

Beaucoup

LITTLE Beaucoup was never handsome, but she was cunning, and the good people of Roanoke, Virginia, some thirty years back, gave her an affectionate pat as she passed, and thought little more of her. Now and then some kind housewife gave her a plate of scraps, little dreaming that she was entertaining a future stage star.

Life was a rather bitter experience for little Beaucoup. She knew nothing of her ancestors, and her features gave no clue. She had aspirations, however. As for many others of her sex, the footlights were her goal, and like the good trouper she proved herself, nothing could stand between her and the stage.

But things looked very gloomy until one spring morning the Chautauqua tents arose in Roanoke, and the gay wagons of Pamahasika's Society Circus rolled into town. Here was opportunity, and Beaucoup grasped it. Early that morning she came to the tents, and stayed there with the tenacity of an old stager. Nothing could drive her away.

Finally she attracted the attention of genial George Roberts. He was Professor Pamahasika when he donned the red breeches and gold embroidered coat, but the kindly George

Roberts when he worked about his little four-legged charges. Being hungry she was fed, and being smart she was taken with the circus when it left town.

Beaucoup, that cunning little puppy, became the mother of a long line of canine stage stars, and for nearly thirty years her sons and daughters and grandchildren have delighted tens of thousands of youngsters. Truly she founded a royal family when romance came into her life and she espoused Grant Murphy, then a dashing veteran of two seasons. The stage has had its Barrymores and its other families dedicated to the footlights, but in no greater degree did these actors consecrate their families to the stage than did little Beaucoup and Grant Murphy.

From the tents of a dog and pony circus to the solemn lecture halls of a great university may seem a long step; but the work of George Roberts, dog trainer of over fifty years' experience, has been closely watched and studied by Dr. William Lentz, director of the Small Animal Hospital of the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and recognized throughout the world for his work on dogs. With a keen affection for his work, and for the little charges entrusted to him, Dr. Lentz makes the sweeping statement that physical characteristics for which dog fanciers strive do nothing towards fostering intelligence, and that the really brilliant dogs are those like little Beaucoup, not what he calls the "in-bred, man-made freaks" of the show bench.

From his observations of Beaucoup and animals like her, Dr. Lentz

states that if the same care were exercised in breeding dogs for intelligence as is expended on arriving at some fancied physical characteristic, a race of super-dogs would soon result.

Gustave Michaud, in France, conceived the idea of breeding dogs for their mental powers, rather than for appearance. Although unable to complete his work, Michaud obtained startling results, and he convinced Dr. Lentz that it would be easily possible to bring about a race of dogs that could be taught to talk. Of course the dog could never be taught to articulate, or pronounce words, but he could be taught a sign language such as is used by deaf and dumb humans. To obtain the best results from these experiments, the work would necessarily have to cover the lifetime of more than one man. Michaud's scheme was to breed intelligent dogs, regardless of kind. Whenever he heard of a particularly smart little dog on the stage, or in a home, he endeavored to bring it into his family of canine Einsteins.

Man has been as fickle and whimsical in fashions among dogs as he has been in clothes and other everyday things. Today the so-called police dog enjoys a world wide vogue, but from the earliest recorded times fashions have changed to suit man's whims. Little attention has ever been paid to the mental attributes of the dog, but great thought has always been given to the length of legs, shape of head, and other physical characteristics.

Drawings found in old Egyptian tombs of the (Turn to next page)

The Little Mutt Dog

Finds His Defender

Genetics

By George H. Eckhardt

Fourth Dynasty, dated about 3500 B. C., show dogs evidently used as hunters. They were animals like greyhounds with long legs. In tombs of the Twelfth Dynasty dated about 2266 B. C., appear the first drawings of a different type of dog, a short-legged animal of the dachshund type. These dogs were evidently bred from monstrosities and freaks of the long-legged dog breeds, to satisfy the whims of some monarch.

Physical monstrosities in dogs have ever been fostered to supply demands. Specimens have resulted from the accidental or intentional crossing of breeds. The owner has been able to sell the odd dogs, thus a new breed is established. The Boston terrier resulted from the crossing of the English bulldog and the English terrier. Being a good looking little dog, he sprang into popularity.

Unfortunately, Dr. Lentz states, there has never been a commercial demand for dogs with outstanding intelligence. The St. Bernards of the Alps would seem an exception to this statement, but their work has been more a matter of instinct than definite intelligence. About the only real commercial demand for highly intelligent canines has come from the stage, and the stage has paid little or no attention to breed.

Dr. Lentz argues that if, for instance, there was need for dogs to act as copy boys in newspaper offices, to rush about from desk to desk, it is only fair to assume that dogs particularly successful in this field would be interbred until a very efficient "copy boy terrier" would result. But there is now no need for such a dog, hence fanciers pay no attention to him. This—as in the case of the canine thespians—would be a case where intelligence alone would count.

No breed has ever enjoyed the popularity of the German shepherd, commonly known as the police dog, and great claims are made for its intelligence. A little over thirty years back, about the same time that Beaucoup joined the circus, a few fanciers of the German sheep dog met in Munich and organized a small group of enthusiasts for the breed, that has grown to a membership of over 35,000 in Germany alone, in which country over 375,000 of these

dogs have been registered. Single dogs have sold for sums as high as \$25,000, and \$5,000 is by no means an unusual price.

Despite its immense popularity, Dr. Lentz uses this particular breed to further his argument against raising dogs for physical characteristics alone. He points out that the European ancestor of this dog was a utilitarian animal, heavy and well-set, and expected to perform farm duties; while the American dog has been "ennobled" by its fanciers, especially toward the lengthening and narrowing of the head.

In this respect in particular the fanciers have done the dog a great injustice, since they have narrowed the brain chamber, making impossible the development of the folds of the brain, the very thing that would make the animal more and more intelligent.

The greyhound is a very old and pure breed, dating back many centuries, but he is a stupid dog, due to the narrowness of his head. Yet fanciers point to the narrow head in this dog as a mark of distinction, just as the narrowing of the head of the German shepherd in America is looked upon with pride.

Claims of great intelligence have been made for the German shepherd, especially upon the screen and in some cases in college tests. Strongheart endeared himself to thousands of movie fans, and started a great

vogue for canine sheiks on the silver sheet. The dog Fellow performed some startling intelligence tests. Before making further claims for the German shepherd dog, or any other particular breed, it might be well to observe the statement of Dr. Herbert Fox, director of the research laboratory of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia. He states that intelligence in animals, as in men, is a matter of individuals, not of races or breeds.

In the first place, in a breed as numerous as the German shepherd, there would naturally appear some highly intelligent animals, "throwbacks" to the parent animals of the breed. The dog Fellow was probably of this type, and his case proves nothing for the breed as a whole.

The cinema is hardly a fair test for either the intelligence of dog or man. Scenes are taken and re-taken until the desired effect is obtained. The tributes to the canine stars of the movies should be directed towards the directors and camera men, for their patience, rather than to the animals themselves.

Dr. Lentz has had hundreds of dogs brought to him for intelligence tests, and he has closely followed the work along these lines in other universities.

He states that there is a marked difference between mere training and intelligence, or reasoning power. Dogs, by their (*Turn to page 367*)



Group of Beaucoup's grandchildren—trouperers all.

"Maikop Treasure" Given to Museum

Archæology

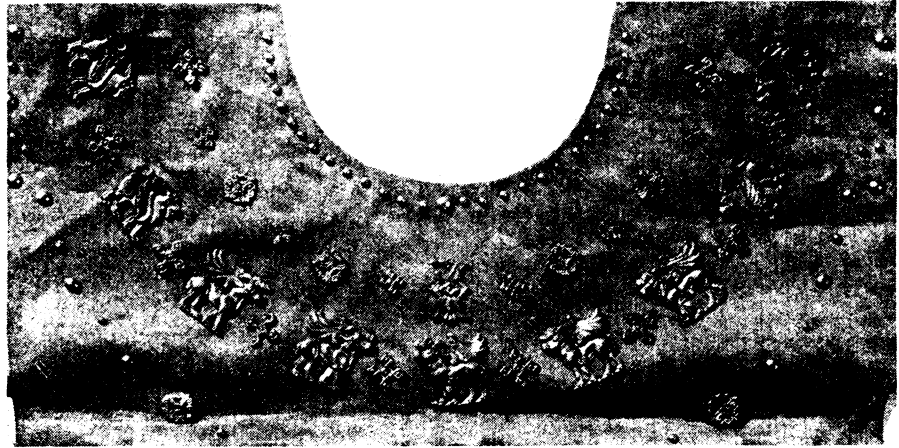
Pennsylvania Receives Beautiful Scythian Relics

THE "Maikop treasure," a collection of rare antiquities which once belonged to the mysterious Scythians of Russia, has been presented to the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, Horace H. J. Jayne, director, has announced. The collection is a gift from W. Hinckle Smith, a vice-president of the Museum.

The relics, which were originally taken from an ancient grave mound near Maikop, in southern Russia, include a wooden casket studded with mythical animals, a tunic made of cloth of silver adorned with reindeer and griffins stamped out of gold, golden bracelets and diadems, and other articles of gold and bronze. There are also harness trappings, bead necklaces made of glass and various stones, a terra cotta bowl, and a fragment of a Greek vase of red.

This vase fragment is of particular importance, for it was the clue which enabled archaeologists to date the tomb as belonging to the sixth century B. C.

"Comparatively little is known about the Scythians," Mr. Jayne said, "although from about 1000 B. C., when great migratory waves of early



Yoke of silver-cloth tunic trimmed with gold figures, from the Maikop treasure

civilization swept from northern China over Asia to Europe, the Scythians overran the southern part of Russia, and established themselves on the Russian steppes."

Their origin is still unknown, though it is probable that they came from central Asia, he added. They were wanderers, but they established a trade route with Greece and had contacts with Persia, as the designs

of their ornaments show. By the second century B. C. their power had waned, and they were amalgamated into the Sarmatian tribes which had appeared in southern Russia, probably coming from Persia.

The collection presented to the museum also includes relics from the Sarmatian period, such as mirrors and bronze ornaments, necklaces, and a silver bowl.

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The Mutt Dog—Continued

long association with men, and due to the fact that their brains are sympathetic to the human brain, can be taught to associate actions with words, but this is not reasoning.

For instance, Dr. Lentz conducted a series of experiments upon a collie which would fetch his slippers when commanded to do so. He found that no matter how the command was worded, the dog associated the word slipper and the inflection of the voice, with the act of fetching them.

Reasoning requires a higher degree of intelligence, however. The Doctor relates an incident of a dog occupying the most comfortable chair on a cool porch, and the only person about being an old lady who feared the dog. Wishing the chair for herself the lady went into the house and imitated a cat calling. The dog leaped from the chair to investigate, and the woman took possession of the vacated seat. Finding himself fooled, the dog went

around to the corner of the back gate and barked violently. The lady naturally went to see what the trouble might be, and immediately the dog sprang back into his chair. Dr. Lentz feels that this is an example of pure reasoning in a dog.

The dog will ever be man's best friend among the animals, and his loyalty and affection, as well as his intelligence, are things to be developed, rather than disregarded for mere fashions.

Dr. Lentz himself has owned as many as thirteen dogs at one time, and none could ever claim a pedigreed ancestry. Yet every one of these dogs has been extraordinarily alert and clever. After seeing the work of little fellows like *Beaucoup*, Dr. Lentz believes that the ideal pet for the small boy is the little "mut," found wandering about the streets of any town, rather than the nervous, inbred, and expensive creatures found on show benches.

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Submarine Song

WHEN the bullfrog calls err-rumph in his watery pool he is not intent upon filling the air with beautiful sound but he is engaged in the serious business of communicating with a friend in the same pool. So explained Prof. John Tait of McGill University, Montreal, when he told the Royal Society of Canada the meaning of the croaking of frogs.

With a hydrophone device such as used for detecting submarines during the war, he listened to under-water vibrations that are created in the water when the noisy frog shifts air from his lungs to his mouth and air sacs and back again. When he held his finger in water being disturbed by the croaking he could actually feel the vibrations. Most of the signal that carries the call of the frog is under water, Prof. Tait explained, and the noise we hear is mere by-product that escapes to the air when part of the frog is out of water.

Zoology
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