

MILITIA RANGES TO BE LEASED TO RIFLE CLUBS

CHOCH

THE ABSORPTION OF OBSOLETE ARMS
PART TWO

SOME BIG GUNS

EXPLOSION WRECKS FRANKFORD ARSENAL

WITH THE SMALL-BORE LEAGUE

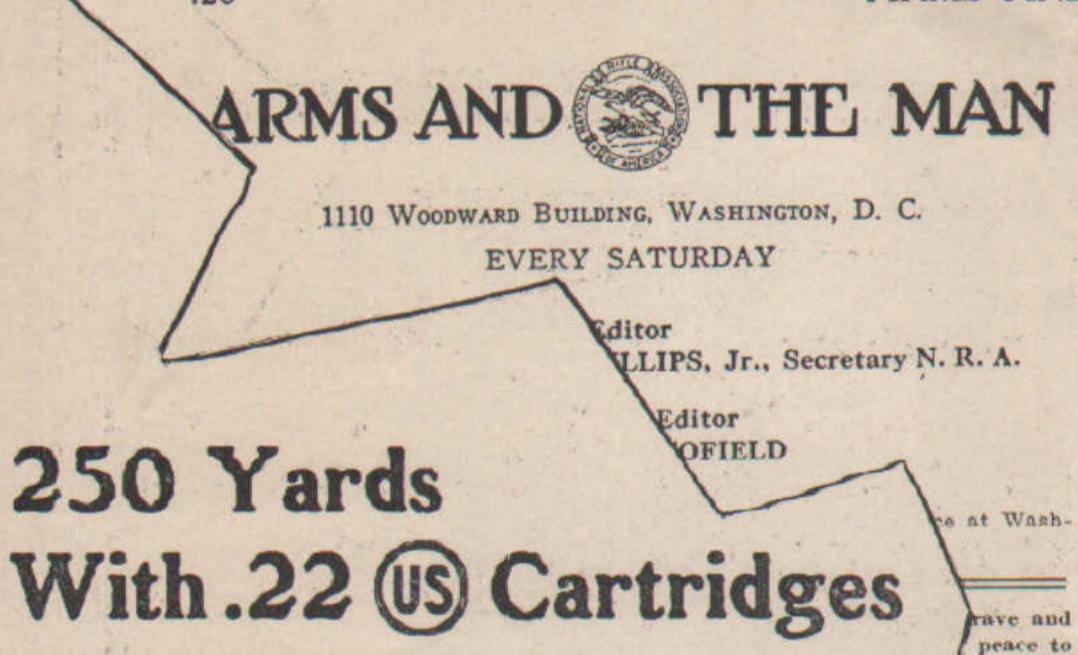
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SEPTEMBER 15, 1917



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Militia Ranges to be Leased to Rifle Clubs

ANY rifle ranges throughout the United States, equipped with targets and target materials, and which are now idle as a consequence of the draft, may be leased under certain conditions by civilian rifle clubs.

This is the gist of an order approved by the War Department, upon the recommendation of the Chief of the Militia Bureau, following its consideration by the Judge Advocate General.

Shorn of its legal verbiage, the decision sanctions the lease of any range to a duly recognized rifle club, provided the range is not being used by, or is not considered available for training United States troops.

There are, according to the records of the Militia Bureau, 574 rifle ranges in the United States owned by the United States government, leased by the United States government, loaned to the government, or constructed on the public domain.

Where the range is owned by the government, in fee simple, no rental will be charged to rifle clubs. Under other conditions different arrangements have been made. The equipment on such ranges as are subject to lease under this decision will be turned over to the leasing rifle clubs upon the club giving bond.

In brief, the leasing can be accomplished through state officials, with the approval of the Militia Bureau. The adjutants general of the United States have been advised of the action of the War Department under date of September 4, in this letter:

"From: The Chief, Militia Bureau.

To: The Adjutants General of all States.

Subject: Sub-leasing Rifle Ranges.

- 1. You are authorized to enter into negotiations for the sub-leasing of United States owned or leased rifle ranges which have been equipped for the use of the National Guard to regularly organized civilian rifle clubs having responsible officials. Leases will be effected in accordance with the following terms:
 - (a) They must have the approval of the Governor of the State.
 - (b) They will be submitted to this Bureau for final approval.
 - (c) Where a range is owned in fee simple by the United States no rental consideration will be asked.
 - (d) Where ranges are leased by the United States for National Guard use the civilian rifle club should be required to pay the lease charge during such period as they have exclusive use of the same.
 - (e) Rifle range equipment may be turned over to responsible officials of rifle clubs upon the execution of good and sufficient bond guaranteeing to the United States the proper care and return of such equipment.

- (f) The United States to reserve the right to cancel such sublease at any time a range may be required for instruction of National Guard or other troops.
- (g) The sub-lease to embody no provisions which would be in conflict with the original lease of the United States with the owners of the property.

J. McI. CARTER,

Colonel, Cavalry, Acting Chief of Bureau."

The drafting of these regulations to govern the leasing of state ranges to rifle clubs followed a thorough consideration of the subject by army officials.

On August 16, the Chief of the Militia Bureau, in a letter referred to the fact that the drafting of the National Guard into Federal service had left idle many ranges which would not be accessible for training the new National army, and suggested that many civilian clubs might make practical use of the ranges in question. His recommendations were:

"That the United States Property and Disbursing Officers of respective States be authorized to effect the sub-leasing of these ranges to civilian rifle clubs by mutual arrangement between the Governors of the respective States and the officials of such clubs. Where ranges are so sub-leased the following provisions should be embodied in the contract:

- "(a) Where a range is owned in fee simple by the United States, no rental consideration will be asked.
- "(b) Where ranges are leased by the United States from outside parties, the civilian rifle clubs shall be charged with the payment of rentals during the time they have exclusive use of such ranges.
- "(c) Rifle range equipment to be turned over to responsible officials of rifle clubs upon execution of good and sufficient bond guaranteeing to the United States the proper care and return of such equipment. Expendable property to be replaced.
- "(d) The United States to reserve the right to cancel such sub-lease at any time a range may be needed for instruction of the National Guard or other troops.
- "(e) The United States to reserve the right to cancel the original lease with the owners of the land at any time such cancellation may be desired."

In response to this letter, G. T. Ansell, acting Judge Advocate General after considering these recommendations, ruled:

"The authority of law for the lease of these ranges is the Act of July 28, 1892 (27 Stat. 321), which provides as follows:

"'Authority is hereby given to the Secretary of War, when in his discretion it will be for the public good, to lease, for a period of not exceeding five years and revocable at any time, such property of the United States under his control as may not for the time be required for public use and for the leasing of which there is no authority under exist-

ing law, and such leases shall be reported annually to Congress * * *'

"This act governs the leasing of all property of the United States under the control of the Secretary of War, and hence would appear to be equally applicable to property in which the Government has a leasehold estate or an estate in fee. Property of both classes is clearly included within the meaning of the statute.

"While the disbursing officers of the respective states, being officers of the National Guard now that the National Guard has been drafted into the Federal Service, could no doubt be authorized by the Secretary of War to perform the duty of executing leases of these ranges, it is not believed it would be advisable to place this authority in the hands of these various officers, but that it would be better to follow the usual practice with respect to the leasing of all Government property under the control of the Secretary of War and have these leases executed in the War Department. No objection is seen to their preparation by the said disbursing officers, and in view of the fact that the ranges are State ranges, it is believed that the approval of the Governor of the State in which the range is situated should be secured in each case and forwarded with the papers when they are transmitted to the Department for execution of the lease.

"I see no objection to these ranges being leased subject to the conditions specified as to rental consideration therefor under (a) and (b), nor to the inclusion in the proposed leases of the reservations recommended under (d) and (e). As to the reservation under (d), however, all leases by the Secretary of War are made recoverable at any time by the statute.

"With respect to the recommendations under (c), authority for the turning over of rifle range equipment to civilian rifle clubs is granted by the Act of August 29, 1916 (39 Stat. 643), wherein provision is made as follows:

"The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to issue, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, for use in target practice, targets, target materials, and other necessary accessories, to rifle clubs organized under the rules of the National Board of the Promotion of Rifle Practice and to schools having a uniformed corps of cadets and carrying on military training in sufficient number for the proper conduct of target practice."

"As recommended by the Chief of the Militia Bureau, for all equipment turned over to these rifle clubs a good and sufficient bond should be required, guaranteeing to the United States the proper care and return thereof.

"It is recommended whenever the proposed leases include the turning over to the leasees of the rifle range equipment that they shall be made subject to the condition that a bond be furnished in a sufficient sum properly to protect the interests of the Government, the bond in each case to be prepared in the War Department and to be returned for execution by the leasee at the time of the delivery of the lease."

The rifle ranges which this devision effects are totally aside from the indoor and outdoor ranges operated by civilian rifle clubs. A recent survey of the club range facilities in the United States showed that there were a total of 358 outdoor ranges operated by clubs. At the time the survey was taken, there were in addition III indoor rifle ranges maintained by schools and colleges, not to mention the great number maintained by civilian clubs.

AMMUNITION INQUIRY BOARD NAMED

FOLLOWING the announcement that a portion of the recent ammunition output of the Frankford Arsenal was defective, the Secretary of War has named a special committee of investigation.

The board of inquiry will be made up of two civilians and an army officer. The civilian members have been designated. They are Dr. H. T. Talbot, professor of chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Dr. C. L. Parsons, of the Bureau of Mines. The Chief of Staff of the Army will name the military member of the committee.

Since the hearings before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs last week, there is little to add to the information already published as to the defective ammunition in question.

The hearings before the Senate Committee developed interesting details.

Questioned by the Senators, Secretary Baker admitted that he had permitted sixty-seven days to elapse between the discovery that part of the small-arms ammunition was bad and his own notification to General Pershing that such a condition existed.

At the hearing the statement was made that the chemical change wrought in the primers by the minute percentage of bromate present in the potassium chlorate was a freak with which the Ordnance Department had not been acquainted. General Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, also said that the powder formula used at Frankford Arsenal differed from that of commercial cartridge manufacturers, but that satisfaction had followed the use of the Government ingredients, with the exception of the instance in question.

During the investigation several rumors which had been current since the discovery were set officially at rest.

At one point in the inquiry Senator Hitchcock asked whether the bromate which caused the damage could have been present in the potassium chlorate "for a purpose," to which Secretary Baker replied: "I think not."

At another point, Senator Chamberlain asked whether a defect similar to the one which developed in the Frankford ammunition, made between January I and June I, 1917, had appeared in the ammunition manufactured by private concerns and sold to the Government. The Secretary of War denied this.

Senator Hitchcock inquired whether there was any truth in the report that the United States Government had purchased small-arms ammunition rejected by another nation, and the Secretary of War characterized the report as "having no truth in it."

One of the results of the inquiry, in addition to the appointment of an inquiry board, is a resolution sponsored by Representative Dent, Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, and

favorably reported on September 5th. It reads:

"Whereas current rumors are afloat to the effect that a substantial portion of the small-arms ammunition shipped to the Amwerican expeditionary forces in France is worthless; and

"Whereas it is necessary that these rumors should be fully investigated: Therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Speaker appoint a select committee of seven members from the membership of the Committee on Military Affairs of the House, and that such committee be instructed to inquire into the manufacture and purchase of ordnance and ammunition, including small-arms ammunition and heavy artillery for use by the armed forces of the United States in the present emergency, and for such purposes it shall have power to send for persons and papers and administer oaths and shall have the right to report at any time."

The committee report says:

"This resolution is unanimously reported by the Committee on Military Affairs. The purchase of small-arms ammunition comes directly within jurisdiction of this committee. In view of the current rumors which have been published in the public press referring to defective cartridges, the committee thought it wise for a special investigation to be made in order to ascertain the truth and attempt at least to set at rest the public mind upon this subject."

The Absorption of Obsolete Arms

By "SNIPER"

PART 2

WHEN it comes to tracing the destinies of obsolete commercial sporting rifles, and of shotguns, the task is a far more difficult one than that presented by the types of firearms which have been at some time used by the military or naval forces.

The types of commercial firearms which have disappeared have usually either embodied radical departures from mechanical principles previously accepted by the public, or have been superceded by improved types. In the first instance the refusal of the public to approve many types of arms did not necessarily establish the fact that the arms in question were not mechanically sound, but only that the sportsmen failed to respond when they were offered.

For instance, a new breech mechanism was perhaps proposed. This mechanism might have been practical and strong, but its operation was new and consequently not so convenient as that of the weapons with which sportsmen were familiar. A little practice might have removed this obstacle, but the sporting public did not care to experiment. Whereupon the gun was withdrawn and stamped as a failure.

Immediately following the War Between the States, a number of new rifles, especially those of the magazine type, made their appearance. Sometimes one of these arms will now be unearthed and find its way into the shop of some gunsmith for repairs, or into a sporting goods store to be fitted with ammunition. But where the bulk of them went, is a difficult and almost unanswerable question.

One of the rifles which seems to have disappeared, and which was considered one of the best arms produced in the post-bellum days was the Robinson magazine rifle, manufactured at Plattsburg, N. Y. In this arm many improvements over earlier types was apparent. The barrel and magazine could easily be detached and packed in a short case. Provision was also made for the use of cartridges of different lengths in the arm, and as the bore called for the .44 calibre rimfire type the user had a wide range in selecting his ammunition. As some form of the .44 calibre rim fire cartridge could be found in almost every community at the time, this feature also solved the problem of cartridge supply.

The so-called "Kentucky Ballard" rifle was another arm which was quickly absorbed. This weapon was of .46 calibre, and took rim fire cartridges. The Brown Manufacturing Company, of Newburyport, Mass., turned out this weapon in the early Seventies. Shortly after quite a number had been finished, the company suspended. At the time, this rifle was considered to be the best sporting arm in existence and was a powerful weapon. There is a record that these rifles were bought up by a then wellknown sporting house and sold for the low price of \$18 each.

One of the rifles which embodied a radical departure from the accepted order of firearm things, was the Evans magaine sporting rifle. For several years after its appearance, and until the late Eighties, the trade reported

calls for ammunition for this arm, but those in use even at that time, were well scattered, and did not represent the original output.

The first central fire breech-loading shotgun made in the United States, the Allen, manufactured in Worcester, Mass., is among the fowling pieces which are now of rare occurrence. These guns were considered to be practically out of the market as early as 1871. Following it came the Boyd and Tyler gun made in Hyde Park, Mass. This weapon was constructed on the "turn over" system. Both of these fowling pieces were considered to be as good as any ever produced.

It is said that about the time the manufacture of the Boyd and Tyler gun was stopped a large invoice of barrels was ordered from abroad. The barrels arrived after the work had been stopped and remained in bond until they were sold by the customs authorities. A then prominent maker purchased them, sent them back across the water, where various names were stamped on the barrels, which when sold gave considerable satisfaction.

The old Smith and Wesson shotguns are seldom seen now-a-days, nor are there very many specimens of the gun manufactured by the Whitney Arms Company, formerly of New Haven. Other shotguns rarely encountered are the old Parker lift action type in which a continuance of the lifter came up through the break off, and the Parker model in which the action was let into the wood, after the fashion of the earlier pattern Westley Richards guns.

MACHINE GUN "BARRAGE" NOW FEATURE OF ATTACKS

The machine gun, long recognized as the greatest of small defensive weapons, has found a new sphere of activity. Formerly the deadly "barrage" fire, interposing a curtain of shells between advancing columns and front-line enemy trenches, came almost entirely from field artillery. According to latest reports from the front, however, machine guns are now being used to fill gaps in the artillery barrages with great success.

A British army official, writing in the New York *Times*, describes this new use of the machine gun. He says:

"The successful assault of a modern

trench system demands the full power of every offensive weapon that human ingenuity has evolved under the stimulus of long-continued war, applied in exact co-operation with each other. The devastating hail of preparatory bombardment and the terrific curtain of the barrage that cuts off reinforcement or retreat from the defenders, the showers of bombs that shall drive them from traverse to traverse or annihilate them in their burrows, the bursts of fire from the Lewis guns that strike them down as they strive to rally to a nucleus, the rifle shot and bayonet thrust that account for them man to man-all these are indispensable and might alone confer success.

"But fearful as the artillery barrage

is, there are gaps in it. Men may and do escape through it. A concealed enemy machine gun opening at the moment of crisis will only be knocked out by a chance hit. Unless the artillery observation officers are exceptionally fortunate their batteries will scarcely be able to switch on to an unexpected target before the opportunity has passed. The flanks of the onrushing infantry may be suddenly assailed by an enemy wave issuing from an unexpected place of shelter. To meet these sudden emergencies, to supplement the hail of death so that there may be no escape from it, the general has a comparatively new source of offensive action in the machine-gun company attached to his brigade.

"The brigade commander who receives

his orders to attack a certain length of the enemy's line consults not only the chiefs of his battalions, but also the expert officer commanding the machine-gun company of the brigade. He explains the intended operation and indicates the points from which he apprehends danger. There is a line of trench and its offshoots in front; some hundreds of yards behind that line is another; on the enemy's left rear is a wood, on his right flank is a ravine. From rear trench, flanking wood or ravine, the counter-attack may surge out on the disordered assault ere it can consolidate itself in the new position.

"However thorough the artillery bombardment and the barrage, deep dugouts may have afforded protection until it has passed. The brigade commander consults with the commanders on his flanks. He arranges that the company on his right shall take the wood under enfilade fire, the company on the left shall search the ravine. His own sections of four guns each are carefully disposed to be able to fire over the heads of the attacking troops and to create a barrage of thousands of bullets ceaselessly striking in deep, continuously linked zones between the rear trench and the objective.

"For a number of minues, previously decided upon, the machine-gun barrage hails steadily on the same belt. Then again it lifts for another hundred yards. And behind its sleet the attack presses on. So that tempest of bullets falls in a fierce shower for its remorseless period, then lifts and passes onward to another stage. Leap by leap it reaches the trench in the rear by which the reinforcements of the enemy must arrive.

The storm descends on the crowded earthway, fills it with prone men who no longer move, though the bullets continue to strike.

"Then it ceases—hails again in short bursts that catch parties of the enemy risking a dash toward their desperately struggling comrades. Now far behind the turmoil of the fighting the machine gunners crouch beside their weapons, an officer to every two guns. Keenly he watches the battlefield, the smoke-hung waste of tumbled brown earth where figures emerge, run, walk with a curious air of leisure, or fall suddenly under a canopy of fume and white puffs. With the experienced eye of the professional he spots a movement, a whiff of dust on the confused level of the earth. It is an enemy machine gun firing from a shell hole. A swift order, a rapid hammering -and the whiff of dust settles to reappear no more.

"The counter-attack is beginning to gather itself on the fringes of the fight. Gray figures mass in the wood, the rear trench, the flanking ravine. An S O S signal goes up from the infantry realizing its peril. Then the machine guns burst out in the full fury of their appalling power. Along the far trench is one incessant hail. The masses—that have scarcely coalesced—melt, disappear, become isolated figures that run and fall.

"Far ahead the protection detachments have consolidated a line of shell holes. Groups of limp prisoners are shambling and stumbling to the rear. The vengeful shells begin to fall on the victors of the position."

War's Effect on Game and Sport

PART 1—BY NICHOLAS EVERITT

HONORARY SECRETARY TO THE FIELD SPORTS AND GAME GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN

MERSON wrote, "War disorganizes, but it is to organize." How true this aphorism is no one in Europe, perhaps even further afield, can fail to appreciate at the present time.

In England the war has brought sport to a standstill. Our old English sports are not dead and done with, as some killjoys wish, because, so long as the present race survives, sport can never die. The student of English history knows that sport is and always has been the backbone of the nation. From prehistoric times, from the days of the Druids upwards, Englishmen have ever lived by and for their sport; excepting a few cranks and money grubbing maniacs, who, regardless of results, try to bring every one to their narrow minded ways of thinking. British workmen are naturally sportsmen. Nine out of ten of them have

strong, latent sporting instincts in their blood. They would put down tools instantly to watch a good fight, or to speculate on the result of a sporting match, or to chase a rabbit. They carry the writer's whole sympathy, and undoubtedly the admiration and respect of every true born Englishman as well.

After peace is declared the cranks and pacifists, who alone are responsible for the present agitation, may come out into the open and make a dead set at the game laws, which have been in existence since the times of William the Conqueror, but which, in the last fifty years, have been modified to reasonable limits and readjusted for the benefit of all concerned.

Should such unheaval be attempted the result cannot be held in doubt; the spirit of the nation must prevail.

When war was declared by England the whole countryside was swarming with game. Trade had not been bad everywhere, and many men had returned from the colonies to enjoy their hard-earned fortunes in the old country. They had naturally turned to the ancient homes of England, many of which were on the house agents' lists, owing to their owners being impoverished by the radical government's suppression of landed interests, and by a good deal of socialistic, suicidally unjust, legislation. Thus, some few colonists and successful business men had hired these rambling old halls together with their sporting rights over many broad acres, and they had employed armies of game keepers to improve the sporting to its utmost limits. Vermin had been killed down to a minimum; pheasants, partridges and wild ducks hand reared in tens of thousands, and the shooting season was about to open.

"At the declaration of war English sportsmen to a man abandoned their home bred game for the greater foreign quarry; and they pressed their respective services upon the government irrespective of age, experience, direct or indirect losses of part or all of their belongings. The few game keepers of fighting age, who had stuck to their posts, were pushed into the army; only men of very mature age were left, and these occurred only at scattered intervals.

Since the war almost all game killed has been shot by officers guarding our home fires, or by wounded officers in a state of convalescence. Nine-tenths of the game has been voluntarily given to hospitals for the benefit of the wounded, and none of the shootings of pre-war days have been kept up or properly looked after.

In the spring of this year, 1917, after two years of war, a Food Controller was appointed, who ordered that no cereal food might be given to game birds or wild fowl; nor was one permitted to deal in their eggs.

This spelt the ruin of all gamefarms and game farmers. In addition facilities were granted by law for the destruction of game; almost by anybody. In the writer's opinion this was a great mistake. The result has undoubtedly so far shown a much greater loss than gain on balance; whilst seeds of discord and bad blood between landowners and agriculturists have been sown. The outcome remains to be seen.

Had the legislature been wise in its generation it would have let the game birds alone and subsidized a rat, sparrow, and mouse club in every village throughout the United Kingdom. Such clubs are always successful, very economical to run, easily managed, and

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Some Big Guns

By L. E. EUBANKS

ACCORDING to an old-time sketch recently brought to light, the cannon of Napoleon's time were bored by means of a wooden lathe driven by horse-power. What would the users of such crude instruments, Napoleon and his valiant followers, think of their countrymen's present-day military equipment? Of the famous "75 gun," for instance!

Uncle Sam has been foremost in the inventive ingenuity now exhibited in weapons of war; to him very largely the world is indebted for the airplane, the ironclad, the submarine, and the machine gun. It is up to him now to prove his executive ability equal to his inventive genius, for the guns of the world are keyed to the biggest chorus of calamity that ever rang down the halls of time.

The gunner is in the spotlight; never before has he had such a chance to prove the worth of his work and to distinguish himself. Most of the actual gun masters see no target, but obey charted signals, switchboard sparks or telephoned instructions. Certain facts have been scientifically established and form the basis of valuable rules; just one example: The normal range of an anti-aircraft gun fired at an angle of 45 degrees is increased from 35 to 40 per cent owing to the shell's passage through the strata of reduced density.

The marksmen on the ships of our merchant marine are entitled to particular praise. The enemy's chief aim is to put out of commission those vessels which carry "munitions"; the term embracing not merely ammunition, but all the necessary supplies of war, exclusive of money and men. The crews of these ships take incalculable chances every time they sail. No wonder the very best gunners of the navy are chosen for this work; a U-boat crew gets everything ready for the shot before coming up, the merchantman sees its enemy only about two minutes, while the torpedo is being launched; and our gunners must do all their work in this short time. On the calm water the submarine's deck would protrude only some three feet; subtract from this the portion hidden by the wash of the waves, and think what a small target the gunner has for his shot of a mile or more.

But we started out to talk of guns rather than gunners. The biggest guns in the world are those selected to guard the Panama Canal. They are 16-inch breech-loading rifles, 49 feet 3 inches long. At the breech they have a diameter of 60 inches, which tapers to 28 inches at the muzzle. The main bore is 37 feet 4½ inches long, and it

has a diameter of 16 inches. The cylindrical part of the powder-chamber is 7 feet 5 inches long, with a diameter of 18.9 inches. If smokeless powder is used, 576 pounds are required for a single charge; and if black powder is used, 1,176 pounds are necessary. The projectile for these guns measures 5 feet 4 inches in length, weighs over a ton, and has a muzzle velocity of 2,300 feet a second. This means that as it leaves the muzzle it can penetrate 42.3 inches of steel! The range is about 21 miles, and in traveling this distance the shell reaches an elevation of about 30,500 feet, which is higher than any mountain in the world.

The machine gun, so conspicuous in the big war, is an interesting weapon. It has been shown that in actual warfare a single gun of this kind, with a crew of four men, is equivalent to forty infantry armed with modern magazine rifle, and is capable of throwing a hotter concentrated fire upon a given spot. And Germany is said to have more than 50,000 of these guns!

As one famous ordnance authority has said, the machine gun is, in effect, an automatic rifle; the first shot is fired by pulling the trigger, then the explosion of powder does the rest—in addition to sending forth the bullet, it brings into firing position the next cartridge.

A machine gun is not only powerful, but surprisingly accurate. In Government tests, it outdid selected riflemen on group targets up to 2,000 yards. Naturally, the range is more quickly found with the machine gun, because of the rapidity with which trial shots may be made. The "speed" of the machine gun is well-nigh incredible. Think of 8 or 10 shots a second! The ejected shells fly out so fast as to make a continuous stream. The handle with which the breech mechanism of the Maxim is operated flies back and forth so fast that the eyes lose it-it seems a mere blur before the sight. The machine guns used by Germany have been a revelation to all English and American students of war weapons. These and the huge howitzers used so effectively at Namur show to what awful perfection foreign war preparations have been brought. Terrible is the only word that describes the German howitzers. They are of two sizes principally, 12-inch and 16-inch (42 centimeters), and the Teutons seem to have an exhaustless supply of them.

The famous "75", another "big noise" in this world war, is a French gun. The name comes, not from the possible number of shots, as some one has said, but from the caliber, 75 milli-

metres, or approximately 3 inches. The 75 is described as "the most perfect and daintily conceived engine of human slaughter which the mind of man has devised." With a speed of 30 shots to the minute, it resembles a machine gun rather than a piece of field artillery. The salient feature of the 75 in its disposal of the recoil. No re-laying of the weapon after every shot is necessary; the gun is attached to a buffer instead of the usual axletree. Not only does this buffer absorb the shock of the recoil, but it runs the piece back into true position. So smooth and precise is this adjustment of recoil that a glass of water may rest undisturbed on the wheel during action.

The British now have their 18pounder an equivalent to the 75. In merging interests against a common foe, the French divulged to their allies the long guarded secrets of the 75. Previous to French improvements, such a weapon as the 75 could be fired only as rapidly as the gunner could adjust the fuses. The French overcame this by inventing a fuse-lighting machine, the details of which they kept to themselves. Even when they captured a 75, enemies were unable to solve the mystery. Opening the buffer causes the escape of compressed air. The real secret is said to lie in the exact combination of this air and glycerine, which controls the fuse-setting device.

Since we have to fight, these gun matters certainly are vital. As Arthur S. Draper has said, a gun costing \$50,000 and firing 20 miles is nothing out of the ordinary when resting on the floor of a gun-mounting shop, but if it rested in the turret of a battleship off Sandy Hook and was pointed at New York City it would be something else again.

One of the registrars in a Virginia country district tells a story of a negro man, obviously within the prescribed ages and of powerful physique, who turned up on Registration Day. The registrar had a good deal of difficulty in making the applicant understand the questions.

"Do you claim exemption?" he asked.

"Whut's dat, suh?"

"Is there any reason why you should not render military service—why you should not fight your country's battles?"

"Oh, yes, suh," replied the applicant, much enlightened. "Ise gun-shy."— Richmond Times-Dispatch.



1110 WOODWARD BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. EVERY SATURDAY

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

Associate Editor KENDRICK SCOFIELD

Entered as second-class matter, April 1, 1908, at the post office at Wash-ington, D. C., under the Act of Congress of March 2, 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 RANGE-LEASING PRIVILEGE

THE privilege of leasing certain of the well-equipped government rifle ranges has been accorded civilian rifle clubs. This action on the part of the War Department should do a great deal toward removing at least one of the prevailing difficulties in the way of rifle practice, and civilian clubs should, wherever possible, take advantage of this permission.

The circumstances which have made these ranges available for use by civilians, naturally did not exist at the time so many clubs were experiencing difficulty in finding places to shoot. Ironically enough, now that an avenue is opened whereby there could be greater activity than ever among civilian shots, the shortage of ammunition, the suspension of the purchase privilege, and the recall of a percentage of the free issue rifles have interposed new obstacles.

No rifle club, however, unless it already has a satisfactory firing line, should overlook this opportunity to obtain a range, especially if the rental is waived, through government ownership, or is nominal.

Naturally enough some club members are going to ask: "Of what use is a range if we have no rifles and no ammunition?" The answer to this is: "Any club member who wants to shoot, will find a way to shoot."

The proposed small-bore outdoor qualification course is steadily growing in favor. There is no reason why this course should not be shot on the government ranges. There is no need to change equipment, or to do more than establish new firing line distances. Within the next few weeks, targets will probably be available for this course; whatever minor changes are necessary will have been made; and the sanction of the N. R. A. will have been given.

At this time, civilian rifle clubs should look more to the future than some of them apparently are doing. It is true that the necessity which the War Department believed existed for the curtailment of the free issue, was an unfortunate and deplorable development. But the friends of rifle practice in the United States have no intention of remaining idle.

It is safe to say that by the time the spring shooting

season rolls around again, ways and means will be devised to keep the rifle clubs busy.

Every club that has been unable to locate a range, therefore, should immediately learn whether there is an available government range in its locality, and should set about acquiring the right to use it.

THE RECALL OF RIFLES IN COLORADO

UPON another page, in a letter from the Secretary of the Lamar, Colorado, Rifle Club, the charge is made that the Governor of Colorado, acting under the authority of the War Department, has taken the rifles issued to the Lamar organization and given them to an Agricultural College.

When the War Department, deciding that a percentage of the Krags previously issued to rifle clubs were needed for home defense, directed that they be held subject to the orders of the governors of the states, no objection could logically be made.

But if the Governor of a state, under this authority, has summarily deprived a rifle club of its equipment and has turned over the rifles and ammunition to an Agricultural College, some notice should immediately be taken of his action.

We happen to know something about the rifle club in question. It was one of the first civilian organizations in the United States to take the field in a recruiting campaign at the beginning of hostilities with Germany, and through its efforts many volunteers were added to the Regular Army and Navy long before the Draft became operative. After the draft, the rifle club boys, at their own expense, undertook to give preliminary training in rifle practice to those selected for military service. In short, the Lamar Rifle Club proved its value to the State of Colorado, and demonstrated that its members are not only men who know how to use the military rifle, but what is more, they are willing to teach others to use it. In return for all it has done for the state the Governor, according to the club secretary, rewards the club by taking away its rifles-a right which he undoubtedly had-and by giving them to an agricultural college-a right which he apparently does not have.

In any event, the affair on the face of it, seems to suggest that an injustice has been done under authority granted by the War Department.

Officials of the War Department who watch over Home Guard affairs should make inquiries to ascertain whether the *spirit*, as well as the *letter* of the order giving the governors power to distribute arms formerly held by civilian rifle clubs is being observed.

A HISTORIAN OF THE WAR

States has participated in the past have hardly come from the pens of eye-witnesses. It is true that each who has chronicled the events of the long-gone times has conscientiously striven by research among past records and testimony, as far as possible from those having first-hand knowledge, to make his compilation accurate. And yet, time and again the conclusions, and even the facts, accepted as history have been questioned.

Again the United States is engaged in battle. The participation of this country will unquestionably dwarf all other hostilities in which the nation has ever engaged. Therefore it would seem to be a propitious moment for the appointment of an official historian of the great war.

The best time to write history is while it is being made. Other nations have found this course advisable, and there is no way to estimate the immense national benefit which could lie in such a course.

Precedents are being established not only in army organization but in that more important phase of warfare—armament. These matters should not be left to perpetuation in the memories of Government officials, or to uncertain survival as part of hurriedly compiled records.

In fact, two official histories should even now be in the progress of making, keeping abreast of events as each happens. One should deal with the war from the standpoint of causes, effects, and events. The other with preparations and the de-

velopment of the huge armament which will be called into play before the hostilities are ended.

In the past there has perhaps been no history which has given the proper importance to the development of field artillery and small arms. What little data is available upon these questions must be dug from haphazard mention here and there.

With the historians of the past, the idea seems to have been what was done by the armies, to the exclusion of why it was done and with what tools it was accomplished.

Even to those unlearned in the developmental progress of firearms, it has been apparent that no war in the history of the world has produced so many new types of weapons, and the entrance of the United States—a nation known to be leaders in the production of small arms—cannot but add to the already long list of new or improved lethal weapons.

It would appear to be the part of wisdom for Congress to authorize the appointment of a commission of historians, whose members should not only include men equipped to chronicle the events of the great war, but also experts in ordnance and ballistics.

EXPLOSION WRECKS FRANK-FORD

SEVERAL buildings at the Frankford Arsenal, where most of the army's small-arms ammunition is made, were wrecked by an explosion in one of the detonator dry-houses September 8.

Colonel Montgomery, the commanding officer, who is widely known among riflemen, having had charge of the Ordnance department at the 1916 National Matches, made this report of

the happening:

"At about 2.30 this morning one detonator dry house blew up, followed by one primer dry house. Two men in the dry house killed; one man on way to dry house with tray of detonators badly injured. There was about a week's output in the detonator dry house, and the primer dry house was only half filled. Small lots of explosives in adjacent building also went off. Four other buildings damaged. Situation under control at 3.45 a. m.

Colonel Montgomery requested allotment by wire of \$2,500 to repair

damage.

Following Colonel Montgomery's message, the War Department authorized this statement:

"With reference to the explosion in the detonator dry house at the Frankford Arsenal, it has been ascertained that, in addition to the primer dry house to which the explosion was communicated and which with the detonator dry house was blown up, three other buildings were destroyed by fire which resulted from the falling on them of burning fragments blown from the two dry houses. A board of officers was immediately appointed by the commanding officer, Colonel Mont-

BE CAREFUL!!!

The substance of this is not original, simply evolved it from a scribbled memorandum sent me by a friend.

CAPT. ROY S. TINNEY.

When a Plumber makes a mistake, he charges double for it.

When a Lawyer makes a mistake, it's just what he wanted, because he has a chance to try the case all over again.

When a Carpenter makes a mistake, it's just what he expected, because the chances are ten to one he never learned his trade.

When a Doctor makes a mistake, he buries it.

When a Judge makes a mistake,
it becomes the law of the land.
When a Preacher makes a mistake,
nobody knows the difference.
When an Electrician makes a mistake,

he blames it on induction; nobody knows what that is. BUT when a RIFLEMAN makes a

GOOD NIGHT !!!

mistake,

gomery, to investigate and report upon the cause of the accident. The only persons in the immediate vicinity of the original explosion were two men, probably in the detonator dry house, who were killed, and a third man, probably near the dentonator dry house at the time, who was so badly injured that the coroner has since reported his death. No other employees or other persons have been found who could contribute anything to the knowledge upon the subject as eyewitnesses. No other persons than the three men have reported themselves or have been reported as badly or seriously injured. The number who were

slightly injured is not known, because all of the injured, other than the man who has since died, left the arsenal practically immediately and were either taken care of at home or in the neighboring hospitals. None went to the arsenal hospital.

"The buildings destroyed were all small frame structures, and were all intended for demolition to make room for new buildings intended to occupy their sites. Their value, therefore, can be considered negligible. The monetary loss is that resulting from damage, principally by the breaking of windows, to neighboring buildings, and the destruction of certain machinery, appliances, and completed detonators and primers. The reparable damage probably does not exceed \$5,000, and the other loss will probably not be sufficient to bring the total up to \$20,000.

"There will be some interruption of the supply at the arsenal of detonators, but five new dry houses are in course of construction and are over half completed, and in the meantime detonators will be secured by furnishing the mechanical parts from the arsenal and having them loaded at a commercial establishment doing such business.

"There is no indication that anything other than accident was the cause of the explosion. The arsenal is surrounded by sentries, with posts close together, and in addition there are interior guards about the grounds, and a guard in the heat pipe tunnel leading to the dry houses. The grounds are brilliantly illuminated, and these dry houses were within a wire inclosure, with barbed-wire top, which could only be entered at the gate.

"The greatest danger was the fire of the burning buildings resulting from the explosion. This was subdued partly by the rain, and partly also by the very efficient help which the city fire department rendered the arsenal's fire-fighting facilities. There is an existing arrangement by which the city fire service can be called to the arsenal at any time, and the call was promptly responded to. The neighboring Frankford Hospital and the Episcopal Hospital quickly sent their ambulances to the scene of the accident. The dependents of the men who unfortunately lost their lives will receive the benefit of the United States employees' compensation act, as will also any employees who may have been sufficiently injured to cause them to lose time from their work.

"The above information was received by the Chief of Ordnance directly from the commanding officer

of the arsenal."

EFFECT OF WAR ON GAME

(Concluded from page 486)

their compulsion would have saved the country tens of millions of pounds of

grain per annum.

The war having denuded the land of game keepers, vermin are everywhere rampant. Had we not known beforehand, this war would have taught us, with emphasis, that the greatest enemy to game is vermin. Kill vermin and game will increase enormously; permit vermin and preservation and hand rearing to any extreme become useless and ineffectual so far as an increase of stock to desired proportions is concerned.

These absurd enactments emanating from the Food Controller's department have deprived our great hospitals, as well as the people residing in the British Isles, of a valuable and cheap supply of food, and the whole countryside is overrun with vermin which are neither of use nor benefit to any one. Whilst there was game to protect those interested saw to it that sufficient rewards were offered to clear off vermin; now that is nobody's business. Game on the large estates, however, has been practically untouched, and the stock is not likely to be wiped out. No farmer worthy of the name would take advantage of the killjoy acts of Parliament or orders recently passed as the law of the land; he knows better, that winged game compensate his real interests by keeping down insect pests and parasites far more than the infinitesimal harm they do, at sowing and reaping times, by the appropriation of a tew grains of spilt corn.

Many of the school of theoretical socialists, who envy every one's else goods, when those panic orders were issued (preventing the use in any form of cereals for game, and permitting

wholesale destruction), thought that their long-deferred hopes were at last realized; joyfully they rushed to the slaughter. But they found to their astonishment that no good agriculturist agree with them. Hence the stock was saved despite the ignorant and foolish scare actions of the powers that-ought-to-have-knownbetter.

What will happen after the war? That is the question that many ask, and to which few seem to obtain any satisfactory answer. Common sense should supply the natural solution. The game laws will survive, and game will be as plentiful as ever. Why? Because, unless the title to game is preserved and its property is saved to the individual ewners of the lands, there will be no game. Every one's hand would seek to destroy it for its value as a delicacy, or etherwise; whilst no one would trouble himself to protect and preserve that which he knew the first passer-by could

take, kill, or appropriate.

There are many places in the United Kingdom and in other parts of the world, for example, near a big town, on an estuary, or on a tract whereon the public has the right to go and amuse itself at its own free will; places which if kept peaceable and quiet, free from vermin and protected, would be overrun with game and wild birds. What are present-day circumstances? If a head of game, or a rabbit, or an edible wild bird, strays into such precincts, it is immediately chased to death by dozens of ardent hunters with guns, dogs, and other engines of destruction. Ask yourself this question? How long would the squirrels and pigeons survive in our pleasure parks and open squares if the public were permitted to kill or capture them? Why, in less than a week these interesting and valuable creatures would be extinct. Matters are almost as bad upon any public common, or shooting ground. Only on exceptional occasions, during weather extremes, or extraordinary upheavals, is a living creature to be found there; and then so shy that a near approach is almost impossible.

The greatest factor in preserving and maintaining a good stock of game and wild birds is our ancient law of Ferae Natural. The property in animals and birds, wild by nature, is vested in the person whose land they happen to be upon and he cannot claim them as his own until he has reduced them into possession by the act of killing or capture. Hence a pheasant belongs to A so long as it remains and keeps on A's land, and only A, or those whom he may authorize, can kill it; but the moment the pheasant flies or walks from A's land on to B's or C's land, then the property in the bird passes to B or C, upon whose land respectively it has entered, and vests so

long only as it remains there.

Norway is a magnificent country for game. A few years ago the sporting

rights were at the disposal of any one who could afford to buy a gun. Now laws have been made giving the property in the game to the landowners. They soon realized its value and at once started to kill down the vermin. Now, sportsmen obtain bags twenty times greater than in the olden days, there is game for all and to spare, the country is visited by sportsmen from thousands of miles away, and where formerly no rent was obtainable the rents for the sporting rights now far exceed the agricultural value. Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and outlying islands of the United Kingdom are further examples of what can be done by a beneficial protection of game. Socialists and radicals may argue that 'game is cultivated to the detriment of the peasant, who is sometimes deprived of his cottage in order to expand gamecontrolled areas.' This is the hot air of ignorant politicians, who know nothing of the subject they refer to.

The preservation of game is entirely to the benefit of the workingman, who gets a share he would otherwise never know nor see, whilst the sportsman invariably spends at least four times the cash value of the quarry over his methods of killing it. Labor secures more than half of this, whilst the public are thereby enabled to purchase game at just a quarter the cash price now demanded during the period that Parliament is active in its suppression. Surely these facts speak

for themselves!

Note: This article appeared as an official Bulletin of the American Game Protective Association. Part 2, by George D. Pratt, Conservation Commissioner for New York, will appear next week.

CALLS SOLDIERS "USONAS."

Uncle Sam's soldiers have been named. Major C. B. Ewing, U. S. A., retired, and called back to active service, stands sponsor for the newly coined appellation, which, military critics say, meets the requirements. "Usona," the name proposed, is formed by the first letters taken from the phrase, "United States of North America."

"Usona," it is pointed out, lends itself to the singular or plural, the latter being "Usonas." Also it is said the character of the word is such that it is easily pronounced by the French, Italians and Russians, and a word equally

easy to remember.

It also has the distinction of being American-made, for it was worked out within the very shadow of Independence Hall by an American Army officer whose service bar shows four colors.

The name was used yesterday by Major Ewing for the first time in connection with some reports. Enlisted men stated they preferred it to any of the names suggested in reports of American activities in France.—Philadelphia Enquirer.

5 GREAT RIFLE VICTORIES

Were won in the 1917 Indoor Matches, conducted under the auspices of the National Rifle Association, by users of

Deters .22 Cal. Smokeless Cartridges

CIVILIAN CLUB COMPETITION

COLLEGE COMPETITION - -
HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL RECORD

ASTOR CUP CHAMPIONSHIP -

Championship won by Peters R. & R. Club Team of King's Mills, Ohio, 9,925 out of a possible 10,000

Championship won by Michigan Agricultural College Team, 9,638 out of a possible 10,000

Championship won by Iowa City, Iowa, High School Team, 9,517 out of a possible 10,000

Made by T. K. Lee, of Birmingham Athletic Club Team, 1,999 out of a possible 2,000

Won by Iowa City, Iowa, High School Team, 980 out of a possible 1,000

These decisive wins, with the World's Record of 4,599 out of 4,600 points, made in 1915 and still held by T. K. Lee, clearly indicate that even in the hands of expert marksmen (P) Ammunition will make higher scores than any other kind.

THE PETERS CARTRIDGE COMPANY, Cincinnati, 0.

BRANCHES-NEW YORK: 60-62 Warren Street

NEW ORLEANS: 321 Magazine Street

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"Blood is Thicker than Water"

THEN Pershing's Expeditionary
Force arrived in London, the
escort was formed by a battalion
of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the famous
23d Regiment of Foot.

The selection of this regiment as guard of honor to the United States troops held a marked significance, since the Royal Welsh is the only regiment of British regular infantry that has ever served with regular forces of the United States in battle against a common enemy. During the Boxer uprising, in 1900, when the United States Marines landed at Taku, they were joined by a battalion of the Royal Welsh.

Upon this peg of history Brigadier-General George Richards, U. S. M. C., has hung an interesting account of the campaign in which the Yankees and the British were shoulder-to-shoulder allies. The article appears in the September issue of *The Century*.

Under the title "Blood Is Thicker Than Water," General Richards, in recounting the landing at Taku, says:

"There at the mouth of the Pei-ho River, more than fifty years before, Captain Josiah Tattnall, of the United States Navy, on the American war-of-war Toeywan, uttered his memorable words, 'Blood is thicker than water'-words forever to be cherished by all Englishspeaking peoples. But the Royal Welsh and the American Marines there wrote these words into actual deeds, for almost with their arrival they became engaged in battle against the common enemy. These British and American forces were at once merged into a column in military operations having for their immediate object the relief of the Tientsin foreign concessions, near the walled city of Tientsin, where the European residents, including women and children, were beleaguered under fire of hostile Chinese troops associated with the Boxer rebels. With them later came the Russian, Italian, Japanese and other forces.

"Tientsin stood squarely on the way to Pekin. It had to be taken first. These forces accomplished this task; opened up the concessions, after marching ninety-seven miles in all directions in five days, fighting all the way, living on one meal a day for the entire time. With them there was a force of the British blue-jackets under command of Admiral (then Commander) Cradock, Royal Navy, whom we remember now as the British commander who more recently went to his death on his flagship, the Good Hope, in the battle, early in the great war, between his fleet and the Germans under Admiral Spee.

"But the writer's acquaintance with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers came later, for after the Tientsin foreign concessions were relieved it became necessary immediately to take the walled city of Tientsin, a sterner task. On the night of July 12th all available troops were collected at the concessions for an early morning attack the next day. In the darkness of that night we American Marines assembled on Victoria Road in the British concession. The 23d Foot came up and halted in our immediate neighborhood. Presently the word was given to advance. "Royal-Welsh!" was the command instead of our "Forward-march!" and away went those khaki-clad British soldiers into the darkness, the Marines following. When dawn came on the open plain, on our left there was revealed to us the deployed skirmish line of the Welsh, with the khaki-covered helmets standing clear on the skyline. But on the backs of the British officers we noted something black in the shape of a triangle. 'A good idea,' we thought; 'the men will know their officers in the scrimmage, but the enemy in front will see no difference in the dress of either.' We thought no more of that, for interesting things immedi-

ately began to happen to us. "Later in the day, however, after we had advanced under fire with heavy losses, we finally reached a position from which we could proceed no farther. We were then under the walls of the fortified city of Tientsin, on the extreme left of the line, the exposed flank, and there we were joined by the Royal Welsh. We promptly 'dug in' together, prepared to stay. In this effort we came to know the British officers better. When we had settled there to stick, we turned to Captain Gwynne, who commanded the battalion. Noting that the black triangle was of ribbons, we mentioned that we thought it a clever idea to distinguish their officers to their men

and not to the enemy's snipers. "'Not so,' said Gwynne. 'It serves that purpose here, but such is not the object. These ribbons are the "flash" preserved by us in memory of our service in America during your Revolutionary

War.'

"When we pressed him for particulars he added:

"'When we left England for the American colonies before your battle of Lexington and during our service there, every one wore pigtails or queues, soldiers and civilians alike. Our active service began at Bunker Hill and did not end until the surrender of Yorktown. Afterward the 23d returned to England, went to Martinique and San Domingo, then later to Nova Scotia. There we learned, a year or more after its discontinuance, that the pigtail was no longer in fashion. As we were the last regiment to wear the queue, we took the black velvet ribbons with which the periwig was tied and sewed them to the backs of the collars of our tunics. Years after, at Gosport, the inspector general wanted to know what these ribbons were doing there. He declared that there was nothing in the regulations so authorizing and ordered their discontinuance. Consternation filled us, and our colonel appealed to the war office. Sir Francis Gordon, at one time our colonel, was then quartermaster general of forces; his influence we at once sought. And so, very shortly afterward, an order was given which

read, "The King has been graciously pleased to approve the 'flashes,' now worn by the officers of the 23d Foot, or Royal Welsh Fusiliers, being henceforth worn and established as a peculiarity whereby to mark the dress of that disguished regiment."

"All this was told us while we were under the constant fire of the Chinese, with our own American dead and the British dead and wounded all about us.

"'And so you fought at Bunker Hill?"

we said.

"'Yes,' said Captain Gwynne; 'and you jolly well shot us up there-some sort of order given your people to wait until we got to the top of the hill. At least, our regimental history so states.'

"'Yes,' we said. 'Every American schoolboy knows that order was, "Wait until you see the whites of their eyes."'

"'Well,' said the British officer, 'it cost us eight hundred men out of twelve hundred that day. But that is all history. It's all over. But it is worth noting here that this is a proud day for us, for this is the first time in the history of the two nations that the regular forces of each have acted together against a common enemy.'

"So we became real friends, to remain so forever. Major Waller wrote in his official report: 'I can not speak too highly of the conduct of the officers of the Fusiliers. This battalion has been at our side since June 23d. They have responded to my orders with the greatest alacrity and willingness, all the officers and men ready to go anywhere.' And the British Brigadier General Dorward, who commanded our left wing before Tientsin, not to be outdone by Waller, declared in his report: 'The American troops formed a part of the front line of the British attack and so had more than their share of the fighting that took place. The ready and willing spirit of the officers and men will always make their command easy and pleasant, and when one adds to that the steady gallantry and power of holding on to extreme positions which they displayed on the 13th instant, the result is soldiers of the highest class.' But there are many other things that Gwynne might have told us about the Royal Welsh that we have since learned. * * *

"We are fortunate to know a little of the service of the Royal Welsh in this great war. Four days after its beginning in 1914 its home battalions were assembled at Wrexham depot for service in France. One battalion, however, remained abroad, where its service continued in the German Cameroons with the Anglo-French forces under Brigadier General Dobell, a distinguished officer of the Royal Welsh. But the battalions from Wrexham were dispatched immediately to France, where they fought and bled in the stress of those times. When after the German advance was hurled back from the Marne, and the modern

trench warfare was initiated on the Aisne, after months of the fiercest fighting, there occurred an incident, a moment of relaxation, if it may be so called, that many of us read of at the time. On Christmas eve of 1914, on a sector manned, respectively, on opposite sides by the Saxons and the British, the firing suddenly ceased, but not by orders. The Saxons shouted out first, 'Don't shoot!' The British lads held up their hands in assent. A barrel of beer came over the trenches. And the British in return gave over surplus rations that the Saxons were eager to get. Those British troops who responded to this invitation were none other than the famous 23d, the Royal Welsh, the old associates in China of the United States Marines. Let us remember the Christmas eve of 1914 and those Saxons, our enemies now in the great war of today. The carol chorus that arose from the German trenches that night came from hearts that for the time being expressed peace on earth, good will to men. Their ways are not our ways now, though their strain is in the Anglo-Saxon stock; but their song silenced for the time the crack of the rifles of the snipers leveled across no-man's land.

"'You English there, why don't you come out?' the Saxons called, and the candles then burned along the parapets that were hitherto guarded with ceaseless vigilance! A British chaplain gave to a Saxon colonel a copy of the English Soldier's Prayer and in return received a cigar, with a message for the bereaved family of a certain wounded British officer who had recently died a prisoner of war. And on the following Christmas day the Saxons and Welsh buried their dead and even played together a game of football, in which the Saxons won. That such things could have occurred in the midst of war seems unbelievable to us, but that they did occur there can be no mistake. It brings back our faith in the virtues of all mankind. But that truce was not an official truce, for no kaiser willed or authorized it. It came from the hearts of those who were bearing the brunt of the war, but it expressed a sentiment upon which in the end the world will once again be united in peace on earth and a good will to men."

CAMOUFLAGE COMPANY ORGANIZED

Organization of the first American camouflage company has been announced by the War Department. This new unit will be attached to the Engineer Corps.

The new company wants as enlisted men iron workers, sheet-metal workers, carpenters, cabinet makers, stage carpenters, property men, plaster moulders, photographers, scene painters and sign painters. This is the first unit of its kind to be organized by the Corps of Engineers.

With the Small-Bore Outdoor League

Marksmen of the Kiowa Shooting Club of Des Moines, Iowa, raised the high score for a single match in the N. R. A. outdoor small-bore competition during the eighth of the series by hanging up a team total of 974 points.

Previous to this the highest total registered was that of the Washington, D. C., Rifle Club in the fourth week's shooting, when that organization made a total of 961 points, or an

individual average of 192.2.

Reduced to terms of individual shooting, the Kiowa team's record means that each man made an average of 194.8, which is just about as consistent a performance as can well be expected and to exceed which some very exceptional team shooting will be demanded. Only one man on the team fell below 195. That was Nicholas, and his score was 191.

There is still a little shifting in the aggregate standing, the work of the Kiowa Club this week giving them the greatest lead so far between any first-place club and the club in second place. If the Kiowa Club can keep up the pace, it has an excellent chance to total, 856. finish winner.

The standing of the clubs in the eighth match is:

- 1. Kiowa Shooting Club, Des Moines, Iowa: W. E. Kessler, 197; E. Fines, 196; R. Berry, 195; C. H. Kessler, 195; Nicholas, 191. Club total, 974.
- 2. Brooklyn, N. Y., Rifle Club: L. J. Corsa, 196; L. J. Miller, 191; Paul Lahm, 189; H. Otto, 188; Chas. Gelehard, 184. Club total, 948.
- 3. Los Angeles, Cal., R. & R. Club: E. C. Crossman, 194; G. L. Wotkyns, 191; Dr. L. Felsenthal, 187; John Siefert, 187; E. D. Neff, 185. Club total, 944.
- 4. Jacksonville, Fla., Rifle Club: C. S. Graham, 191; Wm. McNamee, 189; A. H. St. John, 188; C. H. Edwards, 187; A. R. Reynolds, 185. Club total, 940.
- 5. Milwaukee, Wis., R. & P. Club: N. E. Dahm, 191; H. W. Mansfield, 190; G. E. Meisenheimer, 189; Emil Teich, 189; F. M. Teich, 181. Club total, 940.
- 6. Massachusetts Rifle Ass'n, Boston: A. Niedner, 191; L. McAleer, 190; J. Kelly, 187; W. E. Fennell, 186; H. Marshall, 184. Club total, 938.
- 7. Washington, D. C., Rifle Club: J. H. Robertson, 189; O. M. Schriver, 188; A. Winter, 187; W. R. Stokes, 186; C. F. Himmler, 183. Club total, 933.
- 8. Birmingham, Ala., A. C. R. & R. Ass'n: T. K. Lee, 197; M. Jones, 188; P. Reid, 188; A. F. DeFuniak, 186; D. Reid, 163. Club total, 922.
- 9. Cal. R. C. R. & P. Club, San Francisco: Paul Thelen, 183; R. M. Vaughan, 183; H. Schmidt, 181; L. R. Kessing, 180; F. A. Danghert, 178. Club total, 905.
- 10. Ashburnham, Mass., Rifle Club: J. R. Briggs, 195; G. Hallingwatt, 190; W. A. Barlow. 189; G. Willard, 174; W. S. Young, 155. Club total, 903.

- 11. Manhattan R. & R. Club, N. Y. City: Alfred H. Seeley, 191; H. M. Pope, 189; D. J. Gould, Jr., 180; K. H. Fichtner, 170; C. B. Walker, 163. Club total, 893.
- 12. Franklin, Pa., Rifle Club: C. H. Bronson, 187; W. H. Shaffer, 180; W. W. Mackey, 179; F. E. Cathers, 176; G. B. Jobsonm, 168. Club total, 890.
- 13. Denver, Colo., City Rifle Club: C. L. Butler, 192; R. E. Ladwig, 179; C. E. Younkman, 172; T. H. Smith, 170; L. G. Pridy, 167. Club total, 880.
- 14. Toledo, Ohio, R. & P. Club: B. C. Wilson, 189; H. S. Crawford, 186; H. G. Affleck, 182; H. Yunker, 162; A. S. Davis, 151. Club total, 870.
- 15. Scott, Ark., Rifle Club: W. Alexander, 178; H. T. Brown, 174; Wayne Alexander, 169; H. Thibault, 168; H. Fletcher, 167. Club total, 856.
- Pentwater, Mich., Rifle Club: E. B. Clark, 176; R. N. Lagesen, 174; E. Stanhope, 173; M. D. Girard, 166; F. W. Fincher, Jr., 164. Club total, 853.
- Joliet, Ill., Rifle Club: L. J. Deiss, 187;
 A. Gray, 177; H. D. Grose, 170; R. McKee,
 160; C. McKee, 155. Club total, 849.
- 18. Norwalk, Conn., Rifle Club: J. A. Baker, Jr., 176; J. D. Mike, 174; E. N. Dart, 173; F. Hunkemeier, 164; A. N. Clark, 161. Club total, 848.
- 19. Hydraulic Rifle Club, Cleveland, Ohio: E. Gruber, 179; J. Patteson, 179; F. Gruber, 169; J. Singer, 162; M. B. Nook, 156. Club total, 845.
- 20. Cazenovia, N. Y., Rifle Club: H. C. Thorne, 180; F. D. Holdridge, 171; C. F. Huttleston, 167; S. M. Thomas, 163; G. L. Woodworth, 163. Club total, 844.
- 21. Citizens R. & R. Club, Rochester, N. Y.: A. G. Johnson, 176; W. W. Lewis, 173; G. Searle, 167; F. Sherman, 164; C. D. Hobbie, 141. Club total, 821.
- 22. Middleboro, Mass., Rifle Club: H. L. Pember, 183; R. Bowen, 174; A. C. Jinney, 167; S. L. Brett, 152; R. P. Jenks, 140. Club total, 816.
- 23. Warren, Pa., R. & R. Club: F. P. Lauff, 183; F. W. Jefferson, 170; J. G. Small. man, 157; T. M. Carlson, 154; J. L. Smith, 152. Club total, 816.

24. New Bedford, Mass., Rifle Club: P. Coderre, 174; A. Aubut, 168; W. Dessert, 158; J. Blouin, 158; E. Choquette, 157. Club total, 815.

- 25. Ontario, Cal., Rifle Club: F. A. Wallihan, 175; E. Casler, 162; C. E. Hare, 155; C. H. Card, 154; H. E. Strunk, 154. Club total, 800.
- 26. Antioch, Ill., Rifle Club: H. E. Williams, 177; N. E. Proctor, 168; E. S. Garrett, 153; F. R. King, 152; Bert Worman, 141. Club total, 791.
- 27. Chicago, Ill., Rifle Club: K. Robinson, 163; H. F. Walbaum, 161; E. B. Witwer, 161; C. J. Chamberlain, 150; F. B. Roziene, 148. Club total, 783.
- 28. Community Rifle Club, Sherrill, N. Y.: L. Lee, 182; Burlingame, 155; Amacher, 147; Flick, 143; Tucker, 126. Club total, 753.
- 29. Canyon City, Ore., Rifle Club: Denver Leedy, 150; C. G. Guernsey, 148; J. Muldrick, 142; Harry Allen, 131; W. C. Mason, 120. Club total, 691.
- 30. Patchogue, N. Y., Rifle Club: Jas. H. McKnight, 153; H. L. Rieth, 138; F. P. Johnson, 131; R. VanTayl, 128; L. R. Neuchant, 118. Club total, 668.

The aggregate standing of the clubs at the close of the eighth match is:

- Milwaukee, Wisc., R. & P. Club... 7440
 Brooklyn, N. Y., Rifle Club..... 7433
 Birmingham, Ala., Ath. Rifle Club 7231
 Manhattan R. & R. Club, N. Y.
 City 7153
- 8. Los Angeles, Cal., R. & R. Club... 7082
 9. Jacksonville, Fla., Rifle Club.... 7078
 10. Toledo, Ohio, Rifle & Pistol Club 6975
 11. Scott, Ark., Rifle Club..... 6843
 12. Denver, Colo., City Rifle Club.... 6814
- Pentwater, Mich., Rifle Club.... 6735
 Ashburnham, Mass., Rifle Club... 6705
 Note: 191 Points taken off as result of
- clerical error in Ffth Match.

 18. Norwalk, Conn., Rifle Club...... 6610

 19. Warren, Pa., R. & R. Club..... 6604



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26 Ontario Cal Rifle Club

26. Ontario, Cal., Rifle Club 6182 27. Antioch, Ill., Rifle Club 6123	SIXTH, M
28. Chicago, Ill., Rifle Club 5731 29. Canyon City, Ore., Rifle Club 5332 30. Patchogue, N. Y., Rifle Club 4914	Wilsall, Mor Massena, N. Kenosha, W
EIGHTH MATCH MISSING	FIFTH,
Canton, Ohio, R. & P. Club 5972 Greater Omaha, Nebr., R. & R. Club 5658	EIGHT Akron, Ohio
Olig Rifle Club, Reward, Cal 5253 Rochester, Minn., Rifle Club 4963	FOURTH, AND EIG
Holbrook, Arizona, Rifle Club 4298 Note: 58 Points taken off as result of clerical error in report of Fifth Match.	Hoosier Riff
Malta, Mont., Rifle Club 4181	THIRD, F
SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING	St. Louis, M Highland, C
St. Jonhsbury, Vt., Rifle Club 4715	
SIXTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING	SECOND, SIXTH,
Niskayuna Rifle Club, Schnectady, N. Y	Hopkins, M Litchfield, C
FIRST AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING	NO M Saranac L
Gen. Phil Kearney Rifle Club, Kearney, N. J 5017	Mt. Olive National I Long Bea

SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING
Wilsall, Mont., Rifle Club
FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING
Akron, Ohio, Rifle Ass'n 2811
FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING
Hoosier Rifle Club, Indianapolis, Ind. 2390
THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH. SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING
St. Louis, Mo., Col. Rev. Club 1745 Highland, Cal. Rifle Club 1427
SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH MATCHES MISSING
Hopkins, Minn., Rifle Club 865 Litchfield, Conn., Rifle Club 491
NO MATCHES REPORTED
Saranac Lake, N. Y., Rifle Club. Mt. Olive Rifle Club, Reedley, Colo.
National Rifle Club, Newark, N. J. Long Beach, Cal., Rifle Club.

HANGFIRES AND RICOCHETS

H. L. Lake, of Fulton, N. Y., has made a score of 222 shooting the N. R. A. outdoor small-bore course. The score, in which the rapid fire at 50 yards and the rapid fire at 75 yards was completed in 1 minute 50 seconds and 2 minutes 5 second respectively, is:

Rapid	fire	. 50	yar	ds.										4	5
Rapid															
Slow	fire.	75 1	ard	ls										4	4
Slow	fire.	125	var	ds.										4	4
Slow	fire,	150	yar	ds.										4	1
													_		-
	Tot	-1											3	22	2

Discussing the trial, Lake says:

"It is years since the writer has shot in prone positions at the target, most of my work being in the 'offhand' position. The rifle used was a No. 15 Maynard with 26-inch barrel. Sights, Maxim (V-M) front and Maynard tang rear peep. No wind-gauge to use. At 150 yards, with a breeze at 9 o'clock, had to allow quite a little by holding 'off' in order to center the bull. Weather conditions very good. Believe that this course of firing with the .22 L. R. will make good practice in learning to acquire skill with the rifle of larger calibre. One gets practice in allowing for wind and light, etc., as at the longer ranges with the high-power rifle. The tiny bullet is very sensitive to variation of wind and with any breeze is apt to keep one 'guessing.' Will be glad to enter any contest organized for this or a similar course of firing."

Having tried out the Small-Bore Outdoor Qualification Course with the Winchester musket equipped with telescopic sights, and with a similar arm equipped with a Krag sight, K. H. Fichtner, of the Manhattan Rifle and Revolver Association, has recorded scores which give an excellent basis of comparison between the two outfits. In both instances he qualified as an Expert Rifleman.

His verdict following the test is that if the telescopic sight is permitted, the size of the targets as now prescribed should be reduced.

He writes:

"On September 8th I was on the range of the club experimenting with the .22-calibre qualification course. "I first shot the course with the Winchester musket, using the telescope sight. I consider it too easy. The B-4 target I find all right for 150 yards when shot in the prone position without rest; for 125 yards I find it too big. The A-4 target is O. K., for everybody drops at the 75-yard range, but the D-4 target is surely too big again; a 5-inch figure-base would be plenty.

"For the front sight the targets are all right and you have to hold very steady to qualify as expert. I have no kick here, except for the time in rapid fire; 2½ minutes at 50 yards kneeling and 3 minutes at 75 yards prone should be enough for a single-shot rifle."

The scores:

With Telescopic Sight: 150 yards prone, 45; 125 yards prone, 50; 75 yards prone, 45; 75 prone from standing, 50; 50 yards kneeling from standing, 48. Total, 238.

With Krag Sight: 150 yards prone, without rest, 38; 125 yards prone, 42; 74 yards prone, 44; 75 yards prone from standing, 44; 50 yards kneeling from standing, 45. Total, 213.

Guthrie Center, Iowa, may be a small spot on the map, but let me tell you wise guys that the rifle club of that little jerkwater town had a Labor Day shoot that surely was a hummer. It was none of these pink-tea affairs with pretty girls, etc., but was a genuine getclose-to-nature gathering amid fields of waving corn and acres of golden grain.

Cocky Kennedy, who in other words is the club monkey, managed the shoot, but the best he could do was to get second place for himself. He spotted a lot of town merchants and ordered them to put up prizes for the shoot. Of course they did as they were told, and a good bunch of articles were shot for. When Bill Leach, a new man in the shooting game, was able to pot the bull's-eyes faster than the spotters could paste the hole, Old Kennedy began to look peeved. As he was thinking of cinching first place the best he could do let out a howl and make a poor funeral.

The five scores, running from 124 to 117, (Concluded on page 497)

The National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice:

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8th Co., C. A. C., Portland
Pennsylvania, Major W. P. Clark,
409 E. 3d St., Williamsport

Texas, Gen. O. C. Guessaz......San Antonio Utah, M. A. Keyser,

Presiding Genius-What is the charge against Private Jones?

Sergeant—If yer please, 'e's been drunk, an' 'e's been breakin' things, an' he won't obey no orders. In fact, 'e's been behavin' ginrally as the 'e wuz the bloomin' colonel himself!—Sydney Bulletin.

Off Hand From the Clubs

M. S. R. A. Arranges Annual Rifle Matches

AS in former years, the big rifle range at Wakefield, Mass., will be the scene of the annual rifle competitions of the Massachusetts Association of N. R. A. Clubs.

The matches will be held October 6 and 7 and October 13 and 14, in this way making use of two week ends. All N. R. A. members in the Bay State will be eligible to compete, and arrangements have been made for the comfort of the entrants, including a complete equipment, with the exception of blankets, for those N. R. A. members who desire to spend the night at the range.

Major William C. Harllee, U.S.M C., who had charge of the re-opening of the range under the supervision of the Navy, has been invited to act as executive officer of the matches.

The program will, of course, include the usual squadded and team matches which have always been the feature of the Wakefield competitions. A schedule of these matches is now being prepared.

In addition quite a pretentious program has been arranged upon the model furnished in the District of Columbia Rifle Association Matches held last year at Winthrop, Md. A departure from this schedule, however, is apparent in the fact that this series of competitions will be reentry matches, and can be shot at any time during the 4 days of the competitions. This program calls for:

Slow Fire Match, 200 yards. N. R. A. slow fire course, 20 shots, in strings of 5 shots each. Positions, prone, kneeling, squatting and standing. Target B.

Rapid Fire Match, 200 yards. N. R. A. rapid fire course, 20 shots in strings of 5 shots, 30 seconds per string. Positions, prone, kneeling, squatting and standing.

Skirmish Match. The N. R. A. skirmish course, 20 shots, 5 shots each at 500, 400, 300 and 200 yards.

Expert Match, 500 yards. Target B, 4 strings of 5 shots, changing position fire. Slow Fire Match, 500 yards. N. R. A. slow fire course 20 shots in strings of 5 shots

fire course, 20 shots, in strings of 5 shots each, positions, prone, kneeling, squatting and sitting.

To the winners of these matches will be awarded: For first place, a gold medal; for second place, a silver medal; for third place, a bronze medal.

In addition the entrant having the high aggregate score in all the matches will be awarded a gold medal and the Massachusetts N. R. A. championship. For second and third places in the grand aggregate, silver and bronze medals will be awarded.

The entrance fee to these matches will be 20 cents for the 20-shot matches and 10 cents for the 10-shot matches. There will be no cash prizes, and the entrance fees will go towards defraying medal expenses.

It is announced that all competitors who make 75 in any rapid fire event, will be awarded the N. R. A. decoration for marksmen. Those who make 75 in the skirmish match will be awarded the sharpshooter decoration and those who make 70 in the

experts match will be awarded the decoration of Expert rifleman. These awards will be made on the grounds by an officer of the N. R. A.

Rifles will be loaned to shooters, whenever desired without charge, and ammunition will be sold by the Bay State Rifle
Association at government cost. Camping
accomodations will be free to N. R. A.
members, although each entrant who desires such accomodations must bring his
own blankets. Meals can be obtained in
the Navy mess hall at a cost of 25 cents
each.

Sighting Shots

J. E. Brownlee, secretary of the Lamar, Colorado, Rifle Club, answering an editorial in Arms and the Man, says:

"I have been thinking over your editorial, 'The Secretary and his Club' under date of August 18th. You ask the question, 'Have you Mr. Secretary any plan for keeping the Club together?'

"Under date of August 14th, I wrote you that the Governor had called in all of our free issue rifles and all of our free issue ammunition and given them to an Agricultural College. We are holding out five guns as directed, and intend to hold the left-over free issue until it is shot up, or taken away from us.

"It has now been long enough to tell a little of the effect of the action on the club. Our club, as you know, has about 75 members, we have two Aiken targets on our outdoor range, and had an indoor range until the first of June. Every week there were men shooting on the outdoor range. We were very active in a campaign to get recruits, and sent nearly 300 to the various branches of the service. Several of our members joined, even I took a round at Ft. Riley's training camp for two months, when a medical man said: "Casey, you're discharged," so I took my hat and my departure.

"Up to the time of receiving the order to send our guns in, we held drill practice twice each week for the benefit of prospective recruits and drafted men. Three to four squads formed every drill night. Now we cannot get enough of the club together to run the target pit, slow fire. We are no more, we are in the class with the Indian and the buffalo. We howl, but the noise sounds lonesome even in the day-time; this should not be for we have had considerable practice lately.

"I have had considerable experience in club work (all of the clubs in which I have been secretary are dead) and I would suggest for the benefit of other clubs, that they be permitted to keep their guns; give them their free issue ammunition, for even the immortal Barnum liked to get something for nothing; let them buy supplies, not only guns and ammunition, but any ordnance and ordnance stores which will encourage them to get into the hills with their guns; and have matches often. When this is done then have each club get a Secretary who will devote his time to the club, and who will not be afraid to neglect his own private business. Then you will have a

live club. A good secretary is one who can do all the work, and make the members believe that they are doing their share, and who does not crawl out of the target pits until time to go home. While it is true that members help more or less, it is also a fact that all clubs are more or less a oneman proposition if they amount to anything. That one man must either see that the work is done; if others do not do it, do the work himself. The work of arranging matches working the targets, and cleaning the club guns at the close of the match, usually falls on one man, therefore the wise club will get a wide-awake Secretary.

"I have read the Act of Congress, approved June 14, 1917, and find nothing that would suggest the guns be taken away from rifle clubs any more than the ones stored at the arsenals. I don't see any reason for suspending free issue Krag ammunition, or the holding up of the appropriation of \$100,000 or better, made by Congress over a year ago. The rifle clubs have never demanded a construction of the law in their favor, but they should be entitled to what has been given them by the act of Congress, or the law should be repealed. It is true that these are trying times, but every rifle club in the United States will give much more than it receives, if it is given the opportunity. The club could easily teach the school of the squad, soldier and company, to every drafted man in the country if given the authority, and at practically no expense to the Government.

"As I said in the beginning, our club has been very active in getting recruits and drilling the boys until recently. Now, we are up against it. Of course, we are not going to let our club die without a heroic effort to save it, and we should be encouraged instead of hindered in our efforts. Now is a time for team work; help the clubs, assign them tasks, and they will respond in a way that will justify their existence."

Commenting upon the story by C. S. Landis in the August 18 issue, A. A. Young, of Jewitt City, Conn., says:

"Mr. Landis' conclusions relative to sorting bullets by weight, are mighty sensible, and recall my own early experiences in rifle shooting.

"Among my acquaintances at that time was an old fellow who used to do quite a little target work in the days of muzzle loaders. I well remember how he used to sneer at expectations of good strings with 'boughten' ammunition. He said the powder charge might be alright, but the bullets would vary and should be swaged to weight.

"The swage was a heavy, accurate bullet-mould-like affair with a plunger and provision for surplus lead to pass. The operation was to swage a bullet to about the weight desired by the shooter and then place it in a jeweller's balance and swage the rest of the bullets to an exact balance with the model. The surplus lead from the swaging was in the form of a thin cylinder at the base of the bullet and was easily removed with a knife. The swaging process not only corrected the weight, but made the bullet more nearly of the correct size and even density.

"I never went so far as to have a swage made and the old fellow insisted I could never be sure of every shot till I did." How a Colt Government automatic came in handy is told by L. S. Chilcott, of Bangor, Me.

"A commercial traveler who had lately bought a car. of which he was very proud." says Mr. Chilcott, "is making his route with his new gasoline carryall; and as he carries with him at times quite a bunch of money, he equipped himself with one of those Colt government automatics and when driving carries it ready for business on the seat beside him.

"The gypsies opened the season here this year with a rather annoying and continuous performance and were reported to have committed a number of acts which would have landed a white man behind the bars.

"Our drummer friend was driving one day along a road which leads through the woods for about ten miles, there being only a very few houses in all that distance. Mr. Drummer's happiness in his general surroundings were suddenly interrupted by a band of the gypsies who stopped him and proceeded to inform him of various things he might do for them right then and there. Mr. Drummer immediately produced his slide trombone and the argument appeared to be suddenly in the favor of the minority. There was a very disappointed look upon the faces of the invaders and our friend continued his journey without further interruption."

Out on the Frank Hubbard farm at Bedford, Ohio, the crack, crack, crack of rifles may be heard most any day. It is the members of the Cleveland Rifle Club Co., formerly the Cleveland Rifle and Revolver Club, testing their skill as marksmen at ranges of 200, 300 and 500 yards.

The Hubbard farm has been owned by the family for more than sixty years and is being retained for sentimental reasons. Members of the Rifle Club Co. found excellent natural conditions for a rifle range and succeeded in leasing a strip of the farm for a term of years.

A shooting house twenty by thirty feet containing six shooting benches and the observer's bench has been built.

A telegraph line connecting the shooting house with the targets has been strung and members of the club are happily situated in their new quarters.

By pressing a button a shooter may signal one of the three boys in the target house when the value of the shot is at once scored. This is done by the target marker moving the hands of a large dial in front of the target house which can be easily seen from the shooting point.

The target house or pit is twelve by ten feet, filled with sand as a protection against stray bullets that might drop below the targets.

The target markers have a space at the rear of the house where they operate the targets with chains which revolve on sprockets.

Practically the entire membership is equipped with Springfield rifles, as this club is affiliated with the National Rifle Association.

Many of the shooters are equipped with special target rifles, fitted with telescopes, which enables them to do extremely accurate work.

The range is located on Solon Road, about five minutes walk from the carline.

A kitchen enclosed with screens has been built and substantial lunches are served each shooting day.

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. How may the Winder system of targets be adapted to use on a range 43 yards long?

A. The Winder targets are all reduced for shooting at 50 feet. To use them on a 43-yard range it would only be necessary to stop the target carriers at a point 50 feet beyond the muzzle of the rifle.

Q. Is it permissible in shooting from the prone position to rest the butt of the gun on the ground.

A. In shooting from prone, no part of the rifle should rest on the ground.

Q. What is the approximate size in inches that the following targets for long ranges will appear if reduced for use on a 50-foot gallery range: 1,000-yard target, man on horseback, 96 inches; 800-yard target, man standing, 68 inches; 500-yard target, man kneeling, 42 inches; 300-yard target, man prone, 22 inches; and 200-yard target, man prone, 19 inches?

A. In reducing these targets, satisfactory results and the approximate proper reduction can be obtained by dividing the range, in feet, by the 50-foot range desired. For instance, in reducing the target which is 96 inches tall for shooting at 1,000 yards, reduce the range to feet, which is 3,000. Divide 3,000 by 50, which gives 60. Divide 96 inches by 60, and the result, 1.6 inches, is the size of the target when used at a 50-foot range. Following this formula, the 800-yard target reduced from 68 inches would be 1 5/12 inches; the 500-yard target, 1.4 inches; the 300-yard target, 1 2/9 inches, and the 200-yard target, 1 7/12 inches.

Q. What is the difference between the 38 S. & W. Special cartridge and the 38 Colt Special cartridge?

A. No difference except that the Colt Special cartridge has a flattened point. The powder charge and the weight of the bullet and consequently the ballistics of these two cartridges are so nearly identical that I have shot strings using both the cartridges mentioned mixed in together.

Q. In shooting a revolver is it advisable to bring the gun down on to the mark or swing it up to it?

A. It doesn't make a bit of difference so long as you line the sights up properly on the mark after you get the gun in position.

Q. Why is it that the latest revolvers are made with the hammer nose pinned into the hammer instead of being made all in one piece. It seems to me that it would be stronger the latter way and also cheaper to make.

A. It certainly is cheaper to make a hammer and firing pin together in one piece but the loose nose is better in several ways. For one thing the hole through which it passes can be made perfectly round and the end to fit it almost gas tight, and also if you break a hammer nose it is a simple matter to put in a new one without having to purchase a whole hammer.

Q. Are the little ivory beads that they put on shotgun barrels a help in quick sighting?

A. To really get the best results in shotgun shooting a man should know his gun so thoroughly and be so familiar with its use that throwing it to his shoulder in the proper line is a matter of instinct. You won't have much time to line up a pair of small beads on the barrel when a bird flushes suddenly and whirrs away at great speed. For trap shooting where the shooter has plenty of time to get into position the beads may be of considerable assistance.

Q. What is it that makes a shotgun shoot a cart wheel pattern? I have tested my shotgun several times and while it doesn't make cart wheel patterns every shot, it does so too often to suit me.

A. A cart wheel pattern socalled, is one where the shot spread in a form of a circle leaving the center of the pattern almost empty. It is due to a combination of causes. Either the barrel or the shot shells may be to blame. I would suggest your trying other brands of shells and various loads, for sometimes such patterns are produced with only one size of shot. If your experiment along this line does not result in finding a good combination then it is evident that your barrel is not bored properly and I would return it to the makers. The chances are that they will be able to correct the fault.

Q. Is there any way to make a shotgun shoot high or low after the gun is once completed? I have patterned my gun and I find that it shoots a little low and as in trap shooting a target is always rising when it is within the proper shooting distance I think it would be better if my gun shot a little higher as I now have to hold about the target and it is not as easy to see it as it might be.

A. There are two ways to produce the effect you desire. One is to have a straighter stock fitted to your shotgun which will force you to hold your eye above the line of the rib, and another way is to send your gun back to the factory where they will be able

to change it to suit you.

These Clubs Have Been Admitted to N. R. A. Membership:

Arkansas

Adona Rifle Club—G. O. Martin, secretary; A. J. Taylor, president; E. E. Rankin, vice-president; O. E. McGugan, treasurer; A. E. Carter, executive officer. Membership, 25.

Watalulu Rifle Club—Walter C. Harris, secretary; T. J. Dickerson, president; G. C. Harris, vice-president; William Waldron, treasurer; Samuel Waldron, executive officer. Membership, 21.

China

The American Board Rifle Club, Peitaiho—Lee M. Miles, secretary; Paul N. Mac Eackron, president; Hugh W. Hubbard, vice-president; Lee M. Miles, treasurer; Lyman V. Cady, executive officer. Membership, 16.

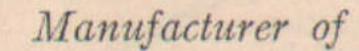
Pennsylvania

North Penn Rifle Club, Philadelphia— Jos. R. Dickerson, secretary; Geo. C. Mills, president; W. A. Jacobie, vice-president; Robert Horn, treasurer; E. G. Eilber, executive officer. Membership, 32.

New York

Central "Y" Rifle Club, Buffalo—J. C. Szymanski, secretary; H. O. Ward, president; Charles E. Ryan, vice-president; John Morris, treasurer; T. E. Wingertzahn, executive officer. Membership, 14.

SAVAGE ARMS CORPORATION





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HANGFIRES AND RICOCHETS

(Concluded from page 494)

were pretty close, so you can imagine what kind of a racket was going on during the whole match. But talk about rivalry! Why, we had old "Nip" and "Tuck" frightened so that they actually looked like Egyptian mummies. The ardor cooled down a trifle when old Jupiter Pluvius opened up with a little heavy artillery, but soon business became rushing. This time the writer-who, by the way, has Edison beat to a frazzle when it comes to rigging up some sort of an ingenious mechanism-had a periscope sticking out of the pit, so he could tell whether any guys were sticking by the rules. Along comes a little runt called Erney Ward, who, by the way, has seen a genuine submarine, and gets to shooting. After a few shots at the stars, he gets tired of aiming at the bull and hitting the evening star, so he spots that periscope. To tell the rest of the story, the writer wishes to mention that he will do the same when he has recovered from the shock of all that plate glass. It was a dead-center shot, with no deviation whatever, with practically all the glass making a bee line down the necks of the Dutchman and his companion, H. Shreves. Talk about loving your neighbor! Why, we ran up to him and, like the Frenchman does, placed two big smacks on each one of his cheeks. Anyhow, he never went home that night to say hello to his wife.

DUTCH ALDRICH.

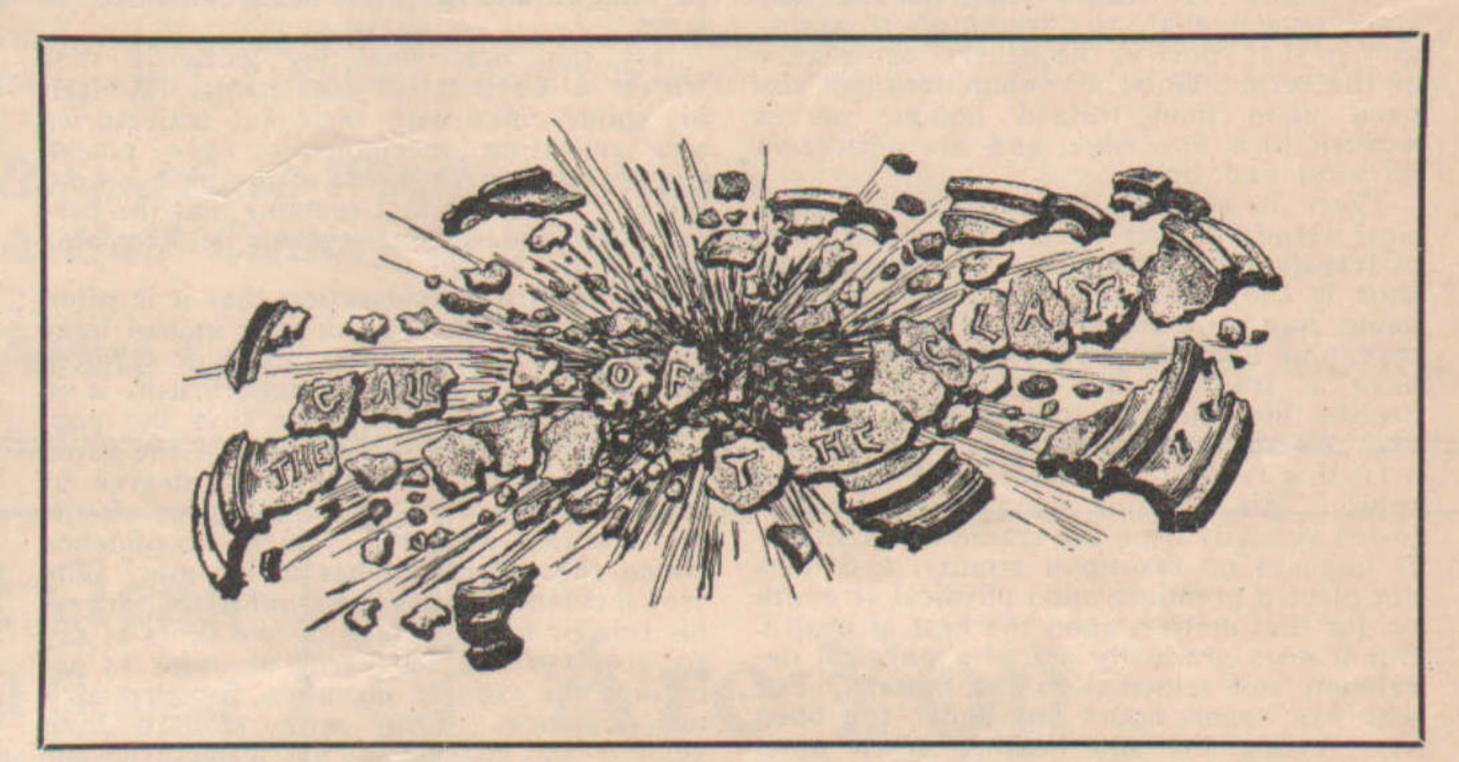
P. S.—Say, you Kiowa bunch, get busy and practice up, for something is going to happen pretty darned quick. If in doubt, quizz C. C. K.

The Long Island Gun and Rifle Club held its annual Championship Match at its range at Rosedale, Long Island, on Labor Day, Monday, September 3, 1917.

Conditions of match: .32-40 calibre at 100 yards, with any sights or trigger pull, 50 shots.

The scores were:

Name	1	2	3	4	5	Total
J. Kaufmann	93	90	96	93	92	464
H. Pope		89	92	93	94	461
A. Hubalek		90	93	98	93	460
F. Bund	82	85	89	90	94	430
M. Baal	83	86	85	88	87	429
J. Ward	75	80	82	78	80	395
H. Lenz	67	70	79	72	74	362
L. Demmerle	71	73	72	74	70	360
R. Csontos	72	72	73	71	70	358
J. W. Beyer	52	65	70	68	60	315



Larson Youngest To Win G. A. H.

By PETER P. CARNEY

WHEN the National Amateur Championship event was called in the Grand American Trapshooting tournament held recently at the South Shore Country Club in Chicago, Ill., the word came down the line in the usual mysterious manner to "keep your eyes on Larson, of Wisconsin."

Larson had broken 99 clays to win the championship of his home State, and in those parts he has the reputation of being "some shooter." We watched Larson, as advised, and noticed that he shot well, but that several others did better. We gave the score-board the once over the next day to ascertain what Mr. Larson was doing in the Chicago Overture, and couldn't locate him. He had gotten off at the wrong station on the way to the shooting grounds, and his squad shot without him. That left him out of that event.

There was only one event left in which Larson might distinguish himself. That was the Grand American Handicap. It was this event in which Larson picked to do his best shooting. He went out on the first day with 79 in 80, and just as soon as his score was posted, many others began to pay attention to him. The fact that he was shooting from 20 yards indicated that he was worthy. In his final 20 targets Larson

missed one target and Mark Arie, of Thomasboro, Ill., who also had 79 in 80, dropped one, so that there was a tie for the Grand American Handicap at 98. Arie was shooting from 22 yards—the back mark.

Arie had been sweeping everything before him all week, and had done his best shooting from 22 yards. Quite naturally there were many who liked his chances for victory. But there was that same mysterious voice around to tell you: "Keep your eyes on Larson." Everyone did. And when he missed his first target in the shoot off, quite a number gave him a second look, for they figured Arie wouldn't miss any; that Larson was beaten. After that miss Larson began to shoot, and he pounced on every one of the other 19 targets as they left the trap house. Arie missed one and another shoot off was necessary.

It isn't every shooter after missing his first target and shooting against one of the best trapshots in the world would have had the courage to continue as Larson did. Larson is of the stuff from which real champions are made. He missed the second target in the second string, giving Arie the advantage. Arie missed his thirteenth target, and Larson followed suit. Arie missed three more, but Larson was through missing. That is the reason that Waupaca, Wis., is talked about so much these days.

Larson is the owner of the general grocery and market in Waupaca. He opined he could make use of the \$743.40 he won in putting a little paint on the old

homestead, buying a few pairs of shoes and lifting the mortgage on the farm. Larson is 24 years old, the youngest trapshot to win the Grand American Handicap. He is a sturdy youth, strong as the proverbial bull, and chilly as the day was when the shoot-off took place, Larson fired at the clays in shirt with the sleeves cut off at the elbows. Others with much more clothing on were chilled through, but not Larson. He had more important things on his mind than thinking about the weather.

Scattering Shot

In virtually every sport in the curriculum tons of matters have been written about the proper methods of "training" for the event. In this respect the word training means, not practicing, but rather physical conditioning.

Nothing has been said upon the subject of "training" for trapshooting for the very good reason that no "training" is necessary in that sport in the general acceptance of the term. Good shooting does not depend upon finely-trained bodies, nerves worked to a fine edge, and the perfection of wind and limb.

There is virtually no set form of physical standard that covers the description of trapshooting champion. The good trapshot is the man, who after studying the game, has kept his mind and eye in good condition, not through any special course of physical training, but by living a clean, healthy life, the only requisites to a clear eye, and alertness of mind.

In this respect trapshooting is a blessed sport. This explains why it can be followed virtually from the cradle to the grave. It imposes no tax upon vitality, and does not place a premium upon physical strength or, for that matter, upon the best of health. But it does gradually act as a physical developer, and remedial to the system. For who can spend hours out under the open sky, feeling the sun beating down upon him, the winds playing over him, and not gradually be restored in mind and body to the limit of vigor.

The trapshooting line at any tournament is an interesting study. It is composed of men, of the most diverse occupations; or callings, of absolutely a variety of physical and mental attributes, yet all possess, in common, steady nerves and eyes, which, after all, are the best indications of a sound interior, and a sound mind.

However, despite the fact that trapshooting does not impose the necessity of training constantly, or of developing the physical to an inordinate degree, trapshooters would do well to observe a few simple regulations in the course of their preparations for competition, which, after all, are the secret of success in this life.

The regulations are:

1. Practice regularly.

2. Eat in moderation of things you like and that agree with you.

3. Keep outdoors as much as possible, but avoid violent exercise.

4. Get eight hours' sleep per day.

5. Smoke if you want to, or drink if you are accustomed to it, but be moderate.

6. Don't worry.

MARINES MAKE "STOWING" RECORD

What is believed to have been a record in "lashing" and "stowing" was made recently by the U. S. Marines serving on board a super-dreadnaught of the Atlantic fleet.

When the call "Up all hammocks!" was

sounded, shortly after midnight, the sea soldiers were sleeping in their hammocks. In just five minutes and twelve seconds they "turned out," "lashed and stowed" their hammocks in the nettings, dressed themselves and were at attention on the quarterdeck, ready for any duty which might have been required of them.

KNOW YOUR GUN

By A. P. LANE

Many sportsmen are prone to overlook one very important detail of their otherwise carefully prepared plans for the annual hunting trip—that of knowing their gun.

How often do we hear the story of the big moose with the record head that continued its headlong rush through the underbrush because the hunter had shot too high or too low. That is, he had aimed well enough but his 2,000 or so feet per second missile had passed harmlessly by its intended victim. Thus a \$1,000 trip had come to naught and a prize head remained at large.

Tis said that most big game is shot within a distance of 200 yards. Modern big game rifles with their flat trajectories and repeating mechanisms have placed every advantage in favor of the man behind the gun. Yet the fact remains that the percentage of misses in the game field remains appallingly large.

Taking into consideration that it is often necessary to take a quick shot in bad light at a rapidly moving deer, moose or caribou, half hidden by trees or underbrush, it is only reasonable to suppose that the possibility of a shot in a vital part of the game is one of chance. But a large degree of success in big game or small game shooting, for that matter, lies in the confidence which the sportsman has in his gun. The real sportsman takes the trouble to "target" his rifle by firing strings of five shots at say 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards in order to ascertain the correct elevation for the various distances. True, with modern high velocity and consequent flat trajectories the variation in striking point is a matter of inches only, but nevertheless many a lordly moose or majestic caribou would not now be roaming its wilderness home had a certain bullet been an inch higher or lower.

And it is so with the shotgun of the duck shooter or the sportsman who hunts the elusive and fast flying quail and other game birds. Why not "pattern" your favorite shotgun and find which loads give the greatest number of pellets in a thirty-inch circle at 40, 60 or 80 yards? The regrets for that pair of Mallards just out of range could be saved with a hard-hitting, close-shooting load.

Few sportsmen know accurately the proper distance to lead certain kinds of ducks or game birds. Many volumes have been written on this subject by sportsmen who have made careful study of the subject for the benefit of brother sportsmen, that might be read and studied with profit by those who would trust to luck to bring down the game.

The average sportsman is only too willing to trust to luck and take a chance which can only result in a larger percentage of misses than "kills."

And so one might go on forever telling of the lost opportunities in the game field because sportsmen do not know their guns.

Should a brother sportsman ask you some day what size groups your favorite rifle will make at 100 or 200 yards, or how many pellets your shotgun will throw into a thirty-inch circle at 40 yards, you will realize for the first time, should you be unable to tell him, that you really do not know your gun.

TRADE NOTES.

"Paddy" O'Hare, who is no stranger to the rifle-shooting fraternity, has issued a new illustrated catalogue of riflemen's shooting accessories.

O'Hare has worked hard to keep his shelves supplied with a wide assortment of those articles which the practical shooter needs in his outdoor work. Many of the articles which O'Hare offers are of European manufacture, and consequently difficult at this time to procure. He, however, is prepared to deliver on short notice telescopes, shooting bags, guntrunks, micrometers and verniers.



WANTS AND FOR SALE

Each subscriber of ARMS AND THE MAN is entitled when his subscription is paid up for one year, to one free insertion of a half-inch want ad in this column.

All he needs to do is to send in the advertisement for insertion at the same time calling attention to the date when his subscription was paid.

FOR SALE-Rifle trunks, marine and British shooting bags, imported telescopes, British cleaning rods and brushes, shooting glasses, rifle rests, British micrometers and verniers, telescope rests, Marble cleaning rods and brushes; locking front sight protector and rear sight cover, Hoppe No. 9; bull's-eye score books, Marine score book, sweat bands, elbow pads, the adjustable shoulder pad, gun covers, "Never Nickel" lubricant. Motter paste, rim oil Winchester oil, barrel gauges, Marble field and rifle cleaner, cleaning patches, all kinds and calibers of brushes, Spitzer greaser, Mobile lubricant, Ideal micrometer, B. S. A. Rifle Saftipaste, Elliott ear protector, gun bore wicks, revolver and pistol rods, rifleman's Favorite sight, black; barrel reflectors, officers' hat cords. Send for catalog and price list. P. J. O'Hare, Importer and Manufacturer of Shooting Accessories, 33 Bruce St., Newark, N. J.

FOR SALE—Marine shooting bag, Lord Bury telescope and rest, front and rear sight covers, all like new. \$25.00. J. C. Steele, Winthrop, Md.

FOR SALE—Savage Rifle, .303 caliber takedown. Perfect condition. \$20.00. J. R. Fletcher, 3121 Louise Street, Midland Hills, Little Rock, Ark.

EXCHANGE—Will trade Airedale bitch 2½ years old, worth \$50.00, eligible for registration, for well broken made Beagle hound; or will sell for \$40.00. W. J. Coleman, 1945 Whitney Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y.

FOR SALE—About a thousand rounds of Army rifle ammunition, U. S. Cartridge Co., Winchester, U. M. C., and Peters make. Loaded for match shooting with 150, 167 and 180 grain bullets. Some of the finest ammunition ever made and just as good as ever. Will sell at rate of twenty dollars per thousand. Ill health compels me to quit the shooting game. Dr. R. S. Henry, Chattanooga, Tenn.

N. R. A. Membership Button



Bronze, 15 cents each Bronze, 14 cents lots of 25 Bronze, 13 cents lots of 50 Bronze, 12 cents lots of 100 Gold, \$2.50 each

These buttons, together with membership cards, make attractive credentials for Rifle Club Members. FOR SALE BY

ARMS AND THE MAN

For Rifle Clubs and Military Training Classes



the economical .22 short and the accurate .22 long rifle cartridge. With the latter cartridge, remarkable groups are being made by members of rifle clubs all over the

country, shooting in the indoor matches conducted by the National Rifle Association.

Particularly adapted to the use of those riflemen who wish to participate in the Outdoor Small Bore Qualification Course of the Association. Its close similarity to the 30 cal. army service rifle together with its excellent accuracy shown in the tests to which it has been submitted, strongly recommend it for use in military target practice.

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ENGLAND.

old by all Gun and Rifle Dealers

Without Cleaning

Existing rifle cleaning methods are associated with hard work by way of bore scrubbing and wiping, with messy oil, and with anxiety for the whole period between cleaning and shooting again.

B. S. A. SAFETIPASTE

is largely used by British soldiers at the front. It abolishes labor because the bore has merely to be coated with it immediately after firing.

Abolishes anxiety because steel destroying powder gas deposits are immediately and positively killed by Safetipaste.

Bore may be even more brilliant when Safetipaste is wiped out before firing again. Safetipaste is soap-like and

Invaluable for hunting and knockabout rifles and guns especially when benches, vises and refined cleaning apparatus are not available.

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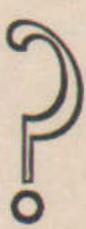
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RIFLE SMOKELESS DIVISION

E.I.DUPONT DENEMOURS & COMPANY

WILMINGTON, DEL.



The New N. R. A. "Target" Model

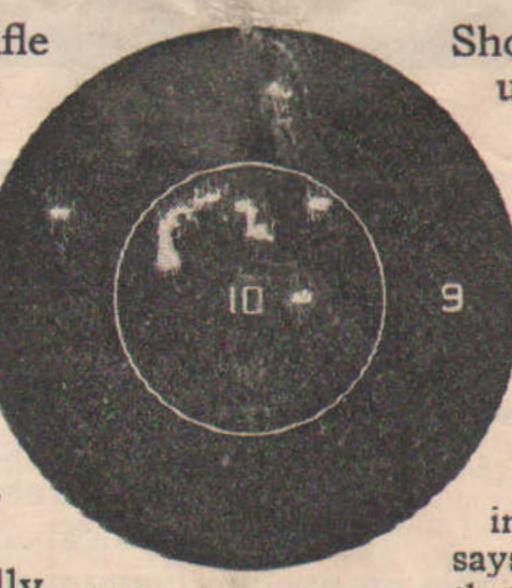
Repeater for the Small Bore League



One of the many good points of this rifle is that ten Long Rifle cartridges may be loaded into the magazine at one time, which permits the shooter to concentrate his entire attention on sighting and aiming. The rifle is also adapted to rapid fire shooting in any position.

The target shown was made in the prone position outdoors at 100 yards. It demonstrates conclusively the accuracy of this excellent rifle.

The new model is chambered especially for the .22 Long Rifle cartridge but the .22



10 shots at 100 yds. prone Reproduction one-half size

Short and .22 Long cartridges may also be used. The barrel is twenty-four inches in length with sixteen inch twist; pistol grip walnut stock fitted with steel butt plate; take down; windgauge globe and aperture front sight and elevating rear peep sight fitted with target disc. Weight of rifle about six pounds.

T. K. Lee, of Birmingham, Ala., one of the leading American small bore shots, speaking of his practical experience with this rifle, says: "It is a very good rifle. My opinion of it is that it will prove the 'hold' of the most expert. It

surely does shoot surprisingly well."



Model 12 C-N.R.A. "Target" Grade Repeater

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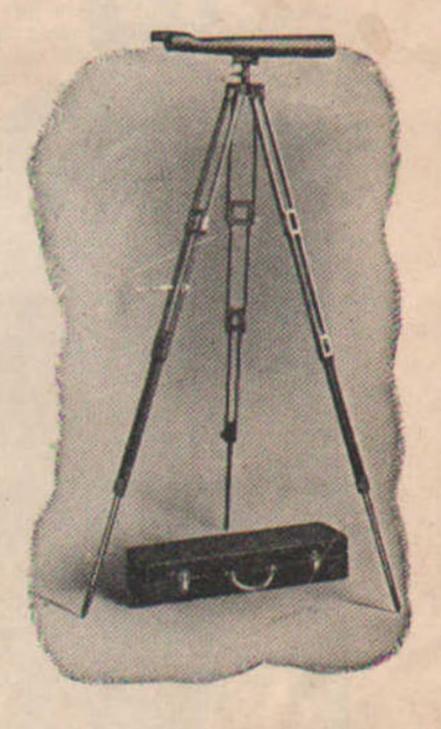
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The Warner & Swasey Co. Cleveland, Ohio



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ARMS AND THE MAN

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