

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
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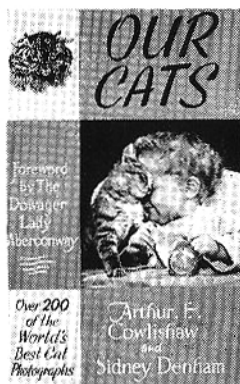
JUST LISTEN TO THIS!

One of the lovable characteristics of Siamese is their talkativeness and of course they are widely accepted as being smarter than the average. Here's a fellow (photographed by H. Rose) who is really "up with the times." We wonder what he's recorded here on the tape? Not—we hope—one of his midnight serenades!

AUGUST 1959

1/6

All over the cat world they are saying this is the best-ever cat book. So don't miss YOUR copy of the 1st edition



A beautifully produced pictorial symposium

OUR CATS

By Arthur E. Cowlshaw and Sidney Denham, with foreword by the Dowager Lady Aberconway. Royal 8vo, 128 pp. Over 200 photographs. Published by Nicholas Kaye Ltd.

Here is a book designed to bring lasting pleasure to cat lovers everywhere. It is the perfect gift book—amusing, entertaining, informative and instructive—and quite unique in its presentation. The photographs have been carefully selected by the Editor from ten years' issues of **OUR CATS** magazine. Here are beautiful pictures and funny pictures; pictures of cats with famous people and other animals; pictures of the playful kitten and aristocratic champion; a wonderful wealth of pictures for everyone chosen for their human interest and liveliness.

The sections—some linked with informative and entertaining text by Sidney Denham—include: Cats through the Ages, Cats and People, Playing with a Cat, the Hogarth of Cats (Louis Wain), Cats and Smiles, Cats and Strange Friends, Cats and the Artist, Cats as Mothers, Cats in the Fancy.

**Price 18s. 0d., plus 1s. 6d. for packing and postage.
(U.S.A. and Canada \$3.25 inclusive)**

Orders and remittances (made payable to "Our Cats") should be sent to OUR CATS, 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, 378 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9.

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. 11 No. 8
AUGUST 1959

Managing Editor :

ARTHUR E. COWLISHAW
4 CARLTON MANSIONS
CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BLANCHE WOLFRAM

Australian and New Zealand
Correspondent :

MR. F. W. PEARCE, 33 OLD BEROWRA
ROAD, HORNSBY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



There is an interesting little story to be told about this delightful Siamese family. The queen is Blackland Silver Mist (ex Revel Silver Star and Ch. Misselfore Ryken) who was exported in kitten by Revel Wild Honey by Mrs. D. L. Clavier, F.Z.S., to British Columbia, where Silver Mist's new owner is novice fancier Mrs. Ivor Thomas. Soon after the nine kittens were born, the mother developed stomach trouble and was unable to feed them. So Mrs. Thomas buckled to and reared them all by hand, feeding them day and night with a dropper . . . a splendid achievement for a beginner or anyone else !

Let's go to a show

We urge our readers to attend as many cat shows as possible. There is no better place at which to meet old friends, to make new ones and to pick up useful points about cats, their breeding and general management, from experienced fanciers and exhibitors. Brief details of the show fixtures for the 1959-60 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers.

1959	Promoted by	Venue
2 September	*Macclesfield and Dist. Agricultural Soc. ...	Macclesfield
19 "	*Northern Counties C.C. ...	Seaburn, Sunderland
1 October	*Blue Persian Cat Society ...	London
6 "	*Siamese Cat Club ...	London
14 "	*Southsea C.C. ...	Southsea
17 "	*Edinburgh and East of Scotland C.C. ...	Edinburgh
24 "	*Midland Counties C.C. ...	Birmingham
7 November	Preston and District Cat Society ...	Preston
17 "	*Croydon C.C. ...	London
28 "	Yorkshire County C.C. ...	Harrogate
15 December	*National C.C. ...	London (Olympia)
1960		
9 January	*Notts and Derbyshire C.C. ...	Nottingham
23 "	*Scottish C.C. ...	Glasgow
26 "	*Southern Counties C.C. ...	London
6 February	*Lancs and N.W. Counties C.C. ...	Preston
13 "	Surrey and Sussex Cat Association ...	Epsom, Surrey

* Denotes show with Championship status. A detailed list of these shows may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, 1 Roundwood Way, Banstead, Surrey. We hope that many of the shows will be advertised in OUR CATS during the course of the Season.

BEAU BOSUN

AT STUD TO
APPROVED QUEENS
FEE £3 3s. 0d.

SIRED THIS SEASON'S
BEST SHORTHAIR KITTEN,
INTRA VALLEY CAT CLUB,
CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
APRIL, 1959.

MRS. A. H. WATTS,
DARBY HOUSE,
SUNBURY-ON-THAMES,
MIDDLESEX.

PHONE: SUNBURY 3252



THEREBY HANGS A TALE

By MURRAY TINDALE

MY cat has had too many kittens.

Every year for the past ten years she has produced two litters, to my certain knowledge; and she was adult when I first had her.

I did some reckoning.

Two by ten is twenty, multiply that by four, five, or six, which makes—oh, but two years she slipped in an extra lot, that comes to—well, too many !

So this year I decided to do something about it.

The deoderant pills worked fine in January, but in April, the natural mating season, they had no effect. I might as well have fed her cough-drops.

Word soon got round on the feline grape-vine, and battered old toms with tattered ears stationed themselves strategically at all four entrances to my cottage.

Multi-coloured wads of fur perpetually floated in the breeze and were snapped up by opportunist sparrows as suitable building material.

I spent much time heaving “missiles” at the boldest cats with the object of scoring “near misses.”

The Manxman from next door

I could not, however, even pretend to raise a hand to poor old Lefty, the Manxman, from next door.

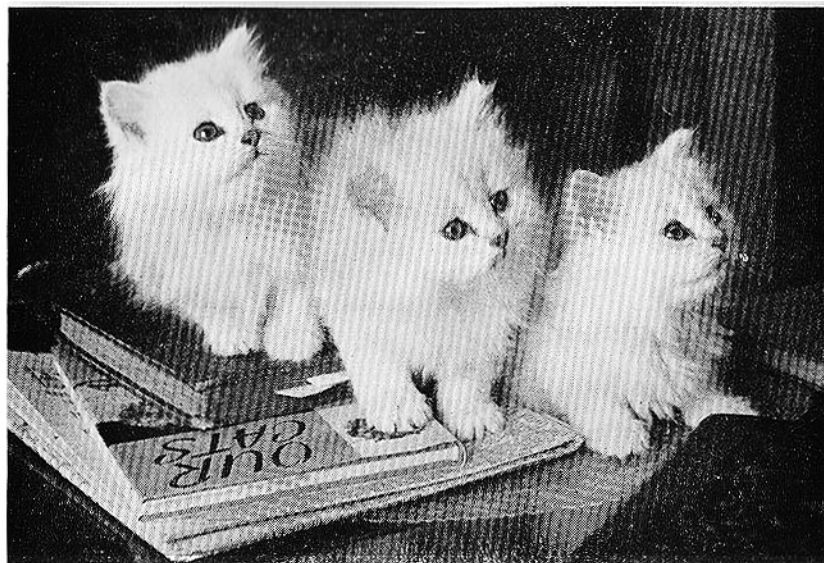
Some time ago he was missing for a week, and when he finally crawled home, dragging the cruel steel trap along with him, his front leg had gone gangrenous and had to be amputated.

The vet said he could lead quite a happy life, but he looks pathetic with no rudder and only three legs.

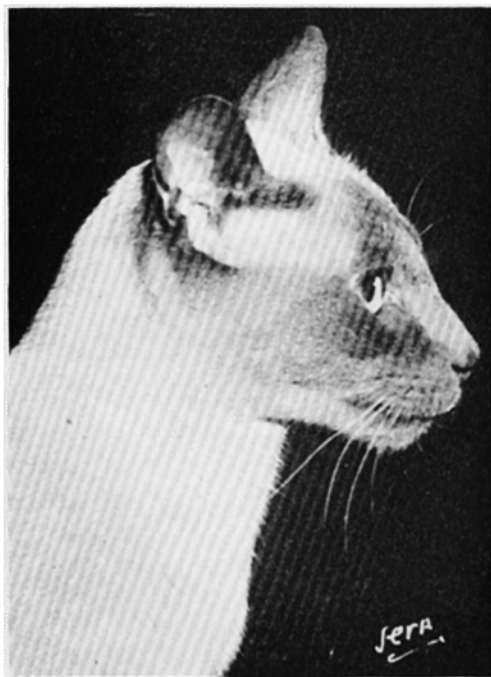
Of course, he plays for sympathy, and goes from door to door shoving forward his stump, and living on the fat of the land in consequence.

So I didn't chase Lefty away with the others. For one thing, I knew that with only one front leg he couldn't grip the female properly and would lack the balance necessary for the job.

In due course my Tortie produced four fine kittens—*two of them have no tails !*



These charming Chinchilla kittens bred by Abbé Marcel Chamonin were photographed in his home at Chêne-Bourg, Geneva, during a lull in the proceedings at the Foreign Ministers' Conference, by Sidney Denham. The kittens are sons of Bengali de la Chesnaie by Fishermore Apollo. Abbé Chamonin is a keen collector of books about cats as well as a breeder. The kittens posed happily on the oldest and one of the newest published books about cats—"Les Chats," by Auguste Paradis de Monterif, published in 1727, and "Our Cats," by Arthur E. Cowlshaw and Sidney Denham, published quite recently.



A striking head study of an exceptionally good Blue Point Siamese
CH. SULINE SUELLA,
 a daughter of Ch.
 Bluehayes Foxy and
 Ch. Chatwyn Silhouette.
 Bred by Mrs. H. Porter,
 Suella has done well at
 Continental shows for her
 French owner, Mrs. Voides
 of Bourg La Reine (Seine).

Veterinary questions answered

By M.R.C.V.S.

Tapeworms

A Yorkshire reader writes: Please tell me what is wrong with my Blue Persian female. About three weeks back I noticed two round worms from her, so I gave her a worm pill. Now, when I pick her up, I notice little things like very small grubs, so small that one would hardly notice them unless one was looking for them. It is only when you remove them that you find they are alive. They seem to be too small for worms.

M.R.C.V.S. replies: *It seems that your cat has tapeworms and that the small grub-like creatures around the anus are segments. You should go to a veterinary surgeon for a drug specifically designed to destroy tapeworms, as roundworm remedies are valueless. Fleas or lice are often co-existent with tapeworm and you should dust into the fur a reliable anti-parasitic powder, preferably containing gammexene, but not DDT. Keep the cat under your supervision (to prevent licking) for about 20 minutes and then brush out the surplus. This operation is best done in the garden; or the cat can be put in a linen bag, leaving its head outside. Do not miss any part of the fur with the powder and if fleas are present, it will be necessary to spray your carpets, floorboards, armchairs and any place where the cat sits with Flit. Fleas lay their eggs off the animal.*

Neuter misbehaves

A Welsh reader writes: My neutered Seal Point Siamese, now ten years old, has taken to spraying in the sitting-room. I do not keep females in this room and he does not seem to misbehave at all in the kitchen where they live. He was neutered when he was

six months old and I think it is a bit thick he should start this lark now. Can anything be done to stop him?

M.R.C.V.S. replies: *If you can catch him at this demeanour, try speaking to him sharply and loudly. Clapping your hands near him might wake him realize his mistake and perhaps frighten him from repeating it. Otherwise, it might be a deterrent to sprinkle pepper on all the spots he uses. Or you could apply a fine spray of some deodorant, such as Flit or Jeyes or eucalyptus, to the carpets.*

A Sussex reader asks: A recent p.m. report that we received referred to infection by *Proteus Morgani* and added that it is considered to be a pathogen. I can find no reference to this organism in any feline book and would be grateful for any information concerning it.

M.R.C.V.S. replies: *It is hardly to be expected that any information concerning bacteriological questions would be found in any feline publication for the layman. I have no information about *Proteus Morgani*, but the *Proteus Vulgaris* is known to be a frequent wound invader resistant to penicillin, but susceptible to streptomycin.*

Readers who would like "M.R.C.V.S." to deal with their veterinary problems should write to him c/o OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope when a direct reply is preferred.

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- * Herrings for glossy fur
- * Liver to build up a healthy body
- * Cereals for energy
- * Extra vitamins and minerals for strong bones



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Always buy

KIT-E-KAT

3-TIN THRIFT-E-PACKS



No justice is served!

ANIMAL lovers all over the country must have been sickened, as we were, at some of the evidence given during the hearing of a cruelty charge by the magistrates at Daventry, Northants. The case made headlines in a number of newspapers and if subsequently some of the people involved were recipients of letters of angry protest then we shan't be in the least little bit surprised. Northamptonshire is a famous hunting county—this time they staged a cat hunt at the military centre of Weedon.

A certain gallant officer, Major George Scaton, issued orders to his men in the Royal Pioneer Corps that the cats congregating round the cookhouse must be destroyed, but apparently he wasn't overmuch concerned as to the method. Two of his men, Cpl. Donald McGuire and Pte. William Kay, seized three of the cats, tied string round their necks, secured them to a drain cover in the cookhouse, hit them with a hammer, and finally threw them into a bin of water.

Angry? Of course you are! But you'll be angrier still when we reveal that the two men, who pleaded not guilty to the charge of cruelly ill-treating the cats, were discharged without being called to give evidence. You may well be excused for wondering if the scales of Justice didn't get a trifle tilted on this occasion.

Mr. A. L. Singlehurst, who prosecuted for the R.S.P.C.A., said there was little doubt that the cats round the cookhouse were causing a nuisance but pointed out there were various means of destroying unwanted animals. Some of the cats were strays but others belonged to wives of soldiers living in the married quarters. Evidence was subsequently given that two of the cats referred to in the charge were indeed the property of soldiers' wives.

A veterinary surgeon testified that the cats would have suffered before they died but was unable to say if they were conscious after they had been struck by the hammer. Pte. Robert Redfern who was on cookhouse duty at the time said he was ordered to go looking for cats. He saw one but let it go because he did not want it destroyed. He also saw three killed by McGuire and Kay in the manner described. *They struggled when they were put in the water.*

The defendant McGuire said in a statement: "I decided it was best to get rid of the cats hanging about there—on the hygienic side. I told the fatigue men to collect them. I hit them before putting them into the dustbin filled with water. I killed three and Pte. Kay killed one."

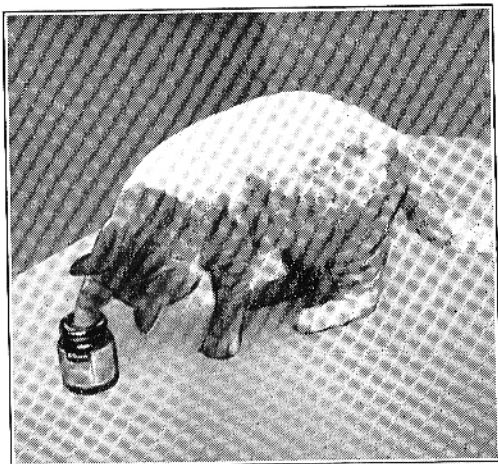
Mr. Engel, who appeared for the defence, submitted that if the cats had been knocked unconscious they would have suffered no further pain. The prosecution had failed to establish that they were not knocked unconscious so there was no case for his clients to answer.

The magistrates upheld this submission and their chairman Mrs. Winifred Deterding observed: "We are a little disturbed that among the cats destroyed were two domestic pets."

The gallant Major subsequently commented to the press that the cats were a menace to the men's health and he was quite happy about the way they were dealt with. "I did not specifically order the cats to be dealt with in this way," he added, "but I was sure none of these lads showed any cruelty. Nobody will be put in the glasshouse, especially in view of the magistrates' decision. If the position arises again I shall call in the R.S.P.C.A. Once bitten, twice shy."

**“Sandy always
helps himself to
Kit-zyme . . . ”**

MRS. N. WOODING of 46
Livingstone Road, Gillingham,
Kent, writes :—



“ My ginger cat, Sandy, has been taking your Kit-zyme Tablets regularly since I heard of them for the first time three and a half years ago. Sandy always helps himself to Kit-zyme from the jar and if not watched he will get several tablets out at a time.

“ We try to ration him to four a day and he is in perfect health with a coat as soft as silk.

“ Although Sandy is now 4 years old, he acts and plays like a kitten and I have only your Kit-zyme Tablets to thank for it. I thoroughly recommend them to all cat owners.”

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Tailpieces

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



AN admirable competition to test and develop the powers of observation among children is conducted by the *London News Chronicle* under the title I-SPY. They have a scale of points for a wide variety of subjects and the score for any notice relating to cats is 40. These points were notched recently by a young reader from Cheshire who spied an unusual sign-board in Lyme Regis bearing the words "Cats Crossing." Commented Big Chief I-SPY: "Obviously near the home of a cat lover; but do cats always cross at the same spot? Are there cat runs—as there are rabbit runs?" Can any reader explain this Dorsetshire sign?

Miss Paddy Brown, girl driver of a P.D.S.A. ambulance, scrambled over a roof top 30 ft. up in East London to rescue a black and white cat who had been stranded there in a perilous position for three days. The roof squatter was taken to the P.D.S.A. Sanatorium at Ilford, Essex, for necessary care and attention.

"I'm a terrible cynic. I like my cat best."—the Earl of Northesk, Chairman of Cruft's Dog Show.

Have you ever heard of a diabetic cat? News of one comes from Adelaide, South Australia, where Chunky, a young half-Persian Tabby belonging to Mrs. Jessie Cochrane, of Unley, is being treated for this complaint. Chunky contracted jaundice when he was a kitten and later when he became listless

and off his food—a leading veterinarian tested him for every known cat's disease. Finally, to his own amazement, he diagnosed diabetes. "It is unique in my experience," he said. "I have known of dogs with diabetes. But a cat—never." Chunky lived on special tablets for a year and these cost Mrs. Cochrane 3s. a day. Now he is recovering he only has to have one occasionally, supplemented by pancreas gland supplied on a special prescription and brought home twice a week from the abattoirs where Mr. Cochrane works. Needless to add, Mrs. Cochrane and her husband are great cat lovers of the really sincere variety.

Cats have recently figured in the personal columns of *The Times*. One advertisement ran: "Ancient Egyptian Bronze Cat required. A high price will be paid for a good specimen." A second was an abbreviated word picture of a distressing situation for someone leaving our shores. It ran: "Devoted owner, sailing, desp sks kind home lively gdn-loving tom. Box 9925." Talking of Ancient Egyptian bronze cats reminds me that the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art has a perfect specimen valued at more than 15,000 dollars and reputed to be more than 2,500 years old.

A tom and his lady friend were doing a spot of courting on the back fence. Gazing at her longingly, he said "I'd die for you, you beautiful thing." Came the answer, rather tartly: "Maybe you would—but how many times?"

An encouraging pat on the back comes from an American subscriber who writes: "I have subscribed to several cat magazines and yours is the only one which I find has constructive, intelligent information to impart." A newcomer among our subscribers was kind enough to write after receiving her first two issues: "The person who recommended OUR CATS to me certainly knew what she was talking about. May I add that I particularly enjoy the international flavour of the magazine."

I was interested to note that the June issue of the *Abyssinian Cat News Letter* (edited for the International Association of Abyssinian Cat Owners by Helen and Sidney Denham) marks the beginning of its ninth year. Its pages have always been brightly informative and it has done an excellent job for the breed it serves over the four Continents. The issue contains news of the formation of a Canadian Abyssinian Cat Club with Mrs. Edna Field as President and Mrs. Margaret Marceau as the Hon. Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Sidney Denham has been elected Honorary Vice-President. Mrs. E. L. R. Williamson, of Ottawa, who took a prominent part in bringing the Club into being, plans to produce the first issue of its Newsletter later in the year. Just in case any of my readers are interested, Mrs. Marceau's address is General Delivery, Grand Falls, N.B., Canada.

Did you read the account of the meeting between Pippa, a Siamese belonging to Mrs. Maureen Ashton, of Warminster, and a marauding fox? Pippa was sunning himself on a wall when he spotted Reynard after a neighbour's chickens. There was a short sharp encounter which ended with the retreat of the fox, chickenless. Later that day Pippa was involved in another encounter which necessitated veterinary attention. He was bitten in the eye—by a fieldmouse!

Report has it that the first registered Abyssinian to arrive in South Africa

was Suncharm, a female taken out in 1957 by Mrs. P. Duxbury, formerly resident in Lancashire. Soon after her arrival in the Cape, Suncharm was killed by a motor car. There is a likelihood that she will soon be replaced by another import from England.

Seen in a London street—a wooden box with the word "Cats" painted on its side and containing a pie dish of food and a big bowl of milk.

During his recent stay in London Mr. Charles Chaplin purchased an Abyssinian kitten bred by Mr. Robert Leng. It was flown out to his lovely home in Switzerland. A series of articles about the life of the 70-year-old film comedian mentioned the fact that when he left America he was accompanied by his 10-year-old Siamese, Monkey.

Miss M. S., Cairo, Egypt, writing in the correspondence feature of a popular periodical, says: "A friend of mine



NEXT MONTH!

*The new cameo persians by
Dr. Rachel Salisbury.*

*This year's kittens by
Joan Thompson.*

*With all the usual fine features
and photographs.*

lives in the suburbs of Cairo—right on the edge of the desert. She has a lovely Persian cat who is so well house-trained that after playing with his pals in the desert, he dashes frantically home to use his sandbox on the balcony of the flat!" Editorial comment was that cats are all for luxury and refinement and that perhaps the sand in the box was softer, finer and washed. There must be *some* reason!

There was a delightful item over the sound radio the other day—a critical appraisal of cats supported by music, poems and recordings of miaows and purrs for Siamese and "ordinaries"—a rude, inaccurate term. Two compères argued for and against.

Literature received this month includes a copy of the *Burmese Newsletter* from America. It is of special interest because it records the fact that a merger has taken place between the two national Burmese cat groups, the B.C.S. and the B.B.A. Members of both bodies voted unanimously for an amalgamation of interests because it was felt that a united group would be stronger in promoting the breed. Already it has secured the adoption of a new C.F.A. Burmese standard. This is a simple item of news to record, but how worthwhile it is! The provisional secretaries of the new group are Doris E. Springer, of San Francisco, and Elinor Dennis of Wallingford, Pennsylvania.

A high spot in a recent edition of "Tonight"—the popular B.B.C. television programme—was the appearance of a Turkish cat and her kittens. When travelling in Turkey in 1955 Miss Laura Lushington and her friend Miss S. H. Halliday came across an attractive cat in a hotel. It was about the size of an English Longhair, rather shorter in coat, pure white in colour with a reddish-brown marking on the forehead and over the hind quarters. The tail is bushy and has bars of a deeper colour. Miss

Lushington brought a breeding pair back to England and the third generation has been born at their Buckinghamshire home. It was demonstrated on T.V. that the Turkish cat has no fear of water and the tiny kittens certainly seemed to paddle away happily when they were placed in a rubber bath. If all goes according to plan, I hope you will be reading more about these interesting cats in a later issue of the Magazine.

The *Bulletin* of the South African Cat Union for the month of June shows a healthy looking list of registrations, indicative of the mounting strength of the Fancy in that country. Secretary Mrs. Angela Warburton, of Kenilworth, Cape, announces her intention to visit England for a month early next year and her willingness to help any members who might be import-minded.

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. I send best thanks to all who have helped in this connection.

MICKEY


A REMINDER!

We are still anxious to obtain the names and addresses of cat lovers—particularly those overseas—who are likely to welcome a specimen copy of this Magazine. Do you know of anyone?

All information is treated in strict confidence. Please send details to the Editor, OUR CATS, 4 Carlton Mansions, 378 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9. He will do the necessary.



Presenting RANSEIN HYRAJI, the first Burmese to reach South Australia and the first of his breed to be seen in Melbourne. Imported from New Zealand by Mrs. J. Thurmer, of Kilburn, South Australia, Hyraji was bred by Mr. Hadyn Pollock from his English imports Ch. Merrick Apollo and Ch. Paquita. Mrs. Thurmer also owns Siamese Ch. Westwood Blue Psyche and the first pair of Abyssinians to go to Australia, bred in New Zealand by Mrs. Curran.

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

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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IRRITATION OF CATS' EARS

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

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which combines an anti-parasitic, antiseptic and local anæsthetic
SOOTHING, SAFE AND CERTAIN
 Bottles 2/- and 7/6 (post 6d. and 9d.)

SKIN DISEASE

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

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News from "Down Under"

OVERCOATS and goloshes are the order of the day and even the Scotsman's tonic fails to warm things up. Can never understand why so many chaps are always going to the polar regions!

I have received a letter from Secretary Don Gebhardt of Adelaide and also a Newsletter from Tom and Jerry, but so far no report of their June Show.

News from Melbourne and a schedule reminds me that the Siamese Cat Club of Australia will be having their Show in late July, some little time after these notes are written. I hope to have details and awards for next month's notes.

New Secretaries

Miss Menzies's *Newsletter* for May came to hand a few days after my notes left last month. What a pity I could not have this New Zealand news a little earlier to save the long delay in getting something into print. I notice that Mrs. J. E. Broad is now Secretary of the Southern Cat Fanciers Club at Invercargill. We have had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Broad, who should be well able to maintain the very high standard set for club affairs by our good friend, ex-Secretary Jim Buchanan. A big thank you to Jim for a job well done. We loved the friendly name of Mrs. Broad's nice farm, "Duck Inn." I think it should have a prefix "Do!"

Did I mention that Mrs. T. A. Waldergrove, 75 Owens Road, Epsom, Auckland, is now Secretary of Auckland Cat Club? Mr. and Mrs. R. Saunders, of Hamilton, have presented a silver rose bowl to Pedigree Cat Fanciers N.Z. (Inc.), Wellington. It will be

awarded to the Persian Cat of the Year. I am sure everybody will be grateful to the Saunders for their generosity. N.S.W. makes an award to the Cat of the Year, both Persian and Siamese. "Shorthair" is soon to be substituted for "Siamese" as Burmese and Abyssinians are becoming popular. But alas, we have had no rose bowls donated—so far!

Abby. breeders excited

"Are the Abyssinian breeders to make cat history in New Zealand? Mother Nature has been very generous in the colour factor which she introduced into two successive litters of kittens recently. The first litter of two kittens produced the "dark" factor, one of which has developed into the dream of all Abyssinian breeders—"dark and unblemished by white or coloured markings"—a distinct rarity. The next litter comprised five kittens from a new imported sire and these resulted in another "dark" kitten and—more astonishing still—also four "reds." These are the first red kittens to be bred in New Zealand and hitherto an odd red kitten has appeared in litters overseas. Naturally, the breeders are excited over the appearance of these colour factors and are wondering if the performance can be repeated. What a thrill it will be if it is given to N.Z. breeders to fasten these colours in the Abyssinians."

I am indebted to Miss Tasker for the above extract taken from her May/June issue of *The Persian World* and also included in Miss Menzies's *Newsletter*. I will be interested to hear further, Miss Tasker. I found *The Persian World* very good reading and very nicely set up.

Miss Hore and her Dad are still with us and showing at all shows. They will surely be able to show some award cards to their friends in Palmerston North when they return home this month. Some of their stock is to remain in new homes in N.S.W. and should help breeders here as most of the kittens are Bayhorne Ariel (imp.) sired.

New South Wales. On June 20th the Federal Cat Club held a Show in aid of the Far West Children's Health Scheme in the Lower Sydney Town Hall, where nine judges and twelve stewards officiated. The day was fine but cold and a good entry included the increasingly popular Abyssinians and Burmese. So far I have not received a marked catalogue and am unable therefore to list the main awards. I had a talk with Mrs. Outram who has just returned from her visit to England. She gave me quite a lot of interesting details about the shows she visited and the personalities she met, but unfortunately I jotted these down on the back of a judge's slip and in the leaves of a marked catalogue which I put down for somebody else to pick up by mistake. I much regret not being able this month to include Mrs. Outram's news.

Show at Chatsworth

The Southern Cross All Breeds Club staged a very attractive Championship Show at Chatsworth on July 4th. It augurs well for future fixtures. Secretary Mullins of Northbridge did a good job at his first attempt and gained a lot of useful experience. Four judges included Mrs. Finch, first of the probationer judges to become fully qualified, who did some of the Siamese section. Mr. Holden, the Club's former Secretary who was forced to resign because of illness, was present for most of the afternoon, looking a lot improved in health after a major operation. The President of the Club, Mrs. Helsham, is now visiting England and according to letters received is having a happy and very interesting

time. I was told she was very pleased to see Mr. Stirling-Webb's Colour-points. I guess I would be, too! Perhaps, Mrs. H. will treat herself and bring back a pair for us all to see—they would be quite an attraction.

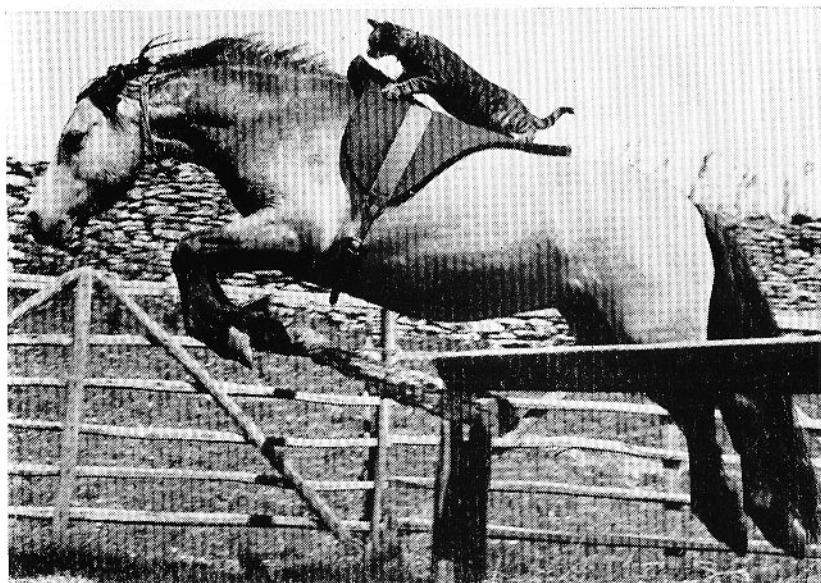
Following are the major awards at the Show: *Persians*—Best Male, Mrs. Hancock's Aliti White Ramar; Best Female, Miss Haswell's Miowera Fantasy; Best Male Kitten, Miss Hore's Dazzling Dreamer; Best Female, Mrs. Chaney's Mayfield Lady Louise; Best Brood Queen, Miss Rapley's Calicute of Chinsccc. *Siamese*—Best Male, Mrs. Carne's Carlton Prince Yo Yo; Best Female, Mrs. Abbott's Pic Point Blue Frost; Best Male Kitten, Mrs. Abbott's Eastern Hazie Boy; Best Female Kitten, Mrs. O'Donoghue's Kaylee Cassandra; Best Brood Queen, Pic Point Blue Frost. Best Abyssinian was Mrs. Tchan's Chatwyn Nimrod (imp.) and Best Burmese Miss Grant's Ransein Chindit.

Queensland to celebrate

Queensland news is that Mrs. Manson's C.F.A. Club is to hold a show in late September and the Queensland C.C. have a Championship fixture arranged for August 28th-29th in the City Hall, for which two N.S.W. judges have been invited as well as two local judges. As this is Queensland's centenary year and Princess Alexandra will be coming out, the Club committee expect a record entry.

I understand that Mrs. Henry, a Siamese breeder and club secretary in Brisbane, has bred a litter of six Burmese kittens, including one blue male. A think these kittens may be the first of their variety in this part of the world.





Mirrorpic

Another steeplechasing season has opened this month in England !



You'd never know she's been sick

*Brand's Essence
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When a cat is ill or "off colour," Brand's Essence is the ideal strengthener. No salt or preservatives. Every bite contains pure nourishing protein . . . "predigested" so it's rapidly absorbed without any strain.

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Brand's booklet "Safe-guarding your Pet" will be sent free on application to Brand and Co. Ltd., Mayfair Works, Vauxhall, S.W.8.





'WHO SAID
TIBS?'



THIS basketful of bright-eyed Siamese/Burmese hybrid kittens was bred by Mrs. A. M. Charles at her Cattery at Beech Bank, Bratton, Wiltshire.

Tibby, the TIBS reporter, interviewed Mrs. Charles who said "They're a healthy, lively lot, up to all kinds of fun from morning till night. That's because they're Tibsical!"

"I give all my cats Tibs — one a day — from weaning age onwards. I know that Tibs supplies all the essential vitamins and minerals my cats need. Tibs is wonderful for encouraging good growth, sound bones and teeth, and beautiful healthy coats."

Famous breeders say

DAILY TIBS TABLETS **KEEP CATS KITTENISH**





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.

A look at the C.P.L.

ON a scorching day in July, Miss Kit Wilson and I visited the headquarters of the Cats' Protection League at Slough, Bucks. This is an organization which should be especially dear to all cat lovers. I must confess that I regretted not ascertaining long ago the real behind-the-scenes activities of the League. We read of this or that animal welfare society and many of us subscribe to their respective journals, but these usually give only a synopsis and one does not realize the devotion of many associated with these organizations until one sees for oneself the rest of the work involved.

Mr. A. A. Steward has been Secretary of the C.P.L. for thirty years and it is indeed fortunate that Mrs. Steward is equally devoted to cats. Officially their hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but as they live on the premises no caller is refused

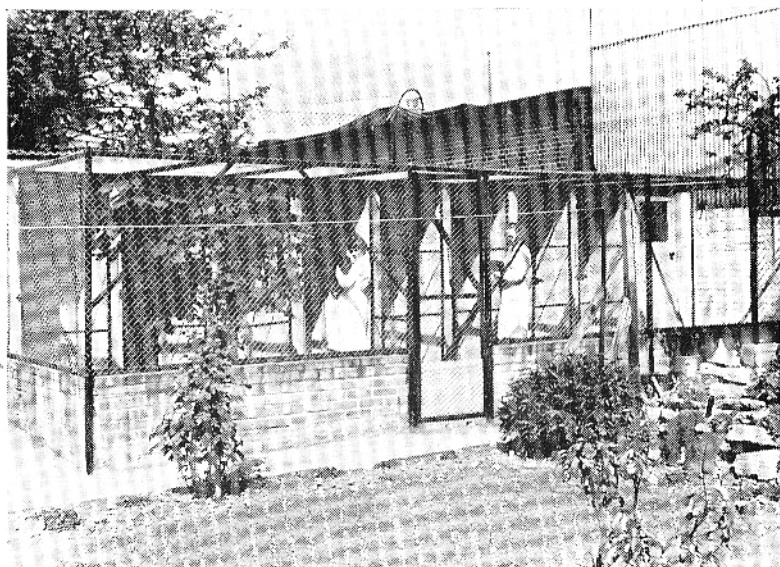
at any time and of course there is always the telephone demanding attention. No 40-hour week for the Stewards!

Mr. Steward's and the Committee's approach to accommodation for cats is modern, with the accent on simplicity, substantial brick buildings and hygiene. No draughty wooden sheds or any building which offends the eye is to be seen anywhere. One's first impression is a well kept garden with a trim lawn and flower beds and round it a high brick wall with wide wire netting leaning inwards to keep out intruders. Built on to the wall are the various sections which deal with the practical work of the League in Slough. A long corridor with windows its entire length gives access to the self contained units.

One is devoted entirely to the spaying of females. It has its own operating table and cages for the patients to occupy during the time it is advisable to keep them before they return home. Other units are for neutering males and patients with minor injuries. All have ample cages so that the cat or kitten can have peace and quiet to speed recovery.

Discarded pets

One sympathizes with the assistants who have the uncongenial task of putting unwanted cats to sleep and I saw some of these in apparently excellent condition and it was pathetic to see the kittens. As the only reason in some cases was because the owners were going on holiday, the moment of decision must



Views of the outdoor cattery and runs at the C.P.L. headquarters at Slough, Bucks.

have been difficult. At least, one hopes so. The only consolation is that it is far better this way than that they should be subjected to the callous indifference which leaves cats to fend for themselves whilst the owners enjoy their holiday. This unit again has a section to itself with several lethal boxes.

The pharmacy contains all the drugs the visiting veterinary surgeon may need and all except the simple straightforward cases are attended to by two veterinary surgeons, Mr. Ward and Mr. Garland. At the end of the corridor I noticed a pile of blankets and hot water bottles on a shelf. In addition, there is a compact little kitchen with a refrigerator for the cats' food.

Ranged along the other two garden walls are rows of well built pens, each with its own wide shelf about two feet above the ground and with a wire door which gives access to a communal run for cats who are there temporarily as boarders or have been found straying. It is heart warming to know that through the kindness of the *Slough Observer*, several of the strays have had their pictures published and have been claimed or satisfactorily placed in new homes. *Altogether headquarters dealt with well over ten thousand cases in twelve months.*

Showers of leaflets

The correspondence alone necessitates the services of three secretaries and Mr. Steward said they really need more to keep everything up to date. Hundreds of informative leaflets are distributed. These include: *Farm Cats*; *Care of Mother Cats*; *Treatment of Cats and Kittens*; *Your Cat's New Home*; *Cats Need Grass*; *How Cats are Protected by Law*; *In Praise of Cats*; and a four-page leaflet suggesting practical means of controlling the cat population by spaying females, neutering males and putting unwanted kittens to sleep at birth. This would help to solve the problem of too many kittens and too few good homes.

This extract from the leaflet epitomises the C.P.L.'s practical approach to their labour of love:

"Spaying (neutering) is one of our hopes of curbing the great increase of unwanted cats and kittens and is, therefore, of **vital importance**. This does not, of course, apply to cats kept for breeding purposes; but as for the others it is better to have a few well-cared-for and loved cats than many that are left to fend for themselves. The more you love your own cat the more pity you should feel for the cat that has no home and no one to care for it."

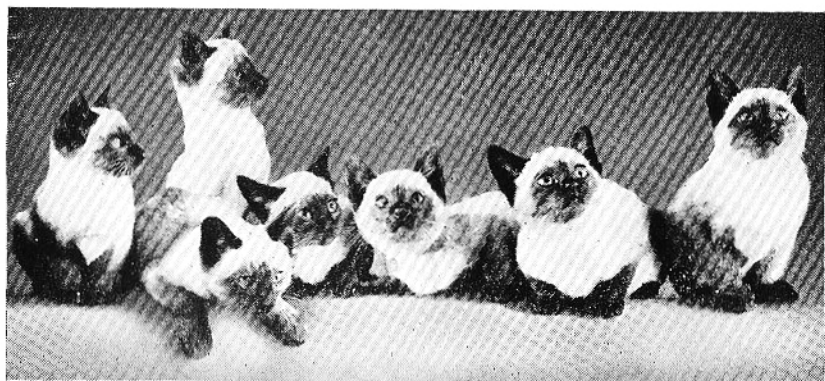
A monthly journal entitled *The Cat* is the official organ of the C.P.L. and it claims to be "the oldest magazine devoted entirely to cats." It provides reports on activities all over the country and presents news from Honorary Secretaries in areas as far afield as Ulster and Truro. In the Isle of Wight there is Mrs. Elsie Kent working for the League. She will be remembered as the popular and efficient Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club until her marriage and retirement to the Island a few years ago. Fortunately she has also retained her interest in pedigree cats and is so welcome when she comes to our Championship shows to judge Siamese, British Shorthairs, Burmese and Abyssinians. She also serves on the Committee of the Siamese Cat Club where her wide knowledge of this variety and the activities of the Fancy are invaluable.

In addition to this literature the C.P.L. has issued its 32nd Annual Report, so it should be justly proud of how well informed it keeps its members and patrons. In this Report, Miss Kit Wilson is given a richly deserved tribute for all her work as Public Relations Officer. She has given addresses at shows, fêtes and public and private meetings in many parts of the country. Abroad, she has introduced the League to many states in U.S.A. and through her appeals for stamps they arrive in an ever increasing stream.



Photo by Sims

Here is a little Tabby patient undergoing anaesthesia by inhalation. This is often the simplest and most effective method when fish bones, needles, etc., have to be removed from a cat's throat.



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.

Be safe — have your kittens injected *before they are three months old* with Vaccine manufactured by Dr. Graeub of Berne. Consult your veterinary adviser who will be able to give you full advice.

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I noticed whilst chatting to Mr. Steward in his office two huge polythene bags, one containing used stamps and the other silver paper and milk bottle tops, all very useful, for the salvage scheme. If any kind reader wishes to augment these collections, please *wash the milk bottle tops before sending them*. The odour of unwashed milk bottle tops is unbelievable after a few days. Stamps need to be cut out of envelopes rather than steamed off and serrated edges left intact.

Miss Kit Wilson is yet another of the devoted workers for animal welfare who often toil until bed time. Because she does so, she is able to employ her "leisure" in another way pleasing to her, and we see her judging at shows; at committee meetings; and she is also

Chairman and delegate for the Shorthair Cat Society of Great Britain.

Her work for the League (including salvage sales) resulted in over £400 being added to the funds in 1958.

A project dear to Mr. Steward is the extension of the Memorial Home at Haslemere, Surrey. He estimates the cost will be about £4,000, a large sum when resources are already stretched almost to the limit. He showed me the plan of the accommodation he eventually hopes for. During the past twelve months all the cat houses there have been more or less continuously occupied by an average of 50 cats and kittens. These include boarders, cats that have been accepted as homeless, and others brought in for homes to be found, also those belonging to owners in hospital or



A young staff member of C.P.L. with some of the unfortunate "unwants."

unable to look after their pets for some valid reason. All these have been temporarily accommodated at Haslemere. Eventually the aim is to provide accommodation for 100 cats and kittens.

My visit to Slough was at my own request so that I could see and hear for myself about the actual work of the League. I was so impressed and deeply touched that I have asked the Editor to allow me to launch an appeal although this was not originally my intention. As the C.P.L. is a registered charity no specific charges are allowed to be made, it depends for all its many activities on donations, legacies, the sale of salvage, etc. Fortunately some grateful owners do donate a sum for treatment but if they cannot afford to do so the C.P.L. issues vouchers and remits the fees to the qualified veterinary surgeons from its own funds. Many have been generous and given their services.

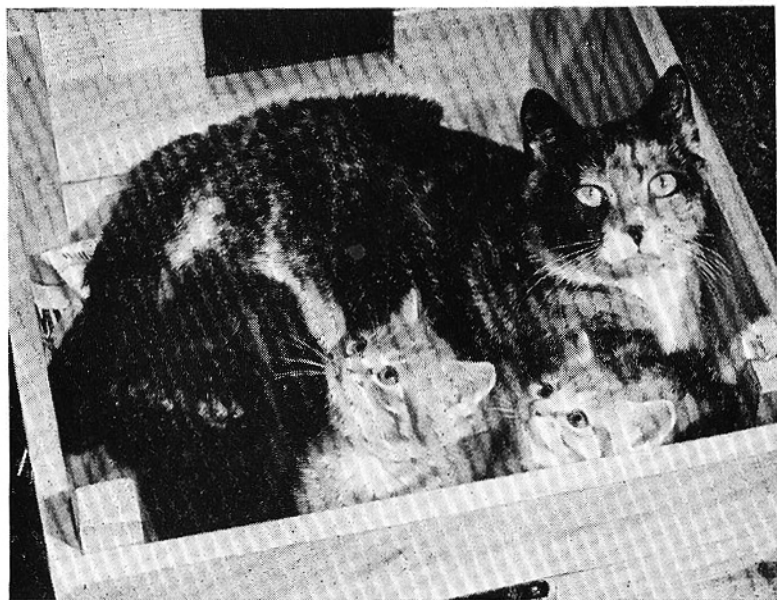
Another way to help is by becoming a life member (which entitles one to receive a copy of the magazine each month). This costs £5. Membership is £1 ls.

per annum and associate membership 10s. 6d. per annum. One's own pets can be enrolled as Tailwavers at 5s. per annum for each cat.

In conclusion a quotation from the last page of the 32nd Annual Report: "Your unwanted birthday and Christmas presents are very much wanted by us for sale at our bazaars." Please send gifts and enquiries to The Secretary, Cats' Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks.

Fewer Blue Longhairs

The Annual General Meeting of the Blue Persian Cat Society attracted a much larger attendance than we have seen for some years, probably because it was held much later than usual and a few weeks had elapsed since previous A.G.M's. Many members were concerned—as they had reason to be—at the lowest ever entry at the last Show in October. It was their 20th show and only 50 cats and kittens were presented. For the three previous shows the figures



A Tortie mother and her babies find sanctuary at the Slough H.Q. of the Cats' Protection League.

were: 1957-62 and two Litters, 1956-75 and 1955-68.

The 1956 Show was organized by Mr. Dugdale and Miss Webster and had a remarkable adult male class of 21 exhibits, probably the best in quality and quantity of any we have seen post-war. There were four Champions competing, also one male had gained his title after entries closed, and three became Champions shortly afterwards.

Gratitude is due to Mrs. Crickmore for organizing the 1958 Show and it certainly was not owing to any fault on her part that the entry was not a better one. However one must admit that such a small number of exhibits cannot make an attractive show for the public and is not conducive to encouraging them to visit other cat shows as they are not to know that a similar number is hundreds below the average of an all-breed London fixture. Without the patronage of the public and really good gates, it would be almost impossible to present shows, now expenses of organization have gone up by leaps and bounds.

A new proposal

The proposal to include Creams and Blue-Creams, which owe so much to Blues, was a feasible and sensible one. It would automatically result in more entry fees and obviously a better gate. It is quite useless to deplore lack of entries if some innovation is not introduced. The figures of all the Ch. Shows and those for Blue males in the List of Cats at Stud provide irrefutable evidence that Blues have declined in numbers whereas Creams and Blue-Creams are making steady progress. It is significant that so many young newcomers have succumbed to their charms.

The Committee promised to consider it for 1960 and on being put to the vote a majority were in favour of including these two varieties, although a brake was put on future entries by the proposal that Creams and Blue Cream adults would not be awarded Challenge Certificates.

If they compete at a B.P.C.'s Ch. Show I can see no valid reason why they should be debarred from these honours and we know from experience that owners hesitate to take adults for an "outing" however altruistic we expect them to be.

Some mild criticism of a reputed decision of the Committee appeared to cause slight resentment, but it must be remembered that an A.G.M. is the members' only opportunity of expressing their wishes verbally and as the majority of those present take an active part in breeding and exhibiting Blue Persians they have every right to express their opinions. To paraphrase a well known quotation: "We may not agree with what they say but we agree with their right to say it."

American Champions

A recent issue of the American *All Pets Magazine* contains the section headed "25th Annual Cat Hall of Fame." Some lovely photographs are published including that of Ch. Extase of Allington. Mrs. Kingsland and Mrs. Willard Shy of Missouri present a photo of Ashdown Robin, who won so well here as a kitten. Always a good kitten, he appears to have fulfilled his youthful promise. Mrs. William Moore of California presents Cream Cracker of Dunesk, a photo taken before he left England. Dr. and Mrs. Williams, of Louisville, Kentucky, present a list of their Champions headed by Grand Champion Colonial Lady Bess of Pensford (Blue-Cream) and Grand Champion Colonial King Peter, the latter U.S.A. bred. Some of the other cats pictured are descendants of British exports and it will be interesting to follow their progress if they are shown next season.

On diet

The article by W. A. Young, D.V.M., entitled "Vitamins and Medication" is a very sensible approach to the subject. It commences: "Can you feed your cat too many vitamins? Indeed you can

feed too much of most anything. This is true even though the food or vitamin is one basically needed by the animal. . . . In the field of vitamin medication Nature has provided most of the needed vitamins in the foods which we feed our cats. . . .

"Do not be frightened by these lines so that you never use vitamins, for they are essential to the health and well being of cats. When a lack is evident in the cat's diet, the needed material must be added. Again, most cat foods contain a supply of the required vitamins and the cat which lives a normal regimen for a feline will not need to have vitamins added to her diet. However, the cat which is confined to city housing, fed all cooked foods or fed a restricted diet, will often need and require some vitamins added to her diet if she is to be healthy and enjoy a comfortable life. Avoid excesses but feed vitamins whenever they are needed."

The right conditions

How often one finds that breeders who are continuously dwelling on illness keep far too many cats to give each one the individual care and attention that they need. Even worse, they keep them in close confinement on unsuitable premises and with their only access to runs which are too small to give them the exercise and amusement they need. Cats are not gregarious by inclination and need space and freedom.

Males of course have to be confined as the sweetest tempered male will prepare for battle if a strange one invades his garden with "intentions" towards one of his harem. But they should not be kept unless the owner has a large enough garden to provide them with a very big run. I estimate to properly house and erect such a run if one has to employ labour costs about £100 at present prices. My females have always had liberty and in over 30 years I have had only one fatality and this was probably caused by doing something quite contrary to my usual practice.

After returning from the Olympia Show in August 1952 which closed at 8 p.m. I allowed Bluebell of Pensford out in the dark on a lovely summer night. She disappeared and in the morning I found her on the grass verge in front of my house without a mark on her. She had evidently been hit by a car and killed instantly. During the daylight hours my cats seldom leave the garden and very rarely visit the front which necessitates them climbing 7' fences.

To sum up, if cats live a normal healthy life with an ample mixed diet the only supplementaries they may need are vitamins A and D most conveniently given in the form of Adexolin, four drops a day over food. I feel this is partly necessary because of our lack of sunshine in winter, plus Kit-zyne Vitamin B group. Some breeders give calcium to pregnant queens and nursing mothers.

Of course there are many successful breeders who give no added vitamins at all and their stock is thoroughly healthy, but in most cases I know of such cats live under excellent conditions.

Club members' party

Mrs. J. M. Newton, Hon. Secretary of the Red, Cream, Blue-Cream and Tortie Cat Club, kindly gave a garden party at her home at Moulshford, Berkshire, on June 24th. Several members attended including most members of the Committee and they came from as far afield as Kent, Sussex and even Lancashire. The weather was lovely and I heard it was a most enjoyable affair.

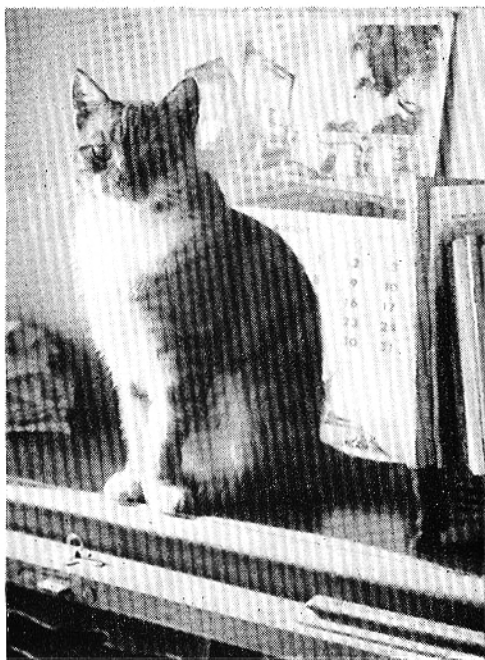
Show at Harrogate

The Yorkshire County Cat Club have issued an excellent *Bulletin* for June and it is hoped to continue it in September. Every member will receive a copy. For the very modest fee of 2s. 6d. one can advertise the birth of kittens, cats at stud, etc. A list of all the cats belonging to members who became Champions

last show season is a nice gesture. The annual show will not be a Championship affair this year but should be most attractive at lovely Harrogate, in November. This exemption show will be run in accordance with the 14 rules which apply to all shows granted exemption by the Governing Council. I quite agree with the Hon. Secretary's (Miss G. Hardman), remark that "a new venue is always an advantage to exhibitors, bringing as it does their cats and kittens before an entirely new public."

Here's wishing them success !

Cat among the Pigeon (holes)



Sindie-Sebbie

THIS ginger cat's favourite room is the office, where he sleeps in the window on the cushion embroidered with his name, performs his ablutions on the roll-top desk or amuses himself by playing with the pen of anyone trying to write.

He was born five years ago on an Essex farm and moved as a kitten to his present home at Shenfield. His new owners were told that if he were not pure ginger, he could be a female and, accordingly, as he has a white bib and paws, he was christened Cinderella. When it was established that he was a tom, this was hardly suitable ! Even Cinders and Cindie had a feminine ring, and so an attempt was made to rename him Sebastian after the name of the avenue in which he lives. This change has only got as far as Sindie-Sebbie at present and it looks like staying there !

On summer mornings, Sindie-Sebbie's window is sunny, but on a cold winter afternoon he welcomes the sound of his master or mistress putting on the electric fire. If they leave the drawers of the desk open his curiosity is too much for him, and he explores until it occurs to him that here would be a comfortable sleeping place. It is—until a paper from under him is wanted !

Sindie-Sebbie can open the door of any unlocked room in the house by jumping up and hanging his weight on the horizontal handle. He is sufficiently expert at this to need only one jump.

When a new arrival, a golden cocker spaniel puppy, joined the household, Sindie-Sebbie at first arched his back, but they were soon friendly and playing together.

He looks sedate and business-like enough as he poses for his photograph while at his desk, but out of office hours he is really a pleasure-loving cat.

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THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

Will members of the Cat Fancy please note that the Secretary,
Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, has resigned and that on and after the 1st
September all communications for the Secretary should be addressed
to **MR. S. E. BARNES, 21A LEWIS ROAD, SIDCUP, KENT.**

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SMOKEY is the two-year-old Russian Blue pet of Mrs. A. O. Victor, of Mousehole, nr. Penzance, Cornwall. The only people he really dislikes are the dustmen because they make such a clatter with the bins. Every morning he pays a courtesy call on three neighbours, rattling the door handle or latch for admittance. He loves watching some of the TV programmes.

1958

When I was eighty-eight years old on the twenty-fifth of May,
I'd planned to spend a peaceful and a very quiet day.
But when the clock struck twelve at noon my door flew open wide,
And in came all my seven cats with dignity and pride.
For round each furry neck was tied a bow of ribbon gay,
And also on a card attached were greetings for the day.
Then, after wandering round the room, the cats laid down to rest,
But they were soon awakened by an unexpected guest,
For when our tortoise heard the news and saw the cats arrive,
He said : " I will not be left out, I really must contrive
To gain admission." So he came with tottering steps and slow,
Being late, he knew that he had missed the best part of the show,
But with undaunted courage bold, encased within his shell,
He bravely faced cats' staring eyes, regardless of their spell,
And all went merrily that day, as long as they did stay,
For they brought joy and luck to me that memorable day.

CAROLINE W. PERCEVAL.

[The above lines were written by an octogenarian member of the Cats' Protection League, in whose journal they first appeared.]

Genetics for the novice breeder

By A. C. JUDE

IN female mammals one pair of chromosomes can be distinguished (by its reaction to certain dyes under certain circumstances) from the other pairs, and is known as the pair of 'X' chromosomes. The male has only one 'X' chromosome, its partner being of a different kind, known as the 'Y' chromosome. The male reproductive cells (spermatozoa) contain either a 'Y' chromosome or an 'X' chromosome but not both; the female reproductive cells (ova) each contain one 'X' chromosome. This may be fertilized either by a 'Y' bearing sperm, making the offspring 'XY' (male) or by an 'X' bearing sperm, making the offspring 'XX' (female). Genes situated on these 'sex' chromosomes are called sex-linked genes.

Although Mendel himself did not know anything about the way chromosomes behave at cell division, the 'laws' which he deduced from the behaviour of his experimental garden peas fit in exactly with the behaviour of the chromosome. He stated that the inherited factors which give rise to different 'characters' in the parents remain separate in the fertilized egg, and are distributed independently of each other to the next generation of offspring.

Relatively few characters clearly show the typical segregation and re-assortment in inheritance which Mendel described. However, nearly all published work on cats (and other animals) has been mainly concerned with inheritance of this rather unusually simple type. The information derived from

these studies is extremely useful in certain limited circumstances, namely, when a breeder wishes to introduce one or more of these characters into his strain (or to eliminate them) with a minimum of effort, or to establish a strain which will breed true for one of these characters.

In the method of analysing inheritance by crossing individuals with contrasting characteristics, certain mating systems which were used by Mendel have become classical tests of the mode of inheritance. These matings are as follows:—



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The contrasted parents (known as the P_1 generation) are mated together to produce an F_1 (filial generation); these are then mated to each other to produce an F_2 generation, in which the various parental characters sort themselves out independently of each other (unless 'linkage' occurs). The best known example of this is the cross between an individual 'pure' for a certain gene, i.e. carrying two of the same gene, and another individual 'pure' for its recessive¹ allele. This cross leads to the famous 3 : 1 ratio as in diagram 1.

DIAGRAM 1.

Using the genes D and d, giving black or blue coat colour.

P_1	Black DD	X	Blue dd	gives
F_1	All Blacks Dd X Dd			gives
F_2	1 'Pure' Black DD	2 Blacks carrying blue Dd Dd	1 Blue dd	

The 'Pure' Black is the homozygous dominant, the two Blacks carrying blue are heterozygous, and the one Blue is the homozygous recessive.

The above proportion (three Blacks to one Blue in the F_2) operates normally, but it becomes a little more complicated when more than one set of characters is in operation. For instance, if one of the parents is L.H. and the other is S.H. the following would result:

DIAGRAM 2.

S.H. Black X L.H. Blue

All short-haired Blacks

9 S.H. Blacks	3 L.H. Blacks	3 S.H. Blues	1 L.H. Blue
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It will be seen that the figures 9 : 3 : 3 : 1 give three S.H. to one L.H.; and three Blacks to one Blue—three dominants to one recessive.

As the number of independently assorting gene pairs increase, so does the variations in F_2 . For instance, with three gene pairs we get the 'trihybrid-ratio,' with eight different types in the proportions 27 : 9 : 9 : 9 : 3 : 3 : 3 : 1.

The other classical test mating is called the backcross, which means the mating of any of the cross-bred progeny (F_1 or F_2) to one of the parents or to any cat of either parental breed. The most useful and usual form of this is to backcross an F_1 animal to the parent showing the recessive characteristic; the resulting progeny should consist of approximately equal numbers showing the 'dominant' and recessive effects, if the difference between P_1 parents was due to a single pair of allelic genes, one dominant over the other. If this does not happen, some other types of inheritance must be involved.

(continued on next page)

The ratios actually obtained in breeding experiments are seldom exactly the same as those stated, especially if only a small number of kittens is bred. The theory is based on the assumption that fertilization is 'random,' i.e. that any sperm has an equal chance of fertilizing any egg-cell. If this is true, statistical calculations show that exact agreement with the theoretical ratio is not to be expected in every litter, but is approached when a large number of kittens is bred. Thus, if it is desired to find out whether a male showing a dominant characteristic does or does not carry the recessive allele, it may be tested by mating to a pure (homozygous) recessive female.

In the resulting litter, if the sire carries the recessive gene, the expected ratio is 1:1, i.e. equal numbers of kittens showing the dominant and the recessive character. However, a litter of two only kittens, both showing the dominant feature, will not prove that the sire does not carry the recessive gene: out of every four litters of two kittens, one litter will probably consist of two unaffected kittens even if the sire is a 'carrier.' If six kittens are bred,

the chance of none of the six showing the recessive quality of the sire is a carrier is only 1 in 64, i.e. only one in 64 litters of six will fail to reveal that the sire is heterozygous.

Sometimes, certain genes are described as modifying² genes, because they appear to act only in the presence of some other particular gene, modifying its effect. However, they are really only demonstrating, in a particularly obvious way, that all genes affect each other's actions to a greater or lesser degree.

The greatest use of simple Mendelism to the practical breeder is in applying knowledge which professional scientists have acquired, rather than themselves determining which characteristics are inherited in a simple Mendelian manner, and which are not.

Fresh terms:—

1. **Recessive**—A gene or character which is not expressed in the presence of its dominant allele.
2. **Modifiers**—Genes which by themselves have no noticeable effects, but influence the effects of other genes present in the same organism.

(to be continued)



From Miss Isambard-Owen, of Abersoch, Pwllheli, North Wales, comes this nice snapshot of her white cat SIRIOL WYN among the daffodils—just to remind us that Spring will return one day.

CATHEDRAL CATS

By C. T. SPURLING

IN my local paper a short time ago I read that Sailor, the Canterbury Cathedral cat had died.

In the *Cathedral Chronicle* of 1956 there appeared a note with a photograph of this famous cat who was well known to the many visitors. He was the property of Mr. Gill, the gatekeeper at No. 1 The Precincts :

"Each evening when the Cathedral bell is rung for curfew at 8 p.m. in the winter and 9 p.m. in the summer, and the gates of the Precincts are closed for the night, Sailor the tabby may be seen following the gatekeeper to hear the bell. One night at 3 a.m. there was a knock on the door. Expecting that someone in the Precincts was in need of a doctor, the gatekeeper put his head out of the window and asked 'Who's there?' All he heard in a response was a pitiful miaou and all he saw was Sailor on his hind legs, stretching up with a front paw on the knocker and asking to be let in."

One day I saw another cat sitting in the sun in the Water Tower gardens. There

was nothing remarkable about his outward appearance except that he was jet black with a fleck of white on his chest. Then quietly an elderly lady arrived with some sardine tit-bits and from her I learnt the story of this Cathedral cat.

It seems that during the blitz Soldier, I will call him, refused to go with his owners when they moved house. In the surroundings of the Cathedral he stayed through fire and bomb. "He has a love for the Cathedral," said the lady who keeps a shop in one of the narrow streets of the city. "I have always looked after him as my husband is so fond of animals." It was beneath the green, now turfed again, that she and the cat had taken shelter during the raids.

I looked back at those majestic towers of the Cathedral, saved from the destruction which so nearly threatened them, and then down at the small black creature picking his way over the grass, wondering to myself why black cats should be so lucky.

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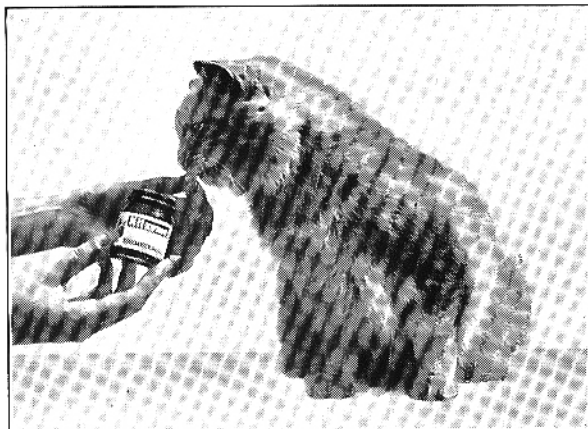


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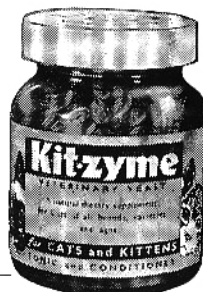
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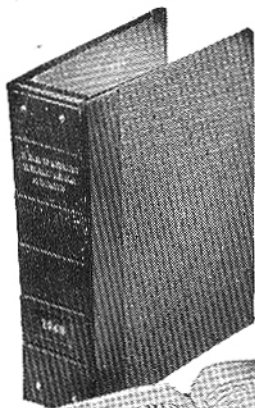
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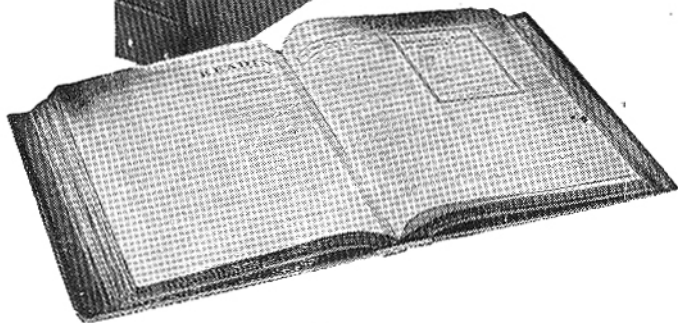


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