

# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



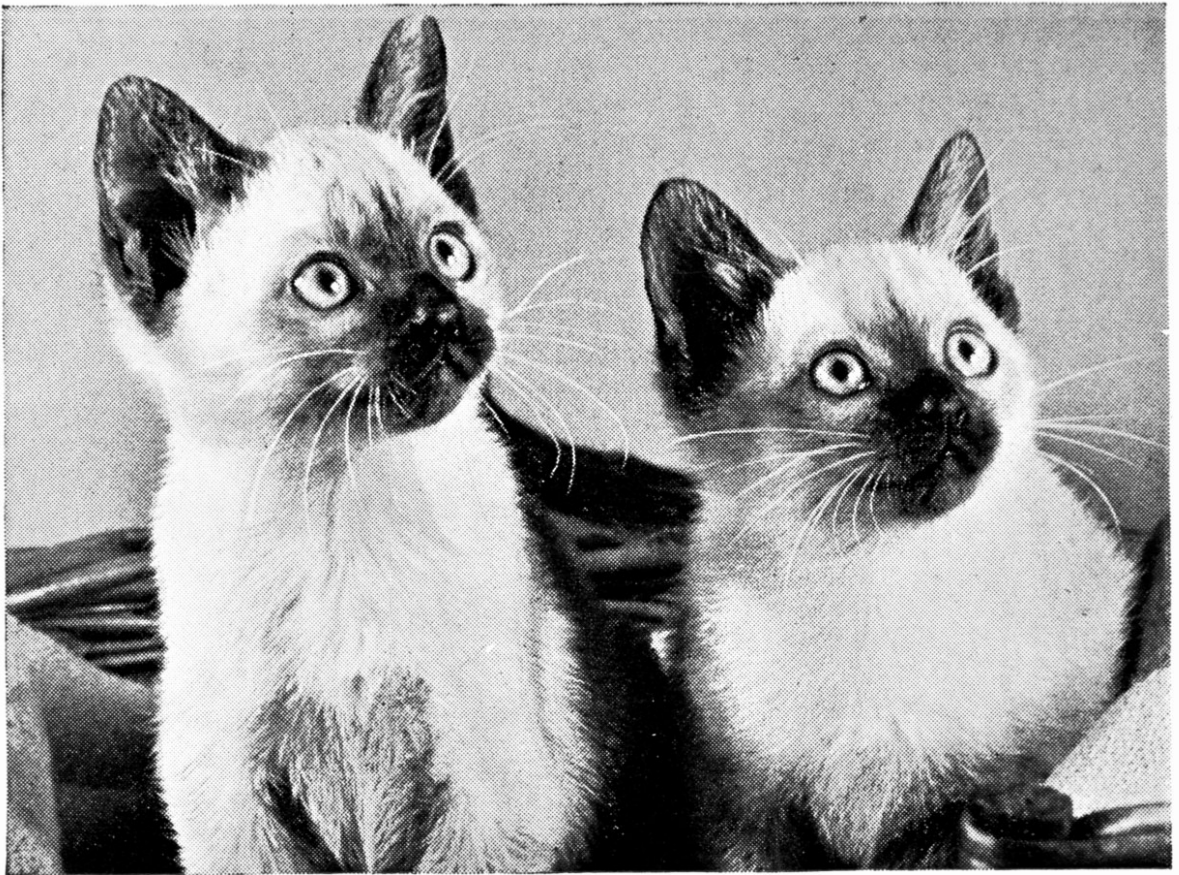
*Photo by D. E. Tyler*

*WHAT MORE CAN A FELLOW WANT!  
It's Sunny, it's Safe, it's Snug — and it's  
Spring*

MARCH 1960

1/6

Are we protected against Infectious Enteritis?



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

**'Fiovax'**

BRAND

**FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE**



A BURROUGHS WELLCOME VETERINARY PRODUCT

# Our Cats

VOL. 12 No. 3  
MARCH 1960

**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.

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**THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS**

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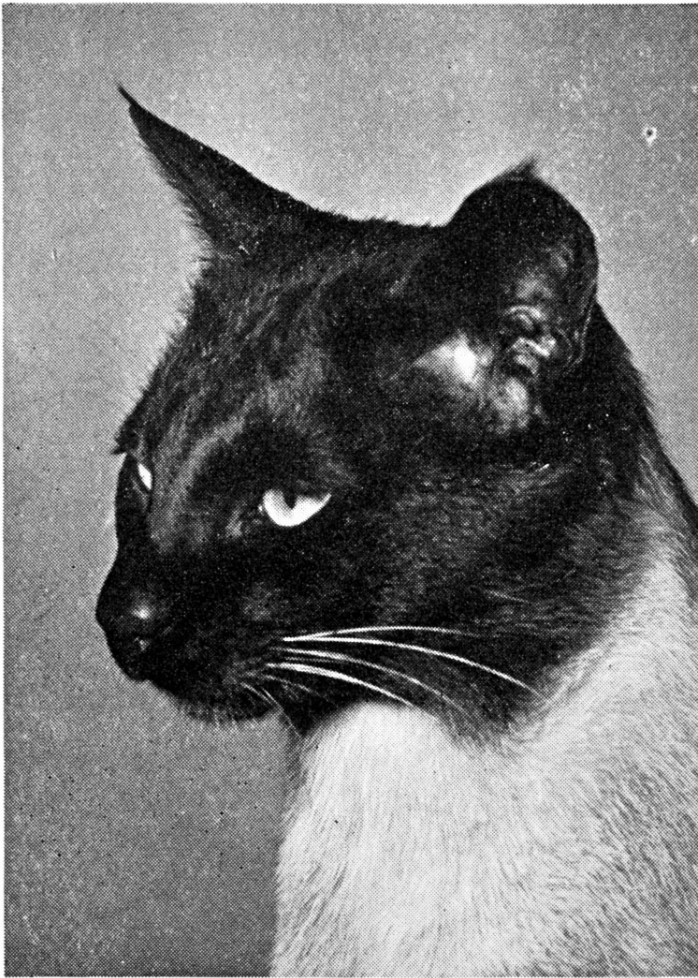


## THESE ARE LUCKY CATS

In our December issue "Mickey" related a delightful little story which centred round the activities of a real cat lover, Miss Nancy Moreton, of Tarvin, Chester, who had advertised successfully for the return of a totally blind cat named Toppie Boy. The story appeared in a number of newspapers at the time. Miss Moreton is a voluntary worker for a humane society and is qualified to put down unwanted pets in her lethal box. But she confesses to being "a reluctant executioner" and unless cats are diseased or old, she adopts them. Our photograph shows her (centre) with some of her large family at mealtime.

Lucky cats, you may think — and you will be right !

# BEAU BOSUN



1st and Ch.  
**BEST MALE**  
Siamese Ch. Show  
1959. 1st and Ch.  
**BEST MALE**  
Scottish Cat Club  
Ch. Show 1960

At Stud to Approved  
Queens.

Fee : 3 Guineas.

*Sired :*

**Ch. DU-BU FAITH OF  
DOMINEAU (U.S.A.)**  
(Born 4. 11 . 58)

**DU-BU POLKA**

(Born 28 . 4 . 59)

**1st Open Class Siamese  
Ch. Show October, 1959**

*Recently Exported to Mrs. M.  
Buckner, Toronto.*

## ALSO

**Ch. DU-BU  
JOLYON**  
(Chinchilla)

PROVED SIRE

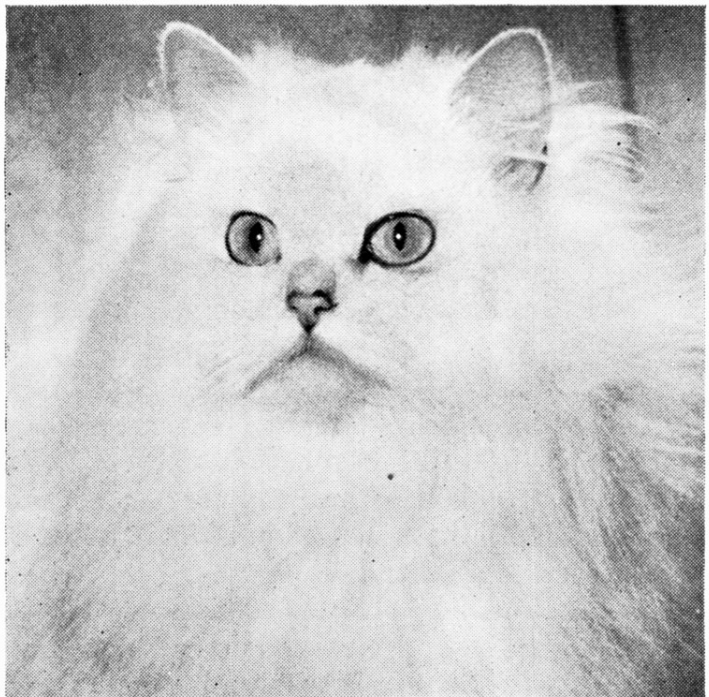
Fee : 4 Guineas

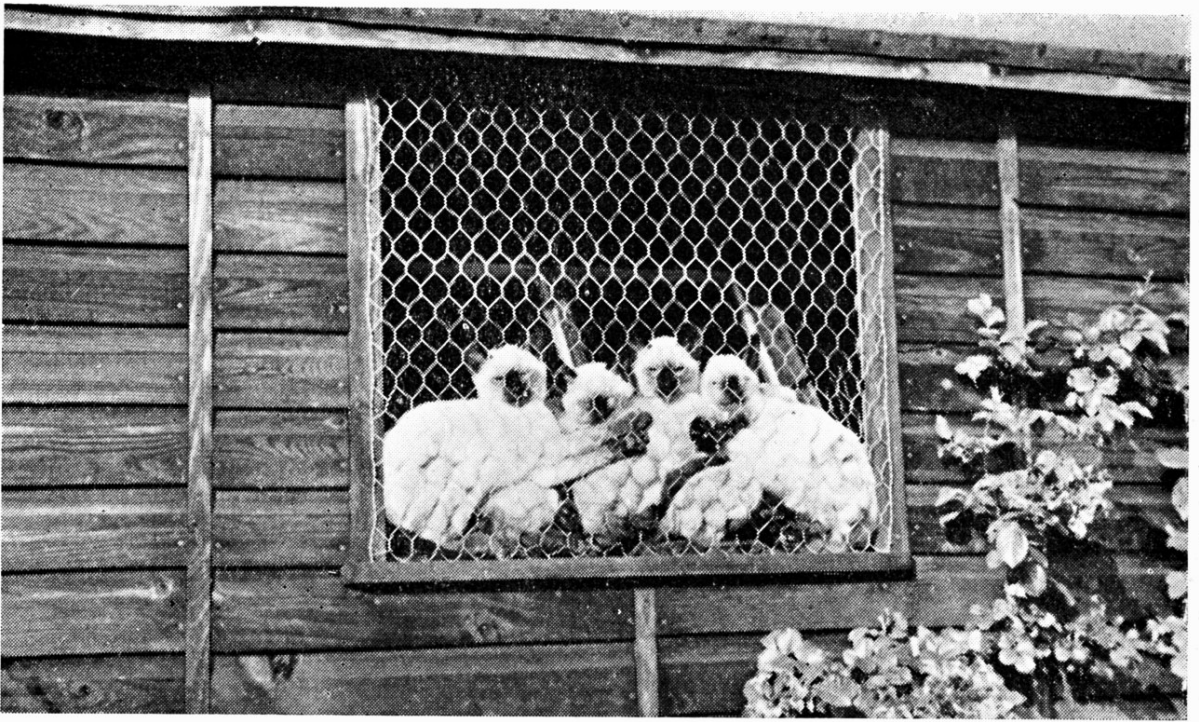
Limited number of  
queens this season.

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**MRS. A. H. WATTS**  
Darby House  
Sunbury on Thames

'Phone 3252





**“ The fanlight type of window opening inwards permits a wire-netting covering outside.” This is just one among many useful hints breeders will find in the short series which opens below under the title of . . . .**

## ***Cat breeding from scratch***

By HUGH SMITH

**S**UPPOSE I could start all over again ! Suppose, that now, with ten years' experience behind me, I could begin absolutely from scratch. How should I go about housing, purchasing stock, feeding, breeding, showing and selling kittens ? Given such a golden opportunity, I could scarcely help avoiding a lot of the pitfalls into which I have landed in the past.

Like so many breeders, I began quite haphazard. My wife and I wanted a Siamese for a pet. We wanted a Sealpoint male. The breeder we called upon could offer us only a female Sealpoint and a Bluepoint male. We took both. Like so many misguided novices we then said—“ How lovely it would be to have some Siamese kittens ! ” So in due course, we had our Nina mated and we got our kittens. Then our troubles started.

If I were to begin all over again, the first thing I'd do now would be to settle

upon the right kind of cathouse. It is a very cosy thought having your cats and kittens all the time by your fireside and under your feet. But when you've stepped on a kitten or two and seen the result—you learn that separate quarters for at least part of the time are far safer. Besides, the destructive power hidden in the claws of a kitten—especially a Siamese kitten—is almost unbelievable.

Not many of us have homes big enough to spare a special room for the cats. For me, a nice cedarwood garden shed will be the choice. I shall set it on a concrete floor to keep out the damp. On this I shall place a wooden floor supported on joists. Of course, I am assuming that I shall be able to spend quite a bit of money on providing my cats with healthy living quarters. Moreover I shall not expect to see my capital outlay paid back unless, of course, my breeding programme results in an unusual run of luck.

Next I shall insulate my cats' quarters against the heat of summer and the cold

of winter. To the inside of the roof I shall nail sheets of aluminium foil. For it is through the roof that much of the sun's heat penetrates in summer. The foil will ward that off. The roof too is a powerful agency for cooling the house during the winter. The foil will prevent it acting like a refrigerating surface and cooling the warm air in the house.

Between the supporting uprights of the walls I shall fix tarred paper for waterproofing. This is important since any insulation which gets wet ceases to be effective. I shall then nail asbestos board to the uprights and fill in the space between the board and the wall with cheap insulating material—preferably slag-wool, since it is non-inflammable.

If there is money still to spare I shall cover the floor with lino or some similar material, easy to clean. I shall also nail beading along the angle between board wall and floor. These precautions will save me a lot of time and trouble.

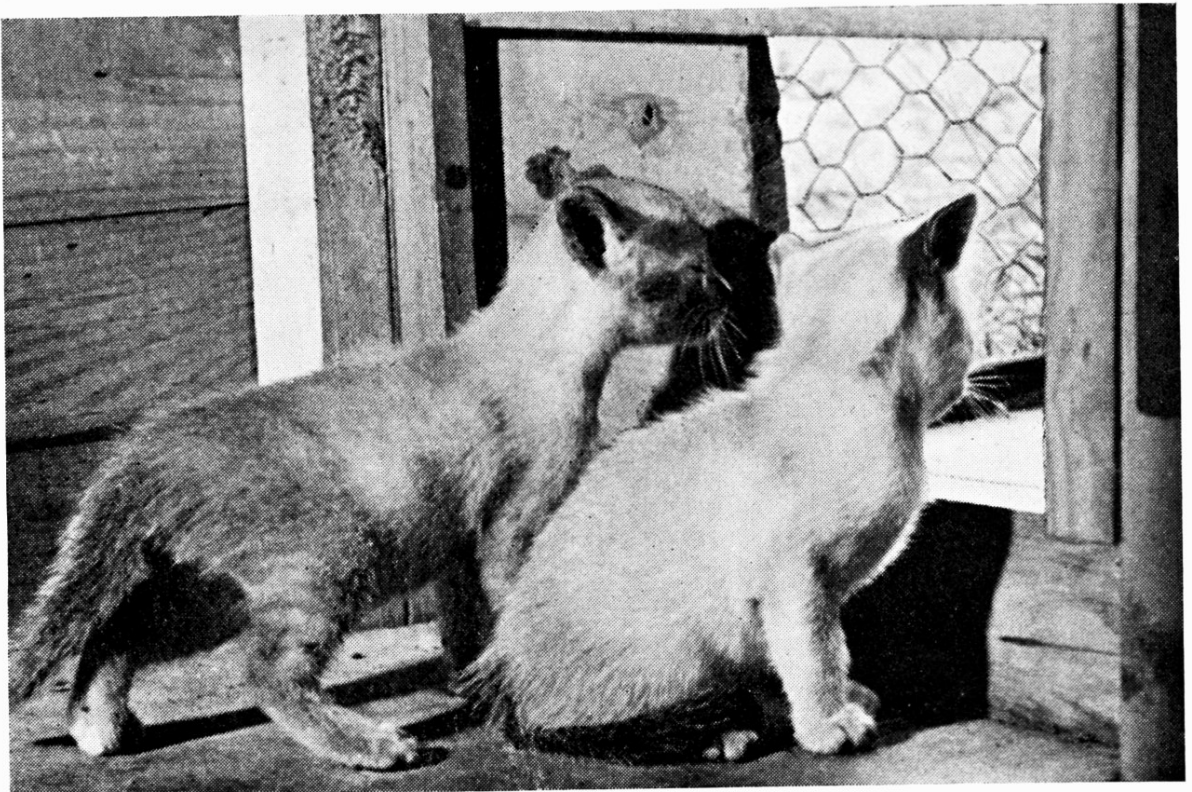
Of course, this will be expensive, but by effectively insulating the house I shall hope to save enormously on heating during the winter months. I shall have to

be careful nevertheless to block up all the cracks and crannies through which cold air can enter.

I believe it is axiomatic that cats and kittens once they have reached the running-about stage, can stand quite a lot of cold, as long as they are being active. They must, however, have a warm bed to which they can retire when they have finished playing. *They must at all times be protected from damp and draughts.*

I do not believe in running up heavy fuel bills in an effort to maintain a level of temperature required for human comfort throughout the whole cathouse. I shall provide a well boxed-in bed with plenty of blanket and *heat it from below*. This can be done by installing low-power tubular heaters which can be obtained to give a heat output equivalent to 60 watts per foot length. A couple of feet of tubular heater boxed in below the sleeping quarters will keep the bed dry and warm.

Another three feet of tubular heater in the cathouse itself should give enough background heat for all ordinary weather. The total current consumption for a small



**“ Access to the run should be by a trapdoor through which the kittens can easily run in and out.”**

cat house will be in the neighbourhood of 300 wats—the cost under  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour. There will be no expensive infra-red heating equipment for me !

I could of course obtain the same result with oil heating. Nevertheless, I think properly installed electric heating is far less likely to cause fire. I should, incidentally, be careful to take the precaution of seeing that the casing of the heaters is efficiently earthed. I shall see, too, that there are no live wires in such a position that kittens can chew through the insulation.

I shall want ventilation to be both adequate and controllable. Very little will be needed on a cold winter day. A lot will be needed in the height of summer. For winter ventilation, louvres that can be shut when not required will be sufficient. They will need to be installed high up to take off the warm air from the top of the house and avoid the danger of a direct draught when a high wind is blowing.

## Sun and air

Plenty of light will be needed. I think I shall go for the kind of glazing that will let through the ultra-violet component of light. Two windows of ample size will be needed, if possible facing the one south-east and the other south-west. I shall have the fanlight type, which, opening inwards will permit wire-netting to be placed over the outside of the window frame.

I shall have the windows mounted on the kind of hinges, too, that permit the whole window to be removed at will. In high summer this can be a veritable boon to cats, especially if a wide shelf or ledge is built under and inside each window. They can then lie in the sun or shade according to the time of day, see all that is going on outside and enjoy every breeze that blows.

The door of my cattery will be snug-fitting at all costs. I have had ample experience of the dodges calling queens will get up to in order to slip past me

invisibly when the door is opened. So I shall have a second and inner door of wire-netting stretched on a wooden frame, leading from a sort of lobby into the cats' quarters.

I shall try too, to see that my cattery is in a position sheltered from northerly winds. I shall see that it is situated with ample space for a grass run. I think it is a mistake to coddle cats and kittens too much when they have reached the right age. Unless the weather is exceptionally wet and cold, they should have access to the open air in daytime. When they are outside they should be able to find shelter from the sun and wind and a place where they can lie and sun themselves when they want to.

## Build for comfort

Past experience has taught me to make my run high enough to walk in comfortably. It is no fun having to crawl about on hands and knees to cut down grass and weeds. Access to the run for the cats should be by trap door which can be opened or closed from inside the cattery. I shall see that a baffle prevents draughts blowing in through the trap door on to the sleeping-quarters.

The key to every cat's health and happiness lies in good food, clean and dry quarters, freedom from draughts, and exercise—which unlike that somewhat inferior creature the dog—the cat has sense enough to give itself.

*(to be continued)*



## A page for the proletarian puss—No. 89



*Photo by "The Cape Argus"*

**These kittens are in the care of the P.D.S.A. dispensary in Cape Town. The P.D.S.A. in South Africa are moving their headquarters from Cape Town to Athlone, but the dispensary in Cape Town is continuing its valuable service. We are able to reproduce this splendid picture through the courtesy of the Editor of "Animals' Magazine," the P.D.S.A. monthly journal**



# Draft for a packet-maker

By ERIC WALMSLEY

(Reproduced by permission of "Punch")

AS the only living Siamese cat-owner who has not yet written his pet's biography, I reckon that the sooner I realize that the December market is only ten months away the better.

Get started *now*, I say to myself, before J. B. Priestley wakes up to what's going on and cuts us all out. Let the publisher worry about the illustrator (but *n.b.*, Tanya too circular for portraiture from life—*ergo*, keep her and artist apart at all costs? Woodcuts).

All right, then . . .

1. Cat's characteristics: affectionate nature (hardly enough on its own, though, for more than two chapters even with examples); gross appetite; lack of conversation except at mealtimes (? repetitive); dislike of literary activity (but is it really *funny* that she sits on my typewriter?); chronic constipation (? omit); reluctance to wash ears (I know all Siamese are like this, but no one's mentioned it yet, have they?); total inability to climb anything, including trees and curtains; protruding teeth; avoidance of exertion except after her own meals and during ours; tendency to get claws caught in upholstery, nylon stockings, pullovers, etc. (? is all this *interesting*? Re-read the seventeen pages describing that other cat's basic diet and note own reaction again); dislike of vet; dislike of visitors; hatred

of window-cleaner; loathing of other cats; dislike of cold/hot weather. (This section to be expanded later as things crop up. No need to cut too drastically. This isn't a *normal* market.)

2. Funny episodes: coal cellar and chimney and subsequent baths in U-Boil-O; illnesses when life despaired of (a chapter on each probably, but well spread out after the Brontë pattern); time she fell into the lavatory pan; that business with the rugs (come to think of it, there really was something rather clever in the way she made us buy *both* those fluffy rugs we had on approval by vomiting on each of them within five minutes of their arrival—good for two thousand words with a bit of padding); occasion when she pricked her nose on a dead hedgehog (? isn't there anything *else*? Protests from cat-women sure to follow.) (Complete section later.)

3. Clever tricks: (but *n.b.*, omit begging as too shame-making in a cat); competence with private cat-door (omit incompetence with any other sort of door); accurate clock-reading at meal-times; piercing shrieks to demand attention; skill in biting through polythene bags containing food; the speed with which she got rid of that ailurophobe woman who had come to complain about the compost heap; imitation of a hot-water bottle. (? A bit thin.)

4. Favourite games: hide and seek; grandmother's footsteps; rugby football (good for a chapter anyway. Omit bad-losermanship).

5. General padding: give pedigree in detail (regret grandmother, and aunt who advertised cat pills); account for passion for motoring (well, think up something then); the way she *knows* (expand a bit here as somebody's Tibby is sure to be the same); conviction that we are cats; diet vagaries (grouse only in August, etc.); notes on earth-box.

6. Title: "Old Sloppyguts" probably too strong for cat-

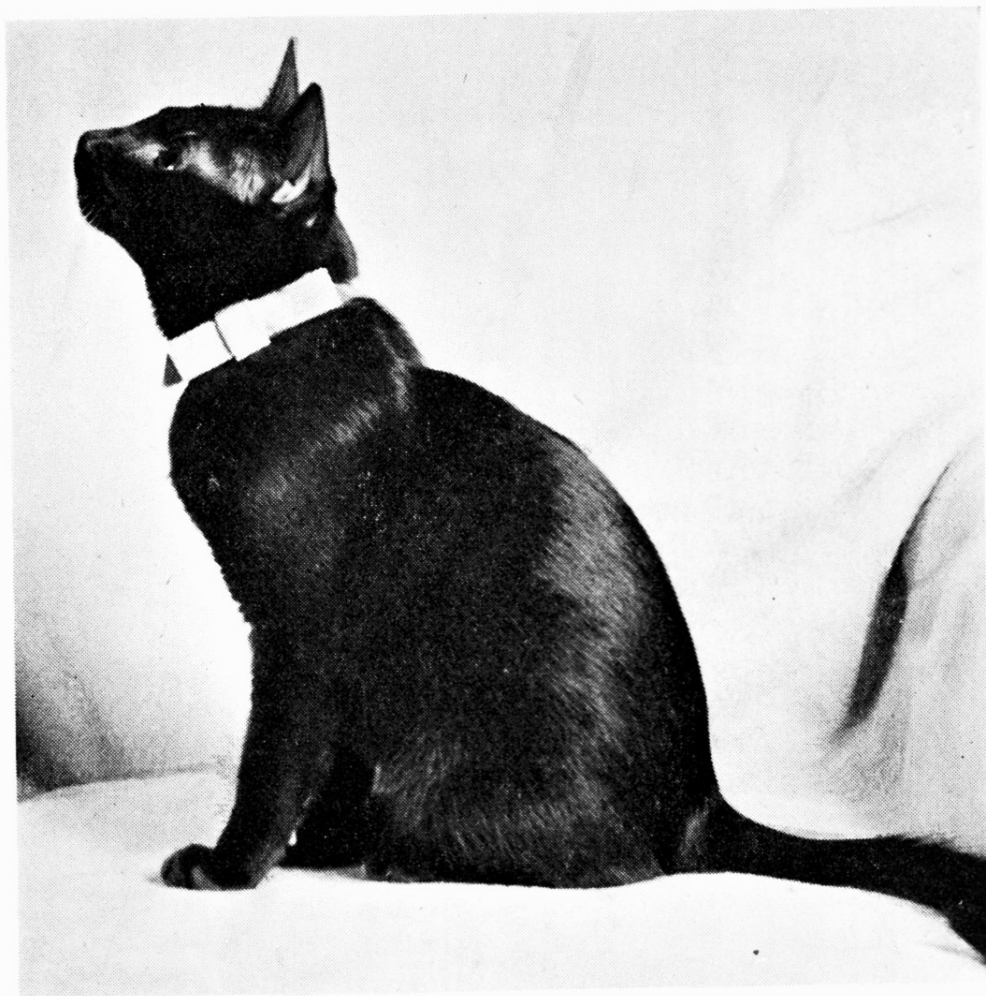
women; "Tanya" too dull. Try rhyming dictionary lark—i.e. puns on the *-at* ending: Cat and Ball; Tit-for-Cat; Cat to Catch a Mackerel; Mad Catter; Cat on the Back; This or Cat; Cat-Bite; Cat du Jour(?); Catty Degeneration (it's all right—they needn't be *good*).

7. Probable length: 150,000 words should about cover it.

8. Prose style: lively yet reverent.

9. Publisher: Michael Joseph or their chief rivals.

10. Likely sales: at least half a million.



Mrs. Christine Streetman, of Houston, Texas, U.S.A., writes: "I am enclosing a picture of my beloved PENG0, bred by Miss Edith von Ullmann, who came to me last fall from London. He is a lovely Havana and will soon have a wife from Jasmine Peters, in California, a daughter of her Havana, Pricilla, sired by Laurentide Brown Pilgrim. He has already won first ribbons and many rosettes at U.C.F. shows where the breed is recognized. Everywhere Peng0 has been shown he has made friends for the Havanas and I have a nice backlog of orders for his progeny. Once in a while Peng0 gets a faraway look in his eyes and I'm sure he is dreaming of Miss von Ullmann and the mice and birds he caught in England, living the life of Riley on her houseboat. But he is happy and safe here and has adjusted himself easily to Texan climate and ways."

*Oh! What a boom in pet food*

## **Cool millions from cats**

By PEARSON PHILLIPS

*(Reproduced from the London "Daily Mail")*

**E**VERY home in the land owns one-third of a cat and one-fifth of a dog. They all have to be fed. And what a fantastic killing some people have made out of feeding them!

The great post-war boom in the pet-food business (there are 90 different types) has been highlighted by the £3,500,000 bid by Spillers (of the "Shapes") for Spratt's (everything from dog biscuits to canary seed).

Neither of these is the leading company in the field. That honour goes to a highly secretive private company called Petfoods, which was known as Chappies until 1956.

This firm operates from Melton Mowbray, in the hunting country. It is run by a publicity-shy American sweet manufacturer, called Mr. Forrest E. Mars, who has immortalized himself in tuck shop history by inventing the Mars Bar.

Using more than half the whalemeat imported into the United Kingdom he has effectively cornered about two-thirds of the market for pre-prepared cat and dog foods, a market which is estimated to be worth about £20,000,000 a year.

All of which is very nice for Mr. Mars, and very nice for his employees, who work in a modern factory equipped with two-shillings-in-the-slot dinner machines and press-button coffee dispensers.

Also in the race are two other major companies: Scottish Animal Products and Stamina Foods, who are a subsidiary of Cerebos, the salt people.

What worries these big five operators in the pet food world is the fact that the British public is still old-fashioned

enough to spend about £20,000,000 a year on buying bones from the butcher, fish-heads from the fishmonger, or on letting the beasts take pot-luck with the left-overs.

"That is just not good enough," a pet food executive told me yesterday. "A healthy animal needs a balanced diet, which we provide in our tins and bags.

"And don't imagine it is enough to let a cat hunt for itself and feed on mice. It probably won't catch any. Only fit, well-fed cats catch mice. It takes energy, brains, alertness. They do it for sport . . ."

To help ensure that energy and alertness are taken care of the pet food manufacturers have employed the services of special research stations.

Eight selected "tasting cats" were employed at the Animal Nutrition Research Laboratories at Slough. A team of investigators travelled 10,000 miles to interview 20,000 cats.

If the projected link-up between Spillers and Spratt's comes off the battle for this remaining £20,000,000-worth of business will be intensified. Already the industry uses more than £500,000 of TV advertising.

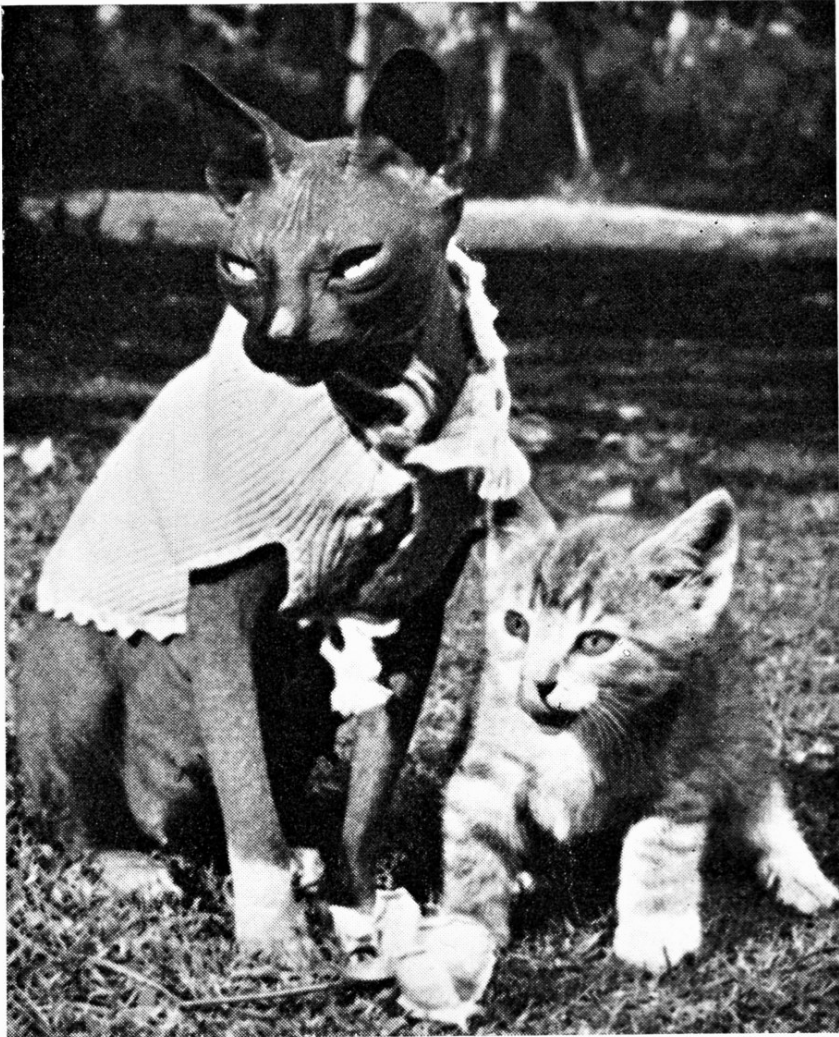
There is also competition over who is going to sell this post-war rush of tinned and specially prepared pet foods. When grocers started selling tins of cat food the fishmongers got worried. They started stocking tins of cat food themselves.

Then along came the milkmen. They had always considered that they deserved the cream of the cat-food market. Some dairies started taking orders for tinned cat-food when they brought the morning milk.

The battle is still going on.

# Meet Sylvester

## Australia's "Hairless Wonder!"



*Photo by R. Daley*

**Sylvester, suitably attired, with one of her 1959 kittens. Her colour is slate grey with just a little fur on back and tail. She has no whiskers and her claws are very blunt.**

**I**T was away back in September last year that our Australian correspondent and good friend Mr. F. W. Pearce, of Sydney, revealed in his notes the existence of what he described as "our nude cat." A clipping from a newspaper provided some further details and these were so unusual and intriguing that we set out to contact the young owner of this hairless wonder of the feline world, Mr. Richard Rigby of Longwarrin, Victoria.

Although there was some delay in the process, Mr. Rigby eventually responded and very kindly supplied details of his strange pet Sylvester and also provided the photographs reproduced on these pages which we know will interest and astonish cat lovers all over the world.



*Photo by R. Daley*

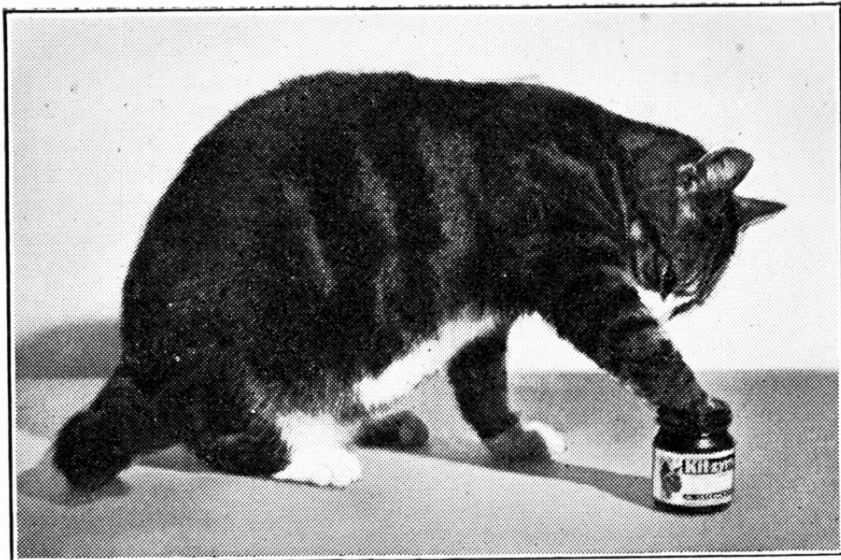
Sylvester appears here in playful mood. Her front and paws are pink. She is a hearty eater and is especially fond of bread and raw eggs.

Sylvester is a lady! She was born in December, 1955, from an unknown father and an ordinary tabby mother. She was reared on the Rigby's farm and kept warm in the early months by the ginger kitten seen in one of the photographs. This kitten is now twice Sylvester's size and is thought to be the father of her (Sylvester's) kittens. Three normal kittens were born to Sylvester in April last year and one of them appears in the picture showing Sylvester in her woolly jacket.

Sylvester is clearly in very kind hands. Mr. Rigby says she is very affectionate and not afraid of anything. Although her blunt claws prevent her from climbing trees she can run like a hare, is very active and never happier than when she is playing with her own kittens.

We invited A. C. Jude, our expert on genetics, to comment on this freak of the feline world from a land which is already famous for its oddities in natural history. Mr. Jude replied: "Hairless (*Hypotrichosis cystica*) is a mutant gene known in several kinds of animal. The genetic behaviour of the gene in the cat has not been studied to any extent, but a comprehensive study has been made of the gene in the mouse, where there are three alleles. In the mouse 'hairless' is a recessive character.

"While hairless female mice are usually sterile, we are told that the hairless cat illustrated has littered. The hairless male mice are generally fertile, though the fertility is usually of only short duration. It is noticed in the photographs that the eyes of the hairless cat are normal. In all hairless mice the eyelids are usually swollen by a cystic enlargement of Meibom's glands and may partly or completely cover the eyes. Hairless mice are easily the most hideous mammals in existence, except perhaps for a short time. Young hairless albinos shedding their first coat look somewhat like Father Christmas showing a pink face surrounded by white fur!"



**Buzz  
enjoys her  
KIT-ZYME**

**MISS P. EVANS of 41 Abdale Road, London, W.12, writes :—**

*“ I really say emphatically that your Kit-zyme Tablets are the best tonic and conditioner I have ever come across. Other brands I have tried had to be forced into the cat or put in foods and mixed up which takes quite a little time when you do it every day.*

*“ I first used Kit-zyme when we moved to London. My cat, Buzz, to say the least of it, was a bit off colour and depressed, not being used to the new surroundings, and she also started to lose her fur.*

*“ There was soon a noticeable improvement and although Buzz is now in good health and no longer losing her fur, I am keeping on with the Tablets because she enjoys them so much and, as the photograph shows, even tries to get them out of the bottle herself!”*

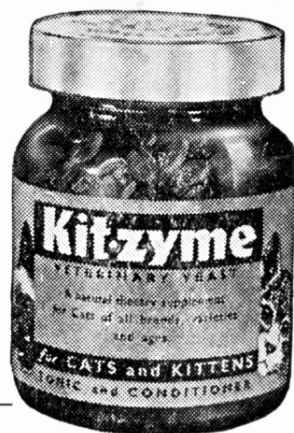
**KIT - ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .**  
**It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative**

# Kit-zyme

## VITAMIN - RICH YEAST TABLETS

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

Literature Free on Request



If any difficulty in obtaining write to :  
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Ref. No. 211

Cat owners should keep Zemol handy. Zemol, in Ointment or Powder form, is an effective remedy for many skin troubles and minor wounds. Booklets FREE on application to the makers of Kit-zyme.

## ***Genetics for the novice breeder***

By A. C. JUDE

**T**HIS month we continue discussion of breeding methods. We have already seen that careful recording, objective analysis and assessment of the characteristics and performance of every breeding animal, rigid selection of breeding animals on the basis of performance, pedigree, and where possible, some kind of progeny test; then line-breeding to animals proven as outstanding breeders are the bases of success. There is nothing in these methods which is obscure or beyond the reach of any intelligent breeder.

There is great opportunity for co-operation among small breeders, or between them and the larger breeders owning established strains. An agreed breeding plan and recording system can be adopted, experiences shared, and mutual assistance given, each owner taking a pride in assisting to develop a high average merit in the strain as a whole. This is especially the case where new breeds are being established.

The British Kennel Club recently ruled that dogs collectively owned may not compete for prizes at shows. The purpose of this ruling is not stated, but it certainly would appear likely to discourage one type of collective effort at breed improvement.

Genetical theory influenced investigators into breeding methods, mainly in two matters, namely, the emphasis on progeny testing as a method of distinguishing "genotype" from "phenotype," and the calculations of "inbreeding coefficients."

Calculation of inbreeding coefficients is based on the assumption that each animal receives one half of its inheritance (genotype) from each parent. Whilst,

even on orthodox genetical theory this assumption is not strictly accurate, it is a much better approximation than another theory which asserts that each parent contributes one quarter, each grandparent one eighth and so on, or another system by which one third of an animal's inheritance is assumed to be derived from its parents, grandparents and great-grandparents respectively.

Obviously, everything an animal gets from its grandparents it must get via its parents, so that at the time of fertilization the whole of its inheritance is derived from its parents, although not necessarily quite equally from each. The purpose of an inbreeding coefficient is to give a measure of the increase in homozygosity, i.e., the increased opportunity for the smaller genes to reach the progeny through both parents.

**From the above, we may now summarize in the form of a breeding plan for the foundation of a strain.**

The first consideration should be the deciding on a few traits which are regarded as essential, and on any faults considered intolerable. Whatever the breed, disease resistance, fertility, and absence of deformation, must be included as essentials, and certain character failings, such as viciousness, extreme nervousness, and hysterical or epileptic tendencies must be condemned. The next consideration is to develop a scoring system in which the selected virtues and faults receive marks in accordance with (a) their importance to your purpose or breeding aim, (b) their rarity or otherwise in the breed (or show population of a breed) as a whole.

Virtues which are well established in the breed and present in every individual used or bred need not be scored. As certain traits, rare at first, become

established in a strain, their scoring may be reduced in order that greater weight and attention may be given to some other trait. Or the scoring system may remain the same, attention in matings being concentrated on scores for individual traits which require improvement.

The other most important consideration is to linebreed consistently to the best individual produced until a better one occurs, then linebreed to that. The "blood" of an outstanding animal can only be conserved by inbreeding to it while the animal is alive, but close inbreeding should only be resorted to when an animal of very exceptional qualities and with no outstanding faults is available. If inbreeding results in unsatisfactory litters, this does not condemn the favoured animal, but merely indicates that a less close mating should be made.

Wide outcrosses should not be resorted to after the establishment of a strain, but some outside blood should be introduced, e.g., by the use of a male sired by one of the strain from an unrelated female. In the foundation, animals' relationship need not be close, in fact, wide outcrosses will give more variation and therefore greater possibility for selection of desirable combination of traits. Every animal to be used must pass rigid assessments for individual excellence, as well as average excellence of its relatives, including its progeny when known.

In addition to the "percentage of blood" however, it is important to know how many times the same individual appears in a pedigree, and especially whether heredity derived from him (or her) can reach the offspring through both parents. If any individual occurs in the pedigree of both the sire and the dam of a litter, inherited factors derived from that individual may reach some of the offspring through both parents (this is, indeed, the essence of inbreeding), but this is the less likely to happen the further back the common ancestor is in the pedigree.

If a certain individual occurs many times in the pedigree of one parent but not at all in the pedigree of the other, then the litter is not inbred, even though the "percentage of blood" of that individual may be high, and this influence therefore greater than that of any other individual in the pedigree. The "percentage of blood" cannot, however, exceed 50 without inbreeding.

The term "linebreeding" is usually understood to mean building a pedigree in which one individual occurs repeatedly, but it is possible to linebreed to several individuals at once. It is not possible to linebreed without inbreeding to some extent, but it is possible to inbreed without linebreeding in this sense of the term, e.g., by mating brother to sister in every generation. Some breeders, however, would call the latter linebreeding, on the grounds that the animals mated belong to the same "bloodlines."

*(to be continued)*

## **3rd GENERATION PURE CHESTNUT BROWN FOREIGN**

**(Formerly Havana)**



***Mrs. D. L. Clavier is now  
accepting a few queens for  
her new Stud***

### **REVEL CHESTNUT CASCADE**

Sire : ELMTOWER GUINEA GOLD (29)

Dam : ROOFSPRINGER MARHUANA (29)

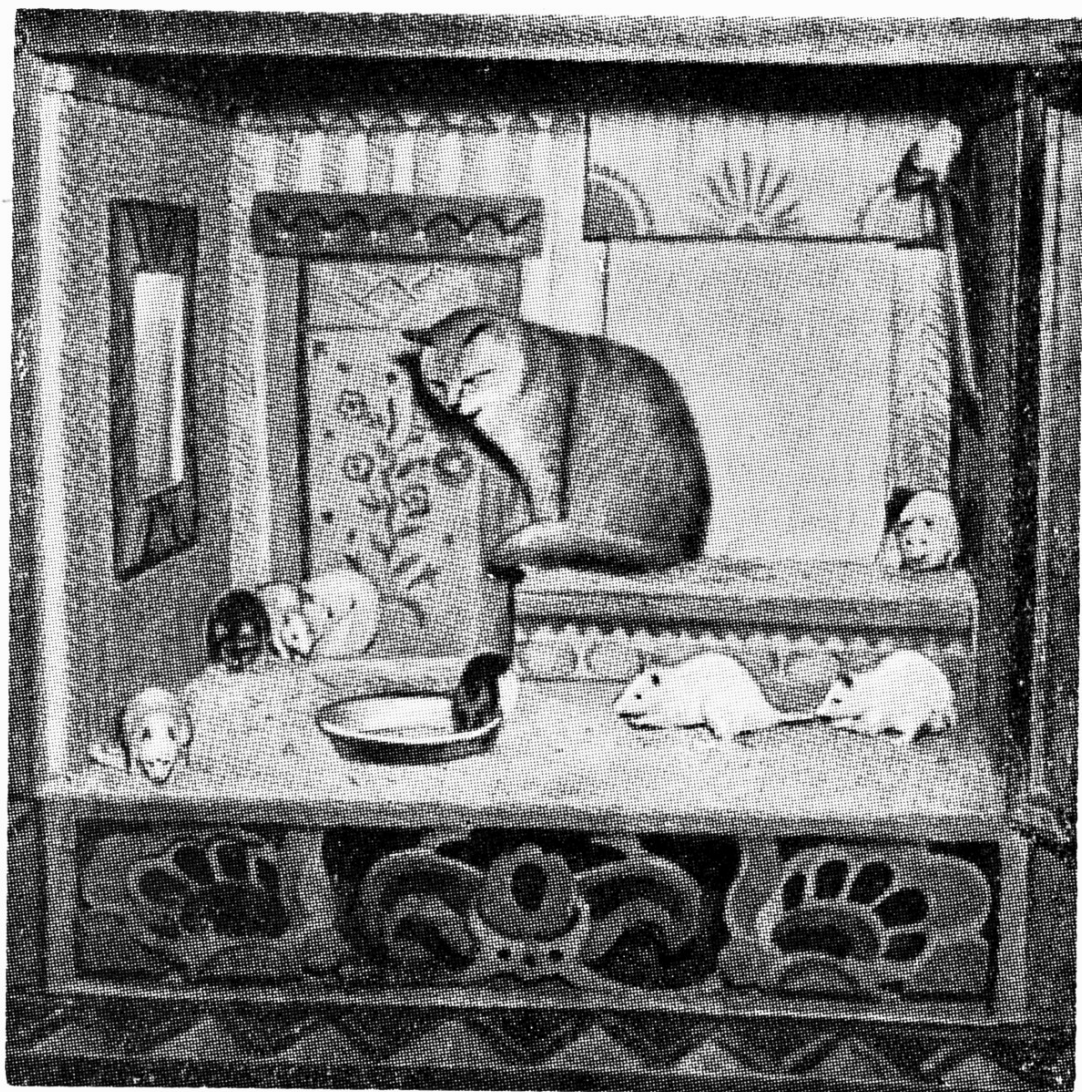
**FEE 3 Gns.**

*Queens met at Haverfordwest Station*



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## ***Rats are this cat's friends***

We are able to reproduce this unusual children's story feature by EMMANUEL DVINSKY and the accompanying illustration by kind permission of the "Soviet Weekly."

**T**HE famous Russian animal trainers, the Durovs, have a cage bearing the words: "The Cat's Home." In the cage, Murka, a big marmalade cat, dozes peacefully, surrounded by frisking rats.

They run and jump and from time to time the cat merely opens half a green eye, twitches an ear or waves the tip of her tail.

When the keeper brings their dinner of milk and bread crumbs,

they all eat quietly out of the same bowl.

At one time these rats were dreadfully afraid of the cat, as all rodents are. This is how they learned not to fear her.

Two tables were put side by side, with a rope stretched between them. The rats were put on one table and an empty cage, on the other. The rats were very eager to get back to their home where some enticing food was

awaiting them ; so they began to run along the rope to the cage.

After a few days they were quite used to this movement and sped along like tight-rope walkers.

Then the cat came into the picture.

Murka was the most ordinary cat who had no great love for rats. Indeed, she was a fine mouser who had many mice and rats to her credit. But she was used to seeing rats running away from her.

Murka was put on the table where the cage used to be. As usual the rats ran along the rope from one table to another. And the cat saw something she had never seen before : rats rushing headlong towards her.

She obeyed the impulse which makes animals run away from the attacker, taking to her heels, with the result that her natural ten-

dency to attack was held back.

The trainer continued the work by giving the cat on the table her favourite food, while the rats were also fed there.

Soon Murka stopped jumping off the table, while the rats continued to run there.

Gradually the animals became used to each other and were no longer afraid. The cat paid no attention to her neighbours and finally began to eat with them from the same dish.

Things soon came to the point when, having finished their dinner, the rats settled down under the cat's flank, nestling into her soft fur, all of them dozing peacefully, together.

In this way, the trainer managed to change the behaviour of the animals. The old enemies settled down together.

## The nourishment your sick cat will take — happily

If your sick cat refuses nourishment, or when *extra* nourishment is advised, give it the food Veterinary Surgeons have for years so strongly recommended — Brand's Essence.

Brand's Essence is the ideal strengthener. It will build up the mother-cat and provides additional feeding for kittens from the age of three weeks.

Being pre-digested, its valuable meat protein is quickly absorbed without any strain on the digestive system, and your cat will readily accept a teaspoonful when refusing anything else. It contains no added salt or preservatives, and so cannot possibly irritate the most delicate system.

# Brand's ESSENCE

BEEF 3/3 CHICKEN 4/3 AT ALL CHEMISTS

### WHEN SHOWING YOUR CAT

If it gets highly strung before a show, or suffers car sickness when travelling there, Brand's Essence is highly beneficial. It is so easily digested, whereas solid food may cause vomiting.

To keep healthy cats healthy — to help make sick cats well again — give them Brand's Essence.

#### BRAND'S BOOKLET

'Safeguarding  
your pet'  
will be sent free  
on application to  
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Mayfair Works,  
Vauxhall,  
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# Sammy of Tokyo

By MARGARET WILKINSON

**S**AMMY POTLET was born in Tokyo just over three years ago. He came to my home when he was six weeks old.

He was jet black, but most of his whiskers were white ; also the eyebrows over the left eye.

He purred louder than most kittens, and from the first he used his miaow to hold lengthy conversations with me. His eyes were golden and his four-inch tail was bushy.

Early in his life his retrieving instincts became apparent. He did not, like most kittens, merely *chase* the bits of paper, which I rolled up and threw for him. He grabbed them in his mouth, rushed back with them, and dropped them at my feet to be thrown again. If I failed to comply, he clawed my ankles.

This game developed excitingly when I substituted a small piece of "katsuo-bushi"—hard, dried fish—for the paper balls. The smell was enticing and it was delicious to chew ; but for Sammy Potlet the pleasure of retrieving it always outweighed the temptation to stop and nibble it.

When he was full-grown, he could open his mouth wide enough to carry a ping pong ball ; and this, too, he would bring to me to be thrown. But he always had to "corner" the ball before he could get it into his mouth !

Many cats dislike water, but Potlet loved it. Being out in the rain was a treat, and he purposely paddled in the puddles. When I took my bath, in a Japanese wooden bathtub, Potlet accompanied me. He would sit on the only solid bit, next to the chimney, and leaning over perilously, dip his paws into the hot water and fish out a small piece of pumice stone which I floated on the surface to amuse him.



**Sammy Potlet with the author in her Tokyo garden.**

When I let the water out, he would jump down on to the wooden slats covering the concrete floor, and watch for stray ping pong balls that he might have lost under the bath. He knew as well as I did that the swirling bath-water would wash them out. Sometimes as many as three appeared at once !

As Sammy Potlet grew, his white whiskers and eyebrows fell out and were replaced by black ones. His golden eyes became more and more expressive ; and he began to use his stumpy tail rather than his miaow for answering when spoken to.

Shortly before his first birthday he became ill. The onset was gradual, but I called the vet. at the first sign of his being off colour. His appetite dwindled ; his eyes became one-third hooded. The vet. could not diagnose the trouble, and all remedies failed. After three anxious weeks of trying, I called in another vet. who immediately removed Potlet to hospital to give him constant attention. By then he was neither eating nor drinking, and his eyes were almost completely

hooded. The vet. did his utmost, but on the fourth day he told me there was no hope.

With a heavy heart I took Potlet home again, and put him on a cushion in his favourite chair. Believing that God loves all of His creation, and hoping that He would save where human efforts had failed, I laid my hands on Sammy Potlet's emaciated body and prayed.

The vet. called next morning and finding Potlet still alive, exclaimed "It's a miracle!" He was a Japanese vet., and not a Christian. I told him what I had done and was still doing; and he appeared much moved.

On the evening of the following day, Potlet opened his mouth, put out his tongue, and licked a tiny piece of egg-yolk from my finger. From that moment he never looked back.

## A great hunter

He was a great hunter. Birds, rats, moths, lizards and crickets were all brought in and laid at my feet, while the golden eyes looked expectantly up at me for praise.

One night as I was undressing, I heard a scuffling at his flap-door, and next moment he appeared triumphantly with a two-foot grass snake wriggling in his jaws. This, too, he presented to me, and was offended because I did not approve. While I was dealing with the head, Potlet seized its tail, and in the ensuing tug-of-war the snake fortunately met its death.

My house was in the compound of a Japanese girls' school. Potlet knew that when the girls began to stream down the drive at the end of the afternoon, sooner or later I should come too. From the staff room windows I used to watch him leave the house, cross the drive to a rocky bank on the other side, and wait. Though there were 620 girls and some 40 staff to come down, he never missed or mistook my step, even though I might be surrounded by people. If I were unduly

delayed in school, he would come up to the staff entrance to look for me, and raise his voice in no uncertain terms.

Of course he was bi-lingual, not caring whether he was addressed in English or Japanese, so long as he was sure he was being praised!

His main diet was a fish called "aji"; but if my supper was raw tuna, seaweed, and boiled rice, Potlet always had a share of the tuna and the seaweed.

He never missed the word "fish" in conversation. One night when some Japanese doctors were at my house, one of them asked me the meaning of a word in the English book we were studying. "It's the name of a fish," I replied. Whereupon Potlet, who had been sleeping, sprang from his chair, went to the kitchen door and miaowed imperiously.

## A burglar alarm

When a burglar was breaking in one night, it was Potlet who aroused me and brought me face to face with him at the window. And it was Potlet who always escorted me as far as the school gates when I went out, and rushed forth to meet me on my return.

Do I miss him? Yes, terribly. But I know he is happy. For my successor took him on with the house when I left; and she loves him and spoils him every bit as much as I did.



## Wreck survivor looks back

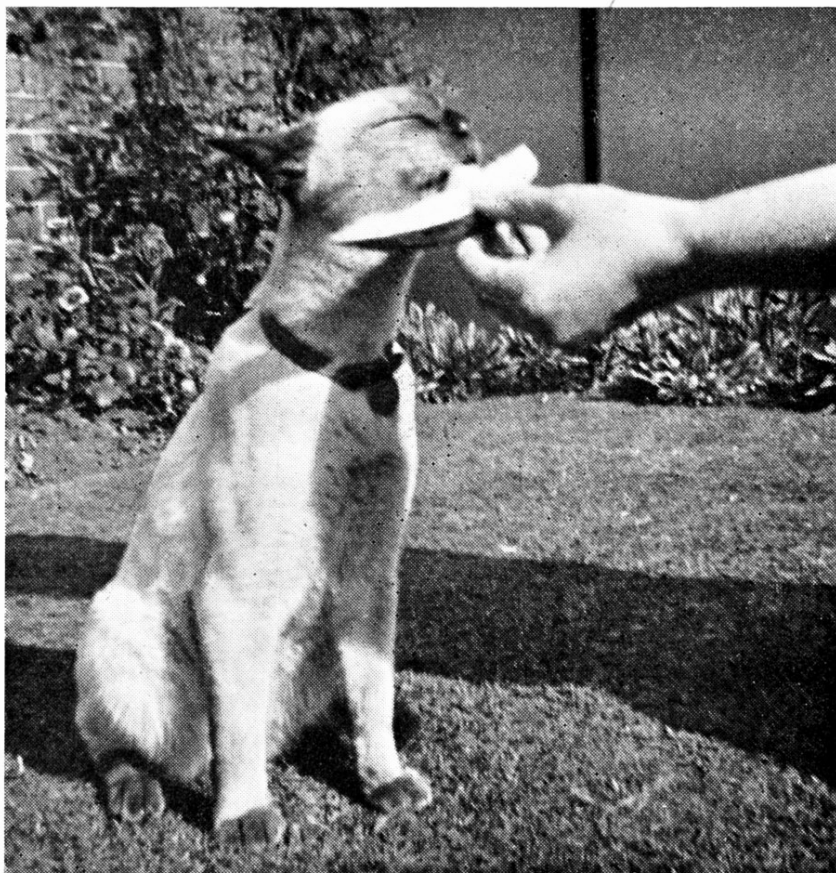
# Recalls the rescue of Felix over 30 years ago

ONE of the most fascinating series of television programmes during the winter months has been the underwater adventures of Hans and Lotte Hass, whose cameras have revealed so much that is strange and wonderful in the depths of the ocean and among the coral reefs. Those who have followed this series will surely remember the remarkable pictures of a sunken ship and the salvaging of some of her lamps, which still functioned with the original oil after they had been brought to the surface and given a thorough clean.

As one watched fascinated as Hans and Lotte swam in and around the remains of the ill-fated vessel one wondered how long it had been trapped by the cruel reef and what had happened to its crew.

Little did we dream that a letter in the post would supply all the answers.

Among a small group who were watching the programme in a Brockenhurst (Hampshire) hotel there happened to be Mrs. Linda Parker, one of our readers and a very well-known figure in the Fancy. Another viewer and a very surprised one was Captain G. V. G. Beamish, D.S.C., R.I.N.(Retd.) who revealed the astonishing fact that he was serving on board the ship when she met with misadventure in the year 1927 or 1928, well over thirty years ago. Captain Beamish, besides being an authority on the fine old game of croquet, is also a great lover of cats. While recalling the incidents of the wreck to the assembled company of viewers he mentioned that



**KOKO, Chocolate Point Siamese neuter, likes nothing better than a slice of melon. Very correctly his owner, Mrs. E. Bromley, of Mirfield, Yorks, writes : " I think we have just managed to catch the ecstasy in this snapshot."**

the crew included Felix, the ship's cat. When pressed by Mrs. Parker to set down the full story for OUR CATS Captain Beamish kindly responded with the following account :

“ The ship was the Royal Indian Marine ship *Elphinstone*, then stationed in the Andaman Isles based on Port Blair, the Indian Government penal settlement at that time. I was serving on board as First Lieutenant (Second in Command) when the misadventure occurred and I was very surprised and not a little interested to have the unhappy event so vividly brought back to my memory on the television screen. Happily to say, no lives were lost, only our personal possessions. The first to leave the ship was my pet dog Beaver.

“ One of the incidents which I remember so well concerns our ship's cat, a most important member of the ship's company. When the time came to abandon ship, Felix could not be found. I expect the noise of the impact on the rock reef and the subsequent hustle and bustle had

frightened him down into the bowels of the ship. The sea was rising rapidly over the upper deck and the ship showed signs of slipping off the rock bed, so regretfully we had to say good-bye to poor Felix and take to the boats.

“ About fifteen minutes later the ship gave a lurch and slid off the rocks into deeper water, submerging gradually until only the upper half of the main mast and rigging were showing above water.

“ Through my binoculars I spotted a forlorn little figure clinging to the upper shrouds just below the mast head. I reported to the Captain and asked permission to go in and rescue Felix from his perch. This we did. A sailor sprang into the rigging, grasped the reluctant Felix and dumped him into the boat.

“ We were all picked up about six hours later by the Royal Indian Marine survey ship *Investigator* and Felix was duly transferred and taken on the strength of this ship where I feel sure he found a happy home. Lucky cat ! ”

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## 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.)**

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## 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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# Tailpieces

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



**T**HE Rhodesia Cat Club has started to organize classes for judges and some of the members are having training for stewardship.

A news flash reveals the existence of 600 cats on Pelee Island in Lake Erie, Canada. They are said to be the descendants of former pets gone wild which now live on pheasant, the major source of income for the inhabitants. A plan to hunt the cats with guns was stopped by the intervention of the Ontario S.P.C.A. and traps were installed to take the cats alive. It is reported that the cats have eluded the ingenious traps set for them.

An interesting little item has reached me in the post from one of our subscribers Miss Ann Codrington, who takes a lively interest in show and club affairs. Whilst looking through a collection of old letters she came across the following written by Maria Edgeworth and dated Hampstead, January 12th, 1822: "I saw yesterday at a lady's house in Hampstead a real Persian cat brought over by a Navy captain, her brother. It has long hair like a dog and a tail like a terrier's, only with longer hair. It is the most gentle, depressed looking creature I ever saw. It seems to have *mal du pays* and moreover had the colic the morning I saw it. Agnes Beattie had a spoonful of castor oil poured out for it—but it ran away."

Two cats recently fought a battle to the death with a huge tiger snake to

protect their family of six kittens. Mr. John Broad, a dairy farmer living in outback Victoria, Australia, found the cats dead from snakebite about a dozen yards from the box in which the kittens were sheltering, unharmed. And nearby he discovered the head and several feet of the snake.

Bob Mathias, world famous for his athletic prowess, twice winner of the tough Olympic decathlon, is a busy man these days. He holds an executive position with an American construction company, is co-starring in a T.V. series and is much in demand as a lecturer. Despite all these activities he makes it his business to spend a goodly amount of time each day with Melba, his singing wife, daughters Romel and Megan, and the family pets—a Siamese cat and a Japanese rat.

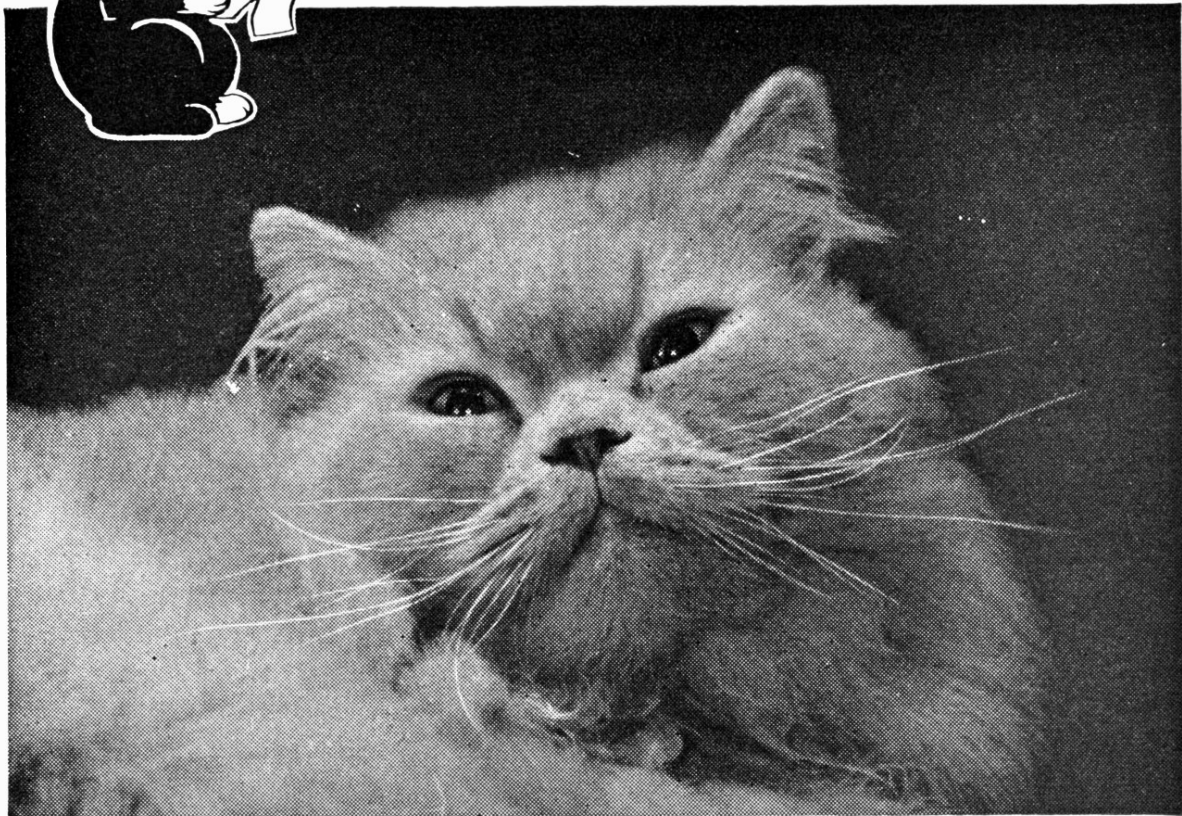
Latest affiliations to our Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, who are celebrating their Golden Jubilee this year, are the West of England and South Wales Cat Society, the Cheshire Area Cat Club, the Suffolk and Norfolk Cat Club and the Siamese Cat Association.

Four minutes warning is all we can expect to get if shooting breaks out between the nations. Happy prospect, isn't it? What would *you* do if you were faced with such a situation. One letter writer to a London newspaper suggests that we should pray for "the innocent animals on earth about to be destroyed."

## INTERVIEW WITH A BEAUTY QUEEN



*“Three Firsts in a row,” says Tibby, the TIBS reporter,  
“the secret of her success—she told me—daily TIBS!”*



Tibby, the TIBS reporter went to see Donnachaidh Kirsty, champion cream Persian, at Mrs. Brice-Webb's Cattery at Bramcote, Nottinghamshire.

“She was purr-fectly charming and told me that Judges always commented on her fine, long, silky coat. She agreed that all her prizes, First and Champion at Leeds, Glasgow and Birmingham, were awarded because she was in top TIBS condition.”

Mrs. Brice-Webb, well-known breeder and Judge, says that she “attributes Donnachaidh Kirsty's marvellous coat to her daily dose of TIBS, which my Cattery is never without.”

TIBS daily—just one tablet a day—for good bones, good teeth, good condition, healthy coat and sheer Tibsical energy from morning to night!



*Famous breeders say:*

**TIBS**  
TABLETS

**keep cats kittenish**



Continuing in gruesome vein, another letter writer relates the awful fate of a cat which approached a number of seagulls feeding on the bread thrown out for them during a wintry spell of weather in North Wales. The birds made a concerted attack on the cat and (I quote) "reduced it to a skeleton within a few moments."

A new line in the pet shops and one that should be a boon to pet owners, particularly during the coming summer months, is the "Choice" Air Purifier Aerosol. It retails at the remarkably low price of 2s. 11d. and at the press of a button freshens the atmosphere with a sweet-pea fragrance. I comment on this item of equipment because of its efficiency and because it represents value for money.

There was a hunt on in Soho the other day and for a change it had nothing to do with the police or hungry diners-out in search of a good meal. The central character was Uncle, a fat 16-year-old tabby cat wearing a collar and bell,

belonging to Mr. Harrison Marks, a Gerrard Street photographer and publisher. Much to the alarm of Mr. Marks, Uncle was missing from his usual haunts and a reward of £100 was offered. The cat's picture appeared in the newspapers to help in the search. The sequel came when Uncle returned voluntarily to his owner after being absent for a week. Mr. Marks said that the cat was hungry but clean when he returned. He may have been locked in somewhere. Following the appearance of the reward notice Mr. Marks received hundreds of telephone calls day and night from well-wishers and from people saying they had seen Uncle.

Culled from the correspondence columns of a London evening newspaper : "From time to time your paper mentions Cat Clubs. Is there any cat society *really worthy* of financial assistance?" Mala Brand, Brook Street, W.1.

Lucky, described as "the alley cat from Siddons Buildings," failed to live



**A worthy representative of a breed that is steadily winning new friends all over the cat world is this Seal Point Himalayan (Colourpoint) male High Merit Triple Champion CHATELAINE AL HAKIM OF CHESTERMERE belonging to Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Borrett, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.**

up to her name. Selected from a number of candidates to appear in the new play *Watch It, Sailor!* at the Aldwych Theatre, London, she behaved perfectly at rehearsals. There was no resistance or show of temperament and in fact she became a favourite with the cast. Then it was revealed that she had scratched actress Kathleen Harrison while she was being carried across the stage. Said Kathleen: "That cat's out." So back went Lucky to a quieter existence at Siddons Buildings.

At the February meeting of the Governing Council a new breed number 24c was allotted to Lilac Point Siamese. A Standard of Points is to be agreed after further consultation and consideration. It was also decided that at all future cat shows there must be two panels for best in show judging and probationer judges will not be allowed to sit on such panels.

Most of you know that this is the Golden Jubilee Year of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy and to mark

the occasion there is to be a grand all-breed show at Olympia. The date of this important occasion has now been changed to Saturday, September 24th.

*Siamese Cats* is the title of a new book by Mrs. Kathleen R. Williams, Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club. Published by Foyles at 4s. it represents splendid value and should be a boon to those who take a serious interest in the breed as well as those who want to know how to keep their pets healthy and happy. The author has done well to pack so much information and commonsense into the space at her disposal.

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

MICKEY

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## LANCS. AND N.W.C.C.C. STAGE A GOOD SHOW IN A "NEW HOME"

THE years-long search by the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club for a satisfactory show hall reached a happy climax when the Club's eighth Championship Show was staged at the Queen's Hall, Preston, last month. Following as it did a sorry record of financial loss at the two previous shows, it was gratifying to the Committee and Show Manager (Mrs. A. Busbridge) to see a record entry fill the warm, well-lighted room and to receive congratulations on the venue from judges and exhibitors alike. The weather on the day was bad and some exhibitors experienced nightmare journeys through the fog but although the start was delayed judging was completed by late afternoon.

Among the Longhair exhibits Miss Bull's beautiful White Deebank Orange was Best Cat and Miss J. A. Thompson's Briarry Chiquita was Best Kitten. A delightful Blue-Cream exhibited by Mrs. Kirkus, Suncroft Fair Rosamonde, secured the neuter honours. Mrs. G. A. Genty's Siamese queen Donnymeaux Dina, was Best Shorthair Cat and Mrs. Anderson's Red Tabby Andersley Allfire was Best S.H. Kitten. Mrs. Vickers' Cathis Gypsella won the S.H. Neuter award.

Among the many C.C. winners were Miss Bull's fine Black Chadhurst Black Beauty, Mrs. Crickmore's Ch. Thiepval Desiree and Mrs. McVady's Blue Longhair male Southway Troubadour,

who gained his full Championship. A newcomer Mrs. Y. Taylor saw her young male Red Self Longhair Robert of Cedarwood gain his first C.C. Another full Champion emerged in Mrs. Brice-Webb's finely presented Blue-Cream Longhair Twinkling Star of Pensford. Mrs. Campion won with a nice pair of Cream Longhairs Deebank Victor and Sterling Janetta.

In addition to being the owner of the Best Longhair Kitten, Miss Thompson also exhibited Briarry Zoltan, a Colourpoint male who won in a class bred entirely by Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb. Mrs. Anderson took four of the C.C.'s for Shorthairs with her Cream male Aldra's Easter Bunnie, her British Blue female Flikton Fanny, her Red Tabby male Ch. Briarry Demon and her Manx male Bluewave Choirboy. Miss G. Hardman was another successful exhibitor, winning

C.C.s with her Black male Ch. Killinghall Black Panther and her Red Tabby female Killinghall Red Monkey.

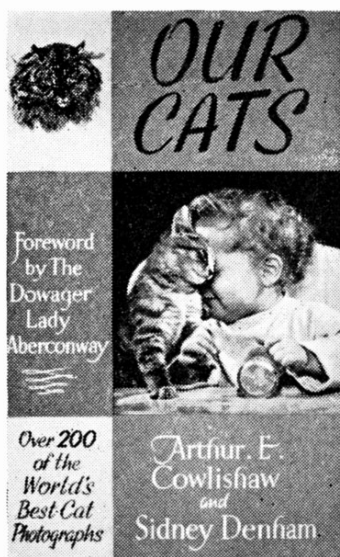
Top awards among Siamese went to Mrs. Hewlett's S.P. male Dunchattan Sabu Hassan ; Mrs. Genty's S.P. female Donnymeaus Dina (also Best S.H. cat), Miss Dunn's B.P. male Fenham Tarkas and Mrs. Appleby's B.P. female Lady Kuei.

The household pet section judged by Miss Kit Wilson proved very popular and all the cats were in excellent condition. Best unregistered cat was Mrs. Molloy's Guy, who was later discovered by Miss Wilson to be a kitten she had rescued from an early death. Miss Shirley Bradley's winning kitten Whiskey was bottle reared after being abandoned by its mother. Whiskey won the *Lancashire Evening Post* trophy for the best cat or kitten belonging to a Preston school child.



**THIEPVAL DESIREE, Mrs. Crickmore's winning Blue Longhair at the Scottish Cat Club's recent Show.**

## A WONDERFUL GIFT—ANY TIME!



A beautifully produced  
pictorial symposium

# OUR CATS

By Arthur E. Cowlshaw and Sidney Denham, with foreword by the Dowager Lady Aberconway. Royal 8vo, 128 pp. Over 200 photographs. Published by Nicholas Kaye Ltd.

Here is a book designed to bring lasting pleasure to cat lovers everywhere. It is the perfect gift book—amusing, entertaining, informative and instructive—and quite unique in its presentation. The photographs have been carefully selected by the Editor from ten years' issues of **OUR CATS** magazine. Here are beautiful pictures and funny pictures ; pictures of cats with famous people and other animals ; pictures of the playful kitten and aristocratic champion ; a wonderful wealth of pictures for everyone chosen for their human interest and liveliness.

The sections—some linked with informative and entertaining text by Sidney Denham—include : Cats through the Ages, Cats and People, Playing with a Cat, the Hogarth of Cats (Louis Wain), Cats and Smiles, Cats and Strange Friends, Cats and the Artist, Cats as Mothers, Cats in the Fancy.

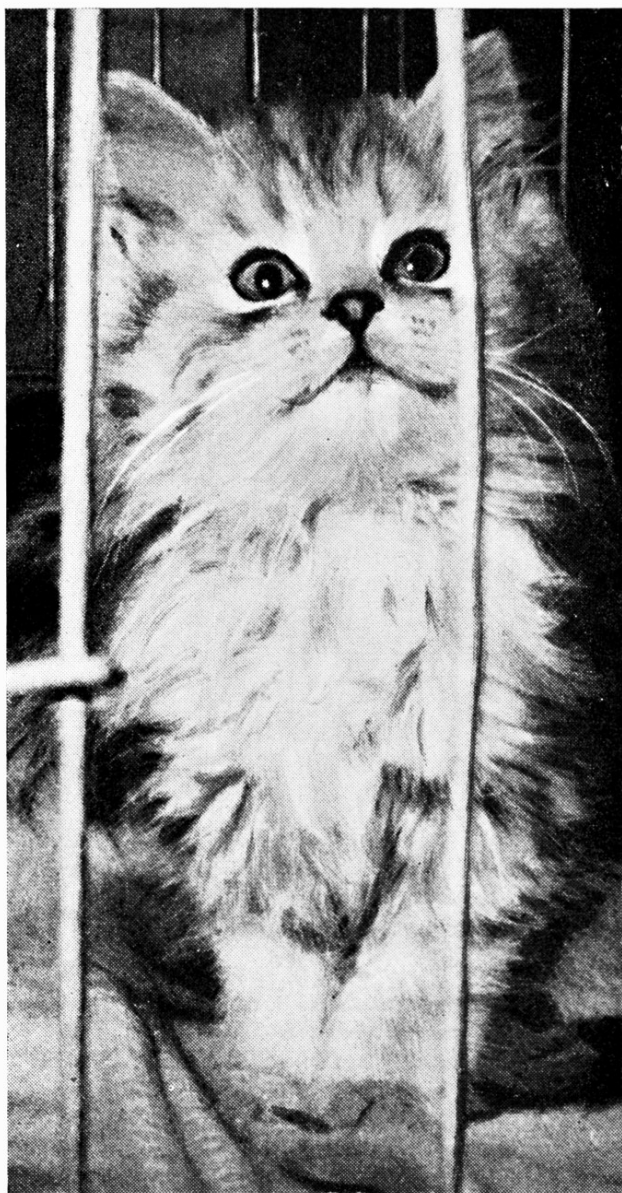
Price 18s. 0d., plus 1s. 6d. for packing and postage.  
(U.S.A. and Canada \$3.25 inclusive)

Orders and remittances (made payable to "Our Cats") should be sent to **OUR CATS, 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, 378 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9.**

## AT THE SCOTTISH C.C. SHOW

**T**HERE were good classes in most sections at the January Championship Show of the Scottish Cat Club. Credit goes to the Show Manager Miss M. G. Duff, M.R.C.V.S., and a hard working Committee for a well run and successful fixture.

New varieties on exhibition for the first time in the history of the Club were the Colourpoints and Chestnut Browns while an Indo-Chinese Khmar cat who had graced the American Embassy in Rangoon and her cross-bred Siamese



**Miss Duff's Silver Tabby Longhair kitten SWEET SORAYA was an attractive exhibit at the Scottish Cat Club Show reported on this page.**

offspring made an interesting side show in the Not For Competition Section. Household pets formed a third of the total number of cats benched and were an especially fine lot.

The Best in Show awards went to Mrs. Crickmore's Blue Longhair female Thiepvall Desiree; Miss J. A. Thompson's Colourpoint kitten Briarry Zoltan; Mrs. McAlister's Kuala Azure Cynara (Best S.H. Adult); Miss Pat Walker's Caboodle (Best S.H. Kitten), Mrs. E. F. Taylor's Almondhill Crispin (Best L.H. Neuter) and Mrs. M. D. Hood's Hambleton Eris (Best S.H. Neuter).

In the Household Pet Section the title of "Glamour Puss 1960" went to Snowy Clark, the well-loved pet of two old age pensioners.

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### A Cat's Prayer

O mistress mine ! you see before you  
Your Little Cat, come to implore you  
To memorise my daily needs  
As one of your New Year Good Deeds.  
Two solid meals each day for me,  
A bowl of milk when you have tea,  
Clean water daily does no harm  
Especially if the weather's warm ;  
A garden where I like to roam  
Completes for me the Ideal Home,  
A lap and cuddle, then retire  
To cumfy basket near the fire ;  
And while you're resting, sound asleep,  
A wary eye for mice I'll keep.  
O mistress mine ! my needs supply—  
I'll love and serve you till I die.

*The Animals' Magazine*, the monthly journal of the P.D.S.A. recently organized a competition in which readers were invited to submit a doggerel "prayer" dedicated to a cat, a budgerigar, a silkworm or a hamster, written on the lines of "A Gundog's Prayer." The winning entry which appears above, was submitted by Mrs. A. E. Gillmore, of Bovingdon Hall, Braintree, Essex.



*Sport & General Press Agency*

Miss Judy Grinham, our Olympic swimming champion, attended the National Show at Olympia to present the Kosset Perpetual Trophy for Best Chinchilla Kitten to Mrs. Mollie Turney's attractive Bonavia Anne.



**GENERAL INFORMATION :** The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in OUR CATS is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, 378 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9. (Macaulay 1462).

OUR CATS is published monthly and closing date is the 20th 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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At Stud : BOURNESIDE BLACK ONYX (Fee 3 gns.)

MYOWNE CAESAR (Blue) | Fee 2½ gns.  
BROUGHTON MARVO (Cream) | and expenses  
NOEND SNOWMAN (Manx) Fee 30/-

*Pedigree kittens usually for sale*

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(continued overleaf)

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(continued on next page)

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## News from "Down Under"

HELLO, folks! At the end of January we recorded the three hottest days in Sydney since records have been kept—just over 100 years. Most people were lucky with their stock but sad to say 23 human lives were lost, mostly babies. I guess coats will be ragged at the early shows, at least in the Longhair sections. We read of the snow you have been having in Blighty, so it seems we all have something to grumble about. No doubt the inn keepers and milk bar proprietors were satisfied!

**Victoria.** I notice that the emblem has been missing from the last few copies of the *Newsletter* received from Mr. Houlihan. It was quite an attraction. The show programme starts earlier than usual and lists the dates as follow (omitting those which will have taken place by the time these lines appear in print): May 14th—Siamese Cat Club, Lower Melbourne Town Hall; June 18th—Melbourne Cat Club—same location; July 23rd—Pacific Cat and Kit Club, Oakleigh Town Hall; October 22nd—Melbourne Cat Club, Lower Melbourne Town Hall; December 10th—Siamese Cat Club—same venue. Further dates will be available later on. There is a move pending *re* the forthcoming issues of the *Newsletter*. I hope it will be satisfactorily settled without impairing this interesting news medium.

**South Australia.** No news from pals Tom and Jerry, so I conclude they are all trying to recover from the heat wave. As mentioned in the January notes, I received a visit from the Adelaide Club ex-Secretary Don Gebhardt and wife Kath, Kerry and Glen. They came and anchored in our local car park motel. We had a good look round

together and I was sorry there was insufficient time for any club gathering. They were entertained by the Queensland Cat Club and enjoyed it. Don said Club prospects are very bright, which is good news. I shall always be pleased to see any club members who may be passing through or staying in Sydney.

**New South Wales.** Most fanciers here feel like grease spots and the warm humid weather continues with only slight breaks. Fortunately we have only had three days over the century in the city. Cumberland Club have a kit show set down for April 30th and the Northern Feline Fanciers' Club are to stage their first show at Mosman at the end of March, which brings back some memories as I last judged there on 13.11.26. Then of course we have the Royal Show of ten days and nine nights, with a cat section which is judged on two days, April 9th and 18th.

The busy time of Championship shows follows the big Easter Show. Another Longhair judges' training class commenced in February. It was sponsored by the Federal Club but students may join from any club. A *Newsletter* from Secretary Mrs. Dowty of the Northern Feline Fanciers Club reveals a healthy balance sheet which reflects great credit on their team of workers who are always up and doing with picnics, theatre parties, etc., for Club funds. They will be a lot happier when they can buy their own show cages.

Federal Club A.G.M. was recently held and Mrs. Burnage was re-elected President and Mrs. Favelle, who has been standing in for some time, was elected Secretary. Mrs. Barbara Hinde, Secretary of the Siamese Cat Society of

N.S.W. has produced a very fine first edition of the Club booklet called *Felis*, which has been much enjoyed by many people. It will be issued quarterly for a while and then perhaps later more frequently and larger in size. At the last Consultative Committee meeting members were handed a copy by a thoughtful Editress.

**Queensland.** I have had no news from my Brisbane scribe so far, but heard he has been very sick. I am sure everyone will be sorry to hear this and hope for a speedy recovery. No word as to whether Mrs. Henry has recovered fully—let's hope no news is good news. I understand shows to come in Queensland include City Hall, April 1st and 2nd, Ipswich Club, May 13th and July 2nd, Rocklea Agricultural early September and Redcliffe at the end of July.

**New Zealand.** From Miss Menzies comes the very interesting announcement that a new club at Rotorua has been granted affiliation and already has a Ch. show listed for July 30th. They all seem very enthusiastic and held a domestic cat show during Rose Week with an exhibition of Siamese, Persian and Abyssinian cats. Two judges did the domestic section and reported "very well cared for and groomed and good type." A strong Committee is headed by Mr. H. E. Eakin as President. Mrs.

G. Bassett is Vice-President and Mrs. S. Harvey Secretary. New members are coming in from as far afield as Whakatane district. We wish them lots of good luck and send a big Cheerio ! from Australian felines. I guess this makes about fifteen clubs over there and I have often wondered why such a large and prosperous district had no cat club. Ten clubs now have show dates approved.

I hope to hear further news of the "Theory Exploded" item in the *Newsletter* from Mrs. Carian re the 10-years-old Blue Cream pedigreed Persian female owned by Miss Collins, of South Benfleet, Essex, England. Mated (accidentally) by an unknown common male, she produced a certified perfect male Tortoiseshell kitten. Very interesting !

I have just received the Jan.-Feb. issue of *The Persian World* from Miss S. Tasker and sadly missed the very artistic illustrations of previous issues. Congrats. to Mrs. Shuker of Hikurangi for the presentation of yet another perpetual trophy to the Club. To be known as the Silver Fern Perpetual Trophy, it is to be awarded to the Best Longhair White Queen of New Zealand parents (blue or orange-eyed). A very nice award and what one would just expect from this live wire and generous member. *The Persian World* is full of good reading and useful information and hints.



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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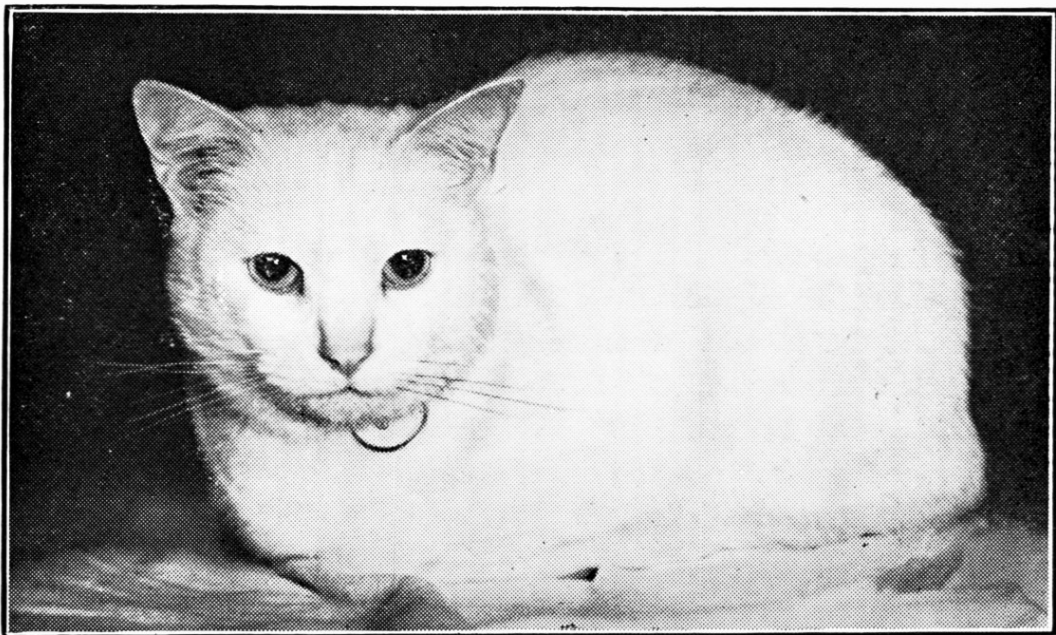
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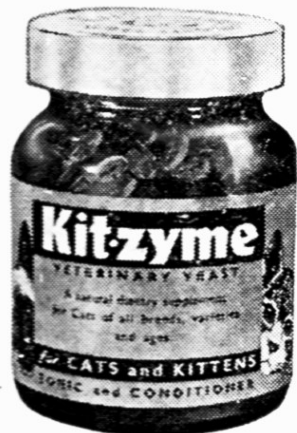
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