

Kanine Korner

By Francis X. Lohmann

Who owns whom? Ideally, you own your dog, but often it's the reverse. He can own you. It's the puppyhood years when ownership is generally determined. During that period of his young life everything he does seems cute. The puppy can jump up on visitors' legs, beg food of everyone who will take the time to listen to his pleas—all without a single reprimand. Many dog owners rationalize that the puppy's still too young to be trained. In another month he'll be all set.

But every month you delay training allows more time for those cute antics to become firmly established habits. And once habits are established, they are not so easy to break.

Your training program may take longer, and more patience will be needed than if you had started to teach your puppy the meaning of that all important two-letter word NO at the time he first became a member of your household. If your patience gives out and you decide to let your pet do as he pleases, you relinquish your role of boss. From that time on your dog has carte blanche of all he surveys.

UNFORTUNATELY, it's this type of dog, the one which does as he pleases, that's apt to be remembered far longer than the well behaved dog which minds his own business. And today with dogs sharing more and more of

their owners' lives, traveling with them, visiting with them, etc., the dog comes in contact with many more persons than he did years ago when he was confined to the home. So, the undisciplined dog may leave many unpleasant memories as he progresses in life, memories that may affect persons' attitudes toward all dogs in general.

BARKS AND YAPS—This byliner's Gold Key signifying membership in the Greater Los Angeles Press Club, arrived on deadline. Mighty comforting for me to join astute members of the fourth estate, radio, television and wire services. And a special kind size bark to affable Press Club manager Pat Russo.

The literary world and the world of dogs joined hands in mourning the passing of Fannie Hurst. Her recent death chipped off a piece of the nation's heart. All of us are richer for Fannie Hurst's all

too short stay on earth. Our loss must be God's gain.

THERE IS definitely no truth to the old belief, that as long as a dog has a cool, moist nose, he is in good health. Many times this is the case but don't depend on this theory. A mighty sick little dog can have a mighty cold nose. In bathing your dog, the water should be no deeper than his elbows. Plunging a dog into water so deep that only his head is above the surface may frighten him and make him difficult to handle. Be careful, too, of cold drafts and make particularly certain the dog is completely dry before taking him out for a walk.

BREED OF THE WEEK—Irish Water Spaniel. Many canine historians maintain that the Irish Water Spaniel is Ireland's most ancient breed, and was brought to the Emerald Isle many hundreds of years ago by the invading

forces from the Iberian Peninsula, considered the place of origin of all the various Spaniel breeds. Justin McCarthy of Dublin did much to stabilize the Water Spaniel. He owned many fine specimens of the breed. One of his Spaniels, McCarthy's Boatswain by name, born in the year 1834, was of great influence as a sire and appears far back in the pedigrees of almost all Irish Water Spaniels.

The great popularity once accorded these Irishmen both in the United States and the British Isles, has subsided to the point where the breed is in the hands of a scattering of loyal sportsmen who value the big, curly-coated Spaniel's superb retrieving ability and loving disposition.

THE IRISH Water Spaniel Club of America was formed in 1937 and has contributed so much in behalf of this now seldom seen but none the less desirable breed of dog. The AKC Standard describes the Irish Water Spaniel's general appearance in this manner: "That of a smart, upstanding, strongly-built but not leggy dog, combining great intelligence and rugged endurance with a bold, dashing eagerness of temperament." He is a good humored chap and he looks it. In fact he is an all around likeable dog that easily makes a conquest of nearly everyone who comes to know him. The Irish Water Spaniel tips the scales at about 65 pounds and in height 24 inches.

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