

### THE KENNEL.

ACCORDING to announcement in a previous issue, I give you the following on the care and management of dogs:

Ashmont, one of America's most eminent writers on this subject, says it ought not to be necessary to urge that the legs of very young puppies are weak and scarcely able to bear the weight of their bodies. Allow them to fill up continually with food or drink and deformity is sure to result; every ounce of food is so much weight on the legs. Also, while rapid growth and weight of body may be to the breeder a pleasing sight, if it passes over the line the limbs must suffer and symmetry be out of the question. Considering the matter intelligently on all sides, there can be but one conclusion, viz: That puppies while yet very young should be fed little and often; they must not be fed until their abdomens are distended and their appetites glutted, but they must leave off eating while yet ready for more, and then that their limbs may acquire strength and the foods that they have eaten do them the greatest good they must be kept as much of their time on their feet and as active as possible. Note the difference between the puppy treated in this way and the one that is allowed to gorge himself three times a day; the latter, weak and tottering, drags his distended abdomen into a corner and sleeps his time away on the top of another like himself; but the former soon stands true and firm, instead of sleeping he is all for play, and young as he is he is tugging and biting at every thing within his reach. This puppy will grow straight and strong on his legs and upright on his pasterns; moreover, from his food he will extract its greatest good, and in a word, he will in a short time be far ahead of the other top-heavy puppy. Last of all the novice may expect to find that these rules—feed little and often and feed separately—are the two greatest secrets of success in puppy-raising.

I think every owner of a dog should have a copy of "Kennel Secrets," by Ashmont.

To those opposed to feed so often I would like to show two puppies about the same age, one fed every three hours, the other three times daily. For mature dogs a light breakfast, if procurable, should be given. There is nothing better on earth than skim milk, acting as a spur, aiding digestion and adding wonderfully to the texture and condition of the coat; giving a good meal at 7, consisting of some boiled rice, barley, corn-meal, oatmeal, vegetables, meat, stale bread, or dry crackers; especially the regular diet, using different kinds of vegetables, mixed with different kinds of meals each evening.

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Dry and clean kennels are of more importance than feeding, dampness, filth, and worms, causing that of more than 95 per cent. of the deaths that occur annually. Don't allow his bed to be neglected, change frequently and see that he is comfortably situated, thus avoiding in a large degree, vermin. If damp is prevalent take a day off and if necessary reconstruct his kennel and satisfy yourself you have remedied the trouble. If he comes in wet, rub him dry. Next morning, instead of showing up lame and stiff he is active and nimble.

Grooming (if the breed demands)—Don't get the stiffest and hardest brush on the market, at the same time look for one you are satisfied will reach the skin; apply carefully, not forgetting the possibility of irritating. Twenty minutes will suit the ordinary dog. If he is of the feathered race comb cautiously and do not pull it out. Rub for ten minutes with the hand and finish with chamois. This night and morning will soon put him in show condition.

Drinking water is of great importance. Do not allow the moss to grow round the sides of the crock or dish; change frequently each day. Water your friend before leaving home, and teach him if possible not to drink from pools when out containing stagnant water. They are generally contaminated with microbes and filth that often ends the life of many a good one.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space allotted to one so unworthy, and in fact the kind treatment received from you and your staff at all times,

I am, yours truly,

S. MATSON.

According to the *Canadian Kennel Gazette*, the duty has been taken off dogs by the Dominion Government. They will now be passed in free for improvement of stock, and dog owners are indebted to the Kennel Club for this boon.

Henry Behusen, whose collie purchase was noticed last week, came very near to losing his pup by straying. However the pup was found next day and brought home, with, as a reminder, a large and lively

collection of fleas. Mr. Behnsen's method of destroying fleas is worth giving. He boils a large pot of raw tobacco stems for several hours in pure well water, allows it to cool, and washes the pup thoroughly three times a day for three days. Mr. Behnsen thinks one wash would be enough for an ordinary dog, but his pup has such a dense and heavy coat that it required the nine washings. He expects to have no trouble in teaching that pup to smoke cigars.

Prof. Pfordner is the latest recruit to the fancy, and is the envy of all beholders as he leads his immense mastiff puppy through the streets.

The *B. C. Fancier* is out for July, and devotes two columns to kennel matters. The items, which are all from Victoria, show pretty conclusively that their correspondent is a close reader of *THE HOME JOURNAL*. We would whisper, referring to the collie paragraph, that while taffy is very pleasant, the general public want facts.

A lady living on the Esquimalt road has a Scotch terrier that causes her great annoyance by insisting on coming to town with her on the car. At last the lady hit on the successful expedient of hiding a ball in a difficult place and slipping off while the dog was engaged in finding it.

Mr. Fox, the admiral's steward, has a spaniel that will develop into a very useful dog. The other night, Mr. Fox was crossing Esquimalt harbor in a boat and was instrumental in taking canoeists from their overturned craft, and he tells us that he had the greatest difficulty in preventing his pup from swimming to their rescue.

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