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# Briard



# Briefs

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**THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP**

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BRIARDS IN THE NEWS: Thanks to DIEHARD DOPE and R. D. Linton, its crusading editor, for the fine words in its current issue under the heading Briard Fellowship Shows How. It referred to our recent suggestion that if entry fees were to be increased, some concessions must be made to the exhibitors in the way of earlier release hours.

Every show-goer must have noted that early release hours are becoming more and more common. In fact a number of shows are letting dogs go home as soon as judged. To the best of our knowledge BRIARD BRIEFS was the first dog publication to bitterly protest the "stay until we are damned good and ready to let you go home" regulations that were almost universal until relatively recently. Conditions are better now but they will never be perfect until an exhibitor is allowed to come and go at any time that suits his fancy just as long as he has his dog ready at the scheduled ring time. We pay money for the privilege of competing in the ring, not to be forced to stay on exhibit for the benefit of the show management.

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WANNA BET ? In the September issue of YOUR DOG -- an otherwise interesting magazine -- the editor implies that a professional handler is a virtual necessity if a dog is to be taken to its championship. Probably Editor Miller did not intend to say that at all for it is pure nonsense. An amateur who is interested in his dog can take the animal through if it has enough quality. If it does not have quality enough for an amateur to take it to the title, but can make the grade under a professional, it is all the proof one needs that there are judges who will hand the winner's ribbons to a handler even if there is a better dog in the ring under charge of an amateur. Luckily such judges are scarce.

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QUICK CHANGE ARTISTS: Dogs that won yesterday, last week or a month ago may go down to ignominious defeat if shown today or tomorrow. Luckily there is little or no betting in connection with dog shows. Bookies would go nuts trying to dope out the odds. Like humans dogs have days when they feel like a million and other periods when they are lower than a scuffed rubber heel. Judges see them as they are, not as they were at some previous time. In one respect dogs are like jockeys and prize fighters; they can take on, or lose, weight in a hurry. This does not apply so much to the dog that is actually suffering from some digestive upset. The dogs that change the most rapidly are those that are in excellent condition but, like the athlete, are so close to the peak that the change one way or the other can only mean too fat or too thin. This may be particularly apparent to a judge who has previously had the dog and, naturally, looks for the same physical condition. Judges may be completely justified in putting down a dog that, a few days before, has beaten the opposition that now passes it by. When a dog is at its peak nothing but the closest daily examination and adjustment of its living conditions will keep it there.

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DO DOGS HAVE HEADACHES? Many humans have miserable days from headaches. There is nothing that signals the condition to an observer aside from a general testiness and a disinclination to go through with the day's endeavors. Now a veterinarian comes up with the statement that animals do have headaches, the only sign being a hanging of the head. Next time you jerk Tower's lead and yelp at him because he is too lazy to hold his head up, it may be well to wonder if the poor puss is having a spell of canine migraine.

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CORNELL'S NEW RESEARCH LABORATORY: The first paper from the new Cornell Laboratory for Diseases of Dogs covers



the dreaded infectious hepatitis. Contrary to general opinion this disease should not be confused with Carro distemper. Inoculations for distemper will not protect a dog against infectious hepatitis according to the Cornell scientists. They found that the virus is not air borne but is usually caused by the animal licking, or eating something that does carry the virus. Similar infection will follow the dog having contact with excreta from infected dogs. One test showed that a dog that had apparently recovered from hepatitis had the virus in its urine 23 weeks later. There are two protective serums known to veterinarians, both having only temporary benefits. One has its effect for about a month while the other, a vaccine, will protect the dog for six months to a year.

Cornell is doing a fine job with the new laboratory and all dog owners are urged to donate as much as possible to help carry on the work. Checks should be made payable to Cornell University and sent to Joseph D. Minogue, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

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A CUTE, AND TRUE, DOG STORY: One of our neighbors has a dog whose genealogy must ever remain shrouded in the mists of time. The lady does considerable entertaining. At all times a number of dog biscuits are scattered under a kitchen table. Seldom does the dog eat one of the cookies unless company arrives. At such times the dog greets the arrival and immediately goes to the kitchen and brings back a biscuit which he proceeds to eat in the middle of the living room. If two people arrive together he makes two trips. This trick has been observed time after time by experienced dog owners and never fails. If the owner gives any sort of signal the act cannot be discerned by any of those who have become interested in the case and have tried to understand it. It is relatively simple to believe that the dog goes through his act to gain attention but the mystifying part is that he unquestionably can count the arrivals and feels he must perform separately for each person.

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EXHIBITOR'S SHOW ? We quote from an upstate dog show premium list. Page 10. "To make this truly an exhibitor's show \*\*\*\*" Page 11. "No dog may be permanently removed from the show before 7:30 P.M." We suppose if it was not truly an exhibitor's show that dog owners would be asked to stay around until the next morning and help sweep up the building. Eight hours in pokoy for 20 minutes in the ring ! The premium list goes on to state that they intend to make "your day a pleasant one indeed". What about a nice night too ? Comfortable beds ?

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THE FOREIGN TROPHIES: The trophy sent us in exchange by the Briard Club of The Netherlands has been won on an annual point score basis by Ch. Westlawn Defonder, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert. The French trophy was so badly damaged in transit that it had to be abandoned but a substitute provided by The Fellowship was won at the Rye show by Ch. Westlawn Gossemor, owned by the Misses Kohn and Stryker.

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SOME OWNERS ARE THE DUMB ANIMALS: There have been numerous cases in the past few months where show dogs have smothered to death in crates and cars left in the hot sun without proper ventilation. Great pity should be extended to the poor dogs who were probably loyal to the congenital idiots who owned them. At one show the owners were in having a drink when sought out and informed that their dogs were in trouble in a car. The answer was, "We'll go out when we finish this beer". In the meantime others had broken the car window and dragged out one dog whose life was saved. The other was too far gone. Probably the rescuers got hell from the owners for breaking the window. Dogs, unfortunately, do not have the privilege of selecting their owners.

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FELLOWSHIP LEADS IN ENTRIES: AKC records to date show that Fellowship Briards averaged 3.6 dogs per show while Briards not belonging to Fellowship members averaged only 1.6 dogs per show. Both figures cover all shows in 1951 that have been reported in the Gazette. If match shows were included the Fellowship figures would be still more impressive.

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#### THE BRIARD DIRECTORY

Advertisements in this section reach the cream of Briard enthusiasts each month. Advertising rates are \$1.00 per issue for a four-line ad with additional lines at 25¢ each. On yearly contract the rate is \$10.00 for 12 insertions. Copy must be in on or before the first of the month. All copy accepted on a "Till Forbid" basis.

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LITTER OF NINE: Four males, five bitches by Gregoire Pierre de Chambrun out of Fairso Titania. Gregoire Winners Dog at Fellowship Feature Show, Lake Mohawk. Fellowship-approved breeding. Write or phone Ipswich 854W. Mrs. Augustus H. Fisko, Argilla Road, Ipswich, Mass.

SOLD OUT: The Westlawn litter by Champion Westlawn Genius out of Westlawn Fascinator is sold out. No immediate plans for breeding but reservations will have an effect upon the schedule. The recent litter was distributed to California, Connecticut, Illinois, New York and New Jersey. Westlawn Kennels, Registered, Montville, Morris County, New Jersey.

WHEN YOU MUST BOARD YOUR BRIARD: Heated, sanitary buildings and runs. Separate quarters for each dog. Attendant with dogs 24 hours a day. Circular. Tomalyn Hill Boarding Kennels, Thos. Nelson, owner, Montville, N. J.

CHAMPION BRIARDS: Complete list of all AKC Briard Champions since the breed was recognized. \$1.00 from The Fellowship.

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**THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP, Inc.**  
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## **S E R V I C E   D E P A R T M E N T S**

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**SHOW PLACING SERVICE:** The Show Records of all Briards exhibited since January, 1940.

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**BOOKLETS:** A brief, illustrated, history of the breed, The Fellowship Code of Ethics and Official Breed Standard. Free.