10-1-1983

Animal Crackers

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THE AKC'S WORLD OF THE PURE-BRED \underline{DOG}

In 1984, the American Kennel Club and the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania will celebrate Centennials. There will be many special events, including the American Kennel Club's 100th Anniversary Dog Show to be held at the Philadelphia Civic Center, November 17-18, 1984. As an "opening gun," AKC has published The AKC's World of the Pure-Bred Dog (Howell Book House, 1983, $29.95). This handsome book gives a wealth of information on the rich and diverse world of the dog. There is information about the 125 registrable breeds and AKC-sponsored activities. Dog Shows, Obedience and Tracking Trials, and Field Trials. There are chapters on the Dog in Art and the Dog in Prose, Famous Dogs and Their People, Dogs Serving Man, and the AKC itself. There are many photographs and a full-color section with thirty-three of the world's most outstanding examples of painting and sculpture paying tribute to the dog. The book celebrates both dogs and the AKC's one hundredth birthday.

Some facts from the text:

- In 1984, the American Kennel Club and the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania will celebrate Centennials.
- The AKC's World of the Pure-Bred Dog was published in 1984.
- The AKC Library, located at 51 Madison Avenue, New York City, is the largest collection of dog-related books and periodicals available to the public in the United States.
- The Dog Museum of America was opened in New York City.
- The AKC is the largest animal registry in the world. It also serves as the official roster in Canada but not by AKC is the Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever which lives and retrieves waterfowl. The tolling dog runs, jumps, and plays along the shoreline, arousing the curiosity of ducks swimming offshore which are lured within gunshot range. Another breed, recognized in Canada but which has not been seen at Canadian shows for a number of years is the Drever. It is said to be one of the most popular breeds in Sweden and looks like a cross between a beagle and a basset.
- The AKC withdrew the Mexican hairless from its official roster in 1959, although it was popular at one time and was shown in the United States as early as 1883.
- The AKC recognizes some breeds (Irish hounds and American Staffordshire terriers) require a tattoo or nose print to identify each dog registered. One of the breeds recognized in Canada but not by AKC is the Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever which lives and retrieves waterfowl. The tolling dog runs, jumps, and plays along the shoreline, arousing the curiosity of ducks swimming offshore which are lured within gunshot range. Another breed, recognized in Canada but which has not been seen at Canadian shows for a number of years is the Drever. It is said to be one of the most popular breeds in Sweden and looks like a cross between a beagle and a basset. Canadian shows offer classes for German long-haired pointers, wire-haired vuslas, Canadian Eskimo dogs, Karellean bear dogs, and Mexican hairless. The AKC withdrew the Mexican hairless from its official roster in 1959, although it was popular at one time and was shown in the United States as early as 1883.

CANCER

Cancer is uncontrolled growth of cells, invading surrounding normal tissues and spreading throughout the body. Cure is possible if diagnosed early and treated properly. Methods of treatment include surgical removal, radiation, chemotherapy, and immunotherapy. Common signs of cancer in pets are:

- Abnormal swellings that continue to grow.
- Sores that do not heal.
- Bleeding from the mouth, nose, urinary tract, vagina, or rectum.
- Offensive odor.
- Difficulty eating, swallowing, breathing, urinating, or defecating.
- Loss of appetite, weight, or energy.
- Persistent lameness or stiffness of movement.

Examine the animal often and obtain veterinary advice if unusual signs are noticed. The cause may not be cancer, but the earlier the condition is diagnosed and treated, the better the chance of successful treatment.

DIARRHEA

Diarrhea is a sign and not a specific disease. There are many causes, including scavenging, excitement, sudden changes in diet and unfamiliar water. Intestinal parasites and viral diseases also may cause vomiting and diarrhea. If diarrhea persists for more than twenty-four hours, you should see your veterinarian immediately. Home treatment includes fasting for twenty-four hours followed by a bland diet. Ice cubes and Pepo-Bismol may help, but avoid other medications unless prescribed by a veterinarian. Adding bran to the diet may be useful in controlling diarrhea.

Giardiasis is a diarrheal disease caused by a microscopic protozoan parasite. Giardia is a common intestinal parasite in humans and it has been found in dogs, cats, and other animals. There are carriers and cross infections which may occur between animals and humans. The disease is transmitted by ingestion of contaminated water or food. Carriers may show no signs. Infections may cause loss of weight in spite of a good appetite and adequate diet and, in some cases, there is severe diarrheal disease.

Giardia is diagnosed by finding the parasite in the feces. It is shed intermittently so repeated examinations may be necessary. It is not found by the flotation methods used for other intestinal parasites...special techniques must be used.