

Nörten-Hardenberg 27nd May 2016

Peter Friedrich



Verband für das  
Deutsche Hundewesen



**Rethinking  
Breeding  
Strategies**

# WE ALL LOVE TO CELEBRATE BREED TYPE



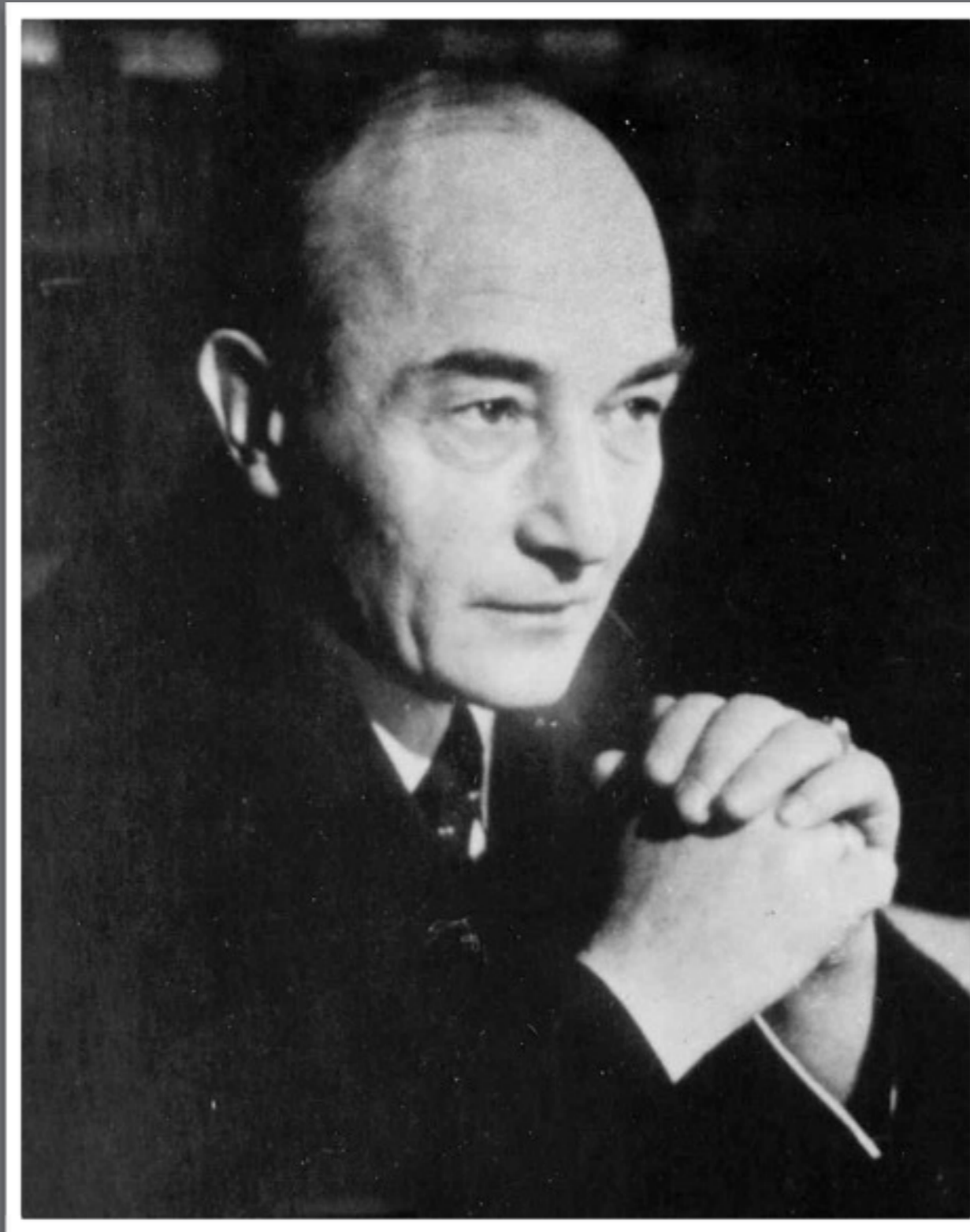
# BETWEEN TWO CHAIRS



# QUOTE OF MARTIN FISCHER

- ✿ **„Where science ends, opinion starts.“**
- ✿ **Not every urgent problem in dog breeding can be solved by scientific means.**
- ✿ **Where science ends, life forces us to solve problems in dog breeding by means of intensive attention, intellectual reflection and intuition.**
- ✿ **From basics to attention to proposals, using scientific approaches as far as possible.**

# ROBERT MUSIL



# ARGUMENTATION OUT OF: THE MAN WITHOUT QUALITIES

- ✦ **Sense of reality:**

**What exists, has existed, will exist, must exist?**

- ✦ **Sense of possibility:**

**What could exist, might have existed, should exist now, ought to exist in future?**

- ✦ **One as important as the other**

# IN THE FOCUS

- ✦ **Some facts  
(but not  
extremely many)**
- ✦ **Convictions  
how to deal with  
scientific knowledge**
- ✦ **Advertisement**
- ✦ **Call for cooperation  
IN AN  
IMPORTANT MATTER**



# BREEDING STRATEGIES

- ✿ **Systematic and not accidentally, conscious or not conscious, mixture of intuition and rational decision making**
- ✿ **Winning titles or own personal ideal fiction**
- ✿ **Gathering information about individuals**
- ✿ **Evaluating information**
- ✿ **Gathering information about populations**
- ✿ **Accepting suitable dogs and bitches, highly recommending perfectly suitable dogs and bitches, excluding unsuitable dogs and bitches**
- ✿ **Combining mating partners including the coordination of different measures, free decisions, rules, regulations**





# TYPES OF INFORMATION

- ✿ Exterior
- ✿ Locomotion and idiomotion including flexibility and motion accompanying characteristics
- ✿ Behaviour assessment mainly coping with social stress
- ✿ Clinical health data
- ✿ Genetic health data
- ✿ Need for coordination
- ✿ Increases in the amount of information



# EXAMPLE: PRA IN THE SLOUGHI

- ✿ **Monogenic, autosomal, recessive background**
- ✿ **Role of the carriers**
- ✿ **Only very few sick individuals**
- ✿ **Methodological diversity:  
two different types of reaction**
- ✿ **Other genetic backgrounds**



# LOCOMOTION AND IDIOMOTION

- ✦ **Quality of life**

- ✦ **Fun**

- ✦ **Play**

- ✦ **Breeding**



# Gathering and generating information is not always easy

- ✿ **Behaviour at different levels of age**
- ✿ **Genetic diversity**
- ✿ **Distribution of characteristics in the population**
- ✿ **Preclinical characteristics like special types of food intolerance**
- ✿ **Vividness of information: number of self-bred dogs**
- ✿ **Number of suitable homes**



# BLACKHEAD PERSIAN SHEEP, CIOBANESC ROMANESC CORB



# PERSONALITY TRAITS TODAY



# ON THE LONG RUN

- ✦ **Development of FCI-populations**
- ✦ **Do we feel responsible for the distant future?**

## New genomic top bulls in December 2014

Due to stricter selection and quicker sire follow-up, a change at the top of the genomic list in every proof run is going to be normal. Cinema really raises the bar with RZG 173. In contrast, RZG 161 for the new No.1 of the Red Holsteins, Drummer, seems quite conservative.

- ✦ **Alternative stakeholders and actors:  
puppy mills,  
breeding industry**



# GENOMIC SELECTION AND RELATED METHODS

- ✿ We are not talking about cows and the milk market
- ✿ Given: tendency or at least risk for a decrease of genetic diversity (popular sires, genetic drift)
- ✿ Given: Existence of hereditary diseases and disorders
- ✿ Differentiated knowledge about the genom: flood of information, role of information technology
- ✿ No self-realization
- ✿ Not applicable in the dog world
- ✿ Scientific information management and evaluation of test matings, better solutions for the description of genetic diversity
- ✿ Faked identities

**Need For**



**Clarification**





# SELECTION PROCESSES

- ✦ **Easy selection**
- ✦ **Complicated selection**
- ✦ **Almost impossible selection**
- ✦ **We choose  
(at least to a certain extend)**
  - ✦ **Side effects of selecting for one specific characteristic**
  - ✦ **Role of selection pressure**
  - ✦ **Sometimes we have a questionable picture of ourself**

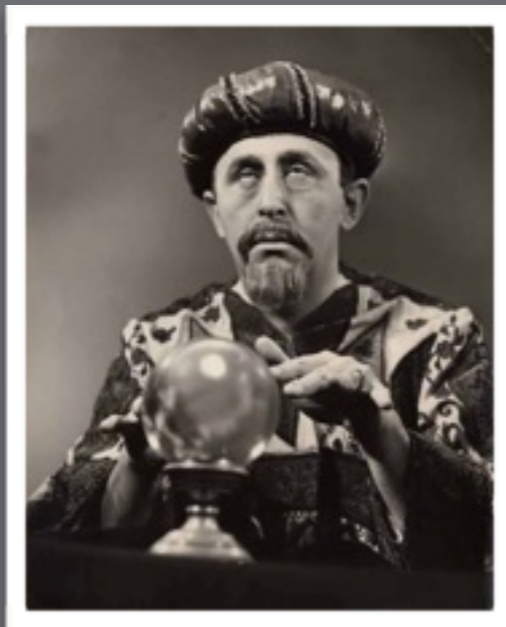
**Need For**



**Clarification**

# GETTING FIRST INDICATIONS AND HINTS ABOUT DISORDERS

**Need For**



**Clarification**

- ✦ Questionnaires
- ✦ Web pages
- ✦ Unsolicited Messages
- ✦ Data of insurance companies

# FIGHTING AGAINST HEREDITARY DISEASES AND DISORDERS



# Programs with phases

- ✦ For example heart problems
- ✦ Difficulties in the phase of gathering information
- ✦ Measuring repeatedly
- ✦ Restrictions under unclear conditions



# DOGS AT HIGHER LEVELS OF AGE



# GATHERING KNOWLEDGE AB. NORMAL AGEING PROCESSES

**Need For**



**Clarification**

- ✦ **Flexibility of the spine**
- ✦ **Muscles**
- ✦ **Visual and acoustic perception**

# MY NEXT TWO ASSISTANTS: THE BLUES BROTHERS



# PREMIUM CERTIFICATE: THE PRINCIPLE



Proposal

- ✦ Positive type of selection instead of contra-selection
- ✦ Should be an official act in the FCI
- ✦ After the dog has completed the sixth year of life
- ✦ Practically and clinically healthy, lively, with sound movement and still excellent quality of life
- ✦ Relevance
- ✦ Voluntary participation
- ✦ Attractive documentation
- ✦ Influence on human attention



# PREMIUM CERTIFICATE: THE DOCUMENTATION

- ✦ **Database**
- ✦ **Attractive Publications**
- ✦ **Quality assurance**
- ✦ **Why not information about every dog?**
- ✦ **Avoiding a bit the problem of secrets**

# PREMIUM CERTIFICATE: DECISIONS

- ✦ **No need to breed with very old bitches**
- ✦ **Taking information about relatives of the dog into consideration (but no statistically estimated breeding values)**
- ✦ **Test matings with an analysis of pedigrees**
- ✦ **Role of artificial insemination (dogs with a proofed ability to mate naturally)**
- ✦ **Taking genetic diversity into consideration**

# RESTRUCTURING CLASSES IN DOG SHOWS



**Proposal**

- ✦ Veteran class for dogs that have completed the ninth year of age
- ✦ Premium certification class for dogs that have completed the sixth year of age
- ✦ Four CCs under at least three judges in at least three countries (at least one year between the first and the last CC) - Premium Champion
- ✦ Additional breed specific clinical and genetic characteristics

# CANCELLING QUALIFICATIONS AT DOG SHOWS



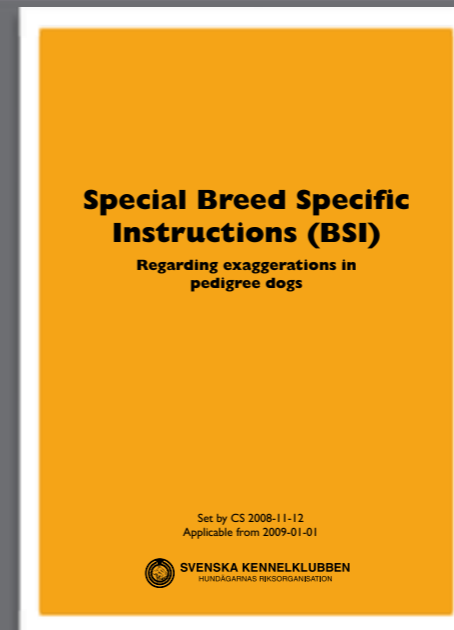
Proposal

- ✦ No longer a two-class society
- ✦ Relevance for genetic diversity
- ✦ Less social conflicts

# NO HIGH PROFILE BREEDS



Proposal



- ✦ Nothing like the procedures in England
- ✦ Nothing like the procedures in Scandinavia
- ✦ Stigmatization
- ✦ Breed specific instructions for each and every breed (instead of selected ones)

**NOT EVERYBODY IS HELPFUL.  
WE HAVE TO BE TOUGH.**

