

A FAMOUS BALLERINA AT HOME



Dundee Evening Telegraph Photo

Madame Alicia Markova, C.B.E., whose outstanding contribution to the ballet was recently recognised in the Honours List, is a great cat lover. Like many other great artistes, she doubtless enjoys the poetry of motion which is associated with all members of the feline tribe. Here she is seen at her London home with MOEY, a handsome and obviously well-cared-for 12 year-old tabby and white, whose wonderful ears and tail are well worth a second look.

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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



WHEN FELINES FLY

One of the features of modern travel is the facilities provided by the big airlines for the comfort of their feline passengers, whether they are alone or with their owners. There are many cats who have logged hundreds of thousands of air miles. This Siamese in the care of a BOAC stewardess has visited many countries with his mistress.

MAY 1961

1/6



Tomorrow may be too late...

In the crowded conditions of a Show every cat runs the risk of exposure to infections. Feline Enteritis is a particularly infectious virus disease which can spread rapidly from cat to cat, and especially through a cattery, causing untold losses. The onset is sudden and the outcome usually fatal. All breeds of cats are susceptible but the incidence is higher among the Siamese. Get your veterinary surgeon to protect your cat with 'Fiovax' now; it may be too late after the Show.

Fix the vaccination date today

'Fiovax'

BRAND

FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE

A BURROUGHS WELLCOME VETERINARY PRODUCT



1849

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.

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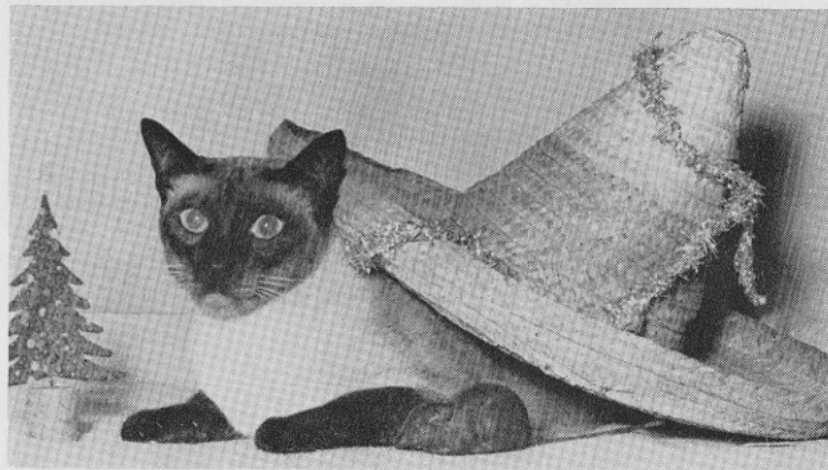
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



"SIMZA" LA-DEE-DAH (Prince of Siam) gives his interpretation of the hat trick. This picture did service as a Christmas card for his proud owner Miss D. Cowan, formerly of South Africa and now resident in West London.

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Yearly Subscription Rate is 20s. for 12 issues post free (U.S.A. and Canada three dollars 75 cents). Single copies 1s. 8d. post free.

SOME CAT !

Frances and David Tweet's cat, Biendonada, has recovered from her operation, thank you, and is somewhat more relaxed now.

So are Doctors Charles Francis and Luther Parker who performed the surgery.

Biendonada, after all, is six feet two inches tall, weighs 110 pounds and does not like men. She's a 3-year old puma which likes to chew on beef, liver, spinach and Frances Tweet's hand.

David does not let her chew on his hand, however. Biendonada gives every indication that he would not get it back.

She had an ovariectomy because here of late she had begun to call for a mate. And when she gave that call from the Tweet home six miles from Charlotte on the Albemarle Highway it was enough to rattle the windows in Pineville about 15 miles away.

Surgery to eliminate the call of the

wild was the only answer since there are no papa pumas around.

It took a day of sneaking heavy doses of tranquilizers into her meat before Bien's feet and jaws could be tied and her trailer could be hauled to the hospital.

There the doctors gave her enough anaesthetic to make sure she wouldn't twitch so much as a whisker during the ordeal.

Bien's recuperation occurred in her custom-made trailer-cage, heated and insulated house with its tinted safety-glass windows, built-in couch, scratching post, water dish and "guest" room.

(Extracted from Kays Gary's column in "The Charlotte Observer". Mr. and Mrs. David R. Tweet, the owners of Biendonada, live in Charlotte, N.C., U.S.A. They have kept many unusual feline pets and have been subscribers to OUR CATS for a number of years. We are sorry it is not possible to reproduce a picture of their puma in this issue.—EDITOR.)



Fru Maina Hjelde with her Int. Ch. **FRANCHESA AV SMEDSBO** and her grandmother Ch. **ROSEMARY AV HAGEBY**. Franchesa was Best Exhibit at the Danish Show reported on page 14.

Burmese and Siamese

By V. WATSON

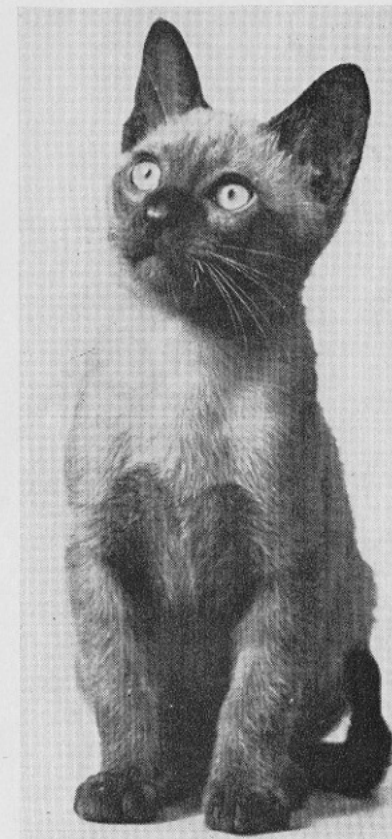
THE breed of cats called Burmese, which is recognized by us as Breed No. 27, derives primarily from a cat called Wong Mau, who was taken to America from the Far East in 1930 and came into the hands of Dr. Joseph C. Thompson of San Francisco. He recorded how her "bodily conformation and behaviour were typical for Malay stocks best represented in America by the Siamese variety".

For a time Wong Mau was considered by some people to be an off-colour Siamese, some support being given to this view by the fact known to every Siamese breeder that Siamese body colour almost invariably darkens considerably with age. However, when Wong Mau was mated to Siamese she produced both Siamese kittens and darker kittens. From this, Thompson, who was a geneticist, formed the view that Wong Mau belonged to a new incipient true breeding variety and in conjunction with certain American breeders carried out a series of breeding experiments to test this view.

These showed that Wong Mau was not of pure breed but was in fact a hybrid of Siamese with another breed. When she was mated to Siamese she produced only Siamese and hybrids like herself, but when she was mated to one of her hybrid sons Yen Yen Mau some darker coated kittens were produced as well. These were subsequently shown to be

the pure breed to which the name Burmese was given.

American breeders, with commendable foresight, realized the possibilities of the new breed and so by the application of sound genetical knowledge the foundation stock was built up for what has proved to be a valuable and attractive addition to the breeds of pedigree cats.



SEALCOAT HARRY, a delightful example of a hybrid Burmese/Siamese kitten bred by the author and his wife.

From the fact that Wong Mau was a hybrid we can reasonably deduce that Burmese is a natural breed of the Far East and that at some time before 1930 interbreeding, either natural or controlled had taken place between the two breeds, Burmese and Siamese.

Two Siamese types

Siamese cats were first brought to Britain in the 1890's and it is therefore interesting to examine the early writings about them to see whether there are any references to cats like Wong Mau. One of the most complete accounts of cat breeding about this time is given in *The Book of the Cat*, by Frances Simpson, published in 1903. This author writes clearly and gives the impression that she was an accurate and careful observer and most painstaking in the collection of information.

Miss Simpson makes it quite clear that at this time there were two types of Siamese cat, the royal cat of Siam and the chocolate cat of Siam. There can be no doubt that the royal cat, "cream coloured in body with sharply defined seal brown markings on head, ears, legs, feet and tail; eyes a decided blue" was the forbear of our present-day S.P. Siamese. It is equally clear that the royal cats were much more popular than the chocolate cats, mainly because of the pale coat of kittens and young cats and the striking contrast between points and body colour.

The descriptions of the chocolate cat given by various well known breeders of the day and quoted by Miss Simpson are consistent except in one important respect, namely eye colour. The official Standard of Points says: "The (show) points of the 'chocolate' Siamese are the same (as the royal cat) with the exception of body colour . . ." This implies blue eyes.

Mrs. Forestier-Walker, referring to Mrs. Vyvyan's cats says: "The choco-

late cats are deep brown in colour showing hardly any markings and have blue eyes . . . There is a legend that the light coloured cats with blue eyes represent silver and the dark cats with yellow eyes gold . . . This rather gives the idea that originally the eyes of the pure chocolate cats were yellow and that the present variety has been crossed with the royal cat. Mr. Young of Harrogate had some years ago a chocolate cat with yellow eyes" !

Mrs. Parker-Brough writes: "The points of the chocolate cat are identical for shows with those of the royal, except body colour, but the imported chocolate is often dark chocolate with blue eyes, stumpy tail with a marked kink, short eyes and heavy thick body. There are not many chocolates exhibited owing to the preference given to the royal variety."

Eyes superbly blue

Mrs. Carew-Cox writes: "There are two recognized varieties of this breed—the royal and the chocolate. The former is certainly the most beautiful in appearance, the seal brown points, sometimes black in adults, relieving the pale but rich cream colour of the rest of the body and the brown mask forming a grand setting for the superbly blue eyes. . . . The chocolate Siamese are of a rich chocolate or dark seal with still more intense points. These cats usually possess eyes of a rich amber".

Thus the picture we get of the chocolate is of a cat with chocolate or dark chocolate body colour, *with intensification of colour in the points and some with blue and some with yellow eyes*. As far as is known there are only two sources of brown colour in cats—the chocolate-brown gene and the black gene when modified by a restrictive coat pattern. The chocolate-brown gene produces chocolate points in Siamese and when separated from the restrictive effect of the

Siamese coat pattern gene gives a self colour cat recognized as Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthair. The black gene when associated with the Siamese restrictive coat pattern gives Seal Point Siamese and with the Burmese coat pattern gives the familiar Brown Burmese.

Chocolate-milk or dark

It is clear that the only thing the old chocolate Siamese have in common with the pale-bodied chocolate point cats of to-day is the word "chocolate", which is used in the two cases to describe quite different colours since C.P.'s have *milk* chocolate coloured points whereas the old chocolate Siamese were of dark chocolate colour. Nor can the chocolate Siamese be the same as the Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthairs of to-day (i.e. having the same colour gene as C.P. Siamese but without the Siamese restrictive coat pattern) for the chocolate Siamese are described as having intensification of colour of the points, whereas Chestnut-Browns are absolutely self-coloured cats.

One is compelled therefore to the conclusion that these chocolate cats of the late 19th century must have been either pure Burmese or, much more likely, Burmese/Siamese hybrids like Wong Mau. Indeed, all we know about them can be readily and completely explained if they were Burmese/Siamese hybrids in the following ways:

1. Subsequent experience suggests that hybrids would be more common than pure Burmese in the Far East. Wong Mau was a hybrid and to the best of my knowledge all cats which were subsequently imported into America to help build up the breed were also hybrids. Quite recently a hybrid was brought into this country from the Far East. Prevalence of hybrids would be expected if Burmese and Siamese were allowed to mate freely as all the offspring of the first cross would be hybrids.

2. My own breeding experience shows that the eye colour of hybrids is variable. Of those I have produced some had yellow eyes, some blue and some green. I have not seen a pure Burmese with blue eyes.
3. Intensification of points is very slight in mature pure Burmese but is quite marked with hybrids, particularly when young. As they grow older their body colour darkens and the difference between body colour and points grows less but is always noticeable. The consistent reference to chocolate Siamese having points therefore supports the view that they were hybrids rather than pure Burmese.
4. If the chocolate cats were hybrids it is easy to see how they have disappeared from the scene. The royal cats were clearly preferred to the chocolates and therefore the tendency would be to mate them to the royals in the hope of getting offspring with pale coats. Such a mating would produce in fact royals and chocolates in equal numbers. The royals would be selected for breeding rather than the chocolates (also doubtless because they would be easier to sell) and therefore the overall picture would be of a numerical increase of royals at the expense of chocolates, which in due course might disappear altogether.

This would appear to be the general picture but it appears that one breeder was attracted by the chocolates. In the December, 1956, *Newsletter* of the West of England and South Wales Cat Society, Miss von Ullmann wrote that a Mrs. Sutherland had been particularly interested in the chocolate Siamese and had several chocolate breeding queens.

Eventually Mrs. Sutherland moved to the South of France, taking her cats with her but there is no information as to what happened to them when she died. Miss von Ullmann further states that

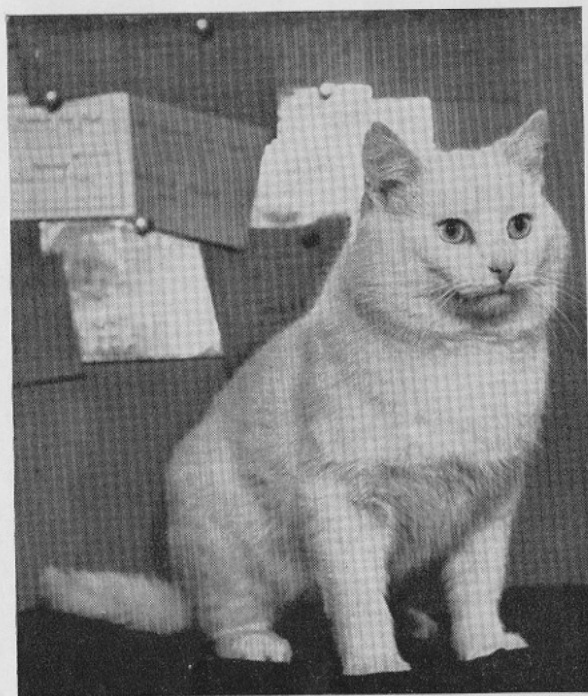
cats like our Brown Burmese were bred in Switzerland and Germany before the war and were known as "yellow-eyed Siamese". She thinks they may have derived from some of Mrs. Sutherland's original cats.

This is not at all inconsistent with my theory that the original imported chocolates would be hybrids, since if Mrs. Sutherland had mated chocolate to chocolate she would have obtained a proportion of pure Burmese. As she was apparently attracted by dark coats it may well be that she selected the pure Burmese cats because of their darker coats and also possibly because of their yellow eyes.

I am myself left with little doubt that

the chocolate Siamese were in fact Burmese/Siamese hybrids and it is an interesting speculation that the Burmese breed could have been started in Britain long before it was in America. This is a very good example of the benefits that can result from scientific breeding (often less correctly referred to as experimental breeding) for had Wong Mau not happened to fall into the hands of someone with knowledge of cat genetics she might have disappeared from the pages of cat history as completely as have our chocolate Siamese.

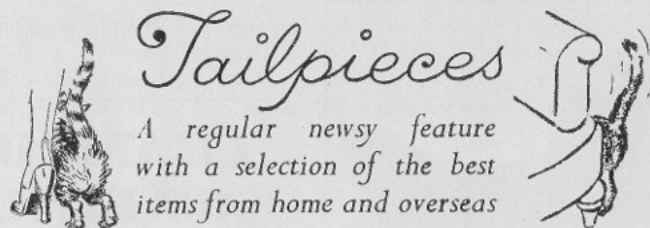
And of course we would have been the poorer by not having the Burmese cats, now the second most numerous breed of pedigree shorthair cats.



Aberdeen Journals

A RARE CHAMPION

CH. WHITEHAUGH MAGIC FLUTE, a Shorthair British White with blue eyes bred by Mrs. H. Challoner, of Aberdeenshire, is the only Champion of his kind in Scotland.



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

AS this is the season of the year when cats *can* be a nuisance to gardeners, particularly in the suburbs, readers will be interested to know that a cheap and simple invention called K9 Cord is now on the market. Strung round the part of the garden to be protected it will, the makers claim, keep cats at bay for five to six months. They just won't cross the Cord. The Cord is also claimed to be quite harmless to domestic animals.

Miss Jane Fisher, of Eveley, Bordon, Hants, who for many years was so prominently associated with the Blue Persian Cat Society and who died earlier in the year, left gross estate of £96,000. Death duty claimed £40,701.

Literature received during the month includes a copy of the 1960 Annual Report of the Japan Cats Association. The pictures it contained were most interesting but I am afraid the text pages had me beaten! Dr. Akio Matsui who is the inspiration behind this organization, has kindly written to tell me that the 6th All Breeds Show will be held on May 18th at Mitsukoshi, the largest departmental store in Tokyo. I am looking forward to seeing some pictures of the show later on.

So many English fanciers will be interested in the following item. A letter from Belrose, New South Wales, Australia, tells me that Mrs. Anne Vize and her husband will be leaving on

August 11th for a year's vacation in the Old Country. They are looking forward to meeting their old associates and many of the new members of the Fancy. Accompanying Mr. and Mrs. Vize on the trip will be Mr. and Mrs. R. Cains. Mrs. Cains is one of the best known Australian breeders and the owner of Ch. Bayhorne Athena. A little bird tells me that this lucky foursome are having a desperate look around for suitable accommodation within easy reach of the West End during their long stay.

With the approach of another holiday season we are reminded yet once again of those thousands of thoughtless parents who buy a kitten "just to keep the children amused". Then when the holidays come round and they want to get away from their homes the kitten has become a cat and they find themselves with a problem on their hands. Mrs. Cissie Walledge, a London humane worker, has been appealing to people not to buy a kitten until after the summer holidays unless they are sure they can get someone to look after it properly while they are away. On about half a dozen occasions last summer, she told a reporter, cats in sacks were dumped in her front garden. Pinned to the sacks were unsigned notes such as "Have put to sleep" or "Gone away".

Paintings, drawings and sculptures of cats and dogs are to go on show in Florence for Italy's first national "cat and dog art show".

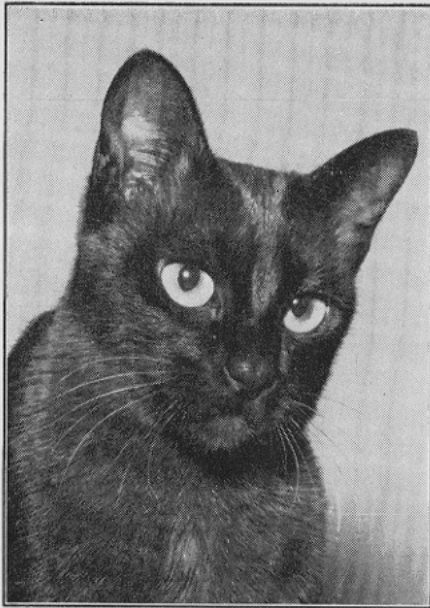


Photo by Arthur Shrouder

CHAMPION OWEENEE

MRS. M. SHROUDER of
Cats' Cottage, The Avenue,
West Moors, Dorset, writes:—

"I would like to say 'thanks' for your product Kit-zyme.

"I have used the Tablets for years for my cats and kittens and they all adore them. It is amazing—they don't just help

themselves, they knock the tin over and, if I were not quick enough, they would gobble up the lot! My Burmese Champion Oweenee, whose photograph I enclose, is particularly naughty about knocking over the tin.

"I go all over the country lecturing on cats with my colour slides and to my audiences everywhere I always recommend Kit-zyme because it has done so much for my own darlings. I have even kept very ill cats alive on just Kit-zyme tablets when they would eat nothing else!

"So I say 'Thanks for Kit-zyme'."

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 4/6, 750 for 8/6

From Chemists, Corn Chandlers and Pet Shops

We will gladly send FREE the KIT-ZYME Booklet "Prevention is Better Than Cure" and booklets about KENADEx Extract (Vitamins A and D), STRESS Mineral Supplement and ZEMOL Ointment and Powder. Write to:



The Veterinary Division
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Ref. No. 235

"Intelligence and affection are not bred into a cat. These traits are developed by constant human companionship, which fosters confidence in us humans and brings out the best in every animal—especially our highly mentally capable Siamese, hereditarily equipped to respond to human treatment and companionship."—Jack Cruise, Editor of the *Siamese News Quarterly*, the official publication of the Siamese Cat Society of America, Inc.

Sumfun Banhari, a Seal Point male kitten bred from Sumfun Shikari and Silken Sultan by Mrs. Mary Dunnill, Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club, was exported to Mr. J. Dawe, of California. On his first trip to a show in America Banhari won First in All-Breed, First in Shorthair Specialty Novice and Best Novice Opposite Sex. This means he was judged the best male of any breed at the show. Nice start for a beginner!

Mrs. Sylvia Crook, of North Foreland, Kent, contributes the following item to the correspondence columns of a national newspaper: "Lt. Col. A. G. Dyce writes of the *patron* of a *patisserie* stroking his cat with a long bread roll. It is evident that this man knew a great deal about cats—as they are without doubt the cleanest of all domestic animals. Having seen the hands of some of the baker's roundsmen, and the amount of handling the bread gets, I would prefer pussy's back any time".

A recent patient treated by the P.D.S.A.'s Brighton mobile dispensary was a cat whose curiosity had led him into trouble. The cat, while out hunting in the fields, came upon a badger's sett inhabited by a young family. The badger parents took exception to the visitor, teaching him a sound lesson with their sharp teeth and claws. The cat's wounds were dressed by a P.D.S.A. technical officer and he made a good recovery.

Mr. G. C. Dugdale, the new Hon. Secretary of the Blue Persian Cat Society, has moved out of London to a new address at Hole Farm, Guestling, Sussex (Tel.: Pett 3114).

At the annual general meeting of the Siamese Cat Club the successful candidates for election to the Committee were Mrs. Greta Hindley and Mrs. Holroyd. Delegates to the Governing Council for the coming year will be Mrs. Elsie Kent (Chairman), Mrs. Hindley, Mrs. M. Montgomery and Mrs. Mary Dunnill (Hon. Secretary).

I have received news from Mr. Joe G. Mitchell of the formation of Victoria's first specialist cat club—the Blue Pointed Siamese Cat Club of Victoria. Apparently there are over 50 owners and breeders of Blue Points in Victoria and the Club hopes also to gain the interest and support of others throughout Australia. The Club was launched with a members' parade, basket lunch and a meeting at which officers were elected. Mr. Mitchell is anxious to receive an English show catalogue or two and these should be sent to him at Flat 27, "Cairo", 98 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia.

Here is another Australian item, this time culled from the March issue of *Cats Digest*: "On the high seas aboard S.S. *Port Lincoln* is a very important little furry fellow. Each day brings him closer to his new home and his two months' quarantine. He is Bonavia Follette, son of Silver Mesa Apache of Grey Ivy (imp. U.S.A.) and Ch. Bonavia Marietta. His American father is no relation to Kute Kit Silver Flyer, who left U.S.A. a mere baby and travelled round the world to live "Down Under" with us. . . . We all wish Miss Haswell the very highest success with this third import. Without such people such as she who take so much trouble importing

valuable bloodlines for our Chinchillas we would not have the wonderful specimens so often seen in this country, where the popularity of the Chinchilla exceeds all other colours".

The Three Counties Cat Society have an all-breed show fixed for Saturday, July 1st next, at the Corn Exchange, Salisbury, Wilts. It is an interesting point that this will be the first cat show in this famous cathedral city. The Mayor and Mayoress of Salisbury (Councillor and Mrs. A. C. Hoy) have consented to present the trophies to the winners. Show Manager is Mrs. M. A. Wilson, "Amberley", Manor Road, Verwood, Dorset.

A welcome visitor to London in the musical world has been the famous French conductor Henri Sauguet, who leapt into prominence with his Diaghilev ballet. A few years ago, Sauguet, well known for his wit and gift of mimicry, demonstrated his devotion to cats and Richelieu by dancing the title role (assisted by a society hostess as Marie de Medicis) in "Le Cardinal aux Chats", a ballet staged privately in New York. A number of cats appeared in the cast.

The Basenji, the native dog of Africa which has no bark, is credited with the gift of being able to make a number of odd noises such as a cat's miaou, a cock's crow and a yodel. Portraits of this dog have been found painted on the tombs of the Pharaohs. Some pedigree!

Mister Tom, cat mascot of the Pacific Mercury Electronics Corporation in Van Nuys, California, was the innocent cause of a labour-management disagreement which threatened to develop into a crisis. Tom was threatened with discharge by the management because they said he lacked hygienic habits. The employees threatened to seek state intervention if this was done and after a two-hour meeting Tom's housekeeping

problems were ironed out. An official of the Carpenters' Union said he would provide a house and sandbox and so Tom went back to his usual post at the main gate. It is an interesting sidelight that the workers' petition to the management carried 300 pro-cat signatures.

A West Berlin magistrates court sentenced a married couple to five months in prison for sewing a cat into a mattress. The couple had been evicted from their apartment and they decided to hide the cat in the mattress because they couldn't take him to the public refuge to which they were assigned. The cat, a two-year-old, was found eleven days after the eviction and has recovered from his ordeal.

A four-year-old cat named Putney belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Murphy, of Hollis, New York, has been selected for a part in the movie version of "Breakfast at Tiffany's". There were more than 250 cats competing for the role.

According to an article in a recent issue of the *Financial Times* about 200 young men and women are enrolled every year by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The number of practitioners has risen considerably over the past decade but there is room to-day for many more. Entrants may now take a degree at one of six British universities and the R.C.V.S. admits successful graduates to membership. University courses are normally for five years. Veterinary surgeons in general practice to-day number about 3,250, nearly another 1,000 are employed by the Ministry of Agriculture and a further 315 are attached to the Colonial Service.

A news item from Atlanta, U.S.A., reports that seven former alley cats are assured of \$10,000 worth of care and attention under the will of Mrs. W. K.

Dunn. That's over £3,000 in our currency. The four males and three females are now permanent guests of the Atlanta Humane Society as Mrs. Dunn stipulated that the Society "shall use any amount of this money for the care and upkeep of these cats as long as they live."

A crowd of 6,000 roared with laughter when a black cat walked sedately across the pitch during the course of the cricket match at Trent Bridge between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

Mrs. Allie Lee, of Durham, N.C., U.S.A., had a black cat with pierced ears from which were suspended bell-shaped ear-rings set with rubies. It was found dead in her front yard with the ear-rings gone. Rather asking for trouble wasn't it?

I have heard from Mrs. Daniel E. Gaffney, Haw Tree Hill, 3000 Memorial Drive, RFD 5, Green Bay, Wisconsin, U.S.A., that she would like to contact Havana breeders anywhere in the world. Mrs. Gaffney writes to say that she has developed the breed in her own cattery without any bloodlines. In England, of course, the variety is recognized as the Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthair.

Another cat legacy story comes from Chicago. When Mrs. Margaret Montgomery died she left five cats and in her will she directed that her \$25,000 estate should be devoted to their care and upkeep. The cats are now in the care of her friend William J. Fields who is charged with the task of keeping them in good health until they die a natural death. After they die, Fields will receive 60% of what is left of the estate and the rest of the money will go to an order of nuns.

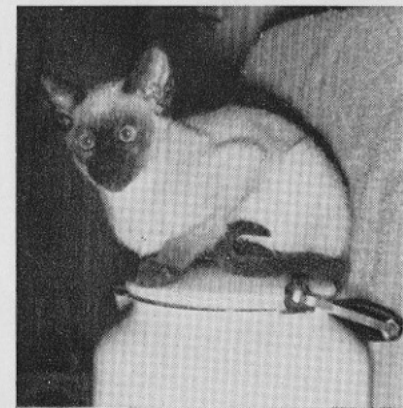
From Sydney, Australia, I hear that it is fashionable to be seen out shopping with a Siamese on a lead. It's the latest craze among the socialites of the Double

Bay and Bellevue Hill areas. The ladies are saying that their cats are much more intelligent and better behaved than dogs. Which seems to be one up for the popular cream and chocolates.

Cats have always been famous for their association with ships. Just to prove that puss is adaptable and up with the times, a little black cat has attached himself to the airstrip at Narrandera in Australia. Immediately an incoming plane taxies up he is first up the steps to give a welcome to the crew and passengers inside.

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



With this picture of his Siamese "Miyoshi San" sitting on the tea kettle for warmth, Mr. Leon V. Garland, well-known breeder of Rae-O-Lee Siamese in Nevada, U.S.A., adds: "The background of our cats goes back to Djer-Kits-Chinkaling who was imported from England about thirty years ago by Mrs. Cobb, of Newton, Massachusetts."

Bladder troubles

By M.R.C.V.S.

Bladder distension

The urinary bladder is normally situated in the pelvic cavity, but when greatly distended it protrudes well into the abdominal cavity causing a distension which whilst not always obvious to the eye, can at once be detected by the hand.

Bladder distension is all too common in the cat (nearly always a male) owing to blockage of the urethral outlet by sandy material. This sabulous deposit is thrown down in the bladder in consequence of a decreased acid reaction of the urine. Thus the preventive treatment is largely a matter of acidifying the urine by means of drugs.

The cat with a full bladder exhibits uneasiness, dullness and sometimes loss of appetite; tries unsuccessfully to urinate at frequent intervals, perhaps passing just a few drops; cries plaintively and has an anxious expression. If one grasps the posterior portion of the abdomen in one's hand, a hard circular body (like an orange) will be felt, pressure upon which will provoke pain.

A critical condition

With every hour the bladder is becoming more and more distended, until finally it becomes paralyzed and unable to contract to force out the urine. Soon it will become very inflamed and its mucous lining change from a pale pink, through dark red to black. The condition is one of great urgency, the mere suspicion of which should send the owner speedily on his way to a veterinary surgeon. If not relieved within about 36 hours, the cat will likely die.

Surgical intervention is the only hope, and this is often extremely difficult as the urethra has a lumen roughly about half the thickness of a match stick. As

an immediate measure of relief, the surgeon may draw off much of the urine by means of a hypodermic syringe, passing the needle through the abdominal wall directly into the bladder.

Then at greater leisure he will endeavour to unblock the urethra by the operation known as urethrotomy. Only an absolute expert at this operation is likely to succeed. Even he may not do so.

One might think that the more obvious procedure would be to pass a catheter. But this is frequently impossible because the pressure of the instrument only serves to pack the deposits into a more compact mass. Anyway, such a preliminary endeavour should not be omitted.

Inflammation of bladder

Also known as cystitis, is a very painful condition, giving rise to great restlessness, loss of appetite, increased temperature, straining to pass water and actually passing it. Thus there is no alarming distension of the bladder as has just been described. There may be spots of blood in the urine. If the surgeon rules out urethral obstruction, he may proceed to treat the cystitis by means of injected antibiotics such as penicillin, terramycin, etc., or by giving one of the sulpha drugs (so-called M & B) by mouth.

This treatment, with plenty of fluids to drink, will generally cure the condition, when it arises as a pure bacterial infection. Even when it complicates obstruction these drugs are invaluable, though quite ineffective without the necessary surgical intervention.

[Reprinted from *OUR CATS* November, 1955.]

Looking at the breeds

No. 3 — BLACK SHORTHAIRS

By HUGH SMITH

IT would seem that the successful breeder of Black Shorthairs needs the same kind of luck as the breeder of Black Longhairs. For, although the world abounds with handsome black short-haired cats, to breed and rear a near perfect pedigree specimen is by no means an easy task.

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy lays down in its Standard of Points the following for *all* British Shorthairs:

Body and Tail: Well knit and powerful, showing good depth of body. Chest full and broad. Tail thick at base, well set, length in proportion to body.

Legs and Feet: Legs of good substance and in proportion to the body. Feet neat and well rounded.

Head and Neck: Head broad between the ears; cheeks well developed; face and nose short.

Ears: Small, slightly round at tops, not large at base.

Coat: Short, fine and close.

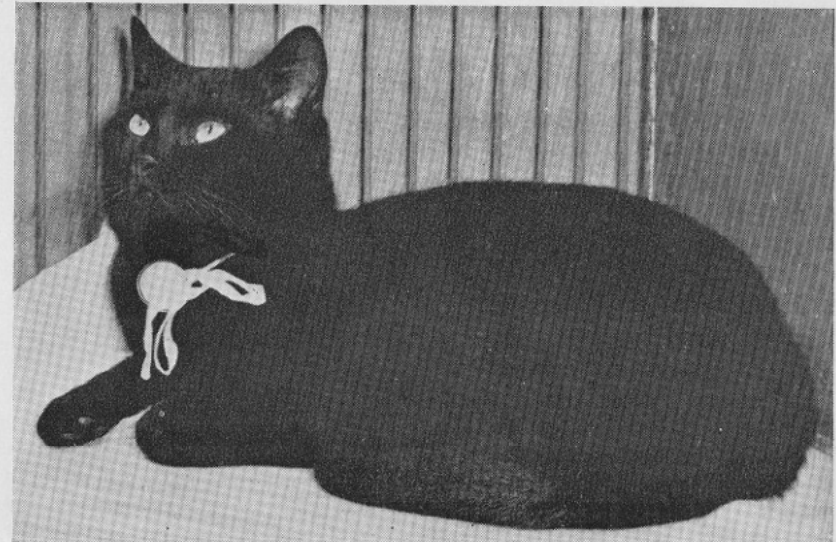
Condition: Hard and muscular, giving a general appearance of activity.

Scale of Points

Body and Tail ...	10
Legs and Feet ...	5
Head and Neck ...	10
Ears ...	10
Coat ...	10
Condition ...	5

The above fifty points apply to all British Shorthairs and leave fifty to be apportioned for colour and eyes in the individual breeds.

The fifty points are allotted as follows for the Black Shorthair:



Hugh Smith

With its sleek and shining jet black coat the Black Shorthair makes an instant appeal to every cat lover. The kittens are especially attractive.

Colour: Jet black to roots, no rusty tinge, no white hairs anywhere 25

Eyes: Large, round and well opened. Colour: Deep copper or orange with no trace of green ... 25

Kittens are often brownish black and do not develop their true colour until six months old.

Probably the most difficult task for the breeder of Black Shorthairs is the elimination of white hairs, which are strictly taboo. So also are traces of green in the eyes, which should be deep copper or orange.

There can be few cat-lovers who do not experience delight in seeing a good specimen of this breed.

The Society for the breed is the Shorthair Society whose Hon. Secretary is Mrs. E. Towe, 6 Palmerston Road, Wimbledon, London, S.W.19.

DANISH SHOW REPORT

THE Danish Cat Club "Darak" celebrated its 30th anniversary with a large and representative show in Copenhagen on April 14th, 15th, and 16th. Almost all breeds were present, including Burmese and Lilac Pointed Siamese; also a Red Self Longhair.

Mr. Konrad Hirschmann judged all Shorthairs, and it was with great pleasure that I judged the Longhairs. The Hall had plenty of space and the room set aside for the judging tables had excellent daylight, which made judging a lighter task than usual.

The Best Exhibit was a lovely White Longhair Int. Champion Franchesca of Smedsbo owned by Fru Hjelde of

Sweden. This cat, most beautifully presented, was hard to fault; and with her sweet expression, gentle blue eyes and soft long fur was a charming and much admired exhibit. Reserve Best was a Blue Pointed Siamese Salween Blue Michuri, judged by Mr. Hirschmann. This exhibit also attracted much attention and admiration.

Unfortunately the Club's President, Fru Carola Buch was ill just before the Show; and although present for a while was not well enough to attend the celebration dinner held afterwards. Her absence was much regretted and the Club's officials took many messages of goodwill and flowers to her.

My two stewards Fru Mousen and Mr. Hifling-Olesen could not have been bettered.

One happy incident stands out in my mind. After all the exhibits had been fed by the stewards, I noticed a tray of new plastic dishes, full of white fish standing on a table. On enquiry I was told that these had been prepared "For any mother cat with her litter who would enjoy a second helping". Every mother apparently had the extra fish, for on looking round later on I saw two little dishes in all the pens where mothers and babies were together.

The Red Tabby adults were of very good quality and two were the deep colour that most of us hope to achieve, but do not always get. There were several Chinchillas, but only a small entry of Blue Persians and Blue Creams.

I know the Editor will allow me to thank "Darak" for all the kindness and hospitality I received during my stay in Copenhagen.

J. M. NEWTON (Mrs.)

DEATH OF THE G. C. REGISTRAR ARTHUR A. TOWE

We have been asked by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy to draw the attention of breeders and others to the fact that the recent lamented death of the Registrar Mr. Arthur Towe has thrown the heavy work of registration and transfer into arrears. Mrs. Towe has kindly volunteered to cope with the situation as far as she is able in the circumstances. Until such time as future arrangements can be finalised it is hoped that everyone requiring the services of the Registrar will be patient and understanding.



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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

A get-together

THE Cat Breeders' Conference at Caxton Hall, London, on April 12th, organized by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy was attended by many well known personalities. A number of them had travelled far to attend.

Miss Kathleen Yorke (Chairman) opened the meeting by expressing appreciation to Mrs. Sheppard, M.R.C.V.S., who gave her services to enlighten the audience on many aspects of cat breeding and general welfare. The other two Hon. Veterinary Surgeons of the G.C.C.F., Miss E. H. Woodger, M.R.C.V.S. and Mr. James Stewart, M.R.C.V.S., sent apologies for unavoidable absence.

The item on the agenda which aroused the lengthiest discussion was the care of stud cats and it was reassuring to hear Mrs. Sheppard state that they can be neutered at any age when they are wanted for pets or have ceased to sire.

Mrs. Kent's S.P. Siamese male was neutered when he was over seven years and lived a life of bliss with her spayed females when she went to the Isle of Wight. Mrs. Lucille Davies had her Cream male Ch. Oscar of Pensford neutered last autumn at just over five years as she also wished him to be a house pet, and very few entire males can be trusted not to have "lapses" in the house. Ch. Oscar is a great loss to breeders as he sired outstanding progeny, is so well bred and there is such a shortage of eligible Cream males. However, he now disports himself around the house and enjoys platonic friendship with Mrs. Davies' two spayed females.

The importance of immunizing kittens was stressed, especially those one intends to exhibit. The younger breeders appear to accept this precaution and it is undoubtedly the reason why one hears so much less about F.I.E. after shows nowadays.

A proposal was made that immunization should be made compulsory by the G.C.C.F. for all kittens exhibited, but there were demurs at this and I agreed *sotto voce* with Miss Statman that one must allow for conscientious objections as immunization does regrettably entail the life of kittens although sufficient vaccine can be made from one to immunize many.

It was pleasing to hear Mrs. Sheppard stress that when horse meat is fed to our stock it should all be the quality passed for human consumption. It was probably a surprise to many that she was not

in favour of ox heart as it is deficient in protein and she did not appear to estimate too seriously the risk of feeding the meat from chicken necks. Many fowls are caponized by inserting a pellet of stilboestrol in the neck which is absorbed and I understood her to say that if by a fluke this absorption does not take place the possible harmful effects of stilboestrol would be destroyed by cooking.

Mrs. Sheppard appeared to favour herrings rather than white fish but in my experience my cats have always turned up their noses at oily fish such as mackerel, herrings and sprats. In pre-war days they preferred hake to any fish but this has now moved up to almost a luxury in price and they "oblige" by eating haddock, cod and other white fish.

Tinned food

The merits of tinned food was lightly touched on and perhaps one would not be "wide of the mark" if one presumed it was usually regarded as emergency food in this country by breeders of pedigree cats.

Readers of this magazine will remember the excellent article "Focus on Cat Food" which appeared in the November issue, when excerpts from the Consumers' Association's journal *Which?* gave the result of their investigations on the nutritional value of tinned cat food. It disclosed facts well worth knowing.

Item 6: "Registering of kittens by breeders and necessity of transferring when sold". If this was consistently done it would be a real asset to the records and obviate many queries which can arise years after the birth of kittens.

The room engaged for the meeting was only available until 5 p.m. so unfortunately some items could not be fully discussed.

One example was: "Dangers of uncontrolled experimental breeding".

All breeders in my opinion should take an intelligent interest in experimental breeding, even if they do not intend to deviate from their preference for one variety.

It would have been interesting to hear the opinions of Mr. Stirling-Webb who has probably the most extensive experience of anyone in this country regarding its application to cats. However we were not destined to know his real views on the subject so one hopes we shall have this opportunity in future.

The phrase "uncontrolled experimental breeding" is somewhat ambiguous. Surely if breeders are experimentally breeding the logical attitude and the only way knowledge can be obtained is to control it.

Sound commonsense

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Sheppard and spontaneous applause as she left. I have always admired her sound common-sense about cat welfare in general; in addition to her professional qualifications.

Although it was not on the agenda it was pleasing to hear her inveighing against "weepy eyes" in ultra typey Longhair cats. Apart from the discomfort it must cause it is a disfigurement and it is decidedly beneficial to the breed that judges have been penalizing it for some time now. One could not have a better example of the influence judges can exert on a variety than the tails of Siamese. The first judge I stewarded for was the late Miss Hill-Shaw who was judging Siamese and that was over thirty years ago. I admired immensely their exquisite colouring with their beautifully contrasting deep blue eyes but although I was such a novice I thought they were marred by their deformed tails. And they *were* deformed as they had kinks and whorls and some appeared to be telescoped causing considerable shortening. Although the improvement at first was gradual when it was decided to penalize these defects, it is now many years since we have seen

a real "kink" in any Siamese exhibited and their long finely boned tails are the perfect appendage for this graceful variety.

Noble purposes

When some of the Annual General Meetings this Spring have been marred by "politics" it is refreshing to turn to news of a new organization solely concerned with the welfare of all cats. Mrs. Blanche Smith (formerly Mrs. B. Wolfram, American Associate Editor of this magazine) has accepted the Secretaryship of the U.S.A. non-profit-organization styled the National Cat Fund.

Her article in U.S.A. *Cats Magazine* commences. "All of us whether we are individual cat owners, or breeders and exhibitors, or just interested in cats—cannot help but feel sympathy for the cat unfortunates. Stray cats, suffering cats, or even cats who are loved and owned, but whose owners lack the knowledge to take proper care of them".

Excerpts from the four primary objectives of the N.C.F. read:

1. To distribute funds to the private cat shelters operating in towns and cities throughout the country.
2. To prepare and distribute through humane societies, cat clubs, veterinarians, schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, cat lovers, and others, literature on the care of cats and kittens.
3. To sponsor through veterinary hospitals and schools such research into cat diseases as is completely humane in purpose and execution.
4. To get to the root of the entire problem of strays by encouraging in every way possible the neutering and spaying of all pet cats".

Mrs. Smith remarks:

"These are noble purposes, but they can be accomplished, and they will be accomplished if all of us in the cat world

will give thought to the benefits that will come, not only to strays and unfortunate cats, but to all of us and our cats if we can work together.

"Our first big job, of course, is to secure the money without which our plans cannot materialize. Our first source of income will be direct donations from cat lovers everywhere".

Cat lovers in England have their own active and efficient welfare society to support—The Cats' Protection League, which has similar ideals—but American cat lovers, many of whom read this magazine, are invited to send contributions to Mrs. Blanche Smith, 4 Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh 22, Pa, U.S.A.

It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that our Miss Kit Wilson may one day travel to U.S.A. in connection with her welfare work for cats and one can imagine how ardently she will work for them and how she would enjoy exchanging ideas with Mrs. Smith and her fellow workers. I have read her articles in *Cats Magazine* for many years and they are a mine of information on maladies which may effect our cats and on their care and housing.

Lilac Point Champion

Congratulations to Mrs. Brenda Thompson (Warrington, Lancashire) on owning the first Lilac Point Siamese to become a Champion in this country—Ch. Devonmoor Salamega by Dodbrook Dandy and Laurentide Adularia, the latter bred by Mrs. Hargreaves. Mrs. Thompson is understandably delighted with Salamega's Championship status and tells me she was awarded her fourth Challenge Certificate at Coventry on February 25th. Salamega was bred by Mrs. Gregory.

Mr. Schonau of Brussels, Belgium, exhibited very successfully at Thiers, France, in April. His Cream male Startops Starduster by Ch. Widdington Winterstar became a Champion and his

Cream female Startops Thais (Best L.H. Kitten in Show, Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show, July, 1960) by Ch. Oscar of Pensford was awarded her second Challenge Certificate. Entered in another class as a couple they received the award of most beautiful couple and in another class with a Blue, Don Juan, the best group of three. Mr. Schonau does not state how Don Juan was bred although he points out all three originate from Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. He will be exhibiting again at Avignon in May and he pays a tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Rossi who prepare his cats for exhibition and adds "We are all so happy with their success and take care of them like babies".

Here's wishing them more successes and congratulations also to Mrs. King who bred the two Creams.

Black exports

Miss M. Rodda who is often prevented by judging engagements from exhibiting, had the pleasure of winning first with her Black male Chadhurst Black Boy and second to him with his litter sister Chadhurst Susanette, sired by her male Ch. Chadhurst Sambo at the London S.C.C.C. Ch. Show on February 9th. The kittens were exported to Mrs. Holmes of U.S.A. and went to join Chadhurst Sherry (Cream) and Widdington Perlita (Blue-Cream) the latter bred by Miss Sheppard. Mrs. Holmes is delighted with them all.

Breeders will sympathize with Miss Rodda in the loss of her Black male Ch. Chadhurst Sambo at the beginning of March. He mated Chadhurst Elegance two weeks before he passed on and fortunately she is in kitten. One consolation is that he was nearly fourteen years of age and died suddenly without suffering. He was a wonderful sire and has done much for our post-war Blacks and other varieties.

A much travelled British export has come to rest in a loving permanent home in Los Angeles, California. Orlando

of Pensford, the only Cream son of the late Ch. Octavian of Pensford was Best Cream kitten judged by Miss Sheppard at the K.K. & N.C.C. Show, July, 1957. His young owner, Mrs. Matters, visited us when she flew from New York to Istanbul, Turkey, via London in August that year and Orlando flew to Turkey to join her in October. Both Mr. and Mrs. Matters are cat lovers and he was a great pet and settled down well.

When they decided to return to U.S.A. last Summer they actually elected to travel by ship rather than leave him in Turkey and the restrictions on air travel for him were almost impossible. Before he was acceptable in U.S.A. he had to have anti-rabies injections as he came from Turkey. (What a blessing our six months quarantine regulations are which make our animals acceptable in every country as we are free from rabies!) Mr. and Mrs. Matters with their own two babies born in Turkey and Orlando eventually arrived in California safe and sound and it was then they reluctantly decided to part with him as they had so little time for cat breeding. An acquaintance, Mrs. Clara Young, was delighted to have him. I have had several letters from her telling me of his successes at the first opportunities he has had to be exhibited as an adult. He became a Double Champion this Winter and has points towards his Quadruple Championship.

Pictures welcomed

Notes on exports are usually of general interest and I am always pleased to receive news of wins and anything which adds to the reputation of our cats at home and overseas.

Photographs for reproduction must have a glossy finish and sharp definition. The Editor is, of course, the arbiter regarding their suitability for reproduction and captions underneath are selected from details of information which should be supplied by owners.

By the time these notes are published one of the most delightful shows of the year will be well on the way—the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show on July 29th. Lovely kittens making their bow and neuters almost a show in themselves make this fixture a joy. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Barron as Show Manager again and she will be pleased to give further details if requested. Her address is 54 Sweetcroft Lane, Hillingdon, Middlesex.



G. C. REPORT ON CONFERENCE

The following official release on the Cat Breeders' Conference, on which Mrs. Joan Thompson has commented in earlier columns, was received from Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy:

The Council are fortunate in having honorary veterinary surgeons to help and advise them on technical, physiological and scientific problems. For, despite their attractive appearance and affectionate disposition, cats and kittens are, or may be, heirs of illnesses and diseases, both infectious and contagious, which may prove fatal if not dealt with promptly and correctly.

Inoculation and immunization were strongly recommended, particularly for kittens being sent to shows. Dangers of disease being contracted, spreading and precautions to be taken were fully discussed.

The care and protection of stud cats also occupied the attention of the 100 members present. In order to produce the best results, caution and care in the early stages were strongly recommended. Grave concern was expressed at a report

LOST CAT

MY little cat was lost. In desperate haste

I searched the house and garden, and the waste

Beyond the orchard, and in sudden fear I called her loudly—but she did not hear; Then I remembered with a throb of pain, How every dusk in sunshine or in rain She wandered out alone, and silent stood Just where the pathway turns into the wood;

And so I knew, and should have always known,

Her cares were mine, her heart remained her own.

ROSEMARY BAZLEY.

that some stud cats might be released as strays when their working days were over. It was made abundantly clear that strong deterrent action would be taken by the Council against anyone reported so doing.

The dangers of uncontrolled experimental breeding were then explored. It was affirmed that more should be done to encourage the controlled scientific breeder and discourage the uncontrolled. Experimentation within the breed to produce certain characteristics was justified and had achieved good results. The utmost care should be taken not to fix bad characteristics in conjunction with good ones. An apprehensive shudder went through the assembly when it was intimated that some results might even embody some of the characteristics of the breeders themselves! Every effort should be made to strive for beauty and health.

A discussion on the correct feeding of brood queens followed. The use of horse meat needed care. The only safe form of horse meat was that which was entirely free from disease. The most satisfactory being that approved for human con-

sumption. Questions on the use of tinned foods revealed that these were mostly used in an emergency.

The adverse effect of milk on some cats might be due to the lack of sufficient secretion of intestinal juices, to break up the fat content of the milk. Baby food milk might be safely used in substitution. Whale meat and raw eggs were recommended, the latter owing to its high protein content. Deep frozen fish and offal were readily eaten and there need be no scepticism with regard to the use of caponized chicken liver. It is possible,

occasionally for raw chicken neck to contain traces of the drug used to caponise the bird. Owing to the incidence of bones, raw chicken should not be fed to cats.

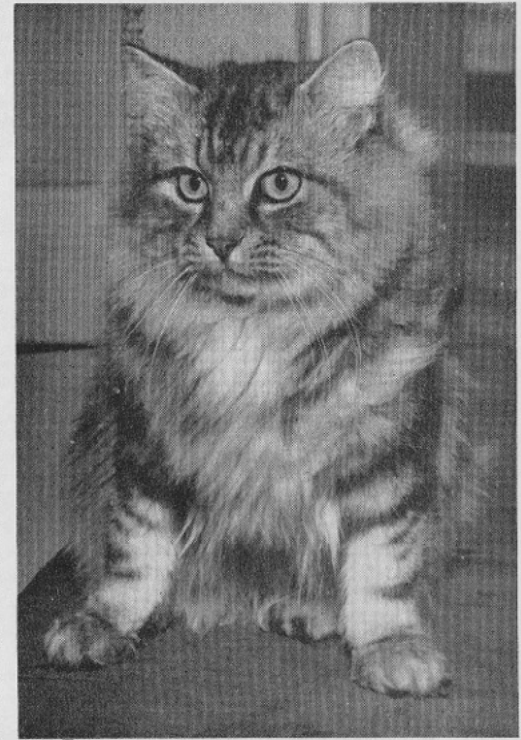
Great care should be exercised with any food which might have been subjected to the spraying of insecticides and weed killers, as these might prove dangerous.

The incidence and cause of ringworm were discussed fully with a view to assisting those engaged in the further scientific investigation of the disease.



William W. Lindsay

Mrs. Mann, of Glasgow, with her "heavyweight" entry who won a top award in the Household Pets section at the Scottish Cat Club Show.



where's
my
Tibs?

The wide-pawed stance of this splendid Silver Tabby Longhair, Ch. Dorstan Darrall, is the attitude of a cat who knows what's good for him—and means to get it. (Tibs, of course). Darrall's show awards include ten challenge certificates and many first prizes, and he has already sired two champions.

'Darrall is one of those rare males with perfect house manners,' said his owner, Mrs. Dorothy Gurney of Whitemoor Haye, Fradley, near Lichfield in Staffordshire. 'So he en-

joys the freedom of the house—and to me, this is more important than his show successes. Do you know, he has never had a day's illness in all his five years. This is due to Tibs, I'm sure. All the vitamins and minerals in Tibs keep him healthy and in splendid condition.'

Mrs. Gurney gives Tibs to her queens and kittens, too. Their splendid condition—and Mrs. Gurney's show successes—prove that here is yet another breeder wise in the ways of Tibs for her cats.

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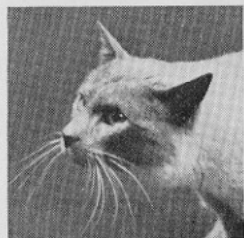
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CAROLINE'S CAT

IT will be readily imagined that the press conferences of President John F. Kennedy conducted by his press secretary, Mr. Pierre Salinger, cover a wide range of subjects. Quite recently Mr. Salinger remarked that he would not have to publish his memoirs to be famous. All he would have to do, he said, would be to publish the transcripts of his daily morning and afternoon press conferences.

One of the February conferences was of particular interest to cat lovers. It made headlines throughout the States and amongst other things it dealt with were Mrs. Kennedy's sister, the new Senate swimming pool, the purchase by American forces in England of 12,000 dozen English golf balls, the purchase by American forces in Germany of a million bottles of German beer—and CATS.

According to Robert J. Donovan of the *New York Herald Tribune*, this is how the subject of Caroline's—the President's daughter—cat came under notice:

Mr. Salinger: I can't tell you the colour scheme of the nursery. All I can tell you is that the cat arrived to-day.

Questioner: What's the cat's name ?

Mr. Salinger: If you want a tit-bit I will give you one. The cat's name is Tom Kitten.

Questioner: Whose cat is this ?

Mr. Salinger: Caroline's cat.

Questioner: Which door did he come in ?

Mr. Salinger: The back door.

Questioner: Pierre, are you kidding? Has she got a cat ?

Mr. Salinger: I am not kidding.

Questioner: What time did he arrive.

Mr. Salinger: The cat arrived at 5 o'clock.

Questioner: How is the cat doing? How is he resting ?

Mr. Salinger: The cat is resting well.

Questioner: Did he have a good night ?

Mr. Salinger: He slept in the play room, which was chosen because it has a linoleum floor. His cold is much improved.

Questioner: Where will it be housed? How about a picture of it ?

Mr. Salinger (now a trifle exasperated): If you will just clear out of my office for 100 minutes and let me think, I'll see what I can do about the cat.

At a later conference Mr. Salinger said that if the statement in *The Washington Post* that the cat had an umbilical hernia was true they must have ferreted out the facts from some source he hadn't got.

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CLASSIFIED — MISCELLANEOUS

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FRED W. PEARCE—Australia's leading judge—sends

News from "Down Under"

HELLO, folks! Here we are again and hoping that all goes well in the various parts of the cat world. We have been getting a great variety of weather and are again surrounded by floods, which are severe on the South Coast.

South Australia. The *Newsletter* for March is to hand from the Old Faithfuls Tom and Jerry. The balance sheet for the year to be presented to the annual general meeting shows a very healthy state of affairs after a year of progress and a lovely cheque to the mentally retarded children. It must give great satisfaction to a band of good workers from the President down. It brings back memories of their first show in 1957 in Stow Hall. The queue of eager visitors extended for almost a block and it took an hour to gain entrance. That effort yielded £200 for the chosen charity. I guess the executive will change somewhat, although I am informed that Secretary Don Gebhardt has decided on a rest from his job for a year to study accountancy. The next Ch. show is June 24th. A cat section at the Adelaide Royal seems to be a very popular idea and has caused quite a bit of excitement. The Club is to compile and embody in the *May Newsletter* a list of studs available in S.A. A very good idea.

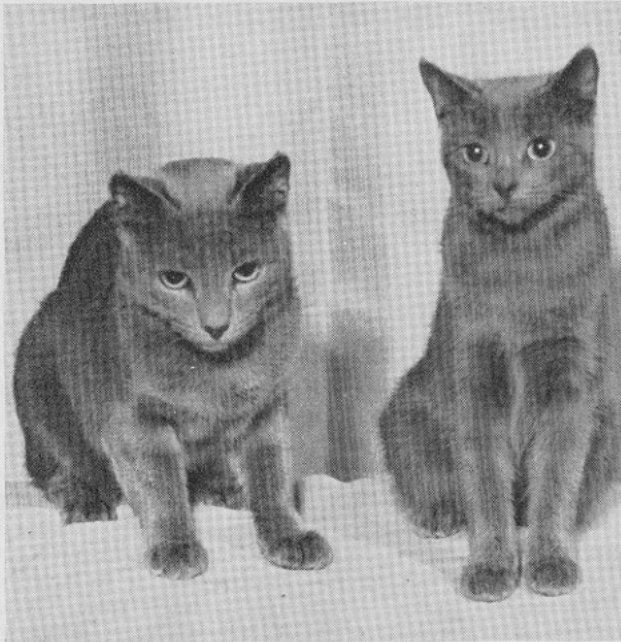
Queensland. There is a show by the Q.C.F.A. this coming week-end and a Southern judge is to operate, I understand, but have not been lucky enough to receive a schedule so far. I hope I shall be able to tell you all about it next month. Brisbane Club is staging a show on June 10th, again with a Southern judge, in the lovely banquet hall in the Canberra Hotel. I have stayed there a few times and have always regarded it as

an ideal venue nicely situated. I have heard nothing from my new scribe up there, Mrs. Petersen, although I wrote her as requested some time ago. I received a letter from Miss D. Harrison a few days ago. As Miss H. is not actively connected with club affairs at present her letter did not contain any cat news. It was nice to hear from her particularly as she gave up due to indifferent health.

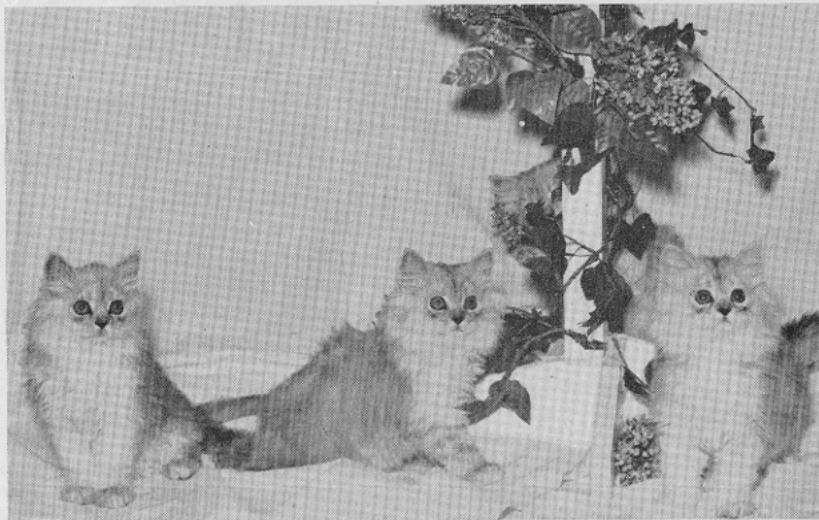
Victoria. Things must be very quiet down there in Melbourne as I have no word re shows, etc., only one letter re Moomba Show in March. This fixture is really a cat section promoted by the Committee of Moomba Festival and has three judging days for cats. Last year it was managed by Mrs. Purnell who also handled the cat section at Melbourne Royal Show in August. This year Mr. Laurie Wilson (Secretary of the Siamese Club) ran the section. I thought we were to see him at our Royal Show but he did not arrive. Mrs. E. Matheson will be up here to judge at the Siamese and S.H. Club Show in Sydney this month (April). The *Newsletter* from Mrs. Scott has not arrived for some time, so news is scarce.

New South Wales. Mrs. Pearce has received a lovely letter from that great scout of the Blue Mountains Miss Burt, who is home again (Springwood) after a long and painful stay in a Sydney hospital due to an accident. Miss Burt says she is doing well but has to use crutches for some time. At the last show I noticed that other good club worker from up there, Mrs. Cross, busily collecting trophies for the Club show in August. Good to "be in early" now there are so many shows coming along.

A page from "Muzzie" Nelson, America's pet-ographer



NIKOLAS and NATASHA OF CHOTA-LI are a fine pair of Russian Blues belonging to Mrs. Edna Field, of Burlington, Ontario, Canada. Their grandparents were Dunloe stock from England. The breed is rare in Canada and Mrs. Field reports that her entries always come in for a lot of attention at the shows.



And here's a quartette of lovely Shaded Silver kittens belonging to Mrs. Jeanette Wheeling, of Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. Yes, there are four of them—if you look again!

I received a very nice letter from Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Lonsdale, who are *en route* for Blighty on the *Himalaya*. Ted said so far no sea sickness. I hope their long trip is studded with lovely days and much happiness. Miss Haswell has told me that her 6 months male Chinchilla from Mrs. Turney, England, arrived on April 1st and she has visited him in quarantine. To use her own expression, she "just loves him. He is of splendid colour and bone and will be of wonderful value to breeders in all states here." A cheerio to Mrs. Turney who sends such great stock overseas.

Loss of old friend

And now, a very sad note. I have to record the passing of a very great old cat friend for many years, Charlie Mason. He was recently retired from his job because of severe illness and we all hoped a good rest would again allow him to be show manager of St. George Club, as usual. He left us on the second day's judging at the Royal where his wife Hazel had an entry, and benched it as his special request. He was always efficient and had the courage to say what he thought as a member of the Consultative Committee. Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Mason.

Miss A. Rapley, who had the misfortune to break her right arm recently is going along well and staged her entries at the recent show, with two eager helpers, I noticed. Cumberland Cat Club held their A.G.M. at Granville and the following officers were elected to look after a very healthy balance sheet for the coming year: President—Mrs. Savage; Vice-Presidents—Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Gillard; Hon. Secretary—Mrs. Paris (unopposed); Treasurer—Mrs. Del Armit; Committee—Mrs. Armit, Mrs. Paris and Mrs. Gillard. Mrs. Donmall (of Mystic fame) did not seek re-election as President and was promptly made Patroness.

Well, the lovely old blue riband fixture, the R.A.S. Cat Club Show, has come and gone once again. We had a lovely day for the first day's judging and another big entry. It increases every year. Strange to say, there were 40 absentees. A great pity these people could not advise the office of their non-appearance as nothing looks worse than empty cages. Three exhibitors were refused benching as they were late. Seven or eight were disqualified for "having a go" at the lady judges Mrs. Whyte and Mrs. Burnage, the latter making her first appearance as a judge at the Royal. Messrs. Wynne and Taylor were stewards and F. W. Pearce looked after office and card duties. Mr. and Mrs. Rod Shead of Brisbane visited the show all day on Easter Monday. Sister Silver exhibited from Victoria but Laurie Wilson and Rev. Stephenson entered but did not bench. Colonel Scott of Victoria entered but did not appear. Mrs. Crowe of Adelaide attended on her way home from a N.Z. holiday. So you see it becomes more and more interstate each year.

Chinchilla is Best

Awards as under: Best Male Cat, F. W. Pearce Trophy and Best Adult Marked Cat—Mrs. Baxter's Chinchilla Honky Tonk Exotic Son; Best Adult Female Cat and Best Siamese Adult (two trophies)—Mrs. Donmall's Pic Point Banyak Ketchil; S.P. Male Siamese—Mrs. Lowry's Willow Solomon; Persian Self Coloured Kitten—Mrs. Hicks' Malvern Blue Mist; Female Persian Adult Self Coloured—Mrs. H. Scognamillo's Blue Spada Donilo Dolci; S.P. Siamese Kitten—Mrs. Savage's Maida Merry Minx; Abyssinian Adult—Mrs. Donmall's Mystic Arabi Farena; Burmese—Mr. Whatley's imp. male Ch. Tomahawk; Chocolate Point Siamese—Mrs. Abbott's female Sue Lan Soo Coa Coa.

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Obituary

10th May. Beloved Noel (Karulino Patrick) for over fifteen years a blessing and a joy. Until we meet again.



"Save some for me!" says Sabu



"Ah, that's better!"

MRS. KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS of Bramall, Hailsham, Sussex, owner-breeder of the world-famous Doneraile Siamese, International Judge and author of "The Breeding and Management of the Siamese Cat", writes:—

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