

ARMS AND
THE MAN

THE .22 AS AN INSTRUCTION MEDIUM
POLISHING UP THE NEW COURSE
SENATE REFUSES TO INTERFERE WITH POSSESSION
OF SMALL-ARMS AMMUNITION
WAR'S EFFECT ON GAME AND SPORT
Part Two
RIFLE CONTRACTS ARE QUESTIONED
WITH THE SMALL-BORE LEAGUE
EDITORIALS and
LATEST NEWS OF RIFLE, REVOLVER AND
SHOTGUN, THE ARMY, THE NAVY AND
THE NATIONAL GUARD

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ARMS AND THE MAN

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EVERY SATURDAY

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apparent. If it rouses an enthusiasm for marksmanship among men and boys hitherto prevented from indulging by the peculiar demands of full-charge military practice; if it gives these men a grounding in holding, sight setting, and trigger squeeze; if it leads them through developmental stages to where at last they will graduate into the ever increasing class of military shots, and above all, if it furnishes a means whereby rifle ranges can be kept busy, the forced, unusual activity on the indoor and outdoor small-bore ranges, will not have been in vain.

By all means let every rifleman who can obtain a gun and ammunition keep up his work with the full-charge weapon. While the small-bore has possibilities as yet undreamed of, there can be no gainsaying that proficiency with the service arm is the goal toward which every rifleman should strive.

But lacking the opportunity for full-charge practice, the next best and the most practical thing, is the little .22.

There are several makes of .22 rifles which are standing the test of ranges longer than those on which the small-bore, in the past, has been customarily used, and it won't be long before some one of the big ammunition companies produces a military small-bore which will be worthy of the name.

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The .22 as an Instruction Medium

By E. NEWITT

AMERICA, as was England nearly twenty years ago, is in process of being driven to the .22 as a training medium in marksmanship as an alternative to no training at all.

As technical adviser to, and a member of the Council of, The Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs which undertook the propagation of a movement for the development of nationwide marksmanship, the writer acquired first hand experience of the ways and means by which this was accomplished with great success in England. Incidentally also of the mistakes that were made and what to avoid. For six years from the inception of the idea, clubs, called Working Men's Rifle Clubs, were formed, groped in the dark for suitable weapons, ammunition, ranges, and methods, wasted untold money on countless useless devices and mostly died from sheer inanition.

The movement started as it is now doing here, based on war enthusiasm and patriotism, two motives which lose force just so soon as the inspiring cause ceases to exist, and there is no reason to suppose that the same will not happen here. Later when the study of marksmanship was invested with such sporting attributes as to make it a game, in other words, when the rifle range was made easily accessible, comfortable, and convenient, and its shooting as varied and interesting as hunting, golf or any other game, then its attractions appealed to the sporting instincts of the people, and success came.

Almost the first thing to remember is that whilst some daylight shooting is possible on Saturday afternoons, Sundays and holidays, quite the majority of shooting has to be done at night, for the bulk of those to whom it appeals are engaged in business in the daytime, whilst they have leisure and time to spare at night, hence it is necessary to design our ranges primarily for night shooting.

Whilst the instructive value of shooting at fifty- sixty or seventy-five feet is about as good as that of shooting at any other distance, experience has demonstrated that mere bull's-eye plugging with no more definite object than the acquisition of skill which may never be utilized, in a gallery at seventy-five feet, possesses very unstable attractions for very few people and is far too monotonous for the many to maintain the enthusiasm essential to the healthy and useful existence of a club.

The third consideration is winter, and the difficulty of any outdoor enterprise for quite eight months in the year. In most of the United States the summer evenings are short, a matter which will to some extent be remedied next year if the daylight saving scheme is adopted as it is in all other up-to-date countries.

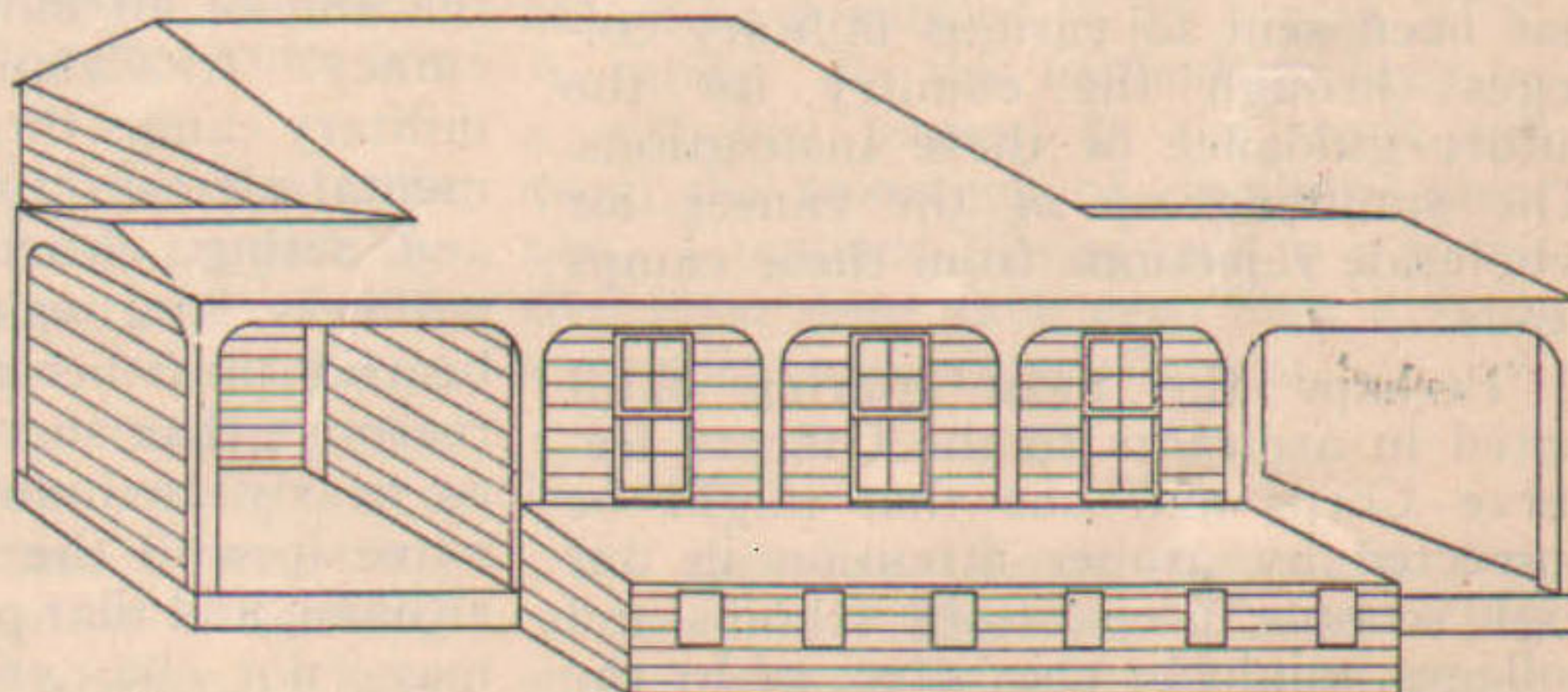
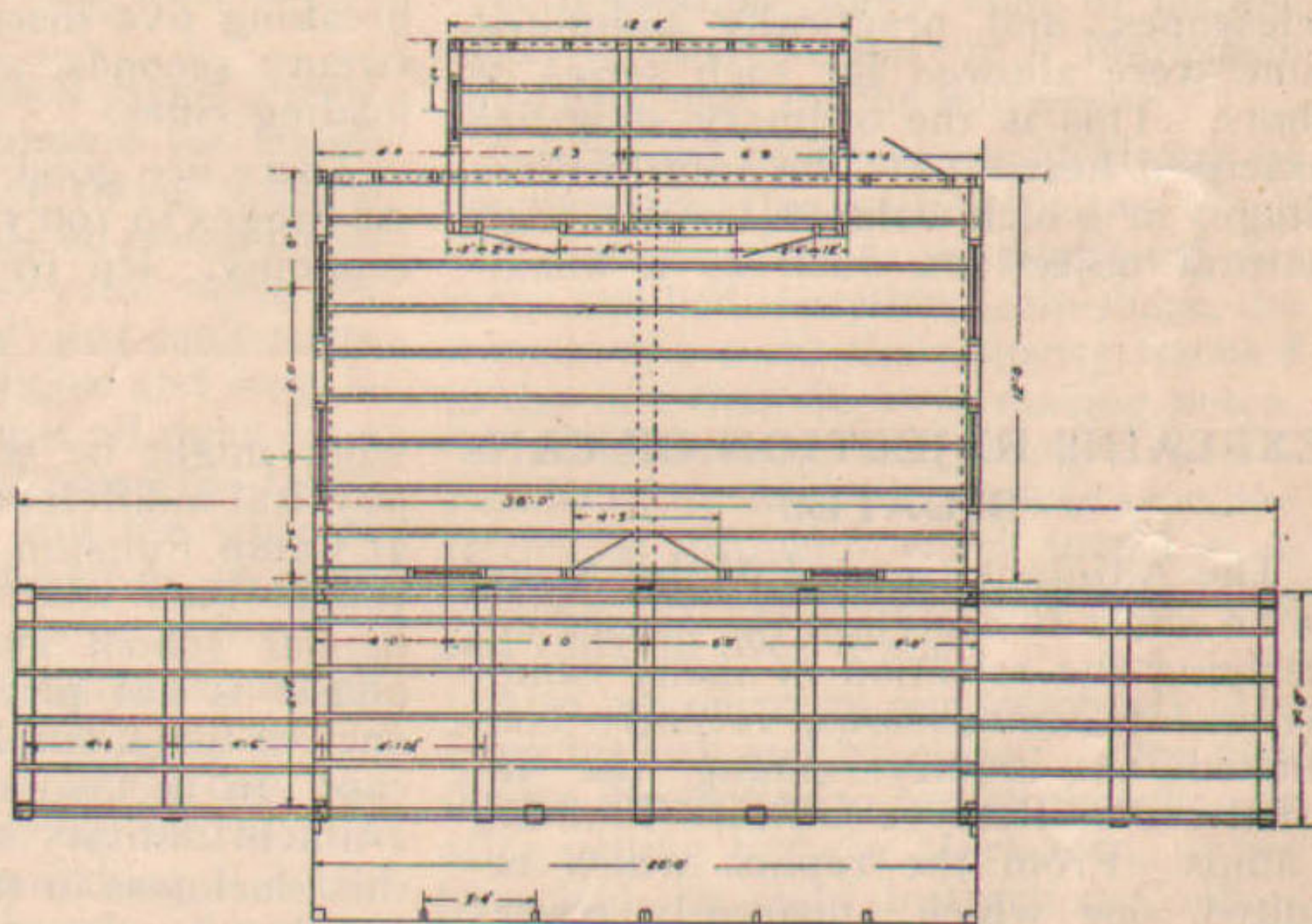
The solution of the whole problem lies in the construction of comfortable ranges easily accessible to the bulk of the people, so designed as to permit of shooting indoors at targets outdoors, by day or night, summer and winter.

Many such ranges exist in England and have been pre-eminently successful. To meet the greater rigors of the climate here calls for a modification of the English design of shooting pavilion. A few years ago I wrote some dope on the subject which was published by the U. M. C. in a booklet entitled: "How to Start a Rifle Club and Keep It Going," and have no doubt the U. M. C. will send a copy to anyone interested on application.

In addition to drawings of the ranges mentioned this booklet contains pictures of several English outdoor ranges and some chapters on handicapping competitions and various stunts for creating and maintaining interest.

With all deference to those experts who in your columns have advocated improvised ranges, and treated the range question as a simple and relatively unimportant matter, experience is that the accessibility, comfort and convenience of the range is the very first essential, while competition,

Type of Range House Used in England.



variety of shooting, handicapping, and generally catering for the novice, is the next. Moreover, iron or steel is the most unsuitable medium for stopping .22 bullets, converting them into innumerable splinters which fly around promiscuous like and do all kinds of damage.

As an instruction medium the .22 cartridge is almost ideal. Its energy is low, yet quite enough to knock a hole in the target and thus indicate that the marksmanship faculties have responded to the intentions of the shooting, its range is not great, and it is easily stopped without much damage to the stopping medium, while it is relatively inexpensive. Save that it should be accurate, the nature of the rifle is unimportant, for the shooting faculties are just as well developed by practice with one rifle as another. Repeating rifles proved so dangerous on rifle ranges in England that the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs was forced to legislate against their use, and on a target range repeating mechanism is of very little value.

To direct practice upon lines that shall possess some similitude to shooting under war conditions is of paramount importance, and this was effected by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs by the promotion of open rifle meetings where contests were held under conditions which embraced the principles. Shooting was divided into three stages: (1) Rudimentary or Instruction Stage, in which black and white bull's-eye targets, spotting with telescopes, and practically unlimited time were allowed for each series of shots. This is the ordinary slow fire practised here. (2) The Intermediate Stage, in which colored targets with natural objectives, such as a khaki-

colored head and shoulders, on a green background were used, and a limited number of shots were fired in a limited time without spotting. The preceding stages were shot by individuals, the (3), or Advanced Stage, is shot by teams, an unlimited number of shots in a limited time. The targets in this stage were a number of heads and shoulders, reduced to scale representing 500 yards, distributed irregularly over a good-sized green background, and hits on the figures only, count, whereas in the first and second stages a value is accorded to shots which miss the bull's-eye proportioned to their proximity as is done here. The excellence of the basic principle of this system will be appreciated, it first teaches, removing as many difficulties as possible, it then tests the skill acquired under the nearest semblance to natural conditions possible on a rifle range, finally it encourages collective rapid fire, which in principle is precisely the fire most common in war.

A variation of the final stage in which a number of two-inch breakable discs are shot at by two teams together at 100 yards, the team breaking its discs first being the winner, is grand sport and offers some spectacle for the onlooker which all other rifle shooting lacks. Anyone who has tried it will admit that a two-inch disc at 100 yards (white clay against a black background) is a pretty difficult proposition, yet the winning team of four men in any of the Society's open meetings would perform the feat of breaking five discs in from fifteen to twenty seconds, and that with single loading rifles.

There are good reasons for limiting .22 ranges to 100 yards, the chief being economy. Up to 100 yards marking

or spotting can be done with telescopes, and targets twelve inches square can be used, thus admitting of a separate target for each string, and facilitating scoring in competitions. If on the other hand ranges are extended to 200 yards, to which the .22 long rifle cartridge is sufficiently accurate, whilst the practice is no more instructive, larger targets, more range accommodation and human target tenders are necessary, thereby greatly increasing the cost of the shooting.

In many parts of America hilly tracts of sufficient length exist which admit of unknown distance shooting at card targets representing in shape and color men and animals and this affords excellent sport and most useful practice, especially in sight adjustment. If the targets are reduced, say to half natural size, the effect is much the same as doubling the distance.

Ranges that admit of shooting at two or three distances are altogether preferable to single distance ranges, not because it is any more difficult to shoot at one distance than another, but because it admits of variety, the practical study of sight adjustment, and exercises the aiming-eye in the relative accommodation for the near sights and the target in infinity. Moving targets are not difficult to provide, but they should represent some natural object and should give clear indication of hits by a distinctive sound.

One is tempted to offer the suggestion that the N. R. A. or whichever authority it is that has the handling of the money voted for the purpose of encouraging shooting, could not do better than devote a portion of it to the establishment of a model .22 range which might serve as a national example for the clubs to copy.

EXPLAINS REJECTION OF CANDIDATES

The Adjutant General of the Army, in an effort to ascertain the causes underlying the rejection of many candidates for commissions, recently conducted an inquiry among the instructors at Reserve Officers Training Camps. From the replies which resulted, one which apparently covers the ground fully has been selected and has been sent to various military colleges through the country for the future guidance of these institutions. The summing up of the causes for wholesale rejections from these camps reads:

"Perhaps the most glaring fault noted in aspirants to the Officers Reserve Corps and one that might be corrected by proper attention in our high schools, preparatory schools and colleges, might be characterized by the general word 'slouchiness.' I refer to

what might be termed a mental and physical indifference. I have observed at Camp Funston many otherwise excellent men who have failed because in our school system sufficient emphasis is not placed upon the avoidance of this mental and physical handicap. In the work of the better government military schools of the world, this slackness in thought, presentation and bearing is not tolerated because the aim of all military training is accuracy. At Camp Funston and other military camps throughout the country mental alertness, accuracy in thinking and acting, clearness in enunciation, sureness and ease of carriage and bearing must be insisted upon for two reasons; that success may be assured as nearly as human effort can guarantee it with the material and means at hand, and that priceless human lives may not be criminally sacrificed. Only by the possession of the qualities

referred to does one become a natural leader. At Camp Funston we must train leaders.

"A great number of men have failed at Camp Funston because of inability to articulate clearly. A man who cannot impart his ideas to his command in clear, distinct language, and with sufficient volume of voice to be heard reasonably far is not qualified to give commands upon which human life will depend. Many men disqualified by this handicap might have become officers under their country's flag had they been properly trained in school and college. It is to be hoped therefore that more emphasis will be placed upon the basic principles of elocution in the training of our youth. Even without prescribed training in elocution a great improvement could be wrought by the instructors in our schools and colleges, regardless of the

(Concluded on page 510)

Polishing Up the New Course

By CAPTAIN ROY S. TINNEY

Statistical Officer of the Verona Rifle Club

THERE is nothing quite so exasperating as trying to hit something you can not see, and if you want to ruin your eyes and your disposition at the same time, just try undersized bull's-eyes. Make the "scoring bull" what you will, but give us a "sighting bull" that is sizeable and seeable.

In the days of my youth certain august gentlemen met in solemn conclave and prescribed that the objective point for the 200-yard range should be a circular black spot exactly five inches in diameter. All same the new "B-4" target. During second day's firing I "jus' plum quit" and became a radical and a revolutionist.

Finally an old timer took me to one side and induced me to continue the course with his match rifle. Upon looking through the "peep" I discovered that the square front sight had been enlarged to a point where it just fitted the target frame, leaving a neat white edging along the top and at both sides, and as the target was backed by green foliage, the matter of holding became easy and exact. I couldn't see the "bull," but I could see the frame, and by holding on the latter hit the former. All of which goes to prove that "range rules," like all other statute law, can be beaten with impunity.

Whenever I want to test the holding of a squad of "tyros" I have them shoot at 100 yards on the Standard American Target, prescribed by the U. S. R. A. I have yet to meet a "tie" on this course and "possibles" are conspicuously absent.

No, it is not the cinch it appears to be; just try it out with a "22" and you will get some excellent practice in "centering."

For the purpose of demonstrating the effects of wind and gravity on a forty-grain "22" ball, I use the standard "B Target" at 300 yards, firing prone from a parapet rest. "Try this on your piano," it is some tune and will keep you guessing.

After years of careful study, observation and experiment I have evolved the following rules for "sighting bulls":

- 25 Yards—1½ to 2 inches.
 - 50 Yards—3 to 4 inches.
 - 100 Yards—6 to 8 inches.
 - 150 Yards—9 to 12 inches.
 - 200 Yards—12 to 16 inches.
 - 250 Yards—15 to 20 inches.
 - 300 Yards—18 to 24 inches.
- Target "A-4" is just right for 50

yards, but at 75 yards, the range called for, a four-inch "sighting bull" is a big improvement and gives a lot better results.

The "bull" of the "B-4" is entirely too small. I smeared the black right out to the "four ring" getting a "sighting bull" of 9¼ inches and it works fine at both 125 and 150 yards.

"C-4" has the same defect, so I again blackened the "center" giving us an objective 13½ inches in diameter, which is plenty small enough when viewed from the 200- and 250-yard line.

Target "D-4" can not be improved upon, used it as prescribed and found it to be good medicine.

I don't think a set of diagrams are required to prove to the readers of ARMS AND THE MAN the value of "centering," and this can never be learned by using "sub-caliber" bull's-eyes. Also, under the conditions now existing on the European battlefields, most of the shooting is done at the ranges *actually used* in this new course; so why not make the conditions as practical as possible? Charging Teutons are not equipped with bull's-eyes hung in front and neatly centered; accurate "centering" on the part of the marksman is absolutely necessary; so why not learn how it is done in the qualification course?

According to the Small Arms Firing Manual, a man is permitted the choice of either the kneeling or sitting position in rapid fire at 200 yards, so please insert "or sitting" in the 50-yard string on "D-4." We "fat fellas" just can't negotiate that kneeling position and stay in the "center." I know it is all right for a "girlish figger" like that possessed by Al Blanco, but it doesn't suit the style of beauty possessed by a lot of us, so don't fail to ask us to have a seat.

Also, you fail to make it clear that all firing done at 150, 200 and 250 yards is done from a parapet rest, like at 600, 800 and 1,000 yards of the big course. If this war has taught us anything, it is the value of knowing how to take advantage of a rest for the longest shots. In action the big thing is to hit; range rules are excess baggage.

The time limit in rapid fire is a trifle extensive, but I would not suggest reducing it. The great purpose of this course is to teach a man speed without haste, to move quickly without confusion, and to press the beginner is a fatal mistake. Every man I have tried out on rapid fire takes pride in finishing the course as quickly as possible. I have also discovered that if a man realizes he

has plenty of time, he will do better work and move faster. Many a chap can handle a single-shot rifle to the tune of 10 shots in 90 seconds and make a 45, or better, if you assure him there is no need to hurry. Limit him to 90 seconds and he will fall down.

THE REQUIREMENTS ANALYZED

Expert 210, or 10 "bulls" and 40 "fours"

Keep all your shots inside the "four ring" and make one "bull" in every five shots. Each time a "three" is made, an extra "bull" must be added to balance the score.

Sharpshooter 190, or 40 "fours" and 10 "threes"

Place four shots out of five in the "four" ring, and each time a "two" is made an extra "four" is required to balance the score.

Marksman 160, or 10 "fours" and 40 "threes"

Keep all your shots inside the "three ring" and make one "four" in each five shots. Each time a "two" is made an extra "four" must be added to balance the score.

It is possible for a man to become either a Sharpshooter or a Marksman and never once hit the bull's-eye.

So far we have not qualified any of our men over this course, for two excellent reasons. Just as we completed our range and had everything ship-shape, the woman who owns the property tumbled to the fact that we were making potential Kaiser-killers, and, being a Teuto-Pacifist of the most pronounced type, she ejected us forthwith, which forced us to secure a new range site, rebuild our butts and start all over again.

Also, we object to our members qualifying by luck and by guess. Some men show a disposition to rest on their laurels after getting to be a Marksman, so we have laid out eight Instruction Courses of 40 shots each which a man must cover before he is entitled to try for an N. R. A. rating. By this method we keep up a sustained interest in the work and avoid the monotony of desultory practice. I outlined this system in a tentative form some time ago; here it is in a complete and perfected form:

1. Yeoman

All slow fire. Forty shots at 50 feet on the Junior Marksman Target. Ten shots prone *with* rest; 10 shots prone *without* rest; 10 shots standing with *post*

rest; and 10 shots standing, *offhand*. Required, 160 x 200.

The qualifying marks for these eight Instruction Courses are determined by *selective scores* of five shots each; except, the Sniper Course requires selective scores of ten shots and the skirmish runs of twenty shots.

(When a single-shot rifle is used, multiply all time allowances by three.)

2. Musketeer

(Same rules and conditions as those governing the Civilian Marksman Course fired at 200 yards on B target.)

Forty shots at 20 yards on the old-style fifty-yard target, having a one-inch "scoring bull" counting "10," a two-inch "sighting bull" counting "9," and half-inch graduations down to the "5 ring," which is 6 inches in diameter. Required, 300 x 400.

3. Carabineer

Slow fire and skirmish run, Civilian Sharpshooter rules, at 20, 30, 40 and 50 yards on the "Fifty-yard Rapid-fire Target" designed by Al Blanco for the "Outdoor League," having a "scoring

bull" 2 x 1½ inches, a "sighting bull" 4½ x 3 inches, and one-inch graduations down to "5." All shots *directly below the black* are counted at the printed values, the vertical graduations being extended in pencil to the bottom of the target. Shots going above or to one side of the black, or the 4½-inch parallel, are valued at 4, 3, 2, 1 respectively. Required, 300 x 400.

4. Civilian Marksman

Fire the Civilian Marksman's Course at fifty yards on Al Blanco's hundred-yard target; two-inch "scoring bull" counting "10," six-inch "sighting bull" and one-inch graduations down to the "five ring," which is 12 inches in diameter. Required, 300 x 400.

5. Rifleman

Fire the Civilian Expert Course at fifty yards on Al Blanco's fifty-yard rapid-fire target "as is" (no alterations). Required, 300 x 400.

6. Sniper

All slow fire, any form of rest per-

mitted. Four strings of ten shots each at 100 yards, in four different positions, on Al Blanco's hundred-yard target. Required, 320 x 400.

7. Civilian Sharpshooter

Slow fire and skirmish run, Civilian Sharpshooter rules, at 50, 75, 100 and 125 yards on Al Blanco's 100-yard target. Required, 300 x 400.

8. Civilian Expert

Fire the Civilian Expert Course at 125 yards on Al Blanco's 100-yard target. Required, 240 x 400. (Do not be deceived by this apparently low qualification requirement. "It's a bear.")

By this time a man is ready to qualify for the N. R. A. buttons in a manner to reflect credit on his club and himself, and has become a "Regular." We then rate him as a Senior Expert or Senior Sharpshooter, according to what he makes on the N. R. A. course. No Marksmen tolerated.

We also have a Post-Graduate Course, but that's another story.

What is the Rifles' Function in War?

MANY men who in the earlier stages of the European War came to regard their rifles merely as helms of bayonets, are destined to find that the small-arm will yet play an important part in the engagements of the future, if the indications in foreign service papers count for anything.

Discrediting the rifle as a trench weapon seemed to be a favorite past-time with writers during the early months of hostilities, as this clipping from the *Westminster Gazette*, published some time ago, will show:

"I hear it constantly said, when the equipment of new armies is being discussed, that the numbers are limited by the output of rifles. That was the formula at the beginning of the war, and in 1915, when the Russians were driven back, we were told that there was only one rifle to every two soldiers, as if this was necessarily a fatal handicap. Yet if you ask men who have been in the fighting line in the last six months, the conclusion you must come to is that the rifle is all but extinct as a weapon of war. I asked a score yesterday, and not one of them had fired a shot from a rifle in action. One had fired three shots at night as a sentry, and several had used the bayonet. All of them seemed to regard the rifle as a handle for the bayonet. The sniper, who is a picked shot, of course, needs his rifle, and the sentry must have his; but with machine guns to do the firing, the mass of infantry use nothing but bayonets and hand-grenades; become, in fact, pikemen and

bombardiers, as in the Seventeenth Century armies. And yet, I suppose, all the War Offices will go on turning out rifles by the scores of millions and declaring it is impossible to train soldiers without them."

Now the tone both of comment and of news is changing. Here is a paragraph which to some extent shows that the doom of the rifle has not been sounded. It is taken from an account in *The London Times* of a particularly successful operation:

"They then dug in, with a machine-gun, when suddenly the Germans tried to counter-attack them from the south-east, along a shallow valley, Blaauwport Valley, running up from the village of Gapaard. The attack was apparently a battalion when it started; but first the machine-gun got on to it, and then the infantry settled down to rifle practice. It was one of those incidents which keeps turning up, and which demonstrate the ultimate supreme importance of good musketry in this war. The German attack absolutely failed to reach our positions, being held and shrivelled up by the Cheshires' rifle fire." To these, *Arms and Explosives* adds:

"During the retreat from Mons the situation was several times saved by the extraordinary skill with which our first army delivered rapid rifle fire at the solid masses of oncoming Germans, but this was before the light machine gun had come into its own; in fact, before there were any. The modern trench action wholly resolves itself into artillery prep-

aration, followed by an advance of infantry protected by barrage fire. Infantry's function is to take physical possession of the previously wrecked trenches. The bayonet serves for near arguments, the grenade for closely-massed obstinates. Holding of the ground taken depends largely on accompanying the advance with machine guns, and a prompt re-positioning of the artillery in order of mobility. The infantry rifle is available to fill any deficiencies which temporarily arise in connection with grenades and machine gun units, and light artillery. A striking instance of the use of the infantryman's rifle was provided some weeks back, when some German troops lost their way in attempting to retreat, and could not discover the opening in the wire through which they had advanced. They got tied up in a line of intact wire, and infantry fire alone accounted for the lot. If fighting conditions eventually become more open, parallel opportunities must multiply, but so long as the enemy occupies positions scientifically provided with machine gun emplacements, infantry acting alone cannot be expected to do much.

"The policy based on bitter experience of preventing infantry from outrunning their supports provides a commentary on the limitations of the rifle. Individual soldiers are not allowed in the course of an advance to take up sniping positions where they can deal with individual members of the enemy forces who expose themselves. Everything must be subordinated to the necessity for a non-

(Concluded on page 512)

Senate Refuses to Interfere with Possession of Small Arms Ammunition

AFTER an effort to stringently regulate the possession of small arms ammunition had failed, the Senate on September 11, passed the Explosives Bill.

According to the terms of the measure as it now stands, the Bureau of Mines is charged with regulating the manufacture, sale and possession of explosives during the term of the war.

The measure which originated in the House, was passed by the lower body some time ago. At that time the bill simply empowered the Bureau of Mines to govern the traffic in and the manufacture of explosives, without prescribing the extent to which such regulation should go. Sweeping amendments were added in the Senate, however, definitely outlining the scope of the proposed regulations. This will necessitate a conference upon the measure and a consideration of the conference report by both houses.

The gist of the bill, as it now stands, is: "That from and after 30 days after the passage and approval of this act, no person shall have in his possession, or purchase, accept, receive, sell, give, barter or otherwise procure or dispose of explosives or ingredients," except when licensed to do so under the regulations prescribed. A fine of not more than \$5,000 and imprisonment of not more than 3 years, or both is provided for violation of the act. The measure carries with it an appropriation of \$400,000 with which to carry out its provisions.

The bill empowers the President to prepare and promulgate by public proclamation, such rules governing the purchase, sale, possession and storage of explosives as will best conserve the public safety during the period of hostilities.

In defining the meaning of "explosives," the measure says:

"That the words 'explosive' and 'explosives' when used herein shall mean gunpowders, powders used for blasting, all forms of high explosives, blasting materials, fuses, detonators, and other detonating agents, smokeless powders, and any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that contains any oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportions, quantities, or packing that ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion, or by detonation of, or any part of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive ef-

fects on contiguous objects, or of destroying life or limb, but shall not include small arms or shotgun cartridges: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the manufacture, under the authority of the Government, of explosives for, their sale to or their possession by, the military or naval service of the United States of America."

The bill expressly will not operate to disturb the existing regulations covering the interstate shipment of explosives.

The licenses which the Bureau of Mines is authorized to issue include:

(a) Manufacturer's license, authorizing the manufacture, possession, and sale of explosives and ingredients.

(b) Vendor's license, authorizing the purchase, possession, and sale of explosives or ingredients.

(c) Purchaser's license, authorizing the purchase and possession of explosives and ingredients.

(d) Foreman's license, authorizing the purchase and possession of explosives and ingredients, and the sale and issuance of explosives and ingredients to workmen under the proviso to section 4.

(e) Exporter's license, authorizing the licensee to export explosives, but no such license shall authorize exportation in violation of any proclamation of the President issued under any act of Congress.

(f) Importer's license, authorizing the licensee to import explosives.

(g) Analyst's, educator's, inventor's, and investigator's licenses authorizing the purchase, manufacture, possession, testing, and disposal of explosives and ingredients.

The bill further provides:

"That the Director of the Bureau of Mines shall issue licenses, upon application duly made, but only to citizens of the United States of America and to the nations that are at peace with them, and the citizens, corporations, firms, and associations thereof, and he may, in his discretion, refuse to issue a license when he has reason to believe, from facts of which he has knowledge or reliable information, that the applicant is disloyal or hostile to the United States of America, or that, if the applicant is a firm, association, society, or corporation, its controlling stockholders or members are disloyal or hostile to the United States of America. The director may, when he has reason to believe on like grounds that any licensee is so disloyal or hostile, revoke any license issued to him.

Any applicant to whom a license is refused or any licensee whose license is revoked by the said director may, at any time within 30 days after notification of the rejection of his application or revocation of his license, apply for such license or the cancellation of such revocation to the Council of National Defense, which shall make its order upon the director either to grant or to withhold the license.

"That any person desiring to manufacture, sell, export, import, store, or purchase explosives or ingredients, or to keep explosives or ingredients in his possession, shall make application for a license, which application shall state, under oath, the name of the applicant; the place of birth or organization; whether native born or naturalized citizen of the United States of America; if a naturalized citizen, the date and place of naturalization; business in which engaged; the amount and kind of explosives or ingredients which during the past six months have been purchased, disposed of, or used by him, the amount and kind of explosives or ingredients now on hand; whether sales, if any, have been made to jobbers, wholesalers, retailers, or consumers; the kind of license to be issued, and the kind and amount of explosives or ingredients to be authorized by the license; and such further information as the Director of the Bureau of Mines may, by rule, from time to time require."

Under one of the sections of the measure, the Director of the Bureau of Mines is authorized to investigate all explosions and fires which may occur, or which have occurred since the beginning of the war, in mines, quarries, factories, warehouses, magazines, and any other place where explosives have been stored, to the end of determining whether the fires and explosions were of purposeful origin.

The debate upon the bill, which was passed practically in the form in which it was reported from the Committee on Mines and Mining, developed the statement from Senator Pittman that not only the War Department, but the manufacturers of explosives have no fault to find with the measure.

As reported to the Senate, and as finally passed by that body one of the provisions of the bill expressly excludes from the list of explosives to be regulated, small-arms and shotgun cartridges.

It was against this exemption that the fight to have small arms ammu-

(Continued on page 509)

ARMS AND THE MAN

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EVERY SATURDAY

Editor

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

Associate Editor

KENDRICK SCOFIELD

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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.

'ALLY' OFFICERS TO TRAIN U. S. RIFLEMEN

AUTHENTIC sources confirm the report that officers of the Allied Forces have been brought to the United States to establish schools of musketry similar to those in Canada and Great Britain.

Sixteen such officers are at Fort Sill at present "educating" officers of the United States Army in certain phases of trench warfare. After this tour of duty, the plan of the War Department is said to be to distribute them among the cantonments and to develop in each camp a corps of marksmanship instructors.

Until now, the instruction of the new national army in rifle shooting has been conspicuous purely and simply because little or no mention has been made of it. Cantonments have been selected with apparently no thought as to whether range facilities were present. It is true that near the Montgomery Cantonment, lies the very creditable Alabama State Range. This, however, was more good luck than intent. On the other hand, no cantonments were placed anywhere near the big rifle ranges of the country. Camp Perry was ignored; Wakefield and Seagirt were passed up until the Navy took them over; Sparta, Wisconsin, although there is nothing much more than a range site there, was apparently not even considered, and State Camp, Florida, which would have made an excellent mobilization site with its mammoth range in first-class condition has been dignified as the site of a Quartermasters' Camp.

The news that the War Department is bringing over Ally officers suggests that at least some attention will be paid to training the members of the National Army in handling the service rifle. These should indeed be welcome tidings, since having the national army trained by our allies is second only to *training them ourselves*.

The sad part of the whole business is that the present plan of the War Department to use Ally officers in developing a corps of coaches, is a tacit declaration *that there is not a man in the United States fit to train our army to shoot, and that the government was forced to send abroad for instructors.*

Manifestly such an impression is erroneous and criminally unfair to the thousands of men who have worked hard to perfect themselves in rifle practice for just such an emergency.

There is no reason why the Ally officers should not have been brought to the United States. They undoubtedly possess knowledge of the peculiar kind of marksmanship demanded on the European battlefields and which could only have been born of days and nights in the shell-swept trenches.

And so the War Department now has at its disposal many thousands of civilian riflemen, either exempt from or incapacitated for active field service, who are willing and anxious to aid the nation and who have been thoroughly trained as expert marksmen *plus* the score or more Ally officers equipped with the ability and the knowledge to teach these men the "refinements" and special requirements of trench marksmanship.

If the War Department would perform this little sum in military addition, the nation at the expense of a few weeks of intensive training, might have in the field a corps of competent musketry instructors and firing-line coaches thoroughly equipped to meet the needs of the National Army.

The plan under consideration is essentially British. The new small-arms schools will naturally be constructed along British lines since the officers who will establish them are British. While we are copying to this extent, there seems to be little reason to overlook one of the best points in the British plan: *the utilization of N. R. A. riflemen as instructors.*

Perhaps the Ally officers, from the experience of their own nation, may see the wisdom of applying the same plan here, and perhaps they will suggest it. Perhaps also when the suggestion is made by the British, it will carry some weight.

Yet the War Department apparently has no intention of using civilians in connection with the schools of musketry which at last it is contemplating establishing, although it is using civilians in other capacities. Apparently the present plan contemplates taking raw material from those "selected" by the draft and putting each man, who perhaps has never before heard the "*plaakk!*" of a service bullet through the tedious groundwork which must underlie the education of any competent coach.

Of course this is not impossible of accomplishment. But experts have declared *Time* to be of the essence of this particular war. And certainly *Time* is involved to an amazing extent in this plan for the establishment of musketry schools.

Again, the government of the United States has spent some little money in training the civilians to shoot. Why doesn't the war Department make possible a return of this expenditure? The riflemen of the country want to "do their bits." Thousands of them have already enlisted. Those who remain are either men of families or are physically disqualified for field duty. But just the same, a great percentage of them would be willing to "sit at the feet of the masters" from the trenches and learn the most improved methods of reducing the German Army by an

application of hot lead, so that in turn each might pass his wisdom along to the men who will go to the trenches.

The essential of any plan should be: train the men to shoot, and train them as *rapidly as possible*.

Why not take State Camp, for instance, and establish upon it a school of small arms coaches, concentrating there under the instruction of the foreign officers such qualified civilian riflemen as are willing to volunteer for the work, and administer to them intensive training?

It would be a paying investment. It would "turn loose" many men fitted for active service who will be kept at home as coaches and it would give men who would make excellent instructors, a chance to render a real service to the nation.

SMALL ARMS AND THE EXPLOSIVES BILL

THE SENATE very properly refused to amend the explosives bill passed September 11, to include a prohibition against the sale of small-arms ammunition except by duly licensed dealers to duly licensed purchasers.

The bill which deals with the manufacture, storage, sale and possession of explosives during the period of the war, was frankly designed to protect the public and the government from the activities of criminals or traitors of the dynamiter ilk. It would therefore have been very easy to confuse with this measure, regulations effecting the pos-

session of small arms and cartridges therefor, upon the same grounds.

In fact the proponent of the amendment which would have made the purchase of cartridges very difficult, offered his legislation as a protection to society.

The Senate is to be congratulated upon taking a very sane view of the matter and refusing to regard the proffered amendment as either a necessary war measure or an appropriate field for federal legislation.

There are too many attempts—too frequently successful—to violate by the enactment of various State laws the spirit of that provision of the Constitution which provides "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." The police power of the state and of communities, however, has at least been tacitly recognized as having the right to control, to a certain extent, the possession of weapons, and all this quite aside from the constitutional provision.

This is exactly the view that the Senate took when they rejected the small-arms amendment to the Explosives Bill.

The time has not yet come when the citizenry of the United States should be disarmed. Nor has the moment arrived when the citizen should be hedged about with regulations which make it practically impossible for him to obtain small arms and ammunition either for the protection of himself and his family, or for use in target practice.

SENATE REFUSES TO INTERFERE

(Concluded from page 507)

dition placed under the ban, was directed. Senator McKellar, of Tennessee, early in the debate, asked the committee to strike out the words "small-arms," leaving the exemption to apply only to shotgun cartridges.

This move on the part of Senator McKellar instantly provoked a storm of opposition, Senator Sterling of South Dakota, who had the bill in charge, refusing to let the change appear in the guise of a committee amendment, and stating:

"I will say to the Senator from Tennessee that the problem was, and the controlling thought of the committee I think was, to regulate and control the purchase and the use of explosives in such quantities and in such ways as might be detrimental to the national welfare, for example, the blowing up of public works, as bridges, munition plants, and matters of that kind. It was not thought that the use of small arms and the purchase of cartridges for use in small arms would be an evil that we need to particularly seek to remedy."

To this, Senator McKellar replied: "I will ask the Senator this question: Do not the reports in the daily papers show that there are a hundred men killed by the use of small arms in this country where there is one killed by

reason of the larger explosives? I have just been informed that I am a little mistaken about the ratio being 100 to 1, but 70 per cent come from the use of pistols carried in violation of the law."

Senator Sterling answered: "That perhaps may be true, but that happens whether in peace or in war and is a matter, under ordinary conditions, solely for State control and State regulation. If there is no national danger to be feared from the use of small arms or the purchase of cartridges for such arms, I do not believe we are quite authorized in providing here a prohibition against their use or their purchase."

Senator McKellar then offered his amendment to the Senate, setting as a committee of the whole, but lost on a point of order.

When the committee of the whole had adjourned and the Senate was considering the bill for further amendment, Senator McKellar again attempted to make unlawful the possession of small-arms ammunition except upon license.

Senator Brandegee of Connecticut, was the first member to point out that there is no need at this time to require licenses for the purchase or sale of cartridges for rifles and revolvers. He said:

"I hope that amendment will not be agreed to. The bill seeks to control

the sale and distribution of explosives. From the definition of explosives as contained in section 2, small-arms and shotgun cartridges are exempted by the provisions on line 5, page 4, which reads 'but shall not include small-arms or shotgun cartridges.' Those words the Senator from Tennessee seeks to strike out.

"I think it is a wise provision to exempt small-arms and shotgun cartridges from the operation of this bill. I can not conceive why it should be contended that because this Nation is at war with the central European powers nobody should be allowed to go into a store and buy cartridges for a shotgun with which to shoot partridges without applying for a license to the Director of the Bureau of Mines here in Washington. It seems to me an absurdity to try to control small-arms ammunition and shotgun cartridges, which are not used for blowing up public structures in this country or for weakening our military defense or the Government's power of attack. I think the committee showed excellent judgment in excluding small-arms ammunition from the very drastic control which this bill seeks to impose upon the purchasers and the sellers of explosives. I trust that the amendment of the Senator will not prevail."

Senator Brady of Idaho spoke against the amendment, saying: "I fully agree with the statements made

by the Senator from Connecticut. The committee very thoroughly discussed that particular provision of the bill, and I think it was practically unanimously agreed that it was much better to exempt small-arms and shotgun cartridges. The matter was not overlooked; it was, as I have said, very thoroughly discussed, and it was agreed by the committee that it was best to make the exemption as provided in the bill. I hope the amendment offered by the Senator from Tennessee will be defeated."

Senator Fall of New Mexico was another who urged the rejection of the amendment.

"From my standpoint I could not possibly vote for this bill if the amendment were adopted and the exemption were stricken out," he said. "It might be perfectly satisfactory in Tennessee, and in other States of the Union, and if the Senator from Tennessee is convinced that his amendment would operate for the safety of the country and would promote law and order and peace in the State of Tennessee I am perfectly willing to agree to the adoption of an amendment of this character applying to the State of Tennessee, but in the western portion of the country, with which I am somewhat familiar, such an amendment, if adopted, would operate very disastrously.

"I do not care to go into the details as to the conditions along the border of the United States and in various Western States which are not upon the border. We have councils of defense co-operating with the national administration in practically every State in the West, and certainly in all the border States. We have councils of defense in every county in my State. They have so far done excellent work and are in thorough accord with the national administration.

"Recently we had some little trouble in some portions of the Southwest. Any man who has had any experience at all knows that a law of this kind never deters the lawbreaker. The man who wants to break the law, the man who wants to commit murder is seldom deterred by any law against carrying concealed weapons. Certainly that is true in the western portion of the country, where there is a sparse population, and where it is hard for officers of the law to be reached at any moment.

"There is now before the departments a proposal asking the assistance of Congress to a more material degree than it has ever been extended in eliminating predatory wild animals from the range and from the forest reserves in the West. One of the branches of the Council of National Defense and of the food administration, the cattlemen, who have just been here, have adopted a resolution asking

for a large appropriation from Congress, and that the forest-reserve agents of the Government, and others, be supplied with additional arms and ammunition, traps, poison, etc., for the purpose of doing away with predatory animals. In my section of the country at times, as for instance last year, the jack rabbit devastated whole fields and successive crops of growing alfalfa. To prohibit the killing of animals of this kind—and this measure would practically prohibit it if its provisions are made to cover small-arms ammunition—to prohibit the use of small arms for purposes of this kind, for the purpose of ridding the country of mountain lions, bears, wolves, jack rabbits, and pests of that character, would cost us a good many thousand dollars in the western country.

"It has been a good many years since I lived in Tennessee, but I know that during the time I lived there some of the citizens of that State might have opposed such a provision. However, it may be satisfactory to the people of Tennessee, and I am perfectly willing, if the Senator will confine it to the State of Tennessee, to have the amendment adopted. While I would not vote for it even then, I would not vote against the amendment; but, as applied to the United States, I will certainly oppose it, and hope it will not be adopted."

Senator Kirby of Arkansas based his opposition to the McKellar amendment upon his belief that such a provision would "impose unnecessary restriction on legitimate and necessary business."

He added: "Under this amendment, a man who wanted to go hunting, could not buy a few cartridges for his rifle; he could not purchase cartridges for practice with a .22 rifle or revolver unless he first procured a license."

"The Senator has not examined the amendment," Senator McKellar retorted. "He has not examined the bill either, probably, because the bill specifically permits shotguns to be used, and the amendment only applies to pistols."

Senator Kirby continued: "I understand that. Of course that is plain enough now since the Senator who originated this wonderful amendment has explained it in detail; but, nevertheless, the fact is that no man could go out on an ordinary camp hunt and use a revolver or use a rifle or use cartridges of any kind or caliber without getting a license under this bill, if the proposed amendment should be adopted. Certainly there is no occasion and no necessity for a law of that kind. The Senator, I understand, says that small arms are bad things in some kinds of social intercourse—I believe he said—but probably they are accustomed to use razors in his State in certain circles. But,

seriously, the amendment ought not to pass. We ought not to handicap people who have been accustomed to use small arms and who use them legitimately. They ought not to be prevented hereafter from the use of them by having to procure and pay for a permit to buy ammunition."

The amendment was then voted on and rejected.

EXPLAINS REJECTION OF CANDIDATES

(Concluded from page 504)

subject, insisting that all answers be given in a loud, clear, well rounded voice, which, of course, necessitates the opening of the mouth and free movement of the lips. It is remarkable how many excellent men suffer from this handicap and how difficult and almost impossible it is to correct this after the formative years of life.

"In addition to this physical disability and slouchiness is what might be termed the slouchiness of mental attitude. Many men fail to measure up to the requirements set for our Officers' Reserve because they have not been trained to appreciate the importance of accuracy in thinking. Too many schools are satisfied with an approximate answer to a question. Little or no incentive is given to increased mental effort to co-ordinate one's ideas and present them clearly and unequivocally. Insistence upon decision in thought and expression must never be lost sight of. This requires eternal vigilance on the part of every teacher. It is next to impossible for military instructors to do much to counteract the negligence of schools in this regard. This again has cost many men their commissions at Camp Funston. Three months is too short a time in which to teach an incorrigible 'beater-about-the-bush' that there is but one way to answer a question, oral or written, and that is positively, clearly and accurately. The form of the oral answer in our schools should be made an important consideration in instruction.


"I have further noted at Camp Funston that even some of our better military schools have turned out products that while many of them may have the bearing of a soldier in ranks, yet their carriage is totally different as soon as they 'fall out.' Schools, military and non-military, should place more insistence upon the bearing of pupils all the time. It should become a second nature with them to walk and carry themselves with the bearing of an officer and a gentleman. This again is a characteristic that cannot be acquired in a short time and, when coupled with other disqualifying elements, has mitigated against the success of men here.

5 GREAT RIFLE VICTORIES

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

Peters .22 Cal. Semi-Smokeless Cartridges

CIVILIAN CLUB COMPETITION	Championship won by Peters R. & R. Club Team of King's Mills, Ohio, 9,925 out of a possible 10,000
COLLEGE COMPETITION - - -	Championship won by Michigan Agricultural College Team, 9,638 out of a possible 10,000
HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION -	Championship won by Iowa City, Iowa, High School Team, 9,517 out of a possible 10,000
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL RECORD	Made by T. K. Lee, of Birmingham Athletic Club Team, 1,999 out of a possible 2,000
ASTOR CUP CHAMPIONSHIP -	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  Ammunition will make higher scores than any other kind.

THE PETERS CARTRIDGE COMPANY, Cincinnati, O.

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RIFLE CONTRACTS ARE QUESTIONED

RIFLE contracts entered into between the United States government and private manufacturers to augment the supply of service weapons has been made the subject of inquiry by the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.

The inquiry involves the purchase of 1,000,000 rifles of the new 1917 model, which resulted from the adoption of the Springfield ammunition to the British rifle, Model 1914. General Crozier, Chief of Ordnance, because he signed the contracts, and Frank A. Scott, Chairman of the War Industries Board, because the contracts were examined and approved by his bureau, were summoned as witnesses.

The nub of the inquiry seems to be the fact that many months ago, while the rifles turned out by the factories were going to the British government Great Britain purchased the rifle-making machinery in some American plants. Later the British government is said to have turned back this

machinery to the plants, and the United States government is said to have paid the British government one-half the cost of the machinery, and now has some \$9,000,000 worth of machinery in the factories.

Speaking about this rifle contract at the hearing Chairman Fitzgerald of the Appropriations Committee said: "The companies get a profit of ten per cent on what it costs them to do their work, and in that cost they get a guaranteed return of six per cent on every dollar they have invested, and no manufacturing concern in the world can start with the assumption that no matter what happens it will get six per cent return on every dollar invested."

General Crozier told the committee that the Government had to get the rifles, that the contract seemed to be an equitable one from both sides, and that it would surely produce the guns asked for.

"This contract represents a ten per cent profit upon the output," said Representative Sherley, "and the cost of the output has figured in it as one of the elements of interest upon the investment as well as the working capital of the companies turning out the rifles. If the output is such that it represents a value many times the capital invested, ten per cent upon that output will represent many times more than ten per cent upon the capital. That raises the question as to whether the Government is warranted in paying ten per cent, which should represent actually, over a period of fourteen months, perhaps thirty or forty or fifty per cent increment upon the capital involved."

General Crozier explained that all those phases of the contract had been debated at sittings at which were present officials of the three companies, officials of the War Department, and members of the Council of National Defense. He said that the six per cent upon the capital invested was in

reality a fee for the services of the organization, plant, personnel, and experience.

When Chairman Scott of the War Industries Board appeared before the committee, Representative Fitzgerald asked him how it had been determined that ten per cent was a reasonable profit. "It was the best bargain that could be made under the circumstances," answered Mr. Scott.

"And because it was the best bargain was the contract made regardless of the reasonableness of the price to the Government," asked Representative Fitzgerald.

"No, sir," answered Mr. Scott, "this contract will produce rifles at a lower cost than the rifles required by any other Government in the war." Mr. Scott said that even if the Government did own part of the machinery the most valuable asset of the companies was their organization, and without that the machinery would be of no use.

RANGE-LEASING INSTRUCTIONS SUPPLEMENTED

In a letter from the Militia Bureau to adjutants general, supplemental information as to the leasing of Government ranges to rifle clubs, applying especially to the "time of lease," is given as follows:

"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 sub-leasing a range shall be required to pay the lease charges during the period, as they have exclusive use of same; provided, that the sub-lease shall not be for a period of less than one year.
- (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 sub-lease 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."

WHAT IS THE RIFLE'S FUNCTION IN WAR?

(Concluded from page 506)

straggling wave of advance. If the enemy is found to be making a hasty exit the infantry rifle is useful, but the machine gun, if available, is still more useful. When advancing troops have reached their objective their attention is concentrated first on probing all possible lurking places of the enemy forces, and then on organizing their defence against counter-attacks. Infantry, when so employed, must be armed, and the L.-E. short rifle comes nearer than any other weapon to the ideal of lightness and handiness. The explanation of its virtues resides in the fact that it was designed as a compromise with the carbine, for the use of mounted infantry. Its virtues could, of course, be further developed along the same lines.

"The great success of snipers in the present war must be examined in a critical frame of mind to prevent mistakes of deduction. Primarily, the sniper is a man who knows his rifle—in other words, rifles have idiosyncrasies for which there is no ballistic or mechanical justification. Idiosyncrasies can be eliminated, or their effect be nullified in a limited number of rifles, but in the average weapon idiosyncrasies prevail. A high grade of intelligence and an amount of shooting knowledge not to be acquired by the private soldier in the course of routine instruction are necessary to overcome so much of the effect of these idiosyncrasies as can be overcome. Rifles without peculiarities could undoubtedly be produced, given the leisure for experiments and for initiating the changes of design suggested by experiments. If an ample supply of such rifles were available much of the distinction which is at present drawn between expert shots and the ordinary soldier would disappear. If a rifle always strikes according to the aim taken, the acquisition of shooting proficiency becomes a simple process, involving only the hand and eye, instead of a problem in the higher mathematics. Accurate shooting is undoubtedly an asset, but there is no justification for the belief that the proportion competent to qualify is necessarily as small as experience tends to suggest. During the present war the infantry rifle has, by force of widely-published circumstances, not been used under the best conditions,

hence deductions based on experience should take the fact into account.

THE LINDSAY ARSENAL

One important development the war has brought about in Canada is the establishment of new war-time industries. Shell and fuse making were not in the category of industries at the outbreak of the war; to-day there is scarcely a place of any size—in Ontario, at least—that cannot boast of its shell plant. And in the manufacture of small-arms ammunition, for rifles and machine guns, the new arsenal at Lindsay, which has been in operation over two months now, is another link in the chain of organizations that is making Canada's war machine self-supporting.

The Dominion Arsenal at Lindsay is a purely Canadian enterprise. It is modernly equipped and follows the most up-to-date practice; complete in every department, the entire cartridge case, cap and bullet is manufactured on the premises.

A visitor going to this place expecting to see a huge pile of buildings would be disappointed. Except the offices, the whole place is unpretentious in appearance, the workshops being one story in height, constructed of brick and steel. Of course, the plant is fireproof throughout, the one danger in this connection being from lightning, and to guard against that every machine is "grounded." The shops contain hundreds of machines, specially designed for the work; there is a gas plant that supplies fuel to the annealing ovens, a 600-yard underground range with unique equipment installed for testing purposes, and another range of 180 yards is used for experimental work. Sufficient land has been secured to extend the plant at any time.

Lindsay, which is his home, has of course to thank Sir Sam Hughes for this industry.—*Canadian Military Gazette*.

"Yes, I've registud all right, and I've already concreted; what you gonna join, de infamy or de calvary?"

"No calvary for me. I's goin' in dat infamy. When de Genrul sound de word 'Retreat,' dis nigger don' wan' to be bothered with no hoss."—*Christian Register*.

Landsman—I say, is this boat quite safe?
Captain R. N. (on leave)—Rather! Simply can't sink her. I know because I've had her over three times this morning.—*Passing Show*.

Scotch Sergeant—And noo we'll try the richt tur-rn by numbers, and mind that ye don't move till ye hear the final syllable on the wor-rd tur-rn!—*Passing Show*.

Master—"What! Forgotten your pencil again? What would you think of a soldier who went to war without a gun?"

Tommy—"I'd think he was an officer, sir."—*Passing Show*.

With the Small-Bore Outdoor League

ON a comfortable lead of 31 points over the score of the Washington, D. C., Rifle Club, the Kiowa Shooting Club of Des Moines, Ia., seems to have a strangle hold on the N. R. A. outdoor smallbore series.

On the face of things, this seems to be too great a gap to close up in a single match; for even if the Washington club put over a team possible in the tenth match—a highly improbable eventuality—and the Kiowa Club dropped 2 points behind its record of 971 in the ninth match, the two clubs would be tied. Apparently only the most excellent shooting on the part of the Washington boys in the tenth match and more or less of a "blow-up" among the Kiowa boys can change the present lineup for the first and second place.

The Kiowa Club retained first place in the shooting of the ninth match, on a score of 971 with the Washington Club 6 points lower in second place and the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Club in third place.

For the second successive time, the Kiowa Club team members each hung up a score of more than 190 points out of 200, L. Wharff being high with 197 and Fines low with 192. The Washington, D. C., boys also hung up scores in excess of 190 for the entire team, W. C. Robertson being high with 195 and J. H. Robertson low with 191.

The high individual score for the week's shooting, however, goes to T. K. Lee, of Birmingham, who scored 198.

The results of the ninth match are:

1. *Kiowa Shooting Club, Des Moines, Iowa:* L. Wharff, 197; C. H. Kessler, 195; W. E. Kessler, 194; Roy Berry, 193; Fines, 192. Club total, 971.

2. *Washington, D. C., Rifle Club:* W. C. Robertson, 195; O. M. Schriver, 192; C. F. Himmler, 192; W. R. Stokes, 191; J. H. Robertson, 191. Club total, 961.

3. *Milwaukee, Wis., R. and P. Club:* Emil Teich, 193; H. W. Mansfield, 190; N. E. Dahm, 190; G. E. Meisheimer, 189; Lawrence Teich, 188. Club total, 950.

4. *Jacksonville, Fla., Rifle Club:* G. Gray, 192; Wm. McNamee, 190; A. H. St. John, 190; F. Bryson, 187; C. H. Edwards, 186. Club total, 945.

5. *Brooklyn, N. Y., Rifle Club:* L. J. Miller, 194; J. W. Dearborn, 189; J. R. Vanderputten, 188; L. J. Corsa, 187; P. T. Lahm, 183. Club total, 941.

6. *Los Angeles, Cal., R. & R. Club:* E. C. Crossman, 193; E. D. Neff, 189; G. L. Wotkyns, 188; Dr. L. Felsenthal, 188; J. Seifert, 183. Club total, 941.

7. *Massachusetts Rifle Association, Boston:* H. Marshall, 190; L. H. McAleer, 189; A. Neidner, 187; J. Kelly, 185; W. E. Hennell, 183. Club total, 934.

8. *Franklin, Pa., Rifle Club:* C. H. Bronson, 195; W. W. Mackey, 186; F. E. Cathers, 185; W. H. Shaffner, 178; C. M. Campbell, 178. Club total, 922.

9. *Birmingham, Ala., A. C. R. & R. Ass'n.:* T. K. Lee, 198; Percy Reid, 188; Malven Jones, 183; A. F. DeFuniak, 179; Denson Reid, 163. Club total, 911.

10. *Manhattan, N. Y., R. & R. Club:* Alfred M. Seeley, 186; H. M. Pope, 186; David J. Gould, Jr., 182; K. H. Fichtner, 175; C. L. Walker, 169. Club total, 898.

11. *Warren, Pa., Rifle & Revolver Club:* J. L. Smith, 184; J. A. Clark, 180; F. A. Keller, 176; F. W. Jefferson, 175; F. P. Lauffer, 167. Club total, 882.

12. *Denver, Colo., City Rifle Club:* C. L. Buttler, 189; R. E. Ladwig, 178; J. S. Crum, 174; A. H. Hardy, 173; Emil Wehrle, 167. Club total, 881.

13. *Greater Omaha, Neb., R. & R. Club:* C. Mather, 190; C. G. Riley, 183; E. R. Allen, 177; W. B. Riley, 175; M. O. Boydston, 154. Club total, 879.

14. *Norwalk, Conn., Rifle Club:* J. A. Baker, Jr., 184; J. D. Mike, 182; Wm. Pfeleger, 176; F. M. Hoppel, 173; B. J. Reynolds, 164. Club total, 879.

15. *Scott, Ark., Rifle Club:* W. O. Scott, 182; J. K. Thibault, 176; W. Alexander, 174; H. G. Fitcher, 170; Dr. H. Thibault, 170. Club total, 872.

16. *Pentwater, Mich., Rifle Club:* E. B. Clark, 181; J. B. Hendrick, 178; P. N. Lagesen, 173; M. D. Girard, 169; F. W. Cramer, 168. Club total, 869.

17. *Toledo, Ohio, R. & P. Club:* Bruce Wilson, 189; H. S. Crawford, 189; H. G. Affleck, 180; Henry Yonkers, 167; A. S. Davis, 142. Club total, 867.

18. *Cazenovia, N. Y., Rifle Club:* H. O. Thorne, 184; G. L. Woodworth, 178; F. D. Huldridge, 176; W. D. Weaver, 166; R. D. Magee, 163. Club total, 867.

19. *Joliet, Ill., Rifle Club:* L. J. Deiss, 183; C. McKee, 175; A. Gray, 172; H. D. Grose, 172; C. W. Barber, 149. Club total, 851.

20. *Middleboro, Mass., Rifle Club:* A. C. Jinney, 182; Henry L. Pember, 177; S. L. Brett, 167; Richard G. Bowen, 162; R. P. Jenks, 152. Club total, 840.

21. *Community Rifle Club, Sherrill, N. Y.:* L. Lee, 174; Burlingame, 169; Tucker, 169; Amacher, 166; Fliche, 162. Club total, 840.

22. *Canton, Ohio, R. & P. Club:* A. N. Scott, 176; W. K. Perdue, 171; W. A. Sharb, 165; F. W. Brant, 161; A. E. Hart, 161. Club total, 834.

23. *Ashburnham, Mass., Rifle Club:* Geo. S. Hollingworth, 185; J. R. Briggs, 183; W. S. Young, 165; Wm. A. Barlow, 157; G. Willard, 141. Club total, 831.

24. *Citizens Rifle & Revolver Club, Rochester, N. Y.:* F. C. Sherman, 172; A. G. Johnson, 167; G. S. Searle, 166; W. W. Lewis, 160; C. D. U. Hobbie, 159. Club total, 824.

25. *Chicago, Ill., Rifle Club:* H. F. Walbaum, 177; E. B. Witwer, 173; F. B. Roziene, 160; K. C. Robinson, 152; J. Howard, 148. Club total, 810.

26. *Ontario, Cal., Rifle Club:* F. Wallihan, 172; C. E. Hare, 162; E. Hasler, 152; H. E. Strank, 151; H. Hageman, 148. Club total, 785.

27. *Canyon City, Ore., Rifle Club:* J. Muldrick, 157; Denver Leedy, 149; C. G. Guernsey, 144; Harry Allen, 140; J. M. Blank, 132. Club total, 722.

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28. *Patchogue, N. Y., Rifle Club:* F. P. Johnson, 151; L. R. Manhant, 143; Dr. McKnight, 141; Chas. C. Cane, Jr., 138; R. Van Tuyl, 130. Club total, 703.

29. *Holbrook, Arizona, Rifle Club:* J. Wood, 146; C. P. Cooley, 143; O. E. Matthew, 134; L. H. Mickey, 129; L. Howard, 121. Club total, 673.

30. *Antioch, Ill., Rifle Club:* N. E. Proctor, 173; H. E. Williams, 170; E. S. Garrett, 169; Jos. Panowski, 130. Club total, 642.

31. *Malta, Mont., Rifle Club:* J. R. Piper, 163; J. Patton, 118; A. F. Winkler, 117; J. R. Crabb, 115; E. D. Siegert, 111. Club total, 624.

The aggregate standing of the teams at the close of the ninth week is:

Club—	Score
1. K'owa Shooting Club, Des Moines, Iowa	8462
2. Washington, D. C., Rifle Club	8431
3. Milwaukee, Wis., R. & P. Club	8390
4. Mass., Boston, Rifle Ass'n	8383
5. Brooklyn, N. Y., Rifle Club	8374
6. Birmingham, Ala., A. C. Rifle Club	8142
7. Manhattan R. & R. Club, N. Y. City	8051
8. Los Angeles, Cal., R. & R. Club	8023
9. Jacksonville, Fla., Rifle Club	8023
10. Toledo, Ohio, R. & P. Club	7842
11. Scott, Ark., Rifle Club	7715
12. Denver, Colo., City Rifle Club	7695
13. Franklin, Pa., Rifle Club	7672
14. Canton, Ohio, R. & P. Club	7658
15. Cazenovia, N. Y., Rifle Club	7638
16. Pentwater, Mich., Rifle Club	7604
17. Ashburnham, Mass., Rifle Club	7536
18. Norwalk, Conn., Rifle Club	7489
19. Warren, Pa., R. & R. Club	7486
20. Citizens R. & R. Club, Rochester, N. Y.	7423
21. Greater Omaha, Nebr., R. & R. Club	7325
22. Community Rifle Club, Sherrill, N. Y.	7291
23. Middleboro, Mass., Rifle Club	7207
24. Joliet, Ill., Rifle Club	7109
25. Ontario, Cal., Rifle Club	6967
26. Antioch, Ill., Rifle Club	6765

27. Chicago, Ill., Rifle Club	6541
28. Canyon City, Ore., Rifle Club	6054
29. Holbrook, Arizona, Rifle Club	5634
30. Patchogue, N. Y., Rifle Club	5617
31. Malta, Mont., Rifle Club	5362

NINTH MATCH MISSING

Cal. Rd. Com. R. & P. Club, San Francisco	6786
New Bedford, Mass., Rifle Club	6444
Hydraulic Rifle Club, E. Cleveland, O.	6416
Olig Rifle Club, Reward, Cal.	6062

EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

Gen. Phil Kearny Rifle Club, Kearny, N. J.	5017
Rochester, Minn., Rifle Club	4963

SIXTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

Niskayuna Rifle Club, Schnectady, N. Y.	4868
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SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

St. Johnsbury, Vt., Rifle Club	4715
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SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

Wilsall, Mont., Rifle Club	3167
Messena, N. Y., R. & P. Club	3100
Kenosha, Wis., Rifle Club	2777

FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

Akron, Ohio, Rifle Ass'n	2811
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FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

Hoosier Rifle Club, Indianapolis, Ind	2390
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THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH MATCHES MISSING

St. Louis, Mo., Col. Rev. Club	1745
Highland, Cal., Rifle Club	1427

SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH 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	

from 25-yard mark ten shots on the 20-yard S. A. target; I will shoot at 50-yard target from 50-yard firing point, ten shots and as we are both fair shooters, we will see how the handicap works." Says S. & W., "You're on," and at it they went; everybody else giving way, with an interest displayed by all, like unto that seen at the National matches; then the smoke cleared away, for all revolvers smoke, at least so the daily papers, in their reports of some life tragedy where hours afterwards the victim is found with a "smoking revolver in his hand;" anyhow the little S. & W. did not smoke much with its "Lessmok" short .22's, but it sure did make 95 and the Colt member at the 50-yard line made with his officer's model 92 and after that the deluge, all round with foaming steins and "The end of a perfect day," except a last word to remark that the above is one of the reasons why the shooting game is so popular; one never knows what will turn up next. "RESIZER."

The Montclair, New Jersey, Rifle Club won in a match with the Interwoven Rifle Club, of New Brunswick, on the range of the Montclair Club, September 1. Under the strongest kind of a light, which no rifleman likes, the team of the Rifle Club fired their ten shots in the prone position, on the A target, with eight-inch bull, at 200 yards, and cracked out a total score of 227 out of a possible 250. Ten men shot their scores on each side, the five highest scores to count, which caused a sort of friendly rivalry for the high honors. The first man to shoot was J. C. Boyd, who started out auspiciously but met with disaster on his fifth shot, which was a "hang fire," and caused a miss. This, of course, put Boyd out of the running. Then Frazee started off with a fine hold which netted him a miss, caused by his sight having slipped from the proper position. These constituted the hard luck stories, but in the meantime Eakin, Huttenloch, Wright, Mead, Dodd, and several others were cracking out bulls with monotonous regularity, the result being:

MONTCLAIR RIFLE CLUB
200 Yards—Target A

A. S. Eakin, 48; M. W. Huttenloch, 46; V. R. Olmstead, 45; A. S. Wright, 44; C. A. Mead, 44. Total, 227.
H. E. Dodd, 44; C. R. Christy, Jr., 44; G. F. Hewitt, Jr., 44; Y. T. Frazee, 40; J. C. Boyd, 37; H. C. Bradley, Alternate, 43.

INTERWOVEN RIFLE CLUB

Terwillger, 47; Nicholas, 46; Kilbourne, 45; Tindell, 43; Cole, 41. Total, 222.

Another match shot was that between five-men teams of the Lewis Machine Gun Company and Company B, which resulted in the team from the Machine Gun Company beating the team from Company B by sixteen points. It might be said on behalf of Company B that two of their regular men were absent, one through an unavoidable circumstance, the other through serious illness in his family, so they were compelled to go to the firing point with two new men. However, the friendly rivalry and contest was wholesome and it would be commendable if more of such contests were promoted in the Battalion. The following are the scores made by the two teams:

LEWIS MACHINE GUN COMPANY
Target A—5 Shots Each
200 Yards and 300 Yards

M. W. Huttenloch, 44; John Robbins, 41; C. A. Mead, 40; E. Southworth, 40; W. Pond, 38. Total, 203.

COMPANY B

Edward Cairns, 42; W. A. Stopford, 42; F. L. Brewer, 39; A. C. Whitcomb, 38; S. R. Soverel, 26. Total, 187.

The following men qualified as marksmen: Capt. J. A. Howe, Company B, 151; Kenneth Shand, Company B, 154.

HANGFIRES AND RICOCHETS

"The Old versus The New," a handicap match was recently shot off over the range of the Baltimore Revolver Association by two members who mostly make good scores; here is how it was. One of them in his walks through what is known as second hand street, where daily may be seen bargains in arms, antiques, spied one for sale that has proved to be a gem; a Smith & Wesson, seven shot .22 R. F., with a bell metal frame and square grip, after the outline of the famous Colt .45 S. A. Frontier handle; the little revolver had never been shot, the barrel grooves and lands showing in new condition and the joint between cylinder and barrel being at the connection bright and new as if from the shop; also the outside nickle finish of the frame and blueing of the barrel looked perfect, with-

out scratch or wear and the joint at the barrel break, was tight. How this arm likely made in the early 60's, could have lain so long without use or wear is a mystery indeed, to all who know the second hand game.

Well, the little revolver soon had another owner and the store man some real long green. Next, the trigger pull was eased up to about 3 pounds and a trifle of front sight adjustment made, after which a few shots showed splendid accuracy; then came the day for a trip out to The Range where the arm was exhibited to all the members present, who were at once permitted to fondle and shoot the little dear; one of these shooters noting how the little arm shot remarked to the owner: "Tell you what I will do; you shoot this little gun

Off Hand From the Clubs

U.S.R.A. Announces Hand Gun Matches

The annual championship competitions conducted by the United States Revolver Association will be held from September 22 to September 30, inclusive, according to an announcement made by the Secretary, J. B. Crabtree.

An extension of time can by special arrangement be granted new clubs where their's is the only contest within the State if such clubs contest only for State honors.

Eight matches are scheduled, all of them except in the Novice Match and the Winans' Team Match are open to all comers whether members of the Association or not. Four of the matches are Annual Championships, both State and National, for the target revolver, the target pistol, the military pistol and revolver, and the pocket revolver. There is a Novice Match, both State and National honors, limited to those entries who have never won an important U. S. R. A. prize. There is a pistol handicap match where each contestant names his own handicap and is penalized if he takes one too large. There is a revolver handicap match where the handicap is based on the previous revolver records of the contestants. There is a four-man team match open to the teams of affiliated clubs or the teams from any police force or military organization.

These matches will be held contemporaneously at the various shooting centers of the United States, Canada, Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Canal Zone.

Crossman Suggests Pistol Course

C. C. Crossman, of St. Louis, president of the U. S. R. A. and third vice-president of the National Rifle Association of America, has submitted the draft of a qualification course with the hand gun.

Captain Crossman believed that the tentative course as proposed for adoption by the N. R. A. would be over the heads of the ordinary civilian shots and took the stand that any course to be shot by civilian riflemen, who in the main would be beginners in the pistol game, should not be so difficult as to discourage the amateur.

In his proposed course, Captain Crossman gives no consideration to the .22 calibre automatic. This he says is because this arm cannot properly be considered a military weapon.

The course of fire sponsored by Captain Crossman, calls for either the automatic pistol, calibre .45, or the military revolver, calibre .38 or .45. Length of barrel, trigger, pull and sights to be as specified for the National Pistol Match.

Here is Captain Crossman's course:

AMMUNITION

Full service charge.

RANGE

Twenty-five yards.

TARGET

Standard American, 50-yard revolver target.

KINDS OF FIRE

Slow, timed and rapid fire. Five shot strings, each score of five shots to be fired within the time limit.

10 shots slow fire.

10 shots timed fire, 30 seconds per string.

10 shots rapid fire, 15 seconds per string.

ELIGIBILITY

Life and annual members of National Rifle Association and members of clubs affiliated with N. R. A.

DECORATIONS

(To be specified by N. R. A.)

NECESSARY TO QUALIFY

Marksman—225 out of possible 300.

Sharpshooter—240 out of possible 300.

Expert—255 out of possible 300.

Wallace L. Darling, of Boston, is another who leans more toward the strictly military practice in the proposed course. He says:

"Referring to the proposed pistol course, I would suggest the following:

"The N. R. A. rifle qualification course is the same as that prescribed for the National Guard of the various States. Why not use the pistol qualification course prescribed for the National Guard as the N. R. A. pistol course? If this were done it would then be possible for a civilian to compare his scores with those made by his military friends. It would also give him practice along military lines which I think is what is desired. The qualification course to which I refer is found in paragraphs 173 to 175 in the Small Arms Firing Manual, 1913.

Full Program for Matches Announced

Complete details of the annual fall tournament of the Massachusetts Association of N. R. A. Clubs, to be held at Wakefield, Mass., October 5 and 6 and October 13 and 14, are contained in a bulletin recently issued.

The officials of the matches include:

Executive Officer, Major William C. Harlee, Assistant Director Small Arms Practice, U. S. N.; Assistant Executive Officer, Lieut. E. A. Harrington, National Naval Volunteers; Chief Range Officer, Major J. M. Portal; Assistant Chief Range Officer, H. M. K. Grylls, Chief Petty Officer; Adjutant, F. Loucks, Chief Petty Officer; Statistical Officer, James A. Symonds; and Range Officers S. M. Abrams, W. C. Davis, G. M. Gilmore, C. E. Liljegren, L. J. McKeachie, L. L. Thompson, L. H. Mattern, A. E. Loucks, R. S. Moore, P. T. Raymond, C. O. Thompson, and E. E. Zink.

THE SCHEDULE OF MATCHES

Match No. 1—Individual Slow Fire—B Target. Distance, 200 yards; number of shots, 20; position, 5 prone, 5 kneeling, 5 squatting, 5 standing. Reentries allowed. Prizes, first, gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Entry fee, twenty cents per man. The prizes in this match presented by Major Gen. Walter E. Lombard, A. & H. A. Co.

Match No. 2. Individual Rapid Fire—B Target. Distance, 200 yards; number of shots, 20; position, 5 prone, 5 kneeling, 5 squatting, 5 standing. Reentries allowed. Prizes, first, gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Entry fee, twenty cents per man. The prizes in this match presented by Lieut. Joseph A. Gahm, A. & H. A. Co.

Match No. 3. Change Position Fire—B Target. Distance, 200 yards; number of shots, 20; position, sequence of prone, kneeling, squatting, kneeling, prone. Reentries allowed. Prizes, first, gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Entry fee, twenty cents per man. The prizes in this match presented by Major J. W. H. Myrick, Fusileer Veteran Association.

Match No. 4. Slow and Rapid Fire—B Target. Distance, three and five hundred yards; number of shots, 20 (5 slow and 5 rapid fire at each distance). Position, prone. Reentries allowed. Prizes, first, gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Entry fee, twenty cents per man. Prizes in this match presented by Major John M. Portal.

Match No. 5. Skirmish Match—B Target. Distance, two, three, four and five hundred yards; number of shots, 20; position, as in navy small arms firing regulations. Reentries allowed. Prizes, first, gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Entry fee, match presented by Sergeant C. H. Campbell, twenty cents per man. Prizes in this A. & H. A. Co.

Match No. 6. Slow Fire Two-Man Team—B Target. Distance, three and six hundred yards; number of shots (per man) 20 (10 each distance). Position, prone with head toward target. Prizes, first, to the pair making the highest aggregate score, cups; second highest, silver medals; third highest, bronze medals. Prizes in this match presented by the Boston Fusileer Veteran Association.

Match No. 7. Individual Bullseye Match—B Target. Distance, five hundred yards. Conditions, each competitor to fire two sighting shots, then continue to shoot as long as he remains in the bullseye. A competitor failing to hit the bullseye (after his sighting shots) is out of the match. Note—Ties for first place to be shot off immediately. Prizes, first, a trophy; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. Prizes in this match presented by Lieut. Thomas A. Ratigan, A. & H. A. Co.

Match No. 8. Six-Man Team Match for a Trophy and Medals presented by the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company. Conditions—Open to teams of six men from any National Rifle Association Club in New England. Clubs may enter more than one team but no man to shoot on more than one. Distance, three and six hundred yards. Position, prone at both ranges. Target—A, at 300 yards; B, at 600 yards. Number of shots, 2 sighting and 10 for record at each distance. At 600 yards the sand-bag rest will be used. Entry fee, twenty cents per man. To be shot on Saturday, October 13, commencing at 2 P. M.

Match No. 9. Off-hand Match—B Target. Distance, two hundred yards. Conditions, open only to men who are over 40 years of age. Number of shots, 10 no sighting. Reentries allowed. Entry fee, twenty-five cents. Prizes, the total of the entry fees will be divided each day among the five men having the highest scores for that day.

Match No. 10. Off-hand Match—A Target. Distance, two hundred yards. Conditions, open to all. Number of shots, 10 no sighting. Reentries allowed. Entry fee, twenty-five cents. Prizes, the total of the entry fees will be divided each day among the five men having the highest scores for that day.

Makes Scorebook for New Course

The writer, being essentially of a lazy disposition, and having a great dislike of doing a thing twice when once is enough, knew the very first time he shot the new .22 qualification course, that he had simply got to have a properly worked out score book with sight changes all marked on the target diagrams.

Loose papers in your pocket book can be used to keep notes of the elevations used at the different ranges, but what's the use, you are sure to leave a paper at home some day—

and then—well it's not so easy to get on that little 18 x 30 paper at 250 yards that you want to guess at it. Anyway the writer wants to shoot, not monkey around trying to "get on" for half a dozen shots.

So after finding how to make targets for the rest of the bunch, I went after the score book idea. Its taken three weeks to work it out and test and prove each figure, but its done now, and when I go to the range, my Winchester Musket acts like a Springfield-sight, Micrometer and all.

To my mind there is nothing that can take the place of your own personal score book, be it for Springfield, or .22 Winchester—it helps out during the week—makes it easier to stand the delay until Saturday comes around.

You who have shot this course know that the 75-yard affair is worthy of the best you have, and that the 150-yard needs doping, more I think than 600 yards with the Springfield, and when you get up against that 250-yard stunt, you need all the help a score book can give you and some more to get ten straight.

As to making targets our members took to this course so enthusiastically that no ordinary supply was sufficient. My job was continuous until I made complete stencils for each target, so that with a stroke of the brush I could make a complete target.

I hope we may hear what others done on the score book idea—and if my idea is right we are going to have the finest shooting of all in this new course.

Some time when you don't mind straining your sling or rifle, try the .22 at 500 actual yards, it will surprise you, and at 300 its a revelation. We are just beginning to appreciate the .22.

W. F. ROPER,
Hopedale Rifle Club,
Hopedale, Mass.

Sighting Shots

In the opinion of A. B. Curtis, of Mark Center, Ohio, the proposed N. R. A. hand-gun course is too difficult for beginners.

"As a comparison," he says, "we are asked to make 85 slow fire for expert with the revolver, or an average of 82.5 per cent on both ranges (I tried this, scoring 60, 67 and 78, the last being 2 strings in 12 seconds each at 25 yards), while 84 per cent is expert with the rifle.

"We could not find a very good account of the U. S. R. A. shooting to guide us in comparisons, but the outdoor matches of 1913 shows that 47 scores were shot for record and that 26 men out of the 47 failed to make 425 or 85 per cent."

Concerning the discussion by Keough upon the Springfield, under the title "In Defense of the Short Gun," Curtis calls attention to the fact that the Springfield referred to in the story "has been so remodeled that it has no more resemblance to the Springfield 'as issued' than one of the Oldfield Speeders has to a farm tractor, and says:

"Mr. Keough declares, in part: 'Have not the contestants in the National Matches been allowed two rifles?' We might ask in turn: Does a soldier carry two rifles? Does a hunter carry two rifles? Do not the Government rifles, as issued, shoot all the way from 30 to 60 inches high in the hands of a good shot at rapid fire, and give a much greater variation when passed on to other men? Does not the average rifleman shoot high when attempting speed with a normally sighted rifle? Is not the Government military sight a complete failure in a dim light? Did not the

Canadians in the Individual Palma of 1913 finish one, two three in a gray light? Did not Captain Emerson, of Ohio, put on a much better score in the team match in a bright light? Did Mr. Keough ever try the present sight in a shower? With the military sight, any kind of shooting except in the general direction of the target is impossible in a dark light, in the woods, or in the rain. I have used a 1903 Springfield since 1912, and I have been unable to make more than 50 per cent squirrel shooting and 19 per cent after rabbit in the brush, while on a target, in the open, the rifle is very accurate, giving better results with reduced loads at 100 yards than I can get with a .25-calibre target rifle fitted with a 4-power telescope.

"We find on inspecting the rear sight that the U-notch battle sight is about 7/16 inch above the bridge of the receiver; that a peep 5/16 inch high would reduce the battle sight to less than 400 yards. Then in target shooting one could easily have an extra front sight to reduce the elevation to zero at 100 yards, and regulate it for slow fire at the longer ranges.

"We also find that the right-hand side of the bridge rises about 1 inch above the stock. This would allow for a slide elevation of about 1,600 yards without cutting the stock, and if this were elevated with a screw of 20 threads to the inch it would only take two turns to set the sight for 600 yards. This could be done more accurately and quicker than with the present sight. The elevations could be marked on the slide and the screw head could be divided into 1/4 or 1/8 parts. The wind-gauge screw could be cut 32 threads to the inch, making a reading of 4 inches for each 100 yards, and the head divided into four parts. Thus the wind readings would be the same as now, except you could put on 1/4 point without guessing at it. The sight radius would be about 28 inches. If the receiver were made flat and at right angles with the top, the sight could be built in the receiver. But what's the use? The Ordnance Department declares this sight has no particular advantage over the present sight. We wonder in just what way."

The Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Training Camps Rifle Club, of which L. E. Church is secretary, has been doing great work in connection with lining up candidates for the cantonments.

To begin with, the rifle-club boys organized the entire State, from the standpoint of eligibles, so that the work of the army officers having the Wisconsin training camps in charge was greatly facilitated. After that, two men from the club were detailed each day to conduct the campaign for candidates. Fifty members of the clubs themselves entered the service.

O. B. Poundstone and Allen M. Keough, members of the Ottumwa, Iowa, Rifle Club, have been selected to enter the second officers' training camp at Ft. Snelling, Minn.

The contestants have been assigned to teams for the competition for the Cash Prize offered by F. E. Zollars to members of the Fort Wayne Rifle and Revolver Club.

The conditions of the contest are that each team shall consist of five men besides the captain. The captain must be a member who has qualified as Marksman, Sharpshooter or Expert, and the five men on the team must be members who have not qualified, the different teams to be made up by lottery.

About a month will be given to the various captains to train their teams for the competition, which will be held on a

date to be specified later. The drawing of the teams was carried out with almost as much care as the drafting of the National Army. The drawing was held in the office of E. A. Wagner, president of the Club, at the General Electric Company's plant, the names being drawn by the Misses Mollie Kaiser and Mildred Sauerwein. Mr. G. R. Gawehn, secretary, O. E. Archibald, executive officer, and W. J. Hockett, head of the educational department of the General Electric Company were also present.

The names of the five captains were placed in one hat and drawn out successively to determine the order of the teams. The names of the other contestants were placed in another hat, and drawn out one at a time. The first name drawn was assigned to team No. 1, the second to team No. 2, etc., until five names had been drawn which gave one member to each team. Then the sixth name drawn was assigned to team No. 1, the seventh to team No. 2, etc. The result of the drawing is as follows:

First Team.—J. W. Patch, captain; E. Richter, V. Bradbury, L. H. Shields, John Dickens, Ed. Slagle.

Second Team.—H. A. Hartman, captain; H. C. Nichter, R. M. Strodel, J. C. Townsend, Al. Ulmer, C. A. Hatch.

Third Team.—J. E. Hall, captain; Rex Sowle, Glen Bente, W. H. Fell, H. E. Wineland, Oscar Bender.

Fourth Team.—Otto Brintzenhofe, captain; E. P. Offenlock, Clem Elbersen, Ray Berdelman, W. Nichter, H. C. Bradley.

Fifth Team.—X. J. Divens, captain; Walter Kent, Paul Shivers, F. R. Neff, Leo Duniform, C. G. Coughlin.

Clubs Elected to N. R. A. Membership During the Past Week Include: CIVILIAN

Massachusetts

Waban Rifle Club—Frank C. Hodgins, secretary; Francis W. Davis, president; Creed D. Fulton, vice-president; Andrew P. Newman, treasurer; William M. Duffum, executive officer. Membership, 20.

New York

Thirty First Maccabee Rifle Club—J. P. O'Keefe, secretary; Joseph H. Wentworth, president; C. E. Van Wie, vice-president; H. B. Burgess, executive officer. Membership, 22.

Rhode Island

The Shepard Rifle Club—Ansel R. Morrell, secretary; E. J. Laundrie, president; Matthew King, vice-president; Avery White, treasurer; Capt. E. Merle Bixby, executive officer. Membership, 94.

INDOOR RIFLE SHOOTING AND ITS ADVANTAGES

By "COLONEL"

In the American Field

Much has been written of the advantages to be obtained by indoor rifle practice, but the half has not been said that should have been of its benefit to all who indulge in it, provided that they go about it with the proper facilities.

Many names of first-class riflemen could be mentioned who started their career as marksmen on an indoor range, where they became very proficient, before attempting the longer ranges, as found at 200 yards and beyond. Many of these men jumped right up to the front after only a few times before the butts and have since held their own against all comers. On the indoor range they learned all that they needed to know, except managing the changes in wind, light and temperature, and they did it at small expense, compared to what it would have cost them on an outdoor range.

The ones who followed the advice of the older men started at the game right. They provided themselves with a rifle to fit and mounted with a telescope adjusted to fit their individual eye. This of itself was a wise move for various reasons, and was the secret of their rapid advancement. The reasons, to be brief, were as follows: The use of the scope obviates all eye strain, that drives so many out of the game, both among rifle and revolver shooters, as they can shoot through a 100-shot match with perfect comfort and without danger of any strain on their eyes; then again, the scope teaches them to hold better, because it defines the target better, and they can see to a dead certainty where the cross hairs are in relation to the center of the target when they pull their shot; then again, the scope magnifies the errors of their holding, and that teaches them to hold better, as they are constantly endeavoring to hold steadier, and that is of vast importance in all shooting, especially with rifle and revolver.

The confidence gained on the indoor range, where they have learned all the rudiments of holding and pulling, stands them in good stead when they get on an outdoor range, and the terror of the wind does not feaze them, as they know it is merely a question of experience and that they will be able to overcome the wind and other elements, as well as the best of their opponents. We could name several clubs and societies that have confined themselves to the ordinary sights, military as well as sporting, for their indoor shooting. Some of their members have developed into first-class shots, but the majority have dropped by the wayside because they saw that they were impairing their vision. One club started out with a fine lot of young men, who promised to become good shots, but after shooting a few months the attendance began to drop off, and an inquiry was met with the complaint of eye strain, so that at the end of two years the membership was less than one-quarter the original number, and those there were left had made no progress worth while. They had not been benefited to a sufficient amount to pay for the outlay, to say nothing of the impairment of their eyes. On the other hand, the scope-using clubs were adding new members and getting valuable practice, as evidenced by their members entering every available tournament, whether they were allowed to use their scores or not, as they had saved their eyes and were better able to compete successfully than those who had followed up the game in their own way, with ordinary sights.

To the would-be riflemen—young or middle-aged men—who wish to enjoy some form of recreation and are at a loss as to what it shall be, allow me to advise you to take up rifle practice on an indoor range. Ranges are in existence in many of the towns and cities of the country and some of them are open to practice as often as once a week, the year round, while others are usable at any time. Get into the game! There is nothing like it as a sport, and as a benefit to the young it is invaluable.

NOTES OF THE TRADE

Another publication of interest to riflemen has been issued by the Remington U. M. C. Company. It is called "Boys' Rifle Clubs."

The pamphlet contains a copy of the by-laws of boys' clubs which contemplate affiliation with the National Rifle Association, instructions for building indoor and outdoor ranges, details of the Junior Marksman's Course, and a description of the decorations awarded for qualifying scores. In addition the Boy Scout Marksman's code is given.

The booklet should be of real practical value to every boy who contemplates rifle shooting or is interested in the sport.

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WANTS AND FOR SALE

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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.

FIREARMS AND ANTIQUES—Buy, sell, exchange old time and modern firearms. Antiques wanted. Stephen Van Rensselaer, 805 Madison avenue, New York City.

FOR SALE—One 50 Power rifle range telescope fitted with cross hairs; also specially made adjustable rest for same. Rest adjustable to height, also can be swung sideways or up and down. Complete \$40.00. R. A. Fuller, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

FOR SALE—No. 404 Stevens Semi-Military .22 L. R. Rifle, set trigger, checkered grip, new and in perfect condition. Hugh Mallet, Bradford, Ill.

WANTED—To buy second-hand 45 caliber Colt Service Pistol. Must be in first-class condition. A. F. Mantey, Manhattan, Nev.

FOR SALE—Ithaca No. 4 single barrel trap gun and sole leather case. Both new. First check for \$80.00 takes them. Chas. Kilroy, Sidney, Neb.

WANTED—To buy for cash a new Service Colt, target sights preferred, using 44 S. & W. special cartridge. Must have 7½-inch barrel in perfect condition. Dr. A. E. Hertzler, Rialto Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

WANTED—By N. R. A. Expert Rifleman. Either a new Springfield or barrel for one. Must be in A-No. 1 condition. Give complete description, etc., in first letter. O. L. Wheeler, Monroe, Wash.

War's Effect on Game and Sport

PART 2—BY GEORGE D. PRATT

Conservation Commissioner, New York

IN view of the unusual situation in which this country finds itself I think it pertinent to say something regarding the utilization of non-agricultural lands and inland waters of New York State for the production of fish and game food, and the part that the Conservation Commission is taking in this work. At the outset I may say that I take issue with recommendations of the New York State College of Forestry, recently made to the State Food Supply Commission. These strike at the very principles of conservation, and at the methods and practices which have saved for us in this emergency a most important source of food supply. What we should now do is not to throw these principles into the discard, as the College of Forestry suggests, but rather to intensify our work along the very lines that have proved so successful through many years.

The recommendations of the College of Forestry have been referred by the Food Supply Commission to the Conservation Commission for whatever action seems desirable. It is apparent upon the face of these recommendations that they have been drafted without knowledge of the actual conditions in New York State, and without mature consideration of the consequences which might follow.

They state that 'the laws controlling our fish and game have been enacted entirely at the behest of sportsmen, and that the use of fresh water fishes and of game for food is comparatively limited in this country.' This entirely overlooks the fact that the more dramatic side of fish propagation, that of the raising of game fishes, is not the most important work of the fish culture department. The production of food fishes constitutes the biggest concern of that branch of the service, and it is the one that is most productive. Last year the eleven State hatcheries produced 11,000,000 game fish, including important species of basses and trouts, while the total production of food fishes was 541,000,000. The Department is even now engaged in the construction of another food fish hatchery, and in the more intensive cultivation of the food fishes in inland lakes and streams.

I fully agree with the statements of the College of Forestry that close utilization of our inland waters would to a large degree help out a depleted meat supply. Many of our lakes are prolific breeding waters, and we must stock them more intensively than ever before. This must be done, however, in accordance with carefully worked out plans, which take into account the food supply for fish life in those waters. When the College of Forestry makes recommendations for more intensive stocking, particularly in the Adirondacks, it apparently has not consulted one of its own faculty, who in the last few weeks has corresponded with the Commission and has protested against so much stocking of these waters on the ground that his study of some of them has indicated that they are being overstocked. Some of the warm lakes are prolific breeding waters, and it is in them that we are placing the larger part of the product of the hatcheries.

The College of Forestry makes a number of specific suggestions, among which is one that seining of inland lakes and streams for mature fish be permitted under State supervision, by State officials, during the period of the war. This suggestion is made in apparent ignorance of the fact that the Commission grants each year so many net licenses to commercial fishermen that it is in continual hot water with sportsmen, whose behests it hardly heeds in the case of the waters that are of more importance as food producers than as angling waters. I issued orders, at the beginning of this crisis, to permit the netting of food fish

to every extent possible without endangering future supply. I cannot believe, however, that the business of the commercial fishermen should be destroyed. A pound of fish is as good for food whether it is taken by commercial fishermen or by State officials.

The College of Forestry advocates increasing the number of fish nurseries, on the ground that when fry are liberated their natural enemies reduce their numbers tremendously, but that if they should be kept in nurseries they could be developed to larger size before liberation. For the last two years we have been carrying on a vigorous campaign to promote this very thing with the species which yield to that method of intensive cultivation. A large number of such nurseries have already been established in localities where they will materially increase the success of stocking trout waters. Such work, however, is totally impracticable with the food fishes, most of which are extremely cannibalistic, and in any such confinement as a nursery begin to eat each other as soon as they are hatched. This characteristic is so marked that if they were kept in a nursery for any length of time they would almost completely exterminate themselves. They have to be liberated in larger waters so that they will spread out. Others, such as the white fish family, must be scattered in waters of large range in order that they may obtain the natural food required by such minute fry. It must be borne in mind in connection with food fishes that we are dealing with hundreds of millions in comparison with hundreds of thousands of the game varieties. This advocacy of nurseries for food fishes is simply one of the errors into which people fall when they are not fully acquainted with the technical details of conservation.

The breeding of German carp by the State on a huge scale is another of the specific suggestions of the College of Forestry, but one which it is impossible for us to undertake in our public waters without exterminating many of our most valuable species. In fact, one of the great problems with which we are now struggling is that of overcoming the danger that has already arisen in certain waters where carp have been introduced in the past. They destroy the spawning beds of other fishes, and where they have been introduced, fish of both game and food varieties have steadily decreased. In only a few of our warmer waters could carp be raised in sufficient quantities to be worth while, while in the colder waters they would drive out the other more valuable fish without becoming correspondingly numerous themselves. Certain waters of the Mississippi valley, for instance, are suitable carp waters, but most New York State waters are not.

The College of Forestry says that "According to newspaper reports it is easier today for the Germans to purchase venison and birds than it is to buy butter, eggs and milk." If this unsubstantiated newspaper report is correct it only shows in what a desperate plight the Germans now are for meats, since economic history teaches, and every practical farmer and biologist well knows, that wild game can never become such an abundant source of food supply as domesticated live stock. The experience of the commission in encouraging for many years the propagation of game animals under the most favorable conditions shows that it is impossible to deliver game food in the markets at a price which will compete with domestic stock. This does not mean, however, that our wild game is not a tremendously important source of food supply. It is a far larger factor than most persons realize. If shooting licenses should be canceled, particularly for deer, as the College

of Forestry advocates, this would quite unnecessarily withdraw a large part of this continuous food resource. Why the College of Forestry should advocate letting down the bars of conservation on fish, while putting them up so tightly upon game, I am unable to understand. We have in the State, according to estimates made by the Commission, more than 50,000 adult deer. Our records show conclusively that they are breeding normally, and that they can stand a reasonable drain each year. Our reports show that last year at least 5,000 were shot, and if we estimate an average weight of one hundred pounds of dressed meat in each carcass, this proves that our deer forests produce a venison alone not less than 500,000 pounds annually.

A suggestion that the three game farms owned by the State be turned into farms for hatching and rearing ducks is absurd when one considers that they are not designed as duck rearing farms and can with far more profit be utilized in other ways. They might, indeed, be used for raising poultry, but this is just what they do raise on a very large scale, though the poultry consists of wild pheasants, rather than chickens. I question the wisdom of abandoning all that New York has done in getting these farms to their high pitch of efficiency for the sake of obtaining six hundred acres for chicken raising, when there are so many millions of other acres available for this purpose in the State.

The College of Forestry advocates the utilization of the State forests for grazing purposes, and points to the fact that a large part of the meat supply of the country is raised for a portion of the year at least within the boundaries of the National Forests. They quite overlook the fact, however, that the National Forests of the west where grazing is permitted are large open forests with considerable areas of grazing land intermixed, whereas our Adirondack forests are forests of very close growth, with a large amount of young trees springing up to produce future timber supply. Quite aside from the fact that foresters have found that stock grazing in such close growing forests absolutely prohibits the development of the young forest growth, I must point out that the Constitution prohibits such a use.

The Commission has issued orders to every game farm and fish hatchery to utilize every acre of ground possible for the production this season of food crops. It is making the fish food in all inland waters just as available for consumption in the present crisis as possible, and is giving more attention than ever before to the propagation of food fish which will mature within the next few years. It is doing all of these things upon lines that have been proved to be correct. This is a great country and one of really inexhaustible possibilities, if its resources are rightly used. In a time of such stress, however, it is important for us to guard against being stampeded into ill-considered action, which would be regretted later, not only by ourselves, but actually by all generations that follow us. If conservation laws and practices have been right in the past this is certainly the time of all others when they should be most carefully observed.

(Note:—Mr. Pratt's discussion appears as an official bulletin from The American Game Protective Association.)

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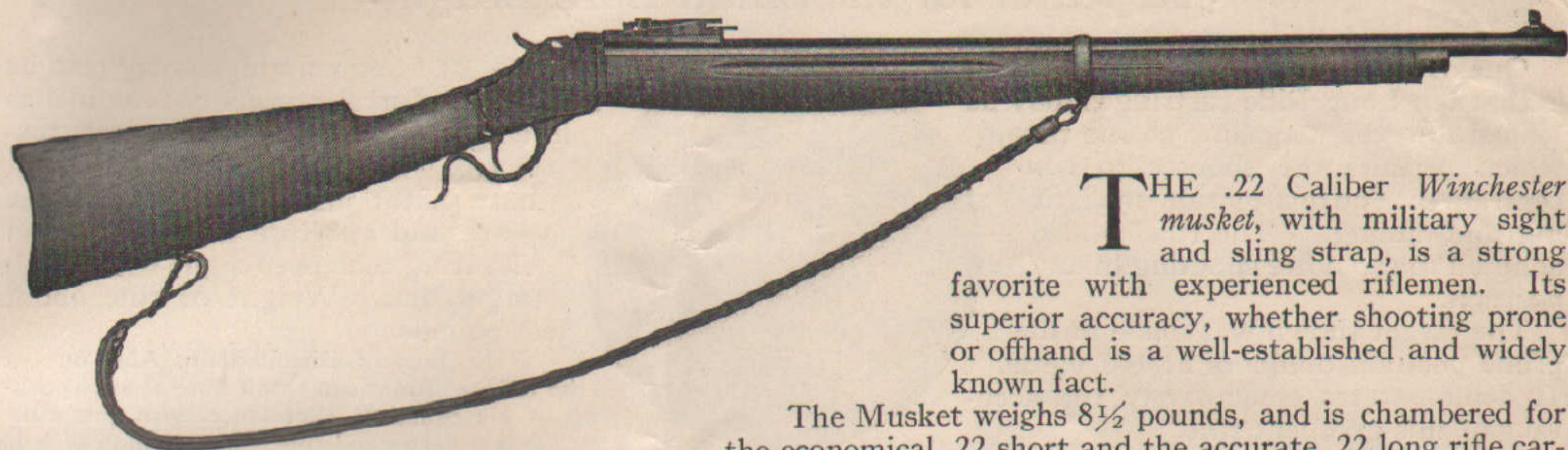


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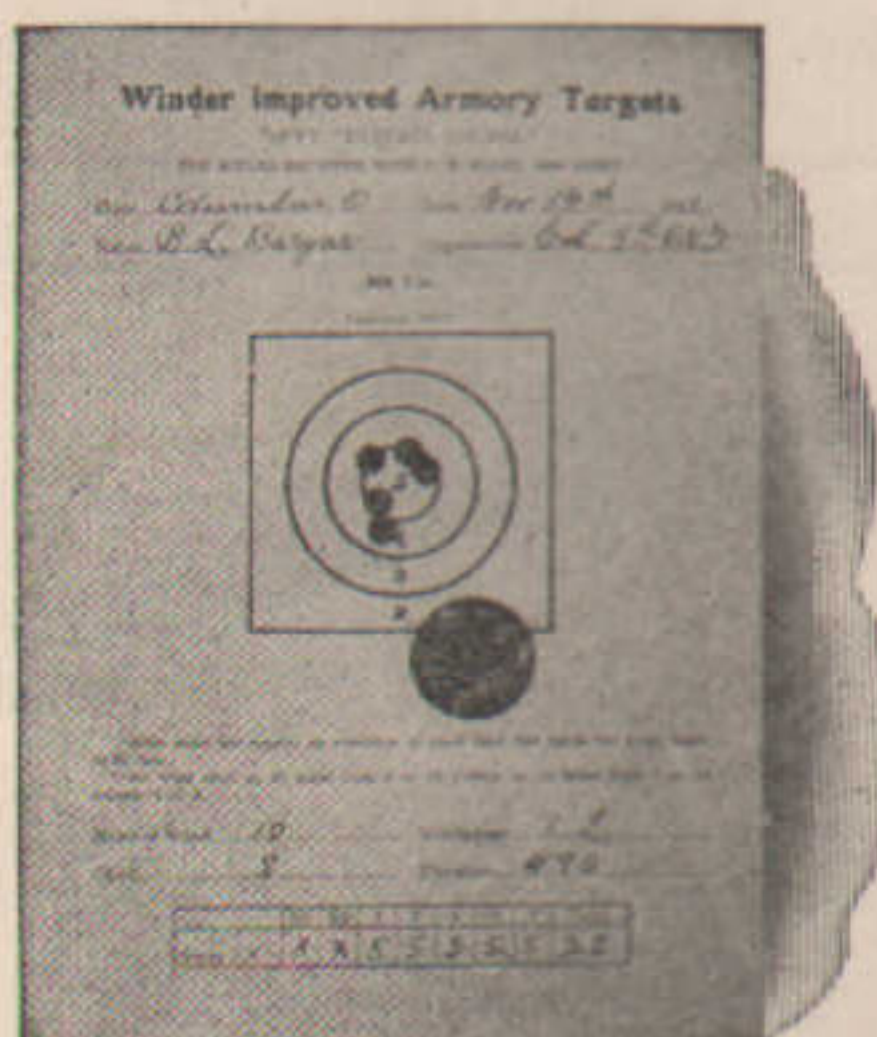


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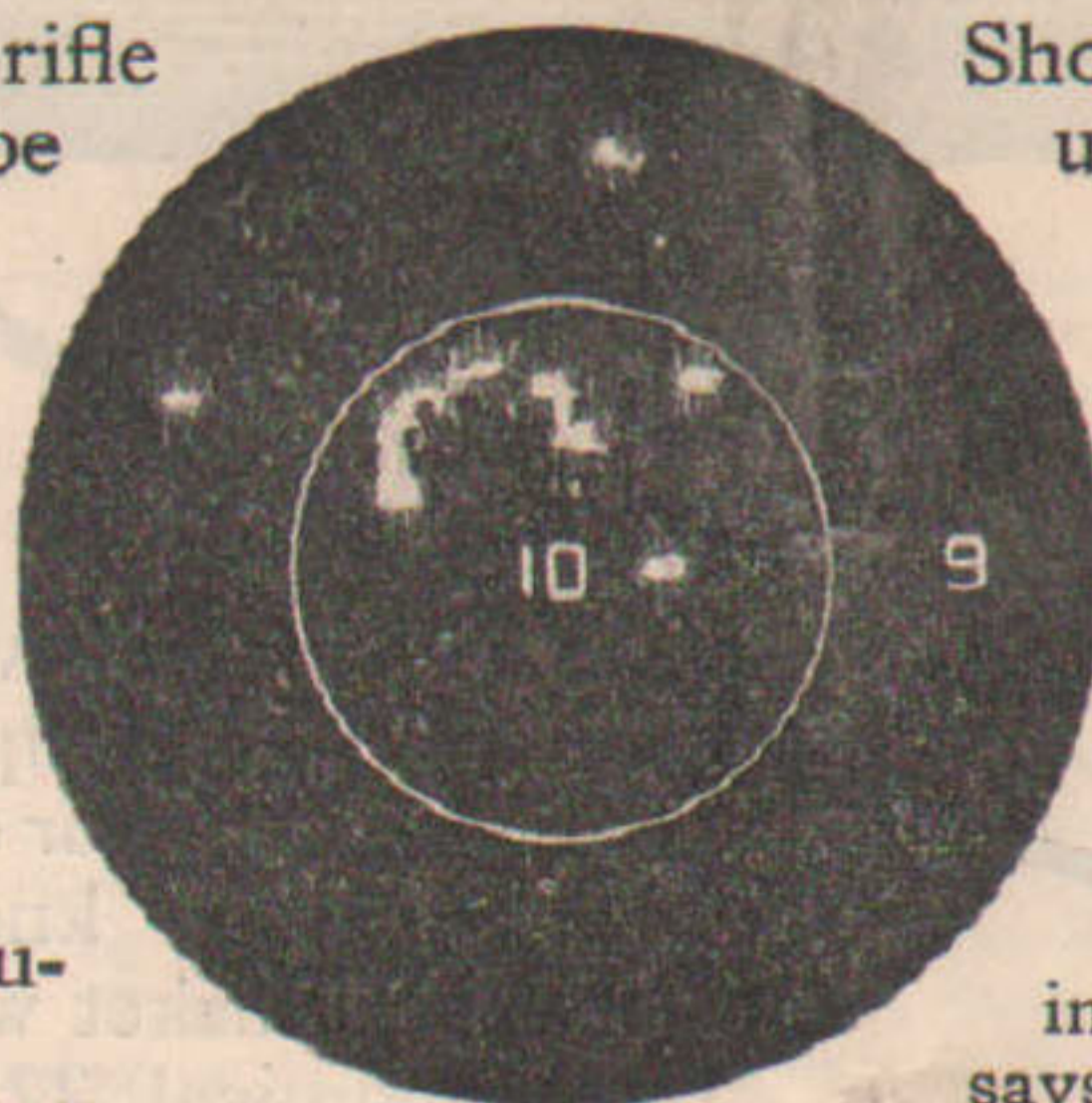


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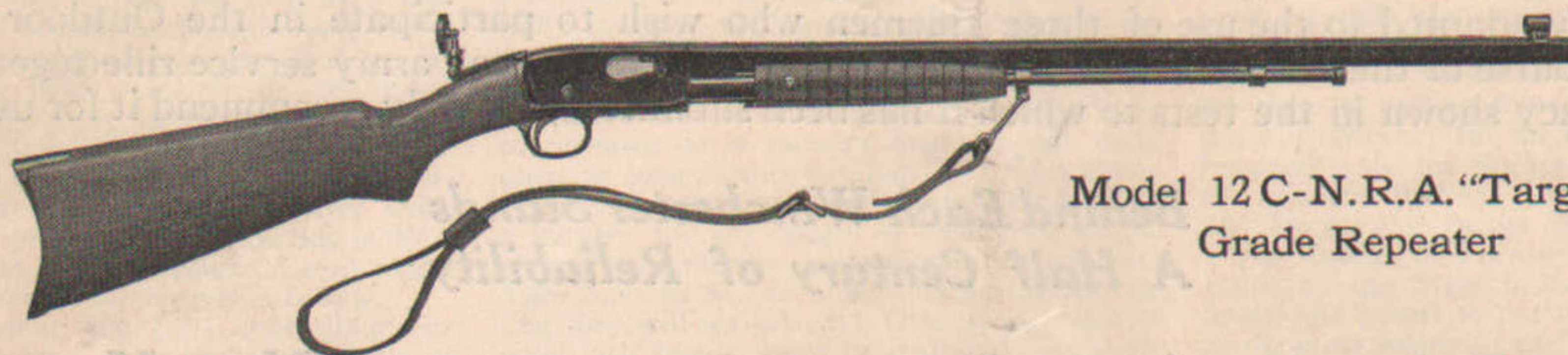
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T. K. Lee, of Birmingham, Ala., one of the leading American small bore shots, speaking of his practical experience with this rifle, says: "It is a very good rifle. My opinion of it is that it will prove the 'hold' of the most expert. It surely does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



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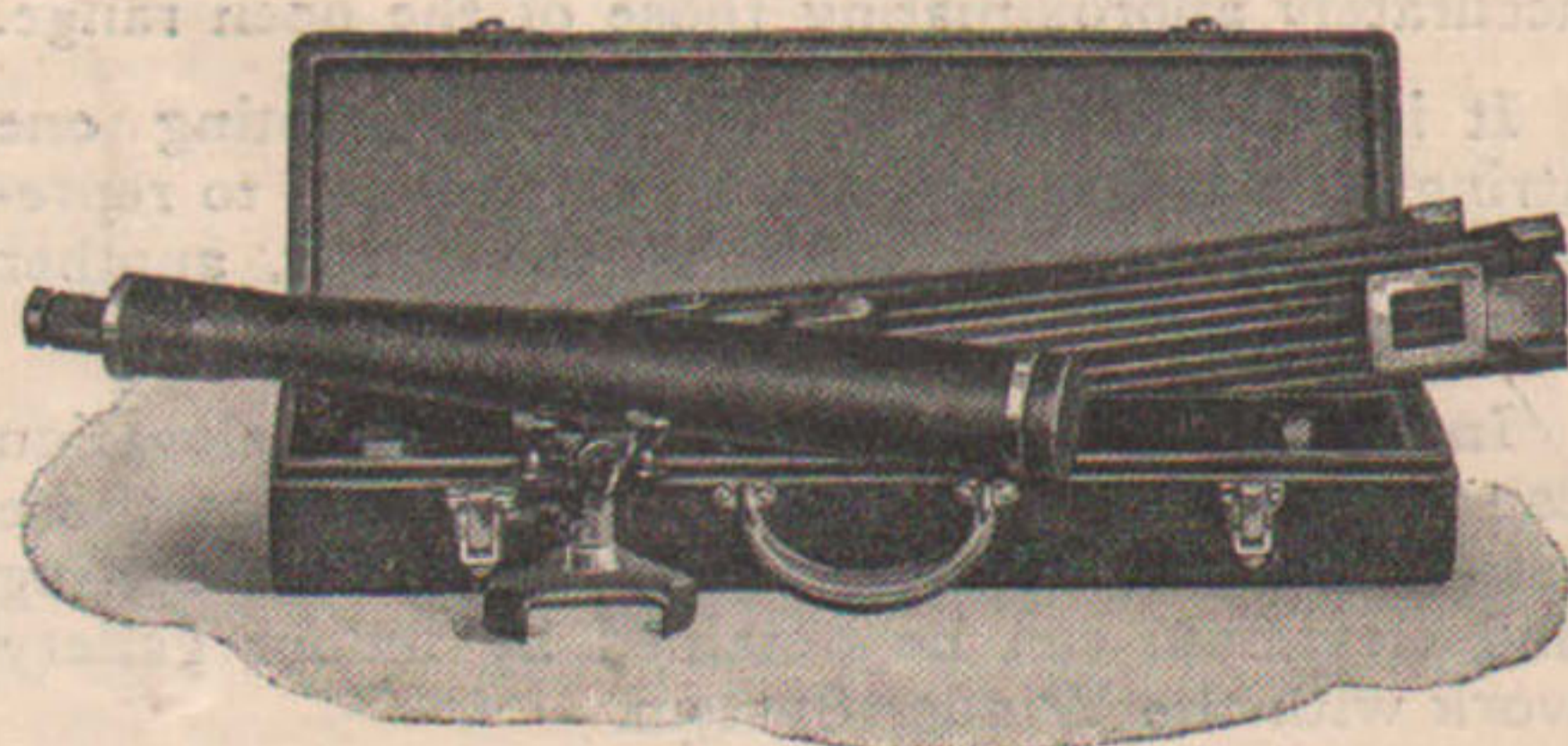
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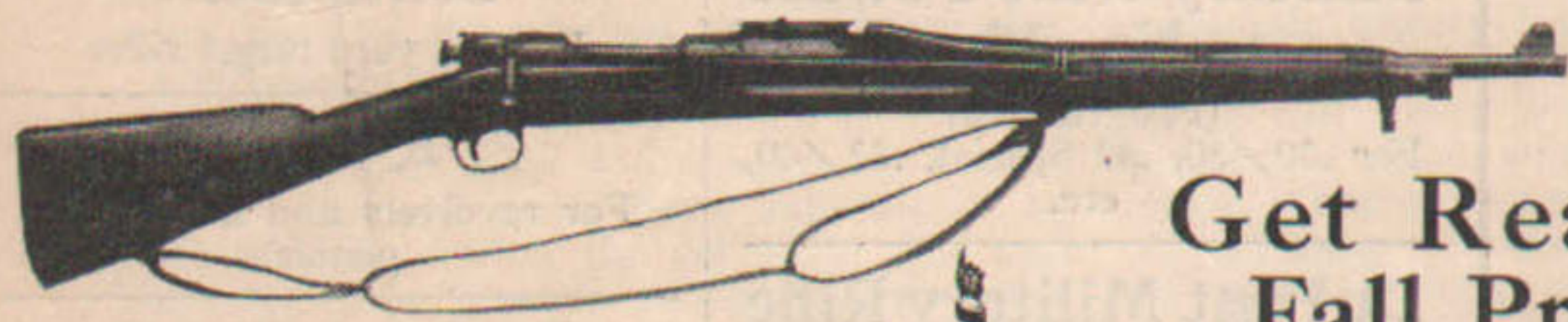
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