

Yuraks, the Tungues, the Tchutches and the Yakuts.

TH**ERE** is now in the country of the upper Yenisei, in Mongolia, a small, fox-faced dog which may represent the Samoyede's early ancestors. Dogs, like humans, change with climatic conditions and with the nature of their work. It may reasonably be supposed that the Samoyede dog, now often reaching near to the size of the collie, and weighing from fifty to sixty pounds, was originally smaller, like some of the Mongolian and northern Chinese dogs, including the chow chow, which is certainly a branch of the Samoyede's family tree. The Samoyede was not, of course, originally white, and even now browns, grays and blacks are common in Siberia, with the familiar whites of our bench shows.

Research into the antiquity of the dog has paralleled research into the antiquity of man because dog and man have always been found together; together in the age-old picture writings, together in the age-old graves. Dog history is apparently as old as man history, and it may be taken for granted that the earliest wild dogs were contemporary with the earliest wild men.

TH**E** descent of the dog is less well known than the descent of man only because the dog had nothing to leave behind but his poor faithful bones, while man could bequeath to future generations a whole array of his works including the im-



CH. DONERNA'S BARIN

The late Alfred H. Seeley, one of America's first and most enthusiastic breeders of Samoyedes, imported this great specimen. Barin is the head of his own strain

of a primitive human tribe; but the dogs that protected the tribe, fed it, and led it on its wanderings through the wilderness are lost in the dust of time.

Early dog and early man having been inseparable, they shared together in the process known as evolution. When one of the early tribes overran



dogs of the conquered, a new dog family was born, too.

As the early dogs were all pretty much alike, presumably, there must have been countless dog generations before any radically new type appeared. Whether the early dog was of a reddish brown, like the wild dog of the present day, or grayish like the wolf, no one can tell—except to note that some very early dog remains, discovered in a mummified state, are distinctly reddish.

AT least we know the first dogs were wolf like in build, with the wedge-shaped head and bone structure much resembling that of the

Samoyede dog as we know him. How some of the later types of domestic dogs were developed, and why, is a matter for further study.

At about the beginning of the Christian era, there were only some fifty breeds, many of them closely related, while now there are in the neighborhood of two hundred. The American Kennel Club now recognizes more than eighty breeds, with still more clamoring for definite classification.

The Samoyede dog unquestionably is pure—that is, unmixed with any other known species. His is a straight lineage. He is one of the few dogs that has escaped the cross-breeding process which accounts for so many of the so-called modern dogs. Dwelling in a land so remote that no other dogs had access to him, and among a people who were eminently satisfied with him in his primitive state, he escaped the unfortunate accidents