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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING



1/6

High Adventure!

ANGUS OF THAME, one of the many nice Chinchillas bred by Mrs. H. McLeod, of Uckfield, Sussex, looks out on the world from his lofty perch with wide-eyed interest. Photograph by Mrs. V. E. Major.

MAY 1953

ROYAL CAT LOVERS (see page 3)

KIT-E-KAT

THE COMPLETE CAT FOOD

big price reduction!

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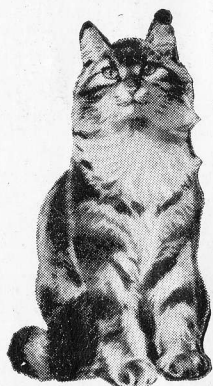
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CHAPPIE LIMITED of MELTON MOWBRAY

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

VOL. 5 No. 5

MAY 1953

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.

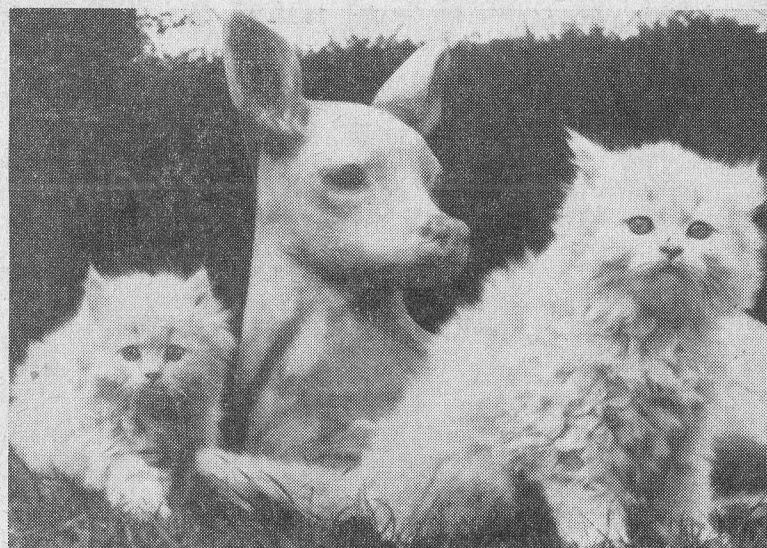
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4 CARLTON MANSIONS
CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

American Associate Editor :

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



TWEEDLEDUM and TWEEDLEDEE, Kittens by Idmiston Candytuft (Blue) ex Salome of Sunfield (Cream), were bred by Mrs. D. F. Morris, of Worthing.

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Champions of the 1952-3 Show Season

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

Name of Cat and Breed	Sex	Owner	Breeder
BOURNESIDE INKY BIT, Black	M	Mrs. A. E. Vize	Mrs. E. G. Aitken
BLACK NEMARRA, Black	...	Mrs. Plumtree	Owner
DAWN OF PENSFORD ... Blue-Cream	...	Mrs. J. Thompson	Owner
DUSTY OF DUNESK ... Blue L.H.	M	Mrs. W. A. Snoxall	Mrs. M. Brunton
DANEHURST PRINCESS Cream	F	Mr. G. B. Allt	Owner
DUNLOE DOMOKVITCH Russian Blue	M	Miss M. Rochford	Owner
FIFINELLA OF ALLINGTON ... Chinchilla	F	Miss E. Langston	Owner
GAYDENE RUDOLPH, Blue L.H.	M	Mrs. L. McVady	Owner
GAYDENE CANDY KISSES ... Blue L.H.	F	Mrs. L. McVady	Owner
HEATHERPINE JUANITA Abyssinian	F	Miss Bone	Mrs. I. A. Earnshaw
HATHAWAY HEYDAY ... Blue-Cream	F	Mrs. P. Udall	Miss L. L. Elliott
HILLCROSS MELODY ... Siamese S.P.	F	Mrs. E. Towe	Owner
JEWEL OF DUNESK, Blue L.H.	F	Mrs. V. Pullen	Mrs. M. Brunton
MYOWNE GALLANT HOMME Blue L.H.	M	Mrs. A. E. Vize	Owner
MISTY SUNSHINE ... White Orange Eyed	F	Mrs. Pelzer	Mrs. C. M. Black
MICHIFER MOONLIGHT Russian Blue	F	Mrs. P. Cowen	Owner
NIDDERDALE ROBIN ... Red Tabby	M	Mrs. G. Budd	Miss L. Hodges
PINCOP SIMON, Siamese S.P.	M	Mrs. O. M. Lamb	Owner
PINEWOOD WHITE HEATHER White S.H.	F	Master Brian Parker	Mrs. Keith
PINCOP YANGTZE KIANG Siamese C.P.	F	Mrs. Statham	Mrs. O. M. Lamb
PINCOP AZURE ZELDINA Siamese B.P.	F	Mrs. O. M. Lamb	Owner
REDWALLS JACK FROST Chinchilla	M	Mr. G. B. Allt	Mrs. E. M. Hacking
SYLVADENE SOLOMON Chinchilla	M	Mrs. F. A. Barker	Owner
SHELLEY, Silver Tabby ...	F	Mr. and Mrs. Gurney	Mr. F. Hough
WONDERLAND HONEYBUNCH Cream	F	Mrs. Sheppard	Mrs. Ruffell
WILDWOOD ROSE ... White Orange-Eyed	F	Mrs. Dallison	Mrs. C. M. Black
WYNPERRI BLUE PRINCE Siamese B.P.	M	Miss Harvey	Owner

Royal Cat Lovers

By SIDNEY DENHAM, F.Z.S.

Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been ?

I've been to London to see the Queen.

Old Nursery Rhyme.

PERHAPS not many cats will come to London to see the Queen in June, but many of their owners will make the journey. The present generation of the royal family grew up with horses and dogs rather than cats (although the three kinds of animal are by no means incompatible) and the Queen, unlike her great-grandmother, is not known as an ailurophile.

It is many years, and even decades, I believe, since a member of the royal family visited a cat show. The Siamese kitten given to Princess Elizabeth as a wedding present unfortunately became involved in fights with cats, who were no respecters of royalty, living near Clarence House and was so badly injured that he had to be destroyed. So far as I know, he has not had a successor.

The last great cat lover in the royal family was Queen Alexandra and graves at Marlborough House still bear testimony to the sorrow she felt when Time produced the inevitable partings with beloved pets. A favourite photograph of the Queen, taken when she was Princess of Wales, showed her as an extremely beautiful woman holding in her arms a white cat. This was one she had bought some years before at a bazaar from Sarah Bernhardt.

The white cat became the mother of Jack and Rough, two of her great favourites. These were described as "almost black with huge, grey ruffs and bushy tails."

Queen Alexandra's love of cats and hatred of cruelty to animals was well-known and gave rise to the story that on one occasion she had descended from her carriage and publicly boxed the ears of "a street arab" she had seen ill-treating a kitten. Her son-in-law, Prince Charles of Denmark (afterwards King of Norway), asked whether this story were true, replied: "Oh, no, I don't think so. But it is just what mamma would have *wanted* to do!"

Legacy of 300 Cats !

Probably it was because Queen Alexandra was so well-known as a cat lover that an eccentric Liverpool woman bequeathed her £18,000 on condition she took charge of 300 cats which this lady had "collected"! When she heard of it, Queen Victoria is supposed to have said to the Princess of Wales: "Your husband is, I know, fond of animals, but I think three hundred cats talking at once would not agree with him. The Duke of Edinburgh, now, is an enthusiastic musician. Perhaps he would not object to a cats' chorus occasion-

ally." Naturally, neither the cats nor the £18,000 were accepted.

Queen Alexandra's love of cats did not, apparently, prevent her wearing cat skins. According to the *Evening News* of the time, when she was married she wore a cloak trimmed with black cat skins and these became the rage for a time. When women gave them up, men took them on as linings for their coats. The skins of English cats were said to be no good for this purpose and the black cats were specially bred in Holland and Schleswig Holstein.

"Caravan" of Royal Cats

Queen Victoria was a great cat lover. On her death Louis Wain recalled: "When the Court moved it was accompanied by what might be called a caravan. The cats went to Balmoral, Osborne, Windsor and Buckingham Palace as regularly as the Queen. There were Persian cats, Manx cats, Angora cats, Maltese cats, tabby cats and nondescripts and they all travelled in state. They were placed in wooden boxes with an open wire front and had plenty of clean straw to lie on. One Persian cat of which the Queen was especially fond wears round its neck an elaborate collar on which appears in silver letters: 'I Belong to the Queen'."

Some years ago I tried to discover the present whereabouts of this unique collar, but Queen Mary informed me she did not know of it.

The juvenile organisation of the R.S.P.C.A. (Bands of Mercy) had a membership medal which was designed for them under the direction of Queen Victoria. A cat was put on the obverse of the

original medal on the command of the Queen so that "the animal might not be left unnoticed." It is easy to forget now that in the nineteenth century the cat was by no means the universally cherished animal it is in Britain to-day and the number of ill-treated, strayed and starved cats was appalling. The affection for cats of Queen Victoria and Queen Alexandra played a considerable part in raising the status of cats.

Kittens for Relatives

Queen Victoria liked to give kittens to cat lovers in her wide family circle. One of these was H.H. Princess Victoria, one of her granddaughters and the only member of the British royal family to have taken up breeding seriously. She became the Patron of the National Cat Club and showed on many occasions. Her specialities were Blues and Chinchillas. A Blue called Lord Bobs, bred at her Cumberland Lodge cattery, won a championship and a first every time shown. Her stud Puck III, "an independent little Chinchilla of charming manners and engaging address," was advertised at stud at Cumberland Lodge, her home in Windsor Great Park, at the beginning of the century—fee 2ls.

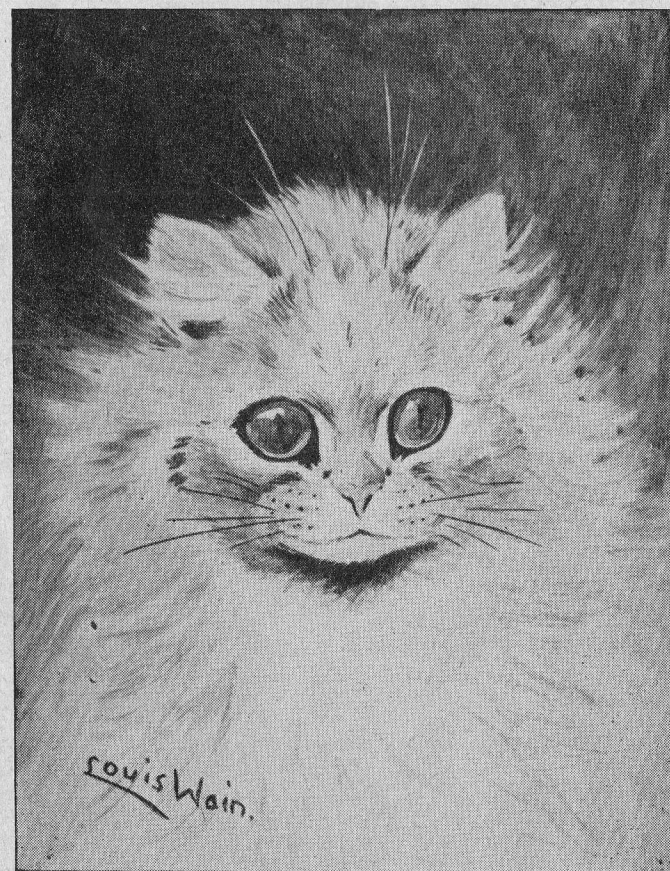
And Some Went Begging!

The Cumberland Lodge cattery was in the flower garden and the last word in comfort and hygiene at the time. Looking through a cat journal of fifty years ago, I found two of Princess Victoria's kittens advertised for sale and a week or two later an editorial note, with just a hint that it was

incredible royal kittens should go begging, that the kittens were still awaiting homes. Royal breeders, apparently, no less than commoner ones, sometimes found difficulty in placing a litter.

Evidently they arranged things

differently in Egypt. In the reminiscences of ex-Queen Narri-man recently published I read that she found one of the advantages of becoming royalty was that there was no difficulty in finding homes for her kittens!



A Louis Wain impression of Puck, the pet Chinchilla of Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein. It was reproduced in colour in the 1908 edition of the popular "Louis Wain's Annual."



Mrs. Curtis Mayborn, of Dallas, Texas, is well known in America as a breeder of Siamese. She is also a lover of *all* cats and she makes a charming picture here with two of the eleven strays for whom she has provided a wonderful home. Curtis is also a photographer of some repute and one of her cat studies was selected for use on the seals which are sold in thousands during National Cat Week in U.S.A.

Bo'sun Becomes "Homeless"!

The "Mary Hillier" Founders — But All Are Safe

AFTER several weeks of bewildering silence, we have at last received news of the little yacht "Mary Hillier", which has for so long been the floating home of Bo'sun, our happy Sailor Siamese. Those who have been following the fortunes of Skipper George Blackburn, Dee, his American-born wife, and their four-footed chocolate-and-cream mate with the navy-blue eyes, will remember that the "Mary Hillier," after sailing 1,000 miles to Gibraltar and back to purchase stores, had returned to her berth at Palma, Majorca. The expected instalment from Dee Blackburn, who has recorded the adventures of Bo'sun so painstakingly and entertainingly ever since the ship left Cowes in August 1951, failed to arrive for our March and April issues.

Then, just as we were beginning to get really concerned over the absence of news, an air mail letter arrived. It conveyed in laconic terms the tragic story of the foundering of the "Mary Hillier" in a sudden storm with luckily no loss of life among the members of the little party who had sailed out in her on the day of the disaster. But let Dee Blackburn take up the story here in her own words—she promises later, when she feels more composed, to write in greater detail and to let us know how Bo'sun is settling down as a landlubber (temporary) :

We took some friends out for a sail (she writes) on a beautifully warm windless day. Four of us (and Bo'sun) piled into the dinghy to have a swim and a

picnic lunch ashore. We walked along the beach for a mile or so and were enjoying some fish we had caught and cooked when suddenly a fierce Mediterranean storm descended.

Skipper George and his friend Jim raced back to the dinghy to row out to the "Mary Hillier" to put out another anchor for safety. But the wind and sea piled up in a matter of seconds and it was some time before they could get to her. By that time her anchor had dragged and she went straight on to the beach and rocks. Soon she went over on her side and became deeply wedged in. Bo'sun and I watched from the shore with heavy hearts. My friend Gabby stood with us.

Finally George suggested that we (Gabby and myself) set off with Bo'sun to walk across country to Gabby's home. We couldn't sleep on board that night. The two men remained by the ship and spent the night in a nearby cave, hoping and praying for the weather to break. Two small fishing boats tried to pull the "Mary Hillier" off the rocks, but without success.

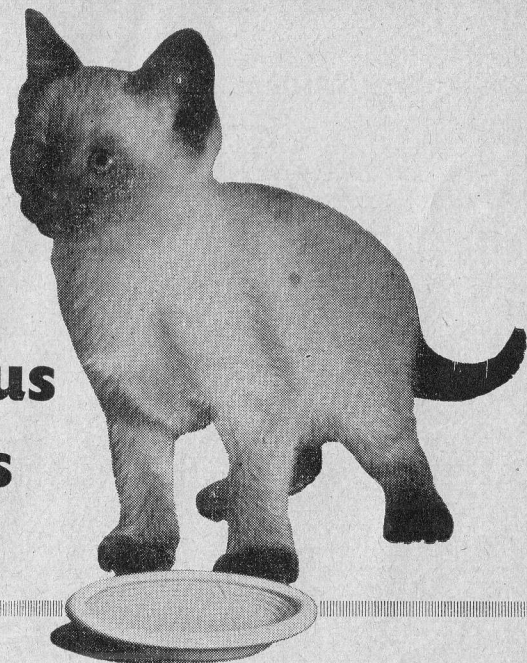
Bo'sun's Long Trek

It was 20 miles of woods and hills from the cove to Gabby's home. Bo'sun trotted behind us for five miles on a lead. Then he began to tire and I had to carry him. He was really wonderful. Eventually we got a lift and next day we returned to the cove by car. When we arrived on the scene there were many of our friends from the Yacht Club there with all sorts of gear.

George decided to lighten the ship by throwing everything movable overboard. It was heartbreaking to see all my pretty things floating ashore covered in kerosene and oil. All our dry stores were ruined,

[continued on page 11]

Protect against **Feline Infectious Enteritis**



Feline Infectious Enteritis is a very infectious virus disease of cats, sudden in onset and usually fatal. It may be introduced into a cattery following exposure to infection at shows and spreads from cat to cat in a locality. All breeds are susceptible and in some, such as the Siamese, the mortality rate is very high.

To save your cat from this disease consult your veterinary surgeon. He will advise you regarding protection, now possible by the introduction of



FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE



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Quiz!

In which "thirsters after knowledge" are handed over to our panel of experts. Readers are invited to submit their questions — by post please, marking their envelopes "Quiz" in the top left-hand corner.

A Show Rule

I have a very nice Cream male which I should like to show. Unfortunately, I live so far from London that I could not take him to all the shows I should like. Would the show manager accept my cat if I sent him by rail?

You cannot send your cat to a show by rail in the same way that a rabbit breeder is able to do. There is a rule of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy which states that a cat must be taken to a show by the owner or his representative. Although this may limit seriously the number of shows at which you can exhibit your cat, if you think about it we are sure you will realise the wisdom of the rule. If you have a friend in London who would look after your cat for a few days around each show date, then you might be able to realise your ambitions.

Registered Names

A cat I bought some time ago has a name I don't like. Is there any way in which I can change this name?

Pedigree cats usually have two names; one by which the cat has been registered and another which is a pet name. If your cat has been registered as "Grand Cham of Titibu," that is the official name he will always bear as long as he lives. He may have several owners during the course of his life, but on each official transfer the original registered name will appear. Of course, you will not use this name except for official purposes. The pet name you use can be chosen to please yourself.

Keen to Export

I have two breeding Queens, one a Blue Persian and the other a Siamese. I hear that American breeders pay big prices for kittens and I should like to sell some of mine there as I find cat breeding expensive.

We wonder if you haven't the wrong angle on this cat breeding business. It certainly is not a paying hobby, in fact, most breeders have to pay quite a considerable sum yearly for the privilege of breeding cats. Your chances of selling kittens abroad to American fanciers are small indeed for the simple reason that if Americans want a cat from this country they approach the well-known breeders who have earned a real reputation. Breeders of Champions do not easily throw away a good reputation, but a novice with the best intentions might send a cat which was not a worthy export. Finally, don't think that all the money an American pays for one of our cats is profit. We know of a kitten which was recently sent to America at a good price, but, when air freight and other expenses had been paid, not forgetting the rearing of the kitten to five months, we doubt if the profit was more than £2.

Mixed Litters

Is it possible for a pure bred Persian to have pure bred kittens and also mongrels in the same litter?

The best person to answer this question would be an expert in genetics. However, we are prepared to venture an answer. If a Longhaired Blue male is

mated to a Longhaired Blue female and both are pure for many generations of breeding, then the kittens will also be pure. At all events there will be no mongrels in the litter. But just suppose the queen was mated by the Blue male and then a few hours later was again mated by a stray tom, both matings could produce kittens, and you would have pures and mongrels in the same litter. Possible but most unlikely. Read Hagedoorn's book "Animal Breeding."

On Stud Fees

I sent my queen to a stud cat and was assured that there were two satisfactory matings. I paid a stud fee and the return carriage, but there were no kittens. I asked for the return of the stud fee, but this was refused. Have I any redress?

None whatever. The paying of a stud fee does not guarantee kittens. Naturally you can expect the mating of your queen and that is what you pay for. Most stud owners give two matings, but they are under no obligation to do so. If there are no kittens it is quite impossible to say where the fault lies, but we should suggest that queens are more often to blame than males. When you found that your queen was not in kitten, you should have written to tell the stud owner. Ninety-nine out of every hundred such owners would have told you to send the queen back when she called again. That is considerate treat-

ment for the conscientious stud owner earns every penny he gets in the way of fees.

Buying a Siamese

I am a lover of cats, but up to the present I have never owned anything except just ordinary cats. I should like to buy a Siamese cat. Will you tell me the best age to buy one so that I am unlikely to have any troubles due to my lack of experience?

If you want a Siamese it is better to buy a kitten rather than a cat. There are two reasons for this. The first is that few breeders have adult cats to sell as they dispose of their kittens as early as possible. Secondly, it is fairer to the cat that it should grow up in the surroundings which are to form its background in adult life. Siamese kittens settle in new surroundings more easily than do adult cats. Most breeders like to sell their kittens at eight weeks, but if you can find a breeder who will keep your kitten until it is ten weeks old, it will be all to the good. A kitten of this age is completely weaned and is much less susceptible to digestive upsets. Siamese kittens are neither difficult nor delicate, but see that you carry on with the feeding which has been used by the breeder.

Rotenone for Canker

I have recently acquired a 3-year-old cat who appears to be suffering from ear canker in an advanced

stage. When I read in the November issue of OUR CATS about the quick cures achieved by Rotenone in oil, I immediately made enquiries and think I have found a source of supply. Would you please advise what oil should be used with Rotenone and the proportions for the mixture?

In dealing with this severely technical enquiry the panel enlisted the help of Dr. L. H. Fairchild, M.D., the well-known American fancier and veterinarian whose book "Cats and All about Them," written in collaboration with his wife, reflects an expert and real understanding of cats. Dr. Fairchild kindly responded with the following notes: Your enquiry about Rotenone was very interesting to me since I made quite a study some years ago of the chemistry of this medicine. Rotenone is a resin and it therefore is hard to get into solution completely. One of the products on sale in this country (America) for the treatment of ear canker has several different solvents, chiefly pine oil and mineral oil. I give you the entire formula and you can see from this that it is a complex compound:

Hydrogenated Rotenone and other cube resins ...	40
Rotenone and other cube resins ...	4.36
3 Ispazeryl-5 (methylene dioxyphenyl) ...	20
Pine Oil ...	39.40
Ethylene Glycol Ether of Pinene ...	3.60
Citrus Oil ...	1.80
2-Amino-2 Methyl-1 Propanol ...	3.00
Oleic Acid ...	6.00
Ethylene Dichloride ...	5.00
Naphtholene ...	2.00
Mineral Oil Refined ...	34.24

IMMUNISATION

**Cat Flu
Feline Enteritis
Sera and Vaccine for
prevention and cure**

Details from: **VETRINAID PRODUCTS**
122 SUNNINGFIELDS ROAD, LONDON, N.W. 4

BO'SUN

concluded from page 7]

several hundred pounds of the stuff, everything we went to Gibraltar to buy—rice, sugar, flour, peas, beans, the lot.

When the weather improved a little a lighter entered the cove and a diver went down to inspect the damage. He found a hole about six feet long and a couple of inches wide and effected a temporary repair. After much furious pumping, it was possible to start towing the "Mary Hillier" back to Palma. But just outside Porto Pi Harbour (4 miles from Palma) the temporary repair work gave way under the strain. They just managed to get "Mary Hillier" into the harbour when she promptly sank in fifteen feet of water. Another half-hour and she would have gone down outside the harbour in deep water and that would have meant the end of her.

Safe at Last

For two days our ship was under the water. But the diver went down again and repaired the hole so that she could be raised by the pumps. Slowly the "Mary Hillier" was floated and towed into a Palma shipyard where she is now undergoing extensive repairs.

We are all now living temporarily in the Villa "El Terreno" which overlooks the sea near the harbour at Palma. It will be at least two months before we can get aboard again. Bo'sun's adaptability is something to marvel at. More about this later.

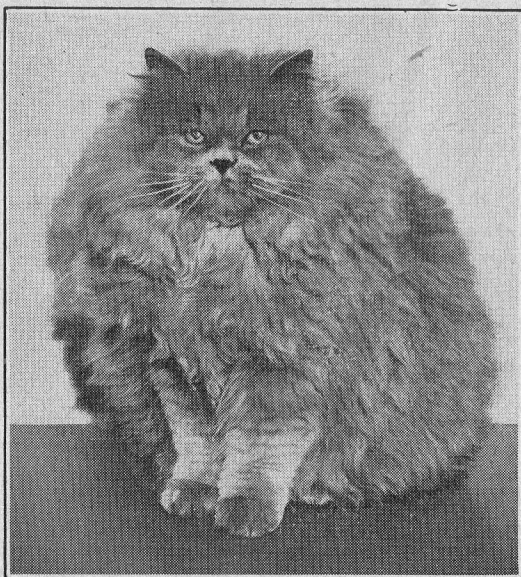
Editorial Note: I feel sure our readers would wish me to convey to George and Dee Blackburn a message expressing their concern and regret at the disaster which has befallen the "Mary Hillier" and their relief on hearing the news that she will soon be afloat again without harm having befallen her gallant crew. This message has been sent.—Editor.

This is worth thinking about

A Subscription to this Magazine makes the ideal present for a cat loving relative or friend . . . for a birthday or any other occasion. It's a gift that lasts the whole year through.

We shall be pleased to send OUR CATS to any part of the world and, if desired, to enclose your personal greeting or message to the recipient.

Our Subscription rate is 17s. 6d. (which includes postage) for twelve monthly issues. Readers in America should remit Three Dollars (by check or bills) and those on the Continent can obtain an International Money Order through their local post office. The address for subscriptions is OUR CATS Magazine, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W. 9.



ANSON EROS

MISS STATMAN, owner-breeder of the Anson Persians, of 4 Anson Road, Cricklewood, London, N.W. 2, writes:—

"I am enclosing a photograph of Anson Eros. I first showed him, at three months, at the Festival Show 1952, where he was judged best blue Male kitten.

He was rather short of coat, so I started him on Kit-zyme tablets. He was shown at six consecutive shows after this, by his new owner Mrs. Denton of Denmark Hill. At each show he was judged three times best L.H. Kitten and three times best Blue Male Kitten. He has never been beaten in his Open Class, and finished his Kitten career with 21 Firsts.

His coat is now profuse, as you can see from the photograph, and, of course, he still has Kit-zyme every day, in fact he asks for them!

All my Anson cats and kittens are given the tablets daily and every kitten I have shown in 1952 has been First in its Open Class and they are always in tip-top condition. Many thanks to Kit-zyme for helping me to achieve this."

Miss Statman was awarded The Adams Challenge Cup (1952-3) for gaining most points in 6-9 months old Blue Persian Kittens bred by exhibitor.

KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN - RICH YEAST

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

KIT-ZYME is sold by Chemists and most Pet Stores

Literature Free on Request

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

Reference No. 71



Correspondence Corner

Readers are invited to send contributions to this feature and so to join in the useful exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. Letters should be concise and deal preferably with items of general interest.

RED POINTED SIAMESE

Could we have some more news of Red Points, please? It would be interesting to know if the American breeder Mrs. A. de Filippo has produced second or third generations from Red Point to Red Point matings and if Dr. Archer has also done so in this country.

I have just had an interesting litter in my cattery—to the usual mixture of one Seal Point, one Red Point and one Black is added a Red Tabby kitten. The sire was a pedigree Seal Point and the dam a Siamese hybrid.

I enclose a photograph of a Red Point and a Tortie Point kitten. I have never seen a Tortie Point photograph in print and thought perhaps other readers might

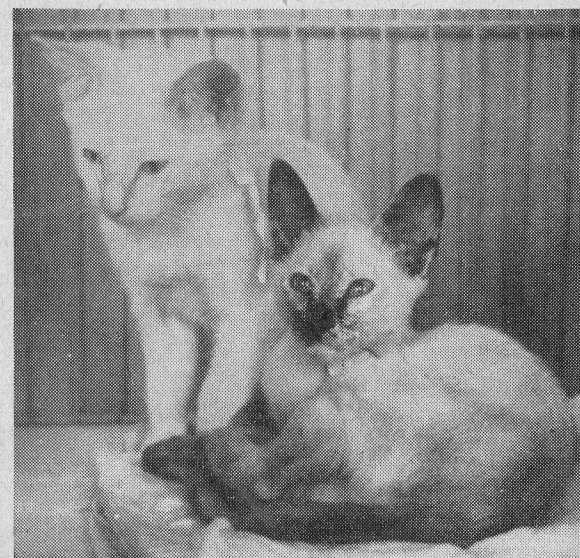
like to see it. These two are adult now and have mated. They have proved to be most attractive and affectionate pets.

Miss N. M. Marshall,
Brockenhurst, Hants.

Whilst I cannot comply immediately with this reader's request, I hope it will be possible in the near future for me to obtain some more material on Red Point Siamese experimental breeding.—Editor.

ABOUT BOARDING

I cannot speak too highly of Edward Munro's article about cat boarding establishments (OUR CATS, March issue) and hope that it will encourage all



Miss Marshall's Red Point and Tortie Point kittens—Martial Red Marshall and Martial Mirage. See letter above headed "Red Pointed Siamese."

amateur cat owners to be doubly sure of the suitability of premises before leaving their pets, even for a short stay.

Last year, with great reluctance, I left my Prestwick Siamese and my black and white cat for five days at cat kennels that gave every appearance of being satisfactory. However, a day after their return home both became ill and despite fourteen consecutive daily visits from a vet., my Siamese died. My other cat fortunately recovered—but no thanks to the kennels.

Never again! In future my cats go on holiday with me or I stay at home.

Mrs. Monica Lee,
Kettering, Northants

PERSIAN CRISIS

My Persian cat
Scorns mouse and rat.
He thinks they are but carrion.
My ginger cat
Is twice as fat,
But he's totalitarian.

D. Stonard,
Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

About that letter you were going to send us. Why not sit down and write it NOW? Correspondence Corner is YOUR feature. Please help to keep it interesting and of value to other cat lovers.

A cat belonging to Mrs. E. P. Dickin, of Brightlingsea, Essex, sought a suitable place to have kittens—and chose the bedroom. But time after time Mrs. Dickin turned her out, so the cat looked for a place in the garden. High up in an old elm tree she found a cavity in the trunk and decided to make it her nursery. Neighbours saw her climbing up the tree each day and went up a ladder to see what was happening. They found three black kittens, snug in the cavity. When they removed a piece of dead wood to get a better view, this was too much for the mother. She brought the kittens down from the tree to make a new home—in Mrs. Dickin's bedroom.



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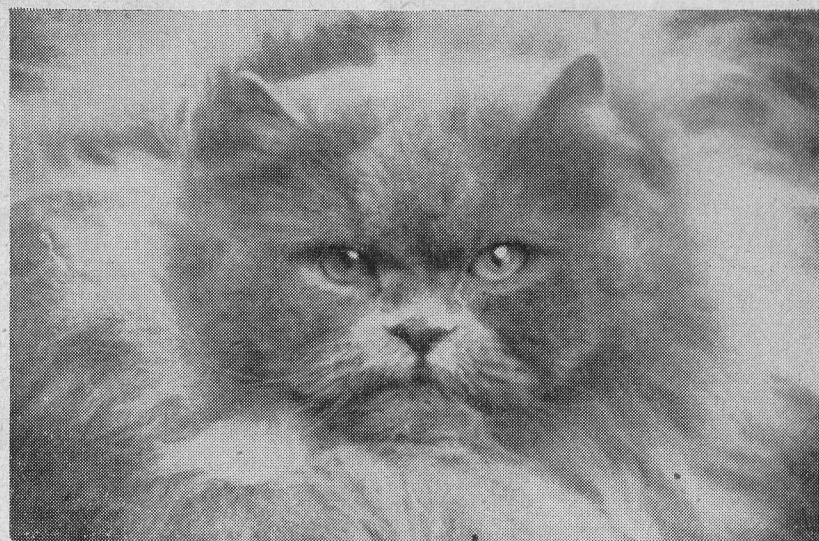
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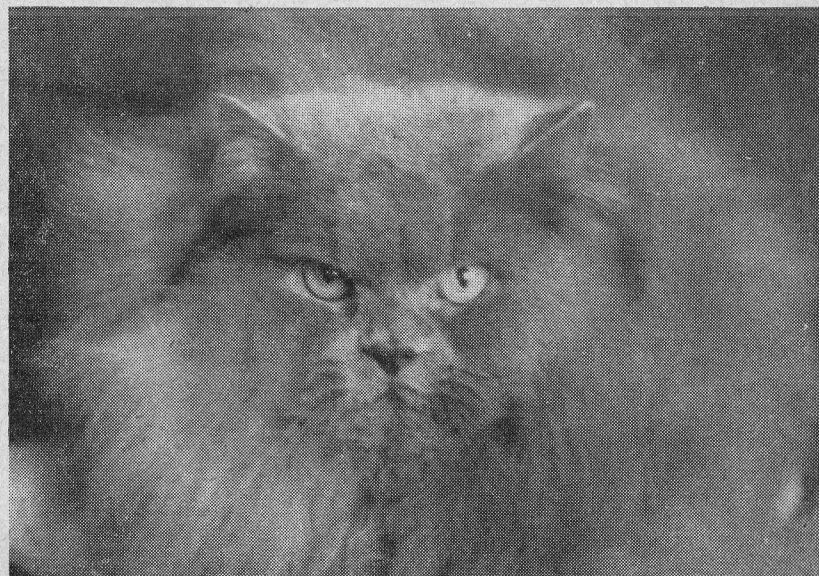
THE SAFE INSECTICIDE



Ph.B.41/1



CHAMPION GAYDENE CANDY KISSES, Blue Longhair bred by Mrs. L. McVady, of Edgware, Middlesex, was Best Exhibit at the 1952 Blue Persian Show. Her other Championship awards were won at Paignton (1952), Notts and Derbys. and Southern Counties Shows (1953).



And her son, **CHAMPION GAYDENE RUDOLPH** concluded a brilliant show career during the 1952/3 season by securing the "Champion of Champions" award at the Southern Counties Show in February at the remarkable age of 21 months. We are not a little proud of the fact that Mrs. McVady's interest in cat breeding began when she made a chance purchase of OUR CATS at a railway bookstall. In three years she has emerged from the novice stage to become the breeder of this pair of record-breaking Blues, who have won over 30 Cups, 8 Championships and 200 prizes at six shows.

Correct Feeding

By P. M. SODERBERG

Author of "Cat Breeding and General Management" and other books.
Chairman of the Siamese Cat Club.

DURING the course of a year I come in contact with many cat owners, and the great majority are those who keep a cat just because it is a cat. They are not concerned with terms such as Shorthair and Longhair, and many are almost surprised to know that there are such creatures as pedigree cats.

The thing which always astounds me is the wide variety which exists in methods of feeding cats, but I cannot see why I should be surprised.

Another point which also amazes me at times is the wide variation in the sums which cat owners are prepared to spend on food for their pets. It is by no means the pedigree breeder alone who is willing to spend some shillings each week on food. I should also add that it is only among the owners of just ordinary cats that one finds those people who still believe that a cat can fend for itself provided that it is occasionally given a saucer of milk.

Fortunately the vast majority of cat owners realise that a cat has to be fed because it has become really domesticated. For most cats their environment makes self-sufficiency an impossibility, and it is only the odd cat in a thousand which can adequately supply its own needs. I once possessed such a delightful cat who rarely needed feeding. When he did he knew how to ask, and, unless he asked, it was useless to attempt to feed him. This was a remarkable cat, for he often returned with an extra rabbit to help supply the needs of his less enterprising companions.

As I have said, most owners do feed their cats, but few of them seem to have any clear idea of the type of food that is

necessary. The result of this is that the diet is left largely to chance. Table scraps may provide an adequate meal, but it all depends on what is sent away from the table or, much more likely, what is scraped from the plates. If my plate can be taken as any criterion, there may be potato available, there is almost certain to be fat (which I abominate) and even that will be well seasoned with pepper. My scraps provide no adequate meal for any cat as few of them like fat and only digest it with difficulty.

Thus, it is not surprising that the food bill for my feline family is something of an item, and I know many other cat owners who are also spending a considerable sum weekly on food. The real point is this. Is the money well spent? The answer to this question depends upon whether the cat is adequately fed, which, put quite simply, means are all its physical needs adequately supplied?

Nothing But Fish!

I know one dear old lady who has a cat as fat as butter, and this thoughtful old soul spends seven or eight shillings a week on fish for this opulent old gentleman. This is the fundamental error, of course, that the cat's main gastronomic delight is fish and fish and fish. It isn't true and the cat's inside knows so well the falsity of the theory that the intelligent stomach turns the inevitable sensations into adequate action. Thomas sometimes heaves at the sight of fish and he has become an incorrigible thief. You dare not leave any food on the table when your back is turned just because Thomas knows how to balance his diet.

Yes, that is the operative word, "balance"—a cat's diet must be balanced. In practice this means that

the diet must contain carbohydrates, proteins and fats, essential substances which will all be present if the diet consists of cereal, potato, fish and meat. The actual quantities may vary considerably from day to day, but a diet which overall consists of 40% to 50% protein will normally be found satisfactory. If any item ought definitely to be limited, it is the fats which are rarely, if ever, satisfactory when fed above 10%.

It is in the matter of protein that so many household pets are kept short—protein in a form which the cat appreciates is expensive, for it means buying meat or fish, and the best cuts of horse-meat—a very popular type of protein—now cost well over two shillings a pound. The price of rabbit is almost prohibitive.

No mention has been made so far of those additions to the basic foods which are nevertheless essential to correct feeding. The minerals and vitamins must not be forgotten, however, for, although not foods in themselves, there is no satisfactory nutrition without them.

Calcium, phosphorus, manganese, iron—it may sound a bit like the contents of a laboratory—but, even if you do not realise that you are feeding these substances, you must be if your cat is fit. That condition is one which you can soon recognise, for fitness usually stands out a mile in any animal that possesses it.

Vitamins, too, appear in your cat's dish when you feed fish, wholemeal bread, liver, green vegetables and all manner of other foods. You do not need to run the whole gamut from A to K every day; just use your common sense in feeding.

The cat itself helps you to provide a diet that is truly balanced for the simple reason that it refuses to eat the same thing day after day. Even rabbit palls in time. The acceptance value of any particular food can easily be tried out on your own cat if you want to experiment, but there is no need for doubt in this matter. Provide your cat with a well varied diet and if he is fit he will have an appetite and eat heartily and that is what you want him to do.

In recent years the number of foods specially prepared for cats has increased rapidly so that to-day there is a considerable choice. I am convinced that as the years pass such foods, whether tinned or dried and sold in packets, will find a much more prominent place in the correct feeding of cats. There are three main reasons for this new outlook. The firms that produce such foods keep their own research staff and also call on outside aid for up-to-date information on the nutritional needs of cats. Both tinned and dried foods are convenient to feed and take little time to prepare, and finally

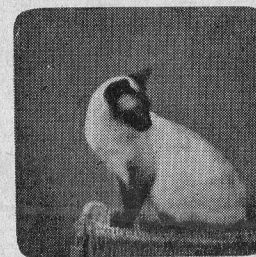
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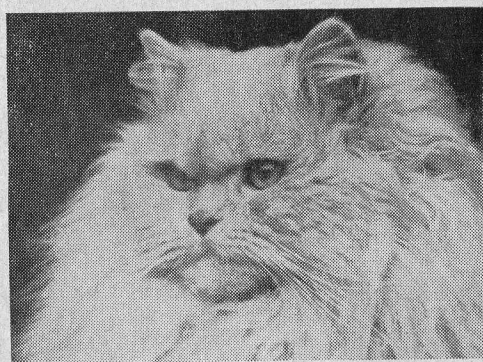
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they can be comparatively inexpensive as some of them are so concentrated that they can be used together with normal household scraps.

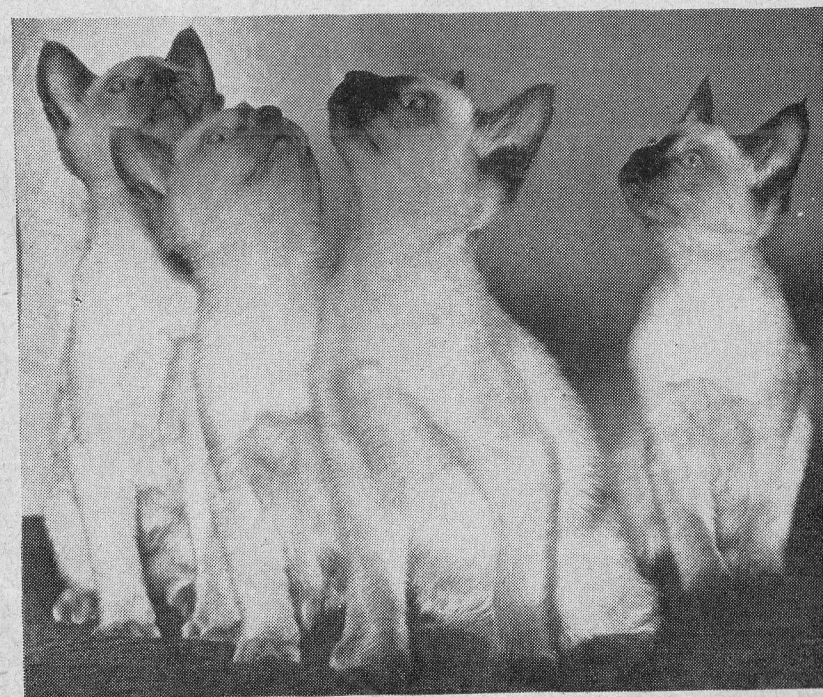
Of course, not all of these proprietary foods are equally good, but it is not my job to tell you which I consider the most satisfactory. I have found my answer by experiment and you can do the same, but, in fairness to the manufacturers of any tinned foods, do not open a tin and put it down before the cat with a "There you are, get on with it." If you do, the cat will suffer from looseness. The fault will be yours, not the maker's. My plan has always been to add a small quantity of a new food to one that has been well tried, and then gradually to increase the quantity of this new food.

Well, there is it. Correct feeding

depends upon balance and variety. Use your household scraps, buy your horse-meat and fish, make use of tinned and other concentrated foods, and then by a little thought ring the changes. If all of you will do this, all your cats will be scientifically well fed and should be happier cats as a consequence. *If you just can't be bothered, don't keep a cat.*



A large black cat was reported at Bampton, Devon, to have sprung out from behind trees and doorways to attack and bite passing women. He was eventually caught by a local policeman.



A bonny Siamese litter bred by Mrs. Edna Matthewson, Quinton, Birmingham, from Maiz Mor Marquis ex Hagley Bogum. The kitten on the extreme left **FERNREIG ZYN**, shown here at 3-months, did exceptionally well at three shows early this year and promises to develop into a top-grade Blue Point stud. Zyn won 10 first prizes in his classes and many special awards, including Best Blue Point Exhibit at the Southern Counties Show.

Swedish Show Impressions

By ELSIE KENT

(Leading Siamese Judge and former Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club)

A QUEUE of people four abreast and stretching far outside the hall. The place Stockholm, the show, the annual event organised by the Svenska Kattklubben. A gate to bring a smile to the face of any show manager. So it was when I had the honour of judging Siamese and other Shorthair breeds in Sweden.

Procedure in this country naturally differs slightly to the English shows, but the main points are the same. Warned by judges who "had gone before," I did not venture into the hall until well

after the advertised time, but found the usual pre-judging chaos still going on. I was invited to have a look at the cats. In reply to my rather surprised "May I"? I was told it didn't matter as I would not know any of them anyway, so I wandered around and it didn't take me very long to spot ye olde English stock.

Males and females belonging to the same owner, at least those who were husband and wife, were in the same pen and sat happily together. Some had their children with them. There were no dis-

plays of temperament even when Mr. Siamese had two wives with him!

Walking about I came across Orfeus, Kastratklass, Siamese neuter to you, and stood entranced at what I saw. He was about the size of a small dog, round and fat as any British shorthair. His chin was completely white, consisting of pure white hair, not pale or brindled as we know it. He also owned a white toe in the middle of the seal-coloured ones on his hind foot. He sported a wide pale blue bow to match his gloriously round blue eyes, sat upon a blue cushion, and in one corner of his pen a blue hyacinth bloomed bravely, valiantly and unsuccessfully struggling to project its sweet scent above that of the cute little chlorophyll tin on the top of the pen and the usual aroma of the cat show. Orfee was quite the most adorable creature I had seen and so he and I paired to have our picture taken. I couldn't give him a prize, other than a special for amiability and charm. I heard afterwards his owner chose him from the litter because she thought his white toe "just sweet."

Where Procedure Differs

Eventually judging commenced. I sat at a large table with my back to huge windows and each exhibit was brought for me to examine. I had three stewards, Mrs. Magnusson, Mrs. Saether, and Mrs. Svenningson, all of whom were wonderfully efficient and handled the cats beautifully. As the first cat was being judged, another was on its way to the table and so on. I found this method of judging a little complicated at first; by the time the fourth cat was out I had lost the look of my first, so,

there being no rule against it, I reverted to the English way of seeing the exhibits in their pens.

Of course, the public were already going their rounds and little groups stood around the judging table to watch. In addition a crowd collected outside the building for a free entertainment. No one stopped for lunch and we carried on until well into the afternoon, so I finished most of my classes the first day.

The majority of the British Shorthairs were nice specimens as were the Russian Blues. The latter carried the correct texture of coat, eye colour was really green and they looked like Russians, not a mixture of British Blue and Siamese.

They had the sweetest dispositions and mama and papa shared the same pen. The condition of the exhibits was wonderful, apart from a tendency to plumpness, a fault surely coming from kindness of heart on the part of the owner.

Instead of scribbling a few notes in one's judging book, a judge is expected to write a full description of each exhibit, and, horror of horrors, this is placed upon each pen! None of those cryptic little signs known only to oneself. Here, diplomacy goes with the wind and even if you use your own language there is always someone ready to translate!

On the last day the trophies were awarded and each cat accompanied its owner to receive them. Finally, as the show came to an end I watched a number of Siamese exhibits walking off on collar and lead without a care in the world. A successful show for the organisers, a very interesting experience for me, and I write this with many happy memories of the warm and kind welcome I received from Scandinavian cat lovers.



Mrs. Kent with ORFEUS, "quite the most adorable creature I had seen."



Every inch a Princess

At the Danehurst Cattery, Old Lane, St. John's, Crowborough, Sussex, Mr. Gordon B. Allt's superb cream Persian Ch., Danehurst Princess, obliges with a pose that befits her regal name.

And on the right, not to be outdone, is Chinchilla Ch., Redwalls Jack Frost, another equally famous member of this well-known cattery.

Mr. Allt, whose cats are bought by customers from all over the world—particularly from Canada and the U.S.A.—is a firm believer in the 'One Tibs a day' rule. He knows that cats find the liver flavour irresistible, whilst Tibs satisfies completely the normal vitamin A and B requirement.

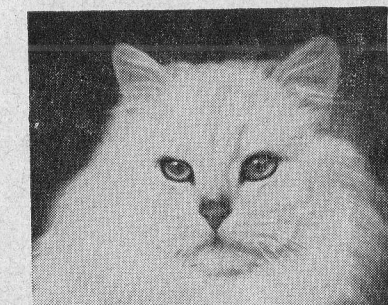
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MISS KATHLEEN YORKE has been re-elected. Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy for another term.

I have frequently heard of the "one-bottle man" but never before of the "twenty-bottle kitten." Thirteen-year-old Heather Topp, of Crowborough, Sussex, in a letter to the London *Evening News*, writes: "My two sisters and I had to care for an orphan kitten only ten days old. Feeding was a problem and we got out of the difficulty by filling a doll's feeding bottle with warm milk. The orphan lay on her back, held the bottle between her forepaws and drank her fill. At the age of six weeks she was drinking twenty bottles a day."

Here are a few interesting facts about the show season for 1952/3. At least two of the promoting Clubs finished up with a balance on the right side. The Southern Counties Cat Club made a profit on their show of over £180 and the National Cat Club turned in a profit of £80. Congratulations to the respective Show Managers, Mrs. K. R. Williams and Mrs. Speirs. A glance through the list of Champions which appears elsewhere in this issue reveals a remarkable achievement by the well-known Midland Siamese breeder Mrs. O. M. Lamb, who bred the Champion in Seal Points, Blue Points and Chocolate Points. This must surely be an all-time record. There were 27 Championships awards in all and "the ladies" predominated with 16 successes.

Inspector Morris, of the R.S.P.C.A.,

recently had the gratifying experience of seeing a cat revive after he had applied artificial respiration for fifteen minutes. The cat had been trapped in a room full of smoke after the family had gone out in the evening and left a pan of fat on the electric stove. When they returned home the house was full of smoke and puss was almost unconscious and gasping for breath.

It is with very great regret that I record the passing of Mr. E. Keith Robinson, Secretary of Our Dumb Friends' League. Mr. Robinson devoted his life to the work of the League and animals never had a more devoted champion, particularly cats, which he loved. He was founder and first chairman of the British Federation of Animal Welfare Societies.

The Canine Defence League recently announced that it would pay the £7 damages which Mrs. Lorna Hill, authoress and wife of the vicar of Matfen, Northumberland, was ordered to pay at Newcastle County Court. Mrs. Hill, who declared her intention of going to prison rather than pay the damages claimed, threw 28 gin traps into a river after her cat was injured.

The first A.G.M. of the Crystal Cat Club was held last month and 27 members turned up for the occasion. It was decided not to disband despite the fact that there would be no show this year. Mr. P. M. Soderberg was re-elected Chairman and the posts of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer were filled by Mr. G. C. Dugdale and Mr. N. V.

Boulton respectively. Mrs. Varcoe, Mrs. Denham and Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb were elected to the Committee.

The "Lifeline" harness for cats which has been advertised regularly in this Magazine is, I think, the first patent in the world for feline wear, certainly the first in England. The makers of the harness tell me that their files are full of letters from appreciative users and it is a significant fact that so many of them live on or near main roads.

An announcement in another part of this issue draws attention to the Cat Section which is being run in connection with the Seacroft Show in Killingbeck Park, Leeds, on Saturday, 27th June. This is a new enterprise which deserves support from breeders and pet owners, particularly those who live in the North and Midlands. There are 36 classes for pedigree and household cats and the judges for the day will be Mrs. D. Brice Webb, Mrs. O. M. Lamb and Miss E. Wentworth Fitzwilliam. The organisers of the cat section are the Yorkshire County Cat Club.

Glamorous 37-year-old soprano Elisabeth Schwarzkopf scored a great personal triumph at her recent recital at London's Festival Hall. At her home in St. John's Wood Miss Schwarzkopf finds relaxation in tending a litter of eight Siamese kittens.

Mr. A. C. Jude is anxious to obtain some samples for microscopical and other

tests. He requires samples of hair taken from the tails of pure-bred Seal Pointed Siamese, moultings would do admirably. I hope that some of my readers will respond to this appeal. The samples should be sent in an envelope, preferably with a few details as to source, not to me but direct to Mr. Jude, 3 Hill View Road, Mapperley, Notts.

Nine chickens, two valuable ducks and three canaries in the Children's Corner have recently been killed at the London Zoo. A semi-wild tabby cat is under suspicion.

Andrew, the 14-year-old brown-and-white tabby pet of Miss Dorothea St. Hill Bourne, of Farnham, has just had a wonderful birthday party. There was a 14-candle cake and messages of goodwill from friends all over the world. Andrew, you see, was the wartime mascot of the Allied Forces Mascot Club when Miss Hill Bourne was Press Secretary of the P.D.S.A. His picture appeared in our August 1952 issue.

A P.D.S.A. Dispensary in the heart of London's Theatreland has been opened at 55 Broadwick Street, W.1. Among those who have worked to secure its establishment are Dame Sybil Thorndike, Michael Redgrave, Fay Compton, Leslie Henson, Jack Train, Sandy Macpherson, Richard Attenborough, Marie Burke and Bernard Miles.

MICKEY

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AMERICAN NEWSLETTER

Paws across "The Pond"

From BILLIE BANCROFT (American Associate Editor)

WITH all the Clubs deep in their plans for the next show season, one of the most absorbing topics under discussion concerns show cages. A few clubs have bought their own. Boston Cat Club, for instance, had their cages made to order and have found it a very satisfactory arrangement. There are numbers of other clubs considering the same thing. The most important topic at Garden State Club, Empire Club, Atlantic Club and the Brooklyn-Long Island Club was cages.

Penn. State Cat Club from Philadelphia have already chosen their judges and so, too, have the Long Island Breeders' Club. The Garden State tossed a boomerang into the Fancy by announcing that they would again have an English judge. Both the extreme west and mid-western clubs are also considering English judges. One club in the west has called three meetings and still can't decide whom they will invite.

Mrs. Alberta Paris, of Norwalk, Connecticut (Milford Cattery), tells me the lovely little Cream girl purchased from Judge Joan Thompson, is doing quite well for herself. She has just recently been bred to October Sunshine. I hope the offspring have Lady Gay's snubby little nose and big copper eyes. She is a dream of a queen and has made quite a name for herself on TV. Mrs. Paris specializes in Creams and is really making a niche for herself with her Cream Persians.

Mrs. Ralph Wilkinson, President of the Atlantic Cat Club, together with

Judge Doris Hobbs, are visiting Washington, D.C., and several points in Virginia, Williamsburg, Valley Forge, and other places of historical interest.

Mrs. Mary Ohlin, that top-bracket breeder from Westerley, Rhode Island, is going around on tip-toe. Rosita of Allington has presented her with three gorgeous babies, two wee queens and a male. Miss Langston has stated that Rosita is the image of her Champion Mair, so you English breeders will know what Mrs. Ohlin really has in her new litter. It has taken well over six years to get a litter from this breeding. These kits are sired by Ahoy and are the same type as her Morfydd and Myfanwy—short cobby bodies and wonderful heads. This breeder is burned up with lovable energy for her beautiful cat children. She spent two nights in the cattery with Rosita and was afraid to go to bed the first night they arrived fearing that something *might* happen to them. Each morning she peeps into the cattery with bated breath, and so far, they are doing fine. Quite likely they will take everything in the shows this fall!

Every day there are telephone calls, long and short distance, airmail letters and regular letters, all telling about kittens, kittens, kittens. Kittens out of this world, kittens straight from heaven, all of them winners, all of them good! What a show season we are going to have this year! So many other breeders are talking about their kittens that it leaves me no chance at all to brag about my own. They are pretty special, too!

Cicely Mellor, the Secretary and Treasurer of the C.F.F. Solid Color Club is doing a bang-up job in executive efficiency. The Club is indeed fortunate in securing the services of this capable lady.

For the last ten years I have been trying to get the New York Social Register interested in feline culture. At long last I have found three ladies of Feline Friends who are working for the same end. Last week we secured the sponsorship of a calico bridge. Decorations will be in calico. Each hostess of a table will furnish her own prize for top score. Twenty-five tables will play duplicate bridge, the other tables will be straight contract. No other game will be allowed at this party. Publicity has been promised by every big daily in New York City. The ballroom of one of the largest hotels has been donated. In fact the

manager of this hotel has stated that Feline Friends may have this ballroom once a year for this event which promises to turn into an annual affair. All proceeds will be clear with no expenses to Feline Friends at any time. This same group of workers are planning a flower show in Allenhurst, New Jersey, the first part of June. No definite date has been set as yet. Mrs. Arthur Stockwell will throw her seaside home open to the visitors. There will be an admission charge which will be turned over to the Feline Friends.

The Crusaders will hold an election of officers at their headquarters in New York City on June 10th. Three junior league novices will pit their political strength against two of the older officers who are well known organizers in the Fancy. May the best gal win!

I think Victory Bell is the queen dearest to our Molly's heart. She has won so many ribbons that it is hard to find space to display them. "Vicky" has been the All-Eastern Tortoiseshell and her owner feels that some day she surely will be selected as a National Champion. This little queen was born on VE day; not content with that she came into the world with an inverted 'V' on her head. If you don't believe it, take a look at the picture. That marking on her head was not put there with shoe polish!

Just to give you an idea how good Victory Bell really is, one year she won everything at the Eastern States Show held in Springfield, at New Haven later she was declared Best in All-Breed, Best in Tabby and Tortie Division and Best Champion, in Philadelphia she won a

gold trophy as Best Champion, Best Tortoiseshell and Best Cat. Victory Bell is beautifully marked, not intermingled—but in patches—patches of orange, brown, black and cream in the right places. One of the New Haven papers in giving Victory Bell a write-up, referred to her as a "national sensation in type and coloring."

"Something of a Versifier"

Another queen permitted the run of the Brennan home is the matriarch Printie. A publicity man visiting the Brennan home is decidedly biased as to Printie. He says if he were a judge he would award Printie a winner's ribbon at least a yard wide! So far Printie has had more than ninety-seven kittens. Our

American Personality—MRS. MOLLY BRENNAN

ONE of the most gracious ladies of our Fancy is Molly Illingworth Brennan, of native American, Scotch and English ancestry. Were I writing her pedigree, I'd say all her ancestors were "imported." One of her grandmothers was Jane McGregor—and is our Molly proud of that one! She is proud, too, of her father, George Clark Illingworth, of Aberdeen, Scotland.

This charming breeder is from a family of six children and all of them loved animals. One brother, Dr. Denton A. Illingworth, is a veterinarian. He is the one most responsible for sending little sister Molly into the Fancy—he presented her with a very lovable Blue-Cream Persian. At that time good Blue-Creams were few and far between.

When she lost this pet during its kittenhood Molly went out and scoured the Fancy to find another Blue-Cream. She eventually found one and now this

feline matriarch of Mol-Vron Cattery is seventeen years old and in good health. She is the great, great grandmother of the famous Tortoiseshell champion, Glad-Low's Victory Bell of Mol-Vron, the cat who was held up by Judge Julia Hunter at the last Empire Show in New York, while the coloring and markings were stressed in detail to all those present. Mrs. Hunter further stated that "this is the kind of a Tortoiseshell every breeder should strive to produce."

The "V" Sign

Molly Brennan has raised many Persians, many colors, and is strictly a Longhair breeder. Cats are her hobby and like so many others in the Fancy her second hobby is horticulture. She has specialized in asters, all kinds and all colors, and is known in her home city of New Haven, Conn., as "the Aster Lady."



Mrs. Molly Brennan at home with her Champion Tortoiseshell Victory Bell, who sleepily regards an impressive display of some of his show awards.

Molly being something of a versifier sends me some lines she has dedicated to Printie :

She is just a cat

With a coat of blue, cream and red,

Her legs are wobbly,

But what of that ?

She is my cat.

I talk to her when I'm lonely,

I know she understands.

She caresses me on the cheek

And gently licks my hand.

My dear 'ol Printie of seventeen years

Has become a part of my heart

To be cherished 'til life ends.

And on judgment day if I have my way

That leads where the righteous meet,

If Printie is barred by the heavenly guard

We will, both of us, brave the heat.

This sentiment expresses exactly just how Molly Brennan feels about her cat family.

Mrs. Brennan is part of the Association's hierarchy. Her value is that of a

balance wheel among the various contestants and I have always found her fair in her estimates of both judges and people. She is no compromiser but a woman of intense loyalty to her friends. She is very closemouthed regarding most things relating to the Fancy and is decidedly allergic to gossip and curiosity seekers. She is not given to soft-soaping or small talk regarding her friends and she never at any time aspires to the plaudits of the "avant-garde." She inspires confidence and sticks with her friends.

I find Molly Brennan a grand person to know and I number her among my most valued friends.

BILLIE BANCROFT.

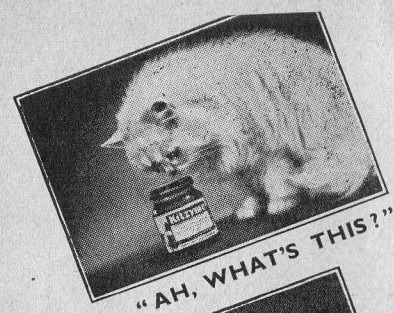
We regret that owing to pressure on our space this month we have had to hold over the promised feature dealing with Exports. We hope to include this item in next month's issue.—*Editor.*

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 programme for the 1953-54 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. The list will be revised from time to time as fresh information becomes available.

	Promoted by	Venue
1953		
27 June ...	Seacroft Agricultural Society ... (see displayed advertisement in this issue)	Leeds
18 July ...	Barnsley Agricultural Society	Barnsley
31 July ...	Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club	London
3 August ...	Urmston Show	Urmston, Lancs.
27 August ...	*Sandy Show	Sandy, Beds.
18 September ...	*Herts and Middlesex Cat Club	London
1 October ...	*Siamese Cat Club	London
9 October ...	*G.C.C.F. Coronation Show	London
17 October ...	Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club	Edinburgh
21 October ...	*Southsea Cat Club	Southsea
24 October ...	*Midland Counties Cat Club	Birmingham
11 November ...	*Croydon Cat Club	London
28 November ...	Scottish Cat Club	Paisley
28 November ...	Yorkshire County Cat Club	London
9 December ...	*National Cat Club	London
1954		
9 January ...	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat Club	
16 January ...	*East Anglian Cat Club	
23 January ...	*Lancs. and North Western Counties Cat Club	Manchester
2 February ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London

* Denotes show with Championship status.



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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.

Plans for Departure

THE preparations for a 4-months' absence from home, garden, and my small family of cats were more exacting than I supposed. But as always one finds so much kindness and help within the Fancy, especially when one needs it most. Eventually I was able to complete the hundred-and-one jobs that had to be done and depart happy in the knowledge that all my cats have gone to loving homes where they will have individual attention.

Champion Dawn of Pensford is staying with Mr. and Mrs. Boulton, of Bromley, and will have her kittens there in June by Mrs. Davies's Elmwood Cavalier. Dawn's mother, Anchor Felicity, will be with Mr. and Mrs. Barron at Uxbridge and will, I hope, have a bonny litter by her former love, Champion Astra of Pensford. Foxburrow Felicity, my young Blue male, returns temporarily to his breeder Mr. Soderberg and while he is at Caterham I know he will be petted and well taken care of by Miss Burgess. He has grown into a beautiful young

adult with remarkably mature head development for a nine-months-old male.

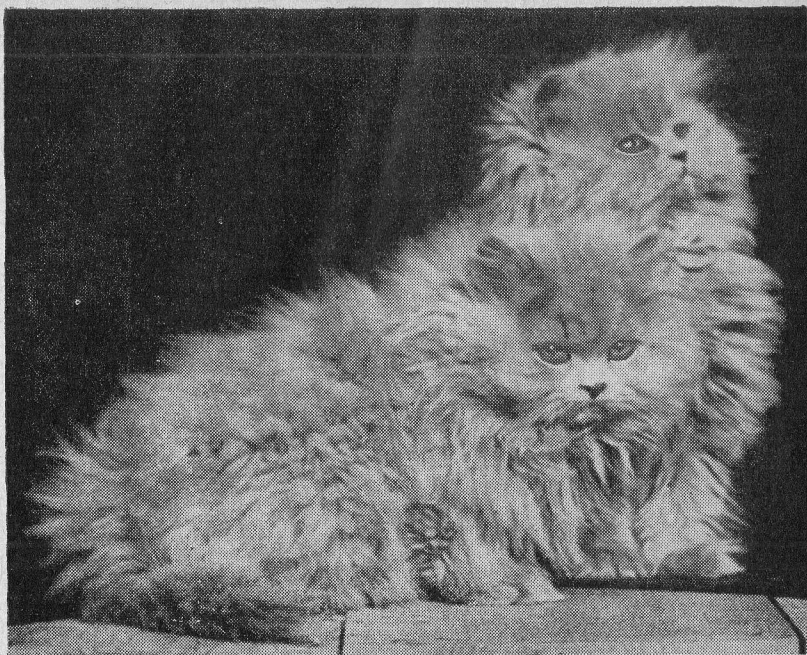
Harpur Juliet, with her love child, a black male kitten, has gone to a friend. Her history is interesting as she is the first to cause me anxiety when kittening. In April last year she had to have her first family by Caesarian operation and the vet. advised me to have her spayed as it was his view that queens were not satisfactory breeders after this experience. However, I decided to give her another chance of having a family normally and allowed her to find her own mate. The result was she gave birth to four kittens without much ado. Three of these petered out for some unknown reason leaving her with a hefty, jet black male.

The reason I allowed her to mismate was because "mongrels" do not usually have the massive heads and bone development of our pedigree Blues. But when Juliet's kittens were born they were big and apparently strong. She is the first rather small queen I have bred from and this episode has confirmed my theory that queens built on generous lines make the most satisfactory breeders. Next time Juliet will be permitted to make another love match when I hope she will prove her ability to rear a family.

Mrs. Orpin, who lives in Kent, had a similar experience of a Blue queen having kittens normally after a Caesarian but this case was remarkable because Mrs. Orpin did not realise the queen was in season, so she mated within a few weeks of the operation. She produced four kittens and reared them successfully.

(continued on page 33)

Please mention OUR CATS when replying to advertisements



AVERNOLL SIR MICHAEL and WILLOW STAR (sired by Sir Roger of Dunesk) were Best Kitten Pair at the Blue Persian C.C. Show and Best Pair of Blues at the Midland Counties. Breeder is Mrs. E. Brine, of Wickford, Essex.

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Just Fancy (concluded from page 31)

When I return home, one or two well-bred Blue female kittens will be acquired as mates for Foxburrow Frivolous. The breeding of Blues will always be my greatest interest although my experience with Creams and Blue-Creams has given me a great deal of pleasure.

Mrs. Towe tells me she has mated her lovely Siamese Champion Hillcross Melody to Mrs. Duncan Hindley's Champion Prestwick Penglima Pertama. The progeny of this pair should be outstanding.

The Croydon Cat Club Annual General Meeting in March was very well attended. It was a nice idea to present the cups and spoons to those winners who were present to receive them. Miss Statman had the honour of being awarded the trophy for most points won with Blue kittens. Her Anson Eros played a great part in this success with his remarkable record of being exhibited at six shows where he was unbeaten by a Blue kitten judged by the Blue specialist judge on the day. Mr. Arthur Towe gave his services as organiser of the Croydon Show; a most generous gesture and one much appreciated by the members.

Shows "Down Under"

At this writing (13th April) the R.M.S. Orontes is passing Portugal and we are due to reach Gibraltar at 9 p.m., only waiting an hour to disembark passengers. After some cloudy and rather chilly weather, we are at last in sunshine and navy blue seas. On Thursday we reach Naples and it will be a scamper round to see as much as possible ashore in the allotted six hours.

I am due to arrive at Sydney on 16th May to judge at the Cat Fanciers' Association Show on 22nd and 23rd May. The rest of my engagements during my month's stay in Australia were not quite settled when I last heard but on 17th June I expect to fly to Auckland, New Zealand. It will be my longest trip by air—1,300 miles across the Tasman Sea. The Auckland Show will take place on 19th and 20th June and I know that

Mr. Robert Marshall, Hon. Secretary, has been working hard to make this fixture a success. On 26th June I shall be staying with the President, Miss Hore, who is also editress of the New Zealand monthly journal "Cats."

Further judging engagements have been fixed I understand for the Palmerston North and the Invercargill Shows. A trip to the Lakes and Southern Alps has been arranged by Mr. Aberdeen, the President, and then I fly back to Wellington or Auckland to board the "Ruahine" due to sail on 11th July, reaching home in mid-August.

And now, last but not least, my sincere and appreciative thanks to my fellow judges, breeders and friends who gave me such a lovely send off from St. Pancras. Thanks also to all those who so kindly sent flowers and messages to my home and the ship. When the steward handed me a sheaf of telegrams, he surveyed them rather gloomily and remarked: "My word, but you will have to answer them all!" A very pleasant task, I assured him.

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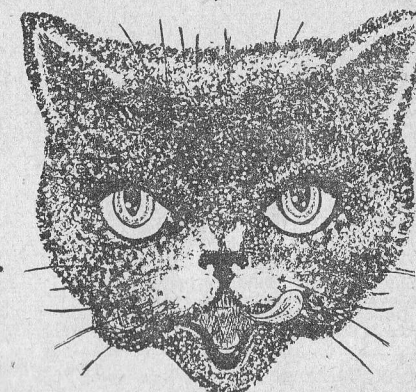
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SILVER TABBY Kittens, born 25.4.53, sire Champion Hillcross Silver Flute, dam Crinkle. From 3 guineas.—Kapp. Cro. 6711.

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Miscellaneous

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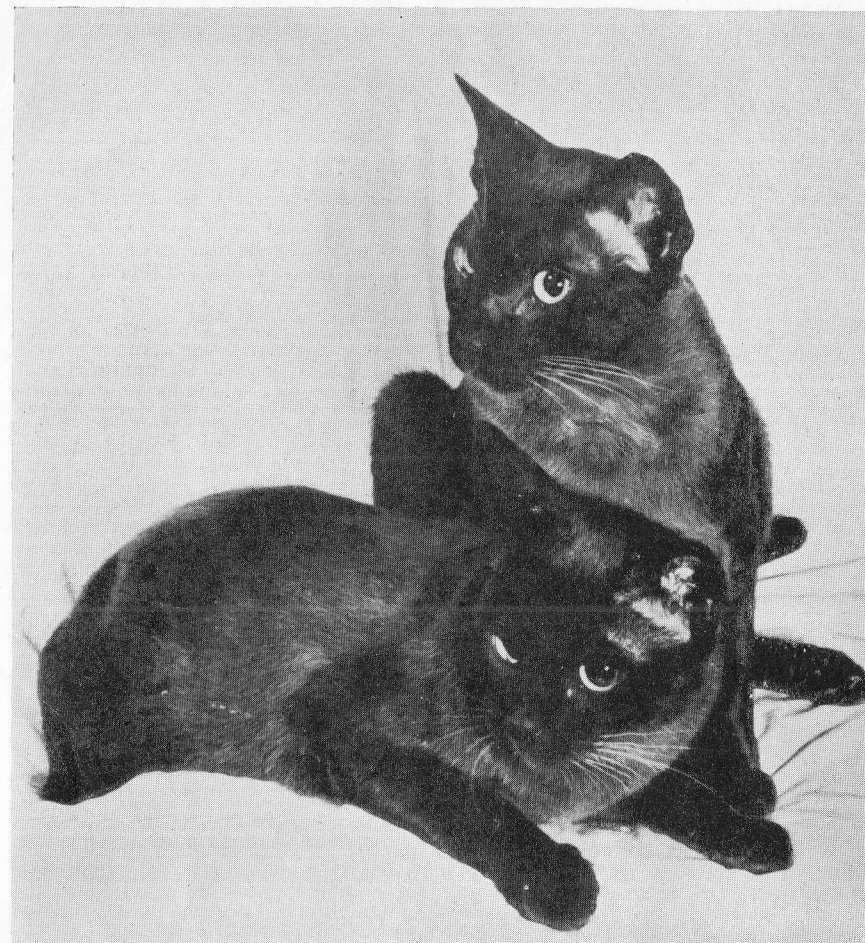
THE TAIL-WAGGER MAGAZINE, the monthly British Dog Magazine for dog owners and dog lovers everywhere. Fully illustrated and complete with informative features and instructive articles. Annual subscription 11s. (inc. postage) for twelve issues.—The Tail-Wagger Magazine, 356-360 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

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Ginnie, a 4-year-old ginger cat belonging to the Minsell family, of Keston, Kent, has gained an unusual reputation—she has become known as the cat with the diamond paws. When it was noticed that Ginnie was limping, Mrs. Mansell took a look at one of his forepaws—and took out two small diamonds. She polished them and took them to a jeweller. The local police were told but so far no-one has come forward to claim the gems. Ginnie's movements now are watched with unusual interest!



LATEST FELINE FASHION — SEAL SKIN AND YELLOW

For this striking picture of a Burmese pair, we are indebted to Mrs. Blanche Warren, of the Casa Gatos Cattery, Idyllwild, California, who has done so much to pioneer this new variety in America. The cat in the foreground is Champion Casa Gatos Sontex, who was best Burmese in America for two years, and it is interesting to record that she is the grandmother of the young male bought by Lady Aberconway, President of the Burmese Cat Society of England. Burmese are the latest edition to recognised breeds in this country. Their body colour is a solid rich dark seal brown and the eyes should be Oriental in shape and yellow in colour. We shall publish some interesting notes on the breed by Mrs. Warren in next month's issue.