey Friar's Sadie; Miss Wardel-Yerburgh, Nephele; Mrs. Guess, Penhorne Princess Dinah; Miss Peake, Speedwell Gold Dust and Heart's Delight; Mrs. Mitchell, Rig-side Agan; Miss P. Fraser, Agruk; Mrs. Yeend, Ylys of Bredon, Sister May Makalah; Miss Marriott, Hug-me-Tight; Mr. Tomlinson, Chic of Knott Hall; Captain Guy St. Barbe, Barbara of Cullogen; Miss Walker, Moorside Dandie; Mr. Alex Wilson, Dylas; Miss Joan Buckley, Blue Boy of Strand; Miss Langton, Winkle and Wankie; Mrs. Beaven, Imprudence.

Miss Joyce Fair's trio succeeded in winning between them the B.P.C.S. Hendon Ch. Trophy for best pair blue kittens bred by exhibitor (outright). Shelmerdine was best L.H. kitten in show at the N.C.C. Mr. Bellamy's two male kittens were bought by Mrs. Nathan, as future studs; Kruger, whom I liked better of the two brothers, should make a massive adult, resembling his sire, Milord o' Mendip, in shape. Constant Nymph had a sensational debut at Newbury, being awarded "best exhibit in show"—alas only to succumb very soon after. Ashton Tam o' Shanter is already siring kittens, he and Chittabob of Runnymede pretty well divided honours. Mistress Love was best kitten at the Northern, and best blue L.H. kitten at the S.C.C.C.; bred by Messrs. Brown and Wilson, who showed her at Croydon under the name of Blue Mite, where she began her winning career, Miss George showing good judgment in making the purchase. Hampstead Blue Fox, after winning first at the N.C.C., was bought by Miss Hydon, of U.S.A. Fairy Elf is by Scamp, that notable North Country cat. Merlin o' Mendip joins



the Mendip trio. Melusine of Allington appeared only at the Midland, where she was best kitten in the show; she is going on well, but is yet too young to have kittens. Mrs. Newton has, I think, parted with Don of Correndon, but I have not heard who bought him. Christine is by that very snub-nosed queen, Nona, who did very well on the show bench. I believe the two brothers, Gay Gallant and Peter Pan, both pale blues, were sold at the National. Pretty little Grey Friar's Sadie, second to Constant Nymph at Newbury, is no more. I have to mention these kittens as winners, though, unfortunately, they did not mature. Winsome Witch, Ylys of Bredon, and Barbara of Culloden have all winning mothers; Dylais is the same breeding as Herd Laddie. Blue Boy of Stand is sired by the owner's Lord MacAlpine. Winkle and Wankie took 1st in pairs at the S.C.C.C. and are some of the last siring of the late Ch. Azure of Hadley.

I am sure many of the foregoing will be heard of again, making their marks as adults to the improvement of the fancy. As regards numbers I am glad not to have to repeat former remarks, but what has been accomplished in blues can also be done with other colours, so increasing their popularity. If by any chance anyone finds I have over-looked a winning kitten I hope they will let me know.

**Next Week: No. 4. L.H. Red Kittens.**

## PEEPS INTO THE PAST.

Just twenty-five years ago the following paragraphs appeared in "Our Cats":—"It is rarely that any National Cat Club Show passes without something sensational to chronicle, and the series (sic) is no exception. Indeed, we seldom remember a fixture in which excitement, indignation, and positive hysteria ran riot to such an extent. And there was, truth to tell, good cause for it.

"When, as was the case last Tuesday, we find a member of committee officiating as a judge transfers one of her best known cats to her servant and then commits the imprudence of judging that cat, and awarding it first prize over cats of superior quality in the same class, every opportunity is given for unfavourable comment, and we can only deplore the folly and bad form (we will not use a harsher term) which could admit of such an action.

"Miss S——, the committee woman and judge to whom we refer, is a lady for whom we have hitherto had every respect, but in contemplating this most extraordinary bit of business, unequalled for its audacity in the annals of catdom, we say unhesitatingly that her withdrawal from the committee of the N.C.C. becomes a necessity. A lady who could so expose the club to the attacks and aspersions of its opponents . . . may in other directions behave with equal foolishness."

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Another lesser sensation at the same show was caused by Miss Derby Hyde entering her Silver Tabby, Ch. Thames Valley Silver King, in the show, he being one of the cats exhibited at the last Westminster Show of the Cat Club, and disqualified, therefore, from ever competing at an N.C.C. Show again."

Amongst the few present-day exhibitors who were there, we note that "Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Indian attendant, as usual, was one of the features of the cat tent"; and that we ourselves won in Manx, and also in the foreign cat class with a beautiful specimen of the "Geoffrey's Cat," imported from Paraguay. We remember that a few years later a most delightfully tame and playful youngster of this beautiful variety (of which Sir Claud Alexander usually owns a specimen or two), won at the Palace. Mr. Mitchell-Hedges, the celebrated Central American explorer, told us he had one of these cats which was a great pet and loved to play before the fire with his house cat; if anyone interfered with the tame cat the tiger cat would come to her rescue immediately.

### BOOK REVIEW.

#### PREVENTION IS—

This handy little book deals with the vital question of public health. If we are to have an A 1 nation, health is of primal importance, and by studying the methods outlined here we may go a long way on the road to achieving that ideal. The authors point out that bad health is mainly caused by bad habits, mostly contracted in childhood, through ignorance on the part of those in charge of infants during the years when the foundations of all disease are laid. But parents need no longer remain in ignorance of the necessary diet and the accompanying rules of health which build up the stamina of the future generations. We have doctors and nurses in all the public schools, and this book will be an invaluable guide to them as well as to the general public.

"Better Than Cure," by D. M. Connan and H. W. Bush. (Noel Douglas, 6s. net.)

While many dog owners of to-day watch over their feeding and housing with every possible care, they are apt to forget that the old-fashioned straw bedding leaves much to be desired. This important asset to doggies' well-being has, however, not been neglected, and those who are not satisfied with the straw bed should write to the Elastene Company for their booklet, which contains all sorts of information and many splendid testimonials. Elastene is an ideal bedding for dogs. It is clean, sweet, and warm. Moreover, it cleanses and adds a perfect sheen to the coat. It is the most hygienic and inexpensive bedding for dogs we have tried, and has been used with success in the pens at the Siamese Cat Club's Show. The booklet will be sent free to all interested who write to the Elastene Company, at their Plover Works, Hackney Wick, E. 9.

## THE AMERICAN BOB-TAIL CAT. A MYSTERY.

### IS IT IDENTICAL WITH THE MANX?

(Continued from Page 10.)

After some years a very beautifully shaped blue was selected as the one to keep for a second pet. This one also had many litters such as her mother had, and after a while another good blue was selected to keep, as the original tailless one had died, and this last has had many mixed litters, but she has given birth to some males without tails.

We have seen a tailless cat from an entirely different locality, fifty miles away on a straight line from the first place, with the Hudson River between. It would be impossible for the cats to have had anything to do with each other unless one had been taken from the first place to the second, and we have not heard of this being done.

At one of the New York shows a year ago, a family of "American Tailless" kittens, as they were called, was exhibited, but they were not catalogued, and we do not know where they came from.

Does anyone know of such cats appearing in other parts of the country?

We hope that some fanciers, who have the space, will undertake to perpetuate these cats and to give us American Manx cats with no blood from the well-known Manx cats from the Isle of Man.

We have been disappointed not to see any of the beautiful Australian wharf cats at recent shows."

(Here again there is a similarity in the "yarns" about the Manx and the American tailless cats.

Many many years ago Manx cats were exhibited in this country as hybrids between rabbit and cat. In "The British Traveller," May, 1823, occurs this item:—There is in the possession of Mr. Henley, at Chatham, a cat which has littered a kitten and four rabbits.)

#### From "Cat Review," March, 1925.

Your editorial on the American bob-tail cats interested me. In response to your request for information as to their possible origin, I send you this information for what you may deem it worth.

I spent some time during my boyhood both near Freehold, New Jersey, and at several places along the Jersey coast. At that time there were a good many bob-tailed cats in and around what was commonly called the Pines, laying back of the beach lines, but not as far inland as Freehold.

The story that went with these tailless cats was that their ancestors were a pair of Manx cats, pets on board an English sailing vessel wrecked off the coast, and that they were brought ashore in a life-boat. This must have been years before, as in my time they were not considered unusual in that part of New Jersey.

(To be continued.)



**BIRTHS.**

June 17th.—Mrs. Ogleshorpe's **Perdita of the Court**, one lovely male kitten (living) and one female (dead) by Mrs. Bergman's **Simeon of Westfield**.

June 11th.—Miss Haley's **Naga**, 7 kittens by Mrs. Basnett's **Croham Boi-bois**.

**VISIT.**

June 15th.—Mrs. Ogleshorpe's **Dewdrop of the Court** to Mrs. Bergman's **Mercury of Pensford**.

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Also his Sire, MAN FRIDAY, Fee 21s.

Man Friday is sire of the winning Kittens at Croydon, Kentish Town, 1926, and Kentish Town, 1927. Prize-bred Kittens usually for sale. Rail charges on visitors not included in fee.

Miss E. K. WAKEFORD, Polestepple, Biggin Hill, Kent

SIAMESE MALE KITTENS, 4½ months, by Ch. Bonzo and Vionnet (winning "Pair," Siamese Show, 1926), 4 gns. Also Kittens, by Bonzo, ex Mera Punya, now 4 weeks, can be booked.—L. LEWIS, 7, Newcomen Road, London, N. 3.

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