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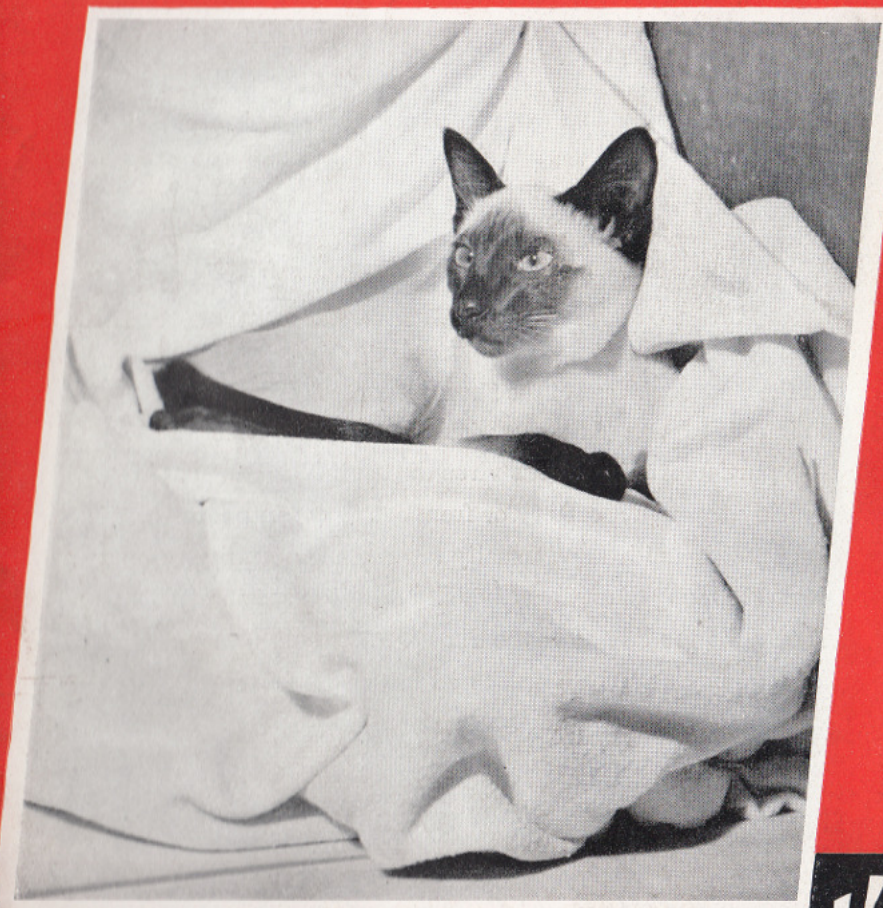
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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



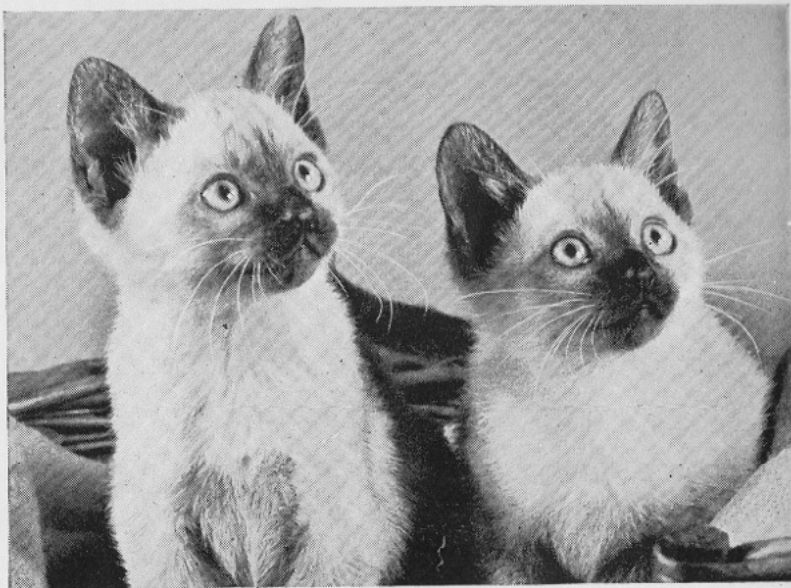
DIGNITY IN REPOSE

SPOTLIGHT TRAJNSKY surveys the scene in comfort from his pen at the Siamese Cat Club Championship Show at Guildford, Surrey. He was a worthy winner of Best Male Kitten award for owner-breeder Mr. Richard Warner. Photograph by Hugh Smith.

NOVEMBER 1960

1/6

Are we protected against Infectious Enteritis?



In the close conditions of the Show every cat is exposed to infections. One of the most dangerous is Feline Enteritis—a particularly infectious virus disease which can spread quickly through a cattery or from cat to cat in a locality. Its onset is sudden and usually fatal. The mortality rate is highest among Siamese, although all breeds are susceptible. It may be too late after the Show . . . consult your veterinary surgeon now about 'Fiovax', and have your kittens vaccinated without delay.

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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.

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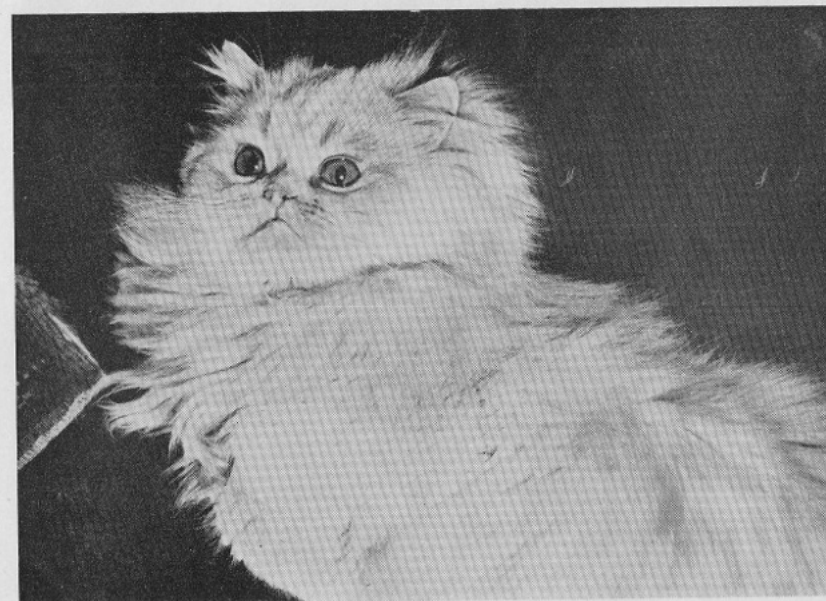
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THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



Mme Pia Sandoz, who lives near Zurich, Switzerland, is an enthusiastic fancier and supporter of shows on the Continent. She is also interested in photography and here we are able to reproduce the snapshot she took of her International Champion SOLE MIO AV BIRKA, a two-year-old Cream whose dam was Widdington Petunia.

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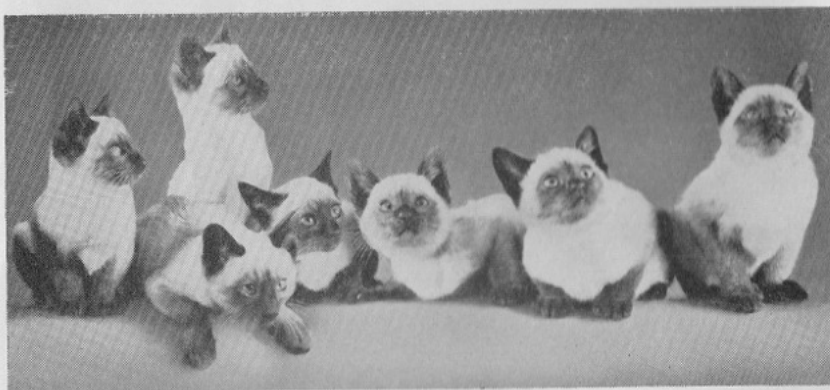
WHEN SHOWING YOUR CAT

If it gets highly strung before a show, or suffers car sickness when travelling there, Brand's Essence is highly beneficial. It is so easily digested, whereas solid food may cause vomiting.

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Focus on cat food

MANY of our readers will be familiar with the laudable activities of the Consumers' Association Ltd. It is an organization now over 200,000 strong in membership and it functions to test goods bought over the retail counter. The results of these investigations are contained in the reports published each month in the Association's journal *Which?*

The current issue of *Which?* contains much of special interest to pet owners, as the C.A. has been taking a good look at the canned pet food industry with its £15 million a year turnover. It mentions that nine out of ten owners of cats now buy tinned food for their pets, probably on the assumption that the can contains everything essential for a satisfactory diet.

C.A. analysed, for their nutritional value, ten cat foods and one advertised as being suitable for both cats and dogs. As an additional practical test they fed young rats on the foods and studied their increase in weight. The source of the raw materials used was not investigated and it is pointed out that our Government, unlike that of the United States, does not require that a list of ingredients should be given on the label.

With regard to feeding instructions given by the manufacturers, *Which?* points out that only two give any idea as to *how much* of their product is required per day; both say up to one (½lb.) tin for adult cats. On the question of whether cats need anything extra to get a *balanced diet*, five brands do not commit themselves and make no mention of supplementary food. Some, on the other hand, claim specifically on the label that they provide a "full", "complete" or "balanced diet". C.A.'s tests did not bear out these claims.

Cats need minerals in their diet. *Which?* found that the ratio of calcium to phosphorus was too low in one food and much too high in another. For an average grown cat of say 9 lbs. there is general agreement that the energy requirement is 240 to 320 calories a day. Kittens require twice the amount of energy per pound of body weight, compared with grown cats. Only in six out of the ten cat foods tested did a can a day provide enough calories for a cat, and none would supply a completely balanced diet.

Vitamin B₁ (Thiamine) is one of the most important vitamins for cats but it was found to be practically absent from four of the foods tested and too low in six of the others. Two of the last named, however, advised feeding additional bread or biscuits.

The report in *Which?* makes separate value for money recommendations for purchasers of tinned cat food and singles out one well-known and much-advertised product as the "best buy" amongst the cat foods.

It also compares the prices of an all-fresh, half-fresh/half-canned and all-canned diet for cats. C.A. recommends a mixture of half-fresh, half-canned food, together with cereal and milk; this would give a properly balanced diet costing less than all-fresh food. The cost is estimated at 10d. to 1s. for one cat. Finally, C.A. feels it would be a good idea if pet foods were required by law to carry a statement of ingredients and amounts of claimed nutrients.

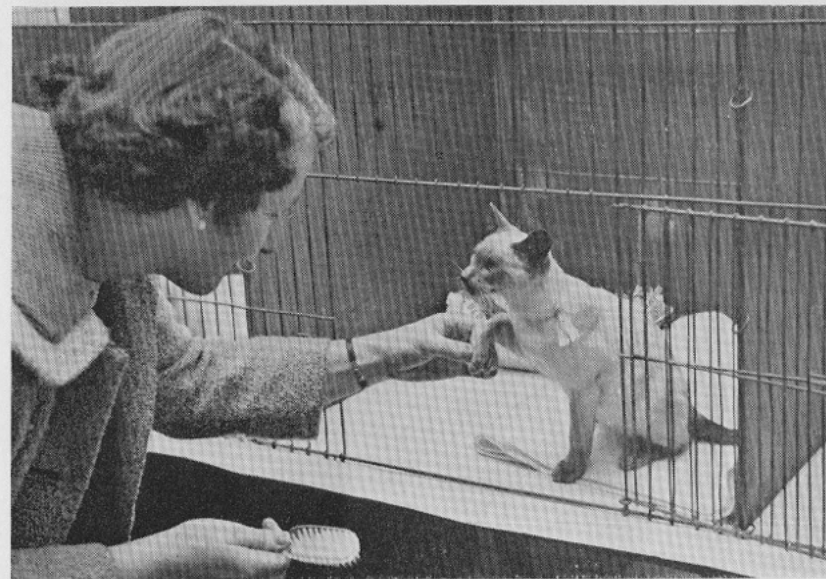
EDITOR'S NOTE: *Daily food requirements of a 9 lb. cat are stated by C.A. to be about 10 ozs. and in their sample diets they include 6 ozs. of fresh meat at a cost of approximately 9d. I would question whether many of our home readers are able to obtain satisfactory supplies of fresh meat at the quoted price of 2s. per pound.*

A page for the proletarian puss—No. 92



Frank Lane

How the heck does this thing work !



"It is important to arrive at the show in good time so that the final touches can be applied without hurry."

Cat breeding from scratch—No. 8

By HUGH SMITH, who also supplied the illustrations

BEFORE setting off for the cat show it is well to read the rules carefully. Failure to adhere to them may lead to a lot of trouble and possible disqualification.

One should pay special attention to the regulation forbidding the showing of any cat or kitten if there has been infectious disease in the cattery at any time within three weeks of the date of the show. It is only being fair to fellow breeders to be strict in the observance of this rule. If in any doubt—don't go !

This of course is bound to entail

some financial loss, for it is not usual for a show manager to refund entry fees. It is a pity that the Fancy has not organized some form of insurance against this contingency. One would think that a modest premium and the production of a veterinary certificate stating that the absence of the cat or kitten is due to illness would suffice. Perhaps in due course this will come about.

Preparations for the show should take place well before the event. It has already been suggested that the very first requirement is a good strong cat basket. If more than one cat or kitten is to travel,

then more than one basket will be needed. The members of a litter can, of course, travel together in a large basket, but overcrowding must be avoided. My own experience has taught me this.

I once had two perfectly healthy four month old kittens turned back at the veterinary inspection. Although both kittens had eaten a hearty breakfast and were to my belief in the pink of condition, when their mouths were opened they were said to have sore throats. Their temperatures were thereupon taken—103°F—a degree and a half above normal!

I learned later from a very experienced breeder that this was probably due to their having got over-heated when they travelled together in the same cat basket. They were returned home at once and spent a very happy day chasing one another round my garden, showing no further signs of indisposition.

Show comfort

Other requisites should be gathered together. A plain white blanket—*no colour is allowed*—sufficiently thick to give the cat a warm place on which to lie in the pen if needed. A pan for each cat or kitten or litter must be provided for holding peat moss—which is supplied in the show hall. An ordinary tinned baking dish about 12" x 8" will serve the purpose admirably.

There must be a drinking bowl too and a dish for the cat's food. Not all cats will eat at a show and it is doubtful if it is really necessary to provide a meal between breakfast and supper for adults. If given a meal in the middle of the day they are apt to become drowsy and they are unlikely to be at their best if there is a prospective purchaser in view. Young kittens, of course, need to be fed at the show. It is part of their normal routine to have a mid-day meal.

Some thought ought to be given to the problem of feeding before setting off for the show. There is nothing more distressing for the exhibitor, stewards and

judges than to be confronted with a kitten with loose bowel movements. This happens far too frequently. While often it is due to a mild infection—in which case the kitten ought not to be there—I suspect it is more often due to faulty diet.

Laxative foods should be avoided before a show. On the morning of the day it is probably better to give only a light meal of solid non-milky composition. The cats and kittens should be given ample time after taking this meal to perform their natural functions before being confined to the travelling basket.

In and out

Other things not to be forgotten are: the tag with the cat's number on it and a length of white ribbon about $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and cut to sufficient length to permit tying a neat bow round the neck. The tag will have been received together with two slips, the "Pass In" slip to be presented at the veterinary inspection and the "Pass Out" slip which must be signed by the show manager, if and when the cat is to be removed from the show before the time stated on the schedule.

Also of course, the cat's brush and comb must be taken, together with a soft chamois leather duster or glove. A wad of cotton wool will be needed and if the exhibitor is a stickler for observing the formalities of hygiene, a suitable non-toxic contact disinfectant, such as methylated spirit.

Some exhibitors like to wipe over the back and side walls as well as the wire bars of the pen with a germicide. Whether this does any good is problematic; it can do no harm. It does, however, involve practically getting into the pen to reach the inaccessible parts if the job is to be done at all thoroughly.

It is important to arrive at the show in good time so that final touches can be applied without haste. The blanket should be folded neatly and placed on one side of the pen. Any peat moss that has been spilled by the cat should be

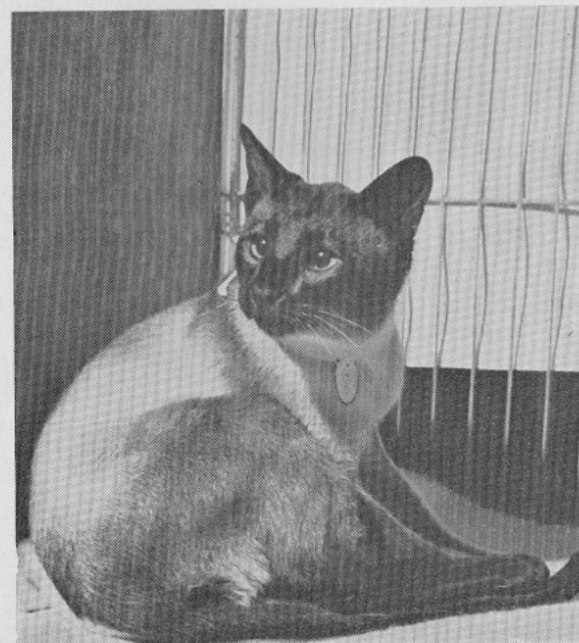
swept off the floor of the pen and if soiled should be replaced from the container in which it is supplied by the show management.

The drinking bowl should be removed—it can be returned later. The eyes of cats and kittens should be wiped with a wad of cotton wool. A final smooth over with the chamois for Shorthairs is advisable and the ribbon round the neck should be checked. There should be just room to pass the little finger between the ribbon and the cat's neck and no more. It is surprising how many people tie this ribbon too loosely, or with a bow that

slips. At any show there is at least one kitten in distress with its lower jaw caught in the ribbon which it has been trying to remove. Kittens can become crazed with alarm when this happens.

When judging is due to commence, the show manager will call for the floor to be cleared, for it is in the alleyways between the pens that the judging takes place. Each cat is removed by a steward from its pen and taken to the table on which it is placed for judging. It is incumbent on the exhibitor to keep right off the floor until judging is finished.

(to be continued)



SILKEN SULTAN, belonging to Mrs. Greta Hindley, doyen of Siamese breeders, was Best Adult Male at the recent Siamese Cat Club Championship Show held at Guildford, Surrey. Sultan was bred by Mrs. Highton from Ch. Killdown Sultan ex Ryecroft Tudor Rose, and is now six years old.

JUMBO

SIR IAN AND LADY STUART-KNILL of 19 Rookery Close, Edingworth, Axbridge, Somerset, who breed the rare polydactyl cats (Braoze Strain), write :—

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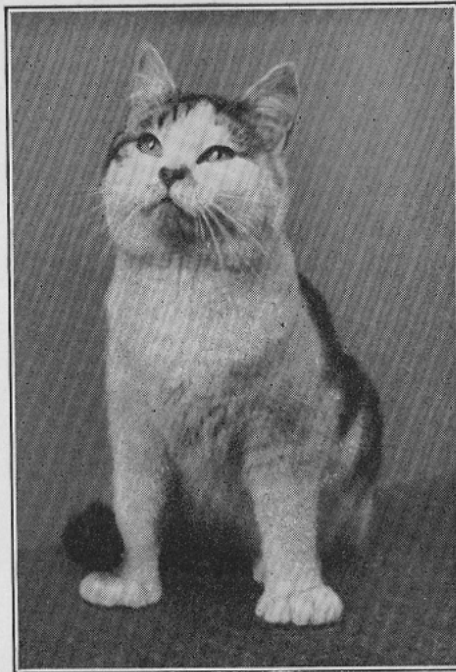
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The untameable wild cat

By SIDNEY DENHAM

THE wild cat which once roamed the whole of Britain was exterminated with the destruction of forests and enclosure of land so that by the end of the last century it was unknown in England and a rarity even in the remoter parts of Scotland where it was relentlessly pursued by gamekeepers. Edward Hamilton whose book *The Wild Cat of Europe* is, I believe, the only one wholly devoted to it, said in 1896 that there was no other British mammal whose character, locality and even existence we knew so little about.

Fortunately man-power shortage in two wars gave the wild cat some respite and it never became wholly extinct. In recent years its numbers appear to have increased fairly rapidly, partly perhaps because it is protected in newly planted forestry areas where it keeps down the voles which are the chief enemy of the young trees.

A bloody struggle

For its size, the wild cat of Britain is as powerful and savage as any. The Barnburgh Legend, still commemorated in a Yorkshire church, tells of a bloody struggle between a medieval knight and a wild cat in which the "cat killed the man and the man killed the cat". Writing less than a century ago, Gordon Stables recorded the case of a Scots boy who attacked a wild cat being mauled to death by it. Taming the kitten of a true wild cat—as distinct from the many domestic cats turned wild or their hybrids—has, I believe, so far defeated all

efforts and remains a challenge. Two recent books tell of attempts and give interesting accounts of this fascinating animal.

In his enchanting account of his tame otters in *Ring of Bright Water* (Longman 25s.), Mr. Gavin Maxwell tells of a half-grown wild cat kitten he spotted swimming to an island near his home at Camusfearna on the West coast of Scotland. It was swimming slowly and high, so that its whole stumpy tail was above water and dry. The kitten did not turn away from his boat and it was lifted into a hamper. It is a rare thing for a kitten to be caught unharmed and knowing the lifelong ambition of a scientist to tame one, he kept it until it could be called for.

He blocked the chimney of his bedroom and put the kitten in it with trout roes and tinned milk. In the morning the kitten had disappeared leaving a mess on the bed. A careful search showed no sign of the cat until he made a detailed examination of the chimney. The kitten had pulled out the wire and was sitting on a ledge two feet up. It was eventually brought out snarling and spitting, but did not scratch or bite. It made for the darkest corner, the chimney was made impregnable and the kitten remained, messing on the bed and destroying papers and anything else movable.

When the time came for the kitten to be put in a basket for transport "the last trace of resemblance to a fluffy domestic Persian kitten vanished utterly; in its place was a noble savage animal at bay before its ancestral enemy. Laying his ears not back but downwards from the broad flat skull, so that the very tips and tufts of hair that grew from within them turned upward, baring every fang and gum in his head so that the yellow eyes

became slits of rage and hate, swelling his ringed tail to twice its previous girth . . . as an image of primordial ferocity I had seen nothing to equal it”.

His assistant who caught it got a bite right through his thumb although he was wearing thick leather gloves. At the time of writing, Mr. Maxwell had not heard of the result of the attempt to tame it, but he had a promise that if this was unsuccessful the kitten would be returned to him for release near his home where there are many other wild cats.

Good riddance !

This is a promise that anyone who attempts to tame a wild animal should make. It was the end of the wild kitten captured by Dugald, trapper over 12,000 acres of the Highlands, described by Kenneth Richmond in *Highland Gathering* (Bles 18s.). The kitten's portrait adorns the cover and there is an exceptionally fine photograph of the “baby-faced look” which was deceptive and turned in an instant into a mask of fury. Dugald shot the mother and, although he detested wild cats, regarded their reputation as untameable as a challenge. The kitten refused to take any food offered, but took to a domestic tabby who acted as foster-mother.

When they were alone together, it would cuddle up to the tabby, but as soon as anyone entered the room it bolted to its hideaway under the sofa. In time it became tolerant of the presence of human beings, but only Dugald's 12-year old daughter could handle it. Playing with a piece of string pulled by the child, it looked as tame as any Persian, but a bite right through the thumbnail showed Dugald he was still far from success. It refused scraps and butcher's meat, but a newly killed rabbit or dead bird were pounced on and carried off to a safe corner. It could not be house-trained and was an incorrigible climber in the house.

In the end Dugald felt that the risk the

cat would one day escape and play havoc in some chicken run, on top of the torn curtains and sore thumbs, was not worth taking. He toyed with the idea of a zoo where he had been promised a good price, but he had a soft spot for the fierceness and refusal of the animal to accept civilization. He released it on the mountains exclaiming “Guid riddance tae ye and guid luck tae a bonny fechter”.

* * *

Very different was a cat to whom we are introduced in Lesley Blanch's account of a Caucasian leader who a century ago fought hard and long to free his country from Russia. In *Sabres of Paradise* (John Murray 30s.) Lesley Blanch describes the great warrior Shamyl, Imam of Daghestan, at his capital “seated on the ground in his apartment beside a very large black and white cat called Baskranurman who had been given to him by a Russian deserter. Shamyl was devoted to this animal and always refused to eat anything which the cat could not also enjoy.

Mascot and companion

Mouthful by mouthful they shared their meal, Shamyl sitting cross-legged on his cushion, Baska-Nurman opposite him purring lustily; between them a low table with a few copper dishes containing pilaff, youghout and shish-kabab, this latter generally ordered expressly for the cat since Shamyl ate little or no meat. Early in 1853 when Shamyl was absent for some months fighting in the mountains, poor Baskra-Nurman pined, refusing all food. In vain the choicest morsels were prepared for him; the household hanging over him solicitously; in vain Khazi-Mahom moved into his father's room, trying to feed the cat by hand—it was inconsolable and at last died.

“The whole aoul (fortress) was becalmed in grief. Khazi-Mahom assembled all the available Murid dignitaries to honour his father's pet, giving it a

(continued on page 15)

Training cats

Extracts from a broadcast talk between Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, F.R.C.V.S., Chairman and Scientific Director of the Animal Health Trust, Dr. E. C. Appleby, M.R.C.V.S., and Alex Kerr, chief lion tamer in a famous circus.

Dr. Wooldridge: This evening we are going to discuss the training of cats and I think most of you immediately think perhaps cats are not trained. In terms of the dog then we must admit that they do not have the same extent of training. But nevertheless there are various methods of training a cat to live in domesticity.

Dr. Appleby: This is an interesting point. Whether in fact the cat is trainable or whether it is not normally trained is merely due to a sort of tradition that cats are not trained. A cat according to Lorenz is a poor walker. It will accompany you if like Lorenz you are prepared to go very slowly and crawl on your hands and knees through shrubs and so on. It will accompany you for walks, and follow you in that way. But it can't walk great distances like a dog and this may be the reason.

After all, they can be trained for other things. They can be trained to find their food in the same place. They can be trained to enter and leave a house by the same window. They can be trained to use a small door cut in a big door as they did in ancient times in France, and so on.

Dr. Wooldridge: We have mentioned about cats going for walks. There's a popular idea that the Siamese is the one cat that resembles a dog more than any other and that it can be trained to go on a lead even with its owner.

Dr. Appleby: Well, that's true enough. They can be trained for these

purposes, but I often wonder if it is not because the Siamese is as it were a pedigree animal, that it costs a fair amount to buy and when people have expended the money on it they are prepared to devote more time to its training. They wish perhaps to show it off to their neighbours and friends, and that sort of thing.

Dr. Wooldridge: What do you think, Kerr?

Mr. Kerr: I agree. I always have the feeling that a Siamese tends towards a dog in the mental processes. But I don't think we're talking about cats being trained differently to dogs. I don't think there's any difference at all there. It's simply a case of patience in the owner whether they can train them or not.

Dr. Wooldridge: It's a question of patience and sympathy, isn't it?

Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Dr. Appleby: You believe that a cat is as trainable as a dog in other words?

Mr. Kerr: Yes. It's the nature that is much more difficult to work with. But if a person has the patience I'm sure you can't say a dog is more intelligent. If a person has the patience he can train a cat to do what a dog does.

Dr. Appleby: Is it not a fact that it is possible to train the big cats—the wild members of the cat family—in different ways. They can be trained as in your act, to do what they're told, when they're told, with order and precision?

Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Dr. Appleby: Or they can be trained to give an appearance of great savagery.

That is of ferocity, of reluctance to do what they're told, which gives a sort of false drama to the act?

Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Dr. Appleby: In any group of animals or birds, you have a definite descending scale.

Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Dr. Appleby: In other words one animal is the boss. You could call him the alpha animal and under him is a steady order. There's a beta animal and so on right down to the animal at the bottom of the order who is put upon by everybody who comes last to the food and is bossed around by all the others.

Mr. Kerr: Yes.

Dr. Wooldridge: What you're really saying is that the trainer must be the alpha animal in the group.

Mr. Kerr: Yes, he is always the alpha animal. If he isn't he wouldn't survive.

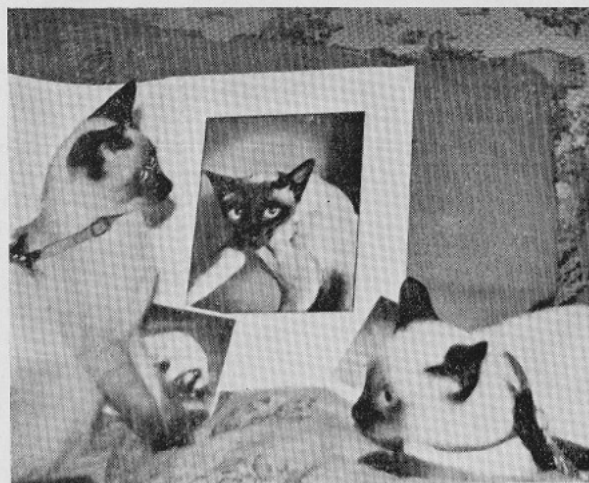
Dr. Wooldridge: And he does that not by cruelty or any method of that sort

but by becoming one of the group and proving his dominant personality.

Mr. Kerr: As much as possible a man has to be the animal he is working with—a tiger amongst tigers, a lion amongst lions. If it is possible to play with the animals he must play with them and accept their rough play, scratches and bites.

Dr. Wooldridge: So we're all of the same opinion that cats can be trained and are being trained already both for domesticity and for performance in the circus and such like places. But I think we've also established that the proper way to train a cat as indeed with any other animal is to get into true sympathy with the animal and to be very patient and realize that individuals differ. With one animal you may have to repeat the particular lesson very many times over a long period or with another animal you may be fortunate in finding that it picks up a particular act very quickly.

(Series to be continued)



An unusual "family group" belonging to Mrs. M. A. Hopkins, of Clevedon, Somerset. A photograph of Firesprite Pedro, Premier of Premiers and winner of many awards, is being admired by her Clanross Suzanne and Firesprite Seazer. Pedro is owned by Mrs. Lambert, of Bath.

"Cats Company"

Sir Compton's new book

AT three o'clock on a December morning 49 years ago a young author wrote the last sentence of his second novel. Turning to the tabby cat who had sat beside him at his writing table through the many nights he had worked on the novel, he told her he was confident that this time he had the success of the year. The author was Compton Mackenzie, the novel was *Carnival* which was an immediate success and has sold continuously to this day, and the cat was Tootoose, one of the earliest of the many cats who have kept Sir Compton company, which he affectionately remembers in *Cat's Company* (Elek Books, 15s.).

He pays more than one tribute to the part they have played in his writing, not because they have previously appeared in any of his many books, but because their company has lightened the burden of periods of intense work. "The cats gave me the company I needed at night to fight against the temptation of going to bed", he records.

His description of his daily walk with his cats (on his Channel island home of Jethou) at 6 a.m. when he had finished his night's writing is one of the best passages in his book. The joy of the summer morning's walk—"Into the sun's eye 'I tell them and the cats twitch their tails in agreement"—is followed by a shared breakfast.

Between Mr. Barnes, a neuter tabby whose acquaintance he made 75 years ago, and Pippo, Bluebell and Pinkibuff, the three Siamese who live with him now in Edinburgh, Sir Compton has shared his homes and often his bed with more

than a score of cats and he recalls them individually with that mixture of respect, understanding and love which are the ingredients of true friendships. The result is a fascinating book of memoirs, completely free of the sentimentality which mars so many books about cats.

Only true cat lovers will fully appreciate some of the episodes which Sir Compton records without affectation. There was the occasion, for instance, when he rewarded his Siamese Pauline by carrying her up a step ladder so that she could satisfy her life-long ambition to climb over the rococo foliage of a large Venetian mirror. And the game he played with a kitten which involved them taking it in turns to climb the stairs and hide in the clothes basket.

A broadcast boost

Sir Compton was given his first Siamese kitten in 1916 when he was living on an Aegean island and like so many was enchanted with the unique characteristics of this breed, of which he has always had one or more members since that time. He broadcast a talk about his Siamese cats in the early days of the British Broadcasting Company the result of which was a "gate" ten times as big as ever before at the next Siamese show. He was invited to become President of the Siamese Cat Club, an office he has held ever since.

Sylvia, named after the heroine of one of his novels, was the first Siamese with whom he lived for a long period and their mutual devotion is clear. He was then living on Herm, in the Channel Islands, writing very hard. Every night after dinner he settled in the invalid chair he

has had to use for writing since 1913 and Sylvia came at 11 to lie beside him without moving until he went to bed at four or five when she accompanied him.

The death of Sylvia from enteritis affected him very deeply. "As I write about her now nearly forty years later, sitting in the same chair where once upon a time she kept me company through the night as I struggled with *The Altar Steps*, I still miss her". The loss of Sylvia was one of the reasons he left Herm, the island so closely associated with her.

A pleasure to come

In due course, Sir Compton acquired Sylvia the Second, a granddaughter of Champion Bonzo, who is to Siamese cats what Eclipse is to racehorses and appears in the pedigree of every champion. Sylvia, like all Siamese, developed her own special character and eccentricities, one of which was to decide that like human beings she did not require a tray but could use the ordinary plumbing. "She could not pull the plug", writes Sir Compton, "but I have no doubt that if it had been possible she would have done so. I have not heard of any other cat that was accustomed to use a W.C. like this. . . . If anyone who reads this has known of a cat that did what Sylvia did I should be glad to hear of it".

Sir Compton may get more letters than he anticipated, especially from the paradise of plumbing across the Atlantic. I have a pamphlet published in the U.S. eight years ago called *The Modern Cat* which gives instructions for teaching kittens to go the way that Sylvia the Second did. But, of course, Sylvia was remarkable in teaching herself.

Cats' Company which, incidentally, duplicates the title of a book by Mr. Michael Joseph published 30 years ago, will be enjoyed by everyone who likes the company of cats which is something quite different from "owning" a cat. And apart from the cats, Sir Compton gives us some glimpses of people he has known and places he has lived in which

must whet our appetites for his autobiography, the first volume of which, he tells me, will be published on January 17th, 1963, his eightieth birthday. May he emulate Sylvia the Second who reached the age of 22 years which is the feline equivalent of at least 100 for a man.

SIDNEY DENHAM.

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MORE BOOKS

Contented Cat, by Mary Collier (*Avon Books, 9s. net*). This is an unusual work which gets right away from the customary pattern of cat books. The author is well-known in the cat world as the designer of a patent safety-harness for cats as well as a range of feline accessories. To help owners with their various problems, Mrs. Collier has devoted chapters to training, feeding, bedding and travelling and throughout these she dispenses a wealth of commonsense and good advice. Get this book if you are looking for "something different".

Cats My Line, by F. J. Corina (*The Sunbeam Press, 11s. 6d.*). The author has enjoyed the unique experience of looking after more than 20,000 cats in his professional capacity as a boarding specialist in the North of England. It is worth mentioning that he found only one of this great army of cats impossible to handle. She was a small black female who became a fighting fury every time she visited the cattery and armoured gloves had to be used. When her mistress collected her, she would walk out like a little angel!

Some excellent stories are told about the inmates of the author's 15-roomed "Hotel Felix", a landmark at the junction of several important main roads that is particularly well-known to cat lovers in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Half Angel, by Barbara Jefferis (*J. M. Dent & Sons Ltd., 13s. 6d.*). A novel about a little boy and his two families. Miss Jefferis is an Australian who owns the model for the heroine of her book. "If I have a hobby", she says, "you would call it Siamese cats". Her first-hand knowledge and love of cats has been vividly translated into a first-class novel, which has been serialized in an Australian and an American magazine. Some admirable Siamese illustrations are by Sarah Van Niekerk.

Cucumber, by Enid Colfer (*Max Parrish, 13s. 6d.*). A story simply told

about life in a London flat with a Siamese kitten and written reflectively from an apartment overlooking the broad Hudson River. The author recalls some of "the fun and games" she had with her pet and the problems she faced. Then came the agony of parting, but for a very good reason—marriage.

THE UNTAMEABLE WILD CAT

(concluded from page 10)

special burial and a funeral ovation worthy of a Naib. But no one dared inform Shamyl of the tragedy. 'Now it will go badly with me' he said, hearing at last of his loss. To him Baskra-Nurman must have been mascot and companion, someone who shared the days of his glory and who returned his love unquestioningly.

A SHOW IS FUN WHEN CALGARY—RUN

AN interesting report has reached us from Ben and Ann Borrett, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, who have done some splendid pioneering not only for the Colourpoints (Himalayans) in their part of the world but also for the Calgary Cat Club Show, which grows bigger and better each year.

Mr. and Mrs. Borrett have not long returned from a two months' show circuit which took them over 6,000 miles and during the whole of the time they were only at home for a couple of days. How's that for enthusiasm? Their Gr. Ch. Royal Merit Chatelaine Al Hakim of Cheshermere and Gr. Ch. Royal Merit Briarry Femme Fatale of Cheshermere (both imported from England) have been awarded the coveted All-American titles this year. This pair are the first Grand Champion Himalayans and special

certificates were awarded to mark this distinction.

As usual, the Calgary Show got off to a good start. The three judges were met at the airport with large bouquets and the opening ceremony was performed by the Deputy Mayor, who presented the judges with the traditional Calgary white hats. There was full press, radio and TV coverage and the general public just packed in.

The Borretts' report continues: "The World's Champion Mouser Contest was run with 37 entrants left in for the Saturday trials, and 12 for the finals during the evening. A little Peke dog was put in at the end of the first day's trials, and nearly became the first dog World Champion Mouser! His owner put him in the maze and he got through

(continued on page 29)

Tailpieces

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

MANY people living in a district of Joef, France, are alive to-day because of the warning cries of a Siamese cat. A sleeping resident was awakened by its mewling and as he got up to ascertain the cause he began to feel unwell. When he opened the window to let in some fresh air all he could smell was gas. A main pipe had burst and many people in the vicinity were already suffering from the fumes when they were rudely awakened from their slumbers by neighbours giving the alarm.

When the liner *Winchester Castle* docked at Southampton on completing her final passenger journey, the fate of Buggy, the ship's cat, hung in the balance for a time, and everyone was most depressed. Buggy was born on board two years ago and had travelled over 200,000 nautical miles in that short period. He became a great favourite with the crew and particularly of Mr. W. A. Purse, the chief engineer, whose cabin had been his home. As the liner was due to sail to the breakers in Japan it was fortuitous that the *Carnarvon Castle*, to which Mr. Purse had been posted, was due to dock before the *Winchester Castle* left on her last trip to the Far East. So Buggy was transferred, locked in a crate to ensure that quarantine regulations were not broken, to his new ship where he will live in the cabin of his old friend Mr. Purse. "Buggy," said Mr. Purse, "is a great one for luxury. He has a most expensive taste in food, too—loves breast of chicken, grilled steak and steamed turbot."

The British Standards Institution is compiling recommendations for the carriage of live animals by air, including dogs and cats. These have been recently studied and approved by the Executive Committee of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

Everybody was mystified when a bulge was seen at intervals in the keyboard of the organ at Holy Trinity Church, Beckenham, Kent. The organ repairers were called in but the bulge disappeared when they arrived, only to re-appear when they had gone. The mystery was eventually solved when it was discovered that a cat had been lodging in the organ on and off for several days. It was ejected just in time for the Wedding March to be played!

Mrs. Lesley Jackson, Lacock, Wiltshire, is the owner of a polydactyl kitten. It is a little black baby with seven claws on each of its fore-paws and six on each of its hind ones—26 claws in all. Its mother has six on each forefoot and usually the majority of kittens in her litters have some eccentricity of this sort. The father is a pedigree Siamese who has apparently passed on to the kitten much of his intelligence and character. Miss I. J. Moat, of Bromley, Kent, who kindly passed on this interesting item from a recent issue of *Country Life* mentions that she has a black and white neuter with similar extra claws. She acquired him as a stray in 1957 and he has since taken 15 awards as a household pet.



Mrs. Jackson very kindly supplied the above photograph of her kitten with the 26 claws which is now in a good home in Buckinghamshire. Nothing would persuade her to part with the black mother who produces a litter every Spring. She adds that the picture in *Country Life* brought several letters from places as scattered as Sheffield, the Natural History Museum in Liverpool and Michigan, U.S.A. Mrs. Jackson is trying to gather enough material to write an article on polydactylism. Her letter ends: "I can't resist including a snap of my golden tabby, who begs so beautifully." See picture in the next column for confirmation of this statement!

I have just been reading a full page feature which appeared earlier this year in the Saturday Magazine Section of the *New York World-Telegram* in which William Longgood reveals some astounding facts and figures relating to the pet population in U.S.A. He opens by saying that human beings aren't the only things that threaten to overcrowd this old planet. Cats are also in the midst of "a population explosion". In New York alone some 645,000 cats are born each year and Brooklyn leads the boroughs with 210,000 of them. New York City's many distinctions includes having about 8% of all the United States urban pets. The annual expenditure on food is estimated at \$24 per cat, that's about eight guineas in our currency. The number of pets destroyed annual varies between four and six

million and the national total of cats abandoned each year to die in suffering is said to be close to twenty million. In any given day in New York City there is an estimated average of 32,000 homeless cats and kittens and in 1955 New Yorkers abandoned nearly half-a-million cats. It is agreed by the Friends of Animals, a non-profit organization dedicated to a controlled pet population, that the problem for most pet owners is the cost of neutering an animal. The rate for the operation in New York is about \$25 or \$30—an impossible sum for low-income people. The Veterinarians Medical Association have rejected a scheme of subsidized neutering, which certainly didn't help the Friends of Animals!

Some weeks back I reported the amazing story of the black cat who turned grey after being accidentally locked up in a garage for a couple of weeks. Now I have to tell you about Smoky, a jet black cat who was badly frightened by a fox.



He didn't turn grey—but his mask and ears are now white.

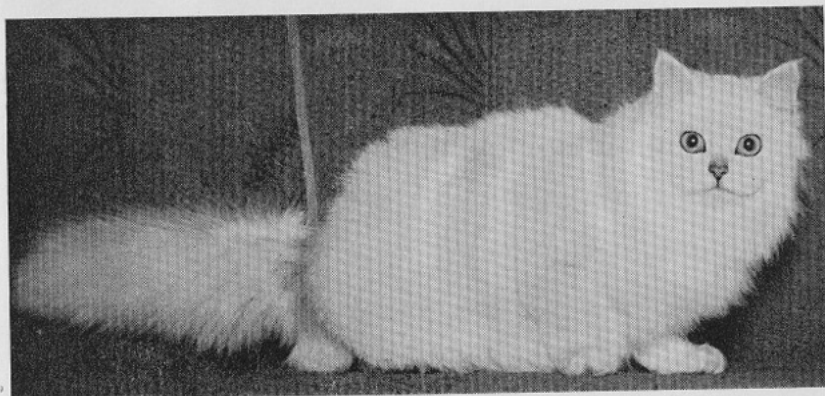
I hasten to correct any wrong impressions which may have been formed by my news item in last month's issue that "the Chinchillas currently appearing in the well known Kosset Carpet advertisements are bearers of the Poldenhills prefix". It was not made clear that these models were used for an ITV advertising film only. The longstanding contract for the supply of Kosset Chinchillas stays with Mrs. Mollie Turney's Bonavia cattery at Old Beams Kennels, Holyport, Berks. Mrs. Turney's association with the carpet makers remains harmonious as always and it is good to know that her lovely Longhairs will be starring in Kosset's outstanding series of advertisements up to at least the end of next year.

Writing in a London newspaper about her visit to Russia, a London doctor's wife comments: "The one and only cat I saw in Moscow, a thin little creature, gave me this nasty thought as I surveyed the nameless meat floating in my bowl of borsch: Where were its brothers and sisters? I never found out about the missing relatives, but I came to realize that if a Muscovite kept a dog or cat in his apartment, a

human would most likely have to move out to make room for it."

Good news from Miss Dorothy E. Mason, of Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A., who writes: "Since I last wrote to OUR CATS my little kitten, a Black Longhair female named Chadhurst Gipsy Love, whom I purchased from Miss Marie Rodda, has arrived. I am extremely pleased with her. Gipsy has made the trip over here by jet plane and is adjusting herself very nicely to her new home. She looks like a very slightly older edition of the picture of Chadhurst Chloe on page 25 of your November 1956 issue and I am pleased to say how grateful I am to OUR CATS for being partly responsible for getting me such a wonderful kitten".

John Gordon comments in the *Sunday Express* about the strange situation which resulted when a Reading couple were evicted from their home under a possession order granted to the landlord. They had 27 cats and the solicitors warned the landlord that it would be an offence under the Abandonment of Animals Act 1960 for the cats to be turned out until their owners give permission for them to be moved. The



HEATHERLEIGH FAIR FELICITE, a young female owned and bred by Mrs. P. Saunders, of Hamilton, was voted New Zealand's "Chinchilla of 1960". English-bred Ch. Bonavia Campanello and Ch. Langbank Gay Coquette were the parents.

position is aggravated because the owners have nowhere to keep the cats. So they remain in possession of the house and an R.S.P.C.A. man calls twice a day to feed them. Mr. Gordon, a cat lover himself, adds: "Remarkable times, aren't they, when you can pitch humans out of their home but not cats?"

One thing about cat folk, they are always ready to share their experiences with others. Read, for example, this extract from a letter sent to *Cats Magazine*, U.S.A., by Dr. Judy Mendels, of the University of North Dakota. "My cat regurgitated her food quite often and the medication given by her doctor was some opium product. He assured us vomiting would never kill a cat. This rather negative treatment rather offended me, so I took her to another veterinarian.

He gave me two possible reasons for her condition. One, spasms of the stomach, two, the pancreas was not functioning efficiently. Prescriptions for both disorders were written with instructions to use one and check results and then the other. I was to continue with the one that seemed most effective. It resulted that pepsin, given with her food, stopped the ailment completely. She is given it now with every meal and is healthier and in better coat than ever before".

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

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.

	Promoted by	Venue
1960		
3 December ...	*National Cat Club ...	Olympia, London
17 " ...	*Herts. and Middlesex Cat Club ...	London
1961		
7 January ...	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat Club ...	Nottingham
21 " ...	*Scottish Cat Club ...	Glasgow
28 " ...	Surrey and Sussex Cat Association ...	Epsom, Surrey
4 February ...	*Lancashire and N. Western Counties C.C. ...	Venue to be fixed
9 " ...	*Southern Counties C.C. ...	London
25 " ...	*Coventry and Leicester C.C. ...	Coventry

* Denotes shows with Championship status. A detailed list of these fixtures may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, Mr. S. E. Barnes, O.B.E., "Mosgiel," 4 Elim Court Gardens, Crowborough, Sussex.

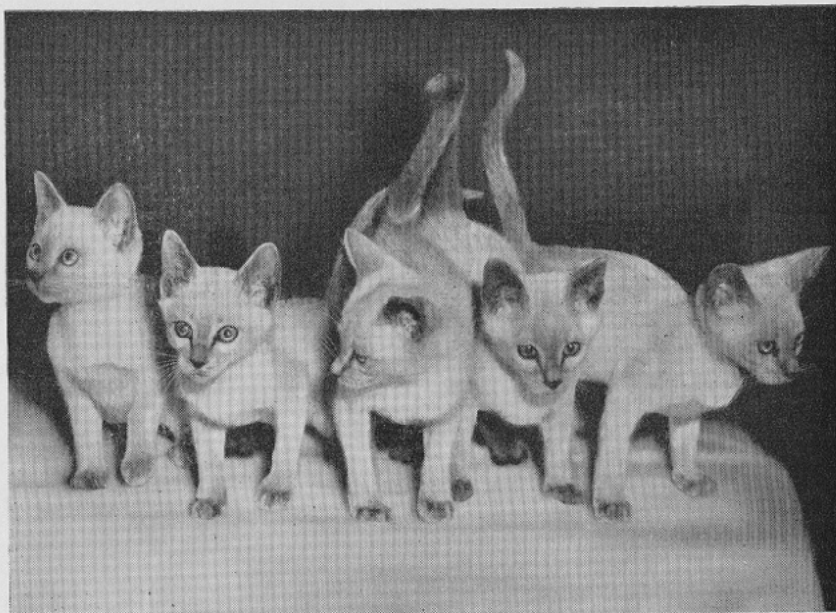
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TIBS FOR FIVE PLEASE!



Tibby, the Tibs reporter, visits Trubun Siamese

These quick-eyed quintuplets were best blue-point litter at the 1959 Kensington Kitten Show. Their breeder, Mrs. Margaret Worsley, of Brookhouse Farm, Kingsfold, Warnham, Sussex, has this to say about rearing kittens:

"What you do in the first few weeks makes or mars a kitten's future. Tibs tablets are excellent for all cats—but they're quite essential for kittens. By giving them the vitamins

and minerals they need, daily Tibs makes for good bone formation and first-class coat condition."

Mrs. Worsley should know. In spite of the difficulty of leaving her farm for shows, Trubun cats took five c.cs in 1959—including best blue-point exhibit at the National Cat Club Show, Olympia. As she told us, "Giving Tibs consistently over a period of time *proves* it's the right thing to do!"



Famous breeders say, daily TIBS
for the cat that's cared for



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.

Fei-Fo; Best Neuter—Miss Milburn's Sable Tabby Ch. Trelystan Fire Opal by Trelystan Jasper.

Seal Pointed Siamese adults with 19 in the two Open Classes were numerically best and Mrs. Keene's male Kanburi Mayo and Mrs. Forrest's Sirri Sarong annexed the Challenge Certificates.

The London Ch. shows still remain, and probably always will be, the greatest magnet for exhibitors but it is very encouraging to hear the reports of substantial increases in exhibits all over the country.

In glorious Devon

MRS. GILES made her debut as show manager for the South-Western Counties Cat Club in September. It was the first Championship Show of the season and it attracted 194 pedigree exhibits, some of them from Lancashire and other distant counties.

It was the first show to be held in the Devonshire city of Exeter for 21 years and Mrs. Giles tells me the gate was very good, also that she had much encouragement and support from the Committee and exhibitors.

Best L.H. Cat—Mrs. Mearns' White Snowcloud Eros by Ch. Lisblanc Bambi; Best L.H. Kitten—the same owner's White Snowcloud Gossamer (both entries bred by exhibitor); Best S.H. Cat—Mrs. de Udy's White Gracefield Purl Willow by Gracefield Tit Willow; Best S.H. Kitten—Mrs. Merry's Burmese Kingsplay Pompadour by Ch. Kingsplay

And up in Yorkshire

Miss Hardman was granted Championship status for the Yorkshire County Cat Club Ch. Show at the eleventh hour. This was not due of course to any discrimination against the Club but to the fact that a date could not be fitted in until the Edinburgh and East of Scotland Ch. Show was cancelled owing to unforeseen circumstances. Although this probably affected the entries I hear it was a very pleasant show and exhibitors were full of praise for the lovely light in The Sun Pavilion, Harrogate.

Miss Hardman writes: "Considering the Committee did not know until late July that we would be able to have a Ch. Show, and the fact that it was a week after the G.C. Golden Jubilee Show in London we are very satisfied with the result. We had excellent weather until late afternoon so a very good gate. The Sun Pavilion is very attractive with plants growing inside and hanging from

the roof and after such a mild September the gardens were still attractive with lovely rose beds surrounded by sweeping lawns".

The major awards taken from a marked catalogue Miss Hardman kindly sent me were :—Best L.H. Adult—Mrs. Statman's Blue-Cream Jasper Susanna by Alexander Meirion; Best L.H. Kitten—Mrs. Wright's Blue-Cream Wildfell Pimm by Ch. Sherry of Pensford; Best L.H. Neuter—Mrs. Knight's Blue Captain of Dunesk by Ch. Widdington Winterstar; Best S.H. Adult—Mrs. Nicholas' B.P. Siamese Helsby Beta by Ch. Milori Oberon; Best S.H. Kitten—Mrs. Vickers' Blue British Broughton Barnaby by Myowne Caesar; Best S.H. Neuter—Miss Walker's S.P. Siamese Caboodle by Ch. Killdown Kerry.

It is unusual to see Blue-Creams capturing the two "Best" Longhair awards but very pleasing for enthusiasts of this lovely variety which is so valuable as a medium for breeding Creams.

The Midland Show

It was a murky day for the Midland Counties' Cat Club Ch. Show on October 29th at Birmingham. Organized with Mrs. Lamb's usual efficiency, it attracted a record entry for this Club and indicates how the popularity of pedigree cats is progressing all over the country. There were 290 pedigree exhibits and seven household pets. The Longhair breeders supported it well with 84 cats and kittens and in these varieties and the Shorthairs there were many lovely exhibits.

It has been very pleasing to see this season several different varieties being elected for "Best in Show" and at this show Black Longhairs really came into their own. Mr. Waterson's Black male Treals Kandy Velvet by Solomon Grundy was Best Longhair Adult. Miss Bull's superb Black male kitten, Deebank Mascot by Vigilant Mark was Best L.H. Kitten. He is one of the loveliest Blacks we have seen in this country in the post-war years. Miss Bull purchased his

mother Chadhurst Black Beauty (who was 1st and Ch. on the day) from Miss Rodda who also bred her sire Ch. Chadhurst Sambo and her dam Chadhurst Elegance. Congratulations to both breeders on Deebank Mascot's success.

Best L.H. Neuter was Mrs. Wilson's Cream Premier Priory Golden Glory by Ch. Oscar of Pensford. Best S.H. Cat award went to Mrs. Nicholas' Polar Bear, a White by Watermill Lilywhite Boy bred by Lady Glubb. He excelled in purity of coat. Best S.H. Kitten was Miss Hardman's glowing Red Tabby, Killinghall Red Robert by Ch. Killinghall Red Lion, another exhibit which managed to overcome the poor light. Best S.H. Neuter was Mrs. Vickers' Cathiss Gypsella by Aldra's Blue Peter.

Space will not permit individual mention of all the other firsts in Open Classes winners but among outstanding winners were Mrs. Jewell's Cream male Brynwood Casanova in an amalgamated class of Cream males and females; Miss Collins' Blue male Gyppeswyk Jake; Miss Davies' Blue female Ch. Uplands Anna Capri; and Mr. Stirling-Webb's S.P. Colourpoint male Briarry Evan by Briarry Malachite. Congratulations to Mrs. Mearns on her White male Snowcloud Eros, and to Mrs. Statham on her Blue-Cream Jasper Susanna becoming Champions.

The winning S.P. Siamese male in a class of fourteen was Mrs. Keene's Kanburi Mayo by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy and S.P. females were led by Mrs. Forrest's Sirri Sarong by Chinki Jandy.

Best Blue L.H. Kitten was Mrs. McVady's Gaydene Amanda by Ch. Thiepval Paragon.

Mrs. Thakes litter of bonny well marked S.H. Silver Tabbies by Culverden Maurice were a joyous septette; they romped home with their first prize. After Best in Show awards had been made, Mr. Lamb thanked exhibitors and everyone who supported the show and informed them that next year it is hoped to change the venue. If a suitable hall is available it will be at Leamington.

Blue Persian Show

The 22nd Championship Show of the Blue Persian Cat Society in London on November 25th attracted 49 exhibits and two litters. Organizer was Mrs. Crickmore.

Best Exhibit in Show was Mrs. Barron's Blue male Camber Mario by Ch. Thiepval Enchanter. 1st and Ch. Blue Female went to Mrs. Brunton's Ravishing Rose of Dunesk by Gwynn of Allington and Best Kitten to Mrs. Fisher's Halcyon Candida by Woburn Chippy.

The 1st prize winners in the other three Open Kitten Classes were Mrs. Denton's male Camber Eros by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous; Mrs. Brunton's Bonny Boy of Dunesk by Ch. Thiepval Paragon and Mrs. Mitchell's Windridge Twilight, by Pyleigh Horatius.

The Best Neuter, Miss Sheppard's Widdington Wizard, was making his bow as an adult. He is truly lovely. Mrs. Smart's attractive first prize litter of three by Camber Gavin were all sold at the Show.

The classification was very generous, and in addition 101 special prizes were offered including two from the Cat Club de Paris. The B.P.C.S. offered two rosettes for the most Beautiful Cat in the Show and the most Beautiful Kitten chosen by public ballot. The highest votes were recorded for Mrs. Stephenson's Ch. Ashdown Nuthatch by Woburn Sunshine and Mr. Reid's Briaric Fairy by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous, both second in their respective Open Classes.

Although most enjoyable to Blue Persian enthusiasts this number of exhibits of a single variety is not so attractive to the public and incidentally not sufficient to cover the heavy expense entailed in organizing a Championship Show in London. Many of us would like to see the Blue Persian Cat Society sponsor a Ch. show of all varieties of Longhairs. This departure would be most interesting and automatically mean many more exhibitors and an added attraction for the public. Here's hoping the Society will consider this for 1961.

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CALGARY SHOW

(concluded from page 15)

one cat-sized hole, encouraged by his owner shouting 'Come on Chi-Chi; bones, bones'. Amidst hilarious laughter from the public seated in tiers, one voice from the back called 'Take the dog out and put the lady owner in'.

"Then there was the Fashion Show for Cats—in which the latest fall fashions of the feline world were paraded on a beautifully decorated table. There were cats in bikinis, in frilly bonnets, in ballet dresses and shawls; there were gun-toting toms, and cats in cowboy attire with big white hats; and a one-eyed pirate cat was continually pawing to adjust his eye shield (or was he trying to get it off?). There were pretty Blue-eyed White Persians dressed up in gay coloured silks and petticoats of lace. One Cream Persian proudly displayed the racing colours of his owner, with pale blue velvet dotted with silver moons on a glorious saddle blanket, complete with halter. Appropriate music and *ad lib.* commentary for each cat delighted the audience.

Something for everyone

"Then came the biggest entrant in the All-Breed Show. A baby leopard, whom the chief judge announced was the 'Best of Breed' after a courageous examination of his head, teeth, feet and body conformation.

"All the out-of-town exhibitors were given miniature replicas of the well-known Calgary 10-gallon white Stetson hat, as were also the best cats in each show. Television cameras were being used all through the show with one thing and another, for there were also the King and Queen Contest for Children and the household pets".

"The Cat with the Longest Whiskers, the Cat with the Biggest Eyes, the Smallest Cat, the Biggest Cat, the Cat in the Best Condition, the Cat with the

Most Coloured Coat, the Oldest Cat in the Show, the Cat in the Best Decorated Cage and the Cat with the Longest Coat all received special awards.

"The day before the Show was concerned with a judges' school, and again press cameras and TV were recording this first event in Calgary's history. There were over 200 trophies and 2,000 ribbons and rosettes. The trophies alone filled two 12ft. tables with glistening silver and gilt, china and crystal, pretty toys, jewellery and ornaments. So you see Calgary Show is becoming an annual event of interest not only to breeders and exhibitors, but to the public, both young and old. In this way the Club manages to pay its way quite comfortably from year to year".

Congratulations, Calgary, on your achievements!



The handsome head of CH. KILL-DOWN CASSANDRA OF TY-RU, bred in England by Mrs. Keene and exported to an appreciative Mrs. A. P. Tyler, of Houston, Texas, U.S.A.

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News from "Down Under"

THE appearance of some of this month's news has unfortunately been delayed by demands on editorial space, particularly the fat newsletter I received some while back from Miss Menzies in Hamilton, New Zealand. They have been very active with shows in the Islands. The best I can do now is to let you have a précis of some of the various fixtures and their outstanding features.

* * *

At Palmerston North, the Open Male Siamese winner was Mr. Moran's imported Blue Point Prince Oliver. Others to catch the judge's eye were Mr. McGregor's Siamese female Ch. Kluai Mai, Mrs. Tatton's Blue Point female Blue Seal Blue Princess, Mrs. Hedley's Burmese female Seabury Vani and her Abyssinian Chatwyn Georgia.

* * *

The Hamilton Club held their Championship Show with a good entry and four judges, Mrs. Fitzsimmons, Mrs. Pepper, Mr. Downey and Mr. Arthur. Major awards in the Longhair group went as follow: Grand Sweepstakes: Mrs. Sedcole's Cream Ellrose Bredon Mischief, Mrs. Saunders' kitten Hetherleigh Heyday, Mrs. Shuker's Blue Cream Highland Imapet, Miss Nickles' Chinchilla Highland Silver Melody. Among the Shorthairs the winners were Mrs. Carian's Lindisfarne Pride Again, Mrs. Bassett's S.P. Siamese kitten Waetete Th Whaea, Miss Menzies and Miss Henderson's Blue Point female Chatwyn

Fleurette and Mrs. Sedcole's and Mr. H. Pollock's Burmese Merrick Viking.

* * *

My news of the best entries at the Auckland Ch. Show is not complete and no Challenge winners are mentioned. Major awards included Mrs. Priest's Siamese male Viscount Azure, Mrs. Bassett's Pit-na-cree Mary Lou, Mrs. Sedcole and Mr. Pollock again with their Burmese Merrick Viking, Mrs. Bull's Burmese female Ransein Trinity, Mrs. Carlson's Black male Tiana Charm, Mrs. Shuker's Blue-eyed White male Shalimar Bobby Dazzler (imp.), Mrs. Downey's Blue male Lindisfarne Junior Navy and her Blue female Ch. Thiepval Perrephond (imp.), Mrs. Foster's Orange-eyed White Tiana Sasawan and Mrs. Barton's Black kitten Gangrae Ratu.

It was at the Auckland Show that the Red Abyssinian could not be placed as the breed is not yet recognized by the Council and he should have been shown in the A.O.C. class. What a pity! I would also like to join with others who have congratulated Mrs. Sedcole and Hayden Pollock in producing a litter of Blue Burmese. An odd one has appeared in a litter over here in Australia. I was pleased to hear that Mr. and Mrs. Downey are already successful farmers and active as judges and delegates to the G.C., where their long and varied experience will be invaluable.

* * *

Southland Cat Fanciers Club, Invercargill, had Mrs. Fitzsimmons as judge

for their Championship Show. She gave Best in Show award to Mrs. Moss Laughton's Shorthair Red Joe. Mrs. Lindberge (Burmese), Mrs. Purdie (Black), Mrs. Low (Blue-eyed White), Mrs. Gill (Blue Longhair), Mrs. McArthur (Cream), Mr. McDonough (Silver Tabby), Mr. G. Munro (Abyssinian) and Mrs. Kerr (C.P. Siamese) figured prominently among the breed winners.

* * *

The Rotorua Club's first Championship Show in July was evidently a happy and successful occasion. Miss Menzies, who judged with Messrs. Black and Arthur, was most pleased about the whole show and said the general arrangements left nothing to be desired. Her report brings back memories of my first trip to Rotorua when I had a lovely four days at Rotorua in the company of Robert Marshall. Everyone should visit this wonderful thermal centre. It was on that trip I met Mr. Black and I send him greetings. Main awards went as follow: *Longhair Grand Sweepstakes*: Mrs. Sedcole's Blue male Highland Harmony; Mrs. Pepper's kitten Heatherleigh Heyday; *Shorthair Grand Sweepstakes*: Mrs. Priest's Viscount Azure; Mr. Smith's kitten Lynn Simon Dale. Other winners were Mrs. Curran's Abyssinian Ch. Taishun Fernando, Mrs. Marshall's B.P. Siamese Bluescal Mini and Merrick Viking, the Burmese mentioned earlier as a winner at other shows.

More New Zealand items next month.

* * *

South Australia. The *Newsletter* from Tom and Jerry reveals that things are running smoothly in that part of the world. Mrs. K. Gebhardt delivered an interesting lecture on pre-natal care at the last meeting and it was so well received that arrangements are in hand for another talk later on. A laudable idea to encourage the hesitant ones to

"come along". Quite a large enrolment of new members is reported and they include Mrs. D. J. Davies, of Wellington, New Zealand, who is so well known for her Wenvoe Siamese. Mrs. Davies is to judge Shorthairs in Adelaide next June. We shall be looking forward to seeing her in N.S.W. Mrs. Bumaks, Adelaide Club's representative in Melbourne, is congratulated on her Siamese Yonalin Belinda becoming a Champion. Mrs. St. George, Sunnyview Cattery, reports twelve litters of kittens due. The remark by Tom and Jerry, "Just as well they don't have to be bottle fed", seems in order! Evidently Mrs. St. George is more for punishment than nourishment. The circular put out by the new Chairman of the Victoria Governing Council and just to hand advises that he and Mrs. Chandler will judge at the Adelaide Show this month. I wonder if we shall ever have any Adelaide exhibitors at our Sydney shows? It would be very nice for everybody. Maybe when they get a helicopter?

* * *

Whilst in Melbourne the other day I received a phone call from Mr. Rigby who had agreed to bring Sylvester, his famous nude cat to the Show to meet me. Unfortunately his moher became ill and could not be left alone, so he rang to apologize. I was very disappointed but will contact him again as he has promised to write.

Cheerio till next month!



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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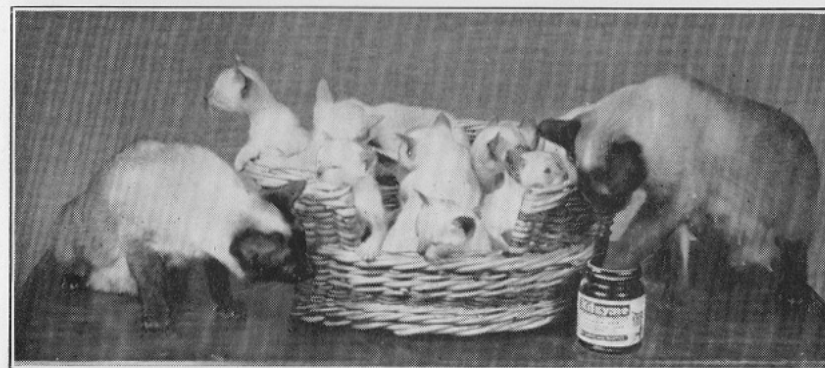
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JACKY AND SUZEE WITH THEIR LOVELY KITTENS

MRS. J. MEAD of Captains, Otterhampton, Nr. Bridgwater, Somerset, writes:—

"When I got my first cat, Jacky, her breeder recommended Kit-zyne and she has always had her daily dose. Last year she had eight kittens and, with the help of Kit-zyne, she maintained perfect health and condition throughout.

"We kept one of her kittens, Hemalu Suzee, who is on the left of the photograph and brought her up too on her daily dose of Kit-zyne.

"This year Jacky had seven kittens and Suzee had six and both mothers look in perfect condition. The litters arrived within three days of each other and they have been fed indiscriminately both by their granny and mother. And they were fed so well that both litters won prizes at the South Western Counties' Cat Show at Exeter in September. Jacky's litter was actually the Best Siamese Litter in Show.

"I am sure that such large litters could not have been raised without the help of Kit-zyne. As you will see from the photograph, the cats help themselves to the tablets when they get the chance and Jacky can even open the bottle if it is left lying around!

"When I sell the kittens I shall make sure that their daily Kit-zyne is continued!

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