

Our Cats

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CHAMPION WIDDINGTON ORION

JUNE 1963

A young Cream Longhair male of rare quality owned and bred by specialist fancier Miss E. M. Sheppard, of Berden, Hertfordshire.

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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

VOL. 15 No. 6
JUNE 1963

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

- (1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management;
- (2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats ;
- (3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats ;
- (4) to act as a link of friendship and common interest between cat lovers in different parts of the world.

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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



CH. SOUTHESK JACINTA, a Seal Point Siamese owned by Mrs. W. S. Arnold, of Brighton, Victoria, Australia. The dam was English-bred Kelvlyn Amanda and the sire Australian Slindon Trafalgar.

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SHOWS FOR THE 1963/4 SEASON

Brief details of the show fixtures so far arranged for the coming season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. A list giving fuller information may be obtained (price 6d.) from the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., 4 Elim Court Gardens, Crowborough, Sussex.

1963	Promoted by	Venue
6 July	N.E. Cheshire Agricultural Society	Hazel Grove, Stockport
13 "	Three Counties Cat Society	Salisbury, Wilts.
13 "	Kentish Cat Society... ..	Maidstone, Kent
18 "	Liverpool Show	Liverpool
27 "	Kensington Kitten and Neuter C.C.	London
3 August	Kingston upon Hull Corporation	East Park, Hull
5 "	Urmston Show	Urmston, Lancs.
10 "	Halifax and District Agricultural Society	Halifax
14 "	Airedale Agricultural Society	Bingley, Yorks.
22 "	Wessex Cat Club	Bournemouth
31 "	*Siamese Cat Soc. of the British Empire	Reading
7 September	*Cheshire Area Cat Club	Chester
14 "	*Herts and Middlesex Cat Club	London
21 "	*Edinburgh and East of Scotland C.C.	Edinburgh
28 "	*Yorkshire County C.C.	Harrogate
8 October	*Siamese Cat Club	London
16 "	*Southsea Cat Club	Southsea
26 "	*Midland Counties Cat Club	Venue to be fixed
7 November	*Blue Persian Cat Society	London
14 "	*Croydon Cat Club	London
30 "	Preston Cat Club	Venue to be fixed
14 December	*National Cat Club	Olympia, London
21 "	*Scottish Cat Club	Glasgow
1964		
11 January	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat Club	Nottingham
18 "	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London
15 February	*Lancashire and N.W. Counties C.C.	Southport
15 "	West of England & S. Wales C. S.	Cardiff
29 "	*Coventry and Leicester Cat Club	Coventry
2 March	Hull and Lincolnshire Cat Club	Lincoln
	Surrey and Sussex Cat Club	London
	* Denotes shows with Championship status	

OUR CATS PICTURE BOOK

When it first appeared in 1958 this book was acclaimed all over the cat world as "wonderful value" and "the cat book of the century". It contains over 200 photographs and linking articles by Sidney Denham which are amusing, entertaining, informative and instructive. Foreword is by the Dowager Lady Aberconway. For yourself or some cat loving friend, this beautifully produced pictorial symposium remains the perfect gift and a book that will be treasured for many years to come. Page size 9" x 6", 128 pages. Price 19s. 6d. per copy including postage and packing. (U.S.A. and Canada \$3.25)

Orders and remittances (made payable to "Our Cats") should be sent to OUR CATS, 4 Carlton Mansions, 378 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED SO PLEASE DON'T DELAY WITH YOUR ORDER

White cats & black cats

SIR WALTER SCOTT wrote that "Cats are a mysterious kind of folk. There is more passing in their minds than we are aware of". The author of *The Waverley Novels* was deeply interested in witchcraft, demonology and the occult and inevitably, after having for years been a "dog man", became rather late in life a devotee of cats who since the dawn of history have been associated with religion and magic, both black and white.

He would have been fascinated to read Patricia Dale-Green's book on *The Cult of the Cat*, just published by Heinemann at 30s., in which an account of the reaction of human beings to the cat from the earliest times and in many civilizations is accompanied by what I believe is the first detailed analysis of the symbolism of the Man-Cat relationship. Such an analysis would not, of course, have been possible for Sir Walter Scott who died long before Freud, Jung, Sir J. G. Frazer and many others made their great contributions to our understanding of ourselves in the light of our past.

The cult of the cat which Patricia Dale-Green records and analyses is not that of what we call *The Fancy* or even of the cat as a pet establishing a relationship with a single human being, about which so many books and poems have been written. It is rather about *The Cat in the Mysteries of Religion and Magic*, as M. Oldfield Howey called her

book written about 40 years ago and now something of a rarity.

Turning to it again, I was reminded that H. C. Brooke, the first editor of *Cat Gossip*, who did so much to popularise the Abyssinian at the beginning of the century was, unusually for a fancier, much interested in this aspect of the cat. Perhaps he was led to study it through his interest in the Abyssinian which, in the highly imaginative coloured frontispiece of Howey's book he showed "sacrificing" a rat in the shrine of Bast.

Symbolic division

The Cult of the Cat inevitably covers some of the same ground as the earlier book, but I find Patricia Dale-Green's presentation of the subject more interesting and lucid. She divides cats into black and white, not by their actual colour, but symbolically and deals with each in turn before explaining the meaning of the symbolism and the wisdom it enshrines. In the section on the White Cat she tells the extraordinary story of the cat as the Deity or, more correctly, the symbol of Diety which is by no means limited to the ancient Egyptian civilization: the Bastet of the Egyptians was invoked as Artemis by the Greeks, Diana by the Romans, Freya by the Norse and was taken over by the Virgin Mary.

The sale in London recently of one of Leonardo's drawings of the Virgin with a cat (it was

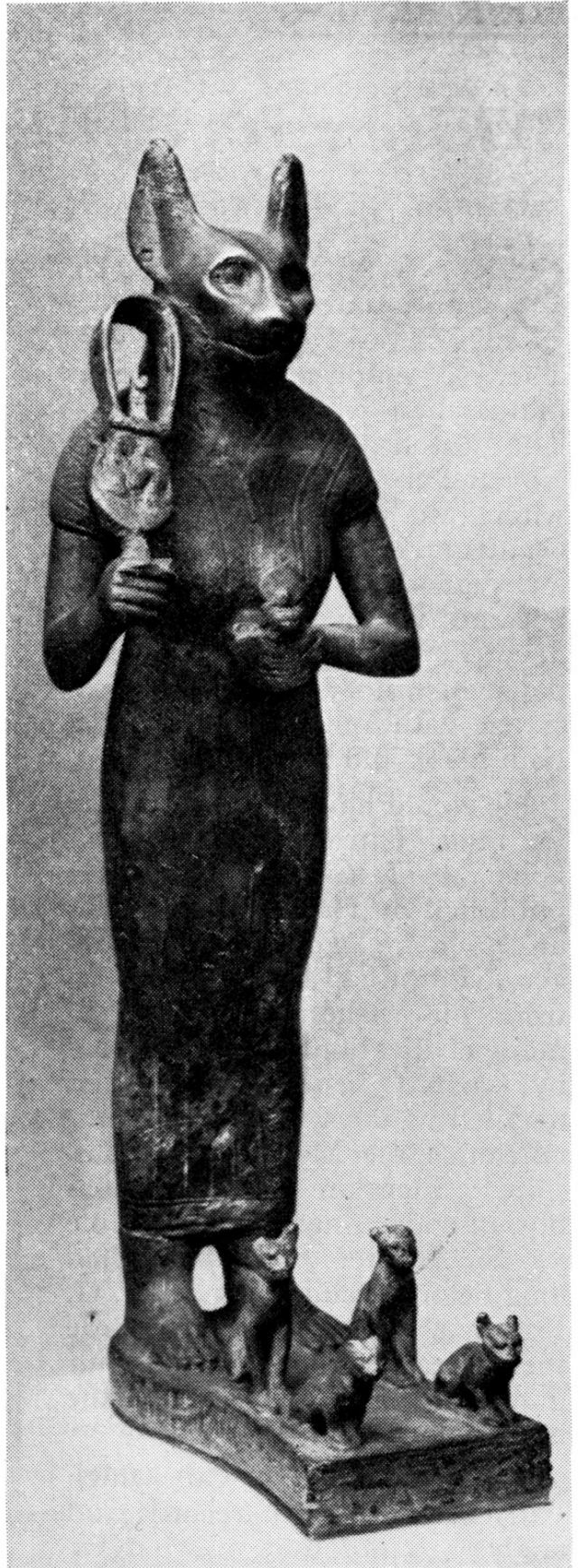
sold to an anonymous buyer for (£19,000) is a reminder of how Christianity “took over” the White Cat which appears as a symbol in numerous paintings of New Testament scenes. But there was also the Black Cat, shown at the feet of Judas in a Last Supper scene and, of course, associated with witches and ritually tortured and burned.

The whole fascinating story is told in this book and those who have thought of Cinderella, Dick Whittington and the White Cat as merely children’s fairy stories will realise there is deep meaning in them as well. No other animal, except perhaps the serpent, has aroused the same extraordinary range of mystical feelings as the cat and in the variety of its symbolism the cat leaves the serpent far behind. It would, for instance, be quite impossible to write a similar book about the cult of the dog. The reason is presumably in the number of remarkable features of the cat—its eyes, its appearance of deep contemplation, its great individuality and insistence on freedom, to mention a few.

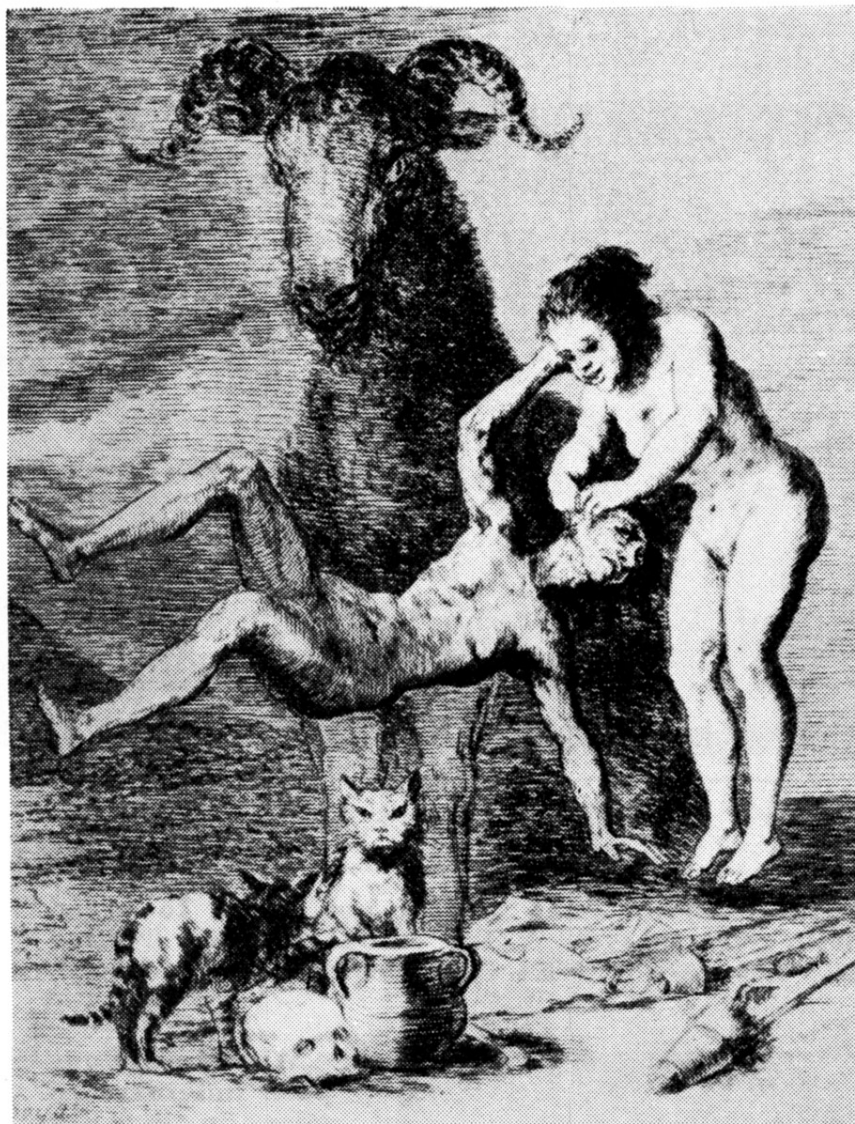
Few people are indifferent to cats. They either adore White Cats or feel strongly repelled or fear Black Cats. Patricia Dale-Green’s explanation of this is fascinating. It may, as she suggests, help the cat-haters to understand their feelings. It is doubtful whether it will help the cat-lover to understand cats better, but certainly it will enable them to understand themselves more deeply.

It only remains to record that the book is beautifully produced with 30 plates which admirably illustrate the text.

SIDNEY DENHAM.



BASTET bronze of the Ptolemic period from the British Museum collection.



One of the many fine illustrations in *The Cult of the Cat* is this drawing by Goya (1799) which depicts a witch with her devil cats teaching a sorcerer to levitate.

AN IDEAL GIFT SUGGESTION

Brooches for Siamese Lovers

SIAMESE DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size $1\frac{1}{8}$ " high \times $1\frac{3}{4}$ " wide)

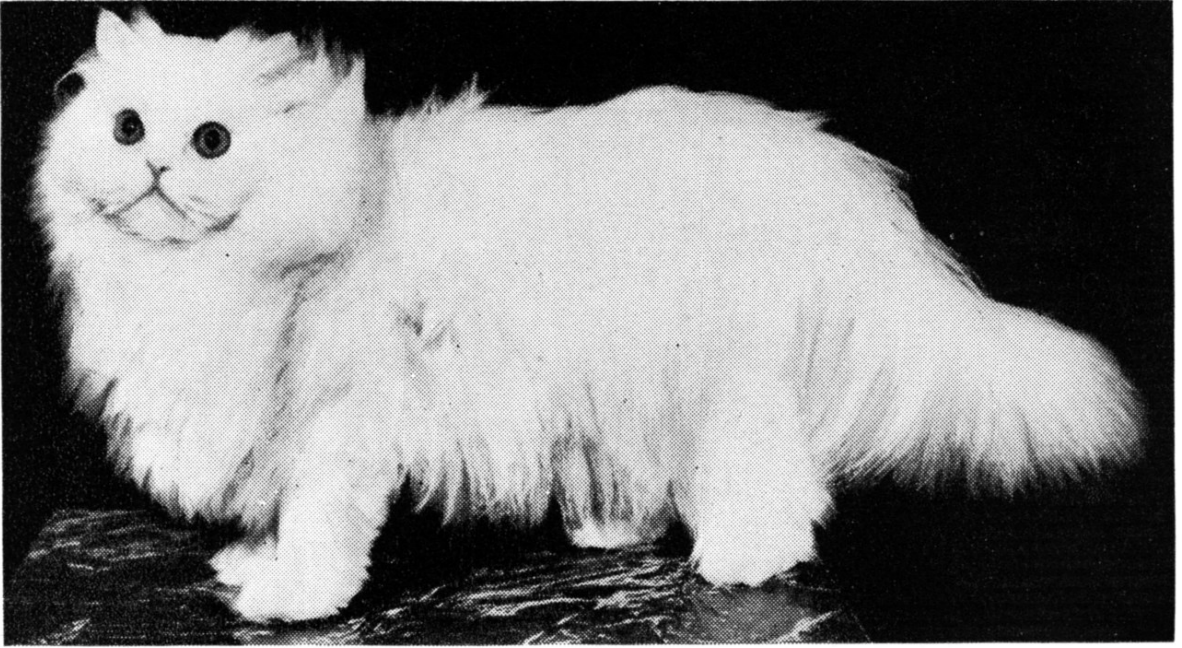
Artist enamelled in natural S.P. colours on solid silver ... 37/6 each (U.S.A. \$ 5.50)
These brooches are made by a world renowned firm of specialists in costume jewellery. They are of fine quality with plain back, fitted with joint pin and catch. Prices include purchase tax and postage.

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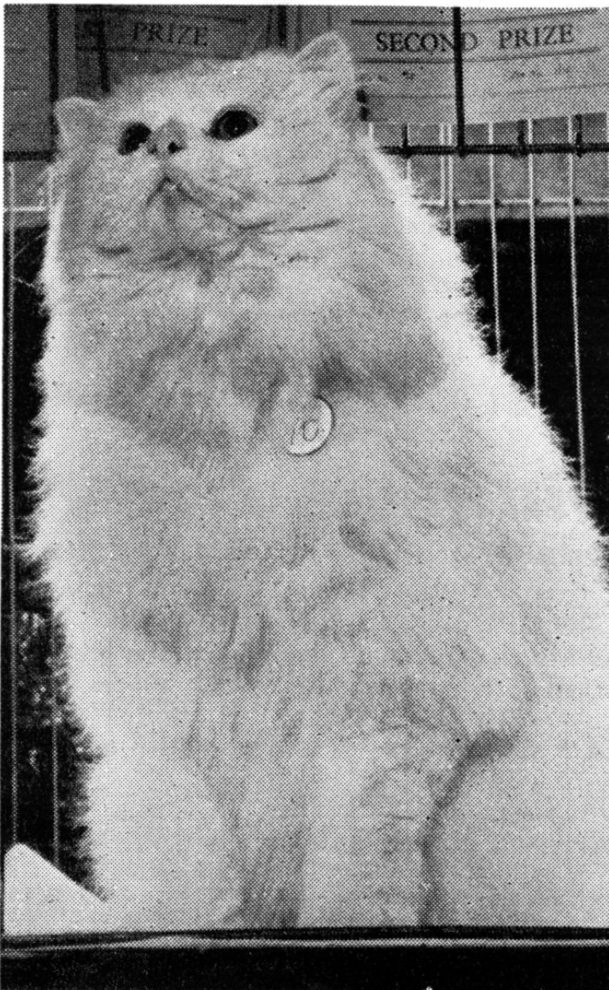
The manufacturers have recently advised us that owing to the steep rise in the price of silver they have been compelled to charge more for all their lines. The new price for their Siamese Brooch in colour is shown above.

A FAMILY GROUP



SNOWWHITE GISELLE, the daughter

"Dream of a kitten, the kind one always hopes to breed". "A future Champion with everything". "One of our loveliest Whites". "A dream cat, absolutely heavenly". "Excelling in all one could wish for".



When five of our leading judges pass judgment in such glowing terms in their show reports, the owner is surely entitled to feel that good fortune has come her way, particularly when the cat in question happens to be the first exhibit of her own breeding.

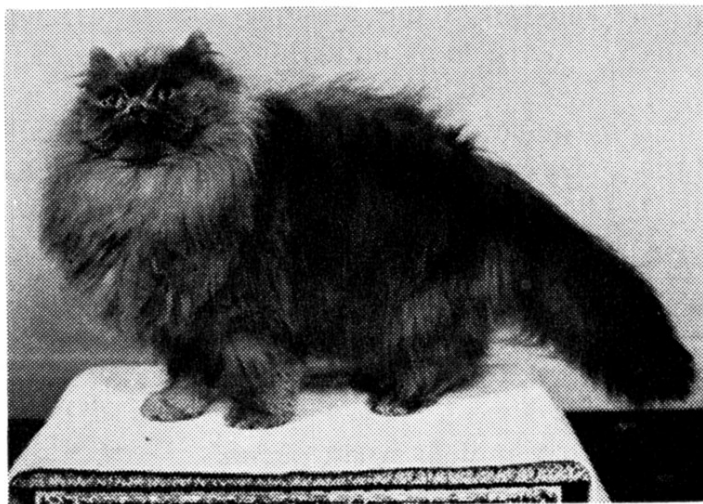
This has been the experience of Mrs. Jean Hogan, of Wilpshire, Blackburn, Lancashire.

SNOWWHITE GISELLE, her lovely Golden-eyed White Long-hair pictured above, has appeared only twice on the show bench, once as a kitten in 1961 and once as an adult in 1962, both appearances being at the Croydon C.C. Show. She was Best L.H. Exhibit each time and also won 22 first prizes.

Mrs. Hogan, as a novice breeder, is acutely aware of the debt she owes to the breeders of Giselle's sire and dam, whose pictures go to complete a family group which is a great credit

**CH. SNOWCLOUD CRISPIN,
the father**

CAMBER SUZANNE,
the mother



to the Fancy. The sire is Ch. Snowcloud Crispin, a White Longhair bred by Mrs. K. Mearns and now owned by Miss M. Bull. The dam is Camber Suzanne, a Blue Longhair bred by Mrs. E. Denton and subsequently purchased by Mrs. Hogan.



Tailpieces

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



THE Suffragan Bishop of Woolwich, Dr. John Robinson, whose controversial book *Honest to God* has caused so many tongues to wag, lives in a large red brick house in Blackheath with his wife and four young children, a dog called Simon and Dingle, the house cat.

A factory extension costing nearly £300,000 is to be built at Barrhead, Renfrewshire, by Scottish Animal Products Ltd., manufacturers of well known brands of cat and dog food. At present the company is turning out about 120 million cans of this food a year from its three factories. The additional premises will house the most modern high speed canning equipment and will eventually double production. Present production

at Barrhead is at the rate of 500 cans a minute. Announcing the expansion plans recently in Glasgow, the Managing Director of Scottish Animal Products Ltd. said that their pet food division had been expanding steadily over the last ten years and information at their disposal on trends of the market suggested that this state of affairs will continue.

According to a report from the Small Animals Veterinary Association, thousands of Britain's popular pedigree dogs are suffering from hereditary abnormalities. The report, on 8,000 dogs, is being studied by the Kennel Club. Inherited defects included deformed hips, slipped knee caps, ingrowing and double rows of eyelashes, unhinged lenses in the eyes, deafness and mental disorders. The

Association has asked the Minister of Transport to force local authorities to bring in orders prohibiting dogs from all roads if not on a lead. Aren't you glad you prefer cats?

Derek Tangye's delightful book *A Cat in the Window* has, I hear, interested Walt Disney. He has bought the film rights.

An echo from an item in last month's Tailpieces appeared in the personal column of *The Times*: "Ellis Powell (first Mrs. Dale).—Her two enchanting cats Bella and Mandy, fluffy tortoiseshells, want quiet home together. Will travel anywhere".

Shows to take place on the Continent during the 1963-4 season under the aegis of the Fédération Internationale Féline d'Europe include the following fixtures: 13th-14th July—Vichy, France; 12th-14th July—Naples, Italy; 16th-18th August—Aalborg, Denmark; 31st August-1st September—Malmo, Sweden; 4th-6th October—Copenhagen, Denmark; 25th-27th October—Paris, France; 1st-3rd November—Gothenburg, Sweden; 9th-10th November—Brussels, Belgium; 22nd-24th November—Stockholm, Sweden; 30th November-1st December—Bruges, Belgium; 8th December—Rotterdam, Holland; 1964: 24th-26th January—Copenhagen; 29th February-1st March—Lausanne, Switzerland; 21st-22nd March—Helsinki, Finland. Further details may be had from the Secretary of the Federation, Mrs. B. Remborg, Ostgotagatan 36, Linköping, Sweden.

Rather belatedly, I am pleased to be able to present good news from the Western Province Cat Club of Cape Town, South Africa, which has entered its 15th year of activities. Membership has increased to 160 and Mr. Beverley Nichols is a new patron. The Club's excellent quarterly journal *Cats Calling* is now under the editorship of

Mr. van Ogtrop. Mrs. Kay Wheeler was unable to carry on this work but has agreed to continue with the Club as custodian of the library. Life membership has been bestowed on Mrs. E. J. Gluckman in recognition of her sterling services over a number of years. These services included the organizing of judging classes which ultimately led to the appointment of six much-needed new judges. Without this addition to the judging strength in the country Championship shows would not have been possible. The Club's financial position is sound and altogether 1962 was a good year.

A note from Miss Ann Codrington, well known for her "Watermill" prefix, includes the following: "I found the following anecdote in a book of letters written by Wilkie Collins, author, playwright and friend of Charles Dickens, in approximately 1866: "In the Protestant Cemetery at Rome no ghosts—only a cat. I went to show a friend the grave of the illustrious Shelley. Approaching the resting place in bright sunlight, the finest black tom you ever saw noticed, from an incredible distance, that a catanthropist had entered the cemetery, rushed up at a gallop with his tail at right angles to his spine, turned over on his back with his four paws in the air,

THIS MONTH'S BACKSLAP

Our numerous subscribers in America include a New York lady who is prominently associated with club and show activities; one who is completely dedicated to affairs feline. An extract from a recent letter runs: "I would like to inform you that in all my contacts with many cat fanciers, I constantly hear the most complimentary comments on OUR CATS Magazine and never any adverse criticism—which is an accomplishment indeed!"

and said in the language of cats, 'Shelley be hanged! Come and tickle me'. I stooped and tickled him. We were both profoundly affected".

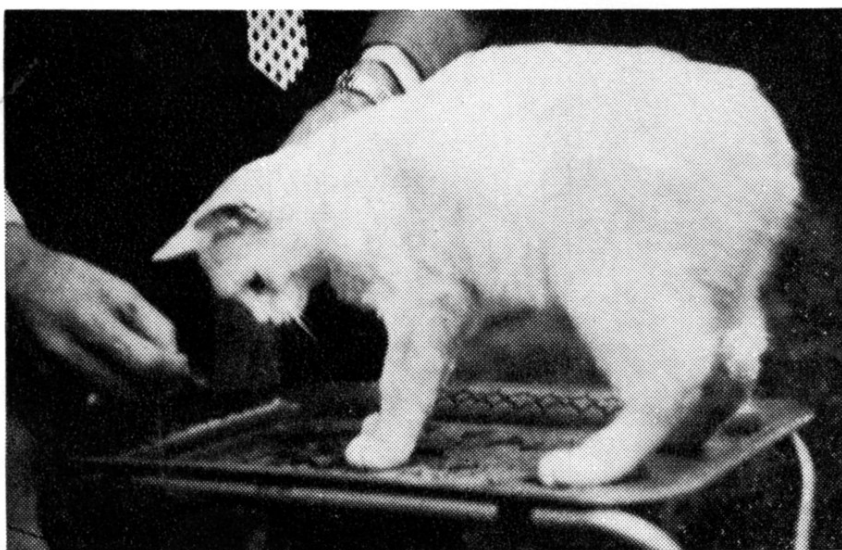
Via America, I have news that 75 cats were on view at the first Japan All-breed Championship Cat Show held at the Camp Zama, Service Club No. 90. Mrs. Michael O'Brien, from San Diego, California, U.S.A., was one of the judges. Miss Chisato Higuchi's Siamese Atsukoo-chan was adjudged Best Cat, Best Open Exhibit, Best Shorthair, Best Siamese and Best Seal Point—quite "a clean up" among the awards!

A rare and fascinating story appeared in a recent issue of the Scottish newspaper The Press and Journal. Gamekeeper Bill Hendry, with his Cairn terriers and .22 rifle, was on his rounds for the Forestry Commission on a bleak hillside in Glen Mazeran when he heard his dogs snarling and barking. He found them bleeding from wounds inflicted by a wildcat they had cornered. Hendry shot the cat through the head and when he examined the body he realized that kittens were on the way. So with his sheath knife he delivered five kittens by caesarean operation.

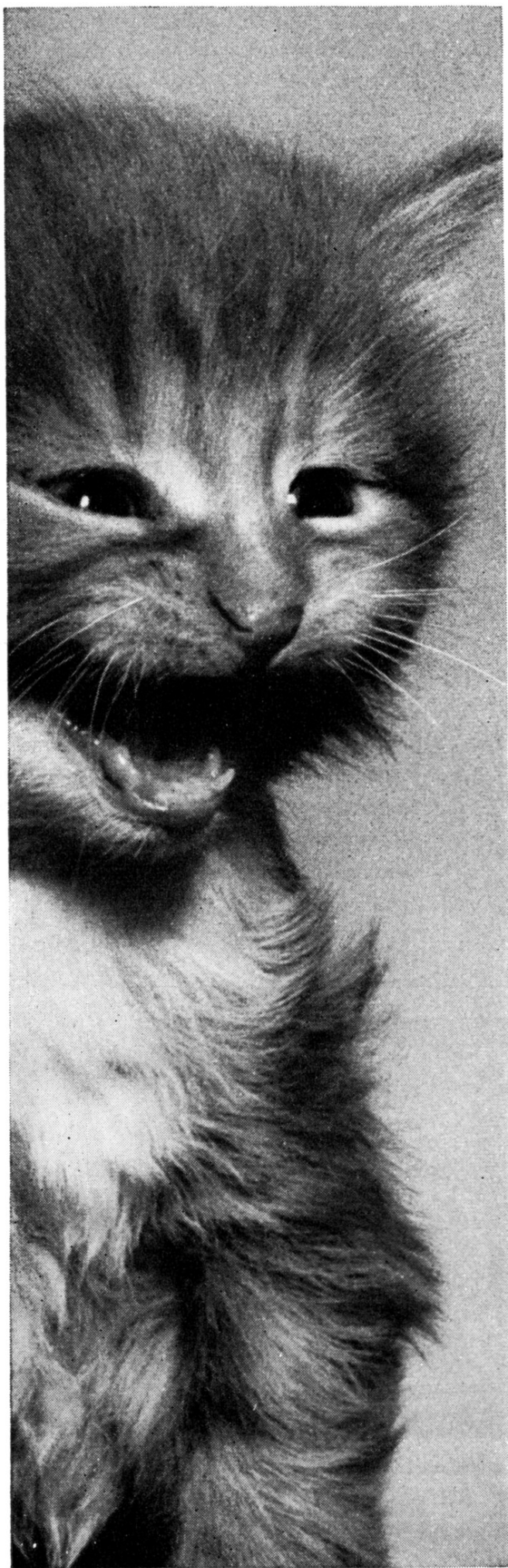
Holding them inside his shirt for warmth he hurried back to his cottage, but three kittens were dead on his arrival. Mrs. Hendry tried to feed the remaining pair with milk but they would not take it. So finally they were taken to Mrs. Joyce Macdonald, of Drumnadrochit, a doctor's wife, who prepared a special feed of diluted glucose, and attended to them every two hours in front of a fire. Despite every care and attention one of the kittens died, the sole survivor was weak but holding its own. Mrs. Macdonald, who has kept wildcats in the past, said she hoped it would pull through and that she would be able to tame it.

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



This lovely White female Manx at 10 months is GR. CH. WILA-BLITE POLA OF SILVA-WYTE, many times Best Cat at American shows for Mr. Richard Gebhardt, of New Jersey.



FAMOUS BREEDERS SAY...

"Our
cats are
Tibs cats"

Champion cats are pampered cats. They win prizes. They deserve a little fuss. But not all the fuss is fussiness. Famous breeders are practical people (they wouldn't be famous otherwise). Which is why they see that their cats have Tibs Tablets daily.

Tibs Tablets play an important part in keeping a cat in peak condition. In conjunction with the daily diet, daily Tibs supply vitamins essential to good health.

Right from weaning age, Tibs are invaluable. They promote strong bones, healthy growth and perfect coat. They go a long way to giving a cat that feline liveliness which is a sure sign he's feeling fine.

That's why famous breeders throughout the country make sure their cats are Tibs cats. Why not take a tip from the experts? Make your cat a Tibs cat, too—every day. He'll be much better for it.

TIBS

TIBS CONDITION TABLETS
FOR CATS ARE A
BOB MARTIN PRODUCT.

Turpin

By JAMES EDWARDS

THERE was another English member of the *Majorka's* crew beside Chris and myself but he hadn't signed on articles and, after the first week, he hadn't done any work.

His name was Dick Turpin and he was a magnificent fighting tomcat, a stray product of the Liverpool waterfront who had been press ganged on board by the mate for the practical purpose of rat disposal but who had, with a surprising lapse in shrewdness, performed his duties so enthusiastically that he was now redundant.

At first Turpin had been truculent and suspicious and had been sent up for'd for a period of indoctrination at the hands of the boatswain but a steady stream of wounded and lacerated seamen had begun appearing before the mate for treatment and the house-breaking attempt had been postponed indefinitely. An armistice was declared and Turpin was allowed the run of the ship and soon became outrageously spoilt. He never became fat and lazy though, and retained his incredibly heavy and muscular body, all black, except for the mask-like pattern around his eyes that had given him his name.

Spawned by the Liverpool slums, he took to the sea immediately and became respected by all the crew. Respected, but not loved, for Turpin was a man's cat, or rather a cat's cat. Courageous, proud, and fiercely independent, he accepted the favours

of the crew but stayed aloof from all attempts to pet him. He had a cushy billet, and knew it, but if his fortunes were suddenly to change Turpin would "make out" in any situation.

It was not unusual to see him strolling in some foreign port, sniffing the air fastidiously, those wary green eyes never still, all his senses tuned to detect any danger amongst the strange sights and smells so far from his native Liverpool. He always got back on board in time though and, by some strange instinct, just before sailing time. Chris swore he recognized the *Majorka's* whistle when she blew for tugs but this theory was never widely accepted. Once they actually held up the ship for him, and the sight of that familiar, unruffled figure strolling along the quay sent the skipper into fits and convulsed the crew. But they were glad to see him back and it was laughable to see the extra large dinner he got that night.

The skipper relents

I recall another incident that happened before the skipper was aware of Turpin's presence on board. Deciding he needed a change we took Turpin to the Doghouse Bar in Panama, where he was a great attraction. The skipper spotted us coming back along the quay and bellowed down from the bridge (a guttural bellow), "Hey, Englishman, you

don't bring that filthy beast on my ship". So we took Turpin topside and introduced him. The skipper relented. We were very drunk at the time!

Turpin adjusted to life at sea in every sense but one. He retained his shore side instinct to protect his territory, his domain, which included the whole ship but the poop deck, became his special haunt. It was, to him, the equivalent of a back yard to a house cat ashore. He ate, slept and sunned himself there and for many weeks there was no animal violation of this territory. Then the parrots came.

There were two of them, belonging to the German able seaman, Eric, who had bought them in Belem. Actually only one of them was a parrot, the other was a macaw, a sort of overgrown version at least 3½ feet from beak to tail feathers. He was undeniable handsome though, and considered quite a prize with his brilliant plumage and huge curved beak. Eric kept them both in the cabin that I shared with him and I hated them. They were both mean blighters with filthy habits.

Trouble starts

To cap it all, Eric, who insisted that they were very intelligent birds, would squat in front of them for hours on end intoning monotonously: "I am a hooknosed horror". They just sneered at him. Finally one of them mastered the first six bars of the "River Kwai March". He usually gave a performance in the dead of night.

Finally, the constant cleaning up of parrot dirt became too

much even for Eric and he removed both of them to the poop deck. At night he attached a cord to their legs to prevent them from falling overboard but during the day they were allowed to roam around fluttering their clipped wings and squawking hideously. Both myself and Chris, who knew cats, waited for the explosion.

By this time the affections of the crew were somewhat divided. Turpin was still the favourite especially with the English element but a minority were becoming parrot happy. In the small compact world of the seaman the drama to come caught the imagination of all and broke the monotony of the empty days at sea.

Turpin reverts

When it happened I witnessed it all with Chris and neither of us thought for a moment of trying to stop it. We were lying under the sun awning on the poop deck when Turpin appeared. The tom was belly flat behind a rope coil, his eyes intent on the many coloured intruder. With superb indifference he dismissed the small fry. It was almost as if Turpin represented the Liverpool element on this Norwegian ship; a worthy champion, too, from a city that had traditionally for centuries produced the finest and toughest seamen in the world. It went further back than the poop deck, further back than the tenements and back alleys he had been born into. For those few seconds he was a jungle cat taking his rightful place besides his giant relatives.

When Turpin sprang it was a

beautifully timed and executed movement that ended with screams and snarls, and a vivid impression of whirling green, red and black hues. Perhaps Turpin under-estimated the strength of that huge wing span or the danger from the curved beak. At any rate he was thrown clear and landed on his feet, a spitting, arching killer. He went in again without hesitation, seized the macaw by the throat, and suddenly it was all over. Turpin stood over his dead victim making a curious hissing sound, like a lion over a dead zebra.

After that there was no more trouble and the parrots lost favour. Two weeks later, when Turpin strolled ashore, tail high, and never returned we all grieved for him a little. He was a good old cat though, and we spoke of him with pride. Maybe some-day we'll find him waiting on the quay when we dock in Puerto Barrios or maybe he's still trying to get back to Liverpool. Who knows?

One thing is sure. If he did end up in some native cooking pot, it would have been the toughest meal they ever ate.



Photo by D. A. Longthorpe

A concrete Cornish cat on a cottage chimney may be seen by those who travel the road from Truro to Caerhays Castle.

A CHALLENGE TO CATS

ONE hundred and seventy-one thousand, three hundred and forty cats, you might think, is a lot of felines.

It is. It is also the number of cases of illness and accident among cats treated by The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals in 1962. And it is, in fact, a lot less than it used to be. Just six years ago, the annual total of cat patients treated by the society was nearly 251,000. In other words, the figure has fallen in that short span of time by more than thirty-one per cent.

The cat-lover may well ask who or what has displaced his pet in the popularity scale. And the answer, according to the P.D.S.A. *Annual Report for 1962* is—birds!

The British, says the *Report*, having long been known as a nation of animal-lovers, may very well become more particularly known as bird-lovers. Budgerigars for example are on the increase—the P.D.S.A. treated over 60,000 in 1962 as opposed to a mere 9,000 in 1953. Canary totals are up sixty-five per cent in one year alone. Other participants in this feathered challenge to the cat in P.D.S.A. case records include Java sparrows, parrots, Indian mynahs, parakeets and cockatoos.

Nor is that the end of the catalogue of pets which are undermining the cat's traditional position as second favourite in the British home. Guinea-pigs, rats, mice and hamsters are all on the up-and-up in the P.D.S.A. records, and, as the *Report* states, the cat, "due to its inherent inability to live in peace with smaller animals is undoubtedly feeling the draught".

Perhaps not quite in the same way as one particular P.D.S.A. patient felt the draught, however. Snowball was a handsome white cat who in the ferocious winter of 1962 went up on the tiles—and stayed there too long. When he tried to

come down again he found he was imprisoned by 14 inches of fur—his own tail—which had frozen solid to the slates. It took a P.D.S.A. official six hours to free him from the roof—a high and inaccessible one—and a further hour was necessary to thaw out the rigid poker that was Snowball's tail.

The kitten who fell into the spin-dryer, the cat who came home with a clonk after jamming his foot in a large iron nut, and the kitten who got his head stuck in the fridge were just a few more of the unfortunates who were helped out of trouble by the P.D.S.A. during the year.

But perhaps things are not so bad for cats after all. The Society's *Report* reveals another fact which may help to restore feline self-esteem. The P.D.S.A. has just opened its first-ever stray cats' home.

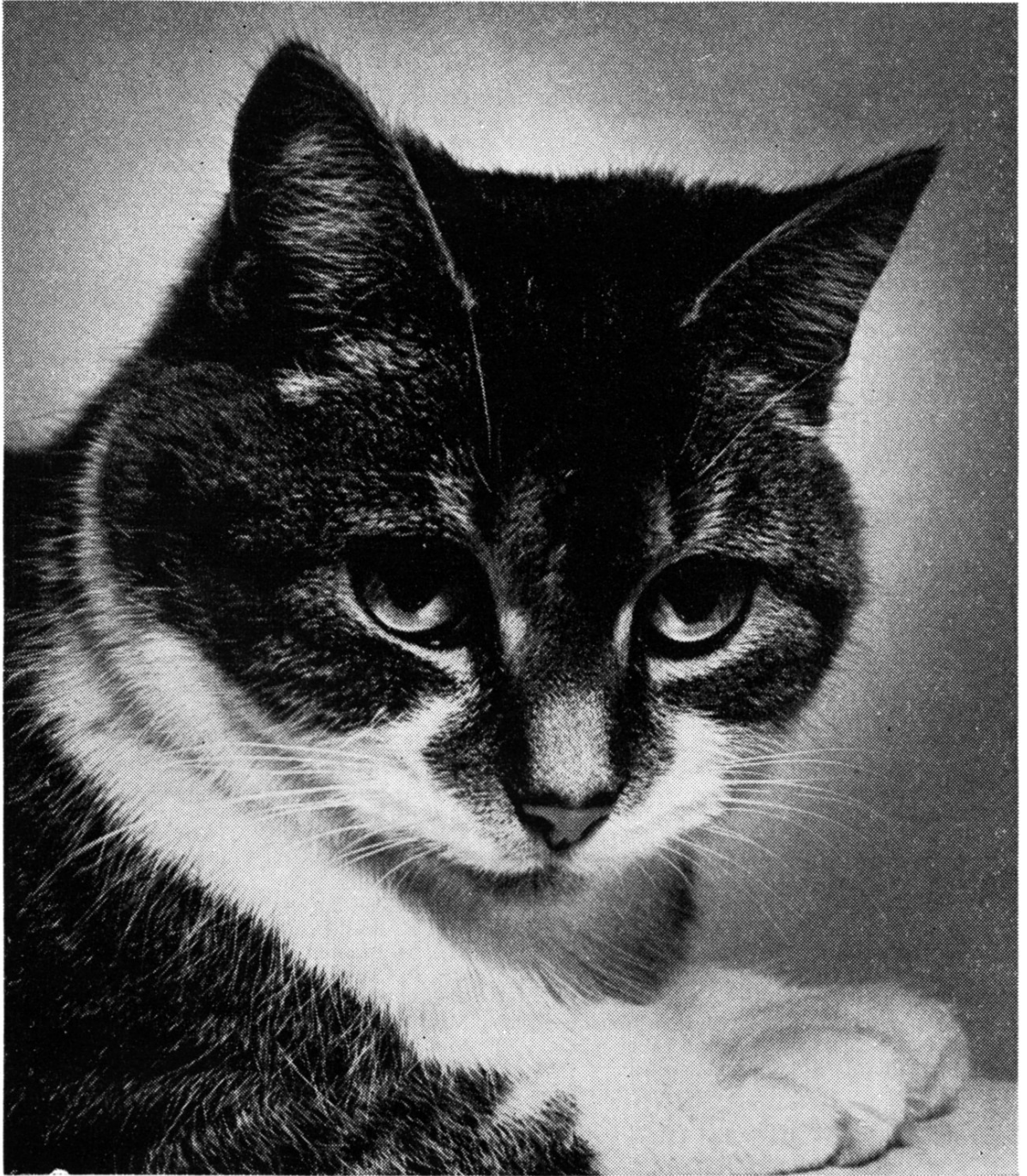
The home is across the border—where the problem of stray cats is an acute one—at Cumbernauld, about 11 miles from Glasgow. It stands in extensive grounds and provides cat-cages, each with its own outdoor run, for many hundreds of strays.

Cats everywhere, too, will benefit from the latest educational film made by the P.D.S.A. This is on cats—cats in history, cats in the home, cats in sickness and health. The film is on the verge of completion and copies will shortly be available on free loan from P.D.S.A. House, Clifford Street, London, W.1.

So feline heads can still remain high. And, after all, 171,340 is still a lot of cats. Furthermore, when you stop to think that they were all given free treatment by the P.D.S.A. (a charity supported entirely by voluntary contributions) because their owners could not afford private veterinary fees, then 171,340 becomes a more impressive figure still.

The P.D.S.A.'s *Annual Report* is available from the address given above.

A page for the proletarian puss—No 104



Peter Astbury

We are indebted for this striking photograph of BAMBI to Miss D. E. Brammer, of Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, who explains in her covering letter: “I have often looked after this delightful cat when the owner is away.” Lucky owner is neighbour Mrs. Fletcher.

CHAMPIONS OF THE 1962-63 SHOW SEASON

<i>Name of Cat</i>	<i>Breed and Sex</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Breeder</i>
AMBERLEY THISTLEDOWN	Chinchilla (F)	Mr. & Mrs. Wilson	Owners
ANDERSLEY ALDER	Red Tabby L.H. (M)	Miss J. Simcock	Mrs. Anderson
ANDERSLEY ALLFLAME	Red Tabby S.H. (M)	Mrs. D. M. Norman	Mrs. Anderson
ANNELIDA LILAC HIAWATHA	Siamese L.P. (M)	Mrs. Z. Tunnicliffe	Mrs. Ashford
ARCAMOR SCAMP	Black L.H. (M)	Miss Woodthorpe	Miss English
ASHDOWN CLEMATIS	Blue Cream L.H. (F)	Miss Woodthorpe	Mrs. Stephenson
BALLARD PATANI	Blue Burmese (F)	Mrs. Leaver	Mrs. R. E. Knowles
BIRCOTTE TERRY	Smoke (M)	Miss I. Sherlock	Owner
BLUEMINE MOUNT JOY	Blue L.H. (M)	Mrs. L. M. M. Williams	Owner
BONAVENTURE PRUDENCE	British Blue (F)	Mrs. K. B. Savage	Owner
BRUMASINO	Manx (M)	Mrs. Colville	Mr. Cave
BRUTON POMPADOUR	Red Tabby L.H. (F)	Mrs. N. Rosell	Owner
CHARMINA ZIRCON	White L.H. (M)	Mr. & Mrs. Holdaway	Owners
CROSSWAYS HYDENA	Chestnut Brown For. (F)	Mrs. S. G. Warren	Mrs. J. Judd
DEEBANK MANDY	Black L.H. (F)	Mrs. P. M. Worrall	Miss M. Bull
DIMVAR WEE JEAN	Siamese B.P. (F)	Mrs. M. Smith	Owner
DIONESE DE WINDLE	Tortie & White S.H. (F)	Miss A. W. Baines	Owner
DOMINIC BENEDIKTE	Blue Cream L.H. (F)	Mrs. Brough	Owner
DORSTAN DARIUS	Silver Tabby L.H. (M)	Mrs. M. Greenwood	Mr. & Mrs. Gurney
ELVYNE BILLY BUD	Chestnut Brown For. (M)	Miss E. Swyer	Owner
FISHERMORE CALYPSO	Chinchilla (F)	Mrs. D. A. Lodge	Owner
GIPPESWYK JAKE	Blue L.H. (M)	Miss D. M. Collins	Misses Alexander
HARVEES ANTIMONY	Russian Blue (M)	Mrs. P. Kirby	Miss Handscombe
HEARTSEASE COLUMBINE	White S.H. (F)	Lady Glubb	Owner
HILLCROSS SILVER LACE	Silver Tabby S.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Eustace	Mrs. E. Towe
HOLWAY VOSTOK	Russian Blue (M)	Mrs. R. L. Alexander	Owner
IVELHOLME DEMOCRAT	Chinchilla (M)	Mr. & Mrs. Wilson	Mrs. K. Bacon
JEZREEL JANTY	British Blue (M)	Mrs. A. S. Beever	Mrs. Johnson
KATRINE JAP ROSE	Siamese S.P. (F)	Mrs. A. Sayer	Miss K. B. Tilby
KATRINE SUN HUNTER	Siamese S.P. (M)	Miss K. B. Tilby	Owner
KATYPUSS JACARANDA	Abyssinian (M)	Miss F. Bone	Mrs. A. Green
LAMONT BLUE BURMA BOY	Blue Burmese (M)	Mrs. R. Pocock	Mrs. Waldo Lamb
LINTON AJAX	Siamese B.P. (M)	Mrs. Biggie	Owner
LOKI	O.E. White L.H. (F)	Mrs. E. H. Durbin	Miss H. Matthews
LOMOND LUCKY	Blue L.H. (M)	Mrs. R. Richardson	Owner
MAGYAR MIRA BAI	Brown Tabby L.H. (F)	Mrs. Beedell	Owner
MAVLYN WHITE SERGEANT	O.E. White S.H. (M)	Mrs. E. H. Weller	Owner
MILSTAR ALEXANDER	Silver Tabby S.H. (M)	Miss H. Harris	Owner
MISCHA	Manx (F)	Mrs. Colville	Mrs. Leece
MISSELFORE CHOCOLATE WHEY	Siamese C.P. (M)	Mrs. Ashford	Major & Mrs. Rendall
PATHFINDERS ROSEBUD	Tortie & White L.H. (F)	Miss N. Woodfield	Owner
PLAINSONG AMAZIAH	Blue Burmese (M)	Mrs. Nicholas	Mrs. Scott
PRAHA POCO ALLERGANDO	Siamese L.P. (F)	Mrs. E. Fisher	Owner
PENSYLVA FANTASIA	Blue Cream S.H. (F)	Mrs. Richards	Owner
PETRUCHIO	Siamese B.P. (M)	Mrs. H. Priston	Mrs. A. E. Barnes
PHENOI FUANG	Siamese B.P. (M)	Mrs. V. Bowles	Owner
PURRING MAHOGANY JANE	Chestnut Brown For. (F)	Mrs. P. Keith	Miss Jury
PYA-MENG-ENG	Blue Burmese (F)	Mrs. Deakin-Burrow	Mrs. Grove-White
REDWALLS CHOIR BOY	Chinchilla (M)	Mrs. K. Emslie	Mrs. Hacking
ROSIE OF DUNESK	Blue L.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Brunton	Owner
SABUKI SAIENA	Siamese S.P. (F)	Mrs. P. Clancy	Mrs. H. Dadd
SEAX SHEBA	Siamese C.P. (F)	Mrs. A. Marshall	Mrs. W. M. Parker
SENLAC COFFEE BEAN	Chestnut Brown For. (M)	Mrs. S. G. Warren	Owner
SILVERSEAL DY-ANNA	Silver Tabby S.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Thake	Owner
SPOTLIGHT SIGISMOND	Siamese B.P. (M)	Mrs. M. Eustace	Mr. R. Warner
SUNGLOW	Tortie & White S.H. (F)	Mrs. Woollin	Owner
TEIGN TILLY	Black S.H. (F)	Mrs. A. S. Beever	Mr. Westlake
TIP TOP	Red Tabby S.H. (M)	Mrs. Woollin	Mr. Prowd
TITWOOD TITANIA	Blue L.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Steele	Owner
WHITEACRES MOOEY	Siamese S.P. (M)	Mrs. H. Martin & Miss Eley	Owners
WILDFELL GALAXY	Cream L.H. (F)	Mrs. B. Wright	Owner
WINDALE DERRI	Siamese S.P. (M)	Mrs. B. Forrest	Miss L. Burness

The season's crop of 63 Champions (divided almost equally amongst males and females) exceeds the figure for 1961-2 by one.

Apparently there were two omissions from the List of Champions for 1961-2 which we have not recorded. They were DALTREES BLUE VONNE, a Siamese Blue Point female, bred and owned by Mrs. M. Fenton and ROOFSPRINGER PIASTER, a Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthair male, owned by Mrs. P. Keith and bred by Miss E. von Ullmann.

The anguish of Angus

By DOROTHY GRANT

WHEN Angus, normally very punctual about his meals, did not turn up for his dinner one lovely summer day, I became apprehensive, as we live near a very busy main road.

However, looking round the garden, I happened to glance into an old chicken house, and there he was, curled up on a pile of old straw. I was about to pick him up when I realized that something was wrong. He did not rise to greet me, but mewed in a strange, anguished way.

I called my husband, who lifted him into a cardboard box, thence indoors, where we discovered that a hind leg appeared to be causing great pain. I got out our old pram and wheeled Angus down to our nearest vet. who diagnosed a broken hip and was all for "letting nature take its course". But I was so distressed by the obvious suffering of our beloved marmalade, that I prevailed upon him to put the leg into plaster. Angus was left overnight and I agreed to collect him next afternoon.

Spat at !

I was not prepared for the strange sight which greeted me when I went back to the surgery. The break had been in the hip (a blow from a car the vet. thought), so the plaster was from the tip of the toe right up the leg and half way across his back. The leg looked strangely long and thin. "He'll be able to get about in a day or so", I was told.

When I arrived home with Angus, "Richard", our second cat, far from being pleased to see her half-brother, screamed and spat at him like a wild thing.

The same afternoon Angus struggled

from his box, but the weight of the plaster pulled him over onto his side. I carried him out into the garden where he feebly attempted to dig a hole, but kept rolling over. So I had in the end to support him under the tummy.

After a couple of days he became remarkably mobile, staggering to the back door with a sort of dot-and-carry-one action. Once outside he would lean against the wall and literally slide along it to the back garden. The grid presented some little problem, he had to gather all his strength to get past that. This obstacle negotiated, he then stood patiently waiting for me to support him under the tummy, which I did in various ways (sometimes with a scarf, or mostly just bent double and using my two hands) until he reached his chosen spot. He always fell into the hole he dug as the weight of the plaster was so great he could not balance on the edge.

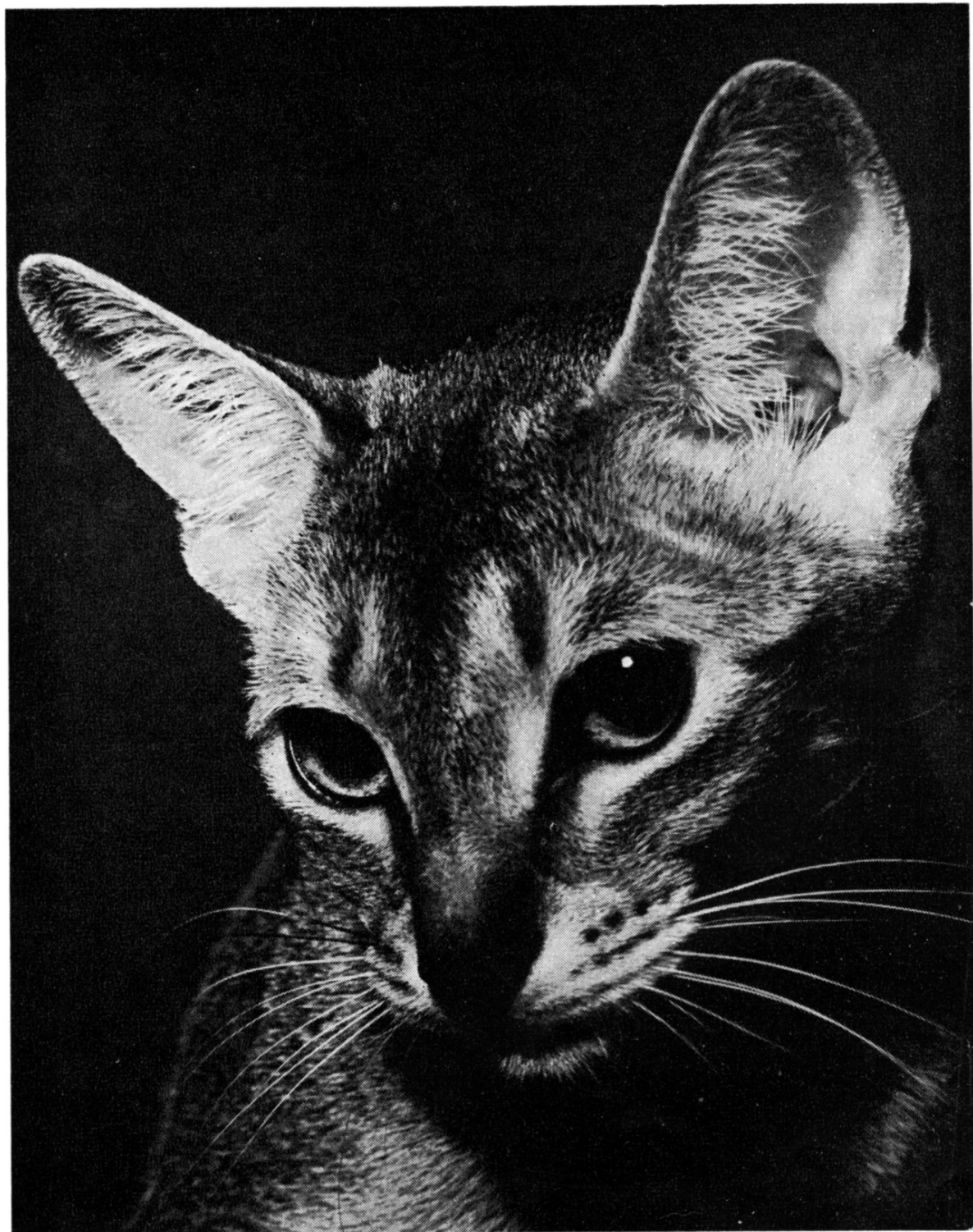
"Richard" in the meantime had made herself absolutely insufferable. She would not remain in the same room as Angus without carrying on a continuous low miserable moaning which increased in tempo until she was spitting and snarling. Nor would she stay away from him, seeming determined to keep him in sight. We could not understand this as she had mothered Angus when he first came to us as a kitten, though she had always shown signs of jealousy.

As the days went by, Angus spent a lot of time biting at the edge of the plaster where it covered his back, gradually tearing off strips and making the edge very ragged and untidy. We were due to go on holiday at this time, to our country cottage, which the cats adore, and seeing Angus staggering round the garden we realized that the plaster, far from supporting the leg, was now actually

pulling it away from the hip. We telephoned the vet, in the nearest market town and made an appointment for him to examine Angus. It was decided that the break had healed sufficiently for the plaster to be removed permanently, though the bone had overlapped instead of butting together.

Once the plaster was removed, "Richard" became much more amenable.

Each day she became more tolerant of Angus and even condescended to sniff the bad leg, which looked very strange as the fur had been cut before the plaster was put on. She even gave it a perfunctory lick now and then. Now the leg is completely healed. Apart from a slight limp, as it is about $\frac{1}{2}$ " shorter than the other three, Angus has nothing to show for his experiences.



The lovely head of DBLE. GRD. and INT. CHAMPION MAY-LING TONI, All Western and All Northern Abyssinian female owned and bred by Mr. and Mrs. I. A. V. Maling, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

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Perling, Ch. P. Perak, Ch. P. Penglina Pertama &
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Chiddingfold 60 Station - Haslemere

CHINDWIN BURMESE

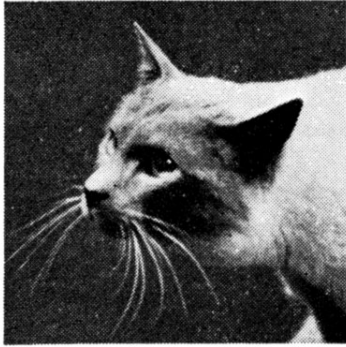
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Sire: Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers

Dam: Laurentide Zenith.

Siring Blue Point, Chocolate Point and Lilac Point

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Kitten National 1962.

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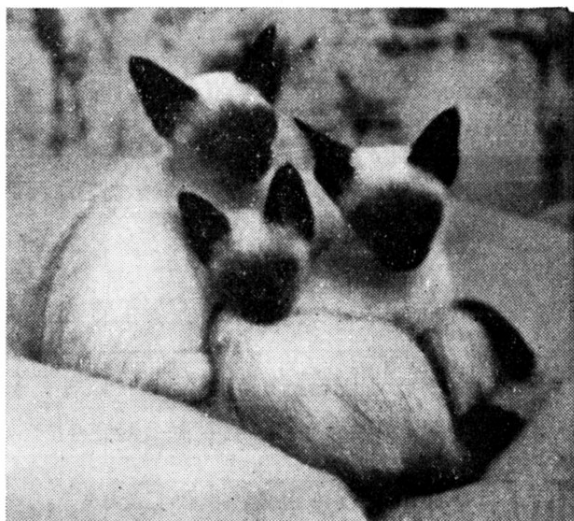
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MRS. KATHLEEN R. WILLIAMS, BRAMALL, HAILSHAM, SUSSEX. (Hailsham 477)

What is a Siamese? (concluded from page 27)

A Siamese cat likes liver, cigarette butts, furniture in clawed strings, books we want to keep, girls (especially if he's a tom cat), kidneys and me—if he's mine. He is not much for behaving, grooming, small children or keeping quiet.

Nothing else is so noisy or so lovable. Nobody else gets so much fun out of trees, bugs or just being ornery. Nobody else can pile up into one corner, a piece of cellophane, a half-eaten cracker, a balloon, a piece of weed, and a genuine cockroach—all dead and repulsive.

A Siamese cat is a magical creature. You can keep him out of the closets—sometimes—but you can't keep him out of your heart. You can get him out of the bathroom, but you can't get him out of your mind. Might as well give up—he is your captor, your jailer, your boss and your master—a dirty-faced, pint-sized dog-chasing bundle of noise. But when you come in at night, with only the shattered pieces of your hopes and dreams, he can mend them with the magic sound . . . "M E O W R R"!

News from "Down Under"

RAIN, rain, rain! So far we have had more than our annual average with less than half the year gone. Floods and great stock losses everywhere.

Victoria: Mrs. Corfield has written to say that her Red Pointed Siamese are doing well and have now been immunized. Mr. Geo. Dyke has been very busy with a commendable idea in the formation of a new club called the Younger Set Club. It is being run at the moment by a steering committee and when the election of officers takes place the executive will all be under 25 years of age. It will surely encourage youth into the Fancy. Other good news is that Mrs. F. Howard is to form a new club. The eagerly awaited litter from the Gr. Ch. Blue Point have arrived and are creating great interest.

South Australia: At their last show in Adelaide a record number of entries (182) was received and the Longhair entries showed a welcome increase. The standard is also improving and this is due to so many good cats finding their new homes in Adelaide. This should please President McAdie and Secretary Horne a lot. Mrs. A. Crowe's Ch. Faraway Hilarity was Best Siamese Exhibit. Mrs. N. Rassack's Cameo Kingsmead Chanticleer was Best Longhair.

Mr. G. Paelchen has South Australia's first Lilac Point Siamese Binalong Lilac Prince and a Blue Point female Binalong Blue Princess. Mrs. Myers and Mr. Paelchen did some judging at Melbourne Moomba Show recently. Mr. Sinclair has been elected Secretary to the Siamese Cat Club. I send him congrats. It is a great opportunity to gain experience

rapidly. Mrs. Scott and Mr. Vic Bumak of Victoria and the four S. Australian judges made the awards at the Breeders Association Show in April to aid the S. Australian Cat Society.

Queensland: Some very interesting letters from this part of the world, including a new correspondent, Mrs. Treloar, who is setting out on the right track with good foundation stock. The Siamese Club has so far held twelve judges' training class lectures and great enthusiasm prevails. These students are to be examined in July.

New South Wales: The April show of the Cumberland Cat Club at Burwood was a very fine fixture and the very wet day did not keep the public away. At this writing I only know the L.H. awards. Best male was Mrs. Mullins' Black import from New Zealand, Ch. Lindisfarne Bye Bye Blackbird. Best Female went to Mrs. Woods' White Delhi Arctic Xmas Lily.

The following month St. George District C.C. held their Ch. Show at Arncliffe. It was another wet day, but a fine fixture with a big entry which kept six judges very busy. Very happy to meet our two oldest members, enjoying every minute of it: Mr. Watkins, a brood of a boy of 93 and Miss K. Cattel, only a girl at 89! Prominent among the awards were: Best S.H. Male—Mrs. Meany's Lindfield Garçon; Best S.H. Female—Mrs. Burt's Trubac Duchess Garina; Best Persian Exhibit—Mrs. Mullins again with Ch. Bye Bye Blackbird; Best L.H. Female—Mrs. Tyas' Argyle La Favourite; Best Kitten—Mrs. Kirkland's Highland Golden Eagle (imp. N.Z.).

RAND CLUB SHOW

WE have had news that the March fixture of the above South African Club was the largest ever held and a great success financially. Show managers who helped substantially to achieve these results were Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Emery. Three cats (not identifiable from the report received) became Champions and exhibitors who made the long journey from Cape Town were well rewarded for their trouble by taking four C.Cs and three firsts back home with them. Judges were Mrs. G. Haswell (Siamese and Open Longhair classes), Mrs. J. M. Hinds (neuters), Mr. J. Oliver (Siamese), Miss R. C. Harte (Shorthairs), Mrs. McConnochie and Mrs. Warnes (household pets).

Top awards and C.Cs were won by Dr. P. F. Greyling's Orange-eyed L.H. White male Frikkie of Clovelly; Mr. and

Mrs. Matheson's L.H. Blue male Cossack Prince; also their L.H. Cream male Cossack Kim; Mrs. Madeyski's L.H. Cream female Baba of Malla; Mrs. L. B. Emery's Chinchilla female Silvercloud of Selworthy; Mr. G. J. van der Westhuizen's S.P. Siamese female Penang Bettinah; Mrs. C. F. Duncan's B.P. Siamese female Mistika of Copelands; Mrs. Emery's Brown Burmese male Skotos Simpkin of Selworthy and her Abyssinian male Trubun Karl of Selworthy; Mrs. E. E. Chapman's British Blue male Marisha's Shah.

We had previously received a copy of the Club's quarterly *Newsletter*, which had a most attractive glossy cover. The contents were well chosen and calculated to instruct, entertain and amuse. The list of new members was quite impressive.

WHAT IS A SIAMESE?

(With acknowledgements to Dana Learn and the 'Siamese News Quarterly', U.S.A.)

BETWEEN the innocence of not owning a cat and the dignity of not admitting that you own one, you will find a delightful creature called a Siamese cat.

Siamese cats come in assorted sizes, weights and colours but all Siamese cats have the same creed; to enjoy every second of every minute of every hour of every day, and to protest with noise (their biggest weapon) when the last minute is finished and we pack them off to another room.

Siamese cats are found everywhere—on top of, underneath, inside of, climbing on, swing from, running around, or bumping into. Some people love them, a lot of people hate them, our husbands and children tolerate them, our visitors try to ignore them and Heaven protects them. A Siamese cat is truth with a smudge on its face, beauty with often-

times a kink in its tail, wisdom with one of your good stockings in its paw, and hope of the future with a choice piece of your dinner in its mouth.

When you are busy, a Siamese cat is an inconsiderate, bothersome, intruding, jangle of noise. When you want him to make a good impression, he always does something like emptying the ash-tray and playing with it.

A Siamese cat is a composite—he has the appetite of a horse, the digestion of a sword swallower, the energy of a pocket-sized atom bomb, the lungs of Adolph Hitler, the shyness of a violet, the audacity of a steel trap, the enthusiasm of a firecracker and when he wants to be graceful, can oftentimes cross an empty room—and if there is a match on the floor—stumble over it.

concluded on page 25

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

Miscellaneous

CAT LOVERS. Read of the adventures of Amos, the Marmalade, in GRACE Magazine. 1s. 6d., obtainable from Gerard House, 6 Browning Avenue, Boscombe, Hants.

CATS' ACCESSORIES SHOP now at 30 Mill Street, Bedford. Send 3d. stamp full price list everything for your cat, including Cat Doors, Show Pen Blankets, Litter Trays, Brushes, Combs, Toys, etc.

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WHO WANTS A CATNIP MOUSE? The herb inside this cloth mouse creates sheer ecstasy and promotes healthy exercise. Send 1s. 6d. (P.O. or stamps) to OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

PERSONAL SPECIALS FOR SHOWS. NAMED CAT BOWLS posted to winners 6s. 6d. each (postage and packing 1s. 6d. extra), in hand thrown pottery. Price list for other articles free on application.—The Dove Pottery, The Barton, Hunter's Inn, Parracombe, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

"UNWANTED." Famous writer's gift to Mary Collier (and strays!). "Cats' Valley," Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset, copies gratis. Designer/producer Harnesses, Leads, Collars, Identifiers, Baskets, Bedding, Drain-away Sanitins, Safety Cages, Clawboards, Toys. Used/advised shelters.

Books

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

"CATS IN CLOVER", by May Eustace. An ideal book with which to start the Show Season. "Gay and lively, informative and interesting". 12s. 6d. from any Bookseller or from Michael Joseph Ltd., Publisher, 26 Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

ON SALE NOW to all who own and love Siamese—"THE ROYAL CAT OF SIAM", edited and compiled for Northern Siamese Cat Society by May Eustace, 2 North Avenue, South Shields. 4s. 6d. post free.

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LILAC POINT SIAMESE Kittens, dam Lushai Silver, sire Champion Annelida Hiawatha.—Mrs. Silvertown, 21 Sunnybank Avenue, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, Manchester. Tel.: Hea 6141.

BROWN BURMESE Kittens for sale by Ch. Kingsplay Fei-Fo, dam Best Burmese Kitten Midlands 1961.—Mrs. Wright, Overbury Cottage, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

WEALTHAS SEAL POINT SIAMESE Kittens, Champion stock, registered, vaccinated.—Mrs. E. Gibson, 144 Wales Road, Kiveton Park, Sheffield.

If you know any cat lovers who are likely to be genuinely 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.

Mrs. Joan Thompson's "Just Fancy" will be resumed in next month's issue, which we plan to have on sale at the Kensington Show.



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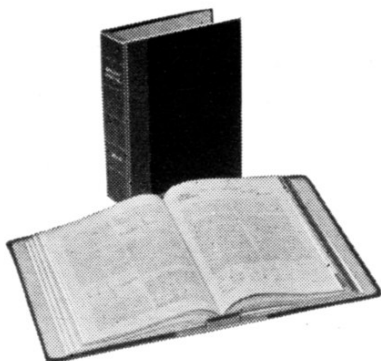


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