

CAT · GOSSIP

VOL. 3

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MRS. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

(Our L.L. Writer, and Hon. Sec. of S.C.C.C.)
(Block by courtesy of "Animals.")

Mrs. Campbell-Fraser. A Delegate of Southern Counties' Cat Club, of which she is Hon. Secretary, Member of Committee, National C.C., Black and White C.C.; Hon. Treasurer Blue Persian, C.S. Favourite Animal: "An impossible decision!" Favourite Cat, Blue Persian. First exhibited cats, 1902, a silver tabby; first blue Persian in following year. At that time Mrs. Fraser had a large kennel of Toy Poms, which produced the black Championship winner, Byron Tit-Bits; and was one of the earliest members of the Pomeranian Club. When living in the country, kept all kinds of pedigree live stock—goats, fowls, rabbits, etc., also bees. During war years had to leave the country for London; this necessitated giving up much of the stock, and now concentrates on blue and black Persians. Cats from the "Hendon" strain have been exported to U.S.A., Canada, India, France, Italy, and Holland, etc. Mrs. Fraser belongs to a Forfarshire family, is a staunch Conservative; favourite pastimes, travelling and the theatre. Mottos: "Nil desperandum";—"A happy heart goes all the way, a sad tires in a mile."

THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES' C.C. SHOW. KENTISH TOWN, JANUARY 26TH.

SHORT-HAIR CLASSES.

While patiently waiting for the re-appearance of the vet. surgeon on the night previous to the Southern Counties' Cat Club Show, at Kentish Town, I watched the many exhibitors arriving with their respective boxes and baskets, and one of the latter, just a tiny kitten basket, was placed on the floor amongst the many others also waiting, but after a time the owner of the tiny basket proceeded to unfasten it, and I gasped with amazement to see a full-grown cat taken out of it! I don't know how far that poor thing had come, but even for a short distance it must have been terribly doubled up, and, of course, the return journey would be the same. Pure thoughtlessness on the part of that owner, but one I should like to see have a severe lesson! What do some people do with their thinking powers, I wonder? For some time after my arrival I was at a loss to know who or what it was that made the Hall seem somehow empty, until Miss Lea expressed a hope that nothing had happened to Miss Harmer, and then I knew who it was I had been missing, because Miss Harmer is such a sure and steady standby at all the shows; one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave. I felt much relieved to see her as busy again as ever on Show day stewarding Mr. Norris, and at the first opportunity asked if all was well with her, and then heard that at Christmas she unfortunately met with a nasty accident, badly hurting her head, shoulder, and arm, and she is not yet fully recovered, so for this Show she had to save her energies for Show Day only. I know Miss Lea must have had a load taken off her mind when Miss Harmer appeared, because with vivid memories of those uncertain "balls of white fluff" at Worcester, only a very tactful steward was wanted to handle these treacherous classes again at Kentish Town. The short-hair classes were well supported, and the exhibits generally were looking very fine. I particularly liked one exhibit, a self-brown male, whose sire is unknown, but whose dam is black, the colour being a pretty soft shade of brown, and, as far as I could see, without bars or any sort of tabby markings. The face was rather on the round side, but otherwise the type of cat far foreign I thought, from general appearance. My notes on the exhibits were missing from my bag when I arrived home, so if my memory fails me over some, will my readers please allow for this.

BLUE BRITISH, M. or F. (3 entries)—1 and ch., Mrs. C. Hendry's Foxlaw, a very nice queen, good sound colour; 2, Mrs. Dore's Gwnette, failed in head to the winner; 3, Mrs. Jackson's Bilateena. BLUE FOREIGN, Male (2 entries)—1 and ch., Mrs. Batt's Imperial Blue Prince; the other entry absent. BLUE FOREIGN, Female (8 entries)—1 and ch., Miss Wakeford's Sandra of Cleave, a very typical specimen, fine head; 2, same owner's Elaina of Cleave; 3, same owner's Thetis of Cleave; 4, same owner's Titima of Cleave; 5, h c, Miss Sparrow's Kitza of the Wharnclyffe Hotel; h c, Mrs. Batt's Lady Zelia. MANX, Male—1 and ch., Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Egerton House Douglas; 2, the Misses Sydney Fairbrother and Wilson's Starlight Orgy. MANX, Female—No entry. BLACK, M. or F.

(1 entry)—The first prize was withheld in this class, and 2nd place taken by Mrs. Broughton-Hawley's Gooby. WHITE, M. or F. (2 entries)—1 and ch., Mrs. McCowatt's Ch. Blyswood Douglas, a very handsome fellow, beautiful eyes; 2, Mrs. Cattermole's queen, Lady be Good. RED TABBY, M. or F.—Mr. Hough's Clayton Masterpiece, although the only entry in this class, was fully worth his 1st prize and challenge certificate, with his rich coat colour and clear defined markings. BROWN TABBY, M. (2 entries)—1 and ch., Mr. Taylor's Ch. Brown Star; 2, Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Egerton House Timothy. BROWN TABBY, F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Broughton-Hawley's Patchitab; 2, same owner's Tabiette; 3, same owner's Tabbiana; r, the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Egerton House Leoparda. SILVER TABBY (1 entry)—1 and ch., Mr. Taylor's Silver Wonder, quite a good specimen, well marked. TORTOISESHELL (2 entries)—1 and ch., Mr. Taylor's Hopeful. I liked very much, the colours being well broken up; 2, the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Egerton House Fi-Fi. TORTOISESHELL, White, M. or F.—1 and ch., Mr. Taylor's Ch. Evenmark, another cat very striking for richness of colour, patches very clearly defined, she won my admiration as soon as I saw her. ABYSSINIAN, M. or F. (1 entry)—1 and ch., Mrs. Buffard's Smy. A.C. or V., M. or F.—Mrs. Coles' Simour; 2, Mr. Taylor's Ch. Brown Star; 3, Mrs. Buffard's Smy; r, Misses Fairbrother and Wilson's Starlight Snowy Aussi; v h c, Mrs. Charlton's Ginger Prince. Judge, Mr. House. Mr. Western (Judge). A.C. or V., Breeders, except Siamese—1, Mr. Taylor's Ch. Evenmark; 2, Mr. Hough's Clayton Masterpiece; 3, Mrs. Dore's Gwnette; r, Mrs. Jackson's Bilateena. A.C. or V., Novice, except Siamese (7 entries)—1, Mr. Hough's Clayton Masterpiece; 2, the Misses Fairbrother and Wilson's Starlight Orgy; 3, Mrs. Harpur's Minority Brown of Plaicy, this cat I have previously described as self-brown; r, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley's Patchitab; v h c, same owner's Tabiette; h c, Mrs. Taylor's Silver Wonder. A.C. or V., Neuter, including Siamese—1, Mrs. Beckett's Joe Beckett; 2, Miss Newton's Roy; 3, same owner's Claudius; r, Miss Gunning Carr's Bawsey Sandy; v h c, Mrs. Cameron's Ben. A.C. or V., Brace, excepting Siamese—1, Mr. Taylor; 2, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley; 3, the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison. A.C. or V., Team, including Siamese—1, Miss Busted; 2, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley; 3, the Misses Fairbrother and Wilson. A.C. or V., Junior, including Siamese—1, Mrs. Coles' Simour; 2, Mrs. Cates' Fairro; 3, same owner's Pekois; r, Mrs. Ellaby's Bello; v h c, Mrs. Maturin's Southampton Darbov. A.C. or V., Senior, including Siamese—1, Mrs. Buffard's Smy; 2, Mrs. Ellaby's Princess Cleo; 3, Mrs. McCowatt's Ch. Blyswood Douglas. AUSTRALIAN—1, the Misses Fairbrother and Wilson's Starlight Push Baby; 2, same owners' Starlight Snowie Aussi. A.C. or V., Champion of Champions, including Siamese (all short-hair judges)—1, Mr. Taylor's Ch. Evenmark; 2, same owner's Ch. Brown Star; 3, Mrs. McCowatt's Ch. Blyswood Douglas. A.C. or V., Veteran, including Siamese—1, Mr. Taylor's Ch. Brown Star; 2, Mrs. Ellaby's Princess Cleo. A.C. or V., Brood Queen, excepting Siamese—1, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley's Tabbiana; 2, same owner's Patchitab. SHORT-HAIR KITTENS (Judge, Mr. House). FOREIGN BLUE—1, Miss Wakeford's Serge of Cleave; 2, same owner's Prince Igar of Cleave; 3, Miss Sparrow's Teaser; r, Mrs. Pearson's Wigs. MANX, M. or F.—1, Mr. Matthew's Barred Spot. A.C. or V., Breeders, except Siamese—1, Miss Wakeford's Prince Igar of Cleave; 2, Mrs. McCowatt's Blyswood Bramble. A.C. or V., Novice, except Siamese—1, Mr. Matthew's Barred Spot; 2, Miss Wakeford's Prince Igar of Cleave; 3, Mrs. McCowatt's Blyswood Bramble. ANY COLOUR KITTEN—1, Miss Smyth's Princess Zaidée; 2, Mrs. Broughton-Hawley's Mayrian; 3, Mrs. Charlton's Judy; r, Mr. Matthew's Barred Spot; v h c, Miss Smyth's Ranji-Rex; h c, Mrs. McCowatt's Blyswood Bramble. A.V. S.H. ADULT, including Siamese (Radius)—1, Mrs. Coles' Simour; 2, Mrs. Cates' Fairro; 3, Miss Burgess's Capri; r, Mrs. Cates' Pekois. Judge, Mr. Western. A.V. S.H. KITTEN, including Siamese—1, Miss Smyth's Princess Zaidée; 2, Mrs.

Burke's Big Bozo; 3, Miss Smyth's Ranji-Rex. A.V. S.H. NEUTER, including Siamese—1, Mrs. Beckett's Joe Beckett; 2, Miss Newton's Roy; 3, same owner's Claudius.

CLARE BASNETT.

The day for the Southern Counties Show dawned bright and beautiful, and it was a lovely run from Wimbledon across the Common through Hyde Park and Regent's Park, where the animals were already enjoying an outing on the Mappin Terrace, to the Kentish Town Baths, where the Show was held. Here was a merry gathering of exhibitors, all eager for the fray, and the excitement of the friendly battle to come. In all parts of the hall exhibitors were busily grooming their exhibits and preparing the pens for their reception. Some were holding unofficial meetings amongst their friends, some were selling catalogues. Photographers were busily taking photographs by flash-light, and artists were painting portraits of the cats, and the whole presented a gay scene where everyone was entering the arena full of that keenness and eagerness and good fellowship which characterises the cat fancy of to-day. I am sure all her friends were surprised and delighted to see Mrs. Yeates amongst them again after her recent serious accident, when she pluckily went to the help of an exhibitor who was attacked by a savage cat. Miss J. M. Fisher's splendid black stud gained his full championship, and is now Ch. Ivanhoe of Hadley, and Miss Fisher was receiving enthusiastic congratulations from all her friends. In black females Mrs. Hill won with Hendon Black Zorah, who was bred by Mrs. Campbell-Fraser, out of Princess Flandria by Hendon Black Guron. We all offer congratulations to Miss Langston on winning with Ch. Dion of Allington, who was first in blue males and best cat in Show. He was looking at his best, and was indeed a credit to and nobly upheld the breed which he represented. Lady Eardley-Wilmot was second on this occasion with Ch. Gentleman of Henley, who was looking lovely, and it must be difficult indeed to separate these superlative specimens of the breed. Mrs. Bazeley was third with a promising young male, Colneside Christopher, by Ch. Colneside Billy Bumpet. He also won the special for best eyes in blue male adults and many other specials. In blue females Mrs. Yeates was first and champion with the glorious-eyed queen, Winsome Witch, and Miss Langston was second with Melusine of Allington. I noticed a lovely queen shown by Miss Bateman, called Christine, by Ch. Colneside Billy Bumpet, ex Nona. Miss Harmer was also showing a blue male, Camperdown, who, though he did not catch the judge's eye, yet is a cat of fine bone, muscle, and has a splendid skull. Lady Eardley-Wilmot was showing a splendid team of males, including Ch. Gentleman of Henley, Dazzler of Henley, and Barry Prince Blue of Henley, also two adorable blue kittens, one a female, by name of Michalmas Marguerite of Henley, and a male, Pip Maroo of Henley. Each was first in its class. The Mock Turtle, shown by Mrs. Yeates, won as usual, and has never yet been beaten. The white cats, as usual, gave a festive air to the gathering, and Mrs. Cattermole won first and champion with both her male, Ch. Beauty of Mayfield, and her female, Ch. Veracity of Mayfield. In black female kittens Mrs. Yeates was first with Waratara, and Miss Fisher was first in male with Mascot of Hadley. In blue male kittens Mrs. Thompson, of Kew Gardens, was first with that sweet kitten, Leander of Pensford, which she sold at catalogue price to Mr. and Mrs. Clyne, of Leyton. Methinks the new owners are lucky, indeed, to secure such a prize—who, I hear, is to be kept as a pet only. It was nice to see that lovely kitten again who was Blue Ball, and is now Shah-Jehan, and the property of Lady Simpson Baikie. He has grown since the Palace, and was second in his class. In blue female kittens Miss George won with Gloria, and Miss J. M. Fisher was second with Merry Maid of Hadley. I was very delighted to be first and second in blue breeders with Orlando and Orsino of the Court, who were also first in blue pairs, and won the Northway Challenge Cup for best pair of kittens bred

by exhibitor. Mrs. Sharman did well with her sweet red kitten, Daphne of Coryton, who has grown tremendously since the Palace Show, and is a most fascinating exhibit. Jessamy of Coryton was also first in Chinchilla breeders. We have to thank Miss Lea for her splendid organisation and unflinching kindness to all the exhibitors. She had a very difficult task, and one and all agreed that she carried out her arduous duties with that tact and sympathy which win our admiration and esteem. She had also gathered round her a most willing band of helpers. It is these enthusiastic upholders of the fancy who make a Show like this so successful and leave exhibitors on their departure with the thought that their time and trouble have been well spent. Amongst the many visitors and exhibitors present were Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Miss Simpson-Baikie, Miss Sydney Fairbrother, Miss Wilson, Miss Sybil Robinson, Miss George, Mrs. Joan Thompson, Mrs. McClure, Mrs. and Miss Newton, Mrs. and Miss Sharman, Mrs. and Miss Campbell-Fraser, Dr. and Mrs. Wade, Miss J. M. Fisher and Miss Fisher, Miss Bell, Mrs. Stevens, Captain Guy St. Barbe, Miss Yorke, Mr. and Mrs. Yeates, Mrs. Fisher White, Miss Harmer, Mrs. Bazeley, Miss Soame, Mr. Berry, Miss Langston, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey, Mr. Freeman, Miss Langton, Mrs. McLeod, Miss Tanks, Mrs. Cattermole, Mrs. Jourdain, Mrs. Fosbery, Mrs. Norton, Miss Heywood, Miss Adams, Nurse Nichols, Sister Stockley, Miss Gratton, and Mrs. Roberts, and others.

M. ESTELLE OGLETHORPE.

PRIZE LIST.

BLACK M.—1 and ch., Miss J. M. Fisher, Ivanhoe of Hadley; 2. Mrs. Soame, Soame Desert Chief; 3. Mrs. J. McClure, To-To BLACK F.—1 and ch., Mrs. E. Hill, Hendon Black Zorah; 2. Mrs. Mackenzie, Black Dot; 3. Mrs. Yeates, Ch. Sally Cat. WHITE M.—1 and ch., Mrs. Cattermole, White Chief of Mayfield; 2. Miss Anderson, Ch. Northern Light; 3. Mrs. Cattermole, Ch. Beauty of Mayfield. WHITE F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Cattermole, Ch. Veracity of Mayfield; 2. Mrs. Richardson, Jasmine of Farnborough. BLUE M.—1, Miss Langston, Ch. Dion of Allington; 2. Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Ch. Gentleman of Henley; 3. Mrs. Bazeley, Colneside Christopher. BLUE F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 2. Miss Langston, Melusine of Allington; 3. Mrs. Acton, Darling-Darling. BLUE NOVICE—1, Mrs. Bazeley, Colneside Christopher; 2. Mrs. Nathan, Parkside Kruger; 3. Mrs. Acton, Darling-Darling. BLUE JUNIOR—1, Miss Langston, Ch. Dion of Allington; 2. Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 3. Miss Langston, Melusine of Allington. BLUE SENIOR—1, Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Ch. Gentleman of Henley; 2. Miss Buckley, Lord MacAlpine of Stand; 3. Miss Stapley, Polly Patcham. BLUE BREEDERS—1, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 2. Mrs. Bazeley, Colneside Christopher; 3. Miss Bateman, Christine. BLUE LIMIT—1, Mrs. Yeates, Winsome Witch; 2. Miss Langston, Melusine of Allington; 3. Mrs. Nathan, Parkside Kruger. BLUE MAIDEN CAT or KITTEN—1, Miss George, Gloria; 2. Miss North Andrews, Nicholas of the Broads; 3. Mrs. Thompson, Pandora of Pensford. BLUE NEUTER—1, Miss Greig, Howaji; 2. Miss Avery, Tinker Boy; 3. Mrs. Knowling, Robin of Holywich. RED TABBY M.—1 and ch., Mrs. Neate, Ch. Red Leader; 2. Mrs. Glenfield, Red Viking; 3. Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Rosmo. RED TABBY F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Soame, Soame Orange Mist; 2. Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Rosegay; 3. Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Rosalind. RED SELF or SHADED M.—1 and ch., Mrs. Neate, Ch. Shazada; 2. Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Barron; 3. Miss Lowe and Mr. Watkinson, Lancashire Evening Sunset. RED SELF or SHADED F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Prince, Just in Time; 2. Mrs. Neate, Holly Red; 3. Mrs. Neate, Amber Princess. CREAM M.—1 and ch., Miss Langhorne, Ch. Shere Khan o' the Combe; 2. Madame Dollie, Colneside Cream Bunne; 3. Mrs. Sydney Evans, Heathside Jan o' the Combe. CREAM F.—1 and ch., Miss Langhorne, Ch. Mignonette o' the Combe; 2. Mrs. Quarry and Miss Fisk, Pink Pearl of Winchfield; 3. Mrs. MacWatt, Play of Watt. TORTOISESHELL—1 and ch., Mrs. Adam, Ginger Belle of Barnsley; 2. Mrs. Neate, Master Maid;

3. Mrs. Sydney Evans, Heathside Lady Bird. TORTE and WHITE—1 and ch., Mrs. Yeates, The Mock Turtle; 2. Mr. Blandford, Gay Sally; 3. Mrs. Kennaway, Garboldisham Mawkin. A.O.C., M. or F.—1, Mrs. Neate, True Type; 2. Mrs. Kennaway, Caroline; 3. Mrs. Broughton-Hawley, Funnier Face. CHINCHILLA M.—1 and ch., Miss Wrench, Champy of Betty; 2. Mr. Drake, Peter of Aldwych; 3. Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Glitter of Runnymede. CHINCHILLA F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Aubrey, Ch. Langherne Sunshine; 2. Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Dimple of Runnymede; 3. Mrs. Sharman, Langherne Betty of Coryton. CHINCHILLA BREEDERS, Adult—1, Mrs. Aubrey; 2. Miss B. Wrench; 3. Mr. Drake. SILVER TABBY—1 and ch., Mrs. Bryan, Bennie of Serrano; 2. Mrs. Knight-Law, Merriment of Marston-Trussell; 3. Mrs. C. Bryan, Sylvia of Serrano. SMOKE, M. or F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Spencer-Smith, Ch. Raccoon; 2. Mrs. E. White, Fluffkins of Lyndhurst; 3. Mrs. Graham Coltart, Selma La Corona. BROWN TABBY, M. or F.—1 and ch., Mrs. Kennaway, Garboldisham Mascot; 2. Mrs. Kennaway and Miss Hotson, Molly Malone; 3. Mrs. Alexander, Tabs. A.C. BREEDERS—1, Miss Langhorne, Ch. Mignonette of the Combe; 2. Miss Hill, Galdow; 3. Mrs. Fosbery, Rosemo. A.C. BRACE—1, Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Ch. Gentleman of Henley and Dazzler of Henley; 2. Miss Langhorne, Ch. Shere Khan o' the Combe and Ch. Mignonette o' the Combe; 3. Mrs. Neate, Ch. Shazada and Ch. Red Leader. A.C. NEUTER, except Blue—1, Mrs. Beckett, Mr. Toots; 2. Miss Llewellyn, Devonshire Sunblaze; 3. Miss Simpson-Baikie, Shar Omar. A.C. STUD—1, Mrs. Neate, Ch. Shazada; 2. Lady Eardley-Wilmot, Dazzler of Henley; 3. Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Ch. Cupid of Hyver. A.C. BROOD QUEEN—1, Mrs. Neate, True Type; 2. Mrs. Fosbery, Eastbury Rosalind; 3. Mrs. Prince, Claretta. A.C. CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS—1, Miss Langston, Ch. Dion of Allington; 2. Mrs. Spencer-Smith, Ch. Raccoon; 3. Mrs. Neate, Ch. Red Leader. LONG-HAIR KITTENS—BLACK M.—1, Miss J. M. Fisher, Mascot of Hadley; 2. Miss Alexander, Toby Philpot; 3. Mrs. McClure, Hillingdon Black Prince. BLACK F.—1, Mrs. Yeates, Waratara; 2. Mrs. Broughton-Hawley, Black-ginook. WHITE, M. or F.—2, Mrs. Reynolds Sams, Shower of Runnymede.

SIAMESE CLASSES.

OPEN MALE, Adult—1 and ch., Mr. Lloyd Lewis, Ch. Penzo. Glad to see this old fellow in the show pen again in such good condition. He was far and away the best male cat there, and I had no hesitation in placing him 1st in spite of his darkened head and coat. His type is perfect, which, after all, is the chief thing we want for a stud cat, and his beautiful oval paws and well-knit body have never coarsened; most of the other males looked heavy and clumsy against him, and also lacked his distinction. His fine head, well set on; bright blue eyes, set in true Oriental fashion, leave little to be desired. This, I believe, is his 5th championship, and he well deserves them all. He also took the Ruan Cup for the best stud cat, and the Sancho Cup. 2. Mrs. Calvert's Ch. Tai-Lung. Eyes and head good; I do not like the reddish tone of his body colour. 3. Mrs. Harvey's Pedro of Petaling. A fine cat, but a little on the heavy side. Head and eyes good, but not so good as his sire's. He would have been placed 2nd but for the grey on his tail. This will probably disappear, as the grey on his flanks, so noticeable at Reading, has practically gone. r. Miss Busteed's Jimbois. The best cat in the show to handle, and I should have liked to put him higher, as the even colour and condition of his coat were perfect, but his head is too round, and the rims round his eyes spoil his whole appearance at present. v h c, Miss Busteed's Litason; another nice cat, spoiled by round head. v h c, Mrs. Allen Maturin's Southampton Darboy; head and eyes good, but his coat is dark and his legs and feet too coarse; also the bars on his legs ruled him out. v h c, Mrs. Ellaby's Prejudice. Very typical shaped cat, but his colouring put him down, the end of his tail being quite ginger with bad barring. No. 214 I had to disqualify; not only had a towel instead of his regulation blanket,

a very untidy piece of rag for his tally, but also his card with name and address of owner on top of his pen. Novices should take the trouble to read the rules carefully before entering their cats for show. SIAMESE F.—1 and ch. Mrs. Harvey's Bonzette of Petaling; 2. Mrs. Coles' Simour; 3. Mrs. Cates' Fairo; 4. Miss O. Stent's Herself. In this class, if I had had four 1st prizes to dispose of, I should have gone home quite happy, having allotted one to each of these four cats. As it was, Miss Lea kindly allowed a 4th, but it seemed bad luck to see Herself so low down; she and Simour were the first to attract me for type, but the former had to gradually come down; her eyes are good, the deepest in the class (though, personally, I should prefer them a little brighter blue), but her dark coat and her very small size, which would probably be against her for breeding, also her coat not in such good condition as the others, brought her down. Fairo is a very nice shaped cat with good colouring, except for her tail, which is inclined to be greyish. Her head is good, though not so good as Simour's, whose is the perfect type; also colouring, except for her eyes, which are slightly paler than Bonzette's. Simour won on head from all of them, and colouring of cat from all but Bonzette, whom I consider beat her, taking age into consideration. The deciding factor in Bonzette's favour was her perfect condition. I have never handled a cat with such a fine silky coat, and I congratulate Mrs. Harvey on her art in preparing a cat for show. And now novices again take note—just that "little more" in preparing a cat for show may just turn the scales in your favour. v h c. Mrs. Ellaby's Bello and Mrs. Harvey's Bluebell. Both these cats I should have liked to put higher, but the former, though one of the most typical shaped cats there, had such very pale eye colour that she had to be content with v h c. Bluebell will probably do very well next season, but at present she is entirely spoilt by her patchy coat and light rims round her eyes. Mrs. Cates' Pekois, another most typical shaped little lady, I had to leave careless in spite of her lovely eyes. Her coat is very dark, and badly barred on legs and body. BREEDERS—1, Tail-long; 2, Herself; 3, Bello; v h c. Prejudice; r, Bluebell of Petaling. NOVICE—1, Simour; 2, Fairo; 3, Bello; r, Prejudice. LIMIT—1, Simour; 2, Fairo; 3, Herself; v h c. Southampton Darbov, Bluebell of Petaling; h c. Pekois. SPECIAL LIMIT—1, Simour; 2, Fairo; 3, Bluebell; r, Bello; v h c. Southampton Darbov. STUD—1, Ch. Bonzo; 2, Jimbois; 3, Southampton Darbov; r, Prejudice. BROOD QUEEN—1, Princess Cleo; 2, Mornia of Petaling. BRACE—1, Pedro and Bonzette of Petaling; 2, Fairo and Pekois; 3, Jimbois and Litason; r, Princess Cleo and Bello. SIAMESE KITTEN, M.—A class of lovely kittens, far above the female kitten class in quality. Mrs. Burke's three very typical shaped kittens, Kitya Nama, Mickee Ming, and The Big Bozo, took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively, and they turned out to be all the same litter. There was little to choose between the two, but the 3rd lost in eye colour, 2nd for a barred tail. The 1st, Kitya Nama, I took out for my best kitten in the show, but he was beaten by my first female kitten, Princess Zaidée, which was Mr. Western's choice in another class. Personally, I was sorry for this, as the male kitten was the better type, but he came down for his grey tail. My opinion is that one cannot judge a kitten in the same way as an adult (which certainly should be put down for this defect), as during the nine months of his existence as a kitten his coat is practically always changing, and, therefore, he will practically never be without some slight defect. The light hairs in Kitya Nama's tail were simply those from his baby coat, as the tail is the last to change; all these hairs will, I am sure, come away. A barred tail is a different matter, as it may or may not come away with age. r, The Moth; v h c. Chin Ram, British type; h c. Ranji-Ret. FEMALE KITTEN—1, Miss A. B. Smyth's Princess Zaidée, a lovely kitten with good colouring, eyes, and points, but not so typical in shape as winning male kittens; 2, Mrs. Harvey's Marigold of Petaling; 3, Mrs. Mortimer Livingston's Princess Zu-La, eyes good, head rather round; v h c. Sunya; h c. Wes-

tern Faith and Western Charity. These two really good kittens caused me a great deal of thought; they were so entirely out of show condition that I could not place them. I have since discovered, on looking at my catalogue, that their owner has been very ill for months. BREEDERS—Repeat of male kitten class. PAIRS—1, The Big Bozo and Mickee-Ming; 2, Princess Zaidée and Ranji-Ret; 3, Western Faith and Charity. As the Editor particularly asked me for an urgent detailed report of these classes, and as I have always appreciated other judges' reports in this respect, I regret there is no time left to mention the rest of the specials. My only hope is that if I am asked to judge again, my very efficient steward, Miss Dixon, will be able to help me again, as I very much appreciated her quiet handling of the cats.

GRETA HINDLEY.

TO ALL READERS.

Please note that, as I shall be fully occupied on Monday and Tuesday next, I can take no matter for next week's "Cat Gossip" which does not reach me here, Durston, near Taunton, by first post Saturday, 4th February, at latest. After 7th inst. I shall be home again at Bishop's Hull.—H. C. B.

LONG-HAIR LORE.

By MRS. CAMPBELL-FRASER.

(Phone: Hendon 1019.)

Is a blue Persian blue? A friend of Miss Grayton, who hails from Yorkshire, still asserts she does not care for blue Persians, having been so disappointed, when, as a child, she was invited to make the acquaintance with one at a neighbouring house, and found only a "grey" cat. Nothing would persuade her to alter the adjective, and with her grey cats they remain to this day! Out of the mouths of babes one does get the plain unvarnished truth. Of course, it is quite possible she had expected sky blue, or Royal blue, or something equally vivid—but it would, all the same, be rather delightful to see a saxe blue cat running about.

Mrs. J. Robinson, I am sorry to hear, is still very ill, and we sent her good wishes for a speedy recovery, so that she may again interest herself in her pets; the cosy family party comprises Lady Bess, Alina, Constant Lady, and a five-months-old kitten, not forgetting the handsome Prince Osborne. I always find North Country folk very keen fanciers, and Alina, who is home-bred, was shown and won at the N.C.C.

A happy event: The marriage of Miss Higginbottom, daughter of the popular Hon. Secretary of the Northern Cat Club, is shortly to take place, and all who have experience of the kind hospitality of her parents will join in wishing the maiden the happiest of futures.

I have just heard of a race of white Persian cats with exquisite golden eyes, which are not deaf. Now is it possible that this lamentable defect, so very frequently found in the blue-eyed white, comes and is due to a close proximity to the "Albino"? We know that there is ever some weakness in an Albino, and as in the feline world the blue-eyed white most

nearly approaches this freak of nature, deafness is the result. Would our able Editor, as a scientist, give us his views on the subject?

BEST IN THE SHOW.

Five Championship Shows have come and gone this season, at each without exception a L.H. blue Persian cat has carried off the coveted honour of Best in Show. Why this monopoly? The breeders of the many and various varieties in the cat fancy should look to their laurels. Are these varied felines so behind their beautiful blue brethren in show points and type? If so, 'tis a blot on the fancy, and not a feather in the cap of those of us who go in for colour breeding. Let us wake up, and next season find us with a red, cream, Chinchilla, black, etc., as perfect as any of the blues, and fit to be in the running as Best in Show.

[Our valued colleague is quite correct. In American Shows we often see large classification for golden-eyed white cats, and, while we admire the cerulean eye, it is at least an open question whether the British cat fancy is not doing the breed but a poor service in insisting on a point which so frequently carries with it a serious disability!—Ed.]

WEEKLY ENQUIRIES.

Yorkshire enquiries re Hemo Ration.—I find it excellent, my cats enjoy both Hemo and Kennel Ration. The latter I discovered first, but I find some of my studs prefer the former. I use both in the cattery, in turn with other foods. A tin contains sufficient for a meal for six adults.

CAT CALLS.

THE DANGER OF LEMON JUICE.

TO THE EDITOR.

It was with much interest I read Mrs. Harvey's suggestion that lemon juice might be poisonous to cats, as it throws light on the mysterious death of one of my kittens just before Christmas. I think it right to make it public as a warning. I should never have suspected lemon juice of poisonous properties. My kitten, aged about three months, and living indoors in a room with her brother and sister, had a few rough spots on her skin, and my husband suggested glycerine and lemon juice. This I put on her skin fairly freely. The next day she did not seem quite well, but after a dose seemed better; then her face began to swell, on one lip first, gradually spreading across the eyes, which became quite closed, and then on to the forehead; the swelling was entirely confined to her head, which was very large and hard. I was much mystified; we thought of poison, but could not account for it, never thinking of the lemon juice; finally we decided she must have hurt her head, and as she took milk freely, she could not eat, we imagined she would recover, but

after a few days she died. The other two kittens living with her were, and are, perfectly well. I wonder how many other apparently harmless things are poisonous to cats and cause some of these sudden and mysterious deaths? Another thing which has often occurred to me is, might not the mixing of disinfectants at shows account for some of the illness after? There would possibly be 50 or more exhibitors all swabbing out pens at the same time with different disinfectants, some very irritating. Might it not be possible for these mixed fumes to be taken into the cats' lungs, and so cause illness? I would like to put forward a suggestion that show secretaries, when sending schedules, could either request or make compulsory the use of one disinfectant (efficient and harmless), or spray the cages on the morning of the show and forbid further disinfecting. How can a cat escape some illness with its stomach and nostrils filled with drugs? When influenza is about we do not saturate ourselves outside and in with disinfectants. We take our chance, guarding against infection by keeping fit. Can we not do the same for our cats?

T. P. BAZELEY.

AN APPRECIATION.

TO THE EDITOR.

I wrote to you in great distress last July re my two pet cats, who were certainly very ill, and no one seemed to be able to discover what was the matter with them. On your recommendation I sent them to Mrs. Carew-Cox, though I hardly thought a cure was possible, they were so sick and emaciated, and they were given up as hopeless by three veterinary surgeons, who all thought they should be put to sleep. Mrs. Carew-Cox was much distressed at their condition, but owing to her devoted care she sent them back to me in December in absolute health; in fact, the elder, 7½ years of age, is better than she has ever been. I should be glad if you would insert my letter, for I cannot speak too highly or gratefully of Mrs. Carew-Cox's unflinching attention and skill.

K. SPENCER

(Diocesan Training College, Truro).

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR.

I was elected Vice-President in place of Mrs. Tomlinson at the Annual Meeting of the Lancashire and N. Western C.C.C., not Mrs. Elliot, as stated in your issue of 18th. I shall be glad if you will make the correction. The Secretary is Miss Waterhouse, Woodbine Crescent, Stockport.

(Mrs.) JARVIS.

51, Lidderdale Road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

[We inserted the report of meeting as received.—Ed.]



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SOME CAT TALES.

BY FRANCIS DICKIE,

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As I sat down to begin this article my black cat, who had followed me out to the woods where stands my ancient wicker chair and strip of board which serves me as a table when laid across the arms, leaped upon my knee, curled up and went to sleep. This was no new action. He has done this for months. Sometimes he sleeps upon my knee, sometimes upon the table itself. For hours at a time he lies like this. Waking, sometimes he goes off hunting. At other times he will rise to his haunches, and after eyeing me gravely for some moments come and peer with an odd little gesture of curiosity at my moving pen. Stranger still is an action which he has repeated so often, I am almost convinced he is possessed of a knowledge of time. Often under the urge of words pressing for utterance I work late in the afternoon, far past the usual meal time hour. And again and again on such occasions, when the sun's last rays withdrew and a faint chill settled over the ground beneath the tree where I sat, this cat of mine has come and planted himself squarely in the middle of the paper. Seated there he eyed me with a look that said as plainly as any words: "Come, it's time to finish." And obedient to his will I have risen, walking slowly down the winding path under

the dying day, with the comrade of my dreams sometimes running ahead, sometimes at my heels. And I think of that farm saying, applied, I fear, rather jeeringly to farmers about their cows: "You don't own the cows; they own you." The same may be said of my cat. He is the boss. Indeed, no man can lay claim to "owning" a cat in the same sense as the word is used of a dog or a horse. Cats, even the most loving ones, retain a certain independence. But because of this independence, this refusal to serve as do the dog and horse, the cat has been described by many as lacking in intelligence. But anyone who has given the cat the smallest study will refute this. In the matter of sensing time, cats have an uncanny ability. I have already given the instance of my black cat stopping my work when I went far past the meal hour. Another cat, a tiger-barred beauty which I possessed, displayed this knowledge in a somewhat similar manner. At the time he was a kitten, I lived with my family in a suburb, the house lying on a side hill. The street was some twenty feet higher than the house, and hidden from view by a thick alder clump. My mother went daily to the city for the mail, always returning on a car that brought her home at seven o'clock in the evening. As the cat grew older, every evening he would take up his seat on the back porch a few minutes before this hour, and sit in a listening attitude. The car line was four streets away, and as soon as he heard her step he would trot down the

path to meet her. Quite a number of people passed down this street, sometimes right ahead of her, but the cat never made a mistake. This cat also stayed with me while I worked, his favourite amusement being to get upon my knee when I was typing and press the keys with one of his forepaws. As the key bar rose under the pressure he would thrust his other paw in and try and catch it, his head bent forward with an alertly curious and puzzled air of wonder. A neighbour of mine on one of the northern islands of British Columbia had a white cat that was a great lover of music. It was afraid of strangers, but the love of music overcame this to such an extent that when a dance was held at the place, as often happened, the cat would come from outside, where she had run on the people's arrival, when the dance music began, and would wend her way between the dancing couples to the piano, leap upon it, and sit on the top of the case or at the end of the keyboard.

(To be continued.)

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

WHAT thirsty mortals some cats are as compared to others. Some drink freely every day. We doubt if our pet Abyssinian drinks more than twice a week during the winter, and then only a little sip. Usually, when offered milk, she looks at it in disgust, gazes up in a reproachful manner, and goes off flicking her paws as if "shaking the dust off her feet." It is "as good as a play" sometimes to watch our neighbour's sheepdog and the cats. The dog knows the cats should not sleep on a certain chair, and if she enters the room and finds a cat there she first barks at her, then lifts her off. The cat usually gets back again, and is again removed. This goes on till the cat goes elsewhere to lie. One of the cats, when young, was rather given to vomiting; the dog noticed when this occurred she was put outside; so now the cat has only to cough and the dog has her by the neck carrying her to the door, and gets quite frenzied if the door cannot be opened. These attentions the cats accept under mild protest.

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All correspondence re "CAT GOSSIP" to the Editor.

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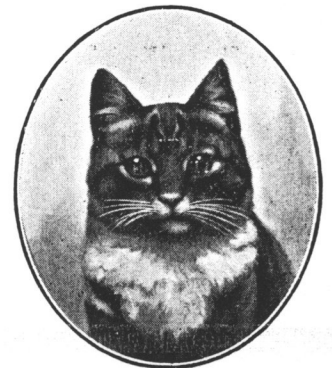
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