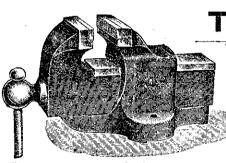
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Kennel Notes.

THE COCKER SPANIEL.

The Cocker Spaniel takes pride of place in this country in the Spaniel family. The Cocker is usually very well represented at the best shows, and the standard of excellence to which the breed has attained is a compliment to its breeders. The Spaniel group is probably one of the most important that are included in the canine race, in which we also have the Field Spaniel, the Irish Water and the Clumber. These three breeds are well knon in New Zealand, but are not so keenly fancied as the redoubtable Cocker. The family also contains the English Water, the Sussex, the English Springer and the Welsh Springer, which are not so well known in the Dominion; also there are the several varieties of diminutive Toy

The Cocker's popularity is undoubtedly due to his usefulness in the field, and his small size compared with that of the other breeds, combined with his affectionate and merry disposition, makes him an excellent companion in the house. In regard to weight, which has frequently caused friction among breeders and exhibitors, it should be the aim of breeders to keep as near to the 25lb mark as possible, and should not go below 23lb or above 27lb.

The descriptive particulars of the breed are:—

1. Head.—Not so heavy in proportion and not so high in occiput as the modern Field Spaniel, with a nicely-developed muzzle or jaw; lean, but not snipy, and yet not so square as in the Clumber or Sussex varieties, but always exhibiting a sufficiently wide and well-developed nose. Forehead perfectly smooth, rising without a too decided stop from muzzle into comparatively wide and rounded, well-developed skull, with plenty of room for brain-nower.

2. Eyes.—Full, but not provinent, hazel or borwn coloured, with a general expression of intelligence and gentleness, though decidedly wide awake, bright and merry, never goggled nor weak as in the King Charles and Bleubeim kinds.

5. Ears.—Lobular, set on low, leather fine, and not exceeding beyond the nose, well clothed with long silky hair, which must be straight or wavy—no positive curls or ringlets.

4. Neck.—Strong and muscular, and neatly set on to fine sloping shoulders.

5. Body (including size and symmetry), --Not quite so long and low as in the other breeds of Spaniels, more compact and firmly knit together, giving the impression of a concentration of power and untiring activity.

6. Weight. The most desirable weight of a Cocker Spaniel is about 25lb.

7. Nose.—Sufficiently wide and well-developed to ensure the exquisite scenting powers of this breed.

8. Shoulders and Chest.—The former sloping and fine, chest deep and well-developed, but not too wide and round to interfere with the free action of the forclegs.

9. Back and Loin.—Immensely strong and compact in proportion to the size and weight of the dog; slightly sloping towards the tail.

10. Hindquarters.—Wide, well-rounded and very muscular, so as to ensure untiring action and propelling power under the most trying circumstances of a long day, bad weather, rough ground and days a count

and dense covert.

11. Stern.—That most characteristic of blue blood in all the Spaniel family, may, in the lighter and more active Cocker, although set low down, be allowed a slightly higher carriage than in the other breeds, but never cocked up over, but rather in a line with the back, though the lower its carriage and action the better, and when at work its action should be incessant in this, the brightest and merriest of the whole Spaniel family.

12. Feet and Legs.—The legs should be well boned and feathered, and straight, for the tremendous exertions—expected from this grand little sporting dog, and should be sufficiently short for concentrated power, but not so short as to interfere with its full activity. Feet firm, round and cat-like, not too large, spreading, and loose-jointed. This distinct breed of Spaniel does not follow exactly on the lines of the larger Field Spaniel, either in lengthiness, lowness or otherwise, but is shorter in the back, and rather higher on the legs.

13. Coat.—Flat or round, and siky in texture, never wiry, wooly, nor carly, with sufficient feather of the right sort, viz., waved or Setter-like, but not too profuse and never carly.

14. General Appearance.—Confirmatory of all indicated above, viz., a concentration of pure blood and type, sagacity, docilty, good temper, affection and activity.

REPATRIATION DEPARTMENT.

(Report for 16 months ending June 20th.)

There are at the present time 77,828 names on the register of the Repatriation Department, and demobilization cards are distributed throughout the various districts as follows:— Auckland, 17,800; Wellington, 22,359; Canterbury, 10,408; Otago, 9,432; Head Office, 17,829; Total, 77,828.

EMPLOYMENT.

No great difficulty is being experienced in securing employment for discharged soldiers and applicants are usually placed in suitable positions within a few days of registration. Up to the 20th June, 18,051 men had been placed by the Department and there were on that date 151 awaiting employment. As five of the latter had been on the "Employment Wanted" Register for a week or more they were being paid sustenance allowances. It was feared in some quarters that there might possibly be a recrudescence of unemployment amongst discharged soldiers during the winter months, but happily this fear has proved groundless, and as it is interesting to note that the number unemployed on 20/6/20 (mid-winter) was actually the smallest on record. In the Auckland and Otago districts there has not been a single case requiring payment of unemployment sustenance during the past six months. TRAINING.

Vocational training (with sustenance or subsidy) has been arranged for 4,672 men, and 1,445 have already finished their courses, leaving 3,227 still being trained in special soldier classes and technical schools or in the workshops and factories of private employers. In addition to this, fees and text books have been granted to 989 students, who are attending evening classes at universities or commercial colleges, who are studying by correspondence with recognised institutions. Officers of the "After-Care" Branch of the Department visit the trainees periodically and report progress. The latest returns indicate that the numbr completing training monthly is now in excess of the number commencing, so that henceforth there will probably be a steady decrease in the number of trainees with a consequent decrease in expenditure

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Applications for financial assistance continue to come freely, and up to the 20th June 3.854 leans for the purpose of acquiring or establishing businesses had been approved by the Ministerial Board, involving an expenditure of £878.927. In addition to this £8,405 men have been granted loans for the purchase of househld furniture, tools, etc., and a further 2,948 have received financial assistance in other directions, the amount paid to or on behalf of the 12,267 men who have been granted £1,222.854.

PAYMENTS.

The amount collected by the Department up to 31/5/20 in reduction of loans granted was £165,180, and less than five per cent of t 1ch,2267 men who have been granted loans are in arrear with their payments. Instalments amounting to £26,477 were collected during the month, of May.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTED TO DISCHARGED SOLDIERS FROM INCEPTION OF DEPARTMENT TO 20th JUNE (Sixteen Months). (Shillings and Pence Omitted.)	. Total. B	775.148 270,257 15,861	4,918 155,023 3,665	£208,919 £142,271 £1,222,864
	r. Otago. £	70,421 41,145 1,330	95 28,956 324	6142,271
	Canterbur. £	124,235 51,151 1.693	1,712 29,673 451	£208,919
	Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, Otago. S & & &	271,356 88,705 7,541	1,381 32,999 1,574	£403,557
RANTED RTMENT gs and P	Auckland. B	307,155 89,236 5,295	1.750 63,393 1,315	£468,106
INANCIAL ASSISTANCE GI INCEPTION OF DEPAF (Shilling	Nature of Assistance.	(a) Business (b) Furniture (c) Tools, etc	Grants for— (a) Unemployment sustenance (b) Training sustenance (c) Transportation	C ₂

APPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS LOANS (over £500) APPROVED BY REPATRIATION BOARD TO 20th JUNE, 1920.

District.	No. of Applications. Amount.							
		_	_	£	s.	đ.		
Auckland			1550	366,611	19	0		
Wellington	***		1291	297,550	2	0		
Canterbury	***	•••	659	140,013	8	4		
Otago	***	•••	364	75,752	2	0		
			3864	£878.927	11	4		

Winter Brosi,

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COWBYRE.

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