

The Modern Setter
By A. F. Hochwalt
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PREFACE

In my preface to "The Modern Pointer" which was published just about two years in advance of the present volume, I stated that "The Modern Setter" would follow in the very near future.

It has been delayed longer than I anticipated, but in finally launching this book upon the ever growing sea of canine literature, I trust I have given that loyal body of bird dog fanciers the benefit of the delay.

The study of the setter is much more complex than that of the pointer because of the fact that there are so many divisions, but I trust that I have made my ideas clear that there can be no "breed within a breed" and that the setter of today is divided into three distinct and separate groups only: viz, the English, the Irish and the Gordon. All other so-called breeds are fanciful appellations with no foundation in fact. A careful scrutiny of these pages will, I trust, give the reader a clear understanding of what I mean by this statement.

For the earlier history of the setter it was necessarily imperative to draw upon the records of the past and the writers that have gone before, but the story of the field trials and bench shows, with their accompanying side lights, during the past quarter of a century is drawn from my own personal experiences, colored, perhaps, by the viewpoint of a single mind, but it is first-hand knowledge.

No doubt errors have crept into this book here and there, but in the main, I believe the records and statements made will be found authentic, even though some of the deductions advanced may not coincide with those who have written on the same subject. However, if this book is met with the same cordial reception that was accorded "The Modern Pointer" then my hope shall be fulfilled, for the two volumes should go hand in hand in transcribing the history of the bird dog here in America.

Dayton, Ohio, October 1, 1919.

A. F. Hochwalt

Table of Contents: Chapters 1 through Chapter XV appear to concern the English Setter while Chapter - XVI – Bench Shows and Bench Show Setters; Chapter XVII – The Irish Setter – Early American History; Chapter XVIII – The Irish Setter – Current History; Chapter XIX The Gordon Setter. Contains 19 photographs.

Only the chapters (including photographs) covering Irish are copied below.

.CHAPTER XVII

The Irish Setter – Early American History

Ask the average sportsman of the old school what his favorite breed of field dog was in his early days and he will tell you the Irish setter. That seems to have been the experience of most of us who shot over dogs thirty or more years ago. The first quail I ever shot was over an Irish setter, the first bird dog I ever owned was an Irish setter and my experience is analogous with that of hundreds of other who loved the sports afield in those days of the early eighties. I was only a lad then, but the memory of that first Irish setter will stand out as a pleasant retrospect of glorious days afield, when on half holidays or between school hours I could stroll along the river banks, into fields of stubble and find quail, almost within a stone's throw of home. He was an all-around dog, this Irish setter, Mike, with a great blaze down his face and a patch of white on his breast, but he was a faithful companion; and whether it was to find and point quail in the stubbles on a bright November day or retrieve a duck out of the icy waters of the Miami in late January, Mike was equally at home.

The reason the Irish setter was popular with the masses is because he was a general purpose dog. The man who could only own one dog derived more real satisfaction out of one of this breed than any other, for he fitted into any place where he might be useful. But a change has come over the scene. What with the fashionable Llewellins which obtained a vogue in the early eighties, and the rise of the pointer, the Irish setter seemed to go out of fashion as a field dog. Unquestionably, he is the handsomest of all the setter family; his bright red coat and his rugged appearance always command attention. With field trials coming on in great numbers, and the consequent exploitation of the field trial breed, the Irish setter seemed to be relegated into the hands of the few and those few men were men who cared for their dogs more for their own private shooting, or for the bench show. With the fall in popularity as a field trial aspirant, it is surprising how the bench show element took him up, and while I have no doubt that there are just as many good Irish setter field dogs owned by private individuals of which we hear nothing, it is nevertheless a settled fact that the red dog is now known to the kennel world as a mere bench show dog. It seems that this breed came into the hands of men and women who care little for field sports. That is how the Irish setter acquired his bad name

as a utility dog. In bench show realms he is as popular as ever, but candor compels us to admit that of late years the Irish setter could not hold his own in field trials, despite the fact that in the early days of this sport he won his fair share of prize money. No one is to blame for this except those who allowed the red dog to deteriorate in that respect. When it comes to breeding true to type, few dogs are the equal of the Irish setter and if the fanciers of the breed really want to restore him to his old prestige in field trials there is no reason why this cannot be done, just as the same feat was accomplished with the pointer, which thirty-five years ago seemed to be going the way of the Irishman. It was merely a case of allowing one breed to outstrip the other and the red Irish was left at the post in the glamour that surrounded the breed from England, which was so well advertised at the time of its appearance in this country. Another reason why the field trial English setter passed his red cousin is that the former develops earlier than the latter. It is more difficult to develop a derby Irish setter than an English setter, as the latter comes to his field instincts and matures more rapidly. Naturally, trainers preferred the dog which matured the earliest.

The bad name given to the Irish setter, that he is headstrong, difficult to handle and must be rebroken every time he is taken out, et cetera, et cetera, is more or less overdrawn. Several Irish setters were brought over from England and Ireland during the eighties which no doubt earned this opprobrium, but that the entire breed should be so stigmatized, is a fallacy. The average Irish setter is as easily broken as his English rival. There is a certain amount of truth in the statement that the Irish dog lacks style, and that dash in the getaway as compared with the English setter and pointer; this no doubt also had something to do with his fall in popularity as a field trial dog, for the trainer as well as the owner wants to see a dog which gets away with a flourish; up headed, merry-tailed and independent. Most Irish setters lack in these qualities, although during the past two years field trial patrons have seen sever Irish setters which showed all the flashiness and style that one could look for, all of which is an indication that dogs possessing these qualities could be produced, if the matings were made with that end in view.

The story of the Irish setter in America, after the first few years of authentic records, is mostly bench show history, but we cannot overlook the fact that in the early days of field trials quite a number of the red dogs stood out well, comparing favorable with the English setters and pointers of that period.



As early as in 1876 we find that the imported dog, Erin, won the Greenwood stake of the Tennessee State Sportsmen's Association, held near Memphis. These were the third trials in the history of this sport. At Hampton, Iowa, in 1877, Berkley, the son of Elcho and Lou II, won second in the puppy stake, and Carrie, a bitch owned by the late Jesse Sherwood, was third. That same year in the next trials of the Tennessee Sportsmen's Association, Cham won second and Ida Jr., a daughter of Erin and Ida, won third, while first went to Joe Jr., the son of Elcho and the Campbell bitch, Buck Jr., in the Championship stake. In the all-age stake of the Minnesota trials in 1878, Friend, by Leigh's Flash, out of Stella, an importation by the late Fowler Stoddard, of Dayton, Ohio, won first. And thus, all through those early field trial records we find the Irish setter holding his own with the "fashionable blue bloods." Had the Irish setter fanciers continued on in spite of the handicap, their favorite breed would no doubt now be occupying a position just as high in field trials as the other two breeds.

Elcho probably had a greater influence on the breed than any of the earlier importations and there are few pedigrees of the present day that do not trace back to this famous old dog. In my former work, "The Pointer and the Setter in America," I gave the history of Elcho and the circumstances under which he came to this country, but it will bear repeating here:

"Charles H. Turner, of St. Louis, who was quite actively identified with the doggy interests of St. Louis thirty-five years ago, is responsible for bringing this dog to America. At that time Mr. Turner was a young man, very much interested in pointers and setters of good breeding and, as he had ample means and an abundance of leisure time, he was in a position to indulge his hobby to his heart's content. About the year 1875 he was looking for a first class Irish setter. Through an acquaintance he was put in correspondence with Mr. Cooper, of Cooper Hill, Limerick, Ireland. Mr. Cooper was commissioned to buy the best Irish setter that could be found on the other side, and before long he encountered the kind of dog that Mr. Turner wanted. This was at the Dublin show, where Mr. Oppenheimer, the breeder of the dog, then living in Russia, had sent him. Elcho was in the hands of Robert S. Greenhill, who, it appears, entered him as his property and who also, it might be stated, en passant, was the owner of Elcho's litter brother, Raleigh. Whether Elcho really was his property or not is not quite

clear. At all events the dog was placed in his hands to sell. The following letter from Mr. Greenhill to Mr. Cooper gives Elcho's history:

"November 6, 1875.

"Dear Sir: - I give you particulars of my red Irish setter, "Elcho." He is by 'Charlie' out of 'Nell,' both of which were especially purchased for their good pedigree and sent to Russia for breeding purposes. They are the property of Mr. Oppenheimer, of St. Petersburg. 'Charlie' was by 'Pat' out of 'Juno,' by 'Grouse' out of 'Ina,' by 'Derg' out of 'Rhu.' Nell was by 'Heather' out of 'Nance' by 'Dane' out of 'Loo'; Loo by 'Bone' out of 'Quail.'

"The dog and bitch came directly from the strain of both Lord Waterford's and Marquis of Ormond's breed, and were originally owned by Capt. Irwin. You can get no better in Ireland. 'Elcho' was pupped May 1, 1874. I trained him myself and he is the best first season dog I ever had. He will drop to raising the hand, and at the word "toho" will be steady and also on shot. I have no fault to find with him and had I kept him over I expect as a prize dog he would be heard of to advantage. On looking over the list he has beaten at this last show you will see that some have taken prizes elsewhere. I can only say that it is the opinion of many that he should have had first prize here.

"I regret having sold him and it is only because I have some many dogs coming out that I part with him. His puppies will be very like him in another year. In case you send him to America it may be of interest whoever may bet him across the Atlantic to learn that he is called after the Elcho challenge Shield, which came to Ireland by the last shot fired by me at Wimbleton this year. By this victory the American team were supposed to have thrashed creation, having beaten Ireland in the rifle match, Ireland then beating England and Scotland. I showed 'Elcho' to some of the Americans when they were here, but he was not then for sale, or possibly he would now be in America. (Signed) Robert S. Greenhill"

Elcho won second in the Irish setter class at the Dublin show to which Mr. Greenhill refers, which was the only time he was shown on the other side. Coming to America at a time when blooded dogs were more or less of a rarity, Elcho created a furore and on the show bench his record was an unbroken string of victories. Mr. Turner was disappointed with the dog's field qualifications, however, and after se-

Curing several of his sons, disposed of him to Dr. William Jarvis, who was one of the pioneers of Irish setter breeding in this country and probably did more for the breed than any man living contemporary with him. Dr. Jarvis died in his home in Mont Clare, N.H., in the spring of 1910.

Elcho became the sire of seven field trial winners and a wonderful family of bench winners. As a matter of fact, he may be considered as the fountain head of Irish setter blood in this country, for as I have previously stated, there are few pedigrees in which his name does not appear. He was to the Irish setter what Bang and Drake were to the pointer, what Count Noble and Gladstone were to the field trial setter. His field trial winning sons and daughters were Joe Jr., the half-bred Campbell, Berkley, Raleigh, Leigh Doane, Jesse, Yoube and Bruce. When Berkley won in the Hampton, Iowa, trials, he was the property of the St. Louis Kennel Club and C. B. Whitford was his handler. Subsequently to these trials he was purchased by A. H. Moore, of Philadelphia, the consideration being \$1000. After that he was campaigned on the bench where he enjoyed a successful career. His dam, Lou II, was also imported by Mr. Turner. Berkley, as a sire, is represented by Wenzel's Chief, winner of first in the puppy stake of the Eastern trials in 1880, second in the Members' stake in 1884, first in the Club stake of the Jersey trials in 1885, and first that same year in the trials on Fisher's Island. Wenzel's Chief was also a winner on the bench and for quite a period had a great vogue. As a sire he was equally successful, for he also produced six field trial winners as follows: Berkley II, Meg, Jerry, Leigh Doane II, Daisy and Luray III. Berkley also had a daughter which became quite prominent in field trials. This was Victoria, out of Nora. In 1886 she won second in the all-age stake of the Philadelphia Kennel Club's trials and third in the Members' stake. A year later she won second in the all-age and the year following that, first in the Members' stake and second in the all-age. She did not produce any winners, however.

Raleigh, Elcho's third performing son, won second in the all-age stake of the Eastern trials in 1879. He was out of Rose, the daughter of Palmerston and Floss. Palmerston, I may say in passing, was one of the pillars of the breed in England and has always been regarded as the foundation of Irish setter type. Only recently the mounted head of Palmerston was sent over to the Irish Setter Club of America and is now in its possession. Palmerston, Plunkett and Garryowen were dogs

of unusual prominence in England, and in their day wrought a great influence for the good of the breed. Plunkett is the dog which Purcell-Llewellyn purchased from the Rev. J. C. MacDonna with which he won in field trials and used as a cross on his Laverack bitches, long before the Duke-Rhoebe cross was pointed out to him as a successful one. It is to this Irish setter cross which Mr. Llewellyn used, that many of the present day English setter bench dogs and a certain percentage of the field trial strain may be attributed.

Reverting again to Elcho's progeny, Bruce, his fourth son, won third in the Philadelphia Kennel Club's trials in 1887. He was out of Noreen, the bitch which Dr. Jarvis imported in 1880. Noreen was a winner on the other side as well as here, but to the Irish setter breeders she is better known as a producer. Her sire was Garryowen, the son of Palmerston and Quail. Bruce, bred to Leigh Doane II, became the sire of Leigh Doane III, winner of third in the derby of the Philadelphia Kennel Club in 1887.

ELCJO JR. was not a field trial performer himself, but he is unquestionably the best remembered of all the sons and daughters sired by Elcho. He was a marvelously symmetrical dog and during his best years was never beaten on the bench. He had a perfect head, his neck was long and clean and it went into a remarkably well made pair of shoulders. His ribs were properly sprung, his loin strong and in quarters and stifles nothing was left to be desired. All the press comments during the years that he was shown speak of him as the most perfect Irish setter that has even been in this country. Elcho Jr was bred by Dr. William Jarvis and until the dog was well up in age he remained his property, although when he was nearly ten years old, Geo. H. Covert, of Chicago, who was going into the breeding of Irish setters on an extensive scale along in the early nineties, induced the Doctor to part with for a consideration of \$1000. Elcho Jr. was shown the last time in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1890, where he met Dick Swiveler, a dog which had quite a vogue at this period. Commenting on the meeting of these two dogs, Forest and Stream had the following to say: "Elcho, Jr., had no trouble in beating Dick Swiveler in the challenge class for Irish setters. Both were looking well; Dick we never saw in such good condition. He has evidently had plenty of exercise, and his muscle has developed considerably, but he was no match for the beautiful son of Elcho and Noreen, who will now retire on his laurels. He has arrived at the "three score" of a dog's life, and

Although looking about as well as he ever did, it is fitting that he should give way to younger blood.”

Elcho, Jr., became the sire of a large number of bench winners, and to this day his blood is still very conspicuous in numerous pedigrees, but among this galaxy of sons and daughters are only two which gained field trial honors. These are Elcho's Maid and Edna H. The former was out of Maid, and was placed three times; the latter, out of Romaine, was placed once.

Biz was another dog which gained quite a reputation, although he could not be compared with Elcho, Jr., as a bench show performer. As a field dog he had quite a reputation. Biz was by Dash, a son of Grouse and Flirt, out of Flora, by Fop out of Lilly II. Bred to Champion Hazel, the daughter of Elcho and Rose, he became the sire of Tim, a winner on the bench and also at field trials, his record in the latter direction consisting of second in the Members' stake of the Fisher's Island trials in 1886. Tim, bred to Currer Belle III, produced Currer Belle IV, a two-time winner in field trials, and to Bess, brought forth Tim's Bess, placed once.

Chester D. Herald, a son of Chief, gained his principal notoriety by siring Sedan, winner of the all-age stake of the Irish setter field trials in 1891.

Mack N. was another good Irish setter which won championship honors in quick time. He was owned by the Messrs. Kuhns, of Dayton, Ohio, and campaigned quite freely by them. He was a son of Norwood (Elcho-Rose), out of Shell, which was by Kent, out of Dance.

Mack H. was a beautiful dark red dog of solid color, and, what is more, he was a high-class field dog, his owners using him regularly as their shooting companion. On the bench there was only one dog of his day that could rightly beat him, and this was Elcho, Jr. He left many descendants in various parts of the country, but particularly in the middle west. One of his sons was Wassman's Clyde, which, like his sire, was a field dog, and transmitted his good qualities both in type and sporting instincts. The writer owned a son of Wassman's Clyde, whelped December 18, 1899, which was also broken for the field and proved to be a good one. Like his sire and grandsire, he was of solid color of the deep red variety. Unfortunately, the dog was stolen when three years of age and never heard from again, otherwise this young dog, registered in the first volume of the Field Dog Stud

Book as Lord Donegal, might now be occupying a prominent place among the sires of Irish setter history.

DESMOND II, a son of Frisco, bred by the Rev. R. O'Callaghan, of England, came to this country in the eighties, and promptly acquired a reputation, for he was imported by the Chestnut Hill Kennels of Philadelphia, who showed frequently in those days. His field trial wins consist of a second in the derby of the Philadelphia Kennel Club's trials in 1887 and first in the same club's all-age stake a year later. As a sire of field trial dogs, he is remembered by Glenmore Apple, a one-time winner, and Rockwood Dandy, which was also placed once. The pedigree of Desmond II reveals the fact that he was a brother to Fingal III and Aveline, the sire and dam of Finglas, which was imported by S. L. Boggs, of Pittsburgh, in the early nineties. This blood contains a preponderance of the Palmerston-Quail combination through Grouse II, the sire of Frisco.

FINGLAS was also bred by the Rev. O'Callaghan, who was one of the most prominent Irish setter breeders in England at this time. Finglas was by a full brother and sister. The Rev. O'Callaghan was a firm believer in close breeding, if by such a procedure he could obtain what he was looking for without impairing the quality of the progeny. In Finglas is deductions seemed to be correct, for this dog proved to be one of the best, when field and bench form are considered, that the reverend gentleman ever bred. Finglas was a field winner in his own country and also a champion on the bench.

His field trial winnings in America consist of first in the Irish setter stake of the American Field Trial Club's trials at Columbus, Indiana, in 1892. The club ran separate stakes for Irish setter, English setters and pointers; the winners of each division were then pitted against each other, and once more Finglas proved his superiority by winning the absolute. His competitors were Hi-Di, a son of Gath's Hope, in English setters, and Rex, a son of Mainspring and Dell, in pointers. This was a most signal success, and the popularity that Finglas attained created a great demand for his services. The result was that he became the sire of seven field trial winners, which appeared before the public in the following order: Flyaway, Donoway, Fingaln, Nugget II, Lady Finglas, Leo and Currer Maud. The two latter were the property of the late Dr. G. G. Davis, of Philadelphia, who, until his death in June, 1918, was president of the Irish Setter Club. The Doctor had always been an advocate of the Irish setter as a field per-

former, and invariably supported field trials. Unfortunately, there are so few like him now interested in the Irish setter. Of the seven winners that Finglas sired, Leo was unquestionable the most notable performer. I believe if the Irish setter breeders had followed up the splendid beginning they made in field trials in the early nineties their favorite breed might at the present time be ranked with the best English setters and pointers; certainly they were doing remarkably well during that period, and it is to be regretted that the advantage thus gained was not pushed to still greater achievements. But there is still hope, for the signs of the times point to a revival of field trial interests, and, perhaps, all those who are now fostering the breed may again awake to the realization that the red dog is, after all, primarily one to be used afield.

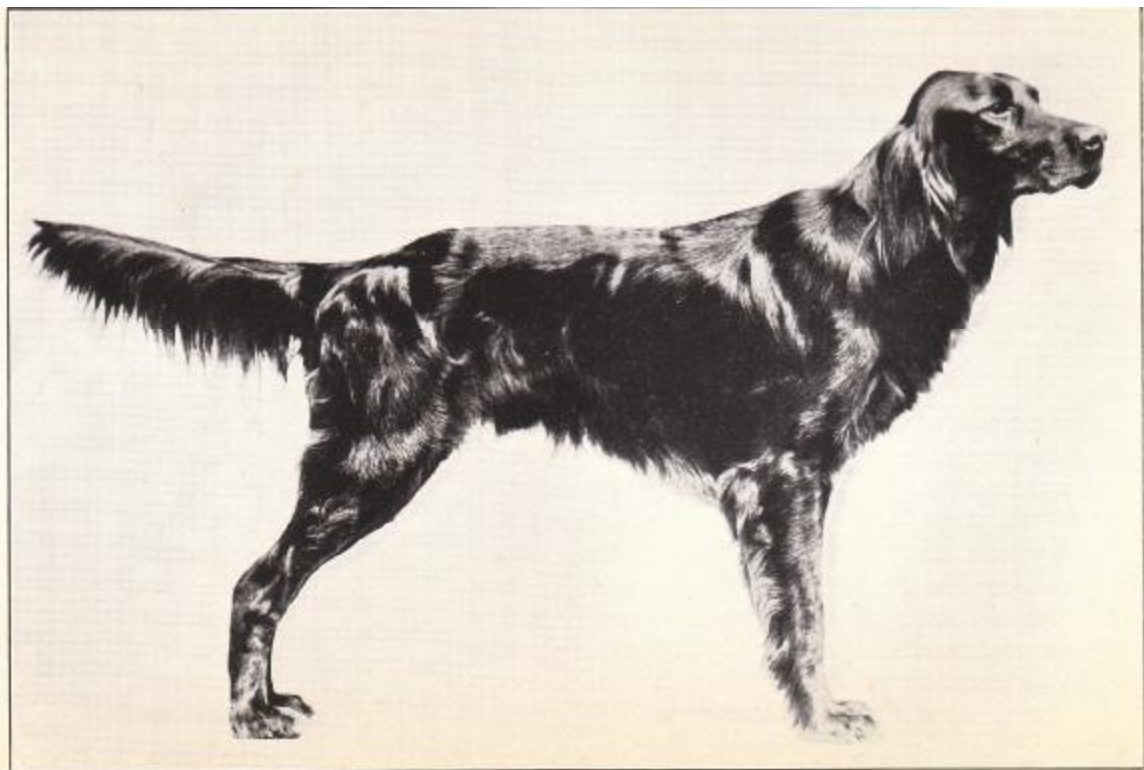
Coleraine, a full sister to Finglas, was imported by E. B. Bishop, who for a short time was keenly interested in the Irish setter; but his fancy was not a lasting one and, after a short period of field trials and bench shows, suddenly dropped out of the limelight. Coleraine won second place in both the derby and the all-age stake of the Irish Setter Club trials in 1891.

In the early nineties Doctor Jarvis imported the dog, Blue Rock. He came to this country with a great reputation, for he had won several times in English field trials. In this country he was started only once, but failing to get a place he was not seen in public again. As a bench show dog he was far below the standard as exemplified by other dogs which Dr. Jarvis owned, bred or imported, and after winning a second at Denver, he was retired. Signal, a full brother to Blue Rock, was also imported by Dr. Jarvis, but he, like his brother, did very little here in America, although on the other side he was one of the prominent Irish setters of his time.

W. L. Washington, of Pittsburgh, Pa., was a very active breeder and exhibitor of Irish setters, and during the years from 1888 to about 1895 the Kildare Kennels were among the most prominent ones in bench show circles. Mr. Washington owned a number of well-known Irish setters of that period, among them Dick Swiveler, Sarsfield, Champion Ruby Glenmore, one of the best show bitches of her day, and a half doze or more lesser lights.

George H. Covert, to whom I have previously alluded, went into the Irish setter fancy with a great flourish of trumpets about the same time W. L. Washington was showing. He not only paid great prices

for dogs, but his advertising was replete with various glaring statements. He and Mr. Washington maintained a lengthy controversy in the kennel press about the respective merits of their dogs, which, if not particularly instructive, was at least amusing. Mr. Covert, however, passed out of the fancy just as suddenly as he entered it. The most prominent dog of his own importation was Tearaway, a very well-known English winner. Elcho, Jr., it will be remembered, was purchased by him when the dog was ten years of age. Tearaway was a half brother to Signal and Blue Rock, all three being by Muskerry. The dam of Tearaway was by Chieftain, the son of Palmerston. As a sire, Tearaway is remembered because of his field trial winning son and daughter, Saga's Tearaway and Tillie Boru, both owned by George E. Gary of Appleton, Minn., who at that period was not averse to breeding a few reds now and then for the purpose of running them in field trials. Saga's Tearaway won the Irish setter derby of the American Field Trial Club's trials at Columbus, Indiana, in 1892, and was first in the Irish Setter Club's derby at Lexington that same year. His litter sister, Tillie Born, won second in the latter event.



CHAMP. ST. LAMBERT'S CALTRA M.

CHAPTER XVIII

The Irish Setter – Current History.

I cannot begin the present chapter more auspiciously than by reverting to Doctor William Jarvis and the last dog he owned – Champion Shan Law. The Doctor brings early Irish setter history up to the present; Shan Law marks the opening prelude, as it were, to a new era; the era of the Irish setter at the bench shows of the present century; and he is said, that with the exception of a desultory effort now and then, the Irish setter has only figured in bench show history during the past fifteen or twenty years – more's the pity.

Shan Law died only a few months before his owner; thus a master mind and a master dog passed away almost simultaneously. Shan Law was a beautifully colored dog, with a well-made, long head of typical quality, character and expression. His neck was long and clean, shoulders were well set, ears properly hung, forelegs straight, ribs well sprung, but just a shade long in body and a trifle faulty in quarters and stifles, which defect he was more prone to show in action than in repose. I have often looked this dog over, both on the bench and in the field, for in 1907 Dr. Jarvis spent a few weeks in the South, and while he was domiciled at the inn of Bob Armstrong at Barber, N.C., I frequently sat Shan Law in action. He was a broken field dog, and while he lacked the pace and range of most English setters and pointers, there was a certain amount of attractiveness about his points that was superior in the average of his breed. On the bench he was placed frequently, and soon became a champion. He sired a number of good ones, among them being Champion Muskerry Patricia.

Dr. Chas. A. Gale, of Rutland, Vt., has been a breeder of many years, and has owned some good ones. His Ben Law was a quick champion on the bench, and proved a good sire. Among others which he has to his credit being Shan Law, previously referred to, and Pat Law. Ben Law was by Champion Chief Red Cloud out of Nancy Finglas, she by imported Finglas out of Kildare Ruby, one of the great winners of thirty years ago. Chief Red Cloud was by Claremont Patsey, he by Champion Frisco.

Walter McRoberts, located at Peoria, Illinois, has been breeding Irish setters for about twelve years, and during this period showed quite successfully; but he confined his principal operations to raising puppies,

And he has, probably, sold more than any other man in America. Irish setters of his breeding are scattered in all parts of the United States and Canada, many of them being noted bench winners. Mr. McRoberts began with a full brother to Shan Law, Pat Law by name, both being by Dr. Chas. Gale's Ben Law out of Clare P. Pat Law soon became a champion on the bench, but he lacked the finish and quality in head that the latter possessed. Among the bitches that Mr. McRoberts owned were Holly of Culbertson, which, while of the lighter type, soon won championship honors. Another good one which proved a successful brood matron was Hurrah, a winner on the bench and in the field.

C. P. Hubbard, formerly of Atlantic, Iowa, but now of California, was an extensive breeder during a period of about twenty years. Among the good ones that he bred being the McRoberts' bitch, Holly of Culbertson. Since Mr. Hubbard has taken up his home in California, however, he has not done much for the breed.

In the East, at the present time, there are several very good kennels, all, however, devoted entirely to bench show dogs, although here of late the sentiment seems to be leaning toward field trials, and it would not be surprising to see some of these staunch supporters of the Irish setter taking up the practical side of the sport.

Among those who are keenly interested along this new avenue for the red dog is Mrs. Helen M. Talbot, owner of the Muskerry Kennels, located at Atlantic, Mass. Mrs. Talbot has been interested in the Irish setter ever since she was a small girl. Her first dog, as a child, was an Irish setter, and since that she has remained true to her first love. She has had remarkably good success with her dogs on the bench, but, as a matter of fact, she has always been a stickler for quality and type. Among others of the earlier dogs which she owned were Muskerry Connaught and Muskerry King, the latter becoming a champion in quick time. Champion Muskerry Patricia, probably one of the best Irish setter bitches in her day, died at the home of Mrs. Talbot only a few months ago (December, 1917). She was, I think, one of Mrs. Talbot's favorites and there was good reason; for not only was Patricia a typical Irish setter which became a champion almost without defeat, but, in addition, she was a beautiful and intelligent companion and the favorite about the home. Champion Patricia was nearly twelve years old at the time of her death, having been whelped March 20, 1906. She was by Shan Law out of Roma, she by Cham-

pion Chief Red Cloud, out of Signora, by Signal, out of Romaine. Patricia was bred only once, and produced a litter in which were several champions, among them Muskerry Fen and Muskerry Madge. Fen is now about ten years of age, but is still a well-preserved dog. He is a deep red in color, and has one of the best heads, together with the cleanest neck and shoulders, of any Irish setter now before the public. He might be improved in loin and quarters, perhaps, but even at the present time he can hold his own in the best of company. The death of Muskerry Madge, Patricia, King and one or two others, all of which took place within a short period, almost caused the fair owner of the Muskerry Kennels to abandon the fancy; but she is not made of the metal that cannot stand the acid test of reverses, and she is coming back stronger than ever, adding new blood in the purchase of young stock that may eventually turn out to be not only good bench, but possibly field trial material. Mrs. Talbot is the present secretary of the Irish Setter Club of America, and under her active guidance and the able support of the board of directors, this association has shown more real interest than has been the case for several years past.

Among other good members of the club are Messrs. J. S. and T. Wall, of Brooklyn, N. Y., owners of the Lismore Kennels, probably the largest aggregation of red Irish setters to be found at the present time anywhere in the East. Messrs. Wall were originally from Chicago, but moved to Brooklyn several years ago. The Lismore Kennels are especially strong in high-class bitches. Their Lismore Colleen, Lismore Machree and Lismore Deirdre are all champions on the bench and about as high class a trio as one could expect to get together in a life time. At the Ladies' Kennel Association of America's show, held at Westbury, L.I. June 4 and 5, 1918, Lismore Colleen was first, Lismore Machree second, and Lismore Deirdre third. The first two taking winners and reserve respectively. Occasionally these bitches are changed about somewhat, as, for instance, at the Westminster show, several months previous. Machree was given winners and Colleen reserve. Personally I prefer Colleen, as she is of a trifle finer quality and true to type in every respect. Lismore Freedom, the principal dog in the kennels, took winners at the Westminster show, in 1918, over Midwood Red Jacket, under Doctor Gas. A. Gale. At Westbury, a few months later, under Dr. Goubeaud, their positions were reversed, Midwood Red Jacket taking the honors. This is likely to happen under the various judges, all depending upon how much stress the official

Places on the good and the bad qualities of each dog. Midwood Red Jacket is owned by Mrs. Walter Simmons, of New York, and is one of that remarkable litter which produced Lismore, Colleen, Champion King Philip, and Highway Coral, whelped February 27, 1911. The litter was bred by the late Stacey B. Waters, owner of the St. Val Kennels, and was by Woodmere Brian, out of Midwood Ruby. Red Jacket is a very symmetrical dog, rather too smooth for an Irish setter, but a most attractive dog in the ring, although his head is somewhat effeminate. Lismore Freedom is a large and very masculine dog, with typical head, good neck, front and shoulders, not quite the best in quarters and loin, but beautiful in color. The dog moves in a wretched manner in the ring, and, no doubt, it was because of this that Dr. Goubeaud placed Red Jacket over him. I saw both dogs on the lawn of the club grounds the next morning, and noted that Freedom was a much better mover when he had the opportunity to gallop freely, than he indicated while in the ring. Red Jacket, however, moved just as well. Hence, under the conditions as they appeared when the two dogs were galloping in the open, it was a question of preference. Freedom being more typical and more dog-like in head, would, of course, under a strict Irish setter judge, no doubt, go to the front on these grounds, as well as because of the fact that his rugged body and general outline are more in keeping with Irish setter traditions and standards, whereas Midwood Red Jacket is more of an English setter in finish, although by this it must not be supposed that he is lacking in Irish type.

At the New York show of 1919, E. B. Chase, the well-known English setter breeder of Philadelphia, passed upon the merits of the red ones. He has always been more or less interested in this breed also, and his judgment is considered beyond dispute, although I fancy he did not please some of the exhibitors, for neither Lismore Freedom nor Midwood Red Jacket took winners. As a matter of fact, the winner developed in the dog which took the blue in Novice and Limit – Brash Law – owned by Mrs. R. Walter Crowbar; Lismore Freedom was reserve, and the best that Red Jacket did was take fourth place in the open class. First in the latter event went to Freedom, second to a very good dog owned by Charles Esselstyne, called St. Joe Kenmore's Boy, and third to Mrs. E. A. Sturdee's Glencho Connemara.

I was not present at this show, so am unable to express a personal opinion. I have heard various ones uttered, but among the majority of those disinterested, it appears that the preference among the "rail



birds” for winners and reserve was for Lismore Freedom at the top of the list and Midwood Red Jacket reserve. In bitches, Lismore Colleen went all the way down to V. H. C., a position, I should venture to say, that never came to her before. Lismore Machree went to winners, and Louis C. Wessel’s St. Cloud’s Louise reserve. Lismore Deirdre was reserve in the open class, while Mrs. E. L. Clarkson’s Lansdowne Colleen took the yellow for third place.

Among other breeders and fanciers in the East who are still showing quite regularly are: Miss Clara Turnbull of Bay Shore, L. I.; Benj. A. Howse, New York; W. J. Totten, Saratoga Springs; Chas. Esselstyn, Hudson, N. Y.; Joe Armstrong, East Greenwich, R. I.; Mrs. H. M. Alexander, New York; Mrs. E. B. Chase, Philadelphia; Louis C. Wessel, Baltimore; George R. Martin, Rye, N. Y.; Lee Hettler, Scranton, Pa.; Mrs. E. L. Clarkson, Tivoli, N. Y.; Gregory McLaughlin, New York; Wm. Purnell, Palmyra, N. J., and Theodore Spohnheimer, Scarsdale, N.Y.

Canada also has its coterie of Irish setter breeders and fanciers, and most of them are men and women who have taken up the breed, not as a passing fancy, but who have fostered it for years. Mrs. E. A. Sturdee is probably the latest to bid for favor from over the Canadian border, but she has gone into it with the true spirit. She was quite successful at the New York show, about six or seven years ago, with a dog bred by Walter McRoberts, taking winners under Dr. Jarrett. Last year, 1917, she showed an imported dog, Glencho Marty O’Callaghan, winning first in the Limit and second to Midwood Red Jacket in the open, taking reserve to him in the finals. In 1918 she showed a novice bitch, Glencho Aimie O’Callaghan, not only winning in that class, but in the limit also.

J. C. Hanna, hailing from Montreal, has long been a successful breeder and exhibitor; but the bitch which he has gained the most notoriety with is Ruminanthy Rhu, which Ben Lewis brought over seven or eight years ago, and which Mr. Hanna purchased. Rhu is a well-turned one, which has had quite a vogue on the bench. She has her faults, it is true, but she had been able to win championship honors several times over, which should stamp her as decidedly above the average.

H. B. Johnson, from Ontario, usually shows a few each year at New York and brings down a class of dogs that look like they are

useful as well as ornamental. In 1917 he showed two bitches, Zicka and Annie Law, under Dr. Alexander Glass. They appeared in the limit class, which was an unusually strong one. Zicka was placed third; and while Annie Law was not placed, it does not follow that she is a poor one, for that class, as many will remember, who were present at ringside, was rather mixed up by the judge. As a matter of fact, no two judges would have placed the winners exactly alike.

Coming on toward the West, we find F. A. Johnson at Detroit, Mich., and a most enthusiastic fancier at that. Mr. Johnson is a stickler for type, but the true western note of utility is the underlying one in all of his aspirations. His dogs must be useful in the field, and he would have none that he cannot shoot over. Every winter Mr. Johnson crates his dogs, boards the train and goes to Mississippi, where he usually spends from two weeks to a month or more, giving his Irish setters the real work that should be required of all bird dogs. Mr. Johnson has a very well-arranged kennel over on the Canadian side, in charge of Tom Gilbert, whose duty it is to see that all the dogs are broken. Despite all this, these very dogs do about as much winning in the Middle West as any Irish setters in any part of the country. St. Cloud's Kenmore has been the mainstay of Mr. Johnson's kennel for the last half doze or more years. The dog became a quick champion, and was really of a good type. From him came several good ones, among them Pat Kenmore, which, I understand, Mr. Johnson sold in 1917 to a field shooter in Montana. Mr. Johnson also owns several very high-class bitches. (Since the above was written, in June, 1918, Mr. Johnson was killed in an automobile accident, the fatality occurring in August, 1918, as he was driving his automobile across a track. He was struck by a passing traction car, killing him instantly. He left a host of friends who were greatly shocked at the news of his death).

The St. Cloud Kennels were located at Mt. Kisco, N. Y., and for a number of years were very prominent in show circles, but few of them were ever used for field work. The kennels were owned by Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Contoit. Mrs. Contoit died several yeas ago, and since then one seldom sees this once very prominent kennel at bench shows or field trials. One of the best dogs they owned in later years was St. Cloud's Femanagh, which was a frequent winner. St. Cloud III, an older dog, was also a well-known one on the bench,

and their bitches about twelve years ago compared favorably with the aggregation that the Lismore Kennels have since gotten together.

More on the strictly bench show order than Mr. Johnson is Thos. Biehl, of Chicago, who has been exhibiting quite successfully, principally in his home town. Mr. Biehl owns Richwoods Dare and Richwoods Argo, but he is particularly fortunate in the possession of Mona Law, one of the typist Irish setter bitches I have seen anywhere, although I do not think her owner ever sent her East to break lances with some of the crack show bitches of that locally.

I opened this chapter by alluding to Dr. Jarvis as one of the old school, who did more for the Irish setter in America in the early days than any man; it is, therefore, fitting to close it with the story of a new recruit who is destined to do as much, if not more, than any other breeder in the way of bringing the Irish setter to the front as a field trial dog. I refer to Otto Pohl, of Fremont, Neb.

Mr. Pohl, like a number of other lovers of the bird dog, began with an Irish setter. He was a very young man when he obtained one of the dashing red Irishmen, which he broke himself for his field work, and Otto Pohl love the sports afield from his very earliest days. This dog he called Drug, for at that period Pohl was an apprentice in a drug store. Local tradition in and about Fremont, Nebraska, is replete with stories about Otto Pohl and his dog, Drug. The former was said to be the surest shot and the latter the best retriever of ducks for miles around, and that he could swim any of the rivers of his home state in the coldest kind of weather when necessary to retrieve a duck or goose. For this information I am indebted to the man under whom Pohl learned the drug business and whose store he acquired in later years.

It was not until March, 1911, that Mr. Pohl began to take real interest in dog shows, however. I remember the time very well. The Omaha Kennel Club held a show in that city, at which Pohl entered two Irish setters. I was scheduled to judge sporting dogs, and that is when I became acquainted with the Fremont fancier. Mr. Pohl had these two dogs on the bench without collars or chains, and I called his attention to it, thinking it was, perhaps, an oversight; but such was not the case. The dogs were so well broken that when they were ordered to leap up on their benches and told to lie down, they did as commanded and "staid put." Mr. Pohl explained to me that he always broke his dogs so they remained broken for the rest of their days, and

yet, the best of it was, that the dogs seemed to love him and take pleasure in doing as they were commanded. That, it seems, is one of the strongest arguments against the theory that the Irish setter is a head-strong dog, for it is one from actual experience.

The two dogs which Pohl showed at Omaha were Drug Law and Pat-A-Belle. Not the Drug of his early days, but a new one. They were then puppies about fifteen months of age. I gave them first I their respective classes, and started them on a career of winning which was one of unbroken victories. Both dogs were champions in less than a year, for Mr. Pohl showed them at every fixture in his part of the country from Omaha to Denver, from there to Phoenix, and then to Texas and back again all the way to Minneapolis, not overlooking the shows that were held in Iowa and the adjoining states. The Fremont enthusiast began importing dogs about this time also, and among the new ones which he brought over were Morty Oge and several bitches, among them Rheola Judy. Then came Rheola Clanderrick, Rheola Pedro, and more bitches. Pohl had gotten the fever in earnest by this time, and he was not stopping at half measures. His kennels easily took the lead among all Irish setters of the West, and when it comes to a combination of field and bench quality they are not equaled anywhere. Morty Oge died after about a year in this country, but he had been bred to a number of bitches and left numerous progeny scattered in all parts of the West, North and South; and, in fact, I encountered some of his descendants in the East only a short time ago. Two years ago Mr. Pohl bought in California the great Coast winner, St. Lambert's Caltra M. The dog was shown in Dayton shortly after his purchase, and sent right on to the eastern shows. He was in no condition at the time, and, after appearing at Mineola and two or three other shows, Delmont sent him back to his owner to get him in condition. It should be remembered that Mr. Pohl had scarcely seen the dog from the time he started from his California home and made his eastern campaign. In the East he met Midwood Red Jacket, and was beaten, mainly because of condition. Later he met Muskerry Fen, Mrs. Talbot's well-known winner, and again met defeat. Since then the dog has never been East, although it would be a treat to Irish setter fanciers if, for instance, Muskerry Fen, Midwood Red jacket, St. Lambert's Caltra M. and Lismore Freedom were all to meet in the same ring some time.



Pohl's great ambition, however, is not to own champion bench winners – he has half a dozen or more of these – but to breed a national field trial champion. And he is headed in the right direction. Several years ago he started a dog, called McKerry, in the all-age stake of the All-America trials. He attracted considerable attention, was taken back into the second series, but in that field of competition, he did not get into the money. In January, '98, he started a bitch, Donegal's Alizon, in the derby the All-America winter trials, and won third. This bitch was a revelation, for she demonstrated that there are Irish setters, here and there, which has the snap, dash and style of the English setters and pointers, and Donegal's Alizon was one of them. In May of the same year Pohl sent her to Dayton to compete at the famous show of sportsmen's dogs, which is annually held there. A cup was offered by Ben Weil, owner of Joe Muncie, for the best setter with a field trial record. George Flora was down to judge all setters, but when it came to the Irish division the classes were so good that he, not being an Irish setter specialist, asked for an assistant, or, rather, one who could act in an advisory capacity. Mrs. Helen M. Talbot, who probably knows as much about Irish setters as any man or woman, and more than the majority of professed judges, was asked to act in this novel position as consulting advisor. The regular classes were judged, the field trial winner, Donegal's Alizon, won in her regular events, and then came against the winning English setter for the Cup. Mr. Flora favored the English setter, Mrs. Talbot the Irish setter, giving good reasons for doing so, one of them being that the Irish setter was superior in chest, legs, loin and quarters. Both held to their opinions, and a referee was called for. Thomas Peter, who was judging pointers in the next ring, was asked to arbitrate, and decided in favor of the Irish setter; and thus Donegal's Alizon, the first red setter to win a place in an open field trial in many years, was awarded the cup that was offered for the best setter with a field trial record.

Mr. Pohl, although one of the most successful fanciers of the present time, is really only at the beginning of his career; but with his energy and enthusiasm he is surely going to accomplish much for the Irish setter in giving him a place with the English setters and pointers at field trials. He has been buying high-class working bitches wherever they were to be had, and at the present time has one of the greatest collections of field Irish setters that has ever been seen in one kennel. What is more, however, he is not disregarding type.

I said this chapter would close with the history of Mr. Pohl's dogs,

but there is still another who, while perhaps on a smaller scale, is working along the same lines as the Nebraska fancier. This is Francis A. Walsh, of Winnipeg. Mr. Walsh is in the heart of a game country, and he breeds Irish setters for real work afield. He also is as desirous of obtaining the high-class Irish setter field trial dog as his contemporary farther south. At the Dayton show of 1918 Mr. Walsh showed two very good dogs in Cushbawn Rex and Sally, both winners in their classes and high quality dogs; but, what is more, they are field dogs. Between Mr. Walsh, of Winnipeg; Mr. Pohl., of Fremont, and Mr. Johnson, of Detroit, it is just possible that the field trial interests for this breed will be retained. These fanciers of the West and North may be the ones to perpetuate working qualities, while those of the East retain type; and between the two classes it may happen that the Irish setter shall eventually take his place where he belongs among field trials, just as it did with the pointer, thirty or more years ago.

The Irish Setter Club held its last trials at Barber, N. C., in December, 1907, at which time Belle and Chappel, at that period quite prominent in breeding field Irish setters in Indiana, won the derby with Rob Rollo, and also first in the all-age stake with the same dog. He was a son of St. Cloud's Blarney, which himself was a field trial winner. St. Cloud's Inniscarra was second in the derby. The all-age stake had five starters. Currer Ladd winning second to Rob Rollo, and Carey's Red was third. Lad was the property of the late Dr. G. G. Davis, while red belonged to Captain Carey, who also handled him in the stake.

Since then the Irish Setter Club has not attempted to hold trials, but as I write I have a letter of one of the members of the Club before me saying that special prizes for Irish setters would be offered in all the trials next season, which is encouraging and indicates that the club intends to stimulate interest in working dogs.

Most of the foregoing chapter was written during the summer of 1918, but since that time many things have happened to alter the course of events as outlined therein. I have already alluded to the death of Dr. Davis, of Philadelphia, and F. A. Johnson, of Detroit, but it becomes my painful task to add still another to the list which the grim reaper gathered to himself during that fateful year of 1918. The latest victim among the Irish setter fanciers was none other than Otto Pohl, the Fremont, Nebraska, enthusiast who was known and beloved by all Irish setter breeders, and practically all field trial follower.

Otto Pohl was stricken with that dread disease, Spanish influenza, in October 1918. He was ill for several days, and then, like so many others, when he felt some better, arose from his bed, and a relapse ensued. I returned on October 26 from the meeting of the Southern Ohio Field Trial club, which took place at Dillsboro, Indiana. Late that night I received a telegram from Fremont conveying the intelligence that Otto Pohl had died at ten in the evening. The news came like a shock not only to his intimate friends (and I was fortunate enough to be one of them), but to the entire dog world, for Otto Pohl by his sunshiny personality, his charm of manner, his big-heartedness and joviality, had won hosts of friends North, South, East and West. The kennel world suffered an irreparable loss in his death, and out in Fremont, Nebraska, a home was made desolate. Otto Pohl had no children, but he left a devoted wife to mourn his loss, together with a host of tried and true friends. His place in the kennel world was a unique one; he loved dogs for what they were, but he loved Irish setters for their own good qualities. He was a shooter and a hunter; his dogs were not mere parlor pets; they were field broken and were used for that purpose.

Upon his death the kennels contained imported Rheola Clanderrick, imported Rheola Pedro, Donegal's Alizon, Donegal's Morty Oge, St. Lambert's Caltra M., Donegal's Noreen, imported Rheola Judy, several puppies and his old favorite, Champion Pat-A-Bell, the bitch which won for him, along with her kennel mate Drug Law, the first bench show honors. Drug Law preceded the master by several months. Mrs. Pohl was unable to continue the operations of the kennels and yet she did not wish to see the dogs dispersed. It was at this period that the writer suggested Dr. L. C. Adams as the man to take over the Donegal Kennels and Mrs. Pohl promptly acquiesced in the arrangement and now, the dogs which Otto Pohl loved so well are making their home in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Adams, like Mr. Pohl, is an enthusiast, and he will endeavor, as far as possible, to carry out the ideas of the founder of the kennels. The kennels will continue to carry the prefix Donegal and the dogs will be bred as the late Otto Pohl has mapped out. Shortly after Mr. Pohl's death, Rheola Clanderrick died and about two weeks subsequent to that St. Lambert's Caltra M. was killed in a kennel fight, due primarily to the fact that the dogs were not obtaining the exercise their former master had been giving them. Mrs. Pohl retained Pat-A-Bell which is still alive and looking well.

Dr. Adams received Donegal's Monty Oge, Donegal's Noreen, imported Rheola Judy, all of which are now in his kennels known, as heretofore, as the Donegal Irish Setter Kennels. Donegal's Noreen whelped a litter of very handsome puppies January 21, 191, and of this litter it is the Doctor's intention to retain a choice dog puppy, also, quite likely a bitch. Later in the spring he bred Killarney Babe, one of his own bitches which he had previous to the present arrangement, to Rheola Pedro and this union produced a litter of six dogs and three bitches which are still too young to make predictions about, but the blood lines are a combination of field and bench strains which will nick well with the Donegal's Morty Oge and Donegal's Noreen litter, thus the Doctor is laying the foundation for young stock along lines that should bring results for practical field uses as well as for bench dogs. Donegal's Alizon was sold to D. J. White, Decatur, Illinois, who was another good friend of Otto Pohl's. Mr. White will probably give Donegal's Alizon the same opportunities that her late owner mapped out for her. Mr. White whom we met at the Dayton show of 1919 became an Irish setter fancier some years ago, through reading a magazine article about the Pohl dogs and since then has been a staunch supporter of the breed. In addition to Donegal's Alizon Mr. White has a very good dog which won second in the novice class at Dayton. This dog is a son of St. Lambert's Caltra M. and Donegal's Norah, and as may be inferred by the name, came from the Pohl kennels.

I HAVE PREVIOUSLY REFERRRED TO Donegal's Alizon as having won the field trial trophy of 1918 over the best field trial English setter. Her victory at Dayton in 1919 was even greater than that, for this year a trophy was offered by Harry D. Kirkover, known as "The Master Benson Trophy," for the best pointer, English, Irish or Gordon setter with a field trial record. After all the classes had been judged, the class simmered down to two pointers, one English setter and Donegal's Alizon. The judges were Thomas Peter, of Columbus, and Harry Hall, of Hamilton, Ohio. The former was the setter, the latter the pointer judge. It seems as though they were divided in opinion. One favored the pointer, Makley's Meteor, the other preferred the Irish setter. The English setter had been eliminated unanimously. The judges ask for a referee and B. F. Seitner was requested to make the decision. He promptly decided in favor of Donegal's Alizon, hence for a second time the red dogs were successful at Dayton in carry-

ing away one of the most coveted trophies which the Dayton Pointer Club has to offer.

But the honors for the Irish reds were not yet over. After all the other specials had been disposed of, that for the best of all breeds was competed for. This was the Otto Pohl Memorial Cup, dedicated to one of the best sportsman the world ever saw. The dogs eligible to compete for this cup were the best pointer, the best English setter, the best Irish setter, the best Airedale and the best beagle. As this show had an entry of one hundred and sixty dogs and upwards of these four breeds, it may be imagined what such competition meant. Each judge of his respective breed selected his best dog and the winners came together in the ring under B. F. Seitner. It was not an easy task, for every specimen in that ring was a good one. Donegal's Morty Oge had been selected as the best of his breed. Hockwell's Broom Peddler was chosen as the superior Airedale; Paliacho's Bessie as the best English setter and Flight's Fancy as the best pointer. The English setter was promptly given the gate; next the pointer was sent to one corner, then the beagle gone over carefully after which followed the Airedale, but the judge, finally looked the Irish setter over very carefully, moved him back and forth, and then handed his owner the ribbon. Donegal's Morty Oge, the setter over which Otto Pohl did his principal shooting of late years, was crowned the best of all breeds and it was but fitting that it should be so; that one of his own dogs should come and claim the cup that was offered in the master's memory.