



The Rottweiler at the magistrate's court yesterday.

## Neglected dog rescued, owner fined

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**TAIPING** — There was a time last year when hope ran out for a female Rottweiler left without food, water, medical treatment or love by an inexperienced owner.

The weakened animal was at the mercy of the unemployed 42-year-old woman who ignored its welfare as she was taking care of her ailing mother.

Fortunately, a concerned person brought

the matter to the attention of the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS).

The rescuer, who declined to be identified, yesterday brought the dog she named "Hope" to the magistrate's court here where the department charged Anna Teoh Poh Ling with neglecting it at her home at Taman Medan Bersatu, Kampung Boyan, here on March 6 last year.

Teoh pleaded guilty to the charge.

Magistrate Mohamed Ruhizat Abdullah fined her RM 4,000 while also stripping her of ownership rights.

The dog will be placed under DVS's care

and eventually put up for adoption.

Teoh was charged under Section 44(1) (d) of the Animal Act 1953, which carries a maximum penalty of a fine not exceeding RM50,000, a year's jail, or both.

She told the court she had been busy taking care of her sick mother and did not have time to attend to the dog's welfare.

"This was the first time that I had been asked to take care of a dog. I had no time to do so," she told the court.

Hope was found by a team of policemen and DVS officers after they were taken to the house by the rescuer last March.