

The Saint Bernard Club of America's
Best of Breed Perpetual Trophy

The Gould Cup



The Frank Jay Gould Trophy

Frank Jay Gould was the son of the financier, Jay Gould. Frank was born in 1877 and died in France in 1956. Mr. Gould's father died in 1892 and left about 77 million to the 6 children. Frank became interested in Saint Bernards and he built a kennel in Lyndhurst, an estate in Tarrytown, NY. This kennel housed some 25 Saint Bernards on the lower floor and had living quarters for the kennel-master on the second floor. Mr. Gould must have lost his infatuation for Saints soon after because an article in the *American Kennel Gazette* speaks of another kennel named Elmsford Kennels owned by a Mr. Thompson. "The kennel is near Tarrytown, and part of the estate of Mr. Frank Gould, who has lately turned all his kennel effects over to Mr. Johnson. Mr. Gould retained possession of a few of his dogs, which are also at Elmsford, among the 75 that are at home there."

"In 1901 Frank Jay Gould, the President of the SBCA presented to the Club a silver punch bowl that is awarded to the Best of Breed at the Club's National Shows..."

The Quest for Information on the Trophy Continues

What show was the Gould trophy first offered? What class? The American-bred class?

- 1) We know it was donated in 1901 from the *GAZETTE* article.
- 2) The first SBCA show *we have record* listing the trophy is in 1911. The 1911 SBCA independent specialty show catalog (Grand Rapids, Michigan), had the following listed:
Special Prizes. The St. Bernard Club of America offers to members only:
The Gould Challenge Cup for the best **American-bred** St. Bernard, the winner to receive a Silver Medal in commemoration of the award. (Also listed the Ruppert and Waters trophies)
- 3) We know there were no SBCA shows from 1912 through 1934. The club was defunct during those years. With the resurrection and reorganization of the SBCA in the early 1930's, Mr. Arthur Hesser and others went looking for the Gould & Ruppert trophies. He found the Gould trophy in Eleanor Dalton's barn. She was using it to feed chickens out of--this from Hesser's mouth. Nothing is written about it.
- 4) The May 1935 *SAINT FANCIER* mentions, "Club to Hold First Classic in 25 Years. Specialty Show at Morris and Essex on May 25. Sterling silver cups and other trophies, donated by officers, governors and members of the St. Bernard Club of America and valued at several hundred dollars, plus a generous offering of cash prizes, will be awarded at the Club's first specialty show in 25 years, to be held on Saturday, May 25, at Madison, New Jersey, in connection with the annual one-day outdoor classic of the Morris & Essex Kennel club. Mrs. Eleanor J. Dalton of Stamford, Conn., secretary-treasurer of the Club is to be the judge. Mrs. Dalton rates as the outstanding judge of the breed in America, and has placed the big dogs at Westminster and Chicago, as well as in Boston and in many of the other big show rings. She judges in accordance with the International standard, which many of the old line judges are either unable to do or are refusing to do, in spite of the Club's efforts to have the Standard upheld."
- 5) The Gould trophy was not specifically mentioned above and there is no engraving on the Gould trophy for the years 1935, 1936, 1937 or 1938.
- 6) 1939 is the first year engraved *on* the Gould trophy. Does this mean this was the first year it was awarded for the Best of Breed class? Was the trophy offered to American-Bred class during the years 1935-1938, or did the trophy resurface in 1939? We know it was offered for American-bred in 1911. Was the engraving of the winner (*on the trophy*) a new idea in 1939? Was there a *prior base* for the trophy when it was donated in 1901 with the early winners listed?

If you can help shed some light, write to saintbernardnationalarchives@comcast.net



A FORTUNE IN ST. BERNARDS

By Arnold Burgess

A young American Millionaire, on coming into a fortune, must have a fad. It is not a necessity he should devote himself to some athletic sport or some luxury—it is not laid down by the laws of millionairessdom that he should do anything of the sort—but he nearly always does adopt some form of fad into which he puts a goody portion of his money. With one of these young scions of the wealthy houses of America the taste may be for golf, with another polo will hold first place, and with still another a stable of race horses may be the special fancy that appeals most strongly to mind and purse.

The latest of the sons of the great fortune-makers of America to come into his millions, young Frank J. Gould, has found a fad of his own making.

It is a kennel of St. Bernard dogs, and every dog in the kennel is a prize winner, with a pedigree as long of that of some of the European noblemen who come hither in search of American wives. They are canine aristocrats of the highest degree and they are given the care that is due of their kind.

The home of these pets would never be taken for the dwelling place of a family of dogs. It impresses one more forcibly from the exterior with the idea it is a home of some well-to-do tradesman. In fact, if it were separated from the Gould estate, Lyndhurst, at Irvington-on-the-Hudson, the error of the casual observer would be altogether pardonable. In architecture the kennel is a colonial type, and the finish of the exterior and interior is quite up to the standard of the average country cottage. In this cottage every one of the dogs has a separate stall and each stall is provided



Champion La Princesse, Valued at \$10,000

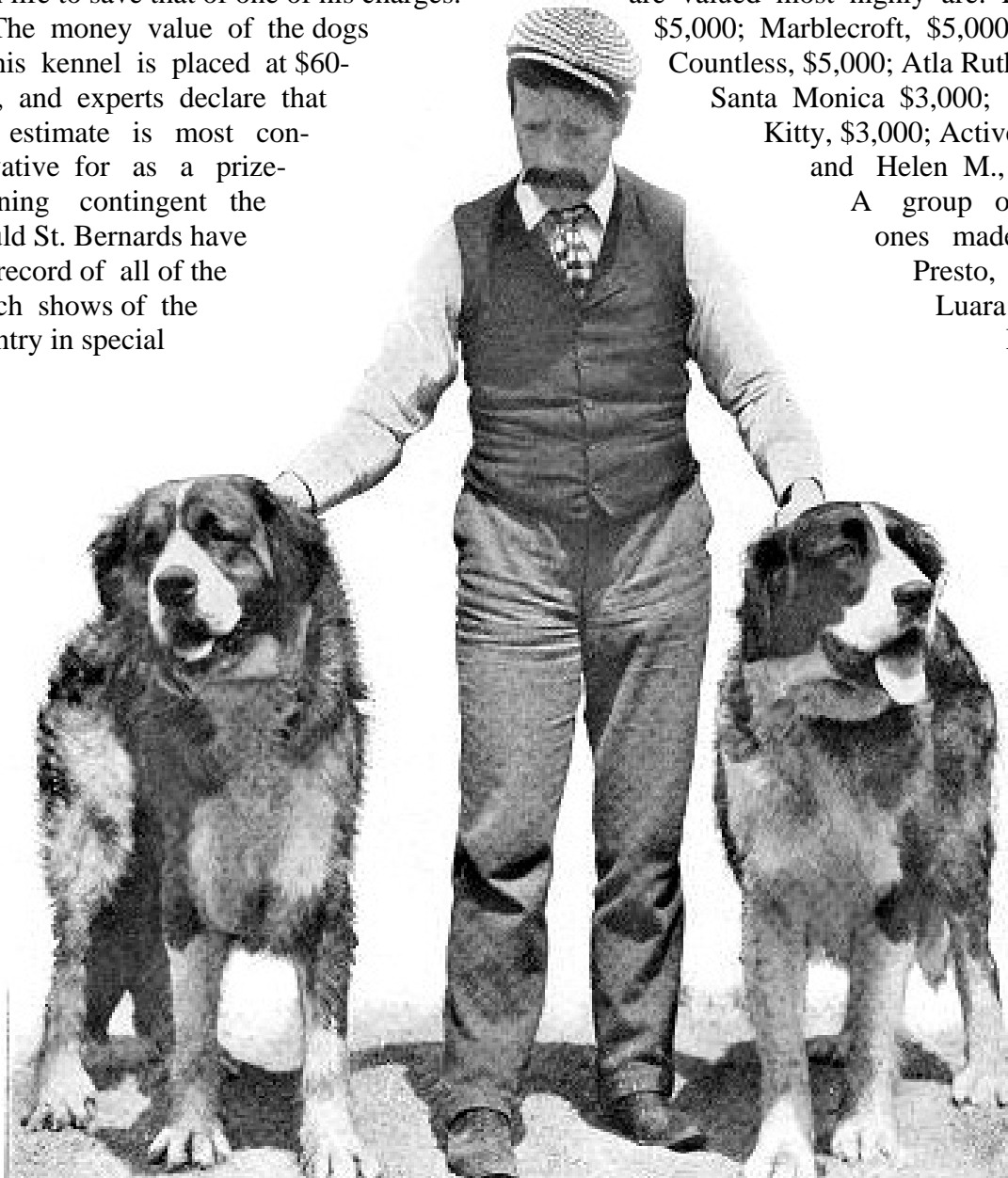
with its bed of the cleanest straw. There are bath rooms for the pets, but those, of course, are for the common use of all the family, and individual distinctions do not hold good there. The kennel is in charge of Walter Johnson, an expert, who knows dogs as a hospital nurse knows children. He not only knows these pets, but he cares for them in a much better fashion than some mothers take care of their children, and on one occasion, at least, has risked his own life to save that of one of his charges.

The money value of the dogs in his kennel is placed at \$60-000, and experts declare that this estimate is most conservative for as a prize-winning contingent the Gould St. Bernards have the record of all of the bench shows of the country in special

class to which they belong. At the Chicago show the last spring all of the prizes for St. Bernards, with one single exception in which class the Gould Kennel held no entry, went to the dwellers in the cottage at Lyndhurst. One of these dogs, La Princesse, is credited with more than fifty first prizes in the championship class. The value of this animal is placed by those who know the value of dogs at \$10,000.

Besides La Princesse some of the dogs that are valued most highly are: Le Prince, \$5,000; Marblecroft, \$5,000; Hornsea Countless, \$5,000; Atla Ruth, \$3,800; Santa Monica \$3,000; Chantrell Kitty, \$3,000; Active, \$3,500; and Helen M., \$2,500.

A group of young ones made up of Presto, Leonello, Luara Jean, and Demetria.



Marblecroft and La Princesse



A GROUP VALUED AT \$15,000,

is rated collectively at \$10,000 and there are puppies not yet valued.

The illustrations of this article give a very good idea of the appearance of these wonderful dogs and the home which they occupy at Irvington. They are in the kennel for only part of the year, as their journey over the country

to the different dog shows take up a great part of the time during the winter months. During their travels they are accompanied by a routine of keepers and care-takers who look after the health and comfort of the animals. They lose on the road none of the comfort that is provided for them at the home of the owner.



Active, Alta Ruth, Marblecroft, La Princesse and Helen M.



Active & Alta Ruth



THE CALL TO DINNER



CANINE FLESH WORTH \$22,000



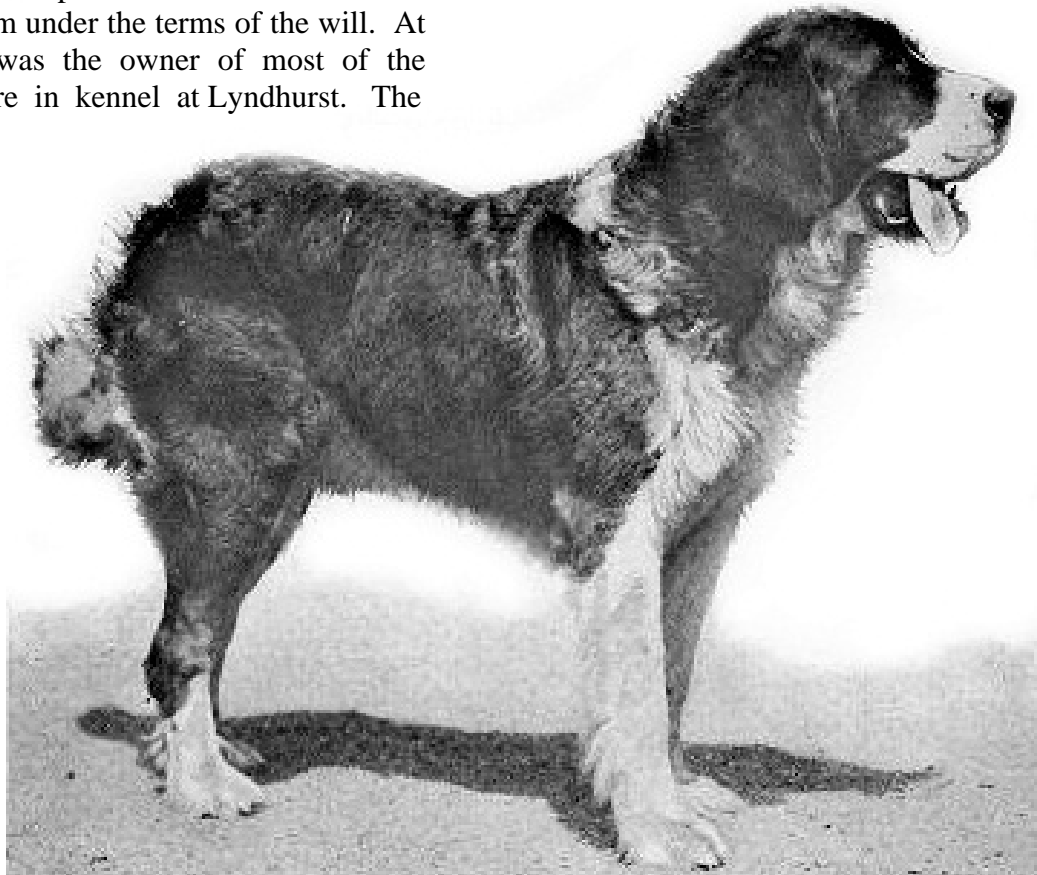
Le Princesse, Chantrell Kitty, Hornsea Countess, Helen M. and Marblecroft
Combined Value at \$24,600

Mr. Gould himself not an infrequent visitor to the exhibitions at which his pets are shown. His interest in them is such that they may always feel sure of the luxury of what they have been accustomed since they became residents of the kennel.

St. Bernards are by no means a new fad with the youngest member of the Gould family. He did not wait until the executors of his father's estate turned over to him the securities which represented the ten millions of dollars due him under the terms of the will. At the time he was the owner of most of the animals that are in kennel at Lyndhurst. The

young man's interest in the dogs must be a very lively nature, when it is taken into consideration that the value of the animals is double the amount he spent in securing a seat on the New York Stock Exchange.

Most of the dogs at Lyndhurst kennels were imported by C.A. Pratt, of Little Rock Arkansas, who is the owner of the Argyle kennels at Leeds England. This expert considers them without equals.



Marblecroft—Value \$5,000

---End of article---

Spelling note: In the late 1800 AKC GAZETTES (when several early pre-AKC Championships were grandfathered in from The National American Kennel Studbook) we have listed in our databases a CH Marvelcroft (1899) and CH Le Princess (1898). I tend to believe there was a misspelling in the magazine article.