

RABIES

RABIES – Rabies is a disease caused by a germ in the saliva of a “Mad” dog. The germs enter the body through the wound made when a rabid animal bites another animal or person.

SYMPTOMS – Rabies may appear in either the dumb or the furious form.

- **DUMB RABIES** - The symptoms are not constant, but as a rule dogs with DUMB RABIES are very RESTLESS. The eyes take on a peculiarly bright appearance, with dilated pupils. The dogs may be more AFFECTIONATE than usual. The throat and jaws gradually become paralyzed so that the MOUTH HANGS OPEN, saliva DROOLS out, and the tongue seems to be in the way. There is difficulty in swallowing. Frequently these symptoms lead to the mistaken of thinking the animal has a BONE CAUGHT in the throat. The dog may snap at imaginary objects.
- **FURIOUS RABIES** – Dogs affected with the FURIOUS form of RABIES become IRRITABLE and restless, SNAPPING at people or other animals. They will chew up foreign material such as rugs, pieces of clothing, or wood. They try to get out of the house to run. If confined, they will TEAR at objects and, if they break loose, will RUN AIMLESSLY for miles, snapping and biting at any moving objects crossing their path.

In both forms of rabies, there is a peculiar high pitched and HOUND LIKE HOWL. The end comes when the dog is exhausted, the legs become paralyzed, and the dog dies in a stupor.

RABIES NEVER APPEAR AS SUDDEN CONVULSIONS OR FITS.

IF A DOG BITES A PERSON – Do **NOT** kill it. Confine the dog and call a veterinarian. The dog should be kept under observation. If it remains well, there is no danger of rabies to animals or persons bitten; if it has rabies, definite symptoms and death will occur within the two weeks' period of restraint that is required. If the dog is killed at once, you may never know whether or not it was rabid.

ALL PERSONS BITTEN BY OR INTIMATELY EXPOSED TO RABID ANIMALS SHOULD BE GIVEN ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT.