

countries where the resident is in any case somewhat handicapped and where even minor maladies are put to assume dimensions to which they are strangers in more favoured climes.

"In the lecture given at this School that fact is borne in mind and the tropics are considered from several angles in an introductory address which has much to commend it. Then the student is warned now to prepare for his journey and for life in a hot country. He is advised as to outfit and various measures of prophylaxis, both before quitting England and during the voyage. Thereafter personal hygiene in the tropics is considered in all its bearings and he is given many "tips", the out-

come of experience which cannot fail to be useful to him wherever he may happen to be stationed. Some of the commoner diseases of the tropics, especially those from which he may himself suffer, are then expounded and general measures of protection against tropical diseases are fully explained, including those which must be taken when camping out. A section deals with insects and other pests and the price of failure to cope with malign climatic conditions and disease is indicated in no uncertain terms. Finally, simple and explicit instructions in prevention and in first aid complete a course carefully adapted to the needs of the layman and calculated both to interest and benefit him.

S O C I A L W E L F A R E



MY PETS IN INDIA

By DOROTHY GREVAL

166, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta-14.

The quality of mercy is not strain'd
It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath: it is twice bless'd;
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.

William Shakespeare
The Merchant of Venice.



HAD the bard put compassion for mercy and extent for quality he would have stated the ideal for this land of compassion. Pets awoken, produce and promote compassion especially among growing children. Compassion has a place in society and a more important place in social welfare.

Pets generate and promote compassion and in their own little way repay in gratitude what they receive in kindness. They should not be

bought* and unnecessarily confined against their will. I will give you an account of my pets during the last 20 years.

My first pet was a male dachshund.

I got him at a very early age. He was the only male in a litter of six or seven and rather stupid, due to in-breeding, from the start. He was also a little more disobedient than these dogs usually are. We were then living in a large house in a large compound and the gates were kept closed unless the car was coming in or going out. We called him "Longy" which he learned easily enough. He also learned to stay in the house upstairs and downstairs and to take his exercise, mainly by chasing crows in the compound. He made no attempt to get out even when the gate was accidentally left open. We found it very difficult, however, to make him house-trained. In despair we got him a little bed which could be put alongside a servant's bed who used to sleep on the verandah downstairs. The servant would cover him up with a clean gunny bag. When the servant was late in coming from his godown he would go to him and whine for him to come and put him to bed. After staying out all night he would come inside and do his business in the hall or on the staircase—a favourite spot was just round the bend—or even in the rooms themselves. He had a favourite spot in every place. He was chastised with a leather strap or cane and even with the hand. He howled and shivered. This went on for several months. Then one morning seeing the strap in my husband's hand instead of howling and shivering he growled. He was not beaten. From that day onwards he was never dirty again in the house. The fear was replaced by resistance and self-respect and with this replacement awakened the sense of discipline and regard for his master's wishes. Some months afterwards he sickened and could not close his mouth. We naturally thought of rabies although we could not find on the dog any signs of a bite of another dog, mongoose or bat. There were no other symptom of rabies. A vet was consulted who diagnosed a kind of mumps which he had recently seen in two imported dogs. A long rope was passed through the ring of his collar tied into a knot in the middle of its length, and its two ends secured to the verandah rails in a

*Buying, breeding and selling dogs is business, quite unconnected with keeping of pets, the topic of this article.

straight line so that the dog was held fairly loosely and comfortable in the middle of a long rope. He was taken out for his usual walk by two servants holding him between themselves and away from themselves by holding the rope at the two ends. He survived 10 days and was obviously not a case of rabies. He was now released and assumed his usual routine including that of barking furiously at every tradesman, baker, milkman and dhobi whom he had seen coming to the house for months (an act of his aforesaid stupidity). Immediate destruction of a pet dog suspected to be suffering from rabies is by no means necessary. A dog suffering from rabies if isolated as described is almost certain to die within 10 days. It may live another day or two occasionally but not longer.

During his illness he was given a lot of glucose in milk and water. He had acquired a taste for it and went on asking for it. The more he drank the fatter he grew and was micturating almost continuously throughout the day. By degrees we weaned him from the habit. He was also examined for hookworm, found positive and given a remedy in a capsule in a piece of butter put into his mouth. He swallowed the piece of butter and asked for more. He was found to be free from hook worm after the treatment.

Whether as an after effect of the mumps or excess of glucose or of the medication for hook worm he grew fatter and fatter and became lazy. Still he followed me about throughout the day and would rather stay in the house with me than go out for his usual walk in the evening with the sweeper. During his illness he was often called "Puppy boy" which name he preferred to Longy. He had a phobia of going for a ride in the car and once jumped from the running car in the middle of a main road. Fortunately he was unhurt. He was chastised until he growled. From that day he never minded being taken out in the car, in fact at the end he enjoyed car riding.

Once we went to the Hills, my husband for a month, my sons and myself for 3 months. Longy was left in the house with the servants. The lady next door wrote and told me that the dog was pining and cried to her whenever she visited the house on which she was keeping an eye. (The landlady in whose house I was living in the Hills would not have dogs. I only

knew this a few hours before leaving. When my husband returned Longy met him with affection and was happy again. The welcome that he gave me on my return was of a much higher order. When he heard my voice he took a flying leap into the car before the car had actually stopped.

A few months later he took a fancy to the sweeper who I suspected was giving him, against instruction, odds and ends of food between his two meals a day (Two meals a day for dogs and cats are not injurious as the orthodox dog and cat specialist would avocate. They make the animal more contented and less greedy.)

When my husband went on Active Service to the North West Frontier the boys, self, dog and a male cat which we also had all stayed at Peshawar.

The dog and the cat and before this cat another cat, also a Tom, remained the best of friends. At Peshawar both animals died to my regret. Rabies was excluded but because of the usual noncommittal report from the laboratory as to the case of death we took a short course of antirabies treatment.

Our first cat was left under a bush by its mother one night. The repairs to the house had just been completed, when we moved in. The garden was inclined to be a jungle, everything over-grown. A *mali* and his assistant had just taken it in hand. They had seen a cat living under the bushes.

This little kitten had cried the whole day; with a view of not frightening the mother cat from returning we had hesitated to inspect the bushes. Towards evening, however, we could not resist the temptation of helping the kitten; we stooped under the bushes and looked at it. The kitten fixed us with his eyes, hissed once and stopped. It got up on its shaky legs and dashed against my leg rubbing his head and neck against it. He had in a split second made up his mind to become my kitten. I picked him up, brought him indoors and gave him some warm milk on a piece of cotten wool and made him a bed in a box. He settled down nicely and never cried again. He was house trained from the begining and played with Longy, who was only a pup, indoors and out. He grew into a fine kitten but preferred lying

under bushes and hedges during the day to coming indoors. He was unfortunately run over by our driver, to my sorrow, when emerging suddenly one day from underneath the hedge. He was found dead under a bush. He had gone to die where he had been born!

Medical News

(Reproduced from a Press Release Issued by : British Information Services, Eastern House, Mansingh Road, New Delhi)

CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL DIABETES FEDERATION

FIRST TO BE HELD IN BRITAIN

EARLY in July, 300 doctors from all over the world will assemble in Britain to take part in a congress organized by the International Diabetes Federation. Delegates from India, Pakistan, and Ceylon are expected to attend.

The congress will be held at Cambridge, and in addition to the doctors there will be several hundred welfare workers, research scientists, and men and women diabetics taking part.

The representatives will travel from 30 countries, from Iceland to Indonesia, from Sweden to Uruguay. Among the personalities taking active part will be Dr. Elliott P. Joslin and Professor Charles H. Best, honorary presidents of the International Diabetes Federation. Professor Best was co-discoverer (with the late Sir Frederick Banting) of insulin as a treatment for diabetes.

The congress is the first of its kind to be held in Britain, and has been organized with financial help from the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences, which is subsidized by UNESCO and the World Health Organization. Financial support is also being given by the insulin manufacturers of Britain and other countries.

At Cambridge, from July 4 to 8, the doctors and scientists will exchange information and views on medical and scientific problems. But an important feature of the congress will be the presence of lay people who will have full opportunities to discuss with the doctors the social problems connected with diabetes and welfare work in different countries.

The International Diabetes Federation was founded in 1949 and has its headquarters at The Hague. It is an international association of diabetes organizations