

Breed history by Lubomir SMYCZINSKI

Few peoples know this race. It was recognized officially by FCI in October 1963.

Concerning its origin, we can assert that the race comes from Poland, probably stemming, by the migration of peoples, the same canine race that is represented in Hungary by Puli, Pumi or Komondor, in England by Bobtail or Bearded Collie and that is found equally in Russia in the Russian shepherd, far more great, similarly that the Tibétain terrier that aside the name has no anything a terrier but is a small shepherd dog.

Today, the homeland of this dog is centered on the Polish coast and regions of the south. In the rear Polish country one finds often dogs of this race at peasants as watchdogs or to supervise herds. But equally out center of the country in the region of Lublin, we find that and there PON at peasants. As a lot others races of soil, he was no considered in the beginning by the dog fanciers. After the First World War, a small fanatics encircles has begun to promote this race and that and there appeared some isolated specimens in canine exhibitions and agricultural fairs. Nevertheless, they were always superseded by costly dogs of import and considered as the "Cinderella" of unknown origin. After the Second World War, while pure race dogs had almost disappeared and notebooks of breeding were destroyed, peoples that found a normal life didn't accept to renounce to the dog's company. Pure breed dogs with pedigree were rare, currencies had others destinations that import of luxury dog. Dog fanciers had to manage alone. This was the case of our modest dog of peasant that, discreetly, had survived to the chaos of the war. The pure breed dogs association and particularly the Bydgoszcz section has been interested in the race. Reasonably they have not held erudite speech on the origin and the standard, but one has rejoiced due to the fact that it existed an interesting dog race. Specify that one has first of all wanted to divide the race in three categories of sizes. Later, nevertheless, one has privileged the average size (40-50 cm).

In practice, dogs are noted with a lot tolerance if they are typical, well proportioned and possessed the typical step of a bear. Thus were organized several presentations in different exhibitions similarly that small manifestations reserved to the race. Sometimes it was funny to see with which sort of leave or chains and in what different slovenly state specimens were presented to the jury of confirmation by Pon fancier coming from most distant villages. Some were failed, others confirmed.

Then came the great event for breeders, when at the Bydgoszcz exhibition was the unforgettable " SMOK Z KORDEGARDY " It was indeed to all viewpoints (including morphologically) the dog models and the race was codified according to it. Breeders and friends of the breed decided to build a breeding on this dog. It was practically appointed grandfather 1 , protrudes different bitches various origins and always with a great success. Later it protrudes its girls and its cousins. This incestuous method proven full success, the carried were in few time very harmonious and a lot descendants resembled the grandfather .

SMOK unfortunately no longer lives since very long, but in the breeding, its lineage is preserved and cultivated. As watchdog and shepherd dog, it has an innate senses to defend and protect all what belongs to "its family". It is vigilant but is not a pug. As defender, it cannot, obviously, to replace a rottweiler, but it can make escape an occasional thief. And if one trains it to the defense, it can make its evidences. It is extraordinarily intelligent and obedient. It can equally be formed as bloodhound because it has a good nose. It can be a "retriever" because it is a fanatic retriever to earth and to the water.

Nevertheless, it is not made for a mass breeding because it does not supports to be far from with "its family" , and more, for undetermined motives, it is not very fertile (2 to 4 puppies by litter). Breeding and education are well off , but necessitate a daily care of its coat in order that its hair does not mat and does not shelter parasites. Brief it is a dog of company for everyone. Hope that it will find friends and breeders to the exterior of its homeland and that it will collect laurels in many international exhibitions. ABROAD, the "Polski Owczarek Nizinny" has been exposed for the first time in 1963 to Budapest .

Lubomir SMYCZINSKI