

## SHOP WINDOW

**Astrological** analysis of character. Letter with date of birth, stamped addressed envelope and donation for the C.P.L. to Mr. Curtler, 5, Hill Avenue, Worcester.

**Perspex Name Brooches** in various colour 1/6d. each. Profits to C.P.L. Send S.A.E to Miss P. E. George, Gilfach, Whitton Knighton, Radnorshire.

**Graphology** (Character from handwriting), letter with signature, stamped addressed envelope and donation for my C.P.L. collecting box to Miss E. M. Jackson, 11, Clarence Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

**Dolls**, specially old ones, bits and clothes for dolls are wanted by The Doll Club, 21, Holland Park, London, W.11.

**Buy your hand knitted dishcloths** from Mrs. Peggie Ilves, 38, High Street, Oakham, Rutland. **Price 1.9** including postage.

**Water Colour Portraits of Pets** from a clear snapshot, 10/6 each.

**Snapshots of pets or children Enlarged and Coloured from own negatives**, £1. Please give description. Cheques should be made payable to C.P.L.—Dorothy Hall, Plemont, Hill Road, Watlington, Oxford.

**A Toy Mouse** will provide fun and exercise for your cat or kitten. Send 2/6 to Secretary, Cat's Protection League and Tailwavers, 29 Church Street, Slough.

**Old Postally Used Picture Postcards**, dated before 1920, of Britain or overseas wanted by the Revd. A. W. R. Hughes, The Vicarage, Arthog, Merionethshire. 5/- for every 100 received to the C.P.L. Sender's postage refunded.

**Aprons to order** in aid of funds 6/11 each. Details from Mrs. P. Ilves, 38, High Street, Oakham, Rutland.

## THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFER

**Genuine Coal Port cup and saucer, in presentation box. Bone China "old coalport" (floral) design;**

**Valued by expert at 35/-**

**WHAT OFFER—General Secretary, 29, Church Street, Slough, Bucks.**

## ALWAYS WANTED

Unwanted birthday and Christmas presents or anything saleable for our Bazaars.

News-cuttings concerning cats, but please make sure that the name of the paper and the date of publication is given.

Notification of change of address.

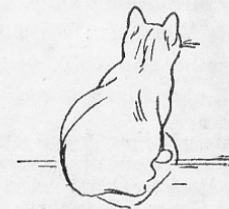
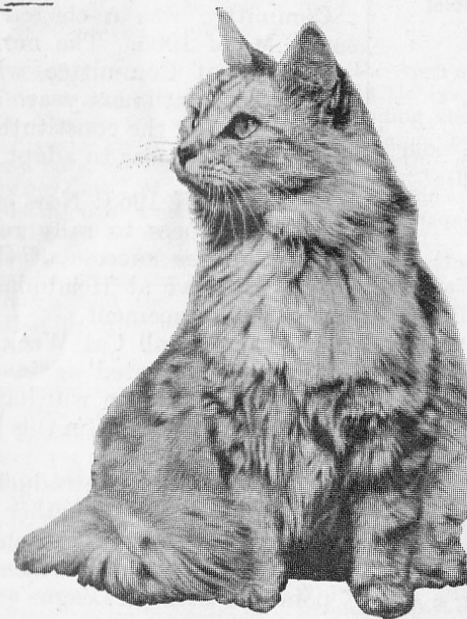
Used stamps, British Foreign and commemorative.

Linen and blanket pieces, newspapers and odd pieces of string (about 18 inches long), for use in the Clinic.

Names and Addresses of Boarding Catteries.

# THE CAT

THE OLDEST MAGAZINE  
DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO  
CATS AND THEIR WEL-  
FARE



A CAT'S A CAT FOR A' THAT

JUNE 1968

# THE CAT

VOL. XLII

No. 5

Official Organ of the Cats' Protection League and Tail-wavers - Founded 1927 - Registered National Charity. Prestbury Lodge, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks, England. Telephone Slough 20173

EDITOR: Mr. A. A. Steward  
PUBLISHING DATE: First of the Month.  
ISSUES: 10 yearly.  
There are no commercial advertisements.

## CONTENT

Short Stories - Branch and Group News - Members Corner - CAT CHAT dealing with press and other published cat papers.

Selected photos of Members' cats and kittens - notes relating to Leagues' activities and appeals

Literary contributions and photos welcomed, but no publishing fees paid.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By Membership Only U.S.A.  
Life Member £10 - \$30  
Member (Annual) £1.1.0 - \$4  
(all above include magazine)

Subscriptions can be paid under Deed of Covenant and by Bankers Order. Details from the General Secretary - Mr. A. A. Steward - to whom communications should be addressed.

NEXT ISSUE 1st July 68

**THIS YEAR'S A.G.M.:** In the April issue, page 35 we said: "The business of the meeting will be mainly the future of the League and its governing body for the next three years. The success of the present committee, as a working body, which were re-elected en bloc on the previous occasion, has been made manifest on more than one occasion at Executive Committee meetings. It is at this level that agreements have been reached and decisions made that have given such satisfactory results. What more can one ask or expect.

Constitutional adjustments will be proposed about which we will probably comment in this column later on.

This is only partially true. We miscalculated the years since the Executive Committee was re-elected en bloc at the A.G.M. of 1966. The next election or re-election of Committee will therefore not take place until next year. We shall however be discussing the constitutional adjustments which we propose to adopt, at that meeting.

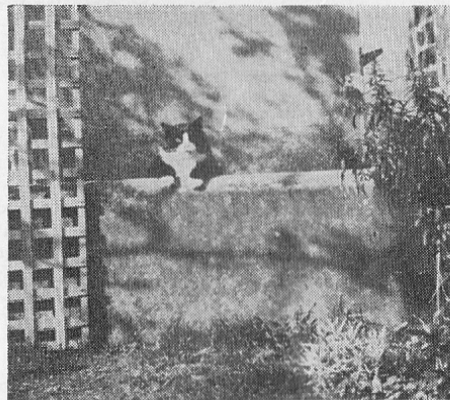
**CAT WEEK 1968:** Now is the time for all good members to rally round, promise or plan for the success of this year's effort. What can we at Headquarters offer in the way of inducement.

First of all Cat Week collecting boxes will be distributed again this year in the July issue and we will have some relevant comments to make on this in that particular number.

Secondly we are introducing what we think is a good idea. Whether or not it is will be proved by your response. On page 77 we illustrate a Conway retractable ball-point pen with the League's name and address on it.

This is a very useful gift and a really good medium for bringing the League to the notice of friends, relatives, etc. At 1/6d. post free it is within the reach of almost anyone. The pens are available from now on, any quantity will be supplied, all proceeds to Cat Week 1968.

A. A. Steward  
EDITOR and GENERAL SECRETARY



## ROUND AND ABOUT

*The Secretary's Comments on "this and that" concerning cats and kittens and the work of the League.*

### The Late Mr. W. J. Thorne:

The Manchester Branch and a very large number of people in Manchester will long remember the years of service given to animal welfare and especially cats, by one of the most dedicated men of our time. My memory of Mr. Thorne is of devotion to a cause that was literally his life though he experienced frustrations that would have defeated the majority of us. What he did for the League, the Manchester Branch and the Animal World in general within his orbit will be an everlasting memorial.

### Derby & District Branch:

The inaugural meeting of the Derby and District Branch of the Cats' Protection League was held on Monday April the 29th 1968 and so we enter yet another district where there is work to be done and "fresh fields to conquer". We expect to hear from this newest of our Branches in due course but in the meantime we wish them the best of luck.

### Ginger the Fire Station Cat:

We made enquiries about Ginger the cat which attracted a Press notice concerning his habits and homing propensities and this is what the station officer said in reply:-

"Thank you for letter of the 10th inst., regarding the cat at this station

Firstly, I would seek to correct any impression that attempts were made to lose the animal. In fact, on two occasions homes were found for him locally but he managed to find his way back to the station.

However, I am pleased to inform you that a suitable home has now been found some distance afield and I have every reason to believe that he will be comfortable and happy.

### The J. L. Milton Memorial:

We are very pleased to be able to report considerable interest of members and friends in the proposed memorial to the late J. L. Milton and readers will like to know that a plan has been put before the League's Executive Committee and no doubt will meet with general approval by the time these notes are in circulation.

The proposition is that the whole of the garden at the rear of number 10 The Close should be dedicated to the memorial, all the existing cat houses (ten) should be reserved for the rehabilitation of cats from London and particularly from the sites where Mr. Milton and his colleagues worked.

It would be called the J. L. Milton Memorial Garden and would be open to visitors when it has been established and officially opened. It would be supported by voluntary donations given specifically for that purpose and if necessary from Headquarter's Tailwavers funds.

### Arthur:

In the April number of "The Cat", page 37 and 38 we commented on the controversy surrounding the white cat Arthur, of television fame, but we had no intention of persuing the matter further until a very indignant gentleman wanted to know, over the telephone, why the C.P.L. had not done this, that and the other and taken Arthur into our care. He alleged all kinds of nasty things, about which he said he had proof, and that he intended taking the matter up with the Animal Welfare Organisation in America when he returned to the U.S.A. We asked for proof of his allegations, in writing, and promised to deal with the complaint on hearing from him. We were not surprised that we heard no further of the matter but we wrote at length to Messrs. Spillers, sent them copies of the magazine in which our comments appeared and asked for whatever information they would be prepared to give.

Their reply and a photo of Arthur appears on page 78. We are glad of the opportunity to give this information.

\* \* \* \*

Members who have difficulty in obtaining cat baskets either carrying or sleeping may like to know that these can be obtained from the City of Portsmouth Workshops for the Disabled, Northern Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, Hants. Sizes and prices will be supplied on request to the Superintendent.

A.G.M. JULY 6th  
CAXTON HALL

**Cats, Kittens—Neutering and Spaying:**

From late October to early May could be called the close season where kittens are concerned as there are fewer available (and especially at Christmas time) than in the period late May to October. It happens year after year but people still wonder why they are unable to get a kitten just when they want one.

A recent "reply to readers' enquiry" by The "People" Vet (Sunday April the 28th) put this matter very clearly as will be seen from the copy hereunder.

"Case of the 'lost' kittens". A reader writes: We have been looking everywhere for a kitten—just an ordinary tabby to rear during the summer—without success. Years ago there were always kittens about. What's happened? Our Vet Replies: Very little. During the first three months of the year there are never many kittens around. But now, with the arrival of spring, most cats are right in the middle of their reproductive cycle.

Many full queens are expecting kittens while a few are just coming into heat. From next month to July there will be a surplus of kittens looking for homes.

At that time most people will be thinking about vacation and the kittens will go begging. We vets will then have the unenviable task of having to put hundreds of them to sleep.

Fortunately more and more people are having their cats neutered. They realise the cruelty of adding yet another stray to the herds of unwanted cats.

If you simply can't afford the £2-£3 fee to have your queen neutered you can apply to your R.S.P.C.A. or to the Cats' Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks. who will pay for the operation.

Let your conscience be your guide. Both organisations are supported by working ordinary people who skimp a bit to contribute for the welfare of animals.

We are grateful for this backing of the League's views on the subject which we have expressed time after time for many, many years.

The "free" advertisement of our neutering and spaying service was unexpected as was the spate of requests from near and far, by old age pensioners, etc. who obviously could not afford the Veterinary Surgeon's fees and from some whose applications needed questioning. Up to the time of writing we have committed ourselves to an expenditure of about £250, mostly for spayings, and this after only the first ten days since the article appeared. What the final figure will be is anybody's guess.

The additional office work entailed is considerable despite the hasty introduction of "circular letters" and "forms for details" which we must have before a voucher can be issued.

**The Reaction:**

It is obvious that a great many female cats will no longer contribute to the stray and unwanted cat population and this is a good thing and of course is what we are aiming at but we did wonder whether the knowledge that our "service" exists will tend to tempt some good intentioned people to keep more cats than they can afford.

**Increased Rail Charges for Animals:**

We are asked to protest against the new British Railway charges for "travelling" cats and for those who may be interested the following details were given in a reply to my enquiry:-

"With reference to your letter of 4th April, 1968 and confirming my telephone conversation with you on the 11th instant regarding travelling cats.

The charge for any one animal is the second class "child" fare appropriate to the category of ticket held by the accompanying passenger, the maximum charges being 35s. 0d. single or 70s. 0d. return, (but for the Channel Islands there will be an additional charge which would be the applicable "child" boat portion).

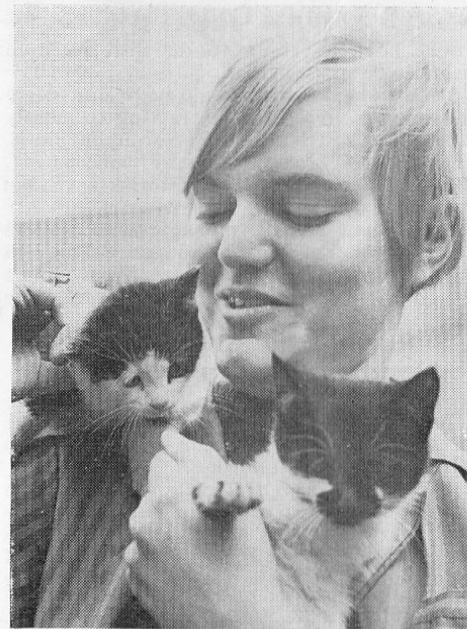
The charges mentioned also apply irrespective of whether conveyed in the passenger compartment or guard's van.

The unaccompanied charge is assessed on the total weight of the animal and receptacle at the scale applicable to the particular destination station".

**The Calico Cat:**

From another friend and member I have recently received some information which could be of interest to some of our readers and I quote from her letter as follows:-

"I opened a small Boarding Home here last year—"The Calico Cat". This place is a small seaside resort, as maybe you know and last year several of my "boarders" came here on holiday with their owners, who were able to visit them while they were with me. The pussies of any fellow members of the C.P.L. will have a special welcome here. The cats have a very happy time and lots of freedom—to sit or play—on large sunny verandah. As I take only a limited number, I am able to give each my individual care and attention. My charge is 4/- per day, 27/6 weekly." Mrs. R. Reeve, "The Calico Cat Home", Quiet Ways, Cromer Road, Mundesley-on-Spa, Norfolk.



**Good Homes Guaranteed:**

Our enquiries, mentioned in last month's magazine, into the pet shop advertisement for kittens, has really "put the cat amongst the pigeons". There have been numerous replies from pet shop owners or managers, some indignant, some scathing, some appreciative and others co-operative. From these letters we shall be able to sort the sheep from the goats.

We have had a long talk, in this office, with the head of the agency responsible for the advertisement and from this confrontation we are sure that some good results will emerge that should have considerable bearing on future advertisements of this nature.

We are sure readers would like to know of the local Press support we were given and we reproduce, with acknowledgements to the Slough Observer the front page story that appeared on Friday April the 11th.

"Fears that a home-finding scheme for kittens could lead to animals ending up in vivisectionists' laboratories were expressed this week by Mr. Albert Steward, general secretary of the Cats' Protection League, which has its headquarters in Slough.

Voicing his "strong misgivings" about the scheme, being operated by three local pet shops under the sponsorship of a national pet foods firm, Mr. Steward said:

"My organisation exists to protect animals, I would be much happier if there were guaranteed safeguards to ensure that kittens

do not find their way into research."

"We are rather concerned about this scheme".

The "home-finding" plan was announced last week by three local pet shops—Peters Stores in the Public Market and in Farnham Road and the Slough Pet Stores, Chandos Street.

The scheme, a national one, is being sponsored by the "Animal News Service" with headquarters in London, which in turn is sponsored by Petfoods Ltd., makers of Whiskers and Kit-E-Kat.

Although spokesmen for the Animal News Service and the pet stores have dismissed Mr. Steward's fears as "groundless" Mr. Steward told the "Observer" "I propose to put my views to the pet shops concerned".

The scheme was announced in an advertisement in the "Observer" last week, under a photograph of a kitten and a heading saying: "Please, Does Anyone Want Me?"

It went on: "Thousands of healthy kittens are destroyed each year because good homes cannot be found for them.

"If you have kittens you cannot place and want a good home guaranteed—take them along to any of the pet stores listed below."

Mr. Steward said: "From years of experience I have found that there is often much more in finding good homes for kittens than appears on the surface.

"I very much like the part of the advertisement that says 'good homes guaranteed' and I would like it better if this guarantee could be given in writing."

PLUS, he says, an additional guarantee like that which the Cats' Protection League have on a printed form—that animals handed over will NOT be used for experiments.

Mr. Steward said: "The way to deal with the problem of unwanted kittens is to stop it at source—by spaying and neutering.

"What happens if the pet shops get overwhelmed with kittens as they are likely to in May, June and July. How do they dispose of them then?"

"And who is going to care for them in the shops when the shops are closed?"

"Do they in the end bring them along to us for us to dispose of?"

And he added: "There is always the risk that these unwanted animals will find their way to laboratories for vivisection."

But Mr. John Dollery, manager of the Chandos Street Street Pet Stores, said: "I can see no cause whatever for Mr. Steward's alarm. We find a constant demand for kittens and don't expect any problems."

For a start, he said, a charge would be made to buyers, of perhaps 7s. 6d. or 10s. 6d a kitten.

"This doesn't really do more than keep them for the time we have them, but at the

## GOOD HOMES GUARANTEED

same time it is some guarantee that the people who buy them will take care of them.

"Buyers also fill in a form with their name and address, undertaking to give the kitten a good home."

"These records will be scrutinised and there would soon be investigation if it was found someone was buying kitten after kitten."

"These records will be available to any of the animal protection societies to examine if they wish."

Mr. Dollery went on: "From my experience I'd say not one per cent of the pet trade

*Photograph (Carole CPL Clinic) press comment by courtesy of Slough Observer.*



This is Sooty, aged 3 years, who was very ill last year with arthritis which occurred after a fall. After months of treatment and care, he is now fully recovered, but thoroughly spoilt and always chooses the best place for his naps.

Anyway you are welcome to alter it and I hope it is some use to you.

Miss I. Summerfield.

### HOME WANTED

We have a fine black cat, a spayed female, of about 3-4 years old. It just parked itself on us about one and a half years ago; but we are O.A.P.'s (77 and wife 74) and I have just had a serious major operation, and we are unable to continue to look after the cat, lovely and clean though she is, in our circumstances. Can you please help in finding it a *good* home. Mr. S. T. Gee, 3 Davids Road, Forest Hill, London, S.E.23.

**MAUNDY MONEY:** Both sets of this money were sold and realised £9. We are grateful to all who are interested in and support this new fund raising project, the special monthly offer.

would have anything to do with research or vivisection.

"Some years ago we could have shut down and made a living by contracting to supply guinea pigs to Glaxo—but we wouldn't do it. "I wouldn't have it on my conscience". (Glaxo have research laboratories at Stoke Poges.)

Mrs. Rena McGill, manageress of Peters Food Stores, Farnham Road said: "This is a family store supplying families. We wouldn't dream of selling a kitten unless we were quite sure it was going to a good home".

Referring to your article in the April issue on 'Cat Rescue' I thought you might be interested in the following.

I work for a firm of Tree Surgeons, and on reading an article which appeared in the Press last year regarding a stranded cat which was shot by an R.S.P.C.A. Inspector, one of our directors wrote to Major Dovey offering our services as follows:-

"I thought you might be interested to know that we have often rescued cats from similar positions for your people. There really is no need to call firemen (as they usually cannot climb trees) or resort to more drastic methods. Where these problems are local we have usually regarded them as simple humanity. If a similar situation occurred where extensive travelling was needed, some expense would probably be involved.

In any event a call to our nearest Branch (we work on a countrywide basis) could perhaps save everyone a great deal of trouble and unfavourable publicity."

The Society's Travelling Superintendent Mullard came down to see us and I was able to give him more details. Since then we have only been called on to rescue two cats, fortunately.

You will see from the enclosed that our Branches are somewhat far afield, but it is usually possible to contact the Foreman on site, who I am sure would be only too pleased to rescue a poor frightened cat.

I am very glad you have mentioned the difficult rescues you have carried out, as the attitude of the people you mention is intolerable.

Mrs. M. A. Read, Nr. Crawley, Surrey.

## BRANCH AND GROUP NEWS AND DIRECTORY

Enquiries from anyone wanting a kitten or who would adopt a cat or two are welcomed by C.P.L. Honorary representatives whose names and addresses are starred. \*

But please note:— DO NOT CALL AT ANY OF THE ADDRESSES EXCEPT BY APPOINTMENT: MAKE CONTACT BY LETTER OR PHONE FIRST.

**CANTERBURY CAT SOCIETY:** Hon. Sec., Miss M. W. Paine, 37 Beverley Road, Canterbury, Kent.

I must tell you of our latest venture. For a long time we have boarded cats at the Seathwaite Cattery (leaflet enclosed) where everything is really first-class and Miss Haithwaite is a genuine cat lover.

We have taken over the white building in the background which is light and airy and have four chalets also, to separate cats. We have added a large exercise paddock (seen in the background) completely covered in, chain linked and double doors, so that our cats can be kept together. Miss Haithwaite generously only charges us for food. The strays have exactly the same care and feeding as the valuable cats and there are isolation facilities and we have our own vets attending and neutering. All our members board their private cats here and we do recommend these kennels to all owners who send to us for boarding information. Miss Paine.

**GLOSSOP & DISTRICT GROUP:** Hon Sec., Miss M. Wilson, Cowbrook, Glossop, Derbyshire.

During April we admitted four strays, two of them, Tabitha and Minnie expecting kittens. Homes were found for six kittens and three older cats. At the end of the month we have twenty-three cats in our care, one with two small kittens. Six of these originally lived in the caravan on the hill farm. They now have their freedom and sleep in the house, we bypass these as they are happy and safe from traffic and put more recent strays into the homes available. Others are either boarded out privately or in registered catteries. The average cost for all these is two shillings each day.

We also help to feed about forty strays and old people's cats at a cost of around four pounds a week. In each case the situation is under control. Female cats are spayed and sheltered until homes are found. One O.A.P., over eighty years of age has two cats of her own and feeds about ten strays. She has shelters for them in her cottage garden and puts out dishes of water. In addition to cats many wild creatures and birds come to drink. Water is even more essential than food and is something everyone can afford. The need is particularly

great in towns, where there are no streams.

Seven cats have been spayed and one treated for an injured leg. Veterinary bills are heavy. With more funds at our disposal there is so much more we could do in this direction, particularly in the new Manchester overspill town of Hattersley, Hyde.

One person got in touch with us when she had reared fifteen kittens, to about six weeks of age, the offspring of three cats. We are doing our best to help her find good homes for them and we are paying half of the Vet' bill for the speying of the cats.

Income for the month was thirteen pounds sixteen shillings. This included five pounds from Mrs. Cherrill, the proceeds of a coffee morning held in her home.

Wills are making news at the moment. Perhaps this is as good a time as any to remind ourselves to make adequate provision for our cats and other pets. We could at least make sure they had a humane end.

Some years ago an old lady of our acquaintance died suddenly. The same night her relatives arrived, removed her valuable antiques and turned out her delicate and much loved cat. Neighbours found her giving birth to dead kittens in a coal place. As she was in distress and no home was available she was taken to the vet and given a merciful end at the neighbours' expense. With a little forethought this kind of tragedy could be avoided.

We thank all who help us, some anonymously.

### WE NEED:

1. A few more carrying baskets of fibre glass carriers. Several available in various places would cut transport costs.
2. Help in home visiting and taking cats to and from the vets. Transport is a very expensive item.
3. Gifts for our Bring and Buy stalls.
4. Sea shells for making crinoline ladies, brooches etc., and for covering trinket boxes. I am hoping to find time again for shellcraft in the not too distant future. Please collect only empty shells. We would not wish to cause distress to any of God's creatures.

Finally a tip on grooming. We find a nylon nail brush very satisfactory for short haired cats.

**GREAT AMWELL & DISTRICT GROUP:** Hon. Sec., Mrs. Jones, 376, Ware Road, Hailey, Hertford.

We are as busy as usual, now I expect the young kittens will be coming along to find homes for. This year again a great number of cats have passed through our hands. We had a cheese and wine evening and made £7 10s. 0d., and we have another tomorrow evening, we had a jumble 3 weeks ago and made £28, and we did quite well for generous gifts. We accept any gifts, towards our stalls at Bring and Buy's, coffee evenings and jumble's. We can pick up things that are near our own area.

As soon as the weather is better we hope to have a coffee evening, bring and buy here on the lawn.

**EDMONTON GROUP:** Hon. Sec., Mrs. Walledge, 39 Oxford Road, Lower Edmonton, London, N.9.

Nicholas and his O.A.P. pals at the Sanctuary join us in sending a very special "Thank You" to those kind members who responded so generously to last month's appeal in 'THE CAT' for donations for 'Extras'. Dear Nicholas has completely recovered from his operation, and he is very happy and contented; he and his pals enjoyed their chicken and other extras enormously, so thank you all very much indeed.

Several 'Ladies in Waiting' have recently come into the Sanctuary, and soon we will have more mouths to feed. We are hoping for good homes for the mothers as well as kittens, eventually.

Slum clearance in this area has resulted in a number of people seeking advice on taking their pets into council flats. Fortunately, our local Council is very humane, and pets are allowed in council flats, and generally seem to be very well cared for.

Mercifully, accident cases have been fewer this month. However, trapping jobs have sadly increased, and we are kept very busy.

We still need jumble and saleable articles for our sales, so please send us anything you can spare.

**CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT GROUP:** Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. Middlemiss, 335, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

The Easter Fair on April 6th was blessed with a bright day and sunshine flooded the foyer of the Shire Hall and brought out the shoppers who were tempted to drop in and see what it was all about. Stalls were loaded with Easter Eggs, provisions and cakes Birthday and other cards, etc., while "Madame Tabitha" kept the fun going in an improvised tent, and a treasure hunt and competition raised hopes among the buyers. £63 was quite a gratifying result and the two fortnightly whist drives added

their small quota. We would like to thank the "Well Wisher" who left a box of goods on the Secretary's doorstep, also other donors and helpers.

A common occurrence ended happily—we hope—when a young, energetic ginger cat, up a tree for 24 hours, at least, was brought down by a games master who scaled an adjacent tree with a cat box, grabbed "Ginger" (who was quite intrigued by the whole affair, especially the irritated black-birds) and lowered him to the ground. After food and drink "Ginger" ambled off home, presumably, since he did not return for more. All enquiries failed to find his owners and the local papers did not publish an article about him which might have cleared up the case.

Comment by the R.S.P.C.A. Inspector, "I've never known a cat who didn't eventually get down by itself, and if rescue is attempted, they may climb higher, or—worse—jump and injure themselves. The only exception was one who was frozen to the tree." So, unless the weather is impossible, do as the cat does, sit tight and consider the situation.

Our trapping operations were brought to a sudden halt by the disappearance of the trap. We have every reason to believe that it is in the river, but as we can not prove this, the police will not drag that stretch of the river bed beside the site. Any frogmen volunteers?! 10 cats were caught and possibly 3 remain. Now the Maldon "dump" cats are losing their shelter by demolition and these are being brought in—all reasonably tame. The Pleshey cats are slowly being rounded up with an R.S.P.C.A. trap, C.P.L. members having approached the Vicar for local help. 9 cats and 4 kittens went to homes in April, but the kittens are already arriving.

Once again an appeal to car-owners, willing to do an occasional job when the very few "regulars" are indisposed or otherwise engaged.

**ULSTER BRANCH:** Hon. Sec., Miss E. R. McKee, 92a, Earlswood Road, Belfast, 4

First of all I would like to thank Anon (Nottingham) for her generous gift and friendly letter. It was kind of her to help the Ulster Branch.

Mrs. Wilson has asked me to point out that Silver-paper and milk bottle tops should not be sent to her at Ballycastle. Please send them direct to 147 Cliftonpark Avenue or, if you live in my part of the town and care to leave them at my home, I'll take them across to the Shelter. Stamps are not coming in as quickly as we would wish—don't feel that small quantities are no good, they make a big quantity when they are all put together.

Another request—from Mrs. Jackson this time. She urgently needs lots and lots of envelopes suitable for sending out the Magazine each month. They can be left at the Shelter or sent to her direct at 30 Ladas Drive, Belfast, 6.

In April we were asked if we would like to have a stall at the Siamese Cat Club Show and this offer we were happy to accept. As Jason, the T.V. cat, was Guest of Honour there was a record attendance and our Stall created a lot of interest and resulted in several new members (whom we welcome) and at least one home for a kitten. We entered three of the Cattery cats in the Pet section and Lady Jane Gray got a third prize—a tiny cup and a medal. We were all delighted but I think it was even nicer that the first prize went to a lovely tortie and white pussy, Tortilla, who had been one of our kittens. Tortilla certainly got herself a very good home.

All this excitement put us in the notion of having our own Cat Show—but with a difference. In our case we don't have the cats along—just for their photographs. This way even friends who live far, far away—in Canada, America, the Seychelles and of course in England—can enter their pets. We plan to give details next month—meantime if we get nice sunny weather do get busy with your camera.

A Date to note. The Annual Sale of Work will be held on Saturday, 5th October. It seems a long time away but the days and months pass quickly and it is not too soon to start collecting items for the stalls. Dare we aim at £250 this year? I think maybe we'll have a go.

**WALSALL:** Miss R. Nash, 25, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.

I have done all I can regarding Baggeridge Colliery. I have collected 24 cats from there. Miss Jones and I were there many nights until 11 o'clock, waiting for them. The management took me round at first and boasted about how the men fed the cats and as the men left (hundreds at a time) the cats were not being properly fed and I then took the food (I even had to pay for a bottle of milk from the canteen). Some of the people agreed with the cats being collected, others said it was a 'shame' for them to be put to sleep. Finally I was asked to leave the remaining cats on account of the rats. Most unsatisfactory business, and all I can say is that I have saved 24 cats from suffering. Regarding Mrs. Sheila Evans who lives near the colliery, I have collected about six cats from her and her fathers' house round the corner, and although they all have cars, I was expected to journey 20 miles to collect a cat at any time. Besides, the father did

not care what cat was collected and I began to feel very apprehensive about it and some other way will have to be found over this problem. I can only hope some of them read the letter I got in the E. & S.

I have heard nothing from Coventry regarding the closure of Nuneaton Colliery, so presume it is not practical but am rather surprised I have had no reply of any kind.

**WEST CORNWALL BRANCH:** Hon. Sec., Mrs. K. Beesley, "Cathlowena," Cusgarne Catteries, St. Day, Redruth. Phone number St. Day 586.

Spring sunshine streaming into the kitchen, seven slumbering cats, and four peaceful dogs, a picture of animal bliss, but we hold our breath when a young bullfinch hops merrily through the door and unconcernedly picks at the unfinished cat food. The dogs sleep on, but the cats eyes are sharp and watch the visitor with interest, still no one moves, the little bird finished his meal, chirps his thanks and departs, the cats stretch and close their eyes again. Folk say we have a way with animals, I feel the animals have a way with us, one could certainly learn a thing or two from our pet family.

Which brings me to the great Spring moan again. Unwanted kittens galore, rejected pregnant mums, full toms who spray on the curtains, and the exhausting problem of lost cats. Cats poisoned, cats run over and cats stolen. Even though we have practised a "Let's be nice to people" attitude for some time now, our patience is sorely tried in trying to comfort the owner of a lost cat when we discovered they haven't bothered to report it until a week or more has elapsed since the cat was last seen. "Do you think he could have been stolen?" they ask anxiously. When we reply "Could be" they become furious with the powers that be for allowing such dreadful atrocities and when we try to explain that time plays an important factor in recovering missing pets, they just don't or won't understand. We wonder what happens to all those lost cats, and although it has been said many times before, I still feel an elasticated collar with an identity disc would protect cats in many ways. My own large family of cats have always worn collars, and not one has ever been hung on a branch etc. or spoilt a pretty ruff, and whenever one of my cats has strayed it has been returned smartly thanks to the disc.

Our friends will be glad to hear that Cathlowena is truly a happy home for cats. The homeless ones enjoy plenty of luxury, but they would love an enormous open air run where they could sun themselves in safety, and to join in the general hub bub

which is always with us. Our poor old funds are exhausted, so we shall have to save frantically for this improvement, but it will come, optimistic as ever . . . . .

The boarding catteries are delighting cats and their owners, as someone remarked the other day "CATLINS would be more like it" and the cheerful pair who built it all are proud of their efforts and rightly so. Cats'

Bazaar is due to be open to the public shortly, and house cats governed by Queen Amber are raring to go. Incidentally Amber has tired of causing havoc with chairs and beds, and has now evicted Tamiko the alsation from her giant bed and is in complete possession, whilst the poor dog makes do with the mat. Such is feminine perverseness.

## BRANCH and GROUP DIRECTORY

### BIRMINGHAM:

Miss J. P. Scriven,  
83, Cranbrook Road, Handsworth,  
Birmingham 21.

### BOURNEMOUTH:

Miss A. Sydenham,  
59, King's Road,  
Bournemouth, Hants.

### CANTERBURY: Affl. to C.P.L.:

Miss M. W. Paine,  
37, Beverley Road,  
Canterbury, Kent.

### CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT:

Mrs. J. Middlemiss,  
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### COVENTRY:

Mrs. P. Skinner,  
3, Ridgeway Avenue,  
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### DERBY and DISTRICT:

Mrs. M. A. Norton,  
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Mackworth Estate, Derby.

### DUBLIN:

Mrs. S. Connolly,  
Leicester Avenue,  
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### EDMONTON:

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### GREAT AMWELL and DISTRICT:

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### ISLE OF WIGHT:

Mrs. Kent,  
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### LEICESTER and OAKHAM:

(temporary news writer),  
Mrs. G. Garner,  
39, Marydene Drive,  
Evington, Leicester.

### LONDON COMMITTEE:

Mrs. de Clifford,  
12, The Close,  
New Malden, Surrey.

### MANCHESTER:

Mr. C. W. Cadley,  
89, Northen Grove,  
Manchester 20.

### NEWBURY and DISTRICT:

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### NORTH LONDON:

Mrs. M. Davies,  
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London, N.7.

### NOTTINGHAM:

Miss P. C. Brabyn,  
25c, Newcastle Drive,  
The Park,  
Nottingham, NG7 1AA.

### SOUTHAMPTON:

Miss B. M. L. Sayce,  
79, Portswood Road,  
Southampton, Hampshire.

### SUSSEX:

Mrs. H. G. Perry,  
35, Pevensey Road,  
St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

### ULSTER:

Miss E. R. McKee,  
92a, Earlswood Road,  
Belfast 4. Ireland.

### WALSALL:

Miss R. Nash,  
25, Wolverhampton Street,  
Walsall, Staffs.

### WEST CORNWALL:

Cusgarne Catteries,  
Cathlowen,  
St. Day,  
Redruth, Cornwall.



## MEMBERS CORNER

### Kiss-of-Life:

A tom kitten saved by the kiss-of-life shortly after birth has made such a remarkable recovery that he is now the strongest of the litter.

Ginger—as he has since been named—owes his life to the clear thinking and prompt action of his owner, Mrs. Ivy Garman of 3A Uplands Way, Diss, Norfolk.

She returned home one day in March to find that one of her six cats had given birth to five kittens. One of them—Ginger—was lying in a corner cold and blue. Mrs. Garman, a cook at Diss Grammar School was all set to bury him when she suddenly thought of the kiss-of-life.

And, miraculously, it worked! After warming him in front of the fire and breathing into his tiny mouth for half-an-hour she was rewarded when Ginger weakly moved his tail. Fifteen minutes later Mrs. Garman was able to stop.

Later that evening Ginger was feeding from his mother and since then he's been busy keeping ahead of the other kittens.

### AND

Bimps may not be the top cat in Dereham, Norfolk, but he's certainly the toughest. He surprised everybody by returning home recently—after spending possibly 17 days without food and water, caught in a snare.

A neutered male belonging to Mr. and Mrs. E. Atkinson of 65 Norwich Road, Bimps arrived back a "walking skeleton" with a snare wire around his neck. Seventeen days previously he had been let out for his usual nocturnal prowls.

While trapped Bimps survived cold, rain and even days of snow. He only escaped when his struggles wore through the wire of the snare noose.

*By courtesy of Eastern Evening News.—  
Norwich.*

### How very heartbreaking to see a "stray".

We had a little tortoiseshell, about here, for 4 days, and I noticed that she was with kitten. I thought perhaps she had strayed from a farm or so, near by, so waited to see if she appeared again. She was skin and bone. I was in a quandary, what to do for the best, and longed to have her indoors, but this presented a problem, for we have a large dog, as a deterrent to would be intruders, as we are situated in a remote area.

So, on Sunday, I fixed her up with a bed and food, in my husband's office, whilst I braved the elements in the rain and dark to call on folk.

Some regard me as cranky, most couldn't care less, one or two tried to be helpful I made about fifteen phone calls to firms and people round about, but no result, I cannot possibly think that a little cat, would seek to have her kittens away from home, so near her time and the only conclusion I can arrive at, is that she was "dumped".

In view of her approaching event, my husband and myself felt we could not expose her to the dangers of wild life in the forest, and the uncertain elements of the English weather, in a shed outside, so this afternoon, we had to take her to a very good animal welfare home, where she will probably have her kittens, with every attention, then she will be spayed and await a good home. She was so trusting and good in the car going, but exhausted when she was put in her quarters. If ever there is a here after, I hope St. Francis of Assissi, will sit in dreadful judgement, on these so called humans, who "dump" defenceless animals, to fend for themselves. I shall sleep better knowing that she is safe.

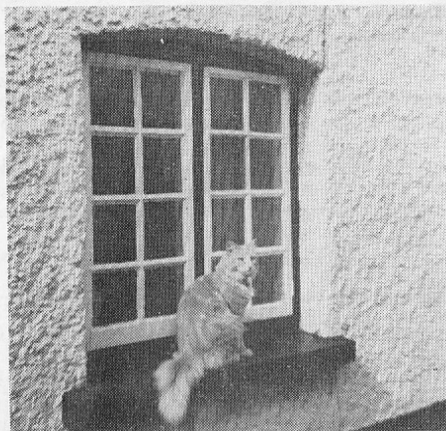
I had noticed a car slow down, then suddenly accelerate, on the Thursday, I shall watch out for this in the future. If we did not have this dog, I should certainly have taken her in, but I realised the potential danger, and so utterly sad, I couldn't do more for her. May success attend you in this very good cause.

Mrs. I. Buss.

*Editors Note:* We have heard since that despite all the care and attention given the little stray by all concerned she did not survive.

I enclose a postal order for 27/6d. in response to your "Annual Cat Week Appeal" from the girls of Bristowe Hill. On behalf of us all I would like to wish you luck in the work of your League and that you will have much success in the future.

Barbara Hodgson.



**Marmaduke**

I, Marmaduke, (Known as Marmie of-the-beautiful-tail) in gratitude for the love and care bestowed upon me while my Missus was in hospital for four months, herewith enclose a donation to help those less fortunate than myself. I hope I do not suffer from vanity, but could you believe from my photograph I was a very ill and unhappy little stray, four years ago.

K. O. H.

#### The Story of a Short-sighted Sandy Cat.

A few days ago I noticed a ginger cat in the garden, which I took to be one of the many half wild farm cats so often to be seen around. I thought he looked ill, and when the gardener told me he was asleep in a box in a tool shed, I asked our R.S.P.C.A. Inspector to come and look after him.

As soon as the Inspector picked him up we knew he was not a wild cat as he was tame and gentle. He was only suffering from a heavy cold and weakness from lack of food.

The Inspector took him to his own house and gave him food and attention, and we intended to find a home when we could. Next day, a friend in the village said she had seen an advertisement in the local paper concerning the loss of "a short-sighted sand coloured cat" from a place at least seven or eight miles away and right the other side of the City of Chester. Fortunately I still had a copy of the paper, so I rang the number given, without any real hope. The people went to see the cat, and it *was* the missing one. He had been missing three weeks. Owing to his short sight he had never been known to catch anything in his life, so how he survived nobody knows! The really strange thing was the fact that he came to this village, he had never lived here, but had

been taken three weeks before, to the new house from a place quite far from here also. What made him come to this house, out of all the hundreds in the village where he might not even have been noticed. He must have known that I am a Member of the C.P.L. and the R.S.P.C.A.! A nice happy ending wasn't it? P. Hume, Little Paddock, Christleton, Chester.

Connie and Tony Bednarz would like to thank all friends who so thoughtfully sent messages on the loss of dear Florian aged almost 22 years. Such kind thoughts have been most comforting during our deep sorrow.

*Sutton Coldfield News*, Friday March 1st, 1968.

#### Mickey is Back:

Everyone is happy that Mickey is safely back home recovering from his wanderings. The "News" is even more happy that the episode has proved beyond a shadow of doubt the power of advertising.

Since Mickey, a seven years old black and white cat, strayed six months ago, his owners Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Gracey of 189 Boldmere Road, have spent a lot of money advertising his loss.

After receiving numerous letters and telephone calls from animal lovers far and near, they visited more than 50 people who found similar black and white cats, but all in vain. For weeks a description of Mickey appeared in the "News". Throughout the winter Mr. and Mrs. Gravey never gave up hope. Then out of the blue came a telephone call from Mrs. B. Woolston of 199 Kingstanding Road whose daughter, Shiela, had seen the advertisement in the "news". It turned out that Mickey had been adopted by her since the blizzard some weeks ago, after coming to the house with her own cats, Kista and Fenny. An examination by a vet confirmed that Mickey had been well cared for during the earlier part of his escapade.

Mrs. Gracey said: "We are so very grateful to everyone who has shown such interest and tried to help, particularly to Mrs. Woolston, for looking after Mickey. It was really wonderful luck that she heard of the advertisement and got in touch with us".

Single London Woman with very inadequate accommodation for herself and her cat (a rescued stray) would like to contact any fellow member interested in her problem with a view of renting/sharing, accommodation. Enquiries to V. M. G. c/o, 12, The Close, New Malden, Surrey.

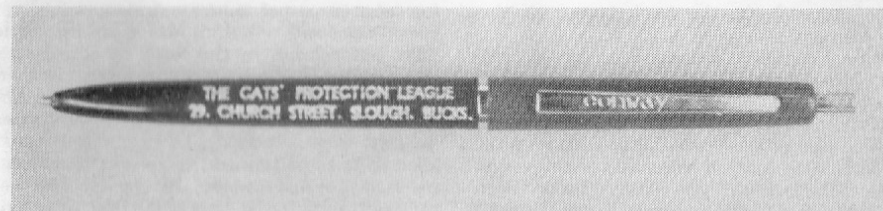
Wanted to contact urgently, one or two O.A.P.'s (female), animal lovers as resident helpers in large house in own grounds. Details from Mrs. "T", Daubeney House, South Bersted, Bognor Regis, Sussex.



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS

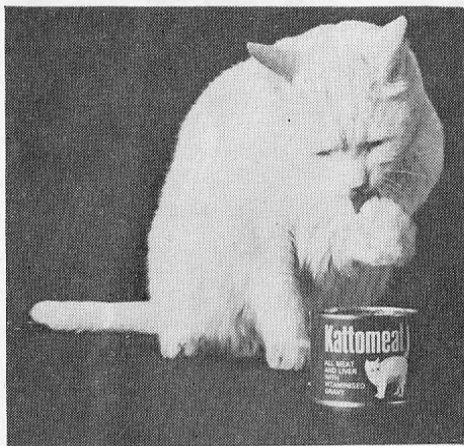
WE TOO HAVE GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

YOUR CO-OPERATION WILL HELP  
FULFIL THEM.



MAKE ALL YOUR FRIENDS "PEN FRIENDS"

(see editorial)



#### Arthur:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of April 3rd. We are very pleased to take this opportunity of clearing up any misunderstandings which may have arisen.

First of all, I would like to assure you quite categorically that at no time whatever has our Company or our advertising agency, or anyone else employed by us ill treated Arthur, in advertising for any of our products. As you know, many cats eat with their paws, and Arthur has never received any training whatsoever—he is simply a natural actor. He is perfectly at ease in front of the cameras; Arthur has never, while in our care, received any injection or drug other than in the course of normal veterinary treatment.

Spillers has been a leading international name in the care and feeding of pets for many, many years. Most of the people concerned with this side of our business are themselves owners and, in some cases, breeders of dogs or cats; it is quite unthinkable that we would permit, let alone encourage, any behaviour of the kind described in the newspapers and on television during the past few weeks.

I am sure you will also be interested to hear a little more about the background of this extraordinary story.

Arthur originally belonged to an actress called Miss June Clyne. She approached our advertising agency in January 1966, telling them that she had a white cat—which she called Samantha—which ate with its paw. From this introduction came all the television commercials which you may have seen.

In 1967, Miss Clyne became ill; we thought it would be helpful to her if we bought Arthur outright so that she should have a lump sum to help her in her illness rather than rely on an irregular payment depending on when we needed to use Arthur for tele-

vision commercials. Most tragically, Miss Clyne died in July 1967; the negotiations were not completed. There was a dispute between Miss Clyne's mother and Mr. Manning as to the ownership of the cat. In September 1967, Spillers paid a considerable sum of money both to Mr. Manning and to Miss Clyne's mother. It is the legal effect of these payments which would appear to be unclear to Mr. Manning, who initiated legal proceedings. I cannot go into this part of the story in more detail as this is subjudice.

We began to take care of Arthur ourselves in September 1967, and as you have seen in the papers, he lives as part of the family with a leading breeder of Persian and Manx cats in Essex. In point of fact, when Arthur was handed over to us last September, we had him medically examined. At that time we found that his gums were in poor condition and that he had lost some teeth as a result. As a result of intensive care by our own vet his gums are now much better and we have managed to save the remaining teeth. Indeed—he is in splendid condition and very happy.

I must emphasise again that Arthur ate with his paw long before this trouble with his gums arose. There are lots of cats who do this—you may have seen pictures of some of them in the Daily Mirror some weeks ago, and we ourselves have had many letters since this occurred telling us of cats that do this quite naturally and whose teeth and gums are in splendid condition. The current legal case is certainly not of our choosing.

Mr. Manning managed—by a court order that has since been set aside—to obtain possession of Arthur and then, despite an order from the judge to return him, made a public announcement to the effect that he would not do so, claiming that he had handed the cat to the Russian Embassy.

Spillers have absolutely no personal vindictiveness against Mr. Manning of any sort and it was certainly no pleasure to us to have to apply for his committal to prison for contempt of court. Indeed, I myself spent two and a half hours with him a few days beforehand in the hope of coming to a compromise which would have involved Arthur being cared for by third parties. But Mr. Manning was not prepared to compromise in any way: indeed, he appeared almost keen to go to prison, and in these circumstances we had no alternative but to let the legal process—which he himself had started—continue.

It was during the committal proceedings that Mr. Manning made his allegations about cruelty. They were strenuously denied by us but as one must unfortunately

accept in these days of sensational journalism, our denials did not receive anything like as much publicity as Mr. Manning's allegations (which he did not attempt to support by any evidence). Before Mr. Manning was released from jail, he gave an undertaking to the court that he would not attempt to recover Arthur from our care, nor would he repeat these allegations, and it was on these undertakings that the judge released him from prison.

I have written to you at considerable length about this as we take this matter very seriously indeed. I hope that, now you know the full story, you will feel able to accept our assurances on this matter. I am most grateful to you for the balanced view you have taken in your article, and I would be most grateful if you could make the facts known to your members. P. H. Fleck, General Manager, Grocery Division.

#### IN MEMORIAM, JUNE 1968

Remembering again my dear Pets "Treasure" and "Smut" and the happy times we had together. K. J. G.

Princess Pouff, who passed on 18th June, 1952, aged 17 years. Never forgotten. Phyllis E. George.

Paddy, tailwaver, June 22nd, 1960. Still with us in memory. E. M. P. E. R. R. T.

In memory of our dear "Tom Kitten" put to sleep on April 12th, 1967, suffering from an incurable illness. M. W.

Cherished memories of my very special and so beautiful Pud, saved from destruction at 8 weeks of age to become my beloved and loving companion until she was put to sleep, with deep sorrow, on 17th June, 1967, aged 14 years 4 months, suffering from an incurable tumour. There are two new pussies now, Pud, but there will never be another you. Miss you more than words can say. M. Burgess.

In ever loving memory of our dearest Stephen, Tailwaver 2286, who passed over on June 29th, 1957 aged 13 years. Until we are re-united, darling, for all eternity in God's kingdom. Mrs. and Mr. W. F. H.

In loving memory of my beloved Jenny, who fell asleep 11th April, 1968. So sadly missed by Irene Mabey.

DEMI—who moved in over 12 years ago. The last of my three. 13 May, 68. O.S.

Would cat lover offer, let or sell, small deposit, cottage with garden suitable to continue running Cat Rescue Shelter, boarding Cattery in Linton, Cambridgeshire area. This need in this area is very great. Mrs. D. E. K. Willcocks, Willow Cottage, Dean Road, Bartlow, Cambs.



#### The Helping Hand:

Amongst the number of people who can really be termed cat lovers and with whom we at Headquarters have been in touch for many years and have helped from time to time is Mrs. O'Brien who lives in Jermyns Road, Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk. Over the years we have become friends "in the cause" although we have never met and in a recent letter asking her about her work she said:-

"Now all I can say is as you know for 26 years I have gone and fed all the strays not missing a day. I go out to work to get them food, I give up holidays and all for them, I have found good homes for many and many, many put down. Anywhere I hear there are strays I go out and do what I can so that is all I can really say to you as long as I can work and find food I am happy. You see no-one ask me to do all this I took it on myself and I really expect no-one to help me. I think I told you before two old ladies in Southwold give me £1 a month as they saw me feeding them one day, very kind of them indeed but apart from the £1 and all your kindness that is everything I got you see, milk is such a price and they must have a drink. You can ask anyone in Southwold about me and what I do if you wish."