

ARMS AND
THE AMERICAN
RIFLEMAN ASSOCIATION

RIFLE AND SHOTGUN TO FIGURE IN TRAINING OF
U. S. AIRMEN

LOOKING OVER THE HAND GUNS
No. 2, Pocket Revolvers and Target Pistols

OFF FOR THE BOAR HUNT IN NO MAN'S LAND

"GUN FIRE AND THE HEARING"

EDITORIALS and
LATEST NEWS OF RIFLE, REVOLVER AND
SHOTGUN, THE ARMY, THE NAVY AND
THE NATIONAL GUARD

VOL. LXIII, NO. 7



NOVEMBER 10, 1917

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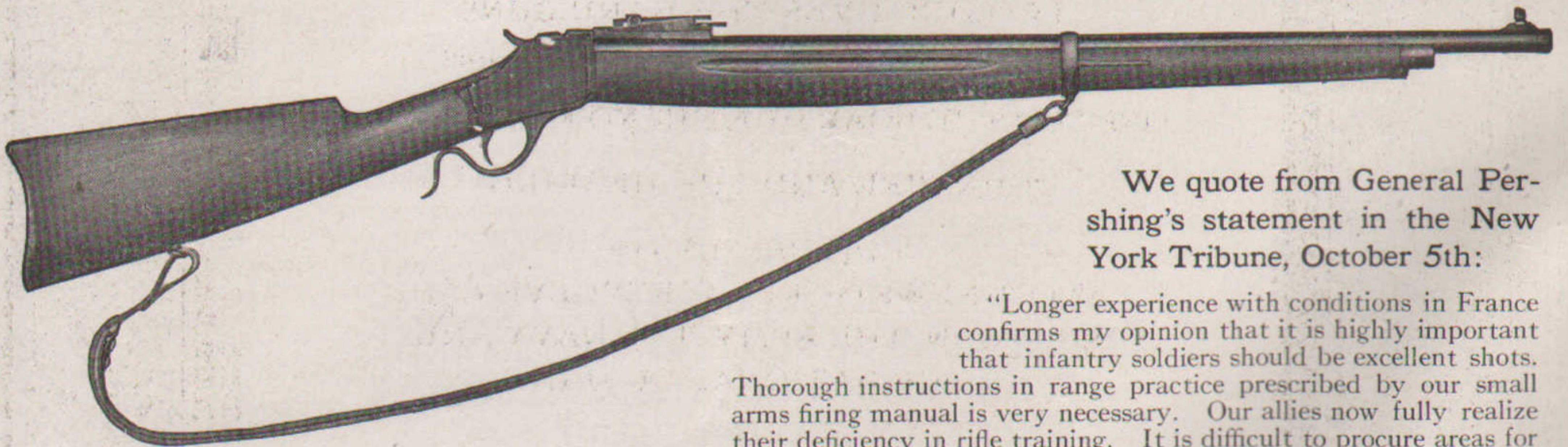
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General Pershing Urges Rifle Practice



We quote from General Pershing's statement in the New York Tribune, October 5th:

“Longer experience with conditions in France confirms my opinion that it is highly important that infantry soldiers should be excellent shots.

Thorough instructions in range practice prescribed by our small arms firing manual is very necessary. Our allies now fully realize their deficiency in rifle training. It is difficult to procure areas for

target range in France even now, when crops are off the ground. Much greater difficulty soon when ploughing begins.

“I therefore strongly renew my previous recommendations that all troops be given a complete course in rifle practice, prescribed in our firing manual, before leaving the United States. Specially, trench warfare instruction at home should not be allowed to interfere with rifle practice nor with intensive preliminary training in our schools of soldiers, companies and battalions.”

Its close similarity to the .30 caliber army service rifle together with its excellent accuracy shown in the tests to which it has been submitted, especially recommend for use in Military target practice, the

WINCHESTER .22 CALIBER SINGLE SHOT MUSKET

Chambered for .22 Short and .22 Long Rifle Cartridges

Winchester Repeating Arms Co.

New Haven, Conn.

ARMS AND



THE MAN

The Official Organ of the National Rifle Association of America

Volume LXIII, No. 7

WASHINGTON, D. C., NOVEMBER 10, 1917

\$3 a year. 10 cents a copy

Rifle and Shotgun to Figure in Training of U.S. Airmen

By STEPHEN TRASK

MILLIONS of "blue rock" targets will be blown to atoms by well directed fire from scatterguns in the hands of men wearing the uniforms of student aviators before the United States carries into the air her war with Germany.

Also by the time a great fleet of American battleplanes is ready to sail over the German lines, each man in the swarm of devastating aircraft will have prepared himself to repel a counter aerial attack by practice with .22 calibre rifles firing "spot light" bullets at moving targets; for both the shotgun and small-bore work will preface the training with machine guns of every aviator.

This, in brief, is the gist of an interesting and comprehensive course of marksmanship, different in most essentials from any which has ever been undertaken previous to its inception by officers of the aviation section, United States Signal Corps. Every man who hopes to pilot one of Uncle Sam's air-craft, will be introduced to it when he enters the School of Military Aeronautics, or "ground school." He will learn more about it at the Aeronautical Training School, where he goes next to be instructed in flying and the handling of machine guns. And the work done in these two schools, will form the basis for whatever work is decided upon in connection with training expert aviators at a school of Advanced Aeronautic Gunnery, the establishment of which is contemplated.

In prescribing this course of training, there is no intention of fitting men to use scatterguns as part of the armament of battle aeros. This has time and again been suggested. Always the conclusions of the experts in charge have been that no real benefit could be gained in supplying airmen with shotguns, since the ranges at which the airmen must fire at an enemy vary from 25 yards to 500 yards, and can never be accurately determined. While a scattergun loaded with buckshot might prove effective at the 25-yard range, at other ranges it would be useless and would simply add weight to the battleplane's equipment.

The course is provided purely and simply to teach the student aviator to judge distance on a moving target and "lead his shots." If this can be accomplished, the officials of the Signal Corps believe that there will ultimately be perfected a force of American air fighters whose skill in playing a hail of bullets upon a rapidly flying enemy battleplane will be unequaled.

One of the most interesting features of the plan as now entertained, is the selection of a corps of competent instructors—professionals and amateurs alike—from the ranks of the Nation's trapshoots. An exhaustive list of the men most expert with the scattergun is already in the hands of the authorities, and so widespread was the response to this list that no volunteers will be needed. Also the officials of the Interstate Trapshooting Association have agreed that if the government wishes to call any of the amateur

shots, these men can take service with the government, and still retain the status of amateurs.

So far has the matter of training aviators with the shotgun progressed, that before many weeks the pupils at every aviation ground school, it is thought will each be firing 25 shotgun shells a day, and those who have progressed to the training schools will be devoting much of their time to the practice.

For many years, scattergun enthusiasts and expert riflemen have consistently split upon the question of whether the shotgun or the military arm gave the best training to the civilian for subsequent military service.

There would seem to be no question but what the potential soldier in the ranks would profit little if any from practice with a shotgun. But the kind of marksmanship required of aviators, is a highly specialized form of shooting, and demands a training program in which both rifle and shotgun practice seem to fit.

The task of teaching the student aviator to handle the light machine guns with which the battleplanes of the United States will be equipped, is fortunately in the hands of a man who knows the shooting game from start to finish and who is himself an expert shot with rifle, pistol and shotgun. He is Major A. Elliott Ranney, Aviation Section United States Signal Corps. Many military riflemen will recall him as a member of the New York State Team at several of the National Matches.

From smashing "blue rocks" over a mechanical trap to engaging in an air dual with high powered machine guns may seem a far cry. Yet the two matters, according to experts, have much in common.

To understand where the connection between the two lies, it is well to consider the methods of aerial warfare now in vogue in Europe, where the armament of a battleplane usually consists of two synchronized machine guns (those timed to shoot through whirring propeller blades); for the use of the pilot and one or two machine guns for the use of the observer.

As good an authoritative description as has recently been published, from the semi-technical standpoint, appeared a few weeks ago in the *Army and Navy Gazette* of London. After emphasizing the point that at the beginning of the war fighting in the air was purely a matter of theory, the *Gazette* says:

"It soon became obvious, that to prevent the enemy airmen from obtaining information was quite as important as to effect a successful reconnaissance, that in the air as on the ground information could not be got by either side without fighting for it, and that to allow the opposing artillery-spotters to carry out their work of observation unmolested resulted in lamentable loss of life from the enemy's fire, besides having a demoralizing effect on one's own infantry. The bitter criticisms of the German infantry on their Air Service at times which have come to light are a proof of this, if any were wanted.

"Then came the question of weapons. Curiously enough the Lewis gun did not come into immediate use, although it was fairly well known to the few who were interested in the military aspects of aeronautics for some time before the war and had been tentatively experimented with. Rifles of light weight, carbines, revolvers and automatic pistols were the usual weapons, but the improvements in detail of aircraft and the intense desire of the airmen to achieve better results for their own side soon brought machine-guns into play, more especially the synchronized weapon firing through the propeller, and aerial fighting began to develop into an accomplishment which had to be super-added to the essentials of airmanship, if an aviator was to act otherwise than in flying a machine for artillery observation, photography or bomb-dropping accompanied by an escort.

The aerial combat, whether in the form of duel or *mêlée*, now requires good marksmanship of a specialised kind, in addition to extraordinary skill and boldness in handling an aeroplane, and the latter must be designed for the purpose in order to have any chance of success. To send men up to fight without specialised training and in any but the best and most suitable machines for the purpose up to date, in the light of our present knowledge and experience, is a conscious, deliberate and useless sacrifice of life. As regards the comparative value of airmanship and marksmanship in overhead fighting, the position of affairs now is that, owing to the short range at which firing takes place, the ability to manoeuvre for position, the skill required in so controlling the aeroplane as to present as bad a target as possible to an adversary, and the quickness of decision and combative attributes generally necessary in fighting at close quarters are as important as fine marksmanship, judging distance, and the qualities generally which make for good shooting.

"In future, however, it seems likely, with increased practice and special training, it will be possible to bring machine-guns and automatic or semi-automatic guns of larger calibre into action at much longer ranges with equal chance of hitting even such an indifferent mark as the vital parts of an aeroplane by successive bursts of fire, and then the value of good shooting will be paramount.

"As far as one can see now one effect of this will be that an aeroplane engaged in reconnaissance, photography, etc., will on emergency be able to protect itself against the enemy's fighting machines better than it can at present. The abnormal losses of men and machines which we suffered in

France in the spring of this year were mostly due to the opposite conditions. The enemy airmen did all they could to come to grips with the reconnoitring machines and to avoid the combat with our fighting aeroplanes, and where they succeeded in doing this were most successful, the former being taken at a disadvantage.

"At present it is essential for a marksman, however good, to manoeuvre for position, or if he is an observer, for his pilot to do so, before he opens fire; more often than not it is the first few rounds which decide the conflict. There is no object in opening fire quickly if the first bursts go wide of the mark. A determined enemy will not be impressed by shots which go wide; in fact, if he knows his business he will rather be encouraged by the obvious failure of his antagonist. Also, it is not the continuous but indiscriminate plugging of a machine all over which brings it down, but the one or two skilful or lucky hits which pierce a vital spot or kill or disable the pilot, and so put it out of control. But it becomes a better target for the time being than when being manoeuvred to advantage. It is better under present circumstances and conditions of development of aircraft for the skilled pilot who is out for protective fighting to "keep the weather gauge" as long as possible—at any rate in single combat—and to manoeuvre persistently for position, without firing a shot until he is sure of what he can do, than to rush in and fire several bursts on the chance of doing damage before the enemy can get in his blows. The latter, if equally skilled, will understand that this cool manoeuvring for position is not significant of an intention to avoid the combat, but an indication of deadly determination to obtain decisive results, and unless he has come out simply to fight (which is unusual) and is merely endeavouring to achieve a certain object with the minimum of risk, he may very easily be deterred from carrying out his mission."

It is therefore the result of a hitherto unusual and peculiar condition—shooting from a moving platform at a moving target—which has caused the officials of the United States aviation corps to seriously consider basing the training which aviators will be given upon extensive practice with the shotgun, preceded by snap shooting with small-calibre rifles.

Of course as the marksmanship work at the schools develops, changes and modifications will be likely. At present, however, preparations are being made to give every student aviator preliminary training with the scattergun at each of the so-called "ground schools." Here every man

will be expected to fire a minimum of 25 shells a day during at least a part of his training.

When he reaches a training station, after graduation from the "ground school," he will probably immediately take up training with the .22 calibre rifle, since by using the so-called "spot light" ammunition, which plainly shows where the bullet strikes, much of the preliminary practice at moving targets can be accomplished at much less expense than if shot-gun shells were used.

When the practice with the .22 calibre rifle is completed, the student aviators will again take up shotgun practice, there being no time for ordinary rifle practice. At the training schools it is estimated that over hundreds of traps, more than 250,000 shells will be fired every month in ordinary shotgun work. In connection with this work that training undergone at the ground schools which deals with the taking down and assembling of machine guns, with penalties for failures or inaptitude, will be repeated so that by the time the student aviators approximate the skill of expert wing shots in breaking clay targets, shooting from moving aeroplanes at objects on the ground, and finally from aeroplanes at small captive balloons, they will be sufficiently well versed in judging distance and estimating "leads" to take up the machine gun.

The theory of training aviators with the shotgun to shoot at moving objects, did not entirely originate in the United States. It is said that in many of the English schools of aeronautics, the students practiced shooting from rapidly moving motorboats.

AT THE CONSCRIPTION CAMP

Scene—Officer drilling drafted Poles who do not understand English. Officer tired. Recruits dumb.

Officer, for fifteenth successive time—"Right face!"

Recruits right face.

Officer—"At Ease!"

Recruits right face.

Officer, bursting with exasperation—"Good God!"

Recruits right face.

Officer is carried from field, unconscious. D. W. K.

Tommy (during heavy strafe): "I suppose you've never heard anything like this before?"

Sammy: "Waal, I guess you've never heard Theodore Roosevelt speak!"—*London Opinion*.

"What are these?"

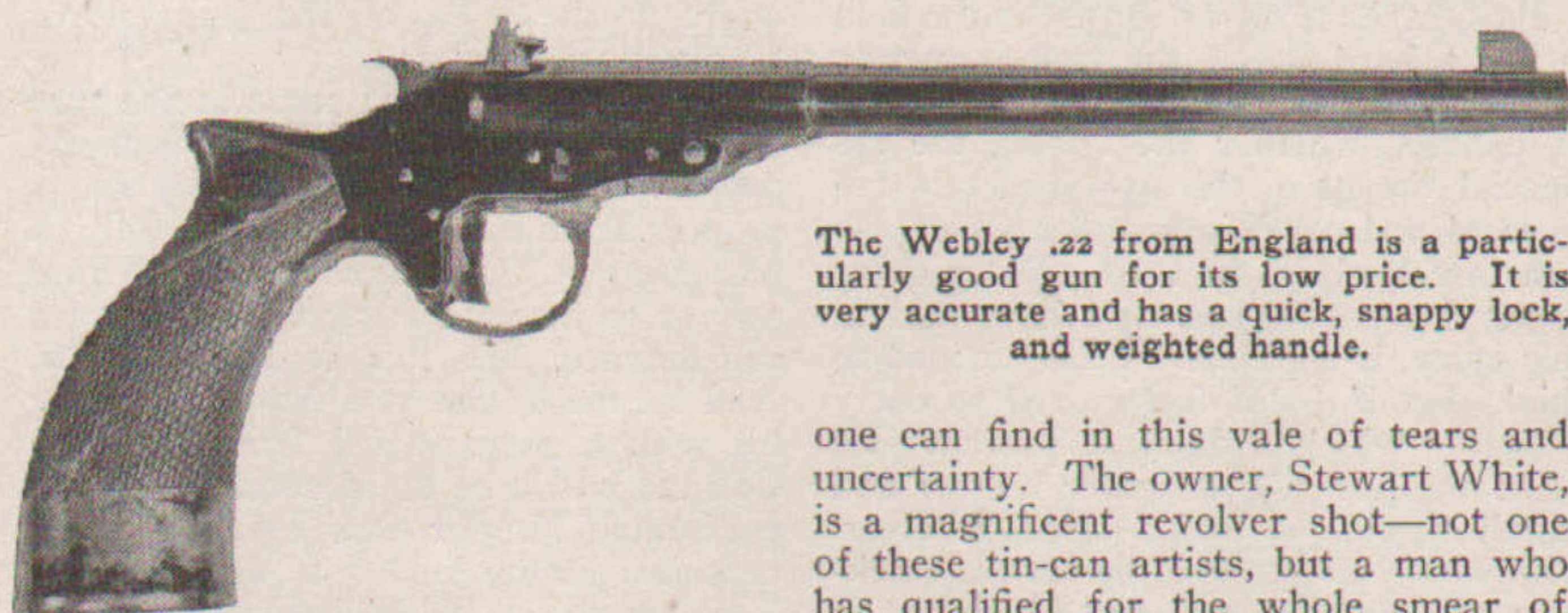
"War biscuit. What about 'em?"

"Sherman said it. That's all."—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

Looking Over the Hand-Guns

By EDWARD C. CROSSMAN

NO. 2—POCKET REVOLVERS AND TARGET PISTOLS



The Webley .22 from England is a particularly good gun for its low price. It is very accurate and has a quick, snappy lock, and weighted handle.

I MUST confess to an abiding affection for the revolver when it comes to a hand gun made to hit a punch. Of course, the single-shot and the Colt automatic .22 are the only guns for the chap who merely wants to shoot for the fun of it; there's nothing to this loud noise and much kick stuff for pleasure shooting. The revolver is ballistically a freak, a gun with the chamber apart from the barrel, and with a nice little open spot at the point of highest and most efficient gas pressure, where the cylinder and barrel join; but just the same there is plenty of wallop left and the revolver lover can afford to let the ballistic sharp rave as to the loss of gas.

What is a lot more important is the fact that one can hit somewhere near where he aims with the revolver, because decent pull can be put on it without danger, and the user doesn't have to go through a preliminary course of raising and lowering a ten-pound dumb-bell on the trigger finger to get that digit in condition to fire the gun. Also, a well-adjusted revolver of Colt or S. & W. make responds instantly and without a preliminary creak or ooze or jolt, to a squeeze on the trigger. The pull on the Colt Officers' Model, for instance, is to my mind the height of perfection in trigger pulls. The motion is so slight as to be nearly imperceptible either to eye or finger, there is no give or back-lash, and there is not the slightest sign of a preliminary grate or ooze or creep. Let the automatic maker show us an automatic with such a pull.

One man of my acquaintance, going to Africa for the second time, looked over the field, autos and straight revolvers, and again took along the old reliable Colt New Service .45, from which he had taken out the double-action dog, and on which he had a pull of about 2½ pounds. With so light a pull there is supposed at least to be danger of the trigger not getting the dog entirely clear of the falling hammer. This is without doubt as near to an efficient hand gun as

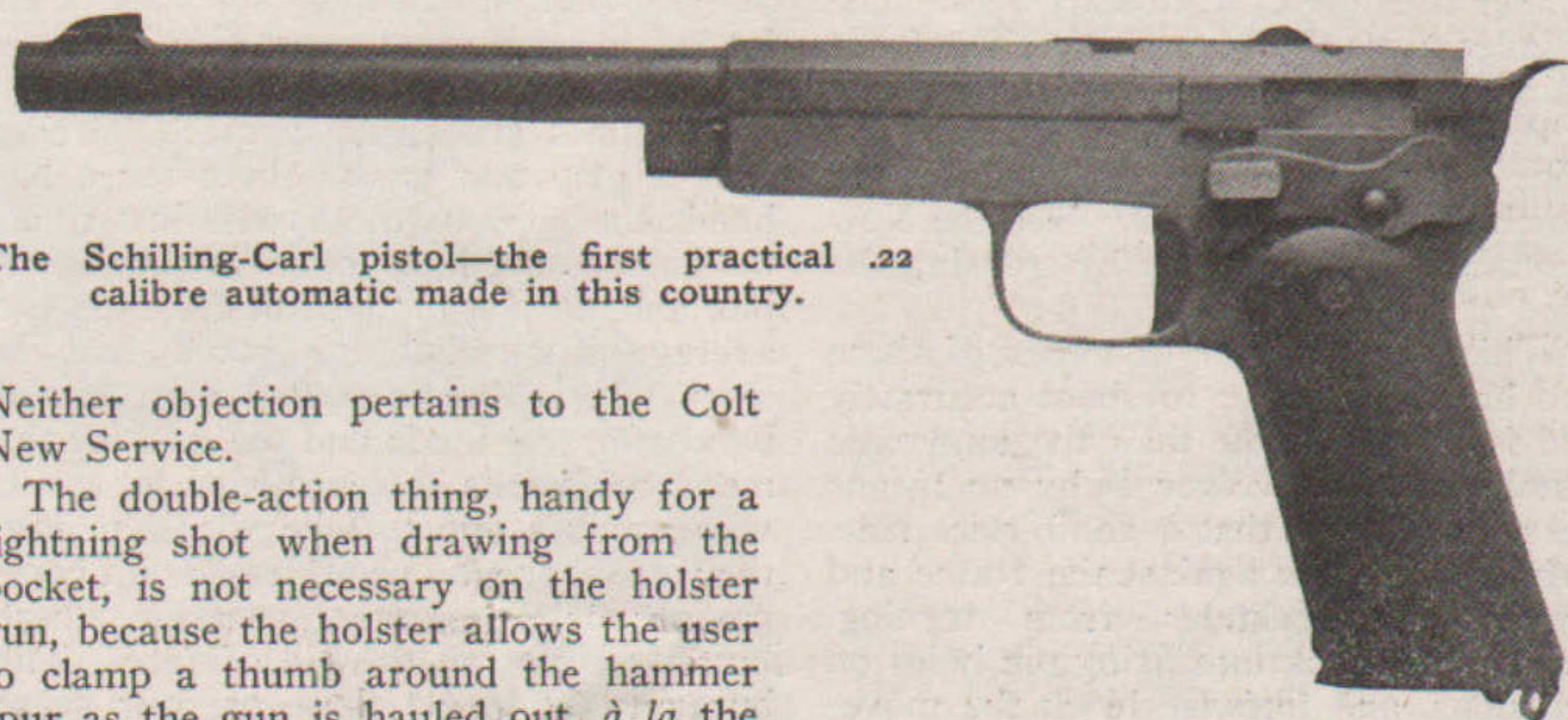
one can find in this vale of tears and uncertainty. The owner, Stewart White, is a magnificent revolver shot—not one of these tin-can artists, but a man who has qualified for the whole smear of U. S. Revolver Association medals, and who is also a quick and accurate field shot. This is the sort of chap who growls the loudest about the automatic and its strong-man trigger pull, because the better trained the finger the more it rebels at having to put on a pressure enough to fire three guns.



The Weber pistol from Zurich, Switzerland.

The old timers along the border used the single-action Colt because, first, it was simple and reliable, and second, because it used big-calibre cartridges and hit the health-preserving wallop necessary to its owner when the other chap started to shoot out the little argument.

But the old gun, still much used in the west, is very slow to unload and reload, while the big heavy hammer, falling a distance and hitting a blow like the sledge of the blacksmith under the spreading chestnut tree, didn't help accurate shooting. The lock speed was considerably slower than the 1/625 second our Ithaca friends advertise for their guns.



The Schilling-Carl pistol—the first practical .22 calibre automatic made in this country.

Neither objection pertains to the Colt New Service.

The double-action thing, handy for a lightning shot when drawing from the pocket, is not necessary on the holster gun, because the holster allows the user to clamp a thumb around the hammer spur as the gun is hauled out, à la the

old single action. While the hammer spur on the modern gun of the New Service type is more like a revolver hammer and less like that on grandfather's old musket, it is still enough to give a fair grip on it. The revolver can be cocked by hand and fired with considerable rapidity by the man at all used to the job. By far the largest number of men in the revolver matches of the Government up to 1914 cocked the revolver by hand for each shot, instead of using the double action in rapid fire, and one sort of rapid fire allowed but ten seconds for five shots, starting with the gun raised in the air when the watch started.

In the Colt and the Smith & Wesson, America hangs it on the world in revolver making. The famous British gun, the Webley, well made enough, looks like something produced for little Willy and the Glorious Fourth. Other foreign revolvers are still queerer in looks and considerably inferior to the American product in every way.

Up to a few months ago I would have taken a bet that the S. & W., as found in stock, skinned the Colt by a considerable margin in smoothness of working, particularly in the double action. But since the war got well along the S. & W. product has not been up to the old standard by a considerable grit and grate.

Three or four out of stock and tried recently, developed a lock action that was far more like the three-dollar bulldog than the old Smith & Wesson, with its velvety working, and I am wondering why the kinks in those guns at the end of all these years of S. & W. care in production. The double action on the Colt is always stiff, nor does the factory seem able to remedy it. I bought in 1913 a Colt Army Special on which the factory kindly put the Colt Officers' Model lock finish. Still the gun had a nasty jolt in cocking it; instead of the smooth,

velvety rise to full cock, either single or double action, the gun had a final hard catch at the top of the rise, and I got disgusted with it after wasting many ducats shooting U. S. R. A. medal targets with it.

The two guns split between them many revolver virtues that, wrapped up in one make, would put every other revolver off the map.

The Colt is less complicated, with its freedom from front cylinder lock that is likely to jam from sand. It is nearly accident proof, so far as catching hammer is concerned, because of the little block that intervenes between hammer and frame until the trigger drags it out of the way—sort of a reversed Iver Johnson scheme. The Colt cylinder turns the right way—away from the cylinder lock or clock direction as you hold the gun pointing away from you. The Colt hand comes up and locks the cylinder tight when the trigger is squeezed, which is the only position in which to test the tightness of a revolver. The Colt barrel is screwed in the right way—so bullet pressure turns it tight—and there is no necessity for pinning it into the frame. The Colt grip fills up the hand better than the thinner grip of the other gun. The Colt cylinder stop notches are not cut in the thinnest part of a cylinder already very thin, and the Colt stands more of an overload than the other gun.

On the other hand, the Smith & Wesson is a far smoother working gun—outside the recent models I tried, much to my surprise. It is finished and built inwardly finer than any other firearm put up in America. Hammer and trigger work on hardened steel bosses set into frame and working members, like the jewels of a watch. I've seen these bosses turn out and jam the gun, but this is a rare happening. The gun will stand more usage in actual shooting and stay tight longer than a Colt.

As they run, I imagine the S. & W. is more accurate than the Colt, but this may be prejudice caused by some raw guns put out in the old days.

The cylinder stop notches are cut in a poor place on the S. & W. gun, the thinnest part, and the cylinder walls are thinner than the Colt, to start with. The cylinder turns the wrong way. The front cylinder lock, particularly on the New Century, I regard as an abortion. The grip is too thin where gripped by the crotch of the hand. I have seen the New Century bring the claret by splitting the hand at the crotch.

While the revolver of either of these two breeds is easier to shoot accurately and is more reliable than the automatic pistol, yet the revolver is by no means the certain brute that is the service rifle. Primers set back against the frame and prevent the cylinder from turning. Primers set back into firing pin holes on occasions, and likewise block the movement of the cylinder. Bullets once in a

while jar out of the crimp and move forward and lock the cylinder. This is common with hand-loaded ammunition where the loader puts on an insufficient crimp to hold the bullet from jolting out under recoil.

Picking the revolver for use in the field is not a hard job if the task is merely to get a good, reliable one. The question of calibre—whether the .32-20, the .38 Special, the .44 or the .45—is merely one of taste and conditions under which the guns are likely to be used. But picking a gun for pocket use, as I have said in this story, is a puzzle. I am inclined to think that if I did feel moved to carry a "gat"—which I don't at present—I'd make the pocket a shoulder holster and install therein a man's sized revolver. The whole pocket line, in punch, quickness of first shot, pull and reliability, is a small bit better than nothing save as creating comforting bulges in the clothes and comforting weight on the trouser waistband if the presence of a gun gives the totter any comfort.

While picking a gun for self-defense is a moot matter, there is no argument and mighty little criticism when it comes to the little Colt .22 automatic. That's the finest little weapon ever produced for pleasure with the hand-gun. I shot No. 328 a number of thousand rounds with the jinx standing by, and became very much tickled with the pretty little weapon. The jams arose from just two sources, and can be avoided. The first trouble came from the backing out of the firing pin retainer screw into the bolt-way, rubbing against the receiver and making the gun jam. The factory has done away with that trouble.

The second trouble came from using ammunition with too much lubricant on the bullets. A magazine full or two gummed up the walls so the spring could not force up the cartridges to feed before the bolt. This didn't happen with ammunition with less grease smeared over it. I got a few misfired, which I laid to a weak mainspring on the gun, as I saw none with other automatic .22's. All in all, however, considering the peculiar irregular lubricating of .22 Long Rifle stuff and the irregularity that must come in ammunition costing so little and loaded in such great quantities, the gun is a little marvel.

The lines are nearly perfect, barring only a grip that is too short for a big hand; the pitch of the handle just right, the balance good, the parts few and simple, and the trigger pull better than the average single-shot .22 you'll find in stock. It is the finest and most useful hand-gun ever made and the gun for the man who wants to learn how to shoot, who wants a gun to take with him into the woods, or who wants a pleasant companion for the summer vacation where hunting is not on the bill of fare. The buyer ought to get three or four spare magazines and carry them filled, so forty

or fifty shots can be fired without the interruption of having to stop and refill magazine with the greasy little fice of a Long Rifle.

Nothing but Long Rifle Lesmok or Semi-Smokeless—of course lubricated—ought to be used in the gun; never Smokeless greaseless.

There isn't a lick of sense in the tyro buying a center fire, and therefore expensive feeding gun, if he merely wants to pop around and use the gun for a pleasure gun. Of course he can kid himself as to the gun being useful also for self-defense, but this is mostly piffle. And let me advise you that the burglar hit with a magazineful from the little Colt .22 would be the deadest and worst perforated burglar that ever slipped a cautious jimmy under a window-sash. Two or three .22 bullets delivered at speed will knock out any man not keyed up to battle frenzy.

One of the few things in this life that is cheap and yet entirely as satisfactory as the higher priced things—like the Ford motor car—is the little Stevens Off-Hand Model pistol. It is merely a single shot, but it costs around \$7, which is some \$12 cheaper than the automatic .22—when they can be had at that. I got one of them in 1908 and have shot it ever since. My grief now is that I can not rake up a new barrel for it, the old one having been ruined by shooting particularly corrosive "shorts."

This gun is just as accurate and just as satisfactory for target work as the fine S. & W. single shot that has the call among target shooters. The sights are crude and must be jockeyed around, but at that are little inferior to the peculiar sighting arrangement on the fine S. & W. My own rear sight I cut down to a level bar, with a clean-cut U therein, instead of the horned affair that came on the gun. The front I replaced by a larger bead, flat on the face toward the shooter, made by C. W. DuBois, of Tacoma, Wash. The sole addition desirable for target shooting is some sort of lateral adjustment—wind-gauge it would be on a rifle. This any gunsmith could develop with a pair of screws working in a sliding base of the rear sight.

An improvement on this type of Stevens gun, that the factory probably wouldn't countenance but which I find satisfactory, is the cutting down of the frame forward of the barrel pivot screw until the barrel turns through more of an arc and drives the extractor out farther. Then a little snap open of the barrel ejects the shell automatically. If it is overdone the extractor comes out of the slot in the barrel, but it is easily poked back again with the fingers. The grip on this little Stevens gun suits me better than the cardboard-thin grip of the S. & W. single shot, and it is easier handled in the operations of loading, because the barrel opens but a little ways, like that of a shotgun, while the S. & W.

barrel chases itself around most of the block to get the shell out.

I've owned two foreign-made single shots during my pistol monkeying, one of them a Webley single .22 from England, the other a Weber, Swiss-made single from Zurich. Both of them were fine guns, the Webley being particularly nice for its low price. It was of the tip-up variety of barrel, heavy, with weighed handle and long barrel, very accurate, and with a quick, snappy lock. It took us an hour to figure out any way to get into the gun, there being not a button or protuberance on it. Finally we solved the mystery by pulling forward on the trigger guard.

The Weber, made by a famous Swiss maker, is a gun *de luxe*, but, alas, better suited to a gent with a ham for a hand than to one sporting only a No. 8 size, because of its considerable reach from back of grip to trigger.

The hammer is low and covered up by the frame, excepting its long spur; the pull is adjustable by a screw in the frame; the front sight is detachable by pressure on a spring catch; the rear sight bar has three notches in it of varying shapes for your choice. Also, the rear sight has a wind gauge with a click, and a screw operated by the fingers alone for elevation. The S. & W., on the other hand, requires a fine jeweler's screwdriver by which to move two tiny screws down in little holes when changes are to be made in the rear sight. Convenient, is it not? Yes—it is not.

The single-shot .22 is emphatically the gun for the beginner, unless he be of considerable strength of character, because the work of loading after each shot gives time for reflection and study; also, there is not the temptation to loose off careless shots because of the ease thereof.

Deliberate-fire pistol shooting requires more practice to train the muscles, and less brains, than any other variety of the shooting game. I've seen world's champs at this game who apparently didn't have brains or quickness of thought or real 90 per cent class in deliberate-fire pistol shooting. There's nothing to it but training the muscles of the right arm until the gun is held out without fatigue, and training the trigger finger to pull without adding to the wobbles of the gun. In



The pull on the Colt Officers' Model is the height of perfection in trigger pulls. The motion is so slight as to be nearly imperceptible either to eye or finger. There is no give or back lash.

co-ordination. A half hour's daily snapping practice with empty pistol for three weeks, and then a couple of hours with the real firing, will put nearly any person of normal eyesight and nerves into the

other words, getting into a fairly expert class at deliberate pistol shooting is sort of a training for a toe dancer, except that the training is with the arm and less time is required. No judgment of wind or light, no perfect co-ordination of eye and muscle—no nothin'; merely hold and squeeze and squeeze and hold.

Rapid fire, the mastery of the gun shown by such men as Dr. Snook and Dr. Cook, of Washington, is quite a different thing, but lamentably few of the slow-fire wizards can trot out and pick up the military gun and make good through the army course, wherefore we know them as being limited in pistol-shooting ability to the game any man can master with a little time and patience.

Deliberate fire with the pistol is fun, but absolutely a misuse of the gun from a practical standpoint. It is pure and simple a weapon for the melee, a gun for hurried use where victory depends on quickness plus a fair amount of accuracy—say that sufficient to hit a beer keg, if you know what that is—at 15 feet. Even though the fast man misses, if his first shot goes first it will as a rule so upset the aim of the other man that he will miss also, because the flash and bellow of a pistol pointed at you is not conducive to cool marksmanship.

The master of the hand-gun is the man who can flash out the gun and hit the man's sized figure 20 feet or so away, who can rattle in five shots in ten seconds or less and keep them in the black at 15 yards, who can make Uncle Sam's big .45 automatic sit up on its hind legs and beg for cookies. This is the man who can afford to laugh at the "master" of the hand-gun who proves his ability only by squibbing them all into the black with the ladylike .22 at deliberate fire without a time limit on the score short of that evening. A good and an amusing game, deliberate fire with the .22, and a course

The Smith and Wesson Target revolver. The S. & W. guns are smooth working, the hammer and trigger operating upon hardened steel bosses, like the jewels of a watch.



through which every good pistol man must first pass—but in itself nothing to give one any claim to being any great shucks with the hand-gun, because the hand-gun isn't intended practically for that sort of fire, any more than a machine gun is intended for firing a shot per minute as a Presidential salute.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second and last of two stories on the hand-gun. The first was published October 27, 1917.

BRITISH MUNITIONS EXPERTS TO VISIT PLANTS

For the purpose of placing at the disposal of American munitions manufacturers the experience of Great Britain in producing war supplies, four members of the British ministry of munitions are making a tour of the middle western and eastern states.

The visitors will hold informal conferences with munitions makers particularly from the standpoint of promoting production through the effective employment and distribution of labor.

The visiting officials are in this country by official invitation and carry credentials from the Secretary of War.

MINIATURE CITY BOMBARDED

U. S. Marines in training at Quantico, Va., bombarded an "enemy" city recently and the only buildings left standing after the terrific fire were churches and hospitals.

It was only a miniature city, to be sure, and the buildings were not more than a foot high. Cities in miniature are used as objectives by Marine Corps artillerymen in training here, and the little buildings in them are plainly labelled "gun factory," "barracks," "church," "hospital," etc. The marine gunners are careful in training to avoid hitting buildings marked "church" or "hospital," and in practice they show wonderful marksmanship in razing buildings adjacent.

Nurse (to badly wounded soldiers who have complained of their food)—You men don't seem to know there's a war on.—*London Opinion.*

ARMS AND THE MAN



1110 WOODWARD BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

EVERY SATURDAY

Editor

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

Associate Editor

KENDRICK SCOFIELD

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

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

TRAPSHOTS TO TRAIN AVIATORS

THAT the Aviation Section of the United States Signal Corps has for many months been possessed of a complete roster of the best trapshots, both amateur and professional, in the United States, and furthermore *that it proposes to use some of them as instructors* is worthy of more than passing notice.

While many sources have been urging upon other branches of the army the wisdom of making use of the thousands of expert shots outside of the service, the Aviation Section has been getting together all of the material available for its needs, and formulating plans for making the best use of it.

If expert trapshots are of value to the aviation training schools, there seems to be no valid reason why expert rifle shots should not be of value on the army rifle ranges.

In determining to use the trapshots of the United States to teach wing shooting, the judgment of distances and the leading of shots, the Aviation Section has acted wisely.

In responding to the tentative call for such instructors, the members and the officials of the Interstate Association have acted just as they might have been expected to act—readily and with enthusiasm.

It is pleasing to note that the question of earning money through trapshooting, which constitutes professionalism in the scattergun game, has been so satisfactorily disposed of. When the question of mobilizing the trapshooters came up, the professionals, almost to a man, answered immediately. There was no reason why any of them should not take employment with the army as paid instructors. With the amateurs, for a short time, things were different. While most of the best amateur shots were willing to "do their bits," the question arose whether taking such employment for such a purpose would not constitute professionalism.

It is hard to believe that a man would be barred from the sport of trapshooting on a charge of professionalism if he answered a call and took employment involving a patriotic duty. The chances are that the Interstate Association officials who settle all questions of professionalism

would not have regarded such proposed employment as mitigating against a trapshooter's status as an amateur.

Fortunately, however, the Interstate Association officials have seen fit to solve the question by holding that such employment will not constitute professionalism.

It is to be hoped that the plans for instructing aviators in shooting at moving objects through the use of the shotgun will develop that prime necessity of any fighting force—a corps of aviators who can be trusted to bring down the enemy planes.

RELOADING AND THE EXPLOSIVES BILL

MANY rifle club members who have turned to the reloading tool for their supply of ammunition while the suspension of the cartridge purchase privilege is operative, have become disturbed over the provisions of the recently enacted explosives bill.

While the provisions of this legislation specifically state that no license is required for the possession of small-arms ammunition, no exemption has as yet been made in favor of powder, and primers to be used in loading small-arms cartridges.

This omission was perhaps due to a lack of knowledge on the part of the framers of the bill that thousands of pounds of powder and thousands of primers are purchased annually by sportsmen and marksmen who either prefer to "load their own" or have been forced to adopt this expedient by the high prices of factory-loaded cartridges and the suspension of the purchase privilege.

Nevertheless, it would seem that the possession of powder in bulk and primers in bulk would fall into the category of those explosives the possession of which requires a license.

Just what regulations will be imposed, other than the broad license provision, must await the action of the Director of the Bureau of Mines, upon whom has been placed the responsibility of putting the law into effect.

The Director of the Bureau of Mines should, if it be within the powers granted him by Congress, see to it that the regulations governing the possession of powder and primers for the purpose of reloading small-arms ammunition for sporting or target practice purposes, are not too stringent. While the Bureau of Mines perhaps has no direct interest in encouraging target practice, the government at large has very properly such an interest, and most of the military rifle shooting which is being done today among civilians depends upon whether reloading components can be easily obtained.

The chances are that when the machinery to regulate the possession of explosives is under way, no very great obstacle will be presented to the possession of powder for legitimate purposes. The object of the legislation, of course, was not to prevent the honest man from using powder, but to prevent the dishonest, the seditious, the traitorous from easily obtaining the materials necessary to bomb and dynamite outrages.

An interpretation of the law, to be as broad as possible to still observe the spirit of the Explosives Act is therefore what is needed so far as is concerned the possession of powder and primers to be used in reloading small-arms ammunition.

Off For the Boar Hunt in No-Man's Land

By FELIX J. KOCH

SPORT to it? Well, time was when it was the chosen, the accepted sport of kings, the higher nobility, only; when rulers entertained fellow-rulers come a-visiting with such merry war, and when a banquet of the spoils of it was considered the dish of dishes to serve most captious epicure indeed!

Today times have changed, even Russian Czars have been banished, and Tommy Atkins and Sammie, fighting side by side off in Europe, can indulge in the boar hunt, providing they get furlough and providing, also, that a wild boar comes their way.

The brown boar, the one Sammie and Tommy Atkins will delight in for the gameness of his fighting, is of a blackish brown hue; but the piglets—the *marcasins* of the French—are faintly marked with cross stripes, and such marks alone indicate a luscious shooat-roast to the *gourmet*, indeed!

The wild boar live there in the deeper forests, feeding on roots, fruit, herbs and nuts of various kinds. All their senses are most acute, and long before the soldier sportsman will have come upon them they will have scented his approaching and he may expect to find every bristle on the spine erect—a habit

ralists aver, however, that, let the season prove severe, and Mother Wild Boar herself will not scruple to devour her young.

All of which makes the chase for the boar, be it the male or some female with her brood of young, promise no end of excitement. The very fierceness of the creature assures its being game.

Armed with boar spear from some nearby lodge or castle, the Anglo-Saxon might sally forth as once the kings did; or, with eye to taking Sir Wild Boar for the larder, he may bring his trusty gun to play.

Either wise, the dish to be brought to board is one of toothsome sweetness, as delectable as any the warrior-huntsman may hope to bring from the wild.

The Old Blue Shirt

By THOMAS F. CARNEY

In *The Marine's Magazine*

Break out the faded old blue shirt,
we'll wear it once again;
It's faded with the sunshine, and
with the tropic rain;
It smells of smoky camp fires that
gleamed where palm trees grow,
'Twas born in Days of Empire from
Luzon to Mindanao.

'Twas worn in Days of Empire when
we trod the jungle trail,
With the morning on the mountain,
and the mist upon the vale;
'Twas worn when evening shadows
told the hour of parting day,
And we camped among the rice
fields—ere the Krag was laid
away.

It heard the songs that soldiers loved
and sang in days of old,
It knew the martial story that the
drums and trumpets told;
And 'neath its dark blue bosom an
exile's heart, perhaps,
Has sighed for home and mother
when the bugle call played
"Taps."

'Tis a rare and treasured emblem of
the times that are no more,
Though it reeks with plug tobacco,
that old blue shirt I wore;
And the tell-tale spots of crimson
still stain the treadbare breast,
Where once a dying comrade lay,
whose soul is now at rest.

When blades were out and rifles
rang, the old blue shirt was seen,
A hundred thousand soldier hearts
still keep its memory green;
The Stars and Stripes that wave
today o'er freedom's swelling
host
Are wondering why the old blue
shirt is missing from its post.

Break out the faded old blue shirt,
and sound the bugle's call,
And beat the drums of 'Ninety-
eight—Old Glory over all!
The thin blue line that wore it now
ask another chance,
To wear the old blue shirt again
upon the fields of France.

Once let the Allies get into Germany itself, particularly, and thanks to generations of *wald-meisters*—keepers of the nobles' forests—and other generations of adepts at wielding the boar spear, and little hunting parties of soldiers off for a furlough, or perhaps even out foraging in the no-man's land to be for their camp, will start the wild boar, surely, and, if they would enjoy real sport with it, will organize instantly the old-time boar chase.

Interesting chap, this wild boar; though in the States and parts of England one may hope to see him most often only in menageries or big zoos.

Indigenous to Europe, Asia and Africa, he has held his own before generations of huntsmen till the days of game preserves became his savior, and is still to be found in the wild and wooded districts of these quarters of the globe.

the wild boar has with him—and to meet a creature of very savage appearance, indeed.

Notably in January and February is the wild boar a creature to be reckoned with, should one go forth on his hunt. The animals pair in these months, and even among themselves the boars will have terrific conflicts at such time. Once such battles royal are really over, however, each pair betakes itself to the deep cover of the thicket, where it will remain perhaps thirty days.

Three months after the piglets appear, anywhere from four to ten such in a litter at such time.

Mother pig, however, takes goodly care to be free of her mate by this time, or at least to hide the youngsters from him, since the males are in the habit of devouring such young as born. Natu-

OFFICERS' EQUIPMENT PRESCRIBED

According to the latest uniform regulations, this equipment is prescribed for officers of the National Army:

Dismounted Officers

(a) Arms—Saber, pistol and ammunition.

(b) Personal equipment—1, bedding roll (canvas), 2; 2, blanket; 3, canteen, with strap; 4, clothing roll (canvas); 5, compass; 6, field glass; 7, first-aid packet and pouch; 8, fork; 9, haversack and pack carrier; 10, identification tag; 11, knife; 12, meat can; 13, notebook; 14, pencils; 15, pistol belt, 1; 16, pistol holster, 1; 17, saber belts (full dress and garrison); 18, saber knots (dress and service); 19, saber scabbard; 20, shelter tent, complete, 5; 21, spoon; 22, tin cup;

(Concluded on page 131)

The Marine Uniform of '59

MANY and diverse uniforms have been seen upon the streets of Washington since Germany compelled this country to declare a state of war.

But if it was possible to reincarnate the old Marine Corps—to bring back in the flesh some of the boys who were fighting prior to the Civil War, it is doubtful if any foreign military costume could possibly attract as much attention as the dress garb of that day.

In those times, even the Marine private was gorgeous and pleasing to the eye. He wore a blouse which would now be called a frock coat and which extended nearly to the knee. He wore epaulettes of gold braid. In summer, his trousers—then spelled trowsers—were of white linen.

His coat was dark blue with the present red trimming showing at the throat and around the collar, in deference to the fashion of the days from 1840 to around the Civil War period, his collar was cut open in front and within was worn the black stock of soft leather which earned the name of "leathernecks" for the Marines and which since has never been regarded as an opprobrious title.

On account of the persistency with which this term has been used in an affectionate way in referring to the Marines who did duty in the various wars of the country, from the time of the Mexican War, through the Civil conflict and down to the days of the Spanish-American War, it may be mentioned that, in the files of the Quartermaster Department, in the time of 1859, especial attention is given to the construction of the Marine collar.

It was specified in Government contracts that this part of the costume should be of such height that the chin could turn freely over it—rather an indefinite regulation, from modern standards. But in those days the style of civilian dress seems to have been followed to some extent. The collar was a point especially emphasized.

It was clearly intended to resemble the high stocks and collars of the period—a fashion possibly copied from the leather stocks once used in Europe to make the wearer keep his head erect while in military costume.

The members of the band were resplendently attired in red while in full dress and their costumes must have contrasted nicely with those of the other Marines in a parade, considering the combination of colors, especially as much more gold lace was used then than is heard of nowadays on military costumes.

Suppose an officer of the Marine Corps should walk down Pennsylvania avenue today, bearing a plume of yel-

low swansfeathers on his cocked hat! What chance then would the foreign uniforms have to entrance the eye?

Yet that was a portion of the full dress of the day and it was specified in Government regulations that the plume must be 12 inches long and mounted on a 3-inch stem. Field officers wore a plume of red feathers. It was ordered that these should be either of "cock or vulture feathers."

Full dress, when the formal uniform is seen, is comparatively seldom seen in these days. But in 1859 and thereabouts, it was worn constantly.

The field cap of the officer at that period directly violated one rule of the construction of the headgear today—to combine lightness and utility. Evidently some merit was attached to "glazed," now known as "patent" leather, for it was ordered that the cap should be of fine black cloth with the top as well as the vizor of "fine glazed leather." Marching under patent leather headgear must have had some difficulties which those addicted to patent leather shoes can explain.

In one point, however, the old uniform must have compared but sadly with our own in point of looks. This was in the matter of footwear. As an indication that contractors probably tried to "slip one over" on the Government in 1859, just as they have been known to do later, a clause in one specification of that period, concerning shoes for enlisted men, insisted that they must be "rights and lefts." Evidently a shoe built identically for each foot was not an unknown quantity then.

The officers were told to wear "ankle or Jefferson boots," another somewhat vague definition from the standpoint of the present day. Spurs were issued to officers and these were to be either of yellow metal—presumably brass or brass washed—or gold plated. The dress glove, then as now, was white.

It appears that the dress sash of red worsted, to be worn wrapped twice around the waist of sergeants major, first sergeants and other non-commissioned officers, reached its utmost stage of perfection just before the Civil War. It was ordered to be tied behind the left hip when used.

The first sergeants carried both a musket and a sword and, in reply to those European writers who have claimed that their countries first discovered the merits of a sling for firearms, it may be mentioned that soon after the Mexican War most explicit directions were issued for the use of slings in the Marine service on the muzzle loading muskets of the day.

It was specified they should be of black leather.

The costume of the days of 1859 was evidently a matter of great pride to the patriotic. In those days, the publishing and issuing of books in colors was a more expensive and elaborate matter than it is today. Necessarily, the process was also more crude. But a book which is a really high class example of the work of that period, both in typographical and color work, was issued by a firm in Philadelphia, on its own responsibility and for general sale, giving a description of the Marine Corps and displaying its garments. Evidently the Marines had as brilliant uniforms as any other branch of the service.

The single blanket furnished to the men was grey, four pounds in weight, with the letters USMC in black woven in the center. The overcoat, which seems to have been issued on requisition and not a part of the personal allowance, was not unlike the blue overcoat which was recently superseded by the Winterfield shade. It had the cape which was used on the old blue overcoat. The men carried a knapsack of black cow-skin. For ship wear, the men had an extra allowance of clothing including "flannel fatigue sacks" evidently based on the sailor's blouse of the day, as they opened half way down the front and only had four buttons.

In the old book referred to above, with which evidently the greatest care was taken and which displayed the Marines in most attractive garb, the pictures of the men catch the eye in one particular respect—all of them seemed to wear beards or mustaches. The picture of a private with gold braided epaulettes dangling several inches over his shoulders, and with the high peaked hat of the time, is especially striking.

Taken all in all, the old Marine Corps of 1859 could have caught the eye these war-time days.—*Private Edward B. Waterworth, in The Recruiters' Bulletin.*

WILL WEAR U. S. UNIFORMS

The United States uniform and the cap of their respective armies will be the garb of ally officers who have seen service at the front and who are now in this country instructing our soldiers in modern trench-warfare methods. This announcement has been made at Ft. Myer, Va. There are now seventy-three Frenchmen and more than one hundred Englishmen at Fort Myer. They are to be clothed in the United States uniform for their instruction work, as the hard work indulged in during the training here, it was stated, would ruin their clothing.

"Gunfire and the Hearing"

By WALTER WINANS

There are much graver troubles, unfortunately, than those Mr. Crossman has so ably described in his recent article.

After this difficulty in hearing, there comes a time when there is a continual singing in the ears, like when an engine is letting off steam; then occasionally a sharp, high whistle, which keeps on for some time after any sudden noise occurs, such as dropping the fire irons in the grate; it need not be as severe as a shot. This marks the acutely irritated stage.

Then there is added, to the two above sounds, a third, a constant sound of the pumping of the blood through the ears.

This is succeeded by attacks of giddiness; things jerk from right to left, or vice versa, in beats which correspond to the heart beat, or else suddenly the floor seems to come up and the patient falls backwards trying to keep his equilibrium.

This keeps on for hours at a time, till the patient has been able to go to sleep and sleep it off.

As it comes on unexpectedly, it is very dangerous, as the patient falls at any moment. Indigestion, constipation, or catarrhal colds aggravate it.

It seems to be caused (besides the concussion of shooting) by gout and catarrh (chronic catarrh) thickening the outer ear passages, the eustachian tubes and inner ear and the middle ear, with its semi-circular canals (on which the balance depends), being affected.

The pulse beat, trying to get through the semi-circular canals, gives them shocks which causes the giddiness.

Unfortunately, doctors and even ear specialists seem unable to do anything for this or to cure it.

They blow with the Politzer bag through the eustachian tubes, or pass a bougie up them, which causes them to bleed and then close up more than ever.

They pour warm oil into the outer ears and then syringe out with hot water, thereby making the microbes multiply in the outer ear; they paint the throat, and that is all.

Now that there will be such a mass of such cases (what is called "shell shock" has these symptoms also), would it not be as well for doctors to begin to study the ear and really be able to do some good for deafness and ear giddiness?

At present the doctors console people having these symptoms by saying, "When you get entirely deaf all this giddiness will cease."

Or they perform an operation behind the ear to cause immediate total deafness, and so stop the giddiness.

It is as if a man who complained that his rifle was not shooting well being told: "Keep on shooting till you wear out all the rifling and then I can make a hot-water pipe out of the barrel."

It is curious that medicine and surgery have advanced so greatly in other branches, but the ear can not be cured even of noises in the head and its surgery rests in the primitive stage of thousands of years ago.

As a sculptor who used "plastacine" a great deal and constantly, I would warn against using it mixed with sheeps' wool for stuffing the ears.

Plastace works its way into the skin and is extremely difficult to ever get out again, and, put in the ears, would make a layer on the inner passage of the outer ear and the ear drum and cause very serious mischief, greatly increasing the deafness.

The British form of ear protector with gauze wire hurts the ear if worn long; it is too hard and unyielding.

OFFICERS' EQUIPMENT PRESCRIBED

(Concluded from page 129)

23, watch; 24, whistle, by all company officers and battalion commanders of infantry, 6.

The bedding and clothing rolls adopted by the quartermaster corps may be purchased from the nearest post or supply depot, at the prices specified in the annual price list of clothing and equipage.

Mounted Officers

Arms.—Same as (a), except that the articles mentioned are not prescribed for chaplains.

Medical officers and dental surgeons will not be required to provide themselves with pistols and ammunition, but they may carry same when necessary for personal protection.

Personal Equipment.—Same as (b), omitting "9, haversacks and pack carrier," and adding—

1. Dispatch case, by staff officers and those acting as such, whose duty may require them to use a dispatch case.

2. Saber straps or saber carrier.

3. Shoulder belts, by officers of the signal corps, including those detailed therein.

4. Spurs (with russet and black leather straps).

Chaplains will not be required to provide themselves with compass, field glass, pistol belt, saber knot and saber straps, or carrier.

Medical officers and dental surgeons,

will not be required to provide themselves with field glass, compass, and pistol, but medical officers on duty with sanitary units in the field will carry field glass and compass.

Horse Equipment

New Model.—1, bridle; 2, cooling strap; 3, carrier strap; 4, currycomb; 5, feed bag; 6, grain bag; 7, halter, stable; 8, horse brush; 9, horse cover (blanket lined, when required); 10, lariat; 11, picket pin; 12, picket-pin carrier, special; 13, pommel pockets, officer's; 14, ration bags; 15, saddle, officer's; 16, saddle blanket; 17, saddlecloths (2), officer's (with insignia).

Old Model.—1, bridle; 2, bridle, watering (issued only with curb bridle, M. 1902); 3, currycomb; 4, feed bag; 5, grain bag; 6, halter, complete; 7, horse brush; 8, horse cover (blanket lined, when required); 9, lariat; 10, lariat strap; 11, link; 12, picket pin; 13, saddle (McClellan or Whitman); 14, saddlebags; 15, saddle blanket; 16, saddlecloths (2), officer's (with insignia); 17, surcingle.

1. For articles that officers may draw from the Ordnance Department for their official use, see A. R., 1522, and G. O., 24, W. D., 1914. Dispatch cases are issued as indicated in paragraph 78.

2. Officers below the grade of major, required to be mounted, will be furnished with horse equipments by the Ordnance Department.

Officers serving with troops may draw for their personal use, from stores be-

longing to the command with which they are serving, 1 regulation rifle and 1 revolver, with the appropriate equipments and the usual quantity of ammunition for each arm. This ordnance property may be used in action or target practice, and will be accounted for on returns to the chief of ordnance.

The bedding roll adopted by the quartermaster corps, or any other canvas roll, may be used as a combination bedding-clothing roll.

Field glasses and compasses, by officers serving with troops, and all other when their duties may require their use.

General officers, officers of the staff corps and departments, and cavalry officers will wear the officers' leather waist belt with magazine pocket and necessary leather sides for first-aid packet pouch, for the canteen, and for the pistol holster. Officers of infantry, field artillery, engineers, coast artillery, and signal corps will wear the web pistol belt, model of 1912.

Three types of whistles of different tone are furnished by the quartermaster corps, as follows:

The "siren" for the battalion group, consisting of major, battalion adjutant, and battalion sergeant major of the infantry and cavalry arms.

The "kinglet" for the company commander group, consisting of captain and two musicians.

The "thunderer" for the platoon leader group, consisting of lieutenants and sergeants.

A PLEA FOR THE M. S. I.

The Military Service Institution of the United States grew out of a meeting held in June, 1878 by General Stanley, General Fry, General Rodenbough and Colonel Lieber requesting the presence of officers of the Army at a meeting to be held in the Army Building to consider the practicability of forming an association of officers similar to the United Service Institution of Great Britain. The plan contemplated professional improvement and a discussion of professional topics, with the resulting interchange of views. Its ultimate object was to promote the efficiency of officers and, consequently, of our army.

At the first meeting some forty officers answered the call, committees were appointed and a report was drawn up and the Institution established with General Hancock as President, and under his direction it grew rapidly. For twenty years the Institution had but three Presidents. Its growth was steady and its field of activity very considerable and its influence beneficial.

In 1880 the Journal of the Institution made its appearance. It contained articles by General Schofield, General Fry, General Crittenden, General Merritt and Colonel Lieber.

In June, 1885 the Institution was formally incorporated under the laws of the United States. Among the charter members were General Hancock, General Fry, General Crittenden, General Merritt, General Rodenbough, General Abbott, General Glosston, General Garden, General Gillespie, General Michie, General Webb and General Whipple. In the articles of incorporation it was stated that:

"The particular business and objects of said society shall be of a literary, historical and scientific character, and contemplate professional unity and improvement by correspondence, discussion and the reading and publication of essays, the establishment of a military library and museum and generally the promotion of the military interests of the United States."

The Institution has done much to stimulate interest in a study of military questions and has striven hard to support the best interests of the service. Unfortunately of late, however, interest in its continuance and up-building seems to have waned and just at present the Institution, established as it was by some of our ablest soldiers, is in such a condition as to render it necessary to discontinue its publication and practically close up the activities of the Institution. It seems a great pity that there should not be sufficient service interest to keep the

Institution alive, continue its publication and amplify its activities. It is almost the only service publication that is not devoted to one particular arm of the service. It is satisfactorily located and could, with very little effort, be continued. Its continuance would meet the best interests of the service and would result in carrying to an accomplishment the purpose of its distinguished founders. The time has come when it must receive a larger measure of support from the Army or terminate its active career.

I shall very much appreciate your publishing this letter with a view of inviting attention of the service to existing conditions. I feel that there is a deep interest throughout the army in the continuance of the Institution. It can only continue, however, through an increase in the endowment, resulting in a sufficient income to maintain the publication, or through an increase in the subscriptions. Assistance in both directions is desired and the attention of the service is invited to the desirability of giving appropriate support to the movement to rehabilitate and continue this most worthy enterprise.

Communications should be addressed to Brigadier James N. Allison, Governors Island, N. Y.

Yours truly,

LEONARD WOOD,

Major General, U. S. Army.

OLD REGIMENTS ABSORBED

Realizing that the War Department is working under high pressure men of the National Guard do not question the motive, but they doubt the wisdom of a new order wiping out the present designations of the militia regiments when the National Guard Army is mobilized for the war on Prussianism. New numerical designations will be supplied, beginning at the point of the highest numerical designation of Regular Army units. Thus the famous old Seventh New York, or the Fighting Sixty-ninth, the Irish regiment with a brilliant record, will become the 133d U. S. A., or some other equally uninteresting number that conveys no meaning to the persons who will scan the news despatches when these regiments reach the trenches in France.

Just why the authorities at Washington should desire to submerge the spirit that has built up these regiments and kept their histories dear to veterans of earlier campaigns is mystifying the volunteer soldiers. A glance through the histories will show that regiments with local designations have always been proud of their source, and the desire to bring honor to their home State or section has spurred many a

unit through to victory. Those left at home have been stirred with pride at the news from the front, all because the boys on the firing line were eager to win and all the more eager because they carried the name of their home State with them.—*New York Herald*.

ELK HORNS FOUND IN TRENCHES

The recent discovery of elk-horns in the course of instructional trench-cutting in the Eastern counties reminds us that the history of this animal is lost in the dim ages of Europe, and probably the elk furnished the bulk of the flesh food of the earliest inhabitants. Tacitus makes the earliest reference to the elk at a time when the Romans were conquering the wild tribes of Germany. It was then believed that the elk had no joints in its legs, and, being unable to lie down, slept leaning against a tree. The natives took an unsportsmanlike advantage of this habit, as when they found a tree which an elk was accustomed to lean against in sleeping they cut it almost through, so that the next time the elk leaned against the trunk the tree fell over, and the elk, tumbling over on the ground and unable to rise again, was killed without difficulty. Hunters have since discovered that elks' legs are all right, and very useful legs too when the animal starts on the run. The elk up to the time of the revolution in Russia was considered royal game, it being strictly preserved for the Tsar and his relatives. What has or will happen now we cannot say. The moose is the American representative of the European elk, and, although some sportsmen believe the animals are different, yet there is so little to distinguish them that an ordinary observer would class them exactly as the same.—*Shooting Times and British Sportsman*.

Gunnery Sergeant "Gus" Brodstrom and "Senator" Platt, both on duty at Quantico, were arguing the other day about what kind of wounds were most disabling in warfare.

"If I had to be wounded I'd prefer to lose a leg," said Brodstrom; "a man can still work with his hands. But what can a man with only one arm do?"

Platt reflected for a moment.

"He'd be in demand for passing the plate in church," he said.—*Marines' Magazine*.

At one of the cantonments the division surgeon, while going across the parade ground, passed a rookie who made not the slightest motion toward a salute. The officer called to the recruit:

"Say, how long have you been here?"

"Five days, and I don't like it a damn bit—how long have you been here?"—*Journal A. M. A.*

Off Hand From the Clubs

Veteran Tells of Rest-Shooting Score

THE articles on rest shooting at Walnut Hill in ARMS AND THE MAN have been very interesting, but were not carried out quite far enough. They took me back to my first appearance at that noted range, armed with a Marlin repeater of a very early vintage. I learned something that day, but did not astonish anybody with my scores.

Rest shooting at that time was at its height; Mr. Wilder and Mr. Frye had passed the zenith of their shooting, while Mr. Chase and Mr. Rabbeth were at their best. It was generally conceded that the perfect score would soon be made. Some of the members picked Rabbeth as the man to get the first possible 120, but the majority picked Chase. Both had made wonderful runs of twelves, but neither had been able to get ten consecutive twelves on one score card.

There had been a young man shooting there, always shooting well, but not quite up to top notch. He was a good mechanic and had built his own scope and mountings. We shall compare him to the dark horse in a political race. His name was Henry L. Willard, a student of ballistics and an ardent devotee of the rifle. On June 22, 1895, in the afternoon, things in the rest corner of the pavilion became very quiet and men spoke in whispers. I really believe Willard was the coolest of the lot; he had made nine consecutive twelves on one ticket, and all other shooting stopped and all telescopes were focussed on his target. He went out very coolly, sat down at the rest and sighted. After what seemed to us a long time, he fired and the target disappeared; after a few moments it reappeared with the plug once more in the twelve ring, and the first perfect rest score of 120 was born. Then there was some noise. I have a diagram of the target before me and a dime will cover eight of the shots; the other two will hit it. It is a most remarkable group.

Mr. Willard made two more perfect rest scores, one on August 28, 1897, and another September 3, 1898. Soon after this he gave up rifle shooting and removed from this vicinity.

There were a few more perfect scores recorded, the late Mrs. Partridge making two, one December 8, 1900, and one April 27, 1901. One other of our members scored the possible, the Rev. I. J. Mead, a lover of the rifle from boyhood. On November 14, 1903, the reverend gentleman came to the range, as was his wont on shooting days, and very coolly rolled up a score of 120, for which he was most heartily congratulated by all present. Mr. Willard's first score was by far the smallest group of the lot.

Soon after this time, rest shooting declined

in popularity and at the present time but three of the old group of rest shooters are living—Rabbeth, Chase and Willard.

C. B. PRATT.

West Newton, Mass.

Scattering Shot

Editor ARMS AND THE MAN:

I am sending to your esteemed Nuts' Gazette a strange and beautiful picture, which I trust you will find worthy of reproduction. The details of this lovely scene grow upon one as time goes on.

This does not represent the Chinese version of a K. K. V. Casey making a possible in the Wimbledon, nor did the gentleman in the center of this art composition sit down on a thin place in the earth's crust, as one might imagine from his relative proportions that remain in sight.



It is merely an entirely extemporaneous and unposed, in fact unknown-to-him, portrait of Tom Jordan, of the L. A. Rifle and Revolver Club, in what he conceives to be the ideal sitting position, while practicing for the Short Range League matches. No, he didn't use this when shooting for the team, much to his grief and indignation.

The details are worthy of close study. Preparation for this position starts with the digging of a hole in the ground—to put the matter as delicately as possible—shaped approximately like the southern exposure of Mr. Jordan. This gives him the startling appearance of a man who was just about a foot too late in getting around the corner when the bomb went off. Then holes are dug for the tootsies, to place the gentleman on approximately an even keel again. While this position may not be entirely feasible for war, and be a bit slow to prepare, it is certain that, once in it, Tom will never be shot in a spot that would make sitting down to his meals less satisfactory than standing up for them.

Close study will divulge the presence of a strap around the lithesome limbs of Mr. Jordan, just above the knee. This, he alleges, does away with the tendency of the knees to give way under the elbows and also stops any shaking, if one has a tendency to shake. Unhappily, the crude and inexpert persons connected with the N. R. A. sat on the strap idea, and Tom was never able to put it into practice in a real shoot.

The hat is merely to protect the hair. Tom says that before using it his hair was short

and straight; now it is long and curly. It is, too; also, there's another sprouting up beside it.

Trusting that this picture will lighten the usually sad pages of your Scribblings of Scandal, I am,

As ever,

EDWARD C. CROSSMAN.

In spite of the free-issue restrictions, the Fanwood, New Jersey, Rifle Club has managed to obtain 50 of the old 45/70 Springfields, with which the members are practicing on the 200-yard range.

The Lambertville, New Jersey, Rifle Club is planning a Thanksgiving Day shoot. The program will call for 10 shots kneeling, slow fire, for record; 10 shots rapid fire, prone from kneeling, for record, and 10 shots standing, for record.

The Long Beach, California, Rifle Club is preparing for a big shoot during November. As a result of the shortage of service ammunition, the .22-calibre rifle will be used.

That the training given several locally drafted men by the East Saginaw, Michigan, Rifle Club before those chosen departed for Camp Custer is proving of the greatest value and is giving the experienced men a certain prestige over their untrained companions is set forth most forcibly in a letter received by Secretary Julian A. Keeler from Roy M. Marble, one of those who received this training.

"Well, I hope you are still showing all the men who are to come to Camp Custer the fine points of warfare," he writes. "I again had occasion to display my previous experience to my own advantage. It was raining outside and we had indoor practice at sighting a rifle, and all the fellows were placing the shots all over the target. When I came up I put two shots in the same hole and the other one about one-half inch from the other two.

"They are picking out the men who had rifle-club experience to instruct new men in facings, etc. It makes me smile to pick them out. A man is very foolish to pass up this chance, for this training which costs him nothing and yet which means so much to each and every one of them, and if you could only see the task these poor officers have before them then you would realize the great work you men are doing for the country in general, not only for Saginaw. The training which I received was exactly the same as the regulations used here. Some of the men cannot remember a movement from before dinner until after dinner, so they are pleased to receive men thus far advanced."

The Miami, Arizona, Rifle Club has adopted a policy which is worthy of emulation among other clubs. At a meeting held October 20 it was unanimously decided to carry in good standing on the club rolls all members in the military or naval service during their periods of service, without payment of dues.

A. C. Leach was elected president to fill the unexpired term of A. C. Wagner, who has left for Mexico.

Something like thirty rifle clubs and about the same number of trapshooting clubs constitute a large part of the activities of the Pennsylvania Railroad Athletic Association.

It has been found when folks are contented and happy that they work better and are not prone to become so easily dissatisfied or discouraged. To produce such a condition and make it permanent many of the large and small corporations of the country employing thousands of people have organized welfare departments.

Under these departments social and other forms of entertainment are arranged solely for the employees. An athletic association practically controlled by the workers themselves includes the most popular sports, such as baseball, tennis, bowling, billiards and rifle and trapshooting.

The sport of shooting has taken such a strong hold among the various divisions of the Pennsylvania System that interdivisional meets are frequently held, at which times much enthusiasm is shown by the competing teams. These championship contests are annual events and no other sport has a greater hold on the men.

In practically every town or city of any consequence there is now a shooting club of some kind. The fact that a range for rifle shooting may be laid out and built quickly and almost anywhere with little or no expense is the principal reason for the increasing popularity of the shooting sport.

INQUIRIES OF GENERAL INTEREST

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

Q. In awarding the medal in the members' match, is it necessary to hold a special competition, or does the medal go to the man making high score in qualification shooting?

A. The N. R. A. medal is awarded to the winner of the N. R. A. Members' Match. It cannot be awarded for high score in qualification shooting.

Q. In localities where state laws prohibit the drilling of any armed forces except state troops or national guard, how can military training be kept up in rifle-club units?

A. Under such circumstances, the drilling and parades will have to be undertaken without guns. It is perfectly feasible to instruct a company in drill without firearms. The rifles can be used for range practice.

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<p>BANNERMAN</p> <p>20,000 Rifles 5,000 Revolvers 5,000,000 Cartridges 300,000 Equipments 40,000 Knapsacks 2,500 Tents</p>	<p>200 Machine Guns 100 B/L Field Cannons 50 B/L Navy Cannons 15 Revolving Cannons 50,000 Explosive Shells 25,000 Un. forms (Blue)</p>
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We have supplied from our largest in the world stock of army auction goods, the U. S. Government and many states and cities with obsolete serviceable rifles and equipments, some of which were sold to us just prior to the U. S. Declaration of War. High Army Officers say: "Bannerman's stock is a Godsend to us."
Six hours after receipt of order from state of Massachusetts 4,000 rifles and 6,000 equipments were en route. Gov't auction sale terms, cash with order. Examination and testing at our arsenals. Immediate deliveries.
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Francis Bannerman, 501 Broadway, N. Y.

Q. In shooting the prone position, head toward target, does the N. R. A. permit resting the full length of the forearm on the ground, from elbow to wrist? Shooting in this position the butt of the rifle rests on the ground. This position was used by the Swedish team in the Olympic matches at Stockholm. The American team protested, but the Swedish committee on rules permitted it.

A. Under N. R. A. rules, no prone position which rests part of the stock on the ground is permitted. A similar position, however, in which the stock of the rifle rests on the ground, is now in use at the Canadian schools of sniping. It has been recognized there, but in this country it is not yet countenanced.

Q. Will you kindly refer me to any data showing the striking power of bullets when they return to earth after having been fired straight up in the air?

A. We are unable to give you any data showing the striking power of bullets when shot straight up in the air and returning to earth. This is an experiment, so far as is known, that has not been conducted to any extent in this country. Several years ago we heard of such an experiment made in Germany when they adopted their 7.9 m.m., a pointed bullet for army service. It appears that a platform of boards was laid on the ground and when the bullet returned to earth it struck the boards base on and buried itself about one-half or three-quarters of its length. We cannot verify this, but it looks reasonable.

We also recall some interesting tests made in New England several years ago on a large sheet of water on a still day, but the facts are not available at this time.

Q. It has been said that the recoil of the .30 Springfield rifle is greater than that of

the ordinary shotgun. I do not agree with that statement and would like you to tell me which gives the greatest recoil.

A. The recoil of the Springfield army rifle is not greater than that of the 12-gauge shotgun when loaded, say, with a shell composed of 3 1/8 drams of powder and an ounce and a quarter of No. 7 chilled shot. In a gun weighing 7 3/4 pounds of 12 gauge and shooting the above charge the velocity recoil developed 15.04 foot seconds. With the .30 Springfield firing the regular service cartridge, a velocity recoil of 10.5 foot seconds was developed. This proves that the shotgun recoils considerably more than the rifle.

Q. What is meant by a multi-ball cartridge?

A. Multi-ball cartridges of any calibre consist of three round balls seated into the shell in place of a bullet, the balls being one over the other. These are used also in the .45/70 Springfield rifle.

Q. Having had several backfires in shooting my single-shot .22-calibre rifle, I would like to know whether it is the fault of the rifle or the cartridges. I have been using the Smokeless Short ungreased cartridge and the backfire was sufficient to make me rub my eye quite forcibly. Can you recommend a good single-shot rifle and cartridges that will not backfire?

A. Backfires when shooting with a .22 short ungreased cartridge in a single-shot rifle mean that considerable gas has passed by the shell and leaked through the breech mechanism into the face of the shooter. This is caused by the chamber of the rifle being badly worn or enlarged to the extent that the shell's swelling from the explosion was not sufficient to entirely cut the gas off. This is more liable to occur in rifles chambered for longer cartridges than that used. There are a number of good single-shot rifles on the market and any responsible dealer will show you his complete line.

These Clubs Have Been Admitted to Membership in the National Rifle Association:

Boys Rifle Club

Nevada: Carson City High School Rifle Club, Charles A. Ruf, secretary; Ralph H. Cowing, president; Edward Quill, treasurer; Prof. E. V. Hawley, captain. Membership, 24.

North Dakota: Rogers Rifle Club, C. E. Elfstrom, secretary; A. G. Becker, president; M. O. Grangaard, vice-president; Charles Paulson, treasurer; P. M. Kellogg, executive officer. Membership, 25.

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION HAS GIVEN AN ORDER FOR FIFTY SERVICE TARGETS

To insure immediate deliveries to Rifle Clubs desiring to install outdoor ranges. These targets are of steel construction, strong and durable. They are light running and make pit service a pleasure instead of work.

The targets operate as single sash, speed up the firing line, avoid confusion in scoring and reduce target pasting and changing to a minimum.

Service Targets Complete, \$50.00 Standards, \$1.50
Interior Frames: 4x6, \$1.10 6x6, \$1.20 6x10, \$1.70

MR. E. C. CROSSMAN OF LOS ANGELES

says regarding the new U. S. .22 N. R. A. Outdoor Cartridge:

“At long range, it shoots groups that are world beaters.”

This new cartridge is a Long Rifle Lesmok cartridge, perfected for ranges up to 250 yards. It is priced the same as the regular Long Rifle and is subject to N. R. A. discounts.

Send a trial order to any of the following general selling agents:

National Lead Company, Boston, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis; National Lead and Oil Company, Pittsburgh; John T. Lewis & Bros. Company, Philadelphia; United Lead Company, New York; James Robertson Lead Company, Baltimore; Selby Smelting & Lead Company, San Francisco.



ALONG THE FIRING LINE

Harrisburg Wins Trophy

THE Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Rifle Club and the Keystone Rifle Club met Saturday on the range of the Keystone Club at Cone-wago for the third and final match of a series, the Harrisburg Rifle Club winning the match by the narrow margin of 19 points and gaining permanent possession of the large loving cup presented by the Cohen's Sporting Goods store to the team winning three straight victories during the year 1917. The high individual prize, a Winchester musket, was won by N. M. Greiner, of the Keystone Club, with a total score of 409 out of a possible score of 450.

The first two matches between these clubs resulted in rather one-sided victories for the Harrisburg Rifle Club. On Saturday, however, the Keystone boys were determined to have revenge and by steady, consistent shooting from start to finish prevented any run-away on the part of the Harrisburg club.

Brisk cross winds whipping across the range from various angles made the shooting more difficult and prevented any unusually high scores.

These competitive matches have had a tendency to arouse new enthusiasm among the members of the two local clubs, and to instil new life in the rifle-shooting game. The clubs have been badly handicapped during the present season, however, by reason of the Ordnance Department's refusal to fill requisitions for arms and ammunition, owing to the army's immediate need for same. However, N. R. A. clubs are receiving assurance that as soon as practicable this embargo will be lifted.

The Harrisburg Rifle Club is about to open an indoor range at the local armory for small-bore shooting during the winter months, and expects to compete with clubs from surrounding cities, over a course especially prescribed for such work.

The Harrisburg boys were loud in the praise of the fine range and equipment of the Keystone Club, which is largely composed of employes of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and were none the less pleased with the cordial treatment accorded them while their guests.

The totals for the three matches are as follows:

<i>First Match</i>	
Harrisburg Rifle Club.....	1267
Keystone Rifle Club.....	1156
<i>Second Match</i>	
Harrisburg Rifle Club.....	1249
Keystone Rifle Club.....	1172
<i>Third Match</i>	
Harrisburg Rifle Club.....	1239
Keystone Rifle Club.....	1220
<i>Grand Total</i>	
Harrisburg Rifle Club.....	3755
Keystone Rifle Club.....	3548
Possible score, 4500.	

The loving cup, after being suitably engraved, will be placed upon exhibition.

Birmingham Starts Season

The first weekly shoot of the Birmingham Athletic Club revolver team was held October 31. It was decided this season to follow a different course than formerly, and the members will shoot 15 shots slow fire, Standard American target, 20 yards, and 10 shots rapid fire (15 seconds per each 5 shots) at a distance of 15 yards.

Following scores were made at the first shot. They are good, considering that many of the members had not fired a shot since last April, when the matches ceased for the season.

	20 yds.	15 yds.	Totals	Weapons
T. K. Lee.....	142	93	235	.44
O. L. Garl.....	130	82	212	.38
M. F. Jones.....	129	83	212	.38
Mrs. T. K. Lee..	112	79	191	.22 and .38
DeFuniak	96	84	180	.38
Dr. Reid	91	81	172	.38
Jack Biddle	85	68	153	.38
Dick Leland	75	35	110	.38

Following the shoot, officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

O. L. Garl, president; Jack Biddle, vice-president; T. K. Lee, secretary-treasurer; and A. F. DeFuniak, range officer.

The club numbers sixty-odd members, and about twenty of them are active shooters. Larger crowds are expected in future. Inexperienced shots and beginners are cordially invited on shooting nights, and any assistance that can be rendered by those experts in the club will be gladly given. Out-of-town shooters of the short gun are also welcomed.

Birmingham will have a team in the indoor U. S. R. A. matches this season for the first time; i. e., if matches are put on this year.

RICOCHETS

E. J. Siegrist, of the Seattle, Oregon, Rifle and Revolver Association has qualified as an expert on a score of 226.

At a shoot held by the Iriquois Rifle Club, of Chicago, held October 7, R. Goodman qualified as an expert rifleman on a score of 171, and J. M. Harbaugh and George E. Kugekman as marksmen, each on scores of 151.

At the annual Members' Match held by the Shoshoni, Wyoming, Rifle Club on October 14, Andrew Olson was the winner with a score of 133.

The Lakewood, Ohio, Rifle Club reports the qualification of four marksmen. They are: E. C. Schnably, 166; J. G. Mackenzie, 162; W. S. Clodell, 168; I. M. Short, 164.

Shooting the small-bore qualification course, three members of the Westfield, Massachusetts, Rifle Club made expert ratings. They are: E. L. Hannum, 223; H. S. Hannum, 219; J. E. Carlson, 219.

The Iriquois, Kentucky, Rifle Club reports the qualification of two experts and one sharpshooter. They are: Experts, J. H. Ward, 228; Brent Altsheler, 213. Sharpshooter, R. T. Durrett, 194.

With favorable weather conditions prevailing, the Members' Match of the Santa Fe New Mexico, Rifle Club was held on September 30. Carlos Viena won the match on a score of 132.

With 13 members present, the Concord, Massachusetts, Rifle Club held its annual



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Members' Match on October 12. Percy R. Foss was the winner on a score of 137.

At the Members' Match of the Secretary's Office Rifle Club of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., held November 1, Lars M. Eidness won the medal on a score of 118.

With a score of 135, C. T. Letchfield won the Members' Match of the Salt Lake, Utah, Rifle and Revolver Club held October 14 on the National Guard range. Eleven members participated.

At the Members' Match held by the Albion, New York, Rifle Club, L. M. Burrows was the winner on a score of 107. Two marksmen qualifications have been reported by the Albion Club. They are: J. S. Beckwith, 179, and L. M. Burrows, 173.

On a score of 151, W. W. Damon, of the Las Vegas, New Mexico, Rifle Club has qualified as a sharpshooter.

The Miami, Arizona, Rifle Club reports the qualification of four marksmen, one sharpshooter, and one expert rifleman. They are: Expert, A. C. Wagner, 143; sharpshooter, Ballard Day, 154; marksmen, Rex Day, 160; C. D. Davis, 158; S. E. Sain, 158; R. L. Tyler, 155.

At the Members' Match held by the South Reading, Vermont, Rifle Club, September 1, J. C. Thompson was the winner on a score of 113.

The report of the LaPine, Oregon, Rifle Club for the season ending December 31, 1917, shows the qualification of seven experts, four sharpshooters, and two marksmen. The experts, N. R. A. course, are R. L. Covey, 161; C. V. Carmichael, 157; William Crewe, 154; Burton Oney, 144; Harry Oberg, 143. Old course: F. J. Wallace, 215; William Delbruegge, 218. Sharpshooters, N. R. A. course: S. M. Scott, 162; W. F. Arnold, 160; Dale Barker, 151; W. C. Cooper, 151. Marksmen, N. R. A. course: H. L. Sly, 173; Warren Evans, 158.

Of the seventeen members who shot over the qualification course, but four failed to qualify. Out of a membership of sixty-eight prior to the war, this club has but seventeen members now in good standing. Twenty-two answered the first call to the colors and enlisted last spring, and others have gone since. The secretary reports, however, that there "is still enough to keep the club going in good style."

The Marion, Ohio, Rifle Club held its annual Members' Match on September 30, with ten members present. A. R. Sammons was the winner on a score of 129. Six marksmen, one sharpshooter, and three expert qualifications have also been reported by this club. They are: Experts, A. R. Sammons, 230; L. R. Strauser, 217; E. U. Embury, 210. Sharpshooters, Roy Williams, 197. Marksmen, Monroe Martin, 175; Phil Rushmund, 175; J. E. Messenger, 170; Fred Morrison, 162; L. D. Brady, 161; M. E. Carroll, 161.

L. D. Brady, the secretary of the club, writes that while the members are rapidly going into the service, the club is pegging along in very good shape. He writes: "We have moved to a very fine central location, making it more convenient for every member to obtain consistent practice. The range is in the basement of our new Odd Fellows Temple, and they are taking great interest in the work, especially at this critical time."

Three experts, three sharpshooters and four marksmen have been reported by the Pasco, Washington, Rifle Club. They are: Experts, C. A. Covey, 149; G. F. Egbers, 163; Fred Martin, 148. Sharpshooters, W. B. Hawkins, 155; F. C. Turner, 167; Levi Pyles, 168. Marksmen, Arthur Partch, 153; E. P. Halton, 160; G. M. Paine, 166; S. Pyles, 168.

Five expert riflemen have been reported by the Toledo, Ohio, Rifle and Pistol Club. They are: H. S. Crawford, 226; Howard G. Affleck, 225; Bruce C. Wilson, 220; J. W. Taylor, 217; Henry Yunker, 213. Iron sights were used by all the shooters.

J. H. McKenny, on a score of 219, and F. C. Sherman, on a score of 233, members of the Citizens Rifle and Revolver Club, of Rochester, New York, have qualified as experts.

With a score of 138, M. A. Fawcett won the Members' Match of the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Rifle and Revolver Club, shot on September 5, under adverse weather conditions. A fish tail wind was blowing, and the weather generally was not propitious for high scores. Twelve members shot.

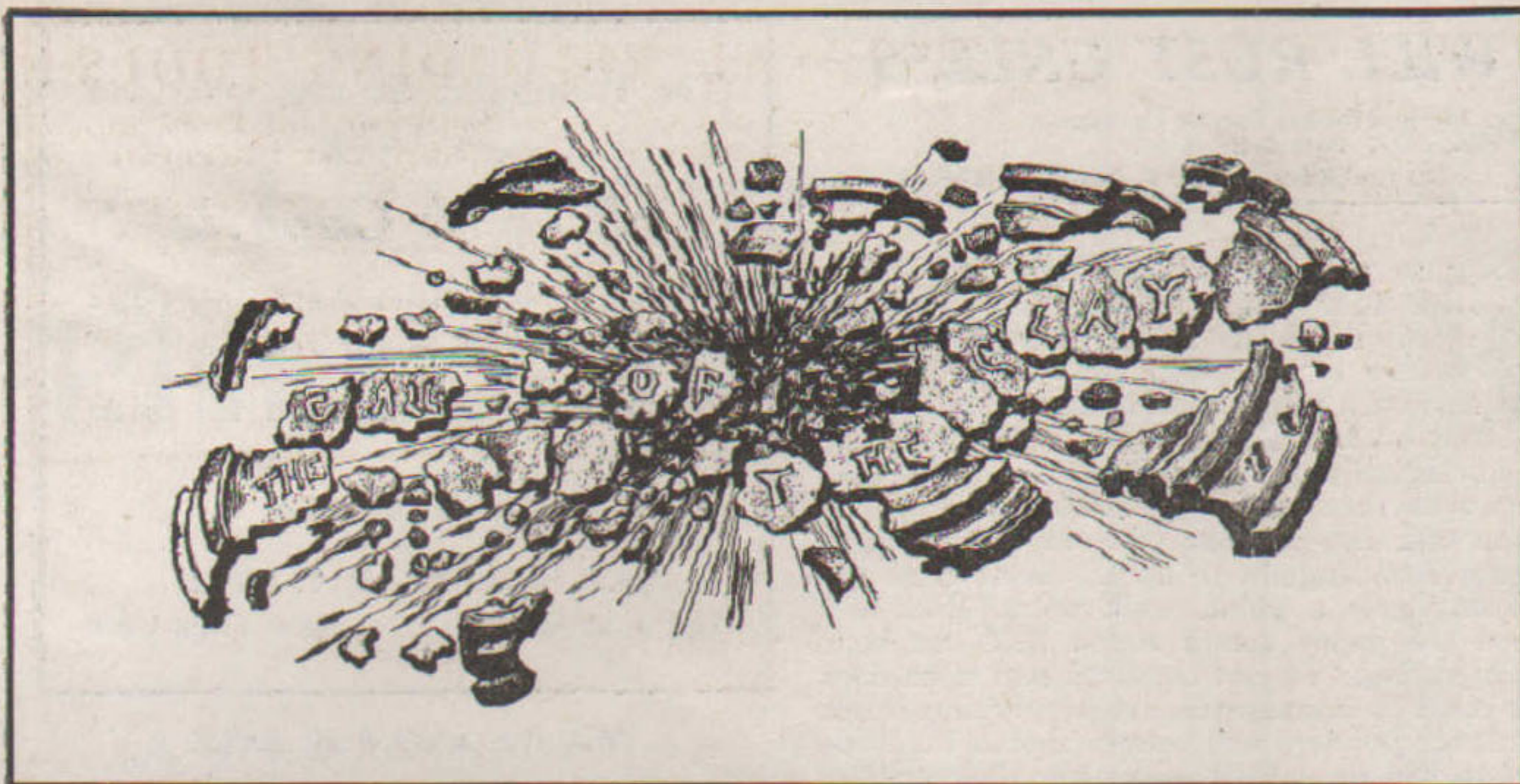
At the Members' Match held by the Brainerd, Minnesota, Rifle Club, William Nelson, on a score of 129 was the winner.

Four marksmen qualifications have been reported by the Lunenburg, Vermont, Rifle Club, two of the members receiving their rating for rapid fire only. Those who qualified are: Bert B. Burbank, 149; Fred E. Powers, 117; Dr. J. C. Breitling, 80 rapid fire; A. J. Morrow, 75 rapid fire.

With the day clear, cold and windy, sixteen members of the Rochester, Minnesota, Rifle Club competed for the N. R. A. Trophy on October 7. H. H. Prescott won the match with a core of 132.

At the Members' Match of the Keystone (P. R. R.) Rifle Club, of Harrisburg, shot September 29, N. N. Greiner was the winner on a score of 138.

These qualifications have been reported by the Asbury Park, New Jersey, Rifle Club. Sharpshooters, militia course, R. E. S. DeBow, 203; Charles H. Hall, 192; Frank G. Turner, 192; Launsdell Anderson, 192. Marksmen, militia course, W. Harold Warren, 160; George C. Martin, 171. Marksmen, N. R. A. course, Charles W. Wosevear, 95; Thomas C. Ely, 112; R. Bruce Estelle, 143; Robert D. Hall, 96.



Gundogs: Their Management and Breaking

By TRAINER

DOGS for the gun play an important part on every sporting estate, and no owner or lessee of a shooting can consider himself properly equipped unless he possesses a few well-bred and thoroughly broken retrievers, pointers or setters, spaniels, and a keeper's night-dog. It is certainly a mistake to keep more than can possibly be broken, unless a trainer be specially employed for this purpose, and even then, in the interests of the game, it is not advisable that too many puppies should be broken on the estate. Moreover, a number of unbroken or partially broken animals adds considerably to the expense.

The three recognized breeds of retrievers are the curly-coated, wavy, and Labrador. It is unnecessary to describe their show points, for perfect specimens of the several breeds can be seen at any good show, and many excellent books have been published on this subject. But a few remarks as to their working qualities will not be out of place. The curly-coated retrievers are indefatigable workers, but headstrong, and prone to have hard mouths. Many Labradors are short in the head—a bad fault in a retriever—but they have good noses and are not so difficult to keep in form as the curly-coated ones. The wavy-coated dogs, despite their liability to softness, I think cannot be beaten. They are intelligent, possess good noses, and are not difficult to break and keep in form. After weighing the faults and failings of the several breeds I am convinced that the last-named make the best retrievers.

The English pointers and setters and Irish and Gordon setters each have their several admirers. Pointers are most easily broken and kept in order, but as regards actual work there is not much to choose between these and English setters. The handsome black-and-tan Gordons I consider rather slow and to have not much energy in their work. Irish setters are most untiring workers—hardy, resolute, difficult to break, and require a lot of work to keep them steady. Although pointers and setters are not much used now on English shootings, no kennel of sporting dogs should lack a brace or two of these grand dogs. Work can generally be found on the grouse moors for a brace or two of well-broken pointers or setters, and most owners or lessees of shooting either rent grouse moor or shoot as guests of friends who do. I have always found that pointers or setters broken on partridges in the spring

generally work well on grouse later in the year.

There are so many varieties of spaniel, all equally handsome, that it is difficult to select a particular breed. They comprise English and Irish water-spaniels, Clumbers, Sussex, and field spaniels of the following colors: black, blue and red roans, black-and-tan, liver-and-white, black-and-white, as well as Welsh and English springers and Cockers. Where undergrowth is deficient a brace or two of Clumbers will be most suitable. They are the most steady of all spaniels, run mute, and not difficult to keep in order. If the undergrowth is very dense the Sussex or any other of the field spaniels will be suitable; or Cockers if only required for hunting rabbits from gorse or thick hedgerows.

For a keeper's night-dog the bull mastiff is the generally approved breed, but I see no reason why a Great Dane should not answer.

For a commencement I should purchase a bitch of each of the foregoing three breeds, which should be good-looking, well-bred, and, above all, a perfect worker. A fair price will have to be paid for such an animal, and it will be cheaper in the end. The dog selected as a sire should also possess the above-named qualifications. It is comparatively easy to work up a strain to a high pitch of excellence, but to maintain that standard requires great care and judgment, as the evil effects of a single injudicious cross will take years to eradicate.

A bitch should be interfered with as little as possible when whelping, nor should she be allowed to rear more than five pups. These may be weaned at six or seven weeks old and fed three times daily—oatmeal and milk in the morning, stale bread, vegetables, and soup at mid-day, and dog biscuits finely broken and soaked in broth in the evening. The food should not be given too sloppy, and each pup should get his share. Plenty of exercise should be allowed, and if it cannot be arranged in any other way the run of a wire-netted enclosure will do.

The pups should be watched for any signs of worms, and when these pests are detected means should at once be taken for their expulsion. Areca nut and a grain or two of santonine should be given fasting, and a dose of castor oil about an hour afterwards will generally get rid of them, or there are worm powders—numerous advertised, some of them excellent.

Distemper, known only too well by dog-owners (a husky cough, hot, dry nose, and

eyes gummed with thick matters are the symptoms) is a disease most difficult to manage; it takes so many forms that no one remedy is applicable to all cases. On the first signs of distemper a moderate purge can be given, and the symptoms then dealt with as they arise. In case diarrhoea sets in, they should be fed on ground rice baked into a pudding, stale bread, and beef-tea. If the dog is constipated and the eyes are bloodshot, oatmeal milk with boiled onions and a little mutton broth will be a more suitable diet. Good nursing, combined with simple medicine, is as effectual as anything in the treatment of distemper. There are scores of remedies advertised. In some cases great benefit is derived, while in others they appear useless.

Jaundice or "yellows" is also difficult to manage, especially when it follows distemper. A brisk purge containing calomel is necessary, and the animal, being already very weak must be kept up with the best of diet. Quinine, ginger, and sulphate of iron, also Parish's chemical food and cod-liver oil, are good tonics when the symptoms have subsided.

Mange and skin diseases are both troublesome and annoying. A good dose of castor-oil and buckhorn or Epsom salts may be given, and the dog should be fed on a cooling diet containing plenty of vegetables. A mixture composed of paraffin, sulphur, and sweet oil I have found useful. Also, sulphur 4 oz., turpentine and oil of tar, of each 1 oz., and oil 1½ pints, is a good dressing.

Ear canker is another troublesome and offensive disease. A dose of Epsom salts should be given, the ear washed out with warm water, and a little of the following harmless mixture applied: Alum, 5 gr., vinegar, 1 dr., water, 1 oz. I have known cases in which this simple remedy was quite successful; or sulphate of zinc, 20 gr., wine of opium, 2 dr., water, 2 oz.

Kennel lameness is prevalent in some districts or where dogs are improperly housed or exposed to damp and cold. Remove to comfortable quarters, dry and free from draughts. For the vegetable portion of his diet give boiled onions, a little sulphur and a pinch of powdered nilne in the food, and rub the parts affected with a stimulating liniment. Laudanum, hartshorn, olive oil, and turpentine, equal parts, will do.

The kennels should be warm and dry, facing south, if possible, and a cement floor is preferable to bricks.

One litter of puppies a year should be sufficient for any estate—one year retrievers, the next pointers or setters, as preferred, then spaniels. The three best puppies of the litter should be kept for training, and by following this plan the stock of efficient workers can be kept up without interfering with the keepers' other duties or causing undue disturbance of the game.

Once a day is sufficient to feed fully-grown dogs, with the exception, perhaps, of half a dog biscuit in the morning, if in full work.

Kennel discipline should be maintained, and this can be practised in the following manner: When the daily meal is ready, and the food placed in a trough opposite the kennels, the assistant should fire a pistol-shot; this will serve to accustom the puppies to the gun and at the same time act as a signal to the head keeper. The latter should then throw open the kennel doors and call out every dog by his name to the feeding trough, taking care to call the slow feeders first. In the absence of the keeper his assistant should be instructed to carry this out. I have always practised this and found it answers admirably.

There is no royal road to successful dog-breaking, and no one who has not a keen love of animals and much patience can ever hope

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to break dogs; nor can any hard and fast rule be laid down for a trainer to follow. For instance, a headstrong, high-couraged puppy and a nervous, sensitive one require very different handling—a matter which must be left to the trainer's own judgment.

A retriever puppy should be put in training at six months old. He will probably answer to his name and be under a certain amount of control before this. One of the first things to be taught him is to fetch and carry, and if he comes of a good working strain this should come to him more or less naturally. A roll of soft leather is a good thing to practise with. Throw it not more than two or three yards from him. Directly he picks it up, walk away and encourage him to bring it to hand, and then take it from him and make much of him. When he performs this satisfactorily the object may be hidden and the puppy encouraged to use his nose. Avoid over-doing these lessons; puppies soon tire of too much practice of this sort.

The next thing to teach him is to keep to heel, and a cord attached to his collar and given a pull, with the words, "To heel!" will soon perfect him in this respect. He can then be taught to drop to hand and order; thus, take hold of the cord attached to his collar, and, holding up the left hand, say sharply, "Down!" He will not at first understand the meaning of this, and must be pulled down. Stand over him with the hand still raised, and as soon as he begins to lie steady walk backwards, gradually increasing the distance. Then return to him, and again backwards, before giving him the signal (a wave of the hand) to come to you. Should he attempt to rise or creep forward, take him back to the same place, rate him, and insist upon his doing what you wish. On no account allow the dog to run away. Should he attempt to do so a longer cord—say 20 yards—should be attached to his collar, and the end kept in the hand.

To perfect a young dog in dropping is one of the most important items in his whole training. Presuming the youngster is not gunshy (and in all probability he will not be so if the advice above given has been followed), he may be taken out with the gun, and if the shooting season has commenced a brace of partridges should be killed in front of him, letting him see them fall, if possible, but do not allow him to touch them. After an interval of ten or fifteen minutes drop one of these birds without letting him see it, and bid him "go seek." Directly he finds it, walk away and encourage him to bring it straight to hand. Thus the training may proceed, letting him see birds fall as often as possible, but only allowing him to retrieve one occasionally. By adopting this method he will soon understand that he is not to rush after every bird he sees fall, but only when ordered to do so. A young retriever should not be allowed to retrieve fur until after his second season. It should be the aim of his trainer to thoroughly perfect him to winged game first, and have him under strict control, for a dog that is continually running in is useless.

A pointer or setter puppy may be taught to drop in the same manner as a retriever. When perfect in this he should be taken out on a flat field, encouraged to range, taught to be obedient to whistle, and practised in dropping a good distance from his trainer. When he does this satisfactorily he should be taken out on a good scenting morning to where birds are likely to be found, and directly he obtains a point get up to him as

quickly as possible, saying, "To-ho!" Make him stand four or five minutes, and drop him the instant the birds raise. Should he flush birds where he ought to have pointed them, take him back to the spot, hold out both hands in front of him, saying sharply, "To-ho!" If an intelligent puppy, he will not be long before he works very well singly. He may then be taken out with another (an old dog for preference) and taught to back. As soon as the old dog gets a point, walk up to him, and when the puppy comes round hold out both arms, saying, "To-ho!" or drop him if he does not come to a standstill. It is very important that both pointers and setters should be obedient to whistle, taught to quarter their ground properly, and not skirt the hedgerows.

Spaniels are the most difficult of all sporting dogs to train. They are of an excitable disposition, and the nature of their work exposes them to all sorts of temptation to wrong-doing. They may be taught to drop and keep to heel in the same manner as a retriever. It is essential that they should drop instantly to whistle and drop to hand, shot, and order, for, unlike the dogs previously mentioned, they may flush game often within six inches of their nose. The great thing in training a spaniel is to keep him free from chase, and this will never be accomplished unless first perfected in the aforesaid points. A spaniel should not be allowed to range more than twenty yards in front of the gun.

In conclusion, I must warn amateurs not to err on the side of over-breaking their dogs, for an over-broken animal in some respects is as annoying as one only partially broken. I have known young dogs that have been over-trained refuse to leave their breaker's heels. Of course, it is generally the sensitive, highly bred youngster that requires careful handling in this respect. As I previously mentioned, the trainer must study his pup's temperament and treat him accordingly.

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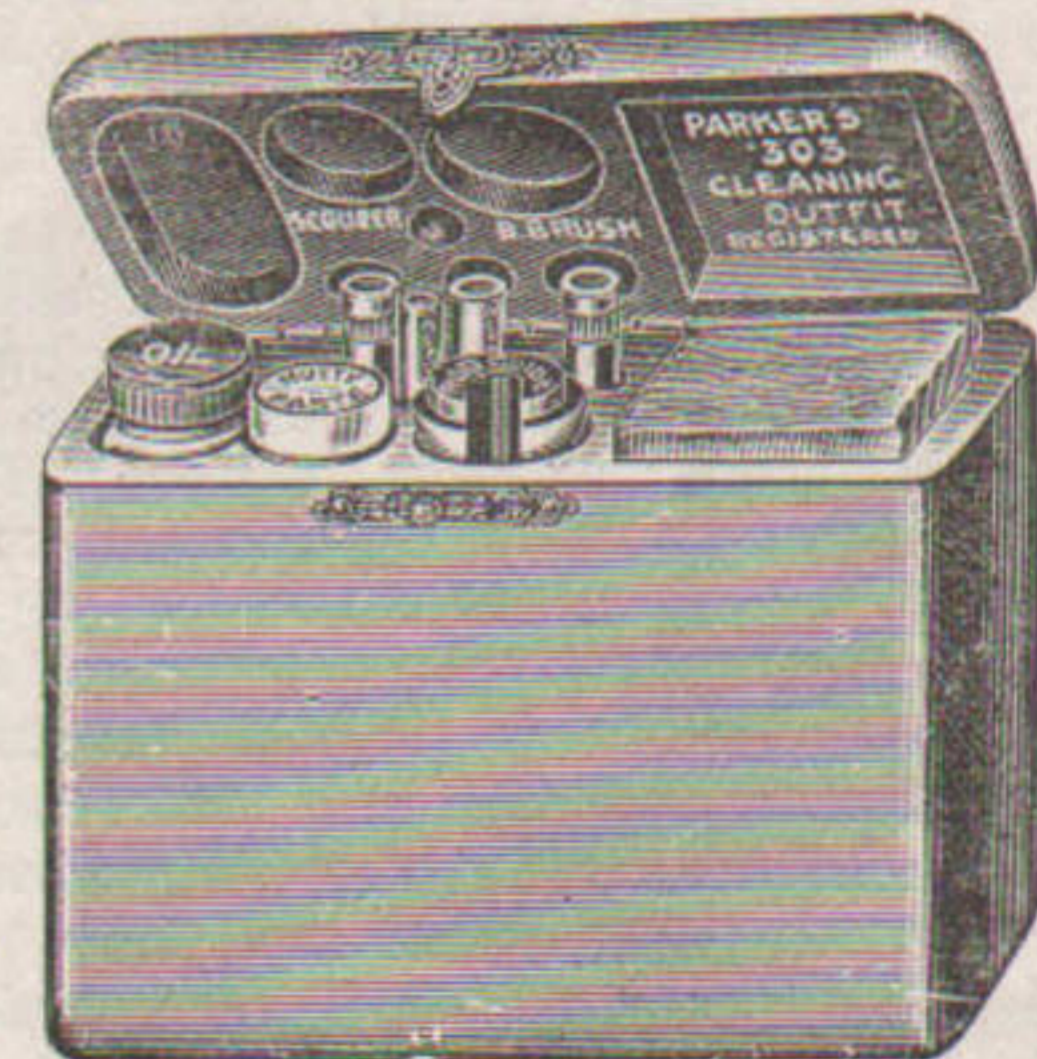
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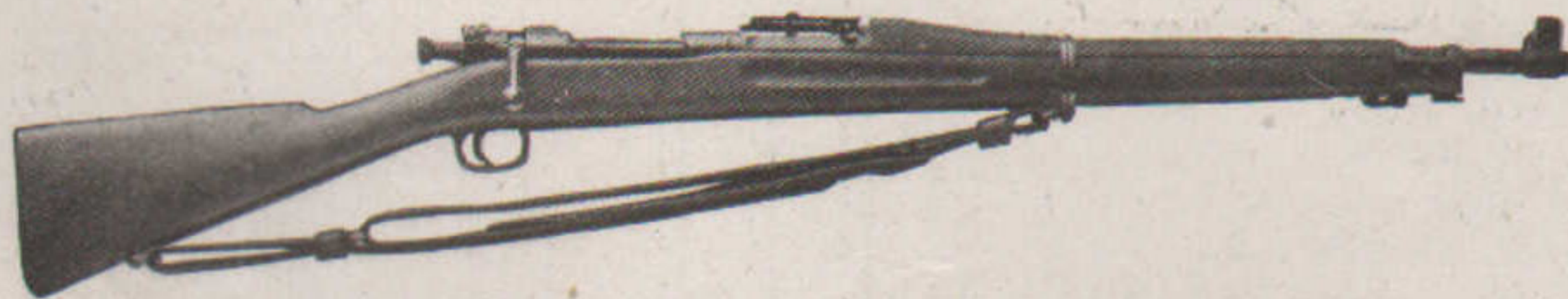
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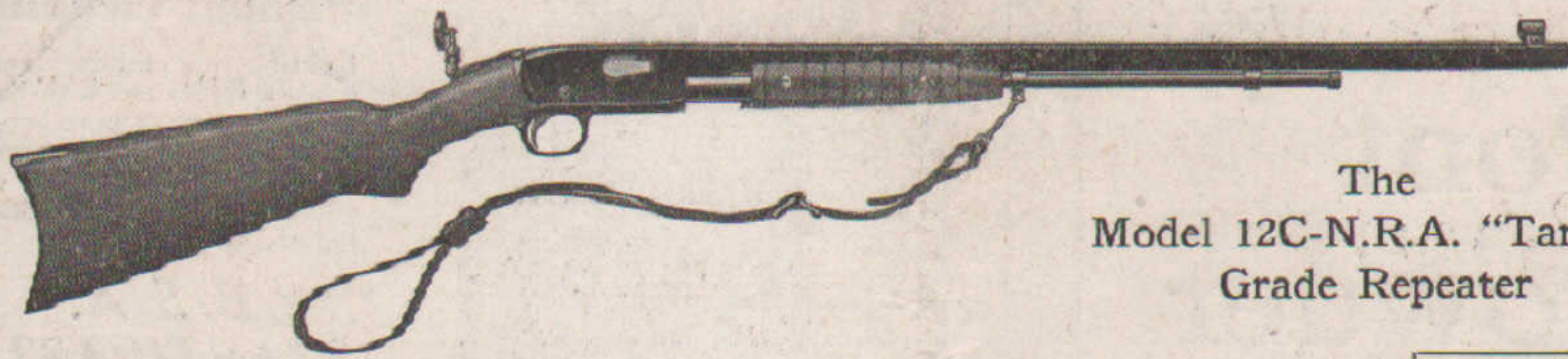
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