

BOOTH'S DOGS by Margaret Sweeten, (reprinted from the Spring 1978 Bull Terrier Club Bulletin).

IF YOU ever see *The New Yorker* you will have enjoyed George Booth's cartoons of grotesque bull terriers. No one but an addict could achieve such wickedly humorous characterization. Miss Marilyn Drewes wrote to him and asked if he had a bull terrier and I quote his reply from her breed notes in *Pure-Bred Dogs AKC Gazette*:

"While doing research a few years back in order to draw a variety of dogs I saw pictures of bull terriers. They appealed to me. I began to draw a bull terrier. One day in New York City, a cartoonist friend, who never knew that these dogs with pig ears and well-arched toes actually existed, was shocked to see a Booth-dog on a leash.

"I have no dog. My New York family has fallen in love with bull terriers. Recently we were invited by a fan to the dog show at Madison Square Garden. We went. I am mystified by the fact that so many great breeds of dogs do not appeal to me in the least while at the same time a bull terrier moves me so much. Bull terriers have wonderful dispositions, as I have seen; they are funny in appearance. I want to touch bull terriers. We have a tentative appointment to get one for my wife's parents before long. Our home needs a fence and some preparation before we can get a dog.

"Whatever it is, I'm afraid we have caught it.

"I might have kept my feelings under control but then I heard a bull terrier bark."

—George Booth.

If this has whetted your appetite there is an excellent book of collected Booth cartoons *"Think Good Thoughts about a Pussy Cat"*, published by Dodd Mead, New York.