

# CAT • GOSSIP

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Edited by H. C. BROOKE

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MR. CYRIL YEATES.

[The biographical notes and portraits are taken from our late contemporary, "Animals."]

MR. CYRIL YEATES. Hon. Sec. National Cat Club. A native of Kendal, Westmoreland. Educated at Halebury and the R.M.C., Sandhurst. Has only shown one cat, but as it was through this cat's mother he met Mrs. Yeates, firmly believes black cats are lucky! First took interest in Cat Shows in 1906. Became Hon. Sec. of the Black and White Club 1921. Hon. Sec. N.C.C. in 1923. Ran Kensington Show with Miss Frances Simpson in 1922; Show Manager S.C.C.C., 1923; and ran 1923-7 Palace Shows. Has been on G.C. since 1921. Favourite cats, tortie-and-white and Dutch-marked L.H., silver tabby S.H. Compiler of the Supplement to Vols. I. and II. of the G.C. Stud Book. A member of the Dumb Friends' League for 26 years. Favourite hobbies: Yachting, horse-racing, and the theatre.

**At the end of the Show Season, after the S.C.C.C. Show, we shall give a series of articles by well-known Fanciers, forming a *résumé* of each variety during the past season. Mrs. Yeend, for instance, has kindly promised to do the L.H. Creams. This would, we think, be a good opportunity for Owners to insert portraits of Stud Cats.**

## N.C.C. SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE, Nov. 30th—Dec. 1st.

The National Cat Club, which yearly holds its "Derby" at the Crystal Palace, was founded in 1887, and as each year brings a keener interest, varied and increasing numbers of exhibits from all parts of the world, it is small wonder that it plays such a prominent part in the development and welfare of the Cat Fancy of to-day. If the pioneers of the Fancy could only see and realise to what heights of interest, admiration, and beauty the cat of to-day had risen they would, indeed, be satisfied that their early efforts had not been in vain. This year's Show certainly proves that we are still progressing on the right lines, and that there are to-day many more people who have a fuller and sounder knowledge of the breed in which they are interested. It has been most pleasing to note that their endeavours have not been for personal gain only, but for genuine love of the cat itself. There is no more delightful venue for a Show than the Crystal Palace, the hall in which it is held being so large and lofty that there is no necessity for that overcrowding which is so detrimental to the health of the animals. Cats especially suffer intensely in a stuffy atmosphere, creating a poison amongst themselves which ends in disaster. It is seldom, indeed, that one hears of those swift and tragic illnesses after the Crystal Palace Show. The pangs of hunger which are apt to overtake even the most enthusiastic of exhibitors and visitors can be here more readily appeased than at many other places, for the catering arrangements, which are connected with this great establishment are of the best and at the service of all. Amongst this splendid gathering of cat lovers I noticed Miss Evelyn Toms, Mrs. Vera Jenkins, Sir Claud and Lady Alexander, Miss Sydney Fairbrother (who is

the proud and affectionate possessor of eighteen cats, all of whom are great pets, and adore their mistress), Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Mrs. and Miss Campbell-Fraser, Miss Joyce Fair, Miss George, Mrs. Pettigrew-Ferguson (a novice exhibitor who brought her exhibits from Scotland and won a championship with her fine black male, Zarane), Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Bergman, Miss Avis Oglethorpe, Miss Langston, Mr. and Mrs. Yeates, Mr. H. C. Brooke, Mr. Freeman, Mrs. Bazeley, Mrs. Cattermole, Miss J. M. Fisher, Miss Katherine Wilson, Miss Lea, Mrs. Fosbery, Miss Harmer, Miss Savory, Miss York, Captain Guy St. Barbe, Mrs. McClure, Miss H. Hill-Shaw, Mrs. and Miss Newton, Mrs. Wade, Mrs. and Miss Sharman, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley, Mrs. Bridle, and many interested visitors as well as exhibitors. That blues out-numbered any other variety goes without saying, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to win with these lovely creatures. The N.C.C. are now giving a fourth prize in many classes, and this is certainly a step in the right direction. In blue males Lady Eardley-Wilmot was first with Ch. Gentleman of Henley, who was the best cat in the Show, and who won the National Cat Club's Challenge Cup for best long-hair cat, male or female, the Victory Challenge Cup, Sir Claud Alexander's special, the Southern Counties' Silver Coffee Spoon for best long-hair adult, and many other specials and prizes. Indeed, when I took my husband to see this wonderful personage he was completely hidden from view by his numerous award cards. Lady Eardley-Wilmot has bought a fine daughter of Ch. Gentleman of Henley, who was bred by Mr. Walter Cave out of Eva. Shown only in a blue novice class she won first, and I am sure she will go far in the future. The second prize went to Flick-a-Maroo, who was looking very beautiful, and as he was sire of so many lovely winning kittens this all added to his prestige. I hear that his stud fee is now raised to three guineas, and if he makes a habit of siring kittens like Bunkered, Big Bug, Winning the Pooh, Commander Willie, and Powder Puff, I don't think anyone will complain of the increase! In blue females Miss Joyce Fair was again first with Northway Shelmerdine. This queen of lovely type, won first and championship in blue

females, first blue junior, first A.O.C. brace, first A.C. long-hair adult. She also won the Allington Challenge Cup, and the Hendon Pooh Bah Cup, and many other specials. It will have to be an exceptional cat who can oust this lovely queen from her high place of honour. I was interested to hear that Shelmerdine is to visit Flick-a-Maroo when she is ready, and the result should be some exceptionally lovely kittens. The third prize went to Mrs. Yeates' glorious-eyed queen, Winsome Witch. In blue male kittens Mr. Bellamy was first, second, and third with Big Bug, Winning the Pooh, and Commander Willie, and an extra third went to Mrs. Joan Thompson, of Kew Gardens, who was showing a sweet kitten of great promise, by Barry Prince Blue. Miss George won in females with The Flirt. In older male kittens Captain Guy St. Barbe won with Blessing of Culloden; and in females Mrs. Bazeley won with Colneside Carol's Fairy. This lovely little female by Colneside Carol, is going to Paris to start a cattery for Madame Yvonne Godeby. The black male championship was won by Mrs. Pettigrew-Ferguson's Zarane, and he was also best black in the Show; and Miss J. M. Fisher was second with her splendid black stud, Ivanhoe of Hadley. In females Mrs. Yeates was first and third with Ch. Zulanda and Ch. Sally Cat; and Mrs. Campbell-Fraser second with Ch. Lorina of Hadley, a lovely daughter of Ch. Zulanda. The white cats were an outstanding feature of the Show. They always make me think of the Christmases of my childhood. Why, I know not. Perchance it is because their crisp white coats resemble the white sparkling snow on the Christmas trees and because their eyes shine like so many brilliant jewels. And what would Christmas be without our little "Cat Gossip" full of "Canterbury Tales." Last year Sir Claud Alexander's cat was lost, and spent a week in the organ. This year a lovely Persian was taken from Miss Langhorne's car whilst she was having tea. We can only hope that the latter will enjoy as happy a fate as the former, and return to its owner safe and sound before the week is over. It is the first time for many years that a prize has been offered for the heaviest cat in the Show. This unusual award went to Shar-Omar, owned by Miss Simpson Baikie, a magnificent

cream who turned the scale at seventeen pounds. A delighted visitor became the proud possessor of Miss George's blue kitten, Puff Ball. I think the admiration was mutual, and Puff Ball went happily to her new home, where we wish this lovely kitten and her new owner every happiness. Mrs. Sharman was delighted with the success of Langherne Betty of Coryton, who won her first championship. This exhibitor was also showing a lovely red self litten, Daphne of Coryton, which is the first red I have seen with a short snub face and small ears. Mrs. Sharman mourns the loss of her little friend, Langherne Frolic, who seems "doubly dead, in that she died so young." This lovely little queen caught a severe chill on a journey once, and had never since made a complete recovery. In Chinchillas Mrs. Reynolds Sams' Glitter of Runnymede, who deservedly won the male championship, is a cat of lovely colour, with a fine head and magnificent eyes. Mrs. Yeend's Mick of Bredon won first and champion in cream males, Miss Adye coming second with Ch. Endymion of the Balcony; and in females Miss Langhorne won first and champion with Ch. Mignonette o' the Combe," and Miss Joyce Fair was second with Ch. Meg of Bredon. These notes would not be complete without a word of praise to all who are responsible for this splendidly organised Show. Both days were enjoyable, but the enjoyment of the first day was greatly enhanced for me by the presence of my husband, who so rarely has an opportunity of being present. These notes have been written with my veteran queen sitting by my side. From time to time she has touched me gently with her paw, perhaps to tell me that she is not receiving her accustomed caresses, or, perhaps, she wishes to say how sorry she is she is not a champion, as I seem to write so much about these wonderful creatures. However, I tell her I am quite content with my little blue fireside friend, and I am sure she understands.

"Sphinx of my quiet hearth! who deignst to dwell  
Friend of my toil, companion of mine ease."

#### M. ESTELLE OGLETHORPE.

WHITE MALE (1)—1, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Ch. Hercules of Mayfield; 2, Miss V. Nichols, Fairy King; 3, Mrs. Cattermole, White Chief of Mayfield. WHITE FEMALE (2)—1, ch., Mrs. Cattermole, Ch. Veracity of Mayfield; 2, Mrs. Cattermole, Ch. Minley Roseacara. BLACK MALE (3)—1, ch., Mrs. Pettigrew-Ferguson,

Zarane; 2, Miss J. M. Fisher, Ivanhoe of Hadley; 3, Mrs. B. H. Soame, Soame Desert Chief. BLACK FEMALE (4)—1, ch., Mrs. Yeates, Ch. Zulanda; 2, Mrs. Campbell-Fraser, Ch. Lorina of Hadley; 3, Mrs. Yeates, Ch. Sally Cat. RED TABBY MALE (5)—1, ch., Mrs. Neate, Ch. Red Leader; 2, Miss J. Knight-Law, Red Comedy of Marston Trussell; 3, Mrs. Neate, King of the Reds. RED TABBY FEMALE (6)—1, ch., Mrs. Neate, Scarlet Stripes; 2, Mrs. B. H. Soame, Soame Red Rocket; 3, Mrs. B. H. Soame, Soame Orange Mist. RED SELF, M. or F. (7)—1, ch., Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Barron; 2, Mrs. Neate, Amber Princess; 3, Miss Adye, Rossyola of the Balcony. CREAM MALE (9)—1, ch., Mrs. Yeend, Mick of Bredon; 2, Miss Adye, Ch. Endymion of the Balcony; 3, Miss Langhorne, Ch. Shere Khan o' the Combe. CREAM FEMALE (10)—1, ch., Miss Langhorne, Ch. Mignonette o' the Combe; 2, Miss Joyce Fair, Ch. Meg of Bredon; 3, Mrs. Richardson, Norma of Bredon. TORTOISESHELL, M. or F. (11)—1, ch., Mrs. Peters, Little Orchid; 2, Mrs. Adam, Ginger Bell of Barnsley; 3, Mrs. Neate, Mastermaid. TORTLE-AND-WHITE, M. or F. (12)—2, Mr. Blandford, Gay Sally; 3, Mrs. Kennaway, Garboldisham Bobby Dazzle. BROWN TABBY (13)—1, ch., Mrs. Kennaway, Ch. Garboldisham Mascot; 2, Miss Phyllis Steane, Peter Pan of Hollywood; 3, Mrs. Kennaway, Vixen. BLUE MALE (14)—1, ch., Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Ch. Gentleman of Henley; 2, Miss George, Flick-a-Maroo; 3, Miss Buckley, Lord McAlpine of Stand. BLUE FEMALE (15)—1, ch., Miss Joyce Fair, Northway Shelmerdine; 2, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 3, Mrs. Forrest, Woodchurch Dawn. BLUE BREEDERS (16)—1, Miss Joyce Fair; 2, Mrs. Yeates; 3, Lady Eardley-Wilmot. BLUE NOVICE (17)—1, Mr. Walter Cave, Wide Awake; 2, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 3, Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Barry Prince Blue. BLUE SENIOR (18)—1, Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Ch. Gentleman of Henley; 2, Miss George, Flick-a-Maroo; 3, Miss Buckley, Lord McAlpine of Stand. BLUE JUNIOR (19)—1, Miss Joyce Fair, Northway Shelmerdine; 2, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 3, Nurse Nichols, Cupid of Callow. BLUE LIMIT, M. or F. (20)—1, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 2, Miss Buckley, Lord McAlpine of Stand; 3, Miss Joyce Fair, Northway Billy Bunch. CHINCHILLA MALE (21)—1, ch., Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Glitter of Runnymede; 2, Mrs. Colquhoun Fitzgerald, Gimlette of Pittacher; 3, Misses Cotterell, Grant, and Trefusis, Ch. Langherne Felix. CHINCHILLA FEMALE (22)—1, ch., Mrs. Sharman, Langherne Betty of Coryton; 2, Mrs. Colquhoun-Fitzgerald, Favourite of Pittacher; 3, Miss Heywood, Silvabel of Porchester. SILVER TABBY (23)—1, ch., Mrs. Bryan, Felicia of Merrioneth; 2, Mrs. Bryan, Sylvia of Serrano. SMOKE MALE (24)—1, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Dragon of the Cottage; 2, Miss Olga Arletti, Fefnah; 3, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Possom of Runnymede.

LONG-HAIRED KITTENS, under 9 months.—WHITE, M. or F. (38)—1, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Pearl of Runnymede; 2, Mrs. Cattermole, Lotus Blue Bell; 3, Mrs. Cattermole, Lotus Billy Boy. BLACK MALE (39)—1, Mr. McClure, Hillington, Black Peter; 2, Miss M. D. Alexander, Toby Philpot; 3, Mrs. McClure, Hillington Black Prince. BLACK FEMALE (40)—1, Mrs. Yeates, Waratara; 2, Mr. Broughton Hawley, Blackginook; 3, Mrs. Campbell-Fraser, Hendon Black Phoebe. BLUE MALE, 3 to 6 months (41)—1, Mrs. Bellamy, Big Bug; 2, Mr. Bellamy, Winning the Pooh; 3, Mr. Bellamy, Commauder Willie; 3, Mrs. Oglethorpe, Orlando of the Court; extra 3, Mrs. Thompson, Leander of Pensford. BLUE FEMALE (42)—1, Miss George, The Flirt; 2, Mrs. McClure, Hillington Blue Bird; 3, Mrs. Robinson, Constant Lady. BLUE MALE, 6 to 9 months (43)—1, Captain Guy St. Barbe, Blessing of Culloden; 2, Miss George, Bunkered; 3, Mrs. Yeend, Mick of Bredon. BLUE FEMALE, 6 to 9 Months (44)—1, Mrs. Bazeley, Colneside Carol's Fairy; 2, Mrs. Comber, Eliza Queen of the May; 3, Miss George, Powder Puff; 4, Mrs. Thompson, Pandora of Pensford. RED TABBY MALE (45)—Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Call Boy. RED TABBY FEMALE (50)—1, Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Beam; 2, Miss E. M. Hill, Karita. RED SELF, M. or F. (51)—1,



THE SHORT-HAIR JUDGE

(AND EDITOR OF "CAT GOSSIP"),

With Abyssinian Cat.

Mrs. Sharman, Daphne of Coryton. 2. Miss Matthews, Blazing Boy; 3. Mrs. MacWatt, Wudge of Watt. CREAM, 6 to 9 months (53)—1. Mrs. Yeend, Mab of Bredon; 2. Mrs. Stevenson, Chipp of Hanley; 3. Mrs. Yeend, Mirza of Bredon. TORTOISE-SHELL (54)—1. Mrs. Yeend, Biddy of Bredon; 2. Mrs. Fawcett, Papagena; 3. Mrs. Kennaway, Garboldisham Misery Me. TORTIE AND WHITE—1. Mrs. Yeates, The Mock Turtle. CHINCHILLA, 3 to 6 months (56)—1. Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Candy of Runnymede; 2. Miss Heywood, Silver Duchess of Porchester; 3. Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Crystal of Runnymede. CHINCHILLA, 6 to 9 months (57)—1. Misses Cotterell, Grant, and Trefusis, Peter-see-me; 2. Mr. G. A. Drake, Victor of Aldwych; 3. Miss E. Watts, Silver Snowman. CHINCHILLA FEMALE, 6 to 9 months (57a)—1. Misses Cotterell, Grant, and Trefusis, Hilaria; 2. Miss Heywood, Gloria of Porchester; 3. Miss E. Watts, Giganette. BROWN TABBY (60)—1. Miss Winifred French, Jennie Mallard. BLUE LONG-HAIR NEUTERS (97)—1. Miss Greig, Howaji; 2. Miss Heywood, Silvatoze of Porchester; 3. Mrs. Knowing, Robin of Holywich. A.O.C. LONG-HAIR (98)—1. Mrs. Beckett, Mr. Toots; 2. Miss Simpson-Barkie, Shar Omar; 3. Miss Drummond Bird, Tangerine; extra 3. Mrs. Annesley, Silvius.

M. ESTELLE OGLETHORPE.

## SHORT MAIRS

(BY THE JUDGE).

THE SHORT-HAIR Section at this, the 38th, Show of the National Cat Club must certainly be reckoned a good one, especially as Manx and Abyssinians do not usually turn up here in the numbers they are wont to do at Croydon. In BLUE BRITISH, 1 and ch., went to Miss Cochrane, Ch. Chelsea Thistledown; 2. Mrs. McClure, H. Scaramouch (large even pale male, loses in colour of eye); 3. Bilateena (might have been higher, lovely little cat, but would not open her eyes; my steward, Mrs. Sharman, remarked she looked as if she had been drugged, so sleep she seemed); r. v h c. Lady Alexander. BLUE FOREIGN M.—1. ch., Mrs. Batt, Blue Prince (scores in colour, type, eye colour); 2. Chilli Bom. DITTO, F.—Very hard to separate Mrs. Batt's Danusia, 1, and Lady Zelia; 3. E. House, Frisky. BLACK, M. or F.—1. ch., Lady Alexander, B. Mid-

Mr. H. C. BROOKE. Born 1867. Educated at various Continental Universities. Member of S.H.C.S., Croydon C. C., Manx C.C. Life Hon. Member, London Bulldog Society, of which he was for 8 years Hon. Sec. Formerly Sec. Dogne de Bordeaux Club. Formerly reporter and or contributor to: "Field," "Dog World," "Stock-keeper," "Our Cats," "Illustrated Kennel News," "International Kennel Review," "Welsh Fancy Gazette," "Der Hund" (Vienna), "Weidwerk und Hundesport," etc., etc. Wrote Foreign Cats Section in "The Book of Cats"; Rat Section in "Fancy Mice and Rats." Ex-M.S.H. Former member of a Continental Duelling Club; has fought with pistol, sabre, and rapier; wounded twelve times; a firm believer in the duel, the abandonment of which he believes to be one of the first steps to a decadent democracy. Favourite animals, wolves and wild cats. Discovered, in 1920, a white variety of the "Old English" Black Rat; in 1923, a blue variety, the only blue rat known. Bred the only known specimen of white fancy rat with black eyes. Favourite experience in life, sabre duel with a Russian, both being severely wounded and placed hors de combat in 2½ minutes. Funniest experience, a ride up Regent Street in a "growler" (in more ways than one!) with a young bear. First exhibit; Dogs, 1887; cats, 1895. Has judged cats at many shows, including Brighton and C.P. thirty years ago; dogs at many shows at home and at Vienna, Leipzig, etc. Ran Bulldog Show at Westminster Aquarium for four years, at C. Palace three years. Has bred white wolves, wolf-dingo hybrids, etc. (breeder of the specimen presented to Natural History Museum by Hon. Walter Rothschild). Winners owned too numerous to mention. Favourite sports (when younger), hunting and shooting.

night (fine cat, in good trim, regular "Louis Wain" head); 2. Chelsea Orange Pip (better eye tint); 3. B. Headlight (better eye and condition than H. Sambo, r). WHITE, M. or F. (another nice class)—1. ch., Chelsea Fairy Flax (smallest in class, big beautiful eyes, best S.H. coat); 2. Ch. B. Douglas, shorter coat than 3. C. White, Ensign; Lady-be-Good was very far from being good, coat too long. RED TABBY, M. or F.—1. a magnificent cat, Rufus Superbus, scored for Miss Bretherton (this cat was claimed at catalogue price, very cheap, by Lady Alexander, and took specials for best S.H. in Show, beating the Siamese); 2. Mrs. Nevin, Red Pride (very nice queen); 3. Hough, Clayton Buchan (in bad temper, richer colour than r. Rising Sun). BROWN TABBY, M. or F.—1. the ever-green Brown Star (looking well); 2. Mrs. McLaren Morrison, that good spotted Leoparda; 3. Mrs. Hawley, very good mackerel, Patchitab; r. Averell, T. Tiger, nice brown tabby; Tablette, nice mackerel. SILVER TABBY, M. or F.—1. H. Sure Again (charming little cat, clearer in marking than 2. Hough, Mavis of Westfield, better eye colour and chest marks); 3. Silver Wonder (general effect rather pale, back striping clearer than F. Silver Sheen). TORTIE, M. or F.—1. Lady Alexander, Ch. Lord Tom Noddy; 2. M. Soup (nice headed queen, duller in colour); 3. E. House, Fifi (too black). T. AND W.—1. Lady Alexander, B. Patchwork (better colour distribution than Ch. Evenmark, that sterling good cat). MANX, M. or F. (good class)—1. ch., Killip, Mankie Spots (a new face from the Isle, white with black spots. I went strong for "rumpiness," which does not only mean taillessness, but broad, round, and heavily built hindquarters, this cat is very "rumpy"); so also is 2. Miss Cochrane, Ellan Vannin; 3. a nice brown tabby, fine eye, also rumpy, Mrs. McLaren Morrison's E. House Douglas; r. Miss Savory, Mons Mons (round rumped T. and W.); v h c. Douglas of E. (very handsome showy Silver T., pronounced caudal bone); others outclassed, but not a bad cat amongst them. Only Symy in ABYSSINIANS. Two CREAMS, Miss Bowley's Galbre scoring in shortness of coat over B. Cream Cracker. A.C. TABBY (hot class)—1. Rufus Superbus; 2. B. Star; 3. H. Sure Again. A.C. SELF—1. winning black; 2. ditto white; 3. Bilateena. BREEDERS—1. Rufus S.; 2. B. Star; 3. Sure Again. NOVICES—1. Chilli Bom. A.V. SENIORS—1. black; 2. B.T., 3. T. and W. winners.





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H. C. BROOKE.

Best cat in Show, I. or S.H., and Welburn Bowl, Victory Cup, Mason Trophy, etc., Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Gentleman of Henley. Best L.H. kitten, Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Beam. Reserve best L.H., also best female cat in Show, Mrs. Sharman, Chinchilla, Langherne Betty of Coryton. Best S.H. in Show, and Welburn Bowl, Miss Bretherton, Rufus Superbus. Reserve ditto, Miss Stent, Herself (Siamese). Best adult bred by exhibitor, Mrs. Yeend, Mick of Bredon.

## SIAMESE.

The number of entries in the Siamese Classes was quite good for this year's N.C.C. Show—as this

Show, being a two-days' one, does not appeal to many exhibitors of Siamese usually. There seemed to be quite a gloom cast over this section by the recent passing away of Ch. Simple (so nearly a double champion), that very exquisite queen owned by Miss Dixon, and I am sure we all deeply sympathise with her in the dreadful loss she has sustained, realising also what such a loss means to the Fancy. I thought Ch. Simple's mother, Princess Cleo, was looking particularly fit and nice, carrying her 7½ years exceptionally well, and felt sorry to see the judge had dealt so hardly with this veteran lady by withholding the first prize from her in the Veteran Class. Of course, she has not a kitten coat, but her quality and type are still very much in evidence in spite of the many families she had successfully reared. Whilst on the subject of type—are we to allow ourselves to be hypnotised by a pale coat, forgetting such a thing as type? Much as I admire the pale-coated Siamese, they cease to appeal to me unless they can boast of a typical head and shape—both of which I have seen overlooked at some of the shows lately in favour of a light coat only. The judges included Mrs. Veley (most of the classes), Mr. House, Mr. Western, and Mr. Norris.

## SIAMESE ADULTS.

OPEN MALE (7 entries, 3 absent)—1 and ch., Mrs. Calvert's Tai-Long, a good cat, nice eyes and expression; 2, Miss Busted's Litason. I liked the type of this cat, but he had no use for me, and kept his back to me; however, after pleading very hard, he allowed me a glimpse of his face and head when turning round to see who the persistent one was! 3, Miss Busted's Jimbois, scores in coat colour, fails in type and head to 2nd. r, Mrs. Allen-Maturin's Southampton Darboy; quite the most typical specimen in his class, excelling in type of head, and possessing the deepest blue eyes; unfortunately changing his coat at an inconvenient time.

OPEN FEMALE (6 entries)—1 and ch., Miss Stent's Herself; a beautiful, dainty little lady, with beautiful eyes. 2, Mrs. Cate's Pekois; another beautiful eyed little lady, losing in coat colour to the 1st. 3, Miss Busted's Ch. Ki-weena; a lovely coat, but poor head and eyes. r, Mrs. Ellaby's Princess Cleo; an old lady, but still good and true to type.

BREEDERS, M. or F. (4 entries, 1 absent)—1, Miss Stent's Herself; 2, Mrs. Calvert's Tai-Long; 3, the Hon. Mrs. Clive Behren's Swinton Elizabeth, a very nice cat, worthy of a card in the open class.

LIMIT, M. or F.—1, Miss Stent's Herself; 2, Miss Busted's Litason; 3, same owner's Jimbois; r, Mrs. Maturin's Southampton Darboy; v h c, Mrs. Ellaby's Princess Cleo. (6 entries, 1 absent.)

NOVICE, M. or F. (7 entries, 4 absent)—1, Miss Busted's Litason; 2, Mrs. Cate's Pekois; 3, Mrs. Maturin's Southampton Darboy.

VETERAN, M. or F., over 4 years (1 entry)—Mrs. Ellaby's Princess Cleo, from whom the 1st prize was withheld, and to which I have previously referred.

BRACE (4 entries, 1 absent)—1, Miss Busted; 2, withheld; 3, Mrs. Ellaby; r, Miss A. B. Smyth.

TEAM (2 entries)—1, Miss Busted; 2, Miss Smyth.

## SIAMESE KITTENS.

MALE, 3-9 months (4 entries)—1, Mrs. Hallam's Chin-Ram; 2, Miss Smyth's Ranji Rex (I liked the type of this kit better than the former); 3, Mrs. Ellaby's The Moth; r, same owner's Horley King (both nice kittens, much younger than the two former, one having chocolate points).

FEMALE, 3-9 months (9 entries, 3 absent)—1, Mrs. Coles' Simour (a very promising young lady); 2, Mrs. Ellaby's Bello (not such a nice head as the 1st); 3, Mrs. Cate's Fairo (I liked Fairo better than her little sister, Bello, in this class).

NOVICE, 3-9 months (12 entries, 2 absent)—1, Mrs. Coles' Simour; 2, Mrs. Ellaby's Bello; 3, Miss Smyth's Ranji-Rex; r, Mrs. Ellaby's The Moth.

BREEDERS, 3-9 months (7 entries, 2 absent)—1, Mrs. Hallam's Chin-Ram; 2, Mrs. Ellaby's Bello; v h c, Mrs. Ellaby's The Moth.

ANY VARIETY, S.H. (9 entries)—Miss Jeffries' Gentle, reserve. Gentle was not in show condition, having upset herself very much by eating three of her four five-weeks-old kittens when parted from her husband and his loving attentions to her babies. Judge, Mr. Norris.

ANY VARIETY S.H. KITTEN (8 entries). Judge, Mr. Western—1, Mrs. Cate's Fairo; 2, Mrs. Coles' Simour; v h c, Mrs. Ellaby's Horley King; h c, same owner's The Moth; c, same owner's Bello.

## N.C.C. CLASSES.

SIAMESE CAT OR KITTEN. Judge, Mr. House—1, Mrs. Ellaby's Bello; 2, Mrs. Maturin's Southampton Darboy; 3, Miss Busted's Jimbois; h c, Mrs. Ellaby's Horley King.

## CROYDON CAT CLUB CLASSES.

ANY VARIETY CAT OR KITTEN, S.H. Judge, Mr. Norris (5 entries)—r, Miss Busted's Litason.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES' C.C. CLASSES.

ANY VARIETY S.H. CAT OR KITTEN. Judge, Mr. Western (3 entries)—1, Miss Busted's Litason; 2, Mrs. Maturin's Southampton Darboy.

## NEWBURY C.C. CLASSES.

ANY COLOUR OR VARIETY FEMALE KIT, L.H. or S.H. (9 entries). Judge, Mr. Western—3, Mrs. Cate's Fairo.

There were no entries for the Neuter Class.

(Signed) CLARE BASNETT.

## GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

WE trust we are not revealing a secret—the matter being known to so many—when we say that a movement, already well supported, is on foot amongst members of the Croydon C.C., to present at this “festive season” a token of regard to the Misses Hill-Shaw. It would be idle to elaborate and dilate upon what these well-loved ladies have done for the Croydon Club, the Cat Fancy, and the Cat—for the poor and needy cat even more than for the aristocrat. Those desirous of supporting this practical proof of esteem to be shown to two of the best-loved members of the cat world will find Mrs. Cran (Coggers, Benenden, Kent) ready and willing to receive their contribution up to December 15th.

WE were grieved to learn at the N.C.C. that Miss Wilson had been hurt by persons telling her that our remarks on the difference between her Australian cats and the description of Australians in the Toronto schedule implied that her cats were not Australians. We do not know how anyone properly conversant with the English language could read this meaning into our remarks, which simply meant that Miss Wilson's strain of white Australian cats are evidently not identical with the variety described in the Toronto schedule, which would seem more to resemble the grey, stripy, and very long hind-legged variety of distinct Oriental type which we ourselves possessed some thirty years ago.

SIR Claud Alexander improved the shining hour at the N.C.C. by purchasing a beautiful young three-quarter grown Ocelot from Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake's menagerie, now in the Palace grounds.

THE Cat Club de France has now joined with the Société Centrale Féline. The stud book of the first and older body will be used. Headquarters at Paris, rue Jacques Callot 3.

THE reports spread in Belgium and France by cat-haters, that leprosy has been caused by the bite of Siamese cats, are pooh-poohed by Prof. Jenselme, of The Faculté de Médecine, who declares such a thing to be impossible.

THE night before the Show Miss Langhorne left some of her cats in her car for a few minutes. On her return Curzon o' The Combe had disappeared, and his whereabouts are unknown. The fact that that same night Messrs. Barker's were visited by a cat-burglar is not thought by Scotland Yard to have any connection with Curzon, who, it is well known, is a "most superior person."

Miss Helen Hill-Shaw evidently believes in taking time by the forelock, for the S.H. judge had scarcely ceased from his labours when she booked him to act in a similar capacity at Croydon, November, 1928.

MR. Hendry was very much upset that the S.H. blue kit, Gugnunc, had been claimed by Dr. Vlasto; since the recent death of his sire, Cracker Jack, this good kitten had assumed additional value as a prospective stud.

THE Manx at the N.C.C. were about as typical a lot as one is wont to see. The winner is far from pleasing in colour, being white with black spots—the least pleasing in colour, in fact, in the class. But in Manx we consider type is of absolutely primary importance, "rumpiness" being one of the properties most essential to the breed. A beautifully coloured cat lacking in Manx type can never suit a real Manx fancier. Every cat in the class was good—the winners really grand in type.

WE are grieved to hear that Miss Dixon has had all her cats down with bronchitis, and Simple, also two others, succumbed.

#### FORTY YEARS' PROGRESS IN THE SIAMESE FANCY.

It must be, I think, a unique experience, after having been the first exhibitor of Siamese cats in this country at the N.C.C. Show forty-two years ago, to re-enter the Crystal Palace as a judge of the same breed, without ever having visited that place from October, 1885, to November, 1927. Yet this experience was mine yesterday, and very interesting I found it. I am asked to record some merely general impressions.

In 1885 my young queen, Duen Ngai, and her two younger brothers, who swept the board of prizes—I am still using the silver teapot which went to her

as best cat in show, long-haired or short-haired, out of 480 entries—had to be entered as "any other variety." To-day we find no less than eight classes for Siamese adults, and four for kittens, and three Siamese were proudly brought out by Mr. Western and myself for best cat and kitten in show, my choice, Mrs. Coles's pretty Simour, retaining the latter honour, while swearing loudly at the entailed indignity of being held up to the view of all S.H. judges on the platform.

One whole row of pens held the Siamese entries, though there were several notable "absents," owing to illness and severe weather, no doubt; this has been a cruel season for our blue-eyed beauties. As to quality, the kittens especially made a good show, and both these and the adults showed that the standard has been not only maintained, but improved upon. I was delighted to find not a single instance of the squint which has marred some otherwise fine exhibits of late years. Also mis-marking, freak colouration, and "fancy" points which find no place in the Siamese Cat Club's list were conspicuous by their absence. Perhaps heads showed a slight divergence from standard, round heads being rather plentiful, but the now approved pointed head was beautifully typified in Southampton Darboy and others, and it must be remembered that there always have been two types of head, and that both have legitimate admirers. Kinks in the tail were also just pleasantly in evidence, and were mostly in the right place, about two inches from the tip; I regretted having had to put down the fine old veteran, Princess Cleo, for a baddish kink much too high up, but was consoled because on this occasion she was not posing unbeatably as a mother of the Gracchi, there being no class for brood queens as such. Coats were nicely light in many cases, but I do fear a little that the dark fawn type is becoming a bit too prevalent. Some dark cats are at least beautifully even (S. Darboy, for instance), but often now one sees champions which are not only dark, but patchy, which is a bad fault. Imported cats tend to be very dark now, I noticed; it is a pity. Miss Stent's lovely little queen, Herself, was exquisitely light; this cat had come on very much since last judged, was only a bit on the small side now, and well deserved her first championship; good luck to her. She would find an ideal mate in Mrs. Hallam's charming novice, Chin Ram, later on.

I only wish to make two criticisms. I think kits of three and nine months should not be classed together; it is too hard on the tinies. And, grateful as we should all be to donors, I do think prizes should not be accepted for characteristics not recognised by the Siamese Cat Club.

May I end with most hearty thanks to kind and experienced Miss Savory, who stewarded so ably for me, and not only made my first essay in judging a pleasure, but enabled me to finish in such good time.

LILLIAN J. VELEY.

## CAT CALLS.

THE EDITOR, "CAT GOSSIP."

### MRS. CRAN'S REPLY TO MR. YEATES' LETTER IN "FUR AND FEATHER."

Readers of "Fur and Feather" must be puzzled by Mr. Yeates' letter about the best-in-show judging at Croydon, since my comments were not made in that paper at all! With the layman's festive and irregular touch he has carried a controversy from the columns in which it was started to those of another periodical!

With regard to Mr. Yeates' ingenuous comments, perhaps I may be permitted to say that there are several keen observers, who were present, who agree with me that bossing and shoving are not the essentials of a "business-like" judge. That the whole of the best-in-show judging was delayed, and not speeded, by the said tactics. That I did not bring out my best kitten for best cat, but carried the tired little thing personally to an empty and unneeded pen to wait its turn, to save it what I could of pushing through the crowd, because I am bigger and taller than either of my stewards were. The most "business-like" judge sent the little animal back, and so in the end it was dragged about more, and not less—for which I was very sorry. It had to be fetched back again, of course.

Mr. Yeates says: "Judging is a serious matter—for the exhibitor." A business-like point of view. I say it is a serious matter—for the cats! Those who know my work know I think so. But, then, I am an animal lover.

Mrs. Elsie Hill propounded the idea of a Novice Club, which was very illuminating. The novices have all your sympathy, Mr. Editor, I know. I hope she will elaborate the idea, and it would be interesting to learn what the novices think of this "business-like" element in the cat world.

MARION CRAN.

## DEATH.

November 27th.—Miss F. Dixon's Ch. Simple, aged 2 years and 8 months (Siamese).

## THE PARIS SHOW.

I think it only fair to owners of exhibition cats interested in the Continental Shows to tell them (as so many are quite unaware) that the judging is different to that in this country, and although there are entrance fees, there are no prizes awarded, other than the cards given, and in many cases exhibitors would be disappointed to find they were far from being the only first prize winners in the same class. With no money to be considered, cards are distributed freely, and, there being no organisation, the Secretary takes it upon himself to alter any card and give a higher one at the request of the owner!

CLARE BASNETT.

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All correspondence re "CAT GOSSIP" to the Editor,

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Bishop's Hull, Taunton.

Assistant-Editor, London Agency, and Book Reviews:

M. SHERIDAN-JONES, 11, Tunley Road, London, S.W. 17.

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## SOMETHING ATTEMPTED, SOMETHING DONE.

With last number the first year of "Cat Gossip" came to an end. It was at the Palace last year it made its first appearance. What a mixed reception it met with! A certain section from the first did their best to kill it, nay, even tried to make it but a still-born infant. Some sat on the fence; yet a third section, notably the Siamese Club, helped it as much as they could from the word go. To these last good Fanciers we tender our best thanks. To the first-named we make no apology for falsifying their predictions of failure. We think the event has proved that there is room for an independent All-Cat paper. Health permitting, we have every intention of carrying on; all we ask is our fair share of support in the way of advertisements, the life-blood of any paper, and your help in the way of news items, etc. Suggestions of any kind will always receive our most careful consideration.

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