

CAT · GOSSIP

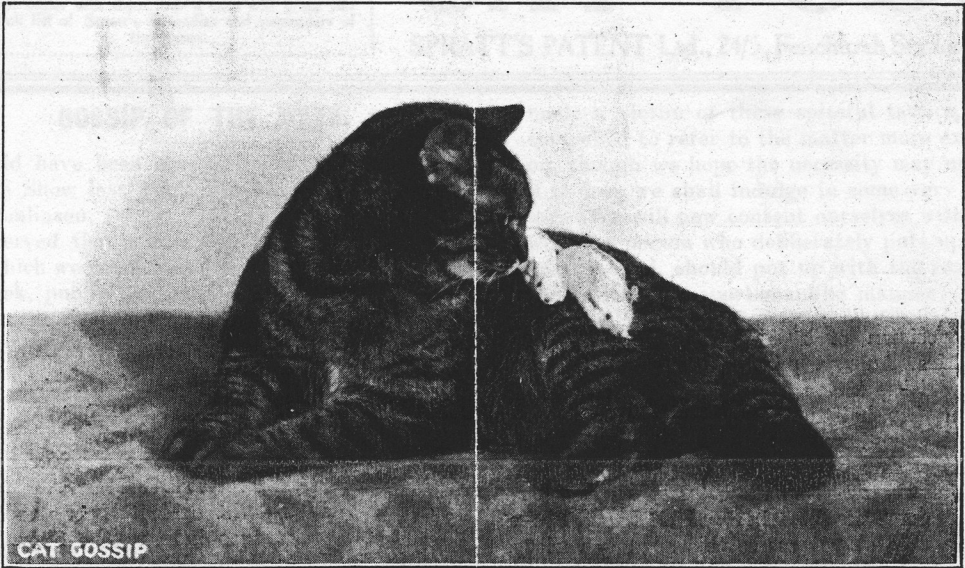
VOL. 3

Edited by H. C. BROOKE

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Price 3d., post free



“LUZZA-DREIFUSS” AND HER FRIENDS.

THE PANTHEON CAT, "LUZZA-DREIFUSS," AND HER MOUSE FRIENDS.

The very charming picture of cat and mouse friendship possesses a double interest. It is very pretty to see such a friendship existing between species normally so antagonistic; but what is of yet greater interest is the strong resemblance borne by the cat to a Wild Cat—of all living creatures the least likely to "pal up" with mice! Not only are the markings much those of *F. Sylvestris*, but the short thick tail is absolutely that of the "Baumritter" (Tree Knight) as he is sometimes called in some parts of the Continent. This was immediately remarked upon by Professor Antonius, Director of the Schoenbrunn Zoo, to whom we showed the photo. The owner of these friends is a Viennese lady, who, unhappily, has not replied to our query as to the origin of the cat.

While on this subject we may mention that Miss Newton (Stoke Newington) writes us that her S.H. silver tabby, a winner under both Mr. House and ourselves, was reputed to be grandson of a female Wild Cat from the Isle of Skye. In the first place we do not think the Wild Cat is found there at all (we are open to correction), and, secondly, it is unthinkable that a Wild Cat should ever settle down to live loose in a Kentish rectory. The Wild Cat is probably the most untameable creature in existence; we have known a very large number, but never seen or heard of one that could be handled at all, with the exception of a quarter-grown kitten we purchased in Vienna thirty years ago, which had been taken as a blind kit to be reared by a tame queen.

LONG-HAIR LORE.

By MRS. CAMPBELL-FRASER. (Phone: Hendon 1019).

Mrs. Jepson is fortunate in having bespoken such a lovely specimen of a Chinchilla as Langherne Darling. Mrs. Aubrey, present owner and breeder of this exquisite kitten, is justly proud of her. Darling and her half-sister, Dawn, were a pretty picture as I saw them after the judging was over, sitting side by side in the pen, accepting calmly all the adoration showered on them. Both kittens are sired by Gimlette of Pittachar, which has added a touch of required sturdiness to this queenly variety, and the respective mothers are Mrs. Aubrey's winners, Ch. Langherne Beauty and Ch. Langherne Sunshine. Mrs. Aubrey loves her pets, and was busy regaling the two kits with dainty pieces of rabbit, which they accepted with graceful condescension.

Apropos of Sandy, I travelled down with Mr. Stanley Hunt, the Australian judge, who was "doing" all classes of retrievers; he gave me a wonderful catalogue of his favourite breeds, and I was surprised to find that the wire-haired fox terrier came no higher than fifth on his list. Cats and kittens had been under his jurisdiction in the Colony, and he seemed to think that prices of pedigree felines ranged from £20 upwards. I was glad to find them in his

estimation on such a high pedestal! He also spoke well of the English sporting instinct, and declared he had never been heckled after judging at a show.

A word of warning to those with out-of-door cat-teries near a stream or farmyard. Mrs. Kennaway has had the misfortune to lose three nice cream kittens by Ch. Mick of Bredon, a rat attacking the mother puss, biting her badly, and killing all the babes! Small mesh wire netting is one of the few things that spell "obstacle" to the ratty brain. But the best protection is our own proximity to "little mother."

Miss Hotson, Market Harborough, tells me she is intensely excited over the "boom" in B. tabby circles, and I feel we shall all be on the *qui vive* to inspect these classes at the first of our Ch. shows, i.e., Newbury. Every breeder holds their own idea of how to start working up the breed, and it will be most interesting to find which—the red, black, or blue cross—comes out "top." Miss Hotson herself favours the red; this is, of course, when a good brown tabby cannot be procured.

Miss Evelyn Langston told me the other day that she is investing in a Ch. Dion male kitten from Mrs. Brunton, of Dunesk. He ought to be something "special" in the way of a blue, for we all admire Dion, and Mrs. Brunton sent me a photo of the kitties' mother, Delphinium of Dunesk, and she is just lovely. Many who went North will recollect her as "best blue female kitten" Newcastle 1927.

From Sefton Park, Liverpool, comes an entertaining letter from Mrs. Jarvis, which I must hold over for next issue, owing to lack of space, but one word about her pets; a particularly nice queen is Mersey Atholine, daughter of Ch. Gentleman of Henley, ex Maroo, breeder Mrs. Knapp. She is a tremendous cat, of even colour, lovely head and eyes. She has already won six first prizes, under different judges, besides cup and specials. This queen should do well at the Championship Shows. Mrs. Jarvis' two other blue Persian queens are Mersey Azura, by Ch. Azure of Hadley, dam Irish Colleen; and Mersey Queen of Hearts, by the same Champion, dam Weekie.

DEBUTANTE'S DIARY.

Touching show—will exhibitors try to remember that it is an immense help to the Show Secretary (and indirectly to the Judges) if, on filling up entry forms, intending exhibitors would **always** affix the names of the various clubs to which they belong. This makes the allotting of the club specials a much easier task.

BIRTHS.

August 28th.—Miss Hobbs' Fuffie, 5 Siamese kits by Ch. Bonzo, 4 males, 1 female.

August 10th.—Mrs. Burke's Ninka-Me, 5 kittens, males, by Mrs. Hindley's Ch. Simzo.

To Mrs. Elliott's Mistress Billy Bumpet, the gift of twins, by Kemlin Mask Marvel.

August 17th.—Miss Richardson's Deare Jane, one cream (male), 2 black kittens, by Owner's Anton.

August 26th.—Miss Richardson's Robinetta, three kittens by Mrs. Neate's Guard's Brigade.





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GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

It should have been stated that the report on the Cheshire Show last week was kindly contributed by Mrs. Tomlinson.

We observed that a few minor errors crept in last week, which we regret; as a matter of fact we did not, that week, put in our usual Monday morning proof-reading, the beautiful weather making a partridge-shooting stroll far more attractive than a printing office!

MISS OLDFIELD HOWEY, the well-known authoress (when are we to expect your promised book on "The Cat in Religion and Myth," Miss Howey?), writes: "I so much appreciated the beautiful illustrations of foreign cats in recent numbers." We give these distinctive features in support of our claim—a just one, we trust—that "Cat Gossip" is "That Something Different."

We very greatly regret that the peaceful conditions which have of late reigned in the Cat Fancy are now being disturbed by some very nasty work, libellous and insulting letters, and so forth, which are apt ere long to lead to great unpleasantness. It is really deplorable that such things should be, as no good whatever can possibly accrue from such tactics, and the ill-feeling engendered thereby is bound to recoil on the head of the one who stoops to employ them; it is this sort of thing that makes people sneer at our Fancy as being a "catty" one in the unpleasant sense of the word. As "Cat Gossip" is also being

made a victim of these spiteful tactics, we may be compelled to refer to the matter more explicitly later on, though we hope the necessity may not arise; but if it does we shall indulge in some very plain speaking. We will now content ourselves with the remark that any person who deliberately puts up a bluff, and has it called, should put up with the result of his or her action in a sportsmanlike manner!

We shall be up in Town for the Siamese Club Show, from Saturday, 22nd, until 29th. Will readers kindly note this, and that all matter of any kind intended for "Cat Gossip" between those dates should be clearly addressed to H. C. Brooke, Editor of "Cat Gossip," Regent Palace Hotel, Piccadilly Circus, London, W. Any letters sent during that period to our home address may not be in time to be dealt with that week.

MRS. STRAKER informs us that the albinistic Abyssinian kitten we referred to has gone to her daughter, Lady Barnard. She has promised to try to obtain a photo, and we earnestly hope she may be successful in getting a really good one, for it is of scientific as well as of Fancy interest that a pictorial record be kept of this interesting and, we believe, unparalleled mutation.

READERS will probably have noticed that Mrs. Oglethorpe's grand young winning blue, Aristocrat of the Court, entered our stud columns last week. He should be a boon, especially to fanciers residing in the South of London.

THE Midland Counties' Cat Club's Show, early in

November, is now being arranged, and Mrs. Aubrey will be glad to receive any offers of help from well-wishers, see advertisement.

WE had the pleasure last week of a flying visit from Miss Hydon, of the Lavender Cattery, Bogota, N.J., who is paying a visit to this country. Miss Hydon was born at Bridgwater, twelve miles from here, but has resided for some twenty years in the States, being unable to bear the climate of this country. She has already visited Mrs. Stevens, at Bristol, and was inquiring about the addresses of other Western "cat-ters." Before leaving the States she had endeavoured to obtain for us a specimen of the "Australian" cat, of which we recently gave an illustration, but the variety, which she describes as most distinctive, has apparently become extinct. Miss Hydon remarked with surprise on the apathy displayed by the British Fancy towards a catty Press, contrasting it with the numerous American cat papers, all widely read and chock full of advertisements.

QUITE a galaxy of kits, of various colours, is being offered by Miss Grayton in our business columns.

THE incident related by Mrs. Campbell-Fraser as to "murder by rats" will undoubtedly cause jeers on the part of the many who think show stock of all kinds likely to deteriorate in all but exhibition properties. For a full-grown cat to let a rat destroy all her kits and "get away with it" is really absurd. And then we think of what we saw the other day here—our neighbour's "farm bred" black kitten of **three months** old playing "Old Harry" with a large rat!

'UNSERE KATZE' for July is to hand. The Berlin paper, by far the best of all existing papers for cat lovers of whatever nationality, keeps up its high standard. Why can England produce nothing like it? Twelve large pages, and cover, profusely illustrated; more advertisements than our English papers together; reports of club meetings (two large pages of these alone)—all kinds of interesting articles—poetry, etc. Yet the German Cat Fancy is but a baby! "Wake up, England!"

MRS. TOMLINSON asks us to mention that at the Cheshire Show Miss George's Bunkered, a good blue, was second in L.H. Male, this being omitted from report.

MUCH has been written and conjectured as to antiquity of the domestic cat in Europe. Dr. Fremersdorf, who has been investigating the remains of a large Roman dwelling in the Rhine Valley, in which, besides household goods, were found the skeletons of dogs and cats. The mansion dated back to about 400 B.C., which proves the cat to have been domesticated in Europe far earlier than has hitherto been held to be the case.

A PERSONAL note: We do beg subscribers to help us by paying subscriptions when they fall due. We are not in the happy position of our contemporary, with a staff of clerks, but have to do everything ourselves, down to the very stamp-licking. It greatly adds to

our work and worry to keep on sending out "reminders." We should hate to finally adopt the rule of an American contemporary, whose proprietor tells us when subscriptions do not arrive after due reminder she stops sending the paper, having been forced to adopt this procedure because she has been victimised by people who let her keep on sending the paper for weeks without having any intention of paying for it, but being quite willing to receive it as long as it comes—a shabby, unfancierlike thing indeed, but one to which, alas, we also are not a stranger, though surely no true Fancier would act in this paltry manner! We have more faith in the proper feeling of our subscribers, and are loth to follow our American contemporary's example, especially at a time when many are away from home.

SIAMESE AND THEIR OWNERS.

BY MUANG T'HAU.

A very remarkable incident is related in connection with the terrible death of M. Bokanowski, the French Secretary for Aviation, who was burned to death in an aeroplane crash. He possessed a favourite Siamese, to which he was greatly attached. Soon after the accident the cat showed signs of nervousness, and a V.S. declared it would not long survive its master; as a matter of fact it died a few hours later. Coincidence—or?

Mr. Lloyd Lewis will have the sympathy of everyone on the loss of his wife, after a protracted and painful illness.

Miss Lowndes writes: "It was with great regret that I learnt from "Cat Gossip" of Mr. Percival's sudden death. All those who love Siamese, and amongst them myself, will remember with gratitude his unflinching helpfulness, especially to the young inexperienced breeder. I sent my first Siamese queen, a very neurotic cat, down to one of Mr. Percival's stud cats. Mr. Percival took endless trouble, and when he at last advised me to have the queen killed, he telephoned to London to talk it over with me. Mr. Percival's death will be felt all over England, and not least by his own Siamese, to whom he was such an affectionate master."

Genuine "Siamese twins" are reported in "Die Katze" (the Vienna cat paper) from the French town of Cognac, where a Siamese queen has a litter of five, all joined together. The V.S. states that to cut the joining membranes would be fatal. The kittens are all doing well, but though the case is interesting we think that they should be destroyed; what can life be for the poor little things when old enough to play?

We have received the Medal which the Vienna Klub der Katzenfreunde offers, through "Cat Gossip," at the Siamese Show. We take it to be what is usually called "vermeil" abroad—gold-plated. It is a large and striking medal, and will form a handsome addition to the cabinet of the winner.

Miss Hobbs has just removed to another part of Romford, and felt rather anxious, as her Fuffie was due to kitten on the day of moving. However, everything went off all right, Fuffie not being "temperamental," as are so many Siamese (and some of their owners too!), but really of an extraordinary placidity, as shown by the fact that quite recently Miss Hobbs found her "contentedly purring with a cloud of smoke arising from a burning cinder on her neck!"

The Committee of the S.C.C. have paid the Editor the compliment of appointing him a Club Judge.

Catnip, that (to us) mysterious herb over which some cats go crazy (in America "catnip mice" are made and sold for cats to play with), has no attraction for Siamese, writes Mrs. O'Brien in "Pets."

A Bridgwater lady writes: "I was living in Kent with a lady, the owner of a lovely Siamese cat. One day we saw him going to an outhouse with food in his mouth. We watched him and found he was taking it to another cat which had got fixed behind a chest and unable to move. The poor prisoner was dead.

Show Items.—Miss H. Hill-Shaw judges adults; Mrs. Cran, kittens; Referee, Mrs. Wade. Several more specials have been offered since the Schedule appeared. We are given to understand that something of special interest in the way of a breeder's experiment will be on view; for obvious reasons we do not at this juncture give any details. We believe the kitten section will be a remarkable one.

TRUE STORIES OF CATS.

CONTRIBUTED BY MISS EDITH NEWTON.

These stories go to prove that if cats are treated as companions they, just as much as dogs, become attached to **people**, and do not always give their preference to **places**, as is frequently supposed.

"When my two sisters were children they had a small tortoiseshell and white cat, of which they were very fond, and they loved to play with her and dress her in their doll's clothes. In the summer they went to the seaside, and puss used to wander restlessly about the house in the hope of finding them, but when the holiday was over she was happy again. After a few years the little girls were obliged to part with their playfellow, and she was sent to their grandmamma, whose house was in a road at right angles to their own. She lived comfortably there until she died, naturally, from old age; but never forgot the children, and every night when they were in bed would come to their window, climbing up over a conservatory to get there, and tapping with her paws till they scrambled out of bed. Then they would pull the blind aside, and talk to puss, after which she would return to her other home comforted, to repeat the same journey the night following. She never went to any doors or windows on the ground floor, but always to the window of the children's room upstairs.

Advertising Rates and Subscriptions.

"CAT GOSSIP" is only obtainable, as yet, through the post. Price 3d. per copy, post free. Three months, 3/6; six months, 6/6; cash with order.

ADVERTISEMENTS. Displayed Advertisements, Stud or others, 3/6 per inch, cash, up to 4 insertions: 4 to 13 insertions, 3/4 inch: 13 and upwards, 2/9 inch. Standing Advertisements of Cat Clubs, 35 words, 2/6. Sales, Wants, &c., 1d. per word.

PORTRAITS. Cats standing at stud (not less than 5 insertions' can have their portraits published for the price of block and post age, i.e., from 15/6, according to size, or two done together £1 2s. 6d. the two. We challenge competition in this offer. For Cats not advertised at stud the portrait fee is £1 1s. 0d. [N.B.—The Blocks become the property of owner of cat, and may be used for printing stud cards, advertisements in Schedule, &c.]

All correspondence re "CAT GOSSIP" to the Editor,

H. C. BROOKE,
Bishop's Hull, Taunton.

FOR SALE, MARGUERITE OF HENLEY, 6gns., with free mating. First Prize Kentish Town. Opportunity for breeders. And Many Good KITS, cheap.—ELLIOT, Willaston, Nantwich.

FOR SALE, Red Leader Strain RED TABBY KITTENS, 1 Male, 1 Female, 4½ months old. 2nd Prize Winners in Any Colour Class under 9 months Chester Show. £3 3s. each.—TOMLINSON, Maythorpe, Hoole, Chester.

SIAMESE KITTENS, by Ch. Simza, ex Granddaughter of Ch. Kinkina and Ch. Mon-Dek. Pale coats, dark points.—MRS. DARBYSHIRE, 19, Canowie Road, Redland, Bristol.

CEDALIT: Preventive Against Vermin, supplied to Siamese Cat Club. One Sack, 60 lbs., carriage paid, 11/6. 1,000 testimonials.—JEAL, Hounslow, Middlesex.

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Doors open 12.30 o'clock. Admission, 2s. To view judging 10 o'clock, 2s. extra. The Show closes at 6.30 p.m. Anyone wishing for extra Schedules please apply to me. **The Entries Close September 7th.**

His Imperial Highness Prince Vonvardya, Siamese Ambassador, Sir Edward and Lady Cook, and Members of the Siamese Legation have graciously consented to be present.

Please note: Any alterations or information necessary for exhibitors will be published in *Cat Gossip* and *Fur and Feather*.

K. WILSON, Hon. Show Manager, Chalkpits Boarding Kennels, Springwell, Rickmansworth, Herts.

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