



IRISH TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA

(Founded 1897)



OFFICERS, 1944

BRIG. GEN. E. B. MCKINLEY, President MARCUS BOYD, Vice-President
 THOMAS H. MULLINS, Delegate to A. K. C.
 HOWARD C. RICE, Secretary and Treasurer

From original in the University
 of Vermont Library. May not be
 reproduced without permission.

NOTE:—This is the fourth of a series of bulletins your officers will issue from time to time on activities believed to be of interest to the membership. If you have bulletin material send it to the secretary.

BULLETIN NO. 4—OCTOBER, 1944

CASH AND TROPHIES IN EXCESS OF \$250 OFFERED CLUB MEMBERS AT WESTMINSTER IN ADDITION TO REGULAR CLASS MONEY — REMINDER ON SPECIALS FUND CONTRIBUTIONS.

You will recall the announcement in the last bulletin that the club had decided to consider the classes at the Westminster Kennel club show—Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12 and 13, 1945—its annual specialty show. Now we are in a position to tell you that in addition to the generous prize money Westminster offers the I. T. C. of A. will put up for its members \$156 in cash plus the President's trophy valued at \$100.

This money will be distributed as follows: \$15 for best of bred, \$15 for best of opposite sex; \$5 for first and \$3 for second in each of the regular classes which will include puppy, novice, American-bred, limit, open and bred-by-exhibitor in each sex, plus \$10 for first and \$5 for second in the brace and team classes. The only condition attached is that there must be competition in each class between two terriers or two teams and two braces.

As to the prize money offered by the Westminster club it is figured in the case of best of breed at the rate of \$1 for each dog entered, and in the regular classes on a minimum of \$5 for first, \$3 for second and \$2 for third, which may be increased as high as \$20 for first, \$10 for second and \$7 for third

provided 10 are entered in the class.

These figures give an idea of the liberality of Westminster's cash distribution, in addition to which the club's money is available to its members.

With a combined distribution of this amount plus the prestige of a combined Westminster and Specialty win, no member wherever located can afford to keep a representative specimen of the breed at home.

* * * *

Response to the appeal in Bulletin No. 3 for contributions to the Specials Fund was so gratifying that the club officers felt justified in offering the foregoing list of specials, but many who we are sure want to contribute have neglected to do so. If you have overlooked this detail please attend to it now while the matter is fresh in your mind. Remember, the size of the fund governs the support the club can give to Irish Terrier classes at selected shows throughout the year. Remittances should be sent to the secretary.

BRIG. GEN. E. B. M'KINLEY, President.

IRISH TERRIER HEAD MEASUREMENTS.

By DR. LEONARD W. GOSS
 Department of Veterinary Pathology
 Ohio State University
 Columbus, Ohio

Looking over the standard scale of points for Irish Terriers, one is immediately impressed with the importance of the head, ears, and expression, to which 20 points are allotted. This is more than is allotted to any other one part of the dog.

The author became interested a few years ago in getting some measurements on the heads of Irish Terriers. After measuring

a number of the outstanding dogs of various shows, there are some interesting conclusions which may be drawn from these figures. First, most of the better dogs' heads are a little more than twice as long as they are wide—the greater portion of them measure about 8 inches in length, by 3½ to 4 inches in width. These measurements have been made with calipers. Bitches' heads are, of

course, somewhat smaller, but in the same proportion.

It will be noticed that the length of head usually varies in proportion to the height and length of the dog. Consequently, if a dog has a head much more than 8 inches in length, he is quite apt to be over-sized. For instance, one dog recently measured had a head length of $8\frac{7}{8}$ inches and was $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. This individual was excessively large, but according to pedigree, he was one of the best bred dogs in the show, but did not place in the classes in which he was entered—largely because of size.

On the other hand, there is a very good little bitch who has done considerable winning in prominent shows with a head only $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide. She completed her championship without much difficulty.

The manner in which the ears are set upon the head has much to do with the appearance of the length and breadth of the head. It must be admitted that the ear carriage has a great deal to do with expression, and expression is an important thing in judging Irish Terriers.

The dog that has a head 8 inches in length and only about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width is very apt to be high just posterior to the eyes. These dogs are always flat in jaw, having no cheek whatsoever, and look as though they have but little muscle in the jaw. These, we realize, are highly undesirable. Some of our best stud dogs, however, have been slightly inclined this way. It is quite possible that that was not a chief factor in their being good dogs, but it so happened that they carried this factor, which shows up now and then in their offspring and far too frequently in case of close breeding of these blood lines.

A dog with a short head is very apt to

have considerable stop. A dog with a skull of this type is inclined to be undershot or to produce puppies which are undershot. The breeding of long-headed dogs to short-headed dogs in an effort to correct either one, may also result in undershot puppies.

The head of the Irish Terrier must be in proportion to the rest of his body. This is very apt to be the case: too frequently the judges compare the length of head of a large dog with a small dog and give the nod to the large dog, simply because his head has more length. For making such a comparison, we should keep size well in mind.

There are quite a few of our better Irish Terriers whose heads measure 8 inches ($8\frac{1}{8}$) long by $3\frac{5}{8}$, $3\frac{3}{4}$, or $3\frac{7}{8}$. I feel that 8 by $3\frac{5}{8}$, or $3\frac{3}{4}$, after making measurements on a good many dogs, is the average size of the good skulled Irish Terrier today, provided he carries a good ear and has a nice deep set eye.

Probably the eyes of all Irish Terriers are approximately the same size, but the appearance as to whether we call it large or small depends more upon the depth at which it is set in the head, the shape of the eyelids, and even the eyelashes. These are important factors and should be watched and bred for in order to keep away from the so-called large, pop-eyed dogs. Color of the eye is hereditary, the dark eye being dominant. Consequently, if we select dark-eyed dogs, we will soon eliminate the light-eyed ones. To be sure, you will find individuals with dark eyes carrying the light-eyed factor. These, when bred to similar individuals, will produce some light-eyed puppies but the majority of them will be dark in eye.

While heads are an important factor in all terriers, we must not forget the remainder of the dog when we are selecting good breeding stock.

From original in the University
of Vermont Library. May not be
reproduced without permission.