

placed in safe keeping after the first offence. They are likely to receive only harm by being permitted to return to their old surroundings. I am convinced that many young men who are classed as incorrigibles and hardened criminals before they are out of their teens are really defectives who have been misunderstood, and through misunderstanding and mistaken kindness have been given the right of way on the path that leads to destruction.

Defectives who show no tendency to crime can be safely looked after and trained in the special classes of the public schools until the age of adolescence is reached. The training now provided should enable them to master those vocations by which they are to earn their daily bread. Many will become quite proficient in some simple form of useful hand-work, rendering themselves independent of the help of friends in the matter of support, and in spite of their handicap may become an economic asset of the community.

But these years of adolescence are a most critical period, and especially so for the girls. If the parental home can not be depended on for careful supervision and control they should be placed in community homes where they can be kept cheerfully busy at useful work until at least these formative years are past. These community homes should not be classed with the detention homes for girls who have shown strong tendency to crime or immorality. For such girls separate institutions should be provided, where they will have no chance to lead the innocent astray, and where the best can be done to meet their own peculiar needs.

When the adolescent period is safely passed it may be found possible to permit individuals to leave these custodial and training institutions to make their homes with responsible persons who will give them the care and oversight they need. But the superintendent employed by the province should still have oversight that we may be sure that for their welfare everything is being done that can be done.

In many minds the question of cost will at once arise. To ignore this consideration would be only folly. The expense will not be small. Efficiency and morality are not to be purchased at bargain counters. But to neglect these unfortunates is at once unchristian and poor citizenship, and in mere dollars and cents is in the end infinitely more expensive. Efficiency and morality are costly, but inefficiency and immorality are far more costly. It is still true that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

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## TRAITS AND STORIES OF DOGS

(By Bert Finch)

### 1. The Popular Toy Dog—Pomeranian.

Thirty years ago this breed of dog was of much larger size than at present. At shows many years ago, I have seen Pomeranians as big as Field Spaniels, and weighting forty pounds, and now these little animals—full of fire and noise—often weigh only two pounds.

As may be inferred, this dog takes its name from its native land, Pomerania. It is a descendent of the Spitz and Samoyede of the Arctic Circle, breeds of which must have been taken in early days across to Pomerania.

In selecting a dog of this class, dog-fanciers should get a small dog, with good length of Harsh Stand-off coat of a solid colour, of black, orange, wolf-grey, or chocolate, the most popular of all. Other features to look for are a foxy head, small ears, fineness in bone, with tail carried over the back. The age should be not over three years.

Among dogs for which the owners have refused as much as \$5,000, the writer has seen "James of Southport," "Brooklyn," "Gold Speck," Dr. Brown's wife's late champion, "Jo Jo," of Manchester. These, of course, were in pre-war times.

Before the war the writer himself had a large kennel of pure black imported Pomeranians at Edmonton, Alberta, and several of them were big winners in Britain and also in Canada.

Among owners and fanciers at Victoria, Nanaimo, and Vancouver, who have first-class specimens of this breed are: Mrs. Elsted, Strathroyal Kennels, 871 Hornby street; Mrs. Palmer 3851 24th avenue west; Mrs. Colbeck, Vivian Kennels, 20th avenue east; Mrs. Browning, Richmond street, New Westminster; Mrs. Dorrel, of 935 Drake street; Mrs. Elcock, 1940 54th avenue east; Mrs. Briggs Seymour street; Mrs. Downie 1720 6th avenue east; and Mrs. Davies, Broadway, Vancouver. Mr. Percy Hickling of Nanaimo should also be mentioned in this connection.

The Pomeranian is a very "yappy" dog, barking with all its strength at the least noise, yet very devoted, intelligent and attractive.

Canine interest has grown since the late war, in which dogs did remarkable service on the battlefield. By way of testing the interest of its readers in "Man's best friend in the animal world," the B. C. M. is arranging to give a corner to notes and comments of this kind, and the writer of the above, who is well known as an expert in knowledge of dogs, invites queries and correspondence in connection with them.

Authenticated dog stories will also be welcomed, and as far as possible, published.

As this issue was being closed for the press the B. C. M. was favoured with an inquiry as to space from the representatives of the Liberal Party. Elsewhere we have made clear that, notwithstanding the alleged dangers of government by groups, we prefer a selection (and election) of MEN before PARTIES. Nevertheless, alertness and enterprise are commendable in all spheres of activity, and we refer our readers to the well-worded introductory message on page ten.