

# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



## A PAIR OF INSEPARABLES

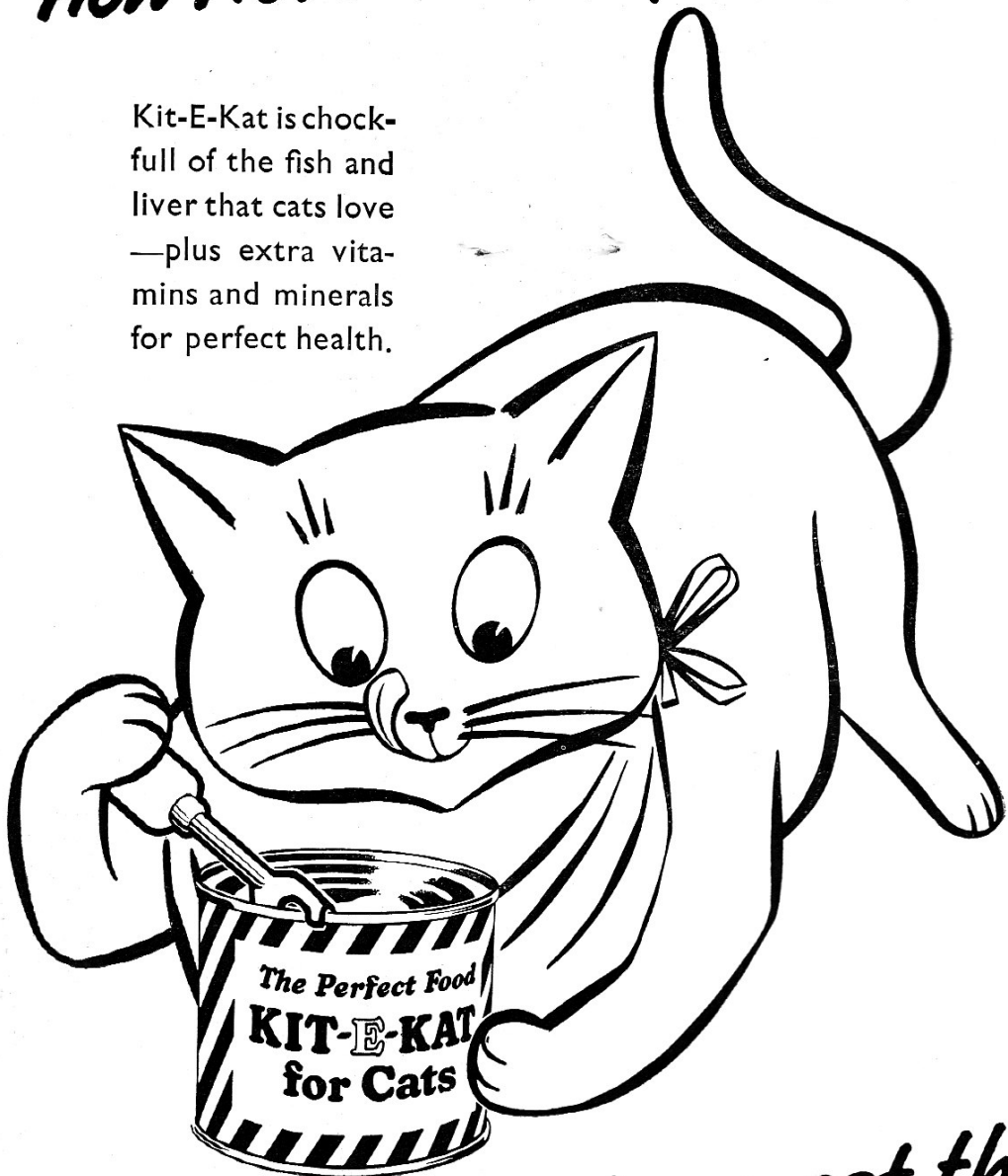
Mrs. Kluxen and her Mischi are well known in a district of Munich, as a pair of inseparables. When they decide to "take a turn" in the park Mischi has to go on a lead to comply with local police regulations. But this restriction doesn't appear to mar his pleasure at being out in the sunshine where he can watch the birds. Photo by Keystone.

JANUARY 1954

1/6

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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.

VOL. 6 No. 1

JANUARY 1954

Managing Editor :

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

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

**THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS**

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If you saw the Republic Technicolour film "Laughing Anne," no introduction will be necessary to these two firm favourites Margaret Lockwood and Ronald Shiner. Here they are during a pudding mixing scene in the galley of the little schooner "Susan." Operations are suspended whilst Ronald introduces Margaret to the ship's pet.

## COUNTRY CAT TALES

THE current issue of *The Countryman* contains a delightful shaggy cat story by Ralph Poston. It is told in the dialect of a Hertfordshire farm worker and relates to a young cat who lost one of her paws when she was run over by a motor. The man fitted her up with an artificial leg made from a clothes peg which was shaped and fitted on to the stump. Of course, she made a bit of a clatter as she stumped about the house and the man's wife swore that puss would never catch any more mice. "Well," said the man, "just you wait and see."

The story ends : " It so 'appened we 'ad a mouse as used to pop out from be'ind the skirtin' board, so arter tea we turned down the lamp an' sat waitin'. Sure enough, arter a bit the mouse come out an' looked round. Cat never moved, an' I began to think my old woman was right arter all. Then when the mouse was right out in the room, that cat up and give it such a clout on the 'ead with 'er peg-leg as never you see. Never even 'ad time to 'oller, it didn't."

The same issue of *The Countryman* also contains two interesting true-life stories about cats. The first story concerns the keeper's cat, Ginger. Whilst out in the woods one afternoon with his friend J. B. Cunliffe, Devon, he stalked four young rabbits that were feeding with their mother on a patch of grass. Ginger was crouched ready to spring when the young rabbits scented danger and dashed

for home. The mother sat up and stayed on the alert. Ginger wriggled and then pounced. At exactly that moment a reddish-brown shape flashed in from the other side of the grass patch. It was a fox. In an instant Ginger became a bristling and raging mass of fury, the fox crouched ready for a second spring and the poor rabbit watched its enemies as it sat "frozen" to the ground. Then suddenly, as though at a signal, cat and fox relaxed, turned and leapt back into the undergrowth. The rabbit sat up and eventually scampered off to join her babies.

The second story, told by A. C. Smith, Warwickshire, takes us to a Cotswold farm where there were two large tabby cats, male and female. The female, which had been basking on a wall in the sun, suddenly stood up in evident excitement and stared into the long grass at the end of the wall. She uttered a curious sharp cry and her mate came bounding on to the wall beside her. He too stood gazing down before suddenly diving down into the grass. There was a great commotion below before he finally emerged carrying a stoat or large weasel ; its body was writhing as it tried to bite its attacker. The cat bit deeper into his prey until gradually all struggling ceased. He then laid the animal down on the grass and walked back the way he had come. The female cat on the wall, who had given the alarm, then jumped down to inspect the corpse.



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

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# *My Travels with Six Siamese*

By MARGARET T. KALBERER

I SHOULD begin by explaining that we never intended to have *six* cats, at least not until we were settled in a permanent home. But in what seems no time at all the family has grown from one to six and each cat has endeared itself to us.

They may not be perfect Siamese by show standards—we know that Musidora has a squint and a kink in her tail and Crimpiju's eyes are a shade too pale—but we feel that no other cats could possibly have their personalities and anyway they are esteemed and respected members of our family. Moving about the world with six cats can be complicated but it would not seem like home without them and I like to think that with our affection they are in some degree compensated for the upheavals from familiar places to which they have been subjected.

We bought Celestine in February, 1949, in Paris, from a pet shop in the Champs Elysees. It was my first Siamese and I had intended to have a male but as soon as she was handed to me from her cage I never looked at the other kittens. We took her to our home in Frankfurt in Germany where she very soon dominated the household. I am afraid Celestine became very vain because few people in Germany had seen Siamese cats.

As she grew up Celestine indicated from time to time that much as she loved us she did yearn for four-footed friends and tried to teach the neighbour's dog to play her cat games. But he was too boisterous. The trip back to Paris to buy her a husband took place in October. "Chiens de race et de Ligne" in the Champs Elysees had no kittens and after combing the city for pet shops and

agencies, being then ignorant of the existence of French cat clubs, we asked a taxi driver to help us. He took us to the cat market held in Montparnass on Sunday afternoons and although there were certainly cats there, many of them sadly in need of a good home, there was none to qualify as a husband for Celestine.

Eventually, behind the Madeleine, we found a pet shop proprietor who promised a male Siamese kitten. He finally materialized and was christened Negus. Celestine on first introduction was not at all ladylike but after ensuring her supremacy she became maternal and showed Negus how to clean his coat, the condition of which obviously shocked her.

## **Our First Move**

When the Berlin Blockade was over we returned to Berlin. This was the first move with the cats apart from bringing them by car from France. The vet. suggested one tablet of luminal for Celestine and half a tablet for Negus as a sedative. It was with a shaking hand and an unhappy mind that I administered these hidden in pieces of liver. But it was a long trip and I had a most unsatisfactory travelling basket. Also, one never knew what might happen in the Russian Zone. The sedatives did their job and after an uncomfortable night spent in an Army-run hotel, we eventually arrived safely in Berlin.

I shut the two cats in a room of our new flat and later, having liberally smeared their feet with butter, let them out to investigate the whole place. This business of buttering the feet may be "an old wife's tale" but I have found it does serve a useful purpose. The new smells seem to cling to a cat's paws and interest him. In July, 1950, Celestine's kittens were born.

We had been delighted to find that my husband's American colleague in Berlin had two Siamese and before they were flown to the United States we borrowed the male for a visit to Celestine. There was great excitement at the birth of four babies and Negus, after his first fright at the phenomenon that had taken place overnight, joined the kittens in the basket and spent all his time either watching or washing them.

With the kittens only three weeks old, we had our second move from the flat to a house in another suburb of Berlin with a beautiful walled-in garden. This move was uncomplicated. The cats soon realized that the house and garden were superior to flat life and Celestine became full of maternal cares.

### **Preferred a Serpent !**

Our cat establishment ranged between six and twelve. Whenever I engaged a new servant, the first question had to be "Do you like cats?" On one occasion a prospective cook with excellent references refused to work for us saying that she preferred "a serpent in the kitchen rather than a cat." We had no difficulty in letting the kittens go to American homes, always with the proviso that they accompanied their owners when they left Germany (which they did) or were returned to us. No one seemed to have regretted these conditions of sale and I was frequently asked if I had more kittens.

I think my conditions actually enhanced their value in the eyes of prospective owners !

Tragedy came in October, 1951, when the youngest and sweetest of the first litter was poisoned. The little queen from the next litter seemed to slip into the empty place, making our family six again.

When our stay in Germany came to an end in July, 1952, the awful shadow of quarantine which had occupied my mind for a long time, came nearer. I only knew there were few stations taking cats and that the mortality rate was high. Various breeders I approached were gloomy in their views.

At last, in reply to a letter in *OUR CATS*, I received a heartening response from Col. Bury Perkins, to whom I am very grateful, assuring me that his two Siamese had survived the quarantine period from Germany the previous year and were both well and thriving. The other letters I received, I might add, were most disconcerting and spoke of primitive kennels and lack of care. One attributed the decline of the British Empire to the fact that when Britain was the greatest world power you could bring home any animal you liked. Now the greatest difficulties are placed in the way of anyone wishing to bring home a small kitten !

*(To be continued)*

### ***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 special 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.**

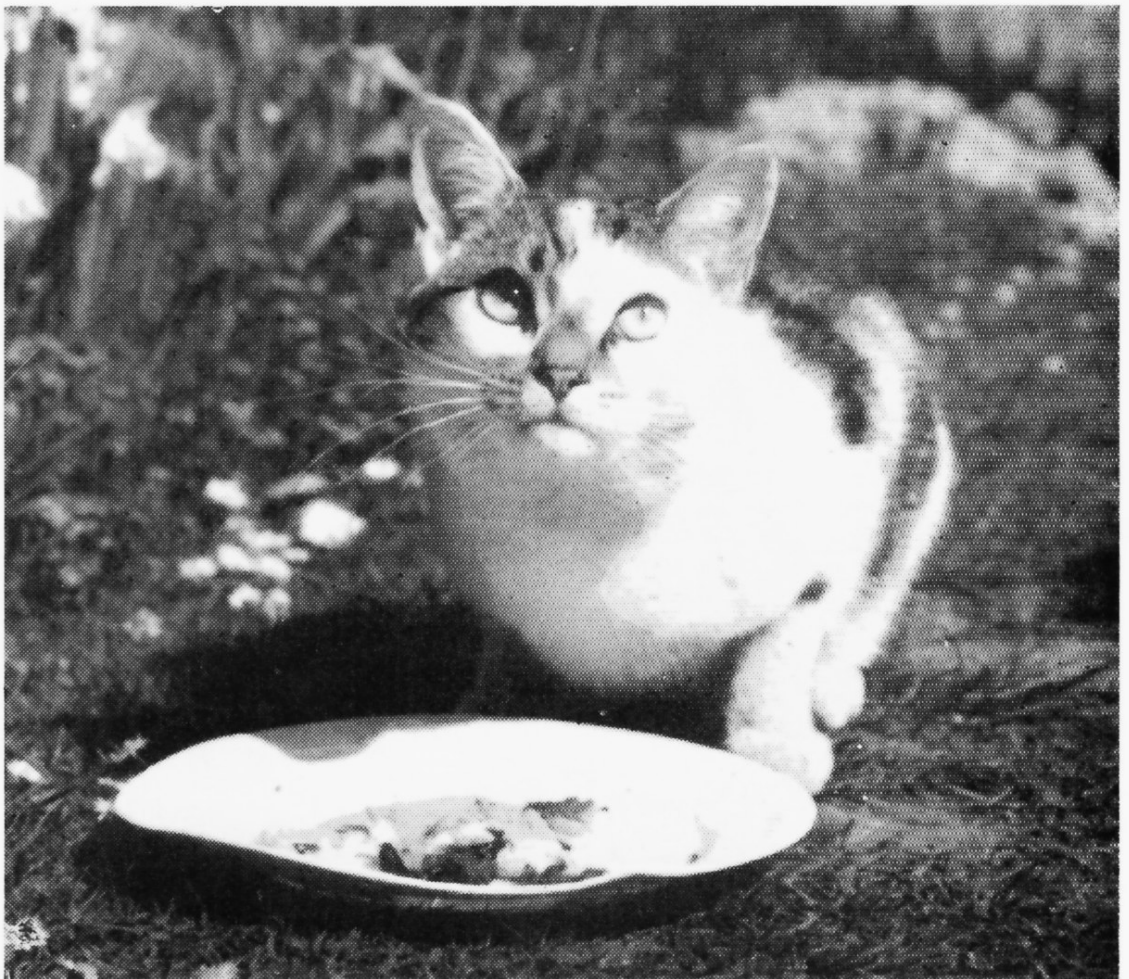
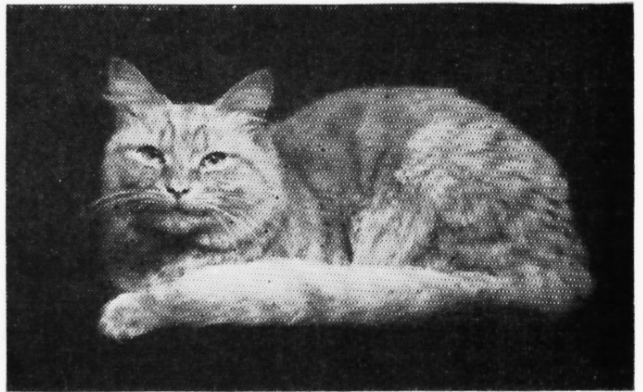
**Our Subscription rate is 17s. 6d. (which includes postage) for twelve monthly issues. Readers in America should remit Three Dollars (by check or bills) and those on the Continent can obtain an International Money Order through their local post office. The address for subscriptions is *OUR CATS Magazine*,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

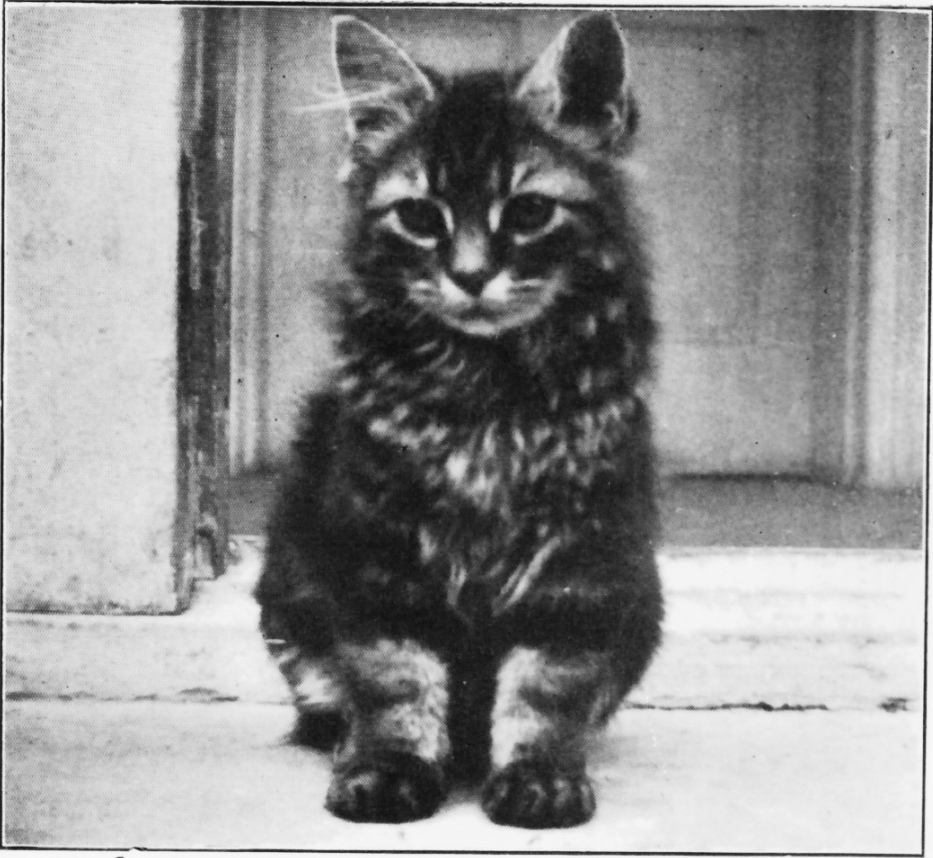
## MORE OLD FRIENDS

The pictures on this and the following three pages are reproduced by kind permission of the Cats' Protection League from the December issue of their journal "The Cat," which is "the oldest magazine devoted entirely to cats." We hope you will share our enthusiasm for this admirable little album of pets and the apposite quotations selected from Lady Aberconway's "A Dictionary of Cat Lovers." We would like by way of reciprocation to remind our readers of the splendid work which the Society is doing for our feline friends over a wide area. Much more could be done with more funds so will you please take note that the address for your New Year contribution is 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks.

"What makes me like cats so much is the way they have of looking straight and deep into one's eyes as if they would say something by their wondrous and mysterious glance."

*Carmen Sylva (Queen Elizabeth of Rumania).*





“They say the test of this (literary power) is whether a man can write an inscription. I say ‘Can he name a kitten?’ And by this test I am condemned for I cannot.”

*From “Pictures and Books” by Samuel Butler.*



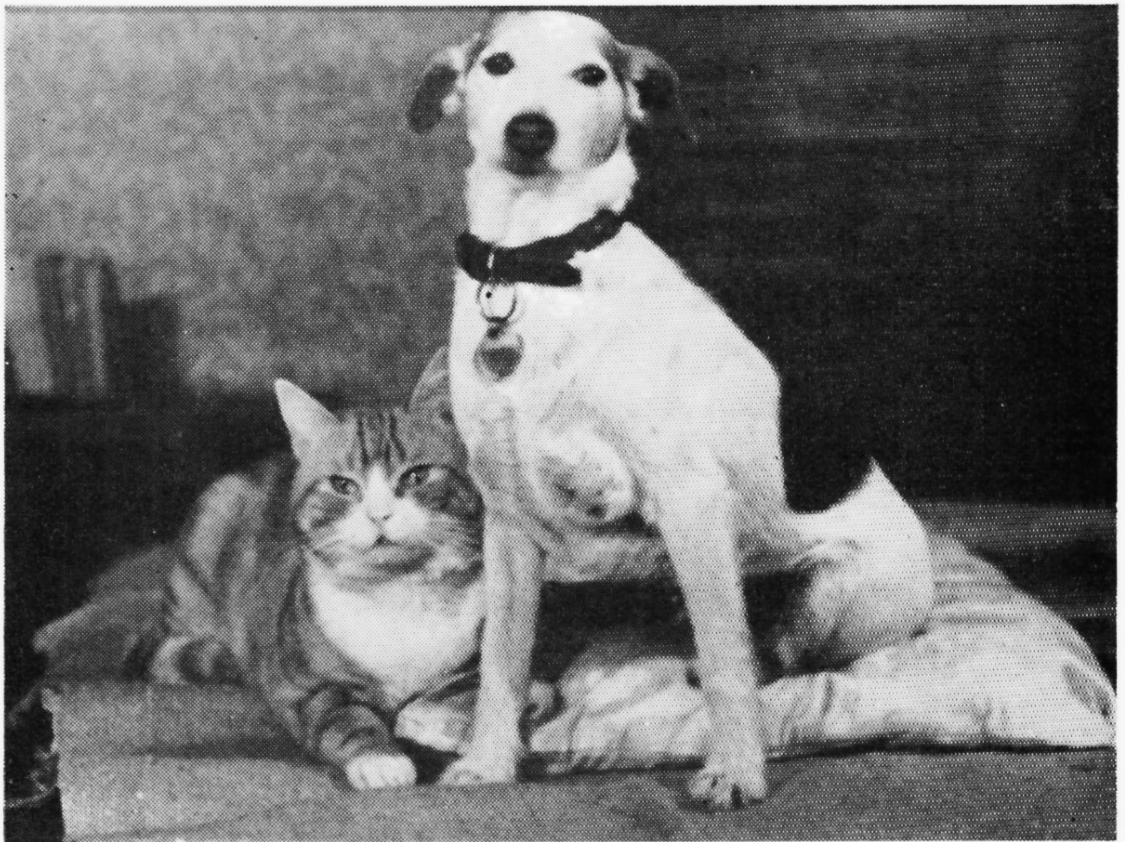
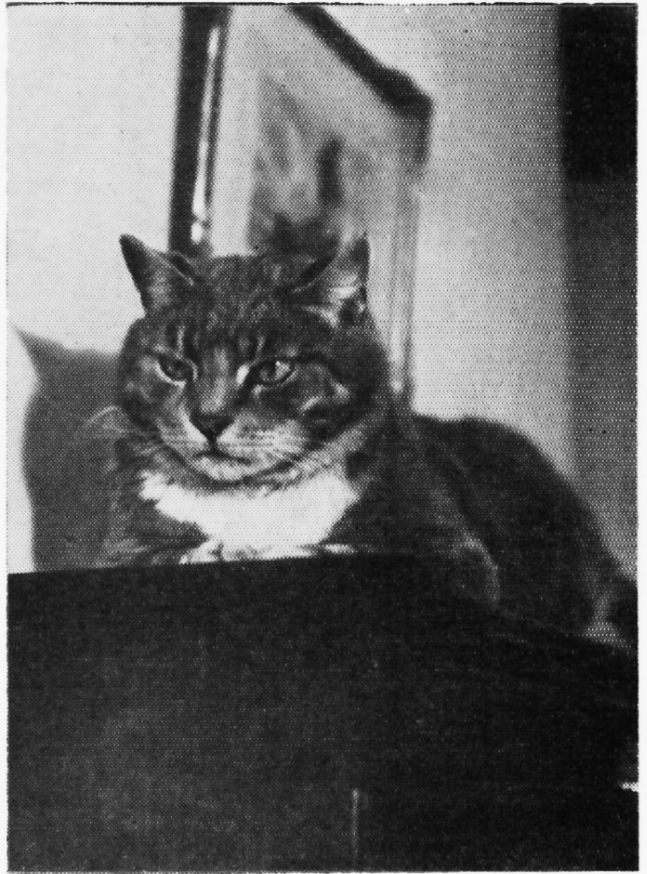
“Dumb, inscrutable and grand.”

*From “Mathias” by Matthew Arnold.*



“ . . . these delightful, quiet, mysterious, gentle animals . . . whose favourite attitude is the prone pose of the sphinxes, which seem to have passed their secrets on to them.”

*Théophile Gautier, French poet, novelist and critic.*



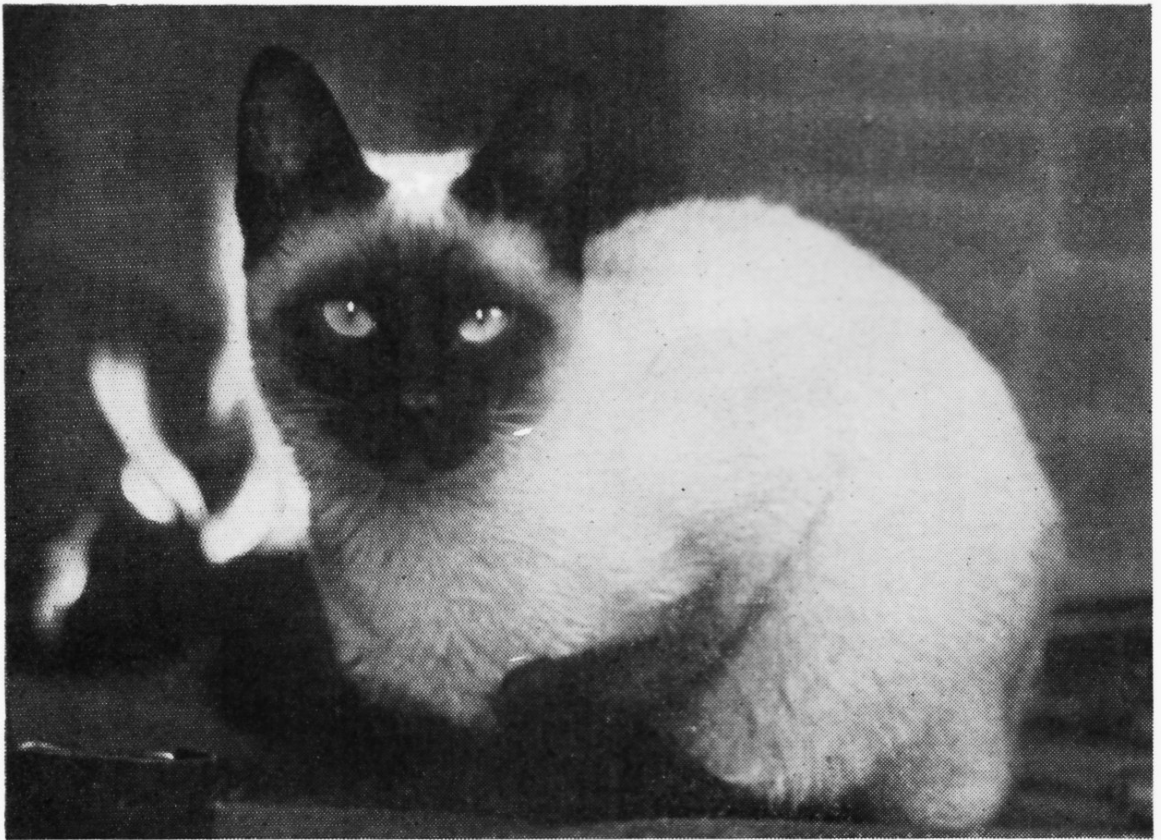
“ My golden love is kept for two that share my fire and mat ;  
A little dog with simple ways, and my self-conscious cat ”

*From “ Three Loves ” by W. H. Davies.*



“ How harshly will the softest  
muslin feel,  
And all the silk of schools, while  
I no more  
Have your sleek skin to soothe my  
soften'd sense ? ”

*From “Lizzy's Parting From Her  
Cat” by Elizabeth Thomson.*



“ Dear creature by the fire a-purr, strange idol, eminently bland.”

*From “The Cat” by Giles Lytton Strachey.*

# ***Mau Mau in Yorkshire!***

By DOROTHY WINDSOR

**W** E call him the Mau Mau Terrorist.

Considering that I have two queens, we are not greatly troubled with strange toms. They hang about for a day or two and then, finding that the cats are securely fenced in, they move on. All except the Terrorist. He first appeared some months ago, and after a little preliminary scouting, evidently decided to make this his hunting ground. He is a big cat, with pale, sinister eyes set in an appropriate half-mask of dark grey; the rest of him is black, grey and off-white.

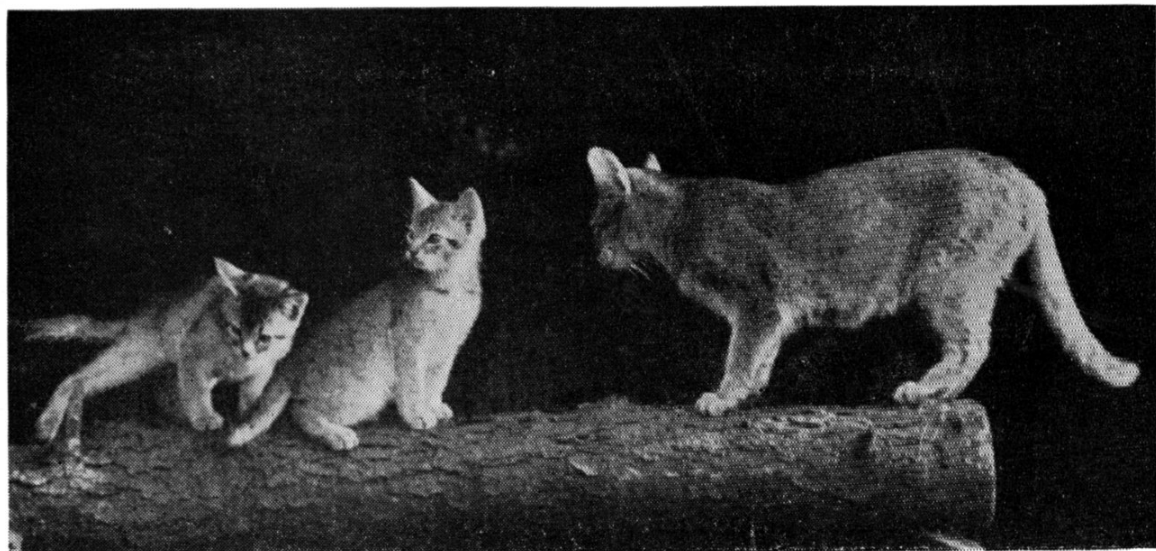
I always feel that there is something slightly uncanny about him. For instance, we have never been able to discover how he gets into the garden. Part of it is elaborately fenced with wire-netting, which keeps my own cats in and others out. It appears to be absolutely cat-proof, but the Terrorist comes in when he feels like it, and no one has ever seen him come or go.

Sometimes I hear a sudden uproar from the stud house, and find the Terrorist sitting on top of the run, silent,

dispassionate and detached, whilst the Abyssinian stud swarms up the netting and hangs on upside-down, swearing by Pasht and every God in ancient Egypt, and almost hysterical with sheer fury. I pick up a handful of pebbles, and when I straighten up, the Terrorist has vanished as mysteriously as he came.

He often lies under the hedge in the next-door garden, close against the wire-netting. Sometimes, stooping to pull out a weed in the border, I find myself staring straight into his pale, unwinking eyes. Because he is on neutral territory, he stays put; and there is something rather unnerving about a cat who stares one out of countenance and won't be frightened away.

He has a hypnotic influence on both queens, but varying widely in effect. The Tabby is frankly terrified of him. If she stays out longer than usual, we organize a search party, and find her huddled in a corner, with the sinister Terrorist on guard. He dissolves into the surrounding scenery, and the lady makes for home, spitting like a catherine wheel.



**The author's own photograph of her Abyssinian queen Kreero Massawa, with two lively kittens. Cover up the left half of the picture and what have you got — a lioness!**

“ . . . quite kittenish again ! ”

**MRS. DELIA DREW**  
of 8 Wetherby  
Mansions, Kensington,  
S.W.5, writes :—

*“I should like to tell you that my cat Rufus has improved in every way, including skin trouble, from a course of Kit-zyme tablets over a period of two months.*

*The change is remarkable. Rufus, although 12 years old, is now quite kittenish again and I shall certainly continue to give him the tablets every day for as long as he lives. All our friends remark on the wonderful improvement Kit-zyme has made on his condition and I thank you for being the means of preserving my much-loved cat.”*



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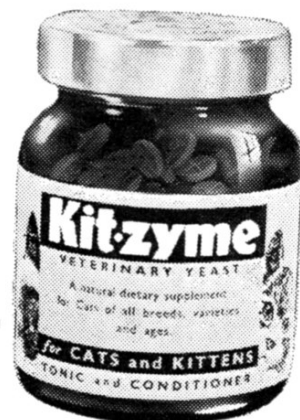
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The Abyssinian queen, on the other hand, is not only fearless ; he has a fatal fascination for her. The first time he appeared, she fell for him completely. For a whole week she sat at a bedroom window with her nose jammed against the glass, uttering piercing screams of frustrated passion, whilst the Terrorist dodged about the garden, and at night sat boldly on the lawn, shouting the disreputable old tribal love-songs. It was an exhausting week for all concerned, and we heaved a sigh of relief when she returned to normal.

### **Our Patient Stray**

For some time we had another regular visitor. This was Shaggy, a long-haired grey tom, of friendly and attractive disposition. He was not a stray, but apparently was not too well catered for ; at any rate, he was humbly grateful for any scraps of fish that my fastidious ladies turned down. A plate of bread and rabbit gravy sent him into a purring ecstasy. He never tried to get into the garden, but sat patiently and unobtrusively outside the wire-netting that crosses the drive ; his meal over, he went quietly away. I fancied he was one of the Terrorist's victims, because from time to time he appeared well and truly beaten up, with torn ears, bleeding bites and the feline equivalent of a black eye.

One day the neighbourhood was electrified by the news that a cat-hater had shot and killed a tomcat who had gone

into his garden in pursuit of a calling female. Like everyone else, I was shocked and horrified ; but tucked away in a corner of my mind was a faint, guilty hope. We had been free from Mau Mau activities for some days ; was it possible that we had seen the last of him ?

I made enquiries. Of course the victim was Shaggy — poor, gentle, loveable Shaggy — whose brief courtship had ended in tragedy. I mourned him as a friend, and had an idiotic feeling that the Terrorist was at the bottom of the whole affair.

He must have been absent on some dark business of his own—more murders, perhaps — for he turned up a day or two later. I saw him walking along the roof of the next-door garage, and fancied that he had a slight, self-satisfied swagger. Later I found him in the garden. He was about a foot away from the Abyssinian queen, whom he was fixing with a cold, hypnotic stare. She was looking rather coy.

Two days later she came into season, and was shut safely indoors for the duration of her honeymoon. Then she settled down, and soon, I hope, we shall have some pure-bred Abyssinian babies.

Or shall we ? Sometimes, as she lies dreaming in the sun, she seems to have a far-away, reminiscent expression of smug satisfaction. Did I find them in time, or is it possible that a whole gang of small Mau Mau Terrorists is about to be let loose on an unsuspecting world ?

**All fanciers should read**

## **“THE CAT FANCY”**

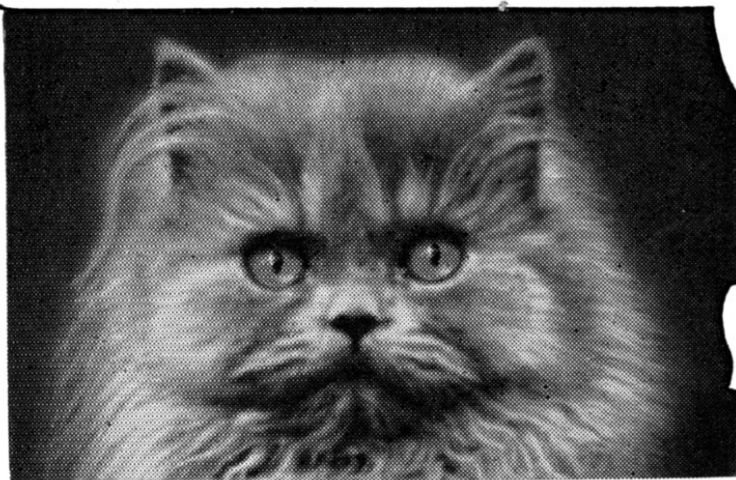
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**MY DEAR, YOU LOOK CHAMPION!**



Tibs reporter, Tibby, is quite bowled over by a beautiful lady who takes praise as her due.

This silky-haired, bright-eyed animal is Gathorne Georgianna who has carried off challenge certificates three times in succession. Gathorne Georgianna belongs to Mrs. Chappell of 2, High Road, Cowley Peachey, Uxbridge, breeder and judge of blue, cream and blue-cream Persians.



Mrs. Chappell has a wisdom born of many years experience, for she has been breeding cats for 20 years. She told us how many of her own and other champions she had seen kept in top condition by Tibs—'They're wonderful both as a diet balancer and to correct slight irregularities. Tibs are in regular use in the boarding section of this Cattery.'

Now that cat breeding is so firmly established in the family Mrs. Chappell is glad that the tradition looks like being continued, for her niece Audrey is following in Aunty's footsteps.

*Famous breeders say:*

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## 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.



### THE FIRST FOOT

My family on the wife's side comes from the North of England and that means, for the benefit of all you people who live as far up as Manchester and who call yourselves Northerners, that my wife's family comes from Tyneside. In fact, real "North" means Tyneside and unless you are a Tynesider, you might as well live in Devon and call yourself a Northerner. Anyhow! up North it is considered essential that the first person to enter your house on New Year's morning should be a man. This man is called "first foot" and he should be a dark man with blue eyes and he should bring into your house a lump of coal, a piece of bread, some salt and a candle, so that for the coming year you should not lack warmth, food or light.

Last year, our "first foot" was a dear friend named Norman Wolsey. Norman is a lucky guy; anyone who escorted convoys during the war and came out of it alive is a lucky guy; but Norman is lucky in most things and as a "first foot" he is first rate. Anyhow, he brought us a lot of luck.

Imagine, therefore, our chagrin on realizing that this year we should not have the benefit of his good offices. Calamity!

Our household is predominantly female. In fact as far as people go I am the only male in the roost and that is when I had a brain wave: Stud cat! My dearest Pépé Lemoko, sole co-male in my establishment, father of many kittens, Seal Pointed Siamese with the bluest of blue eyes.

So I made a small basket to go round his neck and into it I put coal and bread and salt. A candle completed the ritual furnishings. At the stroke of midnight on the last day of this year, our housekeeper will let him out of his warm stud house and having tied the basket of relics round his neck, she will hold a leg of chicken before his cold inquisitive snout. She will then lead him to our front door and throw in the chicken.

Thus shall the ritual of "first foot" be accomplished and if the harbinger of our next year's fortunes does lift his tail and do a little blissful dance to music as of gentle rain, it will be well worth it, for is it not written "Thou shalt not muzzle the ass that turneth the grindstone"?

I. Raleigh,

Mitcham, Surrey.

### HAVANAS — A NEW VARIETY?

I am writing on behalf of the breeders of self-coloured Brown cats and would like to draw the attention of judges and my fellow fanciers to the fact that they are not bad Burmese, but a breed of their own.

We breeders of these cats appreciate that judges cannot assess the points of this new breed because there is as yet no standard for them. As these cats are still in the experimental stage, the handful of fanciers who are working to establish the breed have agreed to postpone the laying down of any detailed rules until such time as there are a greater number of specimens in existence. The general outline is, however, agreed upon and is in short as follows:

Foreign type, medium size, colour a warm chestnut brown, eye colour green. No stripes, bars, white hairs or other markings allowed; kinked, short or thick tails a fault.

We feel that this beautiful new breed should be exhibited, so as to familiarize fanciers and public with it, and there being, of course, no special class for it, it must be entered in A.V. Shorthair classes.

These cats have been produced by putting into practice the rules of the science of genetics, and are the first examples of "new" colours which it is possible to breed and which will breed true. At present four specimens are in existence and about half a dozen cats, who are able to have brown kittens.

The name of the breed will probably be Havana, subject to agreement among the breeders and acceptance of the G.C.C.F.

Miss E. von Ullmann,  
London, W.C.2.

#### TREATMENT FOR ECZEMA

I was much interested in the article on eczema in the November issue of OUR CATS as I have always found it was due to an allergy—similar to nettle rash in people. In the case of my White Persian

cat it is always caused by raw spleen, of which he is very fond. In another cat it is caused by raw liver and in yet another by raw mince. I certainly have never found that fish was a cause but rather that it is a cure in most cases.

I have found that calamine lotion squeezed on the affected part from a small sponge is one of the quickest and best cures and, of course, the suppression of the cause once you have found out what it is. A Tibs cat powder beaten up in a raw egg and given daily helps, too.

We have no fleas at this altitude—5,000 ft. The only flea we ever caught was such a rare specimen that it is now in the national collection in the Natural History Museum!

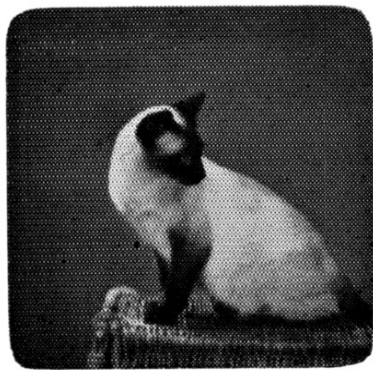
Mrs. M. H. Saunders,  
Davos-Platz, Switzerland.

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**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.**

---

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# ***Taking Stock***

By P. M. SODERBERG

Author of "Cat Breeding and General Management" and other widely-read books.  
Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club.

**L**ET me say at the outset that the title has nothing whatever to do with counting the heads of my furred, feathered or finned companions.

It was the end of the year when I sat down to write my article and for that reason it seemed a good time to take a look over the past year with particular reference to what I had written in *OUR CATS*.

No one who has the temerity to write on any subject should expect to find universal agreement with what he writes. Yet nothing is more deadly for a writer, be he good or bad, than to find that he evokes no response from readers. When that happens it can only mean that they, the purchasers of the magazine, do not bother to read what he writes.

I do not want to say anything about the appreciative or helpful letters I have received except to thank the writers, a number of whom have now become regular correspondents of mine. I am, however, going to take this opportunity to deal with a few points which have caused readers to write to me to express their disagreement with my views.

## **Nondescript Siamese**

On several occasions, I think, I have referred to the danger, as I saw it, of Siamese becoming "the alley cats of the future." The remark was intentional and carefully thought out and it produced a really irate letter from a lover of Siamese. Yet I am unrepentant and still stick to my guns. All I wish to do now is to explain the meaning which the expression had for me when I wrote it, and to emphasize

even more strongly the dangers as I see them.

An alley cat, whatever its personal charms, is and will always remain a nondescript cat. It conforms to no set physical type nor any precise colour pattern. Now the Siamese, to remain Siamese, must retain its colour pattern, but no one, surely, will deny that there are to-day large numbers of Siamese which could be called nothing other than nondescript when type is in question.

The very popularity of the breed is in some respects the worst enemy to its progress. Far too many kittens are being produced from queens which should not be breeders but merely household pets. There are also some males whose quality is not good enough to make it desirable that they should become sires.

An abundance of kittens brings down the price and almost anyone can afford to purchase a kitten. Now I do not mind in the least how many thousands of cat lovers become owners of Siamese, in fact, the more people who appreciate Siamese the better pleased I shall be. But I do not want every Siamese kitten to become an eventual breeder. I have too much affection for the breed ever to wish to see it become "the alley cat of the future."

Point number two is one that caused a little heartburning. What I write I mean at the time I write it, but I should be worse than a fool to stand by everything I wrote, for even I can be convinced sometimes that I am wrong. Many of the things which I believed to be absolutely true ten years ago I do not feel so confident about to-day. Perhaps that is a sign of the wisdom which should accompany increasing age.

What I do object to, though, is the letter which accuses me of saying something which I have never said. In August I referred to the subject of declawing kittens so that they could not damage furniture. Within a few days of publication I had one of the most blistering letters I have ever received, so it must have been exceptional, accusing me of cruelty and almost murder.

I did not advocate that claws should be removed. I certainly should not have the operation performed on any kitten of mine, but I did say that I should be interested to know what you thought about it. A number of readers wrote most rational letters all against the practice, and it was only this solitary one who thought that I had asked for an appraisal of my personal virtues, or should it be vices ?

## **Tinned Food**

Two letters over the past few months have expressed some surprise that I should recommend the feeding of tinned foods to cats.

Most of you will realize that I have never made the suggestion that cats should be fed exclusively on tinned food. I don't know how many makers there are of tinned foods for cats, but, of one thing I am certain, that their sales managers would be the last to suggest that any cat should be given tinned food and nothing else. No cat will face the same food day after day unless it is a most remarkable creature. No, let us keep the question of feeding in its right perspective. A cat needs a balanced diet, but that alone is not enough, for there must also be variety to stimulate appetite. Cereals, horse meat, fish and tinned foods skilfully interchanged is the best feeding method for any cat owner.

As long ago as last January I suggested that there should be a close season for breeding because I did not like the idea of winter kittens. Most of the people who discussed this matter with me were in agreement, but a very good friend of

mine, a stud owner, was not so enthusiastic about the idea. He wanted to know what he was to do about his stud which would be most unsettled if he had no queens for a considerable period of the year.

It was a question I could not answer, for my own experience of stud work is limited, but I should have thought from what I have seen of two studs kept here since the war that the average male cat does not get unduly disturbed unless there is a "calling queen" in the neighbourhood. I still believe that winter kittens are inadvisable.

## **Can you Help ?**

May I end on a very personal note and ask for your help ? In 1946 I wrote quite a tome on cats which was published in 1948. It is now 1953 and I feel that much of what I wrote then should be re-written and perhaps amplified. If you know this book and have noted omissions I should be very grateful if you would tell me about them.

That's all for now, but I shall hope to cause a few of you to tear your hair in 1954 and others to express from time to time their mild approval of what I write. The important thing is that both you and I are interested in the welfare of cats.

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## **SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS**

**This is the busy period of the year for subscription renewals. Will readers therefore please help us to economise in office work and record-keeping by responding promptly to the first application for renewal ? Any change of address should also be notified promptly.**



Here's a little story with a happy ending. Some years ago, Mrs. Neville Duke, wife of our famous flyer and herself a breeder of Blue and Blue-Cream Longhairs, was looking at a litter of Chinchilla kittens bred by her friend Mrs. Mollie Turney, of Holyport, Berks. "You really ought to show these," she observed. Mrs. Turney did so, won a first prize, and so the spark of enthusiasm was fired. Mrs. Duke was present at the last Herts and Middlesex Show to present the awards, and meeting Mrs. Turney again she remarked "It would be funny if I had to give you a prize." But she did and it was no ordinary prize for Mrs. Turney's home-bred Bonavia Flora (seen with Mrs. Duke in our photograph) was adjudged Best Kitten in Show. Flora, by Ch. Flambeau of Allington ex Sarisbury Apeha, has since won numerous awards.

# American Profile

Continuing the series of interviews

by BILLIE BANCROFT, our American Associate Editor

## MRS. ELLA CONROY

I RECENTLY had the pleasure of interviewing one of the Fancy's most popular judges. Representing C.F.F. and not too far removed from the novice class of judges, she has zoomed to a most enviable position in her chosen Federation. I refer to Judge Ella Conroy of New Richmond, Ohio.

Mrs. Conroy has been a breeder since 1933. Her specialties are Persians, Whites, Red Tabbies and Peke Red Tabbies. She is nationally known as an authority on Pokes (that short-nosed, brilliantly eye-colored Red Tabby Peke that is so very difficult to find).

It has been a personal achievement in which Mrs. Conroy has been extremely successful—she calls it being lucky—for her to take an average Red Persian Tabby queen, breed her to a Peke, and in two generations produce a Peke that is an outstanding show type cat. (I neglected to state that this queen could have a long nose, bad jaw-line and noticeable ears—Judge Conroy insists that this fact be mentioned).

She has also been successful in breeding her Blue-eyed White Persians but I still insist she is better known as a Peke breeder. She claims the best cat she ever bred was Rudolpho, a Red Tabby Peke who made his Triple Championship in record time. That Triple Championship means he made his honors in A.C.A., C.F.A. and C.F.F., all the recognized feline associations in America.

Here are some first-hand quotes from our interview :

B.B.—Judge Conroy, do you like being a judge ?

J.C.—(flashing a big smile)—Yes.

B.B.—What are your personal hobbies ?

J.C.—I don't have time for any hobbies other than cats.

B.B.—Do you think the Fancy has improved to any great extent in the last twenty years ?

J.C.—Indeed, yes, there are more breeders, more shows and more interest taken generally.

B.B.—What would you suggest as an improvement for your particular Federation ?

J.C.—No comment !

### Cats—Credit Side

B.B.—Do you feel that cats have justified all the time you have spent on them ?

J.C.—Indeed, yes. A few years ago I was brought home from the hospital and asked for my favorite pet. I was told she was not feeling too well. I insisted she be brought in to me. This little beauty was Elco's Lassie II (a Triple Champion). She had been grieving for me. After giving me a wonderful welcome home she just sat and looked at me and for two days she never left me. Yes, cats have benefited me in many ways—they helped me to forget myself when I was desperately ill. They have made me countless friends all over America, many of whom I have never seen.

B.B.—Has there been any one person who has assisted you as a breeder. I think you told me you learned breeding the hard way ?

J.C.—Yes, Mrs. Joseph Richmond, the Recorder of C.F.F., and Mrs. Stanley Gibson, of A.C.A. Both of these ladies were wonderful to me, simply wonderful, and Mrs. Ralph Wilkinson is a jewel. I can never thank her enough for all she has done for me.

Judge Conroy is rapidly turning into a star-spangled success in her raise in the Fancy. Her popularity as a judge is nothing short of meteoric and her professional caution as a breeder has not

stunted the demand for her judging services from the various C.F.F. clubs. I find a compelling note of sincerity in all she says, backed by a flair for good sportsmanship. There is a loyalty for her Federation that is close to a religious respect. I have particularly noticed her knack of anticipating the strategy of the show-room. She handles her subjects with skill and understanding.

Mrs. Conroy is known to all the cognoscenti of C.F.F. as a woman who

loves her pets. She is proud of this reputation and considers it a very humbling tribute, feeling that it adds to her stature as a human being.

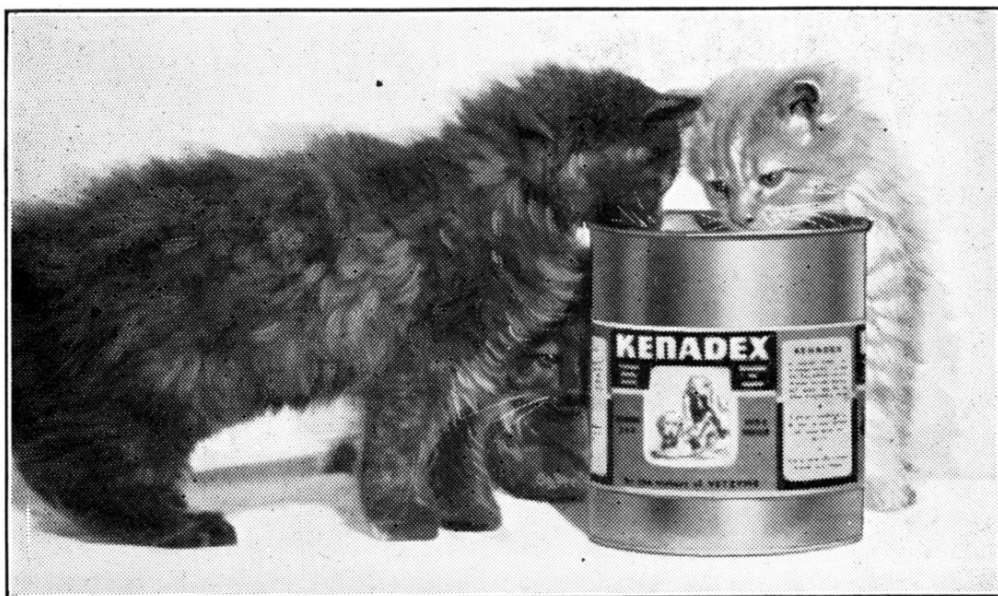
Friendliness and kindness are her great equalising forces in making friends. At any show she visits you will find her brimming over with the *esprit de corps* of the Fancy. But don't let this good-fellowship fool you. There is a whip-lash of logic in all she does and she has a vocabulary that is whetted and keen.



**American Judge  
Ella Conroy with  
a Peke Red  
Tabby (4 months  
old) of her own  
breeding.**

# KENADEX

## is good for cats, too!



PENCHAR PARIS, PENCHAR CHARITY (peeping round tin)  
and PENCHAR HOPE (taken at three months)

**MRS. W. G. HARRIOTT** of Orchard Way, Osborne Road, Laindon, Essex, owner of the Penchar cats and Boarding Cattery, writes:—

*“I have always used Kit-zyme but I think you may be interested to know that my cats and kittens also have Kenadex regularly in their diet—and they love it. Only one cat, Baralan Polleyanna, winner of 1 C.C., was “fussy” about it at first, but she soon changed her mind.*

*The kittens are started on Kenadex at 4 weeks old and they do very well on it. I dissolve it in hot water and soak cereal or brown bread in the “soup.”*

*I have recently opened a boarding cattery and I give Kenadex to all my visitors because I feel sure it will help to keep them fit under strange conditions as well as adding to the variety of meals which is so important.*

# KENADEX

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Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

**M**RS. 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.

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### A Record National

THE 57th Championship Show of the National Cat Club last month at the Royal Horticultural Hall attracted a wonderful entry of over 400 exhibits. Mrs. Grace Pond, of Crawley, Sussex, made a very successful debut as Show Manager and her excellent organization was appreciated by everyone. The Club's Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. Brunton, helped considerably with the preliminaries.

The attendance appeared to be the best we have seen at this fixture so perhaps we may hope that it will provide the wherewithal for the next show to be held at the *New* Horticultural Hall, which has a much better light. This venue and the Seymour Hall excel in this respect to say nothing of the better facilities for refreshments.

Miss Evelyn Langston had a field day with her lovely exhibits. Best in Show was her Chinchilla male Mark of Allington, a beautiful cat with a sweet expression. Her Fidelio of Allington was Best Kitten in Show and both awards were a great honour when one considers the high quality present on the day and the fact that so many exhibits were in full pomp.

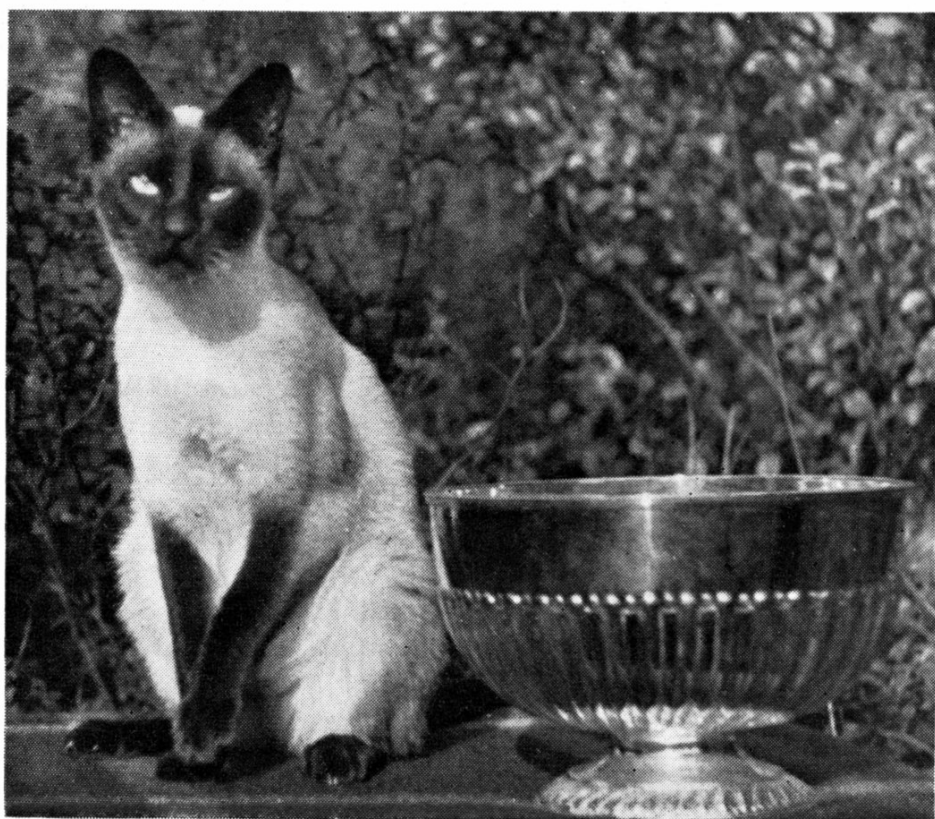
Other winners of note were: Best Shorthair in Show—Mrs. Dadd's Seal Pointed Siamese Sabukia Scatterbrain, by Ch. Killdown Jupiter; Best Female—Mrs. Joan Varcoe's Seal Pointed Siamese Sukianga Golden Madonna, by Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo; Best Blue Pointed Siamese—Mrs. Duncan Hindley's male Prestwick Crackers, by Ch. Blue Seagull (congratulations are due here as this win meant a Championship for Crackers); Best Neuter—Mrs. Walter's Seal Pointed Siamese Sukianga Cinnamon, by Bynes Romeo (this young cat born in 1952 became a Premier Neuter at an earlier Championship show); Best Longhair Neuter—Mrs. Richard's Sharbri Alpha, by Ch. Harpur Blue Boy.

Mrs. Hindley's Silken Jacaranda won in a class of 19 Seal Pointed Siamese female adults. The winners in Longhair Blue Adults were Miss Langston's Ch. Dylan of Allington and Mrs. Pullen's Ch. Jewel of Dunesk, two lovely examples of present-day Blues. Miss Lelgarde Fraser attracted a wonderful entry of 42 Blue kittens. This has been a vintage season for the variety and Mrs. McVady had the honour of Best Blue Kitten with a little gem Gaydene Genevieve, by her young male Ch. Gaydene Rudolph. Among other outstandingly good kittens were Mrs. Udall's Bayhorne Decima, first in 6-9 months' class for Blue females, Miss Joplin's Thiepval Pedro, Mrs. Harrington-Harvard's Trenton Royalist and Miss Langston's beautiful little Gwyneth of Allington.

The entry of Burmese was remarkably good and credit must go to Mr. and Mrs. Sidney France for introducing this variety into England from U.S.A. They



**REDWALLS FLEUR**, lovely Chinchilla kitten bred by Mrs. E. M. Hacking, of Liphook, Hants. Fleur, now with a new owner, was best Female Chinchilla Kitten at the Coronation Show, winner of six firsts and Best Chinchilla Kitten at Southsea and Best Chinchilla Kitten at Birmingham. She is by Ch. Flambeau of Allington ex Redwalls Snowstorm and was born in June last year.



And here's another worthy representative of her breed—**CH. PURLAND PALE MAIDEN**, bred and shown with great success by Mrs. F. J. Butler, of Parsons Heath, Colchester, Essex. Now three years old, by Oriental Su Shun ex Bridgette, Pale Maiden was voted Best Exhibit at the Siamese Club Show of 1952.



evidently have popular appeal as ten adults were on view. They were headed by Mrs. France's import Casa Gatos Dar-Kee and eight kittens, from whom the male kitten Chinki Amber King emerged as the winner.

Another cat to attain his full title at this Show was Mrs. Henton's well-bred Cream male Twilight John. If there were others I shall be pleased to know about them if readers care to write. Following the fortunes of all adults entails fully marking the Open Classes and one seldom has time to do this at a show.

The cats entered for exhibition only were most attractive and would be a popular feature at every show. Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb's Longhairs with Seal Pointed Siamese colouring created interest all day and another celebrity hiding coyly under his blanket was Brigadier Rossiter's Blue Pointed Siamese

Premier Mirza Taklif.

Our judges are chosen at the various Club Committee meetings which take place as soon as possible after Christmas, so unless they have large catteries it is almost impossible for them to estimate if they will have any cats or kittens ready to exhibit in any given month the following winter. It would be consoling to know their adults particularly could always be exhibited "Not for competition." So many outstanding cats belong to judges and would always be a source of interest to show visitors, experienced and novices alike.

### **A Matter of Temperament**

News arrives from Mrs. Udall, owner of Bayhorne Decima, one of the season's most successful winning kittens. She writes : "Decima is very well indeed and is quite unaffected by the number of



*Topical Press*

**Pekinese puppies ? No, you're wrong, these quaint little fellows are the new Colour Pointed Longhairs who attracted so much attention at the recent National Show. Bred by Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb, the popular Siamese fancier of Richmond, Surrey, they are the result of six years' experimental breeding and the day is drawing near when application for their recognition will be made to the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. Mr. Stirling-Webb, who is now on a visit to South Africa, has kindly promised—if the hoped-for leisure time on board ship materialises—to tell the story of the Colour Points in a special article for OUR CATS.**

shows she has been to. At the moment she is rushing round madly with my young Siamese Bluecroft Benjamin. Tree climbing is one of her favourite pursuits but above all else she adores the car. If we leave a window open she sleeps in it and if she sees us put our coats on she dashes out and sits on the running board. She has clocked up hundreds of miles."

"Decima's 1st prizes total over thirty and her specials and cups are many and various. Perhaps some people may consider her over-shown but my answer to that is the cat herself. She is a fine healthy kitten and has never given me a moment's anxiety. As she is such a traveller the journeys are a real treat to her. After attending two shows close together—Southsea and Birmingham—she came home from the latter, dashed out and caught a shrew. I wonder if any comments would have been made had she attended the same number of shows and recorded only minor wins?"

"Everything depends on the temperament of the kitten. My Siamese Benjamin, who has been a Best in Show, I do not exhibit much as he is not so keen on travelling and whereas Decima is solid and imperturbable he is excitable and might be upset."

Mrs. Udall, one of our youngest exhibitors, has been remarkably successful for she has won with Chinchillas, Blues, Creams, Blue-Creams and Siamese. She purchased a Blue-Cream kitten from Miss Elliott which was destined to become Ch. Hathaway Heyday. She bred from her a very nice Cream female who was purchased by Mrs. Nash, another young breeder, and she has become Ch. Bluecroft Butterscotch. Mrs. Nash has been exhibiting a very nice Blue-Cream kitten Hendras Babette by her this season.

Bayhorne Decima, by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue, was bred by Mrs. Benbow, the Shropshire fancier, who was breeding Creams as far back as 1938 when I had the pleasure of meeting her for the first time at Croydon Cat Club Show. She

was already interested in Blues. The next year she bought from me Thelma of Pensford, sister of Fay, a pale queen with glorious eyes. Thelma had some very nice kittens but unfortunately she died whilst still very young from feline distemper caught presumably when she went to be mated. I saw Fay, dam of Ch. Gloria, a few weeks ago and she is a hale and hearty matron 15 years old in April. She was spayed when she was eight so has had no little troubles to disturb her old age. Mrs. Benbow exhibited at the National Show Bayhorne Heather, a very nice Blue-Cream who was awarded the Challenge Certificate.

### **Show at Oslo**

Mrs. Saether kindly sends news of the Championship Show at Oslo, Norway, on 12th, 13th and 14th December, judged by the President of Deutscher Edelkatzen Züchter-Verband, Mr. Konrad Hirschmann.

Space does not permit details of all the first prize winners but outstanding wins of British-bred cats were as follow : Best Longhair Cat from Sweden—Miss Larsdotter's Blue female Int. Ch. Ronada Onaway, bred by Mrs. Brice-Webb ; Best Shorthair Cat from Denmark—Mrs. Poulsen's Seal Point Siamese male Int. Ch. Morris Sable, bred by Mrs. Richardson ; Best Black—Mrs. Ruusunen's Ch. Chadhurst Linda, bred by Miss Rodda ; Best Blue male from Sweden—Baralan Challenger, bred by Mrs. Henn (I believe this is his third and final Certificate) ; Best Cream—Mrs. Karen Smith's Mascot of Pensford from Denmark, bred by myself ; Best Neuter—Mrs. Saether's, Oslo, Blue Longhair Foxburrow Firefly, bred by Mr. Soderberg ; Best Longhair Kitten—Mrs. Lakshoel's Blue Bircotte Modest Maidie by Ch. Dylan of Allington, bred by Miss Sherlock.

### **Two Sad Losses**

Miss Marjorie Bull, of Thornton Hough, Cheshire, has had the tragic misfortune to run over her own lovely

Cream female Deebank Angela. Her queens have liberty but don't usually frequent the drive to the house. Everyone will sympathise with her over this sad accident. She has also lost her young Cream male Deebank Toby from stone in the bladder.

Miss Bull writes : " This is my first experience of fatal bladder trouble and I hope my last. It was so very sad to have to put him to sleep when he was so young and just in his prime. We felt very discouraged with these two fatalities but fortunately the rest of the family demand attention and keep one so busy that it alleviates one's sorrow."

" We have our two lovely Blue boys Malmay Tafeteace and Snab Hornblower, two Blue queens Deebank Fatima and Gloria, two Blue-Creams Alice and Wendy, two Creams Sandra and Liz, and a really lovely Cream male kitten of our own breeding with gorgeous round copper eyes called Deebank Royal. At present it is difficult to get to the London shows and of course expensive nowadays with increased fares and hotel charges."

" What do you think ? I had a guest who thought Wendy's fine whiskers were too long, so cut them off ! Wendy didn't mind, but we did ! My Blue queen Gloria had a very nice female who went to Paris a few weeks ago. Now Christmas is over we are already looking forward to the new kittens, whose arrival is always one of the highlights of the year."

### **Beware of Chills**

Although Deebank Toby's bladder trouble was not due to chill it is seasonable to quote a very experienced fancier Miss Lelgarde Fraser to whom I acknowledge the following extract taken from a contemporary journal : " Never let your cat sit out for a time on damp ground, especially males, who are prone to kidney and bladder ills. When a male has served a queen let him be cosy and warm and on no account let him sit out and feel chilly. This also applies to the female."

Miss Yorke, Miss Langston and Miss Fraser are three of our best-known owners of Longhair male cats and everything they say about their care and management is founded on about thirty years' experience. At the National Show one breeder was in tears due to the loss of a valuable young male with bladder trouble. Prevention is better than cure, so try to avoid chills and dampness and give items which are beneficial to kidneys such as barley water. I cook all rabbit with a level tablespoonful of barley now I have a male cat and find all the cat family will accept it prepared this way.

### **Native Ignorance**

Mrs. Knight, whom we see so often giving valuable help at our shows, kindly sent me the Bulletin of the Catholic Study Circle for Animal Welfare entitled *The Ark*. She was concerned about my impressions of animals I had seen during my trip to and from Australia and New Zealand last year. Although no situation is hopeless, the tragedy is the native indifference to suffering and the fact that so few realize that animals should be given proper care and feeding.

G. Ward Price in his article " The Other Side of the Tonga Idyll " in *The Daily Mail*, sums up the attitude and the apathy in some of the South Pacific Islands. " Another defect," he writes, " likely to reduce the attractiveness of Tonga to British visitors is the cruelty displayed to animals. Dogs go unfed, and the weedy, inbred ponies get nothing to eat except the short grass they laboriously nibble by the roadside. They are never watered and are generally galloped along the hard tarmac with two Tongans on their bare backs."

In an article in *The Ark* by C. A. McGaughey, Professor of Veterinary Science, University of Ceylon, reference is made to " the deplorable state of the untold thousands of dogs in Ceylon and the general indifference of the government and the people to these problems."

It is indeed a blessing that cats seem to be more sensitive to such harsh living

conditions and do not exist in large numbers. I have had several letters apropos my remarks about the animals I encountered during my travels and have answered them all. Individually, we can support our animal welfare societies which are probably the best in the world and take an interest in their work. The majority issue a monthly journal which contains a great deal of interest to animal lovers.

For example, the current issue of "The Animal's Magazine," which is the journal of the P.D.S.A., carries a report from their Cape Town branch. This reveals that efforts to instil amongst the coloured population the elements of humanity towards animals are not without effect. Owners are showing—

slowly—more readiness to bring their pets for treatment than formerly. Apart from those actually brought in for destruction, cats and kittens are frequently left on the dispensary doorstep and dogs tied to the door knob with a note asking for them to be destroyed. Occasionally, boxes of kittens are still left in the gutter for the "dirt man" to collect. The amazing fact is that no provision is made by the Health or Municipal authorities in Cape Town for the removal of dead animals, large or small, from the public streets. The onus rests on the owner, whose humane instincts are discouraged by this official attitude.

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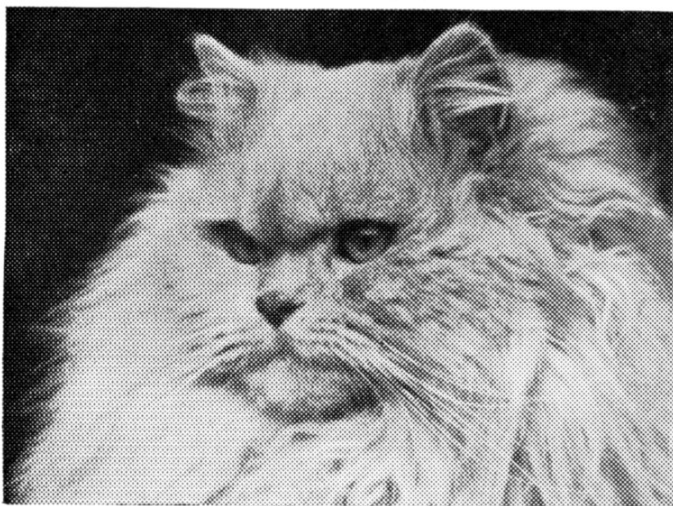
**The Championship Show at Nottingham on 9th January, will be dealt with in our next issue.**

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## **DANEHURST CATTERY**

**Owner : Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S.**

**BLUE, CREAM, CHINCHILLA & BLACK PERSIANS**



**CHAMPION DANEHURST PRINCESS (Cream Persian)**

**Prize Stud Cats available. Kittens by prize-winning stock usually for sale — to approved homes only.**

**Can be seen by appointment.**

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**Runfold 248**

# Quiz!

**In which “thirsters after knowledge” are handed over to our panel of experts. Readers are invited to submit their questions —by post please, marking their envelopes “Quiz” in the top left-hand corner.**

## **Wanted a Winner**

**I sold a kitten to a novice ten weeks ago. At the time she said that she was pleased with the kitten but has now written to say that she is not satisfied with it because when it was shown it did not get any award. What should I do ?**

Be sympathetic but quite firm ! Breeders are not foolish enough to guarantee that the kittens they sell will win prizes. Among cats many “swans” become “ducks” as they grow older. You may feel sensitive because you have been criticized, but perhaps that only goes to prove that your own experience as a breeder is not very wide. Write frankly and say that you could not pick a certain winner at eight weeks. You might also add that because a kitten fails to get a card at one show that is no proof that it will not catch the judge’s eye on another occasion.

## **Short or Longhair ?**

**I want to buy a pedigree kitten but I don’t know whether to have a Siamese or a Persian. Can you give me any advice ?**

It is very difficult if not impossible to advise beginners in such matters, but there are several points that should be considered. If you do not know anything about Siamese or Longhairs (another name for Persians), you should go to a show and see them in their pens. Talk to the people who breed and exhibit them. Siamese cats are certainly “different.” They are usually noisy, frequently destructive, but nearly always

the most intelligent and attractive of companions. Persians are quieter, on the whole less temperamental, and take a little more time to look after because of the more careful grooming that is necessary. The choice of a breed is such a personal matter that you must make the acquaintance of both types before reaching a decision.

## **Young Abby Wanted**

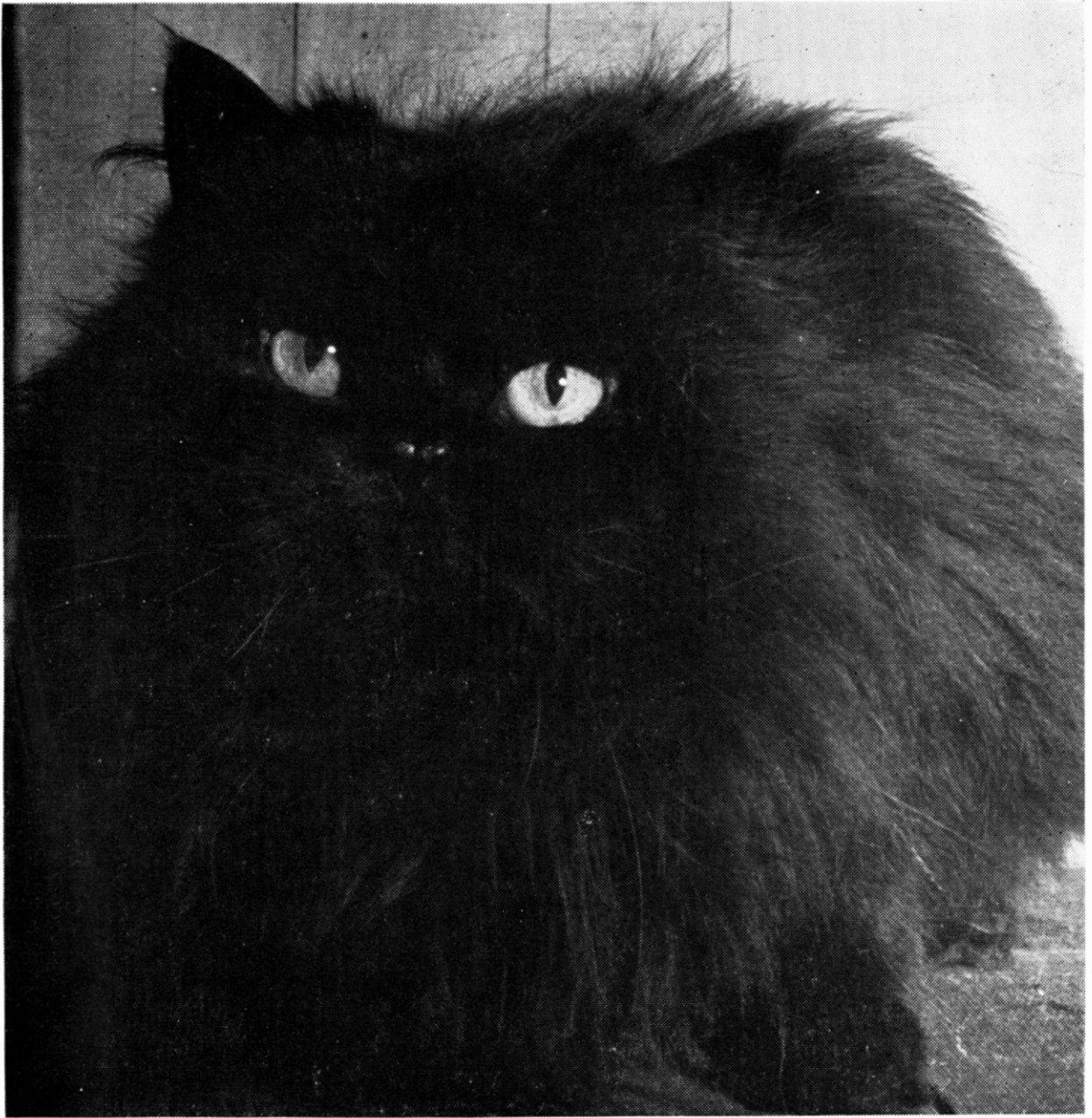
**I want to buy an Abyssinian kitten but I do not know where to find one. Do you happen to know any breeder who has a litter for sale ?**

It is rather late in the year to expect to find many young Abyssinians for sale, but there may be kittens available. Comparatively speaking Abyssinians are still rare, but the number of breeders is increasing every year now. The best thing for you to do is to write to the Secretary of the Abyssinian Cat Club. He is Mr. H. Basnett, Wyberton, Walderslade-by-Chatham, Kent. He may be able to help you.

## **A Sign of Worms**

**A kitten I bought several months ago does not seem to be growing as fast as it should. Its breath is unpleasant and the skin at the corner of each eye has grown up on to the eyeball. Does this mean that the kitten is ill ?**

The condition of your kitten is such that it is certainly in need of veterinary attention. A kitten that does not grow properly is either fed badly or it is not getting the best out of its food. If you



**CHAMPION CHADHURST GWENDA, a splendid English-bred Black Longhair now in the cattery of Miss H. L. Posthuma, the well-known Dutch breeder and exhibitor.**

are feeding well, the chances are that the kitten has worms. The skin is not growing over the eye. It is merely that the third eyelid, called the haw, does not fall back into its proper place. Raised haws are frequently a sign of worms. Check up on this, but get the advice of your vet. at once. Retarded growth is not easy to make up, but in a week or two the kitten should be perfectly fit.

### Time for Parting

**I have a Longhaired Red Tabby who is now nearly fourteen. Unfortunately he seems unable to see well enough to prevent himself from knocking into the furniture. Fortunately he does not move much but spends most of his time asleep in his box. Ought I to have him put to sleep ?**

If the cat has lost interest in life in general and its food in particular, and if there is a risk that it may injure itself because of failing sight, a peaceful end is what such an old friend deserves. Sentiment may make such a decision hard, but in these cases it is intelligence which has to decide. Veterinary science can provide an end which is both peaceful and entirely painless. Do not deny to your cat what under similar circumstances you would almost certainly wish for yourself.

### Breeding Queries

**I should be obliged if you could enlighten me on two points connected with breeding in regard to both of which there seems to be a wide divergence of opinion. The first is the correct age for breeding with a young queen ; the second the correct period of gestation.**

There is no such thing as a correct age for breeding if you mean that the cat should be at least so many months old. A female who develops normally should call by the time she is nine to ten months

old. It might not be wise to have her mated at the first calling, but she should be sent to the stud when she calls the second time. You can expect Siamese to call at least one month earlier than Longhairs. Under normal conditions for average queens the period of gestation varies from sixty-three to sixty-seven days. It depends upon a number of individual factors. Most queens seem to have their kittens on the sixty-fifth day.



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HARMLESS TO THE ANIMAL

**DIMOL (VETERINARY) LTD.**  
34/40 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4.



# Tailpieces

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



**M**ISS GLADYS COOPER, the celebrated actress, has a variety of pets including a black cat which answers to the name of Mau Mau.

The Russian Blue Cat Club has issued a handy little Year Book for 1953/4 which should serve to advance the popularity of the breed. Miss Kit Wilson contributes an article in which she reminds readers that the Russian Blue, formerly called the Archangel Cat, has an ancestry which can be traced back to the Vikings and is to be found to-day wherever these warriors of the sea blazed a trade route.

Some useful advice on export is given by Miss M. Rochford, a devotee of the breed who has sent her Dunloe cats to various parts of the world. Copies of the Year Book can be obtained from the Club's Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Francis de Clifford, 3 Holland Park Avenue, W.11.

"But we cannot help wondering whether the world might not have been a happier place if Hitler could have talked over his racial theories with an intelligent cat instead of with Goebbels, Himmler and the rest of his sycophantic adherents." An interesting reflection, don't you agree? I came across it in a feature in the P.D.S.A. *Animals' Magazine* dealing with the attitude of dictators towards animals. Hitler never showed any real interest in animals and Mussolini thought that the English were a decadent and effeminate race of zoophilites. There is no record of Stalin ever having a favourite cat or dog but Marshal Tito on the other hand is a great lover of animals, particularly dogs and horses.

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CUTS · BURNS · ETC . . .

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Large Jar . . . 6/6

Keep ZEMOL Handy —just in case!

Veterinary Division  
**PHILLIPS YEAST PRODUCTS LTD.**  
Park Royal Road, London, N.W. 10

The number of experiments on living animals in this country during 1952 was 2,117,912, it is reported in a White Paper published by H.M. Stationery Office at 4d. Those performed without anaesthetics were 1,836,328, approximately 86.6%. These experiments were mostly inoculation, modifications of the animals' diet or environment, or the administration of a drug or toxin. Cats, dogs, horses, asses and mules were used in 14,989 experiments and about half of these were performed under anaesthesia



throughout the whole period. Over a million experiments were carried out in the preparation and testing of substances intended for use in the treatment of disease in man or in animals.

The Bills due to be presented in the House of Commons by Private Members include the Protection of Animals (Amendment) Bill sponsored by the Hon. P. F. Remnant. This seeks to extend the powers of court to disqualify defendants from having custody of animals when they have previously been convicted of cruelty. It seeks also to increase the maximum fine for cruelty from £25 to £50.

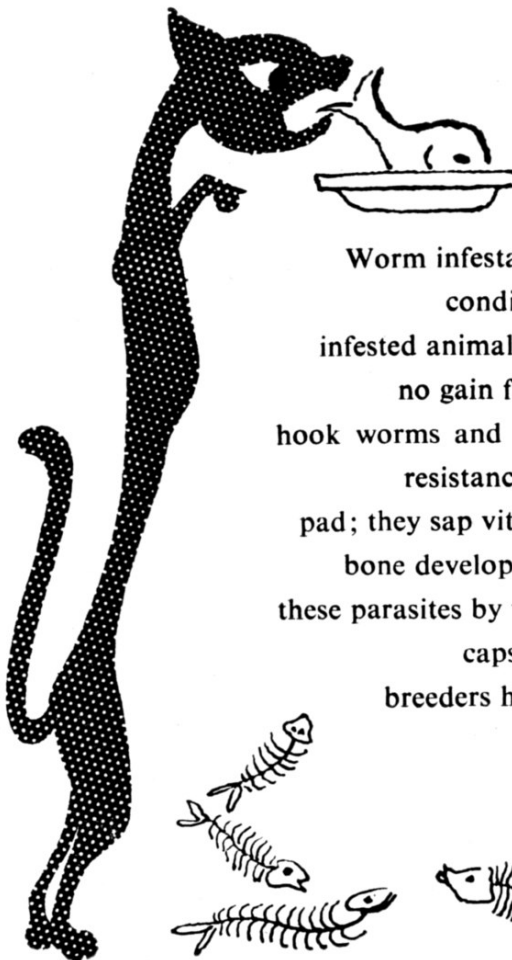
Mr. Al Stevens, a cat impersonator, recently featured in the TV guessing game of "What's My Line?" After the panel had guessed his job he donned a cat costume and kissed Lady Barnett, one of the panel members.

When two labourers were charged at Stratford with breaking into a house at Wanstead, a detective said that when the men were told they would be charged one of them replied: "Yes, the cat was on the bed and instead of jumping off it walked over the old woman and woke her."

When the Battersea coroner adjourned an inquest on a 63-year-old watchman, it was disclosed that the man was found dead in a lodge with the gas poker turned on but unlit. The bodies of two cats were also in the room.

Folk living in Waterlooville, Hants, are used to seeing Mr. Frederick Hayter walking through the village with a fox on a lead. Its name is Tag and Mr. Hayter says it scampers about the house in play with Tibbie, his cat, and Dodger, the sheepdog.

MICKIE.



## is your pet ravenous yet thin?

Worm infestation is probably one of the most common conditions from which dogs and cats suffer and infested animals often have a ravenous appetite but show no gain from their feed. In young growing animals, hook worms and round worms cause anæmia and lowered resistance to such infections as distemper and hard pad; they sap vitality and check healthy growth and sturdy bone development. Your pet can be completely freed of these parasites by the simple administration of NEMA worm capsules. Veterinary surgeons and dog and cat breeders have used this proved Parke-Davis product for over 25 years. Ask your Chemist about NEMA worm capsules!

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Black, Cream and Blue-Cream Persians

At Stud :

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Sire of Champion cats and Winning Kittens.

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WAVERLEY ABBEY  
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Blacks

See Displayed and Stud advertisements in this issue

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occasionally for sale

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At Stud **MALMARY TAFETEACE** } Blues  
**SNAB HORNBLOWER** }  
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*Queens met at Liverpool or Birkenhead*

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*Thornton Hough 214*

## EIREANNE BLUE & CREAM PERSIANS AND MINIATURE TOY POODLES

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Exquisite type. Prizewinner only time shown  
**NEUBURIE BAMBI**

Lovely pale son of Blessed Mischief of Henley.  
Sire of many 1st Prize Winning Kittens.

*Beautiful Kittens usually for sale.*

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CHINCHILLAS**

*PRIZE WINNERS*

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Kittens may be booked in advance to  
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PENSFORD BLUES, CREAMS  
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**130 WICKHAM WAY, BECKENHAM, KENT**  
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*Fotograf Viggo Mortensen*

**Miss K. Olson, of Stockholm (right) displays her Russian Blues of the popular Olsenburg prefix. The camera has caught the plush-like texture of these cats' coats.**

# DIRECTORY OF SHORTHAIR BREEDERS

FOR RELIABLE STUDS AND STOCK (Arranged alphabetically)

## CHEYNE SIAMESE

Seal Point, Red Point and Tortie Point

At Stud : **GRACEDIEU LU-AN**

Sire : Mystic Dreamer

Dam : Shantung Sebasse

Sire of winning kittens at Kensington Kitten and Neuter Show 1953. First season at stud.

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Fee 50/- Grandsire Mystic Dreamer

Kittens of good type, pale coats, good eye shape and colour, gentle, well reared and house-trained must go to good homes. From 3 gns. All registered MRS. PHILLIPS, 32 HARTON GROVE, SOUTH SHIELDS, CO. DURHAM. Phone: S. Shields 435.

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## DEVORAN SIAMESE CATS

EXCEL IN TYPE

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Burley 2160

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At Stud to approved queens:

**CH. PINCOP AZURE KYM (B.P.)** Winner of 7 Challenge Certificates and Best Exhibit Siamese C.C. Ch. Show 1948. Sire of Champions.

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Particulars from MRS. O. M. LAMB

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Breeder of **CH. MORRIS TUDOR, INT.**

**CH. MORRIS SABLE, ALL AMERICA 1952**

**CH. MORRIS LINDEX** and many other winners

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At Stud : **MYSTIC DREAMER**

1st & Ch. 1945 & 1948, 1st Prize Stud 1949, 1950 & 1951. Specials for Pale Coat & Best Eye Colour. Also his son **GRACEDIEU YAI**

Siring **KITTENS** excelling in type, whiptails and sweet disposition.

MRS G. E. MATTHES, ALTON LODGE,

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(MRS. C. J. ROBERTS)

Abyssinian & Siamese

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Kittens usually for sale

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ORCHARD HOUSE, CATSFIELD, Nr. BATTLE,  
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THREE YEARS RUNNING 1951, 1952 and 1953

Need one say more?

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and Gentle Temperament. EXPORTED KITTENS constantly attain the highest awards  
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Studs: DONERAILE DEKHO { Larchwood Clover  
Tostock Loona Chin  
SALEWHEEL SIMKIN { Afka Khan  
Saffire of Sabrina  
SUKIANOA SIROCCO { Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo  
Foxburrow Runlie  
Best Kitten S.C.C.C. 1952

Inquiries for Studs, Kittens and my book  
"The Breeding and Management of the  
Siamese Cat" to :-

MRS. KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS,  
53, GRANGE ROAD, SUTTON, SURREY.  
VIG 1389



Studio Orchard

A line of trophy winners at the November Show of the Scottish Cat Club held at Paisley. They are—reading from left to right—Mr. H. J. Badham, Mrs. S. P. Hamilton, Mrs. B. I. Dinwiddie, Mrs. M. H. Stewart, Miss Thomson (for Mrs. E. C. Thomson), Mrs. W. S. Steele, Mrs. G. Keith and Mrs. M. Newbigging.

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

The rate for prepaid advertisements under this heading is 3d. per word per insertion (minimum 12 words) and instructions must be received by *not later than the 7th day* of the month of issue. Please write "copy" clearly and post with appropriate remittance to OUR CATS MAGAZINE, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W. 9. Use of Box No. costs 1/- extra.

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## At Stud

SCO-RUSTON RAVISANT (Blue Persian), sire Int. Ch. Southway Nicholas, dam Sco-Kalisa. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

DANEHURST GORDIE (Blue Persian), sire Sco-Ruston Ravisant, dam Hendon Lady Griselda. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

CH. REDWALLS JACK FROST (Chinchilla), sire Ch. Foxburrow, Tilli-Willi, dam Redwalls Snowstorm, prizewinner every time shown 1948/52. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

MOLESEY ALI BABA (Cream Persian), sire Tweedledum of Dunesk, dam Molesey Mischief. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

STARKEY NUGGET (Cream), sire Malmaly Tafeteace, dam Fairham Gillian, prizewinner every time shown. Fee £2 2s. and return carriage. Only registered queens accepted to any of the above Studs.—Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S., Waverley Abbey, Farnham, Surrey. Runfold 248.

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BOURNESIDE CATTERY, Aitken, 2 Commonfield Road, Barnstead, Surrey. Tel.: Burgh Heath 2754. CH. BOURNESIDE BLACK DIAMOND (Black Longhair).

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PROSPECT PERICLES, Siamese S.P., consistent winner.—Miss Denton, Mt. Pleasant House, 133 Prospect Road, Totley Rise, Sheffield. Tel.: 71250.

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BIRCOTTE STUDS (Longhair). GIFTO-CRISSA (Black), HAZIE (Blue), CH. LOTUS APOLLO (White Blue-eyed), LOTUS SHANDY (Smoke).—Particulars from Sherlock, Bircotte Cattery, Brockham Green, Betchworth, Surrey.

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BIRCOTTE MARCUS and Bircotte Madame, ORANGE-EYED WHITES by Ch. Carreg Cracker, winners at National. Bircotte Merry by Ch. Dylan of Allington, lovely pale BLUE, winner Croydon.—Address: see Bircottes at Stud.

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CREAM PERSIAN Kitten, m., 12 weeks, good pedigree, very affectionate.—Govan, The Square, Kirkliston, Nr. Edinburgh.

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## Miscellaneous

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THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE, the monthly British Dog Magazine for dog owners and dog lovers everywhere. Fully illustrated and complete with informative features and instructive articles. Annual subscription 10s. (inc. postage) for twelve issues.—The Tail-Wagger Magazine, 356-360 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

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"CATS," America's leading monthly Magazine. One year's subscription 25s.—Peter Hobson, 79 Southbrook Road, Exeter.

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ELASTIC-NYLON Cat Harnesses and Collars, Address Labels, Baskets, Rugs, Coats, Washable Cushions. Catalogue.—Collier & Collier, 9 Denewood Road, Bournemouth.

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## Boarding

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## Bosun

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We have received news from the yacht "Mary Hillier" in the Mediterranean, and so will be able to resume the adventures of Bosun, the Sailor Siamese in next month's issue.



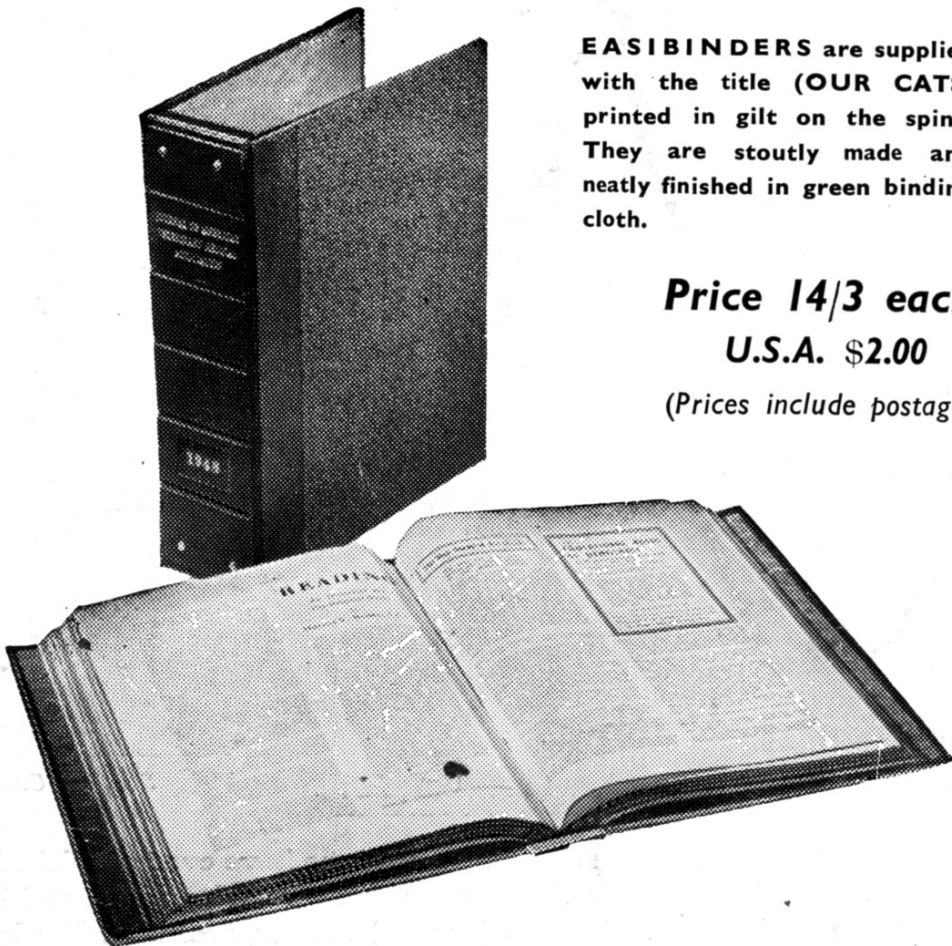
### **BANCHOR BLUE TITANIA**

*Sport and General*

**Surely this is just about the loveliest Siamese head we have ever published? It belongs to the little Blue Pointed lady named above who was bred by Mrs. Macpherson, well-known Balcombe (Sussex) fancier, from Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo ex Misselfore Ya Sunlight. The fortunate owners for whom Titania has done so splendidly whenever shown are Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Groom, of Kidderminster, Worcestershire. Titania is now only nine months' old — she was Best Kitten at the Siamese Cat Club Show.**

## ***You can preserve your copies of OUR CATS in these special cases***

Arrangements have been made with the makers of the well-known EASIBINDER to supply readers of **OUR CATS** with their self-binding cases and accessories. Each EASIBINDER—see illustration below—will hold 24 copies of this Magazine. It enables subscribers to keep their copies clean and undamaged. The issues can be inserted or removed at will with the aid of steel rods supplied with each Binder. By means of a special device, the EASIBINDER is just as useful when only partly filled and the pages will always open flat. Full instructions for use are supplied with each Binder.



EASIBINDERS are supplied with the title (**OUR CATS**) printed in gilt on the spine. They are stoutly made and neatly finished in green binding cloth.

**Price 14/3 each**  
**U.S.A. \$2.00**

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