

Dividends Paid in Happiness:

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## 200 Dogs Owe Their Lives and New Homes To Costly But Humane Hobby of Rep. Boykin

Many of man's best friends have found that big, jovial Rep. Boykin (D) of Alabama is their best friend.

He has saved an estimated 200 dogs from death in the District of Columbia pound—and found them homes to boot.

"I've made a lot of dogs happy and a lot of people happier," Boykin said, as he picked out five unclaimed dogs scheduled for destruction and ordered them sent to "home folks back in Alabama."

Saving dogs is a hobby of the Congressman. On his way to his office he usually stops by to look over and pet the day's "catch." Probably Congress' earliest riser, Boykin is up and about by 6 a.m. daily.

The hobby, he estimates, costs him about \$17 per dog—a \$2 pound fee and \$15 express charge.

"But," he tells you, "if you could see the happiness it brings all around you'd know it was worth every penny of it."

Patting a big elk hound on the head and "wondering" how he

ever got to Washington, Boykin said:

"They've got a good heart down here at the pound. Whenever they find a dog they don't want to see killed, they call me, and I come down and get it."

Just then he spotted a beautiful collie in an adjoining pen and told Pound Master Marks: "Don't let them kill that dog. Somebody wants her. I'll find somebody with children. She will make a wonderful pet. I'll call you a name sometime today."

Owner of a 17,000-acre hunting preserve in Washington county, Ala. Boykin has sent many dogs there, but he's proudest of a hound that will go right up a tree after game.

"Just give him a limb he can reach and he'll go up a tree like a cat," the Congressman said, simultaneously exhibiting a picture to prove he isn't spoofing about a tree-climbing dog.

Another of his most prized "rescues" is a big English bulldog, which he named "Churchill" for

his No. 1 hero of the British empire.

He has shipped four Great Danes to Albert Ernest, a friend at Savannah, Ga., and only last week "bailed out" three Russian wolf hounds.

"I've sent more than 40 hounds, all of them good hunting dogs deserving a home, to my Alabama friends, both white and colored," he said between barks of the tail-wagging quintet he'd picked to save that day.

He has interested a fellow Alabamian, Rep. Andrews (D), in his hobby and happily reports that Andrews has shipped four hunters to outdoorsmen in his district.

The photographer wanted names for the elk and a spotted walker, with which Boykin was posing.

"Why names are easy," Boykin replied. "I'll name this spotted one 'Duke' for the boy who looks after my dogs, and this elk hound I'll name 'Rester' for my partner, T. J. Rester of Mobile."



Times-Herald Staff Photo

### Saving Dogs Is His Hobby

Rep. Boykin (D) of Alabama is pictured with two of the many dogs he has saved from death at the District pound. Boykin has saved and found homes in Alabama for an estimated 200 dogs.