

# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



WATCHING THE BIRDIE

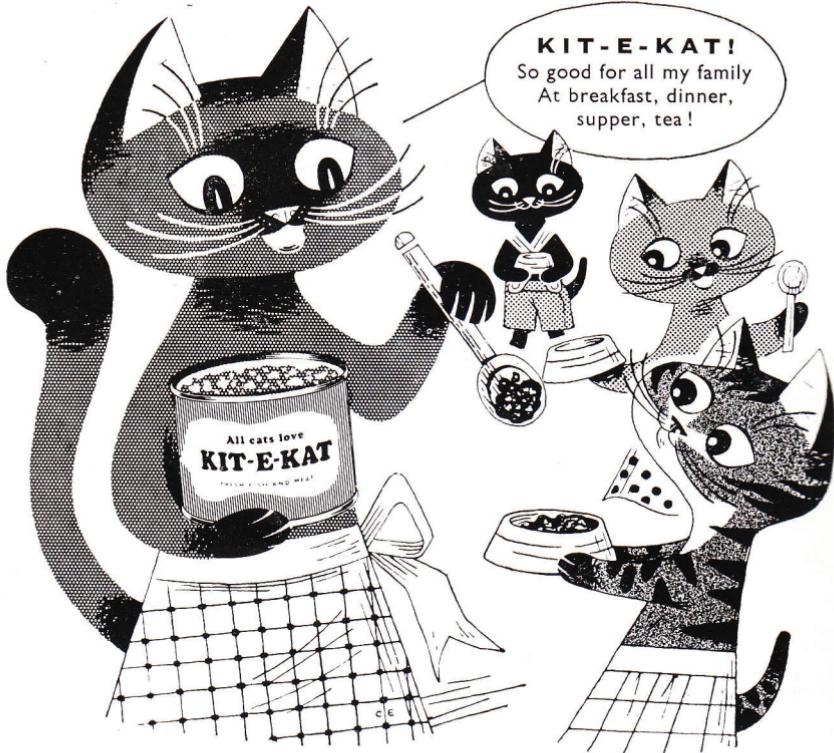
A basketful of Siamese and Burmese kittens pose for the photographer at the Bearsden, Dumbartonshire, home of Mrs. Wilma Hipwell.

By courtesy Glasgow "Evening Citizen."

MAY 1957

1/6

**All cats love**  
**KIT-E-KAT**  
AND ALL YOU DO IS OPEN IT!



For *every* meal of *every* day  
Here's goodness in the quickest way!  
It's full of fish, it's full of meat;  
*All* cats love Kit-E-Kat to eat!

# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

VOL. 9 No. 5

MAY 1957

Managing Editor :

ARTHUR E. COWLISHAW

4 CARLTON MANSIONS

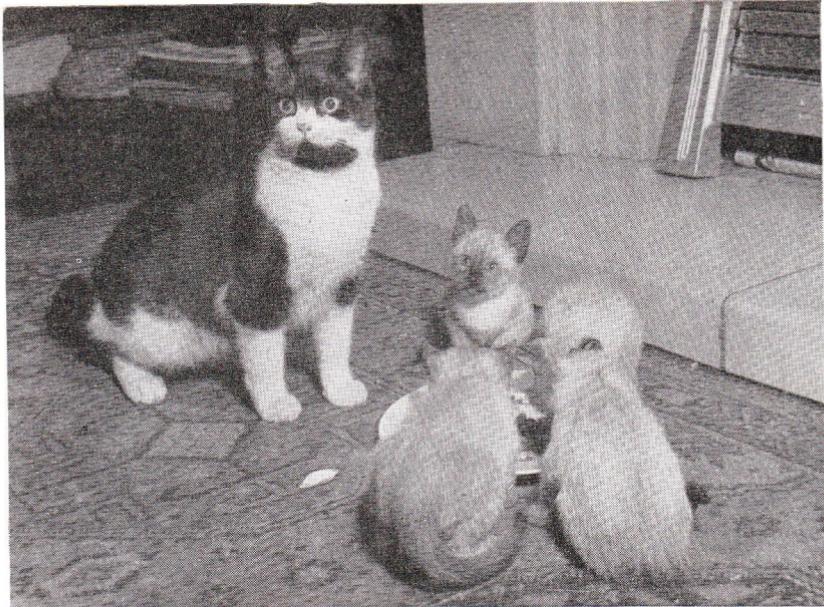
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PETERSHAM, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA

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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

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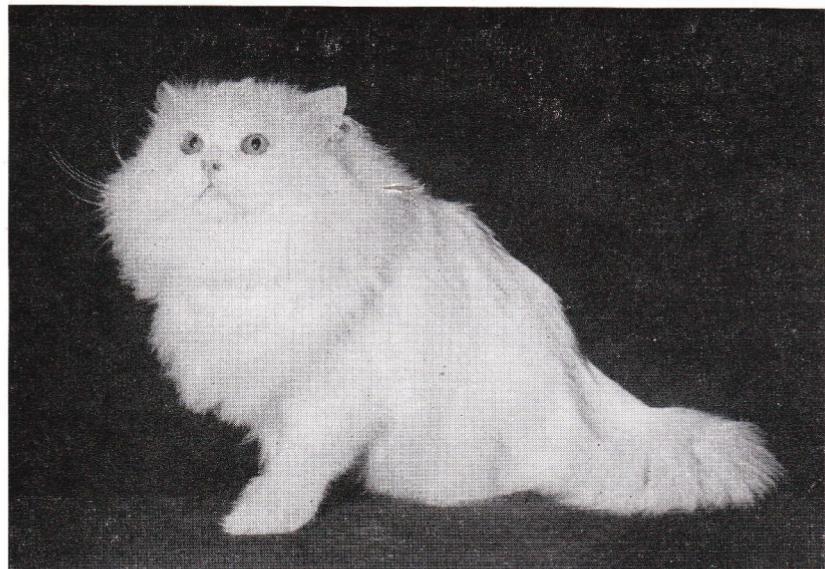


Pat Smith

Edwina, the handsome black and white neuter stray, is a self-appointed nurse-maid to the Siamese kits at the S.W. London home of Mrs. Vicki Mason. She takes complete charge after the kittens have had their meals, pushing Mama Opus, the kittens' mother, right "out of the picture." The kittens are by Gracedieu Lu-An.



**Safe arrival!** Our picture from New Zealand shows Mrs. Sedcole, her son Hadyn Pollock (a young club secretary) and Miss Ruby Lovejoy with three of their recent purchases from English breeders.



*Serafino*

**CHAMPION CYRUS DE FONCMOROND**, handsome White male owned by Mme. Emmy Fiala, of Paris.

## ***News of Exports***

From ELLA B. MARTIN

**C**ONTINUING from last month with my account of export activities over the past year, it was twelve months ago that I had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Hilton, of Cali Colombia, South America. While in England they had selected a pair of Seal Point Siamese and wished me to take care of their despatch the following month. The female was Watermill Yorcades (bred by Miss Ann Codrington) and the female Issonian Lucette (bred by Miss Dainty). I heard recently from Mrs. Hilton that Lucette is expected to have her first litter, which is anticipated with great pleasure.

Now on to South Africa. Dr. P. F. Greyling, of Kalk Bay, ordered a S.P. Siamese male and I sent out Inwood Nicky (breeder Mrs. McGregor). Quite recently I completed the travelling arrangements for a little queen in kitten to follow in the wake of Nicky. She is Killdown Miranda—mated to Ch. Causeway Pita. Miranda, who looked very lovely when I left her at the airport, won 1st as a kitten at the Siamese C.C. Show and like her well known brother of the same breeding—Killdown Lewis—was bred by Mrs. Hewitt and owned by Mrs. Keene.

Southern Rhodesia is next on my list. Mrs. Visser, of Hatfield, ordered a baby Stonor Manx from Miss Sladen and then asked me to locate an Abyssinian of the same age as a travelling companion. Chatwyn Ahura, sister to the Canadian import Taha, was chosen and the two kits went off together and arrived safely. Mrs. Visser wrote at Christmas that both have suffered a lot from a form of diarrhoea which she is unable to cure. I wish

someone would help her as I have made all the suggestions I can and these have been tried without success.

For Kenya, Mrs. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells, commissioned me to attend to the export of her lovely Longhair Blues for Mrs. Donnelly, of Karen. They travelled perfectly and arrived in top condition. These were Ashdown Lodestar and Wild Thyme. Mrs. Donnelly had been on a vist to England and had selected these two for herself when they were tiny. They were beautiful big kits when they left and I hear they have settled down well and are flourishing.

United States. Some of the orders for Siamese which I have had in hand for quite a while have had to stand over, for kits which I was prepared to purchase had already changed hands at a very early age and were not for resale. I have now managed to get options on several from the Spring litters and these will be sent off later.

One very good male kit I did however manage to send to Mrs. Tyler, of Houston, Texas. This was Causeway Lucienne, whose breeding is the same as that of Ch. Causeway Pita (breeder Mrs. Ford). Lucienne was 1st in the Open Kitten Class at the Herts & Middlesex Show—a huge class of 28. Mrs. Tyler took him to St. Petersburg, Florida, and there he won Best Cat Spec. Show, Best Foreign Shorthair All Breed, and other awards. He has been much photographed and graced the front cover of a local magazine in colour—a really lovely reproduction. Mrs. Tyler has ordered a wife for Lucienne and I hope to send this kitten to her before long.

Dr. and Mrs. Williams, of Louisville, Kentucky, wanted a top grade Longhair



Bienard Photographic Service

**The babies, Abyssinian and Manx, who flew to a new home  
in Southern Rhodesia (see account on previous page)**

Blue-Cream kit. This was ordered long before she was born and eventually out went Lady Bess of Pensford, as sweet as she was good. The Williams were thrilled with her and astonished at her wonderful physique. Since her arrival Lady Bess has fulfilled expectations by winning Best L.H. Spec. and All Breed in her section at Memphis, even beating Quad. Ch. Aurora of Pensford. Breeder is Mrs. Joan Thompson. Mrs. Williams ordered another kit soon after she received Lady Bess and this time I sent Widdington Sunstar, litter brother to Mrs. Ferrabee's Starlet. These kits are line bred and have a good deal of Widdington Warden in them. The whole litter was remarkable and of exceptional quality. The dam was 12½ years old when they were born and

their sire Widdington Star had just become a full Champion here. He took four 1sts and was Best Longhair at the last show of the 1956/7 season. He won his C.C.'s at three consecutive shows and proved himself the best Cream in England. It is a fine thing for the Fancy that Miss Sheppard is carrying on with Cream breeding as her mother did before her.

Mr. Richard Warner asked me to ship his Spotlight Hairstreak to Mrs. Watling, of Santa Barbara, California. This kit had won 1st in his Open Class at the National Show. Mrs. Watling was delighted with her purchase and particularly pleased at the way Hairstreak "fitted into the family."

In Colorado, Mrs. Samy Hirsig decided

to add to her English-bred stock. I had selected Ch. Camber Betsybob for her some time ago and later I sent Chadhurst Sunshine, a Cream L.H. bred by Miss Rodda. Because of the wonderful show successes she had with Betsy, Mrs. Hirsig decided to have another Camber female and also a male for her friend, both sired by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. I had a slight headache over this transaction as a cable arrived at the eleventh hour which said : "Don't send kits unless as good as Betsy." That was really asking for something for Betsy was a truly outstanding

kitten. However, after a visit to Mrs. Denton the breeder and some discussion with her, both kits went off just before Christmas. Their names are Camber Sally and Camber Gaylord and they will I feel sure make names for themselves in due course.

From Colorado to Buffalo, New York. Mrs. M. Martin wished me to select a Blue Longhair female and I was lucky to get Prestwood Mignonette for her. This kitten was a winner at the K.K. Show last July and her coat colour was outstanding—so pale and sound—and a credit to her breeder Mrs. E. Parker. Soon after arrival in Buffalo, Mignonette went Best Kit at the Canadian National Show and also at Rochester. Mrs. Martin was so happy with her purchase that she asked me to find a male as soon as possible. So after a while I sent Mrs. Brunton's Royal Blue of Dunesk, who was promptly named "Boxer" on account of his lovely square body shape. He has twice been Best Opposite Sex since arriving in Buffalo and it shouldn't be very long before Mrs. Martin has some fine kittens to be proud of.

### **Help acknowledged**

The "selections for export" which I have reported in this and last month's instalment involved a great deal of careful planning and investigation. I received valuable help from our judges who gave so generously of their precious time to pass judgment on kittens selected out of the show season. My best thanks go out to all those concerned and to the breeders with whom I have had such cordial relations. They made the task a lot easier for me with their helpful co-operation.

Good luck to all my little exports and their new owners !



**Mrs. Samy Hirsig with her Champion Camber Betsybob.**



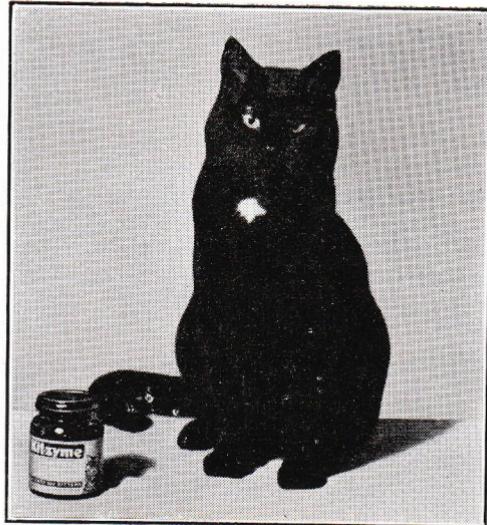
MRS. G. BROWN of 26  
Shaftesbury Road, Reading,  
Berkshire, writes :—

“ One of my cats, Topper, has been seriously ill with distemper and there did not seem to be any hope for him whatsoever.

After three weeks without solid food and only glucose water Topper became very emaciated. But on the fourth week he began to lap a little fluid on his own and after small portions of food were offered and taken, I introduced Kit-zyme tablets which he eagerly ate.

It is now six weeks since the first onset of the illness and Topper is back to normal food, but I do feel that Kit-zyme has helped him to regain his appetite. I have been giving six Tablets a day and will continue doing so.

I have two other cats, Bimbo and Jingles, and they both like Kit-zyme.”



**TOPPER**

**KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .**

**It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative**

# Kit-zyme

**VITAMIN - RICH YEAST**

Promotes resistance to: **LISTLESSNESS, FALLING COAT, LOSS OF APPETITE, SKIN TROUBLES**  
**50 (7½ gr.) Tablets 1/6, 250 for 4/-, 750 for 8/-**  
**From Chemists, Corn Chandlers and Pet Shops**

Literature Free on Request



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



Ref. No. 148

All cat owners are advised to keep a jar of Zemol in the store cupboard. Zemol, an actively antiseptic veterinary ointment (by the makers of Kit-zyme) is a safe and very effective way of treating minor wounds, cuts, burns, etc. Literature FREE on request.

# Veterinary Questions Answered

By M.R.C.V.S.

## A difficult feeder

**A Surrey reader asks :** Please help me over my feeding difficulties with my little cat. She is now two, was spayed at four-and-a-half months and she was one of about sixty kittens. I had her at six weeks since when she has steadfastly and consistently refused to eat anything cooked. Even at that small age she would not eat cereals or bread and milk, so a veterinarian advised me to give her raw scraped beef. From then on she has only eaten raw beef or rabbit with lightly cooked liver and she won't eat either without the liver. When she is eating normally (which she very often does not do) she has from 3 to 4 ozs. of the raw meat and about 2 ozs. of the liver. She is terribly thin and nervous and I am wondering if she has too much liver. Perhaps I should add that I give two meals a day. . . . I have taken her to four different vets. One told me to starve her until she would eat what was given. The other three said the raw meat diet was quite a good one and there is nothing radically wrong with her. But the fact remains she looks awful and is obviously not thriving. She takes Kitzymes but has no other vitamins. . . . I am forced to admit that spaying is better than millions of kittens, but I think all this neutering and keeping in at night is very frustrating and unnatural. I feel that people like myself ought to deal with the kitten problem properly.

**M.R.C.V.S. replies :** Cats are great creatures of habit and will eat only what they know and have been used to. For instance, if fed on herring they will often eat no other fish. To get your cat to change from raw to cooked meat will be done only through a long transitional period in which you must add to the meal only very small quantities of cooked meat at first and then gradually increasing the amount. Fat should be added. To fatten, you can probably give an eggspoonful of cod liver oil daily, soon increasing to a teaspoonful. When she

has become accustomed to the taste, a sardine daily can be offered. I cannot see that vitamins are likely to be of any value. There is no harm in feeding raw meat, but meat never fattens. Some fat should be added. The spaying operation has no relation to this food problem and was the right procedure. If the appetite is good I think 6 ozs. of meat is insufficient. Healthy cats can eat enormous amounts. There is not much frustration in keeping neutered cats in at night. The urge to stay out has been removed and cats usually fatten afterwards. Moultling is a normal phenomenon. Use the comb regularly.

## Feminine allure !

**A Lancashire reader asks :** We have a female spayed cat now about six years old and when we had her spayed as a kitten (because being out all day we could not keep dealing with families of kittens) the vet told us that we should not be bothered by male cats because ours would have no attraction for them. Since then much building has taken place round about and there are more cats than there used to be. This spring we have two male cats which are haunting our garden and house with their piercing love-lorn cries ! Our cat is not at all interested, in fact yesterday there was quite a fight. Is it usual for males to come after spayed females and can anything be done, apart from shoing them off ? If she has not other attractions we can only think it is her personality which attracts them. Of course, we think she is beautiful !

**M.R.C.V.S. replies :** First, I am assuming your cat was operated upon by a qualified and experienced person. If not, there is the possibility that one ovary, or a part of one, may not have been removed. In fact, is there any sign

of oestrus? Does your cat "call" and show anxiety for male company? On the other hand, it is not really uncommon for females or even males to be sought after by strange cats, whether neutered or not. If you could ascertain the ownership of the two cats which annoy you, you could ask the owners to have their cats neutered, which would be a good thing for all concerned, as this love-making business usually results in bites, scratches, abscesses and general poor appearance. Accustom your cat to being fed her main meal at night, then she will stay in to get it.

### Third eyelid

**A Pembrokeshire reader asks :**  
*I purchased a S.P. Siamese female when she was 12 weeks old. At the time of purchase her eyes seemed perfectly normal but after a few weeks we noticed that she persistently showed her third eyelid so that it nearly covered her eye and looked most ugly. We suspected worms and she was treated for these by our local vet, but it made no difference. The breeder of the kitten suggested it might be temperament—"nerves" was the term used. Incidentally she is a very nervous cat and very easily frightened. She is now 11 months old and has a male S.P. kitten of 9 months for company and together they have the freedom of the house and garden. I should be very grateful if you could tell me the probable cause of this eye trouble and the possible cure.*

**M.R.C.V.S. replies :** More than likely the protrusion of the third eyelid is not due to any ocular lesion, since both eyes are affected and have been for six months. At the same time it can be caused by local irritation of the eyes as by fine foreign bodies, chronic conjunctivitis, ocular pain, keratitis and ophthalmia and it is necessary to eliminate each and every one in the diagnosis. More generally the causes are constitutional, such as anaemia, debility with emaciation, fevers; and the symptom is one of general ill health from whatever cause

arising. The third eyelid has a thickened base which is in contact with a pad of fat at the back of the eyeball. Retraction of the latter puts pressure on this fat and causes the third eyelid to be thrust forward. I know of no cure for this condition except to ascertain and eliminate the cause of it. Your local veterinarian might instil a 2% sol. of cocaine in both eyes to ascertain whether any ocular pain or irritation exists.

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**Readers who would like "M.R.C.V.S." to deal with their veterinary problems should write to him c/o OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope when a direct reply is preferred.**

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### WESSEX CAT CLUB

**EXEMPTION CAT SHOW**  
at the Verwood Prize Band Fete in the Recreation Ground, Verwood, on Saturday, 29th June, 1957.

Classes and Challenge Cups for Pedigree, Non-Pedigree and Children's Cats.

JUDGES

Mrs. K. R. WILLIAMS  
and  
Mrs. M. BRUNTON

Open to the Public 2.30 p.m.

SCHEDULES FROM  
Mrs. M. A. WILSON,  
Hon. Secretary Wessex Cat Club,  
"Amberley,"  
Verwood,  
Dorset.

*Reduced entry fees for entries received before 1st June.*

## **Notes for Novices**

By "ENTHUSIAST"

**L**E T us assume now that the long expected day has come and you are off to the show. As you will have completed all the preliminary details described in last month's instalment all you have to do is to basket your pet and set off.

The veterinary surgeons generally start their job at 8.30 a.m., but you will find the exact time at which they are due to begin in the schedule of the show. It is important to arrive early: one thus avoids the tedious long wait in a queue and above all you will have plenty of time to prepare your exhibit for judging. You will remember your first duty is to get your pet vetted-in; so take him in his basket straight to the vetting-in queue.

When you get to the veterinary surgeon, take your exhibit out of his basket and place him on the table. The surgeon will look him over thoroughly, the ears, throat, coat and skin will all be examined and possibly the exhibit's temperature will also be taken. If all is well your pet will be handed back to you and you can basket him again.

The veterinary surgeon will then ask you for your vetting-in slip which, you will remember, you have put in your handbag or wallet. This slip will be retained by the veterinary surgeon or his assistant.

### **Penning**

Having completed your vetting-in duties (and this *must* be the first thing you do when you arrive at the show hall) find your pen. The number of the pen must correspond to the tally number of your exhibit.

Now get out your rag and bottle of disinfectant (not one with any carbolic in it) and thoroughly wipe over the whole

pen—floor, sides, and all the wire—with the rag soaked in the disinfectant.

Next put your pet in his pen and go off to the sack of peat (generally located in the centre of the show hall), fill the sanitary tray and place it in the pen. You can now offer your pet a little warm milk and, if you wish, a little food. When your pet has finished his drink and meal remove his plate and bowl and if he has used his tray take it out and empty it in the container provided for that purpose.

**This is the second instalment of an A to Z guide presented in simple terms by one who is well qualified and experienced to give advice and encouragement to novices and beginners.**

Clean the tray and refill it. If any peat has been thrown about sweep out the pen. Now get out his white blanket and arrange it so that the whole of the floor of the pen is covered. The next thing to do is to give him a final combing and brushing on your lap or on a table which can generally be found at the side of the hall.

By this time there will probably be only a short time left before judging is due to commence, so tie on his tally—not too tightly but again not so loosely that he can get a paw through the loop—replace him in his pen with his sanitary tray, close the door carefully, say *au revoir* and leave him to it.

### **Judging**

Judging usually begins at 10 a.m. when everyone except judges and stewards

must now leave the floor of the hall. If you wish to return to see the judging, you can, by paying the entrance fee, re-enter the hall. You must not, however, again go near *any* pen until the public is admitted (usually at 1 p.m.). Now purchase a catalogue (which are not on sale until judging commences) and check that your exhibit is correctly entered in all his classes. If you find any discrepancy, see the show manager about it at once.

When the hall is opened to the public you are then free to go to your exhibit. Now give him his lunch, generally tidy up his pen and change his sanitary tray if necessary. Next clip on the cellophane to the front of the pen. For the rest of the day you can remain with your pet, but if you see a judge coming along to have a look at him, be careful to step right away so that you do not hinder the judge or allow him or her to realize that you are the owner.

All the time that judging is going on, award-slips are being posted on a board in the hall in numerical order of classes and you can by looking under the number of the class see how your exhibit and others have fared.

### Award cards

As soon as the public are admitted, show officials begin to distribute the award cards and place them on their appropriate pens. This takes some time, so that if your pet is entitled to one or more do not be impatient if there is some delay before they arrive at your pen.

By 5 p.m. or thereabouts all award cards should be up on their respective pens. If one of yours is missing, go to the table where they are being written and ask about it. Any deficiency will be at once made up for you and you can take the card away and put it on the pen yourself.

Note that no prize money is paid out on the show day.

### Best in Show

If your pet has been placed 1st in his Open Class, it is possible that he may be

nominated to be brought out for Best in Show judging. To find out about this you should wait until about 3 o'clock and not before and then ask the show manager. If he is to be brought out to be presented to the panel of Best in Show judges it is advisable to give him a final grooming beforehand.

### Going home

The show closes as a rule at 6 p.m. and until that time your pet should remain in his pen. However, if you live some distance away or have a train to catch, and wish to leave earlier, you must apply to the show manager for a special "pass out" for which in some cases you may have to pay a small fee. The reason for this is that the public pay to see the exhibits and it is obviously unfair to visitors, especially if they come in somewhat late, to find the show hall half empty.

When you start to pack up to go, first get all the odds and ends (blankets, plates, sanitary tray, award cards) put away in your suit case or other receptacle. When these are safely stowed away remove the tally from your pet and put him in his travelling basket. You can then by showing your pass leave the hall and go home.

The journey home should be conducted on the same lines as the one to the show. Make much of your pet and talk to him a lot. He has had a trying day with a good deal of nervous tension. He has also had a longish time away from his familiar surroundings and been handled, even though very gently and carefully, by a number of strangers, so he will want all the comfort you can give him.

### At home again

On arrival home, get out your bottle of T.C.P. and pour a liberal amount into a basin. Stand your cat in it so that all his feet get well wetted. Then with a piece of cotton wool soaked in neat T.C.P. thoroughly wipe him all over. Having done this let him go and he will

proceed to clean himself, thereby getting T.C.P. in his mouth and throat. When he is beginning to tire of this clean up, he can be offered food and drink and be left to settle down for the night.

### The next day

On the day after the show I always give my full grown cats a veterinary M & B tablet, followed 24 hours later by a mild aperient. But do consult your veterinary surgeon about this and he will give you the best advice as to what to do and what is more important, how much to give.

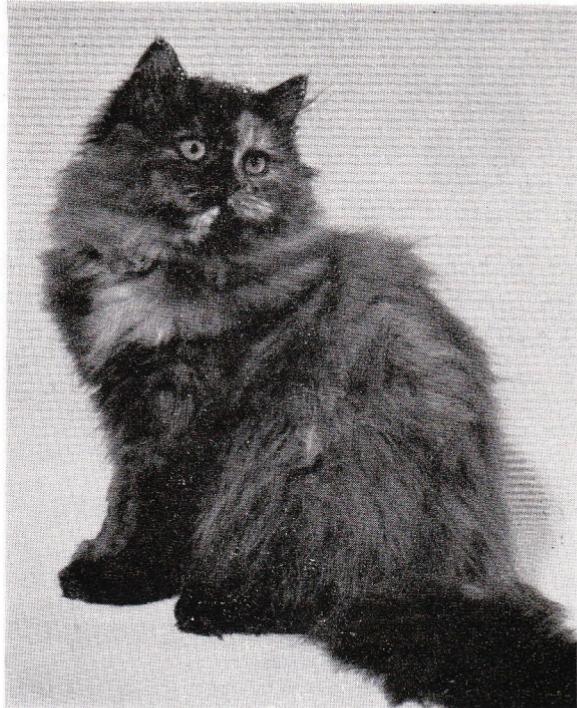
It is also essential on the following day to wash and disinfect everything you took to the show. The white blanket and the

basket linings (this is where the use of old bath towels for the inner lining is so convenient) should be washed and then rinsed in water to which about a tablespoonful of Dettol has been added. Remove the brown paper and string from the basket and burn them. Then take the basket and sanitary tray outside and swill them over with some hot water in which a liberal amount of Dettol has been mixed : leave to dry. The cellophane from the front of the pen should be deposited in the refuse basket in the show hall before leaving. All these precautions are most important because you cannot be too careful that, by some mischance, you may have brought back some infection with you.

(*to be continued.*)

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MILFORD MARDI  
GRAS OF FLAG-  
STONE, a nice Tortie  
female by Kerry-Lu  
Denalin belonging to  
Mrs. Alberta Paris,  
of California, U.S.A.





## NINE LIVELY LIVES!

"Talk about a Tibsical tray-load!" said Tibby, the Tibs reporter, "these nine make their father, *Pikha Shah Jehan*, purr with pride!"

Mrs. Vincent has moved her famous cattery from Woking to 'Noumena' in Broadwas-on-Teme in Worcestershire. And Pikha Shah Jehan, that great gentleman from Siam, has gone with her. The litter above owed much, too, to their mother, Queen Mumtaz. And today they all owe a great deal to Tibs. Mrs. Vincent says Tibs is a 'must' . . . one tablet a day for every cat after weaning age. Good bones, good teeth, good condition, shining coat . . . and sheer Tibsical energy from morning to night!

Famous  
breeders  
say:

**TIBS** 11d and 2/3  
KEEP CATS TIBSICAL





# Tailpieces

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



"DOGS look up to you ; cats look down on you ; pigs is equal"—so runs a North Country saying.

The *Montreal Star* recently ran a feature devoted to Tommy, a black and white shorthair who tops the scales at twenty pounds and lives at Mr. Wharram's meat market at Lennoxville. Raw hamburger steak and liver are his favourite dishes and although he doesn't eat a great amount at a single meal he takes a snack of something every hour or so. He is a fine mouser and ratter and Mr. Wharram has refused several offers to buy Tommy. "When people ask me what I feed him on," he said, "I tell them it's our good meat. But I'm thinking of stopping this since a customer pursed her lip and said 'If that's the case, we ladies who are dieting certainly won't be interested in buying any more meat here'."

Tennessee Williams, so aptly described as "the provocative playwright," was likened by Peter Brook in *The Sunday Times* to "a cat in repose, a cat remote and mysterious, its emotions hidden." Brook recently directed "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" in Paris. He adds that a cat has become Williams's world symbol.

There was a meeting the other day of nearly 250 devotees of the Third Programme who assembled to protest at the B.B.C. plans to merge their favourite with the Home Service programme. One of them was a schoolteacher who had

appealed through advertising to anyone wishing to assist in preserving the Third Programme to get in touch with him. The result was reported to the meeting. "I have received 3,200 letters," said the school teacher. "The cat has been almost smothered through sitting on the mat under the letter box."

An advertisement in a well-known London newspaper runs : " £2,950 Freehold. A scruffy old Regency House on Campden Hill. We only made a hurried inspection as the local felines appear to have made it a Cats' Caravanserai, but it seems to have about six miserable rooms and a bathroom and kit. ; the less said about which, the better. The cream (or scum) of society are elbowing out the proles, and smartened up, neighbouring houses fetch £6,750 or even more. To view ; push open the door gently, to avoid frightening the cats."

A tabby cat circled London several times on an Inner Circle tube train before porters at Aldgate station woke her up, carried her from the seat for which she had not paid, and took her off to a P.D.S.A. clinic.

A spokesman for the newly formed Small Animals Veterinary Association agreed at a recent meeting of London veterinarians that a lot of the skin diseases seen in City practice to-day are caused by the cat scratching itself and damaging the skin with its claws. It appeared that City born cats can suffer

from neurosis just like their owners although we still seem to be a long way off the day when they have to visit their own psychiatrists. Human companionship and exercise are the remedies.

During a recent TV programme dealing with life inside Strangeways Prison, Manchester, the Governor revealed that one of his biggest problems was cats—how to keep down their numbers. Apparently the trouble springs from the desire of the prisoners for companionship—whenever they get an opportunity they adopt cats and resort to all kinds of ruses to keep them from official eyes. One, said the Governor, was found hidden in the dough mixer and another in the kitchen oven (with the fire out, of course).

The dramatic critics of New York have given a warm welcome to the dynamic Eartha Kitt, who takes the part of Mehitabel the Cat in a stage version of the stories by the late Don Marquis about this character and Arcy the Cockroach. The show has opened on Broadway as a musical under the title "Shinbone Alley."

During the Easter period a number of families whose homes overlook the District Line at Stepney, East London, were given a thrill. They stood at their windowswatching 24-year-old R.S.P.C.A. Inspector Derek Linker as he was lowered 70 ft. on a rope to rescue a cat stranded on a ledge. As he hung suspended above the electric railway line his weight was taken at the other end of the rope by five firemen on the roof of a warehouse. The cat's owner, Mr. Arjod Mia, a Pakistani, said he was most grateful to the courageous Inspector as the errant Ginger was his only companion.

I am indebted to a South African reader for the following amusing snippet: A Scot living in London called at a pet shop one morning and asked that a

quantity of cat's meat be put aside for him every day. Some time later he rushed in to cancel that day's supply. "What's the matter?" enquired the assistant. "Is your cat lost?" "No, no," puffed the man, "he's caught a mouse."

A woman at Dallas, Texas, U.S.A., stayed up one night to find out how her cat continually got back indoors after she had locked it out. Report has it that she unravelled the mystery—the cat came sliding down the chimney!

*That newsy little item about cats you have read in your local newspaper or in the magazine you have just put down . . . will you be kind enough to clip it out and post it to me in an unsealed envelope? Cuttings from overseas publications are particularly welcome. I send best thanks to all who have helped in this connection.*

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## **Coats and Tails**

By IVOR RALEIGH

VITAMIN D is formed when ultra violet radiation is allowed to act on certain complex substances. By this process, some of the constituents which are present in your cat's coat become converted into this vital, antirachitic vitamin when exposed to direct sunlight and the vitamin is assimilated when exposed to direct sunlight and the vitamin is assimilated when the cat washes herself.

Vitamin D, absorbed in this manner, has a most marked effect on bone formation, and the bow-legged children once so common in the formerly poverty-stricken Gorbals district of Glasgow are no longer seen about the streets owing to the greatly increased nutrition level brought about by full employment and through the great benefits bestowed by the National Health Service.

Good food and sunlight thus enter into partnership in maintaining your cat's health and during dull and sunless summers, cod or halibut liver oil, a rich source of vitamins A and D, should be added, in very small quantity, to your pet's daily diet.

\* \* \*

Another well known effect of sunlight is to cause chemical changes in certain skin substances so as to produce the phenomenon of "sunburn." A derivative of melanin, the chief of these substances, is present in the hair of most cats and while strong sunlight can sometimes have a bleaching effect, the result of moderate irradiation is the darkening of the cat's coat. This effect is absent in white coated cats but most marked in diluted blacks best typified by the Blue Persian. For this reason, we often see a light-coated Blue Persian develop a dark back as the show season progresses.

At this time of the year, most Longhairs begin to moult and this natural shedding of old coat is usually assisted by brushing, plucking and combing. So, when grooming a Blue Persian, it is a good idea to leave the old coat on the cat's back and concentrate mainly on removing it from the sides and belly. The back may be left to take care of itself, other than for light combing, until just before the cat is to be shown. By this means the coat colour can be kept uniform for a longer period.

\* \* \*

Mr. Jude's articles in this magazine have long been a source both of pleasure and of instruction to many hundreds of readers. His article in the April issue is of particular fascination, since the question of kinked tails, surrounded as it is by folk lore and myth, has long been the focus of conjecture among biologists, geneticists and cat lovers alike.

In inanimate nature profound changes take place in jumps and quanta rather than in the even, gradual flow which characterizes changes in animal organisms. Occasionally, however, a quantum type change does occur in animals and it is probable that the tailless Manx originated in this way. One day a cat was born without a tail; then another, and living on an island, these cats interbred and produced a race of tailless cats.

The cat's tail probably served the function of a propellant in the days of the species' watery antiquity. When the cat's ancestor moved on to dry land the tail altered its character and became an organ capable of holding. Later, as the legs became longer and more developed, and claws evolved from fins, the less efficient tail lost its adapted function and became largely redundant, like a sort of

external appendix. Thus the malformation of the cat's tail may simply be a prelude to its eventual disappearance.

\* \* \*

Joan Thompson, that popular and versatile personality, will forgive me if I draw attention to a journalistic error in her last month's article. In reporting the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club's A.G.M. she mentions a proposal to reduce the entrance fee for classes by 2s. She correctly reports that this reduction is only to apply to members but fails to mention that it was intended to apply only for one year and that its purpose was to give members the benefit of a large profit made on last year's Show.

\* \* \*

Reporting out of context or not quite accurately, can be very misleading.

The classical example of the effect of such reporting is given in Onegin's *Life of Catherine the Great*, where the displacement of a minor item completely altered the meaning of an intended execution order and saved the life of an officer. After an abortive uprising a young lieutenant named Prokofiev was sent to Siberia with hundreds of other prisoners. It appeared that he had been innocently involved in the matter and many prominent personages sought vainly to obtain his release. Eventually the Empress dictated a terse execution edict which read "Prokofiev—pardon impossible, execute." The secretary, a gentle soul, saved the young officer's life by simply altering the position of a comma. The edict now read "Prokofiev—pardon, impossible execute."



Mortimer

JUST as our April issue was on the machines we learned of the passing of Adèle Rudd, whose name will always be remembered and associated with her famous stray Mortimer. Her death took place in a Devon nursing home after an operation. Only a few days previously Miss Rudd had written to tell me of her plans for the future and indeed I had promised to co-operate with her in the autumn with the promotion of her Mortimer Fund for Cat Welfare. Over the years she was responsible for the raising of something like £5,000 for cat welfare at home and overseas. Her life was dedicated to this purpose and it is to be hoped that ways and means will be found to carry on the work she had so much at heart. Miss Rudd's death is a blow to the cause of

## The late Adele Rudd

### Tribute to a great worker for cats

animal welfare and I am sure a great shock to many of her countless cat loving friends all over the world.—[EDITOR].

From Mrs. MARJORIE W. COOTE comes the following tribute : " Many people, I feel sure, must have known Adèle Rudd more intimately and certainly worked with her more closely than I, but nevertheless as an outsider keenly interested in animal welfare in general and cat welfare in particular, I cannot refrain from adding my tribute to the memory of one who will be so sadly missed.

" During the past years when I have been privileged to have an insight into her work and to have been admitted to her confidence, I have been amazed at Miss Rudd's singleminded and selfless devotion to the cause of cats, in particular that of stray cats, epitomized by her own Mortimer. Seldom can such shrewdness, ability and sheer downright capacity for work, illuminated and inspired by a deep and genuine devotion to the cause, have been united to serve the interest of cats. It is not perhaps surprising that

the results she achieved were so quietly staggering, if I may be permitted an apparent contradiction in terms. No trouble was too great, no ingenuity spared and no opportunity, however unpromising, neglected which might serve to raise funds for the cause she had so deeply at heart.

"A few days before her death I saw her and her chief anxiety was the necessity for postponing Mortimer's parties. But with usual foresight she had ensured the continuity of her work by arranging for it to be carried on by the R.S.P.C.A. as 'Mortimer's Fund for Cat Welfare.'

"I like to think and believe that Miss Rudd and Mortimer are together again and that their dearest wish and our best way of keeping their memory green is to 'carry on' just as though they were both still here with us."

#### SHOW AT LYON

A delightful show was inaugurated by the Association Féline de France at Lyon on April 27th and 28th, reports guest judge Miss D. M. Collins. Some beautiful Longhair and Shorthair cats and kittens competed with exhibits from France, Switzerland and Belgium, and Lyonnais cats competed with imports from England.

Best Longhair (after much deliberation) was Int. Ch. Banco de Martainville, a 5-year-old Black owned by Mme Chaussebourg, the runners-up being Int. Ch. Sunrise of Pensford (Cream), Eliabel de Pergame (Orange-eyed White), Ch. Charlotte of Brentside (Chinchilla) and Ch. Southway Beau (Blue), the Cream, Chinchilla and Blue being English imports. Best Shorthair was a young Seal Point Siamese male Fly des Domes exhibited by Mme Grissolange. Among kittens the Best L.H. was Fippsy de Padirac, an Orange-eyed White exhibited by Mme Letertre and the Best S.H. Fadette, a Blue Point Siamese shown by Mme Grissolange.

The Longhairs were all short of coat except the Birmanas, but nearly all these had faulty toes which should be an even white (very attractive cats). The Siamese failed mostly in shape of eye. The Blue Creams and Blue Point Siamese were too dark.

I would like to convey my grateful thanks to Mlle Coste, M. and Mme Esteve, my élève judges and the other members of the Committee for a most enjoyable visit. I was very happy to meet again some of my old friends—M. and Mme. Rocher, Mme. Gay and M. and Mlle. Chamoinin.

D. M. COLLINS.



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## **Reproduction—More about the Rex**

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 thirty-first article in a fine new and exclusive series to help and encourage our readers all over the cat world.**

**B**ECAUSE it so happened five years ago that I was able to identify the presence of a Rex gene in cats, and because this made it possible for the Fancy now to have available "pure" breeding stock for this special coat character, I have naturally been interested to read some published comments about the "origin" of this particular gene in this country. Exactly who caused the comments to be published, and exactly for what purpose, I haven't the slightest idea. But I do think some observations may be helpful. To me, the published comments seem to contain some inaccuracies, and could well be very misleading.

I quote the comments as published :—  
"A ship's cat on 'shore-leave' in Cornwall may be responsible for Lanivet, a blue curly Castorex cat—there are only fifteen in Britain—which mystified breeders at the National Cat Club Show at Olympia, London."

"No one knows how the Castorex breed began. The first one appeared two years ago in Cornwall. Cat breeder Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb of Richmond, Surrey, began breeding them. One is Lanivet."

"At first, the breed was thought to be a 'mutation'—a sudden change in type possible among any animals, but since then somebody has remembered seeing a curly cat in Java, and now the experts think a ship's cat started the strain here."

From the beginning, five years ago, the whole history of Rex coat in cats has been published periodically in OUR CATS, so readers will be able to recall the true facts. Newspapers and magazines in this and several other countries have carried the news, and all details—including those concerning origin—have been published or issued in the scientific literature the world over.

In a fancy, one topic which often crops up as the years go by is about how the individual breeds or varieties had their beginnings. Because of this, one is prompted through the published comments referred to, to try and make sure that only real facts are allowed to live on. I know how easy it is to be confused in these matters, and how, if something mystic, dramatic or legendary is allowed to creep in, an idea will become cherished with some subtle tradition resulting. If this kind of thing can fire imagination and give some added pleasure, no one will mind so long as fact is not killed by fiction.

### **Siamese changes**

In his Siamese breeding, the fancier has purposely produced, by selection, an exaggeration of type in order to intensify a sense of something of the "mystic East." By selection—and perhaps a little of environment—the Siamese head has become far more wedge-shaped, and with that, general bone-shape has modified

to give the thinner tail, and quite probably an altered eye-shape too. One only has to look at the photographs published in Frances Simpson's book written in 1920 to realize how complete the change is.

On the other hand, rex-coat in animals is nothing new, even though it is in cats. It is not mystical, and nothing dramatic is needed or necessary in order to enlarge the interest or bolster the facts. So let us keep to the truth, and until we have proof that the original cat bred and bred from by Mrs. Ennismore originated from a cat who stepped ashore from Java, let us keep to the facts as we know them. It is justice to Mrs. Ennismore that we should do this.

My statement that Mrs. Ennismore's original Rex-coated male was produced by mutation was not an idle one, and was only made after due consideration of all the facts then and still available. My so-called "at first thought" must still remain.

## World distribution

Study of the origin of species, new breeds or varieties is fascinating, as too is study of the distribution and perhaps establishment in new areas. Mutations in the wild—and there must be many—suffer many disadvantages against their survival. Some, through the kind of change will not live, others because of inability to meet their like will not be reproduced, and others, who may travel to distant or semi-distant parts, will die out through the effects of perhaps an entirely new and unsuitable environment. Distribution is usually made by the animal's own particular form of locomotion.

On occasion, man may discover something which is or seems new, and will transport the discovery to other locations. The new individual may be given opportunity to reproduce, but otherwise it must remain just a curiosity.

Occasionally, species, breeds or varieties, from distant parts become inadvertently transported either by ship or even sometimes by air-travel. These individuals usually comprise smaller rodents—especially rats or mice—small reptiles, various flies, etc. Very occasionally, of course, some larger forms get through, quite conceivably the odd ship's cat !

In the main, these various travellers are destroyed on discovery in order to prevent a possible spread of disease, or maybe the setting up of races which might cause destruction of some of those things useful or necessary for the good of the human race of the locality.

## Unrelated mutations

There is a point which must be made clear. Because a certain mutation has occurred, this does not preclude the possibility that the same kind of mutation can occur elsewhere. Some mutations recur fairly frequently. When a mutation is considered important or interesting its presence is usually made known widely. There are two reasons for this ; firstly in the hope that somewhere or somehow such a mutation may be put to useful purpose, and secondly, so that if other similar mutations already exist, these may be reported with chance to establish likeness or any relationship between the individuals concerned.

When the Rex gene was first located in rabbits in France, spread of the news was made, and quite quickly two similar instances were brought to light—one in Germany, and just afterwards, yet another in France. It was suggested that possibly one of the three individuals was an original mutation, with the others related. By a series of breeding tests, it was fully established that no relationship existed between any of the three.

When the Rex-coated cat owned and bred by Mrs. Ennismore was identified five years ago, it was then two years old. As soon as possible this existence of rex-gene in cats was widely published, as

pointed out earlier in this article, and for the reasons explained. By this means it was established that a similar mutation was in existence in Germany—owned by the matron of a German hospital.

I was able to collect all the information needed about this cat, and obtained samples of hair and photographs of the animal. We were able by examinations and tests on the hair to note differences which helped us to decide conclusively that no relationship existed between the German Rex-coated cat and that owned and bred by Mrs. Ennismore in Cornwall.

One other instance of Rex in cats was reported from U.S.A. In this case the owner, Miss M. C. Hedderman, of Ohio, kindly sent me nine colour slides of the cats involved, but hair samples were not available as the whole of Miss Hedderman's cat family had been put to sleep. Her original Rex-coated cat, and others reproduced by it, were all bred in her home confines, so the possibility of any importation or exportation can be excluded.

The significant and deciding factor that Mrs. Ennismore's male Rex was indeed

a mutant of the rex gene must surely be that during the time before his identity (two years), and during the time since (five years), no other Rex-coated cat has appeared in the area, or, in fact, been reported from any part of this country. The facts do not in any way support the suggestion of a stepping ashore of a ship's cat in this instance, and unless evidence can be shown to support the idea, one can only advise that the probability be rejected.

(Another Jude article next month)

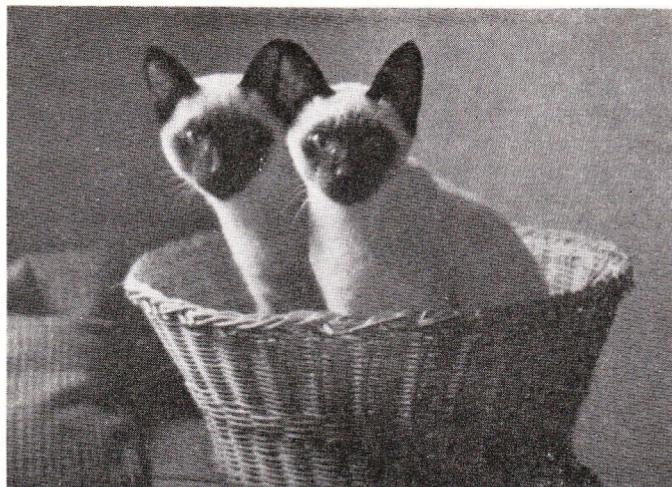
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for many years, breeder and  
International judge — turns  
the pages of her diary to  
reveal the most interesting  
entries concerning personal-  
ties, both human and feline.**

#### New Australians

**MRS. RAE HERBERT** from Sydney, Australia, who arrived in England at the end of last September, has visited many well known breeders, all the London Championship Shows and some in the provinces. So she has become well acquainted with the cat celebrities of the past season and many of those who have graced our shows in previous years.

Mrs. Herbert left London last month on the "Adelaide Star" and is due to arrive back in Sydney in early June. Many of us will be interested in following the fortunes of the four lovely youngsters she is taking with her. All are very well bred, excelling in type and with immense possibilities for improving Blues, Chinchillas and Creams in Australia, the latter variety almost non-existent when I was there in 1953. Certainly there are few equal in quality to our best English Creams and Blue-Creams. Cream kittens

were mostly bred from Red Tabbies and Tortoiseshells so they were too hot as adults and, of course, from this breeding had tendencies to bars and tabby markings.

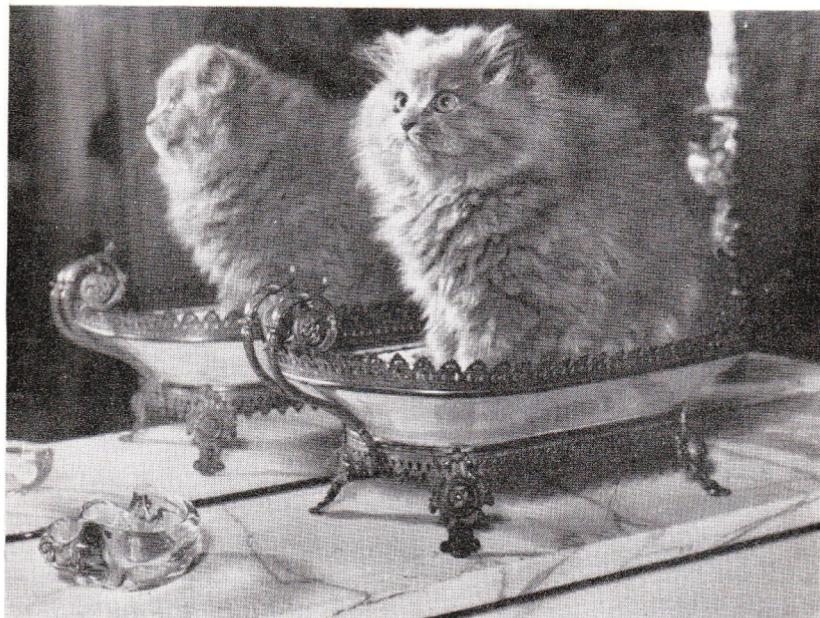
The young adults Mrs. Herbert has taken are Musetta of Allington, Chinchilla female by Ch. Laurel of Allington and Ch. Musidora of Allington, bred by Miss Langston; Brynwood Aphrodite, Cream female by Ch. Widdington Winterset and Ch. Moonrise of Pensford, bred by Mrs. Brind; Anchusa Pierre, Blue male by Ch. Bayhorne Adam and Foxburrow Fleur, bred by Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh; Sheepfold Wild Violet, Blue female by Mericourt Clipper and Avernoll Willow Star, bred by Mrs. Owen Jones.

Anchusa Pierre has been a consistent winning kitten this season. Born in May, 1956, he will be 15 months when he comes out of the 60 days' quarantine which is compulsory for all animals arriving in Australia. By then he may be a proved sire as it is intended to mate Violet to him if he is ready. Long before they reach Australia this family will be accustomed to each other as Mrs. Herbert quite expects she will be allowed to have them in her cabin for part of each day, and later it will relieve the monotony of quarantine for the three queens to be together. An event which delighted their owner was that Musetta of Allington has mated and is in kitten to Ch. Fidelio of Allington. All being well her kittens will be born when the ship is somewhere in the Indian Ocean. Owners are allowed to visit



*By courtesy London "Evening News"*

Ready for a long journey. **MUSETTA OF ALLINGTON** (Chinchilla) and **BRYNWOOD APHRODITE** (Cream) are two of a valuable quartette of youngsters which Mrs. Rae Herbert is taking back home with her to Australia after a visit to England. See account on the previous page.



*Photo Isambert*

**FUUPEE DE PADIRAC**, a promising Blue Longhair baby at 2 months, belongs to Mme Letertre, of Paris.

animals in quarantine so Mrs. Herbert will be able to supervise their care and one must not forget the majority of animals imported are very valuable so their welfare is of considerable importance to the authorities.

In a farewell letter to me Mrs. Herbert writes : " Spratts Ltd. have made all arrangements for my precious quartette and they assure me Mrs. Vize will be able to come on board when we berth at Sydney, in fact I anticipate quite a few of my friends will be working points to get on board to see the four New Australians. As you know, our winter is mild and sunny, similar to your English spring, so it is the best time of year for them to arrive. They will come out of quarantine too late for our winter shows but in any case will have lost their coats as they normally would had they remained in England this year. It takes a year, sometimes two, for English imported cats to grow their coats in February, March and April ready for our shows. Mrs. Vize has a fifty per cent interest in Anchusa Pierre and I know she will be delighted with his lovely eye colour and I expect with him generally.

### Much impressed

" Wild Violet has lovely type and has retained her pale coat. Her pet name is Bebe after one of your cats. When I embark on the 'Adelaide Star' it will be seven months almost to the day since I attended my first Ch. Show in England, the S.W.C.C.C. at Paignton, Devon, in September. I have been welcomed with so much friendliness and hospitality that I depart with the happiest of recollections.

" Your shows have amazed me and I have fallen in love with so many of your wonderful cats. I have learned more in seven months than in seven years at home as our Fancy is so much smaller and many of the varieties are non-existent at present in Australia. What has impressed

me is your system of judging—surely the finest in the world and an example to be emulated. I like the significance of the Club and side classes which so often confirm the impartial judging of the Open Classes. I should like to see a similar system adopted at home. To Miss Langston and Mrs. Towe I owe appreciation for the privilege and instruction of stewarding for them, and to the breeders of my four lovely imports gratitude for their co-operation, especially when I was unable to get a berth in a ship and my departure was delayed, and to yourself for your impartial advice and help.

" It was a thrill to exhibit Sheepfold Wild Violet myself and to see her win 1st in her Open Kitten class at the Southern Counties Ch. Show in London in January. She is the only one of the four I have been able to have with me since I bought her in late autumn. I have purchased from Mrs. Macaulay of Chippenham, Wilts, a Burmese female Kyneton Epinka, a variety as yet unknown in Australia. She is by Mrs. Waldo Lamb's Lamont Patrick and Ch. Kyneton Bizanna. I am not taking her with me as there is no Burmese male to mate her to but Mrs. Towe is kindly keeping her for me and will send me her best kittens by different studs until a fairly unrelated strain is established here. To all the friends I have made here I would like to say : Thank you, I shall not forget everything they have done to make my visit such a happy one."

Bon voyage, Mrs. Herbert ! You certainly will not have a dull moment and will have plenty to do to relieve the monotony of a long sea voyage.

### Sailor kitten

Apropos ships and cats, I read that the gallant little " Mayflower II " has on board a six weeks old kitten named Felix, too young of course for such a voyage. But ships' crews usually make

a fuss of their pets and a kitten is especially appealing so let us hope Felix soon finds his sea legs.

[A later cable from the Mayflower II reported that the kitten was missing.—Editor.]

## New arrivals

Meeting several breeders at the Kensington Kitten Club meeting on April 25th, it was interesting to hear news of "arrivals." Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh's Trenton Periwinkle has a trio of Blues by Ch. Bayhorse Adam. I am glad to hear this queen is breeding as she has had one or two mishaps. But patience has been rewarded. Periwinkle is one of the last daughters of Ch. Oxleys Peter John and carries a coat lovely in colour and texture, an inheritance from both parents as her dam Trenton Virginia is by Gem of Pensford—and he excelled in paleness and length of coat.

Miss Statman's Camber Love Day has twins by Camber Algernon, another line excelling in coat and type. She showed me a lovely photo of "Algy" which I hope will appear in OUR CATS.

Mrs. Denton's Ch. Oxleys Peter John's daughter, Trenton Sugar Plum, has bonny twin daughters by Ch. Octavian of Pensford, his first pure Blue bred kittens, his first family being four Cream males by my Anchor Felicity. The Trenton cats are bred by Mr. and Mrs. Harrington-Harvard and they have produced some lovely stock. As their queens have all become elderly together we have seldom seen them exhibiting the last two or three years because they do not wish to increase the number by buying kittens. Eventually, they hope to start again and it will probably be with a daughter of a Trenton queen.

Mrs. Allen-Smith's Havana has two Blacks and one Blue female by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. She told me they all promise to be Longhairs and she is very pleased as the ultimate object is to produce a Longhair Havana.

Experimental breeders deserve medals as their initial efforts produce little or

no material reward and one actually hears discouraging comments from time to time that they are "spoiling other breeds." This is nonsense as one devotee of S.P. Siamese is as keen as ever on keeping the breed pure but he is also extremely interested in Colour Points partly derived from Siamese. Once one becomes interested it is fascinating to see the results of experimental breeding. Pioneers often have to endure criticism and no doubt the original breeders who produced Chinchillas from Silver Tabbies suffered also. Yet to-day we acclaim Chinchillas as one of the loveliest of all Longhair varieties, ultra refined and fascinating, with their delicate ticking, large sea green eyes so beautifully enhanced by their black eye lids and excellent type.

## Interesting families

Mr. and Mrs. Kirby-Smith have added two Colour Point Longhairs to their small family of cats. They have purchased Briary Alcazar, a Seal Point, from Mr. Stirling-Webb. He is by a Black Longhair Kala Sabu bred by Miss Collins and Briarry Farnigh, a Colour Point. The female as a mate for him is Briarry Jett, a Black Longhair by Ch. Bourneside Black Diamond and his dam is the very nice S.P. Longhair Briarry Gohar, winner of the Challenge Certificate at the S.C.C.C. Ch. Show in January. She is expecting kittens by Alcazar and another interesting family by him should be that of their Blue-Cream Titania of Pensford, daughter of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. If all goes well she will eventually be mated to Ch. Bayhorse Adam as they do not intend to use her for experimental breeding in future. Mr. Kirby-Smith's S.P. Siamese Watermill Sarah (bred by Miss Ann Codrington) has four kittens by Mr. Stirling-Webb's Chocolate Point Siamese Briarry Macaroon and they are hoping some will be Chocolate Points. Their Burmese too is expecting a family, so soon they will be busy with some "interesting" families.

Mrs. Aitken's Blues have kittens by Myowne Caesar, and Mrs. Pond has a family expected by him, and kittens already arrived by her own Blue male, Bluestar Gay Cavalier.

All these families look very promising for a good entry for the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show on July 20th at the Royal Horticultural Hall, one of the loveliest shows of the year when breeders foregather to present the results of their queens' breeding activities (to say nothing of the males) and to see what other breeders have achieved...

### Cheshire show

Miss Marjorie Bull, Hon. Secretary of the Cheshire Area Cat Club, tells me she is looking forward to their show on June 6th and that the Roodee is a lovely venue for it. Mr. and Mrs. Grunnill are joint show managers and the judges will be Mrs. Brice-Webb and Mrs. Hancox for Longhairs and Mrs. France for

Siamese and all other Shorthairs. The cat section will be part of Cheshire Agricultural Show and they will be accommodated in a marquee.

In the winter Miss Bull hopes it will be possible to have a show in the Drill Hall which is a very suitable venue. The last one in March, 1956, was a very pleasant fixture. The Club has nearly 50 members. This is not a new venture but a revival of the pre-war Cheshire Show Cat Section in which the late Mrs. S. E. Tomlinson of the Maythorpe prefix was so interested.

### Manx to America

Miss Sladen who has bred so many lovely Manx is exporting Tortie True to Mr. and Mrs. Tomasewski of Michigan, U.S.A. She was first and Ch. at the S.C.C.C. Show in January and first in Any Variety Brace with her mother Stonor Minnie. An excerpt from Mrs. Tomasewski's letter reads: "Our country is so large that we haven't been able to

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get to Miss Newton's cattery in Florida but we have seen the wins Ch. Stonor Jet has made. He has a wonderful reputation with all the Manx breeders here."

### A breeder's dream

The April ("Hall of Fame") issue of the American magazine *All Pets* has a striking cover in orange and grey which lends itself admirably to the cat depicted, Mrs. Hopey's Blue Persian male, Blue Diamond Tychicus, affectionately known as "Little Tyke." He was Best L.H. Cat at Seattle in December. A substantial section of this 146 page issue is devoted to cats and many of the photographs are beautiful.

Mrs. Helen Amos, of Lakeside, California, has a full page especially interesting to English breeders. It depicts Champion Rollywood Reginald, son of Double Grand Ch. Michael of Beverly-Serrano and Marissa of Allington, daughter of Ch. Mark of Allington, both bred by Miss Langston, also an adorable younger son Rollywood Rondolay. Part of the caption reads : "Best Kitten in Show every time shown." Mrs. Amos is delighted with Marissa and her children and an excerpt from a letter to Miss Langston reads : "Rondolay is what all breeders dream of producing and seldom do. He has everything it takes to make an outstanding cat. His colour is just perfection and his coat measures five inches even at the shoulders. His eyes are blue-green already. At both shows at Phoenix, Arizona, where he was Best Kitten in Show, the judges held him for all to see and said he was the most beautiful kitten they had seen."

Mrs. Sami Hirsig, of Aspen, Colorado, has a page with Double Ch. Camber Betsybob (bred in England by Mrs. Denton), the Blue daughter of Anson Eros and Trenton Sugar Plum displaying herself beautifully in front of a silken drapery. Mrs. Hirsig has purchased a daughter of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous

and Camber Googie. The litter sister is being retained by Mrs. Denton. She is growing into a lovely adult and will make her bow at the shows here next winter if all goes well.

Mrs. Muriel Morton Koenig, of Chicago, Illinois, has devoted a page to Ch. Octavian of Pensford with the photograph published in *OUR CATS*, March, 1956, issue and details of his many awards. However, this applies to the future as he is still with me, other breeders and myself wishing to have some of his kittens before he departs.

An error inadvertently occurs in the text as Ch. Magyar Yanos the Blue male bred by Mrs. Beedell was the first Blue Longhair Champion to be exported to U.S.A. To obtain the pre-war data of other Longhair Champions which may have been exported would necessitate long research into records but they have been few and far between as our exports are usually kittens.

One of the many photographs which have great appeal was that of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Johnson's Ch. Spero Ragamuffin, a Tortoiseshell with a lovely face and expression.

### Louis Wain Exhibition

Miss Kit Wilson, so well known and appreciated by many of us for her sound practical humanitarian work on behalf of cats and her association with the Cats' Protection League tells me about an exhibition opening on May 14th at the Thackeray Bookshop, Thackeray Street, Kensington Square, London. It will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Monday opening 2 p.m.). Admission charge will be by catalogue, one shilling.

Mr. Sydney Denham has kindly loaned his unique collection of the works of Louis Wain and there will be many other cat pictures by well known and as yet unknown artists and some will be for sale. The exhibition will be open for about a month and the proceeds will be devoted to the Cats' Protection League

so please come and help to swell the fund for this splendid cause. Some of the exhibitors well known to us will be Mrs. Maisie Seneshall, Miss Val Prentis, and Miss Coote-Lake.

The Abyssinian Cat Club owes much to Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Denham and they are taking a particular interest in this exhibition ; he is already known to readers of this magazine for his always interesting articles and they have both been for some years instrumental in developing the artistic appreciation of cats. Few who visited their "Cats Through the Ages" Exhibition in London's West End in 1951 will forget the pleasure it gave with its priceless collection of pictures, prints, ceramics, etc.

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*Mrs. Joan Thompson will welcome news items and photographs suitable for inclusion in "Just Fancy" during 1957, particularly from clubs and fanciers overseas. Contributions—as brief as possible, please—may be addressed to her at 130 Wickham Way, Beckenham, Kent.*

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## PARIS SHOW REPORT

THE Cercle Félin de Paris Show, held on April 5th to 7th (reports Mrs. M. Mackenzie, who travelled from London to judge) was well organized and an all-round success.

It attracted a good many visitors and one of the attractions were performing white cats who walked on a tight rope without faltering. They had to step over two doves, a tame rat and guinea pig—a most unusual performance.

Best Exhibit in the Show was Dodo of Dunesk, bred by Mrs. Brunton and owned by Mme Bogard. In Blue females M. Moreau won with Gaydene Delphinium. He also won the Ch. of Champions Class with China Boy of Dunesk, who was looking beautiful in spite of his seven years. In Whites, M. Fournier's Flora de Nonneville was 1st and Excellent. Mme Bogard showed a very typey White and a Black by Int. Ch. Cady de Padirac.

In Black adults Mme Gay from Switzerland won with Carissimo du Bosquet, of excellent type whose only fault was eye colour, which could have been deeper. This exhibitor also won in the litter class, one Black and one Blue being outstanding. Another very good Black was Babablacksheep owned by Mme Fretay. The Creams and Smokes were disappointing, the former being almost red in colour and the latter bad blacks.

A delightful litter of Birmans acquired 1st (name not given in catalogue) and there was also a good Colour Point Longhair shown by Mme Ronet. Chinchillas were represented by Dalila de Cowen-Ran owned by Mme Cirando and Bonavia John owned by Mme Becker. Silver Tabbies were not up to British standards. Silver shaded would be a more appropriate description.

I must thank my stewards Mesdames Dreyfus and de Cuernon for their great help.

M. MACKENZIE.

## Show on a Shoe String

By DONALD LATHAM

(*Willamette Valley Cat Club, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.*)

**W**E put on a successful Championship Cat Show with \$7.00 (that's about 50s. in sterling—Editor) in the treasury. How did we do it? It took work and determination. We formed our Club when the A.C.F.A. was first organized—then we sat—for the first year very little was done. A few meetings were held and we collected \$8.00 from dues (most of the members did not bother to pay their dues that first year).

Then we had an election of officers for the new year. Our new president announced that he would like to see us put on a show. We checked our finances and found we had seven dollars in the treasury (a dollar had been spent for stationery—stamps, etc.). With moans and groans, it was said that we did not have the funds to do it. Regardless, a special meeting of the officers was called and plans were laid for holding a show. We selected a date and announced that we would have a show. That was the big step. We then proceeded to solve the problem of judges, a hall and the many other associated problems.

We estimated that it would cost a minimum of \$250 for the show. Approximately \$100 for rosettes and ribbons—\$75-\$100 for the all breed judge and \$50-\$75 for the hall. We ordered our rosettes and ribbons, found an all breed judge and the hall. Two of our members who were apprentice judges offered to do the specialities. Since we did not have cages it was decided to hold a carrier show. We set up the show so that the Short Hair Speciality and the Short Hair Section of the All Breed was done on Saturday and the Long Hair Speciality and the All Breed Long Hair Section was done on Sunday. That made it necessary only for the Short Hair finalists to stay over until Sunday.

Fortunately, we were able to borrow enough cages from a local cat club to cage all the cats on each day. Since we had so little money, we gave trophies only to the Best Cat and the Best Cat Opposite in each show. These were donated by the members. The big expense of catalogues, entry blanks and rules was overcome by two of the members—they had a relative who was able to furnish the necessary paper and they had access to a mimeograph machine. So the catalogue was mimeographed.

We estimated that the entries would pay for the show but that would still leave no money for the treasury so the members donated cakes, pies, doughnuts, salads, and various other items of food to be sold at the show to the exhibitors. A local coffee company donated the coffee.

### Tired—but worth it!

One of the members was able to procure meat at wholesale prices so we bought beef roasts and hams for sandwiches and dinner plates. We now had everything we required—we received 151 entries. We set up our show on Friday evening. Several members came early on Saturday morning to start the coffee so that the first arrivals could have a cup of coffee (a new experience). Our vet was on duty from 7-9 each morning and by ten each day our show was under way. We kept our breaks to the minimum and by six Sunday evening the show was finished. The show was dismantled and the hall cleaned by 9.30 Sunday evening. We were all tired but we had put on a successful show. Furthermore, we had placed about \$100 in the treasury for future shows.

Our advice to clubs who are in the position we were is : Have the following: (1) a good leader, (2) determination, (3) a nucleus of good workers, and most important,—(4) the will to succeed.

You may not be able to have what you would like but you can find a good substitute. Someone can always find a friend or a relative that can furnish something that is required.

[With acknowledgments to the A.C.A.F. BULLETIN, the official publication of the American Cat Fanciers' Association and to the Secretary, Mr. Russell Middleton, of Texas, U.S.A.]

#### A REMINDER !

**This Magazine is now available in the United Kingdom on a subscription basis only. Rates are 20s. for 12 issues or 10s. for 6 issues, post free. Orders and remittances should be sent to OUR CATS (Subscription Dept.), 14-16 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4.**

**Subscription orders may, if preferred, be placed with your local newsagent or bookseller.**

## CATS OF THAILAND

**W**RITING from Malaya in the March issue of *Cats Digest*, the monthly journal of the Federal Cat Club of Australasia, Mrs. Olsen describes the interesting cats she encountered during a holiday visit to Bangkok. "While there," she says, "we went to see a Siamese cattery where the owner Madame Rajamaitri showed me her cats. They were lovely, bigger than the Australian Siamese, but the same body type with tiny toes. Kinked tails are not admired. Their heads were rounder than the show Siamese I saw in Australia, more the Persian type, lovely blue eyes, no squints. Their coats were superior like thick plush—the Thais put great importance on coat quality. Madame began with Chocolate Points but they sported some Blue Point kittens and now she has both types. She also had a blue close hair Korat Cat from the Korat Province in North Thailand. It has a lovely coat with almost a frosty look over it and has green eyes. There are some blue-eyed chocolate brown cats in Thailand. The colour of the whole cat is chocolate and they are quite striking."

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## To fanciers overseas . . .

Panel advertisements in our DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS (Longhair and Shorthair sections) are not confined to members of the English Fancy. Indeed, we shall be only too pleased to see the Directory develop along truly international lines. The largest bookable space is a double panel (either down or across the page) and all announcements must conform to our usual typeset style. Full details of rates, etc., will gladly be supplied on request to any of our friends overseas.

A black and white cat, risking death through curiosity, scaled a builder's ladder left in the shell of an old bell tower of a Norwich church. Its cries attracted attention and firemen were sent to the rescue with a 50 ft. ladder. The man who ascended the ladder found that the great

thick wall prevented him from reaching the cat, who was balanced precariously on the edge of an opening over a 40ft. drop. Puss eventually decided to make a leap for it rather than be rescued. He sprang into the air like a flying fox, landed safely after the long drop and scampered off.

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**CHAMPION CASA GATOS DARKEE.** Only British Champion male Burmese. Sired outstanding kittens shown last season. Fee 4 gns. inclusive.

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★ Consistent Sire of prize-winning kittens.

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FRED W. PEARCE—Australia's leading judge—sends

## **News from "Down Under"**

SINCE I sent my last report in March (for the April issue of OUR CATS), our local Southern Cross Siamese Cat Club have held another successful kitten show at Chatswood, on the beautiful North Shore line of New South Wales, on March 23rd. The new Secretary, Mr. Holden, did a very good job and the fixture ran very smoothly and harmoniously.

Following are the major awards : Best Persian Male—Miss Haswell's Shaded Silver, Cheeri Debroyal ; Persian Female—Miss Haswell's Shaded Silver, Miowera Fantasy ; Persian Male Kitten—Mrs. Phillips' Blue, Blue Judge ; Persian Female Kitten—Miss Rapley's Shaded Silver, Mayfield Leone ; Persian Litter—Mrs. Hancock's Blues ; Siamese Male—Miss Williams' Seal Point Bludemead Troubadour ; Siamese Female—Mrs. Donmall's Seal Point Kesa Princess ; Siamese Male Kitten—Mrs. Abbott's Blue Point Westwood Blue Haze ; Siamese Female Kitten—Mrs. Hancock's Seal Point Jacris Su San ; Siamese Litter—Mrs. Tchan's Seal Points.

Prize monies and trophies were presented quite early in the afternoon, which seems a very good idea—much better than leaving it until late in the day when everyone is packing up to go home. This Club will hold a Championship Show on July 6th at the same hall, which is a suitable venue with good natural light.

The Easter Show in Sydney is our next and the first judging day is April 13th and the final day Easter Monday, when winners at the first judging come back for the major awards. I understand there is a much larger entry than ever before. The hall is not large enough to accommodate the great number of visitors who are very keen to see the feline aristocrats each year and the crowds have to be rigidly controlled. We are still promised a larger

hall, which would be a great boon. I will tell you more about this blue ribbon fixture next month, with the major awards.

I recently received a very interesting letter from Mrs. Downey, of the Auckland Club, New Zealand, who tells me the kitten show held there in early March was a huge success, both financially and as an exhibition of lovely stock. The Blue female kitten Lindisfarne Blue Rose with which Mrs. Downey was successful is coming to Mr. Mullins, of Sydney. As this kit is by that grand trooper Merryman of Dunesk (imp.) from Ch. Rose Marie of Dunesk (imp.) she should become an asset to the Blue breeders here.

Mrs. Downey was eagerly anticipating the arrival this month of her imported Chinchilla male and I hope he comes up to her expectations. She was also very pleased with the number and quality of the exhibits at Palmerston North Show which she judged recently. It entailed an all night journey each way but she comments on the splendid arrangements made by the executive for her comfort and enjoyed the fixture very much.

Cheerio until our next meeting.

### **NO MORE CATS**

"We do not want another cat," I said.  
"Don't notice her, perhaps she'll go away."

With strong resolve I turned away my head  
And shut the door upon the little stray.  
But even as I spoke I think I knew  
I never could hold out against a cat.  
Of course I'd feed her . . . What else could  
I do ?

I'd give her one good meal, and after  
that . . .

Whom was I fooling ! Everybody knew  
We had another cat  
And that was that !

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

### At Stud

**CHAMPION SPOTLIGHT TROUBADOUR.** Sire Bynes Romeo, dam Patwyn Tricini. "Best Exhibit" at Siamese Cat Show, 1954. An ideal outcross for daughters and nearly related queens of Clonlost Yo-Yo. Fee £3 3s. and return carriage.—Richard Warner, Little Foxes, Bayleys Hill, Sevenoaks, Kent. Phone : Sevenoaks 4516.

**CHAMPION CLONLOST YO-YO.** Sire, Doneraile Dekho, dam, Foxburrow Runtu. He holds an unrivalled record of winning kittens, including the "Best Kitten" in Siamese Cat Show three years running. Fee, £3 3s. and return carriage.—Richard Warner, Little Foxes, Bayleys Hill, Sevenoaks, Kent. Phone : Sevenoaks 4516.

### For Sale

**LOVELY S.P. SIAMESE KITTENS** of Champion Stock. From 5 gns.—Richard Warner, Little Foxes, Bayleys Hill, Sevenoaks, Kent. Phone 4516.

**PEDIGREE Seal Point Male SIAMESE Kittens**, born 28 January, 1957, sire Champion Briarry Macsugh.—Mrs. Tuthill, 11 Turner Road, New Malden, Surrey. Phone : Derwent 5120 after 7 p.m.

**S.P. SIAMESE Kittens (Male)**, excellent eye colour and type. Particulars from Hutchings, Station Road, Burlescombe, Tiverton, Devon.

**OUR Beautiful BRITISH SHORTHAIR**ED Cats. SILVER TABBY and CHINCHILLA. Charming temperaments. Adults usually for sale. Kittens booked from 2 gns. each plus carriage. Inspection gladly invited.—Mrs. Pearson, Bullwood, Dunoon.

**SIAMESE S.P. Kittens**, Champion sired, from 5 gns.—Middleton, Chase House, Kingswood, Surrey. Mogador 2008.

### Books

**CAT BOOKS FOR CAT LOVERS.** Lists free. Little Bookshop, Farnham Common, Bucks.

**CATS BETWEEN COVERS**, by Sidney Denham, the only complete guide to books about cats, with an introduction by Sir Compton Mackenzie, 7s. (U.S.A. \$1) post free from H. Denham, 37 Canonbury Square, London, N.1.

**THE BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE SIAMESE CAT**, by Kathleen R. Williams, contains all you want to know about Seal, Blue and Chocolate Pointed Siamese. Based on the author's experience and knowledge acquired during 20 years of breeding, nursing, exhibiting and judging. 10s. 6d. post free from F. B. Williams, 53 Grange Road, Sutton, Surrey.

### Boarding

**AT LOW KNAP** Siamese cats are boarded in ideal conditions and cared for by Dr. and Mrs. Francis who love and understand them. Prospectus and photographs on application. Halstock, nr. Yeovil.

**SIAMESE and other Breeds** well and affectionately cared for, exceptional conditions. Siamese at stud, near bus stop.—Hopkins, Orchard End, Clevedon. Tel. 3503.

### Miscellaneous

**TWO Obedient Neuter Cats and Gentlewoman**, 62, healthy, desperate for safe home, remote country. Pension now inadequate, Part-time work in return.—BCM/IRCUL, London, W.C.1.

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**THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE**, the monthly British Dog Magazine for dog owners and dog lovers everywhere. Fully illustrated and complete with informative features and instructive articles. Annual subscription 14s. (inc. postage) for twelve issues.—The Tail-Wagger Magazine, 356-360 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

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### Homes Wanted

**EASTER Kitten** wants loving HOME, also Cat wants home to save its life.—Ilves, 38 High Street, Oakham, Rutland.

### Insurance

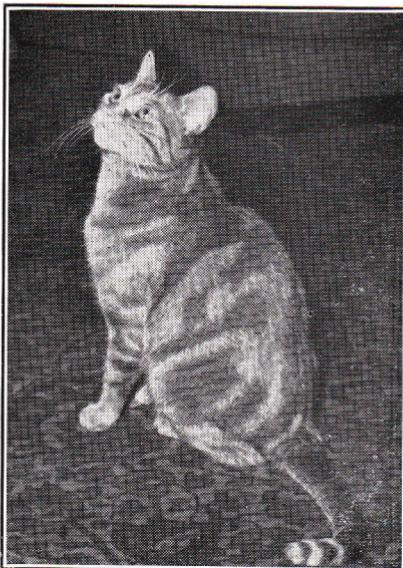
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"I want to thank you for what Kit-zyme has done for our cat, Dusty. Six months ago he was very ill with eczema, and after a lot of treatment there was no improvement. Seeing he is only a stray tom cat, it seemed easy to say 'Oh have him put to sleep,' but then I was advised to get Kit-zyme tablets.

If you had seen Dusty before we started him on Kit-zyme you would have called them 'Miracle Tablets' —his back leg was sore and bleeding and his paws used to swell to an enormous size but now he is completely recovered and I feel sure he knows Kit-zyme Tablets have done him good for he begs for them and eats them like sweets.

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DUSTY

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50 (7½ gr.) Tablets 1/6, 250 for 4/-, 750 for 8/-  
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Literature Free on Request



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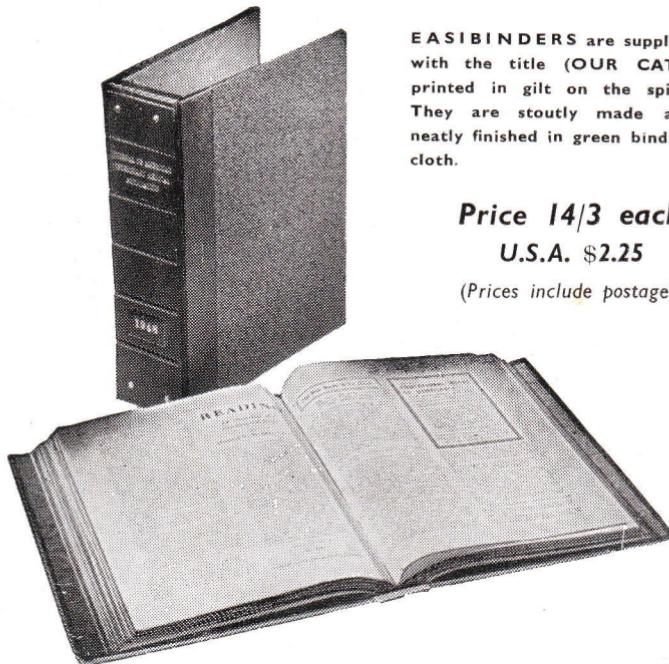


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