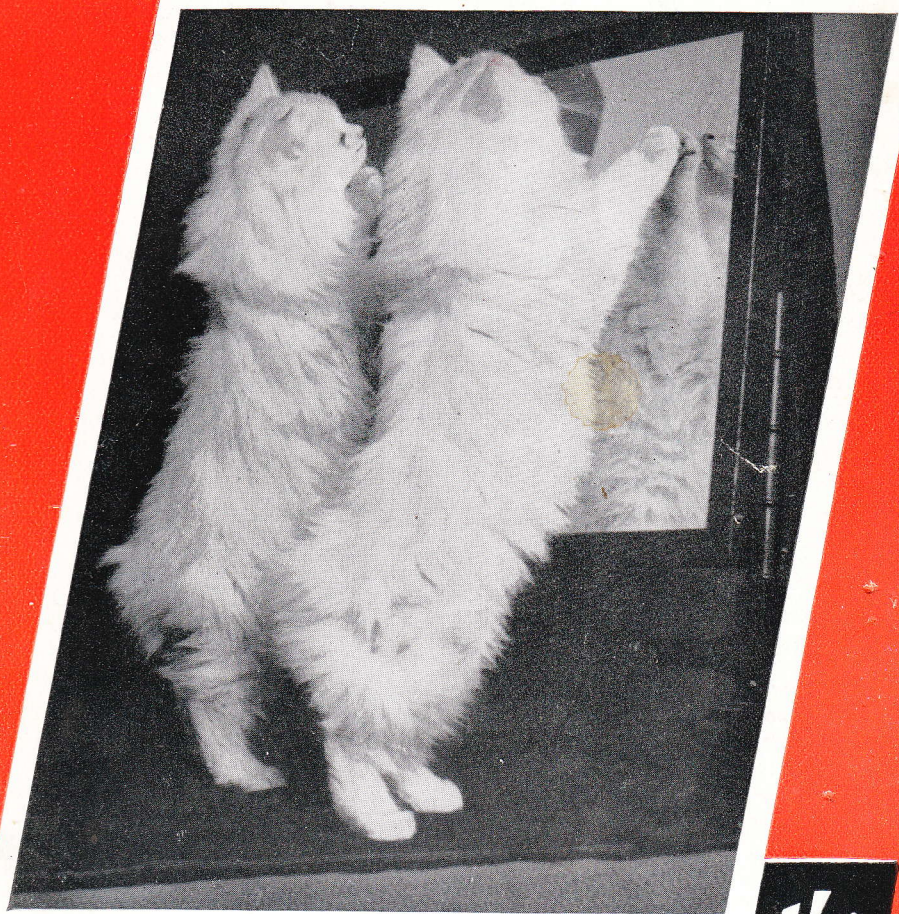


Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



1/6

AUGUST 1950

GROOMING FOR SHOW (see page 3)

"We black cats are lucky-

IF WE ARE FED

ON **KIT-E-KAT**"

"Look at my lovely shiny coat. They say my eyes are bright and clear, and I'm certainly as lively as they make 'em. It's all due to Kit-E-Kat. Feeding was difficult and often dull till my mistress found this wonderful food. Fresh fish, liver and cereals — *delish!* I hear the family say that Kit-E-Kat is good for me, but believe me, it's the smell and taste I love. Give me half a tin a day mixed with table scraps and I'm happy."



KIT-E-KAT

*in tins cooked ready to serve.
The vitamin cat food - 10½d.*

BUY IT AT PET STORES, GROCERS, CORN CHANDLERS OR LARGE STORES

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

Published every month with the best-possible features and illustrations and circulated to Cat Lovers of every kind throughout the world. Our editorial purpose is:

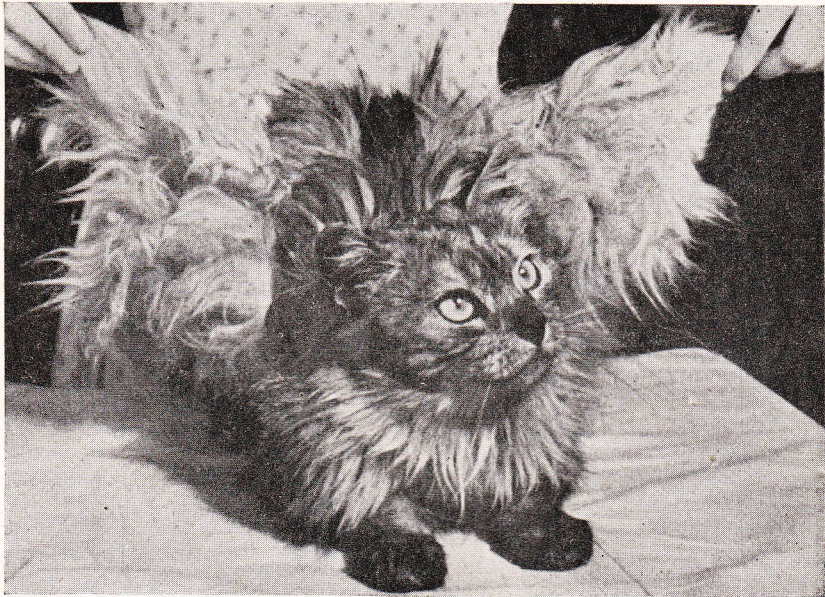
- (1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management;
- (2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats;
- (3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats;
- (4) to act as a link of friendship and common interest between cat lovers in different parts of the world.

VOL. 2 No. 8

AUGUST 1950

Managing Editor :

ARTHUR E. COWLISHAW
4 CARLTON MANSIONS
CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9



Associated Press Ltd.

NOW—FLYING CATS !

According to newspaper reports, Madrid, Spain has been very excited during the past few months at the appearance of winged cats in the city. Here is one of them, Michi by name. Except for the "wings" on each side of the body, Michi is like any other cat and veterinarians have stated that these are formed by a quick growth of cartilage that eventually forms bone. They are well covered by fur and sprout up to 10 ins. in length. The cat is able to fold them up chickenwise. It is reported that thousands of people have rushed to see the flying cats of Madrid and in one instance the owners have "cashed in" to the extent of a substantial daily gate. Fantastic sums are said to have been involved in insurance, exploitation rights, etc., and it appears likely that one of the winged cats will fly to America, but not under its own power !

THE STRAY

*She creeps along the gutters of despair,
a mute reproach to all who pass her by—
cast out of paradise, yet knows not why—
her once fine coat now rough from lack of care.
Her timid eager paws that search for scraps,
turning the rubbish over find perhaps
a morsel of stale food, and desperate try
to satisfy her body's hunger-cry.
But now and then her emerald-jewelled eyes—
the only loveliness she still may own—
with frightened darts, hopeless yet pleadingwise,
glance sadly up at faces that look down . . .
Yet those who pass, they do not pause—nor care
to see the patient sorrow mirrored there.*

*Dear God, Who cherishes each sparrow's wing,
surely Your Wrath shall fall, Your Vengeance frown
on those who callously have caused this thing?*

MARGARET MACLEOD



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Grooming for Show

By CATHERINE MANLEY

ONCE the essential details have received attention — ears cleaned, fleas eliminated, etc. — come the final preparations for a cat to enter a show.

The Longhaired cat still needs the most attention, so we will deal with him first of all. The most usual drawback to a perfect coat is grease. With the undoctored male this sometimes centres at the base of the tail and mars its flowing contour. With all cats the frill is liable to be spoilt, especially under the chin and on the chest, due mostly to a too intimate contact with foodstuffs at feeding time.

There are two ways of dealing with grease effectively. The first is by bathing. This is an operation that requires care and a certain amount of skill. It should not be attempted singlehanded. Two people should embark upon the task, one to give the bath, the other to hold the cat gently and prevent his sudden if not altogether unexpected departure. Especially if it is the first time he has been subjected to such seeming indignity!

Use of Soap

The water must be warm, not hot, and can be tested with the elbow exactly as when bathing a baby. There should be sufficient to do the job effectively but not enough to risk submerging the unfortunate animal.

Green soft soap, obtainable at any chemist's shop, is a suitable one to use, makes an excellent lather and does not irritate the skin. On no account should a harsh or cheap soap be used.

The lather should be well rubbed in, especially at those places likely to be sites for grease to collect. Rinse carefully and thoroughly so that no trace of soap remains.

Three things are most important. To use consistently warm water, conduct the operation with sufficient speed to prevent the cat catching a chill, and to dry thoroughly afterwards. After the bath he should be confined to the house for the day. Equally important is it to see that throughout the bath no water or soap is allowed to enter the ears or eyes. Particular attention must be paid to this last injunction, or damage to the cat may result.

Dry Cleaning

For those who fear the bath is beyond their capabilities, there is an alternative. Bran heated in the oven then rubbed into the coat and brushed well out acts as a dry shampoo. Longhair cats should be brushed and combed in quite definite directions.

The ordinary household cat is not seen to the greatest advantage because admirers caress him with long, sweeping motions of the hand from head to tail. Not so the show cat. He is groomed so that every hair contributes to his final beauty, and does not present the windswept appearance of his humbler brethren.

At the back of the neck examination will reveal a shorter growth of hair. From here the cat is brushed *down* towards the tail and *up* towards the top of the head in a sort of Elizabethan ruff. The frill is continued round the head by brushing from the

neck towards the face, giving the latter a "fuller" look.

The chest, flanks, tail and legs should be brushed downward with a short, flicking movement which will make the hairs stand out instead of sleeking them to the body. A little powder may be rubbed in if there are still any signs of grease, but must be brushed out and no traces left to prevent disqualification. Powder so used should be one of the talcum variety, but must *not* contain zinc or poisoning may result.

Powder should not be used on any cat which depends for beauty on the depth of colouring of its coat. Blacks,

for instance, are improved if a little eau-de-Cologne is applied to the coat, which enhances the colour. Whites similarly show a brighter colour if a trace of blue bag is added to their bath water.

The Shorthair cat owner sighs with relief, no doubt, for his task is much easier. Clean eyes, ears, a flealess coat, and vigorous stroking with the hands supply practically all the attention he needs. Though a final polish can sometimes be obtained by the use of a silk handkerchief.

Many domestic cats will have an unique experience this September. Good luck to them all!



Two Unusual Queries

By ALBERT C. JUDE

THE Editor has forwarded to me two unusual queries which he has received from readers and which I am invited to answer.

The first is from a Hampshire reader, Mr. S. One of his queens has just produced two kittens in one sack. Mr. S. asks if this is exceptional and if it is usual for such kittens to be identical.

This is a case of monozygotic twins, the birth of which is uncommon. Another case was reported to me from America quite recently. On an average such twins may occur once in about 1,500 embryos. It is, of course, usual for monozygotic twins to be identical or nearly so in every respect.

Mr. S. also asks whether there is likely to be any special "fretting" when these kittens reach separate

homes. There is no evidence of the possibility for abnormal fretting and I don't think there need be any cause to worry on this account.

The other query is from Mrs. C., of London. Last year her young Russian Blue queen was mated to an unrelated stud and produced five perfectly healthy kittens. This year the queen was again mated to the same stud and again produced five kittens, but on this occasion all the kittens died by the age of three weeks. Post mortem showed that the kittens had suffered from heart condition generally known as "blue baby." Mrs. C. wishes to know whether she ought to continue to mate this particular queen with that same stud.

(continued on page 6)

A page for the proletarian puss No. 5



A STRAIGHT LEFT !

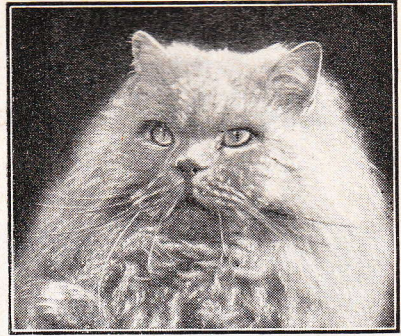
A delightful snapshot—with the only possible caption—taken by Mr. E. E. Steele, Fiskerton, Lincoln.

Because *all* the kittens from the first mating were normal, while *all* from the second mating were affected, this case is a particularly interesting one. If the litter which died had been sired by a *fresh* stud and not by the one originally used, such a litter would have indicated a recessive congenital heart disease and both parents would be held to carry the gene for the unwanted factor. But even so, there would be the *completely* affected litter to explain, for with recessive conditions one would expect only 25 per cent. to be affected.

While we know that such percentage is only average over a number of litters, the fact that all five would be affected stretches the odds very intensively, and would lead one to wonder whether the cause of the condition would be genetic or merely environmental. But as the same male was used on each occasion, the above reading for recessive conditions does not apply, but we still have the unusual figures for both litters to explain.

Putting the facts together as we have them, there is insufficient evidence to form any sound conclusion. In the absence of sufficient evidence it would seem that an environmental factor producing the same type of lesion in each of the five kittens which died is not beyond the realms of possibility. Certainly the figures give some support to the view.

There is just one possibility, namely, that for the second litter there may have been a mismating. But quite likely Mrs. C. is able to rule out that possibility. It would be very instructive and indeed only fair that a similar mating should once more be made. There are the prospects that another normal litter would result and then it would be fair to surmise that the second litter was affected only by some environmental factor.



CHAMPION HARPUR BLUE BOY

Three year old Blue Persian stud cat was 1st and Champion and Best L.H. cat in Show at Croydon C.C. Show on 10th November, 1949; 1st and Champion at National C.C. Show 6th December, 1949; 1st and Champion at Southern Counties C.C. Show 30th January, 1950.

Major G. C. Dugdale, 48 Nevern Square, London, S.W.5, owner of the well-known Harpur prefix, writes—

"I give Kit-zyme to all my cats and I am quite sure that it had a lot to do with the clear eye and the silky coat, denoting perfect health, which were largely responsible for my Blue Persian stud, Harpur Blue Boy, winning 1st and Champion at all three of the big London Shows last season."

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LOSS OF APPETITE,
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Literature free on request

Cat Psychology

By GRACE POND

I READ the article in a well-known daily paper (and which was reviewed in the May issue of OUR CATS) about the experiments carried out by a team of American psychologists on a cat's reactions to social life. They proved the fact, known to all breeders, that some cats are more intelligent than others and their reactions are the same as humans in most things.

I have eight cats, and while I am no psychologist—only a psychologist's secretary—I can see that each cat is an entire individual with his or her parallel in a human.

Idmiston Terina, a Blue Persian, is definitely the aggressive type. Obviously she was frustrated as a kitten and now takes it out of my Shorthaired mackerel-striped Pearl. Pearl is an amiable, friendly type, which annoys Terina exceedingly. She will spend hours glaring balefully at Pearl asleep on a chair, until Pearl becomes conscious of her gaze, can bear it no longer, and jumps down and I have to rush to the rescue.

Dolly of Allington is definitely the fussy housewife type. She enters the kitchen with a rush, whisking her tail all the time—jumps on a chair. "Is that a speck of dust? Can't sit there"—jumps down, looks round. "Oh, excuse me, I must dash upstairs; I believe I heard one of my kittens calling." Off she goes, to return in a few minutes. "Oh, no, I was mistaken. They are all asleep." She darts up to



The author's charming little Blue Longhair kitten, Blue Star Charmian, photographed at nine weeks.

one of the other cats snoozing peacefully on the rug. "My dear, you haven't washed behind your ears this morning." She holds her head down by force, washes behind her poor victim's ears, and departs with a look of "Never a minute to spare in this house."

Vigilante Valetta is the "Garbo" type. Leave her alone and she will sit and purr quite happily, but let one of the other cats decide to sit near her, and she will use the most unladylike language and retire huffily to another corner. Even her last year's kitten, Biggles, whom she adored when tiny, is not allowed to approach her. She just wants to be alone.

Star, my Longhaired Silver Tabby, is the opposite to Valetta—she's the "Please don't leave me alone, I am just a poor innocent cat in this great wicked world" type. She will wail and wail outside the kitchen door,

until in sheer desperation someone lets her in. She will enter with a shake of her beautiful coat, opening her big eyes as wide as possible, with a look of reproach on her face, as if to say, "Why did you shut me out? You know I can't bear to be alone." With one leap she is on my shoulder and I have to work with her there; sit down, and she's on my lap. If I go to take a bath, she accompanies me, sitting on the edge of the bath, patting me under the water occasionally, to make sure that I am really there.

There is Biggles!

Idmiston Candytuft, my Blue Persian stud, is the strong, silent male type, stalking proudly down the garden path. He looks contemptuously at the kittens who trail him, actually having the audacity to pretend that he is a mouse. He gives me a look as much as to say, "Really, can't you train these youngsters to respect their elders? To think that a cat of my age, wisdom and pedigree should be expected to indulge in such childishness as chasing whirling leaves around the garden—well, perhaps, just a sly pat if no one is looking!"

Blue Star Victoria is the adolescent type—a shy, half-grown young miss, not sure yet if she is still a kitten or a cat. Very kittenish one minute and rushing madly around, and then becoming very shy and trying to behave like a real grown-up cat.

Last of all there is Biggles, so called by my two boys because, just like Biggles in the books, if there is any trouble he's in it. He is just four months, and he is the typical mischievous boy type—into everything doing

everything he shouldn't. Knocking the paraffin can over, and then sitting mewing because he's got the paraffin all over his paws and he doesn't like the taste; pushing the flower vases over just to see the water pouring out, rushing madly up the curtains, and jumping through the banisters on to unsuspecting visitors going down the stairs. At the moment, Biggles is just a blue furry bundle of naughtiness—the bane of my existence, but all too soon, I am afraid, he will change to the strong, silent male type, and I shall miss my bad boy kitten.

It must be I am the mothering type!



SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES CAT CLUB

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(under G.C.C.F. Rules)

on

Wednesday, 27th September

at

TRINITY MEMORIAL HALL
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Hon. Secretary and Show Manager:
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DUNSTONE PARK, PAIGNTON

The Hall is 2 minutes walk from Strand.
Frequent buses (12 and 12a) from Station
to Strand.

Correspondence Corner

Readers are invited to send contributions to this feature and so to join in the useful exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. Letters should be concise and deal preferably with items of general interest.

MORE WHISKER BITING

The letters on whisker biting interested me vastly as I am afflicted with three generations of whisker-biters among my Siamese! Grand-mamma Kloa started the rot with her second kindle and she has handed the trait on to her daughter Suri. Much to my disgust, I now find Suri's daughter (aged three and a half months) at the game busy chewing off the odd remaining whiskers left on Kloa's younger kittens!

There just doesn't seem to be any way in which I can stop them. It doesn't seem to affect the kittens much except that they definitely resent the operation, and we have noticed that they tend to bump into furniture. The point is that a Siamese should have a pointed nose rather than a square one, and I honestly believe all this pulling and chewing of their top lips does tend to widen the nose, and as I show them from time to time and, like all exhibitors, cherish hopes of one day sending up a champion, I am somewhat perturbed at this pernicious habit.

Great grandmamma Chai, who lives and is fed in precisely the same way as the rest of the brood, is not and never has been a whisker biter, although her own whiskers are now and again mutilated by her zealous offspring!

We think this whisker biting was caused by an outbreak of ringworm. Kloa managed to contract ringworm when she was in kitten and we were not able to clear it before the kits

were born, with the consequence that all four kittens contracted it, too, when they were very small. I think Kloa in her mind associated the rough little whiskers with a patch of ringworm and tried to bite them out in the same way that she tried to bite out the ringworm patches. Be that as it may, the habit still persisted even when the ringworm cleared, and every succeeding kindle we have had are sold completely clean shaven! Eyebrows vanish as well!

My problem is *how* to stop this unwanted tonsoring?

Miss Joan Emens,
Bath, Somerset.

RINGWORM TREATMENT

Regarding the treatment of ringworm in cats, it does not seem to be generally known that tincture of metaphen is far superior to iodine or sulphur ointment. It is non-poisonous and practically non-irritant. It does not matter if the cat licks it and it can safely be put on a raw place.

It is the same colour as iodine and when a patch of ringworm is treated with it, the ring stands out as a darker circle than the skin that is affected. It is important to treat well *outside* the ring as the infection spreads outwards and this must be checked. In practice, I found it best to dip my finger in the metaphen and dab it on the spots. By using bits of cottonwool, far more is wasted than applied to the lesion, and anyhow if you have metaphen on your

finger you won't get ringworm there! Twice a day is often enough to treat the spots, but you must persevere and don't stop treating any one spot until you can see a fine "down" of new hair.

Search carefully for new spots before each treatment and look particularly between the toes and down the sheath of each claw. Extend the claw by pressing the pad up with one finger and fully retracting the sheath with another finger. If there is even a suspicion, treat at once, because for some reason that is the most difficult spot to clear up.

It took me two months to treat my six cats, one of them a Longhair. Whether it was due to luck or metaphen I do not know, but my two Siamese queens were not left with "blind spots," as both have had several litters since the infection and there has not been a blemish on any of the kittens. Tincture of metaphen is also excellent for treating open wounds. It disinfects them and dries them up quickly.

I obtained this tip from "Cats and all about Them," by L. H. Fairchild, M.D., and Helen G. Fairchild, well-known American Fanciers. I have found metaphen is used chiefly in obstretical work and is little known by the general public. It is rather expensive but I think invaluable. The Fairchilds recommend it for sore gums, treatment of burst abscess following adenitis, secondary infections of throat and mouth following gastro-enteritis, scratches, sores, and torn ears, and the destruction of staphylococci, streptococci, B. coli, spirilla and even spores.

Mrs. M. A. F. Collingwood,
P.O., Melfort, Southern Rhodesia.

ADVICE SOUGHT

I take an interest in all cats, but my work is for the strays with our Cat Protection Society here. This came

into being thanks a good deal to advice, literature, etc., from Mr. Steward, of the Cats' Protection League, Slough.

As everywhere, the strays and unwanted among cats are indeed a problem. Just now I am endeavouring to find out if the electric cabinet is superior to gas as a method of destruction. Gas is being used here, nembatal capsules sometimes being given first. If the electric cabinet is a better and more humane method I would have one sent out at once. I wonder if any of your readers could advise me?

Miss K. Greer,
5 Allaville Ave., Gardiner, S.E.6,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

MAIDEN MILKERS

I wonder if any of your readers have heard of a cat behaving like our Red Tabby Shorthair queen Vectensian Rio Tinto?

Ch. Vectensian Copper Eyes, Rio's mother, had been allowed to keep one kitten only from a mismating, and Rio became very attached to him. She (Rio) had been mated to Rivoli Robin and was thought to be in kitten. Imagine our surprise when, on sitting up with Hillcross Sylvia while she was kitting, we discovered that Rio was feeding Copper's kitten! Although she was a maiden queen Rio definitely had milk, and when the kitten went to his new home a few days later she was very upset.

A week after he had gone she began to call again, but as it was Whitsun we were unable to send her away. By the time she was due to call again she had discovered Sylvia's Silver kitten and came into milk again. However, we discovered that quickly and by keeping her well away from him we were able to get her to call again, and she has now been to visit Robin once more, so we are now hoping for some really "extra special" kittens.

I have been told that "maiden milkers" are quite common in goats, but no one to whom I have spoken appears to have heard of such a thing in cats before.

Miss Pat Tucker,
Banstead, Surrey.

ON KEEPING A STUD

I was interested to read Mr. Soderberg's article in your February issue on keeping a stud. Though I am only an amateur, I must say that I do not agree with his opinion that it is undesirable to keep a full male as a pet and breed from him. At different times I have owned (one at a time) three full Siamese males and I have always allowed them the run of the house and garden. It was possible, I found, to teach them not to spray indoors and they certainly prevented my females from having kittens by other cats.

I have a theory which I have found excellent in practice, and with which Mr. Soderberg agreed in a former article, that the more naturally one allows cats to live and mate and lead a family life, the happier and healthier they are and the more affectionate they become to their owners. Certainly I have never had any trouble with the birth of litters, nor have the owners of visiting females. I don't approve of only allowing one or two matings as I think that is unfair both to the male and female and might possibly be the cause of difficult births. So I accept one queen only until John Sebastian (my stud) is bored with her, a sign the honeymoon is ended.

I realise that this is not the way to make much money out of keeping a stud, but as I charge £5 5s. for any visiting queen and do not have to pay stud fees for my queens, I do not lose by it. Having a limited income I could not afford to keep five cats as

I do, as it costs at least £2 a week to feed them.

Two full males that I have bred and sold have been kept for over six years as pets. One, Hurricane, lives in a beautifully furnished old Cape house with a lovely garden and has the full freedom of both. He has his own wives on the premises and is also used on occasion for stud purposes. Two more friends of mine have males as pets. One whom I bred has no wives and the other has one. They also behave quite well in the house.

So, to come to a conclusion, I think this proves that if you treat a male cat as a friend and equal and allow him to use his own judgment, he is intelligent enough to understand and respect your wishes and act as a civilised gentleman should. He can most certainly be a loving and entertaining companion, too.

Miss F. Pocock,
Muizenberg, C.P., South Africa.

Miss Pocock, Chairman of the Western Province Cat Club and a pioneer worker in South African feline circles, has kindly written of her experiences at considerable length. I regret that pressure on space and the fact that much has already appeared on the subject of keeping a stud prevents me for the time being at any rate from publishing her interesting letter in full.—
Editor.

ANOTHER VIEW

In reply to Mrs. Gregory's plea (May issue OUR CATS) on behalf of the stud cat, we should all like to be able to have studs free, and as long as you keep your stud entirely for your own use, that is a personal choice. But when the stud is advertised for public stud and you take a fee, surely it is not fair to queen owners to allow your stud to mate with the Sues and Sallies of the dis-

trict. And, above all, there is the risk of passing on disease to the queens.

Another point: although clean in the house, it is more than likely, sooner or later, the stud will visit a neighbour's house, leaving his mark behind, and should there be another tom or neuter there, it will not be long before he is battling with them and out to kill, however sweet he may be at home. I know of three cases of studs who lived in the house with their queens and kittens, perfect pets and docile at home, but as soon as they got away on their own they became terrors of the neighbourhood. The result—one stud never returned. Another had to be shut up at once as the locals threatened to "do him in." The third stud had to be shut

up. All three lived in different districts miles apart.

Capt. E. A. Lowe,
Slades Cross, Somerset.

FORCIBLE FEEDING

With regard to Mrs. Barbara Hewlett's comments in last month's issue on forcible feeding and dehydration, I should like to point out that in my article I referred to the use of "normal saline injections if the situation calls for it." A considerable quantity of liquid can be given once daily by this method and in my view it is a better method of overcoming dehydration than forcible feeding.

"Forceps"

(Member of the Royal College of
Veterinary Surgeons).

Crystal Cat Show

Don't forget the date—

**Wednesday & Thursday
20th — 21st September**

It's the "big show" of the year

Watch the press for fuller details or apply to the Show Manager:

MR. ARTHUR TOWE,
WOODGATE, LONDON ROAD,
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A monthly journal devoted entirely to Pedigree Cats
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- BREEDERS' NEWS
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Single copies 7d. Post free. Yearly Subscription 7s.

Obtainable only from . . . THE EDITOR (KIT WILSON)
"THE LOFT" 18 SOUTH END KENSINGTON W.8



Tailpieces

A regular newsy feature with a selection of the best items from home and overseas



AN advertisement in a provincial newspaper that has been brought to my notice is well worth retailing as it is such a delightful departure from the orthodox. Here it is: "Attractive young lady (black and white feline), of highly intelligent extraction, desirous of sharing good home with kind family or person. Willing help with mousing. Present abode 44/46 Church Street, Warnham. Phone Broad-bridge Heath 47 or call."

An interesting and thought-compelling picture appears in the July issue of "The Cat," the official organ of the Cats' Protection League, Slough, Bucks. It is a photograph of a pile of 50 bones of various kinds that were taken from the throats of cats at the League's headquarters clinic. It is explained that any one of these bones was sufficient to cause death and that, in addition, a number of fearsome-looking needles were extracted.

According to a newspaper report, Michael Neale, self-styled "Prince of the Saltees"—an island situated five miles off the south-east coast of Ireland—has flown a number of cats over from Dublin. He hopes the cats will keep down the rabbits that have become a plague on the island.

"Animal World," the official journal of the R.S.P.C.A., tells the following story in its "Heroes'

Corner": Some soldiers playing cricket at Mowden Hall, Darlington, heard mewing from a well in the grounds. As they knew that a black and white cat had been missing two or three weeks, they put a 30-foot ladder into the well, but it was not nearly long enough. A corporal volunteered to be lowered by rope, but the rope broke and he was forbidden to try again by his sergeant-major. The Fire Brigade were informed and Leading Fireman W. A. Moore donned breathing apparatus and was lowered down the well. At considerable personal risk he rescued the cat, who has since been nursed back to health.

During the month of June, 5,972 cats were handled at H.Q. clinics of the R.S.P.C.A. and 32 were received at the Putney Convalescent Ward for treatment. The Society's Welsh Mobile Unit gave first aid to 11 cats during the same period.

I have news that Mrs. K. R. Williams, well known to English Fanciers as a successful Siamese breeder and Hon. Secretary of the Southern Counties Cat Club, is shortly to leave her Sutton, Surrey, home for a visit to America. She has a judging assignment in Virginia City on 1st and 2nd December, the occasion being the Siamese Specialty Show of the Norfolk Cat Fanciers, Inc., member club of the Cat Fanciers Association, Inc.

My thanks are due to a subscriber who sent me a local newspaper clipping which relates a true cat-and-mouse story by Mr. Frank Sparkes, who is well known in the Uxbridge district as "The Major." Mr. Sparkes has been keeping a cat and three tame mice and not very long ago a field mouse entered the house and paid a social call on his tame brethren. The cat spotted the intruder and promptly despatched him. It then became apparent that all three tame mice were in a certain interesting condition. The cat killed one of them and is very, very angry with the other two ladies!

Congratulations to Mrs. John H. Revington, of Bristol, Tennessee—a regular reader of OUR CATS Magazine—who has been selected by the American "Cats" Magazine as its first annual selection for the title of Judge of the Year. Mrs. Revington

has bred and exhibited many fine cats, including the famous Blue Longhair Dixi-Land's Pearl Harbor Yank, who was All America Cat of 1948. I will remember this fine cat because his picture appeared in the very first issue of this Magazine. Mrs. Revington has been interested in cats since the early 'twenties and her first show entry was a Brown Tabby. It is interesting to note that the list of desirable qualities in a cat judge includes interpretation of rules and procedure, knowledge of breeds, understanding of the standards, good judgment, common sense, tact, courage, spirit and honesty.

When a large cage-trap was baited and set to try to catch a dog which had killed a lot of chickens at Colchester, the initial "catch" was nine cats. The final result is not known to us.

MICKEY.

Let's go to a show!

We urge readers to attend as many Cat Shows as possible. There is no better place at which to meet old friends, to make new ones and to pick up useful points about cats, their breeding and general management. Brief details of the show programme for the 1950-51 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. The list may be extended and revised from time to time as fresh information becomes available.

1950	
26 August	... *Sandy and District Show Sandy, Beds
16 September	... *Herts and Middlesex Cat Club Watford
20-21 September	... The Crystal Cat Show Olympia, London
27 September	... South Western Counties Cat Club Torquay (See advertisement in this issue)
3 October	... *Blue Persian Cat Society London
7 October	... Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club Edinburgh
12 October	... *Siamese Cat Club London (See advertisement in this issue)
25 October	... *Midland Counties Cat Club Birmingham
9 November	... *Croydon Cat Club London
18 November	... Scottish Cat Club Glasgow
5 December	... *National Cat Club London
1951	
8 January	... *Notts and Derbyshire Cat Club Nottingham
20 January	... Lancs and North Western Counties Manchester
29 January	... *Southern Counties Cat Club London

* Denotes Show with Championship status.

Eleventh Instalment in the series dealing with **Colour Inheritance**

By ALBERT C. JUDE

WHAT can be done to rid the trouble of the unwanted recessive?

The usual remedy is an outcross, and, of course, unless the breeder is unlucky enough to choose another "carrier" for this purpose, that will do the trick at least for the time being. But even if he is lucky in this way, and even if in making his outcross he keeps "inside the breed," he may be unlucky in some other way, and he may, quite unwittingly, introduce some other unwanted recessive character into his strain which may lie dormant for a while, but which may well prove to be troublesome in the long run. This also often happens in practice, and it is one reason why experienced breeders prefer to keep inside their own strain.

The best cure has already been hinted at. It is to make sure that one or other or, better still, both cats selected for breeding purposes are non-carriers of the unwanted character. But how, it may well be asked, is it possible to be sure about that? For we have already assumed that it is quite impossible to tell from outward appearances only whether a cat is a carrier or not. The answer is that a simple test will enable us to arrive at a decision which will be sufficiently correct for all practical purposes.

Suppose that the animal we wish to test is a male—say, for example, a Seal Pointed Siamese—and that we want to be reasonably sure that he does not carry recessive Blue Pointed.

What we do is to mate him to a Blue Pointed queen. Then, if a

single Blue Pointed appears from the mating, we can be quite sure that the male is a carrier. But if there are no Blue Pointed, then the following considerations apply:—

If the male is a "carrier," then it is an even chance whether any kitten which he sires when mated to a Blue Pointed is a Blue Pointed or not. Consequently, in a litter containing a single individual, if that individual happens not to be a Blue Pointed, we are very little wiser than we were before. It is even chance whether the male under test is or is not a "carrier."

It is just like the toss of a coin. If we toss fairly, it is just as likely to fall heads or tails. But suppose there are two in the litter, and that neither of these is a Blue Pointed, then the case is on all fours with tossing up two coins at the same time, and just as both of these are only likely to be heads once in four times, so if the male is a "carrier" he is only likely to be the sire of two non-Blue Pointed by the Blue Pointed queen once in four times. His prospects of being a non-"carrier" have thus considerably improved.

Next, suppose that there are three in the litter, and that still none of them is a Blue Pointed. The case is on all fours with the tossing of three coins together. Only once in eight trials can they be expected all to come down heads. And the chance that the male is a carrier is now only one in eight. Similarly, if there are four in the litter, and all are non-Blue Pointed, the chance that he is a "carrier" is one in sixteen. And

if there are five, it is one in thirty-two, and so on.

We see, therefore, that the larger the litter in which no Blue Pointed appear, when the male is mated to a Blue Pointed queen, the smaller is the chance that he is a "carrier," and, of course, the more likely is he to be a non-"carrier."

That two coins tossed together are only likely to fall both heads once in four trials is easily seen if we consider the different ways in which the two coins *can* fall. They are: *A*, No. 1 coin heads, No. 2 coin also heads. *B*, No. 1 coin heads, No. 2 coin tails. *C*, No. 1 coin tails, No. 2 coin heads. *D*, No. 1 coin tails, No. 2 coin also tails. Each of these four different ways of falling is just as likely to happen as any of the other ways. So the *chance* that both will be heads is exactly one in four. Also a little reflection will show that if we toss up three coins simultaneously, there are eight different ways in which they can fall, and if four coins, sixteen ways, and so on.

One in a Thousand

But to return to our candidate for the post of stud cat. A simple calculation will show that if he sires ten kittens by the Blue Pointed queen, and if all ten are non-Blue Pointed, then the chance that he is a "carrier" is only about one in a thousand. Consequently, we may summarise the result of our experiment as follows:—

If in a large litter of, say, ten (or in two smaller litters of five each), the male under test sires no Blue Pointed when mated to a Blue Pointed queen or queens, then the odds that he is *not* a "carrier" of Blue are about a thousand to one on. And we may rest assured that it is extremely unlikely that if we use him at stud, he will sire any Blue Pointed from any queen.

It may also be noted in passing that the number of males and females in a litter depends on considerations which are very closely on all fours with the foregoing. The chances are very nearly equal numbers of males and females. But about once in a thousand times a litter of ten (or two litters of five each) must be expected to be all males or all females. And we do hear of such things, do we not?

Testing Studs

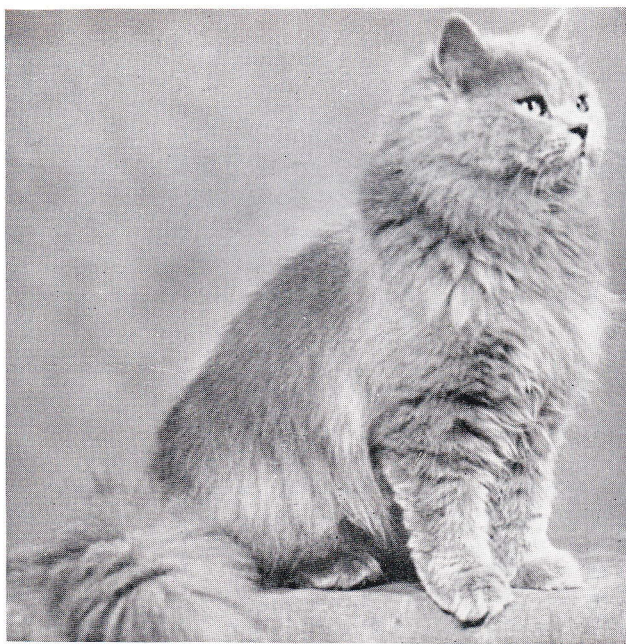
It is also the case that the above test applies every bit as much to females as to males, and that if we want to get rid of all "carriers" of any unwanted recessive character we should test our queens as well as our males. But this is perhaps a council of perfection, and in most cases a testing of studs will suffice for practical purposes. Also it is to be noted that if we use only those males which do not carry the unwanted recessive, then it can be shown mathematically that our strain will automatically rid itself of the trouble in the course of a not very long time.

A 21-year-old English dancer, Belinda Wright, is winning a reputation as the "Cat Girl" of Paris ballet. Her rise to fame started when Roland Petit chose her for the cat ballet "Ladies of the Night," part of which is danced on a slope representing a penthouse roof. Belinda's lucky charm is a small gold figure of a cat and one of her closest friends is Marigny, the theatre cat. Soon she is off to try her luck in America with the ballet.

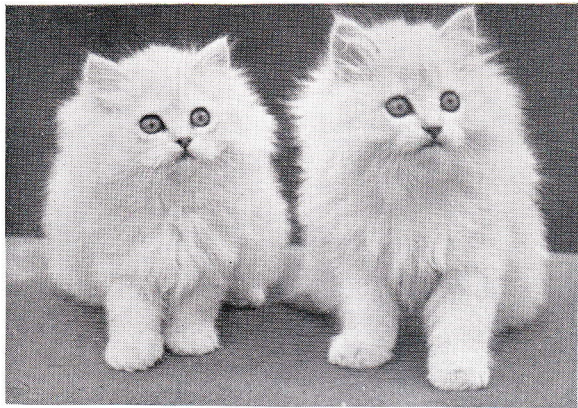


James Mason, famous film star and cat lover, has been visiting his native land with his wife Pamela and baby daughter Portland. Before he left America he was photographed with another star—Triple Champion Michael of Beverly-Serrano, 1948/49 All American Silver Chinchilla male. This lovely cat is owned by Miss Lucile Laird, of Purr-Mew Cattery, San Bernardino, California.

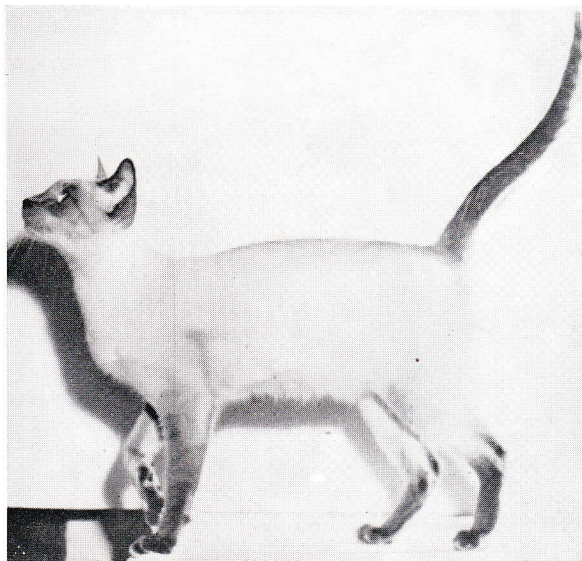




Presenting two sturdy residents at Miss Bull's well-known Deebank Cattery at Thornton Hough, Cheshire. (Top) Handsome Cream Kitten DEEBANK DARIUS, by Walverdene Major. (Below) DEEBANK PRINCESS FATIMA, pale Blue Longhair daughter of Deebank Sturdy, who has already won many firsts and specials at the shows.



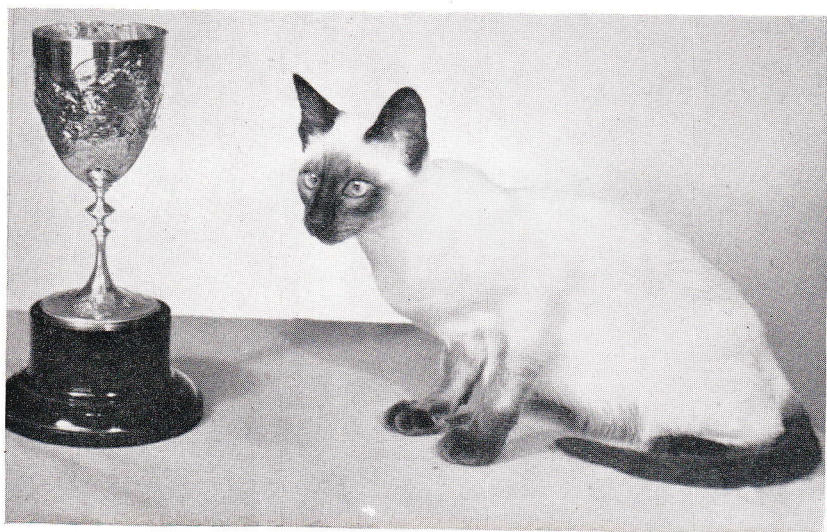
These Chinchilla kittens—REDWALLS TITANIA and TREETOPS CLOUDBURST—have recently flown the long journey to South Africa. Respective breeders were Mrs. Hacking and Mrs. Fletcher, of Liphook, Hants. Their new owner, Mrs. Miles, of Durban, reports: "They have caused a great sensation. Pressmen and photographers in the papers. People flocking in to see them and the phone is going all the time!"



"A thing of grace and beauty." SHAWNEE'S LADY MONTGOMERY, Blue Point female daughter of Trem-nith Montgomery, one of America's outstanding sires. This dainty lady has secured many notable show victories for Mrs. Necolia Slobodian, of Louisville, Kentucky, prominent breeder and show organiser.



TAILAND OBERON, an important member of the select Blue Pointed Siamese community. By Ch. Pincop Azure Kym, Oberon recently became a father for the first time. His owner is the keen Fancier Miss C. Calvert Jones, of Bures, Suffolk.



MORRIS PADISHAH, lovely Seal Pointed Siamese male kitten bred by Mrs. M. W. Richardson, of Ashted, Surrey, with the handsome trophy he won as Best Exhibit at the recent Kensington Show. See this month's "Just Fancy" feature for additional details concerning this outstanding exhibit.

Care & Management by P. M. SODERBERG

Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club
and author of "Cat Breeding and
General Management"

More Questions Answered

RECENTLY I have received a number of letters in which the writers have asked me to deal in some future article with the points they have raised. I am delighted to oblige this month, for it is the easiest way I know of writing my monthly "piece." Most of the queries raised certainly have a general interest and this means that I receive further letters, many of which add to my own cat knowledge.

Raw Meat

One writer has asked me why I always advocate the use of raw meat whenever possible, and another letter adds a corollary and wants to know what deficiencies there will be in the diet if cooked meat has to be used. Cooked meat and raw meat are no different in food content so there is no question of deficiency in the diet if you have to cook the meat before use. But there are other points to consider. Strange though it may seem, raw meat is more easily digested than the same meat after cooking. I believe, too, that raw meat is far better for cats which are inclined to be constipated. Whether or not this is anything to do with the natural juices in raw meat or whether it is merely another aspect of digestibility I do not know.

Cross for a Blue Queen

This question is divided into two parts, for the breeder of Long-

haired Blues wants to know what cross he could use for improvement and also to provide him with another variety for showing. Unfortunately, there is no single solution to this double question.

There is no outcross for a really good Blue which will produce improvement in type and it is improvement of this kind that I understand from the question. There is no breed that has better type than the Blue Persian. Thus, if you want to produce winning Blues the only way to do so is to mate Blue to Blue. My knowledge of past winners is limited, but I cannot think of even one Blue Champion which had one parent of another colour. If there ever has been such a cat I should be very pleased to have that information.

The second part of the question presents no difficulty, for there are two ideal crosses to produce another variety. If a Blue female is mated to a Black sire, both Blacks and Blues are likely to appear in the consequent litter. Most of the best Blacks were produced by this cross mating. As at the present time Blacks are not numerous, it would be a very good idea for more breeders to try this cross, for a good Black is a very beautiful creature although such cats do not appear in every litter.

Another suitable cross would be a Cream male, for this might provide two varieties for showing. When a Cream male is

mated to a Blue female the kittens may be Blues, Creams or Blue-Creams. The Blues will be useless for showing, but the Creams and Blue-Creams may turn out to be winners. By the way, all the Blue-Creams will be females.

Age for Weaning

This is the story. A queen had only one kitten and she was allowed to suckle it for three months, by the end of which time the kitten was an outstanding specimen. The writer wants to know the advantages, if any, of allowing kittens to feed from their mother for more than the normal period.

I'm not at all surprised that the one kitten who had fed from its mother for three months was an outstanding specimen. I should probably have considered it to be too big and too coarse for its age, but I did not see it so I don't know.

I believe that the first month of a kitten's life is the critical period from the point of view of development, because during that time it has to rely solely on its mother's milk. But from this time milk alone is not sufficient and this is where the breeder comes in and teaches the kitten to feed for itself.

It is at this point that weaning starts and this means that the queen herself is relieved of some of the strain of bringing up a family. By the end of eight weeks the kittens should be completely weaned, and even for a fortnight before that they should have obtained most of their nourishment by their own efforts from a saucer.

A queen who is allowed to

nurse her family too long takes a long time to regain the condition necessary before she can again be mated. To make her feed her family too long may be wasting a good queen, and it certainly will not produce better kittens.

Eye Trouble in Kittens

I have had two letters recently in which breeders tell me that all the kittens in a litter are suffering from eye trouble, which was first noticed because the eyes did not open at the normal time. The normal time is usually between the eighth and thirteenth days.

Now it is not at all unusual for one kitten in a litter to have a stuck up eye, but it is unusual for all the kittens to be affected in this way. If I had a litter in this condition I should call in the vet. at once as I should be almost certain that I was confronted with an outbreak of infectious conjunctivitis. The cure may be a little tiresome but it can usually be accomplished quite quickly. The trouble is that this cure has to depend upon a vet.'s prescription.

In the past I have had litters with conjunctivitis, but I can only remember having to destroy one kitten, the ball of whose eye became infected and damaged. In those days there were several ointments which were useful, but to-day we have penicillin, which is amazing in the speed of its results. This ointment can only be obtained on a vet.'s prescription.

Tinned Foods

I have had a number of letters asking me to write more fully on the subject of cat food in tins,

but I do not feel that I can comply with this request. However, if you write to ask me what I use I will certainly tell you as I have carried out quite a number of experiments with this type of feeding. I have tried various brands and I know which I find most satisfactory, but it is not my policy to advertise any one maker's products.

Curtain !

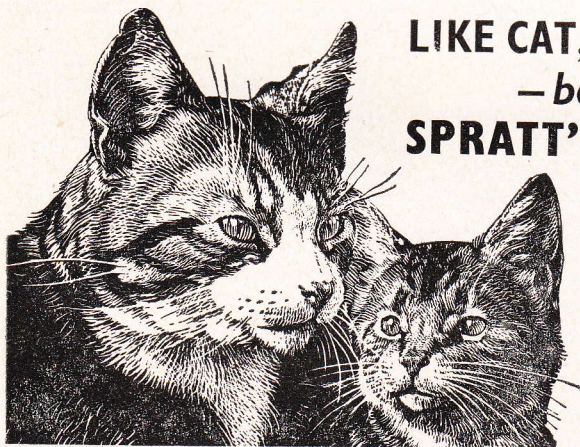
There have been many other queries which would be of interest to the novice, but as space is limited those I have answered here must suffice for the present. All of you who have written have had replies by post if I have been unable to find space in these pages.

CORRECTION

We regret that the picture of the Blue Longhair male on page 20 of last month's issue appeared with an incorrect caption. Details were given "according to information received" and we cannot accept responsibility for an unfortunate error in identification. The cat pictured was described as Mrs. E. Marlow's stud Neuburie Bambi when it was, in fact, Bambi's son, Erieanne Soni Boi, the pet of Mrs. H. W. Woodall, of Torquay, who has notched several show wins with this striking Blue neuter.

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Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

REGULARLY every month, Mrs. Joan Thompson—popular and active figure in the Cat Fancy for many years, breeder and International judge—will turn the pages of her diary to reveal the most interesting entries concerning personalities, both human and feline.

2nd July. An enjoyable day with Mr. and Mrs. Lamb and their lovable collection of Siamese. A rumour has been circulating that their Blue Point male Ch. Pincop Azure Kym is dead. This is not so; it is their older male (Zy Azure Zin), born in 1939, who has passed on.

Kym was in fine form and contentedly crooning love songs to a visiting queen when I saw him. He has a well-built house and a fine, spacious run. About twelve feet away in a similar house is the Seal Point Ch. Morris Tudor, a male who has been a consistent winner. He has a lovely head, excels in type, and is a very shapely cat built on slender lines. The Blue Point Ch. Pincop Azure Zelda has always been a favourite of mine. Some judges consider her head too long, but now she is fully mature (3 years next month) she has more width between the eyes which appears to shorten her head. She is rather a big queen but beautifully lithe and graceful in her movements. She is indeed a very privileged person as she is allowed everywhere and sleeps on Mrs. Lamb's bed.

Two newcomers are a Chocolate Pointed queen and a Silver Tabby Shorthair. Mrs. Lamb thinks it would be a good idea if Siamese and Longhair breeders added a Shorthair to their catteries. I quite agree, as it would be a grand way to revive them. This Silver Tabby is the result of a Blue Chinchilla queen's misalliance with a Black Shorthair. Her markings are nice but they need to darken. But as her owner so rightly says, "she is a beginning," and they hope by judicious mating to improve markings in her progeny. What a boon it would be if we could procure the services of the well and densely marked French and American males!

Several neat tailor-made kittens were having a lively time. I think Siamese are adorable, especially when they sit like statues with their tails tightly folded round their toes. Only Siamese seem to turn from gaiety to gravity so suddenly and immobilise themselves. All the Pincop queens and kittens have liberty and nearly all sleep in a large room on the ground floor which has a tiled floor and several comfortable sleeping places. Mr. Lamb takes a great interest in the cats and it was an object lesson to see him grooming some of them with a rubber brush and polishing them off with a chamois leather. No wonder their exhibits look so well turned out at shows and, of course, the good food and liberty they enjoy contribute largely to their well-being.

On Saturday evening Miss Bidmead joined us for dinner. I understand

she is a tower of strength to Mrs. Lamb with the clerical work of the Midland Counties Cat Club and the Championship Show. She is not a cat breeder and her work is voluntary, so it is all the more appreciated.

3rd July. Another enjoyable day with Mr. and Mrs. France and their well-kept Siamese and Burmese. Sco Ruston Galadima carries his six years lightly and retains his nice head and deep blue eyes, which have always been notable for their nice shape. He is a son of Mrs. Price's Prestwick Prithie Pal, who also sired Ch. Hillcross Song. Chinki Gilda was expecting a family by Galadima. The Burmese are fascinating and Mrs. France told me they are most affectionate. I was very intrigued with a litter of three. Like most young animals, they are paler than their parents but still the same fawny chocolate colour. Apart from their colour, how much they favour some of their-ancestors, a few of which are Siamese!

A lovable little Siamese kitten was nearly killed by climbing into the refrigerator motor, which, being automatically controlled, suddenly started and trapped the kitten. It became entangled in the belt and sustained a deep wound, but with care and attention it has fully recovered, although it is at least a fortnight behind the rest of the litter in growth. The "frig" now has a "petticoat" of fine wire netting.

I heard of a similar accident some years ago which had a fatal ending. So, Fanciers, examine your "frig" and take precautions if kittens can enter it from the floor.

Mrs. France has sold the Abyssinians Ch. Raby Ramphis and Merkland Sheba to Mrs. Kloos, of California, and has decided to give up this variety for the present and concentrate on Seal and Chocolate Pointed Siamese and Burmese. Her

male cats each take it in turn to enjoy liberty of an hour's duration. If they are allowed more than an hour they have a tendency to go off the premises. How they must enjoy themselves, as few stud cats get any complete liberty although they love it so much!

Lunch later with Mrs. Brice-Webb and had a great pow-wow about Blues all through a rainy afternoon. Thiepvál Elf, by Ch. Southway Crusader, is lovely now she is mature. A queen of all-round excellence, her head and ears are lovely, and I admired her sweet expression, which is partly due to her wide-awake eyes placed well apart. They have improved in colour and are now a good deep orange. She is in kitten to Oxleys Smasher, and as this mating produced the winning kittens Ronada Madonna, Cupid and Amethyst at the Notts and Derbyshire Ch. Show in January, Elf's litter is awaited with special interest. Mme. Gibbon purchased Amethyst and Cupid and is very pleased with them. Ronada Peach, who has done so much winning, appears to be really in kitten this time as a result of allowing her to make a love match. I hope all goes well as she is a beautiful queen and it would be such a loss if she never breeds.

Oxleys Smasher was looking well. He is a pretty male and has the lovely pale fine coat inherited from his sire, Playmate of the Court. Mrs. Oglethorpe's "Court" cats were always noted for the fine quality and pale colour of their coats. King Kong, bred by Mrs. Brice-Webb, is a wonderful cat for his age. He developed a large cyst on his back which burst, and eventually he had to have an operation to adjust the superfluous skin. He stood it well and is quite sprightly again. He has been a most prolific sire and has many winners to his credit, including Ronada Peach.

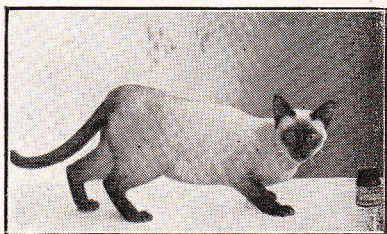
5th July. An interesting brochure and letter arrived from Dr. and Mrs. Francis, of Yeovil, Somerset, about their boarding home for Siamese. Such establishments are always in request and this one sounds ideal. The accommodation is limited to the number of cats who can be looked after by the proprietors, and after each cat leaves the pen is blow-lamped from floor to ceiling and scrubbed with disinfectant. Sanitary pans are numbered for each pen and repainted for each visitor.

A certificate of health is required and owners must be able to state that no cat in the household has had any illness for three months and that the proposed boarder has not visited a cat show, vet.'s surgery or any boarding establishment for the past 21 days. A questionnaire seeks various information, including the cat's preference for various foods. I liked particularly the question: "Milk—warm, cold, not at all?" Most breeders know how laxative milk is for the majority of felines after they are about three months old and a small quantity once a day is all that some cats can take without getting diarrhoea. A brochure will be sent on request by Mrs. Francis, Low Knap, Halstock, near Yeovil.

7th July. A collection of leaflets arrived from The American Feline Society, including 50 sticker stamps, the latter a picturesque issue to celebrate notable occasions or to plead for some good cause. The Society is sponsoring National Cat Week, 5th to 11th November, and one is informed that member societies number 44 and newspaper contacts ranging from 2 to 103 for a single society have been established.

It is claimed that the A.F.S. is the most potent force extant to publicise the cat and regularly furnishes 143 syndicates and wire services, 3,000 plus newspapers and other publica-

Dash it! . . . Caught again!



Mrs. Hughes ex-invalid, Moon of Sabrina,
is disturbed by the photographer

Mrs. E. M. Hughes of Highbury, Havelock Road, Shrewsbury, owner of the well-known Sabrina Siamese, writes—

"Moon of Sabrina, one of my six months old Siamese kittens, became very ill. She would not eat, was just skin and bones and, in fact, I almost despaired of saving her.

Moon was put on to Kit-zyme and from that day on, she never looked back and gained 1½ lbs. in a fortnight. I gave her 6 tablets a day . . . she was so greedy for them that she would eat as many as she could get her paws on!

The kitten is now the picture of health and eating well and I will certainly recommend Kit-zyme to my cat friends."

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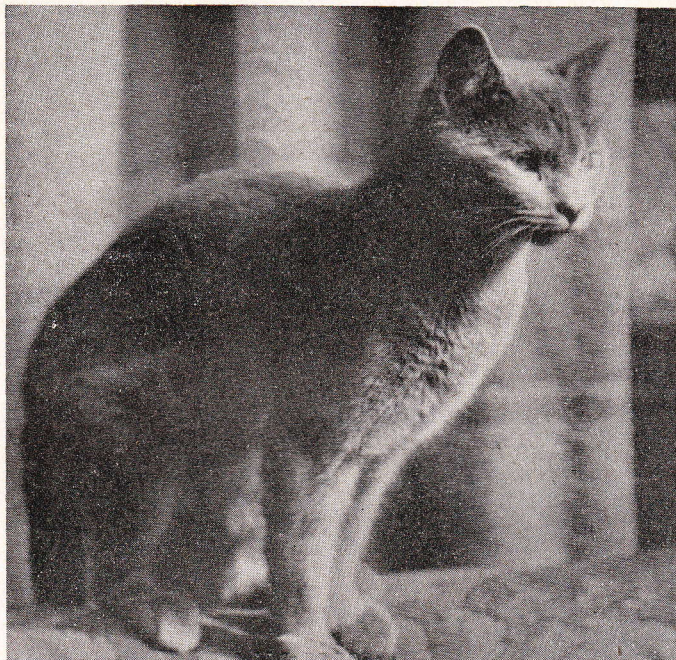
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tions, and 1,500 plus radio and video stations with cat material. Twenty per cent. of all cartoonists, authors, screen, stage, radio and video producers use cat characters, largely through the untiring efforts of the Society. In addition, there is an information bureau on which the above and general public depend for prompt, courteous and correct cat information.

fare groups, for lack of a better plan, and have made their slogan "Help Save America's Cats—Adopt a Cat!"

6th July. Apologies to Mr. Paul Hoeller, of Los Angeles, California. His letter reads: "Mrs. Joan Thompson credited us with the wrong Rosy. Ours is Clandon English Rose, by the same sire as Lemling English



Elisabeth Chat

Miss M. Rochford's Russian Blue male **DUNLOE KABUSHIN**. "He is a gorgeous specimen," comes the report from his new home in America.

Miss Greer Garson served as Motion Picture Chairman for National Cat Week last year, and we are informed she has three cats of her own. It is estimated the total American cat population is 21,000,000, of which 50 per cent. are homeless. The A.F.S. opposes the annual killing of about 5,000,000 by urban animal wel-

Rose. This kitten now resides in Texas. Miss Judith Brooks is the breeder of our cat and her father is J.P. for West Clandon, Surrey. We are very proud of our Clandon English Rose and I would send a picture of her but she is expecting some little rosebuds. We received a beautiful Russian Blue male from

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Miss M. Rochford, Dunloe Kabushin. He is a gorgeous specimen and came over via B.O.A.C."

12th July. An illustrated book from the Animal Health Trust provides interesting information about its activities, and every animal lover will sympathise with that part of its policy which aims at "minimising suffering of animals caused by ill-health and bad management," and "assisting young men and women desirous of entering the veterinary profession but handicapped through lack of means." One gathers that research has so far been concentrated on farm livestock, horses and dogs, but the address given by Scientific Director Dr. Woolridge, M.Sc., M.R.C.V.S., at Fleming's Restaurant, London, on 15th February evinced the Trust's desire to study diseases of the cat. Breeders have many problems for which they would like to find an explanation and solution. One of vital importance to Longhair breeders would be the cause of such a high percentage of kittens being stillborn or expiring shortly after birth, especially when they nearly always appear to be physically perfect.

I was very interested to see the name of Mr. W. Hamilton Kirk, M.R.C.V.S., on the Canine Committee. He wrote in 1925 "Diseases of the Cat," the most helpful book I have ever read on feline illness and one that has enabled me to diagnose complaints among my own and the cats of fellow breeders. Another name which Beckenham and Bromley residents particularly associate with a very special flair for cats is Mr. S. F. J. Hodgman, M.R.C.V.S. The association of these two specialists must surely be a happy omen for us cat lovers.

The President of the Trust is the Duke of Norfolk and there is an imposing array of names on the Com-

mittee and on Headquarters Committees, including many veterinarians well known among animal lovers. Naturally, such an enterprise needs funds, and if anything really worth while is to be undertaken on behalf of cats every sympathiser must help.

19th July. An enjoyable day at the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show at Porchester Hall, Bayswater. Two hundred and twenty exhibits, 11 Longhair litters and 17 Shorthair litters, including Siamese, was a post-war record for this fixture.

The Siamese had stiff competition and many good kittens were cardless. Twenty-five Seal Point males in the 2 to 5 months class were headed by Mrs. Richardson's Morris Padishah (pictured in this issue), a kitten of lovely quality who was subsequently awarded Best Exhibit in Show and won outright the silver cup kindly presented by the President, Miss Rachel Ferguson. Mrs. Richardson evidently has a queen in Morris Una who is prepotent to breed big winners. Mated to Sam Slick, she produced Ch. Morris Tudor and Morris Sirdar, and to Ch. Prestwick Penglima Pertama, Morris Padishah. Her progeny have won 41 firsts since January, 1948. She was bred by her owner from Shrewsbury Romeo and Eastwick Rachele. She has had 45 kittens, including a litter of eight by Ch. Hillcross Song still in the nest. A wonderful record for quality and quantity.

Mrs. Dadd's Subukia Stardust had the honour of being first in a class of 30 S.P. females (2 to 5 months). Only three males and four females were in the 5 to 9 classes, the winners being Mrs. Goulding's Manuden Peter Piper and Miss Simmons's Swansdown Gaude. Alterations to the age groups would have made the competition more equable in the open classes and a perusal of July catalogues reveals one

to suggest 2 to 4 months classes and 4 to 9 at this time of year, as both the older Blue Longhair kitten classes were cancelled owing to "No entries."

Mrs. Hart had an onerous task to tackle in the Any Colour Siamese breeders' 2 to 5 months class with 41 exhibits. Mr. Allt made the largest individual entry and nine of his Danehurst Creams competed in one class. The winner was Mrs. Richardson's (of Ramsgate) Fanifold Iolanthe. A tribute to Mr. Allt's popularity was the applause which greeted the announcement of the award Best Longhair kitten to his home-bred Blue female Danehurst Gina. He also won first in Longhair Litters with four level Creams. When we met at the award board I admired the methodical way he had the number of his exhibits and their classes on a stiff card, a much simpler record than referring to a marked catalogue.

An award which gave great pleasure to his owner, who was exhibiting for the first time, was Best Blue male kitten to Miss Cottell's Souvenir Moonbeam, a kitten of quality, with superb eyes for size, colour and placing. Another very attractive pale Blue male was Mrs. Prince's Crowdecote Augustus, and it was nice to see her all the way from Derby, and Mrs. Bastow and Mrs. Bradley from Nottingham. Miss Campbell-Fraser's Tortie-and-White Hendon Snow Maiden was a most attractive kitten with a lovely coat and she has the great asset of having a distinguished pedigree, a comparative rarity in this variety. She was purchased by Mrs. Chapman, of Whitton, who is such a grand worker at the shows and who already owns two well-known winners of this variety, Bridgway Harlequinette and Thistledown Rosemary. Thirty Shorthair kittens made a brave show, the principal winners being Mrs. Bentley's Blue British Mockbridge Fritillary, Miss Sladen's Brown

Tabby Stonor Clara, Miss Prentis's Tortie-and-White Henham Patchwork Lady, Miss Sladen's Manx Stonor Matilda, Miss Bones's Abyssinian Nigella Mischa, and Miss Rochford's Blue Russian Dunloe Gasha.

Mrs. Davies had a crowd around her before the judging commenced when she was brushing her Blue Longhair neuter Priory Adonis. He is a cat of lovely type, but it is his amazing coat which causes so much comment. For length, texture and purity of pale blue it is unique. He was later awarded Best Neuter in Show.

Mr. and Mrs. Brine were enjoying themselves as usual. They exhibited a Blue male kitten of nice type, Avernoll Eastern Challenge. They have purchased a pale Blue female by Mokoia Tafete bred by the Rev. R. L. Collins, of Exeter, Chairman of the S.W.C.C.C. She is intended as a future mate for their own copper-eyed winning male Avernoll Prince Charming, who is now a proved sire, Campanula of Dunesk having had six kittens by him.

Mrs. Hacking's fascinating Blue-Cream Redwalls Pastelle was much admired. She is a picture kitten but her coat was not intermingled and the winner in this class was Mr. Allt's Danehurst Sheena, a Blue-Cream of good type and lovely eyes.

The Joint Show Managers, Mrs. Newton and Miss Phillips, worked hard to make this summer show a success and thanks are due to them, the exhibitors and judges, who so well supported it.

20th July. To Bromley to visit Mr. and Mrs. Boulton, who own Heather of Hadley, a pretty Blue queen bred by Miss J. M. Fisher. She has the lovely soft, fine coat which Blue breeders are beginning to attach more importance to again. She leads a natural, happy home life and amiably accepted a male kitten which Mrs. Boulton has purchased as a

future mate for her. This kitten, of lovely type, is litter brother to the female bought by Mrs. Brine.

23rd July. A merry party at home at which we were delighted to welcome Mr. E. J. Lonsdale, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy of New South Wales. He had thoroughly enjoyed the Kensington Kitten Show the previous Wednesday, at which he made a short speech. The average quality of the exhibits greatly impressed him. He intends visiting several cat breeders before his return in October.

24th July. Governing Council meeting in the morning and a late lunch-cum-tea in the early afternoon with Mrs. Sayers. I was very sorry to hear that the Blue Pointed Siamese male Lela Noni she sent to Mrs. Chandler, of Melbourne, had died in quarantine. A sad loss indeed for both Fanciers.

1st August. A Special General Meeting of the Blue Persian Cat Society to pass the rules revised and brought up to date by the Hon. Secretary, Miss J. M. Fisher, and the Committee. It has entailed much work cheerfully undertaken, and I am sure it has given members much satisfaction to feel that a wish expressed at the A.G.M. on 22nd May resulted in this amicable and friendly meeting.

The B.P.C.S. publishes a booklet annually giving the names of cup winners. A member asked me why some of the champions are listed without their title. The Hon. Secretary is correct, as the cats in question were not champions when they received their awards. If they are exhibited after they become full champions they are listed as such. It is interesting to note that out of the 25 cats awarded the Frances Simpson Memorial Challenge Cup for Best Blue Adult male or female, 22 became full champions.

The Siamese Cat Club

SIAMESE CAT CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

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at the

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Miscellaneous

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THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE, the monthly British Dog Magazine for dog owners and dog lovers everywhere. Fully illustrated and complete with informative features and instructive articles. Annual subscription 7s. 6d. (inc. postage) for twelve issues.—The Tail-Wagger Magazine, 356-360, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

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Tuberculosis

By FORCEPS

(Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons)

SOME while ago an acquaintance of mine paid a visit to the premises of a breeder who lives in one of the countries of Western Europe. There had been a number of cases of illness, and one or two deaths. The breeder, it was reported, had declared that the whole thing was very mysterious, and that her veterinarian was completely baffled.

Now it so happens that I knew the inside story of this. The veterinarian had not been baffled, there was no mystery, and the breeder was not in ignorance of the cause of the trouble, though very anxious that no one outside should learn of it. What the veterinarian had, in fact, accurately diagnosed and confirmed by laboratory methods was tuberculosis.

I mention these facts only because it is obviously better to face up to it than pretend that it does not exist. As with human beings, there is a hereditary predisposition—or an inherited lack of resistance—to tuberculosis among certain families or strains, and by careful breeding it should be possible—in the case of cats—to eliminate these highly susceptible animals to a large extent. I am not suggesting that we could arrive at a state of affairs where no breed ever suffered from T.B., but we could go a long way towards that.

Thirty or forty years ago, I am told, it was common to see a cat with enlarged glands in the neck as a result of tuberculosis. To-day this finding is comparatively rare. The incidence of the disease in cats is

probably now much diminished. They mostly have a high degree of natural resistance to the human type tubercle bacillus, and remain healthy even when in contact for long periods with human sufferers from the disease. Cats are also, as a rule, very resistant to the bovine tubercle bacillus—nearly, but not quite so much so, as to the human strain.

The average cat owner, therefore, has little to worry about, and the purpose of this article will not be served if it causes alarm or despondency. All I would advise is this. If you have a cat which should show either a chronic, watery discharge from the nostrils which does not clear up within a week or two; a persistent ulcer or abscess; or a tendency to develop a distended tummy while being rather thin about the ribs and head, then do call in your veterinary surgeon and have an expert opinion, even if the cat does not seem more than off colour. In the early stages symptoms of severe illness are not to be expected.

Choose good, healthy stock to begin with, and avoid *raw* meat bought at pet food stores. Some of this may, and probably will, have been condemned as unfit for human food, and be affected with tuberculosis. It constitutes a grave risk for your cat, and to buy it is simply asking for trouble.

Finally, if your veterinary surgeon should ever find evidence of tuberculosis in a cat of yours, do not hesitate over taking his advice about having it put to sleep.

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To the Children



From Uncle Peter



Boys and Girls

Animal Facts and Fallacies

I have recently read a book which I am sure would interest many of you. It is called "Animal Facts and Fallacies" and was written by Professor Breland, of the University of Texas. This book contains a good deal that I already knew, but much more that was new to me. It would be a good idea if you borrowed it from your public library and then perhaps you will want to buy a copy to keep. Here are some of the interesting facts in it.

Bats use Radar

I expect many of you have noticed that bats can fly in the dark and yet they never seem to fly into walls or other obstacles. The reason for this skill of theirs is that to fly in the dark they use their ears and not their eyes. It is not that these creatures are blind, for they can see quite well in the light, but in darkness eyes are useless. What actually happens in the dark is this. As it flies the bat makes a noise which is too high pitched for you to hear, but this sound echoes back from any object which it strikes. The bat can hear from the echo how near it is to danger and it immediately changes the direction of its flight. Clever, isn't it?

Baby Kangaroos

When baby kangaroos are born they are only about an inch long and look nothing like the young kangaroos you sometimes see at the Zoo. These tiny babies have very strong claws on their front feet and with these they climb up through the mother's hair until they reach her pouch. Once inside they start to feed. Sometimes they remain in the pouch for several months and then they decide to come outside to see what the world looks like. As soon as they feel afraid they hop back into the pouch again, where they know they will be safe. In the end, of course, they grow too big to be carried by their mothers.

A Cat's Purr

Many people have tried to solve the problem of the way in which members of the cat family purr and Mr. Breland has given a very simple explanation, but I am not at all sure that it is the correct one. He says that when the cat wishes it can make its vocal cords vibrate as the air passes over them. This rather looks to me like one of those half-truths which men of science will have to think about again before they find the full answer. Until then all our cats will purr when they are contented and we shall continue to appreciate this quaint sign of pleasure.

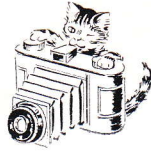
There are many more interesting things in this book. Here is all the information you need to obtain it:

"Animal Facts and Fallacies." By Osmond P. Breland. Published by Faber & Faber. Price 10s. 6d.

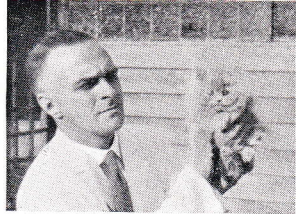
Uncle Peter

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Mark Twain



Mr. Leslie Owen Jones, enthusiastic Guildford Fancier, with a nine weeks old Blue Longhair baby. SHEEPFOLD HOPE.

A happy Siamese family in the home of Miss F. S. Pocock, of Muizenberg, South Africa. Buddha's head is being used as a point of vantage!

A lovely "cascade of Chinchillas" — photograph submitted by Mrs. D. S. Fletcher, of Liphook, Hants, who has bred many fine cats of this variety.



NOXA FENOLLA and one of her Tortie kittens by Dickon of Allington. Breeder is Miss L. L. Elliott, of Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, who explains that Fenolla herself is only 11 months old.

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