

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



SLAPTON MISCHIEF, photographed here at three months, is a Smoke Longhair and a really fine specimen of his breed. Bred experimentally by Mrs. Phyllis Dyer, of Slapton, South Devon, from Ch. Bourneside Black Diamond (Black Longhair) and Slapton Silver Mist, Mischief has been voted Best Kitten at two shows this year. He is now owned by Mrs. Grace de Udy, of Bratton, Wilts, and no doubt he will later be available as a stud to Smoke breeders who are unfortunately only thinly represented in the cat world of to-day.

1/6

NOVEMBER 1954

**COME ON KITTENS!
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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

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

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MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Plenty of space for fresh air and exercise appears to be the order of things at Dr. von Roeder's Wilburs Cattery at Bad Bramstedt in the British Zone of Germany.



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LANCASHIRE AND NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES
CAT CLUB

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to be held at
THE TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATION DRILL HALL
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on 22nd JANUARY, 1955

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Hon. Treasurer :
Mrs. M. A. SMITH,
Westminster Bank House,
Monton Green, Eccles.

Assistant Show Manager : Mrs. M. S. WILLIAMS

Let's go to a Show

We urge our readers to attend as many Cat Shows as possible. There is no better place at which to meet old friends, to make new ones and to pick up useful points about cats, their breeding and general management, from experienced fanciers and exhibitors. Brief details of the show programme for the 1954-55 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. The list may be revised from time to time as fresh information becomes available.

1954	Promoted by	Venue
8 December ...	*National Cat Club	London
1955		
8 January ...	*Notts. and Derbyshire Cat Club	Nottingham
22 January ...	*Lancs. and North Western Counties Cat Club ...	Manchester
3 February ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club... ..	London
19 February ...	East Anglian Cat Club	Ipswich

* Denotes show with Championship status.



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Right Thinking

By P. M. SODERBERG

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

I HOPE that all those who know me have no doubt of my affection for animals whether they are the highest forms of domestic pets such as horses, cats or dogs even down to the beautiful but almost completely unintelligent butterfly.

It is now just fifty years since I owned my first pet, and through that long period my attitude towards them has inevitably but gradually changed. This attitude has become more intelligent, for I have been able to discard sheer sentimentality.

Yes, I have deliberately put my cat first because I can do much for him that he cannot possibly do for himself. Human kind have largely educated their cats so that they are now unable to fend for themselves, but were they given the right conditions, instinct would reassert itself and the cat would again learn to find its own food. To-day most cats are kept under conditions and in an environment which make it impossible for them to become self-supporting.

To feed well is a necessity for cats, but there are many other considerations which one can realise simply by a little thought. I need not enumerate them here.

The unassailable conclusion from this is that man has now to think for his cat and meet its needs to the best of his ability. It is here, however, that we come up against a real obstacle, for there are too many cat owners who think of themselves first and afterwards of their cats.

It is false sentiment that I want to attack because I believe it to be wrong—that is, wrong for the cat. That surely is what really matters.

I have every sympathy for any person who seeks the companionship and affection of a cat. These are both pleasures which are worthwhile, but I object to those cat owners who try to turn their cats into humans. Heaven forbid that any creature so independent of spirit should be so degraded as to lose its own identity even if the apparent fact exists only in the mind of its owner. It nevertheless affects his actions. Let cats remain cats.

Opposed to Commonsense

It is the attitude of mind which some owners adopt by projecting their own feelings into their cats which does more harm than good to the cat who suffers from such an attitude. This attack on false sentiment requires illustration from some of the things which actually do happen.

My correspondence from people who keep cats is considerable, and I am appalled at times by the attitude towards the subject of neutering which is not infrequently expressed in letters to me.

Quite a number of cat owners take a stand on this subject which is opposed to common sense. It has actually been said to me that it is morally wrong to deprive a cat of the possibilities of parenthood. But is it? What are the grounds on which one can make such a decision? Certainly they are not rational ones.

The mating of cats is the result of a biological urge which results from certain glandular activity whether the cat be male or female. If you remove the cause of the "urge" is the cat mentally distressed? Of course it isn't! Cats do not think about these things, for their action is almost entirely instinctive.

Should it be both possible and convenient for a male cat to become the father of kittens and thus fulfil his normal function, by all means give him that opportunity. It is far more cruel to both male and female cats to frustrate them in this matter than it is to remove the possibility of such frustration. Few cats are any the worse for neutering, even from the physical point of view, and certainly they are not capable of sitting down consciously to deplore their lack of capacity.

Inoculation is Right

An entire male should either be used as a stud cat deliberately or he should be neutered. He should not be allowed to become a marauder to the damage of his ears, if nothing else, nor ought he to be allowed to become a nuisance to all and sundry both feline and human. To shut him up so that he cannot become a nuisance shows no real affection for him.

If a female feels the instinctive need for motherhood, she is entitled to that privilege or the desire should not be allowed to occur. She should be spayed.

It is remarkable to me when I hear people say, and I do hear it said, that cats should not be inoculated against infectious enteritis. What these people mean is that they are afraid that the inoculation may entail a slight risk of losing a cat for whom they have the greatest affection.

This risk is so small that it is negligible, and if these people think that the hypodermic needle will distress the cat,

then they do not know him. Human beings even faint at the sight of the needle, but cats have no such irrational imagination. Of course a cat or kitten may be frightened by a strange man holding them firmly and then pricking them with a needle, but what of that? It is soon over unless the cat is one of those extremely rare hysterical felines.

If I had my way I would pass a law on this subject, but unfortunately I have no such power. I should like all cats inoculated against this terrible killing disease. Terrible it is as those who have seen it at work know to their cost.

Inoculation for all would practically eliminate risks of so-called "show fever." It would increase the average life of cats by several years, and above all it would mean that tens of thousands of cats would be saved the agony of twenty-four to forty-eight hours of hopeless misery at worst, or, at best, a long period of distress and a slow convalescence. Should anyone again voice their disapproval of this blessing to the cat race, I shall be rude, deliberately rude.

There is such a finality about death when a cat dies that I have every sympathy with those who are forced at times to make a painful decision.

When the End Comes

Here I would plead rather than condemn, for I know from personal experience the wrench that one feels when a pet has to "pass on." Even so, it is cowardly to shirk the issue. When a cat is old and ailing, or is known to be suffering from an incurable disease, whose feelings ought to be considered? Should we think more than once of the gap that there will be in our own lives? Some of us do think of ourselves first. Realising how much we shall be hurt by the parting, we often delay the decision far longer than we have any right to do.

No cat can tell us how wearisome life has become, but if we have eyes we can read the message in its face. Death can be so painless, so devoid of distress, when it is produced by kindly hands that know their job.

Oh, yes, I will readily admit to being a sentimentalist and naturally emotional, but when the time comes to make this decision again as it has many times in the past, I know what that decision will be.

We who keep pets must expect our feelings to be hurt, for a pet's life is usually so much shorter than our own. We have to think of them. That is our only justification for making them our daily companions.

AARHUS 3-DAY SHOW

MISS KIT WILSON, who flew to Denmark to judge at this fixture, has kindly supplied the following report :

The Jutland Cat Club, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Skytte Birkefeldt, held a wonderful show in Aarhus on October 22nd, 23rd and 24th. There was a large entry from the host country, Norway and Sweden, and although I do not know how many people attended during the three days, there must have been some thousands.

My fellow judge was Mrs. Hjelde, of Stockholm, who frequently visits our British shows. Many cats exported from Britain were exhibited and it is evidence of their happiness in their adopted land that they have without exception forgotten the language of their native country !

. Best in Show was Int. Ch. Morris Sable, bred by Mrs. Richardson and owned by Fru Anna Poulson. Runner-up was a lovely Blue-Cream Redwalls Taffeta, bred by Mrs. Hacking and owned by Fru Pederson. Other winners were Haseldine Silver Rexi, a Chinchilla bred by Mrs. Brittlebank and owned by

Mrs. Philip Ohlson, of Sweden ; Mascot of Pensford and Caesar of Pensford, bred by Mrs. Thompson and owned by Mrs. Karen Smith, of Copenhagen ; Myowne Blue Nymph, bred by Mrs. Vize and owned by Fru Borjesson, of Sweden.

In Open Female Siamese Pristine Petaling, bred by Mrs. Priston and owned by Fru Magnusson, won the C.A.C. This class ended in a very close points judging between the winner and Silken Rosy Rascal, bred by Mrs. Highton and owned by Fru Poulsen. Banchor Blue Thor, bred by Mrs. Macpherson and owned by Fru Helbe-Jensen won in Open Male Blue Point Siamese. The same owner won in Blue Point Kittens with Banchor Blue Mai.

In Abyssinians Nigella Feru, bred by Miss Bone and owned by Fru Schmidt, of Sweden, won well. Foxburrow Firefly, bred by Mr. Soderberg and owned by Mrs. Saether, of Norway, became the first Premier, a lovely Blue male. He was looking a picture. In my Longhair classes I was interested to learn that my awards were the same as those given by Mrs. Newton when she judged in Copenhagen earlier in the year. Redwalls Taffeta won the title of Miss Aarhus by public vote.

On Saturday night we all attended a wonderful supper at an old inn in the forest. It was a gay occasion and there were many speeches. It was a great pleasure to meet Mrs. Rudy Eisenhuth, President of F.I.F.E., who attended the show for the three days. Mrs. Birkefeldt's recent importation Spotlight Pentetre, bred by Mr. Warner, made her debut at the show but was not for competition owing to the fact that I was staying with her charming owner. I had two wonderful stewards, Mrs. Saether, who, of course, is English, and Mrs. Lis Langberg, an old friend.

Aarhus is a beautiful town and I left it with wonderful memories of so many kindnesses and a knowledge that all the cats who have left our shores for Scandinavia have gone to happy homes.

A page for the proletarian puss No. 50



Fox Photos

The camera catches a happy moment in the lives of the much-photographed Taylor quads of Edmonton. It is their sixth birthday and among the presents which these four famous children have received, their undisputed favourite is that from their grandmother Mrs. Govey, who has given each quad a Tortoiseshell kitten. The children (left to right) are Kevin, Robert, Annette and Paul.

Skin Abnormalities

By M.R.C.V.S.

THE changes which may be observed in the skin or its appendages are not by any means associated necessarily with *diseases* of those tissues, but may be the direct result of systemic disturbances or injuries. For instance, a cat's fur may be found harsh and staring when the animal is affected with intestinal parasites; the skin may have completely lost its elasticity (hide-bound), as is observed in severe cases of gastritis and other debilitating diseases. Loss of hair can arise from general weakness, nervous exhaustion, in-breeding, etc.

Such abnormalities are not true diseases of the skin; and when we have excluded those lesions which owe their origin to attacks of animal and vegetable parasites, we find there are really very few diseases of the skin in cats which can truthfully be so named.

Nearly all skin diseases of the cat are accompanied by an eruption of one kind or another. The earliest stage of eruption is the minute, whitish or pink, solid elevation known as a *papule* or pimple.

A *vesicle* is a collection of serous fluid beneath the cuticle, and at first this fluid is clear, i.e., free from cells. It later becomes turbid by the addition of white cells (leucocytes) and, finally, may turn yellowish-white and be literally filled with cells. It is then a *pustule*. These pustules eventually rupture automatically, or are ruptured by scratching, then permitting a thick discharge to ooze over the skin.

A *wheel* is a spot of congestion accompanied by slight exudation beneath the skin; but a generalised eruption of

wheals constitutes urticaria. Skin eruptions will be present in eczema, sarcoptic mange, acne or folliculitis (boils), urticaria, impetigo, and sometimes in flea, louse, or harvest bug infestations.

Skin affections may generally be classified into parasitic and non-parasitic. Of the parasitic varieties by far the most common is fleas infestation.

Fleas are not ubiquitous on domestic animals; in fact, dogs, cats, rabbits, fowls and pigeons are their only hosts. The species of insect parasitic to cats is the *Pulex Serraticeps* though it also claims the dog as a host, and may live equally comfortably on either animal.

The *Pulex Irritans* of man is usually somewhat smaller than the *Pulex Serraticeps*. The female of the former varying from 1 to 4 m.m. in length, whilst the female of the latter is generally about 3 to 4 m.m. long. The male insects are in all cases the smaller. The flea of man is communicable to dogs and cats, and vice versa; and owing to its remarkable agility, transmission from one animal to another is very readily and frequently effected.

Cycle of the Flea

The flea relies upon mammalian (or bird) blood for its sustenance, although it can exist for very long periods apart from its host. The females often quit the host for the purpose of laying eggs, which latter are then deposited in the dust or grime occupying cracks of floor boards, behind wooden partitions or in chinks of brickwork, etc., where they remain for about a week.

By the sixth or seventh day in summer, a white legless grub emerges. About

the tenth or eleventh day the larva constructs for itself a cocoon, moults its original skin and becomes a hexapod nymph. From then onwards its colour gradually darkens and in from two to three weeks it attains its "perfect insect" or adult stage, with all its tormenting and jumping propensities fully developed.

Not infrequently, the flea deposits its whitish elliptical-shaped eggs (0.8 m.m. long) in the cat's fur which permits of the various stages of metamorphosis occurring upon the host. Such a plan, perpetually adopted, would from the human point of view, be much more satisfactory, as treatment of an affected animal would thus enable one to exterminate egg larva and adult insect in one operation.

Neglect Brings Trouble

It is, indeed, the wandering habits of fleas, and their propensity for hiding their eggs away, which render the pest so difficult to eradicate. The writer knew of a house cat which habitually slept on a pile of old newspapers in a kitchen cupboard. Examination of the topmost paper would generally reveal hundreds of these minute white eggs which had fallen from the cat's fur.

In the search for fleas, one turns the fur the wrong way so as to expose the skin, and although no actual flea may be seen after a prolonged search, one can be sure he is there if a flea excrement is found. This flea-dirt has the appearance and size of small particles of dark tobacco ash. To see it is not even essential, as if one runs one's fingers through the fur, the gritty feel experienced will assure the examiner of the presence of fleas.

Should there be only one flea, it is still necessary to treat the case with as much punctilious care as though it was infested. Otherwise it soon *will* be infested, and the house or cattery teeming with flea-eggs.

Beyond creating a persistent skin irritation, fleas appear to do little harm. They do, however, undoubtedly rob an animal of much rest and sleep when present in large numbers, and may even cause a certain amount of anaemia. What is more likely to occur is a dermatitis occasioned by the constant scratching and biting to which the skin is subjected. Some loss of hair may result from the same cause, and crusts composed of dried blood, epithelium and hair may sometimes be found adherent to localised parts of the body where the irritation has been most intense.

The most effective treatment extant will be quite useless unless energetic preventive measures are simultaneously adopted. In hundreds of cases people have laboriously freed their cats from all trace of infestation, only to find them in three or four week's time, as badly affected as ever. This is because the owner has not realised the necessity for cleaning out cupboards (used by the cat); burning old sacks, newspapers or boxes where the cat has made its bed; baking, boiling or disinfecting articles of bedding which are too valuable to destroy; cleaning out cracks and crannies in the cattery; beating and hoovering carpets and rugs; etc., etc.

All these aforementioned articles should then be treated (preferably in the open air) with an efficient insecticide such as "Flit," which is not poisonous to the cat.

How to Disinfect

And while all this is being done, the animal itself should be disinfected. One good way to do this is to apply an insecticide to *every part* of the cat's skin, not omitting the whole tail, under the belly and chin, and down the legs. The powder should be put into a pepper pot and sprinkled into the fur as the hairs are turned back.

The cat is then put into a paper-lined basket and stood out in the garden for half an hour. Those insects which hop off will generally be found dead on the paper; but some may get away and would eventually perish in the garden. Another way is to place the cat in a small pillow slip, the mouth of which is tied loosely around the neck.

Derris powder is very good as an insecticide, but doubtless the most efficient is gammexane, not stronger than about 0.1% in french chalk. The pillow slip idea is really good as it prevents the cat from licking the powder and taking harm. *DDT should not be used on cats as it is too dangerous.*

SHOW AT LAUSANNE

ON 22nd October Mrs. Anne Vize fulfilled her first judging engagement since returning from America and Canada, where her stay was tragically interrupted by the sudden illness of her husband. This time her journey took her eastwards to Switzerland where she was the guest judge at the two-day Lausanne Show of the Club Amis des Chats.

Mrs. Vize reports: At Geneva I was met at the airport by M. l'Abbe A. Marcel Chamonin who kindly drove me on a tour of the historic buildings and showed me some of the delightful scenery. At Lausanne, which I reached by train, I was met by his sister Mlle. Chamonin and, later, I made the acquaintance of Mlle. Curchod and her band of capable helpers who worked long and hard to ensure the success of this two-day fixture.

The Longhairs were well represented and of good quality. Best in Show was Mme. Fuch's Int. Ch. Astrid de Joly-mont, a good type Orange-eyed White beautifully presented. Reserve Best was Mlle. Chamonin's Ch. Baruk de la Chesnaie, a nice pale Blue with good type and eye colour. Most of the

Blacks were looking very sound and Mme. Gay's Colibri du Bosquet was first in males. Mme. Riedwil won in females with Balveli vom Eigerhus. Black kittens were particularly promising, especially M. Hugenin's Diana de la Simiane.

English Exports Win

The winning Chinchilla male Poldenhills Silver Cresset shown by Mme. Dussoix was bred by Mrs. Polden. Best Kitten was Sunrise of Pensford, bred by Mrs. Joan Thompson and exported to Mlle. Curchod. Reserve Best Kitten Mme. Aeschlimann's Dary de Castel, an exquisite Orange-eyed White, will certainly make a name for herself in the future. Best Shorthair was Frau Luise Mann's winning Siamese Susi von Tannenberg. Best Neuter Mme. Roulet's Boboise de Bois Dore was a beautiful Blue who should never have been neutered.

A breed I find very interesting is the Birmanie, Siamese in colouring but long in coat and with four white toe tips. This is a "must." Another new breed is Klimeer which are similar to the Longhair Seal Points that have been bred in England but not quite so long in coat.

I enjoyed every moment of my stay and the whole atmosphere of the show was extremely friendly.

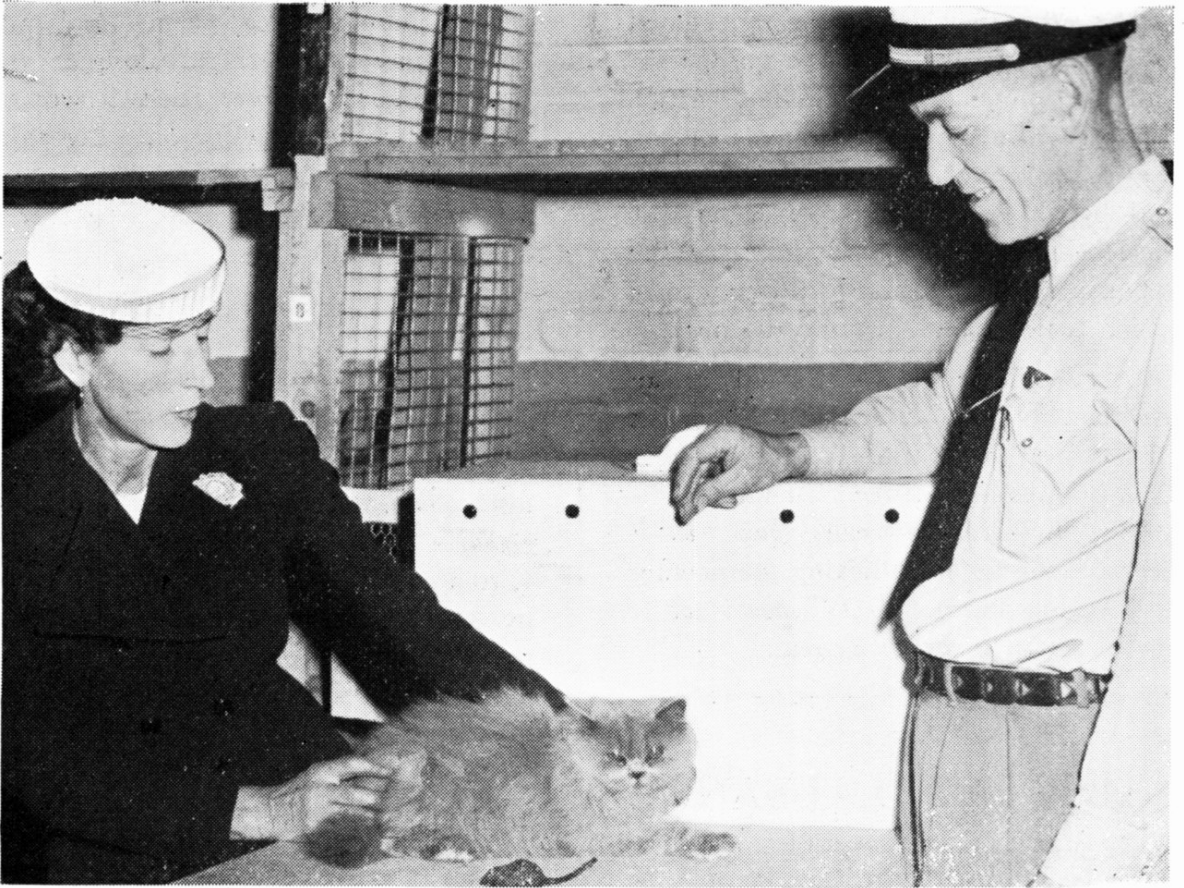
**Dont Spay and Spoil
your Female Kitten**

Use

"TOM-SCAT"

This well-known American product to keep Toms away from Queens in Season is now available in this country from

MISS A. STUBBS, WHISTON
PENKRIDGE, Nr. STAFFORD



Pan American World Airways

Betsybob, Blue Longhair kitten prizewinner, is being prepared for her trip across the Atlantic under the watchful eyes of Mrs. Ella B. Martin, who executed the export order, and Arthur Pritchard, of the Airways staff at London Airport. We are happy to be able to report that Betsybob arrived safely at her new home in Colorado, U.S.A.



BOAC Photograph

Here's the story as supplied by the Press Branch of British Overseas Airways Corporation : A wealthy Chicago businessman wanted a pure-bred Abyssinian cat, so he got in touch with the air line's local manager. Eventually, a suitable cat was found through an agent in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia (formerly Abyssinia). The cat flew by Aden Airways from Addis Ababa to Aden, thence to Cairo and finally by stratocruiser to Chicago—a journey of 8,000 miles.

Reproduction

Our popular contributor on genetics responds here to the many requests he has received—mostly from novice breeders—for more information about the various aspects of reproduction. This is the second article in a fine new series prepared exclusively by Mr. Jude to help and encourage our readers all over the cat world.

IN the opening instalment of this series we were able to show that although environment may modify certain of an animal's characteristics during its lifetime, the main factors involved are passed on to it from the parents, and to a smaller degree, by the back ancestry through the parents. The resemblance of offspring to parents, independent of environment, is expressed by heredity due to the fact that both parents and offspring develop from the same kind of germ plasm.

At the bottom of the tree of evolution there are the simple one-celled animals. Here we have uniparental inheritance, as for example in the parthenogenitically produced aphids, where the offspring under uniform environmental conditions are commonly indistinguishable from the parent. The germ plasm from which the parent and its offspring develop is of one and the same sort. In reproducing, the creature merely divides, the nucleus splitting first, and the protoplasm joining each half, so that the one creature divides into two.

And something is rather similar in plant life where the sterile plant may be reproduced by "cuttings," or as in the case of cacti, pieces are broken off and allowed to form their own roots. These, however, cannot be looked upon as new life, but only as a continuance of the old. In all cases they must resemble the parent.

In the higher animals, the cells are not all of the same kind, although all contain the living matter of protoplasm. The tissues which they build up differ according to the work which they have

to perform. In this way, the higher animals come to possess skin, nerve, muscle and bone. They have also special cells which are distinct from all the rest, and which, instead of helping to build up the body, carry out the work of reproduction. In this biparental inheritance the two parents differ from each other, sex being only one of the differences between mother and father.

All living cells, single or specialised, have the power of converting non-living matter into living protoplasm. It is rather like a burning process for which air is required, so the living animal must breathe. From this process comes animal heat. This must be maintained, and so regular supplies of food become necessary—with the need for excretion. As animals are more complex than plant life, a greater amount of food is necessary, and so the need for locomotion or movement. And as this form of life eventually is destroyed by environment, there is the need for reproduction.

Rule of Nature

Nature puts the future of the race or species before that of the individual, so that the sole purpose of each living form's existence is to reach maturity, to reproduce its own kind, and so prolong the race. Life that cannot reproduce and reproduce efficiently, is of no further use to Nature.

The results of the process of heredity are similar the world over. Where the process comes under man's control, he has only himself to blame if the results

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

'WELLCOME'

BRAND

**FELINE INFECTIOUS
ENTERITIS VACCINE**



PREPARED AT THE WELLCOME RESEARCH LABORATORIES
A BURROUGHS WELLCOME & CO. PRODUCT

are unsatisfactory. He makes himself responsible for the selection of the conveyances of heredity, and of the selection of the results of the combinations he has chosen. Nearly all his troubles are traceable to the retention and use of the unfit.

Of the differences between parents, obviously the most important is sex—where the one parent contributes an egg, and the other a sperm, to the formation of a new life. These two contributions—or gametes—differ, not only morphologically, but in their potentialities, for the germ plasm from which the individual arises is a combination of part of the germ plasm of the mother, and of the father.

Theory of the Gene

In whatever way we pair different breeds of cat, we are always able to follow the inheritance of the specialised characters—hair length, size of ears and so on—and we have learned that the inheritance of each of these special characters is conditioned by a gene, a material body located within a particular chromosome of the nucleus of the germ cells, and from them handed on directly to the body cells which arise from the germ cells in development.

This is the theory known as the chromosome theory, or the theory of the gene. These chromosomes occur in pairs, one derived from the father, one from the mother.

Although in the crosses of cats we are able to follow the inheritance of the specialised characters, we cannot trace the heredity of the general characters which express cat rather than dog, or similarly any other of the general characters which identify the various forms of animal life. It is only assumed that these, like the special characters, depend on the existence of chromosomal genes. That is to say, if we could cross a cat with a dog we should find that the differences between them were of the

same sort as those between different breeds of cats—dependant upon chromosomal genes, only the differential genes in such case would be much more numerous.

The fancier is concerned only with the specialised characters of his animals, and has worked wonders by his art of selection, so that during the past comparatively few years he has produced from the material on hand, a large increase in the possible varieties.

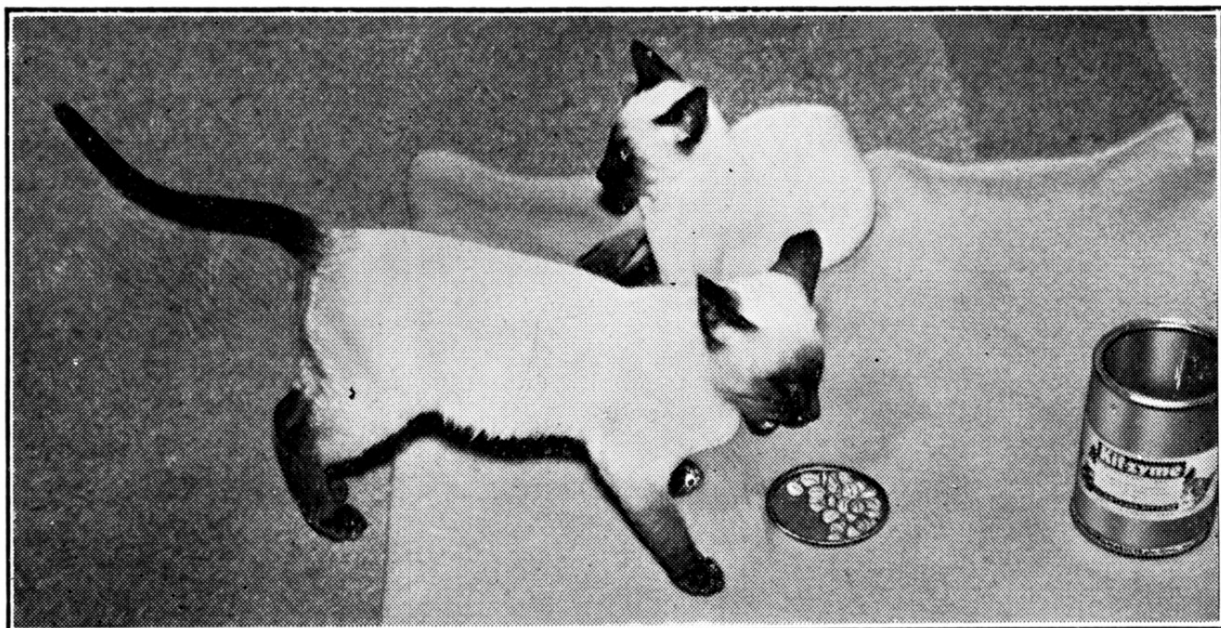
Every Animal a Link

In many of the branches of the Fancy, wide differences in type and size have been produced—small Polish rabbits to the large Flemish Giants; the toy dog to the bloodhound; the bantam with its proportionate tail to the Yokohama with tail coverts measuring maybe twenty feet or more. In many instances the types have been grotesque, and in some cases it would seem that the animal (or bird) with its new type has suffered in the physical sense.

A greater conservatism is presented by the domestic and fancy cat. Many breeds are listed, but “under their skin” all are much alike in type and size, with colour the greatest variable.

But summing up we see that every living animal is a link between the next of kin immediately above and below it. This is often more clearly evidenced in the living but unborn embryo, than in the fully developed creature. Within the parent it hints not merely at its great-grandparenthood, but its remote ancestry, and when we examine a number of embryos of widely different species, we find that they have much in common, pointing to an origin from generalised stock.





SEALSTREAM MISTRAL AND PAMPERO
sired by Chinki Ranya, winner of over 99 awards.

Mrs. LILIAN FRANCE of 353 Nottingham Road, Derby,
writes :—

“As a Judge I know condition is so important for the Show pen and as my cats all relish their food more with Kit-zyme I make a habit of adding three to each meal.

The photograph shows two kittens from the Chinki cattery who love their Kit-zyme.”

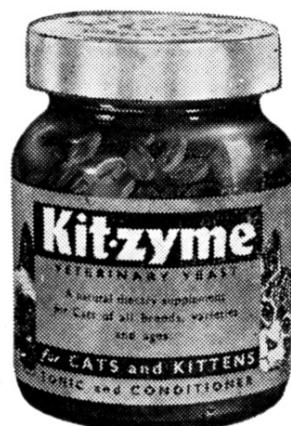
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Cat Club de Paris

SHOW IMPRESSIONS BY KATHLEEN YORKE

THE Cat Club de Paris Show, held on 22nd to 24th October, was a great success (reports Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, who was one of the two English guest judges) and I understand it was one of the biggest ever staged by the Club.

There was no Best Exhibit in Show as it was impossible to separate the finest Longhair exhibit from the best Shorthair. The Best L.H. was a perfect White with golden eyes Ch. Cady de Padirac, sired by Int. Ch. Alex des Prince, who in turn is sired by Ch. Southway Rascal ex Netheredge Snowstorm. Cady's dam being Int. Ch. Wildviolet of Dunesk, thus there is three-quarters British breeding in him. He was bred by Madame Letertre and is owned by Madame Sarrazin.

Best Shorthair was also a perfect specimen of his breed—a Blue Pointed Siamese Int. Ch. Arho de la Feuillade, sired by Int. Ch. Raard Blue Revel. Arho was bred by Mlle. Langier and is now owned by Mme. Cunault.

Best Longhair Kitten was another grand White with golden eyes, a young sister to Cady, named Dody de Padirac. I regret I cannot at this writing trace the name of the winning Shorthair kitten.

Int. Ch. Wildviolet won another Int. C.C. and so did Ch. Yewhatch Anson, both very handsome exhibits. Int. Ch. Myowne Gallant Homme was not competing but he was looking as well as ever and both he and Anson were sires of winning adults and kittens. In Chinchillas Fleuri of Brentside was the Best; bred by Mrs. Speirs, she is now owned by Mme. Remande. Ch. Kim of Allington, who won so well here last season, took his first Int. C.C. and

Tanglewood Torchbearer, bred by Miss du Port, achieved a similar honour.

Mme. Pia Sandoz scored again with her well-known Cream Int. Ch. Boumabamba de la Viamala and the runner-up was a cat I have always admired Int. Ch. Braeburton Bambi. Both Creams were bred by Mrs. Mathie. Bambi is owned by Mme. Millet, who also breeds Abyssinians and won with two that she purchased last year from Mrs. de Udy.

Exams for Judges

Mrs. Aitken and I had three very heavy days' work. Dr. Doeksen finished much earlier and very kindly helped with some very difficult cats who were nervous through the noise and the lights. Signora Francine Azinari from Italy was with me for a great part of the day and on the Sunday she took her examination in Chinchillas under Mrs. Aitken and myself. She passed very successfully and will be a good and painstaking judge. She has already passed her other examinations; that for Chinchillas is always taken separately because they are such a specialised breed.

After that Miss Larsdotter, of Sweden, took her examination for Longhairs. Although she was somewhat nervous with the public watching from below the stage I am happy to say that she also passed. The certificates were duly signed by Mrs. Aitken and myself and handed to Mme. Ravel, Secretary General of F.I.F.E. and the Cat Club de Paris.

The Show was held at the salons of the Hotel Continental where I have judged with many British judges and it always brings back memories of the late Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Yeates who helped and

advised the Club so much in its early days. It was here that I judged with Cyril Yeates and Mrs. Brunton the year before he died. It was pleasing to note the continued improvement in the French exhibits. Their importations have helped greatly and they can now produce at their shows as good as we have in Longhairs. The Shorthairs are coming on well and the Siamese are showing improvement. My best Seal Point was Hillcross Coral, a beautiful queen bred by Mrs. Towe and sold as a kitten to Mme. Bousquet of Holland. H. Hirschman was at the Show and thought it excellent and Colonel Pedrazzi of Italy was also present to represent his country. Altogether eight or nine countries were represented at the banquet on the Saturday night. It was good to have Mrs. Pond with us—she acted as Mrs. Aitken's steward and, I know, enjoyed the experience.

DEATH OF Mlle. CLAIRE PERRIN

Mlle. Perrin, of Lausanne, Switzerland, had several entries at the Cat Club de Paris Show but all were marked absent. As is widely known, she always exhibited lovely Whites, both Blue-eyed and Orange-eyed. It was with great sorrow I learned of her death in hospital after an operation. She was taken seriously ill just before the time to go to Paris. Her aged mother is blind and the loss of her daughter has been a great shock to her.

The "du Leman" Cattery was so widely known. Mlle. Perrin started in Blues just before the war and I met her while she was helping Mme. Ravel and learning how to organise shows, which after the war she did most successfully. I judged at her first show in 1946. The cat I particularly admired was her Int. Ch. Pigeon du Leman, a Golden-eyed White Longhair. He was always magni-

ficient and so was her White Flower de Leman. I could name many of her fine cats if space permitted.

Mimi Perrin will be remembered with affection by so many of the Fancy here and on the Continent.

KATHLEEN YORKE

PRESENTING TWO SIDES

A correspondent in the *Sunday Express* asked: "Is veterinary surgery a calling or a 10-6 job?"

"My experience," the writer continued, "tells me it must be the latter. A few nights ago my pet cat was ill, so, at about 7 p.m., I telephoned a vet. Two hours later I was telephoning the tenth.

"Replies ranged from a disinterested 'He's not here, call to-morrow' to an extremely callous, 'Well, if your cat has been sick one day already he will live until to-morrow.'

"It was 10.20 p.m. before a reluctant vet. arrived. He admitted that his attentions were quite urgently required."

Help Had to Wait

Quite a different experience was related by a Yorkshire reader in a letter to the *Daily Telegraph*.

"My cat was recently found to be in acute pain from a poisoned jaw, due to a septic tooth. Our vet. was told about it and drove a matter of 10 miles at night to pull it out. For this I and my cat were grateful."

"A few weeks later our domestic help, a German girl, was suffering equally acutely from a bad tooth. I could not discover a dentist in the town who could find the time to pull it out, in his own surgery, for three days."



In the Siamese World



An exclusive bi-monthly contribution by KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS, breeder, judge and show organizer of many years' experience and now Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club, which is probably the largest specialist cat club in the world.

HERE we are in late autumn, when the trees have lost their summer mantle and most animals have grown their winter coats. Siamese cats are no exception to nature's winter rule. Many people think Siamese are delicate and should not be exposed to the winter elements. This is a fallacy.

I was recently asked what I thought to be the correct temperature in which a Siamese should live during the winter. Siamese are no different to other cats in needing and wanting exercise. Mine go in and out all the winter. They love the snow and Dekho particularly, bounds about in absolute ecstasy. They must have a warm place in which to sleep, and after being out in the snow their pads and feet must be well wiped to remove ice blobs. Keeping your cat in too high a temperature is asking for trouble as you increase his susceptibility to cold. Do use your commonsense and find the happy medium, and *do keep your cat out of draughts.*

Coincidence ! The following seems to indicate how small the world is after all. Early this year I mentioned in this feature the export of a kitten of Miss E. Kelsey's to Mrs. D. Welsh in Australia.

Now, by an extraordinary coincidence, I learn that Mrs. E. Morris, who is Mrs. Welsh's sister, is the owner of the other female of the litter.

I quote Miss Kelsey's letter—"Such an amazing coincidence has arisen that I must share it with you. One of the two queens in my last autumn litter was bought by a local resident for a friend in Wrexham. You will remember I asked your advice about a suitable stud. When I wrote back I mentioned that Mandy, the litter sister, had gone to Australia and had been mentioned in *OUR CATS*. Mrs. Morris replied saying that she had seen the paragraph and that Mrs. Welsh, to whom you sent Mandy, is her sister. It is almost unbelievable that two sisters, thousands of miles apart, can have obtained sister kittens by accident." I have also heard from an astonished Mrs. Morris !

U.S.A. Trip Deferred

Had things gone according to plans made some time ago I should at this moment be on the high seas bound for New York to keep my judging assignment at the Boston Cat Club Show.



This delightful litter of Chocolate Point Siamese was bred by the American fancier Mrs. Rex Naugle from English-bred parents—see reference on the opposite page.

Unfortunately, circumstances make it impossible for me to be out of England this winter for any length of time. I was so looking forward to seeing my friends in America, but my visit must be deferred for the time being.

Mrs. Margaret Newton, of Miami, sends me news of the first Shorthair Cat Show held in Bayfront Park Auditorium. "Mrs. R. L. O'Donovan walked off with top honours, before 500 spectators." The report states "Her Champion Sa Hai Nee-Ang a S.P. Siamese was judged Best in Show, Best Novice and Best Foreign Shorthair and her Champion Chirn-Sai Hai Zohagel was voted Best Champion and Best Opposite Sex Foreign Shorthair." Mrs. Newton herself did well, winning Best Opposite Sex Novice with a black Manx Miamau Betty Lou, Best Kitten with Dhu-Lleo-Amygvalen, an orange-eyed white Manx.

Rhodesian Visitors

Meeting people and making friends is always interesting, but when one meets friends from abroad to whom one has often written but not seen, one looks forward to the meeting with heightened interest and anticipation. Mrs. Collingwood, of Rhodesia, and I have corresponded since 1949, and I was delighted that both Mrs. Collingwood and her husband, now on holiday in England, were able to spend an afternoon with us in Sutton in September. About three years ago Mrs. Collingwood imported the first Blue Points into Southern Rhodesia. She says the Seal Points remain by far the most popular; Chocolate Points are still rare and not good specimens.

An interesting visitor this month was Mr. Mansell, an artist who called to sketch our cats, his object being to relate type to the standard of points by illustration. I was enthralled with the illustrations of beetles, insects, fish, etc., already completed and all in colour.

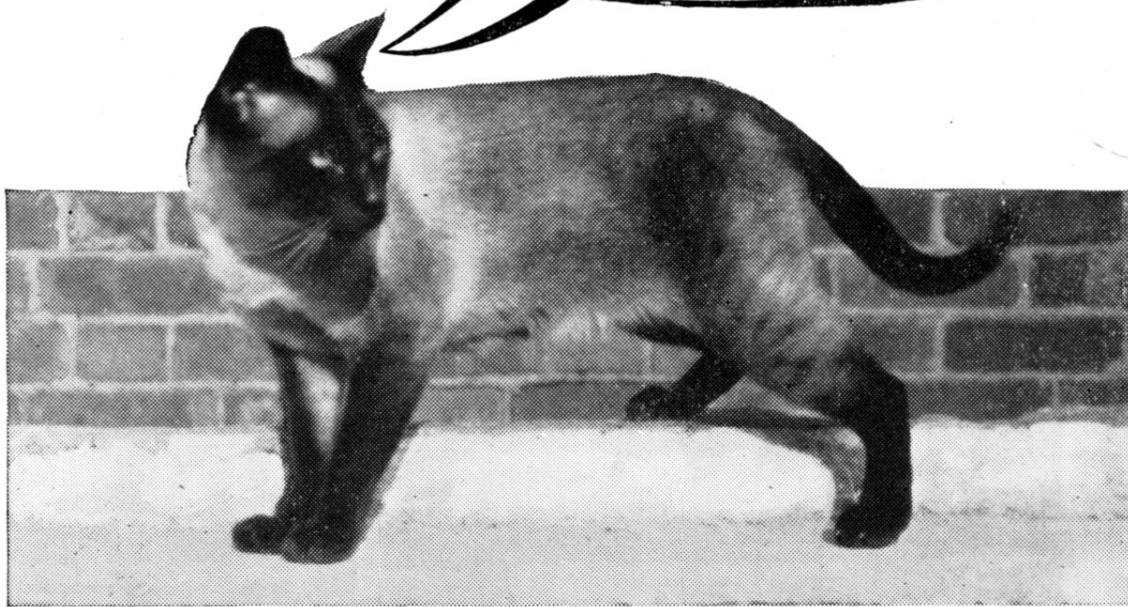
The illustrations are for an encyclopedia which will take at least three years to compile.

I have been reminded of my promise to record the wins of Mrs. Stewart of Canada with Doneraile Brun Beryl. Mrs. Stewart has imported several cats, and as there is only one big show in Canada which she can attend, she travels across to U.S.A. for other shows. Beryl's wins are—Canadian National Exhibition; All Breed Show, First and Winners and Best Chocolate Point in Show. (At the Shorthair Speciality at the same show she was also Best Chocolate Point in Show and First and Winners); Queen City Cat Club Show at Buffalo; All Breed Show, First and Winners, and Best Chocolate Point. Speciality Show, First and Winners and Best Chocolate Point. You will note that in U.S.A. and Canada, the award is First and Winners, not First and Challenge Certificate as awarded in this country, the difference being that here an exhibit must win First and Challenge under three different judges before becoming a Champion, whereas in U.S.A. and Canada Championships are gained on points. The number of points gained depends on the entries. The number of points needed for championship is 10 under three different judges. Mrs. Stewart writes that Beryl now has a splendid litter sired by Praha Mezzo Forte, imported (breeder Mrs. E. Fisher of Bath).

A Fine C.P. Litter

News of Beryl's half-sister comes from Mrs. Rex Naugle, U.S.A., together with one of the most delightful photographs of a C.P. litter. Don't you think so? See opposite page. Malvana was mated to Mrs. L. King's imported Champion Beauchat Brunnescens Lynn of Wu bred by Mrs. O. Statham, of Kings Lynn. Mrs. Naugle is very pleased with the litter and reports that Vana is a very good mother. Both Lynn and Malvana were Best All Eastern Chocolate Points Male and Female.

DID YOU SAY TIBS?



“THERE isn't a cat in the kingdom who doesn't prick up her ears at the mention of Tibs,” says Tibby, the Tibs reporter. “And when the cat in question is a proud mother, with kittens to care for, the thought of Tibs sets her purr-motor working overtime”.

Mill Feather is just such a mother, with three winning “Watermill”

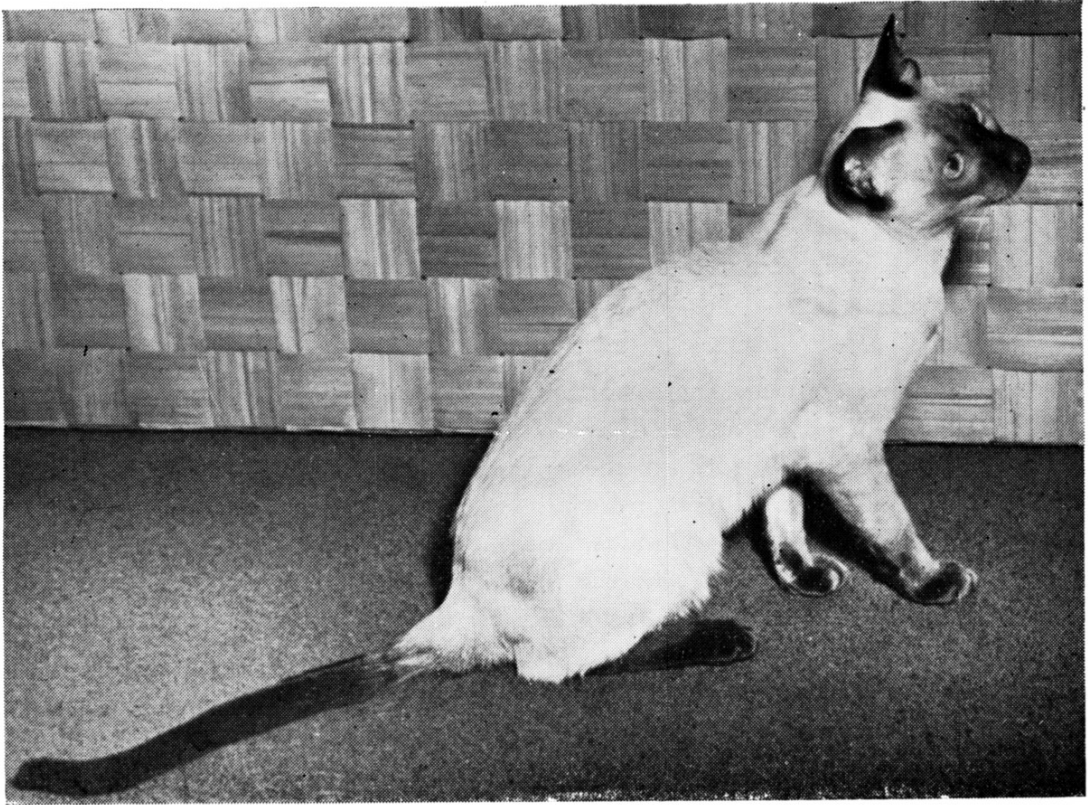
litters in 1953 to her credit. Mill Feather's owner, Miss Ann Codrington, of Vine Cottage, Gilridge, Nr. Edenbridge, Kent, tells us that though Mill Feather has had numerous offspring, she is still very much interested in roof top life. Miss Codrington adds that it's certainly Mill Feather's daily Tibs that keep her in such fine condition.

10d. & 2/-



Famous breeders say:

TIBS KEEP CATS KITTENISH



CH. DONERAILE BRUN MALVANA, Chocolate Pointed Siamese imported by Mrs. Rex Naugle, has been winning well at American Shows.

A recent letter from a novice asks if breeders have heard of a young queen (eight months) giving birth to six perfect kittens and asking advice on feeding. To answer this question one must go back a little. Cats, unlike dogs, have no definite period of being "on call." A queen may call from four months onward. Should she continue to do so at two or three weekly intervals one may be forced to mate her, for the energy that should be directed into her growth is being used up.

One is therefore faced with two facts—(1) Her continued calling will lower her vitality and retard her growth and (2) Mating her. I have always stressed using commonsense and obviously each person must decide for himself. If it is at all possible do *NOT* mate your queen until she is at least ten months old. If you have to, then see that you feed her carefully during the time she is carrying her kittens, for *remember she is still growing herself*. Calcium and Vitamin D should be given daily (compound tablets of

Calciferol B.P.C. obtainable from Boots and Halibut Oil). After the kittens are born you can greatly relieve the strain on the young mother by additional feeding the kittens at three weeks.

An "Enchanting" Book

I wonder if you have seen the new little book of Marjorie Palmer's, *A Cat's Life* written and illustrated by her? It is an attractive book which sells at 1s. and I can do no better than quote that great cat lover, James Mason, who writes "This book is enchanting and conveys a great deal of the essential cat." It is published by Edmund Warde.

The highlight of the show season for Siamese enthusiasts is undoubtedly the Siamese Cat Club Championship Show. This year's Show held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, attracted a record entry of 260 exhibits. In 1947 the record for an all-breed

show was approximately 270 exhibits. These figures make one realise the tremendous increase not only in the breeding of Siamese but also in exhibiting.

Principal Winners

Further evidence of the increasing popularity of the breed is indicated by the record number of visitors to the show which included cat lovers from South Africa, New Zealand, America, Sweden and Denmark. For readers abroad and those who were unable to visit the Show, here are the first prize winners in the Open Classes :—

Seal Point Male, Mr. Warner's Spotlight Troubadour ; Seal Point Female, Mrs. Nicholl's Kenspeckle Balkis ; Blue Point Male, Mrs. Hindley's Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers ; Blue Point Female, Mrs. Hargreaves' Laurentide Corona ; Chocolate Point Male, Mr. Stirling-Webb's Ch. Briarry Macsuch ; Chocolate Point Female, Mrs. Clarke's Craigie-hilloch Chojula ; Neuter Premier, Mrs. Hooper's Behenta Yu Phin.

The following kittens were winners in the open classes : Seal Points—Mrs. Nicholas's Rycroft Rhadamanthus, Miss Granger's Penenden Anne, Miss Lant's Beaumanor Tooki, Mrs. Appleyard's Lancy Juliette, Mrs. Briggs' Quesi Energico, Mrs. Carter's Foxburrow Fiona ; Blue Points—Major and Mrs. Rendall's Missfore Krishna, Mrs. Biggs' Quesi Blue Delicato ; Chocolate Point—Mrs. Keene's Killdown Clementina ; Best Litter—Mrs. J. Highton's Seal Pointed litter.

The Best in Show judging was witnessed by approximately 500 people who were all able to see each judge handle the exhibits. We were fortunate in having with us Mrs. E. Lorentzen of Denmark and Mrs. M. Magnusson of Sweden, who, after acting as stewards during the show, very kindly consented to present the Best in Show awards.

As Show Manager my time was very fully occupied, and I was sorry I could not have a word with all the visitors from overseas. I much appreciate the messages they were kind enough to leave me.

S.A. Shows

As we go to press I have received from Mr. C. H. Hayward news of the Natal Cat Club's shows held at Pietermaritzburg in June and Durban in September. I think the amazing feature about both shows is the interest shown by the public. At Pietermaritzburg there was a gate of 3,000 and no difficulty was experienced by exhibitors in selling their kittens. At Durban the gate exceeded 1,600. Considering that the entries at both shows were small in comparison with this country, the great public interest must afford the Show Manager (Mr. Hayward), the Committee and members of the Natal Cat Club great satisfaction and encouragement. The catalogue of the Durban Show with its dayglow cover is most striking and attractive. More about this show later.

Christmas Wishes

The next Siamese World will appear in the January issue, so I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all, wherever you may be, a Peaceful and Happy Christmas.





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.

Blue's Own Show

IT is too late to give much news of the Blue Persian Cat Society Ch. Show. The major awards were published in last month's issue. It was nice to see Mrs. Cooke-Radmore organising it, and it must have been an easy show for her in comparison with the Southsea Cat Club Ch. Show last October. Although the gate may have been sufficient to pay expenses and yield a small profit it would have been better to see far more people viewing the exhibits. Many of them were lovely but it is doubtful if 65 exhibits are sufficient to attract the public.

I consider Mrs. Cook-Radmore's suggestion at the B.P.C.S. Annual General Meeting was a good one, to either make it an All Breed Longhair Show in future or to confine it to Blues and their near relations Creams and Blue-Creams. Undoubtedly the former suggestion would be a very welcome one especially as Longhair breeders (except Blues) have had no opportunity of exhibiting their cats and kittens in

London for nine weeks between September 7th and November 10th, and this at a time of year when there are hundreds of kittens, and the adults are approaching the peak of their form.

There is, of course, a precedent for the B.P.C.S. organising an All Breed Longhair show because their first post-war show (organised by Mrs. Brice-Webb in January, 1946, at Nottingham) included all varieties (except Shorthairs). It attracted 86 exhibits, 377 entries and an excellent gate. Now Longhairs have increased so much it would no doubt attract a much larger number especially if it was held in London.

Publicity for Siamese

Mrs. K. R. Williams has recorded news elsewhere in this issue of the Siamese Cat Club Ch. Show. There was an aura of success about this show the moment one entered the hall and long before the public were admitted at noon. From then on a steady stream of people passed the turnstiles and it must have been thrilling for Siamese breeders to see their variety attracting so much attention. Credit must be paid to Mr. and Mrs. Williams for their exceptional flair for obtaining publicity in the Press and even on TV where the date and venue were announced, plus Siamese themselves on view, eight days before the Show.

This 24th Championship Show must have been the most successful one the Club has had and a pleasing item was

that breeders had the opportunity of selling kittens with hundreds of the general public present.

Midland Counties Show

The Midland Counties Cat Club Ch. Show at Wolverhampton was very enjoyable and appeared to attract one of the best gates we have seen at this fixture. The new venue may have had something to do with it and no doubt local publicity was good. It was certainly not due to the weather as it poured all afternoon.

Doctor and Mrs. Groom made a grand job of their first show management and were calm, affable and never too busy to answer all the questions, both sensible and silly. The light in the Municipal Baths was excellent and I thought the Blues at the end of the hall showed their true colour as much as it is possible indoors. It is remarkable how slight differences in light will accentuate even the faintest variation in tone in this variety. The gay flags depending from the roof appeared to effect the colour of Creams although not Mrs. Brice-Webb's Ronada Sunkist who excelled in soundness and purity of coat plus exceptional eye colour for a kitten four months of age.

Longhair kittens were considerably fewer than at the three previous London shows and only 26 put in an appearance, eleven of whom were Blues. The Best in Show was decided by a panel of three Longhair experts for Longhairs and three Shorthair experts for Shorthairs, and in a brief note from Doctor Groom after the show he says: "Everyone seemed satisfied by this method."

Best Longhair Exhibit was Mrs. Crickmore's Blue female Thiepvall Precocious by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue. She looked lovely and was in much longer coat than the majority of Longhairs on the day. She is remarkably like her beautiful mother Ch. Thiepvall Enchantress. Best Longhair Kitten, Mrs.

Benbow's Cream Male Bayhorne Ariel by the same sire is a very nice kitten.

Best Longhair Neuter was Mrs. Richard's Cream Sharbri Alpha by Ch. Harpur Blue Boy. Congratulations to his owner on completing his Premiership. At 4 a.m. he was trotting about Wolverhampton station waiting room having travelled with his owners Mr. and Mrs. Richards by the midnight train. However, he looked wideawake when he was judged, as did his Blue-Cream litter sister who completed her Championship. These two cats in excellent coat and condition were bred by their owners.

Best Shorthair Exhibit went to Mrs. Wridgway's Seal Point Siamese female Salewheel Royal Rose by Doneraile George. She looked a dainty little madam as she was held up for the spectators to see. Mrs. Powell's Blue Point Siamese McKerrell's Joy (by Chinki Ranya) was Best Shorthair Kitten and Mrs. Digney's Seal Point Siamese Quantocks Petroc (by the late Ch. Morris Tudor), a fine fellow who headed a class of ten Siamese neuters, was Best Shorthair Neuter.

The winning Seal Point male was Miss Well's lovely cat Killdown Sultan by Lindale Simon Pie and it was gratifying to see Dr. and Mrs. Groom's Blue Point Siamese female Banchor Blue Titania win her Challenge certificate. She of course was the kitten who won so well last season.

Congratulations to Mrs. Mayne on completing the Championship of her Cream male Redwalls Bath Oliver. My Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous by Ch. Dylan of Allington was the Challenge certificate winner in Blue males, and in Chinchilla females the beautiful Ch. Thiepvall Snowcloud. The Chinchilla male class was cancelled owing to no entries. Nearly 200 exhibits were penned.

English Siamese Best

From the Swedish judge Mrs. Maina Hjelde who officiated for all Longhairs

except Blacks and Whites comes news of the very successful Ch. Show of the Jydsk Racekatte Klub held last month at Aarhus, Jutland, Denmark. The President of this Club, Mrs. Skytte Birkefeldt, is a frequent visitor to England and is well known to many English cat breeders and the judges who have officiated in Scandinavia. Miss Kit Wilson, who judged Blacks, Whites, Siamese and other Shorthairs, writes about the Show elsewhere in this issue.

I was most interested to learn that the Best Cat in Show was the Seal Point Siamese Int. Ch. Morris Sable, by Ch. Hillcross Song. He has had a distinguished career in Scandinavia and it was on my recommendation he went overseas. He is a lovely cat who I had the pleasure of bringing out for Best in Show in Copenhagen in November, 1952. Like a number of outstanding adults he was not a "showy" kitten but he had great potentialities and time has seen them develop. He has been awarded several Challenge Certificates and I think it is correct to say that he has never been beaten in his Open Class. He has a lovely temperament and it was delightful to see him lying elegantly in his pen with his wife and babies two years ago.

Distinguished visitors to Aarhus were Mrs. Rudy Eisenhuth of Copenhagen (President of F.I.F.E.), and her husband. Mrs. Saether tells me the exhibition of neuters is to be encouraged and no doubt it will be with the recognition of Premierships which has done so much for them since it was first introduced in this country a few years ago. Mrs. Saether very much enjoyed stewarding for Miss Wilson. Mrs. Lorentzen, Denmark, and Mrs. Svenningsen, Norway, took one of their exams. as future Siamese judges at this show and Mrs. Ohlson a Longhair exam.

Many lovely kittens have been exported to Scandinavia during the last few years and their progeny are now appearing.

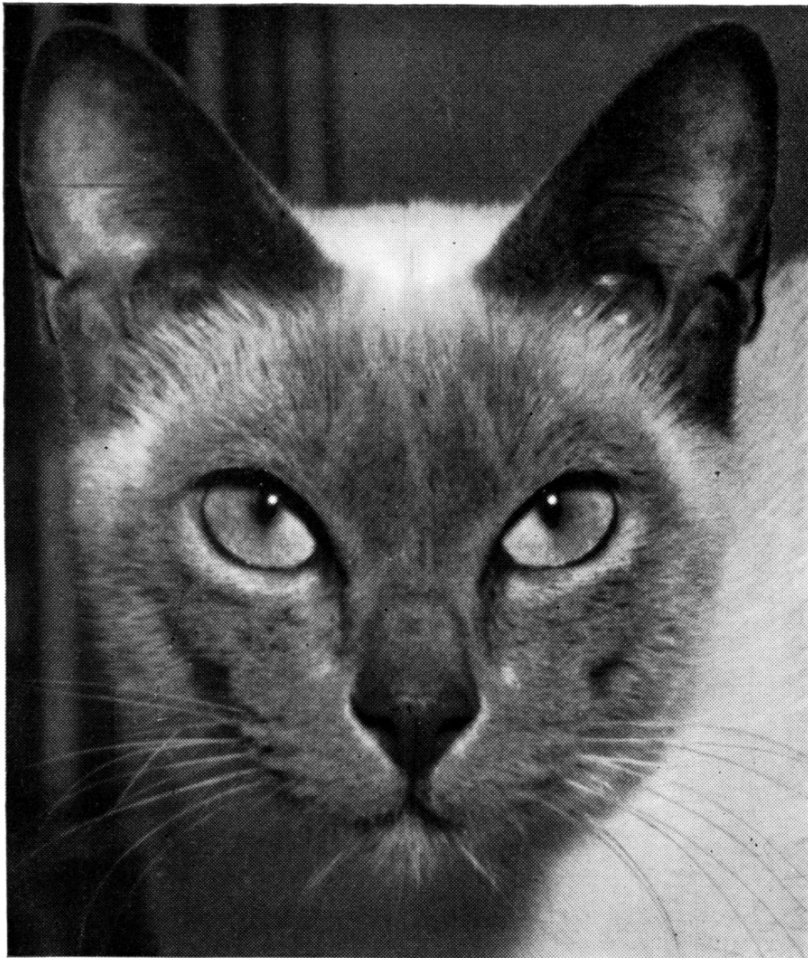
The all-round improvement in cats and kittens which I found between my first visit to Denmark, April, 1947, and my last visit, November, 1952, was very marked and with a larger choice of well bred good quality males I predict an even brighter future. I did, however, notice that the lovely home-bred Red Longhairs, some of them excelling in type and rich bright colouring, were not so numerous in 1952. The Best Longhair Cat in Show in 1947 was a lovely Red excelling in all round quality named Red Queen of Tigris.

Garden State News

The "Garden State News" from U.S.A. has grown considerably since the first issue. Edited by Mrs. Robert Bird, 208 Claremont Avenue, Verona, New Jersey, it is available from her at a subscription rate of 50 cents a year, and is issued quarterly. Prominence is given to the visit of Miss Kathleen Yorke whom they rightly call the First Lady of the British Cat Fancy, and Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb to judge at their December Show. Exhibitors will be travelling hundreds of miles to exhibit under them and British cat breeders I am sure will wish to speed them on their way with sincere good wishes and affection, and await their return with eagerness to hear their impressions of the Show.

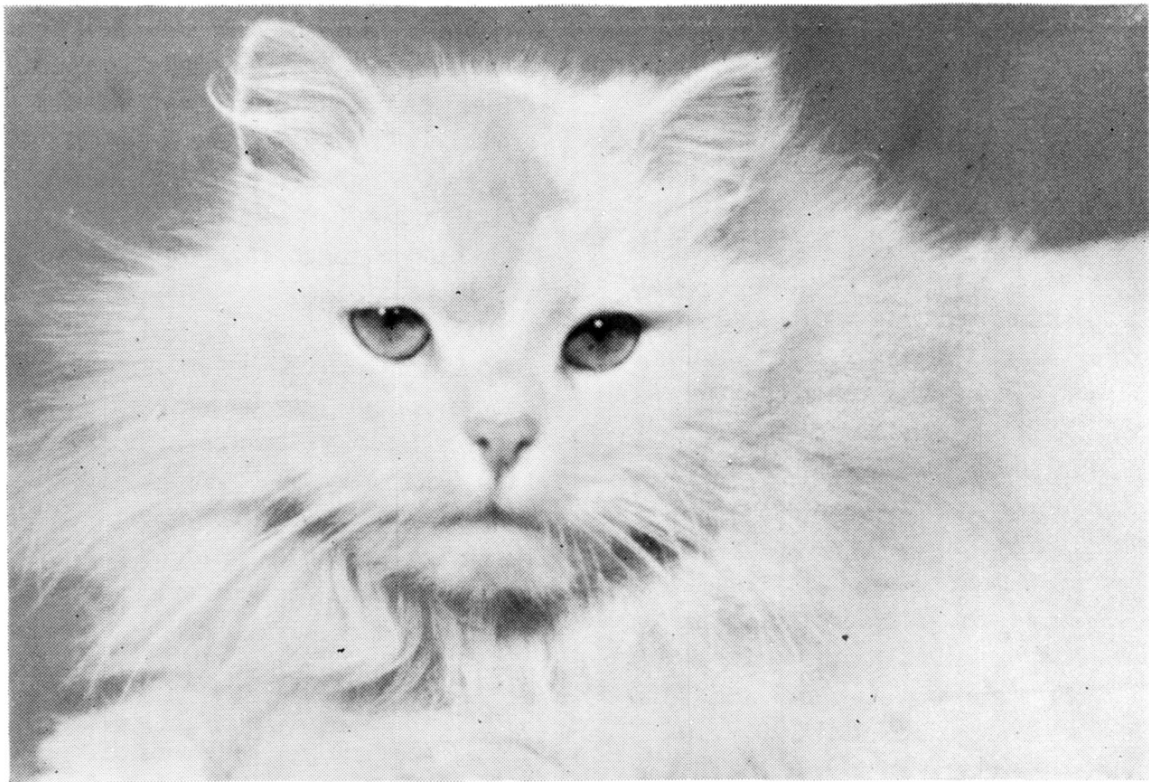
Mrs. Mary Carroll, Cat Fanciers' Association Judge will make her Eastern Section debut and Dr. Evans Sawyer will officiate for Siamese in addition to Mr. Stirling-Webb. Altogether there will be four Speciality Shows and Mr. Richard Gebhardt, President of Garden State Cat Club, expects a real "whizbang show." Dr. Evans Sawyer has been judging Siamese since 1939 and breeding them for twenty years. He also breeds and exhibits Chihuahua dogs.

There is a delightful account of the Garden State Cat Club's first All Breed Kitten Show in the grounds of Mr. and



**BELHAVEN COL-
UMBINE, Blue
Pointed queen by
Prestwick Blue Sea-
gull ex Carson Truf-
fle. Owner-breeder
is Mrs. P. Lauder,
of Reading.**

David White



F. Comber

**LOTUS ATLAS, a nice Blue-eyed White Longhair male, at 2 years' old,
belonging to Mrs. Gaskin, of S.E. London.**

Mrs. Bellham's home. One reads "The weather was bright and sunny on August 14th and it was very colourful with the new Garden State banners decorating the judging tables and several bright lawn tables complete with large umbrellas scattered about. Mrs. Lillian King and Mr. Robert Bird were show managers with the co-operation of the host and hostess." Evidently there was real team work among the members.

Mr. Richard Gebhardt was chosen to judge the kittens at this Garden Party Show. His choice for best was a Cream male kitten Willowood Henri and the Best Opposite sex Birdvilla Merribeau, a Blue daughter of Miss Elsie Hydon's very lovely Blue male Grand Ch. Lavender Liberty Beau whom I admired so much when judging in New York in 1950.

5,000 at S.A. Shows

Mr. Haywood, Chairman of the Natal Cat Club and Show Manager of the Fourth Annual Championship Show at Durban kindly sends me the catalogue, with its dense black cover, scarlet line drawing of a mythical cat, primrose lettering and the same shade for the reverse. It is unique.

Mr. Haywood writes, "The entries, for a variety of reasons, have not been so good this year, but attendances by the public have been a record. About 5,000 of the public have seen our members' cats this year, quite pleasing when one remembers there was hardly a pedigree cat in Natal six years ago.

"Westbridge Waldigne Wolsley, bred in England by Mrs. Gee-Heaton and sired by Danehurst Georgie, has only been here a few months. He has improved beyond recognition. He was defeated on his first appearance at Pietermaritzburg but after that was awarded two Challenge certificates in succession at Johannesburg and Durban.

"Mrs. Hanlon's Deo Gratias Blue Monty in the same class is a son of the English import Blue Star Twinkle, whose death from bladder trouble was a great loss to our breeders. My wife owns the Cream male Myndeeep Impossibility. He is a very fine cat but, although he has been out here three years, is only just getting acclimatised to our rather severe weather conditions. He was awarded his first Challenge certificate at Durban. It is the first time he has been exhibited in full coat.

"Fabian of Allington, by Ch. Flambeau of Allington, is the best Chinchilla male adult we have here and a worthy winner of his C.C. Mrs. Speight's Chinchilla male kitten has wonderful bone and should take some beating when he grows up.

"For the first time we had a Grand Champion class and the honour went to Champion Westbridge Harpur Blue Orchid, by Ch. Harpur Blue Boy and bred by Mr. Dugdale. Our Show at Johannesburg finished the season for us here, as it is too hot for the cats and everyone concerned for any summer shows so we are now resting on our laurels until next season."

All fanciers should read

"THE CAT FANCY"

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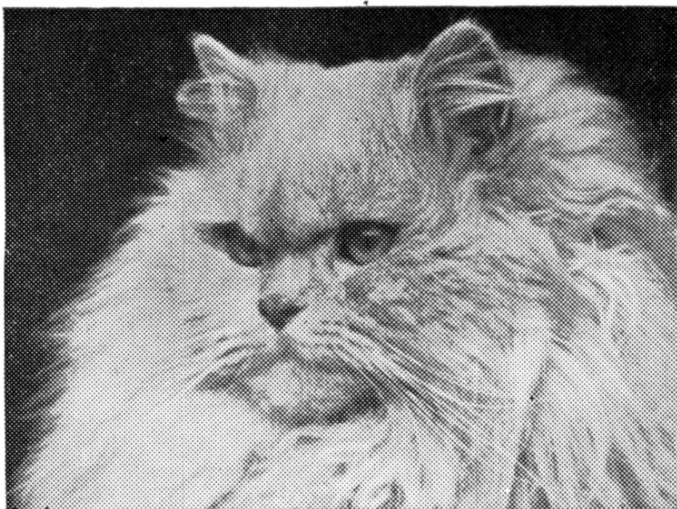
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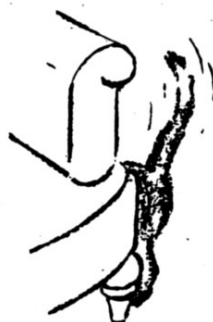
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CAT lovers everywhere will wish me to convey a sincere and hearty "*Bon voyage*" to Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council, and Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb, who are travelling to America to judge at the Garden State Cat Club 16th Annual All Breed Show which is to be held in Newark, New Jersey, on 1st and 2nd December. This is one of America's best known and most popular fixtures and Miss Elsie G. Hydon is once again the Show Manager.

Three men and a woman were remanded at Old Street (London) Police Court after being charged with stealing seven cats. The adjournment was granted by the magistrate on the application of a police detective who said he was trying to trace ownership. During the hearing the cats, each in a basket, were kept in the cell passage and were afterwards taken to a R.S.P.C.A. home.

A stray cat named Marmalade has developed a keen appetite for flying. He joins planes flying from Cloncurry (Queensland) Airport to Mount Isa, about 50 miles away. Next morning he catches the plane back home and no one has yet discovered a good reason for these trips.

With an entry of nearly 300 pictures, the Bexhill Cat Club "Cat Picture Show" was generally voted a great success. Miss K. M. Stephenson's lovely Cream Longhair male Ashdown Sylvan Sprite was Best Cat in Show and

Miss Terrot's black hybrid Siamese male Tong Castle Turps (photographed by Mrs. V. E. Major) won Best Non-pedigree Cat in Show. The judges—Mrs. J. M. Newton, Mrs. Pike (daughter of the late Mrs. Soames), Miss E. Skelton, Mr. Gordon B. Allt and Mr. R. Arscott—found it difficult to pick the winners as the quality of both cats and photographs was very high this year. Miss Katherine Terrot, Founder Chairman of the Club, wishes to thank all those willing helpers who contributed to the success of this year's event.

You doubtless read of the amazing journey achieved by William Willis, a 61-year-old Texan, who crossed the Pacific—from Peru to Samoa—on a balsa wood raft. He drifted 6,500 miles in 115 days, farther and longer than the Kon-Tiki expedition in 1947. His only companions were a cat and a parrot. Two days before he arrived in Pago Pago, Samoa, the cat ate the bird!

Smokey, a black and white cat, has been the cause of another spot of trouble at the docks. He walked off the ship at Tilbury and was found several days later by his owner, Arthur Ernest Sills, a ship's quartermaster, who took him off to his home. The cat had not been in quarantine nor did his master hold the necessary importation licence. Sills pleaded guilty to the charge of bringing his pet into the country without a licence and was given a conditional discharge.

The veteran Tortie George, who recently appeared in TV Children's

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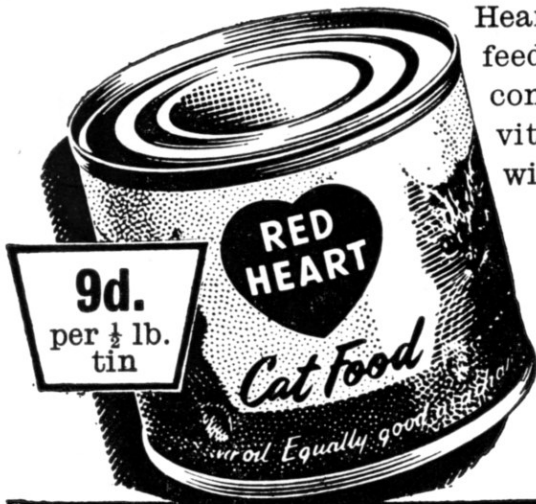


SIAMESE CATS—
from a photo by Ylla from the Red Heart series.

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Hour originally belonged to a grand old lady of 94, Mrs. Ada Broadwood, who probably holds the distinction of being the oldest subscriber to this Magazine. George lived with Mrs. Broadwood at Capel, near Dorking, Surrey, until he was eight. He will have his 23rd birthday on 1st January next and the occasion will doubtless be celebrated by his present owners, Colonel E. H. and Mrs. Tattersall and their two young sons. I understand that the appearance of George on TV has resulted in some claims from owners of what they consider to be "the oldest cat in the country." A genuine 22 or 23 would probably take the palm.

The Home Office Return for 1953 reveals that during the year 4,671 persons held licences and there were 492 places on the Register at which experiments on living animals might be performed. These figures reveal small increases when compared with 1952. The total number of experiments during 1953 was 2,195,958; an increase of 78,046 over the previous year's total. Nearly two million of these experiments were performed without anaesthetics. Cats were used in 8,000 experiments and experiments in illustration of lectures accounted for 949 cats. Included in the total of experiments performed entirely without the use of anaesthetics were 647 cats; 738 cats were used in the list of experiments under anaesthesia from which the animals were allowed to recover.

Under the Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Act, 1954, which came into force on 1st September last, animals undergoing operations which involve interference with sensitive tissues or bone structure must be given an anaesthetic. Certain minor operations—such as the castration of a male cat before it has reached the age of six months and the giving of injections and extractions by means of a hollow needle—are still permitted without the use of an anaesthetic.

MICKEY



Stockport Express

Proud father with his complaining offspring is BEUMANOR TERRY TOO, who was Best Siamese at the 1953 Kensington Show. Bred by Miss Lant, Terry Too is now owned by Cheshire fancier Mrs. H. Lowe, of Marple Bridge.



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FREE! To the first 250 NEW subscribers we will present a free copy of the GRAND INTERNATIONAL NUMBER of OUR CATS. This unique 104-page issue was published about a year ago and was received with enthusiasm all over the cat world.

Books as Gifts?

Whilst we cannot hope to include all the admirable books of interest and value to cat lovers which have been published over the last twelve months, here are a few suggestions for your Christmas shopping list that may be helpful.

OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS, by Fernand Mery. (Rider & Co., 10s. 6d. ; U.S.A. \$1.50). The author is a well-known Parisian veterinarian who has made a special study of people and their pets. His reflections are illustrated by a wealth of true stories, some humorous, some tragic, culled from thirty years' professional experience. There is a chapter devoted to the lost Siamese of two actresses and another to cat morality. Our old TV friend George Cansdale has penned the introduction in which he expresses the hope that the book will "help us to know our dumb friends better and perhaps kill fewer of them by false kindness, which, so often, is just lack of understanding."

TALKING TO ANIMALS, by Barbara Woodhouse. (Faber & Faber, 15s. ; U.S.A. \$2.25). The author has trained thousands of dogs through club and other work, run a dairy farm, broken horses on a great estancia and brought up a family. Her technique of talking to animals consists of a gentle approach to the stranger animal, followed by an exploration of one face by the other face, and an exchange of warm breath from the human to the animal nostril. This contact, she claims, has brought response and co-operation from cows, horses, bulls, goats, dogs, and "even the occasionally condescending cat."

COCKNEY CATS, by Warren Tute and Felix Fonteyn. (Museum Press Ltd., 10s. 6d.; U.S.A. \$1.50). A happy combination of witty

text by Warren Tute and some excellent photography by Felix Fonteyn takes the reader round the City of London to meet some of its famous cats. The tour starts at the office of *The Times* newspaper where one is introduced to Tiger, a Tabby "four-square and disdainful" who won a trophy at the Crystal Cat Show. Then, in turn, we are introduced to Pickles, the marmalade who lives at the Tower of London, Mitzi, a ship-board rover of Wapping, Minnie of the Stock Exchange, Old Bill of Blackfriars Station who dives down the tube when he wants to cross the busy thoroughfare, and other interesting characters. The book ends fittingly with a picture of the grave of Bill, who lived for 12 years at the Tower of London. On the little cross is the inscription "Bill. Only a cat but a pet and a friend for twelve years."

THOUGHTS OF MY CATS, by Bruce Marshall. (Constable & Co. Ltd., 8s. 6d. ; U.S.A. \$1.25). Described by Michael Joseph as "an affectionate and witty book for the connoisseur." It is reviewed by Sidney Denham in his "Cats in Print and Paint" which appears in next month's issue.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF CAT CARE, by Leon F. Whitney. (Victor Gollancs Ltd., 18s. 6d. ; U.S.A. \$2.75). The most comprehensive book we have ever seen about cats. It was reviewed in our July issue by Mrs. Joan Thompson. A "must" for every serious-minded cat lover.



Two more ideas for seasonal gifts. Billy Thatcher's well-known Siamese Tai-Lu is now marketed as a cuddly toy in cream and seal plush; complete with a stitched-on felt crown. Here is the queenly cat admiring her own "twirly" book of adventures which we reviewed in an earlier issue.

THIS IS SYLVIA, by Sandy Wilson. (Max Parrish & Co. Ltd., 8s. 6d. ; U.S.A. \$1.25). A remarkable new book of nonsense prose and sketches. Reviewed in last month's issue.

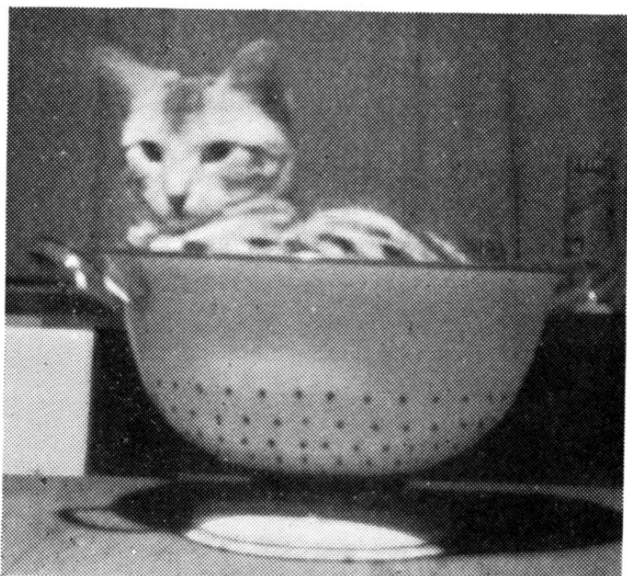
THE LAUGHING KITTEN, by Enid Blyton and Paul Kaye. (The Harvill Press, 6s. 4d. ; U.S.A. \$1.00). Consists of 54 fine photographs linked by Enid Blyton's story. Suitable for children of all ages.

Two other books which are eminently suitable as seasonal gifts are advertised on page 40 of this issue.

Readers may send their orders and remittances to **OUR CATS Magazine**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9., addressed to "The Book Department."



A snap in outline of two Beulah Russian Blues owned by Mrs. R. D. Ellson, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent.



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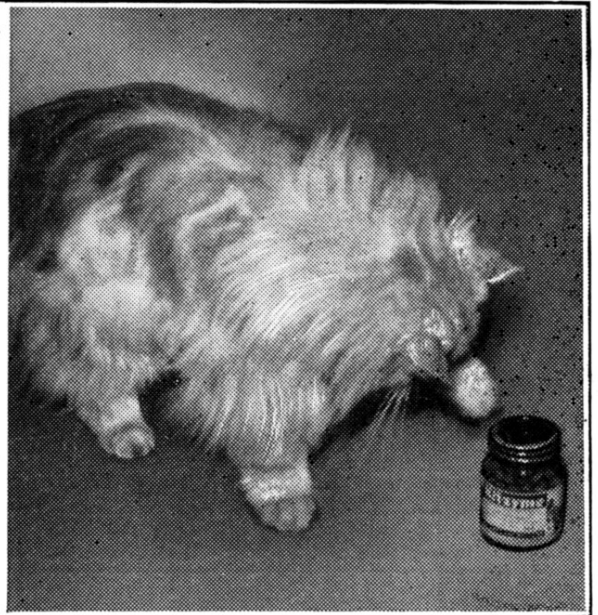
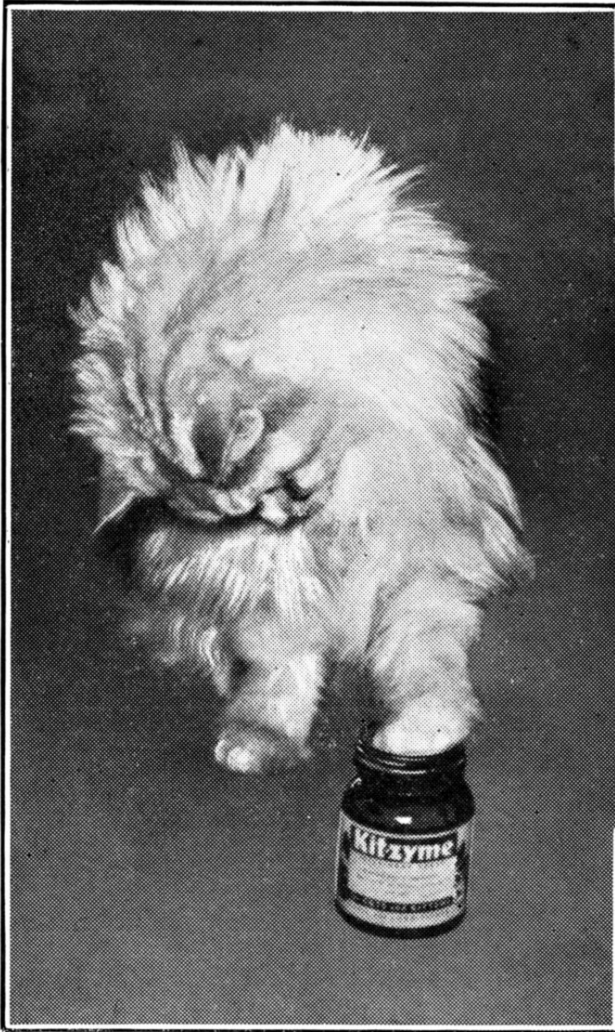
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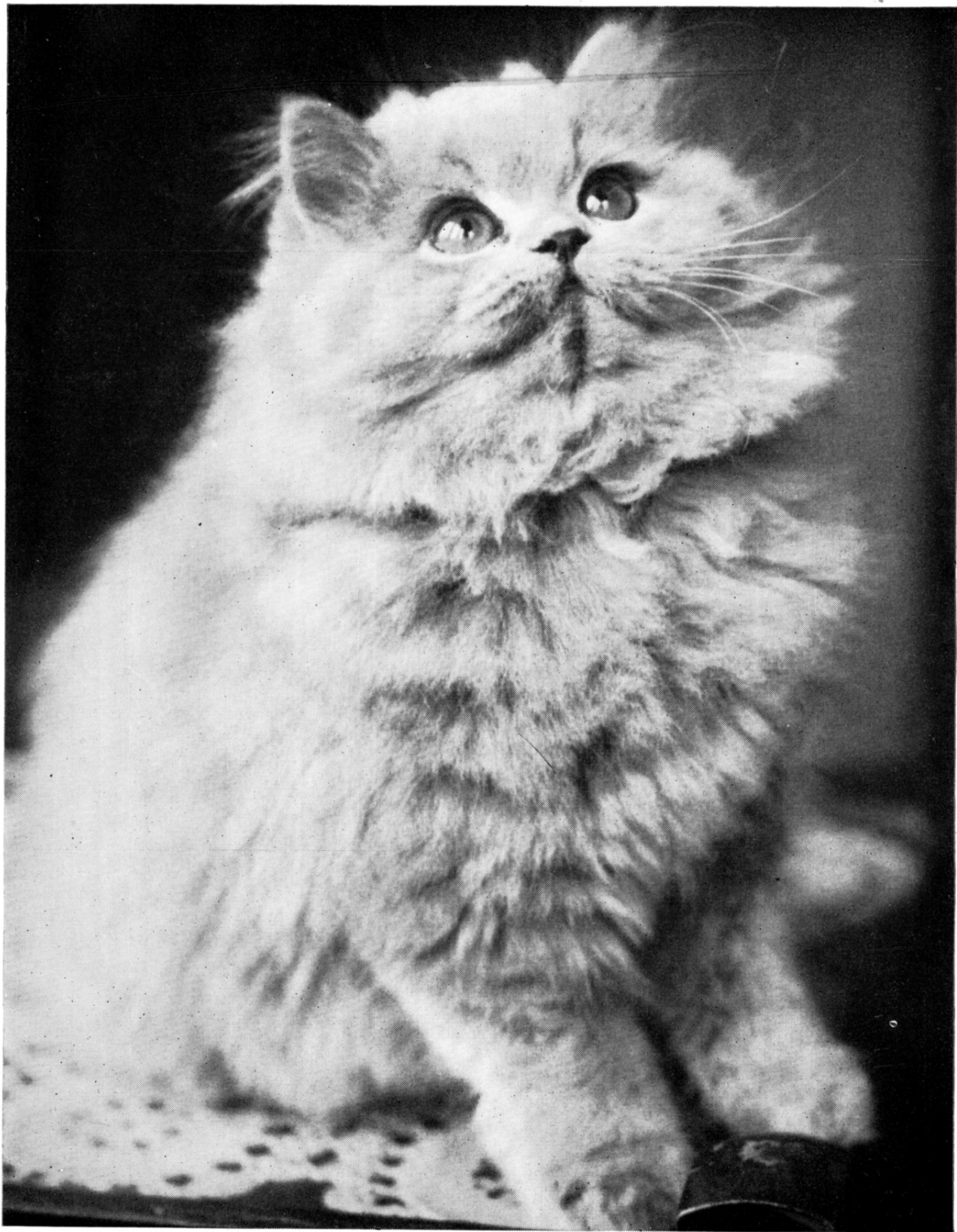
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