

Bob: Yeah. They're trail hounds--what you call trail hounds.

Jess: Stag--took it from stag--

Bob: You see, your greyhound, he runs by sight. But your trail hound, he can get on by scent. My stepfather always used to have a pack of hounds, and this Bob Siler's got several hounds over here, and there's many of them around. And when you have a still night, they go out with these dogs and they'll what you call "jump" a coyote. They get one up. And these dogs will chase this coyote. Now these hunters can tell you where they're trailing or whether they're in chase. And they can tell you which dog--they'll call him by name--which dog it is, by the sound of their voices. And they can tell you when one's cutting across. If they're in a chase and one dog gets smart and acts like he's gonna cut across, well, they can tell you when he's cutting across. And one thing about a coyote, I never did go on a hunt with them because they stay all night and I don't like to stay all night--they say they'll just build them a fire when they get a good chase going and this coyote will just go around in a circle. Just round and round. And when they get too much pressure on them, then they'll try to crawl in to a car or try to crawl into anything to get away from the dogs.

(Are the trail hounds anything like a pointer?)

Bob: Oh, no. A pointer is a bird dog. But a trail hound has these big old long drooping ears--similar to a bloodhound. You've got different kinds. You've got what they call "black and tan"--that's like bloodhound. You got your "black and tan," and you got your some kind of "travellers" and you got "blue tick hounds" and different varieties of them. But they go principally on the scent.

(Did the Indians ever have any kind of dogs they used for hunting like that?)

Jess: No. They didn't resort to that very much. A few had dogs, but mostly they were pets of kids, you know. And an old grandma maybe would have one, but they didn't resort to dogs very much in the early days.