

HOW BABY HAMSTERS PUT ON WEIGHT



By G. R. DAVIES

found in Europe, Central Asia, Greece, Africa and Syria, the homeland of our Golden Hamster.

One most commonly kept is the ordinary European Hamster, which used to be very common in Germany and Switzerland, and is very much larger than the Golden Hamster. The European Hamster is an extremely savage animal and never becomes tame. Other species which have been kept in captivity are the Chinese Grey, a very small species, and the larger Chinese species.

Like most of the Hamster tribe the Golden Hamster is a burrowing animal and food is carried in well developed cheek pouches.

The first live Golden Hamsters were discovered near Aleppo, Syria, in April, 1930. A female Hamster and her litter of twelve were found in her burrow eight feet down in the ground. No wild Golden Hamsters have been caught or seen in Syria since.

What we breed from to-day are the progeny of that mother and her twelve babies. They are all related to each other, and from the information I have received they are bred by the thousands in America.

The Golden Hamster is a rodent. Fully grown it measures about six inches. It has a very short tail, black eyes and black markings on the skull and cheeks. The colour is best described as being reddish gold, the colour of a piece of toasted bread. The underside of the belly is dirty white. The undercolour of the fur is deep blue.

A fully grown Golden Hamster weighs from 4 to 6 ounces. The weights of a Hamster from the day it is born up to a month old were found on a photographic scale. One baby Hamster was taken out of the nest daily for the whole month. Mother Hamster did not seem to mind; in fact, she became used to it. It was most interesting to observe the difference one day made. It was a risky job; it was well worth the risk.

Just born, 20 grains; one day, 25 grains; two days, 30 grains; five days, 75 grains; 10 days, 175 grains; 16 days, 350 grains; 21 days, 535 grains; 28 days, 910 grains.

I will give the answers to some of the many questions I have been asked.

As far as we know the life span of the Hamster is 18 months, though some live longer. It may be that we may be able to evolve a strain that will have a longer span of life, but at present most Hamsters that are over 15 months old look very dilapidated.

The length of time which elapses from when a doe is mated to when it kindles is sixteen days; no more, no less.

When Hamsters are first born they look like tiny bits of pink flesh. They stay so for about three or four days and then they start to show their deep blue undercolour. They are born naked and blind and open their eyes before the twelfth and fourteenth day. Even before their eyes are open you will find them wandering round the nesting compartment wrestling with a bit of food the mother had carried in to them.

The young may be weaned at between eighteen and twenty-one days old. There is no cause for worry; if by some mishap or the other the mother is lost the young can look after themselves from when they are 14 days old and with a little extra attention they will all survive.

After weaning the does are given about two weeks' rest before they are mated again. The young mature at a very early age. A pair of baby Hamsters were taken away from the mother when they were a month old and put in a cage. They were together for a week and then the young buck was sold. In less than a fortnight the little doe kindled, so if possible it is safer to separate the sexes when they are weaned.

In this country young Hamsters are called kittens until they are two months old and after that they are called cubs up to three months old. Why they should be given such names has always puzzled me. The Americans call them young Hamsters. Adult Hamsters are called bucks and does.

According to present-day standard of perfection drawn out by the B.H.C. the correct coloration of the ideal Golden Hamster is rich golden. Two more shades, the light golden and the dark (agouti) are produced, and both shades are most useful in the breeding pen. Some day soon I hope they will be used on the exhibition table.

The dark shade should be highly pigmented with black. The cheek flash should be intensely black. The light shade should be

(Continued on page 221)

THE second anniversary of the first meeting of the British Hamster Club at Nottingham should be celebrated in May. Unfortunately I am the only member of that small crowd who is still on the B.H.C. Council.

These notes are written to help and enlighten the new-comers. To start with we have to go back to where we started two years ago.

The Hamster family is one with many representatives. The more common species, of which there are between 70 and 80, may be

found in Europe, Central Asia, Greece, Africa and Syria, the homeland of our Golden Hamster.

One most commonly kept is the ordinary European Hamster, which used to be very common in Germany and Switzerland, and is very much larger than the Golden Hamster. The European Hamster is an extremely savage animal and never becomes tame. Other species which have been kept in captivity are the Chinese Grey, a very small species, and the larger Chinese species.

Like most of the Hamster tribe the Golden Hamster is a burrowing animal and food is carried in well developed cheek pouches.

The first live Golden Hamsters were discovered near Aleppo, Syria, in April, 1930. A female Hamster and her litter of twelve were found in her burrow eight feet down in the ground. No wild Golden Hamsters have been caught or seen in Syria since.

What we breed from to-day are the progeny of that mother and her twelve babies. They are all related to each other, and from the information I have received they are bred by the thousands in America.

The Golden Hamster is a rodent. Fully grown it measures about six inches. It has a very short tail, black eyes and black markings on the skull and cheeks. The colour is best described as being reddish gold, the colour of a piece of toasted bread. The underside of the belly is dirty white. The undercolour of the fur is deep blue.

A fully grown Golden Hamster weighs from 4 to 6 ounces. The weights of a Hamster from the day it is born up to a month old were found on a photographic scale. One baby Hamster was taken out of the nest daily for the whole month. Mother Hamster did not seem to mind; in fact, she became used to it. It was most interesting to observe the difference one day made. It was a risky job; it was well worth the risk.

Just born, 20 grains; one day, 25 grains; two days, 30 grains; five days, 75 grains; 10 days, 175 grains; 16 days, 350 grains; 21 days, 535 grains; 28 days, 910 grains.

I will give the answers to some of the many questions I have been asked.

As far as we know the life span of the Hamster is 18 months, though some live longer. It may be that we may be able to evolve a strain that will have a longer span of life, but at present most Hamsters that are over 15 months old look very dilapidated.

The length of time which elapses from when a doe is mated to when it kindles is sixteen days; no more, no less.

When Hamsters are first born they look like tiny bits of pink flesh. They stay so for about three or four days and then they start to show their deep blue undercolour. They are born naked and blind and open their eyes before the twelfth and fourteenth day. Even before their eyes are open you will find them wandering round the nesting compartment wrestling with a bit of food the mother had carried in to them.

The young may be weaned at between eighteen and twenty-one days old. There is no cause for worry; if by some mishap or the other the mother is lost the young can look after themselves from when they are 14 days old and with a little extra attention they will all survive.

After weaning the does are given about two weeks' rest before they are mated again. The young mature at a very early age. A pair of baby Hamsters were taken away from the mother when they were a month old and put in a cage. They were together for a week and then the young buck was sold. In less than a fortnight the little doe kindled, so if possible it is safer to separate the sexes when they are weaned.

In this country young Hamsters are called kittens until they are two months old and after that they are called cubs up to three months old. Why they should be given such names has always puzzled me. The Americans call them young Hamsters. Adult Hamsters are called bucks and does.

According to present-day standard of perfection drawn out by the B.H.C. the correct coloration of the ideal Golden Hamster is rich golden. Two more shades, the light golden and the dark (agouti) are produced, and both shades are most useful in the breeding pen. Some day soon I hope they will be used on the exhibition table.

The dark shade should be highly pigmented with black. The cheek flash should be intensely black. The light shade should be

(Continued on page 221)

CAVY CORNER

Conducted by
C. V. B. TAYLOR

HAVE you ever heard of a case similar to this?" writes Mr. P. C. Grantham. "I have a self white sow, age about 18 months, that has successfully reared two litters. It was due to kindle again in first week in April (according to the date she was placed with the boar), but nothing happened till April 20th, when she kindled two youngsters, both alive and normal in every way. On May 5th she delivered two more youngsters, so now has four running with her, and at the time of writing, mother and family are doing well. She was placed in a hutch on her own before any babies arrived, so there is no fear of mistaken identity."

It is a very unusual experience, for only once previously have I heard of a period of over a fortnight elapsing between the birth of youngsters from one sow. I can only come to the conclusion that it is a case of suspended birth. The date of the first arrivals can be put down to the fact that the mating did not actually take place immediately the sow was placed with the boar, and that the period of gestation often varies from 65 to 75 days. I have had, on very rare occasions, a cavy sow that has kindled three live youngsters and then up to, say a week afterwards, another one, but this one youngster has always been stillborn.

There have also been isolated instances when a sow has kindled a couple of dead youngsters and about 48 hours afterwards two live ones.

Last year I had a Dutch mouse that kindled two youngsters and when these were 16 days old, she kindled three more and reared them all. Again suspended birth was the only thing to which I could attribute this happening, for the mouse was on her own and no danger of those "wild devils" getting at her.

In reply to Mr. Cranfield: Cavies do not as a rule care for grass from newly sown seed, and also soon tire of lawn clippings after the first tummy full. Much preferred, are the long coarse grasses, clover, and other herbage which grows wild, and which is just now getting to its best. Don't forget the dandelion mixture in the green food diet. It is a fine tonic, but do not feed too much dandelion alone, especially to youngsters.

CHOCOLATES HAVE IMPROVED

MR WATSON is right in stating that my object is to help cavy breeders. He will admit that usually there are two sides to every question. I regard Mr. Watson as an expert, myself as a novice. He has stated what he considers facts, but unfortunately he has only seen a limited number of shows lately.

CHOCOLATES.—In this part of the country there are more Chocolates bred than beige, and I think those I saw during 1946 were, particularly Turner's, Lark's and Platt's champions, an advance on what we had in 1939. In colour the youngster with which Davey won best youngster at one show (I believe in Lancashire) was very good. It is easy to get colour with a lovely sheen, but the failing is shape. Success in chocolates waits for the breeder who can combine colour and shape to compare with a black.

HOWARTH WHITES.—In Mr. Watson's remarks to Mr. Orange, mention was made of Mr. Frost, who has been very successful with whites. Mr. Frost purchased some whites from me at the same time that he got some from Mr. Watson, and last year he sent me pages from his breeding book. My boar to a Watson sow produced results. I think Mr. Frost must be given the credit for having produced and shown magnificent whites, and for having blended his purchases.

CREAMS.—I suggest that Messrs. Watson and Orange and myself guarantee a class at the Self Club's young stock show for 1947 bred cream boar or sow, and that all of us send some youngsters. I should be among the also-rans, as I am just trying a few this year after being without for some years, and mine are not of the championship strains mentioned.

WASTER BREEDING.—I think Mr. Greenlee's method is the more likely to lead to success. In my opinion breeding in the spring and summer months is easier, and more profitable; green food is easily obtained from the fields and the greengrocer.

L. FOLKARD

AROUND THE CAVY CLUBS

NATIONAL CAVY CLUB

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for the National Cavy Club's adult stock show to be held in conjunction with the London championship show, and as the officials of this show like to have particulars early I would appreciate any help and suggestions re classification. We endeavour to put up a classification to cover all breeds but breeders of certain varieties fail to avail themselves of the opportunity offered, and the club has to make up the loss.

As no other suitable application has been received for the young stock show it will be held at Spalding, Lincolnshire, on Thursday, Sept. 4th. Owing to the great number of shows now coming along there seems no prospect of a clear date.

Notwithstanding opinions from certain quarters that the N.C.C. should not ask members to guarantee classes, I feel it is my duty to the club to ask for help from those who can afford it. We do not ask for a full guarantee, but any help is appreciated. Voting papers for judges for the Y.S.S. will be sent out shortly, and members are requested to use their votes.

The club will be supporting Watford, Royal Cornwall, Clevedon, Halifax and other shows.

16, Buile Hill Drive, Salford, 5, Manchester. An invitation is given to fanciers to join now and be eligible to win specials offered. There are still some outstanding subscriptions. The subscriptions are 5/- per annum; partnership 8/-; R. Waller, Sec. & Treas., 31, Church Street, Sheldon, Co. Durham.

TORTOISE AND WHITE CAVY CLUB

THE young stock show of the Tortoise and White Cavy Club will be held on June 28th, in conjunction with the Batley Agricultural Show. There will be 12 classes, including young boar, young sow and breeders under four months. An award of merit will be given for best young boar and best young sow. The awards will count in the President's Cup, the Liskerret Bowl, and the Parker Challenge Cup competition, and I am hoping to be able to arrange for a good list of specials.

Mr. C. Thompson (Verdon) has guaranteed the £2 limit class and the class for boar or sow, not to have won more than three 1sts. I shall be glad to receive offers of guarantees for any of the other classes, which are adult boar and adult sow, £25 limit, and challenge. I shall also be glad to receive donations towards specials prizes. The judges will be selected by ballot, and only paid-up members will be eligible to take part in the ballot.

I am hoping, if suitable arrangements can be made, to hold the postponed annual general meeting at the show. There should be a good turn-up of members. It is a good, well conducted show, with a full programme of interest and entertainment, and will provide a good day's outing.

Specials are offered only to paid-up members.—F. F. Rogers, hon. sec., 55 Station Rd., Featherstone, Pontefract.

LEICESTERSHIRE CAVY CLUB

THERE was an entry of 224 at the Leicestershire Cavy Club's show at Thurleston on April 26th, and the quality was very good. I thank the two members who were there at the start and who never left me until the rail stock was safely on the lorry for its return. They were G. Sayers and Fred Hill.

As other members of the club are entitled to know how it is organised, I must tell them that if some of those who are on the committee cannot help in running shows they should be removed to let someone else take their places. Workers are required on a committee.

There are some members who have overlooked their subs., which I would be pleased to receive.—Harry Gullick, 174, High Street, Ilstock, Leics.

CAVY POSTBAG

CHALLENGE MATCHES

FOR the purposes of the cavy challenge matches, which I suggested, the country would be divided into three parts—North, Midlands and South. The divisions would be lines from Grimsby to the West coast and from Coventry to both coasts.

Any cavy fancier who lives in these areas could compete, even if he was not a member of any club.

There would be six matches—one home and one away—with a month in between each match, so that would take up six months out of the twelve. The judges would be chosen from the area that was not competing. Points would count from seven for 1st down to one for commended.

Can the North or South beat the Midlands? I don't think so.

What do you say, Mr. Waller and Miss Radeglia? Don't forget it's not cubs; it's areas. HARRY GULLICK.

DUST THE NO-TAILS

AT several shows I have found pigs which were dirty behind the ears, around the shoulders or right back to the rump. I find that some varieties are more subject to pests than others.

The cure is to dust the cavies with three parts sulphur and one part Izal in powder form. Mix well and rub into the skin. Be careful you don't get any in their eyes.

Clean out their hutches and when dry sprinkle the powder all over the hutches, especially in the corners. Brush the powder out before sending the animals to a show.

Another fault is long nails. Some even curl and go back under. These are a great drawback as a cavy can't show to advantage when it has sore feet. GEO. PASCOE.

NORTHERN NOTES

AT Chester-le-Street and Birtley F.S. show on Oct. 24th, Mr. W. Reeves, Blaydon, will judge all cavy classes.

Newcastle F.S. will be continuing its monthly table shows at the Chronicle Hall, Rosemary Lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The usual date is the second Saturday in each month, and the time 6.30 p.m.

Heighington Agricultural F.S. is holding its annual show on August 23rd. Six classes for cavies are on the schedule.

Mention of Mr. Shaw, Hett Village, Croxdale, Co. Durham, reminded me of the time when "Dick" owned one of the best studs of Abyssinian cavies in the north. We don't see much of him these days, as Mr. Taylor said he is very awkwardly situated. Perhaps we may see more of him and his Abyssinians this show season.

Frosterley F.S. has altered its show date to Nov. 29th, on account of the National at London clashing with the former date.

I had a letter from a very old northern cavy fancier, Mr. Ralph Abbott, late of Low Fell. He is now living at Stainsacre, near Whitby.—Wm. T. Surtees, Carley Hill Gardens, Southwick, Sunderland, Co. Durham.

WHY USE FEEDING POTS FOR MICE ?

By DICK WARD, 57, Chantrey Road, Sheffield 8.

Coming Events

- May 31st—Hebden Bridge.
- June 7th—Bentham.
- June 14th—Liverpool.
- June 21st—Nottingham.
- June 28th—London.

MR. FARRAR'S suggestion of chromium fronts for Maxey cages has brought me several comments. Mr. Durham, Brighton, to whom I have been indebted in the past for several interesting letters, says that they would be no good, his opinion is that they would not last three shows as the mice would gnaw the bars and cause the chromium to strip off.

A further opinion comes from Mr. W. Mallett, formerly of Sheffield, and a keen specialist in blacks and blues until he had to remove for business reasons to Bradford.

"Bill, as we all knew him, was for many years in the plating trade, so he knows what he is talking about from the technical side. He says:—

"Chromium fronts certainly calls for comment, and I, as one who has had considerable experience in the plating trade, don't think much of the idea. That they would look nice I agree, but chromium strips off, and the front and the bars would look a mess then.

For these fronts to be really good a coating of hard chrome would be required, and that would cost a bit.

"I think 'Fern-End's' idea better, as all could do that easily, and paint wire and box inside and out all one colour—green."

When chrome strips it leaves a very sharp edge, which if not noticed, could cause a good deal of damage to stock as a cut or scratch caused by chromium does not easily heal.

While in conversation with a group of local fanciers recently, the question of use of feeding pots or dishes came up. Opinion seemed about equally divided on the benefit of their use. Some fanciers said they used them regularly, and would not dream of doing without them; others argued that they were not essential. Those inclined to the latter view stated that the first thing the mice did was to bury the food in sawdust, hence the use of feeding pots was labour in vain. It would be of interest to find out what is the general opinion of the Fancy.

I can think of one way in which feeding pots are very useful. In the case of a sucking doe they enable the owner to feed soft food as moist as desired. I have fed mice for long periods with and without the use of pots or dishes, and I have not noticed any difference in the health and condition of the stock.

The article on the "Menace of the Moth" in addition to giving a useful remedy from Stan. Taylor, has brought me another letter. I am pleased to publish this as it shows in a striking way the spirit that is the underlying foundation in that grand brotherhood that we call "The Fancy." My correspondent sends me a packet of dusting powder and writes:—

"Having read the article on moths, I am sending you something to try. Don't think I have anything for sale. I am a breeder of small livestock, and I have found that 'Gammexane' is one of the finest dusting powders to keep all types of insect pests under control without any injurious effects to the animals or birds on which it is used. A small packet is 10 per cent Gammexane and 90 per cent Fuller's Earth, and is therefore harmless to animals, and yet a certain insect killer."

Mr. J. E. Taylor, Blackpool answers a question I put about the use of liquid D.D.T. He has used it in this form with good effect, and has got rid of the moths without any harm to the stock.

One thing which my first year as secretary has brought home to me with ever-increasing force is a feeling of admiration for the way in which our old friend, Bert, Jude kept the N.M.C. Notes going for such a long period. Believe me, without the help of other good fanciers it is an uphill job.

MOUSE MEMOS

By C. H. Johnson

A FEW weeks ago I promised to continue my story of "system in the mousery." The system comes under headings, position of cages, identification of mice (pedigree), and easy reference.

I place each variety as much together as possible, and, as previously stated, I use racks which are arranged in four tiers or shelves holding in all 24 cages. The top shelf is for bucks, the second shelf for mated does, the third shelf for kindled does, and the bottom shelf for spare does and growing youngsters.

For identification I give each variety a code letter, e.g., P.E. White A, B.E. White B, Self Blacks C, to which is added a number. I, therefore, have A1 which will be a P.E. White doe, or C5, which will be a Self Black doe. Does are numbered 1-40, and bucks 41-50. Records of matings, kindlings, and shows are put in a book headed by the number of the mouse. A sheet might read:—

A21.
(P.E. White Doe.)
Born 21st October, 1946.
Purchased Smith, 21st January, 1947.
Mated to A41 27th January, 1947.
Kindled 18th February, 1947.

When the stock is home-bred we may have another page headed thus:—

B23.
(B.E. White Doe.)
B11 (mother) by B41 (father).
Born 15th January, 1947.

(Continued on page 221)

HAMSTER MANAGEMENT

(Continued from page 218)

as pale in colour as possible, with all the black ticking missing and with no check flesh.

Never part with such specimens as worthless. Both shades are indispensable. Placed in the right hands they might produce the coveted mutation we are after.

I don't think there is any fixed hibernation period. It is never very long, just a few days, sometimes longer than others. It is really a semi-hibernation. They sleep for a few days, wake up and have a good feed, then back to sleep again. What a life!

A hamster will relish anything generally given to a rabbit, but in much smaller quantities. It makes one wonder what hamsters live on, they eat so very little. There is one thing about them they will not eat stale food, so it's wise not to forget, to feed them once a day, whether they have food in their cage or not.

They can exist without water in fluid form. If they are fed plenty of green food with high moisture contents water may be withheld from their diets with no ill effects.

The motto of the would-be Hamsterite should be the same as for the Boy Scout, "Be prepared." One breeding pair of hamsters can cause no end of bother if one has not prepared hutches for them and their progeny beforehand. Make two hutches first before procuring a breeding pair. East sex must be kept in separate hutches. Young stock can be kept together after the sexes have been separated, but don't keep them too long.

Every mother animal is concerned about the welfare of her young, and it is so in the case of hamsters. It is up to all of us, therefore, to make properly designed cages for

them and their families. There is no need for them to be elaborate affairs. Just a miniature rabbit hutch.

It is ridiculous to spend more on hutches than on stock. It is all very well if you can afford to procure an elaborate hutch or cage for your first pair. You will soon find they don't stay put at one pair and you will need a dozen hutches. Good cage dimensions are: 12 inches high, 12 inches wide, 18 to 24 inches long.

There is no need for the water bottle and feed chutes as advised in earlier articles.

The choice of nesting material depends on what is available. Fine hay is excellent; torn bits of thin paper are good because of the insulating properties which help to make a warm nest for the young. Tissue paper should not be used.

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, APRIL 27th, 1947.

(Continued from page 217)

A vote of thanks for their services during the past year. This was agreed nem. con. On the motion of Mr. Gallaher, seconded by Mrs. Andrews, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. N. C. Campbell should be re-appointed scrutineer. Mr. Cross proposed and Mr. Lord seconded that he should act as scrutineer in the association's elections. Letters were read from Mr. Tenney and Mr. E. C. Crouch with reference to the association arranging gifts for breeders who had lost their stock in the recent floods. Mr. Chisnall moved and Mr. Tenney seconded, that the B.R.C. should ask its official organ to publish a note suggesting such a scheme and requesting that those who had suffered losses should communicate with the editor. It is hoped that many breeders

who would be willing to give stock to replace that lost would also communicate with Mr. Dyson, who agreed to organise this scheme at the request of the association.

On the motion of Mr. Dyson, seconded by Mrs. Andrews, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. J. Read and Mr. J. Sherborne should be added to the list of honorary life members. Several members present in the room spoke to the effect that these two gentlemen had both of them spent the best part of their lives in assisting the rabbit fancy and industry as well as having held high position in the association for many years when their services had never been called upon without receiving a generous response.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the executive committee for the work which they had done during the past year. This was proposed by Mr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Lord, and carried unanimously.

MOUSE MEMOS

(Continued from page 218)

I trust I have given sufficient information to permit the advice being followed, if not a stamped addressed envelope will elicit further information.

For easy reference I use a pasteboard 1 1/2" x 1" upon which is stamped a large number. This card is put on the left hand side of the cage and denotes the number of mice therein. Needless to say this card facilitates feeding, for it permits knowledge at a glance of how many mice are in the cage.

In the centre of the cage there are the small pieces of card denoting the variety, code letter and reference numbers of the occupants.

On the right-hand side of the box I place

a piece of paste-board (postcard thickness) upon which is put the date of mating, the date of kindling, and any other information likely to be of value.

I thus at a glance know the number of mice in the box, the variety, the reference or numbers, the date of mating, and the date of kindling.

A fair amount of work, yet, but fully worth while, for although results can be achieved by haphazard breeding they are not lasting and a little extra time spent in the first instance can save many hours and headaches later, not to mention the pleasure and satisfaction of knowing just how the stock was obtained and where it came from.

ANSWERS TO PICTORIAL QUIZ

The Argente Champagne is the variety which exhibits the greatest change from nesting to adult. The babies are self black when they leave the nest, and the full Argente silvering is not complete till the rabbits are six or seven months old.

All silver rabbits, including fancy varieties (silver greys, fawns and browns) go through a similar change.

PIGEONS AT OTLEY.

(Continued from page 217)

Waddington; hc Askew, 1946 C, 26; 1 Rowley; 2 Burdett; 3 Cass; r Isaac; vhc Lewis; hc Newbould. HEN, 34: 1 Johnston and Reynolds; 2 Watson; 3 Simpson; r Hinchcliffe; vhc Hellwell; hc Tuckell, 1947, C, 17; 1 Johnston and Reynolds; 2 Cooper and Son; 3 Hanson; r Hill; vhc Wood; hc Morse, HEN, 23: 1, vhc H. N. Hellwell; 2 Owen; 3 Hill; r Simpson; hc Cooper and Son 30/-, 13: 1 Watson; 2 Stephenson Bros; 3 Lewis.—T. BOOTH.

PELTS

PELT DRESSING

We specialise in the finest quality dressing.

2/- each in dozen lots or more. Under one dozen 2/6 each. Send 1d. stamp for leaflets.

Special offer of first-quality Dyed Brown Pelts, beautiful finish, 14/2 each including Purchase Tax. Money refunded if not entirely satisfied.

Customers' Pelts made up into Gloves. Perfect make and finish. 35/8 per pair.

10-day delivery guaranteed.

BRADLEY FUR PRODUCTS LTD.,
Bradley Mills, Newton Abbot.

THE WADE GLOVE CO.

35, WADE LANE, LEEDS 2, Tel. 24572.

FUR GLOVES

SPECIALISING IN FUR-BACKED GAUNTLET GLOVES.

Have Your Pelts Made up into Gloves

QUICK SERVICE

If Dressed Pelts are sent. Please send for Price List, etc.

"ARK-URATE" (Regd.)

Rabbit Fur Specialist Service.

Your best pelts professionally made into beautiful FUR GAUNTLET GLOVES, fashionable MILLINERY, HANDBAGS, CAPES and COATS etc. as supplied to London and Provincial Stores.

Superb work at reasonable prices. Dressing, Dyeing and Pulling. Send 1d. s.a.e. for illustrated (actual photographs) price list.

KIPPS, "F" Dept., 73, Newborough, Scarborough.

For sale: Dressed Pelts on approval. Good large pelts in Chinchilla, Blue, Black Beveren, English Whites, Japs, Fawns, Argente, Flemish, Hav., Silver Fox, Blue Fox, Dove, etc. No Rex. Any quantity of the above may be had on 7 days' approval at 21/- each inclusive of tax; cash refunded if not entirely satisfied. A few super quality extraordinary large sizes at 31/6, also throw-out for toys, etc. at 4/3. Slink lambs for lining gloves 15/9. Sheep skins 84/- Wild rabbit skins 6/10.

M. GORDON, Abbott's Yard, High Wycombe. Phone: Penn 2233.

SEND YOUR PELTS FOR DRESSING TO

DOMESTIC FUR PRODUCERS LTD.,
LOUISA STREET, IDLE, BRADFORD.

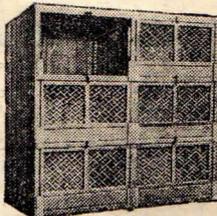
Following our system of offering a progressively improving NEW D.D.I. dressing service, we will ACCEPT WET SKINS if sent SALTED same day as killed and at your risk, 24/- dozen or 2/6 returned in a few days and NEVER more than three weeks. M. GORDON, Abbott's Yard, High Wycombe, Bucks, Penn 2233. "REB": Anyone sending one pelt as trial will have same dressed, and returned free charge in 21 days.

APPLIANCES

Galvanised feeding troughs, 7 in. long, to fit to hutch sides, price 13/- per dozen, 7/- half dozen, carriage paid. Galvanised wire hay racks, price 13/- per dozen, 7/- half dozen, carriage paid. Galvanised pots, cannot be overturned, price 13/- per dozen 7/- half dozen, carriage paid. Bakelite troughs, 3 in., unbreakable and hygienic, 13/- dozen, carriage paid. Orders for less than six not accepted. Send for price list of appliances. Woodgate, Idle, Bradford.

RABBIT HUTCHES

3-TIER STOCK HUTCH



6 Compart. 5' long, 2' wide, 4 1/2' high. Exterior covered with Red Cedar shingles. Boarded floors.

toot board and felt. 67 2s 6d.

3-TIER BREEDING HUTCH

long, 3 compartments, same details. 80 7s 6d.

For some time the above hutches have been sent out with the much improved front which enables you to remove everything in front for cleaning—a very great asset to the user. Carriage paid England and Wales. New galv. iron water cups, 6" long, for 6/6, 1/4 for 12/6. 9 in troughs (to hang) 6 for 9/6 post free.

Ermine-Rex for disposal. A. SYDENHAM HANNAFORD Hamworthy Junction Dorset

A HAY RACK BARGAIN



Popular design for all types of rabbit pens with mesh fronts. Easily fixed inside or out. Made from galv. spot-welded mesh. For hay, clover or green food. Details of animal show cages free on request.

1/- each or 11/6 dozen Postage extra.

STEELEX LTD., 232 Bristol Street, Birmingham 5. Ph.: CALthorpe 0373.

ALMOST NEW JOINER MADE HUTCHES

FOR IMMEDIATE DISPATCH. Three Tier Stock Hutches, each compartment 3ft. x 2 ft. x 1 1/2 ft., fitted with removable 1/2 in. mesh netting fronts, constructed throughout with 1 in. T. and G. timber; 45 each. Rearing Hutches (single), 2 1/2 ft. x 2 1/2 ft. x 2 ft., front half boarded, remainder consisting of 1/2 in. mesh netting doors, constructed of 1 in. T. and G. timber; 41 5s. each. Glazed Feeding Pots, especially made with curled lip to prevent turning over, 5 in. diameter; 1/6 each, 15/- doz. All carriage paid, cash with order.—Clarke, Holly Cottage Stock Farm, Rostrevor Road, Adwood, Stockport.

RABBIT BREEDING EQUIPMENT

HUTCHES. Morants, also three-tier Breeding Hutches for indoor and outdoor use. Send for price list to: WOODGATE'S OF IDLE, BRADFORD

SuperBra Rabbit Hutches for indoor or outdoor sloping floors, removable divisions, etc. Send 1d. for illustrated brochure or 6d. for 32-page illustrated catalogue. Dept. R.253, S.P.B.A. Supplies Ltd., Wigton House, St. John Street, London, E.C.1.

Best Brown Creosote, 10/6 5 gallons. Special Roofing Tar, paints on without warming, 10/6 5 gallons. Finest Disinfectant Fluid, 8/6 per gallon. Full lists free. Paints, etc. prompt dispatch, drums free. Stapley's, Penarth, Glam.

If you require rabbit troughs, send stamp for our illustrated list Rabbit Pottery.—Henry Tams, Pottery Manufacturer, Chancery Lane Works, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.

What offers? Four sets of four Show Pens with trays. Four good Show Baskets, six, four and two two's. One dozen Nest Pots, Water Tins.—Apply Bebb, Boatman's Arms, Preston.

Travelling Boxes, double compartment well designed, 15/- each.—Doone Cottage, Lion's Lane, Ashley Heath, Ringwood, Hants.

The Practical Pet Stores, 11, King Street, Lancaster, makers of Mouse and Hamster Breeding, Snow and Dispatch Boxes, Carrying Cases, etc. Stamp lists.

Travelling Boxes, new painted, large size 22/6, next size 20/-, small 15/-, double 35/-.—House, 52, Portfield Close, Christchurch, Hants.

For all Goat Appliances and Literature as supplied to Ministry of Agriculture and Municipal authorities write the largest stockist. Price list 1d.—Fred Ritson, Goat Appliance Maker, Longtown, Cumberland.

SHIPPING

Exportation of Small Live Stock (including Dogs) to any part of the World.

We are now able to offer you our service in this work. All arrangements made, including Insurance, packing and dispatch. Send your inquiries to: WOODGATE, IDLE, BRADFORD.

B.R.C. RABBIT RING SCHEME

B.R.C. Rings for 1947 are obtainable only from the Assistant Secretary, Mr. T. S. Willis, British Rabbit Council, Lancaster Chambers, Lancaster Road, Preston.

Rings are made in seven different sizes, and the variety for which they are required should be stated when ordering. The sizes are:—

- Size A.—Suitable for Polish.
- Size B.—For Argente Bleu, Argente Creme, Dutch, Himalayan, Nubian, Tan.
- Size C.—Silver.
- Size D.—For Argente, Champagne, Beaver, Chifox, Chinchilla, English, Lilac, Sable, all Fox, Havana, Siberian, Smoke Pearl and Squirel.
- Size E.—Angora, Harlequin, New Zealand Reds, all Rex.
- Size G.—Beveren, Belgian Hare, Pointed Fox, Lops, Chinchilla Gigantas.
- Size H.—Flemish Giants.

When you purchase a rabbit its Ring Number must be transferred to your name.

1947 Rings will be seamless and will be sold at 5d. each, plus 2 1/2d. for postage.

Each buyer of a Ringed Rabbit must have the Ring Number transferred to his or her name before the rabbit can be exhibited at shows held under B.R.C. Rules. A fee of 4d. is charged for the registration of each transfer, plus 1d. extra if an acknowledgment of the registrations is required.

MEDICINES

SNUFFLES

Letts Snuffles Cure, on the market over 30 years. None better. 2/6, 3/6, 6/-.

Letts Scour Cure also for Potbelly and Coccidiosis. 2/6, 3/6, 6/-.

Letts Ear-anker and Vent Disease, also all Skin Trouble, hundreds of testimonials 2/6 3/6, 6/-.

Letts Tonic and Conditioner, used by all leading fanciers. 2/6, 3/6, 6/-.

Letts Worm Medicines. If stock not thriving, look for worms. 2/6, 3/6, 6/-.

Letts Colour Feed for Belgian Hares and Tans, etc. 2/6, 3/6, 6/-.

Sole manufacturers:—**LETTS & SON, GORSE ROAD, GRANTHAM.**
VENT OINTMENT.—Certain cure Vent Disease Ear Canker, Scoury, Sore Eyes Bites. Recommended by "F. and F." since 1893. Have it ready. Full instructions, with practical hints 2/6 3/6, and 4/6 per box, free. John Malley, Houghton, Preston.
Dixon D.I. Powder. perfect conditioner, Ear Canker, Eye Lotion, and Vicia (Vent Ointment). Marvelously effective for rabbits, etc., 1/8, 3/3, 6/6, posted Dixon's, Church Lane, Handsworth Birmingham.

ANGORA WOOL WANTED FOR EXPORT

ALL GRADES White or Coloured.

BEST PRICES. PROMPT PAYMENT. FAIR GRADING.

Send your parcels to: **R. H. DARK & CO. Ltd.,** 15 Emerson St., Southwark, London, S.E.1.

WE REQUIRE UNLIMITED QUANTITIES OF

RABBIT CARCASSES

R. GUNNER, LTD.

115, LEVER ST., LONDON, E.C.1.

Telephone: Clerkenwell 7441.

Are the Largest Buyers of Tame Rabbit Carcasses, Skinned or in Skin.

We Pay Maximum Controlled Prices. Cheques by Return.

WE WILL ACT AS OFFICIAL WHOLESALER FOR YOUR CLUB

WRITE FOR DETAILS. **GAME** Full Control Prices are paid for all Game sent to us.

"FUR AND FEATHER" is the official organ of the GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY, Secretary, F. H. THOMPSON, Esq., 130, Wickham Way, Beckenham, Kent, from whom 2/- of rules and forms for registration and transfer etc., must be obtained.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION "FUR AND FEATHER."