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FUR AND FEATHER is the official organ of the British Rabbit Council, the Commercial Rabbit Association, and the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, and is devoted to rabbits, cats, pigeons, covies, mice and ranch chinchillas.

Price 1s 2d

On sale Thursday July 17 1969

Fur & Feather

YORKSHIRE'S ONE-DAY SHOW

91st BINGLEY SHOW

at MYRTLE PARK, BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE

(Airedale Agricultural Society)

on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13



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Show Secretary: Mrs H M THORNTON, 2 PARK ROAD, BINGLEY

THE FULL CLASSIFICATION FOR RABBITS AND CAVIES APPEARS ON PAGE 681 IN THIS ISSUE. See pages 683 and 684 for details of the Mouse, Pigeon, Poultry and Bantam sections.

Cats and catdom

Readers' views on the treatment of cats in other countries

I ARRIVED in England only a few days ago. I purchased a copy of *FUR AND FEATHER* and was astonished by the several attacks on the Japanese and the Silsons.

I have corresponded with the Silsons and visited them when in England last year. I hope to visit them again soon, as I was favourably impressed with their scientific knowledge as compared with fanciers. I have met in numerous countries. I will be most interested to hear the Silsons' side of the controversy.

I am completely at a loss to understand the condemnation of the Japanese people. I don't know how long I Raleigh, Kit Wilson or Eden Gornall have lived in Japan or how many cats they have seen there cruelly treated. Since Dr Raleigh seems to have the authority to expel from the cat Fancy I hope he also includes all breeders who export to the United States. I have visited English imports that spend their lives in small individual cages.

I can't imagine in what part of Japan Mr Carling practised, or who might have been his clients. Perchance they came to him because they may have been ashamed to go to a Japanese veterinarian. The veterinary surgeon who treated my own kittens was far gentler and skilled than any I have been able to find in San Francisco.

I lived in the home of a fancier in Kyoto who had eleven cats, five imported. I never saw cats more loved and indulged, or better cared for. I attended cat shows in Tokyo and Osaka and became acquainted with numerous breeders and club officers, and of course, saw hundreds of cats. But the only miserable-appearing ones I saw were a pair of Blue-eyed Whites on exhibit in a cage at Harslun Park Zoo. But relative to size and habitat they were not as closely confined as the majority of animals at London Zoo.

Yes, the Japanese do have 'a different concept of humanity and kindness'. They would be appalled if they witnessed a fox hunt or saw a pack of dogs tearing the living body of an exhausted animal while a pack of

comfortably mounted sportsmen look on in glee.

If some of the English humanitarians prefer to glance away from English atrocities into foreign lands they shouldn't overlook the Philippines, where unwanted kittens are thrown alive into garbage cans and waste bins. WINIFRED C MILES (president International Feline Society), 3 Ravens Close, Bromley, Kent

* * *

MRS CHRISTINE THOMPSON (May 15 and June 26) found more instances of cruelty in her very brief stay than I have seen in a lifetime in the US. It is my opinion that she formed a very, very false impression of the condition of animals in the States. On many occasions I have visited catteries in Britain and have on the whole found them to be outstandingly run and well kept. I wish to emphasize though that this has not always been the case and there have been some notable exceptions that were smelly and filthy and the cats were in a terrible condition. Suppose instead of living here for three years and seeing the most excellent, I had been on holiday and seen only the worst. What a report I would have made on my arrival at home. The point—be sure to have a representative selection of anything before attempting to judge and criticize.

I am now owned by four British cats, three females and a male. The females will live with me in the house and have the run of the place; the stud will have his own outdoor run in Florida. Tell me, Mrs C Thompson, wouldn't you like to live in an outdoor run in Florida? DOROTHY ANTONE

* * *

At a meeting in London on June 30 Mr Ken Gardner of The People spoke about his investigations in Japan. The meeting was a lively one and very well attended by dog and cat breeders. After he had been introduced by Mr Michael Sutcliffe of the Japan Animal Welfare Society Mr Gardner first described the situation in the pounds. He visited the 'model' pound at Kobe, where animals, caught in wire nooses, are lifted bodily from the catcher's truck by this noose, regardless of the size and weight of the animal. There was a veterinary surgeon in attendance but he made no attempt to examine injured animals.

Although strenuous attempts were made to stop him, Mr Gardner witnessed several of the common methods of slaughter. Strychnine was injected into the belly of a puppy, it writhed for several minutes before dying; the appalling electric machine at Osaka, where animals are tied by wire nooses to an electrified pole and soaked in water to improve conduction. This is necessary as the current is only 100 volts. Regardless of size all animals are left in for one minute, and those not killed are swept back, screaming, for a second dose; bludgeoning in Nishinomiya, using a four foot iron pole.

Mr Gardner then spoke of some university medical schools where he saw the rubble and filth in which operated animals are kept at starvation level, lacking even rudimentary post-operative care.

Mr Gardner said he was not a sentimental man, but the terrible sights he had witnessed could only lead to one conclusion — that animals should not be sent to that country. The risk run by pedigree animals is just the same as that of cross-bred ones.

There was a spirited question session afterwards, enlivened by the presence of a representative of the Tokyo Chikiken Dog Importing Company. This gentleman was most helpful but it was difficult to obtain solid evidence, apart from the fact that little re-exporting takes place—all must be absorbed into the present dog and cat population which already includes an estimated five million unwanted strays.

JAWS would like to express sincere thanks to Mr Gardner for giving this talk when he is so busy reporting all over the world, and to Mrs Audrey Gibson, who organised this excellent meeting. SALLY PLUMMER (secretary)

* * *

I HAVE been very interested in the correspondence in *FUR AND FEATHER* about cats in cages in the USA as I recently went on a private visit to Canada. On this visit I met several cat breeders. I found these people most kind and hospitable, and I think they believe the way they keep their cats is quite OK, and I have no doubt many cats in this country are not so well cared

(Continued foot of next column)

THE IMMEDIATE OBJECT OF RESEARCH

OWING I suppose to 'lack of access to information' L H Wakeford (June 5) makes some amazing statements about scientists, especially those associated with medicine. They are stated to be people incapable of honesty, fair dealing or affection for animals, or even of conforming to the laws of this country. It is logical to assume that L H Wakeford therefore never seeks the advice of a doctor, dentist or veterinarian, or takes any drugs other than traditional herbal remedies.

Apparently, anyone who thinks that biological scientists do their best for their animals 'is naive'. I am glad to be so labelled. I have the greatest admiration for the tremendous personal effort which devoted men and women, trained animal technicians, put into caring for and breeding laboratory animals. Animal technicians do not place one species above another, and give as much kindness and attention to mice, rats, monkeys and other species as they do to dogs and cats. It must be pointed out that dogs and cats together form less than 0.5 per cent of the animals used under Home Office Regulations in this country.

With regard to the questions asked by L H Wakeford, while we breed most of our cats, preferring our disease-free animals to those from outside, we buy some cats at prices ranging from £5 to £14 depending largely on age, immunisation to panleucopenia etc. Sales to us are bona fide, recorded transactions, payments being made to domestic and professional breeders by cheque passed through a bank account. When individual members of the public claim their cats have been stolen, we invite them to inspect our stock; during more than twenty years no one has identified his pet cat among our animals.

It is quite impossible to say whether any particular experiment or investigation will immediately 'benefit humanity'. The most spectacular improvements resulting from experiments on cats have been in the treatment of nervous disorders, leading to the unlocked ward in mental hospitals. The treatment of hypertension is another field in which experiments on cats has led to great advances. But, undoubtedly, the most important beneficiaries of investigations have been domestic and fancy cats. Recent improvements in the treatment of nutritional and reproductive disorders and treatment for parasitic, bacterial and viral diseases have been due to work on cats themselves. The study of cancer is especially important, since cats (and dogs) unlike other domestic animals, live on into old age and sharing the same environment as human beings, are subject to the same chemicals in food and the same atmospheric pollution (though free from the hazards of smoking and drinking alcohol).

Those who seek to prevent cats from being used for research are not only depriving human beings, but ordinary pets and fancy cats of advances which contribute to their survival as kittens, and their comfort, well-being and longer life as adults. To this end enlightened owners, breeders, veterinarians and scientists have joined in the work of the Feline Advisory Bureau by supporting research the immediate object of which is not to satisfy curiosity concerning the beautiful animals we care about so much, but to benefit them directly by correctly diagnosing, developing a treatment for, and finally preventing disease among our cats. P P SCOTT (Reader in Physiology), London

* * *

A FEW weeks ago a writer in a national newspaper commented on letters written to her about her articles. Whether praise or criticism, the majority of the letters bore little relation to her articles but assumed that certain things had been said that suited

for. I do not like to see cats in small cages or kept in artificial lighting, which happens when they are confined to cellars (these are called basements in Canada). It reminded me of hens in batteries.

Two points I would like to mention: First, that in parts of Canada there is a by-law which states that 'No household shall keep more than three cats' which leads to breeders fiddling their cats; secondly, very seldom is any garden fenced or walled in around the house. This means if a cat had its freedom it would get no sense of being in its own garden.

As there is often no way of finding out what conditions a kitten will be kept in when it's sent across the water, think very hard before sending it. Ask yourself, does that extra pound mean so much to you when the little life you are sending away may be so unhappy? MARGERY BISHOP, London N12

the letter writers' own ideas or even what had been written elsewhere.

From the comments made about my previous letters, it would seem that correspondents are equally skipping my remarks and reading things that are not there.

With regard to the case of so-called haemophilia in cats, I have made no claim to veterinary knowledge but have asked fanciers to have their cats tested by veterinary surgeons and then send me pedigrees relevant to the results. I have no intention of making blood tests and have not asked fanciers to do their own. I have in fact asked veterinary surgeons to advise a standard technique so that all veterinary surgeons can use the same method.

Since the cause seems to be genetic, I hoped, from the pedigrees, to find the best method of breeding the trouble out. Most veterinary surgeons are not geneticists and one, in research, freely admitted this to me, and his own lack of genetic knowledge.

It is quite normal to publish the results of scientific experiments, for all to read. The only restriction is that appropriate names will be omitted where this might cause embarrassment.

Cat fanciers are continually worrying about real or imagined possible cruelties to their pets yet an attempt to solve the cause of a disease that causes a lingering death, by internal bleeding, is criticised from all sides. Until I started this line of research, at the independent requests of several leading breeders, no-one was bothering.

Kit Wilson attacks me for my remarks. I do not doubt that she is well intentioned but some of her cures may be worse than the disease.

Cases have been quoted of unreasonable experiments with cats. We are not told if a licence was held for these. If not, as well may be, it would be little use stopping issuing licences in an attempt to eliminate cruelty.

What critics of vivisection are really saying is that we should abolish veterinary surgeons and doctors since most of their techniques have been learned by past experiments on animals and their drugs tested by other animal experiments.

By all means campaign against unnecessary cruelty but be sure that banning all experiments does not bring the alternative of cruelty to all animals from lack of adequate medical and veterinary techniques. Some fanciers seem to be in the position of the old lady who condemned aeroplanes and suggested that we should all use trains 'as God intended us to do'.

The CFFR is financing research into FVR which causes cats to die from slow starvation since they cannot smell. Yet a suggestion of a shilling levy on all kitten registrations, to help this and similar research, was turned down.

I will close with a question: Which do fanciers love most, their cats or to score against their fellows? R G SILSON, Tring, Herts

MORE QUESTIONS ON WHITE CATS

I THANK all those who were kind enough to write in response to my letter in *FUR AND FEATHER* of June 26 requesting information on white cats. As a result we now have details on a further 103 kittens with promises of more to come.

Although, as I mentioned, we hope to produce a preliminary report this year, the study will necessarily continue for some time and any future information will also be of value.

I am replying in full to all those who have written but in the meantime would like to put two more questions to readers in general.

1: Has any reader noticed smudges of dark hair on the heads of white kittens produced from a mating of white with red, cream, tortie, blue/cream, red and white, cream and white or tortie and white.

If so did the colour on the individual hairs in the smudge extend from the tip to the root or was it banded black and white, blue and white or brown and black (tabby)?

2: Has any reader noticed small dark marks on the nose leather of mature white cats from such matings and/or dark markings on the lips, gums, pads and outer edges of the ears?

It may be that white cats of unknown parentage are owned by readers and in this case details of their kittens from matings with known coloured cats would tell us whether either of the original parents was red.

I should explain that by 'known' parents I do not necessarily mean registered pedigree cats. A careful description suffices, ie SH Tabby and White male, or SH Black male. PATRICIA TURNER, Te Whare, Little London Road, Horam, Heathfield, Sussex



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KENTISH CAT SOCIETY SHOW

(Continued from last week's issue)

Miss D M Grainger's classes

Congratulations to Iris Johnson on running such an enjoyable show at Orpington. In spite of the difficulties of having two halls at this venue, everything seemed to go smoothly. My thanks to Mrs Abbott for stew-arding for me so efficiently. Among the many classes I judged were several very good Tabbypoints.

SIAMESE AC Novice exhibitor's cat: 1 Overton's Bluebridge Venus, BP, points patchy at present, palish whisker pads, nice eye colour, pale sleek coat, fairly good tail 2 Whitehead's Pukisong Cherree, SP, good length of head, small roundish eyes, haws up a little, lovely soft coat of good colour, paws patchy, fairly good tail 3 Dutton's Ti-Hur Lycett, SP, little short in head, fairly good eye colour but eyes roundish, good close coat, fairly good tail, well presented r Scragg's Tijha Electra, LP, very nervous and didn't show herself well, long head, nice points, ears not very wide at base, good coat though creamy on back, tail barred at present AC Cat owner resident in Kent: (abs, Annuskans) 1 Honess's Kosmos Echo, fine boned BP female, good points for colour, nice chin, good eye colour, coat a bit dark at present, lovely fine whip 2 Derrant's Prociui Chang, LP male, good head and ears, nicely coloured points, good eye shape and colour, good coat texture and colour, tail short 3 Randall's Tabor, TB male with good profile and markings, good eye colour, coat even in colour, shortish tail r Pope's Eigerfell Pocket Venus, chocolate TP female, good wedge head, well-marked, nice eye shape and colour, front paws pale as yet, good body colour, wee kink in tail, typy elegant cat. D M GRAINGER

Mrs H Waldo Lamb's classes

Many thanks to Mrs Johnson and the committee for such a well run and happy show and thanks for all the hospitality. Thanks also to my steward, Mrs Stock, for her cheerful company and able handling of the cats.

BROWN BURMESE Cat 5: 1 Honess's Amahama Bircat Bonquet, male, excellent type, fine head, good wedge and dome, eyes correct oriental shape though a little pale in colour, good muscular body, slender legs, correct tail, sweet temperament 2 Hewson's Amberilla Artemis, female, good wedge head of correct shape, ears well placed, nice oriental eyes but rather pale in colour, even coat colour, nice texture, good condition 3 Luetchford's Ramree Tuan Putri, female very good shape head, correct ear placement, nice oriental shape eyes, eye colour pale, coat of nice texture, even colour, slender body, good tail r Elliot's Lynsilva Marcellina, female, nice head, correct ear placement, eyes too round, good texture coat of warm brown, few white hairs on neck, correct tail, a sweet cat **SHORT HAIR AV Novice kitten:** 1 Fitzsimmons and Grant's Sabra Blue Jasper, excellent type blue Burmese male, lovely head, nice wedge and dome, sleek body, correct oriental eye shape, colour middling though could improve with age, nice tail, even silvery blue coat, an elegant cat 2 Devine's Annelida Silver Tiger, male lovely type Devon Rex Spotted tabby, very well marked, good coat well covered, fine head and lustrous eyes, lovely temperament 3 Wiseman's Contented Infanta, most attractive Abyssinian female, fine head, oriental eyes of good colour, very good even ticking, necklace on chest, lovely condition r Colville's Rosental Copernicus, nice Manx male, good clean rump, head a little rounded for a Manx, nicely textured coat, clean black and white markings AV Novice exhibitors kitten: 1 2 repeat 3 Birley's Burtenashan Magic NEUTER AV SH Novice (ex Siamese): 1 Stock's Pikko Mankatu, well developed Burmese, even coloured brown coat, good texture, head very good shape, nice wedge, well set ears, good eye shape, eyes a little pale in colour, sweet temperament 2 Richards's Pensylva Choyham Charmer, attractive British Blue, lovely head,

FIRST PRIZE WINNERS—continued

Long-haired

RAINDROP Persians would like to congratulate **TOPSY** on winning her open class and being nominated for BIS.

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Miss D A WRIGHT,
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Siamese

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Mrs E PUTWAIN, Lockesley, The Forstal, Preston, Canterbury.
Telephone: Preston 269.

lustrous eyes, neat small ears, coat rather dark, good typical body and legs, short thick tail 3 Hawes's Taishun Ramsee, this is a lovely Abyssinian with good ticking and a warm brown coat, good head, well shaped ears, unfortunately too much white on chest and neck, lovely condition r Silverman and Swift's Sabra Silver Nickel, excellent type Burmese, lovely head, well set ears, nice dome and oriental shaped eyes, good muscular body, very dark in coat for a blue, beautiful condition and nice temperament AV 6-12 mth (inc Siamese): 1 Walker's Tullee Doyan, SP Siamese, good wedge head, unbroken mask, well set ears, oriental eye shape of lovely colour, light coat, good whip tail, very clean markings 2 S S Nickel 3 Caldwell's Ramree Chindwin r Radley's Lynsilva Blue Nicklaus **CHILDREN AV Pedigree cat or kitten:** 1 Palmer's Viva Jessie Macbeath, LP Siamese, beautiful wedge head, well shaped ears, lovely eyes, a delightful cat, slender body and legs, whip tail, good lilac markings 2 Lewin's Bengor Yindee, lovely CP Siamese male, hard to separate these two cats, beautiful pale coat and good chocolate points, head with good wedge and beautiful eye colour and shape, lost to winner on thickness of tail AV Pedigree neuter: 1 Lewin's Watermill Muscari, SP Siamese, excellent shape head, good wedge, lovely eye colour, nice slender body, dainty legs and paws, good whip tail, pale coat, sweet disposition, he was the only one in the class but well deserves his first prize. H WALDO LAMB

SIAMESE CAT ASSN SHOW

(continued)

My sincere congratulations to Mrs Philpot who made such an excellent job of running the show, and what a nice thought to give the judges a memento on their departure. Many thanks Mrs Philpot for a most enjoyable day and many thanks also to my excellent stewards, Mrs Carter and to Mr Carter who was so kind as to help me catch a train, which I could not otherwise have had a hope of catching.

The standard seemed to me to be very good and although there was much evidence of brindling and patching, I was pleased to see Chocolate Points which were easily recognisable as CPs and not just poor SPs.

The time of year is not good for mask and points but otherwise there were many very good cats. I believe that with the general public in mind one must judge on the day and reluctantly penalises a cat (however beautiful his type) with pale and brindled points and mask.

CHOCOLATE POINT Male cat: None of the

cats in this class were really up to championship standard or at their best today. 1 ch Burlington's Bru Bur Rochefort, good overall type and body shape, nice long head, eye shape and colour good but points faded, should look better later on 2 Paramor's Physalis Nai Ling, very good type, nice head and eye shape, whip tail, lovely coat texture but badly brindled, another which will do better later on 3 Redford's Pi-Den Cupid, very nice cat but too square in muzzle, very good eye shape and colour, correct body shape and whip tail r Hodgkinson's Druries Bruno Tam, this cat holds his ears too far forward, I don't know if he always does it but it spoils his appearance, nice coat but rather dark, otherwise good overall, good eye shape Female cat: 1 ch Hunter's Supra Lorelei, a very nice daughter of a good father (how interesting it is to read one's catalogue after the show), lovely head shape, good type body, whip tail and eyes good for shape and colour 2 Greenacre's Druries Tamorella, very nice type, good body shape and long head, whip tail and neat paws, eyes not oriental shape and coat rather too dark 3 Carter's Meiklerigg Minerva, very close to previous winner, difficult to choose between, head rather short but nice type body, neat paws and whip tail, very good condition, rather dark coat r Drury's Druries Aprilia Gem, excellent type with good long head and whip tail but eyes too round and coat too dark **SEAL POINT Female 3-4½ mth:** 1 Greenacre's Tibaan Duvalia, good kitten with nice fine type, long head, good eye shape and colour, coat somewhat spoilt by brindling but a good exhibit, should make a nice queen 2 Davelluy's Genista Cassandra, very close to winner, excellent type, deep points, good long body, whip tail, head could be longer, a promising baby 3 Watkins's Sadiki Asifa, good overall type, head and body but eye colour pale and mask not complete Female 4½-6 mth: 1 Dix's Pi-Den Circe, this kitten in my view is almost overtyped but is a beautiful little thing nevertheless with deep eye colour, dark points, whip tail, dainty little oval paws, it will be interesting to see her as an adult, she has great promise 2 Maddick's Pi-Den Cherubim, from my catalogue I see she has the same breeding as winner and the same excellent type, unlucky to meet winner 3 Baach's Marshbrook Ming, very good kitten with excellent eye shape and colour, whip tail, good body and head r Kristiansen's Fiji Charmina, very good kitten of good shape body and head, spoilt today by spectacles and pale chin, should do well later, lovely coat texture vhc Brading's My-mings Wei Wei hc Sayer's Solitaria Sarbomxy, would have done better but much too thin Female 6-9 mth: 1 Humphris' Nemekita Ton-Kalon, beautiful head, good eye shape and colour, nice long body, whip tail, neat paws, a worthy winner 2 Chandler's Fourpaws Atlanta, beautiful cat with excellent head shape and ear placement, long typy body and long whip tail slightly kinked at tip, good eye shape and colour 3 Denny's Pi-Den Clarissa, very good long head, good eye shape but eyes rather turned in, good type body, long tail and good ear placement r Denny's Pi-Den Cleopatra, has almost all the previous cats' points, especially good eye shape but mask pale and coat rather open Debutante kitten: 1 P Circe 2 Warner's Spotlight Rouble, beautiful cat of lovely type and neat wedge head shape, fine tapered paws and good eye shape and colour, mask very brindled 3 Warner's Spotlight Tussock, hardly anything to choose between these two, both not at their best so early in the year, beautiful cat full of type and future promise r Saunders's Bonneville City Gent, also good with deep points and excellent eye colour, slightly less outstanding type. OLGA RAMSEY

PSEUDO-HAEMOPHILIA

AFTER reading Mrs Towe's letter in FUR AND FEATHER of July 3 I feel that I should also make it known that, since there was first any suggestion that Devon Rex were subject to 'pseudo-haemophilia' all the Annelida cats have been tested by my veterinary surgeons, who work closely with Bristol University. I am thankful to say that to date all tests have been normal, but I shall continue to have tests carried out.

It does seem possible that if there is a defect in these cats it may have been brought in by some of the out-crosses, since NONE of the original Devon stock suffered from any defect. This was proved by brother to sister matings and from such close relationships any defect would be certain to appear. ALISON E ASHFORD, Maidstone

KITTEN AND CAT'N CHATTER

THE Yorkshire County Cat Club will hold a kitten and cat'n chatter at the Junction Inn, Pudsey, on Tuesday next, July 22, at 7.30 pm for 8 pm. Mrs Baxter, the club's secretary, will talk on cats in general.

Light refreshments will be provided at a small charge. Persons who intend coming are asked to contact Mrs Lodge, 666 Stanningley Road, Pudsey.

CAT BOOKS, List 4d.—Little Bookshop, Farnham Common, Bucks.

FAB warning

A BAN on DDT and other chlorinated hydro-carbons, aldrin, dieldrin and lindane was announced by the Danish Ministry of Agriculture on June 17, on the grounds that they are dangerous to animal and plant life and, in the long term, to human health. Last March, Sweden brought in a similar ban and Norway announced a ban on June 20.

Due to many unfortunate mishaps, many fatal, the Feline Advisory Bureau is compiling a special publication on insecticides and herbicides; this will cover their uses in the garden and the house.

Readers attention is drawn to the erroneous advice in many cat books to use DDT as a dusting powder for fleas in cats. This advice can be fatal. **JOAN JUDD,** (Hon secretary, Feline Advisory Bureau)

DEATH OF MRS MAVIS DUNN

THE CAT Fancy will be sad to hear of the death of Mrs Mavis Dunn of the Fenham prefix after a long period of ill-health. Mrs Dunn was devoted to her cats and to feline welfare generally. She was always cheerful and greatly encouraged newcomers to the cat world.

We extend our sympathy to her husband who, with her, was one of the four people instrumental in re-establishing the Northern Counties Cat Club in 1957 and thereafter in helping to achieve championship status. She will be sadly missed. (Mrs) **NANCY HILL** (secretary)

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