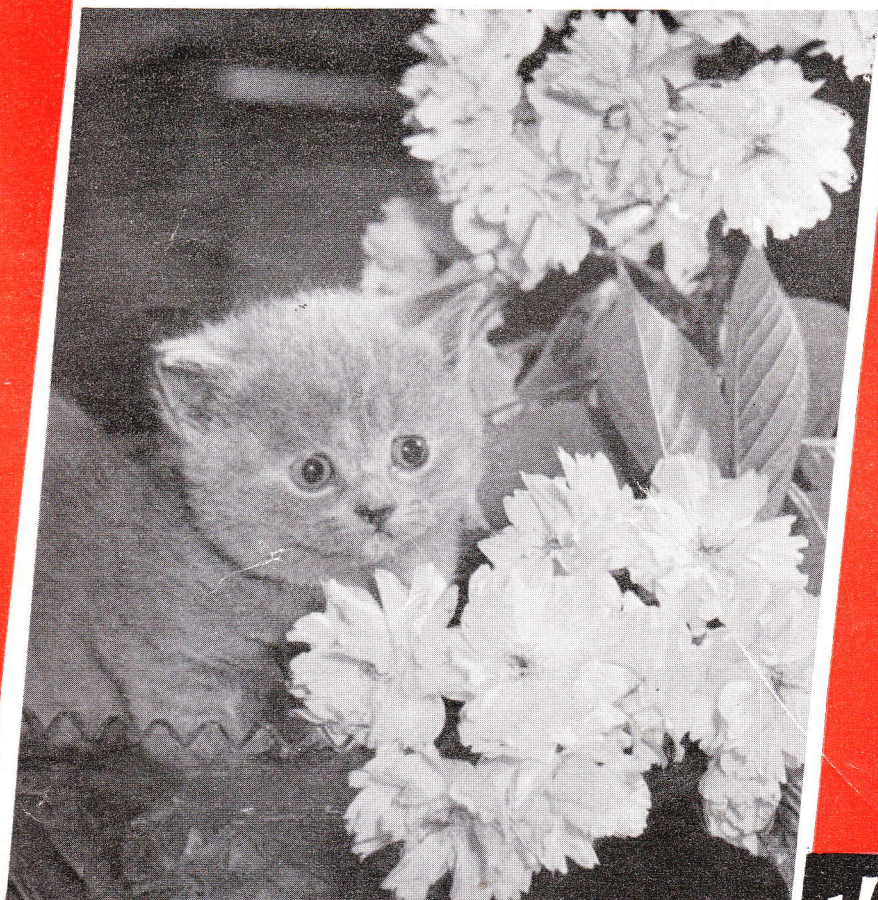


# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



## IT'S A STRANGE BIG WORLD !

*BROUGHTON SUE, a British Blue Shorthair Kitten bred by Mrs. Phyllis Hughes, of Ashted, Surrey, takes refuge among the flowers whilst she tries to puzzle out "what's going on?"*  
*Photograph by Surrey and South London Picture Service.*

OCTOBER 1958

1/6



Are we protected against Infectious Enteritis?



In the close conditions of the Show every cat is exposed to infections. One of the most dangerous is Feline Enteritis—a particularly infectious virus disease which can spread quickly through a cattery or from cat to cat in a locality. Its onset is sudden and usually fatal. The mortality rate is highest among Siamese, although all breeds are susceptible. It may be too late after the Show . . . consult your veterinary surgeon now about 'Fiovax', and have your kittens vaccinated without delay.

**'Fiovax'**  
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**FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE**



A BURROUGHS WELLCOME VETERINARY PRODUCT

# 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. 10 No. 10  
OCTOBER 1958

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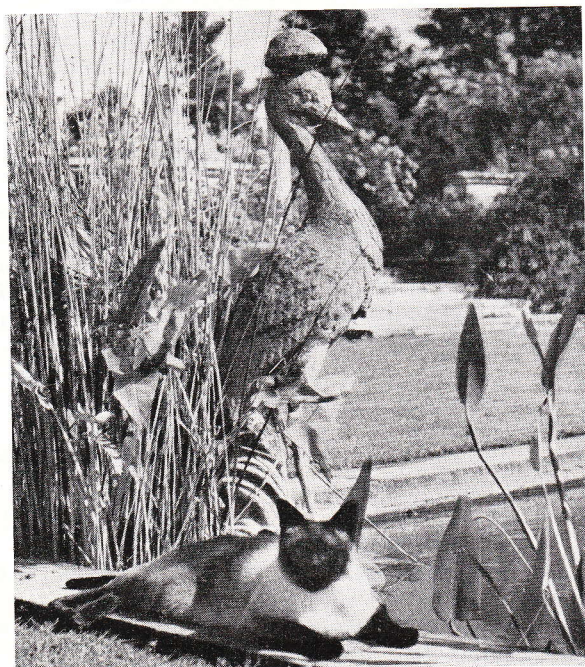
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## THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

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Our summery picture was taken by Mrs. V. E. Major by the lily pool at Merry Hall, Ashted, Surrey, when this lovely home was occupied by popular author and journalist Mr. Beverley Nichols, who now resides nearer London. Mr. Nichols writes frequently of his cat family, on whom he bestows numbers instead of names. The Siamese fellow in the foreground is his much-loved "One."

This is the last opportunity we shall have to remind you that the forthcoming December issue of OUR CATS will be our

### **3rd SPECIAL GREETINGS NUMBER**

Once again it will be an enlarged issue containing features and pictures of truly international interest. Please send at once to OUR CATS, 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W., for leaflet giving full details of advertising rates, etc. Final press date is 12th November. Many greetings and seasonal messages have already been received from organizations and fanciers in various parts of the Cat World.

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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 fixtures for the 1958/9 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers.

| 1958        |     | Promoted by                    | Venue |     |                   |
|-------------|-----|--------------------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|
| 25 October  | ... | *Midland Counties C.C.         | ...   | ... | Birmingham        |
| 15 November | ... | *Croydon Cat Club              | ...   | ... | London            |
| 29          | „   | *Yorkshire County C.C.         | ...   | ... | Leeds             |
| 16 December | ... | *National Cat Club             | ...   | ... | London            |
| 1959        |     |                                |       |     |                   |
| 10 January  | ... | *Notts and Derbyshire C.C.     | ...   | ... | Nottingham        |
| 17          | „   | *Scottish Cat Club             | ...   | ... | Venue to be fixed |
| 27          | „   | *Southern Counties C.C.        | ...   | ... | London            |
| 7 February  | ... | *Lancs. and N.W. Counties C.C. | ...   | ... | Venue to be fixed |

\* Denotes show with Championship status. A detailed list of these shows may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, 1 Roundwood Way, Banstead, Surrey. We hope that many of the shows will be advertised in OUR CATS during the course of the 1958/9 Season.



# Cats in Paint & Print

By SIDNEY DENHAM

Sidney Denham is the author of "Cats Between Covers" and with Helen Denham collected the exhibits for the "Cats Through The Ages" Exhibition of pictures, ceramics, books, etc., in London in 1953. Under the title "Cats in Paint and Print" he will write periodically about cats in books and the arts and will welcome interesting items from readers or answer their questions.

FASCINATING stories of Bela Bartok's love and understanding of cats are told by Agatha Fassett in her biography of the great Hungarian composer's last years, *The Naked Face of Genius*, just published by Gollancz. Bartok went to the United States in 1940 to escape the Germans and he and his wife Ditta soon became close friends of Agatha Fassett and her grey Persian, Lulu.

On one occasion Lulu was lost for several days at the Vermont, Agatha Fassett's country home in New England. Frequent searches of the old farmhouse and neighbourhood brought no clue. Then Bartok arrived and about midnight Ditta came from his bedroom saying the composer had heard Lulu crying in the woods. No one else could hear anything but Ditta insisted: "If he hears it, it's there."

A search party was organized but could see or hear nothing. "You can only hear as well as you listen," remarked Bartok, when they returned. "Three deaf women wandering in the dark, what an inefficient rescue party for that poor cat!"

He insisted on getting up and led them straight through the neighbouring forest to a very large tree. Here Lulu was discovered, caught in a fork from which she was eventually rescued with a ladder.

As one might expect of a composer who had devoted much of his life to recording

folksongs in the countryside, Bartok's hearing was extremely sensitive and acute. Lulu decided that a cupboard in his bedroom was the best place for her kittens and carried them there one by one. Bartok noted that she carried them so that although her hindquarters swayed from side to side, the kitten in her mouth was perfectly steady, something that many observant cat-lovers have noticed with admiration.

"She talked to them in a language amazingly intelligible," Bartok said, "They moved in only two or three days ago, but I can safely say that by now I understand her language fairly well. To talk her tongue, however, might take a little longer. It is a purely guttural sound." He explained that although there were only two or three basic patterns, there were variations depending on the response or co-operation they produced. "The warning sound is particularly interesting. It grows into panic intensity if the kittens fail to obey her. The calling theme is the simplest, just two tones, the second an octave higher than the first, softer or louder but always the same."

Bartok made the sound so accurately in demonstration that a sleepy kitten came out of the cupboard. "I didn't mean to disturb her sleep," Bartok said, pleased at his success, but genuinely sorry at rousing it. "At least I have proved how good I am." He got out of bed to put the kitten back in the cupboard.

Bela Bartok's acute sensibility which enabled him to understand cats so well is just one aspect of his character with which this fascinating book deals in describing his life in the U.S.A., which ended prematurely in 1945.

### A Crimean relic

Some years ago Lady Compton Mackenzie found in a London market a stuffed cat in a glass case bearing the inscription : "Tom, taken out of the ruins of Sebastopol. Departed this life December 31st, 1856." Publication of a photograph resulted in the cat being identified by Lady Lloyd as one brought home from the Crimean war by her grandfather, a captain in the Carabiniers.

This led to the interesting discovery that Tom also appeared in a painting by J. D. Luard, a war artist, which was the sensation of the Royal Academy of 1857. The taxidermist who stuffed Tom after his death in England gave him a rather wild and scared appearance, but the painting shows him sitting very complacently in an officer's tent before Sebastopol, obviously confident that in due course he will get his share of the good things in the parcel from England which gave the picture its title : "A Welcome Arrival."

Now both Tom stuffed and Tom in paint have been presented to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Museum where they will bear witness to the British soldier's traditional love of animals.



### ANOTHER EMIGRANT

Whilst on a recent visit to this country, Miss Florence Harrison of New York, resolved to take home a Blue Longhair kitten with good credentials. Here is her purchase—BRYNWOOD JASON, bred by Mrs. N. D. Brind, of S. E. London, from her Brynwood Aurora and Ch. Oscar of Pensford.



## ***Life with Tico-Tico***

By ELLEN HOEST

**Every cat lover will enjoy this short narrative for its simple charm and humanity. The author, English born, has lived for many years in New Jersey, U.S.A., and at 82 she still attends daily to the management of her retail business.**

**T**HE very name makes me smile, because it is the name we gave to the kitten I bought as a Christmas present for my daughter. I am told it means "Happy happy." Never did we dream we could love a cat so much. She was five months old when we acquired her; a tiny, nervous little Red Persian.

We took her to a good veterinarian and he advised to have her spayed, as she would be an indoor cat. In our apartment, animals are not allowed, and when the superintendent heard about her he said the cat must go. I said "All right, we will move." When he found out how silent she is and how completely she vanishes as soon as anyone comes near, he relented. That's seven years ago.

The dear little thing came home from her operation looking very forlorn and thin, but with love and good food she soon picked up. As my daughter brought her in the apartment, the clock struck in the hall. She jumped up on it and began to purr and rub herself against it.

She is truly a beautiful cat—not too large—with beautiful eyes that look very blue at times, and truly a little pansy face.



**A welcome from Tico-Tico awaits Mrs. Hoest each evening on her return home from business.**

Her pet toys are a yellow catnip mouse, a ginger ale bottle stopper, a red rubber ball and a blue thimble. She loves to lie on a pink bag, crawling inside and making a lot of rattling noises. She hates being laughed at, loves the doorman, and the good maid we have had for years.

She's a great comfort to two busy business women, and no trouble at all. She has never misbehaved, always going to her little powder room we keep under a slightly-opened window in our dinette. Her pan is a large porcelain such as photographers use to develop negatives, and we fill it with newspapers and kitty gravel.

When anyone comes to the door she growls like a little dog, and when the telephone rings, she comes running to tell us, crying to us. It must hurt her ears.

She won't go near the TV room when it is turned on. She loves the radio

and the record changer. Also loves to have her picture taken with flash bulbs, and she always makes a beautiful picture. She loves my daughter to sing to her, especially a silly little song, something about a woggle head.

Last summer we had to have our apartment decorated and what a time we had planning for Tico-Tico.

We tried to get her in a kennel only to find there was no room. When the painters came she disappeared into a closet and at noon my daughter waited for them to go and get their lunch. Then she picked up Tico and carried her to her powder room. She'd take a little water, and run around investigating, and when the men came upstairs again she'd disappear back in the closet until four o'clock came, when they quit for the day. That went on for four days, but every night she snuggled up to my daughter and had the good food she loves.

Every morning at six o'clock she comes to my room to give me a pat on the cheek, for all the world like saying "Wake up, please get me my breakfast and get moving." She doesn't

need to talk, she very firmly and with great dignity lets you know just what she wants.

She loves people with quiet voices. Some friends we have, and are very fond of, have never seen Tico-Tico.

We have screens left in good places so never a tragedy can happen. She watches the squirrels and the birds from a small table placed at a window and curtains are always pinned back. We call that spot "Tico's Garden."

She waits for us to come home, wig-wagging and rubadubbing down the hall to meet us. She squats down to be picked up and makes bread on our shoulder and we love her greeting. She purrs loudly. Then she leads my daughter to the kitchen to get her dinner. She comes out so quickly and sits down to thoroughly wash herself. If she really enjoyed the meal, her face gets a complete washing.

We look forward to going home and almost every day at four o'clock my daughter says "Mother, it's almost Tico time."

Then pretty soon we go home to a sweet smelling little ball of play and lovableness.

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BOX No. 16, OUR CATS MAGAZINE

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

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# Cat's Congress

Reported by JOANNA MACKAY

**M**ORE kind humans than cats actually turned up at the Cat's Congress—an affair of short talks, side shows and tea. Behind it all was the ever original Cats' Protection League.

On the platform were Mrs. de Clifford, Mr. Luff (Chairman), Miss Monica Pearson, Mrs. Willbourne and Mr. Pepper.

Mr. Pepper gave the first talk about vegetarian cats. It all started, he said, when Kit Wilson came to a vegetarian "do," learned that there were such animals and wondered how it was possible. Why should cats be vegetarians? Because many people adopt this diet to avoid taking life at all. They may well wish their cats not to have to eat what has been killed. Then and later, Mr. Pepper (who keeps a number of rescued strays) admitted that it was not easy to persuade a cat to give up its meat and fish and might be impossible with an elderly cat.

He suggested that there might be health reasons why the vegetarian diet could suit a pet cat, living a largely artificial life. He went on to outline two diets followed by vegetarian cats, one a rescued stray, one a six-and-a-half reared from kittenhood by this method. Both were very healthy. Different vets said so.

The first cat always had milk available, but preferred to drink water, took three raw eggs a week, cheese, nutmeat, vegetables, butter and Yeastrel. Once a week it took wholemeal bread with Yeastrel.

The second cat started the day with wholemeal toast and Yeastrel, then went on to take Juliette Levy's Health Meal. It had yoghurt and mixed raw egg

and cheese. This cat loved Slippery Elm drink. (Juliette Levy, by the way, is a woman veterinarian, a vegetarian with a profound knowledge of herbs and natural foods.)

While cat diet was under discussion, the number of meals a day was mentioned. General opinion was that two was the best number. Mr. Pepper had never managed to give one meal a day—and look a cat in the face. The importance of yeast was stressed now and several times.

Mrs. Willbourne spoke next on Family Planning for Cats—or rather planning the cat family. She asked owners to try to have two if they could for company and not to insist on a male. A neutered female would be hardier and these cats were said to be more affectionate.

## Preventing hairball

New kittens should be introduced to one room at a time, then taken round the house. Peat moss was best for the earth-box—which ought to be retained for night times after kittenhood. Three meals to start with, cut to two daily were Mrs. Willbourne's ideal. She advised weekly grooming for a short-haired cat, daily for a long-haired one. Ears needed more attention than they often got. Dirty ears were often—though not always—a sign of bad health. Paraffin or olive oil were good for preventing hairball.

Here a voice from the floor of the hall, helpful rather than heckling, said that cats would often lick white vaseline when they would not take oil.

The hint noted, Mrs. Willbourne went on to say that she believed in

baskets for cats to sleep in, but realized that the average cat much preferred a smart hat, clean washing, half-finished dressmaking and the like. She did think it vital to remember that curiosity killed the cat. Owners should keep an eye on cats. She recently had to take up floor boards at eleven o'clock at night, an electrician having failed to notice a small grey shadow of a Russian blue kitten—who was firmly "nailed down."

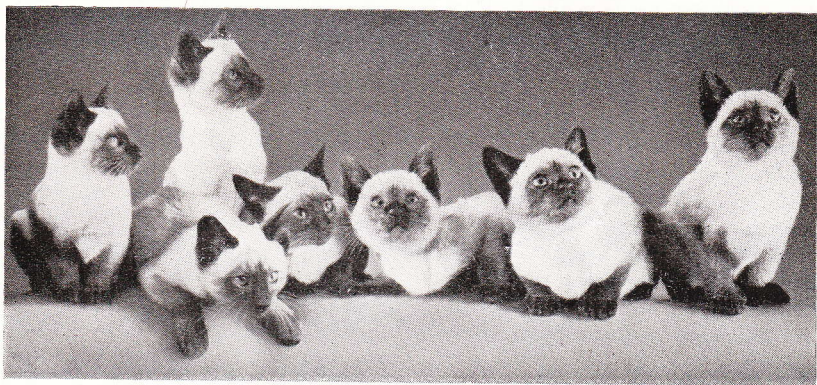
It was Mr. Pepper's turn again. He spoke on Cats and the Law, pointing out that the position was better than most people realized. The cat was a domestic animal. As such it was covered by an Animal Protection Act of 1911. Briefly summarized, this forbade anyone to ill-treat a cat or to permit another person to do so. Neutering by unqualified people was forbidden. It was not lawful to drown cats. Those who ran down cats deliberately—and

Mr. Pepper knew of two such horrible cases—could be punished. The facts had to be made known.

Those who regarded cats as vermin needed to be warned that they might be reported to the Inspector—and hauled into court. Usually, this was enough to frighten the life out of them. Mr. Pepper referred to two animal loathers, who threatened a paper boy with all sorts of frightful penalties if he was seen stroking cats in the road again.

Lastly, Mrs. de Clifford announced that tea was ready, proposed a vote of thanks, especially to the Chairman, who had given up his Saturday afternoon, and insisted that no one was to leave the hall without a leaflet on the League's Christmas Bazaar. Date and place: St. Andrew's Hall, Carlisle Place, S.W.1.

*Tailpiece.* The cat who came was seven-year-old Gilly, a tortie Manx.



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## ***Reproduction (No. 49)***

By A. C. JUDE

***This popular series of monographs has brought added interest to breeding operations throughout the cat world and has helped fanciers by supplying information concerning both inherited and all other factors. Each article has a direct bearing on the genetic basis for the likenesses and differences between cats.***

IN August we discussed changes between parents and offspring which are hereditary, subject to continuation of the same sort of shuffling that produces them, and are therefore materials available for basic evolutionary change. Combinations produced in the shuffling process are not necessarily soon lost again by reshuffling. Recombination of genes within single chromosomes is an occasional, not an invariable process, and it is not wholly random. Particular combinations of chromosome pairs, even though produced at random, become more frequent in the population if each sort of chromosome involved becomes more frequent. Identity of all the thousands of genes and of the several or dozens of pairs of chromosomes is exceedingly rare between any two individuals, but similar groupings and identity of certain limited combinations of a few key genes may readily be developed within a large proportion or all of a population.

The role of these changes in evolution is important, but it has limits. New combinations of genes and chromosomes produce new variant sorts of organisms, but no basically new types of organisms can arise and evolutionary change cannot be long sustained, geologically speaking,

as long as the genes and chromosome sets remain of the same kinds. Major and long-continued evolutionary changes therefore depend on a third source of difference between parents and offspring, and here we are back to mutations, which are the production of new sorts of genes and chromosome sets.

Chromosome mutations may change the number of chromosomes (much less in animals than in plants) or their form and character. For instance by reduplication of segments, or the reversal in their position within the chromosome, or their transfer from one chromosome to another. Such differences may or may not have far-reaching effects other than reshuffling of existing genes and chromosome sets, but they are too limited by the fact that the same sorts of genes, the ultimate determinants as far as we know, continue to appear in them. The most basic changes involved in evolution are gene mutations, the rise of new sorts of genes.

Precisely what happens when a gene mutates is not yet known. For that matter, it is not yet known precisely what a gene is, except that it must be a unit in the chemical make-up of a chromosome and that a mutation must be a change in the structure or composition of that unit. Among the facts of particular evolutionary importance that are known about genes are these: they are inherited as discrete, unblending units but they act in development as interacting and co-operative sets; they do not correspond

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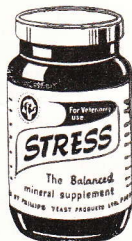
A nourishing Extract supplying Vitamins A and D, fats and protein.

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in a one-to-one relationship with structures of the developed organism, but affect or control the growth pattern from which those structures and characters arose. One gene or several may modify the action of another; and a single character may depend for its development on the presence and interaction of a number of different genes.

### **Random gene mutations**

Some of the things known about gene mutation and important for study of evolution are these :

Some genes are very stable, some mutate with considerable frequency; it is probable that all can and do mutate in time. Frequency of mutation may be changed by various influences such as the presence of certain other genes or application of heat, radiation, or chemicals; but with some qualifications the nature of the mutation is not determined by such influences.

The effect of a single mutation on structural or physiological characters may be almost imperceptible or may result in obvious and radical changes in the whole body.

"Large" mutations, those with the greatest effect on the organism, are commonly, but not necessarily, lethal, preventing development of the fertilized egg, or bringing early death to the developing individual.

Most important of all, from our present point of view, the effects of gene mutations have no evident relationship to the adaptive status, needs, or general way of life of the organism involved. They are in this respect entirely random. This is true, too, of induced mutations; for instance, the effects of those caused by application of heat have no particular relationship to adaptation to temperature of environment.

In an organism already well adapted, almost all mutations will be disadvantageous in the previously fixed way of life, simply because in such conditions

any random change is likely to be for the worse. The change may, however, or may not, be advantageous in some other way of life which may, or again may not, be accessible to the organism.

The random nature of changes in heredity must be particularly emphasized. The shuffling of existing stocks of genes in sexual reproduction is, in the main, random. The appearance of chromosome and gene mutations is also largely, although not completely, random with respect to the needs or adaptation of the organisms and with respect to the direction in which evolution has, in fact, been progressing in the given group. This led some of the earlier students of heredity to think that evolution is really a wholly random process. "Early" here means only a generation or so ago, for almost all of our real knowledge of how heredity works has been gained in the last sixty years or so.

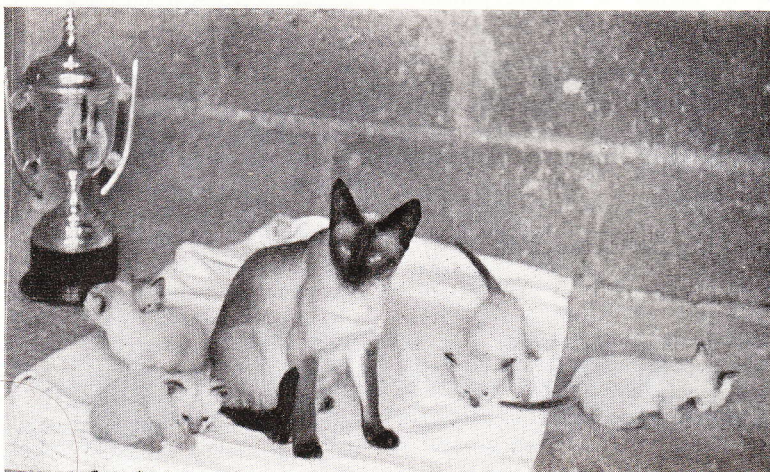
### **Natural selection**

The mechanism of adaptation is natural selection. The idea of natural selection is very simple, even though its operation is highly complex and may be extremely subtle. Natural selection has this basis: in every population some individuals have more offspring than others. This obvious fact automatically accounts for the possibility of evolutionary change.

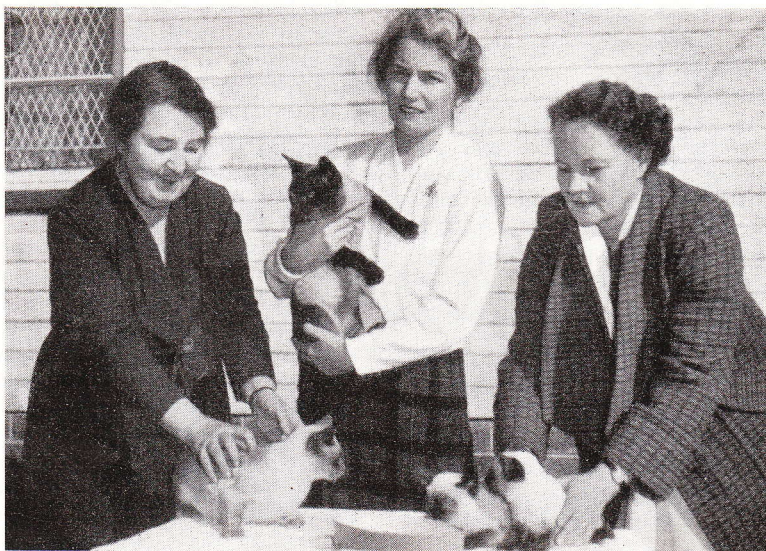
It has been seen that individuals in any group differ in genetic make-up, hence pass on different heredity to their offspring, and also that mutations occur in a scattered way as such a group reproduces. It may happen, and is indeed the usual thing over small numbers of generations, that the new generation, in spite of its differences between individuals, has about the same average genetic constitution as the parent generation and about the same incidence of mutations, so that no clearly evident change occurs from one generation to the next.

*(continued on page 14)*

## ***A page from South Africa . . .***



Introducing SALAKEE PRECIOUS JEWEL, Seal Point Siamese queen with her unruly three-weeks'-old litter. Owner is Miss F. Cowling, of Hatfield, Pretoria, South Africa, who last year won the Breeders' Cup awarded by the Siamese Cat Society for the progeny of cats sired in South Africa who gained the most points in Open Classes at the shows. Miss Cowling has recently imported a female Burmese kitten bred in England by Mrs. Allen J. Wort, of Sutton Heath.



*Pretoria News*

There are so many "points" to be discussed when Siamese lovers meet. This picture also comes from Pretoria, South Africa, and shows (left to right) : Miss F. Cowling with Salakee Peninnis (5 months), Mrs. F. Nicholson with Avalan Ashanti, sire of the kittens above, and Mrs. D. Barlow with a pair of 3-months' old kittens from Chang of Chanti-burt.



## News from "Down Under"

IN my notes last month I omitted to mention meeting an old friend in Brisbane, Mrs. Manson, whom I had not seen since 1933, I think, when she judged at Dulwich Hill. She is now making a cat "come-back" and showed some nice Blue Shorthairs at the Royal National Show.

\* \* \*

New Zealand scribes have "come good," as I knew they would, and I have had three very interesting letters.

Wellington Cat Club had a perfect day for its 4th Championship Show in the "Winter Show" Building. A very fine show report, letter, marked catalogue and photo is to hand from Secretary Miss S. Tasker, which I much appreciated. Apparently a lot of hard work by President Mrs. Davies and Committee went into this happy fixture and was amply repaid by the keen interest and patronage of the public. I like Miss Tasker's second paragraph and I quote: "By 7 a.m. everything was in readiness at Show Building and queues of exhibitors, each in charge of the best cat in the world, were beginning to form in readiness for their cats to be "lamped and vetted." Unquote: And can't I just picture them. The hall is a great show venue, plenty of wonderful light and space for visitors; two great assets.

A great attraction at this show was the interest created by the appearance in the *American Cats Magazine* of the Wellington Secretary's (L.H. Lidgreed) Silver Tabby Famelight Myosotis. Miss Tasker received engraved trophies for competition from Mrs. Anna Milke, President of the Mo-Kan Cat Club, Missouri, a breeder of Longhairs, and

Mrs. Frank Lockrey, Sr., breeder of pedigree Shorthairs. Mo-Kan Club also donated three very beautiful show rosettes. What a lovely gesture from the good folk in the U.S.!

Mr. Hogg was a very busy Show Manager and four judges and a big panel of stewards were on duty. The quality of domestic classes was very high (as it always is in New Zealand) and it is obvious that the cherished and well-cared-for pets are as much prized as their pedigreed friends. I think it worthy of note that the special prize in the domestic section for the best groomed and conditioned cat went to Miss Midge, an amputic cat who leads a normal life and is a keen huntress despite her handicap. Monty, the Best Veteran, is a mere sixteen. I hope he draws a pension.

Most successful exhibitors were Mrs. Hedley, Miss Patterson, Mrs. Thornley, Mr. H. Pollock and Mrs. Sedcole, Mrs. Fraser Smith and Mrs. Cooper.

\* \* \*

A very interesting letter from Miss Pat Powell, of Mangaonoto, New Zealand, was accompanied by a well prepared floor plan of the hall where Hutt Valley Cat Club held their first show. It is easy to see at a glance where everything was situated. Miss Powell reports that the three judges enjoyed the excellent amenities. I have no awards to give you but feel sure they will come along next time. Best wishes to all members and cat folk there.

\* \* \*

That energetic Secretary of Southland Cat Fanciers' Club, Jim Buchanan (must ask him one day if he is connected with

the whisky distillers !) sends a newsy letter, a marked catalogue and a photograph of their tenth Championship Show at Invercargill. He says the fixture was very successful with much stronger entries in the pedigree classes. It is a very lovely spot and I know that the Southland folk are a grand lot who hold shows to be remembered. The photo is of Waratah London Smog, a Blue neuter who was awarded Best Exhibit and was also the first winner of the Mr. and Mrs. F. Pearce Cup, donated last year. Mrs. Mackintosh had real beginner's luck—it was her first show. Jim sends greetings from Invercargill to cat lovers everywhere.

Awards were as follow : Best Exhibit and Pearce Cup—as reported above ; Best Chinchilla — Mrs. McDonald's Langbank Silver Gem ; Best Blue-eyed White—Mrs. Burnley's Greenseal Snowdrop ; Best Tabby—Graham Munro's speyed female Finisterre ; Best Siamese—Mrs. R. Cook's Seal Point Pit-na-Cree Babette ; Best Shorthair—Mr. Col. Aberdeen's Valbert Blue Nymph ; Best Longhair Kitten—Mrs. Mackintosh's Waratah London Smog ; Best Shorthair Kitten—Mrs. Lindberg's Scarsdale Prince Charming.

\* \* \*

My very good correspondent in Melbourne has written again and I am indebted to Mrs. Patterson for the following items. It seems, judging by the comments received, that the recent experiment of running a show without a manager was a success and will become standard practice at Melbourne Siamese Cat Club shows in future. Also, they have drawn up and issued a new pedigree form which can be taken by a portable typewriter. A good idea, I'd say, and much more important than the face of the, usually, hardworking sire which adorns a lot of the forms, including challenges. I think Ch. Certificates should change each year and the head

of the best cat of the year just ended should be included. Of course, such a C.C. would be a little more costly, but well worth trying out.

The Victoria judging classes are being conducted again and are for specialist and all-round judges, I see. The Newsletter is to be renewed in future and that will be a grand idea and a great time saver. Their next show in November is to be run on different lines and is to be called "The Exhibitors' Show."

\* \* \*

No word from my very good scribe in South Australia, Mrs. Thurmer, but in this instance I'm sure that no news is good news. Maybe they are having a little relaxation between shows, which they deserve, and will soon start to think up innovations for the next "do" in Adelaide. Mrs. Henry and Col. Woodrow have written from Brisbane. Everything is going fine in our northern capital.. Col sent a very nice photo of his lovely Blue male being cuddled by his daughter Kitty. President Shead and Mrs. Shead report gardening progress.

I wish some club would stage a show at the cricket ground while the English side are playing there. I might then be able to wangle a look-see. Great interest is being displayed in their arrival. Be seeing you !

---

## REPRODUCTION

*(concluded from page 11)*

It is however, extremely unlikely that the new generation will have exactly the same genetic make-up as the parental generation. Some individuals do have more offspring than others and their particular genetic characters, which differ to some degree from those of other individuals, will be more frequent in the new generation. The difference may be imperceptibly slight or it may be quite marked, even in production of a single generation.

*(to be continued)*





*American Profile No. 10 — By Blanche Wolfram*

### **MRS. FOSTER PRATHER (Atlanta, Georgia)**

**M**RS. FOSTER PRATHER (Nell to her many friends) of Atlanta, Georgia, was a little girl when she had her first experience with cats and their management. One day she was sitting on the front porch of her home in the noon-day sun when she heard some plaintive cries, which seemed to come from beneath the porch. She crawled under to investigate and found a litter of half-starved kittens that had either been abandoned by their mother or left orphaned because of her death. Nell immediately took up the task of caring for her little charges by bottle feeding them and they grew up to be healthy cats. From then on, she always had several of the domestic variety and would place the kittens in homes where she thought they would receive the care they deserved. However, she would still worry about them being

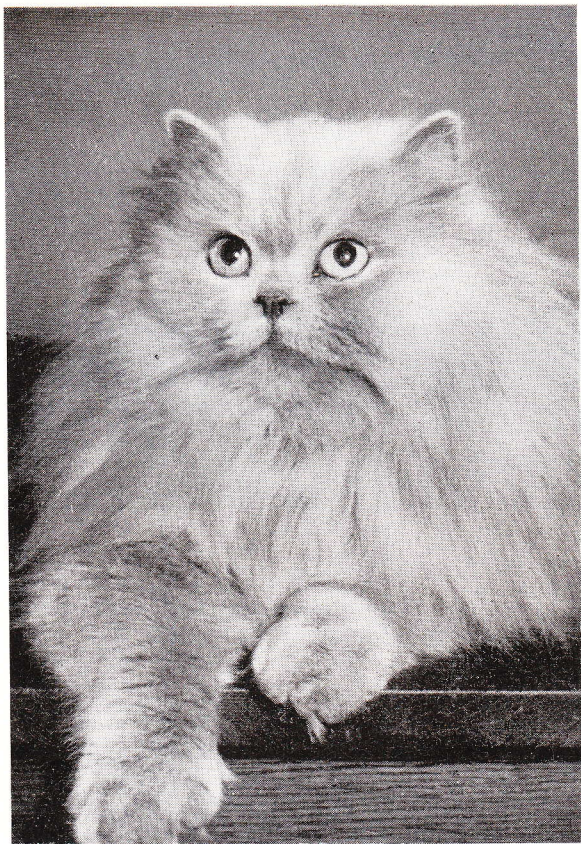
well taken care of and even to this day, she worries over every kitten that she sells.

In 1930 she obtained her first Persian cat. She bought what she thought to be a white female but it turned out to be a male. This being the case, she then had to buy another cat which was a female. It was also white but it was a funny thing, the female had a long body, long tail and a long nose but nevertheless, she thought it was simply beautiful. On the other hand, the male was a very good specimen, having fine type and she spent many an hour apologizing to her friends for his short legs, short body and short tail !

She began reading every magazine and book about cats, but it was 1932 before she had her first opportunity to see some really fine show cats. She paid a visit to Mrs. J. H. Revington in Chattanooga, Tennessee, who let her hold Dixi-Land's Margaret Rose of Allington. It was the greatest thrill she had ever experienced for although she had seen pictures of the cat, she could

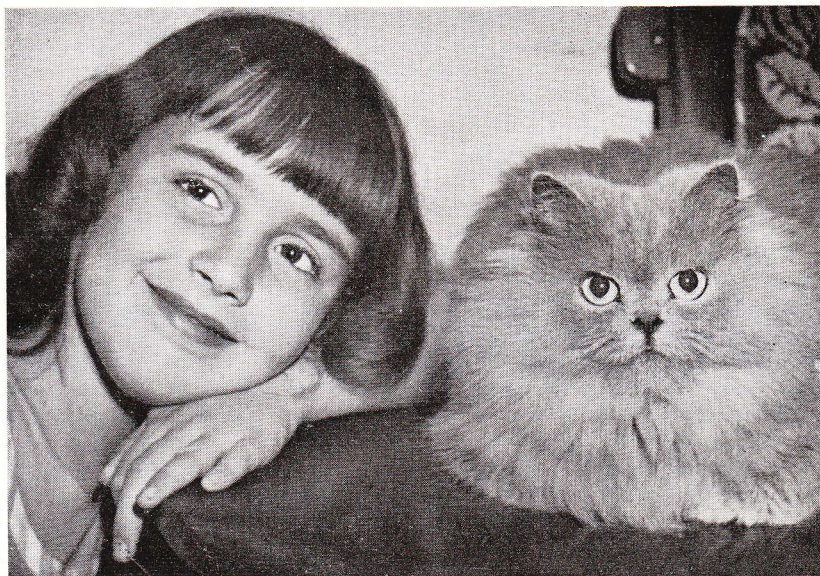
*Top of the page picture shows Mrs. Foster Prather with her Ch. Southland's Desiree.*





**CH. SOUTHLAND'S DIXIELAND'S DELICIA** sets the high standard of Mrs. Foster Prather's Blue Longhairs.

**CH. SOUTHLAND'S TRUDY** was rated by Mrs. Prather as her best kitten because of her pale coat, well balanced body and excellent head. Trudy produced some fine kittens herself when mated to an imported Blue Longhair sire.





not realize the beauty of her until she had actually seen and handled her. She was so overcome by the generosity of Mrs. Revington in letting her hold Margaret Rose that she was unable to say or do anything but let the tears roll down her cheeks. Later on, she purchased Dixi-Land's Marouf, who had been bred to Ch. Dixi-Land's Boris of Allington (Imp.) The litter contained six kittens. They all thrived and to-day some of these cats still appear in the pedigrees.

Mrs. Prather's first show was to be a kitten match in 1938. She entered a Blue male who was a grandson of Marouf, but was unable to attend the show because of a sudden illness that hospitalized her. However, a friend took the kitten to the show and it was certainly comforting news when she learned that the kitten had been awarded Best Kitten in Show. It was quite a few years later when one of her cats, a Black male named Southland's Toby, won the Best Novice and Best Cat awards.

### **An old trouper**

One of her favourite cats is a son of Ch. Dixi-Land's Delicia, a Blue female, and Gr. Ch. Blulace Heirloom, a Blue male. He is Ch. Southland's April Madcap, a fine Blue male who is a real show trouper. Every time she brings out a carrier, he thinks it is time to go to a show and gets excited. He has made many Best Cat wins and only needs one more point to become a Grand Champion, but because of his advanced age he will not be able to make it against the younger and more handsome cats in competition. However, when the show is in need of counters, he is taken along. He shows his disappointment in not winning by pouting in a corner. In order to please him and sort of appease his vanity, some of his former winning ribbons are taken along and hung in his cage. Nell often wonders what he would think if he could read the dates on those ribbons!

Another very fine cat who came from the same two parents is Ch. Southland's Trudy. Nell believes that Trudy was the finest kitten she has ever seen for she had a very pale blue coat, a perfectly balanced body and an excellent head. Two wonderful Blues came from Trudy through a mating with Ch. Windibank's Dear David of Dunesk, an outstanding Blue male import. They were Ch. Southland's Desiree and Ch. Southland's Denise.

Last year, another of Trudy's kittens was shown. This was Southland's Felicity who was Best Novice and Best Cat. One of her finest Black Persians was Ch. Southland's Deborah who, at only eight months of age was Best Black, Best Novice and Reserve Best Cat first time out. This year at Chattanooga she won Best Opp. Sex Champion and Best Opp. Sex Cat.

Mrs. Prather now has eighteen cats in her cattery but many of them are past the age of productivity but she will never cast them out because of that. No, she will let them live out their remaining days in peace and contentment. Always having lived in the South, she is extremely proud of it and this led her to the selection of her cattery name. Southland Cattery is a great name in our Fancy and she can be very proud of this too.

### **Doyen of the Fancy**

It is her belief that the one person who has done the most for the Fancy is Mrs. J. H. Revington. Of the many, many fine cats that have been produced by the Dixi-Land Cattery, Nell believes that Gr. Ch. Dixi-Land's Historian and Gr. Ch. Dixi-Land's Innocence are the finest she has ever seen. Innocence, in her opinion, was the most beautiful of the two; though she was not as large as Historian, her body and head were outstanding examples of sheer beauty.

Mrs. Prather's advice to beginners is to forget about the ribbons they hope to win. They should concentrate on

establishing a sound line of their own by studying the pedigrees and following the examples of established breeders. Laying a solid foundation for future generations will enable them to produce more perfect specimens and ensure healthy cats. The utmost study and effort are necessary if dreams are to come true.

So many people buy a winner and when they cannot immediately produce winners of their own they become discouraged and quit. So we lose another exhibitor. Newcomers must learn that it takes a lot of hard work and sometimes years before they can hope to meet on equal terms the keen competition of established breeders. The most important factor in regard to the health of a cat is sanitation, applied to both food and quarters.

### More judges wanted

It is her hope that some day the need for more judges will be met. Many more should be trained to judge according to the standards in all sections of the country so that the expenses of judges can be greatly minimized. Then, too, the parent organization should make a greater effort in helping the local clubs in their time of need. They should not be forgotten except at election time and every effort should be made to make constructive improvements.

Mrs. Prather likes to think of a Black alley cat named Tim that she had years ago. He had a private entrance of his own to the inside of the house and he was always trying to show his appreciation by bringing home live presents. Many times he would bring in mice but he would not hurt them. It was then up to her to dispose of the mice. Once there was quite a commotion and when she went to investigate she found that Tim had brought home a young cottontail. It escaped from him and hid in the piano. There was quite a great to-do before she could finally capture it and turn it loose. One night she was sound

asleep and was awakened by Tim, who was sitting on her pillow making the funniest noises. As she reached over to pet him and tell him what a nice kitty he was, imagine her horror when her hand touched a live wriggling snake!

One thing can certainly be said about Mrs. Prather. She treats her cats with a tenderness and devotion that could be bestowed upon a dear friend. Although she loves to win, her greatest concern is over her cats. Do they like the shows, are they comfortable and what are their chances of escaping disease from one thing or another? Her cats will never be just a means of winning rosettes. Local people come to her for help with their pets and she is never too busy to give help. She has become loved by many through this simple service. We need more people like her in the Fancy who are ready to give much and ask so little in return.



**Here's a real handful ! Mrs. Edward Diamond of Sidcup, is holding DALMOND SOLITAIRE, a June-born White Longhair Kitten bred by Mrs. M. E. Dallison of Hersden, Kent.**



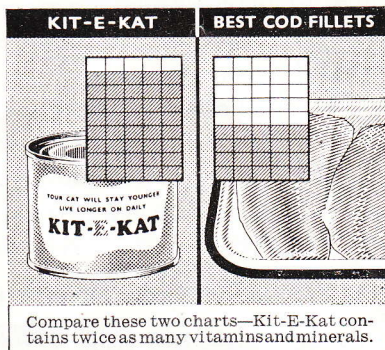
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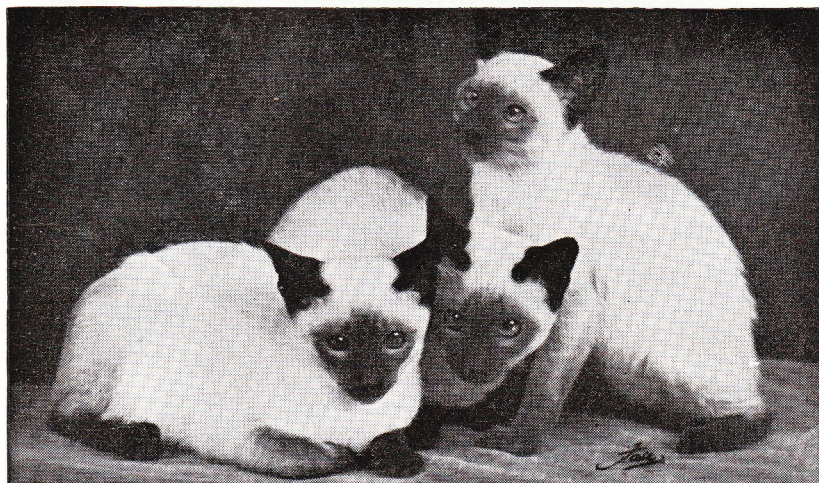
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TABLETS



**KEEP CATS TIBSICAL**





Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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

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### Herts and Middlesex

**T**HE Herts and Middlesex Cat Club were fortunate in having a cool sunny day for their Ch. Show on September 20th.

It was admirably organized by Mrs. Towe and it was pleasant to welcome Mr. Arthur Towe, much improved in health. He gave the Show his usual personal touch by his solicitude for the exhibits and their owners. We were sorry not to have Miss Kathleen Yorke (Chairman of the Governing Council) with us but she had had a strenuous week and was leaving a few days later to judge in Devon.

The Club Committee, unable to engage the Royal Horticultural Hall, had to look around for a suitable one in London, not an easy task by any means. Quite a number are not available for cat shows. Their eventual choice—Central Hall, Westminster—is ideally

situated and convenient for exhibitors, but it has fluorescent lighting which can play tricks with coat and eye colour and it must have complicated the judging of some varieties. However, if exhibitors had been given the choice no doubt they would prefer Central Hall to one in the suburbs and a very important point is that it is difficult to attract an adequate gate out of London. Championship shows are so expensive to organize nowadays that so much depends on the attendance. Let us hope the R.H.S. Hall will be available in 1959.

The publicity was excellent and the hall was comfortably crowded in the afternoon. Three hundred and forty-five exhibits, only eight of which were in the household pets class made a brave show and there were many lovely cats and kittens.

Main awards were : Best Longhair Cat—Mrs. Reed's Blue male Briaric Beauty by Ch. Lavengro of Dunesk ; Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. King's Cream female Startops Sundew by Ch. Hendras Benedict ; Best L.H. Neuter—Mrs. M. Davies's Blue Hillsmere Sea Tempest ; Best Shorthair Cat—Mr. Richard Warner's S.P. Siamese male Spotlight Melchior by Champion Spotlight Troubadour ; Best S.H. Kitten—Mr. and Mrs. Glover's S.P. Siamese Sans Souci Griselle by Ch. Southwood Marcus ; Best S.H. Neuter—Mrs. Horwood's S.P. Siamese Samaikand Johnny Gurkha.

Space does not permit a list of all the first prize winners in the Open Classes but among the Challenge Certificate

winners were Miss Rodda's lovely Black female Chadhurst Mayflower, a very welcome addition to this variety which has declined in numbers at post-war shows.

Mrs. Rippingale's Ch. Gaydene Tina was the winning Blue female and in Creams Mrs. Ross's male Shapur Antonius, and Mrs. Joan Thompson's female Brynwood Sunrise were placed first. Mrs. Rosell's Bruton Orange Flower won the Red Tabby class. Mrs. Barron's lovely Blue-Cream Ch. Hendras Pepita was awarded her seventh Challenge Certificate, a fine record as she has competed against some very good Blue-Creams. Mrs. Jewell's kitten in this variety Sunnyvale Precious is developing nicely and well deserved her first, as did Miss Rodda's Black Chadhurst Molly and Mrs. Aitken's White Bourneside White Crusader.

### **Creams are popular**

Fourteen Cream kittens is an indication of how well this variety is advancing in popularity. The winners—Mrs. Henton's Bamboo Barry, Miss Lane's Passion Leo Pride and of course the Best in Show Startops Sundew—were a comely trio. Blues numbered twelve, the winners being Mrs. King's Startops Stormhead, Miss Holemar's Ormiston Husky and Mrs. Denton's Camber Dearest.

Siamese breeders gave splendid support to the Show. Thirteen S.P. males were headed by Mr. Warner's Best in Show Spotlight Melchior and twenty-two females by a newcomer making her bow as an adult, Mrs. Lentaigne's Hiltonian Halidon Uggsie by Killdown Sultan. Two well-bred B.P. Siamese carried off the Challenge Certificates—Mrs. Davies's male Spotlight Adonis, by Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo, and Mrs. Porter's Chatwyn Jenny by Ch. Misselfore Ryken.

It was nice to see Miss Beckett exhibiting again after a long spell of judging. Her C.P. Siamese Sunland Sirius by Ch. Craigiehilloch Chozaro was first in

males. Mrs. Clarke's Craigiehilloch Chorita by Sloppy Joe led in females.

Mrs. Duncan Hindley's S.P. Siamese Silken Sultan won the Stud Class judged on progeny. The Kensington Kitten Show winning White S.H., Mrs. Martin's Watermill Ladywhite, won again. Mrs. Jose Cattermole's Cream Shorthair male Mingswyk Apollo made history by being the first in this variety to become a full Champion in this country. Congratulations !

Miss Alison Aitken's White Manx male Noend Snowman also completed his Championship. One Challenge Certificate only was awarded to some Shorthair varieties. The winner in Abyssinians was Miss Bone's female Godfreys Anemone ; in Burmese Miss Scott's female Sablesilk Shen Wong, and in British Blues Misses E. and C. Chatterton's Littlewickers Bluebottle ; in Silver Tabbies Miss Robson's Culverden Maurice. The Red Tabby male, Miss Hardman's Killinghall Red Lion, and the Brown Tabby male, Miss Stubb's Whiston Tiberius each alone in these varieties were awarded first and Ch.

A lovely show and the only criticism I heard was regret that this spacious and conveniently situated hall has artificial lighting.

### **In Glorious Devon**

The 11th Ch. Show of the South Western Counties Cat Club at Paignton, Devon, was blessed with lovely weather. Many exhibitors spent part of the day basking in the sunshine on the beach. Mrs. Crickmore and Mrs. Rippingale motored to Teignmouth and had a look round lovely Devon.

The Hon. Treasurer and Show Manager Miss Cathcart had everything well arranged for judges and exhibitors. The sunny day much improved the light in the canvas-roofed Summer Pavilion although it still affected the Cream adults, who looked shades darker than they did the previous week at the Herts and Middlesex Show.



The spacious platform was banked in front with beautiful varieties of coleus and other plants with variegated foliage.

Exhibitors who had travelled by road on a brilliant moonlit night appreciated the many chairs to rest. There was plenty of space between the rows of pens and we had fresh air galore.

Miss Cathcart and the Committee decided to allow all exhibitors returning to their homes via London to leave at 4 p.m. if they wished to do so and the public were advised on the show posters to "come early to see all the exhibits."

The gate appeared to be excellent and the public were captivated by the cats and especially by the Blue Persian kittens. I thought many were somewhat baffled by the short retroussé noses of the Blue adults and I chuckled with the owner when we heard a spectator say of her exhibit, "Why, it's like a bulldog!"

### **British Shorthairs absent**

The major awards were : Best Exhibit—Mrs. Joan Thompson's Blue female Regina of Pensford by Ch. Octavian of Pensford ; Best Longhair Kitten and Best Kitten Exhibit—Mr. Stirling-Webb's Blue Colourpoint Briarry Morenna by Kala Sabu ; Best L.H. Neuter—Miss Millburn's Brown Tabby Ch. Trelystan Fire Opal by Trelystan Jasper ; Best Shorthair Cat—Miss Ellias's B.P. Siamese Brown dreys Marinne by Ch. Fernreig Zyn ; Best S.H. Kitten—Mrs. Porter's B.P. Siamese Suline Blue Musk by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy ; Best S.H. Neuter—Mrs. Lambert's S.P. Siamese Firesprite Pedro by Ch. Causeway Pita.

British Shorthairs were conspicuous by their absence and many classes were cancelled. Mrs. Crickmore won first and Ch. in Blue males with Ch. Thiepval Paragon and Mrs. Brind in Blue-Creams with Brynwood Aurora. Mrs. Barron was awarded first in Cream males with Paul of Pensford and Mrs. Cousins in females with Garthside Prudence.

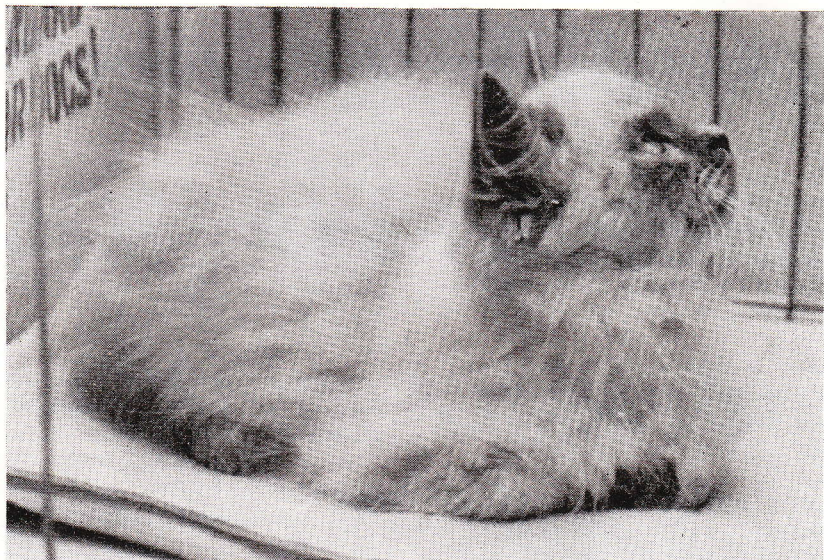
Mrs. Beedell's Brown Tabby Lapis Atoli will be a welcome addition to this variety. Born in August, 1957, he is by Bruton Rob Roy and was awarded his first Challenge Certificate. Mrs. Rees, of Tavistock, Devon, bred the first prize winners in the Blue male kitten class Uplands Prince Moon (by Ch. Dusty of Dunesk) and Miss Davies's female Uplands Anna Capri (by Ch. Thiepval Paragon). Both were good kittens, as was the winning Cream kitten Mrs. Wright's Barwell Prosper.

Congratulations to Mrs. Dadd on her second Ch. Certificate award to her S.P. Siamese male Killdown Kerry by Ch. Killdown Sultan. In S.P. females, Ch. Firesprite Cheta was first.

There were 25 S.P. Siamese kittens in three Open Classes and the first prize winners were Mrs. Dyke's Keyna Rob Roy, Mrs. Forrest's Sirri Sarong and Mrs. Porter's Suline Missy. In Blue Points, 10 kittens in two classes were headed by Suline Blue Musk and the same owner's Suline Blue Mink. All Mrs. Porter's trio were by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy.

### **New breed's success**

Mr. Stirling-Webb's Briarry Morenna was looking lovely and is fulfilling the promise shown at the Kensington Kitten Show. I was misinformed about the pedigree of her paternal grandmother and am glad to have this opportunity of correcting it. Kala Dawn was a Black Shorthair carrying genes for longhair and genes for Siamese coat pattern. In my notes last month I wrote that Kala Dawn was a Smoke. Morenna's dam is Briarry Bizbod, a Blue Colourpoint sired by Briarry Abu Hett, a Seal Colourpoint. Bizbod's mother is Briarry Ffanda, a Tortoiseshell Shorthair carrying genes for long hair, Siamese coat pattern plus cream, red, etc. Mr. Stirling-Webb has devoted about nine years to this breed plus many other activities and he is certainly entitled to feel proud of Briarry Morenna and his success with Colourpoint Longhairs.



*Hugh Smith*

A much-discussed young lady who has made history, Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb's Colourpoint Longhair BRIARRY MORENNA, voted Best Longhair Kitten at the Kensington Show and the first of the breed to attain this high honour.

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## Large litters

Mrs. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells, send welcome news of Anchor Questy, who has a flourishing litter of seven, six Cream males, one Blue-Cream female. This queen has had several large litters and reared nearly all of them. Questy, a Cream female, is bred from a very prolific strain and fertility like other characteristics can be inherited.

Annabella of Dunesk, a Blue daughter of Ch. Baralan Boy Blue and Ch. Southway Josephine born in 1949 has also been a good breeder. Mrs. Stephenson purchased her from the late Mrs. Burns and she has a photo of one of her litters taken at 10 weeks, seven kittens by Gwynn of Allington. She has had several large families since by Mrs. Stephenson's Blue male Woburn Sunshine. Gentian of Dunesk, Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous's daughter by Gaydene Wildrose, has four males by Ashdown Nuthatch, her second quartette this year.

## Breeding for Creams

Whilst this is all good news, these reported litters must be regarded as above the average in Longhairs, especially Blues. The majority of strains in Creams and Blue-Creams have a mixed ancestry of the above three colours and if we go far enough back in their pedigrees we should come to Tortoiseshells and Red Tabbies from which they were originally bred.

I have studied their ancestry and been in close touch with Cream breeders over the last few years. On the whole the evidence is that they have a higher percentage of living kittens than Blues and for this reason I am inclined to modify my opinion expressed in a contemporary journal a few years ago that Blues to Blues was the ideal.

As far back as November, 1944, the late Mr. Cyril Yeates, quoting the late Mr. House in *Fur and Feather*, said "No! Cross-bred males should not be used!

Why? Because you can never be sure what the progeny will be." But he does allude to "the extra hybrid vigour of cross-bred males." Mr. House advocates however if a cross is used it should be black because blue is a dilute of black and the two colours are complementary to each other.

Later in the article there is a quote: "It is all Lombard Street to an orange that this Cream bred Blue male will breed Blues, Creams and Blue-Creams. Not possibly in any one of every litter but in the aggregate of a season's breeding."

We have overwhelming evidence that a Cream-bred Blue male mated to a Blue female will only have Blues. A Cream female mated to a Blue male will only have Cream males, Blue-Cream females. A Blue-Cream female mated to a pure bred Blue male will have Blue males, Blue females, Blue-Creams and possibly a Cream male but never a Cream female. The frequency of Cream males from this mating appears to depend on how much Cream the Blue-Cream mother has in her pedigree. If she has a Cream sire and a Blue-Cream dam the expectation of Cream males is greater than if she has a Blue sire and a Cream or Blue-Cream mother. Cream females are bred by mating Creams to Creams, or Blue-Creams to Cream males.

So if Mr. House had lived, it appears that he also would have had to modify his opinion as when one reads the article in its entirety he is inferring that Cream-bred Blue males mated to Blues may possibly sire all three varieties.

We must always remember that Blues are the nearest to perfection in type of any Longhair variety and I only advocate the Cream cross if the progeny of a Blue female appears to lack vigour. Even then, I would use (a) a Blue male which had a Blue sire—preferably a Champion—and a Blue-Cream mother, or (b) a Cream male with a Blue sire and a Blue-Cream mother. In brief, just sufficient Cream to give "hybrid vigour."

I have not referred to the occasional Creams bred from Red Tabbies or Tortoiseshells as no serious breeder of Creams would consider them except for pets. They are the two varieties we want to be as remote as possible in the pedigrees of our Creams and Blue-Creams.

## A valuable record book

Apropos breeding and pedigrees, the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, 1 Roundwood Way, Banstead, Surrey, is compiling on its behalf Volume 13 of the Stud Book and I should like to warmly endorse the appeal of our Chairman Miss Kathleen Yorke which appears on the entry form: "AN APPEAL TO FANCIERS. It is hoped that all interested in the welfare of the Cat Fancy will enter their cats (and kittens being kept for breeding) in this issue of the Stud Book. It is bought by cat breeders all the world over. In this way you will be helping present breeders and newcomers to keep a record of stud and brood queens, which will enable them to select the correct blood lines for the future success of all cat breeders."

When I started breeding Blues in 1924 there was such a scarcity of books about cats that we purchased anything available. These first volumes of the Stud Book were not very interesting to me at that time as the cats and owners were unknown to me. I little dreamed how valuable they would become as time went on. The complete set of the twelve previous volumes have enabled me to help many younger breeders with "missing links" in the pedigrees of their cats when it has no longer been possible to contact the breeders.

The following are the conditions: "FREE ENTRIES. All cats that have taken a 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize in an Open Adult Class at Championship Shows (wins in side or kitten classes do not count) held between April 1st, 1956, and March 31st, 1958, will be entered free of charge. No notice is required.

PAID ENTRIES. Registered cats and kittens will be entered on payment of a fee of 7s. 6d."

Mr. Hazeldine will send a form on application with the particulars he requires. Many young queens and kittens making their bow at the shows this season are destined to be the mothers of famous cats and how interesting it will be to look up the Stud Book in future to see how they are bred.

Cats who became Champions prior to April 1st, 1956, can be entered with their title on payment of 7s. 6d., but details of their awards will not appear as these would be in previous volumes free of charge. Entries close on October 30th.

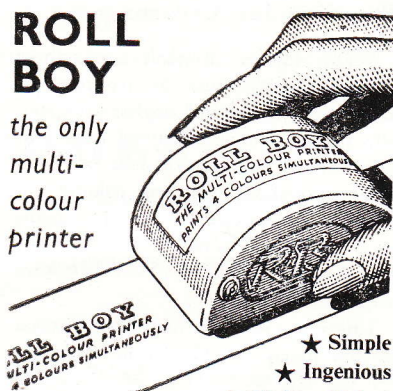
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**Don't overlook to look over the announcement on the outside back cover! It's something for Christmas!!**

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# Tailpieces

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



LET'S start off this month with a smile. Have you heard about the clever cat who had a good meal of strong cheese and then breathed down the mousehole with baited breath?

The many friends she left behind her when she emigrated to Australia some few years back will be interested to know that Mrs. Ann Vize has been voted to the panel of judges for New South Wales.

Just a brief reply to several of you who were interested in last month's feature headed "The Whole Tooth, etc." Corn on the cob is recommended as a useful and healthy diet variation for cats.

According to a letter in a recent issue of the *New York Mirror* under the signature of Judith Scofield, of the Save-a-Cat League, many individuals are under the impression that feeding homeless and starving animals is against the law. A section of the New York Penal Code clearly stipulates that no one has a right to interfere with the feeding of any animal, wild or tame, and anyone so doing is acting in violation of the law. The writer adds that the public should also understand that they commit one of the worst cruelties by breeding baby animals they are unwilling to maintain.

A cat in Northampton who had not eaten for a week was found on veterinary inspection to have a ring of cartilage from butcher's lights fixed around the tongue.

A reporter in the *Daily Mirror* tells of the worried cat owners in the Isle of Man. So many Manx cats have been snatched

by souvenir-hunting tourists that owners have been warned to keep their pets indoors where they can see them. Said an official of the Manx Tourist Board: "Manx cats are getting very scarce and there is quite a trade in them to all parts of the world."

There's another battle going on at Bannockburn, Scotland, because a widow had her pet cat buried in the family vault in the town's cemetery. The foot of the stone was inscribed: "Snooky—Died 8th August, 1958." The cat was a 12-year-old belonging to Mrs. Greta Penman and when it died she had a small coffin made. The burial was made in a small plot of ground directly under the headstone. The local Clerk to the Council and the Cemetery Superintendent were both on holiday when the cat was buried. Residents have objected to the burial; Mrs. Penman refuses to comment.

That go-ahead group, the Western Province Cat Club, of Cape Town, South Africa, has suffered a great loss by the death of their patron Major-General A. P. Dawson, C.B.E., O.B.E. He was born and educated in England and since his retirement in 1943 had taken an active part in a number of Cape Town activities. Mrs. Violet Dawson remains a patron of the Club which promoted a show last month. Dates have been fixed and the hall booked for two shows next year, which is looking well ahead.

The London County Council issued a formal notice to James Maher advising him that as Susan Maher is now five years old, she must be put on the school



roll without delay. Susan is indeed five years old but she happens to be a cherished tabby cat !

I hope TV viewers didn't miss the appearance of plucky 14-year-old Jean France, of Hexthorpe, Doncaster, and the little black and white kitten she rescued from a perilous position. The kitten was trapped on a beam a few inches above the canal at Doncaster. Jean volunteered to go down on a rope lowered by 12½-stone Mrs. Ethel Preston, of the local R.S.P.C.A. branch. For what must have seemed hours she dangled 30ft. down and when she grabbed the kitten, Jean was too exhausted for further effort. So she stood on the beam and awaited rescue by workmen in a boat. Whilst Jean was modestly explaining to the interviewer that she couldn't leave the kitten to be washed into the water by a passing barge, it was playing very happily with her hair.

The inaugural meeting of the Rhodesia Cat Club was held in August.

Overheard during a bus ride in the West Country : Two women were discussing whether cats had a sense of sin or shame. One of them remarked : " I think my Bismarck has because he puts his ears back when he is reprimanded." Her companion rather put a dampener on the discussion when she disagreed and added that she thought Bismarck put his ears back merely to exercise them.

An item in the *Scottish Daily Mail* caused me to raise my eyebrows. It stated that Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Jaffray, of Kintore, Aberdeenshire, think their black and white tabby cat, Mammy, is the oldest cat in the world. Mr. Jaffray, a gardener at Barra Castle for 16 years, was given the cat twelve years ago when it was believed to be 26. That makes Mammy 38. She has mothered hundreds of kittens and is now toothless. I am trying to get more details.

Four kittens, less than a week old, were found in a brown paper bag which had been tossed over a brick wall into a Cheltenham garden. The local R.S.P.C.A. Inspector declared publicly, and very rightly, there is no need for this particular kind of brutality. If the kittens were not wanted they could have been disposed of in a humane way without any cost to the owner. So many cats are roaming the backyards and streets of Paisley (Renfrewshire) that the R.S.P.C.A. are having a Pied Piper operation.

A pack of domestic cats which have run wild are reported to be troubling graziers in the Hartley Valley district of Australia. They live in rock caves in inaccessible hillsides. One grazier said he came upon fifty cats in one pack. They were not the spotted native cats which have been appearing frequently in some of the rough bush country.

" I would not give a farthing for a man's religion if his dog and cat are not the better for it."—Rowland Hill.

An orange-and-white striped kitten was found abandoned near Miami International Airport. By its side there were two cans of cat food. A young Civil Air Patrol cadet took the kitten and the food to his home. Very soon the kitten became front page news when it was discovered that it had 26 toes, three extra toes on each front paw.

Most of us know about the admirable work being done all over the country by small groups of dedicated ladies who are distressed about the number of homeless and unwanted animals, especially cats, wandering about the streets of our cities and towns. I have just been reading how such a group tackled the problem in Sunderland. They formed themselves into an Animal Welfare Guild and immediately set about raising funds.

Then they persuaded the P.D.S.A. to open a branch in the city and to date they have contributed well over £1,000 to this society. They run a welfare scheme for the distribution of free tins of pet food to needy pensioners, they help to pay dog licenses and boarding fees, they organize veterinary help and neutering and find homes whenever possible. They also persuaded the Borough Engineer to let them have the temporary use of old houses scheduled for demolition as collecting centres for the ever-increasing numbers of unwanted animals. What good reading all this makes !

An Indian letter writer to *The Field* says that her Siamese cat has a strange and varied diet. Most of the things he fancies begin with the letter "p," for example, paper, papaya, plaintains, plaid blanket, pieces of string, pills and pineapple.

Paul Tanfield, diary writer of the *Daily Mail*, reports the broken romance of Liat Sands, an Anglo-Indian model, and Mr. Hans Christian, son of a wealthy Norwegian business man. Liat said she

had to turn down an offer of marriage because Hans doesn't like cats. She has 15 of them at her Kensington flat and, she adds, "I wouldn't mind becoming an old maid surrounded by cats."

Sammy is the mascot cat at a Californian fire station. A homeless stray, he has been taught to slide down the brass pole at the first sound of the alarm bell.

Intrigued by reports of the activities of cat sitters, a Kansas City newspaper correspondent wonders whether they prefer to sit with cats rather than humans. Do you suppose, he asks, they are learning that some humans can be cattier than kittens ?

*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.*

MICKEY



**Mrs. Alfa Cornelius, member of the Danish Racekatten, with her home-bred Red Tabby Longhair KIKI OF IRAN.**



## CORRECTIONS

**M**ISS BELINDA SAKER writes from Moonee Ponds, Victoria, Australia : "In the July issue of *OUR CATS*, credit has been given mistakenly to me for having bred Talbingo Scena, Best Kitten at the S.C.C. Championship Show, Melbourne. The parents and one grandparent were bred by me, but Mrs. Mary Helsham, of Sydney, bred Talbingo Scena, her maternal grandmother and great grandmother. Scena is one of a superbly even litter of seven Seal Points anyone would be glad to have bred.

"In the same issue Yonalin Patapon, my young stud and a son of my Ch. Yonalin Sovran Song, is reported as having won Best Opposite Sex, but this award went to his older half-brother Grd. Ch. Valbert Beau Brummel, bred and owned by Mrs. D. G. Lush, Melbourne. Patapon merely won the Open and his second Challenge Certificate. Your readers may be interested to know that the name Patapon (a gentle pat is a kitten's way of attracting attention)

belonged to his paternal great-great-great-great grandfather in England. His mother was not named after the late Ch. Hillcross Song but became Sovran Song because she had the loudest purr in a most affectionate litter.

"Best wishes to your interesting Magazine."

Mrs. Margaret E. Bastow, of West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, writes: "On looking through the September issue of *OUR CATS* I was amazed to learn that I had bred Omaheeni Bella, a Burmese. As we have Blue Persians only here, it's more remarkable. However, I'm sure Mrs. W. B. Bastow, Blaby Hill, Blaby, Leics., won't be so amused. Will you please correct this in your next issue? I am so glad that she has bred such a winner. We are no relation, but we do get mixed up sometimes."

We are sure all the ladies concerned will accept our regrets and apologies for the slip-ups. Whilst we always do our best to get our facts correct it will be appreciated that it is not possible to check up on all the information supplied by contributors and correspondents.

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**"I might as well keep cosy!"**

**Miss Scott's Burmese entry  
BRACHTOWN BESS at the  
Kensington Kitten Show last  
August.**



*Hugh Smith*

## 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.

### For Sale

**PEDIGREE PERSIAN Kittens**, variety, moderate.—Jury, 39 Bellingham Road, S.E.6. Hither Green 8633.

**CHINCHILLA SILVER LUSTRE OF THAME**. Siring first class kittens. Also **ABYSSINIAN Kittens**, sire Ch. Ngella Sascha, dam Abystoke Samba.—Waller, 105 Home Park Road, Wimbledon Park, London, S.W.19. WIMbledon 2559.

**BURMESE Female Kittens**, sire Ch. Darshan Khudiram, prize-winning dam, immunized.—Weatherston, 39 Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen, Lanarkshire.

**THE NEW COLOURPOINTS**. Very beautiful 4-months Male Kitten, suitable stud later, fine pedigree, Champion mother, house trained, 16 gns.—Holland, Shaw Top, Chipstead, Sevenoaks.

**BEAUTIFUL PEDIGREE CATS** for sale, health reasons, **CHINCHILLAS**, **BLUE PERSIANS**, **SIAMESE**, **CHILLAMESE**.—Mrs. H. Burt. PER 3833.

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**BEAUTIFUL SHORTHAIRED BRITISH BLUE Female Kitten** for sale, 5½ months old, inoculated, 1st prizewinner London Show.—Borst, 1 Roysce Grove, Royston (3159), Herts.

### Insurance

**INSURE YOUR CAT!** Full cover includes death from any cause. Veterinary expenses, loss by theft, etc. Reasonable premiums. Write for Free Brochure.—CANINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION LTD., 90 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.3.; 58 Rankin Drive, Edinburgh 9. (Established over a quarter of a century.)

### Appeals

**LADY EVICTED** from home (through no fault of her own) urgently needs **UNFURNISHED ACCOMMODATION** where she can have her cats and regain health. London or outskirts preferred. Write Box 67, Our Cats Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

**HELP!** Money urgently needed for erecting **CAT HOUSES** and keeping Unwanted Cats. Donation 5s. per cat, living or otherwise, ensures name permanently recorded on wood plaque. Limited number of used Christmas Cards 1d. each, postage extra. The Bexhill Cat Club, Treasurer Mrs. Aby, 2 James Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

### 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.

### Books

**BOOKS ON CATS** for Sale and Wanted. Second-hand and out of print Cat Books and Magazines.—Albion Bookshop, Broadstairs, Kent.

**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. Revised edition 12s. 6d. post free from F. B. Williams, 53 Grange Road, Sutton, Surrey.

**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.

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

### Miscellaneous

**PEDIGREE FORMS**, good quality, provision for five generations. 2s. 6d. per dozen, post free from OUR CATS, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

**GAILY COLOURED FELT MICE**, hygienically cello wrapped, 2/3d. includes postage. Proceeds assist Cat Welfare.—Judd, Old Down, Tockington, Bristol.

**CAT HARNESS**, 4 ft. Leads as televised, special Cat Carrying Baskets, Clawboards, Round Sanitins.—Collier, "Cats Valley," Tisbury, Salisbury, Wilts.

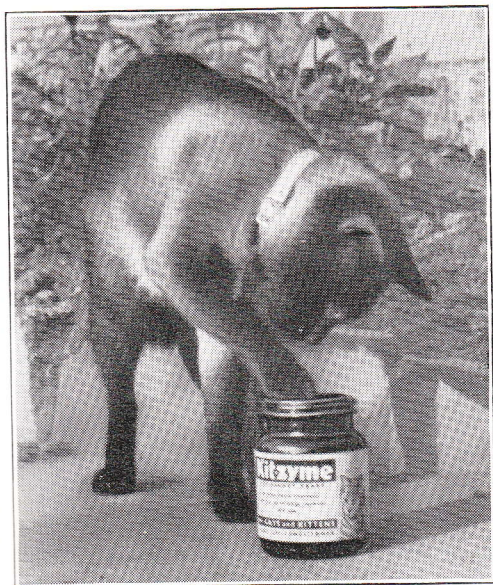
**THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE**, the monthly British Dog Magazine—and for Other Pets too! Fully illustrated, complete with informative features and instructive articles.

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**WHO WANTS A CATNIP MOUSE?** The herb inside this cloth mouse creates sheer ecstasy and promotes healthy exercise. Send 1s. 6d. (P.O. or stamps) to OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

**PEDIGREE FORMS**, Stud Cards, Letterheads, etc. Samples stamp.—Sudbrook Press, 13c Bateman's Row, E.C.2.






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## MITZI LOU “KITZYMING”!

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Mrs. D. M. Newport, of 14 Langdale Gardens, Western Avenue, Perivale, Middlesex, writes :—

*“I am enclosing a photograph of Mitzi Lou, my little Siamese cat, Kitzyming!!*

*“Mitzi Lou always helps herself like this to her daily dose—in fact, she haunts me each morning until she has her Tablets. She adores them and is certainly in beautiful condition.”*

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

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

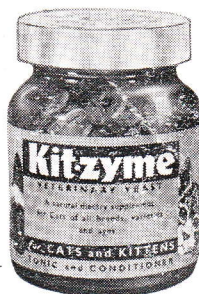
# Kit-zyme

## VITAMIN-RICH YEAST TABLETS

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. 180

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.

Now in preparation for publication at the end of November—in time  
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# **OUR CATS**

*By Arthur E. Cowlshaw and Sidney Denham,  
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