

JUVENILE JOTTINGS — Conducted by Pat Kilby

MIDLAND JUNIORS DEMAND A PLACE IN THE NEWS

IN answer to my request for news last week, I have had an angry crowd of juveniles—and adults—demanding, "Who said that nothing happens in the Midlands?" So here is your report coming up!

Thirteen-year-old Robin Hancock, Birmingham, has certainly hit the high spots with his Himalayan Rex. He started breeding in 1950 with a doe which won a third at the National Himalayan adult stock show, and which also won the juvenile cup. His doe had a litter of four, which have won nine Challenge Certificates between them to date. His wins include commended at the Himalayan young stock show, first, C.C. at Handsworth Park open show, first and second at the Midrex A.S.S., two h.c.s at the Himalayan adult stock show, and first and second juvenile. He won the juvenile cup for the third year running. His doe won two firsts at Havering's Midrex show this year, which made 52 red cards in 18 months. He is also the juvenile representative for the Birmingham Fur Fanciers. If any juvenile club in the Midlands has a show on, Robin, who lives at 15, Cranes Park Road, Sheldon, Birmingham, 26, will be pleased to receive schedules.

John Netherway reports . . .
At Stourbridge show on 1 March, a juvenile show was staged, and judged by Mr. J. W. Jones. Results were: 1st John Farmer's Dutch; 2nd A. Latham's Blue Rex; 3rd C. Field's Silver Fox.

The Worcestershire Rabbit Breeders' Society held its first show since reorganisation and a juvenile class was scheduled, to be judged on condition only. It produced a wonderful entry of 18. The judge, Mr. E. Wankin, was very pleased with the quality of the exhibits and found it so hard to eliminate 11 rabbits that he awarded an extra res., viz. h.c. The winner was Brenda

Palmer's Normal Havana. Second was C. Fairbrother's Lilac Rex, and Miss P. Jones' English was third. Reserve went to David Martin's Ermine Rex, a real beauty which won best in show and the Rex cup in the adult classes. (Compiled by John Netherway, "Northlew," Bilford Road, Worcester.)

Staffordshire News by Harry Coldough . . .
At Stafford show on 8 March, Mr. Hammond and Mr. Meakins judged the juvenile exhibits. The entries were unusually poor. Buck up, Staffordshire fanciers! Best Fancy and best in show was awarded to a beautiful English owned by Rita Bourne, Sandbach, Cheshire. This was closely followed by a magnificent Ermine exhibited by Ron Hawksworth. The best Fur exhibit was a Siberian owned by Roy Emery, Stafford, and best rabbit for condition was Ron Hulme's Dutch. All these rabbits were certainly a credit to their owners, and I wish them all the best of luck in the future. As I said before, the total of entries was very low, so come on juniors, send your best rabbit to our open show which will be held in June. Stafford is ideal for rail entries, as we have a very efficient rail service. Please send for details to me, Harry Coldough, 23, Brookwood Drive, Meir, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

Stop Press!
Mr. J. Eddlestone, 29, Park Mead, South Harrow, Middlesex, has for disposal an 18 months old Smoke Pearl Marten doe. This exhibit has won at open shows, but is also excellent for breeding and can be mated. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your application, and if you are the lucky one you are required to pay the carriage on the box for rail fare. If you live in the London area, why not go round and see him?—PAT KILBY, Elmwood, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford, Essex.

AROUND THE CAVY CLUBS

THE result of the National Cavy Club's ballot for 1952 is: President, J. M. Sharpe 51, W. Pipe 36, R. J. Metcalfe 18. Vice-presidents (2), G. R. Lodge 65, W. Pipe 41, S. W. Elkington 49, R. J. Metcalfe 24, G. W. Mallinson 8, J. Jenkinson 21, Committee (North—6), W. Pipe 61e, E. J. Brooke 53e, A. Robinson 42e, S. Kent 37e, A. Asquith 37e, Mrs. Mather 37e, J. Dutton 33, R. J. Metcalfe 31, G. W. Mallinson 29, C. Naylor 28, T. Crabtree 28, J. Appleby 27, J. Jenkinson 26, H. Waterhouse 25, W. T. Dinning 22, R. P. Woods 17, R. Tetlow 15, (Midland section—3), N. H. Stennett 63e, F. Lark 55e, F. Overton 53e, A. Gilbert 46, A. Bishop 36, T. Robinson 27, (Southern section—3), Miss Radeglia 80e, J. M. Trevel 60e, A. Hartley 59e, H. Trigger 54, J. A. Armes 20. Sec. and treasurer, H. Craven (unopposed).

Who's Who In The "National"

Club Judges—North (12): H. Craven 79e, G. R. Lodge 77e, W. Pipe 73e, E. J. Brooke 58e, S. Kent 52e, J. Jenkinson 46e, A. Robinson 46e, J. Dutton 45e, R. Tetlow 43e, Mrs. E. Mather 42e, C. Naylor 41e, N. Orange 40e, B. Turner 36, C. Smith 36, H. Waterhouse 34, W. T. Dinning 32, G. W. Mallinson 31, R. P. Woods 31, J. Appleby 30, J. Crabtree 29, R. J. Graham 26, G. E. Murgatroyd 19, Midland section: F. Overton, S. W. Elkington, F. Lark, N. H. Stennett, T. Robinson, A. Gilbert (unopposed). Southern section (6 required): Miss J. Radeglia 80e, H. Trigger 70e, Miss Castleman-Brown 66e, A. Hartley 64e, J. M. Trevel 63e, A. H. Brazil 58e, J. W. Hustler 52, J. A. Armes 45. Investigation committees (all unopposed). Peruvians: A. Bainbridge, J. W. Jackman, Miss Castleman-Brown. Smooths: Miss J. Radeglia, G. R. Lodge, S. W. Elkington. Abyssinians: E. J. Brooke, N. H. Stennett, A. Bishop. Auditor, G. R. Lodge. Scrutineer, H. Dyson. Number of papers returned 105.—H. Dyson.

24e, N. H. Stennett 23. Committee (4): E. Beverley 34e, S. Taylor 34e, A. Gilbert 29e, H. J. Lawrence 22e, G. E. Skerratt 22e, E. J. Brooke 33e, E. Beverley 32e, J. Pegler 32e, S. Taylor 30e, A. Gilbert 28e, N. H. Stennett 26e, H. J. Lawrence 23e, Miss Bartholomew 23e, J. Billings 20e, J. W. Hustler 16, G. E. Skerratt 16, G. R. Lodge 15, F. Hulme 14, J. A. Armes 12, F. Barnes 12, G. Wright 10, R. Farmer 4. Scrutineer: F. Overton 24e, Miss Radeglia 11. Auditor: G. E. Skerratt (unopposed). Hon. secretary and treasurer: J. Pegler (unopposed).

Forty papers were returned which is about 66 per cent. of the papers sent out. This, I think, proves that there is a great deal of interest shown by members in club affairs. It will be seen from the above results that the Southern Area has four judges and the North five. Two of these southern judges are in the middle of the country (the Midlands) so that all areas should be able to get judges who have the support of the members.

Our president, Mr. E. J. Brooke, has sent 10/- to the show guarantee fund and has offered a miniature cup for best youngster at the spring show, so trot out all those under four months and let's have a good show.

This show, by the way, will be held at Cleckheaton and not at Spenborough as stated previously. I think members will be in order to enter into the duplicate classes to compete with all varieties, so please enter and show that a good Abyssinian can hold its own against any variety.

I was pleased to see Mr. C. V. B. Taylor's article on Abyssinians in last week's *FUR AND FEATHER*, and to note that he endorsed all I had said about type and flat backs. This is very encouraging as Mr. Taylor has probably forgotten more about Abyssinians than most of us know.

Points shows to note:—5 April, Cleckheaton, E. Beverley (chall. cert.); 17 May, Otley, F. F. Rogers (rosette); 5 June, Chester, E. J. Brooke (rosette); 16 Aug., Blackpool (rosette).—J. Pegler, 17, Stansfield Road, Fallsworth, Manchester.

NATIONAL MOUSE CLUB NOTES AND NEWS

By C. H. JOHNSON, Hon. Sec., "Highfield," Driffield, Yorks.

Mouse Show Calendar

5 April Rotherham.
3 May Calder Valley.

SOME time ago, I received a letter from Mr. J. Patchett, Bingley, who suggested that a better name for Variegated mice would be "Roan." He put forward as a reason the dictionary term, viz.: "A coat in which the main colour is thickly interspersed with another, as in the horse, interspersed meaning to scatter."

I am not so sure that I agree with Mr. Patchett, for, when all is said and done, a roan horse is in an entirely different category to a Variegated mouse. Our older members will recollect how we changed the name of the Pawn mouse to "Orange," but it did not take on, and we had to revert to the old name, which emphasises once again the truth of the old adage that "a rose by any other name is still a rose." I have to admit that the comparison is hardly the same, but the fact remains that we get to know a thing by a name; the name sticks, and we find it difficult to adopt or accept a new one. Variegated to us is now a household word; judges know, or should know, what to look for, and personally—I think I speak for a lot of others—I would be sorry to see the name changed. From a subsequent letter received from Mr. Patchett, I am inclined to think he is of the same opinion, for he asks me to let the matter drop.

Of greater significance are Mr. Patchett's comments on Dove mice. He says: "With reference to Dove mice, I think that the main feature is the eye colour, which should not be pink, and yet, looking at the standard, only five points are allotted. If eye colour is the main feature, surely it is worthy of more than five points. I would, therefore, propose that the standard be altered to read, '40 points for colour and 15 points for the ruby eye,' instead of as at present, '50 points for colour and 5 for eye.' Don't you think it would be much better?"

I agree with Mr. Patchett, so much so that I propose to put the matter before the committee at Rotherham, on 19 April, at the time of the club's Spring Cup show. We can then let the committee decide the issue.

In my reply to Mr. Patchett, I pointed out that, although I was in agreement that eye colour in Dove mice is of paramount importance, I was not so sure we could get what might rightly be termed a pink eye. At times the eye may look pink, but, in my opinion, it is due to the light, and, upon closer inspection, the eye will be found to be light ruby. In other words, what we get are varying shades of ruby.

As proof that we do get pink-eyed Doves, Mr. Patchett quotes the following:

"When I was judging the stud buck class at Aire Dale, I came across a beautiful Dove buck, but I suspected a pink eye, and, therefore, asked my steward to get me a P.E. White in order to compare the two. The eye colour of both was pink. I must agree that

the room was the lightest I have ever seen for a show, with large windows on three sides, and a bright day, too. Tom Fitzwater said it made Blacks look like Chocolates."

I am not saying that Mr. Patchett is wrong, but the fact that the room was very light would seem to confirm my impression that the light does affect the eye colour, and that if the light had not been so strong the eye colour of the Dove buck he came across would have appeared different to that of the P.E. White.

The matter can now be left until we meet at Rotherham. Subject to the approval of the committee, and the time at our disposal, Mr. Patchett may be called upon to give his views.

The position of the Cash Points Competition up to and including the Calder Valley show, held 1 March, is: C. H. Johnson 78, Mr. and Mrs. Marriott 74, C. and R. Lockwood 72, A. Day 65, N. Gregory 53, R. W. Moore 51, T. Fitzwater 45, J. Watts 44, E. Higgs 42, P. Ashley 34, S. Dobson 30, R. Espley 30, C. Simpkins 27, E. Longbottom 26, G. Lumb 23, O. Cole and Son 20, A. Whitworth 20, T. Marsden 19, J. Hardman 17, L. Walker 17, W. Downs 13, E. Fletcher 12, T. Mellor 12, — Steele 12, Robinson and Hesketh 11, J. Foulds 10, S. Rawnsley 10, G. Low 10.

As will be observed, Mr. and Mrs. Marriott made a meritorious rise since the last list was published, and jumped from eighth to second place, while Mr. R. W. Moore jumped from 16th to sixth place. All the rest were fairly steady, although our Nottingham friends, Messrs. Higgs and Fitzwater, took a slide from third to seventh and fifth to ninth places respectively. When I next publish a list it will include Driffield and Fallsworth.

I have to make a special announcement in respect of a classic show, to be held on 7 April, at Dob Lane Schools, Oldham Road, Fallsworth, Manchester. The show will be promoted and fully guaranteed by Mr. Percy Ashley. There will no fewer than 52 classes, with numerous specials, and the judges will be Messrs. Wormald, Espley, Beard and Ward. This show can cost Mr. Ashley a lot of money. We must not let him down. Send every possible entry, and thus reciprocate the generosity of a fancier who has been working for the Mouse Fancy for almost the half-century. Entries this weekend, please.

Although subscriptions have come in fairly well this year, I am sorry to say that some are still outstanding, and I shall, therefore, be grateful if the members concerned will visit a post office and let me have a postal order without delay. As is known, the period of grace for payment of subscriptions expires on 30 March, and it would indeed be a sad day if I had to cross anyone off our books. Whether old members still have any mice or are unable to participate in our activities, perhaps they will be good enough to continue their membership in order to help us in our work.

Agouti Club

ALL members of the Agouti Cavy Club will have received ballot papers. I hope all will have returned them to the scrutineer, Mr. Harry Craven, before 31 March. I trust we shall have an 100 per cent vote.

I have already received three applications for championship certificates this year. They are from Mr. Tremer and Mr. Leak for their two golden sows and Mr. Eric Biddle, for his silver boar. May I please remind members that a win under a National Cavy Club judge counts towards an Agouti Club certificate. So this should be an incentive to those who suggested that area club judges should be allowed in Agouti Club rules. We are just approaching the show season so I hope all our members will enter well at shows at which Agouti classes are scheduled.

Will any members who have won club specials and who have not received them please let me know and I will forward them by return.

I have received an invitation from the South West and Durham Cavy Clubs for our members to join their specialist clubs, to help along their membership.

The Agouti Club's young stock show will be at Batley, in June. I would like to receive applications for the adult stock show from secretaries, somewhere about October or November.—G. R. Lodge, hon. sec., 50, Pontefract Road, Ferrybridge, Yorks.

Himalayan Cavy Club

THE demand for Himalayan cavies is still good, so will members of the Himalayan Cavy Club who have any stock for sale advertise it in *FUR AND FEATHER*?

Club support has been granted to the following shows: Otley, 17 May (Forman Cup, and spoon to commemorate win given by Mr. and Mrs. B. Wyborn); Wetherby, 3 June (Ferret Cup, and spoon); Cheshire, 4 and 5 June; Blackpool, 16 Aug. (spoon); Sandy, 28 Aug. (spoon).

It is hoped to hold the club's young stock show at Bingley.

The result of the points competition so far is: H. E. Hurrey 41, V. Jackson 28, J. R. Taylor 20, J. R. Inman 18.

We hope to see a good entry of the "Darkies" at the Yorkshire Cavy Club's show on 5 April. These shows deserve all support possible.

Mr. D. R. Critchley has given a spoon in each class at the above show. Would any fancier like to present a cup in memory of our old esteemed member friend, the late Charlie Reynolds?

Subscriptions for 1952 are now due (5/-).—Mrs. B. Wyborn, hon. sec. and treas., Gladwell, Marlpit Hill, Edenbridge, Kent.

Abyssinian Cavy Club

THE result of the recent Abyssinian Cavy Club election of officials for 1952 is: President, E. J. Brooke (unopposed); vice-presidents (2), E. Beverley 33e, Miss Bartholomew

Dutch Cavy Club

THE Dutch Cavy Club will offer a diploma for best Dutch at the Yorkshire Cavy Club show on 5 April. All awards will count in points competition. Mr. J. Jenkinson will place the awards.

Diploma for best Dutch, special for second best adult and special for second best u/4 months, all awards to count in the points competition, will be offered at Chester show on 5 June, when Mr. E. Brooke will judge.

I am still waiting for a reply from Mr. Howorth, Blackpool, regarding the club's show.

I hope to hold a meeting at Cleckheaton regarding the ballot. Four vice-presidents have obtained nine votes and only two are required.

Why not have a breeder's card (5/-) in the new D.C.C. Year Book. Half-page 10/-, full page £1.—Mrs. Mather, 184, Stretford Road, Urmston, Manchester.

Yorkshire Cavy Club

THE classification for the Yorkshire Cavy Club show at Cleckheaton, on 5 April, appeared in *FUR AND FEATHER* of 20 March. Almost all breeds have been catered for. The National Cavy Club has granted two diplomas, the English Self will offer a certificate of merit for best Self and the National Agouti Club two 2/6 specials. The National Himalayan Club will offer the Spalding Trophy with silver spoon to commemorate the win and the Dutch C.C. a diploma for best Dutch. All awards will count in points competitions. Certificates of merit will be offered the best adult and best young tort, and white by the National Tortoise and White C.C.

The Yorkshire Cavy Club will offer a rosette for best cavy in each of the four Y.C.C. members' classes. This is the first time these rosettes have been offered.

All the above specials are in addition to the cash specials which I have mentioned in my previous notes.

There are no schedules for this show so will members please enter from the advertisement in *FUR AND FEATHER*. Closing date for entries is Monday, 31 March (postmark). An addressed envelope with entries for rail labels will greatly help and will be much appreciated.

A hearty welcome is extended to Abyssinian C.C. members whose spring show will be held in conjunction with our show.

If any cavy fancier who is not a member of the Y.C.C. would like to join the club he may do so by forwarding 5/- membership fee. He will then be eligible to exhibit in the Y.C.C. members' classes at this show and membership will run until 30 June 1953.—C. Anderson, hon. sec. pro tem., 16, George Street, Cleckheaton, Yorks.