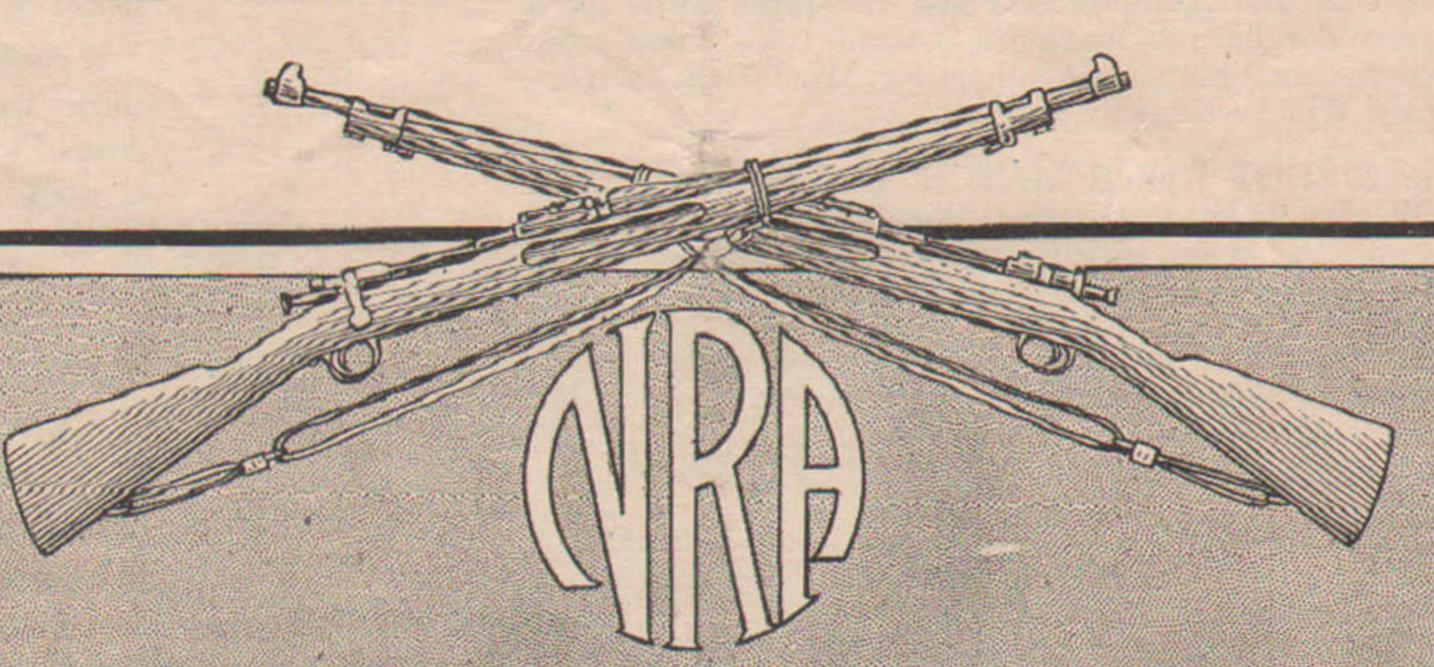
ARMS AND THE MAN



VOL. LXI, No. 19

FEBRUARY 1, 1917

Trying Out the Oval Bore

The Problem of the National Guard

A Home-made Range Telescope

Little Talks about Preparedness

Latest News of the Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun; The Army, Navy and the National Guard

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Trying Out the Oval-Bore.

BY EDWARD C. CROSSMAN.

I DON'T know who dug up this fossilized subject. As I remember, it was my friend Charley De Newt, the demon catalogue printer, who we hope will some day show us the rifle he portrays so attractively and voluminously on paper.

In the fourteenth or fifteenth edition of the Pipe Dream Gazette

he quotes some figures from some old tests of the Ordnance Department in the matter of the oval bore and goes on to say that from the figures of the Department itself, there was no reason for such a cold snub as the O. D. gave this system of rifling.

Said figures show that the oval bore raised the velocity of the Krag cartridge 67 ft. secs. and with the old M. 1903, Springfield cartridge showed a mean deviation of 13.4 inches at 1,000 as against 19.4 for the service barrel, with practically the same deviation as the service barrel at 500 yards 7 inches.

Furthermore, Mr. Newton refers to a test made with a .22 caliber barrel made for him on this principle, which gave 2-inch

groups at 200 yards, and which, to put it mildly, is traveling some, both in the eyesight displayed in laying the rifle ten times into a 20-inch circle, and in the ammunition itself, outside of the rifle.

It seems that Brother Newton is willing to fit the Newton rifle with this type of rifling on demand at the same price as the regular land and groove style made by Old Man Hard-to-clean.

This oval bore business seems to shy off the British rifle authorities as much as it shied off our ordnance sharks. Even the British writers content themselves by admitting that there is "sich an animile" but refer to it little beyond this.

The latest book on rifle shooting from British authorities, the great "Rifles and Ammunition," by Robinson and the late Lieutenant Ommundsen, although a most complete volume of 330 pages and just from the press, refers most casually to this style of rifling in connection with their discussion of early rifling systems. Greener admits that there is such a system. Freemantle comes the nearest to talking about it when he shows a "diagram of 10 shots," at 100 yards from a Lancaster 256 Manlicher rifle in a space of 1½ by 2¾ inches, which is good shooting. As patents evidently don't hold on this system of rifling, there is evidently some question as to its efficacy because it is undoubtedly more easily cleaned than the ordinary rifling employed, and it is the prettiest style of barrel you ever looked through.

This oval bore thing is merely an oval groove without corners, merging gently into the rest of the barrel, cut on either side of the bore and having the twist essential for spinning the bullet to be shot. First you have the round, smooth, cylindrical bore, then there is cut on either side the oval groove—in theory .005 inch deep. There are no corners, no lands, no plain grooves, merely a shallow, rounding valley on either side twirling brightly round and round. You can see every inch of the barrel, it is practically like a shotgun tube save for the gentle rolling oval spiral that is as devoid of sharp outline or corners as the long ground-swell far at sea.

The bullet is supposed to upset into this oval shape and so acquire its whirl by following the course of the oval in its spiral through the barrel. The system is about a hundred years old, appearing in the days when they used to think that a bully scheme was to make a two-groove rifle and then a bullet to fit, or else a hexagonal bore and a hexagonal

The oval bore has been one of the talking points of the old firm of Chas. Lancaster, now in the hands of a man named Thorne, just as most of the great and ancient and honorable British makers with big names are bossed by some chap with a name nothing like that of

the old firm. Being without lands or grooves, so to speak, this oval bore rifling lent itself nicely to the demands of the combination ball and shotguns that are au fait in the British possessions where you don't know whether the rustle in the brush means shoot a snipe or climb a tree. For this sort of potting around a gun firing either snipe or climb-a-tree loads is mighty comforting to the easily frightened person. So Lancaster has made for years his Collindian gun, ostensibly a shotgun of good weight, but through the use of the oval bore, firing a bullet with good accuracy. The smooth spiral didn't interfere greatly with shot patterns, so long as cylinder boring would do the work desired, although the shot did ac-



"WE FITTED THE BARREL TO WOTKYN'S OLD LEE SPEED."

quire a whirling motion and the unfortunate bird would occasionally die from dizziness and not from gunshot wounds.

The Hon. Stew. Edward White hunted with a pilgrim in East Africa who was armed—or handicapped—with a Lancaster Mauser firing the 280 cartridge. That is the back end was Mauser, the bore was 280, and the rifling of the oval type. This gun, said White, wouldn't shoot for a tinker's damn, but as I remember, he added that he knew this because the owner missed a couple of pot shots at a lion. Personally, being of charitable disposition, if I ever, also, miss a couple of pot shots at a lion, even with the Springfield, I am going to give the poor goat of a rifle the benefit of the doubt. I am going to admit that maybe, that like the race-horse the colored lady went out to see after putting her money on him, I didn't have my mind wholly on my work—or maybe too much so. Seems to me that such a test is not wholly conclusive. Maybe the Mauser man was lion-shy because of some prior unfortunate experience in which he and a lion had been entered in an Australian pursuit race.

Lancaster in his catalogue shows some fine groups made with the 280 rifle with his boring. Of course, in quoting them I recognize the human fallibility back of the catalog. For instance, I mind me of a test by the Frankford Arsenal and by the DuPont Co. of a certain .25 caliber rifle, all of which was not quoted in a certain catalogue and all of which would have made more interesting reading that the part that was printed.

Anyhow, taking Mr. Lancaster's quotations from the great and standard Field newspaper, we find various groups shot with .280 rifle, rifling on the oval bore principle.

A double barrel rifle fired right and left barrel alternately, put eight shots into a 2-inch circle at 100 yards, beautiful shooting both for the cartridge and rifling system, and for the sort of weapon used. My own trials of a pair of double rifles of German make, demonstrated that the two barrels shot their respective groups about 18 inches apart. Eight more shots went into 1.53 inches at the same range.

Trial of the one barrel rifle fired with the straight Ross-Eley cartridge gave a group of one and a half inches at 100 yards.

(Continued on page 365.)

The Problem of the National Guard.

BY BRIG. GEN. J. CLIFFORD R. FOSTER,

Former Adjutant General of Florida

THE tendency of the average person is not to seriously concern himself with problems of government which seem remote and do not bear upon him through the medium of some personal or direct relationship. Military affairs have, until recently, been farthest from the thoughts of the average American citizen. Warfare, with all that it suggests to the mind of devastation and death, is not a pleasant theme for contemplation, and so, except as it has now in more or less degree forced itself upon our attention from across the seas, we have preferred not to give it thought. Following a line of reasoning which has led our minds along the easiest and the most pleasant ways, we have, as a people, simply refused to concern ourselves with the serious and all important matter of providing an adequate and efficient system of national defense.

But the tremendous scope of the great conflict in Europe is at last forcing itself upon our national consciousness, and we are asking ourselves if it can be that there is danger to us, and if, remote as we are from the battle-torn countries abroad, it is possible that we may become involved. Can it be that the same influences which contributed to bring about this great war exist and may exert themselves among our own people? Reluctantly we are forced to admit the dominance of selfish interest and that the era of real brotherhood of man, as dreamed of by idealists and extreme pacifists, is far from being realized even under the advanced civilization which we know.

We have seen nation after nation borne down against its will into the boiling crater of Central Europe. We have seen the grasping hand of war extended across the continents and have come ourselves to feel pressure from the great and consuming waste of resources which is involved. Thus gradually there has been forced upon us the realization and the fear that mere isolation does not afford an absolute guarantee of peace. As long as the dread Demon War stalks abroad on the earth; as long as human nature maintains its present standards, and avarice and greed stimulate the ambitions and the activities of man, America will need to be strong if she would prevail over those influences and maintain her national integrity.

This realization of our own weakness appears to have come with most force to that class of people whom our distinguished President described a year or more ago as "the nervous and excited." Their uneasiness and concern has shown itself in an ill-directed effort to start something that would insure greater safety, and this has taken form in sundry organizations, and in the conduct of an extensive propaganda for greater military preparedness. It is a tribute to Mr. Wilson's power of discernment that the manifestations of this particular element have been influenced by the slogan of "safety first," and no deep study of the science of psychology is required to identify the moving impulses of those who seek "security" rather than a proper and consistent power of "defense." The adopted designation of the largest and most liberally financed preparedness society is not, therefore, without a special, though rather unfortunate, significance.

In our individual relations a man may often obtain security by hiding or by running away, but if he is equal to defending himself in any situation he will command respect and be able to enjoy the utmost freedom of action, and thus it should be with us as a people.

The strength of a nation, however, depends not so much upon the number of its trained battalions as it does upon the spirit of its people; their unity of purpose and the efficient and co-operative development and command of all national resources. A nation, like an individual, must have a soul, and that soul will be the repository of the collective ambitions and desires of the people and will reflect a composite expression of their common tendencies, and, as these tendencies are manifested and recognized, they indicate our national character. The genius of the American people as revealed through our earliest declaration of principles shows only the purpose to insure to ourselves the full exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship, with no thought of imposing our Kultur upon the rest of the world. A nation with such aims will have use for no engines of aggression, and, in determining our needs in the matter of organized force, will have only to consider what may be required for defense. Thus in the design of our military establishment we have come to accept two propositions as fundamental: First, that the maintenance of a large standing army would be inimical to our national interests and dangerous to our form and ideals of government, and, second, that the defense of the country rests upon its citizens,

Lately, however, there have arisen among us those who would have us abandon these fundamental and well-established principles of our government and enter upon a policy of absolute militarism. Not something new and untried, but the same system which bred the present holocaust in Europe with its misery and famine and its toll of millions upon millions of human lives, and, in the proposal of this military policy for the United States, we, as a people, are confronted with the most vital and far-reaching problem that we have been called upon to face since the War Between the States. It is not merely a question of deciding upon a form of military organization, but involves complete departure from principles that we have been taught to regard as vital to the preservation of the nation itself.

Such is our common tendency to avoid consideration of that which appears complex, however, and such our willingness to accept without question that which may be offered to us in the guise of "expert" opinion, that we are apparently accepting with complacency proposals which do violence to American ideals and traditions, and which would not only impose upon the country a policy of militarism, but would set up a machine and establish a military caste compared with which the Prussian military establishment would be but a kindergarten of social democracy.

To bring this about, inspired writers are diligently at work, backed by a semi-military semi-political organization, the extent and power of which few people comprehend. Opposing this, as might be expected, are those men in civil life whose incidental study of military affairs has given them some special insight into what is proposed; that army of men whose patriotic impulses alone have moved them to enter the military service of their country-in the National Guard. It is the National Guard in this fight, battling for the preservation of a great national principle, with back to the wall and contending at great odds with the forces of selfishness that we would have the people of the country come to see and to know. Once public interest is aroused and the true situation becomes apparent, it will not be difficult for all to comprehend the motives which have prompted the deliberate conspiracy to destroy this branch of the national military service. The American love of fair play is our guarantee of that, and it cannot be thought that the people of this country will be entirely without appreciation and understanding of that splendid body of citizen soldiery which, for more than a quarter of a century has done most to keep the fires of patriotism kindled in our soil, and has provided the only practical and effective means of training citizens in time of peace to meet the responsibilities which must necessarily devolve upon them in time of war.

But it cannot be asked ever of the friends of the National Guard that they let their special interest in that service, or their sympathy because of the difficulties which now beset it, blind them to what should after all, be the paramount consideration of every American—the safety and welfare of the nation itself and the preservation of those ideals and maintenance of those principles of government which are fundamental with us and for which we as a people stand. Yet it is difficult to understand how in a nation which depends for its very existence upon the patriotic impulses of its people, there could be those declaring a purpose to provide a more adequate system of national defense who would feel themselves called upon to first try to destroy and dishearten the only element which in the years past has addressed itself to the same purpose and has atempted to deal with the problem in a practical way by the rendering of personal service. Yet that is the object of those with whom the National Guard has lately been forced to contend, and who make the mistake of supposing that the disruption of this splendid body of men and the disbandment of their battalions and regiments will overcome the spirit in the American people which is certain to assert itself in opposition to any plan proposing the conscription and military service and to any policy which will result in setting up a powerful military caste in this country.

Are we going to permit the National Guard to be destroyed? Do we realize that there actually exists a deliberate conspiracy to bring that about? The evidences of it are plain and easy to see. It is true that the plan hatched in the War Department for giving the Guard its coup de grace during the last session of Congress failed dismally; but such was the power of the influences at work that in the framing (Continued on page 366.)

TRYING OUT THE OVAL BORE.

(Continued from page 363.)

The Hon. George, who is at present boss on paper of the British Empire, along with Lloyd George, the real boss, uses a .280 Lancaster double rifle with this oval boring, and Lancaster shows you a picture of the little gentleman firing the rifle from a rest from the back of an elephant at stripes in the Indian Jungle below.

At the same time, as I said before, British rifle shooting authorities didn't seem to have a fit every time they thought about this rifling system, and I have often wondered why the shy coyness on their part.

Then Brother Newton brought up the subject, and we went out after some first-hand dope on the oval bore.

For a matter of two years or more I have had kicking around among the various things I was going to attend to "some day" an oval-bore rifle barrel given me by Sir Charles Ross for test when I

inquired into the experience of the Ross people with this type of rifling. It was "N. G." said the Scot, and this despite the fact that he is fond of experimenting.

barrel obtained from Ross, used in connection with a Lee-Speed action rechambered to take the Mark VII British Service ammunition, for one experiment; and the same barrel which we connected up with a Canadian Service Rifle for another.

Club, owned the Lee-Speed. The barrel of the Lec was somewhat the worse for wear due to a .303 stuck half up it, refusing to come out. As my barrel was chambered for the .303 and bored for this bullet, and as the thread was undoubtedly for the British rifle, we joined forces and put my oval bore barrel into his Lee-Speed action. (Some day there's going

to be a beautiful little matching contest to see whether he gets my barrel or I get his action and stock.)

Just where the oval-bore barrel came from, I don't know. Ross said it was a Lancaster, and it bore the ear-marks of British manufacture, including the sight base being set about two inches back of the muzzle, which is typically English. It also chambered the 303 cartridge perfectly and screwed into the Lee-Speed action. To get it clear home Wundhammer had to cut off a tiny bit of the back end of the barrel, and this necessitated rechambering, which we did with a chamber reamer from the Lewis machine-gun makers, thus making the barrel over for the Mark VII British sharp point bullet where it was probably for the 303 Mark VI, blunt nose originally.

The barrel is 30 inches long, and unblued and unfinished at the muzzle. The front sight block we had Wundhammer file up into a flat top blade about .08-inch wide. For a rear sight we put on a B. S. A. receiver sight like those shot by the Argentinos in the Pan American of 1913, giving us a sight radius of 35 inches. I don't know how we can get a much more accurate rifle testing sight arrangement short of the telescope. It at least fits my own vision.

For ammunition we used Mark VII British service ammunition,

made by the U. S. Cartridge Co. for the Allies as part of a war contract and gotten for us by the kindness of a certain friend who shall be nameless. To check up on this, Wotkyns dug out a box of U. M. C. Mark VI, or the common variety of .303 British stuff sold for the last twenty years.

The Mark VII stuff contained a bullet of 175 gr., sharp pointed and much like our own 180 gr. Springfield match bullet, but bearing two cannelures in the portion within the shell neck. The case was crimped into the first one, and both contained wax for lubricating the barrel. Behind the bullet was 40 grains of apparently No. 15 Progressive, which our DuPont friends say has made a hit with the British authorities.

Each bullet has the cabilistic "U. S." stamped into its base, while the shells say "U. S. 16, VII." It is this misleading "U. S." that makes the Dutch froth at the mouth and tear their hair when they capture a collection of British ammunition and go to reading the dope on the base of the shells.

The bullets of the Mark VII stuff calibrate .311. The velocity is supposed to be 2,440 ft. secs.

It was apparently not very good ammunition. About one shell in ten would let a lot of gas and stuff out around the primer, on which the bolt would smoke up like an old chimney. I wasn't much tickled with the performance, knowing that the Lee bolt didn't have a lot of strength to waste on the job.

The barrel, measured by several soft lead .32-20 bullets and a Springfield service pushed through, measured according to the lead plugs .2983 inch across its smallest part, which should be the original bore, and .3145 across the widest part, across the rifling in other words. The bullet was very visibly oval shaped and was of course out of round just .2983 from .3145, or .0162 inch. You can easily see an error of .016

THE TESTS WERE MADE FROM MUZZLE AND ELBOW REST

inch in the circle of a bullet .30 inch across. These figures we checked with two other bullets pushed through the barrel.

According to this the original bore must have been a bit under 30—.2983—and was then rifling with a pair of grooves .008 inch deep or twice as deep as the grooves of the Springfield.

A Springfield service bullet driven through by dint of a stout rod and a good hammer also demonstrated the oval form on its exit, the jacket coming out beautifully smooth and devoid of the customary land cuts, and the form decidedly oval in cross section. Due possible to some springing of the stout jacket, this service bullet didn't quite correspond with the measurement of the lead bullet, the small portion being 299, and the large one 315, but still agreeing that the rifling of the barrel was .008 in each "groove."

Evidently this was rather a tight fit for a service 303 bullet of 311 because if the grooves and lands were equal, then a bullet 307 would nicely fill up the bore, and the 311 bullet was a bit snug in the general fit.

After having gone thusly into the figures pertaining, we took the rifle and the ammunition and sought the range and muzzle rest.

(To be concluded.)

To Install "Out of Sight" Range Guns.

Within the coming year, Maj. Gen. E. M. Weaver, Chief of the Coast Artillery, believes that the coast defenses of the United States will be amply able to protect all cities, the safety of which is charged to them, and to repel any naval attack which can be conceived. Gen. Weaver appeared before the House Committee on Military Affairs recently and discussed this phase of national defense.

"The new coast defense at San Francisco will be equipped with 16-inch, 30,000-yard range guns," he stated. "Among the preparedness measures for coast defense under contemplation by the General Staff," General Weaver said, "are railway mounts for mobile big guns. These guns can be fired from the trucks and transported to strategic points along the coast on the ordinary railroad track,"

THE PROBLEM OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.

(Continued from page 364.)

of the National Defense Act the control and management of the Guard was placed unreservedly in unsympathetic hands and provisions were introduced in the law which are certain to be destructive in their effect. And this was done with design, while the army of ready writers continued to proclaim the iniquity of the "Hay militia bill." A consideration of what can happen and what has already happened under this legislation leads us naturally to consider what our own troops have been called upon to do. Every Floridian has reason to be proud of the splendid regiment which now represents this State on the Mexican border. In efficiency it is second to none there, yet we must feel that the retention of these men in the performance of what is purely police duty, and properly the function of the professional soldier, is a grave injustice to the officers and enlisted men concerned and involves sacrifices upon their part which they should not be called upon to make except in the emergency of war.

What will probably happen to the units of this regiment upon their return home and to the status of the State service is forefold by what has already occurred in the other regiment here at home. Under the beneficient influence of the new law as now administered, the latter organization has been reduced from a regiment at practically full peace strength to the status of a single battalion. How many readers of this article are there who know that because of the unsympathetic policies employed toward the National Guard it has been necessary within the past few months to discharge and to furlough to the reserve over 400 men of the First Regiment Infantry, and thus reduce that organization to a point where it has lost its regimental identity? Yet that is the case, and so it is with every feature of administration and management—the utmost antagonism is exhibited toward this branch of the service.

The many details involved cannot be entered into within the limits of this single article, but at least one of these considerations can be mentioned which has served to bring about the result just referred to. Under the new Federal militia law a six-year term of enlistment is prescribed for the National Guard, three years with the colors and three years in the reserve; but this law expressly provides that those already enlisted under a contract which imposes an obligation to obey the orders of the President and to support the Constitution of the United States, shall be recognized as members of the National Guard. It was never the intention of Congress to impose an added obligation of service upon those then serving in the Guard; but, by departmental ruling, it has been decided that all men must subscribe to the new oath, and this notwithstanding the fact that in Florida the old oath of enlistment contained the specific provision required under the Federal law.

This department action was equivalent to ordering the discharge of the entire National Guard, although offering the privilege of reenlistment; for, of course, it was optional with each individual as to whether or not he would subscribe to the new contract of enlistment. That the time within which the oath might be taken was extended to November 30 did not help the situation, for it simply gave opportunity for the men to realize more fully the kind of duty that those of the other regiment had been called upon to perform and the sacrifices they were required to make, and naturally the most of them decided not to add to their obligation for service. Now, the State is without power to hold these men for the limit of the term of their original enlistment, for the War Department further decides that they cannot be recognized as members of the National Guard, that they cannot be armed, uniformed or equipped with Federal property and that no Federal funds may be expended in their training. The result is perfectly plain, and the purpose is no less obvious.

Let us see how this same matter of recruiting was dealt with in the organizations called into Federal service. In September of 1911, Hon. Robert Shaw Oliver, then acting Secretary of War, in a letter addressed to the governors of all the States, prescribed a system of recruiting for the National Guard in time of war. It should be understood that the maximum authorized peace strength of an infantry company, for example, was sixty-five, for beyond that number arms and equipment were not obtainable from the government in time of peace; but the war strength to which such an organization must be immediately recruited upon being called into the Federal service was 150. This system of recruiting for war provided for the detail of a lieutenant in each company as recruiting officer for war and that upon the receipt of a call into the Federal service this officer should be left at the home station of his company, with an appropriate detail of enlisted men, to recruit for the organization. That these had been designated in each company and that they were informed as to their recruiting duties

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was thereafter made the subject of special investigation at each succeeding annual Federal inspection. It was inquired into at the inspection in March of 1916. On June 18, when the President issued his call, this system automatically went into effect in the National Guard of Florida. The Second Regiment Infantry had on that day a total strength of 635 enlisted men. It was mobilized three days later with an enlisted strength of more than 1,100 and, within the next few days, was recruited to more than 1,400. Then what happened? Orders were received from the headquarters of the Eastern Department at Governor's Island, to call in these recruiting officers as they must be mustered in with their companies. The State authorities were informed that recruiting would thereafter be conducted for the National Guard through Federal agencies; but weeks elapsed before those agencies were put into operation, and discouraging influences had by that time begun to make themselves felt, and the results were unsatisfactory. In a few weeks recruiting was discontinued altogether. Now, if a man wishes to fight his way into the National Guard, it is understood that he can do so through the recruiting officers of the Regular Army at Tampa and at Jacksonville; but there is no particular rush of applicants.

While the obligation of the National Guard service has been added to and the term of enlistment increased, what has been done for the Regular Army? The Federal law has been so amended that the inducement of one-year service may be held out to recruits. All postmasters have been made recruiting officers and are paid \$5 for each recruit secured, and now, recruiting officers from the Army have been detailed to each militia camp on the border to induce members of the National Guard organization there to join the Army. When this was first provided for the War Department orders directed that no militiamen be accepted if their National Guard commanders objected; but the commanding general of the Southern Department has changed that order, and guardsmen are being induced to join the Army-I do not know how many and doubt that there are very many-but, if they consent to enlist, they are immediately discharged from the National Guard by Federal authority, even over the protest of the National Guard commanders, and then enlisted in the Army. Apparently the government recognizes no obligation to maintain the National Guard organizations now under its control and is willing that they shall be disrupted and disorganized.

These matters are mentioned merely to give the readers of this article an insight into our national military situation and in the hope that they may be sufficiently interested to pursue some inquiry of their own. No one can have failed to note that immediately after the National Guard troops were mobilized in June, the press of the country began to publish inspired articles to the effect that the result of the mobilization clearly indicated the absolute failure of the National Guard system as established under the new Federal law. Was it not a rather remarkable proposition that a mobilization occurring fifteen days after the law became effective should be said to have operated as a test of it. Why, even as yet the War Department has not published the regulations under which the law will become operative nor worked out the administrative details to the point where they can be prescribed. The failure of the National Guard in the mobilization was loudly proclaimed under Washington date lines; but, as the smoke clears away, we find that it was a rather remarkable performance, this of our army of citizen soldiers, and a feature that stands out clearly is, that, while on the day of the President's call

the total strength of the National Guard in the United States was approximately 134,000, and only about three-fourths of the existing organizations were called into the Federal service, in these, within a week after the issuance of the call, there were more than 160,000 men. It

is well to consider in the same connection that, although in December of 1915 Congress authorized the enlistment of twenty thousand more men for the Regular Army, to meet the requirements of border service, these have not as yet been secured, notwithstanding the special inducements offered and the elaborate provision for enlisting them, including the means employed to take them from the National Guard.

Other things stand out as lesfrom the mobilization among them the deliberate means employed to stop recruiting in the Guard by the means previously established and in which the State soldiers had been schooled since 1911. Another and impressive lesson was the total incompetency of the supply department of the Army to deal with the situation, and their inability to equip the men recruited above peace strength. This, although the contingency had been planned for and was specifically contemplated and provided for under existing War Department regulations. For this latter reason several hundred Florida soldiers slept on the ground for weeks and were without proper clothing or even blankets until these stores could be secured, little by little, from the Federal depots.

We Americans are naturally proud of all of our institutions. We are particularly proud of our Army and Navy, for they are representative of our national honor and dignity. Nothing should be said against the personnel of the Army; it is made up of average Americans—or perhaps, of those above the average—and as soldiers they are unequaled in any army in the world; but the sooner we wake up to the fact that the system, or lack

of system, in the army is woeful and spells inefficiency and weakness, the better it will be for the nation. No well-organized business corporation in the country could or would undertake to operate under

similar conditions, and the enforced subjection of hundreds of capable business men to service on the border in the National Guard under the conditions which this system imposes is going to have the effect of showing up many of its ridiculous defects.

LITTLE TALKS ABOUT PREPAREDNESS

By G. N. TRICOCHE, Late of the Artilery Staff, French Army.
No. 1.

O understand the value of preparedness, it is not necessary to be a strategist; it is not even necessary to be conversant with the military history of the whole world. Without going out of the American continent, one may easily find convincing instances of the dangers of "standpatism" in respect to national defense. Military institutions, which do not progress, deteriorate quickly, and soon become expensive "make-believes"and nothing else. One of the most striking examples of the peril of unpreparedness is found in a war which deserves to be better studied and more widely commented upon: the Nitrate War, between Chile and Peru. On one side we see Peru, who, in spite of the troubles she had had with Spain, had not thought it important to adopt a better military policy. Her ally, Bolivia, was unable to give her adequate assistance, for she, too, had relied on a protracted peace; at the time war broke out, she had only 1,500 Remington rifles, and scarcely any ammunition; the rest of the forces were supplied with old flint-lock muskets. On the other hand, Chile had no large army, but her personnel, man for man, was far superior to, and much better trained than either of her adversaries. Moreover, the Chileans had a better armament—especially as regards the artillery; army supplies had been gathered and accumulated at strategic points; for years Chile had been steadily strengthening her naval forces. There could be no doubt as to the outcome of the struggle. After the first disasters, when the Peruvian nation woke up to the realization of the national peril, it was too late.

"A decree was issued ordering every male resident in Lima between the ages of 16 and 60, of whatever trade, profession and calling, to join the army. Gay and thoughtless youth, students, idlers and the vicious were all brought together in the ranks under this order. It is easy to make such decrees, but a decree does not make an army. It takes months to create an efficient fighting force. However brave those Peruvians might be they were not trained in military service and they lacked the qualities of the seasoned Chilean army. . ."

The Peruvians fought with the courage of despair, but they could not escape their fate—and the heavy toll of unpreparedness.

Is not therein a good object lesson for you, Americans of the United States, for you have much wealth to be envied, like Peru—and also like Peru, no adequate preparation to defend it.

"Chile and Her People of Today," by N. O. Winter.

We have to put our house in order and improve our military system. If it is a part of our national creed that the country must depend upon its citizenry for defense, then, obviously, the citizenry is obligated to prepare itself to meet that responsibility. It is a responsibility which should not, and cannot properly, be delegated to the few, whether they be those who volunteer to assume it, or those who are paid and thus induced to assume it, or be conscripted and thus compelled to assume it. It is an obligation which should be shared.

There is nothing new about the proposition of universal military training. It is contemplated under our Constitution and was specifically provided for in our first military law, though in an inadequate way. But we must bring that about by an improvement in our national military system that will make it more democratic and not contrive to make this a nation of armed camps, as the President has said, but leave the manhood of the country free in the exercise of its civil pursuits but schooled and prepared for the service which the country may in emergency demand.

The National Guard took its name from the forces of Lafayette; from the citizen army of France. We might, with advantage, accept guidance from some other of our sister republics, and even again from the Army of France, for there is no other engaged in the great struggle abroad in which the spirit of democracy breathes more freely. Let us train our young men. It will be of inestimable advantage to them in after years, though they may never be called upon to shoulder a rifle; but let us do it in accordance with the ideals of our fore-

fathers, who themselves had felt the yoke of military oppression. Let us do it in a way that will insure the preservation of our institutions and the autonomy of the States.—The Tampa, Fla., Tribune.

Here's to the day—the glorious day
When I put my civvy clothes on;
When my khaki suit they take away,
And I put my civvy clothes on.
No more will a tin hat grace my head,
Or in Flanders mud I'll make my bed,
Or go sixteen in a loaf of bread,
When I put my civvy clothes on.

"WHEN I PUT MY CIVVY CLOTHES ON."

By Sergt. G. E. Attwood, 2d London Regt.

(From Territorial Service Gazette.)

A bomb won't bang where my coat tails hang,
When I put my civvy clothes on.
I shan't have to creep "on guard" from sleep,
When I put my civvy clothes on.
No more nights in the damp and drench,
Without any rum in the firing trench—
A terrible thirst I'm going to quench,
When I put my civvy clothes on.

No more "pick and shovel" parades,
When I put my civvy clothes on.
No patrols or bombing raids,
When I put my civvy clothes on,
No more with a pack half break my back,
Or the "enemy" make a flank attack,
Round my ribs, and up my back,
When I put my civvy clothes on.

No more will they shout to me "lights out!"

When I put my civvy clothes on.

No more will this "can" be orderly man,

When I put my civvy clothes on.

When the Blighty boat train comes my way,

To the Orderly Sergeant I can say—

!!—!!—!!—!!

When I put my civvy clothes on!



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Editor BRIG. GEN. FRED H. PHILLIPS, Jr., Secretary N. R. A.

> Associate Editor KENDRICK SCOFIELD

Communications. The Editor will be pleased to receive communications on timely topics from any authentic source. The correspondent's name and address must in all cases be given as an evidence of good faith, but will not be published if specially requested. Address all communications to ARMS AND THE MAN. Manuscript must be fully prepaid, and will not be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage.

Entered as second-class matter, April 1, 1908, at the post office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

That the man shall serve his country in time of war is noble, brave and patriotic; but that a man shall properly prepare himself in time of peace to serve in war is all of these things and more. It is noble with a nobility which is real, not ideal. It is brave with a bravery which assumes in time of unemotional peace many burdens, among them that of bearing the lack of appreciation of those who do not consider military preparation or training necessary.

THE COURTS AND THE ARMY.

Too much publicity cannot be given the fact that no man convicted of a felony can be accepted as a member of the United States forces.

Not so many weeks ago, according to press despatches, the authorities of Wichita, Kan., released a man who was facing a jail sentence for the theft of automobiles, upon the condition that he enlist in the Army. This is but one of many similar incidents which have received public notice during the past several years. The only justification which such a course of procedure might have would be ignorance of the law which closes the ranks of the united services to felons; and although the accused automobile thief might not fall into a criminal category, it is to be assumed that if the actual felon is excluded, the man who faces a jail sentence for an offense, and escapes by the alternative of enlisting, should also be barred from wearing the uniform of the United States.

As it chances, the wide-spread publicity, accompanied by a description of the accused automobile thief, resulted in his rejection when he presented himself before Capt. Robert John West, U. S. A., who is in charge of the Wichita recruiting station.

There was a time when the enlistment of such a man as the accused automobile thief might not have been a cause for so much concern; but today, when the government is doing all it can to popularize the fantry Journal, advocates the use of motion pictures for the instruc-Army and to make the service attractive to young men of principle and standing, the disposition of city officials to "pass along" undesirables via the enlistment route is discouraging. Fortunately in the Wichita instance, the recruiting officer, forewarned, was able to defeat the attempt of the undesirable to enlist. On many other occasions such might not be the case.

"CONSTRUCTIVE PATRIOTISM" AND THE RIFLEMAN.

During the past week, the Congress of Constructive Patriotism, at which delegates from patriotic and preparedness organizations throughout the country were in attendance, held its session in Washington, D. C.

The objects of the Congress-to foster love of country and build up resources of practical value in time of national stress-are worthy ones.

Hundreds of men whose names have nation-wide prestige appeared before the Congress and discussed the many and varied phases of

preparedness, including international relations, the Army, the Navy, Americanization, and the merchant marine, as well as industries, agriculture, railroads and labor, insofar as these subjects could be considered within the wide scope of the Congress.

Those who brought these matters of moment to the attention of the Congress included such men as former Secretaries of War Luke E. Wright and Henry L. Stimson, former Secretary of State Elihu Root, former Secretary of the Navy George Von L. Meyer, former Assistant Secretary of State Robert Bacon, and Theodore Roosevelt.

The messages which these men and others brought to the congress were patently rooted in wide experience and fostered by deep, conscientious thought. They should command the utmost respect.

Yet it remained for a few young men, whose names are unknown beyond the boundaries of the cities in which they live, to advance one of the most sane and practical of all the suggestions made during the sessions of the Congress.

These young men were members of civilian rifle clubs and they urged the preparedness and patriotic societies to support the rifle club movement. They know from actual experience with what enthusiasm the men and boys of the country are undertaking to perfect themselves as marksmen. They have also learned that an army which cannot shoot is worse than no army at all, and that unless rifles can be placed in the hands of men who know how to use them, all the preparedness legislation which Congress can enact will count for nothing.

These young men did not address the Congress. They wasted no energy in rhetorical effort. But through the entire duration of the sessions each one of them was busy getting into personal touch with influential delegates, so that many a man who knew of the civilian rifle club movement only vaguely when he came to Washington, is going back to his home imbued with a sense of the importance of having a rifle club in each city and village of the United States.

The Congress of Constructive Patriotism, and the organizations which are allied with it, can do nothing better than to get squarely behind the civilian club movement. This does not necessarily mean that other important constructive work should be neglected. The two should go hand in hand. Already many national defense organizations have taken up the rifle club idea, which has been fostered for the past half century by the National Rifle Association, and their example in backing up the work of the N. R. A. should be widely emulated.

Such a course would constitute patriotism of a very practical sort.

MOTION PICTURE TRAINING FOR TROOPS.

Capt. Edgar L. Field, U. S. A., in the current issue of the Intion of recruits.

Captain Field's idea is an excellent one. He points out that the instruction of large groups of untrained men calls for the services of a far greater number of instructors than can in time of stress be obtained, and for this reason the recruit often emerges from his initial schooling possessed only of a confused and often contradictory mass of ideas concerning the business of the soldier. Captain Field says:

"Our system of instruction is slow in producing results, because the minds of the student personnel are not approached through the sense which presents the clearest thought or picture to the brain. There is no comparison between the efficiency of the eye and the ear in conveying a message to the brain. An illustrated analysis of a subject presents a much clearer mental suggestion than a verbal analysis because the eye is a better cultivated and better educated organ than the

Captain Field believes that by the use of motion pictures a large group of recruits might be adequately trained through the exhibition of motion picture films, accompanied by comments through a megaphone from a single instructor. Military courtesy, the school of the soldier, the manual of arms, the school of the company, bayonet exercises, first aid, signalling and even field events might be taught by this method, in the opinion of the Captain.

That his conclusions are well-founded would seem to be supported by the results of a recent experiment along similar lines, made by the National Rifle Association.

Maj. William C. Harllee, U. S. M. C., pioneer in the idea of training schoolboys as rifle range operatives and small-arms coaches, more than a year ago conceived the idea of teaching range operation

through motion pictures. A film was staged at the Winthrop, Md., Rifle Range. It gives a remarkably comprehensive idea not only as to how the schoolboy can be trained as an efficient range attendant, but also how a big rifle range is operated. The exhibition of this film, accompanied by a lecture, before audiences of laymen has already resulted in materially fostering interest in the rifle-shooting game, and it is quite likely that the motion picture of Winthrop will be exhibited in many parts of the country where the gospel of rifle shooting is being preached.

A Home-made Range Telescope.

By R. W. REYNOLDS,

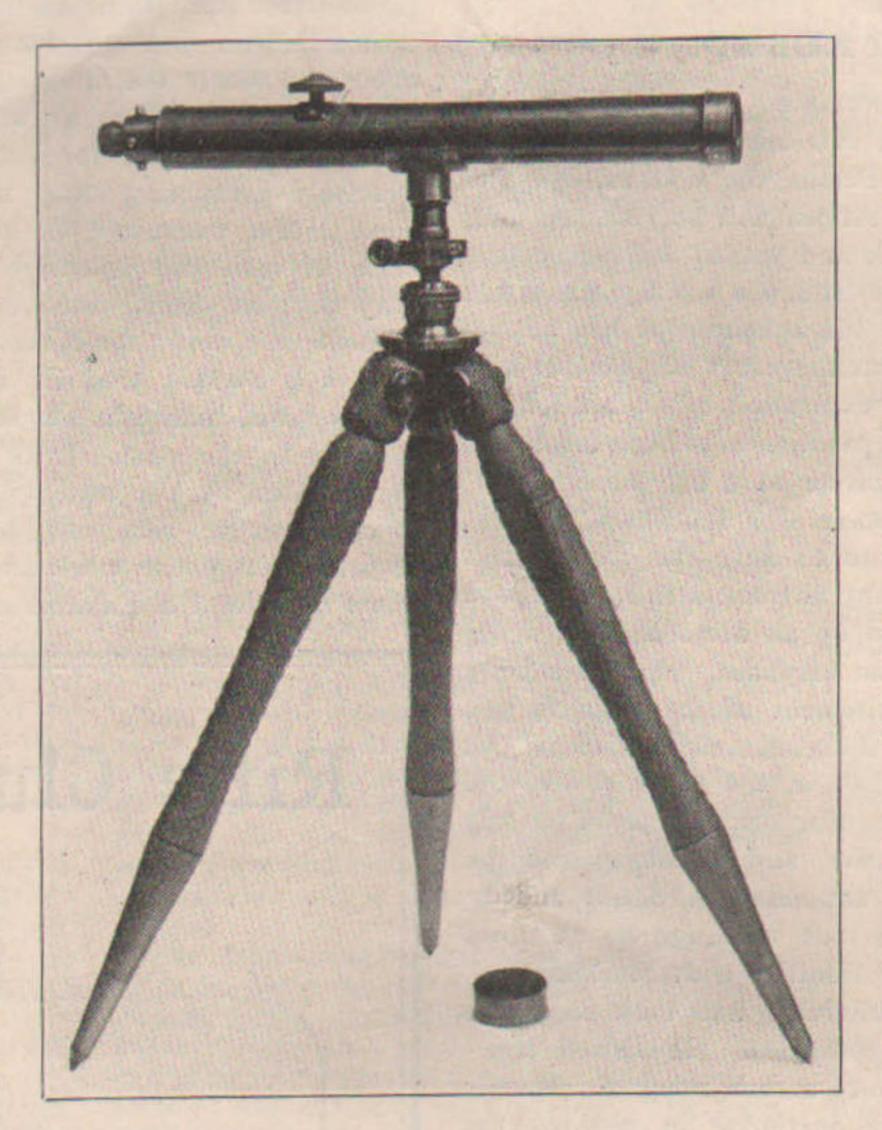
Executive Officer, Forest Service Rifle Club.

THE accompanying photograph shows a home-made range and gallery telescope which may be of interest to riflemen.

The telescope is an old Buff transit telescope of the No. 1 size. The tripod legs were turned out by a carpenter from maple, and oiled. The shoes on the legs were from an old compass tripod and are sharp enough to stand firmly on wood.

The ball and socket arrangement connecting the telescope with the tripod is of brass, and allows of easily detaching the telescope. It also permits of easy training on the work by pressure on the telescope, and has a clamp and tangent motion for use in the horizontal plane if desired.

The whole outfit weighs about four pounds and stands from 10 to 14 inches high, depending on how much the tripod legs are spread. The telescope has a magnifying power of about 28 diameters, with excellent definition and light. It is of the inverting type, showing the image



reversed, both up and down and sidewise, but this is no drawback after becoming a little accustomed to it.

At Winthrop on the 1,000-yard mark it gave an image apparently about twice as large as the big draw scopes used there, with fully equal definition and lighting.

The 1/4-inch black rings around the bull were seen with perfect distinctness.

In the gallery at 25 yards, .22 caliber holes in the black are viewed with ease, the white edges showing up instantly when the shot is fired. The white rings in the bull are distinct.

The loop of cord hanging under the tripod was formerly used to attach a plumb-bob, when the ball-and-socket was used by a surveyor. It was allowed to remain with the idea that in case of a strong wind on the range, a heavy weight could be hung on the loop, thereby decreasing vibration and liability to an upset.

Argentine System Successful.

Compute out most successfully, according to Col. Eduardo Raybaud, military attaché of the Argentine embassy here. Colonel Raybaud says that it is far superior to any volunteer system which has ever been tried and does not work the hardships attendant upon ordering out militia in time of impending trouble.

Argentina has had this cumpolsory system since 1901 and through it has trained an enormous number of able-bodied men to serve with the colors in time of war, for under the stringent physical examinations provided under the law a man with the slightest defect is excused from military service.

Such a system as now exists in the Argentine Republic can be worked in the United States, according to Colonel Raybaud, who says that the conditions in the two republics are similar.

There is growing interest in the United States in the Argentine system, and Colonel Raybaud is kept busy explaining the system to Army officers, heads of colleges, and others interested in establishing a sound military policy for the United States which would assure to the country a large force of trained men who could be called to the colors in time of war without the heavy annual expense of maintaining large forces always with the colors.

"Argentine, like the United States today," says Colonel Raybaud, "was faced with the problem of getting volunteers to enlist in the army. My country had the regular army and militia system now prevailing in the United States. Something had to be done, so in 1901, after Gen. Pablo Reichieu, senior general of the Argentine military forces and then secretary of war, had had personal interviews with every member of the Argentine legislature, he succeeded in having the present law, of which he is the author, passed, and it has worked successfully ever since."

The militia system was costly, he said, and, while the young men of the country were always willing to flock to the colors in time of need, it was not fair to them to take them away from their families for long periods of military training.

"There are so many men available under the present system that the government can be unusually liberal in making exemptions from military service and still continue training a very large force of men," said the colonel, whose son has served under the present compulsory system.

"Under the Argentine system the training starts in the schools when the boys reach 12 years. Until fifteen they learn drills, and at that age they take up the rifle and continue to practice with it until

twenty. Upon reaching this age their names are certified to the war office, and selections are made. Young men who are the main supports of their families are excused.

"The young men selected are required to serve with the colors for one year in the army and two years with the navy. The man does not make the selection of either force. The heads of the military departments say what branch of the service the man shall go in. After the one or two years of training the man passes to the first reserve, remaining until he is 30 years of age, and then he goes to the second reserve, which is supported by the states. At intervals he is required to participate in mancuvers and to continue rifle practice at the government ranges all over the country.

"At all times there are approximately 23,000 officers and men in the army and 10,000 officers and men in the navy. About 16,000 new men are selected every year. The remainder are volunteers, or what might be termed the professional soldiers, who have taken the military profession as a life's work. These men are the officers and noncommissioned officers who make up the training force for the new men who come in annually."—Army and Navy Register.

BIG GAME HUNTER KILLED.

THE Shooting Times and British Sportsman prints this account of the death of a famous hunter of African game:

"The intelligence that Mr. F. C. Selous, the famous big-game hunter, has been killed whilst fighting in Africa will be received with regret by sportsmen throughout the world, and yet all will agree that such an end amid the scenes of his former triumphs in tropical Africa seems to be fitting and to harmonize with the adventurous life he led. Selous was born in London in 1851, and was therefore 66 years of age. He was educated at Rugby, and upon the expiration of his schooldays he went to South Africa, where he obtained permission to hunt elephants for Lobengula, and thus commenced his career as a big-game hunter, pioneer, guide, and naturalist. He must have shot thousands of wild animals, and his hardy nature enabled him to defy the climate and withstand the attacks of fever. He had many narrow escapes, and bore on his face a deep scar which was caused by an accident with a big 4-bore elephant-gun. He had wounded an elephant, which suddenly charged, and his servant, who in the excitement of the moment had loaded the huge weapon, handed Selous the gun, and he fired. The recoil sent him flying, and cut a big gash in his right cheek, the scar of which he bore throughout his life. For some 20 years he was occupied in hunting elephants, lions, giraffes, and buffaloes, and the many varieties of big game which then abounded in South Africa. In three seasons he shot 78 elephants on foot, although he at times hunted them on horseback. He was very familiar with Mashonaland, Matabeleland, and the Zambesi district generally, and took an active part in the various expeditions to those countries. He visited Newfoundland, Alaska, and the Rockies, and once accompanied Mr. Roosevelt on a hunting expedition. We were fortunate in meeting the renowned hunter in Egypt a few years ago, when he was on his way to the Bahr-el-Ghazal in search of a rare eland for the Natural History Museum, and were much struck with his quiet, unassuming manner-so different from what one would expect of such a redoubtable hunter. When at home, Mr. Selous resided at Worplesdon, Surrey, where he took a lot of interest in the social life of the place, and was often to be seen actively engaged in cricket. In 1915 he joined the Royal Fusiliers as a second lieutenant, and obtained his captaincy last year when serving under General Smuts. In September, 1916, Captain Selous was mentioned in despatches and awarded the Companionship of the Distinguished Service Order: "For conspicuous gallantry, resource, and endurance. He has set a magnificent example to all ranks, and the value of his services with his battalion cannot be over-estimated."

MAJOR HENRY UNDERGOES AMPUTATION.

AJOR ROBERT S. HENRY, of Chattanooga, Tenn., a director of the National Rifle Association, a rifleman of many years experience, and the father of rifle practice in the Tennessee National Guard, has lost his left foot and the lower portion of his left leg as the result of an operation.

Major Henry, who is also the proprietor of the Target Supply Company, had been suffering for many months from an infection which followed an injury to his leg. Last August Dr. Henry sprained his ankle while bathing on the coast, and while at the time he did not consider the accident as very serious, infection developed that caused two surgical operations previous to the amputation.

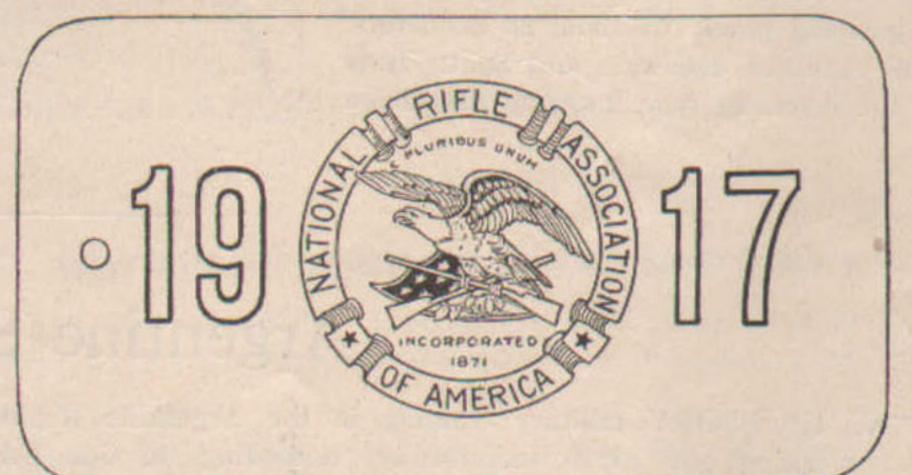
"N. W. M. P." BECOME MILITARY FORCE.

We question whether in the world's history there has ever been a more efficient or better trained body of men. Organized many years ago, when the North West territories became a part of Canada, they have a unique history. Had it not been for their vigilance, that lawlessness which so often characterizes a new country would have prevailed. Their work in many instances reads like a fairy tale, and there are some remarkable instances on record of crimes detected, and criminals hunted down who thought their misdeeds would never be detected or punished. One of their principal duties has been to enforce the prohibitory liquor law which was in force from the outset. By this means much crime has been prevented. The history of this efficient police force is one of the most fascinating on record.

But police duties fall within the jurisdiction of the provincial authorities. Before the western provinces were organized the territory was under direct federal control, and even after the provinces were given autonomy, owing to exceptional circumstances the mounted police continued to do duty there. But a change has now come. Before the war Manitoba organized its own police force, and now Saskatchewan and Alberta are to do the same. But this happily does not mean the blotting out of a force which has done such good work. On the contrary, it is to be recruited to full strength, and is to be utilized for military duty under the federal authorities. Precisely what that duty may be is not announced. The Strathcona Horse, recruited in the North West from among the same class of men did splendid service in the South African war. It may be that similar war service may be demanded now. A highly trained unit ready for instant service will, at all events, be available, and it is certain that in whatever sphere their future work may lie they will maintain the reputation for efficiency which they have enjoyed in the past. It is understood that boundary patrol work, necessitated by the war, will require their attention for the present.

So, on the 19th of January, this historic force was relieved of provincial police work and will devote its energies to the enforcement of federal ordinances and to war work.—The Military Gazette.

Rifle Club Membership Cards



THIS size and cut of membership card, seal and year tinted in rifle green, makes an attractive and valuable credential for club members when black print is used over the tint. Many rifle clubs used cards of this pattern in 1916. More should take advantage of their possibilities in 1917.

The cards are sold to rifle clubs at the low cost of \$1.00 the hundred.

ARMS AND THE MAN

WASHINGTON, D. C.

AT THE TARGETS!



Bowdoin Wins Close Match.

HEN the final score of the Bowdoin College Rifle Club team was chalked up at the conclusion of its match with the Androscoggin team of Lewiston, Me., January 9, the Bowdoin boys were victors by a single point. The totals stood 459 against 458, out of a possible 500. The team averages showed 91.8 for the victors against 91.6 for the defeated.

The victory of the Androscoggin riflemen seems due to consistent shooting, and two possibles, made by Philips M. Johnson and Rufus H. Tilson, in the prone stage. The course of fire called for ten-men teams, the five high scores to count, and ten shots each off-hand and prone.

The scores:

BOWDOIN.

Philip M. Johnson	47	50-97
Rufus M. Tilson	42.	50-92
Richard T. Schlosberg	43	49-92
Edwin C. Call	41	48_89
Julian E. Gray	41	48—89
Team total		459

The team scores of the other shooting members, not in the high five, were: Edwin H. Ellms, 89; Marshall W. Hurlin, 88; Lewis A. Burleigh, Jr., 86; Milcs E. Langley, 86, and N. U. McConaughy, 84.

ANDROSCOGGIN.

G. Whitney 4	7 48—95
R. Whitehouse	4 47—93
J. Coburn 4	4 47-91
E. Delano 4	2 48-90
H. Edwards 4	4 45-89
	_
Team total	458

The total scores of the other five men on the Lewiston team follow: P. Pottle, 89; J. White, 89; C. Robinson, 88; E. K. Bly, 88, and G. Estes, 87.

Holds Initial Contest.

Sunny California weather contributed a clear cloudless day as its share for the enjoyment of the sixty members of Pacific Service Rifle Club, of San Francisco, who appeared at the Manzanita State Range in Marin County just across the bay from San Francisco on December 17, 1916. It was the Club's first shoot with the 32 new Krags, just received from Benecia Arsenal and resulting scores made a good showing, considering the fact that the setting on the 1896 model of rear sights made it necessary to hold at "5 o'clock" at the outer part of the 3 ring to get into the black on the 200 yard range.

The course selected was the marksman's course recommended by the National Rifle Association and of those who finished 19 qualified-a creditable showing under the existing conditions. The following men qualified and are looking forward for a chance to "go up another step" and claim the sharpshooter medal.

	S.F. M.F. Tl.
G. H. Canfield	. 92 89—181
R A. Monroe	. 80 90-170
W B Mel	. 98 /8-1/0
A M Teppeson	. 81 8/-108
Guy A Barker	. 80 88-108
I. B. Stein	. 83 77—160

I. C. Steele	93	66-159
S. E. Carpenter	78	78-156
E. N. Murphy	84	71-155
L. C. McCallen	85	68-153
M. F. Campbell	78	75-153
G. C. Hart	85	67-152
E. J. Gorman	75	76-151
H. C. Vensano	State and	76-151
C. W. Langford		63-151
C. L. Hornberger	68	82-150
J. Hamilton	78	72-150
G. M. Thomas	82	68-150
S. P. Lavezo	The second second	75-147

Benecia Arsenal is now fitting out the rifles with the 1902 model rear sights and with front sights to correspond. With the proper sight setting the Club expects to give a good account of itself and an active season is planned for 1917.

The Pacific Service Rifle Club is composed of 170 employes of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

W. B. Mel.

Clinton Fires First of Series.

By hanging up a score of 2,392 out of a possible 3,000 points, the Clinton, Massachusetts, Rifle Club team has completed its record for Match No. 2 in the Massachusetts State Association series which will run, during three periods between December 4 and April 7.

There are six different matches in the program, but the Clinton club is only competing in one, which is Match No. 2. This calls for a five-man team, shooting prone at a distance of 25 yards with 50 shots for each man, each period. A prize is to be awarded the team making the highest total score for each period. As with all indoor shooting, a .22-caliber rifle is used.

The team which represented the Clinton Club is made up of Lawrence F. O'Toole, Joseph Craig, Franklin Palmer, Dr. W. S. Plaskett (captain), and Carl P. Mixer. Mr. Mixer is the high man of the team, with a total of 487 out of a possible 600. The team total is 2,392 out of a possible 3,000.

The team score of the local club is as follows:

Carl P. Mixer, 487; Joseph Craig, 485; Dr. W. S. Plaskett, 483; Franklin Palmer, 477; Lawrence F. O'Toole, 460.

Stuyvesant Wins Title.

Stuyvesant High School sharpshooters won title to the sub-target championship of Greater New York, in a closely contested match with the Erasmus Rifle Team on the DeWitt-Clinton Range, January 13. At the conclusion of the match the scores stood 273 to 269.

This match was the third and deciding one of a series, the previous two having been divided by the schools. The second team of Erasmus annexed the championship of the Greater City by defeating the Stuyvesant seconds by one point in the aggregate totals, the third match having ended in a tie.

The Erasmus lads grew nervous as the time for the third match approached, and when it arrived they blew up. It would have taken remarkable shooting by the Brooklyn champions to win, as three of the eight Stuyvesant boys made perfect scores of 35. Last year Erasmus won the city title by defeating Curtis.

The first match of the series of three was won by Stuyvesant, 268 to 248. The second went to Erasmus, 268 to 267. Erasmus expected to win the third, but failed to strike its best form.

Fred Marsh, anchor man for the Stuyvesant forces, shot a perfect 35 in the final match, as did Kransdorf and Trapparo. The showing of the last named, however, was the feature, as he completed his shots within two minutes, whereas three minutes are allowed. In the last match, six of the eight Erasmus boys came within one shot of perfect scores, making 34. Duncan, however, made a 32, and Liebert a 33.

The second Erasmus team's work was excellent. It lost its first match, 164 to 161, but captured the second, 164 to 160, and then tied with Stuyvesant on the third at 162. The aggregate scores, 487 and 486, gave victory to the Erasmus second team. The scores:

FIRST TEAM MATCH.

ERASMUS.

Duncan	26 34	32- 92
Brownell	34 33	34-101
Radus	19 35	34-88
Alexander	35 32	34-101
Wiltsey	35 34	34-103
Abel	34 35	34-103
Grout	33 33	34-100
Leibert	32 32	33- 97

Totals 248 268 269

STUYVESANT.

Reutershan 34	34	33-101
Harvey 31		
Levin 33	34	34-101
Tapparo 34		35-102
Gerish 35	35	34-104
Gluck 35		
Kransdorf 33		
Marsh 33	33	35-101
The state of the s	-	

Totals 268 267 273

SECOND TEAM MATCH. ERASMUS.

Kellly					*	*						32	32	31-	- 95
Edwards												29	32	31-	- 92
De Pew												32	31	32-	- 95
Wahlers	i,											34	34	34-	-102
Briggs												34	35	34-	-103
Totale												161	164	169	

STUYVESANT.

Rosenfeld					×			34	31	31-96
Devine								30	31	34- 95
Werdenschlang	*							34	32	33- 99
Kransdorf										
Ressler								34	33	33—100
Totals								164	160	163

Aggregate scores.—Erasmus, 487; Stuyvesant, 486.

Boston Shoots First N. R. A. Stage.

The first stage of the N. R. A. match has been shot by the Boston Rifle and Revolver Club and a score of 982 turned in, the average of the five high men being 196.4.

Commenting upon the club activities, one

of the members says:

"The first week's shooting created considerable interest. Practically all the boys are putting on telescope sights and arguments run high as to what power is best, whether cross-hairs, post or aperture is the easiest sighting device and how to get parallax out of a glass. Some of those who are troubled most by the latter a few weeks ago didn't know whether parallax was a term used in higher mathematics or something you buy at a drug store.

"The first total was not as high as most of the shooters thought it would be, but still was fair for a start. The average scores all over the country will probably be much higher than in other years, but it don't seem as if the scores of the winning teams could be much better. This year's match ought to conclusively prove how much the difference in sights amounts to. The first week's score:

Captain M	1	C	1	1	le	26	21														197
Marshall																					197
Nash					-			,													196
Natale .																					196
Standish																					196
Bruce																					
Bennett																					
Partridge																					
Kelly																					
Gibbons																					

"One of the old-timers is slipping, and, like all 'once-wasers,' he doesn't like to admit it. Owing to the presence of a primer scar in his right eye he learned to shoot prone lefthanded last year and did very well. This year he has a new rifle, a Winchester barrel with a 14-inch twist, chambered for the long rifle, in a Remington action. There have been many complaints about the .22 long rifle cartridges this year and he has been blaming his poor work on the ammunition. Recently he was trying out a kind that has given fine results with everyone who has used it, and it took the 9-ring to hold his groups. After listening to his complaints, Natale, who was shooting alongside him, said, 'Let me try them.' The box was passed over and the kid (he has only been playing this game a few months) put ten consecutive in the 10-ring, the last six being in one hole, almost in the exact center.

"The veteran didn't have much to say, but tried them again the next day. Same result-wouldn't group. This time he expressed himself to the effect that the 14-inch twist probably wasn't handling them right. (His is the only 14-inch twist in the gallery.) Marshall was shooting alongside of him this time, and he said, 'Give me your rifle and cartridges and let me try a string.' The outfit was handed over and Marshall shot two 10-shot groups that a dime would have covered. There was no getting away from this and the old-timer admitted that: 'I guess it must be me.' Whereupon Fitzgerald rushed over and shook him warmly by the hand, saying, 'I'm glad to hear one man at last own up that he's to blame when he doesn't get all tens.'

"With a smile, came the reply, 'Been playing this game too long to be able to fool myself any more.'"

Harrison Still High.

W. C. Harrison still holds high score of 196 in the District of Columbia Rifle Association, Indoor Small Bore Matches. The results for the week ending January 25, 1917 are:

Prone	
H. J. Rush	194
A. Winter	193
G. B. Cornwell	193
A. Coltman	193
E. A. Strachen	193
Mid Position	
A. Winter	193
W. R. Stokes	189
G. B. Cornwell	186
H. Kniep	175
Standing Off-Hand	
G. E. Cook	173
W. A. Boyd	151
Pistol Match	
J. C. Bunn	188
G. E. Cook	185
The highest scores made since the begins of matches are:	
W. C. Harrison, prone	196
W. R. Stokes, mid-position	
W. R. Stokes, standing off-hand	182
Pistol Match	
J. C. Bunn	188

Buss High at Zettler Club.

These scores were made on January 23, at the Zettler Rifle Club, New York City. In the course of fire which called for five 10shot strings at 75 feet, no sighting shots, possible 1250, L. C. Buss made the high total of 1236. The scores:

A.	Bergerow	230	227	237	230	237—1161
L.	C. Buss	247	246	248	247	248-1236
F.	Hocking	237	230	237	227	230—1161
G.	Schlicht	243	236	238	242	239—1198
J.	E. Ward	209	231	238	239	225—1152
B.	Zettler	227	238	231	227	238—1162
C.	Zettler	247	239	240	243	246—1215
G.	Bergman	241	239	240	241	237—1198
W.	A. Strawson	229	220	228	226	236—1139
	Hucls					
E.	Kogler	244	240	242	236	242—1204

Ricochets.

A. R. Sammons and Thomas L. McMurray of the Marion, Ohio, Rifle Club have qualified as expert riflemen with scores 223 and 234, respectively.

The Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, Rifle Club reports seven qualifications, one marksman, two sharpshooter and four expert. The expert scores are: G. M. Lewis, 212; H. H. Martin, 232; D. B. Litchard, 211, and B. F. Francis, 211.

Four qualifications, one sharpshooter and three marksman, have been reported by the Manchester, New Hampshire, Rifle Club.

Six expert and one marksman scores have been reported by the Gallatin, Montana, Rifle Club. The scores of the experts are: Albert Kreguer, 162; Nelson Story, Jr., 158; Joe Robins, 155; Fred Homann, 161; Albert Schlechten, 169; Clark Wright, 160.

The Rishford, Minnesota, Rifle Club reports two marksman and one sharpshooter qualifications.

Four marksman, three sharpshooter and four expert qualifications have been turned in by the Jefferson Rifle Club of Birmingham, Ala. The scores of those making expert grades are:

Malvin F. Jones, 228; A. F. de Funiak, 222; R. V. Mabry, 219; G. C. Huff, 211.

The Campbell, Missouri, Rifle Club has reported five expert and one sharpshooter qualifications. The expert scores are:

J. H. Matthews, 144; J. L. Geer, 149; H. V. Merritt, 143; B. H. Smith, 152; Dr. John Hess, 165.

Twelve marksman qualifications are reported by the Cuba, Kansas, Rifle Club.

The Oakland, California, Rifle Club has reported five marksman, four sharpshooter and three expert qualifications. The expert scores are: F. O. Hanchett, 173; S. E. Rowland, 178; C. W. Cox, 177.

Three marksman and four sharpshooter scores have been made by the Antioch, Illinois, Rifle Club.

Five qualifications, one an expert, have been reported by the Chicago, Illinois, Rifle Club. D. E. Moore made the expert class with a score of 222.

The Lockhart, Texas, Rifle Club has reported five marksman and four sharpshooter qualifications.

Four members of the Krum, Texas, Rifle Club have qualified as marksmen.

These members of the Lakewood, New Jersey, Rifle Club have qualified as expert riflemen:

Walter Claxton, 290: Harry Reid, 270; L. Hagaman, 268, and Lieut. C. O. Kayser, 315.

Of nine qualifications reported by the Concord, New Hampshire, Rifle Club, seven were marksman and two expert. The expert scores were: R. E. Marston, 72, and C. T. Martin, 68.

Seventeen qualifications have been reported by the Red Bank, New Jersey, Rifle Olub. Of these six were marksman, two sharpshooter and nine expert. The expent scores are:

A. B. Colby, 215; M. L. Brown, 236; H. W. La Fetra, 219; B. E. Failing, 218; F. W. Hope, 212; A. H. Gaskill, 210; R. B. Wilson, 210; G. E. Hickey, 210; G. A. Hogan, 210.

The Capron Camp, U. S. W. V., Rifle Club of Illinois has reported seven sharpshooter qualifications.

On November 26 the Jennings, Missouri, Rifle Club fired the Members' Match, fifteen members taking part. Charles E. Hobbs was the winner, score 119.

These members of the Waterville, Maine, Rifle Club have qualified:

Marksman: T. A. Gilman, 186.
Experts: Carroll Butterfield, 216; Fred Soper, 220; Forrest Coose, 220; Harry Bickford, 213; I. E. Thomas, 222.

Four expert qualifications are among nine qualifications reported by the Brattleboro, Vermont, Rifle Club. They are:
Fred Hiscock, 140; G. A. Metcalf, 140; P. T. Clapp, 149; Dana Stafford, 140.

The First Missouri Infantry Rifle Club has reported thirteen qualifications, of which eleven are expert with the following scores: William McMahon, 227; J. J. Koch, 223; George Skinner, 222; F. J. Carmack, 222; William Kayser, 221; J. J. McMahon, 220; B. K. Todd, 216; G. A. Bilsbarrow, 215; H. Wolfe, 214; E. J. McMahon, 214; George Reeves, 212.

Six marksman and one sharpshooter scores have been reported by the Princeton, Indiana, Rifle Club.

R. B. Dayton of the Army and Navy Union Rifle Club, Washington, D. C., has qualified under the indoor re-entry course as a marksman with a score of 183.

Six members of the McKinley Manual Training High School Rifle Club of the District of Columbia have qualified on the indoor range as junior marksmen.

Report of twenty-four outdoor junior marksman qualifications has been received from the Harvard School of California.

The Montpelier, Ohio, Rifle Club fired the Members' Match on November 30, with fifteen members competing. The winner was L. L. Boone, score 111.

Joseph F. Galloway won the Members' Match fired by the Duquesne-Penn Rifle Club of Duquesne, Pa., on October 21. Eleven members took part and Mr. Galloway's score was 132. Four sharpshooter and one marksman qualifications have been reported by this club.

The First Missouri Infantry Rifle Club shot the Members' Match on November 26. Thirteen members took part and the winner was William McMahon with a score of 138.

A. Rowland won the Members' Match of the Oakland, California, Rifle Club, shot November 5. Twenty members took part. His score was 142.

Qualification as expert rifleman has been attained by T. E. Bunding of the Mount City Rifle Club of St. Louis, Mo., with a score of 155.

The Kenwood, Iowa, Rifle Club shot the Members' Match on October 29, with eleven members competing. Fred Hofstetter won it with a score of 98.

Off Hand From the Clubs.

"Main Line" Trains Hundreds to Shoot.

TT is estimated that upon the ranges of the Main Line, Pennsylvania, Rifle Club, 469 men and boys have received expert musketry instruction since the beginning of last summer. The enrolled membership of the club is now nearly 500, and more than 3,000 entries have been made in the range books which shows how regularly the Main Line Boys turn out.

The Main Line Rifle Club was organized on the 25th of last March for the purpose of teaching the use of the army rifle to ablebodied citizens living along the Main Line of the Pennsylvania Railroad between Downington and Philadelphia. By June, indoor ranges had been established at Wayne and Bryn Mawr, followed shortly by one at Merion. Capt. John C. Dillon, late of the 6th Pennsylvania Infantry, was secured as Musketry Instructor. During the short period that has elapsed since the starting of the club, rather a remarkable record of success has been attained. In fact, the attention of the War Department has been favorably attracted by the work already done. The following figures will come as a surprise to those who are un-

aware of this organization. The average attendance at Wayne has risen from thirteen to fifteen men cach day of the week. At Bryn Mawr, it is somewhat less. Merion, the newest range, is rapidly coming to the forc. In addition to the regular members of the club, special matches and instruction are arranged for ladies and boys over fourteen. The ranges are fitted out with firing ports for off-hand work and shooting from the bag, while sliding beds can be drawn from beneath the ports when the prone position is to be used. The three regulation positions of off-hand, kneeling and prone are required in all matches. Each month there is held a Members' Match for the seven best registered scores of each range. The five highest shots of each range are then chosen as a team to meet the best five men from the other ranges in a Monthly Inter-Group Match. Scores so far attained are remarkable in view of the fact that most of the men had never handled a service gun before joining this club, last summer, In the November Members' Match, the high gun was 324 out of a possible 350. Small wonder the War Department is pleased at the work being done by this organi-

zation. Hopes of an outdoor range are bright. Before very long, it is expected the Main Line Rifle Club will be in a position greatly to enlarge its scope. At present, the aim is simply to train as many men as possible how to shoot a service gun and to do this at the least expense to them. For a nominal membership fee, each man is given free use of the ranges, unlimited ammunition and expert instruction. Among those most active in support of the club are: Capt. E. B. Cassat, president of the organization, Mr. Francis G. Okie, Mr. Horace B. Hare, Mr. H. O. Garber and others. The value of this club in the cause of preparedness cannot be overestimated. It is to be hoped the membership and patronage will rapidly increase, as the public begins to realize the significance and importance of the club's work, the extraordinary results so far accomplished and the many advantages put at the disposal of its members.

Clifton Lisle.

Additional Clubs Enter.

Six civilian and three college rifle clubs have entered the Indoor Gallery matches of the N. R. A., since the first list was published. This brings the total entries to 186 teams.

The late entries include:

Civilian Clubs. Danbury, Conn., Rifle Club. Dayton Civilian Rifle Club, Ohio. Louisville National Rifle Club, Ky. Olympic Pistol and Rifle Club, Cal. Varnum Continentals Rifle Assn., East Greenwich, R. I. Rifle and Revolver Club of New York.

College Clubs.

Princeton University, N. J. Ohio State University, Columbus. University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

To Install Telephones.

A telephone system will be installed on the range of the Gallup, New Mexico, Rifle Club. For the purpose of defraying this expense, and for keeping the range in shape, the Club voted a small assessment on each member when the annual meeting was held January 12. The club expects to resume outdoor practice within the coming month.

Officers named at the annual meeting are: Dr. A. C. Pratt, president; Carl R. Rhodes, vice-president; N. C. Apple, secretary; T. J. Morey, treasurer and D. A. Young, executive officer.

The club is endeavoring to form a number of teams for competition within the membership of the club.

Andover Elects Officers.

The annual meeting of the Andover, Massachusetts, Citizens' Rifle Club was held on Saturday evening, January 6, in the hall of the R. C. O. A. Club.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8 o'clock, and Harry Sellars was appointed secretary pro tem. Reports of the secretary, treasurer and executive officer were read and approved.

These officers were elected for the year: William H. Foster, president; Dr. Hiland F. Holt, vice-president; Theodore L. Dodge, secretary; Kenneth Foster, treasurer; Floyd W. Eastman, executive officer.

The members of the club are urged to attend rifle practice at Pearson Hall, which is held every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. The club now has a membership of 43, and if every member will make a serious effort to attend rifle practice, the club will be a success.

INQUIRIES OF GENERAL INTEREST

In this column will appear excerpts from requests for information and for official interpretations, made to the National Rifle Association, the replies to which may be of a generally informative nature.

Q. What is the difference between the old pinfire method of ignition and the percussion cap?

A. Pinfire cartridges were made of metal and contained the priming mixture and the bullet and powder. A metal pin was fitted in the side of the rear end of the cartridge touching the priming mixture. When the hammer fell it drove this little metal pin into the primer and thus caused the cartridge to go off. Percussion caps were used with weapons that loaded the powder and bullet separately. Pinfire cartridges were a later development.

O. What is the most suitable rifle for shooting fish? I have a very high velocity rifle at present but the bullets seem to go to pieces when they strike the water.

A. The effect you observe is produced when

any very high velocity rifle is used. The most satisfactory rifle for such work is one handling either the 25-35 cartridge or the 25 Rem. The problem is of course, to get a rifle of small caliber with sufficient velocity to give penetration and at the same time not sufficient speed to cause the breaking up of the bullet when it strikes the water. Full metal cased bullets should be used.

Q. For very fine target shooting is it best to have a peep sight with a small hole in it or is it better to have one with a fairly large

opening? A. From a theoretical point of view, the smaller the peep, the finer the sighting which can be done, but the trouble is that if the aperture is too small the accuracy falls off because of the difficulty of properly seeing the front sight and the bull's-eye. If you can call your shots, that is, tell where they have hit before you look at the target, the peep sight you have is small enough.

Q. How are purchases of the army auto-

matic pistol made?

A. The army automatic pistol may be purchased only by rifle clubs or by individuals who have qualified as sharpshooters or expert riflemen. When a club wishes to purchas a pistol the same process as that in purchasing a rifle is used.

Sighting Shots.

The Mount Vernon, New York, Rifle and Revolver Club is negotiating for a range site which will permit shooting up to 500 yards. The membership is at present 104. At the annual meeting, January 8, these officers were elected: President, J. D. Kent; vicepresident, H. E. Lauburger; secretary, O. G. Schmidt; treasurer, A. D. Stone, and executive officer, A. Jenks, Jr.

Sergt. J. E. Givans, who is N. R. A. judge for the Baltimore City College, will act in a similar capacity for the Boys' Latin School Club, of that city.

Sixteen of the thirty members of the Brooklyn, New York, Rifle Club were present at the election of officers on January 3, which resulted in naming Charles Gebhard, president; J. R. Vanderputten, vice-president; Charles Drechel, secretary, and H. L. Bum, treasurer. The club has a 75-foot, indoor, electrically lighted, indoor rifle and pistol range, and a 200-yard range with four targets for outdoor practice. The club uses the State range for qualification work.

Fred C. Powers has been elected president; Ernest Valley, vice-president; Walter Balch, secretary, and Henry M. Silsby, secretary of the Lunenburg, Vermont, Rifle Club.

One of the oldest active sportsmen in New York State, William H. Cruttenden, has been selected as N. R. A. judge to supervise the indoor shooting of the Cazenovia, New York, Rifle Club.

Dr. Harvey S. DeWitt has been named president; Arthur B. Soder, vice-president; Dr. Arthur S. Moore, secretary; William A. Willetts, treasurer, and Emerson H. Rose, executive officer, of the Middletown, New York, Rifle Club.

At the annual meeting of the Canton, Ohio, Rifle and Pistol Club, held January 4, F. Swartz was named president; W. C. Lightfoot, vice-president; W. K. Perdue, secretary and treasurer.

E. J. Siegrist, of Concrete, Wash., an optometrist, who is also an enthusiastic rifleman, is experimenting to the end of developing a rear sight for the service rifle for the benefit of men with astigmatic or imperfect vision.

B. L. Hawkins, of the Miami Rifle Club, Cincinnati, is also experimenting with a new form of telescopic sight for the Springfield. He plans to make it a 4-power scope of universal focus.

The indoor range of the Glendale, Ohio, Rifle Club has its targets and firing points in separate buildings, connected by tunnels, one 22 inches square and the other 18 inches in diameter.

At the annual meeting of the club, held January 3, H. C. Scott was elected president; B. T. Wright, vice-president; G. G. Black, secretary, and William Lian, treasurer.

The Armored Motor Squad Rifle Club, of Detroit, Mich., has been absorbed by the Detroit Military Training Organization Rifle Club.

These officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Kenwood, Iowa, Rifle Club, held January 4: John Boettger, president; James Graham, vice-president; Fred Hofstetter, secretary, and M. D. Mahoney, treasurer.

"Retrospect and Futurition."

By C. T. Patterson.

Webster says these words mean looking back or reviewing past events and looking forward or day dreaming. Yep, I looked her up.

In the December 14 issue of ARMS AND THE MAN the editor saw fit to print an article that I had written criticising the Springfield and setting forth some of my ideas of what principles should apply when our new military rifle is designed.

When I wrote the above-mentioned article, there were two things I wanted to accomplish: one was to get rid of a lot of surplus criticism that was festering in my system and the other was to start a discussion that would show what the users of the Springfield thought of it and what changes they would recommend in our sometime new rifle; both selfish motives maybe, as the former made me feel better and as for the latter, I sometimes do a little gunsmithing and use the other fellow's idea and perhaps the designers of our new rifle could do the same to the everlasting gratitude of thousands of shooters and the honor of the nation.

This article is not written to retract anything I said in the former article despite the fact that there are many who will not agree as Mr. Freeman in the December 28 issue in which he blames the shooter if he gets bumped. Of course he's to blame, had no business to shoot it; but the fact remains that there are thousands who do shoot it and also get bumped.

I believe Mr. Freeman missed the idea that I tried to express. Maybe I didn't make it very plain, so here it is again—that a properly designed stock will permit of the majority of men to pick up a gun and start shooting without danger of acquiring a lot of bruises or being a long time learning just how to hold so as not to acquire them. This is manifestly not true of the Springfield and it is true that many will never learn or will never be able to hold without getting walloped; else how comes it that men who have shot thousands of rounds still get bumps? Attend any shoot and have a look.

Mr. Freeman claims that with the proper hold you'll not get hurt. I never said that you would as I can take the Springfield and by taking time to adjust the various portions of my anatomy and to harness them up just right, do a lot of shooting and not get hurt; or I can also do as I have seen many good riflemen do—pick it up and do a little rapid fire and get bruised up considerably.

I can also take a rifle with a properly designed stock with twice the recoil and do just as much or more shooting and not get hurt at all.

Ordnance Department and the stuff they turn out, but will surely lose some of it if they ever come out with a new rine with a stock like that of the present service arm, as they know well that it is too short, and that the comb is too low and so far back as to be of no use whatever.

If we can furnish the "rookie" with a rifle that he can start to learn to shoot with instead of spending a lot of time learning how to not it so as not to get hurt, it's high time we did so.

Here are a few questions that answered might throw some light on the subject:

Why is it that so many shooters after obtaining a military rifle have new stocks applied? Why did Germany and Canada adopt a

Why did the Koss Kifle Company experts send to some of our gunsmiths and ask for the most popular stock pattern and then apply

Why has the Savage Arms Company changed the design of the stocks on the Savage Riffes! Think it over.

Tis true the above questions apply mostly to sporting arms but is not the sportsman's and the soldier's object the same? to hit what they aim at?

Nope! never said the Springfield was a back number or a "has been" but she's growing and let's not wait until she is, and a new rine issued, and then say: "why I never thought of that." Don't wait for "George to do it," but grab your pen and tell just what you want and if the ordnance board does not give it you, it will not be your fault it you have to shoot a rifle that shows it has a grudge against you instead of the fellow you

are aiming at. There are a lot of things I would like to see in this new arm, when she comes out besides a good stock. Receiver sight for one. There is not a lick of sense in saying that a receiver sight that is entirely practical cannot be applied to a military arm and the value of such a sight has been proven beyond question. the pistol grip is coming into its own, and the caliber is undoubtedly working out to a certain figure which is going to soon land us somewhere around the 270 mark. The oval bore is receiving considerable attention and no doubt will soon show its superiority over the land and groove system, it certainly has one immense advantage—that of easy cleaning.

The automatic type of action has hardly won its spurs yet, at least in military service so we will not discuss that now but stick to the old reliable bolt; but if we are going to put the skids under the velocity and boost her way up we will have to make some marked changes in design.

Newton and Ross undoubtedly have the right idea as regards locking lugs, only I would like to see the principle of cutting lug races and locking lugs in the breech of barrel instead of in receiver given a thousand tryouts. The only reason I don't try it is the scarcity of the necessary long green but ideas cost nothing and if this one is any good use it. You're welcome.

Dr. Mann has given us a firing pin that takes care of the primer under any old pressure and Newton has given us something new in the location of the gas escape vent. Maybe a little investigation of this feature would throw some light on so many blown up Springfields. Methinks so.

Mr. Du Pont continues to improve the powder and also the velocity obtainable with a given pressure and with our increased strength of action who knows where the velocity will go, the higher the better. Recoil will stop you, you say; not much for with the new stock of proper design we are not going to worry about recoil twice or three times as heavy provided the ordnance department don't forget to grind the sharp corners off that butt plate. She'll be some gun!

Whisper it gently, the ordnance department is experimenting with the Nash receiver sight. Glory be! only why confine the experiments to the navy; don't the landlubber get a peep? Hope they do.

Qualifying Scores Win Watch Fobs



BRONZE and silverplated watch fob medals are offered by the N.R.A. for proficiency in indoor, smallbore shooting.

A score of 85 standing and 90 prone entitles the rifleman to the marksman's bronze decoration.

A score of 90 standing and 95 prone wins the sharpshooter's silver-plated decoration.

Ten shots are fired from each position, with a rifle weighing not more than 10 pounds and equipped with any sight which does not contain glass. The distances are 50 feet or 75 feet as desired.

The shooting must be done on registered targets which can be obtained at a cost of 20 cents for each target. In ordering, specify whether for prone or standing position, and the distance desired. Address

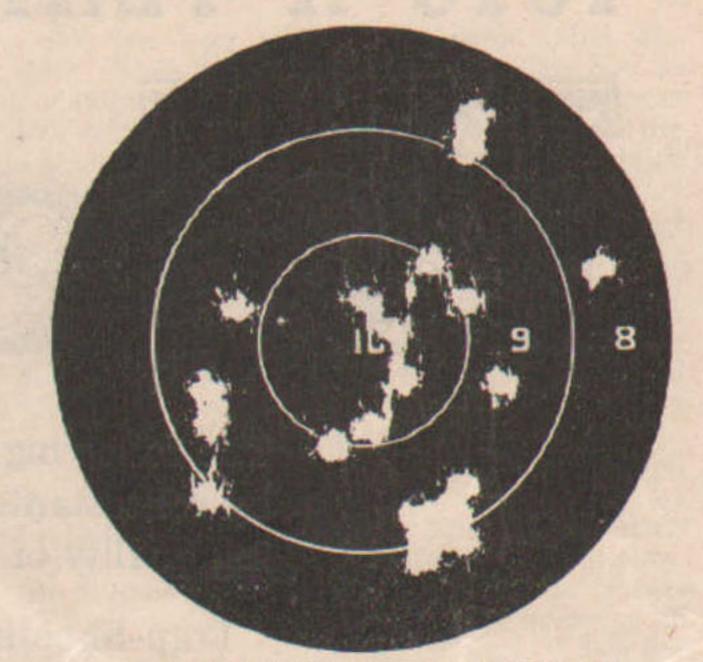
The Secretary of the
National Rifle Association
1108 Woodward Bldg., Washington, D. C.
of America



-REVOLVER-AND-PISTOL



J. C. BUNN'S TARGET, TOTAL 188.



DR. G. E. COOK'S TARGET, TOTAL 185.

"Near Possibles" At Boston Shoot.

OME odd things happen at times in the shooting game, as all will admit who have followed it for any length of time, and one of the most unusual freaks cropped up during the shooting of Matches 7 and 8 of the U.S.R.A. League series by the Boston Rifle and Revolver Club.

Ned Fennel, in shooting his 6 targets, put the first four shots of three of his strings within the 10-ring, having a possible well in sight when he undertook to fire the last shot. But the fifth shot of each of the strings proved his undoing, the last shot of the first string pulling a 7, that of the second an 8 and that in the third a 9.

The Boston Rifle and Revolver Club team seems to be shooting a fairly good average, as the scores in Matches 7, 8, 9 and 10 will show.

	Seven	Eight	Nine	Ten
Taylor	135	133	136	136
Marshall		123	134	130
Gerrish	100	131	114	132
Kinsley	100	127	134	126
Fitzgerald	400	125		***
Hosmer	4 12 4	130		
Fennell	4 4 4	138	135	132
Dr. Bastey	100	137	139	133
Chapman	4.4.73	114		
			121	119
Dr. Miner Nash			124	142
Team totals	. 667	669	678	675

Wolf Shoots with Left Hand.

Having sustained a fracture of his right arm while cranking an automobile, Walter Wolf, one of the Chicago Revolver Club team, was forced to shoot his scores in two matches of the U.S. R. A. series with his left hand, when that club met January 11. The first match was against Toledo; the second against Decatur. The matches each called for three five-shot scores, with a possible of 150, on the Standard target, at 20 yards, with either pistol or revolver. The scores were:

AG	AIN	ST	TO	LEDO.
----	-----	----	----	-------

W. Northcott	128—261 125—247 118—238 120—237
AGAINST DECATUR.	
W. Douglas	118—236 116—235 112—235 109—223

Cook and Bunn in Race.

There is a pretty race being staged for victory in the pistol match now under way as part of the District of Columbia Rifle Association series, between Dr. George Earle Cook, national pistol champion and winner of the U. S. R. A. pocket revolver championship, and J. C. Bunn, a member of the Washington police force.

Last week's stage of the match saw Bunn ahead of Dr. Cook by 3 points in a score of 188, although Cook's target shows the better grouping, 2 of Bunn's shots having gone outside of the black.

Chicago Shots to Meet.

Two lieutenants, five detective sergeants. and seven patrolmen, who are now rated highest in the list of police pistol shots in Chicago, and those who hold records nearest them are to shoot for the championship of the police department of that city in the near future. Plans for the match were made January 15. Those who will take part in the shoot include: F. J. Mitchell, J. Martin, H. J. Burns, T. L. Gooch, E. P. McConville, E. G. Bullard, H. L. Werner, Ed. Leader, E. A. F. Patten, W. French, T. O. Tute and W. G. Allen.

Few Try Rapid Fire.

Only two members of the Queen City Revolver Club, of Cincinnati, entered the rapidfire event during the January 16 meeting of that club, and this match seems to be losing its popularity.

In the slow-fire round, Hambly was high by a margin of 4 points, and got a nice group of two 10's and a 9 at 9 o'clock on his last target. Daniel started in with a .38-caliber, but shifted to a .22 pistol on his second target, and got back into form, placing the last 20 shots in the black and making high 5-shot score of 47 on his last target. Van Matre bunched his shots well on his first target, but a little low, though all were in the black.

The scores, possible 150: Van Matre, 114; Daniel, 123; Hambly, 127; Bangman-slow 111, rapid 83-194; Adams, 99; Anderson, 90; Stewart, 97; De Beck-rapid 50, slow 110-160; Spencer, 101.

Scores from St. Louis.

Matches No. 9 and No. 10 of the U.S. R. A. League were shot by the St. Louis Colonial Revolver Club, January 24. The scores:

MATCH NO. 9, VS. BOSTON.

E. A. Krondl	49	45	46-140
G C Olcott	40	40	41-100
M B Peterson	49	40	42-130
L C Niedner	42	43	40-131
C. C. Crossman	42	46	39—127
Total team score			670

MATCH NO. 10, VS. SAN FRANCISCO.

	THE THE CAR !			
G. C.	Olcott .		 . 48 43	46—137
W. C.	Aver		 . 44 47	43—134
C. C.	Crossma	an	 47 42	44—133
M. B.	Peterso	n	 43 46	42—131
E. A.	Krondl		 39 45	46—130
Tota	al team	score	 	665

To Hold Weekly Shoots.

Weekly shoots are to be held throughout the present season by the Baltimore Revolver Association. The annual meeting of this organization was held January 19 at the indoor range of the Fourth Regiment Armory. These officers were elected: Dr. H. C. Knapp, president; Dr. R. J. Mullikin, vice-president; Mr. H. L. Harker, secretary and treasurer; Dr. S. J. Fort, Mr. S. C. Wilmer, Mr. D. N. Bacharach, Dr. E. A. Smith, members Board of Governors.

Many matters for the betterment of the club were suggested, one of the most important, proposing change of name to The Baltimore Rifle and Revolver Association and our affiliation with the National Rifle Association, being held over for special action of the Executive Committee. If this change, as proposed, is finally approved, the club will then be in a position to accept riflemen as members, and, it is hoped, will be able to add some new wood from which a team can be selected to represent the club at the coming outdoor season, it being, of course, anticipated that the many civilian clubs now numbering about twenty-eight throughout the State being accorded the privilege of shooting on the State Range at Saunders.

Learn to shoot the revolver for home defense and at the same time bear in mind that the revolver shot makes the best possible rifleman. Anyone interested in this work is welcome to visit us at our range at the Fourth Regiment Armory on Friday evenings.

H. L. Harker, Secretary-Treasurer.

Shoots Against Dallas and Toledo.

Total

The Providence, Rhode Island, Revolver Club has fired Matches No. 7 and No. 8 of the U. S. R. A. League series. The scores:

MATCH NO. 7, VS. DALLAS.

H. M. Manchester	31	40	47-100
H. C. Miller	45	43	38—126
Robert Donaghy	44	40	38—122
Willis H. Brow	35	41	42—118
F. P. Day	43	36	38-117
			-
Total			613
MATCH NO. 8, VS. TO	LEDO).	
MATCH NO. 8, VS. TO	LEDO	40	45—129
MATCH NO. 8, VS. TO	LEDO	40	45—129
H. M. Manchester	44 38	40 47	45—129
H. M. Manchester H. C. Miller Robert Donaghy	44 38 41	40 47 44	45 - 129 $42 - 127$ $40 - 125$
H. M. Manchester	44 38 41 45	40 47 44 39	45 - 129 $42 - 127$ $40 - 125$

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New Amateur 21-Yard Record-100 Straight Inter-State Championships of Connecticut, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Oregon, S. Dakota, etc.

Rifle

N. R. A. Inter-Collegiate Championship N. R. A. Inter-Club Championship-Class A N. R. A. Inter-Club Championship-Class B N. R. A. Inter-Club Outdoor Championship N. R. A. Military School Championship Astor Cup Championship, etc., etc.

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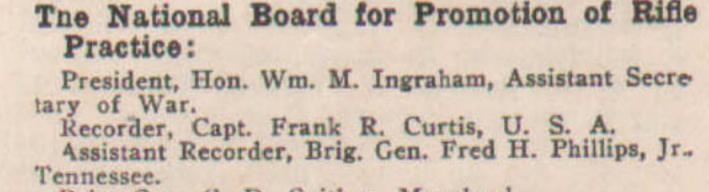
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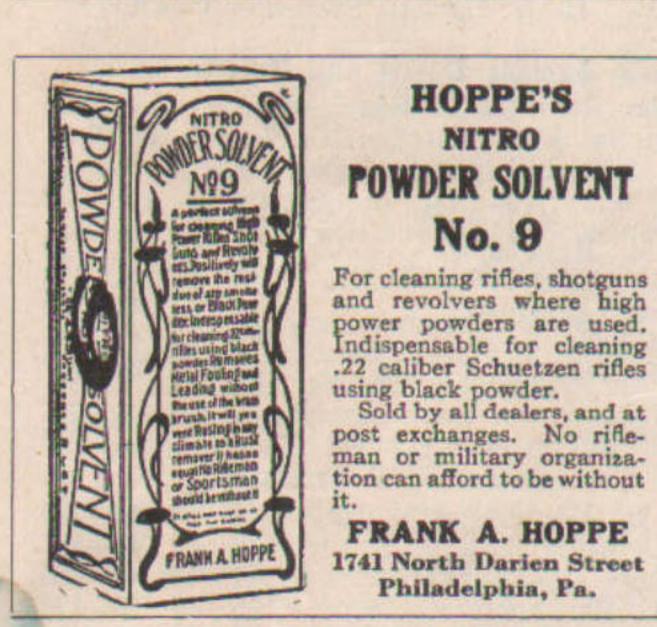
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Clay Chips from the Scattergun World.

Galbraith Wins the "Midwinter."

HOOTING from the 21-yard mark, Ira Galbraith, of West Frankfort, Ill., won the Midwinter Handicap which was the principal event of the Pinehurst Country Club series held during the week ending January 20. Galbraith's score was 97 out of a possible 100. The shoot was a marked success and was largely attended.

In the Midwinter Handicap, which was but one of a series of attractive events, class trophies were awarded. Mark Arie, of Thomasboro. Ill., won in the first class with 93 from 23 yards; L. F. Curtis, of Boston, second class, 93 from 19 yards; C. A. Galbraith, Bay City, Mich., 93 from 19 yards; and D. K. Dickinson, Kansas City, Mo., 95 from 16 yards.

The high average honors for the four days of the regular program went to George N. Fish, of Lyndonville, N. Y., who cracked out an average of 488 out of 500. On practice day W. H. Patterson, of Buffalo, N. Y., was high with 97 out of 100. On the first regular program W. H. Yule, of New York, led with 176 out of 180, while on the following day Fish assumed the lead with 157 out of 160.

On the third day H. J. Pendergast, of Phoenix, N. Y., was high with 79 out of 80, while on the last day of the shoot G. C. Mc-Carty, Woodbury, N. J.; Tracey Lewis, Great Neck, L. I.; C. D. Coburn, Mechanicsburg, Ohio; Mark Arie, Thomasboro, Ill., and J. S. Snapp, of Westville, Ill. tied on 79 out of 80.

The Preliminary Handicap event was taken by Dan F. McMahon, of the New York Athletic Club. He broke 92 from 21 yards. tieing Allen Heil, of Allentown, Pa., who stood at 22 yards, and Isaac Andrews, of Spartanburg. S. C., at 16 yards. On the shoot-off, McMahon broke 19 to 18 for Heil and 17 for Andrews. The class trophies in this event fell to Heil in first class, C. W. Billings in second class, C. H. Binns in third class, and Andrews in fourth class. The Consolation Handicap was won by Edward Doerkin, of Patterson. N. J., with 95 from 19 yards.

Another noteworthy feature was the sectional three-man team event on the 500-target program. Eastern New York, represented by R. L. Spotts, H. J. Pendergast and D. F. McMahon won with 1,441 out of 1,500; Western New York, with Fish, Wright and Patterson being second with 1,427.

The Hercules All-Around Amateur Championship trophy contest was shot twice during the tournament. Fred G. Plum, of Atlantic City, N. J., first defended it against Frank S. Wright, of Buffalo, N. Y., early in the week, winning with 189 out of 200 to 178 for Wright.

Then J. R. Jahn, of Davenport, Ia., challenged Plum and the match was shot on the last day. The contest resulted in a tie with scores of 185. The entire event was then shot over again as a shoot-off and this time Jahn won, 189 to 178.

Eastern Shots "Top" Western.

There always has been speculation as to whether the best trapshooters are from the East or the West-and there always will be. In the 1915 averages of the Inter-State Association the highest ten Western amateurs had just a shade on the highest ten Eastern shots. The situation is reversed in 1916-with the Easterners having more of a bulge than the Western lads had the year previous.

The highest ten amateurs in the East averaged five more breaks in every thousand targets than did the high ten amateurs of the West-for a combined average of 9,615 against 9,570. The Eastern shooters missed 1.126 out of 28,975 targets while the Western shooters missed 1,370 out of 31,890. If the ten highest shooters in the averages from the two sections could get together in a match of 100 targets, each, it would be well worth witnessing and there would be such a slight difference in the totals of the teams-all shooting to form-that the match might depend on the last target.

This idea of comparison of the East and the West and the Professionals and Amateurs in trapshooting will bring forth as many arguments as the selection of all-American football or baseball teams for there are as many people interested in the "sport alluring" as in any other outdoor sport. Just this kind of a yarn one year ago, caused the Westy Hogans to put on a shoot between the East and the West in their Atlantic City tournament and this event will be one of the features in years to come.

This sectional rivalry brings out a lot of good keen competition that is good for the sport, for trapshooters are honest to the core and fair in all their dealings. No trapshooter will take advantage of an error of an official -they all play the game fair. This adds to the

popularity of the sport.

It wil be noted that in the Eastern shooters is listed the name of the late A. B. Richardson. If Richardson's name was stricken from the list the name of Fred Plum, of Atlantic City, N. J., would come next. Plum shot at 4,415 targets and broke 4,218 for an average of 9,553. The elimination of Richardson from the mythical team and the addition of Plum would bring down the average of the Eastern team slightly-but Plum, by his great run of 281 straight at Maplewood-100 of this number being from 21 yards, shows the kind of stuff he is made out of. A compilation of the records of East against West shows these scores for the ten highest amateur trapshots in the West:

Shooter	Shotat	Broke	Aver.
M. Arie Thomasboro, Ill	. 2,400	2,337	.9737
R. A. King, Delta, Colo.	. 2,000	1,936	.9680
H. Pfirrmann, Jr., Los Angeles, Cal	. 2,100	2,017	.9604
F. A. Graper, Custer Park, Ill			
J. R. Jahn, Davenport, Ia			
F. H. Mellus, Los Angeles, Cal			
L. C. Huckins, Chicago, Ill			
Max Kneusel, Ottawa, Ill.			
F. M. Troeh, Vancouver, Wash			
Wm. Ridley, What Cheer, Ia			
Totals		-	-

The scores of the East's leading amateurs include: Shot at Broke Aver. Shooter Fred Harlow, Newark, O. 2,010 1,964 .9771 W. Henderson, Lexington, Ky. 2,650 2,572 .9705 A. B. Richardson, Dover, Del. 3,435 3,316 H. Bonser, Cincinnati, O. 2,000 1,929 H. J. Pendergast, Phoenix, N. Y. 2,250 2,168 .9635 C. H. Peck, Remington, Ind.2,460 2,364 .9609 A. C. Skeet, Morton, N. Y. 2,345 2,243 .9565 G. R. Shuck, Kempton, Ind. 2,410 2,305 .9564 C. H. Newcomb, Philadelphia, Pa. 5,155 4,928 .9559 F. S. Wright, Buffalo, N. Y. 4,260 4,070

Phillips Is "Boy Wonder."

Did you ever see paternal pride fairly exude? Well, just let a father bring his boy to a trapshooting club and start him at the sport and when the lad begins to "hit 'em on the nose," as the saying goes, papa is there with the pride.

One boy wonder is W. E. Phillips, Jr., of Chicago. He is not a new shooter by any means, though he is but 15 years old. His father, a winner of The Grand American Handicap, took him in hand early and he made the grade to a point where he entered the G. A. H. last August and gave a very good account of himself.

On the 17th of last June, at a registered shoot of The Metropolitan Gun Club, of Chicago, Master Phillips tied the high amateur score, 139 out of 150, with Charles Burmeister, the Illinois State champion, and in the shootoff beat the latter, the young man breaking 25 straight, while the State champion dropped

Master Phillips intends to enter the Grand American Handicap next August, and who knows but what he will emulate the achieve-

ment of his illustrious dad?

Mr. Phillips coached his son wisely and well, both as to form and deportment. Undoubtedly his coolness came naturally, but whether natural or acquired it is bound to stand him in good stead in years to come.

George Peck.

Amateur Shots Increase.

The remarkable growth of trapshooting as a sport is conclusively shown in the annual report of Reed Shanner, secretary of the Interstate Association for the Encouragement of Trapshooting. Naturally, everyone interested in sport is interested in the statistics of all its branches and the figures that Shanner sets forth in his report are worth knowing.

These statistics show that in 1908 the average attendance at the trapshooting tournaments was 27 amateurs and four professionals. In 1916 the attendance averaged 44 amateurs and five professionals, and there were hundreds more trapshooting events than in 1908.

A comparison of figures of the past four years show just how trapshooting has come along-and the reason why it is known as the King of Sports. In 1913 the number of shooters who participated in the registered tournaments of the Interstate Association were 7,014. One year later the number amounted to 7,849. In 1915 the figures were 8,140 and in 1916 the individual shooters numbered 10,528.

With the steady increase in trapshooters there has been a steady increase in registered tournaments. There were 286 in 1913; 314 in 1914; 333 in 1915, and 546 in 1916. There were 38 State championship tournaments in 1913; 39 in 1914; 42 in 1915, and 46 in 1916. In the number of targets trapped one notes the real increase in the sport. In 1913, 4,526,570 targets were thrown in the registered shoots. In 1914 the number was 4,780,690. In 1915 the number reached 4,814,260, and in 1916 the high-water mark of 6,366,100 was reached. The average numbers of targets thrown in the tournaments in 1913 were 16,051; in 1914, 15,273; in 1915, 14,500, and in 1916, 12,700.

The Interstate Association appropriates about \$25,000 each year to promote trapshooting, at least one-half of the money being spent for trophies. The report shows that 1,023 trophies were awarded. Six hundred and sixty-one shooters received one trophy each; 102 shooters received two trophies each; 30 shooters received three trophies; 11 received four trophies; two won five trophies; one shooter won six trophies and one other won eight. In no competition is a trapshot allowed to win more than one trophy.

More money was given for trapshooting in Missouri than in any other State-ouite naturally, because the Grand American Handicap was held there. The sum of \$4,525 was given to the Missouri organization. More targets were trapped in Pennsylvania than in any other State, 633,575. New Jersey had the greatest average to its shoots—96 amateurs and 11 professionals—by reason of the Westy Hogans event being held in that State. Iowa led in the number of registered tournaments with 56.

These figures with the knowledge that 737 new gun clubs were formed in 1916; that there are now more than 4,500 gun clubs in the United States and Canada; that \$40,000,000 is invested in the sport; that the trapshooters annually spend \$4,000,000 for targets and ananother \$2,000,000 for traveling expenses are the reasons why the sport is being given such scrious consideration. It must be after one goes carefully over the facts.

Why Do Gun Barrels Burst?

By A. P. Lane.

Every dealer in firearms has—some time or other—had a customer come into his store bringing with him a violent temper and a swollen or burst gun barrel.

Of course, the irate gun owner swears by all that's holy that the barrel was absolutely clean and in perfect condition and that there wasn't a chance in the world for anything to have gotten into it to obstruct the passage of the bullet or shot charge.

To do justice to both the manufacturers of the gun and the shooter who is unfortunate enough to have a swelled barrel, it is only fair to say that in a great many cases neither one is at all at fault. All reputable manufacturers test their shotguns and rifles with loads which give pressures far above those produced by ordinary ammunition, and if there is anything wrong with the gun itself it is practically certain to show up in this test. The shooter may be very careful of the barrel and handle his gun so as to keep foreign matter out of the bore, but no matter how careful he is, there is always a chance for dirt or snow to get in, and the inevitable result of an obstruction in the bore is a ringed or bursted barrel.

Many sportsmen and hunters are not familiar with the mechanical effects which are produced when something gets in the bullet's way. The pressure of the powder gases themselves are not to blame, for a very careful study of barrels which have been ringed or burst has shown that the swelling or rupture is caused by the compression of the air between the bullet and the obstruction. Assuming that the obstruction is somewhere near the muzzle, there is a column of air between it and the bullet or shot charge, and when it starts up the barrel, this air is naturally compressed. In fact, the pressure rises to the danger point long before the obstruction begins to move, even if it is only a light substance, such as snow, for instance,

Defective ammunition, both in rifles and shotguns, is sometimes the cause of a swelled or ringed barrel. In the case of rifle ammunition—especially .22's—the shooter may perhaps have a squib load which will leave the bullet in the barrel, and the result of the next shot always puts gloom in the heart of the owner.

Barrels which have been ruined by obstructions are easy to tell from those in which there is a defect in the material.

If you want to avoid trouble along these lines, be as careful as you possibly can, not to get anything into the barrel—and use good ammunition.

The One-Eyed Marksman.

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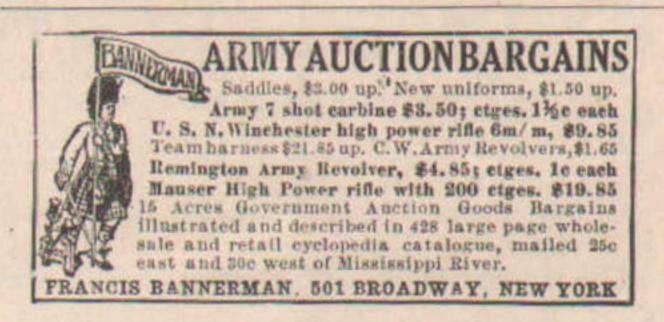
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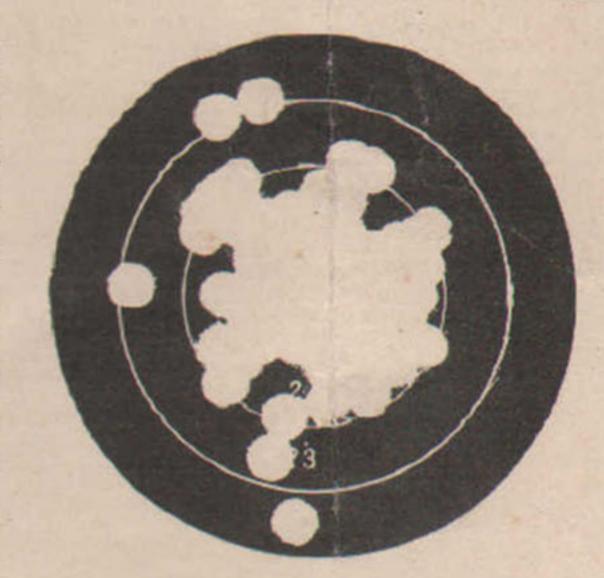
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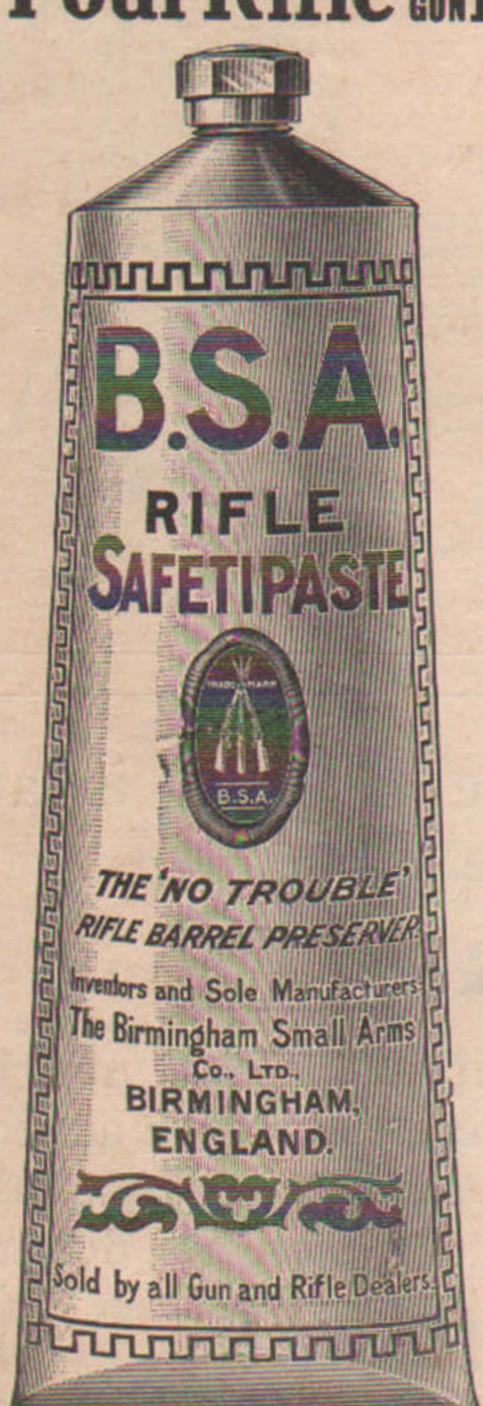


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