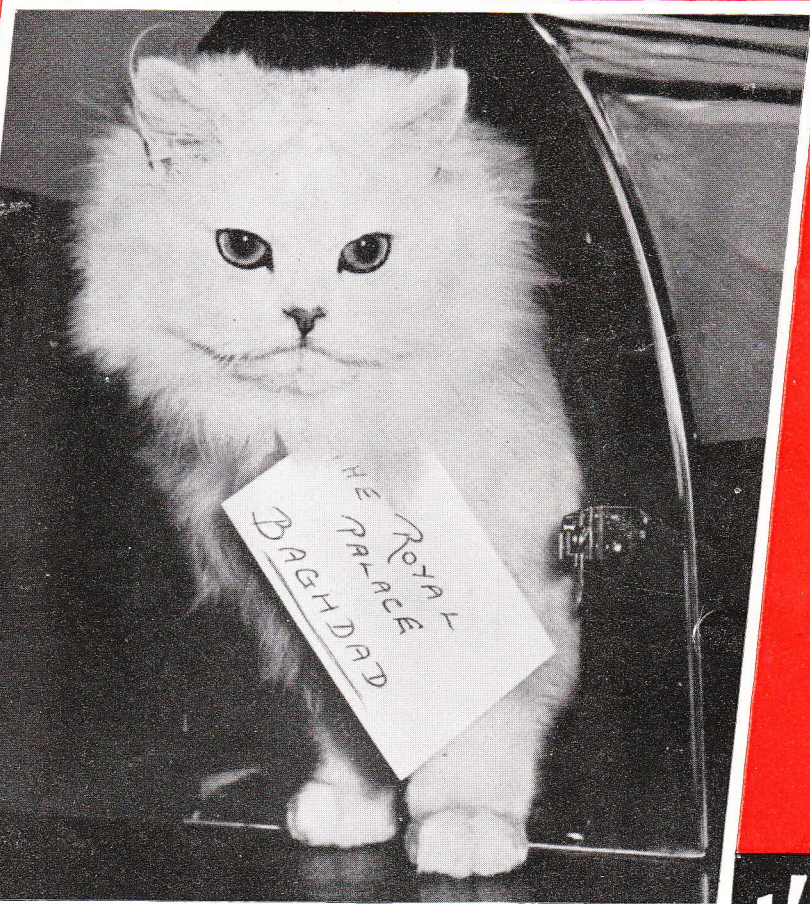


Our Cats

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OFF TO A ROYAL PALACE

Here is a youngster who is stepping up in the world! He is **BONAVIA MARK**, a Chinchilla who was Best Longhair Kitten and the youngest exhibit at the 1955 Kensington Show. Bred by Mrs. Mollie Turney, of Holyport, Berkshire, Mark was purchased by H.R.H. the Crown Prince Abdul of Iraq and travelled by air with him to the Royal Palace, Baghdad. Here you see Mark ready to leave on the long journey to his new and romantic home. The picture is by F. W. Simms.

MARCH 1956

1/6

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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.

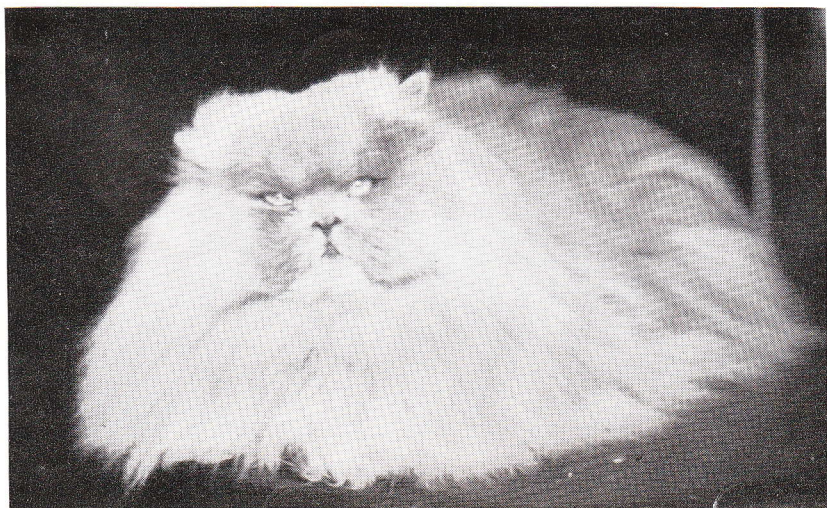
VOL. 8 No. 3

MARCH 1956

Managing Editor :

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

THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS



CHAMPION BAYHORNE AJAX, a Blue Longhair male of 1954 vintage, is one of the worthy champions who have emerged from the 1955-6 show season. He was bred by his owner, Mrs. Dulcie Benbow, the experienced Shropshire fancier, from Ch. Baralan Boy Blue ex Bayhorne Sheena.

We regret to advise our readers everywhere and the trade distributors that owing to the dispute in the printing industry, publication of this Magazine is being delayed. For the time being we shall do our best to produce an issue during each month and trust that this period of uncertainty and inconvenience will soon be ended.—Editor.

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can rapidly digest



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NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Our subscription rates have been raised with effect from 1st March from 17s. 6d. to 20s. for 12 issues post free. The new rate for readers in the Americas is \$3.25 instead of \$3 for 12 issues post free.



"John Bull"

Dr. and Mrs. Francis at home with some of their playful charges.

It's the cat's whiskers—at Low Knap

SOME folk dream of retiring to "a little place in the country" when they grow old. But Dr. Reginald Francis and his wife had other ideas; they decided to enjoy the country while they were still young. At the time the decision was taken he was practising quite profitably

as a doctor in a Nottingham suburb. Prior to that he had served as the medical officer of a bomber squadron during the war.

So the doctor and his wife made the plunge. They took two acres of ground just outside the Somerset village of Halstock, near Yeovil. Until they could

get a house built, they lived in a summer house which they had erected on their land. A rumour went round the village that they were starting a nudist camp !

Unable to get rations for poultry and pigs, the Francisés bred pelting rabbits which they fed on home-grown kale and mangolds. Next, they tried Chinese geese. Later, when feeding stuffs were freed from restrictions, they discarded the rabbits and tried raising poultry and pigs. When they had raised their flock of birds to four hundred, the price of eggs went down and they calculated that they would have to keep four thousand birds to make them pay. They had insufficient capital and discarded the poultry. Meanwhile, the house had been built and, to tide them over the difficult times, they took in paying guests.

How it all began

A visitor who had brought his cat with him was impressed with the sympathetic way in which they handled it and suggested that they turned one of the rabbit houses into a boarding kennel for cats.

That's how it started ! Go down to Halstock to-day and you will find twelve chalets and three boarding houses set among rose gardens and lavender borders—all for the exclusive use of Siamese cats. Last year, Dr. Francis and his wife boarded a record number of over 500 cats and often worked from six in the morning until eight at night in the service of their four-footed guests. They refuse to employ labour because of a fear that standards would fall.

The fascinating story of Low Knap—for that is the name of this unique establishment—was

told by Keith Ellis in a January issue of the popular weekly *John Bull*, whose Editor has kindly given us permission to reproduce these extracts and the accompanying illustration.

The article is full of interesting detail for cat lovers. It describes the chalets and the individual treatment which the Francisés give to ensure the health and happiness of their boarders. Dr. Francis, described as "the only man in Britain to make a living exclusively out of cats," believes in the strictest precautions against disease and makes ruthless checks before he accepts cats for Low Knap.

Up to three cats can share a chalet seven feet by five feet and seven feet high. Each has a wired porch with an outer doorway, electric light and two windows with cushioned seats. Separate brushes and shovels prevent cross-infection. Each cat has a raised wooden bunk containing sterile wood-wool and overhead there is a darkened infra-red heating lamp. It also has its own sanitary tray and feeding bowl.

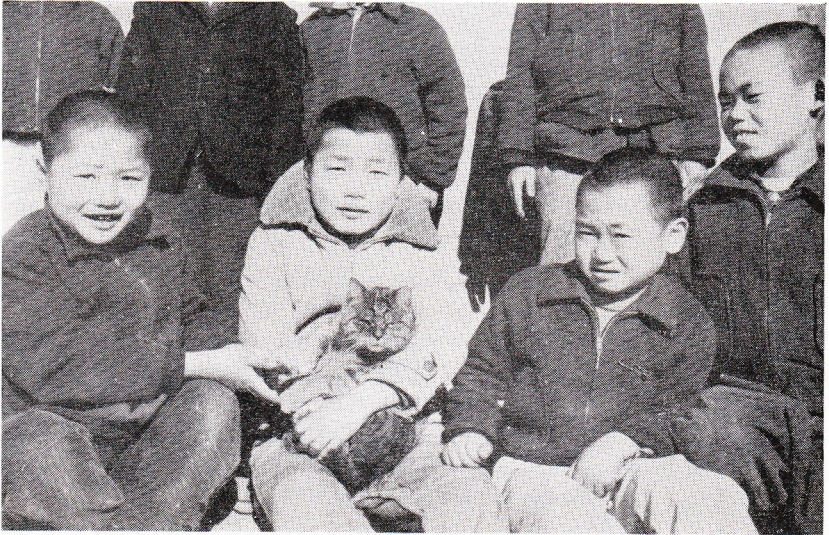
At all times, every chalet boarder has access to his own paved run which contains seats for sunning and a tree bough for climbing and claw sharpening.

Fare for the Finicky

The Francisés pride themselves on the individual attention given to Siamese under their care. Each is groomed, petted and talked to in the morning and there is some more conversation before bedtime comes round. This attention extends to the food, which consists of coley fillets and cow beef quarters cooked by Mrs. Francis. Dr. Francis weighs out each cat's

(concluded on page 7)

A page for the proletarian puss No. 62



LUCKY NABI!

The Korean Mission

This interesting picture has reached us from the Revd. Father C. R. Rutt, of the Anglican Cathedral, Seoul, Korea, who writes : It shows some of our orphans with their beloved and pampered cat Nabi, which is Korean for "butterfly" One of the most depressing things about life in Korea at present is the extreme rarity of cats. Wholesale use of poison has decimated the country's cat and dog population, with the result that the vermin flourish more than ever and the farmers annually lose a large proportion of the rice crop. Many of the kittens are very attractive, but a great many of the few that one does see have short and crinkly tails. There is not quite a black market in cats, but very ordinary kittens fetch high prices, even for this land of fantastic inflation. Thieving of cats (for meat as well as skins) is still common in the cities. But Nabi lives under church protection in a country village, and flourishes accordingly.

MONODY ON THE DEATH OF DICK

YE rats, in triumph elevate your ears !
Exult, ye mice ! for fate's abhorr'd shears
Of Dick's nine lives have slit the cat-gut nine ;
Henceforth he mews midst choirs of cats divine !

Preferring sprats to all other fish,
Had swallowed down a score without remorse,
And three fat mice slew for a second course,
But, while the third his grinders dyed with gore,
Sudden those grinders clos'd—to grind no more !
And dire to tell ! commission'd by Old Nick,
A catalepsy made an end of Dick.

Caluminous cats who circulate *faux pas*,
And reputations maul with murd'rous claws ;
Shrill cats whom fierce domestic brawls delight,
Cross cats who nothing want but teeth to bite,
Starch cats of puritanic aspect sad,
And learned cats who talk their husbands mad ;
Confounded cats who cough, and croak, and cry,
And maudlin cats who drink eternally ;
Fastidious cats who pine for costly cates,
And jealous cats who catechize their mates ;
Cat-prudes who, when they're ask'd the question squall,
And ne'er give answer categorical ;
Uncleanly cats, who never pare their nails,
Cat-gossips full of Canterbury Tales,
Cat-grandams vex'd with asthmas and catarrhs,
And superstitious cats that curse their stars ;
Cats of each class, craft, calling, and degree
Mourn Dick's calamitous catastrophe !

Yet, while I chant the cause of Richard's end,
Ye sympathizing cats, your tears suspend !
Then shed enough to float a dozen whales,
And use, for pocket-handkerchiefs, your tails !—

Ah ! tho' thy bust adorn no sculptur'd shrine,
 No vase thy relics rare to fame consign,
 No rev'rend characters thy rank express,
 Nor hail thee Dick ! D.D. nor F.R.S.
 Tho' no funeral cypress shade thy tomb
 For thee the wreaths of Paradise shall bloom,
 There, while Grimalkin's mew her Richard greets,
 A thousand cats shall purr on purple seats :
 E'en now I see, descending from his throne,
 Thy venerable cat, O ! Whittington,
 The kindred excellence of Richard hail,
 And wave with joy his gratulating tail !
 There shall the wothies of the whisker'd race
 Elysian mice o'er floors of sapphire chase,
 Midst beds of aromatic marum stray,
 Or raptur'd rove beside the Milky Way.

Kittens, than eastern hours fairer seen,
 Whose bright eyes glisten with immortal green,
 Shall smooth for tabby swains their yielding fur,
 And to their amorous mews assenting purr.—
 There, like Alcena's, shall Grimalkin's son
 In bliss repose,—his mousing labours done,
 Fate, envy, curs, time, tide and traps defy,
 And caterwaul to all eternity.

HUDDSFORD.

(Contributed by reader Mrs. Dorothy Clavier, who found the verse in a book published in 1830.)

Low Knap *(continued)*

ration, which averages eight ounces a day of meat and fish. For breakfast, he mixes stewed meat and boiled fish ; and for dinner, raw meat and stewed meat according to the liking of the individual cat. Diets are adjusted accordingly.

When a boarder is left at Low Knap, the owner is asked to fill up a diet sheet and as a precaution against future difficulties in getting the cat to eat in strange surroundings Dr. Francis asks whether

there is any food of which it is particularly fond. Hopeful answers have included such items as ice cream, sponge cake, cheese, Dee salmon and marron glacé !

In addition to boarding facilities, the Francises offer stud, maternity and kindergarten services. They will see a queen through her kitting and, when the kittens are born, send the owner a hand-drawn card depicting a stork with a bundle of kittens hanging from its beak,

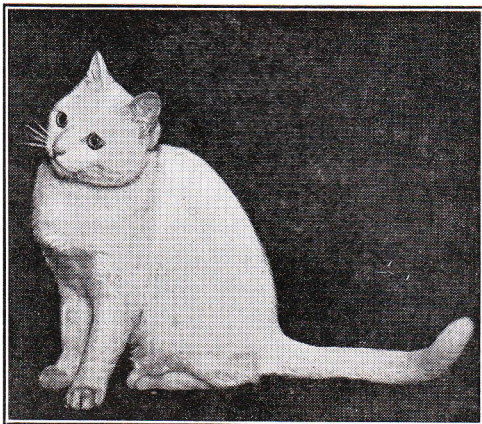
**Mr. W. W. Drinkwater
of 3 The Point, Ruislip
Gardens, Ruislip, Mid-
dlesex, writes :—**

" Our little white cat, Mandy, two years old to-day, started life well—very lively indeed and very amusing—but during the past year she became painfully thin, very temperamental, and continually shed her coat. From time to time she would go off her food and seldom wanted to drink milk.

We tried various remedies without success. Some of these appealed to her for a little while, after which she would turn away from them. Finally, we tried Kit-zyme and we found that Mandy cried for it, knew the sound of the bottle and would stand on her hind legs trying to grab it with her forepaws.

The change in her was remarkable. She now drinks milk freely and is not off her food. She still sheds her coat a little, but only normally, and she is filling out well. She is lively, and evidently very healthy. Mandy still clamours for her tablets and she would eat the lot if we would let her.

Our baker's roundsman, who lives at Southall, watched Mandy's excitement for Kit-zyme with amusement so purchased some for his cat with the same result. Like us, he is very pleased."



MANDY

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**
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Ref. No. 126

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 Exports

By ELLA B. MARTIN

MANY letters reach me each year from overseas breeders asking me to select cats and kittens and to attend to their export. Almost every purchaser wishes to procure the very best stock available ; in fact, nearly all hope to have a kitten which will ultimately become a Champion.

This task of making selections for other people is far from easy and, as many already know, it involves an enormous amount of correspondence both here in England, and also back and forth between here and other countries. This is especially the case when orders are placed out of the show season, and breeders have all to be contacted by mail, and a good deal of travelling has sometimes to be done, to view kittens and litters. This, of course, all adds to the total cost of a deal, and it is therefore to the buyer's advantage to place orders when the English shows are running.

The following news concerns only exports which I myself have handled. I seem to have been busier with puppy exports to U.S.A. than with kittens. Probably this is because so many of our leading cat strains are already in America, and have been imported during the past six years. Nevertheless, there is still a demand for the very best kittens of most breeds.

Mrs. Wendall Thompson, of Ossipee, N.H., had a C.P. Siamese male selected for her by Mr. Stirling-Webb, and Micks-the-Boy left here just after one of the hurricanes. His arrival was delayed, but in spite of this he soon settled down and recovered from his long journey.

Mrs. John Hoag, of Darien, Conn., decided to add Quesi Spititoso to her well-known Bridle Trail Cattery. She had seen this kitten as a baby, when she visited England earlier in the year. Mrs. Hoag had already some English-bred cats. Her first was Sukianga Seabreeze (bred by Mrs. Varcoe), then



ASHDOWN PEBBLES, young Blue Longhair bred by Mrs. F. H. Stephenson, Tunbridge Wells, who flew out to join the famous Lavender Cattery of Miss E. Hydon, of New Jersey, U.S.A.

Silken Pedro (bred by Mrs. Highton), now a well-known stud, siring top-grade kittens, and at a later date, Quesi Mysterioso, S.P. female bred by Mrs. Biggs. Mrs. Hoag has beautiful accommodation for all her stock, and her imports certainly have a happy time and are greatly loved.

English breeders were denied a treat by the departure of Inwood Gentian, bred by Mrs. McGregor, owner of the world-famous Inwood Shadow. Gentian was to have been shown here, but her new owner, Mrs. Chas. Vischer, of New York, greatly desired to have her quickly. Mrs. Vischer's cable, "Safely here. Enchanted," speaks for itself. Not only was Gentian beautifully balanced and a delight to behold, but she had the dearest disposition. She settled without any trouble, and quickly won Mr. Vischer's heart also!

Miss E. Hydon, of Bogota, N.J., has

added one more Longhair to her family and Ashdown Pebbles bred by Mrs. Stephenson left here recently and has been enthusiastically received by Miss Hydon.

In Colorado, Mrs. Hirsig, of Aspen, had Camber Betsy-Bob sent some months ago, and in her last letter she told me that Betsy is now in kitten. Mrs. Hirsig has a very busy time with The Golden Horn, one of America's 144 listed top-line restaurants, famed not only for excellent food, but also for its choice antiques. Aspen has the longest ski-run in the world!

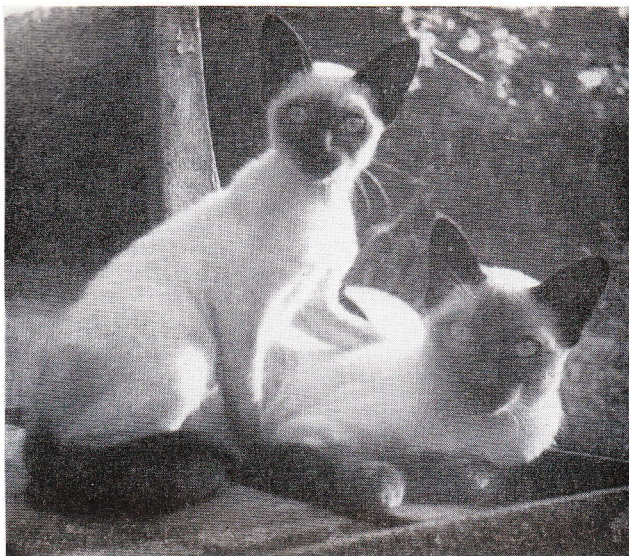
Canada is next on my list. Mr. G. L. Stewart of Calgary, Alberta, has had a number of first-class Siamese. His first was Purland Chakan (breeder Mrs. Butler), then followed Lancy Juliette (breeder Mrs. Appleyard) and Beaumanor Tookie (breeder Miss Lant). The third consignment was Pennenden Anne (breeder Miss Grainger), and the latest to go to him was Miss Ann Codrington's star - turn, Watermill Trinkabella, so well known to all English breeders who follow the shows. "Trinka" went off in style, armed with no less than 24 First Prize cards, and her two coveted rosettes. Miss Codrington's heart was very full when she said a final "Goodbye" to her little treasure.

Another kitten of exceptional interest which I have sent to Canada is Briarry Zulueta. She was bred by Mr. Stirling-Webb, and is the first of this breed to be exported, a Longhair Colour Point, with Seal points, and the result of seven years' experimental work. She is now owned by Miss Corol MacMillan of Calgary.

Toronto breeder, Mrs. M. Elliott, has been patiently awaiting the arrival of Mrs. Dadd's Sabukia Serilla. She decided to have Serilla some months ago, but wanted her mated to Mrs. Hindley's Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers prior to shipping. Serilla eventually co-operated, and a month after her mating she left by air. The flight did not upset her, and she soon made friends with the dogs and cats, and is now very much at home. I hope the litter will



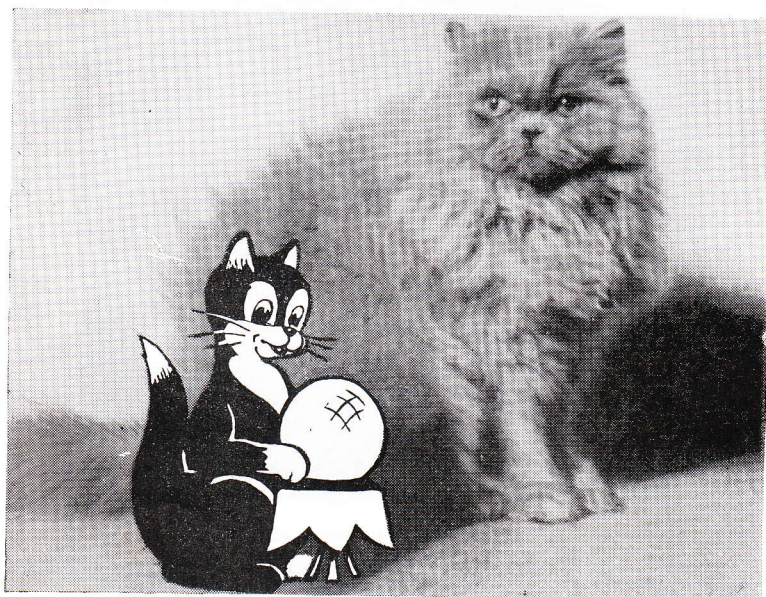
Mrs. Hirsig, of Aspen, Colorado, U.S.A., with her Champion Camber Betsy-Bob, English bred Blue Longhair.



Miss Ann Codrington's Siamese Kitten Watermill Trinkabella won over 20 Firsts before she was sold to Mr. G. L. Stewart, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



Miss Ruby Lovejoy, of Palmerston North, New Zealand, is well pleased with her import—Ashdown Forest Flower, bred by Mrs. F. M. Stephenson.



TIBBY LOOKS INTO THE FUTURE

"I can predict a rosy future for my friend Tina," says Tibby, the Tibs reporter. "I don't really need to be a fortune teller—all I have to do is to look at Tina and I know that she'll be a champion."

Ladybay Tina is a beautiful Blue Persian, who actually owes her life to Tibs. Until she was six weeks old she was very delicate and her owner had to feed her with glucose and cream every two hours. Then she was given Tibs regularly—and she's never looked back!

Her owner, Mrs. Bradley of the

Ladybay Cattery, 20 Holme Road, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, told Tibby that she believes that Tina is one of the finest cats she has ever bred, and is convinced that the lovely coats and excellent condition of all her prize-winning cats are due to the regular use of Tibs.



Famous
breeders
say —

TIBS KEEP CATS KITTENISH

11 D. AND 2 S. 3 D.

arrive without trouble and will be all that Mrs. Elliott desires.

New Zealand has also had some new arrivals. Miss Ruby Lovejoy, of Palmerston North, was delighted with her three imports, Woodland Mischief, a beautiful 1st prize Cream male, bred by Mr. Wood, a Blue-Cream female, Chadhurst Shot Silk (breeder Miss Rodda) and baby of the party was Mrs. Stephenson's Ashdown Forest Flower. Flower was a real character, and had endless self possession! She knew she was being admired, and she played up to quite a gallery on board the ship prior to sailing.

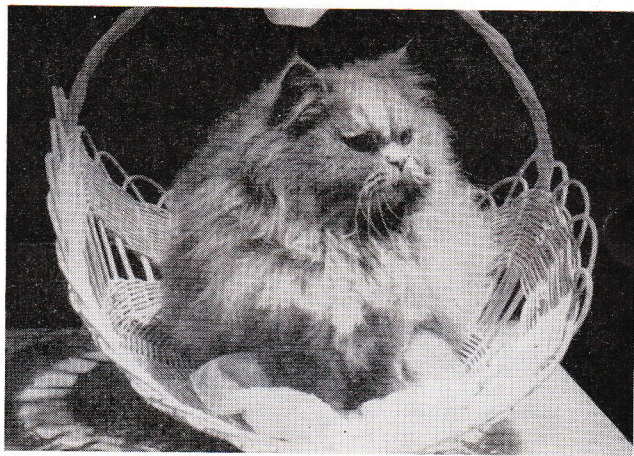
Preparations for a long voyage are not exactly simple, especially when three different breeders are concerned. But I had wonderful co-operation from each of them. Miss Lovejoy's wish was that every comfort should be provided for the trip. Exceptional care was given to them by the ship's butcher and apprentice Peter Small. All arrived in perfect condition, which made the hard work a real pleasure.

Mrs. Greta Collingwood, of Southern

Rhodesia, added another kitten and this time she had an Abyssinian, Contented Gazella, breeder Miss Wiseman. Mrs. Collingwood had her first imports way back in 1950—a pair of B.P. Siamese, and the following year she imported two more B.P.s. This last export to her was especially interesting for me, as we had the pleasure of a visit last summer from Mr. and Mrs. Collingwood, who were over for a holiday. It was lovely to have the personal contact after so many years of cordial correspondence.

The first Burmese I have shipped went to La Marquise de Lacerda, in Madeira, a client of Mrs. Macaulay's, and the kitten was Kyneton Chabbaggi. This trip was made by sea-plane, and "Chab" went on board at Southampton. A litter sister went to Miss de Jersey-Carthew of Guernsey, Channel Isles.

The show season is now all over until July, and so we turn another page. But may I send my greetings to all the little felines which I have selected and sent off, and good wishes to their owners for a successful breeding season.



Another purchase by New Zealander Miss Ruby Lovejoy, Chadhurst Shot Silk, a Blue Cream bred by Miss M. L. Rodda, of Bishops Stortford.

Protect
against
**Feline
Infectious
Enteritis**



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

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

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BRAND

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PREPARED AT THE WELLCOME RESEARCH LABORATORIES
A BURROUGHS WELLCOME & CO. PRODUCT

Great Expectations

By P. M. SODERBERG

(Reprinted from our September, 1953, issue)

IT is but natural for the novice who buys a pedigree female kitten to possess an inner conviction that in due time the lady will produce a litter of kittens which will be potential champions. Unfortunately, this is but the optimism of inexperience and future facts will inevitably produce a number of disappointments.

It is a reasonable expectation that a female will in course of time become a mother, but it has to be faced that there are sterile queens even if few and far between. The novice must realize that the female cat is as physiologically complicated as most mammals, and there will always be individuals who prove to be exceptions in either a good or a bad sense.

Always in the last resort Nature takes its own course and the cat owner can do no more than provide a suitable environment in which a young cat can develop naturally into a healthy adult. Environment covers a whole host of details, but perhaps the two that are most important are freedom of exercise and good feeding. If due attention is paid to these important details, the owner has done his best to produce a healthy adult that should become a good breeder.

Anyone who has taken the trouble to study records will realize that family history also plays its part in successful breeding. Some females always produce more kittens than others, and there are studs who are well known for their fecundity. Bearing such facts in mind, the novice who wants to breed kittens ought to make some preliminary enquiries before buying a kitten for future breeding.

To my mind a queen is suspect if she

produces only two kittens in a litter. Mind you, the word is "suspect" and not "condemned." The novice would be well advised then to make further enquiries before purchasing a female from any litter of two. If two happened to be a characteristic of a particular queen and the prospective owner wanted litters larger than this, then such a purchase would be unwise. On further investigation it might be found that it was the sire that rarely fathered large litters. That fact, too, should cause a beginner at least to pause and think.

The question is often asked, "What can be done to make a queen fertile if she is an indifferent breeder?" The honest answer is, "Precious little!" Quackeries and nostrums, even if they did produce some result, and that is doubtful, are not generally in the interests of future members of the race. Lack of fertility can be an inherited characteristic, and an immediate boost to produce extra kittens from a particular queen is rarely in the interests of the race as a whole. Cats are not machines and even the best breeders will not continue indefinitely to produce kittens to order.

A Shy Queen

At a recent meeting the question was asked as to what could be done to restore the waning fertility of a seven year old queen who had had two litters a year since 1947. The answer to this question seemed obvious. No queen who had presented her owner with a minimum of twelve litters could reasonably be expected to do more than that. At the same meeting another breeder stated that a queen who had already produced eighty-six kittens was now fighting shy

of child bearing. What a wise old lady this cat must have been !

I have a queen of my own who has been extremely prolific and who is only six, yet it appears that Nature has decided that she is to have a temporary rest even if it is not a permanent one. That is Nature's way and I shall certainly not interfere. My great expectations from this cat have been amply fulfilled, and if she has another litter she shall have the privilege of finding the gentleman of her own choice somewhere in the dark recesses of her own ample domain.

The second aspect of this article relates to the quality of the kittens that are produced. The enthusiastic beginner quite naturally expects that his queen will produce an outstanding litter. To most novices their own stock usually verges on perfection and there is nothing unexpected in this attitude, for there is also a strong sentimental attachment and after all beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Unfortunately such kittens frequently possess a type of beauty which does not catch the judge's eye.

Whatever one says, whether he is new to the game or an old hand, he always has great expectations from any litter which is produced by his queens. It is inevitable that such expectations are but rarely fulfilled, but it is only such an attitude of optimism that produces the real breeders and fanciers of any animal that is desirable for show purposes.

Face the Facts

The fundamental thing for the novice to learn is always to face the true facts. When he looks at the new-born kittens he may be convinced that they are all potential champions, but in time he must learn to accept the imperfections which will inevitably appear as the kittens develop. To do this goes against the grain because it is the last thing one wishes to do, but it is nevertheless essential if the novice of to-day is to become the skilled breeder of to-morrow. No cat is any better in show points just because it

belongs to me, but such a simple fact is hard for some breeders to swallow.

The people who really disturb me, and there are quite a number of them, are those who think that potential champions can be produced by methods which are, in fact, sheer hit and miss tactics. Real champions have been produced by mere chance, but such cats have been few in number and it is doubtful whether they were desirable for future breeding.

Planned Breeding Pays

The only breeder who is justified in having great expectations is the one who arranges his breeding programme with intelligence. He plans his matings according to a well thought out scheme because he intends to achieve a higher standard in his stock. He is never dazzled by the glitter of a name even if it is preceded by the word "champion."

It must be admitted that all the planning in the world cannot guarantee a desired result, but in the long run planning is inevitably more successful than chance methods.

A simple illustration of this point is not hard to find. The most desirable Siamese has good eye colour, well defined points and a pale coat. If your queen is dark-coated, have nothing to do with Champion Ting-a-ling (I hope no such cat exists) despite his many wins unless you know that he possesses the pale coat you wish to inject into your stock. If you do not consider your matings in this way you are just fooling yourself all the time.

Well, there it is ! I have tried to give you "two grains of wheat in a bushel of chaff"—perhaps you can find them.



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

THE show season for cats has ended once more and, as usual, will have provided a great deal of fascinating food for thought. The multiplicity of varieties is always both exciting and perhaps a little bewildering. The expert judges have independently and collectively made their critical appraisals, and the results can help fanciers quite a lot.

What is perhaps always most puzzling, especially to beginners, is the existence of different strains of the same variety, strains for which special excellencies are claimed, though they all apparently stem from the same original source. The expert judge is quite often able to detect with some certainty a particular line of breeding—a characteristic which shows itself unmistakably in some animals, which constitutes a hallmark of some particular breeder.

In order to understand these matters clearly, it is first necessary to appreciate that even true-breeding animals all show some variations from each other, even within a breed. Of course, all will be alike in essentials, but on closer examination there will be tiny variations in like features, variations which may or may not be of extreme importance as they are, but which may grow and become more important in subsequent generations if they are not carefully checked.

The judge will have taken into consideration the broad aspect with the standard as his guide. The fancier will assess values by comparing the variations with those outstanding in his own stock. It is according to the way the fancier handles this task of selection that he will be judged as an efficient breeder or otherwise.

Most of the characters of an organism which are measurable vary about an average from which small deviations are more frequently found than large ones, those which are plus in direction and those which are minus being about equally common. The result, if expressed graphically, resembles "normal" or frequency-of-error curve, such as would represent the results of coin tossing or dice throwing—in other words, the results of chance, when two or more independent contingencies are involved.

Cats vary in size and weight within a breed as do their various parts of make-up as we see them. In this so-called "continuous" fashion, any two variates, however extreme, are connected by a complete series of intermediates. These measurable characters are usually spoken of as quantitative characters, and their accurate description is made possible by statistical methods which are the special field of biometry. The usual magnitude of a character is expressed by its average magnitude, or if the variation is not equally frequent in plus and minus directions, then by the mode, or commonest

class of variates.

The coefficient of variation allows one to compare the amount of variation in one character with that in other characters, and the coefficient of correlation shows to what extent variation in one character is causally connected with variation in a second character.

One of the most difficult problems of the whole field of genetics is that concerning the inheritance of quantitative characters, and a complete solution of it cannot be said to have been reached as yet. These characters involve multiple causation ; otherwise there would not be a continuous variation curve, but only discontinuous classes as in ordinary Mendelian inheritance. Also, the multiple causes may be either environmental or genetic, or probably more often a combination of the two.

Genetic Agencies

When we make a comparison between parents and offspring as regards a quantitative character, we must first eliminate environmental agencies before we shall be in a position to determine what genetic agencies are operative. We are then confronted with the question : How many genetic agencies are at work, and how many are interrelated. But these are difficult or impossible of determination—for it is conceivable that the genetic agencies may be chromosomal, plasmatic, or both. If they are chromosomal alone and are severally of equal influence, it is possible to calculate how many are involved, based on the comparative variability of the F_1 and F_2 generations. But this has little practical utility because of the uncertainty as to whether each of the multiple agencies involved has an influence equal to that of each of the others.

It may well be that one genetic agency has much greater influence than another, in which case the result could be misleading. There is the further uncertainty as to whether the inheritance may not be plasmatic rather than chromosomal, or

partly plasmatic, partly chromosomal. There is only one feature of blending inheritance about which there is some certainty. The increased variability of F_2 as compared with F_1 can be best explained as due to the recombination of chromosomal genes, for there is no known mechanism for reduction and recombination as regards the plasma, even supposing that both parents contribute plasma to the offspring, which again is uncertain.

The Pure Line

It is quite possible that a quantitative character may be determined basically by plasmatic organization of the egg alone, or of both egg and sperm, and that the chromosomal genes may act as modifiers of this basic character, which will then show such differential variability between F_1 and F_2 as is due to recombination of the chromosomal genes. Quantitative characters in the variation of which only environmental agencies are concerned have been well illustrated in "pure" lines of some plants.

A "pure" line is a group of completely homozygous organisms, such as theoretically should be found to occur in any species which has long been self-fertilized. Under self-fertilization an organism should theoretically become homozygous for all chromosomal genes in a dozen generations or so. In these kind of plants of commercial value, the selection of the larger seeds produced a larger-seeded race ; but selection confined to the seeds borne on a single plant, produced no change. In the last case selection was within a "pure" line, each seed having the same genetic properties as any other seed so far as regards hereditary seed size. But the individual seed might be larger or smaller owing to its position in the pod, or the number of seeds in the pod, or some other environmental circumstance. This affected only its individual (somatic) character, and not its genetic character.

(concluded on page 22)

Feline Brains Trust

Reported by JOANNA MACKAY

TWENTY-FIVE to thirty questions about cats produced answers, anecdotes and facts. They were put at a Feline Brains Trust, which was a popular feature of the Russian Blue Cat Club winter tea-party. On the panel were Miss Kit Wilson, Miss M. Rochford, Miss von Ullmann, Mrs. Carpenter and Miss Lee Meade.

Miss Rochford's answer to the first question should, I think, be quoted in full. The query was: Why should anyone choose a Russian Blue cat?

Miss Rochford replied: "In the first place, I like the colour. I like their gentle ways and their grace of movement—not to be seen in a Longhaired cat. Russian Blues are mostly silent. I like the way one will sit on the arm of a chair and say nothing, but it can look at you and it says, "I love you. I am not going to make a fuss just now, but I love you. There is nothing I like better than to sit on your cushion."

Miss Rochford went on to remark that very often a Russian Blue cat will choose a cushion to suit his or her colour and that eyes will change colour under stress of emotion. She said there was no cat to beat a Russian Blue. Everyone else liked this breed for their gentleness, silence and affectionate nature.

As it was a Russian Blue party, it was natural that many questions concerned the breed. Answers revealed that the first of the breed came in Viking ships, though there is no written record of this. The next thing was a story of a Russian Blue being swopped by a sailor for a leg of mutton. A Mrs. Haring showed some in the '80s and a Mrs. Fossbury had some from Archangel. They used to be called Archangel cats.

Later, the name was changed. It was agreed that there seemed no point in re-naming them Viking cats. Russian

Blue cats are known to come from Russia. One member of the panel had a friend who had visited Russia and seen them there. They have been seen as far afield as South America, being descended from some imports from Sweden, and South Africa, where they must have gone on the ships. They are great travellers, always happy on the water. Mrs. Carpenter, who knows the Merchant Navy well, said that she had never heard of any cat being seasick. She had heard of airsick cats.

Mention was made of Cornish Blues and so-called Devon Blues. These, however, were Russian Blues, descended from those given away undoctored as pets.

Russian Eye Colour

Someone wanted to know why Russian Blues should have long tails. It was pointed out that any long-bodied cat needs a long tail, if proportions are to be correct. A short, stocky cat, needs a short tail. Miss Kit Wilson, who should know if anyone does, said that in judging, a foreign or long-bodied cat is judged within the oblong, the stocky British variety within the square. Eye colour is now green, because the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy approves this tone. However, Frances Simpson in her book—long out of print—stated that the eyes could be orange, amber or green.

Miss Rochford pointed out that you can't guarantee eye colour at an early age. She sent two kittens, one with orange, one with green eyes to a husband and wife. The green eyes never changed, the amber or orange turned to green. Her famous Champion Dunloe Kera used to take walks on a lead towards a Hampstead pillar box and the nearer



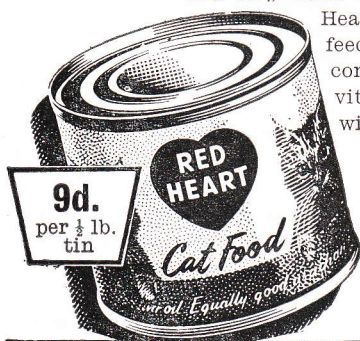
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she got to the box, the yellower went her eyes.

From eyes, interest shifted to ears. These were supposed to be very large. As Miss Rochford pointed out, this is part of Russian "type" and nature is a greater artist than we are. Then there was the point about first registration of Russian Blues with the G.C.C.F. It was pointed out that there were Russian Blues as a recognized breed long before the Governing Council was formed in 1910 to clear up a slightly Gilbertian situation in which three separate registering bodies existed.

Cats of the Famous

After that, someone wanted to know what one did with a cat who would only eat expensive food or who was finicky. The conclusion was that, first, you should not have a kitten at Christmas or when a lot of entertaining is going on, so that it starts with luxuries. Secondly, you should have two cats. When there is competition for the contents of the dish, almost any cat will eat anything.

Miss Rochford once proved this with a cat alleged to eat nothing but tinned salmon and whose owners returned from a holiday to find plenty of tinned salmon waiting for them. It was also concluded that Russian Blue or any other coats are only affected by diet in so far as they are improved when a cat has the right food to keep him or her in good health; good condition meaning a good coat.

Next came the cats of the famous. It seemed fairly certain that Dr. Johnson's Hodge was a tabby, not a Russian blue. There was a ginger, who fought with Hodge, but, though the sage was spoken of as having lots of cats, very little is known of any others. Florence Nightingale's cats were Persians, not Russians, though she brought some from the Crimea. She could have obtained Persians there and is shown in one portrait with a black cat in her arms.

Cardinal Richlieu had white kittens

and some may have come from Catherine the Great, who sent him kittens as a present and who kept cats herself. It is doubtful whether the Cardinal introduced Russian Blues into Europe. Queen Victoria certainly had Russian cats, the names of two of the four, Marya and Chatka, being known.

Various questions were asked about Maltese cats and why so little is heard of the breed. In fact, this breed has never been recognized for show purposes and the panel thought it just a name given to a blue cat with white shirt front. The author, who put one question and who once lived in Malta, does, however, remember a steward telling her that there were then (1934) no more Maltese cats in Malta, the breed having died out. He didn't say what they were like.

Manx Mystery

Manx cats were discussed, too. Miss Wilson said it was a mystery why they should have no tails. There is, apparently, a reward waiting for someone who can provide an explanation of this. The cats came from the East, where all, except the Siamese cats, have short or stumpy tails. It seems as if there may be some link between small islands and tailless cats.

Miss von Ullmann heard of a German who experimented with close inbreeding over many generations. His losses were enormous, but the survivors gradually had shorter and shorter tails. Obviously on a small island, there would be much inbreeding. Unfortunately, there's no written record of the experiments.

Why are male cats called Thomas? This point came up and it seemed that the name has nothing to do with any human Christian name or saints or sinners, but with some mediaeval term, misunderstood and corrupted into Thomas. One questioner wanted a system of naming for Russian Blue and other cats. Miss Rochford said she collected names and bothered her friends. Some-

one suggested careful reading of the novels of Tolstoy. Miss Wilson said that naming depended on a sense of humour. She had a stray called Joshua, son of None.

Reference to a book "Pietro's Travels" revealed that the modern Persian cat is nothing like those in Persia. No-one could say whether Pietro did or did not introduce the cats he saw on his Eastern journeys into Italy.

Quarantine

So to quarantine. Would it or would it not be a good thing to press for revision of laws to enable our cats to compete at International shows, in view of immunization? Miss Rochford thought breeders should be allowed, under safeguards, to bring in cats for breeding without quarantine. Miss Lee Meade pointed out that rabies has been stamped out over here, while it has not abroad. Miss von Ullmann considered that, in theory, it should be possible to take a cat in a crate to a show and bring it back, without risk, as it would not contact other cats, though the responsibility would be heavy. Rabies is only caught by direct transmission.

There was a long discussion on this point. Points made were that immunization is not a hundred per cent effective, that it depends on making an animal rabid and that this frightens vets, for trouble starts if that animal escapes. In any case, do we want animals to be made rabid, so that others can win at shows?

The final conclusion was that the only way to hold a truly international cat show, infringing no regulations, would be to charter the Queen Mary, anchor her within the three mile limit and stage the show thereon. It was agreed that this would be expensive. A smaller ship might do.

The old English cat received some attention, one enquirer having heard that the long-haired tabby is an old English cat. Any tabby merits the name, still

given to the striped cats by villagers. The tabby is, of course, the ancestor of all cats and tabby markings show on the best of pedigree kittens in the early days.

The audience learnt that the cat who climbed the Matterhorn, went home with one of the guides, had, as far as is known, several litters and died last year at a respectable old age, having taken no harm from her experience.

Finally, what would happen if a white cat married a British Blue? If the white cat was pure bred, then the kittens would be white. They would never be black and white. The same thing would happen if the cat married a tabby, though the next generation might produce very varied families.

Reproduction (from page 18)

On the other hand, in a field crop there are many pure lines growing side by side, and some of these are larger-seeded than others for genetic reasons. But if all are harvested together, then selection of the larger seeds from the mixture will produce more plants of the large-seeded lines, and so the average seed-size of the crop will be increased. Thus established is the important principle that selection within a pure line is ineffective.

Selection is only effective when genetic differences are present in the material upon which selection is made, one genetic combination being given preference over another.

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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.

London Show Season Ends

THE weather came in like a lamb and went out like a lion for the last London Championship Show of the season, the Southern Counties' Cat Club Ch. Show on January 31st. In spite of the blizzard which arrived so suddenly, and the intense cold, the gate was excellent, thanks to the good publicity planned by the Show Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Dunks. It was a very enjoyable Show.

Some of the Longhairs were past their best as regards coat but the Best Longhair Exhibit, Mrs. Alexander's Blue male Lavengro of Dunesk (by Champion Foxburrow Frivolous) had retained his, and kept the lavender sheen and soundness which is so attractive. Best Longhair Kitten was Mrs. McLeod's Rab of Thame, a charming exhibit by Ch. Mark of Allington. Rab has had a very successful season, and both these exhibits have always been so well presented.

Best Shorthair Exhibit, Mr. Lamb's elegant Seal Point Siamese male,

Ch. Causeway Pita by Ch. Pincop Simon, was again an object lesson in presenting a show cat. Best Shorthair Kitten went to Mrs. Hookin's Blue Point Siamese Laurentide Cirrus by Ch. Pristine Bandoola and Best Longhair Neuter to Mrs. Norris's Blue Trenton Raffles by Ch. Oxleys Peter John. Best Shorthair Neuter was Mrs. Halford's Briarry Clouded Yellow by Lamparas De Dios.

The Champions have acquitted themselves magnificently as studs this past show season and nearly all the "Bests in Show" have been sired by them.

It was a sporting gesture by Mr. and Mrs. Harrington-Harvard to exhibit their Champion Blue male Oxleys Peter John, who will be thirteen in August. He looked lovely and was a tribute to their care and attention. I wonder how many owners of Blue males would be prepared to put them into the show pen at nearly thirteen to face the competition of a London Ch. Show?

The winning Blue Longhair female was Mrs. Rippingale's Gaydene Tina by the late Ch. Gaydene Rudolph and the winning Seal Point Siamese female Mrs. Orton's Doneraile Manetta by Ch. Bluehayes Foxy. Mrs. Crickmore was awarded Best Blue Kitten with Thiepvall Enchantment. My Cream male kitten, Cavalier of Pensford was Best Cream Kitten, both by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous.

Congratulations to Mrs. Kirby-Smith, a "first time" exhibitor, who was awarded Best Blue-Cream Kitten with Titania of Pensford, just under nine months on show day. She was delighted,

as was young Mrs. King who was awarded 1st and Championship with her Cream male Hendras Benedict by Ch. Twilight John. She exhibited for the first time in 1954-1955 show season and has therefore made a promising start.

Other Longhair exhibits who were all First in their respective classes and much admired were Mrs. Aitken's Black female Ch. Bourneside Black Orchid ; Miss M. E. Grace's White female Ch. Bruton Snowflake ; Miss Sherlock's Smoke male Ch. Bircotte Nono ; Mrs. Kingdom's Chinchilla male Crofton Leon ; Mrs. Turney's Sarisbury Aphra ; Mrs. Brind's Blue-Cream Moonrise of Pensford ; and Miss Lelgarde Fraser's lovely Tortoiseshell Pekholm Peacock. There were many other charming Longhair exhibits but space does not permit me to mention all.

Surely Mrs. Friederich from Dunlasghaire, County Dublin, Ireland, exhibiting a Chocolate Point Siamese adult male Gula Malacca, must hold the record for the distance she travelled to exhibit. She visited the B.B.C. studios at Lime Grove and made a recording for the following Saturday evening's "In Town To-night."

Winners at Stockport

From Mrs. Ina Brittlebank comes news of the last Ch. Show of the season which took place at Stockport on February 18th. She writes : " Now it is over I am breathing sighs of relief. There remains the usual aftermath of work but the strain of getting to press in time and having most reluctantly to turn down those late entries and finally at this time of year anticipating anxiously all that the weather can throw in are all ended. Fortunately the day was fine and snow on the ground didn't daunt exhibitors. We had about 250 exhibits and the judges were busy most of the day.

" Best Longhair Adult Mrs. Benbow's Blue male Bayhorne Ajax (by Ch.

Baralan Boy Blue) ; Best Longhair Kitten Mrs. Brittlebank's Chinchilla Mandy of Allington (by Ch. Laurel of Allington) ; Best Shorthair Adult Mrs. Farquhar's Ch. Nidderdale Everest ; Best Shorthair Kitten Mrs. Woollen's Tortie-and-White Sunglow ; Best Neuter Miss Haigh's Veilmist Evening Sunset ; Best Household Pet, Mrs. Moore's Topsy.

" I think Stockport Show will be remembered by the Judge, Miss Kit Wilson, as the one in which there was a phenomenal number of household pets. Altogether there were 40 cats and kittens and I had reluctantly to turn down many more. Unfortunately, intending exhibitors in these classes did not give me sufficient particulars to enable me to split them. However, we decided to give a large number of special prizes which we hope will encourage their fond owners.

" The Best Household Pet, Topsy, was picked up as a kitten on the dockside at Manchester dying of malnutrition. He was so short of calcium that his teeth had fallen out and his legs were bowed, but with love and careful nursing he has become fat and sleek coated, though, alas, toothless and bandy. It was his adorable disposition that earned him first place in this wonderful assembly, and you can imagine how thrilled Miss Wilson was when she subsequently learned of his chequered history.

" The cheerful assistance of judges, stewards and willing helpers, given so ungrudgingly, made it a truly happy show. It was good to see the hall absolutely thronged with people in the afternoon and the distribution of rosettes by the Mayor of Stockport, accompanied by the Mayoress, completed the day."

Congratulations to Mrs. Benbow on Bayhorne Ajax becoming a Champion. Incidentally, he has made history as he is the only Blue male bred from a Blue-Cream mother to become a Champion for over thirty years. His dam is a pale coated daughter of the famous Cream male Ch. Widdington Warden and Ch. Pelham Silver Girl, both cats

who won so well at post-war shows. Warden distinguished himself also at the last pre-war Kensington Kitten Show where he appeared as a very young adult. Ajax should help the Creams to attain purity and paleness of colour, although the latter quality is an individual taste. The official Standard does not mention paleness. It states: "Colour—To be pure and sound throughout without shading or markings" and for coat the standard allocates 50 out of a possible 100. However, the fashion seems to be for pale Creams and breeders will strive for this when they see pale Creams which are sometimes inferior in type and eye colour placed over cats which are darker in colour but better in all round quality of head and type.

Champion Studs

Many eligible males appear in the thirteenth "List of Cats at Stud," which can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Hazeldine, 1 Roundwood Way, Banstead, Surrey, price one shilling. In Longhairs, Blues top the list with 30 representatives. Only six are Champions—Ch. Dylan of Allington, Ch. Thiepval Paragon, Ch. Thiepval Wanderer, Ch. Harpur Blue Boy, Ch. Dusty of Dunesk and Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous. To these must now be added Ch. Bayhorne Ajax living in Ludlow, Salop. His litter brother, Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh's Bayhorne Adam, is in the south at Mitcham, Surrey.

Miss Langston holds a nap hand in Chinchillas with four Champion males and the beautiful Ch. Fidelio of Allington, not given in the List. There are five more Creams in the List than last year with two Champions, Ch. Twilight John and Ch. Redwalls Bath Oliver, and three well-bred youngsters in the appendix as not proved sires at the time of publication. So there are fifteen Cream males from which to choose. Most of them have Blue sires so they should be a great asset

to the Creams. There is nothing to equal the Blue cross to improve every Longhair breed in all round quality providing it is one which demands copper or orange eyes. Two notable absentees from the List are Miss Sheppard's pale male Ch. Widdington Winterset and Widdington Winterstar.

All the other Longhair and Shorthair varieties have four or fewer to represent them with the exception of Seal Point Siamese who have the amazing total of 92 studs. There are seven Champions—Ch. Prestwick Penglima Pertama, Ch. Pincop Simon, Ch. Sabukia Sweet William, Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo, Ch. Spotlight Troubadour, Ch. Killdown Sultan, Ch. Bluehayes Foxy and Causeway Pita who became a Champion at the Notts. and Derby Show. Blue Pointed have ten with four Champions—Ch. Wynperrie Blue Prince, Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers, Ch. Fernreig Zyn and Ch. Misselfore Pan Print. Chocolate Pointed Siamese have eight representa-

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Here are two pictures from the well-known Deebank Cattery of Miss M. Bull, Thornton Hough, Cheshire. On the left, BEAMSLEY SUNBEAM, a young prizewinning Cream stud, and below DEEBANK MARGUERITE, an attractive golden-eyed White kitten by Blue stud Vigilant Mark ex Dalmond Spring Song.



tives with four Champions—Ch. Craigie Hilloch Chozaro, Ch. Holmesdale Chocolate Soldier, Ch. Briarry Macsuch and Ch. Sayam Zar Prak. Altogether 210 males are listed providing an excellent choice for owners of queens with varied opinions.

The Butcher's Mate

Mrs. Brice-Webb's Ronada Rendezvous, a Cream male kitten by Pennhome Pierre who was Best Cream kitten in October at the M.C.C.C. Ch. Show in Birmingham has arrived safely at Auckland, New Zealand, to join Mrs. B. Downey's famous Lindisfarne cattery.

An excerpt from the local paper reads: "The saddest man in the *Ruahine* when she reached Auckland was the chief butcher Mr. Willison. He was saying goodbye to 40 canaries, a Cream kitten and a pointer gun dog named Goose. 'It's always the same,' he said as he

fondled the kitten's fluffy coat. 'You look after the animals during the voyage and get friendly with them, then they have to leave you.'

"The previous trip Mr. Willison had a bulldog and a Siamese and they came on board in a box marked 'Please do not separate' so they slept in the kennel and shared food except when the cat used to chase the bulldog round the deck, which kept his weight down. This voyage, Mr. Willison's favourite was the kitten, so 'Rondy' slept on a settee in his cabin, toyed with a bottle top for exercise and snapped up choice titbits of meat and fish as fast as they were given to him. Mr. Willison said: 'There's not an ounce of vice in him and he has perfect indoor manners and even in the tropics had an appetite like a horse.' While Rendezvous purred below decks, Goose the gun dog took sessions on the boat deck and became the favourite of the ship's officers and the canaries twittered in pride of place from their cage near the bridge."

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In a letter to Mrs. Brice-Webb, Mrs. Downey writes : " We love the little Glamour Boy and he is everything that we hoped for. . . . Mr. Willison is coming out to see him before he returns on the *Ruahine* next week. He gave ' Rondy ' turkey livers, rump steak, chicken, etc., on the voyage and kept ice packs on the back of his neck coming through the tropics. Wasn't it kind of him ? We got passes to go on the ship to see him on the Sunday and had quite a session in the butcher's cabin."

Travellers

News of another traveller comes from Mrs. Stephenson, of Tunbridge Wells. The lovely Blue male kitten Ashdown Pebbles which she bred from her pale Woburn Sunshine and Gentian of Dunesk (both big winners as kittens) has flown to New York to become a member of Miss Elsie Hydon's famous Lavender Cattery. Pebbles was first in his Open class at Croydon Cat Club and the National Cat Club Ch. Shows. He excelled in paleness and texture of coat, qualities which Miss Hydon admires so much, and I hear she is delighted with his all round quality. Mrs. Stephenson writes : " Gentian proved an excellent mother to her first litter of five and was devoted to them. My other Blue queen Annabella of Dunesk has just been mated to Woburn Sunshine, one of her 1955 Spring litter. Ashdown Forest Flower went to Palmerston North, New Zealand, in the Autumn with Mr. Wood's Cream male Woodland Mischief and a Blue-Cream bred by Miss Rodda, Chadhurst Shot Silk. They were wonderfully looked after on the five weeks voyage and arrived in lovely condition ' without a knot in their fur '. Miss Lovejoy wrote : ' Mrs. Ella Martin made all arrangements very satisfactorily as usual for their export and saw to every detail for their comfort that she could think of.' In spite of the cold weather Spring is just round the corner and with shows over

until July we are looking forward to the kittens."

From Australia Mrs. Vize writes : " Ch. Astra of Pensford is very happy and well. I think he likes the climate. There will be some of his kittens at the famous ' Royal ' Show in April held in the spacious grounds, and one of the many lovely halls you admired so much when you were here in 1953. Broughton Miranda (by your Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous) had three very nice kittens by Astra, so Ch. F. F. has some Australian-born grandchildren. The two females are exceptionally good. Myowne Cream Bunne has developed into a pale Cream. He excels in type and gets more like Ch. Myowne Gallant Homme every day. My Black queen has not yet produced a family so perhaps she is not acclimatized yet.

Australian Beauty

" My Siamese Hillcross Rondo is getting a nice shape now. He was like a little barrel when he came out of quarantine and I almost despaired that he would ever be svelte. Cream Bunne and Rondo are devoted to each other, living and sleeping in the same house. Sometimes I cannot see him, then a pair of intense blue eyes and alert seal ears rise up from a mass of cream fur. I wonder how long their harmonious existence together will last as they are now fifteen months.

" I have made an herbaceous border with all the flowers we loved at the Orchard, Banstead—delphiniums, lupins, antirrhinums, hollyhocks, stocks, asters, violas and later on dahlias. Everything grows in such a short time ; Nature is very fertile here. In the spring the young leaves of the gum trees, which as you know do not shed their leaves, come through red and then there is the showy yellow wattle, so profuse and lovely like so many of the bush flowers. We like the climate and so far haven't found it too hot. Australia is obviously a country with a great future."

Kept Interest Going

From Mrs. Mollie Turney, who early last year was so tragically bereaved of her husband, comes a letter with a sad undertone. "Miss Mervine from U.S.A.," she writes, "who stayed with me for eleven months returned on February 9th. As you know, she was the devoted friend of the late Mrs. Earl Nack of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., and it was owing to her bereavement she was able to come to me. Had it not been for her natural desire to attend English cat shows I am sure my own interest would have waned. However, I have been helped so much by friends and some show successes which have kept the interest alive.

"Miss Mervine was a great help and her visit kept my mind occupied at a time when I needed it most. I am hoping she will come again and that I shall not be so tied here, as it would be interesting to accept some of the kind invitations we had to visit breeders.

"I am sending photos of my Chinchilla Sarisbury Aphra who was awarded her third Ch. certificate at the S.C.C.C. Ch. Show on January 31st, but she is not a Champion as two were under the same judge. Her daughter Ch. Bonavia Feather gained her Championship at three consecutive shows in Australia and is much loved by her owner Miss Haswell."

Camber Betsy Bob, by Anson Eros out of Trenton Sugar Plum (daughter of Ch. Oxleys Peter John, who was chosen by Mrs. Ella Martin for Mrs. Hirsig of Aspen, Colorado, U.S.A., has become a Champion. I have no other details but congratulate her breeder Mrs. Denton of Denmark Hill, London.

American Double Champion

Mrs. Belva Myers, of Louisiana, U.S.A., writes to tell me: "You represented Aurora of Pensford (Blue-Cream daughter of Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous and Ch. Dawn of Pensford) as

a potential Champion and she *was* a Double Champion in exactly one calendar year. She has had some fine wins since; in fact, she has done splendidly and I am very proud of her. Her Cream son Ro-Va Phoebus, purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Woolman at New Orleans, won well at Houston. They were very thrilled. The Blue male kitten which travelled with Aurora in 1954 named Rising Star of Dunesk has also won well.

"This spring, if all goes well, my seven queens should all have families. It means a lot of work but it is very interesting. All are Blues or Blue-Creams with the exception of one Cream and one White. We recently added another pet to our menage, an Irish setter female, daughter of the famous Red Star of Hollywood Hills. She is watchdog for our cattery and my husband's pride and joy. It is difficult to say which one is profiting more from their walks and training periods."



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Est. 1948

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

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At Stud: Dojere Johnny Frenchman
Puppies usually for sale

All enquiries, owner KATHLEEN DOHERTY
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DIRECTORY OF LONGHAIR BREEDERS

FOR RELIABLE STUDS AND STOCK (Arranged alphabetically)

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Black, Cream and Blue-Cream Persians

At Stud : **CH. BOURNESIDE BLACK DIAMOND** (Black)
Fee 2½ gns. **MYOWNE CAESAR** (Blue) Fee this
year 2½ gns. **BROUGHTON MARVO** (Cream) Fee
this year 2½ gns.

MRS. E. G. AITKEN, BOURNESIDE,
2 COMMONFIELD ROAD, BANSTEAD, SURREY
Tel. : BURGHEATH 2754

GORDON B. ALLT, F.Z.S.

DANEHURST CATTERY

OLD LANE, ST. JOHNS,
CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX
Crowborough 407

Enquiries invited for the popular
Danehurst Longhairs — Blue
Persians, Creams, Chinchillas and
Blacks

See Stud advertisements in this issue

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Blues and Creams

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CHAMPION BAYHORNE AJAX
(Blue)

MRS. DULCIE BENBOW,
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Phone : BRIMFIELD 263

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Kittens of outstanding quality usually for sale

Enquiries for Cats at Stud to
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THORNTON HOUGH, CHESHIRE
Thornton Hough 214

BROCTON'S CATS

CHINCHILLAS : Deb of Thame, Brocton's
Margaret, Brocton's Miss Moppet, Broc-
ton's Prairie Flower

BLACK : Ch. Slapton Susan

Kittens from these queens sometimes for sale

MRS. M. M. CALDER, 81 EPSOM ROAD,
GUILDFORD, SURREY. Guildford 62046

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**BLACK, RED, CREAM, TORTOISESHELL
SILVER AND BROWN TABBIES**

Lovely, intelligent, friendly Kittens, brought up
with dog. All stock immunised against f.i.e.

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Fee 2 gns. incl.

PURRING VINCENT (Silver Tabby) Fee 2 gns. incl.
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PRIORY BLUE & CREAM PERSIANS

At Stud : **CAMBER ALGERNON**
Blue, excels in type and colour
Fee 3 gns. **ELMWOOD CAVALIER**. Lovely Cream,
sire of Triple Ch. Lady Gay of Pensford, U.S.A. and
many winning kittens. Fee 3 gns. **OSCAR OF
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BRATTON, WILTS. Tel. : 220
and

CHITHURST MANOR, NR. PETERSFIELD,
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CH. GRACEFIELD POLLYANTHUS
(Torties, Torties and Whites)

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(Silver Tabby)

SLAPTON MISCHIEF
(Smoke Stud)

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At Stud :
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HARPUR ROMEO and **HARPUR**
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Pedigree Kittens usually for sale

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are famous at home and overseas
Blacks, Smokes and Silver Tabbies

Breeder of many winners including **Ch. Slapton**
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At Stud : **CH. TOLLERTON TALISMAN**
(Four Champion and Challenge Certs.)

Pure pale Cream, excellent type, deep copper
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Queens met New Street or Snow Hill Stations

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SPARKLING COPPER RED TABBY PERSIANS AND BRILLIANT TORTIES

Breeder of CH. BARWELL PEDRO, CH. BARWELL PIPPA, CH. BARWELL DOLO (France) and many other winners.

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Sire: Ch. Dylan of Allington

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Beautiful affectionate kittens from
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Bred by

MRS. EMILIE F. M. POLDEN,
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Pure bred kittens, healthy and most fascinating, usually available in the spring to very good homes.

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Blue, Cream and Blue-Cream

Kittens, Show or Pet,
for sale shortly

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WOBURN SUNSHINE

Pale blue son of Gem of Pensford,
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Prize winners every time shown

Latest out : BONAVIA MARK Best L.H. Kitten, K.N.N. 1955. CH. BONAVIA FLORA 1st & Ch. Croydon 1955, National 1955, Notts & Derby 1956. CH. BONAVIA FEATHER (Australia). CH. BONAVIA BONNY BOY (Switz.). At Stud : KUTE KIT SILVER NICK NACK (U.S.A. import). Sire Kute Kit Silver Angel, Dam Gr. Ch. (U.S.A.) Kute Kit Silver Dinah
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4 CARLTON MANSIONS
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Do you know a cat lover who would like a specimen copy of this Magazine? If you will kindly send us the name and address (in confidence) we will then be pleased to do the rest. What, for example, about those people who have just bought your last litter of pedigree kittens?

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Noted for type and brilliant eye colour

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Sire: Mystic Dreamer

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British Blue, Blue-Cream, Blue
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Bred under ideal conditions for stamina,
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Winner of 6 Firsts and Best B.P. Kitten
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1st and Ch. and Best Siamese Herts and
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He is out of the same dam as Ch. Misselfore
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Kittens occasionally for sale

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BELLEVER CALCHAS D'ACHEUX
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Fee £3 - 3 - 0

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Fee 2 guineas

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(MISS DAPHNE J. WELLS)

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CH. SAYAM ZAR PRAK (C.P.)

Kittens for sale.

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Queens met at

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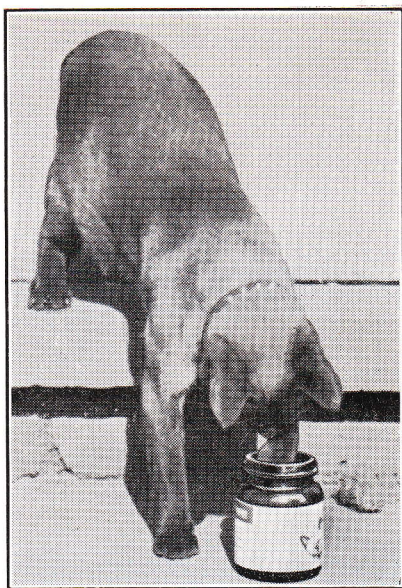
Six unsolicited testimonials received within the past few months :

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- 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."
- No. 5 "I am very pleased I took an advertisement in the Directory. Replies started to reach me with the very first insertion."
- No. 6 "For some time now I have been coming round to the idea that to be really 'in the Fancy' you must also be 'in' your Directory of Breeders. My series over the years has brought me some wonderful contacts."

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(bred by Mr. R. Gabriel)

KIT-ZYME WILL BENEFIT YOUR CAT TOO . . .

It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative

Kit-zyne

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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Literature Free on Request



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

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SCO-RUSTON RAVISANT (Blue Persian) sire Int. Ch. Southway Nicholas, dam Sco-Kalisa. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

CH. REDWALLS JACK FROST (Chinchilla) sire Ch. Foxburrow, Tilli-Willi, dam Redwalls Snowstorm, prizewinner every time shown 1948/52. Fee £2 2s. and carriage.

STARKEY NUGGET (Cream), sire Malmory Tafeteace, dam Fairham Gillian, prizewinner every time shown. Fee £2 2s. and return carriage. Only registered queens accepted to any of the above Studs.—Gordon B. Allt, F.Z.S., Danchurst, Old Lane, St. Johns, Crowborough, Sussex. Crowborough 407.

BOURNESIDE CATTERY, Aitken, 2 Commonfield Road, Banstead, Surrey. Tel.: Burgh Heath 2754. CH. BOURNESIDE BLACK DIAMOND (Black Longhair). Fee 2½ gns.

LORDANE SIAMESE, Seal and Blue; Stud Service; Champion bloodlines, Imported and Domestic; also Cats Boarded. Quality doesn't cost, it pays.—101 Allan St., Peekskill, New York, U.S.A. Peekskill 7-4014.

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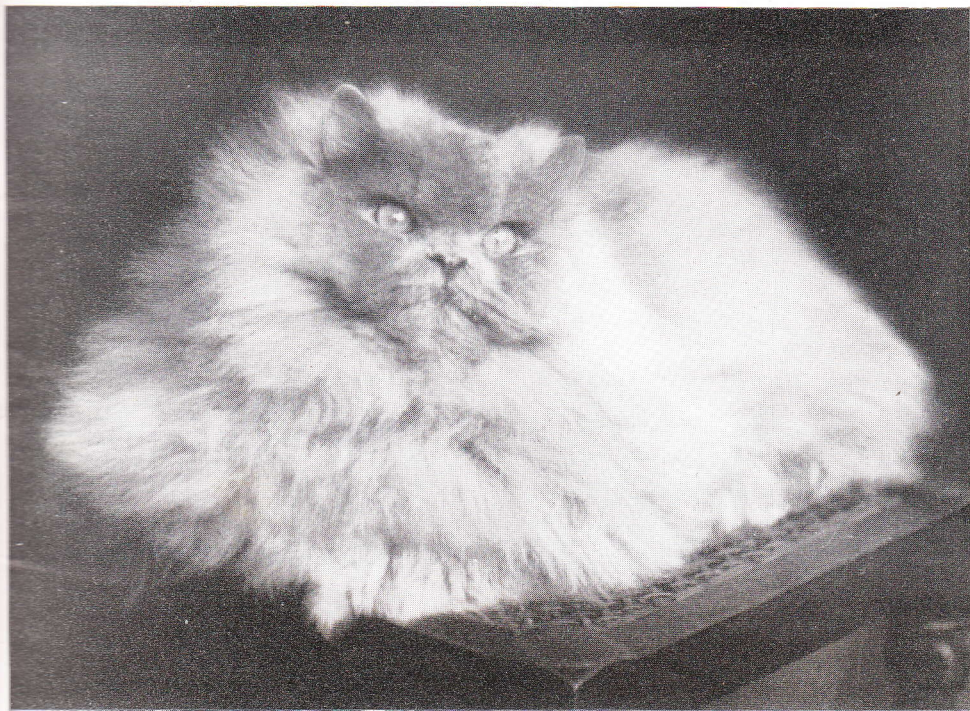
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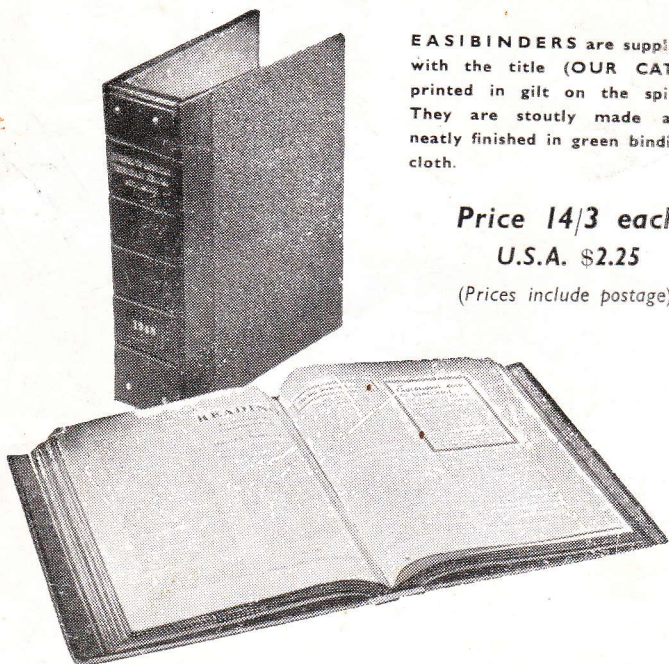
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