

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



HIGH ADVENTURE

"What's that twittering up there?" This little Siamese kitten is running true to form. After all, it's Spring and there are so many strange sounds to investigate and things to see in this big new world. Breeder is well known London fancier and show organiser Mrs. Kay Dunks—from Zingari Ai-Yu ex Gracedieu Lu-An.

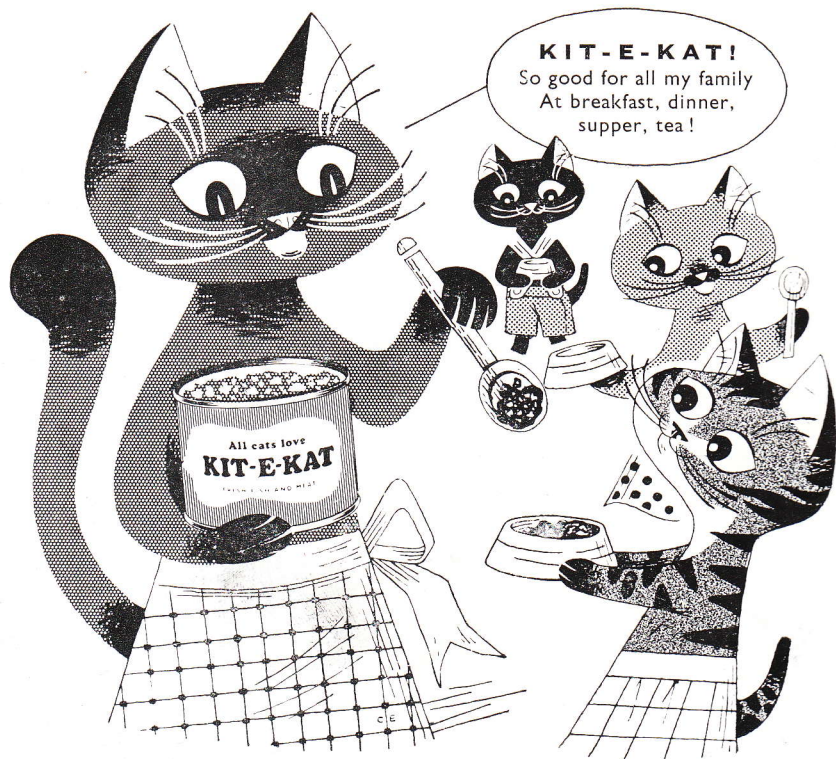
APRIL 1957

1/6

All cats love

KIT-E-KAT

AND ALL YOU DO IS OPEN IT!



For *every* meal of *every* day
Here's goodness in the quickest way!
It's full of fish, it's full of meat;
All cats love Kit-E-Kat to eat!

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

VOL. 9 No. 4

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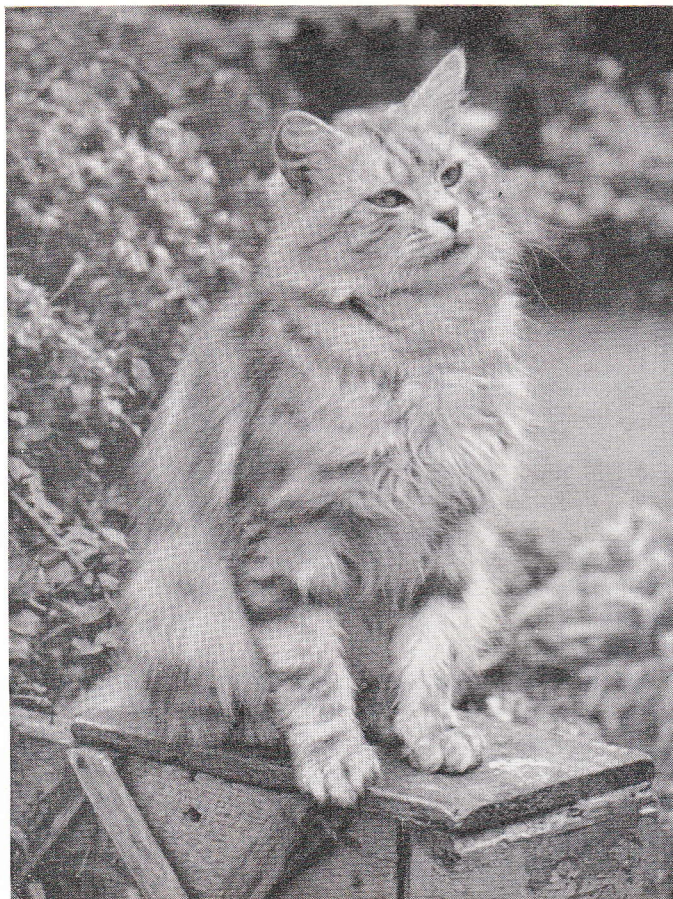
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Photo by Hugh Smith

**On the outside looking in — or
should it be from the inside looking out !**



H. A. Addison

CULVERDEN CLERK SAUNDERS, Silver Tabby Longhair at a year old, belongs to Mrs. G. Parker, of Pennington, Lymington. By Silver Lute of Blagdon ex Sarah of Silverleigh, he was bred by Dulwich fancier Miss F. J. Robson



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Notes for Novices

By "ENTHUSIAST"

WHEN you acquire a cat or rather when a cat acquires you, you often feel that you must let your friends see what a wonderful animal it is. This, as a rule, leads on to the desire to know really how good the cat is. The acid test is, of course, to show the animal and let the experienced judges of the Fancy compare it with others. In other words you will want to exhibit at a Championship show.

Now, exhibiting a cat at his best is not just putting him into a basket and penning him at a show. It entails considerable preparation beforehand, attention to the cat at the show and care for the cat afterwards.

This series of articles is intended to be a guide to intending exhibitors who have little experience of shows. I hope they will prevent some of the disappointments which can so easily arise at a show if the rules of showing are not adhered to.

Novice Exhibitors

There are two kinds of novice exhibitors : (a) the exhibitor who already owns a cat and has decided to show it ; (b) the exhibitor who has yet to acquire a cat and is therefore a novice owner as well as a novice exhibitor.

The former will, of course, have his pet suitably accommodated in his home with all the necessary comforts that the cat wants, but the latter (the novice owner) before acquiring his pet, must make some preliminary preparations for the reception of the cat in his home.

The following are the main prerequisites for a pet's comfort :

(1) *The Sleeping Basket*

This should be one of the wicker-work type with canopy. It should stand on

four legs which should be about 6 inches in height. Excellent baskets of this design are made by blind workpeople at quite reasonable prices. Make sure that the legs of the basket are well splayed out, so that, however the weight of the occupant is distributed, the basket will not overturn.

An A to Z guide presented in simple terms by one who is well qualified and experienced to give advice and encouragement to beginners in our Fancy

The basket should have a soft lining which is removable and which should cover the bottom of the basket completely and come 4-6 inches up the sides. A good lining can be made similar in design to a cushion cover of some soft washable material and open (but able to be fastened) on one side. This case can then be filled with something soft which can be changed when necessary. Old bath towels are as good as anything so that should an accident occur everything can be washed, aired and replaced. Two sets of linings per basket are advisable.

(2) *Feeding and Drinking Bowls*

These are best made of china or glazed porcelain. Enamel plates inevitably get chipped and rusty, and glazed earthenware will be found easier to keep scrupulously clean.

(3) *Sanitary Tray*

A good one is a large tin baking dish about 16 inches by 12 inches by 1½ inches deep. This tray is quite simple to clean and disinfect and to keep sweet smelling. One word of warning, do not use too strong a disinfectant and never one containing carbolic.

(4) *Brush and Comb*

These are also essentials. The brush should be of medium hardness and the comb of metal with not-too-sharp tines. This latter is easy to keep clean and cleansing is best done by boiling it in a saucepan of water.

(5) *First Aid Box*

Any of the proprietary veterinary first aid boxes are suitable and in addition a de-fleaing comb should be procured.

(6) *Veterinary Surgeon*

Accidents may happen however meticulous is the care you bestow on your pets. Like humans, they sometimes become off colour. So make a note of the name, address and telephone number of your veterinary surgeon and keep it in a handy place. It may be that minutes will count in the saving of a life.

(7) *Food*

It is advisable, after your pet has had a little time to look round and inspect his new home, to offer him something he likes to eat and drink. Information on this point is best obtained from the person from whom you have obtained him. If you have none of your pet's favourite food in the house, get some on your way home. He may not eat much just at first but the offer of food and drink should be made. Also, as soon as you can, get him used to his normal place of feeding and drinking.

It is assumed that all preparations for the arrival of your pet at its new home have been made and that you are now going to acquire your cat or kitten. If you have not yet made up your mind as to what breed of cat you want, the first thing to do is to visit an All-Breed show sponsored by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. Here you can buy a catalogue which will give you the sire and dam of all exhibits, the names of their owners and the judges of the various classes.

Have a good look round before you decide on the breed of cat you wish to acquire. Having made your decision,

ask a judge of that breed to advise you on your choice. Any judge will be pleased to help you with advice and you may quite likely be able to take your newly acquired pet home with you. If you are going to do this, go to the show with a travelling basket lined similarly to the sleeping basket but with a piece of waterproof sheeting underneath the lining.

Having selected your pet and made the necessary financial arrangements with its owner find out from him :

- (1) What food the animal likes
- (2) How many meals a day it is used to
- (3) Whether it has been inoculated against feline gastro-enteritis
- (4) Whether it has been inoculated against cat flu
- (5) Whether the cat has been registered with the G.C.C.F.

Finally, arrange with the owner for the cat to be transferred to you and ask for its pedigree.

Home-coming

On arrival at your home allow your pet at first to wander round and inspect its new surroundings. When this is done, offer it some food and drink and show it the position of its sanitary tray (which should always be kept in the same place), sleeping basket, etc., and generally make it feel at home.

If your pet is a young kitten, very likely it will feel lonely at first, as it will miss its brothers and sisters. So make much of it and talk to it and start from the very first to obtain its confidence and to bring it up the way you want.

Do not expect your pet to obey implicitly or to love you at first sight. The first love of all young animals is cupboard and comfort love. However, if you persevere, you will find you will be rewarded with the devotion and confidence that springs from real love. If and when you obtain this, you will have got a love which, in my opinion, far transcends that of any other animal.

Health Precautions

Should your new pet not have been immunized against feline gastro-enteritis and cat flu consult your veterinary surgeon as soon as possible and take his advice as to when this should be done. But don't waste any time about it. In general, the reaction of a cat or kitten to inoculation is very slight and the earliest possible immunization from these two scourges is imperative.

Watch out for fleas and if any happen to be present and your pet is a Shorthair, get out your de-fleaing comb and remove as many as you can. If you de-flea on each of two or three consecutive days and again a fortnight or so later, you should not have much further trouble. There are of course anti-flea powders on the market but do not use one containing D.D.T. and for Shorthairs I think a de-fleaing comb is better anyway.

De-fleaing is done most easily with a bowl of very hot water by your side into which, after each two or three strokes of the comb, you can dip it. This kills the fleas and also damps the comb, making it easier to trap more of these insects. Do not forget that the flea is the host of the tapeworm, a parasite to be avoided at all cost. Segments of the tapeworm can be seen in the faeces which should be examined from time to time. Worm infestation is as a rule indicated by a somewhat voracious appetite on the part of the animal.

Care of the Cat

The cat or kitten should be brushed and combed regularly. This operation may not be altogether appreciated at

first, but after a time most cats love it and will jump up on the table as soon as the brush and comb are produced. This is a good time to carry out ear cleaning, which should be done once a week or oftener if canker is suspected.

For cleaning the ears I recommend Johnson's Cotton Buds (obtainable at any chemist) soaked in Otodex. Note that apart from the day to day comfort of your cat or kitten, clean ears and freedom from vermin are both a *sine qua non* when exhibiting at a show. Indeed, both these two points of cleanliness are specifically mentioned in all show schedules as being necessary for the acceptance of the cat for exhibition.

Joining Clubs

You should now join a cat club or clubs. Which you join depends to some extent on the breed of cat you have acquired. If your pet is a Siamese, you will naturally join the Siamese Cat Club and possibly also the Siamese Cat Society of the British Empire, but it is also advisable, if you are going to show several times a year, to join one or more of the all-breed clubs. You can find all details in the advertisements in any show catalogue.

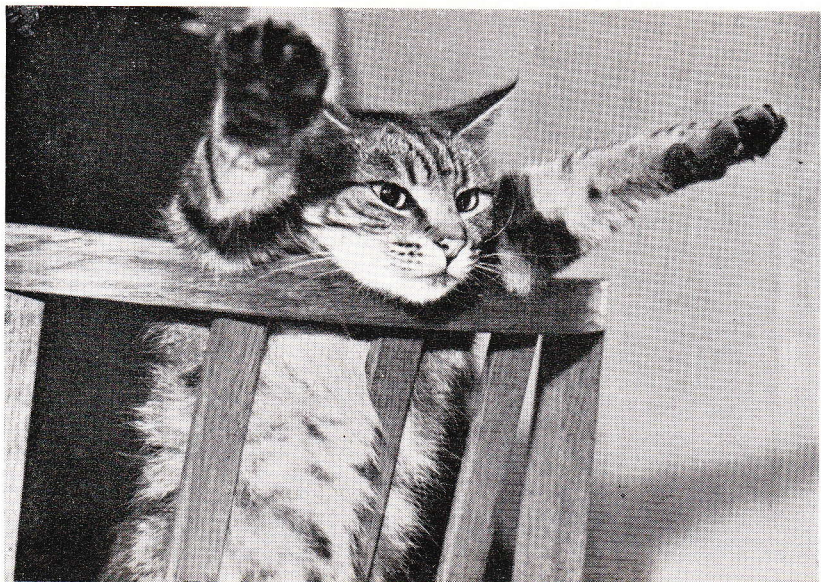
Neutering

If you are not going to breed from your pet you should have him or her neutered or spayed. I have found the best age for this is when the cat is nine to twelve months old, but opinions differ and it is always best to be guided by the advice of your veterinary surgeon.

(to be continued)



A page for the proletarian puss No. 73



P. R. Clarke

An explanatory note which accompanied this amusing picture runs as follows : " Our cat Pixie has an unusual and favourite method of fireside dozing. This is to hang over the back of a strategically placed chair with paws outstretched to the warmth. Note her rather cross expression in the photograph as the chair was turned slightly away from the fire to enable me to take the picture. Since kittenhood Pixie has had this queer little habit of dozing with her fore paws elevated, a book being a favourite prop."

IRRITATION OF CATS' EARS

caused by the ear-mange mite can be definitely cured by three or four applications of the wonder-drug



OTODEX

which combines an anti-parasitic, antiseptic and local anæsthetic
SOOTHING, SAFE AND CERTAIN

Bottles 2/- and 7/6 (post 4d. and 8d.)

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of a non-parasitic nature, so rife and often seasonal in cats, can be rapidly cured by



STRENOL ECZEMA CREAM

an outstanding and well-tested remedy. Quite safe if licked.

Pots 2/- (post 5d.)

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News of Exports

From ELLA B. MARTIN

WITH the English show season at an end, it is an appropriate time to look back and review some of the activities which have been going on "behind the scenes" with regard to the supply of cats and kittens to fanciers overseas. I cannot of course cover all the exports over the past twelve months and so must confine this article to those I have personally selected and shipped plus those kittens I handled at the request of various English breeders.

In February, 1956, when I last wrote my export feature, Mrs. M. Elliott of Toronto had just received her Siamese queen Sabukia Serilla (breeder Mrs. Dadd). I had arranged for Serilla to be mated to Mrs. Duncan Hindley's Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers prior to her flight. The litter duly arrived and Mrs. Elliott wrote to tell me they were the best kittens she had ever seen. One of them later won a large number of 1sts at the N.C. Show in Toronto, including Best S.P. Kitten and a litter brother got Best Opposite Sex. From pictures Mrs. Elliott sent to me I formed the impression that the whole litter was indeed of really high standard.

At about the same time Serilla left for Canada, Miss Corol Macmillan, of Calgary, Alberta, had one of Mr. Stirling-Webb's Longhair Colour Points and it was good news at Christmas to learn that this little lady Briarry Zulueta had had a litter of five. Zulueta was the first of her breed to be exported but in November Briarry Zarcala was purchased by Mrs. D. Ann Borrett, also of Calgary.

About a week after Zarcala's departure I received a most interesting letter from the air hostess of the BOAC plane on which the kitten had travelled to Montreal. She said that the plane's crew had been completely captivated by this

beautiful kitten. What sort of kitten was it and where could such a one be purchased? In a later letter she described the journey. For most of the way Zarcala was in the engineer's bunk or tucked inside the 1st officer's jacket. One of the pilots was so taken with her that he tried to get a photograph of her. At transit stops she was placed in her special carrier. Mrs. Borrett cabled me: "Kitten arrived safely. Delightful bundle. Purring loudly with slight cold." Happily Zarcala soon got over the chill which I think was caught while awaiting on-carriage to Calgary from Montreal.

Next to Canada was an Abyssinian female kit Chatwyn Taha (breeder Mrs. Tancock), a 1st winner at the K.K.N.C.S. who went to Mrs. Field, of Scarborough, Ontario. A little later Mrs. Field received a male Deckham Penamon (breeder Mrs. Stuart). Both kittens are flourishing and should produce some very good offspring later.

An "early settler"

English Cream Longhair breeders will doubtless recall the beautiful litter shown by Miss Sheppard last season. My next kit was one of these females Widdington Starlet. This little gem, with the purest coat imaginable, was purchased by Mrs. Ferrabee, of Montreal, and both she and her husband are delighted with her.

The last to go to Canada were two Siamese females, sent quite recently to Mr. G. L. Stewart, of Calgary. Seax Tsa Chu was a 1st prize winner at the S.C.C.C. Show in January and topped a class of fourteen (breeder Mrs. Parker of Colchester). The other was Klamath Foreda (breeder Mr. G. H. Kirby-Smith). Foreda was also a 1st winner in a class of 22 judged by Miss Val Prentis—a baby of great elegance. Mr. Stewart's cable

raised a smile—" Kittens arrived safely. They *love* Canada." So I guess they settled in quickly.

A young enthusiast

New Zealand news is next on my list. Several excellent kits have gone there over the past year. Rules and regulations do not permit livestock to go to New Zealand and Australia by air and so the kits must endure long sea voyages to reach their destinations. It is important to get the right ships for these voyages and it was a cold wintery March night when I met Mr. Stirling-Webb at Euston Station to board the night train for Liverpool and take two Chocolate Point Siamese over from him. He had selected these for Mr. A. F. Amory, of Wellington. I had received instructions to give the best of personal attention to the shipment and to supply everything I considered

advisable for their maximum comfort.

The kits travelled in my sleeper with me and had a lovely time. I got them safely on board and they reached New Zealand in fine condition and gave great satisfaction to Mr. Amory. Their names were Petysha Bellerophon and Craigie-hilloch Choyum Yum.

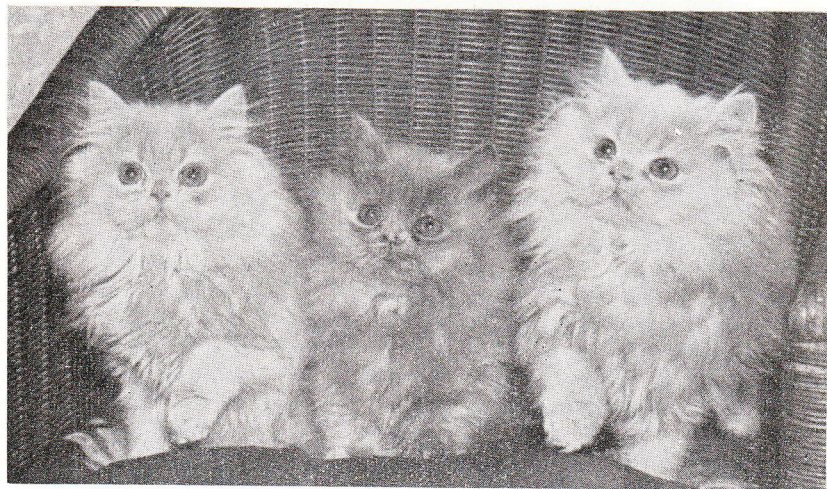
Shipments by sea are always remembered and perhaps the most eventful day of my year was that on which seven kits arrived at different London stations. They had to be collected and taken to the ship with all the gear for the voyage, i.e. crates, food, blankets, playpens, medical supplies, comforts, toys and a lot of other items.

A lovely trio of Burmese went to Mr. Haydn Pollock, of Auckland, who at the age of 19 is secretary for the local cat club—perhaps the youngest club secretary in the cat world? He is certainly kept very busy with his cat work but was



D. Lipson.

**Handsome Black Longhair CHADHURST EBONY PRINCESS
who has found a new home in New Zealand with Miss R.
Lovejoy**



Three little kittens who contributed to the export quota. They are Miss M. L. Rodda's CHADHURST SUNSHINE, SUNBEAM and MIMOSA, who are now in U.S.A., France and New Zealand respectively

not too busy to write and tell me how pleased he was with his imports. They arrived in excellent condition and were Merrick Apollo (breeder Miss Watts), Nilgiris, Buru Kaihau (breeder Dr. Groom) and Paquita (breeder Miss Dunn). They shared one large crate and had in addition a large wire play pen. Mr. Pollock mentioned the fact that he was especially proud to own the first kitten to come to New Zealand from Scotland—Apollo having a definite Scottish accent !

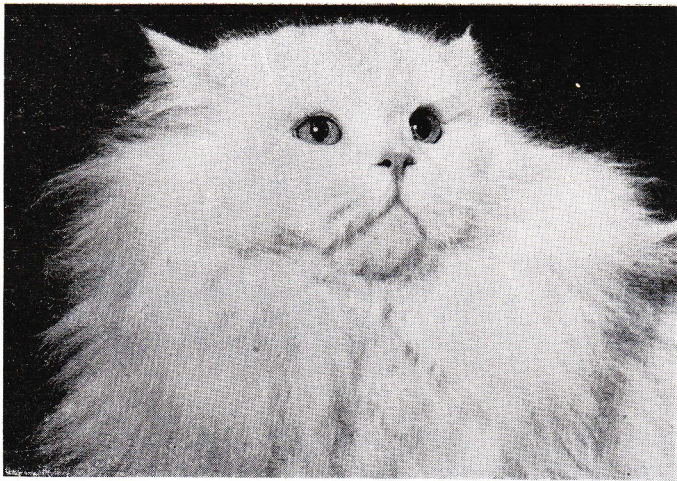
Miss R. Lovejoy, to whom I sent kits the previous year, added three more Longhairs to her stock. I chose for her a lovely Black bred by Miss Rodda, Chadhurst Ebony Princess, a granddaughter of Ch. Chadhurst Sambo, a famous Black in his time. One of Miss Langston's famous Chinchillas was the baby of the party and the third was Dazzler of Dunesk, Best Kit in Show at the Herts and Middlesex Show in London. I must congratulate his breeder Mrs. Brunton on the unique achievement of winning at three different shows Best Kitten awards with three Dunesk kittens.

Though presumably receiving the same attention on board as the Burmese, these

three Longhairs did not arrive in such good condition. Chadhurst Sambo came through all right and Dazzler, although somewhat knotty, was well in health. But the baby Chinchilla gave Miss Lovejoy some anxiety for a little time after arrival and is only now really gaining weight and progressing. This departure day I shall never forget and I don't know how I should have coped without the help of Mrs. Brunton and Mrs. McGregor. Mrs. Brunton even gave the ship's apprentice a demonstration on grooming and all three of us were fully engaged for several hours getting the vetting done, crates fixed, bottles filled, food handed over, instruction sheets, etc., handed to the butcher, as well as all the red tape associated with official documents.

Miss Rodda's Longhair Cream Chadhurst Mimosa also travelled on this ship to Mrs. Downey of Auckland and I understand this kit gave real pleasure on arrival.

As my ration of space is now exhausted, I shall have to continue in next month's issue with news of exports to South America, South Africa, Kenya and U.S.A.



Serafino

**INT. CH. DJANGHIR WANG FOU, lovely White Longhair
owned by Mme Gibbon, of Lausanne, Switzerland**



Helen Ellsberg

**This striking head belongs
to FAN TEE CEE, Cham-
pion Seal Point Siamese
belonging to Mr. and Mrs.
Fred Galvin, Anaheim, Cali-
fornia, U.S.A. He has won
top honours under nineteen
different judges.**

Baby Talk

By IVOR RALFIGH

MY suggestion that people should treat cats like cats and not like particularly unintelligent children, has brought me a number of letters. Some of them are so amusing that I thought other readers might like to see them.

One lady writes : " Dear Mr. Raleigh. Since my husband has left me, all I have is my cat, who is so much better in every way than my husband that I just cannot help treating him and talking to him as if he were human."

Another lady, a well-known member of the Fancy, writes her reply in the form of an epic poem, the first verse of which reads as follows :

" Now baby talk for babies is taboo,
And baby must be " Fotheringham " to
you,
Not muzzer's ickle precious any more,
The cats come in for it—it's not a bore
To them, in fact, the stuff is highly
prized,
They hog it, but are not demoralized.
Even in households where a word of
slang
Provokes the tyrant's frown, the scholar's
fang.

No one demurs when bucketfuls of gas
Are emptied in a sugared flood of jazz.
And personally, I think it no bad thing,
To people who can't act, or swear or sing,
To have old F. Domesticus for these—
A grand excuse to let off psychic steam."

A gentleman writes : " Dear Mr. Raleigh. I cannot tell you how much I agree with your remarks about people who ' humanize ' cats. The offenders, you will no doubt agree, are mostly women, who would be less prone to this form of hysteria if they did a bit of house-

work, had a few babies or, better still, gave to their neglected husbands the affection they bestow on their cats."

No cat has written to me to date. If one does, I will let you know what he thinks.

* * *

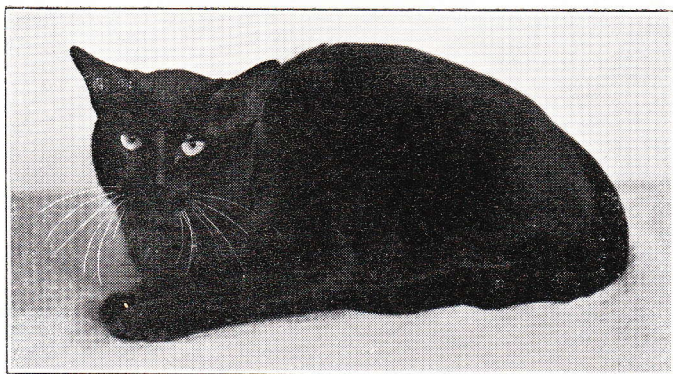
People sometimes find that their cats, while apparently quite well, suddenly seem to " go off " their food and thereafter become very poor eaters ; having to be coaxed to partake even of their formerly favourite dainties. In many cases this trouble is due to ulceration of the mouth due to infection originating at the points where gums join badly scaled-up teeth.

The tartar which forms upon teeth, particularly the molars, is porous in character and the gum tends to grow into the pores of the scale, where it becomes infected, spreading eventually into an often large area of sore and inflamed mucous membrane.

The obvious remedy is to have the cat's teeth scaled by a veterinary surgeon. This operation is quite painless, but gives rise to profuse bleeding at the edges of the gums where the scale has been broken away. No one should attempt teeth scaling unless they possess a proper scaling instrument and have been shown how to do the work in the right way. After scaling, the gums should be wiped carefully with cotton wool dipped in cusol or in a similar antiseptic.

* * *

It is a common fallacy that neuter cats naturally become fat. Cats which have been deprived of the urge to reproduce do not suffer in any way. On the other hand, a diversion upon which much time



MERRICK CHEROKEE

MISS A. E. MUNRO of Stronvay, Langbank, Renfrewshire, writes :—

" I should like to pay tribute to your wonderful products.

Merrick Cherokee, my Burmese cat, was in very poor condition. His coat was light in colour and would not darken although he is fully grown. I started him on six Kit-zyme Tablets a day and at the Glasgow Show he won seven first prizes and was Best Short-Haired Adult in the Show.

My litter of Siamese kittens, which had been reared with the aid of Kit-zyme, also won a First prize.

I use your other preparations, Vetzyme, Kenadex and Stress for my dogs and puppies and all their successes are due to your marvellous products."

KIT - ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

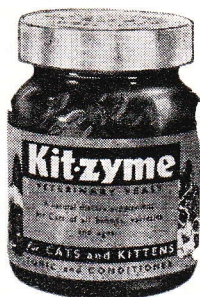
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Promotes resistance to: **LISTLESSNESS, FALLING COAT, LOSS OF APPETITE, SKIN TROUBLES**
50 (7½ gr.) Tablets 1/6, 250 for 4/-, 750 for 8/-
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Literature Free on Request



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Ref. No. 146

All cat owners are advised to keep a jar of Zemol in the store cupboard. Zemol, an actively antiseptic veterinary ointment (by the makers of Kit-zyme) is a safe and very effective way of treating minor wounds, cuts, burns, etc. Literature FREE on request.

is spent by whole cats is no longer open to them. Ineligible for positions as club officials, these cats find little except food upon which to exercise their activities, with the result that they tend to over-eat, given the opportunity to do so.

Over-eating is, in cats as in human beings, one of the major causes of early death. Unconsumed—that is to say, excessively absorbed—fat, tends to form a substance called cholestrol. Recent researches in America have shown that the presence of an excess of this substance in the blood tends to seriously diminish life-expectancy. I offer this as a word of advice to both cats and their owners.

* * *

Artificial insemination has not, to my knowledge, been tried with cats. On the face of it, there is no basic reason why this method of obtaining pregnancy should not be possible and it would certainly solve the problems arising with queens who refuse to be mated. At the same time, if the method can be applied, it would at least be free from the religious and social difficulties which often manifest themselves when the process is applied to humans.

A queen's refusal to mate may be due to many causes. Maiden queens are sometimes sent on long journeys for their first mating, and very often this can cause a young female cat so much anguish that thereafter she associates the advances of a male with her previous discomfort. Alternatively, she may have been mated in too violent a manner by her first stud.

At times, none of these explanations is the true one and one must conclude either that the queen is emotionally incapable of normal mating, or that she has some kind of organic abnormality which makes an attempt at mating very painful. In all cases of this kind, it is a good idea to allow the cat to be examined by a vet before deciding upon which course of action to take.

If there is nothing abnormal in the structure of the queen's sexual organs and yet she absolutely refuses to accept a stud's advances, then the only other thing left to try after sending her to several different studs is to keep a stud at home. Clearly, this method is only worth considering when the female is of exceptional quality.

* * *

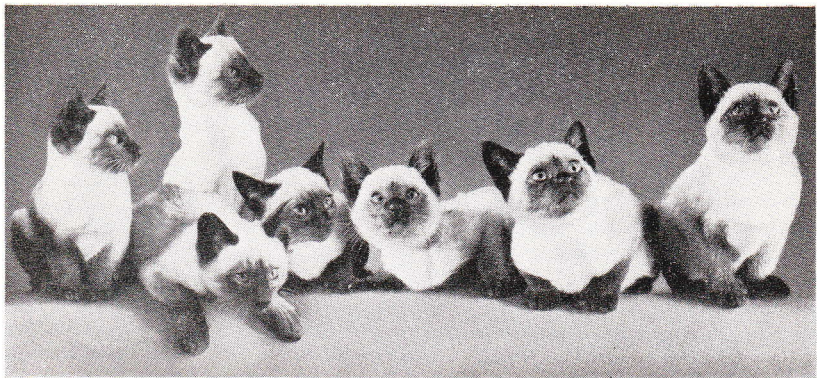
Queens who are difficult to mate present quite a problem, both to their owners and to the owners of studs to whom they are sent. An experienced stud owner can generally achieve mating, providing he is willing to keep the queen for one, two, or sometimes even three weeks. Most of the very well known studs are kept fully occupied during the main mating period with the result that the owner of the queen may find it a difficult matter to get anyone who is willing to keep his cat for such a long time. The result is that the queen is sent from stud to stud and this repeated series of journeys tends to make her more and more nervous and ill-tempered.

One of the reasons why stud owners do not like accepting difficult queens is that the frustration undergone by the stud in trying to mate an unresponsive queen may in certain cases, make him less keen to mate in the future. In view of this, the owners of such queens should not be angry if their cats are refused.

A REMINDER !

This Magazine is now available in the United Kingdom on a subscription basis only. Rates are 20s. for 12 issues or 10s. for 6 issues, post free. Orders and remittances should be sent to OUR CATS (Subscription Dept.), 14-16 Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4.

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How many of them will you rear?

Normally — all of them. But suppose just *one* of your cats contracted Feline Infectious Enteritis? You might lose the lot in a few days.

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No paid staff. No "overheads." Hence a very small proportion of the Fund used in expenses

MORTIMER HELPS

R.S.P.C.A. London Cat Work. *Our Dumb Friends League London Cat Work. S.P.A.N.A. Cat Ward, Algiers Hospital*

Mortimer gave away £1,000 to the above again for 1956

Mortimer's Birthday Competition has to be postponed until September owing to my long illness in hospital. Look out for details. All advertisements and audited accounts appear in *Our Cats Magazine* and are sent out individually to regular subscribers to the Fund.

At my death the R.S.P.C.A. is taking over **Mortimer's Fund** to run as a separate unit for Cat Work.

I wish to thank all who have written me their good wishes regarding my operation and illness, and especially to thank those who have added **extra donations to the Fund** to help offset the inevitable loss my illness must alas! mean to it. That it is causing cats to suffer more (through less money being made) is my only sorrow and worry. I am now making excellent progress and am in the West Country where I hope to get strong and well again. **Meanwhile, all letters are being attended to at our permanent address and receipts for donations sent out.**

Write to me at:

ADELE RUDD, 30a SINCLAIR ROAD, LONDON, W.14

A New Association

AT a meeting attended by over eighty veterinarians in the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town, London, a new chapter in the long history of the veterinary profession was opened when the British Small Animal Veterinary Association was inaugurated. Membership of this new organization is confined to members of the veterinary profession whose work is mainly with the household pet, particularly the cat and the dog.

In recent years, it has become increasingly apparent that the rapid progress in the science and practice of animal medicine and in particular in the care and treatment of household pets has necessitated some degree of specialization in this field by members of the veterinary profession. The formation of this Association is a recognition of this fact and an attempt to make full use of the value of discussion and the exchange of ideas on a national level between veterinarians whose life is devoted to this one field of

interest. In addition to national meetings, representatives of the B.S.A.V.A. will attend the International Veterinary Congress on behalf of the small animal practitioners of the United Kingdom to discuss matters of mutual interest with colleagues from many countries overseas.

Many new surgical techniques have been developed since the war which are finding a regular place in small animal treatment and in the continuing search for improved methods, co-ordination of activity through the Association will be most helpful. Similarly, the vast advance in the use of new drugs since the advent of antibiotics and other modern therapeutics, has made it more than ever necessary for the small animal veterinarian to keep up to date.

It is true to say that the household pet to-day receives care and attention from the veterinary profession of a standard equivalent to that previously available only to human patients, and it is hoped

(Continued overleaf)



LAURENTIDE THIO is an interesting cat. Owned by Mrs. M. Christy, of Michigan, U.S.A. and bred by Mrs. A. Hargreaves, F.Z.S., of Bovey Tracey, Devon, Thio was sold as a Blue Point Siamese but he was subsequently registered as a Frost Point. He is now a Champion in C.F.A. and a Double Champion in A.C.F.A., U.S.A.

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can rapidly digest



WHETHER in real illness, or when a cat is just "off colour," Brand's Essence is the ideal strengthener. Cats will often take a teaspoonful when they refuse everything else. It provides the cat with the valuable meat protein it needs. And being partially predigested, Brand's Essence is rapidly absorbed with almost no strain on the system. It contains no added salt or preservative—cannot possibly irritate.

Whenever extra nourishment is indicated there's nothing better than Brand's Essence

As a nourishing stimulant at show-time or whenever the cat is subjected to strain; to build up the mother-cat; and as additional feeding for the kittens themselves from the age of three weeks, there's nothing better—or more acceptable—than Brand's Essence. And it's a rapid general conditioner.

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BOX No. 16, OUR CATS MAGAZINE

4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

A New Association (from previous page)

that the British Small Animal Veterinary Association will provide a meeting ground where progress can be reviewed and improved techniques made more rapidly available to the pet owner.

Behind the statement "that the new Association will foster and promote the cultural, scientific and professional interests of veterinary surgeons and practi-

tioners employed in small animal practice, teaching and research," lies the promise of even greater advances in the treatment and control of diseases of pet animals and the hope that the pet owning public will come to recognize more and more the value of consultation with the veterinary surgeon in maintaining the health of their pets,

Reproduction—Kinky Tails

By A. C. JUDE

Our popular contributor on genetics responds here to the many requests he has received—mostly from novice breeders—for more information about the various aspects of reproduction. This is the thirtieth article in a fine new and exclusive series to help and encourage our readers all over the cat world.

KINKY TAILS in cats is still being studied, and although some conclusions have been reached, there remains much investigation to be done. In the meantime, I would like to thank those fanciers who have so far helped by arranging special matings, and those who have informed me of their experiences from normal routine matings.

Dr. A. G. Searle has been studying kinky tails of cats in the Singapore area and will, in due course, issue a paper on the subject of the local cat population in general. This will be of particular interest following on a similar investigation into the cat population of London.

To a biologist, the common and familiar animals (or plants) are often of far greater scientific value than the scarce or inaccessible ones. The pigeon orchid, found on old trees round about the Singapore area, or the common mynah bird may be intensively studied; the unique bloom, or the bird-watcher's rare prize will be given a name perhaps, but left at that. The reason for this interest in the common is, of course, that as a rule, little of biological importance can be discovered about an organism which is seldom seen. The life history of a rare animal, the extent of its variation, must remain uncertain and poorly known.

But we can observe, and, if necessary, collect hundreds of examples of a com-

mon species, amassing a wealth of information about its habits; we can also compare and contrast populations in one area with those in another, thus finding out whether the species is slowly evolving new races in different parts of its range, which may themselves eventually become new species.

For these reasons, and for many others, the ubiquitous domestic cat (the species *Felis catus* as the systematists would say) has proved to be a worthy object for evolutionary study. Some may say: "Since this is a domesticated animal, surely its evolution, like that of the horse or cow, is controlled by Man!" But in actual fact we have only little control except in our Fancy circles.

For instance, about 99·9% of cats the world over refuse to let us have any say over their choice of mates; they decide for themselves, often leaving us entirely in the dark. Moreover, they wander about where they please, merely adopting one or more houses as convenient sources of food and nurseries for their large families.

A natural evolution

One sometimes thinks that, far from Man domesticating the cat, the cat is actually in the process of domesticating Man! By pitiful miaowings she invokes in us a sort of feeding reflex; one might almost say that the cat "milks" us, just as we milk cows! So one is convinced that the evolution of the domestic cat is

largely controlled by natural rather than human selection.

The great variation in coat-colour, pattern and so on which cats exhibit, is especially interesting to a student of evolution. Luckily, the way most of these characters are inherited is fairly well understood. One peculiarity of the "local" cats in the Singapore and adjacent areas, which greatly intrigues an observant newcomer from overseas is what is commonly called "kinky-tail."

The tail is shortened to a greater or lesser extent and has up to seven sharp kinks or bends in it, so that in the extreme examples of this abnormality, it may loop right round, or form a tight spiral, looking more like a bun than a tail. The extremes are far more pronounced than anything known in England.

What Darwin said

About a hundred years ago, Charles Darwin himself (author of "*The Origin of Species*" and one of the greatest biologists of all time) was struck by this curious phenomenon, remarking that "throughout the Malayan Archipelago, Siam, Pegu and Burmah, all cats have truncated tails about half the proper length, often with a sort of knot at the end." In fact, in 1868 he personally presented to the Natural History Museum in London a cat skin from Malaya, showing "a short tail, hooked at the end."

Darwin thought all cats in that part of the world showed the kinky-tail trait, but this is not so. Out of 250 Singapore cats which have been classified, 173 or 69% showed abnormality. A zoology student, Miss Hasnah binte Muhammed Ali examined cats in Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trenggana and found that 25 out of 40, or 62% were affected there. The wide extent of its occurrence in Eastern Asia is shown by the fact that it is also common in Hong Kong and Japan; no doubt in Indonesia too, though no data has been collected yet from there.

In Europe, however, kinky-tail is far less common. Of 700 cats examined at stray centres in London by Dr. Searle, not a single cat showed the anomaly, although several were indeed Manx. Nevertheless, there still remain some kinky-tailed cats in Britain; they belong mainly to the highest feline circles, and chiefly to the Siamese breed. These cats' ancestors came from Siam, bringing the abnormality with them. The fault is frowned on by the Cat Fancy, but still persists in some breeding, even in the offspring of two apparently normal-tailed cats. This suggests that it is due to a "recessive" hereditary factor or gene, although the great variability in manifestation of kinky-tail makes it difficult finally to prove this.

Matings are still being arranged and recorded, and any information of results of matings between kinked Siamese and normal mongrel cats would be welcomed.

Interesting possibilities

The odd situation arises therefore, that this abnormality is very common in East and South-east Asia, but almost unknown in the rest of the world, although it is supposed to be found in Madagascar. Moreover, to an anatomist, the trait looks quite pathological. At the site of each kink the bony tail vertebrae are distorted and fragmentary; often, the fragments fuse together almost at right angles to each other, forming the kink itself. Some vertebrae are missing entirely, others are unrecognizable. The kinks are present even in foetuses, before any bone is formed. In extreme examples, the internal structures of the tail are in a chaotic state.

The animal body usually shows great co-ordination between its various parts. When disorder develops, as, say, in the formation of a tumour, it is nearly always to the animal's disadvantage. Thus, we should hardly expect that a disorderly state of the tail would be of benefit to the cat possessing it; rather the reverse. But calculations made by mathematical

geneticists tell us that the gene causing kinky-tail could not possibly have spread through the population unless it makes the cats possessing it fitter (that is, more likely to survive and have offspring), than those with normal tails. The question is, how ?

At present, we can only review the possibilities without coming to any definite conclusions. The kinky-tailed cat may find it easier to catch its prey, or escape its enemies, than the normal-tailed. A third possibility is that the gene concerned has an effect on fitness besides its action on the tail.

Aid to stalking ?

In connection with the first possibility, it should be remembered that the normal-tailed cat uses its tail partly to express its emotions. The kinky-tail because of its stiffness, cannot be used for this purpose. If one watches a normal-tailed cat stalking its prey one sometimes sees the end of its tail flicking up and down as if in uncontrollable excitement. This apparently involuntary movement cannot happen in kinky-tailed cats, whose stalking might therefore be more effective. Although internal parasites are probably the chief natural enemies of cats, they are also much chased by dogs but seldom caught. It is just possible that the tail shortening associated with kinkiness might help them to escape being grabbed by the pursuers !

The third possibility (of an effect on fitness) seems to be the most likely one. Many, probably most, genes are "pleiotropic" ; that is, they affect several characters, not only one. Thus, a gene is known in the mouse which changes the shape of all bones, prevents tooth eruption, and dilutes fur colour ; another causes an anaemia, makes the tail bent and produces white-spotting of the fur. Thus, it is quite possible that the gene producing kinky-tail has a beneficial effect on the physiology of the animal, making its metabolic processes more

efficient, perhaps, or giving it a keener sense of smell.

Finally, this may be an example of heterosis, otherwise known as hybrid vigour, whereby a cat with one gene for kinky-tail and one for normal-tail is fitter than a cat with two normal genes or two kinky-tail genes ! This would lead to a balance being established in which the frequency of kinky-tail would never reach 100%. Such a situation is well-known in animals ; it has been found in Man with a gene which causes a severe anaemia when in double dose. Someone with a single dose of the gene has a remarkable resistance to malaria, which is quite an advantage in tropical Africa where the gene is common !

If breeders will note any persistently recurring change of characteristics in kinky-tailed cats, as opposed to normal, and report these to me, I will be grateful. As always, may I say that all information received is treated in complete confidence.

(to be continued)

The North Eastern Counties Cat Club are holding a Spring Fayre in All Saints Hall, Middlesbrough, on April 27th through which it is hoped to raise most of the £300 still required for the mobile Animal unit which is now working at full pressure in the towns of Tees-side. Mrs. J. M. Knapp, the Chairman of the Club, plans to have one stall devoted entirely to cats and kittens and their needs.

A report from a groundsman that a limping cat had been seen in the grandstand of the Blackpool Football Club brought an R.S.P.C.A. Inspector to the spot. Puss was caught and examined and it was found that he had got one of his front legs through a leather collar which had cut it severely. After treatment he was restored to his delighted owners who had been searching for him. Moral : If you feel that your cat must have a collar, make sure it is an elastic one.



NINE LIVELY LIVES!

"Talk about a Tibsical tray-load!" said Tibby, the Tibs reporter, "these nine make their father, Pikha Shah Jehan, purr with pride!"

Mrs. Vincent has moved her famous cattery from Woking to 'Noumena' in Broadwas-on-Teme in Worcestershire. And Pikha Shah Jehan, that great gentleman from Siam, has gone with her. The litter above owed much, too, to their mother, Queen Mumtaz. And today they all owe a great deal to Tibs. Mrs. Vincent says Tibs is a 'must' . . . one tablet a day for every cat after weaning age. Good bones, good teeth, good condition, shining coat . . . and sheer Tibsical energy from morning to night!



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breeders
say:*

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KEEP CATS TIBSICAL



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 personal-
ities, both human and feline.

Advance of the Creams

THE Red, Cream, Tortoiseshell, Blue-Cream and Brown Tabby Society A.G.M. on February 28th was well attended. Mrs. J. M. Newton, Hon. Secretary, presented members with a statement of accounts informing them in detail about the support given to shows in guaranteeing classes for members, etc.

The membership is now 107 and now Creams and Blue-Creams are becoming so popular it is anticipated it will increase. Mrs. Askew who has supported the Club so generously was elected President and a very welcome new member of committee is Miss M. Rodda, who has bred so many good cats, Creams, Blue-Creams, Tortoiseshells, Blacks and Blues.

Mrs. Newton has always been very attentive to the interests of the Society and it owes much to her. Members can help by inviting persons to whom they sell kittens to join and thus get the

advantage of entering exhibits in classes limited to those who belong to the Society.

A trophy well won

The Southern Counties Cat Club A.G.M. was held on March 4th.

Mrs. I. Hancox, Hon. Secretary from July, 1953, resigned in January this year, partly owing to the distance she had to travel from Nottingham to all the committee meetings and of course to the Ch. Show which for over thirty years has been a London fixture. Although she may be unable to attend some meetings she was persuaded to allow her name to go forward to the ballot with those of the three retiring committee members and three other nominees, the result being that she and the retiring members the Reverend Basil Rees, Mr. Stirling-Webb, and Mrs. Joan Thompson were re-elected; the two latter on a previous postal vote to represent the Club on the Governing Council. Mrs. Hancox was presented with a silver bracelet in appreciation of her services to the Club.

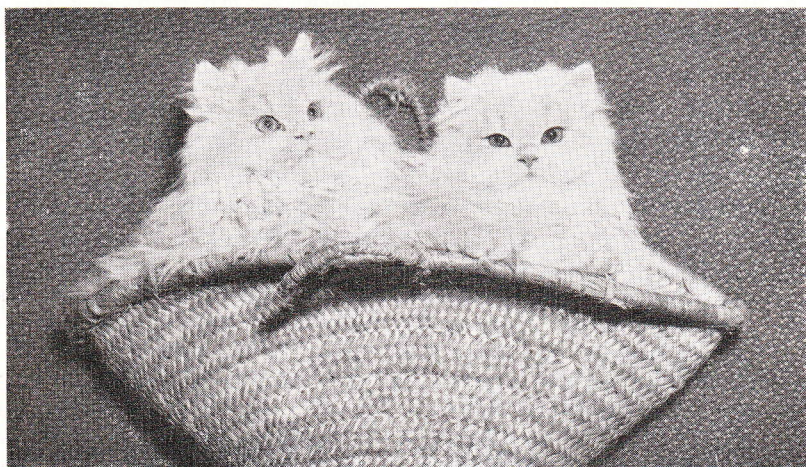
Mrs. Kay Dunks, so successful as organizer of the Show in January and so helpful at previous fixtures, is our new Hon. Secretary.

Miss Evelyn Langston, F.R.A.M., was present to receive the Club's silver cup on her remarkable achievement of winning it outright after recording five wins of "Best Longhair Cat in Show," always a difficult feat at the



F. W. Simms

All winners at Olympia! Left to right, Mrs. Marjorie Haden-Guest with **BONAVIA CONTENTA** (Best Male Kitten), Mr. Richard Haden-Guest with **BONAVIA MARIETTA** (Best Chinchilla Kitten) and Mrs. Mollie Turney with **SARISBURY APHRA** (C.C. winner and mother of the two up-and-coming youngsters)



Surrey and South London Picture Service

STARTOPS SANDMANETTA and **STARTOPS BABY BUNTING** were bred by a young novice fancier, Mrs. D. M. King, of Worcester Park, Surrey. These kittens by Ch. Hendras Benedict (Cream) ex Ch. Starmist of Pensford (Blue-Cream) were consistent winners at last season's shows. The Cream female on the right was purchased by Mrs. Macdonald Daly, wife of the well-known TV personality.

last London Championship Show of the season when so many competitors have a final fling. She accomplished it with these five cats : 1928 Ch. Dion of Allington, Blue male ; 1930 Dante of Allington, Chinchilla male ; 1936 Donita of Thame, Chinchilla female, who became a Champion at that Show ; 1953 Ch. Flambeau of Allington, Chinchilla male ; 1957 Ch. Fidelio of Allington, Chinchilla male. The cup was first offered in 1915 and a few exhibitors have recorded more than one win on it. Congratulations to Miss Langston on finally winning such a handsome trophy.

Kittens and neuters

Another A.G.M. held in London last month was that of the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club.

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. E. Aitken, had a year of success and progress to report. The Show in July last year proved to be an outstanding financial success making a profit of over £150. The Chairman, Miss Kit Wilson, announced that the Committee had decided to provide a more generous classification for the forthcoming Show on July 20th at the Old Horticultural Hall, Westminster. Classes such as "Any Variety Longhair Kitten" male or female (except Blue) in Breeder's, Novice, Debutante, Maiden, Special Limit, etc., will be divided into male and female. The prize money in the Kensington Kitten Club classes will be increased and special attention has been given to the Siamese kitten classes. These will also be divided into sexes and the Open classes will have more age-groups. Siamese breeders are generous supporters of this Club show and will appreciate this innovation. A proposal was made to halve entry fees for each class for members which was later amended to a reduction of two shillings. This caused a discussion as it has far reaching consequences.

When the Hon. Treasurer Brigadier F. Rossiter made a subsequent calculation it would have made a difference of £108 in entry fees on the last Show and could result in a substantial loss in future as the excellent profit was due to the exceptional publicity obtained at negligible cost and a fine day which resulted in a gate of £270 with catalogue sales of nearly £60. This was the second best gate the Show has attracted; wide publicity in the press is very variable and quite beyond the financial resources of any Club if it had to be paid for so it depends on producing something unusual which captures popular fancy. Last year it was the Rex curly coated cats. Mr. Vesey-Fitzgerald's article in the *News of the World* was very helpful, also the kittens on television.

Mrs. Aitken has worked hard for the K. K. and N. C. Club and proved a very successful show manager. She has been assisted so capably by Mr. Aitken who is conversant with every aspect of cat affairs.

The Siamese year

A lovely spring day greeted the well attended A.G.M. of the Siamese Cat Club on March 13th. There is usually an air of subdued excitement about their meetings.

Mrs. K. R. Williams, Hon. Secretary, had an excellent report to present. The Club Ch. Show was a financial success and I am sure all who were present will agree it was an enjoyable one. Membership has been maintained and 94 persons paid a guinea each entrance fee in 1956 for the privilege of becoming members. The next Ch. Show will again be at the Seymour Hall, London, on October 8th. The following judges have accepted invitations to judge :

Adult S.P. Males—Mr. Lamb ;
Adult S.P. Females—Mrs. Towe ; S.P.
Male Kittens—Mr. Stirling-Webb ; S.P.
Female Kittens—Mrs. Holroyd; Neuters

and miscellaneous classes—Mrs. Price ; B.P.'s—Mrs. Rendall ; C.P.'s—Miss Prentis. Mrs. Varcoe and Mrs. Lamb will each judge various Club and other classes. Referee judge, Mrs. Kent.

Item 11 on the agenda "Tea Party" met with general approval and it will be on June 26th at an hotel in London, to be announced. Mrs. Woodger has accepted the post of Hon. Treasurer in place of Captain F. B. Williams, who was elected by the Committee to succeed Mr. P. M. Soderberg, who did not seek re-election, as Chairman.

The Chairmanship of the Siamese Cat Club is probably the most exacting one in the Fancy, with the exception of that of the Governing Council itself. Mr. Soderberg was elected to the Committee in 1945 and became Chairman in 1948. He was returned unopposed in 1951 and in 1954 was elected with a big majority for a further term of three years. During many meetings I have been present when he was presiding and consider him one of the most able Chairmen the Fancy has known.

With such a large and active membership controversial questions have arisen from time to time and he has always been agreeable, good humoured and conversant with procedure. Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council, made a graceful little speech in appreciation of his services to which there was spontaneous applause.

Captain Williams' appointment as Chairman was confirmed by the A.G.M. and here's wishing him much success and pleasure in his new office.

Mrs. Williams mentioned the *News Journal* which is available to non-members at 5s. per annum. The circulation is increasing and she is always pleased to receive news and articles of general interest.

Mrs. Highton won outright the Ch. Morgan le Fay Trophy offered by the late Miss Wentworth-Fitzwilliam in 1935 for the first member to breed both

the Best Male and Best Female Seal Points at the same Show. A remarkable achievement ! The cats were Mrs. Duncan Hindley's Silken Faun and Ch. Silken Jacaranda at the S.C.C. Ch. Show last October.

Breeder of Champions

Unfortunately Mr. Soderberg has now decided to bring his activities on behalf of cats (except humanitarian interests) to a close. We shall no longer have the pleasure of reading his interesting articles or see him officiating as a judge, the latter a great loss as many of us were hoping he would extend his activities in this direction particularly with Blues. He has bred some lovely cats but always he has been content to see others acquire the honours as he has never exhibited.

Champion Foxburrow Frivolous, by Ch. Dylan of Allington, is probably his outstanding achievement, still the only post-war Blue male to be awarded eight Challenge Certificates and outstanding as a sire. His litter brother Mrs. Judith Saether's Premier Foxburrow Firefly is the admiration of Scandinavia. He elicited the humorous remark by Miss Posthuma quoted in the last issue. Another lovely Blue by the same mother, Herries Helga, mated to Ch. Harpur Blue Boy produced Major Dugdale's lovely Ch. Foxburrow Faery, winner of many, many firsts.

In Chinchillas Ch. Foxburrow Tilliwilli, another wonderful sire, was purchased by Miss E. Langston, who bred his sire Ch. Rodney of Allington. Although Ch. Foxburrow Flame bears his prefix, I see by the Stud Book she was bred by the matron of Mr. Soderberg's college, Miss Burgess.

In Siamese he bred the dam Foxburrow Runtu of one of the most distinguished winning post-war S.P. Siamese males Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo, sire of some outstanding winners. Runtu was purchased by Mrs. Burgess

of Sevenoaks and, mated to Mrs. K. R. Williams' Doneraile Dekho, produced Yo-Yo. Mr. Soderberg bred some other lovely cats but these are probably the most famous. He has written two cat books which are eagerly awaited by many of us. He tells me these are the last he intends to write and they will be published within the next year, the first one probably in August. We may expect to see him at some London shows as an interested spectator and I know he will receive a warm welcome from his many friends.

Visitor from Italy

Col. Giulio Vinci arrived in England on March 16th from Naples and spent a week visiting some well known Long-hair breeders. Unfortunately there were very few kittens for him to see and the young adults were either being retained by their breeders or in the case of Ch. Octavian of Pensford already promised. He visited Mrs. Brunton, Miss Langston, Miss Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh, and at our lunchtime meeting Mr. and Mrs. Brind brought over their very lovely Blue-Cream kitten Brynwood Aurora and her Cream sister Brynwood Aphrodite just for him to see.

Col. Vinci persuaded Mrs. McLeod to part with her beautiful young Chinchilla male Rab of Thame. He has already two Ch. Certificates in England and I can well imagine he will soon get his third and become an International Champion in Italy.

Mrs. McLeod wrote shortly after the parting—"Rab has gone to Naples to Marquise de Fraja, leaving me with mixed feelings in which a very sad heart predominates. Madam Gibbon previously wrote me a very nice letter telling me he would have a lovely home and so I feel happy about his future but I wish I could have seen my way to keep him.

"Now I shall have to try and breed another like him. I am sending my

Peri to Silver Lustre of Thame. Mrs. Waller has very kindly said I may. Peri is by Jamie of Thame and has his broad head and lovely colour and eyes, she always has good kittens so I hope for the best. I am hoping Dimples will have some kittens by Rab. Sally Bridges Tiptoes of Thame is expecting some shortly. She had a lovely kitten by Ch. Mark of Allington last year. Miss Posthuma bought him and exhibited him at Rotterdam the day after he arrived. She tells me she is 'thrilled' with him, he was awarded 1st and excellent. Unfortunately I sold a daughter of Rab a few days before I anticipated I should be parting with him, to Mr. Brook who is back in England and starting breeding cats again in a small way. He lives at Lewes so I shall be seeing him. You will remember him at the shows and his interest in Blues and Chinchillas."

Another visitor over here is Mrs. Judith Saether who arrived in England from Oslo, Norway, with her husband to

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MOLLIE TURNEY

Breeder of Bonavia Chinchillas

Individual Cedarwood Houses
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spend a short holiday; she will have little opportunity of seeing breeders here as she is spending a week with her mother at Lichfield, Staffs. She telephoned me and I was pleased to hear cat affairs are flourishing in Scandinavia. She enjoyed Darak's Ch. Show at Copenhagen in February where she met Miss Posthuma who was judging. Mr. Kleen also went from Holland to exhibit his Siamese. Mrs. Svenningsen judged all Shorthairs.

President of Darak is Mrs. Carola Buch and Vice-President Mrs. Lis Langberg. The Best in Show was again the Siamese male Ticko av Amur and in Longhairs Ch. Vigilant Jonathan. Best opposite sex in Longhairs Ch. Drevvikshofs Blaklint, a Blue-Cream bred by Mrs. Irma Tingwall.

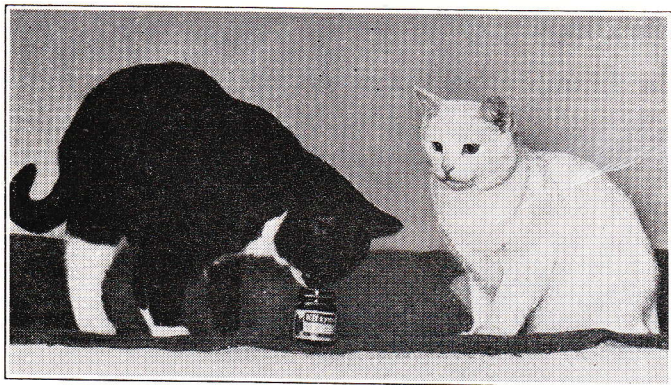
In a previous letter Mrs. Saether

reminded me that "Darak is Scandinavia's oldest cat club and was founded in the early '30s. They were responsible for founding the Norwegian Cat Club Norak in 1938 and our rules were based on theirs. They helped also in founding the Swedish Cat Club so we all have a soft spot for this, the mother club of Scandinavia."

Mrs. Joan Thompson will welcome news items and photographs suitable for inclusion in "Just Fancy" during 1957, particularly from clubs and fanciers overseas. Contributions—as brief as possible, please—may be addressed to her at 130 Wickham Way, Beckenham, Kent.



Happy in Hants ! A New Forest postman meets his friends, Master Robert Parker's HAZELDINE JADE GODDESS, with PINWOOD WHISPER and his brother Chinchilla, sons of Laurel of Allington



KORKY AND TIBBLES

MRS. F. JOLLIFF of Homestead, Warren Road, Polperro, Looe, Cornwall, writes :—

"I have just been listening to your programme on Radio Luxemburg and thought what a good advertisement my two cats, Korky and Tibbles, are for Kit-zyme tablets.

They are three years old and brother and sister from the same litter. Although they are ordinary farm cats everyone says how lovely they are.

Korky and Tibbles will leave their favourite food, fresh cooked whiting, for Kit-zyme. They sit up and beg if they see me with the bottle and when I put the tablets on the floor they are eaten in a flash."

KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN-RICH YEAST

Promotes resistance to: **LISTLESSNESS, FALLING COAT, LOSS OF APPETITE, SKIN TROUBLES**
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Literature Free on Request



If any difficulty in obtaining write to:
PHILLIPS YEAST PRODUCTS LTD., Park Royal, London, N.W.10



Ref. No. 145

All cat owners are advised to keep a jar of Zemol in the store cupboard. Zemol, an actively antiseptic veterinary ointment (by the makers of Kit-zyme) is a safe and very effective way of treating minor wounds, cuts, burns, etc. Literature FREE on request.

Australia's leading judge sends

News from "Down Under"

We extend a hearty welcome to our new contributor Fred W. Pearce, of Sydney, who for so many years has been officiating at Australian and New Zealand shows. He will be sending us news items and photographs from time to time from his part of the world, where interest in the Fancy is steadily expanding. This—his second contribution—gives us a picture of the Australian "set up."

AS promised, herewith a list of Clubs, and the people who make them function.

New South Wales. Clubs in N.S.W. are affiliated with the Royal Agricultural Society's Consultative Committee, composed of members of the various Clubs, who come up for election every three years. This Committee acts as our governing body. It is called the R.A.S. Cat Club. A show, of two days' duration, has been held, in conjunction with the Royal Show, since 1928. Present Chairman is Mr. Harry Wynne, and the Secretary Mr. Cowie, Endeavour House, 33 Macquarie Place, Sydney.

C.F.A. The original Club, Cat Fanciers' Association, was formed about thirty-three years ago, and the Chairman, Mr. E. J. Lonsdale, and myself are the only inaugural members left. The Club is registered and has had Vice-Regal patronage on three occasions. Secretary is Mr. Harry Wynne, 26 Railway St., Hurlstone Park, N.S.W., who has filled the position for twenty-three years.

Federal. Federal Club have recently celebrated their 25th year of activity. They stage two shows a year—a Championship Show in June and another fixture in November. President is Mrs. D. Burnage, and the Secretary Miss Vale, 28 Polding St., Drummoyne, N.S.W., who recently accepted the position and made a fine job of her first show.

St. George. This Club takes its name from St. George District where most of its members reside and shows are held.

It has been running almost as long as Federal and stages two shows a year, sometimes three. A Championship Show is held in June and a second fixture in November. President is Mrs. H. Mason and the Secretary Mr. P. Brown, 6 Commodore St., Newtown, N.S.W.

Southern Cross Siamese Club. Started since the late war, this Club conducts two shows a year—Ch. show in June, and fixtures in November-December and sometimes in March, as this year.

Generally shows are held on the North Shore where a big percentage of the members live. Not a specialist club, but caters for all breeds. President is Mrs. Helsham, and the Secretary Mr. Holden, 42 Linthorne St., Guildford, New South Wales.

Katoomba. The Katoomba A.H. & I. Assn. have, for the past three years, included a section for cats in their fixture in January. Miss Gullet did a lot of the "spade work" and is a keen worker. This year Harry Wynne was invited by the President, Mr. Smith, to run the section. This is a lovely district and quite a picnic fixture. Sixty odd miles up on the Blue Mountains, the rare air is enjoyed by all. Secretary is Mr. Hayes, Beatty St., Leura, New South Wales.

Siamese and Shorthair Club. This is a newly formed body. A show is to be held in May under Championship conditions, catering for Siamese and registered Shorthaired varieties. A "Newsletter" was recently issued introducing the

Executive, which was appreciated. It is also intended to do the same with the members. The President is Captain A. Thom (should have some nice little "salty" stories for me!) and the Secretary Miss Jennifer Williams, 42 Gardyne St., Bronte, New South Wales.

Victoria. The Victorian Clubs are governed by their Governing Council, of which Mrs. Matheson, 50 Valiant St., Abbotsford, Melbourne, is Registrar. The Clubs, in their seniority and management, are, I understand, as under :

The Australian Cat Club, of which Mrs. H. J. Brown is president, and Mr. George Dyke, 3 Cedric St., Ivanhoe, Victoria, Secretary, was inactive for some years, but came back last year and staged a very successful show.

Melbourne Cat Club is headed by Mrs. Matheson and the Secretary is Mrs. Williams, 10 Wakanui St., Northcote, Melbourne.

The Siamese Cat Club of Australia, which formed after the last world war, holds two shows yearly for charity, in the lovely Lower Town Hall in the heart of Melbourne, and is a very popular fixture. The shows are always opened by a member of the Vice-Regal family or some visiting celebrity. President is Mr. A. B. Murie and the Secretary Mr. C. Chandler, P.O. Box 41, Croydon, Victoria.

Shepparton Cat Club, approximately sixty miles from Melbourne, has only formed recently, but has held some successful shows. This is, I understand, another picnic fixture, with the bulk of cats and exhibitors going by picnic bus from Melbourne for a lovely outing. Secretary, I understand, is Mrs. Stuart, 48 Orr St., Shepparton, Victoria.

Queensland. Queensland Cat Club, as it is now known (was Brisbane), was formed two years ago, and is very "up and coming." They held a successful "exhibition" in 1955, and a Ch. Show in June, 1956, equally good. This new Club has filled a long felt want in the

Northern State, due in no small measure to a very keen executive. President is Mr. Arch Shead, 12 Seventh Avenue, Coorparoo, Brisbane.

The Royal National Exhibition in Brisbane, has included a section for cats for the last two years which was very popular and has come to stay. Secretary of Royal National is Mr. Kennedy.

Mrs. Henry, Secretary before Mr. Shead, and still active, did some splendid work for both fixtures, but did not seek re-election this year. Mr. and Mrs. Tasker, who visited England in 1956, were also very active in the initial work.

South Australia. Adelaide has a newly formed Club, which is holding a first show in March. A "Newsletter" has been issued, showing a lot of ideas, and a strong membership. I understand they claim the heaviest cat in Australia, but am awaiting the official cwts. President is Mr. Harris and the Secretary Mrs. Gillman, 4 Yongala St., Tranmere Gardens, Adelaide. I hope to be able to send some show news in next month's letter.

I shall have to leave New Zealand Clubs till later.

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Firemen chopped down a tree at Combe Dingle, Bristol, to rescue Tich, a cat who had spent five days in its topmost branches. She came to earth quite unhurt and proceeded home to her basket to prepare for an expected "happy event."

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Received and acknowledged with thanks. A copy of *Cats Digest*, the new monthly journal of the Federal Cat Club of Australasia. Editor Mrs. I. Paris, of Auburn, New South Wales, has contrived to make it "meaty" and instructive.

It is a pointer to the development of the Fancy in this part of the world. New clubs are emerging and all varieties of cats are pretty well catered for now. The Club's last kitten show made a profit of nearly £40.

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CHAMPIONS OF 1956-7

Compiled from information supplied by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

<i>Name of Cat</i>	<i>Breed and Sex</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Breeder</i>
APRIL VIOLET OF DUNESK	Blue L.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Brunton	Owner
ASPLIN JULIET	Tortie & White L.H. (F)	Mrs. B. Moore	Owner
ASPLIN LUCETTA	Tortie & White L.H. (F)	Mrs. B. Moore	Owner
BARWELL LISSA	Tortie L.H. (F)	Mrs. G. M. Budd	Mrs. D. Fawell
BLACKTHORN MARSALA	Abyssinian (F)	Mrs. Tancock	Mrs. H. M. Pickthorn
BALLAUGH EMPRESS	Manx (F)	Mrs. Earnshaw	Mr. Butterfield
BOURNESIDE BLACK ORCHID	Black L.H. (F)	Mrs. E. G. Aitken	Owner
BRUTON PERDITA	Tortie L.H. (F)	Mrs. Rosell	Owner
BROUGHTON JANE	Blue-Cream S.H. (F)	Mrs. I. P. Hughes	Owner
BAYHORNE ADAM	Blue L.H. (M)	Mr. & Mrs. Raleigh	Mrs. D. M. Benbow
COTTAGE PRIDE	British Blue S.H. (M)	Mrs. H. Woodlin	Owner
CHINKI GOLDEN GAY	Burmese (F)	Mrs. C. F. Watson	Mrs. L. France
CONTENTED KEVAN	Abyssinian (M)	Mrs. M. Shrouder	Miss L. Wiseman
CHANCERY RUPEE	S.P. Siamese (M)	Mrs. Swift	Mr. & Mrs. Swift
DUNLOE COBWEB	Russian Blue (F)	Mrs. D. J. Hayden	Miss M. Rochford
DORSTAN DARRALL	Silver Tabby L.H. (M)	Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Gurney	Owners
FIRESPRITE CHETA	S.P. Siamese (M)	Mrs. M. Foxwell	Mrs. P. M. Lambert
FERNREIG OHPRAS PETA	Burmese (F)	Mrs. E. Matthewson	Owner
GRACEFIELD QUICKSILVER	Abyssinian (F)	Mrs. Byrne	Mrs. de Udy
HARPUR ROMEO	Blue L.H. (M)	Mr. G. C. Dugdale	Owner
HENDRAS PEPITA	Blue-Cream L.H. (F)	Mrs. B. Barron	Mrs. D. Nash
HENDRAS BENEDICT	Cream L.H. (M)	Mrs. D. M. King	Mrs. D. Nash
HENDRAS CASSANDRA	Cream L.H. (M)	Mrs. J. Keir	Mrs. D. Nash
HENDON PUCK	Red Tabby L.H. (M)	Mrs. B. Moore	Miss L. Fraser
KYNETON BIZANNA	Burmese (F)	Mrs. M. D. Macaulay	Owner
KILLINGHALL ORIEL	Tortie S.H. (F)	Miss G. L. Hardman	Owner
LAVENGRO OF DUNESK	Blue L.H. (M)	Mrs. D. E. Alexander	Mrs. M. Brunton
LISBLANG AZALEA	White O.E. L.H. (F)	Mrs. S. Ball	Owner
LAURENTIDE CIRRUS	B.P. Siamese (F)	Mrs. F. Hookins	Mrs. Hargreaves
LISBLANG ADONIS	White O.E. L.H. (M)	Miss N. Woodfield	Mrs. S. Ball
MAYMYO LADY JANE	British Blue S.H. (F)	Mrs. I. Johnson	Mr. V. Larking
MISSELFORE RYKEN	B.P. Siamese (M)	Mrs. K. Dunks	Major & Mrs. Rendall
MOONRISE OF PENSFORD	Blue-Cream L.H. (F)	Mrs. N. D. Brind	Mrs. J. Thompson
MAGYAR KEDVES	Brown Tabby L.H. (F)	Mrs. M. E. Beedell	Owner
MARELLA OF ALLINGTON	Chinchilla (F)	Miss E. Langston	Owner
NOEND MARIGOLD	Manx (F)	Miss A. Aitken	Mr. Cannel
NILGIRIS BLUE ANTONIO	B.P. Siamese (M)	Dr. & Mrs. Groom	Owners
OUSDALE MAXIMILLIAN	Cream L.H. (M)	Miss R. Chapman	Owner
OCTAVIAN OF PENSFORD	Blue L.H. (M)	Mrs. J. Thompson	Owner
RAND QUEEN	Tortie & White L.H. (F)	Mrs. H. Woodlin	Owner
RUSLON ZI	B.P. Siamese (M)	Mr. E. Russell	Owner
SILKEN FAUN	S.P. Siamese (M)	Mrs. G. Hindley	Mrs. Highton
SINI DARYA	Russian Blue (F)	Mrs. I. Carpenter	Owner
SYKE AMBER	Red L.H. (F)	Mrs. Newbigging	Owner
STARMIST OF PENSFORD	Blue-Cream L.H. (F)	Mrs. D. M. King	Mrs. J. Thompson
SILVERSEAL SEKHMET	Silver Tabby S.H. (F)	Mrs. M. Thake	Owner
TIA MIE TRINKET	S.P. Siamese (F)	Mrs. K. R. Williams	Mrs. M. Bartholomew
WIDDINGTON WINTERSTAR	Cream L.H. (M)	Miss M. L. Sheppard	Owner

The grand total of 48 Champions compares with 37 in 1955-6, 31 in 1954-5, 35 in 1953-4 and 26 in 1952-3. The "ladies" are very much to the fore this time with 29 Championships to their credit, leaving only 19 top honours to be shared by the males.

WINNERS OF PREMIER AWARDS FOR NEUTERS 1956-7

<i>Name of Cat</i>	<i>Owner</i>
HASSAN SONG	Mrs. D. H. Light
LADY MIMI	Mrs. B. A. Dawson
MOONRAKER	Mrs. E. M. Molloy
CH. NIDDERDALE BUMBLIE	Mrs. G. M. Budd
PURLAND SOM PHONG	Mrs. M. Montgomery
SHARBRI ALPHA	Mrs. A. M. Richards
SINI GIORGII	Mrs. C. J. Baxter
TRENTON RAFFLES	Mrs. B. Norris
TRENTON VERITY	Misses E. and M. Marshall
VEILMIST EVENING SUNSET	Miss M. Haigh

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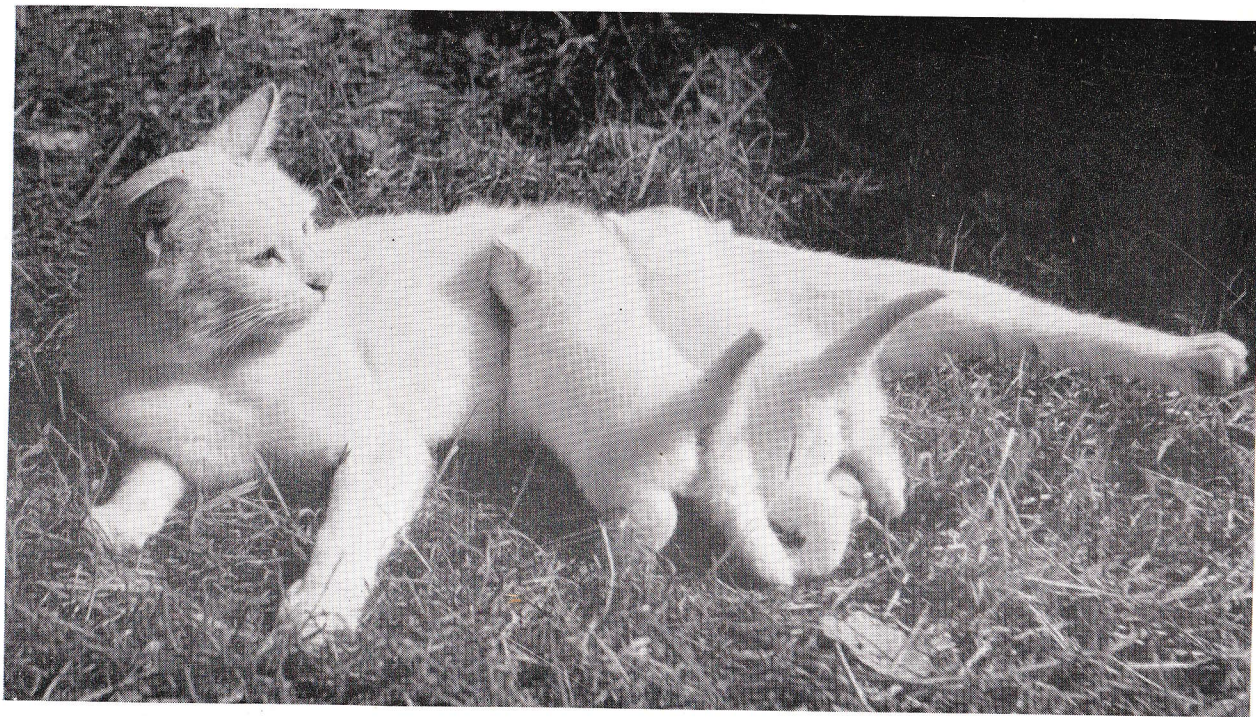
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