

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



QUITE A DISH!

We were looking for a cute kitten picture to symbolize Spring and the start of another season in the Cat World. Hope you like our choice! NINEVEH SNOWSPRITE, bred by Mrs. E. H. Durbin, of Paignton, S. Devon, from Guilden Snow King ex Ch. Loki, was Best Longhair Kitten at the recent Cheltenham Show of the S.W. Counties and S.W. Wales Cat Club.

APRIL 1964

2/6



Tomorrow may be too late...

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

Fix the vaccination date today

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FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE

A BURROUGHS WELLCOME VETERINARY PRODUCT



Our Cats

VOL. 16 No. 4

APRIL 1964

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.

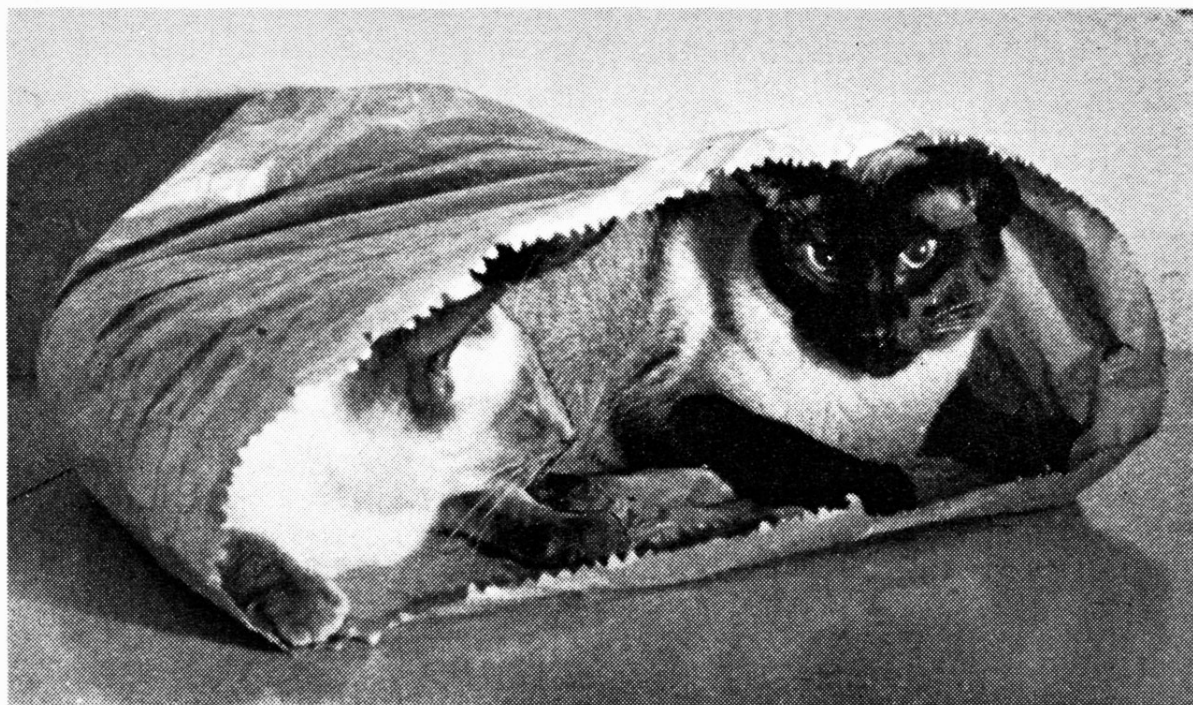
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



IN THE BAG!

Hugh Smith

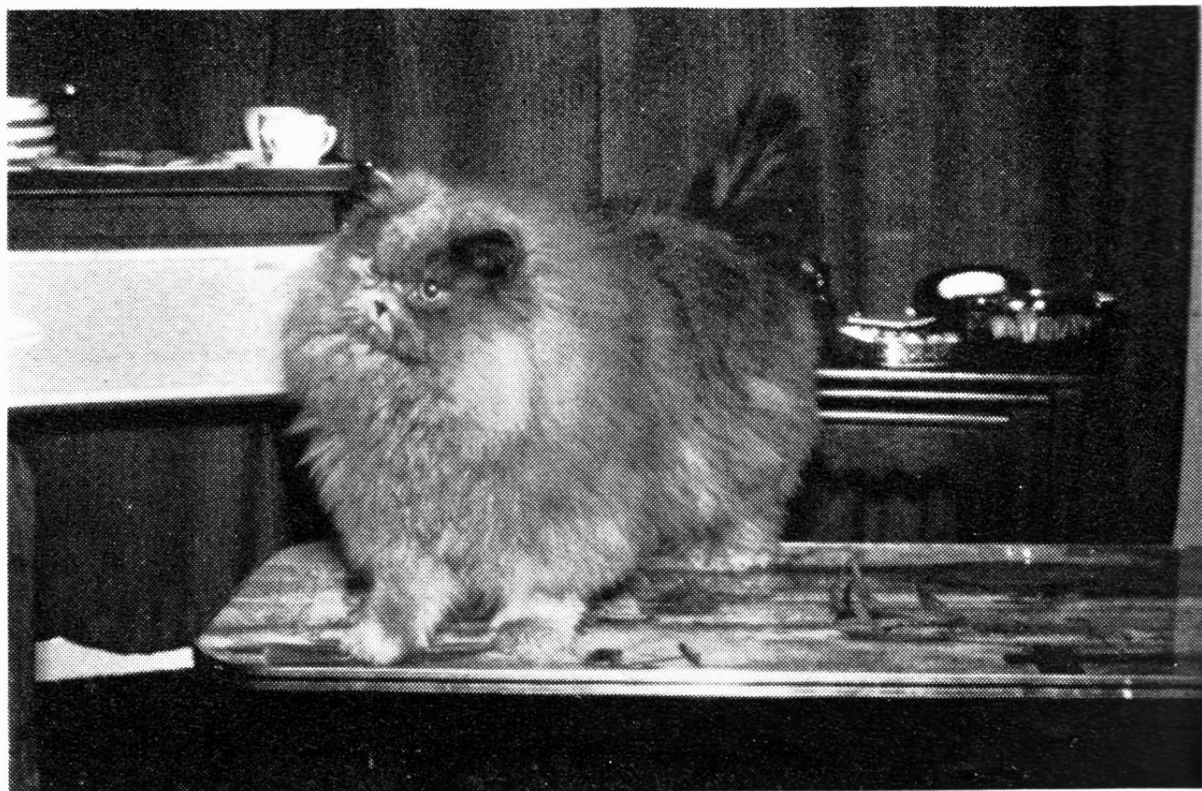
Believe it or not—ONINA PEARL and ONINA PADDY got themselves into the paper bag entirely unassisted. They appear to be quite happy and contented with the result, too!

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OUR CATS is published monthly and closing date is the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication. MSS. and photographs submitted will only be returned if accompanied by fully stamped and addressed envelopes. Photographs should preferably be of the glossy type with sharp details. A stamped addressed envelope should also be enclosed where a reply is required to some general inquiry.

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WOBURN CARLO, prizewinner at the National Show last year, was bred by Miss C. Page, of Watford, Herts., from Woburn Chippy and Woburn Sweet Lavender. Carlo now belongs to Mrs. Carpenter, of Hemel Hempstead.

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.

GOOD PHOTOGRAPHS, preferably black and white glossy prints which are sharp in detail, are always welcomed by this Magazine. A stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed to ensure return. We particularly invite our overseas subscribers to send us their interesting prints for consideration.

“The Incredible Journey”

WALT DISNEY's long-awaited feature production of “The Incredible Journey” brings to the screen one of the most extraordinary tales of our time. Disney, an uncontested master at handling unique themes, combines a rare, heart-warming and suspense-filled story of animals and people set against the rugged beauty of north-east Canada.

The strong appeal of the adventures of three new four-footed screen heroes, Tao, a Siamese cat, Bodger, a bull terrier, and Luath, a Labrador retriever—the most unusual trio of travelling companions that ever joined forces to take on 200 miles of Canadian wilderness—will surely attract and entertain cat lovers every-

where, particularly those who are devoted to the Siamese breed.

Anybody who has ever loved, owned or come under the magnetic influence of an animal will be completely beguiled by the performances of the cat and two dogs that dominate almost the entire picture. Tao, the frisky and spirited Siamese who manages to keep in step with her canine trail blazers, is actually Syn Cat and is owned by Al Niemela, who has trained a variety of species for film work.

The picture, filmed in wonderful colour to emphasize the natural beauty of the picturesque landscape, has that special “built-in” family appeal that has become synonymous with the name of Walt Disney.

Briefly, the story runs as follows:



John Longridge is about to leave on a hunting trip. When he does not take the three pets with him, they become restive and eager to return to their real home 200 miles away. So “The Incredible Journey” begins.

Professor Jim Hunter, his wife and their two children Peter and Elizabeth, leave their little Canadian university town for England where the professor has a summer teaching assignment. They decide to place their two dogs and a cat in the temporary care of a family friend, writer John Longridge, who lives some 200 miles away in the north-western part of the great sprawling province of Ontario.

Tao, a Siamese cat, is the beloved pet of 9-year-old Elizabeth; Bodger, an English bull terrier, belongs to 11-year-old Peter; and a golden Labrador retriever named Luath is Jim Hunter's favourite hunting companion.

The three animals become restive and lonesome for their owners. When Longridge leaves on a hunting trip and does not take them with him, the animals, thinking they are unwanted, set out for the Hunter home.

The next day, when Longridge's housekeeper, Mrs. Oakes, arrives on the scene with her husband Bert, she is led to believe that the animals are away with

her employer. Instead, the three pets are facing the unknown wilds with its denizens, human and animal. They meet with some weird and wonderful adventures. Tao, a great hunter, outsmarts a stalking lynx. Bodger meets and beats a vicious farm dog, saving Luath from death. Together the three fight off an attacking bear.

Wild animals are not the only problems confronting the little party on their trail; survival is the all-important factor. Bodger is a fighter but no hunter, and Luath, an expert at retrieving, has nothing to retrieve. It is Tao who has the brains to provide and generally organize the venture.

Wherever they go, the three seem to leave some good behind them. They befriend a gentle old hermit; Tao is loved by a lonely little Finnish farm girl, Helvi, who rescues him from danger in a rapidly running stream, and nurses him back to health with the help of her parents. When fully recovered, Tao reluctantly takes his leave and rejoins Bodger and Luath.

Meanwhile, the three animals have been given up completely for lost. No one believes they can survive the last lap of their trip across the rugged Ironmouth mountain terrain. The Hunters return to a saddened home, only to be overjoyed at the unexpected appearance of a trio of straggly-looking but healthy four-footers. Tao, Bodger and Luath have successfully completed their incredible journey.



Tao with Helvi, the little Finnish farm girl, who saves him from a watery grave.



Tailpieces

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



THE Kathleen Williams Memorial Fund has now been closed with a total of £186. The nature of the proposed memorial will be decided and a further announcement made.

The President, Sir Malcolm Sargent, will speak on animals and religion at the R.S.P.C.A. Annual Service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, S.W. London, on 27th May.

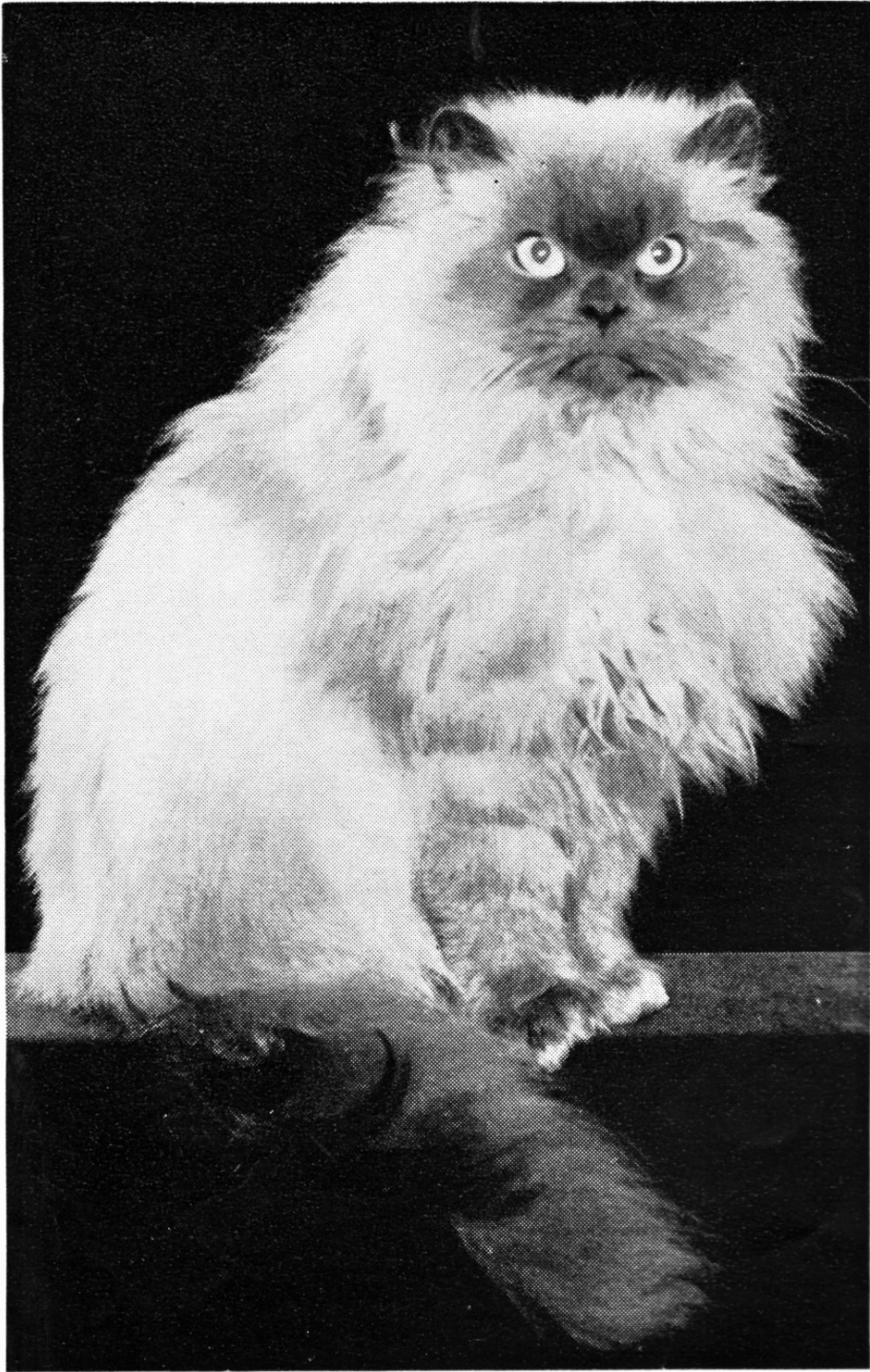
Lord Dowding's Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Bill—introduced as a private member's measure in the House of Lords, has passed through a Second Reading. The Bill seeks to enlarge the class of operation in which an anaesthetic must be used by repealing the reference in a 1954 Act to the castration of cats, dogs and other animals. If it becomes law, it will no longer be possible to perform any of these operations, except with the use of an anaesthetic, except certain farm animals in the first week of their life.

The *News Bulletin* of the Feline Advisory Bureau gives prominence to correspondence it has received over the years which made it distressingly clear that many cats have died because their owners were slow in seeking veterinary advice. Far too many owners and breeders wait to see what the next day may bring and in some cases a week or more is allowed to elapse before the services of a veterinary surgeon are sought, by which time it is too late for

a cure to be made. The point is made clear that veterinary advice should always be sought early in illness and at all times a balanced, varied diet should be fed. Over-feeding tends to make fussy feeders and wrong feeding results in infections, ill-health and skin disorders. The Bureau is ready to give advice on all matters relating to the health and welfare of cats.

According to a cutting received from *The Bognor Regis Post*, two men, armed with a shotgun stalked and shot "a massive semi-wild tabby cat" in a field at Pagham. It was reported to be the cat which had bitten a woman's hand, causing a bad infection, and frightened local children. Mothers feared that their children might get bitten. The dead cat was handed over to the R.S.P.C.A. inspector who had been trying to trap it and later tests were made by a doctor. One of the stalkers said it was "a cat and a half and must have weighed a good 15lb".

It is good news that the Siamese Cat Society of America, Inc., is able to report excellent progress with the membership drive which ended in October last. President Virginia R. Cobb donated a handsome trophy for the member who introduced the most new members over the year and this went to Mrs. Jane Harvey for her handsome tally of 19. Over the twelve months the Society has attracted 267 new members and they now have the ambitious target of a thousand members by 1965. Good luck!



Susan Watts

HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU!

AMASKA ORLANDO, one of the rare blue point Colourpoints, is approaching his fourth birthday. Orlando, bred by Miss Susan Watts, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, has won a C.C. in only two show appearances.

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.

“Most cats move their kittens when they are a few weeks old; usually at the age when they are getting too big for the mother cat to keep them perfectly clean, and so the nest becomes soiled. If the owner knows this and frequently changes the bedding *and* the bed, this usually stops the maddening habit of kitten-moving. In the wild state, cats have no owner to assist in changing the bedding, and so this instinct is very strong. They move their young to a new nest. Through this habit, it is wise to have ready several carton boxes which can be changed frequently. Even so little as one small “pool”—although it may be dry and covered by a clean blanket—is sufficient to make the mother move her kittens. What a blessing are the new ‘Ulstron’ blankets which can be boiled, and dry so very quickly! Queens penned to catteries, who cannot move their kittens, must be very distressed indeed. Often I have seen such animals carrying kittens round and round their pens making fretful little cries! Remember too, never paint a kitten box. This can be very harmful to kittens’ delicate stomachs—many paints contain lead and other undesirable constituents”. These useful tips on litter management are taken with due acknowledgements to the *News Bulletin* of the Feline Advisory Bureau.

Cats are able to look a man straight in the eye without flinching and this has given rise to an ancient superstition that cats can read human minds. It may be more realistic to assume that cats watch people fixedly because they want to be prepared and ready to meet the next move. What do *you* think?

News of more fine progress among the growing number of cat clubs overseas comes from South Africa and is highlighted in the quarterly *Newsletter* of the Rand Cat Club, just to hand. The Club ended 1963 with 201 members, the highest figure achieved by a cat club in the Republic. It is announced that the

250th membership will be a free one. Congratulations!

Here’s a useful tip, especially when you’re dealing with a difficult Siamese patient. It comes from Mrs. I. Adams, of Surbiton, Surrey. “To feed liquid to a sick animal use a hypodermic syringe (*without the needle*). The syringe can be easily inserted in the animal’s mouth at the side between the teeth. The liquid is easily squirted towards the back of the throat in little drops or larger as required, and swallowed with little or no effort by the patient. It seems to trickle down and over the bend of the throat almost without the head being raised, which always seems to worry the animal.”

In addition to the list of Continental cat shows during 1964 which we announced last month there is to be a show at Bergen, Norway on 30th–31st May and another at Turin, Italy, on 5th–6th September.

DON'T LET YOUR PET SUFFER!

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We receive frequent enquiries from readers who are anxious to know if their pets—which are usually round about 20 years old—have established a record for longevity. I have to tell them they still have “a long way to go!” The *Guinness Book of Records* states “Though judicial notice has been taken that cats do not live beyond 21 years, there is the well authenticated case of the female tabby “Ma” owned by Mrs. Alice St. George Moore, of Drewsteignton, Devon, which was put to sleep on 5th November, 1957, in its 35th year. She was probably succeeded as the oldest cat by the 28½-years-old black tom “General” of the Beehive Inn, Osbournby, Sleaford, Lincs.. which died in October 1959”. Probably one of the oldest cats alive in the country today is Smutty, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Hannam, of New Milton, Hampshire, who recently celebrated his 25th Birthday.

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

SIAMESE CAT CLUB

THE Annual General Meeting of the Siamese Cat Club was held last month in London.

There were six nominations to fill four vacancies on the Committee, Mrs. Hindley, Mrs. Holroyd, Mrs. Kent, Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. Hewlett and Mr. Lamb. The two retiring members, Mrs. Hindley and Mrs. Holroyd were re-elected, and Mrs. Kent and Mr. Lamb elected. Delegates nominated for election were the four retiring members and Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Montgomery. Mrs. Hindley, Mrs. Dunnill, Mr. Stirling-Webb and Mr. Bullock were

re-elected as Delegates to the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy for 1964-1965.

The retiring Treasurer, Mr. Philpot, presented the Club and show accounts, and reported that the financial position of the Club was very satisfactory. Generous gifts of money had been given to the Animal Health Trust and to research into feline illness being carried out by Dr. Patricia Scott and her colleagues. The annual show had made a profit as well as increasing the amount of prize-money paid out. The Treasurer and the Show Manager were congratulated. The Chairman thanked Mr. Philpot for his work in the past, and introduced the new Honorary Treasurer, Mr. M. F. Haynes, O.B.E.

New members enrolled during the year totalled 115 and our total membership, made up of life members and annual subscribers keeps over the 700 mark.

It was decided to hold a tea-party again in June or July and members asked if Dr. Scott could be invited to speak again, as her talk had been so much enjoyed last year.

The annual Championship Show will be held in October, at the Seymour Hall with the following judges officiating: Mrs. Kent, Mrs. Towe, Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Stirling-Webb and Mr. Lamb for the adult classes; Mrs. Lambert for neuters; and Miss Prentis, Mrs. Holroyd, Mrs. Philpot, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Groom and Dr. Groom for kittens. Mrs. Lamb, referee judge.

Full discussion was given to the Committee's suggestion that the G.C.C.F. be requested to investigate the possibility of limiting the number of times a cat or kitten may be shown within a given period and to limit the number of classes in which a cat or kitten may be entered at any one show. The meeting gave a majority vote to the Committee's proposal that, for this year's show, club classes as support would only be sought from the Siamese specialist clubs in an endeavour to reduce handling of cats and kittens and consequent risk of infection.

Dewy-eyed Scots

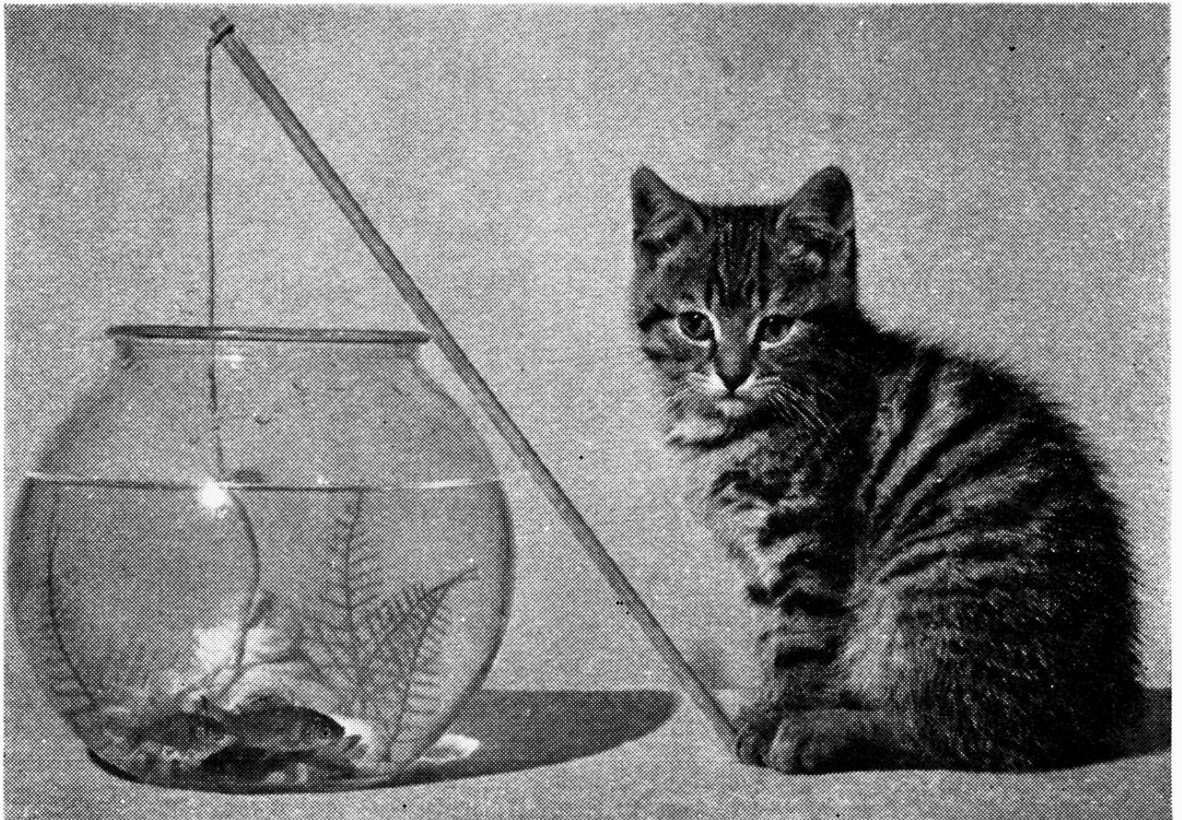
By LAVINIA DERWENT

WE have the reputation of being a very dour lot in Scotland. We are such a stoical race, so they say, that we never show our feelings and seldom say a kind word to each other. Indeed, there is a certain strange brand of affection which is known as "Scots love" and which consists of the two parties concerned miscalling each other in public, as if they hated the sight of each other. Real feelings must be hidden at all costs. It is infra-dig to lavish terms of endearment on another human being.

It is a different matter with animals. Even the dourest Scot goes all dewy-eyed over a stray

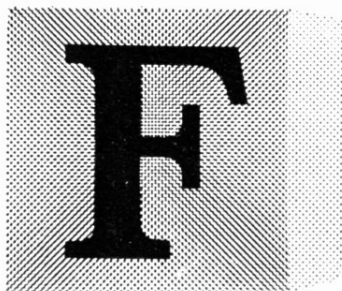
kitten and addresses it in far more affectionate terms than he would ever use to his wife. The truth is that we are ANIMAL LOVERS — in capital letters. Even the regiments have wee goats and ponies as their mascots; and a hard-bitten football club has gone goofy enough to adopt a sheep. And, of course, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is under *Royal* patronage, whereas the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is merely a *National* one! A dour lot? It strikes me, we're a queer lot.

Certainly the pets in *my* district have no need to apply for protection, unless it is to complain about being pampered to



THE PATIENT ONE

Photo by W. Smyth

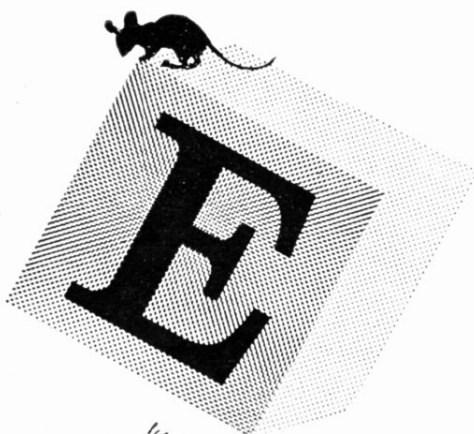


feline



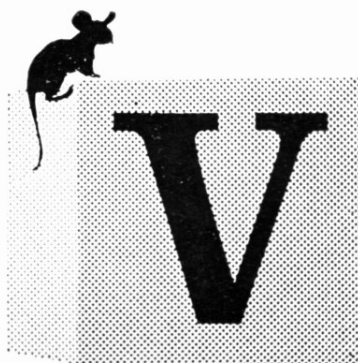
infectious enteritis vaccine

for the



protection

of cats



Feline infectious enteritis is a highly infectious and dangerous disease of cats: it kills 9 out of 10 of those that contract it. Treatment is usually unsuccessful. The best protection against this dreadful disease is vaccination with FEV. Choose a time when your cat is fit and healthy then ask your veterinary surgeon about protection with FEV feline infectious enteritis vaccine.

FEV protects your cat



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death. Their owners never get the top off the milk. The very idea! It must be saved for wee Blackie or Chinky, along with the tenderest chicken, the juiciest liver and the tastiest piece of sole.

Exhausted with feeding, they lie on the softest cushions or collapse—belching—on the eider-down (just back from the cleaners), and are not expected to move from the best chair when visitors arrive. Even the television set is switched off because it gives wee Pookie a headache. No sacrifice is too great for the sake of the little dears.

Then why, I wonder, do they all take to their heels and run away every night? Not for the usual reasons, surely, since they have all, poor things, been “treated”. Yet off they go the minute they can dodge out of the door, escaping from silken slavery to scabble about in the dirtiest of wasteland, climb the sootiest trees, or engage in mortal combat with the mangiest strays that will take them on.

Every night at the gloaming their distracted owners can be heard calling the wanderers home. “Blackie! Puss-puss! Come away home! Good wee cheety-pussie! I’ve got some nice cream for your supper”.

The lost ones

It is impossible not to get involved in one of the search-parties. Night after night some distressed parent looms up out of the gloom, asking anxiously, “Have you seen my wee Persian? He just walked off in the middle of his liver. I’m *so* worried. Din-ky! Where are you?”

Where, indeed? Even the hardest-hearted of us find our-

selves down on our hunkers peering under bushes, stalking the runaway along a dark, dirty lane, or trying to rescue him from the roof. And many a prickly tree have I climbed—with scars to prove it—while wee Tootsie sits grinning at the top, only to leap down at the last moment, leaving *me* stranded.

Some, it is true, come back of their own accord, marching disdainfully past their owners into the house without as much as a beg pardon. Their paws are filthy; there are lumps bitten out of their ears, and their fur is covered with soot and dirt. Who cares? They are home. Let them jump on to the sofa, if they want. Poor wee souls; they’re worn out.

“Good wee pussy. You’ve come home to mother. Wait, now. I’ll fetch you something nice for your supper”. All is forgiven.

And it is not only our four-footed friends. For my sins, I am godmother to a backward budgie called Gulliver who comes to stay with me when his mistress is away and who spends most of his time admiring himself in his wee mirror and calling himself a “Pretty wee boy”. I can only hope that the postman doesn’t read the cards he receives from his fond owner—a hard-headed business-woman who never gives way to her feelings *except* to her budgie. “Dear Gulliver, Hope you’re being a good wee boy. Am missing you terribly. Will bring you home a nice little bell. Be sure to eat up all your seed. See you soon. Lots of love and tweet-tweets from Mother”.

When she does come home, the reunion has to be seen to be believed. She shakes *me* coldly by the hand, but she almost *swallows* Gulliver. But, of course, *he* belongs to the animal kingdom.

A page for the proletarian puss—No 108



SANDY and PANSY—see story at foot of the opposite page

Looking back

This brief but interesting survey of the feline world was written by LOUIS WAIN, the famous cat artist. Discovered in an old magazine (probably of the early 1900's) it is reproduced here by kind permission of the "Journal of the Siamese Cat Association".

SIAM sends us a regal animal in the Siamese Royal Cat; it has a brown face, legs and tail, a cream-coloured body, and mauve or blue eyes. The Siamese take great care of their cats, for it is believed that the souls of the departed are transmitted into the bodies of animals, and the cat is a favourite of their creed; consequently the cats are highly cultivated and intelligent, and can think out ways and means to attain an end.

The Sand-coloured cat, with a whole-coloured coat like the rabbit, which we know as the Abyssinian or Bunny Cat, is a strong African type. On the Gold Coast it comes down from the inland country with its ears all bitten and torn away in its fights with rivals. It has been acclimatized in England, and Devonshire and Cornwall have both established a new and distinct tribe out of its parentage. The Manx cat is nearly allied to it, and a hundred years ago the tailless cat was called the Cornwall cat, not the Manx. I have not yet seen a Bunny Long-haired.

White Cats I might call musical cats,

for it is quite characteristic of the albinos that noises rarely startle them out of their simpering, loving moods. The scraping of a violin, which will scare an ordinary cat out of its senses, or the thumping of a piano, which would terrorize even strong-nerved cats, would only incite a white cat to a happier mood. Certainly all white cats are somewhat deaf, or lack acute quality of senses; but this failing rather softens the feline nature than becomes dominant as a weakness.

The nearest to perfection perhaps, and yet at the same time extremely soft and finely made, is the Blue Cat, rare in England as an English cat, but common in most other countries, and called in America the Maltese Cat—for fashion's sake probably, since it is too widely distributed there to be localized as of foreign origin. It is out in the mining districts and agricultural quarters, right away from the beaten tracks of humanity, where the most wonderful breeds of cats develop in America. Caravan showmen have told me that at one time it was quite a business for them to carry cats into this wilderness, and sell them to rough, hardy

(continued overleaf)

Sandy and Pansy, these two charming kittens were temporarily orphaned when their owner, Mrs. F. Moppett of Woodford Bridge, collapsed in the street and had to be rushed to hospital. Police called in the P.D.S.A. to help — and fortunately there was a ward pen vacant at the P.D.S.A. Sanatorium at Ilford. Sandy and Pansy remained in good hands until Mrs. Moppett came out of hospital and was able to take them home with her. In the past, the P.D.S.A. has often had to refuse similar requests for help because, of course, sick animals come first at their hospitals. But now at the Ilford Sanatorium, the P.D.S.A. will soon be able to provide special boarding accommodation for cats whose owners are unable, in times of sickness and other trouble, to find a temporary home for their pets or to afford the cost of kennel fees. The accommodation comprises 12 individual chalets, each with its own run available through a cat door, with a viewing window above a ledge on which the inhabitant can sit. The chalets are insulated and individually heated and equipped with beds and scratching-posts. Built at a cost of over £2,000, it is expected that the chalets will be ready for use by the end of April.

miners, who dealt out death to each other without hesitation in a quarrel, but who softened to the appeal of an animal which reminded them of homelier times.

One man told me that upon one occasion he sold eight cats at an isolated mining township in Colorado, and some six days' journey farther on he was caught up by a man on horseback from the township, who had ridden hard to overtake the menagerie caravan, with the news that one of the cats had climbed a monster pine-tree, and that all the other cats had followed in his wake; food and drink had been placed in plenty at the foot of the tree, but that the cats had been starving, frightened out of their senses, for three days. Despite all attempts to reach them they had only climbed higher and higher out of reach into the uppermost and most dangerous branches of the pine.

The showman hastened with his guide across country to the township, only to find that in the interval one bright specimen of a man belonging to the village had suggested felling the tree, and so rescuing the cats from the pangs of absolute starvation should they survive the ordeal. A dynamite cartridge had been used to blast the roots of the pine, and a rope attached to its trunk had done the rest and brought the monster tree to earth, only, however, at the expense of all the cats, for not one survived the tremendous fall and shaking. A sad and tearful procession followed the remains of the cats to their hastily dug grave, and thereafter a bull mastif took the place of the cats in the township, an animal more in character with the lives of its inhabitants.

On Russian Blues

Analogous to this case of travelling menageries, we have the great variety of Blues, Silvers, and Whites which are characteristic of Russia. There is a vast tableland of many thousands of miles in extent, intersected by caravan routes to all the old countries of the ancients, and it is not astonishing to hear of attempts

being made to steal the wonderful cats of Persia, China and Northern India, as well as those of the many dependant and independant tribes which bound the Russian kingdom. But it is a remarkable fact that none but the Blues can live in the attenuated atmosphere of the higher mountainous districts through which they are taken before arriving in Russian territory.

It is no uncommon thing to find a wonderful complexity of Blue cats shading to silver and white in most Russian villages, or Blue cats of remarkable beauty, but with a dash of tabby-marking running through their coats. Their life, too, is lived at two extremes. In the short Russian summer they roam the woodlands, pestered by a hundred poisonous insects; in the winter they are imprisoned within the four walls of a snow-covered cottage, and are bound-down prisoners to domesticity till the thaw sets in again.

Many of the beautiful furs which come to us from Russian are really the skins of these cats, the preparation of which for market has grown into a large and thriving industry. The country about Kronstadt, in the Southern Carpathian Mountains of Austria, is famous for its finely developed animals; and here, too, has grown up a colony of sable-coloured cats, said to be of Turkish origin, where the pariahs take the place of cats.

THIS MONTH'S BACKSLAP

comes from a cattery owner in San Francisco, California, U.S.A., who apparently has been able to make the acquaintance of OUR CATS through the kindness of a friend. She writes: "Please find enclosed my check for a year's subscription to OUR CATS. I think the publication is mandatory for any serious breeder as well as all lovers of cats. You can be very proud of such a superior product. I shall be among all the other avid readers who save and safeguard them as priceless. I've come to this decision following a grand day of going through a friend's two-year collection. Once again, it's marvellous and I shall wait anxiously for my own".



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

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

Show in Lancashire

THE Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club Ch. Show at Bolton on February 15th attracted over 200 exhibits.

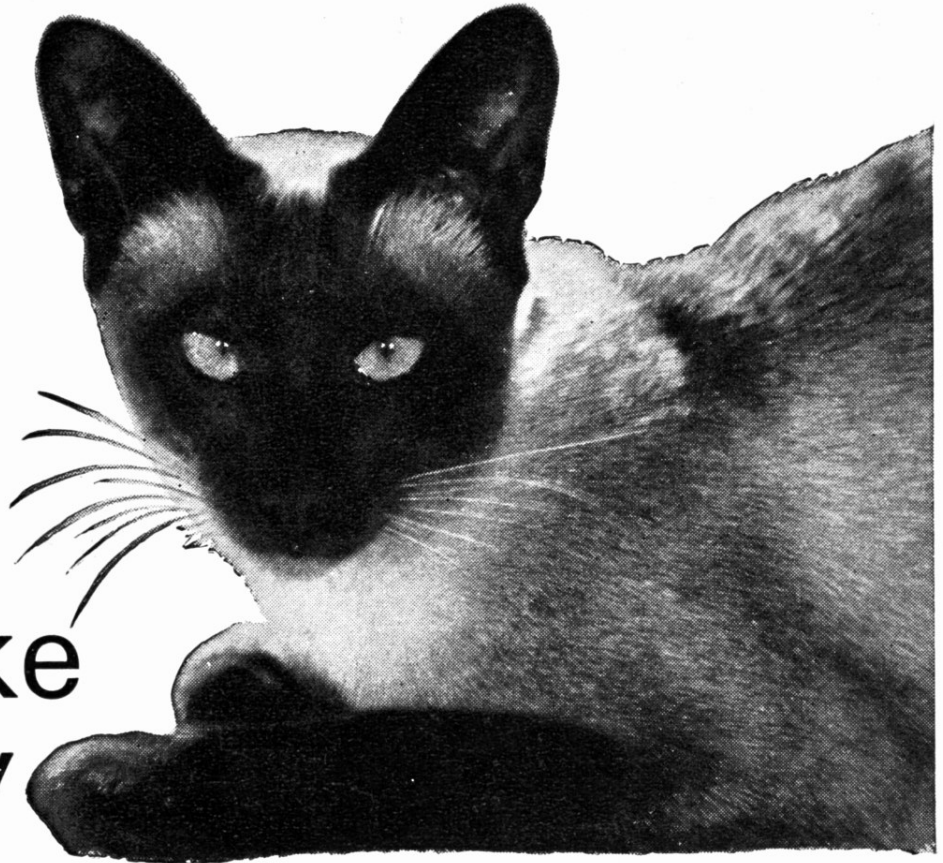
Mrs. R. Vickers, the Hon. Secretary, was Show Manager and I hear from some of those present it was an enjoyable event. Last except one of the Championship fixtures, some well known Champions made their final appearance for this season and young aspirants for this status were competing for their third Challenge Certificate.

The main awards went as follows: Best Longhair Cat—Mrs. Hogan's beautiful and consistent White Ch. Snowwhite Giselle by Ch. Snowcloud Crispin and Camber Suzanne. (Suzanne was the winning Blue Adult Female and is a daughter of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous.) Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. Coley's Smoke

male Beauvale Galahad by Ch. Beauvale Conquest and Borrowdale Heather Belle. (Conquest also sired Mrs. Coley's winning Smoke female Ch. Beauvale Tamara. Her other winner was her Black male Deebank Black Diamond); Best L.H. Neuter—Mrs. Hughes' Blue Guilden Blue Knight by the same sire as Ch. Snowcloud Giselle. Best Shorthair Cat—Mrs. Beevers' Black female Ch. Teign Tilly by Ch. Arcamar Scamp. She also won with her adult British Blue S.H. Fendale Fidelio by Ch. Jezreel Janty, and her kitten Fendale Mirage by the same sire, the latter being the Best S.H. Kitten in Show. Mr. Shrimpton's consistent British Blue neuter, Premier Bonaventura Jackson, won again as Best S.H. Neuter and is now unbeaten over the last two show seasons in his Premier class.

Other winners were: Best Siamese Adult—Mrs. Rogers' S.P. Siamese male Delamere Bestang by Chancery Harold and Daramina Sheba; Best Siamese Kitten—Mrs. Bowles' B.P. Highpeak Peveril by Pheanoi Nimrod and Pheanoi Shian-Noi. (Her B.P. Siamese male Ch. Pheanoi Fuang by Ch. Samaikand Gallant Lad added another Ch. to his honours); Best Siamese Neuter—Miss Alcock's Sinywa Wun Lung by Ch. Milori Oberon and she was also awarded a Premier Certificate to her Burmese, Sealcoat Touku by Ch. Casa Gatos Darkee.

Mrs. Plew's lovely Cream male Ch. Leemor Christopher added another Ch. to his title and Mrs. Trevitt won in



take
my
tip-
TIBS!

Here's good advice from a wise-looking, beautiful seal-point queen, Sumfun Yahaha. Or to be correct, advice from her owner, Mrs. Mary Dunnill of Haslemere.

All her cats are Tibs conditioned. They include three other seal-point queens, a chocolate-point queen, a chestnut brown queen, an up-and-coming young lilac-point Siamese male and a seal-point stud.

"Most of my stock," Mrs. Dunnill explains, "take Tibs straight from my hand. For the few suspicious ones, I crush the tablets and sprinkle them over their food. That way, their Tibs are soon gobbled up!" Mrs. Dunnill goes on to say that regular use of Tibs helps to produce that wonderful condition and glossy, healthy coat required on the show bench, where her Sumfun Siamese are consistent winners. To keep your cats in show condition, too, give them Tibs regularly.

Famous breeders say **OUR CATS ARE TIBS CATS**

TIBS
CONDITION TABLETS

Tibs tablets for cats are a Bob Martin product

Cream female adults with her youthful Brizlee Juliet by Ch. Deebank Victor, also with her Blue female kitten, Brizlee Evening Mist who has won so well this season. She is by Mrs. Richardson's Ch. Lomond Lucky and Brizlee Nicolette. Mrs. Burrows' Blue male Orion of Pensford by Ch. Halcyon Boniface and June Rose of Pensford ended his brilliantly successful show career this season by winning the Open Blue Male Adult class, which is very rarely won by such a young male. Altogether he has been awarded over 50 firsts since he started as a kitten in October.

Some pleasing wins

Mrs. Dinwiddie, all the way from Dumfries, Scotland, led with her Blue-Cream adult Rainhams Poppet by Ch. Camber Winston. Mrs. Harding won with her adult Colourpoint Briarry Zorab by Briarry Zoltan. Another consistent kitten to catch the judges eye was Mrs. Roberts' Chinchilla male Polar Piereno by Avongrace Bardolph.

There were 17 S.P. Siamese females in the adult class and the judge, Mrs. Montgomery awarded the Challenge Certificate to Mrs. Conoly's Wayfarer Juliet by Ch. Spotlight Melchoir and Whiteoaks Whispers. One C.C. was awarded to C.P. Siamese and that went to Mr. Crosswell's Bradgate Nina by Ch. Camley Fudge. The two C.C.'s in L.P. Siamese were awarded to Mrs. Denny's male Ch. Khubsurat Sweet Sultan and in females to the same owner's Pi-den Heather by the winning male.

Mr. Beckitt had very pleasing wins in a small Silver Tabby adult class which was full of quality by being first and second with his two males Gables Silver Cloud and his sire Gables Silver Marks. Three Burmese from one litter won in kittens. They were bred by Mrs. Somers and sired by Sealcoat Ramashan—Mrs. Jackson's Revitor Brown Silk, Mrs. Fletcher's Revitor Brown Sugar and Mrs. Somers' male Revitor Brown Berry.

Two hundred-and-forty special prizes were offered so the Show had generous support. I am sure Miss Kit Wilson, Mrs. Beever and Mrs. Oswald were in their element judging nearly 40 household pets.

Surrey & Sussex Show

The Surrey and Sussex Cat Association Exemption Show on March 11th at Streatham, S.W. London, was very well organized by Mrs Nancy Hardy who made her debut as a Show Manager. There was an excellent entry of nearly 140 exhibits, some of which were celebrities which are not often exhibited at an exemption show at the end of a season.

Best Longhair Cat was Mrs. Durbin's Orange-eyed White female Ch. Snowcloud Dream Girl by Lisblanc Bambi. Best L.H. Kitten went to Mrs. Todd's Cream female Aviary Janet by Aviary Cream Puff, who had excellent quality. Best L.H. Neuter was Mr. Griffin's Black Rala Nikki by Ch. Rala Nepeta.

Best Shorthair Cat was Mrs. Greenwood's Silver Tabby male Gringy Silver Peregrine by Wilmar Silver Peregrin; Best S.H. Kitten—Mrs. Bentinck's male Burmese Copplestone Luntha by Benroc Buckthorn; Best Any Variety Shorthair Neuter—Mrs. Richards' Siamese Praha Pavane by Khubsurat Sweet Sultan.

Exhibitors who had pleasing wins in the more competitive Open Classes were Mr. Bullock with his S.P. Siamese female Leyborne Melissa by Ch. Katrine Sun Hunter (11 S.P. females in class); Mrs. Halliday in a B.P. Siamese class of males and females with Sundance Danae by Freefolk Blue Damon; and Mrs. Biggie in a L.P. Siamese class with Ch. Edwardian Chantal by Praha Andante Maestoso.

There were 29 Siamese kittens in the four colours and the first prize winners in their Open Classes were; Mrs. Warner's S.P. Siamese female by Whiteoaks Malahide and Praline, (the

latter so called at present a Lynx Pointed.) In the older S.P. kitten class Miss Tilby's female Katrine Indian Moonflower won.

Mrs. Markham won in B.P.'s with Simajen Rupea-Chandra and Mrs. Farrow in C.P.'s with Tina Tawce a female by the same sire as the winning adult S.P. female.

There was little competition in the other S.H. varieties except in Burmese kittens headed by Mrs. Bentinck's Coppystone Lun-Tha. In British Shorthairs Mrs. Johnson won with her female Blue, Jezreel Jula; Mrs. Read with her Russian Blue Meadliam Jason and Mrs. Butcher with her Manx Wandleston Sheba.

In Longhairs Miss Sellar won with Deebank May Blossom and a Black male kitten Coylum Macdhui by Ch. Treales Kandy Velvet. The latter was the cover boy of OUR CATS, July 1962.

Miss Woodifield won with her Tortie and White Ch. Pathfinders Mayflower which has won so well this season.

The hall was excellent, light airy and spacious and to add to its amenities there were excellent facilities for judges lunches and refreshments, and balconies from which to view the judging on both sides.

A successful debut

One of the more recent cat clubs to report progress is the Hull and Lincolnshire C.C. which held an Exemption Show on March 14th at Lincoln. Mr. Trevitt Hon. Treasurer was Show Manager. I have never been pessimistic that it would be impossible to find new managers when some of our splendid older brigade concluded they wanted to turn their attention to "fresh fields and pastures new". We must be thankful that organizing a show presents a challenge to some breeders and they want to "have a go". The almost inevitable re-action afterwards is surprise at the volume of work entailed and sometimes they may perhaps say 'Never again!' But praise be, they recover and usually decide to "carry on with the good work".

One hundred exhibits was a pleasing entry for Mr Trevitt to cope with and again some of the season's well-known winners were presented. Awards were: Best Longhair Cat—Mrs. Plew's Cream male Ch. Leemor Christopher by Ch. Beamsley Sunbeam; Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. Cooper's Smoke Sebring Tiny Tim by Ch. Congo of Knott Hall; Best L.H. Neuter—the Misses Alexanders' Blue Gippeswyk Lone Ranger by Cleadon Blue Bumpet; Best Shorthair Cat—Mrs. Denny's S.P. Siamese Annelida Azbac by Whiteoaks Malahide; Best S.H. Kitten—Mrs Threadingham's Abyssinian Bernina Francesca by Nigella Sita; Best S.H. Neuter—Mrs. Beevers' British Blue Ch. Fendale Fedelio by Ch. Jezreel Janty.

The best household pet Queenie; owned by Miss Atkinson, came from Blackpool.

The Club offered nineteen of its cups and trophies, other clubs offered ninety-nine. Manufacturers' special prizes were listed separately and they amounted to over one hundred.

Australian news

From Mrs. Beryl Chandler of Victoria, Australia, comes another interesting letter. She writes: "I have just seen January OUR CATS, and so have some of our members and we are all thrilled at the write up of our activities. We thought it was usual for club meetings to be followed by social activities."

"We are growing all the time and best of all, we attract young couples (25 to 35) and some that are even younger. I am sure it is the variety of our interests which helps. We are fortunate that our hall and clubrooms are so well suited to all this. The hall itself used to be a dance hall and games pavilion of a tennis club and it opened out on to three en-tout-cas tennis courts. Two are used for the tennis playing group and we have taken the other one for a barbeque area with three large barbeques."

“We have set up a pottery kiln in the grounds. The kiln is about 4' by 3', so it takes several items. I do onglaze pottery painting, also work on biscuit and green ware and china painting and do a lot of cats and kittens on ceramic tiles for table tops and wall plaques.

“The art section of the Show at the Southern Cross uncovered a lot of artists and we are forming an art group called the Nokomis Art Group after the well-loved Siamese, Lilac Whey owned by Mrs. Moloney.”

“We shall be doing cats in pottery painted in the correct colours and plan various items with hand painted Club motifs to be used as show trophies. There is also talk of making bronze jewellery of cats with enamel fired on. It's going to be great fun and then at the end of the year, we will have a very plush exhibition at the Southern Cross Hotel.”

“After these activities the tennis group and those pursuing less active things gravitate to the barbeque and then all to the hall at night for dancing.”

“One of the most touching things, however, is that no matter what we are all doing if someone's cat is having kittens there is a friend “kitten-sitting” to check on how things are going and if there is any trouble everyone wants to know if they can help. The cats are first and foremost and all our activities are to promote their popularity and welfare.”

A cosy A.G.M.

The Longhair Cream and Blue-Cream Association A.G.M. held in London was a cosy little affair. As it was held on the Wednesday before Easter it was not so well attended as anticipated but the prosperity of the Association and apprec-



T. C. Cox

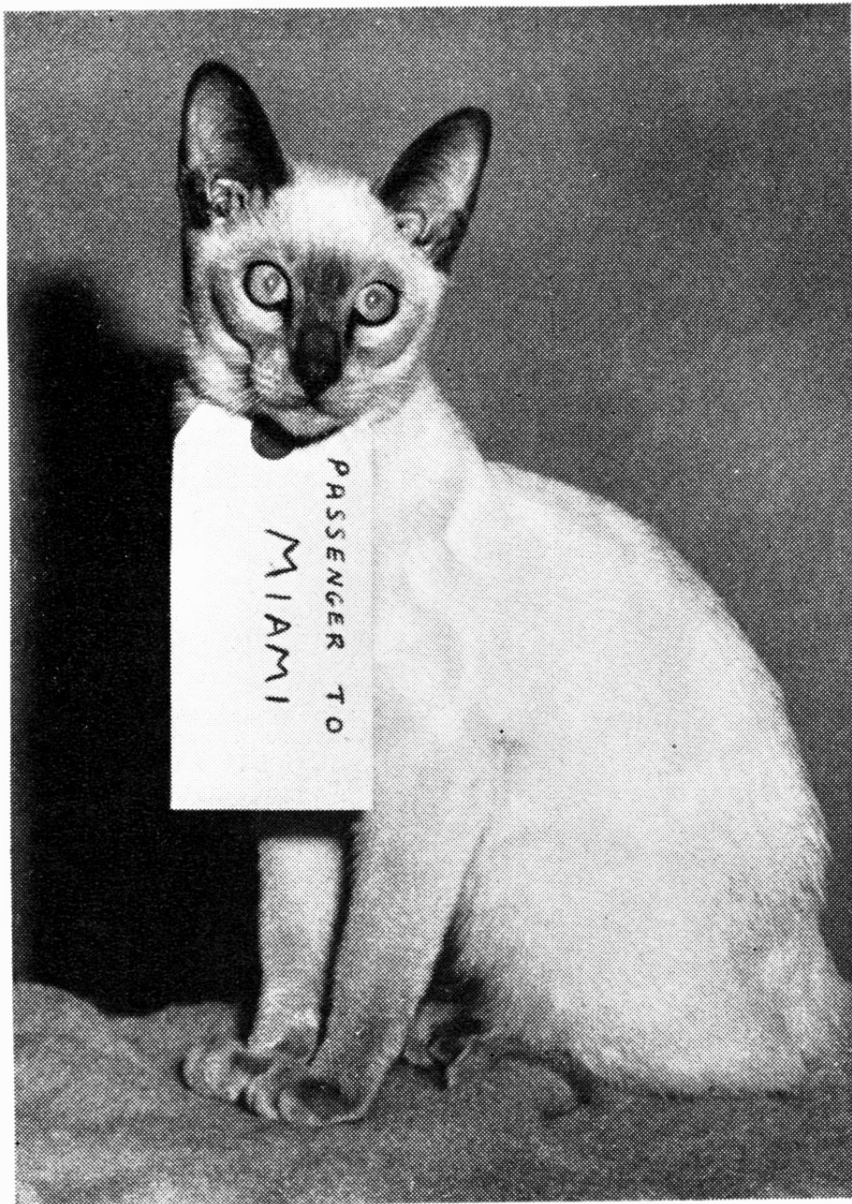
CH. AMBERLEY TERESA, bred by Mr. and Mrs. D. Alexander, of Verwood, Dorset, contemplates one of her many awards. She went to only three shows to win her supreme title.

iation of the support it gives to these two varieties at shows appeared to content members. We owe so much to Miss Kathleen Yorke, the founder and chairman, and with Mrs. C. Dugdale Hon. Secretary and Mrs. R. Ross, Hon. Treasurer, the future is assured. Mrs. Ruffell and Miss C. Page were elected to the Committee, both well known breeders of these varieties. A jolly tea and cat chats terminated the meeting.

News of exports

When the three kittens exported by Mrs. D. Benbow arrived at Auckland, New Zealand their new owner Miss

Shirley Meale telephoned her to say how delighted she was with them and that they arrived in wonderful condition and well groomed. Mrs. and Miss Meale invited the members of the crew directly concerned with their welfare en route to dinner. A day or two later the kittens appeared on television. The kittens were Bayhorne Baronet (Blue L.H. male), Bayhorne Countess (Blue L.H. female) and Bayhorne Blossom (Blue-Cream), all sired by Ch. Bayhorne Ajax. Another of Mrs. Benbow's kittens Bayhorne Dominic is en route to members of the Cream and Blue-Cream Longhair Club of Brisbane, Australia. He is due to arrive on April 16th on SS. Baradine.



Derek Davis

Mr. Sam Scheer, that active and popular figure in the Siamese world of America, has welcomed to his home in Florida another English-bred Lilac Point. ANNELIDA COSMONAUT, bred by Mrs. A. E. Ashford and so aptly named, flew out last month after meeting the photographer for this charming farewell picture.

He was six months of age when he sailed.

Rex of Pensford by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Mooncoin Judy arrived safely in New Zealand on March 29th. He was five-and-a-half months when he left England. There is no quarantine at Auckland, New Zealand, so he was soon safely installed in his new home with Mr. Hanson, President of the Auckland Cat Club.

Mrs. Dugdale's winning Cream male kitten Harpur Tiddleywinks by Ch. Brynwood Casanova and Aviary Susie was purchased by Mrs. Vomeri of Brakpan, South Africa. She is delighted with him. He flew direct from London Airport to Jan Smuts Airport, Johannesburg in March. Actual flying time is about eighteen hours when a plane

only touches down at a few airports en route and livestock does not have to be transferred to another plane.

Widdington Zeus, a Cream male born May 1963 by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Widdington Stardust, bred by Miss Sheppard and now owned by Mr. George Evans of Kaneohe, Hawaii, has recorded some outstanding wins at U.S.A. shows. In a letter he writes: "Zeus is magnificent and conforms to the standard more than any L.H. I have seen. He also has a lovely disposition".

News of exports is always welcome but please quote full registered names; quoting part of a name may lead to misunderstanding.



HENDRA'S DECIBELLE, Mrs. D. Nash's young Blue Longhair female by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous ex. Hendra's Charmaine. She was 1st in her class at all the London shows last winter and Best Blue Kitten at the Croyden Show.

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HARPUR TIDDLEWINKS, Best Cream Kitten, and BEST LONGHAIR KITTEN, Southern Counties Cat Club Championship Show, London, January, 1964.

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CLASSY CATS

By NORA I. A. ROBINSON

"IT'S in a class by itself, of course!" We've all heard cat lovers say that proudly about their pets, even if sometimes more with amusement and love, rather than from the pure-pedigree angle. How can a very ordinary tabby, with no pedigree at all, become a first-class cat? The answer's in how it is pictured for posterity.

Take artist Hogarth, for example. Cat-lovers will say the embroidery picture, still shown at exhibitions all over the country, shows a first-class artist's first-class cat, but in terms of needlework rather than pedigree of animal. Worked in 1800, this well-behaved creature is splendidly embroidered, with most loving care. His claims to fame are therefore two, being in a class by himself as to owner and in fine needlecraft.

Mrs. Graham Greene has shown many fine examples of cat pictures in needlework, particularly of the Victorian era. Berlin work was all the rage with ladies of leisure, and this is the best-known type of cat embroidery still in existence today.

Other quite ordinary cats in life have been made Class 1 for history by being worked in Surrey

stitch, and fitted with eyes of glass beads, sewn in with loving care by owners of the pictured pets. Most such pictures show the cats on cushions, partly because this was a natural pose, but also to add colour to the finished picture. Further, to embroider a design of one's pet on a cushion showed real social status, as it was assumed poorer people didn't allow pets such privileges as velvet cushions to laze around on!

In hunting majesty

Sometimes the cats were actually shown in action, as with an applique example styled "Portrait of Hector"—also called just Ginger by admirers of it. Painstakingly executed with great skill by Miss B. Lambert, this animal stands in full hunting majesty, orange fur tinged with lemon, and a dead bird stretched by his paws. Hector evidently impressed all comers by determination to get what he wanted, and history will see his pictured image this way for as long as the embroidery lasts.

Some Victorian owners were so delighted with their cat-pictures, they had them framed in

(continued on page 29)

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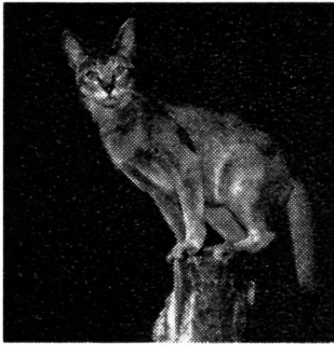
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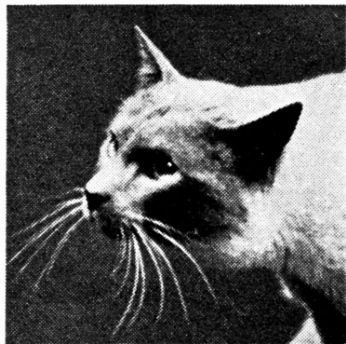
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BLUE POINT

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Greatford 200

CLASSY CATS (continued from page 24)

expensive woods. Birds-eye maple frame is one type we come across quite frequently, to show off the needlework.

Some modern cat-owners prefer practical reminders of their love for cats. One prize-winning example by Miss Hyde, shown at Oxford and District Cat Club once, was of felt cap and gloves, all decorated with cat-pictures she had worked.

As for other ways of paying

homage to "classy" cats, there are the Staffordshire pottery-makers, famed for their tortoise-shell cat figures resting on tasselled cushions. Photographs of cats, paintings of cats, cats on T.V. screens, and even pictured as "draws" to aid sales of carpets—these things all show the cat is retaining its position in society as a mark of "class", by virtue of other assets than mere aristocratic pedigree alone.

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News from "Down Under"

HELLOA, folks! Lots of storm and rain to report this time. We needed the rain badly, but at what a cost.

New South Wales. Southern Cross held a very successful show at Chatswood in February with a very fine entry. The new Secretary Miss B. Mullins, who took over from her dad, did a fine job. Mr. Mullins is now President of the Club. Everything went with a swing and it was most unfortunate that a luckless cabbie let one of the exhibits escape and it has not been sighted since, I understand. Best Male was Mrs J. Thompson's Shorthair Clarendon Chung Sing with Mrs. E. Corner's Ramayana Sita Best Opposite Sex. Miss S. Hinds had the Best Litter award and winners among the kittens were Mrs. Corner's S.P. Siamese female and Mrs. Burt's Trubac Taurus. The promised list of L.H. awards did not reach me.

A Saturday in March was the chosen day for the 5th Kitten Show of the Northern Feline Fancy Club. The proceeds went to a worthy charity. Another new Secretary Mrs. A. Caton acquired a heck of a lot of experience in a very short time. She will be a great asset to the Club when she learns a few of the short cuts. The weather was the worst for many moons; there were gale force winds and 5 inches of rain in 8 hours. Five judges made the following top awards: L.H. Male—Mrs. Ainsworth's Craigholme Myrica; L.H. Female—Miss Rapley's Mayfield Precious; Best Kittens—Mrs. Townsend's Kanya King and Mrs. Paget's Hinemoa Princess Niree; Best S.H. Cat—Mrs. Outram's Abyssinian Kingsi Abuo Hermes; Best Opposite Sex—Mrs. Carlisle's Amoy's Abby Alajs; Best Litter—Mrs. J. Morf's Royelle Nicolle Azurem's litter.

I attended the A.G.M. of the Cumberland Club and was able to congratulate the presiding officer bearers on their re-election, headed by Mrs. Savage (President) and Mrs. Paris (Secretary). I had the honour of a life membership conferred on me.

South Australia. I have received a copy of the *News of the Cat World* from the Cat Fanciers' Society of S.A. from Secretary Miss Horne. The first show takes place this month (April) and the proceeds will go to a spastic centre. Miss South Australia will perform the official opening ceremony. I am pleased to see that the Shorthair section will be judged by Mrs. D. J. Davies, of Wellington, New Zealand. At the A.G.M. of the South Australian Consultative Committee, Mr. J. T. McConnell was elected to the position of Secretary-Registrar and Mrs. Pickett continues as Treasurer. Mrs. Russack has acquired a female Colourpoint kitten Camlon Jade from Mrs. Buckland, of N.S.W., who is very successful with this variety. I intend having one when opportunity offers as they are most attractive. Miss Horne and Mrs. Pickett have very fine Red Point Siamese and with Mr. Paelshen's male Slindon Shiveli should soon ensure keen competition in sub-register classes. Mrs. Marshall is to be on the top ticket also with her Russian Blue—local bred kittens, a litter of Brown Burmese and seven Chestnut Browns.

Queensland. I have received some interesting letters from Mrs. Paton and Mrs. Batten and was glad to know that Mrs. Gillingham (one of their senior judges) is still making good progress, but refuses to go as slow as the doctor ordered. It was very good of Mrs. Paton to write as she is still on holiday

and posted the letter at Tamworth on her way down to Victoria. She is very keen to visit some of the catteries down there with Burmese, Red Pointed Siamese, etc. It should help her to further her short-hair judging study.

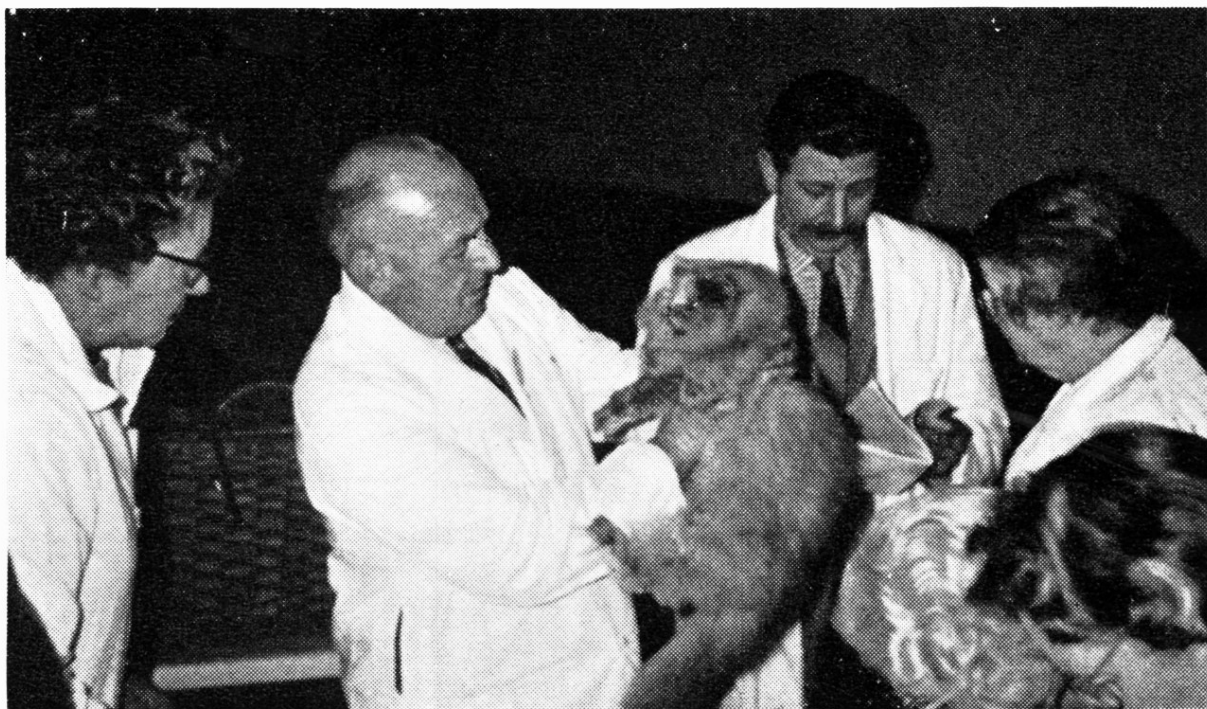
Mrs. Love, who lectured on the art of stewarding at a recent meeting, has purchased a female Red Abyssinian from Melbourne, the second for Queensland. The genetics class is a real winner, I'm told, and all students are very keen, as they should be with such a golden opportunity. Mrs. Batten is just charmed with the rapid progress and type of her latest lynx point kittens and says the body colour is excellent, with one outstanding coat. She describes them as the most beautiful things ever.

West Australia. Things have been moving very quickly and smoothly. One club has been granted incorporation and is busily arranging a show for June. It is to be a Championship fixture on a big scale with television and air mention. A Sydney judge has been invited and it is anticipated that the opening ceremony will be performed by the Governor's wife Lady Kendrew. The other club is also arranging a show for July and no

effort is being spared to make it a really big day. As it will be the first show for both clubs, great enthusiasm prevails. We wish them well and good showing.

A RHODESIAN-BRED Brown Burmese has been chosen as "First Lady" of the Rhodesia Cat Club. She is Silverlawns Miss Pixie, who won her third Challenge Certificate at the Ninth Championship Show in Salisbury to become the first national grand champion. Miss Pixie is owned by Mrs. L. Wagner and was bred by Mrs. I. S. Taylor. **Best Cat** on show was Ch. Annelida Lilac Mishe Mikwa, a Lilac Point Siamese male owned by Mrs. Taylor. **Best female cat** on show was a Chinchilla, Bonavia Wings, owned by Mrs. J. Keatley. **Best kitten** was a Siamese Seal Point, Silverlawns Chinki Ranya, owned and bred by Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Phyllis Robinson, chairman of the Rhodesia Cat Club, says the standard of entries had improved beyond all recognition.

"You just have to have a good cat nowadays to win in any of our shows," she said. "People are buying quality cats and this makes the competition much keener."



Taken at the January show of the Notts and Derbys C.C. Mr. Cyril Tomlinson, well known Longhair judge is adding up points for COYLUM ANNE, Miss E. E. Sellars' Blue Cream by Donatus of Allington. Anne won her second C.C. on this appearance.

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to
Kit-zyme**

Scomanessa Woodoo and her daughter Duchess.

MRS. H. R. BENNETT of 88 Duchess Street, Shaw, Nr. Oldham, Lancashire, writes:—

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"As a novice to showing, I recently entered for the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club Ch. Show and I managed to collect five Firsts. My Siamese kittens were judged First and Best Litter in the Show and my neutered black Tom got four Firsts and was Best Cat in the Household Pet Section, judged by Miss Kit Wilson.

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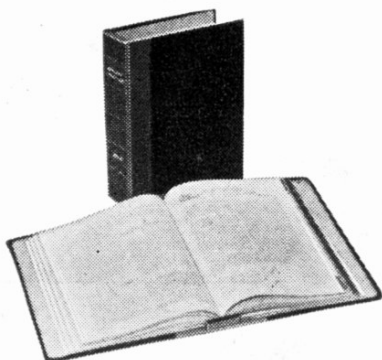
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