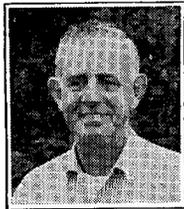


Westbrook Trials

By AL PILON



SOMETHING of a surprise awaited the New England field trial fraternity at the grounds of the newest addition to the ranks of the Association of New England Field Trial Clubs on the weekend of August 29-30. The Westbrook Club is the fortunate possessor of some of the finest bird hunting territory to be found in these parts, with plenty of running room for real all-age contenders and some interesting wooded country over which to test the merits of northeastern shooting dogs. During this most enjoyable weekend we were able to watch dogs work in the environment in which they truly belonged. Some of the lads connected with this Club may not entirely realize the full potential of this area, but it is to be hoped that the huge success enjoyed at this inaugural will give them the needed impetus to place this trial solidly in the Eastern circuit for seasons to come. Certainly the regulars who attended will give every support to keep this one very much alive. The guiding light here at Westbrook is Club President Burleigh Lufkin, no newcomer to the field trial scene and one of the most enthusiastic of bird dog fans in this section. The only wonder is that Burleigh did not get this thing going before. Certainly, this hard-working fellow, member of the popular Down East Club and loyal follower of our sectional trials, did a tremendous job getting this one into orbit. A better planned and executed event would be hard to imagine as all components meshed together in exact manner. His cohorts may not have been the



SATILLA REGAL SUE
First in the Open All-Age Stake

most experienced in the world, but under Burleigh's guidance, they made up in devotion to the cause what they may have lacked in savvy. A couple of very affable young fellows, Roger and Wade McDade, were invaluable to the busy chairman, Roger Davideit, maestro of the P. A. System, did his usual fine job; the ladies of the Club deserve better than casual mention for their fine work in the well equipped kitchen, and a vote of thanks from one and all in attendance is due to Norma Lufkin, Lorraine and Betty McDade and Levie and Mrs. Mercier who all pitched in!

The clubhouse right on the grounds was the scene of social activities on Saturday night, dinner and dancing till the wee hours with music supplied by the "Down-East Hoedowners."

The well-mannered horses supplied to officials were from Burleigh Lufkin's own stable, fully trained and non-neurotic mounts well adapted to this type of riding. An excellent lot of pheasants were made available by the State of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game, all strong flyers. We were much impressed by the large native population of pheasants which uses this area. Flushes of up to fifteen birds at one time were not uncommon during the course of the running.

A brief description of this terrain should be of interest. Located in the southern part of Maine, just west of Portland, the grounds lie between that city and Westbrook. Mostly flat or gently rolling country, the area is composed mostly of wide pastureland rimmed by typical Maine grouse cover. The course proper is bounded on the west by the Westbrook River, a handy item for thirsty and hot dogs running at this time of year, and generously dotted with natural water holes over the entire route. A large birdfield lies under the gallery hill just a couple of minutes walk from the clubhouse. The birdfield was rather thickly covered at this

early season, a small detriment to good visibility from the gallery stand but well adapted to holding game and we were privileged to see good and plenty of work in this department during the weekend. This course is a natural. . . .

Judges for the various stakes were recruited from scattered points; all experienced bird dog men and well respected by the fraternity. Charles (Phil)



PLANTATION SPOT
Second in the Open All-Age Stake

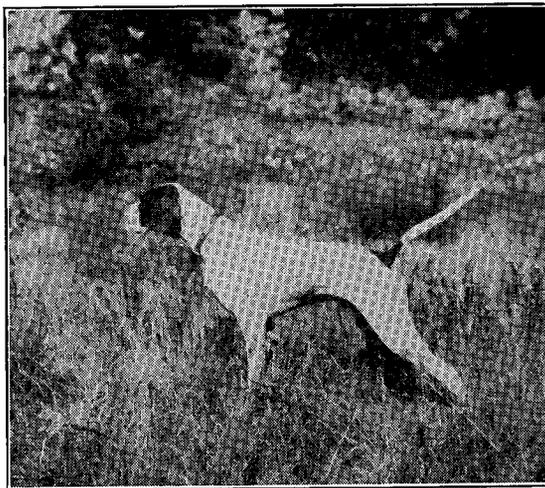
Esmond, R. I., led off in the Open All-Age, with Mr. Fogg of Newbury, Mass., and Charles Dubuque of Fogg continuing on in the company of George Bucknam of Augusta, Me., to look at the Derby offerings. Mr. Bucknam teamed up with another well traveled scatter-gun expert, Ben Adams of Etna, N. H., to render judgment in the inaugural running of the Gun Dog Classic of this Club. Charles Dubuque and Thelmar Page of Portsmouth, N. H., took on the Open Puppy and Joe Gardner of Manchester appeared with your writer in the Amateur All-Age.

OPEN ALL-AGE STAKE

Satilla Regal Sue took full advantage of the wide open country. Her manner of handling the more thickly covered power line stretch drew approval as Sue popped into view ahead just regularly enough. Though this bitch appears eager to reach far afield, her handling response is admirable and her running gait quite attractive. Far out ahead, on approach to the birdfield area, a cock was seen to take flight and the bitch was standing in heavy weed cover when we reached the spot, an incident likely scored a stop-to-flush as Sue was buried in cover before and after the bird flushed. Shortly she scored nicely on a second pheasant and displayed style and manners from point to flush and shot.

Plantation Spot reached from side to side with a good amount of drive and snappy tail action. An intelligent and moderately wide hunting race, we thought it. Spot came through handsomely in the game-finding department, stacking up tight and handsomely on two separate finds in the birdfield. The setter displayed highly polished manners to wing and shot.

The Dynamo turned in a highly commendable race from start to finish, just ornery enough in his



TIBWIN MAGNUM
Third in the Open Shooting Dog Classic

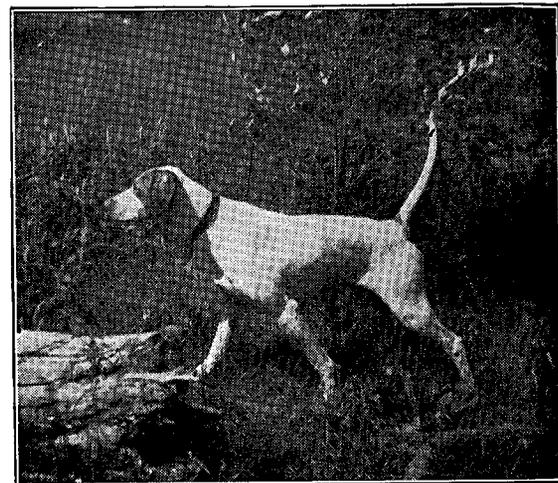
handling response to cause watchers to point him out impulsively when this bold fellow broached the distant wood edges and hedgerows. A handsome fellow in action, "Jake" was definitely not a boring dog to follow. Jake appeared a bit confused for a few moments when we reached the birdfield and seemed to be heeling to opposing handler when

he walked into a find near brook edge. Not an especially thrilling piece of work but the dog handled it well and was sent on. A well-earned find was forthcoming shortly afterwards as Jake worked a runner through rough ground cover to pin his bird neatly atop low rise. A tendency to jitter around as his bird was produced took some of the shine from this otherwise highly acceptable bird work.

Hickory Smoke, merry and independent setter, appealed in his way of going, and sustained search. Smoke looked a handsome picture on point and his manners were of the finest as a good find was completed. Smoke had an unproductive point and failure to relocate, when given plenty of time to do so. Duncan's Spot appealed with a solid and substantial initial heat. Spot styled up handsomely on one chance but was guilty of a sharp surge forward as his bird departed. Printer's Devil laid out in fine style all along the route, until he began to tire a trifle near the finish. Devil was credited with one sharp find and a stop to flush of a second bird.

Tibwin Magnum came up with a long-nosed find in the birdfield, but his race did not quite measure up. Yankee True Spot stopped to the rise of a pheasant in heavy cover, then slid in to a stylish point beside his brace mate.

Sunrise Tim's Spot, Donna's Sammy and Willett B Sam were high on ground work but all failed to show on game. Nutmeg Tarheel Doty was tardy in coming on at the finish. Berol's Spunky Rex honored, pointed without results, then carded a nice find. Peacedale Girlie appealed in her hunting but proved unmannerly. Tonleigh's Ezekiel went birdless. Chief Broken Knife hunted in merry fashion but broke a few steps on his lone tally. General Rodfield Inspector did a fine job in the heavier portions but lacked the vision to complete his casts in the open.



THE DYNAMO
Third in the Open All-Age Stake and Second in the Amateur All-Age Stake

Westbrook, Me., August 29—One Course

Judges: Charles Dubuque and Charles P. Fogg

OPEN ALL-AGE—8 Pointers and 9 Setters

1st—SATILLA REGAL SUE, 558084, pointer bitch, by Satilla Wahoo Pete—Clifton Regal Bess. Robert L. Abric, owner and handler.

2d—PLANTATION SPOT, 526758, setter dog, by Granite State Dale—Wellesley Lady B. Dr. B. B. Hamilton, owner; Ed Frisella, handler.

3d—THE DYNAMO, 521723, pointer dog, by Palmer's Ty-solin—Palmer's Mary. Robert L. Abric, owner and handler.

OPEN DERBY

Peacedale Sara looked a mighty good bet right from the start as the stylish pointer bitch went about her business with spirit and independence working out the inviting edges and swinging logically from one good cover to the next. A far reach ahead to the birdfield took Sara quickly to game and she styled up handsomely in weed cover with a young cock accurately pointed ahead. Hard and stanch as handler ran the bird to flush, Sara added frosting to the cake by remaining for the shot. An unproductive stand before the finish marred only slightly an outstanding performance.

Ramrod turned in an initial ground heat that warranted his being called back for a further chance to show on birds in a short second series try with Pennimak's Pathfinder, another which had displayed much of what the judges sought but had failed to show on game. Cast loose for a short run before turning into the birdlot, both scampered away merrily. Rod pointed with high style in waist-high weed cover and "Babe" quickly came into the vicinity to mill around briefly. The bird evidently began to foot it out in this commotion and both dogs broke to relocate, Babe finding and pointing first and Rod stacking up alongside within seconds.

Jungle Jim treated the gallery to some splendid work on birds, scoring two sharp finds on two sepa-

