

DOGS

in Canada

JUNE, 1958

35 CENTS



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LETTERS



If you have any suggestions, any comments or constructive criticism to make concerning articles or other items contained in this magazine, or with regard to shows, your opinion of what is happening to various breeds with regard to size, colour, coat, etc., write a brief letter to the Editor. We must reserve the right, however, to edit same.

TO PREVENT DISAPPOINTMENT

... While showing Harve in the Senior Puppy Class in Ottawa, I was so sorry to see our competition, being shown by his novice owner, disqualified because his pup was a monorchid. I do think all premium lists should display the ruling on that very prominently, so that people new to the game can check before they enter their dogs. It is a shame to discourage anyone, and it is a heartbreaking experience. It is something that every breeder should check on and certainly inform anyone buying a male dog of the possibility.

MRS. W. G. KRAUSER

Montreal West, Que.

The suggestion is a good one. Here too, is the advantage of belonging to a breed club and again, of reading dog magazines and good books on dogs in general and one's breed in particular.—Ed.

TEASING AND TEMPERAMENT

... In writing about a specialty show, why omit several top winners, and make a fuss about others? ...

I was very shocked and disturbed to read the account of the Doberman Pinscher in Scarboro, Ont., that killed his owner's son. Notice they had had the dog's vocal chords removed, and that the neighbour's children were warned that he and his mate were of a "killer" breed. I know the parents must be in a state of shock and great sorrow to lose their son. But it seems to me this is another incident of people taking a pair of dogs without proper study and using them for indiscriminate breeding. I know people who have "Dobes" and they are not now classed as "killer" dogs. How could reliable kennels sell them as pets if they were? This applies not to Dobermans alone, but to all breeds. We must not let financial greed blind us to the temperament faults. If we do, we are doing our own particular breed a grave injustice.

1958 BEST IN SHOW

Ch. Puttencove Promise

Owned by Mrs. George Putnam
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again—4th year in a row



1957 BEST IN SHOW

Ch. Shirkhan of Grandeur
Owned by Sunny Shay
and Dorothy Chenade
Hicksville, L. I., N. Y.



1956 BEST IN SHOW

Ch. Wilber White Swan
Owned by Bertha K. Smith
Bethpage, L. I., N. Y.



1955 BEST IN SHOW

Ch. Kippax Fearnought
Owned by Dr. J. A. Saylor
Long Beach, Calif.

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How should we educate our children that dogs have feelings and are not to be teased? Any dog will try to defend himself, and if of an uncertain temperament, tragedy may result. I sincerely hope that this very sad affair will impress on all our minds that as dog breeders we have a solemn duty to produce the best dogs for our breeds, not only in show form, but in temperament as well.

Thank you for the service you are doing through your fine magazine.

MRS. EILEEN M. CURRIE

Brialin Kennels,
Lucan, Ont.

One can readily imagine the mother's first impulse on discovering the dead child. Breeders, members of home and school clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides and members of many such organizations would be doing a great service if they could stress kindness to animals as part of their program, particularly as warm weather approaches.

As to Mrs. Currie's query regarding specialty show reports, it is a good one. It is, simply, a matter of getting the news in. Some breeders are on their toes, others rise more slowly and get around to mentioning unusual wins long after it is news.—Ed.

REPORT CHALLENGED

... While reading the Boxer Club of Canada Club Notes in the May issue of *Dogs* I discovered some information which is misleading if not, in fact, incorrect. The writer has stated that a certain dog was top group winning Boxer. If the list of show awards appearing in the March issue is correct, then the writer is misinformed, for the dog with the greatest number of Working Group wins is not the one mentioned in the article in question.

If the awards of the trophies mentioned in this article are restricted to a certain group or area, then I feel such information tends to misrepresent the facts.

The top best of breed dog whose name undoubtedly eluded the writer, is Ch. Valmax Dreadnought, C.D., owned by Paul Delaney of Humphrey, N.B. This dog took seven Group Firsts in 1957, the greatest number in the Working Group. A top winning working dog who has proved that he also "works".

MRS. V. H. McMILLIN

Valmax Kennels,
Woodlawn, N.S.

According to the report compiled by Mrs. Phyllis Smith and published in the March, 1958 issue of *Dogs*, Ch. Valmax Dreadnought, C.D. won seven Group Firsts in 1957, as Mrs. McMillin states.—Ed.

DEAR OLD TIMER

... I want to compliment you on your good sense and on your excellent suggestion regarding the sale of females. I, personally, am one of the inexperienced breeders; meaning that I just had my first litter for sale. I know little, but enough to make it compulsory for the buyers to have my female puppies spayed at six months of age, at my expense. I was breeding for three reasons only: (1) to better

see you at the 1958

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DOG SHOWS

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AUGUST 27-28

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Mr. Chas. A. Swartz

2ND SHOW
AUGUST 29-30

Mrs. Beatrice Godsol
Major Bryant Godsol

3RD SHOW
SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Mr. Louis J. Murr
Mr. A. Alfred Lepine

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- Bred by Exhibitor Classes
- Canadian Bred Classes
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- Senior Puppy Classes
- Junior Puppy Classes

ENTRY CLOSING DATE AUGUST 2nd

•

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LISTOWEL, ONT

the breed, (2) to see the results of my bloodlines (line breeding), (3) to enjoy the experience.

I wholeheartedly agree with your April article, but for one statement: "The inexperienced breeder finds he has difficulty selling his puppies, and then only at greatly reduced prices. So he stops breeding too, and then the breed comes back to the hands of those good, conscientious breeders who made it popular in the first place."

Now maybe I misunderstood you and you were thinking of breeders who breed for profit only, but as you were dealing with them in the previous sentence and referred to inexperience, I felt you meant people like me. So I would like to express my opinion on the subject. If you leave the breeding program only to those with experience, the breed will die with them. Someone has to carry on, and it is the inexperienced one trying to gather knowledge by doing so, who will be the oldtimer of tomorrow. Why discourage him? If he is sincere, he needs all the help people like you can give him.

GERTRUDE URBAN

Willowdale, Ont.

Mrs. Urban has caught me with my cow hocks showing. No doubt about it, all the good, conscientious breeders were once inexperienced and the choice of this word in the final paragraph was unfortunate. In the earlier references I had portrayed the particular type of inexperienced breeder I had in mind as the one dog owner who merrily bred his female to any male of the breed available without regard to quality, faults or blood lines. Mrs. Urban is obviously not that type of inexperienced breeder. Substitute the word "irresponsible" for "inexperienced" and you'll have a much better idea of the type I had in mind.

In the unpublished portion of her letter Mrs. Urban refers to an unfortunate experience with her first litter. She says it's almost discouraged her from breeding again. I hope it doesn't, because I think she is the kind of person the dog game needs. But let me say to her that if she stays with the game there will be other heartbreaks. I remember our litter that contracted hepatitis before the virus had been identified and before any real treatment was available. I remember what I consider the most promising puppy I ever raised that died of an undiagnosed kidney tumor before it ever got to the shows, and the one of equal promise physically that had its temperament ruined by children with firecrackers. There was the female that never failed to place in the group that lost the sight of one eye in an accident in the run and the promising puppy that died seconds after a distemper inoculation because the veterinarian—a good practitioner, was human and made an error and inoculated the puppy with an unsterilized syringe that had previously contained strychnine. Such examples could be multiplied. The conscientious breeders I referred to have all had those heartbreaks, plus the heartbreak of seeing their breed run into the ground by the irresponsible Johnny-come-latelies and the quick profit

boys. But they've survived the heartbreaks and the hardships. I'm sure Mrs. Urban can do the same.

"THE OLD TIMER"

MONTHLY ADVERTISING PAYS

... have been meaning to write to tell you what a wonderful job you have been doing on the magazine. It has steadily and rapidly improved ever since you took it on, and is now a first-rate dog magazine ... more interesting each issue. More power to you!

JOAN DES TOMBE

Tolka Kennels, Reg'd.,
Toronto, Ont.

... We are delighted with the results of keeping a monthly notice (advertisement) in the magazine. It is a far cry from the old days when we used to wonder if anyone read them, apart from ourselves!

MRS. W. E. KIESER

Heidenheim Kennels Reg'd.,
Arva, Ont.

... We would certainly like our contract renewed. We feel that ... the way your magazine has improved in the last two years the advertising is well worthwhile. We at the Kildoran Kennels wish you further success with *Dogs in Canada*, and we have certainly been very pleased with the way our advertisement has always been set up.

MRS. DOROTHY RICHARDSON

Duncan, B.C.

... Love the Old Timer page in *Dogs in Canada*. Keep up your good work.

MRS. MELETA WOOD

Meleta Kennels,
Victoria, B.C.

ONE YEAR YOUNGER

... In your March issue I inserted an advertisement for my Norwegian Elkhound, Ch. Binna V Av Skromtefjell in your Galleries of 1957. The advertisement states that the dog was born May 20, 1955. This is not correct. The dog was born May 20, 1956. I would appreciate your correcting this mistake of mine in your next issue.

CHARLES H. LISTER

White Rock, B.C.

AUSTRALIAN TERRIER CLUB

... May I tell you how very much we enjoyed your pictorial Gallery of Terrier breeds, and it was with much delight we saw a picture of an Australian Terrier. I am enclosing a booklet including our Standard so that you may record that our Standard for size is less than the Cairn Terrier, which you referred to as the smallest of the working terriers. ... We thoroughly enjoy *Dogs in Canada* and appreciate the constructive help and pleasure it brings. It is to be hoped the recognition of Australian Terriers in the United States will take place soon, so that we will have still greater co-operation in this breed between our countries.

MRS. MILTON FOX

Secretary Australian
Terrier Club of America,
1411 Dorsett Dock Road,
Point Pleasant, N.J.

MEMO FROM THE EDITOR

It's the boating season as well as showtime, and to tell the truth, the way clubs are missing the boat is baffling. Can anyone give one good, valid reason why, after going to the trouble of organizing a fine show, advertising the show, and carrying through the mass of detail, clubs neglect to send in results of top wins to *Dogs*, their own magazine? True, judges' books are sent directly to The Canadian Kennel Club, and in due course results appear in the section of the book devised for that purpose.

But what about pictures of the Best in Show dogs, the Best Puppy in Show and Best Canadian Bred? These wins are news of the moment, and should be forwarded to this magazine as quickly as possible. Neglecting to do so is like spending good money on a new car, and failing to put gas in it. The motion stops right there.

Do you ever wonder why your club isn't represented when mention of top wins and show pictures appears for other clubs? The reason is simply that no one bothered to send in a word or a picture.

Clubs could win many more firm friends among exhibitors in both Canada and the United States if they would have their photographers or show secretaries send pictures of the three top wins, or more, if they wish, to the owners immediately after the show. If an owner has to wait six months or more, the edge is off the excitement, and it's too late for him to do any worthwhile promotion.

Because it is physically impossible to attend every show, *Dogs* must depend on reliable club members, appointed for the purpose, to send a marked catalogue to this office immediately after the show. In this manner we can assess a great deal, but it would help if some notes accompanied the catalogue, mentioning whether or not this was the largest show to date, any increase in entries of any particular breed, any innovations, or "firsts", any human interest items. A good rule is, what would you yourself, like to read?

Seems like we've sung this song before, and here's the chorus. Like Perry Como, "we get letters". The letters complain that some people get more mention than others. And so they do. The reason is that some breeders recognize newsworthy items about their kennels or activities, and send them in, *while it is news*. Others sit back on their crates and do nothing until their ire compels them to write, and then it's too late. "News is scarce," as many a family letter reads, from the east and west coasts. And yet we know there is something happening in every province. What's so secret? Let the rest of the dog world know the news, too, and let no one feel neglected.

What constitutes news? A major win by a Canadian dog in the United States or other countries. A birth, death or marriage in the family. A Canadian judge invited to assess a number of shows in other countries. A new kennel operation, a serious fire in the kennels, in other words, just plain *news*. With the exception of Best in Show and the other top wins mentioned above, wins by Canadians in Canadian shows belong in the Show and Trial results section, and in your own kennel advertising.

The Editor

DOGS IN CANADA

432 Church St., Toronto, Ont.

(EM. 6-2532)

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FEATURES

- 7 The Old Timer
- 10 The Mystery of the Old Boat-house,
by Lionel Scott
- 12 Training the Poodle,
by Blanche Saunders
- 13 Poodles Today, by Caniche
- 14 Faults in the Modern Poodle,
by Alida Monro
- 15 Poodle Nutrition,
by Mrs. Jan Jeffries
- 15 Love is Not Enough,
by Mrs. H. J. Brunotte
- 16 Stars of Recent Shows
- 17 Shamrock Collie Research,
by Dr. Lee Ford
- 19 The Black and Tan Pattern,
by Dr. Edna M. DuBois
- 43 Visitors Welcome,
by Lilliane M. Mitchell

DEPARTMENTS

- 8 Letters
- 20 Dogs and People
- 47 Club Notes

THE CANADIAN KENNEL CLUB

- 38 Application for Kennel Names
- 54 Coming Shows

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(Continued from page 7)

The Old Timer

Whosis too has been an "ornament" of the game for at least 25 years. What's he to think when he sees Mr. Whosis throw his second place ribbon on the ground at the judge's feet and stamp out of the ring. Those kind of things happen all too often."

"But don't you think there are occasions when there's justification?" I asked.

"Son, bad sportsmanship and loose talk are never justified", he said. Certainly I don't quarrel with a person's right to feel badly over a loss with a good dog. But surely that loss can be taken with a smile. Nobody forced the loser to enter his dog under that particular judge. He paid his money of his own free will to get that man's opinion. And it was only one man's opinion and no single opinion is going to make or break a dog. It's the difference of opinion that makes a dog show. If all judges were infallible — if they all picked the right dog by a slide rule process — you'd have the same dogs placed in the same positions day after day. And what fun would that be? Sure a dog is up today and down tomorrow, but over a given number of shows the good dog will emerge often enough, under a variety of judges, to prove his quality."

"And what about loose talk," I asked.

"That's the great curse of the dog game," the Old Timer said. "We hear rumors of a fixed show. We hear rumors of politics. We hear complaints of incompetence. You'd think there wasn't an honest, competent judge in the business."

"And is there?" I asked.

"Son," said the Old Timer "I've been going to shows for 35 years, give or take a couple of years. I've watched a lot of judges in action. I've heard a lot of stories in that time. But I've seen none of the stories proved. My own experience is that about eighty per cent of judging is competent and honest."

"And the other twenty per cent?" I asked.

"Largely incompetence, stemming from the fact that we have no good system of examination and licensing, and judges are permitted to judge breeds in which they are not competent."

"I'm not worried about crooked judges. Undoubtedly there is the occasional one but they won't judge long enough to do the dog show game any serious harm. But the poor sportsmanship of exhibitors coupled with the loose talk of so many of them — that's the thing that can kill our so called sport."

The Old Timer tapped the ashes from his pipe. He straightened up the old fedora. He got up from his chair.

"You know," he said "If people were as nice as their dogs then we'd have a sport that is a sport. But I'm still afraid the worst offenders are the Old Timers."

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THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD BOATHOUSE

by Lionel Scott

*Out of nowhere came the little dog. He didn't speak,
but I could swear he gave me a message . . .
and that I had seen him before.*

I'M not sure whether this happened just the way I'm going to tell you. There were so many strange little things which did happen however, which proved that there was certainly something very mysterious going on.

What started it, really, was seeing that dog. We were on a holiday in Mexico and had stopped for a picnic. It was up in the hills, with the mountains towering in the background. The car was way off the road, and our lunch was spread out on the grassy slope. The sky was very blue, and it was still and beautiful, with nothing living in sight, until — suddenly — over the brow of the hill came this dog.

It was the way he stopped short; then trotted on as if he weren't even going to look at us. All at once a most peculiar thought came into my mind. "I've seen that dog before" I said to myself. At the very moment I thought this the dog stopped short again, and then turned in our direction. He seemed friendly so we gave him some tidbits which he accepted. Then, with a sort of 'thank you' lick, he turned to go. It was at that moment that I knew that he was the same dog that had been around our place at Lake Simcoe, the previous summer.

The dog looked straight at me and I swear he gave me a message, though I'm sure he didn't speak.

"Yes" he seemed to say, "I was there last summer. It's all right for you to know, now. Ask John or Frances. Tell them that the Courier said that they could tell you". Then he wagged his tail and off he went across the road, and down the long slope into the distant valley.

I was thunderstruck, and for a minute I wondered if I were going crazy. Then I looked at my wife, Lynne, and she nodded gravely. "Yes. I got it too," she said.

Well, you can understand how a thing like that would stick in your mind. So, as soon as we got home I asked John and Frances, my oldest son and daughter, all about it. At first they were very reluctant to speak.

"Are you quite sure he said 'tell them the Courier said so' and that it would be alright now" Frank asked.

"That's just what he said" I began, "but . . ."

"But what?" John demanded.

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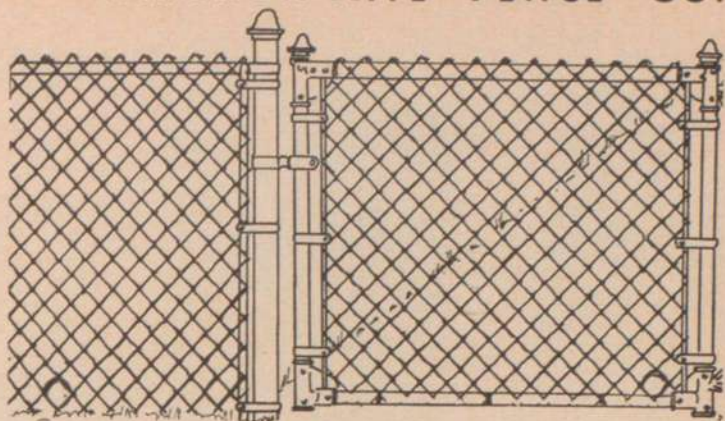
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"Well," I said, "it may seem a bit queer at this point, but I'm not sure he actually said it. It was more like a sort of thought that I could hear."

They looked at each other and smiled. "I guess it's all right" they agreed. "It is a bit funny at first, you know; but after a while you get so you don't even think whether it's words you're hearing. You see it doesn't matter."

"What doesn't matter?" I said. "I'm getting more puzzled all the time. Do you mean to tell me that you know this dog can . . . well . . . let's say 'talk', and that you've talked with him?"

"Dozens of times" they said. "Look here" John said, "I'll tell you how we got into this, and then if you want to know the rest, I guess it'll be O.K."

"I'd love to hear about it" I told him. "It's the most mysterious thing I've ever come across."

"You remember last summer up at the lake" John began, "how that dog sort of dropped-in on us, and how Peter took to him right off?"

Peter is our own dog, and while he is a fine dog (and woe betide anyone around our place who doubts it!) he was never too keen on other dogs around the house, and he'd never before allowed one on the property without kicking up an awful fuss.

"I remember very well" I said, "because I was surprised how Peter never seemed to mind this other dog coming in. Even from the very first time he never made any real protest. Just a sort of token growl to keep up appearances, as it were."

"That's because he knew the visitor was a Courier" Fran explained. "You see the Courier had brought a message from all the others that the meeting was to be in the old boathouse."

"Others. Meeting. What are you talking about?"

"One night" John took up the explanation, "Fran and I were sort of - oh - restless. We were wondering how we could get up and make a sandwich or something without waking anybody. I'd just taken mine on the porch when I heard Fran crash downstairs like a rockslide."

"I did not 'crash' down" Fran protested furiously, "and I didn't disturb anybody."

John grinned, "Well, I went in and told her to come out on the porch, and we sat outside eating and not saying a word. It was a wonderful night. You know how the moon shines on the lake some nights, and makes shadows from trees stretch way out on the water."

"I know," I agreed. It was one of the beauties of our place and we all loved nights like that.

"Yes. Well, like I said, we were sitting there eating and not saying a word."

"We saw something move in the black shadows at the side of the bank where you go down to the old boathouse. There was more than one, and we couldn't both have made a mistake. So we crept down there in our bare feet, and that's when the thing happened. When we got almost to the door we could see a sort of light shining inside, and at first we were both a bit scared, but we were so curious too that we went on and looked inside. It was full of dogs!"

"Full of dogs" I exclaimed. "That doesn't make sense. How could it be full of dogs?"

"I don't know how", John said, "I just know it was. I never remember counting how many, but there sure was a lot, and no two dogs were alike. When we stepped in it was terribly scary. They all turned and looked at us and there wasn't a sound."

(Continued on page 35)

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TRAINING THE POODLE

by Blanche Saunders

THE training of a dog follows a definite pattern. During the learning stage the puppy is taught to do the right thing and to avoid the wrong. Problems of adulthood are foreseen and the young dog prepared for his future. Failing this preliminary training, he must be corrected of bad habits that may have become part of his behavior.

It is easy to spoil a Poodle puppy. This breed of dog prefers the companionship of people above all else, which gives him definite ideas about staying alone. Rather than listen to his protests it is easier for the owner to give in and let the puppy have his own way. If you and your Poodle want a happy life together, train yours, while he is young or as soon as you get him, to stay by himself. Start by confining him in a box or a crate during his rest periods. Leave him in the bathroom or the kitchen while you are busy in some other part of the house. If he barks, toss something at the crate or the door and tell him "Quiet!" A dog is less likely to commit acts of resentment or become a barking nuisance when he knows that he cannot always have company.

While your Poodle is young, prevent mistakes and the forming of bad habits. This is better than letting your puppy do wrong (such as wetting in the house) and then having to correct him. Poodles are over-sensitive and take corrections badly. A little caution on the owner's part, avoids unnecessary discipline.

Far too many owners, Poodle owners included, fail to instill self-reliance in their dogs while the dog is a puppy. One reason is the danger from motor cars. Another is the increasing number of laws that require a dog to be leashed. But when the opportunity presents itself, put as much trust in your puppy as you can. When you take him for a walk, tuck the leash in your pocket instead of fastening it to the dog. Sensing his freedom, the puppy may attempt to dash away; if he does, call him back. Make him understand that he is at liberty to investigate things but that he can't stray far away and that he must come when he is called.

The Poodle, normally, is quick to learn and anxious to please, but the individual dog determines the method of handling. If your older Poodle is the willful type, treat him as you would an unruly Terrier or powerful German Shepherd dog. This headstrong trait is the result of inattentiveness and the dog's determination to satisfy his own desires. While not common in Poodles, the owner must handle such a dog with the same determination if he hopes to get results.

If your Poodle is shy, you have almost the same problem. This type of dog will take advantage because he is afraid of a situation. Here again the owner must be firm in a very gentle manner. And speaking of shyness, while a shy dog will benefit from training, the Obed-

ience ring is not the place to exhibit the cringing scary type of Poodle. Public demonstrations should be left to those dogs that *enjoy* obedience.

Perhaps your Poodle is lazy as many of them are. In this case try enticing him with food, but if he still shows scant enthusiasm, there is little you can do except to train in a fast tempo and hope that some of your speed will rub off on the dog.

What I like about training a Poodle is his happy-go-lucky attitude. He will do anything you ask him if you make the training a game. In the Obedience ring, I expect a Poodle to clown for he is a show-off, but who can get angry with a dog that tries so hard to please the crowd? A perfect score impresses the owner but a performance with humor is longer lasting in the eyes of the public.

Small dogs being yappier than large dogs (generally speaking) the popularity of Toys and Miniatures creates another Obedience problem. Whining and squeaking during the sit and down stays are annoying traits that are difficult to overcome. Training your Poodle to stay alone will help. After that, it is a question of correcting repeatedly by a cuff on the nose or a jerk on the collar, or resorting to muzzling with a piece of gauze bandage. This nervous reaction is greatly due to careless breeding. And

(Continued on page 38)

POODLES TODAY

by CANICHE

"I would love to have a Poodle, but my husband says he would not be seen on the street with one." How often does one hear remarks like this! All because Poodle owners have coddled and cuddled their pets to the point where, to the average person, the very word "poodle" conjures up the image of a fluffy, fragile, beribboned lapdog. And how many a husband, after giving in and getting a Poodle for his wife, has quickly changed his mind and become more than proud to walk that active amusing companion down the street?

Recently *Life Magazine*, with more than 100 breeds from which to choose if it cared to, singled out the Poodle with two other breeds to represent "delicate city dogs"! Which goes to show how far the "sissy" reputation of Poodles has gone, and with such publicity how much further it is doomed to go.

The various fancy Poodle clips are, of course, directly responsible for this state of affairs, plus the various forms of dressing up, and the sheltered lives many of them are forced to lead. Take any breeds and deck them out in barrettes, fancy collars, ribbons, coats, sweaters and boots over a period of a few years; carry them over puddles, paint thier toenails, clip their hair in patterns, douse them with scent, dye them different colours, pose them with fashion models, take them shopping on Fifth Avenue, and they will soon acquire a reputation for being sissy.

A sad part of it is, besides the adverse publicity, that these dogs miss so much in life. Certainly they need and deserve plenty of affection and the best of care; but Poodles, like just about every other breed, love to run and hunt and play too. Originally they were hunting dogs, duck retrievers, and some are still trained and used this way with great success. A Poodle has stamina as well as brains, and can just as easily put his wonderful intelligence to this use as to the well known circus tricks or high Obedience scores. A Poodle would far rather chase a squirrel in the woods than be carried to a cocktail party, complete with diamond collar. But the people who see him at the cocktail party don't stop to think that he wasn't given a choice! And doubtless he — or she — is a good deal more comfortable in a plain clip than bogged down with a heavy show coat.



Perfect companions, and the whole sunny countryside for a run.

There is a widespread notion that the show clip was designed to help a hunting Poodle perform better in the water: the big ruff kept him afloat; the shaved rear end left his hindquarters free, the bracelets kept his joints warm and the pompon on his tail helped him steer. Frankly this seems like sheer nonsense. Surely the person who first thought of this angle must have had tongue well in cheek! Today it is likely an excuse to present to those to whom the show clip appears grotesque. For if it were true, would not Retrievers and Spaniels be equipped with artificial extra hair (or bred with more hair) on legs, tail and shoulders to help them swim? No, the show clip in all probability originated as a circus stunt to make a Poodle appear even more of a clown than his personality already showed. Poodles in short clips make excellent swimmers, collect fewer twigs and burrs. And just as a person sheds his outer clothes to dive in and rescue a drowning comrade, so a Poodle would be glad to be rid of the encumbrance of a long coat of hair for swimming as well as for general living. If shaving the hindquarters gives extra mobility in the water, then how about the forequarters as well?

For a Poodle clipped down very close in winter, a man-made coat is right and necessary. But why not leave a little extra length of hair and skip

the coat? As long as the dog is moving, his circulation will keep him warm. And no matter what size he is, even the smallest Toy, he can walk! Some people carry their Poodles everywhere, and there are even owners who never take their dogs outside the whole winter long, for fear of their catching cold or germs! How bored and soft they must become, deprived of exercise and fresh air, more susceptible than ever to the ills feared by the owners!

Of course it is better than being neglected or abused, but the poor show Poodles who have to be kept "under glass" for fear of damaging their coats! No romping with other dogs, no investigating the exciting smells in a patch of woods — they might lose or break a few hairs! Poodles' intelligence, charm, good nature and sense of humour are well known attributes; but they are too often overshadowed by contempt, particularly on the part of men. What can we do to rectify this? Let's forget so-called tradition and put the Poodle back where he belongs, as a rugged, sporty companion of smart appearance (Retriever or kennel clip) for men and women alike, without frills. And that includes no more fancy effeminate French names, too. They're really German in origin anyhow! Perhaps then will Poodles be regarded by one and all, not as ridiculous caricatures, but as they should be: real dogs.

FAULTS IN THE MODERN POODLE

by Alida Monro

THE editor has asked me to write something about the faults which need watching in the modern Poodle.

Let me proclaim, loud and long, that one of the most important faults in the modern Poodle is loss of type. It does not matter how beautifully made a dog may be from the anatomical point of view if he is not typical of his breed. Believe me, the present-day craze for the immensely long foreface in Poodles is destroying type. Many of the larger Poodles, with their extremely long forefaces, look like Greyhounds or Collies. In Miniatures one is constantly seeing this extremely long foreface with a very shallow chin.

In order to obtain no cheekiness novice breeders have concentrated on breeding their dogs to those who have this extremely elongated foreface with the narrow head.

Let me say at once that a Poodle is intended to have a well-shaped head with a good brainbox. The brainbox contains the motive power which drives the engine. Narrow down the skull so that the brain becomes restricted and you will undoubtedly reduce the intelligence of the animal.

The Poodle is an extremely intelligent dog and must not be spoiled so that he loses this most essential faculty.

Many people confuse the expression coarse head with cheekiness. Cheekiness is a rounded, zygomatic arch. This arch should be flat. The best type of Poodle has a flat cheek bone and a well modelled foreface with a good firm underjaw. I think that part of the degeneration of type is caused by novices who have read the Standard very carelessly, and who think that the only feature for which they should look is the foreface.

This point is also true, of course, of some judges—especially those who have not had very much experience with Poodles. They know that a long foreface is desired and will very often place a dog who has this particular type of head over another whom experienced breeders would consider had a really good Poodle head.

I do beg both breeders and judges to concentrate on the real Poodle head and not devote all their attention to the very long snout with no modelling.

Missing teeth

I have sometimes observed that the very long fine foreface goes with a deficiency of teeth. Often these extremely fine jaws are also the owners of a deficient number of incisors at the top or

bottom jaw, sometimes both. We must always bear in mind that England is a country which produces the finest blood stock in the world and that breeders all over the Continent of Europe and elsewhere make a call on our stock. We must never lose sight of the fact that an insufficient number of teeth in the jaw is enough on the Continent to prevent a dog from winning a very high place.

Lack of pre-molars, which no one pays much attention to in this country, is often a source of disqualification or very low placement in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, and some Scandinavian countries as well.

It would be most unwise to export from this country a dog who has not a full complement of teeth in upper and lower jaws.

Eye faults

Eyes sometimes fail to please when one is judging—not so much for colour, because I think the colour of eyes has improved very much in the last year or so, but because the eye is too small and beady in appearance; so dark as to have no expression whatever; and placed at a very curious angle. Instead of lying parallel with the zygomatic arch, the eye is almost at an angle of 45 degrees with the nose. This eye placement is the natural concomitant of the over-narrow foreface.

Statue in hair

Another most important reason for loss of type in the present-day Poodle is, to my mind, the current method of presentation. This is apparently based on the photographs of the American Poodle which is almost always depicted as a statue cut out in hair. The late Thomas Fall often spoke to me of his disgust with these photographs which are, for the most part, painted in with a brush, and the subjects of which, when seen in the flesh, bear almost no resemblance to their photographs. So often one sees the dogs paraded in the ring, and as they go round one picks out several who look absolutely lovely. They are placed on the table and one is confronted with an animal carrying an enormous coat. The back is covered with an inch of "plushy" hair—no sign of the curly astrakhan of the true Poodle. The quarters have two or three inches of long, plushy hair which has been skilfully cut to produce a beautifully rounded rump. The eye falls to the long hair on the thigh which shows a wonderfully let-

down stifle. Below is a big hock ring—three inches in diameter and every hair straight and the same length (no curl you note). One places the hand on the quarters and behold it sinks in to a flat bottom—no rounded bone, no muscles, and the let-down turns out to be bone as straight as a pencil.

The dog, after having had a final comb to his mane and ears by his handler, is lifted down and away he goes, shuffling or pin-toeing in at the back, and plaiting madly as he comes back. But his long head and his beautifully sculptured coat carry him through and over he goes above the sound, typical, not-so-flashy animal.

If he becomes a champion he will be used and his progeny will carry on the faulty construction, the poor feet, the flat sides, the sickle hocks, the cow hocks, the straight stifles and down will go the type.

Balance needed

Action to-day is deplorable. Feet are bad and ear leathers are too short and badly placed and of poor quality. Let me beg breeders to stop devoting so much attention to the production of a long head and a huge coat and to consider the all-over quality of the animal. Let me beg judges and intending judges to study the Standard and to realize that balance is what is wanted.

Remember . . .

You can grow a coat but you cannot alter the bone structure under it. Poodles have reached terrific numbers in registrations, but let us remember what happened to the Scotties, to Cairn Terriers, to Poms and to Cocker Spaniels when the money makers discovered them and thought that they, too, could exploit these lovely breeds. The same will happen to Poodles if those who are now breeding and those who have been breeding them for years do not grit their teeth and make up their minds, come what may, always to concentrate on the good of the breed before the cash in hand.

I may be a voice crying in the wilderness, but what I say is true. If we do not do all in our power to keep the Poodle true to type, and if we breed bad temperaments (and at a very recent show I was appalled to find Standards and Miniatures on their benches snapping wildly at the public, and some even snarling in the ring), the Poodle will, without fail, fall from public favour.

He has won his place in the past by reason of his lovely temperament, but he will go the way of the others if he is bred simply and solely to make money for someone who has climbed on to the band-wagon because he has seen the popularity of the breed and hopes to reap an enormous harvest.

Careless, indiscriminate breeding will bring about the downfall of our breed.

This critique is published courtesy the English "Dog World". Mrs. Monro is well-known as a Poodle authority and judge on both sides of the Atlantic.

POODLE NUTRITION

by Mrs. Jan Jeffries

PROPER nutritional care and conditioning has always been an important problem to the breeder of show animals. Some authorities advise one program, other authorities advise the direct opposite. To my way of thinking, there is no one satisfactory program; the right method for you is the one that your particular kennel of dogs thrives on. What the hunting or working dog owner considers the ideal diet would hardly be suitable for toy or house pet. Feeding problems vary with the breeds of dogs and their work.

Here at Round Table Poodle Kennels, we are trying to raise show quality Miniature Poodles and in so doing, have the problem of "coat." Hair on a Poodle has been the distress of the breeder and handler—how to grow it and how to keep it—not an easy task. A long, healthy show coat will not grow on a dog in poor physical condition, and once grown, the coat requires the maintenance of physical well-being to remain.

Food must be right.

The Miniature Poodle as a variety is not a hearty eater. They do not take the heavy exercise that the sporting, hunting or working breeds do and consequently do not have the appetite of these dogs. Actually, any dog, regardless of breed, will generally eat enough to keep alive, but keeping him in good show condition is something else again. So, other than general problems of good nutrition, of getting the food into the dogs, we must have the right food—that which will build and maintain not only body condition, but also promote coat growth and maintenance.

Hair is composed chiefly of protein. Thus we have found, through trial and error, that a high protein diet seems to be the best program for us. We have settled on a diet of approximately 80% fresh cooked beef which is mixed with 20% kibble biscuit. To this feed we add Pervinal powder as a vitamin supplement, and which we consider to be of great help in the assimilation of this heavy protein. We maintain a kennel of approximately 65 dogs and this diet is our standard kennel feed which is fed to all dogs throughout the kennel—from puppies to stud dogs, brood females and show dogs.

We start our new puppies on a Pabulum-meat-Pervinal gruel at three weeks of age and by the time they are eight weeks old, they are on the standard kennel feed. These puppies mature rapidly; they have excellent coats, are in

excellent condition and present no problems as "finicky eaters." At feeding time the puppy pens show us that the puppies consider their meals most palatable — all we see is a ring of pompon tails around a pan of food which rapidly disappears.

Fertility Factor

The over-all fertility of the Round Table Poodles has been 100% perfect and we feel that the heavy protein coupled with Pervinal helps make this high average. Some four years ago we ran out of Pervinal and it was decided to "get along without it." For six months no Pervinal was given—and during that time the amazingly high percentage of "misses" was unbelievable. The lack of Pervinal had been the only change in diet or routine, so once more it was added to the food. In a short time when these same females were rebred, they produced good litters. Therefore, we feel that Pervinal is a definite "must" for fertility and we will continue to use the combination of vitamins in Pervinal as our diet supplement. One of our stud dogs, Ch. Hollycourt Venture, is 10½ years old and he is in as fine physical shape and coat condition as any young dog in the kennel.

We have imported several dogs from other countries and have found as a whole, that their weight was not to our standards, nutrition being very different there than here. It takes a little time for the dogs to decide they like "American Cooking," but once they do, they come into bloom amazingly fast.

Apparently, our nutritional program here at Round Table is the right one for us. We think so. Our Poodle coats are good, body weight is excellent, temperaments are happy. We are very fortunate in having good health throughout the kennel. Whether such a program as ours would benefit others, I cannot say. The important thing to remember is that no matter how nutritious a food is, how well-balanced a diet may be, or how economical or how expensive it is—the result is what counts. The final judge is your dog—he has to eat it to benefit.

Reprint from Popular Dogs, March, 1958. Mrs. Jeffries is manager of the Round Table Kennels, Middletown, Del.

Numerous inquiries have been received following the article on the Tibetan Terriers in the May issue of *Dogs* from readers interested in obtaining a puppy. The article mentioned that due to concerted efforts there are now 15 of these rare Tibetan dogs in the United States. We have since learned that a few puppies will be available in the Fall. Because the breed is so very rare on this continent (in fact, anywhere outside of Tibet) it is suggested that inquirers write directly to Mrs. Henry S. Murphy, the author of the article, at Hill O'Tara, Route 1, Vienna, Virginia.

LOVE IS NOT ENOUGH

by Mrs. H. J. Brunotte

IT is a generally accepted fact that the basic pattern underlying all processes and occurrences in nature is one of undulation, i.e. a wave-like pattern in which any given object is compelled to follow, the troughs and crests caused by forces largely beyond its control. Nature and the majority of its creatures have for millions of years been passively subject to these forces, the only exception being man who, in his search for greater comfort, while not managing to entirely free himself from the master-pattern has in a modest way succeeded to affect the "wave-length". At the best of times this ability to improve upon nature is not one to be employed lightly or indiscriminately unless we are prepared to accept the sometimes disastrous consequences attendant upon such use.

One may ask in what way the foregoing can be applied to breeds of dogs including our own. The answer would be "In every Way". Being part of nature we, as well as our dogs, are subject to the laws that govern it. And the fact that we may consider ourselves nature's favourite subjects coupled with the fact that in creating our breeds we did, in certain areas, successfully improve upon it does not make us or our dogs any less so. An example of the highs and lows to which we are subject is the wave-like rise and fall of popularity or acceptance by the public of our breed. This popularity has, for some time and for varying reasons, been of the utmost concern to the majority of breeders and fanciers of the Poodle. Are there reasons for concern?

It is in the nature of humans that anything close to their hearts should, if possible, find favour with as many of their fellow humans as possible. This feeling, aimed at trying to share something from which pleasure may be derived, which in turn will reflect favourably upon its own source, is an old and commendable one. The breeder of Poodles who likes to see as many Poodles as possible bring happiness to as many owners as possible with the welcome result of an increase in admiration and love for the breed as a whole will naturally be concerned about the popularity of the breed.

So will the breeder who, along more modern and practical lines, recognizes the fact that to improve and attempt to perfect a breed of dogs love alone

(Continued on page 39)