THE BRIARD

By GERALD T. WHITE

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THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP
MONTVILLE, NEW JERSEY
Henry Davis' monumental Modern Dog Encyclopedia relates the ancient legend of the Creation wherein God, angry at Man, created a chasm between man and the animals. The dog leaped across as the fissure widened, joining man for eternity. In tracing the history of the Briard it is quite obvious that the dog goes back to the same general lines that produced most of the European herding dogs. Hubbard, in his Working Dogs of the World, traces the Briard to the Russian Ovtscharka. In a survey made by Life magazine the Briard is named one of the earliest of the domesticated dogs. Sedir in his book, The Dog of Brie, falls in with other researchers in alluding to the 13th century cathedral in Montdidier. It appears that this occurrence is the first written record of the Briard.

According to the legend the Aubry of Montdidier erected the cathedral in that Picardy town in memory of the Briard that had saved the life of his son. As a matter of fact the head of a Briard appears on the coat of arms of the church. The building stood through the centuries until destroyed during the World War.

This same instance brings up a most interesting point. It is commonly supposed that the Briard is the dog of the ancient French province of Brie. In fact, in France, the dog is known as the Chien du Brie, or Dog of Brie. Sedir has much in his favor when he claims that the name probably refers to the Dog of Aubry rather than to the province of Brie. Weight is added to this theory by the fact that Briards are not recorded as being chiefly in Brie, but were found all over France. It seems logical that Chien d'Aubry, or Dog of Aubry links up with the first commonly accepted record of the dog as a separate breed.

Another point which lends verification to the claim that the breed was known all over France is the undeniable fact that there are two distinct types of Briards. While modern breeding is mixing the types there are, today, many leading Briards which, to the uninitiated, seem to be of entirely different breeds. While there are exceptions to the rule it is common to find the tawny Briards with smaller feet, shorter and harsher coats, lighter leg bone and far less hair over the face. It takes little knowledge of the laws of adaptability to believe that the tawny Briards developed in rocky sections where the ground was relatively free from underbrush. The long coats were not needed to protect the dog from briers and similar sources of injury common to densely wooded areas.

The other type is especially noted for its extremely large feet and because at least one of the dewclaws often grows low enough to form an actual toe. This is the hairy "snowshoe" foot, ideal for work over snow or the soft footing of marshes. The long coat which more often accompanies the large feet would serve to keep the dog warmer in snow country and also to protect it in all weathers from the denser foliage of such sections.
French farms are small as compared with those in America, and, for the most part, are poorly fenced. Thus, for generations, Briards worked over areas where they had to know the limits of their master's property. So this day the Briard is loath to roam beyond his own property line.

Bringing Briards to their introduction to America, it is unfortunate that there is a gap of many years between the first record and the period of about 1918. Following the American Revolution, the Continental Congress awarded a large piece of property to the Marquis de Lafayette for his services to the young republic. The famous general lived on this property for some years before his return to France. We have a clear record that Lafayette wrote a letter to one of the DuPonts just after 1824 in which he asked DuPont, who was on his way to France, to "bring back some more of the French sheep dogs to tend my flocks". There can be no doubt but what he referred to Briards and that he all ready had some here. We are thus certain that there were Briards in America shortly after the Revolution.

Yet our next record skips to the days of the first World War. During that war the Briard was the official war dog of the French army. They were used to carry munitions to the front lines, to assist at listening posts; their hearing is reputed to be the most acute of any breed-- and also to help the Medical Corps to search for the wounded. The reports stress the amazing ability of the Briard to lead the corpsmen to men who still had a spark of life in their broken bodies. It is said that a man a Briard passed up was beyond assistance.

We now enter the admittedly delicate situation of trying to give credit to the first of the modern Briards in this country. We know that it was during, or immediately following the first World War. There are conflicting claims but it is correct to say that among the first to bring Briards in during the period of 1918 to 1923 that the names of Mr. and Mrs. Ober, Miss Hoppin, Mrs. Jacobs and Mr. Wallace MacMonnies must be mentioned. The first Briard officially registered by the American Kennel Club was sold to Mrs. Jacobs but it later became evident that the newcomers stressed quantity more than quality with the result that, in 1946, virtually all of those who had been in the club for a period of two years or more resigned in a body and formed The Briard Fellowship which was later incorporated as a non-profit organization in New Jersey. Membership immediately increased to include every state in the Union.

The Briard of Today
The Fellowship was not, and still is not, just another breed club. Originally it was planned to rigidly limit the membership to a total of 25 and to formulate the strictest possible rules covering the breeding of Briards and the department of members. It was thought that the regulations would not prove attractive to any great number of Briard enthusiasts. This assumption was completely in error. As soon as the regulations were drawn up many expressed keen disappointment when they found that the membership was filled up. The limitation rule was thus suspended. Aside from the tightening of several loopholes, the original regulations are still in effect and seem destined to continue for years to come. The admittedly stringent regulations of The Fellowship can be credited with the greatest advance in the quality of the breed, and the almost fanatical loyalty of members who are now the leaders in all matters pertaining to Briards.

Under the regulations of The Fellowship the Briard of today is primarily a companion and, occasionally, a farm dog. He has the attributes of a watch dog but none of the savagery and noisiness that too often mark dogs that are mainly intended as guardians. Rather he is a guardian rather than canine pal. He is slow to attack and even then throws the trespasser off his feet rather than biting. While he is a "big" dog he is not huge and is thus suitable for apartment life. Some of America's best Briards spend most of their happy lives in apartments and small homes.

The Briard has none of the constant motion of most smaller breeds. While active in play-- and amazingly fast when really going-- places-- he is at his best when at the side of his master, mistress or with children. He is a dog that must have the close companionship of man. Some breeds are supremely happy when chasing a rabbit, or a bit of wind-blown paper, but the Briard only reaches his full object in life when he is at the side of the people he adores.

There may well be no other breed that requires so little care. Briards suffer from neither heat nor cold. Some of the best live in sub-zero weather in houses that are entirely open on one end yet the same dog will be gay in summer when other breeds are dropping from the heat. The secret lies in his most unusual coat. He actually has two coats; the outer one is at the side of the people he adores.

Up until the death of Miss Hoppin-- who must always be considered as the leader in all early Briard affairs-- the progress of the Briard club might well be designated as ultra-conservative. For some years after Miss Hoppin's death the breed interest was carried on by the Obers. New blood was needed and obtained
coat and should be removed by combing. Five minutes a day is ample to cover the time you need spend on grooming. It is of particular interest that the dog—unless kept in unnatural surroundings—does not shed out on floors, furniture and clothing. The dead hair never gets that far, being caught in the permanent, outer coat. In this connection however it must be stressed that a Briard should never be bathed. Bathing will do much to ruin the coat and the advantages of non-shedding will be nullified if the dog is washed. There is little, if any, doggy odor but, again, this will not generally be true if the owner refuses to listen to experience and insists upon bathing. Wetting with clean water—such as being out in the rain or snow or going swimming—will not hurt the coat but the use of any household detergent, dog-wash or similar preparation will do distinct harm to the coat of a Briard.

For his size he is a small eater. This goes back to his early days on French farms where there was seldom enough for the human members of the household. Careful records kept over a long period show that a cost ranging from 21 to 26 cents a day will feed a Briard with the horsemeat and kibbles that are his standard diet. Table scraps and vegetables can be added when available.

He is a dog that is easy to train to do any of the things a self-respecting dog should do. He neither roams from your side nor from your home. Thus it requires no real training when the period of housebreaking is over. On the other hand the Briard owner should realize that the dog respects and accepts his duties as your companion with deep sincerity. He is not a clown. If you want a dog you can dress up in grandpa's spectacles and little Bobby's rompers he loves you but he would far rather be your companion than a comedian performing for your amusement.

Just as he gladly accepts the duty of being with you he asks that you treat him with decent respect. He does not need the screaming that is the only way to get some dogs to obey. If he does wrong a sharp word will usually be enough. A slap with a folded newspaper reacts upon a Briard with far greater intensity than is true with most breeds. He is, in brief a gentleman who tries his canine best to do what you want day after day. With those he loves he will engage in many little tricks he devises to show his utter faith and love. With strangers he is more apt to be aloof until he decides to accept them as worthy of his attention.

Briards are never shy when bred under Fellowship rules. Inbreeding is just as harmful to Briards as it is to any other animal and always results in shyness and other undesirable characteristics. It is thus of great importance that the purchaser of a Briard deals with a breeder belonging to the Fellowship. Not only because the blood of breeders belong to the organization but also because they have worked out plans to keep new blood circulating. Importations from France are part of the program and have been accomplished in numerous instances. However, every indication is that the Briards bred under Fellowship rules in this country are of better conformation and have better dispositions than most of the imports. Thus when a Fellowship member imports a dog its quality of breed or even first in a class. To watch the dog in the ring, doing its best, is enough to add— if any addition is necessary—to the joy of ownership.

Summed up you will find, in a Briard, a dog of size enough to stand out above the average; one that never reaches his full measure of duty unless he is with his family; one that requires a smaller amount of feed than most breeds of the weight and one that not only does not require, but never should be, bathed. These are some of the reasons why Briard owners never change to another breed. It is also one of the reasons why The Briard Fellowship has grown to its present stature in the dog field. The very loyalty of the Briard to its master is reflected, in turn, by the owner's loyalty to the organization that has made the modern Briard one of the greatest dogs in the world.

BRIARDS ARE GROWING LARGER

Sedir gives some measurements of a French Briard of 1892. Compare with those of a large American male of today.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>French</th>
<th>American</th>
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<td>Ground to Withers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circumference of Chest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
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THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP, INC.

CONSTITUTION

(Amended as of April 1st, 1955)

1. The name of the organization is THE BRIARD FELLOWSHIP, INCORPORATED.

2. The Briard Fellowship is established to promote the ethical breeding, sale and showing of Briards, to assist owners to more thoroughly understand and enjoy Briards and to compile, preserve and publish information about the breed.

3. The officers of the Fellowship shall be the Board of Governors. The Board shall be composed of nine members in good standing. The Board shall appoint, from its own membership, a Chairman and a Secretary-Treasurer; also, from the general membership, or from the Board, such other executive assistants or committees as it deems necessary; such appointments being subject to recall by action of the majority of the Board.

4. The Board of Governors shall be elected annually in classes. The annual election shall be held by mail during December of each year and all Fellowship members in good standing, as hereinafter provided, shall be entitled to vote. Should a vacancy occur on the Board, the members of the Board shall appoint a successor to fill out the term. Three members of the Board shall be elected annually for three-year terms.

5. This constitution cannot be abrogated but may be amended by majority vote of the Board of Governors. Any amendment not to go into effect until three months after passage.

BY-LAWS (Amended as of April 1st, 1955)

1. The Fellowship shall cooperate with the American Kennel Club and all other dog organizations in all matters which, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, shall serve to promote the objectives as stated in Part 2 of the Constitution.

2. Applications for membership must be made on a form supplied for that purpose. The application, which must bear the signature of the applicant, must also list the Briards owned by the applicant who must also specify that the applicant has, in his or her possession, a copy of The Fellowship constitution and by-laws; that said regulations have been read and understood and that the applicant pledges compliance in both word and deed. The application must also be accompanied by payment of dues for the current year. The payment will be returned should the applicant not be accepted for membership. Election to membership will be by majority action of the Board.

3. All dues are payable during December for the ensuing year. Members remaining in arrears March 1st shall be suspended from all privileges. Members joining during the year must pay dues for the entire year. Dues may be increased or decreased by majority action of the Board but no such changes shall be retroactive. (Present dues are $3.00 a year)

4. Membership is open to all residents of the United States over the age of twenty.

5. There shall be no definite schedule of meetings other than the annual election. The Chairman of the Board must call a meeting—which shall be by mail—when requested to do so by five or more members, or by three or more Members of the Board. Meetings attended by members in person shall be informal. All matters requiring a vote must be presented to every member eligible to vote.

6. All matters requiring a mail vote shall be handled so there is a reasonable time limit based on the normal period to transport the ballots to the membership and to give them a chance to get their votes back. The Chairman's decision shall decide any tie vote.

7. The Board shall have the right to forfeit the membership of any member by a vote of the majority of the Board. No membership shall be forfeited until the accused has had a period of not less than 15 days, nor more than 30 days, in which to prepare and submit a defense to the Board. There shall be no appeal from the decisions of the Board.

8. Certificates of Approval may be issued by authority of the Board to Briards of outstanding merit. There are two types of Certificates of Approval: (A) Litter Approvals which may be issued to cover Briard puppies whose sire and dam, at the time of breeding, held Individual Certificates of Approval, and, (B) to individual Briards over the age of six months which, after due investigation, have been found to be qualified. Litter Certificates automatically expire the day the puppy reaches the age of six months. Both forms of Certificates are non-transferrable and may be revoked at any time by majority opinion of the Board. Members must apply for both types of Certificates on forms which will be supplied upon request. A revoked, or cancelled, Certificate must be returned to the secretary on demand.

9. (a) Within thirty days after the whelping of a litter a member must file with the secretary the names, sex, colors and markings, as well as the names of sire and dam. The Board, by decision of its majority, may then issue a Litter Approval Certificate which certifies that the litter was from approved breeding as defined in 8(a) but which will not apply to the individual puppies. The Litter Approval Certificate automatically expires when the puppies are six months old. Individual Certificates of Approval may be issued by the Board to Briards over the age of six months. The Board reserves the right to call for such additional information and inspection of each individual dog as it sees fit. Both Litter and Individual Certificates of Approval are non-transferrable and may be revoked at any time by majority decision of the Board.
THE FELLOWSHIP CODE OF ETHICS

A. Members shall not exhibit a Briard with clipped ears unless said Briard was whelped with his ears clipped, as they are in whelp, after September 14, 1946. This will not apply to Briards whose ears were clipped before purchase in the country of their origin.

B. Members shall not employ persons commonly known as "professional handlers" to exhibit their dogs unless ready to prove that they have exhausted all reasonable effort to show their dogs in person to have the dogs shown by some member of the immediate family, some member of The Fellowship or other person subject to American Kennel Club rules, who derives no income from the actual act of exhibiting dogs.

C. No member may offer for sale any Briard that has not been officially registered with the American Kennel Club, or such registration applied for within 90 days of the birth of the dog.

D. No member shall sell, or offer for sale, exhibit, breed a Briard that has a white chest mark of over 2 square inches of area, or lacks double dew claws on both hind legs, or stands under the minimum specified in the Standard of the Breed.

E. No member may exhibit at a Match, or Point show, nor breed, a Briard that has a white chest mark of over 2 square inches of area, or lacks double dew claws on both hind legs, or stands under the minimum specified in the Standard of the Breed.

F. No member may sell, nor offer for sale, any Briard that has a white chest mark of over 2 square inches of area, or lacks double dew claws on both hind legs, or stands under the minimum specified in the Standard of the Breed.

G. No member shall have the faults mentioned in D unless such faults are definitely stated in writing in any and all letters and circular matter pertaining to the qualities of that particular Briard.

H. No member may sell, nor offer for sale, any Briard for which a Certificate of Approval has been refused by the Board unless the member plainly states in all letters and circular matter pertaining to the qualities of that dog, that it is being sold without the Certificate of Approval and giving the reasons why the Board refused to issue a Certificate of Approval for that dog.

I. No member shall use insulting, profane or derogatory language to a dog show judge reflecting upon said judge's ability, honesty or sincerity in his placings of the dogs. This is not to be construed to mean that a member cannot request a judge to explain his placings, provided that the request is made after Best of Breed has been awarded and is presented in a proper manner.
OFFICIAL BREED STANDARD

GENERAL APPEARANCE: A strong and substantially built dog, fitted for field work, lithe, muscular and well proportioned, alert and active.

SIZE: Height at shoulders: Dogs 23 to 27 inches; Bitches, 22 to 25 inches. Young dogs may be below the minimum.

HEAD: Large and rather long. Stop well marked and placed at equal distance from top of head and tip of nose. Forehead very slightly rounded. Line from stop to tip of nose straight.

Teeth: Strong, white and meeting exactly even

Muzzle: Neither narrow or pointed

Nose: Rather square than rounded, always black

Hair: Heavy and long on top of the head, the ears and around the muzzle, forming eyebrows standing out not veiling the eyes too much.

Eyes: Horizontal, well opened, dark in color and rather large, intelligent and gentle in expression.

Ears: Placed high, not too large and not carried too flat. In France the tips of the ears are generally cropped, causing the ears to be semi-erect.

CONFORMATION:

Neck muscular and distinct from the shoulders

Chest broad and deep

Rump slightly sloped

Legs muscular with heavy bone

Hock not too near the ground, making a well marked angle, the leg below the hock being not quite vertical.

TAIL: Uncut, well feathered, slightly curled at the end, carried low and twisted neither to the right nor left, the feather at the lowest point reaching to the point of the hook.

FEET: Strong, round, with toes close together and hard pads; black.

COAT: Long, slightly wavy, stiff and strong.

COLOR: All solid colors are allowed except white. Dark colors are preferable. Usual colors: Black, black with some white hairs, dark and light gray, tawny and combinations of two of these colors provided there are no marked spots and the transition from one to the other takes place gradually and symmetrically.

DEW CLAWS: Two dew claws on each hind leg are required. A dog with only one cannot be given a prize.

FAULTS:

Muzzle pointed

Eyes small, almond shaped or light in color

Rump straight or too sloped

White spot on the breast (A large white spot is very bad)

Tail too short or carried over the back

White nails

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

Size below the limit

Absence of dew claws

Short hair on the head, face or feet

Tail lacking or cut

Nose light in color or spotted

Eye spotted

Hair curled

White hair on feet

Spotted colors of the coat
Your Briard is a valuable dog and, if Fellowship-approved, comes from the best bloodlines available in America. Following will be found the basic rules of care and feeding. The information is based on many years of practical experience with Briards and may not check in all particulars with directions given in books devoted to all breeds of dogs. Unless a qualified veterinary advises differently, the material herein may be followed without fear that you are not giving your dog the proper care.

RECEIVING THE NEW DOG: Irrespective of whether your recently acquired Briard is a puppy or an adult, he may arrive rather frightened, and soiled, by the enforced stay in a crate and by the unaccustomed noises of transportation. Do NOT take him from the crate until you have slipped a leash over his head. For several days allow him no opportunity to run away. Let him get accustomed to his new surroundings and to the new friends he must make. Until you are positive that he has accepted your home as his, and your family as his for the rest of his life, do not take a chance that he will do his best to escape. If possible, prevent children from being overly attentive. Always let the dog initiate the invitation to play. If he prefers to lie in a corner to think it all over, let him do so. Always be gentle and patient.

Unless the breeder has advised otherwise, take the dog to a veterinarian for inspection and for such distemper inoculations as may be in order. The writer recommends, based on years of experience, the Green Ferret Origin method of distemper inoculation. All veterinarians do not agree with this method.

A FEW BRIARD FELLOWSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since 1946 The Fellowship has published BRIARD BRIEFS each month. This little magazine contains breed news as well as a great deal of practical information for owners. Each member receives a copy without extra charge and the magazine is also sent to many dog show officials, judges and editors of dog publications.

Every year The Fellowship holds a Specialty for the breed. On two occasions these shows have been held in connection with AKC all-breed shows but all of the other events have been staged solely by The Fellowship under AKC sanction. Among the famous judges who have served us may be mentioned: Mrs. L.W. Bonney, Miss Adele Colgate, Miss Marguerite M. Denyse (who has also judged Briards in France), Mrs. William A. Embling, Mr. Christian Knudsen and Mr. J.I. Smith. They are among the best known names in the dog field.

At three of our Specialties the entries have set records for the breed. The 1954 entry of 57 set, as far as can be determined, both American as well as international records for the breed.

Fellowship records include the tabulated results of every AKC show held in America since 1939. Until the AKC ceased the publication of its Stud Book we maintained over 1000 file cards, each containing the records of a single Briard.

Annually we exchange trophies with the Briard Club of The Netherlands and, from time to time, with the French Briard Club. Several very valuable trophies are put up for annual competition. These include the William C. Taylor Memorial, the Ida M. Roush Memorial, The Watcliffe Memorial and the Ch. Rowlie Memorial. In addition The Fellowship offers a trophy to the Best of bred winner at every AKC Point Show held in the country. These trophies go to the few non-members as well as to our own membership. Thus our efforts are directed to the general benefit of the breed irrespective of Fellowship affiliations.

To the date of this publication approximately 20,000 pieces of Briard literature have been distributed to enthusiasts—and the work goes on. We ask the cooperation of every lover of Briards to insure no cessation of the efforts.

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Obtain from the breeder information as to the date of the last worming. Do not rush out to a drug store for worm pills because someone has advised you that all puppies must be wormed. Amateur worming has killed more dogs than distemper. The adult Briard seldom needs worming oftener than every two or three years. All puppies have worms but the breeders probably took care of the matter before shipment.
Bear in mind that all worm medicines are poisons; the theory being that there will be enough to kill the worms and not the dog. Take no risks.

FEEDING THE BRIARD: Puppies are usually shipped at the age of six to eight weeks. They have been weaned and they should get along nicely on three meals a day. An excellent early diet will include one part condensed milk, one part lime water and two parts boiled water. You can buy Lilly's lime in powder form at your drug store. Pour the powder in a gallon jar and fill with fresh water. Allow it to settle for a few hours. Pour off the clear water and add to the feed. Do not stir the bottle. The excess lime will settle to the bottom. Refill the bottle with fresh water. Repeat until all of the settled lime powder has been taken up by the water. A gallon will last you for weeks. Thicken the lime-water-milk mixture with Pablum or similar baby food. Use these prepared foods without cooking. If you cannot get Pablum, or similar, use cooked Cream of Wheat, oatmeal or any similar cooked cereal. The amount to use will depend upon the dog's reaction to the feed. Food that is too thick may enter the nostrils and cause discomfort. The safe rule is to make the feed as thick as the puppy will relish. Add cooked ground beef, cooked horse meat or anything similar. Gradually increase the amount of meat and other solids until, eventually, the puppy is on an adult diet.

The best feeding schedule, and the amounts to feed, must come from observation. A puppy should eat its fill -- its tummy will become round and distended. Watch for signs of distress caused by over-eating. You can add a raw egg a day mixed with the feed. At about six months the puppy should be eating twice a day and will be on regular adult rations. After the eighth or ninth month a single daily meal will be enough. This again depends on the particular dog.

Many dog books stress the need of drinking water. Give most puppies a pail of water and they will drink it dry; not because they want it but because it is a novelty. A puppy filled with water is apt to have no room for proper food. Water frequently but never in large quantities. There is enough water in the food to take care of normal requirements.

The regular ration for an adult Briard is some form of dry dog food softened by the addition of a soup made of horse meat, beef or lamb. Mix vegetables with it from time to time. Cook early in the day and feed it cold in late afternoon, pouring the soup over the food in the morning or at least long enough before feeding so that the dry food has absorbed the liquid. Different brands of food may require slightly different periods for soaking. You will usually find directions on the bag. Aside from the canned dog meats -- which can be used to make the soup -- the regular foods are in one of three forms; broken baked biscuits called kibbles, biscuits in cake form and meal. The hard cakes are usually used as goodies, much as you give a child candy or a cookie as a reward. Some Briards like the dog meat but most seem to do better on the kibbled biscuit. There are canned foods that are claimed to be complete diets but they are expensive and most owners stock a few cans for use in an emergency.

Up to the age of 18 months it will be an advantage to add about a teaspoon of calcium gluconate or calcium carbonate to each feeding; stirring it into the feed just before its use. There are a number of vitamin additives offered by pet stores but there is some question as to whether these should be used unless specified by a veterinarian.

Table scraps, drippings, vegetables, small amounts of stale bread, etc. can be added to the feed at all times. Do not feed fish or chicken bones or any small, splinterly bones of any kind.

Here is the feeding schedule that has kept a big kennel of Briards in tip top condition for ten years. Each dog averages 3/4 pound of kibbles mixed with one pound (or slightly less) of horse meat and 3/4 pint of water. The meat and water are cooked up in the morning and the kibbles added immediately after removal from the stove. Vegetables and scraps are added at the same time. The food is put out in the late afternoon. The total cost for a single dog averages 25 cents a day. It must be acknowledged that the food is purchased in bulk and a few cents per meal are thus saved.

Go over your Briard frequently. If you feel the ribs and hip and shoulder bones as distinct projections the dog is too thin and needs more food. If, on the other hand, you must press through flesh to feel the bones the dog is getting too much to eat.
PROPOSED FEEDING SCHEDULE FOR BRIARDS

Weaning to 5 mos.
Condensed milk (or evaporated milk, sweetened with Karo), 1 part lime water, 2-4 parts boiled water (dependent on age of puppy). Cereal added gradually, Calcium.

4 or 5 times daily
One meal: Dog meal, cooked chopped meat soup, calcium.

5 to 9 months
Above, but vary by gradually adding meat stock and kibbles or dog meal. As time passes keep reducing the liquids until, at the end of the period, the food is moist but not soupy. Add the calcium.

Twice Daily

After 9 months
Horse meat or beef made into soup or stew and poured over kibbles or meal. Vegetables and scraps added as available. Watch dog to regulate quantity. If he goes off his feed try a canned ration for a day or two. Keep up the calcium until he has reached his full growth.

The above is not a set schedule. Vary by watching the dog's weight and the way he eats. A healthy dog will gulp his food but some dogs get the habit of eating a little at a time. It is only when the dog refuses to eat at all that you should be concerned. For puppies the following remarks will be of interest.

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 lbs.</td>
<td>Eyes opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3½ lbs.</td>
<td>Begin weaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4½ lbs.</td>
<td>Finish weaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5½ lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7½ lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9 lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11½ lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>14 lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th month</td>
<td>35 lbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are averages only. Healthy puppies may vary from the above figures providing the percentage of gain is about as above. There should be a weekly gain in weight up to well over the 50-pound stage.

Adult Briards do not mature until 18 months or even later. At maturity a small bitch may weigh 65 pounds and a large male 100 pounds. Averages will be 70 pounds for bitches and close to 80 pounds for the males. More than the actual weight, the way the frame is filled out should be the criterion.

HOUSEBREAKING: Owners too often worry about house-breaking. Most Briard puppies are raised in kennels where one section of their pen is covered with newspapers. They quickly learn to use this area. If a similar space is provided by the new owner it takes but little patience to train the puppy to go there. Even better -- if weather conditions permit -- is to put the puppy outside as soon as its distress is evident. There are Briards who never need any house training whatever. If your puppy does misbehave do not, under any conditions, whip him or "rub his nose in it". If punishment is necessary a lightly folded newspaper spanked against his rump -- or even against your own leg or chair -- will usually so startle him that he will realize his errors.

PUNISHMENT: The Briard is a true working dog and, as such, is at his best only when in the companionship of man. If your dog is to be your friend he has a right to expect friendship from you. Nothing will ruin a Briard faster than severe punishment.

Young Briards are strong and active and love everybody. They may jump on people in play or get too rough with children. For the jumper the basic cure is to order "Down" and follow it with hand pressure on the rump until the dog lies or sits. If this does not work you are probably to blame but the more drastic step is to bring your knee up sharply as he jumps on you. The mild blow in the stomach will not injure him but it will be uncomfortable. Too rough play with children is invariably because they tease the dog into a wrestling match and then scream when he shows his enthusiasm for the game. Common offenders are neighborhood children who may play rough with the dog's charges. He should be excused if he gets a bit rough for, after all, he is simply guarding those he loves.
LEASH AND COLLAR: Novice owners sometimes complain that a Briard will pull too hard on his lead. No such complaint is justified unless you have fitted the dog with a chain choke. Flat or round leather collars are not right. They ruin the neck hair and prevent your controlling the dog until he is completely leash wise. When the puppy is first fitted with a chain choke it will carry on as if in great distress. If it dashes away give the lead a jerk. If it refuses to follow you draw the lead firmly towards you. In many cases it will only take two or three 15-minute lessons. The entire trick is to release the pressure of the choke the instant the puppy obeys but to increase the pressure when it does wrong. It will soon learn that disobedience results in an unpleasant choking but that doing as it should releases the pressure. Adult dogs who have had little exercise may tug on the lead when first taken out until the joy of being with the master has lessened. Usually a minute spent petting the dog will prevent trouble.

EXERCISE: Many Briards live in apartments and get little exercise other than a short walk on a lead. Such dogs often go to the top in shows. However, the ideal situation is to give the dog all the exercise he wants. It is never wise unless you are keeping him in the middle of the country far away from roads -- to allow the Briard to roam at will. He will want to be at your side. Let him off the lead at such times but, when you cannot be with him, the best place is in a fenced run. Almost every complaint about a Briard can be solved by providing him with a house and run of his own. Wire fence costs little and can be erected without appreciable skill. In a run he can get all the exercise he wants and still be kept from getting hit by a car, stealing chickens, or contracting diseases picked up from stray dogs. An enclosure of 100 square feet is better than nothing. Tests have indicated that a Briard in a 30 by 8 foot run will cover many miles a day and still be perfectly safe.

HOUSING: Unless you are to have your Briard with you at all times he should have his own house and run. The house can be quite simple. An ideal lay-out for a Briard will be a well-insulated and floored house about 4 feet square and about the same height. Have a peaked roof with ventilation under the eaves. If the house can face the south a small doorway about 18 inches square can be left open at all times. Even better is to have the entire south end of the house arranged to be removed in summer. Above the door, and the full width of the house, arrange an awning or projecting roof extending 4 to 6 feet to provide shelter from rain and snow. Under the roof have a wooden platform raised a few inches off the ground upon which the dog can lie. The whole business, including a fenced run, should not cost over $50.00 for material.

Such an arrangement will allow the dog to have all the exercise it wants and will obviate the brutal habit of tying him to a tree or locking him in a garage or other outbuilding. Not only will he be safe from harm but anyone who calls will also be safe from the fright of having a big dog challenge them.

GROOMING: If you must disobey the rules of experience break all of them up to this point. Proper grooming is a must. You will need a steel comb about six inches long with steel wire teeth about an inch long. That is for normal combing. You will need what is called a rake for the heavier combing in the spring. Also have what is known as a slicker although a stiff brush may take its place. A pair of round-nosed scissors and a toenail clipper will complete your equipment.

Never allow anyone to advise you to cut off the dewclaws or clip the entire coat. The possible exception to the latter statement would be in case of a serious skin ailment that refused all other cures. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the long outer coat of a Briard is an insulator against the heat of the sun. A clipped Briard will suffer from heat; an unclipped one suffers less in hot weather than most dogs. Make it a rule to cut nothing unless it is a stray hair or two that has grown unruly, or, on rare occasions, soiled hair about the anus.

Begin combing at the top of the head and work backwards and downwards. Combing the outer hair is not enough. In cold weather your dog will have a felt-like undercoat that should remain but any loosen- ed parts of that coat must be combed clear. Unless you can feel the teeth gliding over the skin itself your Briard is heading for trouble. If you allow the undercoat to loosen and mat with the outer coat you are in for a tough job. Either spend five minutes every day or about half an hour every week with a comb. If you cannot afford that much time, don't buy a dog of any sort.
The Board of Governors,
The Briard Fellowship, Inc.,
Montville, N.J.

I apply for membership and pledge myself to comply with the regulations. I attach $3.00 for dues for the current year and will pay $3.00 each December for the following year. I am to be entitled to all privileges and am to receive the monthly, Briard Briefs.

I own the following Briards:

Date               Signature

Address

Board approval