

Since drugs and explosives are separate and distinct substances they must be handled differently. Explains Insp. Fream:

"In drug training the animal is taught to aggress the 'hide', that is, to dig it out; whereas in explosives searches he is trained to indicate the device by assuming the 'sit' position. Neither the dog nor the handler ever touches the explosive device."

RCMP teams are also engaged in other types of specialized work, adds Insp. Fream.

"Many of our handlers are trained members of Emergency Response Teams. In this association, it is possible that a team could be employed to assist in preventing an actual hijacking. Teams have been used successfully at scenes of barricaded persons, and several others have been trained for hostage-taking incidents.

"The dogs receive training for room entries in particular. In these situations a team's basic abilities in tracking, searching, and criminal apprehension come into play."

## SELECTION STANDARDS

Candidate dogs must meet the selection standards established by the Police Dog Services. New recruit dogs are brought into the kennels and their ability to absorb training is tested. They are carefully screened for their response to guns, loud noises, strangers, and for general alertness. They must be of good size and appearance, and of even temperament. They must also demonstrate strong retrieval instincts and have a sound nose. The dogs are also exposed to extensive veterinary scrutiny. Once accepted, they begin the basic sixteen-week training course.

The author of "Police Dogs and Their Training," a *Quarterly* article, published when the Police Dog Section was in its infancy, advised dog handlers to exercise caution and discrimination in selecting dogs for police work. His emphasis on a dog's physical conformation may seem somewhat exacting:

"The head should be large, as dogs with small heads seldom show superior intelligence or smartness.... The lower jaw must never project or stand far behind the upper one, or extend too much behind the ears. The fangs should be short, which give more power.... For police work a dog with a medium-sized neck will be found to answer best. The paws should be short and well closed, and the front feet vertical. The chest should be broad and large, and the hind legs strong, with long muscles."<sup>21</sup>

In a follow-up article, this author cautioned the reader in the matter of canine discipline and punishment:

"A dog should be corrected... the moment he is observed to display the slightest inclination even to *notice* sheep, as he will, if not checked, first look and set, then chase, and ultimately worry them. When once dogs have tasted mutton they are never to be trusted and cannot be cured of this by any other mode short of confinement or death."<sup>22</sup>

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21. R. Arundel, "Police Dogs and Their Training," *RCMP Quarterly* Vol. 3 #4, April 1936, p. 256.

22. R. Arundel, "Police Dogs and Their Training," *RCMP Quarterly* Vol. 4 #1, July 1937, p. 43.