

NATIONAL MOUSE CLUB NOTES AND NEWS

HOW A CHOCOLATE FOX MOUSE HAS BEEN PRODUCED

By R. WARD, 57, Chantry Road, Sheffield 8.

AT the time of writing the weather is back to normal, which is to say, more like Iceland than anything. Up to now my stock has come through very well but I am afraid some fanciers have had losses. A letter from Mrs. Blowers, raises an unusual point in this connection, and I should be interested to know if other fanciers have had similar experiences. Mrs. Blowers says: "I keep my mice in the old mill attached to the farm house and, in spite of stacks of hay surrounding the boxes, to my regret I found every buck dead with the cold on Sunday afternoon. It is an amazing fact that no does were dead. Twenty boxes, each contained one buck and two does, and in every case the buck was dead."

From what I have learned from other fanciers the main trouble they have had has not been the cold so much as dampness due to condensation. This shows more clearly than anything the vital need for plenty of top ventilation in the boxes.

Mr. Stephen, Truro, has been well known for some time for his outstanding outcrosses with Fox mice. It was, therefore, with very great pleasure that I received an article from him. Here is it:

"I was a rabbit fancier until 1940 when, through lack of space I had to give up. Thinking I must have some sort of livestock, I bought a trio of black Fox—sephia Fox which had been called. Still they were just what I wanted—something that left plenty of room for improvement.

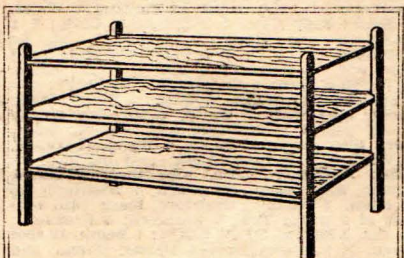
"By keeping the standard for Fox mice constantly in mind and always being extra critical of my own stock, every little fault stood out to me like a beacon and had to be corrected. If, by doing so, I have helped to improve the Fox mouse, I hope that in time to come I shall warrant being named the 'Cornish Expert'."

"To improve my Fox I bought a P.E.W. doe, that had bred black and tans when mated to a silver tan buck. I kept two does from a litter this doe had by my sephia Fox buck, much darker on top than their sire, of better type but with pied tails. These I mated to a son of the only buck I had. I produced some very dark Fox from these matings, but found that a tan demarcation line had crept in. As I didn't want to lose the dark top I discarded all bucks with this fault and only used the dark top does to my darkest top bucks and, by selection, have improved both top and sides and am still hoping to get nearer the ideal black Fox.

"I decided to take up Chinchillas and bought a trio. The colour was more like salmon agouti than Chinchilla and gave me an idea than I could produce some chocolate Fox from them and in my first cross-mating I had a chocolate Fox doe. This doe and a sephia Fox buck were the foundation of my strain of chocolate Fox.

"I consider there is still plenty of scope for improvement in black Fox, especially in top colour. Then perhaps, we can hope to do something to improve the feet and with the beautiful white ticking along the flanks and haunches we shall have something worth looking at—a study in black and white that will be sure to catch the judge's eye in the keenest of competition.

"Being almost a lone star in these parts as regards mice, I have been able to make an intense study of this favourite variety of mine. At times I have almost dreamed about Fox mice! Still the thrill of the red cards and specials coming home from the shows and the knowledge that I have been competing against the best in the land, hundreds of miles from home and under all judges have made it worth while."



MICE FOR THE BEGINNER

JACK WORMALD continues his article on "Mice for the Beginner" with a contribution this week on:

FEEDING AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Mice should be fed at least once each day, and the usual practice is to feed just after tea, or, early evenings. The exact time is not important, but always stick to the same time each day. If you vary the time, the young litters will suffer, and, as a consequence, a loss in size may well result. It is a good idea to give does with a litter just a little extra, say, in the morning, or midway between feeding times. A doe, beginning to feel the pangs of hunger, cannot be expected to feed and keep warm an ever hungry family.

Whole oats (if you can get any) are the staple food for mice. A teaspoonful of oats is about the daily ration. Careful observation at feeding time will enable you to decide whether to increase or decrease your food, for mice, like human beings, vary in appetite. In these days, many fanciers, through force of circumstance, are feeding dog biscuits, kitchen scraps, etc. The condition of mice at present-day shows are a credit to their patience and versatility. Place clean, dry hay, in the nest box and renew sawdust in the run at least once a week, twice, if you can manage it. Clipped paper and fine wood shavings are a good substitute for hay, there seems to be nothing as suitable as sawdust for the run.

I always leave much of the old hay in, if it is dry, for you will find that the mice usually make a cosy nest in the centre. You can lift out this centre "ball" and renew the hay round the outside. Do not pack the hay too tight, if you do you may cause sweating.

Remember, cleanliness and regular feeding are essential to success. Last week I dealt with housing. The rack pictured at the head of this column is very useful for keeping breeding boxes neatly arranged.

The period of gestation for mice is 21

days. When mating, let your buck run with two does and remove him between the 14th and 18th day. You can let the does have their young in the same nest if you wish, or if you want to keep a record of each individual mouse, then separate them when you remove the buck. Litters vary in size; up to twelve is not uncommon; a doe of mine once had fifteen, but even this has been exceeded. To maintain size, reduce your litters to about four, destroying two or three each day until you reach this figure.

After a bit of experience you will have no difficulty in defining the sexes at a few days old, and bucks can be destroyed first, that is, if you are not requiring many bucks. Rearing three does and one buck in each litter is a good system.

If you wish to build up a strain very quickly mate a trio of waster mice up at the same time as your best stock. When the waster does kindle, destroy their young and replace them with the surplus youngsters from your best litters.

One very successful fancier does not allow his best does to rear any young. A day or two after kindling the youngsters are transferred to foster does. His best doe is then fit for mating or the show bench, within a fortnight.

The strain of carrying and giving birth is not as great as the strain of rearing a litter.

OUTCROSSES

For the novice the safest outcross to improve his stock is to get a buck of the same variety that excels in the points he wishes to improve. More experienced fanciers have used the P.E. white (especially for improving type) with very gratifying results, but for the beginner it can be disastrous. Some outcrosses can be used however, and if results are carefully watched, no harm will be done. A good blue buck can improve a stud of blacks, both in colour and type. Mate the blue to a black doe, and if a black buck from this union appears in the litter, make it your stud buck. Do not use any blues from the litter. Sables can be darkened by using black and tan bucks, and made the richer by the use of red docs to sable bucks. Cinnamon, agouti, and red can be interbred with success, whilst many winning champagne and tans were sired by fawn bucks. In marked and tan varieties however, stick to the sound policy of a good buck of the same variety from another strain.

After employing an outcross watch the youngsters carefully. If there is no improvement try another one; if there is in too big a hurry.

You will find it all very interesting and part of your hobby. J. WORMALD.

Mr. Jack Watts asks me to remind fanciers of his new address, which is 118, Moston Lane East, New Morton, Manchester, 10.

Chadwell Heath Club is to hold a mouse section at its shows on the second Sunday of each month and would welcome any fancier who cares to bring stock along. The shows are held in the Scouts Hall, Cecil Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex, near the White Horse Inn. R. WARD.

NEW GENERATION OF CAT FANCIERS GET EXPERIENCE AT THE "NATIONAL"

BLUE NOTES

I WAS very pleased to see a number of the new generation of cat fanciers stewarding at the N.C.C. show. It is such a valuable experience as one handles so many fine cats and kittens and it is a wonderful opportunity to learn about all varieties.

Congratulations to Lady Eardley Wilmot on owning the first post-war champion Blue male, Southway Nicholas. He is a lovely cat and his quality is up to the pre-war high standard for Blues.

Congratulations also to Mrs. Brunton owner and breeder of the fine queen, Champion Dream of Dunesk, by Colneside Bright Angel, both these Blues own and are sired by cats with famous pre-war affixes and prefixes. Dream's kittens by Adrian of Pensford were a fine pair and an object lesson to novices of kittens shown in tip-top coat and condition, and their absolute soundness so indicative of perfect health from birth.

Mrs. Martin tells me that Southway Wizard, which was awarded eight firsts at Sandy ch. show, has been purchased by Miss Posthuma, of Haarlem, Holland. Wizard won the B.P.C.S. medal for best Blue kitten. His litter sister, Southway Winsome, has been purchased by Mme. Ravel, of Paris. Both these kittens and Oh, Southway Nicholas were sired by Dickon of Allington ex Southway Whiz.

I was sorry to hear from Miss Clarke of Stourport-on-Severn that, owing to her indisposition, she is obliged to part with Mokoia Tafete. He is going to Mesdames Broxton and Robinson, of Cirencester and, to quote Miss Clarke: "Tafete will have a splendid home and they are delighted to have him. I shall miss him very much, but I live a long way from the station and I find fetching and dispatching visiting queens too tiring at present. I am keeping my queens as they live in the house and are great pets."

During the war Mr. Thompson was Civilian Instructor to the R.A. for 2½ years and, during the time air-raids were so bad I also lived near Swindon. It was a pleasant motor run to Cirencester and Mr. and Mrs. Broxton were very hospitable to us; they invited us to several most enjoyable tea parties. They breed Blues, Chinchillas and Creams and I am glad to see them winning so well with their post-war Chinchillas. Mr. and Mrs. Harrington-Harvard have purchased Oxley's Tommy Lad from the late Miss Albrecht. This young male, which excels in eye colour, is very well bred being by the Playmate of the Court and full brother to Oxley's Peter John. Exhibited as a kitten at the first post-war ch. show at Nottingham, he was awarded the B.P.C.S. medal for best

Blue kitten, an honour he won competing against 34 Blue kittens.

I apologise to Mrs. Black; this lady owns the lovely orange-eyed White kitten, Princess Laska, by the Blue, Mokoia Tafeta, and not Mrs. Carbert as stated in my notes of January 17th.—Mrs. F. H. Thompson, 130, Wickham Way, Beckenham.

DUTCH CATS ATE TOADSTOOLS

"TOADSTOOLS and white worms, cooked and mashed, eels' heads and cods' skins"—that was the diet of Miss Posthuma's cats during the Huns' occupation of Holland! "There were a few hidden tins of 'Casol' which remained good, and if this catches the eye of Mr. Grimden of Casol, Ltd., he will be pleased to read it. The dustbins in the cellars contained some dried horsefish, and exhibitors helped each other secretly with hastily salted winkles which were desalted and minced and put with some mashed potatoes grown in the garden." Miss Posthuma continues: "I cannot tell how good these otherwise fastidious show cats were. They ate everything and were always purring and happy, though often hungry as we were, yet each year their coats grew shorter, and my studs were sterile as neuters. Now, their coats have grown, and happy litters are thriving at Acedenhout."

Of the German atrocities in her letter to me I will not speak, but Miss Posthuma has authorised me to pass her letter on if fanciers wish to read it for themselves.

Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Speirs' new address is Water Hythe, The Green, Hampton Court, Surrey.

Mrs. Woodbury writes: "Ch. Bihall may claim to be ancestor of all the Red Tabby Long-hair exhibits at the National Ch. Show on Jan 28th, as Miss Wriggison's Woodbury Amanda (3rd) and my own Woodbury Angela are grand-daughters of Wivelscombe Minniehaha, which is a daughter of Bihall, and Ch. Eastbury Rosar.

MRS. G. CAMPBELL-FRASER, Little Primrose, Godalming, Surrey.

LAST YEAR'S CHAMPIONS.

THE following cats became champions during the 1946-7 show season: Hendon Salata, Idmiston Champagne, Dandy of Hadley, Zy Azufe Ehandah, Gourmeside Cleome, Sweet Memory, Southway Nicholas, Widdington Warden, Felham Silver Girl, Lotus Mothers, Lotus Sugar Candy, Hendon Sir Roderic, Black Bet, Foxburrow Tillivill, Larchwood Lilac, Dream of Dunesk, Celeste of Hadley, F. H. THOMPSON, Sec., Gov. Oncl.

RULES OF THE BRITISH HAMSTER CLUB

AT the recent meeting in Leeds of the British Hamster Club it was agreed that the publication in *FUR AND FEATHER* of the club's rules should constitute ratification before their publication in the club's Year Book. Here they are:—

(1) **Title.**—The club shall be called "The British Hamster Club." Official abbreviation B.H.C.

(2) **Objects.**—The objects of the club shall be to promote and encourage the breeding and exhibiting of the Golden Hamster to a standard or standards defined by the club; to foster and safeguard the interests of the club and its members; and to publish a quarterly Bulletin and an annual Year Book.

(3) **Constitution.**—(a) The club shall be constituted of officers and an unlimited number of members. (b) The officers shall consist of a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and a council of ten elected ordinary members.

(4) **Membership.**—(a) Membership shall be open to all interested persons but not to commercial undertakings, such as pet shops. (b) Application for membership, accompanied by the subscription, shall be made to the secretary. (c) The annual subscription shall be five shillings, partners four shillings each, payable on Jan. 1st each year, with an additional charge of three shillings for the quarterly Bulletin if required. (d) Members joining on or after Nov. 1st shall be entitled to membership in respect of that subscription until Dec. 31st of the following year. (e) Any member whose subscription has not been paid by March 1st shall be deemed to have left the club and shall apply for reinstatement to the secretary. (f) Any member whose conduct shall be considered in any way detrimental to the interests of the club or the Fancy shall, after full investigation and explanation by the council, be suspended or dismissed from the club; the decision of the council in such matters shall be final and subject to no appeal at law. (g) Payment of the club subscription shall be regarded as the member's acknowledgment of and agreement with the rules of the club.

(5) **Management.**—(a) The business of the club shall be conducted by the council and administered through the secretary. (b) The council shall meet four times a year, at club shows, the A.G.M. to count as one meeting. In addition, the council shall hold any special meetings as may be desirable. (c) Five members of council shall form a quorum. (d) The secretary shall have the power of voting on all council matters, after such matters have been duly considered by the council; a two-thirds majority shall decide all council business, with the chairman's casting vote, if necessary. (e) Council meetings shall be convened by the secretary giving, where possible, twenty-one days' notice in writing. Any member of the council unable to attend must notify the secretary not less than ten days before the date of the meeting. (f) Where necessary, the business of the club may be conducted by circulars between council and the secretary, and any decisions arrived at in this way shall be binding and proper. (g) In the event of any dispute or query not covered by the existing rules, the decision of the council shall be binding and final.

(6) **Election of Officers.**—(a) An election for officers shall take place annually. (b) Nominations shall be made in writing to the secretary, not later than Sept. 30th, for president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and ten elected ordinary members of council. (c) Council representatives shall be drawn from three constituencies on the basis of three members for the North, three members for the Midlands, and four members for the South. The Northern constituency shall, in addition to Scotland and Northern Ireland, comprise the following counties: Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, Cheshire, Flintshire, Denbighshire, Merionethshire, Caernarvonshire, Anglesey and the Isle of Man, Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire. The Midland constituency shall comprise: Staffordshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Cardiganshire, Radnorshire, Montgomeryshire, Leicestershire, and Rutland. The Southern constituency shall comprise: Northamptonshire (including the Soke of Peterborough), Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire (including the Isle of Ely), Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, London, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire (including the Isle of Wight), Surrey, Sussex, Kent, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Somerset, Devonshire, Cornwall, Monmouthshire, Pembrokehire, Carmarthenshire, Brecknockshire, Glamorganshire. (d) Each nomination for any office shall be seconded and accompanied by a written declaration by the nominee that he or she agrees to serve if elected. (e) Eligibility for election to any office, including that of club judge, shall require the qualification of having been a member, breeder and exhibitor for a period of not less than twelve months, or have performed meritorious service otherwise in the interest of the Golden Hamster. (f) A list of nominations shall be sent to each member in the form of a ballot paper, which shall be completed and returned to the official scrutineer, appointed by the existing council, not later than Oct. 31st. (g) The result of the ballot shall be published in the Fancy Press, in the club Bulletin, and ratified at the A.G.M. when the elected personnel take office. (h) In the event of the number of nominations not exceeding the vacancy or number of vacancies, the candidate or candidates shall be automatically elected. (i) A member may be nominated for more than one office but may only be elected to one office, the office for which he or she receives the greatest number of votes. (j) The council shall have the authority to fill any vacancy or vacancies which may occur during its term of office.

(To be continued.)

BOOKS ON RABBITS

BELGIAN HARE, THE. By Ernest Wilkins, who has put his life-time experience of Hares into this book. 1/2 post free.

COMPLETE BOOK OF THE RABBIT. By F. G. Woodgate. Covers every phase of rabbit-keeping, with a chapter on every variety. 3/3 post free.

HOW TO KEEP RABBITS. By H. Dyson. 1/2 post free.

REX RABBITS. By F. G. Woodgate. Covers every variety of Rex, includes standards, management, feeding, breeding, pelting, etc. 3/3 post free.

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RABBITS' AILMENTS. By Dr. W. P. Blount, F.R.C.V.S. Its 27 Chapters and 39 illustrations cover practically all ailments of the rabbit and is simple to understand. 3/9 post free.

FUR AND FLESH PRODUCING RABBITS. By various authorities. Covers every Fur Variety; also general breeding information. Price 3/3 post free.

MICE FOR THE HOBBYIST. By J. Wood. 1/2 post free.

RABBIT KEEPING FOR SCHOOLS. By A. S. Howden. Price 1/2 post free.

PRACTICAL HANDBOOK ON THE SIAMESE CAT. By Eric Hart. Price 2/5 post free.

HOME DRESSING OF FURS. By E. O. R. Price 7d. post free.

RUTCH CARDS. See at a glance when each doe was mated, due to kindle, number of youngsters; transfers. 12 10d.; 25 1/6; 50 2/6; 100 4/9 post free.

SEND REMITTANCE TO:—"FUR AND FEATHER," IDLE, BRADFORD

CRITICAL REPORTS OF THE SHOWS

MANCHESTER NORTHERN COUNTIES HAVANA CLUB ADULT STOCK SHOW

The Northern Counties Havana Club's A.S.S. was held on January 18th. Mr. Applin and his co-workers staged a well organised show. The poor light made judging difficult.

Mr. Leslie Brook's Classes.
NORMAL AD. DOE (15): 1, spl., Smith (17067), won on levelness of colour, needs density; 2 Greenwood, grand, last year's B.I.S. going off now; 3 Lambie, beaten colour, nice type and coat; r Crawford (29233), beaten density; vhc Cuckson; hc Hodgson; c Summerscales. BUCK, 1946 (8): 1 Blatcher (2748), grand length of coat, nice colour and type, falls chest and under, white hairs; 2 Greenwood, nice all-round quality, very close; 3 Limb Bros, good type and coat, falls ears; r Wainwright (14863), beaten density, winner of novice cup; vhc Wheadon; hc Sloan; c Watson. REX B. (2): 1 Payton (22198), fairly good all-round; 2 Rast and Parrish, moderate. REX D. (8): 1, best Rex, Payton (13466), full coat, nice texture; 2 Lovell, beaten condition only; 3 Crawford, not the quality of first two; r Ware, vhc Payton; hc Marchant. BREEDERS (21): 1, cup, Smith (17067); 2, vhc Payton; 3 Greenwood; r Lovell; hc Crawford; c Limb Bros. CLUB PUND CLASS (23): 1, Smith; 2 vhc Payton; 3 Greenwood; r Lovell; hc Blatcher; c Crawford. CHALL. with E. Smith, (23): 1, vhc Smith; 2, c Greenwood; 3 Lovell; r Blatcher; hc Limb Bros. Mr. J. Knowles, called in as referee, gave his vote to Mr. Lambie's 1946 doe. The O.O. award according to B.R.C. ruling is withheld. LESLIE BROOK.

Mr. E. Smith's Classes
The Ferguson, Falmouth Society is to be congratulated on a well organised show. Unfortunately judging had to take place in artificial light and no one can judge Havanas under such conditions. The quality was very good indeed, particularly in the does. Breeders should constantly strive to get more coat without sacrificing colour.

AD. B. 8: 1 Blatcher (2748), lovely coat properties, good type; 2 Limb, again, excess in coat; 3 Greenwood, beaten, weaker under; vhc Wheadon. 46 DOE, 15: 1 Lambie (15440), very level exhibit; 2 Summerscales, more coat, beaten texture and colour; 3, vhc Reid, beaten colour; r Smith, when examined later when out in this class, when examined later would have been 2nd; pen 139 was found to carry 1945 ring. N.C. MEMBER: 1 Lovell, good coloured Rex; 2 Greenwood, falls armpits; 3 Summerscales; r Greenwood; vhc Wheadon. NOVICE EX: 1 Wainwright (14863), grand youngster, sound colour, wins density; 2 Greenwood; 3 Smith; r Hodgson; vhc Hardwick. REX, 1946 RING: 1 Lovell (454); 3 Rast; r Crawford. Best Normal, Lambie; best 4th, Wainwright.—E. SMITH.

LONDON AND SOUTHERN COUNTIES SILVER A.S.S.
The London and Southern Counties Silver Rabbit Society held its adult stock show on Jan. 5th. The entry was very good and judging was finished in good time. All stock was put on the railway at 5 p.m. The judges were J. O. Sturrow and G. W. Catterell. GREY B., AD. 1, 3 Streety; c Plinton; r Bower; vhc Collins; hc Jordon; c Houghton. DOE, 1, 2, 3 Streety; r Heurle; vhc Plinton; hc Collins; c Watson. B. OR D. 6 MTHS: 1 Pearce; 2 Gayton; 3 Streety; r Wood; vhc Heurle; hc Banfield; c Watson. CHALL.: 1, 2, 3, vhc Streety; r Pearce; hc Gayton; c Plinton. FAWN B., AD.: 1, 2, r Streety; 3 Donald; vhc Bower; hc Hawker; c Gayton. DOE: 1 Vickers; 2 Pearce; 3, r, c Streety; vhc Hawker; hc Davison. B. OR D. 6 MTHS: 1 Streety; 2 Penfold; 3 Collins; r Healy. CHALL.: 1, 3, r, hc Streety; 2 Vickers; r Pearce; vhc Collins; c Bower. BROWN B., AD.: 1, Davison; 2 Jordon; 3 Pearce; r Johnson. DOE: 1, 2, 3 Davison. CHALL.: 1, 2, 3 Davison; r Benwell; vhc Pearce; hc Johnson. BREEDERS, CHALL.: 1, 2, 3, r, c Streety; vhc Davison; hc Vickers. NOVICE: 1, 2 Pearce; 3 Gayton; r Donald; vhc Wood; hc Plinton; c Heurle. LADIES' CUP: 1, r Gayton; 2, vhc Collins; 3, c Houghton; hc Davison. NEW MEMBERS' CUP: 1, c Bower; 3 Donald; 3 Wood; r, hc Banfield; vhc Penfold. GRAND CHALL.: 1, 2, 3, vhc Streety; r Davison; hc Pearce. Best in show, Oliver Cup, Clara White Cup, Streety. Novices' Cup, Pearce. Ladies' Cup and Fletcher Cup, Mrs. Gayton. New Members' Cup, Bower.

NATIONAL SEAL AND SABLE-REX CLUB ADULT STOCK SHOW
It was a great pleasure to be back among the Rextes again and to renew acquaintance with many old friends. The show was admirably staged, the light was excellent and the considerable improvement in the density of the Sable-rex since I last handled them. Many good rabbits went down on moult. In Mr. Morgan's absence, due to illness, I undertook to sort the Seals out, and they gave me a heavy day. I thank my chief steward, Charlie Morgan, and a band of hard-working stewards who stayed to the bitter end.

SABLE-REX B. 13: Pen 437 absent; pens 433 and 439 wrong class. 1 Brett, 8008 best finish, excellent type, colour and density; 2 Baker, good colour, just loses density, unlucky; 3, r Milson good density, rich colour, spoilt abrupt sides; res good rich colour, trifle abrupt, sides; hc Smeth, good density, flat colour; hc Love, lovely coat, moulted head trifle self; c Sneed could be denser, lovely colour. DOE 17: Pens 448 and 449 absent; 1, 2 Milson 5465, N.A.R. just wins on general appearance; 2nd exists density and shading little to choose between 1st and 2nd; 3 Baker, very unlucky, trifle more patchy; r Sneed, good rich colour, excellent density, beaten condition; vhc hc Hyde, good colour and texture little heavy in tone, apt to blotch; hc same as the could be denser; c Stokes would be little richer good coat, trifle long in body. BUCK OR DOE 7: 1 Rast; 2, 3 c Milson; vhc Baker; hc Hyde. BUCK OR DOE 5 MTHS: 2, 1 Miln, denser coat, promising; 3 Sneed, better colour, thinner coat. SEAL BUCK ADULT, 7: 1 Morgan, good

density and finish; 2 Laurie, good density and type, just spoilt patches; 3 Baker, good density and type, spoilt finish; r Pringle, lacks density; vhc Knock, good density, coarse hairs on sides; hc Hyde, spoilt white hairs over back; pen 492 absent. DOE 14: 1 Hyde, exquisite density, type and finish, shown to the minute; 2 Waintrass, lose, general finish; 3 Kliff, lovely, loses thinness behind ears; r Baker, beautiful density and type, just loses finish; vhc Morgan, lovely type and texture, not quite so dense; hc Smith and Ladds, lacks density, not finished; c Pearce, trifle light for Seal, good texture.—JOYCE POTTER (Judge).

CALDER VALLEY MOUSE SHOW

Mr. Thomas Fitzwater's Classes
Calder Valley show, on Feb. 22nd, was held in a warm and pleasant room. The sec. Mr. Whitworth, had everything well in hand when my co-judge and I arrived, making it possible for an early start. I thank Messrs. Tunnicliffe and Farrar. In my section many Silver Tans were too dark and bordering on dove. Cham-Tans are still a shade dark and have lost the type which was so prominent a while back. Chinchillas have a long way to go yet; too many have dark tops, shading lighter down the flanks, and lack evenness of colour and ticking. CHAM. SIL. OR DOVE TAN, AD. 15: 1 Dawson, Cham, good tan, correct top down to feet; 2 Heighton, Dove, good eye, colour and feet, beaten condition; 3 Tunnicliffe, Sil., failed condition, shade dark; r Fern End, Cham., falls tans, too dark on top. CHAM. SIL. OR DOVE TAN, 8 WKS.: 6: 1 Busby, Sil., grand young buck, hard to fault; 2, 3 Grindell, Sil., good top, falls tan; r Johnson, up to age, shade dark. TAN, A.O.C. 12: 1, r Fern End, Choc., excels top; falls a little dark and feet, best of moderate lot; 2, 3 Farrar, falls top and feet, black; all looked weedy and out of condition.

3 WKS.: 12: 1 Epley, bkls., best top and tan, little weak on tail; 2 Watts, blk., falls tan, condition; 3 Busby, choc., falls tan, all chocs. are losing tan, though top colour still good. DUTCH A.A. 6: 1 Garnett, blk., easily best of bunch; 2 Espley, falls under, cheeks and stops; 3 Johnson, baby blk., nice, white ear put it back. EVEN BROKEN OR VAR. A.O.C. 8: 1, 2 Booth, winner 9-spot Even, still doing its stuff, followed by grand Broken, if better condition might have led Even; 3 A. Smith, nice, deserved position to the above cracks; r Johnson, nice, just failed on placings. CHIN. AD. 6: 1, 2 Johnson, not good, leader, wins on evenness of ticking; 3 Whitworth, falls under- and top colour. A.O.V., AD.: 19: 1, 3 Tunnicliffe, Sil. Greys, even ticking, colour good top and under; 2 Heighton, Fox, good under and ticking, falls feet; r Pimble, Cinn., bright top, falls little ticking, good feet. 8 WKS.: 1 Tunnicliffe, Sil. Grey, light shade, good all round, no smut on nose; 2, 3 Heighton, both Foxes, nice, not much between, one shade better under; r Johnson, Sil. Grey, falls nose. BUCK, 8 WKS.: 16: 1 Coles, grand baby blk., a nigger to his toes; 2 Kin, good, just failed on feet; 3 Grindell, nice Sil. Tan, up against it; r Tunnicliffe, cream very nice, correct shade. CHIN. AD. 8 WKS.: 1 Coles; 2 Kin; 3 Farrar; r Johnson. CUP CLASS: H. Booth, N.M.C. Specials.—Best Self, F. W. Coles; best Tan, J. Busby; best Marked, H. Booth; best A.O.V., C. H. Johnson.—THOMAS FITZWATER.

Mr. E. Skinner's Classes
Under present conditions 369 entries must be considered good. Tom Fitzwater and myself arrived at the show-room after a nine hours' journey. Stock was fed and on its homeward journey by 6 p.m. BLACK, AD.: 1 Johnson, buck, grand type and colour; 2 Coles, equal except tail; 3 Crawford, very nice, slightly tan vent. 8 WKS.: 14: 1, 3 Coles, outstanding baby, wins best Self, front to toe-nails; 2 Kin, beaten fall set-on and front toe-nails. WHITE, AD. 15: 1, 2 Appleyard and Downs, both outstanding exhibits stood out for colour; 3 Farrar, beaten colour, all there for type. 8 WKS.: 15: 1 Farrar, grand baby, won on colour; 2, 3 Fletcher, all there for type, beaten colour. CHAM. FAWN OR CREAM, AD.: 1 Tunnicliffe, Cream, grand colour, top and under, bold eye; 2 Dawson, Fawn, good colour, beaten boldness of eye; 3 Appleyard and Downs, Cham., best of my chams., but still a little dark. 8 WKS.: 13: 1 Johnson, Fawn, won on evenness of colour top and under, a shade too light or would have been out for best Self; 2, 3 Tunnicliffe, two grand baby Creams, good colour, beaten type. SILVER A.O.C., AD.: 11: 1, 3 Erstwell, Silver, the usual stamp from this noted stud; 3rd Blue, beaten feet; 2 Brown, grand even colour, falls ears. 8 WKS.: 3: Poor class; 1 Crawford, Choc., could be a little darker; 2 Gilpin and Russell, Silver, failed type; 3 Hurst, Choc., too light. STUD B., AD. 20: 1 Booth, the noted Even, looking as fit as ever; 2 Johnson, Chin., best seen for a long time for colour, a long way to go for the Starkie type; 3 Heighton, black Fox, good colour, grand guard-hairs. CHALL. AD. 46: 1, 2 Booth, Even, followed by 12-spot Broken; 3 Johnson, Chin. buck.—E. SKINNER.

MICE AT DONCASTER
Doncaster show, on Jan. 11th, was well organised, in a splendid hall, with plenty of room for everyone, including the many visitors. The only trouble was the light. Mr. Bashford is to be congratulated on the efficient way in which he carried out his duties. I thank my stewards, Mr. W. Crawford and G. Middleton and Son, who made my task an easy one.

CREAM A.A. 1, hc Tunnicliffe, nice doe, lovely top and under, wins on type; 2 r Watts, buck, very nice, close; 3 Gates, buck, shade rough; vhc Taylor. B. OR B. TAN, AD.: 1, 2 Crawford, two grand mice, little to choose, stood out for tan; 3 Watts, 3rd blue, very nice, but up against it here; r Espley; vhc Dobson; hc c Walker. TAN, A.O.C.: 1, 2, 3 Skinner, grand team, leader shade smaller, but wins on tan, all silvers; r Ford; vhc Skinner; hc Watts; c Grindell. 8 WKS.: 1 Heighton, grand, lovely tan; 2, 3, r Skinner, two more beauties, just beaten on 'ad. hc Busby; hc Grindell. DUTCH A.A.: 3 Middleton, nicely balanced baby, slight pull on one cheek, very pretty; 3rd another black baby, not so good; 2 Phillips, very nice and unusual sable Dutch; r, hc Brindie, old champion, showing signs of wear; vhc Swan; c Walker. EVEN, BROKEN OR VARIATED, A.A.: 1 Booth, well-known winner, a

beauty; 2, r Welsh, cinnamon Variegated, very pleasing; 3 Coles, 9-spot, shade even at root of tail and more spot; vhc c Dawson; hc Grindell. CHIN. OR FOX., AD.: 1, 2 Stephens, Bl. Fox, lovely condition and type; 2nd Choc. Fox, very close; 3, r Heighton, Chin., pity to meet winners; hc Welsh; hc Fletcher; c Watts. 8 WKS.: Poor class; 1, 3 Heighton, Chin.; 2, c Bashford and Bratley; r Hurst; vhc, hc Stephens. A.O.V.: 1, 2, 3 Preston, Agouti, good type and condition; 2nd and 3rd Cinnamons, two grand mice; a fine team; r, c Busby; vhc Tunnicliffe; hc Watts. 8 WKS.: 1 Busby, Silver Grey, easy win; 2 Watts, Cinnamon, hardly ready yet; 3, r Bashford and Bratley, Sable, very nice; vhc, hc Coles; c Hurst. NOVICE, A.V.: 1, vhc Hanson, black, real nigger, very nice; 2 Hurst, fawn, nice type; 3 Coles, cream, nice colour, bit rough; r Bashford; hc Hitchin. 8 WKS.: 1 Crawford, black Tan, winner of 8 weeks Tan; 2 Bashford; 3 Crawford; r, vhc c Swain. STUD BUCK: 1 Booth, 10-spot Even; 2, 3 Appleyard and Downs, Cham., and a beauty for size and type; 3rd P.E.W., a good one; r Stephens; vhc Ward; hc Coles; c Welsh. GRAND CHALL., AD.: 1 Booth, 10-spot Even; 2, r Appleyard and Downs, Cham.; 2 Stephens, Fox; vhc Coles; hc Welsh; c Tunnicliffe. 8 WKS.: 1 Coles, black, a beauty; 2 Middleton; 3 Crawford, Black-and-Tan; r, vhc c Appleyard and Downs; hc Heighton. Specials.—Best Self, Appleyard and Downs; best Tan, W. Crawford; best marked and best in show, H. Booth; best A.O.V., V. Stephens.—R. WARD.

"CHASER" SHOW REPORTS

ELLISTOWN AND BAGWORTH—Feb. 1st. Sec. Mr. H. Winters. Judge, Mr. H. L. Dner. Entries: 89. "Fur and Feather," "Chaser" winners: Fancy (and best in show), STANTON'S Blue Dutch (2820). Fur, JOHNSON'S Blue Fox (30391). Awards—Members' Fancy Cup: 1 Stanton; 2, 3 Bateman and Rowbotham. Members' Fur Cup: 1 Johnson; 2, 3 Cato. Belgian: 1 Harvey; 2, 3 Meggy. Dutch: 1 Stanton; 2 Bateman and Rowbotham; 3 Summers, Dutch u/4 months; 1, 2 Miles; 3 Harris. English: 1, 2 Bateman and Rowbotham; 3 Black. Silver: 1 Rowbotham; 2 Cass; 3 Shaw. A.V. Fur: 1 Johnson; 2 Burton; 3 Green. Novice Ex.: 1 Hardy; 2 Bateman and Rowbotham; 3 Green. Breeders: 1 Harvey; 2 Cass; 3 Dickinson. Chalk: 1 Stanton; 2 Bateman and Rowbotham; 3 Johnson.

HOME COUNTIES FOX—Feb. 3rd. Sec. Harry Starkey writes: "As this was the first show of the year, no young classes were put on, and although Tommy Bareham was judging, only 35 entries were received. The quality of the stock, however, was exceptionally good and Fred Ahrens again won the 'Chaser,' Home Counties Diploma, and Monthly Cup. Dick Vaughan very kindly dealt with the entries in my absence and Joe Mounter has offered prizes for a Novices' competition at the next show." "Chaser" winner was Fur (and best in show), F. AHREN'S Fox (30117). Awards—Black: 1 Ahrens; 2 Gibbs; 3 Black. Blue: 1 Oxborough; 2 Ottaway. Breeders: 1 Ahrens; 2 Oxborough; 3 Gibbs. A.C. 6/mths: 1 Prior; 2 Terrington. Novice Ex.: 1 Ahrens; 2 Oxborough; 3 Prior. G.C.B.: 1 Ahrens; 2 Gibbs; 3 Black. Doe: 1 Oxborough; 2 Terrington; 3 Ottaway. Cup Fund: 1 Ahrens; 2 Oxborough; 3 Gibbs. Grand Chall.: 1 Ahrens; 2 Oxborough; 3 Gibbs.

EAST WILLESDEN

—Feb. 8th. Sec. Mr. Hunt. This East Willesden's first show, was very successful. Six new members joined the club. Members were generous with their help and support. Judges: Mr. G. Atkins and Mr. E. Stepto. Entries: 151. "Chaser" winners were FANCY WARNER'S Polish (4180); Fur, BEACH'S Beveren (4412). Awards—Polish: A.A.: 1, 3 Warner; 2 Higgins. Dutch B. or B. Ad.: 1, 2 May. A.O.C.: 1 Crowther; 2 Glennie. U/4 mths.: 1 May. Tan B. or B. Ad.: Higgins. Stud B., A.V. Fancy: 1 Crowther; 2 Glennie; 3 Warner. Breeders' Fancy: 1 Crowther; 2 May; 3 Higgins. Fancy Chalk: 1 Warner; 2 Crowther; 3 r May, vhc Glennie; hc Higgins; c Warner. Fancy Chall. u/5 mths.: 1 May, Sable—Dark Ad.: 1 Hoare; 2 Baines, L. or M.; 1 Hoare. Stames.—Ad.: 1 Riddick, U/4 mths.; 1 Vyner; 2 Baker. Chin. Ad.: 1 Bray, Beveren Ad.; 1 Beach, Fox Ad.; 1, 2 Jones. A.O.V. Nor Fur: 1 Tepp, U/4 wks.; 1, 2 Baker. Stud Buck, A.V. Fur: 1 Beach; 2 Tapp; 3 Gentie; r Hoare; vhc Hutchinson. Breeders Nor Fur: 1 Beach; 2 Bray; 3 Jones; r Baker. Chall Nor Fur: 1 Tapp; 2 Jones; 3 Bray; r Baker; vhc Baines. Rex.—Ermine Ad.: 1 Croft; 2 Sparrow. Havana Ad.: 1, 2 Smith. A.O.C.: 1 Hoard; 2 Robinson; 3 Hutchinson; r hc Hope; vhc Gentie; Breeder's: 1 Hoard; 2 Croft; 3 Smith; r Hutchinson; vhc hc Hope; Chalk: 1 Hoard; 2 Croft; 3 Robinson; r Smith; vhc Hutchinson; hc Gentie; c Sparrow. Ladies, Chall. A.V. A.A.: 1 Hoard; 2 Croft; 3 May; r Smith; vhc Baker. Novice Ex.: 1 Baker. Cup Class: 1 Tapp; 2 Hoard; 3 Croft; r Vyner; vhc Smith; hc Hoare; c Higgins. Members' Fancy Cup: 1, 2, 3 May; r vhc Higgins. Fur Cup: 1 Tapp; 2 r Hoare; 3 Hope; vhc Hutchinson. Points Cup: 1 Riddick; 2 Croft; 3 Vyner; r Gentie; vhc Hoare; hc Hope. Cross Bred Domestic Cup: 1 Hoare; 2 Hope; 3 Baines. Juv. Cup: 1 Vyner; 2 May; 3, r Jones; vhc Baines; hc Riddick. Grand Chall.: 1 Tapp; 2 Hoard; 3 Warner; r Croft; vhc Smith; hc Jones; c Hoare.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET

—Feb. 8th. Sec. C. Dunn. Mr. Jackson, of Conisborough, was unable to judge the Fur classes as he was snowbound and was only just recovering from a recent operation, so at short notice Mr. E. Horn of Castleford, took his place. Judges: W. Atack and E. Horn. Entries: 79. "Chaser" winners were FANCY PALMER'S Dutch (2820); Fur, APPLEYARD'S Chinchilla (2822). Awards—Dutch. B. or B.: 1 Taylor; 2 Pezz; 3 Thompson. A.O.C.: 1 Palmer; 2 Nicholson; 3 Walker. U/4 mths.: 1 Rowley; 2 Anderson; 3 Wardell. Eng. B. or B.: 1 Trickett; 2 Harrison; 3 Grace and Bridland. A.O.C.: 1 Mason; 2 Cankill. Bel.: 1 Kennine; 2 Reynolds; 3 Cankill. Tan: 1 Riddick; 2 Sanderson; 3 Anderson. A.V. Fancy: 1 Palmer; 2 Ramsden; 3 Riddick. Breeders: 1 Palmer; 2 Riddick; 3 Kennine. Members: 1 Rast; 2 Croft; 3 Palmer; 2 Ramsden; 3 Riddick. Rev.: 1 Sawyer; 2 Pikey. Chin.: 1 Appleyard; 2 Kitchen; 3 Usher. Sable, Dark: 1 Whitaker; 2 Heathcote; 3 Riley. Light or Med.: 1 Appleyard; 2 Brown; 3 Heathcote. Chall.: 1 Appleyard; 2 Whitaker;

3 Brown. Rex: 1 Gledhill; 2 Dunn and Bestwick; 3 Garbett and Beardmore. Fox, Black: 1 Astbury; 2 Timm. A.O.C.: 1 Acre Stud. A.V. Fur: 1 Appleyard; 2 Astbury; 3 Gledhill. Breeders': 1 Astbury; 2 Gledhill; 3 Whitaker. Members': 1 Appleyard; 2 Astbury; 3 Whitaker. Chall.: 1 Appleyard; 2 Gledhill; 3 Whitaker. Grand Chall.: 1 Palmer; 2 Ramsden; 3 Riddick.

KINGSBURY—Feb. 9th. Sec. Mr. J. W. Rundle writes that exhibitors at this show had to brave a snowstorm and a 9 in. layer of snow. Judge: Capt. H. F. Smith. Entries: 52. "Chaser" winner was Fur (and best in show), FINCH'S Blue Beveren (3698). Awards.—Bov. Ad.: 1 Finch; 2 Way; 3 Beach. Sable: 1 Rundle; 2, 3 Ashford. A.O.V. Nor Fur: 1 Streeter; 2 Toms. Nor Fur Breeders': 1 Finch; 2 Rundle; 3 Streeter. Chall.: 1 Finch; 2 Way; 3 Rundle. Rex A.O.C.: 1 Croft; 2 Robinson; 3 Brown. Rex Breeders': 1 Croft; 2 Robinson; 3 Brown. Chall. Ad.: 1 Croft; 2 Brown. Stud B.: 1 Croft; 2 Rundle; 3 Toms. Doe: 1 Finch; 2 Way; 3 Robinson. Grand Chall.: 1 Finch; 2 Croft; 3 Way; r Robinson; vhc Rundle; hc Toms; c Streeter.

At this time of the year "Fur and Feather" tries to devote more space than is possible at other times to reports of the more local shows. Two weeks of enforced non-publication compel us to give the following very brief results of many recent events. We hope to give bigger reports of all "Fur and Feather" "Chaser" shows in the near future. The co-operation of show secretaries toward this end will be appreciated.

FEBRUARY 1st
Morley: 230 entries. Fancy, R. Smith's English; Fur (and best in show), L. Smith's Seal-rex. East Hants, and Wey Valley: 169 entries. Fur (and best in show) G. K. Stud's Fox-rex 1447. Worth Valley: 115 entries. Fancy, Middleton's Belgian; 3 Toms; 2 Fur. Holmes and Son's Sable-rex 3160. Preston: 253 entries. Fancy, Snelam 30201; Fur (and best in show), Parsons 3268. Leeds City: 362 entries. Fancy, Machin; Fur (and best in show), Brett 6008. Batley: 115 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Rothery's Belgian; 9272; Fur, Beevers' Sable 36351. Northolt Park: 155 entries. Fancy, Hall's Polish 240; Fur (and best in show), Hoard's Rex 3977. Ruston: 131 entries. Fancy, Harrison's Dutch 11322; Fur (and best in show), Limb Brothers' Havana, 28373. Harrow. Fancy, Auckland's Polish 790; Fur, Woolf's Chinchilla 5560. Loughborough: 355 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Vickers' Dutch 2767; Fur, Gregory's Beveren 5752. Accrington: 110 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Grimshaw's Dutch 9110; Fur, Travis's Chinchilla 31228. Huddersfield: 176 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Gotthard's Silver Grey 3846; Fur, Kilner's Ermine-rex; best cavy, Barnes. Farnham: 490 entries. Fancy, Willet, Ermine (and best in show), Lister Chinchilla 25677. Stockport: 574 entries. Fancy, Alexander 14474; Fur (and best in show), Morgan 11208. Ashby-de-la-Zouch: 133 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Norton's Dutch 6888; Fur, Smith's Ermine-rex 2345. Rossendale Valley: 151 entries. Fancy, Himalayan 14915; Fur (and best in show), Chinchilla 32214. Stroud: 83 entries. Fancy, Howard 517; Fur (and best in show), Newman's Ermine-rex 10950; best cavy, Field. Otley: 65 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Delderfield's English 12935; Fur, Smeets' Chinchilla 25538. Tiverton: 80 entries. Fancy, Marie 14808; Fur (and best in show), Dunn 3147. S.W. Herts.: 140 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Sears' Dutch 9301; Fur, Bean's Opal-rex 8826.

FEBRUARY 2nd
South Leeds: 87 entries. Fancy, Carter's English 21040; Fur (and best in show), Grace's Sable 3227. Mill Hill: 57 entries. Fancy, Light 8774; Fur (and best in show), Fancy 3698. Eate and Cheshunt: 411 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Mealing's Tan 5384; Fur, Disney's Beveren, 6922. Leatherhead: 83 entries. Fancy, Denkan's Polish 374; Fur, Goldsmith's Ermine-rex 13992. Stockton: 195 entries. Fancy, Tolley's English, 67720; Fur, Bromley's Havana 30872. Beveren Club (Southern Section): 47 entries. Fur (and best in show), Garrett's Brown Beveren 979. Histon: 467 entries. Fancy, Alexander; Fur (and best in show), Blue Tan 11597. Middlesex S.W.: 174 entries. Fancy, Farley's Tan 13149; Fur (and best in show), Baker's Seal-rex 6215.

FEBRUARY 5th
Hackney: 43 entries. Fancy, Shorter 553; Fur, Nielson 6725. Donnington: 170 entries. Fancy, Clipham Bros. Polish 1245; Fur, Gas-side and Seal-life's Fox 25391. Queensbury: 187 entries. Fancy, Wheeler's Dutch; Fur (and best in show), Eggman's Ermine-rex 8920.

FEBRUARY 7th
Shoreditch: 63 entries. Fancy, Wheeler's Dutch 4240; Fur (and best in show), Hoard's Seal-rex 3977.

FEBRUARY 8th
Watford: 112 entries. Fancy, Hurrell's English 14277; Fur (and best in show), How's Havana 27621; best cavy, Stewart; best mouse, Home and Bunker. Erith and Belvedere: 115 entries. Fancy, Philpot's English; Fur (and best in show), Baker's Ermine. Beds. and Herts. Rex: 80 entries. Fur (and best in show), Hull and Leggetter's Castor 3799. Overseal: 124 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Norton's Dutch 6681; Fur, Johnson's Blue Fox 30390. Perthshire: 150 entries. Fancy, Grievie's Dutch; Fur (and best in show), How's Ermine-rex; best cavy, Dow; best mouse, Dawson. Beckenham: 85 entries. Fancy, Lettington's Dutch 10336; Fur (and best in show), Harrison's Argentine 14913. Enderby: 206 entries. Fancy, Garner's Polish 305; Fur (and best in show), Organ's Ermine-rex 1054. Blingley: 145 entries. Fancy, Midleton's Belgian; 5723; Fur, Carter's Sable 26196; best cavy, Yates and Waterhouse. Morley: 63 entries. Fancy (and best in show), Dixon's Silver Grey 1091; Fur, Bratton's Silver Fox 30937; best cavy, Perkins' Silver 1735; Fur, Platts' Havana 22614. Wakefield: 348 entries. Fancy, Birch's Tan 8014; Fur (and best in show), Kilner's Rex 975. Barking: 125 entries. Fancy, Wheeler's Dutch 4240; Fur (and best in show), Talbot's Blue Beveren 1133. Ilkeston: 500 entries. Fancy, Stephenson 238; Fur, Parkin 3459. Clitheroe: 44 entries. Fancy, Briscoe's Dutch 12659; Fur (and best in show), Sharple's Chinchilla 23948. Surrey Rex Club: Fur (and best in show), Baker's Seal-rex 6215.