

fur & feather

FORTNIGHTLY PRICE 3s (15p)

ON SALE THURSDAY OCTOBER 8 1970

BRITAIN'S GREATEST SMALLSTOCK SPECTACULAR

with displays of MINK : RABBITS : CAVIES : GOATS : MICE
RANCH CHINCHILLAS
GERBILS : RATS : HAMSTERS : CATS etc



Meet LONDON'S
show symbol—the
Grenadier Guards
—on Stand 42.

STOP!

GO



TO

THE LONDON CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

★ ★ ★ Rabbit Championship : Two Cavy Classics : Open Show of Mice, Rats and Gerbils

ALEXANDRA PALACE, N22

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30-31, 1970

SHOW YOUR LONDON PRIDE!

Full classification on pages 970-973

Advertisement

THIS IS THE NEW FORTNIGHTLY FUR AND FEATHER
THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE ON OCTOBER 22. ORDER YOUR COPY FROM YOUR NEWSAGENT NOW

Cats and Catdom

THE RIGHT AGE TO VACCINATE KITTENS AGAINST ENTERITIS

Dr NICHOLAS HILL

THE appearance of FIE (panleucopenia) infection in two eleven month litter-mates owned and bred by us caused us great concern, since both had been vaccinated as ten week old kittens. Not only did it produce a most unpleasant illness in one, but it caused a great deal of difficulty with the show with which we were concerned.

A recent paper in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association entitled 'Maternally Derived Immunity to Feline Panleucopenia' by Scott, Csiza and Gillespie (Vol 156, 1970, No 4, p 439) helps to explain the failure of immunity to appear in our two cats and gives useful guidance about the best time to vaccinate.

It is clear that kittens which are reared by their mothers receive a large quantity of antibodies from her in the first milk they take, the colostrum. This occurs only if she herself is making these antibodies as a result of having become immune sometime in the past.

These passively-transferred antibodies continue to circulate in the blood stream of each kitten for several weeks and, whilst present, give it protection against the diseases for which they are effective. Ultimately they disappear altogether and this coincides more or less with weaning and growing independence. Thereafter, unless the kitten makes its own, it will be susceptible.

Vaccination with a vaccine against FIE is the equivalent of giving a cat or kitten the disease without the illness. Both vaccination and the disease itself (provided the cat survives) cause the cat to produce antibodies of its own against the particular agent responsible. Challenge by the disease subsequently is shown as immunity; antibodies already present neutralise some component of the virus which causes the disease and so prevent its appearance. Both challenge of this kind and re-vaccination cause boosting of antibody production in the body. Under 'wild' conditions it must be assumed that further challenges by disease-producing agents such as bacteria and viruses are constantly occurring. Our pets who live in a sheltered environment are seldom challenged in this way and so they need occasional re-vaccination to maintain their ability to produce antibodies quickly.

In our case the kittens' mother was vaccinated when she was nine weeks old and received a booster re-vaccination when she was about fourteen months old, just before the mating which resulted in their birth. She must, therefore, be assumed to have had a high level of immunity to FIE at this time. This was subsequently borne out by the fact that she did not develop it when her kittens did.

The important fact which emerges from the paper about maternally derived immunity to FIE is that, if the queen has a high level of immunity at the time her kittens are born, they will receive a larger than average dose of FIE antibodies from her colostrum and these antibodies may last up to sixteen weeks during which time they will be resistant not only to the FIE virus but also they will be resistant to vaccination for their first sixteen weeks. If they are vaccinated at, say, ten weeks, not only will the vaccine be inactivated and effectively wasted, but they will subsequently be susceptible until re-vaccinated after the sixteenth week or infected by the virus, as were ours.

There appear to be three morals to this tale:

- 1 Don't bring unvaccinated cats or kittens into your house or come in contact with any unless you are sure all your cats are immune, particularly if you are going to a show shortly afterwards.
- 2 Don't vaccinate your kittens too early if you know or reasonably expect their mother to have a high level of immunity.
- 3 If you have FIE in your cats stay away from other cats, particularly shows. Nobody is indispensable. The cats will need you at home anyhow.

LETTERS FROM SHIRLEY BEEVER AND E HARDY ON OPPOSITE PAGE

On page 949 R G SILSON begins a new series on 'BREEDING METHODS'

The articles may demand a little homework, but, for cat breeders and others, the effort will be well worth while

Put page 949 in your cuttings book when you have read it—and that might as well be NOW!

CLUB SECRETARIES, AND OTHERS, PLEASE NOTE:

The next issue of this new fortnightly FUR AND FEATHER will be published on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22. News of any event which will take place before November 7 should be sent to us AT ONCE please.

Readers write . . .

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN BURMESE HISTORY . . . A COMPARISON WHICH IS NON-VIABLE . . .

I SHOULD like to draw the attention of your readers to two facts which went by without comment in FUR AND FEATHER of September 17 which issue related in part to the Burmese breed. Both these facts appear to me to be of almost historic proportions.

It may well be that, in years to come, other articles on Burmese will include the statement: 'About the autumn of 1970, there began to appear modestly among the advertisements of Burmese breeders (1) the successes of their Cream Burmese—at that time, still AOV, and (2) notes of their imports from America, described either genetically as "chocolate", or by their American breed name as "champagne".'

Both these happenings featured in FUR AND FEATHER of September 17. The first of these events is the successful climax of a carefully planned breeding programme begun in 1964 by Mrs Pocock and others. At the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club show of 1970, there were some beautiful cream and blue-cream cats and kittens on exhibition and in the first Burmese Cat Club class of AOC Burmese, which I was lucky to judge. Recognition for this breed will soon be sought. It would be very wrong to let the efforts of those who have produced these attractive creams go unappreciated: they have done all their 'back-room-boy' work quietly and have not wanted nor gained notoriety.

As to the second event, the history of the champagnes or chocolates (the colour description has not yet been decided) lies ahead, but breeding programmes must do much to enhance the breed. Mrs Caldwell and Mrs Evelyn, Miss Mack and Miss O'Neill, as well as Mrs Pocock and her group may well be making Burmese history as surely as Mrs France, Mrs Macaulay, Mrs Smith, Mrs Waldo-Lamb, Mr and Mrs Watson, and other Burmese pioneers did in the past? MOIRA K SWIFT, London N6

NOT COMPARABLE WITH PARLIAMENT

I CAN only but disagree with Ivor Raleigh's article entitled 'The Governing Council and the Fancier' (FUR AND FEATHER, September 17). Ostensibly dealing with the question of communications, the article becomes, in fact, an apologia for the Council's democratic status.

Mr Raleigh has chosen to base his platform on the premise that the GCCF is comparable with Parliament. The comparison is patently non-viable. Parliament, with its procedures, precedents and traditions, is this country's accumulative symbol of the process we call democracy.

The concept of democracy is the synthesis of both optimistic and pessimistic thought: optimistic in that a group of people—shall we say a Cat Club—electing a representative to serve their interests must have faith in that representative. Conversely, pessimistic in as much as they cannot, therefore, trust any one person to 'govern' for them and elected representatives are a safeguard against tyranny.

Another aspect of democracy is consultation and reaction. For example, even in an autocratic situation, the autocrat who consults his subjects and then reacts, positively or negatively, upon their suggestions is acting democratically. Finally, democratic government publishes reports of its proceedings.

These are but three aspects of democracy and I am certain that it can be seen that Mr Raleigh's basic premise just does not hold water when applied to the GCCF.

More particularly:

1. The Council does not meet often enough to be effective.

2. Attenuated procedures, as suggested by Mr Raleigh, to contact a council—which does not meet often enough—are farcical and frustrating in the extreme.

3. While Mr Raleigh finds secrecy undesirable, he makes the qualification that certain disciplinary proceedings should be held 'in camera'. In Law I believe that only such cases as blackmail, incest and nullity proceedings are so held. Cases of an exemplary nature are given wide publicity because of their deterrent use. If I were brought before the Disciplinary Committee for any reason and found to be innocent of the charge I should want the whole world to know it rather than trust my innocence to the tongues

of the fifty or so delegates 'most of whom are women'!

Secrecy of any kind is to be abhorred, especially in financial matters. Remember, Parliament has an annual Budget debate and also publishes monthly balance of payment figures. Mr Raleigh did not touch upon finance. Perhaps it was implicit in his 'Secrecy is stupid'. He should have the benefit of the doubt.

4. The creation of 'a small body of permanent delegates to maintain and perpetuate the Council's love and traditions' is, I believe, unwise. Many attempts have been made, in other spheres, to do the same and have given rise to such expressions as 'Cabal', 'Clique', 'Pressure group' etc.

Finally, I hope that these few paragraphs may not be construed as unreasoned criticisms but may help in any small way to bring 'the Fancier and its Council closer together'—MORE OFTEN PLEASE! ALAN D EDWARDS, London

THE ARTICLE by Dr Raleigh outlining the rights of affiliated clubs, their delegates and individual members toward the Governing Council (FUR AND FEATHER, September 17) is a step in the right direction, but I would ask, 'Is this enough?'

As so rightly pointed out, the Governing Council is the Parliament of the Fancier, but how can a 'parliament' be fair and effective with the present system of allocating seats on the Council to the affiliated clubs, societies and associations.

Under the present constitution, the number of delegates from a club is dependent upon the number of members within that club, but as any fancier is entitled to become a member of as many clubs as he or she so desires, actual membership is immaterial.

I would suggest that there are too many delegates for a Council to be fully effective and steps should be taken to reduce the number from its present unwieldy limits. A change which I would strongly favour would be that one delegate be elected from each affiliated club to serve on the Council, each club to submit the name of an elected alternative representative to attend meetings at which the delegate cannot attend.

I can already hear the cries of 'shame' to these proposals, but in the light of recent controversy within the Fancier can anyone really say that there is a governing body on which every breeder, exhibitor or pet owner can depend?

Secondly, why should there be secrecy? In the words of Dr Raleigh, matters are discussed which could give rise to bad feelings or complaints about people's alleged conduct as often as not prove to be unjustified.

Rumours are spread by clandestine operations and communication by the unofficial grapevine.

Every member who is associated with the Fancier should be working toward the common end, the betterment of conditions for the cat and the Fancier as a whole, and it is only by keeping everyone aware of what is going on can we all take the same road.

I would like to take up Dr Raleigh's point on the possible restructuring of the Council. As stated, the likelihood of all delegates losing their seats in one year is so remote that it is in my opinion no reasonable argument for changing the structure. If it did by any chance it would indicate that the Fancier in its entirety was dissatisfied with the Council and therefore total change would be justified.

In my opinion there is no valid reason for the chairman or vice-chairman ceasing to be the elected delegate of the club they represent on election to these offices. These officers are elected from the floor by the delegates from the delegates, and therefore the loss of office as chairman should not deprive him of his seat on the Council while he remains a club's elected representative.

The loss of his seat as a delegate however is a different matter in as much as a delegate's future lies in the hands of the club members and he must prove his worth as a delegate to those members if he wishes to remain as their representative.

May I take this opportunity of raising a matter which will be decided within Council but on which may rest a large amount of goodwill between breeders, clubs and the Governing Council. I refer to the registration of Siamese under twenty subsections of breeds 24 or 32.

The approval seems to have been given by the Siamese Joint Advisory Committee but it is difficult to see how a decision such as this could have been reached without consultation with all Siamese breeders. I would ask that all those in the Fancy give special thought to this matter and the possible consequences if it gets the stamp of approval, and to the Governing Council I would ask that all Siamese breeders are consulted in the form of a referendum.

The result of any decision without careful consideration could well undo the many years of hard work and careful planning by many well-known members of the Fancy in establishing some of the world's finest stock. S F RYDER, Thetford, Norfolk.

TEACH US IN LANGUAGE WE CAN UNDERSTAND

I, AND many others, feel very strongly that we need a strong and secure Council.

But to be able to have a 'voice' we have to know what is going on. We are told we can do nothing except through our club delegates. Let us show that we want to know what is happening. Make our clubs united in a common cause to protect our cats, to ensure healthy stock, to help sell kittens to good homes and to mate queens to the right stud.

All this can be done if we all work together to this end. I agree wholeheartedly with what Mrs Baxter has said 'If anyone has anything to say it should be said at open meetings or annual general meetings'. Too often we are stopped through lack of time, or it would take too long to thrash the matter out. Mrs Dunnill has led the way with an all day session. Let's hope that other clubs will follow her lead.

It may be a bore to some people but it will give the many genuine breeders a chance to let their hair down, to discuss problems which beset us in this modern age. I hope that the council will plug all the holes now; that we shall have an annual list of studs and breeders, a list of prefixes granted that year; that clubs will lose some of the lethargy and give its members value for money.

Socials are fine, but an open meeting would be so much more beneficial. A statement of accounts issued each year by the GCCF would help everyone to know why we can't afford our own pens etc. If prices rise then we would know that our subscriptions etc, would go up.

If I may quote from an article written by Ruf Raleigh in Sept 1958: 'Many breeders share my hope that the Council will not stand on its dignity in a matter such as this, but will own, being composed of human beings, it has made a major error of judgement and will take immediate steps to rectify it.'

I must confess that Dr Raleigh was not on the same subject. He was in fact referring to a new ruling which had been passed on brood queens. However I still feel the cap fits.

On reading back numbers of FUR AND FEATHER for the years '57, '58 and '59, I am more and more interested in the type of letter written for the benefit of novices and established breeders alike. So many breeders have written about various problems and people like Mrs Lucy Price, Mrs J Judd, K Williams, have answered in like vein, giving help and information, corrections where necessary and a lot of it was plain common sense.

A conference was called on May 29 1958 by the GCCF to help exhibitors and breeders who were undecided about various topics at that particular time. What I liked about the notice in FUR AND FEATHER was this paragraph:

'The GCCF wishes to help everyone in these matters and it is only by discussions at the meeting now arranged that they can do so. Articles which appear in various journals are helpful, but at times these become rather difficult for the novice to understand. At this meeting they can ask for direct guidance.'

How nice it would be to see that notice once more in FUR AND FEATHER. There are so many questions which need a direct and sufficient answer. Put an end once and for all to the secrecy which has existed for so long; bring in the lone breeders to far north or south who feel isolated; give them honest to goodness facts which they can read and understand, not scientific jargon which having read the first two lines and put it down with 'not another one of those'.

Perhaps, I should support the happy breed of 'nits'. Too often I too grow tired of trying to work out what x and y means. There are many breeders, good breeders, who have no idea what genetics are all about.

Latin is a mystery, unless one has the time and patience to translate, so please remember when writing an article, you may understand it and hope others do. But there are many who left school, through no fault of their own, at a very early age and want very much to know and understand what others are trying to tell them. Too often it is way above their heads and they put it aside, and maybe have lost some very useful information. (M's) E I GORNALL, London N19.

'NO RUSSIAN BLUE BRED IN BRITAIN CAN BE REFERRED TO AS PURE-BRED'

DOREEN McPHERSON

MISS LEE MEADE has recently raised the question of the Multi-Coloured Russian Blue. Other breeds have been discussed in varying degrees regarding purities or impurities. I write merely as a Russian Blue fanatic!

Much has been said about this lovely cat, which to my mind stands unique in the feline world as an animal quite different from any other, and yet today, due to past introduction of Siamese, unknown-bred stock, and the consequent interbreeding of such specimens, the breed as a general type could quite cheerfully be lumped for overall likeness to the Blue Burmese or Self Blue Foreign. The essentially different points of the TRUE Russian Blue have been overwhelmed by the close matings mentioned, merely doubling up known Siamese traits (and incidentally any unknown British factors) in the parents concerned.

Siamese influence is pronounced by soft, flat, skimpy coats, wrongly set ears, snipy faces and long thin tails; British factors by large round feet, clumsy heavy bone, short necks and, with maturity, stockiness of body more akin to the British Blue.

Some enterprising person has recently exhibited in AOV a 'Self Blue Foreign' (quotes judge 'with green eyes'). How soon before the 'heat may be generated from the chaff?' ie TRUE RUSSIAN BLUE TYPE FROM THE PSEUDO-SIAMESE.

The necessity to cull has been mentioned—

but why? How many breeders admit the faults which certain lines carry? Not many I would say from my long association with the breed. Yet I have proved, by selective breeding, the faults carried and those which, a couple of generations removed from titled stock, are infertile or produce abnormal kittens. I've nearly run out of friends on whom to ditch these unsatisfactory, though extremely handsome, animals as neutered or spayed pets.

I reiterate what I previously stated—bringing down coals of wrath upon my head—THERE IS NOT ONE RUSSIAN BLUE BRED IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH ANYONE, WITH A GRAIN OF COMMON SENSE COULD REFER TO AS PURE BRED.

In 1951 when Miss Rochford (with the advice and concurrence of the RBCC) used the Blue Point Lela Do, mated to Gedling Mokey (unknown breeding) and produced that great winner Ch Dunloe Domokvitch, everyone flocked to him with their queens. There is your answer. Domokvitch, great cat that he was, showed in his coat quality alone the Siamese influence, and consequent interbreeding on his background has left its mark to the detriment of the true Russian Blue. He was not the only Blue Point used around that time, whether advisable or not—or subsequently—as records show.

The Russian Blue is slow to mature, a point

not apparent in young stock exhibited under judges not entirely conversant with the breed. I appreciate a judge can only award prizes on the day, and I think it a pity ages of cats are unknown at the actual time of judging, because if this were so then appraisal of the animal might be a little more accurate, and would eliminate the rush to championship status at early ages of some animals, who by the time they are about three years old are so gross they could not possibly be exhibited under the breed number they carry.

Tying in with this is the never-ending controversy concerning the GCCF (and here I would like to add that in all my dealings with that body I have received nothing but politeness and assistance). But the gravest mistake is that they allow any cat to be registered, shown, bred from, attain championship status though it has no known pedigree, just so long as it conforms vaguely to some printed breed standard. This alone, to my way of thinking, throws the biggest spanner in the works for anyone truly dedicated to the reproduction of continuous, sound, overall type in any one breed, reference the 'Self Blue Foreign' mentioned earlier which, according to the critique could well have been registered as a Russian Blue whose parentage shows strong Siamese influence in the ancestry, though no more so than some well-known Russian Blue winners over recent years.

PINK ELEPHANTS IF YOU LIKE — BUT NOT RUSSIAN WHITES

FAR BE it from my intention to discourage an enthusiastic cat fancier, but I find Mrs Frances MacLeod's lengthy and rhapsodic contributions to your columns on White Russians somewhat difficult to follow, and some of her statements should not go unchallenged.

What is meant by 'the Governing Council recognised her as of Russian type'? How does one get such recognition for Breed 26.

Statements such as 'She' (a Russian queen) 'has a black dominance, unlike her half-sister; and 'you might think the Swedish stud is a dud to produce black kittens', are patently unfair to those who bred them, and as I am convinced that Mrs MacLeod does not intend any harm to come of these words, they suggest to me that she has undertaken a very ambitious programme without much idea of what is likely to be involved.

From what we have been told, it would appear that these white cats carry recessive genes for black and blue (possibly other colours too). Their white and black kittens

tell us absolutely nothing about the blue parents.

Since white (other than albino) is the most dominant of all colours in the cat, some white kittens are to be expected from the mating of a white cat to a cat of any colour. The fact that one Russian Blue queen produced only black and blue kittens is pure chance.

Her claim that her kittens are 'thoroughbred' (if by that she means they are pure) is quite unfounded. As she has chosen to breed to Russian type, her programme, as shown, is correct for the establishment of type. She has not even scratched the surface of breeding pure white cats (ie white cats which, when mated to their like, produce only white kittens).

I do not take kindly to the idea that Russian type is merely the European domestic type, or something in between the extremes of British and Siamese types.

Illustrations from the early 1900's show that all cats, short-haired, long-haired and

Siamese, fell into this category at one time. It is only as a result of selective and progressive breeding that we have these extremes in show cats today.

The Russian Blue has been designated 'Foreign' for at least fifty years in this country, and should be easily distinguishable from the British Blue by the ordinary, interested layman. If we are to work backwards, we may as well give up and leave it all to Nature, who (despite Mrs MacLeod's forecast of threatened extinction) has made a pretty good job of maintaining the species to date.

I have no quarrel with Mrs MacLeod's desire to breed cats to the European domestic type in any colour she likes, for, as I see it anyone is free to breed whatever they choose (even pink elephants). I do wish, though that she would not call them 'Russian'. I could just as well call my Lilac Foreigns 'Self-lilac Siamese', but I do not care to contemplate the effect on Siamese breeders. SHEILAH GARNETT, Ilkley, Yorks.

WHY THEY SAY INOCULATION SHOULD BE ENFORCED

WHAT if Goliath had been in possession of that catapult and had aimed at David and missed. More to the point what would happen if the Council made a decision and stuck to it? The particular decision that I make reference to is the one for inoculations, not the one that came later—against. I voted for inoculations and as soon as my back was turned so was my vote.

The machinery of the Council; its rules are being used against Dr Hill instead of for the CAT. My reasoning is simple, not scientific. I have been told that there is no known cure for FIE and that it is a killer, repeat, and the most operative word is killer.

Think of all the little cats and kittens at shows; if for usually around two guineas I can buy something, anything that will give the slightest help towards preventing my cat from dying from this disease; then I will do so. We take our cats and kittens to shows for our enjoyment; not theirs.

Yes—I think that inoculation against FIE should be a compulsory condition. I also think that about ninety per cent of the cat Fancy agrees and do have their cats and kittens inoculated.

We should stop bleating about enforcement and get on with it for the good of the cat.

I don't like paying income tax but if I did not my husband would be sewing mail bags somewhere and he doesn't fancy that. Simple reasoning from a simpleton? I am told that sometimes I am abnormal, but not sub-

normal, and I have this from good authority—my mother, and she is in that line of business.

My next sermon is on the controversial subject—Arctic Whites, or is it Russian Whites or White Russians? One thing is certain; they have never seen the Arctic region or Russia. The dooklands have been mentioned in one letter as the place where this little white cat was found; she was then mated to a Russian Blue.

It makes no difference where she was found or that she was mated to a Russian Blue. Let us not give the progeny fancy names. Many of us did not like it when the Foreign Whites came on the scene. It was the aim of the breeders to breed a white cat of foreign type—Foreign White. They are here to stay, and if you care to look they are beautiful and elegant cats.

Let us not blame anyone or anywhere for what is happening here. They are being bred in England, not Russia, or any of the Scandinavian countries. Even though the machinery of the Council may need a little oil from time to time, they have the final decision on what will be best, so give them something constructive to work upon. SHIRLEY BEEVER

WHY TAKE A CHANCE?

ON THE subject of inoculation of kittens I couldn't agree with Dr Hill more. If you have seen a cat or kitten suffering with this dreaded FIE I can't for the life of me see

how anyone can even argue about it. If they really loved their cats it would be a must.

Dr Raleigh talks about a free country etc, but in some things one has to educate the public to the right way of thinking. It wasn't till many, many children and adults were crippled and dead from polio that this vaccine caught on.

Prevention is better than cure. Why take a chance. It may never happen but is it worth the risk, especially if you own more than one cat.

If there is an outbreak the Vet's surgeries are crowded. Why wait for this to happen, just to save a few miserable pennies. The return in the satisfaction of knowing you have done all you can to protect your pets should more than re-imburse you, and when you sell your kittens you can sell with an easy mind knowing that you have sent your kitten into the world at least with a fighting chance.

In the Fancy we are for ever being told what to do and what not to do, but on really important issues there appears to be a very thick blanket. One is not free in the Fancy and I think it will be a long time before one is.

We have already been told that we have no voice, but on this particular subject I hope all real cat lovers will give Dr Hill wholehearted support through the clubs via our delegates. I think this is correct procedure in a free country. E HARDY

THE RENAISSANCE OF THE SMOKE CAT

1 A MANUFACTURED SILVER GROUP BREED

AS AN 'assumed' Smoke breeder I have read with interest the recent correspondence from Miss D Collins regarding Smoke breeding, and Miss E Langston's reply. However, following Miss Collins latest article I felt that I could no longer allow her comments to go unchallenged.

I only entered the cat Fancy in 1964, therefore my experience is limited to cats bred in the period 1965-70. What went on before I have tried to find out from talking to our more senior breeders and judges and by reading all possible literature on LH cats (American and English).

I have had very sensible advice given to me by many people, particularly the late Mrs K Leving and her husband, and Mrs Handcox, Miss Bull, and many others, too numerous to mention.

The Smoke as we know is a manufactured breed, and is one of the Silver group. The origin of Smoke colouring is unknown, several different theories are advanced, the most common being that Smokes and Chinchillas had a common origin in the Silver Tabby.

But we know that from either accidental or planned cross breeding of Silver to a solid colour namely Black, Blue or White, the Smoke was and still is mutated. (The Cameo is a new variation of Silver cross breeding, the development of which may help to clarify the intertwined origins.)

Therefore, to produce a phenotype Smoke, all one needs to do is to mate (a) Chinchilla to Black or (b) Blue Chinchilla to OE White and from each litter there should be at least one kitten approximating a 'smoke' type.

These kittens should not be registered as Smokes. In fact it would be an excellent move on the part of the GCCF if they insisted that not until three generations had been bred from the original mutation true to type, should the breeder be allowed to register these as Smoke.

In my opinion a true Smoke is on which is able to reproduce itself in its progeny so as to conform to the standard laid down for the breed. It matters not if the breed dates from 1890, 1909 or 1959, because anyone can commence manufacture providing they have the right breeding ingredients. The only qualification should be that immediate smoke types from first crosses should not be allowed to be registered as anything other than AOV.

As Miss Collins may know I belong to Ch Hardendale Nicholas, probably the most successful Smoke for a number of decades. Not only has he appeared on the show bench twenty times and remains unbeaten in his open class, but he has sometimes been in competition with Kala Smokes.

Nicholas conforms in every respect to the standard laid down for the breed, and for Miss Collins's information, even the short haired areas of his body have the necessary black and white contrasts, as also have the feathers on his feet. Nicholas mated to Black, Blue, White or Chinchilla sires smoke kittens. In litters of Black Smoke to Black Smoke matings, nine out of ten kittens are Smokes, the tenth being Self Black or Blue colours which Miss Collins will agree always appear in Smoke breeding. I have mated Smoke to Blue to improve the Smoke type and also Smoke to Black, and the results have been that 50-75 per cent of most litters were Smoke.

I think that insufficient praise has been given to the Levings for the work that they put into popularising Smokes and improving their type.

Soderberg, in his book 'Pedigree Cats', published 1958, says that although for the first twenty years of this century there were a few Smokes of outstanding quality which would hold their own with the best specimens of any other breed, the position has changed considerably, and while other breeds have improved beyond recognition, the Smoke as a breed has tended to disappear.

He goes on to say 'In fact, as far as anything can be certain, it looks as though it will never again be possible for them to be so outstanding in quality that they can rival the best Blues, Creams or Chinchillas.'

He further states that no outstanding Smoke has been seen on the show bench since 1945, and follows with 'The Smokes which are now shown display a fur of the essential characteristics of the breed, but at the same time all have failings which put them far below the requirements of the official standard. It is just possible that at some time in the future an outstanding Smoke will again appear as a result of experimental breeding, when no definite attempt is being made actually to produce a cat of this breed. Should this be the case, enthusiasm may again be aroused and the very small numbers of today may in time increase. For real success to be

achieved, however, many more cats must be available for breeding . . .'

I am quite sure that he would be surprised at the growing popularity of the breed today, and the fact that once again Smokes are more than holding their own in competition with other breeds and winning best in show awards. What may we ask was Miss Collins doing with her true and pure bred Smokes from 1920 to 1958, when the type and popularity declined so drastically—why did she not use these years to improve her 'pure' breed and to bring them back to official standard and into the forefront of breeds once more.

2 THE WAY BACK THROUGH CH NO NO

WHILST not wishing to prolong unduly the correspondence on Smokes, I think that for the benefit of those who are interested I should make a slight correction to Miss Collins's statement about Bircotte No No x Treetops Psyche (No No by Black x White, Psyche by White x Chinchilla). Psyche was by a Smoke, Lotus Shandy and Treetops Storm, a Chinchilla.

Shandy was in my possession for a number of years, and was bred by the late Mrs Peggy Cattermole, being a great surprise after eight generations of white breeding.

Mrs Cattermole lost almost all her records in the bombing of the last war, but she did have in her pedigrees some of the 'of Spen' cats. The breeder of this affix had some Smokes, a very notable one being Raccoon of Spen, who could well have passed on the Smoke gene.

Bircotte Genista (No No's mother) was of similar breeding and usually produced a Smoke in her litters, and when mated to Ch Lotus Appollo had three Smokes and no whites.

I appreciate that Miss Collins is justifiably proud of her line of 'all Smoke' breeding,

3 HOW MINOUI SMOKEY TOO WAS BRED

MISS COLLINS'S attack on International Champion Minouï Smokey Too was not only unfair, but was clearly founded on ignorance. His pedigree—omitting names—is:

Minouï	black	blue	{ blue
		black	{ blue
Smokey	white	black smoke	{ black
		white	{ white

(Incidentally, Smokey's sire was Grand Ch Jake McToski—one of America's most

outstanding blacks).

There are no chinchillas, colourpoints or AOC's, in Smokey's pedigree, and the outcrosses with blue, black and white, are not only the correct practice but have proved their worth in maintaining his type, eye colour and coat contrast. His dense black mask and overcoat and pure soft, white undercoat fulfil the exact requirements of the smoke standard and are the qualities most praised by his judges in England. Black smokes always breed true and blue smokes do not appear unless there are unusual colours in the background (eg, blue chinchillas cameo-recessives, AOC's etc)—and heaven protect us from 'brown smokes'!

Perhaps Miss Collins would like to re-write the standard of points if she is dissatisfied with the present-day judging. MAVIS SHARP, SRN, Yelvertoft, Rugby.

Regarding the Dutch breeder who came to the National two years ago. I wonder if this was the same one who complimented me on my Smokes, and who has since visited me and ordered a kitten.

The Renaissance of the Smoke breed has not come via the Kala Smoke, but by dedicated effort from other breeders, culminating in the enthusiastic Smoke breeders of today, and their beautiful exhibits, which create interest wherever they are shown.

Smokes have during these past five years come back into popularity and the competition grows each season, and this is as it should be, creating a strong, healthy and beautiful breed, instead of it slowly sinking into oblivion. (Mrs) DOREEN HOYLE, Keighley

always feel that I can claim a modicum of credit for helping the Smokes back when they were at a very low ebb, and breeding only Smoke to Smoke would surely have entailed extensive inbreeding.

Ch Bircotte No No was by Genista and mated to Mrs Fletcher's queens produced some beautiful specimens, as, for example, Treetops Zita, Black Pearl, Zoe, Zia, the well known Zero, Ch Zephyr, and my own Ch Bircotte Terry. Through Zephyr comes Ch Beavale Conquest.

There was a special thrill at the National of 1959 when in addition to winning the sixth of his seven CCs (in eight shows) six of his progeny were on show. The only time he was beaten was as a kitten, and only once was the CC awarded second time by the same judge. Looking back over the old catalogues I note that in 1960 Miss Collins exhibiting Smokes by Ch Chadhurst Sambo x Kala Mistybeau. As Sambo was a black, and doubtless this lady's records are meticulously correct, I must suppose that she was running more than one line of breeding, and that her present stock is of an alternate line. IDA S SHERLOCK, Betchworth, Surrey.

THE DEBT OF THE COLOUR POINTS TO BRIAN STIRLING WEBB

THE ARTICLE on Colourpoints in the issue of September 17 mentioned the late Brian Stirling Webb but do readers appreciate how much the breed owes to him. Not only was he pre-eminent in the initial breeding but he was the founder of the Colourpoint (now the Colourpoint, Rex-coated and AOV) club and it was undoubtedly due to him that GCCF recognised the breed and gave it its breed name.

I would also like to make it clear that in the standard of points the appropriate body colours are cream, glacial white, ivory and magnolia, the phrase 'the deeper the better' (referring to eye colour) does not appear at all and the standard requires the nose to be short with a distinct break or stop, a long straight nose being considered most undesirable and incorrect. JOHN TREVOR, Chairman, Colourpoint, Rex-coated and AOV Club

Mrs Iris Hancox, hon secretary of the Colourpoint, Rex-coated and AOV Club writes:

'The Colourpoint's came of age in 1969 after 21 years of planned breeding by Mr Stirling-Webb; so his breeding programme was started in 1948. Mrs Watts, Mrs Aitken, Mrs Harding and Miss Collins worked with him at this time, but he was the brains of the programme, everyone else working under his guidance.

The breed was recognised, as stated in a recent article, 15 years ago and by that time Mr Stirling Webb had used cats—self colours, black and blue from a number of other well known catteries.

ON READING Dr RALEIGH'S DANCE MACABRE

Sheilah Garnett

WE it is who blindly cling To the captive puppet string Naming it 'Security', Lacking courage to be free. We must loose the strands of strife Not in death but here in life. Strands of malice, fear and hate, Grievances, must dissipate, If from bondage we'd be free— Masters of our destiny. Ash to ashes, dust to dust— This is true and surely just. Mortal beings, we must die. What of immortality? Should the spark of majesty Burn unseen in you and me?

Fan the spark and let it glow, Light a beacon here and now. Show a way to better things For the puppets held on strings. We, the motivating beings, Hold our strings and set our scenes, Master of your puppet fate. Know yourself—it's getting late! Take no heed then, when we go From these outer realms we know, We may join again, perchance. The ever soul-negating dance. And God forbid that we may find The spark has perished in the mind. Then the loved ones since departed, May become the brokenhearted. Little creatures, whom we mourned, Mourn for us who've not returned.

FADED ROSETTES

I AM also a frequent exhibitor at championship cat shows, as is Mrs S Francis, whose article I read with great interest. I agree wholeheartedly.

I am a member of at least twelve cat clubs, pay my subscriptions regularly, and enter my cats in their club classes should they have a class where I can exhibit, and I also have been very lucky to win many first prizes.

I have to add that I have experienced the same disappointment as Mrs S Francis, as I am still waiting for rosettes for the 1969 season awards from some clubs, but let me say how I appreciate the quick action of any club who forwards the rosettes and special awards within three or four weeks of a cat show. They have to be commended.

If some clubs can do this, why not all of them, or is it, they just want one as a member, plus subscription and entry fees, and then forget about the awards that they have mentioned in the show catalogue to various prize winners.

It is very disheartening when you say to so many of your friends that your cat has won a first prize at such and such a show with a rosette as an award and then find that the rosette does not materialise. These awards I feel sure would be treasured by many if they only arrived. E M WICKS (Mrs)

How right is Mrs Francis about the long awaited arrival of specials and rosettes.

Could not these prizes be presented to the winners at the end of best in show. It would be nice to show friends the award made at the actual time instead of talking about it six months later.

I know the answer from the clubs will be 'Must check to make sure the winner is a paid up member.'

In my view there should be no entry unless your subscription is paid up to date. RONALD G CARE, Slough

Obituary

Mrs Ray Gardiner

Members of the cat Fancy, particularly in Scotland will be shocked and saddened at the news of the sudden death of Mrs Ray Gardiner.

Mrs Gardiner, who was in her thirties, was a founder member of the Siamese Cat Society of Scotland and a member of its first committee. She was a past secretary of the Scottish Cat Club and the area secretary, (Scotland) of the Siamese Cat Association.

She was a breeder of Siamese for many years and her prefix Neminta is on many Siamese pedigrees. She was always willing to help anyone with 'cat problems' and she will be sadly missed.

She leaves a husband and a family of four, the youngest only ten weeks old.

The Society was represented at her funeral service in Lundie Church by the president Mrs V Alexander, vice-president Mrs M Rattrie, secretary Mrs A Imlach, treasurer Mr G McKay, Mrs McKay and Mr W McNair.

GREEN-EYED WHITES

I READ in the report of the Herts and Middlesex show a judge awarded cards to a green-eyed white adult and a green-eyed kitten. I can only assume (a) it is a misprint or (b) the judge was mistaken into thinking they were the modern idea of Chinchillas.

I have a dear little green-eyed white Persian kitten myself which I intended to give away as a pet, but not now. Taking this report as a criteria, she either goes on the show bench or I will export her. (Mrs) I W PEARSON, Guildford

SIAMESE CAT SOCIETY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

BEST IN SHOW

Best in show: Mrs I Keen's Killdown Eros, Seal Point, breeder exhibitor.
Best male adult: Mrs K Sowerby's Karenza Lilac Domino, Lilac Point, breeder exhibitor.
Best female adult: Mrs W F Niblett's Reegan Camarilla, Seal Point, breeder J Dodkin.
Best male kitten: Killdown Eros.
Best female kitten: Miss C McColm's Bernina Nanette, Seal Point, breeder Mrs Threadingham.
Best neuter: Miss F M Fellows' Karawong Taiwan, Seal Point, breeder exhibitor.

Mr and Mrs K Stanley thank personally all judges, stewards and the team of helpers for their co-operation and willingness throughout the day of the show. It was indeed a pleasure that they all helped to create a most happy atmosphere.

We hope our exhibitors had an enjoyable day and thank them for supporting us. JOSE and KEN STANLEY

Mrs E Lentaigne's classes

Many thanks to the show manager, officers and committee of the SCSBE for the very pleasant and well organised show at Reading. The gate appeared to be very good and I hope it will prove to have been a profitable show financially. I enjoyed the company of my stewards Mrs Silson and Mrs Gibbard and am most grateful for their assistance.

TABBY-POINT Kitten 4-9 mth: 1 Deakin's Nikaed Acamas, very attractive kitten, good wedge with well placed ears, lovely eye colour and shape, good clear coat of good texture, excellent tail with very tiny terminal kink 2 Burton's Southview Thor, head a trifle short and suspicion of pinch, good tail, well set ears, nice coat, good eye shape and colour 3 Yorke's Reoky Sikuku, shortish head, good eye colour, nice coat, excellent tail r Yorke's Reoky Arneke, too short a body and tail, nice eye colour and shape, ears set a little high **SEAL POINT** Ad SCSBE class: 1 Wilson's Timberley Tessa, good head, well set ears, eyes of good colour but a little round, lovely coat, nice long body, excellent tail 2 Tilby's Titaya Mystic Prince, excellent body length and tail, shortish head but good wedge, coat of good texture but rather dark 3 Denny's Elswood Pandora, good long body, excellent coat, nice eye shape and colour and excellent ear placement, would like an extra inch on the tail to perfectly balance the body r Humphrey's Spotlight Tussock, nice pale coat of good texture, good tail, well set ears on a good head, good eye colour **AC Limit** female: 1 Farley's Flayre Silver Dawn, very nice exhibit with dense points and an excellent coat, very good eye colour and shape, good tail 2 Yorke's Reoky Melody, clear coat of excellent texture, good head, lovely eyes and good tail 3 Appleby's Tamaris Sarabande, good length head but pinch, eyes round, lovely coat, good tail r Greville's Mayfields Ariadne, good head, nice coat but rather dark, lovely tail, good eye colour. E LENTAIGNE

Mrs A Ferguson's classes

Congratulations and thanks to the show manager, Mr Stanley, and his team of helpers for a very happy show at Reading.

The numbering of the adult males was a little confusing at first, but once one got the hang of it it was simple, and was certainly most effective in separating the males and preventing ill temper and frustration among them. Those I handled were all happy and co-operative.

Thanks to my steward, Mrs Gornal, who worked very hard and was most helpful and efficient. That with a perfect autumn day made the event one to remember.

CHOCOLATE POINT Adult male 8: I was truly sorry to have to withhold the challenge certificate in this class, but this is not a new breed, they have been bred long enough to conform to accepted Siamese standard in all respects, and those shown today were either lacking in points or the colour was too dark, and most of them had patchy legs and tails. 1 Redford's Pi-Den Cupid, lovely rich chocolate on mask and ears, nice straight wedge head with absolutely straight lines from ears to muzzle, head lacks length to balance the width, nice type with long legs rather patchy in colour, good eye colour but shape could be better, good size ears set a little close, excellent whip tail, coat in good condition 2 Howard's Fosseway Fugue, a heavy boy this one with nice length head, good even mask and ears but rather dark in colour, average eyes for colour and set, good masculine type, tail could be longer, patchy front legs 3 Plummer's Beaumanoir Dixie, this boy did not show well, he appeared to be very sensitive about his left ear and neck and we thought he had an incipient abscess there, but the veterinary surgeon could find nothing wrong, good length head with pale whisker pads and somewhat square in muzzle, nice

type with very fine legs and paws, ears set a little high, good long tail pale at root, good colour chocolate r Busk's Pukison Pegasus, good head length but very patchy mask, excellent eye colour and shape, good ears, long legs and dainty paws, good long whip tail but legs, mask and tail all very patchy in colour, he should do much better if his points could be got to a good even colouring **TABBY, RED or TORTIE POINT** Neuter 6: 1 pr Turner's Turshaw Red Rascal, large coat of lovely type and head shape with the beautiful straight lines usually seen on this colour cat, excellent eye colour, truly oriental in shape and beautifully set, good large ears, long tail a little heavy, coat in excellent condition, points colour could have been darker 2 Munro's Senty-Twix Tristan, Tabby Point, very nice type, fine and dainty with good long legs and oval paws, lovely head shape with wonderful eye colour and shape, good ears, all markings clearly defined but not too heavy, tail and other markings matched nearly enough, coat in excellent condition, pale but darkening up a little, a very close runner-up to the first 3 Weldin's Ch Meikleriggs Surla, Tabby Point beauty with good head length, lovely eye colour and shape, good large ears well set, tail could be longer, unmarked clear coat, good lean type with fine bone, her only fault her tail did not match her other points colour and her markings on legs were faint and few r Parker's Gay Jaguar, rather shorter head, gorgeous eye colour and shape, all markings clearly defined but rather gingery and tail did not match **AC Novice** kitten male 11: Split class 1 Burton's Southview Tor, Tabby Point with lovely head shape, very good eye colour and shape and good ears, good even chin, good profile, colour match between points and tail could be better, all marks clearly defined 2 Marchant's Minster Wilbert, Lilac Point with lovely head shape and length, good eye setting, good ears, good even chin, good length tail with some shadow rings, coat in excellent condition 3 Stacey's Chandoha Ampatpuluh Tiga Apollo, Lilac Point, nice kitten with good head length and shape, one eye appeared to be set more obliquely than the other but very good colour, good ears set a little too high, good coat and tail, very little colour on front legs Female 18: Split class 1 Halliday's Sundance Sionad, fine and dainty kitten with lovely head shape of good length, very good eye colour and setting, good large ears well set, fine long whip tail, seal points coming up nicely, good clear coat 2 McColm's Bernina Ninette, really lovely Seal Point kitten with beautiful head shape and length, very good eye colour, very large ears, fine whip tail with tiny kink, coat in excellent condition, but where did the shadow tabby markings come from on her back? There were faint but visible spots and bars down the middle of her back, they may possibly clear in time but at present they spoil an otherwise almost perfect kitten 3 Allport's Araminta Lilac Persephone, good head shape but could be longer, good eyes and ears, good whip tail, coat in good condition 4 Bennett's Craigiehillloch Delphinium, Blue Point of good head and type, good eyes, large well set ears, good coat and tail Senior neuter 12: 1 Bould's Marshbrook Sultan, Seal Point of good quality with very good type and head shape, fine boned and elegant, very good eyes and ears, lovely long legs, warm colour on back and dense points 2 Wilson's Redleaf Timmi, another lovely boy, Seal Point with very good head shape and type, very good eyes and ears, good whip tail, coat in lovely condition but darkening 3 Lambert's Pr Coco D'abo, Lilac Point with very good head shape, good even chin, very good eyes and ears, good tail and coat soft as silk, very difficult to separate these three. I am sorry No 196 couldn't be handled. He was evidently fed up with being handled and resolutely refused to come out of his pen. A FERGUSON

Dr I Raleigh's classes

Mr and Mrs Stanley are to be congratulated on a happy and well-organised show which was a credit both to them and to their committee. Young Mr Clarke did particularly well as MC and ran a successful auction at the end of the show.

Quite a lot of the entries were absent, which was a pity and the overall standard of exhibits was not as high as one might have hoped; there were, however, some notable exceptions, including a very fine SP kitten shown by Mrs Keene and a lovely neuter SP. Most grateful thanks to my excellent steward, Mrs K Sowerby, whose good work contributed to a very pleasant day.

Red Point Female 2: 1 ch Deakin's Amanda Rose, cat of very good type with fine ears, good head excellent eyes and good profile, the points colour was a light red which has been referred to as a cream, but speaking for myself, I am not sure that I am prepared to recognise these esoteric variations as separate varieties, at any rate, not until a meaningful definition of the required colour is published by the club concerned 2 Sumner's

Senlac Sunshine, lovely cat which ran the winner very close but failed on a slight pinch and ears which could be a trifle larger **SEAL POINT** Male kitten 4-9 mth 9: 1 Keene's Killdown Eros, lovely head and fine ear set, eyes of very fine colour but shape could be a little more oriental, dense, even points, light close coat and lovely whip tail 2 Maconochie's Roundway Calalia, good type and lovely eye shape and colour, firm chin and well set ears, dense points and a reasonably light coat, very good whip tail but brindled at root 3 Turner's Turshaw Rajah, fair type but pinch and spectacles, light coat and medium tail r Bonfield's Stanmonty Mishuka, round eyes and severe pinch, very light but open coat and medium whip **AC Litter** 3: 1 Strawford's four very promising Blue Points, good heads and eyes and very good tails 2 Palmer's BP litter of considerable promise not quite as even as winner 3 Codling's litter of four SP, three of which were a little short in the muzzle but otherwise good Neuter female 2: 1 Burton's Casmen Typhilla, nice BP, of acceptable type, good eye shape and colour, close and fairly light coat and good tail 2 Richardson's Delilah Felicity, very nervous little cat of quite nice type with slight pinch, fair eye shape and colour and medium whip. Did not show too well. I RALEIGH

Mrs N Hardy's classes

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs K Stanley and all their helpers and my thanks for being asked to judge at such a pleasant and friendly show.

My sincere admiration for the excellent luncheon, so well served, making it difficult to believe that there was an emergency in this area. Thank you Mr Stanley—to my quote: 'Smashing steward'—Mr Richardson, my most sincere thanks for all his untiring help, he was an excellent steward and handled the cats very well indeed. I hope he will

ROUNDWAY Siamese

ROUNDWAY CACALIA, Seal-Pointed son of **Somborne Persephone** (LP) and **Simaew Smo-Kay** (SP) was 2nd to **Killdown Eros**, Seal-Pointed son of **Donna** and **Ch Sabukia Sirocco**, who was the best exhibit in the show. **Calsia's** brother, **CANNA** (SP) remains unbeaten.

Two more of this litter are FOR SALE—

CAMASSIA, a Seal-Pointed female (7/4/1970) and **CELSIA**, a Blue-Pointed female.

Mrs Muriel Maconochie
Roundway Cottage
Burchetts Green Lane
Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Telephone: Littlewick Green 2042.

SONTEW

WIN and **BEN NIBLETT**, novice breeders in the Fancy, announce their first success at the Reading Show of SCSBE:

REEGAN CAMARILLA (SP)

Awarded her CC and Best Female in Show. Many thanks to our new friends whose great help and encouragement has made this possible.

KITTENS FOR SALE from **Reoky Tamara** (TP) and **Tamruat Sophar** (BP)—two BP (female and male), two SP (female and male) and one TP (male)—born July.

The Elms, 236 North Road, Hertford, Herts.

QUINTRAL SIAMESE APRIELA, BP

First Open Kitten Class, nominated for Best in Show, and proudly won Miss Prentis's Morag Special for best BP Female.

Mrs L ABBEY - Burnham (Bucks) 4988.

steward for me again.

CHOCOLATE POINT Female: I was very sorry indeed to have to withhold the challenge certificate, but I do not consider the little queen is ready for it yet. My grateful thanks to Mr Raleigh for his most expert advice and help in making this decision. 1 Grigg's Roundway Mighonethe, a promising little queen, with good profile and nice firm chin, lovely ear set, thick tail, eye set fair and colour rather pale, good pale coat, points brindled to day 2 Stevenson's Ramonda Vanity, good wedge head with slight pinch, lovely long body and good whip tail with some barring, pale coat, points fair with spectacles and pale whisker pads today, eye set good but colour too light 3 Kelly's Sapphire Squaw Queen, good type with long body, wedge head a little short and muzzle rather square, good wavy coat, but points too dark. NANCY HARDY

Miss V Prentis's classes

A very enjoyable show so well run by Mr and Mrs Stanley and their helpers. A delightful day.

Very many thanks to my two stewards, Miss Pat Easton, who has stewarded for me so often and Mrs Rodinsky who worked so well, I enjoyed their company so much throughout a very happy day.

BLUE POINT Female: 1 ch Strawford's Maytime Blue Misty, very typical queen, excellent head, well placed ears and eyes, coat colour and points 2 Halliday's Sundance Benedicte, elegant little cat, good head and eyes, rather too fawn 3 Carey's Whitehaugh Blue Silver, good head and eyes, coat and points rather too fawn, elegant paws r Nettleton's Delaan Snowdrop, rather short head, eyes well placed, nice light coat Champion of Champions 1 ch of ch Deakin's Ch Senty-Twix Frangipani, most elegant Tabby Point, excellent head, eyes, colour and shape, good points, lovely disposition 2 Deakin's Ch Herbe Sippertree, Blue Point, lovely profile, excellent ears and eyes, rather dark and fawn in coat 3 Deakin's Ch Rivendell Apache, pretty cat, nice head, eyes good, ears well placed, rather too pronounced blaze in ideal mask

CONGRATULATIONS OUR LOVELY DAUGHTER OF TAMRUAT SOPHAR CASMEN TYPHILLIA

ON HER NOMINATION FOR BEST IN SHOW.

And also our beautiful new Tabby boy

SOUTHVIEW THOR

for his recent successes.

DIANA and MICHAEL BURTON,
 11 Newlands Caravan Park,
 Bedmond, Herts.

PUKISONG SIAMESE

again congratulate

PUKISONG CONCHIETTA
 on her many First Prizes at Reading and Kensington.

PUKISONG PEGASUS

our Chocolate Point stud, on his Open Class win at Southampton.

Stud and kitten inquiries to our new address—

Mrs Y M BUSK,
 Court Peace, Brockhills Lane,
 New Milton, Hampshire.
 Telephone: New Milton 2505.

REOKY Siamese

CONGRATULATE

OUR LOVELY Chocolate Tabby-Point QUEEN

(Reoky Shadow x Ch Reoky Cyrone)

ON GAINING HER

First Challenge Certificate

(Thanks to Mrs Towe)

MELODY

has three gorgeous prize winning daughters (Choc TP, eighth generation) FOR SALE—

ANNEKE - SIKUKU

FANTASY

Also a darling little CP girl (pet type only)

ISABELLA

Sire: Ch Roundway Osmanthus (CP)

All inquiries: Mrs DOROTHY YORKE
 25 LEVERHOLME GARDENS, ELTHAM, SE9.
 Telephone: 01-857 8013.

BLUE POINT Kitten: 1 Green's Nikaed Acantha, excellent head, typical mysterious Siamese expression, excellent colour points and coat, elegant all round 2 Bennett's Craigie-hilloch Delphinium, very nice head, ears good well placed, nice eyes, good colour, coat and points 3 Fry's Phyrne Mimosa, very good type and head, eyes and colour, bit inclined to squint r Tamer's Turshaw Mischievaria chin weak, good ears **CHOCOLATE POINT** Breeders: 1 Howard's, Fosseyway Fugue, very good head, excellent coat colour and points 2 Stephenson's Ramonda Vanity, excellent colour, marking very uneven still, but true light chocolate colour, a dainty cat 3 Cook's Denka Hanshu, rather short head, good coat colour, points very fair r Busk's Pukisong Pegasus, fails mask, eyes spectacled, excellent coat colour, fair type all round **TABBY, RED TORTIE POINT** Breeders Kitten: 1 Stephenson's Ramonda Willow, dainty Tortie Point, very good mask, excellent type all round, pleasing exhibit 2 Yorke's Reoky Ann-ekke, Tabby Point, points not up yet, very good head, good tail, nice light coat 3 Yorke's Reoky Sikuku, fair head, very like preceding **CHOCOLATE POINT CLUB:** 1 R Vanity 2 R Mignonette 3 P Pegasus **LILAC POINT CLUB** Ad male: 1 Sowerby's Karenza Apollo, excellent head, points colour and coat, excellent type all round 2 Palmer's Tauruskay Kavalier, large handsome cat, good colour, very good head, tail a little straight 3 King's Bellerophon Pegasus, large well built cat, good colour, very sweet tempered r Sowerby's Karenza Lilac Domino, large cat well set up, very good eyes **MCC AC:** 1 Stephenson's Taurus Kountry Boy, BP, very fine type, excellent head and eyes 2 Denny's Ubon Orion, very fine SP, very good eyes, sweet tempered 3 R Mignonette r L Shah **TABBY POINT CLUB** Neuter: 1 Weldin's Ch Meikleriggs Srula, excellent wedge head and points, body very good colour, quiet tempered, very good eyes 2 Harkin's Benedict Tigger, excellent type, very good eyes, excellent points, too much barring on body. V PRENTIS

Mrs H Dadd's classes

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Stanley and the club for their very efficient and friendly organisation of this show. I am also most grateful to my steward, Mrs Weldin, who was everything a good steward should be.

SEAL POINT Female: I was disappointed with this class, real type was hard to see and pinched muzzles the order of the day. 1 ch Niblett's Reegan Carmarilla, best female in show, lovely coat colour and texture, very good eye colour and shape, good length of tail though a little thick, well set ears, firm chin, nice head though some pinch, still a youngster and should improve 2 Wilson's

Timberley Tessa, good long body and fine whip, good coat texture, good eye shape and colour, well set ears, mask and paws much too pale, will look much better when points are up, good type, slight muzzle pinch 3 Denny's Ellswood Pandora, lovely temperament, beautiful pale coat, good whip, good straight head but I would like a little more length, good eye colour and shape, firm chin, well set ears, paws too pale r Greville's Mayfields Ariadne, good coat texture though the shade is a bit dark, nervous, long fine whip, well set ears, good eye shape and colour, slight pinch, nice type Female kitten 4-6 mth: 1 Chinery's Shushilla Kristina, very good type, long fine body, good long whip, wonderful slant eyes, long head with straight profile, slight pinch probably due to teething, firm chin, good eye colour, well set ears, long dainty paws 2 Halliday's Sundance Sionad, good coat colour and texture, good whip, good straight head with well set ears, eyes could be deeper and rather round, pinched muzzle 3 Dessauer's Mayfield's Sharon, quite nice type, good whip tail, good pale coat of good texture, good eye colour though a little round, good points, head could be a little longer r McAllister's April Mischieff, good pale coat, long body and tail, some pinch, paws too pale, eyes a bit pale and round Female 6-9 mth: 1 McCole's Bernina Nanette, best female kitten in show, very good type with good length of body and tail, coat slightly grey, very good eye shape and colour, long straight head with firm chin, fine boned 2 Graham's Edwardian Lorelei, has the makings of an exceptional brood queen though perhaps on the large side for a great show career, lovely long body and tail, beautiful pale coat of good texture, well set ears, firm chin, good head with straight profile, lovely temperament, points not fully up yet, spectacles, eye colour and shape could be improved upon 3 Denny's Killdown Minerva, another lovely kitten, good coat colour, good long body and tail though small kink, long straight head, well set ears, good eye shape and colour r Deakin's Nikaed Diane, good eye colour, head a little broad—needs length, good whip with tiny kink, fair type **LILAC POINT** Breeders: 1 Sowerby's Karenza Apollo, beautiful coat colour and texture, good good straight profile, good eye colour and shape, nice ear set, long body, lovely temperament 2 Palmer's Taurus Kay Kavalier, I liked this cat very much but he was very nervous and would not show himself off well, very good long body, very good coat colour and texture, good long head with straight profile, good eye colour and shape, tail a little short and thick 3 Abbey's Quintral Frosty Fircone, outstanding coat colour and texture, beautifully prepared, lovely temperament, good eye colour and shape, good head but could do with a little more length r Sowerby's Karenza Lilac Domino, wonderful temperament, again beautifully prepared, coat of good colour and texture, nice type, eyes a shade pale, minute kink at tip of tail. HELEN DADD

Mrs P Lauder's classes

Mr and Mrs Stanley are to be congratulated on a most agreeable show at which everything seemed to go smoothly all day, and I thank the committee for inviting me. I am grateful to Miss Peacock who, stewarding for the first time, knew exactly how to handle the exhibits and was very helpful to me.

LILAC POINT Female: 1 ch Farley's Flayre Silver Dawn, small, svelte, good type and eyes, lovely coat, good points colour, sweet tempered 2 Burr's Salissa Summertime, nice points colour, good coat, her head is a good shape, not exaggerated 3 Martin's Tamaris Anemone, a little shading and her tail is not long enough, very good points colour r Redford's Winceby Ophelia, another cat with very good points colour and a shortish tail, round eyes, good texture **AC Ad:** 1 Palmer's Taurus Kay Kavalier, tail not fine enough but lovely coat, head and colouring, eyes wonderful for shape and colour 2 Richardson's Senty-Twix Agnessee, chocolate Tabby Point with eyes too round but extremely good type 3 F Silver Dawn r Niblett's Regan Camarilla. This was a difficult class to judge, for many of the exhibits had both good and bad show points, and one, in obvious discomfort, could not look her best since she had, the veterinary surgeon told me, a badly distended bladder. PHYLLIS LAUDER

Mrs M E Macalister's classes

How pleasant it is to judge at these smaller shows. Such a friendly, warm atmosphere where everyone is so obviously enjoying themselves. So many shows these days are too large for this feeling to come through. My heartiest congratulations to the show managers Mr and Mrs Stanley and their hard working committee. I was fortunate in having a first class steward in Miss McCole. Thank you Camilla for your help to me and your understanding of the cats.

TORTIE POINT Ad 2: I was sorry to withhold the certificate in this class but in my opinion the cats entered were not up to this standard. Dr Raleigh agreed with me. 1 Winkworth's Cedee-Em Caprice, fairly good head, very fine muzzle, attractive eye colour (continued on page 967)

**STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER
IN ANGER AND IN SORROW
ELSIE KENT WRITES ON SIAMESE**

SIAMESE, the exotic cat that is different, perhaps the most popular breed of them all. What has happened to it? Maybe a better name would be Heinz 57!

Looking back to the thirties I find there is very little improvement in the quality of the average Siamese cat today. Quantity certainly, hundreds and hundreds of every conceivable colour, but precious few true Siamese as we knew them. Seal-Points predominated. In fact to say Siamese meant Seal-Point.

It is, of course, a characteristic of the breed that no one knows how they will turn out and, therefore, they are not easily improved. I have heard more than once, the remark 'old-fashioned Siamese' made by breeders who have never seen some of the really fine cats of the past. I am not talking about Ch Bonzo and the chubby round-headed first comers. They were before even my time, but the stock that will not be in present-day pedigrees such as Ch Angus Silky, Ch Angus Isuelt, Ch Prestwick Perling, Ch Prestwick Pitapat, Ch Wivenhoe Serena and many more pre-1939 champions.

Challenge certificates were hard to get, shows were fewer, judges more particular. If the exhibit did not make it in the first season it rarely did at all.

Today certificates are two a penny with dozens of shows and dozens of far too lenient judges. You will get there in the end providing you trot your cat around from show to show and judge to judge. I do not say there are no good cats on the show bench today, but they are few and far between, and mostly come from the same stables, bred from the same bloodlines of the past.

Blue-Points were rare in the thirties and were not recognised as a separate variety by the Siamese Cat Club. The odd one was entered with the Seals and did not stand much chance of winning. However, we had our experimentalists who set about establishing the Blue-Point. It has advanced enormously since then when it could not be favourably compared with the Seal-Point. Now we have excellent type and colour, although the glacial white body colour required by the standard is practically non-existent.

Chocolates, very few and in the same category as the Blues. One or two enthusiasts produced them but they nearly died out during the war. They were resurrected, through me, by the late Brian Stirling-Webb when only the older pre-war breeder remembered them. They have not improved at all, nearly all are just bad seals and lack the real milk chocolate colouring so desired.

Lilacs appeared much later after the war had ended from yet another experimental breeder. I find them better than when they made their first appearance, both in colour and type.

Eye colour generally, in all four varieties has deepened and a pale-eyed cat is seldom seen these days. Pinched muzzles have always existed, but some breeders did not include them in the wedge-shaped head, contending this started from the tip of the ear and ending at the so-called pinch, but now and then we do still see the cat with no pinch and a straight line from ear to muzzle.

Body colour is, as always, a great controversial talking point. How to get it and more important still, how to keep it. Dozens of theories have been put forth over the years. We all like the beautiful pale body, but a cat cannot be put up on colour alone. There were many dark cats in the thirties. I can hear the remarks now: 'Too dark, no contrast, hasn't he gone dark' etc. No doubt they will always be made. Texture of coat has gone, the newer breeder will not know the short, thick, plushy coat similar to a mole-skin.

The greatest fault is the weak chin showing itself in the late forties and early fifties. This overshot jaw was never seen in the thirties when the chin was firm, but not over pronounced. No judge had reason to comment on the chin apart from it being pale, weakness just wasn't there. Neither were the heads short because of it. No one seems inclined to correct it; the cats get their certificates just the same, are bred from, and so it goes on.

We now come to what I call the messed about varieties—Tabbies, Torties, Tortie-Tabbies, Red, and a lot more oddities. The Tabby-Point, again the product of a different experimental clan, is an extremely attractive cat, but I think these cats have deteriorated somewhat since they were first bred and are neither so good nor so attractive.

It is difficult to say if the others have improved. They are all so new. Except in a few backyards they cannot be properly assessed. Being the result of mixed matings with other varieties anything may happen in the future, although our geneticists tell us otherwise. Perhaps they will make the grade, but I have seen too many scientific impossibilities bear fruit and matings guaranteed to produce certain results go astray so do not place too much faith in genetical theories and programmes. If our Siamese queen takes a walk and the result of her love affair is black it is now termed a Black Siamese, white, tabby, brown or AOC ditto. In the good, or bad, old days we just called them mongrels!

In case these few words are construed as riding my hobby horse, I must point out they were specially commissioned as a comparison between Siamese of the thirties and those of today. Heaven forbid I should stir my finger in the experimental pie.

Has the breed been ruined as several of our senior breeders think? Will it eventually become just another old moggie running the streets and breeding every colour under the sun? Or can we get back to the superb Siamese cat we used to know.

**KARENZA
SIAMESE**

REIGN SUPREME WITH

● KARENZA LILAC DOMINO

2nd CC.

Unanimously voted BEST ADULT MALE. AT STUD to a few inoculated queens—litter brother of CH KARENZA CHOCOLATE KISSES

● KARENZA APOLLO

LP. 2nd Open first adult show at 9 months; best breeders kitten; best Siamese kitten at Three Counties.

Inquiries invited for APOLLO.

● KARENZA COSMONAUT

LP. First CC 9 months; nominated BIS at South Western Counties Show.

Congratulations to his proud owner—Mrs K Shelton.

CP female, LP male FOR SALE as pets, top breeding.

Stud/Kitten inquiries:

KATHLEEN SOWERBY

Telephone: SLOUGH (BUCKS) 20280.

**ARAMINTA LILAC
PERSEPHONE**

Class winner at Reading Siamese Show and SISTER

(not shown) are for sale.

Five months old.

4 WILKINS ROAD, COWLEY, OXFORD. Telephone 78328.

CONGRATULATIONS

**REDCLIFFE THISTLEDOWN
HEATHER**

on being a prize winner at Reading.

And to

BERILLEON PRINCESS PIXIE

for her successes this year.

BANFIELD, 37a High Street, W5.

NORTHERN COUNTIES — continued

Miss J Crockett's classes

Many thanks to Arthur and Enid Burrows and the committee of the Northern Counties Cat Club for inviting me to judge at their show and also for the lovely box of chocolates, they were much enjoyed on the long journey home. I hope the show was a success, there seemed to be quite a large amount of visitors in the afternoon.

I had a very good and efficient steward in Miss Lyn Cobby, thanks for looking after me. I do hope you will steward for me again sometime.

BEDFORD CC AC LH: 1 Tillotson's Brackenhill Corin, Blue male kitten, beautiful type, well placed ears with gorgeous ear tufts, broad nose, good chin and very full coat groomed to perfection, what I liked most about this kitten was his huge round eyes of brilliant colour, he was my best kitten on the day 2 Coplestone Betina, SP colourpoint of good type, small ears nicely placed, good eye shape though colour could be a little better, nice coat with good contrasts but slightly pale whisker pads 3 Fisher's Ghandi-Von-Assindia, Burman male, this cat was rather naughty when I had him, nice type and coat but his eyes were rather pale and one black gauntlet not complete **HERTS AND MIDDLESEX CC AV LH Ad:** 1 Hoyle's Hardendale Samantha, Smoke female, eye shape and colour good, broad nose and strong chin, ears a little pricked, coat rather short and lacking contrast at the moment, nice short tail **NORTH EAST OF SCOTLAND CC AC LH:** 1 Corin 2 Betina 3 Mackay's Dunrobin Rowanna, Smoke female, nice well placed ears, good eyes for shape and colour, strong muzzle and chin, well prepared coat, needs a little more contrast, this little cat was rather nervous r D Paul **NOTTS AND DERBY CC AC LH:** 1 Linsey's Nevela Nizam SP Colourpoint male, this was a lovely kitten of gorgeous type and temperament, a very pretty coat of good contrast, short tail and cobby body, eye shape was good but unfortunately the colour was very poor indeed, this may improve with age 2 Rowanna 3 Dutton's Leocris Dulcico, Blue female kitten, fairly good type, nice eyes for shape and colour, good coat well groomed but a little shady r N Nemeisa **THREE COUNTIES CC AC LH:** 1 Ghandi-Von-Assindia **YORKSHIRE COUNTY CC AC LH Ad:** 1 Sheard's Tykeland Fabiola, very lovely Cream female, excellent type, strong chin, well placed ears, beautiful eye shape and colour, strong chin, well placed ears, nice coat and tail, well presented 2 Barlow's Tykeland Amanda, Blue-Cream, another very lovely type female, gorgeous full coat groomed to the last hair but unfortunately a little too much cream on her chin and chest 3 Blood's Deebank Roselle, OE White female, nice type with good orange eyes, full sparkling white coat, excellent tail r M Nynias **MIDLAND COUNTIES CC AC Ad:** 1 Hoyle's Deebank Marquis, a gorgeous Black male, my best adult, type was lovely with a short broad nose, strong chin, full cheeks, round eyes of good colour, tiny ears, very nice coat fairly sound for the time of year, well presented 2 Beach's Maytime Blue Imp, BP Siamese male, another fine masculine looking cat, long body good blue points, nice eye colour 3 D Rowanna r P Sternchen.

This was my first judging engagement and I enjoyed it very much. I hope the exhibitors were not too disappointed at having me instead of Mrs Knight and I would like to take this opportunity to offer Mrs Knight my sincere sympathy. **JEAN CROCKETT**

Miss A Rickson's classes

My thanks to the committee for their warm hospitality, and to Enid and Arthur my congratulations. They must have been well satisfied with the results of all their hard work.

It was such a pity that Dr and Mrs Hill could not be with us—they were greatly missed and the show didn't seem quite the same without them. To Brenda, as always, my thanks for her companionship and perfect stewarding.

CHESTNUT BROWN FOREIGN: 1 ch withheld Sillers Siamcoll Susie, not quite up to ch standard, a little out of condition, coat rather long and open, good head length but pinched, nice ear set, eyes could be greener, good whip **SIAMSES TABBY POINT** male: 1 ch withheld Richardson's Pendemist Hachia, good head length with slight pinch ears little small, excellent eye colour but rather round, pale coat of excellent texture, tail little short, points well marked, he is a little immature yet, should do well later in the season 2 Hirst's Lymeilms Kiroto, good head length with straight profile, good eye colour slight squint, good whip coat dark and texture very harsh female: 1 Hirst's Spotlight Selfrida, quite good head length, eyes good colour but rather too big for her face, excellent ear set, rather short of barring on legs, coat very dark 3 Worrall's Pet Tabitha, head short and round, quite nice eye colour, rather cobby and tail short, she did have matching points colour **TORTIE POINT:** 1 ch withheld Redman's Lady Tara Minstrel, head short, eyes round and pale, ears too small,

points well marked, good coat texture, tail short Male kitten: 1 Brabyn's Sakura Perseus, very elegant blue Tabby, good head length with straight profile, good ear set, nice eye colour lovely whip female: 1 Deakin's Nikacel Admeta, long head with pinch, good eye colour well defined points, fine boned, long whip coat little dark 2 Le Croisette's Tanagra Sirue, good head length and ear set, eye colour could be deeper, prominent whip 3 Cornish's Libra Tanya, head a little short with very pale eye, good ear set, tail rather thick **AOC Kitten:** 1 Mason's Roseberry Thumberlina average head length, eyes round, well set ears, points colour fair 2 Mason's Roseberry Twinkletoes, similar to above, eyes very round and head shorter, excellent whip **CHOCOLATE or LILAC POINT Premier:** 1 pr Rastriock's Bumblebees Dino, female neuter and what a pity, long head, lovely profile, well set ears, good eye colour, excellent points colour, front legs rather patchy, lovely whip, very elegant girl 2 Taylor's Lucifer Lilac, lovely Lilac of excellent type and colour, beautiful eye colour and shape, very cross and difficult to handle today—most unusual AC Breeders: 1 Humphrey's Ubon O'Canan, SP, with the most beautiful head, wonderful eye colour and set, giving true oriental expression, good whip coat, little dark and rough, but he is overall one of the best males I have seen for a long time

Gregory's Scimitar Sea Hawk, another beautiful boy with lovely head, straight nose, excellent ear set, lovely eye colour and set, slight weakness in chin if I must fault him, excellent whip coat beautiful texture. Both these cats were a delight to handle and great time wasters! 3 Alexander's Alexa Sa' Mutaira, elegant BP, long head with slight pinch, straight profile, excellent points colour, lovely coat Neuter: 1 B Divo 2 Graham's Pr Somerild Adonis, lovely boy and an old favourite of mine, long and elegant, beautiful head, excellent ear set and eye colour, very sweet nature 3 Imlach's Chalmi Kayu, good head with slight pinch, excellent eye colour, fine chin, lovely coat colour r Peppin's Lymeilms Kasem, excellent head with lovely eye colour and shape, coat little dark, long well ringed whip. Four beautiful cats and all a delight to handle. I had in side classes two beautiful BPs, Deakin's Tamruat Blue Opal, Imlach's Chalmi Chanter, and a white LH neuter, Carling's Kennerleigh Jonathan, who I should like to mention for his beautiful presentation, his coat was wonderful and he positively sparkled with health, a great credit to his owner. **ANNE RICKSON**

Mrs R Emslie's classes

Congratulations on Northern Counties first Championship show for many years. An enjoyable show, a good hall but hardly big enough for the tremendous gate. People still seemed to be pouring in when we left.

A pity there was such a poor entry in the Longhair classes and many absentees, but Colourpoints well represented.

Many thanks to the hard working committee for a happy show, a good lunch with much wine circulating, and, I hope, a good photograph of us all. It was such a pity Dr and Mrs Hill were unable to be there. Many thanks to my able steward, Mrs Fisher, for all her help.

SMOKE Male 1: 1 Duff's Sweet Anthony, fairly good, nice head, good chin, out of coat, contrasts lacking due to time of year, will look much better later in the year Female 2: 1 ch Mackay's Dunrobin Rowanna, good head and type, neat ears, lovely round copper eyes, good silky coat with pale silver undercoat, contrasts good for time of year, good brush, my nomination for best in show 2 Hoyle's Hardendale Samantha, good head and lovely round copper eyes, good chin and small ears, silver ruff just starting to come through, tail poor and contrasts not so good as Rowanna's **CHINCHILLA 1:** 1 ch Harris's Broomhill Hamish, good well balanced Chinchilla, good head, good type and chin, eyes well shaped but would prefer them deeper in colour, pink nose, lovely silky coat, nicely and evenly ticked, good ruff for time of year, very well presented **BLUE Kitten male 2:** 1 Ashurst's Cargoes Lyrical Lad, what a lovely kitten with a beautiful pale profuse coat sound to the roots and beautifully groomed, very good type, small ears and good top of head, lovely round eyes of deep copper and good depth of chin, a beautiful all round well balanced kitten 2 Brackenhill Corin, another lovely kitten and very hard to choose between them, lovely sound coat, beautifully groomed, darker in colour than Lyrical Lad's, wonderfully deep copper eyes, unusually long ear tufts, good chin and good short brush Female 3: 1 Thomas's Crowdecote Roxana, good pale profuse coat beautifully groomed, good type, good eyes for colour and shape, good chin 2 Newland's Amberglow Delilah, very good type, lovely deep copper eyes and broad nose, coat dark and very shady 3 Dutton's Leocris Dulcico, good head, small ears with good width between, lovely round eyes of good colour, short of coat Premier

2: 1 pr Arkles' Bluemine McNab, an exceedingly handsome and well matured gentleman, huge head of good type, good chin, small ears with good width between, eyes a good shape but paling in colour, no doubt due to age, terrific coat, beautifully groomed, my nomination for best LH neuter 2 Thomas's Crowdecote Dougal, much younger than McNab and colour short nose, good chin, nice pale fairly even coat beautifully groomed, completely overshadowed by the veteran McNab but very pretty AC Novice 6: 1 Ashurst's Marmsbury Lysander, Blue male, lovely head, good type, eyes of good colour but deep set, profuse and well groomed coat, rather shady 2 B Hamish 3 Hoyle's Deebank Marquis, Black, very good head, eyes and type, coat shady and rather coarse at back, maybe old coat needing to come out r D Roselle Senior 4: 1 Sheard's Tykeland Fabiola, lovely Cream female, wee short nose, good chin and very good eye colour, pale, fairly even profuse coat well groomed 2 D Rowanna 3 Cochrane's Pearl Sternchen, Blue female, good type, good eyes for shape and colour, coat short but sound, tail poor r S Voodoo **PRESTON CAT CLUB AC LH Kitten 6:** 1 Phillipson's Davindo's Charlotte, beautiful Blue-Cream of wonderful type, wee short nose, big deep brown eyes, good chin, lovely profuse and beautifully intermingled coat, beautifully presented, sweetest temperament, later best LH kitten 2 C Lyrical Lad, 3 Bentinck's Coplestone Marina, good Blue Point Colourpoint of good type and eye colour r P P Prospero. **KATHLEEN EMSLIE**

Miss M L Rodda's classes

Congratulations to the show managers Mr and Mrs Burrows and committee for a most enjoyable show, also many thanks for the gift and for arranging transport for our return journey. My very grateful thanks to my efficient steward, Mrs Deakin, for her help throughout the day.

BLACK Male: 1 ch Hoyle's Deebank Maquis, excellent type, well placed ears, short nose, good chin, coat sound on back, rather a lot of blue still in, nice short tail 2 Heppburn's Springheel Voodoo, nice head, eyes good colour little small, ears open at base, coat very shady at present **WHITE ORANGE-EYED Female:** 1 ch Blood's Deebank Roselle, nice type, pure good textured coat good nose, chin could be stronger, nice open eyes, full tail 2 Lowe's Glenbury Stephanie, wide awake eyes, ears little tail, pure coat rather short **BLUE Male:** 1 ch Ashurst's Marmsbury Lysander, excellent type wide open eyes, short broad nose, strong muzzle, ears little open at base, full coat 2 Burns's Dunrobin Paul, good head, nice eyes colour and shape, good nose and chin, coat rather shady Female: 1 ch Cochrane's Pearl Sternchen good type, short broad nose, good chin, well-placed ears, full coat little shady, nice tail 2 Tillotson's Rosa of Pensford, nice eyes, neat ears, would like stronger chin, very short of coat **COLOUR-POINT Male:** 1 ch Bentinck's Chestermere Coplestone, good type, well placed ears, eyes little pale, good points, short nose, good chin, short of coat 2 Peel's Candale Mishia, nice head, eyes good shape and colour, ears well placed, dark coat Female: 1 ch Bentinck's Coplestone Betina, good type, well placed ears, eyes little pale, short nose needs stronger chin, nice textured coat good points 2 Peel's Mingchiu Lynyas, wide open eyes rather pale, ears little tail, nice coat good points, well shown, abs Cochrane **BLACK Kitten:** 1 Hoyle's Hardendale Zamara, excellent type, short nose, good chin, tiny well placed ears, coat shady and rather woolly at present 2 Newland's Amberglow Dido, full coat fairly sound, some white hairs, ears little open, needs stronger chin, good eyes **COLOURPOINT Kitten male:** 1 Peel's Obdale Anatole, nice type, wide open eyes, short nose, good chin, ears little open, pale good textured coat, good points 2 Sucksmith and Barraclough's Petite Point Prospero, nice head, nice textured coat good points, good nose and chin, eyes pale 3 Linsey's Nevela Nizam, nice type, good coat, short tail, nice nose and chin, eyes pale r Bentinck's Coplestone Marina, good eyes, well placed ears, nose rather straight, good coat vhc and hc Peel's Obdale Alorn and Obdall Aubin Female: -1 Simm's Coplestone Martina, good type, well balanced head, well placed ears, good eyes, nice nose and chin, good coat and points 2 Peel's Obdale Annette, nice type, good nose and chin, well placed ears, wide open eyes changing colour, nice textured coat, good points 3 Bentinck's Coplestone Marina, nice coat, well placed ears, eyes good shape and colour, nice nose, lacks chin r Peel's Obn, nice textured nice head, good nose and chin, nice textured coat, good points vhc Peel's Obdale Andrea hc Linsey's Nevela Nemeisa, c Simm's Coplestone Chantares **AC LH SELF Neuter:** 1 pr Bradley's Almondhill Saradoc, cream, excellent type, broad short nose, good muzzle, neat well placed ears, full coat pleasing shade of cream 2 Carling's Kennerleigh Jonathan, White, full pure good textured coat, nice head, excellent eyes, good nose and chin 3 Lowe's Glenbury Morning Star, white, nice textured coat excellent eyes, nice nose needs little stronger chin. **AC JUNIOR**

1 M Lysander 2 D Marquis 3 C Bettina r D Roselle vhc Glenbury Stephanie hc T Amanca c D Paul Brace: 1 Ashurst's Marmsbury Lysander and Cargoes Miss Goodytwo-shows, well mingled coat, excellent type 2 Peel's Obdale Anatole and Aloin 3 Peel's Angrelle and Aubin r Linsey's Nevela Nemeisa and Nizam vhc Peel's Andrea and Annabelle. **M L RODDA**

Mrs B Plews's classes

The Northern Counties Championship show was a very enjoyable show and very capably run by Arthur and Enid Burrows and their happy band of helpers, my grateful thanks to my husband who was his usual quiet and capable self.

CREAM Kitten: Only one exhibit but what a lovely boy, Sheard's Tykeland Cornelious, pale cream male of very good type, nice eyes for shape and colour, short nose and very good chin, lovely cobby body with short tail, very good coat and well presented. All my other classes were club classes and there were some lovely cats among them Harris's Broomhill Hamish, nice type Chinchilla with lovely top of head and neat ears **RCT Ad:** 1 Sheard's Tykeland Fabiola, Cream female lovely type with wonderful eyes, short snub nose, good chin, lovely pale colour, well presented 2 Winder's Peerless Red Gint, Red Tabby, male SH, good head and ears, nicely marked would like to see him carry a little more weight 3 Tillotson's Brackenhill Fiona, Blue-Cream, nice type, good eyes, face a little patched, body well mingled, both hind feet rather solid blue r Carter's Tessa Ecaille, Tortie and White, SH, fair type, quite well patched but rather too much white, very good condition **Kitten:** 1 Cornelious 2 Bullen's Bullensmae May Blossom, Blue-Cream, nice type, lovely eyes for shape and colour, well mingled except for one solid blue foot other lovely kittens were Tillotson's Brackenhill, Corin, lovely type Blue boy, lovely eyes for colour and shape, good top of head, very sound and well presented Hoyle's Harpendale Zamara, Black of very good type, snub nose, good eye colour, lovely coat which when she is an adult will be a good black. My best neuter was Bradley's Almondhill, Saradoc, outstanding Cream male, wonderful head, neat ears, short nose, good chin, very good coat and colour, well prepared. Among the Shorthairs were Threadingham's Bernina Princess Isis, lovely Brown Burmese, with good head and ears, beautiful condition, and the Devon Rex female, Hesperian Honey Love, very sweet female with lovely head and ears gorgeous eyes. **BARBARA PLEWS**

Mr F Tomlinson's classes

SH WHITE BLUE-EYED Ad 1: 1 ch Evans's Selena Victoria, very nice female, good head and eye, short coat, pure white, body could be deeper, very good condition **SH RED TABBY Ad 1:** 1 Winder's Peerless Red Gint, male, good head and type, coat too long, colour could be deeper, rather solid on back, good condition, I was sorry to withhold the certificate, but did not consider him to be up to championship standard **SH SILVER TABBY Ad 1:** 1 ch Watt's Silverseal Angelique, female, very good head and type, good eyes, nice short coat, with well defined markings on a pure silver ground colour, good body shape and condition. My best Short-hair Adult **SH TORTOISESHELL AND WHITE Ad 2:** 1 Maddick's Lyndy, female, good head and type, good patching, bright colours, coat could be shorter, shows distinct Tabby markings on head and thigh, so had to withhold certificate 2 Carter's Tessa Ecaille, female, a little long in head, and showing rather too much white in coat, colours in patching, good, shows Tabby markings on neck and thigh and rings in tail **AV SH radius 1:** 1 Pringle's Albyn Jared, Abyssinian male of good type, good head and eye, coat well ticked, but rather loose and too cold in colour, shows white on lips, chin and throat and a small white patch between hind legs Debutante 9: 1 Watt's Sireli Silver Trinket, Silver Spotted female of excellent type, lovely head, good body shape, short coat, clear silver ground colour, well spotted, spine marking rather solid, my best SH kitten 2 Threadingham's Bernina Red Lance, Red Abyssinian male, very good head and type, ears well set, bold eyes, good body shape, good coat, nice colour and ticking, less white than many but shows a necklace well ground kitten 3 Saint's Petani Alexander, Silver Tabby male, good head and type, clear silver ground colour, good body markings, necklace, and ringed tail, coat could be shorter r Saint's Petani Annabel, Silver Tabby, sister to above, dense markings, ground colour not so clear, muzzle a little pointed, shows fawn on nose and feet vhc Herd's Saharam Snow White, white Devon Rex female, very good head and type, ears well set, good body shape, short coat, could be more curled, dark smudge on top of head. The following classes I took over from Miss Rodda **AC LH Neuter 4:** 1 Arkless's Bluemine McNab, Blue of excellent type, bold, well balanced head, good skull, neat ears, eyes of good shape and size and sound in colour, snub nose, firm muzzle and chin, coat long and full and fairly even in colour,

nice cobby build 2 Carling's Kennerleigh Jonathan, massive Orange-eyed White, good head and type, good width of skull with ears well placed, nose broad but rather straight, well filled cheeks, good eye shape and colour, lovely coat and brush, pure white 3 Linsey's Akebia Budd-Leia, Seal Colourpoint, nice head and type, ears set well apart, good eye shape, sound colour but could be deeper, nose too straight, long full coat, rather harsh in texture, shady tail r Lowe's Glenbury Morning Star, another big Orange-eyed White, very neat top of head, could be shorter in face, good eye shape and colour, could be more cobby in build, long full coat, pure white but a little harsh in texture AC LH Vistors neuter 5: 1 Bradley's Almondhill Saradoc, Cream of excellent type, well balanced head with broad skull and neat ears, snub nose, strong muzzle and chin, wide open, deep coloured eyes, cobby body, short thick legs, tufted toes, coat full, long and soft, good colour, tummy and tip of tail paler, short full brush 2 Thomas's Crowdecote Dougal, Blue of excellent type, lovely head, neat on top, eyes wide open and deep orange in colour, short, full face, good body shape, short brush, lovely coat but a little uneven in colour 3 K Jonathan r A Budd-Leia vhc G Morning Star Maiden kitten 8: 1 Phillipson's Davindo's Charlotte, Blue-Cream a dream kitten, excelling in type, lovely head with the neatest of ears, snub nose, strong muzzle and chin, wide awake eyes of good colour, long, silky coat with pale colours well intermingled, feet and ears well broken, cobby body 2 Ashurst's Cargo's Lyrical Lad, super Blue male of excellent type, beautifully balanced head with neat well set ears, eyes good for size, shape and colour, snub nose,

firm muzzle and chin, good body shape, very long coat, soft and pale, colour sound apart from a slight brown stain on bib. Nothing really to choose between these two. It is interesting to note that they are both by the same sire Ch Parka Leroy 3 Sims's Coplestone Martina, Seal Colourpoint female, good head and type, with ears well set, nose a bit straight, good eye shape and colour, lovely soft coat, good colour r Bentinck's Coplestone Marina, Blue Colourpoint female, nice head and type, ears set well apart, but pointed and open at base, nose a trifle long, good eye shape, colour could be deeper, nice coat and colour, a little harsh in texture vhc Bullen's Bullensmede May Queen, Blue-Cream, nice head and type, well set ears, nose rather straight, nice muzzle, coat of good texture, at present too blue, tail defect at tip Debutante 7: 1 D Charlotte 2 Nyland's Woodene Julius, Orange-eyed White male, good head and type, broad skull, nice muzzle and chin, good eye shape and colour, lovely coat, pure white, faint smudge on head, tail could be shorter 3 Newland's Amberglow Delilah, Blue of good type, very nice head, ears a little upright and open, good eye shape and colour, short, full face, nice coat, fairly even colour r C Martina vhc Sucksmith and Barraclough's Petite-Point Prospero.

It was a pleasure to judge at this well run show, congratulations to Mr Burrows and his helpers.

Many thanks to the members of the committee for their kind hospitality and for their gift of chocolates.

Many thanks too to my stewards, Mrs Worrall, and another lady, whose name, I regret to say, I did not get, for all their help. FELIX TOMLINSON

HERTS AND MIDDLESEX — continued

Miss J V Alexander's classes

Congratulations to Mrs Philpot on the running of the show. In spite of the delay over starting the judging, everything seemed to be going quite smoothly. The light was very good for judging. Several of the cats seemed very nervous and this was not helped by the children who would persist in running round.

Many thanks to my steward Mrs Graham who handled the exhibits beautifully and was a great help.

BLUE LH Ad Male 4: 1 ch Wilde's Lomond Blue John, very nice head and type, but chin rather exaggerated, nice level colour, good eyes 2 Suddaby's Peereth Aaron, good head, neat ears, sound eye colour, eyes a little deep set, very short of coat Female 1 ch Newsome's Gaydene Gloria, lovely cat, very good head, bold round eyes, good colour, well shown 2 Williams's Willanbet Gloria, another lovely cat, good head and eyes, still had old coat on her sides 3 Cochrane's Mellissa of Pensford, nice cat, very good eyes and type, good coat for time of year r Dexter's Exuma Blue Spangle, nice head except for chin, could do with more width between ears, good eyes, level colour vhc Brine's Avernoll Tiki hc Crickmore's Thiepvial Issadora Breeders: 1 W Gloria 2 E Blue Spangle 3 A Tiki good head, chin a bit exaggerated, nice round eyes, too much old coat r Crickmore's Thiepvial Issadora fails a bit on type, nice bold eyes, shady behind ears AC LH Maiden: 1 Shaw-Cotteril's Nineveh Louise golden-eyed White, very good coat and brush, nice type, well shown 2 Shepherd's Widdington Starshine, good type and eyes, nice pale colour, rather on the small side still 3 A Tiki, r Chetwynd's Wymoor Mellita, Red Tabby, good colour, rather heavy on back, nose rather long vhc Bradley's Shears Silver Flake Special limit 3-9 mth: This was a very strong class and several good litters had to go cardless 1 Hill-Hartley's Belliza Aguamanda, very nice Blue, well balanced head, good coat, level colour 2 Clarke's Tabash Tristan, Cream male, good head, nice pale colour ex 2 Mulvay and Noble's Carnleigh Aquila, golden-eyed White, very good coat, nose could be a little shorter 3 Williams's Peereth Manilay, Blue male, good kitten, good eyes, nose a little straight at present ex 3 Newsome's Norvician Fantastic, Cream, good head and eyes, good colour 4 Mulvay and Noble's Carnleigh Andromeda, golden-eyed White, nice kitten, good coat, unfortunately a little inclined to show third eyelid r White's Akebia Zena, Seal Colourpoint, points could be denser, good eyes, nose a little long. J V ALEXANDER

Miss D Grainger's classes

Congratulations to the show manager Mrs Philpot and the committee on such a well-organised and delightful show. I am sure we all enjoyed the spaciousness of our first show in the Great Hall and many thanks for our gift brochures. My sincere thanks to Mrs Burgess for her patience and help in

CAT BOOKS

LIST 4d.

LITTLE BOOKSHOP, FARNHAM COMMON, BUCKS.

stewarding for me.

SIAMESE CHOCOLATE POINT Female: 1 Neale's Kariba Jarna, good head and profile, lovely eye shape and colour, pale chin as yet and whisker pads, pale paws, good body length and nice coat texture but her coat was brindled not glacial and both Mrs Clarke and I regretfully decided she was not up to the championship standard with this obvious fault, good fine tapering tail 2 Stephenson's Ramonda Vanity, nice wedge and ears, very pale mask and whisker pads, eyes pale and slight weakness of chin, sleek pale coat, good body length, average tail 3 Grigg's Roundway Mignonette, nice type, good colour points, little pinched and brindled mask, eyes little round, coat colour and texture good but little long at present, tail little thick at root r Tucker's Physalis Chai-Lai, nice head shape, mask incomplete, slight squint, very little hair on ears, lovely sleek pale coat, tail brindled, promising AC Junior male: 1 Greville's Sislinki Teo, good head for points and ear placement, sturdy muscular cat, lovely coat for colour and texture, lovely long tail, delightful temperament 2 Smith's Spotlight Rouble, well proportioned cat with good points and excellent eye colour, lovely coat texture of warm colour, good tail 3 Annuska's Zils Zeno, Tabby Point of lovely type, good head and profile, wonderful eye colour and shape, close lying fine textured coat but also so dark on back, wonderful temperament 4 Denny's Ubon Orion, very large cat with very dark points, good eye colour, dark patch down centre of back, good length body and long tail 5 Watkins's Sadiki Cherry Pie, Lilac Point with good head shape, nice ears and eye colour, sleek coat, would have liked longer tail, wonderful temperament 6 Stephenson's Taurus Kountry Box, nicely balanced cat, slight squint today and rather fawn on back, good tail for colour and length r Townsend's Master Oliver, sturdy cat with fairly good eye colour, dainty paws and thick coat, tail rather thick. A large class of quality cats AC Limit 3-6 months male: 1 Denny's Piden Euclid, Colour Point kitten of lovely type, good head, nice eye shape and colour, nice whip tail 2 Bromwell's Blue Emperor, Blue Point, good wedge, nice eye colour and shape, dainty paws, coat creamy as yet, excellent tail 3 Burton's Southview Thor, Tabby Point with nice head and ears, good profile, eye colour good, nice even coat, lovely whip, not enough bars yet, no colour on paws, promising 4 Messer's Kashpadan, Seal Point with nice head and ears, good eye colour, nice coat texture and colour, good whip tail 5 Johnson's Dengor Blue Chip, good points for colour, slight pinch at present, nice eye colour, good tail r Shewbridge's Tamruat Blue Diamond, tatty kitten with good wedge, good eye colour, nice paws, coat and tail Female: 1 Bromwell's Blue Tara, Blue Point kitten with nice head and good ear placement, lovely oriental eyes, nice coat and tail 2 Ryder's Pi-Den Europa, nice Colour Point, pale spectacles at present, lovely eye colour, good coat texture, tail pale, promising 3 Halliday's Sundance Sionad, well coloured kitten with nice head and ears, good eye shape and colour, sleek coat and nice tail 4 Chinery's Shushilla Kristina, tatty Seal Point with good head and ears, oriental eyes, nice coat texture, lovely whip 5 Tennant's Cantarra Tishka, Seal Point

of dainty type, good head and ears, shallow chin, good coat variation, nice tail 6 Moss's Fantan Bluebell, Blue Point, very young and immature, roundish eyes and pale, lovely colouring in paws, nice whip tail r Lilac Point, very young, good coat texture, small tatty, promising, fairly good eye colour, nice tail AC Novice neuter: 1 Daniel's Physalis Shagryn, Lilac Point of very good type, pale mask incomplete yet, wonderful coat texture, lovely tail for length and colour 2 Trinder's Lokdit Boy, Colour Point, sturdy cat, ears little upright, good eye colour and shape, spectacles still, good coat and whip tail 3 Law's Frodo Kat, Tabby Point, good long wedge, strong chin, warm coat colour, good tail r Lilac Point, good head with nice eye colour and shape, good coat texture, tail barred but long. The Seal Points in this class were a little upset when I reached them so did not look at their best. No 702 I was unable to get out. DORIS GRAINGER

Miss A Rickson's classes

My sincere thanks to Mrs Philpot and her committee for giving me once again the pleasure of judging at the first all-breed show of the season. Congratulations to the show manager and all concerned for an excellent show. It was a great joy to have Mrs Pat Neale with me—she is everything one hopes for in a steward.

SIAMESE SEAL POINT Female: 1 ch Greville's Mayfield Ariadne, a beautifully balanced cat with great style, strong head with long straight wedge, faultless ear set, eye colour and shape, straight profile, firm chin, coat rather dark and brindled, otherwise almost impossible to fault 2 Denny's Ellsworth Pandora, another exceedingly good cat and run winner very close, long head with excellent ear set, very good eye colour and set, slight squint and would like a little more width between eyes, excellent whip and beautifully pale coat 3 Christmas's Noele Fara's Daughter, long head with excellent eye shape and colour, little weak on chin, eye colour could be deeper, good whip, long legs, good coat colour and texture r Hall's Sanskrit Gabriella, good head length, quite good eye colour and set, good long body, nice coat texture, tail rather short AC Maiden kitten: 1 Forrest's Dunchattan Lilac Domino, good points colour, excellent coat, colour and texture, good head length with nice eye colour and shape, little heavily built 2 Weir's Senlac Amber, Red Point, head little short, eyes good colour but little round, quite good points colour 3 James's Turshaw Mischievaria, BP, head short, eyes too round and pale,

heavy boned, nice whip r according to the catalogue this should have been Tailong Blue Bonnet, but was a tiny Lilac Point Neuter: 1 Lyons's Supra Tai Pan, delightful blue Tabby Point with wonderful head, perfect wedge, lovely ear set, excellent eye colour and set, pale coat, long whip and a very charming temperament 2 Croft's Sislinka Trampus very good head, eyes a little pale, coat darkening, points very well marked, exceptionally well ringed whip 3 Law's Frodo Cat, ears a little close, very good eye colour and shape, no thumb mark on ears, nice head length and firm chin r Turner's Turshaw Red Rascal, points too pale, head little short, good whip, nice coat colour and texture **HERTS AND MIDDLESEX CC AC Female kitten:** 1 Stephenson's Ramonda Willow, an exquisite little Tortie Point, the best I think I have ever seen and my best in show, beautiful wedge carried proudly on long neck, fine boned, very long fine whip, beautifully marked points 2 Peck's Tailong Blue Bonnet, another lovely kitten with wonderful points colour, straight wedge with excellent eye colour and set, straight profile, lovely ear set, pale coat, long whip, a most elegant kitten 3 Ryder's Pi-Den Europa, CP, very showy and beautifully shown, lovely points and coat colour, long head, beautiful whip, short of chin r Shewbridge's Tamruat Lilac Treasure, little Lilac with beautiful head, excellent ear set, lovely eye colour and shape, very promising kitten. I would like to mention a wonderful Cornish Rex kitten I had in a side class, Elan Ali Baba—I have never seen a better. ANNE RICKSON

Mrs Wooster's classes

Mrs Philpot and the show committee are to be congratulated on the lovely show they put on at Alexandra Palace. It was marvellous to have breathing space all day and to be able to finish one's classes in good time.

Living, as I now do, in the far south-western corner of the country, I greatly appreciated the opportunity to have a chat with friends and to have time to look at the many lovely exhibits.

Once again I gratefully thank Maureen Silson for her help. She handled the kittens and cats with her usual gentleness and skill. Many thanks Maureen.

SIAMESE LILAC POINT Kitten 3-6 mth female: 1 Abbey's Quintral Angelica, very nice kitten, lovely coat both in texture and colour, eyes well shaped but a little pale, long svelte body and a beautiful whip tail, well shaped head and well placed ears 2 Shewbridge's Tamruat Lilac Treasure, another promising



St Aubrey

New **DOUBLE-STRENGTH EVERFREE**

combined conditioner and worm preventative for cats and kittens.

ST. AUBREY 'EVERFREE' is a superb conditioner combined with the most effective worm control agent yet discovered, EVERFREE, containing Nidanthel, marks a major step forward in the management of small animals.

EVERFREE is both economical and highly efficient. It controls round, hook and tape worms harboured by cats, and, of even more importance, reduces or eliminates residual eggs making reinfestation virtually impossible.

Double strength 'EVERFREE' is now doubly economical and works in DOUBLE QUICK TIME!

For cats and kittens of every breed — safe, gentle and sure.

Prices: 5/6d, 12/6d 29/6 and 75/-

Made for those who really care about cats, by those who really know about cats.



SHAW'S VETERINARY CHEMISTS LTD ASTON CLINTON, AYLESBURY, BUCKS

INITIAL PURCHASE IS THE BASE ON WHICH FUTURE SUCCESS LIES

THIS short article is intended for those who contemplate entering the cat fancy. There are many, of course, who start with the intention only to keep a cat as a pet, but most do eventually become cat breeders.

As with every kind of livestock, the initial purchase is of the utmost importance to both the breeder and the fancy. The initial purchase is the base on which any future success or otherwise rests, and the progeny is more likely than not to make its mark in the fancy in some trend or other.

The first and most important thing for a newcomer to grasp is that an animal bought for breeding purposes is a conveyor. It holds at least most of the qualities which were possessed by its ancestors, and will in the coming generations reproduce those qualities, whatever they may be.

And because some of the qualities remain unseen in the animal itself, strict inquiry into the history of an intended purchase is a matter of very serious necessity. One can see in a kitten the possibilities for the development of good show points, but what one cannot see—and this is of far greater importance—are the potentialities for easy and trouble-free reproduction, or other undesirable inherent factors or trends.

Trends which pass from one generation to another cannot be known in some cases until breeding results are established, but most will be noticeable in the performance of the ancestry and therefore can be ascertained by the purchaser by his inquiry.

One should particularly inquire about the size of litters usually produced by the dam, and of any variations in this respect when the dam has been mated to other males. Litters of a reasonably good size give indication of good fertility and a kitten from such parents is most likely to be a good breeder itself.

Good sized litters also give an indication of absence of lethal factors which operate prior to the birth of litters, thus generally reducing the number.

Another important point is to be satisfied by inquiry that litters are usually reared satisfactorily, and most particularly that there is not, as a rule, a fading out soon after birth, which more often than not again means a presence of some lethal factor or other.

One is convinced that if only newcomers would make themselves perfectly satisfied on the above points, much of the so-called 'breeding difficulties' would eventually be greatly reduced.

If sterility remained as just that, the problems would solve themselves. But infertility has many stages, and many forms. Sterility may result from various disorders which may be general relating to the animal as a whole, or may be of a local

nature specially affecting the actual organs of generation.

Apart from such pathological causes, sterility or low degree of fecundity may be associated with physiological conditions from the normal in such a way as to be hardly of the nature of disease but yet, owing to a lack of co-ordination between the different organs concerned, or between these and the general nutritive conditions of the animal, causing the power of propagation to be temporarily or permanently lost.

For example, an animal may be in such a state of under-nutrition that the reproductive organs fail to play their part; or infertility may be produced by the reproductive glands being permeated with fat. In either circumstance, ripe ova or spermatozoa are no longer produced, though the accessory organs may remain approximately normal. Low fertility and sterility of a temporary nature, because of their prevalence, are the cause of much greater loss—and suffering—than infertility of a more permanent kind which occurs less frequently. Animals which are low in fertility should never be used. They invariably spread trouble and distress.

The second phase of life is that which takes place after birth, and this is the part over which the breeder has the greater personal control. By his efforts, the potentialities of the newly-born individual may, within limits be influenced.

The whole of the conditions which influence the potentialities is known as environment, the most important parts of which are feeding and housing, plus the various other things which go to make up the general welfare of an animal. It is not my intention here to deal with these things in detail for that has been done as usefully as possible in papers, books and magazines published, all of which are easily accessible to the breeder.

But, speaking broadly, good environment is the result of ordinary common sense. Like any other animal the cat needs all the fresh air and exercise it can be given, enough of well varied food to supply all the needs without causing fatness.

Then, except in times of any temporary illness, one should see an animal which reflects good condition by its alertness, relish of food, eyes that sparkle, and a coat which is full of life and in the case of short-haired cats, close lying to the body and full of lustre. Something to be proud of. The animal which is well bred for health, type, and colour can be near perfect when given good environment. But an animal which is not well bred for health, type and colour can never be made near perfect even with the best of environment. And all this applies particularly in the matter of reproduction.

kitten, coat good and a good lilac colour on the points, well shaped head and very nice ear placement, long whip tail and dainty paws, nice oriental eyes 3 Dodkin's Reegan Devina, small kitten with a very sweet temperament, points not quite apparent yet, nice head and ear placement, good coat and nice whip tail, promising r Thurman and Heffernan's Seawitch Lilac Genevieve, another tiny kitten, lovely ear placement, eyes a good shape and colour, long whip tail AC Breeders 6-9 mth: 1 Peck's Tailong Blue Bonnet, beautifully presented kitten and in excellent condition, long svelte body with a beautiful head and well placed ears, coat a lovely texture and colour, I did spot evidence of a flea or two on this kitten, but as its condition and presentation were so good I imagine these were picked up en route 2 Burgess's Karbur Kemba, very nice Chocolate Point boy, lovely coat colour and texture, long whip tail, eyes a lovely shape and colour, very promising 3 Sowerby's Karenza Apollo, a really hefty fellow, lovely coat and a nice head, eyes a good shape but rather pale, tail a little gingery but nice and long r Payne's Simeon Salome, dear little kitten, head a trifle short, coat dark for one so young but a good texture, eyes a good colour but a shade too round, nice tail Limit 6-9 mth: 1 Wright's Linton Geryoneous, a very nice Blue Point boy, coat colour and texture very lovely, eyes a good colour, long whip tail, well shaped head with ears correctly placed 2 Turner's Turshaw Rajah, a pleasing Seal Point male kitten, very good close coat and colour pale, long whip tail, head a little short and eyes rather too round 3 Green's Nikead Acantha, a dear little Blue Point female with a sweet temperament, lovely eye colour, coat good in both colour and texture, unfortunately too snipy for head to be well balanced r Dodgson's Favian Sara, tail and mask rather brindled, nice eye colour, ears well placed,

coat a good texture, head rather too short. ELISABETH WOOSTER

Mrs H M Todd's classes

The Herts and Middlesex show was a delightful day, such a lovely hall with natural light. Many thanks to Mrs Philpot and her helpers for hospitality, also for the gift of the cat brooch.

CREAM Male 3-5 mth: 1 Howes' Honey Mist Cream Conqueror, beautiful eyes for shape and colour, neat ears, excellent type, coat shady, well presented 2 Clarke's Tobask Tristan, another nice kitten, excellent eye colour but shady coat, neat ears, strong chin, well presented 3 Silverman's Dolmege Tate, a nice long coat but shady, good eye colour but not quite so bold as first two, well presented 5-9 mth: 1 Howes' Honey Mist Cream Avenger, well grown kitten, good eye colour, coat very shady, white underneath Female 3-5 mth: 1 Plews's Tehwit Taffeta, a most beautiful kitten, palest sound coat, excellent type, neat ears with furnishings, excellent eyes, short tail, well presented, my best kitten which she afterwards was awarded 2 Howe's Pretty Kitten, nice eyes and type, well presented 3 Willis's Evernden Champagne, a nice kitten, sound coat but not usual cream colour r Hughes's Honey Mist Cream Tisha, a dark colour, not usual cream although nice coat **LH CREAM AND BLUE-CREAM:** 1 Wade's Ch Wurlingham Jubilee, an excellent cream male in type and colour, beautiful eye colour, very even coat, a fine cat, well presented 2 Fawell's Barwell Cloe, Blue-Cream, good type, fine head, coat nicely intermingled, excellent eye colour 3 Howe's Honey Mist Tiamaria, another nice Blue-Cream, coat well intermingled, good type and eye colour, well presented r Sheppard's Widdington Star Shine, a nice Cream female vhc Johnson's Wynette Mabelle **AC LH SELF** (ex Blue): 1 Newby's Nineveh Eskimo King, an excellent White, outstanding in type, lovely eyes, shape and

colour, long silky coat, well presented 2 Maquade's Zicon Hudu Morgan, nice White, eyes rather pale, nice silky coat, not quite so good as first, well presented 3 Parson's Kennerleigh Bowman, another nice White, not much to choose from second r Wright's Helvelia Ronnie **NATIONAL CAT CLUB** AC LH Kitten: 1 Hill-Hartley's Belizca Aqua Manda, excellent Blue female, cobby body, beautiful pale coat, sound in colour 2 Clarke's Tobask Tristan, Cream in open 3 Heath's Lohteyn Oddity, White, odd-eyed, pale in colour, ears a little upright, nice coat, should improve r Williams's Wilanbet Lisa **YORKSHIRE CC AC LH Cat:** 1 Cockran's Melissa of Pensford, Blue, fine coat, good type, deep eye colour. Very many thanks to Mrs Haywood, who kindly stewarded for me. HILDA M TODD

Mrs I A Earnshaw's classes

Many thanks to Mrs Philpot and her helpers for a very good show. There was plenty of room and a good light. It was a delightful surprise to have the little cat brooches.

My most grateful thanks to Mrs Rodinsky who was most helpful.

ABYSSINIAN Female 7: This was an outstanding class of very good cats, which ran each other very close. Unfortunately there could only be one first, so they were most difficult to separate 1 ch Chapman's Karmat Theldja, very good colour, real orange on stomach, very little white, nice type but head a little short, good tail, very slight neck-lace 2 Simmon's Contented Dawn, very nice cat, good type and ticking, rather too red on flanks, good eyes and tufted ears 3 Lovey's Ch Contented Infanta, good colour, nice head, ears and tail, white chin and necklet, white tips to some hairs on stomach r Rodinsky's Beaumanor Hazel, good colour, very little white, well ticked, head a little short, white tips to hairs on stomach **RED ABYSSINIAN** Male: 1 ch Braggins's Flume Eros, well built male, good head and type, well ticked, good colour, very little white Female: 1 Warde's Ch Flume Atalanta, well ticked, good type and tail, colour could be a little deeper **ABYSSINIAN** Kitten (inc Red) 4: 1 Hewitt's Bernina Red Tara, good colour, well ticked, nice type, very slight bars on leg and necklet 2 Field's Prindos Chacka, good type, tufted ears, good colour, well ticked, very little white but slight locket 3 Warde's Sherada Dilys good colour, nice head but rather short, well ticked r Warde's Sherada Darria, well ticked, head too round, good ears, good colour, white chin AV SH Neuter 11: 1 Rose's Elston Amelia, well marked, good type, nice spots, real Silver 2 Hilleard's Pr Elan Lysander, lovely wavy coat, good type, nice tail 3 Silverman and Swift's Cuckoo Chiu Chin, blue Burmese, very nice coat, good type and tail r Ruthmell's Achnitopnel Adelaide, British Blue, very good type and good colour head, rather pale. I A EARNSHAW

SIAMESE SHOW

(continued from page 964)

but eyes far too full and not oriental at all. She was patched well but without red to be seen anywhere and there were two solid white feet 2 Banfield's Redcliffe Thistle-down Heather, head far too round and wedge short. Well patched but this colouring had unattractively spread to the body as well. Eyes too pale. Slim legs with neat feet. Kitten: 1 Stephenson's Ramonda Willow, quite a nice kitten, fine boned, lovely eye colour but too round, well patched but very little red, ears a little high, very fine muzzle **Pr of Pr:** Unfortunately only four entered so I could not give the certificate. 1 Wilson's Pr Redleaf Tien a very great favourite of mine and well worthy of the certificate, lovely type with long wedge with even bone structure so no pinch. Long body and tail, latter a little thick, very good profile. Coat very even colour but has darkened somewhat since last I saw him, dense points. A beautiful animal 2 Parkins's Pr Harcoosi Chui Chai, DP, lovely top of head, very good eye colour, good length body, tail little short, excellent profile with strong chin 3 Lambert's Pr Coco D'Ab, LP, eyes rather round but of good colour, balanced body and tail, points appeared rather grey, nice even wedge and well set ears r Deakin's Pr Ryanna Blue Jon, older cat whose body colour was very dark, good eye colour but round strong jaw line. Four well loved neuters. **CPM or F Breeders** 10: 1 Busk's Pukisong Conchietta, female, very fine boned, good length body with excellent tail, neat legs and feet, nicely set ears, points a little on the cold side 2 Burgess's Karibur Kinot, female, lovely texture coat, neat legs and feet, good length body but tail could be longer and finer, good eye colour, fairly good shape, well set ears 3 Denny's Pi-Den Euclid, male, lovely type kitten, very fine boned, points were rather lacking but what there were the correct colour, unfortunately this kitten had a very bad kink two inches from tail end. But for this he would have been placed higher. The rest of my classes were club ones. I judged one particular class, N & DCC, where competition was very high. MARJORIE MACALISTER

CAT CLUB NEWS

BURMESE CLUB LONDON MEETING

Tickets are still available for the Burmese Cat Club meeting at the London Zoo meeting rooms on Saturday, October 17 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Programme: The colour and type of Brown and Blue Burmese, Mrs V Watson. Possible future colours in Burmese, Mr C E Dyte. The cost of tickets including morning coffee and afternoon tea is 25s but the closing date for lunch bookings was Oct 2, therefore I am afraid that people who apply now will have to make their own arrangements.

The meeting room will be available for those who wish to bring their own lunches and there is a licensed bar. All members of the cat fancy are welcome.

Some of the recently imported cats will be on exhibition, also samples of the new (as yet not recognised) colours will be there and, of course, Browns and Blues.

Please send to (Mrs) R M POCOOCK, 20 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent, for application forms. Tickets will also be on sale at the door on the day.

SIAMESE CAT ASSOCIATION

The Siamese Cat Association will hold its autumn party at the Great Western Hotel, Praed Street, Paddington at 3 pm on Saturday, November 21 when the cups won at the 1970 show will be presented to the winners who are being notified by post. The Great Western Hotel is a very convenient and pleasant venue providing an excellent tea. Do please try to come and bring your friends too. The charge for tea will be 10s 6d and I should be grateful if you would send applications with cheque or postal order, direct to me at Hilton Cottage, Grove Lane, Chalfont St Peter, as soon as possible so that we may be able to form some idea as to how many teas to order. EILEEN LENTAIGNE, Chairman

REX CAT CLUB

Will club secretaries and all persons concerned please note change of address of the Hon Treasurer, Mrs G A Gently, 'Donnymeaux', 38 Lower Green Lane, Astley, Tyldesley, Lancs. Tel. Atherton 2058. Subscriptions due June 1970 may now be sent to the above address.

TO REX OWNERS AND BREEDERS

THERE will be an exhibition stand for the Rex Cat in words and pictures at the London Championship Show—see announcements on page 941.

The organiser, Mr W J Noquet, 28 Cranborne Gardens, Upminster, Essex will welcome Copies of photos (cats or trophies); for historical information; Breeders' cards for inclusion in directory (no charge); Hostesses, or hosts, to welcome visitors to the stand (they may not have heard of Rex Cats before!).

NE CHESHIRE SHOW PRIZE MONEY

Apologies are offered to the exhibitors at the NE Cheshire show at Hazel Grove for delay in the payment of prize money. This is due to the indisposition of the Hazel Grove treasurer.

NATIONAL CAT CLUB SCHEDULE

Schedules have now been sent out for the show on November 28. Closing date for the entries is October 17. Advertisements can still be accepted for the catalogue. Anyone still requiring a schedule, please send s.a.e. to Mrs Grace Pond, FZS, Barbeches, Buchan Hill, Crawley, Sussex, as soon as possible.

CORRECTION

In the report on the Herts and Middlesex show (FUR AND FEATHER, October 1) the winner of the National Cat Club AV SH Kitten class should read Sahreen Smokey Joe, and not as printed.

AN EXPLANATION

I would like to point out that the letter appearing on September 17 on Blue Chinchillas was written by Miss E R Taylor of Edinburgh not Mrs E F Taylor of Edinburgh who is an advocate of only pure-breeding.

I am very sorry if any distress has been caused to Mrs E F Taylor by my article

NATIONAL CAT CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

NATIONAL HALL, OLYMPIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

ALL PEDIGREE VARIETIES.

PET CAT SECTION.

Entries close October 17.

Show Organiser: Mrs GRACE POND, FZS, Barbeches, Buchan Hill, Crawley 20826.

(FUR AND FEATHER, October 1) in which I mentioned the author as being a Mrs Taylor. As no title was given to this letter I extended the courtesy of presuming the writer was married. M TURNEY

**THREE COUNTIES SHOW REPORT
CORRECTION**

In my report of the Three Counties show, Chocolate Point Female kitten 3-6 months should read: 1 Ryder's Pi-Den Europa etc, and reserve Druries's Druries Maybelle etc. Apologies to the four exhibitors concerned. A FERGUSON

CH HENGIST STROGANOFF

Hengist Russian Blues wish it to be known that neither Stroganoff nor any of his sons has been used in Mrs Macleod's programme of breeding European Whites of Russian type. They regret any misunderstanding caused by Mrs Macleod's letter.

the
wa
es
co
an
of
Re
m
ef
th
as
gr

ing
te
ag
ar
pr
Th