

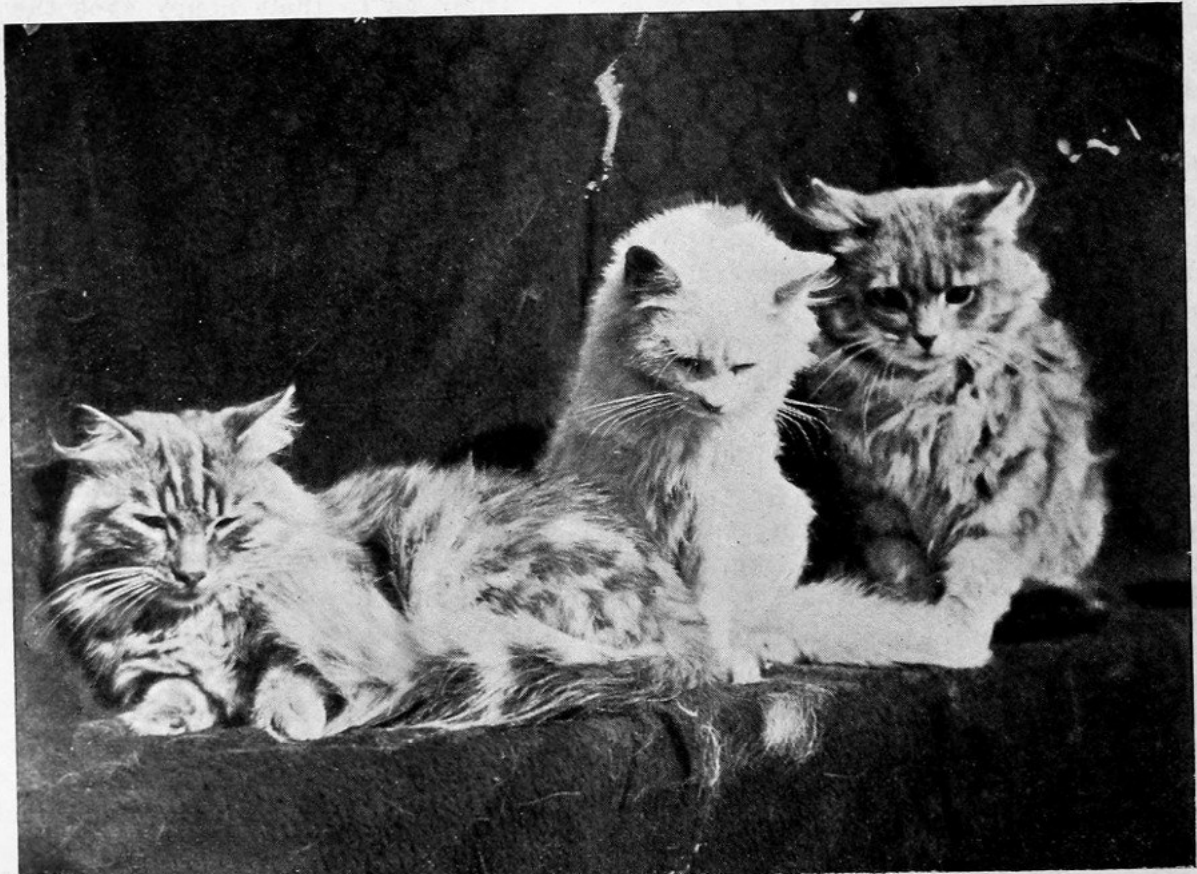
CATS *of* LEISURE *and* LINEAGE

By Harriet Martling.

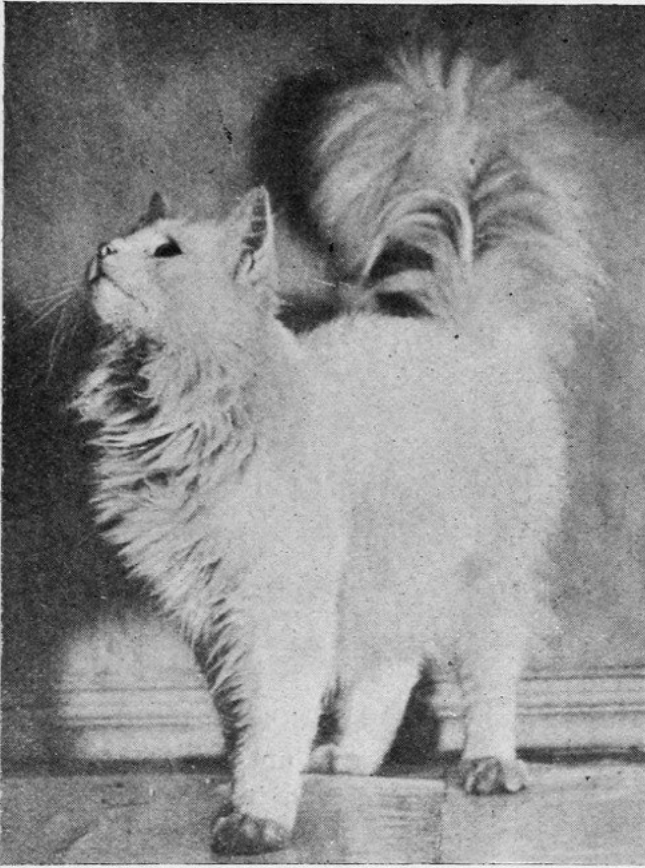
Beauty has ever been a rich setting for the jewels of woman, and beautiful pets have been cherished possessions in all ages. My lady of antiquity had her tiger cub reposing indolently at her feet as she sailed across the smiling waters in her barge. Customs have changed with years, the barge has been replaced by a more commonplace equipage and the half-tamed tiger cub by a beautiful Angora cat, which is allowed to remain at home in full enjoyment of its comfort. My lady of modern times is true to the tradition of her sex. Her innate love of the beautiful is fully as acute, though her surroundings have been toned to a color

corresponding with our present work-a-day world.

Interest in the highly bred species of domesticated cats has increased in marked degree during the past few years, through the efforts of intelligent and ardent admirers of these animals, until prominent fanciers are to be found in many cities the world over and Cat Clubs, though at first ridiculed, reveal upon the rolls of membership many of the best names. The importance of the work of these clubs in elevating the standing of the cat to the plain of first-class petdom, and particularly its influence in securing more humane treatment for



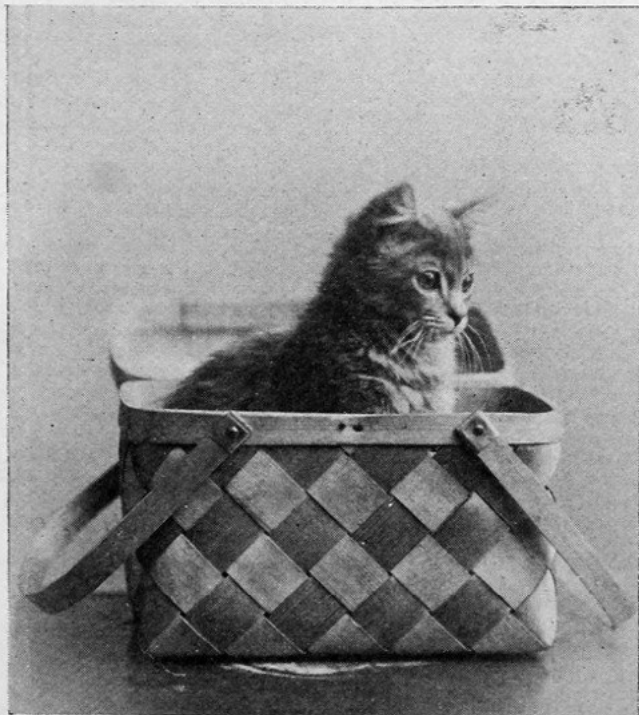
"Omar," "Sandy," and "Quaker"—Owned by Mrs. Harriett J. Worthing, S. F.



"Royal"
Owned by Mrs. Leland Norton, Chicago.

the neglected outcasts of the streets and alleys, should not be underestimated.

The city of San Francisco is the latest addition to cities in which Cat Clubs have been organized. On the 17th of July the Pacific Cat Club was organized with the fol-

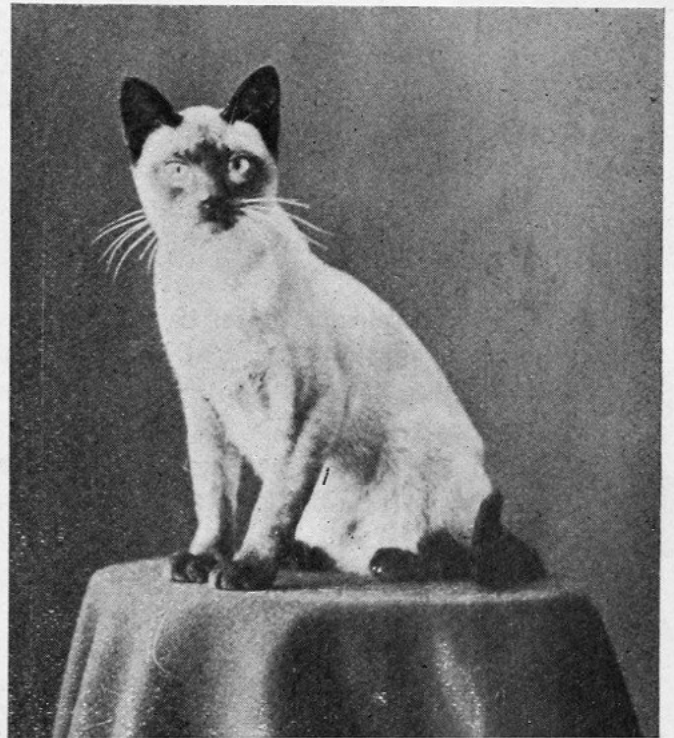


"Smoke"
Owned by Mrs. Van Fresse, S. F.

lowing officers: President, Mrs. C. E. Martling; vice-president, Mrs. Allen Abbott; treasurer, Mrs. C. Hildebrand; recording secretary, Mrs. A. H. Brod; corresponding secretary, Mrs. A. H. Hoag.

It is the aim of the Pacific Cat Club to found in the city of San Francisco a hospital and refuge for sick and homeless cats, chiefly the common cat of the streets and alleys. Such an institution does not at present exist and the pity felt by all right-minded people for the lower orders of the animal kingdom, when in distress, dictates such to be fully as great a need as any charitable institution answering to animal necessities.

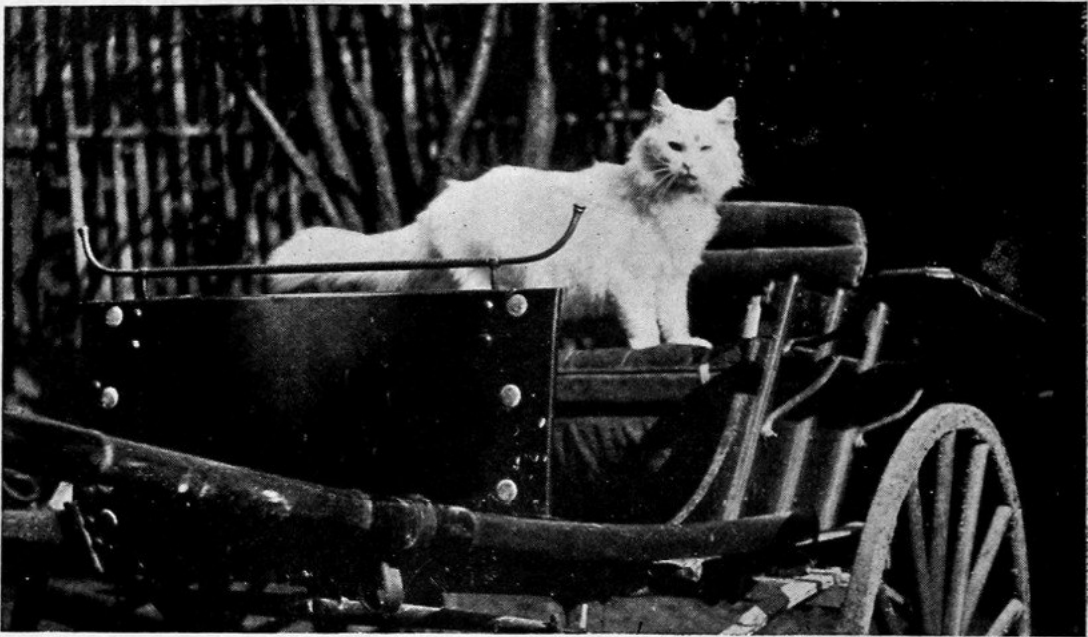
When one considers the vast number of



"Chom"
Owned by Mrs. Mary Freeman, S. F.

homeless cats now wandering about our streets, many of them seriously diseased, and all in a more than half-starved condition, a prey for the vicious and thoughtless by whom they are abused and oftentimes put to death by hideous tortures—when it is considered that these animals must in natural consequence of their condition convey and spread about the city the germs of disease, it must be patent that the establishment of an effective institution of this character is called for.

It is designed that the refuge be but a temporary home. Such cats as come under

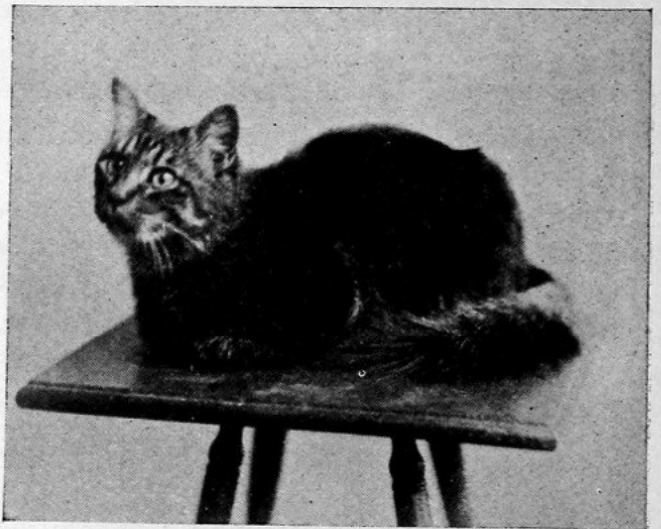


"Judy"—Owned by Mrs. Eugene Van Court, Oakland.

its care, when found to be diseased or disabled, will be painlessly released from their misery, and as for the others, efforts will be made to secure homes where they will be kindly treated, in warehouses, factories, stores, ranches, private families and numerous places of like nature in this and foreign countries. It is the intention to give wide publicity to the fact that such cats may be had on application by people who will provide them with good homes, and the club has no doubt that it can suitably place a large number of its proteges.

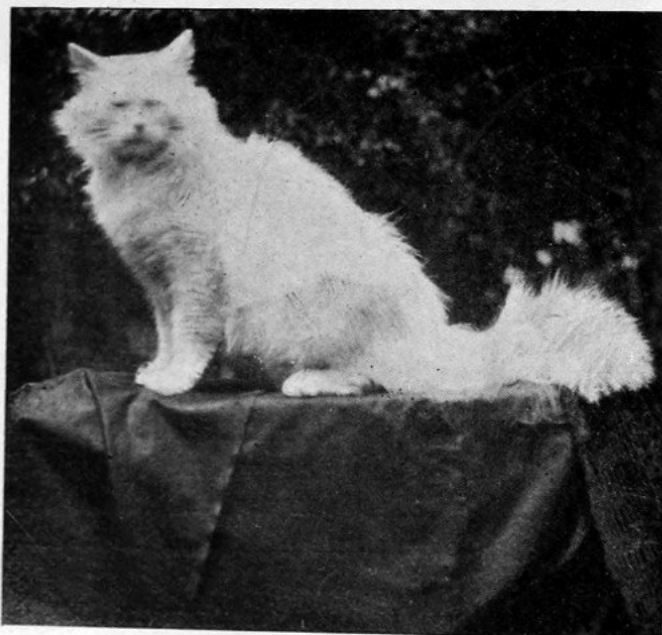
A hospital and refuge was founded by the Chicago Cat Club in 1899, in connection with

which a juvenile club was established at the same time, as an adjunct for the purpose of enlisting the children in this humane work



"Doc"

Owned by Mrs. Alexander McCabe, S. F.

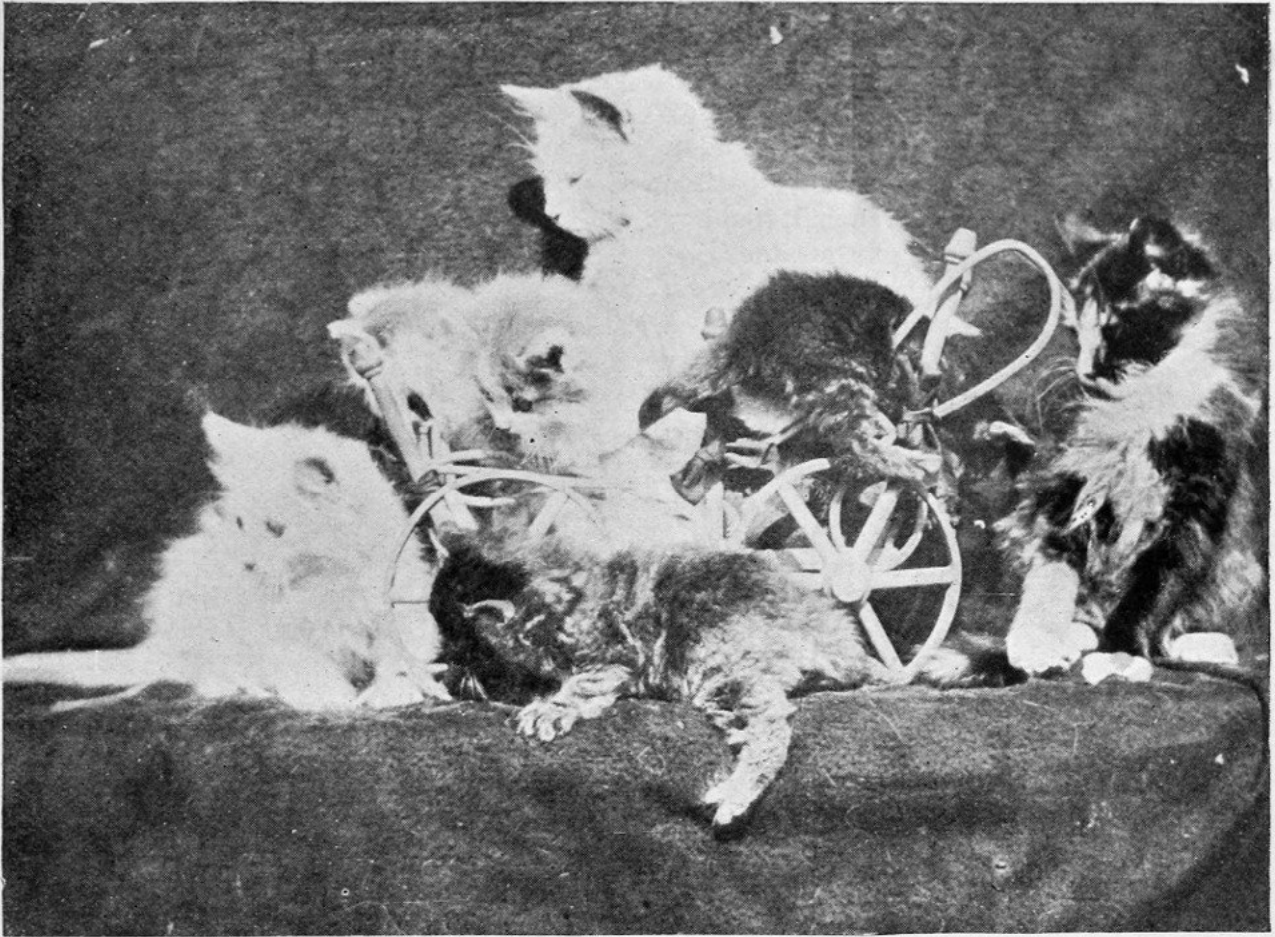


"Fluff"

Owned by Mrs. A. H. Abbott, S. F.

of protecting the much-abused cat. By the funds raised in membership fees in this juvenile club it was designed to support the refuge. Recently Mrs. Leland Norton, president of the Chicago club, has decided to personally take up this work in her city and will conduct the cat refuge, which will be under the inspection of the city. New York and other large cities have similar institutions.

The London institution for lost and starving cats has received 28,982 cats in the four years of its existence. It is supported entirely by voluntary contributions and numbers among its patrons twenty-five of the



Group owned by Mrs. Harriett J. Martling, S. F.

leading titled families of England. There are a number of similar institutions in Europe.

The Pacific Cat Club has enjoyed phenomenal growth since its organization, July 9th, 1900, now having seventy-five members

on the roll. With the long list posted the membership will soon reach the hundred mark. A stud book has been opened, in which cats are registered, thus keeping a record of pedigrees. It is the intention of the club to promote a series of exhibitions of stock throughout the coming winter, for the purpose of stimulating an interest in the club and its work. The first of these exhibitions took place on August 30th, at the home of the secretary, Mrs. A. H. Brod. It was very large, attended by admirers of blue-blooded felines. Cats of all kinds and colors participated, the beautiful fluffy Persians and Angoras predominating. Each secured a full measure of honeyed words and caresses, and the exhibition was a gratifying success to all concerned. It was the first exhibition of cats ever given on the Pacific Coast.

For some years past, those privately interested in the cat, from the standpoint of an attractive and beautiful pet, have imported many fine specimens direct from Asia. Trips abroad have resulted in returns with strains from famous kennels, and lately, some notable purchases have been made



"Middy"
Owned by Mrs. A. H. Brod, S. F.

from the kennels of prominent Eastern fanciers.

Among the aristocratic felines owned in the Pacific Cat Club is Pretzel, German by name but a good Native Son of the Golden West, whose ancestors fought many battles under the tri-color of the French Republic; for Pretzel is an Angora of the stock of Mrs. H. H. Paxton, directly imported from France, and is of that very rare color, a genuine French red. He is an unusually large cat for his age, and is of singularly striking appearance and great value. In spite of his name, Pretzel has never been known, even in moments of greatest exhilaration, to sing "The Watch on the Rhine," hence it is to be supposed he is true to the traditions of his ancestry. He is owned by Mrs. Gwynn.

It is not a long jump from Eastern Asia, the original home of the Aristocratic Angora, to Siam, the Hermit Kingdom, whose rulers have for ages unknown fostered a breed of cats within their Royal palaces, distinctive and curious in appearance and characteristics as the nation under whose protection they have flourished. These cats are known colloquially as the "Palace breed of the Royal Cats of Siam," and such specimens as have



"White Muggins"
Owned by Mrs. A. H. Hoag, S. F.

from time to time made their appearance in the Occidental World have usually been stolen by adventurers from the Palace at Bangkok. There are but few Siamese Cats



"Jester"—Owned by Mrs. A. H. Hoag, S. F.



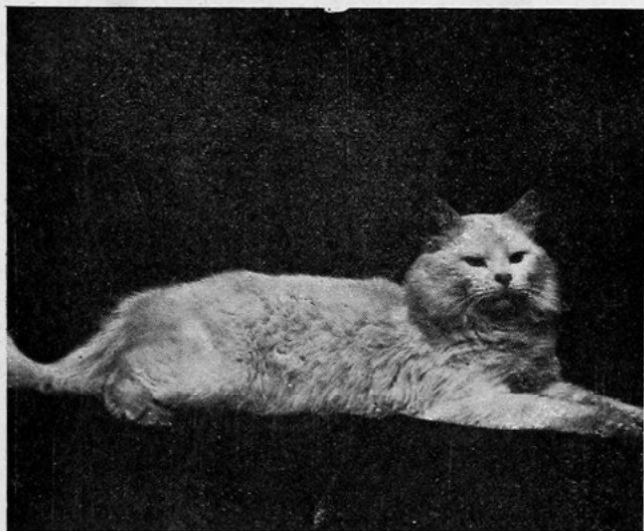
"Friskerina"

Owned by Mrs. A. H. Hoag, S. F.

now owned in the United States who first saw light in the Imperial courts of the famous Palaces of these Eastern Potentates.

Direct descendent of imported Siamese stock is "Shulla," owned by Miss Derrick, said to be a perfect specimen of this rare and highly prized species. She is pure chocolate in color, smooth and glossy of coat, with blue eyes. The "Arms" of this eminently aristocratic puss are two kinks couchant in a tail rampant, which in the Siamese Cats College of Heraldry is taken to denote that Shulla is an offshoot of the American branch of this famous family tree, founded by an ancestor who emigrated to America in or about the year 1895.

Cousin, slightly removed, to Shulla, is



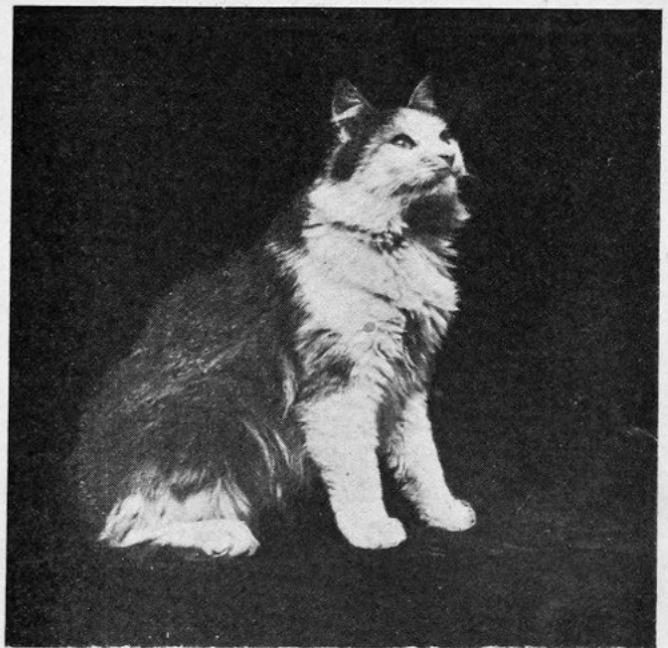
"Omar"

Owned by Mrs. Harriett J. Martling, S. F.

Chom, owned by Miss Freeman. Chom is also a superior animal, a trifle lighter in color perhaps, but possessing the eyes of blue. His "crest" too is quite proper, his ancestry sans reproche. It is interesting to note that all the Siamese stock on the Pacific Coast is owned by members of the Pacific Cat Club.

The largest Queen Angora on the Coast is Judy, the property of Mrs. Van Court. Coiled and in repose she suggests the thought of a giant snow-ball somehow gone astray and lodged in an out-of-the-way place. In soft and fluffy whiteness, Judy's furry coat rivals in purity the newly fallen flakes of virgin snow.

Fluff, owned by Mrs. Allen Abbott, is a large white Angora weighing twenty-five pounds, with eyes of deepest blue. Fluff is not deaf—a rarity in blue-eyed cats—and is the finest specimen of his class in the

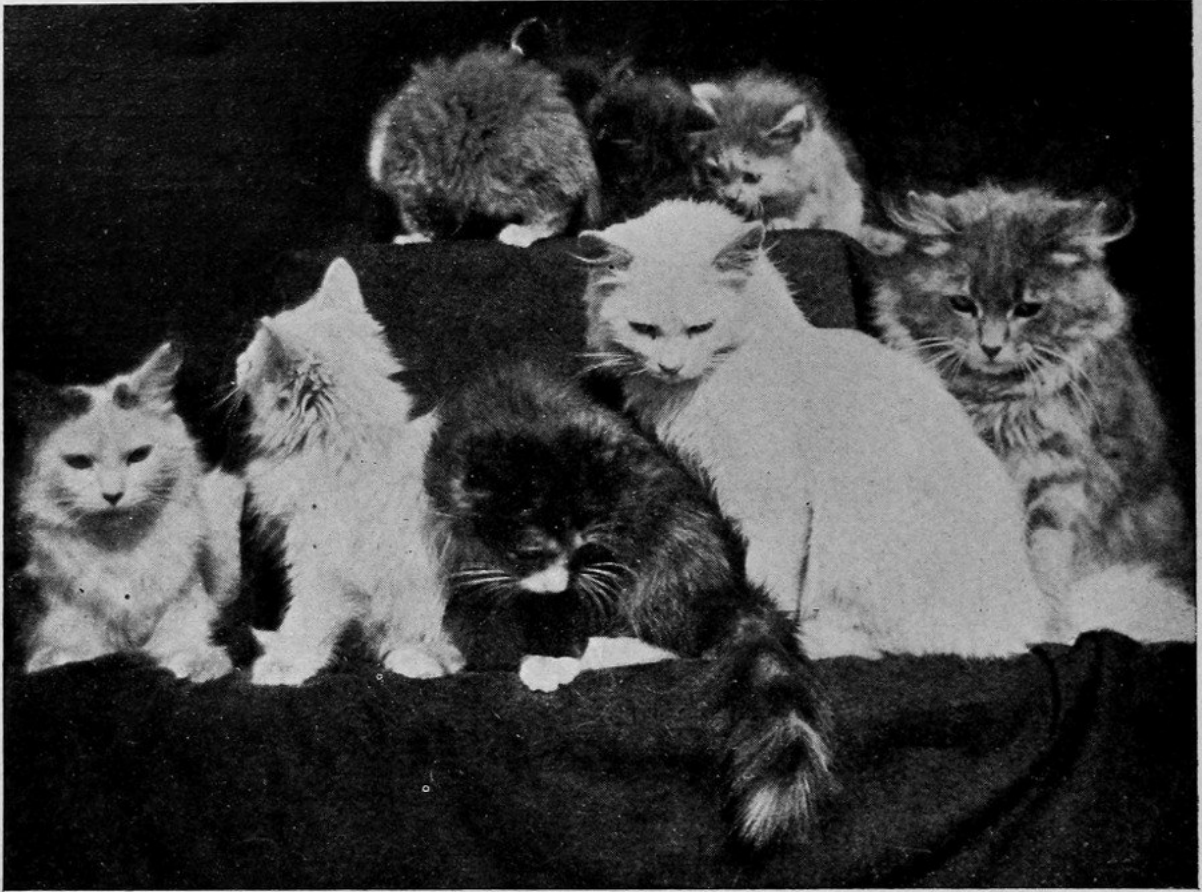


"Posey"

Owned by Mrs. Harriett J. Martling, S. F.

West. He is an expert hunter and in spite of the sure punishment which awaits his return, will strut away whenever opportunity affords in pursuit of birds and mice. He knows his transgression and his cat honor must be appeased by acknowledgment of his fault, which he does invariably by bringing his captures and depositing them entire at the feet of his mistress.

Mrs. McCabe's Doc is equally beautiful in a different style. Doc is a tiger Angora. His magnificent coat shades from tones of softest grey to a coal black. He has perfect tiger markings about the head. Although reared in the lap of luxury, Doc is rather



Group from Beach Hill Kennels, S. F.

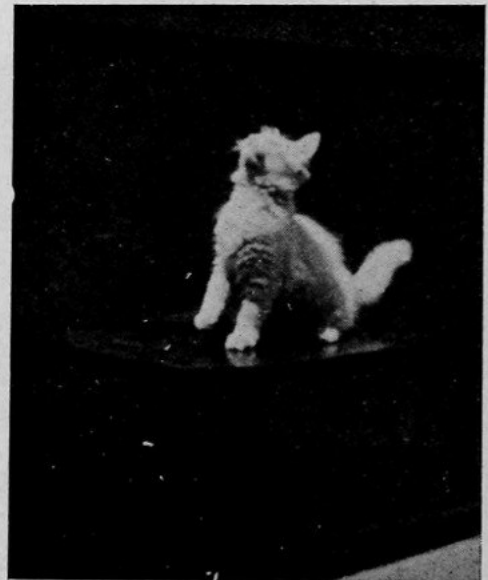
plebian in the choice of a chum, having shown a decided preference for a little common stray cat. During the morning hours they may be seen tumbling about on the cool green lawn until Doc is called in for his daily "siesta."

Another white Angora of special note is Middy, property of Mrs. A. H. Brod. Middy's eyes are a rare shade of deepest amber and his coat is long and silky. He is a very fastidious puss. His daily menu begins with cream, and he absolutely refuses to proceed with his dinner until he has been served with a raw oyster as an appetizer. Middy is descended from the Duke of Hawthorne.

The mascot of Mrs. A. H. Hoag's cattery is Nilo, for there is luck in black cats, and Nilo is black as a country lane on a stormy winter's night, with eyes bright, round and large as a newly coined half-eagle just from Uncle Sam's mint. The cattery is noted for good strains of tigers, of which Jester and Olive are excellent examples. Worthy of mention, also, is Buster, an imported white Persian owned by Mrs. Hoag.

Of the writer's pets, the most valued is Omar, a pure white Persian, son of the famous Royal, king of the kennels of Mrs. Le-

land Norton. Omar resents the presence of cats of lesser birth, and is ready to wage war upon them. Like the great Caliph of Bagdad, from whom he is named, he strives to be ruler, and constant warfare has thus far marked his reign. Among the others is Pansy, Persian Tortoise, daughter of Don Quixote and Nunna, noted prize-winners, and Posey, Spanish Tortoise, daughter of Yarrow and Dorothy, while last but not least, is Quaker, the dean of the kennels, blue-gray



"Psyche"
Owned by Mrs. Louise Payne, Los Angeles.



"Quaker," Chinchilla Angora,
Owned by Mrs. C. E. Martling.

bred cats—nearly all imported during visits abroad. At present she has among her collection one that is very rare in color, a sort of fawn tinged with pink, and having eyes of deep orange. Her name is Formosa.

We are told that a cat may look at a king, but in these days of democratic manners, it has been the fashion of many kings to look at cats, and monarchs as well as subjects number specimens of the aristocratic felines among their most prized pets. The cat has made its way. It is fair to assume that no distant day will mark its position upon an equal footing with the best classes of pet

quaint, whose kindly disposition has endeared him to all.

Among the flowers and palms of the sunny South the Maizie Kennels are found, fitted with every luxury conducive to the health and happiness of the happy cat family under its roof. There are sixteen in all, pure aristocrats, descendents from prize-winning stock, and brought from famous eastern kennels. Major, the king of the kennel, is a son of the blue-eyed white prize-winner King Sutro. Maizie, a tortoise shell, is the proud mother of five excellent kittens. Then there are four beauties sired by Royal Norton, and Black Dinah, a solid black Persian. Queen Bess is a magnificent white, with emerald eyes—directly imported from the land of the Shah. The Maizie Kennels are owned by Mrs. Payne of Los Angeles.



Mrs. H. H. Paxton of Healdsburg has for several years owned fine specimens of high-

stock, in the affections of the people of all countries.

