



WALTER WATSON shows baby foxes he dug out of their den with their mother last week when they were about five days old. Mother and the seven babies are doing well and their eyes are open now. L. F. Photo

● Fox Hunting  
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describes as the best fox hunter he ever had. The old dog trained the young ones in the fields by working foxes with them until he was killed by an auto. These two young dogs now make up the fast trailing combination. When the pack is off, they always lead, and Walter likes to keep them together when they are hunting because of their teamwork abilities.

The female — Annie — comes from the Ozark Coon Hound Kennels in Arkansas. She is best at picking up the older scents. Many times she straightens out "the boys" so they can get back on the trail again.

And there is Saltie. He is part fox terrier and part bull dog — bred that way to hate foxes, and with the size and ability to go down into the fox den and see if he is there. The little dog lies down, rolls and kicks ferociously wherever a fox has been.

Monday was just right for trailing foxes. A stiff, rather-damp south wind came in over the hill and, before the morning was over, we got soaked from a five minute shower. This didn't dampen the spirits of dogs or men. The dogs were "tonguing" on and off all morning but the biggest offensive came at about 10:30 a.m.

We had gone out across the ridge through woods, plowed corn fields and three-inch-high alfalfa. We crossed to the north side of the hill — and then it happened! Right in the woods behind us, one dog picked up the trail and the dogs were off for sure this time. Further and further east the pack went, sending their hunting call back in no uncertain terms. As we waited and listened, the sound



IS HE IN THERE? Walter Watson and two of his foxhounds check. The little dog is part fox terrier and part bull dog to give him the temperment and ability to go down into the holes. L. F. Photo

headed up over the hill and soon started coming closer on the other side of the hill as the fox started circling back. We ran to the top, crossed over and waited in an open plowed field. The dogs were coming closer now and I checked the camera several times, ready for that fox to dare to show his face in the open field.

Suddenly, everything became quiet. We went down into the thicket where we had last heard the dogs. We found nothing but

holes. "Some time that fox won't be so lucky," Watson said as we headed back to the cars. "But we can still take a picture of the fox the dogs killed yesterday and the mother fox with her litter of seven, which were caught north of Intercourse last Tuesday."

Sooo, that's what we did! And, as this reporter headed home for dinner, he thought to himself, "It sure is exciting to hunt foxes with Walter Watson." And it really was!

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