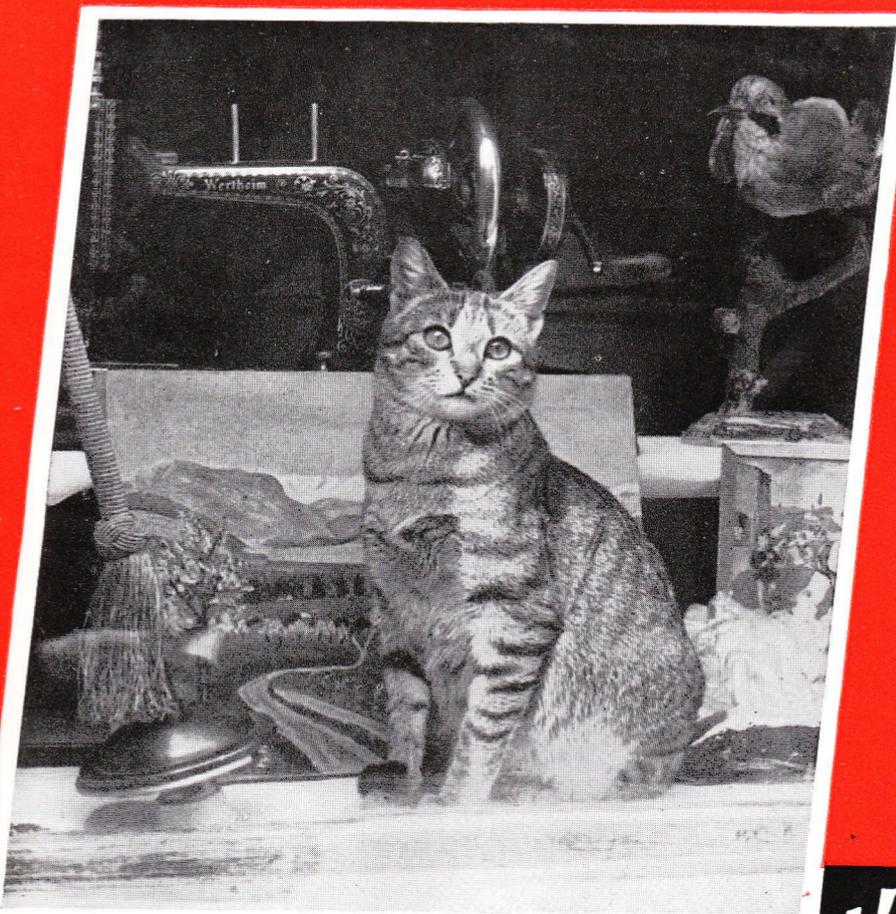


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This delightful picture of puss in a shop window was taken in Friburg, Switzerland, by Les Downes.

JULY 1955

1/6

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- (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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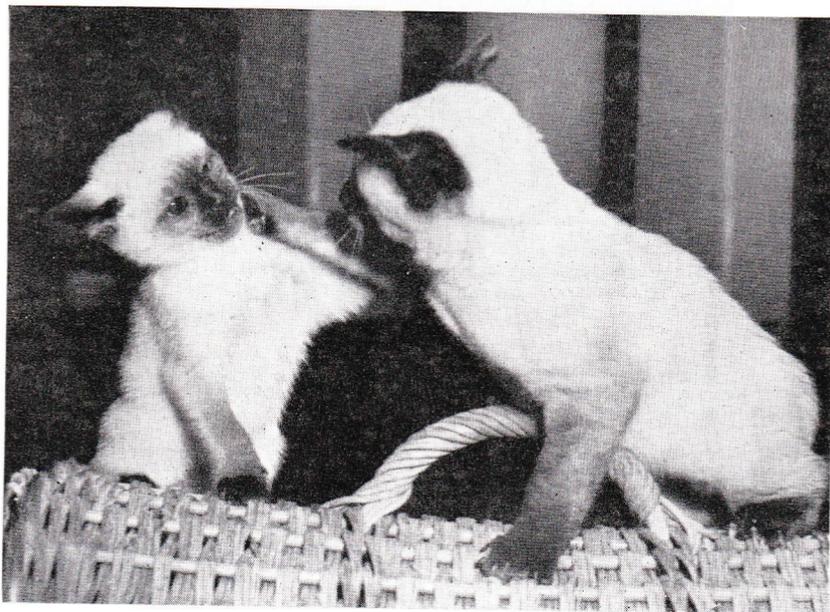
Managing Editor :

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

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

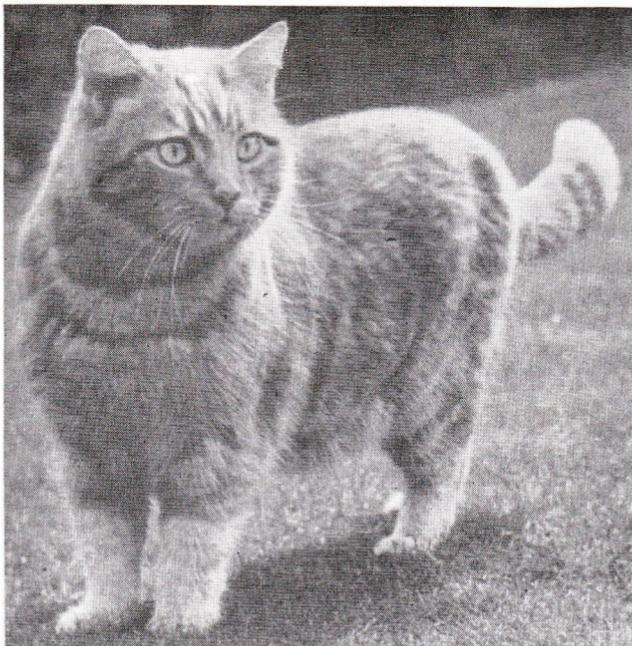
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"Woman," Sydney

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On my left Don Cockell (Chelsea Midge) ; on my right Rocky Marciano (Chelsea Mickey), contenders for the Siamese Championship. These aggressive young scrappers were trained and brought to ring condition by Mrs. M. A. L. Corbett, of New South Wales, Australia, who has handled many fine winners in the past.



Mr. A. E. Hollingsworth, of Lincoln, kindly submits this photograph with the simple comment that it is "a study of our ginger cat."

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Urinary Blockage of the Male Cat

By MURIEL MORTON KOENIG

This article deals with a subject which has worried and perplexed owners of male cats for a long time. Many fine studs have been lost through urinary blockages. Mrs. Koenig is a registered nurse with a sound medical background and she is also well known in the American cat world through her SophistiCat Cattery and her affiliation with the Blue Gables Cattery. The article first appeared in the May issue of "Cats Magazine," U.S.A., and we are indebted to Mr. Ray Smith, the Editor, as well as to the author for permission to reprint this well written and helpful treatise.

TOO frequently, one hears of a cat who has died of kidney trouble. This term is loosely used to cover all ailments of the urinary system. Although many advances have been made in this field by the veterinary profession, cat owners do little or nothing in the prevention of this disease. Many deaths due to kidney trouble are unnecessary.

The first and most important step in saving a cat is to recognize the ailment early and to treat it promptly before it reaches a serious stage.

In this article I will try to dispense with as many technicalities as possible and present an easily recognizable symptomatic picture. I shall explain what should be done when various symptoms appear and how to prevent urinary block.

In the cat a frequent cause of urinary block is the formation of triple phosphate crystals and/or mucoid plugs in the urine. These stop the urethra, a tiny duct leading from the bladder to the outside of the cat's body. When enough crystals or plugs form, the urine cannot pass and is retained in the bladder. Cystitis or bacterial inflammation of the bladder usually sets in or an infection may be a contributing factor in the formation of the block. The urethra of the female cat is larger than that of the male. She can pass crystals or plugs of a size that would block the urethra of the male. This is one reason urinary trouble is more frequent in males.

When the cat cannot urinate the bladder soon becomes filled to capacity and its dilation or enlargement causes a pressure upon the kidneys. The kidney then ceases to function properly in eliminating the waste matter. The toxins or poisons in the kidneys are re-absorbed into the blood stream and travel through the body. Usually the cat rapidly develops uremic poisoning which ends in a painful death unless very promptly treated.

Growths, tumours and calculus (actual stones) also cause stoppage. These demand treatment by your veterinarian. Even a heavily matted coat may disturb kidney function. Heavy mats between the hind legs that pull and pain when the animal squats to urinate may cause him to sit for hours before he will try to relieve himself. This self-induced wait tends to strain the bladder and can also cause other troubles.

Keep a Check

A cat's urine is normally acid in reaction. When the reaction changes to alkaline the crystals which can cause stoppage begin to form. Diet is probably one of the major factors affecting the acidity or alkalinity of the urine, and a diet change can usually arrest or reverse any tendency toward alkalinity.

In my own cattery I closely observe the cats' sanitary pans every day, and believe that all owners should train themselves to learn the indications which can tell them so much about their pets' health, and to make such examinations

regularly. In examining the urine, it is, of course, necessary to have a clear sample, so if you are using a commercial litter, omit this and put newspaper, or nothing at all in the pan on the days you wish to make your tests.

When you have your sample, look to see if the urine is darker in colour than usual? Is there blood in the urine? Is there an abnormal odour? And most important of all, *is there a residue?* The first hint of crystal formation is a scatter of very fine shiny sand. Sometimes this can only be noticed when held to a light. At the next stage, small powdery drifts of white or shiny sand can be seen, and in advanced cases there may be actual crystals or plugs that were not large enough to stop the urethra. If you notice any of these, be prepared for trouble.

Acid and Alkaline

Litmus paper is a chemically treated paper product which when inserted in a liquid changes colour according to the acidity or alkalinity of the liquid. It is part of my equipment and should be kept on hand by every cat owner. It can be purchased at some pharmacies, or your veterinarian may carry it. Unlike the old pink and blue papers, this one paper tests for both acid and alkaline content, and tells the degree. A colour chart is given with the paper if requested.

A cat's urine is normally between six and seven on the chart, and a variation either way should be viewed with suspicion and an attempt made at once to bring the reaction back to normal. A diet change will usually do this, but in addition I give five grain Methenamine and Sodium Biophosphate 5-grain tablets three times a day until the reaction is normal.

A good policy is to test the urine once a week, and even more often if suspicious symptoms are noticed. When diet change and medication do not change the alkalinity reaction within a few weeks,

you should immediately consult your veterinarian.

In any kidney trouble the cat rapidly loses condition, the coat looks ragged and the eyes recede into the head. In kidney trouble of the acute type the cat usually shows marked depression and there may be intermittent vomiting. The cat becomes very weak and you may notice that less or no urine is being passed and it is dark or thicker than usual.

Signs and Symptoms

The cat frequently licks the genital organs in an effort to relieve the pain or discomfort. A pressure on the loins (sides of the lower abdomen) will cause the cat to crouch and cry out in pain. This crouching position and a disinclination to move about are very symptomatic. There is usually a curious stiffness of movement as if the cat had rheumatism and he will just crouch and swish his tail in an unnatural manner.

In later stages the mouth may become congested, the blood vessels inside the mouth become enlarged and the cheeks red. There may be an ulceration of the mouth. In the terminal stage (near death) there is a drop in temperature and the feet and legs become cold to the touch. Any delay in taking action at the symptoms mentioned in this paragraph will probably be fatal. Get your cat to your veterinarian immediately!

All cat owners should familiarize themselves with the position of the bladder in the cat's body. It is a pear-shaped organ which lies in the lower region of the abdomen just in front of the hind legs. Retention of the urine causes the bladder to enlarge and the change may readily be felt through the walls of the abdomen. Ask your veterinarian to show you the exact position and become accustomed to the normal size. You then will be able to notice any deviation. If the bladder is enlarged and hard to the touch see your veterinarian at once.

A mistake commonly made when the cat sits on the pan and strains or groans is the thought that it is constipated. Do not jump to a wrong conclusion and administer a laxative, feel the bladder and find out if it is enlarged. Giving a laxative at a time like this will only delay the treatment and may prove very harmful.

The treatment in urinary block depends on the individual cat and the length of time that has elapsed since the retention began. In mild cases a medicant is given to stimulate the flow of urine. It usually contains an antiseptic to ward off or treat cystitis. In more advanced cases your veterinarian can give more potent medicine hypodermically. He may find it necessary to catheterize your cat. This is accomplished by passing a minute tube through the urethral opening into the bladder and the urine will flow out through this tube. At this time the bladder is usually irrigated or washed out with an antiseptic solution.

Manual Expulsion

At times the muscles may lose strength to expel the urine. It may then be "hand expressed" when there is not a complete block. To do this, the bladder is grasped through the abdominal walls and kneaded in the proper manner forcing the urine to be manually expelled. This method requires skill and should never be attempted by the owner unless thoroughly trained in the technique. This is often done for a few days after the cat has been catheterized until the bladder begins to function properly.

In extreme cases where a catheter cannot be inserted or the utmost speed is necessary in removing the urine your veterinarian may puncture the bladder through the abdominal wall allowing the urine to escape through the needle. This is used only in severe cases for there is always danger that the urine may escape into the abdominal cavity and the risk of infection is great. Every cat owner

should keep in mind that it is far more simple to take preventive measures early than to wait for more serious conditions to develop.

On this subject, Mark L. Morris, B.S., D.V.M., of Topeka, Kansas, wrote in "Veterinary Medicine," February 1954: "In the management of urological problems in the cat the following points are important :

1. Has the dietary intake of vitamin A been adequate ?
2. Has the cat been consuming a diet excessive in mineral ash ?
3. Is there an infection of the bladder or urethra ?
4. Has the cat been on a biologically unbalanced ration consisting of low quality protein, insufficient fat, and inadequate amounts of Vitamin B complex ?

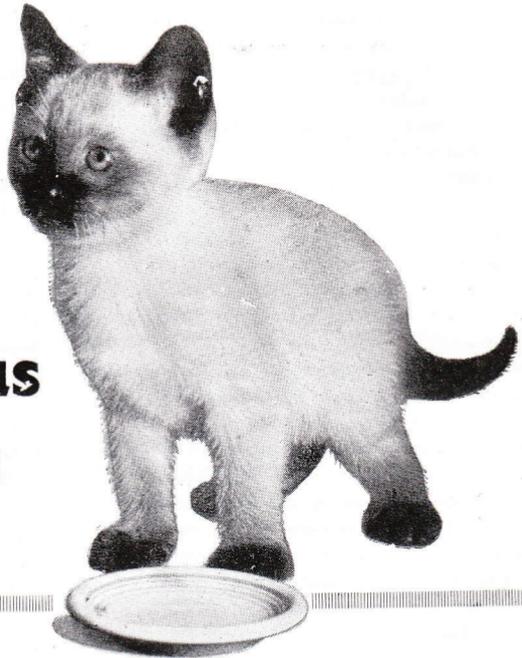
Dr. Morris also mentions that urinary troubles may be brought about by atrophy of the urethra sometimes associated with early castration of the male and by other causes—thus it is important to call in your veterinarian if you feel that your own treatment is not bringing results.

To help prevent "kidney trouble," watch your cat's diet—make a change if the urine shows a dangerous reaction in your litmus tests. Be sure to add animal fat to your cat's regular ration—gravy, bacon grease, small amounts of chicken fat, etc., are good.

A vitamin food supplement is advisable, and brewer's yeast is beneficial. Lack of exercise, especially in the stud cat who is too often caged at all times, is very possibly associated with some urinary conditions, and even to exposure to extreme cold can be a contributory factor.

In summary : Give your cats a balanced diet ; allow plenty of exercise ; groom your longhair cats carefully to keep them free from mats. Watch your cat for any signs of trouble and test the urine reaction regularly. At the first suspicious signs begin treatment. Do not delay—it is the alert and observant owner who has healthy cats.

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On the Subject of Weaning

By P. M. SODERBERG

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

STRICTLY speaking, the weaning of kittens starts from the very first meal they take which is not their mother's milk, so this is obviously a process which is initiated long before the kitten can be absolutely independent of its mother.

No one would deny that individual breeders have their own ideas on the subject of weaning, and so this article must be controversial. There will be some breeders who are quite sure that the advice given is wrong for a variety of reasons, but chiefly because they adopt different methods which for their kittens have proved successful. On the other hand, different breeders will find that it fits in more or less with their own pattern, and as a consequence they will approve. For the beginner, however, it can be stated that what is written here has been found to produce very satisfactory results with the kittens which have been reared by the writer's own queens, and which have been assisted very early on in the rearing period by the provision of a supplementary diet for the kittens.

The first point to make is that queens do not all produce milk of the same quality. On average the milk of a female cat contains slightly less than 20 per cent of solids with an all-round figure of about 17½ per cent, but it just so happens that cats do not all conform to the average, and some queens, like some cows, give less fat than the average and may even be lower than 15 per cent on solids. Thus, a growing kitten may find its mother's milk not too satisfactory, and an early start should be made with weaning,

particularly when one knows the exact composition of the milk food which is to be made up from the powder in the tin.

To find out whether the queen's milk is really feeding the kittens adequately, the scales are a great guide. A Longhair Blue kitten should weigh double its birth weight at the end of the first week, and over the next two weeks, except in the case of abnormally small kittens, there should be an increase of roughly four ounces each week. Siamese, on the other hand, will not put on more than about 3½ ounces a week, and the same increase will apply to other breeds of similar build.

Strain on Milk Supply

Another point to bear in mind is the strain upon the mother when she is called upon to produce large quantities of milk every twenty-four hours. Taken on average, a two-week old kitten requires between four and five ounces of milk a day. Bearing in mind that a pint of water weighs twenty ounces and milk will be somewhat heavier, it is simple enough to work out how much milk will be required to rear any particular litter satisfactorily.

Each week the strain upon the queen will grow greater, and even with a moderate-sized litter of four, there is a strong argument for starting to wean as soon as possible. One cannot start too soon, for the kittens will take care of that side of the business. If they are not satisfied and are hungry, it will take them very little time to learn to lap from a spoon. If what they are receiving from the mother is adequate, they will show no interest in artificial milk for a longer period.

Kittens are helpless little creatures and show little intelligence about feeding

themselves, except by sucking, until they are at least three weeks old. The exceptions to this pattern are the orphans or virtual orphans who have had to be reared by hand from the start.

When the third week has been completed, the owner can make a start as soon as he likes, but he must not expect immediate results. The first artificial meal is usually a failure. If a drop of the milk can be placed on the tongue or the lips are smeared with a little of the liquid, much more interest may be shown. Usually by the third day the kittens will lap from a spoon, but they must not get their noses buried in the milk or there will be a spluttering and sneezing which may put them off this sort of feeding.

Introducing Solids

The best time to feed is when the mother has been away from them for some time. This during the fourth week she will be likely to do several times a day. There is no need to worry about quantities, for a kitten at this stage will not take more than it needs. To get the right proportion of milk powder and water is, however, important.

Early in the fifth week the kittens can be introduced to solids, and a very safe feed is plaice steamed in milk and then mashed up to separate the fibres of the flesh. Coarse fish is not to be recommended for small kittens. Perhaps the best way to give the first solid meal is by hand, by just popping a small quantity of food into the mouth. Kittens always seem to like fish even if they lose their taste for it when they get older.

The second feed of fish can be given in a really small dish, but it is necessary to stand by because a kitten's nose acts like a steam roller and flattens the food in no time. As it cannot then pick it up, the owner must make the fish again into a heap which can be tackled. During this week, towards its end, two milk meals and two fish meals can be given each day, but rarely will all be eaten. A small teaspoonful of fish is ample at first, and

this will be increased gradually up to a tablespoonful when the kitten is eight weeks old.

In the sixth week meat may be introduced with obvious benefit and little risk of ill effect. If you do not provide the meat, the mother will probably do so from her own dish. At first either horse-meat or steak can be shredded. The same quantity as of fish should be given.

Ready to Leave

When the seventh week comes, if not before, both cereal in the form of corn-flakes can be added and also one of the human baby supplements such as Farex, and there can be three milk meals and two solid meals a day. By this time each of the meals will exceed a dessert-spoonful.

During this week the queen can be kept away from her kittens for periods of as long as four hours at a time, and the solid meals should be given just before she is returned. Some kittens are quite happy between the seventh and eighth week if the mother is not with them at all during the day, and when they are over seven weeks they can be taken from her completely. She will miss them for a few days, but she will soon settle down. This does not mean that the kittens are now ready to be sold, for they should have at least one week of completely independent feeding before they go to their new homes.

Some breeders like to keep kittens with the queen until they are actually sold. This may entail less trouble, but it is a practice hardly kind to the kitten and not too considerate of the new owner. He ought to expect to be able to buy a fully weaned kitten which can feed satisfactorily for itself without the corrective of its mother's milk.

A kitten fully weaned when it is a day or two over seven weeks, and kept by the breeder for another fortnight, is the safest one for a novice to buy, for he should not have any serious troubles from the feeding point of view if the thoughtful owner has provided him with an easily understood diet sheet.

Moving Day

By ANN CODRINGTON

THIS day of which I write has none of the methodically arranged timetable of a household removal to a new home. That can and has been coped with, but the really distracting Moving Day is the one on which Mill Feather (the Siamese lady of the house) decides that wherever her kittens are is not the right place for them.

It starts on any unpredictable day when the family is between two and three weeks old. Instead of saying good morning and drinking up her warm milk as usual, Feather greets us with a muffled mew caused by a limp white body she is holding in her mouth. I take it gently away and put it back with its brothers and sisters in a cosy blanket-lined drawer.



Moving Day! The author very thoughtfully enclosed this so-very-apt illustration with her manuscript. Miss Codrington explains that the photograph was sent to her by Mrs. Beatrice Wilton of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and is of her queen Trina.

Feather looks worried but leaves it and bustles out, obviously engaged in house hunting.

She goes upstairs and down, examining the unmade beds, the radio cabinet, uttering short cries of dissatisfaction at these—on to the laundry basket—too high—the peke's basket—too low—then the airing cupboard. Here she pauses for a long time, jumping up to the first shelf and down again, and nattering away to herself, refusing food, shaking off a soothing caress and looking quite distracted.

She trots upstairs again and I let her in to the nursery, hoping she'll settle. Now, the idiotic thing is that I know, and she knows I know, that there is no other place at this stage.

Unnecessary Agitation

The kittens are born in the drawer placed on a bed to prevent draughts and cold. When they get more or less mobile, as they are now, and might perhaps crawl to the edge of the bed and fall to the ground (and kittens of that age have only three lives) the drawer is placed on the floor and the kittens can now fall out on to a rug without committing suicide. The next stage comes in about a fortnight when they can climb up and down with the help of a stool to the shelf in the airing cupboard, which is the permanent home of any cat who can get

there. So you see all this agitation is quite unnecessary and I think Feather knows it, but can't help herself.

I wonder what she would have done in that Siamese jungle inhabited by her ancestors? Moved constantly, perhaps, to thwart predatory snakes and jackals, going through tortures of apprehension because this hole in a tree trunk was too low—that branch too high for her precious babies. And so (although it is nearly 100 years since the first Siamese left Siam), their descendants still panic over imaginary dangers, and because Feather can find no more suitable place than the one I have provided, she lugs her unfortunate children about, dropping them with piteous cries, one on the stairs, one on the bathroom floor, one on a turned-back mattress exposed to cold fresh air!

I spend the day collecting them and putting them back into the drawer. Of course, I can lock her into the nursery but it is good for her to get out in the sunshine and to eat grass and a great bore to have to regulate these outings.

Yesterday she was revelling in her freedom to roam the garden. She caught a mouse, she rolled on the warmed gravel. But to-day is suddenly Moving Day—and move she must. I can but hope the urge will pass before the unfortunate kittens get too moth-eaten round their poor scraggy little necks.



Reproduction

By A. C. JUDE

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 ninth article in a fine new and exclusive series to help and encourage our readers all over the cat world.

IN some cases scientists have failed to determine the exact mode of inheritance of complicated characters, or have disagreed with each other's results. Only in relatively simple cases does Mendelism give clear-cut answers without more prolonged breeding experiments than the ordinary cat breeder can attempt.

If the breeding of an $F_1 F_2$ and a back-cross does not make the situation clear to the breeder, advice should be sought, or less precise methods of improvement, such as grading up or linebreeding, should be used. The greatest use of simple Mendelism to the practical cat breeder is in applying knowledge which professional scientists have acquired, rather than in themselves determining which characteristics are inherited in a simple Mendelian manner, and which are not.

The inheritance of the majority of the most essential breed characteristics depends on so many factors that the simple laws of Mendel give practically no assistance to the breeder. In such matters as type, body size, temperament, fertility, hardiness and the finer shades of difference in such things as coat texture or colour, the scientist at present can only give general advice which is for the most part the same as would be given by any experienced breeder.

As evidenced by the correspondence one receives, it is clear that even the simplest of scientific terms are often misunderstood. This is perhaps due to the fact that some authors have themselves

used terms very loosely. The term "dominant" is one such word in question. Many use the word "dominant" to describe any character which is manifested in the F_1 of a cross, although on the evidence they present, this result could equally well be due to epistasis or to gene interaction, and not to true dominance; in fact, the word "dominant" is often used in the sense of "prepotent" rather than in the strict scientific sense.

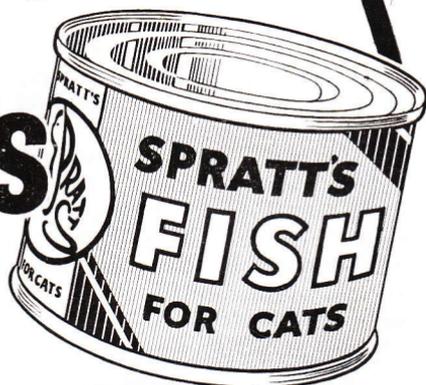
Much confusion would have been avoided had the term "dominant" been used only when the relation between two allelic genes was being discussed, the word "prepotent" being used when the genetic cause of the apparent dominance of one type over the other was not known.

Importance of Fertility

In the discussion of the subject of this present series—reproduction—we not only have to consider the general rules which govern, but also some of the things which may affect anticipated results as a whole. Some of these things may in themselves be inherited, some may not. Perhaps the most important to the fancier is the matter of fertility. This is not a subject which can ever be considered as clean-cut. If it were, the danger of infertility playing a dangerous role in a fancy could be dealt with easily and effectively—the elimination of the quite obviously affected animal.

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But infertility has many stages, some of which to the fancier may not be definite pointers, and will therefore be passed over as unimportant. So often in breeding it is small happenings which eventually prove themselves to have been the most important in the general run of a healthy virile state within a fancy. For the practical cat fancier it is a matter of the greatest economic importance that his breeding-stock should be completely fertile.

There is a financial loss on every animal kept which is sterile or partly so ; the cost of maintenance is expensive ; time is wasted ; anxiety and worry are experienced ; in the cases where young do happen to be born, these perpetuate the troubles all too frequently for one's self or for those who unfortunately may become the owners—a sorry state of affairs.

Sexual Cycle

A period is reached in the young life of all kinds of animals when reproduction should normally start. With females who do not start to breed at this normal time there is, as time goes on, an increasing risk of their failing to breed altogether. This may occur in animals that, apart from the ovaries, are entirely normal, since the ovaries are liable to have their functions interfered with by the presence of numerous scars formed by old corpora lutea, or by the remains of atrophic follicles (that is, follicles that with their contained ova have undergone degeneration in the ovary and without discharging.)

Whether pregnancy supervenes or not, as a consequence of copulation during oestrous, the discharged follicle, after the egg has been extruded, closes up and becomes converted into a corpus luteum or "yellow body," so called on account of a pigmented substance formed in it. This "yellow body" persists in the ovary

throughout pregnancy, but in the absence of pregnancy, it only survives for a short time corresponding to the interval between the heats. Thus, in the presence of a fully developed corpus luteum, heat does not occur ; it is not until the corpus luteum dating from the last oestrous has undergone a marked regression that a new heat period can normally intervene.

It is clear therefore, that the two active phases of the oestrous or sexual cycle, namely heat or oestrous and pregnancy (or alternatively the inter-oestrous interval), are respectively regulated by an oestrous hormone manufactured by the ovary, and a luteal hormone produced by the corpus luteum.

If pregnancy takes place as a result of the eggs discharged at ovulation becoming fertilized, the eggs segment and become attached to the inside wall where they develop into embryos, and these, eventually losing their attachment are born. Parturition, or the act of giving birth may be followed by a period of quiescence—usually associated, at its commencement at any rate, with lactation—but is followed in some animals after a brief interval, by a new heat period.

The owner of a Yorkshire fish shop tells an amusing incident which arose from the fact that the common name for Scarborough wool is "cat fish" and this is a term commonly used between wholesaler and retailer. It was his custom to supply a café with a number of cut-up rabbits and on one occasion when he was extra busy he hastily packed the rabbit meat in the first handy box. Shortly afterwards a furious café proprietor arrived railing at him for a cheat and charlatan and vowing she would never again buy anything from his shop. When things became quieter and explanations were given it transpired that the lady's disturbed state of mind was due to the fact that her rabbits had arrived in a box labelled "Skinned Cat."

Looking at Shorthairs

No. 1—Manx

By ELSIE TOWE

THE Shorthaired Cat Society of Great Britain and Manx Club Inc., of which I have the honour to be Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, is a small but important organization. It was formed in 1901 to guard the interests of all Shorthaired cats, British and Foreign, and many famous people have been our patrons and officials over the half-century. Louis Wain, for example, was one of our first judges.

Some of the Shorthaired varieties now have their own specialist club—Siamese, Abyssinian, Russian Blue and Burmese. Although the Society holds trophies for most Shorthair breeds and owners of every breed are to be found among its members, I propose to write mainly about British cats of yesterday and to-day.

The Manx Club was founded in 1907 and incorporated with the Shorthaired Society in 1947. The late Miss Helen Hill Shaw was Hon. Secretary of both

Clubs for nearly 30 years ; her favourite cat was the Manx and she owned many Champions. Perhaps the most notable were Ch. Finchley Boy of Cademuir and Ch. Katzenjammers Ghost of Cademuir, both brown tabbies of excellent type.

Manx were very popular before the first world war and a tortoiseshell female was shown at the Crystal Palace Show as far back as 1880. At the National Show in 1908, sixteen Manx cats and kittens were exhibited, but at a two-day show in January 1909, run jointly by the Southern Counties and Midland Clubs, only five were on show. At the first Croydon Show in 1920, six Manx were exhibited and they were all owned by Miss Hill Shaw. Since 1946 Manx have been exhibited at most of our Championship shows.

Miss G. Sladen, a breeder of outstanding Manx for many years, has "carried the torch" for the breed since the war with Champion Stonor Kate, Champion Stonor Matilda and Stonor Jet, now in America. Stonor Kate, a brown tabby,



Pre-war Manx Champion KATZENJAMMER'S GHOST OF CADEMUIR.

was Best in Show at the Croydon Show in 1947 and this was the first time a Manx entry won the premier award.

To-day, interest in the Manx is growing, steadily but surely. Mrs. Hamilton, of Ayrshire, has a lovely little jet black female, Ch. Yancam Greeba, who has had some nice kittens. Mr. Butterfield, who, I believe, had a Manx direct from the Isle of Man two or three years ago, has bred some good specimens, Goldsborough Marvel, a nice red tabby, and Ballaugh Empress, Best Shorthair Kitten at the 1954 Croydon Show, and now owned by Mrs. Earnshaw.

What is the origin of the Manx ? That ever-recurring question will in all probability never be answered. Like the Siamese, only theories can be advanced on the subject. One fact will always remain—they are fascinating little cats, very intelligent and affec-

tionate, easy to keep and handle. They may be of any colour, black, white, red, brown or silver tabby or tortoiseshell. But they should conform to the Standard of Points drawn up by the Manx Club many years ago.

The official description of the Short-haired Cat Society reads : Taillessness, height of hindquarters, shortness of back, depth of flank are essentials in a Manx cat as only with them is combined the true rabbit or hopping gait. The coat is what is termed "double," namely, soft and open like that of a rabbit, with a soft undercoat. That is essential, and great attention should be paid to roundness of rump, as round as an orange being the ideal. Scale of points : Taillessness 15, height of hindquarters 15, shortness of back 15, roundness of rump 10, depth of flank 10, double coat 10, head and ears 10, colour and markings 5, eyes 5, condition 5.



Miss Sladen's famous Manx Champion STONOR KATE.

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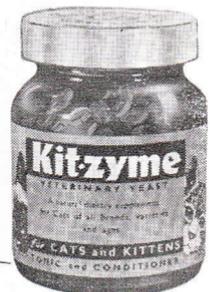
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Tailpieces

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



THE Regent's Park Zoo has two ocelot kittens born to Sheila, who has the reputation of being a bad mother. Only one of the kittens has been left with Sheila, the other is being mothered in the sanatorium by Tibby, one of the cats on the Zoo strength.

Allegations that cats and dogs in a district of Putney, South West London, had died or become ill from poisons put down by the Council's rat killer have been denied by the public health committee.

A Wembley (Middlesex) lad found his cat Tinker with an 18-inch adder in the garden of his home. He ran with his brother to rescue the cat but Tinker had already bitten the snake behind the head and it was dying.

Here is the interesting prose translation of a Latin verse epitaph on a cat by John Jortin (1698-1770), Archdeacon of London: "Worn out with years and cruel sickness, I, the gentlest of cats, must go at length to the waters below; and Prosperine has said to me with a smile, 'Enjoy the Elysian sunshine and the Elysian grove.' But, if I have deserved well, kindly queen of the silent ones, grant at least that I may return home one night and say in my master's ear, 'Your faithful cat loves you, even beyond the Styx.' (Died in the year 1756, aged 14 years, 2 months, and 4 days.)"

M.E.D., of Sittingbourne, Kent, in a letter to the London *Evening News*: "I

have never before been able to handle a cat. In fact I can tell if there is a cat in the room without seeing it, as I get gooseflesh. But the other day I found a cat of a very superior type in my garden, crying plaintively. I picked it up and it clung round my neck still crying. Evidently it had jumped from a car and become lost. I fed it and cared for it and now I shall be very sorry to say goodbye to a perfectly trained superior Siamese cat with beautiful blue eyes. Attempts to trace the owner have so far failed. Perhaps this letter will be successful. My telephone number is Sittingbourne 988."

Lt. - Commander Leonard Hinton, R.N., the naval officer who was summoned by the R.S.P.C.A. at Portsmouth for "unlawfully and cruelly terrifying a cat by roping it and throwing it into the sea" (see my notes last month) was fined £5 with ten guineas costs. Unluckily (for Hinton) he happened to have abroad his cruiser an able seaman who was fond of cats. A.B. Walter Scruffham saw what happened to Butch, the ship's cat, and that was enough to make him report his Commander to the R.S.P.C.A. and subsequently to tell his story to the magistrates.

Stop me if you've heard this one before! During the recent General Election a canvasser called at a house where he noticed as the lady opened the door four little kittens running about with Labour colour ribbons round their necks. "What! Labour?" he enquired, and the lady curtly replied "Yes" as she closed the door. A few days later when

the canvasser called again in the rather forlorn hope of winning a sympathizer, he was surprised to find that the kittens now wore the ribbons of the Tory party. "Why the sudden change?" he asked. "Well," replied the lady, "they have their eyes open now."

A lady correspondent to the *London Star* writes: "I should like to praise the Continental visitor to London who acted so nobly after knocking over my cat with his car. First he telephoned the police, then the vet., and he waited for three-quarters of an hour to see how badly the cat was injured. He could not have been more sorry if he had knocked down a human being."

A 9-year-old tabby cat named Tibbles has been placed on the Animal Roll of Honour of the P.D.S.A. for the part he played in raising the alarm when fire swept through a row of cottages at Lapford, near Crediton, Devon. The citation reads: "Owing solely to his efforts, his mistress and her household—including an 80-year-old invalid—were awakened just in time to escape being trapped in a rapidly spreading fire."

Firemen released a ginger cat which strolled into an empty house at Twickenham while an estate agent was showing a prospective buyer round and was locked in.

H.M.C., of Surrey, writes to the *London Star*: "Is an animal's sight as quick and acute as its hearing? I am prompted to ask this question after noting our kitten's reaction to television. The kitten is our first pet and he has taken no interest in TV until we were watching the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. The set is five years old and the picture never very sharp. Viewers will know therefore that our reception of tele-recordings is dim indeed. But although we could not follow the flight of the ball the kitten at once looked up at the set and after watching the pupils of his eyes I am

sure he could see the ball clearly as it flashed across the court.

Two of the most famous ladies of France are cat lovers. It is generally well known that H.H. Begum Aga Khan greatly prizes her Blue Persian Simba, her purchase at a London show a few years back. Simba is also a favourite with the Aga Khan ("We are both Persians," he has said) and is often to be found sleeping on his bed. Mme Susy Volterra, owner of this year's Derby and Grand Prix winner Phil Drake, also has a Persian named Gris-gris who enjoys the best things of feline life at her Paris apartment. Gris-gris wears a collar from which are suspended a number of charms.

Some newspaper clippings just received from Sydney, Australia, provide illustrated details of the second annual show of the Australian Cat and Pet Exhibitors' Society. The opening ceremony was performed by stage star Miss Anna Russell and about 250 cats were penned by 58 exhibitors. Three baby lion cubs attracted much attention. A prominent exhibitor was Miss Gabrielle Williams, student of veterinary science and experimental breeding, owner of forty cats who cost £9 a week to feed. She showed her winning Siamese Bluemead Naughty Yogi and her pet Manx Minus A. Rudder, the last named being something of a novelty for Australian show visitors. Another exhibit greatly admired was Miss Thelma Young's Craigholme Lady Lynn, who was Best Female at the last Sydney Royal Easter Show.

"Will lend lovely comfortable Provencal Mas with swimming pool near Aix en Provence July-September to animal lovers who would feed dog, cat, pigeons. Write, stating refs." This was a recent advertisement in a London newspaper. Please don't write to me for the address. It's probably all fixed by now, anyhow!

MICKEY



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.



EGG COLLECTOR

A friend's cat was seen to be descending slowly from a tree carrying—it was feared—a fledgling.

On closer inspection it was discovered that the cat had an unbroken blackbird's egg in its mouth. Surely an unusual incident?

Mrs. Irene G. Stubbings,
Ipswich.

is really quite even in colouring and when washed and prepared has quite a respectable shade of blue-grey. I should add that when we are living in town the cats are indoors all the time, so that I can really judge the effect that sun has on their coats.

Mrs. Judith Saether,
Oslo, Norway.

SUN AFFECTS COAT COLOUR

I was interested to read in a recent issue in Mrs. Thompson's "Just Fancy" that in England the sun is not strong enough to affect the shading of the coats of Blues. I don't know if the sun we have in Norway is so much stronger but, to my mind, it definitely affects the coats of my own two cats.

We live by the sea from April until November and during that time my cats run quite wild and are up in the woods until their last meal at 11 p.m. lures them in. As the summer wears on their coats get longer and thicker but the colour gets more and more unattractive. The backs and tails become very dark with a sort of brindly ticking and no one would think they are *Blue* Persians.

This is most unfortunate as most of the cat shows in Scandinavia are held during late autumn, so that although my Firefly wins on type every time I have never been able to show him with a really nice blue coat.

When we move into our flat in town at the beginning of November the cats' coats begin to get a better colour. In March, Firefly, whilst not having the wealth of fur that he had in the autumn,

QUEER TASTES

I would like to mention my own very ordinary black cat. She came to us as a stray kitten four years ago, and while I say she is very ordinary, I think most people who keep pets regard their own particular pet as being quite out of the ordinary.

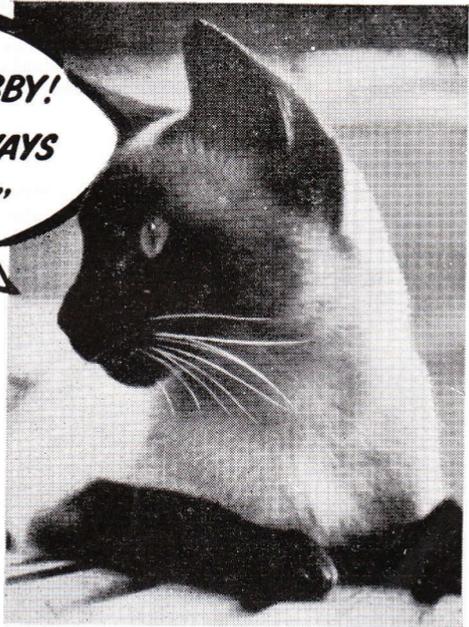
Bombo, for instance, has what we think are out of the ordinary tastes for a cat, being fond of grapes and peppermint sweets. We discovered this from the fact that she is always curious to try whatever we are eating and if we peel a grape and hold it for her she will lick furiously at it until it disappears, even nibbling off small pieces and eating them.

If she smells a peppermint when I am eating one, either the hard or the toffee variety, she looks pleadingly for me to give her a piece. She will also eat small pieces of banana and she is quite fond of watercress. Have you ever met a cat with similar tastes?

She is named Bombo, short for Lebombo, after the former Bishop of that diocese in Portugese East Africa, whom we met the year after our little stray decided to make a home with us.

Miss B. E. Brown,
Blackpool, Lancs.

**"COME IN, TIBBY!
YOU'RE ALWAYS
WELCOME"**



"I'm a very popular chap, even if I say so myself," said Tibby, the Tibs reporter. "All the cats I visit seem to like me, perhaps because I remind them of Tibs."

Tibby saw His Feline Majesty Hillcross Cymbal in Wimbledon at the home of Mrs. Towe, Hon. Secretary of the Croydon Cat Club. Mrs. Towe is a great lover of Siamese cats and is a very busy person in the cat world generally. Hillcross Cymbal is the son of Hillcross

Picot who has won no less than 26 show awards.

Mrs. Towe wouldn't let her beautiful Siamese go through one Tib-less day. She believes that Tibs are an absolute necessity and recommends Tibs to all her cat friends and breeders.

Famous
breeders
say:

TIBS

10d. and 2/-

KEEP CATS KITTENISH





East Anglian Daily Times

The TV cameraman taking a shot at the East Anglian Cat Club Show 1955 for the children's programme. Mrs. Kathleen Williams, who judged, and her steward Miss J. Alexander are parading a Siamese exhibit.

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 June and the lovely weather, with glorious sunshine following such a hard winter, fills one with optimistic hope for a glorious summer. And this, of course, starts us thinking about summer shows.

Before we embark on the coming show season, it might be as well to glance back at the last. At this distance of time, I will not mention cats by name. There were deserved Champions—but—I do look with apprehension at the tendency to award Challenge Certificates to dark cats, and those with heavy bones. To novice breeders, some of the awards at last year's shows must have been bewildering.

There has been an enormous expansion in the breeding of Siamese cats since 1939, and unless we take some steps now to conform to the present Standard of Points, the time must surely come when we shall have to alter the Standard to suit the cats being bred!!

The kittens of one show season are the

adults of the next. There were some promising youngsters shown last year, whom I shall watch with interest this year. Miss M. Lant's winning kitten Beaumanor Tooki went to Mr. Gordon Stewart of Canada, who is delighted with his purchase. He is a great pal, spending a great deal of time draped round Mr. Stewart's shoulders. I shall hope to have news of Tooki at the shows this year.

Mrs. M. Horwood had the misfortune to lose her winning kitten, bred by Miss C. Wood. This is one of the trials we all encounter. I am glad that Mrs. Horwood has decided to go on breeding Siamese. She is having another kitten next month.

The neuters must not be overlooked, for there were a number of beautiful cats, in their classes. Indeed, some were a loss to breeding stock. The competition is keener each year, for owners of neuters are becoming more show minded.

From Canada, Mrs. M. Stewart writes

gently chiding me, and rightly so, for not writing. She says that there is a controversy over there as to the possibility of cats contracting polio.

South African Show

The Siamese Cat Society of South Africa held their sixth Annual Championship Show at the Selbourne Hall, Johannesburg, on May 7th. The Show Manager, the Rev. John Oliver, reports a very successful show.

Mrs. E. J. Gluckman, besides organizing a bookstall, undertook the pre-show publicity by press and radio. Mrs. Harte and Miss Johnstone were responsible for the floral arrangements and the breed notices for display over the pens. Mrs. Stewart Pratt organized a competition to discover "The cat I would like to take home with me," which resulted in a profit of £10 for the Society. There were 90 exhibits.

Best Siamese was Mrs. C. C. Hayward's Loo-Ming, bred by Mrs. Hodgkinson; Best Seal Point Male Ch. Seacoast Sapphire Shahid, who is a daughter of Mrs. Varcoe's Sukianga Sunlight and Salewheel Simkin. Sunlight was exported to Mrs. Rainier in kitten and two of the litter eventually became Champions. Mrs. E. M. Hodgkinson, whose Silken Rogue (bred by Mrs. J. Highton) gained 1st and Ch., was also awarded Best Premier with her Pr. Merlyn's Doneraile Dekster.

Other winners were Fairlaun's Lan Tien, Best Blue Point, bred and owned by Mrs. H. A. Johnson; Copernicus of Copelands, Best Blue Point Kitten, bred and owned by Mrs. E. J. Gluckman; Eleuthera Werine, Best Seal Point Kitten, bred by Mrs. Haywood and owned by Mrs. V. M. Lowe.

In the Champion of Champions class Miss R. Chapman's British Blue Ch. Smokey Prince of Anzac beat the Siamese. I am told he is "superb, as near perfect to the standard as possible."

One new Champion was made—the Silver Tabby Lord Diamond of Dukilo, breeder and owner Miss S. Tigby.

There is no doubt that the South African Fancy is building up slowly and firmly. All the judge's reports confirm this.

Mrs. Val Davies says: "Male and female kittens were of such high standard that judging was difficult, as in so many instances there was little to choose between them. The improvement in the standard of Siamese is very marked indeed, and no longer do we see at shows the round headed, round and pale eyed, cats and kittens we used to."

Mrs. Gluckman writes: "The gratifying things about the show are the really high standard among Siamese (there wasn't a bad kitten shown) and the improvement in Longhairs."

Mr. and Mrs. Adams, whose Siamese neuters you will see on this page like to



Two neuters are better than one ? This fine pair belonging to Mr. & Mrs. Adams (see above) seem to prove the case of those who argue that neuters are happiest and healthiest when kept in pairs.

rest on top of a bookcase. They are firm believers in keeping two pets—they feel that two neuters give companionship to one another.

Mrs. G. Harvey, of Swaziland, has lost her male Charlie (also pictured opposite)—with feline enteritis. We have corresponded for some time on various topics—one being wool chewing!—One does not hear much about this feline habit these days.

My apologies to those of you who have not had replies to your letters—especially Mrs. B. Chandler, Mrs. Sven Nelson, Mrs. Virginia Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stackhouse and Mr. S. Moran. I hope to be up to date with correspondence in the next month or so.

I cannot conclude these lines without reference to Ch. Oriental Nanki Pooh of Newton, who passed away in his 16th year. Nikki was found to have a growth on the liver and was mercifully not allowed to wake up from the operation. He was well known both in England and America. A marvellous stud (he sired in his 15th year) Nikki was also a gentle lovable cat. Bred by Miss C. M. Gold, he was imported by Mrs. Virginia Cobb, whose affix "of Newton" he carried. All Mrs. Cobb's many friends will sympathize with her in her loss.



Siamese in Swaziland. Mrs. G. L. Harvey's daughter with Charlie (whose subsequent death is reported in the opposite column) and some of his offspring

Here's what fanciers are saying about our DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS

Five unsolicited testimonials received within the past few weeks :

- No. 1 "I could hardly hesitate to renew my advertisement in the Directory as a few days ago I received an enquiry for kittens from Geneva."
- No. 2 "I would like to continue my advertisement in the Directory which from time to time 'brings forth results'."
- No. 3 "I certainly would like to continue with my advertisement in the Directory. It is a great help to my cat breeding."
- No. 4 "I will gladly renew my panel advertisement for another 12 months. You will be pleased to hear that it has been a great help, not only for stud work, but for kitten sales as well. I have even received letters from abroad through it."
- No. 5 "I am very pleased I took an advertisement in the Directory. Replies started to reach me with the very first insertion."

May we send YOU details of rates? It's well worth a trial.

FREE—six picture cards of lovely "Red Heart" cats in exchange for 6 Red Heart labels. Send labels with your name and address, in **BLOCK** letters please.



*Let's have
a squint!*

SIAMESE CATS—

from a photo by Ylla from the Red Heart series.

Though experts say we shouldn't squint, many of us DO! But we can still recognise a good thing when we see it.

The very name Red Heart sets us purring. Feed Red Heart (no trouble, no preparation) and you feed your cat the finest food there is . . . containing all a cat needs for health, vitality and a glossy coat. Fresh fish with liver and cod liver oil.



RED HEART
Cat Food

JOHN MORRELL & CO., LTD., LIVERPOOL 1



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.

Australian Detail

MRS. VIZE appears to have taken to life in Australia like the proverbial duck to water. In a welcome letter full of interesting detail she writes: "The Esperance Bay was in port at Melbourne from March 28th until April 5th and we had a very interesting time. Mrs. Chandler came every day to the ship with her car and drove us for miles around the beautiful countryside. We also visited many catteries. They arranged a reception the day the ship arrived but owing to congestion the ship was unable to dock. However, they hastily improvised one for the next day and I met the Vice-Presidents of the Melbourne Cat Club, Mrs. Matheson and Miss Beattie, also Mr. and Mrs. Chandler, Dr. S. Potter (wife of the Siamese Cat Club President), Mrs. Murch, Mrs. Price and many other members. It was very enjoyable."

"Mrs. Matheson and Mrs. Chandler came aboard to see the cats one day and thought them wonderful. The kittens have grown enormously and all were in excellent condition to go into quarantine."

"My daughters and their families were at Sydney to greet us when we arrived at 8 a.m. and we thought it very kind of Mr. E. J. Lonsdale to arise so early to meet us, also Mrs. and Miss Cawley."

"At Colombo, Melbourne and Sydney we had newspaper representatives and it is amazing the interest the cats have created. The sixty days Ch. Astra and the kittens were in quarantine simply flew as I had to interview builders to plan our bungalow, visit the cat family, and do some gardening."

"I judged at Sydney May 14th, flew to Melbourne to judge Longhairs at their Show on May 21st, then on again by air to Brisbane, to see my daughter Olive and her family, then back to Sydney June 3rd for another show where I judged Blues, Blue-Creams, Blacks and Tortoiseshells."

"We have half-an-acre of ground and it is a wonderful spot. It is about 12 miles from Sydney the other side of Sydney Harbour Bridge and near the main road to Manly and Palm Beach. Our bungalow will be 500 feet above sea level and there are many orange, lemon, grapefruit, peach, fig and apple trees. Our half acre is part of my daughter's five acres. It is all in terraces made of natural rock and there is plenty of soil easy to work and good enough to grow anything."

"I know you love poinsettias. Well! our garden is full of them, also hibiscus, arum lilies, roses and geraniums, although it is winter. They are amused here at arum lilies being considered choice and

used for wedding bouquets in England. Over here they grow wild."

"The view from our garden is marvellous. Looking across 9 miles of gum trees one can see Narrabeen Lake and town with the sea beyond, in this clear air. The early morning sun rises from the sea making it and the surrounding country full of colour and at night when the moon shines it looks like a pool of silver."

"On June 6th Ch. Astra and the kittens came out of quarantine. They have fared well and are in grand condition. The kittens have put on marvellous coats. Although during the day the sun is so warm the nights and early mornings are chilly."

"Two receptions were given for me when I arrived in Sydney, one by Mr. Lonsdale and one by Mrs. and Miss Cawley."

"You can imagine how happy I am to see the improvement in my husband's health, to be reunited with my daughters and young grandchildren and to find so many friends, the latter thanks to our mutual interest and love for cats."

Best at Melbourne

From Mrs. Price of Preston, Victoria, Australia, comes news that Ch. Astra's son Ch. Jasper of Pensford, was Best Longhair Cat in Show at Melbourne Cat Club Ch. Show. As this was his sixth Challenge Certificate he is now a Grand Champion. His daughter Regent Blue Dawn was awarded her third Ch. so she became a Champion at the same show.

The Australian press appear to be very cat conscious as one of the leading papers was sending a photographer to take photos of Mrs. Price's winners which if successful may appear later in *OUR CATS*. She adds: "Mrs. Vize will be a great asset here with her long experience and vast knowledge of cats. Although she will be in Sydney, Australians are very air-minded and think nothing of flying over 400 miles to Melbourne so we hope to see her again in the near future."

Elegance at Sydney

Mrs. Burnage kindly sends the souvenir programme of what appears to have been a Concours d'Elegance of Cats held at The Trocadero, Sydney, on April 21st, entitled "Felines and Fashions." A lovely photo of Mrs. Burnage's famous Chinchilla Ch. Rex of Chatsworth appears on the cover. Mrs. Burnage writes: "It was a very lovely turnout. The cats paraded with the mannequins as though they had been trained, flanking the foyer and leading up to the dais were twenty cages with several varieties of cats in pens with gaily coloured draperies. They looked very attractive. The other cats and kittens used in the parade were down with the models in a row of cages when not parading. The compere was Mr. Peter Bergin and it was organized on behalf of The Sub-Normal Children's Welfare Association."

One page of the programme is devoted to a history of Mrs. Burnage's much-loved Ch. Rex of Chatsworth born in November, 1947. An only kitten, Rex started life by being carried about by his mother wherever she wanted to go herself (not unusual with a very young mother with only one kitten) and occasionally being left behind bushes in the garden, etc. However, he survived and flourished and was destined to achieve for the first time for any cat in Australia the rare distinction of being Best Cat in Show for four years in succession at the R.A.S.C.C. Ch. Show and the coveted Medallion with each success. In 1950 and 1951 he won the supreme title Best Cat of the Year and altogether was Best Cat in Show twelve times. He was retired in 1951 but still appears frequently "Not for competition" and we are told is still the "cynosure of all eyes," an achievement not only for the cat but a tribute to the owner in my opinion. Every breeder and exhibitor will appreciate the care and time one must lavish on a cat to achieve such results.

American Blues

From U.S.A. June edition of *Cats Magazine*, Mrs. Arvid Ohlin's Wimauma Rosita of Allington is announced as 1955 All-Eastern Blue Female. Congratulations to her owner and to her breeder, our Miss E. Langston. In the same number outstanding wins are recorded for Mrs. Karen Hills Blue kittens bred by Mrs. Arvid Ohlin, Wimauma Timothy, All-Eastern Longhair male kitten, and Wimauma Pearl's Pride, Best Kitten in Show, Solid Colour Speciality, Genessee Cat Fanciers' Show, October, 1954, and Best Opposite Sex Kitten in Show, Kentucky Cat Club, November. These two were bred from pure English stock, the Sire Triple Grand Champion Moonbeam of Gaylands (bred by Mrs. Machin), the dam Gaylands Pearl of Pensford (bred by myself) is a daughter of the late Ch. Southway Crusader. Wimauma Rosita of Allington is also by him and Miss Langston's beautiful queen Ch. Mair of Allington.

Male Management

I had written excerpts from Mrs. Muriel Koenig's exceptionally helpful article "Urinary Blockage in the Male Cat" which appeared in the May edition of America's *Cats Magazine* when a letter arrived from the editor telling me he had reproduction rights for this country and that it would appear in this July issue. I should like to think it will be read by every owner of a male cat. The malady is so insidious and one hears of such lovely cats succumbing to it that the preventative measures suggested are invaluable.

I agree with her entirely when she stresses the importance of a balanced diet with adequate amounts of Vitamin A and Vitamin B complex and writes "Lack of exercise especially in the stud cat who is too often caged, at all times, is very possibly associated with some urinary conditions."

It is impossible to put too much stress on exercise for male cats and for this they

must have really large runs, preferably a large part of the ground to be concrete or other material which does not remain saturated after rain. Alternatively one could have slatted boards on battens to raise them at least four inches above the earth and in addition shelves about a foot wide well raised above the ground. All the cat tribe like resting on high shelves.

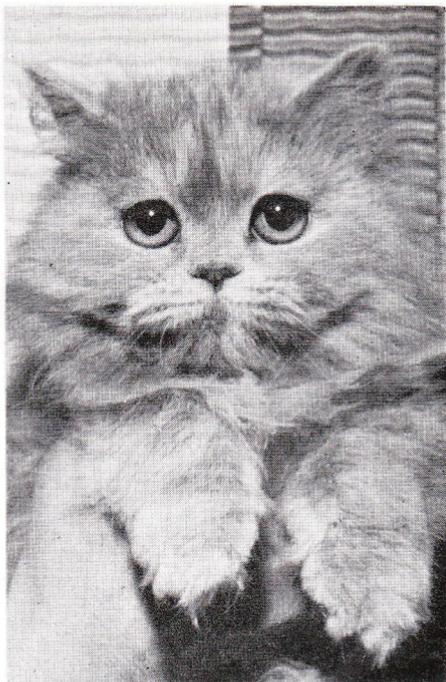
My own male is usually waiting to greet me when I go into his house but if I catch him unawares he is always on the wide shelf which runs the whole length of his house, on a chair, or lounging on one of the shelves in his run where he has the alternative of sun or shade. Cats have plenty of sense about weather and I seldom see my Blues or Creams lying in hot sunshine but they like sunny spots on cool days.

Stockholm Show

Mrs. Svenningsen kindly sends news of the Championship Show at Stockholm on May 18th and 19th. She writes: "It was most enjoyable and attracted about 120 exhibits. As you know May is not a good month for Longhairs and so many were short of coat. Mrs. Rohlf, Norway, judged Longhairs, and Mrs. Lis Landberg of Denmark Siamese and all other Shorthairs. From Norway we intended to take 10 exhibits but the only one which managed to get there was Mrs. Saether with her Chinchilla Laetitia of Allington, who was awarded a Challenge certificate. May 17th is the National Day in Norway and no ordinary business is carried on that day so the cats in their baskets on the railway station waited in vain. The Veterinarian Institute had closed and gone to celebrate the day. They forgot the cats."

"British bred cats or their descendants won well as usual. Best Longhair in Show was a lovely Red, Int. Ch. Cheri av Barbarossa by Ch. Baralan Challenger. Best Longhair Kitten was Cheri's daughter, Drevvikshofs Sabina. The English cats who were awarded Challenge

WIDDINGTON PETUNIA,
promising young Blue-
Cream bred by Miss Shep-
pard and owned by Mrs.
Maina Hjelde, of Stockholm



At the Stockholm International Show (reported on opposite page)—Mrs. Svenningsen, Norway, with the White female Djella de l'Etoile, Mrs. Stahlberg with Int. Ch. Cheri av Barbarossa, Red Tabby male who was Best Longhair in Show, Mrs. Saether with the Cream male Widdington Wintersohn, Mrs. Hjelde with the White female Ch. Violaine de Nice, and Mrs. Lis Langberg, Shorthair judge.

Certificates were the Chinchilla male Ch. Hazeldene Silver Rexi and the Chinchilla female Lactitia of Allington, the Cream male Widdington Winter-sohn, and the Black female Ch. Sarisbury Miriam. Some of the Longhairs were alone in their class. There was much more competition in Siamese and the Seal Point male Ch. Exotic Gigolo by Ch. Sabukia Sinbad and Quantocks Gossamer, bred by Mrs. Magnusson became an International Champion and was Best Cat in Show. The Best Short-hair kitten was Nigella Constantine, the Abyssinian. The Blue Pointed English imports, Banchor Blue Thor (by Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo) and Blanchor Blue Mai (by Ch. Wynperri Blue Prince) bred by Mrs. Macpherson completed their Championships."

"Now we have a rest from shows until about August 26th, when the next one may take place in Trondheim, Norway."

Devon Party

Miss Cathcart, Hon. Secretary of the South Western Counties Cat Club sends news of the successful Garden Party held last month at Church Style, Bovey Tracey, near Newton Abbot, the home of Mrs. Hargreaves, a member of the Committee, so well known for her Siamese and intelligent experimental breeding. Miss Cathcart writes: "In spite of a severe thunderstorm the previous night the weather was perfect. There was a bring-and-buy stall presided over by Mrs. Mitchell. Thanks to the generosity of members it was well filled and raised over £7 for Club funds. There were also competitions for guessing the age and weight of two cats. One of these was the oldest cat in Bovey Tracey, over 17 years. One of the guesses was exact, even to the odd months and days."

"During the afternoon Mr. Builder, M.R.C.V.S. (Honorary Veterinary Surgeon to the Club), gave a very interesting demonstration on how to handle cats for temperature taking, injections and

administration of medicine. Pearletta, a little Russian Blue cheerfully accepted the position of 'patient' and offered no resistance to anything. She 'obliged' by swallowing a calcium tablet to show how it was done! It all looked so easy, but alas, it is not so in practice unless the cat possesses Pearletta's placid disposition."

"After deducting all expenses, a nice profit was made for the Club and everyone seemed to enjoy a delightful afternoon. 1956 will be the Silver Jubilee year of the Club and we hope to have an extra special Ch. Show."

"I have little news of my Brown Tabbies as so far there are no kittens. Ch. Trelyston Girasol had five but all but one were stillborn and she overlaid the survivor the second night. The young queen sired by Trelyston Jasper out of a Blue queen, which has such very good type and wonderful eye colour is 14 months but so far I have failed to get her into kitten. I am hoping when she does have kittens they will have her type and eyes but correct markings. Ch. Trelystan Fire Opal has been neutered as I had neither accommodation nor queens for two Brown Tabby studs. He has gone to Miss Milburn in South Wales to join three other Trelystan Brownies one of which became Premier Neuter Trelystan Peridot and Best Neuter in Show last September at our Ch. Show."

Delayed Birth

From Mrs. P. Hughes, Hon. Treasurer of Croydon Cat Club, comes an interesting item. One of her British Blue Shorthairs, Broughton Carla had four strong kittens and one stillborn and settled down happily with them. A week later she refused her breakfast and Mrs. Hughes saw her straining over her tray. She called the vet. and he gave Carla Pituitrin and Penicillin and in 15 minutes she produced a dead kitten. She went

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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 1955-56 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.

	Promoted by	Venue
28 July ...	Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club ...	London
1 August ...	Urmston Council Show Society ...	Flixton, Nr. Manchester
23 September...	*Herts and Middlesex Cat Club ...	London
4 October ...	*Blue Persian Cat Society ...	London
7 October ...	*Siamese Cat Club ...	London
13 October ...	Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club ...	Edinburgh
19 October ...	*Southsea Cat Club ...	Southsea
22 October ...	*Midland Counties Cat Club ...	Birmingham
5 November ...	Scottish Cat Club ...	Glasgow
11 November ...	*Croydon Cat Club ...	London
26 November ...	*Yorkshire County Cat Club ...	Leeds
7 December ...	*National Cat Club ...	London
1956		
5 January ...	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat Club ...	Derby
31 January ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club ...	London
11 February ...	Surrey and Sussex Cat Association ...	Epsom
11 February ...	*Lancs. and North Western Counties Cat Club	Manchester
25 February ...	East Anglian Cat Club ...	Venue to be fixed

* Denotes show with Championship status.

back immediately to her quartette of kittens and everything has since been normal.

Move in Hampshire

Mrs. Cook-Radmore has removed from Cowplain, Hampshire, to "Albany," Highfield Avenue, Waterlooville, Hampshire, and writes: "Our removal has been ghastly. The removal men went on strike in the middle of it so I was up and down to both houses for six weeks and took loads in our car and could only find a man who could help erect the cat huts in his spare time. Fortunately he had a tractor to convey them."

"However, although very busy I have done some preliminary work for our Ch. Show on October 4th. We feel our Show on South Parade Pier is quite different. There is fine shopping for folks who feel so inclined, grand walks in the ozone along the promenade and an hotel which is quite lush opposite the pier without being so expensive as London."

Grass for Health

Grass is much better than any cooked vegetables which we can give to cats and when they have the opportunity the variety they select is variegated ribbon grass. To ascertain its correct name so that I could safely recommend it, I sent a specimen to Sutton & Sons Ltd. Advisory Service, Reading. This is their reply: "The specimen sent is Phalaris arundinaceae variegata, known as ribbon grass or gardeners' garters. We can supply plants in the autumn price two shillings plus carriage and packing."

Once planted it grows apace, but as it dies down completely in autumn until spring the seed of the variety supplied in packets by the Cats' Protection League makes an excellent substitute for winter. This is cocksfoot grass, *dactylis glomerata*, obtainable from 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks. It is advisable to sow now to get it well established by the autumn.

Brand's Essence is palatable nourishment that even the sick cat can rapidly digest



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P.D.S.A. REPORT

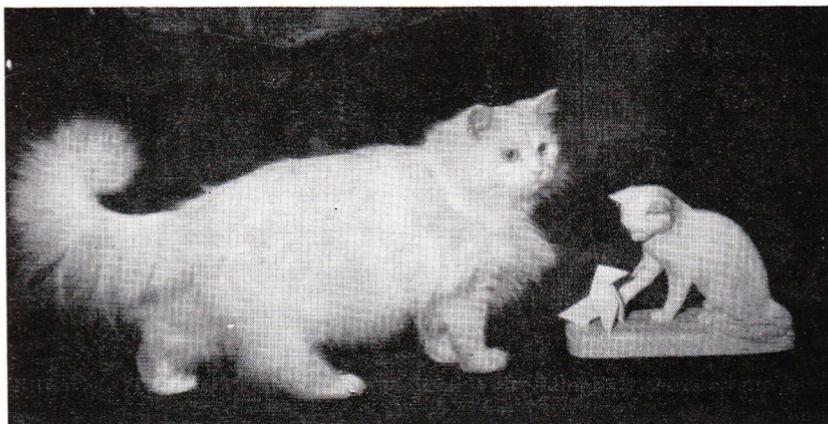
The thirty-seventh annual report of The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (popularly known as the P.D.S.A.) reveals some interesting facts and figures and it also carries an 8-page section of pictures that will have a great appeal to pet owners.

Since its foundation by the late Mrs. M. E. Dickin, O.B.E., in 1917, the P.D.S.A. has made great progress at home and overseas. In Great Britain it has 80 permanent dispensaries and 20 travelling dispensaries operating regularly in more than 200 small towns and villages. For serious medical and surgical cases there are five animal regional hospitals and 18 ambulances are in daily service for accidents and other emergencies. Nearly a million cases are treated annually in this country alone without cost to the pet owners and all

this fine work is done entirely on voluntary contributions.

In this latest report, the Chairman (Mr. E. Bridges Webb) refers to the trend which has been noticeable since the war amongst both children and adults towards a greater interest in animal life. This, he says, has not been confined to the study of wild life, but applies equally to any animal suitable for keeping in the home. Never before had the P.D.S.A. received so many requests for information concerning the health, habits and feeding requirements of every kind and variety of pet.

Incidentally, the Busy Bee Movement, the junior organization of the P.D.S.A., which is under the leadership of Miss Enid Blyton, is now well on the way to a membership of 200,000. This Movement endeavours to implant in children the seeds of kindness and justice towards animals; to train them to notice when they are ill and to underline the urgency of seeking skilled attention.



Ernest G. Wertheimer.

BREYS LOTUS COTTON CANDY, lovely White Longhair female with blue eyes, was bred by Mrs. Peggy Cattermole, of Brixton, S.W. London, and now belongs to Mrs. I Pratt, of Johannesburg. At the May show of the Siamese Cat Society of South Africa, Candy won her second Championship and was voted "Most Popular Cat" by the public.

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(Continued on next page)

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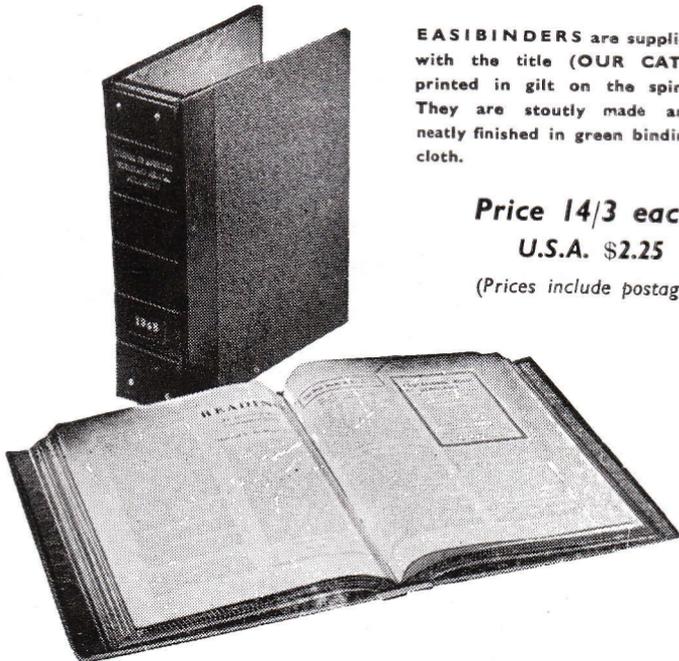
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