

Sketch

Tranquillozzi
L. Roger's dog

BRIARD BRIEFS

March, 1958

PUBLISHED BY THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP, INCORPORATED

Gerald T. White, Editor; Montville, N.J.

BRIARD PUPPIES WANTED: On one single recent weekend there were four calls by phone or in person for Briard puppies -- and not a pup available. If any of you know where, or when, puppies will be available, please inform the writer immediately. If you have puppies but have failed to report on their availability, you are simply losing sale after sale. While we naturally want listings of dogs bred to Fellowship standards, we will pass along the addresses of non-members who have pups if there is reason to believe that the bloodlines are of the proper quality.

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THE FELLOWSHIP'S SPRING FEATURE SHOW: The Annual Twin Brooks K.C. show will be held in the Armory, Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, New Jersey on Sunday, April 13th. The club, as usual, has gone to great trouble to make this a most attractive event for members of The Briard Fellowship. The breed judge will be C. Ross Hamilton, Jr., a man with thorough experience with Briards. Our group will be judged by I. J. Smith, whose reputation with Briards is well known. Most of you will recall that "I.J." was selected as our Specialty arbiter. Should any of us have the good fortune to win the group, we will go before C. J. Kylie Myers, an old hand with working dogs and a great Briard enthusiast.

We cannot recall any show where the three judges were more likely to put a Briard through to top honors.

To a few of you living within reasonable distance of West Orange, a Twin Brooks premium list is enclosed. Others can obtain the lists from the Foley Dog Show Organization, 2009 Ranstead Street, Philadelphia 3, Pa., or from Miss Evelyn S. Nelson, President of Twin Brooks and a Fellowship member, Tomalyn Hill, Montville, N.J.

THE CLOSING DATE IS NOON, APRIL 1st. Your entry MUST be in before the deadline.

Entry fee, \$6.00 per dog. Closing hour, 3 P.M.

Trophies: Best of Breed by Twin Brooks K.C.
Best Opposite Sex by William P. Kent
Winners Dog by Gerald and Edith White
Winners Bitch by Briard Club of Holland
Reserve Bitch by Miss Wilhelmine Wielich

IF YOU DON'T SHOW ANYWHERE ELSE THIS YEAR BE SURE TO ENTER **HERE**
If you need any other details contact the writer immediately.
Telephone, DEerfield 4-0859, night or day

NOW IS THE SEASON: In most areas your Briard is starting to shed out his undercoat and you have but two alternatives. Either spend 15 or 20 minutes on him each week or else get both yourself and the dog into a mess that will take several hours of work. While you are at it carefully inspect the dew claws. There will be two on each hind leg if he is eligible for showing and there may be one on each fore leg. At times there may be only one front leg with a claw. The main point is that the undercoat will mat unless the outer coat is combed. Not only will the result be painful but the dog will suffer from the heat once hot weather arrives. The loose, normal outer coat acts as an insulation against heat on the same principle as the burnoose of desert tribesmen. A matted coat is like asking the dog to wear a felt blanket in summer.

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LAMENESS: There is no need to rush to the vet if your dog develops a sudden lameness. The first need is to look at the bottom of his pads. There is considerable hair in the space between the pads and small pebbles may get into the space and be held there. A simple flick of a finger will dislodge the obstruction. If there is an abrasion you can usually leave it alone although a smear of Vaseline or something similar may help.

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TRANQUILIZERS: The use of tranquilizers for dogs that are to be shipped for some distance is becoming common. Another use is when a dog has been allowed to become matted so that combing the coat will mean tearing out tangles. Obviously the use of such drugs should not be taken lightly but there is more or less general agreement that the drugs have a rightful place in the kennel medicine chest. The writer has found that two Miltown pills given a Briard about an hour before the quieting effect is needed will have considerable of an effect. Do not give over two pills unless by vet's advice.

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THE MEAL TYPE DOG FOODS: If any member has ever had success with the feeding of the meal form of dog food we would like to publish details. Dog food salesmen drop in every week or so with another free bag of meal guaranteed to attract the Briard. After seventeen years of trials -- some of them supervised by the salesmen -- the dog has preferred to starve to death rather than eat the mushy stuff. The meals must be good or the makers would go broke. The only answer seems to be that Briards have teeth and insist upon something drier and more crunchy. This seems to be proven by experiments in varying the quantity of liquid mixed with the kibbles and meat. Often the dog who is off his feed will begin eating properly again if the kibbles are almost dry.

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THE FARRINGTONS LOSE CRIQUETTE: Sad letter from Frances Farrington that her handsome Criquette recently passed away. Quite logically they want another Briard and are hoping for a litter by Chef.

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BRIARDS FEATURED IN NEW BOOK: While official publication has not yet been announced, there will soon be a dog book directed at children which will feature the growth of a litter of Briards. The litter selected was one bred by Fred Leary. An afternoon was recently spent taking pictures of Chef, who sired the litter, to illustrate the book jacket. More about this book as soon as details are released.

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BRIARDS IN 1957: The AKC Gazette recently had the annual breakdown of registrations for last year. Briards show up very well with total registrations of 43 dogs. As an illustration of how statistics by themselves give an erroneous impression, it is pointed out that the gain in Briard registration over the year of 1956 is 153%. In fact our breed is one of four that gained over 150%. If that is the only fact considered it would seem that we are on the road towards peak popularity. Actually -- and fortunately -- nothing of the sort is predictable. In fact we are 39th out of 112 breeds eligible for registry. However, if 1958 shows as nice a gain as the past year we will be in a most satisfactory position. No intelligent lover of Briards ever wants the dogs to attain the rank of the so-called "popular" breeds to be found a dozen to a block. Let's keep on growing but only under the careful breeding practices specified in our regulations.

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GINGER ROGERS' BRIARD ON TV: Another Briard has gotten on TV. Ed Morrow had Ginger Rogers on his "Person to Person" program but it turned out that her Briard was the star performer, perfectly behaved and evidently the top member of the family. Some time ago we wrote a letter to Miss Rogers to find out the identity of her dog but never got an answer. It would be appreciated if any member could inform us where she obtained the dog and something about its breeding.

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