

AKC Gazette
September 1943
MRS.E.J.BROOKS

IN THE JLLY ISSUE I stated that our dogs, although not suitable for the K-9 Corps Dogs For Defense are doing their bit as mascots par excellence and morale uplifters in many of our army training camps, never dreaming that some of the old sour-mugs would resent my classification of them and, despite their love of appeasement, decide to tell me off by joining up with the offensive side of this war. Regardless, I am delighted to learn that two of them ride the high seas on British battleships, and one is with the fighting marines (fighting). I have been promised further reports on these warriors, but meanwhile wish them the best of luck and salute them as dogs on the offense.

Another interesting bit of news comes from a mother whose son-a stationary engineer- joined the "Sea Bees" the day after the dastardly Jap attack on Pearl Harbor. Based in the Solomons, he writes enthusiastically about the wonderful job our brave marines did there; asking her to always do every good thing possible for them. So, having learned that Staff Sergeant Hugh G. Lynch, US. Marine Corps, was anxious to get a Bulldog as a mascot for his battery, she decided to give him her son's pet, a pure bred Bulldog, happy with the knowledge that her son will be pleased, the staff sergeant delighted, and the Bulldog . . . well it looks like Old Sarge will be sitting pretty and wont have to worry about red ration stamps for the duration.

The friendly and active Bulldog Club of New England is doing its usual good job of keeping breed activities at a very high standard. Under the capable leadership of its president, Hilding Anderson, and a splendid executive force, no obstacles have been able to defeat its purpose. The Club certainly rates the letter "E" on its standard.

Mrs. C. A. Crum, secretary, writes: The Bulldog Club of Indiana has requested permission to consider the classes of the Hoosier Kennel Club show as its Specialty on Sept.19. We are trying to keep Bulldogs alive, even though there is a war, and are meeting every two months instead of every month. The number of dogs at the shows has decreased because of gas shortage but the quality keeps improving.

Thank you Mrs. Crum, your last statement is most promising. Quality must always surpass quantity! I have always believed that a specialty club should encourage this thought at its shows rather than the idea of bringing out all kinds of shapes and sizes of Bulldogs so that almost all need placards around their necks to classify them; just in order to have a large number of entries. We do have an official AKC standard of points and should try to breed according to it. We can at least insist upon soundness.

I have witnessed many competitive exhibitions-human and animal-the former selecting the most beautiful baby, child or bathing beauty; and then on to the four footed critters-horses and the many types of cattle-and have never seen a lame or crippled entry make the top grade. Yet dogs with all kinds of very noticeable defects often get the highest wins. Shall we blame the judge or should we strive to enforce our standard? I quote the prelude of our standard "General appearance, Attitude. Expression, etc.-The perfect Bulldog must be of medium size and smooth of coat; with heavy thick set, Low swung body, massive short faced head, wide shoulders and sturdy limbs. The general appearance and attitude should suggest great stability, vigor and strength. If we strive to breed sturdy limbs, stability, vigor and strength into our stock we need not worry too much about the sudden passing out of so many promising young dogs from heat, etc."

That's all for now.

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