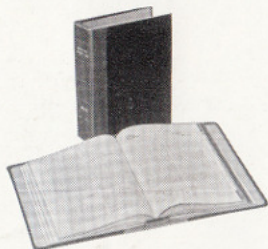


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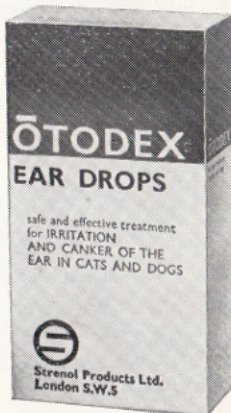
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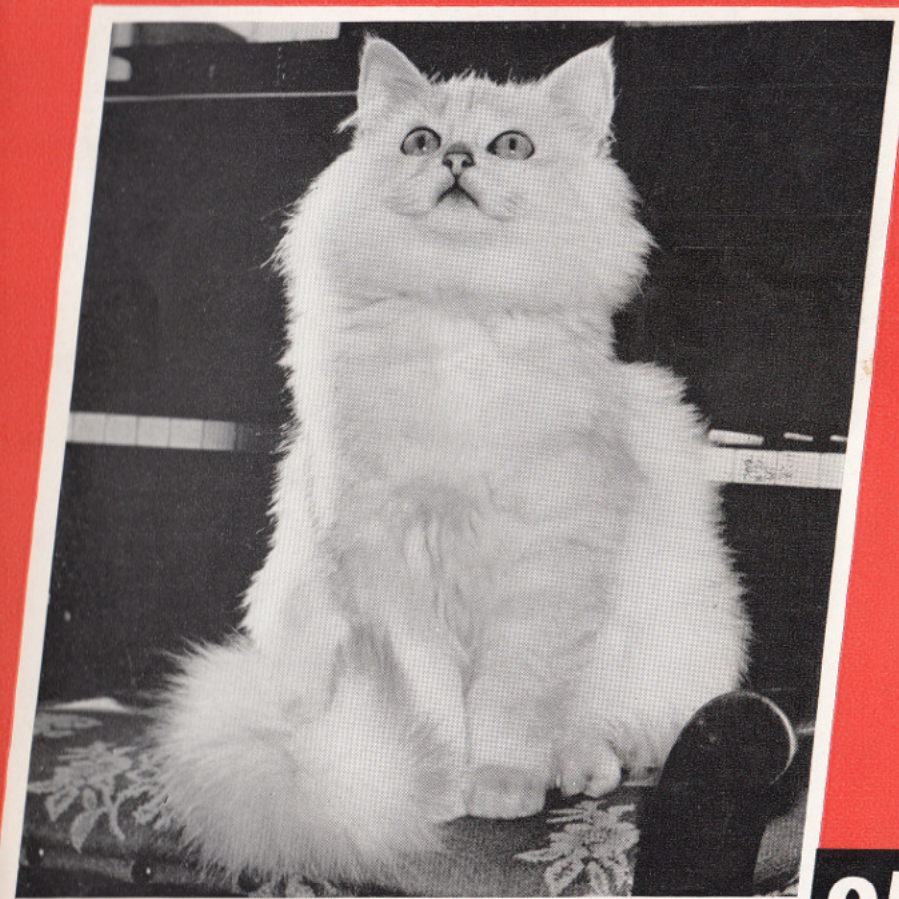
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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



A PRETTY POSER

CROFTON JULIANA, a young Chinchilla, may not be a celebrity but she certainly knows how to meet a photographer. Her sire and dam are descendants of Champion Mark and Champion Laurel of Allington. Breeder owner is Mrs. D. M. Kingdom, of Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon.

JULY 1963

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.

Fix the vaccination date today

'Fiovax'

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1849

Our Cats

VOL. 15 No. 7
JULY 1963

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

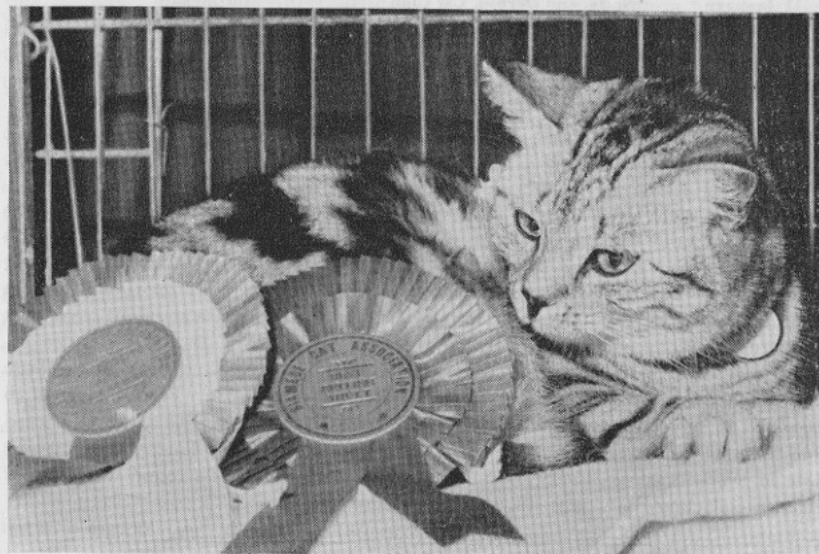
Published every month with the best possible features and illustrations and circulated to Cat Lovers of every kind throughout the world. Our editorial purpose is:

- (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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ROAD, HORNSBY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Evening Argus, Brighton

ELVASTON SILVER FANTASY, 11 months Silver Tabby female by Ch. Culverden Maurice ex Elvaston Silver Moonlight, was Best Cat in Show at the Hove Show last month. Owner breeder is Mrs. E. Grant-Allen, of Epsom, Surrey.

Editor's Note: As I plan to be abroad on holiday during the second and third weeks in August it would be greatly appreciated if readers will be patient about replies to their correspondence and other matters over this period. I feel sure that your kind co-operation can be anticipated.— Editor

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.

	Promoted by	Venue
1963		
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

Writing about cat boarding in *Fur and Feather*, Mrs. Marjorie Hudson, who conducts an excellent establishment of her own at High Halden, Kent, maintains that owners get the service they deserve. If they ask for the best possible for their cats, boarding catteries have to supply it or go out of business. So long as even a proportion of people do not bother sufficiently to make sure that their cats get the highest standard of comfort and hygiene, so long will the "horror hotels" exist.

Robert Parr, an eccentric property tycoon aged 74, was found dead in the little semi-detached house in Leicester, where he lived alone with his cat. From the age of 16 he started to buy houses and when he retired from the Civil Service at 60 he owned more than 200 houses. Later, he bought factories, large areas of land and a 450-acre estate in Warwickshire. Every morning at 7 a.m. he would cycle round the streets of Leicester collecting rents, sometimes in his pyjamas.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in OUR CATS is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, 378 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9. (Macaulay 1462).

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The passing of Oscar

By PETER BLACK

Popular feature writer of the *Daily Mail*, who in his role as TV critic over many years frequently revealed his affection for cats.



MY poor old cat Oscar had to be put away in the sunny holiday weekend. He died of chronic constipation, a great enemy of cats and, to be sure, of all civilised societies.

Henry Kramer, the American who invented Cascarets, was once asked by a doubtful underling about the export trade possibilities. "My boy," replied the benefactor, "always remember this: the whole world is constipated."

The last year of Oscar's life was clouded by this complaint. All the same, when the needle went in and the mysterious inner light of life vanished as his head fell forward, I found it very hard to look the vet in the eye.

However, I don't want to make anybody miserable, including myself. It so happens that Oscar's life was a kind of experiment in cat-keeping, which his death offers an opportunity to assess.

Is it really practical and kind to keep an animal as irrepressible as a tomcat in a repressible society?

Human error

He was lucky inasmuch as the experiment fitted him out with his own female, the tortoiseshell Alice; the theory being that they would solace each other and not go out so much.

The idea that what might be good for some humans would also be good for cats is, by the way, a typical fat-headed human error which causes much suffering to British pets.

Alice burst the theory when she became adult. At the time we lived in Hove, in a rectangle of houses whose gardens were separated by high brick walls.

On these there began to appear the neighbourhood toms: lantern-jawed, with chipped ears, sneezing with catarrh, in one case wearing only the stub of a tail, they filled poor Oscar in with some facts of a tomcat's life.

He had grown into a fine, handsome tabby, with white chest and paws the size of boxing gloves, and a large white jowl that gave him, in photographs, a clownish look. He was much too kind, gentle and scared to stand up to these terrifying veterans though.

I don't think he understood—here I'm guessing again—that when cats mate, a preliminary eliminating punch-up among the toms is part of the scene.

When he was three, physically at the top of his form, we moved to an ex-urban house with a big garden. But though bigger and stronger than his rivals he still had to be rescued from them, notably one Tibbles, a tough, likeable old rip from the nearby nursery garden.

It wasn't until Tibbles was carried off and Oscar became the only tomcat inside half a square mile that he developed the self-confidence he'd lacked. I like to think that the next four years were good ones for him.

Rushed meals

Brian Vesey Fitzgerald, in his excellent handbook *Cats*, says that one tom can serve three females a week during the normal breeding season January-August. Well, Oscar was sultan of a harem of four.

In summer time he went down from a sturdy 18 lb. to about ten; he became lean and hard, a huge head connected to a huge tail by what seemed little more than a backbone and a rib cage.

He'd rush in, touch a plate of food, rush out. We didn't often see him; but sometimes in the distance I'd hear him yowl, a curious, indescribable sound, a mixture of foreboding and delight.

The unpopular male

It's no joke to be even a fulfilled tomcat in a society that likes cats but resents the essential actor of the creative role. Public opinion just isn't on the side of the male animal; fathers leave nursing homes wearing exactly the cowed look of redundant clumsiness that you see on a tomcat who has just had a bucket of water thrown over him.

Though never other than gentle and affectionate with us, outside the house Oscar developed the quick eye and furtive walk of the unloved; squirts from hoses, clods of earth and indignant

shouts came his way more freely than smiles of understanding and encouragement.

A lesson learned

He lost all his four tearing teeth, acquired a more or less permanent cold and the digestive troubles that in the end took him from us. As top cat he had to give way to one of his sons.

He could have given himself a better time by compromising with his instincts, as dogs learn to do. The tortoiseshell Alice was still there.

As cats cannot compromise—although domestic pets they keep extensive parts of their natures away from human influence—I am back where I started, wondering if the experiment was fair.

Perhaps the green-belt countryside justified it. It would certainly be monstrous to keep a tom in a town. On the whole, I wouldn't do it again.

Oscar was in many ways a lucky cat: but at the end of his life he looked as though he'd put more into it than he'd taken out.



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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)

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British Blues are tops!

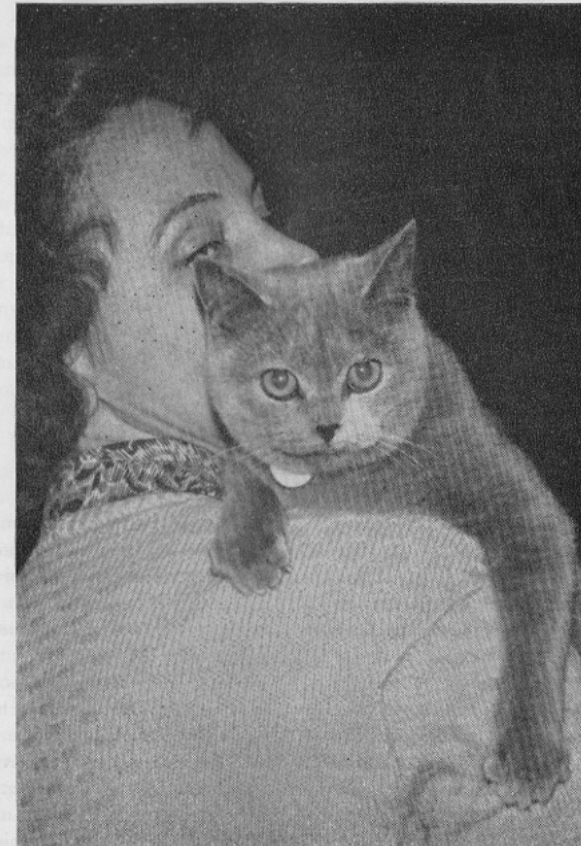
By JOAN RICHARDS

I WAS delighted to see the British Blue cat making such a wonderful comeback on the show benches during the 1962-63 season.

I have only been breeding this attractive cat for a short time compared with many others, although I had the wonderful companionship of a British Blue neuter Broughton Quentin for over eleven years. He was the litter brother to Ch. Broughton Nimrod and had all the

qualities of his breed. He was as faithful as a dog (it wasn't cupboard love as cynics would have us believe) and spent hours quietly on my bed during an illness sometime ago, never worrying if it was way past his mealtimes.

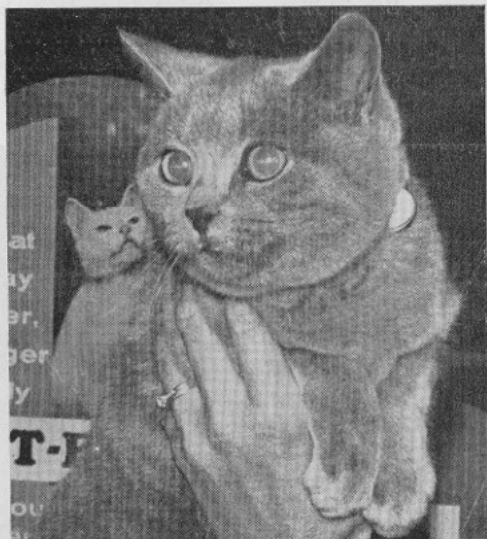
We also have a beautiful short-hair Cream neuter in our household, Bambi's Mischief, who is very pleased when he sees preparations commencing for another day on the show bench. It was Bambi's



Mrs. Richards with her PENSYLVA PANSY, a Blue Cream who was among the select few to be taken out for Best in Show judging at Olympia last year.

first show, the Surrey and Sussex exemption show at Epsom in January 1961 which re-kindled my burning ambition to breed British cats. I had intended to start ten years ago, but having nearly lost Quentin with cat 'flu at ten weeks old postponed that ambition. However, at Bambi's show debut he did extremely well and was awarded Best Neuter in Show.

A few days earlier I had welcomed Ch. Broughton Jane, a wonderful Blue-



PENSYLVA BELLA, a British Blue who shared Show honours with her litter sister Pansy—see picture on the previous page. The kitten in the background is not a live one!

Cream (bred with so much care and thought by Mrs. Phyllis Hughes) to our household. Whether to have her spayed or let her have just one more litter before spaying was the problem. However, she began to call ardently on the night of Bambi's success at Epsom. Bambi, incidentally, is her son. So I immediately sought the advice of Mrs. Hughes as to a suitable husband and Jane duly went to Mrs. Attwood's Ch. Aldra's Cream Bunne. She produced a most wonderful litter of three Cream boys and one Blue Cream girl.

I now felt the real urge to carry on with my breeding and so had a prefix registered. We decided that ours would be the Pensylva cats; "pen" is a cornish prefix (my husband being a Cornishman) and "sylva" a corruption of silver. We felt that this prefix denoted a truly British cat.

The Blue Cream girl from this first litter became Pensylva Fantasia and this year became a full Champion.

Jane has since had two matings to Ch.

Jezreel Jake, Mrs. Johnson's fine stud, and she has produced the most wonderful families. The Blues she produces seem to have the wonderful coat texture seen years ago and also the true copper eye colouring. I have had some very unusual Blue Creams, too, from this mating and the one which I felt had "just that something" from the moment she was born was Pensylva Pansy. I know she has had little competition, but my greatest thrill was at the 1962 National Cat Club Championship Show at Olympia when Pansy (Blue Cream)

(concluded on page 8)

Cat Boarding

WE are pleased to be able to record the fact that some progress has been made in Parliament with the Animal Boarding Establishments Bill.

On May 21st in the House of Lords, Lord Amulree drew attention to the present-day conditions when anybody can turn any premises into a boarding establishment for cats and dogs. He continued: "Many of these boarding establishments are quite satisfactory, but for a long time R.S.P.C.A. inspectors have been worried about a certain number of them, and it is thought that there are probably about 50 per cent of such establishments in this country which are unsatisfactory. Some of them spring up merely during the holiday season to take care of the pets of people who go away. In 1956 the Huddersfield Corporation brought in a Bill, which was passed by your Lordships, by which they took powers to control these boarding establishments for cats and dogs, paying particular attention to temperature, size, lighting, ventilation, et cetera. The Bill which I am now proposing to your Lordships roughly follows that Act of Parliament.

"I should like briefly to outline what the Bill seeks to do. Clause 1 provides that no person should keep a boarding establishment for dogs or cats who has not a licence granted by a local authority—that is, by a county borough, a county council, a metropolitan borough, or the City of London; or, in Scotland, a county or burgh. The person applying for that licence will pay a fee of 10s. a year—which I do not think is an unreasonable sum to put forward, because the charges made by these establishments for taking care of their dogs and cats vary.

"The points which the local authority have to consider when they are granting a licence is that the construction of the establishment is satisfactory, that it is of

a reasonable size, that there are not going to be too many animals there and that there shall exist facilities for giving the animals exercise. At the same time, the temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness must be of a satisfactory state.

Anything does

"The construction at the present time among the unsatisfactory establishments ranges over an enormous variety of buildings, from stables to huts made of chicken boxes with corrugated iron roofs, packing cases, timber and old pieces of crate, et cetera. I have a number of photographs of these but I do not propose to show them to your Lordships now. At the same time there must be available a supply of food and drink and bedding material in suitable quantities, and somebody must be available to visit the animals, if need be, at suitable intervals.

"Precautions must be taken to prevent the spread of infectious or contagious diseases, and adequate isolation facilities must be provided should one of the animals be taken sick. A further provision is that appropriate steps must be taken to protect the animals in the case of fire or other emergency. A provision which is new is that a register shall be kept, giving the date of arrival of the animal and the date of departure, together with the name and address of the owner; and that register is to be opened for inspection to an officer of the licensing authority or to a veterinary officer authorized under Clause 2, subsection (1), of the present Bill.

"There is an appeal to a magistrates' court in England, or to the sheriff's court in Scotland, if an application for a licence should be refused. The licence shall extend for one year. Suppose the licensee were to die during the year, the licence remains automatically in force for one

month, and then the local authority may grant licences at monthly intervals until the estate has been wound up and the establishment can be disposed of finally.

"Clause 2 gives the local authority power to authorize inspection by any of its officers or by a veterinary surgeon or practitioner. The third clause is the penalty clause: there is to be a fine of £25 or up to three months' imprisonment, with discretion to cancel a licence or to disqualify the holder. Clause 4 gives powers to a local authority in England and Wales to prosecute for offences in its area. Clause 5 makes a sensible provision among the interpretations: that the terms of the Bill shall not apply to people who take in one dog or one cat for a friend who is going away for a short holiday. That, I think, is a very sensible provision. Clause 6 provides that people who have been running these establishments before the passing of the Bill may continue to work those establishments for one month before they need apply for their licence—that is to say, provided they have not been disqualified in any way before that.

"This measure has the modified approval of the Association of Municipal Corporations; and the British Veterinary Association has approved it too. I trust, therefore, that I have said enough to

show that this is quite a useful little Bill which will enable some bad establishments either to be improved or to be suppressed altogether. It is part of the general work towards the betterment of conditions of animals in this country, and it really carries on the work which was started by the Pet Animals Act, 1951, which made certain requirements in shops where pets may be sold. My Lords, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time."

The Marquess of Lothian: "Lord Amulree has explained the purpose of this Bill with his usual clarity. I do not wish to add anything to what he has said, except to tell your Lordships that the Government regard this as a useful measure which should be of assistance to local authorities in checking the abuses that undoubtedly exist at the moment, and in seeing that dogs and cats which are boarded out in this way get a reasonably square deal. I am sure that this aim is one which will commend itself to the whole House; and I hope, therefore, that the Bill will be given a second reading."

Lord Amulree thanked the Marquess for "regarding his Bill with a mild and magnificent eye" and it was finally committed to a committee of the whole House.



BRITISH BLUES ARE TOPS (concluded from page 6)

and Penvylva Bella (British Blue) and litter sisters were each taken up to be judged for Best in Show. I think this proves that a really excellent Blue Cream female, mated only after great care and thought and with expert advice (which I have taken the trouble to seek) really can contribute towards maintaining the standard of the British Blue cat.

I have at this writing a very promising 5-month-old male Blue, which I hope to keep for stud. Apart from hoping he will assist to keep the "Blue flag flying", I have found it an absolute necessity to have a suitable stud available in emergencies. During the Arctic weather of

last winter it was impossible to send queens away for mating, and at one time I had four pathetic young ladies on my hands.

I have spent as much time as possible exhibiting at the shows to gain knowledge and to meet the many charming people in the Fancy. I am also going to do my best to attend the various meetings as I feel there is so much to learn and I think cat breeding is one of the most absorbing hobbies of today. I work just a few hours each week to enable me to carry on with my hobby so I hope my boss will continue to be understanding so that I can get to the meetings.

Looking at the breeds

No. 16 - BLUE POINT SIAMESE

By HUGH SMITH

MANY people are still only aware of one kind of Siamese cat—the Seal Point. Unless they have been to a cat show or know somebody who possesses one they do not know that the Blue Point Siamese is one of the most fascinating and aesthetically pleasing of all the foreign breeds.

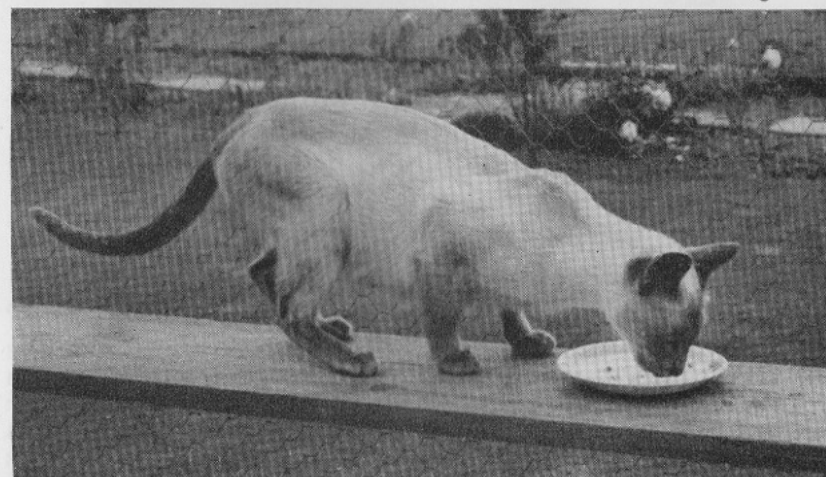
Ideally, the points of this cat, instead of being seal brown colour are a beautiful blue grey. The coat should be glacial white shading into the blue of the points in the region of the back. Alas, the glacial white coat is rarely seen nowadays except in kittens and very young cats. Soderberg in his book *Pedigree Cats* attributes this to attempts made to improve

the type of the Blue Point by introducing Seal Points.

Perfection of type presents great difficulties when Blue Point is bred to Blue Point. In particular head shape tends to become too round. Nevertheless, the only hope of realising the pure blue colouring allied to the glacial white coat is to persevere with blue to blue mating for many generations, making careful selection for improvement of type. Few breeders seem prepared to do this and they are not helped by the shortage of really good Blue Point males at stud.

There seems to be two reasons for this. The first is that more good females than males seem to arise in this variety. The second reason is that the proportion of males which can be kept unneutered for the 15-18 months, which is the minimum

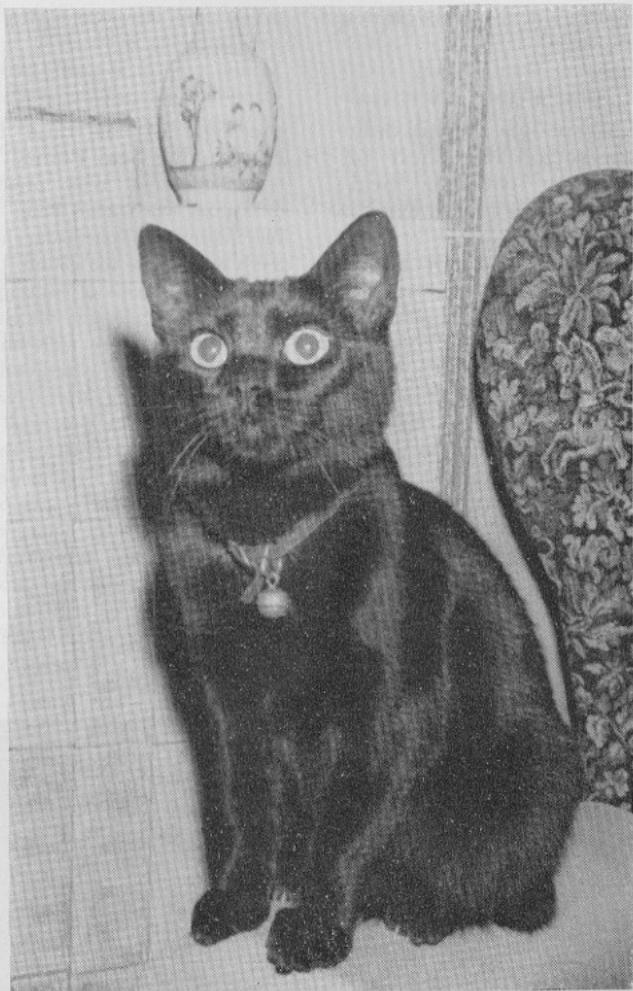
(continued on page 11)



Hugh Smith

SAPPHIRE LOLLI POP, a young Blue Point Siamese female bred by Mrs. J. Hunnisett and owned by Mrs. K. R. Williams.

A page for the proletarian puss—No 105



JOSEPHINE, OUR BLACK GODDESS—by Joyce Rushen

A LITTLE Black Goddess graces our hearth and home, a female deity in our eyes maybe, but a social outcast and a disgrace to the home of her royal mama. For our Goddess is the daughter of a Siamese Queen; with forbears of an imperial lineage, who skilfully eluded the advances of her chosen Prince Consort, but eagerly accepted the overtures of a debonair rake.

(Continued at foot of the opposite page)

period usually necessary to determine whether or not they are worthy to become studs, is insufficient to serve the needs of breeders. With Seal Points this difficulty does not arise because there are so many more to select from.

It has often been noted that there is a tendency for male Blue Points to be of too heavy a type. In contrast many delightfully dainty females can be seen at almost any Championship show.

Standard of Points

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy states that the standard should be the same as for the Seal Point (see previous article in the March issue), with the following exceptions:

Colour: Points blue, the ears, mask, legs, paws and tail to be the same colour. The ears should not be darker than the other points.

Ears: Clear, bright, vivid blue.

Body: Body colour, glacial white, shading gradually into blue on back, the same cold tone as the points but of a lighter shade.

It will be noted that the eye colour of the Blue Point Siamese differs from that of the Seal Point. Attempts to deepen the eye colour to something approaching that of the Seal Point are undesirable and anyway probably doomed to failure. In fact, the eye colour looked for by judges accords marvellously with the quality of the mask and is largely responsible for the distinctive appeal of the breed.

A persistent obstacle in the breeding of Blue Points is the tendency to ringed

markings of the tail. It has been surmised that at some stage a tabby mating occurred, the results of which are to be seen in the descendants.

It is said that the Blue Point was known earlier in Siam, but that there it was not valued in the same way as the Seal Point. Those who breed them and own them in this country are invariably loud in their praise. Many will claim that they have all the Siamese characteristics of intelligence, liveliness and affection but *even more so!* I personally have always been impressed by their highly developed individuality. It is of course possible that these behaviour characters are linked to their distinctive colour.

Specialist clubs

There is a Blue Pointed Siamese Cat Club which serves the interests of breeders and owners as well as the Siamese Cat Club which caters for all varieties of Siamese. The Hon. Secretary of the Blue-pointed Siamese Cat Club is Mrs. G. Lait, 25 The Parade, Dudley, Worcestershire.

Next Month!!

A fascinating illustrated account of breeding experiments with the Rex Cat.

Joan Thompson's report on the Kensington K. & N.C.C. Show.

Many other fine features and illustrations will combine to make an attractive issue.

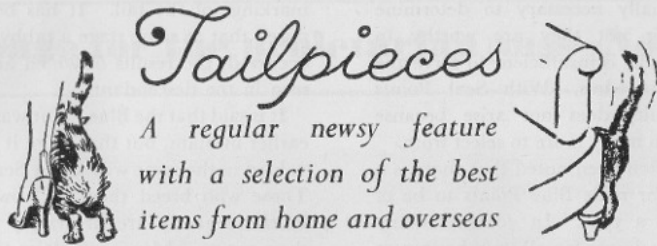
OUR BLACK GODDESS *(concluded from page opposite)*

However, the blue blood flows thick in the daughter of that illicit affair and only her jet black colour betrays her male parentage.

Her royal heritage lies in her grace of movement, luxuriant fur, her charm, affection and imperious voice. But on odd occasions a trace of that estimable sire peeps forth, and then with a surprising display of fierceness she will stalk and attack the largest of rats. Proudly displaying her prowess by depositing the corpse on the fireside rug, she then hastily assumes her Siamese bearing, haughty and dignified; to become once more our little Black Goddess.

Tailpieces

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



FOR reasons of ill health, Mrs. K. Brough has resigned as Hon. Secretary of the Longhair Cream and Blue Cream Association. The vacancy has been filled by Mrs. Christine Dugdale, Hole Farm, Guestling, Sussex.

I have just been reading in *Weekend* about a holiday camp in Vienna where as many as 260 cats can live in complete luxury. The little chalets in which the boarders are housed are miniature reproductions of Swiss chalets painted in bright colours. All are tastefully decorated with comfortable sleeping quarters and central heating for the cold weather. There are play rooms, rest rooms, a medical station and a spotlessly clean kitchen. The superintendent in charge of the camp is, I read, "a jolly middle-aged woman."

When Mr. A. Mercer recently retired from his job as Director of Posts and Telegraphs in the lonely Falkland Islands, he and his wife wanted to go home to New Zealand with their cat Sooty, a nine-year-old. The direct way via South America was found to be too full of complications. So the Mercers decided to travel via Britain and Sooty has come on ahead from Port Stanley, capital of the Falklands, in a Danish freighter, a 7,000 mile trip. Now he is in a quarantine station in Surrey, waiting for his owners to arrive. Eventually, the trio will set out together in another ship for New Zealand. By the time Sooty gets there he will have travelled nearly 20,000 miles.

Workmen demolishing an old cottage in Blandford, Dorset, found the mummified body of a cat. A relic of witchcraft or a case of misadventure?

When Ann Doherty, a Peterborough beauty queen took a bath in milk, Councillor Carl Hall, the mayor, heard about it and described the whole thing as "rather disgraceful". Being connected with the local Freedom from Hunger Campaign, he considered it a shocking waste of 40 gallons of good milk when there were starving millions all over the world. He managed to stop the milk being thrown away after Ann's bath, but then the problem arose—what to do with it? Finally, a solution was found—it was sent to the local cats' home.

A young petrol station attendant in Indiana, U.S.A., was hauled before Judge Walter Tanner and charged with setting a stray dog on fire. He was jailed for 60 days, fined £35 and ordered to bury the dog if it died. By way of a bonus he was given a trousers-down thrashing—20 lashes with a leather belt. I believe I know what most of you are thinking! Pity we couldn't have a few Judge Tanners over here dispensing this kind of corrective medicine.

A new British Railways advertisement in the national newspapers shows a black cat sitting on an outside window sill. A newspaper protrudes from the front door letterbox and below the picture there is the caption reading "They've gone out

for the day by British Railways. Why don't you?" It is not surprising that the advertisement has met with a lot of criticism. In a commentary in *Worlds Press News*, Pat Baker asks: "Will the police look kindly at that unread newspaper advertising 'gone for the day'?" And I am sure the Secretary of the R.S.P.C.A. and a lot of animal lovers wrinkled brows over that lonely moggy".

"We are all in the same boat, both animals and men. You cannot promote kindness to one without benefitting the other". *Edward Everett Hale.*

Widowed Mrs. Braybrook, affectionately known as "Old Martha" in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, recently had an alarming experience when she awoke one night to find her house on fire. She managed to escape to safety with her pet cats by jumping through a kitchen window, wearing only a bed jacket. Firemen fought for nearly six hours to get the flames under control. It was thought that the blaze was started by a nightlight in the kitchen.

Periodicals all over the world have been featuring the story of Zizou, a little male black cat with yellow eyes, the mascot of the keepers of the Albert Premier Shelter (8,875 feet up) on Mt. Blanc in the French Alps. Zizou is said to show a propensity for climbing heights, right from kitten days. Often he ascends the white slopes a couple of thousand feet before he decides to return to the Shelter. Occasionally as a special treat he is carried in a sack by climbers to greater heights.

A young lady of eight, obviously "well brought up", when asked what her cat liked to eat, replied: "Potted shrimps and pheasant in wine jelly".

A news flash from Sacramento, California, U.S.A., says that the Senate has passed a bill making it illegal to abandon a cat.

A reader's letter in *The Rhodesia Herald* runs: "Domestic cats have been known to do strange things, even killing poisonous snakes and bringing them home. A full-grown stembok ram was in the habit of visiting the vegetable garden at night. My son decided to shoot it. So with torch, gun and Tom (the cat) the party set off. The buck was soon spotted



Tom and the stembok ram

in the beam of light. Before anything could be done, Tom let out a fierce growl, raced across the garden and fastened himself on the buck's back. Away they went at terrific speed, both yelling. What a din! The wild rabbits got the same treatment. Further, Tom certainly knows what a gun looks like".

But how unpredictable can a cat be! A story from New York concerns Cedrick, a cat, and Oliver, a white mouse, who enjoy living together. Cedrick came to a chemical consultant some years ago as a taster for cat foods that were being tested. Along with other cats he led an easy life, simply eating and sleeping. Then Oliver arrived to take part in other test work and on the first day he took refuge in Cedrick's cage. The cat and mouse became friends immediately and the amazed laboratory workers allowed them to share living quarters. Now Cedrick is on the retired list and looking for a good home. "They are an astonishing twosome," said one of the laboratory staff. "We all hope they won't have to be separated".

MICKEY



Have you ever seen a more delightful armsful of Abyssinian kittens than this litter from Christine Streetman's Chi-Sai Cattery in Houston, Texas, U.S.A? Their sire was Tr. Ch. Chi-Sai Ras Ubie and the dam Quad. Ch. Chi-Sai Baila. Mrs. Streetman is Regional Director of the Abyssinian Cat Club of America and the United Abyssinian Club, as well as President of the United Burmese Cat Fanciers. She is also editor of the C.F.A. Yearbook, which is widely regarded as the best of its kind in the cat world.

Advice on general management

By M.R.C.V.S.

THE care of the cat in the home calls for no specialized knowledge, provided a few fundamental rules are observed and common sense exercised. Many people suppose that, because they reside in flats or apartments, they cannot keep a domestic cat owing to the absence of sanitary facilities, and the difficulty of affording it sufficient and suitable exercise.

While these desiderata are serious as concerns the dog in such circumstances, they do not pertain in the case of the cat, for this accommodating little animal will thrive quite well in comparative confinement, and needs no more exercise than is afforded by the confines of the owner's apartment.

It must not be inferred that a domestic cat can with impunity be shut up in a cage all its days, for that would be courting disaster. One might enquire as to the necessity for allowing a cat access to the garden or street for the performance of natural functions; but this is not essential, and, indeed, is somewhat undesirable, for in either case a cat (especially an entire tom) is apt to wander away and remain absent for longer than is good for the animal or convenient for the owner. In addition, it will no doubt associate with stray cats, and become exposed to the infection of various diseases such as distemper, typhus and mange; or contract lice, worms or fleas with which it returns home only to contaminate its own surroundings. Further, it runs the risk of picking up poisoned meats maliciously strewn about by cat-hating neighbours, or perhaps carelessly set as a bait for vermin.

A cat which is allowed too much freedom is apt to regain its wilder instincts and relinquish its love and respect for hearth, home and mistress.

It is not sought to infer that a cat should never leave the house; in fact it is desirable for castrated males or females, as these are far less likely to be embroiled in passionate love affairs and return home with bites and scratches which later form abscesses.

Cats which are deliberately let out should not be fed first, as when hunger at last assails them, they will return home for food. To discourage cats from staying out all night it is a good plan to habitually feed them at night time and get them into the habit of expecting their rations then.

Early training

Cleanliness is an inherent quality in cats, and they are very readily taught how to behave in the house; and once having learned this as kittens, they very seldom forget.

The method adopted is simple, consisting merely of the provision of some suitable utensil containing an absorbent material which the cat can scratch up, as is its natural wont. Such receptacle can be a low-sided zinc tray or flat enamelled pan about 12-15 inches square in which can be placed dry earth, fine peat or sawdust.

Whatever receptacle is employed it must be impervious and the sides sufficiently low to permit an easy entry and exit, though high enough to prevent the contained earth being scratched out and about the floor. Sawdust is by far the best absorbent and deodorant, and is usually easily procurable. It should be renewed without fail each day (sometimes more often) and the tray washed out.

Cats display a good deal of modesty in the performance of their sanitary functions, preferring always a corner or some shaded hidden spot. For this reason such a place may be selected by the owner in which permanently to lodge

the cat's tray; and once the cat knows of it, he will seldom fail to use it.

Much of the cat's future success depends upon the pains taken in its rearing. The importance of inducing cleanliness from early kittenhood, together with correct feeding, housing and general supervision, can hardly be over-estimated. Many people commence teaching kittens the use of the pan even before they are weaned; in fact, the lesson begins with the kitten's ability to walk.

Accommodation

In the matter of housing, those who keep a cat merely as a pet or for its utility as a destroyer of rodents will find it unnecessary to provide anything more pretentious as a sleeping utensil than a small box or basket containing wood-wool, an old garment, or even tissue paper.

As a litter for any of the small animals, fine wood shavings (not chips) is the ideal being cheap, clean and antiparasitic. In fact, the packing material used in crates of eggs may frequently be obtained gratis from provision shops, and on account of the resins or volatile oils con-

tained in some woods, their shavings are not conducive to the harbouring of body parasites.

Those people, on the other hand, who intend breeding cats may find it more expedient to house them in an apartment of their own. A room may be allotted for this purpose, or some outbuilding such as a greenhouse may be converted into a cattery. Others, again, may consider it best to erect a wooden shed or buy one ready made.

Cattery details

Whichever plan is adopted, one must be particular in guarding against draughts, damp, insufficient ventilation, overcrowding, and general unhygienic conditions. If a room is to be utilized as a cattery the windows should be fitted on the outside with a frame of wire netting to prevent escape; suitable sanitary arrangements must be provided, or access may, if possible, be afforded to a wired-in run outside the house.

Although apparently a detail it would also be very advisable to firmly fix the trunk of a small tree, together with some of its branches, obliquely against one of the walls, in order to provide the cats



FIONA OF SUNFIELD, a Cream Longhair at 5 months is obviously destined for a commercial career. Miss D. J. James, of Chichester, Sussex, describes Fiona as "one of my favourite 21st birthday presents".

with some opportunity for amusement and climbing exercise, as well as affording them the means of carrying out their natural habit of extending their claws.

Avoid overcrowding

Sleeping quarters may be provided in the shape of shelves or cubicles a foot or two above the floor and away from possible draughts. The common orange-box of three compartments answers admirably. If outdoor sheds are to be utilized, the necessary precautions are: (1) that the floor shall be raised from 6 to 12 inches above the ground; (2) adequate daylight and ventilation provided; (3) absence of damp and draught; and (4) a safe heating apparatus for the cold weather. The writer prefers for this a tubular electric heater, the element of which is contained inside the tube.

The possibility of access to the open air and sunlight is always highly desirable, and where the cubic space of the cattery is restricted, it becomes absolutely essential. Nevertheless, as previously stated, it is also desirable that the outdoor exercising ground should be wired in.

Overcrowding is, and always was, an insidious cause of non-success and loss, whether it pertain to humans, horses,

dogs, cats, fowls, or any other animal. It paves the way for the onset of many diseases, and is largely responsible for many of the deaths and deformities which occur in such ill-managed kennels or catteries.

Veterinary question answered

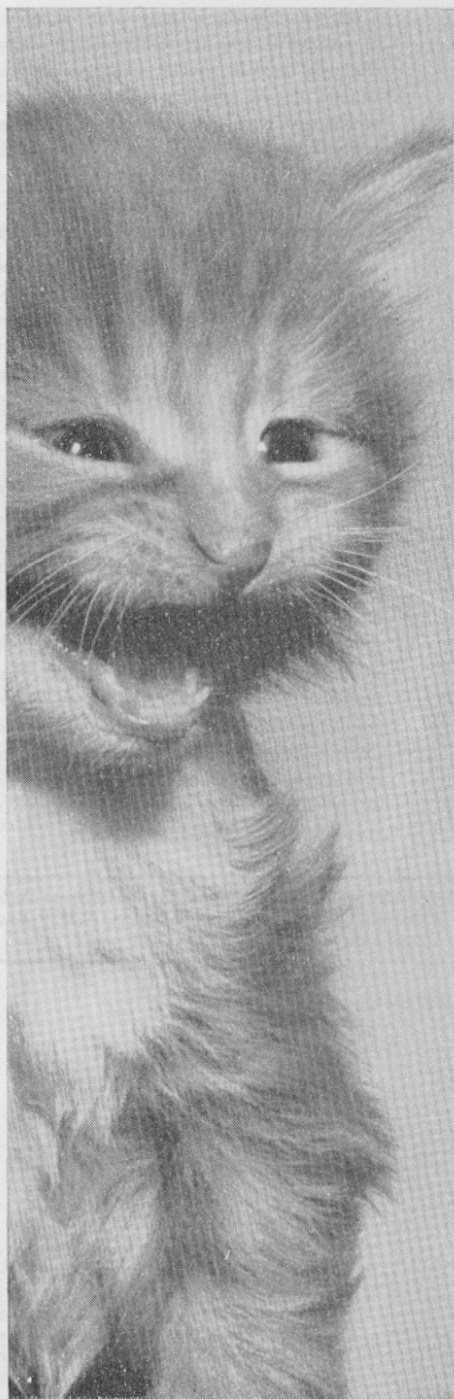
A reader in Southern Rhodesia asks: I wonder if your veterinary surgeon knows of something which does not taste bad to cure coccidiosis in kittens? The usual medicine is so bitter that once a kitten has tasted it, it is quite useless trying to get it down it again. Coccidiosis is a pest among my kittens.

M.R.C.V.S. replies: *I am not aware of any drug which could be regarded as 100% effective against coccidiosis in cats. Any drug so used (if unpalatable) could be enclosed in a small gelatine capsule. Drugs which have been tried with variable results are Dover's Powder, saccharated ferrous carbonate, thymol in capsule or milk (5 grains), Ichthyol, also known as Datol, carbarzone (1 gr. daily for five days, and nitrofurazone. There is a tendency for the infection naturally to die out after about the sixth month of the cat's age. To prevent infection of associated animals, it is essential to remove and burn all faeces.*

Readers who would like M.R.C.V.S. to help them with their problems should address their letters to him c/o Our Cats, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9 and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for his reply.



Miss C. L. Davis, of West Tytherley, Wilts., in her letter accompanying this snapshot says: "This cat was a stray taken in by my friend Mrs. Pennell. He has just died, aged 25 years. He was really beautiful right up to the last".



FAMOUS BREEDERS SAY ...

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

An interesting journal

THE journal of the Animal Health Trust called *Animal Health* was launched for the first time as a publication available to the public at a champagne party held by its sponsors the Pergamon Press in London on May 9th.

Copies of the first number in its new format were presented to guests and the many representatives of the press who attended. It will be published quarterly at 5s. per copy.

Previously the Animal Health Trust circulated a journal only to its members.

The January/March 1963 issue carries many items of interest. One of the most interesting to animal breeders was that entitled "Nutrition during Pregnancy", by Sir John Hammond, C.B.E., F.R.S. Although it deals mainly with farm animals and rabbits there are many facts which could equally apply to cats. For

example, the following extract: "In animals which produce large numbers at birth, some very small ones are sometimes born. This is due to limitations of space within the uterus. The small runts which occur are due to this limitation of placenta size and not to genetic causes as has been found in breeding experiments in rabbits. The small ones are difficult to rear as they are born in a premature state. Another factor which limits the area of the placenta and so nutrition in the foetal stage is the size of the uterus."

Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, Scientific Director of the Animal Health Trust since 1946, was present at the party. He contributes an article in the journal entitled "Man and his Animals". Mrs. Alison Ashford, well known to us as a breeder of Siamese, tells us in "Menu for a Cat" her method of rearing kittens and what she considers a suitable diet for them and adults.

The finale to the journal gives a resumé of the careers of the contributors. Mr. Ralph Wightman, so well known to us on the radio in "Country Questions", "Any Questions", and "The Farmer", contributes an article "Animal Husbandry" and we read that his favourite pets are cats.

Mrs. Ashford we learn is a state registered nurse although I believe, not following her profession now. Her training and experience however would be invaluable for anyone breeding domestic pets.

The younger generation in my opinion are more apt, quite rightly, to stress the absolute need for hygiene and the

necessity of suitable conditions before one attempts to rear kittens.

What is the Animal Health Trust? "It is an organization supported entirely by voluntary contributions, donations and bequests, and has the following aims: (a) To assist the relief of animal suffering by promoting good health and by the development and spread of knowledge about how to control disease; (b) To remedy the shortage of specialist personnel by providing Training Scholarships and Fellowships; (c) To encourage the development of research, laboratory diagnosis, hospital and specialist services in collaboration with the veterinary profession, for the benefit of all animals."

The Siamese Cat Club has donated 50 guineas to the Trust's proposed branch for Small Animals at Kennet near Newmarket with the proviso that it should be especially used for problems appertaining to cats.

Siamese friends meet

The Siamese Cat Club Tea Party at the Rubens Hotel London on June 19th had its usual attendance of Siamese enthusiasts and their friends. Undoubtedly the highlight was the address by Dr. Patricia Scott. One could almost hear the proverbial pin drop as everyone listened so attentively.

The motif was genetics but reduced to terms which those of us who have not studied the subject extensively could appreciate and understand. For example, Dr. Scott informed us of the factors which influence colour and the reason why a Siamese grows fur of a variable shade of cream or seal if it has a loss of fur due to illness or accident.

Blue Persians breeders are familiar with a variation of shade at the roots after even a minor upset in kittens and this can vary in intensity according to the length and the patient's temperature during the illness or upset.

Novices have often asked me what judges mean when they mention in

their reports that an exhibit had a temperature mark. In Blue Persian kittens this can be caused occasionally by immunisation although the kitten has never ceased to eat well and to appear in normal health.

Dr. Scott's remarks regarding the importance of calcium to the brood queen were informative. In some cases it may take as much as six weeks for a queen after she has finished nursing to make up the deficiency in her system and she mentioned that lactation imposes a greater strain than pregnancy. These facts were culled from laboratory tests on the faeces and urine of cats regarding calcium. When lack of calcium is diagnosed the amount Dr. Scott advocated as a corrective was the equivalent of half an ounce of calcium carbonate to nine pounds of meat.

Scott's Midlothian Oat Food and the majority of the baby foods on which we rear kittens are fortified with calcium and other minerals, and it is also one of the ingredients of "Stress" made by Phillips Yeast Products which some breeders give mostly during pregnancy and lactation.

Dr. Scott was very helpful and patient as she answered the many questions arising from the talk.

The Party terminated with a vote of thanks to her, a very jolly tea and the presentation of prizes by Miss Kathleen Yorke of the major awards of the 1962-1963 Ch. Show season.

Another social occasion

The Tea Party of the Longhair Cream and Blue-Cream Association at the Rubens Hotel, London, on June 29th attracted the best attendance of L.H. breeders at any gathering for some years and was very enjoyable.

Miss Kathleen Yorke its founder and Chairman was delighted at its success. Among those who came from a distance was Mrs. Wright of Keighley, Yorkshire, who had such a successful season with her

lovely Creams last winter, notably Wildfell Galaxy a beautiful pale queen excelling in type who became a Champion in January.

Mrs. Iris Herbert from Bournemouth was another very welcome member. Although no longer breeding Blues and Creams she is still very interested in shows and is on the Committee of the Blue Persian Cat Society. She gave a very pretty doll to be raffled, and several other guests gave acceptable gifts to augment Association funds.

Mr. Stirling-Webb gave an interesting talk on his idea of how varieties should be classified and other matters appertaining to cats.

A valuable record

Mrs. Madge Shrouder came all the way from Dorset plus the equipment to show her colour slides of cats and kittens which is by far the largest collection in this country. It originated about fifteen years ago when Mr Shrouder had to have a throat operation which necessitated him giving up playing the violin for some time. So as he wanted another hobby they combined their mutual love of cats by specializing in photographing them, first in black and white and later in colour. All breeds are represented and many parti-coloured household pets. The slides have been shown at many functions as well as cat clubs and are a valuable record for future cat lovers and ourselves.

Mrs. Dugdale, Hon. Secretary of the L.H. and B.C. Association was very busy looking after members and guests. She was recently elected Hon. Secretary as Mrs. Brough was unable to continue in this capacity owing to her doctor advising complete rest for a time from cat club affairs.

Mrs. R. Ross has been elected Hon. Treasurer. The Association is in a very sound position financially partly due to Miss Yorke's generosity from its inception.

Miss Lily Speirs, Hon. Treasurer of the Blue Persian Cat Society, just back from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, had a special welcome from her friends. After a holiday in Scotland, she returns to her house at Hampton Court in August and we hope she will be with us many months and to fulfil her judging engagements here. By the way she did not see a single Abyssinian cat or any cat which resembled one whilst in Ethiopia. Nor did she meet anyone who had ever seen one. The cats she met with were parti-coloured, and mostly tabby and white, and one imagines only the toughest cats could survive the primitive conditions unless they were confined to the home of someone who really cared for them.

Show in Sussex

The Siamese Cat Association Exemption Show for Siamese and Shorthairs at the Ralli Memorial Hall, Hove, Sussex, on May 25th was blessed with suitable weather. An exceptional attendance of over 800 visitors enjoyed seeing 180 cats and kittens, only five of which were for exhibition only.

Main awards were: Best Adult Exhibit—Mrs Grant-Allen's Silver Tabby female Elvaston Silver Fantasy by Ch. Culverden Maurice; Best Kitten Exhibit—Mrs. Hooper's S.P. Siamese male Kathoodu Kasanova by Kathoodu Kiada; Best Neuter Exhibit—Mrs. Highton's S.P. Siamese Silken Fleury by Ch. Killdown Sultan; Best British Kitten—Mrs. Colville's Manx male Fireball; Best British Neuter—Mr. R. Shrimpton's British Blue Premier Bonaventura Jackson; Best Foreign Cat—Mrs. Menezes' Abyssinian male Taishun Tonga by Ch. Kattypuss Jacaranda; Best Foreign Kitten—Mrs. E. V. Chapman's Burmese female La-Sun Harmony by Chindwin Chee-Kee; Best Siamese Cat—Mr. Richard Warner's S.P. Siamese male Strobl by Ch. Spotlight Troubadour.

In a class of sixteen S.P. Siamese females Mrs. Wain's Ishtagara Scheherazade by Whiteoaks Malahide was first. In an amalgamated B.P. Siamese adult class of twelve exhibits Mrs. Nokes won with her female Waverley Persephone by Waverley Blue Herald.

There were three C.P. Siamese adults headed by Mrs. Demus's male Thaipun N'ow Mi by Ch. Jaddyx Quoff Deaner. Two L.P. Siamese adults with Mrs. Biggie's Edwardian Chantal by Praha Andante Maestoso as the winner.

Mrs. Helen Martin, Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Association and Show Manager tells me "One of the most important items in this successful Show was the team work of the helpers; they were magnificent." The catering arrangements were exceptionally good, inspired by the voluntary work of Mr. Carter (Hon. Treasurer) and Mrs. Carter and their band of assistants.

Northern Siamese winners

Mrs. Mary Eustace, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Northern Siamese Cat Society and Show Manager for its first Exemption Show on June 1st at Seaburn, Sunderland, sends some details of the seventy Siamese exhibited.

Best Exhibit was a B. P. Siamese female Mrs. Turner's Galeglow Mollyanna by Ch. Milori Oberon; Best Male (in a class of eleven S.P.'s) was Mrs. Forrest's Ch. Windale Derri by Ch. Dunchattan Sabu Hassan; Best Kitten—Miss Rickson's B.P. Wildpear Flax by Ch. Helsby Cheetah; Best Neuter—Mrs. North's B.P. Whitehaugh Blue Nylon by Llygra Simon; Best S.P. female—Mrs. Lumb's Purrdale Cinderella by Topaz Lucky Strike and the Best S.P. Neuter—Mrs. Barton's Hawthorn Shiree by Ch. Spotlight Sigismund.

Mrs. E. Towe, the President, wrote a foreword to the catalogue wishing success to the show and when one considers how far north it was held and that so many breeders are busy with kittens the entry was a promising one.

What enthusiasm to publicise Siamese cats inspires the breeders of them! In addition to Mrs Eustace's book *Cats in Clover* she has compiled a booklet, *The Royal Cat of Siam*, an excellent initiation for those starting to breed them and a synopsis of useful information regarding registration, clubs devoted to their interest, show points, etc.

I doubt, however, if Longhair breeders and many impartial cat lovers would agree that "Siamese are the glamour cats of the twentieth century". For sheer luxury and glamour coupled with their sweet dispositions surely no cats and kittens can exceed the beauty of our Longhairs, especially when they are in full pomp at our winter shows, although a good cat excelling in type is beautiful all the year round.

I remember a few years ago when some Blues, Chinchillas and Siamese were assembled for a television appearance in London. The photographers wanted to take some stills. On being asked which ones they wanted they replied "The fluffy ones, please".

ENTRIES

in the Cat Section of the 1963

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

Novelty events to include
F.C.C. TOP HAT CAT
conducted in two divisions
(a) Foreign Shorthairs (b) Longhairs
Prizes - Top Hat and 10 gns. 1st;
2 gns. 2nd; ½ gn. 3; in both divisions.
F.C.C. MITTENS
open to all British Shorthair kittens
Prizes - Novelty Mittens and 3 gns., 1st;
2 gns. 2nd; 1 gn. 3rd.

*will close with the Secretary, Mr.
H. T. C. Woodfull on August 26th
at the Royal Showgrounds, Epsom
Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria.
All exhibits must be registered with
the Feline Control Council in
Melbourne and no late entries will be
accepted.*

*The Feline Control Council (under the
auspices of Royal Agricultural Society of
Victoria), Royal Showgrounds, Epsom Road,
Ascot Vale, W.2*

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CH. BEAMSLEY SUNBEAM (Cream)
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GIPPEWYK JAKE, Ch. ASHDOWN NUTHATCH,
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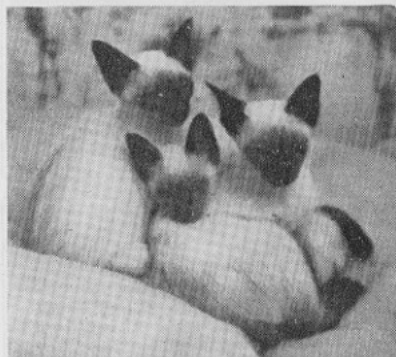
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News from "Down Under"

HERE we are again! Still happy, but floodbound in many parts. The Championship season is right at its best and many beautiful cats are being shown. I can't help thinking how the standard has changed in comparison with just a decade back. Many colour variations in the Shorthairs have proved a great show attraction whilst in the Longhairs the lovely Colourpoints always have a queue of admirers, including yours truly. The two ladies in Brisbane are going along nicely with their "Lynx".

South Australia: I had a *Newsletter* from the Cat Fanciers' Society of South Australia for May (Secretary Miss M. R. Horne), which has grown a lot since my old pals Tom and Jerry edited it. The S. Australian Cat Breeders' Association have a show listed for August 10th and the Siamese Cat Club of S. Australia have their fixture arranged for October 14th in the Glenela Town Hall. The judges training classes are in full swing under Mrs. McAdie and Mrs. Myers. Mrs. McAdie is on speaking terms with a Blue Point Siamese neuter who is rapidly qualifying for "a rap" for breaking, entering and stealing. He specializes in paint brushes and socks but still has a lot to learn from the ginger and white mentioned in the *Melbourne Sun*, whose owner is rapidly losing weight washing, ironing and returning to the owners dainty underwear, pyjamas, cardigans, swim-suits, etc.

Queensland: In paw paw time, like Tasmania in apple time! My good scribe Mrs. Madge Paton was right on time with a letter, but says that things are quiet with judges classes and the forthcoming shows occupying their minds. The Queensland fanciers are lucky in having a top geneticist as a club member who is now going through the judges classes. There is a promise of four lectures when the classes are concluded. A

Southern examiner has listened to the candidates' versions of how they would judge a cat. After the June monthly meeting the opportunity was taken to arrange a very attractive birthday party for Mrs. Paton. Her two Siamese cats think there should be a repeat party as they are deriving great pleasure from a sponge rubber cat which can't spit back. The evening was given over to films of a trip to England by Mr. and Mrs. Batten and Northern Territory pictures by Mr. Paton.

Heard about the member up there who has a five months old female who put on a midnight act. Ma kicked pa out of the warm cot to fetch the wanderer in. Pa's big toe came in contact with a spare piece of timber which was lying around. Yes, you've guessed it! Hot soap, sugar and bread poultices and daily extractions of wood very handy for kindling the fire.

Victoria: Had nice letter from Mrs. Corfield who reports her Red Points doing well following immunization. George Dyke also gives me details of the management, etc., of the new Youth Club, mentioned in last month's notes. No news from Colonel Scott or my other two scribes, so unfortunately I have little news this time from Victoria. A cheerio to the sick folk, Colonel Cole and Miss Beatty. I saw Miss Beatty last time I was in Melbourne, but time did not permit of a visit to Sid Cole. Something to look forward to—"a natter" with him and his wife and Mrs. Murch, who wrote my first life membership ticket.

New Zealand: News from N.Z. is as scarce as hen's teeth now that their *Newsletter* is only printed every two months. But their stock is still winning the major prizes here. I shall soon be seeing the Queensland stock lately imported from N.Z. Miss S. Pinkerton is too busy to write I guess with her big show coming up at the end of July.

New South Wales: The Cat Fanciers' Association Show was staged on June 1st at the R.A.S. Ground, the organizer being Harry Wynne assisted by Mrs. Paris. There was a big entry on what turned out to be a reasonably fine day. Eight judges and an entry of 280 kept officials busy till midday. Best L.H. was again Mrs. Mullins' splendid Black male Lindisfarne Bye Bye Blackbird; Best Opposite Sex was Mrs. Wood's Craig-holme Honey Bunne. Winners among the Shorthairs were Mrs. Meany's Lindfield Garcon (Siamese S.P.) and Mrs. Burt's Coochie Tan Chay Yan. The new Sutherland Agricultural Show has affiliated their cat section with the R.A.S. Cat Club Consultative Committee and have been granted a date for 1964. They may stage a show later this year.

The Federal Cat Club held their annual Ch. Show in Lower Sydney Town Hall on June 16th. It was the first fine day for a week. The hall was splendidly decorated and the catalogue of exhibits was most attractive also, being set up and printed by *Cats' Digest* (Editress Mrs. Savage) with a front cover design by

Rufus, a boxer dog pet of 11-year-old Glen Warren, of Bletchley, Bucks, discovered three kittens trapped in a wall on a disused R.A.F. camp site. Children were able to rescue them.

"Senseless cruelty" to animals is on the increase in the West Midlands, reports Mr. Walter Cooke, the R.S.P.C.A. inspector who is responsible for a 300-square-mile territory based on Wolverhampton. He adds that people are even catching cats in gin traps and barely anyone ever informs on those committing this illegal act. Children who know nothing about the laws are clubbing together to buy airguns. The sequel is easily left to the imagination.

We have an addition to record to the List of Champions 1962/3 which appeared in last month's issue. She is the Black Shorthair Teign Thunderbird, bred and owned by Mr. A. H. Westlake,

Mrs. Joan Judd, of England. Bye Bye Blackbird led the Longhair awards once again, with Mrs. Woods' Delhi Arctic Lily Best Opposite Sex. Best Shorthair Male was Mrs. Stewart's Lambrette Shantung and the Best Female Mrs. E. Corner's Ramayana Sita.

May I be permitted to conclude with a very sincere expression of thanks for the letters, cards, telegrams and two lovely sketches received following "the little accident" I met with whilst judging at the C.F.A. Show. I have a feeling that the work of one artist from Queensland will become highly prized in time to come. It is a pity that the public do not more readily recognize such talent and encourage it.

[Mr. Pearce's "little accident" to which he refers so lightly was a nasty bite from one of the cats he was judging. It involved three injections, a bad rash and three visits to the hospital. "Certainly my worst", he adds in a personal note, "after 38 years of judging". I am glad to report that he has now recovered and able to celebrate in style his sixth wedding anniversary.—Editor].

of Baytor Kennels, Teignmouth, Devon.

Did you know that London's famous Tower Bridge, which may in a few more decades have to disappear because of its weakening metal, has its own special cat? Smudge is known as "the ship's cat" and he is on the official staff. Captain Charles Gosling, R.N. Retd., who is in charge of the Bridge and its crew, told a reporter that they had to have Smudge to keep the rats away. He was allowed 10d. a day to buy cat food.

When a large party of French children left Paris recently to spend their holidays with English families they were handed a pamphlet by the organizers of the trip. Among the do's and don'ts it listed, the children were told to remember that one of the most important members of the English household is the cat or dog.

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.

PEDIGREE FORMS. good quality, provision for four generations. 2s. 9d. per dozen, post free from OUR CATS, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

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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.

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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.

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Books

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

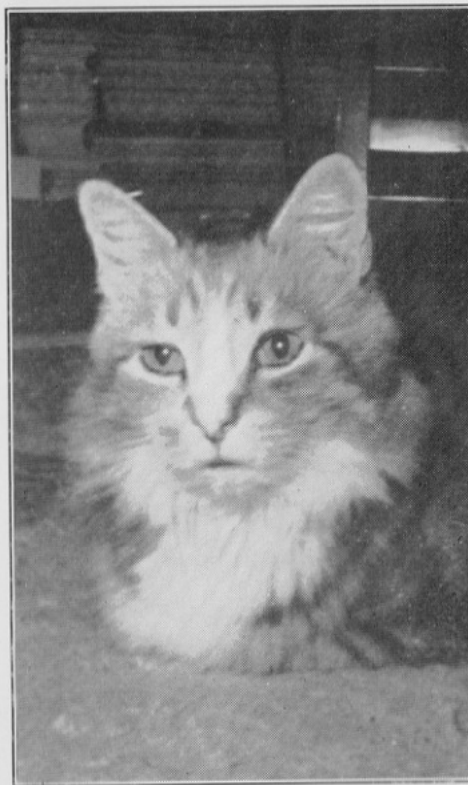
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