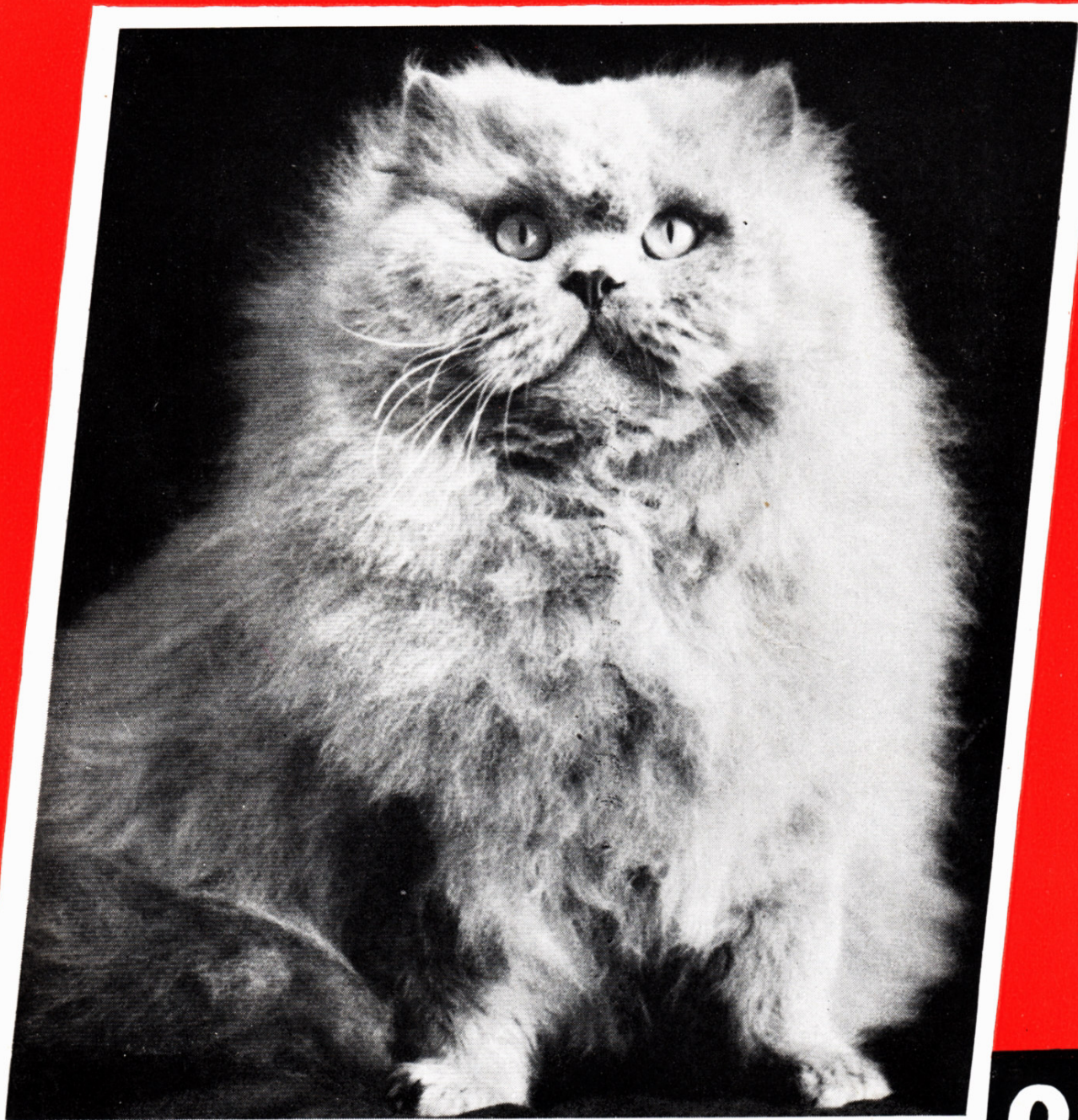


Owrr Cats

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A BLUE MALE OF QUALITY

A lovely study by Derek Davis of CHAMPION HALCYON BONIFACE, by Ch. Boy Blue of Kenton and Bluemine Melissa. Not yet three years old, Boniface should do well for owner-breeder Mrs. Daphne M. Fisher, of Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

MAY 1962

2/-



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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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.

VOL. 14 No. 5
MAY 1962

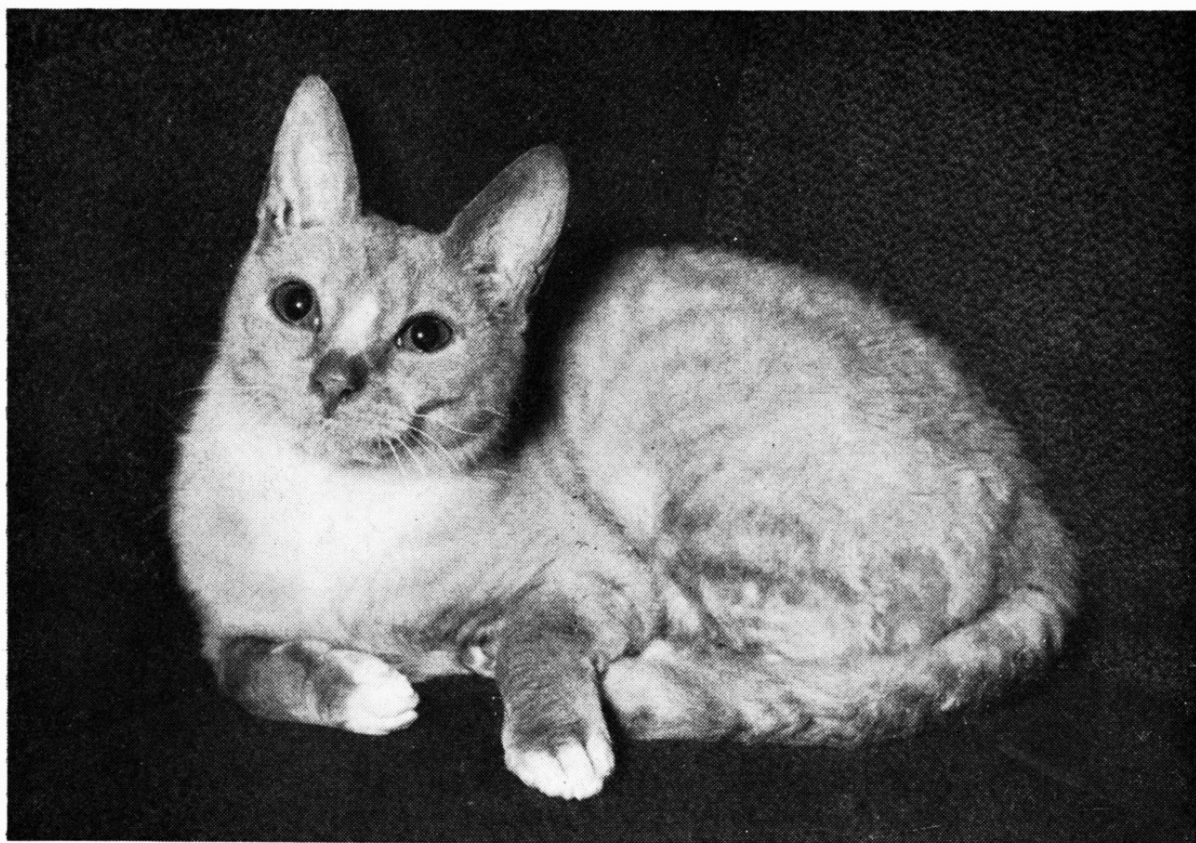
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Dennis J. Bayley

MY FIRST !

BROUGHTON PURLEY QUEEN is the first Rex cat (a cream in this instance) to be bred by Mrs. Phyllis Hughes, of Ashted, Surrey. She now has a second of the curly ones, a cream male born in March last. This nice study is particularly interesting in view of the "Report on Rex" which Mrs. Phyllis Lauder contributed to our March issue.



American judge Mrs. Doris E. Springer, is seen here with SUMFUN BANHARI OF DAHIN, first prize winner at the Camellia Shorthair Specialty Show, and his son WILWOOD TILLIUM, Best Siamese, Best Foreign Shorthair and Best Opposite Sex Kitten at the Town and Country Cat Club Kitten Show held in January at San Diego, California, U.S.A. Banhari was bred by English fancier Mrs. Mary Dunnill and is now owned by Mr. J. S. Dawe, of San Bernardino, California.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT US . . .

From a well-known fancier in the West of England: "You would be rather surprised I think if you knew the vast amount of correspondence I receive from abroad as well as here whenever I or my cats are mentioned in the Magazine. Mention of a win of mine has brought a deluge".

From a Hertfordshire subscriber: "Although I am a busy person with many interests, I really look forward each month to the arrival of OUR CATS".

A subscriber in Devonshire writes: "Having had OUR CATS now for twelve months, we find all the articles, etc., more than interesting and very instructive. We wonder how we managed without it!"

An American subscriber writes: "I am very sorry I cannot renew my subscription for I have enjoyed the magazine during the past several years that I have been a subscriber. My reason for not continuing to take the

Magazine is that having retired from active work I find my finances do not permit me to indulge in some of the pleasures I have enjoyed in the past. I shall miss receiving the little Magazine but you have my earnest best wishes for continued success in your work".

A Californian, U.S.A. subscriber says: ". . . I neglected to renew my subscription when it expired and I have missed the magazine greatly. I feel that it is a must for any cat fancier. Am now looking forward to my first issue—shall not let it lapse again".

Another subscriber in Hertfordshire writes: "I must take the opportunity of saying how much I like the Magazine. I enjoy the news from all over the world and the articles are always helpful and stimulating. The photographs are excellent and the advertisements of breeders most helpful. In fact, it is a mine of information produced in a very attractive way."

On Lilac Pointed Siamese

By PHYLLIS LAUDER

DURING the last two show seasons, the Lilac Pointed Siamese has truly come into his own. Some most beautiful cats and kittens of this variety have been shown, notably by Mrs. Ashford and Mrs. Fisher.

In the U.S.A. also, Lilac Pointeds are becoming increasingly popular. A kitten of superb quality was recently exported by Mrs. Ashford to those well-known American breeders Mr. and Mrs. Sam Scheer. This lovely male kitten has already won top honours at two shows in the U.S.A.

I have a letter of years ago from the late A.C. Jude, in which he wonders why the Fancy does

not "try for a L.P." The Fancy has now tried and has certainly succeeded. It was not really difficult, for all you need is two cats, a male and female, each carrying a gene for chocolate and each carrying a gene for blue.

If you start off by mating together a Blue Pointed and a Chocolate Pointed, both homozygous for their colour, the kittens will all be Seal Pointed, and these, mated *inter se*, will have a one-in-sixteen chance of producing a Lilac Pointed. But many Siamese cats carry gene for more than one colour-dilution, and two cats each carrying both blue and chocolate will have a one-in-four chance of a Lilac Pointed.



Considerable success with Lilac Points has been achieved by Mrs. E. Fisher, of N.W. London. Our reproduction from a colour print shows her PRAHA POCO ALLERGANDO, a L.P. kitten playing at home with her S.P. mother Praha Spiccato. We would only add: How different this looks in colour!

My Belhaven Apple Blossom was the result of a mating between a Chocolate Pointed queen of "Blue" ancestry, who had had many Blue Pointed kittens, and a Seal Pointed stud, Mrs. Clarke's Sloppy Joe, who carried both blue and chocolate. Apple Blossom was the first L.P. to be bred from Siamese only. There were others, born before him, with Russian Blue in their ancestry; but this fact makes no difference to progeny: L.P. mated to L.P. will breed true and produce only L.P. kittens—and this would still be so even if there were a Tabby in the pedigree of one of them! Although in that case, good type might take longer to come by!

Readers of OUR CATS will not need to be told that one should breed for type! To judge by some of the Lilac Pointeds I handled during the recent show season, breeders have already been most successful in this matter. But the question of colour is more difficult; and it is important, for the first necessity in a cat of any variety is that he shall conform to that variety.

An elusive colour

This lilac is a most elusive colour. The points are often too grey; since you can have a "blue-chocolate" or a "chocolate-blue", the combination required is obviously nicely-balanced between these colours, which are different dilutions of melanin.

That exact tinge which gives an almost mauve appearance to the fur is for all the world like the colour of the fabulously expensive "mutation mink" displayed with such pride by furriers; obviously a lilac mink has been bred.

Worse than too much grey is the yellow which sometimes appears in the points. It is a clear, definite yellow—perhaps only a streak on an otherwise correctly coloured tail. It has, of course, nothing to do with the yellow of a Cream or a Red Tabby, but is the appearance in the phenotype of a slight difference in the action of the gene for chocolate; but it does spoil the Lilac Pointeds from a show point of view and will, no doubt, be eliminated by selecting for breeding those individuals who do not have this fault.

Pale coats retained

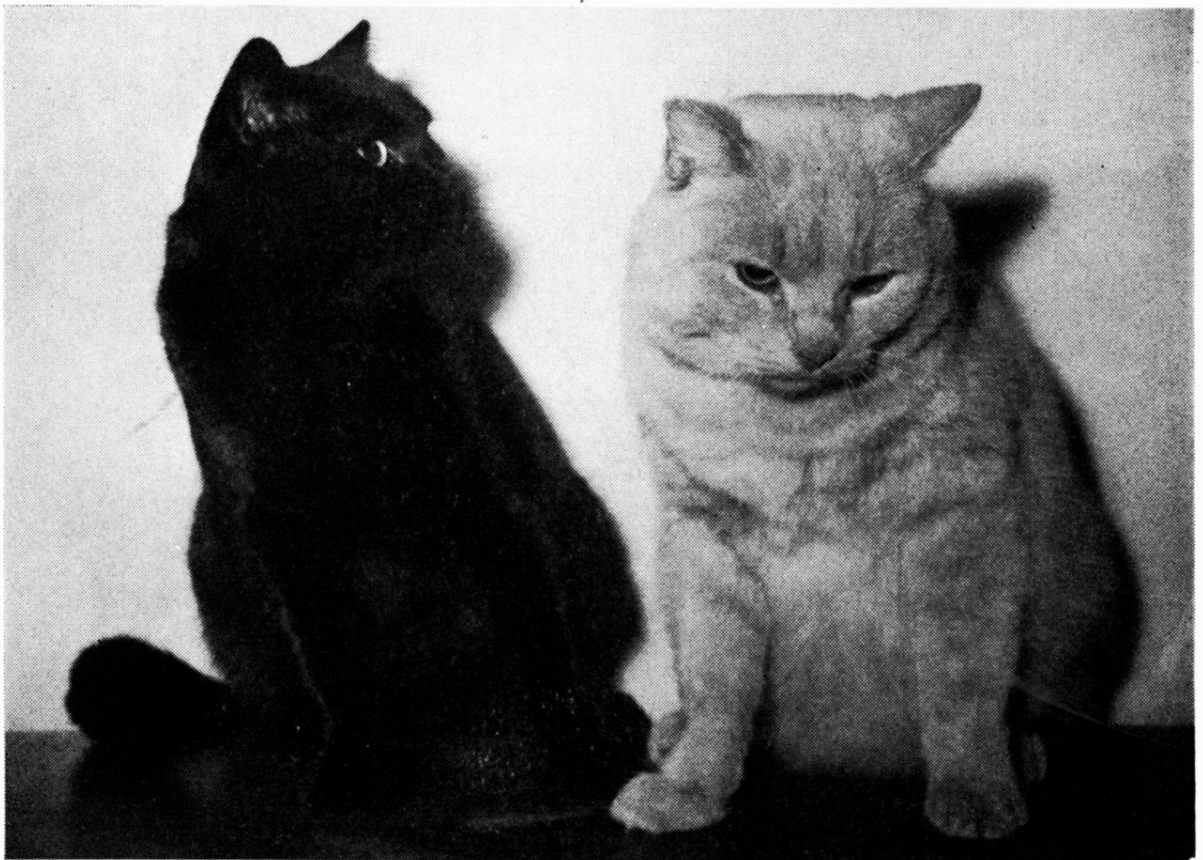
The variety is fortunate in one respect. In common with the Chocolate Pointeds, these cats usually maintain their exquisitely pale coats all their lives. Because of the peculiar clumping of the pigment granules for brown, this particular dilution of melanin is volatile; where the firmer pigment of the Seal Pointeds and Blue Pointeds often spreads to the coat, brown is far less likely to do so. Indeed, if a Chocolate Pointed cat—and this probably applies also to the Lilacs—be out-of-sorts, the points themselves may fade, becoming faint and mottled, or greyish. If this occurs, it is a good thing to give the affected cat small doses of Ribena; and in any case, a small amount of raw liver once or twice a week is good for maintaining the points colour. It will have been observed that the C.P.'s and L.P.'s get their complete masks much later than do the S.P.'s and B.P.'s.

It is a mistake to suppose, as was done abroad in the early days of the variety, that the lilac colour is produced by the blood

showing through the very light blue pigment. Lilac is the result of the combination of genes for blue and genes for chocolate carried by both parents, and it is manifest in the fur itself.

Apart from the occasional yellow tinge, the worst show fault seen in these cats is that of ringed tails. Quite a lot of otherwise

excellent specimens have appeared with tails like those of racoons! However, the Blues also suffered from this drawback and, no doubt, it will be bred out by the many fanciers who are now devoted to this fugitive, pastel shade that is so unusual and, at its delicate, faintly-mauve best, so beautiful.



Associated Newspapers

SOMEONE ISN'T USING A - - - - X !

CH. ALDRA'S DARK TALISMAN (British Black Shorthair) and CH. ALDRA'S CREAM BUNNE (Cream Shorthair male), owned and bred by Mrs. E. F. A. Attwood, of Cheam, Surrey.

Successful first show in Belgium

CAT Club de Bruxelles, newly-formed under the aegis of F.I.F.E., was very much in prominence in March when it staged a splendid two-day International show in the fine setting of the Hotel Palace. More than 3,000 visitors enjoyed the display of 160 feline aristocrats who were judged by Mme. Ravel (France) and Mrs. Remborg (Sweden), the former for Shorthairs and the last-named for Longhairs. Mr. Rossi, a Belgian judge who is also Secretary and Treasurer of the Club, officiated as referee judge for the Longhairs.

Awards amongst the Longhairs went to Int. Ch. Iphis Du Bois Clary belonging to Mme Desgranges (France) and Bentveld Shrimp, a nice kitten penned by Mrs. Stevenhagen (Holland). The Best Shorthair also came from France—Mme. d'Alleizette's Int. Ch. Rangoon Blue Safir—and Germany supplied the Best Kitten—Mrs. Lander-Barthold's

Tai Suy Yay nom Roemryken. The winning Blue Longhair was Mrs. de Campou Grimaldi's Ch. Itchriff de Richemont. Miss Posthuma, leading Dutch breeder of Longhairs for many years, was prominent with her fine Cream Persian Ch. Bronse Cocktail of Bentveld; as also was Mrs. Hackman with her German exhibit. Mrs. Kroon entered a beautiful Blue-Cream Ch. Mylotsika Van Frisia State. Colour-points and Burmese from members of the Cat Club de Paris and Shorthairs from the Cat Club du Centre came in for special attention.

Mr. Schonau and Mrs. Declerck penned some of their cats for exhibition only and these included such well-known names as Int. Ch. Fanfan La Tulipe de la Saulaie, Int. Ch. Startops Starduster, Int. Ch. Startops Thais, Int. Ch. Medlody of Pensford, Ch. Rose Petal of Dunesk, Ch. Don Juan de Beloeil and Ch. Iocco du Montjoly.

A distinguished visitor from Liège was S.A.R. the Princess Paola.



Princess Paola of Liège comes face to face with a Colourpoint kitten at the Brussels show.

A kennel for the cat

By WINIFRED CRISP

“ I DIDN'T know you'd got a dog ”, visitors to our house often remark.

They have noticed the kennel in the garden. Sometimes they even peer inside to see what species of the canine breed we have adopted. From the dim recesses there stare out at them the green eyes—of a cat.

Who ever heard of a kennel for a cat? But why not?

My husband had the idea several years ago.

“ I don't know why it's only *dogs* that have kennels ”, he remarked musingly one day.

So I wasn't surprised when he came home with a few planks of wood and a piece of roofing-felt and set to work.

The base measures seventeen

inches by twenty-two, and stands on two thick pieces of wood nailed underneath which raise it from the ground and keep it dry. The sides are eleven inches high and the ridge of the roof eighteen. In the front is a hole, too small for a dog, six inches wide by ten high. The roof is covered by roofing-felt for protection from the weather.

My husband assured me it was not difficult to make and he is not really what you would describe as a “ handy man ”. Certainly it didn't take him long.

Algernon, for such is the aristocratic name of the far from aristocratic “ boss ” of our household, loves to sit on a rough doormat. So we bought a small one that just fits inside the kennel.

(Concluded on page 8)



Algernon is safe and snug in his kennel.

“ I hope he won't turn up his nose at it”, my husband said. We are used to the disdainful attitude of cats.

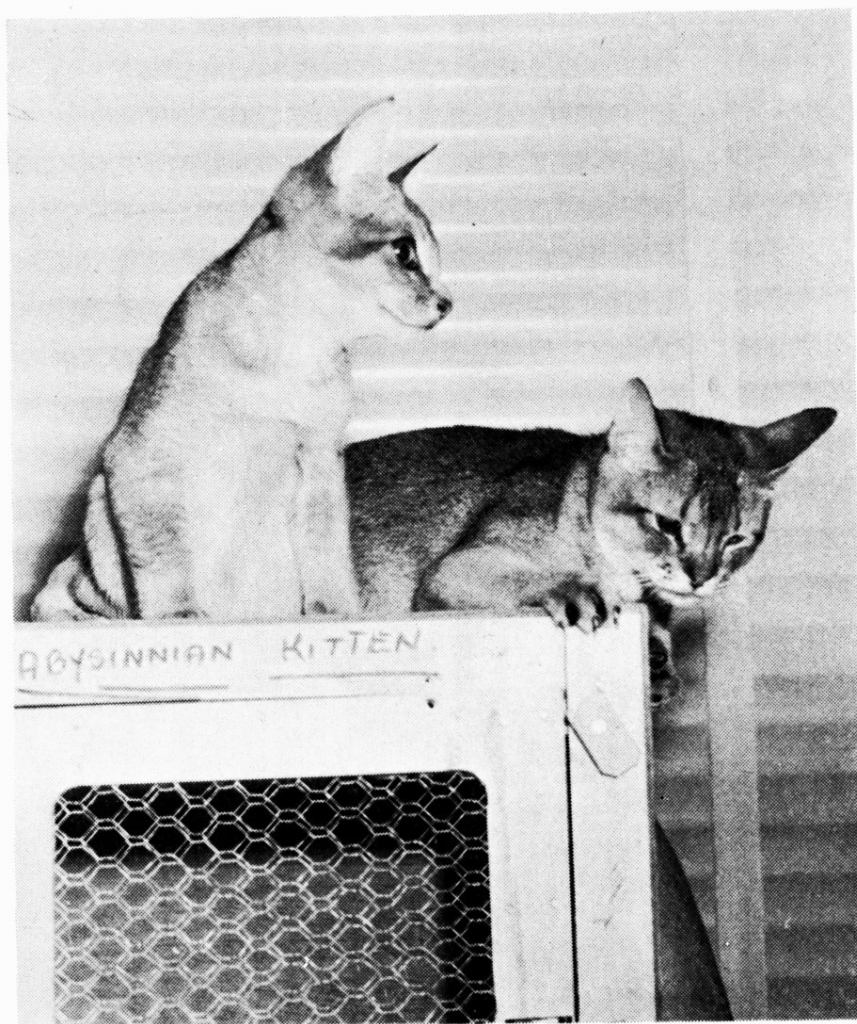
Algernon sniffed it warily. Then he looked at us as if to say, “What have you stupid things been up to now ?”

We put food inside to tempt him in the first time. From then on he accepted the kennel as his own little house.

It stands by the back door

where he can watch all the comings and goings of the house in the belief that he himself is unobserved. At the first sign of rain or wind he rushes there for shelter. Sometimes when he is simply bored with our company or tired of the visitors he takes himself off to the one place that is really his own. It has given him shelter and peace for the past five years.

If he could talk he would, I am sure, recommend one for every cat.



Al Jessen, "The Portland Reporter"

From US to USA

A pair of Abyssinian kittens purchased by Miss Roberta Knight, Oswega, Oregon, U.S.A., are photographed at the moment of their arrival by air from England. They are 3-months-old BLACKTHORN ARMAGNAC (left), bred by Mrs. H. M. Pickthorne, of Ipswich, and 6-months-old TRANBY PAKHT, bred by Mrs. D. Winsor, of Anlaby, Hull.



Correspondence Corner

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



Cat artists

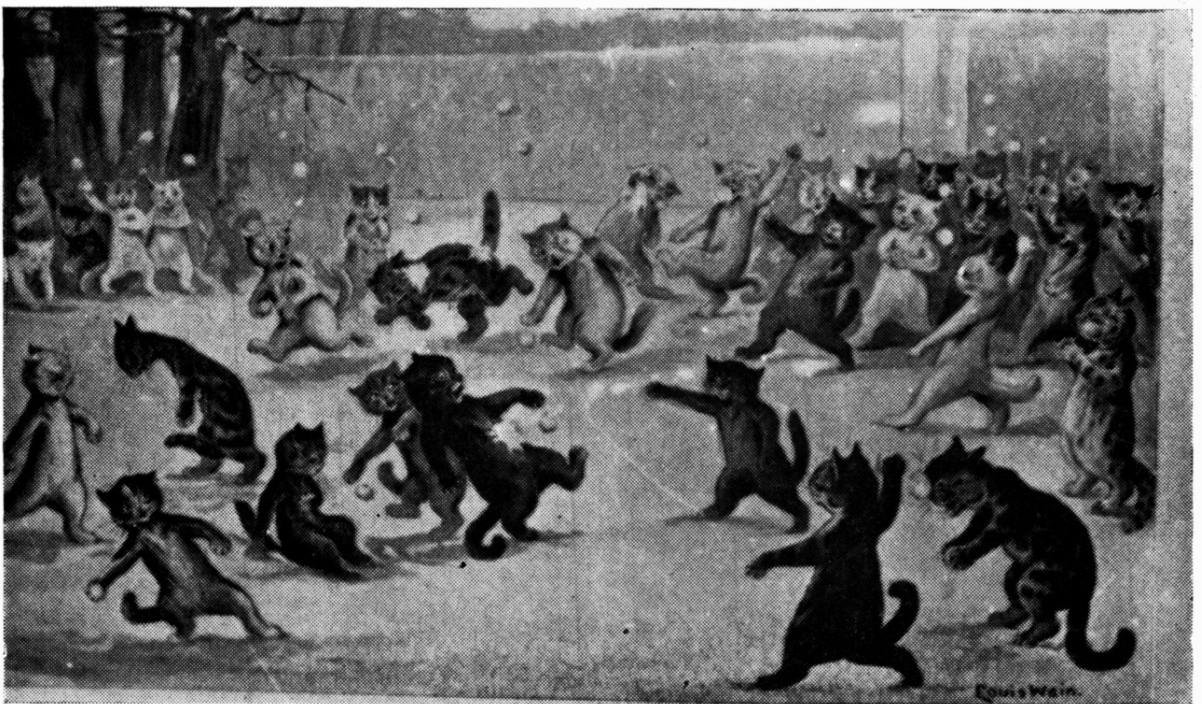
AT the end of the book entitled *Our Cats* published about 1958 you invited comments from readers.

I bought this book some time ago to give to a friend. It seemed to me very superior to the general run of cat books with their familiar photographs, inept captions and stereotyped paragraphs about cats in ancient Egypt. Now I have a copy of this book myself and have been studying it more carefully and notice that the photographs are well chosen and have clever captions. The photograph reproduced on page 95 is one of the best I've ever seen. Those on pages 18 and 19 are also exceptional.

Apart from the captions, I think you deserve most praise for your article about Louis Wain. For many years it

has been the fashion to decry this artist, which is a pity. When I was a child his drawings gave me great happiness. They were drawn to give delight to children with dozens of details for a child to pore over for hours, days or even years. Your brief biography interested me and much of it was news to me.

It occurs to me that a book *all* about cat writers and artists might be interesting. As well as Gottfried Mind and Henriette Ronner with reproductions of their work, you could include some of Steinlens once famous posters. Of course you'd put Louis Wain in again and what about Kathleen Hale of Orlando fame and Maurice Wilson? Both do marvellous cats. There is Aurelius Battaglia, extremely clever at cats. They have a faint degree of caricature but without venom. Of course there must be hundreds of others.



A snowballing scene by Louis Wain.

Perhaps my favourite is Feodor Rojankovsky for his drawings in charcoal and colour. Free casual work but so effective, don't you think? There was an artist who used to sign his work "Grandville" who did cats dressed up as fashionable ladies and gentlemen. I never liked these but I believe they were popular.

With regard to cat writers I put Paul Gallico first. His amused approach—tolerant, appreciative, yet quizzical—to the creatures seems perfect. He wrote a gem of an article years ago about a cat he knew at a night club.

Of course there's always Beverley Nichols. It would not be hard to collect articles—not too familiar.

Enclosed are some prints. The snowballing one I consider very amusing. I note your contributor who wrote the biography of Louis Wain mentioned that he did other animals first. Here is a small reproduction of a drawing of his showing dogs. Reading an article about

Thank you for the book. It's the best I've seen of its type. The lady to whom I sent the book wrote me and commented with evident delight on the "article about Louis Wain" and I am sure you pleased a large public when you included that.

J. CHAPPLE.

Halstead,
Essex.

Restricted breeding

I read with interest the article (a reprint) by P. M. Soderberg in your February, 1962, issue.

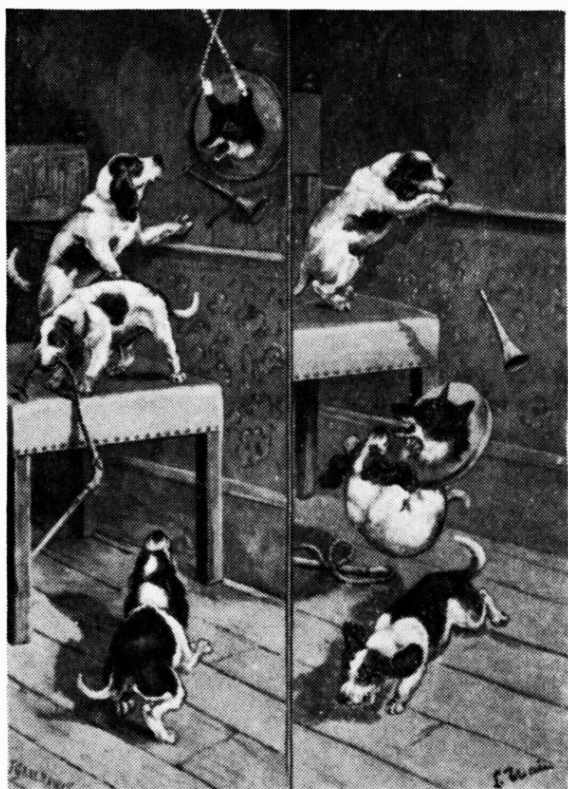
His suggestion of avoiding infertility by only one litter a year rather surprises me. It is totally against the laws of breeding. The reason why we have infertility in show stock is because show points are so often given preference to fertility. The way to eliminate this fault is to breed from cats that produce the most litters, *not* the least. How can one find this if the number of litters is restricted artificially?

A point here is that made by the Director of the National Stud in relation to thoroughbred breeding. He said that there is no evidence that mares rested between foals produce any better progeny than those bred to the limit.

In fact there is evidence from other sources that restricted breeding tends to *cause* reproductive trouble, rather than otherwise, in spite of popular belief to the contrary.

MRS. R. G. SILSON.

Tring, Herts.



Louis Wain first drew dogs

Henriette Ronner I noticed she had ten or more years' success doing dog portraits before she started on cats. Somewhere else I read that Gottfried Mind did bears only at first.

Correspondence Corner is your feature

We are giving an appropriate book prize for the best reader's letter to reach us before the last day of July, 1962.

Squatter's rights

By RICHARD BLACKMORE

THE undisputed King of our house is Too Long Fang, a Siamese cat. We feed him, comfort him and amuse him according to his dictates. And he allows us, from time to time, to sit in the fireside chair.

It is my sorry lot to relate how this peaceful autocratic state was sadly imperilled.

* * *

It all started when I purchased some plants to fill a dry sunny spot in the garden. I chose those pretty miniature potentillas called Gibsons Scarlet. I planted them out one Saturday and watered them in. Then well content, I picked up the newspaper and settled in my chair.

Too Long Fang stretched himself and walked slowly to the French window where he waited. He wanted "Out". I got up and let him out. A few minutes later, the King appeared at the window. He sat on the outside sill, glaring at me. He wanted "In". I let him in.

He leapt down to the carpet, tail erect and stalked to the fireplace where he started to wash muddy paws in silence. He was obviously in a bad mood. I took no notice, however—I put it down to royal pique—until I went into the garden just before dusk to look at the new plants. They had been torn out of the ground.

It was obvious that the "dry sunny patch" had been and still was the spot used by His Majesty for his toilet.

My poor plants looked very sorry for themselves. Their leaves

hung limply and life was nearly spent. I replanted them carefully and, as I did so, irritation turned to anger. How could the King cause such wanton destruction.

I carefully laid my plan of retaliation. I erected a maze of twigs and cotton between and amongst the plants.

"That's fixed it", I muttered as I finished my work. "Try and get into that!"

Next day, the plants had been dug up again, twigs, cotton and all. The "dawn sortie" had struck and the damage was dreadful to see. Round Two to the royalists.

I was now very angry. Down with the King! Long live Homo Sapiens! Up the revolution!

My defence consisted of stout canes and string. Strong white string. And the little potentillas, Gibsons Scarlet, were replanted for the third time inside this fortification. Then I withdrew to await the attack.

Diabolical cunning

But the attack never came. The sunny spot remained unmolested for twenty-four hours. Then my wife said to me: "There's something wrong with Too Long Fang. Twice to-day he's been dirty in the house. He's never done this before. He must be sickening for something".

I didn't reply straight away. I couldn't. I was mesmerized with the strategy and diabolical cunning. And I knew that I was well and truly beaten.

(continued on page 14)



***Tibby
helps
himself!***

MRS. D. M. FURZE of 5 Oaks Drive, Swaffham, Norfolk, writes:—

“ I was interested to see in one of your advertisements a cat with his paw in a jar of Kit-zyme Tablets, for our cat Tibby, has helped himself to Kit-zyme like this since a very early age.

“ We hand-reared Tibby from a fortnight old and as soon as he could eat we gave him Kit-zyme. We are rather proud of his condition and I am sure that his daily Kit-zyme Tablets are a major factor in keeping him fit.

“ I feel there are many cats who would be healthier and happier for a daily dose of Kit-zyme.”

Kit-zyme will benefit your cat too

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Ref. No. 259

All in a judge's day

Doris Brice-Webb reports on a trip to Sweden

I LEFT Nottingham on the 30th March ready to fly to Sweden early the following morning to judge for the Linkopings Kattklub at their three-day show due to open on the 31st. But after getting up at the crack of dawn to get to the airport by 9.15 a.m., which I did, I found that owing to bad weather conditions over Copenhagen we had to wait for the weather to clear. The plane took off at 12.30 p.m. instead of the scheduled time of 10.15 a.m. When we were airborne the pilot announced that he was flying us to Hamburg where we would have to wait until he had the all clear from Copenhagen.

By this time I was very worried as my train to Linkopings left at 2.45 p.m. I knew that Mrs. Eisenhuth was meeting me and taking me safely across to the station. Anyway, we landed at Hamburg and were there for about three hours. When we were eventually airborne for Copenhagen the pilot said he would do his best to land us safely, but conditions were still bad. We circled the airport for about half an hour and were told if no landing could be made we would have to go back to Hamburg. We touched down at long last at about 6.30 p.m.

Arrival at last !

I 'phoned Mrs. Eisenhuth who so very kindly came and fetched me right away and all my worries were over. She had even booked a sleeping car for me which left at 11.45 p.m. and arrived in Linkopings at 7 a.m. The following morning I was met by Mrs. Junglander, Secretary of the Club. I went straight to my hotel, had a bath and breakfast and then on to

the show hall to start judging. The hall was beautifully light and ideal for judging and all I could see were rows and rows of beautifully decorated pens.

The exhibits were of excellent quality, many having English parents or grandparents. My Best Cat and later Best Cat in Show was a most lovely Copper-eyed White Ch. Beauegarde Jacotte of French parents and bred in Paris. She was my choice and also that of Fru Juul-Hansen of Denmark, the S.H. judge. Her coat was dazzling white and



Mrs. Brice-Webb with her Blue-Cream Kitten RONADA MAYBLOSSOM by Ch. Deebank Victor and Ch. Twinkling Star of Pensford.

of great length and groomed to perfection. Her type and eye colour were excellent. Congratulations to her owner Fru Brita Axelsson-Remborg. Best Kitten in Show was an outstanding Siamese Far East Nausikka. The Best Neuter in Show was one of the best Smokes I have seen for a long time, Velam Velamsson av Kungshoga. He was also shown to perfection and it seemed such a pity to have had him neutered.

Best L.H. Kitten was a dream of a Blue Persian Bluemine Mascot bred by Mrs. L. M. Williams, of Co. Durham.

He is of wonderful type and carries a full pale lavender coat. This kitten should have a great future. His grandfather is Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and his sire Bluemine Mountjoy. Best S.H. in Show was a really outstanding Russian Blue Int. Ch. Blue Bell of Finlandia, bred by the late Lis Lanberg.

English blood prominent

My best Blue male, who incidentally became a full Champion on the day, was Drevvikshofs Rimfrost. He was also Best Stud Cat. He is by Widdington Wintersohn bred by our own Miss Sheppard. A lovely Blue-eyed White was exhibited by Fru Maina Hjelde. She was Int. Ch. Franchesca av Smedsbo, and she has Ch. Gleam of Pensford and

Baralan Challenger on both sides of her pedigree. Also owned by Fru Hjelde was a most lovely deep Copper-eyed White kitten to whom I had awarded 1st and Ex. Glimora av Birka by Ch. Gleam of Pensford. Her mother is a daughter of Ch. Baralan Challenger. Vita Nova av Birka, another winning White kitten was very lovely and she had as her grandfather Widdington Wintersohn. Quite a record for English stock!

On leaving Linkopings, Mrs. Junglander asked me to bring to England one of the Club's gold medals. On this medal is depicted the image of a Siamese cat and a Longhair whom I understand is Ch. Gleam of Pensford. This medal is offered for the Best Cream Kitten at the Kensington Kitten Show in July. I stayed overnight as guest of Mrs. Eisenhuth in Denmark and had a wonderful evening. Thank you Rudy! Also thanks for the lovely Royal Copenhagen porcelain dish on which is the picture of Ch. Mascot of Pensford. I understand this dish is much desired by the Americans and sells like hot cakes. I would like to thank all who made my stay in Sweden such a memorable one, not forgetting my stewards Fru Naima Monsen, Froken Sonja Brolin, Herr Hilfling-Olesen and Herr Torsten Remborg.

SQUATTER'S RIGHTS

(concluded from page 11)

“Don't worry”, I said. “There's nothing wrong with him. He won't do it again, I promise you”.

* * *

The “dry sunny patch” is bare of plants and will remain so I suppose, for many a day. The potentillas, Gibsons Scarlet, struggle in their cold damp spot elsewhere in the garden.

And Too Long Fang permits me to stroke him. When he feels like it.

American Servicemen at the Sculthorpe, Norfolk, base which is to be “run down” this year, have been given instructions to make proper arrangements for their pets when they leave. They have been told that on no account must they abandon them.

A Kensington shop is reported to be selling greetings cards for dogs expecting puppies — or should it be “bitches?” The idea could of course spread to felines.

A retired business man of Surrey has invented a cat bed, complete with dining quarters. The bed is on a pedestal and there is a scratch pad provided.



Tailpieces

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



A PETS memorial cemetery at Godstone, Surrey, is to be established by the National Anti-Vivisection Society which will arrange to let plots to pet owners during the animal's lifetime and also provide them with a new pet when their animal dies. Dogs will be provided for first and cats are to be included later. The pets cemetery will not have headstones but will be planted with flowering shrubs bearing metal tags inscribed with the names of the departed pets.

Cat, a silent tomcat, has been named as one of the two best animal motion picture and television actors by the American Humane Association. You may have seen Cat as Audrey Hepburn's pet in the movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

This little story surely could only come from America ! Five cats inherited £4,600 when their owner, Mrs. Margaret Montgomery, of Chicago, died last year. When the cats have died their trustee, aged 72, will get 60 per cent of what is left and the balance will go to charity. Now the Attorney-General intends to extract £86 in inheritance tax from the cats and the assessment has been reached after consultation with a veterinary surgeon, who put the average life expectancy of a cat at 10 years. But because of the "high income" level, the Montgomery cats' expectation of life has been estimated at 14 years. Four of the cats have been assessed for only £5 8s. each because they are 12 years' old. But the fifth cat, aged nine, has been assessed for £64 12s.

A reporter covering the recent Television Festival at Montreux, Switzerland, refers to "the most extraordinary entry" from Belgium. It featured a black cat stealing about a deserted studio which "magically inspired an all-night show". The chorus of cat noises with which the programme started made observers think that the sound had gone wrong.

The Sevenoaks and Orpington Hospital Management Committee had quite a problem on their plate the other day. Matron of the Hospital reported that the cat at the nurses' home had a tooth extracted at a cost of 8s. 6d. On investigation the Finance Officer decided that he could not foot the bill from the exchequer or comforts fund moneys. The account therefore remained unpaid. The Committee appreciated the explanation and could not reconcile the facts that comforts money could be used to buy fish food and bird food but not for the cat's dental treatment. The fish, birds and cat were all gifts. The ruling is to be reconsidered by the Management Committee.

His countless admirers were very pleased when the Earl of Avon (formerly Sir Anthony Eden) returned to his Wiltshire manor home greatly restored to health after his recent operation in America. Lord Avon discussed with an interviewer a photograph in which his greyhound Merle and Louise the cat had been shown. He said he had received lots of letters saying how unusual it was for a greyhound and a

cat to live together. Louise had since had kittens.

A Californian, U.S.A., firm has hit on a cute idea for play shoes. Accompanied by a sketch of the shoe with a Siamese cat in the foreground, here's how the advertisement reads: "Pussy-footing Around 2.98. Pussyfooters are cat-talk for California's on-the-prowl play shoes. Custom-made of kitten soft suede leather for barefoot comfort. Saddle-stitched on to flexible cowhide soles ankle-tied with a cat's whisker bow. Sizes 4 to 10 in 4 fashion-purrfect colours—Siamese Tan, Tomcat Black, Angora White, Persian Red."

Mrs. King, of Sackville Gardens, Hove, Sussex, is the proud owner of Si-Si, the 16-year-old Siamese who has been heard "singing" on television by millions of viewers. Si-Si's talents were discovered by a pianist John Blaxland by accident and it has since been difficult to stop the cat giving out in her full-throated mezzo-soprano, but only for the tune "Mighty Like a Rose". Mrs. King, herself a concert artiste, accompanies Si-Si. She comments: "I've sung at hundreds of concerts, but it's only since Si-Si started that I've

reached a mass audience. It makes you wonder, but I mustn't be catty about it. Recordings have been taken most successfully and they pop up in all sorts of odd programmes".

ABC Des Races Felines is the title of a little booklet on art paper which has been issued as a promotion piece by the Cat Club de Paris. It contains over 30 well selected photographs of the various breeds and also explains to the reader exactly what varieties fall under the headings of Longhairs and Shorthairs. Professor Letard, a leading veterinarian and President of the Club, contributes a brief foreword.

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

DENES PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The £10 prize for this competition was won by Mrs. Ritchie, 50 Salford Road, London, S.W.2. The photograph was by Mr. Raymond Garnett, A.R.P.S., of Tooting Bec.

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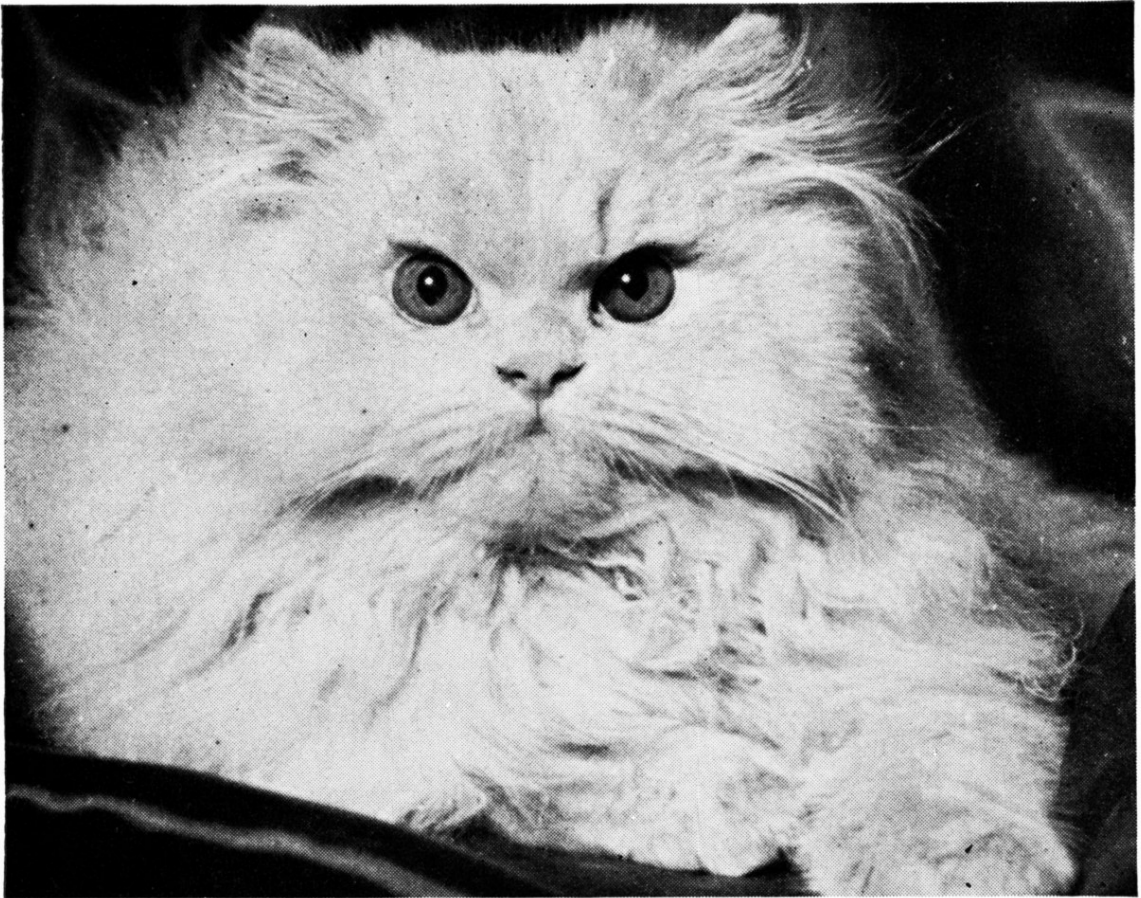
What
about
my
Tibs?

Champion Startops Starduster didn't have to wait long but it's easy to see he was impatient. Impatient for what? For his Tibs, of course.

This handsome young cream male now has a fine collection of prizes. Apart from becoming a Belgian Champion, Starduster has won many awards on the Continent, including being the best Longhair in show at Thiers in 1961; he is also now well on the way to becoming an International Champion.

Mrs. Dorothy King of Worcester Park, Surrey, who bred him, said "Starduster was introduced to Tibs when he was weaned and owes much of his wonderful condition and perfect coat to a good balanced diet fortified by the valuable vitamins and minerals supplied by daily Tibs."

Mrs. King gives Tibs to all her cats and the many Startops winners prove that yet another breeder is wise in the way of Tibs for her cats.



TIBS

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OUR CATS ARE TIBS CATS
TIBS tablets for cats
are a Bob Martin product.

Looking at the breeds

No. 9 - CHINCHILLAS

By HUGH SMITH

AT the risk of offending those owners and breeders of Blacks, Whites, Blues, Blue Creams, Creams and all the other Longhairs, I am going to say it. No Longhair of them all can touch the Chinchilla for sheer beauty.

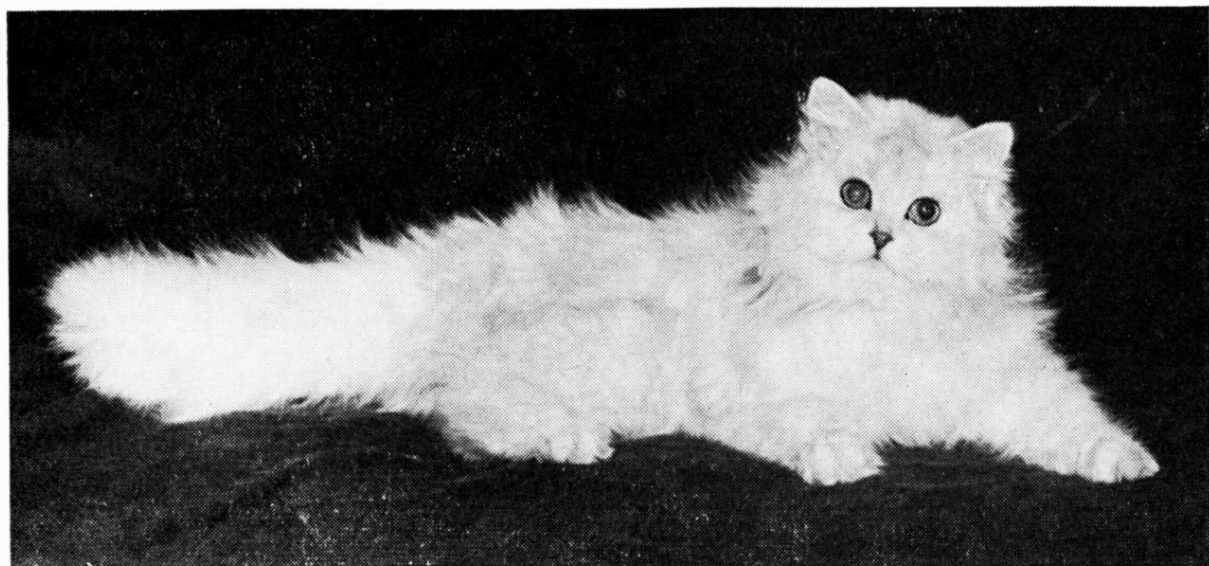
As you walk between the rows of pens at a cat show, they immediately attract your attention. The kittens are little balls of silvery-white fluff. The adults, soft, gentle and fine-boned and with those incredibly beautiful black-rimmed green eyes make a tremendous appeal to all cat-lovers. Yes, I would place the Chinchilla next to the top on the ladder of feline excellence—reserving the topmost rung for my favourite—the Siamese.

It is strange that no one seems to know why the breed was named "Chinchilla". Certainly it bears no resemblance to the rodent of that name. Nor

does its coat or colour resemble that of the Chinchilla rabbit.

Chinchillas seem to have come into being about fifty years ago. There is a general belief that they originated from the Longhair Silver Tabby, but this cannot, of course be proved. P. M. Soderberg in his book, *Pedigree Cats* suggests that the original Chinchilla may have resulted from a normal mating, from which a kitten with only faint tabby markings was produced. This kitten might have been crossed with a Longhair White from which there came a number of lightly marked cats. By means of inbreeding and line-breeding the new breed may have finally been evolved. It was probably not until 1902 that the first Chinchilla without any markings was exhibited.

The sparkling silvery appearance of the coat is given by the hairs on back, flanks, ear and tail being tipped with black. In America there are two types recognized, one of which is a very heavily ticked cat which is known as



CHATAMI FLAIRE is a young American-bred Chinchilla female from the well-known cattery of Mrs. C. N. Powell, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, which has been producing top grade Silvers and Creams for twenty years. Flaire is expected to have a great future as she is a grand-daughter of the famous Grand Double Champion Chatami Laurier.

the Shaded Silver. This colouring is not accepted in the United Kingdom.

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy gives the following description and scale of points for the Chinchilla:

Colour: The undercoat should be pure white, the coat on back, flanks, head, ears and tail being tipped with black, this tipping to be evenly distributed, thus giving the characteristic sparkling silver appearance. The legs may be very slightly shaded with the tipping, but the chin, ear tufts, stomach and chest must be pure white; any tabby marking or brown or cream tinge is a drawback. The tip of the nose should be brick-red and the visible skin on eyelids and the pads should be black or dark brown.

Head: Broad and round, with breadth between ears and wide at the muzzle; snub nose; small, well tufted ears.

Shape: Cobby body; short, thick legs.

Eyes: Large, round and most expressive, emerald or blue-green in colour.

Coat and Condition: Silky and fine in texture, long and dense, extra long on frill.

Tail: Short and bushy.

SCALE OF POINTS

Colour	...	25
Head	...	20
Shape	...	15
Eyes	...	15
Coat and		
Condition		15
Tail	...	10
		—
		100

The newly born kittens may have a very distinct barring on the legs and ringing of the tail, which may disconcert the novice. These markings usually disappear as the kittens grow older. If, however, the bars on the legs still show distinctly at about ten weeks, it is unlikely that the kitten will grow into a show specimen.

Good demand

Chinchillas are not at all numerous. Owing to difficulties of feeding and arranging matings during the last war, the breed, formerly a very popular one, lost ground. Now, many more have taken up breeding this beautiful cat and the future for it looks rosier. Kittens are usually in short supply and good show specimens are much sought after.

The Chinchilla, Silver and Smoke Society serves the interest of the breed. Its Hon. Secretary is Miss E. Langston, 8 Craufurd Rise, Maidenhead, Berkshire.

G.C.C.F.

The Annual List of Cats at Stud No. 19 (1962) is now available and may be obtained from the Secretary

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News from "Down Under"

HELLO, everybody! The days are drawing in and winter is just around the corner. Soon be too cold to be comfortable, I guess. Thank goodness the lucky ones in N.S.W. got through without the awful bush fires. Victoria had a bad time and it will take a long time to repair all the damage.

New Zealand. Secretary Moran has sent along my copy of the *Newsletter*, which improves with every issue. So far eight shows are listed for the coming season. A report of the February Council meeting reveals that a loose leaf Stud Book is to be compiled yearly containing names of studs and queens used for breeding. I see the famous prefix Pit-na-cree is now condensed to one word. A good idea as it will not lose any of its identity or prestige. The published letter from the Wellington S.P.C.A. journal is wisdom packed and could help to relieve a lot of suffering.

The Blue Cream cat sent to Australia by Mrs. Shuker gained the honour of Best Junior Female at St. George Club show a few weeks after arriving. Great concern has been felt by everybody here at the necessity to cancel Palmerston North Kitten Show and the wretched luck which made it necessary. President Carian is to be commended for his prompt action which will minimise the risk of the trouble (feline distemper) spreading.

New South Wales. The March Kitten Show of the Northern Feline Fanciers Club was held on a glorious day at Manly and I personally enjoyed the half hour trip over on the ferry. Show Manager Mrs. Dowty left nothing to be desired. I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Jennifer Dyer, Treasurer of Rotorua Club, New Zealand, but her visit was unfortunately limited to a few minutes

after I had finished judging. Mrs. Donahee's very lovely Abyssinian male Graceful Ashanto from Mrs. Stockdale, of Horley, Sussex, England, is now released from quarantine and will be introduced to the N.S.W. public at the Royal Show. The day he left England his dam met with a very serious accident, fracturing her leg in eight places. Luckily they were able to save her. Prominent among the awards were the Best Longhair Cat—Mrs. Nesbit's imported female Ch. Bayhorne Athena, Mrs. Morrison's male Hastings Kawa and Mrs. Nesbitt's kittens Lourmay Atlas and Lourmay Adorable. Best Exhibit was Mrs. Wyatt's female Shorthair Pasht Mo Ling. Mrs. Meany's Lindfield Raja. Best Kittens were Lindfield Garcon and Mr. Nettlefield's female Sham Too.

On the last day of March the Siamese and Shorthair Club held their 6th Championship Show in the lovely Y.W.C.A. Hall in Sydney. Show Manager and Secretary Mrs. Meany did a splendid job and a lovely smooth show was a just reward for a lot of hard work. The Hall, in the heart of the city and opposite the underground station Museum, is convenient for all and looks out on Hyde Park, where lots of exhibitors usually have a picnic lunch. Five judges were on the panel, including Mesdames Whyte, Burnage, Helsham, Finch and F. W. Pearce. The entry was very good (118 cages and 7 litters) considering another specialist fixture was taking place on the same day. Best Cat, Best Female and Junior was Sister Goulden's Alagana Jodin, a S.P. from Victoria. Mrs. Meany's Lindfield Rajah was Best Female. Mrs. Outram's Kongsu Abu Hermes led the Abyssinians and Mrs. Abbott with her Burmese entry, a Blue adult, Whiteoaks Blue Maiden. On

the same day the Longhair Specialist Kuring-gai Cat Club staged their first Ch. Show at Pymber Community Centre Memorial Hall. By arrangement with the President Mrs. Baxter I called in on my way home to receive a marked catalogue for this report. I was greatly impressed by the lovely flowers and decoration, particularly the cages. Mrs. Scognamillo did a fine job as Secretary-Show Manager. This show catered for new territory and the North Shore is really being shown our lovely felines. Four judges—Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Dowty and Mrs. Herbert of Brisbane—officiated and Mrs. Paris was R.A.S. representative for the day. Mrs. Scognamillo's Spada Danilo Dolce was Best Entire Exhibit with Mrs. Baxter's Ch. Honky Tonk Jai Son as runner-up. Mrs. Baxter also won with her Ch. Honky Tonk Amouree as Best Opposite Sex. Winners among the juniors were Mr. K. Morrison's Hastings Kawa Gleam, Mrs. Cross' Olympian Tawny Salome, Mrs. Nesbitt's Lowmay Atlas and Mrs. Baxter's Honky Tonk Fascination.

At the annual meeting of the old Cat Fanciers' Association, Secretary Harry Wynne tabled a very healthy balance sheet and was complimented on same. The lovely new rose bowl memorial trophy for E. J. Lonsdale (selected by the ladies' committee) was on view and much admired. F. W. Pearce was elected unopposed to fill the vacancy as Chairman, a position filled so long and so well by our grand old friend E. J. Lonsdale. His daughter Mrs. L. Whyte was elected to the Committee and Mrs. Watkins, a great worker for the Club over many years, was made a life member.

A little story as told me by Mrs. Donahee, as told me at a recent show, I understand. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong are owners of a white neuter cat and a very important budgerigar. Budgie, it seems, puts on an act sleeping between the cat's front legs. Then he gets up and doing, cleaning the cat's ears, eye corners, etc., in great style. Mrs. Armstrong

should train a few more budgies and then hand the grooming over *in toto*.

Victoria. I have received a long letter from Mrs. Bridges, Secretary of Melbourne Cat Club of Victoria, giving an outline and history of the Club and some details of their April show in aid of a local hospital for sick animals. I have also received a copy of the first issue of the new journal *The Cat World*, which is put out by Melbourne Governing Council. Laurie Wilson seems to have forgotten my catalogue of the Moomba Festival Show, so I am without details. Neither have I any news of the Siamese Club show which is generally held in June.

South Australia. The Feb./March *Newsletter* from Tom and his pal Jerry is short and sweet this time. The Club is starting judges training classes again shortly, as so far they have only four judges on the panel. The S.A. Siamese Cat Club held a barbecue at Brayville in April and if the last one held there is a pattern I can imagine that "a good time was had by all". The old original Club is holding its annual birthday dinner soon. This is a great social event I would very much like to attend. Mrs. Russack had advised me that she has produced some Cameo Longhairs, but so far, no further particulars. S.A. cats did well at the Melbourne Moomba Show it seems and they soon have a Grand Champion male in their midst. Congratulations to the winners.

Queensland. Quite a few letters from here and things certainly seem to be moving along in this part of the world. Judges classes have been taking place, also well attended lectures arranged by the Council of Federated Cat Clubs with the University. The Council's constitution has been revised, shows are listed and a busy time looms ahead for all members.

**Mrs. Joan Thompson's
"JUST FANCY" will be resumed
in our June issue.**

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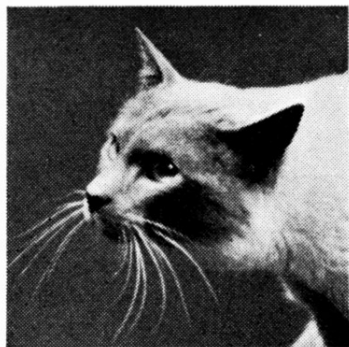
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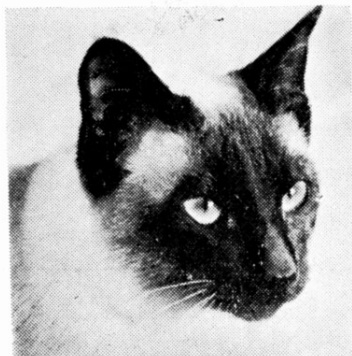
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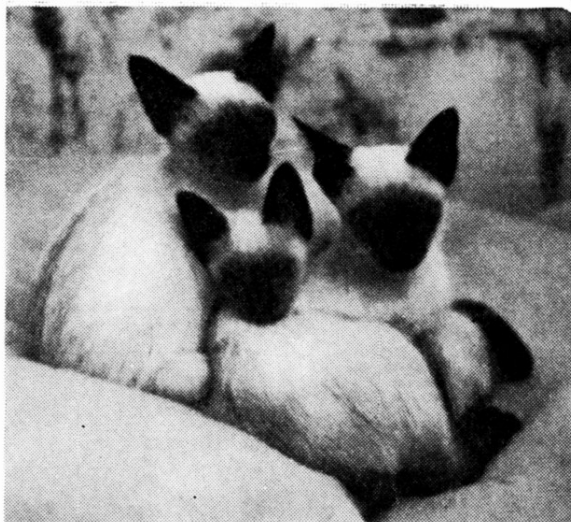
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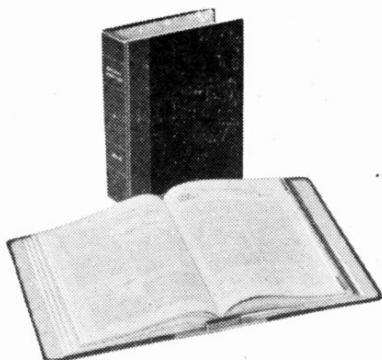


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