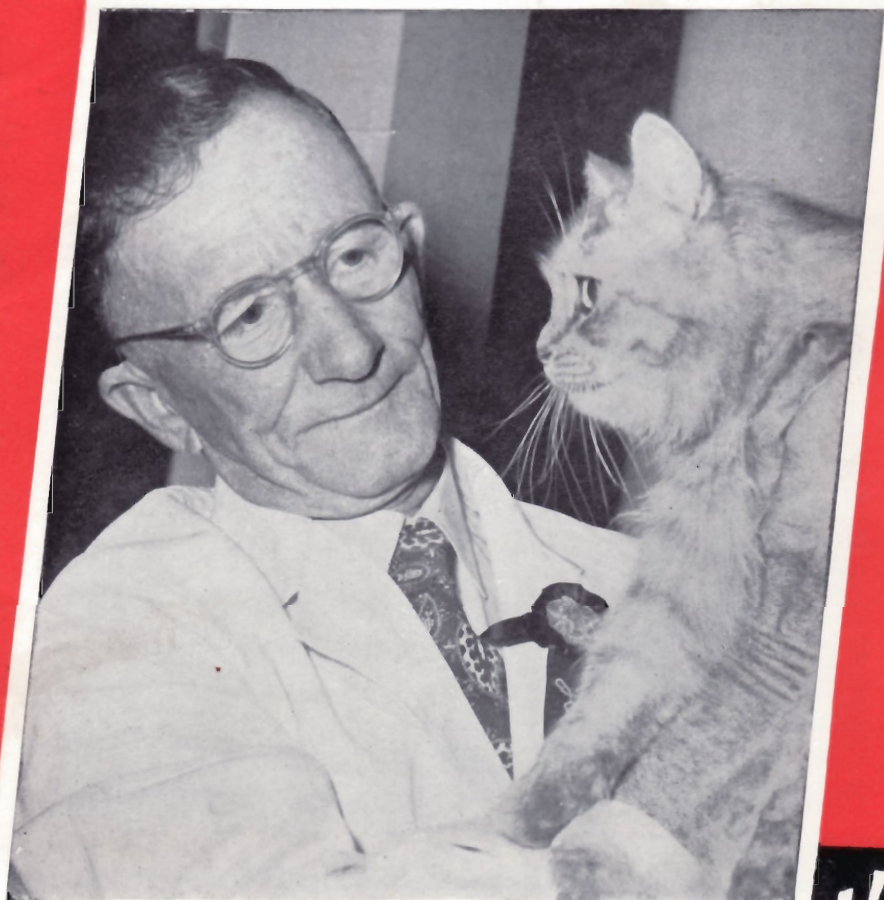


Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



A JUDGE AT WORK

The searching eye on a Shaded Silver exhibit belongs to Mr. F. W. Pearce, Australia's pioneer judge who has probably travelled more miles to fulfil his engagements than any other official in the cat world. The cameraman caught up with him in Sydney Town Hall on the occasion of the show staged last November by the Federal Cat Club

Sydney Morning Herald

FEBRUARY 1958

1/6

Protect
against
**Feline
Infectious
Enteritis**



Feline Infectious Enteritis is a very infectious virus disease of cats, sudden in onset and usually fatal. It may be introduced into a cattery following exposure to infection at shows and spreads from cat to cat in a locality. All breeds are susceptible and in some, such as the Siamese, the mortality rate is very high.

To save your cat from this disease consult your veterinary surgeon. He will advise you regarding protection.

'FIOVAX'
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VACCINE**



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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. 2
FEBRUARY 1958

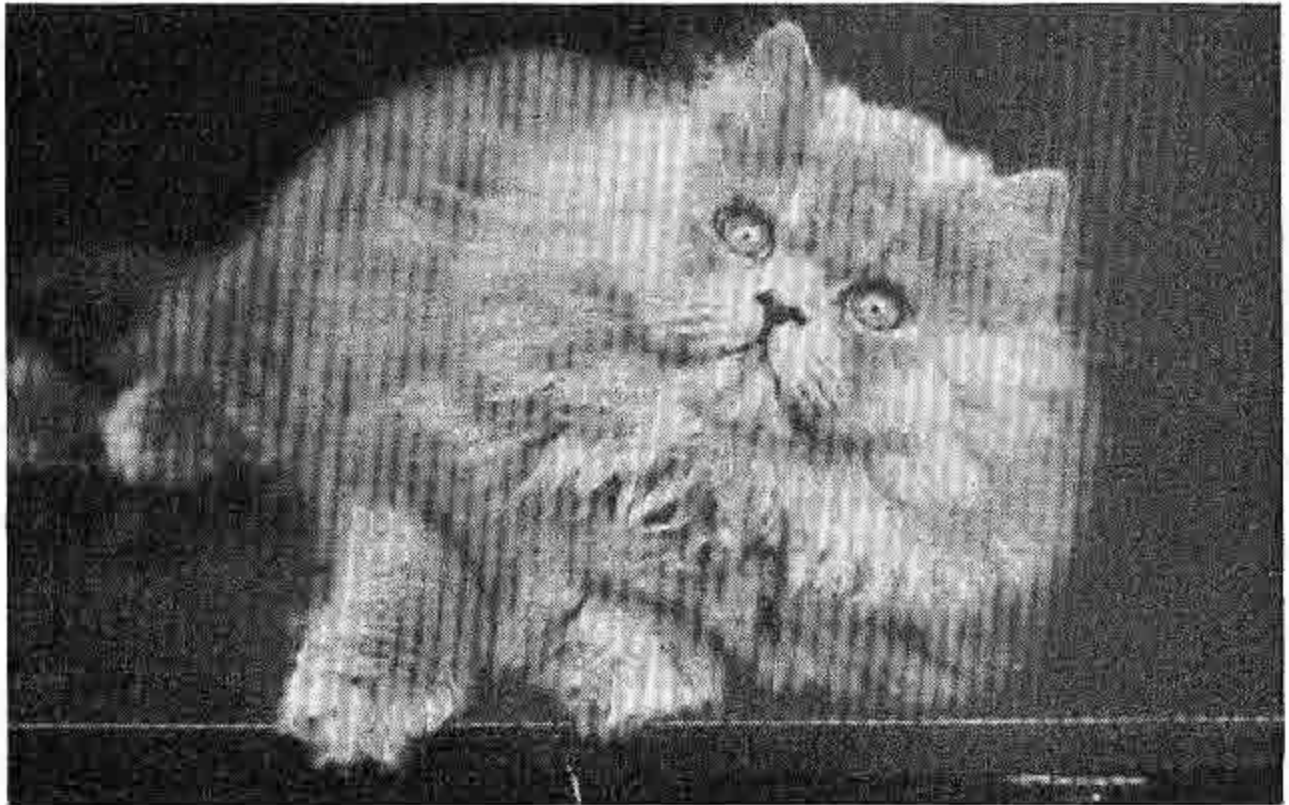
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



DAZZLER OF DUNESK, Blue Longhair Kitten of high promise at 11 weeks of age, bred by Mrs. M. Brunton. By Ch. Thiepval Paragon ex Powder Puff of Dunesk, Dazzler won a long string of first prizes and was subsequently exported to New Zealand.



Tailpieces

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



LET'S start this month with a little story that has a moral. A young man from Wealdstone, Middlesex, has been occupying a comfortable bed and getting the best of attention in Harrow Hospital. His trouble has been a dislocated shoulder which he sustained from throwing stones at some cats who were disturbing his night's rest.

I have just been hearing about a good old-fashioned cure for cats who suffer at this time of the year from bronchitis. You place the sufferer in a basket standing on some bricks. Underneath you arrange a bowl of boiling water plus Friars Balsam and cover everything with a blanket or cloth. It certainly sounds simple and I am assured that it is most effective.

We live in an age of insurance. Just have a look around you and you'll be surprised how much is insurable in some form or another. When I am asked—as I sometimes am—about cover for pedigree cats I always refer the inquirers to the Canine Insurance Association Limited, whose address will be found among our small advertisements. This Company has been operating for over a quarter of a century and it has evolved an excellent prospectus which offers comprehensive insurance to cat owners at reasonable cost. Cover includes death from any cause, including breeding risks, veterinary surgeon's fees and loss by theft, and yearly premiums start at 20s. 9d. for the first £5 in value.

Here is a verbal shot for your locker when next you are drawn into an argument about the intelligence of cats. Just wind up the conversation with this one: "If *you* don't think cats are intelligent, just answer this question: Can *you* get three or four good meals a day and a comfortable place to sleep, simply by purring?"

A case of appalling cruelty to a cat has been reported from Gosport, Hampshire. Two school cleaners were on their way to work, early one morning, when they heard a faint cry coming across the children's playground. They traced the sound to the school flagpole and there, thirty feet above and strung to the top of the pole, was a ginger cat. It had been hauled up by its tail and left hanging head down throughout the night. The terrified creature was let down and tenderly nursed but it had to be put down later by the R.S.P.C.A. The police carried out an extensive search for the perpetrators of this macabre "joke." Makes you wonder if we have really progressed so very far in this age of civilization, doesn't it?

The Ocelot Club of Los Angeles recently held its first meeting at the home of a local housewife. Apparently about 25 people turned up, owners and admirers of this beautiful spotted jungle cat from South and Central America. The value of the ten ocelots on parade was estimated at \$1,000, about £350 in sterling.

(continued on page 32)

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.

ONE of the illustrations in Mr. Gil Thomas's recently published *Antiques in Your Home* is a charming cat seated on a saddle stone, one of those mushroom-shaped stones once used for supporting ricks and now in favour as garden ornaments. The cat is Wilkins, no antique but obviously a treasure. Mr. Thomas tells how when he was young, Wilkins got bored and went exploring on top of some bookshelves with the result that a pair of Bristol vases with hanging lustres fell in ruins.

"There was no point in scolding him," writes Mr. Thomas, "for what had happened was our fault. We had ignored the preliminary announcement of his boredom, an ear-splitting wail which is his method of telling us that he requires entertaining. He regards all shortcomings in the weather, such as high wind and rain, as our fault and a deliberate interference with his way of life. Therefore it is up to us to provide some form of compensation, such as playing games with him. His sweeping something to the ground was merely his final desperate effort to attract our attention."

Wilkins is fortunate in living with someone so understanding who considers he has given as much pleasure as any of the precious things he has broken. Not only that, but Mr. Thomas confesses that he once broke Wilkins's milk bowl, an earthenware porringer to which

he was much attached! He recalls that amongst the treasures of the Manchu emperors which came to light when the dynasty ended was a bowl of priceless porcelain inscribed "Cat Food Dish."

Wilkins is not the least entertaining character in an interesting and instructive book. Although he looks black and white in his photograph, his owner explains that the darker parts are actually mole grey, a colouring which is less rare in the district in which he lives in Dorset than elsewhere and earns him the description "Purbeck Blue."

£25,000 for a cat!

What must be the world record price for a cat was paid in New York recently—£25,000! True, this cat had the advantage that as it was paint and canvas and not flesh and blood it may be immortal, but it still sounds a tall price. The cat was painted by Pierre Bonnard (1867-1946) and in the picture knocked down for £25,000 at the Parke-Bernet Galleries is contemplating the top of a table laid with a simple supper.

From reproductions, this may be the same cat as appears in another Bonnard which is more familiar, through a post-card reproduction (also contemplating the top of a table) which this time is laid with paper and notebooks. Some readers may recall seeing the splendid full size portrait of this white cat by Bonnard (lent by Mr. Nahm), at the "Cats Through the Ages Exhibition."

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Amongst all the hundreds of magnificent pictures of the Age of Louis XIV at the Royal Academy Winter Exhibition, I could find only two cats. One of them is what appears to be a silverish tabby who has been helping himself to a mess of potage in Michel Corneille's picture of Esau selling his birthright to Jacob. The cat's place in the France of La Roi Soleil was still very much in the kitchen and the French painters of the period, unlike the Dutch, do not seem to have been much interested in life below stairs. The few members of society like de Moncrif, who took cats seriously, were regarded as laughable eccentrics.

Amidst all the splendour of the R.A. Exhibition I could not help recalling how 250 years after the death of the king who said "Après moi, le deluge," an artist realized that in fact the French court of the 17th and 18th centuries was peopled entirely by cats. Mr. Berkeley Sutcliffe brilliantly and wittily evoked them in his series of paintings exhibited as "Louis Chatorze and His Court" three years ago.

Of course, the R.A. Exhibition consists of "old masters" and Berkeley Sutcliffe's of *jeux d'esprits* of great virtuosity in keeping with the idea that what Louis XIV really said was "Après moi, le chatostrophe." But in the same way as George Orwell's animal farm revealed the truth about human nature, so Sutcliffe's cats, masquerading as Louis XIV and his court (or is it Louis masquerading as a cat?), seem to conjure up the age of Le Roi Soleil more effectively than its contemporary painters who saw only its glory and none of its absurdity.

On the record

One of the best selling records at the moment is of Mr. T. S. Eliot reading from his *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* which has run through dozens of editions and impressions since it was

first published in 1939. The record is made under the auspices of the British Council which exists to keep other countries in touch with the British way of life. It seems a very good choice. In what other country would you find a 70-year-old Nobel Literature Prize winner, widely acknowledged as the greatest living poet in the English language, reading verses about Rum Tum Tugger, the great Rumpuscat, and Gus, the theatre cat who played Firefiddle, the Fiend of the Fell? *Old Possum's Book* could no more have been written anywhere than in England than could *Alice in Wonderland*.

Purely imaginary

In an interesting interview in the *Sunday Dispatch* recently, Mr. Eliot disclaimed any idea that these poems had any great symbolical or mystical meaning or were patterned on people. "Some German critics would no doubt go into the matter," he explained, "but I assure you that if any of my cats resemble certain human beings that is purely fortuitous. They're imaginary cats though I have known a good many cats in my time."

Everyone who knows the poems has his favourite cat. It may be the old Gumbie Cat—and you have to hear Mr. Eliot read how "she sits and sits and sits and sits" really to understand what makes a Gumbie cat. Or it may be Bustopher Jones or Old Dueteronomy. The children who write to him, says Mr. Eliot, all plump for Macavity, the "monster of depravity" and I don't doubt it is Macavity's paw marks in printer's ink that appear on the back of the record sleeve.

Another version of these poems spoken by Robert Donat to music specially written by Alan Rawsthorne is also recorded on a L.P. It is difficult to say which is the better record. Mr. Eliot is perhaps the better reader of his own poems but Mr. Rawsthorne's music on

close acquaintance proves extremely subtle and witty with some ironical nods at eminent composers. My own copy sent from America is enhanced by a case whose cover carries the famous lithograph of black and white cats made by Edouard Manet in 1868. Was it one of these cats, belonging to his landlady, that two years later Manet was (quite unjustly) suspected of having eaten when it disappeared during the scige of Paris?

Mr. Eliot's Macavity the Mystery Cat and Growl Tiger's Last Stand have also been set to music, but not I believe recorded, by Humphrey Searle. I have not heard them, but the accompaniment for the speaker of flute doubling piccolo, guitar and cello sounds real cool for cats.



THE PURR

Fernand Méry certainly puts puss under the microscope in his excellent book, *Just Cats*, which was reviewed in our December issue. In the chapter devoted to "Mechanism," he subscribes to the view that there is a definite cat language with distinguishable consonants. With regard to the purr, "that regular, muffled sound like an invisible slow-working motor, that so intrigues and fascinates one," he explains that for a long time it remained unaccounted for. Then it was discovered that the cat has two glottises, two sorts of vocal cords which give different vibrations. But the astonishing fact remains that although the anatomists have gone very thoroughly over the area on countless occasions, they have always abstained from giving conclusions. So, writes Méry, "the question will have to be shelved until the day when the cat himself comes forward to speak. Happily, we are better informed on the functioning of the senses."

PEDIGREE CATS

THEIR VARIETIES, BREEDING AND EXHIBITION

by P. M. SODERBERG

This authoritative manual is addressed to all enthusiasts of the Fancy interested in the breeding and exhibition of pedigree cats. Mr. Soderberg, who has an enviable reputation for his work in the Cat Fancy and for his previous books *Cat Breeding and General Management* and *The Care of Your Cat*, has here enlisted the help of other experts on various aspects: B. A. Stirling Webb contributing the section on Colourpoints, a new variety recognized since 1955; Basil Rees dealing with British Short-hair cats; A. C. Jude with Scientific Breeding; and Kathleen Yorke writing on the activities of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

The first part of this work covers the various breeds, and full details are given of each variety; the Standard of Points issued by the Governing Council is quoted in each case. Part II deals exhaustively with all aspects of the breeding of cats; Part III is devoted to the consideration of the scientific aspect of breeding; Part IV covers exhibiting, from the preparation of the cat for showing to the return after showing.

Just published by CASSELL & Co., with 24 pages of illustrations 30/- net

Reproduction (No. 11)

By A. G. 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.

WE have seen that when a single pair of alternative characters is concerned—as in the long and short-hair example used in our previous article—in the straight F_1 100 per cent of the youngsters will be heterozygous, and that in the F_2 the ratio of the different classes will be 1 : 2 : 1—one homozygous dominant, two heterozygous dominants carrying the recessive, and one homozygous recessive.

It should be stressed that any animal showing a recessive character *must* be homozygous for that character. If an F_1 animal from the long-hair and short-hair cross is mated back to the pure short-hair parent, all the offspring (known as an F_1 backcross) will be short-hair, but half will be homozygous short-hairs and half will be heterozygous carrying long-hair.

Similarly, if the F_1 is mated back to the long-hair parent, half the youngsters will be pure long-hairs and half will be short-hairs carrying long-hair. Where F_2 generation cats have been back-crossed, the expectation is impossible to forecast unless it is known whether the animal concerned was homozygous or heterozygous for the character concerned.

This, then, is a brief description of the mechanism of inheritance, and is the

explanation of why an animal may throw something which, from appearances, could not be expected. It must be remembered that *both* parents must carry the factor for a recessive before it can appear, and that a simple preventative is to use a male that has been tested for the particular characteristic that the females carry.

If, for example, the females are known to be heterozygous for long-hair (keeping our remarks to this character only as an example of recessive behaviour) the male should be mated to several such long-haired females, and if he sires only short-haired offspring he may be considered to be free from that recessive or, in other words to be a homozygous short-haired animal. Such a male can be used with "impure" females with the certainty that, if he is really pure, only short-haired young will result.

Putting the test

Three or four litters can be taken as a fair number to test a male for any single factor—at least for show purposes. The females also could be tested in a similar manner, but as three litters at least would be required before a satisfactory degree of certainty was reached, the loss of time in producing so many litters from each female makes the testing of these more or less impracticable in most cases.

If only tested males are used, there will be no "undesirables" born, although a percentage of the youngsters would be carriers or heterozygous. The proportion of these would decrease rapidly in each succeeding generation, and although half the youngsters produced in the first generation from tested males and impure females would be heterozygous, by the fourth generation only one out of sixteen would be carriers of the undesirable character if only tested males were used. This demonstrates the very great importance of following closely the performances of the males in a pedigree.

Much work has been done on the inheritance of coat-colours and patterns so that the making of fresh varieties (those not already recognized in a Fancy) has become perfectly easy for anyone with an elementary knowledge of colour and general inheritance. As has been previously mentioned, there are a fixed number of chromosomes in a species, each animal of the species having that number in each cell with the exception of the ovum and sperm, which being reproductive cells have only half this number.

Orderly genes

Genes controlling colour and markings have been identified in the animals of each of the species. The genes are believed to be arranged in a definite order on the chromosomes. The genes situated in the same place on corresponding chromosomes all affect the same characteristic, but they may affect it in different ways, in which case they are said to be allelic to each other. If, on the other hand, a gene or character is expressed despite the presence of the other, it is said to be "epistatic"—genes which tend to produce a different or contrary effect. Epistasis is similar to dominance except that the relationship is between non-allelic genes.

We can therefore describe a dominant as one of a pair of alleles whose effects are expressed to the exclusion of the effects of the other allele. Animals heterozygous for a dominant gene cannot be distinguished from animals homozygous for it, except by test matings.

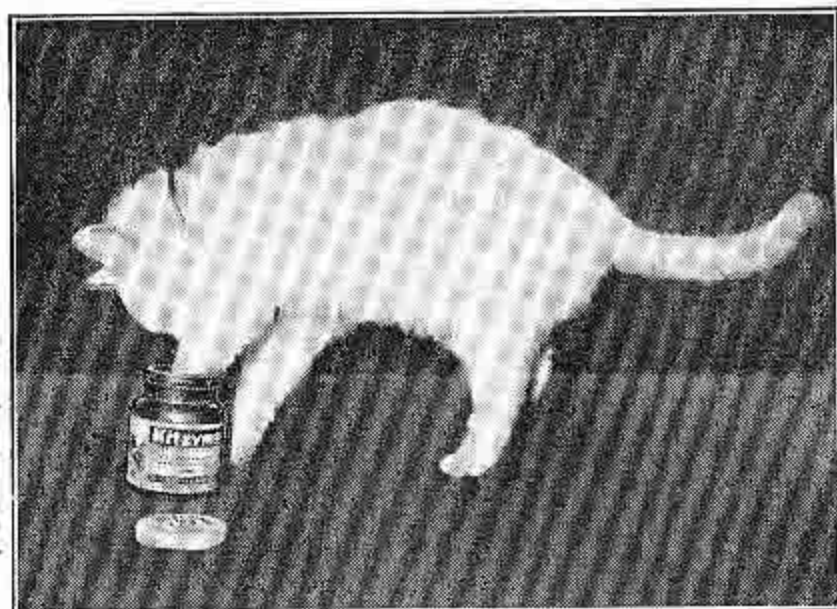
There may be more than two alleles of the same gene, but only two of an "allelic series" can be present in any one particular animal. The genes situated at different places on the same chromosome are said to be linked, and do not necessarily all affect the same part or feature of the animal.

Black pigment

It is now recognized that the simple idea of each gene having one effect, e.g., producing black-coat colour, is erroneous. The effectiveness of any one gene depends on the whole inherited make-up of the animal (including what is inherited in the rest of the sex cells besides the chromosomes), and on the opportunities for development provided by the animal's environment.

The gene is regarded as a chemical substance which, given a suitable biochemical background on which to work, will tend to give rise to a series of complicated chemical changes leading to a certain result, e.g., the production of black pigment. This result can, however, be achieved only if the right chemical substances are present at every stage and if the general development of the animal proceeds normally. If another gene is present which prevents the development of hair, or if one is present which causes black pigment to be changed by oxidation to yellow pigment, then the gene cannot in fact produce black hair-colour. The gene is, however, still present in the animal, including its sex cells, and if, when reproduction takes place the gene B (black) escapes the company of the other two, then the youngster with black coat-colour may result.

(continued on page 13)



MISS ANN STUBBS
of Whiston Farm, Penk-
ridge, Nr. Stafford, owner
of the Whiston Boarding
Cattery and breeder of
British Shorthairs,
writes :—

WHITEHAUGH CREAM CRACKER

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Cream Cracker was appallingly ill as a kitten, first enteritis then cat 'flu, after which she lost nearly all her hair so that she looked more like a pink cat than a white one. I started her on Kit-zyme which she has had ever since and you can see what a thick coat she now has.

She is not deaf, as some whites are, but sometimes pretends to be when she is outside. However, if I open the window and rattle her 'sweets' she comes at the double . . . it never fails. She never appears to get tired of the Tablets and will eat a whole jar at a time if given the chance.

Cream Cracker has not been shown herself but from her first litter of four bouncers, the only two to be shown are prize-winners."

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**O. C. SNYDER, 31 LAKEVIEW DR-CANAAN L.
PATCHOGUE, NEW YORK, U.S.A.**

More New Books

PEDIGREE CATS—THEIR VARIETIES, BREEDING AND EXHIBITION, by P. M. Soderberg (*Cassells, 30s. net*). Hard on the heels of this well-known author's *The Care of Your Cat*, which was reviewed in our December issue, comes this more serious and objective work designed for those interested or engaged in the responsible fields of breeding and exhibiting. What an indispensable "twin set" these two books provide for cat folk in any part of the world!

The arrival of *Pedigree Cats* is an event of considerable importance to our Fancy as it fills so efficiently and authoritatively the vacancy which has existed since the Second World War for literature of its kind. It is destined to rank as a standard book of reference for a long time. I understand only too well the vast amount of writing and research which its compilation involved and the author remains to be congratulated on the high standard of the finished article. Its arrangement cannot be faulted, the 24 pages of illustrations are attractive and extremely well produced, the type-set pages are both clear and clean. Most important, the author's style ensures reading without frowns.

After a brief history of the cat, the book goes straight into a description of the various breeds. As this section runs into more than 100 pages it will be appreciated there is much more to it

than a scanty review of the Standard of Points. For example, Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb relates his personal experiences in the evolution of the Colourpoint Longhair, a fascinating variety which has won recognition by the G.C.C.F. Part II is devoted to breeding and all it implies and this embraces an important contribution by our own regular contributor A. C. Jude on his favourite subject of Scientific Breeding. Finally, Miss Kathleen Yorke gives a fascinating historical record of the Fancy from the first years of its inception.

ENJOYING PETS, by J. Bentley Aistrop (*Dennis Dobson 12s. 6d.*). Here is an author who specializes in animal books which provide him with scope for satisfying the young and inquiring mind. In this latest offering he writes most entertainingly about many of the pets he has kept. Cats have a small section in which simple rules of care and management are outlined.

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American Profile No. 3

—by Blanche Wolfram

Mrs. Florence Kemmer

MRS. FLORENCE KEMMER, of Bradenton, Florida, is one of our pioneers in the breeding of fine show cats. She has been a consistent producer of show winners ever since the beginning of her Silver Moth Cattery. One is almost certain to find the name Silver Moth in the pedigree behind many a fine cat.

Not only has she been one of those responsible for the ever-changing beauty of our cats but she has done her very best to pass along valuable information to others. Yes, through her writings in *Cats Magazine* and *All-Pets Magazine* many a beginner—and established breeder as well—has benefited from the excellent advice she has passed along. I wish we had more unselfish individuals like her who are willing to help in every way possible.

Florence has always been interested in cats and when she was a little girl, she received many spankings for having cats and kittens "follow" her home. Her mother had never liked cats but when Florence was only eight years old she vowed to have a cat farm some day. Her mother, now 90 years old, is still living with Florence—and the cats! It took a great love for cats on the part of Florence to withstand the discouragement she had to absorb in order to follow her hobby all these years.



Mrs. Kemmer with one of her Chinchilla "Best in Shows"—Bombadier

In St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1932, her first Persian cat was given to her as a gift. It was a Silver female—too dark for a Shaded Silver and too light to be a Smoke—but at that time it was the most beautiful cat in the world to her. Several weeks later she was presented with another Persian, a White female. Although it was white, half of the pedigree was Eiderdown Red.

Since both of these cats were females it became necessary to purchase a male for breeding purposes. So she bought a Chinchilla male Persian named Silver Moth and because she thought that "Silver Moth" was a very lovely name she decided to use it for her cattery.

She attended her first show, which was a kitten match, with kittens from litters of her three cats. She also took along a little Red female kitten named The Lady in Red which she obtained through trading some of her own kittens. She took the first, second and third prizes for her Silver female kittens, second and third prize for her Silver male kittens, second first in the White class and first in the Cream class. The

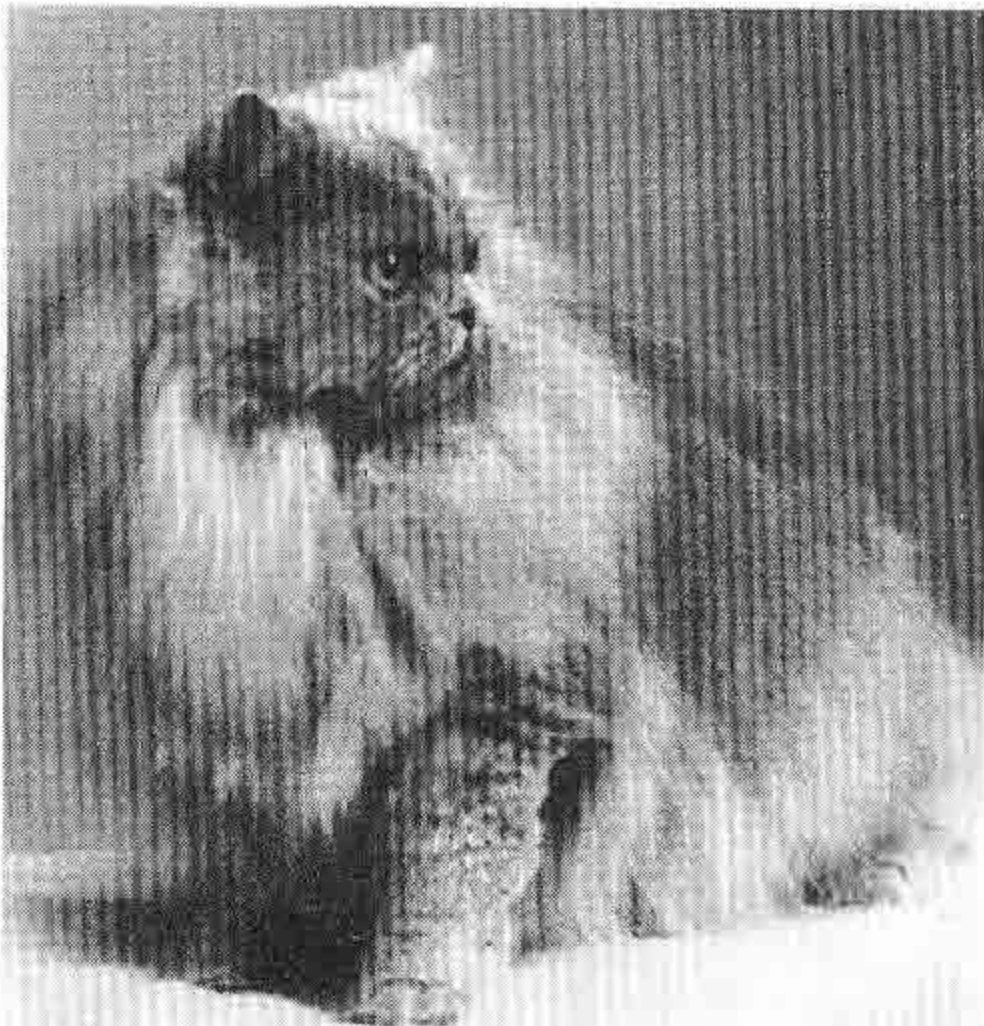
little Red female won the second best kitten award in the show. After such good fortune she was more than anxious to start breeding finer cats.

Her first authorized show was in Jacksonville, Florida, during 1937. She entered her Chinchilla male Silver Moth and was awarded the Best Novice. This gave her the encouragement she needed and through the sale of the kittens from subsequent matings she was able to save enough money to purchase other cats to help her on the road to success. She knew there were many other fine cats and if she were to compete with them she would have to obtain some of the very best of the day.

One of her first fine cats was Charrito del Norte, a very beautiful Solid Red which was purchased from Mrs. Craver of Texas. He was the start of her Solid

Red Line of Persian cats. Among his wins were Best Cat, Reserve Winner seven times, Best Champion five times, Best Opposite Champion four times, Best Open Male twice, Best Red Cat and Best of Colour nineteen times out of twenty-two. He was beaten only by his own progeny on two occasions and once by a half brother which, all in all, was quite a record.

Sally Odette, who was just about the finest Tortie of her day and whom some consider to be still one of the best Torties ever, was a daughter of the Lady In Red who was bred to a fine Black male named Barbe Bleue Emperor Jones. Azure Angel was her first winning Blue female and was a daughter of Silver Moth Dixi-land Orchis, sired by Silver Moth Dixi-land Emblem. Angel was destined to be a beautiful cat because



DOUBLE CHAMPION SILVER MOTHS AZURE ANGEL, an outstanding Blue Longhair bred by Mrs. Kemmer.

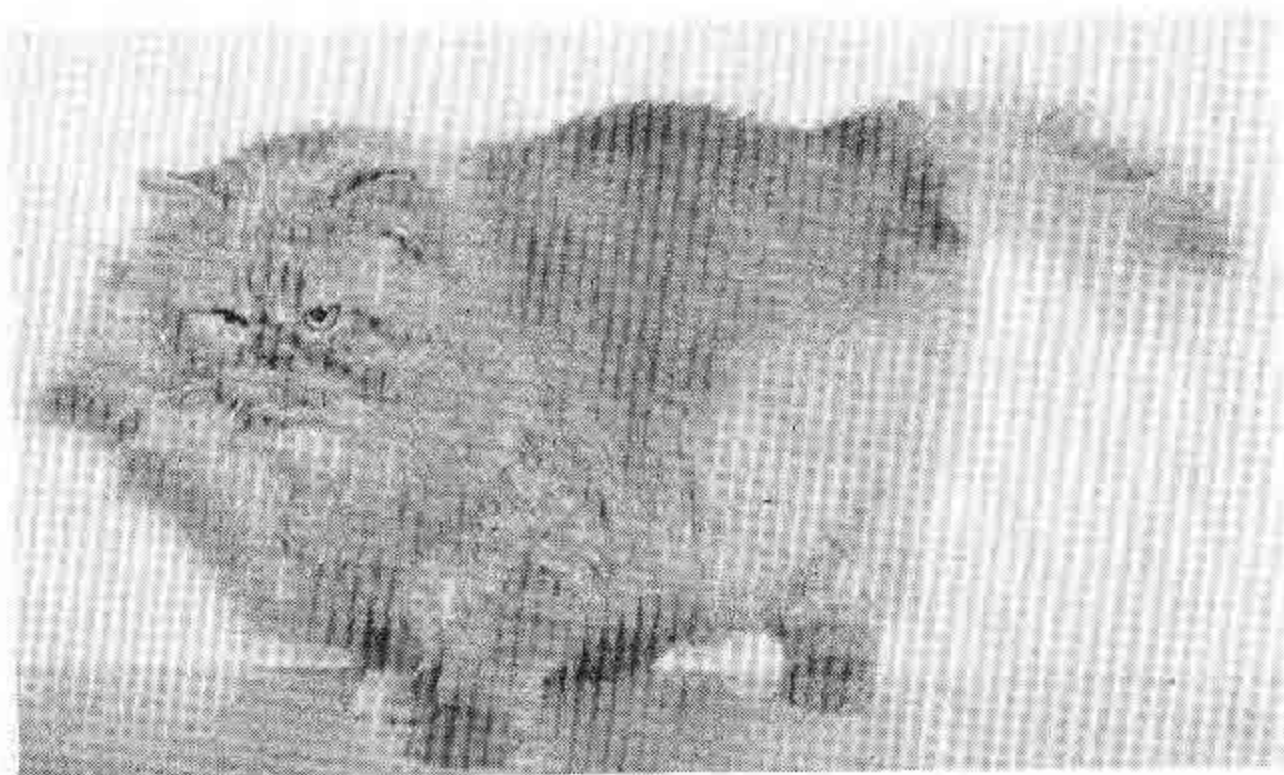
behind her in the pedigree were such outstanding cats as Wanda of Dunesk, Woodchurch, Perriwinkle, Dixi-land Felicity and September Sunshine of Dunesk.

Angel's litter brother, Regal Symbol, while not a perfect show cat himself, produced many fine show specimens such as Dbl. Gr. Ch. Silver Moth Bobadil (12 times Best Cat in Show) and Gr. Ch. Silver Moth Macbeth of Blue Acres. Both of these were very fine cats. In the Cream Persians were such outstanding cats as Dbl. Ch. Silver Moth Col. Cream Puff, Gr. Ch. Silver Moth Prince Echo and Quad. Ch. Silver Moth Buttercup. In the Whites she had Gr. Ch. Silver Moth Enchanted and Gr. Ch. Silver Moth Igloo of Tropic Isle. Gr. Ch. Patches was a very lovely Tortie and Gr. Ch. Teenah a beautiful Blue Cream. Quad. Ch. Silver Moth Mokee was the All-American Smoke female for the last show season.

Mrs. Kemmer believes that one of the finest cats she ever owned was Silver Moth Dixi-land Orchis, bred by Mrs. John H. Revington. She was a daughter of Wanda of Dunesk and the sire was

that wonderful light Blue male, Khyber Boris II. Mrs. Revington once told her that she believed most of the winning Dixi-land cats could be traced back to Wanda. Orchis produced Champions in the Blues, Whites, Creams, Blue Creams and Torties, depending upon the colour of the stud used in the mating. This ability to produce winners was also inherent in her son Regal Symbol.

To become a successful breeder of fine cats, she believes that a person must first of all love their cats and also be able to see their faults and strive to correct them. There are no "perfect" cats and selective breeding is the only way to attain near perfection. Keep in mind the genes, advises Mrs. Kemmer, for anything that is bred into a cat stays there and will show up when least expected. She recalls getting a Black kitten in a litter from Whites with no Blacks being evident in the pedigree for fourteen generations behind it. She also remembers a Brown Tabby appearing in a litter from Blues but strange as it may seem, the Tabby went on to become a winner for he was a very fine specimen of his breed.



Another Double Champion from Silver Moth Cattery, this time a Solid Red Longhair named CHARRENE.

Her idea on keeping your cats healthy is to feed them with good fresh meat, give them plenty of fresh air and exercise and make sure they are free of parasites of any kind at all times.

It is her contention that the latest rule which states a cat must win under three different judges to receive a Championship is unfair. Also, the scoring by some of our American judges is much too high. When scores of 98 or 99 out of a possible 100 are arrived at it does not leave much room for improvement. Pretty soon all cats will be scored at 100; where can you go from there?

Mrs. Kemmer believes that the success of her line of cats can be attributed to English breeders, for behind her cats are such famous cats as Wanda of Dunesk, Woodchurch Perriwinkle, September Sunshine of Dunesk, Townfield Harmony, Magnus of Allington, Mimosa of Allington, Margaret Rose of Allington, Benjamin of Westfield, Daybreak of Dunesk, Dewdrop of Dunesk, Dream Girl of Dunesk, Wild Violet of Dunesk, Dylan of Allington, Orlando of Allington, Rosalind of Allington, Dickon of Allington, Southway Crusader, Mair of Allington, Baralan Boy Blue, Danehurst Serquis, Danehurst Cosette, Widdington

Wonderbar, Widdington Warden and many others.

Although she has bred many outstanding winners, Mrs. Kemmer's thoughts always go back to The Lady In Red, her first little Red female of long ago. She was *her* cat, so to speak. Lady would let anyone hold her and love her but, the second she was free, she would come to her. She was the only one who could feed her.

Lady was a cat of unusual intelligence and a very amusing incident is brought to mind. Mr. and Mrs. Epps used to visit Silver Moth Cattery quite frequently and Lady was always a committee of one to welcome them. On one occasion they brought their newly-born child with them and Lady was forgotten in the excitement. She sat in the middle of the room and looked from one to the other; you could almost see that little brain cooking up something.

Suddenly she ran out of the room and in a very few minutes was back carrying one of her own little three-weeks-old kittens. She jumped up on the couch, put her baby down, turned around and said: "Miaou, miaou, see *my* pretty baby!"

REPRODUCTION

(continued from page 7)

The final appearance of the animal is therefore the outcome of a kind of running battle between its various genes. The result is often a blend of the characteristics of the parents, but when a gene is known to be able to produce its full effect even in the presence of rival genes, it is said to be "dominant" if the rival is its allele, "epistatic" if the rival is not its allele.

(to be continued)

AMERICAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

We much regret the circumstances which compel us to raise our Yearly Subscription Rate for the Americas from \$3.25 to \$3.75 as from 1st April next. This increase is now necessary to enable us to meet (a) the higher postal charges now operating and (b) the heavier commission required by the banks for the collection of dollar cheques.

Brand's Essence

is palatable nourishment
that even the sick cat
can rapidly digest



WHETHER in real illness, or when a cat is just "off colour," Brand's Essence is the ideal strengthener. Cats will often take a teaspoonful when they refuse everything else. It provides the cat with the valuable meat protein it needs. And being partially predigested, Brand's Essence is rapidly absorbed with almost no strain on the system. It contains no added salt or preservative—cannot possibly irritate.

Whenever extra nourishment is indicated
there's nothing better than Brand's Essence

As a nourishing stimulant at show-time or whenever the cat is subjected to strain; to build up the mother-cat; and as additional feeding for the kittens themselves from the age of three weeks, there's nothing better—or more acceptable—than Brand's Essence. And it's a rapid general conditioner.

Brand's Essence

BEEF • CHICKEN

IRRITATION OF CATS' EARS

caused by the ear-mange mite can be definitely cured by three or four applications of the wonder-drug



ŌTŌDEX

which combines an anti-parasitic, antiseptic and local anæsthetic

SOOTHING, SAFE AND CERTAIN

Bottles 2/- and 7/6 (post 6d. and 9d.)

SKIN DISEASE

of a non-parasitic nature, so rife and often seasonal in cats, can be rapidly cured by



STRENOL ECZEMA CREAM

an outstanding and well-tested remedy. Quite safe if licked.

Pots 2/- (post 7½d.)

Both products are obtainable at Boots' branches

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In the Siamese World



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

FIRST of all, I want to thank all those who sent greetings at Xmas and the New Year.

I was unable to get up to the Yorkshire Cat Club Show held in December. The entry was good and from my marked catalogue I see that the following Siamese did well: S.P. 1st and Ch. Male—Mrs. Walker's Ratri Si More (sire, Achilles, dam, Ratu Kangwarn); 1st and Ch. Female—Mrs. G. Gentry's Donnymeaux Dina (sire, Donna Nanki); 1st and Ch. B.P.—Mrs. B. Thompson's Laurentide Moonbeam (sire, Laurentide Quicksilver, dam, Ch. Laurentide Corona); Kittens—Mrs. M. Bowser's Wensley Jim, Mrs. C. Watson's Milori Mignon, Mrs. M. Bowel's Siepor Blue Penny. Best Siamese Kitten in Show was Mrs. P. Kirby's Crumber Hill Tina (sire, Ch. Bluehayes Foxy, dam, Crumber Hill Lulu). Best Neuter was Mrs. M. Hood's Kutying Salu.

* * *

The Croydon Cat Club Show came at a difficult time as the National C.C.

had moved into November. However, the entry was good and I understand it paid its way. Major awards went as follow: Best S.H. in Show—Dr. and Mrs. Groom's B.P. Ch. Nilgiris Blue Antonio. This cat by Ch. Fernrig Zyn ex Ch. Banchor Blue Titania has greatly improved and is such a pleasure to handle; Best S.H. Kitten—Miss G. Sladen's Manx Stonor Nicotina; Best Neuter—Mrs. M. Montgomery's Pr. Purland Som Phong; 1st and Ch. S.P. Male—Mrs. A. Jay's Sawat Fun Soo (sire, Ch. Killdown Sultan, dam, Ch. Sawat Angelina); 1st and Ch. S.P. Female—Mrs. M. Buttery's Brackledown Donna (sire, Ch. Bluehayes Foxy, dam, Brackledown Beauty); Winning Kittens—Mrs. N. Hardy's Senty-Twix Xylia, Col. and Mrs. Blackden's Spirits' Ariel, Mrs. C. Watson's Milori Mignon, Mrs. M. Dunnill's Sunfun Sunyi, Mrs. Warren's B.P. Nuparro Presto, Mr. M. Haynes's Laurentide Zenith and Mr. Kirby-Smith's C.P. Beaumanor Marianne. Writing of the Croydon fixture reminds me that Mr. Arthur Towe, Show Manager, is now

in hospital awaiting an operation on his hip. I am certain you all join with me in wishing him a steady and complete recovery.

* * *

It was a great shock to my husband and I to hear of the death of Mrs. F. Stewart, only a few days after we had received a Christmas card from her. Mrs. Stewart was a founder member of the Siamese Cat Society of South Africa and did much to promote its interest. Dr. and Mrs. Stewart came to England every three years or so and always managed to spend a little time with us.

* * *

It gave me great pleasure to meet the Chairwoman of the South African Cat Union, Miss P. Spilhaus, who during her stay in England was able to visit a number of breeders and shows, including our own Siamese Show, which she very much enjoyed. We spent a most enjoyable afternoon discussing cats and their problems—in fact everything “from cabbages to kings”—and I look forward to hearing from Miss Spilhaus when she has settled down again in her South African home.

* * *

How difficult it is to overcome age-old ideas—even with logic—and how much worry these ideas can cause! Let me quote from some letters: “I have been told that if mated to an ordinary cat, my queen will be ruined for life—and that it is possible to mate a brother and sister.” The mating of a Siamese queen to any ordinary cat, or any other breed, will produce a cross-bred litter, and that is the completion of that mating. Any subsequent matings with pure bred stock will produce pure bred litters. The mating of brother and sister is a different matter. The mating of close relations should only be under-

taken by breeders who know what they are doing as weaknesses are likely to appear if no thought is given to the back history of parents. In short, do not mate brother and sister without due and careful consideration.

Another letter even more astonishing runs: “A breeder called here to-day and told me that she (the writer’s queen) was not pure bred but a first cross as HER EYES ARE ROUND. This has been a great shock to me as the breeder from whom I got her had the pedigrees of sire and dam.” How ridiculous! Almost unbelievable, isn’t it? If round eyes denote impure breeding—well!!

It is a pity that the term “breeder” is used so loosely. Those of us who have been breeding cats for years are apt to think of a breeder as one who has bred quality stock over a long period. Do, please, whenever you are able, stop these extraordinary ideas by going to the trouble of finding the person concerned and explaining that he/she is not only wrong, but causing worry and anxiety to novice fanciers.

* * *

I have had several calls for advice on sticky eyes in kittens. Much depends on the individual symptoms, so each case has had to be treated separately, but in general the introduction of calcium with Vitamin D (your vet will supply or you can obtain the tablets from Boots Chemists) is a great help in reducing a tendency to this trouble.

* * *

There is a great deal of feeling amongst all sections of cat lovers, exhibitors, public, judges and show managers, with regard to the holding of shows too close together. This is borne out by the interest shown in my remarks in the December issue of OUR CATS. The responsibility of granting show dates rests with the G.C.C.F. and it would

seem that in the light of the general dissatisfaction some serious attempt should be made to arrange longer intervals between the fixtures.

* * *

Mrs. M. Svenningsen reports from Oslo on the Show held in that city in December. Mme. M. Ravel journeyed from Paris to judge Longhairs and Mrs. Langberg of Denmark was the Shorthair judge. Many guests from Sweden were present and much enjoyed their visit. Twenty Longhair exhibits were absent owing to Asiatic flue in Stockholm. Best in Show was Mrs. B. Axelsson's Ch. Thierval Enchanting, bred by Mrs. Crickmore. Best Kitten was Mrs. Svenningsen's Omaheeni Bella, a Burmese bred by Mrs. Bastow and the first of the breed to be seen in Oslo. Ch. Nilgiris Bure Turco, her mate to be, was awarded CACIB. Some nice Abyssinians were shown. Ch. Snonebus Clarissa (dam Nigella Fern, who got her CACIB) and Tranley Khenti (breeder Mrs. Winsor). Mrs. Axelsson's Contented Tessa (breeder Miss Wiseman) also won her CAC.

The Siamese classes were not as good as expected, Mrs. Svenningsen says. Domestic Shorthairs (British S.H. to us) were very lovely; top grade exhibits, all of them. The Silver Tabbies from

Monstone Regina sired by Silver Flute were excellent exhibits and Dble. Int. Ch. Africa Thrust was there. I well remember him when I judged in Stockholm, a beautiful Shorthair.

* * *

Now to the Frankfurt Show. There were 300 exhibits and judges were Mrs. Svenningsen for Siamese and Mrs. Hansen, Denmark, Ch. Longhairs and Siamese kittens. The best exhibits were from English imports. Best Siamese was Int. Ch. Favorita von Lobelia (sired by Int. Ch. Doneraile Leo out of Doneraile Danette) whose picture you saw in the December issue of OUR CATS. CAC went to Yati von Lobelia, a son of Danette and Luch v. Avalon. Owner of Yati is Mr. Kochen. Many of the Open Class Ch. males were too fat or their body colour too dark. Among Open Females (22 exhibits in class) CAC went to Mr. Schwagat's Spinix v Lowental; Blue Point Open Female CAC to Mme. Voidies Suline Suella, bred by Mrs. H. Porter, sired by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy ex Ch. Chatwyn Silhouette. Best S.H. Kitten was a little male, Pimaya Monsoon bred by Mrs. Malsholdt of Oslo.

* * *

You will be amused and intrigued by



Best Cat in Show at Oslo was the English bred Blue Longhair CH. THIEPVAL ENCHANTING belonging to Mrs. Brita Axelsson, of Stockholm.

the photograph of Mlle. P. Bachellerie's kittens on this page. It brings to my mind the kindness shown to me by both Miss Bachellerie and M. Petit when I was *en route* to Nantes for the wonderful show organized there by Mme. Ravel, at which it was my good fortune to judge.

* * *

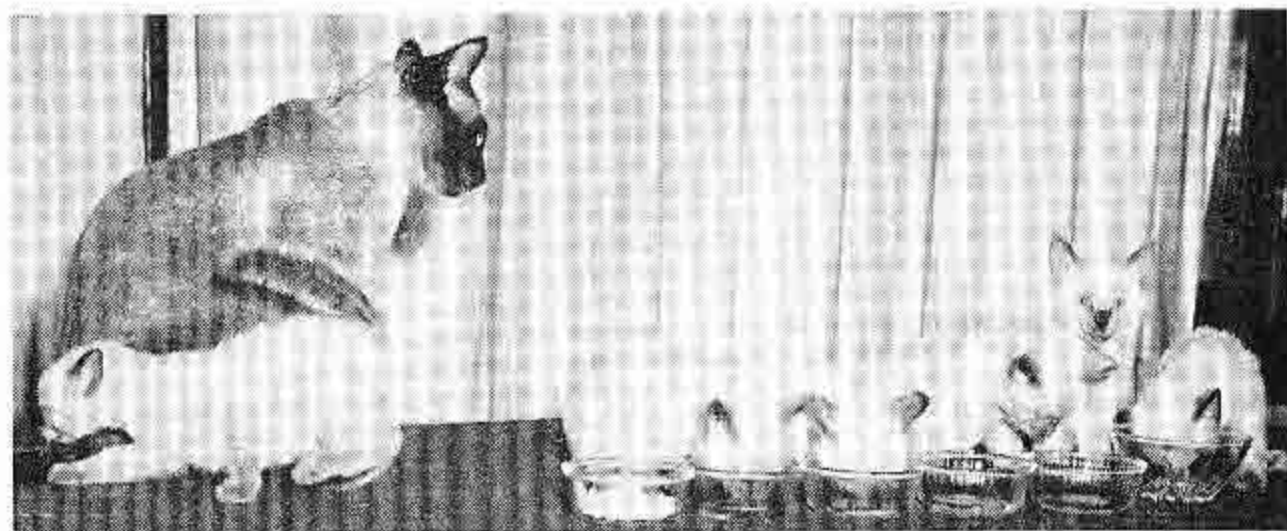
The 1958 List of Cats at Stud is now available price 1s. from the Secretary of the Governing Council. Some interesting comparisons with last year's entries are revealed: In 1956-7, Long-hair studs numbered 57, this year's List shows 40. Blues have dropped from 20 to 14, Blacks from 6 to 1 and Creams from 12 to 10. Among Short-hairs, British are one up on last year, but have varied in breeds. Burnese

have 6, 2 up on 1957. The Siamese comparison is:

S.P.	1957	58	1958	91
B.P.	1957	14	1958	15
C.P.	1957	10	1958	9
		—		—
		82		115
		—		—

A.G.M.'S are now upon us. Do attend as many as you possibly can although these—like the show fixtures—are rather close together.

Can any reader let me have copies of *OUR CATS* for September, 1956, November, 1956, and November, 1951? These issues are out of print. I have lost mine and should like to make my series complete. While on the subject of books, if anybody has copies of early Stud Books I should appreciate their getting in touch with me.



"Callyann"

Mlle. Bachellerie's happy family of Seal Point Siamese—with one exception!

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

OUR CATS is published monthly and closing date is the 25th day of the month preceding the month of publication. MSS. and photographs submitted will only be returned if accompanied by fully stamped and addressed envelopes. Photographs should preferably be of the glossy type with sharp details. A stamped addressed envelope should also be enclosed where a reply is required to some general inquiry.

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News from "Down Under"

HERE we are again—getting "back on the beam" after the Christmas hang-over. We still get a wonderful kick out of the festive season and the lovely fairy tree we set up at home, festooned with coloured lights. We also supply a tree each year to the spastic kiddies home and they love it.

Many thanks, Mr. Editor, for my airmailed copy of the Special Greetings Number of OUR CATS. It is a splendid effort; may I offer congrats? I know it will create a favourable impression everywhere our cat folk are privileged to receive it. I did not expect to receive my copy until late January, so you can well imagine my thrill and pleasure to have it on 23rd December. I think it is an outstanding journal and a power of help to all cat lovers and the pussies themselves. I have asked the Assistant Editor

of our local *Cats Digest* if it would be possible to put out a special number next Christmas and have it ready in time to airmail to yourself and other good friends to arrive before Christmas Eve. We could include a special greeting to you, good people and in fact to cat lovers everywhere.

We have had light rain in many parts of the State since my last notes to you and although insufficient for storage, it has temporarily lessened the awful bush fire menace. Only those who have been through the horror of these fires can appreciate the respite. Our January fixture at Katoomba had to be cancelled owing to bush fire damage, which was very severe at Leura-Katoomba.

As I have not received the marked catalogue from Secretary Mrs. Thurmer of the Adelaide December Show, I am



Prominent Australian cat folk at the Federal Cat Club Kitten Show held in Sydney, N.S.W., in December. They are left to right, Miss Rapley (Patroness), Mr. Arundel (Treasurer), Mrs. Burnage (President), Mrs. Finch (Social Secretary), Mr. Turner (Patron), Mr. Holder (Chief Steward), Mrs. Scognamilla (Asst. Secretary) and Miss A. M. Vale (Secretary).

sorry I cannot give you any details for this issue. I guess cat club officials have been taking a well-merited holiday as my only letter came from Pres. Col. Aberdeen, of Dunedin, New Zealand. He reports their Show as being "very good" but omitted to send a marked catalogue. I guess Mr. H. Pollock, of the Auckland Club, is very busy changing his address and building new houses for his lovely cats.

I had 84 Christmas cards from all parts of the world, including each Club Secretary, which I greatly appreciated.

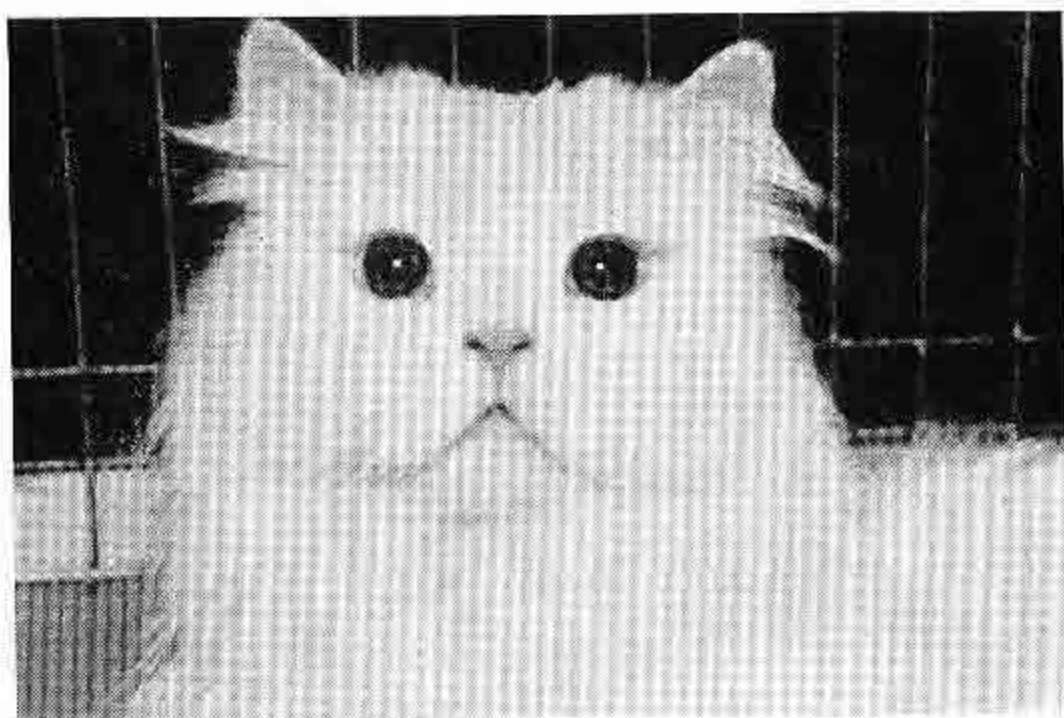
At the Federal Club Show in Sydney last November, a *Sydney Morning Herald* photographer took a snap of the judge and as you, Mr. Editor, have twice asked for one of me at work, I now send it along

with the hope that it won't "rock" you and your readers. Sorry I cannot remember the name of the cat I am holding. (See our front cover—Editor.)

I should like you to know that I have been privileged to receive a complimentary copy of that splendid book by Fernand Méry, *Just Cats*. I loved every page of it and it will be one of my treasured possessions. Every cat lover should have it, even those who imagine they have nothing to learn as far as our little friends are concerned, as every page contains some new interest. It has certainly given me a new angle on many points and the author is to be heartily congratulated. Some day I may perhaps be fortunate enough to have a talk with him.

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 be gladly supplied on request to any of our friends overseas.



Here is one of the many lovely Blue-eyed White Longhairs to be found on the Continent. A CACIB winner at the November show of Racekatten, PIERRE DE TROUVILLE, three years old, was bred by his owner Mrs. Louise Johansen of Copenhagen.

Purely Purrsonal

By IVOR RALEIGH

Being some impressions from "a looker-on" which do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.

THERE appears to be a definite relationship between the way people look and the things they do, or like. It is, for instance, a common saying that those who like horses come to look like them, while the classical highbrow, with his long, untidy hair and far-away look reminds us nostalgically of the intellectual hunger that was Ancient Greece.

I believe that cat people also fall into two distinct types. There is the Siamese lover: lean, hungry-looking, fierce and lovable; capable of cunning and inordinate viciousness or honeyed affection and generosity, mentally alive but alive on her own and on everyone's nerves and yet, as an individual, eminently worth while. Then, we have the lover of the Longhairs: cuddly and feminine; potentially treacherous but infinitely preferring indirect action to open assault. Here then are the two predominant cat females: the first, an ideal mistress, the second a docile but wistful wife.

* * *

I do not think that the current practice of awarding Championship Certificates in cases where there are only two or three exhibits in popular breed open classes is good. As the rules stand, the judge has to decide, with the help of another judge, whether or not the cat is of especial virtue. Very often the problem resolves itself into one of affection rather than of discrimination; the judge who withholds Certificates is never popular. I feel that the Governing Council ought to refrain, to coin a phrase, from "passing the buck" and instead, should rule firmly that no Certificate be given unless

there are say, four or more cats in the class. Specific exemption could be made in the case of rare breeds such as the Smoke.

* * *

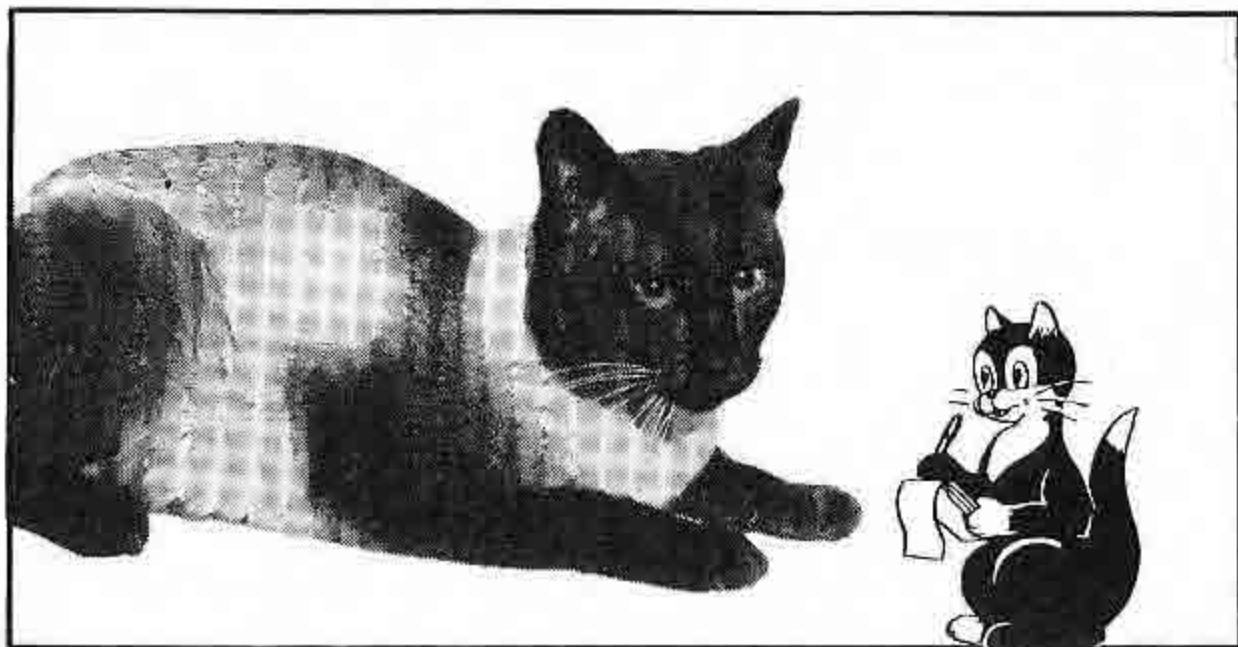
The Southern Cat Club's Show proved to be as always, a great success. What a pity that there were no catalogues available by as early as 2.30 p.m. All had been sold out. It seems to me that such a well-britch'd Club could well afford to risk an extra pound or two rather than allow visitors to wander about like lost sheep, not knowing what was what.

* * *

It is good fun to watch the owners of Open Class exhibits waiting with eyes glued to the awards board for that thrilling moment when the slip goes up. The hungry anticipation in their eyes and their air of hardly repressed excitement as they rush forward to read the newly-posted slip reminds me poignantly of a verse in one of Shelley's greatest poems:—

"Others, with burning eyes, lean forth
and drink
With eager lips the wind of their own
speed,
As if the thing they loved fled on before,
And now, even now, they clasp'd it."

The R.S.P.C.A. has accepted with "very deepest regret" the resignation of Lord Merthyr, its Chairman since 1952. Because of his recent appointment as chairman of committees and Deputy Speaker in the House of Lords, Lord Merthyr has had to reduce his outside interests.



INTERVIEW WITH A WELL KNOWN BEDFORDSHIRE GENTLEMAN

‘He was inclined to be a little brisk with the press,’ said Tibby, the Tibs reporter, ‘until he found that I shared his high regard for Tibs.’

Mrs Burlton’s Siamese hasn’t a lot of time to spare for press-interviews.

Such a fine figure of a cat (and the only Siamese stud in Bedfordshire) is naturally highly respected. At last year’s Siamese Show, judges and public alike were impressed by his fitness and excellent condition — for which, Mrs Burlton says, Tibs are largely responsible. Mrs Burlton’s queens, and their kittens, are stars of film and television — and of course they are all Tibs devotees.

*Famous
breeders
say:*

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11d. and 2/3



KEEP CATS TIBSICAL



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

M**R****S.** 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 personal-
ities, both human and feline.

Notts. & Derby Show

FROM several exhibitors I heard that the 13th Ch. Show of the Notts. and Derby Cat Club was very successful and blessed with a good gate and a bright and cheery day. Mrs. Bastow, Hon. Secretary and Show Manager, was her usual efficient self. She has given many years of service to the Club and the annual garden party held at her home in the summer is always well attended and appreciated.

The entry of 235 exhibits was an excellent one. All were pedigree cats and kittens with the exception of six household pets; two of which were good enough to be awarded equal firsts.

Best Longhair Adult was Miss E. Sheppard's Cream male Ch. Widdington Winterstar by Ch. Widdington Winterset, Best L.H. Kitten went to Mrs. Wright's Blue-Cream Heather Bleu, by Boy Blue of Kenton, a very pleasing

award for we devotees of this delightful variety. However lovely, Blue-Creams seldom achieve "Best in Show," probably because they appear to have a limited appeal. It is not until you own one that you can enjoy their charm and exceptional intelligence.

Other awards were: Best L.H. Neuter—Mrs. Digncy's Chinchilla Fishermore Helen by Ch. Terry of Allington; Best S.H. Adult—Mrs. Lapper's S.P. Siamese male Blue Vision by Tiane Tainfu; Best S.H. Kitten—Miss Lant's S.P. Siamese Beaumanoir Petrina by Petersogai; Best S.H. Neuter—Miss Whitcombe's Siamese Hak Ma Lau by Sealstream Silent Steel.

Mrs. Crickmore's Ch. Thierval Precocious was first in her Open Class; she was the only Blue Champion present. The winning Blue male was Mrs. Denton's Thierval Enchanter by Ch. Thierval Paragon. The Jude Cup for Best S.P. Siamese Female Cat was awarded to Mrs. K. R. Williams's Bluebridge Hilary by Ch. Southwood Marcus.

Miss Langston's lovely Chinchilla male Ch. Fidelio of Allington added to his laurels by winning his Open Class and the Hon. Mrs. Haden-Guest's and Mrs. Turney's Bonavia Marietta was the winning Chinchilla female. Congratulations to Miss Marjorie Bull on achieving her final Challenge Certificates with her lovely Orange-eyed White Decbank Marguerite, and (at a

previous show) with her litter sister Deebank Wildrose. These two young Champions are by her Blue male Vigilant Mark, a son of Ch. Astra of Pensford and Ch. Jewel of Dunesk.

Congratulations are due also to Mr. and Mrs. Jewell on winning a final Ch. Certificate with their Blue-Cream Jewel of Pensford (by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous) and on achieving this Championship in Jewel's first season as an adult. Jewel was also dam of Sunnyvale Topazalite, Best Cream Kitten by Mrs. King's Ch. Hendras Benedict.

Amongst Shorthairs Best B.P. Siamese was Mrs. Porter's female Chatwin Jenny (by Ch. Missfore Ryken) who also sired Best B.P. Kitten, Mrs. Bower's Siepoo Blue Perry. An interesting award was 1st and C.C. to Mrs. Watson's Burmese male Darshan Khudiram who was making his bow at an English show. Bred in U.S.A. by Mrs. Paul Levy, his sire and dam are given in the catalogue as "Burmese registered in U.S.A." The winning female was Mrs. Gee's Fernreig Penelope. The winning S.H. Stud was also a Burmese, Mrs. Smith's Ch. Sablesilk Bimbo, and in L.H.'s, a Chinchilla, Mrs. Lodge's Ch. Terry of Allington.

The L.H. Champion of Champions class was cancelled as there were fewer than five entries but in S.H.'s with six entries Mrs. Porter's Ch. Chatwin Silhouette was the winner and she also won the S.H. Brood Queen class.

Australian news

Mrs. Burnage, so well known in New South Wales, Australia, for her Chinchillas had the misfortune to lose three of her older cats through natural causes, one of them being her famous Chinchilla male Ch. Royal of St. George.

She writes: "Miss Haswell offered me his son by Bonavia Feather, the latter bred as you know by Mrs. Turney. I couldn't bear to look at him as he was so like his father, but finally Miowera

Royal Pinion was brought to me looking very lovely and enough to soften the hardest heart. He has been here for several months and is the greatest replacement for his sire. He is now a Champion and the sire of lovely kittens."

"Just before our last Championship Show, Ch. M.R. Pinion, Ch. Rex, Kuteroyal and Kuterex all appeared on television with me and next week I shall be on again with a Chinchilla and Bluemead Swan Lake, my first Siamese. You will be surprised I have a Siamese but she came to me when I was living alone for a time because she was noisy and demanding. She is most independent and all the Longhair cats adore her. Strange to say, the only one who dislikes her is Poppet, my alley cat, and when they had kittens on the same day, my Siamese seemed to have an idea Poppet might get her babies and wouldn't even let us look at them without creating a fearful noise. However, all went well and one of them was awarded Best Kitten in Show, the father of the sire being Mrs. Corbett's Ch. Mais-Mor-Marmaduke to whom you gave a Challenge Certificate when you judged at Sydney. I loved the sapphire blue eyes of all three kittens, and all had long bodies and type. It seems strange looking for long heads, bodies and tails after deploring such qualities if they turn up in Longhairs.

"My Kuterex and Weenie, my spayed female, have been doing some fashion modelling for one of our big business houses for which they were paid the same as human models. Kuterex was taken reclining against a girl modelling play suits. He was looking out of beach bags and such like. Weenie took Kutie's place when he lost his coat and nestled luxuriously with a beautiful blonde, modelling an Orlon cardigan and looking out from an array of Christmas gift slippers. Weenie took to modelling like a duck to water and is quite a glamour puss now.

"Cat affairs are very busy here and we have started another judges' training class. Mr. Pearce will give them their examination whilst I help to instruct them. My eleven candidates are very enthusiastic, I have several plans for their practical lessons which I hope they will enjoy.

"I had Mrs. Herbert's little Chin-chilla Musetta of Allington to mate to Pinion; I kept her to make sure she was in kitten before sending her on her long journey back to Queensland and got so fond of her I wept when she went back. She had two boys and two girls and it is a consolation to hear one is coming to N.S.W.

"My husband has painted the cattery pearl white with green gutters and pale primrose doors so we look very smart. I am hoping the two brothers Kuteroyal and Kuterex will always live in harmony although I have never yet owned two males who did so. But there is always a first time! When I see the arum lilies in the garden I remember your astonishment that they grow like weeds here. It has been very hot and we are now looking forward to cooler days and our Championship shows."

Stock building-up

Mrs. Thurmer, of Kilburn, Adelaide, sends news of another winner by an English imported cat, Grand Ch. Misselmore Tyrant Print bred by Major and Mrs. Rendall. His B.P. Siamese daughter Westwood Blue Physce was Best Female Kitten and Best Opposite Sex Kitten at the Siamese Cat Club Show at Victoria and Best Siamese Kitten at the Cat Fanciers' Society Show. Her full sister has won well in New South Wales but her dam Westwood Blue Velvet disappeared mysteriously to the great disappointment of her owner.


Mrs. Downey of Auckland, New Zealand, has sent a very good Blue

Persian, Mr. Amory a pair of C.P. Siamese and Mrs. Thurmer is importing Burmese from Mr. Pollock of Auckland; so she anticipates improvement and some good stock at this season's shows.

Winners in Germany

English bred stock also gave a very good account of themselves at Frankfurt, Germany. The International Champion L.H. male class was won by Mr. Werner Bierhoff with Int. Ch. Paragon of Pensford by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. The latter also sired the winning Blue female adult, Doctor Meze's (France) Rosita of Dunesk bred by Mrs. Brunton. Her dam is Gaydene Wildrose bred by Mrs. McVady, Rosita is now a Champion and the sixteenth Champion sired by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. The winning Blue-Cream adult, Ronada Sunshine, bred by our Mrs. Brice-Webb was also by Ch. F.F. Several of the first-prize-winning Longhairs were by three Blue males bred in England, namely, Int. Ch. Paragon of Pensford, Thornhills Timothy by Marius of Allington owned by Mr. Carl Stein, Halebridge Simon by Moonraker of Allington owned by Thelka Schneider.

The Int. Ch. female class was won by Dr. Kroon-Nedjelja's (resident in Holland) with his Blue female Int. Ch. Laska van Frisia-State by Int. Ch. Southway Wizard and Int. Ch. Farways Deidre.

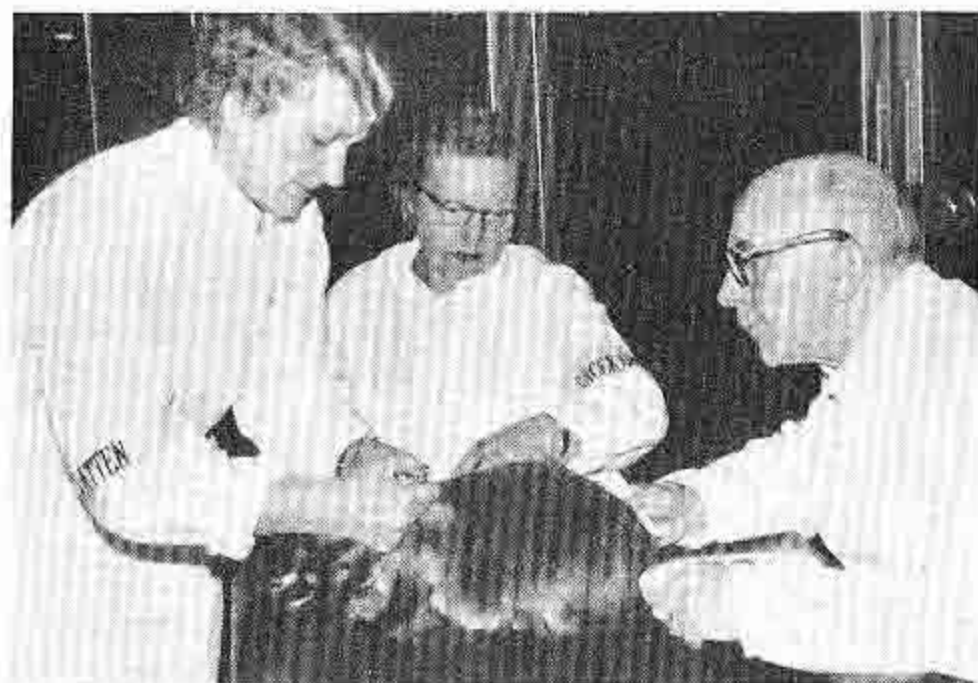
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PICTURES FROM DENMARK



Our snapshots from the recent successful show staged in Copenhagen by Racekatten and reported in this issue, show (top) a Siamese arrival being received by the Club's Secretaries Elly Duch and Karen Smith and the chief veterinary officer Aa. Bonfils. The lower picture records a meeting between German judge Mrs. S. Cremer, lecturer Mr. Hans Hvass and (in the white coat) Mr. Willy Anderson, vice-President of Racekatten.

In Shorthairs the Int. Ch. male class was won by Miss Eytzinger's S.P. Siamese Int. Ch. Doneraile Leo by Doneraile Dara bred by Mrs. K. R. Williams, and the female class by Leo's daughter Int. Ch. Favorita von Lobelia owned by Mr. Müller.

Two-hundred-and-eighty-six cats and kittens owned by a hundred-and-six exhibitors were presented at this very successful Championship Show. Exhibits were penned from France, Switzerland, Holland, Austria and, of course, Germany.

Stud management

I am often asked how many queens a Longhair male cat should be allowed to mate each year. It all depends in my opinion on how many queens he is expected to mate belonging to his owner. I do not profess to be an authority on stud cats as queens and kittens are my special love and I have only bred and owned Gem of Pensford for a short time, and now own Ch. F.F.

If one's ideal is to keep a male in perfect condition all the year and present him at a few shows in winter, about twelve visiting queens should keep him happy and contented. It is always advisable to leave a margin for the queens, who are consistently difficult to get into kitten and may require two or even three visits. I have had three queens until this year and find this arrangement works out admirably. This year my queens have increased to four as I am keeping Ch. Octavian's daughter Regina of Pensford.

From mid-August until the end of January Ch. F.F. is not allowed any visitors. This complete rest enables him to settle down and spend many hours in the house with me as an adorable companion. Almost to the same date in mid-December his house manners desert him and he has to live in his own house again. But these hours in the home do help to relieve the monotony of a stud

cat's life in the darkest days of winter.

One of the first essentials for the health and happiness of a stud cat is a very large run where he can have a gallop when he is feeling skittish, free trunks to keep his claws in good fettle and shelves to rest upon, preferably one in the sun and one in the shade so that he has a choice according to the weather. And how weather-wise cats can be when they are provided with the opportunities to exhibit their preferences.

At the Southern

The Southern Counties Cat Club Ch. Show at the Seymour Hall, London, on January 28th attracted 396 exhibits. Mr. Dunks spared a day from his business activities to help the Show Manager Mrs. Dunks, and many of us were pleased to welcome him as we have seen little of him since his new appointment and removal to Reading.

It was rather a murky day and the mixture of daylight and artificial electric lamps with pink shades helped to play havoc with coat colour in Blue adults and as usual they were facing a blank wall with these lamps suspended from the gallery. I really do consider it is time some other Longhair variety should occasionally be situated facing the wall, many of which would be far less penalized by a poor light than the Blues.

As this fixture was the last London Ch. Show until the Autumn, exhibitors were having a last fling and many of the classes were very well filled. Best L.H. Cat was a Chinchilla male Bonavia Contenta by Ch. Mark of Allington owned by the Hon. Mrs. Haden-Guest and Mrs. Turney. The latter also owned the winning Chinchilla female Sarisbury Aphra by Ch. Foxburrow Tili Willi. Congratulations to their owners on both these exhibits becoming Champions. Best L.H. Kitten was Mrs. Stephenson's Blue Ashdown Robin by Ashdown

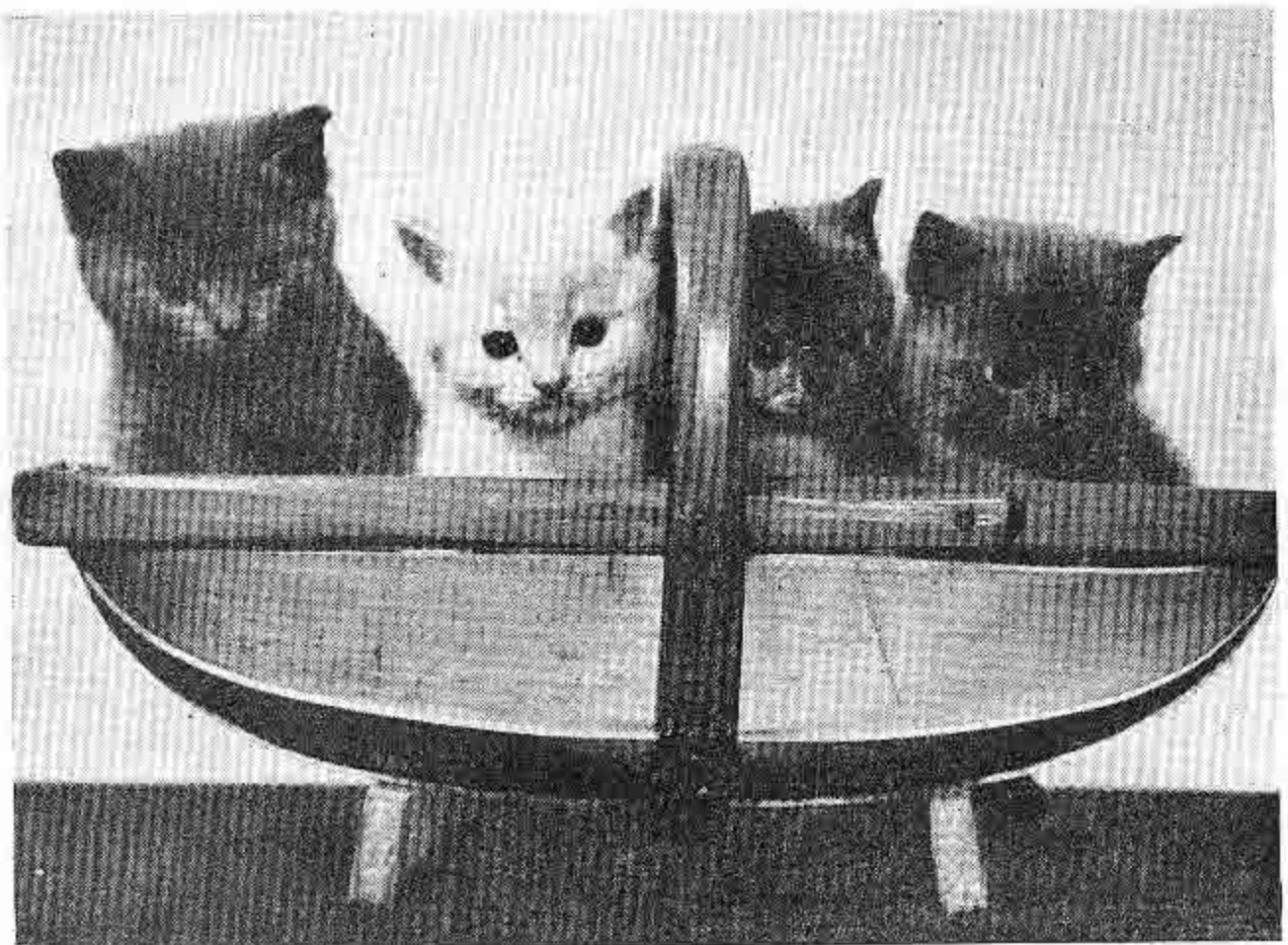
Nuthatch and Gentian of Dunesk, a daughter of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. The winning Blue female Mrs. Allen Smith's Ashdown Ladybird is bred the same way as Robin. Best L.H. Neuter went to Mrs. Bacon's Chinchilla Bonavia Luke by Ch. Mark of Allington, and Best Shorthair Cat to Mr. and Mrs. Glover's S.P. Siamese Ch. Southwood Marcus. Best S.H. Kitten was Mrs. Menezes' Abyssinian Taishun Cheetah by Nigella Sabre and Best S.H. Neuter Mrs. Montgomery's S.P. Siamese Day-break by Ch. Killdown Sultan.

A discontinued award

There were some lovely cats presented to compete for Best in Show and although the Committee had elected a panel of five L.H. judges and five S.H. judges to decide these awards, some of the decisions were by the casting vote of the referee judge. One wonders why Reserve Best in Show has been dis-

continued? We always had this before the war and at some of the first post-war shows. This would be a useful proposal to make at the Annual General Meetings of the Clubs which organize All Breed Ch. Shows. When exhibits are assembled for Best in Show the time taken to decide on a reserve would be infinitesimal and when such lovely cats are competing the second best would invariably be worthy of distinction.

These notes go to press the day after the Show so there is not sufficient time to ascertain all the major awards. But here are some of them: Mrs. Taylor's Blue male Boy Blue of Kenton by Ch. Baralan Boy Blue, who was awarded the Special for Best Blue Adult; Miss Sheppard's Best Cream adult Ch. Widdington Winterstar; Mrs. King's 1st and Ch. Cream female Startops Baby Bunting. This cat, by the way, was the one purchased by Mr. Macdonald Daly for his wife and which came back to Mrs. King when this



Surrey & South London Picture Service

Bonny British Shorthair kittens—by Ch. Aldra's Blue Bonnie bred by Mrs. Attwood, of Cheam, Surrey.

famous judge of dogs and outstanding television personality was tragically killed last year motoring home from London Airport after a judging engagement in France. His premature death was a great loss to the Fancy as he provided several breeders with the opportunity of presenting their cats on television. Mrs. Jewell's Blue-Cream Ch. Jewel of Pensford was awarded her fourth C.C. This young queen has been very consistent. Mr. Stirling-Webb won in Colourpoint Longhairs with Briarry Zahrat. Some of the Blue kittens were lovely in quality and I was captivated with Miss Sheppard's Widdington Wizard, the type of kitten that is fulfilling all he promised to be when he appeared at eight weeks in a litter class at the B.P.C.S. Ch. Show.

The two first-prize Blue Open Class female winners were also excellent—Mrs. Brine's Avernoll Exquisite and Mr. Reed's Briarie Bubbles. Mrs. Brind won well with her Cream female kitten Brynwood Sunrise (five firsts in six classes) and Miss Sheppard's Widdington Stardust, a Cream female in the older kitten class was a gem. Mrs. Brunton showing a Blue-Cream kitten for the first time, Damask of Dunesk, was first. Mrs. Brind's kitten in the same

class had very lovely type but unfortunately had some cream patches.

Mrs. Clarke won in S.P. Siamese adults with Craigiehillock Tana.

Mrs. Varcoe had the arduous task of judging 57 S.P. Siamese kittens divided into six Open Classes. In the next issue it will be possible to publish the winner of the Siamese Cat Club Rosette for Best Siamese Kitten and some other outstanding awards.

After the last Ch. Show of the season—the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club Show—we have a spate of Annual General Meetings. This gives breeders their opportunity of expressing their opinions and making suggestions for future shows and cat welfare in general.

In January issue an error occurred in my notes on page 23.

Ch. Bayhorne Ajax was one of the Blue Champions not entered. Ch. Bayhorne Adam was present and gave a good account of himself.

Apologies to Miss Langston are due for an error in the report of the N.C.C. Ch. Show held in November. The Best in Show L.H. Female Kitten was by Ch. Fidelio of Allington and *not* Ch. Mark of Allington.



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TAILPIECES (continued from page 2)

Did you read about Peter, the handsome black fellow at the Home Office who is the last established civil servant cat left in Whitehall? For ten years he has been on an annual salary of £6 10s. 0d.; raised by the Treasury from 1s. 6d. a week when the price of food started to climb a few years ago. For 24 hours a day Peter wanders about the corridors of the Home Office wearing a brass plaque which reads "Peter, Home Office, S.W.1." It is interesting fact that there has always been a resident black cat at the Home Office and his name has always been Peter.

I hear that a notable and welcome recruit to the ranks of Siamese breeders is Mr. Charles Cruft, a member of the family whose name has always been associated with the famous Cruft's Dog Show which takes place this month in London. Mr. Cruft has a pair of Siamese named Su-Key and Ming, but he intends to keep his boarding kennels for dogs at his Coulsdon, Surrey, home.

It will be nice when I can report something coming down in price. The official rat catcher at Barking, Essex, is to get another 1s. 6d. an hour for his services. So rats cost more!

MICKEY.

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