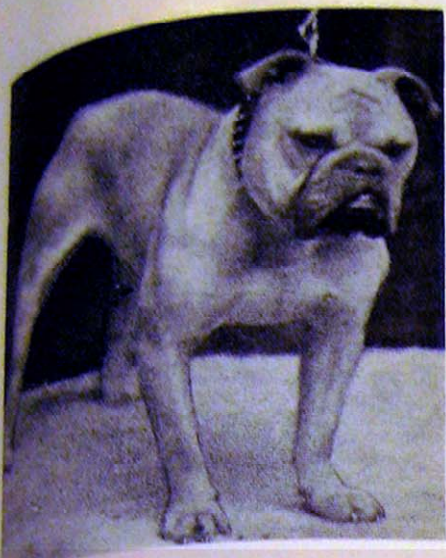


# The "Dudley-Nose" and the Bulldog

Veteran Fancier Finds No Reason Why this Animal Should Be Disqualified

By JOHN H. MATTHEWS



CH. GUIDO

This bulldog won a championship even though his nose was flesh colored, a disqualifying fault to-day

THERE are some phrases often seen in dissertations on bulldog standards that, to my mind, need "elucidation and betterment." For instance, the words "nose" and "nostril" (American standard), the random use of which causes confusion; the term "Dudley-nose"—what is its proper meaning? A "perfect tail"—frequently described in questionable language. If there is any such thing as a flesh-colored nostril or "Dudley-nose," I have never seen one in an aged dog. The flesh tint is a pale, anemic pink, such as is sometimes shown in the "butterfly."

What are we to do in regard to blue or brown noses (nostrils)? Are they "Dudleys?" I have a hundred times asked for some sound reason why a "Dudley" should be disqualified, but have never received an answer worthy of consideration.

THE best of tails should be cylindrical, straight, short, and tapering—so our "standards" say; but do you hear a murmur of dissatisfaction when the wee beastie turns up with a tail "broken," "screwed," or "buttoned"?

"Once upon a time" there was a champion bitch, hailing from England, which had anatomically left her tail be-

hind her. Why she won her crown, I could not see; for, at her tail end there was nothing to see at all. But some latitude must be allowed the judge to display his taste, discrimination, and transcendental knowledge. The judging of bulldogs is an easy matter; because, without giving offense, it is always possible "to prove an alibi," amaze the exhibitors and fool the public.

WHEN searching for all-round quality, one is greatly confused, for the bulldog has a flat coat and his "points" stick out in so many ways and at so many angles that it is exceedingly difficult for the judge to concentrate on "general appearance."

The ideal is the dog without faults; always look for him. But, of course, I do not insist that a dog be flawless—that would call for a prodigy. I do insist that he be sound and decent all over. If I may make a suggestion to breeders, breed *away from faults* and into as many perfections as possible.

The dogs of to-day, particularly the American-bred ones, are especially good. "Type" is being sought after and attained as never before. It would now be impossible to exhibit at one time dogs such as British Monarch, Mischief, Rodney Stone, Harper, Baron Sedgemere, Saleni, Pathfinder, Persimmon or Glenwood Queen, but Mr. Croker, Mr. Lawson and Mr. Vander-



CH. BRITISH MONARCH

Old-time fanciers claim that this animal was one of the very best bulldogs that ever lived

grift did the best that could be done in their day, and their best was very good. I cannot bring to mind just which dogs, shown by these and others, were individually honest, truly the wonders of the world. I have mentioned some of them in the foregoing list of superlatives; King Orry and Kaferfelto I have purposely omitted. They were extraordinary in some ways, but from a careful breeder's point of view they lacked uniformity and were not all-round masterpieces, above criticism.

AT the present time, we have dogs of first-rate quality; collectively, they may be considered as good as ever, perhaps better. Our American-breds are coming on well; so well, indeed, that it no longer places a stigma upon a dog to say that he was bred in the United States.

American dogs are now scattered over wider territory than they were before, and, unfortunately, I am more confined; consequently, I have little opportunity, through personal experience, to inform myself concerning them. Photographs, half-tones, and newspaper clippings are my only means of knowledge, and these are often misleading to a dyed-in-the-wool specialist.

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CH. BARON SEDGEMERE

This bulldog was the possessor of wonderful head qualities, particularly finish of face and expression



## THE "DUDLEY-NOSE" AND THE BULLDOG

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In regard to small breeders, let us advocate the policy of encouraging them—the more, the merrier! And let us be painstaking in our efforts to secure good judges, capable and unimpeachable, be they amateurs or professionals.

I shall say little here about the all-round judge. He does everything it is possible for him to do, even more than he can properly do; but he cannot live up to the requirements of the penurious Bench Show Committees and hope to please the exhibitors. He has no time to be explicit or instructive.

As the bulldog is the most highly specialized of all breeds of dogs, he needs a specialist—a good, candid, honest one—to judge him; and we should listen gracefully and with reverence to the judge's opinions, not as the end of the law, but as sound advice.

Cunning and secrecy are the earmarks of the common trickster. We should avoid them as we avoid a pestilence. And we should do more than avoid them; we should proclaim from the housetops what we do as fanciers and breeders, and what we have.

Publicity of this kind tends to create good feeling and good fellowship. The attitude of "I have something up my sleeve" creates nothing but ill feeling. It makes me tired, makes me sick. The pup's the thing!