



Like all lap dogs, blunt-faced pug—a synonym for ugly—is sitting pretty as a pet.



Maltese dogs are so small they were once carried in sleeves by fashionable ladies in Great Britain.



Built low for comfort, dachshunds rank high as pets.

It's a small (dog) world



One of oldest breeds known, beagle has since become most popular. This mighty mite is king.

IT'S A DOGGONE SHAME about big dogs.

German shepherds work brilliantly with the police, the Army, and the blind. Boxers are fearless and faithful watchdogs. Collies are beautiful, affectionate, and devoted. Bloodhounds track down criminals. St. Bernards find lost travelers.

All of them are bold and courageous, and some of them (including Lassie and Rin Tin Tin) are on television. Yet in any popularity contest they aren't even a poor second to the smallest, mildest lap dog.

The little beagle is still a regal No. 1 in the pet parade. The Chihuahua, smallest dog of all, is a timid No. 2. Poodles, which couldn't be more fragile, and dachshunds, which couldn't be much lower, are fighting (with dignity) for No. 3. In fact, seven of the top ten dogs are lap-size or smaller,

and many more underslung canines, such as toy fox terriers (see cover) and others pictured here, are barking for—and getting—considerable attention as pets.

Why? Statistics could probably be offered to prove almost anything about dogs—including the claim that big dogs are really more popular—but the fact remains that, in spite of television, small dogs today are as popular as at any time in history. They require less space, they're easier to care for, and as one budget-minded housewife growled, "They don't eat as much."

Whatever the reasons, in this dog-eat-dog world of ours, small dogs are more than holding their own. Despite their size, their hearts are as big as the biggest, and their capacity for devotion as limitless as that of the largest dog ever whelped.



American-bred Boston terrier is a bug-eyed lapful.