

REPORT OF THE JUDGING PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Hollywood, Calif., June, 1967

At the board meeting which followed last year's annual meeting, our new president, Mrs. Sample, indicated her wish to appoint me to head the Judging Program, an office she, herself, had held for a number of years and, it goes without saying, conducted in admirable fashion. Actually, if I may digress a moment, under the direction of Mrs. Sample, the Judging Program grew and flourished and developed to an amazing degree of efficiency. Due to the many innovations which originated with Mrs. Sample, the Judging Program broadened in scope and effectiveness and is largely responsible for the increase in the number of promising new judges which are currently available to our clubs.

Knowing the indelible mark Mrs. Sample had made upon the Program, I am sure you can believe it was with considerable hesitancy and some trepidation, too, that I agreed to accept the appointment.

The transfer of the Judging Program files, records, and other material was speedy and without incident. Due to the fact that everything was in such meticulous order, and instructions so complete, I had no difficulty at all in grasping at least the mechanics of the Program and applying them as needed. During the transition period, I don't think any trainee really suffered for want of attention to his needs, even though my own performance may have lacked the ring of authority which so characterized Mrs. Sample's.

In accepting the office of Judging Program Chairman, I also accepted responsibility for eleven trainees who were admitted to the Judging Program at the board meeting which immediately preceded the annual. Subsequent to this meeting, ten more trainees were accepted to the Program—four at the June board meeting, two at the Sept. meeting, and four at the January meeting—making a total of twenty-one trainees accepted during the past fifteen months. This does not include the three trainees who were admitted to the Program at the June 15th meeting of the board and who will take their initial training as soon as arrangements can be made.

In line with CFA's policy of keeping their judges as well informed as possible, all judges are required to complete a Questionnaire based on current show rules and standards. This year the test ran to 54 questions and wasn't an easy one, by any means. However, the judges acquitted themselves in praiseworthy style, many of them achieving a perfect score and others just barely missing. All trainees took the test, too, and the average grade was a whopping 96. This certainly speaks well for the caliber of those who hope to become the Gebhardts and the Rotters of the future.

Of course I could not pass over the Questionnaire without mentioning what a tremendous help Mr. Winn was throughout the whole operation. He took the test before it was submitted to the printer, and the suggestion and corrections he made afterwards, helped immensely in turning out a more finished piece of work. Of course this is only one example of the many and varied ways Mr. Winn serves CFA.

Nothing seems to be too much trouble or too time-consuming if, in the end, CFA stands to benefit.

Fifteen months as Judging Program Chairman have come to an end. They have been busy months, but they have been satisfying months, too, as any time spent in the interests of others is apt to be. I owe a debt of thanks to the trainees, who have met me at least half way; to our wonderful judges, who have given me the kind of unselfish co-operation this type of program demands; to our clubs, who have opened up their show rooms and, with gracious hospitality, given our judges of the future an opportunity to prove themselves; to our board members, who have been helpful in more ways than I can possibly enumerate; and to Mrs. Sample, whose confidence placed this important program in my hands.

To all of you who have contributed in even the smallest way, I am truly grateful.

Rita Swenson