

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



LAXEY, winsome little Manx Tabby female, was one of a pair selected in the Isle of Man for export to Dr. John Melton, Texas, U.S.A., by Mrs. Ella Martin, of Great Baddow, Chelmsford. Of excellent type, this kitten was a winner at a Manx show.

Photo by Ronnie Crowe).

JANUARY 1953

1/6

THE SAND CAT COMES TO LONDON (see page 3)

Kit-E-Kat **feeds**

a cat



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THE COMPLETE CAT FOOD



CHAPPIE LIMITED OF MELTON MOWBRAY

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

VOL. 5 No. 1

JANUARY 1953

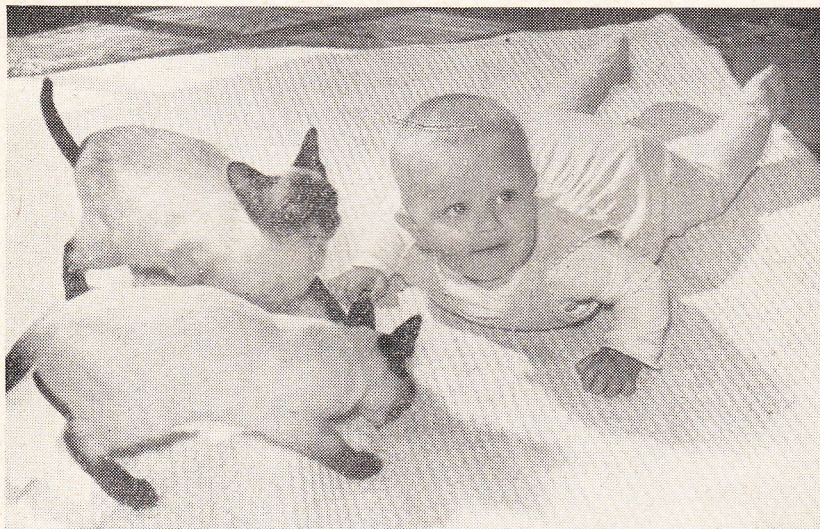
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4 CARLTON MANSIONS
CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Baby Peter, young son of Mrs. Ulla Magnusson, the well-known Swedish fancier, with two of his favourite playmates—English-bred Siamese.



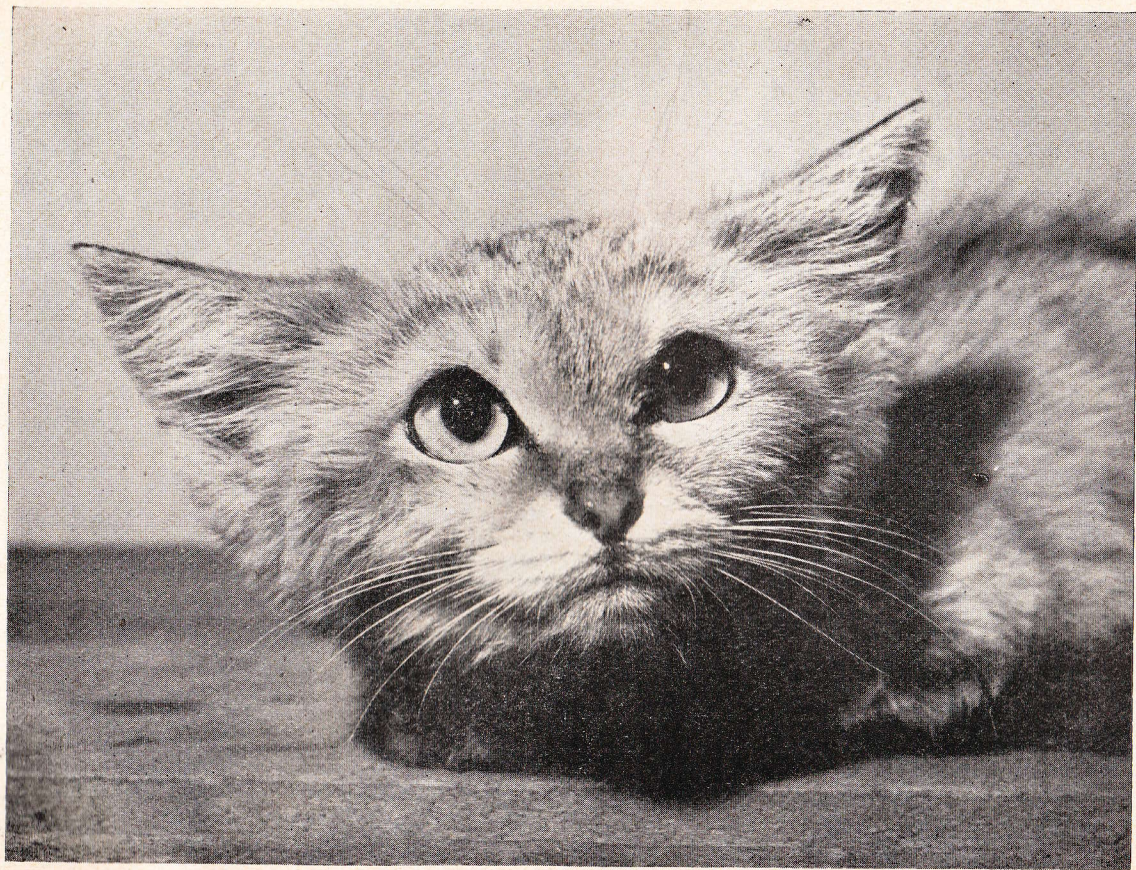
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An Interesting Newcomer

The Sand Cat

Described by CARTWRIGHT FARMIOLOE, F.Z.S.

A SHORT while ago, considerable interest was aroused in Zoological circles by the arrival of a new animal—only two of which had apparently ever been seen before—a Sand Cat from Arabia (*Felis Margarita*).

This was caught when quite young and was found among rocks in the Arabian desert, 150 miles North of the Aden Protectorate on the borders of Yemen. It was presented by Wing-Commander A. H. Marsack, M.B.E. It should have particular significance to cat lovers of all varieties since, comparatively speaking, it is one of the few *Felidae* which really looks like a domestic cat with perhaps the added charm associated with certain Longhairs. Careful observation, however, shows that it differs in one or two important aspects. The eyes are unusually large and round in proportion to the size of the head. And the ears, whilst in their correct position, are so wide at their bases as to give the illusion that they are placed on the sides. Moreover, they are short and pointed at their tips. In build, the animal is rather small and slightly cobby.

Like a Cream

It is difficult to draw an adequate comparison between the wild species and one of the many breeds or mutations purposely selected and carefully fostered by man. Nevertheless, in appearance, I think it might be said that the Sand Cat approaches the look

of a Shorthaired Cream produced through the mis-mating of a Cream Longhair. The eyes are gold or pale copper, the nose fawn with the nostrils of a dull pink colour, the upper lip and chin being white. The face is flattish and round rather than narrow or long and is decidedly more "British" in contour than "Foreign." The general colour is that of a pale fawn slightly shaded and occasionally lightly barred in mottled black. Sparse black hairs occur all down the back and the tail is definitely ringed in black with a pronounced black tip. Again, like the Longhairs, it is rather short. The texture of the fur is soft and somewhat long.

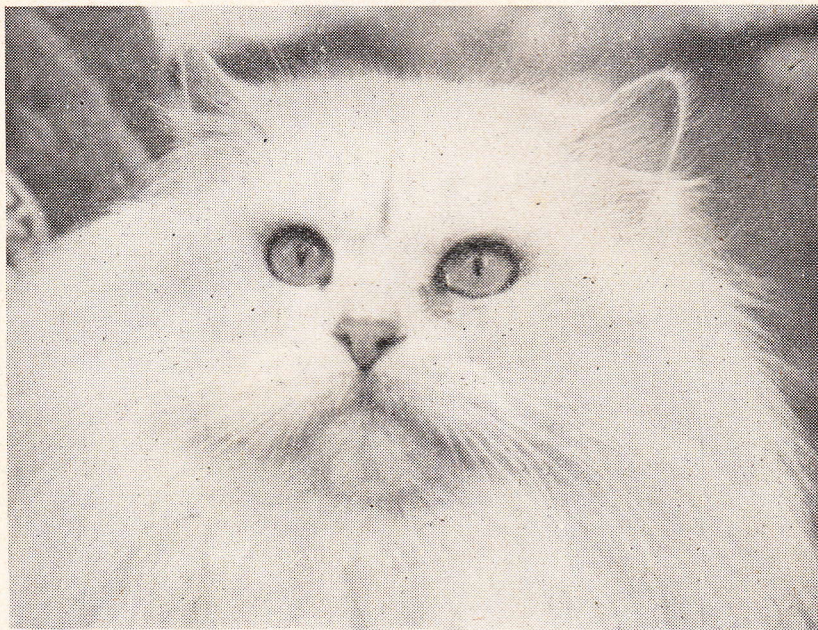
There are Others

Not very much is known concerning the life of this attractive animal. It inhabits rocky wastes as well as deserts and is believed to be nocturnal. The soles of its feet are said to be almost completely obliterated by tufts of fur which like many other desert animals is considered to be of use when walking on soft sand. It is interesting to note, however, that many Longhaired cats display this same feature.

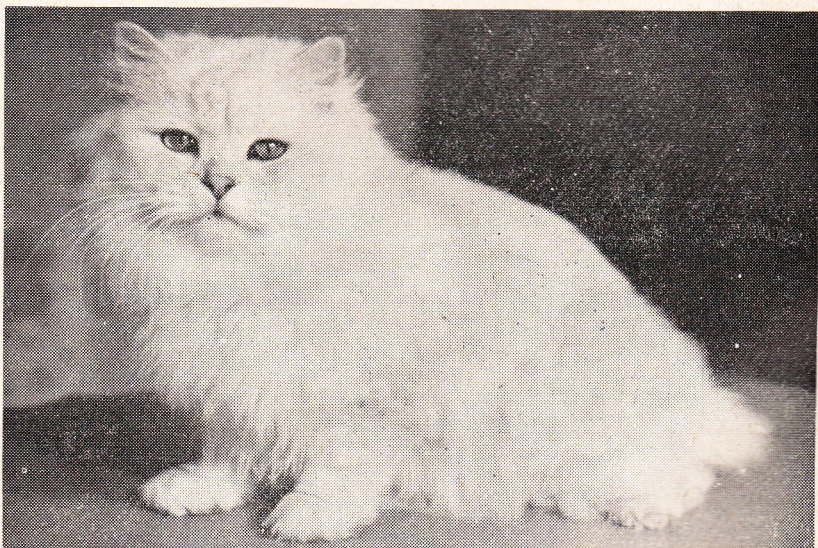
Although the representative in the London Zoo is the first of its kind to be exhibited, there is yet another Sand Cat which inhabits the deserts of Asia and in particular Russian Turkestan. This cat differs very little from the Arabian

(Concluded on page 12)

Father and Son — Chinchilla Champions



CHAMPION STOURBANK SILKEN KING is one of our best-known Chinchilla studs. He belongs to Miss Evelyn Langston, of Maidenhead, Berks, and one of his typey sons is . . .



CHAMPION SYLVANDENE SOLOMAN, a young male with a future who has done so well at the shows for his owner, Mrs. J. F. Barker, of Ilkeston, Derby.

Wanted!

A Close Season for Breeding

Says P. M. SODERBERG

I AM always surprised around Christmas and the New Year to hear of many kittens for sale, but not in the least surprised that the breeders find the task of economic disposal more than a little difficult.

Theoretically, I suppose, it is ideal to have a nice litter of kittens just ready to be bought as Christmas presents, for at that time one could expect a good price. Indeed, the facts are very different, for the majority who hope to make something by catching this seasonal trade are doomed to disappointment.

The basic fact at present is that kittens of all breeds are difficult to sell at remunerative prices, and it is no joke having to keep a litter until the kittens are four months old. Feeding costs are high, and, although the well-known breeders will always sell their best kittens profitably, the breeders in general are not well-known and really good kittens are few and far between.

One Litter Limit

It is far wiser that the breeding of winter kittens should be abandoned by all and sundry, whether they are well known breeders or the veriest novices. Such a policy would be better for the Fancy in general, better for breeders in particular and certainly much more natural for the queens as well as the kittens. It takes more than a little skill on the part of any breeder to rear kittens of size and stamina during the winter months.

Domestication may mean that some queens are capable of breeding at any time during the year, but it is open to

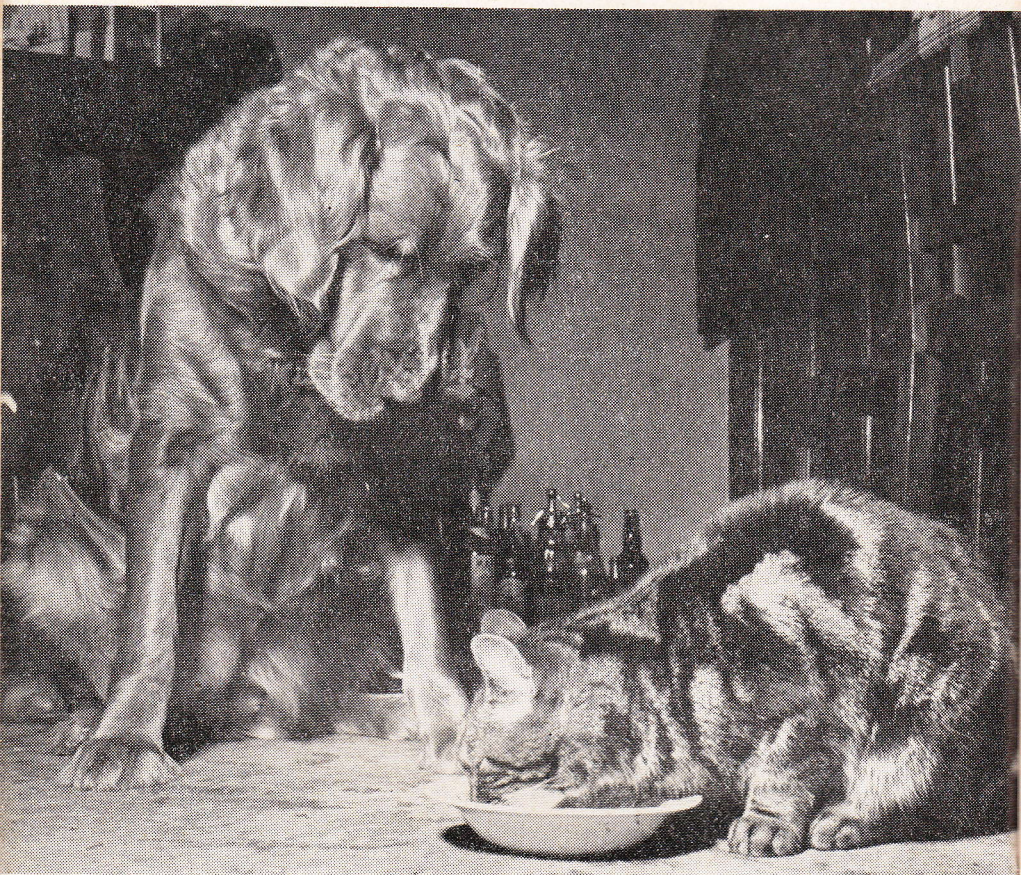
doubt whether that ability is a good thing. Happily there are many males whose enthusiasm for the opposite sex is at a low ebb during winter.

No breeder of sound sense ever thinks of allowing a queen more than two litters during the twelve months, and on the whole I am inclined to believe that the best queens from the point of view of progeny are those which are limited to only one litter each year. There may be Siamese queens which will present a difficult problem if restricted in this way, and the breeder made distraught by the continuous calling may in self defence permit an extra litter against his better judgment.

Siamese are, however, a law unto themselves, but few of the Longhaired breeds ever seem really troubled by the desire for a family. Fertility is not what it was, and it is even possible that it might improve over a generation or two if litters were kept down to just one a year. Thus, let there be a close season for the breeding of cats. It would not be a bad idea if the last date for mating did not go beyond the end of May.

It may be argued, of course, that the pedigree cat we know has progressed a long way from its natural state, so much so, in fact, that even the period of gestation may have extended from somewhere round about fifty-seven days to the now normal sixty-three to sixty-five. There is not much validity in such an argument, however, for not all the changes which have taken place during the past seventy or eighty years have been for good. There is no need to enumerate the advantages and the disadvantages which have resulted from breeding methods and practices during that period, but I shall no doubt return to them in more detail at some later date.

A page for the proletarian puss No. 31



Ronald W. Weston

A PERFECT GENTLEMAN !

From the point of view of the kittens and the novices who will later own them, there is no shadow of a doubt as to the best time for such kittens to be born, and conversely there can be small disagreements as to when they should not be born.

Speaking quite personally, I am in favour of kittens which are reared out of doors. I should never want to buy any kitten which had not enjoyed free access to fresh air and sunshine, and I should not worry about a few gusts of wind and rain as an accompaniment to the process of growing up. It is by no means everyone who will agree with this attitude, but there it is.

I want sturdy kittens which do not wilt at the least provocation, and to achieve this condition they must be really tough. They must not develop diarrhoea at the slightest variation in diet, nor should they start to snuffle within an hour or two of a slight east wind blowing on them.

No, if we face it squarely, spring time is kitten time and by winter the kitten should have become a sturdy youngster and have almost reached the state of being a young adult.

If winter kittens are reared out of doors, most breeders would feel that artificial heat was essential. If satisfactory growth was to be maintained, they might be right, but I want no kittens reared in the atmosphere of the hothouse. The variations in temperature which out-door kittens experience in spring and early summer are good for them; they help to harden them off without subject-

ing them to the much more extreme temperatures of winter. Then outdoor rearing might well mean the survival of the fittest. There is something to be said for that from the point of view of sheer toughness, but a pedigree cat which is often an exhibition cat needs more than that to be acceptable to most buyers.

Sunshine for Kittens

Sunshine is of great value in the rearing of kittens. Not so much perhaps because of the ultra-violet rays which reach the skin; few of them do, but all kittens love sunshine and in its genial warmth take the exercise they need for growth and appetite. When they are tired they just stretch out and bask in it.

Satisfactory growth and development depends very much upon activity which the kitten only displays during the hours of daylight. At the back end of the year daylight is short and the kittens spend much of their time huddled together.

There is just one other point and then I am finished. I like to breed from queens when they are in full coat. Moulting is a perfectly normal function, but to grow a full coat of hair must take something from a queen which would otherwise go to her kittens. With an early litter, most queens are still in full coat although they will probably moult as soon as the family is weaned.

Yes, spring time is kitten time, and it is far better not to indulge in breeding during the dull, short days of winter. Don't you agree?

All fanciers should read

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GLASGOW SHOW

THE November Show of the Scottish Cat Club in Glasgow was successful in all departments and a public attendance of nearly 900 is surely convincing proof of the growing interest in cats over the Border. Mrs. F. M. Richardson (Show Manager) had the satisfaction of seeing 100 exhibits penned and everyone thoroughly enjoying the afternoon's proceedings.

The Honey Trophy gifted by Miss Paton for the Best Household Pet was awarded to the Longhair Juicy Christie and of course one of the star turns of the Show was Mrs. A. L. Grant's Ginger, who is 20 years' old. He was 1st in a large class and carried off numerous other prizes. Ginger is an amazing cat, small, but his coat shines like satin and his eyes are as clear as a kitten's.

Best Longhair cat or kitten was Mr.

Badham's (Girvan) Blue Foxburrow Festival. Mr. Badham also won with his Blue male and female kittens Maisemore Perfection and Ailsa Pearly Queen. Best Blue male, Mrs. Steele's (Glasgow) Tweeniehills Glenavon.

The winning Siamese male adult was Mrs. M. H. Stewart's (Bridge of Allan) Kildown Gaylad. Best Pedigree Neuter was Tweeniehills Donald, shown by Mrs. Johnstone, of Glasgow. Best Shorthair Kitten was Miss M. S. Paton's (Greenock) Hope of Rockvilla.

Best Siamese Female—also Best Cat in Show—went to Mrs. H. MacLennan's (Loanhead) Inwood Sun. Mrs. Langley's (Castle Douglas) Drumrash Sawat was first among Siamese Kittens.

Judges were Miss Lelgarde Fraser for Longhairs, Mr. B. A. Stirling Webb for Shorthairs and Mr. P. P. Connor for Household Pets.

(Top picture on next page). *The young fancier with the Red Tabby is Roger, whose mother Mrs. Denys Fawell is the successful Salhouse (Norwich) breeder of this variety in both Shorthairs and Longhairs. The cat in our picture is BARWELL INEZ, Best Shorthair Kitten at the Croydon Show last year and winner of six 1st prizes the first time shown.*

(Centre, left). *And here is sister Anne with three of the Barwell Longhair Red Tabby kittens born in August last.*

(Centre, right). *He hardly needs an introduction! Mr. Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S., with one of the show exhibits from his well-known Danehurst cattery of Chinchillas and Creams. Mr. Allt's own suggestion for this caption was: "Hims, Ancient and Modern!"*

(Bottom, left). *Mrs. Karen Smith with the Siamese Seal Point female SILKEN ROSY RASCAL, who was Best Kitten at the Copenhagen Show reported in our last issue. Rosy Rascal was bred in England by Mrs. Denys Highton, of Benenden, Kent.*

(Bottom, right). *Premier award winner HENDON ORLANDO with his proud owner, Mrs. E. Miller of Bushey, Herts. Orlando has been voted Best Longhair neuter at two shows and has also won numerous first prizes. He was bred by Miss Lelgarde Fraser and, says Mrs. Minter, "I shall always be grateful to her for such an adorable pet."—(Photo by "Watford Observer.").*

This is worth thinking about

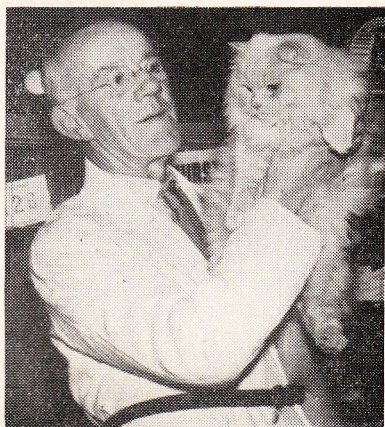
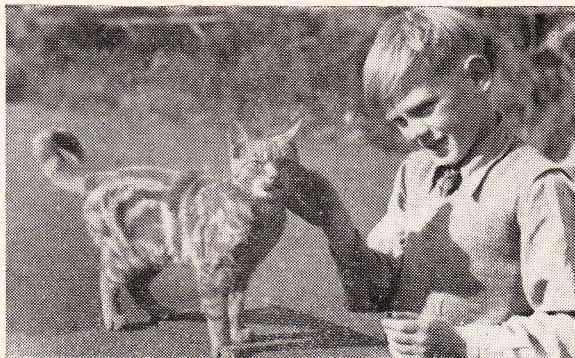
A Subscription to this Magazine makes the ideal present for a cat loving relative or friend . . . for the New Year, a birthday or any other occasion. It's a gift that lasts the whole year through.

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.

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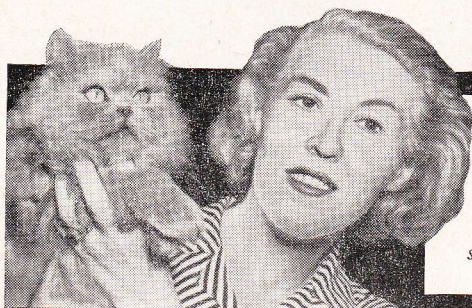
Me and My Cat

*(Captions are
given on the
previous page)*



Watch the birdie, kittens!

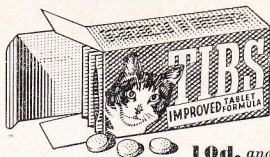
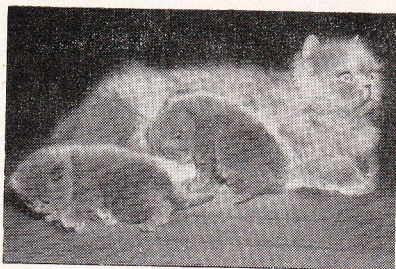
ROOKERY NOOK CAROL, prize-winning Blue Persian, wants her new family to make a good photo. With her mistress, Miss C. I. Davidson, she has just received the Tibs Reporter at the Rookery Nook Dog Bureau, Cranleigh, Surrey.



Here's the proud mama with her owner and breeder. Miss Davidson has the distinction of having bred Ch. Harpur Blue Boy, last year's supreme champion.

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A "Mincepie" Article

By ALBERT C. JUDE

Contents include more news about the wavy-coated kittens, points about unusual breeding results, albinos, etc., and an important quotation dealing with sex-linked inheritance.

THIS being the first issue of OUR CATS in 1953, I take the opportunity to wish every reader much happiness throughout the year. At the same time I would like to thank the many who during the past year helped and encouraged me by their correspondence. It has been much appreciated.

During last year we published photographs of a wavy-coated cat. In certain quarters this aroused particular interest. After giving details of coat and general type, I asked for information about any other known examples of this coat-type in cats. Only one comment appeared in our magazine, and that, unfortunately was not very helpful. I would thank, however, the several readers who co-operated by writing me. Actually, no other such cat has so far been traced, but I would still be very grateful for any news in that direction.

As already mentioned, the wavy type has now been perpetuated, and two very attractive kittens are growing well. Their waviness disappeared rapidly after one week. The coats were extremely woolly to the touch and to look at. They looked exactly like rex rabbit babies. A little later, the waves started to re-appear on the back of the blue kitten, and the coat took on the velvet texture well known in the rex rabbit. The lynx coloured kitten is much smaller at present than the blue one, and his coat is still rather woolly.

The kittens are very much more active than other kittens. The blue one would run up the back of a chair like lightning at only three weeks of age. They seemed to walk about from birth, although, of course, the eyes were closed. Their

actions remind one of monkeys. They are so quick and agile.

The kittens are like their sire in shape, very long hind legs, and a long body with a long fine tail. The latter part of their anatomy looks too funny for words at present, for the tails have lost the baby wool, and are absolutely bare. Both have the curly whiskers and eye-brows, and this gives them a very fierce old-man look, but both are very friendly in nature. The lynx-coloured one is very attractive. There is not a scrap of ginger in the colour, and against a normal ginger cat, the latter looks a glaring red, the lynx being so soft and delicate in shade.

While on the matter of mutations we should realise that gene mutations are not mere "freaks," but constitute an important biological subject in its own right, and amply repay a thorough detailed study.

Another point on somewhat similar lines is that there are still a few people who seem ever anxious to quote unusual breeding results, holding them up as proofs against generally accepted rules. There will, of course, always be exceptions to the rule—breakdowns in the reproduction of living things, just as in all "mechanical" operations. But there is always a reason for the unusual, even though sometimes it might be difficult to locate or explain.

On the other hand, unusual happenings are sometimes quoted, but which in truth do not exist as such, but are merely because of some mistake in records kept. The point is that in the event of something seemingly unusual, it is unfair to hold this up against the established general rule, or to ridicule a writer before he has opportunity to investigate.

May I give an instance of an unusual breeding result which may be understood fairly easily? Some years ago I wrote an article on albinos. In this I said that albinos mated together only produce albinos, which, of course, is the accepted fact under all normal circumstances. Not long afterwards I received a letter telling me I was quite wrong, as the writer had mated two albinos which had produced "colour." Well, there it is. The very odd case held up to disprove the general rule. It would only happen once in almost unlimited cases.

There was, of course, an explanation. New characters often seem to be the result of the loss of one or more factors from the germ cell of the parent. Thus, black has almost certainly arisen from the wild grey or agouti by the loss of the ticking factor. And black itself seems to be the result of the interaction between a factor which gives rise to a colour base, and one which gives rise to a colour developer. A strain of albinos may arise from a strain of blacks therefore, by the sudden loss of the colour developer; and these albinos will still carry the factor for the colour base. Bred amongst themselves however, they will remain perfectly true breeding for albinism, for the whole strain will lack the colour developer.

Similarly, another strain of albinos may arise from black by the loss of the colour base; these will retain the colour developer. They will breed true generation after generation if bred amongst themselves, for none of them possesses the colour base. If, now, members of these two different true breeding albino strains are mated together, they will give black offspring, for at fertilisation the factor for the colour base, and the factor for colour developer will be brought together, and colour will consequently develop in the resulting individual.

May I ask that any reader who refers to anything written here on the matter of genetics is careful not to misrepresent by altering the context either by changing the circumstances under which it was written, or in any other way.

Finally, I was recently sent under cover of a very kindly letter, the following quotation from the works of Prof. W. E. Castle, who is Professor of Genetics, Harvard University, and Research Associate in Genetics, University of California. It was sent with the request that the quotation should be published as a matter of general interest. Here it is:

"Sex-linked inheritance is of rare occurrence among mammals, which indicates that in this group the X-Y chromosome pair, although of prime importance in genetic sex determination, carries few other genes subject to mutation. In the cat, one sex-linked gene has been identified, 'yellow'; and in cattle, a dark mahogany red colour has been described as sex-linked, but possibly is only sex-limited, i.e. owes its peculiarity to the agency of the male sex-hormone rather than to a gene borne in an X chromosome."

"The yellow mutation of cats is one of the exceptional cases of a sex-linked character in mammals other than man. The mutant 'yellow' gene is carried in an X chromosome. It results as in most mammals, from a mutation in the gene for extension of black pigment throughout the coat. The peculiarity of the cat is that the extension gene is carried in the X chromosome, not in an autosome as in other mammals."

THE SAND CAT

(concluded from page 3)

Sand Cat and it is now considered to be merely a geographical variation. But until the capture of the present species it was almost impossible for scientists to reconcile the two, bearing in mind the enormous territorial gaps which separated them.

R. W. Hagman has made a valuable contribution concerning this animal to *Zoo Life* (Autumn 1952) to which further reference may be made.

(The photograph of the Sand Cat on page 2 appears by courtesy of the Zoological Society of London).

Protect
against

Feline Infectious Enteritis



Feline Infectious Enteritis is a very infectious virus disease of cats, sudden in onset and usually fatal. It may be introduced into a cattery following exposure to infection at shows and spreads from cat to cat in a locality. All breeds are susceptible and in some, such as the Siamese, the mortality rate is very high.

To save your cat from this disease consult your veterinary surgeon. He will advise you regarding protection, now possible by the introduction of

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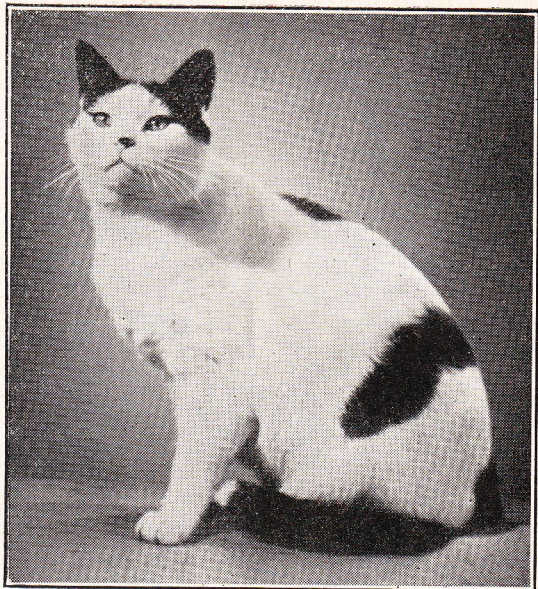
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AMANDA'S FLUFF



MISS AMANDA HUMPHREY (aged 13), of 29 Bluebridge Road, Brookmans Park, Herts., writes :—

"My black and white cat Fluff, an eight year old neuter, was very ill with worms and, although we eventually managed to get rid of them, he was left listless and weak and with a very dull coat. We were afraid we might have to have him put to sleep.

One day a friend saw an advertisement for Kit-zyme and told me about it. I immediately purchased a bottle. We gave Fluff one. He seemed to enjoy it very much. After that we gave him six daily until he completely recovered. Now he is still having two tablets every day and he is very well and happy."

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More Bo'sun Adventures

Narrated by
DEE BLACKBURN

In which our Sailor Siamese aboard the yacht "Mary Hillier" at Majorca "loses" his home, scores "a knock-out," meets a boisterous new friend and enjoys the fishing.



Bo'sun enjoys a spot of sunshine in the arms of Dee Blackburn whilst Skipper George looks on.

WHILE in Palma, we had our ship put on the slip to paint the bottom and top-sides. Because I have a dread of her toppling over when she is taken off the weighs, I put Bo'sun in the dinghy and rowed back to our mooring alongside the Yacht Club.

Before I could get the dinghy even close to the steps, Bo'sun leaped ashore and made a dash to where we had been moored. In a flash he was back to me mewling in a most painful manner. At first I didn't realise what ailed him, and hurriedly tied up the dinghy to investigate. He bounded away again, only to return more perturbed than before. Then I discovered the reason.

When he had left me he was expecting to go aboard "Mary Hillier," but as she was still on the slip he found only the vacant mooring. He dashed back and forth along the quay peering at all the yachts only to return to me looking more tragic than ever. No amount of petting or small talk could console him. It was obvious that he was panic stricken, and my mere presence didn't give him the slightest bit of confidence. His home was gone!

Finally, he sat down in front of the vacant spot and looked thoroughly dejected. In about half an hour Skipper George brought "Mary Hillier" around.

The look on Bo'sun's face as she slid into her moorings would be hard to describe. He pranced about and finally leaped about six feet to the stern, not waiting for the gangplank to be put into position for boarding. He didn't leave the ship again for three days. He was taking no more chances in losing his home!

Bo'sun has acquired another cousin—Senor de Wellington, a lovely Siamese cat owned by Jim and Gaby Mackinnon, who live here in Palma. One night our friends brought Wellington down to the ship to introduce him to Bo'sun. Bo'sun was a very bad host and spent the entire evening hissing and growling. Just before they left Jim and George decided that women folk didn't know how to make them friendly and proceeded to give a demonstration of how the cats should be introduced. Jim held Wellington and George held Bo'sun and gradually brought them closer together. When they were within paws reach, Bo'sun swept out with one long paw meaning to give Wellington a "right to the jaw," but instead he hit Jim under the eye. Claws were drawn, there was no scratch, but our friend Jim sported a black eye for three days. There is talk that Bo'sun missed his vocation. We feel he should have been a prize fighter.

Senor de Wellington is fine, strong and extremely fit. We understand he eats everything and is not the least bit

finicky about food. One thing I noticed in particular was the fact he had six very good-sized lower front teeth and Bo'sun has only four, and much smaller, although Bo'sun has lost none and is nineteen months older than Wellington.

For the past month-and-a-half Bo'sun has been the "Cock of the Walk" around these parts and the other animals have respected his supremacy. But one day the yacht *Fantasy* arrived and on board was a large boxer. The boxer's name was Skipper and he was a big, good natured, lovable dog owned by Lord and Lady Avebury. He was used to Siamese cats and very playful.

Bo'sun, as is usual with him, walked up to be friendly. Skipper was friendly, too, and gently placed one large paw on Bo'sun's head under the weight of which Bo'sun grovelled in the dust. Skipper was Bo'sun's friend no more. He dashed back aboard and then proceeded to scold Skipper in his own particular fashion. Poor Skipper, not realising his own strength cannot understand Bo'sun's unfriendliness now. And Bo'sun, not understanding Skipper's playfulness, will not go ashore if Skipper is anywhere in the offing.

Trying it On!

Bo'sun has acquired another prank which, although amusing, proved a little trying at times, particularly when I've been in a hurry. I make a trip to the local market about three times a week, and it is a considerable walk from the harbour. I was halfway there one day when I discovered I was being escorted, so I had to turn around and take the culprit back, which trick he tried on me three or four times before it dawned on me that he intended to make a habit of it. As soon as I'd get my market basket, Bo'sun got alert and it took much cleverness on my part to get away without making two or three trips to return the little imp.

In the past when we've taken Bo'sun ashore for an automobile ride, we'd sometimes pick him up as he likes to tarry

when strolling. For a long time we couldn't understand why he created a fuss under these circumstances—which fuss he'd continue all during his ride—unless he was allowed to go to the car himself under his own power. George feels that Bo'sun thinks he might not be able to find his way back if he is not allowed to walk to the waiting automobile.

(*Written en route to Gibraltar*). I didn't have time to complete the foregoing instalment before leaving Palma, and now we are on our way back to Gibraltar. Our friend, Jim Mackinnon, who owns Wellington, the Siamese cat referred to previously, is accompanying us on this trip.

In His Glory

Jim is an excellent fisherman. Our first day at sea he caught three large bonitas weighing about 4 pounds each, two limpugas weighing the same and two 3-pound weavers. Bo'sun was in his glory. So were we. Fish that practically hop into the pan have quite a different flavour than those purchased in the market.

When the shout goes up that a fish is on the line, Bo'sun joins in. He gets a tremendous kick watching the proceedings. We have all we can do to keep him away from the flapping tails and fish hooks. He dashes around the deck mewing hilariously when the line is being hauled and is right there among those present when the fish is landed. As I've said before, Bo'sun has very definite tastes regarding his fish. Limpuga he spurns when it is landed, loses all interest, and won't eat it.

But bonita he stands guard over until they are cleaned and cooked and will eat just as much as he is served and then begs for more. We don't know whether it's the cooler weather or the abundant fish diet supplied by "Uncle Jim" but Bo'sun has gained a pound or two in the last few days which pleases me no end. I felt he got too thin during the summer months.

(*Next month—Gibraltar re-visited*)



Tailpieces

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



SCIENTISTS at the University of Chicago are reported to have discovered that cats can distinguish colours more readily than dogs, who live in a grey world. The colour vision of cats was determined by showing them over a long period that if they placed their paw on a red button, they released their food. When the cats absorbed the general idea they invariably picked the red out of an array of coloured buttons.

Why shouldn't the price of cruelty be increased? Cat lovers will surely agree it is an excellent suggestion. A Bill sponsored by the R.S.P.C.A., the Protection of Animals (Penalties) Bill, seeks to increase the maximum fine for cruelty to animals from £25 to £100. It has been introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. F. Harris, M.P. Quite rightly it is argued that the present maximum fine of £25 which was fixed in 1911 is now outmoded and has no relation to present-day values.

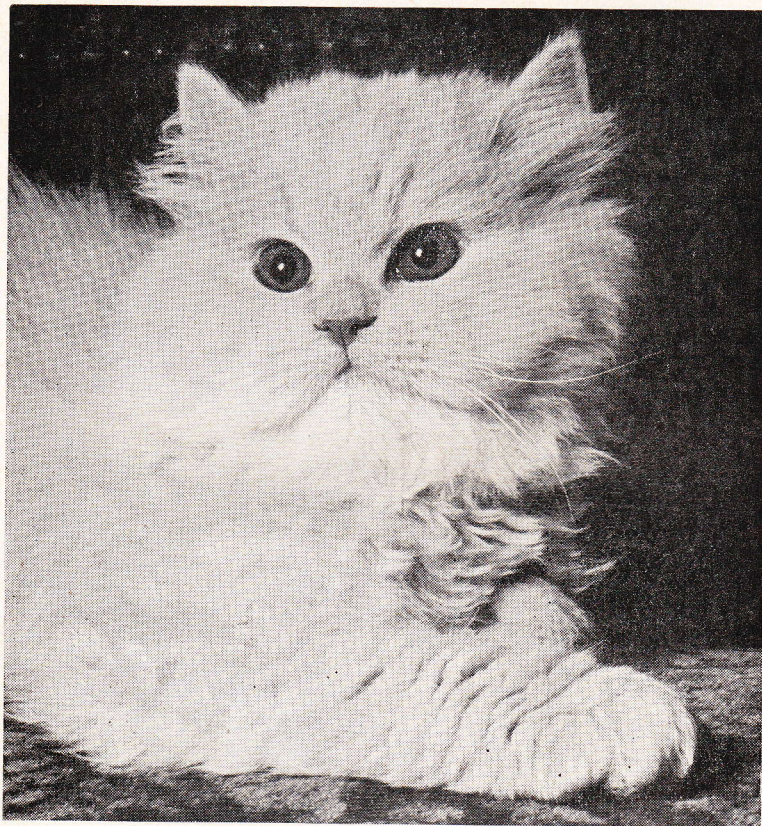
According to an official of the National Canine Defence League, many hotels have relaxed their "No Pets" rule. It may therefore be anticipated that a greater number of hotels and guest houses than ever before will this summer welcome holidaymakers with their pets.

Princess Anne-Eugénie, whose wedding last November to Archduke Felix of Austria revived some of the glitter of vanished Hapsburg glories, intends to take up veterinary work in Mexico when her honeymoon is over. The Princess is 27 and attractive.

The Aga Khan is spending the winter months in his "Villa Yakimour" overlooking the Bay of Cannes in the South of France. In an interview recently with Gordon Young, he revealed that it is a home full of birds and animals, all cherished pets. Said the Aga Khan: "I have got canaries, some Congo parrots who talk beautifully, Persian cats and dogs who all get along very well. When we move I suppose some people think we are some sort of a travelling circus." The Begum Aga Khan visited the Festival Cat Show in 1950 and purchased a nice Blue Longhair kitten from Mrs. Brunton.

The delightful little South American ocelot kitten has died at the London Zoo. It was only the third of its kind to be born in England in 100 years. It was twice seen on TV and I am not alone in my doubts as to the wisdom of exposing these delicate baby creatures to the atmosphere of a television studio.

"I have added a most romantic inmate to my family—a large bloodhound. . . . He is between the deer-greyhound and mastiff, with a shaggy mane like a lion, and always sits beside me at dinner, his head as high as the back of my chair; yet it will gratify you to know that a favourite cat keeps him in the greatest possible order, and insists upon all rights of precedence, and scratches with impunity the nose of an animal who would make no bones of a wolf, and pulls down a red deer without fear or difficulty." Thus wrote Sir Walter Scott in a letter to Joanna Baillie, the poetess. It was only in the later years of his life that Sir Walter became attached to cats.



Francois Rousseaux

BOUMABAMBA DE LA VIAMALA

This bonny 3-months-old Cream Longhair was Best Kitten at the Paris Show held last October. Breeder is Mrs. Pia Sandoz, of Zurich, Switzerland. Boumabamba (sired by Glenfield Pius Peterkin ex Anchor Ulan) followed up this success with Best Kitten at the Lucerne Show in November and Best Male Kitten at the Berne Show in December.

**I suppose it had to come one day !
At a Feline Fantasy staged by the
Silvergate Cat Club of San Diego,
U.S.A., the Sianx cat was an exhibit.
It is, of course, a Siamese-Manx
cross with Seal Point colour and
type sans tail.**

An amusing small advertisement from our American contemporary reads :
" The Modern Cat, a beautiful gift
booklet instructing enlightened cat owners
in teaching cats to use the bathroom
toilet, 25c. or 5 for one dollar."

A newsflash says that geisha girls in
Tokio have held memorial services for
the souls of 80,000 cats killed during the
year to produce strings for the traditional
3-stringed instruments used by the girls.

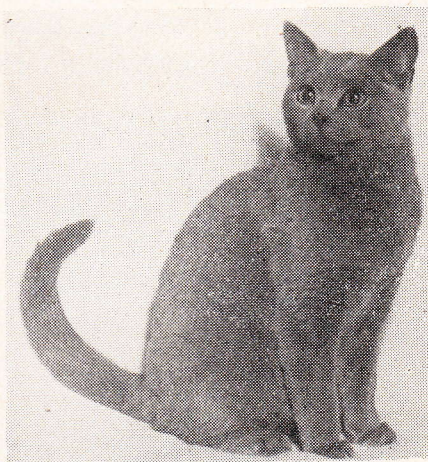
I am indebted to the News Bulletin of
the Siamese Cat Fanciers (American Cat
Association) for a useful and seasonal
feeding tip. Here it is for present or
future use : Plant a garlic bulb in a
flower pot, keeping it in a dark place
until shoots appear. Then bring it into
the light and keep it moist. Plantings
should be made at intervals through the
winter so that fresh tops are always
available. The tops should be cut fine
with scissors and mixed with the meat
dish. They are an excellent tonic and
the cats will love them.

Scamp, a black-and-white kitten,
Topsy, the cat and Stumpy, the tortoise,
are the pets of Mrs. Ralph Anthony, of
Gateshead, and the odd thing is they
enjoy communal feeding. Stumpy likes
to share milk with the cats and doesn't
mind a bit if Scamp sits on his shell for
a clean-up after the proceedings.

Proceedings at the Siamese Cat Club
Show at the Melbourne Town Hall were
marred when it was discovered that
Suey Mak Sylvester, a 3-months' old
Siamese belonging to Mrs. W. J. Hine
was missing from its pen. It was thought
the kitten had been stolen by a drunken
visitor and the story was taken up by the

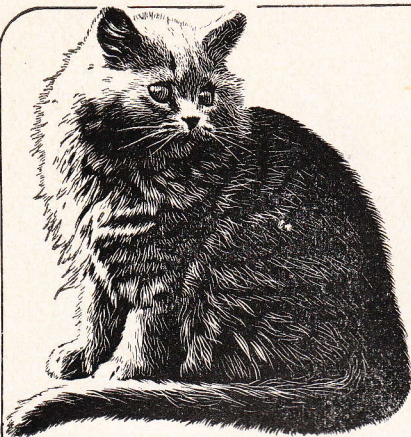
press and radio. The following day
(Sunday) Suey Mak was discovered by a
lady in her garden some distance out of
the city. She told the police and the
police told Lieut.-Col. S. T. V. Cole,
president of the Siamese Cat Club of
Australia. So Suey Mak was eventually
restored to Mrs. Hine and her large
family of Siamese Seal and Blue Points,
little worse for his adventure.

Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, who
run the R.S.P.C.A. Cats' Home in
Salford, Lancs., thoroughly enjoyed
themselves at Christmas when they put
on a special party for 25 cats. There
were Christmas trees with decorations
and gifts and a wonderful rabbit pie. All
reports agree it was a real slap-up spree.
The guests arrived on Christmas Eve and
stayed four days. Then they were col-
lected by their respective owners who
had gone off for their own holidays con-
fident in the knowledge that the Smiths
would give their pets a good time.



Thompson, Ipswich

**MINGSWYK BLUE PRINCE, perky
British Blue kitten bred and owned
by Mrs. I. J. Cattermole, of Ipswich,
has "caught the judge's eye" on
many occasions this show season.
He was Best Shorthair at the recent
Felixstowe Show of the East Anglian
Cat Club.**



ARISTOCRAT

Fastidious cats are grateful for 'Lorexane' Dusting Powder, because of the protection it gives them against unwelcome guests. Pleasantly perfumed and perfectly safe, 'Lorexane' spells certain death to fleas and lice.

'Lorexane' DUSTING POWDER

(contains gamma BHC)

Obtainable from your usual supplier or, in case of difficulty, write to Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals) Ltd., Wilmslow, Manchester, a subsidiary company of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.

THE SAFE INSECTICIDE

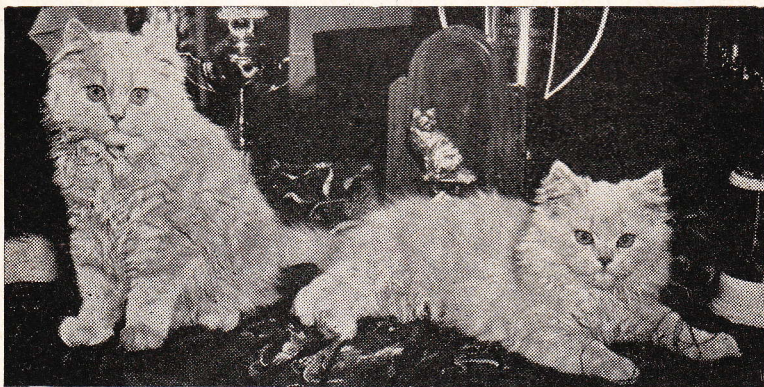


Ph.B.43

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OLD LANE, ST. JOHNS, CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX

Crowborough 407

A trap baited with fish caught a black cat which for a week had been hiding in the tunnels near Leicester Square underground station. It wore a leather collar with a bell attached and after capture enjoyed a special "mixed grill" provided by a nearby restaurant.

A caravan for cats has been constructed by Raven Coachworks to the order of Mrs. C. J. Roberts, breeder of Siamese and Abyssinians. Mrs. Roberts decided that as she had to move from Essex to the Midlands, a caravan was just the thing for transporting and accommodating her family of cats. It has five pens, complete with cat houses, and two "trees" have been fixed within a 12ft. by 7ft. shell. In addition, there is a bunk, gas fire and wash basin for use during emergency feline midwifery.

A famous American museum had a telephone call asking whether there had ever been two Pharoahs who were brothers in ancient Egypt and if so what were their names? In the land of quizzes museums are used to this kind of enquiry and the caller was promised an answer in due course. The matter proved more difficult than anticipated and eventually the whole Oriental Department was engaged on the search. After a couple of days they found the names of two Pharoahs who had been brothers and rang back the caller to tell her. Then the museum official said: "As a matter of interest, why do

you want to know?" Back came the answer: "We have a couple of male kittens who are brothers and we wanted appropriate names for them."—(Extract from the December issue of the excellent "Abyssinian News Letter").

Mrs. Lorna Hill, authoress and wife of the Vicar of Matfen, Northumberland, is a woman of action. Hearing the screams of captured animals she searched the vicarage glebe fields and found 28 gin traps, which she promptly uprooted and dumped in a nearby river. Her own cat Pharoah had to have a leg amputated after spending ten days without food in one of these vile contraptions. Mrs. Hill was subsequently charged at Hexham with maliciously damaging traps belonging to a rabbit catcher. She was ordered to pay 22s. 3d. costs and given a conditional discharge for a year. Later she received a solicitor's letter claiming £5 19s. 0d., the value of the traps and compensation for the rabbits which might have been caught. Mrs. Hill is also a woman of determination: "I am prepared," she says, "to fight a civil court action before I pay these costs. My conscience would not allow me to pay money which might be used to buy more traps. I'd go to prison for what I did if it would help to have these traps abolished."

MICKEY.

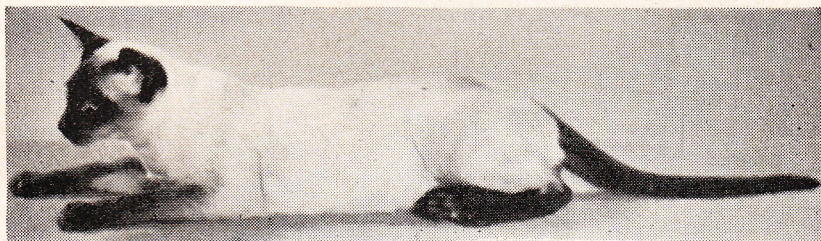


Photo Nellys

Here's a Siamese male with a title to be proud of! He is Double Champion ASTRA'S MORRIS LINDEX (imp.), All Eastern and All American. Bred and exported by Mrs. M. W. Richardson, of Ashted, Surrey, Lindex is now owned by Miss Agnes F. Rand, Mincola, New York.

INTERNATIONAL SHOW

The Cercle Félin de Paris held their second International Show at the Salle Wagram, writes Miss D. M. Collins, who was again invited to judge, this time the Shorthairs. The Show ran for three days in November and some very nice cats were exhibited—see pictures opposite.

The main awards were : Best Longhair, Mme Bogard's Yaida de Laborde, a White ; Best Shorthair, Mme Rouge's Siamese Ariane de la Rouche Virey, by Int. Ch. Silken Lucifer ; Best Neuter, Mlle. Sindou's Blue Longhair Xylane de Laborde ; Best Longhair Kitten, Mlle Meynot's White male Beryl de Laborde ; Best Shorthair Kitten, Dr. Melchoir's Siamese Bankok-Rangoon.

Mme Pollin's wonderful brood queen

Ch. Letrouchka was on view with eleven progeny, ten of which won 1st and Excellent, surely a record for any show !

There was an excellent entry of European ratters this time and I wished I had more prizes to award. First and second prizes in males were won by Kiki, a 10-year old Tabby-and-white—a huge cat—and Mickey, an 8-year old black. These handsome cats were exhibited by a well-known store and were provided with gaily decorated pens.

All the Siamese had long tails, some with slight kinks. Heads and coats were fairly good but in nearly every case eyes were too round.

Mme Linning, of Antwerp, judged the Longhairs and we both were royally entertained.

FORTHCOMING SHOWS

1953	Promoted by	Venue
3 February ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London
14 February ...	Yorkshire County Cat Club	Leeds

* Denotes Show with Championship status

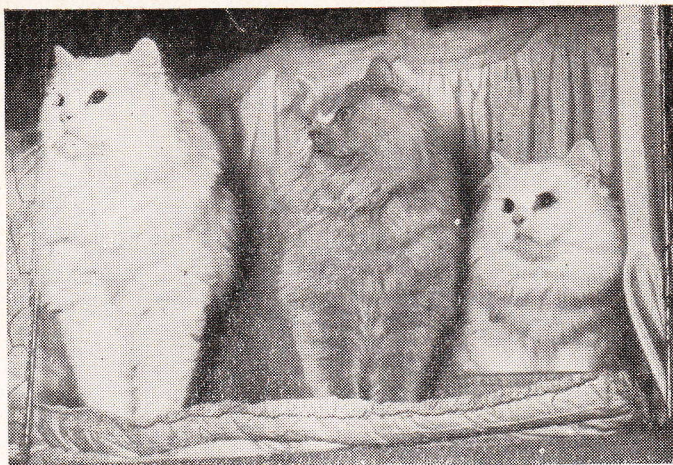


*We're fine
thanks!*

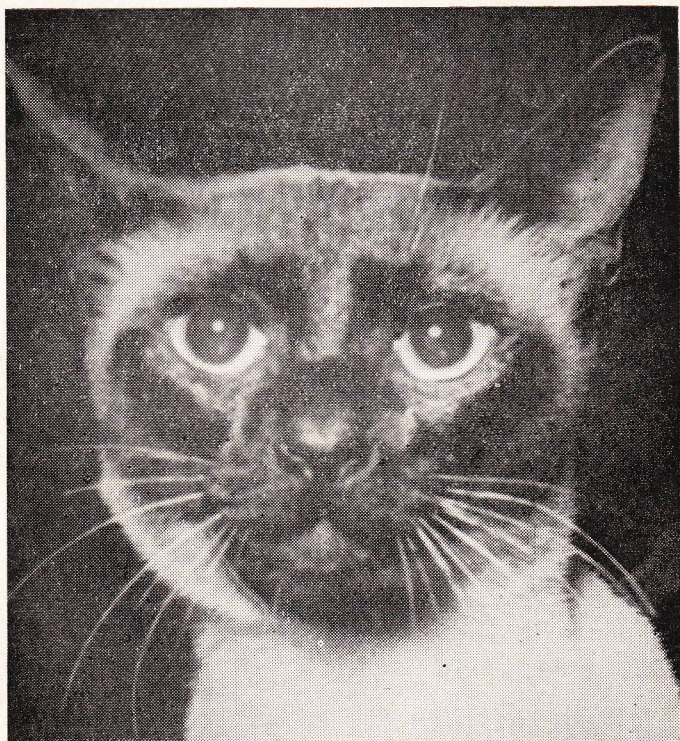
Nema Worm Capsules soon put us right! No nasty after-effects either. A single treatment is effective in removing hookworms and roundworms.

NEMA
WORM CAPSULES

A PARKE-DAVIS PRODUCT
From all Chemists



Mme Bogard's three 1st Excellent C.A.C. winners at the Show of the Cercle Félin de Paris. They are—reading from left to right—WINNIE DE LABORDE, Blue-eyed White, A ZAMBRA DU MONT-JOLY, Blue Longhair, and YAIDA DE LABORDE, Orange-eyed White.



Another Paris winner (see report on page 22) was ARIANE DE LA ROUCHE VIREY, Mme Rouge's striking Siamese female.

*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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New Year Gifts for Cat Lovers

SIAMESE DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size $1\frac{1}{4}$ " high \times $1\frac{3}{4}$ " 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 BROOCHES (actual size 1" high \times $1\frac{1}{4}$ " 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.

Paws across "The Pond"

From BILLIE BANCROFT (American Associate Editor)

THE New York Chapter of Feline Friends held a contract bridge party last month to benefit their animal work. Thirty-two tables were in play ; each table had a separate prize for top-score and then there were several door prizes. The top door prize was a large attractive doll-cat, a calico cat, if you please. The lady who made it received numbers of requests to make more and the proceeds will be turned over to Feline Friends. The table prizes were smaller doll-cats. Every one was happy and I never had so much fun. The husband of one of the members insisted on making a speech after the awarding of the grand door prize. He maintained that if we gave a calico cat, then there should also be a gingham dog ! The member who made the cats said she would make him such a dog. Then there was another drawing and all owners of dogs were asked to step forward and draw for the extra prize. Two-thirds of the members walked to the front. My private opinion is—that the Feline Friends are also friends of any animals that need help !

* * *

One of the California Shows (Los Angeles) came across with a large number of entries, three hundred and eighteen to be exact. There were, of course, some absentees ; how many, I do not know exactly. Matil Rotter was All-Breed judge and this fact alone will always attract an excellent gate. The Siamese judge was Mrs. Marguerite

Goforth and the American Silver Fanciers had Mrs. Edithe Schulte as their judge. During the judging one of these three announced from her judging bench : " These poor Siamese kits are hungry and we judges are not so stupid that we do not know the difference between a fed cat and a fat cat." I am speaking, of course, of the Angel City Cat Fanciers (C.F.A.). The Best Cat in Show was Benveldt Rosemary, truly a beauty. Out of all those entries she *had* to be good and her owner, Mrs. Howell T. Mueller, San Antonio, Texas, was not even present. But how justly proud is she of little Rosemary !

* * *

The Crusaders are still going strong and rolling up an unbelievable membership. I find this is one of the best organizations we have to interest members in the general Fancy. Once a member gets to be a Crusader the next step is to join one of the various Associations. I suggested they call themselves the Novices Association. They seem to have more novices than anything else in their membership. There are, however, a few older breeders who are directing them.

* * *

The Garden State Show (managed by Miss Elsie Hydon) went over the top with a huge gate and an all-time record entry—larger than any show this season. No matter who is president of Garden State or who the official high-brass is—if Hydon manages—the show is outstanding. Entries came from as far as thirty-five hundred miles just to place their entries under Kathleen Yorke. From the far western points, the extreme north as well as the states bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, they came. Garden

State was the best managed as well as one of the largest shows held this season. The catalogue carried the Garden State colors and featured a picture of that charming breeder from Shawnee Cattery down Kentucky way, Nikki Horner, holding Champion Shawnee's Copper Lustre. Several of the New York papers carried pictures of the All-Breed judge, Kathleen Yorke. She was also featured in a three-hundred-word write-up by the Associated Press. Another outstanding judge at this show was Mrs. John Revington, Bristol, Tennessee. Mrs. Revington is decidedly a top-bracket judge—as well as one of the strictest judges, conforming to the rules absolutely (C.F.A.). If you make a win under Revington or Saxby-Mabie you really have accomplished something.

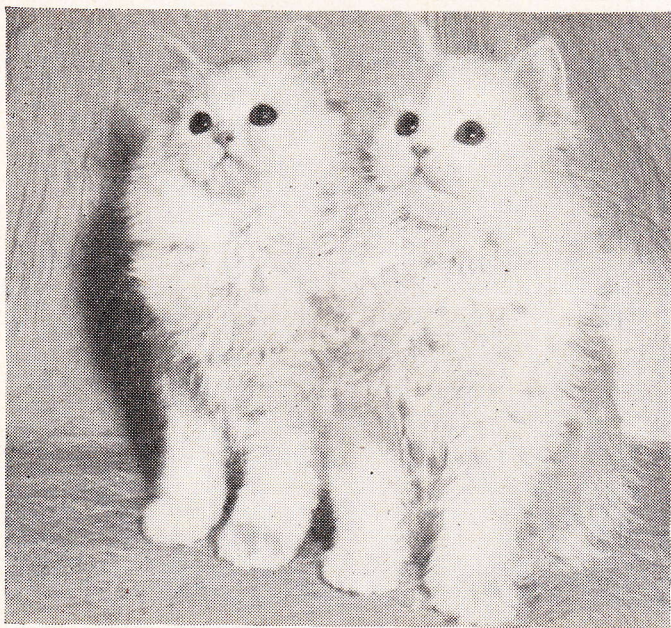
* * *

The weather men in America have been co-operating at most every show this year. This service has enabled the

breeders from a distance to drive instead of coming by rail or plane. Larger attendances have resulted.

* * *

A funny incident comes to me from one of the southern shows. It seems Jo-Ann Simpson had an entry that was hard to keep in the average show cage. If the sliding doors were not locked, and I mean a small padlock, Masked Lady would get her nose under the edge of the sliding door, then her paws, up would come the door and out she would scramble. Jo-Ann sent her pet to a cousin to enter in this show, neglecting to tell her that the gates of the cage must be locked. Lady was a perfectly behaved cat until night time came. Everyone was gone. Becoming lonesome, she opened her cage and strolled around the show-room. She found Joe the caretaker and curled up beside him. Knowing where the cat belonged, he took her back to her cage. Lady looked a bit resentful but



A lovely pair of copper-eyed White Kittens at three months from the Shanna Groith Cattery of Mrs. Colleen Aslyn, Bodega Bay, California.

soon quieted down. Joe had no sooner dropped off to sleep than he was awakened by a cuddling bundle of fur. Again he took her back to the cage and this time he tied the door with a piece of string. Some time before morning he was again awakened—the lady was with him again! He decided to give up the unequal struggle and let her stay. When he started cleaning the room in the morning the lady slept on, having had a restless night. The owner's cousin came in about eight-thirty to groom and care for her charge and found the cage empty. She dashed to the door and slammed it and then rushed over to Joe, telling him her cat was gone. "Yes, I know," Joe replied, "look over on my cot. She slept with me last night."



REPORT FROM MISS YORKE

Immediately after all the excitement of the record Garden State Cat Club Show of New Jersey, Miss Kathleen Yorke kindly airmailed the following brief account to OUR CATS :

After being delayed for 24 hours on account of the fog, I eventually got away from Hurn Airport, near Bournemouth. On the Sunday morning (7th December) our plane touched down at Idlewild, the largest airport in the world. I received a great welcome from Miss Hydon and members of the Club. Letters and telegrams of greetings were waiting for me from American, English and Continental friends—a great joy to me.

The Show was most successful and Miss Hydon, who is so experienced in management, was supported by a good entry—316 cats of all breeds. There were Grand Champions, Champions and some were hoping for final points for Championship honours.

Mrs. M. E. Hoag won Best in Show

with a really lovely Chinchilla female Ch. Arlington's Sensation II, who excelled in purity of colour with an even sprinkling of ticking, giving a sparkling effect of great beauty. This cat had a perfect balance of type, shape, head, eyes, etc. She was up against my Best Siamese for Best Grand Champion, this being Gr. Ch. Chindwin's Singumin of Newton, owned by Mrs. Virginia Cobb. It was difficult to separate these two cats. Mrs. Cobb's exhibit had already won under the Specialty Siamese judge in the Siamese Specialty Show.

Mrs. Hoag also showed a spectacular Blue Cream kitten, Nor-Mont's Baji, of her own breeding. I was also impressed by a lovely Blue-eyed White presented in perfect condition by Mr. A. De Santis, prominent American fancier who had many successes at the Show.

Siamese Seal Point Open Male was Silken Pedro, owned by Mrs. John Hoag, runner-up being Sukianga Sirocco, bred, I believe, by our Mrs. Varcoe and owned by Mrs. Combs. Sirocco is a lovely cat, not quite at his best on the day, so the younger one went over him. These two will, I expect, change places many times in the future. I liked the finer bone of Silken Pedro, though his points were not so dark.

Best Kitten was Morris Amanda, bred by our Mrs. Richardson, and now owned by Mrs. Rand. A worthy winner, this kitten.

Novice Blue Winner

Mrs. Ruth Hayes did remarkably well with her two cats. Grand Champion Milky Ways Enchanted Prince, a glorious Blue-eyed White, was winner of his variety and his son Milky Ways Legacy was an example of show fitness and preparation. All the Whites were in perfect form and had such excellent head type.

Blues were good. Renown of Dunesk looked well. He won 1st but the Winner Ribbon I awarded to a male from the novice class, Khyben's Lari of Birch Haven. A lot of applause greeted

this decision. Renown was not in full coat but he won his Ribbon under Mrs. Revington in the Specialty Show. The Blue Female Rosalie of Allington got her 1st under me but the Winner Ribbon went to Ru-Ling Rosebud, who was in excellent coat. Mrs. Revington awarded her Ribbon to Rosalie, who was brought all the way from Canada by Mrs. Warren. This queen will take a lot of beating next year.

Best Blue exhibit under both judges was Mrs. Limpert's Ch. Dixi-Land Montpelier Victor, a worthy Champion

and perfectly presented. Creams, Blue-Creams, Reds and Blacks also were a grand lot. Manx (10) and Abyssinian (9) made a brave show. Best Manx was Mrs. Betty Youngman's Tortie which she bought for herself in the Isle of Man in 1950. Best Abby. was Mrs. Donovan's Chirn Sa-Hai Ricki, self-bred but with English ancestry.

I must not omit to mention that Mrs. Myrtle Shipe was an excellent worker for me as clerk and Mr. Sven Nelson, who stewarded for me for several breeds, was exceptionally good and careful.

American Quotes

We are indebted to Billie Bancroft, our American Associate Editor, for this interesting collection of frank opinions passed by exhibitors and visitors at the Garden State Club Show. It is plainly evident that Miss Kathleen Yorke did a fine job of work for the Old Country and the British Cat Fancy. No cat judge has succeeded yet in pleasing all of the people all of the time!

WELL, I don't know too much about judging. You know I'm a novice breeder and have only two cats. I have not entered them in Garden State—and I'm sorry. I would like to have Miss Yorke judge them. She has poise and all the breeders seem to have confidence in her. I guess I'm biased. You see, I happen to be English, too.

[Mrs. MARION BELLHAM, Ridgewood, New Jersey]

I think it is a wonderful idea to have an English judge. I understand she is top-ranking in England, being head of the G.C.C.F. or something—whatever that stands for. She can't possibly know the owners over here. She will not show favoritism—she will judge the cat on its merits alone. I came over three thousand miles to see how she worked. I have no entries but I'm sorry now I did not bring some along. Frankly, I like her. I'm going to Kansas City to see what she does there. I don't mind telling you my Club sent me on just to give her "the once over."

[Mrs. KATHE GRAY OVERMAN, California]

A group of teenagers in the balcony sent one of their number after me. I think there were eleven of them. When I went up to them they wanted to know why Miss Yorke wore her bracelet *above* her elbow. I promised to find out for them, which I did. On the morning of the second day of the Show eleven girls were wearing bracelets *a la Yorke*—by afternoon there were seventeen! Mothers reported to me that there had been a raid on their jewel-boxes. She *has* something—she really is on the ball—and I've agreed with every decision she has made. She handles her cats well and overlooks nothing.

[JAMES CARPENTER, Boston, Mass.]

I did not think the decision on the Tortoiseshell was very good. Victory Bell of Mol-Cron has always been tops. Maybe she is seven years old, so what! She is good now and she always will be good. I think Miss Yorke is using English methods to judge American cats. We want judging according to our own conformations.

[Mrs. R. C. NIXON, Cincinnati, Ohio]

One little breeder was taking her cat out of the judges' cage and as she was leaving the platform she turned to Miss Yorke and said: "You know this cat came from

England?" Judge Yorke stopped dead still in examining another entry. "Well, bring her right back here. I want to kiss her." And Kathleen Yorke did just that, right square-bang on his nose. What do I think of Miss Yorke? Well, first I'd like to say she has personality plus and I have agreed with all her decisions.

[*The look that accompanied this statement had more meaning than the actual words—and what a twinkle there was in his eyes! This gentleman had no less than twenty entries and was himself a judge.*]

[ANTHONY DE SANTIS, Longhill Road, Oakland, New Jersey]

Oh, don't ask me, I can't think. I'm so damn cold. Why don't they heat this place?—[*This was from an international importer who had informed me days earlier that she could hardly wait until Miss Yorke arrived.*]

[VIRGINIA COBB, 374 Kendrick Street, Newton, Mass.]

I think she is all she was reported to be—and then some! [McGLORY, Roxbury, Mass.]

I think she is excellent and I like everything she has done so far. My two cat-children got in a fight and messed themselves up, so I could not bring them. However, I have one entered but just did not bring him. He also is too battered! "Good" does not express just what I mean when I speak of Miss Yorke. She definitely has what it takes to be an outstanding judge.

[ROBERT BRUCE, Brooklyn, New York]

I like her. I think she is good. She was very kind to me and I am pleased that I made the long trip from New Orleans. You know, of course, that I have made nine entries here!

[MISS W. PORTER, New Orleans, La.]

We think she is good for America. We need judges who are not biased.

[Mr. and Mrs. A. W. SEBRING, New Milford, New Jersey]

What do I think of Miss Yorke? Well, I like her. That's what I think of her!

[Mrs. JUDY SMITH, Staten Island, New York]

I think she has turned in a swell performance. She certainly was good to me. She is good, yes, but no better than what we have here.

[Mrs. DONNA WENDEL, Elizabeth, New Jersey]

Well, I think she is all right but for the life of me I can't see why it is necessary to import a judge. Our judges here at home are plenty good. In fact, I don't think there are better judges anywhere than what we have here in America.

[Mrs. W. G. SCHERRER, Newark, New Jersey]

I consider her very good indeed and I'm happy to have placed my entries under her.

[Mrs. H. S. WILSON, Staten Island, New York]

What do I think of Miss Yorke? Well, I want to watch her judge—ask me later.

[BETH O'DONOVAN, Miami, Florida]

I am very pleased indeed. She was most kind to me and I like the way she handles the cats.

[Mrs. LUCAS B. COMBS, Lexington, Kentucky]

I don't know, I really do not know. I can't understand her decision regarding Moonbeam and so many agree with me. I just don't know!

[Miss VERNER CLUM, Dunedin, Florida]

Don't let anyone kid you, Billie. She is tops, absolutely tops.

[Mrs. NINA DUFF, Roselle, New Jersey]

I have no complaint to make. My boy got all that was coming to him.

[Mrs. HELEN HILDEBRAND, Brooklyn, New York]

Well, in the first place, I passed on my opinion before Miss Yorke ever arrived. I said she would be good—and she is good.—[*This from an English lady.*]

[Mrs. MAY LAINE, New York City]

Oh, she is all right, but we have just as good here!

[Miss ELLEN LAFLIN, Sea Gate, Brooklyn, New York]

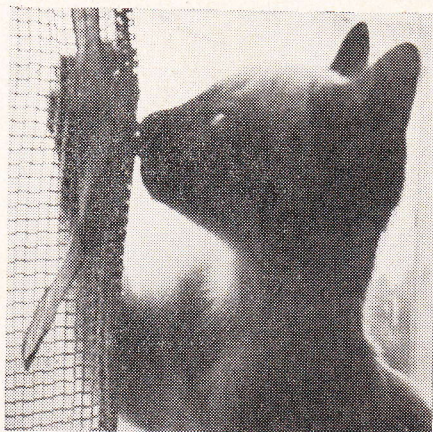
My personal opinion of Miss Yorke is that she has a million dollar smile and were she staying in New York I'd like to propose her for the New York Social Register.

[BILLIE BANCROFT, Cloud Top, Rockaway I., New Jersey]

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BLUE MOONLIGHT	Siamese B.P. F	to ditto.
HOLMESDALE GISELLE	Siamese S.P. F	to ditto.
HOLMESDALE KRISHNA	Siamese S.P. F	to HEIDELBERG, VIC., AUST.
LAXEY	Manx F	to DALLAS, TEXAS, U.S.A.
KERRNISH	Manx M	to DALLAS, TEXAS, U.S.A.
SILKEN PEDRO	Siamese S.P. M	to DARIEN, CONN, U.S.A.
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MYSTERIOUS MICK	Siamese S.P. M	to MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

MRS. JOAN THOMPSON — popular and active figure in the Cat Fancy for many years, breeder and International judge — turns the pages of her diary to reveal the most interesting entries concerning personalities, both human and feline.

A Chinchilla Import

It is rare to have news about an imported kitten. Mrs. Mollie Turney of Holyport, Berkshire, was probably making cat history when she went to London Airport on December 22nd to collect a Chinchilla male kitten named Kute Kit Silver Flyer, bred by Mrs. Earl Nack of Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, who has bred so many U.S.A. Chinchilla and Shaded Silver Champions. Silver Flyer has been imported to provide an out-cross for this lovely variety.

Mrs. Turney writes : "I was beginning to get worried as he had been taken to Idlewild Airport Friday night and was expected at Heath Row midnight Saturday but owing to engine trouble and a second delay because he was not allowed to travel in a plane with horses, he did not arrive until Monday. However, he purred loudly during the ten minutes I was allowed to see him and much enjoyed his first taste of English rabbit. The things about him which impressed me were his sweet responsive disposition, his length of coat, his lovely green eyes and his size (at 5½ months he appeared to be the size of a young adult). He is low on the legs and I sincerely hope he will be beneficial to Chinchilla

breeders in this country. I am so looking forward to mating Aphra to him. Her last kitten, Bonavia Fifi (by Mrs. McLeod's Jamie of Thame), has won 12 firsts, 8 seconds and was Best Chinchilla kitten."

"I expect you remember my Blue Chinchilla Sandra who created interest by rearing nine kittens in 1950 (pictured in OUR CATS, December, 1950). Unfortunately, I have lost her this year. Mated to Mrs. Aitken's Black Diamond with the object of commencing a line for Smokes, she produced ten ! She reared seven but I fear the big litters undermined her constitution as she developed drinking diabetes. I wanted to keep her back but she refused food if not mated ; her one interest in life was having and rearing kittens. I have kept two of her last litter, one a good step towards a Smoke ; the other for sentimental reasons as she is like her mother."

"I am looking forward to the day when Kute Kit Silver Flyer comes out of quarantine. It seems such a long time until June."

All success to this enterprise. It will be very interesting to see this American kitten and to follow his fortunes.

Dutch Exports

A welcome letter has also reached me from Miss Posthuma, of Haarlem, Holland. The Cream female she bred and exported to Mrs. Coren Petta, of Wisconsin, is now Champion Bentveld Pink Lady and needs only two points to become a Double Champion in U.S.A. (Cat Fanciers' Association). She has been photographed for newspaper write-ups and was on two television shows in

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Milwaukee and Chicago. Her showpen usually has chocolate brown draperies and a matching rug. She is by Sedan Cocktail (a son of Dickon of Allington) and she has many English cats in her pedigree.

Bentveld Nepeta and Rosemary (by Int. Ch. Southway Wizard) are the two Blue kittens I placed 1 and 2 in their Open class at Rotterdam last February and they are giving a very good account of themselves in U.S.A. Mrs. Howell Mueller's Rosemary was Best Exhibit at a Show in California and her lovely type and coat are outstanding. As she lives in Texas, which has an average summer temperature of 100, it is remarkable that she grows a long coat in early autumn.

The third sister in this lovely trio, Bentveld Dulce is owned by Mr. Bartholomew and was Best Exhibit at Nuremberg Show. A lovely typed Black, Bentveld Black Sheep (purchased by Madame Bonnardot of Paris) has been awarded two C.A.C.I.B. and Bentveld Bubbles, another Black, won at Berne. All are by Ch. Southway Wizard, who has sired so many winners for Miss Posthuma.

More Continental Winners

At Ghent, Tollerton Rosebud, a Cream female, bred in England by Mrs. Oakley, completed her Championship. At this show, Madame Kroon-Nédela's beautiful Blue female, Int. Ch. Laska van Frisia State (pictured in OUR CATS, March, 1952) was awarded the Grand Prix d'Honneur, offered by the King of Belgium, and was also Best in Show.

From Madame Sandoz comes welcome news of the Int. Ch. Show at Berne, Switzerland, on December 6th and 7th. She writes :—"Exhibitors came from Switzerland, France, Italy, Germany and Austria, and the standard was very high. We had a lot of very good cats and some lovely English imports, among them National and International Champions. Best Cat in Show was Madame Ravel's White Longhair, Jackotte of the White Lady. Best male in Show, Blue

Longhair Chinaboy of Dunesk, won over Signora Paganini's Blue Int. Ch. Wee Williewinkie of Dunesk in his Open Class. Wee Williewinkie was first in the Int. Ch. male class and both these fine cats are by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue. In Int. Champion females Mlle Perrin's White Longhair White Flower du Leman was first.

Best Kitten in Show, Mme Delmonico's Blue B'Nuolle de Novaggio, came from pure British-bred parents Int. Ch. Southway Reveller ex Souvenir Mignonette. Second in this class was Ufcombe Sunset (bred here by Mrs. Douglas) and Reserve Best Kitten the Paris winning Cream male Mme Sandoz's Boumabamba de la Viamala, again by British-bred parents. Other English exports winning high honours were the Chinchilla male Florestan of Allington by Ch. Flambeau of Allington. The Blue-Cream, Champion Twilight of Pensford by Ch. Astra of Pensford was awarded C.A.C.I.B., and the latter's Blue Cream daughter also won first in kittens. The dam Parkwood Nerika was sent out mated to him so Madame Sandoz was breeder of the kitten, and owner of the first and Ch. Open class Cream male Glenfield Pius Peterkin by Ch. Oxleys Peter John."

From Mrs. Magnusson, of Stockholm, comes good news that her Seal Point Siamese male Sabukia Sinbad (by Lindale Simon Pie) became a Champion at Amsterdam and Quantocks Gossamer (by Ch. Morris Tudor) was awarded her second Challenge cert. and Best Siamese in Show.

Mrs. Lorentzen, of Copenhagen, writes : "Silken Rosy Rascal does well at Mrs. Poulsen's. She is a lovely cat, very sweet tempered and understands Danish now. I saw her the day after her arrival and it was funny to watch her

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when I spoke to her in her native tongue. She pricked her ears and looked at me. When I spoke Danish she did not react. She is very happy and much loved."

Mrs. Varcoe tells me the litter brother Silken Pedro has been purchased by Mrs. Hoag, Darien, Connecticut, U.S.A., as a mate for Sukianga Seabreeze, bred and exported by Mrs. Varcoe.

Mrs. Henn is busy out in Salop preparing for her only daughter's wedding in the spring. But she has kindly sent news of U.S.A. successes. The fine Black male Ch. Baralan Samson, by Ch. Deebank Michael, bred by her, was exported in August and by October had become an American Champion. Baralan Celeste by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue also achieved this honour. Both are by a lovely Tortoiseshell, Fireball of Takeley. Baralan Mistress Midnight, an American Double Champion is the same breeding as Celeste.

Mrs. Henn was very sorry to let Samson go so far away but found keeping two studs too much for her and parting

with Ch. Baralan Boy Blue was unthinkable.

Samson and Celeste are owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. Gibson, of Norfolk, Virginia.

Mrs. K. R. Williams writes :—"Doneraile Daria (by Sukianga Sirocco and Doneraile Deb Too) was taken back to Switzerland by Mrs. Tappert and at her first Show at Berne was Best Short-hair kitten. Her owner was delighted and telephoned me. I have a Seal Point Siamese male going to Australia and a female to New Zealand in the near future."

British breeders can give themselves a pat on the back when their stock wins so consistently abroad and it is a tribute to the quality they are sending.

Home News

Now for news nearer home. Miss Bull, of Thornton Hough, Cheshire, writes : "Dear old Walverdene Major had a stroke and died recently. He is very much missed. I have from Mrs. Sheppard a very nice Cream male who will, I hope, take Major's place. He is beautifully bred by Ch. Astra out of a queen by Ch. Widdington Warden, so should be a good outcross for the Creams. I have Major's last daughter so these should make a good pair. Hornblower, my Blue male, is lovely now and should be an excellent stud. He has sired some very nice kittens. I have some good queens all well bred and my latest is a daughter of Ch. Southway Crusader named Hullo Blue Dream. I had such a funny letter a few days ago from someone in Somerset, obviously a novice, asking when would it be convenient to send Tafeteace to visit her queen."

Mrs. Dallison, owner of the White Longhair (Best Longhair Kitten in Show at the N.C.C. Ch. Show), tells me Diamond Damarette "had a stormy entry into the world as on the night she was born we had a terrible thunderstorm and a shop near us was struck by lightning. All lights went out and the noise frightened Rose (Damarette's mother) very

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much and later on her milk left her and my Blue-Cream was foster to Damarette. Our cats have liberty and home life. We think Kent a grand county for them."

Notts and Derby

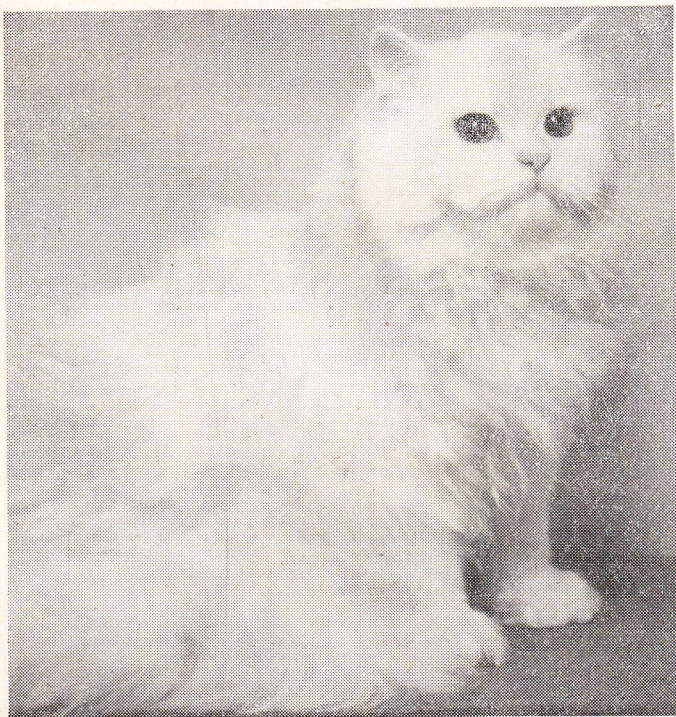
Over 150 exhibits were presented at the eighth Championship Show of the Notts and Derby Cat Club on January 9th.

Mrs. M. E. Bastow (the honorary Secretary) organised it with the help of the Committee and she proved a very capable show manager. Everyone appeared cheery and there was the usual excellent team work that is a great feature of our shows. It was good to have Miss Kathleen Yorke safely back after her Atlantic flight and she received a warm welcome from us all.

The Chinchillas were in fine form

and looked lovely. They were awarded premier honours, Miss Langston's Ch. Flambeau of Allington being Best Longhair Cat in Show. He is a fine male with a lovely expression. The same owner's Mark of Allington, a son of Flambeau, was Best Longhair Kitten. Mrs. Lamb's Seal Point Siamese Pincop Simon was Best Shorthair Cat and to Mrs. Matthewson's Blue Point Siamese Fernreig Zyn went the award for Best Shorthair Kitten.

Miss Sheila McEwan's Blue Trenton Buster Brown, a cat which excelled in type, was Best Longhair. Neuter and Mrs. Rorke's Seal Point Siamese Pristine Phu-Hi, another lovely pet, led the Shorthair neuters. Mrs. McVady had the rare double honour of breeding and owning the winning Blue male, Ch. Gaydene Rudolph, and the winning Blue female, Gaydene Candy Kisses, who, was



DALMOND DAMARETTE, Orange-eyed Longhair White bred by Mrs. M. Dallison, Hersden, Nr. Canterbury (sire, Ch. Carreg Cracker) had "a stormy entry into the world." See references to this nice cat on this and preceding page.

awarded her third certificate. She is a very beautiful queen with the lovely large copper eyes so essential in this variety. Ch. Jewel of Dunesk and this queen are daughters of Mrs. Henn's Ch. Baralan Boy Blue and are a great credit to him. He appears to be prepotent to reproduce himself and to throw back to his lovely sire Ch. Deebank Michael.

Mr. Gordon Allt's home-bred Cream female, Danehurst Princess, also attained her third certificate, a result which gave many of us pleasure. Mr. Allt is a generous supporter of the shows and the Fancy in general and it was nice to see his cats becoming Champions at two consecutive shows. His previous Championship win was with the Chinchilla Redwalls Jack Frost.

Mrs. E. H. Tomlinson's Tortoiseshell Ch. Pekeholm Pomana won yet another certificate, also Mrs. Chapman's Tortie and White Ch. Hendon Show Maiden. Both were looking lovely.

White Longhairs have become a comparatively rare variety nowadays and not a single Blue-eyed or Orange-eyed

exhibit appeared. But Master Roger Parker's Ch. Pinewood White Heather saved the situation by winning for the White Shorthairs.

At every all-breed Championship Show this season with only two exceptions a Chinchilla has been Best Longhair Adult. It is a tribute to their quality. Some of the Blues brought out for Best in Show have been lovely but murky winter afternoons are apt to accentuate the slightest variation in shade and the fact that this ceremony usually takes place in artificial light does not help them.

It was nice to see Mrs. Brice-Webb judging Blue kittens and I thoroughly enjoyed my day tripping about as her steward, with all the pleasure of handling the exhibits without any responsibility of allocating the awards. It reminded me of my pre-war days.

The breeding season is already here and we wonder what it will bring. The Southern Counties Cat Club Ch. Show at the Royal Horticultural Hall on February 3rd will be a grand finale to an exceptionally good series of shows.

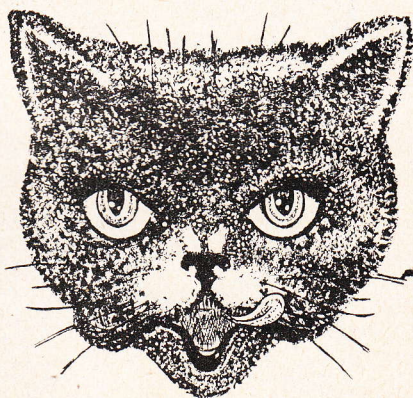
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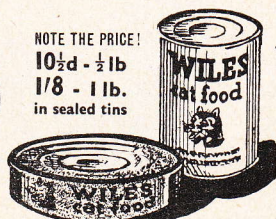
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MARTIAL MIU

who finished his London season with a First and Challenge Certificate at the Croydon Show.

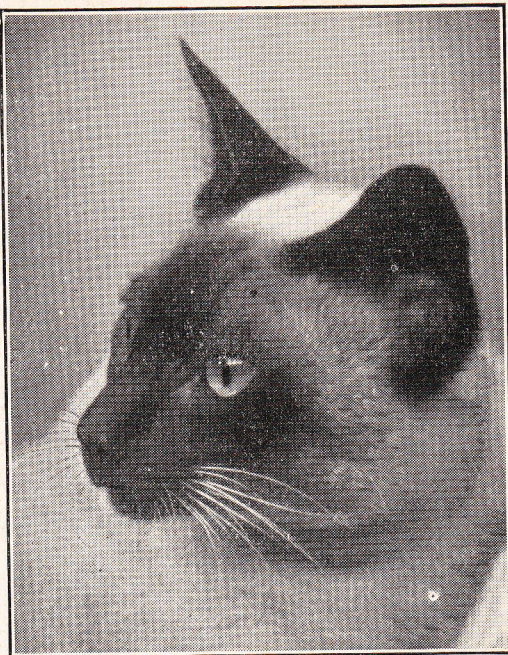
MISS NORMINA M. MARSHALL of Rosebank, Tattenham Road, Brockenhurst, Hants., owner-breeder of the Martial Siamese, writes:—

"I am writing on behalf of my Siamese 'Martial Miu,' whose photograph I enclose, to thank you for the Kit-zyme Special which he received at the Festival Show.

Miu has won quite a lot of prizes this season but was much more interested in his 'Special' than in all the others put together! Actually, we had just bought a cattery pack but, as all my cats and kittens have Kit-zyme from a few weeks old, we can never have too many.

I stepped Miu's dose up to 6 tablets a day when he was teething and I have never had the heart to reduce to the normal two a day ever since. However he has recently become a proud father, so perhaps he needs the extra to keep his strength up for future stud work.

Miu has already won 29 awards including 8 Firsts, 8 Seconds and 6 Thirds at London Shows this season."



Photograph by:— A. Shrouder, Hurn, Christchurch.

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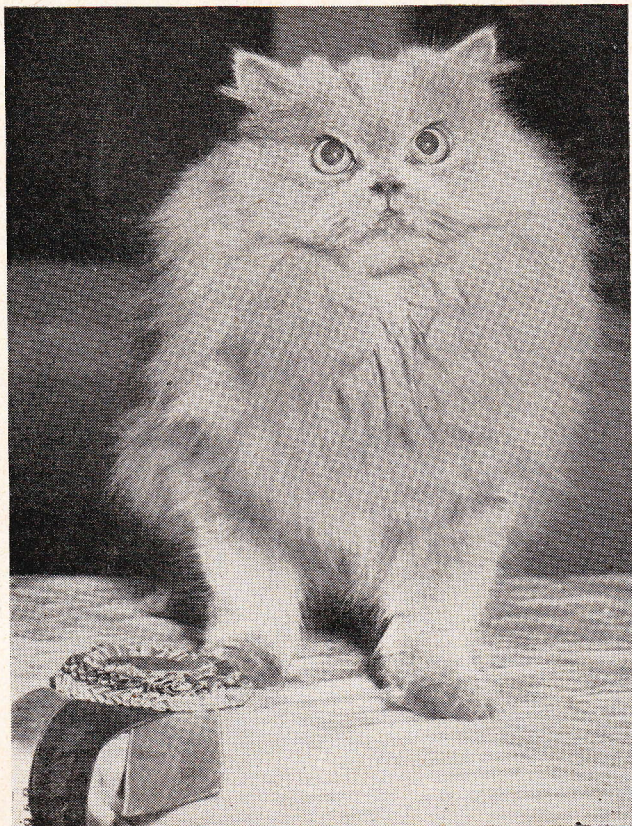
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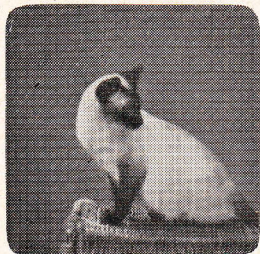
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Our picture was taken at an International Cat Show held in Paris. Exhibitor Claire Maffei faces the camera much more composed and serene than Riton, her 3½ year-old Longhair Tabby.



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