

SPORTING DOGS



Above: Boasting an ancestry of famous boar and bear hounds is this Plott hound owned by Leora Baynard, Pulp Mill. Bear hunters of North Carolina and Tennessee, wolf hunters of Texas, and panther hunters in the Rocky Mountain States all claim that for sheer tenacity on the trail and ferocity in a fight, a Plott hound can't be beat.

With hunting season in full swing, hunting dogs are often the chief topic of conversation among Ecusta's sportsmen. Pointers, setters, retrievers, and various species of hounds are included in the hunting dogs owned by Ecusta's employees.

Pictured on these pages, with a short history of the breed, are a few of the dogs owned by some of the employees.

Cocker Spaniel—Primarily known as a household pet, cockers were once widely used—and still are in some sections of the country—as hunting and retrieving dogs. The cocker, a member of the largest class of hunting breeds, was first used by the Irish as early as 17AD. The name spaniel indicates that the Irish probably procured their original stock from Spain.

Cockers are used to range back and forth over terrain selected by the hunter, but always close enough to the gunner that the charge from his shotgun can kill the game which the dogs flush. Thus the spaniel may be as close as 20 yards to the hunter, and rarely more than 75 yards away. The reason that spaniels must hunt close is that they give no warning upon finding game, as do the pointing dogs, but immediately rout the game from cover. A well trained spaniel of this type hunts until he finds game, flushes the game, then immediately sits. If the game is killed, the spaniel is ordered to find the dead bird or animal and re-

Shown on these pages are some of the many breeds of sporting dogs owned by Ecustans. Some are only household pets, while the others are used in hunting game — like the pheasant on the right.

