

CAT · GOSSIP

VOL. 3

Edited by H. C. BROOKE

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LONG-HAIR LORE.

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

All our minds will be turning to the Worcester Ch. Show, next month, so news of the delightful Bredon Cats becomes doubly interesting. Mrs. Yeend sends the following chatty letter, and in our mind's eye we can see her happy and frolicsome youngsters having their good time. "All the Bredon cats and kittens are well and full of beans—always racing around, climbing up trees, and hiding in most unlikely places, and so far do not stray. Ch. Mick was away for three days in July, and since then I've kept him in his run, but all the others have their liberty for several hours every day. I wonder sometimes which is really the best way to keep our pets?—in the natural way, or as near as possible (of course we shut them up at night), or if they are better kept in altogether, as the cats kept in towns must be? I think sometimes, when we have to keep the queens and the studs in at certain times in the year, that they fret after having so much liberty. On the other hand, a cat who is always kept in seems more placid and better tempered. I wonder is this so? We have been rather quiet in the cattery lately, but will soon get busy for the show season. I have bought Mischief's litter brother from Nurse Nicholls; he is a lovely kitten, weighs 7lbs., and is only five months old on Saturday. Mischief (best blue kitten at Sandy) weighs 5lbs., and Nurse Nicholls thinks he is **too** light in weight! I have a nice litter of creams from Ch. Mick and a granddaughter of Ch. Meg, which are most promising, and am expecting a litter from Marvel and Yveen any time. You will remember that Marvel was Blue Boy of Dunesk (who, again, was by Barry Prince Blue, ex Cornflower of Dunesk. Marvel had the longest and soundest coloured blue coat I've ever seen when I bought him at six months old—will he ever grow such a coat again?"

In the above letter Mrs. Yeend raises a much mooted question, in fact, two questions in one: The amount of liberty **necessary**, and the amount of liberty **beneficial** to our pets? A discussion on this subject amongst our readers would be most interesting, and I hope to have some views sent in for our next issue.

Holidaymakers.—Mr. and Mrs. Oglethorpe are taking advantage of this A1 autumn weather by

touring the Southern Counties. Last week, Worthington and Chichester; headquarters, Bournemouth.

Miss E. M. Hill has been rustivating at Holt, a lovely spot in Norfolk, far, "yes really far," from the "madding crowd." What a haven of rest, with its old-world village and its church of many shadows.

Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert travelling in Scotland, found their way to Rosslyn, and visited that beautiful and ornate chapel, which stands not far from "Hawthorne Den," where the River Esk rushes on its turbulent course deep down below your feet, and where in springtime the hawthorn, or, as we in England call them, "May trees," are all decked in their bridal array, giving their name to this romantic valley. Mrs. Gilbert kindly sends me a photograph of the "Prentice Pillar" of Rosslyn Chapel; it is extremely fine. I must certainly try to find out the meaning of its name.

Miss Elsie Hydon, President of the Blue Cat Society of America, is sailing from Liverpool on the 13th. She tells me of the purchase of a wonderful blue male (by Milord) from Messrs. Brown and Wilson; she is also taking back their last year winner, Hampstead Blue Stone, a fine eyed cat, by Hampstead Strathterry, ex Hendon Fiametta, a Ch. Azure queen, well known as a kitten winner. Thalia, a daughter of Ch. Colneside Billy Bumpet, ex Barbara of Culloden, and Charmian, a daughter Son o' Flick, join Echo from the Culloden Cattery. Miss Hydon laughingly adds, with true American humour, "I shall need a transport to get these animals home, together with the six Poms I also purchased." Our best wishes go with her.

Attending the meeting of the Black and White Club, last Wednesday, I had the pleasing of seeing many of Mrs. Yeates' charming kittens, specially a promising show kitten by Barry Prince Blue, ex Winsome Witch—a very cobby short-faced kitten, already carrying a delightful frill round her pretty face. Several other little folk, all in best "bib and tucker," were playing around, among them a young black gentleman, who I think at present leans to "plus fours" rather than "evening dress," but Mrs. Yeates is wisely waiting for developments.

DEBUTANTE'S DIARY.

"About his shelves,

A beggarly account of empty boxes."

(The Bard.)

There's a nip in the air, so to overlook all sleep-

ing accommodation of our pets must be our duty. Don't procrastinate, but procure at once the driest and sweetest of hay, and fill the boxes where each puss makes his or her nightly home. They will probably thank you in their own fashion by at once entering the nest, and curling round for a good sleep, notwithstanding it being still "afternoon." Kittens should sleep this colder weather raised from the floor, either in basket or pen—draughts sweep along from under doors however carefully we stop up the crannies. Fresh air from above is good, but nobody wants "cold feet"—so save our little "four-footers" the penalty.

SIAMESE AND THEIR OWNERS.

BY MUANG T'HAU.

Mrs. Cates writes that she did not lose her cats after Sandy (as we were told at the Show), but that she traced their illness to a bag of sawdust. Three young kittens died out of fifteen which were ill. We know that straw, hay, and sawdust, often exposed in stores, etc., to all kinds of infection, are frequently carriers of disease to kennels and catteries. In our long experience as dog-breeder and exhibitor we only had distemper in the place twice. We always mixed a little disinfectant with the sawdust.

Mr. Wickings writes thanking everyone who so heartily congratulated him on his last week's successes, adding: "My success is due to the various breeders who have always so freely given me their advice, and I wish the present Club every success."

The October number of the beautiful Berlin Cat paper, "Unsere Katze" (which reproduces "Cat Gossip's" pictures of "The Cat with Wings," The Hairless Mexican Cats, and our Indian Red S.H.), publishes a letter from Mr. Phra Mitraker, of the Siamese Legation, who writes: "The assumption that Siamese Cats are bred by the priesthood is incorrect. The error may have arisen because ownerless animals, of course including cats, according to the Buddhist teachings, are given shelter and food in the Siamese Temples. Under the protection of the temples the cats increase for generations, and consequently from time to time specimens of exceptional beauty crop up, which are taken by lovers of animals, and by careful mating yet more beautiful animals are obtained. The most beautiful specimens are usually the property of ladies, especially ladies of the Court. . . . According to another legend as to the origin of the Siamese cat, they are said to have come from the Southern Provinces of the Malay States, Nagor Svarga, and especially from the towns Sri Damaraj and Sonkla. Whether these peculiar cats must be counted as an example of albinism I cannot say."

We must say we are absolutely in accord with Mr. Yeates when he writes in a contemporary "I cannot reconcile myself to any 'heftiness' in a

Siamese." To our mind a "hefty" Siamese is an untypical Siamese.

Mrs. Veley writes that the purchaser of Ha of the Forest afterwards exchanged this kitten for Hok of that ilk.

Mrs. Basnett writes that Mrs. Lonsdale of Perth, W. Australia, has both stud and queen—the former being Woodroffe Adam, bred by Major Woodiwiss. Mrs. Keep, of Melbourne, has also several cats from Mrs. Basnett, who is sending out a young queen sired by Vichnou to join the happy family.

Mrs. Cran, applauding the side taken by "Cat Gossip" in the recent trouble in the Siamese world, writes: "Once more we can feel we are a united happy decent family—it's a nice feeling. . . . I am hoping to be well enough to stand by for Croydon and judge for Miss Hill-Shaw. Of all people in the world she should not be worried by a clique of mischief-makers."

Speculation was rife at the Siamese Show as to whether a certain person who is very cross with "Cat Gossip" won't now start a Siamese column in "another place." It has always been inconceivable to us why old-established journals stick so obstinately in a rut, and cannot grasp that the Siamese Fancy is of sufficient importance to require a column of its own? From America comes the same complaint, and it would appear from what we are told that our young contemporary, "Pets," is the one to fill the want. In this country we think no one will deny that nothing has been done prior to the advent of "Cat Gossip," to cater for this section, and that a person might read the Fancy Press at times for months on end without learning that such a breed as Siamese exists. Should now, as so many think, spite create a rival column, it will not be a case of "following in father's footsteps, following the dear old dad!" but of the example of the young paper being copied (hateful word!). In any case we trust the Siamese world will not forget **who first gave them space!**

We are sorry to hear that the reason for Miss Fitzwilliam's Trinket being absent from the Show was that she got a bone stuck in her throat, so that the V.S. could not remove it, and she had to be destroyed.

We are sorry we made a foolish error in calling the King of Siam's Financial Adviser Sir John, instead of Sir Edward Cook. It shows how the mind may be subconsciously influenced—we had been reading an interesting book in which the chief character was a "Sir John."

Surely the litter of eight male kits registered by Miss Noble is somewhat of a rarity!

BIRTHS.

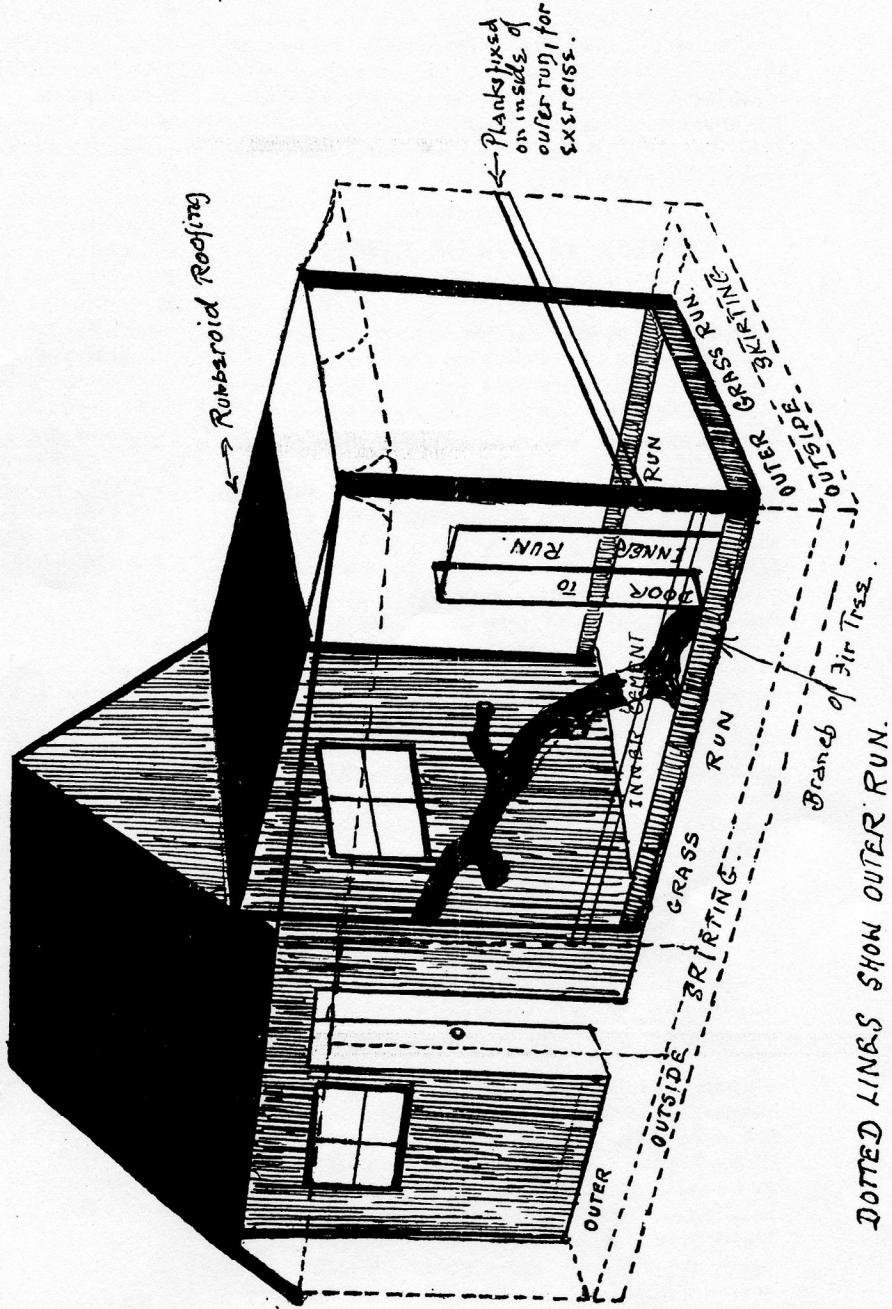
4th October.—Mrs. Elliot's and Miss Cleary's **Queen Delicia**, 4 kits by Son o' Flick.

25th September.—Miss Helen Noble's Siamese, **Nana**, 8 male kittens by owner's **Beachcomber**.

25th September.—Mrs. Dodgshun's **Nannie of Langton**, 3 kittens by Mrs. Bergman's **Mercury of Pensford**.



STUD HOUSE WITH DOUBLE RUN.



We have received several enquiries from novices as to designs for a cat-house, and reproduce again the plan of the excellent house designed by Mrs. Duncan Hindley, which is especially suitable for a stud, and allows ingress and egress without any fear of a cat slipping out.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

MISS OLDFIELD HOWEY informs us that there are already thirty chapters in being of her new book on "The Cat in Religion and Myth." She finds it a subject of almost inexhaustible possibilities, and we fear the book cannot be completed just yet, but when it does appear we are certain it will be a work of enthralling interest, a worthy companion—in our eyes better—to her already published works, "The Encircled Serpent," dealing with the Snake in religion and myth, and a kindred book on the Horse.

MRS. FITZGERALD writes that she thinks that Catmint and Catnip are the same plant (*Nepeta cataria*). "I used to buy small packages of it in New York, and watch my own and my neighbour's cats roll in it and chew it. It always excited them, but never made them wild enough to put out their claws. It used to be taken as a tonic by country people in the U.S. I have written to a friend in New York to send me some 'Catnip Mice,' and as soon as they arrive will send you a pair." We shall be interested to note their effect—neither our own nor neighbour's cats taking the slightest notice of the alleged catmint we have in the garden, though the Abyssinian will stand and smell in a ladylike way at the lavender for minutes at a time.

We note that the "Daily Mail" has been publishing a lot of correspondence worthy of the "Eatanswill Gazette" in the silly season, as to the relative merits of Cats and Dogs. The writers as a rule show but little gumption. One, after, quite rightly, eulogising the work of the Hospice St. Bernards, asks "What cat can show such a record? Such argument is absurd; as well ask "What St. Bernard can win the Derby?" On Friday the "Daily Mail" went so far as to insult thousands of its readers by publishing a letter as untrue as idiotic, from some silly ass, to the effect that all cat-lovers are old maids or Ancient Egyptians! To what is journalism sinking when the world's greatest paper finds room for such balderdash whilst withholding reasonable letters on the matter?

We have received quite a lot of letters in praise of "Paul Pry's" questions, which, he tells us, will appear from time to time touching questions of general interest.

MR. HARRY STEPHEN KEELER, of Chicago, who is a son of the American Siamese enthusiast, Mrs. O'Brien, kindly sending us a copy of his book, "Sing Sing Nights," kindly writes: "I want to compliment you very much on the interest in your magazine. I look over all the cat papers, and I find them peculiarly devoid of interest, dull, full of tedious notes about uninteresting matters. Yours, on the other hand, I find readable from 'kiver to kiver.' . . . I was brought up with cats, went to bed with 'em, and got up with 'em, so have a complex on the subject."

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "Can you inform me

whether the well-known Cat fancier, Mr. A. A. Clarke, is still alive and well." Who can help with information about this gentleman, whom we cannot call to mind.

WE note in our contemporary a paragraph to the effect that the Black and White Club would consider, at its meeting on the 3rd inst., the question of eye colour in whites, "which has been recently raised." We do not remember the question being raised anywhere but in "Cat Gossip," which has repeatedly during the last few months pointed out how England lags behind by sticking obstinately to the blue eye, so often associated with deafness, whilst America, Germany, and Austria care for the beautiful golden-eyed whites. Although we believe we may justly take credit for being the prime movers in favour of recognition of the golden-eyed variety, and though we have signified our willingness, if any support be promised, to provide a class for such, that their beauty may be seen, we have no official information, but are given to understand there is a feeling in their favour, so perhaps, ere all whites become deaf, England may stop lagging behind the U.S.A., Germany, and Austria in this respect!

THE Post Office liked our Special Show Number so much that six copies were "pinched" in the post. Readers should **always** complain to the Post Office when their copy does not arrive punctually, it is **always** posted before 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.

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Cat . .



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IS IT A FACT . . . ? (WHAT PEOPLE ARE ASKING.)

THAT there seems to be a certain clique in "ruling circles" which, though in some ways timorous and afraid to take a bold stand, yet seems inclined to unwarrantably trespass upon the liberty of action of individuals?

THAT the Fancy will do well to carefully watch over its liberty?

THAT a complaint against a certain Show Secretary has been lodged with the G.C. on account of alleged non-conformity with rules?

THAT the Secretary of one of the principal Clubs contemplates giving up office after the next Show?

THAT there is a very strong and growing feeling that it is time for an element of up-to-dateness and greater broad-mindedness to be introduced into the "ruling circles"?

THAT constantly running in the same rut does not make for progress?

THAT the Cat Fancy has not made the progress, say in a quarter-of-a-century, that it might have done had more of the qualities above-mentioned been brought into play?

THAT, after all, but little has been achieved? In twenty-five years many new varieties have been produced or introduced in Dogs, Rabbits, Rats, Mice, Poultry, Pigeons. How many in Cats?

THAT, but for apathy, we might have quite half-a-dozen more beautiful varieties in the pens?

PAUL PRY.

NEWBURY CAT CLUB SHOW.

Schedules for Newbury Cat Club, to be held in the Reading Corn Exchange on Wednesday, October 24th next, are now sent out, and late Specials will appear in the Catalogue. I should like particularly to call the attention of intending exhibitors to the fact that classes unguaranteed are starred in the Schedule. We shall give these classes if there are seven entries, otherwise notice will be sent to owners of cats entered in them, and they will have their choice of either withdrawing their cats or putting them in an amalgamated class. I very much hope that some of your readers will guarantee some of these classes. They can only lose a £1 on a Championship Class and 10s. on a Kitten Class, and this is very unlikely. Unfortunately we are not as well off as last year, and owing to the Show date clashing with that of the Dairy and Poultry Show the penning arrangements are more expensive. The following judges have been engaged: Mrs. Ambrose, Miss Lea, Mrs. Neate, Mrs. Wade, Mr. Western. The

judges will be asked to take into consideration the fact that it is early in the season, and that many of the adults must be out of coat. All kittens must be over three months and under nine months on Show day, except those entered only in Litter Class.

We hope to have our Cups on view at the Show, and I shall, therefore, be glad if anyone holding a Cup will kindly return it at once to me. I have received a generous donation from "an old friend of Shorthairs," but otherwise, with the exception of the Shorthair Society, have received no help from the Shorthair Section of the Show, with the result that many of the Championship Classes have had to be starred. I very much hope that someone will help us with this matter, as it is a pity for the English Shorthairs not to be well represented.

Newbury Cat Club entries are coming in steadily for Reading Show, and I trust that by the end of the week we shall have beaten last year's record. Mrs. Aubrey has won special 93 for first entry opened, over £2 2s. in value. The following late Specials have been offered: The R.C.T. and B.T. Club's Silver Spoon for Best Brown Tabby Adult; Mrs. Wade, Special for 2nd Best Siamese Kitten owned by a member of the Siamese Cat Club; Miss McDougall, Special for Best Chinchilla Kitten. I have received a letter from Mrs. Neate saying that as she has been very much over-worked lately she cannot judge all the classes allotted to her, so I am giving Litter Class 94 to Mrs. Wade, and Brood Queen Class 96 to Mr. Western. I much regret this change at the last minute, but it cannot be avoided.

The following classes are guaranteed: Blue Foreign, Class 71; L.H. Brown Tabby Kitten, Class 31; L.H. White Adult, Class 1; L.H. White Kitten, Class 2; L.H. Black Adult Male, Class 3; L.H. Black Adult Female, Class 4; L.H. Smoke Adult, Class 13. I still want some one to give Open Special 91 for Best Short-haired Kitten in Show.

F. M. FOSBERY, Hon. Sec.

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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 6d., 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.

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(G.C.C.F. 12343).

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Sire Black Justice, ex Heathside Black Chiffon, will be placed at Stud in late autumn.

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Son of Shaitan's Son, Grandson of Ch. Aldermoor Shaiton. Grand head. Sire of many winners, including three 1st's and one 3rd in Kitten Class, Croydon, 1926.

Fee, 30/- (prepaid) and carriage.

ALSO BLUE.

JOHN OF DOWNSIDE.

Fine son of Barry Bluejohn. Massive wide head, small ears, short nose, orange eyes. Sires First Prize and Cup-winning Kittens.

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Aristocrat is a magnificent young male of splendid proportions. Winner of several first prizes and the Northway Challenge Cup. He excels in type, having a wonderful head, tiny ears, snub nose, and glorious eyes, and he carries a coat of a most lovely sound pale blue. To a few approved queens only.

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All proved sires. Fee for either, 25/- Rail and portage extra.

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SIAMESE CAT CLUB.

President: MR. COMPTON MACKENZIE.

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**SOUTHAMPTON DARBOY;
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Good points and eyes, son of Padi of Petaling.

Fee for either, 30/- and return carriage.

Kittens now for sale by above.

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Young Blue L.H., Grandson of Buzz Buzz.

Very good-tempered with queens.

Fee One Guinea.

Queens met at Portsmouth Town Station.

Apply MISS NEPEAN, 31, Stanley Street, Southsea.

MRS BRUNTON has For Disposal BLUE FEMALE KITTEN, 8 weeks, by Ch. Dion of Allington, ex Delphinium of Dunesk (best blue female kitten Newcastle 1927.—Dunesk, Lasswade, Midlothian.

Two Beautiful Female SIAMESE KITTENS, by Beachcomber, born July 1st; £3 3s. each. Very Good SIAMESE QUEEN, just mated, two years, very strong, perfect condition.—MISS NOBLE, Norcroft, Fearon Road, Hastings.

Seven months old BLUE PERSIAN MALE, by John of Bedale; very handsome kitten; pet only; cheap to good home.—WADE, 89, Alexandra Road, St. John's Wood, London, N.W. 8.

FOR SALE, after Oct. 22nd, Three Good BLUE PERSIAN KITTENS, by Simeon of Westfield.—MRS. DODGSHUN, Langton House, Boston Spa, Yorkshire.