

Bloodhound, Injured Hunting Donn Fendler, Loses Leg and Is Retired by State Police

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HAWTHORNE, N. Y., Feb. 20—Red, the star bloodhound of the New York State Police kennels here, was retired from active service today after six years of tracking down murderers, amnesia victims and lost children. The retirement came because of an injury suffered by the dog twenty months ago while searching in the mountains of Maine for a lost Boy Scout.

The Scout was Donn Fendler of Rye, N. Y., who found his way out of the mountains before searching parties overtook him. Red was flown from Hawthorne to Maine to join in the search, and while following the trail through the rugged country he slipped and fell into a rocky gorge.

The dog's right hind leg was injured in the tumble and a bone tumor developed. He was taken two weeks ago to veterinarians at Cornell University and they decided that an amputation of the leg was necessary to save Red's life. The operation was performed and today the dog was brought back to Hawthorne from Ithaca.

"He's going to get all the kindness we can give him," Trooper William E. Horton, in charge of the kennels, said this afternoon. "He will receive full rations and be assigned to no work. His past ac-

complishments have made him entitled to live like a pensioner."

Donn Fendler, now 14 years old, visited Red at the State Police kennels this evening after learning from newspaper men of the dog's plight. He said he was "awfully sorry that my being lost was indirectly responsible for Red's injury."

Four years ago Red was credited with locating a son of Grover Whalen when the youth was lost near the Whalen estate in Dobbs Ferry. Mr. Whalen presented a collar and gold nameplate to the dog. The collar was destroyed later in a scuffle between Red and other dogs, but the nameplate is still treasured by the troopers here. On another occasion Red was taken to Roscoe, N. Y., to follow the trail of a murderer. He found the man in a few minutes.

Red and another dog, Ki Ki, were the first bloodhounds acquired by Troop K of the State police when the troop's kennels here were established in 1935. Ki Ki was given away recently. In active service at the kennels today were three grown bloodhounds, while five puppies were receiving training.

Trooper Horton said Red was not the first dog of the troop to be injured in action. Monk II was bitten by a water moccasin two years ago while searching for a lost woman, but the animal recovered after a long illness.