



THE HOUND A FAVORITE WITH MANY FARMERS

The DOG on the FARM



THE POPULAR FOX TERRIER



LONG familiarity induces the average farmer to bestow nary a second thought upon many a factor in farm life that he would discover, when he was suddenly deprived of it, plays a most important part in the routine of rural existence. Among these things animate and inanimate of whose influence we are so dimly conscious a prominent place should be accorded to "the farm dog,"—or probably it would be better to say the farm dogs, for it is rather unusual for a farmer to have only one canine helper and he may possess half a dozen, without giving any more thought to the subject than the average city man would have to bestow upon one small four-footed servitor.

For all that the busy and preoccupied farmer accepts the presence of



ST. BERNARD A FAVORITE OF THE FLOCKS



A FARM DOG AT HOME



FARM LASSIE AND HER PET



DINNER TIME AT THE FARM KENNELS

his favorite dog so much as a matter of course it is noticeable that the favored animal seems to have some mission as "man's best friend" that requires his presence on all occasions. Certainly a trip to town would be incomplete without Rover romping along, barking teasingly and snapping playfully at the patient Dobbin or leaning out of the tonneau to bay at passing vehicles if his master has arrived at the luxury of an automobile. And in nine cases out of ten the farmer and his family could not drop contentedly off to slumber at night without the assurance that one or more dogs are on watch to give quick warning of anything out of the ordinary.

The dog on the farm helps in a variety of ways, but it is a question after all whether his greatest value does not lie in the companionship he affords. The farmer and the farmer's wife, particularly if they live in an isolated locality, would be mighty lonely at times save for the faithful dog and a lone child on a farm, with no playmates within several miles, might be hard put to it for amusement were it not for the self-same animal—proverbially patient under childish tyranny and ever ready to join in any diverting project. And, since most people consider big dogs the best companions, the farmer is fortunate in his ability to choose with reference to such preference. The city man living in a house in a row or, worse yet, cooped up in a flat, finds the term "house dog" synonymous with small size, but in the country, where the average home has a large lawn and the dwelling has wide porches, there need be no line of discrimination drawn between the house dog and the "out doors dog."

Closely linked to the sentimental value of the farm dog as a companion is the worth of the service he renders as a guardian of life and property on the farm. It is not merely, for instance, that such a dog can serve as companion for the farmer's wife when she is left alone, but better yet, he is able to offer very tangible protection from annoyance by tramps or other unwelcome visitors. Similarly the intelligent canine can exercise an almost human watchfulness over the children when they are out of sight and out of hearing of their elders, and in proof of the dog's capabilities in this role it is only necessary to point to the very frequent rescues from drownings in which dogs play the part of heroes.

At night when the farmer and his family are asleep this vigilance on the part of alert canines is an almost invaluable safeguard and under ideal conditions it affords the farmer as good or better protection than can be claimed for his city cousin residing on a street patrolled by policemen. It is because of the diverse responsibilities of this night sentry work that many a shrewd farmer thinks it wise to keep not merely one good dog, but three or four. With one dog inside the house and another outside the building and with other dogs inside and outside the barn the farmer need have little fear that he will lack for warnings should anything out of the ordinary transpire. These dogs can be depended upon, moreover, not only to give warning of the approach of trespassers, but they are equally serviceable as alarmists should fire break out or should any of the stock get loose in the night or invade the feed bins.

Such canine services, tangible as is their value, are by no means all the responsibilities that grateful dogs assume in return for their modest

keep. Volumes have been written regarding the remarkable intelligence and judgment displayed by the shepherd dogs of this and other countries in minding flocks of sheep and thousands of dogs are today doing men's work in this field. Similarly efficient service is performed very frequently by dogs in assisting to drive cattle to market or to the railroad yards and even in the more delicate work of "rounding up" poultry. Finally there are a hundred minor services as, for example, that performed by the numerous farm dogs that have been taught by their masters to meet the rural free delivery carrier each day and to bring to the farm house the mail and the daily paper. This is a big time-saver for the farmer when, as is so often the case, the R. F. D. box is located a considerable distance from the dwelling.

Some persons have even predicted that the time will come in America when some of our farmers will employ dogs as they do in Holland and other foreign countries to draw the carts of milk to the creameries and do other work that we now entrust to horses, but this prediction is not generally accepted because of the great distances involved in this country. However, there is no reason why the usefulness of intelligent canines should not be still further developed and certainly as the "automobile habit" spreads in the rural communities the farmers are going to find dogs indispensable in one more direction, for it has been proven that there is no deterrent like a dog that looks as though he meant business for warning off the joy riders who are wont to appropriate automobiles that they find standing unguarded in the streets or in a market space or at a picnic.

All the above has reference, of course, to the value as helpers on the farm, but this by no means exhausts the possibilities of the subject. On an increasing number of farms it has been found that dogs can be made a source of actual revenue. This is accomplished by breeding blooded dogs for the market. It is of necessity a "side line" to be sure, but it can be made a most profitable one, for fine dogs bring big prices and the farmer has the facilities for breeding dogs under the best conditions without a fraction of the investment that would be required of a man who established a kennel on a tract of land used for no other purpose. Moreover the farmer's wife and children can do most of the work of caring for the dogs, just as they do in so many instances in the case of the poultry. There is not much danger that it will prove irksome either, for there is nothing more amusing than the average puppy, and he does not as a rule require that extreme solicitous care that must be bestowed upon some other classes of pet stock.

The species of dogs which may most advantageously be selected as farm helpers is, of course, a matter of individual opinion and there are almost as many different opinions on the subject as with the regard to the age at which people should marry. Naturally, personal preferences on the part of the farmer and the members of his family oftentimes have much to do with a choice and then again the sort of assistance that is desired from

a dog on the farm has a bearing on the case. As a sheep dog or indeed for any duty in connection with "minding the stock" there is no dog to compare with the faithful collie. And the collie is a mighty fine all-around dog, too. Proverbially good-tempered and gentle and possessing the highest order of intelligence, he justifies by the possession of good qualities his handsome appearance. And finally, be it said in his favor that if a farmer desires to establish a canine colony for profit there is no class of dogs that will sell more readily or bring better prices than the collies.

The old-fashioned Newfoundland dogs that were once the favorite playfellows of the tots on the farms seems to have disappeared for the most part. In their place we now have the Great Danes and the rough and smooth-coated St. Bernards. The latter, slow and ponderous in movement, will put up with any amount of pulling and pummeling by childish hands and they are usually a very saleable dog if pure-blooded. Hounds of one kind or another are to be found on many American farms and so likewise are hunting dogs, such as pointers, particularly in districts where the farmers have the time and the inclination to go out after small game in season. On most farms the dogs make their headquarters in the barn or stable or in some one of the outbuildings, but an increasing number of country gentlemen have taken to providing dog houses of greater or less pretensions and on the estates of some wealthy Americans, such as J. Pierpont Morgan, there are kennels that cost a good deal more than the barn of the average prosperous farmer.

The bulldog is famous as a watch dog on the farm and there are many farms all up and down the land where one of these pugnaclous beasts is considered indispensable. However, the seeming inability of many a bulldog to distinguish between friend and foe has put the clan in bad favor on many a farm where there are numerous unexpected callers or where summer boarders from the city are included in "the household in vacation season. The smaller dogs such as the Boston and fox terriers, the black and tans, etc., are well represented on the farms. Such dogs are more dependable than some of the heavier species for duty as watch dogs inside dwellings or farm buildings and if the canine family becomes too numerous it is usually easy to find a market in the city for the surplus, the city folks being partial to these small dogs. One thing that the farm dogs have had to learn of late years is a respect for the automobiles that whiz past at scandalous speed. Not a few valuable dogs were killed on the rural roads ere the meaning of the new menace was learned.

BIRDS FIGHT THEIR IMAGES.

But So Do Fish, for That Matter, According to Darwin.

A correspondent for the Scotsman recently reported what he described as the "curious freak" of a blackbird flying against a parlor window many times at the same spot continuously. Such an incident is not uncommon. Birds have been known to fight for hours at a time, day after day, with their own image reflected in a pane of glass, pecking and fluttering against the pane and quite exhausting themselves in their fury to demolish the supposed rival. It is another instance of how the arts of our civilization corrupt and confuse the birds.

It is the same with fishes. Darwin tells a story of a pike in an aquarium separated by plate glass from fish which were its proper food. In trying to get at the fish the pike would often dash with such violence against the glass as to be completely stunned. It did this for more than three months before it learned caution. Then when the glass was removed the pike would not attack those particular fish, but would devour others freshly introduced.

Algy Wasn't Slow.
Pa Munn—I want Helen to marry a business man. She's going to get all my money.
Algy—That's grand! What business would you like to set me up in?—Philadelphia Bulletin.

TALES OF GOTHAM AND OTHER CITIES

Eccentric Millionaire's Will is Void



NEW YORK—A jury in the supreme court found that a man who dances around with a cut-glass bowl on his head for a helmet, even though he is worth a million dollars and made it by means of his own ingenuity, is not in any mental condition to make a will.

The eccentric testator was Alexander Miller of Brooklyn, owner of the Vulcan Iron Works, and he made a will in which he cut off his widow, Mrs. Mary Ella Miller, with \$12,500, leaving the great bulk of his estate to his brother and sister. Mrs. Miller, by her own testimony and through the testimony of other witnesses, proved that her husband was eccentric beyond the highest known Brooklyn records for eccentricity.

Before his death two years ago Mr. Miller manifested his scorn for the conventions by giving barefoot din-

ner parties in the home and preading at the festive board in his undershirt. If the guests appeared to Mr. Miller in any way bored he got up and performed for them. His favorite stunt was to put the cut glass salad bowl on his head and then dance a sprightly saraband around the table.

The millionaire iron manufacturer also possessed original ideas on serving oysters. He had a basket of bivalves taken into the library, where he opened them on a mahogany table. As he opened each oyster he hurled the shells at the portraits of his ancestors which decorated the wall.

Whenever he scored a hit upon the countenance of an ancestor in oil, Mr. Miller would pause in his bombardment to carve the initials of said ancestor on the mahogany table, calling upon his guests to follow his example. He decorated much of his costly furniture in this manner.

Mrs. Miller declared that her late husband was very fond of playing mumbletyeg on the mahogany chairs. It also gave him unbounded amusement to drive his wife out into the street, then rush out after her and beg her to come back.

Lure of the City Reaches Out to Farms

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Sixty per cent. of the young men who wear blue uniforms on the trolley cars are farmers' sons. Most of them have pulled and tugged at plow lines over the backs of refractory mules long before they ever pulled a bell cord in this city.

Half the clerks in the big railway offices in St. Louis are boys from the smaller cities and the little railway stations where the fast trains never stop. Fifty out of every hundred of the young men who are putting kinks in their spines and ruining their eyesight over long columns of freight earnings and "ton miles," know when to plant potatoes and how to plow corn.

Every other waitress in the quick lunch places down town was once a country lassie. That is, they were born and raised up in one of those little towns that dot and speckle the state maps. Thirty out of 40 of the men who run trains, hammer telegraph keys and make out bills of lading for the railway systems were recruited from the farms. Many of the little stenographers who scurry in and out of the office buildings at lunch hour were once upon a time little pig-tailed lassies, who played about the big yards of some little half forgotten town with elm shaded streets.

When a middle aged man or woman goes into the city to make his or



THE CITY SURE LOOKS GOOD TO ME!

her home there, it is nine chances to ten that they have failed at everything they have ever tried in the little cities, and have come to the big town to start a boarding or a rooming house.

And nine out of every ten of them is certain that the city, any city, is the very wickedest of wicked places. Back in the country, where they come from, the big town was held up to them as a symbol of sin. The older folks talked in low tones of its snares and pitfalls, of the sin and degradation that were everywhere in the big town. Why do they come? Many of them fall to drag themselves back to take up life where they left it out on the farms.

The great majority manage to live on the salaries they receive or the wages they are able to earn. A few of them become wealthy and successful, and are able to go back and buy up a whole township around the old homestead, if they desire.

Home-Made Bread Declared Murderous



KANSAS CITY, MO.—The National Association of Master Bakers devoted a part of their annual convention to the housewife who bakes her own bread. She was pictured in every position. The bakers showed their sorrow for her by applauding every reference to the hot kitchen in which she has to work to turn out the homemade product for her family. They declared she should be rescued from her slavery and the only way to effect a rescue was through bakers' bread.

That the modern housewife produces a soggy article of bread and is committing murder in allowing it to be eaten, was the statement made by Paul Schulze of Chicago, president of the association. "This country is full of housewives who are proud of their cooking and who think they are doing

their duty by baking at home," Mr. Schulze said. "The long-suffering stomachs of their families continue to pay the penalty of this mistaken sense of duty."

"The American housewife—the American mother—of today is an earnest and sensible individual, but very set in her ways." She is still influenced by the working methods adopted in her girlhood.

"One thing which we bakers in the larger cities see most plainly today is the absolute necessity of educating the housewife to quit baking at home. Let us come forward. Let us show these women that home baking is wrong. Let us show them the overwhelming benefits of buying bread baked in a sanitary bakery."

Mr. Schulze told of a Chicago woman who had built up a business selling "health bread," a home product. She brought him a loaf and wanted to sell the formula. "I cut into the loaf," said Mr. Schulze, "and saw that the center was unbaked dough. I have been wondering since what effect that woman's 'health bread' has had on the death rate in Chicago. She was unquestionably committing murder."

Notorious Firebug Gang is Revealed

CHICAGO.—Six men are in custody here and the arrest of another has been ordered by the police in connection with the operations of an alleged arson ring which caused a property loss of \$1,000,000 during the last twelve months. Three other men, including a former policeman, are being sought by the police in connection with the alleged conspiracy. The arrests were made after David Korshak, the alleged leader of the firebug gang, had made a statement implicating several business men in the alleged arson conspiracy.



Korshak in a statement made to the police declared that 75 per cent. of all fires in Chicago in the last five years were of incendiary origin, and were either the work of the proprietors of the building or of professional firebugs. He says there are more than a hundred men in Chicago who make a good living by setting fire to buildings, to enable the owners to collect large sums of insurance; that the firebug is usually paid a lump sum in advance, but that sometimes he works on commission, receiving a percentage of the insurance money.

Korshak said that in all his fires he used jugs filled with gasoline, to which he set fire, with the result that flames rapidly spread to all parts of the structure. He fled from Chicago after he was charged with having set fire to the store of Leopold Dreyfus & Co., wholesale clothiers, June 3, this year.

Both Leopold and Lazard Dreyfus, members of the firm, were arrested on suspicion immediately after the fire. Three days later Leopold Dreyfus made a statement implicating Korshak and then committed suicide. Lazard Dreyfus was charged with conspiracy, and the case against him is pending. Three barrels of gasoline are said to have been used in firing the plant of the Northwest ern Can company.