

Western Kennel World

The Boxer—CH. DARIA OF EVIOVIM, owned by Miss Patsy Martin, Box 1720, Rte. 1, La Mesa, California



JUNE

1948

35c

SAMOYEDS

By Vera Lawrence
DEW-CLAWS ON SAMOYEDS

Although there is absolutely no mention of dew-claws as being a fault (in the standard of our breed) it is the general consensus of opinion that they are unnecessary in our breed as well as an unsightly, oft-times menace.

About Dew-Claws, our encyclopedia gives the following definition: "In dogs the dew-claw is the rudimentary toe or hallux corresponding to the big toe in man) hanging loosely attached to the skin, low down on the hinder part of the leg. The origin of the word is unknown but it has been fancifully suggested that, while the other toes touch the ground in walking, the dew-claw merely brushes the dew from the grass."

There are several breeds that actually need these 'extra toes', mountain inhabitants especially, where the dew-claws of enormous size help the dogs to keep a safe footing.

Although our standard for the Sammy breed makes no mention against dew-claws it is the accepted opinion by judges and veterinarians that these claws are best removed, especially on the hind legs. Not all Sams are born with dew-claws, yet others are born with perhaps only one or two, while others have them on all four legs. I have seen them just a single little nail hanging loosely from a tiny ball of flesh, while others are huge double-nailed attached tightly to the leg. I have known Sams with claws of the latter type which have gone to a championship in spite of these defacing dew-claws.

Being an utter novice at the time my late old 'Nookie' came to me in 1925, I made no question of the dew-claws (just ordinary sized ones) which she had, so was alarmed when as she grew older (the nail growing too) the fleshy ball became infected as the nail curved

into it. Finally at the age of five or six, I had my veterinarian remove them entirely, and a grand job he did of it too, using a local anesthetic to operate. Of course her legs had to be



CH. BELITA OF ALTAI

Best of Breed at Chicago
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Gillette, Owners

shaved of all hair in that locality, but within a few weeks her legs were healed and when the hair came in full again no lovelier legs could be found on a Sam.

To novice breeders may we say, don't be alarmed if those puppies are born with dew-claws, but when the pups are three or four days old, for ultimate satisfaction have someone well-qualified, or better yet your veterinarian, using a sharp pair of scissors or nail clippers, simply snip off those unnecessary claws. It's a simple task, any little drop of blood will be healed by the mother dog, and your pup will be free from those unsightly marks from then on.

Of course the operation may be done at any time, but there is no safer time than a few days after birth.

Petra of Valiki Again Makes the Headlines

We are happy to announce that Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Larson's Petra of Valiki (Kharkov ex Siberian Snow Sonia, bred by Henry Glotfelty of Alameda) completed his championship points at the San Jose show (subject to A. K. C. verification).

Petra lives with his "folks" in Santa Rosa, and following the San Jose show had his picture in the 'Press Democrat' in Santa Rosa. An item from the newspaper clipping kindly sent us by Mrs. Larson, reads: "Duplicating a sensational winning streak at the same show a year ago that started him on a prize winning tour of west coast kennel shows, the big white dog won five championship points, three more than

needed for the title." Taking first in the open class, then winners dog, best of winners and best of breed, Petra (or "Sammy" as he is fondly called) made a day of it for himself. Two of his young daughters, Mammoushka and Konchakovna, also won prizes at the same show.

Mrs. Larson says she is "still walking on air" to think that Petra has made his championship.

Mrs. Margaret Olin is going on her vacation back east, leaving about May 12, and her puppy bitch Tanya (purchased from Mrs. Marie Grillo) is going to be a guest at the Larson's while her owner is away.

Over in Oakland, Calif., Mr and Mrs. Carl Ritter are offering for sale two choice Sammy bitches, born November, 1947. These "little girls" have had the best of food and care from the day of their birth. They are sired by the Ritters' Swiss Snow of White Tundra out of Rhanor's Powder Puff of Hawthorne, (fondly called "Pammy." When we saw these pups at about three months of age, we admired their grand bone, lovely heads, excellent black points and magnificent heavy coats. To see these pups is to want one.

Note Mrs. Ritter's adv elsewhere on our pages.

Mrs. Ruick Tells Us of Chicago Specialty

Our thanks to Mrs. Ruick for a first hand report of the midwest specialty show (and sincere appreciation to Miss Goodrich for the marked catalog pages). Mrs. Ruick wrote: "When we entered the show we were given little white stars on ribbons (get acquainted stars). The officers and committee members were given clever little badges with a sketch of a Sammy head—and our names. These were made by a new member, a young chap named Clifford Leverage, who was of great help to our specialty in many ways. When we arrived Friday morning we found the benches gorgeous looking, made so by Miss Ruth Kilbourne, the excellent show chairman, Miss Juliet Goodrich, Col. Wentworth, Mrs. Wentworth, Mrs. Walter Cornhauser and lovely Mrs. Adelaide Coles from England. Mrs. Sougermann of Chester-

Samoyland Kennels, Reg.

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VERA LAWRENCE

ton, an artist, made a blockprint of a Sam from which we had cards made. Mrs. Sougermann cut out the Sams and mounted them on dark blue cards—with the names of the dogs and their owners—and the bench numbers. These were at top of the benches which were lined throughout with heavy silver insulating paper, the silver and dark blue making a lovely combination.

Faith Harris' (Mrs. Stanley Child) mural—four feet high and thirty feet long—was mounted above the benches high on the wall. It was very effective and we surely thank her for the use of it.

Harold Danks, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, breeder of sled dogs (Malamutes, Huskies and Sammies) brought his sleds for decoration—and hung a huge bearskin sled rug just below Faith's painting—and the sled with full harness and trappings was placed beneath it.

The banquet was held Friday night, 75 attending, with Col. Wentworth master of ceremonies, a position which he fulfilled excellently. Guests of honor were Mrs. M. Godsol (the judge) and Mr. Godsol, Mrs. Enno Meyer and our visitor from England, Mrs. Adelaide Coles.

Publicity chairman, Mrs. Ardath Chamberlain, who was chairman of Limericks and Essays, took complete charge of presenting the winners in the two contests. Winners were Joseph Burns, Mrs. Wm. Schricker, Mrs. Wentworth, Mrs. Ralph Longden and Mrs. Sandy McKeon of Detroit, who won first in the "Why I Love My Samoyed" contest. It was Mrs. McKeon's "Checky" who saved her little son from that awful fire last year, and for this received a certificate of merit from the Samoyed Club of America. The club presented Miss Kilbourne a silver tray in appreciation of her work as show chairman. Her bulletins were very fine—quite comprehensive as well as dignified. Mrs. Godsol, the judge, is a charming person, was very careful and efficient in her placements, going over each exhibit thoroughly. At the dinner she gave a short talk as to what she looked for in a Sammy. This talk was followed by an excellent one from Mrs. Enno Meyer.

When we returned to the benches we found the dogs contented and snoozing. Two colored boys had had complete charge of them during our absence.

Ch. Belita of Altai, in beautiful form and

I'm Lensen's Snow Chief



"Snowy" to My Friends.
Lensen of Snowland "My Mom"

out of
Ch. Ice Crystal of the Arctic
by
Ch. Moscow of Farningham of Snowland
I live with
MISS INA LAWRENCE at
610 Colusa Ave. Berkeley, Calif.

condition, and owned by the Wayne Gillettes of Indianapolis, went best of breed. The Leonard Hodgkin's 10-year-old Alexis Jumbo went winner's dog and best of winners, and best op-



Three-Months-Old Yorza II
Dr. and Mrs. John May, Owners

posite sex. This we believe completed his championship.

Winner's bitch was Mrs. Marshall's Frolene of Sammar. Reserve was Mrs. Ruick's Chuckles of Breezewood. Reserve winner's dog was Alstasia's Nezaboudka. The veteran's class was heart-warming to see—these two "oldsters" Ch. Ardcliff Snow Storm and Miss Kilbourn's "Bucky." Snow Storm is said to be the oldest living Sammy Champion.

The exhibitors at the show were a friendly bunch — enjoying visiting from bench to

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bench. Mr. and Mrs. Kimpflin from Chicago had a basket of beautiful turquoise-blue Easter eggs which they passed around — with salt shakers included!"

Folks, may we add that Mrs. Ruick has only recently been able to get around, following a serious injury received from a fall on a street car.

The book, Ranger, Sea Dog of the Royal Mounted, the story of a Samoyed, by Charles Strong, being read and enjoyed by many not even Sammy owners. It's a story so interesting that you find it difficult to release the book for even a moment — until you've read it through to the end.

I understand that many copies of Ranger have gone to Sam owners in England, and are being enjoyed by Miss Thomson Glover, Miss Helen Whitaker, Mrs. Dorothy Perry, Mrs. Kathleen Pyle, Mrs. A. L. Westcott and Miss M. Keyte Perry. We do not doubt but that interest in the story will be so keen that before long the book will be in the hands of every Sam owner.

Of the book Mrs. Westcott wrote to Mrs. Quereaux; "I enjoyed every word of it and think it is the best story of its type that I have read for sometime."

Miss Keyte-Perry wrote — "I just do not know how to express my appreciation of this wonderful story — the whole presentation is the work of a great artist both from narration and the illustrations.

Mrs. Keyte-Perry is writing to Dr. Lang Fleming, the Bishop of the Arctic, telling him of the book.

A new subscriber to Western Kennel World, Miss Eleanor Zahn, has sent us a snapshot of her Sammy "Radost," taken the day he was eight months old. She says, "I had been entertaining friends with their two little boys. It had been raining—and the boys and dog were restless, having been cooped up indoors all day. So we rigged up a little cart from the remains of an ancient baby buggy found in the basement, and a drafting board. I made a harness out of two old belts. We hitched up Radost with some old electric cords, put the boys on the seat, and with no coaxing at all Radost immediately set to his task of pull-

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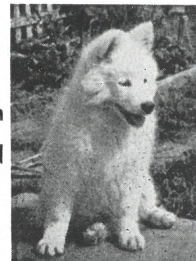
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ing the boys around. Radost is so fond of children that he practically ignores grownups, and does so when there are any children in sight."

Frederick G. Ridout, of Muskogon, Michigan, another recent subscriber, writes that they are delighted with the Sammy pup they bought from Mr. and Mrs. Leo Charland (also of Muskegon).

**TO A DOG I ADORE
EVEN UNTO THE LAST OUNCE.**

You're quite a hunk of dog, I vow
I'd like to hitch you to a plow
To wear down all that excess fat;
I see you don't think much of that!
Your dark imploring eyes of brown
Look up with just a little frown
As if to say with swift dismay
"I haven't had a bite today".
With all consuming passion, you
Devour your second plate of stew;
With creamy milk your thirst you slake
And top it off with chocolate cake.
A chassis yours, beyond reproach
Though extra poundage doth encroach
To blur your lines of symmetry
And threaten your longevity.
Oh, rotund maid that I adore
While you can still get through a door,
I pray that Fate may expedite
The day you'll curb your appetite.

Letter From Another Sam Lover

When Harold L. Keen, an ex-serviceman (who lost an arm over there) now of Oneonta, New York, lost his Sam at the ripe old age of 12 he and the rest of the family felt that they had buried a best friend in that wooden casket in that frozen ground of their back yard on that February day. Old "Kazan" as he was called, rests beneath a lilac tree. Mr. Keen writes: "I started out looking for another Sammie in March. I wrote to Parkcliffe, but never received a reply. Finally, as I was getting desperate, I got a letter from a friend who told me of Mrs. Helen Mettler's kennels near Binghamton, New York. I don't think the letter had dropped on the desk before my wife and I started out to find the place. I want to say

here that Miss Mettler has a small kennel, but she keeps it immaculate, and one could see she spent time with the puppies besides. I spied the dog that I now own and tried to buy it. After 1½ hours I was not successful, and had to settle for another. It was worth the trip and money just to see my father's face light up when I brought the dog in to him.

But to go back a little, when I bought the first Sam, who we refer to as "Old Kazan," I was not married. When I married, Dad asked me if I was taking the dog from there. As much as I wanted to, I just couldn't. My father is a railroad engineer whose favorite hobby is a little workshop in the garage. "Old Kazan" would go into the garage with him, and sit for hours—they were the best of pals and companions, so you see why I didn't have the heart to take him away. I saw the dog every day, however, and would take him for his ride and romp in the park.

After Kazan left we purchased our new one called Kazan II, on a Saturday in March. I came home for dinner on Sunday and my wife said —'let's get the other dog.' I thought she was fooling but when I found she was not, I certainly speeded up and really made time getting to Miss Mettler's

After two hours of talking Miss Mettler sold me the dog. As she was calling him 'Jaroff' I continued to do so, registering him as Tsar Jaroff. Both dogs are grand. My dad's is a little smaller but nicely proportioned. Tsar Jaroff is really a big dog but well proportioned for his size. He is somewhat slower in action and is very easy going.

As we have a factory and the girls come to work early, I take Jaroff down to my father's place, where the two dogs play together. Since Tsar has more patience than Kazan, he generally gets his way. If Tsar wants Kazan's bone or food and Kazan is just picking at it Tsar will run to the top of the steps several times. Kazan then becomes curious and excited and runs to see what's going on. Tsar then goes over and gets what he wants without any trouble. (Sounds like our Kheta and Snowy, with Kheta the schemer and victor.)

Recently Miss Mettler persuaded us to enter Zaroff at the Binghamton show, even handled

him in the ring for us. He, although just our pet, showed beautifully, got three ribbons and two championship points

We have three grand-nephews who come over frequently. One is four years old, his brother, 1½ and their cousin also 1½. Finally we decided we would train the dogs to pull a sled or wagon. After much looking around, found an old harness maker in Hartwick, about 17 miles away, who made the harness for me. Now, every night after five, three little boys come to see if they can go for a ride. Tsar is just swell in harness and does his work well. I revamped an express wagon, but now we are making one with rubber tires. This wagon is on the principal of a buckboard wagon and wide. I am going to paint it red, trimmed with white. After I get Tsar trained, I shall start on Kazan. It will be nice to have a team of them. Tsar seems to enjoy doing it and certainly makes light work of the load. He is especially fine with the children and is very gentle with the smaller ones who aren't a bit afraid of him.

As you can see we are very fond of the dogs, and all of us are thoroughly sold on the Sammy breed."

May we offer our gratitude to Mr. Keen and his folks who are doing so much for our breed in New York, especially around Oneonta —

For those of our readers who may be unfortunate enough to be sweltering in the July mid-summer heat, we especially present a picture of Ralph Williams' Sammies breaking trail in snow-blanketed Juneau, Alaska. You'll be tempted to haul out the snow togs and skis, or snuggle up before a blazing fire at the hearth. Along with Mr. Williams' story and other items, there will be Dr. Ivens' report of his judging of Sams at Glendale Specialty show, kindly sent us by Dolly Ward. We have not seen a marked catalog. Be with you in July, we hope.—V. L.

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