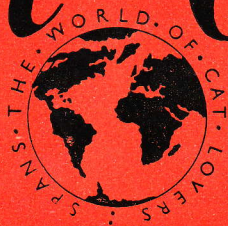
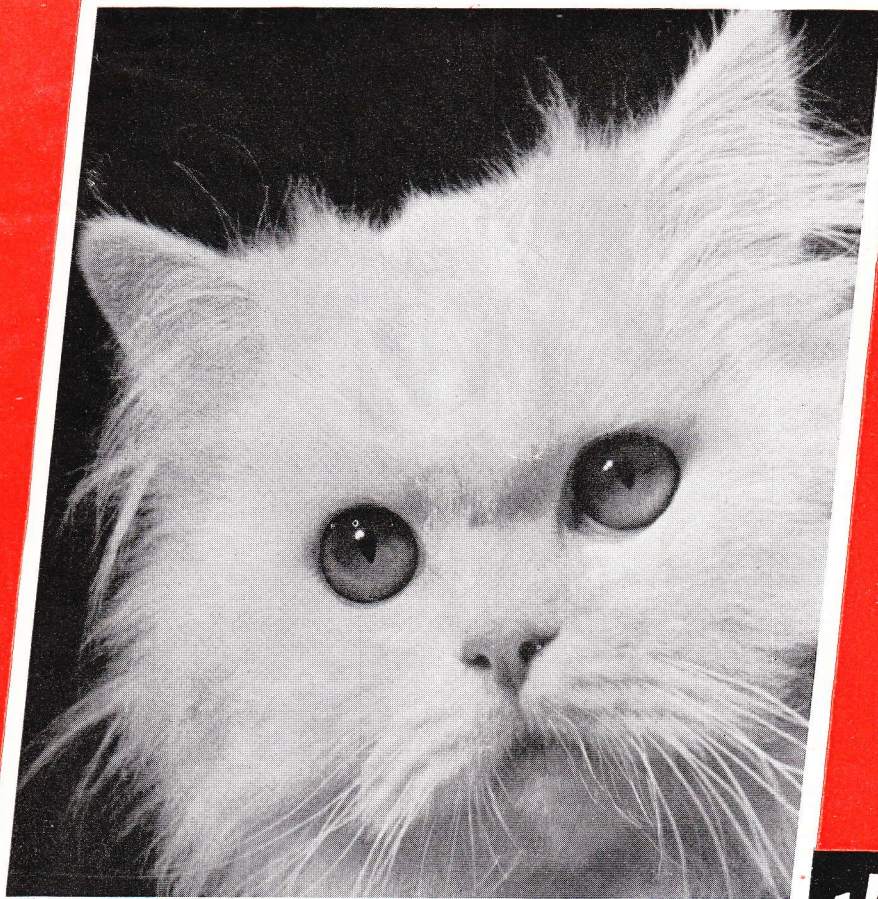


Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



BEST KITTEN AT PARIS SHOW

DOUDOU DE BREHAT, Mme Desgranges' lovely young White Longhair, caught the judge's eye at the May show of the Cercle Félin de Paris. A brief report of this show appears on page 15 of this issue. Our photograph was taken by Serafino.

JUNE 1955

1'6

FREE—six picture cards of lovely "Red Heart" cats in exchange for 6 Red Heart labels. Send labels with your name and address, in **BLOCK** letters please.



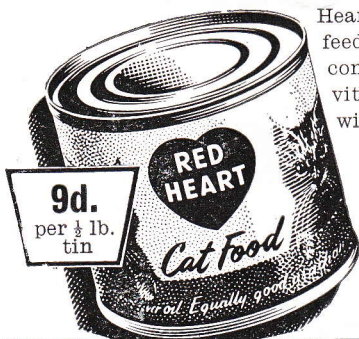
*Let's have
a squint!*

SIAMESE CATS—

from a photo by Ylla from the Red Heart series.

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Our Cats

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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. 7 No. 6

JUNE 1955

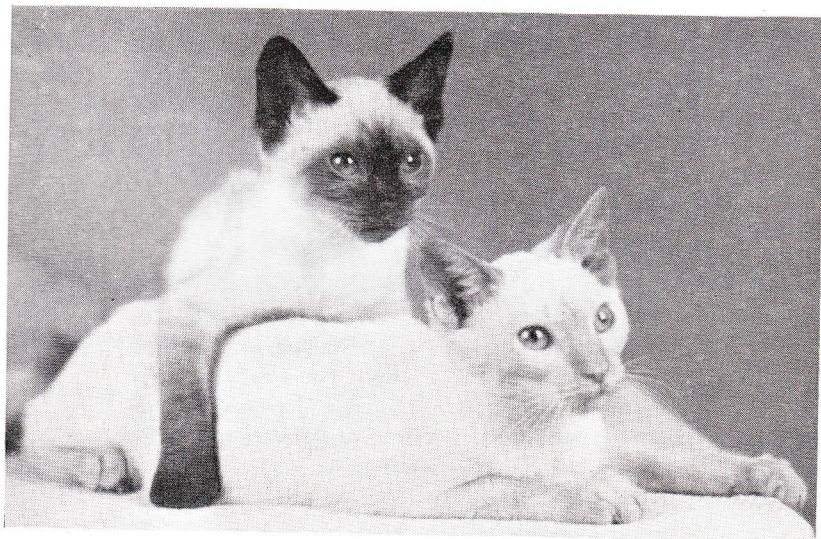
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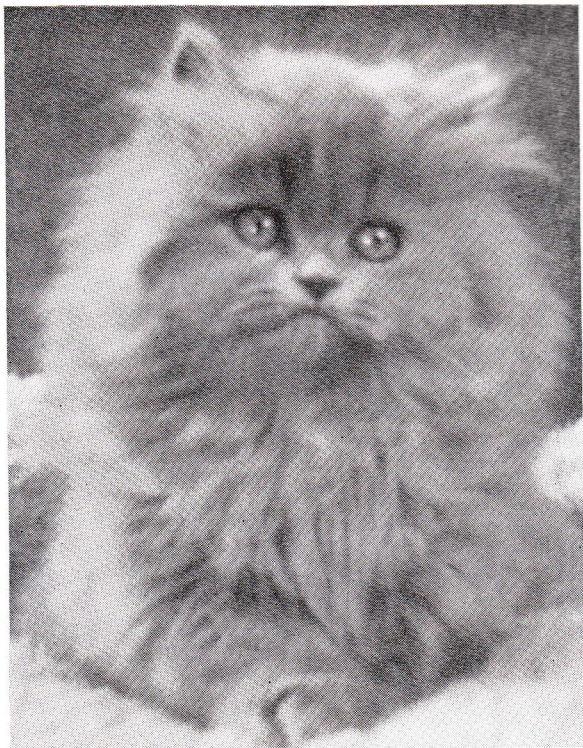
MRS. BILLIE BANCROFT

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



BLACK AND RED POINT SIAMESE

Our picture shows two very interesting Siamese kittens bred by Mrs. Alyce De Filippo at her Sundust Cattery, Illinois, U.S.A. One—on the right—is a second generation Red Point, five months old. The kitten on the left is his half brother, a true breeding Black Point, aged 3 months. Mrs. De Filippo explains that both were sired by a Red Point, but the Red Point kitten was out of a Red Point queen, whereas the Black Point had a "Mosaic Pointed" (commonly called Tortie Point) mother. She adds : "The Black Point, rare variant of the Red Point male and Mosaic Point female, is born with violet or lavender paw leather, nose leather and ear rims, which rapidly deepen to a true blue-black. Coat colour may vary from pale chalk white to slate grey. Eye colour is cold cobalt blue in the deepest shade to aquamarine blue in the paler eyes. The good Black Point should have no tinge of brown in the points nor cream in the coat colour."



PYLEIGH PANSY was one of a litter of five Blue Longhairs bred by Mrs. Pye Thompson, of Warleigh, Downderry, Cornwall. Pyleigh Petunia, her litter sister, after winning at the Croydon Show last November was exported to Miss Hore, of Palmerston North, New Zealand.



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** (Macauley 1462).

OUR CATS is published monthly and closing date is the 25th day of the month preceding the month of publication. MSS. and photographs submitted will only be returned if accompanied by fully stamped and addressed envelopes. Photographs should preferably be of the glossy type with sharp details.

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Animal Welfare at the Crossroads

**Extracts from an address given by Mr. R. HARVEY JOHNS at last month's
Convention of British Animal Welfare Societies**

ALL over Britain the lights, in the animal welfare sense, are going out, and this is not less tragic because new ones are being kindled daily. It is the pattern to which we have become accustomed during generations.

Moved to compassion for outcast cats and dogs, horses neglected or monkeys victims of man's exploitation, individuals arise with determination to help. Sometimes they work alone, and sometimes they form societies. Their names become household words in their localities, or in the particular spheres of their activity. And in the fullness of time they die. And by and large their work dies with them.

And so it is that less than a hundred independent local animal welfare societies are truly active in Britain to-day, with perhaps a score or so of specialist societies.

For Britain to be able to hold up its head as an animal-loving nation at least five hundred vigorous local organizations are needed as well as a hundred societies devoted to special aspects of animal welfare. Twice this number would be better still. Every town should have its own independent animal welfare organization : every city should have three or four.

The reason why there are so few local societies and not enough specialist societies is not that they have never been started. The reason why there are not enough animal welfare societies to-day lies in the curse of money. In the typical case, after a life-time of struggle, your local society founder dies and the society has some funds, not much perhaps, but, however little, sufficient to cause well-meaning committees and executors anxiety lest they be not properly safe-

guarded. And so the society is handed over like an orphan to the care of some large corporation in whose ample bosom the spirit of the founders quickly suffocates.

The remedy lies in the existence of an organization to nurture and protect small independent societies, which will stand by them in their time of need. It would act as a link between societies, and a similarly constituted world organization. It might run an animal welfare exhibition. It would never presume to tell societies what they ought to do. It would always be ready to help them when required. It would almost certainly be very poor.

Encourage the Young

There is in the United States of America a body of a somewhat similar nature to the British Federation. It embraces not only animal welfare but also human welfare. It is suggested that we too should begin to consider our work from that point of view.

Workers in our particular cause are represented in the humorous columns of some newspapers, which may well be the leading articles of tomorrow, as inspired not so much by the love of animals as by dislike of humans. If there is any truth in this a healthy corrective would surely be found in association with our friends in other fields and in any case we should almost certainly find that we had common problems that could be more easily solved together.

May it not be that we even have a contribution to make to the human cause ? The provision of pets is often advocated as a corrective to juvenile

delinquency. It has happened time and time again that, after living at peace for generations with every refinement of civilization, we have been induced, without knowing quite why, to start tearing each other to pieces. Perhaps this is because our minds have all the time been conditioned to accept these standards by the treatment we tolerate every day towards animals.

Sunday Study Groups

I would like to put forward the following proposal for your consideration.

It is well known that parents and others in charge of the young often like to retire for a little rest on Sunday afternoons. The churches do their best to keep the children occupied at this time, but in many places a good many children are still at a loose end.

All children are interested in animals. Let us therefore promote study groups, through existing organizations as far as possible, and fill the gap that scholastic curricula have no time for. By learning about animals we can hope that the rising generation will gain a benevolent attitude toward them. Parents will bless us, and the Sunday schools, with the help perhaps of expeditions into the open air, will be filled again.

Those with the technical know-how are sitting with us to-day. Let us here appoint a committee for the purpose of calling a conference at which all organizations concerned with animals or children can be represented. Such a conference would be invited, if approved, to set up a scheme of Sunday study groups on animals and animal welfare, not as a rival to the faiths but as an instrument through which their message might be made known to all.



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 1955-56 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers. The list may be revised from time to time as fresh information becomes available.

1955	Promoted by	Venue
2 July	North East Cheshire Show	Hazel Grove, Nr. Stockport
6 July	Kentish Cat Society	Tunbridge Wells
28 July	Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club	London
1 August	Urmston Council Show Society	Flixton, Nr. Manchester
23 September ...	*Herts and Middlesex Cat Club	London
4 October	*Blue Persian Cat Society	London
7 October	*Siamese Cat Club	London
13 October	Edinburgh and East of Scotland Cat Club	Edinburgh
19 October	*Southsea Cat Club	Southsea
22 October	*Midland Counties Cat Club	Birmingham
5 November ...	Scottish Cat Club	Glasgow
11 November ...	*Croydon Cat Club	London
26 November ...	*Yorkshire County Cat Club	Leeds
7 December ...	*National Cat Club	London
1956		
5 January	*Notts. and Derbys. Cat Club	Derby
31 January	*Southern Counties Cat Club	London
11 February ...	Surrey and Sussex Cat Association	Epsom
11 February ...	*Lancs. and North Western Counties Cat Club	Manchester
25 February ...	East Anglian Cat Club	Venue to be fixed

* Denotes show with Championship status.

Puss in Stageland

By THE EDITOR

WE are both pleased and proud to welcome among the latest list of new subscribers to our Magazine Mr. Robert Downing of New York City, who writes to explain that someone recently sent him a sample copy of OUR CATS and now he looks forward to many pleasant hours of "purrs across the sea." Mr. Downing is one of America's best-known theatrical production managers and—what is more important to us—he happens also to be a great lover of cats.

At the moment he is looking after the presentation of a new prize-winning play in New York entitled "*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*," by Tennessee Williams. Barbara Bel Geddes takes the role of the "cat" and the "tin roof" is the dilemma of her marriage with a maladjusted young man played by Ben Gazzara. There are endless references in the dialogue to cats and their characteristics.

Amorous Yowling

Our contact with Mr. Downing serves to focus attention on the use of cats and cat sounds by playwrights and producers. In "*A Streetcar Named Desire*," with which he was also associated, several cats yowled amorously off-stage in the first act. This important cue was at first handled by Gertrude Flynn, who has since gone on to success in films in Italy. Miss Flynn's successor at miaowing was the American coloured actress Miss Edna Thomas, who played Lady Macbeth with such distinction in Orson Welles' production of *Macbeth* at the Federal Theatre in New York in the 1930s.

A recent issue of *The New York Times* has something to say about the latest activities of "the erudite Robert Downing." Those familiar with him,

runs the comment, know that he has the curiosity of a cat and they will not be surprised to learn that he is busily canvassing the bookstalls for material on the relationship between the theatre and cats. At the moment he has "only scratched the surface."

"*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*" is one of a long succession of plays with cats figuring in the titles. In 1840, for example, New Yorkers were seeing "*The Cat's in the Larder*" and then there followed such as "*The Cat Changed into a Woman*," "*Cats ! Cats ! Cats !*" "*The Cat and the Cherub*," "*The White Cat*," "*The Cat and the Canary*," "*The Cat and the Fiddle*," "*The Cat Screams*," "*Alley Cat*" and "*The Red Cat*."

Mr. Downing reports his regret that the era of the stage door cat is passing in America. In New York only one theatre, the Winter Garden, still has its backstage mascot.

The American theatre has no pantomimes and therefore puss is seen less often on the stage than in Britain. Nevertheless, it is good to know that he is not neglected.

"Puss in Boots"

Turning for a few moments to our side of the Atlantic, I am reminded of a very happy afternoon I spent a short while back when at the kind invitation of Mr. Nicholas Stuart Gray I visited the Fortune Theatre to see his production of "*The Marvellous Story of Puss in Boots*." This is the children's play which he has adapted from the story by Charles Perrault and which we reviewed in our December issue.

I left the theatre with the firm conviction that Mr. Gray has a real winner in this play. It has qualities which entitle

it to take its place each Christmastime alongside such established favourites as "Peter Pan" and "Mr. Toad of Toad Hall." It is lively and colourful and the plot and cast of eleven players struck me as being just about right for the juvenile mind to absorb. Judging from the chuckles and shouts from the happy wide-eyed children all around me, a good time was had by all !

Part for Cat Lover

Mr. Gray's portrayal of Puss—a magnificent marmalade feline with flashing eyes and sweeping tail—was a praiseworthy effort. He had so obviously taken pains to present a faithful interpretation of catty behaviour and anybody but a real cat lover would have been completely lost in this role.

It was amusing after the show to see the children lining the stairs to Mr. Gray's dressing room to have a chat with Puss. One pretty little girl was particularly anxious to inspect his tail, which was supposed to have been singed during the action of the play. She was relieved to find that all was well ! During my chat with Mr. Gray I was interested to learn of his plans to take the play to France.



CHAMPION BARWELL PIPPA, Red Tabby Longhair female sired by Ch. Hendon Lysander and bred by Mrs. Denys Fawell, of Salhouse, Norwich. She is one of the 1954-55 season's crop of Champions.

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Exhibitors—Rights or Wrongs

By P. M. SODERBERG

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

AS over a period of fifty years I have never been without several types of domestic pets whether they were furred, feathered or scaled, I can certainly claim some knowledge of animals. Yet throughout that long period I have only been an exhibitor of one animal—the fancy mouse—and that lapse from my normal policy lasted only two years. Thus, I could not honestly say how well qualified I was to write about the rights and wrongs of exhibitors, but any scruples I may have in this respect will not deter me, for the simple reason that I have some ideas on the subject.

Naturally such ideas will be controversial, but they certainly will not be personal in the sense that they are directed either for or against particular clubs or exhibitors. Thus, take my remarks as being general, and argue about them how you will, provided that what you have to say is constructive.

Our Backbone

This article is concerned solely with the exhibitors of cats, and of them I know very many who have expressed to me their views on a number of occasions.

As a body exhibitors are the backbone of the Cat Fancy, for it is because they make the effort to show that the Fancy is in such a healthy position to-day. No one would deny that the shows are the shop window of the Fancy, and in all livestock hobbies you must have such displays or there will be no growth of public interest, and the breeding of cats for many people would become impossi-

ble because there would be no consistent outlet for the young stock that was bred.

The showing of cats is an expensive business, for usually there are fares and maybe hotel expenses, to say nothing of the entry fees. And then, when it is all over, few exhibitors return home with prize money even sufficient to cover their expenses. A particular cat, and there are few of these, may show a profit on his show career, but I doubt if it would be enough to cover his food bill as well.

Thus, the very least that the exhibitor can expect is that at any show arrangements should be such that his needs, his comfort, and also that of his cats, should be considered with great care.

From what I have seen over a number of years, I know that show managers do the best they can, but I sometimes doubt whether the exhibitor has had a comfortable day, even if his cats have been well cared for.

Too Many Shows ?

To my mind many halls that are used are not really suited to the purpose, and in London there are very few places where a large cat show can be conveniently held.

One of the biggest difficulties is the expense of running a show, and the hire of a really first-class hall will strain the finances of any cat club.

Perhaps it is that there are too many shows, and that fewer shows attracting a larger entry might help to solve the problem. What do you think ?

The exhibitor has to get to the show early to pass the vet. and get the animals penned. After that he needs a rest and some refreshment, but this is not always obtainable, and often, if the food and

drink is on the spot, there is no room to arrange suitable seating accommodation.

When it comes to actual judging, the exhibitor has a right to expect "a fair crack of the whip," but he does not always get it, and this is no fault of the judge, and very rarely can the manager and the show committee be blamed.

Some of the shows are held in halls in which the lighting is so bad that no judge could be expected to see all the points he is looking for. Frequently it happens that for the early part of the day the cats can be judged in daylight, and then later artificial light has to be used. The same cat under different lighting may look almost another animal, and the later judge may reach a different conclusion and an honest conclusion at that.

Problem of the Sexes

There is one hall in which I have judged myself on several occasions where some of the pens have to be placed in positions where the lighting is really shocking, and to be able to see satisfactorily, the cats have to be carried some distance to a spot where there is reasonable light. There can be no doubt at all about the need for really first-class lighting for satisfactory judging.

Perhaps the exhibitor who has to bear most is the one who comes from a considerable distance and is compelled to spend a night in a hotel. Unless the cats can be removed on the day of the show at a reasonable time, it may mean another night away from home. But there is a very real problem here for the show management, for the financial success or failure of a show depends upon the gate, and the public will not come to see a lot of empty pens.

It may be that exhibits could be penned overnight. There is no reason why they should not be able to spend a perfectly comfortable night in a pen of the right size if the hall was warm. If that were possible, judging could start earlier in the morning. This plan may not be

possible, but it is worth a thought.

There is just one more point I would like to mention, and I have mentioned it before even if I have been just a voice crying in the wilderness. It is that adult males and adult females should be penned as far apart as possible. As any stud owner will know, adult males are temperamental creatures, and the very sight or sound of an adult female can excite them. Some studs become difficult to handle just because they are upset in this way.

Clouded Judgment

And now for the wrongs of exhibitors, or rather the wrongs committed by a few of them.

It always amazes me that there are a small number of exhibitors who are such bad losers. If their cat is put down, they almost suffer from apoplexy. After all, this is a hobby, and exhibitors ought to realize that the worst judge of a cat is usually its owner because his judgment is inevitably clouded by sentiment.

During the past few years I have both seen and heard of exhibitors being personally unpleasant to the judge because they did not like his decision. Such conduct is unforgivable, but it does happen from time to time, and for some judges it is most unpleasant perhaps because they are sensitive to public criticism when they have done their best.

Ask the judge "Why?" if you like after the judging is finished, provided he is not too exhausted. You can always write to him if you miss him in the hall.

So far no one has had a row with me in a show hall because of my placings, but I have had many a friendly chat with an exhibitor who was disappointed, and a number of letters asking me for a full criticism of a cat I have judged. Such approaches I welcome.

So there it is. If you are a bad loser, at least conceal the fact, and if you are one of the few who feel that you must tell the judge how incompetent he is, don't show under him. It's as simple as that.

A page for the proletarian puss No. 55



Keystone Press Agency

FAMILY LIFE ON LONDON'S BOMB SITES

In last month's issue a reference was made to the colonies of cats who live and thrive on many of the bomb sites which still remain as ugly reminders of the German air raids on the City of London. Here is a happy family in a green oasis which is only a few paces away from the hustle and bustle of Fleet Street. The Tabby parents appear to be in fine condition and the kittens have ample food and drink and trees to climb. There are four or five other adult cats in this particular colony—Tabbies and Blacks—but none appears to be on friendly terms with those who feed them or any passer-by.

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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.

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Reproduction

By A. C. JUDE

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

IN our last article we touched on the interaction of genes.

Some misunderstanding sometimes arises in both scientific and popular writings on genetics through failure to distinguish between true dominance and epistasis, and through some attempt to treat all genes as simple dominant/recessive pairs. Epistasis is similar to dominance except that the relationship is between non-allelic genes.

Put another way, a gene or character which is expressed despite the presence of other, non-allelic, genes which tend to produce a different or contrary effect, is said to be epistatic. It should be realized that a cat can only carry two of each allele (one on each of the paired chromosomes) but where epistasis is involved there may be many such gene pairs interacting together, and the dominance relation of a particular gene pair may itself be upset.

Again, it is not necessary for one or other of a pair of alleles to be dominant : they may produce an intermediate effect, or supplement each other, or produce together an effect quite different from that produced by either of them separately. A similar variety of results may be the outcome of the combined effects of a number of non-allelic genes, epistasis being relatively rare. Where many genes are required to produce a certain effect, or where their effect is cumulative, they are called multiple genes, sometimes polygenes.

Some of the gene mutations found in cats are as follows: Each number gives

alleles in order of general dominance.

1. Tabby, black.
2. Black (of Siamese), tabby.
3. Black, yellow (sex-linked). Heterozygotes, tortoiseshell.
4. Intense, dilute (blue, cream).
5. Full colour, silver, Burmese, Siamese (an albino series).
6. Coat white (eyes coloured), coat coloured. Dominant sub-lethal, deaf when blue-eyed.
7. Unspotted, piebald.
8. Short hair, long hair. Rex (order of dominance yet to be determined).
9. Short tail (Manx), normal tail. Homozygotes, tailless.
10. Polydactyl, normal toes.

About Chromosomes

In the female, one pair of chromosomes can be distinguished from the other pairs by its reaction to certain dyes under certain circumstances. This particular pair is known as the pair of "X" chromosomes. The male reproductive cells contain either a "Y" chromosome or an "X" chromosome but not both ; the female reproductive cells each contain one "X" chromosome. This may be fertilized either by a "Y"-bearing sperm, making the offspring "XY" (male) or by an "X"-bearing sperm, making the offspring "XX" (female). Genes which are situated on these "sex" chromosomes are called sex-linked genes.

At the time, Mendel knew nothing of the way chromosomes behave at cell

division, but the "laws" which he deduced from the behaviour of his experimental peas fit exactly with the behaviour of the chromosome.

Mendel stated that the inherited factors which give rise to different "characters" in the parents remain separate in the fertilized egg, and are distributed independently of each other to the next generation of offspring. Relatively few characters clearly show the typical segregation and re-assortment in inheritance which Mendel described. However, nearly all our published research work on cats has been mainly concerned with inheritance of this rather unusually simple type. The information derived from these studies is extremely useful in certain limited circumstances, namely when a breeder wishes to introduce one or more of these characters into his strain (or eliminate them) with a minimum of effort, or to establish a strain which will breed true or nearly true for one of these characters.

Gene Pairs

An inheritance may be analyzed by crossing individuals with contrasting characteristics, and certain mating systems which were used by Mendel have become classical tests of the mode of inheritance. The contrasted parents (P_1) are mated together to produce a new generation (F_1); these are then mated together to produce an F_2 in which the various parental characters sort themselves out independently of each other (unless "linkage" occurs).

The best known example in cats is the one involving the colours black and blue—the cross between an individual "pure" for a certain gene, i.e., carrying two of the same gene, and another individual pure for its recessive allele, and which leads to the famous three to one ratio. When several such gene pairs are involved in a cross the possible permutations and combinations become, or can become, complicated. That matter has

already been referred to in one of our earlier articles.

The other test mating is known as "backcross," which means the mating of any of the above cross-bred progeny— F_1 or F_2 —to one of the parents or to any cat of either parental breed. The most usual and useful form of this is to back-cross an F_1 animal to the parent showing the recessive characteristics; the resulting progeny should consist of approximately equal numbers showing the "dominant" and "recessive" effects, if the difference between the P_1 parents was due to a single pair of allelic genes, one dominant over the other. If this does not happen then it is clear that some other type of inheritance must be involved.

Test by Mating

In breeding experiments the actual ratios obtained are seldom exactly according to expectation, especially if only a small number of kittens is bred. The theory is based on the assumption that fertilization is random. Therefore the theory is only reached when a large number of kittens is bred.

If it is desired to find out whether a cat showing a dominant character does or does not carry the recessive allele, it may be tested by mating it to a pure (homozygous) recessive. In the resulting litter, if the sire carries the recessive gene, the expected ratio is 1 : 1, i.e., equal numbers of kittens showing the dominant and the recessive character. However, a litter of two kittens, both showing the dominant feature, will not prove that the male does not carry the recessive gene; out of every four litters of two kittens, one litter will probably consist of two unaffected kittens even if the male is a "carrier." If six kittens are bred, the chance of none of the six showing the recessive quality if the sire is a carrier is only one in sixty-four, i.e., only one in 64 litters of six will fail to reveal that the cat is heterozygous.

This is a useful basis for determination.



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.



HELPING THE BIRDS

I should like to add a few comments on J. Mary Collier's article "A' Hunting We Will Go," which appeared in the May issue of OUR CATS. Since we have kept cats we have rescued innumerable fledglings with great success. I find that generally they are brought into the house physically unharmed but death would quickly occur from a falling temperature brought about by shock.

My methods are to put the bird in a box on or near heat—on top of a slow combustion stove—or somewhere really hot near a fire. When it revives I give a dose of whisky through a medicine dropper. By this time it should be fairly chirpy and when it looks fit I put it in a sheltered place outside, if possible in the sun and, of course, away from the cats. You may be sure that the fledgling's parents will find it. If you can feed it so much the better.

Our last rescue was a fledgling thrush who did so well on the whisky that he forgot to be afraid and sat with his little orange bill gaping wide for food. After a huge meal of worms we put him in a cage we occasionally use for our queen. When my husband visited him with further worms for his tea, the mother bird had already found her offspring and was trying to get to him.

I remember a little fledgling flycatcher. He was "grounded" and we had been watching him anxiously. To my horror one Sunday morning my queen shot through the bedroom window with the flycatcher in her mouth, en route for her kittens. I was able to rescue the bird but as I was not in my own house I could not disturb anyone. So I had to get back into bed with the limp, expiring little

mite! After a few minutes he recovered enough to give me a knowing look. Eventually, when the household stirred, we warmed him up and put him out in the sun and watched anxiously until, to our relief, the parents found him and started to feed him.

Mrs. J. M. Haughton,
Lickey, Rednal, Nr. Birmingham.

A SATISFIED CUSTOMER

I enjoy your Magazine and find the articles by English breeders very interesting.

I own three imports exported by Mrs. Ella Martin, a very capable agent. They all arrived in such wonderful condition. Ch. Missflore Echo of Sherwood (Blue Point Siamese bred by Mrs. Rendall) made her Championship in two shows and has produced a Champion, Sherwood Blue Merryman, who has DbL. Ch. points. Holmesdale Giselle of Sherwood (Seal Point Siamese bred by Mrs. Gunn) has also produced show winning stock. Prestwick Blue Heron (young Blue Point Siamese male bred by Mrs. Hindley) took winning points first time shown.

So I am real thrilled with the English cats I now own.

Mrs. Florence S. Kanoffe,
North Guilford, Conn., U.S.A.

CHEAP "CENTRAL HEATING"

I wonder if any of your readers have ever seen what I was shown to-day!

A lady living near here, knowing that I was interested in cats, invited me to see a litter of three kittens about three weeks old with a hen sitting contentedly in the box with them. I was told that the queen was given a suitable box before the kittens arrived. When the kittens were about three days old, an egg was found

in the box. It was then noticed that the hen went regularly to lay her egg in the box even when the queen was nursing her babies. Neither objected—in fact, the queen was happy to leave the kittens in the hen's charge.

When the kittens grew up a bit they were moved to another box some distance away from the original one, leaving the hen in full possession. But the feathered foster mother would have none of this. She followed the kittens to the larger box and then became broody.

Why do we breeders worry about central heating for our cats? Here is the answer—at minimum cost—no fuel required. Keep a hen and get eggs as well!

Mr. Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S.,
St. John's, Crowborough, Sussex.

MUCH TRAVELLED SIAMESE

My six Siamese (all in great form) have now added another 1,000 miles to their flying record, this last trip also entailing their crossing the Benin River

by canoe! With my present home I have taken over the care of a grey African "bush cat." I have just reluctantly had to refuse the gift of a civet kitten. Some time I will try and send you some photographs of the local cats.

Mrs. Margaret T. Kalberer,
Zaria, Northern Nigeria.

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.

An admirable health scheme for pets has been planned by Major Charles Pass, Clerk to the Eling (Hants) Parish Council. Owners of pets in the village are to be asked to make a small weekly payment and in return they will get the services of a veterinary surgeon and general guidance on how to keep their animals happy and healthy.

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that even the sick cat
can rapidly digest



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WHETHER in real illness, or when a cat is just "off colour," Brand's Essence is the ideal strengthener. Cats will often take a teaspoonful when they refuse everything else. It provides the cat with the valuable meat protein it needs. And being "pre-digested" Brand's Essence is rapidly absorbed without any strain on the system. It contains no added salt or preservative—cannot possibly irritate.

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

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

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CERCLE FÉLIN DE PARIS SHOW

THE cat club Cercle Félin de Paris show held on 6-8th May was a great success, reports guest judge Mrs. M. Mackenzie. It was organized by the Baronne de Saint-Palais and her Committee. My fellow judge was Professor Ladrat, of the French Veterinary School.

The Longhairs were well represented and of very good quality, especially Blacks, Whites and Blues. The Best Cat in Show was Ch. China Boy of Dunesk, bred by Mrs. Brunton and owned by M. Roger Moreau. This exhibit excelled in type. Incidentally, he won this premier award at the Club's previous fixture in November last. M. Moreau also won with Pegotty Ann of Dunesk, a good type. Baronne de Saint-Palais' Alladin of Dunesk acquired a C.A.C.

Best Longhair female was Mme Bogard's Catina du Bosquet, bred by Mme Gay of Switzerland. This cat was the most exquisite Black I have seen, excelling in type with the shortest of noses, brilliant copper eyes, coat of dense black and good muzzle.

Best kitten, Mme Desgranges' Doudou de Brehat, sired by Int. Ch. Alex des Prince, was a perfect White of exquisite

type, deep copper eyes and coat of fine texture.

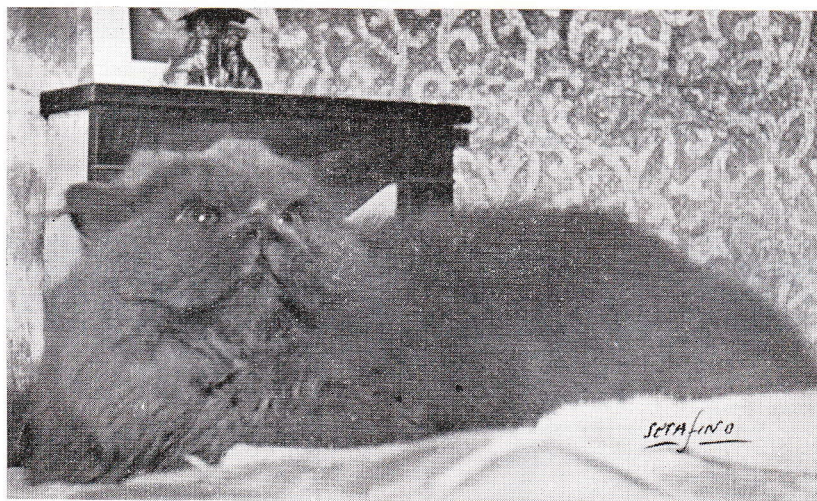
In Whites, Mme Pollin's Ch. Beryl de Laborde won another C.A.C. and C.A.C.I.B. Mme Dorat's Coucy du Mont-joly—Blue-eyed—acquired C.A.C. Two Blue-eyed White babies owned by Mme Schouwers of Antwerp were 1st. It was rather nice to see blue eyes again in Whites.

In Brown Tabbies, Mme Hayer won with Dragon D'or de la Fortelle, who had excellent markings and was of good type. Mme Noel's Cosima von Draxdorf won in Red Tabbies, very good markings and of excellent type.

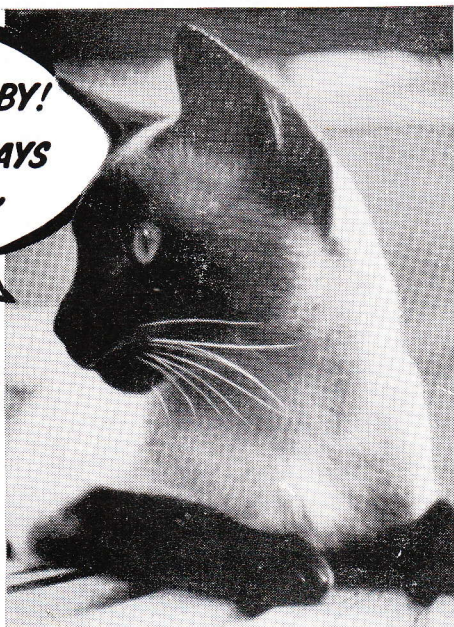
Chinchillas were much too heavily ticked. The best was Mme Besson's Bolero du Menebe. The Creams were too hot but of excellent type and Mme Plee's Yasmina du Mesnil acquired 1st.

The Best Shorthair in Show, judged by Mme Linning, Antwerp, was La Comtesse Thayer-Dhuizy's Caline de Fontenaille, a Seal Point Siamese with a good wedge head, deep blue eyes, whipped tail and good points.

I enjoyed myself thoroughly and everyone was most friendly.



Best Cat in Show was CH. CHINA BOY OF DUNESK, a striking Blue Longhair belonging to M. Roger Moreau — see report above.



"I'm a very popular chap, even if I say so myself," said Tibby, the Tibs reporter. "All the cats I visit seem to like me, perhaps because I remind them of Tibs."

Tibby saw His Feline Majesty Hillcross Cymbal in Wimbledon at the home of Mrs. Towe, Hon. Secretary of the Croydon Cat Club. Mrs. Towe is a great lover of Siamese cats and is a very busy person in the cat world generally. Hillcross Cymbal is the son of Hillcross

Picot who has won no less than 26 show awards.

Mrs. Towe wouldn't let her beautiful Siamese go through one Tib-less day. She believes that Tibs are an absolute necessity and recommends Tibs to all her cat friends and breeders.


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Tailpieces

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items from home and overseas*



THE Australian Fancy has suffered a severe loss through the death of Miss Rose Hagg, President of the Melbourne Cat Club. Miss Hagg was a popular figure wherever she moved in cat circles, always so keen and energetic. She was one of the pioneers of the Fancy in Victoria and her last judging assignment was at the 1954 Championship Show of the Siamese Cat Club of Australia.

Have just been reading that the Australian Cat Exhibition Society held its 2nd Annual Cat Exhibition in Sydney last month. Proceeds were donated to an association caring for disabled soldiers. The Secretary of this Society is Mrs. F. B. Donmall, who will be well known to many English fanciers as she was living in England and breeding Siamese before she left to live "down under" some years ago. I'd like to know a little more about your Exhibition, Mrs. Donmall!

There have been references in the *Daily Telegraph* to the cat-like characteristics of the fox. One letter writer points out that the fox, like the cat, places its hind feet in the prints of its forefeet. It is therefore often difficult in snow to distinguish a fox's tracks from those of a cat, but from time to time the fox drops its tail and leaves a faint brushing mark. Close examination may also reveal the marks of a fox's claws which it cannot withdraw like a cat.

A cat from Malta due to be placed in quarantine escaped from a plane on arrival at London Airport.

A feature writer in the London

Evening Standard comments that "the modern cat that feeds from tins makes big business these days." He adds: "And as a name for a company supplying food for these pampered pets, Plutocrat Ltd., formed to-day, is just about as good as it could be." The marketing of pet food in handy tins has certainly become big business. I noticed the other day that one of the leading manufacturers was advertising for a general sales manager at a salary of "not less than £6,000 per year."

A Weymouth policeman is reported to have drawn his truncheon to fight off a Persian cat which suddenly attacked a young girl and a woman in a shopping street. The woman, who fainted, was taken to hospital and detained with bad scratches. The girl left hospital after treatment.

When pretty stage and TV actress Nanette Newman held her 21st birthday party the guest-of-honour was Hamlet, a white kitten with "black splodges" which an admirer gave her at Easter.

A report from the R.S.P.C.A. states that its regional superintendent at Southsea has been instructed to lay information against Lieut.-Commander L. S. Hinton, of the cruiser *Cleopatra*, alleging that "he did unlawfully and cruelly terrify a cat by roping it and throwing it into the sea." The summons was due to be heard at Portsmouth early this month.

My attention has been drawn to some correspondence concerning the life span of Siamese. I suppose that the average age at death would be generally accepted

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JOAN JUDD
in her article "Herbs and Their Virtues"
in the March issue

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at a figure of 12 years. It is therefore somewhat surprising to see it suggested that 18 years 10 months is a record for longevity in Siamese. I am sure there are authentic cases where cats of the breed have attained the fine old age of 20 and Leon Whitney, in his "*Complete Book of Cat Care*," confirms this. Even as I type, there is a fine old neuter fellow of well over 16 sitting at my side.

Answer to a correspondent : Yes, the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy recently granted a breed number for Blue-Cream Shorthairs.

Two mischievous Siamese, Si and Am, will provide much of the humour in Walt Disney's new cartoon feature "The Lady and the Tramp." Actress Peggy Lee provides the voices for these two characters.

Club officials have been much concerned over the growing number of errors made by exhibitors in making their show entries. The matter was discussed at the annual general meeting of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy and it was decided that in future the Council would impose fines in those cases where it was not thought necessary to disqualify the exhibit.

The well-known Swiss veterinary surgeon Dr. Balziger has been appointed President of the Cat Club Vaudois in succession to Miss Perrin who died so tragically last October.

Just received ! A copy of Spratt's Dog Accessories Catalogue which in its 20 pages seems to provide a comprehensive range to meet every requirement of the pet owner. And there's a section for cat owners in which the accessories include this firm's well-known range of combs, brushes, feeding dishes, collars and leads and playthings. If you want more details, the address is Spratt's Patent Ltd., Accessories Department, 41-47 Bow Road, London, E.3.

The story of the conquest of Everest is retold by Sherpa Tenzing in his book "Man of Everest" which is published this month at 18s. by Harraps. Tenzing tells of the breathless minutes at the summit, where he scraped a hollow in the snow in which to bury a packet of sweets and a little pencil which his daughter had given him. Seeing what he was doing, Hillary handed him a small cloth cat, black with white eyes, that Colonel Hunt had given him as a mascot. This, too, was buried in the little hollow in the snow.

We published in our April issue a list of the Championship awards won by cats of the various breeds during the 1954/55 show season. Details were supplied by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy and we are now advised that the names of three cats should be added to make the list complete. They are Barwell Pippa, Red Tabby female bred and owned by Mrs. Denys Fawell ; Craigiehillock Chozaro, Chocolate Point Siamese male bred and owned by Mrs. D. M. Clarke ; Trelystan Fire Opal, Brown Tabby male bred and owned by Miss J. F. Cathcart.

A special feeding bowl for longeared dogs, on show at the British Industries Fair, has been designed to stop their ears flopping in the food. Cats are now demanding moustache cups to perform the same function for their whiskers.—*The P.D.S.A. Animals' Magazine.*

Holiday time and fly time is with us once again. Please don't forget to make proper provision for your pets when you go away. The important thing is to ensure that they are left in the charge of someone who really likes and understands cats. And remember, too, when you are at home that flies, alive or dead, are *not* good things for cats to eat.

I recently discovered that The Colour Box, Quay Hill, Lymington, Hants, can produce at a moderate cost a statuette of your own cat. All they want is a clear

IRRITATION OF CATS' EARS

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



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photograph and a clipping of fur as a colour guide. In the case of a Tortie I guess they will also need a colour plan !

Advertisement in a stationer's shop window : " Respectable female cat wishes to rent bed-sitting room in this district, with permission to keep one well-trained literary lady as pet. About 30s. References exchanged, etc."

Consider the cat

She came to stay

And nothing on earth

Can drive her away

But if she should leave ;

Alas ! Alack !

Then, nothing on earth

Can bring her back.

Although there is nothing feline in this item I am sure that our readers will be interested to know that there has been a spontaneous demand by animal lovers all over the country that a fund should be set up to help 16 year old Dennis Bridges in his career. Dennis is



YEZ-AMI VIKTOR, Burmese winner of more than 20 awards, belongs to that enthusiast for the breed, Mrs. W. M. Massey, of Warwick.



A little friend with Mrs. R. N. Plant's HADEN LETITIA at the Siamese C.C. Show last October. This young queen won an award in each of the eight classes in which she was entered.

the plucky lad who lost his leg freeing an unknown dog which was trapped in the path of an express train. Those who wish to express in a practical way their approval of his action are asked to send their contributions to the Right Hon. The Lord Burden, C.B.E., Dennis Bridges Fund, Westminster Bank Ltd., 8 The Broadway, London, N.10.

More than 300 stray cats and dogs have been found homes by the R.S.P.C.A. in Sittingbourne (Kent) over the past twelve months.

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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.

B. P. Meeting

THE Blue Persian Cat Society held its A.G.M. at Stewart's Restaurant, Victoria, on May 16th. It was fairly well attended. The two retiring members of Committee, Miss K. Yorke and Mr. F. Tomlinson, were re-elected to the Committee and Major Dugdale was co-opted for the year. As he is one of the two delegates for the Society, it was considered advisable he should be on the Committee. Miss Lelgarde Fraser was also returned unopposed as delegate to the G.C.C.F.

The B.P.C.S. Ch. Show on October 4th will have the same venue as last autumn—Queen Mary Hall, Great Russell Street, London. The committee and members realize this is not an ideal hall for a cat show, chiefly because it is not well and evenly lit, the windows being mostly down one side. But it is almost impossible to procure a suitable London hall for a small specialist show, so we shall have to make the best of this one

for 1955. Mrs. L. Speirs has kindly consented to organize it. The judges will be: Adult Males, Madame Ravel (Paris); Adult Females, Mrs. Oglethorpe; Male Kittens, Miss Bull; Female Kittens, Miss Rodda; Referee Judge, Mr. J. Martin. Mrs. Speirs organized a very successful Derby sweepstake and Mrs. Beedell and Miss Webster are collaborating in an extra special jumble sale to take place in September so Club funds should greatly benefit.

Mrs. Cook-Radmore deserves gratitude and appreciation for all the hard work she put into the last show, especially as she was placed with the disadvantage of living a long way from the venue. This autumn she will be busy organizing the Southsea Cat Club Ch. Show at South Parade Pier, Southsea, on October 19th.

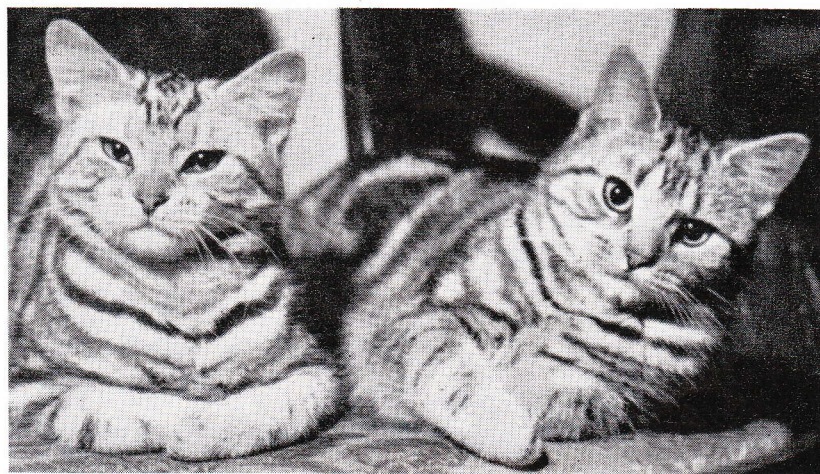
The thoughts of many of the B.P.C.S. members, especially the seniors, were with the Hon. Secretary, Miss J. M. Fisher, who was unable to be with us owing to her indifferent health. She has served the Club devotedly in that capacity for over 30 years. How well I remember one of the first things she told me: "It is much easier to breed a good female than a good male Blue Persian" and how right she was, and is.

There were some murmurs of dissent at the meeting when it was announced that the Committee had decided not to advertise the show in the daily press. It would be interesting to know how it is proposed to attract the public when only a comparatively small section of



Daily Express

Mrs. A. E. Vize, who is now in Australia, with Mrs. Richards' fine Cream neuter SHARBRI ALPHA. See "A Breeder's Ambition" on next page.



PR. MOONSTONE SHERPA (left) and his litter sister MOONSTONE ETOLAS are a nice pair of Silver Tabbies. The photograph was taken by Dr. B. Portnoy when they were seven months old. When first shown by Mrs. Portnoy, of Hale, Cheshire, Sherpa won Best Shorthair Kitten at Manchester. Etolas is now nursing a litter of five by the French import Bellever Calchas D'Acheux.

cat-breeders will know it is taking place.

Posters will be available but they have a limited local appeal in comparison to the mass readership of London's daily papers.

Many beginners and less-well-known breeders hope to sell kittens at a show and it is the general public who buy the pets. Well-known personalities often have breeders waiting for their best kittens, and shows to them are a medium for confirming their opinion of the merit of their kittens. A member, Mrs. Norris, kindly offered to pay for an advertisement in one paper.

Cold Affects Matings

Although it was generally agreed that colour in many Blues leaves much to be desired, the Committee had decided not to change the Standard at present. We frequently see lovely shades of Blue in kittens which is often sound to the roots but how seldom does this blue persist in the adult coat. So often the new coat is shades darker and dull in tone. It is quite possible for a medium coloured shade to be really blue.

Mrs. Askew's famous pre-war male Ch. Heatherland Blue Boy was a lovely example of this. He was one of the comparatively few Blue males who have managed to secure six Challenge certificates in the last 30 years. Another really Blue male was the late Ch. Southway Nicholas, bred in England by Mr. J. Martin and owned and presented in France by Madame Gibbon.

Cold weather in January and February did not prevent queens coming into season but it appears to have had a marked effect in preventing them having a real desire to mate, and if they mated they failed in many cases to conceive. These remarks apply to Longhairs. It evidently takes more than climatic conditions to affect Siamese as vast numbers have already been registered.

Comparatively few Longhair kittens had arrived by the end of April so it was

cheering to hear that Mrs. Dyer, of Selly Park, Birmingham, had eleven for sale by mid-May, Blue males, Blue-Creams, but only one Cream male, all by her Cream Champion Tollerton Talisman, winner of four Challenge certificates. An offer to buy him from an American breeder has just been considered and refused. He has had a busy season at stud.

Mrs. Dyer writes : " My Blue queen Prestwood Pixie has a litter of five by Talisman. She is seven years old and must have created almost a record for a pedigree Longhair. She has had nearly sixty kittens and her present quintette are strong and healthy. My cats are all free. I have a large garden fenced and wired in and so they lead healthy normal lives. Pixie's first litter of seven in 1950 was also Ch. Tollerton Talisman's first and their photograph appeared in *OUR CATS*, 1950."

Last year in the Midland Home Service there was a feature : " Talking about Cats," in which Jim Pestrige brought some of his feline friends to the microphone. One excerpt was " Cream and Blue Persians—a Visit to Mrs. Dyer." In the same month, July, an interview with her appeared in the *Birmingham Post* with a photograph of her holding Lendreana Pandora, a Blue-Cream kitten, and Lendreana Minky, a Cream. Both were later flown out to a Belgian breeder. As Mrs. Dyer is also interested in poodles and budgerigars, she is obviously a very busy person. Here's wishing her success this coming show season.

A Breeder's Ambition

Another breeder who has little leisure is Mrs. Richards, of Strood, Kent. She has had much success in the comparatively short time she has been breeding cats. Her ambition is to breed a self Red, but so far one of her most outstanding cats has been a lovely pale Blue-Cream, Sharbri Adela, produced by her

Tortoiseshell Ch. Penchar Tweetie Pie, when mated to Major Dugdale's well-known Blue male Ch. Harpur Blue Boy.

In less than three years Adela has taken 75 prize cards, a medal, various spoons and secured wins on 13 cups. Her Cream neutered litter brother Sharbri Alpha has also been a consistent winner.

Mrs. Richards writes : " It is very unsatisfactory scoring wins on cups which one never sees except perhaps at an occasional show or at the tea party the Hon. Secretary of the Red, Cream and Tortie Society, Mrs. J. M. Newton, kindly gives at her home in summer time. Alpha won, among others, Brigadier Rossiter's Mirza Taklif Trophy at the M.C.C.C. Ch. Show in October to be held for one year and I haven't even seen it yet. He also took his third Premier Certificate for neuters but it didn't count as the judges were changed after entries had closed and he had already been awarded one Premier under the judge officiating. Most exasperating, after incurring expenses of nearly £20 for my husband and myself. However, we were delighted his sister Sharbri Adela was awarded a Challenge Certificate under Mrs. Newton."

Fight to Save Kittens

" I have had disappointments with my kittens. Hazeldene Red Jewel went to Syke Ruddy Glow and had five kittens, three Reds, two Creams. Unfortunately she lost two. Ch. Penchar Tweetie Pie also had five by him but they were eight days premature. We worked very hard to save them. I stayed up three nights and my daughter Ethne took over during the day. I had them in a box on the dresser to save stooping and we stood there for hours, trying to get them to suckle. Every two hours I gave them glucose and water and a little milk, fed from a dropper. I brought all my nursing experience to bear, but of no avail, they died one after another at the beginning of the fourth day. It was heartbreaking; I thought I should never

be able to bend again after it was all over."

" The mother, previously such a devoted mother, knew they were abnormal as she wasn't a bit keen to stay with them. They were on hot water bottles or in the oven of the Rayburn which we kept at a suitable temperature all the time. Tweetie Pie now helps to feed Red Jewel's trio."

" Sharbri Bella Mia had 2 Tortoiseshells, 2 Blacks and 1 Red by Sharbri Beaucaire but alas ! the very one I wanted most of all died, the Red, which I so hoped would be a self. We did everything to make him breathe immediately after birth and did what we do with human babies, put him in warm water and gently dashed a teaspoonful of cold water at intervals on his chest to make him gasp and he actually did do so but he petered out shortly after birth. Well ! we have seven kittens left so we can now love and attend to them and I am as determined as ever to breed a self Red."

I am sure we all wish Mrs. Richards every success. It was a remarkable feat keeping the eight days premature kittens alive for four days. No doubt they would have died within a few hours if left to themselves. Very few breeders have been able to save premature kittens even if it is only one or two days. Usually they have no desire to suckle and only those who have tried to rear newly born kittens by hand realize how difficult it is and how seldom it meets with success.

Enough for Any Queen

Mrs. Crickmore's beautiful queen Ch. Thiepval Precocious has twin girls by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. Her owner tells me she is a very devoted mother and spends all her time with them. She also had a huge male. He was a long time being born and was stillborn, no doubt due to asphyxia which causes the death of so many big kittens which take a long time to come into the world.

My own three queens have had fourteen kittens this Spring and two of them each lost one kitten through delayed birth. Ch. Dawn of Pensford had one very big Blue male which took two hours and Anchor Felicity a big Cream male which was three hours being born. Felicity then had the remaining three in three quarters of an hour to add to her first two which were born just as expeditiously. Five is ample for any queen to rear and incidentally twelve kittens are as many as I ever wish to have at one time. Kittens are adorable but need plenty of attention if they are to be hefty and strong.

A Leg Puller

Apropos the birth of kittens, to save time I took a taxi home with my shopping when Felicity's were due and when I asked the driver to "step on it" as my cat was expecting kittens, he retorted: "Good heavens! I thought cats had their kittens in coal cellars and that they only emerged when they could walk."

Actually he was "pulling my leg" as he often drives me home with "their" shopping.

Incidentally, I wonder how many pedigree kittens would survive if they were born in coal cellars?

Mrs. Boulton's queen has a bonny quartette of four Blues by her male Denyston Denys. He was Best Blue Male Kitten at the Blue Persian Cat Society Ch. Show, 1950, and brought out for Best Kitten in Show at the Southern Counties Cat Club Ch. Show, 1951, after which he developed a dislike for shows as an adult. Mrs. Boulton, being a very fond owner, if her cats dislike shows, she indulges them and they stay at home. Denys is very sweet-tempered.

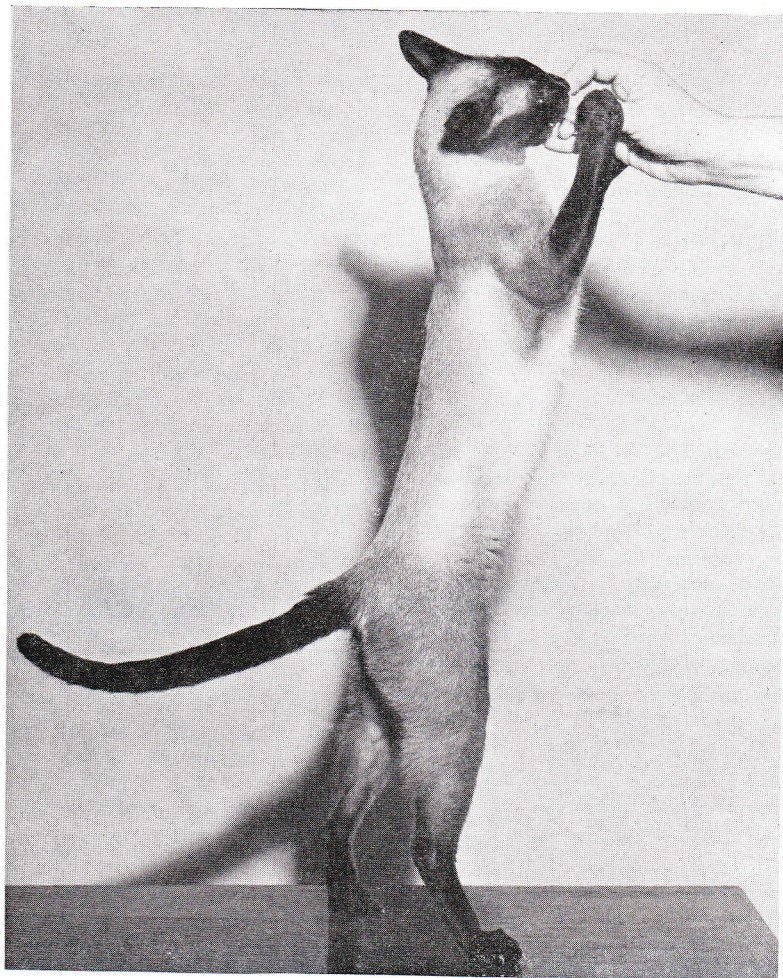
Mrs. Barron's Blue-Cream Hendras Pepita, by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Bluecroft Butterscotch and bred by Mrs. Nash, has grown into a very attractive adult. Her coat is two lovely shades

of blue and cream and the latter colour has come through very well. She was too blue at four months but is well intermingled now. Her head and eyes are very good. In Blue-Cream kittens I much prefer to see blue predominating than cream. Small areas of the latter colour are apt to be much too obtrusive when they are adults, and although blue patches often become intermingled, cream patches frequently remain solid for life. Hendras Pepita will shortly be mated to Miss Bull's Blue male Vigilant Mark and it is hoped she will have a Cream male. Paul of Pensford, the Cream litter brother to Sherry, and second to him at the February S.C.C.C. Ch. Show was in the hobble-de-hoy stage for Longhair males, viz., eight months, but he is very promising and all being well will be shown when he is fully mature.

Experienced breeders wait patiently for their males to mature and do not expect the breadth of head which is so imposing, until they have sired, and are at least eighteen months or two years. Pepita and Paul are fond playmates and enjoy a happy life in house and garden with Mrs. Barron's other pets.

In Leafy Bucks

In the evening Mr. Barron motored us over to Chalfont St. Peter to see Mrs. Davies and her new young Blue male Camber Algernon, by Anson Eros, bred by Mrs. Denton. He was born on July 2nd last year and is very nice. He has a pale coat excellent in texture, a well-developed head for such a youngster, good type and wide-awake round orange eyes. He was one of the 1st prize litter at the Herts and Middlesex Ch. Show last September, 1st in Blue Breeders class; and at the Blue Persian Cat Society Ch. Show 1st with his brother Camber Adonis in Pairs, and at the National Cat Club Ch. Show 1st in his Open class and 2nd in Blue Breeders, and generally gave a very good account



How's this for a pose ? This Siamese Seal Point is one of the Chirn Sa-hai Champions bred by Mrs. Richard O'Donovan, the well-known American fancier from Miami, Florida.

of himself as a kitten. His dam Camber Dulcie Susette is herself a winner and the daughter of Woburn Sunshine and Trenton Sugar Plum, both winners of many first prizes.

Mrs. Davies's famous Blue neuter Premier Priory Adonis was in magnificent coat as usual. It is pale and really blue and exquisite in length and texture. Her Cream male Elmwood Cavalier was looking well. His head is excellent, very broad and masculine, with a nice short nose. Four blue kittens were disporting themselves in the sunshine and her Blue-Cream queen was nursing a promising Cream female by Elmwood Cavalier. All live a happy life with an abundance of good food. Mrs. Davies has enamelled her cat houses a most aesthetic shade of blue which looks well against the green grass of their large runs. The queens have liberty in the garden and Adonis has always been a house pet. He sleeps on their bed until, overcome with the heat his coat must engender, he jumps off, cools off, and gets back again. A happy day seeing cats and kittens much loved and very well cared for.

News from Jersey

Miss Cherry Calvert-Jones, so well known for her Siamese, particularly Blue Points, has lived for some time now at St. Marys, Jersey, Channel Islands. She has now bought from Mr. Godbolt a Blue Persian bred by Mrs. Brice-Webb, Ronada Moonglow, litter sister to Mr. Lansdell's Ronada Moonmist, whose photograph appeared in April issue *OUR CATS*. Moonglow's former owner was very distressed to part with her but he was promoted and will be travelling in future so cannot continue with his breeding plans at present. Moonglow has had the distinction of being flown to be mated to Ch. Harpur Blue Boy.

Miss Calvert-Jones wrote a month ago to say Moonglow was shedding a magnificent kitten coat which was sticking to the carpets and that her new coat is a fine deep Blue. She hopes to

exhibit at least once this year in London.

I was pleased to hear from Mrs. Mollie Turney of Holyport, Berks, that the Chinchilla female, which she sent to Miss Haswell, who lives near Sydney, New South Wales, named Bonavia Feather (by Jamie of Thame and Sarisbury Aphra) was 1st and Champion, Best Brood Queen, Best Chinchilla and Reserve Best Cat in Show at St. George Championship Show at Sydney on May 14th. Her two kittens were respectively Best Female Chinchilla Kitten and Best Male Kitten in Show so Miss Haswell was delighted. Bonavia Feather is the queen who was mated before she left England and had premature kittens en route to Australia. What a blessing she is proving a good brood queen under normal conditions !

More Australian Letters

I visited Miss Haswell in 1953 and her cats were in lovely condition and evidently had a fond mistress. Few pedigree cats in Sydney appear to have the liberty ours have when we own large gardens because of the danger of ticks but the magnificent coats of many of their Chinchillas are eloquent of condition.

I also had an air mail letter from Mr. Fred Pearce and he tells me it was a glorious day for the Show and everyone was very busy. And for those who think every day is a sunny one in New South Wales, he writes : " It has been a bad year for breeders and exhibitors, especially those who have outside runs. It's been very wet and variable in temperature and of course coats and matings have suffered."

Mrs. Vize is enjoying herself, I hear from Mr. E. J. Lonsdale whom we are so looking forward to having with us for about six weeks from June 16th.

The Newsletter of the Siamese Cat Club of Australia was very welcome from Melbourne. Regarding cat shows the "sky's the limit" with this Club. It was greatly due to their enthusiasm that the lovely central building of Melbourne

Town Hall was finally secured for a Championship Show a few years ago on condition that profits were donated to the Red Cross. The Newsletter contains "Some Thoughts on Breeding" which point out the difference between line-breeding and inbreeding, and the duties of stud cat owners and duties to them. The general procedure is apparently the same as in all cat-breeding countries.

American Honours

In the May issue of U.S.A. Cats Magazine, I was delighted to read that my Champion Dawn of Pensford's Cream daughter by Mrs. Davies' Elmwood Cavalier is All-Western Cream Female for the second year in succession. Already Triple Champion Lady Gay of Pensford has points towards her Grand Championship which her owner Mrs. Alberta Paris hopes she will attain next season. Lady Gay is litter sister to Mrs. Karen Smith's Cream male, Mascot of Pensford, Best Longhair kitten, Copen-

hagen, 1952, and subsequently winner of two Challenge certificates.

The United States of America is divided into North, South, East and West, so to become an All-Western, a cat has to win more prizes than any other cat of its colour and sex and the honours are awarded to "the best cats of the 1954-1955 season owned by exhibitors in the Western United States and Canada. Based entirely on a mathematical system applied to every officially-sanctioned Championship cat show held in the United States and Canada during the past show season."

Show Schedule

A list of shows for the 1955-1956 season as approved by the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy can be obtained gratis from the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, 1 Roundwood Way, Banstead, Surrey, or from the Assistant Secretary, Mrs. K. M. Brown, 111 Nork Way, Banstead, Surrey.

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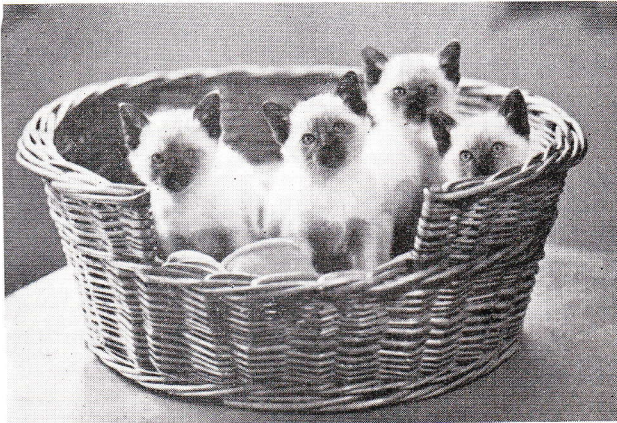
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BACK NUMBERS

We frequently receive inquiries from readers here and overseas as to the availability of back numbers of this Magazine, which is now in its sixth year. For the convenience of those who may wish to obtain odd copies to complete their sets we give below details of the present stock position. An asterisk against the date indicates that we have fewer than six copies of this particular issue.

1951. February, March, April, May, June, July/August, October, December.
1952. February*, March/April, May*, June, July, August, September*, October, November*, December.
1953. All issues except February, April and October.
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No. 3 "I certainly would like to continue with my advertisement in the Directory. It is a great help to my cat breeding."
No. 4 "I will gladly renew my panel advertisement for another 12 months. You will be pleased to hear that it has been a great help, not only for stud work, but for kitten sales as well. I have even received letters from abroad through it."
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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(Continued on next page)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS (*continued*)

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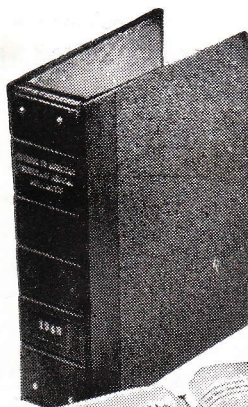
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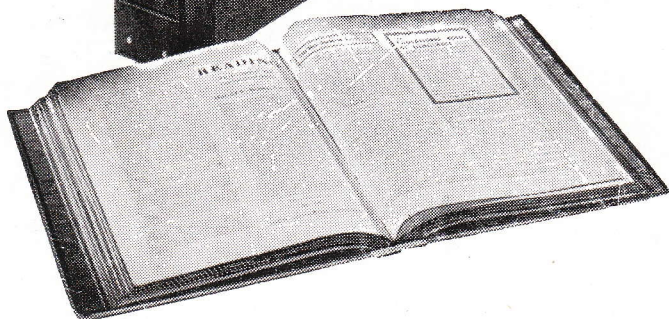


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