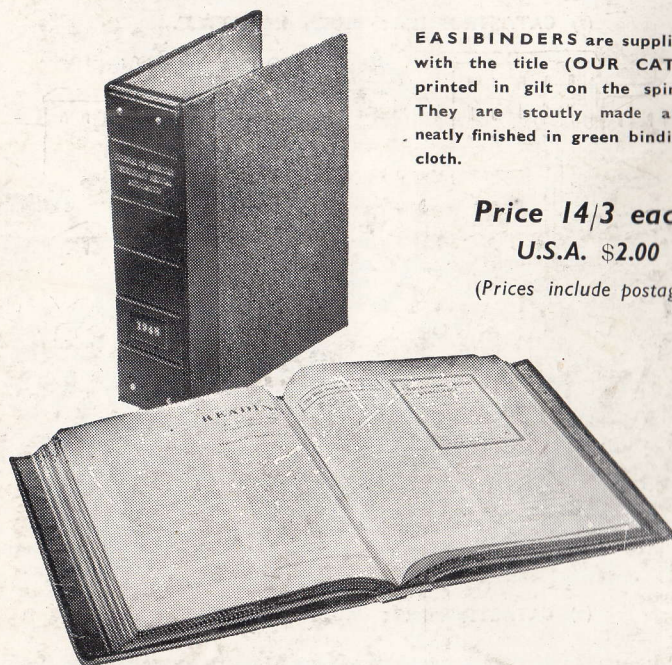


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Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



KITTEN ON THE KEYS

Just for a seasonal change we offer a suggestion for that festive party occasion or maybe that next fancy dress affair. It might even be an idea for the next Championship Show! Photograph by "The Evening News."

DECEMBER 1953

1/6

SOME REFLECTIONS ON EYES (see page 3)

My
Christmas present-
I can't wait to
begin!

- Kit-E-Kat is chock-full of fish and liver—plus extra vitamins and minerals for perfect health.



So clean and so simple—
just open the tin!

- Kit-E-Kat is absolutely ready to serve: and there's enough for several meals—only 9d.

KIT-E-KAT the complete and nourishing cat food

Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING

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

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

VOL. 5 No. 12

DECEMBER 1953

Managing Editor:

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

American Associate Editor:

MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

TO YOU — AND ME

THE time is here once again—all too quickly, I fear, for most of us!—for me to write “Finis” to another volume of the Magazine. Yes, this is our 58th issue marking the completion of our fifth year of publication and once again it is my privilege and pleasure to thank you all for your wonderful support and co-operation over the past twelve eventful months. And to my message of appreciation I would like to attach my seasonal good wishes to readers of OUR CATS everywhere. May 1954 bring Health, Happiness and Prosperity to you and yours and may it also be a year of record progress and achievement in our Fancy.

Following our usual practice, we shall dispense with stocktaking and a balance sheet for 1953. But I will reveal this much. The year now dying has been the best-ever in the life of the Magazine and it has also seen the production of our best-ever single issue—the 104-page Grand International Number of October last.

Apropos this special issue, I continue to receive congratulatory messages from readers all over the world. Whilst all have been appreciated and preserved in our files, I feel that some are really deserving mention, despite the fact that it was my original intention not to return to the subject after publication of the letter I received from H.M. the Queen. So here they are:

From Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy: “I was delighted with the Grand International Number and think you did a great service to the whole Cat Fancy world. We need people like you who have the interests of *all cats* at heart. Thank you for all you have done to cement the world friendship of our Fancy. Please look on me as one who is ever willing to help you in this great work. The issue was a magnificent gesture and I am sure it was the success we all dreamed of.”

From Australia: “I personally consider the issue one of the finest—both in contents and production—I have ever had the pleasure of reading. The bonds of Empire—in the Cat World at least—must receive an added impetus towards further strength and unity.”

From America: “Did you know that many subscribers in this country consider OUR CATS the finest exclusive cat magazine found anywhere? I do believe that it most completely fits the needs of both companion cat owners and breeders.”


Also from America: “Your International Number has definitely established OUR CATS over here. Congratulations upon a magnificent effort.”

From Southern Rhodesia : Your International Number was a triumph."

From New Zealand : "The special October Number just received is the talk of the cat world out here. Thanks for giving us such a fine show in the Magazine."

I regret that Billie Bancroft's usual features are absent from this issue. A short while back she suffered a great loss through the death of her husband and for a time she will be preoccupied with the single-handed management of home and estate. We all hope to have you back with us very soon, B.B. Mrs. Bancroft has written me briefly to say that Mrs. A. Vize, English guest judge, was a great success at the Garden State Cat Club Show in Newark, New Jersey, early this month. Tragically, a gloom was cast over the proceedings by the sudden collapse and death within the precincts of the show hall of Mrs. Earl Nack, one of America's best-known and best-liked fanciers. Mrs. Nack, breeder of the famous Kute Kit Silvers (Chinchillas), was a Vice-President of the American Cat Fanciers' Federation.

EDITOR.

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

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CHRISTMAS DAY IN BED—CONSOLATION

A beaker of red tulips
And a Siamese cat,
Chocolate-faced, humourless
As the Buddha, or somebody like that.
Wisely calm and comforting;
Wide eyes that change from amethyst to gold
Or, when in darkness, like twin signals red,
Gazing among the valleys of my bed,
While from a small beige throat
A murmur sounds, sweet as a carol
And as old.

These fine lines were written by an elderly lady, Mrs Ph. P. Douglas, of Edinburgh. They came to us via the breeder of her Siamese cat Dr. Sheina Watters, Roslin, Midlothian.

Some Reflections on Eyes

By J. C. L.

A RECENT essay competition set me thinking about eyes. I have no especial knowledge of the human organ, but of certain other eyes I know perhaps a little. North, South, East, West, they stare and blink at me lovingly, rapaciously—with querulous impatience if there is food about ; with anxious delicate inquiry when they hope there will be food about ; and benignly when stomachs are full.

There are moments when North's glance grows solemn and mournful. He was neutred, but I do not think this is the sole reason for that sad amaze in eyes large as marbles, luminous as budding beech leaves. His brother, South, who was also neutered, seldom appears disconsolate and smiles at us daily from eyes the warm hue of new farthings.

The affable air of sister East, mother of many litters, is more often overcast. Her eyes resemble opaque honey, reflecting the green-grey pepper tints in her neat tabby coat. West, of other and more exalted stock, regards the world with a kind of barley-sugar beam admixture of scorn and innocence.

Yet I find that I know less than nothing about cats' eyes. It is always the same with cats. Start to study them seriously and you discover the depth of your ignorance. I began to concentrate on their eyes.

Ask anyone to describe the colour of a cat's eyes and they'll generally answer, "Green." But the vivid all-green eye is found only in such varieties as the pure-bred Chinchilla and the Russian Blue. As all cat experts know, every good pedigree cat has its own distinctive eye colour. Who can forget the startling blue stare of a Siamese, the lambent

orange or copper of true Blacks and Red Tabbies ?

What misleads the amateur is the green tinge in the eye of the common cat. This, technically speaking, is a fault. It radiates from a fine emeraldine flange around the pupil, giving to the iris a suggestion of lime, lemon, gooseberries, of leaves in early autumn or young grass in sunlight. This kind of eye is never emerald as in the Russian Blue, and if the tinge is present in certain pedigrees, will count heavily against the cat in any show.

During April my Blacks look as though part of the lawn had slid into their faces. Even my treasure, West, has the traitorous green glimmer. Unluckily for breeders, the eye colour proper of a cat is not usually discernible until it is over six months old. There is a delicious stage when a kitten's eyes are changing from their baby blue. They then resemble ripe white currants.

A Fallacy Exploded

Next, the eye pupils. These vary in shape with age, we are told, though I have never made the effort to observe this personally. In the young cat the pupil is a pointed oval, in the fully adult round, with many intermediate stages. Some authorities think that with careful study and comparative research it may be possible eventually to tell the age of a cat by its pupil.

We often imagine fondly that pupils being wide at night are narrowest at noon, and it has sometimes been thought possible to tell the time of day by inspecting the cat's eye. But this too is a fallacy—like supposing that all Blue-eyed White cats are deaf.

The sclerotic or white of a cat's eyeball is rarely visible. What we see is cornea, iris, pupil. I have to remind myself that the pupil of the eye is not a solid lozenge in its centre, but is, as it were, a rent in the curtain of the iris. In the cat's eye this aperture is exceptionally contractile, closing to a vertical slit when light is excessive and opening to admit every available ray when light is dim. Thus at night it expands enormously, making use of rays which, it is said, are beyond our range.

But the pupil is not always narrowest at noon and will widen at any time of the day if sunlight is obscured by cloud. Pupils contract at night if subjected to light beyond bearing, and may be affected also by stress of emotion or illness.

Favourite Colours

Cats cannot see in the dark. This is maintained by all the best authorities. But the opening and closing power of the pupil gives a cat the ability to regulate its vision exactly in any degree of light, and cats' vision in faint light is better than that of most other animals. They can see very much better than we do at dusk or in starlight.

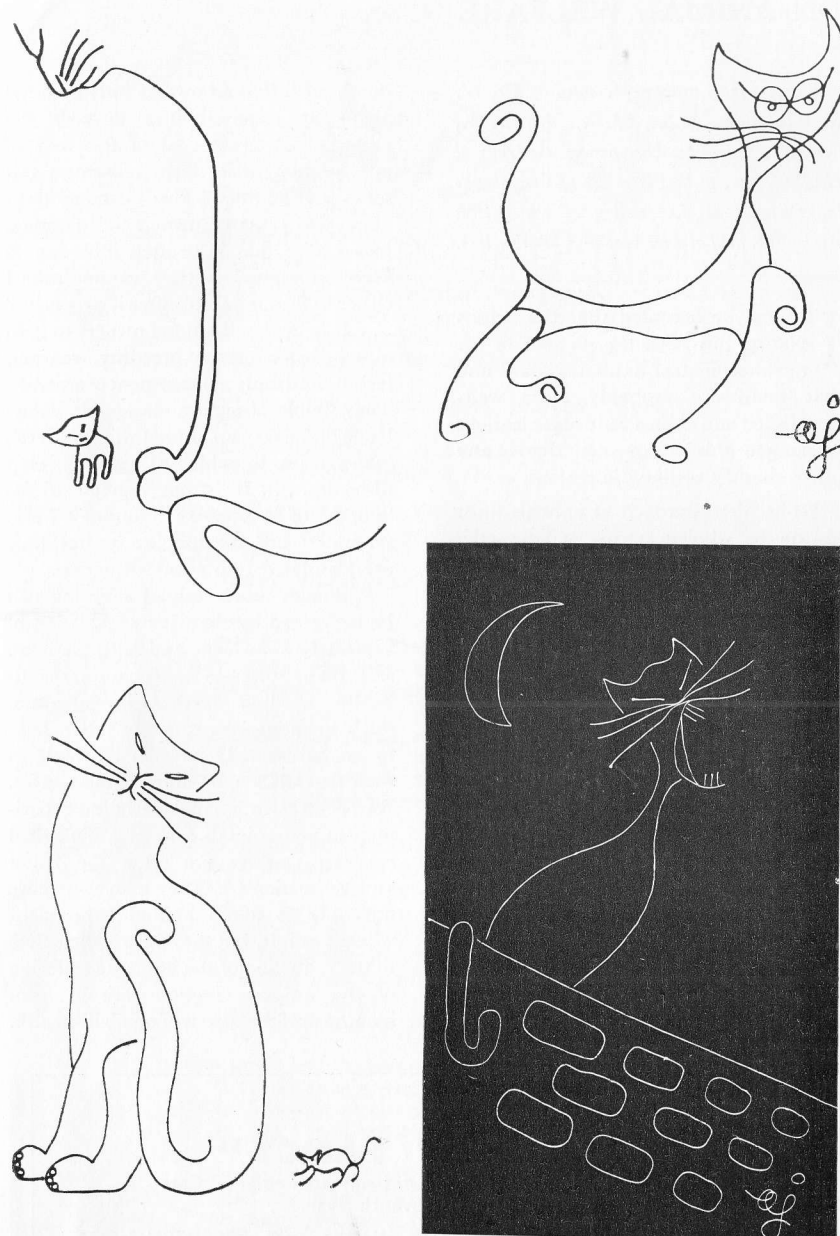


A nice quartette of Blue Longhair kittens bred by novice fancier Mrs. D. E. Gibbons, of Great Baddow, Essex. Reading from left to right they are Coronet Elizabeth, Coronet Anne, Coronet Phillip and Coronet Charles comprising a first litter at six weeks old.

Experts say that cats depend more on their eyesight than their sense of smell and are quicker to perceive movement than are dogs. Experiments have proved that some cats can distinguish colour and will favour certain vivid shades of red or blue. Other cats have acted as though blind to these and green. Their daytime vision obviously depends on movement. They will spot an insect moving in grass when it is imperceptible to the human eye. A cat may even fail to recognize its owner immediately if he or she appears in unfamiliar clothing.

The eyes of no other animal are quite so expressive of condition and feeling as a cat's, as all devoted observers will agree. The cat's eye becomes dull in sickness, when the haw or third eyelid—which zoologists are pleased to call the *nictitating membrane*—may appear across the surface of the eyeball beneath the outer lids.

There is no need to expatiate to cat lovers on the feelings expressed in a cat's eyes. Dear North, South, East and West. Curious, intent, they watch me, demanding food, demanding praise, waiting for the door to open, waiting for the day to end. I am told plainly that I exist only to serve and to obey.



Artist and illustrator A. Judah gets striking results with an unusual medium—a few bits of black and white thread glued to the drawing paper. It is a novel form of doodling which you can try out for your own amusement, but don't expect to emulate the skill of Mr. Judah at the first attempt.

ON ANIMAL WELFARE

Extracts from a paper presented by Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, M.Sc., Ph.D., M.R.C.V.S., F.R.I.C., Scientific Director of the Animal Health Trust, to the Assembly of Corresponding Societies at the meeting of the British Association held at Liverpool in September last.

IT must be accepted that the British Nation has been the pioneer in the advancement of animal welfare and that there are probably more well-established and enthusiastic organizations working for this improvement than in any other country of like dimensions.

Whilst the approach to animals must always be wholeheartedly sympathetic, it is my sincere view that the sentimental approach to animal welfare is not in the best interests of the animal. Subjective study can all too easily lead to deductions which if acted upon without further thought can react against the welfare of the animals concerned. I need only mention at this stage that the pet that is excessively fondled, wrapped in unnecessary clothing and fed excessively with human tit-bits such as sweets, chocolates, etc., can suffer not only directly from this defective management but also indirectly from the transmission of disease from man to animal and vice versa.

Despite the great services carried out by animals on behalf of man it cannot

be assumed that all owners fully appreciate their responsibilities towards the animals. A great deal of this lack of appreciation arises from ignorance but some is undoubtedly due to thoughtlessness. How many owners of domestic pets realise that it is often inhuman to keep an animal if they cannot afford either to feed it or look after it properly? . . . It behoves all animal owners to gain a knowledge of the breeding, rearing, feeding and daily management of animals. They should also get a reasonable knowledge of the way an animal works and the many ways in which it may develop ill-health. . . It is not enough to be "fond" of an animal; "fondness" and sympathy are meaningless unless they are translated into reasoned action.

Although much animal suffering can be prevented by the wide application of veterinary knowledge and skill, there are still many diseases and causes of ill-health needing further investigation. Such investigations to be of full benefit to animals usually have to be made in their first trials upon animals themselves. Rarely do scientists make needless experiments upon animals; indeed, biological research workers are often the truest anti-vivisectionists. They take every care not only to avoid animal experiment where possible, but they devote their lives to the reduction of the immense suffering of the animal kingdom arising from ignorance of the causes of much ill-health.

All fanciers should read

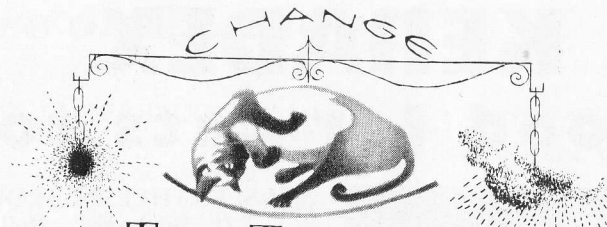
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FURTHER OUTLOOK: UNSETTLED

To all cat lovers, and those who
Can take their pleasures gaily,
I'd like to introduce to you
Our Siamese, Lucy Bailey.

You'll know if you have one of these
That what I say is true;
You do not own a Siamese
The Siamese owns you!

The ordinary cat will purr,
It's mew is soft and gentle;
Not so the tropic Siamese,
Whose shriek is elemental!

Young Lucy has a coat of silk,
Of cream and chocolate hue;
Her whiskers are as white as milk,
Her eyes a heavenly blue.

Her knobbly tail, so legend told,
In old Siam it was the rule,
The Royal ladies rings to hold
Whilst they were bathing in the pool.

She looks angelic — but beware!
Her temper is uncertain;
She'll lacerate your favourite chair,
Then swing upon a curtain.

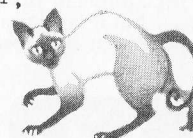
She does just what she wants to do
Without a thought or care;
And goes wherever you may go —
And that means everywhere!

She has her sweeter moments too,
This lovable young Tartar;
With limpid eyes she'll gaze at you
So like a Christian Martyr.

I've told enough to show to you
What we must suffer daily
From Lucy, so we'll say adieu
To 'weather forecast' Bailey.

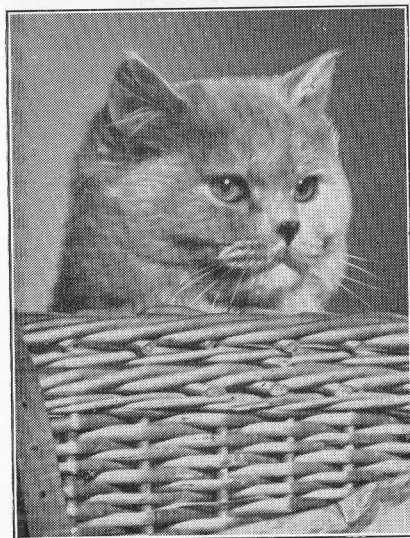
MABEL HIRST

M HIRST



KENADEX

is good for cats too!



A lovely little 'Kenadexer'
6 months old DOMINIC DELILAH

... even sturdier kits, healthier queens and Stud, and a marvellous newfound resistance to colds.

I would indeed be delighted if I could in any way be instrumental in converting more cat owners to use Kenadex instead of smelly, messy cod and halibut liver oils."

*Mrs. Brough, of course, is quite right. Kenadex was produced specially for dogs ... but it is just as good for cats and we know of many cat owners who share the enthusiasm expressed in the above report.

MRS. KATHLEEN BROUGH of
121 Boulevard, Hull, York-
shire, writes :—

"I think it is a great pity that more cat breeders do not realise how good Kenadex is for cats. I have told many of my friends about it but, unfortunately it is only advertised for dogs and this, along with the "doggy" labels on the jars, puts them off.*

I have eleven cats and I give them Kenadex made into a gravy and poured over their meal. They all love the flavour and two of them are so crazy about it that they try and get their heads into the jar as soon as I take the lid off!

As you know, I have been a regular Kit-zyme user since the tablets were first produced. Most of my cats have eight tablets a day. They dote on them so much that I can use them as bribes ... 'Let me comb your trousers and I'll give you a sweetie,' sort of thing. Now the cats get both products — Kit-zyme and Kenadex — and I have found an added improvement since the latter was included in their food

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½ lb. Jar 3/3 1 lb. Jar 5/9 6 lb. Tin 30/- Trial Size Jar 1/9

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Free Booklet on application to the Veterinary Division:

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Ref. No. 83/KX/1

More on Feeding

By P. M. SODERBERG

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

IT is not my intention in this article to cross swords with Dr. Fairchild whose article on feeding appeared in the October issue of OUR CATS. I know Dr. Fairchild to be an expert on cat management as well as a man of science. It is, however, possible that in what I have to say there may be some disagreement with ideas he has actually expressed and an implication that there are others which I feel that he might have put into words.

The real object of all this is to clear up a statement which was attributed to me, a statement which appeared in the press. It was, I know, a complete misunderstanding, for, when I was asked whether the diet of cats was fish, I at once replied that cats were not fed exclusively on fish but that most breeders, including myself also provided both horse meat and tinned foods as the basic diet. I certainly did not say that I did not feed fish because I do, and it must also be well known to most cat owners that practically all the tinned foods now available contain quite a considerable percentage of fish.

The immediate result of this statement was numerous letters from novices asking if they were wrong in feeding fish. I hope that my replies have put their minds at ease. What did surprise me, though, was that several who wrote stated that they gave their cats little other than fish and milk and yet could still say that the animals were in first-class condition. It only goes to show how accommodating a cat can be, but I do think that all owners would be wiser if they provided a much more varied diet. Protein is certainly essential, but its source of

supply should be alternated and advantage should be taken of the fact that animal protein is comparatively easy to obtain even if it is expensive.

I suppose the type of feeding one provides for a pet cat depends upon a number of circumstances not the least of which is the depth of one's pocket. I myself have kept a record of feeding costs over a number of years, and during that time the cost of feeding has increased considerably with the result that to-day it is not really possible to do a cat well on less than eight shillings a week.

People who have written to me have given a cost range varying from two shillings to twelve and sixpence a week, but such figures are obviously misleading unless one knows how many cats are kept and how much of good human food is provided but the cost of which is not taken into account. I think my figure of something over a shilling a day is about right if there are also some useful pickings from the table.

Supply of Protein

Probably no one will disagree with the statement that the main item of the cat's diet should be in the form of protein obtained from horse meat, rabbit or fish. I could add beef, but that is too expensive apart from the fact that I doubt whether its use for cats is yet within the law unless the meat has been condemned for human consumption. Many cat owners have to rule out rabbit for several reasons, but there are advantages for those who live in the country where rabbits are a pest, particularly if they possess a cat which is an expert rabbit catcher.

Let me say here and now that I do not believe an entirely protein diet to be good for any modern cat nor do I believe that it ever was. I cannot prove this except in the light of experience, but I am pretty certain that the original cat had a grand mixture despite the fact that it was primarily a flesh eater. If it caught a living creature, which is what it had to do or starve, it ate the lot including the contents of the victim's stomach and intestines. Here there would almost certainly be cereals and a variety of green vegetable matter.

No Frills or Fancies

If you have a cat which catches mice or rabbits, just watch for yourself to see what happens. I don't think my cats are peculiar, yet when they eat either mouse or rabbit there is little left. Heads and tails are not appreciated, but it is by no means always that even the fur is returned as unwanted. The fittest and toughest cat I ever had lived almost entirely on what he caught for himself, and he lived to a ripe old age.

Bearing these facts in mind I try to provide my less self-supporting aristo-cats with a diet which is well mixed and contains more than proteins. The frequent use of some cereal and green vegetable I have always found useful. Very rarely does the cat turn up its nose at this mixture.

There are no frills and fancies about this feeding, for the cereals used in small quantities are readily available among human feeding stuffs and the waste brown bread you would have put in the dustbin can be made very palatable with meat and gravy. The green food I have found with the highest acceptance by cats is cooked spinach.

I realise that such menus may be lacking in essential minerals and vitamins, but these requirements can be easily met by a number of proprietary articles. If you feel that you should give Vitamins A, B₁, B₂, B₆, Pantogenic acid, Nicotinamide and Vitamin C, a list which about

covers all you require, I can tell you how to provide it with three or four drops from a dropper. If you want to know, write and I will tell you. Mineral salts are usually adequate in any well balanced diet.

When you feel lazy or are pushed for time, you can provide all the essentials for a cat's nutritional welfare out of a tin. You may quite safely feel lazy twice a week, but do not become too tin-minded or your cat will soon turn up its nose. Believe it or not, a cat does appreciate variety.

Milk is a perfect food—when it is provided by any mother for her baby—but it is not an essential part of an adult cat's diet. My cats can take it or leave it. If they are thirsty there is always plenty of water available.

Just one more thing. Don't chop up all food into small pieces but make the cats do a bit of chewing for themselves. It's good for their teeth and they are rarely foolish enough to choke themselves.

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Our Pet Vice

By R. F. RACY

MY wife and I do not smoke. We drink all too rarely. We lead, I have always thought, a somewhat blameless existence. But we save not a penny. A common complaint, in fact.

Apparently, however, we have one vice. I had not thought of it in this light until one day my mother-in-law pointed out: "You say you never have any money. Why don't you get rid of those cats?"

Only a well-drilled respect for the truth compels me to concede that for once my mother-in-law is right. We really ought to get rid of them. Keeping cats is a vice just like smoking or drinking or—anything else. And it operates in exactly the same way.

You start with one. It may be quite accidental, like the drink you couldn't decently refuse. That's how it happened with us. She came to us as a stray—and we couldn't refuse her. We said to each other, "Just one will do no harm. We can feed her off odd scraps from the table, and a few pennyworth of fish. We shall hardly notice it."

We didn't.

So one day, when my wife saw a dear little ginger tom being given away, she brought him home. She knew I would be delighted, and she was perfectly right. "Well," we argued this time, applying the human analogy, "two will be no more difficult to feed than one."

They had kittens, of course. We decided it would be unfair to raise one alone; a kitten ought to have a playmate. Besides, two were so much more fun to watch; so we kept a pair.

Then our ginger tom had to be neutered for sanitary reasons, and we couldn't bear to let the only offspring he would ever have go out of our hands. So we found ourselves with a little family of four.

You see how the vice begins to get hold of you?

As with every vice, he who calls the tune must pay the piper. Food is a substantial item in the weekly budget. But it doesn't end there. Like all animals, they have their occasional complaints; it may be cat flu, or toothache, or a septic pad. So there is generally a modest account to settle every quarter with the vet. And of course there is the expense of boarding kennels when we can afford to take a holiday.

Food, medical treatment and proper attention during holidays are only the basic necessities, once you have acquired a pet. But you can be certain the vice has taken a firm grip of you when you start to subscribe to cat magazines, to buy books about cats, and to attend cat shows in distant parts of the country. You will have reached the final stage of intoxication when, like ourselves, you buy special cat baskets for use on journeys and spend hours of time and coats of paint in preparing special kittening boxes.

The Debit Side

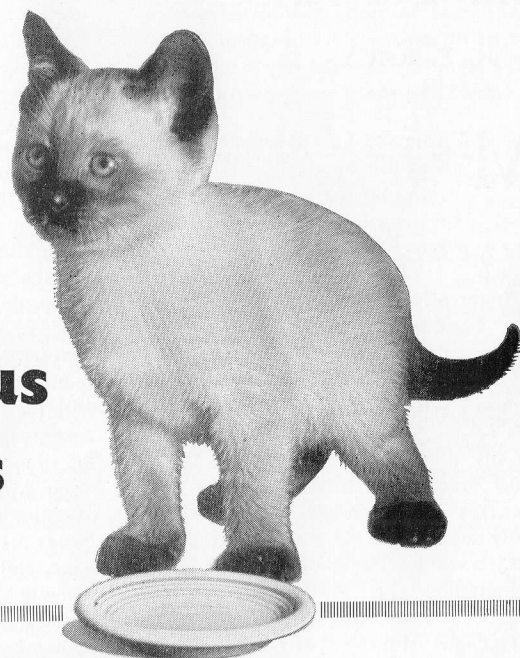
Once you have started on the downhill path, momentum increases and there is no stopping. The bottles of disinfectant you use while the kittens are learning their manners; the broken flowers you have to replace in the garden; the collars, bells, ribbons and trinkets you buy for your pets; the donations you make to humane organizations; the cat postcards you simply *must* have; there is no end to it.

I have never dared to estimate their total cost in a year. Like the inebriate, we cannot squarely face up to our situation. If we did so, we might be shocked into sobriety.

(concluded on page 20)

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

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with a selection of the best
items from home and overseas*



MY warning in last month's issue anent the activities of cat thieves appears to have been timely. Already in the London area humane organizations are being asked to handle an increasing number of appeals from distracted owners who have lost their pets. In one south-west district alone nearly twenty well-cared-for cats have mysteriously disappeared. That despicable character, "the man with the sack," is on the prowl and the long nights are all in his favour. So do please be warned, you pet owners who live in the cities, and remember to keep puss indoors during the hours of darkness.

One of the latest American film releases is "The Actress" starring Jean Simmons, Teresa Wright and Spencer Tracy. It is good entertainment packed with little homey touches, notably the scene where Teresa Wright argues with her pet cat who insists on eating her favourite pot plant.

Can a cat have diabetes? According to the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, he can. Dr. Joseph Dlugach reports therein the case of a cat who was taken to hospital for laboratory tests because of an excessive loss of weight. The cat was emaciated although it had a good appetite and the only other symptom was an abnormal thirst. Diabetes was diagnosed and insulin treatment was started. Gradually the cat gained weight and was eventually restored to full health. It is pointed out, however, that animals are subject to "insulin shock" just like human beings if too much of the drug is injected at one

time. Overdosing results in dizziness and inability to stand.

The Tail-Waggers' Club, which has over 5,000 members, has recently had the pleasure of enrolling the three cats owned by Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

"Man and Beast" (Faber & Faber, 7s. 6d.) is the title of a collection of vividly written short stories by the popular novelist Phyllis Bottome. They are constructed from the author's own observations and from her actual contact with the animals around whom the stories are written. Miss Bottome contends that "there is a borderland where the spirit of man impinges on the animal, and the animal, in his turn, reacts upon the mind of man." Those who live with cats will understand this reasoning.

According to a recent survey, Britons spend £204,000,000 annually on food for their cats and dogs, which is £16,000,000 more than they spend on entertainment. The cat population is estimated at 6,500,000 and the average cost of feeding a cat for a year is shown at between £7 and £8. A fishmonger friend of mine hazarded an opinion that 90% of the whiting catch of this country is bought by cat owners.

There has been a rare fight going on down on the Wendlesworth Estate of the Wandsworth Borough Council. The trouble flared up when the Council warned a number of tenants that if they kept cats, the cats would have to go because they were a nuisance to other

tenants. The owners are particularly worried because under the terms of their tenancy agreements, which they signed, they agreed not to keep animals. Alf Danahar, the well-known professional boxer, is one of the indignant tenants. "Our black-and-white Panda," he says, "has grown up with the family and the children are broken-hearted at the thought of losing him. We are hoping to make the Council realise how strongly we feel—this is one fight my wife is handling." At this writing a campaign has been started to force the Council to rescind their regulations about pets. It is, I think, a pretty shocking state of affairs that an important borough council should seek to impose such a ban, which is hardly encouraging the youngsters to become considerate and humane.

I hear that Mrs. J. M. Newton is to be the English guest judge for the International three-day show to be staged by Racekatten in Copenhagen on 19th, 20th and 21st February. Mr. E. Braeckmann, the Belgian judge, will also officiate.

When a cat fell 40 ft. down a well in the grounds of Essex Home School for Boys, Chelmsford, Inspector Reid, of the R.S.P.C.A. was lowered by harness and ropes to effect a rescue.

The cats of Sir Winston Churchill have been in the news of late. When Sir Winston entertained Mr. John Foster Dulles, the U.S. Secretary of State, and Mr. Winthrop Aldrich, the U.S. Ambassador, at No. 10 Downing Street the other day, Smokey, Sir Winston's black cat, dashed out into the street when the door was opened to receive the distinguished guests, who smiled and waited till the butler captured the errant Smokey. When the guests finally departed, Ginger, Sir Winston's other cat, after a patient wait on the doorstep, dashed into the house when the door was opened. Sir Winston's wonderful cake for his 79th birthday had many decorations

including figures representing his black cat and pet poodle.

A cat from Yeovil, Somerset, found himself a stowaway on a goods train to Salisbury—50 miles away. He was rescued, pardoned for the crime of travelling ticketless, and returned home in a basket.

When Princess Margaret opened new cottages at Dr. Barnado's Home, Wokingham, she met some of the young girls who are resident there and their pet cat Peterly.

A lady motorist described an amusing experience in a London newspaper feature. Driving past Buckingham Palace, she braked suddenly because she thought she saw a black cat sitting in the middle of the road. On investigation it turned out to be a Guard's bearskin, so she approached the nearest sentry and asked if she might leave the bearskin in his hut. As the sentry would give neither word nor gesture, all she could do was to dump the bearskin and return to the car.

Known in Eastbourne as "The Animals' Friend," Mrs. Eva Horne is to retire after 16 years as Superintendent of the Clinic of Our Dumb Friends' League.

Now to end on a seasonal note. Do not give kittens as presents to youngsters without first making sure that the boy or girl, or indeed anyone to whom they are going, can provide a good, kind home. Don't be tempted to overfeed your pets over the holidays when there is a surfeit of food about. Beware of those chicken bones which splinter easily and can cause serious trouble. Finally, don't forget those splendid organizations which exist to relieve the misery and suffering of the countless army of unwanted and stray animals all over the world.

MICKEY.

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.

Continental Abbreviations

In connection with cat news from Continental sources, I have frequently come across the initials F.F.F., F.I.F.E., C.A.C. and C.A.C.I.B. What do they stand for?

F.F.F. stands for the Fédération Féline Francaise and F.I.F.E. for the Fédération Internationale Féline d'Europe. F.F.F. is a member of the F.I.F.E. and is associated with our own Governing Council. The Secretary General is Mme Ravel, 16 Rue des Marronniers, Paris 16e. C.A.C. is the equivalent of our Championship Certificate and C.A.C.I.B. (International Beauty Champion) indicates that the cat is not only a Champion in its own country but that it has also won the premier award in two other European countries.

Puss and Philately

Besides being a cat breeder, I am very interested in philately. I have been told by an expert that during the hundred years stamps have been in use only twice have cats or kittens been used as designs. Can you tell me if this is correct?

According to enquiries we have made on your behalf, the facts you have been given are true. In 1930 Spain issued a green stamp to commemorate the meeting of the nations of the Spanish-American Union. It portrayed Lindbergh, the Statue of Liberty, his aeroplane the Spirit of St. Louis and his pet cat Patsy. When Lindbergh flew the Atlantic he left his mascot behind because he thought it was "too dangerous a journey to risk

a cat's life." But Patsy became much talked about and was, we believe, the first cat to have her picture on any postage stamp. The second stamp to have a feline design is that issued in 1952 by the Netherlands. It shows a child playing with a kitten. It carries a surtax and was issued by the Netherlands Government to help child welfare work.

Tape Worms

I suspect that my cat which is just an ordinary cat has a tape worm. Is this serious and what can I do about it?

A tape worm in a cat is rarely serious. Strangely enough the relation between host and parasite is frequently quite benign. It is only when a cat is run down in health that the tapeworm becomes a menace. Go to your vet. or a clinic and give the weight of the cat and its age. Both facts are important, for worm cures are poisonous to cats as well as to tapeworms. If you carry out the vet.'s instructions precisely, you need have no fear.

Stained Tail

My Chinchilla male has a tail which is yellowish in colour instead of white. It seems to be stained and spoils his appearance. How can I clean the tail?

Pale-coloured cats frequently develop yellow tails due to grease collecting on the hair, and this then becomes soiled in a variety of ways. Some exhibitors seem to be able to clean the tail by use of powder and a good deal of brushing,

but it is doubtful if this method does much more than conceal the yellow tinge. Particularly with males it is far better to wash the tail with soft soap and warm water. After washing, the tail should be carefully dried and powdered. Some of the soap flakes available are equally good, but most of the soapless detergents are best left alone.

Broken Claw

One of my cats frequently breaks a claw and for some time after she catches this claw in any material on which she happens to jump. What can I do to a broken claw to prevent this inconvenience both to me and the cat ?

If a cat is frequently breaking a claw one would suspect that there was something not quite right with the cat's health unless it was the same claw on each occasion. In any case it would be well worth while letting the vet. have a look. Very sharp clippers may be used on a cat's claws, but the art of cutting them has to be learned. Carelessness will only cause a worse split. Blood vessels run quite a long way down into the claw, so these must be avoided or there will be bleeding.

Artificial Eyes

I recently read in a Sunday newspaper that a Siamese cat was to be fitted with an artificial eye. Is this fair to the cat ? Is it being done only because the owner thinks that the cat will be more pleasant to look at ?

Surely this is what the Americans call a sixty-four dollar question?

If a human being loses an eye he not only loses part of his sight but also some of his confidence because he knows that he looks different from other people. Cats have no thoughts of this kind. The fitting of a plastic eye to a cat should be neither painful nor dangerous and it seems quite impossible that it could be

regarded as cruelty. One thing is certain. The tear duct cannot function properly without an eyeball of some sort. Thus, the experiment is not cruel and may well help the cat.

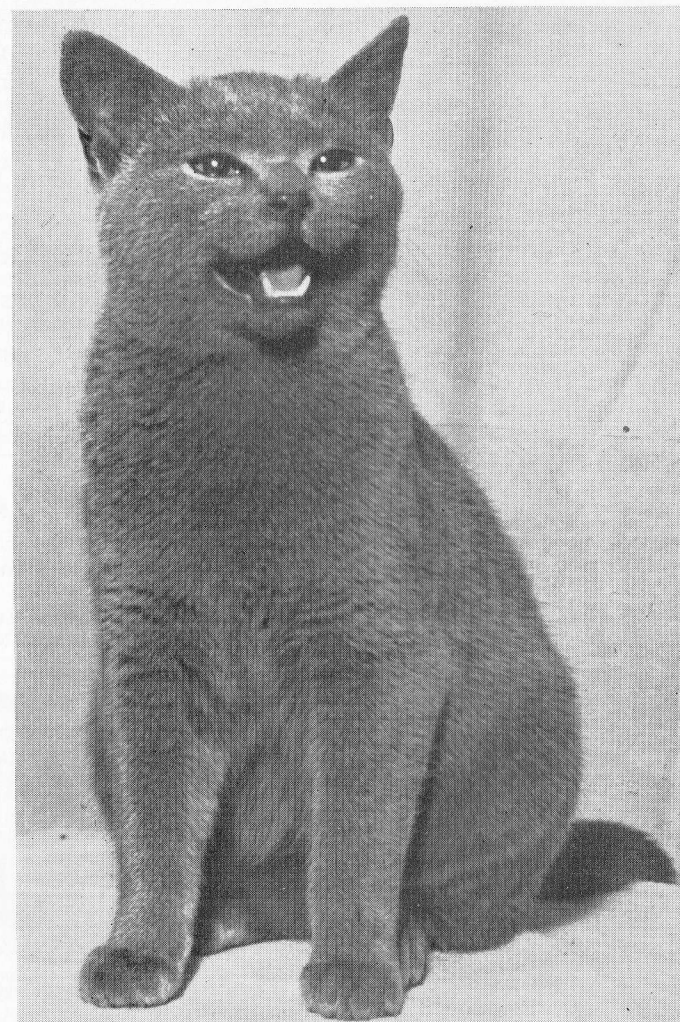
On Stomatitis

What is stomatitis ?

Stomatitis is really an infection of the mouth and it is generally considered to be due to a deficiency of vitamin G. It is also probable that it destroys the victim's sense of taste and causes pain whenever food is eaten. It is definitely a condition that calls for treatment by a veterinarian. Treating a cat with an infected mouth is not a simple operation because he will soon learn to fight off attempts to swab his mouth. A solution of sodium perborate—used as per directions for humans—is excellent and may be applied soaked in a wad of cotton wool. Put the wad in the cat's mouth so that he bites on it but remember, of course, to hold on tightly to the wad so that the cat cannot possibly swallow it. Medication should be continued twice a day until the infection is cleared up. You will soon be able to tell when the pain and soreness have passed—the cat's appetite will return.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

This is the busy period of the year for subscription renewals. Will readers therefore please help us to economise in office work and record-keeping by responding promptly to the first application for renewal ? Any change of address should also be notified promptly.



Rowden, Ipswich

A BRITISH BLUE SHORTHAIR CHAMPION

Champion Ch. Mingswyk Blue Prince, still not two years old, is a worthy representative of a not-so-fashionable variety. He was bred and has been shown to great advantage by Mrs. I. J. Cattermole, of Ipswich, Suffolk, winning his first C.C. at 10 months, when this photograph was taken.

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POLDENHILLS CHINCHILLAS

PRIZE WINNERS

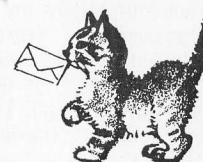
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Correspondence Corner

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.



A THOUGHTFUL ACTION

May I through the medium of your Magazine pay tribute to an unknown porter at Liverpool Street Station?

I recently returned a visiting queen to this station on a Sunday, advising her owner by sending a wire to her telephone number that the cat was due at 3.21 p.m. The following day at 12.30 p.m. the telegraph office rang me to say that my wire of the previous day had not been accepted in London. Frantically I rang the London telephone number, but without success. So I eventually got in touch with Liverpool Street Station, fearing they would have a half-starved animal on their hands. They informed me that a porter had found the cat still there at 6 p.m. He had contacted the owners and she had been collected.

Had it not been for the intelligence of this porter, the cat would have had a terrifying 24 hours.

Mrs. Jose Cattermole,
Ipswich, Suffolk.

AND NOT SO CONSIDERATE

A neighbour of mine answered an advertisement for the sale of a Siamese kitten. When the time came to despatch this youngster, she was put on a train early one evening to travel overnight. As my neighbour lives some ten miles out of Birmingham there was, of course, much waiting and hanging around, so the kitten did not arrive at her destination until 2 o'clock the following afternoon.

This meant the poor little creature had not been released from her box for nearly a day. Her cries were piteous and her new owner found on opening the box she had not urinated all that

time and was in great pain and unable to use her scratching box, having gone so long in this condition. Things eventually righted themselves and the kitten recovered but not without a great deal of anxiety on the part of the new owner and also much anguish for the kitten.

Why do people do these things? I do not suppose the lady who sent the kitten would realise what agony she was imposing upon the kitten, but could she not have thought out the details of the journey with more consideration for the well-being and comfort of the helpless little passenger?

Mrs. Joan Haughton,
Rednal, Worcs.

BREECH BIRTH AND KINDLING

Recently I was asked by a bereaved owner why a queen dies as a result of kindling? I also know breeders who have fortunately never experienced this tragedy and even pooh-pooh the idea!

A breech is, of course, fairly common, and never as easy, or desirable as the natural delivery position, but it is the cross-breech which is to be deplored, and by this I mean when an unborn kitten lies wedged cross-wise at top of the birth canal.

The queen after about two hours straining shows exhaustion, ascertained by uneven pulse, which can be felt just inside the thigh. At such a stage the breeder should insert the index finger sterilised, greased with vaseline, and with the nail cut right back, when kitten can be felt with finger tip and usually worked into an oblong position, whereupon the next strain will bring it quickly into the world.

I have practised this method with innumerable births and have never yet

lost a queen or a kitten, though on one memorable occasion when I had to extract four kittens on one placenta, a vet. present was very perturbed and prophesied I would lose the queen, and the whole litter. He would have liked to use forceps which I deplore as this inevitably means the killing of at least one if not more kittens.

Anyway this particular family of seven (another two were twinning) were all preserved and up to standard, and it was, to me, a great joy to see them all survive with their little mother and do well.

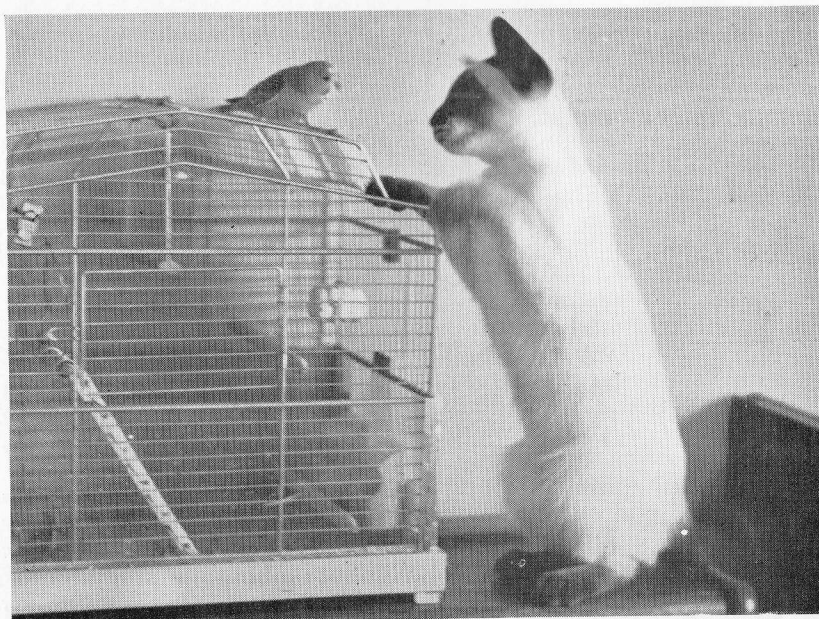
Mrs. F. Tschudi Broadwood,
Send, Surrey.

OUR PET VICE

(concluded from page 11)

My mother-in-law is perfectly right. We ought to get rid of our cats. But, I have heard say, people who get rid of one vice generally acquire another in its place, and often one which is worse than the original.

I think, in spite of all, we'll stick to our pet vice!



Kingsley Taylor

Browndreys Chela the Siamese kitten, and Andy Pandy the budgerigar, are the best of friends. They live with Mrs. Bush at York Hotel, Minehead. Andy will often alight on the kitten's head and even try to feed him from a beakful of seed! We are indebted for this charming study to Chela's breeder, Miss E. M. Elias, of Carhampton, Minehead.

Pet Foods

Survey on the Buying Habits of Pet Owners

THAT well-known national newspaper, the *Daily Herald*, which very correctly describes itself as "the paper of the wage-earners," proposes to expend a lot of time and effort on the publication of a series of reports on the buying habits of its readers. The general object of these reports is the provision of data on the buying habits of families in the field of mass market commodities.

The second report in the series has recently made its appearance. It deals with Pet Foods and therefore contains many facts and figures of special interest to cat lovers.

The information it presents falls under the following headings:—(1) Households owning pets; (2) Type of dealer from whom last purchase of pet foods made; (3) Frequency of purchase of branded foods; (4) Amount spent; (5) Types of food bought; (6) Brands bought; (7) Brands by type. It is based on a nation-wide sample of 6,010 interviews made during March and April this year. And it is important to remember that the survey deals with *branded* cat foods only—the relevant questions posed by the interviewers excluded fresh

fish, fresh meat and milk. Cat medicines were also excluded. The respondents were housewives only and the interviews took place in their homes.

Here are some of the more interesting facts gleaned from the fourteen tables of statistics which are presented in the report:

27% of *Daily Herald* households keep one cat, 2% keep two cats, and 1% keep three or more cats. The average number of cats per 100 households is 34 (number of dogs 25).

Most purchases of cat food are made at the grocers (41%). About two-thirds of dog owners buy branded dog food, as against one-third of cat owners who buy branded cat food. More of the younger families than of the older families buy these foods.

The average monthly amount spent on cat food is about 4s. 3d. Here again the younger housewives spent more than the older. The most popular type of branded cat food consisted of meat and fish. Kit-E-Kat (86%) is easily the most popular brand, the next highest percentage in the table being "dog foods" 7%.

This is worth thinking about

A Subscription to this Magazine makes the ideal present for a cat loving relative or friend for the New Year, a birthday or any other special 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.

SHOW REPORT FROM LAUSANNE

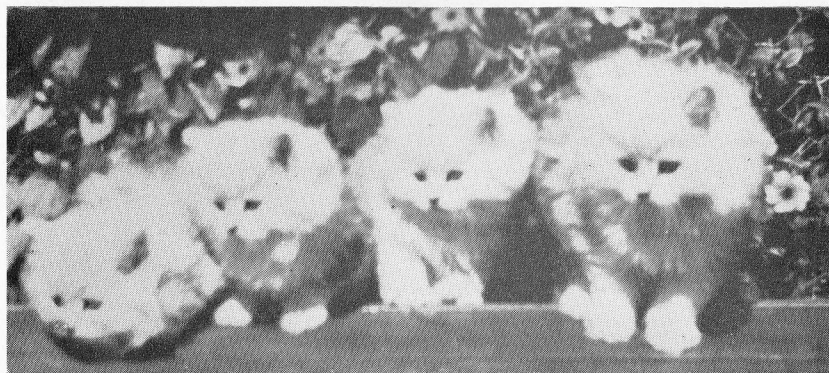
OVER two thousand people visited the delightful October show in Lausanne, Switzerland, staged by the Société Suisse du Chat Persan et Siamois and the Cat Club Vaudois. It was a two-day fixture held in the Foyer du Théâtre and its management was in the capable hands of Mlle C. Perrin, who is Président of the Club and Secretary to the Société. She was ably supported by Mme Bridgett (President d'Honneur of the Club and Président of the Société), Dr. Gunning and Mme Sandoz (Vice-Présidents), Mlle Moser and members of the Committee.

The hall was beautifully decorated with palms, plants and flowers and the exhibits in their pens were shown to perfection in a background of silk and satin curtains. A handsome ocelot from Senegal had a large pen to himself. He attracted a lot of attention and appeared quite unconcerned by the constant stream of visitors.

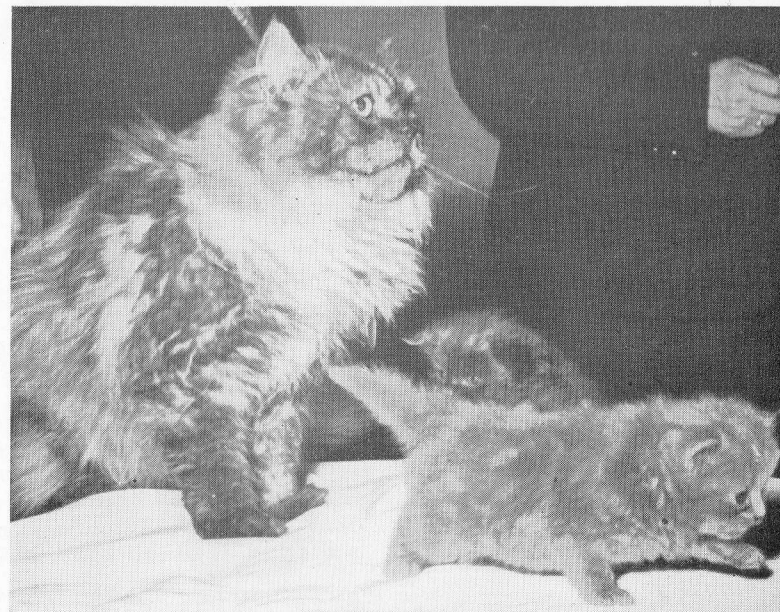
Judges were Mrs. Brunton from England and Mlle Azinari and Mr.

Paganini from Italy. Their Best in Show award occasioned no surprise—it went to Mme Mariani's English-bred Blue Longhair Ch. Myowne Gallant Homme, who carried all before him at the Paris Show. Other main awards were as under :

Best Opposite Sex, Mlle Perrin's White International Ch. White Flower du Léman ; Champion Male, Mme Bridgett's Int. Ch. Southway Reveler ; Best Golden-eyed White, Mlle Perrin's Int. Ch. Yke-Pigeon du Léman ; Best Black, Mlle Moser's Ch. Chadhurst Suzette ; Best Cream, Mme Bridgett's Int. Ch. Idmiston Champagne ; Best Blue-Cream, Mme Bridgett's Ch. Wisch Baby d'Urmia ; Best Chinchilla, Mme Gibbon's Int. Ch. Romance de la Mascotte ; Best Smoke, Mlle Perrin's Int. Ch. Xami du Léman ; Best Longhair Kitten, Mme Sandoz's Cream male Casino de la Viamala ; Best Shorthair Kitten, Mme Gibbon's Gigi, a beautifully marked mackerel tabby.



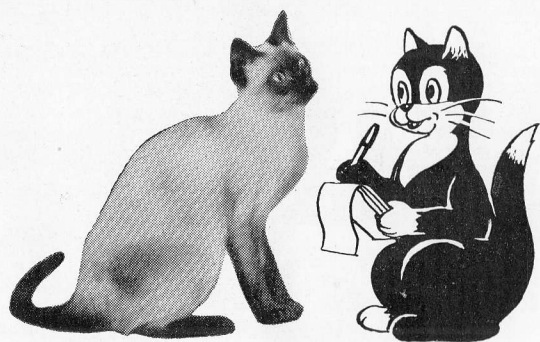
A bonny litter of Australian-bred Chinchilla kittens belonging to Miss M. Haswell, New South Wales fancier. They are from Ch. Princess Dewdrop by Cheeri Delroyal, the latter being also the sire of Miss Haswell's Ch. Miowera Trinket, to whom Mrs. Joan Thompson awarded Best Longhair Female at the Sydney Show last May.



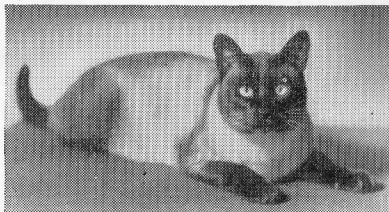
Photographs by Presse Diffusion

Two happy family snapshots from the Lausanne Show. (Top) Mlle C. Perrin's International Champion Xami du Léman, Smoke queen with two of her babies. (Bottom) Mme Gruber with her Blue Longhair exhibit Ufcombe Sunset, who keeps a watchful eye on her five lively youngsters.

TIBS REPORTER SPOTS A WINNER



Tibs reporter, Tibby, has a flair for a scoop, and here he is on the scent of a future champion. Shah Jehan, a magnificent seal-pointed Siamese, owned by Mrs. Vincent of Park Road, Woking, Surrey, has a record of which any cat might boast.



Shah showed us this photograph of himself after the National Cat Club Championship in 1951. Like many other prize-winners Shah has had one advantage. Mrs. Vincent is a firm believer in Tibs, and recommends them as a source of vitamins and minerals. She knows how they help towards those hall-marks of champions—shining coats, brilliant eyes, and general good health.

Now that it is again possible to build without restrictions, Mrs. Vincent is on the look-out for land. She has plans for what she hopes will be the finest cattery in the country, so here's to her every possible success!

famous breeders say:

HERE'S TO MANY
MORE WINNERS
IN FUTURE!



TIBS
KEEP CATS
KITTENISH



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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.

Croydon Show

THE Championship Shows this season have been blessed by perfect weather, and Croydon Cat Club Show on November 11th was no exception. For the first time it was held at the Royal Horticultural (Old) Hall and I hear the gate was a very good one. The entry of nearly 300 exhibits was slightly less than last year but probably breeders were resting on their laurels or recovering from the expenses of the grand entry they made at the Coronation Show. However, some lovely exhibits were presented and chief honours went to: Best Longhair Cat, Mrs. Beedell's Blue male Magyar Yanos by Ch. Astra of Pensford; Best Shorthair Cat, Mrs. Grant's Seal Point Siamese female Purland Puka Pubby by Waldo Whimsical Will; Best Longhair Kitten, Mrs. Turney's Chinchilla Bonavia Flora by Ch. Flambeau of Allington; Best Shorthair Kitten, Mrs. Wright's Runcible Quibba by Broughton Nimrod; Best Longhair Neuter, Mrs. Minter's Red Tabby Premier Hendon Orlando; Best Shorthair Neuter, Brigadier Rossiter's Premier Believer Silver Carnelian. In

Seal Point Siamese male adults Mrs. Foxwell's Selborne Pantherina was the winner and in Blue Longhair females Mrs. Covell's Gaydene Mayvourneen.

Strange to relate there was no entry in Chinchilla male adults but 10 in the adult females and Mrs. Crickmore's beautiful Ch. Thiepval Snow Cloud was the winner. Blue kittens numbered 19 with the consistent Bayhorne Decima, Thiepval Paragon, and Thiepval Precocious again recording wins. Mrs. France had a very good entry of 42 Seal Point Siamese kittens to judge and expresses the opinion in another journal that she judged some very good specimens. She made Mrs. Udall's Bluecroft Benjamin by Mrs. Lamb's Ch. Pincop Simon her Best Siamese kitten.

The Chairman of the Croydon Cat Club, Mr. A. A. Towe, kindly gave his services as Honorary Show Manager.

8,000 at Stockholm Show

Mrs. Ulla Magnusson kindly sends news of the Swedish Cat Club Ch. Show held in Stockholm on November 20th, 21st and 22nd, which attracted over 8,000 spectators. She writes: "The English-bred exhibits had a field day again and I was very pleased with the awards given to the cats and kittens I purchased when in England. We had a very nice show and were delighted to welcome Madame Ravel as judge."

"Major awards which will interest British breeders were Best in Show, Mrs. Konigson's Sarisbury Miriam, a Black Longhair female by Ch. Harpur Blue Boy; Best Longhair Kitten, Mrs.

Full of
Vitamins



It's the
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Winners at Hamburg

The Deutscher Edelkatzenzüchter Verband held its third post-war International Show at Hamburg on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of November. It was opened by the President, Mr. Konrad Hirschmann; by the leader of the Hamburg branch, Mrs. Kuni Lachmann, and Mrs. Rudy Eisenhuth, President of Racekatten, Copenhagen, and the Fédération Internationale Féline d'Europe, who welcomed everyone to the exhibition at the Winterhude Ferryhouse. Mrs. A. Juul Hansen judged Siamese, Baroness Ada von Bach Longhairs, both judges from Denmark. Dr. Cremer judged Angoras. No C.A.C.I.B. awards were given because there was no class confined to Champions and according to the rules of F.I.F.E. they can only be given in such a class. Mrs. Eisenhuth tells me there were many beautiful cats at the show and that the Society has always endeavoured to encourage high quality exhibits to win new friends to admire and breed cats.

The exhibition was held in a big theatre and the room was flooded with light, but the judges were placed at the end of the hall overlooking the garden, so all the entries were judged by daylight.

In the preface to the catalogue Mr. P. Zobel gave a summary of the activities of the Society and mentioned the first post-war shows were held at Nurnberg and Wiesbaden. This last month's fixture was a great success and there were many visitors. I am told that the standard of the exhibits was very promising for the future.

The Best Siamese was Doneraile Lavender by Salewheel Simkin, bred by Mrs. K. R. Williams and owned by Miss Elizabeth Eytzinger. The Challenge certificate winner in Blue females, Bentveld Dulce, also has British associations, being by Int. Ch. Southway Wizard, but bred in Holland by Miss Posthuma and owned by Mr. Bartholomew, an Englishman resident in Hamburg. He also bred the winning Blue male kitten Thornhills Timothy from his Blue stud Marius of Allington, the latter being bred by Miss Langston. Mrs. Pia Sandoz, who travelled from Zurich, Switzerland, was awarded a Challenge Certificate with her Cream male Boumabamba von der Viamala. She also won with other exhibits but my catalogue is not fully marked so I do not know the exact details. Mr. Werner Bierhof won in Longhair Black males with Ali Khan du Bosquet.

Mrs. Eisenhuth concludes : " May we have many such exhibitions on the Continent ; it was most enjoyable."

Fast Ships for Export

When making arrangements to send cats or kittens to Australia or New Zealand it is important that they travel by a fast ship. There can be a tremendous difference in the duration of the long sea journey. Mr. Moran, of Wellington, New Zealand, imported two Siamese about a year ago and the voyage of the Taranaki (an old ship) scheduled to take 43 days lasted 57 days owing to engine trouble and it was possibly a contributory factor in the death of the female soon after arrival and the illness of the male.



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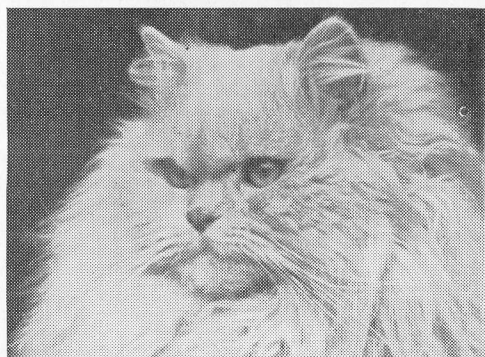


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Runfold 248

Among the newer ships which are permitted to transport cats are some of those belonging to the New Zealand Shipping Co., the Shaw Savill and the Port Line. These take about thirty to thirty-two days, although this is an approximate estimate as rough weather and other unforeseen circumstances may cause some delay. On contacting a well known firm of forwarding agents they told me that after they have been informed of the month a breeder wishes to send a kitten they frequently do not know until 10 days before the sailing date the name of the ship or the anticipated date of arrival. So if it is to be a lengthy voyage my advice is to wait until there is a fast ship. A wise precaution is to take the cat or kitten oneself to Tilbury or Southampton complete with all necessary papers. Then one has the satisfaction of speaking to the cadets who will actually feed and look after it. These personal contacts help so much to ensure a safe voyage. Unfortunately cats are not permitted on the fast passenger liners to Australia and New Zealand such as those owned by the P. & O. and Orient Lines. When travelling on R.M.S. "Orontes" and R.M.S. "Ruahine" I was surprised to hear that not even a ship's pet cat is permitted on board.

Australian Quarantine

Apropos Australia, it was during my visit to Sydney that Mr. Lonsdale endeavoured to obtain a permit for us to visit the quarantine kennels at Dromoyne a few miles from the city.

He was unable to do so as their rule that visitors are not allowed except those owning animals in quarantine is strictly enforced. This is really a wise precaution as it prevents possible infection, and bars casual visitors who wish to visit the kennels out of idle curiosity. My motive was to ascertain that the conditions were suitable for cats sent out from England. When visiting the Ministry concerned, I was very interested to see the cover of our British weekly "Illustrated" with the

reproduction of Major Dugdale's Ch. Harpur Blue Boy (which was published in colour in 1951) displayed on the wall. Such is fame! About three smaller pictures surrounded it, which I imagined were Australian celebrities; they were quite unknown to me.

Hendon Red Tabbies

From Miss Lelgarde Fraser comes welcome news of her famous copper Red Tabbies. She typifies the brave spirit which overcomes the reverses which most fanciers encounter at some time or another. She writes: "Mr. Albert Baude of Chandlersford, Hants., is selling all his cats and he has kindly given me back the Red Tabby female Hendon Ballerina. She was born at Hackbridge when her mother was in quarantine after her arrival from America and is sister to my Hendon Major Maroon (2 Chs.) and Hendon Danseuse. They were sired by the U.S.A. Champion Eastmoor Major Maroon and the dam was the imported U.S.A. Ch. Eastmoor Doll Dance. The latter was also dam of my wonderful Hendon Orsino whose death last January at the early age of two was such a tragic loss to me. In his short life he was twice Best Kitten in Show, won two Championships and altogether 21 Firsts. I have bought from Mr. Baude two half-grown Red Tabby sons of Hendon Ballerina, and one of them, Kingsmead Robin, is a very nice cat, beautifully striped and a rich red."

"Owing to Mrs. Evelyn Tomlinson's accident which is incapacitating her for some time she has kindly given me two lovely Tortoiseshell daughters of Ch. Pekeholm Pomona. One is a show kitten for type and colouring but the other has too much red for exhibition but suits me admirably as I want Red Tabby kittens. I have had to refuse several requests for my Red Tabbies, both from home and abroad."

I know everyone who knows Miss Fraser personally will join with me in

wishing her a successful 1954 and may her cats have some fine bonny kittens to make up for the loss of Hendon Orsino, a very beautiful young male whom we all admired. In the Coronation Show catalogue advertisement of her cats at stud the Cream male Ch. Tollerton Talisman is listed. This, of course, is a printer's error as Talisman is the property of Mrs. Dyer of Birmingham who advertised him in earlier issues of OUR CATS. Miss Fraser has at stud Ch. Hendon Lysander; Cedric of Hadley (her lavender Blue male who has sired many first prize winners) and Ch. Dandy of Hadley, the famous post-war Brown Tabby Longhair bred by Miss J. M. Fisher.

Siamese Activity

Mrs. K. R. Williams, Hon. Secretary of the Siamese Cat Club, who has just been through the throes of a removal writes cheerily: "The garden has had to be rearranged to suit the cats and the stud houses, and as their comfort comes before ours we are not making much progress with the house. However, we are over the worst and looking forward to the Spring. Ch. Bluehayes Foxey is proving an adept stud and his first kittens are on the way. The cats have settled down happily in their new surroundings. I have also been busy with orders for kittens. Two Chocolate Point kittens recently went to U.S.A., Doneraile Brun Maiden to Mrs. Stackhouse, Doneraile Brun Malvara to Mrs. Naugle. These kittens were definite improvements in body shape and type for Chocolate Points, having long svelte bodies and long whip tails. A daughter of Salewheel Simkin named Doneraile Lanette is in Australia with Mrs. Welsh and another, Doneraile Lavender, is in Germany with Miss Etyzinger.

Deb Too's daughter Doneraile Dorli, who went to Mr. and Mrs. Japper in Switzerland has won the Danish Gold Medal at Berne and was Best Siamese at

Wiesbaden. Doneraile Lanette was accompanied on her journey by Miss Ann Codrington's Watermill Yosobean. Another Chocolate Point, Doneraile Brun Brownie, has gone to Mr. Corrie of Australia. I have sent two others to Canada and one to Belgium so as you can imagine there is plenty to do."

Treating Hair Ball

In the November number of OUR CATS a remedy was suggested for hair ball. In Longhair cats and older kittens it is sometimes difficult for inexperienced owners to diagnose the condition. It can manifest itself in totally different ways. If matters take a normal course, one may discover the hair ball and this usually leads to a quick return to normal appetite, but it is usually preceded by a loss of appetite for a day or two. Then another phase is a general malaise and a partial loss of appetite which may last for weeks if it is due to hair ball and not attended to. Then there is the sudden sharp attack accompanied by vomiting and perhaps diarrhoea which does not always rid the little victim of the obstruction.

So if the cat has not been in contact with infection and has no appreciable rise in temperature, it is advisable to suspect and treat for hairball, especially when cats commence to shed their coats, usually in January. Longhairs should be kept well groomed from January to April but as they can still accumulate fur the weekly dose of olive oil or medicinal paraffin is a wise precaution.

But if symptoms develop, I should not hesitate to give a teaspoonful of oil night and morning to an adult cat until it has passed the obstruction. A teaspoonful of tepid oil should be placed in a warm dessertspoon. It is almost impossible to keep a teaspoon level when dosing a cat and what a mess a drop of oil can make on a cat's coat! And please do not truss the cat up in a towel before giving the dose; it will probably be on the defensive immediately at such an

unusual procedure. Have everything ready with the spoon handle resting on the edge of a saucer, pick the cat up and placing the left hand gently over the top of the head press the corners of the mouth with the forefinger and thumb and incline the head slightly backwards. The pressure will make the cat open its mouth and hey presto! it should have its dose in seconds from the time it is picked up. Cats which are not at liberty to select the grasses which help to expel fur balls should always have grass in their house. The Cat's Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks, will willingly supply free of charge packets of cocks-foot grass (*dactylis glomerata*) suitable for cats with instructions for growing. I think most breeders would prefer to include a little donation for this humane service.



ASHDOWN COWSLIP, Cream Longhair kitten at 3 months, bred by Mrs. F. M. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells, from her Blue stud Woburn Sunshine and her Cream queen Anchor Questy. After doing well at the Kensington Kitten Show, Cowslip was purchased for export to South Africa.

Seasonal Good Wishes

And now, as this is my last contribution for 1953, I would like to conclude with Seasonal Greetings and Happy New Year Wishes to cat lovers everywhere. My thoughts will be with the many friends I had the privilege of meeting this year in the Southern Hemisphere and from whom I have already had many kind messages and greetings. And, of course, I am not omitting all those good people of the cat world who live much nearer home.



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Challenge Certificates. Best S.H. Nat. C.C. Ch.
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Fee 50/- Grand sire Mystic Dreamer
Kittens of good type, pale coats, good eye shape
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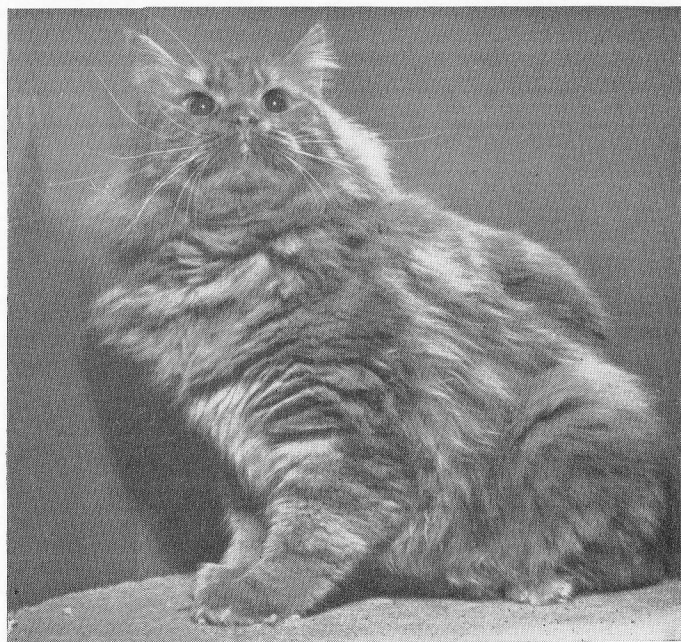
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Let's go to a Show

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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 few remaining
shows of the 1953-54 Season are provided below for the information and
guidance of readers.

1954	Promoted by	Venue
9 January ...	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat ...	Nottingham
16 January ...	East Anglian Cat Club ...	Felixstowe
23 January ...	*Lancs. and North Western Counties Cat Club... (See displayed advertisement in this issue)	Manchester
2 February ...	*Southern Counties Cat Club ...	London
* Denotes show with Championship status.		



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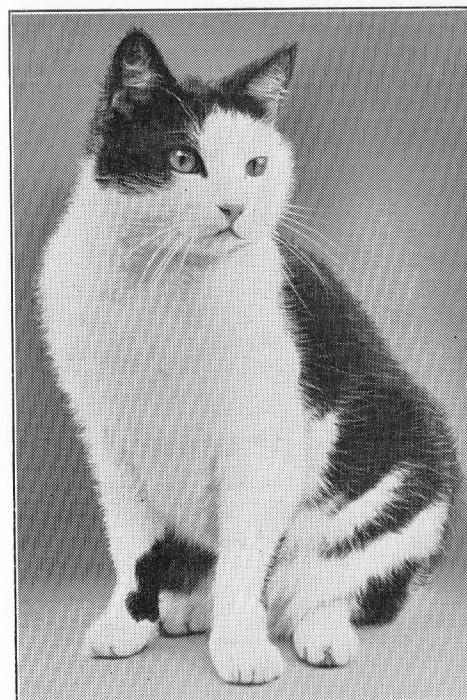
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The show of the Scottish Cat Club was held at the Town Hall, Paisley, last month. The fine work of Mrs. F. M. Richardson (Show Manager and Hon. Secretary) and her hard-working Committee merited much wider public support. Judges were Mrs. L. Speirs (Longhairs), Miss V. Prentis (Siamese and Shorthair neuters), Miss K. Yorke (other Shorthairs) and Mr. P. P. Connor (household pets). Prominent winners were Mrs. M. Steele with her Blue male Tweeniehills Glenavon; Mrs. I. McPhail with her Blue female Tweeniehills Tinkerbelle; Mrs. M. H. Stewart, of Bridge of Allan, with Hazeldene Onyx and her Siamese male Killdown Gay Lad; Mrs. S. P. Hamilton, of Renfrew, with her Siamese female Aulay Toyti; Mr. H. J. Badham with his Longhair kittens Glendoune Skipper and Pearl Honey Bunch; Mrs. Dinwiddie again with her Blue Longhair kitten Bayhorne Genista.



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MRS. E. K. HARMAN
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MOLESEY ALI BABA (Cream Persian), sire Tweedledum of Dunesk, dam Molesey Mischief. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

STARKEY NUGGET (Cream), sire Malmory Tafeteace, dam Fairham Gillian, prizewinner every time shown. Fee £2 2s. and return carriage. Only registered queens accepted to any of the above Studs.—Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S., Waverley Abbey, Farnham, Surrey. Runfold 248.

BOURNESIDE CATTERY, Aitken, 2 Commonfield Road, Barnstead, Surrey. Tel.: Burgh Heath 2754. **CH. BOURNESIDE BLACK DIAMOND** (Black Longhair).

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Miscellaneous

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(1) CATASTROPHES: MUCH IN LITTLE.



(2) CATASTROPHES: MUCH IN LITTLE.

We have frequently been asked, particularly by readers overseas, for "a little more Louis Wain, please." These two sketches by the famous cat artist are nearly 50 years old and if the art of L.W. isn't quite to everyone's taste we shall at least have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our best to "see the Old Year out" with a smile on the last editorial page of our last issue for 1953.