

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

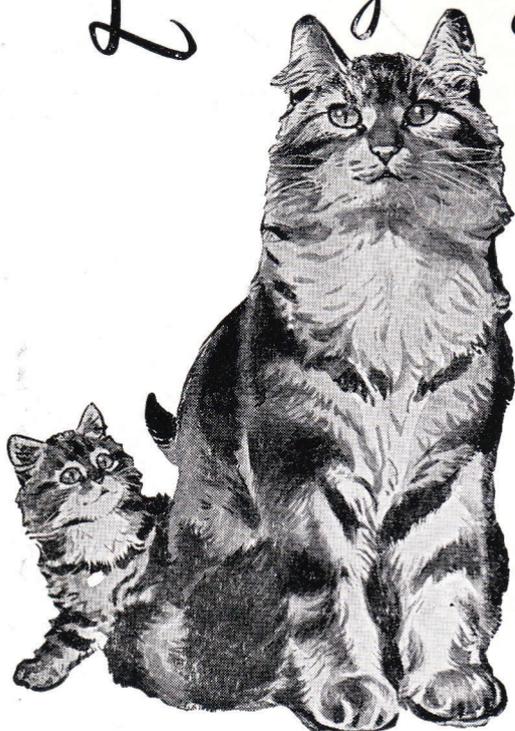


SEPTEMBER 1950

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SPLENDID PICTURES THIS MONTH

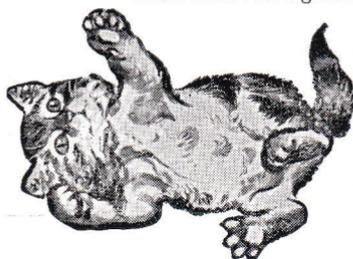
"Look at my lovely kittens-



OF COURSE
WE ALL EAT
KIT-E-KAT"

*New, bandy
tinned food
solves all problems
of cat nutrition*

KIT-E-KIT has *everything* a cat needs for health, liveliness and beauty. It has protein, carbohydrate, vitamins and minerals combined in the tastiest dish a cat ever smelt! Kit-E-Kat never fails to become a cat's favourite food—if it is introduced gradually into the diet.



Cats are conservative creatures but **this** complete cat food soon wins them. And **no** wonder. It is made from whole fresh fish, fortified with liver and cooked with wholemeal cereal.

Get a tin today. Cooked, ready to serve, 10½d. *Kit-E-Kat is so rich and nourishing that it should be mixed with ordinary house scraps.*

KIT-E-KAT will give your cat

Soft, glossy coat

Sparkling eyes

Alertness and energy



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:

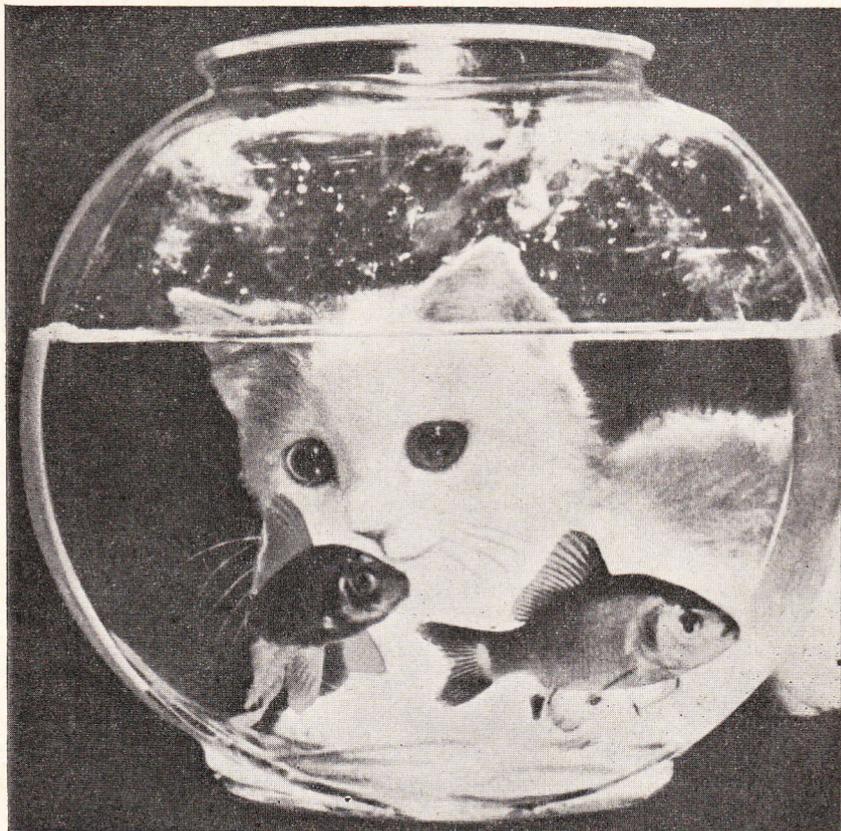
- (1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management;
- (2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats;
- (3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats;
- (4) to act as a link of friendship and common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

VOL. 2 No. 9

SEPTEMBER 1950

Managing Editor :

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



Associated Press

HOW HAPPY COULD I BE WITH EITHER !

FURRY-FACE

*Furry-face, Furry-face, who declares
Cats are animals? How he dares!
Furry-face is a personage
Proudly ambassadorial;
Prinking, pranksome, arrogant
queen,
Flirtatious, bold, capricious, coy,
Disdainful, minxish, spiteful,
sweet;—
The price of her companionship
Is servitude and fealty:
Thanks are beneath her dignity—
Demanding her prerogatives
In an imperious, selfish way,
She exercises regal sway.
She is adorable, cuddlesome,
Domestic, warm and comfort-bent,
Intuitiveness personified,*

*Pampered tyrant of the house,
Remorseless harrier of the mouse,
Beautiful, furry, statuesque
Queen of the fireside cushions, she!
“Bring milk! Bring fish! Open
the door!
“Give me that armchair—sit on
the floor!”
So she bosses the underlings
Of an inferior, human world.
Let us admit her wisdom: she
Has the supreme philosophy—
We only worship from afar,
Endeavouring blindly to appease
A being splendidly above
Humanity's futilities,
Humbly offering food, warmth, love
And homage to the visitant!*

GRAHAM CHERRY.

*Our cover photograph, submitted by Mrs. Helen Dadd, shows her Siamese kitten Sabukia Sweet Sultan “up a tree”
but looking anything but worried!*

 **GENERAL INFORMATION:** The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in *OUR CATS* is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 9 (Macaulay 1462).

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My Export Drive

By ELLA B. MARTIN

A SHORT time back I sent off a very valuable consignment of Siamese kittens to Mr. W. J. Hine, of Lara, Victoria, Australia, who was eager to have some of England's finest blood strains with which to develop his already successful breeding. After much correspondence, the following kittens were booked for export to "way down under":—

Lemling Pertama, a male kit of my own breeding, sired by Mrs. Duncan Hindley's well-known stud, Champion Prestwick Penglima Pertama, dam Sina of Shrublands (daughter of Chamblond Pita). (S.P. male.)

Briarry Simonetta, sire Inwood Ching, dam Ch. Chirmon Lon, bred by Mr. B. Stirling-Webb. (S.P. female.)

Velvet Mask Delphine, dam Ch. Velvet Mask Dinah, sire Blue Seagull. Breeder Dr. G. MacLaren. (B.P. female.)

Kaybee Clematis, dam Archer Myosotis, sire Lela Do. Breeder Miss Kennedy-Bell. (B.P. male.)

Each kitten was judged by an expert before being passed as up to standard for export, and here I would like to thank Mrs. Hindley, Mrs. Hart, Mr. Stirling-Webb and Miss Wentworth Fitzwilliam for their valuable help in the difficult task of selection. I am sure Mr. Hine greatly appreciated their help, given so ungrudgingly.

The kits all came to be my guests prior to departure, and each was inoculated with the

American vaccine, which I was very fortunate to be able to obtain from Mr. Stirling-Webb. I also had them insured for the period they were here, and despite these precautions I really did feel terrified in case any harm should befall them.

As departure day approached I became increasingly sad at the prospect of parting with them. They all had the loveliest dispositions and after a few weeks together were the greatest of friends.

Games on Board

Transport arrangements were handled to my entire satisfaction by Spratts Patent, Ltd. I decided to send them in two crates rather than one, just in case one of them should be ill and require isolating en voyage. Then, in addition to the crates, which were 4 ft. 6 ins. long by 5 ft. 6 ins. wide by 1 ft. 9 ins. deep, I had made a special playpen for their exercising. This was collapsible and could quickly be put up and taken down and easily moved about on deck.

I delivered the kits personally to S.S. Port Jackson and took with me some supplementary rations (meat, fish and rabbit were available on board, also cereals), a small medicine box, a box of their favourite toys and two little blankets. They were "vetted" on the quay and then crated and swung up on board on to the top deck. A horrid moment, that!



Photograph by courtesy of Spratts Patent Ltd.

The author on board S.S. Port Jackson with Briarry Simonetta and Lemling Pertama. The Siamese babies have just been introduced to their comfortable cabins for the long journey to Australia.

I had a little chat about them with the Chief Officer, and gave him a small book dealing with cat feeding and care which I thought he might find useful. The ship's butcher is usually responsible for the feeding of live-stock on board, and I saw the two apprentices who were to look after the comfort of the kits.

I left feeling much happier about them, having seen just where they were and the people who were to attend to them. They were sailing with two pet dogs and on the lower deck there

were five magnificent racehorses from Newmarket.

The first bulletin about them arrived from Las Palmas: "All eating well and in perfect health, quite settled to ship-life and thoroughly enjoying themselves in their play-pen." So far, so good, but as I write there are four more weeks until they reach Melbourne! I hope all will go well.

We are following the progress of these four kittens to Australia and hope to be able to report their safe arrival in our next issue.

—EDITOR.

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

By ALBERT C. JUDE

THE order with which Nature works in the matter of heredity would be of little service to the Fancier unless proper records of breeding operations were kept. A pedigree form is often cherished by him as a hall-mark so far as ancestral names are concerned. But a pedigree is more than that. It is rather like a map which shows the road travelled, gives all the turning points and indicates the direction to some desired destination. Progress from breeding becomes only guesswork without a proper pedigree.

What is a pedigree? A pedigree is, or should be, a true record of an animal's sire and dam (in name and performance), with their sires and dams, and so on *ad infinitum*. The actual written pedigree is no guarantee that the subject of the pedigree is any the better or any the worse for having the scrap of paper. The importance is the information made available to the breeder or the owner of the animal, and the correct parentage often is of value to the breed.

It may be valuable in several ways. It should establish the strain or strains from which the subject has been descended, and in this way the breeder or owner may be able to determine the probable propensities of the sire and dam in accord with his knowledge of the prepotent characters of the strain or strains represented.

In the light of present knowledge of heredity, many old beliefs have gone overboard, and a new knowledge has been acquired. This does not mean that the old knowledge is bad; rather that we add and subtract in the light of present scientific knowledge. This applies very

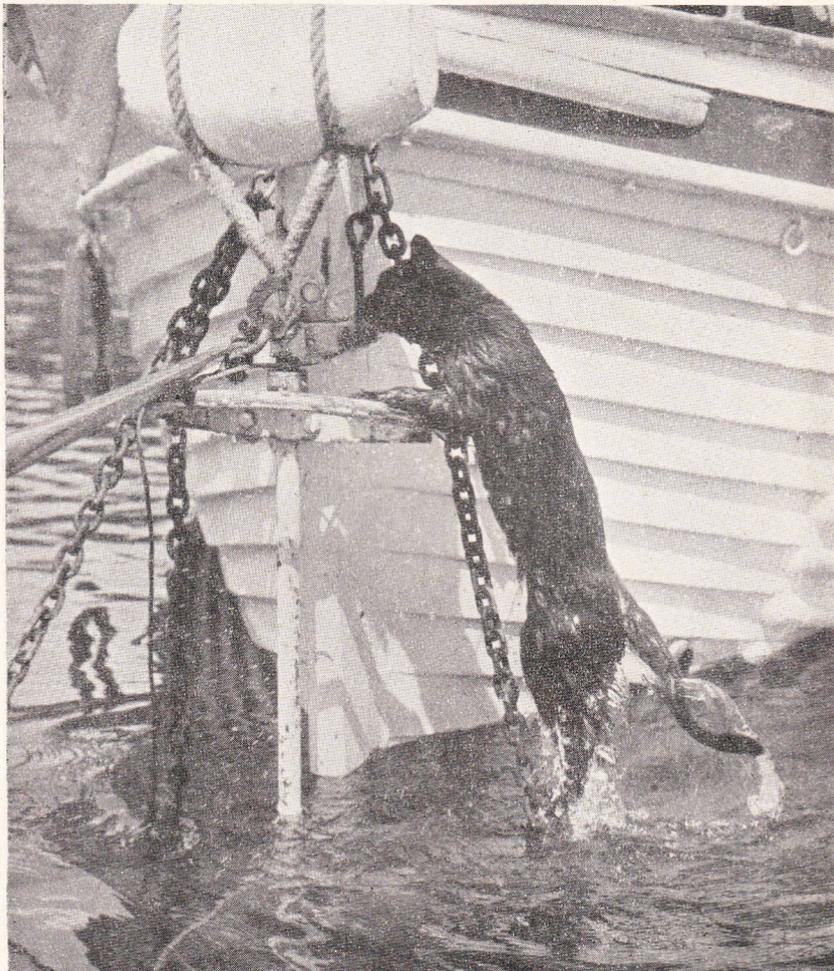
markedly to the value and reading of a pedigree. For many years the value of a pedigree was largely determined by its male representatives; that is to say, by the sire, grandsire, great-grandsire, and great-great-grandsire. Maybe there is small use under normal conditions to study a pedigree beyond the fourth generation.

Just consider: in the fifth generation you have 62 ancestors, and in the sixth generation 126, and so on. To imagine that either of these latest ancestors can have much influence upon both or either of the two at the end of the pedigree is straining the imagination to breaking point. Any identity or prepotence that any particular member of the fifth and following generations may have upon the two last living representatives of the pedigree must necessarily be practically extinct, except in cases of health and reproduction factors, which in all probability will have played their fatal part before the reaching of the present generation. But for outward form at least the four recorded generations should suffice.

There are different schools of thought as to method of breeding, and one such school of thought takes the view that the chief value of a pedigree consists, first, of the first four generations of the lower female line, combined in a less degree with the four top males in the pedigree.

In actual practice, the value of the direct female line is claimed as about double that of the male line, excepting the first sire, who is ranked as equal in value to the first dam, quality being equal in both. I give the view

A page for the proletarian puss No. 6



Associated Press

WATER SPRITE

Blackie, a stray cat adopted by a Glasgow family, went holidaymaking with them in their cabin cruiser on Loch Lomond. Undaunted by the stretch of water that separated him from his nightly stroll on terra firma, Blackie dived in and swam to the shore. On his return he scrambled back on board by way of the anchor chain. Blackie's two-way swim became a daily occurrence during the holiday.

merely because one hears of the mistaken theory that any female of however poor quality—if mated to a superior male—will produce progeny as good as the male.

That this procedure could improve one's stock is fully recognised, and if carried to its logical conclusion is often of inestimable value to the breeder in improving his stock year by year. Maybe in some particular characteristics, or in general all-round excellence the owner of an exceptional male is bestowing great benefit on the Fancy, as often for a moderate stud fee one gets the use of an animal that would cost many pounds to buy. Also, this animal may be the result or culminating success of years of effort.

Selection of a Stud

This must not be misinterpreted. The male, as a sex, is not more important than the female; each has its separate functions to perform, and each passes on its characteristics with equal effect. But—and this is the point—it is usual for the male to serve many queens, and because of this his quality leaves its mark on the population in heavy preponderance. If there were as many studs as queens there would be no difference in the overall effects of the sexes.

But, as things are, the selection of a male for stud work is highly important. He must have all round excellence. And, similarly, his selection by the queen's owner is of paramount importance. The owner must see that the stud chosen is the most suitable mate available, not by any reason of easy access, but because by virtue of his characteristics he forms a balance to the characteristics displayed by the queen to be mated.

Let me put this matter another way. In a season, a fashionable

male may be the sire of well over 100 kittens, but remember that the biggest winner in females in a season was produced by a female who only produced one-tenth of the progeny sired by a male in the season. And again, many more inferior females are used than inferior males. * Most females are bred from, but few males. So the question must be: "Are breeders discriminate enough in the selection of the female side in breeding?"

Now let me finish my series with a little problem which, I trust, will provide some food for thought. I want you to imagine a litter of kittens, say six or seven. One of these may be outstanding, two very good, one moderate, and the rest full of faults. Now each of these kittens the fier, the moderates, and the cast-offs, are equally entitled to the same pedigree; in fact, it would be a fraud not to give it so. How and why would you select your breeders from this litter? I hope my articles will have helped you to find an answer!

An interesting new series dealing with genetics will be started by Mr. Jude in next month's issue. It will be a feature in which you, the reader, will be invited to take part.—Editor.

SCOTTISH CAT CLUB

OPEN SHOW

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

on Saturday, 18th November

at

Christian Institute
Bothwell Street, Glasgow

Details and Schedules from
MRS. F. M. RICHARDSON
21 HERRIET ST., GLASGOW, S.1

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.

CONGENITAL DEFECTS

I think Mrs. C., of London, may be interested to know that further light can be shed on her question to Mr. Jude in the August issue of *OUR CATS*. It has been discovered fairly recently that in the human species an attack of rubella, that is, German measles, occurring in the expectant mother at a certain definite period in early pregnancy, will inevitably cause congenital defects in the offspring.

Evidently the tissues engaged in forming the heart, the middle ear and the eye are particularly susceptible to injury by the virus of rubella, so that defects in the development of those organs result, and the child is born with heart, ear or eye defects which may be severe enough to be incompatible with normal growth and life. Mrs. C.'s experience suggests that there are similar mild infections from which cats suffer that, occurring at just the psychological moment in pregnancy, may cause similar congenital defects in the kittens. This would explain the otherwise puzzling fact that all the kittens in the litter were similarly affected.

Dr. Nora Archer,
Greenford, Middlesex.

TIP ON FEEDING

I quite agree with your correspondent, Mrs. Barbara Hewlett—July issue—on the subject of feeding cats when they are too ill to feed themselves. I have found that a real life-saver is Brand's extract of beef—half a teaspoonful is enough every two

hours. They can be given more, of course, but this dose should be sufficient for a very ill cat, who probably cannot swallow more than that amount at a time.

The extract should be most carefully given with a steady hand as the cat often has a sore throat when ill. It would be dangerous to give it quickly. When feeding, take out the quantity required from the bottle with a cold spoon, then transfer the extract to a spoon that has been heated in warm water. This makes the extract easier to give.

Mrs. Caroline Voss,
Rayleigh, Essex.

SAVED HER KITTENS

The following is a perfectly true story. And, as has happened in many other cases of "We-thought-it-was-a-Tom," she eventually gave birth to four kittens.

Two of the kittens died immediately after birth.

We gave Rags a warm blanket on which to nurse her kittens, and a nice warm position near the gas stove. One morning when we came downstairs we noticed a strong smell of gas. The kitchen door was closed, and when we pushed it open we saw Rags on the window ledge using her last feeble efforts to get through the window. We opened all the windows, carried her out of the room, and then turned our attention to the kittens.

At first we couldn't see any kittens. On a closer scrutiny, however,

we saw what had happened. *Rags had wrapped the two kittens in the blanket.* Over and over she had rolled them and over and over *them* she had rolled the blanket. They were perfectly well and breathing normally. Rags died almost immediately. We fed the kittens with a teaspoon. One we eventually gave away; the other one we kept for seven years. She has just died.

The owner of Rags was Mrs. D. Dean, Thrale Road, Streatham, London, S.W.16, who gave me the story and her permission to write it. She will confirm its authenticity.

A. Millward,

Cheetham, Manchester.

A WONDERFUL RECOVERY

If any of your readers ever have the experience of nursing a cat after an operation, perhaps they might be interested to hear how we managed with our Siamese queen, Shan.

She started her first litter early one morning. After three hours no kittens had appeared so we took her to the vet. He said something must be done at once and he managed to remove a very large dead kitten. We took her home and later in the morning the vet. called in and removed another, also dead. He had to go out into the country, so showed us what to do and in the afternoon we managed to manipulate a third, dead again. Shortly afterwards she produced a much smaller kitten unaided and this one was alive.

By this time she was so exhausted by her ordeal that she wouldn't try any more but washed the new and noisy arrival industriously and proceeded to settle down to rest. Next morning she looked really ill, and as no more kittens had appeared I rushed her up to the vet. again. He decided there were at least two more

to come and worked on her all the morning with injections and forceps, but no luck at all.

Eventually he told me the only way to save Shan was to perform a caesarian operation, and this he did in the afternoon. I fetched her about 4 p.m. He had taken away two more huge kittens. She had nine stitches and was very dopey and ice-cold.

For several days she was terribly ill. Once I was certain she was dying. However, after feeding her every two hours, day and night, with a few teaspoons of a mixture I devised, she started to get stronger. I made this mixture as follows: In an egg-cup I mixed equal quantities of warm milk and beaten egg, together with a pinch of Glucodin and a few drops of brandy. She would drink this from a saucer when she was too weak to stand or hold up her head. I used to grasp her by the back of the neck while she lapped or sometimes fed her from a spoon. Later, we gave her liver pulp pushed through a sieve and moistened with beef-tea.

In a week she was on her feet and in ten days ready to have the stitches taken out. Now, although somewhat stunted in size, she is the



Mrs. Sedgwick's pet Shan, restored to health, enjoys a sparring match with her neuter Tabby friend.

healthiest little cat. She adores our Irish terrier and washes her, and also our big neuter tabby. At one stage after the operation, when she couldn't walk, she saw the dog. She pulled herself across my bed, started to purr and licked the dog's face.

As the vet. thought it wise to spay her at the time of the operation, she is to have a little black half-Siamese kitten to "mother" next week.

Mrs. M. Sedgwick,
Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia.

THIRTY FLEAS A DAY

As a regular reader and admirer of OUR CATS, I wonder if any of your readers can assist me?

I have had a cat for a year and he has always had fleas. His predecessor lived to nearly 15 and, apart from an occasional unwelcome visitor, I had no trouble in this direction. I brush and use a small tooth comb every day and I've used five different proprietary powders as well as a powder prescribed by the vet. These have been applied with a hand blower to get them well into the coat, which, though shortish, is very dense. The cat appears to be perfectly well and weighs 10 lbs. 3 ozs. But I nearly always manage to get about 30 fleas a day.

Has anyone ever experienced anything like this and can they please give me any suggestions which may be of help? I am at my wit's end to cope with this apparently inexhaustible supply of fleas! I often finish off the cat's grooming with Coatacine. The diet is half a pound best horseflesh per week (raw), Kit-E-Kat, boiled fish, Spratt's Cat Food, occasional rabbit, milk and water. We have a lot of hedgehogs and several other cats in our gardens.

Mr. R. J. Dumbrell,
West Drayton, Middlesex.

TIMES NOT GIVEN

Whenever a cat show is advertised, the times that the show will be open to the public are rarely mentioned. There must be many of us who do not know if the shows are all day affairs or only open in the afternoon.

Mrs. E. A. Glenny,
Hanworth, Middlesex.

NOSES IN THE AIR

There is just no living with my two cats since their pictures have been printed in your Magazine. They demand the best now and the other cats may have the leavings. Silky Sue even helped herself to the steak intended for the family dinner to-day (helping oneself seems to be a habit of Siamese!) and she scolded me most severely when I dared to reprimand her.

Mrs. Harold Lee,
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

HOME WITH THE MILK

Some friends of mine had a black cat called Tinker, who was intelligent enough to be regarded as one of the family and was treated as such. Tinker's mistress, who lived in the country, was accustomed to fetch the milk from a farm nearby and Tinker showed on these occasions real feline sagacity. If he came in and found his mistress absent, he would immediately glance at the nail where the milkcan was kept! If the can was not there, he would march out of the house and down the road to the farm to meet his mistress. Sometimes he would rest by the wayside—perched like a sable statue on a post that commanded a clear view of the way she would come. He would descend to meet her with loud purrs expressive of the deepest satisfaction—and thus he literally came home with the milk!

Miss D. Bowhay,
West Hoe, Plymouth.



Tailpieces

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



Four kittens born in South-West London are reported to have had their eyes open when 24 hours old. "Most unusual," was the comment of the local R.S.P.C.A. inspector to whom the phenomena was reported. Normally, of course, the eyes of kittens do not open until between the eighth and twelfth day after birth.

In last month's issue we published a picture of Noxa Fenolla and one of her Tortie daughters by Dickon of Allington, bred by Miss L. L. Elliott, of Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Fenolla now belongs to Mrs. W. G. Harriott, of Whitchurch, Salop, who is breeding from this young queen. We have just had news of this change of ownership.

Animal lovers everywhere will wish to join with me in sending greetings and good wishes to Mrs. M. E. Dickin, C.B.E., founder of the P.D.S.A., who celebrates her eightieth birthday this month. When this remarkable woman started the movement 33 years ago she could hardly have foreseen its development into the wonderful international organisation it is to-day with its London headquarters, sanatorium at Ilford, hospitals and dispensaries all over the world. In the provinces alone there are 40 dispensaries to which people of all ages, classes and creeds can take their pets for advice and treatment. Overseas, the P.D.S.A. operates in Egypt, France, Japan, South Africa, Morocco and Jamaica.

The things they do! Children playing on a piece of waste ground in North-West London found three kittens in a dying condition. Their back legs had been tied together to prevent them from crawling about. The case was reported to the R.S.P.C.A., whose officials are doing all they can to find the person responsible for this callous act of cruelty.

Directions that her pet Tabby should be put to sleep immediately after her death were contained in the will of a Dorset widow, who left over £3,000.

It was 2 a.m. on a Sunday morning when the P.D.S.A. Head Office Ambulance was called to the West End Central Police Station, where a member of the staff had just returned after three days' absence without leave with a badly wounded leg! He was Peter, a tabby cat adopted by the Station nine years ago when he was blitzed out of his home. Peter was given first aid and next day he had further treatment for his leg. He is stated to be as well as can be expected, but he is not likely, for the time being, to parade with the men as is his custom.

News comes from Switzerland that a 10 months old black and white kitten has climbed the famous Matterhorn, starting from a hotel nearly 4,000 feet below the summit. This achievement surely calls for recogni-

tion by the Alpine Club; it has already impressed the Natural History Museum officials. A well-known climber has said that dogs often accompany their masters to considerable heights on the mountains. But he doubted very much that they would do so, as the kitten did, by themselves.

Letter to a London newspaper from a reader living in Surrey: "Relatives whom I visited recently had a female cat which positively shrank from me, would not allow me to go near it—until one day I was sitting, singing quietly to myself. Then the cat jumped on my lap, purred incessantly and made a great show of affection. When I stopped singing it jumped down and refused to come near me—until I started to sing again."

Hon. Chester Bowles, Governor of the American State of Connecticut, keeps three cats and two dogs at the Governor's House in Hartford. He has said that in his opinion no family can be complete without a cat or dog in the home. Having pets, he feels, not only provides the family with wonderful companions, but gives the children a sense of responsibility in seeing that the animals are fed and taken care of properly.

According to "Cats Magazine," U.S.A., there are 2,118 exhibitors of cats in America and only 45 out of this total are residents of the Dominion of Canada.

A black cat which fell 60 ft. from a building in Dovercourt, Essex, on to a concrete pavement was unhurt except for a bruised paw. Another cat came out well from a strange ad-

The Midland Counties Cat Club

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

at the

FRIENDS' INSTITUTE

MOSELEY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM

on

Wednesday, 25th October, 1950

Send for Schedule to :

MRS. O. M. LAMB (*Hon. Secretary & Show Manager*)
TWYLANDS · GRANGE HILL · HALESOWEN
NR. BIRMINGHAM *Tel. : Halesowen 1226*

venture at Highbury. It became wedged in a drainpipe and to free it a fireman hung upside down from a roof. Its head was greased with margarine before it could be freed.

Minnie leads a quiet life these days at her home in Dover. Ten years ago she was ship's cat aboard the submarine depot vessel H.M.S. Sandhurst, and saw plenty of action in the air raids on Dover Harbour. Then came the night when 30 German bombers swooped from the sky. The Sandhurst was damaged and Minnie leapt overboard. A fortnight later she was seen crouching forlornly on the quayside by Chief Inspector Webb, of the R.S.P.C.A. It took four months to nurse her back to health. The naval authorities "demobbed" Minnie, and Inspector Webb found a home for her.

A black cat, which had got itself marooned on a house-top in Bermondsey, gave two P.D.S.A. officers an exciting climb. The cat had been on the roof some 30 feet up for nearly two days and efforts to catch it by window cleaners and others had failed. Superintendent H. F. Dobson and Mr. D. Fossey climbed out of a window and up a drainpipe on to the roof, which was one of a terrace of houses. The cat had withdrawn to the extreme end of the terrace, eight houses away. This meant the rescuers had to climb up and down eight sharp-pointed roofs, not to mention crawling along the parapet at the edge of a roof when a chimney stack barred their way. The cat was sitting at the edge, apparently meditating suicide, but the two officers managed tactfully to approach and capture it. The climb down was, if anything, worse than the climb up, but it was at last accomplished in safety and the cat handed back to its owner—a little girl.

“..I really can recommend”



PRESTWOOD RASCAL

Mrs. J. F. Parker, Newlands, Prestwood, Stourbridge, well-known for her Prestwood Blue Persians, writes:

“I should like to tell you how very beneficial I have found your Kit-zyme.

My young queen, Areley Sweet Melody, had a litter of six which have all been brought up on the tablets and they are lovely kittens. The enclosed photograph of one of them shows how much Kit-zyme is enjoyed!

At five months Prestwood Peter Piper weighed 8 lbs; largely due—in my opinion—to the regular inclusion of Kit-zyme in his diet.”

KIT-ZYME will benefit your cat too

**It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—
NOT a purgative**

Kit-zyme

VETERINARY YEAST

**Promotes resistance to:
LISTLESSNESS, FALLING COAT,
LOSS OF APPETITE,
SKIN TROUBLES**

50 (7½ gr.) Tablets 1/6, 250 for 4/—, 750 for 8/—.
**KIT-ZYME is sold by Boots, and most
Pet Stores.**

**If any difficulty in obtaining, write to:—
PHILLIPS YEAST PRODUCTS LTD.,
PARK ROYAL ROAD, LONDON, N.W.10**

Literature free on request

Another Gang Story !

Defeat of Stranger Tom

By PHYLLIS LAUDER

THE Stranger Tom had evidently come from some way off, and his sojourn in our midst lasted only for a day, but he was a perfect nuisance to the Gang.

He was very black and shiny, with patches of white on his face, and a cheeky, *gaillard* air about him. He sat and watched Blondie as she picked her way daintily in her little blue boots among the sweet-scented grasses in the sunk garden. His dark yellow eyes sparkled furtively; there was a slightly "spiv" look about him; one felt that his human counterpart would have worn a cheap imitation of an Anthony Eden hat.

Unfortunately, being young, strong and full of vigour, he was more than a match for Blitz and Old Harry, and Skittles was frightened of him. One look from him sent poor Old Harry slinking into the bushes, and he spat at Skittles, who had never in his life been spat at before, except by Blondie when maternally irritated, which didn't count. Blitz offered to tackle him and, head down, bushed out, uttered a sound which seemed to mean "This is *my* territory!" But the Stranger Tom was bigger and younger, and a disconsolate Blitz joined the others on the path behind the greenhouse.

All this was extremely galling to three little cats who had thought they had a monopoly of thuggery in the neighbourhood. It was made worse by the fact that they already had a source of annoyance in the shape of a son of Blondie's who had

come to stay with me while his owners were away. This was Laurie.

In appearance he was exactly like his mother; later, he would be much bigger, but now he was less than a year old, and they were almost indistinguishable. This fact did not, however, make him popular with the Gang. He was a gentle, timid creature, and went tentatively towards each of them in turn. . . .

Skittles spat at him several times in succession, and left him; Old Harry accorded him a distant stare, and went off; Blondie growled at him ferociously, and departed indoors with the air of a Bowery doll confronted by a tiresome child. Blitz, curved in one direction and looking in another, said his piece about whose garden it was, and the wretched Laurie, disconsolate and dismayed, fled into the house and took refuge under a sofa.

Already browned-off by the presence of this displaced person in their proximity, and humiliated beyond endurance by their encounter with the Stranger Tom, the members of the gang huddled together in the early spring sunshine, Skittle occasionally making a half-hearted dab at a passing insect, the others obviously seething with discontent.

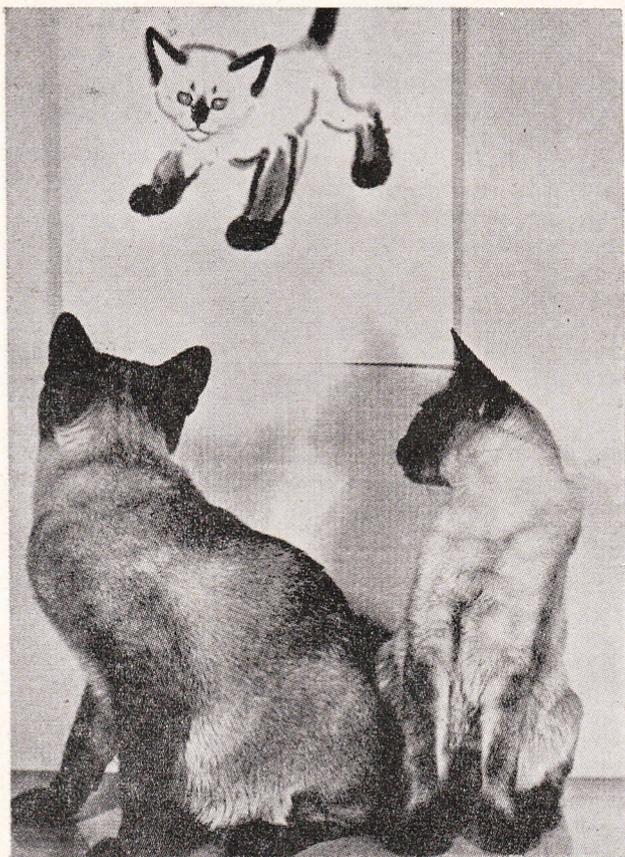
The forlorn Laurie, saddened by the knowledge that nobody wanted him, and that even Skittles considered him too feeble to play with, watched miserably while his mamma set off in a basket for a journey to the home of her official sweetheart;

then, attracted by the first-of-April sunshine, he ventured timidly across the lawn.

At first he walked warily, a poor little cat, taken away from his own home and brought to a strange place where unkind creatures called him names and ran away from him, or offered to slaughter him. But he was

at the water where the irises were budding, and potted round the warm flagstones, sniffing the air that was full of spring's promise.

It was then that the Stranger, ears a-cock and eyes aslant, came quietly over the bank and edged silently up to the unconscious Laurie. You couldn't really blame him. Seen



Courtesy Racekatten

PIN-UP GIRL !

young and the sun was warm, and there were tufts of very special grass in the sunk garden. Nobody seemed to be about.

Laurie pulled at the grasses and began to enjoy himself ; he dabbed

from the bank, there simply wasn't any difference between the lady of his heart and her not-quite-grown-up son ; utterly deceived, he took a couple of quick steps and, almost touching Laurie, uttered a low, dulcet, crooling sound.

Without an official interpreter it is impossible to give an exact translation; to judge by his general demeanour, he probably said, "How's about it, Babe?" But it may have been the more conventional "Darling, I love you!"

Whatever he said, the effect was terrific. Laurie's shyness was not proof against this kind of mistaken identity; if his remarks could be interpreted, the Editor would not print them. For twenty seconds he had the most blazing eyes in the world, the most bushed-out tail ever seen, and the longest claws in catdom.

Round the edge of the greenhouse three excited faces peered, every whisker stiff with unholy glee, as over the bank went the Stranger Tom, never to reappear. The despised Laurie, standing uncertainly on the scene of his successful battle, found that a metamorphosis had taken place; he had suddenly become extremely popular.

Their Hero !

Blitz and Old Harry, one on each side of him, were washing and polishing him anxiously, as though to make sure that he had received no injuries. An hour earlier they had hated him; now it was plain that he had been elected an honorary member of the Gang. Why not, since his mamma was their own particular mobster's moll? He purred under their ministrations, he basked in their approval; he rubbed his face against Old Harry's dark tabby coat; he was very happy. . . . Blitz and Old Harry, their slights gloriously avenged, were also happy. . . .

Curvetting like a squirrel, perky tabby rosettes on white coat, Skittles pranced up the bank and gazed with dancing peridot eyes in the direction taken by the Stranger Tom; he had the air of an impertinent urchin who calls triumphantly, "Ya! April Fool!"

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Mr. George Dyke, Secretary of the Melbourne Cat Club, reports on the big winners and reflects on the influence of English importations.

HERE in Australia we have just finished our Championship Show season and are settling down to wait for kittens and their big days in November.

I visited Sydney for their main event of the year at the Easter Royal Agricultural Show, where two very delightful days were spent seeing Sydney's best. First day self colours were shown and a week later they judged the marked classes.

It was interesting to note the mark importations have made on the Fancy. Mrs. Craig's two Blue males, Stourbank Michele and Adrian of Pensford, took the honours and the main awards went to stock which can be traced to the importations of quite a few years ago. These are mainly among Blues and Creams from Benedict of Bulbedie (a son of your famous Flick a Maroo) and Cinasam of Roslie, which were brought to Australia by my very good friends the two sisters Miss Cashmore and Mrs. Wallace, who are still breeding winners from that stock.

One outstanding orange-eyed White caught my eye, Mrs. Dodge's Ch. Flummery of Whitecliffe. Here again was the influence of Soame Flambeau and Cinasam of Roslie, which were not very far back in his ancestry.

Back again to Melbourne to the Australian Cat Club, where top honours at their show went to the President of the Club, Mrs. H. J. Brown, for her Perfection of Worboys, a Chinchilla male descendant of Dickon of Allington, and Lang-

(Continued on page 35)

A Chat about Colour

By MENGARATH

Reprinted from the Australian "Bird World and Pets Digest."

MUCH controversy has raged lately regarding the colour of a Chinchilla and a Shaded Silver, and whether the Blue should be light or dark. Remarks frequently heard regarding the Shaded Silvers is that they are "only bad Chins.," yet we never hear it said of an insufficiently tipped Chinchilla that it is only a bad White, when such a statement would be just as near the mark as the former.

Main essential in the colour of a Chinchilla should be the light, even black tipplings and pure white undercoat, with no trace of brown or patchy markings. This, with the blue-green or emerald eye, and brick-red nose, is a cat well worth the effort to breed.

Shaded Silvers may be bad Chinchillas in a way; their main characteristics are the same; the beautiful green eye is there, but the effect of the coat colour is much darker than the Chin. There are shadings on the legs, which must be the same tone as the head. There should be no shadings on the legs of a Chinchilla. So that really a Shaded Silver could be termed a dark Chinchilla.

Much has been said of the Blue—that it must be light—while in reality the Standard says either light or dark, but even from root to tip. So, according to the standard, a good, even-coated dark blue is a better colour than a very pale blue which is not even. A good even-coloured Blue cat is seldom seen either dark or light. It is a colour very difficult to

keep free from discolouration, and when shown in good condition is one of the most beautiful of cats

We have classes for Red Tabby cats. How many are tabby? Mostly they have bracelets and necklets, but where are the butterfly and swirls of the tabby to-day? Most are nearly all self-red, which might be said of most of the other tabbies, with the exception of the brown, which certainly seems to keep his markings, but usually forfeits his long coat.

Torties an Asset

Blue Creams don't appear very often these days, and are mostly patchy like a Tortie. Creams seem to be tabby-marked, showing red ancestry. Some good Tortoiseshells have appeared lately; these hardy little ladies are an asset to a cattery, being able to produce so many different standard colours in a litter. Smoke, one of the most beautiful colours, seems to have suffered some neglect of late. They are most difficult to breed true to colour, but are well worth striving for with their beautiful white frills, black bodies and white undercoat, light toe and ear tufts and deep orange or copper eyes.

Whites with blue eyes are becoming quite popular these days; a blue-eyed White is most enchanting, though many prefer the orange eye. While the Standard gives no more points for blue eyes than for orange, some of our judges show a marked

preference for blue, often placing an inferior blue-eyed specimen over the good orange-eyed one.

With the Black Persian the colour is not always as sound as it should be. A Black shown in perfect condition is a decided credit to its owner, as without doubt this is by far the most difficult colour to keep in show condition and to prepare for exhibition.

With so many beautiful colours from which to choose it is no wonder that the Persian is so popular, but it must be said that the hardest colours to win with are the Chinchillas, Shaded Silvers and Blues. Here we find very keen competition, and invariably one of these colours takes away the coveted title of "Best Cat In Show."

There has been an epidemic of cats falling out of windows lately, sometimes with disastrous consequences. Which would seem to disprove the fallacy that a cat always falls on its feet. Probably the cat curls up on a ledge and doses off in the pleasant warmth. On one day alone the P.D.S.A. Ambulance was called to two such cases. One was a tabby cat which fell from a high window in a London street. This was lucky enough to get off with a broken ankle, which was put in plaster. The second, a black cat, fell from a block of flats and had to be put to sleep as its spine was dislocated. These are only two isolated cases among many and several dogs have also been treated for such falls. It would be a good idea if pet owners could put some protective railing or wire netting on favourite window ledges or balconies.

The Siamese Cat Club

SIAMESE CAT CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

will be held on

Thursday, October 12th, 1950

at the

Lime Grove Hall, Shepherds Bush, W.12

Admission (1.30 p.m. till 5.30 p.m.) 2s. 6d.

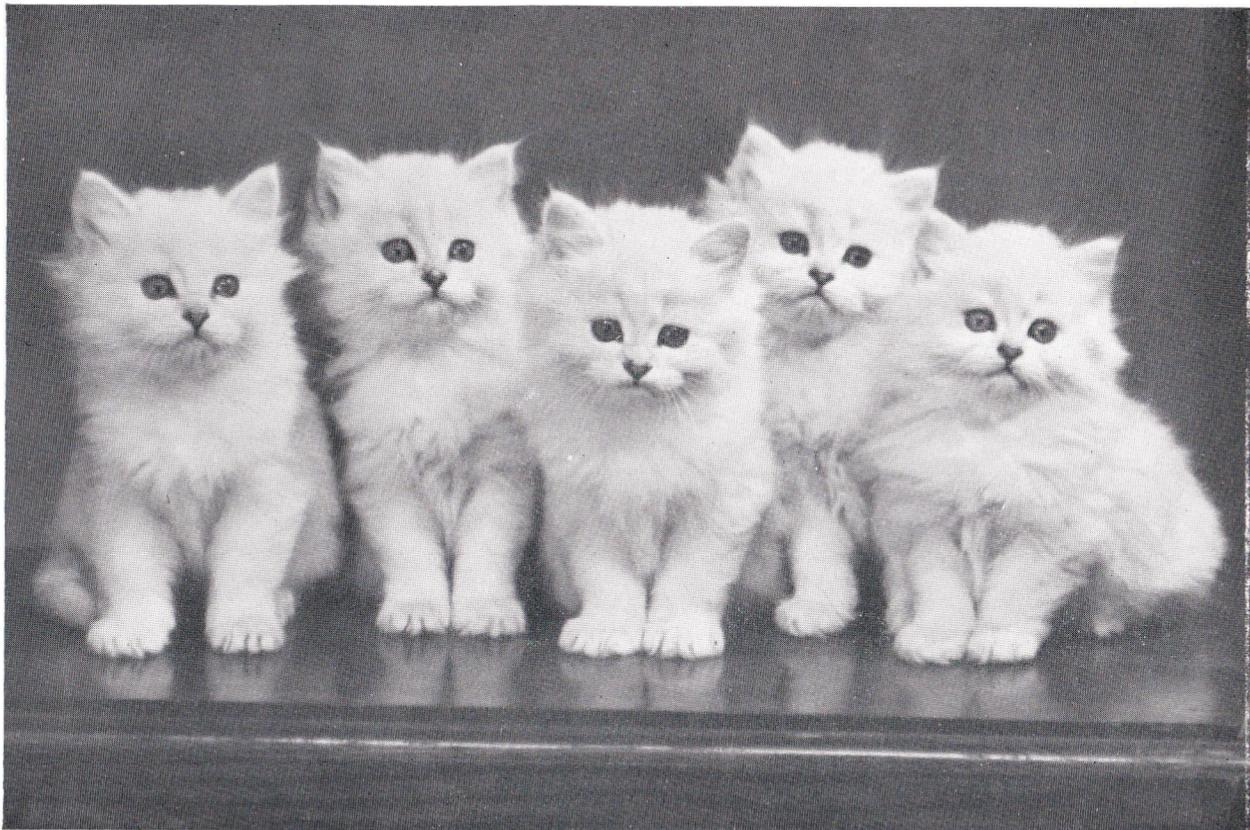
Refreshments and licensed bar all day

Details from the Show Manager :

MRS. HART, TYE COTTAGE, WOOD STREET, GUILDFORD

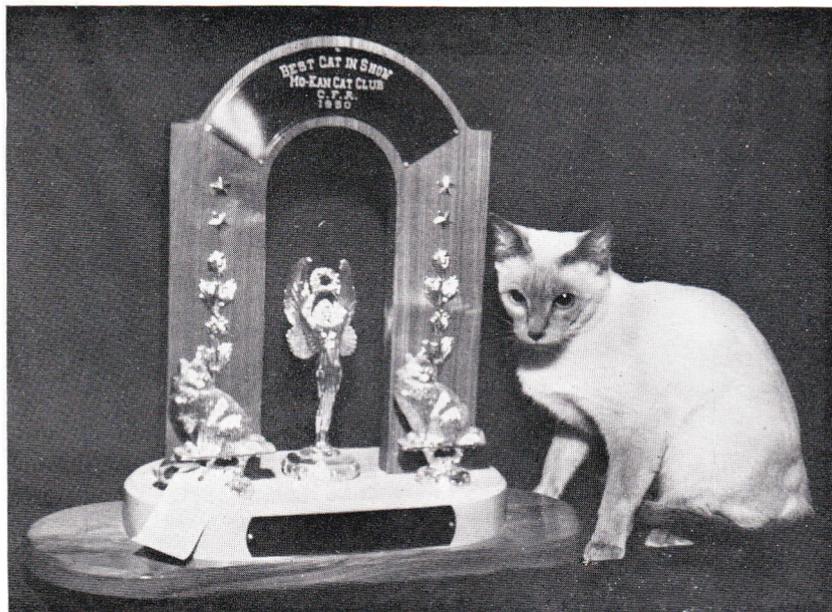
Stations - Goldhawk Road (Metropolitan Railway), Hammersmith, Shepherds Bush

Buses - Nos. 11, 12, 17, 88, 630, 628, 657 and 607

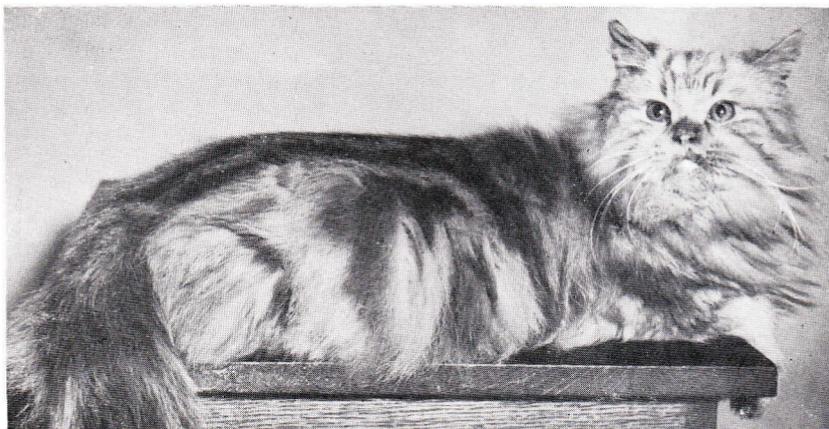


J. S. Woodrow, Maidstone

This grand study of a Chinchilla litter is a triumph for both breeder and photographer. It must surely stir into action again those despairing owners who have never been able to persuade their pets to stop acting like pieces of quicksilver and "watch the birdie"! These kittens were six weeks old when they faced the camera and they were bred by Mrs. Ellen Clement Warren, of Maidstone, Kent. The picture was especially taken for this Magazine.



GRAND CHAMPION VEE ROI'S LANTARA GENE, lovely blue Point Siamese female, is a finalist for the coveted title of 1950 All American Cat of the Year. We are advised that only three other cats—two Blue Longhair males and a Shaded Silver male—can beat her. Owned by Mrs. R. H. Hecht, of Arlington, Virginia, Lantara Gene is shown here with the unique trophy she won as Best in Show at Kansas City.



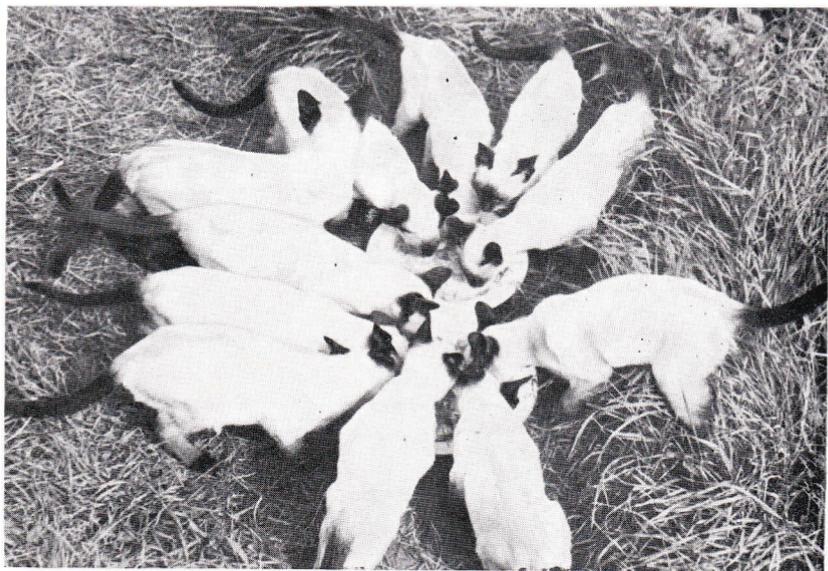
Rachel Whitmire

CHAMPION POLYCHROME RED PEPPER OF SPERO, bred by Mrs. Earl Posey, of Birmingham, Alabama. This striking Red Tabby male has done well at American shows for those enthusiastic Fanciers Mr. and Mrs. Carl R. Johnson, of Atlanta, Georgia.



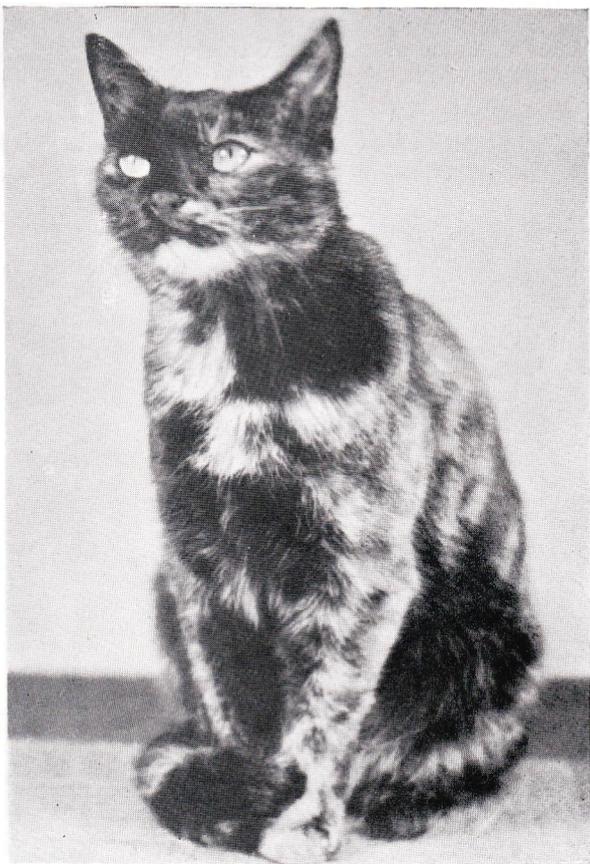
AUSTRALIAN BEST IN SHOW

BENJAMIN OF SALISBURY, handsome Blue Longhair male owned by Mrs. L. Rose, was adjudged Best Exhibit at the June Championship Show held in Melbourne by the Siamese Cat Club of Australia. A report on this and other shows "down under" appears elsewhere in this issue.

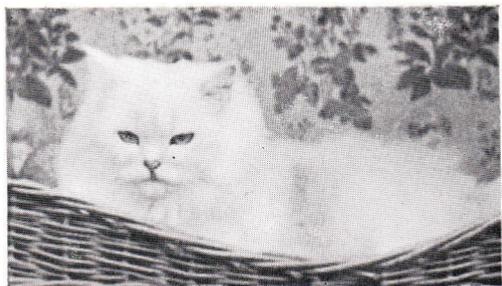


ONE WILL BE UNLUCKY !

This cricket team of Sabukia Siamese kittens at their lunch interval is being coached and trained by Mrs. Helen Dadd, of Epping, Essex. One of them will go hungry unless he quickly gets his head down !



CHLOE, the Tortoiseshell, belongs to Mrs. F. M. Richardson, Hon. Secretary of the Scottish Cat Club, who are holding their annual show in Glasgow soon.



SARISBURY BRUTUS typifies calm and dignity as he takes a rest in his basket. Brutus, well known in the Chinchilla world, is owned by Mrs. D. D. Crimmen, of Leigh-on-Sea.

When Winter Comes

I AM not a very practical person when it comes to doing odd jobs about the cattery. But like so many unhandy people, I find that my ability is quite considerable when it is merely a case of telling other people what ought to be done! This is, of course, the expensive way of keeping things in order, whereas those of you who can undertake the necessary repairs and maintenance yourselves are not put to a very heavy outlay.

If your outside cattery needs any repairs, now is the time to do them before winter sets in. If you leave such matters until winter actually arrives, the cats themselves may have to suffer for your neglect, and then you will not find the doing too pleasant with a nipping frost in the air.

Summer is the best time for putting leaking roofs to rights, but if you have not dealt with this matter already there is still time. We have had so much rain lately often following on a hot day when boards shrink, that if your roofs are likely to leak during the winter the chances are that they will already have started to do so.

Some breeders seem to think that a felted and battened roof

will last for ever, but one usually finds that after five years drastic repairs are necessary, and more often than not it is cheaper in the long run to do the job completely with entirely new felt. This method is expensive, of course, but is there anything that is cheap these days? Patching rarely makes a good job.

If you are doing the job yourself, make quite sure that you have a really wide overlap when placing two strips of felt together or rain will find its way in. It is a good idea to avoid battens and nails, for more often than not you will get a leak through the nail holes. A bituminous dressing is a far better seal. Ordinary tar is messy to deal with and during hot summers can become unpleasantly liquid.

The outside walls of these catteries also need attention each year, for even with tongued and grooved boarding there is often shrinkage and rain gets through the cracks and makes the inside of the wall damp. The cheapest method of dealing with such minor troubles is the using of plastic wood, but it will be a far better idea, if you can afford it, to line the inside of the house with hardboard up to a height of

at least four feet. This material is comparatively cheap and is a most effective draught excluder.

The outside of the house should regularly be painted or treated with some dressing such as green Solignum, as wood which is not carefully treated in this way will soon rot.

An outside cat house must be proof against both damp and draught if it is to provide conditions satisfactory for cats during the winter months. No artificial heating is ever needed in this country for the fit cat, and, no doubt, many of you have noticed how the coat develops to suit the need of the animal. I have frequently observed that hard weather before Christmas produces a dense coat even before the bitter weather of the New Year arrives.

Epidemic Time

If you are a breeder the chances are that you will want your first litter by the end of March or certainly early in April. Well, there is nothing wrong with that idea if you have thought the matter out and made your preparations well in advance.

Have you ever been struck by the fact that there always seems to be more illness about among humans in the early part of the year than at any other time? In my own job I know only too well that the epidemic term is the one from January to March, and I think I know the reason for this state of affairs.

When we have a good summer there is plenty of sun to invigorate the body and to help it prepare for the winter. But after a bad summer the Easter term is full of its health troubles. In my own case I find that February is the month when I am likely to spend a period in bed.

Breeding Condition

Now cats can benefit little from actual sunshine just because a fur coat is hardly the most satisfactory surface to present to the sun's rays, but those long hours of activity in sunshine which cats enjoy in the summer have their beneficial effect on condition. Winter provides a minimum of light, and, as you know, exercise is greatly curtailed. Thus, it is difficult to see how queens can be in suitable breeding condition in February unless you do something consciously to promote that condition. If you leave the matter entirely to chance you must not be surprised if your queen is difficult to get in kitten, and even if she achieves this she may become seriously run down when she tries to rear her family.

Now I have my own ideas on the way in which this problem should be tackled. These ideas may evoke from some of you remarks about fads and fancies, but I shall not mind in the least about that.

I am sure that all cats are better for regular doses of Vitamin D during the winter months, and

so far as I am concerned winter begins in October. This substance can be provided in adequate quantity by adding one drop of halibut oil to each of the two daily meals. Halibut oil is easily digested and in addition to the Vitamin D there will also be more than enough of A to make up any deficiency which the diet may contain. So there you are. Two drops of halibut oil every day and the chances are that your queen will be in better condition when February comes round. Many of you, no doubt, take the same substance and the need of your cat is very similar to your own.

I am also a great believer in the use of Vitamin B, and the best thing I know to supply it is Benerva Compound. There may be other things equally as good,

but I have not met them yet. When there is lack of appetite and digestion seems a bit awry, give it a trial. This compound has a remarkable effect in toning up the whole digestive system, and with so-called bad-doers improvement is often rapid.

By the way, cut out some of the carbohydrates during the winter months if you are accustomed to use them. Stodgy foods are all right if plenty of exercise can be taken to counteract their effect, but a fat cat is rarely a good breeder. To keep your queens slim, red meat is ideal, and if you are a really successful breeder you may be able to afford to provide rabbit as a change.

Perhaps this is enough on the unpleasant subject of winter, but come it will.

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.

1950						
27 September	...	...	South Western Counties Cat Club	...	...	Torquay
3 October	...	...	*Blue Persian Cat Society	...	...	London
			(See advertisement in this issue)			
7 October	...	...	Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club	...	...	Edinburgh
			(See advertisement in this issue)			
12 October	...	...	*Siamese Cat Club	...	...	London
			(See advertisement in this issue)			
25 October	...	...	*Midland Counties Cat Club	...	...	Birmingham
			(See advertisement in this issue)			
9 November	...	...	*Croydon Cat Club	...	...	London
18 November	...	...	Scottish Cat Club	...	...	Glasgow
			(See advertisement in this issue)			
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.

How best to send or take my lovingly-cared-for Cats to overseas destinations ?

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Dear Sir,

It is now almost four months since I brought my cat "Kitty Kitty" up to Bow Road on the first stage of her journey to Australia.

Yesterday I collected her from the quarantine station at Coode Island, here in Melbourne, and I was thrilled to see how well she was and how much she has grown, and to add to my joy, she obviously recognised us after so long and has now settled down happily in the family again.

It was a hard decision to make, whether we should bring her or not, but we are all thankful now, especially as it is so obvious that she has been well cared for.

I wish to thank Messrs. Spratt's for consigning her for me ; also whoever looked after her aboard the "Port Brisbane" and I trust that my letter will assure any of your future clients that here at least is one very satisfied and grateful customer.

Again my sincere thanks.

Yours faithfully, (Signed) Muriel A. Scrimshaw.

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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.

11th August. To Maidenhead to meet Miss Langston and to see her famous Allington Chinchillas and Blues, such lovely representatives that I can only hope to describe the most striking. Ch. Mair of Allington was proudly nursing two male and one female kittens by Ch. Southway Crusader. Two are going to Canada and their immaculate breeding will be a great asset to Blues.

Mair is a devoted mother and a queen who looks equally lovely in or out of coat. Every time I see her I marvel at her eyes, so large, expressive and brilliant. Her young son, Dylan of Allington, will make his bow at the shows this autumn. He is a pale medium blue, has brilliant eye colour and bears a striking resemblance to his mother. This potential Champion is a fine youngster not yet at his best as he is only just over one year.

Another young male, Gwyn of Allington (by Moonraker of Allington) will give Miss Langston a fine unrelated pair to replace Dickon and Moonraker next season.

Several exceptionally nice Blue queens were in the house and garden. The Chinchilla Scamp of Allington was a friendly fellow who insisted upon sitting on my lap at teatime. Foxburrow Flame (pictured in the July issue of OUR CATS) is lovely. A really adorable queen with the loveliest little ears, she followed us out into the garden.

Nearly all the Allington cats have liberty in turn and so did Ch. Foxburrow Tilli Willi until Miss Langston saw him on the other side of the road waiting for a bus to pass!

Since then he has to be content with a large grass run and his house. Miss Audrey Steer has a flower garden near by and chats to him whilst she attends to it.

I was very interested in a Black Longhair of unknown pedigree Miss Langston has procured as a foster-mother. Mated to Ch. Foxburrow Tilli Willi, she has produced four hefty Silver Tabby kittens. They were only a few days old so it will be interesting to see if they retain their markings.

Some beautiful Chinchilla kittens in the nest stage captivated me, and it is a safe prophecy that Miss Langston will be winning well again this season. It is wonderful how she has managed to combine her career as Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music with that of cat breeding and make a success of both pursuits. I must not forget "Ernie" and Miss Honnerbach, who so devotedly look

after her cats when she is at the Academy, or dear little Miss Steer, who is such a wizard at grooming them. We all admire the way she presents her Chinchillas and the lovely veteran Ch. Langherne Winsome (see April issue of this Magazine). A very interesting day with Miss Langston and friends. I recall that Miss Langston was already well established when I came into the cat world 26 years ago.

12th August. To Woking to lunch with Mrs. Tschudi Broadwood and then on to her house to meet Tschudi Buddha, her Seal Point Siamese male. He is a character! We found him lounging nonchalantly on a cushion in the greenhouse. He then followed Mrs. Broadwood into the lounge to inspect and give his four children a perfunctory wash whilst his permanent wife affectionately greeted him. It was a delightful family affair and an ideal way for cats to live. But one needs a male with perfect house manners like Buddha and an equally secluded garden to give unrestricted liberty.

I understand he is a very circumspect young man. His owner declares he would not mate a strange female if he met one, but he is quite keen if one with good credentials is sent to him. Mrs. Broadwood has a vivid personality and I was intrigued with her ideas and views about cats and life in general. She is very interested in the Animal Health Trust and is serving on the Committee which deals with feline interests.

17th August. An enjoyable visit from Mr. and Mrs. Sayers to-day. I am sure the good wishes of everyone will go with Mrs. Sayers when she sails for America in the Mauretania on 20th October. She will be judging Siamese at the Empire Cat Club Ch. Show at Newark, New Jersey, in November, returning probably about

the end of the month in the Queen Elizabeth.

I shall certainly be with her in spirit as I know what a warm welcome she will receive. Miss Elsie Hydon is meeting her on her arrival in New York. How vividly I remember the kindness and hospitality of American Fanciers.

Mrs. K. R. Williams will also be leaving on 22nd October on the Queen Mary to judge at a show in Virginia, returning possibly the middle of December on the Queen Elizabeth. Here's wishing them both a grand trip and safe return.

23rd August. To meet Mrs. and Miss Montague at Hampstead, who have some very good Blues. Miss Montague made an unlucky start. She purchased a very nice daughter of my Judy of Pensford which had perfect health until she went to be mated. She evidently picked up a germ as shortly after she contracted metritis.

This is a most insidious malady and young maiden queens appear to be the ones most susceptible. The queen, Jennifer, had the best veterinary attention in London and long courses of Enterofagos, but nothing cured her and in the end she became so weak she had to be put to sleep. This disaster nearly finished Miss Montague for cat breeding, but after several months she decided to start again and keep her own stud. So she purchased Robin of Pensford from me (Gem's litter brother) and as a mate Glenshee Penelope. From this pair she bred the lovely little Kenwood Gloria. From a Blue-Cream she has bred a Cream of outstanding type and eye colour, Kenwood Billy Boy. He has a colossal coat and I have suggested showing him at Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show, although with such a coat he needs experienced grooming to present him at his best. However, other Cream

breeders will see him and I believe in showing when one has anything good enough. Knowledgeable ones are not going to be prejudiced if a cat does not win because it lacks show preparation, particularly as Billy Boy is in lovely physical condition.

Miss Montague is so devoted to the family that she has not yet parted with any kittens she has bred, so perhaps it is a blessing she has had small families. Robin is like Tschudi Buddha, the Siamese. He has perfect house manners, so is a pet as well as a stud. The Kenwood cats have a very large run right across the bottom of the garden enclosing trees and shrubs and a well-built house in the middle with the link wire fencing well above the roof. Miss Montague finds the house useful for queens in season. It was a delightful happy family with all the cats so friendly and happy.

26th August. A showery day for Sandy Ch. Show, but most of us managed to keep dry by dodging in and out of marquees. There is never a dull moment at Sandy and this year there were 6,385 exhibits of cats, dogs, rabbits, etc., and garden and farm produce to see.

The twenty Blue adults were a lovely collection for quantity and quality. Although the 398 entries in the cat section were 21 more than last year, only 122 cats and kittens were exhibited. As 34 were Blue Longhairs and 56 Siamese, there was little competition in other varieties and several classes were cancelled.

The Best Exhibit in Show was Mrs. Herod's orange-eyed White Longhair Carreg Cracker (whose photo appeared in the May issue of OUR CATS). He was beautifully presented and a worthy winner.

Best Kitten in Show was Mrs. Chapman's exceptionally well patched Hendon Snow Maiden, by Ch. Hendon Lysander. I noticed she even

has a patch on her tummy, and in my opinion is the best Tortie and White since Mrs. Axon's famous pre-war winner Ch. Noxina.

Mrs. Crickmore won the Challenge Certificate in Blue males with Thiepval Beau Ideal, a cat of superb type by Ch. Oxleys Peter John.

Mrs. Brine was showered with congratulations when it was known that Campanula of Dunesk, by Adrian of Pensford, had been awarded her third Challenge Certificate to become a Champion.

Mrs. Henn's Black male Baralan Samson, Mrs. Sheppard's Creams Widdington Whiskers and Wilfull, Mrs. Speirs's Woburn Pansy, Mrs. Corkes's Ch. Countess Fairy Primrose and Miss Langston's Chinchillas Scamp and Felicity (the last named gaining her third and final certificate) were the other Ch. Certificate winners.

In Siamese males, Mrs. Sayers won with Killdown Jupiter, by Oriental Silky Boy. Like so many Siamese and Blue winners, he is the product of famous pre-war stock, "Oriental" being, of course, Miss Gold's prefix. The winning female was Miss P. MacMahon's Normac Little Exile. Mr. Martin exhibited a very attractive Blue male kitten, Southway Beau, awarded the special for Best Blue kitten, the winning female being Mrs. C. Prince's pale blue Crowdecote Lady Lavender.

In Siamese kittens, Mrs. Dadd's Kensington winners, Sabukia Sweet William and Sabukia Stardust, won well again, each being first in its Open class. Other Open class winning kittens were Mrs. Slater's Blacks, Mrs. Turney's Chinchillas and Mrs. Hacking's well-grown and coated Cream, Redwalls Huntley. Miss Rochford won in Shorthairs with her nice Dunloe Gasha.

Crowds surged in directly the barriers were lifted and one could hardly move. An enjoyable Show, but please, Mr. Porter, may we have some



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CRYSTAL CAT SHOW

The October Issue of this Magazine will contain reports and pictures of the big event at Olympia. Make sure of your copy by ordering NOW and of course we shall be pleased to arrange for your friends at home and overseas to be supplied. You — and they — will thoroughly enjoy this issue

REMEMBER THIS DATE!

OCTOBER 7, 1950

**EDINBURGH AND
EAST OF SCOTLAND
CAT CLUB SHOW**

to be held in

**ODDFELLOWS HALL
EDINBURGH**

Judges:

Miss Kit Wilson
Mrs. J. M. Newton

Details on application to
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chairs outside the marquee next year? There was nowhere to sit down except in the refreshment marquee or near the band, and I have yet to meet the cat breeder who would prefer to listen to a band when they have an opportunity of chats with their fellow exhibitors. It was nice to see Mr. Hazeldine, the Governing Council Secretary, accompanied by his wife, enjoying the Show and various exhibits.

29th August. To lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Allt at Crowborough. Danehurst is on a hill amid most picturesque surroundings and, unlike so many catteries which are tucked away around corners, theirs has the sunniest spot in a lovely Sussex garden. On a tennis lawn below their own windows, four very large parallel runs terminate in four kitten houses and these have some new and interesting features. At one end are cosy enclosed sleeping quarters with access to runs designed for inclement weather. Floors, backs and roofs with overhanging eaves are made of wood, the front is wire netted, and outside this are sliding glass panels with an air space at top so that kittens can always have exercise and an interesting look-out. And how kittens do love to see what is going on! This particular section had a painted sign, "Kittens' Creche." The end compartment had a similar sign marked "Maternity Ward," and here a Cream queen was contentedly nursing a quartette of Creams by their own stud Molesey Ali Baba. Danehurst Gina (Best Longhair Kitten at Kensington Show) and her litter sister Gilda, have grown very much since the Show and are robust kittens with long coats, good type and eyes. A lovely plot with a sign, "Queens Cot," was devoted to the females.

Apple trees and several shrubs are enclosed in their run so they can have

endless amusement and exercise chasing butterflies and stalking creepy-crawlies. Wooden planks lead up to barrels attached to the top of battens supporting the wire netting, so these queens also have look-outs when they want to rest. In the middle of this is their house with a sleeping box and compartment for each queen. Several very nice Blue, Cream and Chinchilla queens were amicably living together and I specially admired the Cream queens Prudence and Oxlip of Sunfield (bred by Miss Gabb, of Godalming), which



A Danehurst Stud

have been such good brood queens and excellent mothers.

Some distance away were the nicely appointed "Stud Villas," the residences of four males, all in very nice condition. Sco Ruston Ravisant (by Int. Ch. Southway Nicholas) has sired many winners, the latest being Danehurst Gina. A very nice young son of his living next to him we may see at the shows this season if he comes into coat, although young Blue males are always at a disadvantage when competing with mature studs. Few Longhair males are at their best until two or two and a half years. Molesey Ali Baba is a massive, placid fellow. He also has sired many winners and is a winner himself, but he has been rather handicapped by the slight bars on his forelegs, a fault with so many Creams. Redwalls Jack Frost, the Chinchilla, completes the males.

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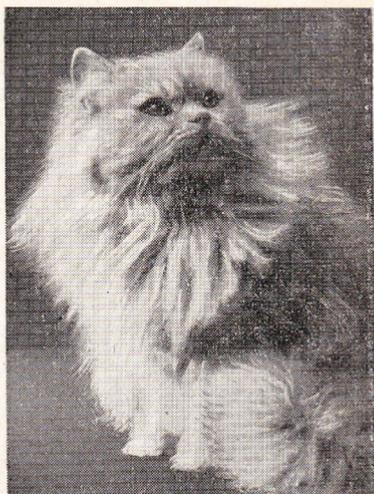
Please mention OUR CATS when replying to advertisements

Wending its way round the adult cat houses and out of sight amid trees are hundreds of feet of link wire fencing enclosing a miniature forest inhabited by two Great Danes. It is grand to see animals enjoying so much liberty and yet so safe.

I was captivated by Mrs. Allt's fascinating Pekinese. They were in lovely condition and looked ready for the show pen. Some of them, a lovely level creamy beige, just the shade which would cause a sensation if we could breed it in a Cream adult cat. The puppies had the sweetest expressions and faces, and I imagine Mr. Allt's kitten clients must find it very difficult to resist buying a Peke puppy as a companion.

Their house pet, a non-pedigree Shorthair, has quite a story and after my visit Mr. Allt wrote in his jocular way: "I meant to tell you how we acquired Mrs. Gibson. She was sent to our vet. when we lived in Bedfordshire to be put to sleep, as her owner had kept one of her male kittens and did not want the trouble of a female. But as our vet. knew we wanted a cat as we had none at that time, she offered us this unwanted female. I, too, was not keen on a female as I had no idea of breeding at that time, but we agreed to have her. When the vet. suggested spaying her, she was in bad condition, but you saw for yourself what she is like at the age of twelve. Having had a family we felt she should have a title, and so, thinking of Claude Dampier's friend, we decided to call her Mrs. Gibson. When you know her better we will allow you to call her Tib." Mrs. Gibson is allowed complete liberty and is friendly with all the animals and humans.

1st September. To Miss Cottell's wedding. I hope to see her continuing to exhibit after making her successful bow with Souvenir Moonbeam. have him here staying with me.



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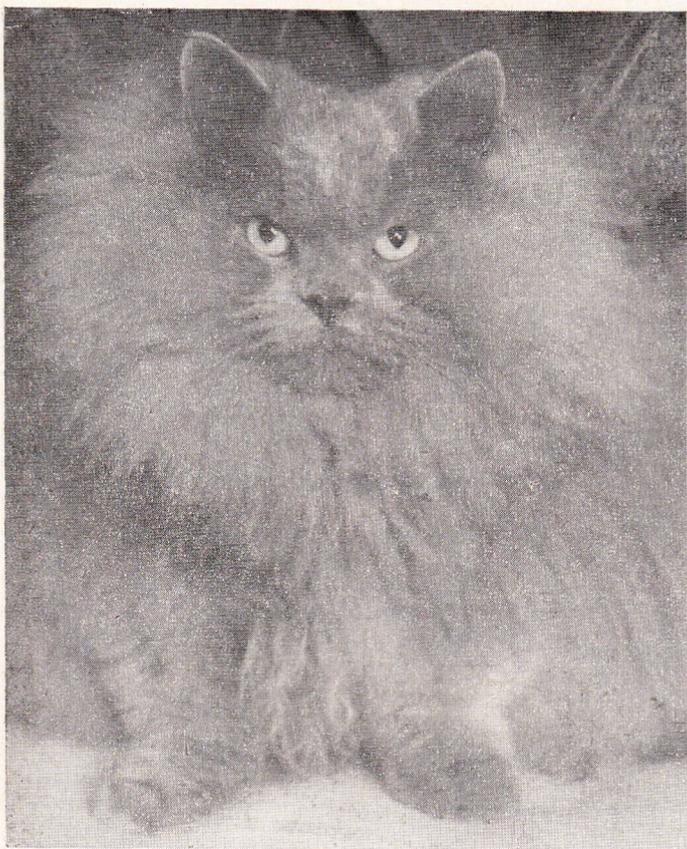
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EIREANNE SONI BOI, striking Blue Longhair neuter belonging to Mrs. H. W. Woodall, of Torquay. Soni Boi has won 7 firsts and a trophy for the Best Longhair neuter in Show.

He is a really lovely kitten and improved since the K.K. Show, when Miss Kathleen Yorke judged him and gave him such a good report. Mrs. Machin (as Miss Cottell now is) rears her kittens so well and they are always heavyweights. Moonbeam weighs $6\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. at exactly 5 months. Souvenir Annette, his mother, has reared 14 kittens out of the 16 she has had in her last four litters. When one died at birth in the last litter Mrs. Machin had a post-mortem. The vet. reported it had no liver. How invaluable it would be if more breeders had p.m.s. It would give

us invaluable data on deaths at birth which so often mystify us.

2nd September. Mrs. Davies rang me up from Chalfont St. Peter with the news that Priory Pansy had given birth to two kittens. It is one of the first cases I know where a cat has had living kittens after metritis. Mrs. Davies is grateful to Miss Manley for this cure and I agree with her that it must be due to the treatment prescribed. Pansy had a sudden sharp attack. She had M. and B. and penicillin injections and was so weak she could hardly stand. The vet.

thought a fatal termination inevitable. However, Mrs. Davies would not give us, so she telephoned Miss Manley, who prescribed injections of Entero-fagos. She followed her instructions exactly and in two days Pansy was perfectly and eating and in due course she was mated and had these kittens.

Speaking to my own clever vet., who, I am glad to say, is ready to give sympathetic attention to all remedies, he considers Pansy's chances of being cured were greater because she was an older queen who had already had several kittens. However, it is an interesting case and I asked Mrs. Davies for permission to publish the details as it may help other breeders in similar difficulties.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

(continued from page 16)

herne Molly, imported by Mrs. Brown years ago. Best kitten was Mrs. L. Rose's Cheeta of Carlton, one of Stourbank Michele and Adorabale Perdita's first kittens after landing in Australia.

Then on to the Melbourne Cat Club's show, where imported stock was again most prominent. Mrs. Hawkes's Sarisbury Lorenzo being Best Exhibit and Redwalls Fleurette best Chinchilla female and best kitten again to Cheeta of Carlton.

I had the pleasure of introducing the only Russian Blue in Australia at this show. Mrs. Chase, who brought Mouche Mohey out with her, had a busy day telling breeders and the public about the sleek little Blue.

At last to the show of the year at the Melbourne Town Hall as Show Manager for the Siamese Cat Club of Australia. Here we had Miss Jeanette Brookes, daughter of the Governor of Victoria, for the official opening and a record of 3,000 visitors.

Best Exhibit was Mrs. Rose's Blue

male Benjamin of Salisbury (again back to Magog O Mendip on both sides). Mrs. Rose was also on top again with Cheeta of Carlton, a very nice record of three best kitten awards which will take a lot of beating. Again the imported Doneraille Dantess (Siamese) and Mouche Mohey (Russian Blue) were the centre of interest to breeders and the public alike. My wife was disappointed at her Cream male Solo (Cedan Cyder—Finette) being still in quarantine. He had a rough trip but was in fairly good condition. I may add that Spratt's do a good job in their arrangements for transport and care.

I believe we are in for another invasion shortly. Mrs. D. J. C. Chandler, Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club of Australia, tells me she has another Seal Point and Blue Point coming to join the others, so we are looking forward to a lot in the Cat Fancy here during the next year.

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MOLESEY ALI BABA (Cream Persian), sire Tweedledum of Dunesk, dam Molesey Mischief. Fee for each stud £2 2s. and carriage to registered queens only.—Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S., Danehurst Cattery, Old Lane, St. Johns, Crowborough. Tel.: Crowborough 407.

PIKHA SHAH JEHAŃ, S.P., born 12.8.49, proved sire, beautiful eye colour, sire Mystic Dreamer, dam Crawstone Belinda. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.—Air Commodore Vincent, 76 Park Road, Woking (1140).

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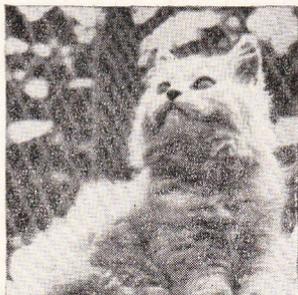
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NOT SO FIERCE REALLY !

A reader, Mrs. M. Smith, of Langbar, Ilkley, Yorks, has kindly submitted a clipping from a local newspaper which tells an amusing story of a man who put a cat among the ducklings—not the pigeons this time!

It was reputedly a fierce cat, a real terror, and one evening the man took about 30 of his newly hatched ducklings into the house and put them in front of the fire to keep them warm. Then he and his wife decided to visit some friends in the village.

About half-way through the evening up he jumped excitedly. "Whatever did you do with the cat?" he demanded of his wife. "Do with

it?" she replied, "I didn't do anything . . . it was curled up asleep on a chair in the kitchen."

"Well, that's finished it," he said in despair. "There'll be a room full of slaughtered ducklings."

Together they hurried home. They shut their eyes, opened the door, then slowly opened their eyes . . . until they were wide in wonderment.

There on the rug they could see just the head of the cat peeping out from a cover of contented ducklings. Under it and over it they had crawled, snuggling up close for warmth.

And puss was purring away contentedly like a steam engine!



Courtesy RaceFatten

Mrs. Elikofer, Copenhagen, with her Blue Longhairs.

To the Children



From Uncle Peter



Boys and Girls

A New Hobby

Very soon I am going to start a new hobby ; a new livestock hobby, of course. I intend to buy a vivarium. Now do you know what a vivarium is? You certainly know that an aquarium is a container in which water is kept and that in this water we usually keep fish. Well, a vivarium is a glass-sided container in which living creatures like lizards or frogs or a chameleon can be kept.

The Chameleon

One of the most remarkable things about the chameleon is that it can change its colour to fit in with its surroundings. Of course, it cannot change itself into all the colours of the rainbow, but it is capable of a wide range of yellows, browns and greens which it can show when it needs to do so.

What interests me most about this creature, however, is its tongue. It can shoot it out as far as nine inches to trap the fly with the sticky tip of this very useful weapon. The tongue moves so fast that you have to watch very carefully if you want to see what is happening. The speed with which this tongue moves will surprise you, for the tip goes out and back in the space of one fortieth of a second, which means that the tongue is travelling at well over twenty miles an hour.

Tree Frogs

I also want to keep some tree frogs, but for them I shall have to make a small pool in the vivarium. Tree frogs make a nest for their babies in a tree by using leaves as a basket in which the eggs can be laid. After these eggs hatch into tadpoles these quaint little creatures slide down the trunk of the tree and then slip into the water where they develop into very small frogs.

Laddie

Laddie, my red setter, has again been on holiday with me in Cornwall, and as you would expect he got into trouble once more, but on this occasion I don't think that he was to blame.

One evening he was in a very unhappy state as he scratched his face and rubbed his head along the carpet, but try as he would he could not make himself comfortable and this went on long into the night. I could not find out what was the matter, but I did notice that he had a lot of small lumps on his face.

The next morning I wanted to take him into the garden, but he refused to go through the gate and nothing that I said would persuade him to do so. It was then that I started to think. What was there in that garden to make him afraid now when he had been there many times before? It was then that I remembered that on the previous evening I had seen him pushing his head into a bed of nettles as he looked for his ball. That was it! He had been stung by nettles.

Uncle Peter

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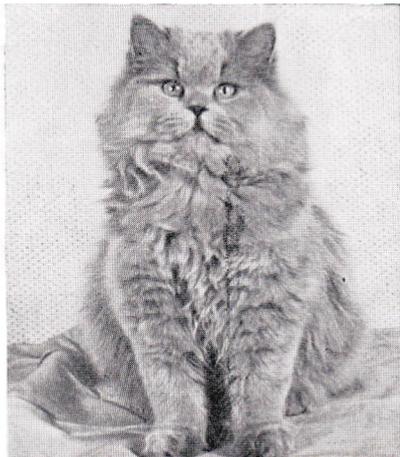
**. . well-fed, well-petted
and
properly
revered .**



Mark Twain



A proud Cream mother and her babies by Pelham Puff Ball. Breeder is Mrs. D. F. Morris, of Worthing.



BLUE STAR NERISSA, (treasured pet of Mrs. Rees, of Swansea) at 7 months old.



FIGGI (left) and SILKY are shown in the arms of their devoted mistress, Miss Roma Dunsby, of Whittington Grange, Worcester.



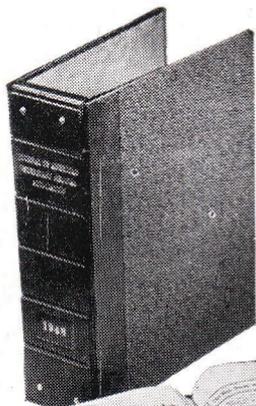
CWMTIDU, lovely silver grey Tabby, named after the Welsh town of her birth, where she was found and adopted by Miss L. H. Langmead, of Tunbridge Wells.



JOE SQUEAK, 6 weeks old Persian, finds a grand hiding place in the garden. Photo submitted by Miss Doreen Kernohan, of Crumlin, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.

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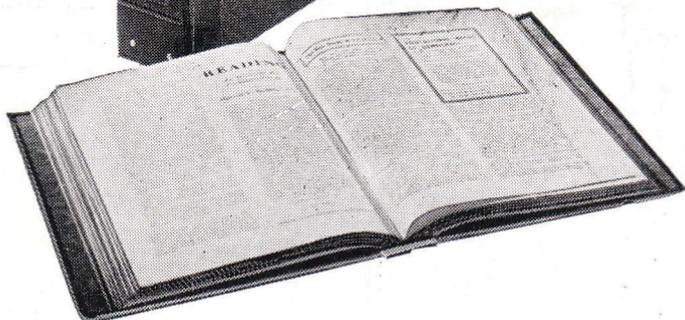


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