

# U. K. COMMENTARY

ELIZABETH  
TOWE



The Croydon Cat Club had a very good show on December 20th, 1972, at the Royal Horticultural (Old) Hall, London, 600 exhibits, all we had room for. Unfortunately the country was more-or-less covered by fog and, in consequence, we had a poor 'Gate'.

The largest entry this year was from the Long Hair exhibitors. Siamese were second and, disappointingly, the British and Foreign entry was poor. The date was poor, also, being too near Christmas for several Shorthair owners who tend to live in the country. Travelling is always difficult in Christmas week apart from fog hazards.

Mrs. Chambers of Melbourne, Australia, had sent us beautiful red and green sashes for the Best In Show winners. The lucky IH winners were: *Honeymist Cream Ricardo*, Cream male adult; *Ariane Lindsey*, Blue male kitten, and *Brackenhill Cream Sherry*, Cream male neuter. Shorthair winners were: *Duamutef*, Red Abyssinian male; *Watermill Hamlet*, Black Cornish Rex male kitten; and *Relcanto Pagliaccio*, Brown Burmese male neuter. Siamese winners were: *Quintral Bubbledot*, Seal Point female adult; *Supra Locket*, Seal Point female kitten; and *Saturn Sebastian*, Seal Point neuter.

It will be noted that all the Siamese winners were Seal Points. The Seal Point Cat Club has done much to assist the revival of interest in the original colour variation of the breed which has been overshadowed, for a long time, by the popularity of the Blue, Lilac and other colour Points.

Some clubs are giving up the traditional Best In Show ceremony for a system of giving special awards to 'Best of Breed'. This certainly saves time at the end of the day but the Croydon Cat Club, with others, are still having 'Best In Show' as we know that most exhibitors like it and it gives an exciting finish to the day. It is argued that to dispense with the method would save the cats further handling at the end of the day. This is true, of course, but it seems likely that the cats' interest can be better served by a new method of vetting in which has become an exhausting ordeal for cats and owners alike due to the increase in entries.

A special meeting will be held next month when a select Governing Council committee will meet the Veterinary Surgeons to hear their views. More about this later.

The Notts & Derby Club held an all breeds show at Leicester on January 13th with 1056 exhibits plus a good entry of pets. The Norfolk & Suffolk Club staged a smaller show in the interesting old town of Kings Lynn on January 27th with over 400 exhibits including some pets. The latter show was held in the old Corn Exchange which had a glass roof so the Judges were able to assess eye colour without trouble, particularly that of the Burmese; one also saw the correct colour of the Cream and Blue Cream cats and kittens.