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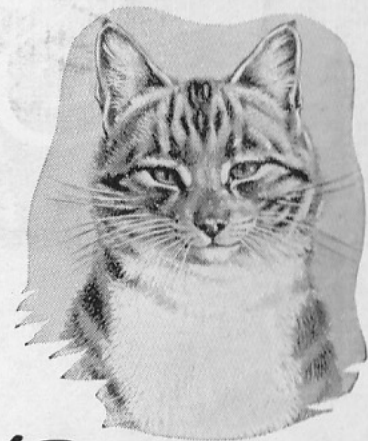


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SEPTEMBER

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SEPTEMBER, 1952

CANDID COMMENTS

By SYDNEY W. FRANCE

TWO-DAY CAT SHOW.

Much research often goes into a small article, and our extensive cat library was thoroughly combed only a few days ago to check up on material which was being used in one of this month's features. The recent acrimonious controversy regarding the Olympia Cat Show at Olympia, soon to take place when these lines are written, but which will be over when they appear in print, interested the present writer to view with interest a full page advertisement in our December, 1936, issue:—"Crystal Palace. The National Cat Club will hold its forty-seventh championship show at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, and Thursday, December

2nd and 3rd, when the finest cats in the world of all breeds will be on view. The show will be open to the public from 12.30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2nd, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 3rd."

This was followed by an article by Cyril Yeates, a man who occupied the highest position in the Cat Fancy in this country, and was chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy until his recent death. What he had to say was so interesting that it bears repeating.

"The Championship Show to be held at the Crystal Palace on December 2nd and 3rd will be the forty-seventh run by the National Cat Club, but between

The Cover Photo is of Mrs. Nurdin's LEO. See page 25.

1871 and 1896 shows were held by the Crystal Palace Company, so that the forthcoming one is really to be held in the Great Glass House.

"The first exhibition was organised by the late Mr. Harrison Weir, and this gentleman was the first President of the National Cat Club when that club was started in 1887. Cat Shows have changed a great deal in sixty-five years. At the first shows the animals exhibited were practically all British Shorthairs, but by 1889 the Longhairs outnumbered the Shorthairs, and last year the Longhairs numbered 274 as against 114 Shorthairs, including Siamese.

"There is no greater admirer of a long-haired cat than I, but I would dearly like to see more and better British Shorthairs shown, for as Mr. Harrison Weir wrote in the preface to the late Miss Frances Simpson's Book of the Cat, 'a high-class short-haired cat is one of the most perfect animals ever created'. Another great change is in the number of classes. This has risen from 92 in 1896 to 158 in 1935. In days gone by cats were not entered in as many side classes as they are to-day—the classes did not exist—so that though the number of exhibits at the 1896 show amounted to 585, the total number of entries was only 727. Last year with 200

less exhibits entries numbered 1,141. As the number of judges was the same at both shows, it will be seen that the present-day judge has far more to do than his predecessor.

"The Crystal Palace Show has been aptly described as "The Cat Carnival of the World," and on December 2nd and 3rd visitors will see the finest specimens of all breeds—Longhairs or Persians of all all colours, British Shorthairs, Siamese, Manx and Abyssinians.

"To prevent disappointment intending visitors should note that the majority of the kittens will only be on view on the first day.

"Special prizes to the number of 250, including all the National Cat Club's challenge trophies, will be offered for competition and the owner of the Best Exhibit in Show will this year receive a beautiful replica of the Coronation or Anointing Spoon, which forms part of the Regalia in the Tower of London."

For some reason there has been a good deal of argument both for and against two-day cat shows. I personally prefer those held on one day for many reasons, but it is not without interest to see that until the Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire, all the cat shows held there were two-day events.

There is evidence all round us to show that money is very,

very scarce indeed, or that its purchasing power has dropped so much that the utmost economy appears to be being practised by all members of the community, and I for one think that cat shows, the season for which is just starting, are likely to suffer both as to the number of entries and the gate. I hope time proves me to be wrong, but I think that the way things are going we shall soon see, not this season of course, but next season, fewer shows, the cutting out of the least important ones, and the survival of only those which by reason of their venue and importance will attract entrants and public.

AID FOR CATS IN MALTA.

An up-to-date list on another page gives all the names of the very kind subscribers and the amounts we have received in this worthy cause.

We have accordingly sent to the R.S.P.C.A. in Malta the sum of £41 10s. 6d. with the compliments of our readers, and asking them to use it as best they can to end or at least to alleviate the unhappy fate of the cats in Malta.

MYSTERY ILLNESS WHICH AFFECTS BOTH CATS AND KITTENS.

We have heard recently of a number of cases of both cats and kittens being stricken with a mysterious malady, the symptoms of which are going off

food and a yellow frothy sickness. In the case of young kittens feeding from their mothers, sickness includes curdled milk. All sorts of treatment appears to give little satisfactory result, injections of penicillin and chloriomycin capsules have been used together with the more common remedies. The patient remains ill for more than a week and unhappily the illness more often proves fatal.

Post-mortem examination reveals nothing wrong except slight inflammation of the kidneys called Hepatitis which is believed to be a virus disease. Can any of our readers give us any information on this subject which might be of value?

A SHOCK FOR SIAMESE CLUB MEMBERS.

At their last annual general meeting the members of the Siamese Cat Club decided that they were not satisfied with holding their show at the Lime Grove Baths, and passed a resolution that the show to be held in October of this year should either be at the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall, Westminster, or the Seymour Hall on Marylebone Road, London. Both of these halls are modern, excellent and easy of access, and the more progressive cat clubs have already been using these halls for their shows with some success.

MORE ABOUT THE KINK TAIL

SIAMESE OWNERS AND BREEDERS WRITE ON THIS
CONTROVERSIAL TOPIC!

OUR article in the last issue of the magazine has been followed by a good deal of interest on this debatable point, and a member of our staff decided that it was worth while going through the news of the Siamese fancy covering the last fifty years to see whether this topic has been one which has caused any differences or discussions before—and so it has!

In the July, 1936, issue of our magazine Mrs. Wade, then chairman of the Siamese Cat Club, writing on Siamese said: "As a matter of fact, very few Siamese are now born with badly kinked tails. The breeders have practically eradicated this fault, and it is now an exception to find kinks—we know what strains will produce them and so avoid them, but should you have one born you had better put it to sleep if it is a female as it is useless to breed with. The males neutered make delightful pets. Cats nearly all over the world are judged on our Standards of points, America does not allow a kink any more than we do. Mr. John Bayly, the Consul General in Bangkok, who has done much to keep the breed pure in its original country also will not admit a kink."

In a lively correspondence which followed, Mr. Cox-Ife, then a well known official of the Siamese Cat Club, said: "Sir—Carl Warren Gay, Professor of Animal Husbandry, Ohio State University, says, with reference to cattle, that a 'breed' of cattle is said generally to connote a particular *type* of animal which has for a long period been bred only with those of the same or closely similar type and has hereditary characteristics which are transmitted to its offspring.

"It has always been my opinion that the kink and squint in the Siamese cat are malformations and as such should not be tolerated. With regard to the kink I have formed my opinion by comparison with other breeds of domestic animals. Generally speaking the conformation of any breed or variety of breed is stable. This can be seen in cats, dogs, horses, cattle, sheep, etc. We distinguish between the Arab and the Shire horse, the Hereford and the Guernsey cow, the Cocker and the English Springer Spaniel in this way.

"In the case of the Siamese kink, the conformation is not stable; the kink is seen in many shapes—from the almost

imperceptible kink at the tip of the tail to the knot. In animals such as the Chow, or the pig, where the tail should not be straight, the conformation is always to a general standard. It is on this ground of inconsistency that I regard the kink as a malformation."

Mrs. K. Barton-Wright, not only an expert on cats but an expert in Biology, was the next person to take up the cudgels about the kink tails in the September, 1936, issue of our magazine in the correspondence column brought the following letter: "The correspondence on kinks is interesting. Whether or not we call a kink a malformation, it is very definitely inherited character. Very unfortunately for the Siamese breeder it is a recessive character, and is therefore carried by many straight-tailed cats, so that even when two straight-tailed cats are mated together, a proportion of kinky-tailed kittens is bound to appear. So that when an owner of a calling queen is advised not to send to a certain stud because 'he throws so many kinks', the advice is quite absurd because kinks will only appear if the queen is also carrying the recessive factor as well. The scheme of inheritance of kinks in Siamese is undoubtedly very complex, but since it is a recessive character the Siamese Fancy have set themselves a

practically impossible task, especially with the few available studs, to breed it out. It no doubt could be done, but there would be precious few Siamese cats left at the end of the process. Even the Siamese Cat Club has to admit a small kink at the tip of the tail.

"Professor Schwangart's statement that the kink is linked up with other malformations in the body of the cat is probably a mere coincidence. If this were really the case all kinky-tailed cats would die at birth or very soon after. My own experience in the matter has been that the kinky-tailed Siamese cat is a great deal tougher than its straight-tailed brother.

"It is simply blind prejudice and ignorance that makes breeders put down kinky-tailed queens, for such queens when mated to straight-tailed studs will throw a large proportion of straight-tailed kittens. *The accompanying photograph shows one of the progeny of a cross between a queen with a particularly kinked tail and a straight-tailed stud. The actual litter numbered seven and there was not a single kinky-tailed kitten among them. Moreover, this queen in her subsequent litters has never thrown a kitten with the vestige of a kink.

*Editor's Note: The photograph was unsuitable for reproduction.

"The Siamese is a peculiar race. In the first place it arose spontaneously as a mutation and was not bred artificially by careful selection, so that it is a cut and dried stable variety breeding true to the acromelanistic factor. Perhaps, although I do not know for certain, the genetics of the kinky-tail in Siamese follows along the same lines as the inheritance of wing-shape and size in the fruit fly *Drosophila*.

"In the fruit-fly the variations in shape and length of wing are enormous and the genetics of these variations are far too complex and important to be dismissed airily as malformations. Moreover the segregation of the wing characters on breeding is perfectly definite. There is the further possibility to be considered that the kinkiness in the tails of Siamese cats is due to the action of multiple factors. That is to say, that there are a number of separate factors each of which is capable of bringing about the kinkiness in the tail alone, but that the degree of kinkiness is intensified by the presence of more than one of these factors. The length of ear in the lop-eared rabbit serves as a good example of the action of multiple factors.

"As Siamese breeders from their novitiate have had it dinned into their ears that

kinks are 'all wrong', there is precious little information available about the behaviour of kinks and their method of segregation, which is a pity, especially as I have been told that kinky-tailed cats sell particularly well, and I have often been told by friends from Siam that there are more kinky-tailed than straight-tailed cats out there. All of which only goes to prove once more that the Siamese Fancy have set themselves a formidable task to eliminate kinks; and it is not without its humorous side when one hears so much about 'mongrels', 'bad blood' and other horrible things in these days that the vast majority of straight-tailed Siamese cats in this country are mongrels, or if one cares to put it in more scientific language, heterozygous for kinkiness in the tail."

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BOOKS ON CATS

By ATHALIE HASLAM

RECENT mention in our columns of Miss Frances Simpson's "The book of the Cat", first published in 1903 and now worth about twenty pounds to collectors in the United States of America, prompted the query: How many books about cats, and when did people first start writing them?

I should say that the first cat books were written and printed in France in the early seventeen hundreds, and one of the first listed English books on cats was by Lady Cust and was written in 1857. This was followed in 1867 by "The book of Cats", written and illustrated by Charles H. Ross. We had to go to 1889 before Harrison Weir wrote his "Our Cats and all about them". This was a real cat book, written by one of the most important breeders and cat fanciers in the country and full of absolutely invaluable facts, classifications and carefully executed drawings to illustrate the text. This must have been a real golden treasury for cat-lovers, breeders and exhibitors of those days.

Lady Chance's "A book of Cats", illustrated with her own drawings, was the next one

published in 1898, and in 1901 the Americans published what is still a classic, Miss Agnes Repplier's "The Fire-Side Sphinx". This book has earned a well deserved reputation, and even now, fifty years after it was written, is one that can be well recommended to every cat lover.

A scientific work on cats was that written by St. George Mivart, "The Cat", which was written towards the end of the last century.

1903 saw probably the best cat book that was ever written at any date, "The book of the Cat". A most elaborate book, written by Miss Frances Simpson, this book with its three hundred and eighty quarto pages is absolutely superlative as to both text and pictures, and is also probably the most comprehensive cat book ever written. What a wonderful woman Miss Simpson must have been, her knowledge of every aspect of cat breeding and management surely never has been eclipsed.

A beautifully illustrated book by Ann Marks published in 1909, "A cat in history, legend, and art", is another cat book of rare fascination and charm.

Continued on next page

CATMINT

A correspondent writes enquiring about Catmint. There are many kinds of this excellent border plant. The variety most commonly grown is *Nepeta Mussini*, greatly favoured by cats, but the true Catmint is *N. Cataria*. The effect of this is most remarkable, many cats behaving as though intoxicated. The various clumps do not seem to suffer as a result of the attentions of cats, their pruning propensity seeming to be beneficial.

N. Cataria was formerly much grown by cottagers for "Catnip Tea", a remedy for cold and nervous headaches. Apart from its medicinal qualities, it is also used for seasoning.

According to an old country belief, cats destroy only transplanted Catmint, and not that which has been sown.

An old couplet says:
 "If you set it the cats will eat it;
 If you sow it the cats won't know it."

BOOKS ON CATS—

continued from previous page.

In the 1920's we had Carl Van Vechten's amazing volume completely covering everything known about cats, "A tiger in the house". Then we had Mr. Michael Joseph with his "Cats Company", and surely a book that everybody who likes cats must have, Michael Joseph's "Charles".

To-day? Lots of books on cats, few to recommend, but Lady Christabel Aberconway's "Dictionary of Cat Lovers", published by Michael Joseph, is a sheer joy.

MARK TWAIN ON CATS in Hawaii in 1886

"I saw cats, Tom cats, Mary Ann cats, long-tailed cats, bob-tailed cats, blind cats, one-eyed cats, all-eyed cats, cross-eyed cats, grey cats, black cats, tame cats, wild cats, singed cats, individual cats, groups of cats, platoons of cats, companies of cats, armies of cats, multitudes of cats, millions of cats, and all of them sleek, fat, lazy, and sound asleep."

SEA HEROES IN FUR COATS

By C. F. S. HILL

"SEA DOG", a term often applied to sailormen, may be said to have more than one meaning, for dogs have been known to favour the sea, too. But of all animals with a liking for a life on the ocean wave, none has a stronger claim to distinguished service than that faithful member of the seafaring fraternity—the ship's cat.

Official permission is required before a dog may be kept on board a warship and Regulations lay down carefully detailed instructions on the subject. But no mention is made of cats, perhaps because it is well-known that if a cat decides to make its home on board a ship nothing will deter it. Besides, rats must be kept under.

The average breed of ship's cat is usually the domestic tabby, and these take to a life at sea as to the manner born. Very often they begin their lives at sea, and when such is the case they are seldom happy on shore.

Cats rarely suffer from seasickness, and, although normally fussy creatures in their sleeping habits, they often take readily to miniature hammocks made for them by sailors.

But it is at sea that the legendary nine lives of a cat come in useful, for apart from the hazards of bad weather and wave-swept decks there are many other dangers to be faced.

During the war, neither bombs, gunfire nor U-boats could frighten ships' cats into deserting their floating homes, though many of them met a premature death at sea and some went down with their ships.

Not all of these feline heroes that go down to the sea in ships have received the recognition they deserve.

There was Binky, for instance, a black cat that preferred life in a British submarine to searching for mice on shore. Whenever the submarine surfaced for action, Binky was always the first on deck. If an aircraft was being attacked, Binky would stand next to the gunner and spit at the enemy! Exploding depth charges never worried Binky, and eventually he was promoted to the rank of Petty Officer.

Scouse, the cat mascot of H.M.S. Exeter, earned his share in the ship's battle honours during the war. He stood by

the gunners during Exeter's entire engagement with the German battleship Graf Spee and never flinched.

Scouse came through without a scratch and he was given a great reception when the ship reached England. With tail erect he moved down the gang-plank with dignity, accepting the cheers of the crowd as his right.

Rastus had suffered injury in the enemy's blitz on Liverpool and he sought refuge aboard H.M.S. Gorleston. He was made the ship's mascot, and took it upon himself to keep the fo'c'sle-head free of seagulls.

The birds, however, were not willing to accept this, for the fo'c'sle had been their resting place from time immemorial, and many fights took place.

Rastus always came off best, until one day an old seagull refused to budge. Annoyed at being thus ignored, Rastus took a hard bite at the gull's leg. He bit so hard that when the gull took flight he could not let go.

Finally, Rastus dropped into the water. It was fortunate for him that the ship was in harbour at the time and he was able to swim ashore. He walked back on board again, wet and bedraggled, but with as much dignity as he could muster.

Although Oscar was a Nazi, he was one of the great family

of sea cats, and as such he deserves his share of praise. He was the mascot of the German pocket-battleship "Bismark", and he remained at his post until the ship sank. He jumped into the sea and was rescued by H.M.S. "Cossack", and was later transferred to the "Ark Royal".

It may have been that Oscar was singularly unlucky, for the "Ark Royal" was sunk, too. But that wasn't the end of Oscar; he still had some of his nine lives to live.

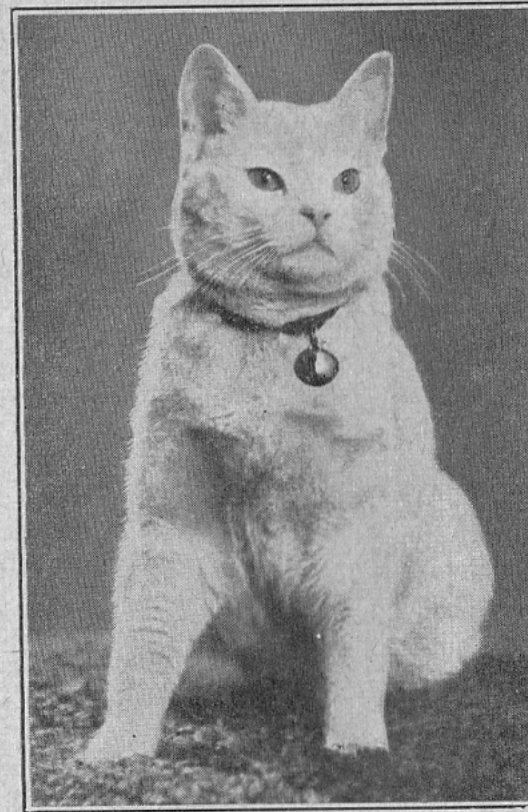
A destroyer cruising around sighted a raft floating near the wreckage. On it was Oscar, cleaning himself as unconcernedly as if he was seated by the fireside.

Oscar was not the only cat to be rescued from a raft. Billy was the mascot of the liner "Mongolia", and when she was sunk Billy swam to a piece of wood and climbed on it. Billy lived on that piece of wreckage for many days without food or water, until he drifted ashore—alive but ravenous.

Tawny was the only "Briton" the Germans refused to capture. He was on board the "Caldew" when the ship was torpedoed, and was saved with the crew by a Swedish vessel.

They were sailing to Sweden to internment when a German destroyer swooped down upon

Please turn to page 17



SNOWY

Mrs. HANNAH LOWE of 16, Faringdon Close, Liverpool, 19, writes :

"I must let you know what results I have had since giving my cat Kit-zyme.

Snowy is all white, weighs 12½ lbs. and will be one year old this month. He had been troubled with worms since I got him, and under advice I had given him capsules and tablets with no results.

I pressure cook all Snowy's food in case there are worms in the fish, but it was not until giving him Kit-zyme that the worms disappeared and I have not seen any sign of them since."

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VIRUS DISEASES

By Mrs. KATHLEEN BARTON-WRIGHT

(Reprinted from our issue of June, 1936).

PASTEUR was the first to conceive the idea of invisible micro-organisms, organisms more minute than bacteria, when he conducted his researches on hydrophobia. Before his day, Edward Jenner, dealing with smallpox and vaccinia was unconsciously fighting invisible micro-organisms. In 1892, Iwanowski, in Russia, worked with tobacco plants which were infected with what is called mosaic disease; and he found that the sap from these infected plants after it had been passed through a bacteria-proof filter, infected healthy plants with mosaic disease. This was the first record of virus (meaning poison or venom) disease and Iwanowski's work like most scientific discoveries had to wait seven years before it was duly recognised and confirmed. Beijerinck confirmed the work and put the infection down to what he called a "*contagium vivum fluidum*". More or less at the same time two other workers found that foot and mouth disease was not due to bacterial infection but due to an "infective principle", which was so small that it escaped all filters. Naturally these rather

startling discoveries gave much food for thought as to the origin of other diseases which could not be put down to bacterial infection and yet were infectious. To-day there are some hundred or so diseases which are due to these filter passing micro-organisms called viruses, and among these are some of the most devastating diseases which affect not only plants but also animals and man.

Bacteria are visible within the limits of the microscope, but viruses are so small that their size is below the resolving power of the ordinary microscope, and they also pass through the pores of a filter candle which is impermeable to visible bacteria. Unlike bacteria they are unable to exist or multiply in the absence of the living cell. One can make cultures on various media of bacteria, and they grow quite cheerfully, so that they can be examined and experimented with, but not so viruses. They have been described by Gardner as "agents below or on the border-line of microscopical visibility which cause disturbance of the function of living cells and are regenerated in

the process." It is not certain whether they are living or non-living organisms. They may be in the nature of a very minute bacterium as they seem to possess the power to multiply or they may be purely chemical in nature, in fact a toxin which causes the infected cells to reproduce the agent of their own destruction. To support the latter view, tobacco mosaic disease is still visible in the leaf after it has been dried and preserved for twenty-four years.

You will perhaps be wondering what all this has to do with cats. It seems that cat distemper and gastro-enteritis, which we all know only too well, are due to virus infection. It has been found that among other diseases, smallpox, measles, mumps, yellow fever, cattle plague, swine fever and dog distemper are definitely due to viruses. These viruses leave lasting immunity, that is, a dog that has had distemper should be immune for the rest of its life. I do not know if there are any records of a cat having a second attack of distemper. By this I do not mean a relapse which is quite usual, but a subsequent attack after a long interval. With gastro-enteritis, there are so few survivors that it would be hard to tell. Then there are viruses which leave what is called a transient immunity. Here we have foot and mouth disease,

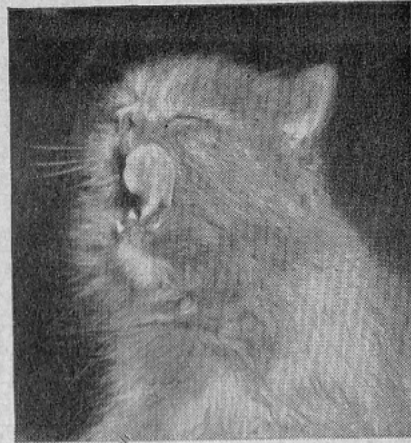
the common cold and possibly influenza of humans.

Virus diseases in plants are transmitted by insects. For instance, infection in the potato is carried by the greenfly. In human virus diseases we have trench fever spread by the body louse which also spreads typhus, another virus disease. Yellow fever is transmitted by a species of mosquito and a similar kind of insect carries dengue fever. It is quite within the bounds of possibility that some insect closely connected with the cat spreads distemper and infectious enteritis among cats. I do not think that fleas are responsible because cats are perfectly clear of these pests become infected, but I have wondered if there is any connection between flies, which cannot be avoided in hot weather, however meticulous one is, and the dreaded plagues of distemper and infectious enteritis. In Scotland, where the climate is colder and the flies not quite so numerous, there certainly seemed to be less infection, whilst I have been told that in Siam, scores of Siamese cats and the ordinary indigenous cats die from infectious diseases. Town cats would also be more liable to infection than country cats and I believe this is the case. I think it almost a waste of time trying to find a cure for these

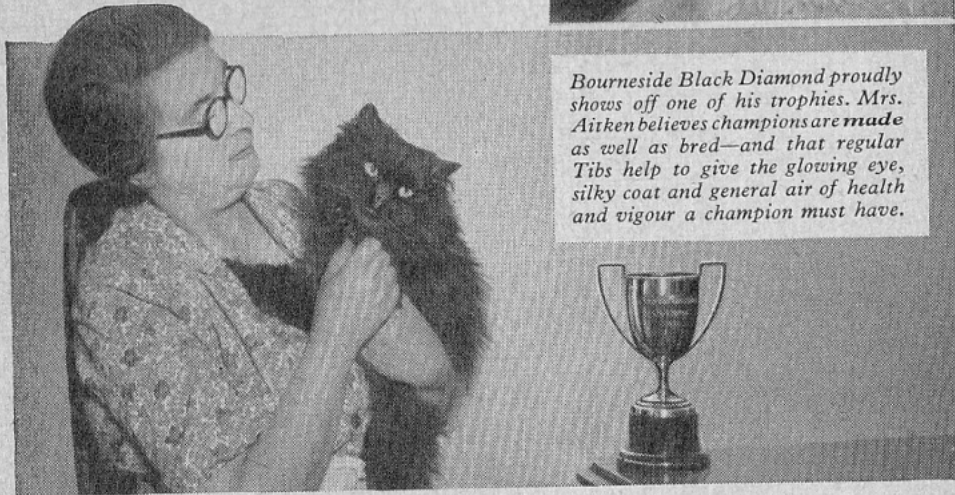
Please turn to page 32.

'Prizes are such a bore'

yawns Blue Cream Persian Bourneside Shot Silk, bred and owned by that leading breeder, exhibitor and judge, Mrs. E. G. Aitken of Banstead, Surrey.



Bourneside Black Diamond proudly shows off one of his trophies. Mrs. Aitken believes champions are made as well as bred—and that regular Tibs help to give the glowing eye, silky coat and general air of health and vigour a champion must have.



MRS. AITKEN has long experience of breeding winners — she is also a judge of international fame and her husband is Assistant Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. So her opinion carries weight—and her opinion of Tibs could not be higher. She has used them regularly for her stock since they were first introduced.

'Personally, I'd rather have a nice piece of rabbit than another challenge cup', says Bourneside Shot Silk. 'Still, it's nice for Mistress when we win prizes.'

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and 2/-

TIBS
KEEP CATS
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A BAD DAY OUT FOR PUSS

By S. V. SAUNDERS

A MUCH abused animal the common cat is, and has always been, but never in the three thousand-odd years' history of the feline race has it suffered such ill-treatment than as at the time of the exile of Napoleon to the isle of St. Helena.

The scene opens with the commanding of a British regiment to accompany the ex-emperor to the island on which he spent the remaining years of his life.

A few days previous to the date of its departure, a man of gentlemanly aspect circulated in the districts surrounding the city of Chester a number of handbills, on which he stated that the island was plagued with countless evil-smelling rats, and that he had been commissioned by His Majesty's ministers to buy as many cats as possible, and to take them to St. Helena in order to exterminate these noxious pests and render the island habitable for the families of genteel birth who were going to make their homes there with the regiment.

He offered ten shillings for each full-grown female cat, sixteen shillings for each adult tom, and two shillings and

sixpence for every healthy kitten that could drink milk.

Three days later the populace of Chester were appalled at the surprising spectacle of swarms of old men and women, and young boys and girls, emerging from every land and road leading to the town and all bearing down on the street designated in the advertisement, holding in their arms or in sacks or in bags, angry cats, pleased cats, restless cats, placid cats, purring cats, spitting cats, black cats, red cats, tabby cats; in fact, every description and variety of cat under the sun.

At nightfall nearly three thousand cats were said to be gathered together at the meeting-place. But the author of the advertisement did not keep his appointment. Some of the cat-bearing owners, tired, dispirited, and angry, began to squabble. The squabble developed into a free fight . . .

In the following confusion and excitement many cats were set free. In their terror and fear, chased by marauding dogs, they fled through open windows, into doorways, upon the roofs of sheds, and to anywhere where they could find sanctuary.

INFLUENZA IN CATS

By Miss EVELYN LANGSTON

(Reprinted from "Our Cats", January, 1934).

THE first symptoms of distemper are not nearly so violent as those of influenza, but, notwithstanding the violence of symptoms, influenza is a less serious illness.

The first signs of influenza are sneezing and gulping. It comes on very quickly. The animal may appear quite well in the morning and start to sneeze and gulp in the evening, and the next day will be very ill. The principal symptom of influenza is a frothing at the mouth and a continuous flow of saliva.

The cat, indeed, appears a very sick cat, but though serious enough, the disease is not so bad as it seems. The first essential is warmth and quiet. Give a warm bed and in it place a hot-water bottle. At least three times daily give steam inhalations to which Friar's Balsam has been added. The easiest way to give an inhalation is to shut puss in a cupboard for half an hour with a two-pound jam-jar to which a teaspoonful of Friar's Balsam has been added. If she is in a hutch or cage, cover with a thick cloth during the inhalation.

It is necessary to frequently swab the mouth and throat. Weak, warm solutions of glycerin of thymol or permanganate of potash are best. Dip a piece of cotton-wool in the solution and wipe out the mouth and try to squeeze a little down the back of the throat. Disinfecting of the mouth by swabbing or by Lacteol should be done every three hours. As medicine give three times daily a pill of sulphate of quinine. The dose is half a grain for a cat and one-quarter for a kitten. For a young kitten homeopathic pilules of aconite may be substituted, and are useful for adults too—one pilule for kittens, two for cats. The eyes must be kept clean by wiping with warm boracic water, and the nostrils also must be kept free of discharge. Use glycerin of thymol for this and a drop of Mystol up each nostril is useful at bed-time. Because of the sore throat and high fever total abstinence from food is usual. Do not attempt to forcibly feed for forty-eight hours. Try to tempt with a little egg and milk or any easily swallowed food. If the cat still refuses to attempt to feed after

two or three days, try to get a few spoonfuls of nourishment down. Egg and milk, milk, or Brand's Essence are all suitable foods, and a few drops of brandy can be added three or four times a day. Two or three teaspoons of milk or egg and milk and a teaspoon of Brand's Essence is sufficient at a time, and it is not necessary to feed oftener than every four hours. As the throat gets better, appetite returns. Often, though, the cat is afraid to eat and cannot realise it does not hurt to swallow, so, when the throat looks better and fever is down, it is a good plan to pop in the mouth a tiny piece of juicy scraped meat or a little soft

fish, rabbit, or chicken. If she finds she can swallow without much pain, puss will probably start to eat. Once she begins to eat all is well, but do not at first give very much or indigestion may result, with subsequent diarrhoea, so go very carefully at first and puss will soon make up for lost time and will be ravenously hungry. Take care to still keep warm and attend to the throat, etc. A chill would probably end fatally if contracted during convalescence. Influenza is intensely infectious and every precaution must be taken to prevent the disease spreading. The incubation period is short—about five days—and the cat is infectious for about a month.

SEA HEROES IN FUR COATS

—from page 10.

the ship and took the British crew prisoners. But they refused to take Tawny.

When the Swedish ship arrived at Gothenburg the authorities refused to allow Tawny to land, and he would certainly have been destroyed if two ladies of the British Consulate had not paid for his keep while he was in quarantine. One of Tawny's nine lives came in useful there.

But the ship's cat to reach the highest pinnacle of fame was Simon, the hero of H.M.S. Amethyst. Simon was the

first naval cat to be awarded the Dickin Medal—the animals' V.C.

Simon stuck to his post as his ship ran the gauntlet of fire from the guns of the Chinese Communist forts, and who shall say that his example did not help to inspire Amethyst's gallant crew?

When Simon died he was given a hero's burial, with a Union Jack as a shroud. In the story of Simon is symbolised all the ships' cats that bring a touch of homely feeling and companionship to the sea and do not always receive the recognition they deserve.

**AMAZING
NEW
DISCOVERY
BANISHES
CAT
SMELLS
INDOORS**



Let's be frank! Keeping a cat or kitten indoors has its unpleasant moments—someone has to empty kitty's toilet box every day. That is why you will be so delighted with KITTY-PAK, the amazing new deodorant.

KITTY-PAK is a scientifically prepared material for your cat's toilet-box that completely dries, deodorizes and absorbs all waste matter, making daily cleaning quite unnecessary.

KITTY-PAK does not adhere to fur or paws, and it is absolutely harmless.

KITTY-PAK is so economical too, one 7lb. carton will keep your home sweet and clean for weeks, and it costs only 3/6d.

Take advantage of this great scientific achievement today. Once you have used KITTY-PAK you will wonder how you ever managed without it.

Kitty-Pak



Please send me a 7lb. carton of KITTY-PAK. I enclose a P.O. for 4/6d. (3/6d. and 1/- part cost of postage.)
Name (block letters please)

Address

Buy a carton of KITTY-PAK from your pet shop today or post this coupon direct to the manufacturers.

**NEW MILTON SUPPLY Co. Ltd.
MILFORD - ON - SEA (Hants.)**



**MEET THE BREEDERS
BLUE NOTES**

By **DORRIE
BRICE-WEBB**

THE Cat Section of the Barnsley Agricultural Society wasn't too well supported. Mrs. Priston, the Show Manager, had worked hard for months and she must have felt very 'fed up' to see such a poor entry. The Best Cat in Show was Mrs. Brough's Galtres Peter Johnson, a beautiful Cream L.H. bred by Mrs. Carbert. He was beautifully shown and was in lovely condition. His coat was palest cream without any sign of hotness. He was glorious type and had a lovely pair of copper eyes.

Not one Blue cat or kitten was entered. This is the first show, either as a judge or an exhibitor that I have attended, where there have been no Blues! Anyway, we all had a very happy day, the weather was kind, and it really was an ideal day for a show under canvas.

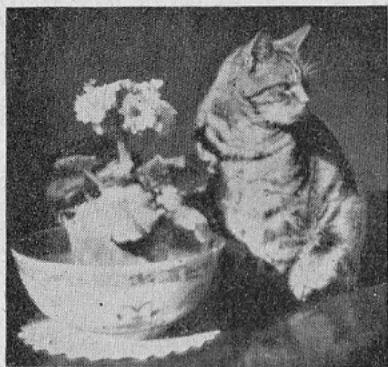
News this month reaches me from New Zealand from a regular reader of "Cats and Kittens". She has kindly sent me the principal winners at the Auckland Cat Club's Championship Show held in July of this year. Best Cat in Show

was Mrs. Downey's Slapton Black Magic. Reserve Best in Show, same owner's Royal of Pensford. Both English bred cats.

Yet another reader from New Zealand who owns two Persian kittens, a Blue and a Black, and a Tabby neuter, sends me news. She says she purchased her two kittens from Mrs. Downey and took them to the Hamilton Show last month. Boy Blue was awarded four firsts, Best Kitten 6-9 months, Best Male Novice, Best Type Kitten 6-9 months. The little black girl came second in the 6-9 months, and third in the Novice Class. These kittens come from English stock, which is all very pleasing.

Sad news reaches me from Mrs. Bradley of Nottingham. On July 22nd her Blue Poppet died suddenly, aged sixteen months. Two days later the lovely female kitten of whom I wrote last month by Ch. Astra of Pensford died, and two days after her sister. The kittens were nine weeks old, and it is an awful blow to lose such valuable stock. The vet. was very mystified as he could find no sign of infection after a post-mortem.

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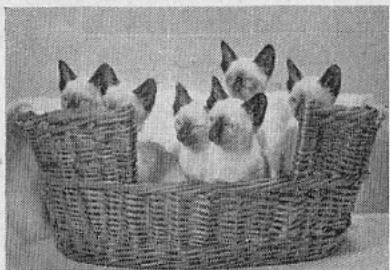


Tiddles, owned by Mr. T. Edward
of St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex

Mill Hill,
London, N.W.7.

Dear Editor,

I am enclosing three photographs. One is of Proud Major, father of the kits in the other two pictures. Father has won twelve first prizes, and is the son of a champion. The photo of the single kit won an award of Very Highly Commended in the photographic section of the Festival of Britain Cat Show at Westminster in July last year. The kitten Singga Pradap is eight weeks old, and is one of

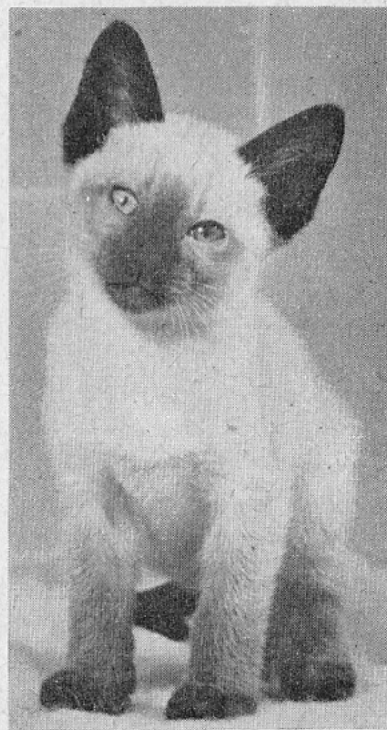


Eight-weeks-old Siamese litter

the litter in the other picture. The six of them (my own breeding) were so frisky that it was a wonder to me that the photographer managed to take them at all!

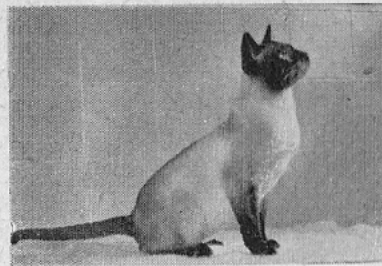
Before closing, may I thank you for the very helpful remarks you have made in your magazine on the care of the cat. I have followed your advice about Weetabix, and I find it a most valuable addition to the diet of my Siamese cats and kittens.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs.) E. M. Leonard.



Singga Pradap

TO THE EDITOR



Proud Major

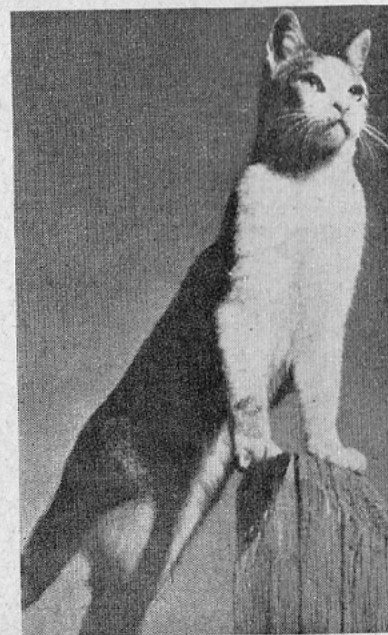
Knokke Spa, Belgium.

Dear Editor,

I am sending these photos, so that you can see my darling pet Saucy Boy; and because you were so good to send the Siamese kittens back. What a beautiful set of kitties and mother on your page cover.



Saucy Boy as a kitten, nose
rubbed in the earth



Saucy Boy at eight years

What *black* noses. How much I do admire Ch. Southwood Sunya, page 10. I like those with black legs and faces, and Eireanne Appollo, page 14. I adore her beautiful eyes!

You will not see beauty in my pet—his beauty you can't see, it was all in his character. I want a puss badly, but not while I so terribly miss my lamb. I used to call him my lamb.

I am keeping the "Cats and Kittens" magazine for tomorrow, Sunday, for a treat for Sunday, to read.

That looks a dear puss, Jackee, page 24. What a nice wise expression—and I was

LETTERS AND PICTURES

terribly sorry for the lady who lost Mr. Tiptoes. Many ladies suffer severely for a lost pet cat, and they suffer for a very long time. I just talk to Saucy Boy as though he were still here (sometimes). I put food down every night for the many different strange cats that come over our wall at night, and I tell them that that food is a present from Saucy Boy.

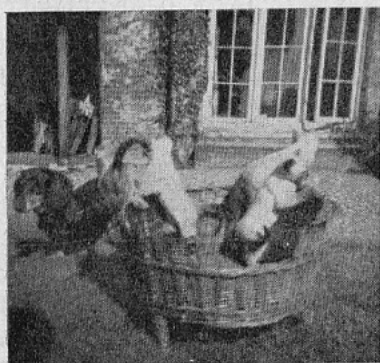
With many thanks for your kind sympathy in Saucy and all other pets of other folk.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs.) E. M. Beereus.

Hitchin, Herts.

Dear Editor,

Last year you kindly published a snap of Babette, my Siamese queen, so I am enclosing another snap of her last litter. The dog is also in the snap, as she is very friendly with all our kittens.



Babette's most recent litter



Spiv

I am looking forward to the next edition of your very interesting magazine.

Yours sincerely,
Christine Midgley.

Streatham,
London, S.W.16.

Dear Editor,

I am enclosing snaps of Spiv, our long-haired black and white, and Suki, our Siamese, who died of pneumonia last November, in spite of all efforts to save her. Poor Spiv moped for weeks after Suki's death, as they were great friends, and indeed she left a gap that can never be filled, as she was such a sweet and devoted companion, frequently accompanying us on outings in bus, tube and train, and always so quiet and good.

Spiv is now the undisputed head of the household, and a real character. He is usually referred to as the "old man". When my husband went out to Malaya, Spiv was very upset, until, one day, he found his old

TO THE EDITOR

sports jacket in the conservatory. He sniffed at this in great excitement, and finally snuggled down on it, purring loudly, and went to sleep. The old jacket has been a great comfort to him ever since.

I should be very thrilled to see Spiv and Suki in your magazine, and I know my husband would be equally pleased, as I always have to include Spiv's latest exploits in my letters to him.

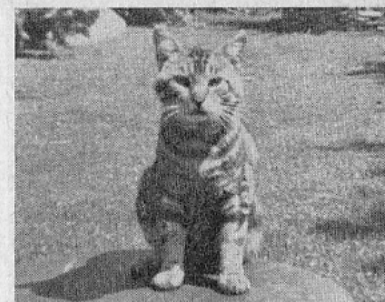
Perhaps you would be good enough to return the snaps in the envelope provided as they are the only ones I have of Suki. Wishing the magazine continued success,

Yours sincerely,
Doris Thain.

P.S.—The small donation enclosed is for your Malta fund.

Muhesa, Tanganyika Territory.
Dear Editor,

I recently came to East Africa from Canada, where I

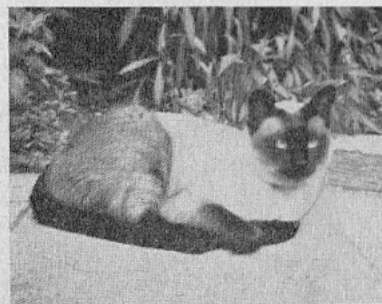


The Boy Friend

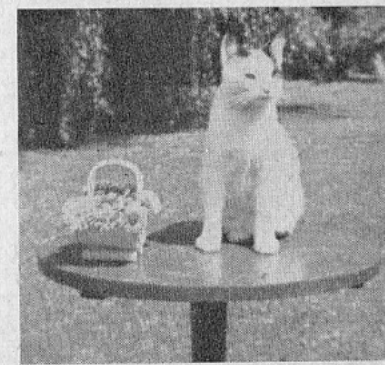
left behind some very good friends.

I enclose their pictures in the hope that you may be able to publish them in one of the issues of "Cats and Kittens". I know they would all be very thrilled to appear between its covers.

The Boy Friend is a gallant old gentleman who used to help me in the garden, Joey a little waif who was brought to me after I had lost a little friend called Tuppenny, and who has now, as you will see from the



Suki



Joey

LETTERS AND PICTURES



Johnathan and Mummy

snap, developed into a very handsome chap, and Johnathan, pictured with Mummy, is a beautiful grey Persian.

They are all adorable and sadly missed. I do so hope that you will be able to give them pleasure by letting them "take a bow" in your delightful magazine.

Yours truly,

D. Staples.

London, N.W.3.

Dear Editor,

Lady Aberconway's amusing reminiscence and comment on Louis Wain's cats in the July number interested me because in the course of a study I have been making of cats in art I have had occasion to study a great many of his drawings and find out something about his life.

Louis Wain did not, of course, really draw cats at all, but caricatured human beings in cat form. He was not the first to do this—if you like that kind of thing it was brilliantly done by Grandville, although Wain probably derived more from Cruickshank. The poses and actions of Louis Wain's cat are those of human beings and not cats, and his humour derives not from the nature of cats, but from the nature of human beings. His cats have no more relation to real cats than, say, the walrus, doormouse and oysters in Alice in Wonderland have relation to real walruses, doormice and oysters.

Curiously, this probably accounted for Louis Wain's remarkable popularity—it was virtually the "Walt Disney" of his time. He probably appealed not to cat lovers who really understood cats—a small minority—but to the vast army of what may be called the "cat keepers" and "cat likers", who really know very little about these remarkable animals.

Wain certainly loved cats, but his understanding of them was not very deep. He was great on teaching them "tricks"—of course, most uncatlike tricks. Reading a 1902 magazine the other day, I found him

TO THE EDITOR

speaking of cats' "naturally weak and nervous brains".

He started drawing cats more or less accidentally. The first drawing he ever had published was in 1881 of bullfinches on laurel bushes. Through a printer's error this was titled "Robin's Breakfast". He failed to get many pictures published after this for some time, but a drawing of about 150 different cats in a Christmas number suddenly made him quite famous as a "cat artist". He found he had hit the popular taste, and continued to draw the same cats for the rest of his active life. Who can blame him? His public would have been disappointed if he had drawn real cats.

Any study of Wain's writing suggests that he was a fascinating character, and that whatever his limitations as an artist, he was a fine propagandist for cats at a time when they did not receive the kindness and attention now taken for granted. Incidentally, I wonder if any of your readers know the whereabouts of the papers, pictures, etc., Louis Wain left.

Yours sincerely,

Sidney Denham.

South Kirkby,

Nr. Pontefract, Yorkshire.

Tel. South Elmsall 193.

Dear Editor,

This is not the happy, entertaining type of letter that you are accustomed to receive. I fear it may sadden you and your readers. But perhaps you will, nevertheless, give it a corner in your magazine.

First I should explain: my husband and I are great cat lovers, we have four cats, two boys and two girls. So that our pets might never be separated from us, we bought a caravan three years ago, so that, when the need arises for us to leave home, either for holidays or other reasons, our little family (which also includes an airedale) can accompany us. We are always careful in our choice of sites, preferring remote farm lands, where we are far from the dangers of traffic or crowds. The cats love their caravan holidays, thoroughly entering into the spirit and hunting in the new areas with great zest. In this way our cats have got to know Cornwall, the Western Highlands, and many places in between.

But now—tragedy. We went this June to West Wales, pitching our caravan in a farmer's field on the edge of

LETTERS AND PICTURES

the cliffs, about one mile from Aberporth, Cardiganshire. We had to drive through five fields to reach this spot. So far from a road, it seemed the ideal spot for the cats. However, at the beginning of the second week of our holiday, one of our cats, Leo, vanished. (Although we love all our cats very dearly and try not to have favourites, Leo, a dear, gentle, affectionate tabby, has always been closer to me than the others. Since I nursed him through a serious illness two years ago, he has been very attached to me, seeming to think that there was no trouble I could not set right for him. Yet now he is in real trouble I am powerless to help him !)

For two days we did not worry over his absence, for Leo has rather a soft spot for the ladies and has stayed away two days before. But Leo also loves his food, and when he did not return for a meal on the third day we knew that something was wrong. At first I feared that he had gone over the cliffs, for they are very high and sheer at the point where our caravan stood. Then the farmer told us that he had been up at the farm for two days, so we searched every foot of the fields between the farm and our caravan; but no luck.

Then I learnt from a friend that he had been seen in Aberporth, one mile away, paying court to a she cat. Evidently, after two glorious days at the farm (a farm is like a circus to a cat), Leo decided it was time he returned to mother; he must have come down from the farm at too much of an angle, reaching Aberporth, further down the coast; then, I suppose the naughty boy dallied with this female for a time. Of course, I rushed down to Aberporth, calling through the gardens, and posting up reward advertisements in all the shops. But by the time our holiday ended I had still not found him.

I then persuaded my husband to return to Yorkshire without me, leaving me in the caravan for another week. I spent every day and most of every night of that week calling and searching Aberporth and the surrounding country; but with no success. Since my return to Yorkshire at the end of that week, a friend of mine has continued the search. A great cat lover and a member of the Cats' Protection League, this lady has been most energetic in the search. But Leo has not been seen in Aberporth or at the surrounding farms since that occasion three weeks ago.

TO THE EDITOR

This must mean that he has started to trek home! I know he will be breaking his little heart for me and his home, and, of course, cats have this amazing homing instinct. But it is a terribly distressing thought; approximately 260 miles, first over mountains and then through the industrial areas of Staffordshire. One occasionally hears of cats achieving such feats; but we do not hear of the many who have attempted it and fallen by the way. It is dreadful to imagine a great pet, who has always led a sheltered life, battling his way through utterly strange surroundings, frightened, perhaps weak from lack of food, and bewildered because the one person to whom he could always turn to for help is inexplicably missing. It would be better to know for certain that he is dead, than to think of him suffering such privations over so long a period, and then perhaps be killed by traffic before he can win through.

I must apologise for taking up so much of your time with my trouble. But I feel so helpless, now that he appears to have left Cardiganshire. I wondered whether you could please publish the enclosed photograph (taken two days

before he disappeared, in our caravan), together with his description, as follows: Tabby tom, dark grey with black bars. Cream round mouth and eyes with slight gingery fur round nose and mouth. Big, round face. Large, clear green eyes. When lost was wearing a collar with a disc attached, with Leo written on one side and our surname and his Yorkshire address on the other.

I feel that your readers who live within those counties through which he may trek, i.e., Cardiganshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire or Derbyshire, might, by some lucky chance, see him. There is one pound offered for his reward. A 'phone call to us can be sent by reversing the charges, no matter from what distance, and any expenses incurred by the finder will be reimbursed. I will send photographs of Leo to anyone who would kindly put them in local shops in the towns or villages through which he may pass.

I am also enclosing a postal order for an advertisement in your columns. Naturally I have also advertised in the columns of the local Aberporth newspapers, but with no results.

Can you suggest anything else I can do; for I seem to have reached the end of my

LETTERS AND PICTURES

resources? I should be so very grateful for any help that you can give me.

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs.) S. Nurdin.

Editor's note: Leo's photo is on our front cover.

Caterham, Surrey.

Dear Editor,

My friend and I were very interested to read the account of our lost Siamese cats in Miss Athalie Haslam's helpful article "When Your Cat or Kitten Arrives". We think, however, that readers should be told that the "distressing incident" had a happy ending.

One of the cats gave himself up after three days of freedom, the other was at large for ten days. You can imagine that these were anxious times for us! Fortunately, after one very stormy night and day, the weather was fine and warm, and both cats were seen either in the garden or in the woods behind. Each night food and drink were left out which had disappeared by morning, so at least we hoped the truants would not starve!

When they eventually returned neither cat seemed much the worse for the experience, though the one which had been out for ten days was rather nervous for a time. Both cats

are well and happy now and have become inseparable companions; so much so, in fact, that when we sit down in the evenings both cats will insist on sitting on the same lap! Our pleasant vision of each having a beautiful Siamese cat on his lap has not quite worked out as we anticipated! Both our cats are enchanting little creatures, each with a strong individuality of his own, and it is delightful to see them so happy together. We do wish though that we had made that wire-netting more secure!

Yours sincerely,

K. K. Bean.

Maidstone.

Dear Editor,

I have two autograph letters of Florence Nightingale sent to her friend Ann Clarke, which show her innate love of animals as well as human beings. The first is dated June 27th, 1887, from 10, South Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. "Dear Ann Clarke, I have not such 'beautiful cats' as I used to have. I have one *not* quite a kitten, a most affectionate animal, which I would like to give you, if you would like it, because I think you would make it a happy home. It is a Tom, and rather out of condition. God bless you, I hope

TO THE EDITOR

you are in good health. With my very best wishes, believe me, faithfully yours, Florence Nightingale".

This is followed on June 30th by: "Dear Ann Clarke, To save you the trouble, I will send you the cat (I am afraid you will think him a *big* kitten) tomorrow (Friday) by messenger. It will be unhappy at first, because it is so very affectionate. And you must not let him out, please, till he is quite fond of you, and knows his house. He has been brought up with sand in a pan (you remember my cats' paws) for *cleanliness*, so that you will have patience with him till you have used him to your ways. He will want grass and cold water on the floor. All cats want grass. He must be shut up at night always. If you will let him sit on your knee and lean his head against you, he will soon be satisfied. I shall send 5/- to buy him some milk at first.—F.N."

Yours sincerely,

John W. Bridge.

P.S.—I thought the above might amuse your readers if you care to publish it.—J.W.B.

Merry Hall, Ashted, Surrey.
Dear Editor,

Mr. Beverley Nichols has asked me to thank you for the

good work you have done for the animals of Malta. About £700 has been sent to the little society in Malta as a result of the *Sunday Chronicle* article, and a fund has recently been opened in America by the "Caravan" movement.

Yours sincerely,

Ted Wegton, Secretary.

Roselands, Millbrook,

Southampton.

Dear Editor,

I was most interested to read in your July issue a letter about a ginger female cat. Last December I rescued a ginger kitten from the road here late at night. I advertised it in the local paper, but as it was not claimed, it has made its home with my other cats (three originals and two strays).

We found it was a female, and my veterinary surgeon said it might not breed as it was unusual.

One of my strays is a Persian creamy-ginger tom, and when the little ginger female came in season they mated. She has now had four lovely long-haired kittens, two males and two females. They are two ginger and white, and two stripey gingers.

I am anxious to find really good homes for them, where they will be appreciated, as I

LETTERS AND PICTURES

believe a female ginger is uncommon. I have two available, either male or female.

I find your magazine most interesting and entertaining.

Gwynad Strange.

P.S.—I could part with the ginger family—father, mother and kittens ! !

Lusaka,
N. Rhodesia.

Dear Editor,

Being a regular reader of "Cats and Kittens" and seeing how much help you have given to other cat lovers, I am writing in the hope you will be able to give me some advice.

You were good enough last year to print a photograph of my Tigger who, I am sorry to have to tell you, has developed eczema on his tail.

I took him to the vet. who diagnosed the place as eczema, and said it had been caused by a bite. I expect Tigger and another cat (of whom there are several near us) must have had a fight. There appear to be four places on the tail, which are possibly teeth marks, and all of them were full of pus. The vet. has cut away all the hair round the affected part and I am dressing the tail twice a day with aquaflavine.

Tigger is to have a penicillin injection once a day for three

or four days to see if this will help, but if it doesn't, and this is where I shall be so grateful if you will advise me what to do for the best, the vet. says he will have to amputate the tail above the affected part. If he does, it means that Tigger will be left with about three inches of tail, as the eczema is three quarters of the way up the tail.

I am very worried, and feel that to amputate a cat's tail takes away some vital part of the animal. Surely it is necessary from a balance point of view, etc., that the tail should be complete. On the other hand, if it will not affect him very much, should I consent to have it done, or would it be kinder to have him put to sleep? The vet. seems to think there may be some dead bone in the tail.

After the first injection the places seemed to dry up considerably and this is a good sign, I think. I have tried to get Sulpho or Feskol for the eczema, but am unable to procure it here. He is fed on raw meat most of the time, but would it be advisable to change his diet to fish for the time being? His appetite is as good as ever, and he has had a course of conditioning powders; his coat too is glossy and thick.

TO THE EDITOR

Would it be better to bandage the tail to prevent him licking the places, or is it better for them to be left open. I must say that after the first injection yesterday he does not appear to be licking his tail nearly so much. He is five years old, by the way, next month.

I am enclosing a postal order for one shilling in the hope that you will be kind enough to reply per airmail by return, as the vet. said he would only try the penicillin injections for two or three days, and I do so want to save the tail if I can. I feel, somehow, that amputation is extremely drastic treatment, but do want to do what is best.

There is no sign of the infection spreading to any other part, but I believe that it is not contagious. Am I correct?

Trusting to hear from you in the near future, and I need not say how very grateful I shall be for any advice you can give me as regards treatment, diet and the amputation.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) G. M. Dickins.

Dear Mrs. Dickins,

I hasten to reply to your letter which has only reached my hands this morning.

The amputation of your cat's tail would not impair its movements, and would be very soon overcome and the cat would be just as well. However, it would be a drastic remedy, and I hope that your veterinary surgeon in addition to injecting the cat with penicillin, would also insert into the wound mammary penicillin such as is prepared for Mastitis in cows. This is ever so good to squeeze into wounds on cats such as those which have become infected and filled with puss. After first having thoroughly cleaned out the wound with hot water and Boracic, and it is also good for eye trouble. Eyes of kittens and cats should first be bathed with a weak boracic solution with this Procaine penicillin or Mammary penicillin squeezed into each eye.

Give your cat plenty of vitamins by way of Kit-zyme tablets, five or six a day, or Compound vitamin tablets two or three a day. Editor.

An interesting sequel to our reader's letter, is contained in a further letter received as we go to press which says injections of penicillin have proved successful and the tail is saved.

Editor.

VIRUS DISEASES—*from page 13.*

plagues. What we want is research into the virus diseases of cats so that we can know how the diseases are spread and so that we can be in a much stronger position to avoid infection. Prevention is a far better thing than cure, and it might also some day be possible to breed out an immune race of cats. It would be a long and laborious process but in the meantime if it were possible to find out the agent carrying the infection it would be a tremendous help. If, for example, the virus disease were carried by flies, we should be able to take the necessary precautions with our kittens, for all young things are more subject to infection of this nature. While our knowledge is so imperfect, it behoves everyone owning a cat never to leave unfinished food about and to keep all sanitary trays as clean as possible and to store the cat's food in a fly-proof safe. Whether or no flies are the offenders they are exceedingly disagreeable pests, and they may be a great deal more dangerous than we realise. The study of virus diseases opens an enormous field in preventive medicine, and we who breed cats hope that those undertaking virus research will turn their attention to the appalling ravages caused among felines by cat distemper and infectious gastro-enteritis.

CANDID COMMENTS—*from page 3.*

One can imagine the surprise, therefore, which it will cause, when it becomes generally known that the show is again to be held this October at the Lime Grove Baths.

"Too far out" it was said at the annual general meeting. "Almost in the slums" was another remark. My only observation is that for those exhibitors attending the show with their cats and coming from provincial towns, it is extremely difficult because being outside the London taxi area the taxi drivers are not compelled to charge by the meter, and I know of one instance last year when a taxi driver charged 25s. 0d. to two ladies who were attending the show with their cats. Whereas the same two ladies only paid 5s. 0d. including tip to be taken from St. Pancras Station to the Seymour Hall!

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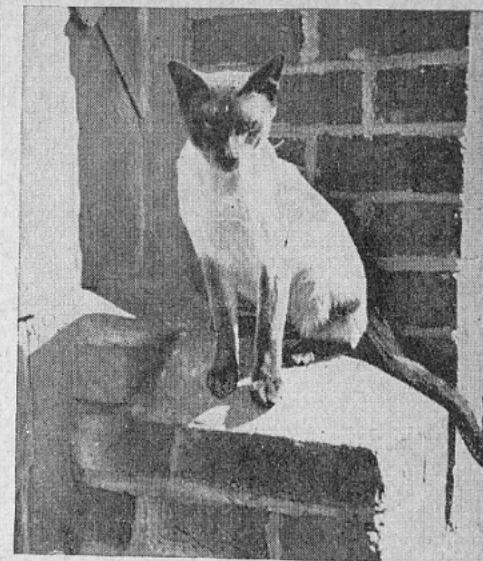
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On July 9th at The Cottage, Hope, Wrexham, to Mrs. Kilvert's Pixie Blossom and Tipoo of Sabrina “Shordley” Quinteps, four boys, one girl.

On June 29th, to Mrs. France's Trinity Miss Melisande and Chinki Ranya, two boys, three girls.

On July 19th, to Mrs. France's Banchor Penelope and Lindale Simon Pie, five boys and one girl.

On August 12th, to Mrs. France's Chinki Jonta and Bluehayes Charmion, three girls.

On 18th August at 19 Wimborne Road, Leicester, to Miss Smith's Miss Nora and Chinki Ranya, two boys and two girls.

On 13th August at 19 Wimborne Road, Leicester, to Mrs. Smith's Chinki Yong Kassa and Chinki Yong Mintha, three boys and one girl.

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