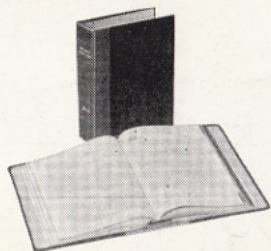


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**Our Cats**

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
COMPREHENSIVE



"HERE I AM, MR. PHOTOGRAPHER!"

Little Sandy may not have a posh pedigree but a more appealing subject would be hard to find. Photographer on the spot was Peter Callender.

DECEMBER 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.

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# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

(1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management

(2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats;

(3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats;

(4) to act as a link of friendship and common interest between cat lovers in different parts of the world.

VOL. 13 No. 12  
DECEMBER 1961

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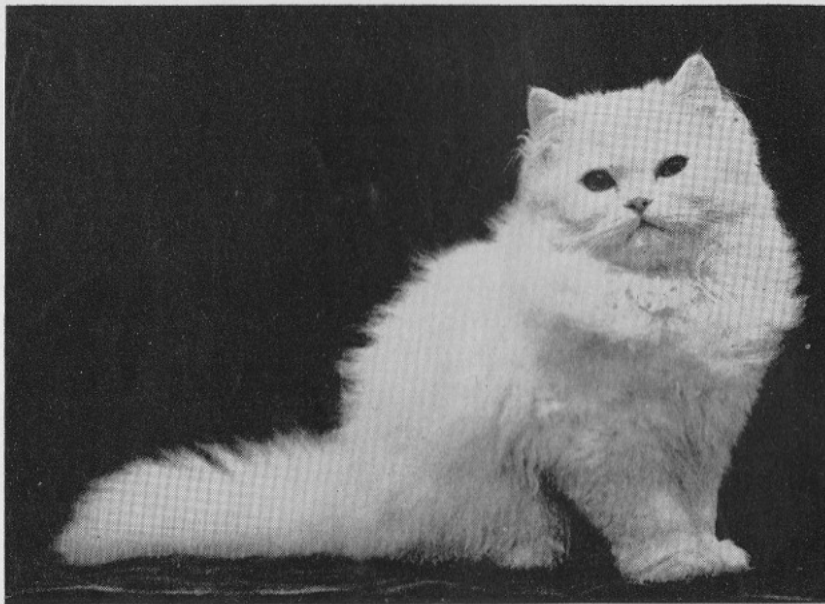
THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Derek Davis

### MEET SOME LITERARY FOLK

"Hurry up, Dusty, I only want to look at the pictures". PUSSINBOOTS STARDUST is trying to improve her general knowledge about cats, but BLUE HORIZON is far more interested in seeing if there are any pictures of Blue Burmese. Both cats are owned by Mrs. R. M. Pocock, the well known Kentish breeder of Siamese and Burmese.



FIRST TIME WINNER

Congratulations are due to Mrs. Jean A. Hogan, of Witton, Blackburn, Lancashire. It doesn't happen very often that a first kitten to be exhibited under a new prefix goes Best Longhair Kitten in Show. But this honour was achieved at the November show of the Croydon Club by her home-bred Golden-eyed White Longhair kitten SNOWWHITE GISELLE, who also won seven 1st prizes. Mrs. Hogan, who has only been a member of the Fancy for little more than eighteen months, expresses her great pleasure at such an unexpected success and her gratitude to those who have helped and advised her.

## Let's go to a show

We urge our readers to attend as many cat shows as possible. There is no better place at which to meet old friends, to make new ones and to pick up useful points about cats, their breeding and general management, from experienced fanciers and exhibitors. Brief details of the remaining show fixtures for the 1961-62 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers.

1962	Promoted by	Venue
25 January ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club ...	London
11 February ...	Surrey and Sussex Cat Assn. ...	Worthing, Sussex
17 " ...	*Lancashire and N.W. Counties C.C. ...	Southport
28 " ...	West of England and S. Wales C.C. ...	Bristol
3 March ...	Preston Cat Club ...	Preston

\* Denotes shows with Championship status. A detailed list of these fixtures may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., "Mosgiel," 4 Elim Court Gardens, Crowborough, Sussex.

## Cats in Cyprus

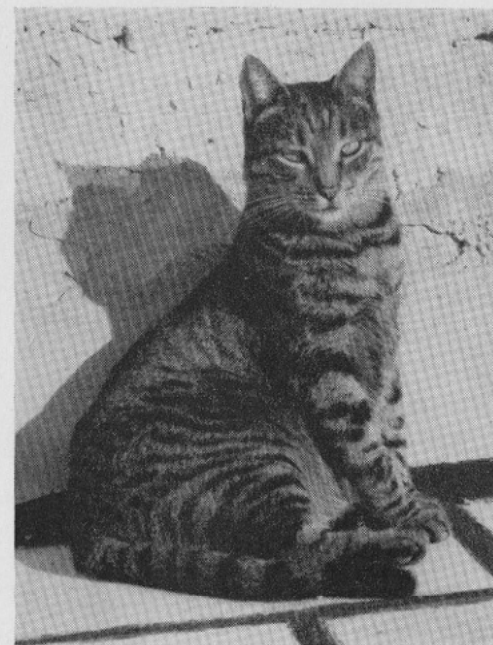
By A. N. DRUCE

IT is an historical fact that St. Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, being so distressed at the numerous snakes she found when first she landed in Cyprus, introduced on her return from Jerusalem a number of cats from that place in order to reduce the snakes to tolerable proportions.

To this day the most southerly point of the island is called Cape Gata the cape of the cats—from the numerous ones kept at a nearby monastery—now completely disappeared—where, a mediaeval traveller reports, they spent their days hunting snakes in the surrounding country, returning to be fed in the evening "at the ringing of a bell".

To-day, Cyprus cats are more like the Egyptian cats, and since in Ptolomaic times Cyprus was under Egyptian tutelage it is probable that many came to the island from there. As you can see from our illustration of Fatsy T, the Cyprus tabby to-day is quite distinct from the English in face and markings. But even introduced cats still enjoy snake hunting. One of our Siamese brought back a two foot grass snake as a delicacy or diversion for her kittens, carrying it writhing in her mouth. Snakes, however, are no longer very common in the island, so the original importations probably did their work very efficiently.

The Ankara cat with its one wall-eye and one golden eye is not at all common here, nor is the Persian type; the majority are tabby or one of its variations, and short-haired. But that there are long-haired indigenous cats can be seen from our illustration of the "dining members"



Fatsy T, a typical Cyprus tabby

outside our cattery. These animals have either arrived on their own or been abandoned by their owners and remained to share a common table provided by their more fortunate relatives, the paying-guests of The Aghirda Animal Care Centre!

Generally speaking the cats of Cyprus appear well cared for or are able to pick up a fair enough living for themselves. The weaker strains are decimated by two most lethal forms of cat influenza which is very prevalent here. Road accidents also take their toll especially at night when, contrary to generally held opinion, they seem to cross roads regardless of traffic, relying on their own speed rather than their wits to evade vehicles.

The pye-dogs of the place go in some awe of cats. I have seen one of our Siamese when she had her kittens nearby, leap from a balcony onto the back of a wandering cur and ride it, howling, off the premises, while she like some fiendish jockey, dug in her claws and teeth. Also,





Some of the dining members at Mr. and Mrs. Druce's Animal Care Centre in Cyprus. Another snapshot appears on the following page.

my wife watched a most intelligent piece of co-operation between our oldest Siamese queen and our elder son's Cyprus tabby. They spied a village cur in the garden. They looked at each other and some intelligence patently passed between them, for almost immediately they set off each in opposite directions, turning at the same moment towards the invader to press home an attack from front and rear that sent their victim whimpering through the hedge.

The curved Roman tiles of so many of the local roofs make ideal nesting-places for sparrows or bolt holes for lizards, and we have often watched another of our Siamese systematically pulling up the tiles with her paw in search of what she could pounce on beneath. Indeed every autumn before the rains we have to go over the roofs to replace the tiles deranged by this intelligent hunter.

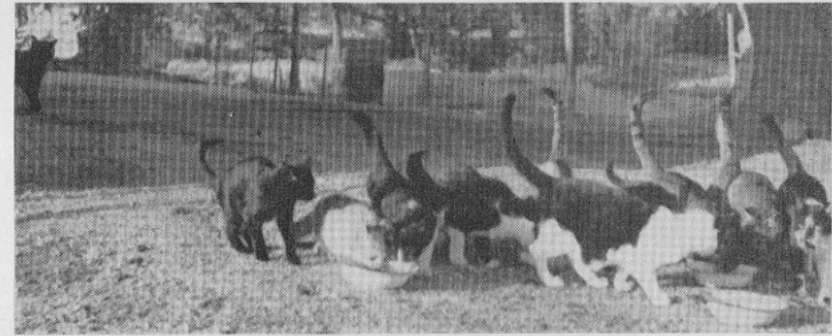
Even in the heat of summer the local cats appear able to travel long distances. Some years ago we had a little cat up here as a temporary refugee while an "enemy" who had maltreated her, was removed from employment at her usual home. After some ten days here, completely free, she disappeared after supper one evening. Her absence was not noticed till the next

day, but enquiries on the following morning proved that she had returned to her home some ten miles distant and was none the worse. Day temperatures at the time were well into the nineties or over a hundred degrees and only one village *en route* could have supplied a drink, since of course no rivers, ponds or other uncovered water exist here in the summer.

Our matriarch Siamese, who was never far from us, once vanished for three agonizing days. We never knew if she went voluntarily or if she was kidnapped and escaped. She returned neither very hungry nor unduly thirsty.

### A homecoming gift

Another mother cat, who came to us first as a frightened kitten taking refuge under the shade of our motor car near the market place, belongs to our elder son. For a time he used to go three times a year to England to school. At every return she used to have a litter of kittens as a present ready for him in his rooms. She usually guessed right to within a few days either way. Except for the mutual respect and co-operation with the Siamese queen mentioned above, she and the other Siamese treat each other with distant politeness. Her numerous mates



have been always of her own kind, it seems. This is quite unlike the other Siamese ladies who have cheerfully encouraged the advances of the local toms behind our backs or beyond our reach.

We have a brother and a sister now of one such mating who preserve all the endearing traits of their aristocratic and

intelligent mother and the beautiful Siamese lines of their famous grandfather, Champion Hillcross Song. Fortunately nothing of the vulgarity of their cocksure and so fatally seductive father lingers. From him they inherit only their superb black coats, their green eyes and superlative health.



## "Enough to make a cat laugh"

By KAY D. GLANVILLE

THE magistrates and policemen, the solicitors and the two spectators in the public gallery were still and quiet; my pencil flew over the paper—short-hand outlines interspersed with abbreviations—as the witness described the scene of the accident, and the defendant, on crutches, glowered at him.

A hiss, and a poke in the back. I swung round and behind me sat a row of reporters from the office; two were young hopefuls sweating out their first week in journalism. Arthur had brought them down, he whispered with a wink, "to give you a hand, old girl". I groaned

inwardly, and smiled encouragingly at them. Charlie, the sub-editor, leaned over. "I'll do the inquest upstairs". I nodded, and he and Arthur slithered out of the bench seats.

I had lost the thread completely, and muttered sarcastically to a reporter from a rival newspaper "There's no-one left in the office now but the office cat". There was no office cat, of course, but the remark seemed appropriate, and I turned over a page to begin again as the defendant struggled to his feet to give his evidence.

It was the last case on the Court sheet, and afterwards the two youths accompanied me back to the office, firing questions



at me. We clattered up the two flights of stairs and caught up with Arthur, returning from his assignment, and the boys transferred their attention to him. Charlie was already in his seat of honour at the end of the reporters' room, and soon we were both tapping out our reports.

As I took my "copy" to his desk, I looked over it for any errors and then looked over the desk for a place to put it. As usual, it was littered with newspapers, photographs, cuttings and scraps of paper. I lifted some of the jumble, and lo! and behold?—we did have an office cat. A black kitten lay there, sleeping peacefully. I stroked it, unbelieving. It purred, licked my hand, and went to sleep again. I looked at Charlie, who is all a newspaperman of experience should be; unsentimental and solemn, with an expressionless face. He glanced up from the keys. "No friend of mine, I assure you," and resumed typing. I breathed again.

The door crashed open. Mr. Dawson, dispenser of salaries and solver of income tax problems, eyes aflame, stocky frame atremble, demanded, "Have those unprintable printers brought a cat in here?" Silently, I lifted the jumble again, to expose the blissful intruder.

He marched triumphantly forward, and swooped. "Aha!"

In through the doorway came the editor; he hesitated, then as our man who knows about money angrily picked up the kitten preparatory to disposal, he said, "How very nice. You've brought us an office cat".

"I certainly did nothing of the kind and this kitten . . ." He broke off glanced down and saw pussy curled up comfortably against his protruding waistcoat. He pulled the offender off, complete with threads from his suit in strong little claws. "This . . . this . . . animal must go", he roared.

### "If you were a cat . . ."

The editor became icy. "Oh, must it?" He stepped forward, suddenly an animal-lover and supporter of the R.S.P.C.A., and folded his arms grimly. "If you were a cat, Mr. Dawson, you would want a home, I'm sure". Charlie stopped typing. He was, I presumed, listening intently.

A delighted group of printers and reporters back from their districts were grouped in the doorway now. The editor grasped the kitten firmly and dragged

another bit of best quality worsted away with it. Mr. Dawson's arms flayed the air impotently. "Very well, then. Very well. But I refuse to take any responsibility whatever for the consequences". "This cat", thundered the editor after his departing back, "will henceforth live in my office, and woe betide anyone who removes it therefrom". He stood, a majestic figure, for exactly the effective moment; the huddle round the door fell back, and editor and his familiar disappeared into the nether regions.

In the stunned silence, there was a sudden sound. A nut-grinder accompanied by a saw? As one, we turned to Charlie's desk. His stiff shoulders were moving jerkily up and down. It had all been enough to make a cat—and Charlie laugh.

### The sequel

The sequel to my story is now to be found in the files of our newspaper. Under the heading of "Have You Lost Your Luck?" a member of the staff contributed the following item: "A new member joined *The Reporter* staff on

Tuesday—a pleasant half-grown black tom cat. It came in via the printing dept. (where luncheon was being taken), then settled himself on the Sub-Editor's desk and went to sleep among the clatter of typewriters, etc.

"But as even rats and mice find we hard-bitten pressmen (and women) too hard nuts to crack, there was no work for him. And as the environment might have a 'detrimental' effect on his so far young and innocent nine lives, he was taken to Miss Strickland's animal sanctuary.

"There, at the moment, he remains as our guest. If his owner will call to claim him from us we should be happy to know that he is back on the family hearth—the lucky black cat.

"So call in".

According to an American news flash, Judy Garland is, as far as she knows, the first actress to sign to star in a full-length musical animated cartoon movie in which all the characters are cats. She will play "Mewsette" in the film, "Gay Purree."

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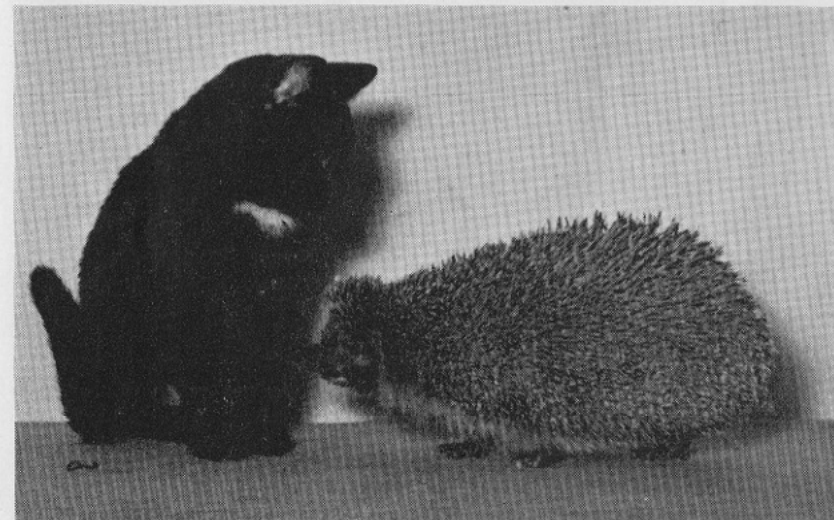
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# ***The influence of home environment on the health of domestic pets \****

By V. M. HAWTHORNE, M.B., Ch.B.  
and I. M. LAUDER, M.R.C.V.S.

**Z**OO NOSES are diseases which can be transmitted from man to animal and from animal to man. In 1952 a report by the World Health Organization placed bovine tuberculosis among the eight most important zoonoses in Europe. About the time of the publication of this report, it was decided to investigate the frequency with which tuberculosis of human or bovine origin occurred in dogs and cats in Glasgow, and, if possible, to discover more about the conditions enabling the infection to be passed either from man to his domestic pet or from the domestic pet to the owner.

A preliminary study showed that among 31 dogs, all of which suffered from the human type of tuberculosis (there were no cases of bovine tuberculosis among either the dogs or cats examined) unsuspected tuberculosis was found in three out of every four past or present owners, or neighbours. This showed the existence of a close link between the presence of infection in the human and his household pet, but to find out if the transmission of infection was "two-way" was a much more difficult matter. In an attempt to establish that this "two-way" traffic existed, a group of apparently healthy dogs and cats living in close contact with owners suffering from active tuberculosis, was examined; and the human tuberculosis bacillus was recovered from 16% of the dogs and 13% of the cats.

It was clear then that animals found to have tuberculosis came from homes where there were human sufferers, many of whom were unaware that they were ill; and a proportion of apparently healthy animals living in homes where there were known human cases of tuberculosis, appeared to be carrying the tuberculosis bacillus without becoming ill. The inference from these studies was that exchange of infection could occur either way.

About this time, a budgerigar owned by a patient who was ill with polio, died; and the polio virus was recovered from the dead bird. This isolated finding raised the question of the extent to which infections of various kinds, not just tuberculosis, were passed between humans and their household pets, and the Feline Advisory Bureau was asked for the co-operation of their members in a study to find out more about the conditions of the average pet in the average home. Naturally, this information would apply more to cats than dogs but would still be valid as a general background to the conditions in which pets could share infection with their owners.

## **Danger points**

A questionnaire was drawn up for circulation among members of the Feline League. This contained a number of questions designed to obtain details of the home background and habits of each cat together with some indication of its health, substantiated, if possible, by a veterinary surgeon. In this way, it was hoped that the "danger points" for the

interchange of infection between owner and pet in the average household would be revealed.

About 750 questionnaires were circulated to members of the Feline Advisory Bureau in all parts of the United Kingdom, and in Western Europe and America. Distribution was so arranged that the member undertaking delivery of the questionnaires in each locality approached cat owners in four different income groups, thus securing a cross section of conditions in homes of differing social status.

Nearly 250 correctly completed questionnaires were returned; and these, in addition to the required statistical material, provided some information of general interest.

Nearly two thirds of the cat owners replying had no children at home; and a half of the married couples owning cats, were childless. This might tend to substantiate the place of the pet as a substitute object for care and affection.

Two thirds of the owners lived in detached or semi-detached houses but only one cat owner in every 10 was a flat dweller.

Over half of the cats were under 5 years of age, and over one quarter between 6 and 10 years. Twelve cats had been with their owners for more than 15 years.

## **Illness and accidents**

Only one cat in every five went through life without either illness or injury, one animal in every two having at least one serious illness in its lifetime, and one in every ten at least two serious illnesses. Only one cat in 1,000 had three serious illnesses. The record of injury through accident was much better. About one cat in every five had one accident, but only one in 500 had two accidents, causing serious injury, in their lifetime.

Contrary to expectation, all owners, irrespective of their income, consulted veterinary surgeons readily; and the majority of illnesses and injuries were

treated professionally, even in the lowest income groups.

Certain general impressions were gained from the statistical information. Although opinion is divided as to the number of bacterial and viral infections capable of inter-transmission between human and animal, a certain number, including tuberculosis, would appear to have this potential. In balance, it would appear that the animals seem to be more commonly infected than infecting, an impression which tended to be corroborated by a high incidence of inflammatory compared with non-inflammatory conditions.

## **Many had flu**

Among the 227 cats, 16% had suffered from "influenza", 9.7% from abscesses, 8.4% from gastroenteritis, and 6.6% from respiratory infections. Tuberculosis had been diagnosed conclusively in only one animal out of the whole group, an incidence of 0.4%. 5% had suffered from allergic conditions such as asthma and eczema and 3.9% from infestations of tape worms and fleas.

Small incidences were recorded throughout a wide range of illness including metabolic disorders, cancer, stones, liver dysfunction, anaemia, cataract, vitamin deficiencies, and nervous and mental disorders.

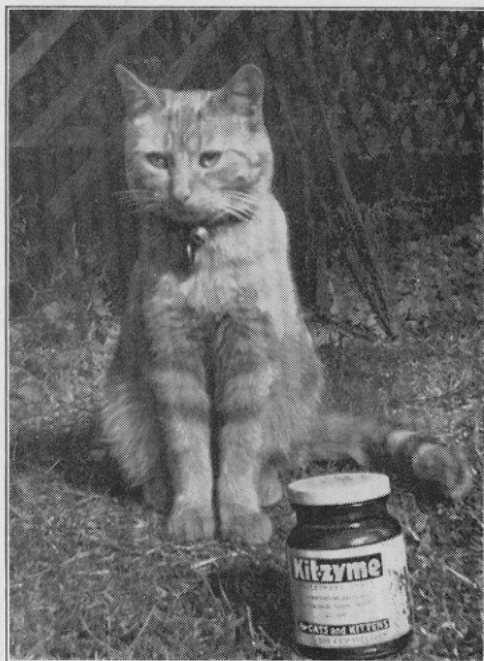
The main impression from this study of morbidity was the preponderance of inflammatory conditions. While it was generally not possible to do more than hazard a guess as to the nature of the causal bacilli or viruses, the illnesses themselves could not occur unless the cat was in contact with infective agents in its environment. It was, therefore, of interest to note certain points of very close contact between owner and pet where interchange of infection could readily occur.

The cats with the highest incidence of disease seemed to be those which were

\* Reprinted from the current issue of the Bulletin of the Feline Advisory Bureau by kind permission of the Editor and the authors.



# Timothy



MRS. J. E. MEAGER of 123 Moor Green Road,  
Cowes, Isle of Wight, writes:—

*“I thought you might be interested to see this snap, taken by my grandson, of my kitten Timothy.*

*“When Timothy was four weeks old I nearly lost him for he had a job to lap and eat. But I started to give him Kit-zyme Tablets and I don't think I would have reared him without them. As you can see he is now a nice kitten and looks forward to his Kit-zyme Tablets every night before going to bed.”*

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allowed to sleep in the same room as their owner, were allowed on the bed, fed with the family and given scraps from the table, and used the family plates. Some of these animals ate from feeding bowls which were washed in the family sink with the household plates. Regarding sanitary arrangements, the healthiest cats were those using waste ground or the garden, but a higher incidence of disease was noted in those using streets or a public park. Where a sanitary tray was used, the contents of the tray of the healthy cats more often consisted of soil or peat moss than of sand or a proprietary product. The least “healthy” material appeared to be wood shavings or sawdust.

There were a higher number of sick cats among those with a history of sputum eating.

The presence of more than one cat, or other pets in the household appeared to be related to an increased prevalence of the inflammatory illnesses.

The environment outside the cat's home came under consideration, and it seemed clear that cats holidaying in kennels appeared to have a higher incidence of inflammatory disease than those going on holiday with their owners, although both of these groups had a higher incidence of sickness than those cats left at home or with friends.

Finally, the healthiest cats were those obtained from a known source (either a friend or reputable kennels) rather than from unknown kennels, or as strays.

In summary, the Survey has indicated that the commonest cause of morbidity in the cats under investigation was infection, either of bacillary or viral origin;

and that there was ample opportunity for the interchange of infection between owner and pet in the average household.

A human source of some infections was suggested by the high rate of inflammatory illness among cats in homes with poor hygienic arrangements. Ideal conditions would appear to be those in which the cat is not allowed in the bedroom or on the bed; and is not permitted scraps from the table or fed from the household plates. Where the cat has its own feeding bowl, this should not be washed with the family plates.

### Outdoors for health

The healthiest cats were those which had access to a garden or waste ground rather than to streets or parks. The best material for use in a sanitary tray seemed to be earth or peat moss.

A higher morbidity rate in cats in homes where there were other cats, or domestic pets, and in cats acquired from, or boarded out at kennels, would indicate a need for stricter hygienic arrangements in homes where there were more than one animal, and in certain kennels. It might even be possible that in the absence of reputable kennels, additions to the household pets should be obtained from well-known sources, and that pets should be left with friends or accompany their owners on holiday.

The indebtedness of the authors is acknowledged to the Feline Advisory Bureau, and all concerned with the distribution, completion and return of the questionnaires.

If you know any cat lovers who are likely to be interested in a sample copy of **OUR CATS**, we should be glad to have their names and addresses. Just jot the details on a postcard, address to 4 Carlton Mansions, 378 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9, and we will do the rest.



## Looking at the breeds

### No. 7 - BLUE-CREAM LONGHAIRS

By HUGH SMITH

**T**HERE are four recipes for producing a Blue-Cream. The first—and the original one—is to take a Blue female and a Cream male and mate them. This should yield Blue male progeny and Blue-Cream females. A Cream female and Blue male should yield Cream males and Blue-Cream females. If the resulting Blue-Cream female is good there are two ways of producing more. She can be mated to a Blue male. The weeks of anticipation should then be rewarded by a surprise packet, the contents of which are, however, approximately predictable. With luck, there should be in the litter

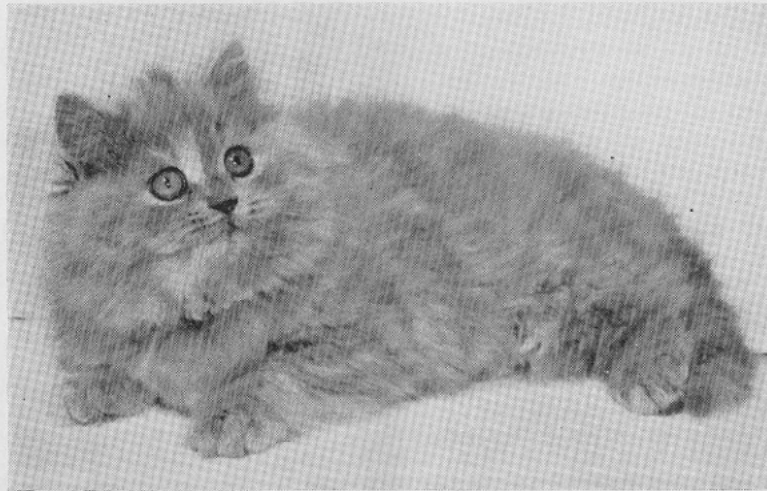
Blue-Cream females, Blue males, Blue females and Cream males.

If a Cream male is chosen for the mating the result will be slightly different: Blue-Cream females, Blue males, Cream females and Cream males.

What about the Blue-Cream males? Where do they come in? Well, it seems they don't exist. If they are born they are said invariably to die early. So they do not enter into the breeding picture.

Blue-Creams can also occasionally arise if a Tortoiseshell is mated with a Blue or even a Black Longhair. That is the fourth of the recipes for Blue-Creams.

In the good Blue-Cream the blue and cream hairs are completely intermingled. This gives a kind of shot-silk effect which is very beautiful. Sad to say,—it is also



Hugh Smith

**ASHDOWN HEATHER, a nice young Blue-Cream bred and owned by Mrs. F. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent.**

very rare. There have been outstanding specimens of the breed but the great majority are said to be not worth showing. This is very disappointing for the would-be novice breeder and is probably the reason why there are so few good queens available for making a start. Yet, of the Longhairs this must be one of the most fascinating and rewarding breeds to work upon.

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy gives the following description of the Blue-Cream in its Standard of Points:—

*Colour and Markings*—To consist of blue and cream, softly intermingled; pastel shades.

*Coat*—To be dense and very soft and silky.

*Head and Type*—Head broad and round, tiny ears, well-placed and well tufted, short broad nose, colour intermingled on face.

*Eyes*—Deep copper or orange.

*Body*—Short, cobby and massive, short thick legs.

SCALE OF POINTS			
Colour ... ..	...	...	30
Coat ... ..	...	...	20
Head and Type ...	...	...	20
Eyes ... ..	...	...	15
Body ... ..	...	...	15
Total ... ..			100

#### Elusive coat quality

Blue-Creams are frequently of excellent type but the quality of coat is exceedingly hard to attain in a queen and even when it has been attained it is difficult to maintain in the progeny. The chief difficulty is the tendency for the colour to appear as patches instead of being thoroughly intermingled.

In the U.S.A. this intermingling is not required. Indeed, the American Blue-Cream is patched like a Tortoiseshell, as were the early British Blue-Creams. Such colouring is now inadmissible on this side of the Atlantic.

The Blue-Cream female is extremely useful in the breeding of Creams. The male Blue progeny of the Blue-Cream female is rarely of outstanding quality. One Championship for such a Blue is recorded—notably that of Ch. Bayhorner Ajax in 1956.

Breeders and owners of Blue-Creams are served by the Red, Cream, Tortoiseshell, Blue-Cream and Brown Tabby Society, whose Hon. Secretary is Mrs. J. M. Newton, Moulford Grange, Nr. Wallingford, Berks., and the newly-formed Longhair Cream and Blue-Cream Association—Hon. Secretary: Mr. N. Boulton, 51 Rochester Avenue, Bromley, Kent.

—★—

### ON BURMESE ORIGIN

**T**HE September issue of the *Burmese Newsletter* which has recently come to hand from America carries a short feature which is calculated to enliven discussion among devotees of the popular brown cat whenever the subject of its origin is aired.

Hope M. Simons asks: Did the Burmese cat really come from Burma and, if so, where would we find it to-day? How would they compare with the cats being bred in America to-day?

She continues: "I think that all new Burmese owners and admirers ask these questions, and I did too. I soon discovered, though, that while many cat books have been written, so far no-one has written a book devoted entirely to the Burmese. Many books mention the breed, but after reading a number of different sources, I came to the conclusion that many of the authors, while authorities on various other breeds, seem to know very little about the origin of our lovely brown cats.

"As an example, one author stated that this was definitely a 'manufactured breed', while another referred to them as sacred cats which had been worshipped in the temples of their native land for centuries. This was confusing to say the least!



"One afternoon, though, while talking with some neighbours, Captain and Mrs. Vincent Casey, I stumbled on some information that might be of interest to other Burmese fanciers. Upon mentioning to the Caseys that we were expecting to receive two Burmese kittens from the West very shortly, I was amazed to hear Captain Casey say, 'Oh, yes, we owned an offspring of the first Burmese cat brought to this country, and I have seen them in the jungles of Burma and the Malay Peninsula.' He went on to say that there are two cats which are well known in Burma. The first, the Sacred Cat, looks very much like a white toed Seal Point Siamese with somewhat

longer hair than the ones we know. It has been kept in the temples for many years where it serves as a watch dog and is very unfriendly to anyone except the priests who take care of it and feed it.

"The second cat has a short brown coat and golden eyes; lives in the jungles and is wild until caught and tamed. Captain Casey said that while he had seen many of the brown cats sitting in the trees in the jungle, he could recall having seen only one in captivity. He also added that these wild brown Burmese cats are quite a bit larger than the ones bred here—weighing eighteen to twenty pounds—and that their eyes are a very deep brilliant yellow".

## News from a migrant

### "It's like old times" for Mrs. Anne Vize

**H**ULLO, everybody! After six years in Australia, I am once more back in my native land—and it feels good.

I was delighted to meet so many of my old associates at the Southsea Cat Club Show on October 11th. I certainly appreciated their welcome and, in company with Mrs. Hazel Cains, also from Australia, thoroughly enjoyed the visit to the south-west. Mrs. A. Cook-Radmore (Show Manager) is to be complimented on her splendid effort. We are looking forward to all the forthcoming shows and to meeting other old and new acquaintances.

### Belgian show

On October 21st I had the pleasure of judging Blue Persians at Les Amis de Chat Show in Antwerp. The standard was extremely high and the Best in Show award went to Mme Visele's Gorgion Pecho, a gem of a Blue Kitten. Best Blue Female Kitten was Mme Dekesel's Coquette de Brass Chaat. Other outstanding winners were Mme Esteve's

Camber Frivoleen (Best Blue Female), Mme Beuel's Jones du Grand Monarque and Mme Lochet's Int. Ch. Golric de Padirac (awarded Champion of Champions).

Mrs. Mackenzie, guest judge from London, judged Blacks, Blue-Creams and Creams. In Blacks Mme Hayes won with Iago de la Tortelle, who excelled in type. Blue-Creams were led by the Best in Show exhibit—Mlle Selle's Javatte de Borsclary. Another beautiful Blue-Cream was Mme le Maro's Ch. Hermione de Jacopierre. Mme Dekesel's Sunnyvale Cherub was 1st in Cream females and Mme Hayer's Icecream Puff in males.

Mme Ollrecht's showed some lovely Reds and Tortoiseshells. In Champion of Champions (female) Mme Esteve won with a typey White Int. Ch. Helena du Vieux Donjon. I was thrilled to find so many of the exhibits were descendants of my beloved Bigga (Ch. Astra of Pensford) ex Trenton Verity.

I had the pleasure of seeing Verity at the Blue Persian Show, still looking beautiful at 12 years. One of her grandsons Ch. Myowne Cream Bunne (bred by

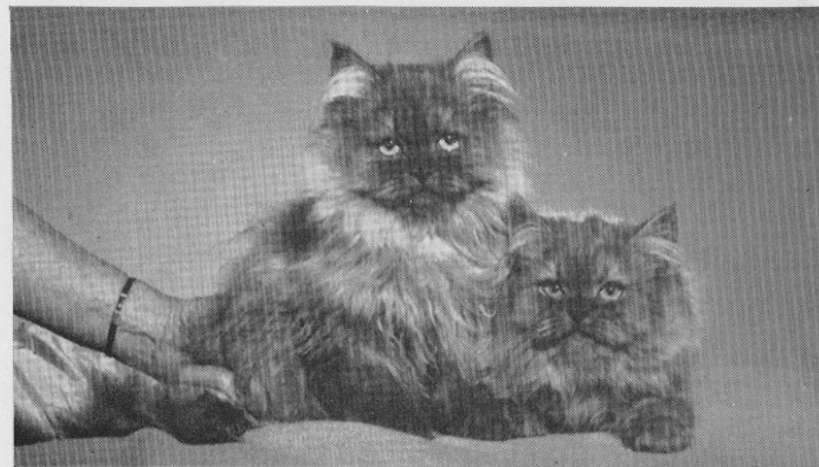
Mrs. Nash) travelled out with me as a kitten when I left England in 1955. He has fulfilled his promise as a kitten and grown into a lovely male. He has two Blue sons Myowne Paladin (owned by Mrs. Watkins, of Sydney), Myowne Adonis (owned by Mrs. Cains) and a very nice Blue-Cream Myowne Nessa (owned by Mrs. L. Picken, of Melbourne). Another kitten I took out with me to Australia was Ch. Broughton Miranda, bred by Mrs. Hughes, who has produced some outstanding stock when mated to Bigga. One well known in Brisbane is Ch. Myowne Sweet Lavender and she, when mated back to her father, produced one of the finest males I have seen for a long time, Ch. Spada Ambassador Duke, owned by Mr. C. Woodrow, and two beautiful females Ch. Spada Alice Blue Gown (owned by Mrs. Shead, Brisbane) and Ch. Spada Antoinette (owned by Mrs. Price-Hawkins, of Sydney). Miranda

went to Ambassador Duke for her last mating and produced something really out of this world, only one, but a "beaut" as we say in Australia—Ch. Myowne Petitastra, a female Gallant Homme. She and Ch. Ashdown Larkspur are living with Mr. Woodrow in Brisbane while I am away and I am anxiously awaiting news of a family. My dear old Siamese Hillcross Rondo is spending a vacation with a friend.

I cannot terminate without mentioning my good and faithful hound Karla, a German shepherd dog. She is the cats' friend, guardian and nurse. She is with my daughter Olive in Queensland.

We are not allowed animals in the house we have rented for our stay in England and believe me I miss them terribly. However, I shall look forward to the reunion at the end of next year.

ANNE VIZE.



Staff Photo by Al Blunk, The Louisville Times

**LE DUC D'ARTAGNAN and LE DUC MELODIE, a nicely posed pair of young Smoke Longhairs bred by Mrs. Mae Peck, of Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A. The sire is Silver Dawn's Julien of Le Duc out of Silver Dawn's Danny Boy owned by Mrs. Max Eckenburg, Seattle owner of two imports. The dam's sire was Prestwood Onyx of Jay-Kay, an imported cat owned by Mrs. Dorothy B. Anderson, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mrs. Peck is a member of the newly formed Bluegrass All Breed Cat Club.**

We  
start  
the day  
with  
Tibs

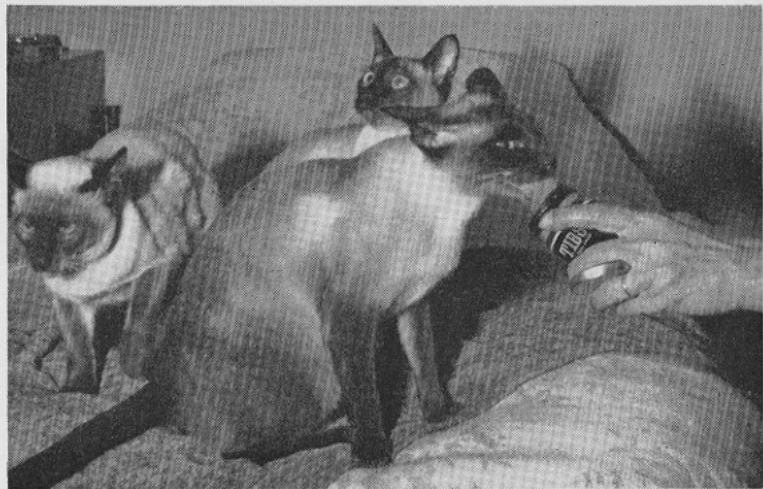
The three male studs of champion Siamese breeder Mr. B. F. Burlton are as clever as they're handsome—it's Tibs first thing in the morning for them.

As Mr. Burlton of Great Staughton, Hunts, puts down their food they nuzzle in his pockets for their Tibs. They insist on Tibs first and breakfast second.

It certainly makes grand cats of them as anyone can see from this picture of Whiteacres Nicholas with two queens, Sprinter Sal and Ona Perky. Mr. Burlton says "My old stud, Ona Vendredo, is nine years old now and still siring litters of 6 and 7 kittens. Tibs keep him fit, young and full of life."

The queens know what's good for them too. Mr. Burlton has only to rattle the Tibs cattery pack and in they come. Kittens at Great Staughton are given Tibs at 8 weeks, so there it's the Tibs way for everyone.

"We find Tibs are wonderful for all our cats," say Mr. and Mrs. Burlton—and a fine record of show successes proves it.



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## ***Trials of the novice***

By P. M. SODERBERG

Author of "Cat Breeding and General Management" and other widely-read books.  
Former Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club.

*(Reprinted from our March 1954 issue)*

**F**ROM time to time I receive letters from novices in which they bemoan the fact that they have all possible trials and troubles with their cats and yet are not in a position to deal with them.

The thing that strikes me most in the majority of such letters is that the troubles which are enumerated at great length are, in fact, of no serious consequence at all.

It rather seems that beginners believe that once they have bought a good kitten—and presumably paid a good price—from then on the art or science, or perhaps both, of cat breeding, should be a matter of plain sailing.

The keeping and breeding of all animals is a case of ups and downs, and it does not matter how experienced the breeder is, sooner or later troubles will arrive, and often at times when they are least expected.

The difference between the novice and the old hand is that apart from a difference in knowledge there is also a wide divergence in valuational perspective. That may sound somewhat highbrow, but it isn't really. It just means that a minor ailment in a pet cat is regarded as of little consequence by the expert, but the same thing is a major tragedy to the inexperienced.

This can be illustrated by a definite case. Quite recently I received a letter in which the writer stated that a three-months kitten had suddenly developed diarrhoea. The kitten survived all right, but the drastic treatment meted out to it might well have killed a kitten of less strong constitution. The stupid part of the whole business was that there was no proof that this particular kitten had ever suffered from diarrhoea at all. One

loose motion may presage worse things to come, but it does not necessarily mean that the kitten is a victim of diarrhoea.

I should like to stress the point that one symptom rarely makes it possible to diagnose any specific disease except in one case out of a hundred. And it is just in this respect that the novice goes astray. From lack of experience he jumps to conclusions, but finds it hard to believe that they are not always the right conclusions.

### **"Too many cooks"**

So now let me give what I consider a piece of sound advice for all novices. Have a medicine chest if you like, but let it contain the simplest of remedies and those for complaints which could not be regarded as serious. If your cat is really unwell, call in the vet and let him do the real doctoring.

Another pitfall for the beginner is a too wide search for help from too many people. If you want advice from someone who ought to know the answers, by all means ask for it, but don't ask a number of people and then try to equate the answers you receive, for you may find that the result is just nil, so contrary are the instructions you receive. That does not mean that the people who are trying to help do not know what they are talking about.

What actually happens is that they explain carefully what they have found to be helpful with their own stock. It is by no means easy to give any novice advice either by letter or telephone for, as in the case of human kind, the doctor does expect to see his patient before he can diagnose and prescribe a cure.

A most important thing for the novice is to develop a "stock sense" and that is



by no means easy to acquire. Generally speaking it is an inborn intuition. That does not mean that the observant and keen animal breeder cannot by experience develop a quality which is similar if not actually the same.

One of the most remarkable breeders I ever knew was a bird fancier who could sense that something was wrong with a particular bird before there were any outward signs of trouble to the less experienced eye. The result was that he could often prevent disease or at least minimize its effect before the bird was really ill. The result of this was that the mortality rate of his pets was extremely low.

With cats one can also develop this sort of extra sense which causes one to realize that all is not well with a particular animal although there is nothing definite on which to place a finger and then to say, "This is what is wrong."

#### Cat periodicals

Only last week I received a letter from a novice deploring the fact that there is so little written material to help the beginner and asking that more should be provided. Up to a point I do agree that more could be written to help the novice, but I would also add a question, "Where?" My knowledge of the financial side of the running of periodicals dealing with animals is very limited, but I strongly suspect that those who do publish such literature do not grow fat on the profits. Editors and publishers would be only too happy to increase the size of their magazines provided that they could increase their circulation and thus cover the additional costs. But, by and large, animal fanciers are not great buyers of periodical literature dealing with any particular animal.

Another point to remember is that many of the most expert cat breeders do not wish to become journalists. They are always ready to help with their advice, but the dreary task of sitting down to write an article on a particular subject so

appals them that they never make a start. The more's the pity, for many of them have long years of experience behind them which, if put into the written word, would be both informative and interesting.

There are a few good old hacks about who can turn out an article month by month. Perhaps you know one of these. If you do, I suspect I do, too, and I can assure you that he never feels that he has written the last word on any subject.

#### Know your pets

To conclude, I think that a piece of advice I ought to give to any novice cat breeder, or merely cat owner for that matter, is that he should learn to know his own pets. They are individuals with particular characteristics, and if you learn these you will be in a position to know better when things are not quite right. If the time comes when you can see these slight alterations in normal behaviour, you are on the alert for anything that may go wrong. But should your suspicions prove correct, do be reasonable and don't rush full pelt into drastic remedies whose effects you may not know.

If you have a queen and you know when she is about to come into season before the stray tom down the road knows, you are at last developing "stock sense." By then you are no longer a novice.

#### DUBLIN SHOW

*(concluded from next page)*

Susah and Tzu-Nau both showed promise.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit, and congratulate the Club's Officers and Committee on their combined effort. Mrs. E. T. Smyth, the Show Manager took everything in her stride, with unruffled calm. Mrs. W. Macdougald and Mrs. J. Coyne who founded the Club and ran the first Show, must feel very proud.

KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS.

## Dublin Show

**The Siamese Cat Club of Ireland held their Annual Show at the Molesworth Hall, Dublin on November 1st, 1961. Each year more interest is shown, the gate this year was, I understand the largest yet.**

The hall is light, with plenty of room for exhibitors to watch the judging. There is a raised stage, and on this the prizes were displayed; and very attractive and impressive they were. The rosettes made by a member of the committee, were beautiful and made a lovely splash of colour.

Once again, the standard of exhibits showed improvement. More care had obviously been taken in selection for breeding and exhibitors are keener.

The Show was opened by Mrs. Grant Stockdale, wife of America's Ambassador

to Eire. From the warmth of her speech, it was clear Mrs. Stockdale has always been a cat lover. She wished the Show and the Club every success and before leaving purchased a male kitten.

— Exhibits were from both sides of the border. Best Exhibit from the North was Mrs. P. Mahoney's Pamandes Chindi, a Lilac Point female, and Best Exhibit from the South, Mrs. E. Friederich's Malacca Batu Biru, a S.P. female. I see this queen was 1st in the kitten class last year, so has fulfilled her promise. Of the kittens Mrs. W. Macdougald's S.P. male Glenville Solo and Mrs. E. Friederich's S.P. female Malacca Petunia were winners. Mrs. B. Walker-Taylor's two B.P. kittens

*(continued on previous page)*



*Irish Times*

**Mrs. Grant Stockdale, wife of the American Ambassador to Eire, who presented the prizes at the Dublin Show reported above.**



## kittens cats and 'ENTEROVAX'

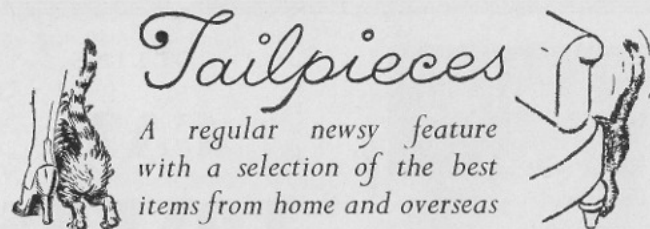
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APH 761



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

**I**N answer to an enquirer: The legal view in the case of an owner who has been sued because his cat has killed a neighbour's chickens or budgerigar is likely to be that cat owners are not responsible for damage done by their pets while following their natural instincts. All will agree that it would put an impossible burden on them (the owners) if they were. Dog owners are not quite in such a favoured position where damage to cattle and sheep is concerned, even though they might reasonably be entitled to plead "the urge of nature" on behalf of their pets.

Mrs. Elizabeth Heakin, of Halfway House, near Shrewsbury, kept sixteen cats, but apparently not in the best of conditions. The local magistrates decided that they must all be put down as they were suffering unnecessarily and four of them had an infection which was likely to spread to others.

A Siamese cat was discovered trapped in a warehouse. Owner Mrs. Phyllis Butler fed pilchards through the letter-box until a rescuer arrived with the key of the door.

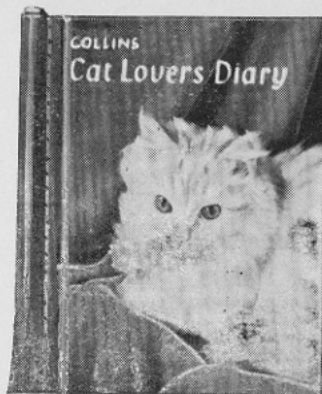
"I am enclosing 47s. 6d. which has been collected by Simon, my cat, and myself, by putting 6d. in a box every day it rains." So runs a member's letter to *The Cat*, the journal of the Cats' Protection League. Conditions for the League look rosy over the next few months ahead!

In *The Edinburgh Evening News* we read that Mrs. Janet Shearer, whose husband Mr. Ian Shearer, Q.C., is Sheriff-Principal of Renfrew and Argyllshire, is a great cat lover who has three generations of Russian Blues. "But there is no longer a male Russian Blue in Scotland to sire further litters", said the article, "So the Shearers have recently mated their cats with an Abyssinian male. The kittens are no use for showing, of course, as they are cross-bred, but they are delightful—just like bumble bees, with black bars on a yellowish background". Extract from the current issue of the *Abyssinian Cat News Letter*.

The following letter, written by a Middlesex woman to a London newspaper, helps to underline one of the anomalies which face present day publishers of periodicals: "I read a magazine which costs 2s. and which I would like to pass on to a friend who lives in Weston-super-Mare, but the postage is 1s. 6d. However, I can send it to a friend of mine in Ottawa (Canada) for *fourpence*."

Another letter writer has an effective answer to the oft-repeated charge that cats are "garden plagues". "It makes me furious," she says. "We have ten beautiful cats that were once starved strays, and they do no garden damage. Of the hundreds of bulbs we put in, only one had to be replanted. We also have hundreds of feathered friends.



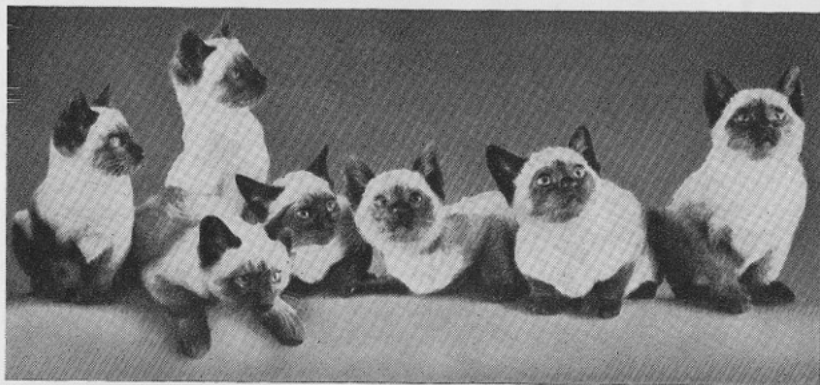


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The cats are called in every morning at 11.30 and watch from the window while the birds are fed."

I was sorry to read of the death at the fine old age of 89 of Mme Adelina de Lara, O.B.E., the eminent pianist who studied under Clara Schumann, wife of the composer. Mme de Lara was a great cat lover. She played for Brahms, Grieg and Dvorak and retained her skill at an advanced age.

How's this for enthusiasm? Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Borrett, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, who are so prominently associated with the Calgary Cat Club and are

the proud owners of English-bred Colourpoints, have recently returned from a trip to California (5,000 miles there and back) all in the cause of cat shows. They took four cats with them and one kitten and returned home with 23 trophies and 44 rosettes, besides numerous "straight" ribbons. They obtained the first Grand Champion award for a Colourpoint (Himalayan) and now own the first two sealpoint Colourpoint Grand Champions, a male and female.

An item in the Christmas edition of the Journal of the Siamese Cat Association (just to hand) refers to the hope that



Two lovely Silver Kittens from Walnut Hill Cattery conducted by Mrs. Robert Weston, of California, U.S.A. Their names are Walnut Hill Delight and Walnut Hill Sweet Sue.

in the near future the Association will hold its first show at a venue outside London. The same issue reports a big increase in membership during 1961 and more trophies for show winners. Members seem to have done exceptionally well with exports to various countries.

Notice seen outside a factory at Ponders End, Middlesex: "Female cat wanted for light mousework."

Mr. George Barker, musician, writer and concerts manager of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, has good reason to be thankful for Samson, the family cat, whose cries led to the discovery of a fire in the kitchen of his 16th century country house near Saffron Walden. Firemen found the blaze difficult to control in the ancient lath and plaster house with huge oak beams.

Mrs. Iris Hancox has been appointed Hon. Secretary of the Colourpoint and A.O.V. Cat Club following the resignation of Mrs. A. Watts, who has been holder of this office since the foundation of the Club in April 1960. Mrs. Watts found it impossible to continue because of increasing domestic commitments.

Publications recently received include a copy of the October issue of the American *Siamese News Quarterly*, edited by Jack Cruise with Sam Scheer as Associate Editor. The issue celebrates a successful first year of publication and its sponsors hope soon to reach their goal of 500 subscribers. The *Quarterly* is brightly presented and the many interesting and useful features include some from English contributors.

Kathie, an ordinary household cat but a great favourite at the Auckland (New Zealand) Zoo is determined to earn her keep. She has adopted a leopard cub which was forsaken by its irresponsible parents immediately after birth. The zoo staff were naturally very

pleased to be relieved of the expected nursery chores when Kathie decided to "take over".

It has come to my notice that one of our faithful subscribers in America—Mrs. Isabelle C. Hamilton—is one of those splendid people who year in year out work diligently without hope of reward to alleviate pain and suffering among the vast numbers of unwanted cats and kittens. Mrs. Hamilton is Secretary of the Holyoke Cat Club, Massachusetts, which so far this year has found good homes for no less than over 900 cats and kittens. The Club consists of a few dedicated friends who always find themselves on the wrong side of the ledger at the year's end. Every stray found is taken to the vet, altered and freed from parasites, then it is taken care of until a home is found. Mrs. Hamilton keeps an advertisement running in the local newspaper all through the year begging good homes for her charges.

The latest issue of *La Vie Feline*, journal of the Cat Club de Paris, has lost its usual glossiness but is nevertheless full of interesting items and useful information. Forthcoming cat shows on the Continent include International fixtures at Nancy and Vichy on June 10th/11th and a date to be fixed in July next respectively; at Lausanne, Switzerland on March 3rd/4th and at Brussels, Belgium, on March 10th/11th.

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**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

## Over 400 cats at Paris Show

**"Paris in spring" to many spells gaiety and romance but "Paris in autumn" to me spells the Paris Cat Show. Along with Mrs. Cook-Radmore I was invited to judge at the 35th annual show of the Cat Club de Paris et des Provinces Françaises, which was held on three October days. I had been similarly honoured a number of times before and my expectations of a most delightful, if hard-working, week-end based on previous experiences were not disappointed.**

The show was held in the Salons de l'Hôtel Continental under the direction of Madame M. Ravel, who was Show Manager once again, and the smooth efficiency of the arrangements contributed very greatly to the pleasure of all concerned—not least that of the judges. These, in addition to the two "juges anglaises", consisted of Frau Etzinger from Germany, Madame Sandoz from Switzerland, Mlle Vera Moser from Italy and Mon. J. Marolle from France. Miss Kathleen Yorke, who has rarely missed the Paris Show since its resumption at the end of the war, was unfortunately unable to make the pilgrimage on this occasion and she was greatly missed by all, as was indicated by the many solicitous enquiries we received from her friends from very many countries.

### Animated beauty

It is difficult to convey adequately the atmosphere of a Paris Show—the beautiful hall in which it is held (the ballroom of the hotel), the masses of flowers, the luxuriously decorated pens, the thronging crowds of visitors (queuing outside for admission on the Sunday), the Club stewards all wearing identical

overalls of a lovely shade of deep coral, and the general vivacity and excitement of the whole proceedings.

The number of cats exhibited was over 400, the largest number ever. The Best Cat in the Show was a most beautiful and truly elegant Siamese Blue-point male Ch. Rangoon Blue Safir owned by Madame d'Alleizette. Last year at the corresponding Show he won the same coveted honour when an almost full-grown kitten. He is of French breeding but his grandsire was the English Int. Ch. Doneraile Leo. The best Longhair adult was a beautiful Blue Persian Ch. Joyzelle de la Berangere owned by Mme. Rul and best Longhair kitten was a French-bred Blue-Cream Kiglane owned by Mme Desmonts.

It is interesting to note that the best Shorthair kitten—Kikidoux des Monts Dores—is a young male bred from the Best in Show "Blue Saphir" ex Doneraile Lilac Marcella. The breeder was Madame d'Alleizette but he is now owned by Mme Larcher.

English-bred adult cats to achieve distinction were Ch. Smoky Boy of Dunesk (owner Mme Bogard) Ch. Widdington Valerio (Mme J. De Koning), Ch. Startops Tháis (M. Schonau), Ch. Melody of Pensford (M. Schonau), Amaska Blue Masque (Mme Gamichon), Ch. Briarry Hester (Mme Gamichon), Revel Chesnut Flame (M. Damsteg), Doneraile Lilac Marcella (Mme d'Alleizette), and Browndreys Maryann (M. De Haas Zanen). Winning English-bred kittens were Bayhorne Eager (Herr Rodenstein) and Taishun Cleoni (Mme V. Falenka).

Exhibitors as well as judges came from many countries; it truly was an International fixture.

L. SPEIRS.



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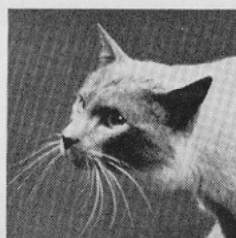
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