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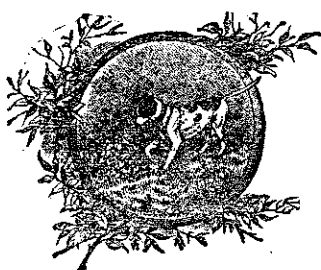
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Kennel Notes.

Some difficulty was found in securing
a judge for Airedales and Irish Terriers.
Mr G. I. Moffett has kindly consented
to judge fancy collies, also wire and
smooth fox terriers.

As a breeder and exhibitor of rough
coated collies, Mr Moffett had marked
success, having won in the hottest com-
pany when that breed was at its high
water mark.

Terriers also were part of his fancy,
and breeders will do well to have his
opinion of their foxies as he thoroughly
understands them and knows what is
wanted.

Mr Ben Ellis, a Dunedin fox terrier
breeder, has just been on a visit to In-
vercargill and in a little chat he informed
us that he has quite gone out of the
breed.

Ben has had some of the best bred
stuff procurable in his kennels at some
time or other, and we are sorry to know
that he is out of the fancy at present,
but hope to find him once again in the
ring in the near future.

Several gentlemen, quite competent to
adjudicate, refused the task, owing to the
keenness of competition in these breeds.
Eventually Mr Alex. Kidd accepted the
task and time will tell whether he is ca-
pable or otherwise of giving a right de-
cision.

POINTS IN PUPPY PRODUCTION. FACTS ON BREEDING FOR BONE AND BUILD.

(By Will Hally).

It is easy to draw a straight line through
life, but how many of us stick to it. In
the dog fancy, for instance, how seldom
do ideas quite keep pace with ideals;
how frequently are intentions and realisa-
tions far apart! That is not the blame
of the dogs, but of the doggists; and
when one sees the methods followed in
some kennels, even in those whose own-
ers can hardly be called inexperienced,
one ceases to wonder that pedestals so
long remain unoccupied, that there is
dross and debris along even the starry
path. I have not been witnessing any
particularly inglorious Gaderene descent,
but my post-bag is so often the receptacle
of other people's disappointments that,
believing that prevention is always bet-
ter than cure, and realising that most of
the failures are the failures of can-
ine early life, I give some points
in puppy production. This article
was originally meant to be for
Chowists only, but on reading it over it
struck me that it might be equally well
applied to nearly all breeds, and so,
while the quantities mentioned in the
following are for Chows, that dog being
a medium sized canine, each fancier can
add to or deduct from those quantities to
suit his own special variety.

The old idea, and a still fairly preva-
lent one, was to underfeed pregnant ani-
mals, but from a long and wide experience
of live stock breeding of many kinds, I
have nothing but vehement condemnation
for that misleading action. How can a
bitch, for example, maintain her own
strength and nourish her expected family
at the same time, on less food than if
she had only herself to consider? It
can't be done, and it has never been done,
except in those rare exceptions which are
only sufficiently numerous to prove the
rule. There is no secret in big-boned,
well-built puppies, other than common-
sense supplies. To begin with, the breed-
ing animals in a stud should invariably
be fit before they are mated. Not fat,
and not necessarily in good coat but
certainly in good health and in firm con-
dition. Then immediately the bitch is
mated she should be well fed on bone and
body building foods, and even though
under normal conditions she has been in
the habit of getting only one meal a day,
the expectant mother should always have
two meals. A big feed and a coming
family are a combined load which no
bitch should be asked to carry. A meal
sufficient for the twenty-four hours, too,
is very apt to lead to digestive upsets,
and many tragedies have followed those
dislocations which, under different condi-
tions, would be very trifling.

At each of the two meals I give the
bitch a teaspoonful of bone-meal—I pre-
fer the refined variety, which is specially
put up for dogs and a spoonful of cod liver
oil and phosphates. The latter mixture can
be got at any chemists. At least one-

third of each meal is of meat of some
kind; horseflesh suits many breeds, but
it is not invariably suitable for Chows, so
for them and their kindreds I use well-
boiled sheep's head, sheep's paunch, and
well boiled fish for the most part. The
water in which these have been boiled
should be utilised to soak the biscuit food,
and then that is mixed, when ready, with
the flesh or fish; in that way none of the
nourishment is lost. With even animals
of one breed, varying in size and in
eating capacity, no hard-and-fast rule can
be laid down as to quantity, but the two
meals combined should be a little for
considerably more than the one meal which
the bitch was accustomed to in her ordi-
nary, everyday life. Don't be alarmed al-
though she gets broad in the back and
put on flesh, so long as it is not simply
piggy fat; but the best guide as to
whether she is getting the proper amount
of food, and beneficial quantities of bone
meal and emulsion, is the state
of her health and her bowels.
Violent exercise must be avoided,
but exercise in moderation is a very
important item in the pregnant bitch's
life, and in the future of her puppies.
The tearing around which some dogs so
delight in will not do the bitch any harm,
so long as she is not being pulled about
by her fellows, or colliding with them in
play. But exercise is very much a mat-
ter of habit, and a Chow, for instance,
that has been accustomed to a backyard,
can get a lot of exercise there by running
up and down its confines.

As bone-meal has a constipating effect, I
stop giving it to the bitch ten days or so
before her expected family are due to ar-
rive, but I continue the emulsion all the
time, and I restart the bone-meal a few
days after the puppies are born, always
keeping a wary eye on the condition of
the infants. For the last fortnight of her
pregnancy the bitch has a daily drink of
Lactol or Puppilac, and after her pup-
pies are born, and until they are weaned,
she has a daily meal of "Porage" or
"Quaker" oats, with Lactol or Puppilac.
Oatmeal is one of the finest of bone-makers,
but the ordinary oatmeal is apt to be
indigestible or heating, and so those pro-
are much more satisfactory. Bitches of
other than the blunt-nosed breeds very
seldom give and trouble in whelping, but
they should never be bedded on straw at
such a time. Straw or hay beds, when
not hard enough to strangle the puppies,
frequently lead to rupture, because the
bitch cannot get the infants properly at-
tended to. Neither should the puppies
while with their mother be bedded on hay
or straw, as no bitch can keep them
thoroughly clean amidst such material.

The bottom of the birth box should be
well-padded with newspaper, and then a
blanket or soft cloth placed on the top.
A waterproof sheet below the blanket is
an aid, but I do not like whole bundles
of blankets or cloths; these are sure to
be scraped about by the bitch, and in
their folds a puppy is easily lost, smother-
ed, or over-lain. After the puppies are
born, the blanket or cloth should be re-
moved, and a fresh one, previously warm-
ed, should be put in its place. All pup-
pies should be born into a comfortably
warm temperature, and should be kept
in it for the first three or four weeks
of their lives. A chilly atmosphere may
not actually kill them, but it will un-
doubtedly stunt and retard their growth,
because much of their nourishment will
then be going to keeping out the cold,
instead of being used solely for their build-
ing. Sometimes puppies given no sign of
life when they are born, or they cease to
be "alive" shortly after they are born.
The little extra labour is producing a big
puppy is frequently the cause of this.
There are various methods of starting the
machinery, such as giving the puppy
little raps, or gently pressing the ribs
across the chest, so that they exhale and
inhale air in their contraction and expan-
sion. Then a tiny drop or two of brandy
will usually start things, and it can be
safely given.

The rib pressure and rapping I do not
recommend, as it has to be very gently
done, and I am writing for novices, and
not for experts. But if you have no
brandy, and even if you have, there is no
simpler way of recuperation than by hold-
ing the puppy in front of a good fire. If
you are afraid of your complexion, you
can stick the puppy in the oven, on a
soft cloth, but, of course, leave the door
ajar. If twenty minutes heating doesn't
move the springs, then pop the puppy
quickly in and out of a jar of cold water.
If that is not effective then you can be
fairly certain that the puppy is really
dead. The brandy is obviously the sim-
plest method, but it does not always work,
especially in those youngsters that waken
only to go to sleep again; for them the
heating is the only remedy. After all the
litter arrive, and are tidied, the bitch
should be given a warm gruel drink.

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