## AKC Gazette July 1944 ELIZABETH BROOKS

THIS IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE with appreciation the encouraging letters from some of our breed lovers. To those who have sent in notes of their club activities, and which often I have not been able to use, the following interesting note from our editor, is self explanatory.

Due to acute paper shortage we would like to keep the breed notes to an average of 350 words. the GAZETTE, like the A.K.C. aims to give the greatest amount of service to the greatest numbers. With that in mind, our breed columns should aim to bring interesting and helpful topics to the attention of all our readers. Avoid items of gossip localized to certain sections or certain groups within breeds and, because they cannot possibly hope to mention every litter and every mating throughout the country, they should not attempt to cover this matter. . . . Now, here's an opportunity for a good type of publicity. Have you ever taken interesting snapshots which not only show off your breed but which also tell a story? If you have any we'd be glad to see them, provided, of course they are previously unpublished. We will pay our usual rates \$10. for a cover photo and \$5. for one used in side the magazine, if they are suitable for our purposes. Do not send head studies or portraits of a dog alone. Babies, children, members of the armed forces (male or female) pretty girls, etc., all make nice accompaniment for a dog."

There are rumors that one of the specialty clubs has been discussing some suggested changes for a revision of our Standard. This reminds me of a similar attempt made a few years ago. In each instance the Standard was criticized for its age, a few words changed around, here and there, with no apparent constructive attributes and then the real and rather sinister reason came out, for in each case an attempt was made to break down the only disqualification in our Standard. This reads as follows: 'The parti-color or butterfly nose and the flesh color or Dudley nose are decidely objectionable, but do not disqualify for 'competition. Amended at a special meeting of Club, held Sept. 5, 1914, to read: Any nose other than black is objectionable and Dudley or flesh colored nose absolutely disqualified from competition."

The previous attempt was made to lift the ban on the "Dudley" nose and now the suggested pièce de résistance, "A small spot of white on the nose (butterfly) in a very small degree does not disqualify Who will define the largeness, of a very small degree?

These faults have been kept out for 30 years and now, with many of our breeders in active war service, this is positively not the time to make drastic changes. All serious breeders know the disappointment of breeding a good one with one or the other of these faults and realize the importance of breeding to a Standard, rather than trying to change the Standard to suit a particular specimen. They simply discard the misfits shuffle their breeding lines a hit and try again. If we do not impregnate these faults into our strains we will not have to worry about changing the Standard. All the other rights and wrongs of the Standard seem to be left to a judge's personal interpretation and penalized likewise. Mayhap there lies the most troublesome factor

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