

P.35

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



SEPTEMBER 1951

1/6

IS GINGER OUR CHAMPION RATTER?
(see page 3)

Another lovely cat who loves

KIT-E-KAT

Champion of
Champions thrives on

**'the complete
cat food'**



Most admired cat in the country is 12½ year old *Langherne Winsome*, the beautiful pale chinchilla which won the 50 guinea cup for best cat at Olympia. Miss Steer of Maidenhead who owns *Winsome* says, 'I mix her Kit-E-Kat with vegetables and corn flakes and she loves it. Lots of cats don't like tinned foods, but Kit-E-Kat seems to get them all'.

Yes, and Kit-E-Kat is not only delicious but wonderfully nourishing. It is a high protein food enriched with liver.

Your cat may not be a champion, but Kit-E-Kat will give her glossy coat, bright eyes and vitamin vitality! Cooked, ready to serve, 1/- a tin.



KIT-E-KAT LTD., SLOUGH, BUCKS.

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. 3 No. 9

SEPTEMBER 1951

Managing Editor :

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

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

OLYMPIA AGAIN !

As we go to press with this issue the news reaches us that the second Crystal Cat Show will definitely take place next month at Olympia. Additional information is to be found in the announcement on page 6. This is all very exciting—and highly satisfactory. It would have been a tragedy for the cat world if the Crystal Show had been allowed to lapse after the first brave try.

There has been some delay in getting plans finalised for this year's Show, but at long last it is full steam ahead for what must surely be the finest parade of cats (pedigree and household) ever staged in this or any other country. The magnificent Grand Hall has been booked and the dates—a Friday and a Saturday—will ensure that the general public, upon whose interest so much depends, will be given every opportunity to attend.

We have been privileged to have an account of the planning and organisation which is going into this year's event. We found it an impressive and inspiring story. Neither effort nor money will be spared to make the Show a thorough-going success from every standpoint. It is to be hoped that all who can will make some contribution and that breeders especially will support the Show with the maximum number of entries. There has been a most generous classification and the prizes to be won are many, varied and valuable. Everything possible is being done to ensure the comfort and well-being of the exhibits who will be penned under perfect conditions.

We are advised that the following have been invited to officiate as judges: Mme. Bridgett and Mme. Ravel (Cat Club de Paris), Miss K.

Yorke, Mrs. Bazeley, Mrs. Brunton, Mrs. J. Thompson, Mrs. E. Hart, Mrs. Henn, Mrs. Rendall, Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Speirs, Mrs. Towe, Mrs. France, Mrs. Carbert, Miss Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, Miss Kit Wilson and Mr. F. Norris. We also learn that one of the attractive side shows is to be an International Photographic Competition which will be run in two sections. In the first section the merits of the cat portrayed will count for most in the judging. In the other section the entries will be judged mainly for their artistic and technical qualities, but a cat must figure in the picture.

Let your password for the next few weeks be: "See you at Olympia!"

EDITOR



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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The Abyssinian female on our front cover won unique distinction for the breed at the Festival Championship Show promoted by the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Clubs in July. In the face of strong competition TAISHUN JASMIN, shown by Mrs. Menezes, of Colgate, near Horsham, was adjudged Best Shorthaired Cat in Show. Photo by Topical Press.

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, from experienced fanciers. Brief details of the show programme for the 1951-52 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.

	Promoted by	Venue
1951		
15 September	*Herts and Middlesex Cat Club (See displayed advertisement in this issue)	London
26 September	*South Western Counties Cat Club	Taunton
11 October	*Siamese Cat Club	London
12 and 13 October	Crystal Cat Show	Olympia
16 October	*Blue Persian Cat Society	London
24 October	*Midland Counties Cat Club	Birmingham
14 November	*Croydon Cat Club	London
17 November	Scottish Cat Club	Glasgow
24 November	Yorkshire County Cat Club	Not yet notified
4 December	*National Cat Club	London
1952		
7 January	*Notts and Derbyshire Cat Club	Nottingham
28 January	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London
9 February	Lancs and North Western Counties Cat Club	Manchester

* Denotes Show with Championship status.

A Champion Ratter

GINGER, a handsome four-year-old male cat, well groomed, sleek and affectionate, has staked a claim to the title of Champion Ratter of Great Britain. He lives at Moors Farm, Loughborough, where he is monarch of the farmhouse and its out-buildings. The nearby granary is Ginger's favourite battle-ground and the rats who steal into the corn have no chance against this furry killer with dynamite in his paws. Thanks to the courtesy of the Editor of the "Loughborough Echo," we are able to tell you about Ginger and to print his picture.

Ginger belongs to Mr. Howard Belton, who, during his 39 years at Moors Farm, has had many cats. In his opinion, a cat who has killed a score of rats has done well. Asked by the "Echo" reporter if he had any knowledge of any other cat who has done as well as Ginger, Mr. A. E. Paul, local R.S.P.C.A. Inspector, replied that Ginger's known kills were the greatest he had ever heard of. The latest figures are not known to us, but several weeks ago Ginger had well over 250 kills to his credit. He has also written off three stoats, one full grown.

The "Echo's" report continues: Ginger has in a way worked himself up to his position as a leading ratter. He served a short apprenticeship on mice and had more than 100 to his account when he entered the journeyman stage on young rats.

There is no doubt about Ginger's sleek and well-fed appearance. Mrs.

Belton feeds him well and he knows that his rôle entitles him to certain tit-bits, which he rightly claims as his due, and he even sits on his chair at the table waiting for his meals.

This, incidentally, disposes completely of the idea that for a cat to be



Loughborough Echo

Ginger waits at table prior to another foray

a good mouser and ratter it must be kept hungry. This practice is still thought in some quarters to be essential, although the R.S.P.C.A. has campaigned for years to put the opposite point of view. Ginger, it must be added, eats very little of the rats he kills, though he is partial to the more tasty portions of a tender young rat.

Mr. Belton says that as soon as Ginger has had his feed in the house he jumps down and goes out. "He seems to think that he really must get on with his work," said Mr. Belton. "He is outstanding among the many cats we have owned and worth his weight in gold."

A page for the proletarian puss No. 17



Associated Press

AND THEY TALK TO ME ABOUT A FISH SHORTAGE !

More Questions Answered

By ALBERT C. JUDE

Our popular contributor on the fascinating subject of animal genetics sustains the growing interest in the scientific aspects of cat breeding with this tenth instalment in a fine new series. Readers are invited to submit their problems to Mr. Jude who will be pleased to answer them for the general interest in ensuing issues. Questions may be sent c/o OUR CATS.

I am confused over matters relating to blue eye colour in cats, and would be grateful for your advice about the following :—

(a) Is it true that there is no pigment present in the blue eyes of cats ?
(b) You have said in your various writings that blue eyes of Siamese differ from those of the Blue-eyed White. Will you please say what the difference is ?
(c) Is there any relationship between " colour " and deafness in Blue-eyed White cats ?

(a) Pigment is present in the eyes of all cats, no matter what the eye colour may be. But it would be right to say that in blue eyes the amount of pigment present is not large. Practically all is contained on the *inner* side of the iris. It is true, also, that blue eyes indicate lack of pigment in the animal—blonde and blue eyes in humans. In the case of albinos there is, of course, no pigment in the eye, and so we see the pink blood-vessels as a pinkish hue. This is seen in Siamese cats—the nearest approach in cats to albinos.

(b) The opalescent character of the Siamese blue eyes is probably due to small white corpuscles present on the outer side of the iris, not found in other blue eyes.

(c) With cats there are two forms of white. One of these is known as " white spotting." This appears on the coat in the form of patches, so often seen on mongrel cats. The patches may vary considerably, both in individual size and total area of

coat covered. The other is known as " dominant white." This is the white coat of the self White cat. This cat is genetically a coloured one, masked by the white coat on account of the presence of an inhibiting factor which prevents pigmentation of the hairs.

In the case of White cats, we have two sorts of eye-colour—blue and orange. The dominance in this case is very unreliable. In fact, two yellows (orange) may produce some blues, just as two blue-eyed may produce some yellow-eyed. And from either mating odd-eyed cats are possible. But it would seem that this latter is not a matter of chance, but rather it is the incidence of " white-spotting," in *connection with* the " dominant white " factor which produces the blue eye. In other words, a " white-spot " about the eye of a white cat makes the eye blue, while a " pigmented spot " about the eye of a self White cat makes the eye yellow.

We don't see the " pigmented spots " or the " white spots," for they are masked, but the eye colours show the existence. It is probable that a " white spot " in the ear will make the cat deaf. This would explain why a number of Blue-eyed White cats are deaf, for it would be difficult to localise the " white spot " upon the eye and to keep it away from the ear. This would also explain why odd-eyed cats are frequently defective in hearing on the side having the blue eye.

See you at the
CRYSTAL CAT SHOW!

at the

GRAND HALL, OLYMPIA

on

Friday & Saturday, October 12th & 13th

Organising Committee :

Lt.-Col. Graham Cherry, M.A. (Chairman)

Mrs. F. T. Broadwood

Mrs. Joan Thompson

Mr. H. M. Macdonald

Mr. D. L. Martin, F.Z.S.

Mr. F. Goatcher

Mr. J. H. Mason

Secretary : Mr. A. W. Hunter

Show Manager : Mr. A. A. Towe

*All profits from the Show will be devoted to the
Feline Research Fund of the Animal Health Trust*

BRITISH AND CONTINENTAL JUDGES OF
INTERNATIONAL REPUTE HAVE BEEN INVITED

PRIZE MONIES : £4, £3 & £2 ENTRY FEES : 5/-

A GENEROUS CLASSIFICATION · TROPHIES AND CUPS
WILL BE OFFERED IN NUMEROUS CLASSES

PRICES OF ADMISSION : Adults 3/-, Children 2/-

*Schedules and all information from the Secretary,
Crystal Cat Show, Caxton Road, London, N.W.2*

Tabby Markings

Some time ago I was shown a photograph of an Abyssinian cat. It appeared to have some tabby markings on the legs, chest and tail. When reading a recent show report, I noticed the judge said "almost free from markings," and praised the exhibit for it. Can you please make the position clear?

This inevitably brings us back to some months ago, when I mentioned the different types of tabby markings. These are lined, striped and blotched, with dominance in that order.

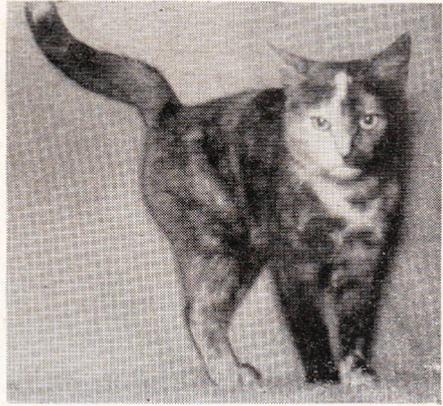
The ticking, which is a feature of all agouti type of animals, has at least two factors in cats. Black (which is non-agouti) is recessive to agouti in cats, except in the case of Siamese black, which is dominant to agouti. In some agouti animals an extreme amount of ticking may be observed, and this represents a probable third allelomorph in the series.

The banding (or tabby) series has the above-mentioned three different allelomorphs—lined, striped and blotched—and there are no intermediates. The character of the banding is easily recognised in the presence of ticking, and in Blacks and others of the non-agouti series the banding may still often be seen in young kittens and sometimes in full grown cats.

Ticking in cats is the result of yellow bands on the hairs. This increases with age, so that kittens are not so well ticked as are adults.

The factors for banding affect the formation of yellow pigment, in a yellow cat forming bands of light yellow, alternating with orange. By the way, I am told by Miss F. Bradford, of South Africa, that in that country the marmalade cat, as we know it here, is replaced by one of deep red colour, rarely seen in England among ordinary household pets. In a Tortoiseshell-tabby cat the

bands in the "black spots" are continuous with the black bands in the "black spots," while the light yellow bands are continuous through both regions. In a Tortoiseshell, alternate banding of light yellow and orange shows clearly in the "yellow spots," while the "black spots" are uniform black. The same condition occurs in the case of Maltese dilution, but the contrast in the bands is not so ob-



From America comes this interesting picture of that rarity among cats—a Tortoiseshell male. His name is Torti Man of Gallus and he is owned by Mrs. Carl A. Hahn, of St. Louis, Mo., the well-known breeder of Manx. Mrs. Hahn explains that her rare pet was born last year in Texas. His appearance has created quite a stir in American cat circles.

Torti Man's markings are interesting. He has a cream blaze on the right side of his face, whereas this marking appears on the left side in the case of the three Tortie females which Mrs. Hahn possesses.

vious, and there is general reduction in the amount of yellow pigment.

"Silvering" is a general reduction in the amount of yellow pigment. The light yellow bands of Tabbies then become white. This gives the Silver Tabby—black stripes alternating with white.

All cats are either lined, striped or blotched, but in the non-agouti series these marks are nearly lost, only showing up faintly in kittens and more faintly, if at all, in adults.

The Abyssinian cat is genetically a lined tabby, minus most of the black

pigment and showing the lining only faintly. The kittens are darkish, but become lighter with age. The first impression from an adult is a uniform agouti, the pattern so well known in wild life, which acts as protection for the animal at dusk—its normal time for activity. But the loss of nearly all the black leaves the brown and the yellow in strength. The result is a ruddy brown with even, dark ticking. This is very similar to the Cinnamon mouse, which also is agouti minus the black. The result is a ruddy brown with even, dark ticking, but excess of yellow over brown will obviously reduce the ticking effect.

The object of the fancier is to produce Abyssinians which are free from tabby markings and to retain a well-defined ticking. In all probability

the richest coats will be the ones clearest of white, which at present exists in more or less degree on most Abyssinians. The presence of this form of white (dominant white-spotting) seems to reduce the colour portion of the coat in at least some kinds of animal.

CHILD OF THE GODS

(Concluded from page 16)

importing a cat, she was told there had been no pure-bred cats in Ethiopia since the Italian invasion.

The booklet costs 3s. 9d., post free (U.S.A. one dollar), and is obtainable from the Publisher at 1/48, Elsworthy Road, Hampstead, London, N.W.3. Profits from sales are donated to the Abyssinian Cat Club.

A. E. C.



Watch . . . your . . . cat . . .

WATCH YOUR CAT getting up to his tricks, finding fun and frolic in everything around him. For all his knowing ways, though, he depends so much on you; he needs your care and understanding. *Will you do one little thing to keep him the frisky, friendly companion he wants to be?*

Give him one 'Tibs' once a day in his morning saucer of milk. 'Tibs' provide essential vitamins and minerals lacking in his 'civilised' diet. Just one 'Tibs' once a day—and he'll be the liveliest, most lovable cat that ever was, with eyes that shine and a coat like silk!

TIBS

From chemists and pet stores everywhere.
Write for CAT BOOK (7½d. in stamps) to
Bob Martin Limited, Room G.40, Southport.

KEEP CATS KITTENISH



Paws across "The Pond"

From BILLIE BANCROFT (American Associate Editor)

ALREADY the show season publicity has started. From down Texas way comes word that the North Texas Cat Club of Dallas are having their first show for the benefit of Hope Cottage (Home for Dependent Children). Date of show will be 1st and 2nd December. Judges have already been selected. This Club is affiliated with C.F.A. The members are waging a terrific propaganda for cats and will, without question, put this show over in a big way.

* * *

The Atlantic Cat Club held their monthly meeting this week at the home of Miss Ellen Laffin, Sea Gate, New Jersey. A record number attended, some from hundreds of miles away. Miss Laffin's parties are always record-breakers. Her beautiful home faces the ocean and its landscaping is an architect's dream. Many details of the coming fiftieth anniversary show were ironed out. Plans are in full sway for the largest and best show Atlantic has ever had. Mrs. Ralph A. Wilkinson, President of the Club, has announced that the date is the 10th and 11th January, 1952. Selecting the judges was a most interesting event. Two judges were considered, Mrs. Crystal Small, from the Middle West, and Mrs. Silas Andrews, of Long Island, N.Y. Mrs. Andrews won by one vote. Mrs. Andrews is the President of C.F.F. She will be the all-breed judge. Mrs. M. Nack, of Willow Grove, Penn., will do the Silvers. Judge Mabel Erdman, of

Lebanon, Pennsylvania, will be judging the Solid Color. The Atlantic is the mother-club of C.F.F., and is always a focal point of attention by which the sister clubs take measurements. Mrs. Elsie Collins, Treasurer of C.F.F., will take over the management, which in itself is a guarantee of the best in the Fancy.

* * *

Mrs. Rita Swenson, that versatile little person from North Adams, Mass., has gone on the probation list of judges for C.F.A. She will serve her novice period by doing the Solid Colors. Few indeed of the judges are as well qualified as Rita . . . for years she has raised nothing but White Persians; lately, I hear, there has been added a few Blues to her collection of Blue-eyed Whites. The breeders of White Persians are few and far between, located mostly in Tennessee, Ohio, Vt., Mass., Minn. and New Jersey . . . probably one breeder in each of the states mentioned. There may be a few others that raise two or three White Persians, but definitely not many. In one of the mid-western shows last season there were over sixty White Persians on display . . . an unbelievable but beautiful sight.

* * *

The Crusadors held a meeting last night at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, New Jersey. Chapters are being formed all over America (Crusadors for Cats). This meeting was attended by thirty-two members; eleven new applicants were accepted. This organisation is not connected with any Association . . . no dues.

Casa Contenta



The gates of **CASA CONTENTA**
are always open to Cat Lovers!



SILVER PERSIANS

BLUE PERSIANS



**Dr. & Mrs. V. VAN ZELE
LEMON GROVE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY
CALIFORNIA
U.S.A.**



“Why can't I go out tonight?”

The object is to protect the novice, right wrongs, eliminate power-politics, straighten out injustices, etc. If you are tapped for membership it is a high honor, which means that you have been investigated and that you measure to standards.

* * *

An air-mail letter arrived from Bonne Terre, Missouri, this morning telling me about Marco Polo, a Cream Persian owned by Marilee Matthews. Marco is a very intelligent fellow, but Marilee found he would not pay attention when she called him . . . if he were at a distance . . . upon investigation it was found that the poor boy was almost deaf. Marilee has an uncle who also loves cats . . . and this uncle is a doctor. When he heard of Marco's trouble he set about doing things. Now Marco wears a collar with a small attachment that enables him to hear very well indeed. Marco made the front pages of three daily papers . . . and the hearing-aid people donated the aid to Marco . . . they claim the advertising was well worth it.

* * *

That well-known breeder from Wisconsin, Coreen Petta, is truly planning a stable of imports. I believe she will bring over two Creams, male and female . . . a color bred Blue Queen and a Chinchilla. Her friends can hardly wait until they arrive so much excitement has been caused by the rumors. Southway Billie has the run of the Petta home and is a decided favorite of both Doctor and Mrs. Petta. These new imports will have to measure pretty high to be in Billie's altitude . . . he is a honey and no mistake. I have his pix here on my desk . . . and while I do not envy my thousands of miles away neighbor (geographically speaking), I would not mind one little bit . . . owning the handsome little bear. (Of course, you know that Southway Billie is an import!)

Mrs. Lillian King, Bellville, New Jersey, late of Boston, Mass., has gone in for raising "personality Siamese" . . . comments are coming in from all around regarding their department . . . seems they have something very special in their upbringing, training or whatever you call it. I plan to visit Mrs. King and investigate. She is a very sweet person and it just might be that "something has been added to" the regal Siamese race.

* * *

Mrs. May Liane, New York City, is purchasing stock for her Solid Reds. She is contacting several breeders and will consider nothing but the top-bracket pedigrees. It will not be the actual price of the cats she buys . . . but how good they are. The field of Red Persians is not overcrowded and we predict a future for Mrs. Liane in her chosen color of Persians.

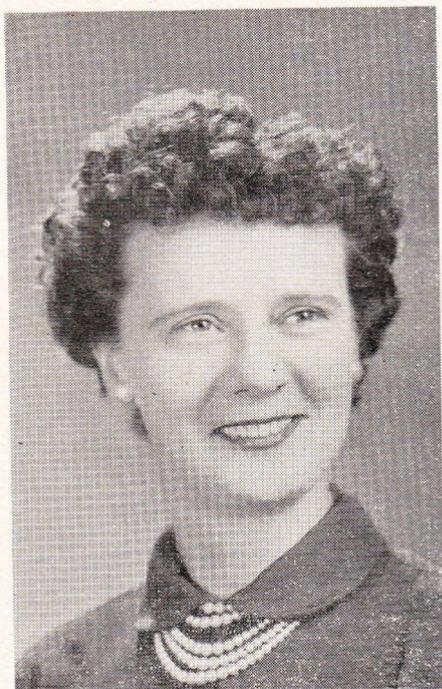
AMERICAN PERSONALITIES

MISS DORIS HOBBS

Miss Doris Hobbs, one of the younger breeders of Silvers and probably the youngest judge in the Cat Fanciers' Association, is proving herself both capable and competent in handling her various assignments in judging. She has been on the judge's bench eight years. Her first show was a Silver Speciality held in connection with the Atlantic Cat Club in 1942. The Atlantic is one of the two most important clubs in New York City and is usually a four-point show, which is hard for any judge to handle.

Miss Hobbs has had unusually strict training in Silvers. She is the daughter of the late Marion F. Hobbs, who was a breeder of Silvers for many years. At the time of her death, Marion F. Hobbs was President of the Silver Speciality breeders. When a very young girl, Miss Hobbs picked a

Silver male, named him Dante and boosted him right into his Grand Championship. Dante is still the high mark that many Silver breeders in America are trying to duplicate.



Miss Doris Hobbs

Miss Hobbs has just returned from hospital in Samford, Conn. While there she was overwhelmed with flowers, candy and presents. An announcement of thanks was made through the various newspapers to her many friends.

RECORD AUSTRALIAN SHOW

I can report (writes Mrs. Beryl Chandler, Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club of Australia) that the Show we held on 23rd June was a red-letter day for the Cat Fancy in Victoria. It was our Second Annual Championship Show, held right in

the heart of the city—in the fine Melbourne Town Hall. We had a fine day for the event—an unusual thing for winter here! And Vice-Royalty once again honoured us: Miss Jeannette Brooks, the daughter of the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks, performed the opening ceremony. It was easily the best show we have held.

A record number of Siamese cats was penned—over 50. When it is realised that a few years ago it was unusual to see more than four or five Siamese at a show, the breed's growth in popularity will be appreciated. The Best Cat in Show award was shared by Mrs. Hine's imported Siamese Gladson Gridle and Mrs. Jackson's Blue Persian Hafiz of Erith. Best Kitten in Show was Mr. and Mrs. Rose's Blue Mist of Salisbury, a fine representative, and among Siamese juveniles the winner was Major S. T. V. Coles's Timothy of Arden. Gladson Gridle, a grand cat, was voted Best Siamese Exhibit.

Judges for the day were Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Pearce, who have judged Siamese in England, and Mrs. R. Mathieson, one of Australia's best-known judges. Over 2,000 visitors thronged the hall to see all the beautiful cats and they also enjoyed the floral decorations, which consisted of trees in tubs and thousands of jonquils. An extra attraction this time was a cat photographic exhibition which aroused wide interest.

Next Month!!

ALL ABOUT MANX

An interesting Survey of the Breed by Miss Kit Wilson.

CATS' PARADISE

An illustrated account of a visit to the KIT-E-KAT factory at Slough.

Usual fine features and pictures

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.

A STUD OWNER WRITES

I read with interest Mrs. Coldham's letter in your July/August issue and heartily agree. In my case, every visiting queen is put in a special shed kept for the purpose, which is both warm, dry and airy. She is then in a specially constructed box with bedding and toilet tray.

My stud is introduced and allowed to parade round and view the queen through the wire front of her box until they are used to each other. This special shed has been seen and approved by many of our leading judges and breeders.

May I just put in a word for the stud cat owner. Queens sometimes arrive without adequate warning and their coats are in such a knotted condition that mating is practically impossible unless the knots are cut away. I had one owner complain that I had cut her cat's "feathers" away, so I gently explained why I had done so. One other point, please. Stud owners do like to know that the queen has arrived safely home again after mating. It is not their job to wire or phone and enquire so that their minds are put at rest, and they do like to receive return carriage cost as per contract!

Mr. Gordon B. Allt,
St. John's, Crowborough, Sussex.

TOO MANY SHOWS ?

I thoroughly agree with the views expressed by Mr. L. Owen Jones in your June issue on the subject of "Too Many Shows." It is perfectly true that the present high cost of everything makes it almost impossible

for fanciers to attend more than about two shows in the season, which means poor entries, poor attendance and more likely than not heavy losses to the various Clubs on classes they have guaranteed.

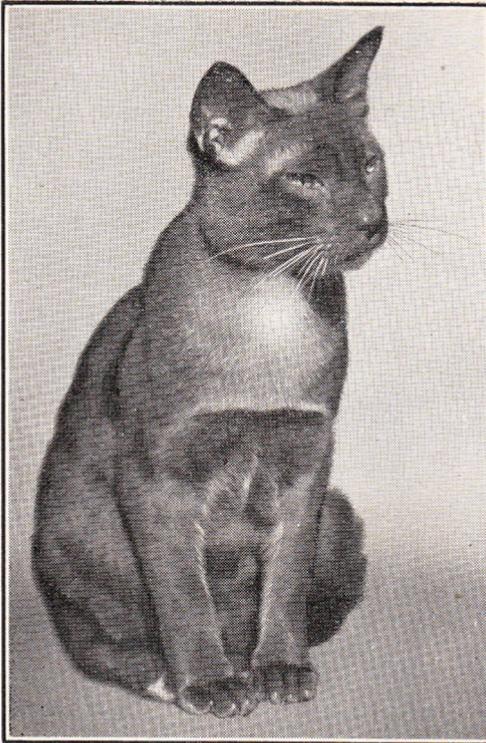
Another drawback is this unavoidable nearness of the shows to each other in the calendar. Entries have to go in for the next show before the previous one is held. Should illness unfortunately follow, the money spent on entrance fees is lost.

Speaking as an exhibitor, I know how expensive it is to "do" the shows these days and therefore as a Show Manager I feel sure the lack of support cannot in the main be put down to laziness.

Mr. Jones suggests amalgamation by two Clubs staging a show together, but I think the better scheme would be for the Clubs to pair themselves off and have an agreement to hold shows alternate years. This was done successfully in pre-war years by the Midland Cat Club and the South Western Counties Cat Club. This meant a show at Cheltenham or Gloucester one year staged by the M.C.C. and one at Exeter the next year staged by the S.W.C.C.C. Thus neither Club lost its identity and some saving in expense resulted. The Newbury and the Southsea Cat Clubs followed a similar routine.

Apart from economy, this would allow a month between shows and lessen the risk of infection.

As Hon. Secretary of the S.W.C.C.C., I may add that this Club would welcome such an arrangement with another and by this method Championships would be more valued



CHINKI YONG ZAHRAN

MRS. C. COLDHAM of Chalklands, Tattingstone, Nr. Ipswich, writes :-

"I enclose a photograph of my Burmese Cat Chinki Yong Zahran who is a great Kit-zyme enthusiast. Since coming to me at ten weeks of age he has had six tablets every day and I am convinced it is due to this that he has kept in such good health all through the last unpleasant winter. Chinki begs for the tablets!

I also give Kit-zyme regularly to my other cats and one of my Siamese, not content with her daily dose, chases the jar round the room and, if it is left unguarded, knocks it over and proceeds to consume the contents.

Incidentally this Siamese had a digestive disturbance which did not yield to any treatment until I started her on Kit-zyme. Within a few days her appearance became normal and she was obviously once again a healthy, happy cat."

KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .
It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner — NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN-RICH YEAST

Promotes resistance to : LISTLESSNESS, FALLING COAT, LOSS OF APPETITE, SKIN TROUBLES
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KIT-ZYME is sold by Chemists, and most Pet Stores
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because they would be scarcer. The shows would be better supported by both exhibitors and the general public and the accounts would have a far better chance of coming out on the right side.

What do the other Clubs say?

Miss J. F. Cathcart,
Dunstone Park, Paignton.

QUEENS IN A QUEUE !

I more than agree with Mrs. Coldham's criticism of catteries in her recent letter. I have seen a good many and heard many such comments. One lady told me that on a previous occasion when she took her queen to a well-known cattery her request to view the premises her queen would occupy was refused. Also, she was not allowed to see the stud for whose services she was paying.

It was for this reason chiefly that I bought Tschudi Buddha, who has been a great success for five years, as I would not allow my little queen to be subjected to the appalling conditions one sees and hears about. It is rank cruelty to make any cat, particularly a Siamese, sleep in an out-house.

I am only too proud to show my stud to patrons, also the large, brick-built reception house for visiting queens which, when the temperature is below 60 degrees, has heated pipes running beneath a tiled floor. One wall is completely glazed, giving adequate light and air. Another glass door leads into my house so that I can see how the queen is progressing without disturbing her with my strange presence too often.

My stud only uses this house when he has a visitor. Normally he shares my life and premises and in consequence he has no claustrophobia or vicious ways so common in stud cats.

Unlimited queens are also a bad policy and at some catteries, I hear,

it is not an uncommon sight to see a queue of baskets containing queens awaiting the stud. If one of these visitors has streptococous infection, which is very common in both dogs and cats, it must be transmitted to the rest in the queue and, indeed, all successive queens. The stud owner then learns of many dead litters.

Mrs. Felicity Tschudi Broadwood,
Send, Surrey.

About that letter you were going to send us. Why not sit down and write it NOW? Correspondence Corner is YOUR feature. Please help to keep it going.

Nina, Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon, who died at the age of 72 early this year, left the residue of her £115,017 gross (£66,860 net) estate to her great friend Miss Emilie Lindaf-Hageby, President of the Animal Defence Society, with whose work the Duchess was associated for 30 years. It was the wish of the Duchess that her Wiltshire home at Ferne, near Shaftesbury, and surrounding land should become an institution for the care and treatment of children and animals. The Duchess was a patron of the Crystal Cat Show last year and in our July issue she contributed an interesting account of the welfare work carried on at Ferne Animal Sanctuary. It was her aim, she said, to give a fresh start to any homeless animal. At Ferne to-day there are about 100 cats, dogs and horses.

A nine-year-old boy has been fined £2 at Aldershot Juvenile Court for causing unnecessary suffering to a cat. It was disclosed that he climbed a tree and kicked down the cat, which had taken refuge from his dog.

"Child of the Gods"

THE Abyssinian cat and its devotees have two stalwart champions in Helen and Sidney Denham.

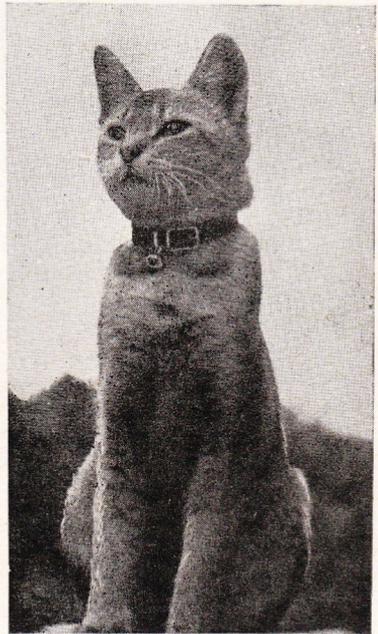
I have just finished reading their little booklet, "Child of the Gods—Notes on the Abyssinian Cat—To-day and Yesterday." It is an excellent promotion piece for little-known Breed No. 23, well written and attractively presented. Almost every page reflects a little of the painstaking research and collation which so clearly was a labour of love to the authors. The booklet, by the way, carries a dedication to their own Abyssinian pet Tia Maria, "without whose help this would have been written in half the time but without whose inspiration it would not have been written at all."

This offering by the Denhams is all the more welcome because it cannot fail to focus attention on a breed which has been side-tracked by writers in the past. There has only been one previous publication dealing solely with Abyssinians within the last 25 years, and that was a pamphlet (now out of print) by the late H. C. Brooke. And now, in "Child of the Gods," we are offered a feast of 28 pages of text and illustration devoted entirely to Abb'ies—a welcome departure indeed from what is generally considered fashionable in feline circles these days.

The progress of the breed has been delayed, we read, by a confusion of ideas which persisted until after World War I. In 1903, Louis Wain suggested that the Abyssinian was not a distinct breed. The position in a nutshell seems to have been that during the 1880-1900 period there was a certain amount of indiscriminate

crossing between the imported foreign cats of the Abyssinian type and native British "bunny" ticks, as well as with grey or silver tabbies. Breeders had no clear conception of what they were aiming at.

Where did the name "Abyssinian" spring from? Probably because the first specimen exhibited in England



Mrs. Denham's Tia Maria, bred by Lady Headlam.

was imported from Abyssinia and not because that country was its original home. Rosita Forbes, we are told, stated she had never seen a domestic cat in Abyssinia, and when the Countess of Liverpool recently had enquiries made there with a view to

(Continued on page 8)

"Our Cats"

We are privileged to reproduce below the script of a broadcast (one in a weekly series) delivered over the KFOX network in Los Angeles by that great American cat lover DR. GUY BOGART, whose voice and pen are ceaselessly employed in the feline cause.

IT has been asked how I chose the title "Our Cats" for this series of broadcasts. In fact, the name was borrowed because of its aptness and long association with traditions of cat lovers of the modern times. Of course, it all depends on the semantic approach whether they are "our" cats—it all depends on the angle of language. They never surrender their olden heritage to become slaves, but a well-loved family cat is very much ours and accepts the relationship. We feed and love it, and while it could go out on its own—and would if it disowned us—still it depends on us for a home and adoration.

So, indeed, then, these "Tigers in the house," these "Fireside sphinxes," are for really and truly "our cats," just as all lovers know it is "our moon" and we lovingly know this is "our country."

I do not know when "Our Cats" originated—it is so natural an orientation among cat lovers. My first observance of the term was in one of my cherished books by that name, published in England in 1889. It is by the patron pioneer of cats, Harrison Weir. "Our Cats and All About Them," he calls his book—as fresh and readable and interesting as when first published. "Among animals possibly the most perfect, and certainly the most domestic, is the cat," he writes in his introduction; continuing: "Were it not for our cats, rats and mice would overrun our houses, buildings, cultivated and other lands."

Harrison Weir organised and con-



DR. GUY BOGART

ducted the first cat show—at the Crystal Palace, London, 16th July, 1871. He was long the President of the National Cat Club of England and one of the most loved leaders in this land which has for generations taken so prominent a part in love of all pets, maintained standards and breeds and kept alive the best ideals for cats.

In England the Siamese and other breeds have been nurtured from rare specimens to popular pets. Even during World Wars One and Two they found refuge for their cats and shared their rationed diet with these pets—who, indeed, were especially valuable in those trying periods in keeping down mice and rats. Funeral services have been held for the cat war heroes in British public houses of worship and special prayers were

printed by Church of England officials. It has been the pride of England that the cat has come back from its war sufferings. No small part in a long generation of this development is due to the wisdom, love and energy of Harrison Weir. In the March number of Kit Wilson's British magazine, "The Cat Fancy," I have suggested as a part of National Cat Week and the Friends of the Cats a World Cat Appreciation Day and suggested that it be dedicated to the honour and memory of Harrison Weir. It will interest listeners to recall that the world's first Cat Appreciation Day was observed in November, 1950, over KFOX. This in recognition of the slogan of National Cat Week by its founder, Charles A. Kenny, "Appreciation, Understanding and Better Care."

Volume Well Thumbed

In the 1900s the cat world of both continents gave great heed to the British weekly magazine, "Our Cats." I am not familiar with its full history. But I have four years of an interesting American Magazine, "The Cat Journal," for 1900-1904. Each issue of that period quotes frequently from "Our Cats." My 1902 bound volume of this engaging publication has been thumbed through a great deal. I do not know how long the magazine lasted, but it was a powerful influence in its day in the cat movement and to-day is a valuable bit of any cat lover's library. Very likely it may have taken its name from Harrison Weir's book. He was an occasional contributor to the publication and a venerable figure in late life during the journal's existence.

One of our own California leaders of the Cat Fancy, a San Francisco judge well known in Pacific Coast cat shows, published an American magazine called "Our Cats." About two years ago this was combined with

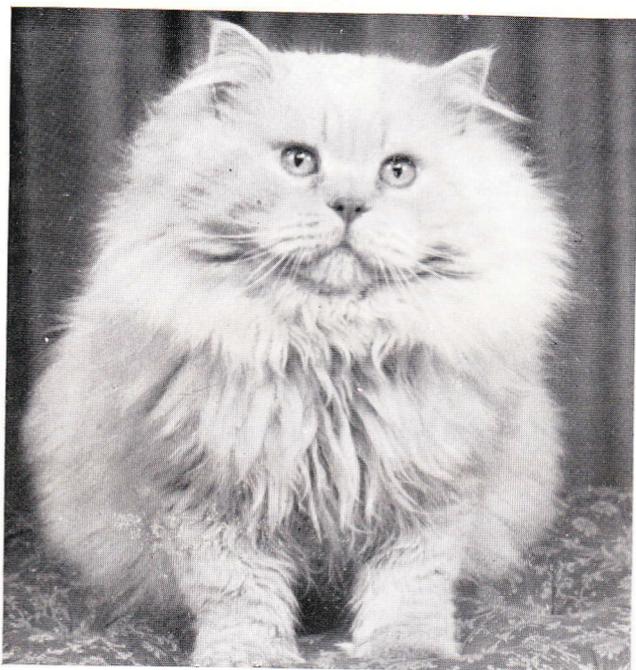
Charles A. Kenny's "Cats" magazine in Pittsburg.

The latest publication to use the name of "Our Cats" is a London magazine which made its bow in January, 1949. I am personally proud to have the two full years bound and the start on my third year. I would hate to miss a single number of this attractively edited and instructive magazine. I receive four monthly cat magazines from England and each brings its individual message, eagerly read each month. When "Our Cats" took this time-honoured and pat name, it assumed indeed a weighty responsibility. It has held up fully to the standard in every issue. It lives up to its slogan of "Authoritative — Instructive — Entertaining."

Toast in Warm Milk

"Our Cats"—yes, there could have been no other title for this series of talks on the poetry, romance and history of these feline friends. I'd hate to try to prove to any of my listeners that they are not our cats. It is not in the selfish, possessive attitude that we speak thus of the cats; it is in the same sense that we speak of our city, our home, our children—ours by the divine right of love, "ours" to protect, guard, enjoy, give happiness to. For these are indeed folks, personalities, individuals, companions, with rights to be respected, likes to be considered, yearnings to be ministered to, civil rights to be defended, comforts to be arranged for, understanding, appreciation, the best of care—can there be anything Our Cats do not deserve? If you are worthy to be loved by a cat and have been so acknowledged by one or more of these furred friends, you have indeed won a place in the sun.

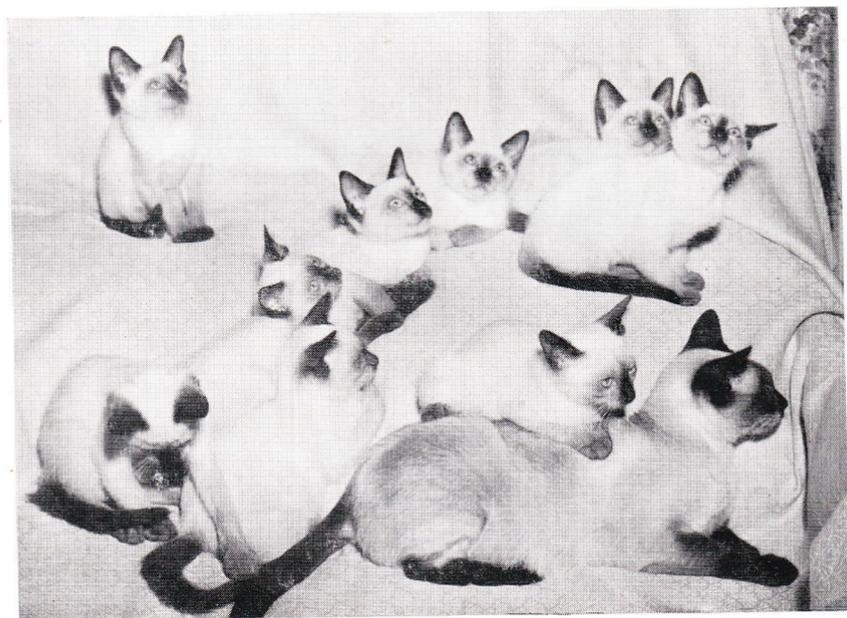
Here is a toast—in fresh warm milk—drunk with a smile: TO OUR CATS.



International Champion UPACHA, Cream Longhair belonging to Mme. M. A. Gay, of Liebefeld, Switzerland, is well known on the Continent. He has been a consistent winner since 1948 under different judges and this year he came out Best Male at the Paris and Zurich Shows. Upacha was born in 1945 out of a Cream dam and by a Blue sire.



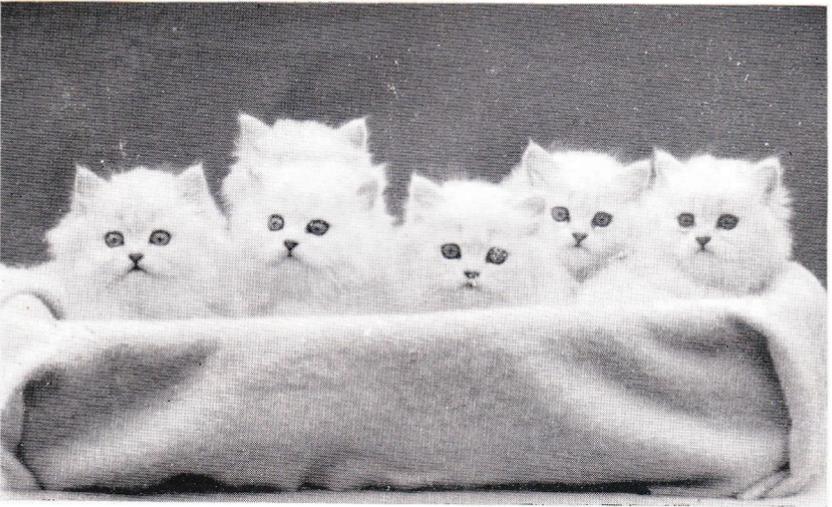
A line of young Siamese aristocrats. They are by Inwood Ting (daughter of Champion Inwood Shadow), sire Champion Clonlost Yo Yo. Breeder is Mrs. A. McGregor, of Nettlestead, near Maidstone. Six of these kittens were shown individually at the July Festival Show and a male and female who won First Prizes in their Open Class have been sold to an Australian fancier.



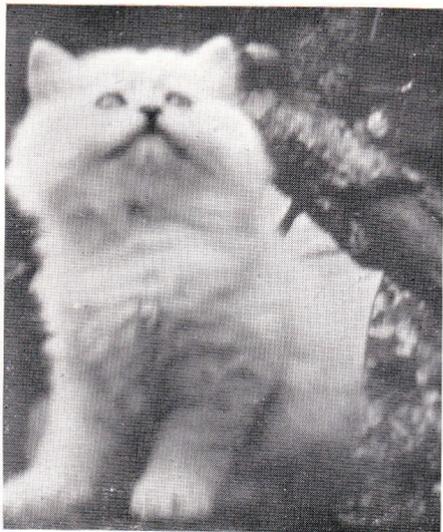
Here is Jenny, 2-year-old queen, with her bonny family of nine, believed to be a record for South Africa. All were reared by Mrs. I. Miles, who conducts a cattery at Westbridge, Durban, and is a prominent member of the Natal Cat Club. Who said kittens' faces are not expressive!



This litter of three Creams and a Blue-Cream swept the board at the Festival Show for their breeder, Mrs. F. H. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells. They were voted Best Litter and the Blue-Cream, Ashdown Shadows, was also Best Kitten in Show. They also won individually in every class in which they were shown. The two pale Creams, Ashdown Silversand and Ashdown Sylvan Sprite, led the Pairs Class.



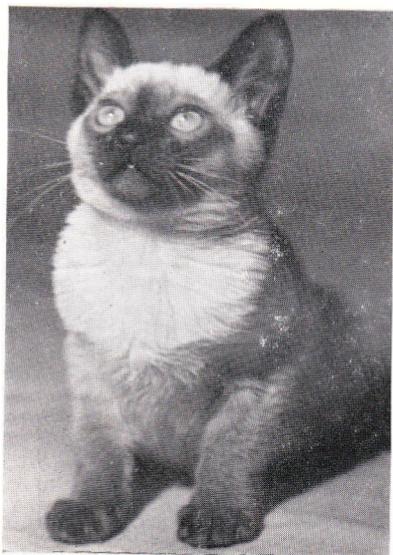
A lovely level litter of spring Chinchilla kittens bred by Mrs. E. M. Hacking, of Liphook, Hants. Two have since flown to Italy, one is booked for Norway, and the three remaining kittens have been sold to home fanciers.



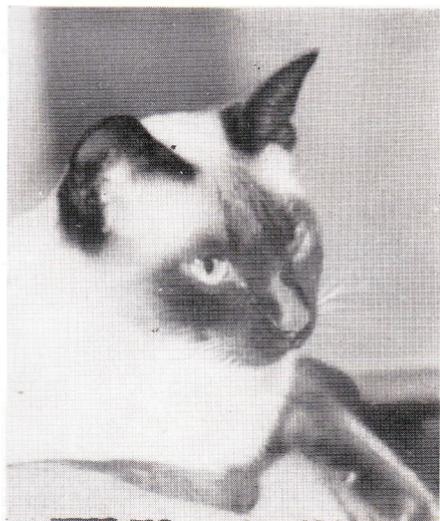
Mrs. Polden's 2 months old Chinchilla
POLDENHILLS SILVER PRINCE was
Best Longhair Male Kitten at the Festival
of Cats.



Perfect ease and contentment is portrayed
in this snapshot submitted by Miss
Margaret G. Aldred, of Richmond, Surrey.



BEAMANOR SIMON, Siamese kit
bred by Miss M. E. Lant, of Lough-
borough, Leicestershire.



THORLYN SUKI LAY is the much-loved
pet of Mrs. Marion M. Pickford, of
Poynton, Cheshire.

P. M. SODERBERG proves that

Puss can be Perverse!

I WAS recently asked to take part in a piece of research work which was being carried out on the subject of cats. I was naturally pleased to give any help from my own experience, for, in all truth, little enough has so far been done on this subject.

I know perfectly well that material obtained from me and from many other breeders will be used to good purpose, but it did strike me after I had recorded my answers that many of my replies were only true up to a point, for they did not—and, in fact, could not—take into account the individuality of the cat.

Individuality

I cannot think of any creature which possesses more individuality than the cat, and by that remark I am certainly not trying to boost the cat against the dog or any other domestic pet. It is just that from experience I have found that there are no hard and fast rules which apply to cats in general. It is possible to obtain a sort of working rule for the race, but then you must expect very wide deviations from any conduct which could be considered as normal.

Period of Gestation

Here is a case in point. I have been taken to task on a number of occasions because I said at some time or other that the queen usually produced her kittens on the sixty-fifth day.

Now on the whole I'm a responsible sort of person, and when

writing for other people I try to check my facts. This one was certainly checked with a number of breeders. In general I know it to be true, but in particular cases it can be far from the truth.

There is one book which gives the period of gestation as fifty-six days. Have you read it? I believe this was just a slip of the pen, for, from all the information I have ever received, there is no possibility of a live birth with any hope of rearing the kittens before the sixty-first day.

Now I know perfectly well that I'm sticking my neck out, but I shall be more than grateful if you can prove me wrong on this point for even one queen.

Many queens produce their kittens on the sixty-third day and according to most authorities these are the normal members of the species. In this respect I should say that the ordinary house cat is much more normal than her pedigreed sister, but by far the greater number of queens have their families on the sixty-fifth day. Even so, there are still many left who will go on waiting even as long as the sixty-ninth day before giving birth to a family.

Now what does this all add up to? Just this. That your cat will produce her kittens in her own good time, and you can calculate that after she is mated you will have to wait about nine weeks before you can expect to see the kittens. Provided that you are all prepared by the end of the eighth week and the lady has been introduced to the quarters in

which she is to have her babies, there is no need to worry until well after the sixty-fifth day, and only then if the lady seems distressed. She rarely is.

Size of Litters

What would you say was the average number of kittens in a litter? Before you answer the question it would be as well to stop to think. This question was applied to all cats, long-haired, short-haired, pedigreed and otherwise. Had it referred only to the Persian varieties the average might probably be about two; if it applied only to Siamese the answer would almost certainly exceed five, and for household pets of no pedigree who find their own mates and have three or even four families a year, the average litter would be four kittens. Over a very large number of families for all these varieties the average is somewhere between three and a half and four.

Here again individuality makes its appearance, and there are two main factors to affect litter size—TWO CATS, whose condition at the time of mating and whose ancestry also play a part in the size of the resulting litter.

Condition at the time of mating means far more than mere physical fitness, and there are a number of factors involved over which the breeder can have no control. On the whole, the fertile queen will have large litters unless she is over-mated, and on the other hand it is very difficult to increase the litter size of a queen who is accustomed to having only one or two kittens at a time. Something can be done about this and the research work to which I have referred may provide useful information in the future, but I cer-

tainly have no scientific data on the subject at present.

Family history definitely plays its part in litter size. As we all know from human experience, twins are inclined to turn up fairly consistently in certain families, and in the same way small or large litters are partially controlled by heredity in the cat world.

Feeding

It was on the subject of feeding that this questionnaire gave me the greatest "food" for thought myself, as the questions were so framed to find out the foods I was in the habit of using for my animals. I could not give any really straight answers to these questions, for in the matter of food likes and dislikes the cat expresses its individuality most clearly.

The poet Gray, who wrote "What cat's averse to fish?" just didn't know his cats or else the poor creatures were compelled to eat fish which they hated merely because of his preconceived notions on the matter of feline fare. I have had a number of cats who simply loathed fish and at the moment I have one, Titi, a Siamese, who would prefer death to fish.

It is possible to educate a cat's palate to some extent, but only just so far. Nowadays it saves a lot of time to know the likes and dislikes of each individual and to realise how long each will tolerate any particular food. Of course, it would be far easier to put a menu on the cattery wall each morning, for, on cat feeding, only a fool generalises. I've often been a fool.

Democracy is the slogan of our age—even in the cat world.

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

Aspendale, Melbourne, S.13, Victoria, Australia

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.

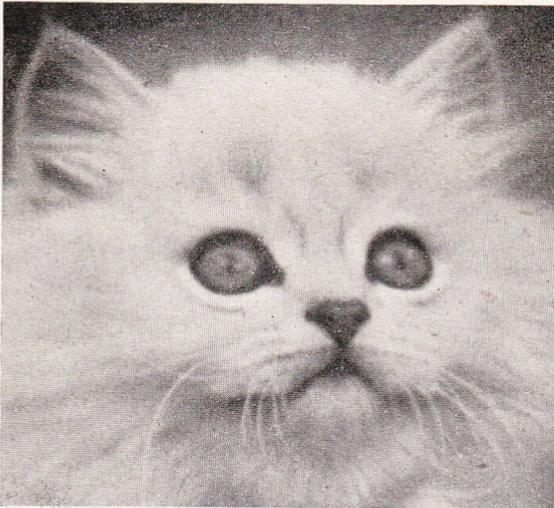
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Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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.

7th July. With Mr. and Mrs. Carman to Southwater, near Horsham, for tea with Mr. and Mrs. Brunton. Ch. Southway Josephine's quartette by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue are exceptionally good; neat ears, broad muzzles, soft pale coats and the robust physique we expect from kittens reared by Mrs. Brunton. These kittens have a family likeness to last season's winning kitten bred the same way—Miss Muffet of Dunesk (who was awarded her first Challenge Certificate at Milan, Italy, in June under Mrs. Speirs). Mrs. Pullen, of Worthing; has purchased a female and is resuming breeding Blues now her own little daughter has passed the baby stage. Mrs. Pullen's friend is having a female also, so these two young fanciers are restarting on the right lines. Mrs. Brunton is retaining a male and female for the early shows.

Ch. Josephine was away being mated to Mrs. Sharp's Dusty of Dunesk, a young male which improved at every show last season. I so admire his huge copper eyes which brought him many special prizes.

Wild Violet of Dunesk was nursing a promising infant trio by Dylon of Allington—his first family. They

should be very good as both young parents will be competing for their third and final Challenge Certificates this season. W. V. was looking lovely and very contented with her one male and two female kittens. Cherry Blossom (in kitten to Thiepval Beau Ideal) was in the garden taking her afternoon siesta, so we did not see her. Appleblossom of Dunesk, a veteran of sixteen, came in as we were leaving, and just as we commented she was beginning to look an old lady she did a very vigorous claw sharpening act on an oak beam. Lilac Lad, by Cedric of Hadley, completed the family. He is aptly named as his coat is pale and a lovely shade.

Many Longhair kittens would give a much better account of themselves in the show pen if they were penned in similar condition to Mrs. Brunton's. She has mastered the art of keeping her kittens growing from birth and avoiding digestive disturbances which tend to spoil their bloom.

17th July. To Mrs. Vize at Bantstead. Greeted by Myowne Gallant Homme, a super Blue, running to the gate. This was the first time I had seen him since the January Redhill Show, and he is all that he promised to be, ultra refined, excelling in head and type and glorious large, deep copper eyes. He reminded me very much of Ch. Deebank Michael, which is not surprising, as they both have the same outstanding female on each side of their pedigree.

Ch. Astra was looking well after a busy season at stud. He varies very

little with the seasons and never depended on a wealth of coat to "pull off" his five Challenge Certificates. Danehurst Sultan, the Cream, was in good coat and Ch. Inky Bit, the Black Shorthair, looked sleek and fit. Trenton Verity, a very nice queen bred by Mrs. Harrington-Harvard, was nursing a trio of males. Two were outstanding and had a strong family likeness to M. G. Homme, who is bred from the same parents. Mrs. Knight is having her whilst Mrs. Vize is in South Africa.

The other Blues were looking well but have not bred so well this year. Mrs. Vize thinks it is because they have had their liberty curtailed as she has let her bungalow and is living in a chalet in the grounds. She may be leaving England earlier than planned, but will be exhibiting M. G. Homme at the earliest Ch. shows before he is possibly sold abroad. She regrets leaving this nice family, especially the three outstanding Blues. It is not easy finding suitable temporary homes for adults.

In the evening we went to Morden to visit Mrs. Towe, my first visit for three years. She was feeling below par but gave us a warm welcome. Her Siamese males are well housed and everything is arranged for their comfort, even an electric fan for summer and a hot water system fed by an outside boiler for winter.

Siamese do appreciate warmth. After being accustomed to Blues sitting anywhere in a room, it is so noticeable how Siamese tuck themselves up to the fireplace and even on the hearth in winter. Tops of pens, tables and everything possible in the cat houses is covered with linoleum—a practical and hygienic idea. The houses are soundly built and really weatherproof. Mrs. Nicholas's well-bred male Ryecroft Mysterious Mick (by Mystic Dreamer and Ch. Southwood Sunya) is at stud for the season at Mrs. Towe's. He is an excellent outcross for her own males, Hill-

cross Picot (litter brother to Ch. Hillcross Song) and Hillcross Shengson. Mr. Towe's young Black Longhair queen, Crosshill Black Beauty, has grown into a good adult. She was playing in the garden and her two promising kittens by Ch. Black Diamond were romping about with us in the house. At present one has the smoky coat so often seen in baby Blacks, but she may clear in time for the winter shows.

Ch. Hillcross Silver Lady has not had kittens this year, but she was looking well and her markings well defined in the evening light.

I thought the Siamese cross-bred Black queen fascinating. Her coat shone like satin and she has definite Siamese type. She was nursing two black kittens and one Siamese by Hillcross Picot. The two blacks were more true to type than the Siamese. Peggy (the dam) is pedigree Siamese on sire's side but she has a British Black on dam's side. Mated to Mrs. Towe's studs she always has self Blacks or Siamese. Both sexes are sold as pets, the females being spayed.

Hillcross Melody is a very nice queen with a good, long head and shapely body. At present her coat is not quite ready, but by the autumn she should be in perfect show form and give a good account of herself. Four other queens were sporting themselves in the house. All the cats were in very good condition; quite an achievement with a fairly large family. Fortunately, Mr. Towe is a real cat lover and really enjoys helping to look after them.

18th July. To the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone, to meet former members of the Kentish Cat Society and several prospective new members. Miss Kathleen Yorke read a brief résumé of the Society's pre-war activities and proposed the election of a Chairman. Four names were submitted and after a ballot I was



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(S.P.)

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(Daughter of Ch. PITA)

Sire :

Ch. PRESTWICK PENGLIMA-PERTAMA

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All Exports were either Show Winners, or passed by recognised Judges prior to departure, and all have reached their new owners safely.

Enquiries Invited and orders thoughtfully executed

elected Chairman with Mrs. K. Williams Vice-Chairman. Officers: President, Sir Gerrard Tyrwhitt-Drake; Vice-Presidents, Miss K. Yorke, Mrs. Vize and Mrs. McLeod; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Larking; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Burns; Committee, Miss Kathleen Yorke, Mrs. Brunton, Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Vize, Mrs. Varcoe, Mrs. Warren, Miss Gordon Jones and Mr. Pope.

It was decided it was too late to organise a show this year, especially as from now until early February they will be following each other in quick succession and the Society is not in a financial position to risk running a show at a loss.

An A.G.M. will be held in the Spring at which a date and venue for a show will be decided. The Pump Room at Tunbridge Wells appears to be the popular choice, especially with all who were at the last show there in August, 1939. The Kentish Cat Society was the inspiration of Miss Peake and her friend, Miss Ridley, who worked untiringly for its success. The late Mrs. MacAllen and Miss Manley also devoted much time and enthusiasm to establish it on a firm footing. The first shows were held in a marquee erected on the meadows adjoining Miss Peake and Miss Ridley's home at Smarden, Kent. They quickly outgrew this environment. The catering for exhibitors and their exhibits became a full-time job in itself, so the shows were subsequently transferred to the Pump Room at Tunbridge Wells. Although not under G.C. rules, they were well organised and approved judges were always chosen.

Miss Peake bred many lovely Blues and her affix Speedwell was famous. She also had many successes with Creams, which she commenced breeding about 1933. She was awarded hundreds of first prizes and her cats figure prominently in the pedigrees of present-day Blues and Creams. It was her ambition after the war to see

the Society again in a flourishing state, so it would have given her great pleasure to be with us to-day. Owing to Miss Ridley's death and her own health she went to live in Australia in 1949, but she keeps in touch with Mrs. Burns so will be aware of the K.C.S. revival.

20th July. Met the Rev. B. Rees at King's Cross and travelled with him to Barnsley. Whilst having supper, the Rev. H. B. Priston and his wife called. They had been very busy preparing for the show. An entry of over 60 exhibits was an improvement on last year, when only 15 appeared, six of which were Mrs. Priston's own cats on view to give the public something to see. Several breeders decided not to exhibit because of the proximity of the Festival Show on the 25th.

21st July. Off to the Show to find judges and stewards bright and smiling and everything ready. Best exhibit was Mrs. Priston's eight months old Siamese female kitten *Pristine Phu-Pia*, by *Sco-Ruston Galadima*. Best Male Cat, Mrs. Slater's *Chadhurst Black Knight*; Best Female, Miss Bank's *Siamese Coohay Sunya*; Best Male Kitten, Mrs. Faulder's *Siamese Pymesai La*; Best Neuter, Mrs. Brown's *Dominic Michael*. Mrs. Hales won well with *Amber Mist*, a very nice Blue kitten by *Thiepval Wanderer*. Mrs. Slater won first and third with her two Blacks *Chadhurst Stella* and *C. Black Knight* in a class of nine mixed Longhairs. Mrs. Bruce-Webb was looking well after her recent illness. She came with her husband, Mrs. Hancox, and Mr. and Mrs. Barton, the latter kindly stewarding for me. It was a most enjoyable day and we wished we had time to see the birds and the beasties in the other sections, but Mr. Rees and myself had to leave at 4.30.

25th July. Nice cool day and off to the Kensington Kitten and Neuter

Cat Club Ch. Show at the Royal Horticultural Hall. It is the best venue for a show (next to Olympia) I have been to—perfect light with no shadows anywhere. What a joy to see coat and eye colour without having to take exhibits to side windows! Some of them were literally basking in sunshine. Mdme. Bridgett, from Lausanne, Switzerland, and Fru Skytte-Birkefeldt, from Aarhus, Denmark, were visitors we are always delighted to see at our shows, also Herr Brechman. Siamese outnumbered any other variety and 18 Seal Point males were headed by the young Champion Mr. Richard Warner's Clonlost Yo-Yo. Twenty-four Seal Point females were led by Mrs. Nicholas's Rycroft Ranchi. Ninety Seal Point kittens were divided into eight Open classes. Fourteen Blue Point Adults, 21 Blue Point Kittens, six Chocolate Point Adults and four C.P. Kittens made an imposing array of 177 Siamese, which exceeded by two the entry at the Siamese Cat Club Ch. Show last October.

The Challenge Certificate winners in Blue Adults were Mrs. Beedell's Priory Valentine and Miss Montague's Kenwood Gloria, sired by the litter brothers Gem and Robin of Pensford. In Creams, Mrs. Aitken's Myndeep Goblin and Mrs. Mayne's Fanifold Kittiwink were the winning Adults. I had the latter in a side class and thought her a lovely queen, unbeaten in her Open class as a kitten. Miss Langston's Ch. Scamp of Allington won many firsts and was in lovely show form. Mrs. Aitken also won with Ch. Bourneside Black Diamond and Mrs. Sheppard scored with a lovely Blue-Cream Chadhurst Lavinia.

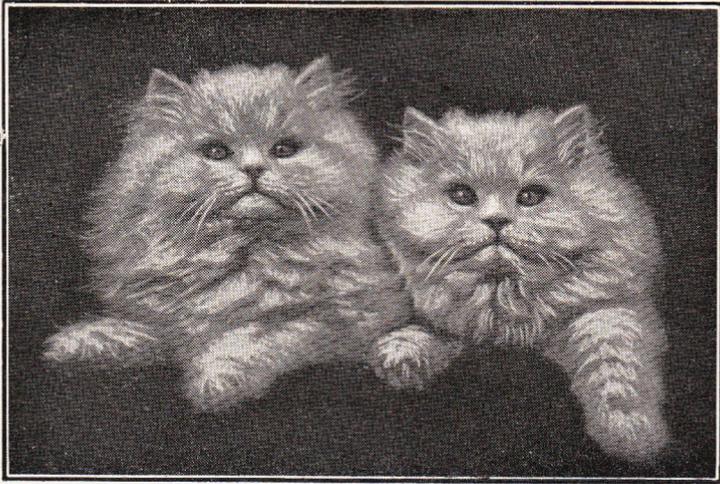
Mrs. Cyril Tomlinson had the honour of breeding the Best Longhair Cat in Show, a beautifully patched and richly coloured Tortoiseshell, Pekeholm Pomono. She also bred her Red Tabby dam, Ch. Pekeholm Paprika, who won again in her Open class. Best Shorthair Cat in Show was Mrs.

Menezes's Abyssinian female Taishun Jasmin, a dainty queen full of quality. Miss Pat Tucker bred both the Open class winners in Red Tabby Shorthairs, her own exhibit, Ch. Vectensian Rio Tinto, winning her Open class winners in Red Tabby Short-Manx with Stonor Black Maria; Mrs. Jones in Silver Tabbies with Don of Silverleigh; Mrs. Cowen in Russian females with Michifer Moonlight; and Miss Rochford in males with Dunloe Gasha.

The Longhair Neuter class, with 13 entries, and the Longhair litter class, with 15 litters, were two of the loveliest I have seen. After much thought I awarded 1st and Premier to Mrs. Davies's Blue Longhair Priory Adonis. He is a cat of lovely type and his long, pale, really blue coat of finest texture a joy to behold. This was his final Premier and he joins the exclusive group of Premier Neuters. I think Mrs. Sharman, Mrs. Newton and Miss Kit Wilson share the credit for the idea of honouring our super neuters in this way, and the entries show how it is appreciated by exhibitors.

Miss Beckett's choice in Siamese Premiers was Mrs. Butler's Amethyst of Yangtze, a lovely cat who also won first under me in Any Variety Cat or Kitten Novice Neuter. Miss German won again with her beautiful Russian Premier Dunloe Pavlovitch. Mrs. Stephenson's litter of three Creams and one Blue-Cream were first in Longhairs and the Blue Cream, Ashdown Shadows, was best Longhair female kitten. Nineteen Siamese litters, judged by Mrs. Lamb, were headed by Mrs. Ford's litter of seven by Lindale Simon Pie. Miss Tucker won in Shorthairs with four Red Tabbies, another lovely litter.

Best Longhair Kitten in Show was Mrs. Polden's Chinchilla Poldenhills Silver Prince, who headed his Open class of 14. Thirty-eight Blue kittens in two Open classes had to face keen



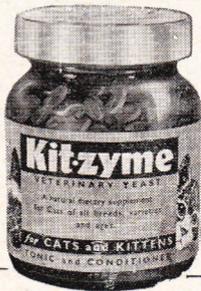
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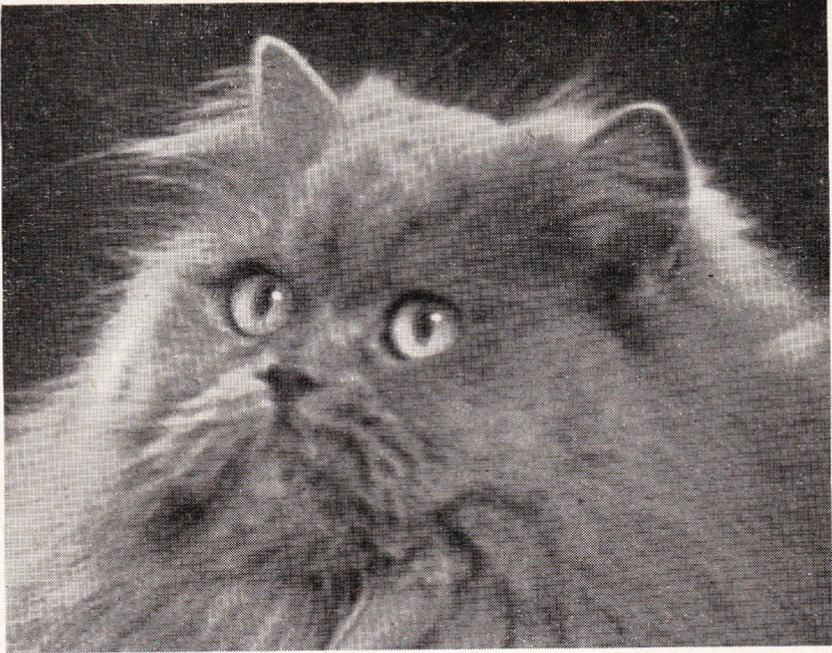


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Thomas Fall

PHILLIMORE PANDORA, well-known Blue Longhair belonging to Mrs. Reginald Brown, of Bradley Cross, Cheddar, Somerset. Pandora has won many special prizes for eye colour.

competition and many lovely kittens were left cardless. There were no entries in the 6-9 months class, which is not surprising, as few Longhair cats have kittens before mid-April. A more equable classification would have been 2-3 months, 3-9 months, which would have given four fairly equal classes, working it out from birth dates in catalogue. The winning male was Mrs. Brunton's Wee Willie-winkie of Dunesk and the female Mrs. Marlow's Eireanne Lillibet.

Space does not permit details of all the other winners, but an outstanding honour in this company was Best Shorthair Kitten to Mrs. Highton's Siamese Silken Tiger Tim, by Ch. Prestwick Penglima Pertama. Mrs. Priston won again with Pristine Phupia. She was purchased by Mr. Whiting to send to Mrs. Corbett, of Australia, as a mate for Champion Mais-Mor-Marmaduke.

I hear Marmaduke has been awarded five Challenge Certificates and is retiring from competition, but will appear for exhibition in Australia seated on a satin cushion with satin curtains. "A proper cat's life," Mr. Whiting calls it.

I did not have time to see as much as I should have liked of Mr. and Mrs. Denham's well-arranged exhibition, "Cats through the Ages." It was most interesting and must have entailed a vast amount of work and responsibility. There were many priceless exhibits of mummies, pictures, prints and curiosities.

Five hundred and twelve is the last number in the catalogue, so it will give those who were not present some idea of this truly lovely Show. To Mr. F. B. Williams (Hon. Secretary, Treasurer and Show Manager), and to Mrs. Williams (Assistant Show Manager) must go our thanks and

appreciation for an immense amount of work. The Show's success was their compensation. It was grand to see the public streaming in to see the beautiful exhibits. British breeders are to be congratulated on the part they played in this unique Festival of Cats. The Olympia Show last September and the Festival Show prove that there is an immense public who will come to cat shows if the venue is well known and we can reach them by publicity. The photographic section was thoroughly representative and came in for a lot of attention during the day.

29th July. To Mr. and Mrs. Boulton, at Bromley, to see them and Denyston Denys, their young Blue male who was exhibited three times as a kitten last season and unbeaten in his Open class. He is developing well and is a lovely shade of blue; he leads a happy life romping about the garden with Heather of Hadley, who so far has declined all family cares. Mr. Boulton has built them a house to sleep in which is an object-lesson in attention to detail. It has a run with a roof so they can have air and exercise when Mrs. Boulton is too busy to keep an eye on them. The house has metal letters, "Denyston Villa," and near the house is "Denyston Annexe," which is equally well built, although only used for grooming at present. Later, this will make a fine cosy house for a mother and young kittens.

Mrs. Boulton has no intention of rearing kittens entirely in a cat house; they will always have some liberty in the home and garden and I can foresee the time when the sun lounge attached to their dining room is completely enclosed for kittens.

1st August. From Australia I received from Mrs. Burnage the catalogue of the Southern Cross Siamese Cat Club All-breed Ch. Show. On the cover is her Chinchilla Ch. Rex of

Chatsworth and our Mrs. McGregor's famous Siamese Ch. Inwood Shadow, reproduced because her photo was so much admired. Mrs. Burnage writes: "Mr. Lonsdale kindly lent me the gold satin draperies you used to decorate Ch. Gloria of Pensford's pen at Olympia. They caused great interest to visitors and exhibitors here. The colour, perhaps, not so becoming to my Chinchilla, Ch. Royal of St. George, as to a Blue, but nevertheless we were proud to use them. He is four years of age, an unbeaten cat, and has sired more leading winners than any other Australian cat. He has a massive head and bone more like a Blue, and his coat has beautiful length and texture, and way back in his pedigree he has the famous English Langherne Chinchillas, also the Correndons and Ch. Dick of Allington. Royal's son, Ch. Rex of Chatsworth, was mated to the queen exported from England by Mrs. Hacking, Redwalls Ballerina. Two of her litter and another of his daughters took the first three places at the last Royal Easter Show.

"The Southern Cross S.C. Club is a recently formed one, but they accept Longhair breeders as they are the mainstay of the Cat Fancy here, and at present it would not be practical to organise a show confined to Siamese. We got an offer from the Australian Avicultural Association to share the Town Hall with them for a three-day show with all their wonderful birds—1,800 of them! The S.C.S.C.C. Secretary is Mrs. Corbett. Show Managers were Mr. Harvey and Mrs. Watson; the officials worked hard, but it was really worth it. We had vast crowds passing through all day; everyone appeared pleased and satisfied and it was a very successful Show. Ch. Rex of Chatsworth was Best Cat in Show and won the stud cat award for his winning progeny.

"We had a display of Champions which was a great attraction. The decorated cages were most ingenious

and one had the cat's name across the top in autumn chrysanthemums. Siamese kittens were running in and out of little Chinese houses and another was resplendent on black velvet, the piece outside the cage having all the cards pinned on it. The winning cage had blue satin with tiny beautifully made cushions.

"Our method of making Champions is somewhat the same as for dogs here: 10 points are allowed for the Challenge and one point for each adult cat of its sex which it beats. Twenty points is the maximum allowed. Best Cat in Show would get 20 points regardless of how many were in its section class. Best Opposite sex the same. A cat requires 60 points to become a full Champion. We have started a judges' training class under the tutorship of Mr. F. W. Pearce, who is considered our senior judge. The class started with 30 candidates and we have already had quite a few lectures. As you have written about the dominant orange eyes when the Blue cross is used with Chinchillas, I thought you would be interested to hear Rex mated a Chinchilla with a blue sire. The result was a light Chinchilla litter and the eye colour is a deep green."

Best Blue cat, I see from the marked catalogue, was Miss Young's Ch. Playboy of Windsor. First Blue Male, Open, Mrs. Craig's Stourbank Michele, bred in England by the late Miss Barrow. Miss Young also won in females with Windsor Lady

Heather. Red Tabbies were well represented and other Longhairs, but apparently there were no Shorthairs except Siamese.

Mrs. Donmall, breeder before she went to Australia of the well-known male Mystic Dreamer, was acting as judge's steward and is carrying on with her Mystic Siamese. I see Gracedieu-da-Yook, a son of Dreamer, is advertised at stud.

6th August. To Rutland Gate to visit Mr. and Mrs. Castle and her parents, Herr and Fru Skytte-Birkefeldt. Miss Kathleen Yorke and Mrs. Williams were also guests and we had a very interesting exchange of news and views. Fru Birkefeldt breeds Siamese and owns the very well known Danish male International Ch. Monty of Birma

7th August. Mrs. Francis, of Yeovil, Somerset, writes: "My three Siamese queens gave birth within a few days of each other to 30 kittens. Bambi had 11, Susan 10, Amanda (aged 5) 9. All the kittens were alive at birth and normal except for one 'tiddler' in each litter. These were put to sleep at once and then began the sad task of weeding out the others until each mother was left with five, which we think is quite enough. Our five-year-old male Slades Cross Chuki sired the litter of 11 and our 18-month-old stud Missfore Rikki-Chu sired the other two. We think we have our first two Blue Points in Amanda's

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litter by Rikki. She is a daughter of Smokey Blue and Rikki a S.P. son of Mrs. Rendall's Rainie, who was boarding with us when Rikki was born."

In the brochure Dr. and Mrs. Francis enclose of their boarding home for Siamese, I think an excerpt is apt as the Show season has started and some of the baskets one sees look as though they could be improved with a good wash.

"It is not, perhaps, generally realised that a travelling box, once used for a sick cat, can remain an active source of infection for many months. Disinfection by ordinary methods is valueless. Please do not endanger your own and other people's pets by using a box or basket about which there is any possible doubt."

CORRECTION.

Apologies to Mrs. Reginald Brown (owner of Phillimore Pandora) and Mrs. Price-Hawkins (owner of Phillimore Marguerite). These Blues are both by the same dam, Westbridge Catriona, but Pandora is by Dickon of Allington and Marguerite by Timothy of Knott Hall.

BOOK REVIEW

Kit Wilson's Cat Encyclopedia. Published by Andrew George Elliott, Right Way Books, Kingswood, Surrey. (6s.)

Miss Kit Wilson, past Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, popular judge and indefatigable worker for the welfare of cats, both "alley" and pedigree, has produced in this Encyclopedia the ideal guide for the newcomer to the Cat Fancy and a book in which experts will find valuable information. I hope the description "encyclopedia" will not mislead readers who associate the word with formidable tomes of reference. Although the book is encyclopedic in its range, covering every aspect of the cat from its his-

tory to its present welfare in the home and at shows and is well arranged for quick reference, it is not encyclopedic in its style. It can be read straight through from first page to last with ease and pleasure. It would be impossible for Kit Wilson to be dull.

The description and notes of the twenty-six recognised breeds are particularly well done and contain a great deal of interesting information about the history of the individual breeds. The author mentions under G.C. Classification No. 26, "Any Other Variety," the Burmese, beginning to appear at shows, and such varieties as the Spotted Tabby, Mackerel Tabby and the Magpie (a black and white marked like a Dutch rabbit), and suggests they should be encouraged as they will give added interest to cat shows. She also mentions the Red Self, which is on the list of the Governing Council but died out during the war and has not been revived since. Quoting the advice of Mr. House on how to breed a Red Self, Miss Wilson suggests "here is a chance for any reader to find fame and fortune"!

Unusual Cover

The section on the care of sick cats and on common ailments is, as one might expect, full of sound advice and robust common sense, and in the General Information Section there are listed many useful addresses of clubs and organisations concerned with the cat.

Many readers will prize the dust-jacket reproduction of drawings by Harrison Weir of cats at the Crystal Palace Show of 1871 and find it interesting to contrast these cats with those which appear at shows to-day. The many excellent photographs include an exceptionally beautiful one by Mrs. V. Major of her Abyssinian Brunswick Cheri.

The author has concentrated an enormous amount of information into less than 200 pages.

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Tailpieces

*A regular newsy feature
with a selection of the best
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THE annual Auckland (New Zealand) Cat Show took place on 30th June. There were over 150 cats on show, representing 500 entries, and this was the capacity limit of the hall. Mr. F. W. Pearce, Australia's leading all-round judge, officiated, and the gate was a record one of 500. On the 7th July a number of the registered cats travelled to the Cat Show at Hamilton, a country district where the local exhibits consisted solely of household pets.

An absorbing illustrated article on the lynx—the outlawed wild cat—by Maurice Burton, D.Sc., recently appeared in "The Illustrated London News." The author describes the lynx as "somewhat larger than, and looking somewhat like, an overgrown tabby cat." It is apparently going down steadily before the spread of civilisation. In Sweden, where it was common until a century ago, it is now rare and the remnants are protected. Elsewhere in Europe, from Poland eastwards and through Siberia, its distribution is irregular and everywhere it seems to be decreasing in numbers. Strictly carnivorous, its natural prey are rabbits, hares, ground birds and young deer.

Six members of the Scottish Cat Club made the overnight journey to

the Festival of Cats at the Royal Horticultural Hall on 25th July. The Hon. Victoria Bruce, President of the Club, exhibited two Red Tabby male kittens and carried off 10 prize cards. One of the kittens, Redyetts Bramble, was sold to Mrs. D. Fawell, who breeds and shows Red Tabbies. By the way, the Club's Show on 17th November is not now to be one of Championship status. It is felt that stock should be improved and funds consolidated before this step is taken. If all goes well, the Club hopes to stage a Championship event next year.

Readers will learn with pleasure that the Pet Animals Bill has reached the Statute Book. The measure will not come into force until April next year as arrangements have to be made by local authorities regarding the licensing of pet shop premises.

Observant Roy P. Carter, of Northwood Hills, Middlesex, writes to the "Sunday Express": "Unable to sleep, I got up and cycled to Richmond at 4 a.m. En route I saw 37 cats, two squirrels, a hedgehog, 13 rabbits, a rat, two cars, a policeman and three lighted windows."

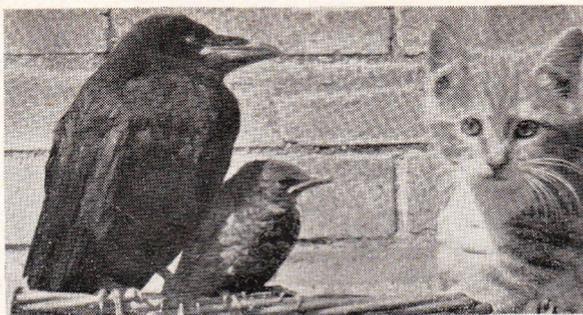
Another letter writer to the press—this time the "Daily Mail"—is Miss

A. O. Binfield, of Prittlewell, South-end-on-Sea. Miss Binfield writes to ask if her cat is the oldest living. He was born in May, 1926, has no tail, is still in quite good health, and will fight any cat that comes into his garden. Any challengers among my readers?

Peter, a black and white cat with nine years' service in the British liner Andes, failed to return after going ashore at Buenos Aires. When the ship reached Southampton the other day Commodore J. A. Bannister revealed that a reward of £15 was being

the witness box and was led out of court muttering "I am finished now."

Many of our readers will remember the story of David Wilson, the Boy Scout of Newcastle-on-Tyne, to whom the White Cross of St. Giles was presented last year by the P.D.S.A. for the rescue at great personal risk of a cat from the parapet of a railway bridge. It is tragic that I now have to record his recent death by drowning. David was playing with another boy on a wharf, when he tripped over a wire and fell into the Tyne, between the quayside and a moored ship. Help



PRETTY, a blue and cream stray kitten, chummed up with a rook and a thrush to the extent that they shared the same basket at the Felixstowe Branch of Our Dumb Friends' League. These three foundlings quickly made friends.

offered by the crew for the return of Peter. "His disappearance has disturbed the whole ship," said the Commodore, "and we have cabled Buenos Aires offering the reward."

Mrs. Dora Stokes, a 53-year-old widow living at Hartley, near Dartford, was fined £20, with £10 10s. costs, for causing unnecessary suffering to a dog, 28 fowls, four rabbits, eight goats and several cats by failing to provide them with sufficient food. The R.S.P.C.A. Inspector revealed during the court hearing that the defendant said she was far too busy to look after them—she had too much to do. The woman fainted in

arrived too late. At the inquest it was stated that when David's body was found it was identified by the White Cross of St. Giles, which he always carried in his pocket as his most treasured possession.

Officials of humane societies have reported the good news that during the holidays this year more and more people are leaving their pets in boarding establishments. The bad old habit of turning pets adrift or having them put to sleep at holiday time is fading out. Response to appeals has been excellent and many boarding establishments have been fully booked.

MICKEY

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BLACK PERSIAN Kits by Ch. Bourneside Black Diamond.—Aitken, 2 Commonwealth Road, Banstead, Surrey. Burgh Heath 2754.

MANX, Endless Soot, Black Stud; Endless Stripes, Tabby Female, born Sept., 1949, unrelated, proved breeders, good specimens, live together, 5 gns. pair.—Wickings-Smith, Hillside, Clapham, Beds. Phone Oakley 298.

SIAMESE by Ch. Clonloch Yo-Yo, born 28.7.51. Perfect for show or pets.—Lowis, 43 Queens Road, Richmond, Surrey.

SIAMESE Kittens S.P., very good pedigree, born 26th June.—Mrs. Whiteman, 22 Riverdale Gardens, Twickenham. Phone: Popesgrove 6381.

CREAM PERSIAN Kittens, Best Litter K.K. and N.C.C. Show. Also BLUES (Pensford strain).—Stephenson, 9 Earl's Road, Tunbridge Wells. Tel.: 21360.

CREAM and BLUECREAM Kittens for sale. Prices reasonable.—Benbow, Little Hereford, Ludlow.

PEDIGREE PERSIANS. BLUE Male, born 20.4.51, 6 gns. CREAM and BLUE-CREAM Females, born 20.6.51.—Jones, Copebank, Seal, Sevenoaks. (Seal 175.)

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Wanted

A FEW COPIES of OUR CATS Magazine for the issue of May, 1949. Offers to OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

PICTURE PAGE

This little Blue Longhair girl—**SILVER MOTH REGAL PRINCESS**—expects to make her debut very shortly at American shows. She is a grand-daughter of English-bred Wanda of Dunesk and her owner is that enthusiast Mrs. Florence Kemmer, of Bradenton, Florida.



Three imps of mischief—an appealing Siamese kitten study submitted by Miss E. T. Turnbull, of Alnwick, Northumberland.

BILLY was one of four kittens found in a sack when a truck was delivering coal to Grimsby Power Station. The boiler men looked after them and eventually they were all found homes. Billy was extra lucky—he went to the Grimsby home of Mrs. C. Moseley, who nursed him carefully through many weeks of sickness.



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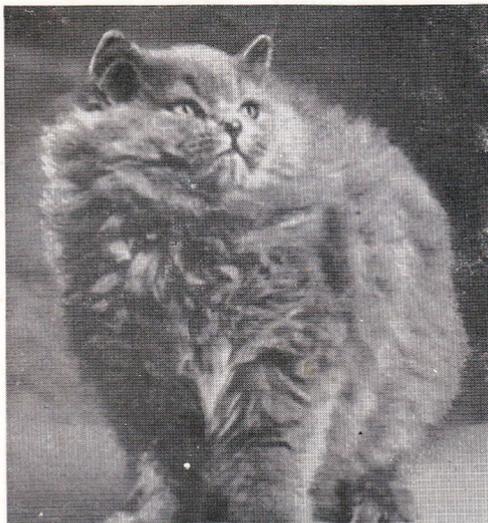
All particulars from the Show Manager :

Mrs. V. PARKER, 31 HEMPSTEAD ROAD, KINGS LANGLEY, HERTS.

Telephone : Kings Langley 2996

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