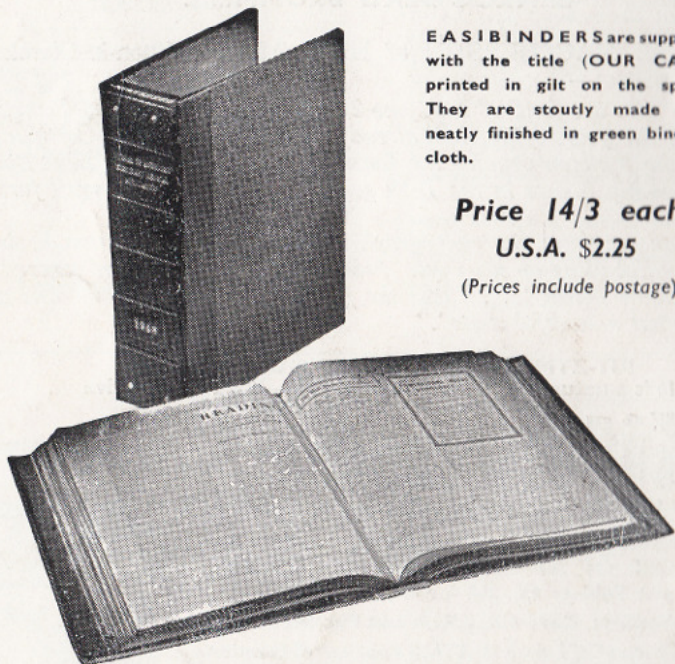


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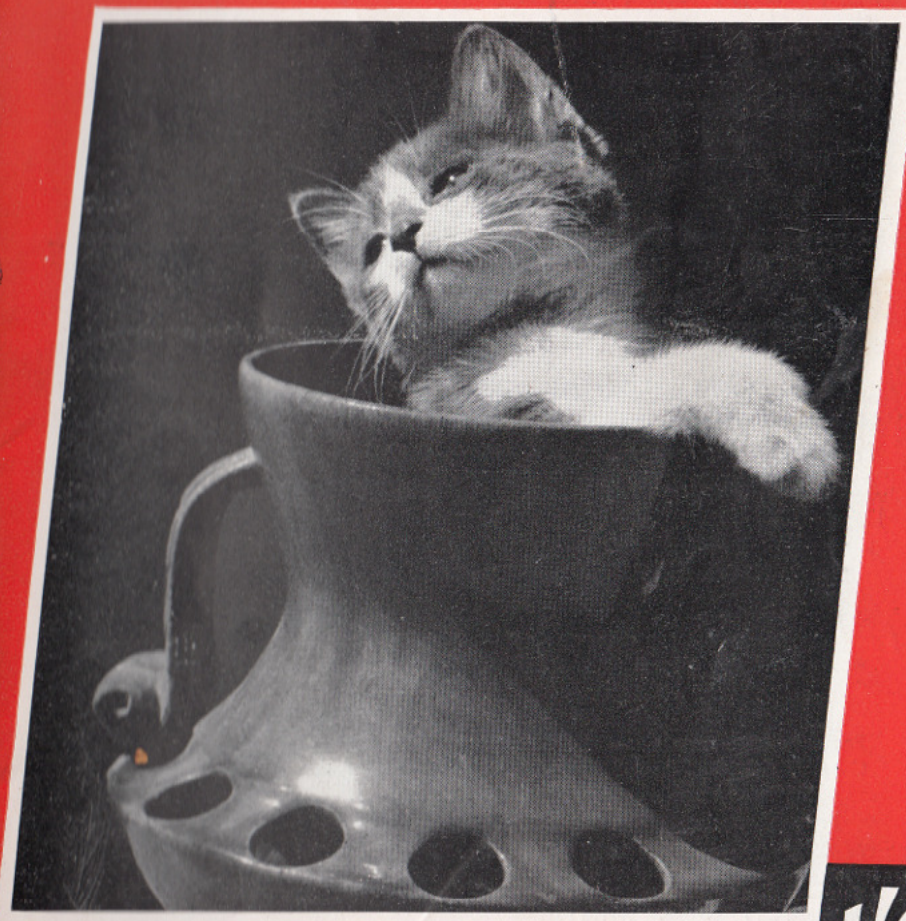
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# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



Cover photograph by Miss D. E. Tyler

JANUARY 1961

1/6

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## RUFUS

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MRS. M. M. LLOYD of Stoneleigh, Kings Sutton, Banbury, Oxfordshire, writes :-

*"I commenced running a Boarding Cattery in June last year and I feel I must write and tell you how pleased I am with the results I have obtained from Kit-zyme.*

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*"The outcome is that I have received praise from the owners when they collect their cats after their stay here. They have all been so pleased with the outstanding improvement in their pets' general condition and coats that they have assured me that they will continue to give Kit-zyme regularly."*

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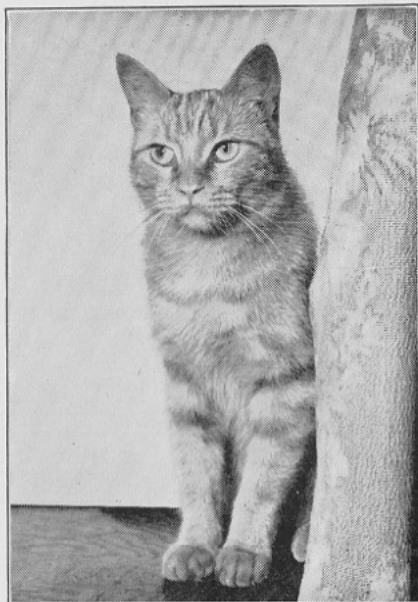
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Ref. No. 227



# 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. 13 No. 1  
JANUARY 1961

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## THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

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### FROM THE EDITOR

IT is my pleasant task as we begin our thirteenth year of publication to wish our readers throughout the cat world a Happy and Prosperous 1961. Let us all hope too that it will be a year of peace and progress throughout our Fancy.

I wish to acknowledge thankfully the colourful stream of greetings and messages which flowed through our letterbox during the days preceding Christmas. I cannot hope to find the time to thank each sender individually. Whilst a little space remains, it would be fitting and appropriate for me to add a few lines of special thanks to all those who have contributed over the years towards the production and distribution of OUR CATS, particularly those loyal friends (and there are many of them!) whose names are to be found in our records as subscribers from the first issue in January 1949.

Editor.



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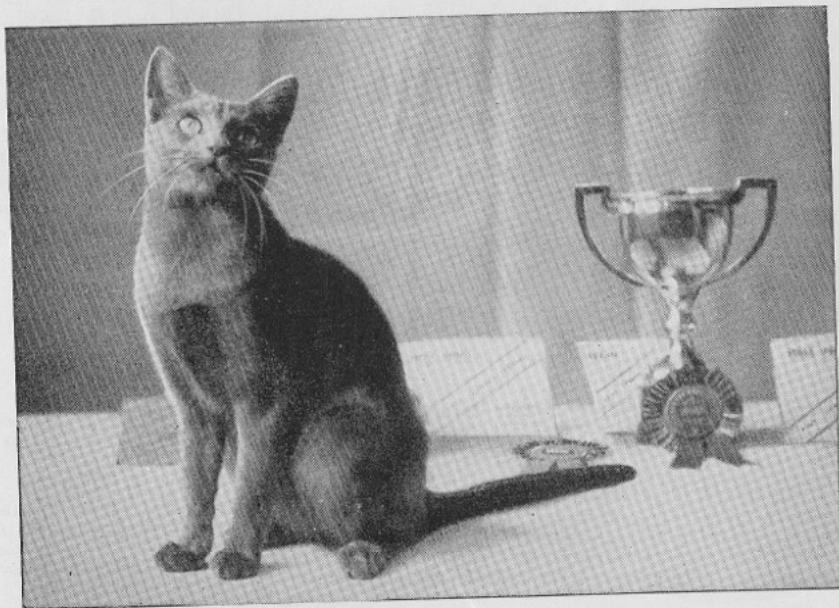
## From tragedy to triumph with the help of Tibs

"I nearly lost Glasfryn Galathea when she was quite young," Mrs. Kirby of Halifax told Tibby (your TIBS reporter). "She had a serious illness which nearly cost her her life.

"When she began to pull round, I put her on TIBS. You should have seen the change in her coat! Well, you can see what she looks like now."

We could—and so can you, though the picture does scant justice to the silver-shaded sheen of this lovely Russian Blue. The vitamins and minerals in TIBS were obviously just what she needed to put her back in top form. Mrs. Kirby went on to tell us of Glasfryn's later successes—best exhibit at the Cheshire and Area Cat Club Show 1959, twelve first, innumerable other prizes . . . and now her second certificate!

All this by a cat that nearly died. All this after a convalescence completed with TIBS. No wonder Mrs. Kirby says *her* cats are TIBS cats!



**TIBS**

Leading breeders say  
OUR CAT'S A TIBS CAT

## Psy-cat-ology

By A. HARGREAVES, F.Z.S.

ONE wall of our dining room is covered by a long sectional bookcase. The subjects in the library include everything from fishing to philosophy, from psychology to soft fruit growing.

Laurentide Amethyst was left alone in this room shortly after she had had a difference of opinion with her daughter. On returning I found Amethyst had taken out a book from the second shelf. The selected volume was *Character and Conduct of Life* by William McDougall. Under the circumstances it seemed a wise choice, and it certainly made me think.

Would it be profitable to suggest that my queens with large unruly litters should read Sir Cyril Burt's *The Young Delinquent*? Perhaps the stud cat should read *Marks of Examiners*. He would then be in a position to explain to bewildered young novices why they might win prizes under one judge and fail to do so under another.

The study of psy-cat-ology would be a tremendous task, interesting and probably rewarding. Though a few cats really do require a psychiatrist, a good many would benefit by a heart-to-heart talk with their vet, whose commonsense and understanding would help them to cope a little better with their owners and the somewhat artificial life that those owners enforce upon them.

Recently I met a man who told me of his interest in other people, but nevertheless he

seemed unable or unwilling to put himself in someone else's place. Nor did he feel their way of life any concern of his. Incidentally he was not fond of cats. It is difficult to get into some other person's skin but if one can, then life may become just that much richer and fuller.

Lie on the floor beside your cat by the fire. You have come down to her level, and how deeply she appreciates it. In order to teach children one must think as a child. To look after cats successfully one almost has to become one now and again. Imagine yourself with enormous ears. Useful to hear a faint door bell or overhear a whispered conversation! But how terrifying would be the roar of the traffic or the bursting of fireworks on November 5th. If your sight was as keen as a cat's you could drive the car in comfort at night. But when all strange moving things are treated with suspicion a man carrying a ladder can be as frightening to a small kitten as a railway engine to a timid child.

### Exhibitionists

I once had a cat who enjoyed "paying a penny" on the highest shelf she could find. She was an exhibitionist who liked exalted places, gracing the tops of doors and laughing down at one. I know one cat who will constantly fuss over her babies, and another

(Concluded on following page)

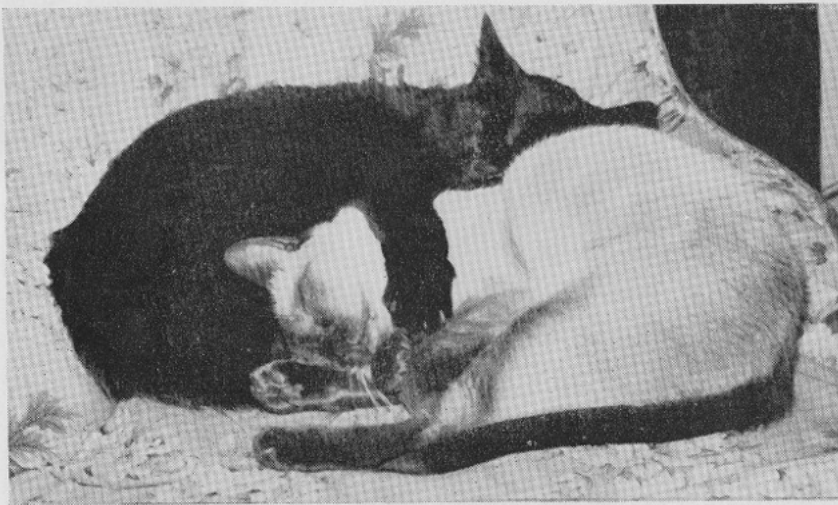
with a more placid disposition who will put out a gentle paw to a whimpering kitten and draw it in close to her breast.

Put yourself in the place of an animal if you can, but beware at all costs from reading your own human thoughts and emotions into your cat's behaviour. That is when the harm begins. Many people have a great need for someone to depend on them. Some are the kind of women who believe their family cannot get on without them. They work themselves to the bone doing things for other people that other people don't want done. They will pamper some unfortunate animal and endow it with many of the weaker human qualities. Someone once went as far as keeping a

cat dressed in baby clothes so that eventually the animals' muscles lost tone and it could hardly walk. These people say they love cats. Are they perhaps merely loving themselves?

But that would be a sad note to end on. Let us therefore be thankful for the real animal lovers who never boast about this. They not only come down to the level of their cats, but I think in some small way are able to bring their animals a little way upwards towards the border line of human understanding.

*Character and Conduct of Life* is no modern book, perhaps even a little old fashioned. But Amethyst picked it out, and it lay there on the floor, a "standard of points" that is to-day so easily forgotten.



**NO COLOUR BAR HERE!**

**PING-PONG** (half-Siamese, age 13 years) and **CORABELLA** (Chocolate Point Siamese, age 12 years) are a fortunate pair enjoying the best things of life at the North London home of Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Denham



Bernie Crampton.

**This interior snapshot of the Californian Cat Fair was taken after closing time. The daily attendance over the four days averaged over 25,000 visitors.**

## ***Heigh ho, they went to the fair!***

**MELL RUSSELL reports on a remarkable feline occasion**

*"And the Cats and the Beasts were there . . . ."*

EVERY year, during International Cat Week in America, Bullocks Downtown Department Store in Los Angeles, California, does a wonderful thing for cats and cat lovers. They stage a lavish, four-day Cat Fair in their beautiful tenth-floor auditorium. Cat lover Mr. James Blackford, an internationally-known Siamese breeder and skilled animal trainer for television and films is show manager. He is the owner of the famous cat hotel in West Los Angeles and of course is well known to many prominent breeders and members of the Fancy.

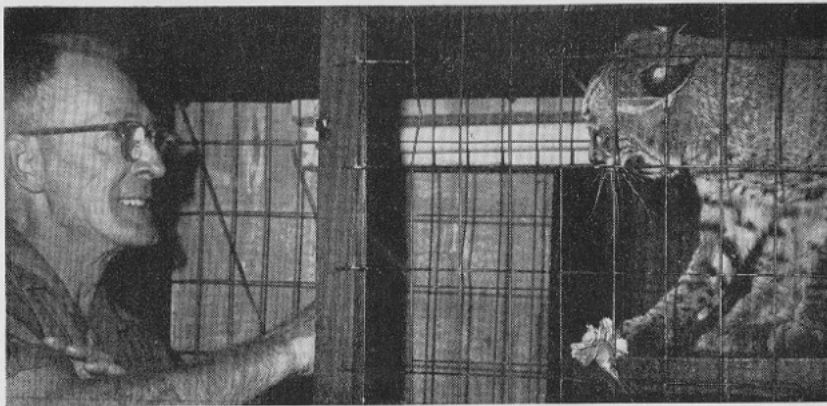
Last year Mr. Blackford had an idea back of the staging of this Fair. He felt that the cats and the cat-loving public do not get a fair break at the conventional

cat shows, so he planned to ensure that visitors had every opportunity to really see, admire and for a few days enjoy beautiful and rare cats.

Last year, which was the third year of the Cat Fairs, he staged Persians for the first time. Previously there have been only Shorthairs, rare and domestic. I had the honour to be invited to show some of my Silvers, also my new Cameos, which, so far as I know, have never been shown before out here on the Coast. I contributed cages of 6 and 7 months' old Chinchilla kittens, my Shaded and Smoke Cameos, and Suzette, a beautiful Silver spay, who is a real ham and just adores people. She doesn't think "people are funny"—she thinks they are wonderful! Mr. Blackford took the cats home to his hotel at nights, so exhibitors had no responsibility.

The first day, when I stepped into the auditorium, I gasped at the beauty of the scene. There they sat, in their bare, shining cages, on formica-topped tables; beautiful Siamese, Burmese, Havana Browns, Persians of every colour, Abyssinians, Russian Blues, Manx, Maltese, and our own domestics, row after row of them, all arranged to form a colour-picture that was breathtaking. Here, a splotch of brilliant Red Persians; a Calico; the soft pastel colors of the Short-hairs; it would have given a class-conscious show manager violent hysterics. But this was no show for the class-conscious—it was a show for cats and cat lovers.

There were no drapes to hide their beauty. No locks on cages, no guards or owners in sight; no anxious exhibitors hovering possessively; just beautiful cats to be seen and enjoyed. At the right of the stage sat a handsome cheetah in his ten-foot cage. At times during the show, he took his ease stretched out on a velvet-tufted sofa, his tawny head resting in his owner's lap. To the left, an ocelot ceaselessly paced his cage, and a bobcat watched suspiciously



James Blackford, the show manager, with his temperamental bobcat, which is by no means as unfriendly as it appears to be in this picture.

from a dark corner of his cage, with beautiful but angry eyes. My Persians, together with some Blues, Blacks and Whites, were benched against the left wall, back of a white post and chain guard fence.

The air-conditioned auditorium itself was a wonderful stage setting, its walls having alternate panels of rich velvet draperies and gay, modernistic murals. A fierce black bull was charging a scarlet-caped matador just above my cages. Decorators had hung silk banners and bright garlands to add a carnival touch to the scene.

Mr. Blackford spent most of his time on stage at the mike, telling visitors about the cats, his ideas in staging the show, and "working" the exhibits as he does for television and the pictures. One day he took Suzette, the Silver spay on stage, and set her up on the bobcat's cage where she promptly discovered and gobbled the cheetah's tit-bits (hot dogs)! Then she and "Blackie" put on an act, entirely unrehearsed, that kept the audience in an uproar.

After his talks, Mr. Blackford would direct the audience down

to my cages, where I answered questions (as best I could) until I was hoarse. An aristocratic old gentleman wanted to know the price of a good bull cat. A woman scolded me for "breeding backwards" to produce Cameos. A rabbi showed us pictures of his International Champion cat, and chided me for selling my kittens. Said if I really loved them I couldn't.

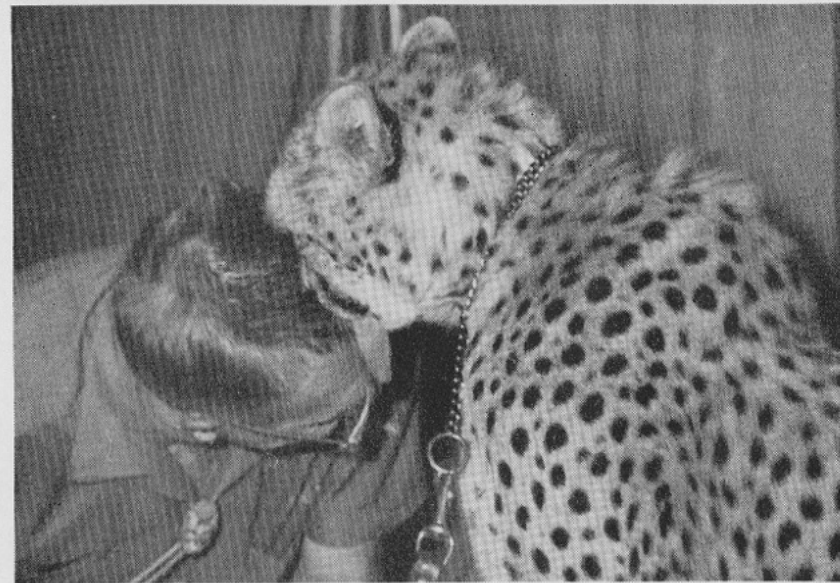
I took Mayflower out of her cage, and held her for him to admire her long silky coat. He said: "I'm going to send you a customer for that kitten. I know a woman who *must* have her!" Then he took my hand,

gave me a Hebrew blessing, and wandered off into the crowd.

People seemed actually starved for the sight of kittens. White kid-gloved hands, diamond-crusted hands, eager hands, black, brown, white, stretched out and they begged "Could I just touch her lovely soft fur?"

A girl who manages a small animal shelter in Pasadena brought some of her refugees in each day, and found good homes for them.

**During the four days of the show, by actual count, there were more than 108,000 visitors.**



And here is Mr. Blackford with his "buddy", a handsome cheetah whose grace, beauty and friendliness made him one of the most popular exhibits at the Los Angeles Cat Fair.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

This is the season of renewal for so many of our subscribers at home and overseas. So may we take this opportunity to request the favour of a prompt response to our first renewal application—it saves us so much time and paper work. Thank you in anticipation!



Photo by Middleton Davis.

The Lord and Lady Mayoress of Dublin were interested visitors at the fourth annual show of the Siamese Cat Club of Ireland. Prima ballerina Lucette Aldous is holding one of the winning kittens, Malacca Batu Biru.

### A SIAMESE OCCASION IN IRELAND

THE Siamese Cat Club of Ireland held its fourth show in Dublin in November. The Club was founded in 1954 by Mrs. F. Coyle and Mrs. W. L. MacDougald. The response to its first show from exhibitors and public alike was exciting and rewarding and other shows have followed. Each has been a success and last year's was no exception. The new venue at Molesworth Hall was a great improvement, giving more light and providing excellent accommodation for the exhibits, judges and the public.

The standard has definitely improved since my last visit and this trend must be gratifying to the Club. Great interest was again shown by the public. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Dublin were introduced by the Chairman Mrs. M. Beckett and subsequently performed the opening ceremony. A distinguished visitor during the afternoon was Miss Lucette Aldous, prima ballerina from the Ballet Rambert.

Upwards of 70 exhibits were entered and exhibitors came from all parts of

Ireland. Dr. and Mrs. Mahoney travelled from Belfast to win Best Cat award with their Lilac Point Pamandes Chindi. Other top awards went to Miss D. Kellett's Seal Point Lindy Lou and Miss Lynn's Blue Point Pamandes Blue Belle, a very nice queen. There were some very promising kittens shown and amongst them Mrs. M. Friederich's Malacca Batu Biru and Mrs. W. Macdougald's Solomon and Sugven were winners.

It was delightful to see old friends again and meet new ones. The Club's Chairman Mrs. Beckett, Secretary Mrs. Friederich, Treasurer Mrs. Burke and the Committee are to be congratulated on the achievements of 1960. The arrangements for the show were efficiently handled by Show Manager Mrs. E. T. Smyth, who told me everybody has been most helpful and co-operative. I certainly was royally entertained and thoroughly enjoyed my visit to meet the Siamese of Ireland.

KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS



## Tailpieces

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



THE 1960/61 show season will be nearly over by the time these lines appear in print. One important fixture to which I would like to draw attention because we have not previously announced the correct date and venue is the Championship Show of the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club. The date is the 28th of this month and the venue, Southport, Lancs. Details may be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Audrey Busbridge, 609 Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, Southport.

Still they come — those horrible accounts of cruelty to animals by teenagers. The latest and one of the worst comes from Nottingham where the R.S.P.C.A. prosecuted an 18-year-old named Roy Tomlinson, a labourer. Evidence was given that he tried to make a kitten walk along a clothes line, then he tried to pour beer down its throat and blew smoke in its face. When the kitten scratched Tomlinson, he finally threw it against a wall, splitting its skull open. He pleaded guilty to the charges and expressed his regret, adding that he didn't think he could do such a thing. The court decided to remand him in custody for a report on his suitability for Borstal training.

The death occurred recently of Mrs. Emily House, widow of the late C. A. House, whom many of my older readers will remember as the author of *Cats and All About Them*, a popular work which made its appearance in 1930. Mrs. House lived in Crouch End, N. London.

Can you imagine a state of affairs where all New Zealanders are living in a

huddled mass on Stewart Island while wildcats rule the North and South Islands! This was the colourful prophecy made by Mr. E. H. Marfurt, President of the Taranaki S.P.C.A., who is calling for the neutering of all male cats except those belonging to breeders. Mr. Marfurt claims there are at least 10,000 unwanted cats in New Zealand and licensing and neutering were the only ways by which the problem could be overcome. These cats included numerous disease-carrying strays which people fed out of pity and which multiplied profusely.

Avernull Sweet Sara and Avernull Honeybunch, a pair of prizewinning Blue Longhair kittens bred by Mrs. E. Brine, of Wickford, Essex, have gone to join Mlle Chamoin's well known Chesnaie cattery at Geneva, Switzerland.

Another item for the record book is contained in a letter I have received accompanied by newscuttings from Mrs. Phyllis C. Robinson, the energetic Secretary of the Rhodesia Cat Club, whose 3rd Championship Show was held in Salisbury last month. The awards include Rhodesia's first Champion, Deo Gratias Daydream, a handsome Cream Longhair exhibited by Mrs. J. P. Raeside. Daydream was bred in Durban by Mrs. Hanlon and imported into Rhodesia by Mrs. Parker. Now she is owned and registered by Mrs. Raeside, who also did well with her litter exhibit. Other top winners noted were Ambleside Black Marvel, Mrs. E. Visser's Manx; Taishun Honey, Mr. Wilford's Abyssinian; Suki of Bon Accord, Mrs. Wagner's Burmese; Mrs.

Taylor's Siamese entries; and Brett, Miss Lea Howmann's Colourpoint.

Comment by the Londoner in a pre-Christmas edition of the *Evening Standard*: "It is my depressing duty to report that a Fleet Street greetings-card shop is currently displaying Christmas cards inscribed: From my cat to your cat." Londoner is too easily depressed!

One hears all kinds of excuses for accidents on the road. Here is a novel one by Miss Janet McGunagle, a 19 year old miss from Michigan, U.S.A. When she failed to pull up and rammed the rear of another vehicle, she explained that her kitten had crawled down under the brake pedal and she was afraid of squeezing it.

I told you in our November issue about Chadhurst Gipsy Love, the little Black Longhair kitten who flew by jet plane to Kentucky, U.S.A., after her appearance at the G.C. Jubilee Show held at Olympia in September. She made the crossing safely accompanied by a supply of special food and was met

by an excited new owner Miss Dorothy E. Mason, of Louisville, a registered nurse who has four other Persians of show standard, one of which is Dbl. Ch. Hermscrest Stardust. I now hear that Gipsy has made her successful show debut in America, winning a blue and red ribbon and the rosette for Best Opposite Colour Kitten at the C.F.A. show in Dayton, Ohio. Miss Mason's friend in Louisville is Mrs. Mae Peck, whose name is well known in American show circles for its association with "Hermerest" Black Longhairs.

*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 but it should be remembered that we cannot reproduce direct from newspaper illustrations. I send best thanks to all who have helped in this connection.*

MICKEY



Harold Burton

**TUDOR APRIL DAWN (known as "Tammy") is a Blue-Cream belonging to Mrs. Stuart Pratt, of Johannesburg, South Africa**

## Veterinary questions answered

By M.R.C.V.S.

### A sneezer

**A LONDON reader writes:** *I am worried over my Chinchilla neutered male, now six years' old. Three months ago I noticed his eyes had to be cleaned each morning and a few weeks later he developed cat flu. He seemed pretty ill to me but my vet assured me it was not a serious attack. After four injections he seemed alternately his usual boisterous self and listless. Also he has never lost the sneezing and his eyes have been watering again, though not severely. A breeder friend told me that sometimes cats sneeze for the rest of their lives after flu, which seems very alarming to me as it must strain them. Should I return to my vet for further injections? I should add that his breath is always very bad, even after having his teeth scaled. The vet gave me worm tablets although I have no evidence of their existence. I once tried to give the cat a tablet but he immediately foamed at the mouth and nearly went mad.*

**M.R.C.V.S. replies:** You must realize it is most difficult for me to make a diagnosis without examining the patient. There are so many things one would like to know such as (1) Has there been a rise of temperature? (2) Is there any heart defect? (3) Is there constipation? (4) Is there any swelling of the nose or about the face? (5) Is there any nasal discharge? (6) What is the predominant microbe in the mucus sneezed out? This should be collected and examined microscopically and culturally. (7) Are the neck glands swollen, etc., etc.? In view of the bad breath though the teeth are really clean, I would make a guess that there is a sinus infection. This could probably be ascertained by X-rays, but meanwhile the antibiotic—chloromycetin—given daily by mouth for a week should do much to clear it up. You might get adequate advice free from the clinic of the Royal Veterinary

College in Camden Town. Or if you will make one more visit to your veterinary surgeon he will answer these questions and also prescribe a worm pill which would produce no deleterious effects. If there are worms, he would need to know whether they are round or tape.

### How long to wait?

**A reader in Hertfordshire writes:** *My Siamese died recently from feline enteritis, seven days after he had been neutered. He was six months old and unfortunately he hadn't been inoculated. He was the first one I had owned and I blame myself for my ignorance on the subject of inoculation. Will you please tell me how long do I wait before I can get another kitten, this time one that is inoculated. For how long is the house infected by the germ?*

**M.R.C.V.S. replies:** I am not aware that one could state a definite time for the virus to die but I think you should wait a month before introducing another cat. If it were inoculated, this should prove a safe period.

### Skin trouble

**A Warwickshire reader asks:** *I am wondering if you could possibly give me any advice regarding my six-year old neuter female cat, a Black shorthair. She has been suffering with a skin condition since the Spring; it is either dermatitis or eczema. The veterinary surgeon tried to treat her in the Spring but without any success, vitamin injections and a hormone produced no good effect. She had to enter kennels for two weeks in July whilst we were away, where she improved considerably. We can only think she was too miserable to lick herself but there*

may have been a plainer or more restricted diet which helped. We have tried various cortisone preparations but she persistently licks them off. The worst areas are on the tail and one patch centre back, plus two between the toes. It is distressing to see her getting worse. Do you know of any treatment that will help these conditions or any specialists we can go to in this district? Her diet consists of fresh minced beef, rock salmon, tinned food and milk.

**M.R.C.V.S. replies:** I think you are dealing with a case of chronic eczema which is so rife and often seasonal among cats. It is very difficult to cure and I do not think that anybody really knows the cause. Often it is an allergy to some protein or other, but your diet seems fair enough. It seems certain that the bowels must be relaxed and you may be able to incorporate epsom salt in the drinking water daily, starting with as little as would cover a silver threepenny

## YOU CAN'T TRAIN CATS

**Y**OU can't take a cat to an obedience school, says Arthur Woods, who has trained more dogs than even the Kennel Club can count.

"I once had the bright idea of an obedience class for cats", says Mr. Woods bitterly, "and believe me we had plenty of pupils. But it was a discouraging business. In fact it wasn't a business at all for after three lessons I gave up the whole idea. A cat will pretend to obey, that is one of their most irritating mannerisms, and we had one who was a great admirer of the dog in the family. She would imitate the dog to perfection, march back and forth on command, sit down, heel, and then decide oh, the heck with it and would fall asleep on the floor or else rush up into the rafters and sit there licking her paws. If you want a cat remember you've got beautiful, unfettered freedom and let it go at that".

Of course, the Egyptians made the same discovery centuries ago when they

made their cats into gods because the gods, too, were unpredictable. Who knows when they might order a flood or a famine or tell the crops to drop dead in the fields?

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

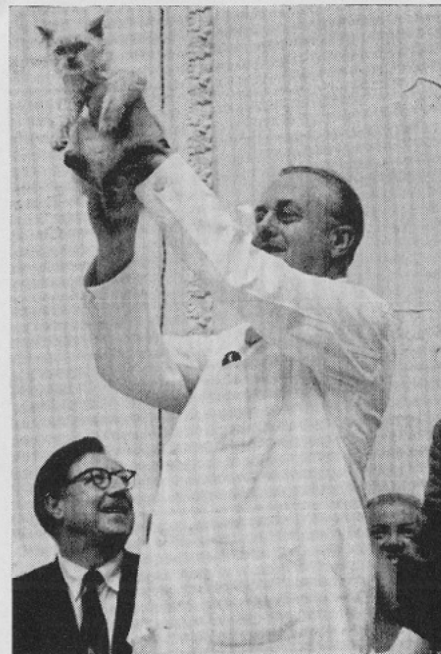
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made their cats into gods because the gods, too, were unpredictable. Who knows when they might order a flood or a famine or tell the crops to drop dead in the fields?

Personally, we think it is one of the most attractive things about a cat—that and their power of complete relaxation. To watch a cat drop suddenly into a deep sleep or close her great amber eyes and begin purring is something that psychiatrists would give their diplomas to be able to teach people.

In the mechanical, noisy, highly organized world in which we live how wonderful to come home to a small silk character who may caress you with tiny, rough tongue, climb into your lap, purr happily, or, ignoring non-essentials, run straight to the refrigerator as much as to say "So much for love. How's for dinner?"

[Extracts from an article by Beatrice Washburn in the Miami Herald "Fun In Florida" Magazine.]



Hugh Smith.

## Cat breeding from scratch—No. 10

By HUGH SMITH

**T**HE years spent breeding cats and selling kittens can teach one a lot—about people too. I am quite sure that no one can ever learn all there is to know; new problems are constantly arising. There is no simple recipe for success and in the course of this short series of articles I have only been able to describe a few of the ingredients. The way in which these ingredients are mixed to get the desired result depends, I think, upon the individual genius of the breeder.

I would place an *unimpeachable pedigree* at the top of my list. Breeding stock with first rate pedigree provides a firm foundation upon which to build. Haphazard choice of dam or sire is unlikely to yield first class results.

"The climax of the show is furnished by 'Best in Show' judging". Here is "the big moment" at the 1958 Kensington Show when Major Dugdale held aloft for all to see Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb's Colourpoint kitten who made history for this new Longhair variety by taking the top award. Interested spectators in the background are that famous pair of travellers in far-away places, Armand and Michaela Denis.

*Robust health* in the dam is essential. It would be very unwise to start with an unsound dam. There are, of course, exceptions that could be pointed out, where the dam of many prizewinners was sickly at some stage of kittenhood. But these are not the cats to choose to breed from—other things being equal.

Another essential is a *sound regime*. In the course of time every breeder develops a routine for the daily work of handling and feeding cats and kittens. Airy, dry, light living space, maintained without draughts at a suitable temperature, with room for exercise and comfortable sleeping quarters are the first essential. Care must be taken to see that the meals are regular and that they have balanced nutritive value. The amount of food given at each meal needs to be adequate for the growth of kittens or the reproductive functions of adults.



The serious breeder needs to develop a sound knowledge of show points and of the technique of exhibiting. There are of course novices who go to their first show and have laurels showered upon them—or on their cats. But the breeder who wins regularly at shows and can come up with at least one really good kitten every season does not trust to luck. He bases his breeding upon his own experience and that of others who have been successful.

### Simple technique

I would say that he must have an absolutely clear picture in his mind of what the best cat he is ever likely to breed *ought* to look like—if it is to conform to current fashion. For fashion leads to a very slow change from year to year even though the basic norm is laid down in the scale of points for the breed. For example, the accentuated wedge head of the Siamese of to-day is far removed from the relatively “bun-faced” ancestors of many years ago.

The “technique” of showing is really quite simple to learn. In previous articles of this series the main essentials have been described. Probably the first in order of importance is to read the rules carefully. They are to be found in the schedule. The extract of rules of the Governing Council relevant to exhibiting, a copy of which is always issued with the schedule should be familiar. Most novices feel thoroughly at home after their first show.

The climax of the show is furnished by the Best in Show judging. In a well-managed show this is quite a spectacle and never fails to draw from the body of the hall a crowd of enthusiastic spectators.

From the winners of the open classes, cats and kittens are nominated for the best in show judging, which is performed by a panel of judges. At a big championship show it is quite something to see the cream of Longhair and Shorthair cats

and kittens passed from hand to hand down the long table set on a dais. It is the height of every exhibitor's aspirations to have his cat or kitten acclaimed “Best in Show.”

In this short series an attempt has been made to help the novice and the less experienced breeder, by detailing some of the more elementary know-how. In conclusion, I should like to appeal to all breeders to see things from the cat's point of view as well as their own. Sentimentality is rife among pet owners—usually because the animal's point of view is confused with the human point of view. Sentimentality often deprives the animal of its real needs, for these are not recognized owing to the mistaken belief that the animal feels and thinks as though it were human.

The breeder needs to avoid the extreme of sentimentality on the one hand and lack of feeling on the other. I sometimes think that the sensitive breeder who keeps a stud is faced with a very difficult problem. Many studs lead a miserable existence. They must of necessity have their freedom restricted; but need they be kept in such cramped quarters? Most of them need a modicum of affection from their owner.

Another cause of suffering is the necessity to restrict the mating of queens. I have heard of breeders who have kept their Siamese queens calling for months. This ought not to be necessary. Where doubt exists whether or not a queen is to be allowed to mate again, it is kind to make a quick decision. If mating is to be discontinued the queen should be spayed forthwith. Spayed queens subsequently lead very happy and contented lives.

After the show is over is a time when cats and kittens need special consideration. The strange sights and sounds and often a long journey provide an exhausting experience. The best compensation that can be made is an early return to familiar surroundings, a good meal of their favourite food and a warm bed.

### Conclusion



## Correspondence Corner

Readers are invited to send contributions to this feature and so to join in the useful exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. Letters should be concise and deal preferably with items of general interest.



### Contacts sought

At our last Club meeting we discussed the possibility of having some pen friends in England and it was mentioned that perhaps OUR CATS could guide us to a club that would be interested in corresponding on general feline matters from time to time. We thought perhaps that at a later date a trophy could be exchanged for competition at the home club's show. We also hope to contact clubs in other countries in the same manner. They are all new breeders here at Rotorua, but all very keen and I know they appreciate the widespread coverage of news from the cat world that your Magazine achieves.

MRS. GLADYS B. BASSETT,  
*Secretary of the Rotorua Cat Club.*

8 Okona Crescent,  
Lgongotaha, New Zealand.

### Colour changes

I read with much interest in a recent issue of OUR CATS about the black cat which turned to grey after being shut up for several days in a garage. May I tell you about Blackie, who is also jet black?

He was a stray I picked up twelve years ago last September. He was neutered and would be about six months old. He was just skin and bone, his tongue and gums were white and he was infested with fleas. Friends and neighbours told me I was mad to bother with such a wretched creature. To me it was a challenge and with a “I'll show them!” attitude, I set to work on Blackie.

After a week he was clear of fleas and what a joy it was to see his little tongue gradually turn to pink. In six months with good food and affection he was a lovely cat and bossing our other two cats about. They also had been strays. In October, 1957, Blackie was chased out of a neighbour's garden. He ran into a lorry and was taken to the vet with concussion, cracked bones and bruises. It took him two months to recover and his coat always remained black. Last Spring he was taken to the vet again to have his teeth scaled. The next day we noticed his coat was turning grey and soon it was completely grey a few days later. Everyone said “Poor Blackie, he's getting old.” But this cannot be the reason for his greyness because to-day his coat is black again. I've asked him how is it done? But he only purrs and rubs his head against mine. The secret will always be his.

MISS M. A. WATSON,  
Esher, Surrey.

### Efforts appreciated

I never like to send in my renewal to OUR CATS without including a few comments and personal observations, with certainly a word of praise for the splendid work you good people in England are accomplishing in the cat world.

Your earnest endeavours on behalf of the unfortunates of the cat kingdom must indeed be rewarding. One cannot read OUR CATS without being impressed by the fact that cruelty and mistreatment of cats in England is not lightly regarded. I am continually amazed to read the

accounts in your magazine of how these offenders are dealt with. It makes one cringe to learn the details of such abuses, but on the other hand very happy to learn that penalties are exacted. I know that in this country such abuse and neglect exists, but I can never recall either hearing or reading of punishment for these cruel acts. A number of years ago I personally "slugged" a young man who was torturing a cat. My attack was swift and perhaps impulsive, but the element of surprise caught him quite off guard and I rescued the cat.

At present I have in residence four cats—imps and mischief-makers, to be sure, but bubbling with personality. My largest cat, a big black and white neuter, was acquired when a tiny nursing kit. We rescued him from a ditch where someone had abandoned him in a bag. He was a gay little fellow then and now three years later has convinced me that he is one of the world's happiest cats. He is also one of the most inquisitive and for this has been given the name "Mr. F.B.I."

He is constantly pouring out affection in a very direct manner, gazing into our eyes, stroking our faces with his paw, or trying to "How-do" by shaking hands. He will not be put aside lightly and persists in displaying his affections until fully acknowledged by us, poking

his head under newspapers, pushing under our arms, or approaching from unexpected angles. When I retire in the evening, Mr. F.B.I. never fails to approach me for his good-night pat.

We have an overhead door in our ceiling that has a pull-down ladder for access to the attic. Mr. F.B.I. will scamper up the ladder and wait for us to push it back up and close the door. Soon thereafter he will balance his 18 pounds just right along the ladder so that it opens the door and down comes the stairs with him riding along very nonchalantly.

We also are ruled by a pair of handsome Brown Tabbies, Rebel and Drum, two years old. Rebel is the "talker" of the group, while Drum goes about the house opening up every drawer and cupboard door he possibly can. And lastly, there is our Homer, the sombre ten-year-old Siamese. Once quite a "witch-cat", his cavortings have dimmed, and he confines most of his activities to begging for chicken and shrimp and performing ablutions on the other cats.

I hope you will bear with me for writing about my cats at such length. There are so few around here who like and understand cats that relating this so often falls on disinterested ears.

MRS. MERCEDES SKILLING,  
Wisconsin, U.S.A.



THE YOUNG APPRENTICE!

A delightful snapshot of Kinki, his S.P. Siamese kitten, submitted by Mr. C. D. Evans, of Headley, Epsom, Surrey.

### Thanks to us!

During the past year I have purchased three prizewinning kittens from England and in this connection I would like to acknowledge the co-operative spirit and able assistance of the English breeders, particularly Mrs. Helen Martin, who directed my attention to three most glorious kittens.

Wayfarer Sprite, a Seal Point Siamese female purchased from Mrs. M. Conoley, a winner in England is now a winner in America. Niad Li Muang, a Chocolate Point male from Mrs. F. M. Dain, was also a winner in England and is now well

on his way to a Championship in America. Sumfun Banhari, a Seal Point Siamese male with a beautiful coat and body bred by Mrs. M. Dunnill, has just arrived and we are hoping he will give as good account of himself here as in England.

There were other breeders who did not sell us cats who were most helpful. To all of them we wish to express our best thanks and season's greetings.

MRS. J. T. DAWE.

San Bernardino,  
California, 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.

1961	Promoted by	Venue
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9 February ...	Southern Counties C.C. ...	London
25 " ...	Coventry and Leicester C.C. ...	Coventry

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## "Little better and no worse"

**Whither the Siamese? Who better to attempt an answer to this tricky question than ELSIE KENT, Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club, breeder of long experience, judge and show manager. Her pithy comments on the exhibits of yesterday and to-day will be read with great interest by oldtimers and newcomers alike.**

SIAMESE, the problem child of the cat world; prolific, easy to breed, unusual, attractive and full of character—BUT—of a most elusive quality.

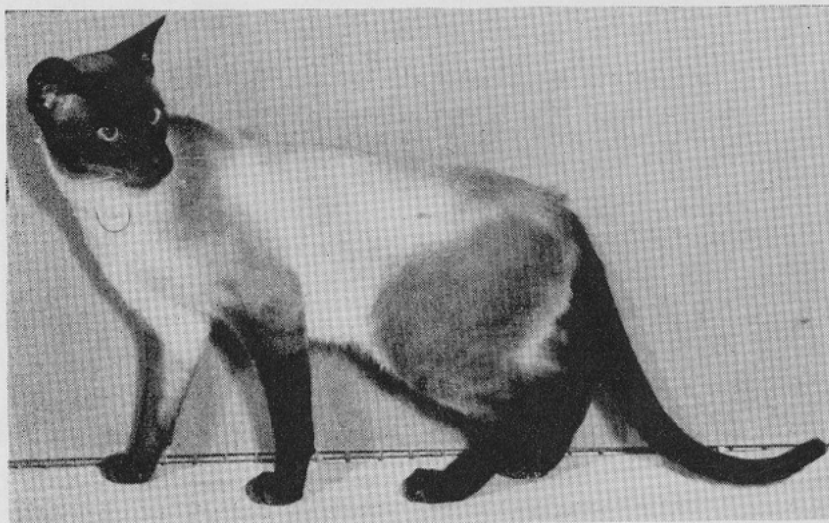
During the thirty years I have known them there have not been very many changes. Looking at the show pens to-day, the round heads, pale eyes, short tails, thick at root, and fluffy coats, are still with us, with just a sprinkling of good cats and maybe good kittens.

It does not follow that a good kitten sweeping the board at one season's shows, will do the same as an adult. Oh dear, no! Many are the "little gems who will go far" who don't get past

the back door, and the novice just cannot understand why the kitten that promised so well turns into a big fat cat.

An outstanding example was the glorious Pagan Goddess, never beaten as a kitten; never a card as an adult. One show season produces a batch of admirable exhibits and the following a mediocre crowd often bred from the former. Why, I don't know, and neither does anyone else. That, of course, is Siamese.

It is difficult to assess the progress, if any, made over the years. Periodically a cat arrives who is Siamese as it should be, so superlative it carries all before it. Then the years pass and there is nothing. We had Ch. Angus Silky, Ch. Prestwick



Hugh Smith.

**CH. KANBURI MAYO** (a young Seal Point Siamese male bred by Mrs. Dodson has been shown with remarkable success by his owner Mrs. I. Keene of Marlow, Bucks. Mayo was Best Siamese at Olympia last month.

Perling, followed by Ch. Wivenhoe Serena. A long gap and then Ch. Inwood Shadow. Again nothing until Ch. Causeway Pita. I do not mean there were no good cats in between; many were excellent, but they lacked that "something" to make them stand out so that every judge immediately recognized that rare quality. A few strains exist which throw the winners, generation after generation, but they are in the minority.

Of the Seal Point males last season, Mrs. Keene's Ch. Kanburi Mayo was excellent. Always very showy, after a slow start he came into his own at the National and was best Siamese Adult in Show. Running neck to neck were Mrs. Hindley's Silken Sultan, Mrs. Dadd's Samaikand Gallant Lad, and Mrs. Peck's Tailong Luki Looki. Silken Sultan is an unlucky cat if ever there was one. He has, I should think, more 2nd prizes to his credit than any other male of recent years. The variability of Siamese is instanced here as Sultan was Best Adult in Show at the Siamese C.C. Show in October with Mayo down to Reserve.

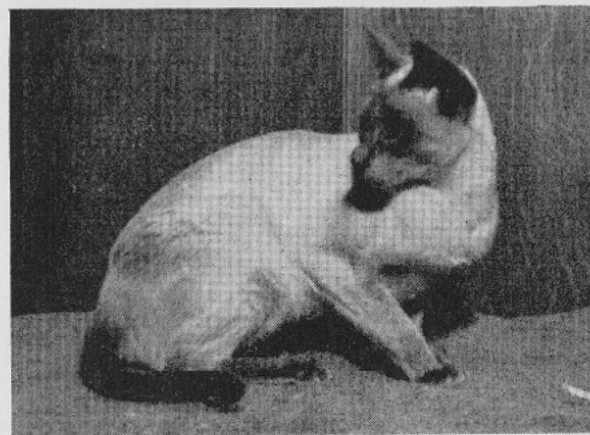
Gallant Lad is my personal choice because of his wonderful head shape, perfectly set ears and no trace of pinch-

ing. Yes, I know he has a pronounced Siamese look, but after all he is an oriental. Luki Looki, an admirable miniature with exquisite texture of coat was Best Siamese in Show at the Governing Council's Show at Olympia in September.

## Beautiful Blue Points

Blue Points have improved enormously and there are several beautiful specimens on the show bench. Mrs Ireland's kitten, Gaytail Wendy was Best Exhibit at the Siamese C.C. Show, but nothing would induce me to prophesy that she will go far. I have handled very few Chocolate Points and only one or two of the new Lilac variety. Like their predecessors the Blues and Chocولات, the Lilacs are as yet on the heavy side and lack the requisite type. No doubt they will improve with time. Their delicate colouring will prove attractive to some breeders.

Nothing very spectacular appeared amongst the females. No Ch. Prestwick Perling, Ch. Wivenhoe Serena or Ch. Inwood Shadow dazzled the show bench. Mrs. Pocock's Pussinboots Stardust was



**GAYTAIL WENDY** was the Blue Point Siamese youngster who scored a great win (Best Exhibit) at the Siamese C.C. Show for her novice owner Mrs. Elsie Ireland, of Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire. Bred from Ch. Ruselon Zi ex Donna Veta. Wendy is destined as a future mate for Mrs. Ireland's own stud Helsby Cheetah, a C.C. winner at the Herts. & Middlesex Show

my winner, though apparently no-one else! She is the right type but has never seemed at her best when on exhibition.

Of the kittens Mr. Richard Warner's Seal Point, Spotlight Trajinsky, was the most consistent winner, a really lovely specimen. At the National the engaging Sanguine Johnny, bred by Mrs. Macmichael, took the honours. In spite of his size he is no heraldic emblem but a plump well-covered kitten, very dainty and typical.

Summing up, the breed is little better and no worse than it has always been. We have a few really good specimens and plenty of nice little pussies who should stay at home by the fire. Far too many chinless wonders, round eyes and coarse coats. A chin as it should be is to be found in Mr. Stirling-Webb's Choco-

late-Point, MacJunior Ling; perfect oriental-shaped eyes in Miss Tilbey's Katrine Raj-Hindi, to mention particular points. Eye colour is generally good, tails whip, kinks practically obsolete, body colour much better.

All these improvements do not mean very much. Next year we may have a batch of kinks, pale eyes and cold coats. The reason—not enough selective breeding. Too many people are breeding just to sell kittens. Too few are interested in breeding a really good cat and insufficient regard is paid to pedigree. Let's use the latest Champion irrespective of whether he suits the queen. Result, the disheartened novices fade away to something more lucrative.

The long established breeders keep on trying and never give up. No true lover of Siamese ever does!



In her letter accompanying this photograph, Mrs. Marie Chaplin, of Moreton, Ongar, Essex, explains: "My two cats Lennie and George came to my doorstep one morning about four years ago, timid, frail, desperately hungry and generally in a pretty poor condition. Lennie, the black and white one, could only hobble on three legs and the other one was covered with abscesses. A veterinary surgeon took them in hand for doctoring and neutering. Now you can see what fine cats they are. They owe their names to the fact that I was reading Steinbeck's "Mice and Men" when they arrived".



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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

#### National at Olympia

**T**HE sixty-fourth Championship Show of the National Cat Club at Olympia, London on December 3rd was very well organized by Mrs. Grace Pond. Her flair for publicity resulted in an excellent gate and a very successful show. Statistics indicate the preliminary work involved. Pedigree cats and kittens (including a few presented not for competition) numbered 563, kittens in litters 67, exhibits in the *News of the World* pet classes 179.

Total entries in the 316 classes for pedigree cats and kittens and the 29 classes for pets were approximately 3,000. The catalogue contained 212 pages. Although there were several pages advertising clubs and catteries at least three quarters were devoted to entries and when one realizes that every entry had to be originally written by hand or typed it gives some idea of the work

involved in compiling the catalogue alone.

Special prizes offered numbered 238. Many of the exhibits were very lovely and very little divided the winners in some classes.

A British Blue Shorthair had the honour of being Best Exhibit in Show—the Misses Chattertons' male Littlewickers Blue Serge by Littlewickers Periwinkle. It is the first time a British Shorthair has won this distinction for many years.

Best Longhair Cat was Mrs. Jewell's Cream male, Brynwood Casanova by Ch. Briaric Beauty. Congratulations to his owner on also attaining his final Challenge Certificate towards Champion status.

Other top winners were: Best L.H. Kitten—Miss Langston's Chinchilla male Felicitas of Allington by Ch. Fidelio of Allington; Best L.H. Neuter—Miss Sheppard's Blue Widdington Wizard by Ch. Widdington Winterset who became a Premier neuter; Best Shorthair Kitten—Mrs. Savage's British Blue female Bonaventura Prudence by Ch. Jezreel Jake; Best S.H. Neuter—Mrs. Moore's Black British Premier Asplin Othello;

Best Siamese Cat was Mrs. Keene's S.P. Siamese male Kanburi Mayo by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy. Born in August, 1959, he has had a brilliant career this season and had already completed his Championship at a previous show but not by the time entries closed for this one.

Best Siamese Kitten was Mrs. MacMichael's male Sanguine Johnny by Ch. Killdown Kerry and Best Siamese Neuter Mrs. Lewis's S.P. Sabukia Steeplechaser by Ch. Killdown Kerry.

In a class of 24 S.P. females Mrs. Highton's Random Rose Petal (also by Ch. Killdown Kerry) was 1st and Challenge. A very successful day for the progeny of this male owned by Mrs. Dadd. He also sired the winning Chocolate Point female kitten, Mrs. Croft's Sabukia Choci-Creme.

Only one Challenge Certificate was awarded to Black L.H. Adults and that went to Miss Rodda's female Chadhurst Ming. Miss Bull's Black kitten Deebank Mascot continued on his winning way and she also won with her White adult male Snowcloud Crispin by Ch. Lisblanc Bambi and her White Orange-eyed kitten Deebank White Heather by Ch. Sherry of Pensford. Mrs. Durbin won in male kittens with Snowcloud Goliath bred the same way as the winning White adult.

### Among the Blues

The winning Blue adults were Mrs. Barron's Camber Mario and Mrs. Brunton's Ravishing Rose of Dunesk the latter by Gwynn of Allington. Both were awarded their second Challenge Certificates. Best Blue kitten award went to Mrs. Rees' Damask Rose of Dunesk by Ch. Thiepval Paragon. The winning Cream adult female was Miss Sheppard's Ch. Widdington Stardust by Ch. Widdington Winterstar and the Best Cream L.H. kitten Dr. Robertson's male Nostrebors Sheikh Hafis by Ch. Paul of Pensford.

Mr. Stirling-Webb won in Smoke adults with Treetops Zoe and in Colourpoint males with his S.P. Briarry Euan who had completed his Championship at a previous show, and in females with B.P. Briarry Morenna by Kala Sabu. In kittens, Miss Watts' unbeaten kitten in his Open Class Amaska Orlando was again first. Twenty-five exhibits made a very attractive show of Colourpoints.

There were only two kittens to represent Silver Tabby Longhairs and the winner was Mr. and Mrs. Gurney's Dorstan Darius by Ch. Dorstan Darrall.

Mrs. Beedell has done much to promote the interest in Brown Tabbies and she won in adults with Magyar Chandra and his kitten Magyar Cheetah. Miss Woodfield's Cherry of Carne won in Red Tabbies and in kittens Miss Kine's female Bruton Rosebay by Ch. Hendon Lysander. Notable absentees were Miss Lelgarde Fraser's Red Tabby kittens.

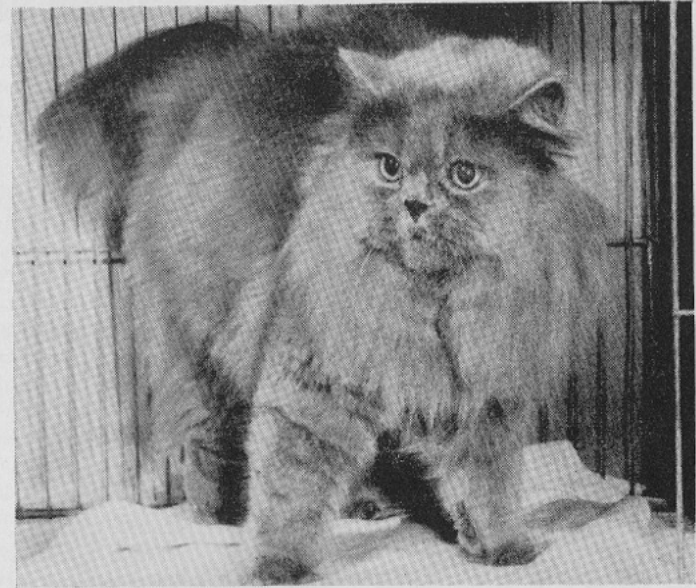
### A lovely Chinchilla

Miss Langston's Chinchilla male Ch. Fidelio of Allington added yet one more to his many Challenge Certificates, a fine achievement for a male now in his eighth year and it was interesting to read judge Mrs. McLeod's remarks after the Show: "Oh! so beautiful, quite the loveliest Chinchilla to-day." Mrs. Lloyd's Sunhaven Paula by Ch. Bonavia Contenta won in females and she also had a very good report.

With the exception of the Blue adult females the Blue-Creams had the most competition to face in their Open Class and Miss Main's Ashdown Pixie by Woburn Sunshine headed a class of ten and Mrs. Hammond's Sankence Sarah won with her kitten. Mrs. Worsley's consistent Tortie and White Ch. Trubun Jennyfur by Broughton Marvo was awarded her fifth Challenge Certificate. Miss Woodfield's Pathfinder Mayflower repeated former kitten successes in the same variety.

In the class confined to Champions Miss Langston's Ch. Fidelio of Allington, and in S.H. Champions Mrs. Earnshaw's Manx Ch. Gay Song were the winners. There were 187 Longhair cats and kittens many of which were entered in several classes, so these breeders gave splendid support to the Show.

Siamese as usual were more numerous than any other breed and they also had the most generous classification with 17



Hugh Smith.

Mrs. B. Barron's CAMBER MARIO, winner in the Blue Longhair Male class at the National C.C. Show at Olympia last month. Bred by Mrs. E. M. Denton, Mario is now well on his way to Champion status.

Open Classes confined to the four colours Seal Point, Blue Point, Chocolate Point and Lilac Point. Several side classes confined to them and seven classes guaranteed by the Siamese Cat Club, five by the Siamese Cat Society of the British Empire and three by the Siamese Cat Association and in addition some of the Shorthair Club classes included Siamese. Mrs. Worsley's consistent B.P. male Ch. Missfore Lysander by Freefolk Blue Ziken was awarded his sixth Challenge Certificate. In females Mrs. Philpot's Ch. Saltmarshe Sabine by Ch. Quesi Blue Harmony won and in kittens Mr. Bullock's Leyborne Kumara and Mrs. Macaulay's Heatheral Hebe. Chocolate Point adult winners were Mrs. Stewart's Bolney Kien by Sunland Sijui and Mrs. Lapper's Bradgate Coral by Ch. Camley Fudge. She also won in male kittens with Bradgate Yippee by the same sire who is owned by herself. The Challenge Certificate winner in Lilac Points was Mrs. Oldale's Lilac Ming by Laurentide Mercury and in kittens

Mrs. Worsley's Trubun Timothy. Four S.P. classes produced the best Siamese kitten according to the opinion of the Best in Show Siamese panel. He was Sanguine Johnny, previously mentioned. The other first prize winners in Open S.P. Classes were Mrs. Lowcock's Shotsilk Nefretiti, Mrs. Highton's Silken Katador and Mrs. Tilby's Katrine Chen-Iris.

### Burmese strong entry

Burmese were the next most numerous group of Shorthairs and with 40 exhibits to represent them they have obviously demonstrated their popular appeal since Mr. and Mrs. France introduced them into this country from the U.S.A. a few years ago. One Challenge Certificate was awarded in adults to Mr. Priestly-Williams—Ch. Kingsplay Coquette. Mrs. Silkstone won in kittens with Ailanthus Tiddlywinks. Blue Burmese produced winners in Mrs. Pocock's Lamont Blue Burmaboy and his daughter Mrs.

Knowles' Ballard Tamky and in kittens Mr. Fletcher's Gringo Blue Iris. The winning Any Variety Foreign Neuter (except Siamese) was also a Burmese, Mrs. Hopkin's Sealcoat Golden Melody.

Silver Tabbies had the best entry in British Shorthairs and in an Open Adult class Mr. and Mrs. Boorman's male Culverden Maurice by Silverseal Antony Rowley was first and in kittens Mrs. Grant-Allen's male Elvaston Silver Mist won again. One Challenge Certificate was awarded to Abyssinians and that went to Miss Bone's female Nigella Caprice by Ch. Contented Amigo. Mrs. J. Burrows won in kittens with Courtmoor Easter Belle. One Ch. went also to Russian Blue adults and the winner was Mrs. Clavier's male Revel Cathlas. The kitten winner owned by Miss Helda rejoiced in the name of Tyomkyn Butchkovitch.

### Shorthair winners

In the comparatively new variety Chestnut Brown Foreign Mrs. Clavier's Revel Chestnut Cascade was first adult and Miss Swyer's Elvyne Bronze Medal first kitten. Mrs. Attwood had a winning day with Challenge Certificates going to her Blue-Cream Shorthair Aldra's Mayblossom and her Cream Aldra's Cream Bunne, both made Champions at previous shows.

One to three entries was the average in other Open Shorthair classes. Miss Duke's Brown Tabby Ch. Hergas Elf was looking well and her Challenge Certificate must have been her fifth. Mrs. Anderson also had a winning day with her Red Tabby adult Andersley Allfire, her Manx Bluewave Choirboy both winning Challenge Certs. Her Black kitten Andersley All Achreuche also won. The best Shorthair at the M.C.C.C. Ch. Show in October Mrs. Nicholas's Orange-eyed Polar Bear by Watermill Lilywhite Boy won 1st and Ch. and in Blue-eyed Whites the same sire was responsible for the winner, Mrs. Wethered's Heartsease White Heather. And the breeder of this female, Lady Glubb, won herself

in Blacks with Black Prince and in White kittens with Heartsease Juliet. Some of the many winning adults mentioned must have become Champions at previous shows or on this occasion. If so, I shall be pleased to publish their names if their owners will send them.

When one sees such a magnificent array of felines in quality and quantity one wonders if it would be possible to assemble their equal in any other country at a single fixture? English exports have been giving a good account of themselves overseas and some details of these will appear in next month's issue, also an account of the Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show. Christmas intervened and there has not been time to contact the Joint Hon. Show Managers Mrs. V. Parker and Miss I. Statman for details.

### Christmas pleasures

We live in such a tumultuous era that I would like to linger awhile to dwell on the pleasure your Christmas cards and letters have given me. They have reached me from many countries and epitomize our mutual love and interest in cats. The originality of some of them was unique and surely it is a sign of the rapidly growing popularity of cats, as we know from the increased entries at shows that so many cards depicted cats and kittens. Each card and message was deeply appreciated.

### Corrections

Printing errors occurred in my December notes. Mrs. Montgomery and myself arrived at the Palantine Hotel Sunderland in November *soon after midnight* on the Friday, not mid-day on Saturday as stated.

In January and February there are *five Championship Shows* to conclude the 1960-61 winter season, not three as stated.



## DIRECTORY OF LONGHAIR BREEDERS

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## News from "Down Under"

**NEW SOUTH WALES.** The old St. George District Club fixture in November attracted a nice entry of over 100 for their kitten show in the lovely Coronation Hall, Arncliffe. Everybody, including the exhibits, appreciated the lovely cool day followed by an even better Sunday which allowed for recovery from some of the disappointments inflicted by those judges! Maybe this is why cat shows are usually arranged for Saturdays as some of the exhibitors become more agitated than their exhibits and the rest day is a blessing. St. George always promote a happy fixture and President Mrs. Wood and Secretary Mrs. Martin are to be heartily commended for their effort.

I think the exhibitors should be congratulated also for putting on such an array of well mannered exhibits. It certainly set a record for me—not a single scratch! I would like to add the comment here that it is becoming increasingly noticeable that exhibits are better educated and this improvement in show behaviour is greatly appreciated by those whose duty it is to handle them. Very often when an exhibit "goes off the deep end" it not only spoils its own chance of an award but also the chances of those nearby who are likely to get "steamed up". This is why they should be by-passed quickly.

Mr. Martin was Show Manager and the four judges on duty made the following main awards: *Shorthair Section*: Best S.P. Siamese Cat—Mrs. Hay's Rama Sali; Best Litter—Mrs. Garland's entry; Best B.P. Siamese Male Kitten—Mrs. Outram's Kongsi Paladin; Best Female Kitten—Mrs. Martin's Purachatr Blu Minuet; Siamese Derby—Mrs. Outram's Kongsi Paladin. *Longhairs*: Derby (26 entries) under 3 months—

Lean's Denlong King Francoise; Under 9 months—Mrs. Fennamore's Crana Carew; Best Male—Mrs. Rowntree's Champion of Ellington; Best Female—Miss Rapley's Ch. Mayfield Leong and also Best Female Kitten Mayfield Parnell; Best Opposite Sex—Mrs. Del Armit's Dalkeith Blue Jay. Longhair Oaks—Miss Rapley's Mayfield Pandora.

Early in December the Cumberland Cat Club put on their Kitten Show at a new venue which proved very lovely and wholly suitable although I am afraid it would not accommodate a Championship Show. The Memorial Hall at Lakemba is new and very modern and the girl guides will be able to use the proceeds of the Show towards paying off the deficit on the building, as explained by the Deputy Mayor of Punchbowl, who performed the opening ceremony. I must admit I favour this Club's regular hall at Lidcombe which is more centrally situated and therefore offers better "gate" prospects.

The entry for this last show of the season was very fair (over 100) and the quality seemed to greatly interest the Deputy Mayor, who was shown round by President Mrs. Donmall. Secretary Mrs. I. Paris is a grand organizer and any show she is connected with can be attended with pleasure. As I did not offer the trophy for the best decorated cage this time, I was promptly invited to judge the entries, which steadied me down considerably as I wouldn't know ninon from none-on! So I co-opted judge Mrs. Burnage and out of 26 we chose one which displayed a lot of thought and stitching. The six judges in attendance were Mesdames Murfin, Helsham, Vize and Burnage, Miss Vale and myself. Mrs. Wood was R.A.S. representative and Mr. K. Armit an efficient show manager. Awards were:

Shorthairs: Mrs. Donmall's Amoy's Mee-kong; Mrs. Donahee's female Amoy's Tachin; Mrs. Outram's male kitten Kongshi Pasha; J. Isaac's female kitten Kenwood Angel Beaucare; Mrs. O'Donoghue's Brood queen Ch. Kaylee Pandora; Mrs. Donmall's Abyssinian Mystic Arabi Farena; Mrs. Donahee's B.P. Siamese Amoy's Tachin; Mrs. Gillard's Longhair male Beau Debonair; Miss Rapley's female Ch. Mayfield Leone and also her male kitten Mayfield Marshall.

**Victoria.** I have the *Newsletter* from Laurie Wilson, Secretary of the Siamese Club, and note that the show held on 10th December in the Lower Melbourne Town Hall was to try out the new cages. But I have no catalogue and no news, so results must appear next time. As pointed out by Miss B. Saker, it is interesting to note that honours for Best Siamese Cat and Kitten at the recent "Royal" went to Blue Points while Best Seal Point was definitely an interstate affair—Victorian shown, N.S.W. judges, South Australian owned and Queensland bred.

I did not receive a catalogue for the Melbourne Cat Club Show held in October a week after the Royal, I am sorry to say, and so have only a few of the Siamese awards to include, as follow: Best Exhibit and Best S.P.—Mrs. Meyer's Yonalin Yu Phin; Opposite Sex—Mrs. Frank's Czar Horace; Best B.P. or C.P. Cat—Mr. and Mrs. Bumak's Valbert Blue Wren; Best Litter—Miss Saker's Yonalin Eight. It would be greatly appreciated if Victorian secretaries of clubs could send along a marked catalogue as soon as possible after the show as I would like to include their news, however briefly, each month. Names of subscriber prospects for OUR CATS would also be very welcome. I shall look forward to and acknowledge same with pleasure.

**Queensland.** No letter received from my Pineapple State scribe, Col. Woodrow, but I have had news from Miss Harrison and Mrs. Manson. The Queensland Cat Club Ch. Show produced winners as follow: Best Longhair Exhibit and L.H. Kitten—Mrs. Riches' Archdale Monjet; Opposite Sex Kitten—D. Bleakley's Archdale Sorayso; President's Trophy—Mrs. Herbert's Ch. Anchusa Piere (imp.); Best Siamese—Rathglass Smugsi. Queensland Cat Fanciers Club held a successful kitten parade in November at the home of Mrs. Neilson at Banyo with Mrs. Tasker as judge. The Club is holding a Championship Show in April and the Brisbane Club will do likewise in June.

**New Zealand.** The November *Newsletter* from Miss Menzies contains a comprehensive list of clubs and secretaries, also the show calendar for 1961. I notice the Governing Council meeting for November took place at Hamilton this time instead of Auckland. Congratulations to Mrs. Saunders who won the coveted award "Chinchilla Cat of the Year" with her home bred Heatherleigh Fair Felicite, by Ch. Langbank Gay Coquette. Mrs. Bassett has added a young S.P. Siamese stud Wayfarer Hi-Fi to her cattery by Ch. Spotlight Melchoir. If he does as much for the breed in New Zealand as his famous predecessor Ch. Spotlight Pride (imported by Mrs. Downey), his name will certainly be inscribed in the Hall of Cat Fame.

I have an interesting letter from Mrs. Hume, of Dunedin, with mention of a new Siamese club called The Otago Siamese Cat Club, which I shall be happy to answer. Seems a long time since I had news from Col. Aberdeen, Mrs. Low or Mrs. Broad, but I know they are very busy people.

A Happy New Year to you all from all of us Down Under.



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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.

### Wanted

WANTED.—PEDIGREE WHITE PERSIANS, single or pair about 4 to 18 months old. Not necessarily from Champion parents but should be good specimens, sound and suitable for breeding. Would consider Creams, Chinchillas and Blues also. A loving home assured. Apply with full details and reasonable price. Box No. 78, OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, 378 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

### Insurance

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

### Books

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

### Miscellaneous

CHINCHILLA Importer requires Agent.—Leven Chinchillas, Leven, Hull.

THE MOST ADVANCED Cat Harnesses/Collars and Identifiers available, Used, recommended C.P.L., Humane Education Society, etc. Clawboards, Coats, Baskets.—Mary Collier, "Cat's Valley", Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset.

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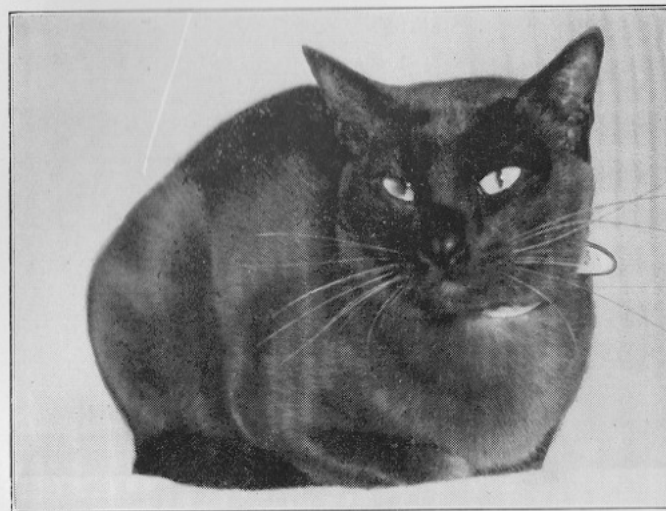
SIAMESE DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " high  $\times$   $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide)

Artist enamelled in natural S.P. colours on solid silver ... 33/- each (U.S.A. \$5)

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



**BENROC BEAU BRUMMELL**

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