

CAN DOGS FORETELL ?

A Little Chat About a Mysterious Faculty

IN the course of a recent article, says a staff writer of the "Weekly Scotsman" of Edinburgh, reference was made to a dog's premonition of danger. It will be remembered that a brown spaniel refused one morning to go for a walk, but was forced to do so. In less than a quarter of an hour it returned, so badly injured by a savage dog that it had to be destroyed. Did this dog, by some mysterious sense, know of the impending danger? There are plenty of people who have studied the ways of the canine race who would give a prompt reply in the affirmative. An old friend (Mr. C. H. Lane) who has probably had as much to do with dogs as anyone living, and who is the author of several books dealing with canine subjects, writes:—

"I have not the slightest doubt that dogs, in many instances, can foresee dangers to themselves and others, and will take prompt measures to avoid them. Some examples are sent herewith, all of which are believed to be quite reliable. I am thoroughly assured that dogs can communicate with each other. I have known, and heard of many cases, and illustrations of some of these are given herewith, all considered genuine and from trustworthy sources."

Foreseeing Danger.

SOME few years since the inmates of a house in High Street, Bristol, were aroused by the loud barking of a large black retriever dog, "Jack," on the premises. On going downstairs to ascertain the cause, it was discovered that the premises next door were on fire, which had attracted "Jack's" attention and induced him to give the alarm. The house was cleared of its contents and all the inmates escaped, but "Jack" was so intent on remaining on guard that he remained for about four hours, after giving notice of the danger, and although he escaped injury from the fire or falling timbers, etc., he suffered so much from being exposed to the fumes and smoke that he died next day from the shock to his system.

Another instance of sagacity also occurred at Bristol, when a nursemaid, wheeling a perambulator with a baby in it down Spring Hill, one of the steepest hills in the city, being suddenly seized with a fit, loosened her hold of the little vehicle, which instantly went rapidly down towards a flight of steps, and apparently certain

destruction, when just before the steps were reached a large retriever, which happened to witness the occurrence and realized the danger, seized the front part of the little carriage, and so probably saved the life of the child inside.

Timely Warning.

EARLY one Sunday morning an attempt was made to burgle the premises of Messrs. M'Leod & Pollock, Argyle Street, Glasgow, jewellers, by breaking through one of the skylights. The building was one storey high, so the roof was easily reached. About 2 a.m., Mr. M'Leod, who slept at the back of the premises, was awakened by his Scottish terrier "Lochiel," which did not bark, but jumped on the bed, and continued scratching and pulling the clothes until his master rose up.

"Lochiel" uttered a low growl, and kept looking up, as if to draw attention to what was going on above them. Afterwards a piece of glass fell into the room, and Mr. M'Leod looked up and saw a man creeping about on the roof. He telephoned for the police, and owing to the timely warning of the dog, they were enabled to arrest the intending burglar before he had time to hide or escape.

At the time of one of the levees there were great crowds in Pall Mall and district. Mr. Edward Smithson was invited by a friend, Mr. Charles James, to accompany him in his carriage from St. James' Palace down Pall Mall when, to their surprise, the Dalmatian dog, "Spot," which usually ran with the carriage, insisted on getting in also! Nothing would induce "Spot" to get out, and while passing through the streets amused himself by looking out of the window at the soldiers, police, and crowds of people collected. When they had got into quieter quarters "Spot" was glad enough to get out of the limited space in the carriage, which he followed, as usual, without any difficulty. There is no doubt he considered he was in danger of being run over or lost in the dense crowds, and that the carriage was the safest place!

Anticipating.

MR. G. S. LAYARD was given a fox terrier, "Jock," on condition that if it did not suit him he should return it to the donor. A few days afterwards Mr. Layard was sitting, with his wife, in the drawing-

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These are some of the British Marines who took part in the unsuccessful attempt to save Antwerp, and are now interned in Holland.