

National Points Field Retriever Trial Due Here

Top Western Dogs Will Show Mettle In Week-End Test

Medford Club Sponsors Event

"Man's best friend," the noble canine, will leap into the Rogue river valley limelight next week-end and his performance in the biggest event of its sort ever staged here will show the public just how valuable an animal he is.

Dogs of retriever breeds have established reputations as pals and willing workers of bird hunters. They have found favor with all who are interested in conservation of game birds. Reasons for the high regard they have earned will be demonstrated as these "working" dogs match their abilities over a three-day period.

Field Trial Set
A national points field trial, under American Kennel club rules, is slated Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 21, 22 and 23, making Medford and Hoover lakes the center of attraction for retriever owners and handlers in the West that week-end. There will be 110 entries.

Champions and sons of champions, well schooled in the art of retrieving, will be brought here. Objective will be to earn points toward possible qualification for the field trial that will determine the national champ. Dogs and handlers are now on the annual circuit. Medford is the third stop. A trial was held at Los Angeles last week-end and the San Francisco event is now being held.

Next week-end's affair at the Charles Hoover lakes and ranch, eight miles northeast of Medford, is being sponsored by Rogue Valley Retriever club, a small but enthusiastically hard-working group that is extending every effort to make its first points competition a success.

Three Breeds Entered

Three breeds of retrievers, Labrador, Golden and Chesapeake Bay, are entered in the trial. Dogs of three other breeds could have entered—Flat Coat and Curly Coat retrievers and American Water Spaniels. The limitation is an AKC rule, although club members here will grant that dogs of other breeds may be just as good at retrieving.

Entries will compete in four separate stakes. The derby stake set for Friday morning is for dogs under two years of age. Qualifying stakes will follow for animals that have never placed in an open event. A winner in this event is considered an "excellent" gun dog. The open-all-age rivalry is set for Saturday. An all-age stake for



RETRIEVERS AT WORKOUT—Three members of the Rogue Valley Retriever club and their dogs are pictured above at a recent workout. Left to right are President Charles Miller and Jigaboo Coastal Command; State Game Commissioner Kenneth Denman and Kip of Geneva, and Harley P. Nelson and Whitmore Boy. Jigs and Kip are sons of Boy. Miller is chairman of the field trial scheduled Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Hoover lakes.—(Brainerd photo).

amateur handlers will get under way late Saturday or on Sunday.

Retrievers will be put through paces both on land and water. For the trial the club has obtained 150 ducks for water work and 300 pigeons and 150 pheasants for the tests on land. The pheasants are being obtained from the game commission.

By Elimination

Stake winners will be determined by a process of elimination. Boats will be employed to put out birds for water retrieving tests. Dogs will have single and double duck blind retrieving problems. A similar pattern will be followed for pigeon and pheasant retrieving on land. In blind events handlers will direct dogs by whistle and hand signals.

As the field narrows tougher tests may be devised to decide champions. Judges will apply a regular scoring system. Various acts can disqualify a dog in an event. Among them are breaking short (moving from the line before being ordered), dropping a bird, fighting and using more than a reasonable time in a retrieve.

Judges for the trial here, Alfred Schmidt, Portland, and George Mann, Beaverton, are rated among the top men in their work in the country.

Most of the dogs being brought here are from cities on the Pacific Coast but kennels as far away as Montana and Wisconsin will be represented.

Leading Entries

Among leading entries are Rip of Holly Hill, international field trial champion and Canadian national champion, and Willowa of Trab, Canadian field trial champion, handled by Roy Gonia, Portland; Beaver Creek Bandit, American and Canadian trial champ, handled by Herbert Fleishacker Jr., San Francisco, and Black Panther, American



WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE—Whitmore Boy, Labrador retriever, owned by Harley P. Nelson, Medford, leaps from the bank to retrieve the duck shown at the left of the picture. Similar action will be seen at the national points field trial for retrievers here next week-end. Boy has been used to train numerous dogs and, for his work in watching over other dogs at trials, has almost the status of member and committeemen of Rogue River Retriever club.—(Brainerd photo).

and Canadian champ, and Treviery Swift, American and English trial champion, handled by M. Beliveau of the Los Angeles area.

Another popular entry will be Edward Minogie's Tar Baby of Holly Hill. Tar Baby, making a third appearance here, was shown here as a puppy and there is considerable interest in the dog's development. Minogie is president of the Portland club. James Stillwell, Klamath Falls, will bring the field trial victor, Oak Creek Sir Dorchester, A Medford entry will be Bear Creek Java, owned and handled by David Holmes.

Public Welcome
The public will be welcomed at the three-day event, the sponsors said. No admission charge will be made. By showing how the dogs fit into the program the club hopes to promote interest in game conservation. Hoover has gone all out to help the club and to accommodate spectators. An area at the field trial site has been cleared for adequate parking space. Lunch will be available at the grounds.

Spectators can reach the trial grounds by traveling out Crater Lake highway and Avenue A of the Camp White area. Avenue A is the first paved street to the right of Crater Lake highway in the military area. Signs will mark the way.

The forthcoming trial is an ambitious undertaking by a comparatively young organization. It will be the biggest and most important trial to be held by the Rogue Valley Retriever club and will mark a goal for which the club has been striving since it was chartered.

Since organization, the club has held a number of picnic trials. It has staged sanctioned rivalries, one in November, 1949, another in April, 1950. The two sanctioned events, considered successful by the AKC, qualified the club to hold the points test.

Informal Meets
Until the late summer of 1949 individuals of the area with retrievers had just an informal group of people who got together to work their dogs. Usually, they wound up at some place like Emigrant lake and had a picnic in conjunction with the canine outing.

Then, these dog fanciers from a variety of walks of life, some of them hunters and others who just plain loved dogs, decided that they were far enough away from the Shasta-Cascade club at Klamath Falls to have an organization of their own.

Rogue Valley Retriever club was chartered on Sept. 12, 1949 with 31 members. Today there are about 40. Charles A. Miller is now president. Among the members are lawyers, garage-men, a carpenter, a ditch rider, a lumber supervisor and college students. Game Commissioner



TROPHY WINNER—Boat Ranch Loyal Jet, shown with owner and handler, Wilfred K. Shere, Ashland, won the puppy stake and was second in the non-winner stake in one of the sanctioned trials held by the Rogue Valley Retriever club.

Kenneth Denman is active in the club. The club meeting place has been at the fairgrounds. There is possibility, however, that a building moved to the trial site by Hoover will become the club-house.

While dogs are a hobby with club members their most serious aim is the preservation of the game bird resource. **Importance Told**
Talk to almost any hunter who owns and values a retrieving dog and he will give an eye-opening illustration or explanation of the importance of these animals in preventing needless slaughter, particularly of waterfowl.

He may report that his retriever found numerous dead or gun-crippled ducks or geese off shores of lakes or streams. Or he may wager that he can go with his faithful and obedient retriever along shores in hunting season without a gun and get several limits in waterfowl—birds that his dog has found.

The hunter will go on to say that these birds were left because, after being shot down, they could not be reached since the shooter did not have a dog. If he had a dog, this shameful waste of wildlife—this excessive killing of waterfowl—would not have occurred.

Retriever club members hope that those attending the trials will go away with a new interpretation of the expression, "leading a dog's life." They should find that a dog's life is not so bad.

One Million Dollars Spent Each Week On McNary Dam in Northeastern Oregon

McNary Dam, Tent City, Ore. (U.P.)—One million dollars a week—that's the cost for men and materials in the drive to complete the mammoth McNary dam.

That rate of expenditure is expected to continue until December of this year. But not until December of 1953 will river water of the Columbia river turn the first generator and power the line.

More than 3,000 construction workers are busy round the clock six days a week as the Army engineers rush the dam toward the deadline. McNary is about 50 per cent completed.

Once the dam is completed the engineer schedule calls for a turbine to be added every three months until the total 14—with a capacity of 980,000 kilowatts—is attained.

Right now 25,000 cubic yards

of concrete are poured into the dam every week. Much of it is going into final work on the 14 powerhouse units and the 22 spillways.

Only lag in the present construction pace may come when

New Jersey Crash Hearing Closed

Elizabeth, N. J. (U.P.)—The Civil Aeronautics Board closed its three-day hearing into the Feb. 11 plane crash in Elizabeth Friday without reaffirming its preliminary findings in the tragedy that killed 33 persons.

A spokesman for the board said no date had been set for disclosing the board's final conclusion as to the cause of the crash of a National Airlines DC-8, the third plane to go down in Elizabeth within two months.

In a preliminary report three days after the crash, the board blamed the crash on a freakish combination of a dead right in-board engine and an apparent short circuit that caused the propeller of the right outboard engine to reverse its pitch.

Thaw Waited To Work Vast Titanium Find

Sts. Marguerite de Terrebonne, Que. (U.P.)—The Terrebonne Titanium Co. is waiting for the spring thaw to start work on an almost unlimited reserve of war-vital titanium-iron ore deposits only 55 miles from the nation's largest city.

"We already own or have staked 4,000 acres of land containing an ore which we believe is the second greatest deposit in Quebec," Rosario Frigon, company engineer, said.

Tests from samples collected from the surface to depths of 250 and 450 feet contained an average of 71.1 per cent titanium oxide and 22.1 per cent iron, Frigon said.

The Terrebonne company plans to concentrate the ore here, building plants costing about \$3,000,000.

Tulelake Homesteads Proving Productive

Tulelake, Cal. (U.P.)—World War II veterans who homesteaded on the 90,000 acres of dried-up Lake Tule have produced \$27,000,000 worth of potatoes and barley in the past five years.

The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, which drained off the last shallow remains of the lake and then parceled out the land to veterans chosen in a lottery, said that the project has been a great success. Its full potential has not yet been reached and plans are under way to open up another area of the lake.

The area lies on the California-Oregon border. The farmer veterans who broke the land had a difficult job but have been well rewarded in their harvests of Klamath potatoes, barley, alfalfa and onions, the bureau said.

FOR CHILDREN ONLY
Forth Worth, Tex. (U.P.)—It may have been fun for the children but not for the school bus driver, J. W. Pierce. Three times in one day his bus stuck in the mud.

Paper Company Blaze Extinguished Quickly

Oregon City (U.P.)—Firemen early Saturday extinguished what might have become a serious blaze in the big Crown-Willamette paper mill at West Linn, across the Willamette river from here.

Officials said the fire broke out in dust around the hog fuel conveyors, apparently exploded by sparks from a hot bearing. The conveyor belt was destroyed.

Garfield Schwartz, mill fire chief, said firemen from the Sunset, Bolton and West Linn departments aided the mill crew in bringing the flames under control in about 30 minutes.

University Sets Up Icelandic Department

Winnipeg (U.P.)—The University of Manitoba has set another precedent in the history of Canadian-Icelandic culture.

The only Canadian university with a department of Icelandic and the only privately-endowed chair of Icelandic language and literature in western Canada, the university now has appointed a chairman to head the department.

Youthful Finnogi Gudmundsson, a distinguished graduate of the University of Iceland, has arrived in Winnipeg to assume the chair of Icelandic language and literature. The new professor is the son of the late Gudmundur Finnogsson, noted scholar, national figure, and librarian of Iceland's national library.

Hunter Uses Hard Way To Get Meat for Table

Myrtle Beach, S. C. (U.P.)—Carsten F. Hansen had venison for dinner but he came by the meat the hard way.

Hansen was walking across a water-level bridge when a deer came out of the lake and attacked him.

Hansen fired his shotgun at the animal but the pellets only infuriated the deer.

Hansen fled to the ocean a few yards away with the deer in hot pursuit.

Hansen's boots filled with water and weighed him down, so he turned and killed the deer with the butt of his gun.

His comment: "There must be an easier way."

SAFER DRIVING PREDICTED

Detroit (U.P.)—Charles A. Chayne, General Motors engineer, says the car of the future will be designed primarily for safety. "We probably never will have what an engineer considers an ideal highway," he said. "It is up to engineers to design a car that will overcome the handicap."

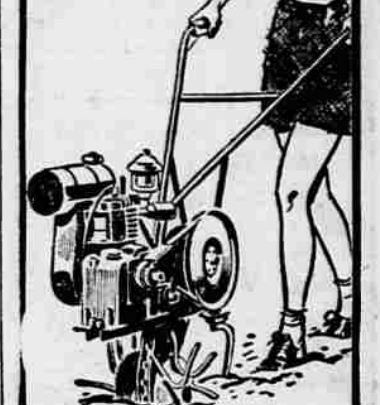
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