

the Flushing Whip

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FALL TRIAL ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETE; JACKSON, VANDIVORT WILL JUDGE

With receipt of acceptance from Dr. Richard Jackson, Toledo, and V. V. VanDivort, Perrysburg, of invitations to ride the judicial saddles in the renewal of the fall Championship stake, all arrangements were complete for the running of the trial. Sept. 29 and 30 will see the red setters convening at Killdeer Plains, Upper Sandusky, O., for another go at the elusive title.

The current event will be the first fall offering of a championship stake by the club since 1957. A fall trial was planned for 1958, but due to difficulty in arranging for the grounds at Dover, Del., and the prevalence of an unidentified distemper virus in the area, that stake was canceled. A renewal was not attempted in 1959, and in the subsequent years, only the spring trial was offered by the National Red Setter Field Trial Club.

Present indications point to a goodly number of entries in the championship stake and the supporting events for puppies, derbies and amateur shooting dogs. Requests for entry blanks have been arriving with regularity, an indication that interest in the red setters is not limited to just a spring attempt at a title. Entry blanks, one of which will be found in this issue, are being mailed separately to insure ample time for making arrangements.

Headquarters for the trial will be the Evergreen Motel, Upper Sandusky, O. Drawing for all four stakes will be held there on Friday, Sept. 28, at 9 p.m. Puppies, amateur shooting dogs and derbies will be run over a single course, but the championship will be offered over contiguous one-hour courses as required by the Field Dog Stud Book. The main event is, incidentally, the only recognized championship stake for the red setters in the stud book.

In reviewing activities and entries in the past several spring trials.

the committee agreed that running the supporting stakes over a single course appeared to be the most practical solution for giving all entries an opportunity to run. Should the number of entries warrant, other judges will be used for puppy and derby stakes so that all championship contenders will be given ample opportunity to show their wares in the two days of running.

Persons planning to attend the trial should make their reservations for accommodations directly with the Evergreen Motel, Upper Sandusky, O. There are other accommodations available in the area but the Evergreen is recommended as most convenient to the trial grounds.

Gallery horses are in good supply. Reservations for mounts should be made with Tom Moffat, 4381 Forest Ave., Pontiac, Mich. Horses are from a stable in Risingsun, O., and are the same ones used for the running of the National Amateur Pheasant Championship annually staged at Killdeer Plains. While quality of some of the mounts at the spring trial was disappointing, the committee is assured that the stable now contracted for mounts provides experienced trial mounts of top quality.

Food will be available on the grounds, with Mrs. Betty LeMay doing the honors. Breakfast and dinner are available at the restaurant operated in conjunction with the motel, and Mrs. LeMay will offer lunches in the state-owned building on the trial grounds.

Stables for privately-owned horses and kennels for dogs are available on the trial grounds, and the Evergreen does not object to dogs on the premises if they are properly secured or crated. All facilities on the trial grounds have been arranged for greatest convenience to attendees. Killdeer is the site of a number of major pheasant trials and breed championships during the fall season.

Only conflict within the breed trials comes with the Santa Caligon club, which is running at Lee's Summit, Mo., on the same weekend. The conflict, regrettable as it is, since the spring National also conflicted with a Santa Caligon trial, could not be avoided after the State of Ohio notified the committee that Sept. 29 and 30 were the only available dates for the use of Killdeer, the best available grounds in the midwest for a fall offering. Santa Caligon had scheduled its trial well in advance, and it was the NRSFTC that again had to create the conflict.

A full rundown on the trial, carried in the June issue of the Whip, is available on page 5 of this issue, along with entry blanks for the stakes offered.

MRS. NAGLE REPORTS FROM ENGLAND; SULHAMSTED IRISH DO WELL FOR HER

(Ed. Note: Mrs. Florence Nagle, England's foremost breeder of quality Irish for field and gunning, sent the following letter to Herm David in reply to a not from him informing her that Shane (Ned LeGrande's Sulhamsted Norse D'Or) had been named winner of the spring championship event.)

Dear Mr. David:

I was so glad to hear Sulhamsted Norse won the championship stake of the National Red Setter Field Trial Club. From the sound of the weather conditions they were just made for Irish setters as I always find I do best when it rains, blows and hails.

Irish setters don't point with their tails in the air and never will naturally. They are descended from setting spaniels, used when they had a net drawn over their heads before guns were used and if they had stood up with their tails in the air the nets would have caught on them.

I believe you nick their tails like horses are done in the U.S.A. but that is not natural and they won't breed them like that.

I found in Scotland I would shoot over my Irish setters much longer when the birds were wild than you could over the pointers and English setters because the birds did not see them.

As you know, I want my best field trial dogs to be my best shooting dogs and vice versa. That is why I want a sane, sensible setter that does not lose its head under wild or difficult conditions.

You will be interested to know that FTCh Sulhamsted Nibs D'Or won the South Western Open stake, 24 runners, and was also 2nd in the Yorkshire Gundog Open stake so the Sulhamsted Irish have been doing well both sides of the Atlantic. I am glad to hear that Nat has sired you the puppy that was second in the puppy stake. How did the sister make you, has she bred anything good?

I have a nice young bitch called Sulhamsted Una D'Or coming along, by FTCh Sulhamsted Basil D'Or ex FTCh Sulhamsted Nina D'Or. I have mated Nina to Basil for the last time.

It was very interesting to me to find that LeGrande's other good dog went back to one of my early exports to America. He ran second in a puppy stake in America many years ago. I sold him to a doctor who I think lived in Baltimore. The dog was by FTCh Sulhamsted Baffle D'Or ex FTCh Sulhamsted To-

ken D'Or.

Please congratulate Joe Cannon for me and tell him how glad I am when my dogs get into his hands. He certainly understands Irish setters.

Sincerely,
Florence Nagle

Whip readers probably are aware of Mrs. Nagle's success with Irish setters in open competition in England, as attested by the number of dogs she has bred that have reached the title of Field Trial Champion. It should be noted here that her reference to high tails is quite in keeping with the tradition and style of her native heath, where most pointing dogs seldom show more than a level tail. Being a distinguished breeder, she is undoubtedly aware that selectivity can do much to change a dog's style over a number of generations.

Continental style does not require a high tail, and there are many winning trial dogs in the United States that do not point with a high tail, but, as one noted Irish breeder put it: "The high tail is like an exclamation point at the end of a declarative sentence--you might get the same effect, but I like to see the dog finish it off right--high on both ends."

Tastes vary, of course, and for many years it was "stylish" for a hunting dog to point with level head and tail, but the past 20 years have altered the style.

Mrs. Nagle probably knows by this time that there are many trial and hunting Irish in America today that point high on both ends without the tail nick she mentions, and that basically they are progeny of either Askew's Carolina Lady or her illustrious son, Ike Jack Kendrick, both of whom not only had high tails but were able to transmit this characteristic to their get. The outcross to the English both enhanced and set this characteristic, with the result that many of the red setters have the tail root set much higher into the hind quarters, making the high tail a natural carriage for dogs so bred.

One other explanation of her remark, aside from the reference to the setting spaniels, might be that she has never deviated from the belief that there is only one Irish setter style, trial, hunt or show--true in her own country--and the same tail set is acceptable for all Irish, regardless of use.

Personal taste being what it is, the same cannot be said for the Irish in America.

HORACE LYTLE'S BELOVED "BYRD" WAS PROTOTYPE OF GREAT HUNTING IRISH

The roaring twenties have been made symbolic of many things to many people, but the roar needs be removed for the symbolism that is dear to the hearts of the Irish setter lovers present and past.

It probably wasn't an unusual day in 1921 when Horace Lytle and his pal in the field, Frank Gallaher, drove out to the kennels of Dr. L. C. Adams to "see some pretty nice Irish setter pups." There were only two, a male and a female. Gallaher took the male and Horace, with something less than enthusiasm, took the female. She was not very rugged, smallish for her age (6 months)

and lacked the handsome good looks of her brother. Shortly after taking her home, he sent her to Al Harder in Indiana for training and what turned out to be the first of her "setbacks." She never received Harder training, for her brother, also there, developed distemper.

Horace, fearing that Byrd also would be coming down with the disease, took her back home. She started showing symptoms of the dread affliction on the way home. Weeks of nursing and force feeding by all members of the Lytle household served to save her life, if such it was. She emerged more dead than alive, gaunt-flanked and listless.

In later years, Horace admitted that he would never waste so much time on another prospect as unlikely as Byrd. She was exposed to game on many occasions, trained in the field long hours--but refused to point. In fact, she refused to acknowledge the immediate presence of any type of game bird, preferring to gambol gaily and pursue the sparrows and butterflies.

Byrd's first quivering, excited point





SMADA BYRD

came when she was 18 months old--on a single quail. She retrieved the downed bird and in moments changed from an indifferent pet into a competent bird dog. She was never force-

broken to retrieve, but seldom missed a down bird from that day on. Typically enough, she retrieved for everyone in a hunting party, but no matter who downed the bird, she took it to Horace and would tolerate none but him carrying the game!

How great was Byrd? No one today could really say. Without a doubt she was second to none in the fields around Dayton in her heyday, and Dayton was the center of bird-dog fanciers in the 20s. Her field trial record was not exceptional for a bird dog, but was singular in that she was about the only Irish setter entered in field trials in her day. Her "press was good" because Horace was a writer and Byrd was his beloved.

If the writings were accurate, she was exceptional in at least one respect--she hunted anything with feathers with the same finesse--grouse in Michigan, pheasant and quail in the middle states, quail in the south. This feat in itself gave her some claim to immortality.

Byrd was nominated this year for the American Field's Trial Hall of Fame. She may never make it (her owner, the late Horace Lytle, was elected last year) because her trial activities were less well publicized than her hunting experiences. Of a certainty, though, if ever there is created a Hall of Fame for bird dogs, Byrd will be a front runner. Whether or not she ever collects any other honors, Byrd will remain the number one Irish setter in the hearts of the fanciers of the breed. She gave them a name to cling to in the long twenty years when there was little connection between the Irish setter and the field.

To Horace and his Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Curtis and Pat and Ghost, Mr. Lefferdink and Finefield Invasion, Dr. and Mrs. Berol and the McTybes, Al Bond and Alice, and to all like them, a vote of thanks from the fanciers of the breed. In producing great Irish, they set the standard that was lost or ignored for so many years, and now must be sought after and reestablished in the modern counterparts of these members of the Irish setter's own hall of fame.

Byrd's fame may have outshone her fortunes, but that same fame gave the Irish setters stature in a time when it was hard to come by for representatives of the breed. Surely the bright flame of her fame cast a ray of encouragement through the gloom of a lot of dark days of little hope.

Thank you, Byrd, for keeping us in the search.

THINGS AN EDITOR MIGHT NOT KNOW IF HE DIDN'T OPEN HIS MAIL . . .

A nice long letter from John (Jack) Ullrich, lately of Baltimore but now at Franklinville (Bradshaw PO) Md., offers the suggestion that if entries warranted, Hawfield Plantation would be an ideal spot for staging a fall trial. His summation is that the bob white is the ideal bird for such a stake, and Hawfield offers a guaranteed population of same. The facilities are well known, and accommodations are excellent. The hospitality, and judging abilities, of Guy Lewis also are well known. In reply, the trial committee agrees that Hawfield is an excellent site, but reminds Jack and all others who made suggestions on fall venue that the grounds are easier to obtain than members who will undertake the task of staging a trial, plus the advantage of getting as central a location as possible. For the renewal of the fall trial, it was deemed more advantageous to find a central location that the committee could handle. Perhaps another year, with a different committee, would alter these two basic circumstances. The committee thanks everyone who offered suggestions, and urges that the interest be a continuing thing for future trials.

Everyone who knows trial devotee Herb Fleming will be sorry to hear of a misfortune that hospitalized him recently. Herb bought a horse for trial use, but the beast was a renegade, throwing itself over on Herb and breaking his pelvis. Wire had to be used to draw the break together. He was hospitalized but is now at home, with another four weeks or so of convalescence in store. His address is 127 Putnam St., Marietta, O.

W. E. Ponder, Naylor, Mo., drops a note to vote in favor of a fall venture by the club in trialing, but protests the conflict with dates already picked by Santa Caligon. This is a regrettable circumstance, and one that the club will try to avoid in the future. About the only mitigating circumstance is that available dates are limited in Ohio, and the committee had to take what it could get, being fully aware of the conflict and its resulting effect on both clubs. Coordinating efforts of all breed clubs to avoid conflicts is difficult, and here the great misfortune is that it happened with Santa Caligon twice in a row.

Publicity blurbs from most of the dog food companies have been touting the Walt Disney movie "Big Red." (Walter Pidgeon must be eating some of the brands, for the dogs couldn't be eating all of them). Main push seems to be that the movie will create a demand for Irish setters. If this be so (and after seeing the movie the editor is inclined to doubt it) the

After seeing the movie the editor is inclined to doubt it) the demand will not be for our particular brand of Irish setter, for Big Red is classed in the movie as "show dog" without hunting nose or sense. Recommended entertainment for the entire family, but not much of a push for what the Whip insists on classing as "field-bred" Irish. The Whip wishes it had space to reprint some of the Madison Avenue descriptions of Irish setters.

Club secretary Joyce Schollenberger writes to say that her new address is 456 Walnut St., Allentown, Pa. Joyce says she has moved to a small apartment until she finds that place in the country, for she can't have a dog in her present location and will have to remain dogless for a while longer. Correspondence should be directed to the new address, not to the one in the masthead below (which we didn't have time to change).

Lloyd Gonzales writes to report that Dan Paby is arranging a trial for Irish setters. He says "I can't begin to tell you how badly we need this trial for the Irishman is almost the forgotten dog in this corner." The trial has the approval of the Eastern Irish Setter Association, has been registered with the AKC and listed with the Field Dog Stud Book. It will be run Sat., Sun., Oct. 20-21 at Colliers Mills, N.J. Stakes and order of running will be included in the next issue of the Whip.

Mrs. G. Wood Smith writes to ask if the club needs a trophy for the fall trial's amateur shooting dog stake. Says she would be glad to put the "Dopey Doc" trophy back in circulation. It became her permanent possession in '55. Will have to check with Marge Moffatt, who is trophy custodian, on this.

Ed Schnettler: "While there is not much Irish trial activity in No. Carolina, do find many folks interested in Irish pups for pets or for gundogs. Have placed enough pups recently to assure me that when the South rises again, there will be red dogs on the scene."

Wolfram Stumpf wrote to report that his Nell (a Sulhamsted import) won the Open All Age stake of the ISC of Western New York trial, and a proper note was not made of it at the time. Space permitting, the Whip will catch up on breed club results in the next issue.

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