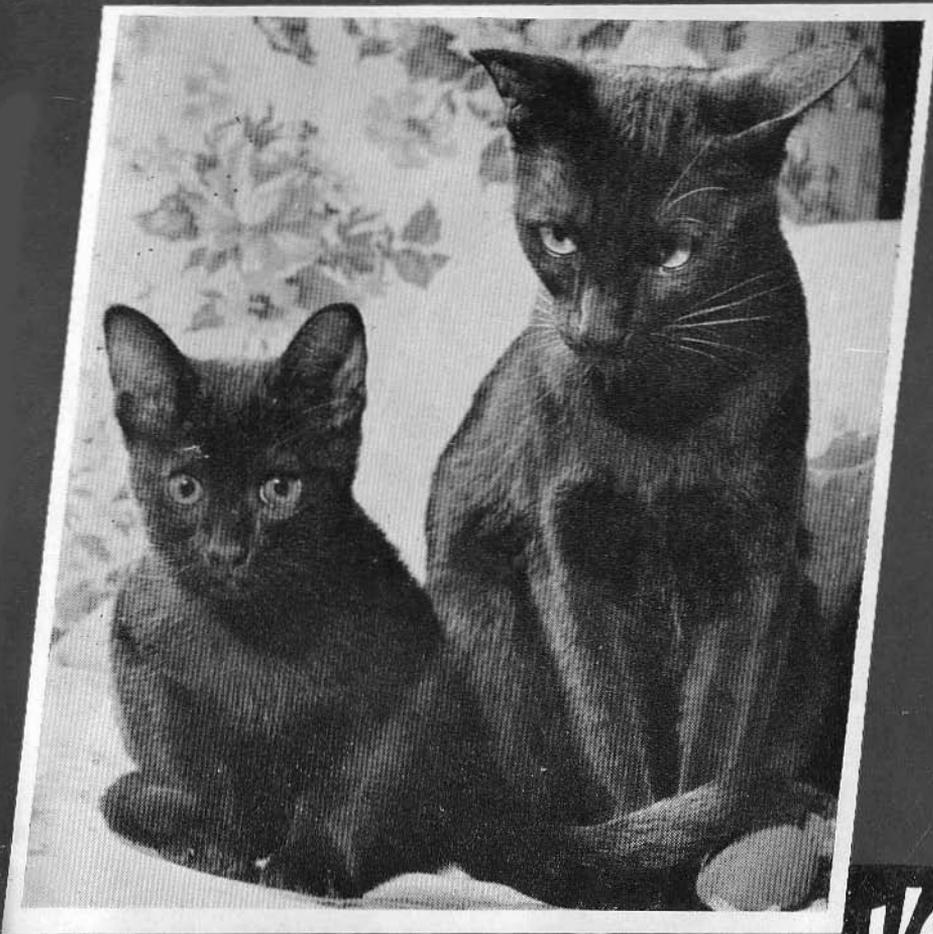


Our Cats

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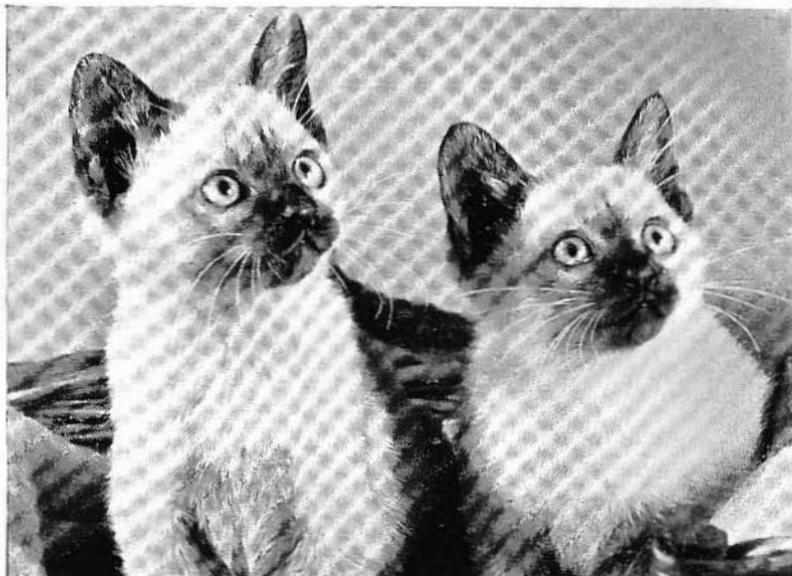
NEW BREED No. 29

We announced in our September issue that the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy had granted recognition to Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthairs. They now have a breed number and a Standard of Points. One of the pioneers for the Chestnuts is Mrs. Joan Judd and our picture presents her queen CROSSWAYS HEIDI with one of her kittens, Harmony. Heidi was awarded 3 firsts and 29 other places, including a cup, last year. Photograph by Reuter.

NOVEMBER 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.

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FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE



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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

VOL. 10 No. 11
NOVEMBER 1958

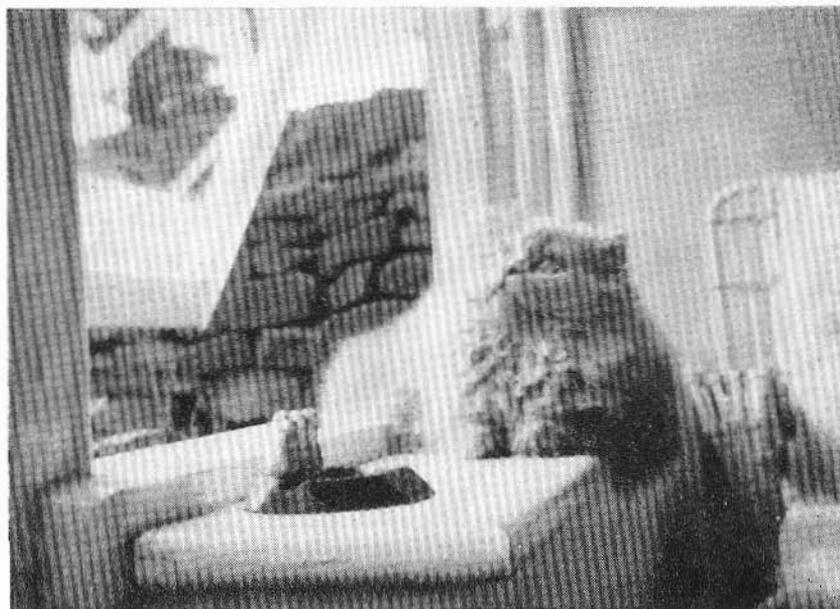
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



The little Blue Longhair kitten enjoying the fresh air and sunshine from a window seat is BEAMSLEY BLUE CHARM, bred from Boy Blue of Kenton ex Kirkgate Blue Tulle by Mrs. M. Smith, of Blubberhouses, nr. Otley, Yorkshire. Charm was later purchased by Mrs. Werner Lorenz, of Massachusetts, U.S.A.

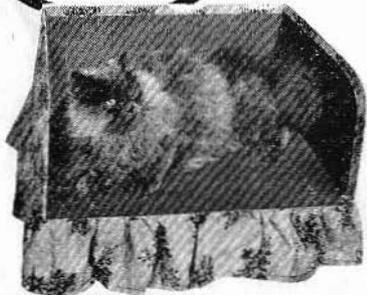
Let's go to a show

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
29 November ...	*Yorkshire County C.C.	Leeds
16 December ...	*National Cat Club	London
1959		
10 January ...	*Notts and Derbyshire C.C.	Nottingham
17 " ...	*Scottish Cat Club	Glasgow
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.

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THE IDEAL GIFT TO CAT OWNERS

Looking at the Longhairs

By BRIAN STIRLING-WEBB

A radio broadcast talk given recently over Network III and reproduced here by kind permission of the B.B.C. and the author, who is well-known as a breeder and member of the Executive Committee of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

ALL sorts of theories are put forward from time to time regarding the origin of the long haired domestic cat, but it is doubtful if the truth will ever be known. At one time it was thought that *Felis Manul* (a wild cat from Tibet) might be the ancestor of our Persian, as this animal possesses a fairly thick coat which is especially long on the neck and shoulders. Differences in skull formation, however, have put this theory out of court.

My own guess is that the Longhair, as we know it, first came as a mutation or sport from the already domesticated cat and was finally fixed by selective breeding. Mutations occur from time to time in all living organisms and in quite recent years the domestic cat itself has produced a new coat type in this way. I refer to the Rex, or curly coated cat, which is at present in the experimental stage of breeding.

This new coat type suddenly appeared out of the blue, as it were, amongst a family of farm cats in Cornwall. It has since made its appearance in Germany as well and in a very slightly differing form in Lincolnshire and Ireland. Subsequent breeding operations with the Cornish stock proved that the gene for curly hair in cats was recessive, so it was a very easy matter to establish the coat. It now remains, however, to fix the type of this cat so that it shall conform to a standard and finally become a recognizable breed.

I mention these Rex cats because there is a possible parallel with our Persians, whose longhair is also due to a recessive gene. It is obvious, therefore, that this kind of coat can be reproduced merely by the mating together of two cats which each possess the long-haired gene. Hence my theory, which may or may not be correct.

We know that cats with long hair actually existed some few hundred years ago in Persia, thus giving rise to the popular name of Persian. Whether they were indigenous or taken there from Angora it is impossible to say, but the name "Angora" has also attached to these and it must be said other long-haired animals, notably goats, for a very long time.

Longhaired cats were formerly known by this name in England and still are in many countries abroad. This opens up the possibility of their having in fact originated in Angora, which was at one time a flourishing city under the Ancient Persians. Could the original mutation then have occurred there? This is one of those questions to which we shall never know the answer.

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, the ruling body in the cat world, classifies all longhaired cats as one breed, but gives recognition to some fifteen different colour varieties and colour combinations. Any cat which does not conform to one of these is listed under the heading of "Any Other Colour." Amongst the recognized colours are some which have been so exclusively bred together for so long a

time as to virtually constitute a breed within a breed, as it were.

This especially applies to the Blues, which exhibit in a marked degree many of the characteristics considered essential in a typical show Longhair. Indeed they have practically reached the peak of perfection, which makes them the best outcross where it is desired to improve type in other colour varieties. By "type" is meant the general conformation of the animal and in Longhairs the type requirements for all varieties are the same . . .

The most popular colour variety to-day is undoubtedly the Blue and deservedly so by reason of its superior type. Blue breeders are often quite fanatical about keeping the variety "pure" by mating only Blue to Blue.

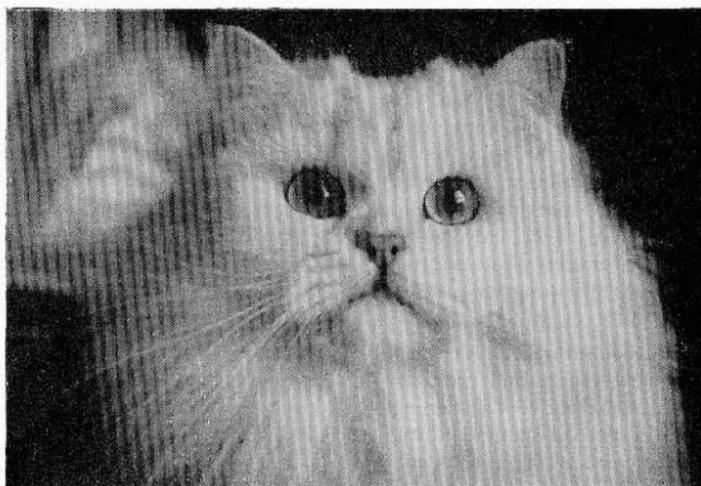
This is all nonsense, of course, as far as colour only is concerned and shows their ignorance of genetics, but there is a very good reason for not mating indiscriminately outside the variety as this

might result in a loss of type owing to the fact that so few of the other varieties are as good in this respect. But where type is equal no harm can come from an outcross and good may result from the introduction of new blood. At present however Creams and Blue/Creams, so called, are the only varieties likely to measure up to the Blues. Both these carry so much Blue blood that they are often as typical and are the only varieties which should be used for an outcross if one were needed.

The Chinchilla is another very popular variety and there is no doubt that its general appearance is very beautiful. It has an almost ethereal look which, together with its deep, green eyes, makes a most pleasing picture. Established breeders, however, may violently disagree with my view that the time has come when new blood is needed. There are few specimens to-day, if any, which have good bone or the typical broad, round head of the Longhair.



"The Blues . . . have practically reached the peak of perfection."



In Chinchillas "a long-term policy needs to be embarked upon."

Breeders seem terrified to outcross the Blues because of the probable loss of the eye colour, entirely disregarding the fact that results cannot be obtained in one or two generations. A long term policy needs to be embarked upon and if several breeders would work together there is no doubt that in time the Chinchilla would greatly benefit and in a few years the lovely green eye would be regained with the added advantage of improved type.

Incidentally, the first cross between a Blue and a Chinchilla is a very beautiful animal. In this country they are known as Blue-Chins and are classified under Any Other Colour, but in America classes are provided for them at shows under the name of Shaded Silvers. I cannot help feeling that recognition by the Governing Council of this cross would be a definite encouragement to breeders and in the long run would benefit Chinchillas.

Creams and Blue/Creams are two other varieties which enjoy a measure of popularity, but it is about some of the neglected varieties that I want now to say a few words.

First, let us discuss the Smokes, which are a great rarity to-day. This is one

of the loveliest varieties that exists and it has always seemed astonishing to me that more people do not take them up. The tendency nowadays is to specialize so we do not get breeders crossing different colours together to the same extent as in the past. The easiest and quickest way to get Smokes is to cross Chinchillas and Blacks, but many people are deterred from doing this because of the kittens which would have to be discarded. This is the greatest bugbear of all experimental breeding. There are all ways a number of young produced which can only be disposed of as pets and in these days of high feeding costs this can hardly be considered economic.

Those tabby markings

Red Sells, another once popular variety, are virtually non-existent to-day. I personally have never seen a true Red Self. Even those I have seen in America, where the variety flourishes, had tabby markings on head, legs and tail which no self coloured cat should possess. These tabby markings are the most difficult thing in the world to breed out.

Of the Red, Brown, and Silver Tabbies the first named have the best type and their colour nowadays is superb. Rich, deep red is the rule rather than the exception and gone are the orange cats of former times. Brown and Silver Tabbies are both trying to make a come-back and whilst markings generally are good, type still leaves much to be desired. More breeders of these two varieties are wanted if progress is to be made.

White, both the Blue and the Orange-eyed, have few adherents, possibly because of the difficulty of maintaining their coats in a state of spotless purity. Continental fanciers, on the other hand, do not seem to worry about this and Whites are popular in Europe. Indeed some lovely specimens exist, which in type and coat are comparable to our Blues.

A recession in Blacks

Blacks, one of the handsomest of all, have fallen away sadly in modern times. They are the most difficult of all to present in first class show condition. It is of no use to show a Black unless it *looks* black, but unfortunately unless kept entirely indoors the action of sunlight and wet weather on the coat will turn it rusty and so ruin the chances of the exhibit on the show bench.

Since the war a number of new varieties have received official recognition from the Governing Council, but only one of these has been a Longhair. This is the Colourpoint which was granted varietal status in 1955. At the recent Kensington Kitten Show a Colourpoint kitten gained the coveted "Best in Show" award, thus making history, as it was the first time that a specimen of this variety was nominated for such an honour.

In the future, however, we may often see this repeated, as it is not impossible that within a few years this may become the most popular of all Longhairs,

the reason being that a more spectacular cat does not exist. The colouration and marking is that of the Siamese whilst the coat and type is that of the Longhair. It exists at present in three colours, namely Seal, Blue and Chocolate, but as time goes on other colours such as Red, Lilac, etc., will be added and type will continue to improve.

The main difficulty which is being experienced by breeders at the present time is in the production of the deep blue eyes which are seen to such perfection in the Siamese cat.

Expect new varieties

Pioneers exist in all walks of life and this is equally true of cat fanciers. This being so, further new varieties of Longhairs are bound to make their appearance in the future. The only one I know of at the present time, which could be said to be "on the stocks" (so to speak) is the Self Brown. A small group of breeders is already at work on this variety, and slow, but steady progress is being made.

It is interesting to note that during the course of these experiments to produce Self Browns, both a Brown Tortoiseshell and a Lilac/Cream have been produced. In the former the black colouration of the normal Tortoiseshell is replaced by brown and in the latter lilac replaces the blue of the ordinary Blue-Cream. Lilac, I should add, is caused by the fusion of the blue and the brown gene.

Whilst on the subject of breeders with a taste for experimental work, it would seem to me not to be out of place to suggest that they concentrate on trying to resuscitate some of the older varieties which have fallen on evil times. Such effort can be very rewarding if crowned with success and the sense of achievement makes up for many of the disappointments of life.

Veterinary Questions Answered

By M.R.C.V.S.

Gravel stones

A Staffordshire reader writes :

My two-year-old cat Peter, who is part Siamese, became ill with gravel stones in the bladder during the very cold weather in early March. At the first signs of trouble I took him to the vet, who removed the stones but said I was to give him tablets (I believe they were sodium citrate) twice a day, and then one a week until relief was obtained when the weather got warmer. I have followed his instructions faithfully but find that unless I give the cat at least one tablet a day, he soon becomes unwell again. On the credit side, Peter seems a lot happier and his appetite has improved. He goes out a lot more and ceases to cry out when passing water. Whereas we used to get puddles all over the place, he now uses his box or asks to go outside. On the other side, however, he cries out a little if we pick him up and he never moves faster than a slow walk. Jumping onto a chair is a great effort and he can't get down without help. What I would like to know is whether this condition is curable or is Peter doomed to this inactive life indefinitely? We live on a busy country road and I am very much afraid that Peter may end his days under a lorry or car, as he can't move fast enough to avoid traffic. Is there any hope of recovery or must I have him put down?

M.R.C.V.S. replies :

As I gather from your letter, your cat has had cystic stones which were surgically removed and which have been further prevented by giving a suitable chemical. If it is the fact that symptoms of "stone" have again appeared, then the answer is another operation. The symptoms are uneasiness, straining to urinate, a full bladder (as ascertained by feeling the abdominal contents), sometimes blood in the urine, loss of appetite, etc., etc. Unfortunately, one cannot

guarantee that gravel will not recur at any time but it is a good plan to administer 5 grs. of sodium acid phosphate (in a small pill) about twice weekly for life, the object being to acidify the urine. Hexamine (5 grs.) weekly is also useful as a urinary antiseptic. Do not contemplate destroying your two-year-old cat, but give him every chance.

Artificial Insemination

A South African reader writes :

My vet tells me there is no reason why cats should not be artificially inseminated successfully. He did add, however, that the idea is so unorthodox that it might be difficult to get the other necessary parties interested in the experiment. I thought that was putting it mildly! Perhaps you know and could recommend a British vet, preferably one centrally situated for obvious later reasons of despatch, etc., who has a particular interest in and experience of cats and even possibly a connection with the Fancy who would be interested in hearing from me with a view to making the necessary arrangements. This matter has arisen because of our complete lack of really first class cats at stud, and at first sight appears to be the simpler and less costly way of siring kittens. A Natal or Transvaal stud would have to be quite outstanding to warrant sending a queen the 1,000 and 925 mile journey respectively, and in any case no stud of the type we have in mind has yet been imported. If you are able to be of any assistance I would be most grateful.

M.R.C.V.S. replies :

I cannot see that A.I. of cats is at all practicable. First, there is the difficulty of locating the entrance to the os uteri of the female, and certainly no cat would submit to the attempt without being

anaesthetized. But these points could no doubt be overcome. The greater difficulty is in securing the male semen. With dogs and larger animals it is possible to make them ejaculate into a glass or other vessel. I have succeeded in doing this with dogs. But a tom cat's love making is a very rough and scratchy affair and one would get badly clawed or bitten. Secondly, the penis is too small to manipulate and thirdly no tom would permit itself to be handled in this way. You can if you wish seek the advice of the Director of the Canine Department, Animal Health Trust, Kennet, Newmarket, and see whether he agrees with my opinion.

Difficult to mate

A New Zealand subscriber writes:

My Persian queen is proving rather difficult to mate with any pedigree stud cat she has visited. I also own a speyed Blue Persian and an ordinary neutered domestic cat. The queen only has eyes for the neuter and when in season torments the life out of him. When she visits a pedigree stud cat she will have nothing to do with him and growls and swears so much that he always retreats in fear. The owner of the studs has kindly loaned me two different studs to bring to my place (at two different times) but alas, my queen was just the same. I should mention that during these visits I was careful to keep the neutered domestic well out of sight. All this may sound rather funny to the lay person but it is becoming quite a problem for me. My queen will be two years old at the end of next February and has not even had her first litter. I do not want to have her speyed. She is a really beautiful cat and, I am sure, would have lovely pedigree kittens.

M.R.C.V.S. replies :

I fear there is no solution to your problem, as it appears that your Persian has no lack of sexual urge when in season and would gladly mate with the neuter. Therefore she needs no treatment to enhance her desire to mate. It is well known that females, both dogs and cats,

will frequently refuse any male to which they are not attracted.

A weaning problem

A Kentish reader asks :

I am quite a new breeder and have two breeding queens. I want to limit my breeding stock to three queens and to be able always to keep them in the house. To date I have been lucky and have been able to arrange things so that they rear their litters together ; they share each other's kittens and are always one happy family. When I have a third queen I may find it impossible to get them mated at the same time and consequently if they are to live peaceably together there might well be kittens with them practically all the time. My problem is this : Is it right for queens to have their kittens suckling from them sometimes weeks after their own litters have been sold and possibly when they are well in kitten again ? What are the likely consequences ?

M.R.C.V.S. replies :

It is a bad thing for a queen to be suckled for a moment longer than is really necessary. Kittens can usually be weaned in four weeks and often earlier if one perseveres. The sooner this is done, the sooner will the mother recuperate from her debilitating ordeal.

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

Reproduction (No. 50)

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.

AN essential to the well-being of the body of mammals is the proper adjustment of the various systems one to the other. For instance, growth takes place in the cat up to approximately one year. This will vary between breeds, and even between individuals of a breed. After this time there is a gradual slowing down, combined with a simultaneous development of the sex organs.

In order that these two processes may not become disproportionate, i.e., that sexual development may not take place too quickly and growth stop too early or vice-versa—the body is provided with a series of glands, known as the endocrine system. These glands have the peculiar characteristic of pouring their secretions straight into the blood, instead of opening into a particular organ by means of a duct. For this reason they are known as the ductless or endocrine glands.

The chief of these are the thyroid, the parathyroids, the adrenals, the islets of Langerhans, the pituitary, and the gonads (the testes and the ovaries which in themselves act as ductless glands).

The thyroid consists of a pair of oval-shaped bodies situated in the neck. The parathyroids are quite small organs in the vicinity of the thyroid. The adrenals, or supra-renals, are two small

glands which lie just above the kidneys and are about one seventh of the weight of the thyroid. The islets of Langerhans are areas, acting as ductless glands, which are distributed throughout the pancreas. The pituitary, is a very small body, situated on the floor of the brain.

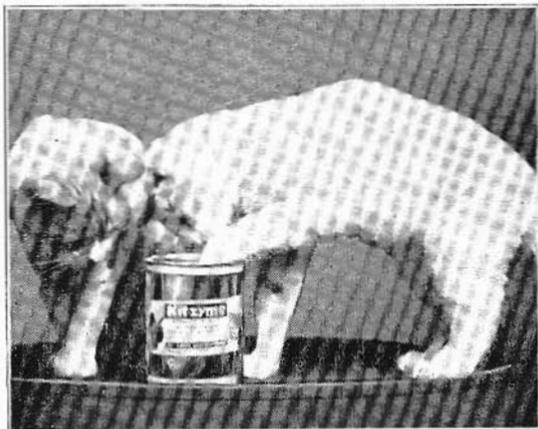
The secretion of any of these glands contains a substance spoken of as the hormone, whose work is to stimulate a particular organ.

Overactive thyroid

The endocrine system plays an important part in the development and functioning of the body. Knowledge has been gained by the removal of glands, and by injections of extracts from them. Before their functions were recognized, removal sometimes produced unexpected results. For instance, in an attempt to cure goitre in humans, the thyroid had been totally removed. The patient gradually became bald, stupid, thick-skinned and pot-bellied, showing that a vital mechanism had been interfered with. It was discovered that the giving of iodine, or alternatively of thyroid extract in small doses could better this condition which had been brought about by the removal of the thyroid.

When the thyroid is overactive, the burning-up of the body tissues goes on much too fast. The animal loses weight, and the heart is over-taxed. Finally,

ZEBBIE and PENNY



MISS E. MORTIMER of 119 High Street, Needham Market, Suffolk, writes :—

"I thought the enclosed photograph would interest you. These two cats, Zebbie and Penny—Zebbie is over eight years old—have Kit-zyme every day and the photograph clearly shows their excellent condition.

"They are both enthusiastic about Kit-zyme and it is only necessary to rattle the tin to ensure their presence.

"My own cat, Miranda, is also indebted to Kit-zyme. She came to me as a six year old stray, ill and terribly frightened, obviously the result of cruelty. She would not walk on the floor if she could help it—probably she was afraid of being kicked—and paper bags, which she now loves to play with, terrified her.

"A kind friend suggested that I should give her Kit-zyme and I am sure that the way Miranda now calmly accepts trams, buses, cars, strange people and places is due to her strengthened nerves.

"She takes everything in her stride and despite some effects of her early life, she is so active, playful and youthful and has such a beautiful coat that she is often taken for a young cat."

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the heart may become over-taxed to such a degree that exhaustion and collapse or death results.

When the parathyroids have been accidentally removed in an operation on the thyroid, it has been found that, soon afterwards, there is a severe cramp of all muscles. The blood is discovered to be seriously deficient in calcium content. This was the cause of the tetanus developed by the patient. Will those who read the recent note by a lady writer in *Fur & Feather* decrying the use of calcium, please note ?

The adrenals have the fourfold function of regulating the blood-pressure, of regulating the supply of glucose or blood sugar, of counteracting fatigue, and of influencing normal sexual development. The blood pressure is influenced by the action of the hormone adrenalin, from the adrenal glands, upon the capillaries ; this makes them contract. Incidentally, this is one means by which the body temperature is regulated.

Functions of the pituitary

The adrenalin acts on the glycogen in the liver, and the glycogen is turned into glucose or blood sugar. When an extract of the adrenals is injected an animal becomes much more active, and less liable to fatigue. The influence of the adrenals on sexual development is as yet not fully understood, but their work is thought to be connected with that of the pituitary.

The pituitary body has two lobes, each with three distinct functions; the posterior lobe regulates the flow of urine, causes a contraction of the uterus at births, and has some influence on the blood-pressure. The anterior lobe regulates growth, controls sexual development, and has a slightly stimulating effect on milk production.

The best understood function of the pituitary is its regulation of growth. Under-functioning of the pituitary leads to dwarfism and sexual under-develop-

ment. On the other hand, over-functioning of the pituitary during early life leads to gigantism. When either under or over-functioning takes place, there is also sexual under-development. If, after maturity is reached, the anterior lobe of the pituitary begins to function excessively, the condition known as acromegaly is brought about. Only those parts still capable of growth—i.e. the feet, the face, especially the chin and nose, are affected. The features become coarsened and enlarged, and the feet grow excessively big.

The dominant gland

When the hormone from the anterior lobe of the pituitary is insufficiently secreted, an obese condition is brought about. The Fat Boy of *Pickwick Papers* who is always wanting to sleep might be explained on this basis !

In addition to the specific functions of the pituitary gland, it also exerts an influence on the thyroid, the adrenals, and the gonads, though to what extent is not yet fully understood. In one sense its role can be compared to that of the brain in its relation to the nervous system. For it is the dominant gland of the endocrine system.

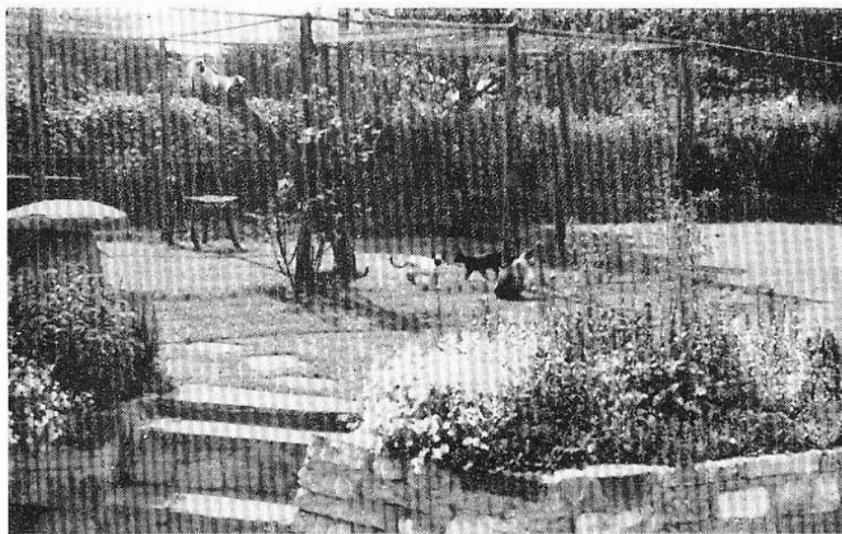
The ovaries and the testes, called the gonads in relation to this system, secrete substances which influence the development of the secondary sexual characteristics. In the female, the hormone known as oestrin regulates the process of ovulation. When a ripe ovum is fertilized, the shed follicle grows out into a body called the corpus luteum. This then secretes a hormone called lutein which inhibits or prevents further ovulation. It also stimulates the mammary glands to secrete milk.

The hormones from the ductless glands because of their influence on the body, are also partly responsible for what we conveniently term the temperament

(Continued on page 17)



Mrs. C. M. Lovemore (wife of the Show Manager of the Western Province Cat Club whose successful show is reported on the opposite page) is seen here with her Siamese queen **QUESTI PIACERE**. It is particularly interesting to note that this queen was sent out from England in-kitten to Doneraile Drudara. The result seems to have been more than satisfactory!



Perfect outdoor conditions obtain at the West Country cattery of Mrs. Joan Judd, where the Crossways Siamese and the new Chestnut Browns are being bred.

Records go at S. African Show

THE 12th Championship Show of the Western Province Cat Club was held in the Masonic Hall, Newlands, on a Saturday in late September. It was undoubtedly the most successful yet held by the Club, attracting 14 longhaired, 42 shorthaired and 43 household pets, and an unprecedented crowd of visitors who, at times, so closely packed the hall that it was almost impossible to move, let alone see the exhibits. The profit of almost £80 must surely be an all-time South African record?

The exhibits were exceptionally interesting as the kittens and young cats descended from the imported cats have now come into a prominent position in feline aristocracy. New breeds making their debut were a young Red Tabby male, an imported Blue Russian and a lovely Longhair White neuter with blue eyes. The Red Pointed Siamese also drew a great deal of attention. The credit for the development and improvements so manifest in this breed belongs largely to Miss F. M. S. Bradford. It was apparent to all how much the Siamese stock has improved owing to the efforts of enterprising importers of cats.

Best Cat on Show and Best Shorthaired was Mrs. M. E. Nash's supreme Penang Milori Anya (Imported), who was also awarded her third C.C. Mrs. I. M. Hunter's Deo Gratias Talisman, a magnificent L.H. Cream, took his honours as Best Longhair in Show very calmly. The Best Siamese kitten was Mrs. L. A. Warburton's lovely Penang Mem and Best Household Pet a Silver Tabby, Smokey, who well deserved the honour.



A young visitor at the Western Province Cat Club Show makes sure of "seeing all there is to see!"

The four best cats occupied cages of honour on the platform under most attractive explanatory placards. Mrs. Bechard de Lestrac's beautiful decorations of spring flowers adorned the hall and quite transformed the stage. Mrs. M. A. Simpson and other Club members arranged the teas and luncheons, much appreciated by somewhat exhausted officials. The "Cat Display Stall" was attractively arranged by Mrs. C. C. Greyling and Miss Carol Moebius and offered a great variety of popular "catty" articles.

The Show Manager (the Rev. H. N. Lovemore) and the Secretary (Mr. W. E. S. Philip) are to be congratulated on the excellence of their arrangements and the results of their untiring efforts to make the Show the great success it was.

ANGELA WARBURTON.



"Once aboard the lugger . . . !"
All ready for a cruise on *M.L. Eilonwy* are Beresford Ian Dhu Nan Cath and Siriol-Wyn, two of several fine cats belonging to Miss Isambard-Owen, Abersoch, N. Wales.

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Tailpieces

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



SOME of the subjects discussed by competing teams in a Cat Chat Contest promoted at Poole, Dorset, by the Three Counties Cat Society were Cats in Fiction, Cats in Art, Cat Superstitions, Manx Cats, Cats and the Gardener and Cats in History. Mrs. C. F. Cade was Chairman and those taking part were Mrs. A. V. Butler, Mrs. P. E. Lane, Mrs. M. A. Wilson and Messrs. C. F. Cade, A. Paterson, J. Ruston, T. Sayers and D. Wilson. The contest was followed by general discussion and tea.

An R.S.P.C.A. inspector, Alun Williams, twice climbed up an Anglesey cliff from a dinghy to rescue a cat trapped on a ledge. Earlier bids to reach the animal from the top of the cliff had to be abandoned.

When they found their tabby cat had strayed ashore at Cairns, Queensland, the crew of the *Cronulla* radioed instructions ashore to airfreight her 2,000 miles south to Melbourne, the next port of call. Puss was waiting for them when they arrived.

With the crime figures showing such a violent upward curve, I suppose we shouldn't be surprised if cases of cruelty to animals also show an increase over the year. Certainly there have been some deplorable and disgusting incidents reported over the past few weeks. Gilbert Henry Essayie, a 20-year-old student of Loughborough College was seen to pick up a cat by its tail, swing it

round his head twice and hurl it with great force against some railings. This product of our modern education was fined £15 with £6 14s. 0d. costs. And down in Bedfordshire the Chairman of the Leighton Buzzard magistrates said he had listened "almost with horror" to a case in which a man was fined with costs for causing unnecessary suffering to cats. He had set gin traps in some land which he rented and these had been discovered after complaints had been made that local cats had been limping home with torn limbs and covered in blood.

Casa Gatos da Foong, one of the American-born founders of the Burmese variety in this country, has died at the age of 11 years. He had suffered for some time from defective kidneys but had lived quite happily until a short time before his death last month at the Derbyshire cattery of Mr. and Mrs. V. Watson. It is fortunate for the continuing progress of the breed that his line on the male side will be carried on by his sons.

According to newspaper reports, there have been some queer goings-on at East Grinstead Grammar School. Apparently, in the name of education, children have been encouraged to take live kittens to the zoology classes, where they were destroyed under a chloroform anaesthetic and used for dissection. The practice has been condemned by a number of local people and the R.S.P.C.A. has promised a full-scale

investigation. The biology mistress, 51-year-old Mrs. Hellyer, is reported to keep three cats at her home to provide kittens for some of the school's needs. But she also took them from the children. It is revealed that the Ministry of Education has no control over specimens for dissection in school zoology.

Big headlines in the *Daily Sketch* announce the details of a dramatic rescue of a cat in the East End of London which had for days been seen crouching on a little island surrounded by a moat of greasy water 30 ft. deep and 45 ft. across. How it ever got there is an unsolved mystery. Around the moat was a 25 ft. high wall and the whole site was a disused gas-holder pit. Police and firemen said that any rescue was impossible, but 38-year-old Dick Kemp, of the R.S.P.C.A. said he was willing to "have a go." Changing

into overalls, he slid down the wall on a rope and then swam through the cold and dirty water. On the island the cat defied capture for quite a while, even dashing into the water to avoid Mr. Kemp. Eventually puss was basketed and floated back to safety on a plank. Mr. Kemp, who then went off to hospital for an anti-tetanus injection, described it as his toughest rescue operation, and he's managed quite a few.

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

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BEEF · CHICKEN

Paris Show report

THE Association Feline de France (reports guest judge Mrs. L. McVady) ran a very successful and delightful show at the Galerie Royale, Paris, on 10th, 11th and 12th of last month.

We had a wonderful light for judging, which took place in front of a huge plate glass window. M. and Mme Guidon and M. and Mme Esteve made my task a very pleasant one and Mrs. Regan's help as interpreter was invaluable. M. Maurice Chevalot was my most efficient steward.

Best Shorthair Exhibit was Hillcross Minstrel, bred in England by Mrs. E. Towe, a very handsome cat with wonderful eye and body colour. Best Shorthair Kitten was Sandy, a Cream, the best I have ever seen, bred by Mme. Rocher.

A gorgeous neuter

Best Longhair Exhibit was a glorious Blue female owned and bred by M. Jaloux and among kittens the palm went to Helena du Vieux Donjon, an exquisite Orange-eyed White female bred by Mme Cuny and owned by Mme Esteve. Sire of both these winners was the magnificent male Int. Ch. Caprice de Martainville, who was present (not for competition) in all his majesty. My winning Blue male was an excellent youngster who should go far, Gouroche Du Bois D'Apremont, owned by Mme Bellec. He is sired by Int. Ch. Dragan Blue de Baisblany, a son of Int. Ch. Yewhatch Anson, bred by the late Mrs. Burns.

All the Blue adults were quite up to our English standards, which is of course to be expected as all the winners came from British bred cats originally. I completely lost my heart to a gorgeous neuter female Int. Ch. Murada de Changrilla and was very thrilled to find from the

catalogue later that she was by Int. Ch. Gallant Homme and Ch. Harpur Periwinkle. Murada is owned by Mme Esteve.

The outstanding Chinchilla winners were Fantine de la Remiere, sired by Rim of Allington and Hera de la Chesnaie, sired by Fishermore Apollo. The winning Blue kittens and a beautiful Blue-Cream kitten were also sired by Caprice and a glorious Orange-eyed White female Ch. Favourite was a granddaughter of Int. Ch. Wild Violet of Dunesk.

It was indeed a pleasure to judge in such happy surroundings and the welcome we received from the organizers and exhibitors was truly overwhelming.

A New Book. Hot from the press and wonderful value at 2s. 6d. comes "The Pan Book of Cats," by Rose Tenent. The author is no newcomer in this field having two previous works on cats to her credit which no doubt many of our readers have enjoyed. She has a clear and direct style. The Pan Book has been painstakingly prepared and we would recommend it strongly as a pocket book for any potential cat owner and the novice fancier. Perhaps its chief merit is its comprehensiveness.

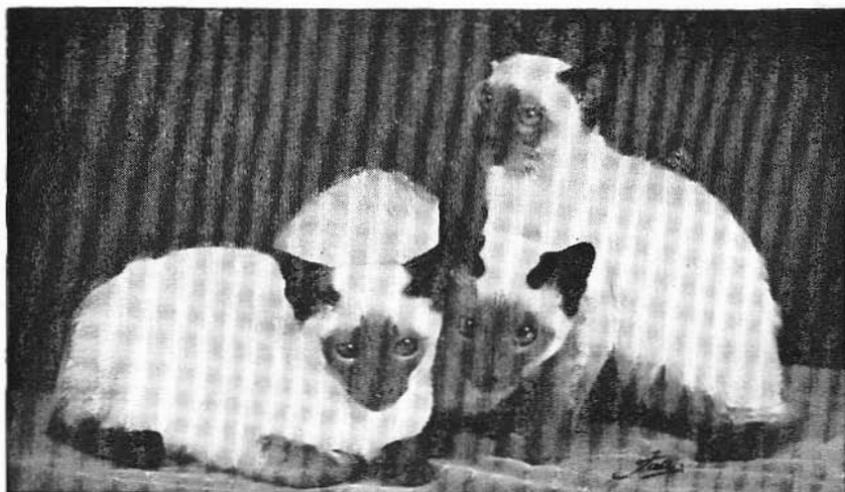
REPRODUCTION

(concluded from page 11)

of an animal. For instance, a slight over-functioning of the thyroid is characterized by a state of animation, while an under-functioning gives a corresponding dullness. When our knowledge of the endocrine system is much greater, it may well be that we shall be able to explain various moods in terms of this or that gland functioning, or otherwise failing to function.

(to be continued)

TIBSICAL TRIO



Tibby the TIBS reporter discovered these three beauties in Mrs. Price's Devoran Cattery at Bushey, Herts. They're the magnificent descendants of that famous Siamese Stud 'Prestwick Prithie Pal', the pride of the household for many years. They each have a TIBS tablet every day.



"I have found TIBS most valuable in the Cattery," says Mrs. Price, "as it provides all the necessary vitamins and minerals a cat diet needs." Daily TIBS encourage good bone development, good teeth, shining coats and bright eyes. TIBS keep cats Tibsical.

Famous breeders say:

TIBS

TABLETS



KEEP CATS TIBSICAL



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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

Blue Persian show

A LOVELY autumn day greeted the 20th Championship Show of the Blue Persian Cat Society last month at the Central Hall, Westminster.

Although on this occasion it was a smaller hall than the underground one used for the Herts & Middlesex Ch. Show and on a higher floor the light left much to be desired and in a mixture of indifferent daylight and fluorescent lighting nearly all the exhibits had a tendency to look shady, and brilliant eye colour became dull gold. The judges took many exhibits to the windows but there is nothing equal to a good top light for Blues and Creams.

There were some lovely adults but the kittens with a few exceptions such as the Best in Show and some winners in

the Open Classes were not up to previous B.P.C.S. Show standards in quality or quantity. Twenty-one kittens of which four were absent is not the competition one expects at this specialist fixture and the entry was less than half pre-war and the smallest in the Society's record of twenty shows.

The classification was generous and there were 122 special prizes, something for every exhibit which had any pretensions to quality. Mrs. Crickmore made her bow as Show Manager and it was an enjoyable day with the usual Blue Persian devotees in attendance even if they were not exhibiting. Mrs. Brice-Webb and Mrs. Bastow, all the way from Nottingham, and Mr. Stirling-Webb from much nearer home, took a keen interest in the exhibits.

Main awards went as follows: Best Exhibit in Show—Mrs. McVady's Ch. Gaydene Genevieve by Ch. Gaydene Rudolph; Best Kitten—Mrs. Denton's male Camber Winston by Ch. Thiepval Enchanter; Best Neuter—the Misses Marshall's Premier Trenton Verity by Ch. Oxleys Peter John. The most beautiful cat in the show judged by vote was Mrs. Joan Thompson's Regina of Pensford by Ch. Octavian of Pensford and the most beautiful kitten Mrs. Denton's Camber Winston.

The winning adult male in a class of ten males was Mrs. Stephenson's Ashdown Nuthatch by Woburn Sunshine and this owner was first in the

WHICH CAT IS THE GRANDMOTHER?

**It's hard to tell—they
BOTH look so young!**

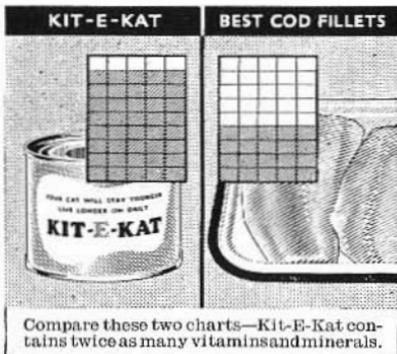
Daily Kit-E-Kat has kept these two cats so fit and well, so young-looking, that it really is hard to tell that the cat on the left is the other one's grandmother!



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KIT-E-KAT

five to nine months and the three to five months Open Female Kitten Classes with Ashdown Scilla and Ashdown Cornflower by Ashdown Nuthatch and Woburn Sunshine respectively. The five to nine months male class was won by Mrs. Critchlow's Suncroft Gay Cavalier by Ch. Bayhorne Ajax.

Mrs. Crickmore won the Stud Class judged on progeny with Ch. Thiepval Paragon and Miss Statman the Brood Queen Class with her pretty pale queen Camber Helena Rose (pictured in *OUR CATS*, July, 1958). Mrs. Brittlebank was first in Blue Pairs with her attractive male and female Hazeldene Gwynn and Hazeldene Guinevere by Gwynn of Allington. I hope we shall not be losing Mrs. Brittlebank permanently when she goes to Washington, D.C., at the beginning of December. In the New Year her daughter Elspeth (whom we last saw helping her mother so efficiently at the Lancs & N.W.C.C.C. in February) went to the United States fired with the desire to travel and see something of this country which has so much to offer, especially to ambitious youth. At the time her mother had no intention of following her but during the summer Mr. Brittlebank passed away after a long illness, and so the idea of a speedy re-union with Elspeth originated.

Taking over

In a letter after the B.P.C.C. Show she writes :—" I am putting the wheels of the 1959 Show into motion and will hand over to Mr. Watson of Matlock, Derbyshire, early in December. He has kindly consented to run the Show in February. I am doing all the preliminary work and he will carry on. I do not plan to go to U.S.A. for good but one never knows. I shall stay for six months and after that will have to return to settle affairs. I have news that Elspeth has married a naval officer, a surprise to me.

" Miss Langston has kindly consented to look after my Chinchilla, Ch. Mandy of Allington, my Blues Dilly and Tiffany. I am taking Elspeth's neutered Blue male with me. He is a son of Ch. Bayhorne Ajax and Dilly."

Mrs. Brittlebank has taken an active interest in the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club and organized the shows very efficiently after Mrs. Guley moved from Manchester and was unable to continue as Hon. Secretary. She has also bred some good Blues and more recently Chinchillas. If she decides to settle down again in England I understand she will be coming south. In the meantime, our good wishes are with her and after experiencing life in the United States for nearly three months in 1950 and meeting with so much kindness and goodwill I am glad that she also will be having this opportunity.

Siamese on show

Not quite such a lovely day for the wonderful show of the Siamese Cat Club organized by Mrs. K. R. Williams and her husband Captain F. B. Williams at the Seymour Hall on October 7th. The weather did not damp the ardour of the exhibitors or spectators who came to see the 248 exhibits. Surely these shows can boast the largest number of one variety ever staged ?

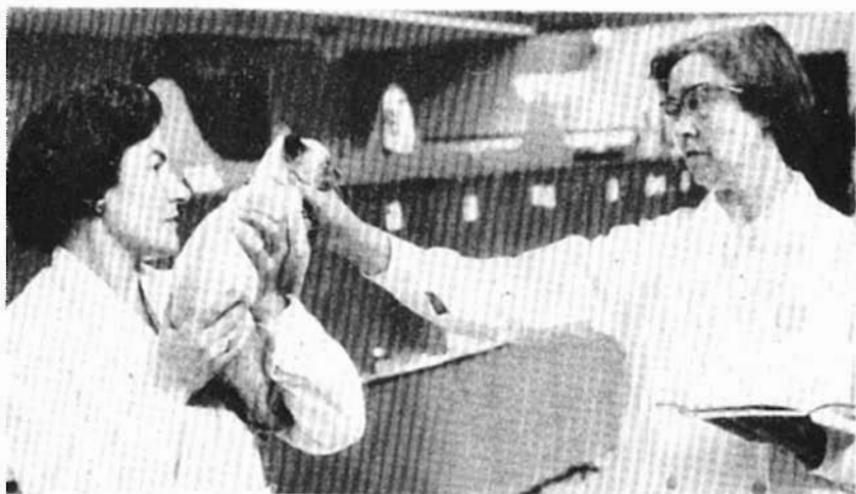
The Seymour Hall is an ideal venue for a specialist show as every exhibit is in full daylight from the glass roof and from the tiers of windows rising from the gallery a few feet above the floor. The front of the stage was well arranged with the many beautiful silver cups and trophies of the Club as a centre piece and behind them a large terra-cotta banner with Siamese disporting themselves. Above it an autumnal touch was provided by a big bouquet of michaelmas daisies in a large brass vase.

The Best in Show pens were on either side and vases of deep red dahlias at the ends completed the picture.



MINGSWYK APOLLO made history at the last Herts & Middlesex Show when he became the first ever Cream Shorthair Champion. Apollo belongs to Mrs. J. Cattermole, of Ipswich.

A. R. J. Frost



Hugh Smith

Judging scene at the Siamese Club Show. Mrs. A. Hargreaves is looking over the Blue Point kittens. She is well-known as a breeder of the Laurentide strain and has taken a special interest in developing Lilac Points.

Main awards were as follows : Best Exhibit—Mrs. K. R. Williams' S.P. Bluebridge Hilary by Ch. Southwood Mar.us ; Best Male—Mr. Richard Warner's S.P. Spotlight Melchior by Ch. Spotlight Troubadour ; Best Neuter—Mrs. Horwood's S.P. Samaikand Johnny Gurkha by Ch. Sabukia Sir Galahad ; Best Kitten—Mrs. Parker's S.P. female Seax Pippa by Tornado ; Best S.P. Male Kitten—Mrs. Mac-Michael's Sanguine Soni Boi by Harazad ; Best B.P.—Mrs. Boal's female Freefolk Blue Fantasy by Freefolk Blue Ziken. The Champion of Champions was Mr. and Mrs. Glover's Ch. Southwood Marcus.

Kitten's 14 Firsts

In a class of twelve spayed females Miss Norman's Sprits'l Dawn by Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo was first. The Premier of Premiers class was headed by Mrs. Montgomery's handsome pair Purland Som Phong and this owner also won the Any Colour Neuter Brace with Phong and Daybreak competing against six other brace. Mr. Lamb's choice in the Siamese Cat Club S.P. Female Adult class (24 in class) was Mrs. Lentaigne's Hiltonian Halidon Uggisic by Killdown Sultan.

In a Kitten class of twelve pairs judged by Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Mac-michael's Sanguine Soniboi and Sanguine Scheherazade were first and in the Kitten Brace Class (seven brace judged by Mr. Lamb) Mrs. Dunn's Blue-Points Fenham Tarkas and Fenham My Lovely were good winners. Fenham Tarkas entered in 15 classes under eight judges was awarded 14 firsts and it was intriguing to see nestling in this splendid array of red cards on her pen one solitary card for a "Commended" award. Well, well, we live and learn— or do we ?

The Challenge Certificate was withheld in an amalgamated class of five C.P. Siamese and in B.P.'s the winner was

Mrs. Porter's Chatwyn Jenny by Ch. Missellore Ryken. Two hundred and forty-eight Siamese graced this remarkable show ; surely enough to satisfy the most ardent devotee. One hundred and forty classes were provided for them inclusive of club classes and there were one hundred and eighty-eight special prizes.

Friendships formed

Mrs. Helen Martin, of East Grinstead, Sussex, has sent her winning S.P. Siamese male kitten Whiteoaks Archer to Copenhagen, Denmark. He was Best Siamese male kitten at the Kentish Cat Society Show in July where his half sister Whitcoaks Adeline was Best S.H. Exhibit. At the Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show in September he was first in his Open Class, first in a class of nine Siamese Brace with Whiteoaks Adeline and first in the Siamese Cat

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**FROM BOOKSHOPS, BOOKSTALLS
 AND NEWSAGENTS**

Club Kitten class (21 in class). Both kittens are by Mrs. Martin's S.P. male Lancy Palladin who is by Hillcross Cymbal.

She is a member of the Cat Fanciers' Association of South Australia and an excerpt from a letter about Whiteoaks Archer reads: "Mr. and Mrs. Thurmer, President and Secretary respectively, are dear pen friends. We exchange all cat news and show reports and my letters are shown to club members. They all take OUR CATS.

"My mother went to Australia on a two year visit. During her stay she sent me a cutting from a newspaper which showed photographs of Blue Persians and Siamese entered in a forthcoming show, giving names and brief addresses of the owners. I wrote to the owner of the Siamese, hardly expecting a reply as the address was so very brief. In return I received a glowing letter from Mrs. Thurmer whom I believe you must know as your articles have mentioned her. We have been pen friends ever since.

"At that time my mother was many hundreds of miles from Mrs. Thurmer, in the backwoods of Australia in fact. I put them in touch with one another and they corresponded. We therefore had a three way correspondence interest. Eventually my mother went to stay with Mrs. Thurmer and they became firm friends; another member was added to the C.F.S. of S.A. Now my mother is home and upon reading Mr. Fred Pearce's article 'News from Down Under,' in which he reports on the annual show at which Mrs. Thurmer won so well, she exclaimed 'Well I never, and to think that I have nursed all those cats!'"

N.Z. Champion

Mrs. Crickmore tells me that Thiepval Bewitching who went to New Zealand in 1956 is now a Champion. She has

only been beaten once by her younger sister Thiepval Persephone. At the last show of the N.Z. season at Gisborne, Persephone was Best in Show. Her owner Mrs. Downey was delighted at her success as she was only shown twice. They are sired by Ch. Thiepval Paragon and the mother Thiepval Enchantment is by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Thiepval Precocious.

Burmese for America

Mrs. Waldo-Lamb of Gerrards Cross, Bucks, has sent two more Burmese to Miss Eartha Kitt, a female by Ch. Golden Goddess and a male by Trinity Tatiana. Mrs. Lamb saw them off at London Airport where the steward took them into his personal care. They went off in a huge double decker and as they were placed in the middle she imagined there would be little noise and not much vibration. Miss Kitt arranged for them to be fed in New York and their blankets changed before they went on to San Francisco. They arrived in perfect health and very frisky.

The cover photo of the German cat magazine *Die Edelkatze* has a lovely photo of six Longhair Colourpoints. Their eyes, outstanding in their dark masks, are obviously large with nice width between; a characteristic which is so essential in a first class Longhair. Lack of width between the eyes is often associated with a narrow nose and an absence of the sweet expression so attractive in Longhairs.

We shall be at the NATIONAL SHOW AT OLYMPIA on 16th December, when copies of OUR CATS PICTURE BOOK will be on sale in addition to the Magazine.

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(continued overleaf)

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News from "Down Under"

HERE we are again, nearly at the end of another eventful year in the Fancy!

An August *Newsletter* has reached me from Miss Menzies, O.B.E., of Hamilton, New Zealand. Incidentally, I can always supply names and addresses of the Secretaries of the eleven Clubs now functioning in North and South Islands, if required. I notice a committee has been set up by the Governing Council to look the rules over and make suggestions for desired alterations or additions. This operation should be done everywhere occasionally to keep abreast of the times. Christchurch held a show on the 1st of this month and dates for 1959 have been granted to Otago (July 11th, 1959) and Hutt Valley Club (July 18th, 1959).

Gisborne winners

At the Gisborne Show held in late July, entries seemed less than last year, but great public interest was taken. The detail supplied by the *Newsletter* is very brief, but some awards are hereunder: Challenge winners: *Long-hairs*—Blue-eyed White, Mrs. Shuker's Bonnie Brae Lucy; Orange-eyed White, Miss Hore's Illawarra Kia Ora; Blue, Miss Holme's Illawarra Little Laurie; Blue Female, Mrs. Downey's Thiepvall Persephone; Cream, Mrs. Downey's Ronada Rendezvous; Chinchilla, Mrs. Hensleigh's Langbank Lady Letitia; Smoke, Mr. Evans's Admiral Silver Mist. *Siamese*—Open Male, Mr. Herkt's Lindisfarne Sylvesta Innisfree; Open Female, Mrs. Downey's Scarsdale Pensive Grace; Open Neuter, Mrs. Owen's Pit-na-Cree Tam-o-Shanter.

The September *Newsletter* is also to hand from Melbourne and a letter from

Mrs. Patterson mentions that the judges training class is on again down there with 16 students. But the usual quiet time between show seasons experienced by us all, is on again, thus allowing time to think up lots of bright ideas for the next show season. The Exhibitors Show, coming up very shortly, sounds mysterious and exciting and I trust to hear all about it later on. I hope also to have some news later about Shepparton Club Show which took place last month.

Queensland news

Brisbane, Queensland. A letter to hand from Miss Harrison, Publicity Officer, reveals that Mrs. Presling is to organize a cat exhibition in the suburb of Rainworth for charity. It will be the first in that district and interest is reported keen. Also, the Queensland Cat Club presented a cat and kitten parade in Brisbane City Hall on the first day of this month. A special prize is offered for the best dressed cat and should afford an opportunity for the children to let their imagination run riot. Congratulations to Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Tasker and Col. Woodrow, who were successful in passing the judges' examination held recently. I feel they should all do well.

Show for charity

Adelaide, South Australia. Mrs. Thurmer has been busy presenting a show in the very convenient Freemasons' Hall. The last event produced a profit of £50 for the Mentally Retarded Children's Society. We trust the check-up on the President's flying trips to Kangaroo Island had nothing to do with mermaids. Also that Burmese leg has had the six

stitches removed by now. Should be nominated as a member of the old "Itching Stitch" Club (I'm a life member) and then warned to stay put and forget girls!

N.S.W. activity

Sydney, New South Wales. At the last Consultative Committee meeting, an American cat club secretary wrote requesting details of the £200,000 hotel and rest centre now being erected in Sydney for cats. We reluctantly had to write and inform our friend that unfortunately we had not yet progressed so far! Since then I have word that an enterprising lady has started a taxi service, with new sedan cars, for pets, to and from anywhere, including vet's, shows, wharves, etc., 24-hours service.

Our next show, by Federal Club, takes place on 8th of this month at Sydney Town Hall. This is followed on the 29th by St. George Club Show at Arncliffe. Mrs. Martin has been elected Secretary of this Club and we all send congratulations and a promise of help.

Four students recently passed the judges examinations and will be on the probation list for three non-Championship shows at which a senior judge is operating, before being recommended for full status. A fifth student has further practical work to perform. We extend very good wishes to them and will at all times be interested in their progress. Their names will be included in these notes when they graduate with top honours. The Committee is considering a suggestion to have a refresher course for all judges and thereafter an occasional judges' round-table meeting, at which questions could be asked, suggestions discussed, etc., with a view to a closer interpretation of the Standard and thereby more uniformity of judging.

The Australian cat world, and particularly Sydney, wishes to thank Miss Menzies, O.B.E., the New Zealand Governing Council, and all exhibitors who were so thoughtful at the time of Phil Brown's death over in New Zealand. Miss Menzies's reply was read at the last C.C. meeting.



Our picture, taken at the Royal National Association Show at Brisbane, Australia, in August last, presents CH. SPADA AMBASSADOR, the Best Longhair in Show. Sired by Mrs. Ann Vize's well-known Ch. Astra of Pensford and owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. Woodrow, of Brisbane, Ambassador is seen here with his good friend little Kathy Woodrow.

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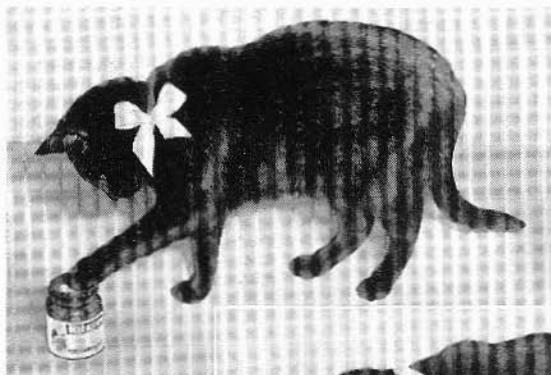
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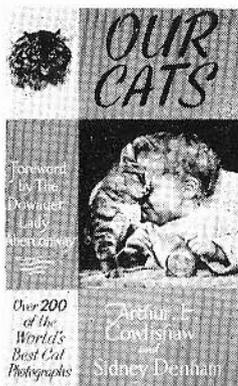
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