

NAT. MOUSE CLUB NOTES AND NEWS

# SNAP SHOW WANTED FOR MARCH

By C. H. JOHNSON,  
Hon. Secretary, Highfield, Driffield.  
Mouse Show Calendar  
April 5th: Fallsoworth.

**S**AD to say, there are no mouse shows arranged for March and something will have to be done about it, for we do not want such a long time between shows. The Mouse Fancy could, I contend, deal with one show a week, and this must be the aim from now on. I shall be penning an article on this matter under the title "Fill-the-Gap Shows." With this in mind, I wonder if anybody would be good enough to put on a snap show for the second or third week in March. I should be grateful. It is possible of course, that a show has been arranged of which I have not been notified and, if so, I shall be glad to have particulars.

I will continue my present series on "System in the Mousery" by dealing with time-saving devices and quick reference methods. In this respect I use a number of coloured cards, perhaps 14 inches square, cut in the main, from old prize cards, but in certain instances I use certain letters printed on a slip of cardboard.

Let me start at the beginning. As I go through my mouse cages I come across many things which require attention or reference, and this is where my coloured and lettered slips come in. As an example, when I remove a buck from a doe it can be presumed that young are expected, and I therefore attach a red card to the box. I then know that the contents of the box are important and must be watched. But that, of course, is not the main object.

The main object is to let me know at a glance where to look for youngsters without wandering or wading through several boxes unnecessarily. It must be remembered that I have a host of boxes to deal with, and time is precious, but even in the smallest mousery a system of identification cards can be adopted to advantage.

I use red for the purpose indicated because it is a most prominent colour and stands out in bold relief. I can, as it may be, see the boxes with a red card attached a mile off, and this is as it should be for, when all is said and done, the boxes with does in kindle or with young, are most important. It is, of course, for the self same reason that red is used to indicate danger.

With the red card in position, I look at the boxes embracing this symbol each evening when I go into the mousery, and the card stays there until the youngsters are born and reduced to the requisite number. I then remove the red card and forget all about the youngsters until they are 12 or 13 days old, when I affix a card with a large "O" to the box.

A card with a large "O" denotes that the youngsters are ready for oats or similar food. If this card was not affixed I should be forever wondering which boxes contained youngsters requiring crushed oats, and some of them would probably be missed. The card with a large "O" remains attached to the box until I separate the young bucks from their mother and sisters. This, of course, is at the end of four weeks when crushed oats are no longer necessary.

Specially note that I only affix a red card to a box if the doe is obviously in kindle. If the doe is not seemingly in kindle I attach a blue card, in which case I only glance in the box once in a while, say, every third day. Observe the subtlety of this, for by so doing I am not lifting boxes about and looking in more than is necessary. Remember that I am out to save time. There is an old saying that time is money, but money to me is of secondary importance. What I am out to do is to save time for more important matters.

At the end of a week, after the buck has been removed and a doubtful doe is still not in kindle, I remove the blue card. The doe is then either destroyed or remated. In an earlier article I think I said that at one time I used to affix a card with a large "K" when a doe had young, but this has been discarded for, instead of saving time, it tended to waste time, for the cards had to be taken on and off, and my mating ticket on the right-hand side of box tells me whether a doe has young.

Readers will recollect my mating card, and, if it has only one date on it, it refers to the date of mating, and if two dates, the dates of both mating and kindling. I set out the foregoing to illustrate that I do not use cards for using's sake. If I find they are wasting time instead of saving it I discontinue the system.

As I go through my boxes of growing youngsters (over eight weeks) I come across stock which shows promise as show mice. These I mark with a pink card, hoping, I presume, that they will eventually bring home cards of this colour—the special cards. If I have several varieties in a box I mark the card, say, "P. E. Whites." I then know which of the contents are deemed worthy of being sent to show. Good breeding bucks or does I mark with a small piece of pink card, say,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch square, which travels round with the mouse and is moved from

box to box. By this method I know at a glance what are considered to be my best breeding mice. And they, of course, are used in preference to stock which is not so good.

Mice ready for mating, or, perhaps, I should say deemed worthy of being used in the breeding pen, I mark with a green card. I then know where to go when I am looking for some breeding stock. It saves a lot of time.

When a youngster, or youngsters, are fostered I use a yellow card marked with the number of the mother x the number of the father, together with the date of birth. I can then tell at a glance around my mousery which boxes contain fostered youngsters. When the youngsters are removed from the foster mother the yellow card goes with them. It is then apparent, even months after, which mice have been fostered.

My boxes of show mice I mark with a red star, again cut out of prize cards, but this I will deal with at a later date when I give advice on how to prepare mice for show.

I would comment briefly on what will undoubtedly be a 1952 classic. I refer to a show which will be held at Manchester on April 5th under the promotion of Mr. Percy Ashley, who has long been noted for his generosity and organising ability. There will be no less than 60 classes. I shall write up the show at a later date, and in the meantime will members, with their appetites whetted, be making preparations?

## Winners At Hillingdon

The Hillingdon P. and R. Club (Mouse Section) held a successful show on Feb. 9th. The two judges, Mr. S. Nix and Mr. J. McCrear, had a busy time sorting out 250 entries. The entry which made the longest journey came from Carlisle, and Mr. Eric Buck made the journey from Ventnor, I.O.W. to attend the show. Best in show award was won by Mr. C. H. Johnson, secretary of the N.M.C., with a very good Chinchilla buck. As competition was very keen the win was most meritorious. Local members, however, also did extremely well. Miss Pat Smith won two cups, and Messrs. Horne, Olliffe and E. N. Smith were well placed in the awards.

**P.E. OR B.E. WHITE.**—9: 1 Horne; 2 Bamford; 3 Bamford. 8 WKS. 5: 1, 2 Wyatt; 3 Collins. **CHAMP, FAWN OR RED.**—11: 1 Horne; 2 Chitty; 3 Holland. 3a. 2: 1, 2 Olliffe; 3 Chitty. 8 WKS. 7: 1 Johnson; 2 E. N. Reed; 3 Horne. **BLACK, BLUE OR CHOC.**—12: 1 Johnson; 2 E. N. Smith; 3 Tunnicliffe. 8 WKS. 3: 1 Fautley; 2 Johnson; 3 E. N. Smith. **SILVER, CREAM OR DOVE.**—6: 1 Bamford; 2 Palin; 3 Johnson. 8 WKS. 2: 1 Palin; 2 Johnson. **DUTCH.**—A.A. 10: 1 Hardman; 2 Horne; 3 Reed. **EVEN, BROKEN OR VARIE.**—5: 1 Hardman; 2 Garwood; 3 Ackroyd. 8 WKS. 4: 1 Garwood; 2 E. N. Smith; 3 Hardman. **SILVERS, GREY OR BROWN.**—6: 1 Holland Bros.; 2 Forbes; 3 Buck. **CHIN. OR FOX.**—4: 1 Johnson; 2 Prior; 3 Denny. **AGOUTI.**—12: 1 Johnson; 2 Forbes; 3 Vosper. **TAN.—CHAMP OR BLACK.** 10: 1 Linnington; 2 Ridley; 3 Wright. 8 WKS. 3: 1 Wright; 2 Johnson. **TAN.**—A.O.C. 10: 1 Wright; 2 Johnson; 3 Holland Bros. 8 WKS. 5: 1 P. Smith; 2 Espley; 3 Johnson. **A.O.V.** 11: 1 Ridley. **STUD BUCK.** 9: 1 Johnson; 2 Horne; 3 Espley. **DOE AND LITTER.** 9: 1 Forbes; 2 Bainton; 3 Davidson. **SELF CHALL.** 30: 1 Horne; 2 Bamford. **MARKED CHALL.** 11: 1, 2 Hardman; 3 E. N. Smith. **CLASS 2B.** 1 Johnson; 2 Linnington; 3 Forbes. **GRAND CHALL.** 24: 1 Horne; 2 Bamford; 3 Hardman; r Espley. **JUVENILE.** 15: 1 P. Smith; 2, 3 Holland Bros.—E. SMITH (hon. sec.).

## JUNIOR JOTTINGS Leigh-on-Sea Success

**I** WAS surprised to find such a good entry in the Juvenile Section at Leigh-on-Sea's open penned show on Jan. 26th. The quality of stock was excellent, and I hope that the juniors who did not win cards were not too disappointed, as there were about 15 "champions in the making" exhibited. Though Leigh-on-Sea has not got a junior section the club has about 50 keen youngsters between the ages of three and sixteen. The juvenile representative, Brian Brassington, was my chief steward. Thanks are due to him and his willing stewards, Frank Pasquale, Havering, and the Wickford, Lea and Raleigh junior members. Several novelties were staged—a competition for the cleanest travelling box and a competition for the junior who could handle a rabbit correctly. Best animal and best in show was won by a magnificent Chinchilla-Giganta exhibited by Frank Pasquale, Gray. Runner-up for both of these awards was six-year-old Colin Herridge with a normal Havana. This was a magnificent exhibit, but bad moult set it back. J. Underwood's Polish (what a beauty) was best Fancy and third best in show. Best Rex was won by Roy Gea-vaux. Congratulations to these juniors—and keep showing.—PAT. KILBY.



C. H. Johnson, hon. sec of the National Mouse Club.

## ELECTED AT THE A.G.M.

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE D.D.R.C.**—Chairman, Mr. W. Bennett; vice-chairman, Mr. Cheshire; treasurer, Mr. H. G. Round; secretary, Mrs. M. Round, Harmony, 9, Annandale Avenue, Worle; press representative, Mr. C. Clements.

**GLOUCESTER D.D.R. & F.S.**—Chairman, Mr. G. F. Godding; vice-chairman, Mr. J. Thomas; treasurer, Mr. C. Vallender; committee, Messrs F. Little, G. Potter, J. Gilbert, J. Warburton, C. Phillips and Master T. Bircher; auditors, Mr. L. Spencer, Mr. E. Vallender; secretary, Mr. S. N. Nash, 75, Coney Hill Road, Gloucester. The Society's new headquarters are the Clubroom, County Arms, Millbrook Street, Gloucester. Programme: March 13th, **Housing and Management** (illustrated with lantern slides); March 22nd, **Open table show**; April 3rd, **Killing and Pelting** (lantern slides); May 1st, **Wild Plants for Feeding** (lantern slides); July 3rd, **Judging Competition**; Aug. 7th, **Quiz on Wild Plants for Rabbit Feeding**; Sept. 4th, **Talk on Breeding with live exhibits**.

**BARROW D.F. & F.S.**—Chairman, Mr. H. Wardson; vice-chairman, Mr. T. Crane; show secretary, Mr. G. Cuncliffe; committee, Mrs. Storey, Messrs. Jackson, Coulton, Kay, Barrow, Palmer, Culley and Stewart; auditors, Messrs. Jackson, Pearce; general secretary, Mr. W. S. Oliver, 60, Longlands Avenue, Barrow-in-Furness. Show dates: North Lonsdale Agric. Soc. July 26th; Barrow-in-Furness annual open, Nov. 15th.

**BRIXTON D.D.P. and R.C.**—President, Mr. Miles; vice-presidents (re-elected en bloc), Mr. Hardings, Mr. Yates, Mr. Powell-Owen, Mr. Jeffery; chairman, Mr. Grounsell; hon. secretary, Mr. R. E. Ellis, 162, Ferndale Road, Clapham, London, S.W.4; treasurer, Mr. Jeffery; poultry sec., Mrs. Handy; committee, Mr. Harrison (rabbits), Mr. Handy (poultry); publicity officer, Mr. R. Gould. Delegates to Federation of London Mens' Institutes, Mr. J. Terry, Mr. J. Warner. Combined poultry and rabbit show will be held in the autumn. Replicas won in the 1950 show were presented to Mr. Simpson, Mr. Miles, Mr. Winterton, Miss Jeffery, and Mrs. Handy. It was decided to start a juvenile section and over 30 names of juveniles have already been received by the secretary.

**COWLEY D. F. and F.S.**—President, Mr. H. D. Smith. Open pen shows will be held on March 29th, judges C. Banfield, G. A. V. Andrews and W. E. Lowe; Nov. 15th (C. Fricker, Miss Grace Wren, Capt. H. F. Smith). Will specialist club secretaries who would like to hold their adult stock shows in conjunction with the November show please contact the secretary, Mr. R. Taylor, 135, Cowley Road, Littlemore, Oxford?

## DUTCH CAVY CLUB OFFICIALS

**T**HE result of the Dutch Cavy Club election for 1952: President, R. A. Bell 10, G. W. Mallinson 9, S. Mather 11. Vice-Presidents: R. A. Bell 9, F. Kershaw 7, F. Brass 9, G. Poord 9, S. Mather 13, G. W. Mallinson 9. Hon. Secretary: Mrs. B. Mather, unopposed. Auditors: R. A. Bell and Miss I. Bell. Investigation Committee (3): F. Brass 15e, W. Vickers 12, R. A. Bell 12, N. Orange 8, A. Tipper 18e, H. Craven 15e. Committee (6): R. A. Bell 10, W. Vickers 7, A. Tipper 14e, S. Mather 21, G. W. Mallinson 19e, F. Brass 11, H. Craven 15e, G. Poord 17e, J. Jenkinson 16e, E. Brock 7, N. Orange 12e, F. Kershaw 9. Panel of Judges (6): R. A. Bell 12, G. W. Mallinson 18e, F. Kershaw 8, J. Jenkinson 13e, S. Mather 19e, G. Poord 15e, W. Vickers 11, N. Orange 13e, H. Craven 14e, B. Mather 23e. Thirty-two papers.—Scrutineer, H. Dyson.

# AROUND THE CAVY CLUBS

## NATIONAL CAVY CLUB

**T**HE National Cavy Club's young stock show will be held at Sandy on Aug. 28th.

The Bradford Small Livestock Society has accepted our application for the adult stock show to be held in conjunction with the Bradford Championship show next January.

The Year Books will go to the printers directly the elections are over. This will be your chance to let everyone know how well you did on the exhibition side in 1951, members who did not do well, can let everyone know what they are going to do in 1952, by having an advertisement in the Year Book. The charges are £1 full page, 10/-  $\frac{1}{2}$  page, 5/-  $\frac{1}{4}$  page and breeders' cards at 2/6.

Several members who were present at the A.G.M. offered to have an advertisement. Up to the time of writing only one member has sent in a copy. I shall be very pleased to hear from the others.

New members to join the club since my notes of Jan. 3rd, are, Mr. and Mrs. W. Coupe, Selston, Notts.; Mr. A. Akeroyd, Birstall; Mr. H. Westerman, Blackpool; Mr. H. Turner, Grantham; Mr. Roy Farmer, Nuneaton; Mr. G. C. W. Link, Leamington Spa; Mr. H. Downs, Rotherham and Mrs. F. Overton, Spalding.

Mr. F. Overton won the Richard Waller Trophy for most points at the young stock show and adult stock show with 109 points. Final placings were: F. Overton 109, C. Naylor 83 (Y.S.S. only), H. Craven 78, Gilbert and Son 76, A. Tipper 74 (A.S.S. only), R. Tetlow 73, G. W. Mallinson 72, S. Taylor 56, Jack Smith 51, G. C. Tremeer and Son 47.

At the adult stock show the points went as follows: A. Tipper 74, R. Tetlow 63, H. Craven 57, F. Overton 45, G. W. Mallinson 45, Mrs. E. M. Elward 39, Gilbert and Son 35, G. E. Skerratt 27, J. M. Treveal 27, S. Taylor 23, G. C. Tremeer and Son 20, Miss Castleman-Brown 20.

New members are always welcome. Subscriptions: 5/- single, 8/- partnerships.—Hon. Sec. and Treas., H. Craven, 83 Thackeray Road, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

## ENGLISH SELF CAVY CLUB

**T**HE English Self Cavy Club will hold its young stock show in conjunction with Blackpool Agricultural Society's show on Aug. 16th—C J WILSON hon. sec., 34, Dale Street, Rawmarsh, near Rotherham.

## DUTCH CAVY CLUB

**T**HE new president of the Dutch Cavy Club is Mr. S. Mather, who won by one vote. May I thank Dutch Club members for the good response to our ballot? Thirty-two members out of 42 sent their votes to Mr. Dyson, the scrutineer.

The Dutch Cavy Club annual show will be held at Blackpool this year. I shall be placing the awards.

The club has now run out of rule books, and it was passed at the A.G.M. at Bradford Championship show that new ones should be printed. The cost of a breeder's page will be £1 full page 10/- half page. This will help the cost of printing for the club. Will members who wish to advertise please let me have details, along with cash, as soon as possible?

Mr. Pearson offered £1 for specials for the annual show at Blackpool.

Welcome to Mr. R. Lawrence, our latest new member, who won the best young Dutch at Bradford Championship show.

Subscriptions are now due, 5/-; 7/6 partnership.—Mrs. B. MATHER, 184, Stretford Road, Urmston.

## SOUTHERN CAVY CLUB

**A**T the Southern Cavy Club's open table show on Feb. 4th, best in show and cup for best adult was awarded to Miss Castleman Brown's Peruvian; cup for best young or intermediate to Miss Radeaglia's Self Black boar. The total entry was 79, and the judge was Mr. R. Blake. The club's next show will be on March 10th.

**SELF, BLACK OR WHITE.**—1 Blandford; 2 Castleman Brown; 3 Perrin. **A.O.C.** 1, 2 Radeaglia; 3 Castleman Brown. **BLACK.**—4 MTHS.: 1, 3 Armes; 2 Radeaglia. **A.O.C.** 4 MTHS.: 1 Carr; 2 Castleman Brown. **BLACK.**—4-8 MTHS.: 1 Radeaglia; 2, 3 Elward. **A.O.C.** 1 Elward; 2 Castleman Brown; 3 Blandford. **A.O.V.** 1 Castleman Brown, Peruvian; 2 Wright, Abyssinian; 3 French Abyssinian. 5 MTHS.: 1 Castleman Brown, Peruvian; 2 Wright, Abyssinian. **A.V.** 4-8 MTHS.: 1 Wright. **CLUB FUNDS:** 1 Radeaglia; 2, 3 Wright. **BREEDERS, A.V.:** 1, 2 Castleman Brown. 4-8 MTHS.: 1 Radeaglia; 2 Wright; 3 Elward 5 MTHS.: 1 Carr; 2 Armes; 3 Elward. **CHALL. SELF:** 1 Radeaglia; 2 Blandford; 3 Perrin. **BAR SELF:** 1 Castleman Brown; 2 Wright; 3 French. 4-8 MTHS.: 1 Radeaglia; 2 Wright; 3 Elward, 5 MTHS.: 1 Elward; 2 Carr; 3 Castleman Brown. **GRAND CHALL.:** 1 Castleman Brown; 2 Radeaglia; 3 Perrin. **SPORTS-MAN'S CLASS:** 1 Blandford; 2 Wright; 3 Armes.—Miss RADEGLIA, Hon. Sec.

Worcester City F.F. will hold shows on May 17th, July 5th, Aug. 9th, Oct. 4th and Nov. 8th.