

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



Danny of Meadowmist

*Owned by Mrs. William Oelschlager of
Croydon, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., and photo-
graphed by the ace of cat photographers
Walter Chandoha.*

NOVEMBER 1952

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THE "COME-BACK" OF THE ABYSSINIANS - see page 7

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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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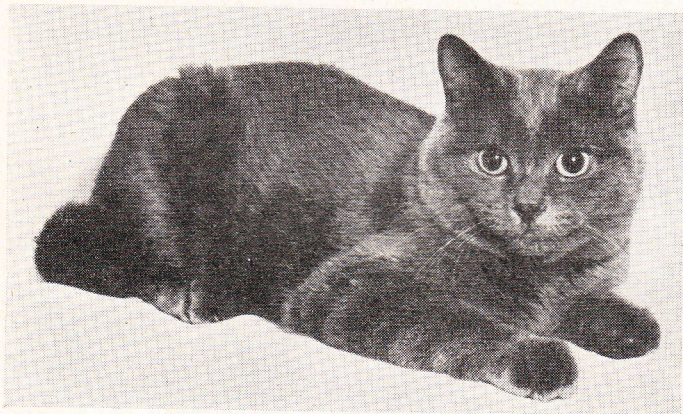
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CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

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MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



MISSION CITY BLUE PRINCE KAMA, Russian Blue Male
at 6 months by Triple Champion Dunloe Blue King de Casa
Gatos ex Double Champion Dunloe Blue Queen de Casa Gatos.
Owner is Mrs. Joseph Marshall, of San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A.



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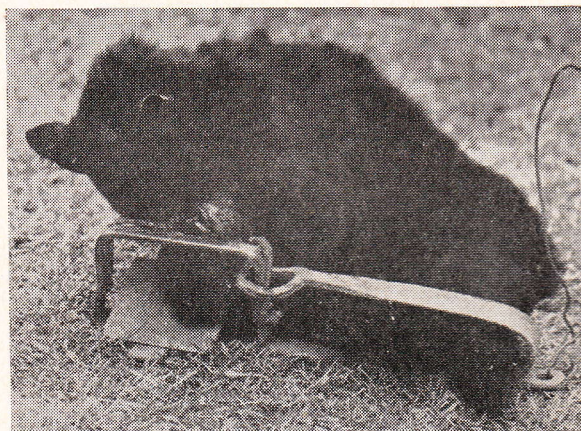
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Victim of the Cruel Gin

THE harrowing picture we print below was taken after R.S.P.C.A. Inspector Jackson, of Northallerton, had given the victim a humane end.

Two schoolboys found the unfortunate cat dragging the gin along. Unable to release him, they took him in a basket to the Inspector's house. The injured paw was septic and completely severed and the gangrenous state of the wound proved that the cat had been in the trap for several days.

The Inspector then set out to seek the



setter of the trap. During a period of less than six months, he had seen three cats and three dogs caught in gin traps that had been set for rabbits.

Inspector Jackson's experience and this thought-compelling picture surely prove the need for the abolition of the gin, a policy long advocated by the R.S.P.C.A. and other humane societies. It is already an offence to set spring traps in the open for the purpose of catching rabbits. They may still be set in burrows (just where cats and dogs will naturally investigate) and the person setting them or causing them to be set must see that they are inspected at least once every day between sunrise and sunset.

We are indebted to the Editor of "Animal World," the official journal of the R.S.P.C.A., for permission to publish the photograph and the facts concerning it.

Let's go to a Show

We urge our 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 and exhibitors. Brief details of the show programme for the 1952-53 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.

1952	Promoted by	Venue
3 December	... *National Cat Club ... (See displayed advertisement in this issue)	London
13 December	Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club ...	Edinburgh
1953		
9 January ...	... *Notts. and Derby Cat Club ...	Derby
24 January ...	... *Lancs. and North-Western Counties Cat Club ... (See displayed advertisement in this issue)	Manchester
6 February ...	... *Southern Counties Cat Club ...	London
14 February ...	Yorkshire County Cat Club ...	Leeds

* Denotes Show with Championship status.

Walled-in Cats

By SIDNEY DENHAM

IF you visited the exhibition of "Cats Through the Ages" which I helped to arrange at the Festival for Cats at the Royal Horticultural Hall in 1951, you may have seen the mummified body of a cat found during alterations to a house in the Tower of London in 1950. The cat was found lying against a joint under the floor of an upper room and had probably been there for between 200 and 250 years. Possibly you thought the exhibit which was lent by the Department of Environmental Archaeology, London University, a bit "gruesome" and passed on. But in fact it was of great interest in relation to the history of the cat in England.

These mummified or dried cats have been found in old buildings from time to time. In a paper published in "Man," a monthly record of anthropological science published by the Royal Anthropological Institute, Margaret M. Howard, F.Z.S., has given an account of all the recorded cases of mummified cats and put forward theories of how the cats came to be "walled in."

Three theories are put forward to explain how each of the twenty-five cats recorded may have come to be walled-in. In some cases it seems likely the cat was accidentally walled in. We read occasionally in these days of cats or kittens getting into inaccessible spots in houses under construction or repair and being rescued only with the greatest difficulty. There must have been many others through the centuries in which the cries of the cat were not heard. The preservation of the body might be explained by the conditions.

But in a number of cases it is clear the cats were deliberately walled-in, happily not alive, but after crude preservation, either as "foundation sacrifices" or as "vermin scarers." It is suggested that in early times in Britain the cat was valued almost entirely as a destroyer of vermin and from this would develop quite naturally in a superstitious age the idea that a preserved cat would protect a building from rats.

This theory probably explains the examples of cats found in a realistic, posed attitude. For instance, in a show case at the works of a Birmingham firm is a cat with open jaws and extended claws found in a small cavity at Hay Hall. The cat was facing a bird and it was clear that it could not have entered the cavity accidentally. Hay Hall was built in the 14th century.

Arranged as Tableaux

A firm of hop merchants in Southwark have a cat with two rats found under 16th century woodwork in a house in Borough High Street. The cat holds one rat in its mouth and the other under its forefeet and it is clear this was no natural catastrophe—the three animals could not have died together. The tableau was arranged as a vermin scarer.

A similar tableau was found in Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. A cat with a mouse in its mouth was found in a house in Tewkesbury and a cat bending over a large rat is to be seen in Salisbury Museum. An interesting example in this class is in the Peterborough Museum. A mummified cat was found pegged down in the thatch of a cottage pulled down in 1890 with the rat apparently flying from it a few inches away. We may guess that many other examples of these

"vermin scarers" in thatch have been destroyed without those replacing the thatch realising their significance or by natural causes due to inefficient preservation.

The idea of a "building sacrifice" is very ancient and in some instances in ancient times, the sacrifice was human. Our custom of placing coins and so on in the foundation stone of buildings to-day is probably a continuation of this tradition. The idea behind the building sacrifice with primitive people was to propitiate the devil and probably animals were substituted for human beings in the hope that they would deceive him. In addition to foundation sacrifices there were "treetop" sacrifices to propitiate the forest gods. The cat's reputed magical qualities probably made it favoured as a foundation sacrifice, although I have read of dogs being buried under doorsteps in Germany as "foundation sacrifices" to guard against evil entering the house.

Superstitious Masons

The examples of walled in cats quoted in this category include the cat from the Tower of London; a cat found when blitz repairs were made to the church of St. Michael Royal, College Hill, London, in a passage that had not been opened since 1691; and a cat found in a wall in Gibraltar built about 1879.

This last case is interesting as showing that the superstition, at least in some parts of the world, has survived to comparatively modern times. Apparently Spanish masons believe a walled-in cat brings luck to a new building. The cat now in Gibraltar Museum seems to have been the pet of the family who would certainly have rather gone without their wall than have lost their cat if they had known the cause of its disappearance.

Lest we should think such things have happened in modern times only in other countries, Margaret Howard quotes an example from Cornwall in 1890. The builders staged a "sit down strike" until

they were permitted to make their building sacrifice and the unfortunate man who wanted his house finished had eventually to agree provided no cruelty was involved. In this instance the sacrifice demanded was a hare, but the principle was the same.

The author concludes that, generally speaking, the cases of foundation sacrifices are later than those of the vermin scarers. Other interesting examples of these cats can be seen in the Newport Museum, Sir John Soane's Museum, Lincoln's Inn Fields, the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. The study of them throws interesting light on the history of the relations between cats and men in Britain.

Renewal time will be round again for many of our subscribers during the next few weeks. Will they please help us to save office work by renewing promptly on receipt of the first reminder?

WILL YOU PLEASE HELP

BY

1. Recommending **OUR CATS** to your friends at home and overseas.
2. Renewing your subscription on the first application. Tell us should you not be able for any reason to renew.
3. Using our advertisement pages as much as possible.
4. Sending us good pictures and news items from local papers.
5. Providing names and addresses of customers and cat-loving friends whom you would like to receive a specimen copy of **OUR CATS**. This information will be treated in strictest confidence.

A page for the proletarian puss No. 29



Ronald W. Weston

PUZZLE, FIND PUSS !

Odd man out in this clever canine group is Kandy, a kitten who was introduced into her collection of pets by Mrs. Jean Jensen when Kandy was only two weeks' old. One of the dachshunds mothered the kitten and fed her. Now kitten and dogs eat, sleep and play together at their Welling, Kent, home. With Kandy in this picture are Paula, Sabu and Lorna (back row) and Asta and Jennifer (front row).

A Record of Service to Animals

I HAVE been browsing through a very interesting little book of 134 pages—a book that is truly a record of stewardship in the cause of animal welfare. It is the 54th Annual Report for 1951 of Our Dumb Friends' League and The Blue Cross.

The urgent need for animal welfare in this country is underlined by the fact that during 1951, the League gave help to 222,251 animals, including 142,555 cats. The League believes that the encouragement of kindness to animals through education has more lasting results than prosecutions, which are undertaken only when no other course is considered to be effective. Wanton cruelty by children could be effectively discouraged if education authorities throughout the country would arrange compulsory lessons on animal welfare.

The Report reveals that the League re-opened with the President of the Board of Trade its suggestion that the British Government should adopt the Canadian law by which all fur articles should bear a label designating the origin. Those made from a seal would bear the label "seal" and those from the domestic cat the label "cat." The Board of Trade would not agree.

In reply to a letter from the League, the Chancellor of the Exchequer intimated that the licensing of cats was not

a matter, primarily, for the Treasury. He added that the collection of tax would be difficult.

An exhaustive enquiry took place in North London into the disappearance of a number of cats. Whilst no definite trace of the animals was ever found it is assumed that the enquiries had some effect as there were no further reports of loss.

Two boys were seen to tie a firework to a cat's tail. Following the explosion the terrified animal leaped into the air and was dead on reaching the ground. The only witness refused to give evidence at Court so it was only possible to warn the boys in no uncertain manner.

The Report believes that the cat, of all animals, is often the most neglected. The police in the Customs House district of East London brought in 32 blind cats and 17 with severed limbs. Truly, a dreadful state of things. In Camden Town, an urgent telephone call took the staff of the League to a stall in a market where they found a cat having her kittens on a bed of old cabbage leaves. The little mother had been abandoned when the stall owner left the district.

The accounts which accompany the Report tell a story. More funds are badly needed for all aspects of the League's work.

A.E.C.

This is worth thinking about

A Subscription to this Magazine makes the ideal present for a cat loving relative or friend for Christmas, a birthday or any other occasion. It's a gift that lasts the whole year through.

We shall be pleased to send OUR CATS to any part of the world and, if desired, to enclose your personal greeting or message to the recipient.

Our Subscription rate is 17s. 6d. (which includes postage) for twelve monthly issues. Readers in America should remit Three Dollars (by check or bills) and those on the Continent can obtain an International Money Order through their local post office. The address for subscriptions is OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

The Abyssinian "Come-back"

ONE of the features of the post-war period in the Cat Fancy has been the remarkable progress of the Abyssinians. Indeed, it now seems something more than a "come-back" and the number of people owning cats of this breed is probably greater than ever before.

At the end of the war, Mr. Harold Basnett, the Secretary of the Abyssinian Cat Club, estimated that there were

three years. It is still increasing. One reason why most Abyssinian owners join the Club is perhaps the unique "News Letter," a modestly produced quarterly which has now for nearly two years given news of "Abys" and their owners all over the world and enabled views to be exchanged.

What are the reasons for this steadily increasing popularity of the Abyssinian? The breed has not the obvious appeal to the eye of the Siamese and Abyssinians



Young Abyssinian male FRENHAM BONHAKI, owned by Mrs. Vaughan-Olerichs, shows the grace and "jungleness" of the breed.

only about a dozen Abyssinians in the country. Now there are certainly one hundred and probably more, despite the fact that a number have been exported to the United States, France and Denmark.

The size of the classes for Abyssinians in the leading shows has increased steadily and membership of the Abyssinian Cat Club has, I understand, doubled and then doubled again during the last two or

do not have such large litters. There may be a certain appeal to breeders with ambitions in meeting the challenge represented by a "perfect" Abyssinian which has not yet been seen, although three or four times in the last two years Abyssinians have been "Best in Show."

The Abyssinian must have some subtle and even mystical appeal appreciated only by their owners. Again and again I have had letters from new owners

saying, in only slightly different words, "I always thought there could never be another cat as interesting and beautiful as a Siamese but now I have an Abyssinian . . ." and there follows a rhapsody on their charm, their strange combination of good manners and "jungleness," their gift for companionship and so on.

The comparison with the Siamese is, I suppose, inevitable but also regrettable. You do not have to dislike Siamese to appreciate Abyssinians or vice versa and, in fact, in a number of households Abyssinians and Siamese live together, equally appreciated by their owners, although not always by each other.

Curiously, the Abyssinian always seems to be the "boss." For a breed which is so demonstratively affectionate with human beings, it is remarkably handy with its paws in keeping in order lesser breeds which, somehow, the law allows and knows how to deal with dogs. Perhaps it is a sense of superiority based on the claim that the Abyssinian represents the nearest approach we have to-day to the cats which the ancient Egyptians made near-gods, and is certainly descended from them.

A Subtle Appeal

The similarity in type of the Abyssinian and the cat of the Egypt of the Pharaohs is strikingly demonstrated when an "Aby." sits—as it often does—in the same pose as the many bronze cats which have come down to us. Ida Mellen remarks that the markings on the head of the Abyssinian unmistakably show its African ancestry.

As one who owns an "Aby," I would not claim that they are the "best" breed or anything so ridiculous. Arguments about the merits of the different breeds are interesting but rather sterile, for inevitably it must be a matter of personal preference, like the "best" brand of cigarettes. I would claim no more than that Abyssinians have a subtle aesthetic appeal, probably only fully appreciated

after much observation of them and that for affection and companionship every owner swears there is no cat like their own "Aby!"

The grace of the Abyssinian's appearance may explain why it seems to make a special appeal to musicians and artists. Like Siamese, Abyssinians are inclined to be "characters," developing ways of their own which vary from using the normal household plumbing to insisting on bathing with their owner unless firmly shut out. But in temperament, in their walk and general character they are quite different from Siamese, rather less demanding and certainly less noisy.

Temptation to Export

The aim of breeders is to eliminate any white from the coat and all markings while at the same time getting a ticked coat in which the ruddy colour is strong and preserving the type. Different judges emphasise various faults, but in general, the Abyssinian that comes close to perfection judged by the Standard of Points is sufficiently rare to present no difficulty in picking it out. The average standard has greatly improved in the last few years and may be expected to improve still further in the near future. One difficulty facing breeders in Britain is the very strong demand for "good" Abyssinians from abroad, where the attractions of the breed are becoming known in an increasing number of countries.

The Abyssinian Cat Club has many members in the U.S.A., France, Denmark and elsewhere. The temptation to export is naturally great although, at the present stage, keeping the best cats at home would probably be to the benefit of the breed until the standard is more firmly established.

R.A.S.

Next Month!

An issue you will enjoy from cover to cover to mark the completion of our fourth year of publication.

Two Judges to Travel

Miss Kathleen Yorke to America — Mrs. Joan Thompson to Australia and New Zealand

IT is splendid news indeed that two more English judges have accepted invitations to officiate at overseas cat shows. Our two ambassadors are Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, and Mrs. Joan Thompson, who requires no introduction to home and overseas readers of this Magazine, which she has served so ably and loyally as a contributor since our first issue in January 1949.



Miss Kathleen Yorke

National Siamese Cat Club and Western Tabby and Tortie Club, for which the officiating judge will be Mrs. Francis Herms.

Miss Yorke will later judge at Kansas City on the occasion of the annual show of the Mo-Kan Cat Club on 3rd and 4th January.

A Record Trip

Mrs. Thompson's assignment is a breath-taking affair and one without parallel in the history of the Cat Fancy since it involves sea and air journeys of well over 25,000 miles. At the invitation of the Cat Fanciers' Association of New South Wales, she will arrive in Sydney

Miss Yorke leaves by air for America after the National Cat Club Show. Her first judging assignment will be at the 14th Annual All Breed Show of the Garden State Cat Club of New Jersey. This fixture, one of America's biggest, takes place on 9th and 10th December in Newark, New Jersey, and its management is in the experienced hands of Miss Elsie G. Hydon. With the Show are the associated exhibitions of the Solid Color Club of the East,



Mrs. Joan Thompson

about the middle of next May to judge at their 1953 Championship Show, which will be held during the run of the famous annual Sheep Show. She may later fly to Melbourne to judge.

After a round of official and social visits in Australia, Mrs. Thompson will fly to Auckland, New Zealand, where she will judge at the local Championship Show organised by Mr. R. Marshall, the enthusiastic Hon. Secretary of the New Zealand Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. In July she will leave New Zealand on a ship scheduled to bring her home to England by the middle of August, 1953.

Truly, it can be said that our friends overseas—particularly those “down under”—have their eyes fixed on the broader horizon. Such enterprise and initiative betokens well for the future of our respective Fancies and the journeyings of our two popular ambassadors cannot fail to strengthen the ties of friendship and common interest among cat lovers all over the world. We send our good wishes to all concerned.

THE LANCASHIRE & NORTH-WESTERN COUNTIES CAT CLUB

FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

will be held at the
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Classes for all breeds · New members welcomed
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Schedules and information from Hon. Secretary :

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Meet Canasta

Only a Dummy - but he's a Cute Cat

WHO is the best-known and most widely-travelled cat in the world? Who is the most talkative cat? What cat never eats, drinks, sleeps or catches mice?

Surely there can only be one contender for these titles of distinction? You are right—it is Canasta, the talking cat creation of Roger Carne, the ventriloquist.

Canasta needs no introduction to thousands of televisioners and theatre-goers on both sides of the Atlantic. And only a few weeks ago he made thousands of new friends on the other side of the world when he entertained our lads in Korea as a member of Ted Ray's touring party. Canasta is a pedigreed ventriloquial cat with a pinky grey fur coat, white paws, long tail, big black eyes, white face complete with whiskers and a pink nose. Hardly a candidate for G. C. registration but nevertheless a creditable member of the feline fraternity!

When we interviewed Roger Carne just prior to his long journey to the East, he told us he had always been interested in cats. Indeed, he finds himself spending a little time with every cat he encounters, studying its mannerisms and practising them through the medium of Canasta.

"Only the other day," he said, rather wistfully, "I stopped to talk to a cat in someone's front garden. I was then busy working on a new script for television. The conversation we had was rather one-sided and I couldn't help thinking what a pity it was the cat couldn't talk. Maybe he could have given me a good idea or two for a script or told me what he really thinks about humans."

Mr. Carne explained that much as he would like to have one, he cannot keep a real live puss because he travels so far

and often. Canasta, of course, goes with him everywhere. When they went to New York earlier this year, they met with an amusing experience when they were passing through the Customs at Liverpool. "You have a cat with you, haven't you, Mr. Carne?" enquired the official. "That is correct." "Well, you can't take it to the cabin." "But this is a talking cat," protested Mr. Carne.

"I don't care if it sings like Bing Crosby. It will have to be kept in the kennels during the crossing."

When Mr. Carne explained it was a ventriloquial cat, it only made matters worse and it was only when he produced photographs of Canasta that the obdurate official weakened and allowed the pair to share a cabin.



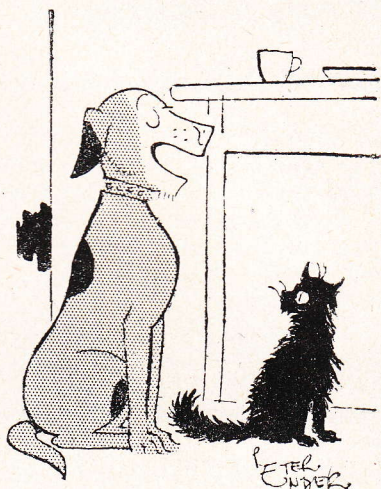
F. W. Fewster

**Canasta waits for his cue
- from Roger Carne.**

We published an article in the July issue of OUR CATS under the title "Look Out for the Man with the Sack." "Reading this," continued Mr. Carne, "reminded me of an amusing encounter with an arm of the law when I was returning home after doing cabaret in the West End. It was early morning when a policeman stopped me and asked 'What have you got in the bag?'"

'A cat,' I replied and having a clear conscience I could not resist doing a few cat calls which appeared to emerge from within the bag. 'Open it up,' said the officer, flashing his torch. This I did and Canasta never moved an inch, except to wink an eyelid when the constable pulled a string. That let the cat out of the bag and we both enjoyed a good laugh."

Yes, it must be great fun sharing life with such a cute character as Canasta. Long may he reign to bring pleasure to young and old alike.



"How many more lives do you Persians expect?"

Reproduced from the London "Evening Standard."

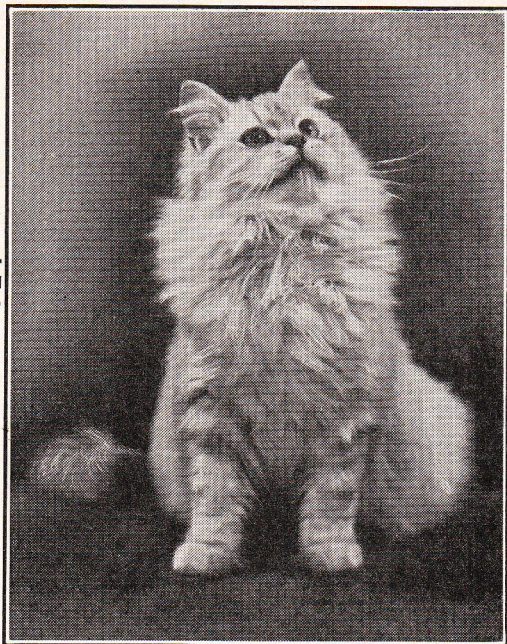


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I give the tablets to all my cats but Iris is the one who gets most because, each time anyone visits me, she will show them the drawer where I keep the Kit-zyme and they have to give her one!

Iris is also bright and never ill and as I believe this is due to your tablets, I tell all my cat friends about them."

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Literature Free on Request

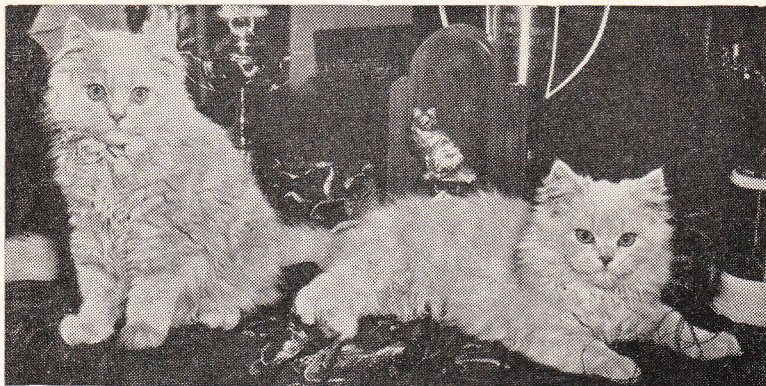
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will be held on

Wednesday, 3rd December, 1952

at the

**HORTICULTURAL (OLD) HALL
VINCENT SQUARE, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1**

Admission 1 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. 3/- Children 1/6

Refreshments and Licensed Bar all day

**IF YOU
CANNOT
ATTEND**

→ Send for a Catalogue (price 2/10 or 4/- marked with Show results). 75 cents for America

Show Manager : **MRS. L. SPEIRS, WATER HYTHE,
THE GREEN, HAMPTON COURT, SURREY**

Quiz!

We introduce a new feature which we hope our readers will find interesting and helpful. If you have a question to ask which can be answered briefly, we shall be pleased to submit it to our panel of quiz experts.

What is canker and how can it be cured?

Canker is an ulceration of the ear caused by a parasite. The parasite is the mange mite which, by burrowing, causes severe irritation of the sensitive lining of the cat's outer ear. Unfortunately, many owners neglect the ears until the trouble becomes deep-seated. There need be no canker if the ears are cleaned and dusted with a suitable canker powder once a week. A number of efficient proprietary remedies can be purchased at pet shops. One well-known manufacturer of animal medicines produces one cure in powder form and another as a liquid. When canker is definitely confirmed, the liquid cure is much more suitable. The quickest cure is achieved by Rotenone in oil, but, although this is known in England, it is not generally available. When it is, half the labour which canker causes the cat owner will disappear.

When was the first cat show held in this country?

It is almost certain that the first cat show held in England was the result of a suggestion made by Harrison Weir to Mr. Wilkinson, the Manager of the Crystal Palace. The show was actually held at the Crystal Palace on July 16th, 1871. It was well advertised in London and posters showing a large head of a black cat were widely distributed. There were three judges, Harrison Weir, John Weir (his brother) and the

Rev. J. Macdona. One of the winners was Harrison Weir's blue Tabby, The Old Lady, who was fourteen at the time. For many years after this win her owner wore on his watch chain the silver bell that The Old Lady had worn round her neck at the Palace.

Is it true that injections of penicillin will cure feline infectious enteritis?

Unfortunately, it is quite untrue that infectious enteritis can be cured by penicillin. In fact, there is no specific for the cure of this virus disease. Where penicillin can help is with the complications which frequently occur in cats suffering from this most deadly of all cat diseases. The best cure for infectious enteritis is prevention by immunisation. Both the American vaccines—Lederle and Pitman-Moores bio. No. 806—produce a very high degree of immunity, but they are not easily obtained in this country. Friends in America, if you have them, can send you either of these vaccines as a present. There must be two injections each of 2 cc.s at an interval of seven to ten days, and immunity is achieved about three weeks after the first injection.

We have learned recently that supplies of f.i.e. vaccine, prepared in the Wellcome Research Laboratories, are available to members of the veterinary profession. Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. advise that owners who are interested in having their cats

vaccinated should get in touch with their veterinary surgeons.

Perhaps the best of the antibiotics against secondary invaders, when the disease occurs, is streptomycin once a day; the dose varying from 0.1 to 0.2 gm. according to the size of the cat. The vet. can help when there are complications, you yourself can help by careful nursing, but the cat alone can master the virus.

What results can I expect when I mate my Longhaired Blue-Cream female?

The answer to this question is perfectly simple. You can expect kittens of any colour now in existence according to the stud you use. There are, however, only two normal matings for a Longhaired Blue-Cream, and the stud chosen is nearly always either a Blue or a Cream. One cat you will not find in the litter. That one is a Blue-Cream male, for this creature is as rare as a Tortie male. They have appeared occasionally, but must be regarded as freaks of Nature, and one expects them to be sterile. If you mate your female to a Blue male, you can expect Blue-Cream females, Blue males and Cream males, but you will not find any Cream females. It is not possible to say how many kittens of each colour will be found in a litter of six. If you were dealing with a large number of litters, you might find that there were twice as many Blue-Cream females as either Cream or Blue males.

If you want Cream females, you must mate to a Cream stud. The expectation is then that the litter will contain Blue-Cream females, Blue males, and Creams, both males and females. There might not be a Cream female, but one is almost certain to turn up

from this mating when there are several female kittens.

Should cats be given vegetables to eat?

The cat is essentially a flesh eater, but in its wild state it ate more than the actual flesh of its prey. The viscera and all they contained were undoubtedly devoured, and that almost certainly meant that some vegetable food was eaten. As a result of domestication cats' insides have grown accustomed to an unnatural diet, but there is probably a strong argument for adding some green vegetables to the diet. No one seems to know accurately the cat's need of vitamin C, but, to make quite sure, add some cooked spinach or its purée to the food several times a week. Green vegetables also contain vitamin A. Other vegetables can be neglected, although cereal in the form of wholemeal bread should form part of the daily diet.



DUNLOE VANYA OF FLOMAR, Russian Blue male imported by Mrs. M. E. Pusey and Mrs. F. H. Gates of Miami, Florida. Vanya is a C.F.A. Champion in America, winning his honour at only two show appearances.



Tailpieces

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



COOEE, the white cat pet belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Reason, of Wiggington, Bucks, fought off a fox that attacked her.

Little eight-year-old Susan Schaller brought her marmalade cat into a shoe repairer's, produced a felt bootee she had fitted to an injured paw and asked if a leather sole could be made for it. Although the shop was full, the shoeman gave the child his personal attention and promised that the sole would be made.

Fluffy and Toby, the two resident cats of a Heaton dry cleaning works which caught fire, owe their lives to the brave action of Mrs. Joan Cabby, who dashed into the building to rescue the cats at the height of the blaze. With a coat over her head, Mrs. Cabby made two perilous journeys, first to rescue Fluffy and then to find Toby. She has been awarded the Silver Medal of Our Dumb Friends' League.

A red Manx cat found roaming the streets of Naples was identified as A.W.O.L. ("absent without official leave") from the British mine-sweeper "Manxman" and sentenced to be flown back immediately to his ship. The "Manxman's" mascot apparently slipped ashore when the vessel visited Naples. A plaintive radio message had gone out to the British Consul at Naples: "Please find our cat." An appeal to Neapolitans to help in the search brought the desired result for the errant puss was found by a lady while he was enjoying the sights of the city from one of the hills overlooking the bay.

A middle-aged woman of Thundersley, Essex, promised the Southend County Bench she would reduce the number of cats at her house from 20 to 4. She hopes to find homes for 16, and was given a month in which to fulfil her promise. She was summoned under the Nuisance Section of the Public Health Act 1936 for failing to comply with a notice requiring her to reduce the number of her pets.



Photograph by Brian Ingram

The door illustrated above belongs to a cottage at Lee, North Devon, occupied by Charlotte, The Lady Robinson. The quaint cat-like figures were intended to frighten away

Watch the birdie, kittens!

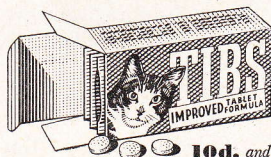
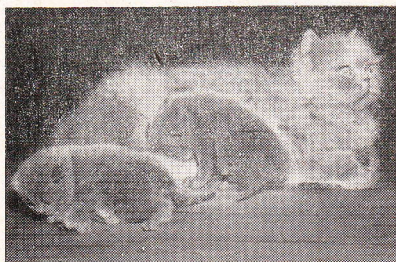
ROOKERY NOOK CAROL, prize-winning Blue Persian, wants her new family to make a good photo. With her mistress, Miss C. I. Davidson, she has just received the Tibs Reporter at the Rookery Nook Dog Bureau, Cranleigh, Surrey.



Here's the proud mama with her owner and breeder. Miss Davidson numbers many distinguished people among her patrons, including the late Queen of Norway.

The Rookery Nook strain, famous for beautiful copper eyes and pale silky coat, can look forward to more successes with these little champions-to-be!

LIKE so many successful breeders, Miss Davidson has proved that 'one Tibs a day' makes all the difference. And now Tibs are in handy tablet form and better than ever. They have the liver flavour cats love, with all the vitamins of liver plus extra Vitamins A and B.



10d. and 2/-

Famous breeders say:

TIBS KEEP CATS KITTENISH

would-be intruders and it was considered very bad luck to force an entrance against them. They had very realistic eyes at one time which reflected the light when it was thrown on the door. The cottage was built over 400 years ago and is believed to have been used by smugglers who brought up silks and wines from small boats landing at night in the nearby Lee Bay.

According to a *Sunday Express* correspondent, the latest fashion in Paris is the pussycat nose. It involves an operation costing £100 to £150 to remove a small piece of cartilage from the tip of the nose. The idea was introduced by Jacqueline Joubert, television announcer, who found that under the cameras the two dimples on her nose looked like tiny lines. Now Jacqueline is back on the screen with her re-dimpled nose and her friends call her "Minet," pet name for a cat. The "Minet" operation is said to be gaining popularity in Paris.

During the course of one of his "Can I come in?" radio programmes, Wilfred Pickles visited the Pets' Cemetery in Hyde Park, a corner so little known to the general public. He made special mention of the grave of Ginger Blithe, a cat who lived to the fine old age of 24 years, 5 months. The headstone carries the inscription "His little life was rounded by a sleep"—from Shakespeare, I believe.

A young wife told Mr. Justice Wallington in the Divorce Court that her husband had broken her kitten's back and then drowned it. She was granted a decree nisi on the ground of cruelty.

It all happened under the heavenly blue of a Neapolitan sky. Giuseppe Aponte looked up to admire the beauties of nature. A cat fell from a third floor window and landed on his face. Poor Giuseppe was taken to hospital with scratches and an altered outlook.

Seven people escaped down a smoke-filled staircase when fire swept through two flats over a Kilburn cafe. Mrs. Maria Bass, who had left her first floor flat safely with her husband and family of three, ran back to rescue her dog and two cats. She was overcome by smoke and was dragged out to safety by firemen. The cats were saved but the poor dog died.

Police in the Chelsea district are on the lookout for a cat slasher. The person is thought to be a maniac for seven black and white cats have been slashed in seven days. Five had to be put down and two survived after treatment. Animal lovers in the area have been warned to keep their pets indoors as much as possible. An official of the Dumb Friends' League said that during his 18 years' experience, he had never met such an appalling case of cruelty.

A 13-year-old Acton boy was accused at the local Juvenile Court of ill-treating a cat by striking it with an iron bar. He was remanded in custody for a probation and medical report. A veterinary surgeon said the cat had recovered but it had been in great pain and had to have a splint on one of its hind legs. The boy's father told the bench he was ashamed of his son's action.

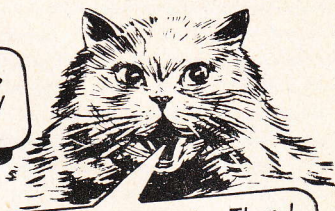
An advertisement of a well-known product which is now appearing in the daily press suggests it is a national custom to "put the cat out" at night. A little line drawing shows puss actually being put out on a cold night with the snow falling all around! I have sent a protest to the makers of the product, hoping they will tell their copy-writer to drop this overworked and undesirable theme.

Mr. G. Dugdale, 45 Nevern Square, S.W.5, has taken over the secretarial duties of the Crystal Cat Club. I have no news yet regarding the Club's show plans for 1953.

MICKEY



Do tell me, Queenie,
how you got your lovely
curves!



I used to be as skinny as you, my dear! Then I
was given a wise diet of WILES CAT FOOD.
It's really delicious, vitamin-rich and full of
goodness—just look at me now!

It's the best-liked food in the cat world! And so full
of vitamins that it gives Puss new beauty, health and
vigour. Only 10½d. per 8-oz tin, or 1/4d. per 1-lb.
jar (hermetically sealed). Look for the name on
the tin.



WILES cat food

WILES, Woodmansey, Beverley, Yorks.

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SIAMESE DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size 1½" high × 1¼" wide)

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

MANX DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size 1" high × 1¼" 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.

"He's in seventh heaven!"

Bo'sun approves Palma

FROM Gibraltar we sailed across the bay to the Spanish town of Algeciras. As soon as we were properly moored we bundled Bo'sun in the dinghy and went off on a picnic. It was Bo'sun's first shore leave in a number of weeks.

We found a quiet little spot in the hills and he had a wonderful romp over the sands and through the trees.

A few days here and we set sail for the Mediterranean. Wonderful weather, beautifully coloured waters and fresh winds were with us for two days and three nights at sea. On this trip Bo'sun had the thrill of seeing a flying fish land on our deck. At first he was a bit perturbed to discover one of his flying friends without feathers. He amused himself with it for a little while, but wouldn't eat it when cooked.

Pally with Porpoise

But one of the biggest thrills he had was when a school of some hundred or more porpoise came playing and frisking about the ship. His eyes nearly popped out of his head and the first reaction seemed one of terror. Gradually he quieted down, then growled and hissed at them, but when they took no notice, he calmed down, became most curious and wouldn't leave the bulwark rail until they had all disappeared. There was one moment when he gave every indication of hopping on the back of one when it surfaced, which frightened me not a little. Now, when they come along, we call Bo'sun immediately and he enjoys their playfulness as much as we do.

The third day out from Gibraltar, the wind died down and as we do not care to use the engine, unless absolutely necessary, we went into a little harbour called Cabo de Palos on the Spanish mainland.

What a lovely spot! We had hardly dropped our anchor when we were boarded by a reception committee.

In these little out-of-the-way harbours, yachts are a novelty and the people are always very enthusiastic and friendly. We were invited ashore to dinner by a charming Spanish woman and Bo'sun was included. A most pleasant evening ensued and we enjoyed a delicious dinner cooked in the true Spanish style.

Our hosts were most solicitous of Bo'sun, trying him with several kinds of fish before they decided which he liked best—and then he was supplied with far more than he could possibly eat. They were intrigued with the idea of a cat on a lead and so well-mannered that he could be taken out to dinner in the best of company.

Two days we spent in this charming spot swimming and picnicking with our friends. On the third day the wind was such that despite our enjoyment, we felt we must take advantage of what the gods provided. With a commanding wind we set sail again, but at night fall the wind died down so we decided to stop at Alicanti. As we wished to leave at dawn (the wind is usually at its best then) there was no shore leave for any of us. The sun was peeping over the horizon when we left this attractive anchorage.

Food and Fun

We sailed all day and night and arrived in Palma, Majorca, at twilight the following day.

Majorca is one of many islands in the Balearic group approximately 500 miles into the Mediterranean from Gibraltar. It's a heavenly spot and the Yacht Club is one of the best we've visited in our travels. The ship is moored stern on to the quay where it is possible to just hop

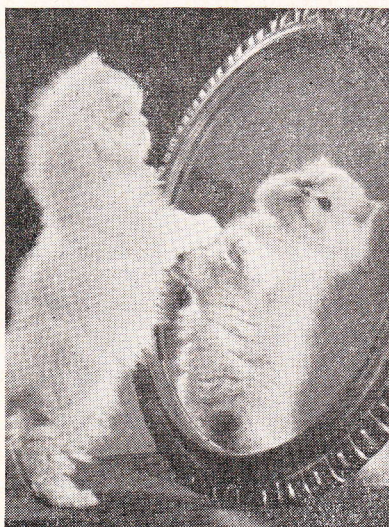
*Read
this
remarkable
testimonial
sent
to the
Press!*

I shall be once more
Country.—A. E. VIZE (Mrs.).
EXPORTING KITTENS
I FEEL sure that the following information
will be of interest to readers who export
kittens to America.
Our Morris Lindex, which was silver cup
winner at the recent Olympia show and which
was subsequently sold to Miss Rand, of
U.S.A., was within 24 hours of the landing,
taken to the New York cat show, where he
won his first championship award and rosette.
We think great credit should be given to
Messrs. Spratt's, who must have looked after
Lindex marvellously for him to have arrived
in such good condition as to be able to win
honours so soon after his journey.
M. W. RICHARDSON

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ashore. In a few steps one is on the veranda of the Club.

Here, under the stars, are tables where the members eat and drink. And for the benefit of visiting yachtsmen, a table is placed about six feet from each yacht moored for its exclusive use. It's like stepping into one's own dining room. Dinner is served outside until long after midnight and there is much night life, dancing and gaiety. More, in fact, than we can cope with!

Needless to say, Bo'sun has made a friend of the waiters and stewards and

receives much in the way of 'titbits to please his over-sensitive palate.

But the variety of food isn't Bo'sun's only enjoyment here in Palma. Actually, he's in seventh heaven. There is limitless space for him to run about and play—all far from traffic and we have no qualms about letting him out on his own. He never takes advantage of his liberty, is never out of ear-shot and always comes back aboard immediately when called.

I never fail to give him a little choice bit—a Kitzyme, or a little bite of cake—as a reward for his obedience.

(To be continued)

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

DURING September and October the Ilford Gallery in High Holborn have had an exhibition of "Portraits of Cats" by Mr. R. G. Fennah, F.R.P.S., which attracted many cat lovers in London and elsewhere. Mr. Fennah has used his great technical skill as a photographer and talent as an artist to display the beauties of pedigree cats. All the popular breeds and some of the not-so-well-known, are represented in his considerable gallery of portraits and if one regrets that Mr. Fennah was unable to use colour, one must admire the subtlety with which he has used monochrome.

The exhibition is of portraits of cats, and the photographs are indeed portraits, with none of the "cleverness" one sees in so many "action pictures" of cats. These portraits are the equivalent of the ancestral portraits in our ancient houses, catching a likeness, and portraying it with dignity. If the limitation of the object of the photographs means that the graceful movements of the sitters are not shown, it also means it has been possible to portray the texture of their fur with extraordinary accuracy. Mr. Fennah has obviously been at pains to study the "show points" of his sitters and to choose the pose that best demonstrated them.

It is unfortunate that Messrs. Ilford were able to give only two months to this fine exhibition. But perhaps some show manager next year—willing to risk the charge of commercialism!—will be able to persuade Mr. Fennah to lend the photographs for exhibition at one of the Fancy's shows, where they would certainly be an attraction.

D.S.T.

MUCH TOO RISKY!

This is the considered opinion of all the Insurance Offices transacting the more orthodox types of business regarding the insurance of **CATS**.

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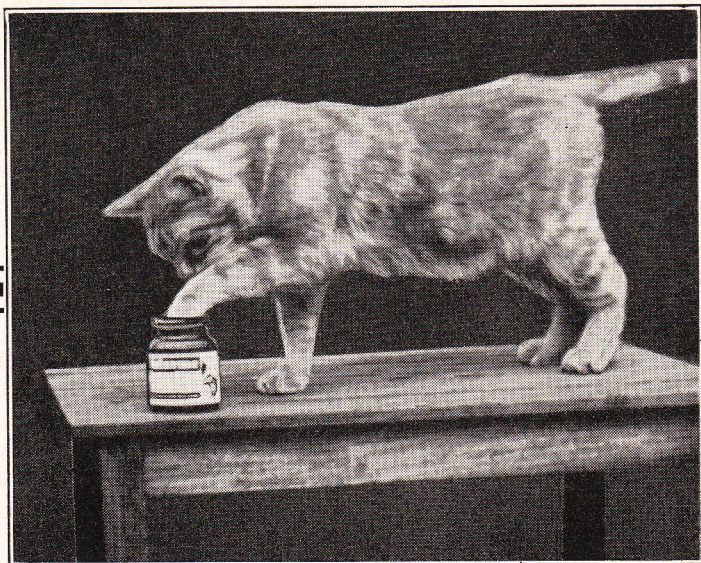
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B R U I N helping himself!

MRS. NORAH HILLS of 6 Cedar Lawn Avenue, Barnet, Herts., writes :—

"I thought perhaps you might be interested to see the enclosed photo of six-year old Bruin, one of my ginger cats, trying to get a Kit-zyme tablet out of the bottle.

Both my cats have been having these tablets for a long time now, as unfortunately they suffer from Eczema, and they have derived great benefit from them.

Bruin also suffered from abscesses at one time, but since taking Kit-zyme tablets he has been much better."

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

KIT-ZYME is sold by Chemists and most Pet Stores
Literature Free on Request

If any difficulty in obtaining, write to:
PHILLIPS YEAST PRODUCTS LTD., Park Royal Road, London, N.W.10

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.

GINGER'S FUTURE

We printed in our September issue a letter from a reader in the North who asked for advice about Ginger, a little 10-months-old male he had adopted. The writer, a student in an industrial hostel, had made a great pet of Ginger, who followed him everywhere and showed no inclination to make friends with other students. Ginger's owner expected soon to move South. Should he take the cat with him or would it be kinder to leave him in familiar surroundings? We invited our readers to send in their solutions to the problem and a small cash prize was offered for what in the Editor's opinion was the best letter.

A surprising number of readers responded to our invitation and the Editor found himself faced with a difficult task in selecting the winning letter. The standard was high and almost without exception the writers advised Ginger's owner to take his pet with him when he moved South. The winner was Mrs. E. M. Turner, Forest Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, whose letter has the qualities of finality and brevity:

"With reference to the problem on page 28 of this month's issue: Even when one is fond of cats, there are certain cases of really outstanding attachments. Your reader's case seems to be one of these.

As this ginger tom is only 10 months' old, and so plainly shows his preference for—and perhaps affinity with—this person who rescued him from a miserable existence, if not, a very premature death, why subject him to the shock of finding himself deserted by the friend above all others?

It is obvious that Ginger would not be the only one who would grieve if

he were left. Such devotion surely merits that he should stay with his own beloved 'first friend'."

Readers will be interested to know that Ginger's owner, without any prompting or urging on our part, wrote later to say he had decided to take Ginger with him.

—EDITOR.

WILL TOM CAUSE TROUBLE?

Do you know if it is possible to keep a full tom with neuters and complete females?

I have two neuters, two females and a 2-month-old tom kitten which I want to bring up as a mate for one of the females. So far they all get on well together, but I know from experience how unpleasant an adult tom can be in the house where there are females and hostile neuters. There is a stray tom here now whom no one seems to want. He is a very nice cat and is determined to live with us. But he causes such a lot of trouble at present that I am having to have him doctored. I think he will settle down then.

But what will happen when the little tom grows up? I am interested in breeding as a hobby and want to raise my own strain if I can. Is it possible to train a young tom or will there always be trouble with other cats around?

Miss Jean L. Pratt,

Egypt, Farnham Common, Slough.


AND YET ANOTHER PROBLEM

Can any reader help me with this problem?

I have two Siamese cats, mother and son, both neuters. The mother has always been a very clean cat, although Tommy, her son, has had occasional

lapses and preferred the front door mat to the pan. I believe I have cured him now.

Mother, even when let out in the garden, used to return to use her pan. But now she has started a habit of using the newspaper on which the pan stands and then scratching the paper over it. The peculiar thing about this is that she uses the pan to urinate in.

As I have to be out at business during the day, I keep the pair indoors until my return. They are provided with a small enamel bath half-filled with peat moss litter. I keep this dry and clean night and morning and wash out the bath about every two or three days. 

Corrective methods seem to have no effect on Mother, whose present habits are tending to make the house smell decidedly "catty."

Any suggestions would be welcome.

Miss Winifred Watt,
Twickenham, Middlesex.

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.

THE 2s. 6d. CAT

A NOTABILITY among the thousands of immigrants who have recently entered Australia to start a new and adventurous life is Danny, a 17-year-old black cat.

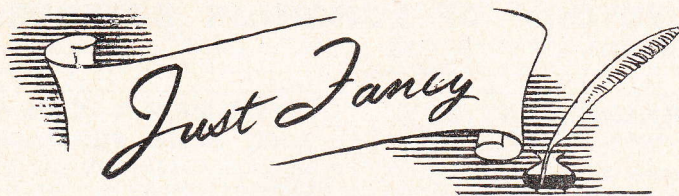
The story of Danny begins in an Islington market in 1935, when a couple returning from their honeymoon bought him for half-a-crown. Danny's new owners, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Trumble, took him off to their home in Brighton where for 16 years he lived a quiet and

pleasant life and became quite a well-known character in the neighbourhood. Then, at the end of last year, came the big upheaval. The Trumbles decided to emigrate to Melbourne and were much relieved when the vet gave Danny a certificate of fitness to make the long sea journey on his own.

He travelled on the "Paringa" and all the arrangements for his special care and attention were admirably managed by the Livestock Shipping Department of Spratt's Patent Ltd. Danny arrived fit and well at Melbourne and is now serving the required 60 days of quarantine. Soon he will be free to spend the rest of his days in the comfort of the new Australian home which has been made for him. The Trumbles say that the 2s. 6d. cat is worth every penny of his fare and upkeep expenses during quarantine.



PUMMEL VON MARIENHOF, owned by Mr. Bierhoff, of Berlin. This Blue Longhair was the Best Blue male at this year's show of the German Cat Association, held in Nuremberg after a break of twelve years.



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.

OCTOBER has been a busy month looking after my little family of cats and kittens and my own domestic affairs. So brevity is the keynote this month.

The Blue Persian Cat Society Ch. Show on October 14th, organised by Mrs. J. M. Newton was a cheery affair and an increase of 74 entries a welcome sign to Blue enthusiasts. By the casting vote of the Referee Judge, Miss J. M. Fisher, Mrs. McVady's Gaydene Candy Kisses (by Mrs. Henn's Ch. Baralan Boy Blue) was Best Exhibit in Show. She is a lovely queen excelling in type and with the eye colour so essential to a first class Blue. Mrs. Vize's Blue male Myowne Gallant Homme won his second Challenge certificate and was much admired. Best Kitten in Show was Mrs. Robert's Hathaway Huntress and an interesting fact about this kitten is that her mother is a Blue-Cream.

Mrs. Denton's Anson Eros was Best Blue male kitten. He has been very consistent and so far has been unbeaten in his Open class at four consecutive shows and at two of them has been awarded Best Longhair Kitten in Show. His litter sister Anson Easter Bonnet (both bred by Miss Statman) was first in the 5-9 months class. Another lovely

kitten was Mrs. Baker's Berrett Casanova, first in the 3-5 months class.

Mrs. Davies's magnificent Neuter, Premier Priory Adonis, entered in three classes, was first under three judges.

Siamese Show

The Siamese Cat Club Ch. Show on October 16th attracted the best entry this show has ever had and convincingly testified the remarkable popularity of the breed in this country. Exhibits numbered 203 and entries 703, with eight litters headed by Mrs. Gunn's litter of six by Mr. Richard Warner's Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo. This fine sire also won first in an Open class of nineteen males and sired the Best Kitten in Show, Mrs. Richardson's Morris Amanda. A triumphant day for Yo-Yo, who is still comparatively young, being born in February 1949.

Best Adult male, however, was the younger Blue Point, Mrs. Harvey's Wynperri Blue Prince born in June 1951. The honour for Best Exhibit in Show in this excellent company went to Mr. Soderberg's choice, Mrs. Butler's Seal Point queen, Purland Pale Maiden.

Some lovely kittens were present and Mrs. Highton's Silken Pedro (by Mr. Peter Pope's male, Proud Pedro) entered in six classes was awarded six firsts. He is litter brother to Silken Rosy Rascal, the kitten exported to Denmark. Miss Keir-Moilliet won the over 4½ and under 6 months male class, also female classes with a pair by Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo, namely Welcot Chai-Lai, and Welcot Arminel.

In a class of 21 female kittens 6 to 9 months, Mr. and Miss Warner won

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Black, Cream and Blue-Cream Persians

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eyes, siring strong healthy kittens. Enquiries to

MRS. L. DYER, 37 OAKFIELD ROAD
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Queens met New Street Station

GORDON B. ALLT, F.Z.S.

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Enquiries invited for the popular
Danehurst Longhairs — Blue
Persians, Creams and Chinchillas

See displayed and Stud advertisements in this issue

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At Stud : **BARWELL DERRY**

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markings, excellent in type and eye-colour

*Beautiful Red and Tortie Kittens
may be booked in advance*

MRS. DENYS FAWELL, THE LAWNS
SALHOUSE, NORWICH *Tel.: Salhouse 226*

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first with Patwyn Tricini by Ch. Sabukia Sweet William and in the male kitten class over 3 and under 4½ months Mr. and Mrs. Webber won first with Berwin Southern Marksman. The Blue Pointed male kitten class was headed by Mrs. Priston's consistent Pristine Bandoola and the Blue Point female kittens class by Mr. Whitelam's Rushmere Blue Haze. In the Champion of Champion's class, Mrs. Lamb's Ch. Morris Tudor came into the picture. He was not entered in the Open. Mr. Stirling Webb's Chocolate Point Ch. Holmesdale Chocolate Soldier won another Challenge Certificate.

The Neuter Premier class attracted twenty handsome pets, Mrs. Gentry's Ninou De Meaux being the winner.

Mrs. Kent (nee Elsie Hart) tells us this is to be her last Siamese Cat Club Show. If so, she has ended up on a triumphant note. No one has done more for the Club than herself and much appreciation is due to her.

Winners at Birmingham

The third big date in October was the Golden Jubilee Ch. Show of the Midland Counties Cat Club on the 25th. The weather was somewhat dreary but the gate appeared excellent. I believe that the 196 exhibits was a record for this fixture. Best Longhair Cat in Show—Mrs. Vize's Myowne Gallant Homme—achieved his full Championship at three consecutive shows. This is a rare honour for a Blue male and one only equalled at post-war Ch. Shows by his sire, Ch. Astra of Pensford. He is a lovely cat and paler than the majority of post-war Blue Champions. He has brilliant eye colour and is compact and cobby in build.

Mrs. Barker's Chinchilla male Sylvandene Soloman (by Ch. Stourbank Silver King) was another Longhair to become a full Champion. He was looking extremely well and thoroughly deserved his honours. Best Longhair Kitten was Mrs. Polden's Chinchilla female Poldenhills Jacaranda, looking most attractive with her lovely face and long flowing coat.

Best Shorthair Cat was Master Parker's White, Pinewood White Heather. Mrs. Gunn was coping well with some hefty classes of Siamese and I did not envy her her class "Any colour novice Male or Female," with 31 kittens in it.

Among the exhibits I judged Mrs. Dyer's Cream male Ch. Tollerton Talisman was outstanding for soundness and purity of colour. A really level pale Cream. Mr. Allt's Cream female, Danehurst Princess excelled in type and should complete her Championship this season. Mrs. Mayne's Cream female, Fanifold Trudie was my nominee for Best Longhair Kitten and if she retains her lovely pale shade she should help to improve colour in this variety.

So far this season our shows have had excellent entries and at three Championship Shows records have been established. The B.P.C.S. Ch. Show was the best post-war entry but not up to pre-war numbers.

MRS. CRYSTOL SMALL

(Concluded from page 33)

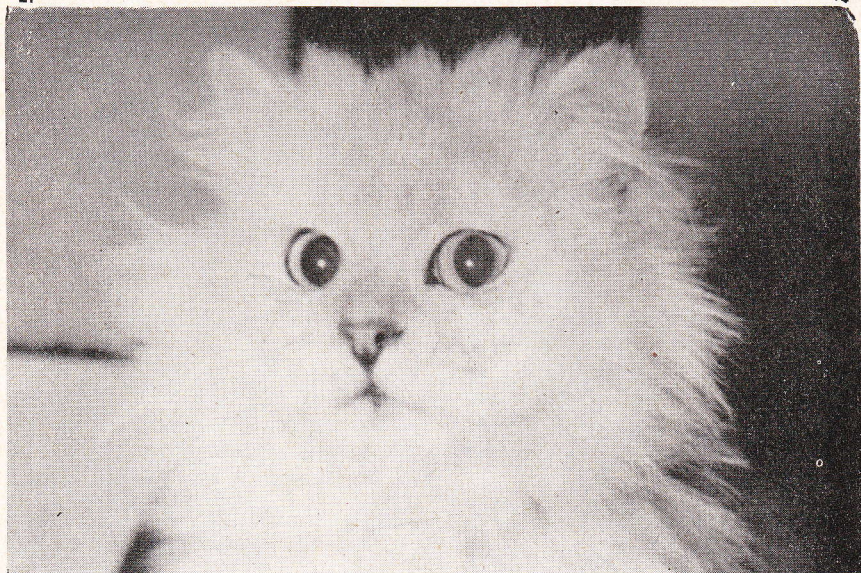
seen her judge under most trying situations—bright lights, television, complexities in deciding—yet there is no hurry, no stepped up tempo in her actions. But it did take a fast camera man to keep her in focus!

It has often been said that in a show the unthinkable is most likely to happen. I have seen Judge Small make decisions that required courage and honesty, decisions that brought the bystanders to their feet in astonishment at her keen insight. Yet with all her determination she is rather a shy, naive person. I have followed her career for several years now and I notice that you can expect the dramatic and at time spectacular decision from this tiny, deft-handed little lady.

She is widely accepted as a symbol and a synonym, a phenomenon so seldom found. In straight talking, my friend Crystol Small is a judge's judge and a very polished performer.

BILLIE BANCROFT.

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Paws across "The Pond"

From BILLIE BANCROFT (American Associate Editor)

DOZEN and dozens of show announcements are arriving—from East, West, North and South. Each club is planning something unusual in the line of shows. Saint Petersburg down Florida way send in their announcement in the form of a silhouette—a profile outline of a sweet, fat, snub-nosed Persian—beautifully executed.

The Knoxville Cat Club (Cat Fanciers' Federation) are really going to town on their first show. Ruth MacKenzie tells me a few of the details. The response to their announcement has been amazing, even to them. It promises to be a five-point affair. Ruth says they are most all novices ; in fact, you might class them in the kitten class ! But there is nothing novice about the way they are planning things. First, they will give the visitors some local colour. There will be a hill-billy band, music and the old-fashioned square dances. Many booths are planned displaying and selling mountain pottery and crafts. There will be a mountaineer still with the revenueurs raiding often but the product they will find will be only sweet-apple-cider. The Governor of Tennessee has given a trophy. The Mayor of Knoxville (population more than 200,000) has also donated a trophy. All this in addition to the regular premium list.

The University of Tennessee will be playing football at home on the show dates and it is a foregone conclusion that many of the cat-weary husbands will take in the games. Knoxville is located on the beautiful Tennessee river in the Great Smoky Mountain region. This I venture to say will be the largest and best subscribed show of the season. Why

am I excited ? Well, you see, I, too, am "a hill-billy from Tennessee !"

* * *

Another sad letter came in this morning. A very worthy breeder from near Chicago reports that almost all of her cattery has been eliminated by that dreadful disease enteritis. She moans that never at any time has anyone entered her cattery. Yet five days after she heard of her friends' trouble (by letter) this same disease developed among *her* cats. And why—you are actually wondering *Why* ? Very simple, if the person who wrote the letter had been handling her cats without disinfecting herself. She carried the germs to her friend with the letter. I have seen this happen three separate times. I have consulted my veterinarian and he confirms it is quite possible for the disease to be transmitted in this manner. So, if your friend writes to inform you of her trouble with enteritis, burn the letter at once and disinfect your hands.

* * *

A new organization, calling themselves Feline Friends, met last week. They are kindly, friendly people, good to all animals but most especially cats. The object is to prevent unfair dealing in the traffic of cats, to protect the novice from buying inferior stock and to straighten out difficulties and misunderstandings between breeders and buyers. I was quite interested to note one subject that held spell-bound interest to every member present. It seems there is a movement afoot to organize a cartel. It aims at monopolistic control of stock-selling by weakening or eliminating competition. The idea is to make prices so high that the poor novice will hardly have a chance at the shows with the

stock she can afford. I myself was told if I did not do so and so I could not be accepted by the "gang." I replied that I never did and never would join any gang. It is really time that some of the higher-bracket breeders did something about such manoeuvres. The novice is our hope for the future, so let's give the newcomers a break. Many, many of them are hungry for information. Our judges are our acknowledged leaders and they should see that novices are informed and encouraged in every possible way. The Fancy is not a one person show by any manner of means. Let's give the novices a hand.

* * *

The Cat Fanciers of Washington, Inc., held their show on October 25th and 26th, in Silver Springs, Maryland. This is the first show that I have ever heard of being held in Maryland (a short distance out of Washington, D.C.). The All-Breed Judge was Mrs. Walter Limpert, who seems to be very popular this season. This I believe was their seventh championship show. Heretofore they have been held in the District of Columbia. (If I'm wrong, I'll hear about it very shortly !)

* * *

I am very pleased with the letters I've received from readers in Australia, Italy, Holland, Africa and France. Truly the appreciation of OUR CATS is spreading. I'll get off some answers in the next few days—to each of you.

American Personality

MRS. CRYSTOL SMALL

THIS month I wish to introduce two very well-known personalities in the American Fancy—Crystol Small and her Red queen, Smallhurst's Grand Champion, Girl of the Sun.

Judge Small purchased her first Persian in 1929 in protest to her children bringing home every stray kitten or cat they could lay their hands on. There

came a time when she just could not find homes for all of the stray babies. So, after a promise from the children that they would bring no more orphans home if they had a Persian, a Persian was duly purchased for them.

The best that could be found was a Tortoiseshell queen, five years old. No sooner was she established in her new home than she became very romantically inclined. A suitable husband of the same race and creed was found for the little lady—and lo !—the Smalls were in the cat business.

Two of their lovely kittens won in the show that fall. This led them to become interested in another breeder who had some excellent stock—but in very poor condition. Having no fixed idea of what a really good Red Persian looked like, they bought these kittens because they were sorry for them. They turned out to be very fine cats.

One was called Smallhurst's Miss Bonnie Bright and the other Smallhurst's Butter Boy. These two Red babies more than repaid the Smalls for their kindness by presenting them with some very fine kittens. Sometime later Smallhurst's Vermillion IV and a queen, Will-O-Win, were added to the feline family. Most of their stock, however, was Vermillion with the Peacock Cattery cross.

Later, Silvers were added to their collection—some of the finest Silvers in existence at that time. There have always been a few Blue Persians at Smallhurst, but as Judge Small says "they were just to love." Her main interest has always been Reds and Silvers. There are very few if any breeders who have produced better Red Persians. One of the treasured members of her feline tribe is Smallhurst's Valentine out of their own queen Tassie, sired by an outcross, DbI. Ch. Tartan's Red Boy of Peke Owl, who was a very gorgeous male.

Judge Small has been associated with the high brass of the American Cat Association and has held many other offices of high honor and responsibility. She is

qualified as an All-Breed Judge in both the A.C.A. and C.F.F. Her experience in judging is wide. One breeder of many years standing tells me that there is no ceiling to her ability and that she has found her courageous, competent and clever, honest to the point of leaning backwards in her efforts to judge correctly. She shows no favoritism anywhere.

Personally, I have found Judge Small an idealist, a truly magnetic personality, kind, helpful and endlessly patient. She is one of the fastest working judges I have ever watched, small in stature, quick and sure in her decisions. There is no altering of decisions or changing ribbons with her. She knows her subjects and has confidence in what she does. I have

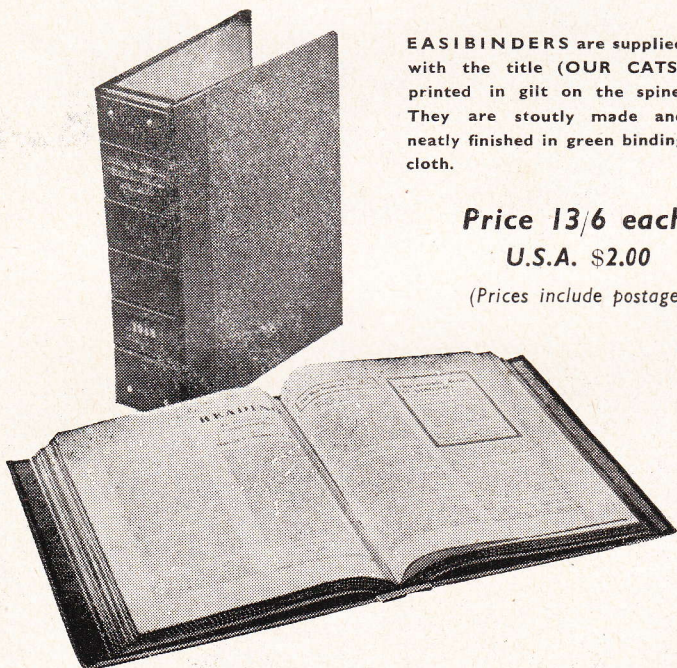
(Continued on page 29)



Mrs. Small and her well-known Red Persian Champion Girl of the Sun.

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INTERNATIONALE FELINE DE PARIS

WE are indebted to Mrs. E. G. Aitken for the following brief report of the successful 26th Exposition held recently in Paris :

It was a great thrill and honour to be asked to judge again at this attractive Show. Once more I enjoyed the air trip in spite of a few bumps, which were not appreciated by Mrs. Doris Brice-Webb, my fellow judge and good companion. Previous friendships were renewed and many new ones made.

The show was ably managed by Mme Ravel and judging from the queues we saw being shepherded along by the gendarmes its financial success was assured.

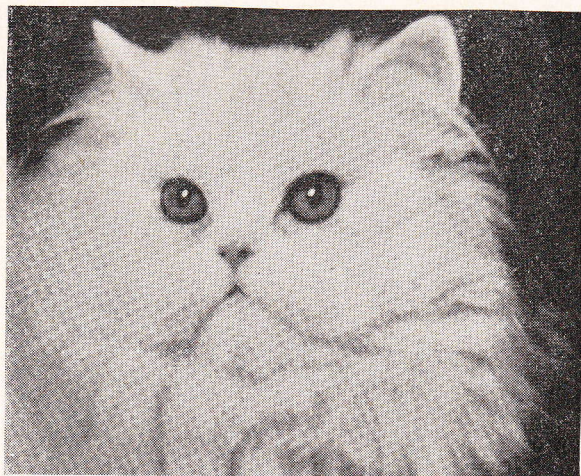
Best Cat in Show was Mme Bridget's International Champion Southway Reveller (bred by Mr. Jack Martin) who subsequently received widespread publicity in the press as "The Most Beautiful Cat in the World." Best Female was Int. Ch. Laska Van Frisia States, owned and bred by Mrs. Kroon-Nedela.

My Best Female was an exquisite Copper-eyed White, A'Jackotte of the White Lady, owned by Mme Ravel. The tex-

ture and condition of this cat's coat was superb and eyes were lovely. Best Kitten was a lovely pale unmarked Cream Boumaboumba de la Biamela, owned and bred by Mme Sandoz. He was closely challenged by a beautiful Blue female kitten shown by Mrs. Kroon-Nedela.

Other prominent winners were : Best Cream Adult Mlle Posthuma's Tollerton Rosebud ; Best Blue-eyed White Mlle de Caverlay's Xenia de la Traginiere ; Best Chinchilla Mme Deteix's Xila de Balkio ; Best Black Mlle Bonnardot's Bentveld Babablacksheep ; Best Blue-Cream Mlle Bonnardot's Int. Ch. Vivette de Montazah.

The Browns and Red Tabbies I found disappointing—the former were of good colour but the markings were poor. With the Reds the colour was not deep enough. The Silver Tabby Ariel de Charade, shown by breeder Mme Agio, had good markings but orange eyes. A nice Tortie was Mme Callewart's Bellina. Among "Any other colour" there were some nice Blue Tabbies and the best was Mlle Casta's Adoration de la Parisienne.



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ORDINARY CATS. By Charles Duff. Williams & Norgate, 7s. 6d. Correctly described as the ideal book for everyone whose home is made complete by the "presence of a household cat." The historical section is good.

A DICTIONARY OF CAT LOVERS. By Lady Aberconway. Michael Joseph, 30s. This fascinating work continues to be a best-seller—and this is not surprising news. For those looking for a book to treasure for all time, Lady Aberconway's delightful anthology and biographical dictionary is the right answer.

JAMES & MACARTHUR. By Jenny Laird. Secker & Warburg, 10s. 6d. Aptly described as "an escapist novel" by the author, this book will provide cat lovers with vast enjoyment as they follow the adventures of the two brothers, who leave their home and return older and wiser cats.

PRUDENCE KITTEN. By Annette Mills and George Fry. University of London Press, 4s. 6d. The children who follow the adventures of their little furry friend on television will love to see what Prudence's village looks like.

CATS BETWEEN COVERS. By Sidney Denham. H. Denham, 7s. This book about cat books was reviewed in our September issue. No library of cat books can possibly be complete without it and those who enjoy a novelty should most certainly buy this one.

SIAMESE CATS. By Phyllis Lauder. Williams & Norgate, 6s. Valuable hints on care and management are intermingled with entertaining stories and a chat about genetic inheritance.

CAT ENCYCLOPEDIA. By Kit Wilson. Right Way Books, 6s. The title and the author should be recommendation enough. This book is designed to help the novice as well as the experienced breeder of cats.

THE BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE SIAMESE CAT. By Kathleen Williams. F. B. Williams & Co., 10s. 6d. The author has bred, nursed and exhibited Siamese for upwards of 20 years. Her book is based on the experience and knowledge acquired.

YOUR SIAMESE CAT. By Hettie Gray Baker. Derek Verschoyle, 12s. 6d. It is splendid news that this charming work by America's Cat Lover No. 1 is at last available to readers in the United Kingdom. Sir Compton Mackenzie contributes the introduction and Miss Baker provides us with ninety delightful pages which reflect her deep love and understanding for all cats, especially Siamese.



We have reproduced these delightful illustrations by Eileen Mayo from "Best Cat Stories" (Faber & Faber 12s. 6d.), edited by Michael Joseph, who surely must know a good cat story when he sees one! This book presents a masterly selection of 19 stories. Some are old favourites, others are new, notably the astonishing true story of the little black-and-white kitten who climbed 14,780 ft. to the summit of the Matterhorn. The illustrations above adorn Paul Gallico's story "When in Doubt—Wash!" There are many others of equal quality throughout the book.

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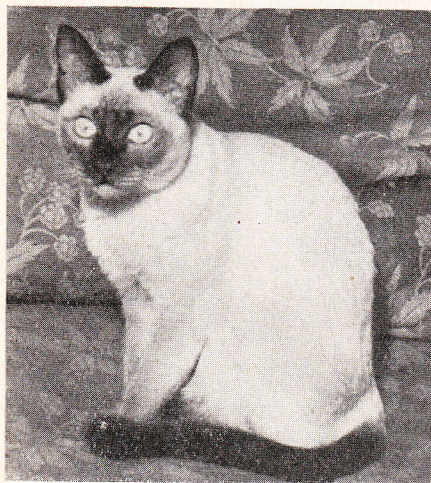
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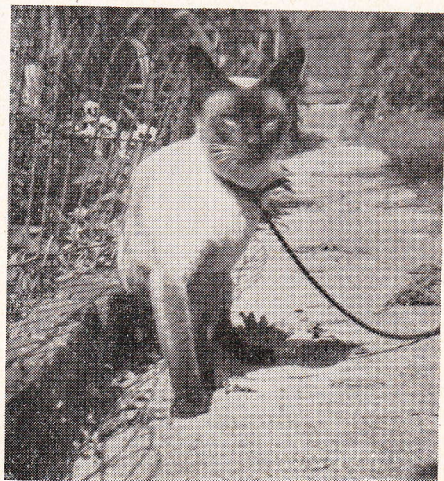
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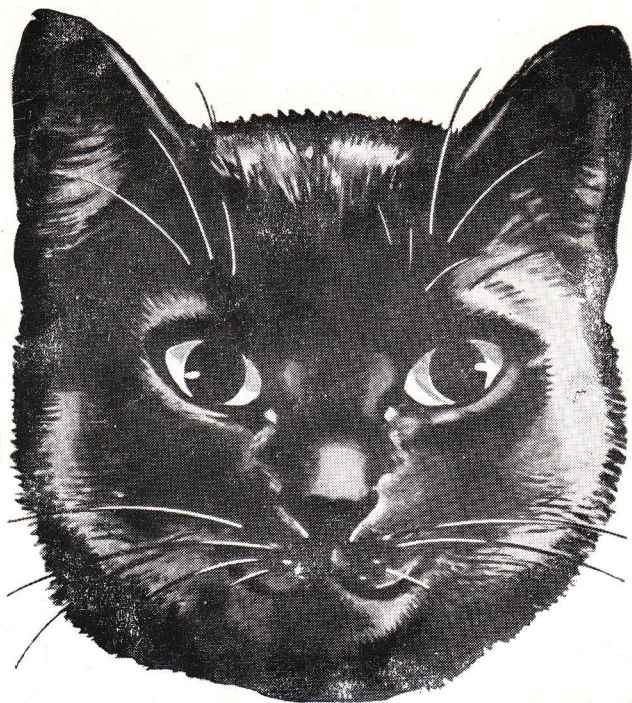
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