When most people think of P. T. Barnum they remember only his flair for exploitation, but the really important fact about the great showman was his ability to recognize talent. He brought acts from all over the world and then publicized them to the limit. Perhaps they received an inordinate amount of dramatization, but basically they were good acts that could not be excelled in their time. Barnum is no longer with us, but it seems that he has left a blanket legacy to the American people. This country is still fast on the uptake—quick to recognize talent and quality—and in no field is it more apparent than in pure-bred dogdom.

One of the finest breeds to feel the impetus of American recognition is that old Hungarian sheep herding dog, the Puli—75th topic in this series on all the pure-breds of the United States—which was first admitted to the Stud Book in the fall of 1936. Here is a dog that for a thousand years proved an outstanding worker in its native land yet was hardly known in pure-bred circles until American fanciers began to take an interest in it. Even in Hungary it was so closely held by the shepherds that average dog lovers in that country were only dimly aware of its existence.

Since coming to the United States the Puli has made amazing progress—and that despite the fact that World War II hampered importations. By 1944 it had moved up to 73rd place among the 111 breeds recognized, the yearly registration, however, being only 21. But in 1946 there were 46 specimens entered in the Stud Book and in 1947 there were 42. This means that there is now a good supply of foundation stock from which—plus some more importations—there should soon be enough breeding stock to satisfy an ever-increasing demand for puppies as either pets or working dogs.

It seems as if the working qualities of the Puli will never be overlooked.
BOOKS ON THE PULI

American Kennel Club—The Complete Dog Book. (Official publication ... contains a chapter on the Puli (as well as one on each of the other recognized breeds) giving history, characteristics, official standard, illustration, etc.; a 78 page section on the care, feeding, breeding principles and practices, common ailments, etc. of dogs in general; and a chapter on practical obedience training.) New edition revised to 1947. 800 pages. Price: $2.49 delivered.

 Bazille, Fr., Editor—Die Kennzeichen Unserer Rassehunde. (Contains the German standard for "Der Puli"—pages 117-119; photographs.) 1926. Publisher: Hundesport und Jagd, Bielefeld, Germany. (Out of print.)

 Emil, Dr. Rait-sits—A Magyar Kutyaak. (A work on the pastoral breeds—their history and management, the main part of the book being devoted to the Hungarian breeds including the Puli; written in Hungarian—numerous illustrations.) 1924. 230 pages. Published in Budapest, Hungary. (Out of print.)


 Hungarian Kennel Club—Official Standard of the Hungarian National Canine Races (A Magyar Nemzeti Kutyafajták Fajtajellegeinek Leírása). (Contains the Hungarian standards for the Komondor, Kuvasz, Puli, Pumi and Hungarian Yellow Pointer, together with general information on the Hungarian shepherd-dogs; written in Hungarian, French, English and German—illustrations.) n.d. 64 pages. Published by the Magyar Ebtenyésztők Országos Egyesülete (Hungarian Kennel Club), Budapest, Hungary.

 Komondor-Klub (Ungarische Hirtenhunde)—Handbook ... (Unsere 4 Hunderassen: Kuvasz, Komondore (ungarische Hirtenhunde); Pulis, Punnis (ungarische Schäferhunde). (Contains material on the breeds in German; also illustrations.) About 1933. 9 pages. Published by the Club in Munchen, Germany.

 Mut, D. W., Editor—Komondor-Zucht-Buch und Puli-Zucht-Buch. (Part II is devoted to the Puli and contains material on the breed, standard and registrations; also illustrations.) 1924. 104 pages. Published by the Komondor-Klub, Munchen, Germany.


by Americans—in contrast to what has happened in some breeds—for this Hungarian started off on the right foot. When the breed first came to America it received the attention of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which tried out the dogs at its experimental station in Maryland. Since then it has been mentioned most favorably in government pamphlets and, as a consequence, is already working with sheep in various parts of the country.

The real popularity of any breed, of course, depends upon its acceptance as a pet. There are so many more pet owners than shepherds and bench show followers—or any other specialized class of dog owners—that a dog like the Puli able to accommodate itself quickly and agreeably to life in the home can zoom to unlimited heights. There is little reliable information (Please turn to page 322)
THE SAMOYED

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it may well prove to be a boon to them in the most difficult months.
The coming year will be of great interest to exhibitors, as the progeny of many well known champions are coming to the shows and will be critically appraised by observers to see how near type they are reproducing.
The Briard Club of America invites correspondence on any Briard matter by addressing the undersigned.—GEORGE H. CHENEY, Secretary-Treasurer, 1500 Brandywine Blvd., Wilmington 280, Del.

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTERS

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

KINDLY turn to the section “Retrieved at the Trials,” in this issue and you will find a detailed account of the Club’s annual spring field trial held near Minneapolis, Minn., Apr. 17 and 18, 1948.
The Club will hold its third annual retriever trial some time during the summer. The date has not as yet been set but will be announced later. Our entries in this event increased considerably in 1947, and in 1948 a larger entry is anticipated.—JOHN V. ANDERSON, Secretary Contact Committee, 3932 Beard Avenue S., Minneapolis 10, Minn.

BREEDS IN BRIEF

(Continued from page 26)
on the origin of the Puli, aside from what we know of most of the Hungarian breeds that are used to drive, guard, and herd the cattle and sheep in that country. The larger breeds are descended of the big dogs brought back from Russia by the marauding Huns, but these dogs were in turn related to the dogs of Tibet. The Puli is a smaller breed, standing about 17 inches at the withers, but it is in his coat that one traces a great similarity. Like the others, his coat is characteristically Tibetan. In fact, even his head is not unlike that of the much smaller Lhasa Apso.

While Pulik (plural) have been used almost solely for herding sheep, at which they are very accomplished, they have also been used by the shepherds for centuries as hunting companions. They are useful as retrievers on either land or water—especially the latter. As a matter of fact, there is reason to believe that when the German dog expert, Heppe referred to the Hungarian Water Dog in a book written in 1751 he meant the breed we now know as the Puli. Incidentally, the Puli bears a resemblance to that fisherman’s companion, the Portuguese Water Dog, and many believe that this is more than coincidental.

Past history is interesting but not terrifically important to those who are now pushing the cause of this excellent dog. The fact that a Puli can control a runaway sheep by jumping to his back and hanging on until the speeding wool producer tires might concern an American shepherd, but hardly a city dweller. It might interest a Yankee sportsman that this breed can double as an outstanding rabbit dog, but hardly anyone seeking merely a guard and companion for the home. What does interest
One thousand years' selective breeding as the Hungarian working dog has enabled the Puli to understand nearly everything short of poetry and politics—and earned him the title “BRIGHTEST OF DOGS.”

At Stud—$100.00
MERE GDUDA, AKC Reg.

TONY WILLIAMS—Frenchtown, N. J.—or—New York City, PLaza 3-2425

Illustrating this article are pictures of dogs that have done considerable winning at American shows and from which a good general idea of the breed may be obtained. For more detailed information we present a list of books prepared by the AKC Library. For the show points we quote from the official Standard of Perfection as follows:

“General Appearance and Characteristics—Medium size, very alert, courageous, intelligent and extremely active. The Puli is a dog accustomed to but one person and is aggressive with and suspicious of strangers. The coat is long, of fine hair which often mats, giving his coat a somewhat corded appearance. (Note:—This refers principally to dogs working all year in the open with sheep and which receive no grooming.—Ed.) He looks larger than he really is, due to the profuse coat on head, neck, and quarters.

“Head—Should be in proportion to the body, not coarse, skull rather narrow and somewhat domed. Distinct stop, neither dished nor down-faced and strong muzzle of medium length ending in a nose of good size. Teeth are strong and large for the size of the dog. Flews should be tight and color black, as should the nose on white dogs. On dogs of other colors, flews and nose should be harmonious with the color of the coat.

“Ears—Profusely coated, medium large, V-shaped, carried flat to side of head. Eyes—Deep set, close together, medium large. Dark brown eyes preferred.

“Neck and shoulders—Neck should be free from throatiness, strong, muscular running into clean-cut, sloping shoulders. Elbows set close to chest. Chest—Fairly broad and deep. Ribs well sprung and deep. Body—Back not broad, straight, long, and muscular well tucked-up. Rump slightly sloping. Tail—Of medium length. Occasionally natural bob-tails carried low and end curling up. Forelegs—Strong and muscular,

Aside from his ability to make himself a member of the clan of his master’s family . . . with loyalty only for that clan . . . the greatest asset of the Puli is his intelligence. Accustomed for centuries to doing the utmost bidding of his sheep herding masters, this peppery, smart fellow is ready and willing to learn any task assigned to him. That is why we look to see the Puli not only made an ever-increasing place for himself in the American home but to score heavily in the obedience rings.

SPOTLIGHTING THE SHOWS

(Continued from page 36)

ance was good . . . Quality of dogs was excellent . . . Best in show was decided by L. H. Starkey who chose for the honor the Greyhound, Elphinstone Maestro, owned by Robert W. Duden . . . At Springfield, the 11th all-breed of the Ozarks K. C. had 259 dogs, a drop of 158, but quality was very high and attendance was up considerably over last year . . . Mrs. Enno Meyer named as best in show the Labrador Retriever, Ch. Stowaway at Deer Creek, owned by Gerald M. Livingston . . . At St. Joseph, the annual all-breed of the St. Joseph K. C. had a nice collection, with William F. Meyer selecting for best in show the Wire Fox Terrier, Ch. Kelvin Pansy, owned by Ar-For Kennels.

From Wisconsin . . . at Fireman’s Hall, Fort Atkinson, the fourth specialty of Southern Fanciers’ C . . ., consin drew 103 specimens, a slight drop from last year . . . Quality was better . . . Attendance was good . . . Mrs. Charles Dautel chose as best the ASCOB male, Ch. Van Valzah’s Cinnamon Bear, owned by Mrs. Helen Van Valzah.

From Ohio . . . at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, the 31st all-breed of the Western Reserve K. C. brought out 1,193 dogs, a drop of 163 from last year . . . Attendance was off about 30 per cent . . . Crowding of show calendar, plus start of baseball season believed responsible . . . Dr. Thomas Buck named as best in show the Kerry Blue Terrier, Ch. Ker-Rea’s Kilroy, owned by John J. Rea . . . At Columbus, the fifth all-breed of the Central Ohio Dog Fanciers’ Club drew 630 dogs, an increase of 100 . . . Attendance was also better . . . Show generally was best, reflecting plenty of hard work . . . Willy Necker’s Dalmatian act went over well . . . William F. Meyer chose Claude J. Fitzgerald’s Boston Terrier, Ch. Mighty Sweet Regardless, as best in