

## FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY

## KELVIN HALL SHOW DRAWS WIDE-SPREAD ATTENTION TO SCOTTISH FANCY

FOR three days last week, Scotland demonstrated its strength in small-stock keeping. In the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, on Nov. 7th, 8th and 9th, was held a show of rabbits, cavy, mice, hamsters, pigeons and cage birds, which was attended by thousands of interested people from many parts of the country. Kelvin Hall is the finest exhibition venue in Britain. It covers four acres, and for illumination and comfort is unrivalled.

The show reflected the position of small-stock keeping in Scotland. Summarising, one may say that Scottish rabbit keeping is steadily going ahead, that hamsters and mice are a definite attraction, but that Scottish cavy keeping requires some good team work at the present time.

Prominent features of the exhibition were the very attractive propaganda displays. The Glasgow Rabbit Club had a particularly fine stand of rabbit-fur products, including slippers, gloves, capes, mittens, muffs, toys, fur bags, scarves, ties, Angora wool, etc. The fur articles were made from the pelts of Chins, Havanas, New Zealand Reds, Silver Fox, Blue Beveren, Ermine-rex, Sable-rex, English, Lilac-rex, and Black-rex. A good display of rabbit pelts also was on view. One of the features which appealed particularly to the ladies were gloves cut out ready to be made up, and for which patterns could be obtained from the stand. Some very attractive toys were on view made from the pelts of Dutch rabbits.

This club has a very enthusiastic ladies' section, and it was due to their efforts that this stand was such an attractive affair. Different members of the ladies' section were in attendance at the stand on each day. Not only have these members of the fair sex mastered the art of pelting and making up their rabbit-skins into garments, etc., but they have learnt the handicrafts associated with rabbit fur work, such as leather-work, etc.

Another attractive stand of fur garments, etc., was that of Messrs. D. Fairfoul and Son. Mr. Fairfoul is a B.R.C. adviser, and in this capacity did much useful work at the show. Mr. Fairfoul's firm are fur glove makers. From very small beginnings—one Belgian Hare kept in a bedroom—they have developed into commercial rabbit keepers. The garments on this stand were mostly white gloves, though among the larger articles were a White-rex coat, Sable-rex cape, Silver Fox cape, a Chin-rabbit tie, and an attractive set of Marten Sable cross-over tie and gloves. One wrap which was particularly pleasing was made from "pulled" Chinchilla. Puffed Chinchilla pelts were often used to imitate real Chinchilla in the days before the Chin-rabbit came on the scene. This particular wrap, Mr. Fairfoul said, was on view at stands organised twenty years ago, and its quality and condition is still marvellous.

Mr. H. Brentnall, seedsman, Leek, Staffs., had a splendid display of seeds for the growing of crops to supply the rabbitry with food all the year round.

Mr. Brentnall is now well known to fanciers through his advertisement in "Fur and Feather." He recorded that through this medium over 5,000 rabbit breeders have bought seeds to grow their own green foods.

Displays of hamsters and mice, not for competition, were the centre of attraction for the public. On the Saturday afternoon a queue of visitors of about thirty yards long was continuously passing along this section.

The next big event in Scotland will be the Bellshill Fur Club show, to-morrow, Nov. 16th. This event will be fully reported in a subsequent issue.

### South-Western

I HAD a good day at Burnham, where plenty of entries kept secretary Withers busy (and quiet) all day. At lunchtime there was a discussion on rabbit "blows." Why do they pick such a time to discuss diseases? The majority (that is Miss Rickards and myself) were positive that it is a form of indigestion; the minority (George Gray) wouldn't agree, and wouldn't give way to the said majority. Our friend, Mr. H. D. H. Dowle, won B.I.S. with a lovely Sable-rex. Charlie Dwayne also picked up another two cups.

Exeter provided the West with another big show of 1,240 entries. I notice that almost every show now advertises itself as the "biggest in the West." If they can beat that total of rabbit entries only, then they are entitled to the laurels.

Unfortunately our show sec., Miss P. Kendall, was taken ill on the morning of the show, and was unable to put in an appearance, but we managed to get over that somehow, at least we think we did. Our show attracted entries from as far away as Darlington (what a sport Robt. Wheadon is), and visitors from Nottingham, from whence Mr. and Mrs. Harvey came to win B.I.S. with a beautiful Havana-rabbit. (Personally, I thought that it was the right colour, but the wrong coat.) Mr. J. Rickett, also of Nottingham, won best fancy breed with an English. There must be some good rabbits round that way.

I found another show where rabbits are well looked after—Totnes, where I saw the stock fed three times on lovely washed-clean carrots whilst I was there. I understand that secretary Drennan saw that all stock that had arrived overnight had been well fed when penned.

Bert, Dunn tells me he has lost his best blue buck, the best for several years. It came home from a show very "dicky" and soon passed out. Hard luck, Bert.

I have received a letter from Mr. John Sherborne. He is still taking things very quietly, and cutting correspondence to a bare minimum, but hopes to meet all his rabbit friends again in due time.

I thank my many friends among the Havana fraternity, who supported our Exeter show so well. I notice that Walter Davis is asking for support for Havana classes. Well, we had it at Exeter—101 entries in six classes (including 16 in the members' classes).

George Hockin, the Camborne Dutch breeder, tells me that several shows are being arranged in Cornwall this autumn, and I ask all rabbit breeders in the South-West particularly, to give them all the support that they can. Cornishmen always look after their animals, and you may be assured that stock sent to Cornwall will be well fed, most probably with some of that luscious green food that you would like to give your own stock, but cannot obtain locally. Make a note of these dates: Bugle, Nov. 7th; Bodmin, Nov. 13th; Penzance, Nov. 22nd and 23rd; Redruth, Nov. 30th; St. Columb, Dec. 7th; Indian Queens, Dec. 14th; Truro, Dec. 21st. F. HAMMOND.

### AGENDA FOR ENGLISH CLUB'S A.G.M.

MY notes this week constitute largely matter in connection with the forthcoming Annual Stock Show and Annual General Meeting of the National English R.C.

You will by now have received your schedule for the above event and I hope you will support to the best of your ability and give the judges a real job of work to do and at the same time make this show an outstanding event. Unfortunately Mr. Townsend feels unfit to travel and consequently we are a judge short. If, however, the entry is felt to be too large for the three judges appointed our president will nominate a successor in place of Mr. Townsend.

The Annual General Meeting will take place on the Friday evening and it is hoped that as many members as are able will attend. The agenda is:—

### CAVY CORNER

## WINNERS OF N.C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP CERTIFICATES

CONGRATULATIONS to the following, who have fulfilled the conditions required and have been granted certificates by the Nat. Cavy Club. A double championship has been awarded to Mr. F. Hulme, 22, Walton Road, Altrincham, Cheshire, for the following wins for his Red Abyssinian boar, Ch. Red Beck: Altrincham, Fallsforth, National Cavy Club Cup Show (Grimby), South Bradford, Yorkshire C.C., Midland C.C., Fallsforth, Odey, Bradford ch. show (Leeds), N.C.C. adult stock show (Leeds), under Messrs. Stanley Greenlees, Elkington, Hustler, Sharp and Stevenage, Y.C.C. show (Wibsey, on May 4th), Yorkshire C.C. show (Wibsey, on July 20th), Altrincham C.C., N.C.C. A.S.S. (Leeds), under Messrs. Greenlees, Sharp and Brooke. A championship certificate has also been awarded to Mr. W. Dawson, 18, Sixth Street, Crookhall, Consett, Durham, for his red Dutch boar, Ch. Red Success, for the following awards: Tow Law, Durham County, Stanhope, Chester-le-Street, under Messrs. Sexton, Calvert and Waller. A further certificate has been awarded to Mr. N. Orange, South Parade, Thorpe Lane, Middleton, Leeds, 10, for his Cream Sow, Narville Princess, for the following awards: Shildon, Bingley, Stokesley, Grimby and Lamesale, under Messrs. Crimby and Harrison, Sharp and Calvert. A certificate has been awarded to Mr. J. Platt, Cote Green P.P. Farm, Marple Bridge, near Coteport, for his chocolate sow, Longendale Lass, for the following wins, Fallsforth, E.S.C.C. Wibsey, Otley, Silsden N.C.C., A.S.S. (Leeds), under Messrs. Tipper, Tordoff and Baxter.—R. Waller, sec. and treas., 31 Church Street, Shildon, Co. Durham.

### Northern No-tail Notes

SUNDERLAND fanciers will hold an open pen show on December 7th. Cavies will be well catered for. There will be about 20 guaranteed classes for cavies. Mr. Norman Orange will judge, and I hope fanciers will give good support. This is the first time cavies have been given such a good classification at Sunderland. I am in full charge of the section. The show is to be held in the Co-operative Hall, Green Street, only two minutes from Sunderland Station, and close to bus station. Full classification is to be advertised in FUR AND FEATHER at an early date.

Mr. Frazer sec. of Gasetown F.S. is to run an open pen show at Castletown, near Sunderland, on Boxing Day. Cavies will have a good classification, with specials. Mr. W. Reeve, Blaydon-on-Tyne, will judge cavies and Silver rabbits. Mr. Bert, Smith, Middlesbrough, will judge all other rabbit classes. There will be an announcement in FUR AND FEATHER later.

1. President's opening remarks.  
2. Secretary's Report.  
3. Minutes of the last meeting and the Extraordinary General Meeting held at Burton-on-Trent.  
4. Proposition by Mr. Geo. Bates: "That in the Ideal Standard of an English Rabbit the number of body spots (chain and haunch marking) shall be specified."

5. Mr. H. Worboys proposes (a) That all correspondence between the N.E.R.C. secretary and the British Rabbit Council relative to the complaint considered and debated upon at the last A.G.M. at Middlesbrough be produced; (b) That the N.E.R.C. Secretary be called upon to explain his neglect in the matter and his failure to fulfil his undertaking given at the last A.G.M.; (c) That the whole of the recently published rules be regarded as null and void as not being in accordance with the club's constitution as now appears in the 1946 book of Rules; (d) That any ballot for the 1947 officers of the club, if it precedes this year's A.G.M. at Chesterfield, shall be invalid; (e) That no member of the executive of the club shall be eligible if such member holds any official position in the British Rabbit Council, honorary or otherwise; (f) That any affiliation fees that may have been paid to the B.R.C. for the year 1946 be considered unauthorised and be refunded by the persons using any of the club's funds for such purpose in the face of the Middlesbrough decisions; (g) That a statement be forthcoming and proof produced under what rules, if any, the last Y.S.S. at Burton-on-Trent was held.  
6. Mr. T. Williams proposes: That in future Club Judges shall be elected by members in their own areas.

This completes the agenda.

I am pleased to report that we have made arrangements to obtain enamelled membership badges for the coming year, which are of a very tasteful design, with blue enamel outer ring with the National English Rabbit Club printed thereon in white, and with an English rabbit as a centre piece. The price of these badges will be 2/- each post paid and may be obtained with either a stud (for fixing into a buttonhole) or with brooch attachment. The year 1947 will also see medals for best in show awards, these will follow the design mentioned above and have appropriate wording on the back. As conditions become more normal it is hoped to be able again to offer the silver spoons as in previous years. A. SANDERSON.

### CATS AND CATDOM

## HOW TO REMOVE STAINS ON FUR

CRUYDON show was a very enjoyable event. Miss Hill Shaw, that wonderful "young" lady of 85, Mr. and Mrs. Towe and helpers, are to be congratulated on a most successful cat show. It was a friendly, social meeting—so many well-known fanciers and friends were there. Those fanciers who were unable to come missed a treat.

As so many new fanciers have joined the Fancy during the war, a few practical tips will not come amiss.

Supposing you want to give your cat something—maybe some special kind of food that it would not eat on its own, or some medicine. The usual procedure is to wrap the animal in a cloth or towel. Experience, however, has taught me that, somehow, the cat always manages to wriggle out, especially if one person has to manage all by herself. Most cats hate to be given anything by hand. I have made a strong bag, 20 in. by 20 in. by

A report, by the judges, of Cruydon Cat Club show will appear in next week's issue

20 in. Washable material is best, and material which will boil is better still. Put the cat into the bag and fold the open end gently around the neck, just leaving the head out. You can hold the folds together with your left hand and open the mouth at the same time. If you feel like robbing your favourite flock of its zipper, and stitching that along the opening, then you will find you are doing top-hole! It's worth trying anyway.

Should a cat have soiled itself on the journey to a show, don't try to wipe it. Take a fairly wide-toothed comb and comb it out patiently. When all offending matter has been removed powder the stained fur, leaving the powder on. Before penning the animal vigorously brush out all the powder and all stains will have disappeared. Before packing your cat for the journey home give a few drops of whisky. Pour this into a very tiny gelatine capsule, as most cats hate the taste of whisky. Just open the cat's mouth and push it gently down. As there is no taste the cat will not object. A. H. CATTERMOLE.

### BLUE NOTES

ON kitten losses I have received an interesting letter from Mrs. C. Prince, Derby, in which she writes: "Your recent article on 'Kitten losses' and Dr. Archer's reply, made some interesting reading, particularly as during my two years as a breeder of Blue Persians I have become more and more convinced that quite a number of 'show' animals are not good breeders. The suggested reason for this should be accepted, and as it would seem that the ability to reproduce is one of the most important factors, surely the time is ripe for the Governing Council to take up this matter in such a way that as fanciers' might benefit. It seems to me that at the moment too much importance is given to beauty only."

Mrs. Prince goes on to say: "Recently I paid a visit to Miss Dorothy Clarke at Stourport-on-Severn. She is the present owner of Mokoid Fayete, bred by Mrs. Groves, of Ludlow. I was pleased to have the opportunity of seeing him, having heard good accounts of him from time to time. He was in very good form and I am looking forward to sending my Oxfley's Tansy when next the need arises. Tafete's daughter, Bayborne Dawn, had five lovely kits by Hendon Blue Robin, and I came home with the only male, Areley Rondo, a 10-week babe, I am hoping he will follow in his father's footsteps."

### R.C.T.B.C. AND B.T.

TWO further full champions were made in our section at the Cruydon Victory show on Nov. 5th. Miss Fisher's Dandy of Hadley, that striking brown Tabby, and my red, Hendon Sir Roderic. Both cats are home-bred. Dandy was sired by The Major ex Tabitha of Hadley, and started his winning career at the Notts. and Derby C.C. show last Nov., when he was reserve best cat in show. I am naturally proud of Roderic, for he owns my Ch. Hendon Lord Chancellor as father, dam Ch. Hendon Salata, so comprising both n.v. old red favourites, for Salata was Hendon Defendant's daughter.

Cruydon was a most pleasant fixture. The spacious hall was bright with new paint and gay garlands were stretched across the room. Viewed from the tiers of seats the ensemble was charming. The lining of white paper in the pens, and the coloured award cards with their victory sign were very effective.

The Neuter classes were surely to be envied with. I noticed a very handsome red Tabby and a beautiful tortoise lady amongst them. Everyone was welcomed.

Mrs. Neate's Section Leader delighted her heart by winning a championship. To crown it all the best cat in the show was a Cream male, Widdington Warden, owned and bred by Mrs. M. L. Sheppard, and sired by Miss Pelly's Theydon Sunset. Warden is a massive fellow of a lovely soft shade of cream, and was a winning kitten before the war.

Miss Hill Shaw, of course, was at the helm, and she had a valuable asset in the hon. show manager, Mr. Arthur A. Towe.

A correspondent inquires "Why, in some cases does the better striped cat lose in type?" I should appreciate replies. I can then give my own theory.

I have asked Mrs. Fosbery to send me some notes on the Red Tabbies in which she was so prominent before the war.—G. Campbell Fraser, Little Primrose, Godalming Surrey.

### A Correction

IN my report on the Slanees show I referred to Miss Kit Wilson's "dulcet" tones, not "dialect" tones as printed. I am sure she realised it was a mistake and will forgive me. CYRIL YEATES.

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