

BARLEY

Photo: Ellis Sykes

Miss Rosalind Hill, Westfield College, London, N.W.3., writes :-

"May I have a copy of the booklet 'Prevention is Better Than Cure'?

I am much interested in your preparation Kit-zyme; a course of tablets given over three months has completely cured my Persian cat, Barley, of a bad attack of eczema and brought him into a magnificent condition of liveliness and furriness.

Incidentally, Barley's registered name is Sedan Marzipan—but you will doubtless agree that no one could address a cat by a name like that!"

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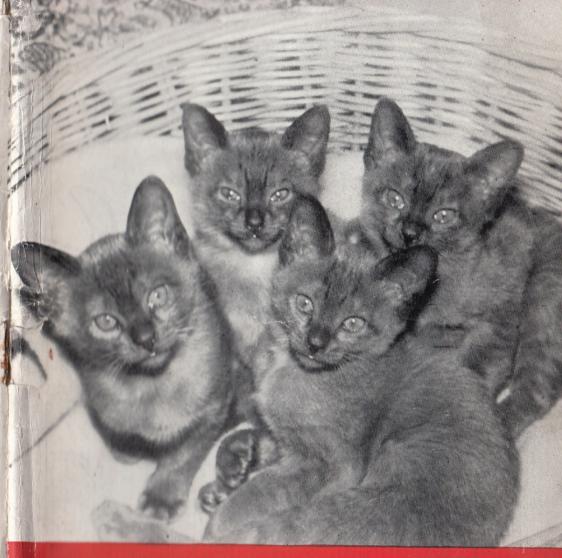
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JUNE 1954

MONTHLY



cat food



KITTENS EVERY CAT-LOVER

Established

1936

INCORPORATING THE CAT WORLD

Editor: SYDNEY W. FRANCE

General Offices: 29a, QUEEN STREET, DERBY

Telephone: DERBY 45216

JUNE, 1954

CANDID COMMENTS

By SYDNEY W. FRANCE

In another place, much ink flows between the doctor and his patients, much to the amazement, horror, or satisfaction of those in the ringside seats. The adjectives suiting the respective shades of opinion of the onlookers . . . This obviously has nothing to do with the National Health Service, but concerns the impact of Dr. Raleigh's new reasoning on matters regarding the control of the Cat Fancy in this country.

Despite the use of words on both sides which could well have been dispensed with, those lined up against the new David have not yet produced a Goliath to try against him. The only battlefield so far, was the hard-fought election for officers for the Siamese Cat Club, and here—despite an extraordinarily long list of candidates—Dr. Raleigh could claim vindication, for he was successful, and gained election at his first attempt.

I can't but be completely against those who call for silence regarding committee meetings, or Governing Council meetings. Cats are not to be confused with secret societies, and there can be but few dealings which would not be suitable for publicity. As both a member of the Siamese Cat

Our charming cover photograph is of Burmese kittens, 4 weeks old. Dam, Chinki Yong Kassa; Sire, Casa Gatos Da Foong. Breeder and owner, Mrs. M. Smith, Leicester. Photo by the owner.

Club Committee, and the Governing Council, I remain convinced that those meetings I attend would be all the better if the proceedings were subsequently made public. On this topic, there are those who say that the advocates of secrecy are the "old stagers." Obviously then, it's time we moved with the times!

Again, those controlling the cat clubs-that is, the committees-would do well to observe the procedure for meetings, particularly as to items on the agenda, which should be rigidly adhered to, and not misinterpreted. In your correspondent's experience living over a hundred and twenty miles from the meeting place, usually London, he is remote from any pre-meeting discussions, and can only take the items on the agenda as printed, and knows nothing of previously-talked-over facets of the agenda items, which would allow a chairman to allow "Revision" to be construed as "Election." No use pointing out that "Revision" means "examine with care for correction," and "election," a "regulation by choice."

Which leaves the question, "Should the items on the Agenda be talked over informally first, so that a chairman might say 'Well, if the wording of the motion was wrong, I knew the intention of it'"—an interesting point.

To-day I attended the annual general meeting of the Notts and Derby Cat Club, about which very little need be written except that the meeting adopted a resolution that the club's delegates to the Governing Council be asked to put forward that judges are to be instructed to send reports to the official organ of classes which they judge under G.C. No names were sanction. mentioned, but a well-known judge of long haired cats, not a hundred miles from the meeting, was obviously in mind when the proposer made his point, with the result mentioned above.

One last paragraph on the subject of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. Let's lift a corner of the veil and see how it works. A very large room in a large London terminus hotel, horse-shoe shaped tables, thirty or more delegates there. In the chair, "Madam Chairman"-Miss Kathleen Yorke-on her right, Mr. Hazeldine, capable secretary; on her left, benign Rev. Basil Rees, vice-chairman. Each delegate wishing to speak stands to catch the chairman's eye, and remains standing whilst doing so.

As chairman, Miss Yorke displays a remarkable grasp of the duties required of holders of that office, and impresses in many ways. No would-be speaker is overlooked. If

several wish to speak at once, each is courteously assured that at the proper moment they will be called, all with the utmost patience and kindly understanding.

Every angle is allowed to be examined at length, and no vote is taken until all who wish to speak have done so and debate is clearly ended.

Hard taskmasters are our delegates at the Governing Council, and spartan to boot. No cups of coffee in the morning, despite 11.30 start, nonstop to 1.45 p.m., resuming at 2.45, and going on until almost 6 p.m. Any tea or cakes? Not on your life! Did I say spartan?

Nothing that was said can be reported by your present writer—but this does not prevent a tribute being paid, one so richly deserved, to a woman obviously heart and soul devoted to cats and the cat fancy, obviously sincere, patently honest, and overwhelmingly generous, that is Miss Kathleen Yorke, the chairman of the Governing Council.

I always try to be honest, and have never yet been able to "toady to those higher up," so there may be those who think this represents a change of heart on my part. It isn't that, it's just that this is the first real opportunity I've had of really assessing, and I'm satisfied that the Cat Fancy is lucky indeed in its chairman.

So many of you keep Siamese cats, many of you are members of the Siamese Cat Club, so naturally you may be asking, "When is the Siamese Cat Club's *News Sheet* to reappear again?"

You will remember that. having got into a decline, the News Sheet was to have died a natural death with the January 1954 issue. Your columnist was always against this early demise and had a proposal to keep it alive placed on the A.G.M. of the club, with the result that the members voted for it to continue. I offered to produce it, with all the registrations of kittens, transfers, and full reports of shows at which Siamese appeared, but, in their wisdom, the members decided to accept the honorary secretary's offer to run the News Sheet with the help of a small committee.

Now six months have passed since that last issue, and we are all waiting for the phoenix to rise from its ashes. Until that day, I propose to collect as much information of interest for Siamese enthusiasts as I can, and hope you will find and enjoy it in the columns of our magazine. You know that we print many photographs of cats, not all in our well-known Letters and Pictures to the Editor feature, but as full page reproductions on the cover and on pages 18 and 19. Why not send yours along to us-now?

BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

By MARGARETTE K. LEE-MEADE

SECRECY regarding anything from behind the Iron Curtain is a fact to which we have become accustomed. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that those whose party colour is not red have been even more silent until now!

I refer, of course, to that delightful breed of cats known as the Russian Blue. These charming creatures deserve far more publicity than given at present; perhaps we who own them have not raised our voices sufficiently—like our pets we have grown modest and retiring, forgetful that by their very silence we must become their mouthpiece.

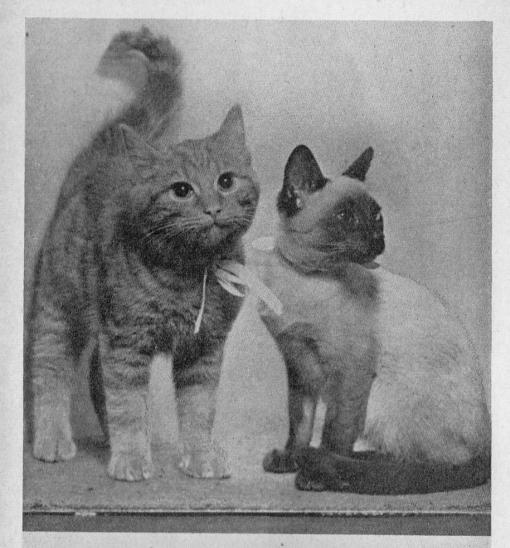
It is indeed fortunate that the Russian Blue has been permitted to give its faint little mew in *Cats and Kittens*, a magazine that goes into the homes of cat lovers everywhere and not exclusively to the Fancy.

For those who have never seen a Russian Blue, some description is necessary. I hesitate to say they are similar to the Siamese, but there is some likeness, their heads being pointed and not short and round; for this reason many Russian Blues have Blue-pointed Siamese in their pedigrees. The coat is short and a delightful rich blue,

except in certain lights when it gleams a silvery grey, like sunlight on a river. The body and feet are graceful and dainty, the eyes a restful green. I think that in movement it is more graceful than the little fellow from Siam, whose roguish playfulness so often causes a graceful jump to end in a clumsy landing. Of course the Russian Blue is loving and playful too, but first and foremost it will be a creature of genteel bearing and grace, and a joy to behold.

When my kitten first came to live with me, my Red Tabby, Autumn, would chase her mercilessly, and not with any friendly intentions. Never have I seen a kitten leap so swiftly or with such grace of line and movement—arriving on top of the highest articles of furniture with no more displacement than a snowflake fluttering down, while the scratches of big-footed Autumn will doubtless remain for ever!

Within the next few months I hope to cover other aspects of the Russian Blue, and to recount various tales of its skill and wit. Meanwhile, should anyone have anecdotes likely to be of interest to other readers I should be pleased to hear from them, and also the arrivals of new litters.



Autumn & Clonlost Carmelo.

1952

Autumn is a Red Tabby kitten, Carmelo a Siamese kitten. Miss Lee-Meade's kitts, mentioned in "Your Cats and Mine," on page 12.

WHITHER?

By MRS. KATHLEEN BARTON-WRIGHT

Scientific and experimental breeding is a lively topic in the Cat Fancy just now, so this article, first published in our Magazine in 1936, makes amazingly topical reading.

W/HAT is to be the future of cat breeding? Have our pedigree cats reached a peak in respect of type? If so, what is the aim of the cat breeders? There is plenty of food for thought in these three questions. In the case of the Long Hairs the blues have reached a point where the texture and the colour of the coat is about all that could be wished for. The cobbiness of the body has been exaggerated and the nose is becoming so much flattened that it is almost an abnormality. This would not matter very much in itself, but all these fashionable points are going to bring dreadful disaster along with them in the near future. The shape of the body is unnatural, and are we sure that in this telescoping process we are not cramping and distorting the essential internal organs?

With regard to the nose, endless possibilities might arise. Pedigree kittens do get snuffles as everyone knows. A kitten with a normal nose stands a chance of recovery, but breathing is difficult with snuffles, and

it is ever so much more difficult when the nose is flattened almost out of existence. Moreoverinbreeding has caused these points, or what I believe the breeder calls line breeding, which comes to the same thing. Along with inbreeding come all the undesirable properties of weakness, so that the future does not look rosy for the long-haired blues.

The long-haired whites have become really beautiful beasts and the breeders of these are up against the problem of fresh blood in future generations, as most of the prizewinning whites in this country are, at present, related. The breeders have recognised this problem and are facing it with initiative, but the problem is there all the same.

The Chinchillas certainly give us plenty to think about, and it seems the Siamese have reached their peak. Head shape and eye colour have been bred for to such an extent that the race is poorer physically. Certainly Siamese cats cannot stand in-breeding. It would be interesting to get figures of the

actual numbers of kittens born of a particular breed in a cattery and compare these numbers with the number of kittens which reach maturity in the same cattery. Then breeders could compare notes and some definite conclusions could be arrived at.

From my own experience with Siamese, I reckoned my losses round about 1930 at twenty five per cent of kittens born. That was including an outbreak of enteritis. During the last year without any enteritis, I put my losses at a rough estimate of seventy per cent. I keep more cats than I used to do and have had greater numbers of kittens with which to deal and I have tried a greater number of crosses. So that my latter estimate is a fairer one, because the owner with a single queen, or even a couple of queens, may be fortunate in the choice of a sire and the experience is therefore not so wide. Diet, housing and temperature conditions do not enter into this question of mortality, because I have reared common kittens under exactly the same conditions with absolutely no difficulty.

What then, is the difference between the pedigree kitten and the common kitten apart from its outward physical appearance? I should say strength. And we know for certain that you will never play

for strength by intensive inbreeding, and that is why I think we have gone as far as we possibly can in search of type with most of our existing varieties and the time has arrived when, if nothing is done about this, the future of cat breeding is in jeopardy.

I suppose the most popular varieties of pedigree cat are the long-haired blue and the Siamese, and these are the two varieties which I think are in danger. The long-haired blues can get their strength from the long-haired blacks, which have not been done to death to such an extent, but the Siamese have nothing very much to fall back upon. There are some imported cats in this country, but not sufficient to make any appreciable difference, and if everyone reading this article were to make up their minds to have some imported blood in their Siamese kittens this year, say, in the next few seasons inbreeding would be as rampant as before. But if a Siamese breeder in search of fresh blood would mate a queen to a healthy ordinary black short-haired cat and keep all her hybrid kittens, or at any rate a male and a female of that litter and mate them together the following season, they would get a pure Siamese which would breed perfectly true, the difference being that

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THE PERSIAN CAT

A FEW NOTES

W/ITH a large majority of cat fanciers Persian cats are held in great admiration. and it would be a difficult matter to find a handsomer animal than a well-bred and fully matured specimen. Its colour may be White, Black, Blue, Chinchilla, Cream, Smoke. Orange, Silver, Tabby, Tortoiseshell, or Tortoiseshell and White. With many, the White Persian is a favourite, and so long as it retains its spotless condition of coat it is verily a "thing of faultless beauty." Blue, Chinchilla, Smoke, and Black are also much esteemed. but the first two more particularly. The difficulty is to keep a White in show condition without washing.

Before proceeding to an enumeration of the chief colour varieties it may be well to state what is required in a typical Persian. The glory of a Persian cat lies in its coat, which must be both long and silky, and in the vicinity of the neck it should be prolonged into a "frill."

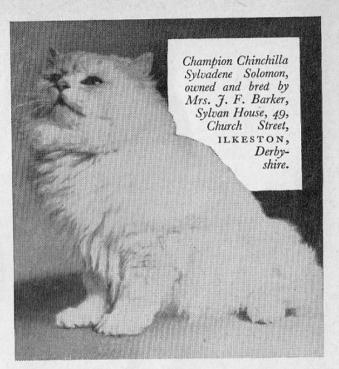
Compactness of body is a feature that should not be over-looked in a stud cat; in a queen that it is wished to breed from, "roominess" is of more importance, so long as she comes of a first-rate strain.

The head should be round and broad, with large full eyes varying in colour with that of the body and wide apart. The ears should be small, tufted, carried fairly well forward, and not too close together. The nose should be short—the daintiest of "snubs" in fact. The forelegs should be short, well boned, and have compact, tufted feet. Quite one of the most distinctive characteristics is the tail, which should be short and extremely bushy.

It is a mistake to think that White Persians can only be kept and exhibited with success by those who reside in the country, and that town breeders have no chance with them in the show-pen. We are well aware of the advantages of keeping such cats in the country, but despite adverse conditions we have successful breeders of Whites residing in busy centres. Thanks to suitable houses and dry-cleaning processes these conditions have in a measure been overcome. A spotless White in full coat condition and frill is a thing of beauty that commands attention from visitors at all our big shows. It must have wideawake, deep blue or orange eyes, a round head, short, neat

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WHO SAID TIBS?



You should have heard the purrs of welcome when I was introduced! 'said Tibby, the Tibs Reporter. 'The mere mention of the name Tibs made every puss in Mrs. Barker's cattery, sit up and take notice. No need to ask her if they were all brought up on Tibs!'

WELL-KNOWN stud champion Sylvadene Solomon, shown above, gained his previous award at the Midland Counties Cat Club Show — October, 1952. Mrs. Barker's Chinchillas have won numerous prizes on a Tibs upbringing. She herself says—'I make it a rule never to be without Tibs, and now they are in tablet form I like them better than ever. They do help to keep that healthy bloom and clear eye on my cats that tell me they are in tip-top

condition.'

10d. and 2/-

Famous breeders say:

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MEET THE BREEDERS

BLUE NOTES

BY DORRIE BRICE-WEBB

Breeder and International Judge

AS I write these notes it is a beautiful May day, the sun is shining and the birds are singing and my pets are all basking in the sunshine.

My lovely Mayblossom of Pensford (twice Best Blue-Cream Kitten during 1953) has been mated to Mrs. Joan Thompson's Champion Foxburrow Frivolous. My little Beamsley Wish to Mrs. Bastow's Southway Echo. Rookery Nook Puff is six weeks in kitten to my adored Oxlevs Smasher. So if all goes well I should have some exquisite kittens running round ere long.

What an interesting time this is. Ronada April's little daughter is just six weeks old to-day and is as cute as a waggonload of monkeys. She runs sideways like a crab, back arched and ready for fun! My husband and I spend many an hour watching her antics and shall be sorry to see her go to her new home, which will be in a few weeks' time.

I was very pleased to hear that Int. Ch. Ronada Onaway's

daughter, Despotic Ann, won her first Championship Certificate at Copenhagen Championship Show on the 19th-21st March under that well-known judge Mrs. Janet Newton. It seems as if Ann is going to follow in mama's footsteps. Onaway has again been mated to the same stud, Int. Ch. Gippeswyk Darby, and the happy event takes place in April. Up to the time of writing I haven't heard the result.

I have just received the sad news that that grand old cat, Mokoia Tafete, aged 15½ years, has passed on to happier hunting grounds. He was a son of Ch. Mischief of Bredon, out of Skeeta Gay, and was a wonderful stud and I believe still siring up to the time of his death.

My new stud, Pennhome Pierre, is a very keen stud and reminds me in his ways so much of my old stud King Kong. Pierre is just yelling his head off for queens and so, I am told, is Westbridge Courtier.

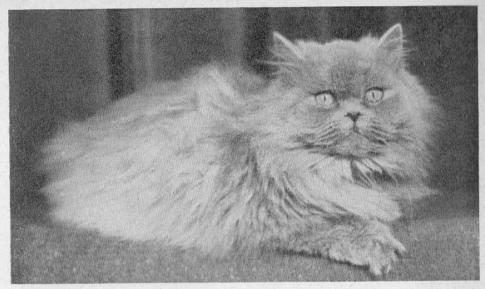


Photo: Peter Brayne Mrs. Brice-Webb's Beamsley Wish

Both of these males are young and vigorous and will, of course, be extra keen during the breeding season.

Several letters have reached me from readers of Cats and Kittens asking for advice regarding the care and attention of their cats' coats. These letters I have answered personally and have received very grateful thanks.

I am always ready to help and advise anyone, whether the cats are pedigree or not. They are all much loved and must be constantly groomed to avoid the coat getting matted at this time of the year.

Mrs. Edwards of Birmingham sent along two charming

pictures of her new kittens, Ousdale Silver Bell and Ronada Gay Shepherdess. Both of these little cats have been spayed and have grown beyond recognition. They are greatly loved, as also is that wellknown winner Ronada Misty Lavender.

CATS & KITTENS MAGAZINE

Largest circulation in Europe. Tell your friends to take it

YOUR CATS AND MINE

By LILIAN FRANCE

HAVE received some delightful pictures of Mrs. Margaret Smith's Burmese kittens, which she tells me she has taken herself with a good camera and a flash. I do think we get better poses if we can take our cats in their own surroundings, and with patience to wait for the right moment. Expensive photos are often a failure because the photographer does not understand cats or the poses which make the picture. Mrs. Smith's kittens appear on this month's cover.

Miss Violet Riches has also sent snaps of her two spayed females, Chinki Fiona and Chinki Bonita. She writes:

"It is such a long time since I wrote to you, and probably you have often wondered how little Bonita got on. I really waited for brighter weather for an opportunity to take her photograph, and the opportunity has come, and here are the first attempts. They will give you an idea what Bonita looks like at seven and a half months. She is a big puss for her age, and still very pale, with her lovely eye colour. Fiona was very rude to her when the little thing arrived back from her operation, and this sort of bullying and

swearing went on for three days. Providentially, on Monday morning, when I had to go to the office, Fiona suddenly sidled up to Bonita, gave her a friendly lick, and from that time we have never looked back. All is love and peace in our household. I am so glad she is so different in character from my darling Angela, and so, therefore, there can be no comparison-no pussy could compare with Angela, but Bonny is a sweet imp, and as lively as quicksilver. She loves her food, and probably would sell her soul for a nice tit-bit of cream cheese or sweet cake. The cream cheese is an institution every breakfast time. She has very active paws, like hands, stands on her back paws and embraces my hands whilst licking off the delicious bits. The bliss on her face is worth looking at, especially after she has got dabs of cheese on her nose, whiskers and chin! Most amusing-Fiona does not like to be left out of this fun, so she has some too, for company. Needless to say, we all sleep together, just as we did when little Angela was with me."

Mr. A. C. A. Ogg, who lives in Glasgow, enquired about the Blue Point kitten I advertised for sale. Incidentally, I had lots of enquiries for her, but she was sold to a young lady near to Derby and may return here for mating eventually, so I shall see her progress. Mr. Ogg told me he already had a seal-point who, after losing his companion, could not bear another cat in the house. He writes:

"We have just had word of our sailing date, which is next week. As we shall be away for some time, I don't think it would be fair to try out a new kitten, especially as we are so unsure what its reception might be. I agree with you about the Abyssinian cats, I like them. I don't think they are at all like other cats. They are certainly a breed apart. When I was in Istanbul two years ago, I looked carefully to see if I could see anything in the least like them. Kedi, the cat, was a great favourite with the Prophet, hence Istanbul swarms with cats. There are dozens of torties of all sorts, but the only real difference I could see was that they all seem much leggier. No one seemed to have heard there of Abyssinian and Siamese were very rare. Most of them, they say, are to be found in Ankara. This time, I'm going to Egypt and Syria, so I'll look out, and let you know."

I hope Mr. Ogg keeps his promise and let's me know something about the cats he

sees in these countries. I should find it most interesting.

The Notts and Derby Cat Club held their A.G.M. on Saturday, May 8th at the Y.W.C.A. Hall, Nottingham. About thirty people were present. The secretary read the minutes of the last A.G.M. and of the special meeting called for electing delegates. These were Mr. J. Martin and Mr. Felix Tomlinson, who were reelected. Various matters were discussed, including the date for the garden party, which Mr. and Mrs. Bastow kindly offered to hold again at their house on June 19th. Miss Yorke, owing to the rule that officers can only serve on three committees, could not stand again for President, and Mr. Tomlinson was elected in her place. This left a vacancy for Vice-President, and Mr. E. Brice-Webb was elected. Mr. Martin was again elected Chairman and Mr. Herod, Treasurer. Mrs. Hancox, Mrs. Brice-Webb and Mrs. France came up for re-election for the committee, and Mrs. Herod and Mr. Hammond were nominated. Mrs. Hancox was re-elected and Mrs. Herod and Mr. Hammond voted on to the committee. Tea was served after the meeting and gave us all opportunity for a nice catty chat.

The A.G.M. was at 3 p.m., but I had to be in Nottingham early to get to the committee

meeting at 2 p.m. This meant getting up early to get all my cats cleaned up and fed, and arrangements made for my husband to feed them at lunch time. I cut all their food up ready and put it in their separate dishes. He, poor man, had to cook a "scratch" lunch for himself and promised to try to get to the meeting by 3 p.m. Alas, Saturday being his busiest day, he only managed to arrive ten minutes before the end, after racing over at the very first moment he could leave his business. We arrived back at 6 p.m., and I was very glad to get a smooth run in a nice car, for the bus always makes me feel ill before I have been on it ten minutes and a ride as far as Nottingham is an agony. I had arrived about twelve o'clock intending to have lunch, but couldn't face it after that bus ride, so I walked around until 2 p.m., and by that time felt better. I miss my cats, even to be away from them for a few hours and it was a real joy to see them all again.

I have eight young kittens and they were delighted when I opened their door so that they could frolic in the garden for an hour. Penny, who had had the run of the house all day, was overjoyed to welcome us back, and after an hour, I was able to put the kittens in and let the two big boy kittens, Foxey and Jacaranda out. How they flew

round the garden, for I had gone too early to get a run in for them. Although they have a run to their house, so could be out all day, that's not the same as being free. They scampered together till they were tired and then came in to make a fuss of us. Foxey even stood on my lap and licked my face.

When I got home, the fresh rabbit, bought that morning whilst I was out, had to be cooked till tender, and those who were to have rabbit for supper had to be content with a snack until it was ready. Now all is peace. Every cat and kitten fed, Penny stretched out before the fire and my husband and I busy writing for Cats and Kittens. Penny, by the way, disappointed us. She went almost nine weeks and then started to call again. So she has paid a second visit to Sabukia Scatterbrain and I hope will prove in kitten this time.

A friend in Scotland lost most of her cats early in the year with cat 'flu, and she has asked me to let her have one of my adult queens. And so, very sadly, I have arranged to let her have Chinki Serena, a daughter of Lindale Simon Pie, and she is to go to her next week. She is a dear gentle little cat, like her mother, Bluehayes Charming Lady, and has given me two lovely litters,

one by Chinki Gay Dasher and one by Chinki Ranya. I shall be very sorry when she goes, but as I shall still have four Siamese queens, I feel it really is enough.

I have mentioned before about acknowledging the arrival of a cat or kitten. I always ask, when arranging to sent stock, if the new owner would advise me of its safe arrival. Usually they are very good and do so, but I recently sent a kitten to a person who was on the phone. I received no message of any sort for six days. I sent another kitten from the same litter the next day and the new owner, who is not on the phone, rang me the same evening to say he had arrived quite safely and to time, and she hadn't rung earlier as she had been too busy loving him and had left her husband nursing him whilst she went out to phone. I have since heard how he has settled. What a difference! It is so nice to hear right away and not to have to look each morning for a message which does not arrive. I never receive a cat or kitten without sending a wire immediately or the first thing next morning if it arrives too late at night for a wire to be possible.

Here is a letter I received from Mrs. Powell when I returned her queen, who brought her little white woolly lamb with her for company:

"Lillibet arrived back quite safely. When I let her out of her box, she stalked after our doctored cat, Satan, and really gave him a good hiding. He only had to move in the house, and up went her back and it really looked as if she had forgotten him, but by last night they were happy together again. They spent about twenty minutes washing each other, so everything is in order again."

Mrs. Powell also said her queen was still calling on her return. Many people do not realise that, even though the queen has been mated, she will finish her call, and it is best to keep her up for ten days from the beginning of the call, and longer if one feels it is necessary. She also asks about extra food. A pregnant queen needs an extra meal to the usual two a day, but I do not think it necessary to start the extra meal immediately after mating, but in three weeks, by which time one would know if she was in kitten or not.

Mrs. Stanley, who unfortunately lost her last adored Siamese kitten when he was seven months old, has just bought another and she writes:

"I simply must find time to send you a few lines about the kit. He is a little darling and we love him so much we could just eat him. He was a little

Please turn to pa ge31

PET-PROOF FABRICS

M ANY homes are disrupted by pets clawing and tearing chair coverings, believes Oxford furniture designer Edward Minty, so he has included petproof fabrics in his spring range of furnishings.

"A man may be devoted to his dog, but it is his wife who has to pick its hairs off the settee and see her chair coverings ruined by the animal's claws," he declares.

Here are Mr. Minty's hints to pet-owners on choosing chair coverings:—

"Cats cannot damage chairs covered with repp because it has a smooth finish and no loopholes for sharpening the claws," he says. "Repp may be woven in cotton or wool."

Cotton and jute mixtures are also flat-finish fabrics with no fascinating bumps for puppies to bite. A couple of twists round, most dogs, finding no knobbles to whet the appetite, will settle down to blissful dreams, according to Mr. Minty.

Moquettes and mongrels rarely mix. "Moquettes wear long and well in ordinary circumstances," explains Mr. Minty, "but no mongrel is an ordinary circumstance and cats, too, love the loops in

moquette for manicuring their fingernails."

Heavy, print cloths—used for loose covers—is another material which defies dog-hairs and resists other doggy damage because it has no raised patterns for paws to pick at.

"Pet-owners should watch for smooth cloths which can't be unravelled. And it's not a bad idea to match your upholstery to your pet if he moults much!" adds Mr. Minty.

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FOR CATS

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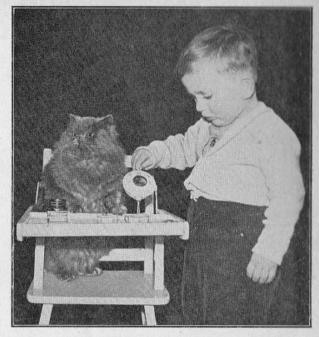
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TEA FOR TWO!

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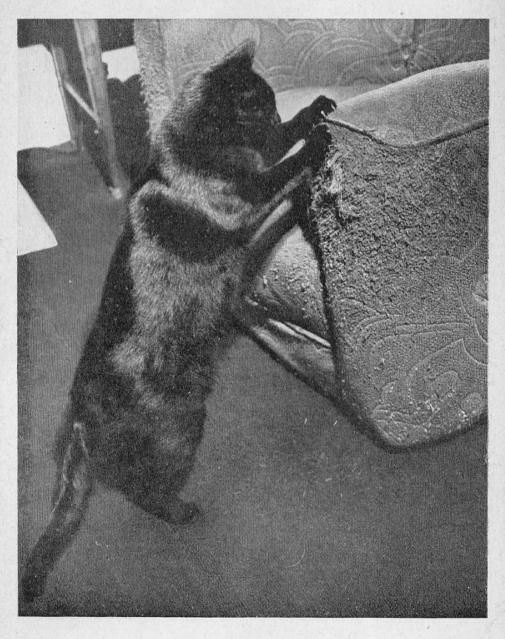
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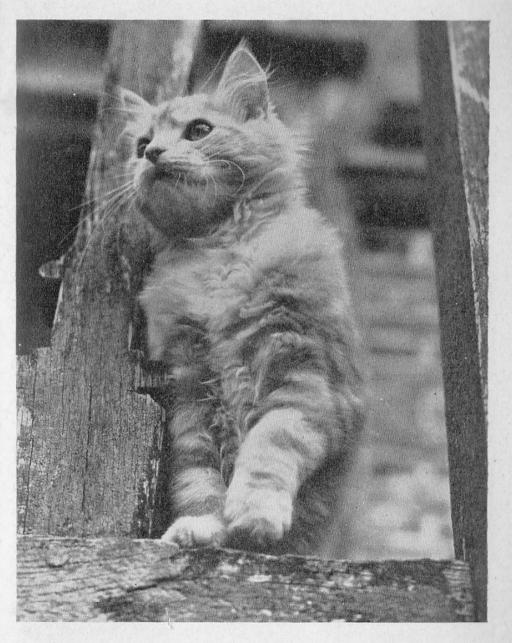
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They say, "Every Picture tells a Story"—
have you read page 16?



A wonderful camera study by Maurice Broomfield almost 3 D !

TIMES CHANGE

By MRS. DENNIS LOWE

A GLANCE at a show catalogue to-day shows much originality in the names of the exhibits.

Most breeders, well known or otherwise, register their own prefix with the Governing Council, so that in time certain prefixes are remarkably well known, as for example, Mrs. Duncan Hindley's prefix for Siamese—Prestwick. Prestwick Pertana, Prestwick Prithy Pal. Prestwick Penglima Pertama. There was a time when the Governing Council allowed affixes to be registered by breeders, but this does not apply to-day. Thus we had such well-known ones as for example, Miss Evelyn Langston's "of Allington." Probably no breeder of long haired cats has had more show success or shown more winners than Miss Langston, and mention of them immediately brings to mind that sensational prize winner and champion of hers, Mair of Allington.

To-day we see such names as Onina Nicki, Bloors Blackberry, Doneraile Delphus, Spotlight Troubadour, and believe it or not Chionodoxa Chatchani chosen for Siamese, and Anchusa Girlie, Herga's Myfanwy, Magyar Melody, to say nothing

of Silverkande Blue Moon, the names for Blue Persian pedigree cats.

Well, what of the names of yestervear?

Othello, obviously, was a black Persian. His pedigree included such names as Lord Albemarle and Peter Fawe! Othello did a lot of winning just over fifty years ago.

At the same time, His Majesty of Whitehall, a chinchilla of immense size, was to be seen at the shows.

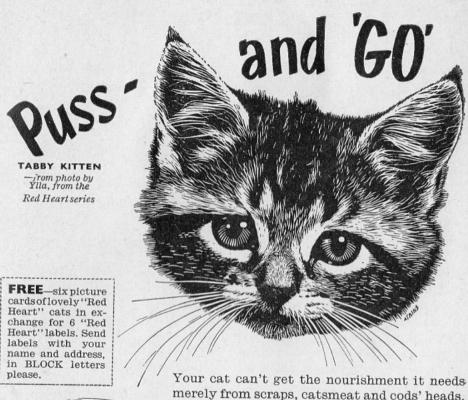
Lord Nugent was a wellknown shaded silver. His sire was Lord Argent, and Lord Southampton was his grandfather.

Royal Tum Tum was one of the best tortoiseshell females ever shown.

Ballochmyle Brother's Bump was a short hair Russian blue. owned by Lady Alexander.

Amusing, and interesting, isn't it, to recall some of the old names. There is one point one must bear in mind, the Governing Council no longer allows names of persons to be used as part, or all, of a cat's registered name.

Please turn to page 30



merely from scraps, catsmeat and cods' heads.

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CONCERNING SIAMESE

and Short Hair Cats

By L.F.

CEEING the Kit-zyme ad-O vertisement featuring Miss Anne Codrington's Watermill kittens brings to my mind some of the excellent exhibits I saw at last season's shows. Miss Codrington's litter was First at the National Ch. Show on December 9th. Sired by that amazing stud, Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo, dam Mill Feather, they were outstanding in every way, and one of the best Siamese litters I have ever seen, with lovely eye shape and colour, long wedge heads, well placed ears, long whip tails and, for their age, dense seal points. I hope Miss Codrington repeats this mating to produce many more lovely kits of this quality.

Mrs. Hilda Priston is another breeder who has had a great measure of success. Her blue point male, Ch. Pristine Bandoola, sired by Chinki Ranya, became a full champion at the Notts and Derby show on January 9th. He was First Open male kitten and Best Siamese kitten at the Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show in 1952, also winning the Devoran Bowl. At the Midland Counties Ch. show in 1952, he was also First Open male Blue point kitten. He was First and Champion at the Lancs, and N.W. Cat Clubs' show in January, 1953, and First and Champion at the Coronation show that year.

Bandoola has excellent type, a lovely wedge head and deep eve colour, with good whip tail and a gentle disposition. He has sired some very good kittens who have done well in the show pen, including Pristine Pooh-Bah and Popski. Pooh-Bah was First in his open class at the Lancs, and N.W. Club show in January, 1954, First with Popski in the pairs, and First with Bandoola and Popski in the team. Ch. Pristine Bandoola was First in the stud class at the Lancs. and N.W. Club Show, 1954, and the judge's report on his progeny, Pooh-Bah and Popski was—two very nice kits, lovely type, head, eyes and tails. I had an enquiry for a good S.P. male kitten for New Zealand and passed it on to Mrs. Priston as Pooh-Bah seemed to be just what was required, but I have not yet heard if he is going to be exported. He would certainly do his breeder credit.

An exhibit I admired very much was Miss Bone's Abyssinian female, Albyn Jera, who became a full Champion at the Southsea Cat Club's show in 1953. I first saw her at Sandy and admired her lovely type. I went to visit her pen at all the shows we both attended. She is a lovely lady of fine type—so necessary with an Abyssinian, as any tendency to coarseness spoils this breed entirely. Miss Bone is, and has always been, a great Abyssinian enthusiast, and always pens some outstanding exhibits.

Mrs. Kay Williams' Bluehayes Foxey won his third certificate in three shows at the Siamese Cat Club's show in 1953. I saw him first at Sandy in 1953, and admired him very much, though he went down to second place that day. I was particularly interested in him, as I had owned a male and female of the same breeding, bred by Miss E. King.

My Burmese female, Chinki Yong Jetta, sired by Mrs. C. Coldham's Chinki Yong Zahran, became the first Burmese female bred in this country to become a Champion, at the Sandy Show. She also has the distinction of being the mother of the first kittens sired by imported Casa Gatos Darkee, who also became a full Champion in three shows in 1953, the Coronation, Midland Counties and the National. Jetta's two female kittens are a credit to them both.

Mrs. Thake's lovely silver tabby female, Culverden Cienwen, became a full Champion at the Lancs. and N.W. Club show in 1954. A picture of this handsome exhibit appeared in *Cats and Kittens Magazine*, April issue.

Mrs. Matthewson's blue point male, Fernreig Zyn, became a Champion at the Southern Counties show in 1954. He was best kitten in show (Short Hair) the previous year at the Notts and Derby Cat Club's show, and a very lovely little boy he



SUMMER FEEDING

By LILIAN FRANCE

NOW the weather is really warm, extra care must be taken in feeding cats, especially kittens, and to see their food is perfectly fresh and not contaminated in any way. Unless one has a refrigerator, this is very difficult if food has to be bought in any quantity. Now I have fewer cats, I only buy thirty pounds of meat, once a week, as I have to go about ten miles to fetch it. This goes straight into the refrigerator and I try to cook just about the quantity I will need to use each day. If possible, I cook it in the evening, when I have given the cats their evening meal. It then has all night to cool in and there is less possibility of flies alighting on it.

I buy rabbit three times a week, and cook half of it each day, keeping the other in the refrigerator until needed. Both meat and rabbit go off very quickly in hot weather and no food should be given unless it is perfectly fresh, or sickness and diarrhoea will be the result. All my cats who like it have Kit-e-Kat for breakfast. Some like it mixed with All-Bran and some with Bran Flakes. It is a quick meal, and easy to serve.

I usually begin cleaning my cat houses as soon as I have served their breakfast, and as I go round, I collect the dishes and take away any scraps which are left, for fear they should be eaten after flies have contaminated them.

Particular attention should also be paid to pans, which should be scrubbed and rinsed with a mild disinfectant each morning. When soiled, they should be changed, as it is so easy for flies to go from them to the cats' meal. I find it a good idea to fill some extra trays in the morning, and then I can change any soiled pan in a jiffy.

If your cat or kitten goes off its food and has sickness or diarrhoea, do not hope it will right itself, but give a dose of liquid paraffin immediately. An hour later, give one tablet of Probactol, and two more halves during the day. Continue the three halves for another two days, making a three-day treatment. For big kittens, give a half three times a day for three days. For tinies, a quarter tablet three times a day for three days.

Letters and Pictures to the Editor

Hong Kong.

Dear Editor,

May I ask you a question? By your tremendous amount of experience are you for or against "doctoring" a cat (a female cat in particular). have seen only three neutered cats and all of them acted very abnormally, sleeping by the firseide night and day, always ready to scratch people, and showed no interest in catching animals. I hesitate as to what to do with mine. Your opinion shall help me to make up my mind. Hope you don't think I am asking too much.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Chu Enpao-

Dear Miss Chu Enpao,

I hope by now there is great improvement in the cats you wrote about previously.

I am all in favour of cats being neutered, when it is desirable, both male and female —but more particularly male

The operation is slight for males, when done at the right age. There is some dispute as to the right age at which a female cat should be neutered, or "spayed," but I have known quite old cats which have had the operation with no subsequent ill effects.

Yours faithfully,

Editor.

Aberdeen.

Dear Editor,

I am a cat lover and I find your magazine *Cats and Kittens* very interesting. I think you will be the most reliable person to give me a piece of information and advice.

We are leaving this country soon and going back to France, where I belong. We have a tabby cat which we love and intend to take her with me when I leave this country for good soon. Before going further we have to spend a few days in London and naturally Madame (it is the pussy's name) cannot be with us at an hotel. There must be several cats' homes in London; is there one that you particularly recommend?

In some of those places the pens are too small and the food not good enough. Madame is an epicure. I hope there will be no difficulty at the Channel port for entering France.

LETTERS AND PICTURES

I guess I will have to get a certificate from the veterinary surgeon stating that she is in good health. I would be grateful if you could help me about the cats' home in London, and the formalities before entering France, my country.

Believe me, Yours faithfully, (Mrs.) Raymonde Soutter

Dear Mrs. Soutter,

I note you are returning to France and taking your tabby with you. I suggest that you write to Mr. Steward, Secretary of the Cats' Protection League, 29, Church Street, Slough, asking his advice on boarding your cat in London for the time you mention. He will have several trustworthy addresses to direct you to.

You will require a veterinary surgeon to give you a certificate of health, not more than seven days before you sail, in respect of the cat.

> Yours sincerely, Editor.

Letchworth, Herts.

Dear Editor,

I am a regular reader of your magazine, which I enjoy immensely.

My Abyssinian queen has just had her first kittens. Unfortunately three out of six were born dead, as labour was too slow commencing. The other three seem well and strong and we are very thrilled.

Please could you inform me how soon the kittens may be inoculated against infectious feline enteritis? There has been so much of it in this district that I should like to get them done as young as it is advisable to do so. I expect they are pretty safe while feeding from the mother.

I enclose a stamped envelope as I do not know whether you print all letters received.

Thanking you for your help given in past magazines.

Yours faithfully, Joan E. Borst.

Dear Mrs. Borst,

We ourselves arrange beforehand with our 'vet' in order that he can order the Burroughs Wellcome vaccine. Usually eight to ten weeks of age is considered the most suitable time. You know that first one injection is given, the second and last about a week later.

Editor.

TO THE EDITOR

Auckland,

New Zealand.

Dear Editor,

Our very great and dear friend in Hong Kong, Miss Doris Woods, has had sent to me from you Cats and Kittens magazine. I love receiving them and read them all, and wondered if you could publish this photo of my cat Timmy and myself. He is about 12 years old, I think, as he was a fully grown cat when he came to us as a stray, so many years ago. Don't you think Timmy has a beautiful face? My



Firm Friends!



Noreen and Timmy

brother and I do, we love him. He is a good cat, because he doesn't catch birds. He doesn't like dogs and spits at them and goes for them if any dogs come near him.

We also feed a stray cat like Timmy, but he is wild; although I notice lately he doesn't run away as soon as he sees us now, but lets us get quite near before he hides under the wash-house. We hope he will become quite tame one day.

I do hope you will print our photo. I am ten years old and my brother just nine—his name is Richard. Besides our cat,

LETTERS AND PICTURES

CATS AND KITTENS MAGAZINE

we have two goldfish, a budgie, some water snails, and monarch caterpillars.

With best wishes to all.

Yours very sincerely,

Noreen June Copland.

Beaumont,
California, U.S.A.

Dear Editor,

You have such a host of loyal friends in the U.S.A.—Blanche and Howard Warren, Peggy Sayre-Kearns, Hetti Gray Baker and many, many others. Cats and Kittens readers may be interested in a letter about some of our cat affairs on the battlefronts.

Miss Lydia O. Cypher, secretary/treasurer of National Cat Week, Pittsburgh, Pa., died in April and I have appointed to succeed her Mr. Rollin Clark, well known fancier, of Pittsburgh. Prospects are splendid for our 1954 campaign (first week of November). Walter Chandoha is furnishing a photograph for the cat seal and Editor Ray Smith and his associate Miss Anne Metcalf, of Cats Magazine, are co-operating splendidly. We plan our most successful year.

Animal birth control for cats and dogs is taking new momentum-the only basic control of unwanted animals and cheaper than present humane methods and permanent in results. The most successful center to date is the Humanitarian League of Long Island, Freeport, N.Y., which in the past four years has made big progress. The American movement is working under the Animal Birth Control name to give uniformity of appeal. My own report in All-Pets last October brought a fine response Other groups getting into operation on ABC include the Good Shepherd Foundation and the Cat Care Club, both of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Constance Barton's The Animal Crusaders in Everett, Washington. Mrs. Alice M. Clark, dean of California Cat Lovers, is laving the foundations for ABC in San Francisco.

The so-called "marauding cat" bills will again face us in 1955. Miss Gertrude Charny, devoting her life to fighting all cats, devotes her entire time to sending out newspaper, magazine and legislators' propaganda in every state in the nation. Although defeated four times in the Illinois and three times in California legislatures, she persists. She plans to enter a bill in California demanding

TO THE EDITOR

licensing of all cats and demanding all cats outside their own yards be in leash. Doubtless she will also introduce a similar bill in Illinois. I'm informed that there are prospects she will also present one of her bills in Indiana. The national campaign against this legislation is spearheaded by Federated Group, Inc., of San Francisco (Mrs. Alice M. Clark. founder and secretary; myself president). I have asked Bob Hoover, veteran editor and political leader, to head the committee in Indiana. The California Audobon groups and the Humane Societies of California have united in opposition to the Charny bills. Miss Charny advises her members to hide cat traps near the homes of cat lovers at night and kill all their catches.

The death last year of Hal Nichols of radio KFOX, Long Beach, California, had removed one of the greatest friends of cats in California. His cat Barty is one of the most famous in the nation and in 1951 was used as National Cat Week seal.

A fine boost for cats came in the *Saturday Evening Post* of 27 March, 1954 in an editorial by Richard Attridge, "Cats can take people or leave them alone." Reaching so many million readers it was a fine boost for cats.

The most unique desert publication of America, Harry Oliver's Desert Rat Scrap Book, is devoting much attention to cats. Among Harry's pals at Old Fort Oliver, Thousand Palms, Calif., is Sin, a young cat, this season training her first family of little Sins. Many copies reach English subscribers each quarterly—as well as practically every nation.

Beverly Nichols may be an American visitor in 1955. His Merry Hall has sold widely here, with its charming combination of English garden, cats and human fellowship—and this year a sequel, Laughter on the Stairs, is scheduled. I also have been enjoying the Beverly Nichols Cat Calendar.

Blanche and Howard Warren's Casa Gatos Cattery continues a Mecca for visitors to Idyllwild, one of California's leading mountain resorts, overlooking Palm Springs, Salton Sea and the Colorado Desert.

Love and Joy always,

Guy Bogart.

WHITHER ?—from page 7.

CATS AND KITTENS MAGAZINE

it would inherit likely enough all the healthiness of its common grandparent. Such a male kitten kept as a stud would make an invaluable outcross and his kittens could then be crossed with a fashionable stud with a view to getting back any lost type.

It is no good raising the eyebrows and talking about "bad blood," for the scientists have shown us conclusively how the characters in a cross segregate completely and this is not pretty theory, but fact for which there are numberless proofs.

What is the aim of cat breeders at present? Since the days of Ch. Bonzo and Ch. Dido, to take the Siamese, I do not suppose there is a modern

champion which can compare with either of these two cats. So that we have not progressed in the way of type and I do not see how we can without caricaturing our Siamese and what is worse, jeopardising their vitality.

In the future cat breeders will have to seek the aid of the scientists and cat enthusiasts will have to become more experimentally minded. It will make breeding a thousand times more interesting than the old hit or miss methods, it will be an untold service to our cats. and it will also make the general public more pedigree catminded, for how many people do we know who say, "I should like to have a pedigree cat, but they are so delicate."

TIMES CHANGE—from page 20.

It would be difficult indeed for anyone wishing to register a cat with the Governing Council, and who has not a registered prefix, to secure the registration of a "one name" cat. Imagine sending up "Sheba" as a name for registering; there must be hundreds of would-be registrations sent in to the secretary to the G.C. like that. But each registration must be different, and cannot be repeated. That

is the reason why a prefix is of decided advantage, for up to three words, including the prefix, give a much wider choice.

To register a prefix in perpetuity the Governing Council ask for a guinea fee, and I shouldn't be surprised if, after reading this, some of our readers take up a prefixunfortunately, I've not asked for commission from the G.C.!

YOUR CATS AND MINE—from page 15.

strange and nervous at first, but he soon settled down. We took him to bed with us the first night and heard no more of him until morning; so, of course, it is a regular habit now. We are utterly spoiling him and he loves it. I could write a whole book about him already, so I will not start now or else I shall write pages and I haven't time. But thank you from the bottom of my heart for sending such an adorable little pet."

I am delighted to know Miss Lee Meade is going to write something in these pages about Russian Blues. They are a very fascinating and interesting breed, and I am sure many people will be pleased to hear more of them from time to time. Miss Lee Meade sent a lovely photo of two kittens, a Siamese, Clonlost Carmelo, bred by Mrs. Burgess, and a red tabby named Autumn. Both were three months old. In the accompanying letter, she says:

"Clonlost Carmelo was one of Mrs. Burgess' prize-winning litter at the Herts & Middlesex Show, 1952—a really delightful little creature who came for a few months to show what a Siamese should be and then silently laid down to die, two days before Christmas. But that is just one of those things Siamese do to me; his halfsister Clonlost Caramela did the same last Christmas, followed a few days later by her small daughter, Alpha. But at least she left me her kittens, one I have kept—a creature of many charms, including a sense of humour, and some vices, especially a strong determination to refuse all medicines!

31

Autumn was a little kit of two and a half months sent to the vets for destruction as it was unwanted and had conjunctivitis in one eye-how very heartless some people must be? He was neutered and presented to me. I can't resist red tabbies; a poor frightened little creature unable to believe a plate of food was for him alone.

He and Carmelo went together to their first show in December, 1952, taking third and second prizes—inseparable companions; for nights he would go to the stairs and search and wait for his lost playmate. When the new Siamese arrived he greeted it with joy-but alas, he was greeted with a hiss! Since then he has preferred to love humans -placing a paw either side of their necks and kissing themany human will do!

To-day a large cat, a bully too, I fear, he gobbles his food without hesitation and helps the others with theirs too. No longer timid, no longer even afraid of a raised voice, and apart from concussion after meeting a car, and cat 'flu last Christmas, a picture of health —what would his former owner think? To dismiss such an endearing creature so heartlessly!

32

I think he is probably one of the few cats to whom a different psychological approach to illness is required—this "cheering up" idea is just no good. On those rare occasions when he is laid low, then out must come the cushions, the bottle, the blankets—one cushion to lie upon and three around him then a warm blanket covering all except the head. A few dainty meals will be toyed with, but only if one sits by his side, saying "Poor Tum-tums is a very sick pu-cat—poor old Tum-tum" (enough to finish off the average cat). But Autumn plays the invalid to perfection and one has to join in or suffer unbearable looks of injury and sorrow.

But sooner or later the invalid leaps from his "deathbed" to grab some food and then the game is over.

Life with a cat can never be dull for one moment. Life with four cats is even greater fun—in fact, hysterically funny at times, I feel!"

THE PERSIAN CAT-from page 8.

ears, a broad skull, and a short face well filled in at the muzzle; must be short in body, strong in limbs, and have a short, broad brush. A long brush whipping over the body is a fault, so also are big pointed ears wide at the The latter must be base. covered, not bare, and must match the body-colour, having no rusty tinge or creamy streaks mixed with the bodycolour. The texture of the coat must be as silky as possible. Unfortunately, blue-eyed white cats are almost invariably deaf or at least hard of hearing.

For Blacks, the head, shape, and ears follow the description we have given of Whites, but the eyes must be deep, rich orange. The colour must have a glossy sheen. This should not only be top colour—there must be no weakness or unevenness underneath. A lifeless or rusty colour finds no favour in the show-pen. White hairs mixed in the body coat are a great fault.

Some people believe the black cat is lucky, others that it is unlucky, the majority holding the former opinion; but this is mere superstition. The following colours all have their admirers: Blue, Chinchilla, Silver, Smoke, Red or Orange, Cream and Tortoiseshell. To readers wishing to possess a Persian of any of the above colours, a small advertisement in our Classified Column will bring what they require, or a letter to the Editor will put them in touch with the right breeder.

CONCERNING SIAMESE

from page 23.

was, and very much admired. As an adult, he kept his simply marvellous cream coat, and his points remained a delicate shade of blue. He has the perfect show disposition, and was always penned in tip-top condition. A great credit to his owner.

Mrs. Watson, a comparative new-comer to shows, did very well last season, and penned some outstanding exhibits. Milori Linko and his sister Lilli, sired by Chinki Ranya, both did very well in big classes, Linko being First and Champion at the Notts and Derby show in 1954. Both have that fineness so essential to a good Siamese, with lovely fine coats and excellent heads with unusually good profiles. Linko has particularly lovely eve colour and they are also the correct oriental shape, which is good, as we need to breed more Siamese with the eye shape conforming to the standard of points.

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"CATS AND KITTENS" MAGAZINE, 29a, QUEEN STREET, DERBY.

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