

changing Scottie's name to Robbie now or later? Scottie is a good name because I'm sure a lot of strangers will be calling him that anyway, but I'd like to give him a name that sounds a little more personal."

"If you want to call him something else, you'd better start right away," Mr. Macphee replied. "Maybe he'll just accept it along with the many other changes happening in his life right now."

"I do hope he'll take to being called Robbie. It's an old family name, and very Scotch, of course," Mrs. Macphee replied. "And I hope my uncles and cousins of that name don't mind."

The Macphees began to call him "Robbie" all the time, but he didn't answer to the new name. He didn't answer to his old name, for that matter, unless he was of a mind to pay attention to being called. If he were tending to some business of his own, the Macphees had to wait. But since they had lived with Scottie dogs before, they weren't too surprised. Then Mrs. Macphee began to call him Scottie-Robbie, thinking that at some point in time, she would drop the Scottie part, and he would become just plain Robbie, when he got used to sound of it. As it turned out, she couldn't tell which name he was answering to when he did come when called. And that's how he became Scottie-Robbie.

"Having a hyphenated name is quite fashionable these days," Mr. Macphee chuckled over the outcome.