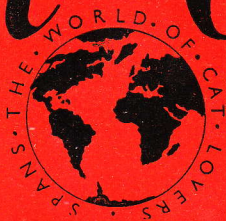


Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING
COMPREHENSIVE



THE OBSERVER CORPS
Photograph by G. Pennethorne

JANUARY 1956

1/6

**Come on! Hurry! Can't you see—
We've got Kit-E-Kat for tea!**



Remember—cats and kittens want more than just fish—more than just scraps! They need a completely balanced diet. That's why Kit-E-Kat is made not only with fresh white fish and herring, but also with meat—as well as extra vitamins and minerals! Yes, Kit-E-Kat is a complete food. Cats need it—cats love it—every day.

KIT-E-KAT

FRESH FISH AND MEAT—COOKED AND READY TO EAT

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. 8 No. 1

JANUARY 1956

Managing Editor :

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

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

EDITORIAL

IT just doesn't seem possible, but here we are in our eighth year of publication, very much "alive and kicking" and ready to meet the challenge of what will undoubtedly be a difficult year ahead. But more about this later. Let's have the good news first !

This is the time and place for me to send my sincere thanks to all those kind folk at home and overseas for their Christmas and New Year greeting cards and messages. As I am unable to acknowledge each one individually, I would like the senders to know how much they were appreciated. Some of the cards were extremely smart and original and, of course, photographs of cats and kittens were the predominant choice for a seasonal theme. May I in return wish the Happiest of New Years to readers everywhere ? I hope their slides down the banisters of life will be splinter-free during the next twelve months.

I would like also to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has co-operated so loyally and well with the production of the Magazine during its long run. A lot of time and hard work has been involved and certainly we would never have kept going without this valuable help from our friends in all corners of the cat world. It is a remarkable fact that our subscription renewal rate has always exceeded 90 per cent and of course we are very proud of this figure.

But, may I add, our appetite for new readers remains unassuaged and in this connection I hope that more readers will come forward with their help during the New Year. They can aid the circulation drive in a number of ways—by showing and recommending the Magazine to their friends and contacts and by supplying me (in confidence) with the names and addresses of purchasers of their stock. We are always ready to send

a sample copy to a healthy prospect but this can only be done if we are supplied with the necessary information. You will understand that our best "raw material" is the person who has just become the proud owner, perhaps for the first time, of a pedigree kitten.

And now finally I must turn for a few moments to a less cheerful side of the picture—to "the difficult year" I mentioned earlier on. In common with many other publishers of periodicals, I have had to give serious consideration to the changed conditions which were forced upon us when the New Year opened. Whichever way we turn we are confronted by rising production costs and I am afraid the point has been reached when some remedial action must be taken if we are to survive.

I hate and deplore the rising spiral as much as you do and I have always tried to "hold on" in the hope that one day soon we would see a trend in the downward direction. Since our first issue in January, 1949, our yearly subscription rate has remained at 17s. 6d. and we have never increased our advertisement rates to members of the Fancy. I cannot be absolutely sure about this, but I believe that OUR CATS has for years been the only monthly journal with a "cut price" subscription rate.

Now, at last, the old order must be changed and reluctantly I have to give notice that as from March 1st next, our subscription rate for 12 issues post free will be raised to 20s. For readers in the Americas the rate will be raised 25 cents to 3.25 dollars.

You may be interested to have just one indication of the increased costs which we have to meet. It concerns postage. Under the new schedule of charges we can continue to send out a 36 page issue (open end) for 1½d. But only just! If we add one extra page—or even a subscription form—the postage rate for a single copy jumps 66⅔ per cent. to 2½d. Nice work, Dr. Postmaster General!

Sorry about this, but we have to be realistic. I feel pretty confident that the great majority of you will accept the position and stay with us. For our part, we undertake to continue to give you the best possible value for money in cat magazines during 1956.

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).

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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Our Rodent Officers (unpaid)

By ANN L. STUBBS

WE keep a staff of five unpaid rodent officers to keep down vermin in the farm buildings and house. All they receive for wages is admittance to the family hearth, a warm bed, ample food, and medical attention when necessary. They are conscientious, and I think I might say, enjoy their work, which often takes place in the dead of night. Who are these treasures? Why, cats of course!

Being a great admirer of these small, independent, and highly individual animals I am often appalled at the shocking condition of many farm cats. They are frequently treated little better than the vermin they are supposed to kill. Wild, half-starved little creatures, they hide in terror from humans, creeping into the cow-sheds at milking time with haunted scared mien, only driven there by the desperation of hunger. Perhaps they are lucky and will get a drink of milk when no-one is looking. How can these poor, pathetic objects be expected to hunt and kill a full-grown rat, let alone the three adult mice which is what it takes to make a meal for the average cat?

All our cats receive a drink of skimmed milk night and morning, in the house, and their main meal mid-day. This consists of cat meal, gravy, and meat, either from the butcher or tinned. They have all they need to eat but that does not stop them hunting by any manner of means.

The cat hunts for sport as well as food, he enjoys it. Our cats bring all their catches to the house for our inspection so we know just what they are doing. They sleep in the scullery, in company with the cocker spaniel, where the coke

stove is burning day and night. The window is left open and they can come and go as they please. They each have their own bed.

Gussie is the matriarch of the little family. She is a British White registered cat but her exalted status does not go to her head; she once killed a total of ten *full-grown* rats in one week. Some were so large she could barely carry them. She is not a particularly large cat and anyone will appreciate that she could not have done such a feat, which needed great skill and courage, had she not been in the peak of condition. Gussie is, perhaps, not a full time member of the staff as she has several months off each year for maternal duties, but I could not leave her out by virtue of her excellence as a rat-ter when "on the job."

Ginger for "Fire"

Bambi is a black and white female neuter. She has not yet graduated to adult rats as she is only 18 months old but on several occasions has caught two and even three half-grown rats in broad daylight. She is a dab hand at catching sparrows and frequently if the dinner is not quite to her liking just turns her nose up at it and departs to return in about five minutes with a nice plump sparrow, or perhaps a mouse.

Paddy is a ginger and white male neuter, a massive fellow weighing nearly twelve pounds and so called because of his quick temper. Like all red-heads, he is inclined to be a little hasty and comes in at least once every three or four weeks looking very sorry for himself and carrying one swollen paw. He is well-covered by the honourable scars of battle and on one occasion had almost half his funny pink nose bitten away. Ratting can be

a very uncomfortable business if you misjudge your pounce.

Timmy, I am afraid, is the black sheep of the family. A large tabby tom cat, his speciality was rabbits. In fact he has been caught three times in snares. Missing for several days, once for over a week in the bitterest winter weather, he has come limping home still caught in the beastly things. Now the rabbits are gone and he appears to have retired at the early age of five and a half !

Sambo is the baby, only five months old, black and wicked, but utterly charming. He promises to be a good hunter for he has already caught several shrews and even a few sparrows. He also is a neuter.

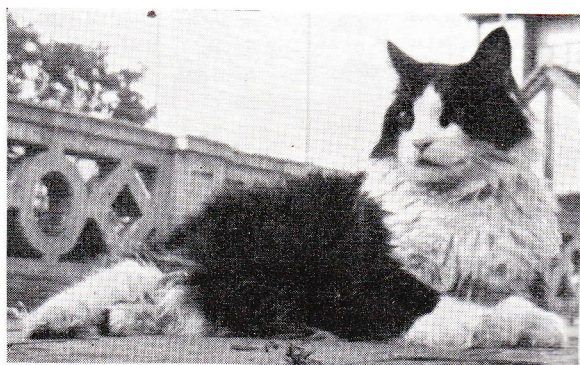
What type of cat is best for a really good working cat ? Well, of course, much depends on the individual and certain strains are renowned as ratters. Most of ours are descendants of an old black and white stray we adopted and who was the most amazing hunter I ever saw. She thought nothing of killing an entire family of rats in one night. I would say definitely *not* a Longhair, though I am not disparaging these lovely cats but they just are not practical on a farm where there is always more risk of mange and fleas.

If you like a pedigree cat, then there

are any amount of enchanting breeds to choose from. The Siamese, who are often excellent hunters, the less common Burmese and Abyssinian and Russian Blue, and, coming nearer home, our own British Blue, British White, Manx and Silver Tabby to mention but a few. All these are Shorthaired and very beautiful each in his own way. If you do not want a pedigree cat then excellent Shorthair kittens can often be obtained for the begging in a wide variety of colours.

There is a wide belief that a neuter cat is lethargic. Nothing could be farther from the truth, for some of the finest hunters I have known are neuters. It is a sound and practical plan to have all working cats neutered as kittens. One is then relieved of the grim task of disposing of unwanted litters and one's sleep is not broken by nightly serenading ! It is also practical to have all kittens inoculated against infectious feline enteritis for this dread disease can sweep through a family of cats.

Yes, our cats may appear to the visitor to be nothing more than pampered pets as they snooze round the fire, sleek and plump, each one wearing a smart collar of brightly coloured plastic and elastic with a disc bearing his or her name and address. But they are worth their weight in gold as hard-working members of the farm staff.



This is Sandy, a splendid ratter and mouser, who lives at Ashted, Surrey. He was given as a pet about sixteen years ago to Miss Nancy Dunstan by the father of Andrew Sandham, the famous Test and Surrey cricketer.

Meat!

By P. M. SODERBERG

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

WHEN dealing with the subject of cat feeding, I have often written about meat as an essential part of diet, and have tried to keep this "must" in a balanced dietary in reasonable perspective. However, from talk I hear among cat fanciers, it still seems obvious that there are many who do not realize that meat is not quite so important as they seem to think.

So often they roll out the age-old argument that raw flesh is the natural food of cats in the wild and that therefore it must still be regarded as having the same importance. Even if such believers accept the fact that lean meat alone was not eaten by wild cats, they still cling tenaciously to the idea that no cat can remain fit unless the greater part of its daily intake of food is flesh in some form or another.

Let me give here what I believe to be facts, and then, if anyone can disprove them, I shall be only too happy because I shall have learned something.

It is probably more than three thousand years since the cat was first domesticated, and throughout that time few changes which can be considered as fundamental have been brought about. Certainly some of the pedigree breeds have shown certain skeletal changes as a result of selective breeding, but cats as a whole, for pedigree cats are a small minority, have changed very little as a result of domestication, if by change one means alteration in structure.

Nor do I believe that cats have shown much alteration in temperament. Close association with man has caused them to become tame and unafraid of humans which is merely another way of saying that they have become domesticated, but it does not mean that their essential character has changed. Does anyone believe that two entire males which have come from a long line of domesticated and thus tame cats will act differently towards each other than they would have done three thousand years ago in the wild?

The main change which has taken place over this long period has been that of eating habits. Both from necessity and also design, man has trained his cats to eat a diet which is apparently different from that of the wild animal, but which is still basically the same because it contains proteins, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins and minerals.

A Bad Diet

It is universally accepted that protein is essential to good health, but a diet composed entirely of protein is bad and would eventually produce ill health, and, within a comparatively short space of time, death.

Meat is a source of protein, so those few who believe that a diet of meat alone is what a cat needs are just asking for trouble if they carry such an idea into daily practice. Frankly, I never believe fanciers who say that their cats will eat nothing but meat or fish (another source of protein). If the owner does not provide the other essentials of correct feeding, then the cat gets them for itself

either by stealing or some other equally efficient method.

This must be so, for few cats die from malnutrition, and those who become ill as a result of incorrect feeding are a comparatively small percentage of the whole, and of that small number almost all are pedigree cats which have been fed by a fond but foolish owner. The cat that is allowed its freedom usually has a chance of rectifying the errors of those who feed it.

Let me repeat that I consider meat an essential because it is a source of protein, but if this important part of the diet is always obtained from fish or cereals, there would be other troubles to put right. However, the quantity and type of meat which should be fed is a matter which requires further consideration.

The proteins are important for the maintenance of a steady rate of growth, and of such proteins those derived from animal sources are almost certainly the most important.

As kittens are growing creatures, for them this form of protein is of extreme importance, for if growth is checked at any stage of development it is always difficult to make up the lost ground. Thus, when feeding kittens after weaning, a large part, perhaps up to fifty per cent, of the food provided can be

animal protein most frequently in the form of meat. When the cat is fully grown, however, the same need will not exist, but protein as meat has still a value because it is a producer of energy.

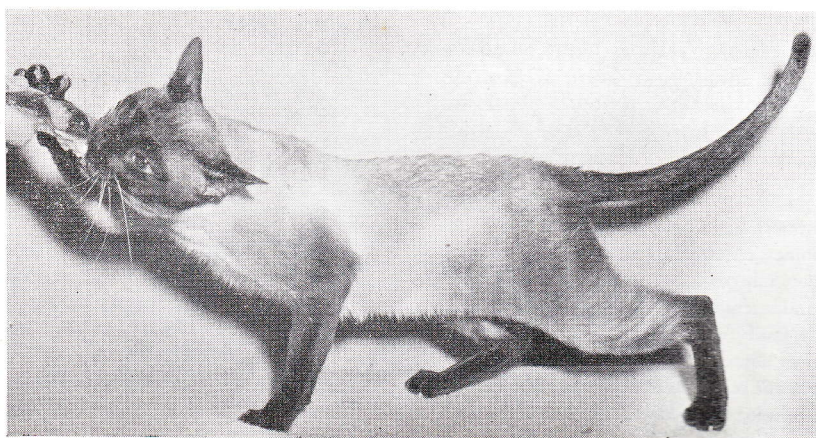
It follows from these facts that the quantity of meat fed should depend upon the amount of energy which the cat must use. Here the needs of the stud cat have to be carefully considered. To feed more than is necessary for the type of life the cat leads is sheer waste, for if this item in nutrition is not used to produce growth, or is not expended in energy, it is eliminated from the body in excreta, and the older the cat becomes the more likely is an excess of protein to have a harmful effect.

Advantages of Horseflesh

Cats need fats in their diet, but the quantity has to be limited as any excess will be stored up in the body merely as fat, and the animal will in time become obese, a condition which is not good for any cat.

Pork has the same objection attached to it as well as one other, that most cats do not seem to like it.

Poultry, with the fragile bones removed, provides excellent meat, but its cost puts it out of reach of most fanciers.



Here's a fellow eager for his proteins! Our fine action picture of JAKKI, 1955 All American Seal Point Siamese from the Dalai Cattery, was taken by "Muzzie" (Mr. Nelson), well known amateur photographer of Detroit.

on the organs of excretion. Sometimes wrong feeding of this sort can produce a definite deterioration in the function of the kidneys.

From a practical point of view this often means that the size of the meals is reduced for older cats, although the proportion of meat to the other constituents remains the same.

If cost were not an important factor in cat feeding, then the best meat would be prime steak, but as cat owners find correct feeding very expensive, this type of meat is usually out of the question. The cheaper grades of beef which are purchased for human consumption are often extremely fibrous and difficult of digestion, and it is thus much cheaper and usually more satisfactory to feed the best quality horsemeat. The finest steak from this animal can be obtained at less than half the price of beef steak, and what

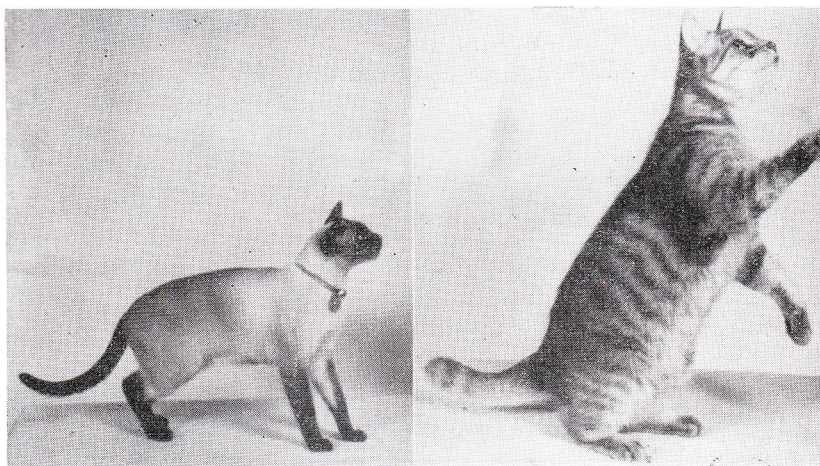
is more important still is that most cats like it. The best cuts are often very tender, and, although tasting rather sweet to the human palate, are appreciated by cats.

Mutton is useful, but usually carries so much fat that it becomes wasteful.

Many cats, if the choice were left to them, would choose rabbit meat, but this animal in the wild state has almost disappeared, and rabbits are not easy to buy, although frozen Australian rabbits are still available from time to time at a price.

All in all, horsemeat seems to be the best source of protein readily available at moderate cost for cat feeding, and most cat owners take advantage of this fact.

As an alternative source of protein fish is also used, but that item of diet does not apply strictly to this article which started off with the title "Meat."



These are the treasured pets of Miss Illy McFall, of Darlington, S.C., U.S.A. Tinker is a 3-year-old Siamese and Dusty the tabby will be 14 next month.

Mrs. E. Fisher of
Barnabrow, West-
erleigh Road,
Coombe Down,
Bath, Somerset,
writes :—

*“ My cats, all
of them, just fight
for their Kit-zyme.*

*They get their daily
dose and, if I*

would let them have it, they would eat a whole bottle of the tablets in one go.

*The photograph includes a lovely Lilac Shorthair, Praha Allegro
Agitato, my Chocolate Point Siamese, Blackland Ratsmee and my Havana
kitten, Praha Havranka.*

*I am certain that the continual use of Kit-zyme is the cause of their
wonderful condition. Their coats simply shine with good health and I
certainly recommend the tablets to any cat lover.”*



“ SWEETIE-TIME ”

KIT - ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN - RICH YEAST

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

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Literature Free on Request



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



Ref. No. 121

All cat owners are advised to keep a jar of Zemol in the store cupboard. Zemol, an actively antiseptic veterinary ointment (by the makers of Kit-zyme) is a safe and very effective way of treating minor wounds, cuts, burns, etc. Literature FREE on request.



John G. Rimell

THE OLDEST LIVING CAT LOVER ?

You may remember this picture as we first published it in 1954. On 30th December last this grand old lady, Mrs. Caroline Mary Beale, of Wallington, Surrey, attained her 107th birthday. She still goes to church every Sunday and is ready to talk about her next birthday. She wouldn't have candles on her birthday cake because, she said, "I can't stand the smell of them."

“Dear Smugs, don’t do it again”

WHEN Smugs, the pet cat of Mrs. E. Beck, of Handsworth, Birmingham, was trapped in the branches of a high tree, the men of the local Fire Station were called out to rescue him. Some short time later the firemen received the following poem, which was attached to a donation to the Brigade Welfare Fund :

*I know I am an awful cat,
But really, folks, cats are like that.
I'm purring now contentedly.
I'll never climb another tree.
I've always longed to climb so high,
That I could reach birds in the sky,
But what made me pause and frown,
Was how the heck could I get down ?
Oh dear, I thought my time had come,
Nine blinking lives rolled into one.
Right up there I was so cold,
Why did I try to be so bold ?
So I convey my heartfelt thanks
To you and all the other ranks
Who risk their lives each day, you see,
To rescue naughty cats like me.*

A few days later Mrs. Beck received this answer from the Fire Brigade :

*Dear Smugs, we thank you for this rhyme.
Now we will spend a little time
Explaining to you what occurred
As in the tree you miaowed and purred.
At twenty-five minutes past nine
We heard Mrs. Beck on our telephone line.
“Come to 16 Crompton Road,” said she,
“My pet cat is stuck in a tree.”
Fire Control girls filled with dismay
Rang Handsworth Station straight away.
The bells went down and firemen bold
Rushed into the night so very cold.
At twenty-eight minutes past nine,
At Crompton Road they were doing fine,
They'd taken some milk and for a treat
A dainty piece of red cat's meat.
And you, dear Smugs, sat in the tree,
Watching the scene with lots of glee,
But firemen have never been known to fail,
They got you down—that's the end of the tale.
After all, it would be a crime,
To leave a cat that could write and rhyme.
But spare a thought for our hard-worked men,
Be good, dear Smugs, don't do it again.*

My Wife's Cat

By O. EIGELDINGER

HIS name is Jacko. And if ever there was an appropriate name given to a cat, this is it. A Seal Point Siamese neuter, now $4\frac{1}{2}$ years old, he has the run of the house and the back garden, which I had wired all round for his benefit. Not that he thinks so, for he provided us with many anxious moments when he found the weak spots in the fence to go exploring.

On quite a few occasions I had the whole of the neighbourhood searching for him, only to find him, hours later, locked up in some cupboard, when he had the door shut on him unwittingly. And talking about doors, quite

early in his life he learned to open the oven door all by himself.

I thought it very funny to see him walking about with a joint or chicken in his mouth, as big as himself, but my wife had other ideas. Jacko just could not understand why we had to have a new stove installed.

All the mats in the house are in the wrong place, according to him. If his playmate—that's me—gets scolded for failing to put them back where they were, that's no concern of his. Neither is it his fault that we had to have clocks and ornaments all over the place.

I can't understand why people quibble about the price of a



Jacko in the orchid house—his favourite “winter resort.”

Siamese, when it is a negligible quantity with what follows afterwards. One of Jacko's favourite tricks was flying up the staircase, jumping on the banister rail and sliding down the rail backwards. I used to get tanned for doing just this as a boy, but he gets away with it. That is, of course, till the decorators came in and made the banister presentable again, after which my wife covered the rail with felt.

What awful spoilsports these humans are ! But Jacko wasn't dismayed and simply thought up another one.

But it is holiday time I really wanted to talk about. I would not have him caged up, which meant separate holidays. We decided on a week at a time, my wife going first. That left Jacko and me in sole charge, and didn't the little blighter know it ! I got so many instructions on what to give him and on how to prepare his food that I am not sure to this day that I have not got things mixed up a bit.

The first day under my management he went on a hunger strike. I tried all sorts of things to make him eat, but all I got for my efforts was vigorous leg shaking, plus dirty looks, as if to say " what

a nasty mess." The second day was the same.

When I sat down to my meal, however, he was there too. He got on his hindlegs to see what I had on my plate and sniffed appreciatively. I handed it down to him and I must say I was greatly relieved to see him scoffing it all up. The next day I tried to outsmart him. I put his dinner on an identical plate as mine and made sure he saw me carrying them in to the dining room, placing both on the table and waiting for him to ask for it. When he did, I handed him his own dinner, of course. He sniffed at it, turned round and shook both his hindlegs, one at a time, in the approved fashion.

Then he came up to see what I had on my plate and looked at me as if to say " haven't you made a mistake ? "

I was glad when the end of the week came, and so was Jacko, I believe. If I had realized then that cats do go off their food in hot weather, I would have worried a little less. Anyway, he did not catch me again on that stunt and there is a perfect understanding between us now at mealtimes. Who wouldn't have a Siamese cat ?

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 remaining show programme for the 1955-56 Season are provided below for the information and guidance of readers.

1956	Promoted by	Venue
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	Ipswich

* Denotes show with Championship status.

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 fifteenth article in a fine new and exclusive series to help and encourage our readers all over the cat world.

IN recent articles we have discussed causes of low fertility.

One other cause is that maybe there is an insufficiency of sperms in the male being used. This results in some only ; not all the eggs shed by the female being fertilized. Cases have come to light where queens which gave good-sized litters when mated with certain males gave only small litters when mated to some other males. When a male is suspected of low fertility he should not be allowed to mate at all frequently, for if so, the viability of the sperm is liable to be further reduced.

In point of fact it would be better to discard altogether the use of such males, or at least only to use them if for some very good reason it is specially desired to perpetuate an outstanding good feature. Sometimes there are instances where mating is a prolonged process in the male. When this happens it is known that waves of high or low sperm concentration exist in the flow. It therefore would appear to be important that in circumstances such as this, the process should take place without disturbance if the full quota of sperm is to be ejaculated.

It is more or less a rule that animals who are suckling a litter rarely come on heat until the young are weaned. The exact time depends much on the state of nutrition. If an animal that is suckling does come on heat and is mated, only rarely will she be fertile, unless she loses

her milk or is very well fed. It has been noted that in these cases, where the young start to develop, they are generally absorbed at a very early stage as a result of the coincident demands made by the mammary glands on the nutrition available. If for any reason it might be desirable to have a female come on heat before she has finished suckling, she should be kept away from her litter during the night or part of the day, and be well fed. This treatment should be continued after service for so long as the litter, or remaining part of a litter, is being fed by the mother.

Causes of Sterility

There are other conditions of sterility associated with normal ovarian activity, this being shown by queens coming on heat regularly and accepting service, although they do not conceive. Under these conditions are included over-excitement at oestrus resulting in the evacuation of semen ; an abnormal state of the mucus in the cervix uteri, the secretion being too viscid instead of fluid as it should be at oestrus ; acidity of the vagina, structural defects in the cervix causing a blocking of the passage ; and infection of the genital tract such as might be caused if an incomplete cleansing has been done after a parturition has been incomplete.

In cases where an animal comes on heat regularly, but keeps turning to the male, and where no obvious cause for

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

'WELLCOME'

BRAND

**FELINE INFECTIOUS
ENTERITIS VACCINE**



PREPARED AT THE WELLCOME RESEARCH LABORATORIES
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sterility exists, the services of a veterinary surgeon should be sought. In fact, the cause for this particular type of sterility is as yet imperfectly understood, but it seems likely that it is due to the accumulation of luteal substance in the ovary from repeated ovulations unaccompanied by pregnancy. Where the uterus is infected the tract may be washed out with a solution of hydrogen peroxide or Condy's fluid. Recently, however, it has been found better to use an injection of stilboestrol (a synthetic oestrin or ovarian hormone) in oil, for cases where a uterus contains pus. This causes a condition similar to heat, but lasts maybe longer, and leads to the contraction of the organ and discharge of its contents.

Pseudo—Pregnancy

After a sterile mating, or merely after oestrus without mating, female animals of different sorts sometimes behave as though they were pregnant. This is known as a pseudo-pregnant period; the corpora lutea persist, the mammary glands grow, and at the end of the time the female may make a place to litter, her milk may be produced, and the vulva swells as though she were going to produce young, but none are born. These symptoms are due to the persistence and atrophy of the corpus luteum. If young are given to such a female at the end of the pseudo-pregnancy, she will sometimes rear the young.

It is possible that similar circumstances may account for the tales told of mules producing foals. The condition of pseudo-pregnancy is more likely to occur in bitches than in queens. It has frequently been reported in rabbits that if does are kept together they will jump one another when in heat, and in this way often cause an orgasm and ovulation that results in pseudo-pregnancy, which lasts about 16 days. The rabbit is also peculiar in that it will often copulate during pregnancy and pseudo-pregnancy, but at this time it does not ovulate and young are not produced as a result of such mating.

The practice of spaying (i.e. the removal of the ovaries) of queens not wanted for breeding is a fairly general one, for such animals are then undisturbed by the occurrence of heat periods, which cause restlessness and loss of energy. All neutered animals tend to fatness, a fact often taken to practical account nowadays in the rearing of certain farm animals. In the spaying of some farm animals it is the usual practice to remove the uterus along with the ovaries and tubes. This is a matter of convenience, for often the operation is carried out at an early age when the ovaries are quite minute.

Incomplete Spaying

In such circumstances it sometimes happens that accidentally, one ovary is left behind, and when this happens the female behaves as though she had not been operated on at all, and comes into season. Such occurrences have tended to discredit spaying, it being said that spayed animals behave like open or unoperated ones. It is certain, however, that complete removal of ovaries prevents the occurrence of heat.

As the spaying of queens is not actuated by any commercial requirement, as is the case in farm animals, a later time may be fixed for the operation. The best time will vary, and this matter, as far as is possible, should be left to the surgeon concerned.

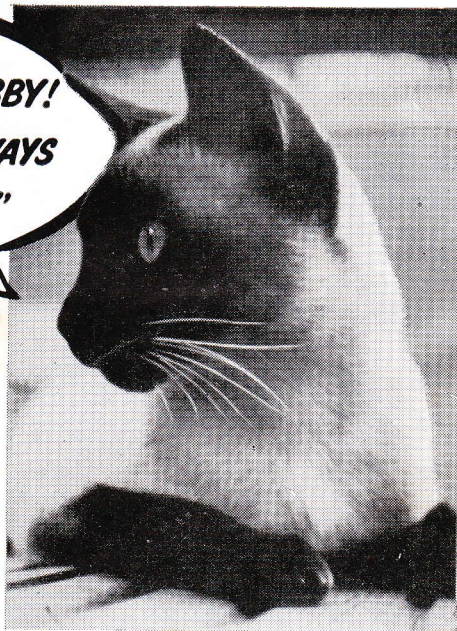
A SMALL NUMBER OF CATS BOARDED IN PLEASANT COUNTRY SURROUNDINGS

Kindness, comfort & good food

Inspection invited

MISS RUTH EVERY-CLAYTON

c/o Norton Court Farm, Kewstoke,
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset



"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.



*Famous
breeders
say:*

TIBS

11D. AND 2S. 3D.

KEEP CATS KITTENISH



Tailpieces

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



IN Australia there is some concern over the large surplus in milk production.

In New South Wales alone it adds up to a million gallons a week. One newspaper writer sees only one solution—more fertile cats. The cat population of England, he says, is 6,500,000 and these consume the milk yield of a county as large as Devonshire.

We wish to express regret that a mislaid letter was responsible for an incorrect and inadequate caption under the seasonal picture which adorned the front cover of our December issue. The set was designed by Mr. Ernest Luscombe, professional photographer of Addlestone, Surrey. The Siamese kitten is his own pet, one of the well-known Tschudi strain bred by Mrs. F. Tschudi Broadwood, of Send, Surrey.

"Cats," is the title of a new book translated by L. Ohl from the Dutch of "Katten," by J. H. De Beer. The publishers are Edward O. Beck of London and the price is 6s. I found it to be a concise little encyclopaedia which could be helpful to everyone who owns or hopes to own a cat. It is well written and illustrated and the contents include chapters dealing with food, housing, reproduction, care of kittens, sick cats and anatomy.

I am glad to receive a newspaper cutting from Australia which reports the successful Silver Jubilee Kitten Show of the Federal Cat Club of Australia at Sydney Town Hall in November. Over 100 cats were benched and 2,000 people paid to see them. Premier awards went to a Chinchilla male owned by Mrs. P. Watson and a female of the same breed shown by Miss Mary Haswell. The best litter was judged to be that belonging to

Mrs. Harold Abbott. Two of Australia's best known cats were there "on exhibition only"—Mrs. David Burnage's famous Chinchilla Champion Rex of Chatsworth and Mrs. Ann Vize's English Blue Longhair import Champion Astra of Pensford.

The owner of a cat which was said to be so weak it was unable to stand properly in a breeze was prosecuted by the R.S.P.C.A. at Southend for causing unnecessary suffering to the animal. Mrs. Gladys Alice Hill, of South Benfleet, Essex, was fined £2 with £3 3s. costs.

Did you notice that the New Year's Honours List contained the names of two distinguished women who are cat lovers? An O.B.E. was awarded to Miss Joan Hammond, the popular Australian-born concert and operatic singer whose "O My Beloved Father" has sold over half a million copies. Miss Hammond lives in a period cottage in Buckinghamshire with her five cats, a number of budgerigars and chickens and three French poodles. Another O.B.E. was given to Miss Gwynneth Thurburn, Principal of the Central School of Speech and Drama, who has been described as "one of the backroom girls" of the stage and screen. When Miss Thurburn's photograph appeared in the press she was shown grooming what appeared to be something of an aristocrat among Persians.

Someone tried to drown a tiny kitten and dumped it for dead in a Brixton, S.W. London, dustbin. The bin was emptied into a lorry, more rubbish was piled on top and the load was compressed. The dustmen heard a faint miaow and Driver Bert Hancock searched

until he found the kitten. He then took it back to a wharf in Chelsea where one of the clerks took care of the frightened weak mite. Now, it has grown into a fine black cat. Its name? Why, Lucky, of course!

One of the smartest pieces of promotion literature I have seen for a long time came through the letter box the other day. The sender was Mrs. Joan W. Arnold, Show Manager of San Diego Cat Fanciers, Inc., who are holding their ninth Annual Championship Show at the end of this month. The container was a brown manilla bag, the sort of thing you might get from your grocer, and printed in bold red lettering on the outside was the instruction "Let the Cat out of the Bag." Inside was a yellow card cut out to the shape of a sitting cat and bearing the printed details of the forthcoming Show. The first lines read "The Cat's out of the Bag with the news, etc."

MICKEY.

PEP-VITE^{Regd.}

THE SHOW CONDITIONER

Give **PEP-VITE** for twenty days prior to the show and, all else being equal, your entry will **WIN!**

PEP-VITE RAPIDLY IMPROVES

- ★ BACKWARD KITTENS
- ★ PATCHY FUR
- ★ DISTEMPER
- ★ COLDS

"A visible improvement within four days," say many customers.



To **PEP-VITE PHARMACEUTICALS**,
(Dept. O.C.) ORMSKIRK, LANCs.

Please send full trial treatment of Pep-Vite. I enclose 10/-.

NAME

ADDRESS



Gerard Hoffnung, artist, illustrator, broadcaster and enthusiastic performer on the bass tuba, has really run riot in a new children's book by John Symonds "The Isle of Cats." The central character is the cat Uncle Tom who takes his young friend Gabriel, a truant from school, on a visit to a mysterious island which is only inhabited by cats. Here you see Uncle Tom whipping up an egg! T. Werner Laurie are the publishers and the price of this amusing offering is 8s. 6d.

METHUSELAH TIM DIES AT 29!

IT'S strange how news gets around sometimes. A few weeks ago we received a news-sheet from our good friends in the South African Fancy and tucked away in it was an item recording the fact that a correspondent to the London *Times* had reported the death of her cat at the wonderful age of 29 years. Fortunately the name and address of the letter writer appeared—it was Mrs. E. Penning-Rowsell, of Knightsbridge, S.W. London—and so we were able to obtain some additional information concerning this Methuselah among felines, whose name we discovered to be Tim.

It was Mr. Penning-Rowsell who kindly supplied the details in a letter which runs as follows :

"I am afraid that Tim, lovable as he was, had no aristocratic background. In the late autumn of 1926 our two resident maids complained to my wife of mice and were told they could get a cat. They went to a shop in the Fulham Road where they sold birds and cats and bought Tim at just under three months old for 3s. 6d. and from that time until April, 1955, he lived entirely in this house. When we had to put him to sleep he was in his 29th year.

"We had him neutered and all his life he never had anything the matter medically. True, he was of course well looked after and when he became an old gentleman had the cream off the milk. He had as food all those years sometimes raw meat, of which he was very fond, and at other times cooked horse meat varied with fish. This feeding apparently kept him fit and well all his life.

"Tim was a wonderful mouser. He kept all away from the house except a too venturesome one now and again who had to pay the price.

"The beginning of the end came about when we noticed that he had difficulty in eating his food ; he never rejected it but was in difficulty with it. We noticed that for long periods he sat over his water bowl evidently trying to cool something in his mouth. The vet. diagnosed a bad tooth. This was extracted and he came back all right. Shortly after the same thing happened again and two more teeth were taken out.

"This seemed to have caused collapse and we had the idea that blood poisoning must have occurred for Tim suddenly lost most of the use of his hind legs and we realized that the end had come. The night before I took him to be put to sleep I took him up into my bedroom and made him as comfortable as I could. He cried a bit and seemed to go to sleep, as I did myself. At about one in the morning this poor little animal must have made a dying effort with his damaged hind legs for he sprang up on to my bed for comfort and company and he spent his last night under my eiderdown.

"Thus ended a long and lovable companionship on both sides. Tim was of course always—as is his kind—a law unto himself. But he loved company and was always in command where our dogs were concerned. To the end he played just like a kitten. He was indeed an example and a reward of kindness to animals."

We are most grateful to the Penning-Rowsell's for their co-operation in enabling us to establish what must surely be a record in longevity among cats. Previously we have had several instances of life spans exceeding twenty years by a few months or a year or two and if readers have any comments to make on the subject we shall be pleased to receive them. In his "*Complete Book of Cat Care*," Dr. Leon Whitney, one of America's leading veterinary surgeons, gives 22 years as the oldest known age of a cat at death.



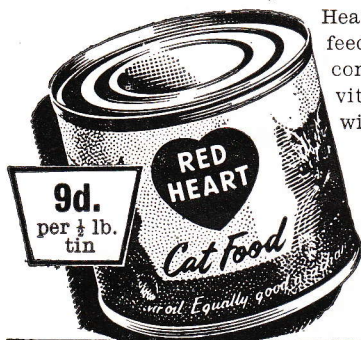
**Let's have
a squint!**

SIAMESE CATS—

from a photo by Ylla from the Red Heart series.

Though experts say we shouldn't squint, many of us DO! But we can still recognise a good thing when we see it.

The very name Red Heart sets us purring. Feed Red Heart (no trouble, no preparation) and you feed your cat the finest food there is . . . containing all a cat needs for health, vitality and a glossy coat. Fresh fish with liver and cod liver oil.



RED HEART

Cat Food

JOHN MORRELL & CO., LTD., LIVERPOOL 1



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.

New Year Preparations

THESE notes are written early in the New Year so it is an appropriate time to wish cat lovers everywhere a Happy Year and to express my appreciation of the many cards and lovely cat photographs received from friends and acquaintances at home and overseas. Such mementoes are one of our rewards for all the many hours we give each day to our feline families.

The show season is almost at an end and for many months to come breeders will be devoting their energies and “know how” to producing what we hope may be some of next season’s winners. However much experience one has, to breed them is an elusive ideal but how rewarding when one is blessed with an outstanding kitten ! One important item is, however, within our control and that is to keep only the number of cats that we can adequately care for and generously feed ; allowing a safe margin of time to care for kittens when they arrive in spring and summer.

Some novices appear to think that experienced breeders have a secret formula for presenting their cats and kittens well. But really it all commences with the pre-natal care of the mother and the conditions under which she and her kittens are kept. When a queen is in kitten and nursing she needs an abundance of good food and all the exercise she feels inclined to take provided that one has a safe and fairly secluded garden.

In the autumn when queens have finished nursing, their appetite usually slows down and they are dreamy and contented until early January, after which one must keep observant eyes upon them. It is risky allowing them out at dusk in case they are feeling skittish and go off for the night to return with a lover in the morning. Directly after Christmas it is advisable in my opinion to worm adults, usually twice at an interval of ten to fourteen days and for the information of novices please do not think that cats need necessarily show any signs of them or have a voracious appetite. They can be in lovely condition, have normal appetites and still be harbouring worms which they will probably pass on to their kittens to be a source of trouble to less experienced owners in the future.

Quite apart from possible deleterious effects on the health of kittens it is not aesthetic to be fondling queens and kittens which may have worms. It is not advisable to dose a queen later than about 14 days after mating in case she proves to be in kitten.

I was delighted to read Mr. Hugh Smith’s article in the December issue

under the title "Cats and Common-sense." So many remedies have been hailed as panaceas and subsequently discarded since I commenced breeding in 1924 that I now adopt a policy of "Wait and see." But it shocks me to hear how blithely antibiotics are administered. With all due respect to the veterinary profession, I would not allow any of my cats or kittens to "have a shot" unless a specific diagnosis had been made and I was satisfied it was absolutely necessary.

Good food, exercise, hygiene with sanitary pans, housing, and bedding are the prelude to those magic words "beautifully shown" when the shows come round again and are the essentials which enable one to breed bonny bouncing kittens and to maintain consistent good health in one's stock.

National Winners

Congratulations to the Show Manager, Mrs. Grace Pond, and the Committee of the National Cat Club on the success of its Ch. Show on December 7th. Financially it must also have been a success as it was thronged with visitors in the afternoon and the entry of over 450 exhibits, some of which appeared in many classes, was an excellent one. Many lovely cats and kittens competed and the Longhair adults were in full winter pomp.

I have judged in many countries but I have never seen in quantity and quality finer exhibits in several varieties than are presented at our London Championship Shows now we have recovered from the effects of the war. The neuters are almost a show in themselves. Prominent winners were: Best Exhibit in Show—Mrs. Alexander's Lavengro of Dunesk bred by Mrs. Brunton and sired by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous out of Gaydene Wildrose, the latter bred by Mrs. McVady; Best Longhair Kitten—Mrs. Joan Thompson's Blue male Octavian of Pensford also by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous; Best Shorthair Adult—Mrs. Jay's Seal Point Siamese female Sawat Ange-

lina by Sabukia Scatterbrain; Best Shorthair Kitten—Mrs. Boal's Seal Point Siamese female Freefolk Kumaree by Sukiang Pele Lemoko; Best Longhair Neuter—Misses E. and M. Marshall's Blue female Trenton Verity by Ch. Oxleys Peter John; Best Shorthair Neuter—Mrs. Hooper's Premier Behenta Yu Phin, Seal Point Siamese by Salewheel Simkin.

In Blue female adults Mrs. Brunton's April Violet of Dunesk was the Challenge certificate winner, and in Seal Point Siamese males, Mrs. Watson's Milori Oberon by Pristine Po Sein. Congratulations to Miss Sheppard on completing her Blue-Cream's Championship with Widdington Salome, and to Miss Lelgarde Fraser with her lovely Tortoiseshell Variety of Sunfield.

Miss Langston was awarded Best Chinchella adult with Ch. Tich of Allington (pictured in OUR CATS, May issue). Miss Rodda's Black male Ch. Chadhurst Sambo was looking in excellent form. Born in 1947, it was nice to see Sambo on show again. Miss Sherlock's Smoke male Bircotte Nono is one of the best we have seen of this variety for some time and his win completes his Championship.

Although the Blue kittens were not so numerous as at some of the shows some were very good in quality. Mrs. Stephenson's Ashdown Pebbles, by Woburn Sunshine, is very promising, also Mrs. Norris's Amandas Blue Knight, the latter being placed first in two club classes judged by Mrs. Newton. Miss Alexander's Gippeswyk Jessamy, an attractive pale blue, was the winner in the 3-6 months class.

LAKE DISTRICT CANINE HOTEL

Est. 1948

Dogs and Cats boarded under ideal conditions, always open for inspection.

Home of the well-known Djere Miniature and Standard Poodle.

At Stud: **Djere Johnny Frenchman**

Puppies usually for sale

All enquiries, owner KATHLEEN DOHERTY
MILLER FIELD, AMBLESIDE. Tel.: Amb 2268

Congratulations to Mrs. Beedell on her Brown Tabby female Magyar Petyes by Champion Magyar Yanos attaining her Championship at Croydon Cat Club Show in November.

The next big event for the National Cat Club will be its Diamond Jubilee Ch. Show at Olympia in December next.

"Great Day" for England

The Annual Ch. Show of the Norsk Rasekatt Klubb, Norway, took place at Oslo on December 14th-16th. Mrs. Judith Saether kindly sends an account of it. "First of all," she writes, "you will be sorry to hear Mrs. Svenningsen, President of the Club, was taken ill on the second day of the Show with pneumonia. She is making progress now but it was disappointing for all concerned that she was unable to be with us."

"It was a great day for the English-bred cats. Best in Show was awarded to Mrs. Wiltman's Vigilant Teddy Boy (by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Jewel of Dunesk) bred by Mrs. Pullen. His litter brother Vigilant Jonathan was second to him in the Open class and they are such a very fine couple of Blue males that it took Baroness von Bach some time to decide who was the better."

"Best Shorthair Cat Ch. Banchor Blue Thor (Blue Point Siamese male by Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo) bred by Mrs. Macpherson; Best Longhair Kitten Isabellita av Teheran, a lovely Chinchilla bred by Mrs. Haldis Rohlf; Best Shorthair Kitten Snorrehus Fennimore, an Abyssinian bred from Miss Bone's stock."

"Altogether 12 English cats were awarded C.A.C. or C.A.C.I.B.!"

"C.A.C.I.B. were awarded to Ch. Hazeldine Silver Rexy, Chinchilla male; Ch. Broughton Primrose, Cream female; Ch. Pristine Petaling, Seal Point Siamese male; Ch. Banchor Blue Mai, Blue Point Siamese female; also to Ch. Banchor Blue Thor. C.A.C. went to Robert of Thame, Chinchilla male; Myowne Blue Nymph, Blue female now a full Champion; Gleam of Pensford, Cream male; and Bournside Black

Rubble, Black female; Widdington Petunia, Blue-Cream female."

"I was delighted my Chinchilla female Laetitia of Allington was awarded her third and final Championship Certificate. She has won in Sweden, Norway and Denmark. She is only seventeen months which is young for a Chinchilla, and I think that next year she will be even better. Ch. Derry de Padirac, Brown Tabby male, bred by Madame Letertre of Paris was awarded C.A.C.I.B."

"Mrs. Maina Hjelde's stock won well, her Blue-eyed White Tarzan av Birka and the Silver Tabby female Roselie av Birka both winning C.A.C. Now I have undertaken the job of painting the ribbons in gold for all the Championship winners."

"There was a very pleasant atmosphere at the Show but financially I am afraid there is a loss as it was held so near Christmas. Wednesday to Friday are not such good days for Scandinavian shows as Friday to Sunday. We had several visitors from Sweden and altogether it was a very good show."

Danish Royal Visitors

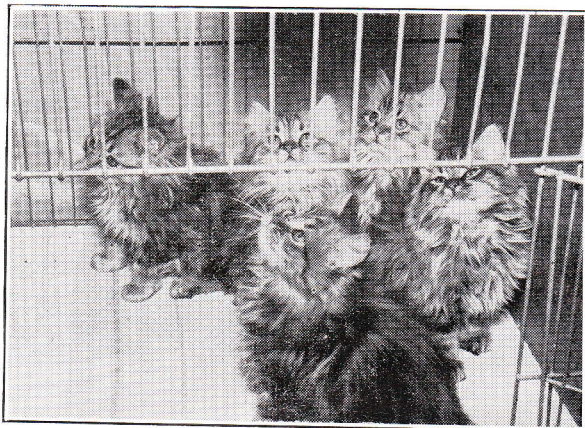
From Copenhagen the Secretary of Racekatten, Fru Elby Duch, writes: "Our show in October was a splendid success. The Hall Kongelige Danske Haveselskab is not so big as Grundtvigs Hus but it is more beautiful and cosy. Over 8,000 attended the Show. The cats looked lovely in the fine new pens of the Club and the whole exhibition gave an impression of light, colour and many flowers. There were a lot of beautiful prizes. Quite unexpectedly and unannounced Her Majesty Queen Ingrid of Denmark paid a visit to the Show with the two Princesses. The eldest, Margrethe, is at college in England now, as no doubt you know. Both the Queen and the Princesses were noticeably interested in the many beautiful cats. This visit delighted exhibitors and visitors at home and abroad and we were honoured to have Royal patronage."

Mrs. M. E. Beedell
of 18 Angell Road,
Brixton, S.W.9,
writes:—

"The photograph shows a lovely litter of five brown tabby Persian kittens which was awarded First Prize in keen competition at the Herts. and Middlesex Cat Show in September. An outstanding feature about these kits is that I have bred type into them.

Unlike the usual long legs and noses, face, etc., they are cobby with short noses and broad heads—similar to Blue type, which the breeders have been trying for a long time.

The mother is my Champion Magyar Petyes (out of lovely Champion Magyar Yanos who went to America) and, when she had the kittens, she was so small I thought she would never rear them. Thanks to Kit-zyme, however, not only are the five babies bonny and fat, but so is she."



A LOVELY MAGYAR LITTER

KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyme

VITAMIN - RICH YEAST

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

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Ref. No. 122

All cat owners are advised to keep a jar of Zemol in the store cupboard. Zemol, an actively antiseptic veterinary ointment (by the makers of Kit-zyme) is a safe and very effective way of treating minor wounds, cuts, burns, etc. Literature FREE on request.

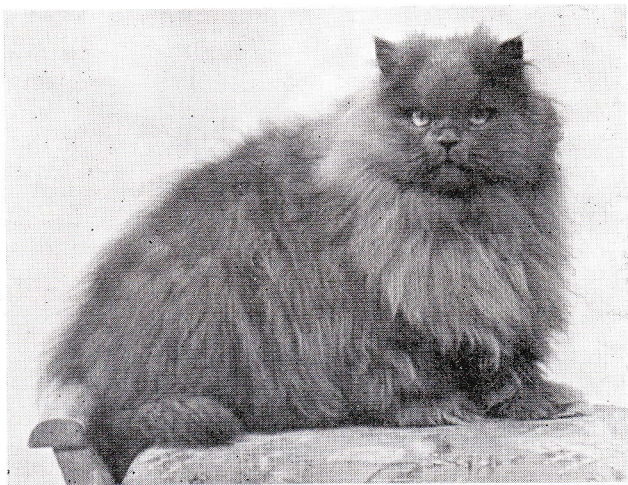
News of a Traveller

Mrs. Madden, of Takapuna, Auckland, New Zealand, has imported a Black queen, Chadhurst Tessa, bred by Miss Rodda. She writes an account of her travels: "Tessa has been here a month and has completely settled. She stood up to the trip fairly well and was very fortunate to be in the care of one who understood and loved a little lone home-sick pussy. I was told at first she was scared, the journey to London and the hurry and noise at the docks and on board made her frightened and bewildered. That's when the ship's chef, Mr. Fernandez, took her in hand. At first she showed no interest in food so he cooked her different tempting little dishes of steamed liver, tender kidneys specially prepared to take her fancy and quite a few other delectables until he ran the whole gamut of probables interspersed with petting and cajoling. At the end of four days he had her eating again. During the day she slept in his bunk and was only locked in her travelling crate at night."

"When we collected her she was a purring, friendly little cat with her lovely big orange eyes showing not the least alarm. When the ship berthed I telephoned and asked if my cat was on board. Back came the answer, "Oh! yes, we have her here, such a dear little cat and quite tame now."

"Once back on land she eased up on the intake and her first meal in New Zealand was grass, nice long specially selected blades of it were devoured with gusto. We have a large netted-in pen leading from our lounge windows and she soon learned to dash down that with the Chinchillas.

"Tessa is now a naturalized New Zealander and we are looking forward to her first litter. She started calling and we took her to Miss Alison's beautiful Blue male Prince Charming. She went on hunger strike so we retrieved the reluctant damsel next evening. On her return she packed away a mighty big meal and although she was inclined to tell Prince Charming "to go places" we hope she will have kittens.



E. Howes

MERICOURT CHIPPY, bred by Mrs. Alexander from Ch. Dylan of Allington ex Melody of Dunesk, is the treasured two-year-old neutered pet of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Staples, of Buckingham.

INTRODUCING

"CHAD'S CLUB"



FOR CAT LOVERS (*Founded July 1955*)

OBJECT: The object of the Club is to help provide the greatest possible aid for cats and kittens in distress.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership is open to all who will undertake never to refuse a genuine emergency appeal from a cat owner for assistance, when it is within their ability to help.

SUBSCRIPTION: The initial subscription covers membership and badge (*Seniors' badges are either stud or brooch type*).

Seniors 5/- Juniors (*up to 16 years of age*) 2/-

Subscriptions and enquiries should be addressed to :

"CHAD'S CLUB" c/o The Cats' Protection League, Prestbury Lodge,
29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks.

AN IDEAL GIFT SUGGESTION

Brooches for Cat Lovers

SIAMESE DESIGN BROOCHES (actual size $1\frac{1}{8}$ " high \times $1\frac{1}{4}$ " wide)

Solid silver, rhodium finish (untarnishable) 20/6 each
(U.S.A. \$3.25)

Artist enamelled in natural S.P. colours on solid silver ... 31/- each
(U.S.A. \$4.50)

These brooches—available in two designs only at present—are made by a world renowned firm of specialists in costume jewellery. They are of fine quality with plain back, fitted with joint pin and catch. Prices include purchase tax and postage. Remittances should be made payable to OUR CATS Magazine and sent with order to :

BOX No. 16, OUR CATS MAGAZINE
4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9

We can despatch Brooches to any part of the world in an attractive gift box and enclose your personal message or greeting. So many cat lovers have been delighted with these Brooches that it is somewhat superfluous to add that they are supplied on a "money returned if not satisfied" basis.

"Miss Alison said when she saw Tessa 'Perfect ! that's the type we want here.' So Tessa is now one of the leading ladies of New Zealand's feline fraternity."

Mrs. Madden thanks Miss Rodda for sending a very lovely cat and assures her she is thriving and well and now summer has arrived is spending much time in the deep shade of the orange trees.

Feline in Flight

When flying to Dortmund, Germany, in November I took with me a daughter of Ch. Dawn of Pensford. It was only the second time I have had the opportunity of observing feline reaction to flight. It is quite a concession to be allowed to take any animal into a plane where passengers travel. However, the smiling German stewardess of Lufthansa made no objection, perhaps because there were vacant seats. Dido in her basket occupied the one next to mine so I was able to take many peeps at her.

The only time she showed signs of fright was when the engines rapidly accelerated just before take off. Once in the air she soon became accustomed to the steady hum and slight vibration and at dinner time was sufficiently at home to eat some of my roast lamb from a little plastic dish, much to the amusement of passengers round about. No doubt being near someone they know well gives them confidence.

A very interesting exhibit at the Dortmund Ch. Show was an Abyssinian of unknown parentage who was the survivor of a pair brought from Fiji in the South Pacific a few months previously. The owner's knowledge of their origin was nil. The young cat was beautifully ticked and had a short close-lying coat which was cold in colouring and very similar in shade to a wild rabbit, typical slender legs, paws and tail, a svelte body rather on the large side and most remark-

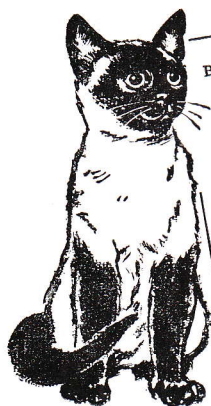


Scotnews, Edinburgh

A happy occasion at the October show in Edinburgh when the prizes were presented by Lady Steele Maitland. Here you see Mrs. Mary Steele, of Glasgow, receiving the trophies won by her Blue Longhair entry TWEENIEHILLS GLENAVON.

Brand's Essence

is palatable nourishment
that even the sick cat
can rapidly digest



BRAND'S BOOKLET
"Safeguarding
your Pet"
will be sent free
on application to
Brand & Co. Ltd.,
Mayfair Works,
Vauxhall, S.W.8.



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 partially predigested, Brand's Essence is rapidly absorbed with almost no 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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The *Abyssinian Cat Newsletter* and the *Burmese Cat Club News* are delightful publications. The photograph of the Blue Burmese, Blue Surprise, seated between Sablesilk Amber Solitaire and Sealcoat Konyak is charming, also the caption "I'm different from the others so they've put me on the front page." On page two one reads her interesting story.

From farther afield comes the United States *Garden State News*. Mrs. Jean Bird has resigned as editress and Mr. Richard

Gebhardt will carry on for the present. This number records the death of Miss Elsie Hydon's exceptionally lovely Blue Male, Grand Champion Lavender Liberty, bred from Ch. Lavender Chu Chu and Laughton Delphine, both the latter bred in England. I admired this male very much when staying with Miss Hydon in 1950. He was the sire of Mr. Anthony de Santis' famous Grand Ch. Lavender Liberty Beau, American Cat of the Year in 1950 and the one which I selected for Best Exhibit at the Atlantic Cat Club Ch. Show in January of that year.

All fanciers should read

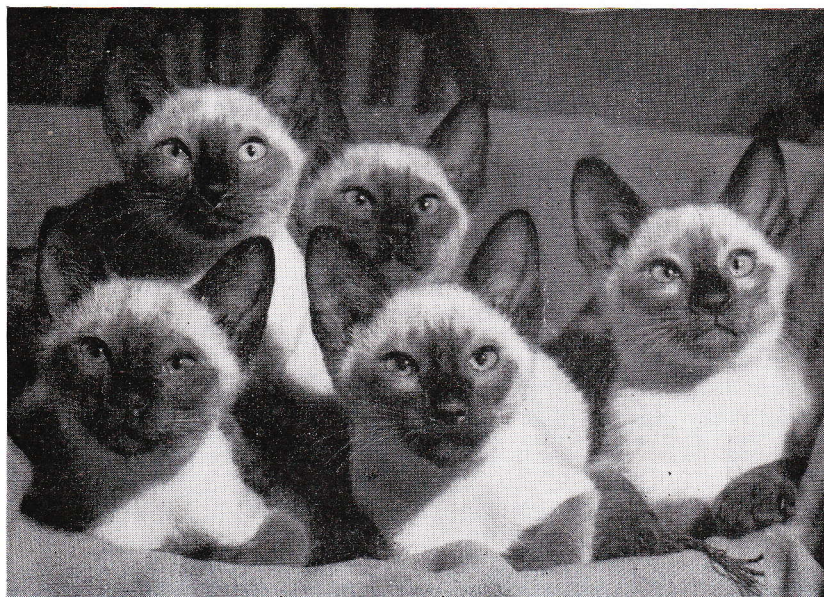
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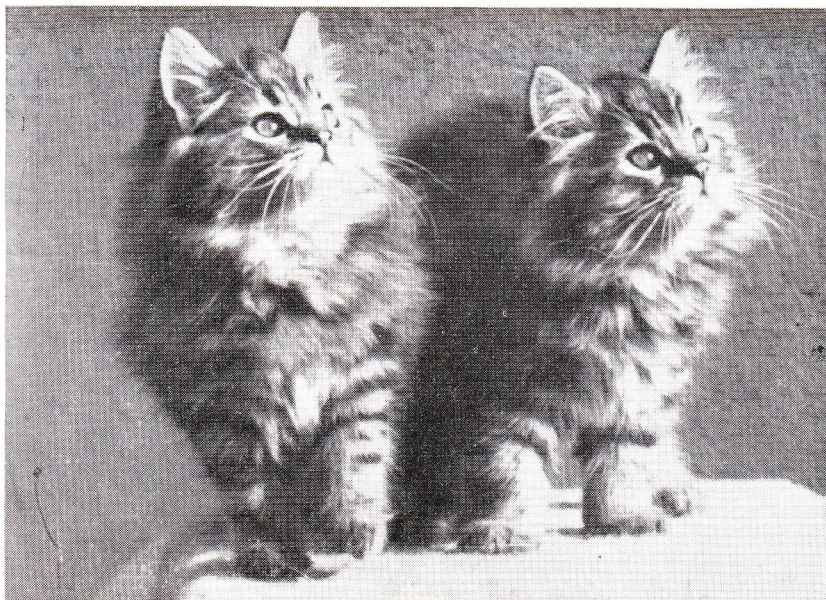
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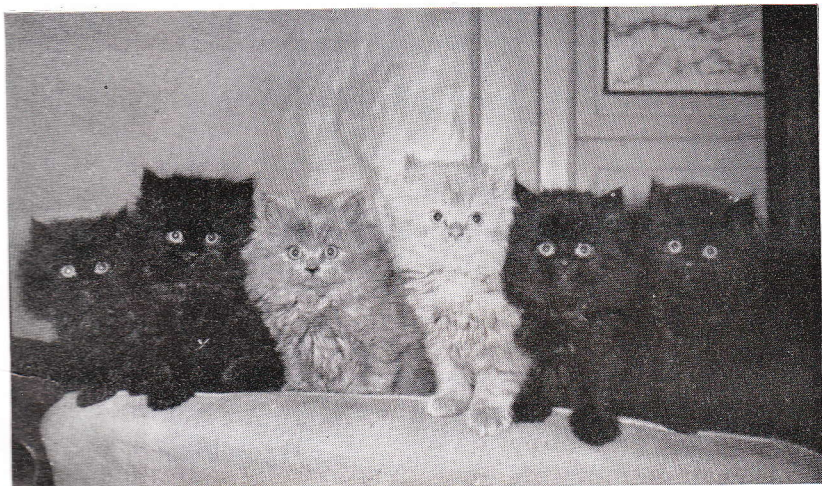
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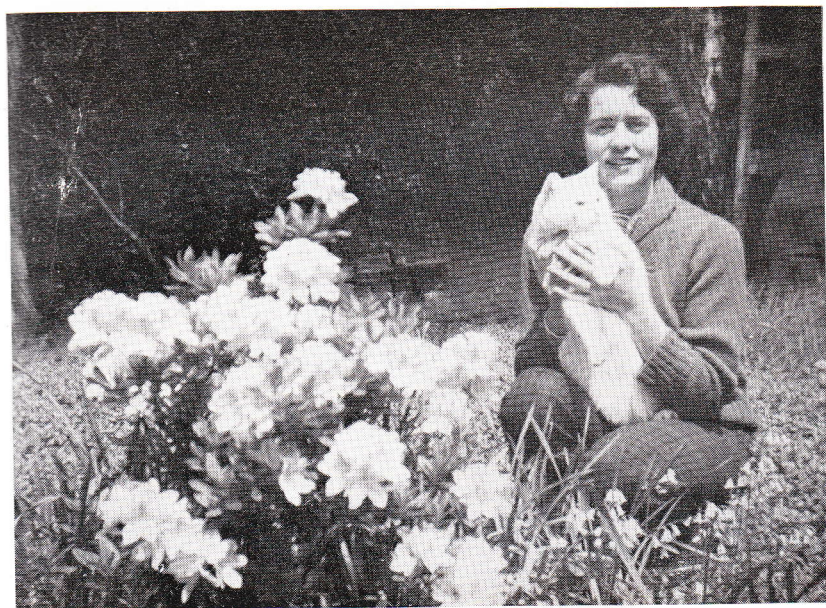
Poodle enquiries also invited.

ELLA B. MARTIN

Herons, Boreham, Nr. Chelmsford,
Essex, England



Here's a fascinating study in light and dark! This strikingly even litter was bred by Mrs. J. M. Newton, of Moultsford, Berks, from a Black sire, Baralan Babu, and a Tortie dam, Crazipatch of Carne. Reading from left to right the kittens are Claribel (Black), Carlon (Black), Cheiron (Blue), Coral (Red), Chloris (Black), and Charon of Carne (Black). They were born in September last and the picture was taken at 7½ weeks.



This delightful study of Premier WHITE KNIGHT with Rosalind Harrison makes one's thoughts turn to Spring. White Knight is jointly owned by Mrs. M. C. Tilley, of Camberley, Surrey, and Miss I. Clark and he was a consistent winner in the neuter classes at the 1955 shows. At the July Show of the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club he was voted Best British Shorthair Neuter.

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