

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



NOVEMBER 1951

1/6

LOUIS WAIN RE-APPEARS

(see page 3)

Another lovely cat who loves

KIT-E-KAT 'the complete
cat food'



Hendon Snow Maiden, winner of 23 First Awards and a Challenge Certificate at 11 months old, has been fed for perfect health on Kit-E-Kat.

Mrs. P. E. Chapman of Bridgeway Cattery, Whitton, Middlesex, who owns "Snowey", says, "Feeding cats to-day is a real problem. The handy tin of Kit-E-Kat makes it easy and economical, and I know my cats are getting a complete food that gives them every scrap of the nourishment they need". Cooked ready to serve, 1/- per tin.



KIT-E-KAT LIMITED
MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE

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.
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VOL. 3 No. 11

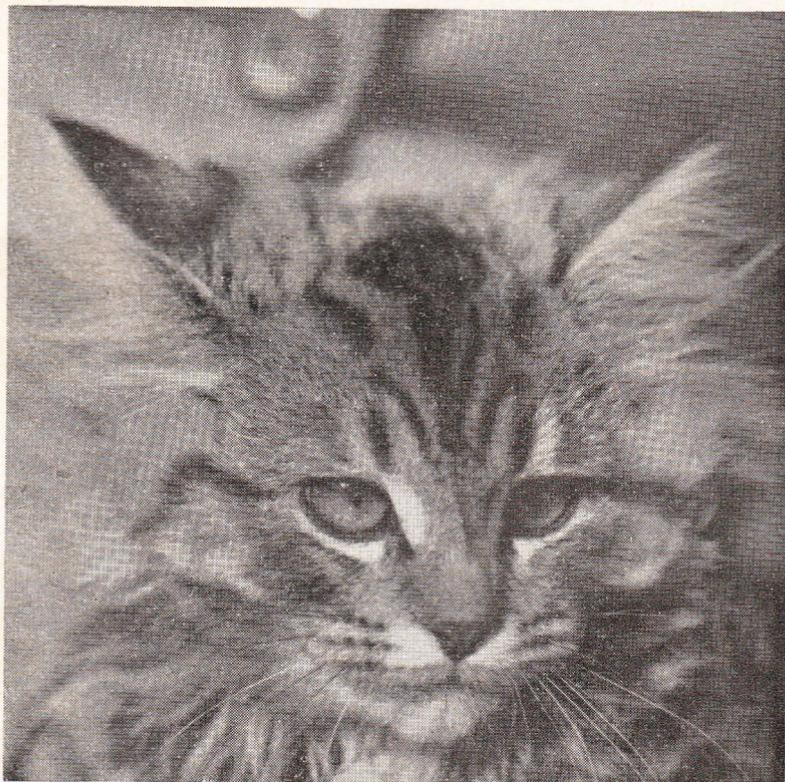
NOVEMBER 1951

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

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT



P.A.—Reuter Photo

No blue-blooded aristocrat, this serious-faced Tabby Longhair kitten entered among the household pets at the Crystal Cat Show by Miss M. Butler, of Horsham. But Tibby was a welcome and attractive entry who came in for a fair share of attention and reward.

The finding of a cat in West London which had been killed and skinned has been brought to the attention of Our Dumb Friends' League. The investigating officer of the League, who visited a railway arch near Ifley Road, W.6, said that the body of the cat had been expertly skinned, and an official of the League states that this shows that the cat had undoubtedly been killed for its skin. As the result of further inquiries by Our Dumb Friends' League it was learned that this spring two cats were found similarly skinned in a local wood yard.

Racekatten's International Championship Show takes place on 16th, 17th and 18th November in Grundtvigs Hus, Copenhagen. Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb and Mr. Felix Tomlinson have accepted invitations to judge and a good attendance of fanciers from the Continent is expected. A photographic competition open to cat lovers everywhere will be a feature of this year's Show. Racekatten's President is Fru Rudy Eisenhuth, of Copenhagen, who has done so much to promote feline interest in that part of the world.

Taffy, a ten-year-old white cat with black markings, said by his mistress to be "the only cat alive in England now who trekked out of Rangoon in 1942," has been having a holiday at Our Dumb Friends' League Brighton Branch. Taffy belongs to Mrs. Rowlison, of Hove, who brought him to the branch while she was away. "Taffy and I," wrote Mrs. Rowlison, "trekked out of Burma to India together during the Japanese occupation, taking three months to do this awful journey."

It is interesting to reflect that at the time of the 1851 Exhibition in Hyde Park, the R.S.P.C.A. was already a virile organisation and 11 years previously it had received from Queen Victoria her gracious permission to use the prefix "Royal." In the early days of the Society bull-baiting, bear-baiting, dog-fighting and badger-baiting were considered good sport. In 1875 it secured 18 successful prosecutions for cock-fighting. The Society still finds itself with a distressing amount of cruelty to combat despite the march of what we like to call "civilisation."

Our front cover picture was taken at the Crystal Cat Show. Little Jeanette Webber, who lives near Exeter, finds MYOWNE GALLANT HOMME, the well-known Blue Longhair belonging to Mrs. A. Vize, is quite an armful. M.G.H., as the Conservative candidate in the polling contest at Olympia, scored a resounding victory over his Socialist and Liberal opponents.

We omitted to state that the cover picture in last month's issue of Mrs. Cyril Tomlinson's Tortoiseshell PEKEHOLM POMA appeared by courtesy of the "Daily Graphic."

Three delightful original drawings by the famous cat artist Louis Wain have recently come into our possession. They will all be reproduced in OUR CATS Magazine—the first appears on the opposite page. Another full page drawing will appear next month.

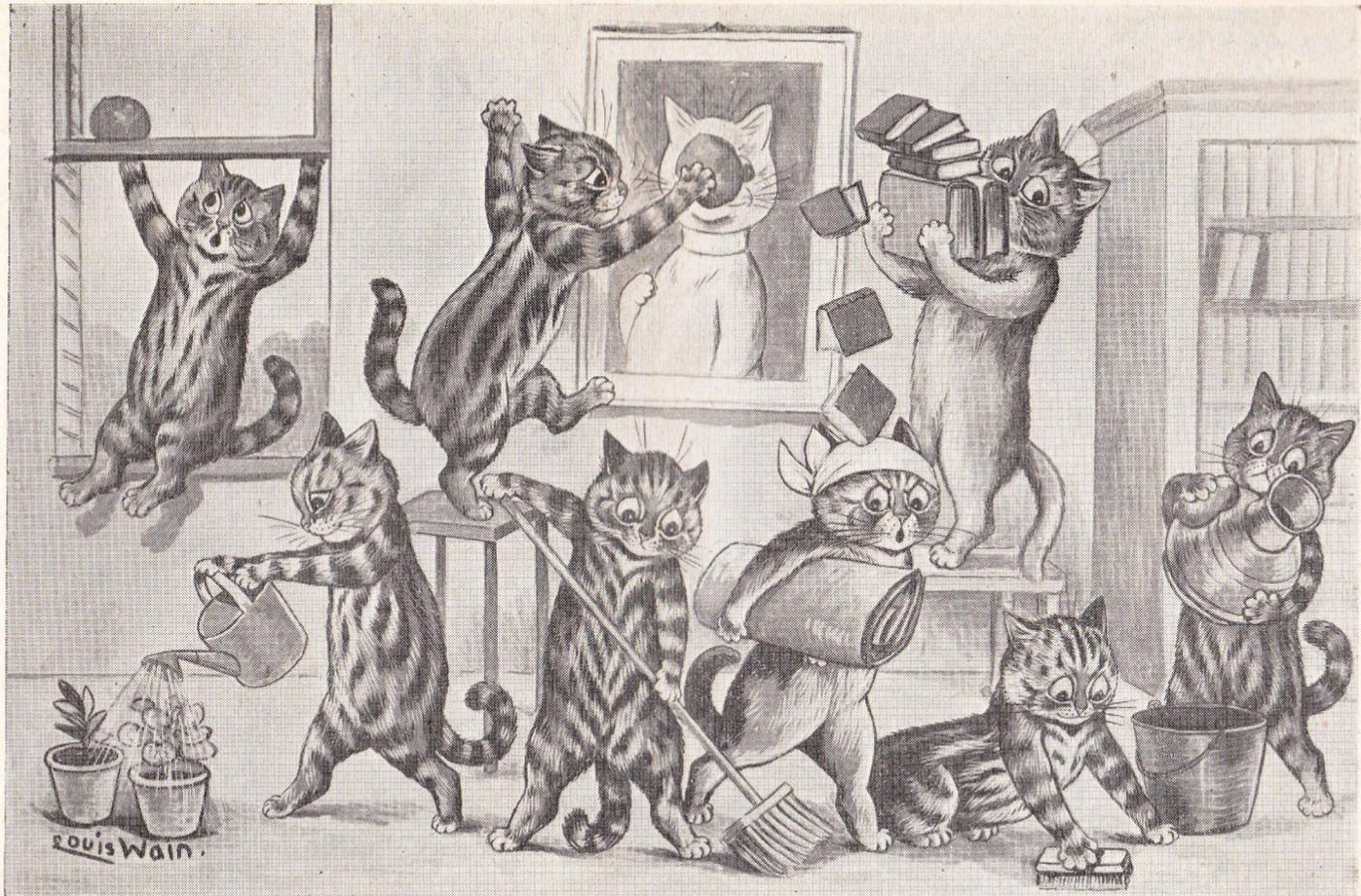
 **GENERAL INFORMATION:** The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in OUR CATS is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9 (Macaulay 1462).

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CROYDON CAT CLUB

Silver Jubilee CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 166 Classes

SEYMOUR HALL, SEYMOUR PLACE, W.1
(near Baker Street Underground—Bakerloo Line)

WEDNESDAY, 14th NOVEMBER, 1951

Admission :

From 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. — Adults 2/6 Children 1/6
To view judging from the Gallery 10 a.m. 1.30 p.m.—1/- extra

Luncheons and Teas — Fully Licensed

An attractive new face on Paris television belongs to Lydie Vallois. For three years she was popular among viewers in America, where she was chosen for her delightful accent when speaking English. Lydie served with the Free French Forces in London during the war and a souvenir of these days is a collection of photographs of cats she befriended while staying in Kensington.

According to a recent issue of the "Guernsey Evening Press," Mrs. T. Corbin, of St. Peter's, would like to know if her pet black cat Alexandra is the oldest on the island. At 16½ years, Alexandra is a lively lady who had kittens early this year. The newspaper recalls that two years ago it told the story of Paddy Lou, a cat which also survived the German occupation and was then 19 years old!

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.

	Promoted by	Venue
1951		
14 November	*Croydon Cat Club	London
	(See displayed advertisement in this issue)	
17 November	Scottish Cat Club	Glasgow
	(See displayed advertisement in this issue)	
1 December	Yorkshire County Cat Club	York
4 December	*National Cat Club	London
1952		
11 January	*Notts and Derbyshire Cat Club	Derby
28 January	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London
9 February	Lancs and North Western Counties Cat Club	Manchester

* Denotes Show with Championship status.

The Mysterious Manx

By KIT WILSON (*Concluding Instalment*)

MISS WILSON concluded last month's instalment with a reference to the important part which legend plays in the history of the Manx cat. By way of illustration she related the story of the Spanish Rock on which was wrecked one of the ships of the ill-fated Spanish Armada in 1558. Survivors were said to include some strange tail-less cats which swam to safety on the mainland and later interbred with the cats on what we know to-day as the Isle of Man. These cats, according to legend, are the forbears of our Manx variety. The author continues :—

Again, in an old ballad we hear that:

“ Noah sailing o'er the seas
Ran high and dry on Ararat.
His dog then made a spring
and took
The tail from off a pussy cat.
Puss through the window quick
did fly
And bravely through the
waters swam,
Nor ever stopped till high and
dry
She landed on the Isle of
Man.
This tail-less puss earned
Mona's thanks
And ever after was called
Manx.”

There is, however, little doubt that Manx cats originated in the Far East and were brought to the Island, and that from these cats a true Manx breed has sprung.

Before the War, during one of the spells of Manx popularity, the islander discovered that his native

cat was a profitable source of revenue. Many a well-intentioned visitor took one back with him to the mainland as a souvenir of his visit, but, alas! if mated, in all probability the kittens would have the longest of tails! On consulting an expert or vet. it was conclusively proved that the luckless owner was the proud possessor of a docked cat! In the early part of this century Manx became not only popular but fashionable, owing to the fact that King Edward VII owned some.

In 1901, the Manx Cat Club was founded by Miss Hester Cochran, a great enthusiast, and founder members numbered about 20. This Club is now amalgamated with the Short-haired Cat Society, whose President, Mr. Sam Woodiwiss, was one of the original Manx Club members, others being Lady Alexander, Lady Decies, Lady Marcus Beresford and Mr. Brooke. Among the earlier specialist judges was Mr. Louis Wain, the famous cat artist, and Mr. Gambier Boulton, one of the founders of the Cat Fancy.

The first Champion Manx was a Silver Tabby called Bonhaki, bred and shown by Mr. Jungbluth, one of the keepers in the monkey house at the Zoo. Bonhaki made his first appearance as a kitten at a show held in the Royal Botanical Gardens, where he was awarded a Championship by Louis Wain. (It is interesting to note that kittens could win such a high award in those days.) At this show one of his greatest admirers was Queen Alexandra,

then Princess of Wales, a fact which probably accounted for the King having some.

After this, Bonhaki won four other Certificates in quick succession, but unfortunately he died at the early age of $2\frac{1}{4}$ years. A runner-up to him was Mr. Brooke's Champion Katzenjammer, whose show career did not start until he was of full age. A

mer's Ghost. Mrs. Sharman, Lady Alexander and the Hon. Mrs. MacLaren Morrison were also big winners.

To-day, the most consistent winner is Miss G. K. Sladen. Her wonderful old female Champion Stonor Kate won the coveted Best in Show at Croydon over many famous Longhaired champions at the last show held there before the



The Manx cats exhibited by Miss Sladen have been a centre of attraction at each of the Crystal Cat Shows. Our picture, taken at the 1950 event, shows Miss Sladen with her Stonor Spiv, who won national fame as the "Savings Poster Cat."

Brown Tabby, he was unbeaten after the death of Bonhaki. From his photographs he was a perfect example of his breed, both as a Manx and as "a brownie."

We come now to contemporary cats. Just before the war Miss Cochran was winning with her lovely White Champion Chelsea Villish Mona Veen and Miss Hill-Shaw with her Mackerel Tabby Champion Katzenjam-

mer's Ghost. Mrs. Sharman, Lady Alexander and the Hon. Mrs. MacLaren Morrison were also big winners. To-day, the most consistent winner is Miss G. K. Sladen. Her wonderful old female Champion Stonor Mrs. Brown. Both these wonderful old ladies have had litters this year. Stonor Egg, a young cat who has had many wins as a kitten, will appear at this year's shows as an adult and will without doubt follow his mother and grandmother for Championship honours. Kittens from this cat-

tery have been exported to all parts of the world and are carrying on the winning tradition in their new homes.

Another well-known exhibitor, Mrs. Bentley, is winning with Mockbridge Manx. In the North, Miss Speakman penned some really lovely specimens at the Manchester Show, a magnificent Red Tabby, so aptly named Shaun Short, winning many prizes, including that of Best Shorthair Adult, with another from the same cattery, Silver Amy, as runner-up. With such lovely examples of the breed it should flourish in that part of the country, and it will be a grand day when they come South to compete with the Stonor cats, or vice versa.

When one is as interested in a breed as I am, one is apt to become boring. But to any of my

readers who are thinking of having a really delightful pet, do let me recommend them to try a Manx. As kittens they are enchanting and most amusing hopping about, and although to those who are used to the ordinary kitten playing with its tail, the antics which "the tail-less wonder" can get up to cannot fail to make even the most solemn laugh. When fully grown they are all that one can desire in a cat.

A question which one so often gets asked is: Does the lack of a caudal appendage make them delicate? To this I answer: No, if care is taken against the two deadly foes of all cats—damp and draughts.

Do try one. I can assure you you won't regret your choice and I shall be surprised if, after having made the experiment, you ever want to change your breed.



SHOW AT TAUNTON

The South Western Counties Cat Club this year moved their annual Championship Show from Torquay to Taunton, which is better placed geographically for visitors and exhibitors. The hall with its glass roof and large windows was ideal for the purpose and Benches, Ltd., made an excellent job of the penning. All round, it was a step forward from last year.

The display of the Club's trophies (which the eventual winners are allowed to hold for a year) and floral decorations lent a note of brightness and cheerfulness to the scene. One hundred and seventy cats, representing over 600 entries, were on show and, says the local paper, "Taunton people took full advantage of the good viewing facilities offered by the spacious Produce Market."

Best in Show was Miss Cathcart's Trelystan Girasol, a handsome Brown Tabby Longhair. Mrs. P. Udall showed the Best Kitten and Brigadier J. Rossiter was first again among Neuters with his Blue Pointed Siamese. Mrs. Cowen exhibited the Best Shorthaired Kitten.

Considerable interest was aroused by the two Smoke Longhair kittens bred by Mrs. P. Dyer, who has been experimenting with this variety since 1947. Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb's Longhair with the Siamese points also came in for a lot of attention.

The Show was opened by Mrs. Michelmores, of Chudleigh (President of the Club), who particularly thanked two of the judges—Miss Kathleen Yorke and Miss Kit Wilson—for their services.

The Pet Animals Act 1951

Explained by a LEGAL EXPERT

THIS new Act, which was introduced into Parliament as a private member's bill, should prove a most useful addition to the steadily growing body of law whose purpose is to protect animals from all types of abuse. Much of what this Act is aimed at is in a sense already covered generally by the Protection of Animals Act, 1911, but the new Act will enable a tighter control to be exercised through licensing and inspection. Although not due to come into effect till next April, an early appraisal of its provisions may be of assistance to those likely to be affected by it.

Section 1 of the Act imposes the necessity of obtaining a licence from the local authority for premises intended for use as a pet shop on those wishing to sell pet animals. It is an offence to keep such a shop without a licence, and it should be noted that the licence must be for the premises specified in the application, i.e. there can be no general licence or licence in respect of a person only; both the person and the premises together are licensed.

The licence must not cost more than ten shillings, and the Act lays down in Section 1 (3) five main considerations to which the local authority must have regard when deciding whether or not to issue a licence. These are of such importance that no apology is needed for quoting them in full:—

(a) That animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness;

(b) that animals will be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink

and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals;

(c) that animals, being mammals, will not be sold at too early an age;

(d) that all reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious diseases;

(e) that appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

These five considerations are clearly not intended to be exclusive by any means, and are merely indications to guide those charged with the issue of licences.

By Section 2 it is an offence to sell pets in any street or public place, except at a stall or barrow in a market—which are deemed for the purposes of the Act to be premises and which, therefore, require licensing. It should be noted that in law "public place" means any place to which the public have access, so it is probable that to make a habit of selling pets in a public-house bar would be sufficient to bring one within the definition.

By Section 3 it is made an offence to sell a pet animal to a person whom the seller has reasonable cause to believe is under the age of twelve. It is submitted that this means that if a seller deals with a child who is in fact proved to be under that age, then he will only escape conviction if he shows that he had reasonable cause for believing the child was over twelve.

Section 4 contains provisions for the inspection of pet shops by persons authorised in writing by the local authority concerned. These persons may be officers of the authority or veterinary surgeons or practitioners, and the fact that the section provides for the inspection of premises in re-

spect of which a licence is currently in force implies that there is—for these officials, at least—no power of entry to any other place not licensed.

Punishment of offences against the Act is the same as that under the Protection of Animals Act, i.e. a fine of up to £25 and/or imprisonment for up to three months, except for “wilful obstruction” under Section 4, which is punishable by fine only. By Section 5 (3) a conviction under this Act or the Protection of Animals Act may involve cancellation by the court of the licence and disqualification for any period.

The Act applies only to vertebrate animals, and “pet shop” does not include premises where a breeder keeps or sells pedigree animals bred by him. There is a proviso in the Act which enables a local authority to declare that a person who keeps animals for breeding or show purposes which are found to be unsuitable for

such use may sell them as pets without being deemed to keep a pet shop. As regards cats and dogs, they are within the definition of “pets” if kept wholly or mainly for domestic purposes, and clearly sporting dogs, if sold as such, are not within the Act. Other animals are within the Act if sold or kept for “ornamental” purposes.

Finally, the Act applies to Scotland but not to Northern Ireland. The length of time that will elapse before it becomes effective will give local authorities the time to devise the procedure necessary to obtain a licence and to think how best to enforce the purpose of the Act by careful consideration of premises as a preliminary to the issue of licences, and by frequent inspection as a subsequent safeguard. It will also give the owners of premises affected by it a chance to make sure that their own house is in order.

SIAMESE SHORTS

A few random extracts from Rose Tenent's excellent work, “The Book of the Siamese Cat.”*

“My own Siamese is very vocal. He has about twenty different ‘mious,’ each with a different shade of meaning.”

“In my own case, I bought my first Siamese kitten at a cat show. It is always a good idea to visit at least one championship show before making up your mind. The reason for doing this is that, even if you do not actually decide upon any particular kitten that day, you should see a number of the best type of specimens and you will at least gain some knowledge as to what is really worth purchasing when the time arrives. Also, shows give one the opportunity of getting to know other fanciers personally. . . . Do not be afraid to ask questions, for cat breeders are the most friendly people.”

“Very few Siamese cats like cow's milk, although I find they usually enjoy the tinned, unsweetened, evaporated milk or almost any of the proprietary milk foods. If you can get goat's milk, so much the better. . . . But the best and cheapest drink for any cat is water, so always have a small bowl handy.”

“How many cat owners realise that too much white fish is often harmful to their pets?”

“I have occasionally met people who, because they have paid five or six guineas for a pet, think more of its monetary value than of the cat's health, and are afraid to let it out in the sunshine in case it may be stolen.”

“When moving to a new home, many people advise buttering a cat's paws, and certainly this is no idle superstition. The object is to keep puss busy with his toilet and so prevent him from fretting.”

* Published by Rockliff Publishing Corporation Ltd., 1 Dorset Buildings, Salisbury Square, E.C. 4, at 18/- net.

Another Question Answered

Take Pests Seriously

By ALBERT C. JUDE

MY queen (now four years old) has recently developed an uncertain gait at times. It is as though she has a slight weakness of the legs, or suffers from giddiness. Otherwise, she seems in perfect health and eats well. Can you please suggest what the cause may be and what steps should be taken to rectify the trouble?

Strangely enough, I have received similar queries during the last few weeks. It is quite possible, of course, that this may be due to some form of leg or foot trouble—a slight injury, or a thorn or small cut in the pad. But this should not be persisting for any length of time. It might, however, be as well to examine the legs and under the feet, and to note any reaction the cat may give to any slight pressure, especially at the joints of the legs. If you are not quite satisfied, consult a qualified vet.

The most probable cause of such trouble will likely be found at the ears. It may seem a little strange to learn that the organs of hearing are also the organs of balance. In fact, at one time, ages and ages ago, the ears of animals were probably concerned only with the balancing of the body. The organ of hearing is a much later development. The apparatus of each ear, therefore, serves a double function, yet the essential part is quite small indeed.

Actually, there are three main divisions of the ear: the outer (or visible part), the middle and the inner. Of the whole space taken up by these parts, only a very small portion is occupied by the organs of hearing and balance.

The balancing mechanism of the ear consists of semi-circular canals which are filled with fluid, and are arranged in planes at right angles to each other. When the head is moved, the fluid in one or more of the canals is disturbed, messages are sent to the brain, and in reply the brain sends out orders to the muscles, asking them to carry out the movements required to preserve the equilibrium of the body. Normally, of course, this balancing of the body is carried out automatically.

Dizziness is caused when, for some reason, the fluid in the canals has been shaken up more vigorously than usual, and it continues to rotate in the canals after the head has come to rest, just as water continues to swirl round in a bucket which has been rotated and then set down. The kind of dizziness felt depends upon which of the canals are affected, and it is quite easy to start the fluid rotating in one pair only of the canals at a time.

In man, for instance, if the head is bent over on to one shoulder, and the body spun round a few times, and the head then raised, the room appears to be using the experimenter as the base line for a number of somersaults; while if the chin is dropped on to the chest, the body rotated, stopped suddenly and the head raised, the room appears to be turning cart wheels!

Quite obviously, then, if this tiny balancing apparatus is damaged, malformed, or becomes diseased, the animal will lose its balance, or at least experience difficulty in keeping to a straight line when walking. It may keep on a straight line for a while

and then give a rolling action, which probably will disappear in a few moments, only to be once more resumed. In some animals the condition becomes acute and in some forms of malformation may be inherited.

The writer has bred many mice so affected, and a result is that they will tear round in quite small circles, sometimes at alarming rate, and frequently for well over a hundred turns without a break. The mice develop gradual deafness which is complete usually before the adult age of ten to twelve weeks.

The question now is: How can this queen's balancing organs have been affected, for, obviously, this is not of hereditary type? In all probability the answer is that the cause was nothing other than deep-seated parasitical ear canker, which eventually reached the organs of balance, with disturbing results.

Treatment of Canker

There are two forms of canker most likely to affect cats. One is an eczematous form which may become very offensive and is accompanied by a brown discharge. The other, and much more common, is caused by parasites. The signs of presence of either form are the scratching behind the ears by the cat, with often an attempt to actually insert a paw to reach the cause of discomfort or pain. If the outer ear is folded back, the canker may be distinctly seen and the form diagnosed.

In either form a first course must be to clean the ears as well as is possible. For this purpose a mixture of methylated spirits and warm water may be used, a teaspoonful of methylated to a cupful of water. The ears should be syringed and then wiped out with a small pad of wool fixed to the end of a small stick. This must be done carefully, for it will be appreciated that the mechanism of the ear is delicate, but quite a distance can

be reached with safety if no undue pressure is exerted. After this, a well-known canker cure may be used according to the directions of the makers.

In the case of the parasitical ear canker an oily lotion is advised as this will envelop the parasites and so suffocate them much in the same way as a few drops of paraffin put on the surface of the water in a water butt will seal off the air from those little wriggly things which come to the surface for air and eventually turn to mosquitoes.

Canker may be passed from one cat or kitten to another, so that it becomes necessary to isolate a patient until cured. Often, where the parasitical form is established the animal will shake small pieces of dark, hardish material from its ears. This must be carefully wiped up and burnt, as also should all wool, etc., used.

It is a fact that fleas may be carriers of the parasites for ear canker. It is therefore of great importance that these should be searched for and destroyed regularly. The search is best done in a really warm atmosphere, for in those conditions the fleas will be more likely to leave the skin and be caught up in the teeth of the fine-toothed comb used. This kind of combing should be done daily, whether there is canker present or not.

Infested Grass Danger

In addition to being potential carriers for the canker parasite, the flea is known as a possible carrier for the introduction of worms. One more reason why these should be ruthlessly hunted and destroyed.

The value of grass for cats is well known, but particular care must be taken when collecting to see that it is not from places where other animals have free run. Neither should grass be gathered from near streams or rivers, as quite often these waters are

worm-infested. It is known that snails will carry the infestation into fields for some distance. In any case, it is always a wise precaution to wash grass which is to be fed to cats, and this also applies wherever hay or straw is used for bedding.

Although diseases and troubles caused by worms and fleas are perhaps less spectacular than our great enemy enteritis, these things are no less destructive in the Fancy, and cat breeders should take these pests very seriously, never neglecting an opportunity to prevent or to rid them should they appear. The matter of cleaning ears and searching for possible fleas should be a daily routine—always.

Have you a problem that Mr. Jude can deal with in his monthly feature? If so, why not send it to him, c/o "Our Cats" Magazine?

**EDINBURGH AND
EAST OF SCOTLAND
CAT CLUB**

Third
Annual Show

will be held at

ODDFELLOWS HALL

FORREST ROAD, EDINBURGH

on

Saturday, December 15

Schedules of application from

R. N. OSWALD

20 HOWE STREET, EDINBURGH

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:

30th NOVEMBER, 1951

Christmas Gifts for Cat Lovers

SIAMESE DESIGN (actual size $1\frac{1}{2}$ " high x $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide)

Solid silver, rhodium finish (untarnishable)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25/6 each
										(U.S.A. \$ 4.00)
Artist enamelled in natural S.P. colours on solid silver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38/- "
										(U.S.A. \$ 6.00)

MANX DESIGN (actual size 1" high x $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide)

Silver oxidized metal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6/- "
Fine gilt on metal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9/- "
Solid silver, rhodium finish (untarnishable)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25/6 "
Artist enamelled in natural colours on solid silver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38/- "

These brooches—available in two designs only at present—are made by a world renowned firm of specialists in costume jewellery. They are of fine quality with plain back, fitted with joint pin and catch. Prices include purchase tax and postage. Remittances should be made payable to OUR CATS Magazine and sent with order to:

BOX No. 16, OUR CATS MAGAZINE

4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 9

We can despatch Brooches to any part of the world in an attractive gift box and enclose your personal message or greeting. So many cat lovers have been delighted with these Brooches that it is somewhat superfluous to add that they are supplied on a "money returned if not satisfied" basis.

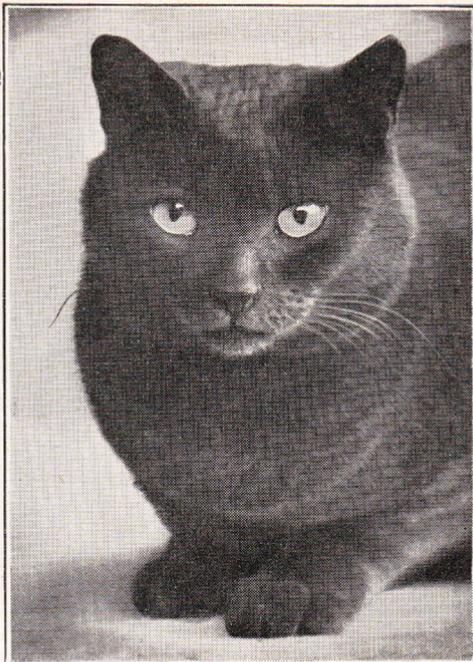
***We had tried
every sort
of remedy . .***

MISS C. M. FREEMAN, of
224 Anerley Road, Anerley,
S.E. 20, writes:—

“Kit-zyme was recommended to us for Willow, our short-haired blue cat who has always been subject to eczema. After a few weeks of concentrated doses his skin trouble entirely cleared up and for the past six months he has been on a maintenance dose.

Now, we hardly recognise Willow for the same cat. His coat is burnished and no longer of ‘utility’ texture; he is less nervous and full of play and fun as he has not been since kittenhood.

For three years we had tried every sort of remedy and at times he was so wretched we even had to consider the possibility of having him put to sleep—but thanks to Kit-zyme he has indeed taken on a new lease of life.”



W I L L O W

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

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN - RICH YEAST

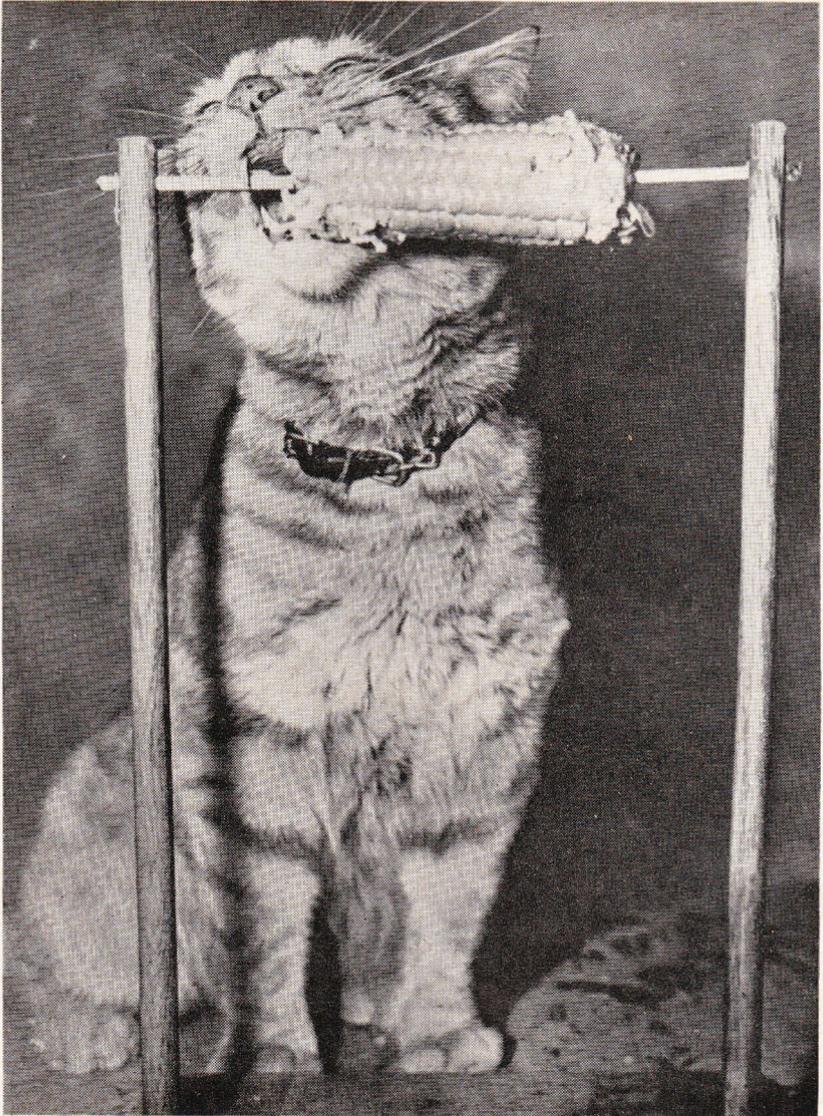


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50 (7½ gr.) Tablets 1/6, 250 for 4/-, 750 for 8/-

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Literature Free on Request

If any difficulty in obtaining, write to:
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A page for the proletarian puss No. 18



Associated Press

Nipper, 2-year-old Tabby who lives in Hollywood, enjoys his daily ration of buttered corn on the cob. Note the ingenious skewer arrangement to facilitate service! Nipper's daily ration is two cobs!

Paws across "The Pond"

From BILLIE BANCROFT (American Associate Editor)

AFTER the September issue of OUR CATS reached America about every third call on my 'phone was in reference to Ginger, the Champion Ratter. One of our breeders suggested that he be brought over here to give some of our pedigreed aristocrats a few instructions in rat-catching. Can't you just imagine him standing before a crowded class room, filled with queens and those felines who are not queens . . . explaining that it takes intestinal fortitude . . . (the kind that is not used for violin strings) . . . to be a good ratter. Then when he sees the twitching whiskers and swishing tails he would probably lapse into fluent Billingsgate and end his lecture by demanding: "What are you . . . cats or mice?" I love that confident, no-foolin' expression. He seems to be saying: "Hurry up, now, I have busyness to attend." Remember, dear readers . . . a ratter is much different from a mouser. Any time you want to come to America, Ginger, just send us a cable!

* * *

Down in Philadelphia, connected with the Penn State Cat Club, is a Specialty called The Siamese Breeders Guild. An invitation has just gone out from this Guild to the public at large. It is a bit short on meter, but very expressive in meaning. I quote. . . .

"Did you ever hear of a Parcel Post Sale?"

Well, listen, and I will tell you a tale.

The Siamese Cat Breeders Guild are having a table

At Penn State Cat Show . . . so if you are able

Will you send a package we can sell for a quarter?

It's fun to barter and see who is smarter.

We will sell it just as it comes through the mail,

That is why it's called a Parcel Post Sale.

Phill's Town Hall . . . I've given the date,

Please send your parcel so it won't be late.

Kindly address to the name under-signed,

And thank you so much for being so kind."

* * *

Mrs. Ida Smith and husband were guests at Cloud Top a few weeks ago. Mrs. Smith is an ardent Silver fancier and has been for many years. She is President of the Miami Cat Club, which is truly tropic in the surrounding atmosphere of beautiful Florida. We had a great time looking at pictures and comparing pedigrees. She has been breeding Show cats since 1930. One of her outstanding Silvers was Dbl. Ch. Citrus Ridge's Pericles. Miami Cat Club is planning a Show this season with Mrs. Saxby Mabie and Mrs. Louise Heron as judges. Of course, it will be a good show with

those two veteran breeders on the bench. Mrs. Heron at one time bred White Persians and, I believe, a few Blues. I think her first love is for the Whites. The Miami Cat Club is C.F.A.

* * *

One of the nicest Clubs in the eastern part of America is the Cat Fanciers of Washington, Inc. (which means Washington, District of Columbia). This show (held 20th and 21st October) is one of the first of the show season. Now, who do you suppose was the Specialty Judge . . . none other than Mrs. John H. Revington, from Bristol, Tennessee. From coast to coast, from Canada to the Gulf, she has judged C.F.A. Shows . . . truly she is to be ranked as a top-bracket judge in any position in any show . . . anywhere. Quite a bit of verbal dust is being kicked up over Specialty Judges this season. Our own Saxby Mabie is doing the Specialty at Garden State in November . . . (just a few miles out of New York City). The Specialties are hitting high and growing stronger all the time.

* * *

Have you bought yourself that Decca record called "The Waltzing Cat," LeRoy Anderson conducting? Personally, I think it is wonderful.

* * *

My friends report that this has been a very good year to take pets on their vacations. I remember receiving several announcements saying that my pets would be welcome at various hotels and motels. There was a clause, however, that stated that guests were supposed to pay for any damage caused by their pets, which, of course, is no more than right. Last week I received a copy of a nationwide survey which stated that 3,381 hostelrys accepted guests with pets this year. The number is expected to double next year. One hotel did object to guests making kitten-sitters

out of their bell boys. The boys seemed to like it!

* * *

The Twin-City Cat Fanciers, Inc., will hold a triple show, C.F.A. rules. This Club is located in Minneapolis, Minn., and was organised by that nationally known breeder of White Persians, Mrs. T. R. James, who has done quite a bit of experimenting with the Blue-eyed White Persians and has come up with some startling results. I'm looking forward to having a long talk with Mrs. James . . . probably at this Show. Another well-known judge will do the Siamese Specialty and the Solid Colors at this Show . . . I refer to Mrs. C. F. Rotter, who last year was All-breed Judge at a great many shows. She is very well known and extremely well liked. Week after week I am hearing nice things about the Specialties . . . is there to be a Solid Color . . . or Siamese . . . maybe a Silver Society Show? If not, then the breeder immediately decides . . . it's too far to travel for just an All-Breed. It very definitely is the Specialties that are pulling in the breeders at a distance.

* * *

You would be surprised if you knew the social dates that are cancelled among the members of the Fancy . . . along about this time. Each reason is the same . . . "Have to give my cat-children a Labco beauty bath." I do wish the poor little novices knew of this way to groom their cat-babies. If their felines have type . . . then the most important item for showing is . . . good grooming.

A B.B.C. commentator at the Motor Show hit upon a happy simile when referring to the new Austin Seven—one of the high spots of the exhibition. He said it rested there amid its luxurious surroundings very much like a Siamese cat at a show looking sleek and smooth as it rested on its cushion.

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.

CRYSTAL CAT SHOW

The Animal Health Trust would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who gave their willing support to help make the Crystal Cat Show so successful.

That the Show was enjoyed by the thousands who attended is unquestionable. The Trust's mobile laboratory created widespread interest among cat-lovers, and the Trust is sincerely grateful for the interest and practical support given to its Feline Health Fund by so many people.

The Trust is anxious to begin investigations into cat enteritis, cat influenza and other feline ailments, but it will be realised that this cannot be undertaken until a substantial measure of support is forthcoming. The Crystal Cat Show has greatly helped this worthy cause, which is now much more widely known among cat breeders and cat lovers everywhere.

Thank you, everybody!

Lt. Col. Graham Cherry, M.A.,
The Animal Health Trust, London,
S.W.1.

DISTRESSING DEATHS

It would be of much interest to know whether other breeders have experienced the following trouble with young kittens and whether any cause and prevention are known.

Two of our Siamese queens have had litters of four kittens each, by different studs. All has gone well, mothers and kittens being healthy and normal, until, at about a month old, a kitten has been noticed crying, lying apart from the others, very cold

to touch, gums and lips bloodless and grey in colour, stomach distended. In each of the four cases we have had (two from each litter) death has occurred within 48 hours of the first symptom, sometimes earlier. All attempts to restore warmth and functions have been fruitless.

The veterinary officer, after a p.m., said death was due to pneumonia following on extreme anaemia, but was unable to ascribe any cause for this condition or to suggest any means of dealing with it. At the times, both queens were having a liberal diet of raw beef, eggs, goat milk, Farex, etc., and though thin, as would be expected at that stage of rearing their litters, were in good condition and did not themselves show any signs of anaemia. The surviving kittens seem perfectly healthy.

The suddenness of these attacks, coming without warning and without apparent reason, is very distressing, and we would be very grateful for information through your valuable Magazine.

Mrs. S. Druce,
P.O., Box 454, Nicosia, Cyprus.

DERMATITIS CURE WANTED

I am writing in desperation to ask if any of your readers know of an effective treatment for dermatitis in cats?

My three-year-old neuter has had this trouble for some months and I cannot clean it up. I first treated the patches with T.C.P., then a well-known ointment. On the vet.'s advice I tried painting with methylene blue and then penicillin ointment—all to

no avail. Internally, I have given tonic tablets.

In every other respect the animal is a picture of health, eats well and is bright and lively. At present I am trying peroxide of hydrogen to dry up the worst areas, which are mainly on the back and hindquarters. I should be grateful to hear of any treatment which has proved satisfactory.

Miss Claire Brenner,
Hampstead, N.W.3.

ANOTHER "MIDWIFE" QUEEN

I was interested to read about Miss P. Tucker's experiences with her "midwife" queen. I, too, had a similar experience about six weeks ago.

Both my Siamese queens (mother and daughter) had kittens within three weeks of each other. The second to have her litter produced her second kitten by mistake on a heap of sand outside the garage loft, where the first kitten had been born in the specially prepared basket. Very much concerned, I collected both mother and kitten in another basket and carried them back to the loft. The kitten was completely smothered in sand. I tried to clean it up without much success.

I left the loft for about ten minutes and on my return I found the daughter in complete control. She had cleaned the kitten and, not content with that, had moved all her own kittens into the same basket—and nothing would separate them. The younger kittens are luckily none the worse for being carried around by the bigger kittens. Proud father squeezes in and lies with them all as well!

Mrs. M. Whitmarsh,
Skibbereen, Co. Cork.

CRUELTY CASES

Something must be done about all these cruelty cases, which are far too frequent in this so-called animal lov-

ing country of ours. I followed up Miss Kit Wilson's effort in "The Sunday Express" by writing to our M.P. asking for his support. I enclosed a copy of OUR CATS so he could read about the dreadful case to which Miss Cathcart refers. We all know it is useless for just two people to tackle the job. But if the whole of the Cat Fancy did the same we might get something done. We want fines for cruelty abolished for a start.

Mrs. F. G. Corke,
Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

RINGWORM TREATMENT

In last month's issue, Mr. M. Guinard was asking for advice on the treatment of ringworm. I have used Hewlett's Antiseptic Jelly with success. It should be applied once daily, rubbed on gently, starting from *outside* the infected area and finishing in the centre. Combs should be disinfected after use. Do not use a brush.

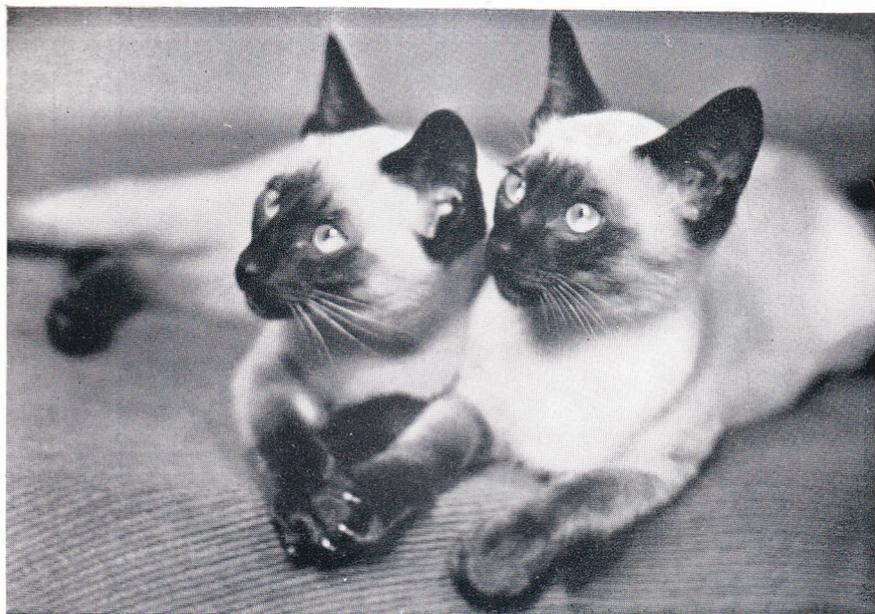
This treatment cured a cat, dog, and owner within two weeks.

Mrs. W. G. Harriott,
Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Having noted your appeal for ringworm cure, I should like to let you know that I have kept dogs and cats for years and I find permanganate of potash dabbed on to the affected parts is a sure cure in human or animal. It does, of course, discolour the fur. I have great faith in this remedy.

Mrs. Abdy,
Handsworth, Birmingham.

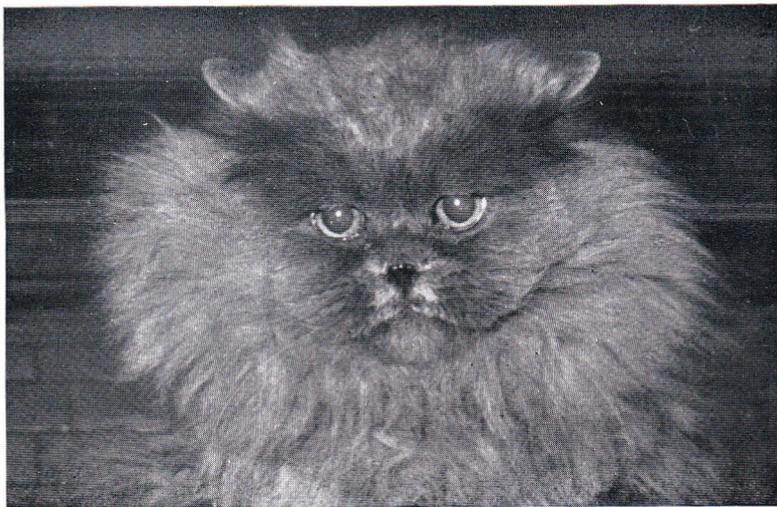
About that letter you were going to send us. Why not sit down and write it NOW? Correspondence Corner is YOUR feature. Please help to keep it interesting and of value to other cat lovers.



An unusually nice study of Siamese kittens at 4 months. They are GAYWOOD MAHJONG and GAYWOOD JUDO (prizewinners at this year's shows) bred by Mrs. B. Hewlett, of Kings Lynn, from her queen Briarry Sukei.



Mary Martin, who stars in the new London musical show "South Pacific," is a cat lover. She is seen here in her dressing-room with her Siamese pet LEMLING CASSIOPEIA, who made the newspaper headlines when flown out to Miss Martin in New York by Mrs. E. B. Martin, of Great Baddow, Chelmsford.



By courtesy of Nottingham Journal

SOUTHWAY ECHO is a well-known Blue Longhair male in the Midlands. Bred by Mr. Martin from Dickon of Allington ex Southway Whiz, Echo is siring nice kittens for his owner, Mrs. M. Bastow, of West Bridgford, Nottingham.



WINDSOR LADY IRIS, a Blue Longhair imported from Australia, was Best Cat at this year's show of the Auckland (New Zealand) Cat Club. Owner is Mrs. S. A. Moore, a local exhibitor.

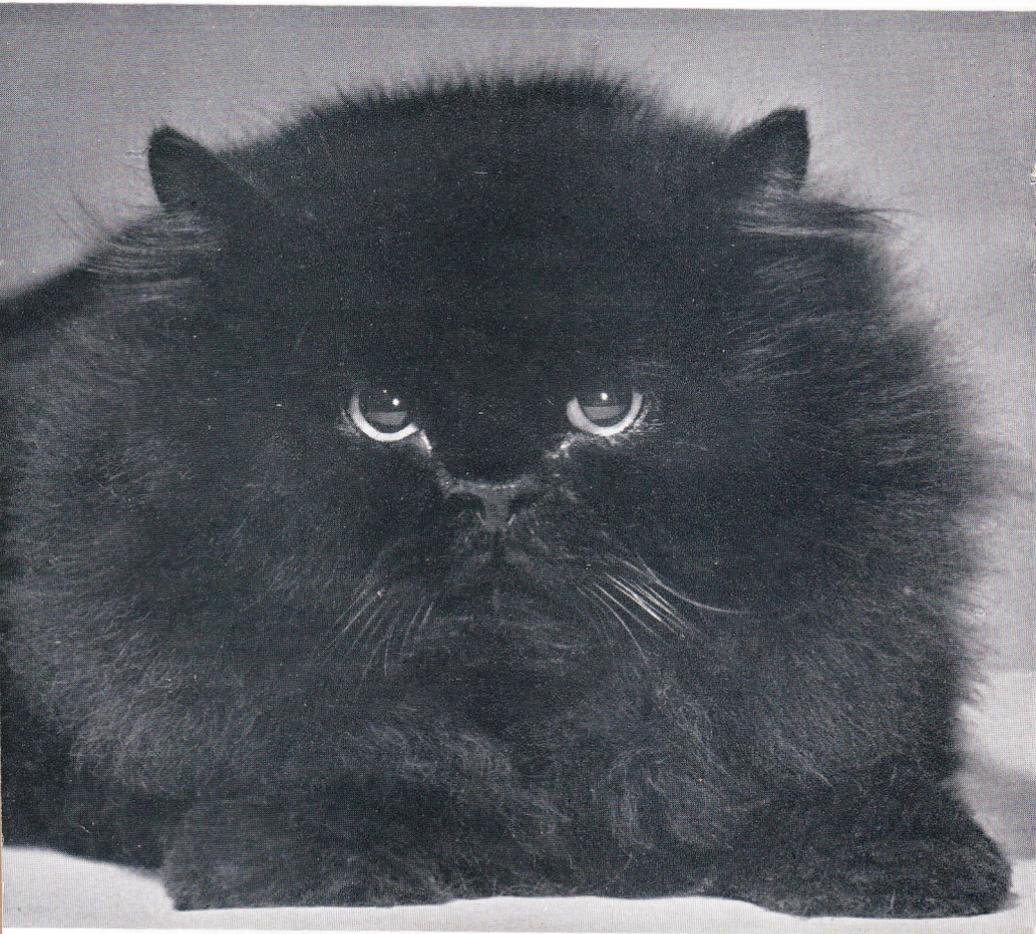
Champions of Australia . . .



BENJAMIN OF SALISBURY is the first Victoria (Australia) post-war Grand Champion. Our picture, taken at the Melbourne Cat Club Championship Show in July, shows him with Gaynor, daughter of owner-breeder Mrs. L. Rose, of Moonee Ponds, Melbourne. Benjamin is contributing largely to the improvement of Blue stock in Australia—two of his kittens, Timothy and Blue Mist of Salisbury, have been voted Best Kittens in Show this year.



Champion **MOUNT AUBURN ROYAL SON**, a Shaded Silver belonging to Mrs. Hazel Taylor, of Sydney, was Best Cat at the Australian Cat Fanciers' Association 26th Annual Championship Show held in Sydney in June. Royal Sun looks "groomed to the minute."



ALL-AMERICAN CAT OF THE YEAR

We are pleased to present this striking picture of the American Champion of 1951—GRAND CHAMPION PIED PIPER OF BARBE BLEUE. You can read more about this famous cat on pages 27 and 28.

Open W-i-d-e Please!

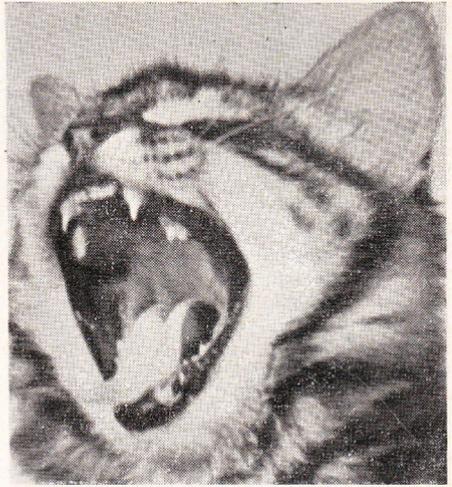
By P. M. SODERBERG

HAVE you ever heard that unwelcome prelude to an experience which may be painful, or, if no worse, unpleasant?

Most of my teeth are my own, thank heaven, but that happy state is merely due to the fact that fear of the consequences has prompted me to pay regular visits to my dentist for more years than I care to remember. Even so, I must say that my teeth have frequently been a source of trouble to me despite all my attempts to avoid the pain of toothache.

How often do you take the trouble to look at your cat's teeth? If you are a considerate cat owner you perform this routine inspection from time to time, for by doing so you can save the animal a good deal of discomfort and pain. From my own experience of cats I feel certain that few of us pay sufficient attention to teeth. If first prizes at the shows were awarded only to adult cats which could show a full set of teeth, competition among older cats would not be very keen, I'm thinking.

My own cats are inspected from time to time, but quite recently I have become convinced that the period between these examinations has been too long, for not



one of my cats over four has a full set of teeth and one or two are very short indeed.

Now cats are perfectly normal creatures, and I doubt very much if in a state of nature the same tooth troubles would be apparent. The fundamental difficulty is that we have grown accustomed to feeding in a manner which from the point of view of general nutrition is satisfactory, but which makes no allowance for the fact that cats are not accustomed to using tooth brushes. Dogs derive considerable benefit to their teeth by the use of a bone for gnawing, and I think it is true to say that most old dogs have a better set of teeth than most cats of comparable age. Unfortunately, few cats can be persuaded to gnaw a bone, although my Siamese are prepared to give their long and undivided attention to any bone on which a worth-while quantity of meat has been left as an incentive.

Wet and sloppy feeding is certainly bad for teeth, and any dry food which is sufficiently hard to need gnawing and is attractive enough to the cat to be worth the effort would be a most useful addition to the daily diet. Re-

cently I have come across such a food which to a very large extent fills the bill. If you look round you will also find it. It is certainly worth a trial.

A newly born kitten is toothless, but at the end of a fortnight the temporary or milk teeth begin to appear, and within the space of a few weeks this first set is complete. There are now twenty-six teeth, fourteen of which are in the top jaw and the remaining twelve in the lower. As far as one can judge from experience, the cutting of these teeth is not painful and the mother is not kept awake by the wailing of fractious infants. I have often inspected the mouths of kittens between the end of the second and the seventh week and there is rarely any gum inflammation away from the actual spot at which the tooth is to appear.

Treating Sore Gums

It is when these first teeth start to go and the permanent set makes its appearance that kittens are sometimes in trouble. It is at this time that eating may present a problem to the kitten, and this visible symptom calls for immediate action by the owner.

Some kittens find the act of eating so painful that they refuse to eat, for, like most animals, they will not perform any function which they know will produce pain. If on inspection the gums are found to be inflamed, a suitable mouth wash should be used. There are a number of mild antiseptics on the market which can be safely used and which will not terrify a kitten by the pungency of their smell. A piece of cotton wool soaked in such a solution and then held in a pair of tweezers can be used for swabbing the gums. Such treatment, when carried out twice a day for three

or four days, usually causes the inflammation to subside, but as it takes about three months before all the permanent teeth have developed, gum soreness may arise on several occasions.

When Tartar Forms

Some kittens experience no apparent discomfort at all and then it is quite unnecessary to make frequent inspections, for signs of real trouble are so obvious to anyone who has half an eye to see. It is by no means unusual for teething kittens to develop some form of digestive disorder, but even if this happens there is no cause for alarm. Small doses of liquid paraffin may be given each week—and I really mean small doses of three or four drops, unless the kitten is constipated.

There are some kittens which develop fits while teething, but such cases are very rare and need not be anticipated. If, however, you have a kitten which develops fits between the age of four and seven months, teeth are probably at the root of the trouble, and you should take the animal to the vet. Alarming as such symptoms may be to the novice, he can rest assured that they invariably disappear when teething is completed. It is this permanent set of teeth which must become the concern of the owner, for there is no possibility of a third set and the day of dentures for cats has not yet arrived.

The most common trouble with adult cats is the formation of tartar, and this is usually deposited where the tooth joins the gum, with the result that the tooth socket is opened and decayed food collects in the crevices formed and there decomposes. The result of this is foul breath. Nine times out of ten when a cat's

breath is unpleasant the cause is teeth.

It is possible for any person who is good with animals to scrape the tartar from the teeth, but it is a job far better left to the expert. A cat's mouth is not easy to manage and always requires an assistant, quite apart from the fact that the inexperienced can do far more harm to the gums than good to the teeth.

Some cats develop tartar much more quickly than others, but on an average a visit to the vet. for a routine check-up once in six months is ample precaution.

A cat's teeth are also subject to decay and such teeth should be removed as soon as they are noticed.

Tooth trouble may often be diagnosed from the fact that the

animal frequently scratches at its mouth with a paw and repeats the action time after time merely because no relief is obtained. Dribbling is another indication that a careful inspection of the mouth and teeth is overdue. However careful you may be, some cats will have tooth troubles from time to time, but by a little forethought you can ensure that there is a minimum of pain.

Educate them to gnaw bones. That would save a lot of fuss and bother.

NEXT MONTH: The first instalment—with pictures—of the adventures of BOSUN, the Siamese cat who is sailing round the world as "skipper" of the S.Y. Mary Hillier.



LIKE CAT, LIKE KITTEN —both like SPRATT'S CAT FOOD

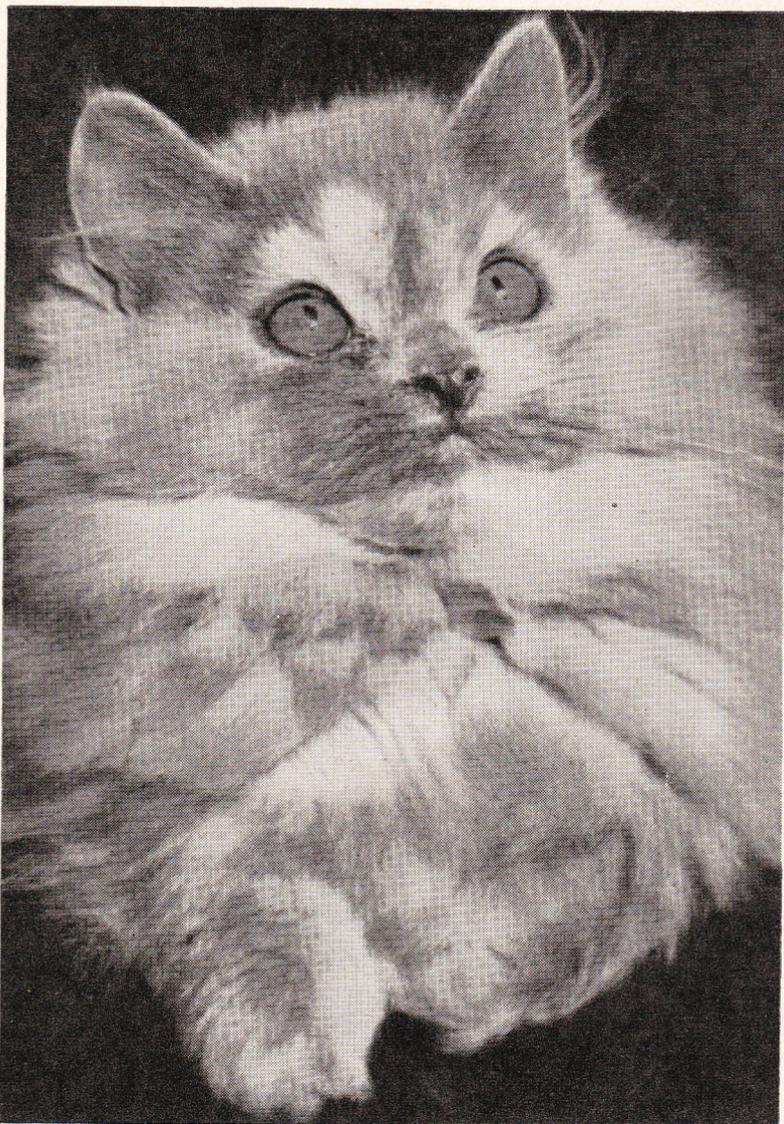
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P.A.—Reuter Photo

Benign DAWN OF PENSFORD, Blue-Cream Kitten born in June and bred by Mrs. Joan Thompson, was one of the many attractive juvenile exhibits at the Crystal Cat Show at Olympia.



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.

15th September. To the Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show, well organised by Mrs. V. Parker. The Anson Hall, Cricklewood (which looked so suitable when empty), proved too small for an all-breed Ch. Show and the light played havoc with coat and eye colour in Blues except those who were fortunate enough to face a window.

The principal awards were: Best Exhibit in Show, Miss Langston's Chinchilla Ch. Scamp of Allington; Best Shorthair, Master Roger Parker's Blue-eyed White of unknown pedigree, Pinewood Brumas; Best Longhair Kitten, Mrs. Stephenson's Blue-Cream Ashdown Shadows, by Neuburie Bambi; Best Shorthair Kitten, Miss Duke's Seal Point Siamese Hollygrove Fiesta, by Darwinnie Marlborough (bred by the President, Mrs. Mitchell); Best Neuter, Mrs. Chapman's Premier Bridgeway Timothy.

17th September. The American "Cats Magazine" arrived with a striking cover photograph of the All-American Cat of the Year 1951, Grand Champion Pied Piper of Barbe Bleue, a superb Black Longhair owned by Mrs. F. S. Campbell and Mrs. B. H.

Morse. The Best Opposite Sex Cat of the Year is Grand Champion Rosedere De Anne of Nor-Mont, Blue-Cream Longhair owned by Mrs. Merald E. Hoag. This is the first time these varieties have gained this high national honour. Previous winners have been: 1947, Blue Longhair male; opposite sex Blue Point Siamese. 1948, Blue Longhair male; opposite sex Seal Point Siamese. 1949, Blue Longhair female; opposite sex Orange-eyed White. 1950, Blue Longhair male; opposite sex Blue Point Siamese.

One reads that Ch. Pied Piper is the first Black to win a Grand Championship, which also applies to the Blue-Cream Ch. Rosedere De Anne.

Mrs. F. S. Campbell kindly writes to me: "Ch. Pied Piper was bred by the late Mrs. Ross Harbaugh, who picked him out of the litter when only a few hours old and exclaimed: 'This is IT—at last the perfect black kitten I have been working for.' As he grew he fulfilled his owner's prophecy, and once when exhibited in Southern California was much admired by Mrs. Bess H. Morse. Mrs. Harbaugh promised if ever it was necessary to part with him she would remember her (Mrs. Morse) first of all. So when Mrs. Harbaugh died, this beautiful Black male was given to Mrs. Morse. She felt she could not keep him as a stud and he was much too valuable to neuter, so she entered into a joint ownership with me.

"I have loved showing him. Many Best Cat ribbons have been awarded to him and he has been Best Black

every time shown. He has wonderful personality, is a perfect gentleman and sweet with his females. Mrs. Morse and myself have been friends for years, both being musicians. She is President of the California Cat Club and is largely responsible for the growth and development of the Cat Fancy in the West, and is the new first Vice-President of the Cat Fanciers' Association.

"In 1936, when I was in England attending concerts and music festivals, I purchased two kittens, one from Miss K. Yorke, a Blue female, Blessings Pixie of Culloden, and my first Black, Chadhurst Starlight, bred by Miss Rodda. Pixie lived until almost fourteen; Starlight is still alive and well and was fifteen last March. She passed on her wonderful eye colour and extraordinary blackness. In Southern California we are fortunate to have a temperature which enables us to have cats out all the year. I also have Speedwell Banksia, bred by your Miss Peake. Please remember me to Miss Yorke and Miss Rodda. The two kittens I bought from them travelled to California with me and I had to make several stops. They never missed a meal on the ship although nearly all the passengers suffered from mal-de-mer. They have been an asset to me and I am so pleased I brought them back."

From "The Back Fence," an interesting article in "Cats Magazine," I liked this gem, clipped from the "Dundee (N.Y.) Observer": "Wanted—position as companion. Will do light mousework. Kittens free."

From our "Sunday Express": "Why do cats purr? Because they are relaxed and their breath passes over their lightly tensed vocal chords which vibrate."

21st September. Received an interesting newsletter from the Abyssinian Cat Club, edited by Mr. and Mrs. Denham. Few breeders in this

country can equal Mr. Basnett's knowledge of this variety and how right he is when he writes: "I suggest calling for views about the colour of the chin which is laid down must not be white. . . . My own view is that if the chin in the cats of the past was lighter than the belly colour it was not white but an ochre tinge to tone generally with the rest of the cat's colouring."

Yes, Mr. Basnett, I agree! But the loss of ruddy colouring is noticeable on the body generally. I have seen many Abyssinians which have reminded me forcibly of wild rabbits as regards colour. Mrs. France bred one of the best-coloured post-war cats and she is now owned by Mdme. Gibbon, of Switzerland. Views of Mr. A. C. Jude follow and I advise all interested in this variety to join the Abyssinian Cat Club, when they will receive this delightful news sheet. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. H. W. Basnett, 17 Borough Road, Gillingham, Kent.

29th September. To Caxton Hall, Westminster, to a meeting of the Cats' Protection League. Arrived to find only two seats vacant. I was too late to hear Mrs. Elsie Kent's (née Hart) address, but found Mr. Martin (of Chappie, Ltd.) most interesting. He had just returned from Eastbourne, where he had been attending the Conference of Veterinary Surgeons, and he gave us a synopsis of some of the opinions expressed on the all-important topic of cat nutrition. I agreed with his remark that boiled fish is lacking in nutrition and was amused when he compared it to cotton wool. Experiments have been carried out and it was found that when some cats are fed mainly on fish they develop skin blemishes, but that these will often quickly disappear if their diet is changed to meat and rabbit. Fish has much more food value when steamed, baked or cooked in a pressure cooker and fed with all

the bones reduced to an edible form, but even then fish should only be part of a mixed diet. Cats usually prefer meat lightly baked in a slow oven to boiled meat.

Miss K. Wilson followed with an interesting and amusing speech. She has always worked enthusiastically for the C.P.L. and everyone was delighted to hear the League had just received £100 donation. Miss Francis Clifford and Miss Adele Rudd were very busy selling souvenirs and superintending seats and tea for the visitors.

30th September. Miss Cathcart kindly sent me a letter with a marked catalogue of the sixth Ch. Show of the South Western Counties Cat Club, but as the Editor tells me the Chairman, Capt. Lowe, has given an account of the Show, I will only mention a true story of the Best Longhair Cat in Show, Miss Cathcart's Brown Tabby female Trelyston Girasol. When she was six days old her mother, Ch. Trelyston Amethyst, carried her off to the hot cupboard in the bathroom with Miss Cathcart in pursuit. When she arrived "the cupboard was bare"!

It was then discovered the builder had left a large hole in the floor behind the hot water cylinder and both had gone "underground." No persuasion would induce Amethyst to fetch the kitten back; in fact, she dashed off to fetch the other two kittens she was nursing at the time.

Miss Cathcart phoned for a carpenter, who could not lift the floorboards because bath and cylinder were standing on them. She could hear the kitten screaming and was in a panic in case it was being scorched on the pipes. She then had a brain-wave and decided to have a hole cut in the kitchen ceiling. This was done and the infant rescued unhurt and restored to its mother.

Miss Cathcart has only three cats now—Ch. Trelyston Amethyst, Tre-

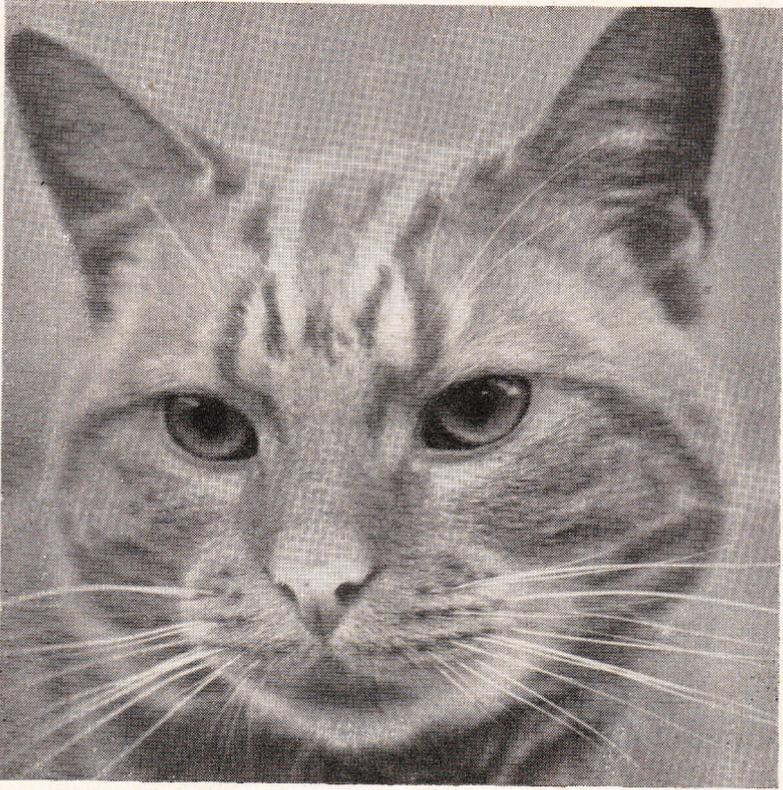
lyston Jasper, the male, and the budding champion, Girasol, so happily rescued from an early demise.

2nd October. News from Mrs. Culley, Hon. Secretary of the Lancs and North Western Counties Cat Club: "We had a social gathering of members in Manchester on 29th September. Forty members and friends were present. The afternoon was spent with everyone asking and answering questions. Tea was provided later. Everyone said they had enjoyed it and we hope that the meeting will be one of many."

11th October. To the 21st Championship Show of the Siamese Cat Club in London. One hundred and fifty-nine exhibits and 11 litters made a brave show. Entries numbered 601.

Best Exhibit in Show was Mrs. Duncan Hindley's Blue Pointed Blue Seagull, by Maa Cha Polyphemus. Mr. Richard Warner's Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo, by Doneraile Dekko, was awarded yet another Challenge Certificate. Mrs. Nicholas's Ryecroft Ranchi, by Mystic Dreamer, was the winning female. Mrs. McGregor's Inwood Chinky (Best Kitten in Show), by the winning S.P. male, was an exceptionally lovely kitten with glorious eyes. Best Neuter was Brigadier Rossiter's Blue Point Premier Neuter Mirza Taklif (pictured in our July issue), a lovely cat with a temperament to correspond.

As usual, Mrs. Kent organised a well run, enjoyable show. The flourishing condition in which the Club and the variety finds itself today owes a tremendous amount to her enthusiasm. The S.C.C. was the only major cat club to hold committee meetings throughout the war. My husband, the late Mr. F. H. Thompson (then Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy), frequently corresponded with her and had a great opinion of her ability. Her marriage



P.A.—Reuter Photo

CHARLES, son of Champion Nidderdale Dazzle and a worthy representative of the less fashionable Red Tabby Shorthairs, was on view at the Crystal Cat Show. His owner is Miss G. L. Hardman, of Killinghall, Yorks.

to Mr. Kent on 28th July elicited our congratulations, but her subsequent resignation as Hon. Secretary of the S.C.C. was heard with much regret by her friends. Here's wishing her every happiness and loyal support for her successor and friend, Mrs. L. K. Sayers, of Guildford, Surrey, who already enjoys not a little fame as one of the finest calligraphers in the Fancy!

12th October. The lovely sunny morning struck me as being a happy augury for the two-day Crystal Cat Show at Olympia. Arrived to find the usual air of subdued excitement. Proceedings began on somewhat different lines from those to which we have been accustomed. The judges commenced their day with a chat, a leisurely lunch and then out into the vast spaces of the Grand Hall to take up duties. Each exhibit had a three feet pen on high trestles which presented the cats at an attractive level. White paper on the staging accentuated one's impression of cleanliness and ideally healthy conditions for the exhibits. Several well-known firms had attractive stalls and Croydon Cat Club, Southsea Cat Club, and Surrey and Sussex C.C. were enterprising and took advantage of the promoters' generous offer of space to display their cups and trophies.

The silver cups presented to be won outright by Kit-E-Kat, Ltd., and other donors were in a special display case on the large dais in the centre of the hall. The penning, arranged in eight squares, was an innovation only possible with such ample space. The provision of high glass judging tables on rubber-tyred wheels, with a glass shelf underneath for a bowl of disinfectant, was another sensible and practical idea. Directly we commenced judging a little crowd gathered round each judge, but with so many officiating no one was hemmed in. With this method of judging one has to concentrate closely

otherwise one would be distracted by the remarks of onlookers. One point which caused many exclamations was the brilliant eye colour in some of the adult Blues.

The sales of kittens were again a remarkable feature and the amount taken by exhibitors must have run into several hundred pounds. Mrs. Hacking sold all she wished out of her lovely first prize litter of five Cream males and three Blue-Cream females and altogether sold 10 kittens. Mrs. Brice-Webb sold her trio of lovely pale Blues by Southway Echo. Mrs. Hughes found buyers for her litter by Neuburie Bambi, and Mr. Gordon Allt sold another three kittens. The demand for Longhair kittens was very brisk and in Short-hairs dozens of Siamese were sold.

The attendance numbered several thousands, among whom were many fanciers we had not seen for years. I was pleased to meet Mrs. McClure, pre-war breeder of so many famous Black Longhairs, one of whom, Ch. Hillington Jackdaw, did so much as a sire to raise type and quality in the variety. Mrs. McClure seldom attends shows nowadays, but told me she could not resist the appeal of Olympia. So it was with many others.

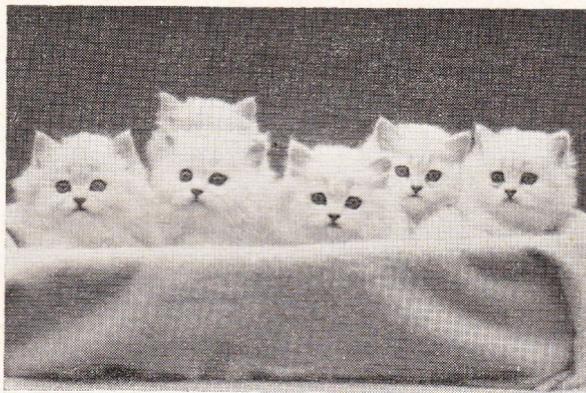
Distinguished visitors from abroad were Mdme. Ravel (from Paris), judging adult Blue males; Mdme. Bridgett (from Switzerland), judging Blue females; Mlle. Coste, from Paris; Mrs. Hjelde-Anderson, from Sweden; Miss Elspeth Peterson, from Denmark; Mr. Guinard, from Paris—all of whom made the long journey especially to attend the Show.

A tremendous crowd surrounded the dais at 5 p.m. on Saturday, when Mdme. Ravel presented the cups awarded as follows:—

Best Cat in Show, Major Dugdale's Blue Longhair Ch. Harpur Blue Boy, by Timothy of Knott Hall; Best Longhair Kitten, Mrs. Denton's Blue Trenton Sugar Plum, by Ch. Oxleys

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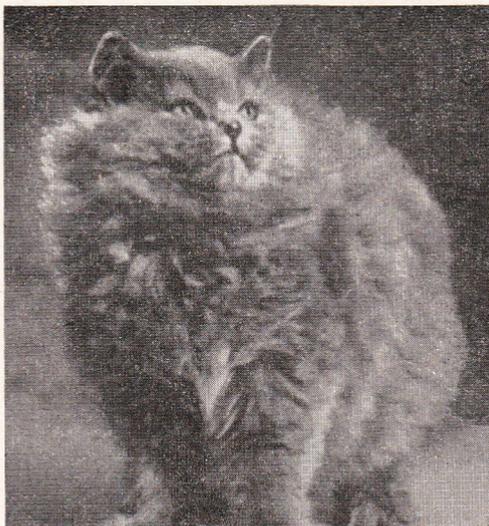
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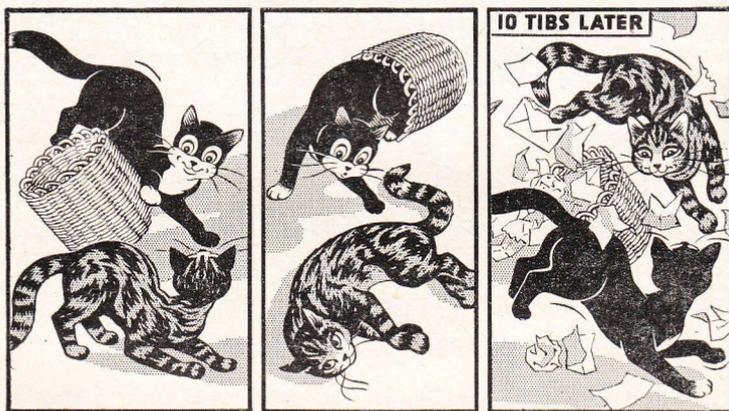
Crowborough 407

Peter John ; Best Longhair Male Kitten, Miss Page's Blue Woburn Sunshine, by Gem of Pensford ; Best Shorthair Cat, Mr. Richard Warner's Siamese Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo ; Best Shorthair Kitten, Dr. and Mrs. Groom's Blue Point Siamese Banchor Blue Osra, by Raard Blue Sacchi ; Best Seal Point Siamese Kitten, Mrs. Richardson's Morris Lindex, by Lindale Simon Pie ; Best Longhair Neuter in the Cup Class was Miss Stringer's Blue Eireanne Silver Bell, although in the Open Class, under another judge, the winner was Mrs. Knight's Pamiro Adonis. Best Shorthair Neuter, Miss Potter's Red Tabby Premier Vickigawn. An innovation much appreciated was that all prize monies were paid by cheque on the evening of the second day.

Mrs. Denton gave us another example of novice's luck. She purchased

last year from Miss Statman a very nice Blue kitten to be neutered. This summer she has been toying with the idea of buying a Blue female to commence breeding in a small way. At Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show she was captivated with Mrs. Harrington-Harvard's Trenton Sugar Plum and eventually purchased her. Exhibited at Olympia, Sugar Plum was awarded two silver cups, one for Best Longhair Kitten. To make her victory more convincing, she had to compete against the two other first prize winners in the Blue kitten classes which were brought out by three other judges ; the only other Longhair kitten competing for best in show was a lovely Chinchilla, Poldenhills Silver Prince.

First in two classes confined to Longhair Champions was Ch. Harpur Blue Boy and the Shorthair Cham-



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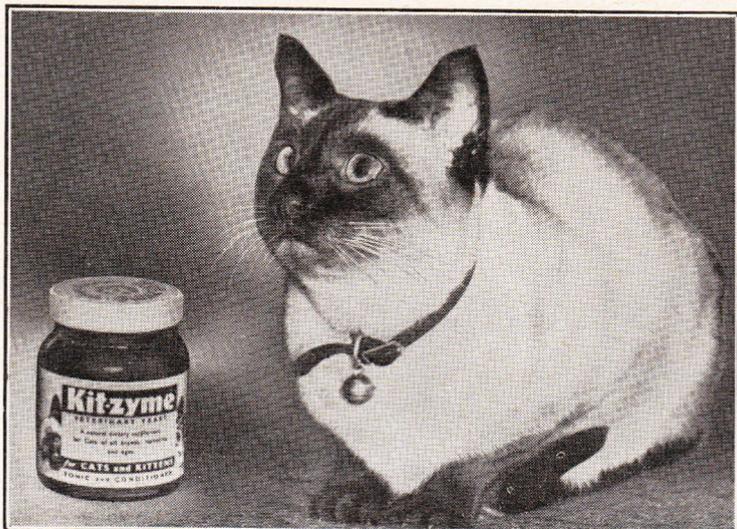
in his morning saucer of milk. 'Tibs' provide him with the essential vitamins and minerals often seriously lacking in his 'civilised' diet. Just one 'Tibs' once a day—and he'll be the liveliest most lovable cat that ever was, with eyes that shine and a coat like silk!

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pion, Mr. Warner's Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo. Exhibits numbered 383.

Mr. Stirling-Webb's Longhair cat with Seal Point Siamese colouring and blue eyes caused a sensation. He assured us it was not a Longhair Siamese, but whatever the breeding it was most attractive. So perhaps Mr. Stirling-Webb will tell us how it was bred?

This second Crystal Show was a great success. Time seemed to go like a flash. The two shows at Olympia and the Festival Show have set new standards and given us fresh ideas about cat show promotion. They have proved conclusively how interested the British public are in pedigree cats when they are attractively presented at halls of international repute. We have to thank Messrs. Kit-E-Kat, Ltd., for financing this venture. It is far beyond the means of any Club at present to stage a show at Olympia. To Mr. Hunter (Show Secretary) and Mr. A. Towe (Show Manager) are due a very hearty vote of thanks. They worked like Trojans to prepare the Show at comparatively short notice. It was nice to see Mr. Macdonald here, there, and everywhere, and to remember the whole idea of a cat show at Olympia was entirely due to him and Mrs. Macdonald.

16th October. To the Blue Persian Cat Society Championship Show at Anson Hall, Cricklewood, a very sedate affair after Olympia. Mrs. Brown's beautiful queen Phillimore Pandora, by Dickon of Allington (pictured in our September issue), completed her Championship, a worthy newcomer to this elect circle. Miss Montague's very lovely queen Kenwood Gloria was second. How disappointing to have a Blue queen lovely enough to be second in her Open classes at several Ch. Shows! Mrs. Sharp's Dusty of Dunesk (by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue) was first Open male. Best Kitten, Mrs. Brunton's Dear David of Dunesk (by Ch. Dylan of Allington); Best Neuter, Mrs. Knight's Pamiro Adonis (by Ch. Astra of Pensford). A galaxy of beautifully bred exhibits.

Mrs. Boulton has purchased Mrs. Brine's attractive winning kitten Avernoll Neone as a mate for her young male Denyston Denys, winner of first in the special limit class. None of the three first prize winners in the Blue Open Kitten classes at Olympia was present. As they were exceptionally good it would have been interesting to see how they would have been placed. An enjoyable Show, well organised by Mrs. J. M. Newton.

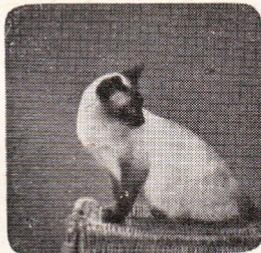
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Tailpieces

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items from home and overseas*



IN a recent broadcast talk Commander F. M. Simon (R.N., Rtd.) gave a vivid account of the Transatlantic flight attempt made in 1910 by the airship America. The attempt was made from east to west and ended in a mid-ocean disaster, fortunately without any loss of life. Commander Simon, who was the airship's navigator, described how he took a cat aboard and how it displayed uncanny instinct as a weather forecaster. The cat sat quiet and purred when fine weather was about, but when it became restless and agitated the crew knew that conditions would worsen. Puss was saved with the crew by a passing vessel when the airship finally came down on the sea.

When 80-year-old Miss Garden, of Slough, Bucks, was knocked down in a street accident, she insisted before she went to hospital that someone should buy the week-end food for her pet cat Witzie. A tradesman kindly arranged for a cheque to be cashed and the necessary supplies purchased.

A 16-year-old boy was put on probation for two years at the Sunderland juvenile court for, amongst other offences, throwing a cat at his 86-

year-old blind grandfather, who was badly scratched.

The young actress, Claire Bloom, who has gone to Hollywood to seek fame and fortune as star in the new Charlie Chaplin film, "Limelight," had to leave behind one of her most treasured possessions—her white cat.

Customers at a village store in Essex were momentarily mystified when they read the sign which said: "Cooked Ham 2/- qr., Pork Lunch Meat 1/- qr., English Toms 1/9., etc." One dear old lady, adjusting her spectacles, said: "I knew it. It's come at last—tomcats." "Somebody ought to report this to the food office," remarked another customer. A third added: "Well, they can't be any worse than some of the beef we've been getting lately." Enlightenment gradually spread—the store was only selling English tomatoes!

Mr. Stuart Ready, the playwright who has been responsible for many plays in the B.B.C. Children's Hour, writes in praise of his cat, Launcelot Gobbo, who has just turned eighteen. "His recipe for long life is plenty of

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cold water and the valued care of the vet. He feels that the luxury of a hot water bottle in his bed is not unearned. During the day he is content to sleep on the dog's head." Launce- lot Gobbo claims to be the only cat in the country who has the Union Jack hoisted on a flagstaff on his birthday.

A Scottish air firm has organised an air lift for the pets of American Servicemen in Britain. It costs about 6s. 8d. a lb. to send a cat or dog from Prestwick Airport to the United States. The service was started after the ban on pets being sent home in service aircraft. Animals can be sent by sea only during the summer months.

A cat, scared by a dog at Gilling- ham, sprang through a closed win- dow—and was unhurt.

The Editor asks me to pass on re- grets that the caption under the delightful picture of Mrs. F. H. Stephenson's Cream and Blue-Cream kittens in our September issue was not wholly correct and was therefore a little unfair to other exhibitors who notched successes at the Festival Cat Show. The Stephenson kittens were Best *Longhair* Litter and Pair. The litter of seven Siamese by Proud Maxie and Lindale Simon Pie shown by Mrs. W. M. Ford, of Portishead, near Bristol, were 1st A.C. Litter, Best in Show, 1st A.V. Pair 2-9

months and winners of several other awards. Further, the Ashdown kit- tens were beaten in three classes by Mynddeep Impossibility, exhibited by Mrs. Hyams. Mynddeep Impossibility, by Avillion Button ex Avillion Celandine, is now in South Africa. Apolo- gies all round!

There are only seven Siamese hold- ing Championship status in Australia. Three of them are in New South Wales—Ch. Maiz-Mor Marmaduke, owned by Mrs. Corbett; Ch. Mystic Lady Cheela, owned by Mrs. Donmall; and Ch. Mystic Rapture, owned by Mrs. Abbott. The remaining four Champions are in Victoria; all belong to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hine, of Lara, who are naturally very proud of their quartette—Velvet Mask Delphine, Kaybee Clematis, Gladson Gridle and Causeway Cluna. They are all im- ports selected and sent out by Mrs. Ella B. Martin. Four champions in one season and only three shows in which to get their three Certificates is some going! Ch. Gladson Gridle was Best Exhibit at three successive shows.

Question put to members of the Country Questions team of the B.B.C. was: Why does a cat arch its back when it is frightened or alarmed? Maxwell Knight opined that the action was a display of force calcu- lated to frighten off the aggressor.

MICKEY

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CHRISTMAS CARDS of Siamese Cats and Kittens priced from 5d. each (including envelope).—Stamp for specimens to Raby, 3, Pine Walk, Surbiton, Surrey.

ELASTIC-NYLON HARNESS/COLLAR/LEAD Sets for cats 12s. 6d., featherweight Kitten sets 10s. All colours, smart, C.P.L. recommended.—Collier & Collier, 50 Hill Lane, Southampton.

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THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE, the monthly British Dog Magazine for dog owners and dog lovers everywhere. Fully illustrated and complete with informative features and instructive articles. Annual subscription 11s. (inc. postage) for twelve issues.—The Tail-Wagger Magazine, 356-360, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C. 1.

PEDIGREE FORMS for non-club members can be supplied at the rate of 2s. post free per dozen. Larger supplies at pro rata rates. Send order and remittance to **OUR CATS MAGAZINE**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, S.W. 9.

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For Sale

PERSIAN Kittens, BLUE-CREAM and BLUE Females, by Champion Baralan Boy Blue ex Bayhorse Sheena, born 11th August.—Mrs. Benbow, Little Hereford, Ludlow, Salop. Brimfield 263.

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PRIZE Pedigree Lavender BLUE Kittens, dam Danehurst Gilda, sire Idmiston Candytuft, born August, 1951.

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TWO BLUE Longhair Persian Kittens for Sale. Males, born 20th June, 1951, sire Cedric of Hadley, out of a daughter of Ch. Astra of Pensford.—Stapley, "Blue Boar," High Street, Rochester.

Homes Wanted

HOMES urgently wanted for delightful Tabby Queen (spayed) with enormous amber eyes, named Polly, also her Black daughter (also spayed), house-trained, will make delightful pets.—Please write Mrs. Oliver, c/o Mrs. Ayres, 304 Sandycroft Road, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

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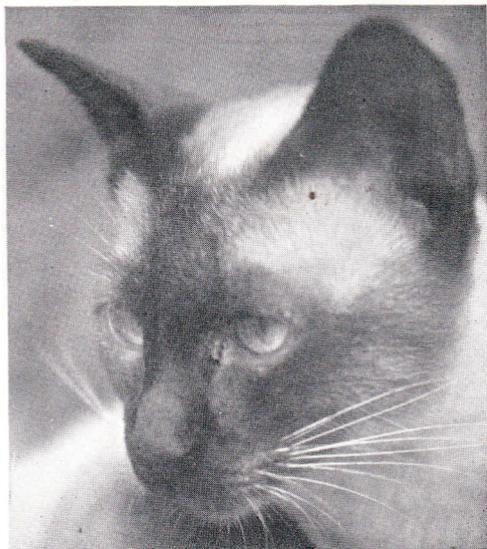
A FEW COPIES of **OUR CATS MAGAZINE** for the issue of May, 1949. Offers to **OUR CATS MAGAZINE**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W. 9.

PICTURE PAGE



GATHORNE GARSON at 6 months, Blue Longhair bred by Mrs. E. Chappell, of Cowley Peachey, Uxbridge, was second prize winner at the Blue Persian Society's Show.

CERBERUS BLUE MIST, owned by Mrs. Florence Wood, of Bexley, New South Wales, was a noteworthy winner at the Sydney Royal Easter Show this year. This young Blue Longhair was sired by the English import Stourbank Michele. Her eye colour is reported to be of unusual quality.



M. H. Glover

PROUD PETRONELLA (bred by Major Murrell) belongs to Miss E. H. Grant, of Auchterless, Aberdeenshire. Petronella was Best Shorthair at the Scottish Cat Club Show in Glasgow in 1949 and she holds many other awards, including one for eye shape and colour.





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