Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I **PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, SEPTEMBER, 1939** **No. 1**

WLW-NATIONAL MATCHES

A new range for the WLW-National Shoot this year . . at Friendship, a few miles from Dillsboro. Headquarters will be at Dillsboro Hotel, as in the past two years. We will fire in "The Sugar Bowl"—one-time camping and hunting ground of Blue Jacket, chief of the Shawnees, and his tribesmen. To the north and northeast there is a curving hill that affords a most ideal background for the stopping of lead. Heap much parking space and a lunch concession. Laughery Creek is close by. Boss Johnston says anyone who loves to picture up scenes of Indians in camp, medicine making, planning forays against enemy tribes—well, sez he, here is the place to sit down and dream to the heart's content. This meadow will thrill the shooters for its natural beauty and its possibilities.

Chief Thunder Cloud and companions—not on the warpath at the moment—will be guests at the Shoot and help Boss stage his Truly American Broadcast from the Hotel on Saturday night, the 7th. We know Thunder Cloud from contacts at the 1938 Cincinnati Sportsmen's Show—a fine specimen of manhood, great scholar and no slouch as an actor—if you will permit our slang. The Pow Wow and War Dance on the 7th will be of headliner proportions.

The Annual Meeting will be at the Hotel the night of the 6th . . followed by a meeting of the Directors for consideration of business and election of officers. Bring your resolutions in writing to facilitate accurate and prompt action.

NEW MATCH. We now have in hand the Frantz Rosenberg Trophy—fac-simile of an ancient Norwegian tankard. This bit of art from a modern silversmith's shop will stand out as one of the very finest of our large array of trophies. Our thanks have already gone forward to Mr. Rosenberg at his summer home in Norway. (See the course of fire—Match 4.)

The National Championship is, as planned for this year, a series of matches that will prove the winner to be superior with more than one type of muzzle loading rifle and in both prone and offhand shooting. The old course has been dropped, as it lacked any semblance of a true test that might show Championship calibre.

GUESTS. This year should find us with an unusual array of high lights in the shooting world. Adolph Neidner—sure! He is as regular as the recurring sun—and a fine type to be giving us of his time and advice. Ned

(Continued on Page Three



JOHNNY CLEM
YOUNGEST TO BEAR
ARMS IN BATTLE
NEWARK 1861

"Father, I'd like mighty well to be a drummer boy," said Johnny Clem of Newark, one day in 1861.

"Tut, lad, you've not yet turned ten years," replied his father.

That night Johhny disappeared. He was mourned as dead, but two years later he returned, the diminutive hero of a dozen Civil War battles. Johnny had defended the Union with his sawed-off musket at Chattanooga and had been imprisoned in Georgia. His drum was shattered by a shell fragment at Shiloh, winning him the title of "Johnny Shiloh." He was wounded slightly twice but came through the war and became a Captain at the age most men are still in the ranks.

A younger brother was killed with Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn, while acting as an observer. Johnny lived on to become an old man, and died a few years ago, venerable with age and still bearing the title "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh." —"Ohioddities" by Nichols and Barsotti—Thanks to the Cleveland Plain Dealer and Columbus Citizen.

MUZZLE BLASTS

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NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
E. M. Farris ..... Editor
N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

OFFICERS:

Walter M. Cline ..... President
Walter J. Keenan ..... First Vice President
Boss Johnston ..... Second Vice President
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E. V. Menefee ..... Executive Officer
E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio ..... Secretary
Mrs. Tye Holcomb, Portsmouth, Ohio ..... Treasurer

— PLATFORM —

Understanding of and ability in markmanship with early American muzzle loading firearms.

Match promotion for the purpose of advancing fine accuracy with these arms and to promote standard practices for competition.

Greater safety with all firearms, especially with muzzle loading rifles, pistols and shot guns.

OFFHAND SHOOTING

The one branch of rifle shooting nearest akin to our own is the Schuetzen . . . . briefly, that old offhand game "without military restrictions" that flourished up until about 1900. Like our own pet, it is now enjoying a revival that is rivaling the popularity of our own game. We see many percussion rifles that readily convince the student that the percussion arms led right up to the Schuetzen . . . for Schuetzen is so designated only when the cartridge guns are used. Our own clan is missing a lot of real pleasure when they persist in shunning our offhand matches—Mench, Niedner and (now) the Rosenberg. We have a pet ambition to select five of our best offhand shots and meet the Schuetzeners for a fling at 50 and 100 yard offhand firing . . . no holds barred. Our Niedner match fans kindly consider this. If scores at Dillsboro are sufficiently hot we can take this up a bit later. But in the meantime, let's have more practice in the offhand stance.

OUR MOVEMENT SPREADS

Outstanding developments this season are not numerous, but the expansion of the movement to Portland (Maine), to Benton (Ill.), to Lewistown (Mont.) and other far-flung points is worth a bit of time-out for applause. Whereas the Central States were the whole show a few years ago, now we can truthfully say that our activities extend from the "rock-bound coast of Maine" to Sunny California; from Montana on the north to Brownsville (Texas) on the south. That's quite a nice bit of acreage, if we know our algebra. With several members from Canada with us now, we can hope to see some match competition up on the other side of the line at no distant date. We do grow!

VISITOR

From San Fernando (Calif.) came a buddy of old buddies of earlier Dillsboro days—one Wm. "Bill" Knepp. Bill, the wife and two husky chilluns stopped over for a visit with Bull Ramsey and the seck. We talked guns, handled guns, got right down where gunners live—on the firing line. Bill lives close to Bud Sackett, Doc. Horton, Glenn Echols and Cupid Krall. It was good to know him; it will be a fine day when we can see him here in our WLW-National Shoot—possibly in 1940.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES

With the appearance of this first issue of MUZZLE BLASTS there are now four "minor league" gun-and-gunner publications in the field. All are of recent origin; each serves a special group. Here they are: THE ARMS COLLECTOR, serving rather in a national sense; THE SHARPSHOOTER, official organ of the Schuetzen riflemen; THE GUN TRADER, formerly our bed-fellow, and serving both gun collectors and swappers; and — now — MUZZLE BLASTS. We sense an unusual state of affairs . . . how-come so many of us spring up at about the same time? Our answer is: This is a day of great interest in both the owning and shooting of guns of an earlier day. No one will wish anything but success to the movement and the publications which disseminate news of interest to the brethren. To our three "cousins" we say, "LET'S SHOW 'EM THEY AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET!"

CAMP PERRY ACTIVE

Camp Perry is now all a-stir with the boom-boom and the activities incident to the National Matches. We wish we could be there and greet heaps of our old friends, but this year we reserve our spare time for our muzzle game. In days ahead we hope to go back and have our Muzzle Loading Headquarters tent, meet Harry Pope, Niedner, Titherington, Buhmiller, Capt. Dillin, Col. Stodter, Col. Sheldon, General Critchfield, Frank Kahrs, John Hession, Henry Lyman, the Marines, the Engineers, the Infantry, etc., etc. We promise to have the same old answers for the same old queries, as, "Where in the 'll are the wheels?" Or, "How did them ol' boys shoot once and still keep their hair on?"

If it becomes more and more difficult for us to get safe ranges for our big matches (as seems to be the case each succeeding year), we may be obliged to ask for a period up at Perry just before or just following the National Events. The tents for the shooters, the great commercial displays, the entertainment, the Ordnance Department exhibit—well, we are sure to be the beneficiaries if we ever decide that Camp Perry has the features and facilities for our own Matches.

TELEGRAM

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BENTON, ILL AUG 22 1939

E M FARRIS SECY NMLRA

CONGRATULATIONS ON NEW PUBLICATION WE WISH THE MUZZLE BLAST ALL SUCCESS AND FEEL THAT YOUR NEW PUBLICATION WILL PRESENT OUR SIDE OF THE SHOOTING GAME WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST TRULY AMERICAN SPORTS IN EXISTENCE LONG MAY IT PROSPER

AIKEN AND BURCH

The foregoing wire warms the cockles of the editor's heart. Our policy shall be to warrant your good wishes and congratulations for so long as we are privileged to serve in the capacity we now find ourselves. For the printer and the "editorial staff"—WE THANK YOU!

MUZZLE LOADING MATCH CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 3RD

Montana State Shoot.—Range about 10 miles from Lewistown, in a fine mountain setting. For shooters and their families. A total of 36 medals and prizes; cup for State Champ.

SEPTEMBER 3-4

Usual layout of muzzle loading events at the **Union City (Indiana)** ranges. A team match between shooters from Ohio and from Indiana, for Championship of each state. Three medals for high in each team. Harry Buckingham, Union City, Indiana, is the promoter.

SEPTEMBER 4TH

Labor Day Shoot at Benton, Illinois. This is a shoot that will tip the lid for the first open shoot on a Municipal Range. We should all go there and see a really fine set-up. J. M. Aiken is promoting; says the mayor is a real fan for this form of recreation. Invitations have gone out to fans far and near.

SEPTEMBER 17TH

State Cap-and-Ball Hand Gun Championship, at Great Falls, Montana. Ranges 50 and 75 feet.

SEPTEMBER 24TH

Dayton, Ohio. The Dayton Sharpshooter's Muzzle Loading Rifle Championships. Range is on State Route 69, Eight Miles North of Dayton.

First Annual Canton Pistol Club Shoot. Open, non-registered, at Canal Fulton Muzzle Loading Rifle Range. Write to H. A. Sherlock, 1435 16th Street, NW., Canton, Ohio, for program.

OCTOBER 1ST

Chicago. Hyde Park YMCA Rifle and Pistol Club. Robert E. Englert, Sec'y, 1305 E. 63rd St. This is a Bigger and Better Set-up this year!

OCTOBER 6TH, 7TH AND 8TH

DILLSBORO, INDIANA. The WLW and NATIONAL Matches. Program may be secured from office of the Secretary.

WLW-NATIONAL MATCHES

(Continued from Page One)

Roberts—a chap who has done much to advance closer grouping with and a love for fine firearms—Ned feels he will be able to get to our Matches this year. He is certain of a great welcome . . . he will find much to interest him, that is sure. Then—and we hope this will impress the brethren as it has the editor — FRANTZ ROSENBERG may (sorry we cannot make this a positive statement) get over here on a trip to visit his son at Boston Tech. and to attend to some business in the East. And if he does, he will be at Dillsboro unless trains, planes, boats, ox-wagons and gas buggies have stopped darting hither and thither on the face of the earth. We will be disappointed if Mr. Addicks does not show up—Mr. Cline will enginner this chap, undootedly. Many others write they contemplate this trip; we hope they do not disappoint us.

For the State Team event . . . we take it upon ourselves to ask the following gentlemen to serve as captain of the team from his state: Pennsylvania (winner in 1938), Don Coble; for Ohio, W. Creamer; for Indiana, Carl Bausserman; for Kentucky, J. Campbell Thompson, M. D.; for Illinois, J. M. Aiken; for Michigan, Adolph Niedner; for West Virginia, J. C. Daily; for Tennessee, A. C. Cross; for California, Montana, Missouri and other states that may bring teams—appointment when full representation is certified to the entry clerk. Kindly check the available team material, you captains, and get out the best you can!

Several of our faithful have volunteered to help in the operation of the range during the Shoot. They have asked for assignment of days. Here would be our choice: Friday, Walter Grote and Walter Keenan; Saturday, Bill McQuerry and Lloyd Bender; Sunday, W. H. Porter and J. W. Willson. As regular range personnel we hope to have "Pete" Menefee and Wm. Green, with "Tye" Holcomb assisting. Howard Jenkins hopes to be on hand this year as in 1938 (he married one of the lady workers who served in the registration tent last year! Mrs. Jenkins is planning to be on hand too). Miss Green of Rising Sun; Mrs. Holcomb and Miss Nancy Beasley of Portsmouth and a few of the good friends from Dillsboro and Friendship announce their willingness to be on hand and render their "best." Such help is "the salt o' de eart'" and we feel mighty grateful for their timely aid.

SPECIAL RATES TO MEMBERS

The Dillsboro Health Resort (our Headquarters) is extending special low rates to our members and their wives, during the Matches. Your paid-up membership ticket serves as your credentials. Here are the details: Cots in the basement (men only), 75c single; rooms without conveniences, $1.00 single, $1.50 double; rooms with running water, large bed, $1.75 single, $2.50 double; rooms with running water and toilet, large bed, $2.00 single, $3.00 double; rooms with running water, toilet and twin beds, $3.20 per day.

Rather than put it off and be disappointed, we can recommend that our shooters make reservation early, by mail. Manager Girkepott will see that your wishes are observed so far his accomodations make it possible.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be Ten $10.00) dollars; half page Fifteen ($15.00) dollars; full page Twenty-five ($25.00) dollars.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

FINE MATCH IS HELD AT LEWISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

A great light shines forth from Pennsylvania . . . Don Coble, Judge Tinney and others claim that the matches at Lewistown, August 6th, were proof of unusual ability in promotion of such events. Credit goes to Bill Mahoney, Len Aurand and Oscar Cassidy. All factions ask that this group stage the State Championship Shoot in 1940. Right now the Lewistown boys are organizing for active muzzle loading competition and training; they are calling their club The Fort Granville Muzzle Loading Association. We wish them all success.

Here is a newspaper account that pretty well covers the events and the winners:

Shartlesville and Bellefonte
Men Lead Old-time Marksmen

The old fashioned muzzle loading match, Sunday, was a huge success with contestants from all over the Eastern States present.

Every one was pleased with the range location, management, &c., to such an extent that it was unanimously agreed upon that the Penna. championship would be shot out here next year.

Judge Tinney conducted his match of flintlock and percussion, dueling pistols and cap and ball revolvers in fine order. The match was very interesting and was a great attraction. Many local shooters competed.

The merchants of Lewistown may well be proud of the fine layout of prizes donated by them for the matches.

Matches and winners are as follows:

No. 1—50 yds., 5 shots, open sight: First, Kelley, Delaware; second, Mahoney, Lewistown; and third, Cassidy, Lewistown.

No. 2—50 yards. 10 shots, peep sight: First, Cower, Tyrone; second, Johnson, Delaware; and third, Yonkers, Shartlesville.

No. 3—100 yards. 5 shots, open sight; First, Coble, Bellefonte; second, Aurand, Lewistown; and third, Cassidy, Lewistown.

No. 4—100 yards, 10 shots, peep sights: First, Yonkers, Shartlesville; second, Strong, Ardmore; third, Coble, Bellefonte.

No. 5—50 yds., 5 shots, off hand: First, Royer, State College; second, Mahoney, Lewistown; and third, Coble, Bellefonte.

No. 5—Flint Lock, 50 yds.,: First, Yonkers, Shartlesville; second, Kelly, Delaware.

No. 6—Flint Lock, dueling pistol: Aurand, 24x25, and Ort, 23x25.

No. 7—Percussion, dueling pistol: Wagner, 24x25; and Aurand, 24x25. (Tie shot off in parallell duel. Wagner won.)

No. 8—Cap and ball revolver: Ort, 100x100; and Aurand, 98x100.

Smallest groups were shot by: Yonkers, Shartlesville; Coble, Bellefonte; Cassidy, Lewistown; Little, Lewistown; Royer, State College.

Donald Coble won the grand aggregate prize when he beat Aurand by two points on the total score of matches 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Lew Cowers' son won the prize for the youngest shooter, 16 years.

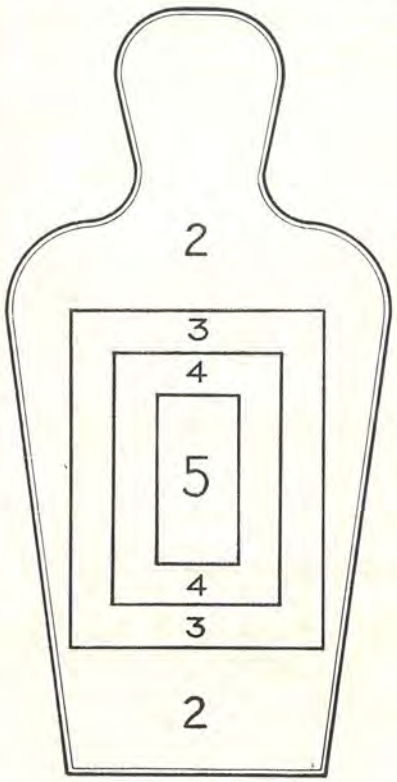
Mogle of Shartlecville was the oldest shooter, 67 years.

THE GAUNTLET TARGET

By Roy S. Tinney, Chatham, N. J.

Silhouette 18 by 36 inches.
Three rectangles:
4 x 8 counts five points.
8 x 12 counts four points.
12 x 16 counts three points.
Rest of target counts two points.

This target is neither new or original, as it is used for pistol instruction, qualification and competition by the armed forces of the British Em-



pire. Colonel Gauntlet of the Burma Rifles, India, sent the data to my old friend, Donegan Wiggins of Salem, Oregon. and he in turn forwerded it to me. We have been using it for the past three years and find the Gauntlet to be the best of all pistol targets. They are easily cut from a piece of beaver board and I will be glad to send a paper pattern to anyone desiring to make one.

QUICK FIRE

PARALLEL DUELLING:
Arms: Matched pair of pistols.
Range: Fifteen yards.
Targets: Two Gauntlet silhouettes.

Two men stand side-by-side at "Lower Pistol," muzzle pointing forward toward the ground.

Command: "Fire — one — two — three." Time, three seconds. At the word "fire" both men raise their arms and the pistols must be discharged after the word "fire" and before the word "three."

The man scoring the first hit, anywhere on the silhouette inside or touching the half-inch margin line placed there to aid in scoring, wins; the other is "dead." Survivor-meets-survivor until only one man is left. He ranks first and retires. Then comes the "resurrection" when those eliminated in the first "round shoot it out for second place. A third "round" for third place, and so on. In that way the poorest shot gets the most practice.

To win, one man's shot must be fired perceptably ahead of the other's. If the two reports blend into one "bang" and both men score hits, both men are "dead" and out of that "round."

BATTLE MATCH:

When using modern revolvers or semi-automatic pistols, we substitute two-by-four-inch wood blocks, sawed thin from the end of a 2x4 and placed on a dark card. Each revolver or pistol is loaded with six cartridges. Only one word of command, "Fire." Both men raise their arms and start shooting. The objective is to score the first direct hit, breaking the 2x4 block. Find clay pigeons not-so-good as they do not always break when hit. The wood blocks are reliable and so inexpensive. We regard "Quick Fire" as the most practical of all pistol shooting.

DUELLING PISTOL MATCH:

Five shots at fifteen yards on Gauntlet target fired "On Command." Possible score 25 points. When a man scores five consecutive fives he is entitled to continue firing until he misses the center rectangle measuring four-by-eight inches.

SHOOTER TAKES BRIDE

W. E. Foust, he of the hard shootin' round ball clan from up Marion way, will have his bride with him at the Big Shoot, we trust. Anyhow, he has a bride and we crave the pleasure of her presence at Dillsboro. Happy landings, Mr. and Mrs. Foust!

New England and New York folks can now send stock and other gun work to a highly trained mechanic not far from home. He is acclaimed as unusually keen at developing a bullet where the original mould is lost; he can turn out a swage that leaves nothing to be desired, from reports we get from members in that section. He can make up false muzzles to order . . . and anyone who can do that just has to be a fine mechanic. His name is Floyd Butler, Poultney, Vt. His express office is Granville, New York (note New York, not Vt.).

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I **PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, OCTOBER, 1939** **No. 2**

Extra --- Last Call For WLW-National Matches --- Extra

The stage is set. Target frames will be in place before the shooters arrive. The big lot of medals are ordered. The range helpers and officers are booked and we are ready for the Biggest and Best—the 1939 Shoot.

If anything has been overlooked, it is your reservation at the hotel. That's your fault. . . .we do advise that you see the announcement in the September MUZZLE BLASTS and then promptly write Manager Elmer Girkepott, Dillsboro, Indiana.

Everything has taken a turn to lead us to believe this will actually be the largest and best from point of attendance and number of targets called for.

A new match, and one that is surely stirring up the dust, is an event where ladies from the various states will fire as state teams at 50 yards, prone or bench rest, any metallic sights. H. A. Boltz is heading up the Hoosier group and Bill McQuerry will take into tow the Buckeye lassies. One rule, girls—No Hair Pullin'! Final details in a special bulletin will be seen at the range.

The medals this year will be something in the unusual. Having a special die made up that can be used for other years. How many? Check the Program and see how many are promised, then add five for the co-ed match.

Souvenirs will be given all who register. . . .it will be a Gilbert Angel-Tennessee combination. All for utility and not for decoration.

The range is located at Friendship —see your map.

ROSENBERG MATCH

We did not make it clear in the September issue that both stages of the Rosenberg event shall be fired with the same rifle. Please come prepared to observe this requirement.

OMISSION

The Husband and Wife Match, carrying with it the fine Maple-Walnut-Red Cedar trophy made by Ernest Williamson, and won by himself and wife last year, was omitted in the program. However, the scores by husbands and wives shooting in Match 1 will be taken for this prize, and let's really have competition his year.

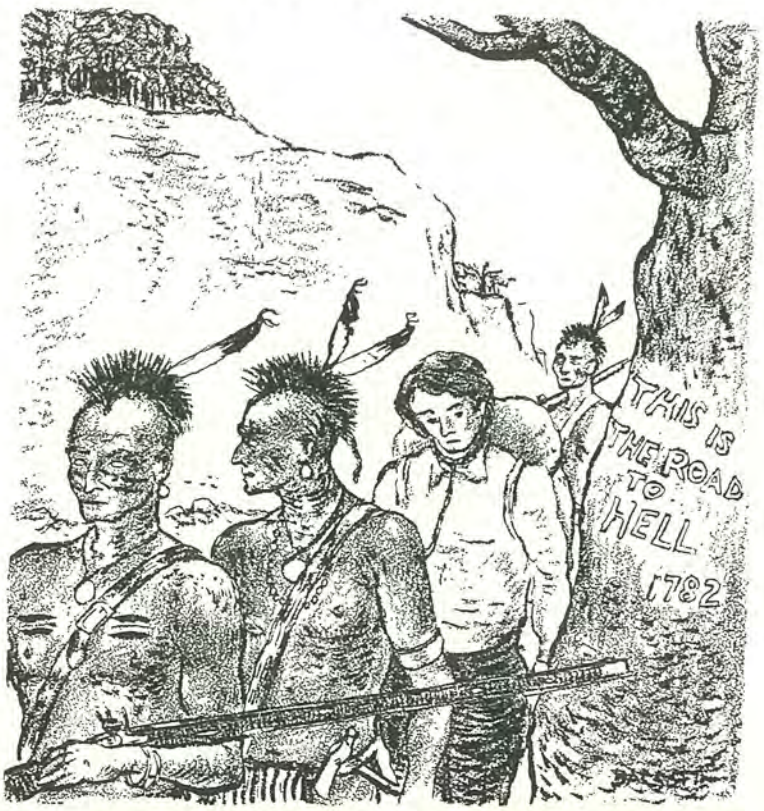
Charley Bell will be Boss Range Rider and General Factotum at the Shoot. Bell is just a "shade under" 70, but hunts and fishes with the best of them. As a trouble shooter he ought to set a new high!

Elmer Girkepott says we will have a fine group of Boy Scouts to help run targets this year. They are a grand group of youngsters; if you agree, tell 'em so in one diplomatic way or another, at the Shoot.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harding, on whose farm the new range is located, have been met—and we hope all the shooters can find opportunity to get acquainted with them. Too bad they will have their prize shorthorn cattle

(Continued on Page 3)

THE ROAD TO HELL



Walls rise 120 feet above Queer Creek in Hocking County where the little stream has cut its way through solid rock for several miles. This gorge was a favorite passage through which prisoners were led by Indians to Old Chillicothe. At its outlet, until a few years ago, stood an ancient beech upon which a captive had carved: "This Is The Road to Hell, 1782."

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BEAUTY IN GUNSTOCKS

Beautiful wood in gunstocks intrigues all of us. Curly maple is plentiful—but never common. The Creator must have been in a happy mood when he planned such a peculiar and fascinating arrangement of alternating hard and soft sections in these trees. Birdseye—this is another type maple growth that never ceases to cause wonder and admiration. We often wonder why so little of it went into decorative gun stocks.

But Cherry—that is a wood with none of the flash and flurry of maple, but it never fails to draw attention of the critical.

And this brings us to say that at Benton's Shoot we found a recently-made stock of this glorious wood—and gave up a prized percussion shot gun to possess it. The barrel and trim are just so-so, but that fine wood has been lovingly treated and handled. Just the right curve to the stock; an attractive cheek rest, good comb, wrist and fore stock. A Mr. Beasley was the party who had made it; we did not get any further data, but in an early issue hope to pass on to the fraternity full information about him. His work is "tops."

TWO GOOD SPEAKERS

Sportsmen's clubs and numerous other organizations are always casting about for a good speaker—one with a story and message a bit different from the usual run of such. Here are two (2) good ones: Boss Johnston and Barton Rees Pogue. They may be contacted through WLW Artists Bureau, Cincinnati, Ohio. Having heard both, the editor can recommend them highly. Boss is the outdoorsman—his message is breezy, with a tang of philosophy that you would expect in a lover of nature. He has variety—never a dull moment. Mr. Pogue—now what shall we say? Well, he writes poetry at a big rifle match, sittin' on a garbage can! That's a good start. I dare say that he is fully up to James Whitcomb Riley in the hearty Hoosier home-spun yarn. He likes folks—old folks, kids, rural characters, the around-the-country-store-stove fellers, and if you ever slip a wise-crack in his presence, he may have a poem revolving around it within the time I take to tell it. Yes, either of these fine men is capable and handy as a public speaker. (And I don't get any commission!)

LAST CALL! We want designs for an emblem for this Association. Two have been received. . . .there should be at least a dozen for our committee to judge during the Dillsboro Shoot. Use your artistic ideas. . . .get us something that you think should be used to represent the muzzle loading organization in their advertising and publicity. Hurry!

Much of our success as a movement can be traced directly to the splendid cooperation of Radio Station WLW and Boss Johnston, one of our vice presidents. Seems that a majority of our members make it a habit to listen in for Boss on both his Saturday broadcasts over this big station. Don't fail to do some "back scratching" for WLW and Boss if you ever have the opportunity.

A belated commendation. Read the August and September copies of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMEN; "A Frontier Strategy"—by our good member, Col. H. P. Sheldon. Up to Fennimore Cooper's best!

Our desk sees many inquiries in this strain: "What books are available that will give me information about the old guns and the early gunsmiths?" From personal knowledge, one of the best is "The Kentucky Rifle," by Capt. J. G. W. Dillin, Media, Penna. The captain has been liberal with us, giving one volume about each year for the past five or six, as a prize in our National Shoot. Have this volume in your library; you can secure it direct from the author.

President Cline is a busy man. . . .he has to take care of the day-by-day transactions in his studio at Chattanooga. But he wants—so much —to get his material in shape to give it to the printer, so his book on this muzzle loading activity may also become a part of our libraries. He wishes this no more than we do. We have the promise that he will give us data on the publication of the volume as early as possible.

EVENTS ON THE BLOTTER

OCTOBER 1ST

Chicago, Ill—Sponsored by the Hyde Park Y. M. C. A. Rifle Club. Hope these promoters have better weather than greeted their efforts in 1938. Wind. . . .lots of wind was the big pain in the neck.

OCTOBER 8TH

Cos Cob, Conn.—Their second this year. 100 yards, prone; 50 yards, offhand; 25 yards, cap and ball revolver. We recommend this shoot for fine fellowship and top-notch spirit.

OCTOBER 6TH, 7TH, 8TH
DILLSBORO, INDIANA—WLW-NATIONAL ANNUAL SHOOT.

OCTOBER 21ST AND 22ND

Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio—Ohio Gun Collectors' Meeting. From what we hear this is going to be a fine setting and a splendid meet.

(Date — ?)—Eastern Antique Gun Collectors send information about a get-together near Ithaca, N. Y., at Orchard Camp, on Route 5, two miles east of Elbridge or five miles west of Camillus. Over-night accomodations and meals at the Camp for those who come a long distance.—11 A. M.—Cap and ball revolver match.—2 P. M.—Muzzle loading shot guns in 10 bird trap event, "load not to exceed 3 dr. powder, 1¼ oz. shot." (Smart fellers!)—3 P. M.—Muzzle loading rifle match for 15 lb. live turkey; any muzzle loading rifle, open sights, round ball, offhand, 50 yards, 5 shots, NO SIGHTING SHOTS! Just too bad we can't give you dates in this issue.

COMMENTS ON VOLUME I, NUMBER I

"This MUZZLE BLASTS strikes me as the best thing you have done yet. A nice, little paper, well written and interesting. It will help us grow. I'm for it strong."—John "Holetwister" Buhmiller, Montana.

* * * * *

"Will you accept the congratulations of a back-slider on MUZZLE BLASTS? It's a fine piece of work. You've come a long ways in the two years I have known N.M.L.R.A."—Deuel Richardson, New York. **(We are after his renewal, you bet.)**

* * * * *

"Many congratulations on the splendid work that you have done in editing the first issue of MUZZLE BLASTS! May I extend my heartiest appreciation for the excellence of this new magazine. . . .it will be a great bond, linking us muzzle loading 'nuts' together."—Capt. of 1939 Penna. Team, Don Coble.

* * * * *

"I received my copy of MUZZLE BLASTS and think it's fine; how much do I owe you **(We like that—Ed.)** for a year's subscription?"—Floyd Butler, New York.

* * * * *

"MUZZLE BLASTS turns out to be a veritable salvo! Congratulations. Keep up the good work."—Nick Nikodym, Big Shot in Schuetzen Association, Ohio.

* * * * *

How you lika dis? So do we. Plenty more, but our modesty, etc., etc. Thanks, everybody!

LAST CALL, WLW-NATIONAL

(Continued from Page 1)

driven down farther on the creek, for they are sumpin' to behold, even a city slicker can appreciate their class. We can hope they will bring some of their prize ears of corn out for us to hang up with the pouches, horns and coon-skin caps—that bottom land does make real fattenin' food, folks.

Joe Rees and other WLW employees write that they hope to be on hand to compete for the Crosley Artists Trophy this year. . . .but Mr. Rees is busy with the daily broadcasts for San Felice from the New York Fair. Boss says he hopes to get several new faces in the lineup this year. (Why not Mr. Powel Crosley, himself?)

Lack of space prevented getting in a notice of the good work of Judge Tinney and his cohorts when they staged an Exhibit of the old guns and accoutrements at the Morris County Fair, Troy Hills, N. J., August 23rd-26th inclusive. It is a commendable bit of publicity.

MATCH RESULTS AT BENTON, ILLINOIS

50 Yards, Round Ball, Open Sights—19 Entries. (1) Chas. Wall, Cadet, Mo., 46; (2) E. I. Hasty, Jonesville, Ind., 45; (3) H. Wyatt, Evansville, Ind., 44.

100 Yards, Round Ball, Open Sights—11 Entries. (1) W. E. Foust, LaFountaine, Ind., 41; (2) E. I. Hasty, Jonesboro, Ind., 38; (3) Dave Garrish, Bluford, Ill., 36.

220 Yards, Free-for-All.—12 Entries. (1) Guy Burch, Macedonia, Ill., Muzzle Loader, 4½ in. group; Gilbert Page, Mt. Vernon, Ill., Rem. .22, 6 in. group; Ed. Cyzinski, Benton, Ill., Krag, 6½ in. group. (Nice margin held by the muzzle loader!)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be Ten ($10.00) dollars; half page, Fifteen ($15.00) dollars; full page, Twenty-five ($25.00) dollars.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

FOR SALE: Barrel blanks for muzzle loaders, 1¼ in. diam., 32 in. long. Standard .38-55 bore, twist and depth of grooves. Will take .38-55 bullets sized down to allow for thickness of patching. Should give one hole groups at 50 yards. Immediate delivery; $15 each. **J. R. Buhmiller, Eureka, Mont.**

FOR SALE: Dental engine complete with some accessories, 110 volt motor with foot control, all in good second-hand condition. Will trade. **J. W. Gibbs, 3030 State St., San Diego, Calif.**

FOR SALE: Muzzle loading match rifles with data for loading and targets to prove accuracy. We specialize in match types, with open and peep sights. Ready to recommend both round ball and bullet guns. Tight groups or money back. **E. M. Farris, N. & W. Ry. Y.M.C.A., Portsmouth, Ohio.**

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS: Groups can well afford to have this class of affiliation. . . .we plan to have some postal shooting for affiliated groups. The secretary of such a club will receive our MUZZLE BLASTS and will be asked to keep us posted on club activities. Many now-functioning groups would go further and faster if they got into a well organized unit—elected officers, laid out a season's program and hewed to the line . We announce that one of the very livest aggregations in the country has taken Club Membership No. 1—Canal Fulton Ramrod Club, Bill McQuerry, secretary. If you want to hear what an ambitious program consists of and how a fine range equipment is assembled, write to Bill—address, 15 Cole Place, Akron, Ohio.

Mrs. Alberta Bender
256 Clymer St.,
Galion, Ohio.

OHIO 1 CENT

SEC. 562 P. L. & R.

"CAST STEEL" BARRELS

From a magazine about sixty years old, Floyd Butler sends in this most interesting material on what "cast steel" really meant:

"If a barrel of twelve pounds was desired, a billet of that weight, or a little over, was cast. The billet was about a foot or a foot and a half long, with a core about an inch or an inch and a half in diameter. A rod about the size of the hole was then slid through the billet, which was then run through a pair of rolls, which lengthened it and reduced the size of the hole, somewhat. A smaller size rod was then inserted after removing the larger one, and the billet was then run through the next smaller size groove in the rolls.

"This process was repeated, over and over, until the barrel had been reduced to the proper outside diameter, roughly octagon or round, as the case might be. The bore was slightly smaller than intended, to allow for reaming, which followed in the next operation. The barrel was then straightened and planed smooth. If a false muzzle was to be made, four centers were made on each end of the barrel, then the four pin holes drilled. The false muzzle was then cut off and the end of the barrel faced up, as was each end of the false muzzle. The barrel blank was then rifled, in the same factory, or sent to a gunsmith, to be made into a rifle.

"This magazine article states that the barrels used by the various companies were made by this same process. The hole through the barrel was the big problem in days gone by, before the invention of the barrel drill, as it was impossible to drill a straight hole for any distance with a twist drill."

All of this is interesting; we shall be pleased to get more such useful information for our members, Mr. Butler. (Mr. Butler is a gunsmith at Poultney, Vt., and specializes in stocking.)

A NEW TROPHY

FLASH! A new trophy will be seen at Dillsboro, THE ANNIE OAKLEY. Wm. Large, former National Champion, is the donor.

Mr. Large has just been appointed Game Protector for Lawrence County (Ohio), and says it was largely because of the many fine letters of commendation sent in by the muzzle loading riflemen that he received this appointment.

Casting about for a means of showing his appreciation, "Bill" said he wanted to put a trophy into the National program. The newest match, for teams of women, was conveniently available, and "ANNIE OAKLEY" fit as a title, since this famed lady was a Buckeye. With five medals and such a keen trophy up in this event, how y' goin' to prevent hair-pullin'?

THE ROMANCE OF RIFLE MAKING

Life member A. A. Huffman sends us some reading matter that shows how much romance can be tied up in rifle making. Mr. Huffman is related to the Settles, early makers of fine percussion rifles, hailing from Barren County, Kentucky. William Settles was the first of this family to make firearms, and this activity was at its height about 1800. His son, Felix Settle, was born in 1801, and became the most widely-known rifle maker of this family. Felix established his shop at Roseville, Barren County, Ky. He died in 1871. Simon and Willis, sons of Felix, also made rifles—the third generation. Simon's shop was at Greensburg, Ky. Willis had his first shop at Glasgow, Ky., but in later years moved to Russelville, Ky.

Anyone desiring full data on the research into this family of makers of fine rifles may do well to contact A. A. Hoffman, 4000 20th Road, North, Arlington, Va. "The Old Sarge" (He's a retired army sergeant) will be found most willing to accede to any reasonable request for his data.

Can cite prospective gun-builders to several already bored and rifled barrels on the .38-55 specifications, at a price that seems most reasonable. Write in, if you wish details. Samples will be at Dillsboro, we hear.

Nickodym, for the Schuetzen Association, snaps at our challenge for a match, muzzle loading offhand rifles vs. the Schuetzen at suitable range. Hope to appoint our captain at Dillsboro.

INFORMATION WANTED

Question: Who can give us information about George Ferriss, who made match rifles at Utica, N. Y.? Was he the only one of the family to carry on this trade? Did his forbears hail from Connecticut, and, if so, when did they come into New York State, and where did they first settle?

NUMERICAL LIST OF OUR LIFE MEMBERS

1. Walter Grote — Canton, Ohio
2. Bud Sackett — Anaheim, Calif.
3. Frantz Rosenberg — Lillehammer, Norw[illegible]
4. Garnet C. Brown — Royal Oak, Mi[illegible]
5. Col. C. E. Stodter — San Diego, Ca[illegible]
6. A. A. Hoffman — Arlington, Va.
7. E. W. Williamson — Hillsboro, Ohio
8. Preston Cain — Lebanon, Indiana
9. E. V. Menefee — Rising Sun, Indiana
10. Walter J. Keenan — Cincinnati, Ohio
11. S. E. Creasy — Navarre, Ohio
12. Walter Cline — Chattanooga, Tenn.
13. Powel Crosley, Jr. — WLW, Cincinnati, Ohio
14. Boss Johnston — Aurora, Indiana
15. E. M. Farris — Portsmouth, Ohio
16. Dr. Roy Horton — Santa Ana, Calif.
17. Ralph Hall — Lima, Ohio
18. Ned H. Roberts — Goffstone, N. H.
19. August Patrick — Chicago, Illinois
20. A. O. Neidner — Dowagaic, Mich.
21. W. G. Rolston — Detroit, Mich.
22. Ney Zimner — Detroit, Mich.
23. Harry Buckingham — Union City, Indiana
24. Roy S. Tinney — Chatham, N. J.
25. Mrs. E. A. Holcomb — New Boston, Ohio
26. James Green — Rising Sun, Indiana
27. Lowell Bolen — Los Angeles, Calif.
28. Robbins H. Ritter — Hartford, Conn.
29. H. L. Copp — West Alexandria, Ohio
30. [illegible] Pine — New Bremen, Ohio
31. [illegible]rd C. Shannon II — Waterville, Maine
32. M. L. Davey — Kent, Ohio
33. [illegible]gan VanMatre — Cincinnati, Ohio
34. Mrs. Walter Grote — Canton, Ohio
35. Robert J. Furlong — Los Angeles, Calif.
36. J. D. A. Ogilvy — Loveland, Colo.
37. George Back — Gothenburg, Nebr.
38. James W. Gibbs — San Diego, Calif.
39. J. M. Aiken — Benton, Illinois
40. Reginald R. Johnson — Worcester, Mass.
41. Ben James — Dayton, Ohio
42. James H. Frazier — Cayuga, Indiana
43. Al G. Steuer — St. Bernard, Ohio
44. Tony Parotti — Collinsville, Illinois
45. Miller Bedford — New London, Ohio
46. S. H. Leslie — Pikeville, Kentucky
47. E. Seybold — Fort Worth, Texas
48. Andy Brush — Cos Cob, Conn.
49. Ephraim L. Gerdes — Dixon, Illinois
50. John Buhmiller — Eureka, Montana
51. Al. H. Tompkins — Springfield, Mass.
52. A. F. Stoeger, Jr. — New York, N. Y.
53. P. A. Matteson, DDS. — Bennington, Vermont

UNITED STATES POSTAGE

Mrs Alberta Bender (47x50)
256 Clymer st
Galion Ohio

Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, NOVEMBER, 1939 No. 3

Results of WLW-National Matches

MATCH 1—CROSLEY

A—Over 60

1. Zack Lindley 46
Radio, Gold Medal
2. E. I. Hasty 46
Silver Medal
3. W. J. Keenan 45
Bronze Medal

W. E. Foust, 44; H. A. Boltz, 43; J. D. Booher, 41; Elmore Light, 39; Jess Johnson, 38; J. M. Ruckman, 37; E. J. Holmes, 35; Boss Johnston, 35; A. N. Clemmer, 34; O. C. Anderson, 32; H. W. Ricketts, 30; C. V. Anderson, 22; J. D. Rohls, 9.

B—Under 60

1. Ralph Dunn 47
Radio, Gold Medal
2. Ralph Hall 46
Silver Medal
3. Andy Whitehurst 46
Bronze Medal

Art Baker, 44; Clyde Dixon, 44; H. W. Porter, 44; W. Lawrence, 43; C. R. Ramsey, 43; H. J. Rhodes, 43; C. H. Brown, 43; P. R. Kennedy, 43; V. Hedges, 43; E. Harper, 43; L. M. Wolfe, 42; D. Weiss, 42; E. R. Black, 42; Wm. McQuerry, 42; Paul Stevens, 42; J. W. Willson, 42; C. C. Mahoney, 42; Stan Johnson, 41; Lloyd Bender, 41; C. E. Hollenbaugh, 41; Don Coble, 40; C. Turner, 40; Preston Cain, 40; Lou Cowher, 40; W. H. Pulford Jr., 40; Wm. Large, 39; W. H. Pulford Sr., 39; E. H. James, 38; J. Booher, 38; W. A. Potter, 37; C. E. Hill, 36; Hugh Scott, 36; Dale Anderson, 35; H. N. Wood, 35; R. E. Harper, 35; H. L. Copp, 34; Joe Lamping, 34; E. Williamson, 33; C. M. Hess, 32; E. M. Farris, 30; N. Sheldon, 30; J. E. Miller, 28; Joe Gregory, 27; A. Wagner, 16; W. E. Grote, 13.

(Continued on Page 5)

THE OLD BECOMES NEW

BARTON REES POGUE

Since man loves to shoot it is good that he bothers
With the guns that were guns in the days of his fathers.
With curly stocks and long steel barrels
The old muzzle-loaders sing the good carols
They sang in the days of pioneering,
When broad axes fashioned log homes in the clearing,
When oxen were yoked to the rude plough for tilling,
When conflict with Indian and wild thing was thrilling,
For his food and his life depended on matching
His foe, with powder and ball and patching.

Those guns roar again, the hills repeating,
Echo by echo through the forest retreating—
Here where the Red Man in season came camping
The man of today is sprawling and tramping,
Making an ancient thing thrilling and living,
Recalling, in sport, times misty, and giving
This "wise-acre" age a taste of things olden,
When hearts were stout, and the future was golden—
And their thoughts are not war-thoughts, while matching
Their skill, with powder and ball and patching.

(The penciled, much corrected original of the above is one of our prized possessions. We cross-our-heart and hope-to-die we will never become a collector, but some things just can't be chucked. Mr. Pogue's excellent bit of handiwork is admired and filed-for-keeps.—Ed.)

INCORPORATED

We are now an Incorporation . . . under the laws of Ohio, with The Principal Office in Portsmouth, Ohio. Sounds all so very legal; in view of this new dignity all officers and directors should wear striped pants, spats and derby hats, eh? No—the step was far over-due. We have had need of this for months. Walter Keenan is the individual who engineered this—never stopped until it was an accomplished fact and a matter of state record.

The "Road to Hell" cut and story in the last issue of our little sheet went without giving credit to John Barsotti and buddy who loaned it to us. Thanks, John, and long may your artistic pen be a source of real pleasure to you.

MUZZLE BLASTS

Official Organ Of The
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
E. M. Farris ---------- Editor
N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

OFFICERS:

Boss Johnston ---------- President
Walter J. Keenan ---------- First Vice President
Powel Crosley, Jr. ---------- Second Vice President
Ralph Dunn ---------- Third Vice President
E. V. Menefee ---------- Executive Officer
E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio ---------- Secretary
Mrs. Tye Holcomb, Portsmouth, Ohio ---------- Treasurer

— PLATFORM —

Understanding of and ability in markmanship with early American muzzle loading firearms.

Match promotion for the purpose of advancing fine accuracy with these arms and to promote standard practices for competition.

Greater safety with all firearms, especially with muzzle loading rifles, pistols and shot guns.

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

To Members and Friends of
The National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association:

I'm having a heck of a time collecting my thoughts with the blue-winged teal sailing into Hogan Creek with the north wind.

I look across the valley to the little village of Wilmington on the western horizon. Here, fifty-two years ago come Thanksgiving, Uncle Alf took me with him horse-back to a turkey shoot. I saw bearded men carefully loading long-barreled rifles and arguing about breaking centers.

I have been with old men ever since. I love them, though the arguments are still going on.

Last night I sat on a hill overlooking Laughery Valley. In the creek below I heard Old Lead, my coon hound, sniffing on dry rocks, to keep from running a back track. As in a dream I saw a wilderness untouched by the hands of white men. I saw the first trapper's cabin, built in 1796. . . . .on yonder hill the signal fire of Blue Jacket, the Shawnee chief.

I saw the first log cabin store, built by Peter Ross at what is now Hartford, in the lower valley. In the latter years of the 17th century many more families floated down the Great River La Belle, so called by the French explorers, to find homes and neighbors in the rich and fertile valley.

On Christmas, 1804, the first meat shoot was held at Friendship. News of the Shoot was spread by word of mouth and around great wood fires the first settlers stamped cold feet, waiting for the match to start. I saw the Shawnees, driven from their homes and their hunting grounds by the march of civilization.

Again I saw men with long rifles coming into the Great Sugar Bowl. It was you. . . . . you, who were from far and near to shoot in the Annual Crosley-National Matches. It was YOU who made them.

I feel that much was done at our meeting to clear the way for greater development of the sport of our grandfathers.

I shall need your counsel and support to carry on this great program. May we of this modern age never forsake the honest principles of that race of sturdy men who originated here, in a wilderness, the oldest sport in America.

Till we meet again—keep your powder dry!

"BOSS" JOHNSTON.

QUOTE: "May I take this opportunity to thank you for sending me the copy of your new magazine, MUZZLE BLASTS. You are to be congratulated for this informative material which is carried in this magazine and I know that the boys who are interested in this type of sport will enjoy reading it. Please continue me on your mailing list." From Frank Rowe, Director Safety and Welfare, Wheeling Steel Corporation, Portsmouth, Ohio. (Mr. Rowe is responsible for a Plant Organ that is right smart keen itself, so we hope he is not overestimating our own beginner's efforts.)

Member F. C. Craighead, Washington, D.C., says: "Congratulations on MUZZLE BLASTS; it's well written and very informative." The editor and the printer take a bow!

CAMERAS to the right, left. . . . .before and behind us at Friendship! Several celebrities say they became gun-shy at so much snapping and posing. Put end to end, we bet the film used there would have reached around this terrestrial sphere—on the equator—and still leave a lap-over long enough for a four-in-hand knot. What's your guess? Mr. Cline sent us enlargements of Boss and Barton Rees Pogue . . . .in their take-it-easy duds. You couldn't buy these from me for dozens of ducats or for stacks of Sterling. Nix! Not much.

SIGHTS: Open, adjustable. The Directors passed this bit of legislation at their annual meeting: That the rule barring open sights with screw adjustments be withdrawn and such adjusting devices be permitted in OPEN SIGHT matches, retroactive to include scores shot in such matches in the present (1939) National Shoot. However, in all open sight matches the rear sight must be as wide at the top as at any other place.

This puts the matter clearly and should be met with the approval of the most liberal in sight-views. Front sights in "open sight matches" must be of the blade, bar, post or pinhead types. Trick gadgets will promptly be brought to the attention of the rules committee.



The above is the likeness of a rather unknown muzzle bug who took his hobby right into the game field last year, disdaining any modern contraption, other than safety pins to hold his license to the back of his coat. This illustration is offered in the hope that numerous of the fraternity will check up, oil up and go out with a double muzzle loader and get his game with same this season. It can be done—it may prove a bit messy to the hands and a bit slow on the second volley, but if we go out with the thought it is for fun and not for meat, then we can win, lose or draw and be sure the time in the fields was worth while in a big way.

POSTAL MATCH FOR NOVEMBER: Open to anyone; 100 yards, prone or bench rest, round ball, with ANY METALLIC SIGHTS. Five shots on each of two targets. Fee, $1 to members, $1.50 to non-members. Prizes: Cash split 30-20-10% of income. Targets ready upon receipt of this publication; to be back with secretary by the first day of December. This type match will be much in evidence this next season.

Bill Large held a Beef Shoot at Lawco Lake, near Ironton, October 22nd—killed and butchered the critter right on the range. Hall and Rhodes (Lima's hot shots) took home two quarters, as did Chas. Evans of Portsmouth. This surely did bring up thoughts of Beef Matches grand-dad used to tell about. Try it—a Beef Shoot.

IN THE FIELD, why not shoot the muzzle loading shot guns this season? You don't know fun until you have bagged game with an old front end loader. We speak from experience . . . got both bunnies and ringnecks last year, as did many of our brethren. Take the handicap and experience a new thrill.

At shoots where big crowds look on, run off-hand events. Spectators like to drop in a dime or two-bits for a shot. Give small merchandise prizes or a split of the income. Encourage beginners to "step up and shoot."

NEW MATCH NEXT YEAR

Next year we will bloom forth with a new team match that is most certain to find a whale of a following. The personnel is Team . . . teams of five from any state, shooting from prone or bench rest, round balls, any metallic sights. Right now is the proper time to begin assembling the proper equipment to give you a look-in under these conditions. Pennsylvania is sure to have a real sassy bunch out to show us the way in this; Canal Fulton and other groups in Ohio won't let this go unnoticed; Indiana surely will be getting sights that will give them the extra point or two per string; Illinois is about ready to tell us this will be pie for them; Kentucky, Missouri, Michigan—all should be in good trim for this new shooting.

This will be tagged **The Walter Cline Match.** You—everyone—will be given a chance to have a part in this. The list has been started with one buck—a simoleon—frogskin or whatever you name it there at home. Mrs. Holcomb will gladly take your offerings, brethren . . . the line forms here by the filing cabinet. When a sizeable amount is raised, we will ask help in selecting the Trophy. Send your bit to Mrs. Tye Holcomb, c/o N. & W. Ry. Y.M.C.A., Portsmouth, Ohio.

TRENDS AND TENDENCIES

Properly and with decorum we have made some radical changes . . . in the matter of sights. This goes to prove our contention that any movement—surely our own—is a great array of compromises. Adjustable open sights are with us, as elsewhere explained in this issue. Peep sights are to be allowed in some round ball matches in 1940—this because the Eastern Pennsylvania boys want to shoot with us and they scarcely know an open sight. So, what to do? All the guys and gals should be equipped with a full array of open and peep sights for the 1940 Matches, unless you want your fun restricted. We are sure to offer a state team event for round balls, any metallic sights at 100 yards. Pennsylvania has two strikes on other states before we go to bat in this, but let's have a great bit of competition even so. Don't say we didn't warn you!

MIAMI VALLEY SHOOT

November 23 (Thanksgiving Day—or is it?) The Miami Valley Game Association will hold a muzzle loading shoot—in connection with other features of the day at Tipp City. This is convenient to Dayton, Richmond, West Alex, Middletown, Springfield, Columbus and London. Surely it is not too far for our fans from Hillsboro, Cincinnati, Portsmouth, McConnelsville, Marion, Muncie, Lima and numerous other points of Ohio and Indiana. Tipp City is just a mile or two east of Dixie Highway, and some six miles south of Troy. The events: Flint Lock at 50 yards, Turkey at 30 yards, offhand at 50 yards, prone at 60 yards—all the foregoing open sight, round ball events. Then one "tough" item—prone or bench at 100 yards, any ball or bullet and any metallic sights.

Regardless of when or if you celebrate Thanksgiving, why not include this shoot in whatever else you do on the 23rd? The smoke will begin to roll about nine of the a. m. It's a live group that backs sporting events up and down this famous old valley. (Bring your old muzzle loading scatter guns, too.)

* * * * *

PIGEON HILL GUN CLUB held their Third Annual shoot on October 28th and 29th. This word came from C. W. Akerman, Jasper, Ind. Too bad this announcement did not come in for the October issue. Hope to publish results in tht December number, Mr. Ackerman.

* * * * *

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA is holding its Shoot November 12th. . . . This is an annual affair and colorful, plenty! Anyone wishing further details write Dr. Roy S. Horton, 113½ N. Main Street, Santa Ana.

* * * * *

WEST COAST RIFLE CLUB, San Diego, California, is holding some good old black powder events on December 31st. For particulars write Col. C. E. Stodter, 3223 James St., San Diego.

* * * * *

LOGAN, OHIO. On Friday, the 3rd of November we are all invited to Logan, Ohio for a great day—the final of a whole week of sports. We are particularly interested in the muzzle loading matches—one trophy for bulls-eye competition and some turkey events. The Chamber of Commerce is giving us a good spot and local sportsmen are lending a hand to give us us good facilities and handling. We hope to see 81-year-old Sylvester Brown, of that community, out with his trusty rifle. This young feller was given a fine write-up in the Cincinnati Post just recently: "Eighty-one year old Sylvester Brown brought out his trusty old muzzle loading rifle again this year and bagged three squirrels on the opening day of the season." That is better than many did with autos and pumps, eh?

TEN GOOD MEN AND TRUE

The following were elected to our Board of Directors for three years: W. M. Cline, Ralph Dunn, J. H. Lynch, E. M. Farris, Wm. McQuerry, H. M. Zeller, W. W. Tinney, H. A. Boltz, C. J. Kellum, Cecil Gardner. Each individual has his important and peculiar niche in our game. Some write, some are keen shooters, others promote and generally boost the activity wherever they have opportunity to raise the voice. We see in that list names of men to whom we often refer inquiries that are beyond our ken. Some are asked to look into the needs of a group that want to get muzzle activities under way. Not a single, solitary soul of the ten can be called a laggard (unless it be Number Four). We hope all will pull together and raise the standard of our great game.

THE DANIEL BOONERS of Portsmouth report having used up 40,000 of their specially printed X-center cards in the local matches of the past three years. These are much better than an "X" scratch on a charred board. . . . If you wish a sample, write to Jack Hood, Court House, Portsmouth, Ohio.

LEFT ON THE RANGE at Friendship: One tackle box with some powder containers in same. Some (Bonehead) buddy can have it if he will describe in detail and pay the express! Some helpful chap loaned the Turkey Shoot Supervisor a pair of dividers during one of the tight numbers . . . to whom may we return these? Someone handed us a spectacle case, too. Speak up—who belongs to 'em?

NATIONAL MATCH RESULTS

(Continued from Page 1)

C—Women

1. Mrs. H. A. Boltz 44
Radio, Gold Medal
2. Mrs. Tye Holcomb 44
Silver Medal
3. Mrs. Paul Stevens 41
Bronze Medal

Mrs. E. Williamson, 41; Mrs. B. P. Shirey, 40; Mrs. A. R. Miller, 39; Mrs. H. W. Porter, 35; Nola Reeder, 35; Mrs. Dewey Weiss, 33; Mrs. W. E. Grote, 5.

D—First Timers

1. Ellis Rhodes 43
Radio, Gold Medal
2. Albert Morris 43
Silver Medal
3. Seely C. Dart 41
Bronze Medal

J. W. Campbell, 36; J. H. Berner, 32; W. E. Dillon, 28; Fred Mahood, 27; Dr. E. P. Zeumer, 20; Jimmie Dixon, 19; R. R. Robison, 5.

SHOOT-OFF FOR CROSLEY CUP
Three Winners in Each of Above Being Eligible

1. Andy Whitehurst 47
Crosley Cup, Gold Medal
Also won in 1938—Now has two legs on this great Trophy!
2. Zack Lindley 44
3. Ralph Dunn 43

Mrs. Paul Stevens, 43; Ellis Rhodes, 41; Walter Keenan, 40; E. I. Hasty, 40; Ralph D. Hall, 40; Mrs. Tye Holcomb, 33; Mrs. H. A. Boltz, 21; Albert Morris, 10. Seely Dart did not remain for the Shoot-off.

MATCH 2
POWELL & CLEMENT FLINT LOCK

1. Wm. Large 46
Radio, Gold Medal, Trophy
2. H. W. Porter 43
Silver Medal
3. A. C. Cross 43
Bronze Medal

C. R. Ramsey, 42; W. Lawrence, 41; W. J. Keenan, 41; A. N. Clemmer, 41; C. R. Turner, 40; Don Coble, 39; Mrs. H. W. Porter, 39; E. M. Farris, 37; W. H. Pulford Jr., 36; W. H. Pulford Sr., 34; E. Harper, 32; J. E. Miller, 8.

MATCH 3—BOSS JOHNSTON

1. H. M. Porter 48-50 98
Trophy, Gold Medal
2. Lloyd Bender 49-49 98
Silver Medal
3. R. S. Hill 49-49 98
Bronze Medal

(Ties Broken by Rules of NMLRA)

E. J. Holmes, 97; W. E. Grote, 96; W. A. Creamer, 94; B. P. Shirey, 94; H. J. Rhodes, 93; Ralph Hall, 93; Wm. McQuerry, 93; Dr. Raymond Gorning, 91; F. W. Sheper, 89; H. L. Copp, 89; J. W. Campbell, 87; Fred Campbell, 86; J. M. Ruckman, 86; Mrs. B. P. Shirey, 82; E. Williamson, 56; R. E. Long, 56; W. H. Pulford Sr., 22.

MATCH 4—FRANTZ ROSENBERG

1. Lloyd Bender 43-46 89
Trophy, Gold Medal
2. Don Coble 42-47 89
Silver Medal
3. Walter Lawrence 24-44 69
Bronze Medal

Wm. McQuerry, 59; Ralph Hall, 35; W. E. Grote, 24.

MATCH 5
JOHN MENCH OFFHAND

1. Walter Lawrence 38
Trophy, Gold Medal
2. J. E. Miller 38
Silver Medal
3. H. W. Porter 37
Bronze Medal

Stan Johnson, 36; Preston Cain, 30; Don Coble, 29; C. A. Burrows, 24; Jess Johnson, 23; Wm. McQuerry, 18.

MATCH 6
BOLLES-BRENDAMOUR

1. Ralph Dunn 48
Trophy, Gold Medal
2. L. M. Wolfe 46
Silver Medal
3. R. E. Harper 45
Bronze Medal

Don Coble, 45 (2 8's); Wm. McQuerry, 44; E. R. Black, 44; W. E. Foust, 44; E. Williamson, 42; Ralph Hall, 42; W. Lawrence, 41; C. C. Mahoney, 41; H. W. Porter, 41; C. R. Ramsey, 40; Seeley C. Dart, 40; E. I. Hasty, 40; Zack Lindley, 40; Preston Cain, 39; V. Hedges, 38; Earl Harper, 37; A. C. Cross, 28.

MATCH 7—HEIGHTSHOE
220 Yards

1. Lloyd Bender 96
Trophy, Gold Medal
(Also won this Match in 1938)
2. B. P. Shirey 95
Silver Medal
3. H. W. Porter 93
Bronze Medal

D. Weiss, 93; Ralph Hall, 91; W. E. Grote, 90; Wm. McQuery, 90; H. J. Rhodes, 88; Guy Burch, 87; Wm. H. Pulford Sr., 81; W. Creamer, 65.

MATCH 8
BROCKWAY MEMORIAL
220 Yards—String Measure

1. H. W. Porter ..... 15 1-16 Inches
Gold Medal
2. F. Campbell ..... 18 9-16 Inches
Silver Medal
3. W. E. Grote ..... 21⅝ Inches
Bronze Medal

Lloyd Bender, 23 3-16; Ralph Hall, 23⅝; W. A. Creamer, 28 7-16; Wm. McQuerry, 33 8-16; A. C. Cross, 38⅛; E. Williamson, 40⅜; J. C. Daily, 51⅜; Dr. Raymond Gorning, 59⅛.

MATCH 9—SIMON KENTON

1. H. J. Rhodes 44
Trophy, Gold Medal
2. Stanley Johnson 34
Silver Medal
3. H. L. Copp 33
Bronze Medal

Lloyd Bender, 32; Don Coble, 31; W. E. Grote, 31; E. R. Black, 31; Dr. E. P. Zeumer, 31; J. E. Miller, 30; Preston Cain, 30; Stanley Carpenter, 30; Wm. McQuerry, 30; E. Williamson, 28; W. L. Lawrence, 28· H. W. Porter, 25; Dewey Weiss, 22; Ralph Hall, 16.

MATCH 11—NIEDNER

1. Lloyd Bender 42
Gold Medal
2. Don Coble 40
Silver Medal
3. Walter Lawrence 39
Bronze Medal

Wm. McQuerry, 36; Ralph Hall, 33; R. E. Harper, 30; Lou Cowher, 27; E. J. Holmes, 24; J. E. Miller, 21.

MATCH 12—CAP & BALL PISTOLS

1. Wm. McQuerry 94
Gold Medal
2. Joe Lamping 91
Silver Medal
3. Lloyd Bender 91
Bronze Medal

John Barsotti, 90; Paul Long, 89; O. O. Bush, 88; Al Steuer, 87; C. P. Heaton, 82; W. C. Brien, 82; J. L. Jessup, 76; G. Glenn, 25; W. A. Creamer, 74.

MATCH 13—SQUIRREL RIFLE

1. E. I. Hasty 45
Gold Medal
2. Lou Cowher 45
Silver Medal
3. W. E. Foust 44
Bronze Medal

Don Coble, 43; E. R. Black, 43; Ralph Dunn, 43; H. A. Boltz, 42; H. L. Copp, 41; J. W. Willson, 41; Seeley Dart, 40; J. Johnson, 39; C. Turner, 38; A. N. Clemmer, 32; W. E. Grote, 32; Elmore Light, 27.

MATCH 15—CROSLEY ARTISTS

1. Ed Mason 26
Coon Dog Trophy
2. George Biggars 14
3. Scott Wiseman 7
4. Barton Rees Pogue 6
5. Wm. Gunther 5

SPECIAL—MEN OVER 70

1. E. I. Hasty 45
Gold Medal
2. A. N. Clemmer 44
Silver Medal
3. Elmore Light 44
Bronze Medal

O. C. Anderson, 37; F. W. Sheper, 36; G. W. Frazier, 36.

SPECIAL—DOCTORS

1. Claude Lomax 37
Gold Medal
2. J. M. Ruckman 36
Silver Medal
3. E. Hoffman 32

Raymond Gorning, 29; A. Zeumer, 16.

SPECIAL—JUNIORS

1. Jimmie Dixon 42
Medal
2. Joe Barnes 40
3. Henry A. Dillon 37

WOMEN'S TEAM
ANNIE OAKLEY TROPHY
Ohio

Mrs. Tye Holcomb	47
Mrs. E. Williamson	47
Mrs. B. P. Shirey	45
Mrs. Lloyd Bender	44
Mrs. Dewey Weiss	42
	225
Handicap (Peep Sights)	10
	215

INDIANA

Mrs. Arch Miller	43
Mrs. Paul Stevens	43

(Continued on Page 6)

BUCK SHOT

Buck shot ain't just buck shot . . . from our records they are compressed shot (moulded) running in size from .23 in. up—by irregular jumps—to .68 in. The moulds must surely cast great numbers of a size at one time. Like the kind one casts in the basement or in the garage work shop, they come out with fins or feathers on them. The shot mill wears off this useless appurtenance by filling a great tumbler and setting it a-rolling. This operation does wear off the fin, but it also gives the ball many tiny flats, which would seem to throw it badly out of round. However, those of us who have been too lazy to mould our own have found that these spheres of lead do very well in short range matches. We contend that the upsettage is sufficient to drive the base of the ball—the portion next to the powder—drive it so hard that flats become of little consequence, since the ball now becomes something of an enlongated projectile. If we are correct, then the roundest round balls that go into a barrel come out anything but round. . . . What do YOU think? These columns are open for both sides of the question, gentlemen.

AS TO GUNS.—There are pocket guns, holster guns, shoulder guns, guns on wheels and flat car guns. Bull Ramsey has the latter. It weighs 52 pounds and takes six (6) drams of black powder for one meal. Bull shoots it—never mentions the punishment. Mrs. Tye Holcomb also shot it at the Matches this year. Score was very good. The gun will shoot, never doubt it. Asked about the kick of the great gun, Mrs. Holcomb said there was no real kick, but a heap of healthy push! A charge double that used in 16-gauge shot gun shells—well, we should think there would be SOMETHING happen!

ERROR. There was no shoot booked for Cos Cob, Conn., October 8th. Our October calendar carried the item, but the matches were to have been at a different location . . . then called off. Several of our members are requested to accept this explanation . . . hold the seck for any disappointment the mix-up may have caused.

Plan now for the 1940 vacation . . . at the WLW-National Shoot! While we hold the press for this last paragraph, we are still thinking of the Harting Farm, there in Laughery Valley. If Mr. and Mrs. Harting will accept the big bundle of thanks by this means, we can honestly say "It's from the 150 shooters and hundreds of visitors who came down into the Sugar Bowl during our three days of competition with the old smoke poles . . . may we meet again!"

1940 WLW-NATIONAL MATCHES

No need for us to think we can successfully buck the World Series. Either the Series was too close to us this year or vice versa. Two good men could not be with us—Frank Dine and POWEL CROSLEY! Mr. Crosley is the type who would like to bust loose with a long gun and make a scattered group of holes in a target, we do believe. But one can't sit back in a box seat and watch two great ball teams battling and at the same time be shooting with us. You just can't do it. So, it behooves us to plan for dates next Fall that will be either ahead of or later than the Series. We gotta have our good friend Mr. Crosley on the firing line.

JOHN BARSOTTI gave some fine attention to the pistol range. He reports more entrants and scores being well above former years. We can see where this branch of the game is going to enjoy a big popularity in the future . . . deservedly so, since it is being proven that many of the old guns can be made to perform uncannily. Barsotti enthuses a bit over the fact that Adolph Niedner's new and unusual side-slapper action single shot won with a 94x100. Every piece of this arm was a Niedner product. Mr. Jessup fired a pistol made by himself, too. Others in the lineup were Remingtons, a Colt, a Whitney and one splendid French target pistol. See score sheet for details.

THE KENTUCKY RIFLE, by Capt. J. G. W. Dillin, may now be had through this office or direct from the author. A few will be kept on hand to fill orders. The volume should be in the library of every shooter or collector. Price with us is $6.

BOSS JOHNSTON—he who so nobly boosts our game via the ether—recently achieved undying fame—almost. Along with Mr. Crosley he was mentioned in The Saturday Evening Post, but by some sour twist of fate he was called "Mr. Thompson." Hunt up your back issues and get the particulars. Calls it a whale of a big chance gone wrong.

(Continued from Page 5)

Mrs. Hugh Scott	41
Mrs. Norman Sheldon	40
Mrs. Ethel Monroe	37
	204

Silver Medals to Winning Team
Also shot: Mrs. Wm. McQuerry, 36; Mrs. W. E. Grote, 30; Mrs. C. Lomax, 22; Mrs. H. W. Porter, 37; Mrs. Brown, 23; Mrs. Boltz, 21.

MATCH 10—STATE TEAMS
(Only Ohio Entered)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be Ten ($10.00) dollars; half page, Fifteen ($15.00) dollars; full page, Twenty-five ($25.00) dollars.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

FOR SALE: New DeLuxe "HANDEE," about 40 accessories. WANT 44½ .32-20, .25-20, or barrels or actions only. **B. Tomlinson, Lebanon, Indiana.**

TURKEY TARGETS . . . a mild sensation at Annual Matches. Heavy stock. Develops offhand. The spectators clamor for a shot at your matches; brings in the dimes. Price 3c each. RAMRODS, plain hickory, while they last, 50c. STOCK BLANKS, birdseye or curly, $3.50 up. Four flint locks—restore the old gun to its original—$8, $8.50, $9. POWDER, CAPS, BUCK SHOT, BIRD SHOT, PAPER AND FELT WADS. **E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio.**

OLD TIME walnut rifling guide, eight grooves, turn in 36 inches; condition like new. **C. R. "Bull" Ramsey, 3106 Gallia St., Portsmouth, Ohio.**

FLINT LOCK RIFLE . . fine shooting condition, big patch box, wood in excellent condition, open sights, lock a sure-fire. Bore newly freshed out, calibre .40 . . . for shooting and showing. **E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio.**

Mrs Alberta Bender x
256 Clymer st
Galion Ohio

Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, DECEMBER, 1939 No. 4

THE LIFE OF ANNIE OAKLEY

BY MAJOR WALTER J. KEENAN

ANNIE OAKLEY
Born at Willowdell (near Brock) Darke County, Ohio, September, 1860. Died November 3, 1926. Buried in Brock Cemetery, Darke County. (Data furnished by her brother, J. H. Moses, Greenville, Ohio.)

Probably William Large, one of our great cap and ball shooters, did not realize when he presented a prize called the Annie Oakley Trophy to the women competitors of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, that he was not only doing honor to the ladies that competed, but to the woman herself, who made history some thirty-five years ago in the most remarkable rifle and shotgun shooting that was ever seen. Much was due this young woman, then, for teaching many men and women the art of shooting. Miss Oakley deserved credit not only for setting an example to every boy and girl in the country, but for the way she conducted herself during all the many years of her shooting.

She was born near the little town of Brock, Ohio, 12 miles north of Greenville, and spent her early girlhood hunting and bagging game and sending it to the markets at Cincinnati, Chicago, Dayton and a number of other prominent cities, and it was then that she adopted the name of A. Oakley in order to disguise her identity and to help her father and family. She used this "non-de-plume" so they would not find out that she was a girl.

Annie Oakley's life is a grand example of the nobility and purity of American womanhood. She commanded, after becoming well known, as much respect and attention as any of the Presidents, and when returning from her triumphal trip abroad, Miss Oakley received a wonderful ovation. The present generation has rather a vague recollection of Annie Oakley and her great prowess with the rifle and shotgun, but those whose memory takes them back over a quarter of a century know what a wonder she was with firearms. It was a wonderful collection of shooters, many years ago, that Col. Cody (Buffalo Bill) gathered about him, such as Johnny Baker, Dr. Carver, himself—but the greatest of all was "Little Sure Shot" as Miss Oakley was known, this name having been given her by old Sitting Bull. Of the twenty-eight years that Miss Oakley had been before the public, seventeen of these were spent with Buffalo Bill in the Wild West

(Continued on Page 6)



Annie Oakley in Wild West costume, early in her public career. (Photo furnished by Walter Keenan.)

MUZZLE BLASTS

Official Organ Of The
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
E. M. Farris ---------- Editor
N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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— PLATFORM —

Understanding of and ability in markmanship with early American muzzle loading firearms.

Match promotion for the purpose of advancing fine accuracy with these arms and to promote standard practices for competition.

Greater safety with all firearms, especially with muzzle loading rifles, pistols and shot guns.

We never predicted an earthquake, we can't read a slide rule, never won a Pulitzer prize and don't pretend to be able to chart the future as does Babson or Colonel Ayers—but, we say with conviction that this muzzle loading publication has a future—IF.

MUZZLE BLASTS already has outgrown its first pair o' pants. We might as well admit it—we are now a six-pager rather than four if we find ways and means to finance the extra printer's bill. (Printers work at so much per, just about as do the brickmasons or day laborers.) "But how increase the income?" you say.

Two ways are open—(1) more memberships and (2) more advertising. We feel sure we can get the advertising when it is seen how this sheet gets into the hands of the shooters. The issue now in your hands will prove that we have tapped some good sources. But membership—it is here we need the help of every friend and supporter. With or without membership blanks we suggest you contact your fellow club members and shooting friends and with short-and-sweet sales talks, get their dollars and send in the data—we will get them their credentials and a copy of our MUZZLE BLASTS pronto.

Consider—where else could you get a first-hand Annie Oakley story; an article—with permission of the author—by a former governor (see January issue); authoritative information on relined barrels and a chance to read news about shoots, club activities, new wrinkles and kinks—all for one dollar a year?

Likely it will be news to many within the membership, that we do not pay any salaries and call in very little help from clerks or stenographers. . . . If the editorial staff works without remuneration, then you of the brotherhood surely can do no less than build up this income-from-membership. With your help we can go places—fast!

We want—all of us—to tell Major (right, he's entitled to the rank) Walter Keenan how we appreciate his Annie Oakley story, beginning in this issue. He gives us some new and interesting angles on the life of this grand little lady. Such stories as this will make ours a mighty valuable publication to more folks than just shooters, and we hope Mr. Keenan has opened the way for a long stream of authentic articles on characters and incidents that each of us will be glad to file and cherish.

What you may expect in forthcoming issues: second installment of Mr. Keenan's "ANNIE OAKLEY story; an article on flint napping by "the boss napper"—the party who handles the affairs of that group which still makes gun flints in England; a review of the gunsmith situation by one of our active members; more good work from the pen of John Barsotti, our artist and pistol director.

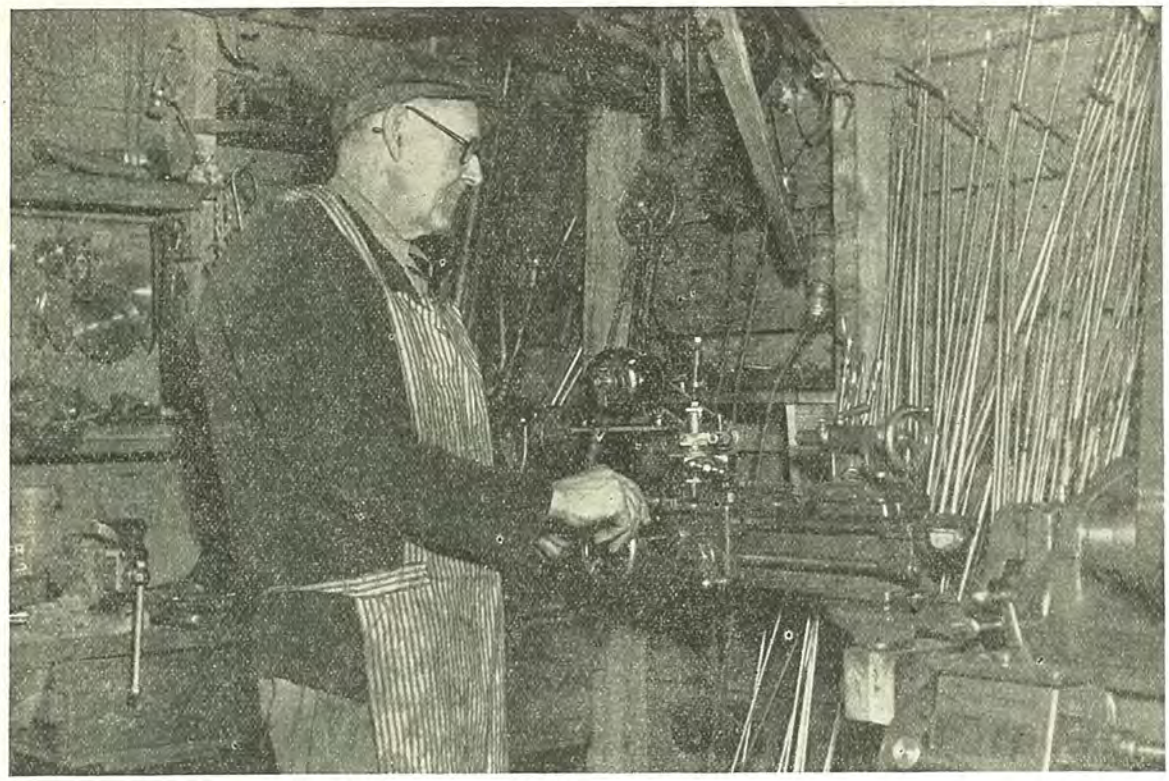
President Boss Johnston has appointed John Barsotti, Columbus, director of our pistol and revolver activities. We believe this activity is in good hands and that John will tie in the loose ends as we have not been able to do thus far. He can find able helpers in Al Steuer, Ralph Hall, McQuerry, Bender and others.

KEEP US POSTED WITH THE DATES OF YOUR SHOOTS! It is more important to announce the dates and conditions than the results —so keep those dates and details coming in.

"CHRISTMAS GREETINGS" to all our members and friends; we hope your 1940 scores are up to highest expectations.

—The Editorial Force.

BOOK REVIEW. The Arms Collectors of the United States — by Captain Virgil Ney. This 96-page book caused the book-reviewer to take a second look. It isn't "just another gun book;" it is a sincere and well-developed effort to bring to the fraternity the names of gun collectors all over the nation. In the Museum Directory thirty-three of the leading museums of the country are treated—some briefly, some at length. The story about the Hawken-Gemmer gun shop will add much to the gun lore all of us have often wished for—but which few took pains to tie down and brand. Other topics given good attention and treatment are: Antique Gun Hunting, A Hobby; Photo Reference Section; Preservation of Arms; Advertising Section. This last named will prove helpful to those who want some information or some service by those who are collectors, restorers or outfitters. This book already is bearing our thumb marks—proof it is being extensively used.



The above is a likeness of D. C. Addicks, in his shop at Rome, Georgia. Here is one man who fusses around with guns because he loves to make them function when they seem to have gone the "way of all flesh." The items he gets in may be rusted, busted and scale-incrusted—but they all go out in good shooting condition. He will bore a barrel out by machine, but he insists he has to "feel" during the process of rifling, so uses the slow-but-sure method of hand cutting. That expansive array of rods behind the machine at which he is working—they are rods with "cutters" on the end . . . many used but once and never again to be inserted in a barrel. But not to be thrown away, for these gunsmiths are folks who hang on to every piece of equipment, "just in case." Repairs to shotguns that many would call a waste of time are duck soup for Addicks—he does what the other fellow declares is impossible. He's that kind of a feller . . . . patient, deep-thinking, persevering, and no small bit of a scientist-philosopher.—The Editor.

The November issue carried some material pertaining to hunting the rabbits and birds with muzzle loaders. We know many outfits took to the stubble and brush with this type of firearm this season. Tried to learn what came to bag, but found only two nimrods willing to talk. Ben Cross, Portsmouth, Ohio, admitted—proudly—he got the limit of rabbits—four. The same chap who bloomed out so largely in the November MUZZLE BLASTS admitted he got four rabbits and two cock pheasants by two-thirty-five p. m., having started hunting at noon. Luck?—Sure. But it was fun, we do admit! Try it, you "moderns."

Bill Knepp, San Fernado, Calif., a dropper-in on us this summer, grabbed off a nice bit of the wins at the Southern California shoot early in November. Fact is he led the horde in the flintlock, the open sight at 50 yards and the open at 100 yards. S. R. Siebert of San Diego won the pistol match 47x50; Harry Mann, Palm Springs, won the revolver event with 45x50. Bud Sackett and Dr. Roy Horton—many will recall them and their caravan at Rising Sun in 1937—were right on deck and doing their part. These two worthies admit they will go to San Diego on December 31st and do a bit of demonstrating for the boys there; Col. C. E. Stodter has asked them to do this. We hope our friends and members there where-the-ships-come-in will rally 'round and get their club going in the patch-and-ball game.

WHAT FAMILY OF THREE will accept a challenge for a match—one in which offhand at a short range and prone or bench at 60 or 100 yards likely would be required? Grandpa Jess Johnson, Papa Stanley Johnson and Kid Clyde Johnson—all of West Alexandria, Ohio, will agree to some such match if competition can be found.

Just casting about for possible contenders we think of the group of Mogels over at Shartlesville, Pa. Then there is Dr. Jenson and two sons at Colby, Kansas—sounds like a good combination. Then, of course, there are the Boohers—father and five sons. Drop us a word if you are interested.

Which brings up thoughts of competition between two other groups—mixed doubles (husband and wife) and postal matches between clubs. If husbands and wives would like some shooting via postal this winter, let's hear from you. Surely would like to see the Pa and Ma Boltz pair, who won the Williamson Trophy at Dillsboro, team up in competition with the Williamsons, the Grotes, the Porters, the McQuerrys, the Benders, the Shireys, the Stevens, the Arch Millers, the Weiss couple, Dr. and Mrs. Lomax, Shorty Sheldon and wife, the Scotts, the Monroes and the Holcombs. For "naturals" in clubs, why not the Lewistown—Pennsylvania and Montana—aggregations tangle? I believe the Dan'l Booners of Portsmouth would be willing to tackle Marion (Indiana) boys on X-centers at 60 yards, and like it—win, lose or draw. And how about Canal Fulton vs. Santa Ana? California may have it on the Buckeyes in climate, but it remains to be seen do they chew up the X-ring with greater dexterity. Our office is willing to help, so start the ball a-rolling.

Muzzle Loading Rifle Matches Since 1812

BY WM. McQUERRY

Those people who still have any regard for the old customs and traditions of our forefathers may be interested to know that there is an organization of men who meet on the first and third Sundays of each month to keep alive the old and romantic cap and ball muzzle loading rifle matches, so necessary to the well-being of the pioneers and their families.

In 1808 Jonathon Mitchener came from Pennsylvania and marked the boundary lines of a large tract of land near Canal Fulton; with him came Joseph Hobson whose daughter later became the wife of Mitchener.

After marking out the tract of land they went back to Pennsylvania and Mr. Mitchener got his possessions together and returned to Ohio and built himself a large cabin below a spring which flowed through his cellar; the cellar was large enough to accommodate all the live stock in time of Indian trouble.

However, the Mitcheners and Hobsons being Quakers, they had very little trouble with the red men; in fact, two braves by the name of Tomoko and Little Coon, of the Leni Lenape tribe and belonging to the Turkey clan, were great friends of Jonathon Mitchener.

Mrs. Jonathon Mitchener always tried to keep a supply of baked potatoes on hand as the Indians were very fond of them. Many matches were held between the white men and Indians. The white men almost invariably won as they had better rifles than the Indians; also, they took better care of their guns and did a lot more shooting.

Even though the Indians lost the matches, they always enjoyed them, and an Indian camping ground on the Mitchener place near the old Beaver dam was very popular.

Today the red man no longer follows the old trail, which later became a cross country stage line, and is still plainly visible.

In the year of 1812 enough settlers were on hand to form a protective group and muzzle loading rifle matches became one of the most popular sports, and was participated in by almost every able-bodied man and were encouraged by the older men, as good marksmanship was very necessary for protection as well as a full larder. A man's family often depended almost altogether on his hunting ability for something to eat, as stores were very far apart.

Within view of the original site of Jonathon Mitchener's home, and now occupied by his grandson's wife (a very gracious lady who has lived long and seen much), is a rifle range maintained by this group of men today who shoot muzzle loading, cap and ball rifles exclusively. The hardy sons of the old Pioneers are still proud of their heritage and do not intend to let the old customs and traditions become a thing of the past. On the first and third Sundays of each month Matches are held for merchandise.

In the fall several old-time Turkey and Chicken matches are held. A large annual match has been held on July 4th for a good many years. However, interest has grown by leaps and bounds and for the last three years a two-day shoot has been held. This year it lasted three days.

There are matches at all ranges for all types of muzzle loading rifles. Many beautiful trophies and medals are given the winners of the different events.

Some of the members of the club are more than eighty years old and still able to shoot the center out with the old time guns. For more than a century the Myers family of Canal Fulton have taken great interest in this sport and are probably responsible for keeping it alive more so than anyone else.

This is the only club in the U. S. where the old rifles have been used in matches continuously for so long a period.

At a rifle match on the Arntz farm in 1907, Charlie Myers and his brother Clate attended and shot for a beef, one quarter in each round. Clate, the eldest (he is now seventy-six), won one front quarter, Charlie won the other three quarters, also the hide which he proceeded to put up against one dollar and take all comers. He won the hide back thirteen times, also thirteen dollars; plenty of living witnesses were there and testify to this. A lot of famous gun makers lived within 20 miles of Canal Fulton; Shantz, Clutz, Werntz, Waltz, Swartz, Aumstutz, of Swiss extraction. Note the names ending in "z."

Also Biddle, Snyder, Pessel, Kittinger, and others made the old-time rifles in this district.

Whiskey sold for 12c per gallon, and a drink could be had at any of the old-time matches for 3c per gill. Many exercised this privilege and lost matches.

The old-timers did their shooting at wood boards, with a cross carved in the center, until paper became more plentiful.

One trick of unprincipled competitors was to drop a small piece of rosin down a brother shooter's gun barrel, rendering the gun unfit to hit the side of the proverbial barn, and as ordinary cleaning methods would not remove it, the owner was out of luck for that day.

However, we are glad to say such low practices are a thing of the past. Everyone interested in seeing a lot of fine old guns and fine old men are invited to come out.

Visitors are always welcome and ample parking room is available.

(Canal Fulton is north of Massillon, Ohio. Anyone there can direct a visitor to the range.—Ed.)

POEM

BY R. D. BLOCK

Cold Springs, Indiana

(Dedicated to Boss Johnston and his Muzzle Loading Rabbit Hunters)

A man who found each day the same;
Who thought his life was much too tame,
Decided he would hunt some game—
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

He got a gun from his grand-dad,
Who owned it since he was a lad.
No mule could kick you half so bad—
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

Through the gap he made his way;
He stubbed his toe and stopped to say
He was a so-and-so, that day—
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

A rabbit dozing in the sun
Decided it was time to run
Before the man could cock his gun—
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

Across the field it made a dash;
The hunter saw it in a flash
And thought he would have rabbit-hash;
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

His aim was good—his stance was not,
So that is why he missed the shot
And landed on the softest spot—
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

He lost his hat in a briar patch;
Wiped the blood from a briar scratch
And said some words I did not catch.
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

The rabbit ran across the hill—
It ran right by the old saw-mill.
In fact. I think it's running still.
Down in Ol' Kentucky.

Earl Harper and the editor had heaps of fun at Logan's shoot, the final day of their week of sports events. Our turkey match—at the paper bird—brought us a surprise, when the Chamber of Commerce delivered two live birds for the competition. Mr. Matheney attached himself to one with some neat grouping and the modest typist of these notes somehow got the other. Harper got the cup—also by liberality of the Chamber of Commerce—for aggregate. Logan really staged a great week of a variety of events. . . . President Boss and the secretary were glad to have had a part in the doings. We hope to see a muzzle loading club at that point very soon—there's a lot of ability being wasted up there!

Re-Lining Gun Barrels

BY WALTER M. CLINE

The following description of using a liner in rifle barrels is taken from "An Essay on Shooting" published in 1789. This description indicates that the use of a liner is almost as old as gun-making itself.

It seems, from available information and data, that the French were the first to use this system. The process used by the Franch workmen is as follows: A plate of iron, about the twelfth part of an inch in thickness was turned around a mandril and welded its whole length in the same manner as a plain barrel. Upon this small and light barrel, which is called a lining, a plate of iron about an inch in breadth and beveled at the edges was rolled in a spiral by means of successive heats. This spiral was termed the "ribbon" and its thickness governed the weight of the barrel desired. As a ribbon of sufficient length to cover the lining from one end to the other would be difficult to manage, it was formed in several pieces, and as soon as one piece was nearly rolled on another was welded to it and the operation continued until the whole lining was covered. The edges were so beveled that one edge overlapped the other by a quarter of an inch. When the ribbon was all rolled on, the barrel was heated to a welding heat and the turns of the spiral united to each other and to the lining, the same as in welding a plain barrel.

A workman by the name of Barrois, who worked in Paris between the years 1760 and 1780 used a system resembling somewhat the manner of the workmen in America, inasmuch as he soldered a wrapping of small wire around the outside of the liner, which he then dressed down and smoothed off—then he applied a second layer of wire, which was treated in the same manner. As many as three layers of wire were often soldered around the outside of the liner. It was then smoothed down and finished in the usual manner.

An English workman by the name of Fuller made barrels in 1780 with a lining of steel, and others made them of alternate layers of steel and iron.

Brockway was an advocate of relining barrels, as was also Ramsdell. The restoring of the muzzle loading rifles by relining them when the bore is gone is a fine way of reclaiming these fine old arms. Rifles by famous makers that have been bored smooth for shot, or rusted out, have been restored to fine accuracy by this process and are now heard from in the matches, winning their share of the prizes.

"10-X's AT SHARTLESVILLE"

By Don Coble

Billy Younker waited for the billowing clouds of powder smoke to drift aside, then peered through his spotting scope at the bullseye 100 yards down the range. He smiled broadly, for the big .55 calibre bullet had removed the last dotted portion of the X-ring, and the five shots just fired would do credit to the finest of the super-accurate rifles of today.

Those boys from Shartlesville can shoot! Their great-grandfathers shot these same 25-to-40 pound rifles in the flintlock days, and a few of the old flintlock rifles are still used with accuracy as fine as the percussion locks, which are in the majority at Shartlesville. All shooting is from bench rest, with peep sights, and the bores range from .52 to .65 calibre. Patching is of heavy canvas and the balls are driven into the muzzle very tightly with a mallet and a starting rod. The powder is FFg granulation, black, and very heavy charges are used. Five shot "possibles" are common at 100 yards and the shooting is so close and keen that string-measure must often be resorted to in determining the winner.

At the 1939 Annual New Year's Day turkey shoot every prize was won with an X-10 at 100 yards and, of the twenty shooters present, half of them would be in the 10-ring every time. Such accuracy with round ball guns seems unbelievable until it is actually witnessed. From their Pennsylvania Dutch ancestors these riflemen have inherited such exceptional skill with muzzle loaders that it places them in a class by themselves. It is hoped that the 1940 National Shoot will find a state team from this club competing for the Walter M. Cline Trophy.

NOTES ON UNITED STATES ORDNANCE. This is the title covering two volumes by Captain James E. Hicks, 428 Rich Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Volume I treats of small arms, 1776-1936; Volume II deals with Ordnance Correspondence, 1781-1866. Each volume is listed at $4.50. What "bug" but would spend long evenings with this pair of books? Harper's Ferry items are given particular attention. "Kentucky" rifles come in for keen treatment. Pistol collectors will appreciate the data that has been assembled. Deliveries are to be made as soon as the publisher can get sets ready, but it isn't a bit too early to place your order.

FRANTZ ROSENBERG writes us from a ring-side war arena seat of the difficulties over there. We can be glad we are Americans! But the one thing we want to convey from this great sportsman's letter is the information about game in Norway. Quote: "I have just returned from a most successful shooting trip in the southern mountains here. The weather was simply wonderful all the time, warm as in mid-July, and I never in my experience have seen so many reindeer as this season. One day I was in contact with no less than nine big herds, some of them numbering more than 250, and lots of big stags, so I could pick and choose. Had some interesting stalks and bagged six good stags . . . five with one shot each, at ranges up to 350 yards. I was using a fine 9.3 millimeter Mauser with a wood block in the magazine to comply with the game regulations calling for non-magazine rifles. . . . Since the deer have increased so much, I think I shall next season try to bag some reindeer with one of my muzzle loaders." And don't think we had to translate from the Norwegian to the English—Frantz handles our English a bit better than the average American. We have a promise of some contributions for our MUZZLE BLASTS ere long. Thanx, Frantz, and may you not delay those manuscripts too long.

MIAMI VALLEY RESULTS

Herewith belated reports on the Miami Valley Muzzle Loading Rifle Championship (Dayton, Ohio). Match No.1, Wm. A. Shroyer Trophy—Stan Carpenter, 82, trophy, gold medal and cash; Stan Johnson, 81, silver medal and cash; Homer Jacobs, 72, bronze medal and cash. Match No. 2, Fifty yards, Earl Harper, 46, $8; Ralph Hall, 46, $4.80; Stan Johnson, 46, $3.20. Match No. 3, Hundred yards—E. R. Black, 46, $2.50; Earl Harper, 45, $1.50; H. J. Rhodes, 42, $1.00. Match No. 4—Mrs. B. P. Shirey, 50, gold medal and $1.; W. A. Creamer, 50, silver medal and 60c; B. P. Shirey, 47, bronze medal and 40c. Match No. 5, The Albert Hahne Match—B. P. Shirey, 50, gold medal and $1.25; W. A. Creamer, 48, silver medal and 75c; R. W. Forney, bronze medal and 50c. Match No. 6, Flint Lock—W. J. Keenan, 42, medal and 75c; Earl Harper, 35, 45c; O. W. Jones, 16, 30c. Match No. 7, Ladies' Match—Mrs. A. R. Miller, 44, medal and 60c; Mrs. E. B. Monroe, 41, 40c. Match No. 8, Cap & Ball Pistol—E. H. James, 46, medal and $1.87; Ralph Hall, 46, $1.12; W. O. O'Brien, 45, 75c.

Thirty-nine registered for these events. Some "big shots" did not win a thin dime, we note, while some new names are seen in the high three. We wish the promoters as much—and more — success in their 1940 Shoot.

Photos by M. G. VanWay taken at Friendship this year may be had in 8x10 glossy prints at $1 each. Address Mr. VanWay at Shelbyville, Ind. The group of men over seventy, of F. W. Scheper, Jackson, Mo. (this is a fine photo of an old-timer), of Mrs. Holcomb on the bench rest, of Zack Lindley with his fine 5-shot group, Bull Ramsey with his drive-shaft gun, and others are available. We bespeak your patronage for Mr. Van.

LIFE OF ANNIE OAKLEY

(Continued from Page 1)

show, and in her travels she hobnobbed with kings, queens and emperors; in fact, she was feted in nearly every country in which she performed.

At every opportunity she took out the old cap and ball rifle or shot gun and usually brought back the game she went after. After using the old arms for a number of years, she was introduced to the breech loading, single barrel gun and finally grew up with the modern guns. Much of the game she bagged was exchanged by the father for groceries, in Greenville, to provide for the large family. She continued in this vocation until her ability was discovered and then had so many offers she decided to cast her lot with Col. Cody, who was then just starting out. However, shortly before this she met Frank Butler, who was also a good trick shot, and the pair soon signed up with Col. Cody. She was married at the age of sixteen.

After meeting Col. Cody and traveling with his show, she improved her education greatly, but none knew better than she how hard it was to get along without an education, and she took every opportunity of improving herself and her education. In her later years, whenever she heard of a young lady who lacked funds to go to college or school, she invariably arranged funds for her to advance. In fact, the writer knows of twenty young women who were financed to continue their schooling through the generosity of Annie Oakley. She never sought the limelight; in fact, in later years after returning from her show business, she felt that she had been under the spotlight long enough, but good deeds like those mentioned will always come out.

When the United States decided to cast its lot with the Allies, Miss Oakley wrote the Secretary of War, offering the services of herself and her husband as instructors, and without any expense to the government. In due course of time one of the swivel chair "Louies" wrote back that there was no place in the army for a woman. Perhaps he had never heard of Miss Oakley and her ability, but some vaudeville agents heard of the offer and immediately wired her offering $1000.00 per week to give exhibitions in training camps, but Miss Oakley declined all such offers. Finally someone in the War Department arrived at the conclusion that this little lady could be of great benefit to the soldiers in the way of exhibitions and instructions and her proposition was accepted and she was requested to come on at once. For twelve weeks Miss Oakley and her husband visited the various eastern and southern training camps, giving exhibitions, mornings and afternoons. Not one cent was taken by them from the Government, as they paid their own expenses. They felt it their duty to do their bit in the hour of need.

Money meant little or nothing in the life of Annie Oakley. Several years ago when Jess Willard purchased the Buffalo Bill Show, after Col. Cody died, he tried to induce Miss Oakley to return to the show by offering her $800.00 per week. After she refused the first offer, he finally offered her $1000.00 per week with a private car, maid, etc., but she wired back that $1000.00 or even $1,000,000.00 would never induce her to return to the Wild West show. She had no further desire to travel or return to the show business and neither did she care for the money. It was said she had helped to finance Col. Cody in the hour of need and during his last days. Since the Colonel had befriended her in the early days, she could not see it to return to a show in which he was missing.

During the World War Miss Oakley had her fine saddle horse, "Fred Stone," and her setter dog (English) called "Dave," and she gave a great deal of time to their training. Dave held pieces of apple in his teeth and an apple on his head and when Miss Oakley would shoot them, he caught parts of them when falling. He also put chalk between his teeth and did the same when broken. A wealthy Philadelphian saw this exhibition and offered a check all written up except the amount and told Miss Oakley to fill in the amount, but this she declined to do, stating that no amount could buy either the horse or the dog.

(Concluded in January Issue)

Volume I Number I of THE GUN REPORT is to hand. Editors Frank W. Funk Jr. and Russell E. Patterson, 696 Longview Ave., Akron, Ohio, have gotten off to a good start. They strut some fine drawings and reproductions of photos of Kentucky type rifles. Donald S. Leach, shooter and member with us, does a neat article, "The Muzzle Loader Posts a Challenge." Speaks of our progress thusly: " . . . the Association is growing even as a snowball rolling down hill." Proves himself as fine a writer as he is an artist. Harry P. Davis writes on "Tracing the Kaintucks"—interestingly, too. Capt. Allen P. Westcott, who has "et" with us and shared blankets on several occasions at Camp Perry—he expostulates interestingly on "Arms of the Russo-Turkish War."

This is a high-type publication; price is $2 per year and likely worth twice that to the collectors. We can readily see that someone is working hard to make a success of another gun and collector's publication.

JERKY—you bright pupils know what it is? Nice little package of the dried-smoked venison (thass what it is, chilluns) came to us two weeks ago from James W. Gibbs, a life member in San Diego, Calif. Samples were handed around to stenographers, freight conductors, gunsmiths, printers, pompous piccolo players and plenty plain peepul. One universal comlaint—when do you finally swallow the stuff? Mastication may b prolonged indefinitely and you sti have the same amount of bulk with which you started. Mr. Gibbs (we call him "Bill") has our thanks even if we don't quite understand all about it.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be Ten ($10.00) dollars; half page, Fifteen ($15.00) dollars; full page, Twenty-five ($25.00) dollars.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

MUZZLE LOADING FANS: Know where the old guns are; 1000 Gun Collectors are listed in THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF THE ARMS HOBBY—each with his specialty in detail. The book includes, also, a Museum Directory and the Hawken-Gemmer story, plus a Photo Reference section. Limited FIRST EDITION. Price $2, postpaid. **Capt. Virgil Ney, 2745 Browne, Omaha, Nebr.**

THE SHOP FOR THE PARTICULAR: I am equipped to do relining of barrels up to 52 inches; can give these pitches to grooving–one turn in 16, one in 18, one in 30, and on up to a turn in 72 inches. Can make any part of a rifle or shotgun, reline revolvers or pistols; make springs, moulds, swages, starters. Can give you any type of grooving; hex or octagonal bores on special orders. My .22 match barrels are superior—can give references. Rifling is done by hand—I must know the "feel" of the operation. A complete shop for accurate gun work. **D. C. Addicks, Rome, Ga.**

MUZZLE LOADER FANS—Now is the time to get your rifles ready for the Spring Shoots. We will make you a new barrel up to 42 inches long, complete with false muzzle, breech plug and nipple in standard calibres such as .32, .38, .40, .45 and .50, either 4, 6 or 8 grooves, for $60. Tools extra. Also, COMPLETE rifles built. All kinds of tools made to order. Moulds to order, $5 and up. Muzzle loader barrels rebored, $20 and up. Tool steel nipples $1.25 each. **Niedner Rifle Corporation, Dowagiac, Mich.**

GUN BOOKS. Ideal Handbook No. 33, 50c. Stoeger's 1940 Catalog, over 500 pages, $1. Colt's "Century of Progress" 25c and $1. Dillin's Kentucky Rifle," $6. "Daniel Boone, Wilderness Scout," 89c. **E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio.**

Lloyd Bender
256 Clymer st
Galion Ohio

Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, MARCH, 1940 No. 7

HI, HO! DANIEL BOONE!

BY JACK HOOD

"Politics make strange bed-fellows," so the old saying goes, but shucks, when it comes to making strange bed-fellows, politics is a rank amateur by the side of the muzzle-loading rifle craze. Boy, there's a hobby that cuts a swath high, wide and handsome right through all creeds, cults, occupations, walks of life and what have you. Perhaps it acts like a magnet passing over all humanity and just picking out all the looney ones or all those "teched in the haid" from all classes.

Anyway, down here in Portsmouth (Ohio) there is a Daniel Boone Muzzle Loading Rifle Club, now five years old, (old enough to know better) and it holds shootin' matches about every three weeks, except when the temperature is down to ten degrees below bingo and the Probate Judge threatens to commit the whole shebang to a hospital for the insane if they insist on layin' down on their respective bellies in the snow and ice and sighting over an old streak of rust at a black spot sixty yards away, just to win a pound of coffee or a sack of flour or sugar.

At a typical match you will find carpenters, garagemen, rural mail-carriers, school teachers, doctors, a retired blacksmith, janitors, shoe-workers, machinists, farmers, painters, a junk dealer, trucker, brakeman, bee-keeper, market-master, gun dealer and one Republican politician, who, of course, is treasurer of the club (as you would expect). Now isn't that a mess of strange bed-fellows with just one thing in common? They're all nutty over the old muzzle loaders. And what matches! The gang will shoot for anything from nickels to hogs, and Jack Benny's radio program is a dud by the side of the kidding that goes on all the time at these matches. More guns, more fun, more chewing the rag, more kidding, more tall story-telling and downright lying (with a twinkle in the eye) than you'd run into in a month of leap-years.

And this gang doesn't go in for

(Continued on Page 7)

A FRONTIER TRAGEDY



BY JOHN BARSOTTI

Indians, incensed by the Gnadenhutten massacre of their Christianized brothers, looked upon the settlers at Campus Martius (Marietta Stockade) with hostility. Especially distasteful to a brave who had been educated by the missionary, David Ziesberger, were the Latin names given the streets. When he saw the name "Sacra Via" placed over an ancient Mound-builder causeway, he effaced it with the picture of a dripping scalp and wrote beneath, "Gnadenhutten."

(NOTE: At Gnadenhutten, in the late winter of 1782, a force of one hundred militiamen from Fort Pitt, under the command of Col. David Williamson, ruthlessly butchered 95 Christian Delaware Indians. The Indians were driven unarmed into their cabins and men, women and children, all killed with hatchet, maul and scalping knife. It was as brutal a massacre as any perpetrated by the painted savages of the wilderness. In revenge for the crime, Col. Wm. Crawford was burned at the stake a few months later by Captain Pipe's Delawares.)

MUZZLE BLASTS

Official Organ Of The
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
E. M. Farris ---------- Editor
N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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A CROWDED CALENDAR

Elsewhere in this issue is our Calendar of shoots; seven of major importance in the period from May 25th-26th to July 4th-5th-6th.

Four week-ends with no breathing spells . . . . this sets a pace that has us all gasping. We wanted plenty of opportunities for competition. Well, we surely have them in 1940.

We might mention that those four are Marietta, Mansfield, Marion (Ind.) and Canal Fulton. Some of those towns are close to each other, but that can't be helped. The bulk of the promotions and the bulk of the shooters live and operate in the mid-sections of Indiana and Ohio. When both good shooters and good promoters are found close together, there is bound to be lots doing in the nature of competition.

It is a good sign when mid-summer shoots are listed with our office as early as January and February. We help to keep events from coming in conflict with each other. And it is a pleasure to render this service. We trust that the folks who have not yet brought their dates to our attention will do so as early as possible, so that we may help steer other promotions to dates that will not conflict.

This year is destined to produce a record in the number of big shoots in our movement; they will extend all the way from Portland, Maine, to Santa Ana, California. And that is quite some acreage by our means of computation.

Along with a membership renewal from Cal Price, Orange, Texas, comes word that he is very busy making up entire new rifles. And he likes MUZZLE BLASTS—admits it right in open meetin'.

All of which tends to entice us to put in black and white an idea that has been buzzin' around in our semi-empty think tank of late: That some shop could announce a policy of making up muzzle loading rifles in one, two or three calibres, with stocks and sights of standard specifications. Said shop to adhere to these specifications and get the rifles out with a minimum of fuss and feathers, and keep the price as low as consistent with good workmanship and materials, and so do a lot to bring new guns into the hands of many who feel they prefer the new to the old. The suggestion is offered for what it may be worth.

RIFLE RANGE REVERIE

Rev. M. T. McDonald, Reesville, Ohio

I look at my old muzzle-loader
As it hangs in its place on the wall,
And my thoughts seem to center on targets,
And cap — and powder — and ball.

Then I think of the great shooting-matches
That we had by the shack in the wood,
When they came with the old muzzle-loaders,
From over the whole neighborhood.

O, many an hour have we spent there
In the hollow, below the old town,
Matching skill with the old muzzle-loaders —
And some were shots of renown.

I can see the old gang 'round the oil drum
That was fashioned into a stove
And set up in the paper-lined shanty,
On the "range" in Anderson's grove.

I see lanky, good-natured Russ Bachelor;
He was born about two centuries late —
For he was a true born outdoorsman,
Made modern only by fate.

And Hickerson — "Hick", they all called him,
Good fellow, and handy one too;
He was seventeen kinds of mechanic —
There was nothing that he couldn't do.

And Cloud — good old Cloud Nicewanger —
A better sport seldom you'll meet.
He was never puffed up when winning,
And he knew how to take defeat.

Then David, the friendly mortician,
With a heart as big as your head;
A friend that man could be proud of —
And how he loved powder and lead.

And Charley — my dear old pal, Charley,
From back over Stump Hollow way;
I've tried — tried so hard to defeat him,
But — well, every dog has his day.

Then there was the other David —
"Little David", scarce thirteen years old,
But he shot the old muzzle-loaders,
Though they were too heavy to hold.

I see them, and the others — a dozen,
Down there on the old firing line;
And though I may never more see them,
Some happy mem'ries are mine.

This lesson I learned from those matches —
"The man who won't growl at his luck,
Nor be sore at the fellow who beat him —
You can trust with your very last buck."

Upsettage, If Any

Dr. P. A. Matteson, Bennington, Vermont, sends notes and some fired round balls. Also sends some never fired. Comment by Matteson: "I was reading in MUZZLE BLASTS some time ago and noticed the article regarding the upsettage of a round ball fired in a muzzle loading rifle. I did not think any more about this until last week. Had been firing a fine old Caswell Kentucky rifle at a paper 50-yard target held in a frame. The target was posted 60 yards from the stand and was about 24 inches above the snow-covered ground. The object of the shooting was to line up the sights on this Kentucky for 60 yards offhand shooting. The balls, as they passed through the paper were uninjured. The load was 37 gr. King's powder, cloth-patched round ball. About 20 shots were fired this day in adjusting the sights.

"After the firing it struck me that it would be a good stunt to see just how these balls performed and where they went after their passage through the paper target. The range stand is located in a long, level meadow. This was covered with snow and crust. I found where the balls landed on the snow; at first they acted like a stone that was skipped on the surface of a pond. They skipped in and out on the crust; some stayed under, while several were picked up by myself where they had spent themselves and lay on top of the crust about 125 to 150 yards from the stand. It was around zero this day.

"I am sending you two of the balls recovered from the crust and two unfired balls that are for use in this old rifle. You can examine them at your pleasure. Results should throw light on the subject and the brethren can judge for themselves."

So, the editor becomes the technical department—for the moment. Eyes front and no foolishments—here goes:

Matteson would be called a rotten sprue cutter in these parts—no two alike and all of them resembling some of the molar snags he puts gold into—if gold is still fashionable. Anyhow, Doc. gets one kick-in-the-pants for that bum sprue cut. And with all those power tools he has in his dental lab., whyn't he smooth 'em off a bit—the lead balls, not the teeth.

The unfired balls mike to .405"—quite uniform "on the equator." Those that had been fired—guess what! They miked .401" where the patch has been forced into the metal; the pounding that Doc. gave the ball in loading, plus upsettage effect (if any) showed the girth approximately .408" where the lead had been forced into the grooves of the rifle. Since Matteson loaded the sprue on the powder, he got a nice flat where that ramrod was whammed on the ball to seat it. This fact, alone, should account for the expanding of the .003" noted. Our humble opinion is that there was no upsettage!

As to the snaggle-tooth sprue which was right in the hottest of the upset-area, found it but little smoothed off or bashed in. The heat of the gas may have smoothed the tool (cutter) marks a bit, but very little.

We will be glad to collaborate with someone who will take selected buck shot and see how this type of test works. Name size of buck shot and we will furnish a quantity, if they are on the market. A long box of oiled saw-dust would be a fit ball catcher for this . . . . snow or soft soil is likely to be too hard and lacking in uniform resisting qualities.

JANUARY POSTAL RESULTS

Rifle A. A tie of 86 for E. W. Williamson and Chester Hollenbaugh; asked them to shoot it off—in this round Hollenbaugh secured 83 and Williamson 78. 1. Hollenbaugh 86-83, $1.80; 2. E. W. Williamson 86-78, $1.20; 3. Dr. Loe A. Sutter, 79, 60c; 4. Chas. Stants, 76; 5. Edna Williamson, 75; 6. B. L. Shaver, 74; 7. J. W. Campbell, 68; 8. J. E. Krall, 64; 9. J. Berner, 62; 10. Al G. Steuer, 53; No report from J. M. Ruckman and E. Seybold.

Rifle B. E. W. Williamson, 89, $1.05; Chester Hollenbaugh, 88, 70c; 3. M. R. Randall, 83, 35c; 4. Edna Williamson, 80; 5. E. Seybold, 79; 6. J. E. Krall, 72; 7. E. M. Farris, 54.

Pistol. 1. Al G. Steuer, 71, 45c; 2. J. Berner, 67, 30c; 3. K. J. Voorhees, 58, 15c.

MATCH CALENDAR

Lima, Ohio	**May 25-26**
Warren, Ohio	**May 30**
Marietta, Ohio . . .	**June 15-16**
Mansfield, Ohio . . .	**June 22-23**
Marion, Ind.	**June 29-30**
Canal Fulton, Ohio . .	**July 4, 5, 6**
Benton, Ill.	**Labor Day**

Other match dates should be reported promptly so we can give all the publicity possible.

Much interest has been evidenced in a military muzzle loading rifle match. With the interest comes the problem of finding such rifles in shooting condition. At the risk of being accused of lending our space to free advertising we are going to advise that there are several good-to-fine arms of this type in the hands of W. D. Kramer, 122 Tibet Ave., Columbus. Ohio. The prices run from $6 to $8.50.

Those who take an active interest in this proposed match should keep in mind the rifles are to be "without alterations." No liners in the bore, no additional sights, no nothing — if you get our drift. Just the gun "as issued."

CHALLENGE: We have a friend 87 years old who wants to meet an offhand shooter of at least equal age, to fire a match at 200 yards. This need not be muzzle loader, as this good buddy has never fired any but cartridge type firearms. This could be arranged for postal competition, but it would be better to have it at Huntington, W. Va., Portsmouth, Ohio or some point within a radius of 50 miles of either of those cities.

-- MEMBERSHIPS --

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Shall We Grow or Merely Drift?

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One Dollar pays for a Membership and a Year's Subscription to MUZZLE BLASTS

QUALIFIED CRITICS "O. K." OUR PUBLICITY
WE GET A HEARING EVERYWHERE
OUR FRIENDS FURNISH GOOD ARTICLES

Let the Fans furnish the MEMBERSHIPS!

GEESE AND GREAT GUNS

BY ANDY WHITEHURST

While I was still a lad in grammar school I often watched the long lines of wild-fowl on the long southward journey, slowly winging their V-shaped squadrons against the evening sun.

I'd heard my father tell of the many geese and green head mallards that used to nest in his father's big sloughs down in Old Virginia; of the long-billed wood cock and the habits of the various forms of wild-life with which he was constantly in touch.

One evening as we kids were on our homeward jaunt from school, three of us lads were attracted by a large flock of geese scurrying before the light snow. It happened to be Friday and we knew that on the morrow we three would be up before dawn and have a hot breakfast of mother's flap jacks or a large portion of the fried mush that was literally submerged in maple syrup. When arriving home, what joyous news to hear that the flock of geese had lit in a big corn field about a half mile from our house. Ah, how our hearts beat as we planned our first goose hunt. We three had double barreled muzzle loaders; that night we sat up in our old kitchen cutting up newspapers in squares for wadding. We carefully checked over our supply of caps and shot; when I say "shot" I mean BB's, for this was to be a goose hunt and 6's were not to be considered, so we had heard.

Each one of us loaded our pieces with double charges of powder, gobs of paper; then we drove it home till the rods bounced out of the muzzles. Then a double charge of BB's, more paper wadding and we were all set for the battle.

Did any of you readers ever plan for your first big hunt (for this was to be the first for us) and not have a heaving in your chest while you thought of everything you wanted to do? Boy, oh, boy! I dreamed of geese so big that I got all excited and fell out of bed! Mother was calling me anyhow, so I didn't much mind, so long as I hadn't sprained an ankle or done some other damage to my person.

The other two lads were already at the big kitchen table when I got there, and were really wading in on the syrup and cakes, so I had to hurry and get mine before the batter ran out. Neither of these boys had slept much, either, so I didn't feel so ashamed while telling them of my own dreams.

Breakfast finished, we grabbed our guns and hurriedly kissed mother goodbye. We headed for the corn field. We could hear the geese talking it up in the latest conversational style. They were quite a distance and upwind from us. Cautiously worming our way along lest we schould step on a dry corn-stalk and scare them away, we edged closer. I'll bet my last box of caps that a man a rod away could have heard my heart beating.

All at once we heard a farmer's dog start barking and knew that he had scented the geese, so we started on the run for them. Suddenly the corn field exploded geese! I took one look at a big, long-necked gander and cut loose with the double, charged



Grown-up Andy Whitehurst with muzzle loader and rabbits. How he got geese is told in the accompanying yarn.

with those BB's. Things happened then—things that I hate to remember. There I sat, straddle of one corn row, holding my head with both hands. Cap was nowhere in sight; gun likewise. Goose some more ditto. Still, there I sat, trying to move my right arm. Felt like someone had hit my upper right hand section with a sledge hammer, maximum size at that.

Well, I didn't suffer alone, you can bet on that. It was a very sore and bedraggled trio of youthful hunters that emerged from that cornfield. However, the taste of that goose, roasted to a turn, will live and linger long in my memory.

Right here and now I'll say that the muzzle loaders are my favorites and have been since my childhood. May they blast away when my boys are grown, and I hope they enjoy some part of the fun I've had before I take my last ride down the long road.

DON'T BETRAY SANTA CLAUS

Should you be lucky enough to have a good old-time gunsmith friend who does your work at such prices as to be practically cost-of-materials and nothing else, for Pete's sake don't go around telling it.

Right at this moment there is one gunsmith in this little ol' world who likely has himself covered up with work just because one of his friends published the statement that said gunsmith made him up a gun—the article states only that a barrel was furnished—this gun, naturally, taking a lock, triggers, small trim and stock, to say the least. How many hours were spent—well, 'tis well nothing was said about that.

But, the price! The gunsmith is certain to be offered heaps of work when the world wakes up to the fact of price—merely eight ($8.00) dollars.

Like you and the rest of the boys with guns and gear to put in shape, I can't tell an old-timer that his $2.50 for tuning up a barrel is too low; that $6.50 for a full-length stock is unfair to honest workmen, he being No. 1 of that group. One thing I can do, however, is to urge fair treatment to those who play Santa Claus to us in this matter. Keep it to yourself if you get $30.00 worth of work for $10.50. Just because the old boy lives where he don't have to keep up a $999. car, nor send his kids to college (even if they might outshine yours and mine), that's insufficient reason to lead the world to his door with jobs that take days to finish—and for Eight Dollars! Play fair with those old craftsmen, as all too soon they will no longer be more than legends—grand Americans all!

LIFE MEMBERSHIP TO RITTER

The Emblem Committee met on February 24th, reviewed the various drawings and designs sent for an emblem and decided that the one best suited to our needs was submitted by Guy R. Ritter, Jr., Princeton, W. Va.

Too much color and too much detail could not be considered, since a felt with the design is much in demand, and a felt does not lend itself to too much detail.

Donald S. Leach and Wm. Pulford, Jr., both of Lima; W. S. Pusey, Decatur, Ill; Capt. Virgil Ney, Omaha; E. W. Williamson, Hillsboro, Ohio, and Al Steuer, St. Bernard, Ohio all submitted designs worthy of mention.

When the felt is produced it likely will carry further simplification, but in the main Guy Ritter's ideas will predominate. The committee thanks all who helped make this a tight and interesting competition.

PETER A. REINHARDT, RIFLEMAKER

BY STUART MARTIN

Peter A. Reinhardt was born in Neidernberg, Bavaria, Germany in 1827. He came to Ohio in 1832. He was married in 1849, his wife bearing him eight children.

Peter A. Reinhardt, according to the old county history, was the only rifle maker in Ashland county (Ohio) in 1849. Reinhardt was a fine craftsman and really spent his life in making and shooting rifles. He was no country blacksmith or mechanic who repaired a few guns and made one or two on the side. He was apprenticed to Cornelius Jacobs of Columbus, Ohio, after living in that city since the age of five when his folks came there from Germany.

At the age of 22 years, Reinhardt moved to Loudonville, southern Ashland county, Ohio, where he is said to have worked in a shop with a man named Sprague. He soon went into business on his own, however, and the same year he came to Loudonville he married Catherine Clee who came to Delaware county (Ohio) from Prussia in 1840.

"Pete" Reinhardt worked in Loudonville for seven years and then decided to take a "post-graduate" course in rifle making, so closed his shop in Loudonville and went to Rochester, N. Y., where he served an apprenticeship under the famous William Billinghurst.

Reinhardt must have got what he needed from his work with Billinghurst, as he no sooner returned to Loudonville than his rifles began to bring home the bacon in big time competition. The results of his years of training and his "post-graduate" training bore fruit and Reinhardt reaped a golden harvest.

Rifles with the name "P. A. Reinhardt" and the two Masonic emblems that usually marked his product began to figure in shooting competitions of national importance. At South Vernon, Vermont, with 28 states represented in the entries, a Reinhardt rifle carried off top honors. At Dayton, Ohio, in 1877 Reinhardt won first place and a prize of $75 in gold. At Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the same year he again won first money which was $50 in gold. A year later at Tiffin, Ohio, Reinhardt won a gold watch and $60 in gold. At Warren, Ohio, with L. W. Rogers of Tiffin he won over $100.

Reinhardt was always willing to back his own rifles with his skill and his money. He was not only an expert craftsman but an expert rifleman as well. In a private match with John W. Adams, of West Virginia, he won an even hundred dollars. The match was a 10-shot event at 40 rods, string measure from center to center. Pete's string in this match measured just 11¼ inches, so you know that was really a group! In another private match, Reinhardt won a hundred dollar purse from John W. Johnson of Wheeling, W. Va.

In a match of national importance with most of the best in the country entered, Reinhardt won with one of his own rifles in a ten shot event at 40 rods, coming thru to win with a string measuring exactly 10¼ inches.

Reinhardt made rifles in Loudonville until 1896 when he moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he continued his work until advancing years caused his retirement.

HI, HO! DANIEL BOONE!

(Continued from Page 1)

one hundred, two hundred, and other length ranges or for pistol shooting. All shooting is done at 60 yards, prone, and specially printed "X" targets are distributed to each shooter, and each target is fired at but once. Said targets are each numbered and dated so there can be no shenanigans pulled by some duck who might be a mite crazier than the rest of the asylum.

On the day the match is announced, the maniacal, mad-cap, militia miscreants come tearing down to the range in everything from old model T's to trucks and Packards, and grins on their faces like a bunch of pickaninnies at a free water-melon festival. Every guy has from two to ten old guns that he has been working on during his every spare moment. You know an old muzzle loader is never exactly right. Something has to be done to it all the time, at least something is being done to it all the time. Come to think of it though, maybe the gun is all right and it's the crazy owner who just imagines something is wrong with the gun or the sights to alibi his poor shooting.

Each shooter has his own private inventions as an aid to his shooting. Each has his own rifle-rest; some made of old piano stools that screw up and down to the right height; others like saw-bucks, and still others the craziest looking affairs of various shapes that could only be invented or designed by a mind that follows Rube Goldberg's famous cartoons. When all the guns, paraphernalia, loading equipment, target boards, shooting rests, powder horns, ram-rods, ammunition boxes and scopes gets scattered around among the shooters the scene looks like a jam session at a bughouse.

Finally the match gets started after every fellow tries out his old blunderbuss, and the shooting for flour, sugar and coffee, for nickels, for chickens, turkeys, hogs or whatever the committee in charge thinks will be as comparatively silly as the fellows who are shooting. And then the fun begins.

I've seen shooters pay a dollar and a half and get a pound of Chase & Somebody's coffee that wouldn't be dated any plainer that the shooting ability or the gun of the would-be contestant. I've seen matches where the loser in each round had to take an old fashioned scythe and mow for ten minutes, the weeds that persist in growing on the range, some of them big enough for a coon to climb. You can just imagine the pointed remarks of the gang when one fellow is mowing and the balance resting in the shade. The losers take it with a grin and live for the time when somebody else will be the goat and then they can "pour it on."

And so it goes. Fun galore. Yes, sir, it's fun that is genuine, honest-to-goodness, pure and unadultery (or should that be "unadulterated," I get so mixed up in my words any more). It's fun, I say, for a gang that's a cross-section of all sorts of good fellows from cussers to saints; from hicks to dudes; from roughnecks to sock-wearers; from liars to bigger liars; from Dan to Bersheba and from Hell to breakfast.

One might think that these lunatic shooters might have wife-trouble, but they seldom do. When a match is announced for a Saturday, the wife can always notice the malady coming over her man about Tuesday, when he is found out in the garage, down in the basement or up in the attic (wherever his guns and paraphernalia are kept), filing sights, molding bullets, whittling ram-rods or in a deep study planning his attack for Saturday. He is always quiet and morose and seems to be thinking (what with?). He will miss his supper and not know it, or eat it and never know it. When he gets this way, the Missus usually "shushes" the children to be quiet and they all give him a wide berth. They know the disease will be no better until after the Saturday match. The Missus always considers the malady an affliction akin to a family skeleton, or a misfortune that cannot be helped and should not be paraded, and among her friends and acquaintances she treats it with a sympathetic silence like when her children have the itch or lice.

There is one thing that every wife of one of those muzzle loader nuts has learned. She may throw out a favorite pair of his old shoes; give away a beloved old coat or suit to a beggar; toss his old slouch hat that he wouldn't trade for a farm, into the garbage can, and perhaps get away with such prodigality. But just let her even move his old muzzle loader from behind the pantry door or out of the closet corner and he will let loose a "bleitzkreig" that will make Hitler look like a sissy by comparison. No Daniel Booner in a thousand years would ever believe that any woman could move a muzzle loading rifle without bustin' the sights. These men admit that a woman can handle a baby all right, but they think (again, what with?) that no woman has any business handling anything so impor-

(Continued on Page 8)

GOLF BALL BULLETS

Roy S. Tinney

Br'er Gibbs o' San Diego is right, "the ball becomes a slug as soon as the upsettage takes place." Our group, the Sword and Pistol Club, have been using commercial buck shot and round balls for the past three years and find the "flats" do not affect their accuracy. Pick up a golf ball and note how the surface is scored. Golfers explain such balls are far more accurate and dependable than balls with a smooth surface. In '37, during my early experiments with duelling pistols and jumbo buck shot, a chap addicted to cowpasture pool insisted rought ones are better than smooth ones. I pointed out the fabrication of such bullets would be downright difficult. Finally produced a few by rolling the round ball on a soft board under a coarse rasp, all-same pharmacist making pills. Found the roughed-up bullets satisfyingly accurate. In fact, they seemed to perform just a shade better than ordinary balls. Yet the indicated improvement, if any, did not seem to justify the time and effort required to produce golf-ball-bullets. However, the experiments taught me the "flats" on ready-made balls can be safely ignored.

While about it, we might as well recommend to dealers that AMERICAN black sporting powder be stocked. It can be secured from American Cyanamid & Chemical Corp., Maynard, Mass. Having handled it for the past several months, we feel qualified to say it is fully up to the best made in this country.

HI, HO! DANIEL BOONE!

(Continued from Page 7)

tant, valuable and delicate as their old muzzle loaders.

And so it goes. This gang of Portsmouth Daniel Booners have a shooting range down by the floodwall along the Ohio River and outside the pale of civilization where it is often hinted the entire gang belongs. Sic semper lunatics!

THE UNDERSTRIKER RIFLE

(Continued from Page 5)

idea about what the charge should constitute. It is too lengthy a subject to discuss in a limited space, except that I might add that Major Kilper, a direct representative of Ex-Governor Davey when he attended the matches last year at Lima, Ohio, told Mr. Pulford the shooters were developing themselves into the greatest bunch of ballistic experts that the country had ever seen.

There are many other types of muzzle loaders that were in existence some 75 years ago, when every home had some kind of gun to defend the household and when the desire to shoot was as keen as at present, so this little article is produced merely to show how some of the noted riflemen of that period made rifles for fine shooting.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be $10.00; half page, $15.00; full page, $25.00.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

WANTED: Rare automatics, Colt auto variations, rare or very fine guns, modern or antique. **Miller Bedford, New London, Ohio.** (Life Member.)

BARREL BLANKS. Standard .38-55, 32 in. length, 1¼ in. diameter, suitable for rebarreling .38-55 match rifles or will make up into muzzle loaders using regular .38-55 loadng except that bullets must be sized down for patching. This length is sufficient to properly burn powders in use today. Price $15. each. **J. R. Buhmiller, Eureka, Montana.**

Four Pieces **OCTAGONAL BARREL BLANKS;** no sight slots; good material; none rifled. (A) By J. H. Johnston, Pittsburgh, Pa.—28 in. by ⅞ in., bore approximately .20 in., $3. (B) 40 in. by ⅝ in. with bore under .23 in., $4.50. (C) 41¾ by 13/16 in., bore approximately .31 in., $3.50. (D) 33 in. by ⅝ in., bore approximately .30 in., $3.50. All four for $14. **E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio.**

FOR SALE: 15-pound match target percussion rifle; swage, false muzzle, all to extreme tolerances, best of sights, $55. New guns, store samples — Colt cal. .45, 7½ in. barrel, $28; Colt cal. 32 automatic, $18; Colt cal. .25 automatic, 16; Colt Woodsman, $27; H. & R. Mod. 922, $8; H. &. R. 944, $12.50. Marble Game Getter with holster, $21. Marlin Model 39 cal. .22, $23.50. Marlin O. and U. Mod. 30, $33.50. Weaver 330, $21. Stevens Walnut Hills, no sights, $31, new. Also 250 used guns priced for every purse and purpose. Browning guns, all models in stock. You can trade in your guns here. Satisfaction guaranteed or all goods and cash will be returned. **Hershey's, 3 miles N. E. of Orrville, Ohio. Phone 1008R01.**

WANTED: Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. **LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

STAINLESS LINERS. . . . Oh, yes! Who puts them in? **Ben Hawkins, 1600 Brewster Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.** Most any twist for muzzle loaders. Also .22's. Krags and Win. S. S. converted to Hornet and Bee. Moulds to order, any calibre; false muzzles and swages. Nipples, tool steel. Any part of a muzzle loader replaced, including History! Ask Farris—he was at my shop recently. Liners fully sweated in.

FOR SALE: HEAVY BARREL BLANKS, round, 52 inches long, seamless drawn, fine material, immediate delivery. Prices FOB Chattanooga: 1⅜ in., ⅜ in. bore, weight 20 lbs., each $8.50; 1½ in., ½ in. bore, weight 23 lbs., each $9.50. **A. C. Cross, 320 Pine Ridge Road, Chattanooga, Tenn.**

THE SHOP FOR THE PARTICULAR: I am equipped to do relining of barrels up to 52 inches; can give these pitches to grooving—one turn in 16, one in 18, one in 30, and on up to a turn in 72 inches. Can make any part of a rifle or shotgun, reline revolvers or pistols; make springs, moulds, swages, starters. Can give you any type of grooving; hex or octagonal bores on special orders. My .22 match barrels are superior—can give references. Rifling is done by hand—I must know the "feel" of the operation. A complete shop for accurate gun work. **D. C. Addicks, Rome, Ga.**

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Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, JUNE, 1940 No. 10

MARIETTA TROPHIES



We believe the above display is a "new high" for a group effort. Practically all are newly offered for the current Shoot, June 15th-16th. See the program and pick your favorites.

MUZZLE BLASTS

Official Organ Of The
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
E. M. Farris ..... Editor
N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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Bigger days ahead! This season will see more guns and gunners at the big shoots than in any previous year of our history. Already Shartlesville reports a fine attendance; Lima had 79 registrations. Marietta—with its great display of trophies and its fine program—is sure to witness a record crowd. Marion, Canal Fulton, Richmond and the Shoots that follow cannot but come in for the same favorable treatment.

Publicity, persistence and a broad-minded attitude toward the "kicks and kinks" are the things that have—and will continue—to make for growth. Newspaper clippings come to the office which prove that committees and officers are not missing their opportunities to get free publicity from local news sheets. Hard work in an effort to improve the programs and prizes are noticed. All of which are certainly worthy of a listing under PROGRESS!

But one word of caution is needed—one word that we must hang up at every firing point: SAFETY! Let one serious accident occur and we are going to be badly hurt as a movement. We urge range officers to keep all spectators back away from loading benches and firing points; we must raise our voices and protest the carelessness of some shooters! Let every known precaution be taken. But—for safety and the peace-of-mind of the shooters—keep the spectators behind a rope or wire that is fully fifteen feet from the shooter.

Shooters have declared to the writer they will stay away from matches if gabby spectators do not cease bothering when the piece is being loaded. In another case the writer would have stopped right in the middle of his string if the competitor on an adjoining firing point had stepped out into the range to clean his piece, which did happen not many points to his left. Dumb practices must be eliminated even if we lose friends; We MUST be known as advocates of Safety—always and everlastingly.

SHOOT CALENDAR

Marietta, Ohio	**June 15th-16th**
Mansfield, Ohio	**June 22nd-23rd**
Cos Cob, Connecticut	**June 23rd**
Marion, Indiana	**June 29th-30th**
San Diego, California	**June 30th**
Canal Fulton, Ohio	**July 6th-7th**
Richmond, Indiana	**July 14th**
Detroit, Mich.	**July 20th-21st**
Lewistown, Penna.	**August 4th**
Benton, Illinois	**Labor Day**
NATIONAL-WLW,	**Following World Series**

PARACHUTE PUNCTURING

Yes, folks, we have assurances that a nucleus is ready. Dr. Lomax comes along as No. 1, his good wife as No. 2 and behold, the youth —two-weeks-old—pride of the Lomax household, is piping up "I'm Numbah Three!"

The thought behind all this is more serious than comic. If and when the time comes to organize, under proper government auspices, a corps of guards for local defense purposes, we know it will be such folks as Lomax and the others of our rank and file that will be right handy to shoulder their portion of the task. Any man who can harness the cantankerous muzzle loaders surely can take a modern repeating rifle and feed it ca'tridges for any good and holy purpose. And the women—this is no time to say they are not proficient with rifles! In this issue and elsewhere—in sporting publicity—the femmes are proving they are entirely able to maintain a shoulder-to-shoulder position with the men.

Vic Anderson writes us that the Dayton (Ohio) Shoot must be dropped for 1940. Last year, with the dry soil in their hill-back-stop, many slugs got over into settled sections. Folks, being unused to singing slugs, kicked. Even as you and I, wot? Should these folks find another safe place, likely they will be inviting the boys back. Dayton, if you check the map, is just about the center of our movement. With a good range and the same old brand of promotion, this city ought to, someday, stage one of the biggest shoots of all history.

Grocery shoots are the order of the day. It is fine practice—plus. The "plus" is the brand of joshing and kidding that becomes an integral part of such contests. Without such the affair would be cold and dry—if you get the meaning. Should you want to hear more about how these are operated, we recommend you write to Jack Hood, Court House, Portsmouth, Ohio.

CUSTOMARY COMMENTS

After weeks in a Cincinnati hospital, we have the cheering word that Edna Williamson (Mrs. Ernest) is recovering from a long illness. This "Ernest-Edna" team is always on the line and are the salt o' de eart'. Well wishes from every friend and member go out to this grand little lady.

* * *

We tire copying nice things said about our MUZZLE BLASTS (what do you think?), but do want to admit that one advertiser says we got results for him when others proved a "shirt tail." Which is another way of saying Ned Roberts is still taking orders for his forthcoming volume "The Muzzle-Loading Percussion Lock Rifle." He lives at 29 Elm St., Goffstown, N. H.

* * *

July 6th and 7th—those are the dates for the Canal Fulton fireworks. Details are not given, but the 1939 Dillsboro-Friendship colored movies are to be on tap. We wish every active group in the movement would take on these once for a showing. Mr. Root was at Lima; he plans to be at each major shoot within driving distance and make for us a permanent record of the game. Here is pep and push worthy of our support. Mr. Root lives at 714 Abbott St., Muncie, Ind.

* * *

How do you like Dr. Lomax's column in this issue? We shall be pleased to hear from you. Judge Roy Tinney will have something a bit similar for July.

* * *

We appreciate contributions. Some fetch us pictures and some fetch articles. Some tell gosh-awful lies. But it all goes into making up a little publication that seems to be almost what the fans want. We are still open for suggestions—and more material!

* * *

W. E. Foust promises us a good stiff article on what makes Foust barrels win matches. He specializes in heavy, round ball barrels. Hope also to find live materal that will tell about how to make accurate muzzle loading barrels for bullets—220 yard pieces. Hope someone will volunteer very soon in this direction.

* * *

Walter Cline has some news coming up soon for us. Walter Grote promises to come through. The other Walter (Keenan) ought to find a hot subject on which to expand shortly.

* * *

We know our readers will like the pictures in this issue. They will like the enlarged—12 page—size, too. The office sees how to keep it that way, but it will take you-know-what to pay the costs. Give us full-page advertisements to cover your shoots, send in "For Sale" and "Wanted" advertisements. The rest is our worry. Are you a-hearin' us?

* * * * *

Miner J. Cooper promises to write about the equipment for muzzle gun making that he has located in Binghamton, N. Y. If it could be possible, would we not all be pleased no end to see photos and read descriptions of the equipment of Billinghurst, Warner, Perry, Brockway, Tisdell, Wurfflein and other famous old gunsmiths?

* * * * *

"Guns of Glory," by Charles E. Chapel in June ADVENTURE, is recommended to all. If you do not know the early history of the muzzle loaders, here is something most illuminating. Also, read what you will find on page 103.

* * *

Certain globe-trotting members of this fraternity plan to be on hand for the Santa Ana (Calif.) shoot, which seems to be set for October 31st. This date is only tentative; so close to our own WLW-National, we can hope there will be some adjustment so said globe-trotters can be home for the Big Shoot. But the thought uppermost in the editor's mind is, "How nice!" Maybe this party should go West as Good Will Ambassadors; it might then produce some travel

(Continued on Page 10)

Husband-Wife Match Winners 1939

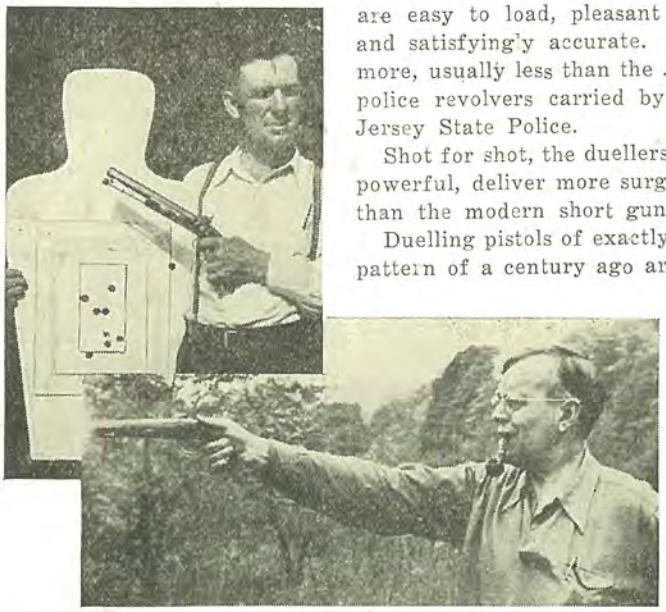


This handsome couple are "Pa" and "Ma" Boltz, Marion, Ind. On the "ironing board" you can see a maple-walnut-cedar trophy with a silver band encircling it. This trophy was first offered in 1938 by Ernest Williamson, Hillsboro, Ohio. He and his petite wife won it the first year. In 1939 it took two hard-shootin' Hoosier folks to make the grade and become the holders for at least a year. Pa Boltz manages a fox ranch, and the buildings in the background are part of his domain's equipment.

"Duels" With Century-Old Flintlocks

(Judge Roy S. Tinney, a Director of our Association, took issue with Vox Pop in LIBERTY, April 20th, 1940, in the matter of "duelling" spelling and technique. His letter and the cuts herewith are copied with full permission of both the author and the publishers of LIBERTY, McFadden Publications, Inc. Our thanks and appreciation to all concerned!—Editor)

Chatham, N. J.—"On the table beside Bradley . . . was a small mahogany box. The lid was open, letting



the moonlight glint on the silver stocks of a brace of dueling pistols. . . . A pistol that had known the touch of Lord Nelson's hand. . . . With shaking fingers, he [Bradley] took it from the mahogany box and snapped open the breech." (The Girl Next Door, by Eric Hatch, March 9 Liberty.)

Duelling (two l's) pisto's are **always** muzzle-loaders. The breech p'ug is screwed in so securely it is never removed. Our group, the Sword and Pistol Club (note photos) have for the past three years conducted outdoor duelling-pistol matches fired "according to the code" on man targets.

Parallel duelling provides all the thrills and none of the hazards of a two-man war. Our flintlock duellers were made in George Washington's time; our percussion-lock appointment guns are all a hundred years old. They are easy to load, pleasant to shoot, and satisfying'y accurate. Weigh no more, usually less than the .38 official police revolvers carried by the New Jersey State Police.

Shot for shot, the duellers are more powerful, deliver more surgical shock than the modern short guns.

Duelling pistols of exactly the same pattern of a century ago are still being manufactured in France and Belgium, for duelling is still practiced in almost every country except the United States and the British Empire. Brave (misguided) men still resort to the red court from which there is no appeal; meet and swap lead with **muzzle-loading** percussion-lock pistols loaded with black powder and a "round ball."—Roy S. Tinney, Recorder.

Newport Has An Up And Coming Club

Newport (Rhode Island) is a new entry in our game . . . many members are coming in and we append a clipping to prove they go about promotion in a proper way. This outfit is pointing to some w.ns at the Cos Cob shoot. They use the military muzzle loaders up that way with keen and telling effect.

Providence, Bristol and other Rhode Island groups are becoming well organized. It will be a disappointment if we do not carry announcement of a State Championship soon.

Chas. Bishop, whom Bull Ramsey discovered last year, is telling the boys about this old game as he meanders hither and yon in that small —but compact—state. "Bish" exudes enthusiasm once he gets warmed up and interested in an activity . . . . and his present splendid activity is one of which he may be proud. We're proud of "Bish."

* * *

(clipping)

RIFLE CLUB MEMBERS TRY MUZZLE-LOADERS

Annual Field Day and Outing Held At Bradford Norman's Farm Sunday

The Newport Rifle Club staged a muzzle-loader shoot as a feature of its final annual field day and outing at the range on Bradford Norman's farm in Portsmouth Sunday. Approximately 40 members and their guests assembled for the event which opened at 10 o'clock in the morning and continued through the afternoon.

P. E. Brooks with a muzzle-loader named "Silver Eagle," owned by A. G. Lundquist, scored 89 to win the event. Mr. Lundquist, with the same weapon, tied at 88 for second with Arthur Brooks shooting a Hunter's Special and won the shoot off, a single shot try with an eight to the seven tallied by Brooks.

Others shooting muzzle-loaders were Robert M. Phelps with 86, William Thurston with 84, Dan Chase with 81, G. B. Stidham with 79, Harry Fletcher with 74, J. Raymond Fritz with 70, and J. R. Holly with 45, the last taking the low score prize.

The accuracy of the old guns, several of them dating back 100 years, drew praise as well as providing entertainment. The club plans to hold others this season but on a smaller scale.

DETROIT

Keep tuned in for a full list of particulars in an early edition. If Bill Carr could only shoot like he can lie —whadda man! We look for Pontiac to just about shoot the shorts off'n them Detroiters this session. Seeley Dart almost said they could do it when we chinned with him in an eatery at Lima.

LEWISTOWN

This is the Pennsylvania town by that name; no word from the Montana corporation with the same moniker. But the Pennsylvania boys promise a big shoot; we hope they will give us a definite date and—like Cos Cob—tell us it will be "rain or shine." August 4th seems propitious, as there are no other competing shoots on that date so far as we know. There is a State Championship title at stake in this Lewistown shindig.

MANSFIELD MUZZLE LOADER MATCHES

JUNE 22nd and 23rd, 1940 MANSFIELD, OHIO

Event	Yards Dis.	Ball or Slug	Sights	Target	Fee	Position	No. Shots
No. 1—	30	Ball	Open	50 ft. NRA	$1.00	Offhand	3
No. 2—	30	Ball	Open	Silhouettes	.25	Offhand	1
No. 3—	50	Ball	Open	50 yd. NRA	1.00	Offhand	3
No. 4—	50	Ball	Open	50 yd. NRA	1.00	Prone or Bench	3
No. 5— Over 60	50	Ball	Open	50 yd. NRA	1.00	Prone or Bench	3
No. 6— Women	50	Ball	Any Metallic	50 yd. NRA	1.00	Prone or Bench	3
No. 7— Flint Lock	50	Ball	Open Non-Adjust.	50 yd. NRA	1.00	Prone or Bench	3
No. 8—	100	Either	Any Metallic	100 yd. NRA	1.00	Prone or Bench	5
No. 9—Trap	16	Shot	Open	Clay Birds	1.00	Offhand	5
No. 10—Mansfiield — Aggregate of Scores in Events No. 1 & No. 3							
No. 11—Match Championship—Aggregate of Scores in Events No. 1, 3, 4 & 8							

PRIZES: Special medals will be given for Events No. 10 and No. 11. In all other events a medal and 30% cash to First, 20% cash to Second and 10% cash to Third, except in Events No. 2 and No. 9 which will be shot in squads of 6 and 5 respectively, each squad being paid off at the rate 30%, 20% and 10%.

SCORING: By center of shot method except in Event No. 2 where string measure will be used; best heart shot winning. Shots not touching the black in this event are lost.

RE-ENTRIES: At the usual half-price except in Events No. 2 and No. 9.

REGISTRATION: A fee of 25c is charged to cover cost preparing and mailing to each competitor a complete report on the results of the shoot.

Sponsored By

THE MANSFIELD MUZZLE LOADER RIFLE CLUB

Organized in 1932

Range Located 3 Miles West of Square on U. S. Route 30S

Paul I. Hauserman, Chairman Shoot Committee
121 Lexington Ave., Mansfield, Ohio

DID YOU KNOW? ? ? ?

BY CLAUDE LOMAX, M. D.

—That in 1770 deerskins were valuable articles of commerce, much used for making leggings and breeches. In the autumn, when the skins were in prime condition, a man who understood the woods and the ways of wild things could take a few pack-horses into the forests and return with far more wealth than any farm could produce.

* * *

—That a horse could carry up to 250 pounds, about a hundred dressed deerskins, over the rough wilderness trails. This was heavy packing. Four or five hundred skins was a fair season's hunting. According to the market and the quality of the skins, they brought anywhere from forty cents to four or five dollars each, and were classified as "bucks" and "does," the former being larger and more valuable. Americans still refer to dollars as "bucks," and think they are talking slang, when they are really echoing the business terminology of their ancestors.

* * *

—That hunting was more than a mere sport. True, farming helped to provide food for a pioneer family, but deer were everywhere. Venison was a staple article of diet on the frontier. A man could "hoppus" a deer to his cabin across his shoulders. Or he could "jerk" the meat in the sun, so that it would last almost indefinitely. Another way of preserving it was treatment with wood ashes and saltpeter. But all this was for family use. There was not much market for deer meat.

* * *

—That the best rifles of that day had very little range. A hunter had to stalk game, and get within a hundred yards before he fired.

* * *

—That some traders reckoned that a beaver skin was worth "a buck," or "two does," but as the pelts became scarcer the prices rose.

* * *

—That Adah Jackson, Evansville, Indiana, authoress of "The Mystery of The Fifteenth Cypress," has written a short story entitled "The Littlest Powder Horn." The story is based upon a powder-horn that Daniel Boone carved for his little son. Boone was a prisoner of the Shawnees for about four months and carved the horn while he was held among the Indians.

* * *

—That "Tick-Licker" was the name that Daniel Boone called his favorite rifle.

* * *

—That Boone's Indian name was Sheltowee or "Big Turtle."

* * *

—That William Coomes, another pioneer and friend of Daniel Boone, had a shot gun which, after the usual Kentucky fashion, he had given the name "BEELZEBUB."

* * *

—That in 1760 a successful hunting and trapping season might bring in nearly a thousand dollars in modern currency. But there were expenses. A good "rifle-gun" was worth at least seven pounds, with powder-horn, shot pouch, and "patchen pouch" for wadding. A good hunter needed several rifles—it was easy for rifles to get out of order in the woods. On long hunts one took a full set of gun-making tools along—a hand vise and bellows, files and screw plates. Powder was expensive. Ultimately Daniel Boone learned to make it himself. A hunter could run his own bullets in his bullet molds, but lead was hard to transport.

* * *

—That while reading an old book on the Kentucky Pioneers, I found the following: "The Harrodsburg settlers were always rugged souls—it is they who are credited with feeding dead Indians to their dogs 'to make them fierce.'"

* * *

—That many of the Powder Horns scattered over the country, with the initials "D. B." are genuine. Copying from this same old book, it says that as an old man, Daniel Boone, after moving to Missouri, scraped powder-horns to translucent thinness, through which the powder was visible, in the style that the old woodsmen admired —carved them, cut his initials on them, then gave them away.

* * *

—That Pompey, a negro slave, fought with Black Fish at the long siege of Boonesborough. According to one account, the negro had escaped from the Kentucky settlements and joined the tribe voluntarily. But the Indians often held negroes as slaves and sometimes traded in them. Pompey acted as interpreter for Indian Chief Black Fish and occasionally bawled out a demand for surrender, or engaged in an exchange of bad language with the men in the blockhouse. Later, Pompey had been industriously sniping from a tall tree; was doing his best to pick off people moving within the stockade, over which, from his lofty perch, he could fire easily enough.

"You black scoundrel," muttered Captain Boone, as he raised "Old Tick-Licker," his heaviest rifle which fired a one-ounce ball, "I'll fix your flint for you!"

Boone is credited with a remarkable shot, very likely fired from the watch tower. At the crack of the rifle Pompey came tumbling out of the tree, dead.

Our vote of appreciation goes to James loading and cleaning the Colt hand guns. are offered by Mr. Serven. His publication

DIRECTIONS FOR LOADING C

First explode a cap on each nipple to dust, then draw back the hammer to the the cylinder to be rotated; a charge of p one of the chambers, keeping the barrel pointed end upwards, without wadding o mouth of the chamber, turned under the ra with the lever below the surface of the not hinder its rotation (care should be the ball so as not to shake out the pow thereby reducing the charge). This is chambers are loaded. Percussion caps a nipples on the right of the lock-frame, w the hammer to the full cock, the arm is charge by pulling the trigger; a repetitio produces the like results, viz. six shots wit

N. B. It will be safe to use all the po hold, when loading with the flask, leavi whether the powder is strong or weak. F best. Soft lead must be used for the ball to be taken off when loaded. The hamr forms the sight by which aim is taken.

To carry the arm safely when loaded, le one of the pins between each nipple, on t

The arm should be thoroughly cleaned particularly the base-pin on which th

DIRECTIONS FOR CLE

Set the lock at half-cock, drive out the ke

Facsimile of directions label found freque paper, are available to buyers, f

en, High Haven Ranch, Sonoita, Arizona, for this unusual bit of early data on id this information—a full page—in the printed list of arms and accessories that sely illustrated; nothing short of a reference list, we'd say.—Editor.

PISTOLS.

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and cylinder to the lock frame, then draw off the barrel and cylinder, by bringing down the lever and forcing the rammer on the partition between the chambers. Take out the nipples. Wash the cylinder and barrel in warm water, dry and oil them thoroughly; oil freely the base-pin on which the cylinder revolves.

TO TAKE THE LOCK TO PIECES, CLEAN AND OIL

First—Remove the stock, by turning out the bottom and two rear screws that fasten the back strap and lock frame, near the hammer.

Second—Loosen the screw that fastens the mainspring to the trigger-guard, and turn the spring from under the tumbler of the hammer.

Third—Remove the trigger guard, by turning out the three screws that fasten it to the lock-frame.

Fourth—Turn out the screw and remove the double sere spring that bears upon the trigger and bolt.

Fifth—Turn out the screw-oins that hold the trigger and bolt in their place.

Sixth—Turn out the remaining screw-pin and remove the hammer wtih hand-spring attached, by drawing it downwards out of the lock-frame. Clean all parts and oil them thoroughly.

TO PUT THEM TOGETHER

Replace the hammer with hand-spring attached, then the bolt, the trigger, the sere spring, the trigger guard, the mainspring, and finaly the handle; returning each screw to its proper place, the arm is again fit for use.

ide the lid of Colt percussion pistol cases. Copies of this label, printed on heavy harge.

SHARTLESVILLE SHOOT

The big event for Eastern Pennsylvania came off on schedule May 18th and 19th. Don Coble reports it; says there were three from as far north as Cos Cob (Conn.) and two men with wives from Ohio.

Match No. 1: 8 shots, 100 yards, round ball, any metallics—F. Mogle, W. Younker, Wm. McQuerry, C. Miller, in the order named. Trophy to winner. Winning "string": 8-21/32 in. Twenty-five entries.

Match No. 2: 6 shots, 100 yards, round ball, any metallics—D. Coble (5-27/32 in.), E. Ketner. First prize: Kentucky rifle by Geo. Landis. Eighteen entries.

Match No. 3: Flintlock, 8 shots, 100 yards, round ball, any metallics—W. Younker (9-19/32 in.), retaining trophy he won in 1939; E. Ketner, D. Coble, Althouse. Eight entries.

Match No. 4: Slug Guns, 100 yards, any metallics—W. Grote (4-30/32 in.) winning trophy, C. Bender, W. McQuerry, D. Coble. Eight entries.

Match No. 5: 6 shots, 50 yards, round ball, any metallics—L. W. Samsel (2-14/32 in.), Kentucky rifle presented by Paul Shearer; H. Mogle. Twenty entries.

Match No. 6: 6 shots, 50 yeards, round ball, any metallics—D. Coble (2-24/32 in.) Championship trophy, C. Miller, W. Grote, W. Younker.

Match No. 7: Offhand, 50 yards, round ball, any metallics—Andy Bush (3-12/32 in.), L. Cowher, Cecil Gardner, D. Coble. Seven entries.

Match No. 8: Re-entry, 4 shots, round ball, any metallic—C. Miller (1-10/32 in.), D. Coble, L. Hiester, E. Keltner. Thirty-six entries.

Match No. 9: Re-entry, 4 shots, 50 yards, round ball, any metallics—D. Coble (1-22/32 in.), W. Grote, W. McQuerry, D. Coble. Twenty-five entries.

Match No. 10: 100 yards, round ball, any metallics, for the Championship of Pennsylvania, 10 shots—C. Miller (11-1/32 in.), W. Younker, R. Younker, L. Hiester. Twenty entries.

Comment by the editor: You will note these matches were so arranged that an even number of shots were fired: 4, 6, 8 and 10. Scoring is string measure, note that, too. Here is the way this club does it—half the shots are measured from the "near side" of the break and half from the "far side." No doubt they figure the break is easier to find than the center of a bullet hole, and anyone who has been the official scorer at such an event will think twice before he declares them "all wet." Try the course in Match No. 10, see if you can get a string that runs just a wee mite more than an average of 1.1 inches per shot. We hold up the Shartlesville Shoot as a shining example of what may be done with round ball guns.

MANSFIELD—JUNE 22-23

Mansfield (Ohio) is setting up a neat bit of shoot program for the fans, details of which appear in a full-page advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

The Old Boys—over 60—can cavort in their own special stanza, the ladies—Lord love 'em—are to be featured in one event; get out of the way, you mere male muzzle mugs! Off-handers, flint-lockers, scatter gunners and the hard-boiled prone-or-benchers—all are adequately accomodated.

New to the uninitiated will be Event No. 2—where there will be cut-out of cats, whizzle-pigs, crows, catamounts and what nots, possibly some dangling parachute droppers. The off-hand fraternity can indulge their specialty until the bovines bring in their evening offerings.

The two Aggregates—see No. 10 and No. 11— with their special medals surely will attract a nice entry list. The day can be full of interesting competition for all and sundry. We hope to see a great attendance.

SCORES AT LIMA SHOOT

May 25th-26th, 1940

Weather: Ideal on the 25th; plenty showers on the 26th.
Registrations: Seventy-nine.
Condition of Range: Fine firing point; plenty of room.

Match No. 1—50 yards, open sights, round ball. (1) Wm. McQuerry, 48 1-X—awarded Colonial Finance Co. trophy. C. E. Hollenbaught and Ralph Dunn tied with 48.

Match No. 1-A—Similar conditions. Won by Stanley Carpenter, 48 with 2 X's. Awarded a Life Membership by Harvey Rhodes.

Match No. 2 — 100 yards, round ball, open sights. Won by Clyde Dixon, 48. Awarded New Bremen Trophy. Earl Harper, 46; E. J. Holmes, 45.

Match No. 3—An Aggregate of No. 1 and No. 2. Won by Clyde Dixon, score 95, securing him the second leg on the Lima Rifle & Revolver Club Trophy.

Match No. 4—100 yards, any ball or bullet. Won by Ralph Hall, score 50x50. Walter Grote 49, L. M. Wolfe, 48.

Match No. 6—An Aggregate of No. 1 and No. 4. Won by Ralph Hall with 94. Awarded the Walter J. Keenan Trophy.

Match No. 8—220 yards, ball or bullet, any metallic sights. Won by Harvey Rhodes, score 49, 3 X's. Ralph Hall 49, Boss Johnston 46.

Match No. 9—An Aggregate of No. 1, No. 4 and No. 8. Won by Ralph Hall, 143x150. Awarded the Barr Hotel Trophy.

Match No. 11—An Aggregate of Matches No. 4 and No. 8. Won by Ralph Hall, score 99. Awarded Hercules Body Co. Trophy.

Match No. 12—50 yards, flintlock, round ball, open sights. Won by H. W. Porter, score 45. Walter J. Keenan, 43, Wm. Pulford Sr., 42.

Match No. 13—30 yards, standing. E. R. Black, 44, Lloyd Bender and Stanley Carpenter tied with 41. New Bremen Trophy to Bender.

Match No. 14—Women—50 yards. Mrs. Paul Stevens, 48 — awarded Lima Rifle & Revolver Club Trophy. Mrs. Lloyd Bender, 44, Mrs. Wm. Querry.

Match No. 15—Pistol—30 yards. Lloyd Bender, 43. Awarded Reserve Officers Plaque. Ray Sonderman and Al Steuer tied with 41 each.

Found at the Lima shoot—Rubberized cover and woolen blanket. Owner may claim same by identifying them and paying postage. R. G. Patterson, 320 W. Spring St. (Red: It's still raining up here, Tuesday, the 28th.)

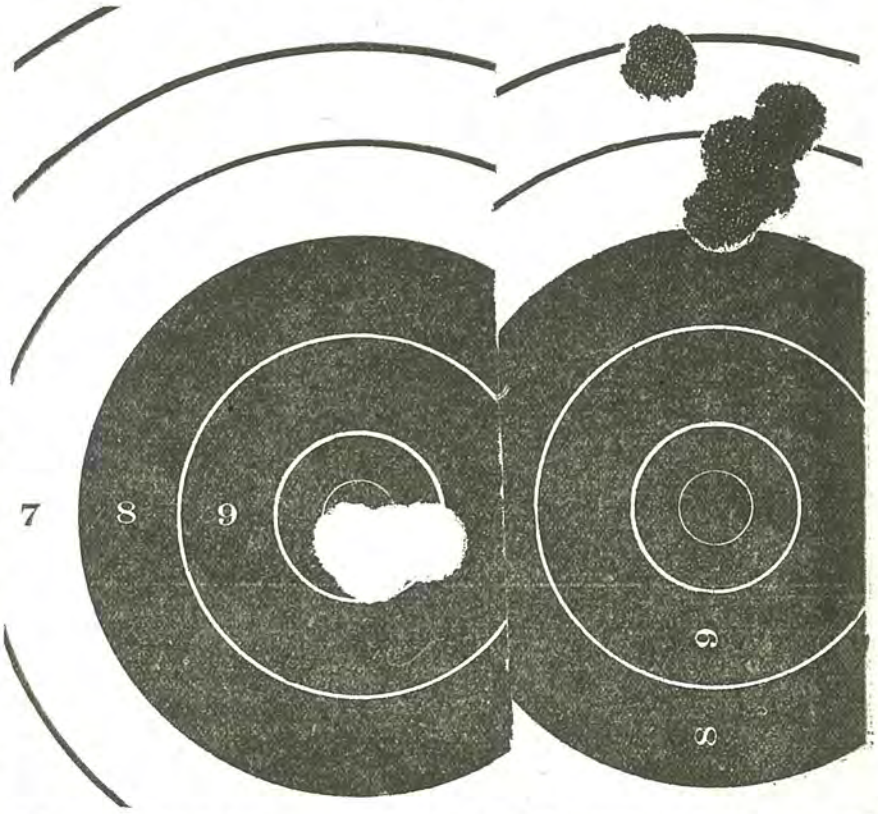
MARION (Indiana) SHOOT

Marion is Different. First of all, every promoter of that group is a Shooter. Furthermore, this Shoot turns back a preponderent share of the income of each match. They like money matches; they invite the fans to come up and have fun with them trying to win a portion of the receipts. They are loyal to the game and they have no doubts what they like. They are a Positive People.

OK—we like that type and hope this year finds them with so many participants and spectators they run out of hot dogs and firing points. Check the oil and gas early; you can't afford to miss Marion.

With Fort Wayne, Lima, Wilshire, New Bremen, Piqua, Muncie, Union City, Richmond, Dayton, London, Marysville, Sidney, Columbus, Ridgeville, Winchester, Indianapolis, Cherubusco and other shooting groups so near, no reason why this should not be a hum-dinger of a shoot.

MUZZLE GUN MODEL 1940



The groups shown here are actual size. The tight group of five 10's was made by Chas. Evans, open sights, the other by Claude Turner, Portsmouth, O., with same sight-setting. (Eyes of different ages.) This is a NEW gun. The barrel was planed, bored and rifled by P. I. Spence, Marietta; Win Woods touched up the lands and Mr. Evans made the stock. Down along "the River" many of the boys from Marietta to Portsmouth are getting new equipment of this type. As a natural result there are better scores seen. Old and inefficient sights are passe; every item is at its best. The average bore is about .44 inch. The length of the barrels run from 44 to 48 inches, while the diameters are 1¼ to 1½ in. Many are as pleasing to the sight as they are good groupers.

FOURTH ANNUAL LAFONTAINE, INDIANA

Muzzle Loading Rifle Shoot

HELD THIS YEAR AT

The Harwood Fox Farm

One Mile East of Marion, Indiana, on Highway 18

Saturday and Sunday, June 29-30

Here you will find a fine range with plenty of shade and water and Camping Ground. Good Hotels in Marion, just a mile west.

PROGRAM

No. 1—50 yard — open sight — round ball.

No. 2—100 yard — open sight — round ball.

No. 3—100 yard — any ball or bullet, patched — any iron sight.

No. 4—100 yard — round ball — any iron sight.

No. 5—30 yard—round ball—open sight—OFFHAND.

No. 6—50 yard — SQUIRREL rifle match for round ball guns under ten pounds.

No. 7—50 yard — open sight — round ball — match for LADIES.

No. 8—RE-ENTRY in any of the above matches to be fired only after the regular program match has been entered.

The entry fee in all matches will be ONE DOLLAR except the Number Eight RE-ENTRY Match, which will be fifty cents.

Prizes will be 70 per cent of the entry fees divided 40, 30, 20 and 10 per cent to first, second, third and fourth.

Matches for flint locks and percussion pistols will be arranged if there are enough contenders.

This program will be duplicated the second day, there will be a payoff each day.

A side of BACON will be given to the winner of the Ladies Match the second day.

Combined scores of events ONE and TWO the second day will decide the INDIANA STATE ROUND BALL CHAMPION.

H. A. BOLTZ.
W. E. FAUST.
PAUL STEVENS.

CARR vs. MARCIANTE

Dear Red:

After reading Al. Marciante's epistle it brought to mind an almost forgotten thing that happened yrs ago. When I was a boy. You see, back on the farm Dad had one of those combination guns—rifle on one side and shot gun on the other. Dad kept it hanging in the wood shed, and what do you think? Well, Sir, along in the Spring a wren built her nest in the shotgun barrel and Dad would not disturb her until she hatched out the peepies. No, Sir, the crows pulled the corn and the hawks carried away the chickens, but Dad would not disturb that wren.

Well, after the baby wrens came out and shifted for themselves, the old wren stayed around and showed her appreciation by helping pick potato bugs. But it was not until Fall that she showed her full appreciation to Dad for not upsetting her nest.

At the first Turkey Shoot that Fall, on the first shot, Dad missed the bull by a mile. When we went up to look at the target, hanged if the wren wasn't sitting on the frame, but when Dad loaded up for the next shot, Mrs. When perched herself on the muzzle of the rifle and, as he fired, she hopped on to that ball and, using her tail for windage and wings for elevation, she plunked that ball ker-smack in the 10-ring! Mark up one turkey for Dad.

Well, Sir, was we flabbergastit? Of course the other shooters said it wasn't fair, but Dad kept right on shooting and the wren kept right on operating. When Dad quit, or rather when the match was over, Dad had 32 turkeys, 5 hams, 12 geese and a whole flock of chickens. It sure pays to be good to our feathered friends.

Hoping you are the same,

(Signed) Bill Carr.

BENTON

July 4th is close, so Labor Day can't be far behind. (Seems like we read the likes of that in a book, a few years ago, eh?) Aiken and Burch will see to it that the nice new range and a grand program are all ready when these dates roll around. The acquisition of members has been steady in that section since they opened that fine layout in 1939. If we failed to tell you, Benton is in Illinois; southern section. It is worth an extra day to observe methods of getting out coal, crude oil and gas. This section is noted for its production of all three.

Two-Ignition Rifle—Flint and Percussion



The accompanying cut will show a unique setup for a rifle—especially a match piece. B. L. Shaver, Wichita, Kans., is the owner and "inventor." Shaver has sent in some fine postal match targets from this rifle, flint and percussion. In theory it appears goofey and of no particular merit, but for a match shooter—a one-gun man—it has heaps to commend it.

SAN DIEGO

June 30th would be the day the editor could enjoy at San Diego. We could relish a chin-fest with Col. Stodter, buddy of earlier Camp Perry days. It would be easy to sit around with Bill Gibbs, George Hensley and Lindsay King, getting their low-down on the game they have quite recently taken up. Maybe they could connive to show me the brand of climate I tried to find in Florida last March. Anyhow, even without me, they will likely have a great Shoot.

CANAL FULTON SHOOT

It is difficult to cease our cackle about the Big Shoots. We have been around to a neat number of them; Canal Fulton is always a head-liner. This 1940 stanza will be no exception. McQuerry & Co. are a great lot of fine sportsmen. Never did like the way Porter handles that flint-lock; we always expect to see top scores here by the ladies. Without Pop Niedner this shoot would be considerable of a flop—he's there just as sure as is McQuerry. We hope nothing bobs up to block the Pope-Niedner contest. We know Root will be on hand with his movie camera for this—we have asked him to drop all else to get just this one item, if necessary. I could mention several who would shell out the shekels until there were none in the old sock just to have one enlargement of these two in combat! Two old cronies in such a match—boy, I'd take it in preference to a Derby, Indianapolis Speedway, Heavyweight Championship and World Series all rolled into one, that's what I would! Who wouldn't? See Page 11 of this issue for details of the events.

CUSTOMARY COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 3)

toward the East and so swell the attendance at Dillsboro.

* * *

We want to say again, in this Column of Comments, that the promoters and range officers ought to get a bit hard-handed in the matter of safety during a shoot. Spectators are childlike in their faith that "the derned thing is safe," when we know that once-in-a-million it will go screwy and mess things up. Some of us will sit back under an umbrella and drink pop rather than take the chances we have had to take in past seasons.

* * *

Tastes are terrible; one time we find the fans want black powder of but one granlation. On another occasion semi-smokeless of all granulations is in demand. Caps, buck shot ,nipples, locks, triggers and spotting scopes all come in for their share of attention . . . . always when we left those very items out of the ol' leather trunk that is the "commissary." Since we can't shoot for shucks, we might as well peddle pills and powders, eh? Us and Miller Bedford—only our shirts don't run to them horrendous hues—his do. Neither of us but will welcome competition, for it's a free-for-all so far as we are concerned.

* * *

Deer via a muzzle loader. That's on the ticket for 1940; both in Pennsylvania and in Michigan. Mebbe so many more places. More than one of

(Continued on Page 12)

ELEVENTH ANNUAL BIG

MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE SHOOT

CANAL FULTON, OHIO

Two Days—Saturday and Sunday, July 6th and 7th

Canal Fulton Ramrod Club

Oldest Active Muzzle Loading Rifle Club in the United States

COVERED FIRING POINTS
COVERED LOADING PLACES

Lunches and Refreshments On the Grounds



All Trophies Annual, however, a Three-time Winner may keep any Trophy permanently.

All Medals Permanent Property of Winner.
All Medals Engraved and Not Plated.

MATCH No. 1

Five shots, bench rest or prone. Round patched ball only. Any metallic sights. Fifty yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Gold, silver and bronze medals to first, second and third places.

MATCH No. 2

Same as Match No. 1 except all record shots to be fired offhand. Distance: 30 yards.

MATCH No. 3—Daniel Boone Trophy Match

An aggregate of No. 1 and No. 2. Winner gets a beautiful silver loving cup and gold medal.

MATCH No. 4—Buckeye Cycle Co. Trophy Match

Five shots, 100 yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Any cloth or paper patched ball or bullet. Any metallic sights. Prone or bench rest. Winner: Beautiful silver loving cup and gold medal. Silver to second and bronze to third. One hour allowed in this match.

MATCH NO. 5—Zeppelin Arms Co. Trophy Match

(Donated by Zeppelin Arms Co., Akron, Ohio)

Same as Match No. 4 except round patched ball only may be used. Prone or bench rest. Winner and places same as Match No. 4.

SPECIAL—POPE-NEIDNER MATCH

Contest between these two worthy gunmen if the health of the pair will permit, each to use muzzle loading guns made by their respective selves.

MATCH No. 6—Ladies' Match

Beautiful silver loving cup and medals. Five shots, 50-yard small bore target. Round patched ball only. Any iron sights. Bench rest or prone.

MATCH No. 7—Kit Carson

Flint lock, open sights. Round patched ball only. Five shots, 50 yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Bench rest or prone. Winner: a beautiful trophy and gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal.

MATCH No. 8—Creasy Arms Co. Trophy Match

(Donated by Creasy Arms Co., Navarre, Ohio)

Ten shots, 220 yards, any sights. String measure —Shortest string gets beautiful trophy and gold medal; second, silver medal; third, bronze medal. One hour and fifteen minutes allowed in this match.

MATCH No. 9
Extra Special—Neidner-Schuetzen Match

Five shots, 100 yards, any sights. Any patched ball or bullet. Beautiful trophy and gold medal to first place; silver medal to second, and bronze to third.

MATCH No. 10—Special
Cash Only — Three High Men Take All

Five shots, 100-yard small bore target. Round patch ball only. Prone or bench rest. Any metallic sights. The entire proceeds of this Match go to the three high men, 50% to first, 30% to second, 20% to third. Come on, you open sight round ball boys, and make some dough.

OTHER CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

All shots will be scored from center of bullet hole.

Entry fees will be $1.00 to members of N. M. L. R. A.; $1.50 to non-members.

We intend this to be the largest shoot held anywhere in the United States, except the National Matches.

This program will be run in relays in which the Matches are numbered, each day, so any one not able to attend two days may shoot the entire program either day. Come for two days if possible.

The Canal Fulton Gun Club is located 15 miles south of Akron, Ohio, on Route 21, two miles east of Canal Fulton.

Practice targets may be fired at any range available at 25 cents each.

Come to Canal Fulton and follow signs to rifle range.

Telephone and pit service at 220-yard range.

Time: 45 minutes for Round Ball Matches on 50 yard range.

This is a registered shoot, and all N. M. L. R. Association rules and conditions will apply.

Twenty-five cent registration fee.

For information write
BILL McQUERRY, 15 Cole Place, Akron, Ohio, or C. S. DeWALT, 932 Arlington St., Canton, O.

Muzzle Loading Matches have been held here continuously since 1812.

CUSTOMARY COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 10)

us may been seen out with the flint lock piece trying to hold on the bull while she fiz-z-z-zes—bangs! If there is anything to prove coordination and cold-as-ice nerve, it is this offhand with a flinter. Try it, skeptics.

* * *

Then the scatter guns. The traffic is improving. The boys around Marion (Indiana) report they have been hunting with this old type for years. We get scattering reports of some good egg going out under cover of a fog or snow storm to try out the front-end-loader where no one can see him at it. But the second time he goes out and challenges the boys with pumps and automatics to do their worst! He knows there is no shame to the use of one of these old guns; no handicap either. Merely slow loading and powder goo on the hands. Give this a whirl if you are stll skeptical.

* * *

We see that the Cos Cob program carries a series of three matches for percussion rifles and then three more for purely military muzzle loading rifles or muskets. The best aggregate in each class will be listed as the Championship winner. Then there is a championship for flint lock rifles. Another for flint or percussion hand guns. We see this is a rain-or-shine shoot . . . good stuff, you Nutmeggers! Too bad flivvers prevail in this day of flying; otherwise, some of us surely would be on hand for the shoot. Date is Sunday, June 23rd. Write to Cecil Gardner, 13 Field Road, Cos Cob, Conn., for a program. And take our word for it, this is a fine bunch of muzzle gun shooters.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be $10.00; half page, $15.00; full page, $25.00.

Copy not in hand by the 25th ot a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

FOR SALE: Sixteen pound .60 cal. original flint lock Daniel Boyer match rifle, 38 inch barrel, perfect bore. This rifle won California matches 1939. $60. Will consider part trade. Two light, high-grade English 12 ga. percussion double shot guns, good condition, $7.50 each. **Bill Knepp, 428 Workman St., San Fernando, Calif.**

FOR SALE: Colt S. A. A. .45, 7½ inch, stamped holster, $15.00; S&W M&P .38 Spl., $16.00; Dalrymple smoothbore Colt .45, tools, ammunition, $16.00. **B. Tomlinson, Lebanon, Indiana.** (6-40)

FOR SALE: .424 caliber percussion M/L rifle; made by Browning & Heber; re-rifled by Elmer Hitchcock; octagon barrel 32 inch x 1⅛ inch; set triggers; cheek rest; Ideal mold; powder horn; bullet starter; in excellent condition; not a rust speck on it; $45.00 for the outfit. **H. B. Forsterer, Tribune Tower, Oakland, California.**

FOR SALE: Barrel lathe, will take any blank up to four inches diameter and 48 inches long. Sell cheap. **Charles Burns, 132 Riley St., Bluffton, Ohio.** (6-40)

WANTED: HAWKEN PLAINS RIFLE in Gun Crank Condition. **Roy S. Tinney, Chatham, N. J.**

QUALITY ANTIQUE FIREARMS: American, French and English martial pistols; percussion revolvers; cartridge arms for collectors; accessories . . . wanted and for sale. **J. Serven, Sonoita, Arizona.** (7-40)

FOR SALE: New list ready. Contains more than 500 antique and modern guns and pistols, besides large assortment loading tools, bullet moulds, gun accessories, ammunition, single cartridges for collectors, books, binoculars. Also lists 200 edged weapons consisting of swords, bayonets, daggers and edged, as well as war relics, armor, etc. Price of list, 20c. SPECIAL!!! Percussion nipples for Colt, Remington, Starr, $1.10 dozen; small sized flints, ⅜ in. to ⅝ in., 3 for 50c; original flintlocks, foreign, 5 in. long, $2.75. Prices postpaid. Can furnish parts for many antique and modern guns. No parts lists. Inquire. **Martin B. Rettig, MB, Shokan, N. Y.** (6-40)

For Sale: .38 calibre slug gun, all tools, perfect, 18 inch twist, stainless steel lined barrel, $35. Three-barrel gun, like new, two 12-gage and one .30-30; very fine gun, $75. Double barrel muzzle loading 18-gage shotgun, percussion, in good shooting order; fine old gun; $15. Double percussion 16-gage, one barrel rifled, one smooth; very nice shooting condition; $20. **W. E. Foust, LaFountaine, Indiana.** (6-40)

DO YOU WANT my book, THE MUZZLE LOADING PERCUSSION LOCK RIFLE? If so, send YOUR order NOW for LIMITED edition for subscribers ONLY, ready about August 1st. Valuable data from Horace Warner, Wm. V. Lowe and others. Sixty years personal experience of author. Twelve chapters, nicely illustrated; cloth binding, $4.50; Fabrikoid, $5.00. ONLY book on this in 92 years. **N. H. Roberts, 29 Elm St., Goffstown, N. H.** (6-40)

ATLAS LATHES, SHAPERS, DRILL PRESSES. Tune up that "COAL BURNER" with a MODERN ATLAS PRECISION LATHE. Saleable shooting equipment taken in as part payment. Terms on balance if desired. 72-page CATALOGUE on request. . . **CLAUDE RODERICK, Authorized ATLAS Dealer, Monett, Missouri.** (6)

MAKER of fine handmade, small bore, percussion lock hunting rifles. **Cal Price, Orange, Texas.** (7-40)

WANTED: Rare automatics, Colt auto variations, rare or very fine guns, modern or antique. **Miller Bedford, New London, Ohio.** (Life Member.)

WANTED: Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. **LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.** (12-40)

The NEW FELT EMBLEMS—*Going Fast*

Singly 35c plus postage

Ten or more, 30c each

— — — — — — — — — — —

One Match Grade Flint Rifle—Right For a Hunting Piece—.40 Cal.—Full Stock—Brass Patch Box Cheek Rest—Sample Target Submitted $45.

E. M. FARRIS, N. & W. YMCA, PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Lloyd Bender
256 Clymer St
Galion Ohio

Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. I PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, AUGUST, 1940 No. 12

HISTORY OF THE BARNHART RIFLE

BY HAROLD A. BARNHART

(We trust our readers will like this sketch. If we get favorable comment we will secure more such, concerning other famous gunsmiths. Editor.)

In the year 1783 Matthias Barnhart, a veteran of the Northumberland County Militia during the Revolutionary War, was granted a tract of 200 acres in Buffalo Township, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.

He had three sons, Wm. Henry Barnhart, Matthias Barnhart Jr. and Lorenzo Barnhart. After the death of their father in 1794 the oldest son, Wm. Henry Barnhart, served as administer of the estate of his father and remained in Pennsylvania to take care of his mother.

The other two brothers, Matthias Jr. and Lorenzo disposed of their property in 1810 and on September 25th, 1810 started the journey overland to Ohio. They had, according to their old diary, 8,066 pounds of freight and the cost of transportation was $10.00 per hundred pounds.

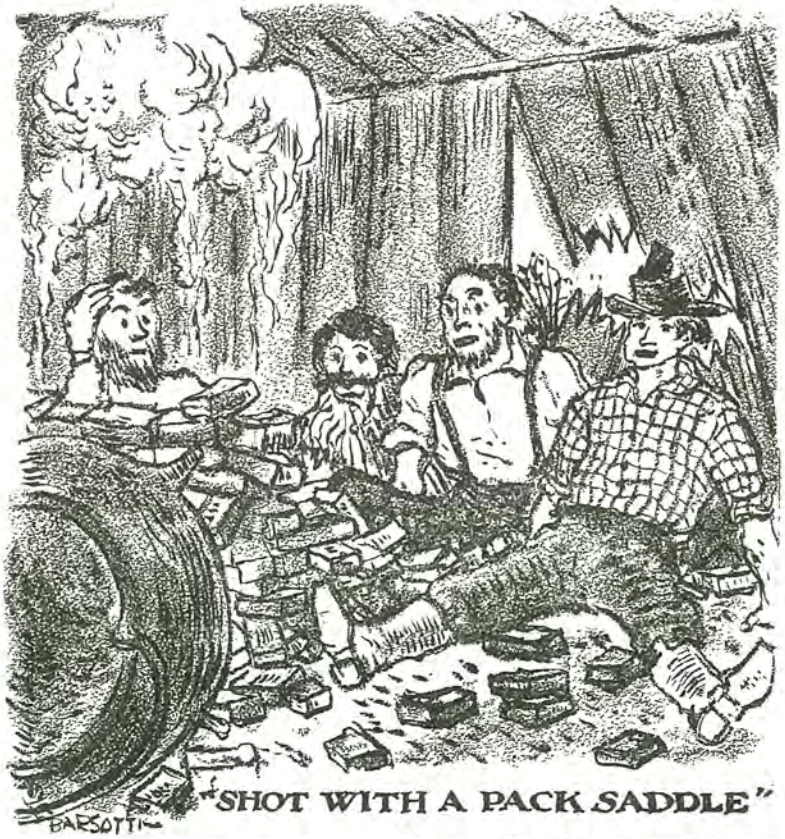
Upon arriving in Ohio Mathias settled in Springfield township, Ross County and his brother Lorenzo settled in Green Township near Kinnikinnik.

Two of Lorenzo's sons, William and George, feeling the need of a rifle, went to Jackson County and watched an old gunsmith through the cracks between the logs of his shop, making a rifle. He finally noticed the boys watching him and brought them into the shop to question them. He then instructed them in making a rifle and they purchased a keg of soft iron and brought it to their home and built the first Barnhart Rifle. It was not a beautiful weapon but it was very accurate and a good job considering their home made tools.

William Barnhart placed his name on his rifle in script. He was born in 1801 and died in 1867. His son, Nehemiah Barnhart, was born in 1831 and died in 1888. He also placed his

(Continued on Page 8)

"SHOT WITH A PACK SADDLE"



BY JOHN BARSOTTI

When his pranks proved the undoing of a mischiefmaker early Ohioans said, "He's been shot with a pack saddle." The phrase originated about 1800 in the Jackson county salt works. The rowdy salt boilers, always alert for new victims, stole and burned the pack saddles of one buyer. To their disappointment, he ignored the incident. When on his next trip he brought a handsome new pack saddle, the boilers could hardly believe their luck. They promptly threw it into the flames and, as promptly, were rewarded by an explosion which wrecked the furnace and showered them with scalding brine. The new pack saddle had been loaded with gunpowder.

MUZZLE BLASTS

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We are not here to explain miracles; merely to report what we see and understand. By that we mean: How it is possible for the clan of gunsmiths who still follow the old methods, to get accuracy in their barrels is deep stuff. But they do get said accuracy. Their shops may leak rain through the roof, wind through the siding, while cats and dogs come through the floor, but the file and the hammer, the "cuttin' tools" and the "guide" can always be found. Usually there is a small forge convenient—maybe an anvil that came over about the time the Mayflower landed. Odds and ends of metal will be noticed—everything is kept for an emergency.

We know one good smith who has utilized odds and ends to make a vise on a tree! Right—he bored through the trunk and put a long bolt through the hole thus provided, put nuts on the threaded ends along with a "jaw" on the one side—and there he had a vise, he did. He can use this in machine-testing a barrel or for holding his barrel-rifling set-up. Some barrels he takes in are too long for his shop!

The tribe that does things "the old way" is small and is fast disappearing. The new crop will always doubt us when we tell what was done with so little in the way of equipment; surely they won't believe that accuracy was secured by any smith that could not name a micrometer if he saw one, much less comprehend its intricacies. Inside calipers and relation of twist of rifling to type of projectile—all so much blah-blah to him. But he could tell "by the crack" of the shot a whole lot about the load and the method of loading; he knew "by feel" whether the metal he was working was "full of life" or just so much dead stuff. This type gunsmith came in with the rifles and just about disappeared with them . . . now that the old guns are coming back we are most certain that progress in the next decade will be made without the help of the old crossroads blacksmith-gunsmith. A typical American mechanic will have passed; a rugged individual who represented those qualities which became the blood and sinew of the young nation will become a legend and a hero. We are glad to take this space to pay him due tribute and homage.

SHOOT CALENDAR

Lewistown, Penna.	**August 4th**
Lewistown, Montana	**September 1st**
Benton, Illinois	**Labor Day**
Salem, Ohio	**Labor Day**
Santa Ana, California	**October 6th**
WLW-NATIONAL	**October 18, 19, 20**

Bull Ramsey and the editor sat here by the Woodstock last evening and got to naming old gunsmiths who had worked in a radius of sixty miles of Portsmouth. The results were astounding. And interesting. This was not a thickly-settled country when muzzle loading rifles were a necessity in each household . . . . not more than a million to a mile now!

We found four who seemed to have Portsmouth for their mail address: Shermon (first name not known—and the spelling being unusual), Piatt, Hacquard, Ziegler. Up in or near Jackson were Nate Downey and White (first name not known). In or near Ironton were Musgrave and Wickline. Up about Chillicothe were Barnhart, Van Meter and Schlaret. The one and only Kentucky gunsmith nearby was John Woods, Helena (near Maysville), who must have lived long or, at least, lived late in the muzzle gun period. The writer has two fine rifles by Woods; one was made in 1896; it is a left-handed gun, made for Tom Redden of Vanceburg (Ky.), who still lives near that city and who has seen the gun perform within the past year or so. "Uncle Buck" Rideout, still living near Manchester (Ohio) remembers this gun, for he it was who forged the patent breech and the lock plate. There is much more of a romantic flavor connected with this port-sider, but that must wait for a later effort.

Take your pad of note paper and try to list the gun-makers who worked in your section when the game flourished. And then send in a sketch—it will be worth much to all of us and heaps to yourself.

If you have a favorite gun and know the history of the smith who made it, let's have a sketch of some 400 to 600 words. Note one such sketch in this issue, by a descendent of the famous BARNHART of central Ohio. We have assigned — tried to, anyhow — such tasks to several other Buckeye fans. We would be glad to see this work come in liberally.

FIRE AND FALL BACK!

Envy of the ladies, who are just now getting a large slice of publicity in MUZZLE BLASTS, should not upset the sterner group of the shoot fraternity. Those who grow and sport neat little mustachios (well, what IS the plural of mustache?), they will have a bit of space before many moons.

* * *

Speaking of Envy, Mr. and Mrs. Bill McQuerry, Dolph Niedner and Bull Ramsey are setting up a trip that makes us all weep. 'Tis so; they plan to motor westward so to be in Southern California for the Horton-Sackett-Knepp smoke-fest October 6th. Should any more plutocratic members be thinking of a motor vacation about that time, keep the place and date in mind. You will be royally received by our good friends out there. They promise ideal weather and every-shot-a-bullseye.

* * *

FREE PRESS—that's the name of the outfit that prints this sheet. I tried to get by without paying for the July issue, but got the frigid stare and the definite knowledge that there ain't nothin' free! Only advice. But it does offer opportunity—that FREE PRESS gag—to tell all who read that we can prevail on this publisher to increase to twelve pages again just so soon as we can have a monthly income about 25% over what we now enjoy. Memberships and Advertising—you help bring up the income from these two sources and we can promise you a bigger and better MUZZLE BLASTS.

* * *

We might admit here and now that a little advertisement in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, costing about $3.50 per month, has been bringing in members from all sections—members who are really alive to the lure of the frontier guns. It has been a fine investment—returns are about $5 for each $1 expended.

* * *

Your secretary recently spent two weeks up in the immediate neighborhood of Fort Ticonderoga, N. Y. About a day and a half were spent in the fort or in its museum. In the latter place we met the Superintendent—Mr. Milo King. Bill Bailey, Lisbon, N. H., Kenneth Cross and Paul Munkitterick, both of St. Johnsbury, Vt., and their ladies, came to the Fort to meet for a confab—and did we enjoy the occasion! Mr. King escorted us through the armory—took his keys and (you gotta believe this, folks) he opened the cases of some of the rare and unusual old guns they have collected, and we actually were permitted to handle them! Mr. King proved a most interesting host for the several hours we spent with him. If any of our fraternity are fortunate enough to get to this fine old stone fort, wonderfully restored and preserved, be sure to call on Milo King and meet a grand guy!

* * *

We believe sufficiently in the book that Ned Roberts will put on the market about August first to have placed an order for our little trading center. Good books are always in order. Ned's volume will be something for the fans

(Continued on Page 7)



The likeness herewith is of Mrs. Paul Freese, Marietta, Ohio. This tyro—for she is new at this type of shooting—won the women's match at Marietta and then repeated at Canal Fulton. In each case she had real competition, too. Few men came up to her prowess. Scanning the scores we find Mrs. Paul Stevens, LaFontaine, Indiana, has won the women's event at Lima and at the LaFontaine shoots. Two-for-two, in two times up! Those are fat averages, we say. Congratulations, mesdames! (Another lady shooter will featured in the next or an early number.)

RESULTS OF THE SHOOTS

LAFONTAINE SHOOT RESULTS

Event No. 1: Paul Stevens, 49; Albert Morris, 47; E. I. Hasty, 47; Clyde Dixon, 47.

Event No. 2: Paul Stevens, 48; Zack Lindley, 48; Clyde Dixon, 46; Albert Morris, 45.

Event No. 3: L. M. Wolfe, 50; R. S. Hill, 43; Ed Foust, 42.

Event No. 4: Ed Foust, 45; Dr. Campbell Thompson, 43.

Event No. 5: No entries.

Event No. 6: Ralph Dunn, 47; H. A. Boltz, 42; Wm. Vanderford, 41.

Event No. 7 (Ladies): Mrs. Paul Stevens, 49; Mrs. Wm. Vanderford, 48; Mrs. Hugh Scott, 44; Mrs. H. A. Boltz, 44.

Event No. 8: This was a special match in which was donated 2 large hams by Mr. Buckingham for ladies only. All entries free. Mrs. Paul Stevens, 47; Mrs. H. A. Boltz, 45.

Event No. 9 (Junior Match): Henry Dillon, 45; Warren Neff, 43; Jimmy Dixon, 41.

MANSFIELD RESULTS

(High Three Given)

Event No. 1—30 yd. Offhand

W. W. McQuerry, Akron, O., 16, 1st place, medal and cash; S. G. Bushman, Mansfield, O., 10, 2nd place, cash; H. W. Porter, Akron ,O., 8, 3rd place, cash.

Event No. 3—50 yd. Offhand

H. W. Porter, Akron, O., 19, 1st place, medal and cash; Les Fitzgerald, Pontiac, Mich., 18, and W. W. McQuerry, Akron, O., 18, 2nd place (tie), cash; Lloyd Bender, Galion, O., 13, 3rd place, cash.

Event No. 4—50 yd. Prone

W. F. Grote, Canton, O., 29 1-X, 1st place, medal and cash;W. H. Pulford, Sr., Lima, O., 28, 2nd place, cash; Les Fitzgerald, Pontiac, 27, R. Lesseur, Crestline, O., 27, Lloyd Bender, Galion, O., 27, H. W. Porter, Akron, O.., 27, 3rd place (tie), cash.

Event No. 5—50 yd. Prone—Over 60

Elmer Light, Mansfield, O., 26, 1st place, medal and cash; Joe Adams, Mansfield, O., 21, 2nd place, cash.

Event No. 6—50 yd. Prone—Women

Mrs. W. W. McQuerry, Akron, 28, 1st place, medal and cash; Mrs. C. S. DeWalt, Canton, 27 1-x, 2nd place, cash;Mrs. H. W. Porter, Akron, 27, Mrs. W. F. Grote, Canton, 27, 3rd place (tie) cash.

Event No. 7—50 yd. Prone, Flintlock

W. H. Pulford Jr., Lima, 28, 1st place, medal and cash; H. W. Porter, Akron, O., 25, 2nd place, cash; W. H. Pulford, Sr., Lima, 24, 3rd place, cash.

Event No. 8—100 yd.—Prone

W. F. Grote, Canton, O., 50, 2-x, 1st place, medal and cash; W. W. McQuerry, Akron, O., 48, 2-x, 2nd place, cash; Arthur Watson, Akron, O., 48, 3rd place, cash.

Event No. 10—Aggregate 1 and 3

W. W. McQuerry, Akron, O., 34, winner, gold medal.

Event No. 11—Aggregate 1-3-4-8

W. W. McQuerry, Akron, O., 108, winner, gold medal.

CANAL FULTON RESULTS

Your secretary does not get around to nearly all the Shoots, but has such a fine time at those where he is able to attend that the report he makes in MUZZLE BLASTS might make it appear that he is partial. Nix; much that he writes is governed by space available and the time at his disposal. Just now we want to enthuse a bit over Canal Fulton's Annual Matches.

First off, their eight-page mimeographed report is certainly the last word (unless Marietta's report along similar lines was a "tie score"). We find 62 persons were registered.

Our comptometer exhibits a total of 167 entries in 14 events. Here are the top three for each:

No. 1—5 shots, 50 yds., prone or bench—L. L. Cox, 48-2x; Don Coble, 48-1x; Lloyd Bender, 48 1x-1 8. Gold, silver and bronze medals. 33 entries.

No. 2—5 shots, 30 yds., offhand; 20 entries—Don Coble, 47; Lloyd Bender, 46, W. L. Lawrence, 43. Three medals.

No. 3—An Aggregate of No. 1 and No. 2—Coble, 95; Bender, 94; Cox, 90. Trophy and gold medal to first.

No. 4—5 shots, 100 yds., any ball or bullet, metallic sights, prone or bench; 15 entries—H. W. Porter, 50; W. F. Grote and L. L. Bender tied with duplicate scores of 49 and each with 3 3/16" "strings"; L. M. Wolfe, 49 2x; Dewey Weiss, 49 1x; A. Watson, 49; R. D. Ball, 49; W. A. Creamer, 49. Trophy and gold medal.

No. 5—5 shots, 100 yds., prone or rest, round ball; 19 entries—Don Coble, 48; Ralph Hall, 47; C. E. Hill, 46. Trophy and three medals.

No. 6—Ladies Match—5 shots, 50 yds., rest, round ball; 8 entries—Mrs. Paul Freeze, 49; Mrs. Lloyd Bender, 48; Mrs. Wm. McQuerry, 47. Trophy and three medals.

No. 7—Flint Lock—W. F. Grote, 47; Wm. Younker, 46 1x; Wm. Mcquerry, 46. Trophy and three medals. 12 entries.

No. 8—10 shots, 220 yds., string measure, ball or bullet, rest. Mrs. W. F. Grote (note the string) 7 29/32"! W. F. Grote, 10 15/16"; Lloyd Bender, 15 9/16". Creasy Arms Trophy and three medals. 16 entries.

No. 9 — Schuetzen — Neidner Trophy—Don Coble, 44; Lloyd Bender, 39; W. L. Lawrence, 37. Trophy and three medals. 6 entries.

No. 10—5 shots, 100 yds., any metallic sights, three high take all; 6 entries—Fred Donney, 45; R. D. Hall, 41; R. A. Younker, 38. $3.00, $1.80, $1.20.

No. 11—OGCA Trophy—Pistol, 3 shots, 20 paces; 3 entries—Wm. McQuerry, 4 5/8"; H. W. Porter, 5 5/9" (whose rule is split into 9ths?); John Barsotti, 8 11/16".

No. 12—Man and Wife, 5 shots, 50 yards, any metallic sights; 6 entries —Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Grote, 98; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McQuerry, 95; Mr. and Mrs. C. S. DeWalt, 91. Trophy and three medals.

No. 13—Cap and Ball Pistol—5 shots, 25 yds.; 10 entries. John Barsotti, 48; H. W. Porter, 46; Lloyd Bender 46 ("string" being longer than in Porter's case). Trophy and three medals.

No. 14—Men over 60 Years of Age —5 shots, 50 yds.; 2 entries—J. D. Booher, 41; Elmore Light, 37. Trophy and two medals.

In the Niedner-Pope match only Mr. Niedner could be present. Mr. Pope's wife was ill. McQuerry reports Niedner's score as 50x50, with the Niedner-Pope Friendship Trophy go-

ing to that worthy gent.

If you want to see a fine Bulletin on a big shoot, write to McQuerry at 15 Cole Place, Akron, Ohio and slip in 6 cents postage. It will be worth the time, effort and postage.

COS COB RESULTS

(24 Registered)

Match No. 1 (100 yds. prone):
Coble, 45 Brush, 44; Bryant, 43.
Match No. 2 (50 yds. prone):
Bryant, 47; Coble, 47; Strong, 44.
Match No. 3 (50 yds. Offhand)
Brush, 40; Coble, 40; Strong, 25.
Numbers 4, 5 and 6—Military Rifles or Muskets
Match No. 4 (100 yds. prone):
Brush, 36; Chapin, 35; Coble, 33.
Match No. 5 (50 yds. prone):
Robeson, 45; Chapin, 38; Gardner, 37.
Match No. 6 (50 yds. Offhand):
Anderson, 29; Marcher, 29; Chapin, 27.
Match No. 7 (Flintlock, 50 yds.):
Brush, 43; Gardner, 41; Coble, 39.
Match No. 8 (Pistol, 25 yds.)
Eagan, 91; Morgan, 91; Mackay, 87.
Aggregate Matches 1-2-3:
Coble, 132; Brush, 125; Strong, 108.
Aggregate Matches 4-5-6:
Chapin, 100; Coble, 82; Brush, 81.

HELP!

Query from a Brother Editor

"Perhaps you can give a fellow a hand on a proposition here.

"One of my Western Story Magazine readers, Mr. Walter M. Schott, writes me that his wife's great-grandfather was Samuel Hawken of St. Louis, a noted old rifle maker. He has been looking for a genuine Hawken rifle for a family keepsake and naturally would like to get one in good condition. Perhaps through the membership of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association you can give him a hand in this and help him acquire the relic he desires. I feel certain that the boys will turn out and do their bit to find a specimen for him.

"If you can do anything along these lines, will you write Mr. Schott, care of Vital Products, Inc., 2806 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.? Any assistance you can give him will be personally appreciated by the writer.

"Hope we get together at Camp Perry this year. I'm looking forward to it with keen anticipation.

"Kindest regards."

Philip B. Sharpe.

SPECIAL! C. L. Chute just got us word of a group of muzzle loading events in connection with a Perry County Sportsman's League Field Day, Perry County Fair Grounds, Sunday, August 25th. This is near Somerset, Ohio. They plan matches for 30, 50 and 100 yards—flint and percussion—prone and offhand—men and women. Plenty of prizes. Ample parking space. Write for particulars to C. L. Chute, New Lexington, Ohio.

HIGH LIGHTS of DETROIT SHOOT

Wolfe's perfect score—Match No. 5.

* * *

Virginia Keith's X-10 with **her first shot** with a muzzle loading rifle.

* * *

Changing of Porter's name from "Pole Cat" to "Rattle Snake" Porter.

* * *

Bill Carr's red nose—and peacock feather.

* * *

Getting Arthur Herd out to a match.

* * *

Two days without rain!

* * *

Carr's shoulder after the trap match.

* * *

Zimmer's throwing away the flint lock match.

* * *

Ellen Grote's 48 score, Match No. 3.

* * *

Bill Carr keeping to the truth for two days.

MUZZLE SHOOTER ELECTED HEAD OF McGUFFEY CLUBS

Not all who lean toward the muzzle guns can claim a connection with McGuffey Readers, but some of us can.

Jack Hood, secretary of the Daniel Boone Muzzle Loadng Club, Portsmouth, Ohio has just been elevated to a position of real honor, one justly deserved because of devotion to a real American institution—The McGuffey Readers. Yes, Jack is now president of the National Federation of McGuffey Societies.

The life of the McGuffey readers was shorter, but fully as influential on American life as were our old guns, while they were in our schools. So, we are pleased to give Jack his "place in the sun" via the columns of MUZZLE BLASTS.

Heard at Canal Fulton Shoot: "Mr. Bender, did your daughter do well in that match where I noticed you loading for her?" (It was Mrs. Bender!)

You Are Invited To Attend Shoot To Be Held At The

LINCOLN RIFLE CLUB INC.

(Formerly The Lincoln Tavern)

3 miles south of Gentryville, Ind.

Junction of Highways 45 and 62

SATURDAY and SUNDAY, September 7th & 8th, 1940

Program Includes Matches for All Types Muzzle Loading Rifles.

Men's Matches—Women's Matches

75% of Fees Go Into Purses

Don't Miss This Shoot at the LINCOLN RIFLE CLUB Near the Historic Lincoln City

Sponsored by the Lincoln Rifle Club, Inc., under the National Muzzle Loading Association Rules.

LABOR DAY MUZZLE LOADING SHOOT

Salem Country Club

SALEM, OHIO

Route 62 2 miles west of city

MATCH No. 1

Five shots. Bench rest or prone. Fifty yards. — Five shots, Offhand. Thirty yards. Round patch ball only. Any metallic sight.

Silver Cup and Medals.

MATCH No. 2

Ten shots. Bench rest or prone. Round patch ball only. Any metallic sights. Fifty yards.

Trophy and Medals

MATCH No. 3

Five shots. Bench rest or prone. Round patch ball only. Any metallic sights. One hundred yards.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals

Fee: $1.00 for Each Match

Trophies must be won 3 times before permanently awarded.

All matches will be shot on small-bore targets.

LABOR DAY MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE SHOOT

LAKE BENTON RIFLE RANGE BENTON, ILLINOIS

President Boss and your secretary were on hand last season when Benton (Ill.) opened their splendid Municipal Rifle Range. The setup was laid out with both small bore and muzzle loader in mind. J. M. Aiken and Guy Burch are the big pushers in the muzzle loading section of the shooters. Being tireless workers the Benton boys will offer Stanza No. 2 on Labor Day this year. We offer their program in the hope there will be a splendid turnout for the events.

* * *

Event No. 1—50 Yards, Round Ball, Open Sights, Prone.

Event No. 2—100 Yards, Round Ball, Open Sights, Prone.

Event No. 3—100 Yards, Any Patched Ball or Bullet, Any Metallic Sights, Prone.

Event No. 4—220 Yards, Any Patched Ball or Bullet, Any Metallic Sights, Prone.

Event No. 5—220 Yards, Free-for-All-Rifles (Muzzle Loading or Cartridge), Any Metallic Sights. Five Shots for Smallest Group.

All Targets Standard N.R.A. Entry Fee 75c per Match. Sixty (60%) per cent Returned to Winners.

Re-entry and Other Matches Arranged to Suit the Shooters.

NMLRA Rules to Govern.

RANGE OFFICIALS WILL INSIST ON SAFETY IN ALL PARTICULARS

SPEND THIS HOLIDAY AT LAKE BENTON—THE "WELCOME SIGN IS OUT!

HUNTING IN 1940

Just why shall our fraternity not hunt with muzzle loading guns this season? It's a fair question; and the occasion for asking it is for the purpose of making you take the suggestion as something other than a huge joke.

Member Fitzgerald (Pontiac, Michigan) killed his deer with a flinter last season. Many members killed chucks with their light hunting rifles in 1939, so we hear. And both Hoosiers and Buckeyes took to the fields with scatter guns. . . . .with results that might shame some pump and automatic gun proponents.

Our game is growing over in Pennsylvania, which likely is the closest deer territory for a great majority of us. Why not these Keystoners go out only with the old pioneer rifles? Why not some more of us take muzzle loaders and go—even if it's the first time for some of us?

A bit of correspondence is invited —both from those who can tell us about conditions in Pennsylvania and from those who might be interested in finding a place to hunt there.

But all this refers to muzzle guns —we don't cater to shiftless skoonks who take their meat with ca'tridge guns!

KNEPP WINS LAURELS IN NOVELTY SHOOT

(From "The San Diego Union" of Tuesday, July 2, 1940.)

Bill Knepp won two of the five events as the West Coast Rifle club held a novelty shoot which drew entries from San Fernando, Pasadena and Anaheim Sunday on the Mission Valley range.

Knepp turned in a fine score of 98 to win the 100-yard muzzle loader match and his mark of 61 was easily best in the 50-yard competition. T. F. Morgan, a visitor from Anaheim, captured the 100-yard breech loader event and Paul Dinant set the pace at 50 yards. Carl Haynes topped the field in the pistol division, scoring 95 with a muzzle loader. Results:

Muzzle Loader Rifle Match: Bill Knepp 61, C. E. Stodter 52, J. W. Gibbs 50, Al Rihs 40, Carl Walther 32, Lindsey King 31, H. Wetterskog 27, Bud Sackett 17.

Breech Loader Rifle Match: Paul Dinant 84, Ray Kanagy 67, Phil Manning 52, T. F. Morgan 35, S. Siebert 31, H. M. Hobart 31.

100-Yard Muzzle Loader Match: Bill Knepp 98, J. W. Gibbs 88, C. E. Stodter 84, C. T. Soderberg 79, Bud Sackett 64, Lindsey King 25.

100-Yard Breech Loader Match: T. F. Morgan 87, C. E. Rogers 83, Phil Manning 82, Paul Dinant 81, H. M. Hobart 77, S Siebert 58.

Pistol Match: Carl Haynes 95, C. E. Stodter 91, L. T. Britsan 86, R. P. Noisat 82, H. Cowhick 77, J. W. Gibbs 74, F. Evans 73, Phil Manning 69, H. M. Hobart 65.

You who have a library started—or are anxious to get one under way—might do well to write to Allen P. Westcott, 179 W. Washington St., Chicago. Al is a diligent digger-upper of all the famous early gun volumes and knows practically all that's worth knowing about current gun book matters.

While on this matter of library we would like to inquire if anyone has a volume that goes into detail about loads for muzzle guns? It would be a real service if we might copy from such a treatise; we could be of assistance to beginners, that way, whereas the numerous inquiries that come in must be answered with too much uncertainty . . . . in other words, we need an AUTHORITY to back us up in technical matters.

Possibility of a good muzzle gun setup at Bowling Green, Ohio, soon. The small group there has all it takes to build into a real shooting aggregation.

--- RENEWALS! ---

Don't Wait for a Notice the Renewal is Due

. . . . *Send It Right In!*

Look at Your Membership Card Now

One Dollar ($1) Pays for Membership and Muzzle Blasts A WHOLE YEAR

Don't Wait Until We Must Send Along a "Please Pay!"

DO IT NOW!

OBITUARY

TONY PAROTTI

Tony Parotti of Collinsville, Ill., life member of N.M.L.R.A., passed away July 8th after suffering terrible electric burns to the lower part of his body.

Tony was well liked by all who knew him and had a wide acquaintance among muzzle loader shooters and gun collectors of the Middle West. Had over 60 nice muzzle-loading rifles and recently told a friend he was "on top of the world," as he had acquired a Hawkin's Buffalo rifle after many years diligent searching.

HARRY COPP

WEST ALEXANDRIA, O., July 15 —Harry Copp, 58, filling station operator, gun collector and grandfather of Carolyn Lee, the child movie star, died at 6:50 a. m. Monday, July 15, at Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, of burns received on Sunday morning in a gasoline explosion.

A short circuit in a naphtha pump was believed to have caused the blast, which came as Copp was priming the pump. His clothing was drenched with the blazing liquid.

The victim, who had operated the filling station here for 15 years was the father of Warren Copp, Martin's Ferry, O., whose 4-year-old daughter, Carolyn, is known as Carolyn Lee in the movies. Other survivors include the wife, Ruth; two other sons, Eugene, of West Alexandria, and Lowell, of Cincinnati. He was a life member of N. M. L. R. A.

FIRE AND FALL BACK!

(Continued from Page 3)

to own, read and refer to frequently . . . .we say it ought to be in your library.

* * *

Ohio and Indiana conservation bulletins are printing a lot of recreation items. Local shoots in these two states are sure to ge a boost if promoters will send in the details in neat arrangement and fully forty-five days in advance of the matches.

* * *

STAYNLESS percussion caps are on the market to stay. We find them non-corrosive and as satisfactory as cartridges with the same type primers. A few years ago the "wham" of this cap was far from satisfactory, but those received the past several months will stand the test most conclusively.

* * *

Lewistown vs. Lewistown! It will be an actuality. We will assist in staging a team shoot between clubs of the Pennsylvania and the Montana towns by that name. If ever Greenville (any one of the numerous by that name in the U.S.A.) wants to pick on another Greenville, let us know and we will try to arrange the affair.

* * *

Our good friend, Barton Rees Pogue, just this evening (this is the 27th of July) recited a po'm about Boss Johnston and his first houn dawg, Smoke House. This was via WLW, of course. We plan to write the station for a few copies—and you can be sure it will be copied in the September issue of our shoot sheet.

* * *

Making some pleasant contacts with a rifle editor up in Canada. You will hear more of him a bit later. He admits he spends his spare time shooting a charcoal burner, when he might be digging up hot items for his publication. He is merely running true to form . . . . MUZZLE BLASTS would be much better if our guns were all locked up in a vault and the key dropped into the muddy Ohio.

* * *

THE WLW-NATIONAL draws closer every day. Look at your baseball schedule. We plan to follow the World's Series—and without doubt Cincinnati will be right in there with the winning team of the National League—and our congratulations go to Mr. Crosley and his baseball aggregation!

* * *

If—we hope we won't need the alibi, however—but IF we miss a lot of timely and important items in this number, kindly remember we 'rush back from an absence of two weeks and begin on the accumulated work pertaining to two jobs. We have a movement that is now as full of high spots as was Susie when she had the measles—and no one is going to prove enough of a super-man to nail 'em all down. Patience and indulgence is what we awsk, folks.

* * *

Lots of shooting being planned for Labor Day and the dates close thereto. See Calendar in this issue. Take advantage of the holiday and get in some competition with your favorite fusee.

* * *

Susie's measles was no more "catching" than is the urge to make or have made up a NEW rifle barrel. It's being done in every direction. And some of the derned things do shoot! Who ever suspected we would go to such lengths to get tack-drivers?

We find, and are glad to report, that Southern California intends to initiate the McQuerrys, Neidner and Ramsey in a manner that will certainly be long remembered. The way the word comes into this office indicates something far out of the ordinary — but a secret — awaits them. There is an intimation of requiring Bull to stand for a public marriage at the Shoot—senorita or squaw is not quite clear. With that as an initial event, most anything might be expeced. A fiesta, out there, lasts days and days, we are told. Well, all we can say is, the N. & W. Railway needs good foremen and Bull better get back in time for the Coal Rush! Pop Niedner, you are hereby duly appointed to tenderly and solicitously give fatherly (and motherly) care to our buddy — Bull!

Will Exchange Fine Match Rifles for Modern Pump or Auto Shot Guns

Make Me a Proposition

NEW ITEMS IN STOCK:

Niedner Powder Measure-Charger $4.25

Graduated from Zero to 150 Grains

Polished Powder Horns by Niedner with Aluminum Dispenser, $4.00 — Nipples — Powders

STAYNLESS Caps — Buck Shot — Bird Shot

Order by Mail or See Me at Dillsboro During WLW-National Matches

E. M. FARRIS, N. & W. YMCA, PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

STATE TEAM MATCH

Since the response on State Team shooting at the National has been negligible, it is suggested that this event be changed to a round ball, open sight event.

A change seems to be in order. Just what the details ought to be should rest with the fans and the match committee.

Likely the switch to round ball will not meet with much opposition, but then will come the matter of sights. Indiana stands out for open sights in any such shooting. Ohio has pretty much leaned toward Pennsylvania this past season and allowed peep sights in the round ball events—at least the big Canal Fulton shoot permitted this.

Indiana claims they will gladly furnish three teams of five for this event, if open sights prevail—no two men shooters to use the same gun—one team to be made up of men over sixty years of age and another to have two women on it.

We will be glad to hear from groups in Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky and other states that may be represented at the 1940 Shoot.

Take it calmly! We make better progress when we change by evolution, rather than revolution.

Not only do we regret the heat keeps us from rifle practice, but we further regret that we have so few pages in MUZZLE BLASTS when the season is at its height and the news so prolific. You get the implication, we bet. Fetch on increased advertising — it's plenty cheap — and more members. We can supply the copy!

HISTORY OF BARNHART RIFLE

(Continued from Page 1)

name in script on his rifles using abbreviation N. Barnhart. At one time he traveled to Columbus (Nebraska) when it was only a frontier post and made rifles there; later his shop was at Hallsville, Ohio.

George Barnhart, an older brother of William Barnhart, was born in 1797 and died in 1844. His name was placed on his rifle by means of a steel die, abbreviated as follows, "G. Barnhart." His son, W. Barnhart, who was the last of the riflemakers, was born in 1825 and died in 1891. His other son, Simon Barnhart, also made a few very nice rifles. I have only seen the one that is in my collection.

There were likely other Barnhart riflemakers, but these are the only ones who made a real business of it.

A full stock Kentucky of each make is on display in the State Museum at Columbus, Ohio, together with the original stock pattern of old George Barnhart. Two of these rifles have been converted from flint to percussion and the others were made as percussion originally.

An almost complete set of their tools and two of the guns are on display at the Ross County Historical Society on West Fifth Street, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Pictures of two of William Barnhart's rifles are listed in Captain J. G. W. Dillin's book, "The Kentucky Rifle." I do not believe that they were of Pennsylvania origin. I feel safe in stating the first of these rifles was made around 1812 and they bear a very great resemblance to the rifle made by Nathan Kiles on Raccoon Creek, Jackson County, Ohio. One of his rifles is on display at the Smithsonian and is dated around 1815. It has so many of the Barnhart characteristics that I feel he must have been the old gunsmith who instructed them in making rifles.

The last old shop of George Barnhart is still standing near his old home in Greene Township, Ross County, but is in very poor condition.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be $10.00; half page, $15.00; full page, $25.00.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

THE MUZZLE - LOADING CAP LOCK RIFLE. Twelve chapters. 150 Illustrations. ONLY 300 copies unsold. Order NOW C.O.D. Cloth binding $4.50. Last Chance to get this book. **N. H. Roberts, Author and Publisher, Goffstown, N. H.** (8-40)

FOR SALE: 24 lb. Percussion rifle by J. Clutz; Barrel 1⅝ x 30 inches; false muzzle; 38 cal. relined by Wagner; All equipment including original tube sight, $50.00. Full stocked percussion, fine condition, 34 cal., $20.00. Stevens Bicycle pistol, fair, $12.00. Marston's 3 Barrel, rare, $15.00. 5 shot percussion, no name, good, $4.00. Want flint match rifle or long barreled heavy percussion, round ball. **C. Matthews, 1161 W. Lincoln Blvd., Freeport, Illinois.** (8-40)

FOR SALE: 19 lb. N. Lewis, false muzzle, percussion target rifle, German silver furnishings, .50 Cal. No tools. Excellent condition. $42.00. **Lieut. B. P. Shirey, Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa.** (8-40)

GUN BOOKS. New lists on request. **The Gunroom Booksellers, 179 W. Washington St., Chicago.** (8-40)

WANTED: Rare automatics, Colt auto variations, rare or very fine guns, modern or antique. **Miller Bedford, New London, Ohio.** (Life Member.)

WANTED: Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. **LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.** (12-40)

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Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. II PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, SEPTEMBER, 1940 No. 1

Powder Smudges from Percussion Pistols

BY J. J. BARSOTTI

(Mr. Barsotti is our staff artist, as well of Director of Pistol Activities. —Editor.)

There is not much left to say about the percussion pistols and revolvers that is not already known to the greater number of muzzle loading fans but since E. M. has sent out a cry of "Help!" for material along these lines I will endeavor to drag out a few notes that might be of interest or help to someone just starting into the pistol game.

There is no doubt that rifled muzzle loading pistols will shoot. Every year the scores that win in the pistol matches are well above a 90 average. Although the pistol matches are shot at the comparatively short range of 25 yards, many of the Colt, Remington, Whitney, Rogers & Spencer, and other cap and ball pistols were sighted to shoot center at ranges of 50 yards or better. And they, and also the dueling pistols, will shoot at the longer ranges with great accuracy.

Some of the shooters like to use a round ball in the pistols while others favor the bullet. Personally, I use the ball but can see no reason why the bullet shouldn't shoot accurately. Mr. Niedner made up a very fine purcussion single shot hand gun with a side-slapper lock that shoots a .38 caliber lubricated slug with superb accuracy. I do think that in the revolvers of .44 caliber, the ball being lighter than the bullet, there would be less recoil encountered when using it.

My procedure in loading is more or less simple, although at first it does not look so. I load one chamber at a time, shoot a dry ball without a patch and swab the bore with light oil between shots. This method keeps it free of fouling, lubricates it and I get satisfactory accuracy with the least amount of barrel wear.

I have been approached dozens of times by shooters with the question, "What do you think is the best pistol for muzzle loading target work?" That is sorta hard to answer positively for there are numerous makes that will shoot better than most men can

(Continued on Page 8)

A TARGET TO BE ENVIED



Ellen Grote (Mrs. Walter) is not a tyro in our type shooting. She has kept near top for some years, whether competition be open or restricted to women. But in this instance the lady steps out with such a vengeance that she is "a marked man" henceforth and forever. This target was made at 220 yards in the closing hours of the second day of the Canal Fulton Annual; with the famous Brockway rifle Mr. Grote has been shooting for several seasons. Apparently it needs only accurate loading, careful holding and a delicately let-off shot—and there you have another X-center. The information Mr. Grote passes on to us is that the wild shot at 11 o'clock is one he called before it was fired—he had crushed the powder in seating the bullet. It went just about where he expected it would. Further, Mrs. Grote got better as she came nearer the end of her string. The eighth, ninth and tenth shots made the clover-leaf pattern in the middle of the bulls-eye. The saw hoss on which the trophy and gun rest is a Canal Fulton super-super bench rest. Not much for looks, but one of the easiest made we have seen. Anyhow, Mrs. Grote found it sufficient and effective on the occasion of this, her big day at 220 yards. In the distance, a bit to the left of the trophy and near the brow of the hill, can be seen the 220 yard targets—nice li'l things, ain't they? (See Page 3.)

MUZZLE BLASTS

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NEW MUZZLE LOADING RIFLES

"It couldn't happen anywhere but in the USA." Too often that expression is used without due consideration of the great possibilities involved. But—when it comes to NEW muzzle loading rifles we feel confident that no group of sportsmen would go in for—it's a big word—"mass production" of old type guns, except in these good old United States of America. But it can readily be understood why we go to such extremes . . . . we lived by marksmanship in our pioneer days; we got sport and our s'port by employing the grand little pellet flingers. The family rifle was as handy as any item of furniture in the old log cabin, not excepting the bed warmer or Dr. Lomax's salt gourd! So, new guns are being made, since so many of the old ones are not up to the ideas and prejudices of our modern shooters.

At a grocery match in Portsmouth on last Saturday afternoon we noticed three new barrels. In this instance Spence (Marietta) had planed all, bored two and Turner one. Malone (Portsmouth) had rifled two and Large one. All of these were awarded some prizes at this Shoot. Within the past few weeks we have seen four more barrels made up by Spence, three bored by him and one by Turner. Win Woods was rifling each job. Two of this four came down from Canton with Mr. and Mrs. Dewalt, who lingered hereabouts—on vacation—until Woods had turned out two as keen rifling jobs as we ever hope to see. No doubt the Canton marksmanship will now show an improvement!

Both Spence and "Shorty" Freyer (Shorty lives in Portsmouth) are doing much to find the proper steel for barrels to be used with our black powder and patchin.' Each has access to sources that should shortly turn up one, two or three steels that should plane, bore and rifle with satisfactory results and not too much grief on the part of the mechanics.

SHOOT CALENDAR

Marion, Indiana ..... September 15th
Santa Ana, California ..... October 6th
WLW-NATIONAL ..... October 18, 19, 20

The trend, in these new barrels, is to make them long and heavy. Many of us would not have them 1¾" across flats and 40 to 44 inches long, but these boys "in the hills" believe in a lot of good steel for good scores. We can state with personal knowledge that they do shoot. One of the very heaviest was in the possession of the editor for some two weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Dewalt shot it while waiting for their own barrels to be rifled. The groups at 45 and 50 yards were phenomenal. Marion (Indiana) heard about this forty-pound coast defense rifle and got into town about ten p. m., following the Shoot, Saturday. By midnight we had arrived at a more-or-less satisfactory price and—well, Marion is sure to be right on the tail of Canton, Akron and Canal Fulton—not to mention Portsmouth and other way points.

Very little in the way of ornamentation is attempted. These are match guns pure and simple, and they simply must shoot or they don't count. No one takes time to do more that get them properly stocked, sighted and tuned up—and we note that almost all who have these of recent fabrication are getting better scores. It may be that new enthusiasm and a desire to make a self-thought-out plan work is getting the results. May be something else. But the guns are here, are shooting and are winning. Draw your own conclusions.

TURKEY SHOOT

There was a big tuning-up of black powder guns over near New Lexington (Ohio) yesterday, August 25th. C. L. Chute got his baptism of promoting; Bull Ramsey says it "took." And to the extent of coming back with an announcement there will be a big poultry shoot at the New Lexington Boy Scout Camp the Sunday just ahead of Thanksgiving. Rain or shine! The shooters can fire from a shelter if it is raining.

20 TURKEYS—20 CHICKENS—20 POUNDS OF CRANBERRIES. All for followers of the front end loaders. Chute don't want any left-overs. He wants all prizes taken away the day of the shoot, so the Buckeye shooters better keep that date in mind. And that goes for any from Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Kentucky who feel they want the festive bird adorning a table on the day we Americans Give Thanks that we still have a goodly measure of freedom and liberty—and SO much of it came as a result of the use of muzzle loading firearms long before dictators got roaringly drunk with a desire to run the Universe. So, let's be with Chute on November 21st, 1940.

ELEVATION AND WINDAGE

Mostly windage. But I said it first!

* * *

Becoming more and more "international" allawhile. Now we can announce another member from Canada — Mr. Elwood Epps, Ontario — and No. 1 from Mexico—Mr. Robert S. Marvin, Jr. There are three or four more in Canada, of longer standing. And then there is Frantz Rosenberg (read a letter from him, elsewhere in this issue) who is an enthusiastic member in Norway. What might NOT happen if we were in a position to plan for expansion? It's not so worse as an idea, but office personnel has to be worked out first.

* * *

Babies! "Little Annie Oakley"—says so right there in the announcement—came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Burrell P. Shirey, Columbus, Ohio, June 6th. "All doing well," but Papa Shirey is now assigned to Frankfort Arsenal, so he is missing—well, he can't walk the floor o' nights like he could if he was in Columbus. Dr. Lomax says "The Littlest Powder Horn" hangs about the chubby person of the new arrival at their home . . . . sends us a photo to prove the horn is there, and the little lady poses in the prone position with a wee-mite muzzle gun that would do credit to some of her elders! Someone better begin to produce some boy babies . . . Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Freese and Mrs. Grote need to have their prowess transferred to young femmes, of course, but what about Mister Grote, "Skonk" Porter, Don Coble, W. E. Foust et al? Only has the Pulford family provided against the day when a youth of the male persuasion must take up the old family muzzle gun and carry on.

* * *

The muzzle fans of Detroit have organized themselves into a club for this one angle of the game. Tom Spillane promises to give us more details a bit later, following his vacation.

* * *

Now comes Maine with Miss Gladys Korn—and she does right noble at the Lewistown (Penna.) Shoot. Miss Korn and Mr. Dewey Bryant came down to the Pennsylvania doings and the former got a 48 plus 2-X's in the Women's Match. She used a .62 caliber round ball gun, and the powder charge was 130 grains! Her shots were so closely grouped that Bill Mahoney got a headache figuring 'em out. We welcome any lady who can shoot like that—in that company!

* * *

Here is a good place to comment further on the big Pennsylvania Shoot. Fifty-six registered, not counting the pistoleers or re-entry. Demport came from New York, the two mentioned in the foregoing paragraph came down from Maine, and Ohio sent Dewey Weiss. Fred Doney of Vera Cruz shot the outstanding score of the meet—five shots at 50 yards, peep sights, round balls that measured three-eights (⅜") inches on centers. Our good friend from Shartlesville, Wm. N. Younker, proved himself the peep sight champ; Coble was listed as the open sight big shot; Royer—buddy with Coble—won the offhand crown. Demport won the hand gun event. Tyro Wm. Baker won a Waltham watch. Dewey Bryant, Greenwood Mt., Maine took the 100 yard any sight event. These boys have the right spirit — they plan wisely, work hard and make the folks know the shoot is for them. We trust they will have a great increase in attendance in the 1941 stanza.

* * *

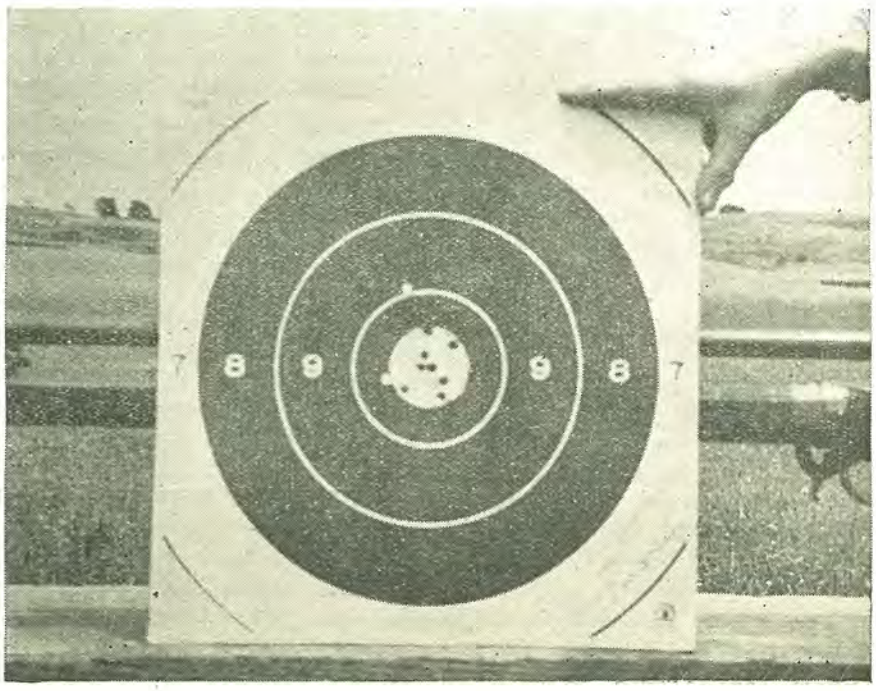
Sarg. A. A. Hoffman and wife — both keen Buckeyes transplanted to Arlington, Va.—dropped in on us during a visit back to the old home state. Sarg. showed us a Barnhart rifle he secured up-state via inheritance. The story goes that a relative living near Kingston had to be away from home much of the time—a drover—during the Civil War. Morgan was threatening Southern Ohio with a raid. Only a twelve-year-old boy could be left at home to give protection to the family and property. So, a Barnhart rifle was ordered and made up; one of small calibre but up the the high standards of the Barnhart shop. Morgan came through Ohio some thirty miles south of the old home place, so the little gun did not have to be used for other than hunting or match shooting. But all this endears the gun to Hoffman. He has turned down an offer of $2.39 for it, and who wouldn't!

* * *

It's a bad day for the office when the secretary misses a good ten-dollar advertisement. The money was in hand and the copy had been acknowledged. But the August issue carried NO mention of the Lewistown MONTANA STATE SHOOT, Labor Day. We hang our head in shame . . . and

(Continued on Page 5)

ENLARGED VIEW OF MRS. GROTE'S TARGET



"OLD SMOKEHOUSE"

(Boss Johnston's First Houn' Dog)

BY BARTON REESE POGUE

The kid's first dog! A long-eared hound
With mortal solemn face
And vacant eyes, as full of grief
As a Saint that's fell from grace.
He bought him from a slave, who loved
The way good silver sounds,
And cared more for a boy's desire
Than for his master's hounds.
And so they called the dog "Smokehouse."
O, I'm forgetting to say
The kid that tied him behind the barn
And he broke away one day;
Getting lank on food the kid could sneak,
Likes bits of bread and jam,
They found him in the smokehouse
With the family's final ham.
The dog was near the ham, they say,
The ham was near the dog;
In such a way they didn't bake
The hip-joint of the hog.

The boy took up the case in court,
He had there for the judge
A woman who had lost a ham
And bore the dog a grudge.
"Tomorrow, son, that hound shall go!"
But in that very night,
The old dog caught a chicken thief
And brought the 'Judge' new light.
For years they tramped the silent woods,
And when old Smokehouse died,
The woman who judged on a stolen ham
Looked down at the dog and cried.
In a hunting coat the boy had worn
Through all their partnership,
They wrapped the dog most sacredly
For his last long hunting trip.
In his arms he carried old Smokehouse away,
And by the thin October moon,
He buried him there in the shade of the tree
Where they caught their first raccoon.

Do You Know That . . .

BY CLAUDE LOMAX, M. D.

In 1776, in Kentucky, imported salt came from Augusta and Richmond, Va. and readily commanded a price of $10.00 a barrel.

That at Floyd Knobs, Ky., the pioneers beheld from an eminence which overlooked the springs, "what they estimated at largely over a thousand animals, including buffalo, elk, deer and bear, with many wild turkeys scattered among them . . . . within an area of many acres the animals had eaten the salty earth to a depth of several feet."

That in 1777, the Virginia government sent out several large salt-boiling kettles for the use of the western settlers. That 30 settlers of Boonesborough were boiling salt at Blue Lick, Ky. when captured by the Indians. The earlier colonists settled near these springs, and much of the border warfare occured near these licks.

That if I had the literary ability to write you a classic, it would be entitled: "The Passing of the Salt Gourd." Time was, a few years ago, when we hill-billies from southern Indiana and Kentucky could travel along a road (called "Big Road" down there) and see a log house with a clapboard roof, a well-sweep and an ash hopper in the front yard, and the old home surrounded with a worm-rail fence. And on the sheds could be seen drying apples and peaches.

That the big-bellied salt gourds were considered much of a treasure, and usually hung against the logs by a wooden pin, or a string, and had a hole in the side large enough to withdraw a handful of coarse salt. Some of the log-cabin elite (vide my grandparents) had the salt gourd setting on the table or shelf, and these had a capacity of a gallon, and more.

That the meat diet of the pioneers required their eating much salt.

THE DETROIT SHOOT RESULTS

Forty-six signed the register as entrants in this Shoot, which Tom Spillane says was a great success. He speaks with great zest about the fine sportsmanship and social qualities of the folks who follow the matches. Tom appears to be a "master spark plug"— the kind any club finds indispensable.

Match No. 1.—8 entries. W. F. Grote, 46; H. W. Porter, 45; L. M. Wolfe, 44.

Match No. 2.—7 entries. H. W. Porter, 49; W. F. Grote, 45; Mrs. Porter, 44.

Match No. 3.—8 entries. L. M. Wolfe, 49; Mrs. Grote, 48; Dr. Gorning, 47.

Match No. 4—5 entries. L. Fitzgerald, 46; W. F. Grote, 44; H. W. Porter, 43.

Match No. 5—5 entries. L. M. Wolfe, 50; B. E. Hughey, 48; E. Williamson, 47.

Match No. 6—2 entries. H. W. Porter, 34; L. Fitzgerald, 30.

Match No. 8—Clay Birds. 7 entries. B. E. Hughey, 4x5; Gaylord Hunt, 4x5; C. B. Dort, 3x5. In the shoot-off Mr. Hughey won, giving him first place, Mr. Hunt taking second.

With many members aligning with our Association in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, some mighty fine competition ought to be the result in the 1941 Shoot.

LADIES, HERE'S DON COBLE!



After having won trophies and medals all the way from Cos Cob to Dillsboro and hither to yon, we now show the likeness of as fine a gentleman, shooter and sportsman as has been our pleasure to know in the plenty years we have mixed it with men who burn powder. Here is a man who would just as leave tackle a tough offhand match as one prone. . . .the group shown on the target he holds was (believe it or don't)—was made offhand at 30 yards at the Canal Fulton Shoot. Tight as it looks, it was scored but 47 plus 1-X. Even so, it won the match, and the plaudits of the onlookers.

A new accomplishment has been added to his prowess of late—coaching ladies with the big boom guns. Rumor has it that the winner of the Women's Match at Marietta (Mrs. Paul Freese) was coached by Mr. Coble; and we are not so sure but he did as much for one or two others this past summer, but the news has been suppressed—for some unknown reason. Being an unmarried chap, that fact may account for his popularity with the fair sex.

Ambitious and able muzzle loader shooters—in the 'umble opinion of the editor—may well set Don Coble up as a yard stick by which to measure their own qualities — marksmanship, sportsmanship, and those hard-to-define qualities that go to make up a gentleman.

DEER HUNTING PARTY

Seems we have kicked loose the pebble that has started an avalanche! Our hunt for deer in Pennsylvania, with nothing but muzzle loading rifles, was mentioned a bit under the breath, but it got going like a tornado. Now we have so many making inquiries that we may have to say the season opens December 15th; the fee for non-residents is $15.00 and there will be open season on does this year. We hear that the sportsmen quite agree that the forage is not sufficient for the deer population, so the slaughter of the does has to begin. We plan to go into the north-central section for the hunt. We have friends there who will help us get located and dish out dope to those of us who are out for the first time. The one important item is the matter of proper clothing.

Further inquiries may be addressed to the editor; then all replies will be made in next issue of our publication.

ELEVATION AND WINDAGE

(Continued from Page 3)

trust those boys will not think we didn't want to give their doings proper publicity. We would like to see EVERY state attempt what they did. And—worst of all— we had to refund the ten nice, juicy dollars. We want to give their scores a good spot when they report on the "battle," at no cost.

* * *

THE WLW-NATIONAL peers at us from a very much shortened distance. It's mean the way things creep up on unsuspecting victims. Keep in mind that we will begin the big noise the week after Cincinnati holds their share of the World Series baseball games. Dillsboro and the Sugar Bowl will divide the attention of the contestants; the period for hilarity and slumber going to Dillsboro and the Great Guns going to last year's ranges at Friendship. We hope Mr. and Mrs. Harting arrange for the rains to descend either before or after the Matches. No doubt they can control the forces of nature to that extent.

NOTES FROM CHILLICOTHE, OHIO, GUN COLLECTORS MEET, AUGUST 25

Got there at three p. m.—almost time to turn out the lights and put out the cat, but the little time we had was full o' activity.

Armory drill floor was full of tables; tables full of real fine items. Good weather, good turnout. The "regulars" all seemed to be on hand.

Spotted a match "Bodenheimer" from a distance of several rods; being a poor man keeps some of us from having a surplus of the cream of the crop. (By the way, who knows where and when this artist spent time making those superb rifles? Want all the data on him we can get—please.)

Miller "Hoss-thief" Bedford says his wife has invited the collectors to their home at New London, Ohio for a meet Sept. 22nd. If Miller goes fishin' it will be run just that much better; he admits Mrs. Bedford is the brains and brawn of the family anyhow.

Pulfords erupted profusely over the fun had at an "auction"—Chillicothe, we're still talking about that meet. Little Bill said things happened that made the optics protrude plenty. Some items went sky-high and others were so cheap it was a laff. Big Bill had a twinkle in his eye, too; plain to see he got rid of some stuff at prices to please him—plenty.

We took a copy of Ned Roberts' new book along—many looked at it and finally one chap bought it. Parenthetically we might say all bugs should have a copy—Mr. Roberts may be reached at Goffstown, N. H., or the writer can furnish copies.

Bull Ramsey had been to this meet before the editor arrived; so he picked off some members for our rolls. But even so, two more came during the closing hour of the show: Robert Blaine, Toledo, and Clarence A. Moore, Columbus. We have a sneakin' idea that MUZZLE BLASTS served to clinch the sales in most cases.

Barnhart, whom we wrote up in the August number of our publication, was on hand; he proudly exhibited one Barnhard rifle that carried a wealth of fine inlay. Likely that rifle was one of the sweetest jobs ever turned out by a Barnhart. I'd be chesty, too, Harold!

For freak firearms, these meets do certainly turn out a great crop. What a wealth of study and work has been spent on the perfection of our firearms during the past—be careful, dumbkopf—five hundred years. Well, then, maybe seven hundred years—who gives a hoot for a small slip like two centuries.

Stumbled on a keen W. Richards double shot gun—percussion. We hope soon to have a certain chap from Michigan advertising that he will restore old scatter guns. He surely had done a wonderful bit of work on this piece. True, he had something superior to work on, but he likely would make a bum gun look like a nice one. (Made a deal for the gun, so we feel ready for the "opening day" of 1940 . . . and adequately armed for eventualities.)

Dr. Haines, Chillicothe, had an impressive display; being at home, he brought in some fine cases for his choice items. We hope to attend another meet in that city before long, so we can get another longer and better look at the Haines layout.

EDITOR COMMENDS COS COB SCORES

After listing the scores made at Cos Cob, the editor of Connecticut's "Marksman" has the following to say about our game:

"A study of these scores is well worth while. Of course, the scores for the percussion Military rifles are quite low, as might be expected from these crude contraptions, but take a good look at the scores in Series A, and in the Pistol and Revolver Match.

"Aside from our fine smallbores, and our big bore target rifles, we wonder just how many of our plinking and sporting rifles would do as well. A 45 for five shots on the 100 yd. smallbore target is not at all bad, and a 91 on the 25 yd. pistol target looks pretty good too.

"No doubt modern shooting is a much easier proposition with metallic ammunition and smokeless powder, but when it comes to the test of a good rifle—the ability to put 'em in the same place—it looks as if the old timers could deliver the goods."

ROSENBERG WRITES US

(Our good friend and life member in Norway had us much worried, until we received the following letter late in August. Obviously, we all rejoice at his safety—and his unabated enthusiasm for the front-end loaders.—Editor.)

Lillehammer, July 8, 1940

Mr. E. M. Farris,
Natl. M. L. R. Association,
Portsmouth, Ohio, U.S.A.

My Dear Farris:

I dare say you will be interested to learn that my family and I are all safe and sound and here in Lillehammer after a rather lively time.

I have tried to do my duty to my best ability, though with rather poor results.

I wrote you a long letter on March 27th which I hope you got. I also got a letter from you some time ago, which had been several months on the way. The boy in Boston got his degree with a very good rating and will be at work with the Allis Chalmers Mfg. Co. in Milwaukee from August, so that is most satisfactory, and I hope he will make good in U.S.A.

What our fate will be is more problematic, and the outlook is far from rosy.

It will interest you to learn that my old smoke sticks are safe and intact though I cannot play with them as of yore, so when you and the boys are having your sport send me a kindly thought! Should you ever see Dwight Barker who got me the two fine Kentuckies, tell him they hang on my wall as I write here, and are still the gems of the house.

With many kind regards, and hope you will send me a line now and then.

Cordially yours,
Frantz Rosenberg.

The Ned Roberts volume, just off the press, on THE MUZZLE LOADING PERCUSSION LOCK RIFLE is surely a swell item for any and all who lean toward the old guns, such as fill our gun cabinets. There is considerable of ballistical and mechanical interest in it; much pertaining to the first international matches and plenty that pertains to the greatest gunsmiths of the early days in America. It makes good reading—we know this from our current literary endeavors. We read slowly, but we try to digest every morsel as we go. This is all "red meat" for a gun bug.

EIGHTH ANNUAL

Muzzle Loading Rifle Matches

Sponsored by the

Southern California Arms Collectors Association

at

Santiago Rifle and Revolver Club Range

EAST ORANGE, CALIFORNIA

Sunday, October 6, 1940

Program

EVENT No. 1

50 yards. Flintlock, open sights.

EVENT No. 2

100 yards. Any metallic sights, patched ball or bullet, prone.

EVENT No. 3

50 yards. First Timers Match. Any sights, ball or bullet, prone.

EVENT No. 4

50 yards. Open sights, 3 shots prone, 2 shots standing. Any patched ball or bullet.

EVENT No. 5

50 yards. Ladies Match. Any metallic sights, patched ball or bullet.

EVENT No. 6

100 yards. Offhand. Open sights, round ball.

EVENT No. 7

100 yards. Prone, any metallic sights, round ball.

EVENT No. 8

200 yards. Prone, any sights, including telescope. Any patched bullet or ball.

EVENT No. 9

25 yards. Pistol and revolver matches.

NOTE: We are arranging for 50 and 100 yard matches for black powder, breechloaders, for shooters who have single shots they would like to demonstrate.

Suitable medals will be given in each match

SPECIAL *EXTRA SUPER* ATTRACTION

Bill McQuerry of Akron, Ohio has promised us that he will be at our Matches and that he will bring Mr. Adolph Niedner of the Niedner barrel fame and the illustrious "Bull" Ramsey of Portsmouth, Ohio.

We are sure that every rifle shooter within driving distance will want to be on hand to welcome such an outstanding personage as Mr. Niedner.

"Buckskin" Bud Sackett, Gen'l. Chairman
Dr. Roy S. Horton, Range Officer

PERCUSSION PISTOLS

(Continued from Page 1)

hold. I happen to favor the Remington because a fine target-sighted one fell into my hands a few years ago; also, I like the solid frame of the Remington with its top strap that makes a nice place to sweat on an adjustable rear sight without marring the gun itself. However, most of these old guns were made to shoot and all they need is a little extra work on trigger pull and sights to bring out the 10's that are in them. The fine duellers, with their platinum lined nipple seats, single set triggers and exquisite locks are probably the last word in percussion hand guns when it comes to accuracy, but many of them are excessively large in caliber, (they were made to kill or maim with one shot) or they are such masterpieces of craftsmanship that it is almost a crime to shoot them unless a man is willing to take the greatest pains in cleaning them afterwards. The revolvers, also, are a problem when it comes to cleaning, for they become fouled into the deepest parts of their mechanism after a few shots. Of course most of us muzzle loader shooters are by now used to the clean-up labor involved in our game.

I have always advocated the use of percussion revolvers with only one chamber loaded and fired each time. This does away with any possibility of a flash-over, a thing that can easily happen if all the chambers are charged at once. This flash-over business can be very dangerous. I have heard of all chambers going at once and find that even in the old days of the Civil War and the wild times of the frontier West this was not an uncommon occurrence. In Marvin Hunter's "Trail Drivers of Texas" there are a good many mentions of the old cap and ball revolvers letting off more than one chamber at a time. Of course if the bullets were heavily lubricated after being well seated in the cylinder, chances of such an accident were greatly lessened. "Bull" Ramsey once told me of an occurrence of this kind. His uncle came home from the Civil War with two Colt 1862 fluted cylinder .36's hanging from his belt and for many years after used these guns around the farm for everything from butchering to squirrel hunting. His favorite stance when shooting was to rest the pistol across his bent left arm to secure a firm support. One day when trying a shot at a squirrel he rested the gun in the fork of a sapling instead and it happened that when he fired, two chambers went off at once and made the splinters and bark fly. The lesson was enough for "Bull's" uncle and thereafter he stopped using his arm rest stance. (No, "Bull" is not a G. A. R. veteran.)

Powder charges in the percussion hand guns vary according to caliber but for 25 yard shooting a heavy charge in not necessary. I use only black powder, FFG in grain size and shoot a .38 Smith & Wesson Special case full as a charge in the .44 Remington. This gives a nice boom and moderate recoil. Lloyd Bender in his fine French dueller shoots a charge so small that it seems to be just about right for stopping gnats dead in their tracks. I believe he uses a .25 caliber Colt Automatic Pistol case for a charger and that gun of his really does shoot.

A lot of fellows would like to use the Colt .31 Belt Models, the .36 Navys and .44 Armys for target work. They have a fine balance and a good grip but I have never done much good along the target line with them. I think the main trouble is that it is so difficult to put a decent sight on them —one that is adjustable. I have seen them with sights that extended back over the cylinder but most of these were clumsy affairs. Also I have seen Colt Dragoons and Navys with little leaf sights on the back end of the barrel but this greatly reduced the sighting radius and put the sight away out from the eye, a thing that is not exactly desirable for nail-driving pistol accuracy.

We have all heard a lot of tall stories or, to say the least, highly seasoned yarns about Wild West revolver shooting. While most of the yarns of this kind can still be taken with a grain of salt, there is no doubt but what the old time two-gun men had weapons that would shoot accurately at reasonable ranges. The muzzle loading pistol matches have given ample proof of this. And they had another quality besides, one that every self-defense weapon must have —shocking power. Many a weed-grown Boot Hill cemetery in the forgotten corners of the West has inhabitants that could bear witness to that fact, only they're all mute.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

We are in position to give good space and coverage to For Sale, Exchange or Wanted items. Our mailing list will cover a large and enthusiastic buying group; shooters and collectors.

Rates: Three (3c) per word; no advertisement to be at less than 50c. Exception: A paid-up member may run his first item at half these rates.

Commercial: Full column on page this size will be $10.00; half page, $15.00; full page, $25.00.

Copy not in hand by the 25th of a month may have to be held over for more than a month.

WANTED: Beautiful engraved or decorated guns, fancy grips, or about new old timers, or exceptional rarities. Prefer hand guns to long guns. **Miller Bedford, New London, Ohio.**

FOR SALE: Stevens Walnut Hill, 417, caliber .22, no sights but scope blocks. Fired 250 times. Perfect, $28.00. Two Winchester 1895 carbines, .30-40, sling swivels, gold bead front sights. One, Lyman peep rear, fired 60 times, excellent, $25.00. Other, open rear, fired 25 times, perfect, $28.50. Winchester Low Wall .38 S & W Special. Weighs 10½ pounds. Single set trigger, new factory stock. Joe Lamping 24-inch heavy round barrel. Malcolm mounts, 6½ power Watts scope. Shows color. Fired 100 times. Perfect as new. $35.00. Winchester High Wall .38-55 with 28-inch No. 3 round barrel. Weaver 29 S scope remodeled by Watts with addition of 1½-inch objective. About 10 power and clear. Internal adjustment. Factory heat treated action. Slight crack in stock at tang. Rifle excellent to perfect, scope as new. New Lyman mould and 60 cases in factory boxes. Not an outfit to butcher up by relining but one to shoot as is. $40.00.

Harpers Ferry 1817 Flintlock Rifle. Realtered to flint from percussion. Lock marked "Derringer Phila. 1841." Full stock, 36 inch barrel, oval steel patch-box. Smooth bore ⅝ inch. Removable vent bush bushing. Swivels missing. Carried in Civil War by William Paul of Millersport, Ohio. His canteen goes with it. Has seen service but is in nice shape. $18.00. Colt Clover Leaf .41 rimfire. Ivory grips, rare 1⅜-inch round barrel. Ejector pin not original. Fine. $28.00. Have Colts, percussion and modern, presentation Whitney, Henry, heavy Sharps, and others. List for stamp. All letters answered. No trades. Postal money order only. Specifications per N.R.A. **John Barsotti, 65 East North Broadway, Columbus, Ohio.** (9-40)

WANTED: Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. **LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.** (12-40)

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Vol. IV PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, MAY, 1943 Number 9

OLD GUN GETS ELK MEAT

IN CAMP,
"South Fork-of-the-Flathead,"
Montana, September 21, 1942.

Dear Farris:

Well, today, the sixth day of my hunting here in this grand primitive area, "Lady Luck" was with me . . . . I GOT MY ELK, a fine big, magnificent six-point bull WITH MY MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE!!! I probably told you about the gun—it's a famous English double barrel JACOBS RIFLE of .53 caliber bearing the date of 1860 as to its manufacture, and man, I can now testify that it "kills at either end!"

Had a good work-out in stalking him in the heavy timber in which he was bedded down. In fact, I stalked him from 10:00 A. M. to 2:00 P. M. before I got my shot. The timber and brush was very dry—requiring the best pussy-footing I could muster to keep from jumping him, and I believe Dan'l Boone himself would have given me a nod of approval had he been with me.

I was guided mostly by his bugling which rent the stillness of the mountain about every fifteen or twenty minutes. This would enable me to check his presence and to plot my course towards him in the tangled forest. Red, I can't begin to tell you the thrill I got when I first saw him!!! There's something about the sight of a bull elk at close range that gives you the same tingling feeling I believe you would get in meeting dangerous game. Their huge size makes them appear even bigger, especially if they are above you as this one was. The huge shaggy, dark mane, together with a formidable rack of flashing points makes you wonder if you aren't just a little foolish facing this fierce-looking animal with

(Continued on Page 10)



The badly mushroomed slug on the right in Mann's hand is one of the two that was dug out of the elk's neck. The one on the left is a normal one.

MUZZLE BLASTS

Official Organ Of The
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association
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N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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NOT PLAY GUNS

In this issue we are offering evidence that the muzzle loader guns—especially rifles—are quite consistent when properly loaded and handled. We invite you to look for bulls-eye targets reproduced on these pages and the story of an elk hunt. Read all this and ponder what it offers.

Numerous inquiries are received from those who want to become adept with this type of firearm. There is not so much we can tell them; so much powder for a rifle with a certain calibre and a known pitch of twist. Maybe we advise what thickness of patch is considered good and how to manipulate it at the muzzle.

How did we learn? Brother, we learned the Hard Way! And that is about the way we recommend all fans should learn. You can't find much in books and not too many shooters who will tell you a sure-fire way to get dead-centers. Watch, think and experiment . . . . it's the best formula.

Get a gun, a pound of powder, some balls, percussion caps, patching and a ramrod. You can improvise a target—let it be of a type that will show you results for a series of shots. Start by firing light to medium charges—test the piece for safety. Maybe the groups are fair—maybe plain rotten. Don't give up—try a bit heavier charge. Possibly a lighter or heavier patch material would improve results.

CALENDAR OF SHOOTS

May 30th—WEST COAST RIFLE CLUB
BLACK POWDER SHOOT
50 yds. for Group—100 yds. Standard
Col. C. E. Stodter, 3223 James Street
San Diego, Calif.

June 19th-20th — MANSFIELD, OHIO
Big List — Good Prizes — Fine Range Set-up
Paul Hauserman, 435 Wood Street, Mansfield, Ohio

June 12th-13th — FORT HARMAR, Marietta, Ohio — SIXTH ANNUAL
Events as in Previous Years
Leonard Niceswanger, 1003 Third St. Marietta, Ohio

June 26th-27th — LAFOUNTAINE, IND.
H. A. Boltz, Harwood Fox Farm, Marion, Indiana

July 3rd-4th — CANAL FULTON, OHIO
Canal Fulton Ramrod Club 14th Annual
W. GROTE, 437 Hazlett Ave. N. W., Canton, Ohio
C. S. DeWALT, 932 Arlington St., Canton, Ohio

Try it. You might find cleaning is something this particular gun requires after each shot. In time you will begin to see the possibilities in your rifle . . . . or its "impossibilities." If it is a good outfit, cling to it tenaciously—good ones are not plentiful these days.

If you contemplate a deer hunt with a rifle, do not take anything lighter than .42 to .45; a heavy BALL takes a big diameter, whereas a heavy bullet takes no more than, say, .35 or .357 calibre. Our personal choice would be a .48 to .50 calibre for deer and up to .60 for elk. It would be well to consider one of the double barreled rifles in game hunting . . . . one that shoots a short bullet of .45 to .50 calibre. Such rifles were made in America; many came from England. Nelson Lewis seems to have made many of the double variety. It is more humane to use a second shot on a wounded deer or elk than to let it suffer while you take time to reload your single-barreled piece. And it might keep it from getting entirely away if shot about the time darkness makes tracking impossible.

No one sees a chance for fixed ammunition this season; who would forego his hunt just on account of that fact? We repeat, "Get a muzzle loader and go out and prove yourself as good a man as was grandpap!"

RENEW! DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE. WE HAVE A LOT OF INQUIRIES FOR BACK NUMBERS OF "MUZZLE BLASTS"—AND THERE ARE NONE! KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP "ACTIVE."

WINDAGE AND ELEVATION

Many of our members are moving to Washington, Quantico, Aberdeen Proving Ground, and other points near the District of Columbia. Carl Pippert, Decatur Heights, Maryland, is planning some events for the fans, with special emphasis on giving the members in that section a little exercise with the old time arms. We will be carrying particulars and dates as soon as they can be set up; and then we expect to hear of real activities down on the Potomac—or wherever Carl assembles the brethren.

* * *

San Francisco has been puttin' out some fine publicity for our old game postoffice for changing addresses—use that and make us a deal less work and worry.

* * *

Lester Cox, 1942 National Champion, has just sent in seven memberships. A busy man, but not too busy to keep in mind that we go far when we have a fine mailing list. Les has some good ideas and a fund of experiences that we are asking him to put in print for us to convey to the ever-growing multitude of fans. What he writes you will read and re-read.

* * *

We'd say the slump in Indiana is over. Proof? The fine work around



Club House and Shelter near Shartlesville, Pa. Home of Blue Mt. Muzzle Loading Rifle Club.

—thanks to Adrian J. Katz and Major Wallece, the latter of The Chronicle. There are heaps of good fans and members in that community . . . . hope soon to hear they are forming for real competition and the fun of meeting and shooting the fine old guns. Let us know if you wish the address of either Mr. Katz or Major Wallace.

* * *

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. It's a real problem of late to keep our records straight, with all the moving about on the part of the members. NOTE: Our filing system is, of necessity, simple. When you ask us to list you in a new location, we need to have your last address . . . for we can't remember just where—in over 1700 cards—you are filed. Secure the form provided by the

Indianapolis, Versailles and—now—Waldron. These are quite recent organizations and full of good ideas and what it takes. The last-mentioned group has as their officers: President, Wm. R. Thompson; Vice President, Louis E. Mitchell; Secretary, Thomas H. Cartmel; Treasurer, Wilbur Berauer; Team Captain, Geo. W. Apple; Executive Range Officer, Henry Thoman. All are residents of Waldron except the Executive Range Officer, who lives in Shelbyville. The boys have named this The Buck Creek Muzzle Loading Rifle Club.

* * *

Further proof that Indiana is beginning to appreciate the old guns is found in two identical clippings to come to the office. Attorney General James A. Emmert is shown with some of his firearms—one is a Banrhart muzzle loader—and a display of medals he has won. Arthur P. Tiernan did this article for the Indianapolis Sunday Star and is to be commended for his getting the technical terms far better arranged than do most reporters. "Mister Jim" has been a rifle coach and instructor of boys who have lately been writing to him from far points, telling how his help in past years now is good life insurance when they are under fire. Undoubtedly he thrills at such admissions.

* * *

You read in this issue about the effect of big slugs on big game . . . very enlightening. In an issue of a future date Ray Russell of Rochester, Michigan, promises some data on this type gun which he finds in a treatise by F. J. Jackson. Ray has quite a library on the big heavy muzzle feeders and should be able to entertain us in a fine manner.

* * *

We have often bewailed the fact that there are far too few gunsmiths for our particular type of needs. Just the past few days we have been hearing of the unusually keen work of Bob Winger, 210 Ogle St., Ebensburg, Pa. Bob is a stocker deluxe, as one chap puts it. Another seems to find him 100 per cent plus in all his craftmanship. We pass this on to the fans. One word of caution: DO NOT send him work until you have corresponded about it. It is quite possible his shop will be really crowded after this appears in print.

* * *

Red Buckram! Just picture all issues from Vol. 1, No. 1 to Vol. IV, No. 4, bound in nice red buckram . . . .

(Continued on Page 10)

DO YOU WANT THIS?

There is more than a mere chance that "FOR BEGINNERS ONLY" will come out in booklet form—revised and illustrated. Baxter, the chap who wrote the article, is willing to give largely—and gratuitously—of his time and efforts if the brotherhood feels it would want this for a reference and guide in home-shop efforts. We will be glad to have your reactions. Incidently, "Bax" is willing that all profit from such a booklet shall go to the Range Improvement Fund.

"BIG GAME"

By "PUDDLES" PERDUE

This little spasm on the subject of black powder burning may cause you old dyed-in-the-wool muzzleers to throw up your hands in despair, but I never was the one to stick to the conventional things. Most of you Dan'l Boones use the smoke-pole in the common sense way; that is, confining your shooting to targets—gentlemanly targets such as deer and other equally unattainable targets in my neighborhood, which, I might say, is back in the hills of Virginia.

My smoke-pole is a .34 caliber Norris muzzle gun, which in itself is not particularly alarming, but if one has an imaginative mind he can add a good bit to the game if he can picture himself as a trailblazer, shooting deer instead of pests with his trusty arm.

Recently, while taking a sort of rest period, advised by a physician, I was walking along the banks of that laziest of all Southern streams, the Roanoke River (or maybe creek). The river was at flood stage and I noticed that the pesky rats seemed to be having a riotous time trying to find dry homes out of the flood zone. Noting this, I happened to think about a certain spot on this river that was certainly adaptable to rats. This spot was located downstream from a refuse pipe belonging to a meat packing concern. Sure enough, upon visiting I found the place to be literally alive with rats.

Not even having the sportsmanship to be careful, as I certainly would have been had the game been of a larger variety, I started in the rat slaughtering business.

Gentlemen, I assure you that I had no idea what the results would be, but I believe I can say that the old smoke-pole has received a new nickname.

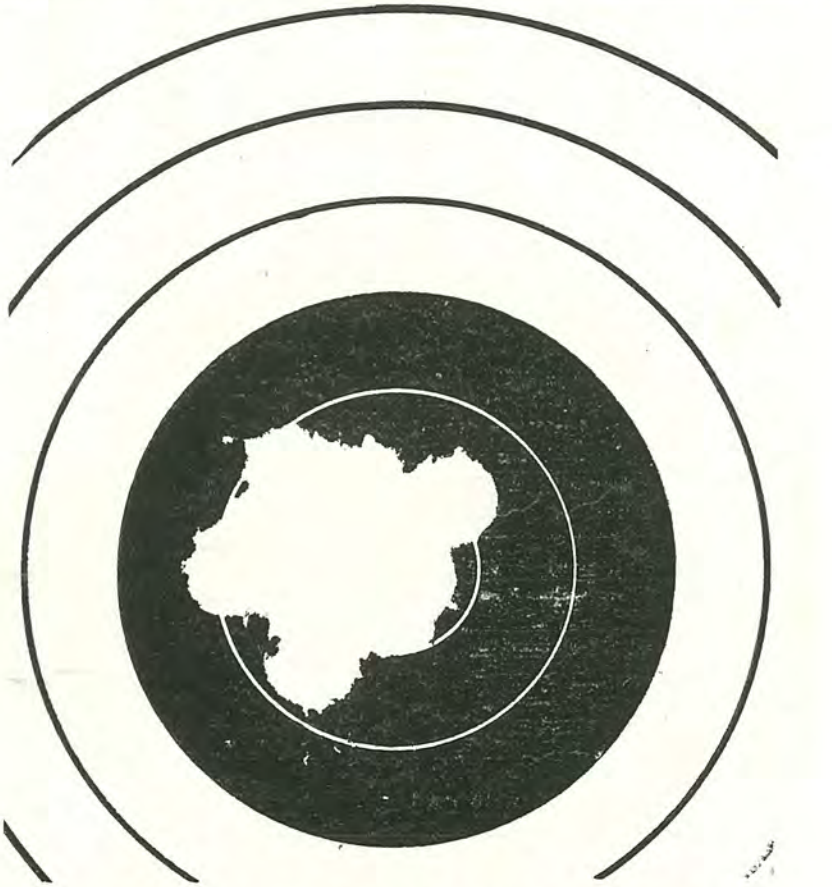
Some of the rats, although very much dead, didn't seem to be hardly touched at all, which I attribute to the fact that the old muzzle gun must have produced some shock. Others were literally disintegrated by the impact of that round ball; one in particular, on the edge of the stream, came to know the business end of a black powder smoke-pole. This rat came apart at the impact of the ball, his head flying some 20 feet out into the water, with his hindermost parts strewing the bank.

My ambition now is to try this same rifle on squirrels this fall. There is a moral to this story: Don't look disparagingly at an eleven buck hunk of gun just because it doesn't fall into the category of a target rifle. For it may be a meat getter.

We'll let that be about all for the rats and take up what I consider will bring out the best in a man's stalking ability, among other things—namely, CROWS. I think that Mr. Bert Popowski is one of the greatest authorities on this pest. And I certainly concur with him that the crow is a predator and wiliest of them all. I know that you, the reader of this episode, are already thinking that it can't be done, but from firsthand information I say that it can, because it was.

While on an expedition into the fastnesses of the wheat stubble and lespedezia fields of central Virginia, armed with a crow call and this same .34 caliber Norris muzzle gun, I came upon a large gathering of black demons and they didn't even extend the consideration of posting the usual lookouts; that is, on my side of the field, which was the logical place for them to be posted. I was approaching this field across the top of a bluff surrounding one end of the field—this bluff being particularly obliging in that it was covered profusely with locusts enshrouded in honeysuckle vines.

Using these vines as a covering I practically marched into the crows' backyards. At the foot of this bluff ran a drainage ditch some 15 feet deep, also matted with honeysuckle vines.



Claude Turner's ten shot group at 60 yards in a grocery shoot by Dan'l Boone club of Portsmouth, Ohio. Open sights, round patched ball. From one of the "new" match pieces famous in Southern Ohio—workmen involved: Spence, Turner, Woods, Freese. Bore is .52 calibre.

With this as a perfect blind I made sure that the "Mishap" was properly loaded and proceeded to make inroads into that genteel art known as crow calling. I tried to follow all of Mr. Popowski's directions but I really think that I would have done much better had I been trying to carry on a conversation with those crows using my fingers like a deaf and dumb man would. Seeing that I wasn't accomplishing anything by using the caller, I says to myself "Oh Well," thereupon drawing a bead firmly and, I might add, bravely on the nearest crow, which was some 35 yards away and entirely out of range of any accurate shooting with the little pipsqueak. Well, I let him have it and ———! No, I didn't get him, and, according to all the laws of sonics and super-sonics, that gathering of crows should have departed to regions unknown and away from the direction of the sound, but with a good deal of cawing and flapping (and with me, meanwhile, feverishly trying to reload), they proceeded directly toward me. Well, gentlemen, you could have knocked me over with a feather.

There I was with a possibility of a number of shots, all of them dead on, and me with a coalburner! Well, what happened? Sir, I crippled one and I believe that Mr. Popowski will concur with me that that was the best I could have done under the circumstances. Another period of furious reloading, with the crows milling around overhead looking as big and unattainable at B-17's.

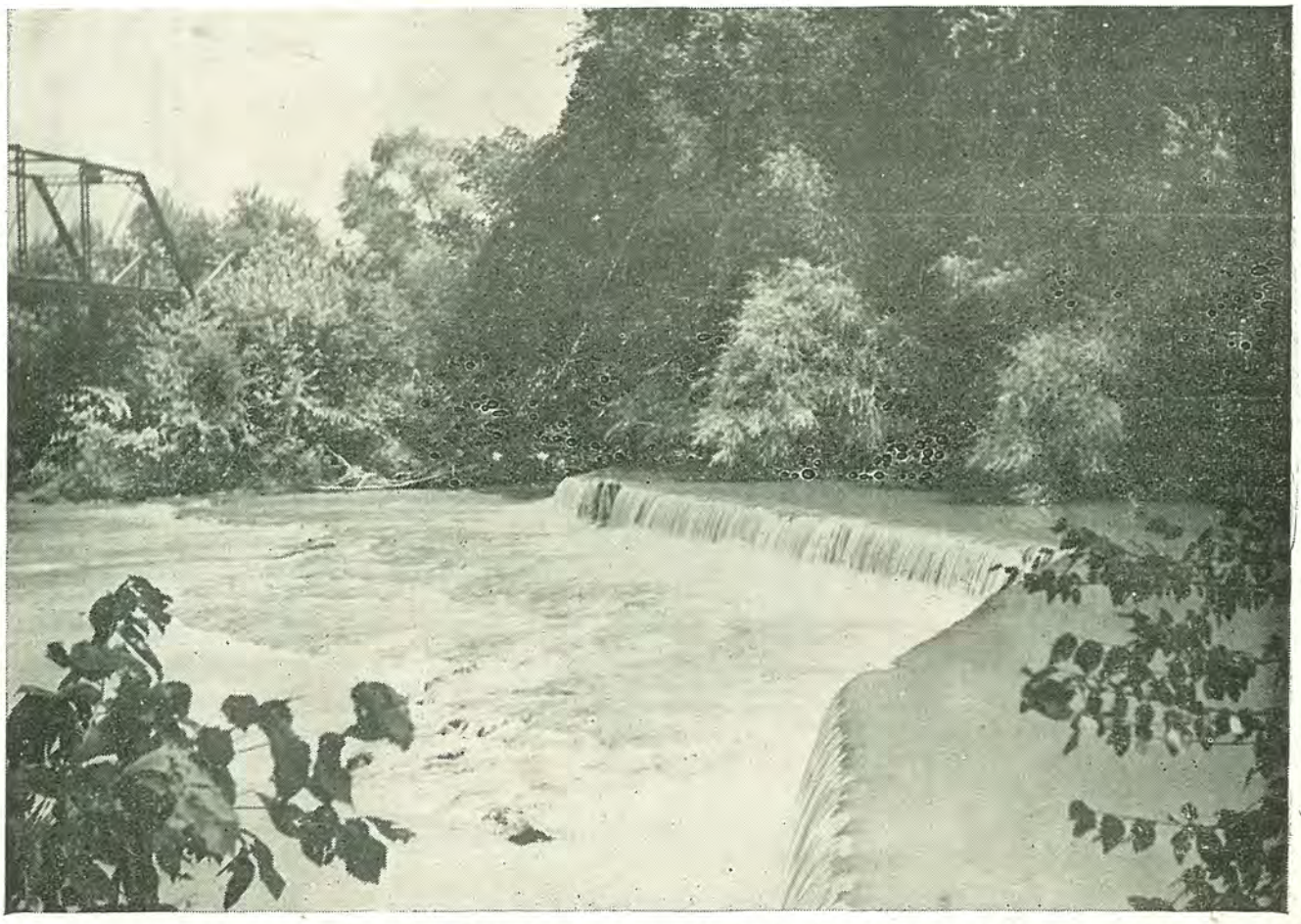
To make a long story short, or vice versa, I ended up with a total of 5 crows, counting the cripple which I later dispatched with the neatness and efficiency that is possible only with a fine little "Mishap." And as crowning glory, two more of those demons were wing shots; of course, dead-on shots—I wouldn't have wasted the time trying others.

Fun! You betcha! Here's looking at you on the battlefield when the crows are piled deep and wide and a veritable pall of blue smoke hangs like a wreath of welcome.

"FOR SALE"

Firmly of the belief that we will have a nicely cancelled mortgage-note even before July 4th, we hope to see it handled in one of two ways: (1) Sell it to the highest bidder for the purpose of increasing the Range Improvement Fund, or (2) Using it to make a Cannon Cracker to explode on the range at Canal Fulton on the July 4th date.

Right now we are of a mind to —yes, we shall do it!—offer it to that party sending the first collect wire that he's got One Hundred Dollars for that document . . . . if not a Hundred Bucks, how much? Best offer up to the 10th of June takes it! (At Press Time: It's now a paid-off item; ready for the bids, gentlemen!)



Northeastern Kentucky stream, good bass fishing water. Notice the "V" falls.—Photo by Rance Fultz.

FORMING CARTRIDGES

(By W. C. Overstreet)

Extracts from:
REPORTS of EXPERIMENTS
with SMALL ARMS
For THE MILITARY SERVICE By
OFFICERS OF THE ORDNANCE
DEPARTMENT, U. S. ARMY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON
A. P. O. Nicholson, Public Printer
1 8 5 6

The diameters of the round sticks on which the powder cases are formed should be .69 inch for the old, and .58 inch for the new calibre. This will make the exterior diameter of the case somewhat larger than the ball, and will prevent the outer wrapper from binding around its base when the cartridge is broken.

The outer wrapper should not be made of too strong paper: that prescribed in the Ordnance Manual for blank cartridges, and designated as No. 3, will answer a better purpose for these cartridges than that designated as No. 1. The cylinder case should be made of stiff rocket paper, No. 4; and its wrapper may be made of paper No. 1, 2, or 3.

Before enveloping the balls in the cartridges, their cylindrical parts should be covered with a melted composition of one part beeswax and three parts tallow. It should be applied hot, in which case the superfluous part would run off; care should be taken to remove all of the grease from the bottom of the ball, lest by coming in contact with the bottom of the case, it penetrate the paper and injure the powder.

The balls being thus prepared, and the grease allowed to cool, the cartridges are made up as follows, viz: place the rectangular piece of rocket paper, called the cylinder case, on the trapezoidal piece, called the cylinder wrapper, as shown by the broken lines of the plate, and roll them tightly around the former stick, allowing a portion of the wrapper to project beyond both case and stick. Close the end of the case by folding in this projecting part of the wrapper. To prevent the powder from sifting through the bottom, paste the folds, and press them on to the end of the stick, which is made slightly concave to give the bottom a form of greater strength and stiffness.

After the paste is allowed to dry, the former stick is inserted in the case, and laid upon the outer wrapper (the oblique edge from the operative, and the longer vertical edge towards his left hand) and snugly rolled up. The ball is then inserted in the open end of the cartridge, the base resting on the cylinder case, the paper neatly choaked around the point of the ball, and fastened by the two half hitches of cartridge thread.

The former stick is then withdrawn, the powder is poured into the case, and the mouth of the cartridge is

(Continued on Page 11)

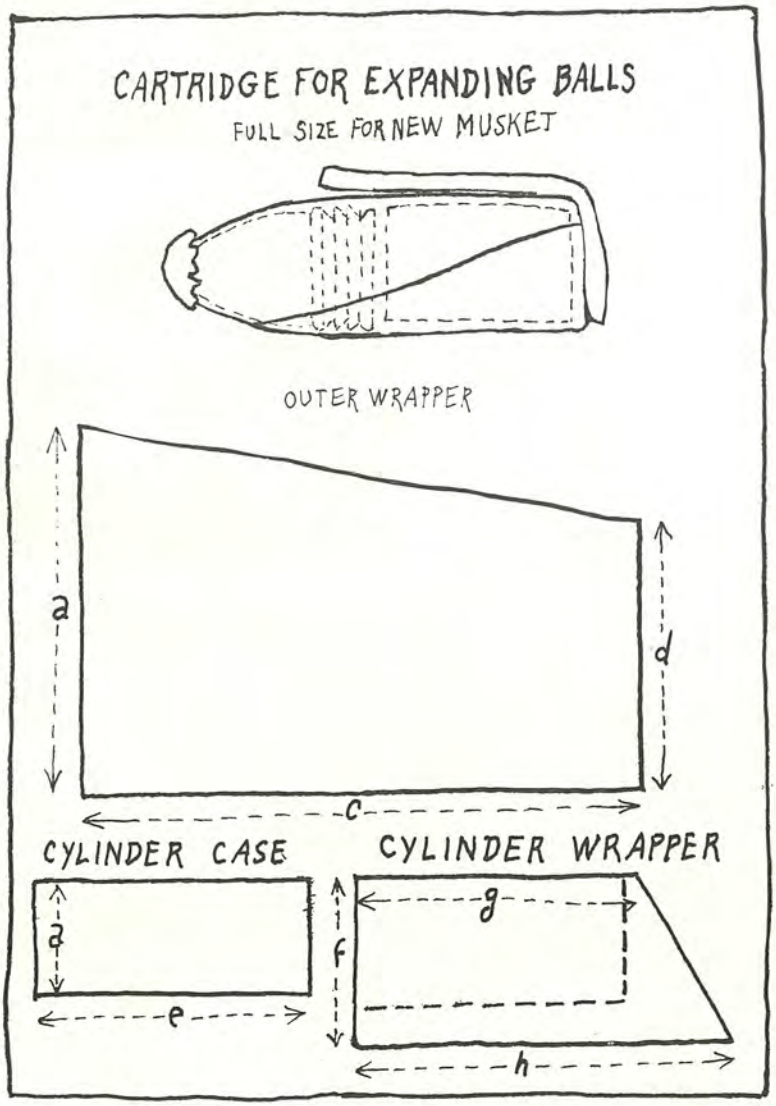


Table of dimensions for Formers for making cartridges with elongated expanding balls. (The dimensions are referred to the plate by means of letters placed opposite them.)

	Altered Musket — Inches	New Rifled Musket — Inches	Pistol Carbine Inches	
a	3.5	3.5	3.5	
d	2.5	2.25	2.25	(1)
c	5.25	4.25	4.25	
a	1.1	1.	.8	(2)
e	2.75	2.	2.	
f	1.5	1.3	1.1	
g	2.75	2.2	2.2	(3)
h	3.75	3.	3.	

(1) Outer Wrapper (2) Cylinder Case (3) Cylinder Wrapper

RESULTS OF POSTAL TEAM MATCH

(FOR THE RANGE FUND)

Versailles, Indiana

Mahoney, C. (*)	48
Cotton, A.	42
Moran, Dr. A. N.	41
Johnston, Boss	40
Allen, Jesse	40
Total	211

(*) Cal's five shots are shown herewith. He does his own barrel work, as well as much for other members of his team.)

Washington, D. C.

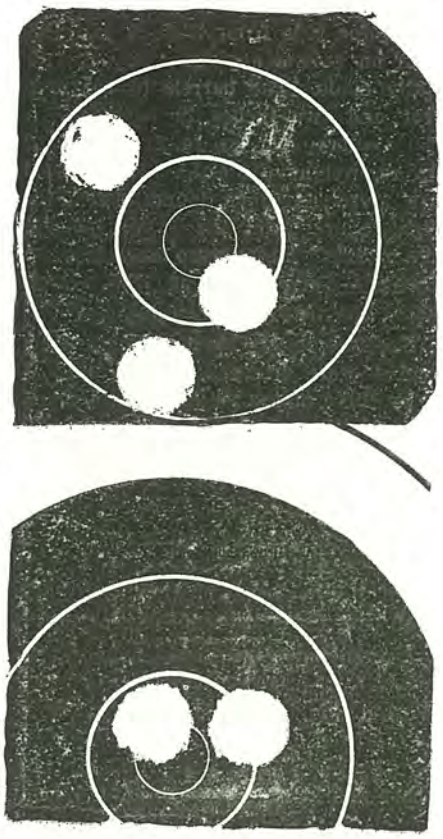
Bryant, Harry	45
Niles, R. L.	43
Howells, C. D.	40
Pippert, C.	39
McIntosh	37
Total	204

San Diego, California

Voorhees, K. J.	44
King, L.	40
Walther, C.	38
Stodter, C. E.	36
Beaty, Mason	35
Total	193

Cos Cob, Connecticut

Robeson, W.	41
Brush, Andy	40
Chapin, Henry	37
Wells, Harold	34
Crawford, Geo.	34
Total	186



Best target in recent Postal Team Match—by Cal. Mahoney, Versailles, Indiana. (Score 48x50)

Wichita, Kansas

Stants, Chas.	38
Sutter, L. A.	38
Brownlee, V. W.	37
Shaver, B. L.	35
Solomon, G. O.	35
Total	183

This postal match has stirred up a nice lot of interest. We will promote some more; see announcement elsewhere in this issue. You are going to get Variety . . . . look to your armament and be ready to share the fun.



Wichita (Kans.) Team that fired in Postal Match reported in this issue.

CHICAGO PLEASE NOTE

The cry goes up, "Let's Get Organized!"

There should be immediate and definite reaction to the end you Windy City boys have some matches and fun with your frontier guns, and have it this summer.

We would like to reach in the files and pull out one or two of the names of Chicago members, say—willy nilly —"There's the guy." But we can't do it that way. These are days when it would be hard to say who can find time and gasoline to spend on this fine form of recreation.

However, we are hoping this little appeal brings a big response . . . from mechanics, lawyers, doctors, business men, farmers and what not. There are many who will follow a good leader—let's see who will offer to go in and pitch for the opening inning.

A FIELD FOR ORATORY

Ralph Lawson, Peru, Indiana, has turned lecturer and after-dinner speaker in our cause! Jess is speech instructor at Peru high school, collects guns as a hobby. He is able to hold the attention of groups of real folks, for there seems to be no class of Americans who will not sit enthralled when the history of development and achievement of the early firearms is being unfolded. Some more of our members should tackle this if asked . . . . and be sure to give a period for questions after some thirty minutes of elocution. When questions start coming thick and fast you can then be sure you have "sold a bill of goods" to your audience.

GOVERNMENT KENTUCKIES

By LARRY DUNHAM

With all the interest in certain circles in the old "Kaintuckies," some of the following material might still be unknown and also of interest to some of the boys. It is with the idea that some of the brethren who might have one of these guns, or more, would send me a complet description and a photo, if possible, of any they have. The information comes essentially from Major J. E. Hicks' Notes on U. S. Ordnance, on which I helped.

In 1803 Tench Coxe, Purveyor of Public Supplies, made arrangements with certain of the Pennsylvania gunmakers to supply the government with rifled guns and pistols. These were for the arming of some new rifle regiments which were forming to increase the size of the army. Various arrangements were made with the following men: Peter Gonter, Peter Getz, Jacob Dickert, Henry DeHuff, George Miller, Christopher Gumpf, John Bender, Abraham Henry, John Guest, Peter Brong, Jacob Cooke, William Calderwood, A & J Ansted, Henry Pickel, John Shuler and Martin Frye. Many of these were to make rifles and some were to make pistols, while a few courageous souls contracted for both. Some of these men formed companies, such as Gonter & Getz; DeHuff & Co.; Dickert, Miller, Gumpf, Bender & Gonter. These contracts for arms were continued for several years and the Purveyor had some difficulties with these men in regards to their deliveries and the quality of their work. From records of inspections made in 1810 of the arms contracted for, then in storage, 1779 rifles by J. Henry, DeHuff, Guest, Brong and Pickel were condemned as unfit for service, as were 901 pairs of pistols by some of the other makers named above.

Some of the rifles were plain but others were specified as "with silver star and thumbpiece." The star was in the cheekpiece and the thumbpiece was the diamond, shield or oval piece on top of the small of the stock just in front of the comb. The plain rifles were priced at $11.00, and those with stars and thumbpieces at $11.50. Some of the rifles were brass mounted.

From a letter of Nov. 16, 1807, Coxe asked for bids from Dickert and DeHuff on "common plain rifles substantially made. The barrels to be three feet and two inches in length . . . . the Calibre such as to fit a ball of ½ oz. weight (54 Cal.). The barrels are preferred to be round instead of eight-square from the lower pipe to the muzzle." These were much like the Harpers Ferry rifles of 1803. Don't know how many were made.

Needless to say those that were accepted were stamped "U. S." and it is by these marks ye shall know them. Many persons have thought there was something funny about the Kentucky and similar guns that were marked U. S., but they are or were made on government contract and were government property. Some few are known to have had several more silver inlays than just the star and thumbpiece.

I would be very interested in receiving any information, complete descriptions, and/or photos of such guns from any of the brothers who have them. By the way, any of the guns by the above named makers which do not have the U. S. may be some that were rejected by the government inspectors, as many were rejected for poor lock work and others because they did not adhere strictly to the caliber, which was tested by the inspectors with a plug gauge, just as they are today, and they were fussy.

* * *

(**Note:** Anyone who can furnish data to Mr. Dunham may address him at 8 Franklin Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.)

MEMBERSHIP SIDELIGHTS

Our April mailing of MUZZLE BLASTS went to members as follows: Ohio 296, Indiana 160, New York 141, California 126, Pennsylvania 115, Michigan 95. Every state is seen in this mailing list, but only one each for South Dakota and Nevada. Arkansas has two and Vermont three. A total of 20 go outside continental United States.

We send out over 2000 per month to members and prospective members, advertisers and exchanges. Soon we plan to comb the list of long-time expired members and see if we cannot rejuvenate a nice group of them.

We still must ask our members to be patient when the mail does not bring MUZZLE BLASTS right on time. We have a dearth of printers in Portsmouth and none too much office help about the time the printer delivers the job to us. Then, too, mail does not move as it formerly did; train schedules are difficult to maintain and the force of mail clerks is insufficient to handle the work with a maximum of dispatch.

A PLACE OF BEAUTY

A visit to The Walter Cline Range right now would not cause one to think first of firing his old fusee. He'd look at the hills to the north of the firing line and he'd be bound to admire the scene . . . . dogwood, red bud, the unfolding leaves of elm, the blossoms of the locust; oak and sycamore in all their Spring glory! Behind him and across the black-top highway would be Laughery Creek—either running yellow or settling down so one could hope to take a few goggle-eyes or a luscious "cat". We bet Charley Bell hasn't done a lick o' work around the house when the waters were fit for fishing. Not even his rheumatiz would prevent trips with a bundle poles and a can o' worms. It's beautiful down in those hills in The Spring, fellows!

LITERARY NOTES

The books that have been published for our benefit are still moving with a vengeance. One is sold out—Ned Roberts' reprint of Chapman. Cline's fine volume—THE MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE, THEN AND NOW—continues to be a favorite. Ned Roberts' THE PERCUSSION LOCK MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE has sold right smartly from the day it was announced, and now there are not many copies remaining. That volume by Davis—FORGOTTEN HERITAGE—moves out steadily . . . . we wish to say that there is much in this book to make it a fine treat on a night when one can sit back and forget that it's raining or that income tax is soon going to raise its head again. Keep in mind Chapel's GUN COLLECTING—proving a good seller.

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE. RENEW IT TODAY!

EVERY FAN SHOULD HAVE ONE — SEND IN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS.



RANGE FUND POSTAL MATCHES

At Suggestion of Many Shooters

No. 1—TEAM EVENT—55 Yards, Open Sights, Round Ball, Rest. All members of local group may shoot but only high five will count for record. Names of bona-fide members to be submitted so targets may be properly inscribed. Five shots per competitor. Fee: $2.50 par group. All to go for Range Fund.

No. 2—Same conditions as for No. 1 except that Any Metallic Sights are permitted. (Groups may enter each Match if they so wish.)

No. 3—OFFHAND—27½ yards (5 rods); Individual, not team. Ten shots for record on the 50 yard small bore target. Any metallic sights. Fee: 50c. All income to go to Range Fund.

No. 4—HAND GUN—27½ yards. Individual. Ten shots; five shots on each of two 50 yard slow fire targets. Fee: 50c. All income to go to Range Fund.

ALL WHO ENTER these events agree to fire according to rules:

1—Targets to be inscribed with shooter's name in advance of firing. No other to shoot for him.

2—Only the specified number of shots to be fired—no extra shots for misses.

3—In group events all targets not fired on are to be returned—or that group's scores will not be published or considered.

4—All conditions as prevailing in National Matches will prevail except as above noted.

Targets may be ordered at once; must be fired on by June 30th and be back in office for scoring by the 3rd of July.

Your Winnings will not be other than the fun and good sport you get from such events. New shooters and groups can, by this means, find how they compare with the old-timers. We feel this should bring a splendid response.

ORDERING POWDER

Those small 16 ounce cans are about expended. We advise that the 6¼ and 25 pound cans be ordered in the future. Why? First, because smaller containers may not be available. Second, you pay on 100 pounds whether you order the small cannister or one of the 25 pound kegs . . . . and you pay at one-and-a half times the first-class rate. Give these items a second reading!

When semi-smokeless is again on the market you can then get that item by express, and at quite a saving in transportation. In the meantime we must abide by rigid freight regulations . . . so, buy plenty while about it. If you have a club, buy for the entire group.

OLD GUN GETS ELK MEAT

(Continued from Page 1)

such a puny weapon as a gun and above all a muzzle loader at that, with no hatful of bullets to start throwin'!

I really must have crept up on him for he was hardly thirty-five yards away when I saw him. In fact, I think he was as surprised as I was, for he seemed to hear me at the same time I saw him, turning his huge head about in a proud defiant sort of way that I'll never forget—as though he thought I was another bull come to answer his challenge.

By this time, I had a bead on his neck and squeezed off the charge of 120 grains of black behind the patched 466 grain "Sugar-loaf" bullet! When I got from behind the smoke-screen as dense as any black-out in a London fog, I found him just getting up after being knocked flat by the powerful load. I found later that I had missed the neck-bone by a trifle, which left him in a very dazed condition and barely able to keep his feet. I held my precious remaining shot until I was able to angle close enough to be certain of the shot, then, when I had a good opening, I let him have it again. This time he went down for keeps!

Boy, was I tickled—could have done a dance about him if I had not been so busy admiring his huge size. The packer later told me that he would weigh from six hundred to six hundred fifty pounds DRESSED OUT!! His rack will make a perfect trophy—six points on one side and seven on the other, with the spread measuring a full forty-eight inches acress the top and thirty-six inches from the base of the skull to the top point . . . . Think I'll have the skin made into a rug and the horns mounted on a plaque. And as for the meat, I won't worry about having meat this winter, come what may—you can take it from me, Red, elk meat is hard to beat.

Well, I am now thoroughly sold on the killing power of our muzzle loaders. There's nothing like a tightly-patched soft lead slug and black powder to REALLY STOP BIG GAME. If I had any doubt, it ended last fall when I dropped my deer dead in its tracks with a 93 grain .40 caliber ROUND BALL from my flint-lock Kentucky Rifle. I was flabbergasted to see such power from such a puny appearing missile no bigger than a pea!

Oh yes, on my first day of hunting here, I scaled a steep mountain above timber-line to bag me a nice specimen of Rocky Mt. Goat on one of the sheer cliffs. 'Nope, this wasn't with a muzzle loader but with my 'scope sikhted Winchester Model 70 rifle. A flat shooting rifle of this type is necessary for such long range shooting one must count on for this type of hunting. But give me good old brush huntin' with a muzzle gun any day in preference to this dizzy goat hunting business.

'Spose if I were there, your question would be what I intend to hunt with the next time I get to come up here, when the war is over. The answer is: another bull elk, this time with a good old historical Wurfflein Plains Rifle I have, or, better yet, a heavy bore single barrel flint-lock if'n I can find one. Would like nothing better than to take on a brown or black bear with such a combination—and there are lots of 'em up here from tracks I have seen. As for a Grizzly—dang, I don't know!!

This makes me think of a choice piece of ribbing I got from a Hollywood screen writer friend of mine before I came up here (and you know we muzzle hunters get plenty of it), who wrote giving me advice on what to do when I ran onto big game with my smoke-pole. Sez he: "If you meet a bear suddenly on the trail, just whistle a tune to see if he is a dancing bear, A. W. O. L. from some circus—if he is, he is only dangerous if you step on his feet . . . . and if you meet up with an elk, buy him a drink, he's probably from Iowa!"

Will mail this to you as soon as I get back to civilization, and in the meantime, don't ram your bullet ahead of the powder.

Your Friend,
Harry.

(Harry Mann took a long time getting back to civilization, judging from elapsed time, etc., etc. But he's forgiven—this yarn is worth waiting for.—Ed.)

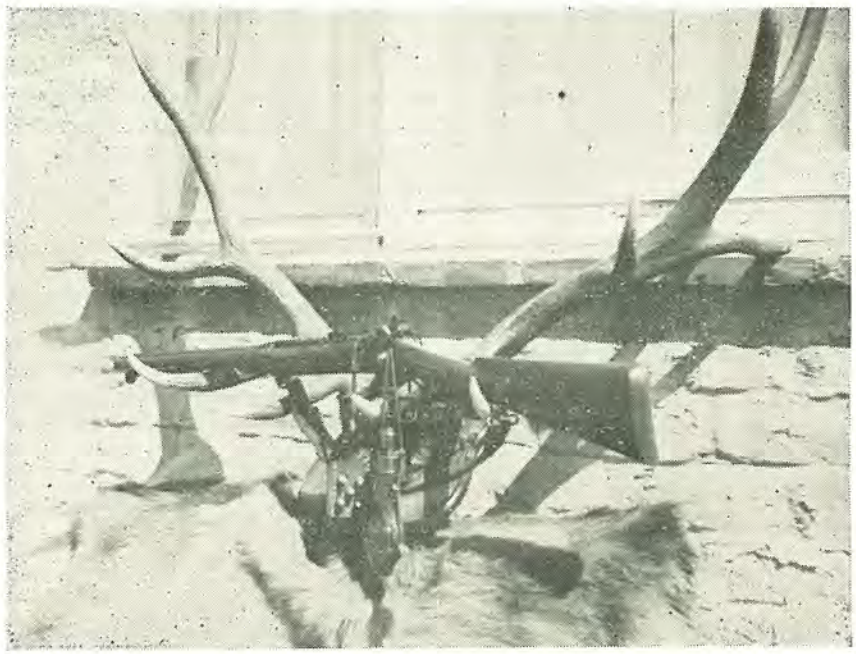
WINDAGE & ELEVATION

(Continued from Page 3)

I'd say it'd knock out an optic! Gold title, too The artistic chap who has had this perpetrated says he has had two offers for it . . . . and we believe he has started something. Tell us about **your** efforts to preserve the completed files of our humble sheet.

* * *

Dayton (Ohio) goes to town in this game—building a range and organizing a club. We feel that, somehow, we are going to be in that section soon and



The famous Jacobs Rifle — Under the gun is the leather bullet holder, containing five of the big 466 grain slugs already centered on their patches—ready for ramming down the muzzle with a minimum of delay. Such time-saving kinks as this save much time in re-loading when hard-pressed for additional shots.

H. F. HITCHCOCK, R. D. 1, SAEGERTOWN, PA.

PERCUSSION RIFLES, SHOTGUNS & PISTOLS

These guns are all in good mechanical and shooting condition unless otherwise noted.

(180)—.31 cal. **Squirrel** rifle, 40" octagon barrel stamped "Conestoga Rifle Works, Lancaster, Pa." Full curly maple stock, brass trim, small brass patch box; bore fair; mould; gun very sound. **$18.00.**

(193)—.44 cal. **Hunting** rifle, 40" octagon barrel, full curly maple stock, brass trim, long brass patch box; bore fair; straight cut rifling; mould; **$15.**

(157)—.42 cal. **Kentucky** rifle, 36" octagon barrel not rifled, marked "G. Kopp." Full curly maple stock, incised carving; fancy long engraved open work brass patch box, silver crescent in cheek piece, oval in wrist; set triggers, brass trim; converted from flint lock; mould; **$25.00.**

(169)—.35 cal. **Squirrel** rifle, 36" octagon barrel stamped "J. Forker." Full curly maple stock, brass trim; bore is fair to good; mould; **$20.00.**

(206)—.40 cal. **Boy's** rifle, 33" octagon barrel; full curly maple stock made without butt plate or muzzle cap; **$9.00.**

(159)—.36 cal. **Kentucky** rifle 37½" octagon barrel rifled; **perfect bore.** This is one of my own personal squirrel rifles; beautiful full stock of apple wood; light wine color with wavy grain throughout; has Roman nose butt and long open work brass patch box; rest of trim is brass, including shoulder plate; silver crescent moon on cheek piece; lock and hammer engraved; ramrod and mould, 8 lbs; **$46.09.**

(190)—.36 cal. **Hunting** rifle, 32" heavy octagon barrel; half stock of walnut, brass trim and German silver round patch box; set triggers; cleaning rod and ramrod; good bore; mould; **$13.00.**

(184)—.38 cal. **Hunting** rifle, 38" octagon barrel; good bore. Walnut half stock, brass trim, long open work brass patch box and shoulder plate; mould; **$15.00.**

(192)—.32 cal. **Squirrel** rifle, 32" octagon barrel marked "E. D. White." Walnut half stock, iron trim, bore fair; mould; **$12.50.**

(219)—.32 cal. rifle, 30" octagon barrel marked "J. H. Adams." Walnut half stock, 6 brass inlays; has crack in forearm but repaired many years ago, no wood missing; nice brass trim with spur trigger guard and set triggers; bore fair; mould; **$10.00.**

(169)—.36 cal. rifle, 32" octagon berrel, very good bore, marked "W. H. Forker." This rifle made in Meadville, Pa. Walnut half stock, double set triggers and brass trim; very neat rifle; mould; **$18.00.**

(155)—.70 cal. **Smoothbore U. S. Flintlock** musket, marked at breech "U. S." "V. P."; lock marked "Sargent Bros.—Warranted." Walnut stock, iron trim; rammer and swivels; complete with flint; **$15.00.**

(165)—.14 ga. D. B. rifle, 30" barrels marked "London." Walnut stock, iron trim, all metal parts are rust pitted; has been hi-grade gun; mechanically good; **$6.50.**

(55)—12 ga. D. B. 30½" barrel marked "Laminated Steel." Iron trim; locks, hammers and trigger guards engraved. Sound stock of walnut without chip or crack; full pistol grip, nicely checkered; complete with ramrod; **$10.**

(163)—11 ga. Double Bbl., 32" barrels marked "Fine Twist." Locks marked "J. Manton." Sound stock of walnut, has patch box on both sides of butt, not original; complete with ramrod and 5 lb. shot flask; very good bore; **$12.50.**

(173)—Double Barrel Combination Rifle and Shotgun, 34½" bbls, stamped "Real Twist." 16 ga. shot barrel and .42 cal. rifle barrel; back action lock stamped "Wm. Moore & Co." Minor crack in stock over locks, but not loose; iron trim; good shooting condition; also has second set of 12 ga. barrels to go with this gun; **$8.50.**

(212)—26 ga. smooth bore fowling piece, 45" barrels marked "London." Lock has been converted from flint. Oak(?) half stock, brass trim, spur trigger guards; needs nipple; **$7.00.**

(198)—14 ga. cut down musket, 30" barrel, brass trim; good shooting condition. **$3.50.**

(121)—.50/70 **Remington** Rolling Block, 36" round barrel, fair to good bore; **$4.50.**

(148)—.45/70 **Springfield** cut down to 25"; good bore; 10 shells; **$4.50.**

(128)—1848 **Colt** cap and ball; holster; no original finish but good; **$12.50**

(105)—.31 cal. **Cooper** same as 1849 Colt except double action; **$10.50.**

(88)—1860 **Colt Army**, .44 cal.; very good; **$22.00.**

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nothing is going to prevent us having a look at the layout. Sparking the movement is one M. O. Devers, a go-getter and no mistake about it. We wish them luck . . . . hope to see them revive the old trophy matches that were popular in the Miami Valley when the editor was a shaver in the county north of Montgomery County. Those were big events . . . . dad used to attend and tell us about 'em.

* *

CAUTION: Do not send live percussion caps or any other explosive through the mails. The penalty is something other than a mere spanking. Percussion caps may go by express, properly packed. Semi-smokeless powder (when available) may be shipped by express. Black powder—ship by FREIGHT ONLY. These facts ought to be posted where you will not have a chance to forget them.

FORMING CARTRIDGES

(Continued from Page 6)

"pinched" or folded in the usual way.

To use this cartridge, tear the fold and pour out the powder; then seize the ball end firmly between the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, and strike the cylinder a smart blow across the muzzle of the piece; this breaks the cartridge and exposes the bottom of the ball: a slight pressure of the thumb and forefinger forces the ball into the bore clear of all cartridge paper. In striking the cartridge the cylinder should be held square across, or at right angles to the muzzle; otherwise, a blow given in an oblique direction would only bend the cartridge without rupturing it.

Cartridges constructed on these principles present a neat and convenient form for carrying the powder and ball attached to each other, and they obviate two important defects of the elongated cartridges in common use, viz: the reversed position of the ball in the cartridge, and the use of the paper wrapper as a patch. So far as they have been tried in the hands of the troops, they have been found to answer a good purpose.

WATCH THE SHOOT CALENDAR

We hope the members keep an eye open for the shoots that are within travel distance. The promoters are bending every effort to keep the established competitions from going into a decline. The shooters can hardly afford to let them down. Learn your train and bus schedules . . . . then tie the transportation and the shoots into a workable combination.

CROW SHOOTIN'

By Carl Brablec

Some days back several of us newcomers to the muzzle game got together of a Sunday afternoon to do the usual. Brother Gawge has a farm a couple miles out and on that farm there is a heated garage. He heats it by splashing gallons of gasoline into a big stove, has a tub of coffee brewin' all through the shoot, and gives a new pair of shoes to each lad who slaughters a crow.

Well, Jennings looked out across the orchard while we were in the cap snappin' stage and whispered, "Crows." And there they was, black as our fingers. Ingersoll started loadin' first but he had a new barrel from Grote which was so long that his rod hit the rafters and he would have needed to step outside which is exactly what we wouldn't let him do. In the general tension one of the boys cut his patch so big that it imprisoned his starter in some way. So the first shot went to me, and when we picked up that bird we found entrails strewn all over the snow. Those round balls have a queer way of messing things up.

After we started on targets there was no more crow for us that day. But Jennings picked off three in as many shots several days later, at ranges from 50 to 75 yards. He uses a .46 cal. round ball, bench rest rifle and the crow game for him is just like hitting a billboard with a handful of beans. If we can find the time, we plan to get those crows to settle down from a hundred to 125 yards away and see if anything happens.

It may be of some interest to list the kind of "game" we have stopped with muzzle loading guns: sparrows and starlings (blows 'em to bits), 'possums, pheasants, rabbits, squirrel, pigeons, crows; and we hope to get our deer some day.

"D. C." SHOOT

Those of our members who are residents—permanent or for the duration—of Washington, D. C., please keep in mind there are some items "cooking." Carl Pippert, living over in Decatur Heights, Md., is the chap who has the active brain.. One special event he has in mind will be For Service Men Only! Members from California, Connecticut, Texas, New York and many other states are handy . . . . will they contact Mr. Pippert as soon as announcement of a shoot is made in this publication. He will appreciate your turning out and doing your best to keep in the swim—likely you will appreciate what Pippert is doing in your behalf.

SHOOT

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N. H. ROBERTS
AUTHOR

Goffstown, New Hampshire

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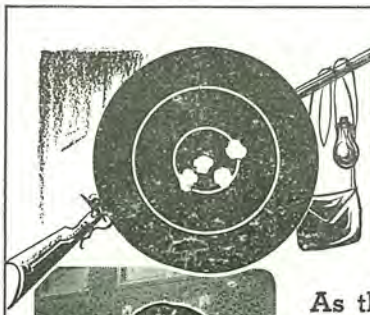
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We will trade and sometimes buy. Want all kinds of automatics for direct war effort, including those marked Gov. Prop. Will pay cash, liberally. Also auto barrels and magazines. No fooling, government needs them badly and we are official buyers. Want rare ones and fancy for personal collection. Need 63 Winchester, target .22 and target scope; also Weaver for 63.

Still have a few **full stocks** for decoration or shooting at bargain price of **$25.00.** Need minor work to shoot. This is a real bargain.

Nordheim's famous Yreka heavy target bbl. on set trigger Spencer and 40 Spencer loads marked S&W, **$19.00.** Barrel and set triggers worth that. Condition about good.

Flintlock musket, original, **$14.00.**

Rare **Allen Conversion** of Springfield Musket to .50 caliber breechloader and they used a LINER, **$14.00.**

Krag, excellent bore, **$25.00.** Another fair, carbine stock, original Krag sling, **$17.00.**

Good **Saxton** 16 gauge double percussion shotgun, **$15.00.**

Sturdy **English** fancy double 12 percussion, but condition fair, **$9.50.**

Mississippi round ball gun, 15 lbs., .36 cal., 1¼"x34", fair, **$25.00.**

Unusual **halfstock,** .40; ⅞"x42", fair, **$19.00.**

Two bargain **halfstocks,** minor repairs needed, **$25.00.**

Harpers Ferry **1815 RIFLE,** good, FLINT, **$50.00.**

Remains . . . back half of a beautiful old Ky.—Lock, set triggers, beautiful old patch box and butt plate assembly, **$7.00.** Also piece off bbl.

Rare Short Rifle, **Mauser** 71/84, 11 mm., rare in short rifle, also is first one to follow needle gun alteration, first repeater, fine, perfect bore, a worthwhile piece, **$25.00.**

Veterli, fine long bbl., **$5.00.**

Browning Over Under 12, good trade only.

Choice Stock **Marlin** .30/30 carbine, nearly new, 9 boxes latest ammo., Trade.

Marlin .38/55 rifle, loading equipment, components, 5 boxes, fine bore, worth $75.00, take **$45.00.**

Marlin .22 lever replica of above, perfect in, trade.

Winchester model 24, double 16 shotgun, nearly new, **$35.00.**

Good **Scheutzen** .41, percussion, think by Lefever, **$45.00.**

Fine out **Springfield .30/06 Sporter,** poor in, I have $50.00 in it. That is too much but what will you trade? High Number heat treat action.

Did you ever see a Civil War Sharpes Carbine in unfired condition? **$25.00.**

Winchester .22 shotgun, bolt action single shot, **$12.50** and some shells. New condition.

Winchester auto for shorts, new condition, **$25.00.**

British Bulldog .450, nickle, lite walnut, nearly new but aged, needs trigger spring, made in Belg., **$7.50.**

H&R Trapper, good—**H&R** 922 fine bore, needs springs. **$25.00 for pair.**

Remington .44 percussion, fair, **$15.**

Remington rare tiny replica, percussion .31, "Officers Model," **$25.00** and worth $35.00. Seldom seen not altered.

Rogers & Spencer, good to very good, **$25.00.**

1873 French St. Ettienne, 11 mm. revolver, very good, very rare, very unusual. Wonderfully made. Completely disassembles without tools, will now shoot shortened .44 Russian loads, very good bore, **$35.00.** Four Star Item.

Norwegian or Danish military percussion pistol, rarity, bargain at **$22.00.**

Smith & Wesson Volcanic (the Paterson of the S&W), fair, **$35.00.** Not the Winchester.

Whitneyville Armory .32 rimfire, fair, **$7.50.**

Merwin & Bray frontloading revolver with ejector on back just reverse of Colt, (to avoid S&W patents). Marked Kittredge & Co., Cincinnati, with 4 cupfire shells, **$12.00.**

Two rare **S&W Ladysmiths, $35.00** each.

S&W .44R DA Navy, nickle, very good, shoots like target gun, box ammo. **$29.00.** Low number of No. 67.

Colt fancy etched SA .45, very good, **$50.00.**

Colt SA model 1875, 4¾" bbl., .45, fair, **$25.00.**

Rare **Colt .45 Peacemaker,** model 1873, 5", simulated one piece ivory grips, good, **$35.00.**

Colt SA .45, 4¾", very good but dull finish, **$35.00.**

Bisley, as above but 5½", **$39.00**

Hard to get Alaskan model, .45 DA **Frontier Colt,** better made than the SA, very good but reblue, **$29.00.**

Did you ever see a genuine **UMC revolver**—not Remington? .32 rimfire, good, small, nickle, **$7.50.**

Colt 1849 but **scarce six shot,,** .31 percussion, **$15.00.**

Colt London Navy, .36, **$35.00.**

Very rare .36 **Colt** on .31 frame, seldom found unaltered, **$35.00.**

Very good pocket .36 round bbl. **Colt,** the late model, the Sunday Gun, **$25.**

Three good flint locks, only ten each.

Engraved fancy lock, new, **$6.50.**

Good back action, **$5.00.**

Peace Flask, the big army, **$9.00.**

Bargain lot of three powder horns, **$5.00.**

Fluted brass flask, rifle size, **$3.00. Colt flask,** .44 size, **$7.00.** Manhattan **Mold,** .36, very rare, fair, **$5.00.**

Hey, wake up! Original fancy holsters, little used, for the Colt percussion Army and Navy, **$5.00** each. Gracious, where are you collectors?

I want automatics for Uncle Sam and allies, which include government property autos and foreign stuff. Don't be afraid to dig out those marked government property. The hour of need is near and serious. We can pass up a lot of formalities and pay you good for them. Uncle and his pals need them badly and I am not kidding. This is the kind of help that won't cost you anything. Take the money and get some better stuff later on. Describe and price and hurry, hurry! Fifty Thousand should be on their way right now. Uncle needs them; he isn't going to seize them; he is going to pay you good cash for them. I am one of the official buyers. But you can confide in me as I am one of you lads. Sure, I have fought poor gun laws, worked on politicians, put on pressure, so that we could have our guns without troubles. So today, instead of seizing our guns, they pay us well for them. I am a Life Member of the National Muzzle Loaders, Life NRA, member USRA, founder Ohio Gun Collectors. So don't be afraid to dig out those hidden autos for Uncle Sam's hour of need. Let me know of all kinds that you have. Price them and state condition.

I am always ready to buy worthwhile pieces that others may want or trade for them. Personally I collect fancy guns, rare guns, decorated guns. I am an amateur dealer. Guns for fun. Vanilla so that Mrs. Bedford and I can earn a living. We are Ohio's leading vanilla producers and will trade vanilla wholesale for guns. And you will get the best vanilla in the country at surprisingly low prices all the way thru. Guaranteed FIVE YEARS. So you know that we must like guns to go in as deep as we do.

Let's trade some good pieces. Let's trade on some autos for Uncle Sam or pay you cash. Let me live that I do no harm. Brother Zuern says, "Gun Traders shouldn't be allowed to live."

Want a 63 Winchester, Scope, target .22 and quality scope. Will trade a super-good Mossberg Spotter and a bum stand with it.

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Five shots, bench rest or prone. Round patched ball only. Any metallic sights. Fifty yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Cash to three places.

MATCH No. 2

Same as Match No. 1 except all record shots to be fired offhand. Distance 50 yards.

MATCH No. 3—Daniel Boone Trophy Match

An aggregate of No. 1 and No. 2. Winner gets a beautiful silver loving cup and cash.

MATCH No. 4—Buckeye Cycle Co. Trophy Match

Five shots, 100 yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Any cloth or paper patched ball or bullet. Any metallic sights. Prone or bench rest. Winner: Beautiful silver loving cup and cash to three places. One hour allowed in this match.

MATCH No. 5—Zeppelin Arms Co. Trophy Match

(Donated by Zeppelin Arms Co., Akron, Ohio)

Same as Match No. 4 except round patched ball only may be used. Prone or bench rest. Winner and places same as Match No. 4.

MATCH No. 6—Ladies' Match

Beautiful silver loving cup and cash. Five shots, 50-yard small bore target. Round patched ball only. Any metallic sights. Bench rest or prone.

MATCH No. 7—Kit Carson

Flint lock, open sights. Round patched ball only. Five shots, 50 yards, N. R. A. small bore target. Bench rest or prone. Winner: a beautiful trophy and cash to three places.

MATCH No. 8—Creasy Arms Co. Trophy Match

Ten shots, 220 yards, any sights. String measure—shortest string gets beautiful trophy; cash to three places. One hour and fifteen minutes allowed in this match.

MATCH No. 9
Extra Special — Neidner-Schuetzen Match

Five shots, 100 yards, any sights. Any patched ball or bullet. Beautiful trophy and cash to three places.

MATCH No. 10

Reentry: 50 yards, round ball, any metallic sights. Pay off each day at 80% of proceeds—50% to first, 30% to second and 20% to third.

MATCH No. 11

Husband and wife event. Five shots, 50 yards, rest, round ball, any metallic sights. Trophy and cash.

MATCH No. 12

Cap and Ball Pistol. Five shots, 25 yards, open sights, ball or bullet. Trophy and cash.

MATCH No. 13

Rifle—Men (or Women) over sixty. Five shots, 50 yards, any metallic sights, round ball, rest. Trophy and cash.

MATCH No. 14

Juniors. Sixteen years and under. Five shots, 50 yards, rest, round ball, any metallic sights. Permanent trophy and cash to three places.

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All shots will be scored from center of bullet hole.

Entry fees will be $1.00 to members of N. M. L. R. A.; $1.50 to non-members.

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Telephone and pit service at 220-yard range.

Time: 45 minutes for Round Ball Matches on 50 yard range.

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FOR SALE OR TRADE: Over-under cap and ball; top barrel .40 cal.; under barrel 16 gauge for shot. excellent, $37.50. Long barrel Remington .31 cal. cap and ball revolver, $15.00. Remington double derringer .41 caliber, like new, $17.50. Long barrel Colt .36 cap and ball, $17.50. Four bbl. Sharps .32 derringer, $10.00. Fine powder horn, $3.50, and several other guns, all excellent. Want fine original authentic flint Kentucky. **Ken Shepardson, La Crescent, Minn.** (5)

BARRELS FOR U.S. ARMY RIFLES both the Model 1861 and the Model 1863-4, cal. .58, rifled; about new condition, with perfect bore, complete with blued rear sight, cone and breach plug, price $2.85. State model, not year of manufacture, when ordering.

Have some splendid **rifled barrels for the Yager or Mod. 1841 rifle;** they have had the rear portion of the barrel cut off and are now 31½" long; perfect rifled bore cal. .54, original brown finish; suitable for making into pistol barrels, short percussion or flintlock rifles; price $1.50.

U. S. Army cal. .45/70 rifle barrels, single shot, 32" long (cadet length) regulation front sight, drilled and tapped for rear sight, threaded at breach for receiver, new condition, perfect bore, $3.35. Postage extra on all items. 1943 Illustrated price list, arms and parts, price 15c. **"Young," 97 Liberty Ave., Belleville, N. J.** (5)

FOR SALE: Half-stocked .33 cal. 37½" barrel, open sights, 10 lb. percussion rifle. Barrel recut. Restocked with beautiful African Zebra Wood, no patch box. This gun is in perfect shape, and will shoot ½" groups at 25 yds. Complete with accessories. Upon receipt of money order for $42.50 will ship on 10 days approval. **Lester L. Cox, 1807 Youngstown Rd. S. E., Warren, Ohio.** (5)

FOR SALE: One heavy steel round barrel blank, 51" long, weight 20½ lbs., ½" rough bore, not reamed nor rifled, outside diameter 1½". This is a fine even-grained tube; a bargain at $10.00 F.O.B. Chattanooga. **A. C. Cross, 320 Pine Ridge Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee.** (5)

GENERAL REPAIRING of muzzle loading rifles. Parts for sale. Also 3 rifles for sale. Trade for single shot 25-20, or Hornet barrel to fit 44½ Stevens action. **Harry Kent, Bidwell, Ohio.** (5)

NEW STOCKS for your muzzle-loading guns. Your own specifications or exact copy of original, or have the old one repaired and dressed up with engraved silver or brass inlays. High class spiral ramrods of choice hickory, plain or fitted with brass tip threaded to take standard wire or bristle brushes. Powder horns made to order from your raw horn. Write for prices. **Bob Winger, Ogle St., Ebensburg, Pa.** (5)

FOR SALE: 6 Wall Display Cases 24x36"x5", green felt lined, very good. **Wanted:** a catalogue of Firearms, Satterlee, mint condition. **E. R. Helsel, 594 Seiberling St., Akron, Ohio.** (5)

FOR SALE: Several muzzle loading guns; also breech loading shot guns. **Stuart Kenieff, Mt. Carmel, Ill.** (tf)

SELL YOUR SURPLUS equipment. A classified ad in MUZZLE BLAST may reach the man who is looking for just what you have.

FOR SALE: Kentucky by H. E. Leman, Lancaster, Pa., 35" by ⅞" 35 cal. barrel; bore perfect; curly maple stock, excellent; set triggers; mould; $40.00

M/L 12 ga. shotgun by Wm. Scott; excellent; finish worn on barrels; stock finely checked and perfect; shot flask; $30.00. **Gordon Olivier, 3 Elm St., Lebanon, N. H.** (5)

FOR SALE: Manhattan percussion .36 cal., 5" barrel, good shooting condition, $12.00. Merwin Hulbert .32 C. F. needs adjustment, $6.00. Percussion round ball match rifle 1¼" barrel, needs recutting or relining; now about 46 cal.; half curly maple stock, semi-pat. breech back action lock, $18.00. **Want:** heavy barrel for round ball 32 cal. or smaller, 40" or longer. **C. Matthews, 1161 W. Lincoln Blvd., Freeport, Illinois.** (5)

TRADE: 2 boxes .30-06, 5 boxes .30-30, 4 boxes .32 long, 1 box .45 automatic; Savage Model 430 over-under, 20 gauge, improved cylinder and modified, excellent out, perfect in, 4 boxes shells; Kentucky percussion .44 cal. round ball match rifle, 12½ lbs., perfect maple full stock, barrel recut, mold, a winner. **Want:** Super percussion double twelve gauge—must be perfect. Factory loaded Hornet or Lovell bullets and primers, 25-20 S. S. cases; .44 calibre Colt or Remington cap and ball revolver, must be excellent. **Frank Miller, Irwin, Ohio.** (5)

WANTED: No. 2 primers; 10 and 12 gauge empty brass shot shells; 10 and 12 gauge felt wads. **Carl A. Haberlein, McPherson, Kansas.** (5)

WANTED: Odd lots of modern and obsolete ammunition; also Colt guns, modern and old. **C. G. Battles, Wellington, Ohio.** (5)

WANT several muzzle loading guns—shot guns or rifles; Win. or Rem. .22 automatic. **323 E. 4th St., Mt. Carmel, Illinois.** (5)

WANTED: Military type Whitworth hex-bore M L rifle in good shooting order. Give full description and lowest cash price. **Kimball Arms Company, Woburn, Mass.** (5)

CARTRIDGES FOR COLLECTORS: 1943 catalog 10c. McDonald & Wheeler, Osborne, Kansas. (5)

WANTED: Unused lots of right hand locks and triggers for muzzle loading firearms. **E. M. Farris, Portsmouth, Ohio.**

WANTED TO BUY: English brass barrel pistols. **R. L. Taylor, 525 West First Ave., Columbus, Ohio.** (7)

FOR SALE: Flint Lock and percussion muzzle loading rifles. Good to perfect shooters. Hunting, match or target. Large list, 10c. **Geo. Brullesauer, 3957 A Castleman, St. Louis, Mo.** (8)

ILLUSTRATED CATALOG of 1400 pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, armor —25c. **Robert Abels, 860-M Lexington Ave., New York, N. Y.** (10)

FLINT AND PERCUSSION rifles in shooting order. Also cap and ball revolvers. Stamp for list. Mention which one wanted. 9th edition antique arms catalog now ready, featuring the important Dr. Buck Collection. 10c coin. **Kimball Arms Co., 2200 Cambridge Rd., Woburn, Mass.** (tf)

FIREARMS AND ACCESSORIES for shooters and collectors; M/L rifles and pistols, flasks, moulds, locks, gun hardware, etc. No catalog now. **James E. Serven, 1028 Oak St., Santa Ana, Calif.** (tf)

ANTIQUE and used firearms. Send 5c for list. **H. A. Brand, 1008 Ingalls Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio.** (6)

WANTED for cash: Pistols, rifles, bladed weapons, also World War weapons. **Robert Abels, 860 Lexington Ave., New York.** (10)

YOUR ADS SOLICITED. . . . . . Copy must be in hand by 20th of month previous to publication. **E. M. Farris, Sec'y.**

WANTED: Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. **LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.** (tf)

BANKS O' THE WABASH GUNSMITH

A note comes in—no name signed. But it proves to be of real interest. Some day these little biographical sketches will be finding their way into lists of early gunmakers, and we print this squib with a hope it proves helpful in that, and other ways.

"Among the Gunsmiths of the past, one should be remembered for his excellent craftmanship and constant consistency with guns . . . . name of G. Krug. He came and lived on the banks of the Wabash about 100 years ago; made and repaired guns for many years.

"Mr. Krug worked hard and long hours at his trade . . . . often long into the night—not by modern clear white light but by the light of a smoky kerosene lamp. He forged out his own tools as he needed them . . . . twist drills, bits, etc. Factory tools were unknown back in those parts that early. He made his own lathe . . . . likewise his own rifling drum, compass and calipers.

"He would average two rifles a week, completed, with brass trimming and all. His guns, when finished and targeted, never missed the bulls-eye when in the right hands. A finished rifle sold at $16. He was always busy; his charges were more than reasonable. His guns, usually half-stock, were beautiful; birds-eye maple was usually used in the stocks.

"Men in their seventies and eighties still remember this early and able craftsman."

COBLE — PRATT

For months Don Coble was a big mystery—no one knew what had become of him. Some thought he had been quietly enrolled in the armed forces and slipped out on some Q. T. assignment. This monring we get word that he had—on his own—slipped into Maine to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Bryant, stayed on to do some special work, met "the lady," married her and gone back home to start making a marksswoman for the next Big Shoot!

Not one of the membership could have more sincere and hearty Best Wishes than Mr. and Mrs. Don Coble, and the secretary extends same to them with not a dissenting vote.

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLY STATION

— BOOK DEPARTMENT —

MUZZLE LOADING CAP LOCK RIFLE—Roberts $4.85
MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE—Then and Now—Cline $7.00
Reprint of Dr. Mann's BULLET'S FLIGHT $6.00
FORGOTTEN HERITAGE—Davis $4.00
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN HAND ARMS—Chinn-Hardin $8.00
Chapel's GUN COLLECTING $2.50
Chapel's GUN CARE & REPAIR $3.75
Sharpe's GUIDE TO HANDLOADING $7.50

BLACK POWDER—16 oz. cans, 85c; 6¼ lb. cans, $4; 25 lb. cans, $12.50 Add 25c for packing one or more 16 oz. cans. Permit required. F. O. B.

CAPS—Only 11's to be had—out of 9, 10, 12 and Musket—$1.50 per 1000 Limit 1000 to customer. Add 25c for packing. Permit required. F. O. B.

PURCHASE PERMIT, as issued through County Clerks on authority of Bureau of Mines, must be seen before dealer can ship. If your state requires a license to purchase and possess explosives, be sure to send that in, too.

SHOT . . . . Plenty bird shot on hand—5 lb. for $1.00—25 lb. for $4.75 Buck Shot due very soon—prices same. Sizes: .25, .27, .30, .32, .34, .36, .38, .42, .44, .50, .58

FLINTS—Musket, Rifle or Pistol, $1.00 doz.; PHOTOS 1942 Shoot, 25c

Wad Cutters, 20 or 12 ga. only—good condition 75c

NIPPLES—¼", 28 Thread to fit 12 caps or 11's if ground tapering a bit ..... 25c each or 5 for $1.00

MEMBERSHIP FELT INSIGNE: Annual or Life 50c

NIPPLE WRENCHES: Rifle or Revolver ..... each 75c
2 T-type with receptacles for nipples, oiler ..... each $2.50
2 3-way, 3-socket type—Very unusual ..... each $1.25
2 Musket type with screw driver ..... each 75c

WORMERS: Brass case—.325" diameter, 75c —— .40" diameter, $1.00

LOCKS: 1 Golcher back action, unused, fine $5.50
2 Unknown makers, unused, engraved ..... each $6.00

TRIGGERS: 1 NEW—d. s.—a fancy outfit—"Milam" $7.50
1 doz. New by Hacker Martin, regular ..... each $4.75
3 good Used outfits ..... each $3.00

Main Spring Vises—for removing springs from locks ..... each 75c

— FIREARMS —

Pair Fine MORRIS smooth bore flinter pistols, Mogdon locks, superior in every particular—gold inlay $67.50

Pair percussion, no-name pistols, rifled, with fine fittings and engraving; good to fine $30.00

Rifle—barrel set in copper tubing and leaded; .50 calibre, walnut stock, shoots fine groups; needs some dolling-up to give it "class", $32.50

RIFLE by VIETOR, similar to one shown on front page April issue; dime-sized group at 30 yards to prove it is accurate. Patch box, good wood work, cast-off to butt stock. Engraving by Vietor—unusual and good $52.50

Winchester .270 Model 54, 48 Lyman, superior condition, with 18 K. B. 130 gr. s. p. ctgs. ..... Outfit for $65.00

Winchester 75 Sporter—New rifle ..... $34.45; With curly walnut stock $37.50

P & D MOLL Match Type Flint rifle; .56 calibre, does good groups; full stock, some patched places on wood; artificial striping; good lock, good brass patch box—rare $47.50

Double flint shot gun, bore approximately 24 ga.; good working condition. Patched at grip; good brass trim with engraving. Said to have come over from England in 1760 ..... $35.00

10 ga. FIELD double shot gun; good stock and locks, barrels have been secured outside; brown inside—ready for field $15.00

SNEVELY rifle .52 bore. Saw-handle grip, likely made in or near Maysville, Kentucky—resembles J. Woods outfit. Walnut stock, steel trim. Brammer freshed bore and repaired stock $30.00

GILLISPIE rifle; .32 bore, barrel is 36" by 15/16" and bore is newly freshed cut by Win Woods. Fine stock of black walnut; checked at grip by an artist. Star in cheek rest; fancy engraved oval patch box. Fine lock by Gillispie; keen d. s. triggers. Wood in superior condition but "feathered" near stock bolt, where it has opened a bit from loading strain. Patented breech, engraved $41.50

WE WILL DO OUR LEVEL BEST WITH YOUR ORDERS—KEEP IN MIND MATERIALS HARD TO PRY LOOSE—SLOW IN TRANSIT

E. M. FARRIS

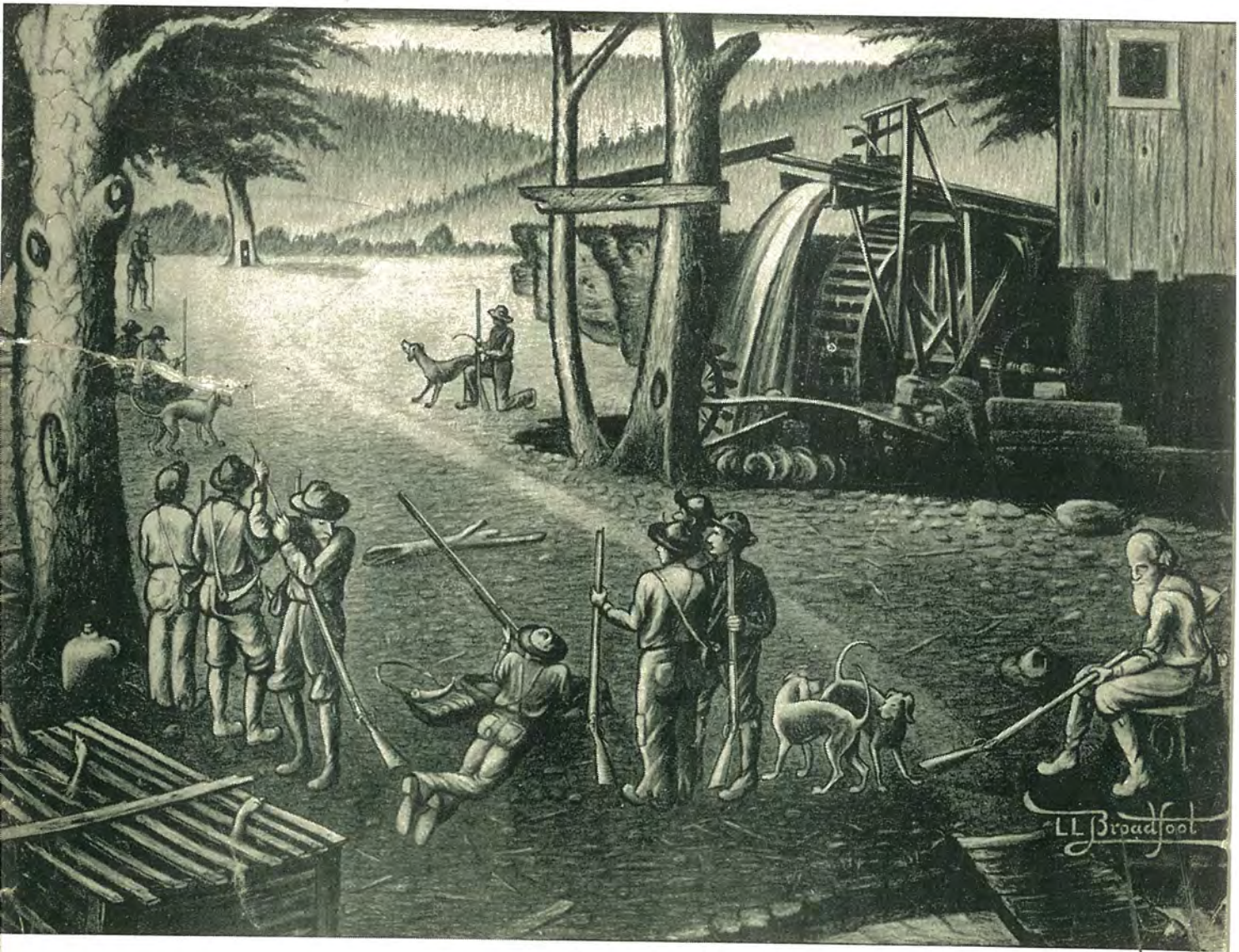
N. & W. Ry YMCA PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Arthur E. Anderson
Santa Margarita, California

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VII | PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, OCTOBER, 1945 | NUMBER 2



Ozark Turkey Shoot . . . by L. L. Broadfoot

(See "Windage and Elevation")

"PREPARED LOADS" by Carl C. Tinker

PAGE 5

Take a Cue from Grandpap

Editorial

BIG GAME with muzzle loading arms—why not? Buffalo were driven all the way from Virginia to The Great Plains before the breech loaders finished them off. It took the hardy boys with their single-shot muzzle loading flint and percussion rifles to kill this great beast for food. The deer of the frontier were easy to bring down with the short-range Kentuckies. Panther, bob-cat, wolf and bear all became victims to the long rifle of our forefathers who pressed ever to the West.

In 1945 it is still possible—and sporting—to take a rifle that loads via the muzzle and get your game with the one load at your disposal. The percussion is readily procurable; the flinter is scarce but The Ultimate in "giving the game a chance". Let him who can "follow through" try it—let all others stick to an arm that doesn't belch a cloud of gas in its mid-section before it gives out with its lethal cargo via the muzzle.

We speak advisedly when we recommend the black powder, muzzle loading rifles for hunting. Les Fitzgerald is a fine example of a modern who gets meat by ancient methods . . . and we do not mean he uses rocks or bow and arrows. His flinter—about a .50 calibre—is an efficient arm, because he understands it and uses it in practice weeks before he goes to the timber of Michigan for his buck.

Antelope have been taken with hand-tampers in this generation . . . see *Muzzle Blasts* of January, 1942. Elk, too, will fall to a good hunter . . . see our May, 1943, issue.

Don't take our word for it . . . take a muzzle gun of from .45 to .58 calibre this year and get your buck with nothing else. Then tell us how you did it and get a photo if possible. Give details of the bore, load, distance, "mental disturbance" following the shot and other pertinent facts. We would like to publish at least six stories from you chaps who took the grand-pappy method of getting game in 1945.

CALENDAR

TURKEY SHOOT—Walter Cline Range
Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18
Lunch on the Range—In Dining Room
A Program with Heaps of Variety

TURKEY SHOOT
District of Columbia and Vicinity
Sunday, November 11
D. C. Rifle & Pistol Club Range, Camp Viers,
on Viers Mill Road about halfway between
Wheaton and Rockville
If wet weather—come the following Sunday

TURKEY SHOOT
Long Beach, California—November 18
Celebrating Fiftieth (50th) Muzzle Loading Event
50 Yards—Any Metallic Sights
Turkeys, Ducks, Chickens, Rabbits
Medals also given as prizes
Big Feed for Club at Close of the Shooting
Contact S. W. Holmers, 5368 E. 2nd St., Long Beach 2, Calif.

HILL TOP RANGE—Dayton, Ohio
1st Sunday of Each Month

CINCINNATI CLUB
Top of Hill on 71st St., Carthage, Ohio
3rd Sunday of Each Month

MUZZLE BLASTS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association

E. M. Farris ..... Editor

N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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Squaw Guns

By "STONEWALL" STARR



"Squaw Gun"—that's the proper name for any muzzle fed disperser of shot, the Red Brother who originally inhabited our land having named it thus because he held a handful of shot in contempt, but respected the solid lead slug which our buckskin-clad ancestors were so apt in tossing through him.

This writer has faithfully followed all *Muzzle Blasts* articles with regard to loading the muzzle loading shotgun and has done considerable experimenting with a 12-gauge double piped English specimen —a thing of beauty and a joy forever to look at.

I have carefully measured both powder and shot, used hornet's nests, cardboard and felt for wadding, both greased and dry, varying this diet with a few fathoms of bed sheeting, bed ticking and horse blanket.

The results are the same—and they're good. At a range of from 20 to 30 yards everything visible from the breech of the gun will be hit. Animal life 10 feet from either side of the target will cease to be and the shot charge will do everything else but pile up the hay and brush which it cuts down (I'm working on that angle, too).

He who is a bad wing shot should trade off his modern overchoked breech loader for a loose-throated squaw gun. Your breech loading job may put a pint of shot in a one-gallon bucket at 30 yards and if that's what you want, get a rifle. However, if you really desire to put shot where the game might be, as well as where it really is, get a squaw gun.

Your humble servant recently heaved two loads of No. 6 shot, at 20 yards range, into a tomato patch where two crows were ravishing the crop. Both birds died without a squawk. I'm squawking over the loss of eight tomato plants, cut short in the bloom of youth and beauty by excess shot not needed in killing the crows.

END PLAY

By M. A. BURSACK

The June *Muzzle Blasts* again touches on the subject of doubling with the cap and ball pistols under the title "Stop Doubling", by J. H. Johnston. This is a helpful article and gives some suggestions that I would like to try out. However, it does not solve the difficulty of doubling. It simply outlines certain conditions under which doubling did not occur. This is all to the good, but more is involved than Mr. Johnston suggests.

In an effort to get this more fully worked out I would like to commentt on doubling and suggest a help which I have found. No originality is claimed. There are at least three theories that I have heard as to the cause of doubling. The first is that doubling is caused by flash between the cylinder and barrel. At the moment of discharge a certain amount of flash is supposed to come out this gap, travel into the next chamber and get under the seated ball to touch off the powder. To cure this evil one is supposed to use grease on the ball. This may be applied over or under the ball in the form of anything from beeswax to axle grease. Some like to use a greased felt wad. It is recognized that a gun shoots cleaner when greased. I like Mr. Johnston s suggestion to use Ideal sized and lubricated bullets. Yet the use of such greasing does not cure doubling as the article seems to imply. I once went on the theory that it did and was quite disconcerted after thoroughly lubricating the bullets in an old Colt .44 to have three go off at once. Makes a nice boom, but caused me to look further for the cause of doubling.

The second theory was outlined to me by an old expert. The cause of doubling is very simple. It is due to bad nipples. Goodness knows the nipples in this Colt were none too hot. Accordingly, I took the nipples out of another gun. These were perfect. I put them in the .44 and went happily to the field. Boom!—and I mean "boom". Only two went off, though. I was gaining. The next time three let go. Surely makes a lot of extra loading and gives a pretty big group. Had to look up a new theory.

Somewhere I heard about the caps being set off by recoil against the standing breach because of end-play in the cylinder. The hand spring held the cylinder pretty well forward ordinarily, but I could see that it could easily be pushed back and there was some end-play. The back of the cylinder was worn. Accordingly the capped

(Continued on page 10)

Pipe Dream?

By T. VAN. BOYD, M. D.

FOR SOME TIME now I have had something on my chest which I have wanted to unload on to someone; so I have chosen the readers of *Muzzle Blasts* as victims. This magazine has been filled with interesting and useful data, from which I must truthfully say, I have gotten most of my store of knowledge.

My story, like all stories, must have a subject and this one is about bullets—round, perfect spheres. It is my intention to tell you how to make such bullets.

Last month, while visiting in my old home town, Anna, Illinois. I had the good fortune to be stranded from 9 A. M to 7 P. M., (my son-in-law, who is a medical student, having gone fishing several miles away with our car keys in his pocket) in a small town, McClure, Illinois, with my uncle, John C. Boyd, now eigthty-four years old—a retired blacksmith.

The day was hot and after spending an hour visiting with the local blacksmith (who turned out to have been an apprentice to my uncle in the shop where I used to take the plow shares to be sharpened when I was a boy, perchance to have the rare privilege of pumping the bellows) I pushed the car under the shade of a tree, where Uncle and I sat and talked some more, getting around to Kentucky rifle hunting, Civil War, etc. Finally I said, "Uncle, what became of my Grandfather's gun? Was it any good, and how did he shoot so well with such poor bullets? I'm told he and his partner used to drive the beef home on foot."

With a slow, cunning smile on his kind old face, making little ripples around the outer corners of his eyes, he took a few more puffs from his hand-made cigarette and turning half around so as to look me straight in the face, said, "Now Doctor, you youngsters never saw real, round bullets. You used your fathers' bullet moulds for pliers and then tried to make bullets with them; but my father (your grandpa) made the most perfect bullets you or anyone else has ever seen.

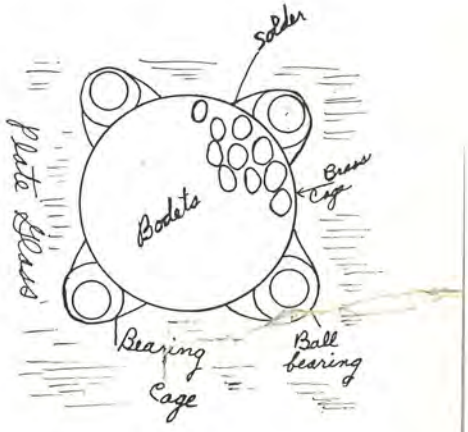
"Your grandfather, grandmother and we children came from Knox county, Tennessee, to Illinois in 1854. By the way, it so happened that the notorious Confederate spy, Belle Boyd, also came from Knoxville. While I do not mean to imply that we Boyds were blood relatives of Miss Boyd's, the fact that we were southern sympathizers and still Democrats or New Dealers, is conducive toward a possibility. It was a tradition in Grandfather's time not to ask too many questions about one's ancestry, as in looking over the family tree one might have found some venerable ancestor suspended in mid-air—and not by his suspenders.

"We settled on an old farm two miles east of Anna, Illinois, where my father built a log house. Here we lived happily until one evening in 1862 your grandfather was arrested, while squirrel hunting, on suspicion of being a member of the Knights of the Round Circle (southern sympathizers) and was taken to Anna by a Union cavalryman. In the presence of your grandmother and your father, who was twelve years old then, the commander of the Company called your grandfather a "damned copperhead", took his rifle, broke the stock, drove the barrel into the ground, poured the powder out of the horn, threw the bullets on the ground (those were the bullets I want to tell you about; they were so perfect that they wouldn't stop rolling around) and, smashing them with his heel, said, "At least this copperhead will never win another match with these bullets". Later he was sent South where, as a prisoner without trial, he developed typhoid fever and was sent home to die within the week. His death left your grandmother, a widow with four children, to live on one of the poorest farms in southern Illinois. Is it any wonder that I am still a copperhead?"

And so this secret of making round, perfect bullets has been lost for these many years and the old muzzle loaders were set away until I revived them in my family some sixty years later.

Now you all know that "mostly X's" are made by perfect bullets; and perfection in bullets (spherical) means nothing more than—"A solid body contained under a single surface, each point of which is equidistance from a central point." (Webster). Now, of course there are other factors which have to do with "mostly X's"—velocity, trajectory, wind, temperature, rifling, powder and patching (spit, oil or otherwise) which may somewhat interfere with perfect scores.

Then we might consider the human element, and, being a doctor, I am compelled to consider this point more carefully, and, being a scientist, with horse-sense or otherwise, brings to mind another little trick to keep the old coal burner working practically if not scientifically: *Keep her clean!* And to do that use hot water. And this is how you get the water in and out without dribbling it down outside the barrel into the lock and all over the stock: When the old Scientist, M. D., comes out to see about Grandma's rheumatis or Grandpa's arthritis (or both, he won't know the difference) ask him for an old catheter (to you, a rubber tube with an eye) to slip over the nipple to drain off the water so it won't run all over the place; then ask him for an old atomizer bulb; cut the bulb in half and use as a funnel to pour the water in; then dry and grease well, using bar grease or some heavy grease that will not evaporate.



Then you will be ready for those perfect bullets—but, by gosh, I have entirely forgotten to tell you how that is done. Now Uncle John over-simplified the subject, being an artist Blacksmith and not a Scientist, so I shall give my version of just how it is done and the means by which it is accomplished:

First, you cast the best bullets you know how, using the best self-necking moulds you can get (mine were made by Al Wagner, Jackson, Missouri). If the necks have been properly cut the bullets will size out until there is no sprew mark left; if they have been cut too short the sprew mark will show that defect by leaving a small flat mark; if cut too long they will size out leaving a small oblong or irregular lump which can be filed off and again sized.

Then get two pieces of plate glass, 12 by 12 inches, with smooth surfaces; make a rack (mine is made from the top of a 75 mm. brass case, World War I souvenir) cut off a section, using a hack saw, about 1/32 inch shorter than the diameter of

(Continued on page 11)

PREPARED LOADS

By CARL C. TINKER

ONE AUTUMN evening, quite by force of habit and stimulated by the reflection that pheasant season would soon be here, I reached into the closet off the dining room where most of the family guns are kept and drew forth the cap lock single barrel for the usual admiring inspection. Raising it to my shoulder, I took imaginary pot shots at the table lamp and ceiling fixture. Then, swinging it across to some of the wife's brick-a-brack around the mantel clock, I got a fleeting impression of the bird that the old gun stopped in full flight the previous opening day.

It was an ideal October morning and I had been kicking through a frosty swail towards the knoll beyond when a large cock pheasant came out of the horizon and headed past me at express train speed. I swung on him and pulled! Well, after it was over and I had retrieved the bird, I was standing amid the pall of smoke from that charge of FFg, which still hung low over the swamp, hastily dumping and ramming components of the next charge down the gun.

I had just returned the ramrod to its socket and was fishing with somewhat benumbed fingers for one of several caps which had spilled from that infernal cap box down into the corner of my mackinaw pocket, when my attention was drawn towards a group of willows at the edge of the knoll and there, picking his way through the scattered brush on the slope and apparently intent upon seeing what the ruckus was all about, strutted another cock bigger'n a turkey gobbler! Or so he looked to me at the time.

You can be assured my search for the caps became more energetic and then panicky, finally ending by my jerking the wad of toilet paper mixed with cap box, caps and all, out on the ground. As though disgusted with this display of bad sportsmanship, the cock waited no longer but took off with a derisive crow that sounded like the grating of an old rusty hinge. He sailed low over the further side of the swamp only to encounter a barrage of automatics manned by a company of redcoats that I had seen unloading from a big-city car earlier in the morning.

Well, half of the legal limit was enough for the morning, anyway. Nevertheless, if I could have saved just a little time the outcome might have been different.

Charging these old guns down via the muzzle is, of course, all part of the game, but it did seem to me that this operation might be simplified to some degree by enclosing the components in paper cartridges which would be all ready for use, and this without detracting from the fun of the thing, even enhancing it by combining with it the well known indoor sport of hand loading.



The tools, the makin's and the ready-to-use product.

I remembered an old civil war veteran telling me once about the appearance of the boys in the trenches at Fredericksburg (I think it was). He said that after an hour or so of pretty steady firing, it was impossible to tell in looking along down the line whether it was a company of white men or black men. As a matter of fact they *were* black, their faces being plastered with a mixture of sweat and black powder dust gathered when they ripped the ends of the paper cartridges open with their teeth. Once the cartridge was torn open and the powder dumped down the barrel, the paper and the enclosed ball were rammed down in one wad. All that remained was to put the plug hat cap on the nipple.

The old fellow told me that the boys at that time even resented the introduction of the new breech loading guns, swearing that they could load a musket and shoot it as fast as any breech loader could be fired, everything considered. That was his story, anyway. Not that I advocate going into this thing with your teeth; it can be done easier than that. After experimenting for awhile that evening, using strips of paper, wads, powder and shot and a few gadgets, I found that these loads can be prepared so that they are immediately available in the proper charge. Also, the caps can be applied from magazine cappers which we may hope will be on the market before long.

This idea may not be at all new to some of the oldtimers, but to most of you muzzle gunners it may be as novel as it was to me.. I am going to describe briefly how to prepare these charges. It is more than probable that you can make improvements in the routine.

When you start this work you will need some rather thin waxed paper such as may be purchased from your grocer for kitchen use, and a smooth round wood form, slightly tapered, such as the tamper which came with the old Ideal reloading outfit for shot shells. I found that one of these from a 12-gauge set was just right for my gun of the same bore. The paper is cut into strips about 2½ inches wide and 5 inches long. Get into production by folding the sheet before cutting. Roll these strips around the form as you would a cigarette, not too tight or it won't slide off, then stick it with a lick of parafine from a sliver of that substance which has been held momentarily over a candle or alcohol lamp. Seal at once. Have about ¾ inch of the paper projecting over the end of the form so that a card wad can now be inserted, or a felt wad if you are going to load a powder charge. There is no use trying to combine these components in one cartridge, because when you come to use them you can't get all the stuff down the barrel at once. Now fold the paper over the end in four equal quarters thus enclosing the wad, and seal with parafine. A trick in inserting the wad is to remove the paper shell from the form, put the wad in the larger end, then push the paper back on the form, thus pushing the wad evenly to the desired position.

You can now measure in the proper charge of shot or powder according to the wad used, clipping the end of the paper off at about the right length and seal with parafine as you did the other end.

(Continued on page 11)

FUN NO END

By WILLIAM E. YOUNG

Thought the accompanying target might interest you, as you have been inquiring for information on the .58 calibre muskets and loads for same.

The first two shots in this group are at the top. The second shot, very slightly enlarging the hole made by number one. The two succeeding shots widened the group and the fifth, at the bottom, let go just a little prematurely. I honestly believe that the five shots with this load could be fired into practically the same hole if I could hold them that close.

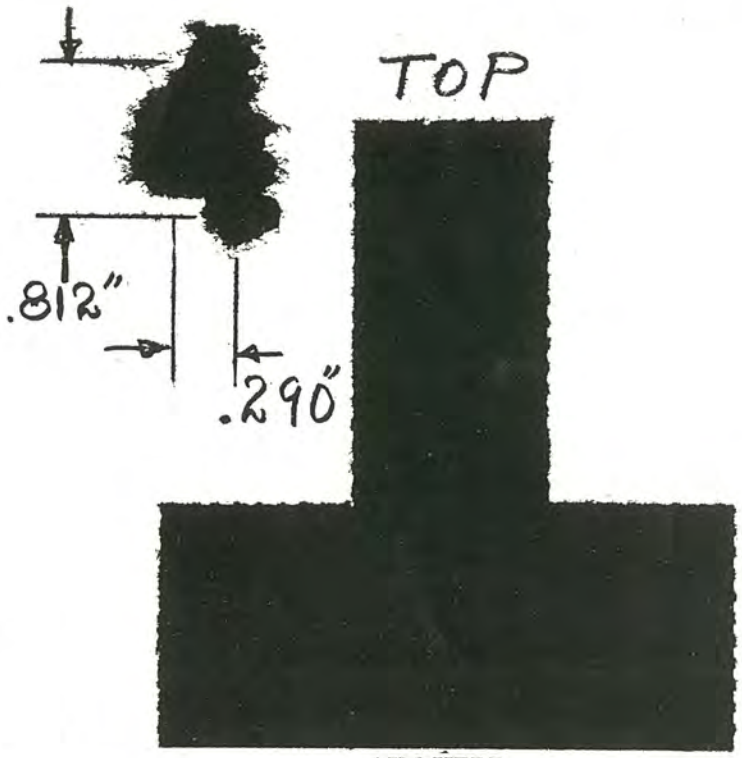
I haven't finished my rear sight yet so cannot place groups just where I want them. I have a rather coarse ivory bead on the front, which is not ideal for target work.

A .30-06 case cut off at the shoulder holds 55 grains FFg, which is what I use.

The .570 calibre round ball mould I got from Tom Stence and he made it just what I specified, .570, so if any of the other boys would like a ball this size, he has the cherry to make it. (Address, Ashland, Ohio.)

Incidentally, this type of target I am sending you is the easiest thing to hold windage and elevation on that I have tried yet. I would like to have you pin it up at about 30 yards and draw a bead on it with an aperture sight. I think you will be surprised at the ease with which you can determine whether your hold is correct or not. Nothing new about this as Springfield arsenal has used this type target in accuracy tests of Springfield rifles.

Maybe this type target with a few scoring rings added or a center located on it could be adopted by the muzzle loader clan. It would make a distinctive target.



AIM HERE

5 shots, 30 yards. .58 cal. Remington 1863 rifle. .580" bore. .570" round ball lead. .012" thick patch. Weather: rain. 55 grains FFg powder. Homemade rear peep. Open ivory bead front sights. June 17 1945. Target reproduced actual size.

LONG BEACH TURKEY SHOOT

The muzzle lodaing branch of The Long Beach (California) Rifle & Pistol Club have scheduled their 1945 Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot for November 18.

This will be one of the club's biggest events, with turkeys, chickens, ducks and rabbits, as well as medals, being offered as prizes for the various events.

A big feed and get-together for shooters will climax this event, which will be the club's fiftieth muzzle loading shoot. Entry is open to anyone with a front feed gun with iron sights (aperature included), and shooting a round ball. All firing will be at fifty yards.

Those interested may obtain a program of events by contacting S. W. Holmers, Chairman of the Shoot, at 5368 E. Second Street, Long Beach 2, California.

SORRY, PISTOLEERS!



Last month our printer pulled the old, old stunt of patchin' without powder. We ran a photo of the pistol range with the wrong caption. We called it "trailers, tents and hospitable Walter Cline range". We intended to say "You kept the pistol range smoky with black powder and more than usual M-L pistol activity prevailed". We'll show the parking area here but last month's caption prevails . . . and maybe we'll have less mud next year.

Big Guns and Little Men



The Range boys save a lot of steps for the Range officers and they do a good job handling the big guns after the Matches are over—their day for fun comes at the end of the shoot. Left to right: Hershel Ashcraft, Gene Hyatt, Billy Chandler—winner of the Range Boys' event, Larry Huntington, Leroy Taerl.

PHOTO BY HOLLEY



Boost up now . . .
. . . Grow up next year.

PHOTO BY HOLLEY

HELP NEEDED ON THIS

We have the request that someone send in a drawing and description of a mule-ear or side-slapper lock. The under-striker might be given a good bit of publicity right now to good advantage, too.

With new shops opening up and basement workshop mechanics with time on their hands some fine items might be produced for the use of those fabricating and assembling a muzzle loading outfit.

The under-striker gets a good treatment in *Muzzle Blasts* of March, 1940. You who are fortunate enough to "date back" that far can benefit by these drawings and the text furnished by Walter J. Keenan.

Steele & Harrison devoted a good bit of space to percussion locks in their *1882 Gunsmith's Manual,* but they said nothing about the flint. There is a crying need for something on this form of ignition. Who will oblige?

Who can give any data on the Starr .41 Deringer? Herschel C. Logan is inquiring—his address is 400 So. 9th St., Salina, Kansas.

More Shocking Power

By H. P. BELL

Tradition has it that the Indian chewed his bullets to make them tear. As I have only store teeth and don't like the taste of lead I had to resort to other means in order to give my round balls more shocking properties for chuck shooting, and it will work on any game.

First I took the cherry that I used in making the mould and put it in the drill press chuck and sunk it halfway into a bar of brass. This gave me a round depression that exactly fit the bullet. Next I dropped a bullet into this depression after it had been necked, with the neck up, and with a hammer gently tapped a sharp knife blade down into the bullet almost to the brass. I did this twice to each bullet, making a cross as you see by the sample I am enclosing.

Of course, I load the bullet in the barrel with this crossed neck up and when this connects with a chuck it's "goodbye chuck". He stays put, and I mean *stays put.*

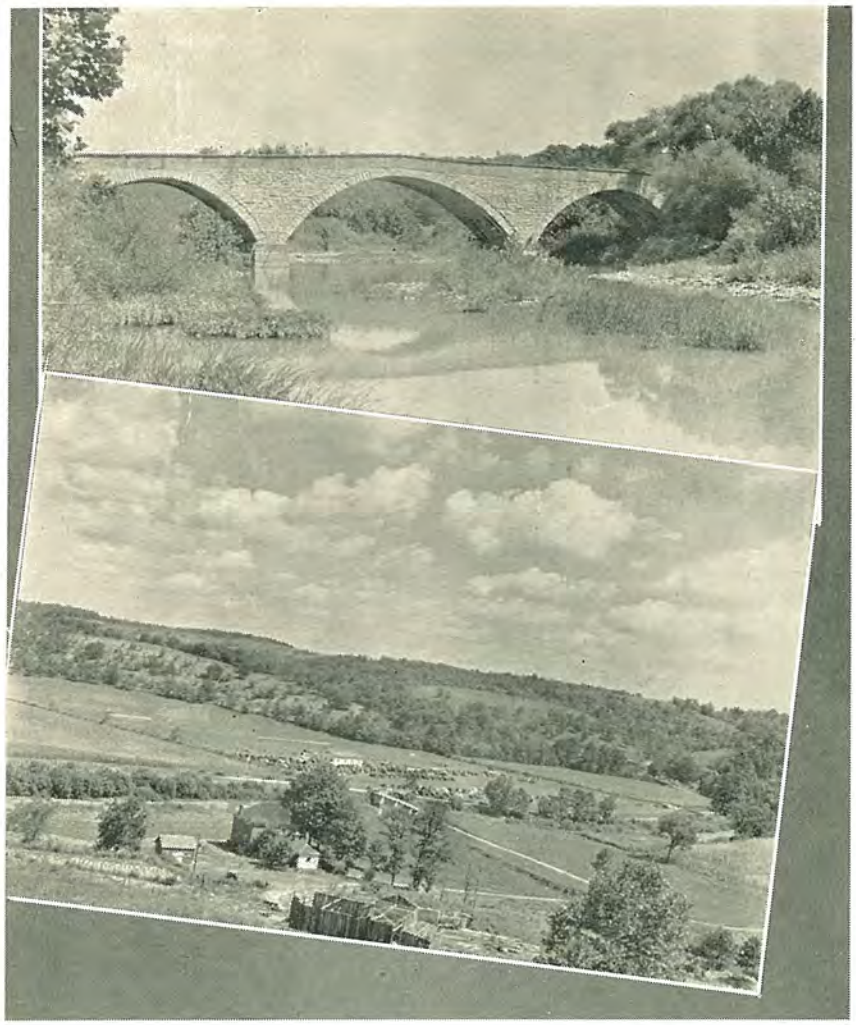
The two other chunks of lead shows what happens to the bullet after it goes through a chuck and lodges just under the hide on the other side of the chuck, and I will leave to your imagination what happens to his insides.

I am sure there are a lot of the fellows who would be interested in this little kink to give their bullets more shocking power. But if they are intending to eat the chuck they had better hit him in the head.



LICENSE DISCONTINUED

It is no longer required that a purchaser of black powder send his Bureau of Mines license with his order. This wartime safeguard has been lifted.



Roseberry—the versatile Chicago camera artist—never forgets (thanks) to send us a couple shots taken during the National Meet. Here he captures the quiet summer warmth of the stone bridge and the range nestling serene in the valley on a busy afternoon.

ON THE TARGET . . . . . MOSTLY "X's"

Dear Farris:

Just received your letter about that shipment of FFFg today and got the powder yesterday. Sorry to have bothered you about it.

Incidentally, that little keg of powder almost caused a riot here on the post. Yesterday morning a Major came whooping up to my office (here in Chapel), walked in and started looking around with that "G-man" air. He asked me if I was Cpl. * * * and I said "Yes", and what could I do for him. He didn't answer right away but kept looking around and mumbling "hum and hah" until I wondered what was wrong with the guy. Finally he turned around dramatically, pointed his finger at me and said, "What do you want with black powder?"

Then it dawned on me that he was the Intelligence Officer here and I damned near died laughing. Finally I asked him if he thought I was going to blow up the * * * or what? He said that the powder was down at the warehouse and had the whole staff worried sick. I explained that I lived off the Post and was a muzzle loading fan and he was quite happy. He called the warehouse and told them to release the stuff to me. When I went down to get it here was that poor little can, sitting all by its lonesome with at least 30 feet of space on all sides of it and danger signs hung around the boundary. Everyone was greatly relieved when I got it out of there.

Cpl. * * *

=X=

St. Louis, Missouri

I am enclosing money order for another year's subscription to *Muzzle Blasts,* the best magazine of its kind I have ever found—facts in a few words on the kind of guns I always thought a great deal of and intend making them my work later. Just now I have a seven day a week job that won't allow me time to do anything.

H. E. Franklin

=X=

Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Farris:

With further reference to Semi-Smokeless Powder, about which we recently wrote you, we are sorry to again advise you that it seems impossible for us to anticipate the manufacture of this powder at this time, and the future prospect is not at all bright. If at a later date we do find it possible to make a run of this powder, you may be assured we will notify you immediately.

The King Powder Co., Inc.

=X=

Huntington, W. Va.

I have just received a letter from R. L. Taylor advising that he has secured the Neil House for a meeting of the Ohio Gun Collector Association in Columbus on December 8 and 9. Since this is the first meeting for many months, I think we will be able to work up a lot of enthusi-

(Contiued on page 16)

LEARNING EARLY



Little Joe Stockman . . .
a Chicago beginner

ROSEBERRY PHOTO

Quotes from

"Master of the Wilderness—Daniel Boone"

By JOHN BAKELESS *(Submitted by Hon. James Emmert)*

William Morrow & Co., New York, 1939
(Pages 398 and 399)

"He (Boone) seems, however, to have visited Kentucky about 1810, while on a visit to his brother Squire, then living on the Indiana shore of the Ohio River. It was probably on this trip that Boone met Audubon, a ne'er-do-well, a very unsuccessful frontier store-keeper, a shiftless creature who was always in the woods drawing pictures of birds when he should have been making a success of life. It was obvious that the fellow could come to no good end. But he and the old colonel took a fancy to each other and had a famous ramble together. Old as he was, Dan'l took his new friend out and demonstrated "barking off squirrels", which Audubon thought "delightful sport".

" 'We walked out together, and followed the rocky margins of the Kentucky River (he wrote) until we reached a piece of flat land thickly covered with black walnuts, oaks and hickories. As the general mast was a good one that year, squirrels were seen gambolling on every tree around us. My companion, a stout, hale, and athletic man, dressed in a homespun hunting-shirt, bare-legged and moccasined, carried a long and heavy rifle, which, as he was loading it, he said had proved efficient in all his former undertakings, and which he hoped would not fail on this occasion, as he felt proud to show me his skill. The gun was wiped, the powder measured, the ball patched with a six-hundred-thread linen, and the charge sent home with a hickory rod. We moved not a step from the place, for the squirrels were so numerous that it was unnecessary to go after them. Boone pointed to one of these animals which had observed us, and was crouched on a branch about fifty paces distant, and bade me mark well the spot where the ball should hit. He raised his piece gradually, until the bead (that being the name given by the Kentuckians to the sight) of the barrel was brought to a line with the spot which he intended to hit. The whip-like report resounded through the woods and along the hills in repeated echoes. Judge of my surprise, when I perceived that the ball had hit the piece of bark immediately beneath the squirrel, and shivered it into splinters, the concussion produced by which had killed the animal and sent it whirling through the air, as if it had been blown up by the explosion of a powder magazine. Boone kept up his firing, and before many hours had elapsed, we had procured as many squirrels as we wished; for you must know, that to load a rifle requires only a moment, and that if it is wiped once after each shot, it will do duty for hours.' "

Windage and Elevation

NATURE spills her colors all over the hillsides. . . . Fall is here with football, fresh cider, oysters, sniffles and—Turkey Shoots. With gasoline plentiful for travel the customers are asking "How do you conduct a turkey match?"

Turkeys are essential, but so are shooters and a schedule. A few work-hoss shooters should get together and each take responsibilities; one will get the turkeys and other prizes, another will contact the shooters and set up target frames—might even erect a tent for shelter in case it rains; No. 3 should be a good man to work up publicity and stick with it until the papers and radio stations put it out for the public to read and hear. Someone should have the job of getting muzzle-gun displays in local store windows . . . showing some targets and displaying flasks, horns and other accessories that are legendary—and quite part of any shooters layout.

A few shooters should be on hand with rifles not too heavy for the tyro to handle in the offhand . . . for it is there that most of the bystanders will want to "take a shot". Yes, load and donate time, lead and powder—it will certainly get you some likely candidates for the club. Have a variety of targets—bulls-eyes, X-centers, cut-outs of varmints and even the old crotch with an X.

A hot fire is an essential item if the day is frosty—and who wants to shoot for turkey when it is warm and balmy? The kids will keep wood coming in and the fires hot. Everybody have Fun!

* * *

SEE THE "Ozark Turkey Shoot" on the front cover of this issue, by L. L. Broadfoot! You will get some ideas there . . . and a laff or two. Mr. Broadfoot has a distinctive style—something of a realist, I'd opine. Dr. Tom Hall of Kansas City had this painted—and he gave us a large photostat copy for use at The Club House, Friendship. Both chaps have been most cordial in some art matters—you will hear more on this a bit later.

* * *

COLT NIPPLES "40 threads to the inch" . . . who agrees? This is one error we catch in the Steele & Harrison *Gunsmith's Manual*, as reprinted by Samworth. But this is the only error we find; there is so much of good in this volume it is difficult to see how we survived without it! We surely hope the fans make it a point to have this volume in their library along with other good books that have come out—or been reprinted—in the past ten years.

* * *

LT. COL. CLYDE EVERETT—was better known when a Lieutenant when he attended a National Shoot about 1939—has dropped in on us at Portsmouth. He is now a civilian and has purchased a home here. Will shortly set up in medical practice with an old friend of befo' de wa'—Chas. Smith. We suspect "Doc" is settling here because he likes the game played by The Dan'l Boone club—he will fit in nicely!

* * *

CURLY MAPLE stocks may soon be had . . . but fresh-cut and green. We have made some contacts that should mean a good brand of stock material soon. However, it will need a few years of seasoning. It will be wise to invest and lay away some of this grand wood—the day is approaching when it will be most difficult to procure in this country. Watch for announcements in our classified columns.

* * *

GUNSMITHS—the prospects are brighter! We predict that there will be more new and reconditioned muzzle loading rifles on the market in 1946 than any time in the past fifty years. This should be real pleasing to the many who want frontier firearms made to order.

DEATH CLAIMS C. A. LINWOOD

From a Daughter, Mrs. T .H. Battelle, we find that one of our earliest members, C. A. Linwood, Santa Rose, California has passed on.

Mr. Linwood had long been associated with muzzle loading firearms and enjoyed contacts with others of the clan at home and on his travels. We met him when he and his daughter came through this way in 1941.

Mrs. Battelle informs us, "He derived much pleasure from his various sports magazines and yours has been a familiar copy in our home for many years."

Minies at 100 yds.

By WILLIAM E. YOUNG

I have just mailed to you the .58 calibre bullets which I promised you some time ago. Please excuse the delay as I have been exceptionally busy. I work in Detroit and also try to operate a farm in Canada 365 miles from Detroit. Also try to squeeze in some shooting.

I have found that even with these tight fitting Minie bullets you will get keyholes, and at distances as close as 35 yards when using powder charges of less than about 80 grains FFg. I use a .45-70 case full, which is about 90 grains. It kicks a little but with a shooting coat on it's not so bad.

It is my conclusion, from what shooting I have done with these guns, that the twist of rifling is too slow to give these long Minie bullets sufficient spin to keep them from tumbling, unless large powder charges are used to speed them up, 80 grains or more.

You will note that these bullets have a thinner skirt around the hollow base than the standard Lyman Minie. This was done to insure the expansion of base when fired.

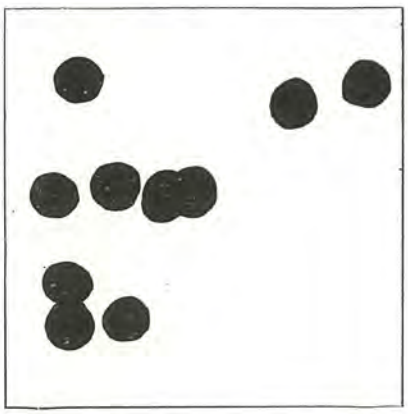
When I can find time I will cut ¼" from the nose of some of these slugs and try them with lighter powder charges to see if twist of rifling is sufficient to keep this shorter bullet from tumbling.

Four inch groups at 100 yards is supposed to be about the best that these guns and Minie bullets will do. Well, I'm just ignorant enough to think I can do better. About a week ago I danged near did it. Had a 1¼"x2¼" group for eight shots, then the last two shots gave me a pair of snake eyes to the right which opened the group to just under four inches, measured center to center.

The gun had been fired all afternoon, or about 65 shots, without cleaning. About 40 of the previous shots were fired with round ball and patch.

I use .570 diameter round ball and .012" patch saturated with a special mixture that really does the trick. With this stuff I can shoot all day, accurately without cleaning. Incidentally, I find King's black powder cleaner shooting than some of the other brands.

Now what I can't figure out is how this round ball will pile them one on top of the other at 35 to 50 yards and at 100 yards it takes a foot of target paper to hold them.



Mr. Young's group of 8 and the 2 that went straggling

I used powder charges of 40 grains FFg right on up to 100 grains. The 100 grains prove the most accurate, but nothing to brag about. I don't care to go beyond 100 grains and I used this in a Remington with a steel barrel. It certainly puts a round ball over a hundred yards in a hurry.

I shot one woodchuck with this round ball, 55 grains powder at about 25 yards. Chuck shot through both shoulders, entrance and exit holes same size. Do you know what that chuck did? Quit? No! Dashed out of the hole, straight towards us, heading for another hole, survived one good swift kick in the chin, changed directions and had to be overtaken and busted on the bean with the rifle butt. After this I'm going to keep my bayonet fixed!

NOTE—We tried these same Minie bullets in an English flint lock having a turn in forty-eight inches. Got some keen groups at thirty-five yards. The best measured one inch vertical and an inch-and-a-quarter horizontally. Two other groups opened up a bit, but were far from bad. My Ideal Hand Book says the .58 military pieces employed a turn in sixty-eight inches . . . quite a bit slower than this flinter I used. My experiment leads me to decide a 50 grain charge of Fg DuPont was the proper dosage for the case in hand. Have no doubt it takes more powder for the slower twist barrels. But it said that Mr. Young's Minies were wonderfully uniform and well fabricated.—Ed.

END PLAY

(Continued from page 3)

nipples were pretty close to the standing breach. What to do? I held the old cannon in a lead jawed vise while I experimented with some shim stock to see how much play there was. Holding the cylinder back against the standing breach, I used a feeler gauge to measure the play between the front of the cylinder and the barrel. Then I took brass stock of this thickness and made a washer which just fit over the cylinder ratchet. I made the washer narrow so that the washer itself would not hit the caps. When the gun was assembled this washer held the cylinder forward against the barrel and gave a tight contact between the rear of the cylinder and the standing breach. There was now more clearance beween the heads of the capped nipples and the standing breach, and no end-play in the cylinder.

Now I left off the good nipples and put on the old, bad ones and went out. Also left behind my own grease wads which ordinarily I wouldn't be without. Just powder, ball and caps, and the brass washer mounted behind the cylinder around the ratchet and holding the cylinder forward. Then I banged away with all the powder I could get in, but no grease. The gun shot *one at a time*. It kept on shooting one at a time. Thus the cylinder end-play theory is my pet. Whoever first fitted a washer around the ratchet of a cap and ball gun to push the cylinder forward snuggly against the barrel really should have credit for doing the most to solve the doubling problem. It is a good idea to grease the bullets and I am all for good nipples, but don't let end-play in the cylinder snap your caps against the standing breach.

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PREPARED LOADS

(Continued from page 5)

In sealiing a powder charge the last fold can be left slightly longer so that it will leave a projection which can be flipped open with the thumb when you come to use it.

These various operations will most likely be accompanied by sarcastic and irrelevant remarks from the onlookers, especially if you happen to have the stuff spread out on newspapers on the dining table. And right here let me sound a warning! Don't have your powder and flame on the same table! Get the powder cartridges all charged, put the powder away, then take them one at a time to another location to seal.

With reference to the capping device, I made one with a magazine in the handle which holds 12 caps and it is as much of an aid as the prepared loads, whether in the woods or on the firing line. The cap is quickly and surely applied to the nipple and another one is always ready. The capper built by the writer is shown in the center of the picture and although it is very satisfactory, it is quite a job to build one so you'd better wait until they are available at your supply station. I never have seen a capper before so don't know what they may be like.

When you come to use the ready made loads they may be carried in your mackinaw or hunting coat pocket and are easily identified by the difference in their size and weight when you reach for them. The powder paper is easily opened and the contents poured down the barrel after which the wad and paper may be rammed home. The shot charge will go down in one chunk, perhaps with the aid of a little rolling with the fingers as it goes through the choke. You are now ready for the second shot, and much sooner than would be the case if you had to handle each element separately. Even if the shot charge only is prepared it is well worth while.

OUR OWN TURKEY SHOOT

This two-days of charcoal burning should bring out a fine attendance. Turkeys will be brought out by Boss Johnston. Some smaller poultry may be on hand for those who don't have big families—but do have lots of shootin' skill. Let's all hope the weather man looks upon this promotion with favor—a frost at night won't be too bad, but a dash of Indian Summer will be timely o' days. You may have rest at 55 and 110 yards; offhand at 27½ and 55 yards. If Bill Mead shows up we surely will see clay birds dusted off in approved fashion, but likely with some "ground rules" not yet seen outside the Cincinnati and Dayton promotions—great fun! Hand guns—Joe Lamping and the Nobles most likely will see that this angle is not neglected.

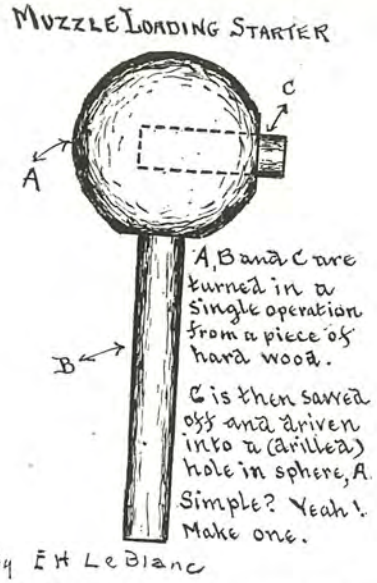
California M-L's

Thought you might like to hear from a couple of muzzle gunners from California, so am sending you a couple of pictures taken on our last hunt.





We have a total of nine ground squirrels between us. The fellow in the striped shirt is Pfc. Eugene French, his first experience at shooting a muzzle loader. I believe we have converted him into a muzzle gun shooter from now on. The fellow in the white shirt is yours truly, Elwood Graham.



E. H. LeBlanc sends MUZZLE BLASTS *this sketch of a muzzle loading starter. A nice job for a winter evening in the basement workshop or garage hobby room. Muzzleer LeBlanc thinks it's a good evening's job.*

PIPE DREAM?

(Continued from page 4)

the bullets you are sizing. File or sand until smooth inside and out, then place this rack on one piece of plate glass. This should be placed on a paper pad atop a convenient table; then fill with bullets, so that they will nest comfortably without crowding. Put the second piece of plate glass on top and, with hands on top to hold firm, work with a wide rotary motion. If one wants to be scientific about this as we M. D.'s are about medicine, he might solder or braze a small half circle cage outside the rack at the four points of the compass and insert in each a new unused steel ball-bearing the exact size of the bullet to be sized.

At first there will be a jarring, rattling sound like the old surrey rolling over a

(Continued on page 19)

Little squirrel sat in a Tree.
(Now, where else would he rightly be?)
Said, "Sell that junk to Miller B."
Proving he's Squir'ly as can be;
For my guns are tres biens JUICEE.*

*Pronounce it beans—I don't care.

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SEPTEMBER

Ohio, 748	Maine, 37
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Michigan, 265	Louisiana, 28
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Texas, 115	Arizona, 24
Massachusetts, 112	Rhode Island, 22
Washington, 106	S. Dakota, 21
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Iowa, 95	Wyoming, 18
Wisconsin, 89	Delaware, 17
Kansas, 74	Idaho, 16
Connecticut, 73	N. Dakota, 15
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Oregon, 69	Vermont, 14
Kentucky, 68	New Mexico, 14
Maryland, 63	Alabama, 13
Minnesota, 63	Mississippi, 12
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N. Carolina, 48	Out of U.S.A., 54
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See page 9
August *Muzzle Blasts*

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Denver Reports

On September 15 the seventh announced match was held at the range of the South Platte Chapter of the Izaak Walton League.

Some of the boys apparently took to the hills instead of lining up for the usual target practice. Only four of us were there, but we had a shoot at 50 yards and another at 100 yards. The first place at the shorter range was taken by D. McConnell with a score of 49. I. F. White placed first in the second match on the shoot-off after first having tied with McConnell, and White took second in the first match. C. A. Eggert seemed to have a monopoly on third for the afternoon and J. L. Armstrong was still doing some experimenting. We had a good grandstand, however; there were more spectators than shooters.

The eighth shoot was held on September 30—same place. The enthusiasm of the shooters was only slightly dampened by the downpour of rain because the firing was done from the clubhouse. After a little preliminary plinking at 50 yds., during which White produced a good target, everybody squared away and shot for a score at 100 yards. Paul Pianfetti was first, Richard Cooper was second and I. F. White was third. Eggert and Armstrong didn't seem to get everything under control. Cooper was operating a flint job of tremendous calibre that might have been used for hunting elephants at some time in the past, and did the job very effectively without blowing the roof off of the clubhouse.

COLT PORTRAIT

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STANDARDIZATION

by Edward S. Walthery

Much interest must have been aroused by the fine articles on standardization by Mr. B. M. Baxter in recent *Muzzle Blasts*. We can hear cries of joy from the shooter and groans of disgust from the collector. Each has its points but since our Association encourages shooting as well as collecting it stands to reason that the shooter must be given something fit to shoot, especially since most of the fine old rifles are in the hands of collectors and dealers at a price far beyond what the general run of a shootiing man can pay.

Thirty years of match shooting have taught me many things; not the least important of which is that most shooters are willing to match their skill against any competition but very few will shoot if they are outclassed in equipment. The above statement applies to all forms of shooting, including muzzle loaders. The answer is to put the very finest guns in the hands of many shooters at a price they are able to pay; in a word, standardize.

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ARTICLES

An early issue of *True* should have Lucian Cary's coverage of the 1945 National Matches. This publication sent Mr. Cary down with a photographer. We hope good results will be noted. In passing let us say that the November issue of *True* had a good article by Cary on the Kentucky rifle . . . read it!

Adventure—they do tell this publication has a fine article for our folks. November issue.

American Rifleman—should be much to interest muzzleers in numbers coming along now. V. M. Starr has a good one in the October issue, "Loading the Charcoal Burners in the Field". Don't miss this—it's timely.

A HINT FOR MUZZLE LOADER FANS

If anyone wants a bang-up super hunting bag, let him hie himself to the nearest Army and Navy Salvage store for a W.A.C. pocketbook.

Plenty of room with compartments for balls, caps, tools, nipple wrench, patching, etc., with room to spare for a sandwich or a pint of snake bite remedy if needed—all with an adjustable shoulder strap—mine cost $1.95 and is made of first class leather.

—JACK HAINES

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE POND

"Young" the gunman from down east sends a postcard from England; admits he is there to stock up on guns and accessories to offer to the collectors and shooters. We almost envy anyone who gets into those collections . . . surely there are some remarkable firearms there.

A Tisket, A Tasket—
Brother, will I have fun?
Trade this dad-blame basket
To Bedford for a gun.

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Parts for Krags and other military rifles. Stamp with inquiry.

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BOUQUETS FOR BEDFORD, or

He who tooteth not his own horn getteth it not tooted, or
Flocks of fine folks foregather from this fulminating firmament.

Herman Dean: "I THINK YOUR PEP AND ENTHUSIASM AND SQUARE DEALING HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO BRING GUN COLLECTION UP TO THE HIGH PITCH IT HAS ENJOYED THESE PAST FEW YEARS."

Thanks a lot, Herman. Such a beautiful bit of praise I could not pass up and wrote Herman to specificly ask permission to publish this statement. If working for most of the working hours of the day for the past 15 years adds up to the above, then I will admit it. Working on guns I mean. Got so I spent so much time as a gun amatuer I figured I might as well get wet all over and dove in. Not as a gunsmith but as a trader. I'm no gunsmith, lads.

Rags Thompson, bull wheel of the Denton County Pointer & Setter Club, Denton, Texas, of which I am a proud member says: "Miller, you outa move down to Texas." Swell, Rays, says I, I would love it. But how come the invitation? Says Rags: "Well, our secretary was telling the lads on the publicity angle that they were just boys, that if they wanted to see real publicity they should read Miller Bedford's stuff." Well, such a sweet smelling bouquet so floored me, and Rags was so busy about then that when I came to he was somewhere else herding his pilgrims and a flock of gals who wanted to shoot pheasants. So, Rags, if you read this, consider it my thanks in a humble way for those sweet words. And Brother Secretary of the Denton County Pointer & Setter Club (what, no water spaniels) the same thing goes for you. And perhaps more of it.

Mrs. Larry Rawson, Berkeley, Calif., to her gun goofy husband: (Adjectives likely hers) "Well, what has Miller got now that you want?"

Mrs. L. Rawson again, after I send his check back and suggest something for him costing about three times as much: "Well, what are you waiting for? Do you think Miller is going to hold that all year for you?" (And the funny part was Larry had to talk plenty for the cheap gun.) These wives just have good sense, pals. They are willing you should buy good guns but hate to have you toss around your coin for rusty iron. To which I add, correct, gals.

To the boys who want me to tell 'em where to get gunsmithing work done: Lads, here I go and give Bill Large and Tom Stence the kind of publicity which creates envy in the hearts of the largest pointer and setter club in the world (the Denton County, Texas, lads) and they won't even do work for me let alone someone I recommend. When I approach their shops with a sort of winning look on me mug they look in the other direction and open windows and such. I must be sorta leper to gunsmiths. So you guys lay off me. I got work needs to be done myself.

Whoopee! My stale jokes are coming back to me. Recall the one I told about the goofy gal and the nut doctor whom she went to, and the 6 trunks full of pancakes at home? Well, the lads are telling it back to *me* now. Only it is 17 trunkfuls. Topp, of Ft. Riley, Kansas, relayed it back to me. He thinks I am some guy that I can persuade Norma to let me keep old guns around. He, the pore persecuted peon, don't even get a chance to sand off gunstocks on the front room rug. We will have to spend a few minutes some day instructing his wife how beneficial front room rugs are when it comes to protecting the floor under them. Mrs., I'm ashamed of you.

'Nother Brother from Californiay: "Next best thing to seeing the gun before you buy is to Buy from Bedford." Yeh, but you should read the letters when I misread the boys' minds and send what they DON'T want.

C. E. Stewart says: "Yours for more HossPower."

Chet, from Michigan, you wrote me of a collection. I was figuring on coming up to see it. But you left off your full name and street address and now I am really up against it. That is why I didn't answer. Will you please write me?

You fellers who didn't get No. 6 *Hosstheef Gayzette* send that long self-addressed envelope and do it now. Mark it No. 6. 90% of the guns in that list still available. Also lot of the guns in August *Muzzle Blasts*. Send another long self-addressed stamped envelope for No. 7 which comes out next. Norma was mad as a duck on a dustpile today when a flock of short envelopes came in. I'm warning you lugs if you don't quit sending those short ones she will get reckless and toss 'em into the wastebasket. I'm telling you.

Bedford guarantee: You gotto be pleased or there is no deal. I try not to make mistakes but now and then I pull some offal ones. So the brother gets his dough back.

We do not guarantee the safety of any gun. Not one. Most old guns are safe. Or we would not send them out. But the human element is distinctly not safe. So we flatly state that on any old gun or any gun of any kind we will not be responsible for what happens.

On every order of 25 bucks or more ask for a free tube wrench. Hardened and a good one. But no wrench will stand up against a rusted-in tube. So go easy or you will bust or spring any wrench. Retail price, one buck, the kind that goes in the cash register.

Need I remind you brothers and sisters that Norma and I want the world's finest and rarest guns? Also, fine collections? Also pistol collections? Ok, you are hereby reminded?

No. 1—Dugard, 12-gauge, double muzzle loader, good grade Belgian, overhauled and choked, bbls cut to 24" and stock shortened for fast work in S. Dak. cornfields on pheasants. Belongs to Brother Jiggs Tuttle who is getting right along and wants to use a lighter 20. This is a medium light and fast swinging and just right for snap shooting pheasants. I am donating the famous Bedford sales service to sell this gun for ole pal Jiggs, $15.00. And he can well use the dough.

No. 2—Fair back action Belgian 12 double, good sturdy gun, plenty metal in bbls, but not clubby. Needs trifle tightening. But complete ready to use, $9.50.

No. 3—Now and then I get calls for a heavy breeched m-l to use on pass shooting with heavy loads. This is about a 12 pound 12-gauge with heavy bbls at breech like a ten. Plenty metal for choking. Needs some minor overhaul. Will stand a 6 and 2½ load. $15.00.

No. 4—Another, better condition, 10-gauge, $19.50.

No. 5—Other usable 12s, some need stocks glued, use Weldwood being sure it is powdery and not lumpy, one or two need a hammer, most need one or two tubes, some need hammer screws. One for $9.50, two for $15.50.

No. 6—That great Winchester, the 1876 model, the heavy brother of the 73. Calibre .45-60. About good thruout. Mechanically excellent. Good medium range gun for any American game, bar none. $19.50.

No. 7—Hot stuff! I never get enuf of these: Decorated full-stock rifle. Bbl. 1"x36", cal. .38, original bore fair to good. I recommend testing plenty before freshing. Use tight tough medium patch, around 40 grains powder. Brass hood on back open step site. Beautiful dark maple. Bbl engraved at muzzle with compass point design. Plenty brass fittings. These fittings being open work, then with border of wood separating them is the silver inlay. Patchbox and left plate treated like that. Eight silver inlays on front stock. Four silvers on cheek side one being cheek edge protector. Total of 21 large silver inlays. Bottom edge of stock with brass protector. Cap burn protector. Excellent lock and set triggers. Gun has had excellent care and is in fine shape right now. This piece is actually worth $125.00. Yours for $85.00. One of the finest old cap guns I have had all summer. The work is not just put there. It is actually done by an artist.

No. 8—Superb round ball or picket gun. If anything this is like the Lewis guns but better. Weighs almost 13. Caliber .435. Inside excellent, outside very good; in fact gun seems to be nearly original new condition and has had good care. Original tube and disc rear peep in tang socket. Original hooded front. Patent and hook breech. Fine iron butt. Fancy and plain guard. Bbl wedge fastened. Superior lock. Excellent single set trigger. Excellent checkering. Excellent fine grain walnut. 98% original finish. False muzzle. Fancy starter. Picket mold. Good original rammer. Just about one of the best short slug or picket, or round ball jobs I have had my clutches on. And I do not have to ask you $150.00 for this piece. Worth a dozen junk reworked $85.00 slug jobs. All I ask is $85.00. Am I doing some pal a favor? Dern right. Made by F. Wassmann, Washington, D. C.

MILLER BEDFORD, New London, Ohio

BALLARD RIFLE, 8½ pounds, Merwin and Bray Agt's, New York, 28" octagon barrel. Barrel has practically all of the original blueing. Calibre .38 rimfire. This gun used either as breech or muzzle-loader. Can be used as a muzzle loader by using tube and cap to rimfire cartridge having hole punched in center of rim or by using .38 Special case with primer removed. This rifle same as illustrated on page 175, *The Muzzle Loading Cap Lock Rifle,* first edition. $30.00.

MANTON double barrel muzzle loading shotgun, 8 pounds, nice checkering, barrels are 36" long and 14-gauge. Good condition. Rod and wormer. $25.00.

Fine double side-by-side rifle-shotgun combination, 8 pounds, right barrel calibre .50 rifle barrel, left barrel is shotgun barrel, .60 calibre round ball with patch fits shotgun barrel. Rifle barrel has single set trigger. Patent breech. Locks, trigger guard, hammers, tang engraved. Left hammer was cracked but neatly repaired. 31" barrels, open sights. On barrel rib "Canons Damas. W. Konig in Magdeburg". Fine checkered stock, some carving at edge of cheek piece. Sling swivels. Rod and wormer. This is a nicely made gun and is not to be confused with usual backwoods home made type. $42.00.

Tube-lock SPORTING RIFLE. Lock marked "Southall", 8 pounds. Tang, lock trigger guard and patch box engraved. Octagon barrel has most of original browning. About .72 calibre, finely rifled, twelve deep grooves and twelve lands. Two gold bars inlaid at breech. Three leaf rear sights. By using percussion cap, opening of cap over vent, this gun shoots very good. Stock is a good substantial stock but shows age close to butt plate. This is a sporting rifle and not a musket. Rod and mould. $60.00.

Rare LINDSAY two shot musket, sling and bayonet. Good to very good. $32.00.

Rare MORGAN JAMES percussion bench rest rifle, excellent bore, description on request. $75.00.

Percussion lock, good (right), $2.00.

Brass butt plate, brass forend tip and triggerguard, $2.00.

.38-55 mould, $2.75.

Mould .40 calibre lubricated bullet, $2.75.

.38-40 reloading tool with mould, $3.00.

Factory rebuilt tang sight (Lyman) for Stevens or high wall, $10.00.

Early flint rifle, $85.00. Description on request.

CARL WEIDENMIER
BERLIN CENTER, OHIO

ON THE TARGET

(Continued from page 8)

asm and a big attendance. I am going over to New York this weekend for about ten days and I plan to make an effort to interest several of the collectors and students from over East to make the trip down to Columbus for this meeting.

At this meeting I hope we will have time for a careful business session beforehand since the time is ripe for a National Association of firearms students and collectors, and whether or not this should be a new organization or an expansion of the O. G. C. A. is a matter that I would like to discuss with the group at Columbus.

Herman P. Dean

Note—We recommend Mr. Dean's suggestions. Mark dates and be on hand.—Ed.

=×=

Crescent City, Calif.

Find enclosed money order for $1.50 for another year's subscription to our dearly beloved magazine, *Muzzle Blasts.* This is one bill that all gun lovers can pay, and be glad of the privilege, and that we have such a grand monthly magazine to spread our muzzle loading news, and make us feel that, although separated by thousands of miles, we are really acquainted with each other. And now since the war is ended, I believe we will see the grand organization grow by leaps and bounds, and our grand old weapons of yesteryear used and appreciated by many new thousands of enthusiastic 'gun cranks'.

More power to you for your work for the good of the cause.

Frank Johnston

=×=

Devizes, Wiltshire, England

For years past I have read your insertion in *American Rifleman* with interest and I have been looking forward to the time when I could apply for membership in your Association. Now that the war is over I shall be glad if my application may be accepted. I have managed to unearth two dollar bills which I enclose and which I trust will cover twelve month's subscription.

I would add that my one and only hobby is "burning powder", and I am convinced there is no finer hobby, especially when the powder in question is black.

As far as I know there is no muzzle loader association over here, which I think is a very great pity.

One of my ambitions is to own one of the real old straight-shooting "Kentuckies" and I hope to get this from its home country as soon as conditions become a little more settled. In the meantime, I would add that my 1851 Navy and pocket Colt will more than hold its own against almost any modern handgun, as far as accuracy is concerned.

I shall look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Raymond N. Birt

EASTERN ARMS MEET

J. A. Lunn, of the Eastern Arms Collectors, reports a fine shoot in connection with their meeting early in October. They had seventeen competitiors as against eleven in 1944. Joe Hillenbrand, of Syracuse, won the cup for which they compete annually. Mr. Lunn seems to enthuse at the interest now being shown in the "shoot" angle of their meetings. Charlie Demport was on hand and served as Range Officer. Their next meeting will be in June, 1946.

SPRING SHOOT???

A Spring Shoot on The Walter Cline Range is being called for. Not a bad idea. One pertinent suggestion by W. E. Foust is that an entire day be given over to offhand matches. This—definitely—is good! Rest shooting smacks of the scientific—and that's OK with all of us—but it should be an axiom that offhand is the test of what the man can do! Let's do it —in that Spring Shoot.

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GENEROUS REWARD (cash or guns) for your assistance in locating purchaseable antique firearms collection. Fair values paid. No delays. Anywhere in U. S. JAMES SERVEN, Santa Ana, California. (tf)

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GUNS—Modern, antique, all kinds. Ammunition, loading tools and supplies. Lists 10c. GEORGE BRULLESAUER, 3957 A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. (2-46P)

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ILLUSTRATED 145 page catalog of antique firearms, edge weapons, 25c. ROBERT ABELS, 860 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y. (12-45P)

2000 BARGAINS, modern antique firearms, accessories, war relics, swords, knives, binoculars. Send 30c for new Catalog No. 25. JOHN SMITH, Rambler Road, Runnemede, N. J. (3-46P)

MUZZLE LOADING Rifles restored. Rifles and pistols originally flint reconverted to flint. Stainless steel nipples made to order. R. W. BEASLEY, 104 Messinger St., Canton, Mass. (8-46)

WANTED—Old, obsolete or antique firearms in working condition. H. A. BRAND, 1008 Ingalls Bldg., Cincinnati 2, Ohio. (3-46U)

TO ARMS COLLECTORS—We specialize in fine antique American and European arms. Send twenty-five cents in coin for our 13th edition catalog. Antique arms purchased. Fair prices paid. Also liberal commission paid for information leading to purchase of collections. KIMBALL ARMS COMPANY, Woburn, Mass. (tf)

GENUINE U. S. Rangers cutlass, blades only. Brand new. Never mounted, 29" curved blade 1½" wide, of high quality tool steel, finely blued. Handle has three holes for rivets, makes fine knives, machettes, etc. $1.25 each; sealed package of 10 for $9.50. No C. O. D. MORTON'S, 40 Fulton Street, New York 7, N. Y. (6-46P)

WANTED—"Baby" Le Mat Revolver. R. L. TAYLOR, 525 West 1st Ave., Columbus 8, Ohio. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Fine rare Colt Dragoons; other cap and ball revolvers; also long antique guns; list 10c in stamps. E. C. WARD, Suite 406, Wilcox Bldg., Los Angeles 12, Calif. (11-45P)

WANTED FOR CASH—Antique pistols, revolvers, rifles, daggers, war relics—single or collections. ROBERT ABELS, 860 Lexington Ave., New York 21, N. Y. (12-45U)

RELOADING SUPPLIES, resizing dies, wad cutters in all calibres and gauges. Made to order, $6.00. Guaranteed. Shotgun slugs, rifled and round ball, 12, 16, 20 gauge, 12c each. Felt wads, all gauges, $4.00 per 1000. Guns, ammunition, loading tools. List 10c. GEORGE BRULLESAUER, 3957 A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. (10-45P)

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WANTED—Any muzzle loading gun made by Frank Hammerle, Hamilton, Ohio. F. L. GROVER, M. D., Hartland, Wisconsin. (10-45g)

FREE LIST—Private collector offers 131 items—eight pages—103 guns. Detailed descriptions. Fair prices. For example, 44 of the 103 guns are $10.00 or less. Also bayonets, flasks, moulds, machine gun, etc., at bargain prices. List is free. Yours for a postcard request. K. BIRD, 140 Clyde, Evanston, Ill. (10-45P)

I COLLECT ANTIQUE watches and clocks. Need not be running. Describe fully. H. S. BLAINE, 3809 Monroe St., Toledo, Ohio. (10-45P)

ALL RISKS INSURANCE for gun collectors. W. J. ROBBINS & COMPANY, 885 North LaSalle St., Chicago 10, Ill. (9-46P)

HOWARD C. CAMPBELL, restocking, repairing, blueing. 20 Elvin Avenue, Penns Grove, N. J. (7-46P)

WANTED—"Wm. Wingert, Detroit" rifles and pistols. Also want Hawken's rifles by Jacob or Samuel, five Mills, Butler and Golscher Plains rifles, carved or engraved powder horns, small quantity of .38-90 Winchester Express cartridges or empty cases. Will buy or trade modern guns for above. RALPH N. WINGERT, Paola, Kansas. (12-45U)

ANTIQUE FIREARMS WANTED—Especially percussion and frontier Colts and Remingtons. Cash for one piece or a collection. Write, describing fully and stating price. THE GUN SHOP, The Store for Men, Marshall Field & Co., Chicago, Ill. (3-46U)

S&W .357 MAGNUM, 6½" barrel, perfect, with 150 rounds factory ammunition, $100.00; U. S. flintlock rifle, model 1814, Harpers Ferry dated 1815, original except ramrod, excellent sound complete condition, $100.00; U. S. Colt rifle-musket, new, unfired condition, $35.00; U. S. pistol-carbine, model 1855 with shoulder stock, complete except frizzen spring and inside priming device, stock cracked at grip, original, better than good condition, $75.00; U. S. North flintlock pistol, model 1816, original, good sound complete condition, no ramrod, $35.00; U. S. pistol, model 1836, Waters, military conversion to percussion, very good, sound complete condition, $30.00; Manhattan Navy, .36 calibre percussion revolver, 6½" barrel, considerable blue, very good, tight condition, $25.00; English flintlock pocket pistol by Smith, 1½" screw barrel, .48 calibre, excellent sound complete condition, one screw a replacement, $25.00; .44 calibre iron Colt mould, round and conical, excellent, $7.50; .36 calibre brass Colt mould, round and conical, very good, $6.50; Hawksley copper shotgun flask, 8"x3½", graduated charger 2¼ to 3 drams, plain smooth finish, excellent, $7.50; another Hawksley copper shotgun flask, 8"x3½", graduated charger 2¼ to 3 drams, fluted, excellent, $10.00; another Hawksley copper shotgun flask, 8½"x3½", graduated charger, 2¼ to 3 drams, oakleaf, deer and fox design, excellent, $12.00; small brass pistol flask, eagle and crossed pistols design with 13 stars, 1¾"x3¾", excellent, $10.00; silver capping device, marked "J. S. Improved", 2" diameter, round, excellent, $15.00; 2 powder horns, 5"x14", very old, one is engraved, both excellent, $5.00 each; Krag Bayonet and Scabbard, very good, $3.50. KENNETH R. GIBSON, 2075 W. Lincoln, Birmingham, Mich. (10-45P)

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES—"Hand Cannon to Automatic". Over 200 pages of interesting, educational and pictorial information on the development of hand arms. Price $5.00 per book postpaid. Order direct from the author—HERSCHEL C. LOGAN, 400 South 9th St., Box M, Salina, Kansas. (10-45U)

SQUIRREL RIFLE, about .31 calibre, 40" barrel, full stock, brass trim, double set, good bore, rather plain gun, no rod or mould, $17.00. .38 Remington R. F. conversion—see "American Rifleman", March, 1932, $13.00. Heiser spring shoulder holster for S. A. or N. S., 5½", $3.00. Ladies slightly used Duxbak "Norfolk" coat, size 34, breeches 28" waist, hat, all $10.00. Ladies Russel moccasin boots, size 6, $12.00. Lemonwood flat bow, about 45 lbs. with case, $8.00. Osage bow 5'6", about 35 lbs., $5.00. One 5', about 40, $4.00. WICKER, Stouts Mills, West Virginia. (10-45P)

WANTED—Lyman No. 35 Receiver Sight. Mauser double-set trigger with sear. Luger shoulder stock, P-38 Walther magazine. Winchester Hi-Side set trigger action. Italian Beretta pistol. W. R. HENDRICKS, Box 252, Williamson, W. Va. (10-45P)

COLT .58 calibre muzzle loading rifles, absolutely new condition, unfired, $32.50 each. U. S. 1842 percussion muskets, excellent, $16.00. Brand new, unfired, .45-70 Springfield rifles with bayonet, $20.50 each. 1903 Springfield .30-06 rifles as issued, heat treated, excellent bores, $60.00 each. .50-70 Remington rolling block rifles, excellent, $16.50. Starr Civil War carbine, fine, $16.00. Sharps Civil War carbine, fine, $16.00. Another, good, $12.00. U. S. 1861 Trenton musket, good, $15.00. Mississippi rifle, good, $16.50. British 1861 Enfield "Officers" musket, good, $15.00. U. S. Remington 1858 Maynard primer musket, fine, $18.50. Pennsylvania target rifle, percussion, heavy, 35" octagon, about .50 calibre, plain full maple, good, $30.00. Frank Wesson .32 rimfire pistol, like Stevens, scarce, fair, $13.50. Stevens .32 rimfire pocket rifle, good, $12.50. Wesson & Harrington .22 revolver, scarce, excellent, $7.75. Allens patent .31 pepper box, very good, $12.50. Savage navy revolver, good, $22.00. New, perfect .58 Springfield musket barrels, $7.50 each. New Colt revolver nipple wrenches, 75c each. Set Civil War infantry equipment cartridge box, cap, pouch, belt, bayonet, scabbard, fine leather, new, $4.75 set. Original packet 6 Colt .44 combustible cartridges, $1.50 packet. List 10c. Wanted—12-gauge Winchester pump, 10-gauge Magnum, "Officers Model", .45-70 Springfield, buy or trade. R. REPPERT, Rt. 4, Norristown, Pa. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Lock plates made to order, any size; nickel silver inlays, moulds, cherries for round balls, gunsmith's punches and chisels, nipples, drums, files for gunsmiths. Drill rods, any size up to 50" long. Fancy butt plate screws. Nipple taps, 28 thread. Most anything for the shooter. New list in 1946. Write for your wants. PIONEER GUN SHOP, Rt. 4, Coshocton, O. (10-45-P)

TRADE—Colt .38 Lightning, pearl grips, 3½" barrel, for swing-out cylinder revolver or double barrel shotgun. JOHN MAHLER, 813 Webster, Bay City, Michigan. (10-45P)

FOR SALE from private collection—20-gauge Mossberg No. 85 shotgun. .32-20 Winchester No. 92. Sedgley Springfield .30-06 Lyman sights. .44 Colt 1860 factory conversion. Books—"French Firearms 1702", "Firearms in American History, The Revolver", Nathan Starr, Sword and Arms Maker". Postal card will bring details and prices. EVERETT SAGGUS, Elberton, Georgia. (10-45P)

ROGERS AND SPENCER .44 revolver, excellent action and bore, good shooter, $37.50. HENRY HANSEN, 14814 Clifton, Lakewood, Ohio. (10-45P)

WANTED—10-gauge Magnum shotgun in good firing condition. WILLIAM GRANZIG, Mount Prospect, Ill. (10-45P)

REMINGTON repeating magazine pistol, Rider patent 1871, nearly all original finish, bore and mechanically excellent, $10.00. GEORGE BARNES, Vassar, Michigan. (10-45P)

WANTED—Any deluxe or engraved model Winchester for my collection. LLOYD BENDER, 448 Hardingway West, Galion, Ohio. (10-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—Muzzle loading shotguns and muskets. OLLIE MILLER, 417 Kingston, Le May, Missouri. (10-45P)

MUZZLE GUN REPAIRING—New drums, nipples, drums, breech plugs, walnut stocks, powder horns. Barrels recut, freshed out. Expert gun welding. HARRY KENT, Bidwell, Ohio. (10-45P)

MUZZLE LOADING guns repaired. Bullet moulds, wad cutters, nipples made to order. Reblueing or browning. Barrel, lock and stock work done. Send inquiries. JOHN B. MILLER, 51 Highland Ave., Windsor, Connecticut. (10-45P)

WANTED—Winchester Model 86 take-down carbine. Engraved Models 90, 92 and 94. Also single shots. LLOYD BENDER, 448 Hardingway West, Galion, Ohio. (10-45P)

.54 U S. MOD. 1841 percussion rifle, good plus. .44 British cased custom made percussion revolver with extra ctg. cylinder and all accessories. Unfired. .45 Whitworth hex. bore military sharpshooter's rifle. Colt, Remington, Whitney and Savage percussion revolvers. 80 others, mostly early ctg. revolvers. Many types metallic ctgs., black and smokeless. List, stamps. CALVIN GODDARD, 3533 Quebec, Washington 16, D. C. (10-45P)

FLINTLOCK AND PERCUSSION pistols; guns, armor, pole arms, rapiers and swords from private collectors surplus. List 12c. IRVING BROWNING, 70 West 45th St., New York, N. Y. (10-45P)

CLOSING OUT small collection of firearms. Shotguns, muzzle and breech loaders, rifles and pistols. Some ammunition. Field glass. Telescopes. OTTO W. BREMER, Caseyville, Ill. (10-45P)

SELL—12-gauge ⅜" felt wads, $3.65 a 1000. Muzzle loading locks, R. H. No. 5, L. H. No. 4. Black powder, FFFg, $1.00 per lb. C. P. BEALS, Rt. 8, North Kansas City, Mo. (10-45P)

PATERSON COLT Model 1837 hammerless revolving rifle, 8 shots, .47 calibre, 31⅜" octagon barrel, 12 lbs. 6 ozs., clean and good plus. Numbers match. $487.50. CALVIN GODDARD, 3533 Quebec, Washington 16, D. C. (10-45P)

WANTED—Hi-Side wall Winchester single shot, and late model Mauser, actions in good condition. N. H. KEISTER, Greenfield, Indiana. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Collection of rifles, revolvers and pistols, all fine pieces. Drop in and look them over. DR. CHARLES M. HAYNES, 41 South Paint St., Chillicothe, Ohio. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Handsee deluxe grinder, original box and tools, $25.00 outfit, used, but good, $12.50; three Springfield muskets 1827, 1849, 1861 complete and very good, $6.50 each. 12-gauge double shotgun, percussion, hammer missing and rib loose in one place, otherwise very good, $4.50; left hand back action lock, unused, $3.00; 41", .50 calibre rifled barrel, $2.50; complete hardware for building a left hand half stock percussion rifle, .45 calibre, good, $7.00. BOB WINGER, M[illegible]ville, Penna. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Winchester rifled slugs, pre-war, 12-gauge, 10c each. Colt Match Super-38, new condition, $70.00. Colt single-action revolver, 4¾", .32 W.C.F., guncrank condition, $40.00. 250 Western non-corrosive pre-war .32 S&W long 98-grain wadcutter bullet, $1.50 per box of 50. ROY S. TINNEY, Chatham, N. J. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Complete .45 Colt reloading tools and shells. .45 5½" new barrel and 2 cylinders. Hand made cartridge belt, 2 fine holsters. C. MILLIRON, Hagerstown, Md. (10-45P)

SHOTGUNS—double barrel muzzle loaders, Parker with fine front action locks, 42" barrels marked "Fine London Twist", 12-gauge, weighs 8 lbs., finely checkered stock, English proofmarked, brass tipped rod, $20.00. Another Parker, front action locks, 12-gauge, 32½" barrels, 7½ lbs., marked "London Fine Twist", tang broken at screw hole, easily repaired, $11.00. W. Richards 12-gauge, 30" barrels, Belgian proofmarked but with English Broad Arrow, needs new nipples, 7¾ lbs., tiger stripe maple stock, no rod, $12.00. Another Richards 12-gauge, 31¾" barrels, marked "Laminated Steel", Belgian proofmarks and English Broad Arrow, 8 lbs., offset stock, brass tipped ramrod, $12.00. No name, 12-gauge, 34" barrels, with English proofmarks, 7½ lbs., needs new nipples, brass tipped ramrod, $9.00. J. B. Pritchard Fine Twist, 10-gauge, 32" barrels, 8 1/3 lbs., fine front action locks, engraved locks and trim, no rod, $12.00. Nameless 10-gauge, 33½" barrels, Belgian proofmarks but English Broad Arrow, 9½ lbs., German silver trim, needs new nipples, no rod, $8.00. Nameless 10-gauge oversize, English proofmarks, 42" barrels, 12 lbs., stock broken at wrist and repaired with steel bands and leather, engraved locks, German silver trim including butt plates, left hammer missing and hammer stud broken from lock but can be repaired, good fireplace ornament, brass tip ramrod with screw, $7.50. Hollis & Sheath, London, 38" barrel, 8-gauge, 16 lbs., a he-man's toy that used a load of 7 drams of powder, tip of right trigger broken and stock cracked at wrist, but neatly repaired stronger than new, brass tip ramrod, $12.00. ROBERT H. WILCOX, Brandon, Vermont. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Winchester 86, half magazine, checkered stock and butt plate, barrel rib, micrometer sight, good, $45.00. PAUL CLARK, 481 Finley, Dubuque, Iowa. (10-45P)

SALE—Sharps Buffalo Rifle (perfect), 30 shells, belt, rod, mould, $25.00; Colt's .25 calibre automatic, good, Franzite grips, $15.00. JOHN FORD, Odessa, Missouri. (10-45P)

N. LEWIS combination rifle-shotgun, 12-gauge, .40 calibre, almost new, $50.00; Nelson Lewis benchrest rifle, good in and out, .42 calibre, d. s. trigger, $35.00; muzzle loading shotgun in walnut case, 12-gauge, good, also flask, pouch, wad cutter, caps, etc., $30.00; 6 muzzle loading shotguns, $5.00 to $15.00, all 12-gauge and shooters. 2 Civil War 58 rifles, shooters, $12.00 to $15.00. Confederate Enfield Musketoon, $15.00. Reloading tools—Winchester 1894, .30-30 and .38-55, $6.00 each; Ideal No. 4, .38-55 and .32 long, $6.00 each. Winchester .32-20 tool and mould, $6.00. .32-20 mould, $3.50; .36 calibre double cavity mould, Colt type, $4.00. Round ball moulds, .445, .455 and .450, $3.00 each. ERNEST BALDWIN, Rt. 1, Trenton, New Jersey. (10-45P)

COLT .44 C & B, blued, good condition, serials match, shoots good, $31.50; Winchester 52 H. B., No. 44705-B, target stock, cheekrest, 17A, folding rear, Fecker ¾", all very good, $125.00. H. CROSSETT, 405½ South 6th, La Crosse, Wisc. (10-45P)

WANT—Percussion lock converted from flint to percussion type lock. E. J. DORN, 5319 Bancroft, St. Louis, Mo. (10-45U)

WADS—10, 12, 16 and 20 gauges, wool felt, ¼", $2.90. Hair felt, 5/16", $3.25 per 1000. CLARENCE FELL, 4114 Monroe, Kansas City, Missouri. (10-45P)

500 2" ROUND PATCHES pre-shrunk and de-sized, unknapped, 7 oz. flannel. For shooting or cleaning. 60c postpaid. Free samples for self-addressed envelope. Want—.22 WCF s. s. Winchester with loading tool. JIM MORAN, 5 Edgewood Village, Kingsport, Tennessee. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—1862 Tower musket, good to fine, $15.00. Rare Greene bolt action percussion rifle, half stocked, fair, $15.00. 1863 and 1864 Springfield muzzle loaders, good, but altered, $4.50 each. .45 calibre Wesson rifle, good, $5.00. .44 calibre B. L. rifle, unknown make (action like Joslyn), fair condition, $4.00. Belgian percussion pistol, good, $5.00. REYNER KOLLGAARD, RFD 2, Media, Pennsylvania. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Spotting Scope. Mossberg "Spotshot" and Mossberg folding stand, latest make, perfect condition, $25.00. 6-cavity Armory bullet mould for .44 calibre Remington or Colts revolver, excellent condition, $8.00. SCOTT LINK, 1338 Lee Court SW, Canton 6, Ohio. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Two Colt .44 Army revolvers; 1862 Officer's Model; Manhattan .36; Remington .36; Starr .44, all in unusual shooting order; number of good shooting Kentucks; military arms; 6c in stamps, please. "Since 1933." CALVIN HETRICK, New Enterprise, Pennsylvania. (10-45P)

WANTED—Remington Double Deringer in good condition. HUGH MALLETT, Bradford, Illinois. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Italian Garcano Bolt complete, $6.00. Mauser Bolt complete, $7.50. double barrel muzzle loader shotgun barrel and actions only, $6.00. OSCAR HAVENS, 145 Rogers, Norfolk 8, Virginia. (10-45P)

POWDER FLASKS wanted by collector. Furnish full description and price. WILTON MEYER, Box 3591, Long Beach 3, Calif. (3-46P)

WINCHESTER MODEL 70—.30-06, new and perfect except blue spotted on magazine floor plate, Lyman 48 WJS rear, Winchester front, Whelan sling, 120 rounds 180 grain "Silvertip" and soft point cartridges, $120.00; Remington 16-gauge grade "A" double, 28" blue steel barrels, modified and full, stock 13½"x1¾"x2½", very good throughout, 200 mixed factory loads, 30 hand loads, 100 new empty paper shells, fair stiff case, weight 6½ lbs., $63.00; Winchester 12-gauge model 97 trap grade, 30" full choke with extra 26" cylinder barrel, perfect inside, good outside, sole leather case, $70.00. All F.O.B., Providence, R. I. Money orders ONLY, please. A. B. COULTERS, 10 Ridge St., Arlington, Providence 9, Rhode Island. (10-45P)

ARABIAN FLINTLOCK MUSKET, length 66", brass sheathed damascus barrel, large showy silver plated lock, brass inlays, stock repaired, excellent den decorator, $28.75. Evans sporting rifle, .41 calibre, 29" octagonal barrel, cartridges feed through stock, mechanism complete and in working order, $24.50. .36 calibre navy Colt revolver with 8" barrel, tight and in good shooting order, $18.75. .44 calibre Colt as above, complete with bullet mould, tight and in good shooting condition, $23.75. DON SPICER, 1654 Porter, Beloit, Wisconsin. (10-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—1895 model lever action .25-20 Winchester rifle, double set triggers, Lyman peep sights, about fine in and out, nifty shooter, 18 shells, $42.50. Ivory handled eagle pommel War of 1812 Naval Officers sword, brass mounted black leather scabbard restored to good condition, plain blade but very good, $25.00. Period 1795 Italian all metal rapier, three-cornered etched blade with figures of man and word "Scipio", wire grip shows some soldering, very good, $22.50. Want—good percussion Kentuck rifle. CAPTAIN E. R. TOLIVER, McKenzie Bridge, Ore. (10-45P)

FOR RELOADERS—Ideal tool with integral mould, marked .32 Colts, Winchester and Marlin, $4.50. Ideal No. 3 tool with adjustable chamber and resized, marked .38 S&W M, $5.00. Winchester tool and separate mould, .38 WCF (.32-20), $5.00. Melting pot and dipper, new, $1.25. ROBERT H. WILCOX, Brandon, Vermont. (10-45P)

MOORE'S TIT-FIRE REVOLVER, .32 calibre, loads from rear of cylinder to circumvent Smith & Wesson first patents, with two cartridges, fine condition, $12.00. Smith & Wesson Model 1, third issue, bird head butts, .22 calibre silver plated, very good, $11.00. Springfield rifled musket, 1861 model, lock stamped 1862, very fine in and out, $20.00. Spencer repeating rifle, 28½" barrel, excellent in and out, low number 46, a shame to shoot this fine collectors item, with 21 cartridges in original packages, $20.00. Wrecked rifle, fine to restore, .44 calibre, 27" barrel, 1 1/16" across flats, rifling clean and sharp, has sporting sights on barrel and folding peep on tang, fine brass butt plate trigger and trigger guard, fancy brass patch pocket, scroll medallion on cheek piece; furnish new stock and lock and you have something good; $9.00. ROBERT H. WILCOX, Brandon, Vt. (10-45P)

I WANT ANTIQUE PISTOLS in good or repairable condition. Single or collection. Description and price, please. CARL PENNINGROTH, 4864 A Kossuth, St. Louis, Mo. (10-45P)

HARPERS FERRY MUSKET dated 1819 and Springfield dated 1815. Both good except for old repaired crack through small of stocks and look okay. Price $40.00 each. S. W. HOLMERS, 5368 E. 2nd, Long Beach 3, California. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—(1) .44 Colt Army 1860 percussion muzzle loader, condition very good, 6 shot, price $35.00. (2) .31 Colt pocket model, 1849 percussion muzzle loader, 5 shot, 6" barrel with original ivory handles, original wedge replaced, condition good plus, price $40.00. (3) .30 Rimfire Springfield Arms Co., 5 shot revolver, brass frame, condition very good, price $15.00. A. T. PAGTER, Lt. Col., 3719 Fulton St. NW, Washington 7, D. C. (10-45P)

PIPE DREAM?

(Continued from page 11)

gravel road, but a little later on the road will get better and finally she will feel like you have reached the meadow and you have driven off on to the grass at the parking lot of Walter Cline Range, Friendship, Indiana, where there is no more gravel and the old ouija bullet board glides as smoothly as an eel upon the ice; and behold the most perfect bullets you have ever seen! But be careful not to drop them, for if you do you will have to flatten them out in order to catch them.

In presenting this article for the consideration of the readers of *Muzzle Blasts*, I wish to call attention to the article in the June issue by Major J. H. Gill of London on the same subject. After all, this is a description of the art of sizing bullets and not the science thereof.

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLY STATION

SHOT—BIRD AND BUCK—SHOT
(Out until further notice)

BLACK POWDER
NO LICENSE REQUIRED

6¼ lb. can—$4.00 25 lb. can—$12.50

PERCUSSION CAPS
No License Required

No. 11 Remington — Fresh Stock — F O B, $2.85

NIPPLES

PISTOL, to fit Colt, Remington, Rogers & Spencer, etc. ..... 25c; 5 for $1.00

RIFLE—SHOTGUN, ¼", 28 thread— ..... 25c; 5 for $1.00

MUSKET—.317-24—U. S. Musket size— ..... 5 for $1.00

.317-24 with top to take No. 11 Caps—each 60c

SIGHTS

WIN. Vernier Tang, elevation only $5.50
LYMAN 17A—for Win. Std., Savage, etc. $2.50

SCOPES

WEAVER 330, T Mounts ..... $31.90 with 10% excise

MAGAZINE CLIPS

5 Shot — Win. 75 and 52 ..... $1.25
10 Shot—Win. 75 and 52 ..... $2.00

RIFLED SLUGS—12 or 16 ga. .... 15c each, 100—$13.50

ROUND BALL MOULDS

Brass, rigid blocks, good wood handles—sizes .285, .315, .325, .352, .362, .377, .392, .436, .445, .450, .465, .496, .527, .575, .595. ..... $5.00

.575 Hollow Base MINIE MOULDS, sprue cutter, $8.00

A wait of 10 days to 3 weeks may be necessary on moulds.

TAPS—¼" with 28 threads—starter and finisher—needed by all parties with muzzle gun inclinations—slightly used, good. ..... Per pair, 45c

Pistol or Musket NIPPLE WRENCHES ..... $ .75

T-TYPE RIFLE NIPPLE WRENCHES ..... $ .75

FLINTS—Musket only ..... dozen $1.00

Civil War Leather Cap Containers 75c

Leather Civil War CARTRIDGE BOXES $1.50

Black Flexible Ring Binders for MUZZLE BLASTS, $1.75

GUN BOOKS—See our list elsewhere in this issue.

Adjustable Powder Measure-Charger, $3.50.

200 unused, unprimed, 16-ga. KYNOCH Brass Shells, paper lined. ..... Each 20c

WAD CUTTERS—11 and 15 gauges. ..... Each $1.00

Win. M97 Shotgun roughed out stocks, steel butt plate, fair to good walnut—easy to fit. ..... Each $1.25

Marsten 6-shot .32 pepper box, very good to fine, $16.00

.44 Belgian revolver, ivory grips, good mechanically, fair to good otherwise.. Unusual..... $32.50

Pin-fire revolver (French), good condition; front sight missing. $26.50

FLINT LOCK ARMS

1—"ANDY GUMP"—a .48 calibre made by A. GOMPF, Lancaster. Fine curly maple full stock; cheek rest, oval of white metal; seven-inch brass patch box with fine engraving. Basket-weave checking at wrist. Wood is solid from muzzle to butt plate. All small trim is brass. Lock is by PRICE NEWLING . . . fine condition. D. S. triggers. Barrel is browned (original), 35½ inches long, 1⅛ inches across flats. Weight is 10¼ pounds. First three shots were at 20 yards—all centers well under twenty-five cent piece. A Good Hunting flinter! Want a test target and loading data? With flints, patching, balls. This is well worth . . . $110.00.

1—E & W BOND, HOOPER SQUARE, LONDON. Best ignition I have seen in moons. This is a .58 bore that does well with either ball or hollow base Minie—the latter is my choice for big game. Half stock of good walnut with nice figure in butt stock. Lock by Bond—engraved. Barrel 36"x1". Plenty of engraving on patent breech, tang strap, trigger guard—all superior workmanship. Top grade checking at wrist and on forestock. Bone tip to forestock. Steel trim . . . Wide butt plate. This evidently was built for really big game . . . still good for that kind. Bore has turn in 48 inches; had it touched up by Wm. Large. Weight 9 pounds. With flints, ramrod, (no mould with it), $125.00.

1—D. MARKER flinter with true Kentucky lines. Full stock of medium curly maple; cheek rest with eagle on white metal plate. Brass patch box 7½ inches long, keen engraving. Lock is by A. NORRIS. Good sparker. Single trigger; four brass wedges hold stock to barrel. Brass butt plate, trigger guard and thimbles are in tip-top shape. Solid at wrist; small opening 8 inches ahead of trigger guard. Sights are original—no surplus slots. Find this far above average as is; if the bore were rifled (is smooth now) it should be about .48 calibre and good for show and shooting. Barrel is 43"x15/16". Weight [illegible] lbs. Freshed out and complete, $97.50.

1—No name flinter—match type. Full [illegible], maple . . . no particular natural markings. Some slivers were missing; new wood inlaid in fine manner. Barrel is 38 inches long, 1¼ inches across flats. Bore is .50 calibre. Henry Parker lock—some replaced parts. Eight inch brass patch box, good but not fancy. Brass trigger guard, butt plate and small trim. Cheek rest. Lyman 17A front; Lamping tang peep rear. Ramrod, flints and 2 pounds .50 calibre balls, $87.00.

1—No name fine Kentucky flint; full stocked, maple with fair to good markings . . . and solid as they come. Cheek rest and raised carving; 6½ inch brass patch box, fancy. Broad butt plate of brass; trigger guard and small hardware are of brass. Silver oval in wrist. No name on lock, but it is good even so. Likely originally flint, then percussion, now again flint. Barrel is 46 inches long, 15/16 inches across flats. Bore is about .48 smooth. D. S. triggers. Front sight missing. A fine example of the Kentucky type. Price is, $115.00 . . . freshed out, $125.00.

1—BRASHER, LONDON fowling piece. Secured from Keith Neal—and is *The Finest* single flint fowling piece I have ever handled. About 16-gauge . . . clean and smooth inside. Twist barrel; maker's name and address inset in patent breech in gold. Decorated tang. This Brasher lock is "dream stuff"—like new—and a hot sparker. Trigger guard is steel, elaborately engraved. Steel butt plate; long heel plate is engraved in keeping with motif on lock and other parts. The walnut half stock has a finish equal to m' lady's fanciest furniture—quality! Checking at wrist is very superior in design and execution. Rosewood ramrod—or something like it—rich red finish, brass tipped. Silver monogram plate in wrist—no engraving. Words fail me . . . Miller Bedford at his worst could not do it justice! You can shoot this in the best company . . . a show piece anywhere, too. Price $145.00.

—OHIO CUSTOMERS—Please add 3% SALES TAX—

E. M. FARRIS, N. & W. RY. Y. M. C. A., PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Arthur E. Anderson
Santa Margarita, California

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION
VOLUME VII PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, NOVEMBER, 1945 NUMBER 3



Pioneer Woman

WE REPORT ACTION

EDITORIAL

WITH THE advent of our revival in muzzle gun shooting several things of note have happened.

First, real Americans have come back to the guns that "made America", and in so doing have found the old firelocks have some charming and entertaining possibilities. Witnesseth the "shoots" from San Diego and Seattle to Bennington and Baltimore.

Second, books that treat on the early gunsmiths and their trade have been written; some fine books of the last century have been reprinted to the delight and benefit of thousands of the brethren.

Third, paintings and drawings have appeared, as well as copies of early works of art—all concerning the "shoots" and the men who were keen over the sights and on the triggers.

Fourth, old gunsmiths have been sought out and put to work on the aged and ailing Kentuckies and "hog" rifles. Let it be said to the everlasting credit of the craftsmen who learned their trade fifty to sixty years ago, "We only wish those now living could remain until a new generation is trained and active in the shops".

Fifth, this day sees a new effort afoot that we may have barrels, locks, triggers and trim of better material and design—if that is possible. Men are again bending their efforts to locate, season and shape fancy maple and walnut into fine gunstocks for the long barrels. In short, the "new crop" of fine mechanics is already appearing in numerous spots; we might venture the statement that a very few years will witness fine shops and fine workmen turning out fine firearms that load from the front end.

A movement and men came along together into this venture which seems to have been a "natural". Walter Cline, Ned Roberts, Boss Johnston, Col. Stodter, Walt Grote, Don Coble, L. M. Wolfe, W. E. Foust, Win Woods, George Brammer, Herman P. Dean, Lucian Cary, LeRoy Compton, Herb Sherlock, Dr. Gorning, Lloyd Bender, Paul Freese—and dozens more who have helped in many a way to give this movement its present standing and popularity—these men and others have "fitted in" and given solidarity and permanence to our foundation.

Back of it all is that inborn love of early arms that permits no true follower of black powder lore to depart from the new trail we are making . . . a counterpart of Daniel Boone's trek through the hills of North Carolina over and into the Kentucky Country; very similar to the Lewis and Clark expedition, too. Today it is to The Walter Cline Range, to Shartlesville, to Renfro Valley, to a glade in the Ozarks, or draw in the Rockies or out on some dusty cow pasture of the Great Plains. Whether we go afoot or by automobile we are still travelers with hardy souls that kept their powder dry and their eyes always to The West.

It is quite possible that our December issue will not reach the members until late in that month . . . so, we take this occasion to tell all how we wish them

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

The gift from us to you is our pledge that we shall endeavor to get you twelve issues of *Muzzle Blasts* in 1946 that will merit the same fine praise you have heaped on us in 1945—which we gladly list as your gift to us!

The past year has been our best from any angle it may be viewed. Material progress has been made—we give you The Walter Cline Range improvements to prove the truth of that statement. Our membership has grown until it exceeds 5,000 . . . not a bad showing for such a movement as ours. Our publication has grown and has been improved in many ways. We trust our service has kept pace with other improvements . . . it is our desire that this feature shall not be neglected in any particular.

We anticipate some moves very shortly that should give us a better plant for our office work, thus increasing our effectiveness. Stand by as we make such a move . . . we need the support of all our friends and helpers. As a direct result we should grow to 6500 to 7000 members by the end of 1946. Watch the list of mailings in each issue of *Muzzle Blasts* to see if we have predicted correctly.

MUZZLE BLASTS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association

E. M. Farris ..... Editor

N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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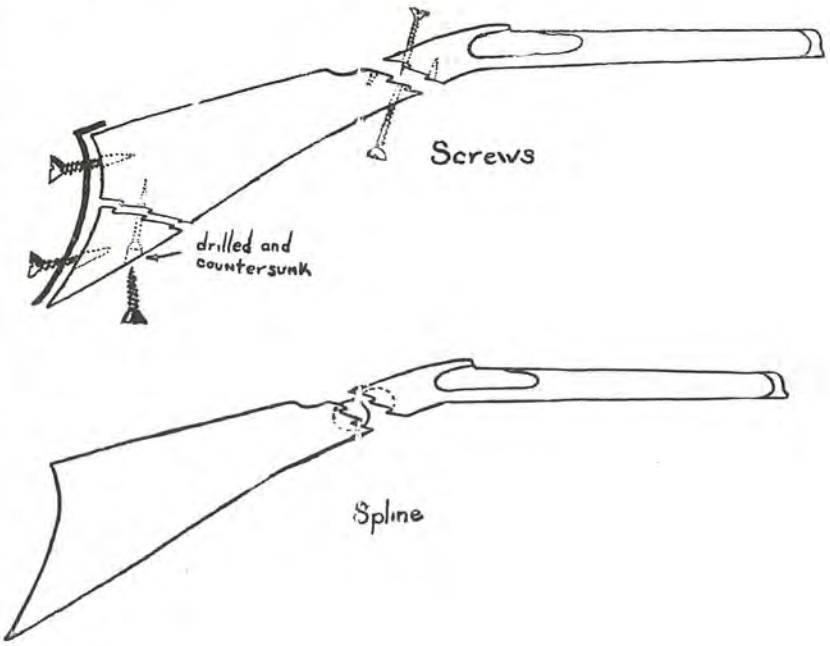
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RESTORING AND REFINISHING M-L GUNS FOR FUN

by JOHN H. WINTER

YES, RESTORING muzzle loaders *is* fun, but it means a lot of hard work. However, the pleasure derived from this fascinating hobby and the real satisfaction of seeing the original beauty of these old guns come to life, more than compensates one for the time and effort required. Many shooters are interested only in how well their guns shoot, but most of us want our guns to look nice, too. How many times have you picked up a once fine gun and remarked, "I'll bet that was a beauty when it was new!"? With but a few tools, some time and patience and a knowledge of how to go about it that old gun can be made to look like new again, the final result depending on the degree of one's patience and skill. It is the purpose of this article to give the beginner some knowledge of tools and supplies required and an idea of the procedure involved.



It has been taken for granted that all mechanical repairs have been made, that the barrel has been re-cut and re-rifled, if that is desired, since it would be foolish to spend a lot of time refinishing the gun only to have it scratched or marred in subsequent mechanical repairs. The work of restoration is divided into three steps: first, the stock; second, the triggers, butt plate, trigger guard, trim, inlays, etc., commonly called "hardware"; and third, the barrel.

First, dis-assemble the gun completely, removing the barrel and all "hardware". Since most stocks have, at one time or another, been varnished, oiled or lacquered, it will be necessary to remove this finish. The easiest way to remove this is to use a standard commercial paint and varnish remover. Apply liberally with an old brush, allow to stand a few minutes and wipe or scrape off. Two or three applications may be necessary. Any repairs to the stock should be made now.

Preparation of the Stock

Major breaks or cracks can best be repaired by completing the break and glueing the pieces together again after thoroughly cleaning the edges of any dirt which might have accumulated. It is wise to reenforce this point by one of three types: screws, dowels or splines. The latter types of reenforcing require considerable skill to make a perfect joint, but are not visible. The slot for the spline should be cut with some type of circular cutter in exactly the right spot in the center of each broken piece. A piece of hard wood about ¼" thick with the grain running perpendicular to the break line is used for the spline. Dowels are placed in holes drilled in each broken piece. In case the break comes in such a spot that screw heads would be covered by the "hardware", the easiest method of reenforcing is to join the glued pieces securely with screws. The proper size hole must be drilled to accommodate these screws without splitting the stock. Of course the screw holes could be counter-bored and the screw head covered with Plastic Wood or a round wood plug. Whatever method of reenforcing is used, a good grade of waterproof glue should be used and applied according to directions of the manufacturer. Weldwood or Cascamite are recommended. Clamp the pieces together or place them in a vise and allow to dry two or three days.

Rotten, burned or missing wood should be replaced. Carefully cut or file away until new wood is reached and a perfectly flat surface obtained. Glue on a new piece, matching type and grain as nearly as possible, clamp and allow to dry. When the glue is thoroughly dry, shape the new piece with plane, knife or file to conform with the lines of the stock. The use of material similar to Plastic Wood, while not recommended, can sometimes be used to replace small sections of the stock. The wood to which it is bonded must be clean and dry. Small brads can be used to reenforce and improve the bond.

Dents can sometimes be raised by steaming over the spout of a tea kettle or by placing a wet rag on the spot overnight. Deep cuts can be removed only by scraping away the surrounding wood. Plastic Wood can be used to fill some types of cuts, especially if the sides are rough or slightly undercut.

After all repairs have been made, the stock should be scraped smooth either with a cabinet-maker's scraper or with a piece of window glass. With the latter, a new sharp edge is easily obtained by breaking the glass. Carefully scrape with the grain until dents, cuts, scratches, etc. have been removed. Next, sand the stock carefully with the grain with No. 1½ sandpaper, then with No. ½ and finally with No. 00 sandpaper.

Before the final sanding the hardware should be refitted. Naturally, since some of the wood has been removed, the inlays will not be flush with the surface. With a knife and small chisels carefully deepen the depressions for the trim until it fits flush again. It is wise to fill all old screw holes, since you will probably replace many or all of the screws. Taper small dowels to fit snuggly, apply glue and drive them into the holes. Then cut off flush with the surface with a small chisel. Any old checkering can be touched up or replaced now. New or partly missing checkering requires great care and patience to replace. Mark the outline first and work to it. Regular checkering tools assure a more uniform job, but a fairly satisfactory

(Continued on page 14)

Doubling in Percussion Guns

by S. K. PLATT

I HAVE noted in many of your recent issues of *Muzzle Blasts* warnings and cautions against the danger of more than one chamber of a percussion revolver firing at once. The use of grease filling in the ends of the chambers ahead of the bullets is mentioned as essential. However, it adds to the general messy unpleasantness of shooting, slows reloading and means additional equipment to haul along. If you wear your percussion gun in a holster just for plinking and pleasure on woodland hikes as I frequently do, it is a nuisance. One is inclined to dispense with it. And is greasing essential?

Colt's old printed instructions referring to the use of loose powder and ball make no mention of it. I have been shooting Colt, Remington, Whitney, Starr and Rogers & Spencer percussion revolvers frequently, and for more than ten years. Almost never do I use grease and except for the incidents I will mention I have never had more than one chamber fire at a time.

My first percussion revolvers were a Colt and Remington of Civil War vintage, acquired in 1930, in somewhat loose but useable condition. Knowing the guns were "forty-fours" I proceeded to hunt up a .44 mould and eagerly cast my first bullets and took the Colt out for a trial. I loaded all six chambers with powder and bullets and fired. The roar and smoke and flames terrified me! On checking, I found that four chambers had gone off at once. How the bullets got out is still a mystery but no harm was done either to me or the gun. However, I had had enough and went home and unloaded the two remaining chambers by hand. Not for several months did I try it again. This time I took the Remington and went through an identical experience—three chambers at once—and I was definitely done with pecussions.

Subsequently I took up handloading in a serious way and acquired knowledge of the micrometer. I ran across the old .44 mould and miked some bullets. They miked .42 even! The mould was the old .44 S. &. W. American cartridge for shooting through a gun of .419 bore. The light dawned! I got out the two old percussions and miked the chambers: .454! My forty-four gun was over .45 calibre; my forty-four bullet was .42 calibre. The bullet just lay loosely in the chamber with ample space for fire to creep around. I believe that under the jar of recoil the bullets just bounced out, leaving the powder fully exposed to the naked flame.

I then hunted up a .44 Colt round and conical bullet mould of the usual sort. These bullets as cast measured .460 and I have used them as they came from the mould ever since with never another double.

I wonder if this isn't the answer. I believe all the old "forty-fours" are, and always were, "forty-fives" plus. Yet so many of our .44 moulds—.44 S. & W. Special, Russian, American, .44-40, .44 Colt, .44 Henry, .44 Evans—are undersize, .42's in fact. How is the man who is not a reloader to know of these discrepancies, and isn't it a fact that about any .44 bullet eventually finds its way into these percussion guns? Even if one has a regular old fashioned Colt mould the iron handles make moulding unpleasant (until one finally has the simple intelligence to affix wooden handles thereto) and the novice soon picks up any wooden-handled mould bearing the fateful numbers ".44 cal.". Then the trouble starts!

I am convinced that accurate measurements of the chambers, plus the use of a substantially oversize soft lead ball, without greasing the mouth of the chamber, will forever abolish the danger of doubling; and I feel that your publication should stress the fact that "forty-fours" are not what they are called but, like the "thirty eight", are something entirely different and must be fed the proper fodder. Imagine shooting a .38 Special bullet in a .38-40 gun!

Incidentally, the .38 Special bullet, sized .358, or even unsized as cast, is too small for use in the .36 percussions and doubling or tripling may well result. The .36 bullets I use are cast from an old Colt round and conical mould, measure .375 and have proven completely satisfactory.

Let us not malign the old guns by continued talk of "doubling". Instead let's teach the boys to give them the proper bullets! Reminds me of buying a .348 Winchester when they first came out. I went into the gun department of a large store and asked for some .348 Winchester cartridges. The clerk came back after a long interval and informed me they had no such cartridges but "these would do just as well" and handed me a box of .32 Colt automatic pistol cartridges!

And give the old guns the proper powder, too! Not long ago I picked up a .69 calibre 1840 Nippes musket, converted from flint to percussion. When I got it home I tried the ramrod in the barrel and found it stopped ten inches short of the breech. The gun was loaded, and how! I dug out paper wadding, a three inch column of BB shot, more paper wadding and then a six inch column of smokeless powder of antique vintage. Some lad was lucky the caps failed to ignite that dynamite.



KINKS FROM ILLINOIS

by R. H. Parmenter

Charles Demport knows his ramrods. He makes a good suggestion about marking the rod without a load and also marking it when the load is in the barrel. This tells when the barrel is empty and when it is loaded, also if the ball is seated down on the powder and whether the charge is too large—but does it?. Well, approximately.

Most muzzle loader shooters do not wash the rifle barrel with water after each shooting spree, nor do they unbreech the rifle to clean it. They swab it clean with cloth patches on a stick. That is what I do. Recently I did unbreech my flint gun after a good many shots had been fired and the burned powder residue was stuck to the breech pin and all around the bore for some distance and there was a small channel from the vent up the bore, making a conical shaped powder chamber with apex toward the breech and curving over to the flash hole. This took up quite a bit of the powder space and when uniform charges were used would cause the bullet to seat further toward the muzzle each shot. Then if one was watching his marked rod he would believe the balls were not going down to the powder. Maybe that is worth knowing.

Sometimes this sort of fouling will be advantageous. There are barrels perfectly good in the bore except at the powder chamber and bullet seat, but at that portion there is enough erosion to spoil accuracy. The powder residue might then cause the bullet to seat just ahead of the damaged portion, resulting in good accuracy. I have remedied this condition by a longer breech pin threaded further into the barrel. The longer pin is drilled down its center with a fairly small hole which meets the flash channel. Yep, I made one breech pin that way using a tooth from a threshing machine cylinder. By gum, it works tip-top!

Stop a Philippino?

by PFC. HOWARD STEWART

I have noticed in *Muzzle Blasts* how some of your readers in the service received their copies of your swell publication. So I thought it might be of interest to some of the GI's to know how mine is sent to me. I have it mailed to my home and from there it is airmailed to me. This same system is used with the *American Rifleman*. Even though the latter is usually too heavy for airmail, it can always come by first-class mail. In that way I get my favorite magazines a whale of a lot faster than if they came by second-class mail.

You might be interested in a pistol I picked up over here. It had been hand made by a Filipino guerilla (you spell it, Red—I can't) on Mindanao.

The barrel is an eight inch .22 rimfire smooth bore, which tips down and is laminated with three sleeves (one inside the other). At the breech there is another sleeve which is riveted to the barrel with three rivets on each side (one rivet goes clear into the bore!). This breech sleeve has a lug on the bottom through which the ejector rod passes. The ejector, which is manually operated, is similar to the ejectors on the Colt and SPW revolvers with the swing out cylinders.

The barleycorn front sight is made of solder with a steel core. The rear sight is mounted on the barrel latch, which is similar to the latch on a S&W break-open revolver.

The frame is made by riveting two 1/8" steel plates together with about 1/4" space between them.

This gun of mine is the third guerrilla made pistol that I've seen over here. The first pistol I saw was very similar to mine. The barrel on it was .38 calibre and was rifled with one straight groove, which was about 1/16" wide. It also had an ejector that operated on the opening of the action.

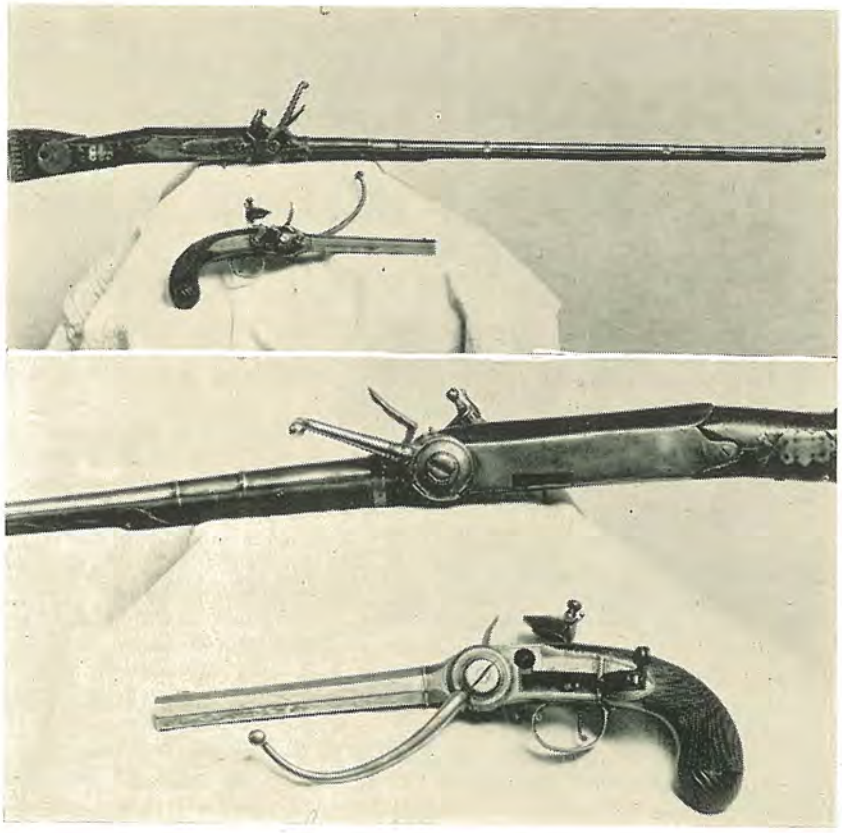
A friend of mine has another one. It is a .32 calibre Deringer. The tip-down barrel has a latch that is on the same principle as that on the Stevens single-shot. The ejector is like that on mine.

The Filipino guerrillas also made shotguns during the Jap occupation but I've never had the opportunity to see one of these.

I am one of that unfortunate group of muzzle gunners that has never had the privilege of shooting in the National Match at Friendship. But when I am home I shoot regularly at the Santiago Rifle & Revolver Club (near Santa Ana), where the Southern California Arms Collectors Association holds its annual matches.

Lever Action Repeating Flintlocks

by MILLER BEDFORD



BELIEVE IT or not, they *were* made. Here are the photographs. I have the guns. And the long gun is not only perhaps one of the very oldest of repeating flintlocks, lever action, but one of the very earliest of true flint actions. The long gun is apparently of Brescian manufacture. The iron work on it is of the Brescian school but so primitive in decoration that it must be of the very earliest of the Brescian work. And since it appears earlier than a pair of Brescian flint pistols I have, of known date of around 1650 to 1670, and since the wood of the forend is carved simpler but of the same unique design as of a known Italian 1680 flint fowling piece I own, we can safely say the gun is of 1680 and if you want to guess earlier you are will likely be more nearly right.

The long gun (see top cut) is smoothbore, of course, as pieces of this period were. The decorations are of ivory and seem copied from some early game. The triangles remind one of the old parlor game board and the spots on the ivory may strike a note in some student of the early galloping dominoes. Or the stationary dominoes. This domino effect is Italian. The hole in the disc is for loading the round balls into the stock. The long gate or door is for the powder magazine. The maker was an optimist. He had room for enuf makings to last the gun a month. The gun was made without trigger guard and had a straight stock. Don't ask me why; unless the maker was more of a mechanic than a gun fitter.

The charge for priming the pan went into the place where you notice the fat crescent piece between the hammer and the priming pan.

The lever is elevated slightly from the full loaded position. The gun had to be cocked in the usual manner. The lever

(Continued on page 12)

KEEP THAT HANDCAR ON THE TRACK

by MILLER BEDFORD

CLAIR LONG wants to know a better rule for powder measuring than covering the palmed bullet or loading until it bangs loud. And there doesn't seem to be much of a rule. The expert finds out eventually the right load; and sometimes he doesn't. But the beginner should be saved a lot of time and know what sort of a platform to start from.

And there definitely is one. Relation of twist, or the amount of inches in a full turn of the rifling, to the charge is quite important. Just as our highway builders lengthened the curves as cars gained in speed, so our early riflemen by accident or design had to use a slow twist to keep their speeded up patched round ball from jumping the curve and scooting out the muzzle, definitely out of control. Those lads had to shoot to live and used plenty of powder behind the ball and the slow twist was the only answer. Further, they could toss in a handful on the run and any excess would mean little or nothing in the slow twist. They would already be using a stiff load and any additional would mean little.

Later they speeded up the twist, or used fewer inches of the barrel for the complete turn of rifling. The main advantage of this was that the faster twist could impart a rotational spin with less powder and so retain accuracy—*and in a shorter barrel, due to using less powder.* By that time the most dangerous game was the squirrel, with a paper target coming along a close second. The short barrel was handy. Previously the long barrel was needed for the heavier charges of powder. About this time the 48 inch twists became common and today the average gun is just that. The earlier ones usually ran around 72 inches to the turn or even slower. *Also the slower bullet was less affected by wind.*

Then they turned to slugs for target work and dropped to the 36 inch twists or even faster. And to shoot a round ball which has very little bearing surface, they really had to reduce the charge to prevent skidding.

Your light specialized target round ball guns of later periods were often these fast twists. So, as a result, yer Hon. Secretary Farris, who trades around so he has the pick of these fine target guns, has unwittingly been using fast twist guns and is a stickler for a light charge *and he gets results.*

While, on the other hand, experimenters and builders of present day guns of the Ensign and Wolfe school like to burn a cup of powder at a time and can only do it in a slow twist. Ask 'em. *And they win.*

So it seems a pretty good rule to follow is to keep trying various loads before you toss that gun away. Start with the Canal Fulton rule of "a grain to the calibre", if the gun is around 48 inch twist. If less than that to any extent or even down to a turn in 24 inches, try around one-half grain to the calibre. And if up around a turn to 72, 96 or 80, dern slow, try two grains to the calibre—supposing, of course, that the gun is safe. And with these points as starters, work up and down the scale until the accuracy point of your gun is found.

Pistols are, or should be, usually around a turn in 20 inches and need a fast twist as they have to work up the rotational spin with less forward speed. Also they can't burn as much powder. You sure aren't going much above 35 grains regardless of calibre, so work both ways from 20 grains.

This is written with the beginner in mind. He may have associated with a heavy powder man and if he gets a 30 inch twist he will become awfully discouraged from his unwitting overloads. I have two fine guns right now, traded to me for those very reasons. And if he learns about powder from a shooter of an accurate 30 inch and swaps for an old long barrel with a 72 inch turn he will indeed "starve that dang gun to death". And again he will become discouraged.

Experts, pay no attention, although you might reduce the loads in that super target round ball fast twist gun and find the fliers don't happen any more.

BULLETS IN WRAPS

by James C. McCarrier

Seems to me the possibilities of the "wrapped-on" paper patch has been overlooked or, at least, ignored by most muzzle loader fans who possess slug guns. These bullets, already patched and oiled, are very convenient to use in the field or on the range.

The only muzzle loading arm I have is a .38 calibre hunting rifle which has a 30" barrel. This barrel was evidently relined many years ago and rifled with one turn in 26 inches. This quick twist is much too fast for a round ball and gave very poor results with the picket type bullet for which the mould was cherried. I was greatly surprised when I missed the target completely.



I induced Hensley & Gibbs of this city to open up the mould cavity with a .38-55 cherry to give a cylindrical bullet. The cherry was merely fed into the cavity like a drill, resulting in a bullet without lubricating grooves. I patched these bullets with two wraps of thin bond paper, twisting the paper at the base of the bullet into a small pig-tail and greasing then with a tallow beeswax mixture. These bul- are very easy to carry and to load, no false muzzle being required as is usually the case with a cross patch.

However, I find it necessary to clean the bore after each shot, as the bullet is a snug fit in my barrel. These patches do not stay with the bullet long when fired, as one might suppose, but burst into tiny pieces at the muzzle. One should take care to wrap all bullets alike, however. That is, in the same direction.

I have no trouble at all now in keeping all my shots in the black and for a light, half-stocked hunting rifle that isn't too bad.

Incidentally, one of the reasons I began this research is the very high fire hazard we have in this part of the country. The hills around here are very dry most of the year and I have always thought it possible that a smouldering cloth patch might drop unnoticed into some dry grass and start a bad fire.

* * *

Since writing the foregoing I have made a change in my lubricant. I was dipping the patched bullets into the hot wax tallow mixture. I found that the heat tended to make the paper brittle. Of course, if a patch tears as it is being started into the muzzle, little can be done about it. I now use neatsfoot oil with better results. The bullets are easier to start and I notice little, if any, difference in accuracy.

A Tisket, A Tasket—
Brother, will I have fun?
Trade this dad-blame basket
To Bedford for a gun.

J. Abendshen, Pittsburgh

by DUNCAN McCONNELL

WHENCE HE came and whither he went we can't tell but for a few years Jos. Abendshen maintained a shop and house at 50 Wayne street, Pittsburgh, and fabricated fine rifles. According to Miss Rose Demorest, Librarian of the Pennsylvania Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, he is listed in only two Pittsburgh City Directories, 1858-59 and 1859-60 and "then he was gone and left no trace that I can pick up here".

Two of the better known historical societies of Pennsylvania have not been able to furnish any additional notes on the scope of Abendshen's activities. If we assume the liberty of interpreting this meager record, it would seem that Abendshen probably made rifles somewhere prior to moving to Pittsburgh where he remained only a few years. Surely skilled riflemakers don't come into existence and disappear in two or three years.

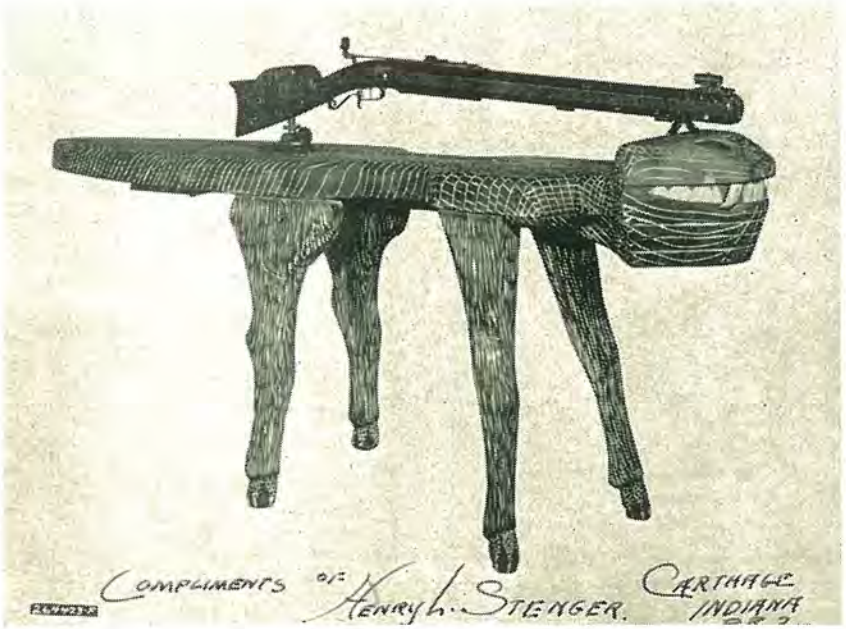
We know of only one example of Abendshen's craftsmanship. It was purchased from a second-hand furniture store in Denver several months ago. The intervening hiatus of some eighty years, from the time of manufacture to its appearance in the furniture store, is a matter only for conjecture. The rifle may have come to Denver in a prairie schooner, and it may have killed an Indian or two. However, it appears to have been used very little prior to the time when some small boy may have dismantled the lock and discarded the parts that he could not successfully reassemble. (These pieces have been completely replaced through the efforts of Mr. H. H. Clark, of Denver, and the writer, and the rifle is now in excellent shooting order.)

In a number of respects this Abendshen rifle resembles other rifles produced at Pittsburgh during the 50's and 60's by the Enterprise Gun Works, operated by Bown and Tetley and later by James Bown and Sons. The stock is walnut with checkered grip and tin-tipped fore-end. The octagonal barrel is 33" x 1 1/16", is cut for a starter and is approximately .35 calibre. The bore, which incidently is only very slightly pitted, is rifled with a gain twist and significant taper and choke. It is cut with six shallow grooves that are slightly narrower than the width of the lands. The butt plate, thimbles and trigger guard are iron. The rifle has double set triggers. It weighs slightly less than 11 pounds.

Most interesting is the breech block: this is very well forged and includes a fence of rather elaborate design, but also is equipped with a *vent,* consisting of a removable plug that appears to contain a platinum aperture. In addition to "J. Abendshen" and "Pittsburgh" the barrel is stamped "Cast Steel". The lock is ornamented with a pheasant but has no identifying marks. The sighting equipment may have included a removable peep sight because two holes are drilled near the breech and the rear hole is tapped. As received, however, the rifle had a German-silver blade front sight and a notched rear sight, adjustable for elevation. For target shooting a newly made peep sight has been attached utilizing the two holes just mentioned.

Abendshen did not attempt to dress up this rifle as the only decorative addition is a small coin silver plate on the left side of the stock opposite the lockplate. No patch box was provided as was frequently true of the rifles made by Sam Hawken, of St. Louis. Possibly Abendshen felt that a rifle incorporating superior workmanship and materials required little, if any, ornamentation. To be sure, some of his products may have been more ornate; they may have been made to conform to the tastes of individual purchasers.

Possibly some of the *Muzzle Blasts* readers can furnish additional information about Abendshen or his rifles. Are there any such rifles stamped with an address other than Pittsburgh?



Here it is: "The Monster at the Shoot". (See "On the Target")

Curly maple full stock, barrel 34"x1", .46 cal., large fancy patch box, large silver star inlay at cheek rest, 6 silver inlays on forearm, d. s. triggers, low open sights, slight work done on hammer but OK, bore rough but shoots well, this rifle converted from flinter, no name on rifle, $20.00.

Colt C&B .36 cal., 7½" bbl., no finish but very clean in, a little rough but shoots very accurately or return at my expense. With mould and box. No. 9 caps, $22.50. Walnut, plain halfstock; .35 calibre bbl., 30"x⅞". D. s. triggers, home made peep sights for windage and elevation. Bbl. silver-welded to lug. Cannot be unscrewed, but bore looks clean and shoots OK, hammer little chipped, box No. 13 caps, balls. Made by Wm. Wingert, Detroit, $10.00.

Walnut, full stock, rifled musket, bbl. 42", in excellent condition in and out, made by Remington in 1858, with 3 boxes fresh caps, $18.50.

Gibson Mandolin, style A-2, in excellent condition, with case, pre-war cost price $85.00. Sell $50.00—or will trade for 8-10-12 power target scope in Fecker, Lyman or Unertl with 1⅛" or 1½"; ¼" minute click with mounts, or .38 special Colt or Smith & Wesson 6" or 6½" bbl., targets sights, in same condition and even trade.

SPECIAL—Have compass and match case; liquid compass and waterproof match case. Compass has fine jewel bearing dial card "Dampened" for easy reading, top arrow radium for night use, flint sparking bar on side of case, made of break resistant plastic. It floats, 3" high, 1" diameter. Carried by all crew members of B-29 superforts. Shipped prepaid, $2.50.

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A Man's Christmas Gift

Most any man is interested in guns and no better Christmas remembrance can be given than a subscription to *Muzzle Blasts* and a membership in the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association. By so doing you may start a friend along the road to pleasure and recreation and revive in him the spirit of his forefathers who used the muzzle loading gun in their daily lives. In this issue of *Muzzle Blasts* we give you a subscription order. Fill it out with the name of a friend whom you think would be interested in receiving for twelve months or more *Muzzle Blasts*, a magazine devoted to muzzle guns. The publication office will mail an attractive Christmas greeting from you written in the following manner:

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

You will receive "Muzzle Blasts", the magazine of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, and membership in the Association as a Christmas remembrance to you from

.....

"Muzzle Blasts" is the only magazine in America devoted to the perpetuation of the use of the muzzle loading gun for sport and pleasure and for the preservation of the muzzle gun's historic importance in the building of our nation. May you enjoy its stories of Pioneer Life, Gunsmithing and authentic Muzzle Gun Lore.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Windage and Elevation

HAS to be a short session this month, account of the big list of more important matter. Short and sweet!

* * *

VERY busy little force at Headquarters . . . planning some important moves and preparing for the upsurge in interest we sense is sure to come . . . in fact, it is upon us right now.

* * *

TURKEY shoots are more in evidence than for several years past. We staged one at The Walter Cline Range on November 17th and 18th . . . . even our printer won a Bird! Two girls from the office "came close". Indiana took a lot of meat away, but Don Schuermann of Cincinnati was tops with three. Had a visitor and shooter from Texas on hand—Brand of Wichita Falls. Sleeping in the club house with no stoves—well, not too bad! The Lutheran ladies furnished hot soup—such chicken zoop!—and sandwiches and pie and coffee to the hungry competitors. Some rain; plenty of weather fit for shooting, however.

* * *

KANSAS CITY had an annual shoot, so reports Dr. Tom Hall. Bill Herrmann, 80 years young, won in the event where the eye of a turkey (on paper) was the target . . . Bill's still in the fun and going strong. Brown and Gray came over from Clinton, Missouri. Over 40 entries in both events. On the X-match Walt Murphy won. Harold Posson lost out on each event by 1/32 inch!

* * *

ONE club—DANIEL BOONE of Portsmouth, Ohio—got all set and had their guns loaded for the matches—no turkeys! Just don't grow on trees in Southern Ohio hills. All contacts failed to get the birds delivered . . . . so that group shot for small change and such. But they had fun!

* * *

SERVICE MEN and ex-service men are getting on our roster; many are getting reinstated after a lapse of a year or two. We welcome that group—they shot it out with the enemy, now let them shoot it out with their buddies and know that firearms can be FUN!

* * *

BLACK POWDER for west coast states may now be had from a mill in central California. Good news to the boys who have had the long haul rate to pay from the East.

* * *

NO LEAD is yet available . . . frozen by Government order. We all sincerely hope for an early thaw in this item.

* * *

RIFLED MUSKETS are having a grand play . . . anyone with a piece that is not pitted and rusted should consider trying with both round ball and Minie for accuracy. You don't achieve success in one session . . . days and days are needed to tame one of these oldtimers. If you have two or more makes, note if the bores are exactly of the same diameter. Mostly they are NOT.

* * *

EFFORTS toward getting a goodly supply of barrels—ready reamed and rifled—are under way. In fact, several efforts are concurrently under way to give relief in

(Continued on page 12)

GUN BOOKS of LASTING MERIT

FIREARMS OF THE CONFEDERACY
Claude E. Fuller and Richard D. Steuart
First Confederate arms history, written by America's two foremost authorities on the subject; destined to be a standard reference for generations to come. Well illustrated. **$12.50**

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Memories of fifty years afield with a scatter gun. Introduction by Nash Buckingham. Exquisitely illustrated. Fifteen thrilling stories. A volume you and your posterity will treasure. **$7.50**

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This is a rather belated letter to tell you how much we pilgrims enjoyed going to the Shoot.

None of our family had ever been west of the Pennsylvania border into Ohio, so Ma and I didn't know what to expect from the flat land mid-westerners. We were pleasantly surprised on all counts. The flat rolling lands were a pleasant relief from the ups and downs and arounds of our roads and topography. In fact, purty as are the mountains, I could do without them for quite a few years. Your rich farms and fine livestock struck a responsive note in our Pennsylvania Dutch souls The ultra-splendid food and the amazingly low price of it (compared in general with western Pennsylvania and the East) was welcome indeed to our stomachs and pocketbooks. And, finally, the people seemed nice, although we didn't contact many and, in all fairness to our own Pennsylvania, the degree of geniality was about the same as at home.

All in all, though, my Pennsylvania Dutch ancestors and relatives, to my knowledge never moved outside of Pennsylvania, I would gladly take Horace Greeley's advice and go west one state.

Bob Whiteman.

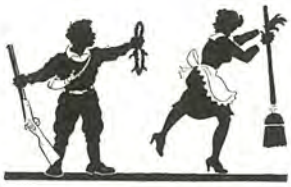
P. S. By the way, whose shooting bench was that which was made like a prehistoric monster or something? If you don't put a picture of that in *Muzzle Blasts* you're slipping.

You mention as a needed improvement, gravel roads. Perhaps next spring I can contribute a little toward that end, having gotten beautifully stuck in the mud for a couple hours and needing the aid of Baxter, Hollenbaugh and others to get me out. This experience is a good incentive toward action on my part. What?

=X=

I was very glad to hear of the success that was realized in 1945 Muzzle Loading matches at Friendship. Two of our Association members were present: Mr. Gaynor Nash, Kalamazoo, and Mr. Louis Haddock, Battle Creek. They gave us a very good insight in the management and fun that was had in the three day shoot. We, the Southern Michigan Firearms Association, 44 members strong at this time, wish you a greater success in 1946 and fully intend to send several more of our shooters your way at that time.

Robert E. TenEyck,
Southern Michigan
Firearms Association.



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ANNOUNCING . . .

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By STELLE & HARRISON

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A 396 page book of detailed instruction for gunsmiths, mainly relating to the methods employed in the making, stocking and repairing of muzzle loading firearms, both flint and cap lock. Replete with drawings of the special tools necessary to carry out the work of boring, rifling, restocking, blueing, finishing, replacement of nipples and tubes, making and positioning gun hammers, making of gun screws—in fact, everything needed by the early gunsmiths, plus instruction for the making of the tools to do the job with. Considerable data is included regarding the early American breech loaders, with instructions for dismounting and assembly.

Here is a book which every muzzle loading fan should have, as it was the Shooter's Bible back in the heyday of the muzzle loader.

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25 other books of same nature, better send for catalog.

THOMAS G. SAMWORTH
Plantersville, S. C.

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THOMAS WORONIECKI, Dealer i

GUNS BOUGHT AND SOLD — HIGHEST CASH

Dear Customer:

I was to be inducted into the armed forces on June 13th. I closed down my New York store on June 8th. On June 11th I received a deferment. My store has been rented to another person for three years, so I will have to conduct my business at the above address until December 20th. After that date my address will be Montauk Highway, Bellport, Long Island, New York. I bought an old historical colonial house, known as the Osborn Homestead, situated on ten acres in the heart of the town. My next illustrated catalogue will be issued at this address, price 50c a copy. Mail your remittance now before the 20th of December to the Roslyn address. After this date, use Bellport address. No free copies will be sent. These catalogues are prepared at great expense to myself as they are full of fine illustrations and photographs. The 50c charge simply covers the cost of printing and illustrating. I make no money on the sale of these catalogues.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Woroniecki.

TERMS OF SALE—Cash with order, no C. O. D. orders accepted. Buyer pays all shipping charges. Goods may be returned within 5 days if not satisfactory. No firearms, swords or dangerous weapons will be sold to any person under 18 years of age. State your age when ordering. All orders shipped 5 days after receipt. A 5% discount on orders of $50.00 or over.

PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS

1—T. Ketland and Co., London. Brass barrel flintlock officers pistol, 14" long, excellent condition. $49.50

2—T. Ketland and Co., London. Brass barrel flintlock officers pistol, 14" long, excellent condition. $49.50

3—Sharpe, Tower, London. Brass octagonal barrel flintlock pistol, hammer jaw missing. Lock needs adjustment. Chipped stock near lock. Very good otherwise. 15" long. $22.50

4—Caucasian pearl and ivory inlaid blunderbuss flintlock pistol. Enameled silver muzzle band. Lovely striped stock. 17" long. Very beautiful. $47.50

5—Pair of French percussion holster pisrols made by Jeniet a Paris. Engraved iron mounts, deep curved checkered butts with silver nameplates, fine working order, 12" long. $59.50

6—Ketland and Co. flintlock pistol converted to percussion. Iron barrel. Brass mounts. Good condition. 14" long. $21.50

7—Austrian percussion military pistol, dated 1846. Massive style, brass mounted. Excellent condition. 16" long. $22.50

8—French military percussion pistol. Massive size. Plate marked "Mutzig, Circa 1840". Brass mounted. Good condition. $23.50

9—B & S, New York. Octagonal barrel percussion target pistol. Steel frame, inside lock, side hammer, birdshead grip. 95% original blue, .44 cal. rifled barrel. Excellent condition. 11" long. $29.50

10—Another, no maker's name, no original finish. Part octagonal, part round barrel, .36 cal., polished bright. 9" long. $19.95

11—N. P. Ames navy box lock percussion pistol, sliver missing from stock. Nice clean condition. Has seen much service. 12" long. $32.50

12—Palmetto Armory, Columbia, S. C. 1852 U. S. Martial pistol, lock plate slightly pitted and nicked, stock has small crack near side plate. Needs new nipple, polished bright, very good condition, rare gun. 14" long. $49.50

13—U. S., H. Aston percussion martial pistol, fine bright condition, brass mounted, excellent thruout. 14" long. $29.50

14—U. S., H. Aston percussion martial pistol, polished bright, good condition thruout. 14" long. $29.50

15—U. S., H. Aston percussion pistol, needs ramrod, swivel, hammer screw and cleaning. Stock needs some repair. 14" long. As is $29.50

16—U. S. R. Johnson percussion martial pistol, very good condition, bright finish. 14" long. $29.50

17—U. S., A. Waters percussion martial pistol, metal parts pitted, stock cracked but repaired. 14" long. As is $23.50

18—Colt .44 cal., 6-shot Dragoon percussion revolver. Square back trigger guard. Round cylinder stops, polished bright condition, matching numbers, 13½" long, good condition. $99.50

19—Colt Army 1861 percussion revolver, fine polished condition, good shooting order. 6" barrel. $29.50

20—Colt belt model percussion revolver, 4" barrel, no original finish, nice clean condition. $22.50

21—Colt 1862 officers model percussion revolver, 5-shot, .36 cal., fluted cylinder, 6½" barrel. Barrel has 2" split at rear but has been carefully pressed together so that it is hardly noticeable. Excellent for collection or parts. Very good condition otherwise. $23.50

22—Colt, London, .36 cal. Navy revolver, all original finish, 6-shot, iron trigger guard and backstrap, very good condition. $32.50

23—Cooper 5-shot, .31 cal. double action percussion revolver, 90% original blue finish, very good condition thruout. 5" bbl. Very good shooting order. $35.00

24—Remington .44 cal. percussion Army revolver, 65% original blued finish, 7½" barrel, very good bore, lovely burled walnut grips, nice shooter. $34.50

25—Another, with no original finish, nice clean condition, good bore, good shooter. $27.50

26—Savage Navy revolver, 6-shot, .36 cal., no original finish, nice clean condition, excellent working order, 7" barrel. $27.50

27—Manhattan Firearms Co. 5-shot, .31 cal. presentation engraved percussion revolver, ivory grips, one side damaged but repaired, 4" bbl, nice condition. $29.50

28—Confederate percussion revolver, imported from England, known as "Made by Leaird", who made these pistols for use by the Confederates. Engraved German silver frame, bar hammer, no loading lever, rare gun. $34.50

29—Very fine Deprez Brevete, single action, 6-shot, .36 cal. percussion revolver, fine checkered and carved butt, engraved frame and cylinder, 80% original blued finish, 6" octagonal barrel. $27.50

30—French pinfire revolver, 7mm. Needs slight adjustment, nice decorator. $8.75

31—Wolseley 1918 British flare pistol with blunderbuss type barrel, brass frame and barrel, 10" long. $19.95

32—Webley and Scott British No. 2 mark 1, flare pistol, snub-nose, double action, shoots 1½" diameter shell, 8½" long, fine condition. $27.50

33—German flare pistol, massive gun, 14" long, good condition. $12.50

FLINTLOCK, PERCUSSION, CARTRIDGE AND BOLT ACTION RIFLES

34—Nathan Starr model 1817 flintlock martial rifle, oval iron patch box, lock dated 1844, hammer jaw and screw missing. Very good condition otherwise. Very rare flintlock rifle. $44.50

35—Lazarino Comminazo Sardinian Miquelet lock flint musket, graceful shovel type butts, very fine pierced iron work mountings and iron pieces which decorate the stock and barrel, 52½" long, circa 1700, very fine European workmanship. $75.00

36—Another, only made by F. B. Moretti. Gun is more completely covered with fine pierced metal decoration, 51½" long. $75.00

37—Another, unknown maker, very fine workmanship which is almost as good if not better than the above two. 53½" long. $70.00

38—Springfield model 1841 percussion musket, dated 1850, complete with bayonet; gun is highly polished and in beautiful condition. $37.50

39—Harpers Ferry 1821 model musket converted to percussion, very fine refinished condition, polished bright, perfect thruout, complete with bayonet, unusual alteration which is initialed H & P, beautiful. $37.50

40—Confederate C.S.A. Fayetteville percussion musket dated 1864, 3 bands—one missing, good condition for Confederate musket, rare Civil War gun..... $35.00

41—C. S., Richmond, Va. 1864 percussion musket, very good condition, rear sight and ramrod missing, brass butt plate, 3 bands. Nice Confederate piece. $35.00

42—Remington double rifle, .36 cal. Back action locks, Kentucky style, side-by-side barrels, 30" barrels, 16 lbs., stock cracked and repaired in front of trigger guard. Nice gun in good working order. $39.50

43—Very nice double barrel 12-gauge shotgun, checkered grip, cheekpiece, probable good shooting order. $9.95

44—Union or Cosmopolitan Civil War breech loading percussion carbine, very good condition. $12.50

45—J. H. Merril breech loading percussion carbine, brass mounted, complete with brass patch box, rare gun, complete and working. $19.50

46—Ballard .44 cal. rimfire breech loading carbine, firing pin needs repair, no original finish. Complete otherwise, rare. $16.50

47—Burnside Civil War carbine, no original finish, very good specimen..... $12.50

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48—Sharp-Borchart .45-70 breech loading rifle, 50% original blued condition, good barrel, rare item these days. $34.50

49—.45-70 Springfield model 1873 rifle, almost new condition in and out, complete with sling. $18.50

50—Another, slightly better condition. $19.50

51—.45-70 Springfield 1873 model with rare triangular ramrod bayonet. Complete with sling. Gun is like new in and out. Very rare, especially in this condition. $34.50

52—.45-70 Springfield rifle model 1884 with round rod ramrod bayonet, like new condition in and out. Complete with sling. $19.95

53—Italian Vetterli magazine rifle, bolt action .41 cal. center fire, nice blued condition. Very good thruout. $14.95

54—Swiss Vetterli bolt action tubular magazine, military rifle, nice blued condition, very good thruout, .41 cal. R. F. $17.50

55—Another, slightly different model, nice blued condition, good shooting order. $14.95

56—British Lee Metford, .303 cal. Army rifle, model 1896. L. E. I., very good condition, lots of original blue. This model is equipped with safety device. Also has high elevation sight, complete with knife bayonet. $49.50

57—German Mauser 1888 model bolt action military rifle, 8mm, air cooled barrel, bolt head missing, nice condition. $22.50

58—German Mauser 1898 model, 8mm. Good condition, in shooting order. $29.95

59—German Mauser model 98, receiver marked "duv. '41", latest Nazi rifle. In and out condition excellent. $55.00

60—Another, Nazi Mauser 1941 receiver marked "A. G. Oberndorf", excellent in and out, complete with knife bayonet, scabbard and frog. $62.50

61—Another, receiver marked "L. R. '42". Excellent in and out, stock has been shortened and refinished poorly, good for action and barrel only. $39.50

62—Spanish 762mm bolt action Army rifle complete with knife bayonet and scabbard. Good condition in and out. Bargain. $29.50

63—Italian Carcano bolt action military rifle, cal. 6.5, rare World War I rifle. Very good condition. $32.50

64—Serbian Mauser bolt action magazine rifle, cal. 7mm. Made at Steyr, 1914. Extremely rare World War I rifle. Very good, complete condition. $39.50

65—Russian Mouzin bolt action military rifle, made in Russia. This model comes complete with sling swivels attached. Good in and out. $37.50

66—U. S. Enfield rifle model 1917, cal. .30-06. Very good in and out, complete with sling. Serial No. 77849. Made by Remington. $44.50

67—U. S. Springfield model 1903, .22 cal. Army rifle, uses sub-calibre chambers shooting .22 shorts. Serial No. 586341, complete with two chambers, very good in and out. $57.50

68—Ross model 1905 straight pull bolt action rifle. .303 cal. Stock cut down and refinished to sporters size, complete with sling swivels. Nice clean gun. $19.95

69—Spanish Mauser rifle cut down to sporters size, 24" barrel, no sights, needs new stock, good otherwise. $18.95

70—German Mauser model '98, 8mm, remodeled into Mannlicher style, 18" barrel, front sight is loose. $19.95

71—Hopkins & Allen 12-gauge single barrel shotgun, needs slight repair, 30" barrel. $4.95

MODEL CANNON

72—W.R.A. & Co. 10-gauge saluting cannon, cast iron mounted on carriage with 2 wheels, 18" long, fine condition. $19.95

73—Tiny brass saluting cannon, shoots a 410 shotgun shell, cast iron frame and wheels. Made by Strong Firearms Co., New Haven, Conn. 8" long. $14.50

74—Civil War percussion model cannon, cast iron gun carriage and wheels, 10½" long. ..... (Price on request)

75—Philippine lantanka model cast brass cannon, only no carriage. 13" long, rare. $9.95

RELIC MACHINE GUNS AND ACCESSORIES

76—Vickars .30 cal. aircraft machine gun on heavy brass tripod. Complete with sights, ammunition box, ammunition belt and water can. Fine blued condition. Inoperative. A beautiful gun. $175.00

77—Vicars 11mm cal. aircraft machine gun with synchronizer attachments to shoot through propeller. Fine blued condition. Inoperative. $64.50

78—Vicars 11mm aircraft machine gun. Fine blued condition. Inoperative. $64.50

79—U. S. Marlin aircraft high speed model machine gun, cal. .30-06. Inoperative. $49.50

80—U. S. Colt Browning air-cooled machine gun mounted on heavy brass tripod with wooden seat complete with machine gun box and cartridge belt. Gun is in new condition but inoperative. Beautiful gun. $149.00

81—French chu-chu light machine gun, 8mm cal. Complete with bipod, nice clean gun, inoperative. $47.50

82—Vicars machine gun belt box, heavy wood for .30 cal. cartridges. $2.95

83—Vicars machine gun tool box, wood. $3.95

84—Colt Marlin ctg. belt box. $2.95

85—Benet-Mercie French machine gun strip box, heavy wood. $4.95

86—Lewis box for carrying four 27-shot machine gun drums. $4.95

87—Lewis machine gun mount, brass. $7.50

88—Double Lewis machine gun mount for two guns. $12.50

89—27-shot .30 cal. Lewis machine gun drum. $6.50

90—47-shot Lewis machine gun drum. $9.95

91—Hotchkiss 8mm French metal cartridge strip. $4.50

92—Benet-Mercie .30 cal. U. S. metal cartridge strip. $4.50

93—Browning automatic rifleman's wide webbed belt with two double clip pouches and metal butt receiver for firing from hip. Rare. $9.95

94—Lewis machine gun, fired hot shell catcher attachment for aircraft machine gun. $12.50

95—.30 cal. U. S. machine gun cartridge belt loader. $14.95

96—.22 cal. machine gun belt. $2.00

97—Browning .30 cal. machine gun $2.50

98—Vicars machine gun belts, .30 cal. belts. $2.50

99—Vicars machine gun barrel, .30 cal. poor condition. $2.00

100—.30 cal. U. S. machine gun links. 15c

101—11mm machine gun links. 15c

BOMBS, PROJECTILES, ETC.

102—100 pounder Water bomb. Aircraft. Weight about 6 lbs. 40" long. $8.00

103—1917 model aircraft bomb. 36" long. Brown and black. $7.50

104—Another, 28" long. Grey. $7.50

105—Another, heavy steel case with propeller nose. 28" long. Brown. $7.50

106—Aerial Practice Smoke Bomb. 8" long. Four fins. $2.75

107—Stokes mortar shell. Fin back. Fuse missing. $3.00

108—155mm. Projectile, only $2.00

109—75mm. Shell and Case. $3.50

110—75mm. Projectile, only $1.50

111—75mm. Fuse. $1.00

112—Another, unfinished. $1.00

113—75mm. Shrapnel shell, cut away to show all internal parts. Very fine. $6.50

114—75mm. Shell case only. $2.00

115—Pair of 75mm. shell cases with the ends crushed to make decorative vases. Nice. $2.75

116—37mm. Shell and Case, with rose design hand stamped on the case. $2.00

117—Same, only as issued. $2.00

118—Same, but projectile only. $1.00

119—37AA Gun Shell and Case. Type 2, Mod. E.3 12½". $3.75

120—40mm. Shell and Case. Drawn steel. MK 3. 17½" $5.00

121—Nazi box for carrying three mortar shells. $4.50

122—Buzz Bomb Fragment. $1.00

123—Bomb fuse cotter pin, ring, tag and wire. 50c

124—Same, only ring and tag. 35c

125—Empty box. Primer det. .01 Sec. delay. 1x2". 50c

126—Jap Hotchkiss machine gun clip, with five empty shells and paper box. 5x17". Very rare. $5.00

127—Jap M. G. Links. 12.7mm. 25c

128—Same, only 7.7mm. 25c

129—Set of 4 U.S. .50 cal. M. G. links. All different. 50c

130—10" section of .30 cal. metal link machine gun belt with empty cases. $2.00

130b—Section of U.S.M.G. belt with 5 cartridges, odd web belt. 50c

130c—Same, only 9 ctrg. section. 95c

131—.50 cal. M.G. belt with 50 empty cases. $5.00

132—.50 cal. M.G. cartridge, 3 types, armor piercing, tracer and straight ball. Each 65c

Lever Action Flintlocks

(Continued from page 5)

operated in a half arc and the forward stroke loaded the gun.

If you would be amazed, consider that this is one of the earliest of true flintlocks as well as being a repeating gun.

The pistol is a Mortimer and may have been made for Lord Nelson of the British Navy. He had a hook for a hand and this may have been a brilliant thot by Mortimer. The piece operates similar to the Italian, except that the lever cocks the gun fully on the reverse stroke. It loads like the other on the forward sweep of the lever. By examining the small photo carefully you can see the magazine for the priming powder. The gate to it is spring-held, open or closed. It is shown open. The larger picture of the pistol shows the place for the balls and the powder. This gun is seven-shot.

Each gun had the right size hole so a ball too large for the action could not be entered.

Each gun is in operating condition, has not one replacement so far as can be told and easy is 100 percent original. No rebuilding or conversion work.

And the name of these guns is not Cookson any more than any auto can be called a Ford. It seems that one of the first publicized guns of this type was guessed to be a Cookson and likely it was. So collectors followed one another like sheep and call this type Cookson. The Cookson came at least one hundred years after the Italian piece shown.

The Mortimer is of around 1800. I know of two similar pistols in the collection of a friend in the United States. I know of two more Mortimers in an English friend's collection. And I saw a Mortimer exactly like mine but smaller and with Lord Nelson's seal or crest on the grip in the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

Now, one of the most frequent questions is going to be: What makes 'em work? Simple. The lever worked a tapered cylinder (O. K., truncated cone, then). The taper was to take up play and prevent flashback. In the Italian piece were undercuts on each end for greased tow, I figured, which helped to gas-seal and to lubricate. Now as the lever is worked backward it cocks the gun in the Mortimer and does nothing in the Italian. But when it comes to rest, if the guns are pointed down, gravity feeds a bullet into one hole and powder into another lower down in the cylinder. This ball is dropped into the breech when lever is moved forward and right behind it comes the powder charge in the other hole, which stays in the cylinder. Being connected with the flash hole, it is fired right in the cylinder. While the loading is going on a cut in a reduced elongation of the cylinder picks up the priming charge and when the main charge is in the advanced or loaded position the priming charge is under the pan cover. Very simple if you know how the usual powder measure works. This operates quite similarly. In fact, a powder measure could have been well copied from one of these guns, but I will not so state, as these guns are so rare the measure-making lads likely have never seen one. But it still proves that in guns there is nothing new.

Some day we may really jar you with another flint action.

WINDAGE AND ELEVATION

(Continued from page 8)

this angle. Locks for flinters are slowly developing right here in Ohio. Nipples, drums and ramrods can be had—but the supply is spotty and at times uncertain. We still claim that stock-makers are the great and crying need for this movement. HELP!

* * *

APPRECIATION is the word when we look at the fine lot of material the members and customers send in for publication. Too much at times, but we hope no one lets up in his offerings, as we hope to find space for all good stuff in time. Thanks!

* * *

WITH the New Year we will be presenting some plans to put us a bit further toward our goal in better service and a more informative publication. Keep an ear tuned in for the announcement.

* * *

GOOD hunting with the muzzle loaders is reported. Who wants a pump or automatic when a good old double percussion —or flinter—is available? You don't know real fun until you pick 'em off with a piece that puts the handicap on you and gives the game better than a 50-50 break. Try it!

* * *

WASHINGTON, North Carolina, is organizing to get training and fun with the guns that were so deadly at King's Mountain and elsewhere among the Atlantic Coast colonies something like 170 years ago. We get this fine item of news from Lee A. Wallace, Jr. Success!

* * *

WE HEAR Harry Pope is still able to get out and take walks, but has not done any work in a long time. Had a birthday August 15th. The data was sent in by member Lebo, one who frequently visits Harry in his home.

HAMMERLESS flint lock . . . yes, but Mandy fired it by touching a live coal to the pan while pappy held on his game. Authentic? We think so . . . anyhow, told us by a most reputable gentleman!

* * *

A WHEEL-LOCK with a front aperture—that's definitely known. And a cross bow with an adjustable front—it's a fact. Maybe the 1945 crop of sharpers ain't so sharp after all.

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Springfield .58 Rifle Barrel, new, $7.50
Carbine (20"), .44-40 bbls., fine, $5.00
Double set triggers, used, good con., $2.75
Powder Horns, genuine, old, good, $2-$4
Percussion Locks, left hand, new, $2.50
Shotgun Locks, matched pairs, used, $4.00

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Santa Ana, California

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Of interest to any gun bug.

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MARTIN B. RETTING
MB SHOKAN, NEW YORK



The office work in conducting the affairs of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and MUZZLE BLASTS *increases from month to month. These young ladies look after the many details of the operations at the home office. Left to right: Norma Walton, assistant to Mr. Farris; Norma Mougey, advertising department; Juanita Steed, treasurer of the Association and Mary Ellen Addington, secretary to Mr. Farris.*

Notes on Shotgun Selection *Part II*

by MARKSMAN (1860)

Submitted by Sgt. V. P. Becker

THE LOCKS are also a most important consideration in the choice of a gun. A gun with shoddy material and workmanship in the locks denotes without fail that it is of poor quality.

A gun of larger calibre than is ordinarily used may, truly, be more effective in the hands of a sportsman by reason of its carrying a heavier charge; but it is unsportsmanlike to use such a gun for partridge or pheasant shooting; though for grouse, black game, wild fowl and birds of large size and extra strength and plumage, it's the legitimate weapon.

There is no doubt but weighty guns of large calibre have a conisderable advantage over light ones of small gauge; but he who uses a large gun capable of throwing a large charge of shot, must be prepared to carry, without murmuring, the additional weight of metal which of necessity exists in the larger gun; he must also carry more ammunition (10-gauge or larger).

For partridge shooting the gun should not be of larger gauge than No. 13, nor smaller than No. 16. As much execution may be done with a No. 14 as with a No. 13; the difference in the shooting being so trivial as to be imperceptible; but two sizes larger or smaller, the extra strength of one prevails over the other.

For grouse and black game shooting, the gun should be from No. 10 to No. 13 calibre, using the smaller size at the beginning of the season and the larger as soon as the birds become strong on the wing and wary.

All sportsmen should prove their guns. This is simply done by firing carefully weighed charges of powder and shot at sheets of heavy paper, at various measured ranges with different charges and different shot, until the most effective range is discovered, together with the most suitable charges of powder and shot. Notes should be carefully made in writing at each discharge, by carefully examining the paper, not only as to the number of pellets which struck the paper within a previously scribed circle (30"), but also as to the penetration. (It is recommended that the paper be pinned or otherwise fastened to heavy pasteboard.)

Experiments of this kind judiciously made and cautiously noted will be found of great assistance to the sportsman as to the strength and capacity of his gun; and well worth the expense of powder, shot, paper and the few hours of time required. The sportsman will be amply repaid by extra birds which otherwise might be missed or crippled.



Ed. Note: The next excerpt from this old record will be concerned with the dismounting and cleaning of gun locks. Look for it!

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Special Interest to Beginners in Collecting.

List Now Ready—Price 10 Cents.

DR. M. B. DE JARNETTE

Nebraska City, Nebraska

Restoring and Refinishing M/L Guns for Fun

(Continued from page 3)

job can be obtained with a tool mark from an old hacksaw blade as shown.

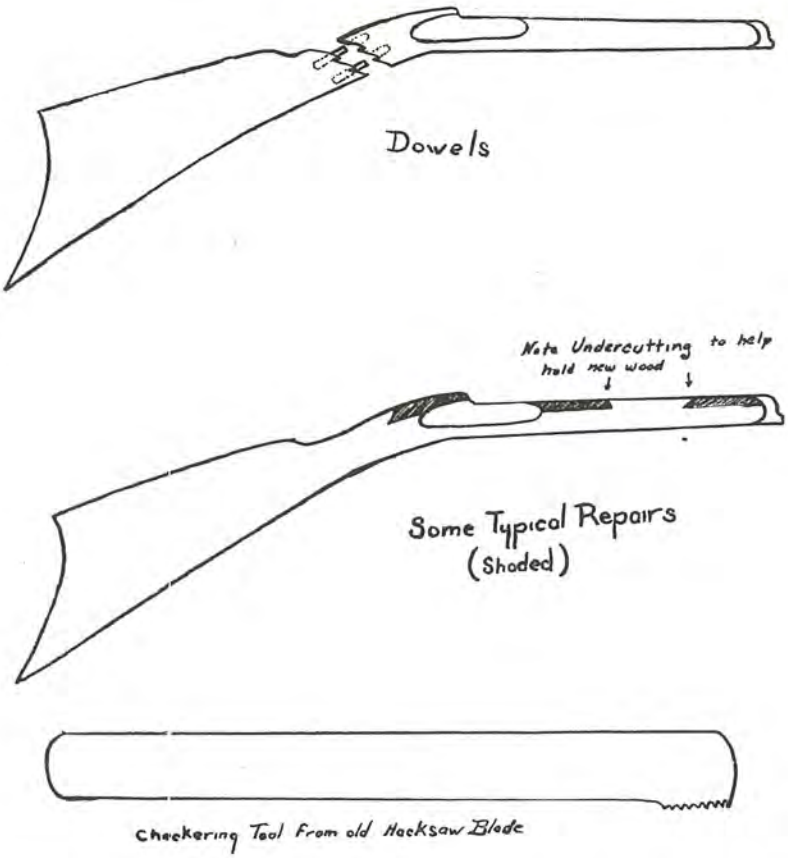
Finally, go over the stock with Wet-or-Dry paper in grits 280, 400 and 500 in that order. The stock is now quite smooth, but to insure its staying that way when the finish is applied, the grain should be raised and sanded down. To do this, wet the stock thoroughly with hot water Then hold it above a gas burner, electric heater or other source of controlled heat, moving it about constantly to prevent scorching. When dry, sand down the raised grain with No. 500 Wet-or-Dry paper, used dry. Repeat this five or six times and wipe off all dust. The stock is now ready for the finish.

Finishing the Stock

There are many types and combinations of finishes from which to choose. Some prefer the natural color of the wood, while others prefer to have it stained to suit their tastes. The stock can then be finished with varnish, shellac, shellac and wax, wax alone or raw linseed oil. In the author's opinion, walnut stocks should be oiled, while maple stocks should be stained a reddish brown and finished with shellac and wax. An open grain wood such as walnut should be filled with a paste wood filler before applying varnish or shellac, but is left unfilled when applying an oil finish. Maple does not require filling. To do this, apply the filler, allow it to dry as per manufacturer's directions and wipe off across the grain with rags. The stock should be allowed to stand for at least 24 hours.

If a varnish or shellac finish is to be applied, give it 3 or 4 coats, carefully sanding between coats with No. 500 Wet-or-Dry, used wet, or rub down with pumice stone and water. The final coat can be rubbed with rottenstone and rubbing oil. Great care must be exercised in applying the varnish or shellac to prevent runs. Should any occur, they can be rubbed down with No. 0000 steel wool. The sanding or rubbing should be done with care also, to prevent cutting through the finish.

If a stain is desired a good grade of oil stain should be used. Apply, let stand 5 minutes and wipe off with a rag. If too dark it can be lightened somewhat by wiping off with a rag moistened with turpentine. If too light, apply a second coat and allow to dry 10 or 15 minutes before wiping off. Select a stain which will give a color you like. Walnut or dark mahogany give a good color to maple stocks and bring out the stripes very nicely. If you plan to shellac and wax, give the stock 1 or 2 coats of shellac diluted with an equal volume of alcohol, taking care to prevent runs. Then rub carefully and lightly with No. 0000 steel wool and finally 2 or 3 coats of good grade of paste wax or, preferably, automobile wax. Allow every coat to dry for about an hour before polishing with a soft flannel rag.



An oil finish is perhaps the finest and certainly the only finish for fine, walnut stocks. It gives a penetrating protective finish, is dull and not as likely to show scratches as the varnish or shellac finishes. The wood need not be filled, although maple stocks are usually stained first. Warm the stock slightly and apply warm raw linseed oil diluted with about 1/3 its volume of turpentine. Rub in well with the palm of the hand and continue applying until no more will be absorbed. Allow to stand for a few hours and repeat. Then apply undiluted linseed oil about once a day, rubbing it in while applying it, allow to stand overnight, rub again until smooth and repeat. After several applications this can be repeated once or twice a week until you either get tired or a satisfactory finish is obtained.

To assist in obtaining a quicker surface build-up and a lighter colored finish, the stock can first be sprayed or brushed with very dilute shellac, rubbed lightly with No. 0000 steel wool and oiled with undiluted linseed oil. This, for obvious reasons, does not give as protective a finish as that using all oil.

The stock is now finished. Next month I will discuss the restoring and refinishing of the hardware.

(To be continued)

OBITUARY

DR. J. M. RUCKMAN, LaRue, Ohio, is gone. One of those enthusiastic and genial souls that was looked for at all Ohio and Indiana matches and who always tried, even if he won but seldom. His love for shooting far exceeded his desire to win . . . a gentleman and a sportsman.

His passing occurred on October 25th at his home; a heart attack. His shooting buddy, J. W. Campbell, has sent us newspaper clippings that prove the community feels the loss deeply, both because he was a valuable citizen and on account of his services as a physician. For a few years he had carried a heavy load as one of the few doctors in his section.

"Doc" Ruckman will be missed.

Tho Christmas comes but once a year,

Remember Bedford: ALWAYS here.

Like heck he is! South Dakota to muzzle-gun some pheasants and now heading for Duluth, Minn., to get chased by a bear and miss a deer, with the muzzle guns. But we can still drift back in to fill your Christmas orders, pals. AND WILL. Just absent-mindedly pencil opposite two or three items: "I wish my best beloved honey lambie pettie pie would break down and buy these guns from Bedford." And of course leave this page lying around where the wonderful creature can see it. Dang if she wont be that when you pull a 6 foot muzzle loader outa yer sock come Christmas morn.

Well, a flock of you lads still don't have No. 6 Hosstheef Gayzette and a large self-addressed, stamped envelope will get it if you mark it No. 6. Over 50% of the guns are still available on that list. Also get that envelope in for No. 7. Mark it No. 7.

No. 1—Apparently a 6.5mm Italian late army rifle. Practically new. Not one of the obsolete ones but a late job. Seems to be made in Cremona (likely a modern Strad!), $32.50.

No. 2—Hoffman Arms of Texas: Heavy bbl., Hiwall Winchester, double set triggers, TARGET STOCK AND FOREARM, .25-20 single shot, new condition. Two large boxes ammo. New Modern Bond bench tool. Like new 29S Weaver in B mount (no other holes in bbl.). Name engraved on bbl.—not stamped. New Pacific scales. 600 Remington rifle primers, NCNM. Two loading blocks. Take $75.00. Stock alone would likely cost around $40.00. Bbl. same. Cheap because of the sour calibre.

No. 3—Christmas Present Deluxe: Hacker Martin fullstock Kintucky flintlock pistols. Three of them. $69.50 each. Beautifullest maple and grain finished until it looks like good enuf to eat. Solid SILVER fitted and mounted. Engraved. Blued bbls. Silver inlays. Rifled. Some brass of course. About 75% silver mounted.

No. 4—Old Army Model S&W which is the nearest to new and original condition I have ever seen. 80% in, 92% out. BLACK rosewood grips. LOW number of 63; $32.50.

No. 5—Same model, busted spur (have the piece to weld back on), rough but nice action, $9.50. These were the popular S&W's of the Civil War. Both .32 rimfires.

No. 6—Similar model but very rare type: Much smaller frame, only five-shot, cylinder locks on bottom instead of usual top lock (rare feature). All of these listed are top hinge jobs. But this gun in addition is numbered on various parts No. 1. Fair only. $29.50.

No. 7—I consider this one of America's rarest pepperboxes. Looks like Allen & Thurber's regular pepperbox but is an early Allen. RIBBED BBL. But the unusual feature is a *sighting hole* thru the bar hammer, and the grip straight down instead of curved down. I owned another ten years ago. Never have seen any others. This $29.50.

No. 8—Regular Allen & Thurber pepperbox, fair, $15.00.

No. 9—Dealers, repairmen: Here is a fair S&W d.a. NAVY for the .44 Russian load, safe to shoot and keep around the house, but works only d.a. Bum grips. Otherwise ok for a home gun. $12.00.

No. 10a—Little breakopen hammer model .32 center fire S&W, nickel, fair but the tiny gadget inside that makes it function s.a. is bad, easy to fix with new part from factory. $10.00. Ok as a double action pocket book gun right now. (Send permits for guns if needed.)

No. 10b—Extremely rare BABY RUSSIAN .38 S&W. VERY RARE. This gun looks ok but needs a trip to factory as it jams on closing. $29.50.

No. 11—The FIRST WINCHESTER to bear the name, 1866 model, King's Improvement, carbine, brass frame, .44 Henry rimfire, good working order, fair to good bore and finish faded and worn. $29.50. Rare model and you can have a lot of fun with a flock of old .44's which are not so hard to get.

No. 12—Double bbl. Remington, Belgian made, rifled pistol, on the Rider rolling block action, single trigger for both hammers, only one I ever saw or heard of. About .41 calibre. Excellent in, good out, dull finish $29.50.

No. 13—Tiny .22 4-bbl. Sharps, trace of blue and silver, but has excellent action and beautiful figured molded grips with, alas, the off grip chipped, but near grip is fine. One of the best I have had for some time. $12.50.

No. 14—This 4-bbl. revolving firing pin Sharps .30 rimfire pistol was picked up in Germany from a German collector. About very good. Blue bbl., nickel frame, IVORY GRIPS. $29.50.

No. 15—Rogers & Spencer, fair out, good in, $35.00. Sorry, but they can't *all* be new, pals.

No. 16—Ketland flint pocket pistol needing repairs: bit of wood putty, hammer spring, and trifle work to finish existing hammer repair, $15.00.

No. 17—Starr Army .44 percussion revolver, about very good, double or single action by moving the lug under the hammer. $34.50. These are fine guns for shooters.

No. 18—Halfstock rifle to refresh, .39 calibre, nickel dog inlay, round, long box, medium heavy bbl., $14.50.

No. 19—Tryon, fullstock, flintlock rifle, .40. Doc says it shoots exceptionally swell, has the prettiest bore you have ever looked into, bbl. is actually 47". Long and slim. Stock repaired and could be refinished to great advantage. But it SHOOTS to win. $75.00. This sent out and never called for. I paid shipping both ways. To heck with C. O. D.'s.

No. 20—Ever hear of the famous Bullard Sporting Rifle? Ever see one? A beautiful gun, apparently a much deluxed copy of the Winchester 73, but came out too late as by then Winchester had the 1886 which was all gun. The Bullard had a bolt operated by a rack and pinion or gear. Unlike the Winchesters the Bullard hammer cocked, not by the bolt, but by itself much like a Stevens 44 model. A beautiful gun but 'twas like trying to sell a much improved Model T in the day of the V8. This rare and fine collection piece, almost new condition, $40.00.

No. 21—I get tired telling you lads about the rarest of American guns and then you buy my junk at the same prices. Now here is this Adirondack repeating sporting rifle. So rare that this is the only one I have ever seen. Most of you never saw nor heard of one. Perhaps one of America's rarest repeating sporters, about very good out, in I forget. $45.00. Worth $100.00. Will get rid of the rare stuff cheap and then sell you the common stuff which seems to go the best. Yup, I am slitely melancholy about this. You lads let the rare ones go and fall all over yerselves for the common ones. Then wonder why visiting collectors yawn. They got the same thing at home. Get what they never saw before and be something special. How'm I doing, Goodlad?

No. 22—Fine old halfstock, .42, Ky. curve, curly maple so worn it feels like a washboard. DOUBLE cheek piece. Brass sheathing at butt, 10 silver inlays, or nickel. Lots of brass, fancy, to protect wear points. Medium heavy ribbed bbl. Very good in. Double set triggers. $29.50. Real bargain. Fault: wood worn under drum.

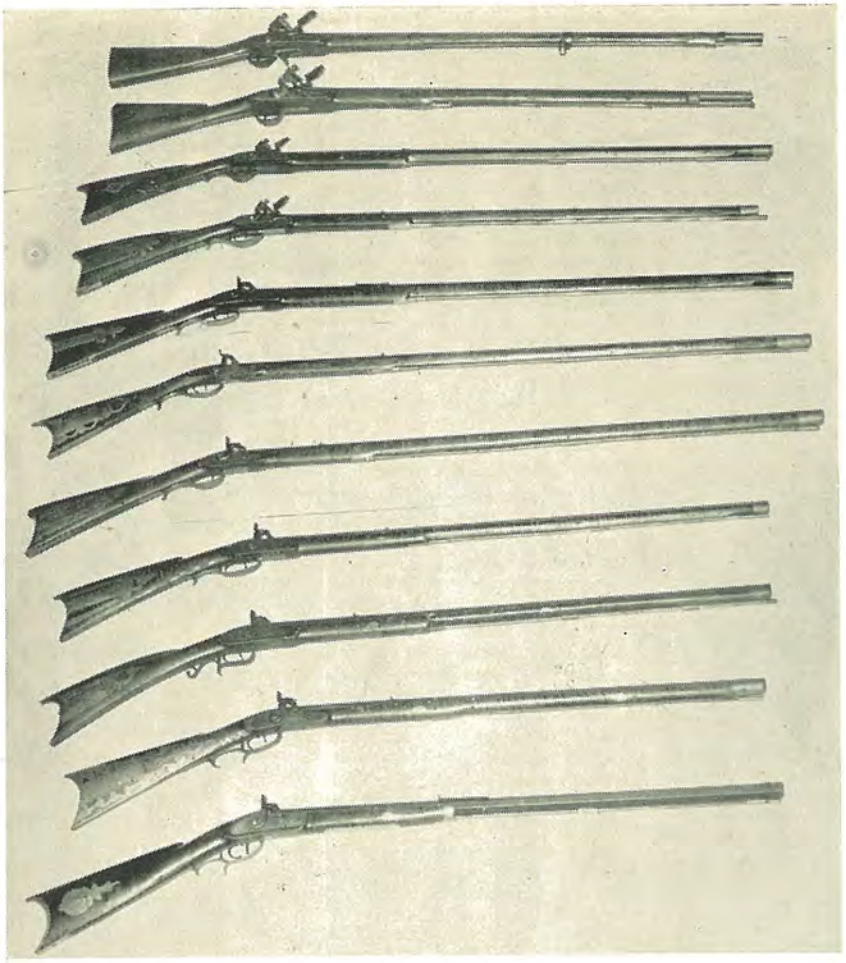
No. 23—Krag, as issued, with fair Bishop sporter stock, needs fitting (extra), and about three boxes latest ammo. I have $55.00 in this any way I try to figure it so will take that in cash or TRADE. The ammo. doesn't hurt. Ok, let's trade quickly.

No. 24—Stevens, model 49—rare and has etched frame instead of usual engraved frame—unusual, only case I know. Two bbls. One is a Pope Stevens .32-40, other regular .38-55. Excellent in. Very good out. $69.50. Don't let this'n get away.

No. 25—If you boys want a shooting m-l rifle check over back lists and also Hosstheef Gayzette. Many of them still shown. I get tired describing guns, sending lists, and then having a brother write in and ask what I got with a list just in front of him. Get last two or three copies of *Muzzle Blasts* and turn to my adds. By the time of No. 7 I then will have a fresh stock of shooting muzzle loaders.

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THANKS!



Muzzle Blasts is indebted to Jack Badgett, P. O. Box 364, Mount Airy, North Carolina, for the new head for our column "On the Target" and for the many little sketches in silhouette appearing in this issue and succeeding issues of *Muzzle Blasts.*

Artist Badgett has the thanks of *Muzzle Blasts* for his humorous and accurate drawings which lend themselves so nicely to decorate our publication. Thanks, Mr. Badgett.

Little squirrel sat in a Tree.
(Now, where else would he rightly be?)
Said, "Sell that junk to Miller B."
Proving he's Squir'ly as can be;
For my guns are tres biens JUICEE.*

*Pronounce it beans—I don't care.

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WANTED—Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio. (tf)

ILLUSTRATED 145 page catalog of antique firearms, edge weapons, 25c. ROBERT ABELS, 860 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y. (12-45P)

2000 BARGAINS, modern antique firearms, accessories, war relics, swords, knives, binoculars. Send 30c for new Catalog No. 25. JOHN SMITH, Rambler Road, Runnemede, N. J. (3-46P)

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TO ARMS COLLECTORS—We specialize in fine antique American and European arms. Send twenty-five cents in coin for our 13th edition catalog. Antique arms purchased. Fair prices paid. Also liberal commission paid for information leading to purchase of collections. KIMBALL ARMS COMPANY, Woburn, Mass. (tf)

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WANTED—"Baby" Le Mat Revolver. R. L. TAYLOR, 525 West 1st Ave., Columbus 8, Ohio. (10-45P)

FOR SALE—Fine rare Colt Dragoons; other cap and ball revolvers; also long antique guns; list 10c in stamps. E. C. WARD, Suite 406, Wilcox Bldg., Los Angeles 12, Calif. (11-45P)

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RELOADING SUPPLIES, resizing dies, wad cutters in all calibres and gauges. Made to order, $6.00. Guaranteed. Shotgun slugs, rifled and round ball, 12, 16, 20 gauge, 12c each. Felt wads, all gauges, $4.00 per 1000. Guns, ammunition, loading tools. List 10c. GEORGE BRULLESAUER, 3957 A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. (10-45P)

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WANTED—"Wm. Wingert, Detroit" rifles and pistols. Also want Hawken's rifles by Jacob or Samuel, five Mills, Butler and Golcher Plains rifles, carved or engraved powder horns, small quantity of .38-90 Winchester Express cartridges or empty cases. Will buy or trade modern guns for above. RALPH N. WINGERT, Paola, Kansas. (12-45U)

ANTIQUE FIREARMS WANTED—Especially percussion and frontier Colts and Remingtons. Cash for one piece or a collection. Write, describing fully and stating price. THE GUN SHOP, The Store for Men, Marshall Field & Co., Chicago, Ill. (3-46U)

POWDER FLASKS wanted by collector. Furnish full description and price. WILTON MEYER, Box 3591, Long Beach 3, Calif. (3-46P)

FOR SALE—Colt .31, very good, $22.50; Remington, pat. 1861, .36 calibre, fine reblue in holster, recessed rammer, rare, Army marking, $35.00; Ladysmith, nickel, pearl grips, fair and .22 S&W third model, nickel, pearl grips, good, both in cherry case, for $50.00. A. R. ROBBINS, 2965 Winters Road, Huntington 2, West Virginia. (11-45P)

CASES for 8mm, 6.5x58 Mauser, 256 Newton. Sample 10c. LEO HEIMBURGER, Oroville, California. (11-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—Walther P-38, 50 cartridges, very good. 6" D.W.M. Luger 9mm, 100 cartridges, holster, chrome frame, very good. Want—Absolutely perfect Kar 98. Winchester Model 95, .30-06, also perfect. DAVE BABCOCK, 51 Oakdale, Pleasant Ridge, Michigan. (11-45P)

MOULDS RECUT to .36 and .44 conical, .50 Remington Navy and .45 Auto. Sample 10c. LEO HEIMBURGER, Oroville, Calif. (11-45P)

CARTRIDGE COLLECTORS—Send 20c (coin or stamps) for a copy of my big Single Specimen Price List No. 407 of 1000 items of interest to Cartidge Collectors. Additional 10c for list of Shooters' Ammo. CHARLES SHATTUCK, Cherry Creek, New York. (11-45P)

WANT—Harpers Ferry flintlock halfstock rifle or conversion. Also interested in flint muskets in good condition. Please describe markings and quote price. THEODORE F. OCHS, 159-04 Sanford Ave., Flushing New York. (11-45P)

WANTED—Pollard's "Book of the Pistol" and Cleveland's "Hints to Riflemen". Please state condition of book and price. LEWIS WINANT, 31 Washington St., East Orange, N. J. (11-45P)

WADS—10, 12, 16 and 20 gauges, wool felt, ¼", $2.90. Hair felt, 5/16", $3.25 per 1000. CLARENCE FELL, 4114 Monroe, Kansas City, Missouri. (11-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—Souvenirs World War II; several clean light British machine guns, fixed not to fire, $35.00 each. Completely engraved pearl handle Colt .38 Lightning, $40.00. Good Webley .455, 8" barrel, $35.00. Colt .41 lightning, $30.00. Southerner .41, $20.00. Remington Elliot, $18.00. Others, list 10c. Want old short arms. SULLY LEVITT, Maritime Service, Rt. 3, New Orleans, Louisiana. (11-45U)

WANTED—for 1842 Musket, 3 barrels, 4 ramrods; for 1822 Musket, 2 hammers, 2 frizzens, 2 pans, 2 frizzen springs. All good condition only. E. D. HUFF, 98 Carroll Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. (11-45P)

.45 CALIBRE S&W SCHOFIELD, shoulder holster and cartridges. Excellent outside, bright in with few spots, ivory bead ramp front sight, spur trigger guard and black burl walnut grips, $50.00. .31 calibre C&B Colt, 6 chambers, 5" barrel, numbers alike, engraving plain, bullets, balls and some caps, $30.00. R. J. FOWLER, 4950 SW Barbur Blvd., Portland 1, Ore. (11-45P

EARLY MILITARY Queen Anne flintlock pistol by Richardson, fine, $35.00; Colt .31, very good, $20.00; rare underhammer rifled pistol by Loomis, Lebanon, Ct., $15.00; Martial percussion horse pistol, needs slight stock repair, working order, $10.00; 1864 Whitney rifled musket, very good, $10.00; small halfstock sporter, P-L, brass patch box and fittings, $12.00; five flasks, $12.50 lot; .25-20 Winchester reloading tool and 48 factory cartridges, $4.00. Want pistols. H. WHELPHLEY, 77 Mountain Road, New Haven 15, Connecticut. (11-45P)

SELLING over 50 antique and modern firearms, edged weapons and books from my collection. List 10c. EVERETT SAGGUS, Elberton, Georgia. (11-45P)

REMINGTON CIVIL WAR .44 revolver, never fired. Perfect with exception of a few surface stains. By express with privilege of examination, $42.00. ROBERT H. WILCOX, Brandon, Vt. (11-45P)

ARMS BOOKS—Interesting group of titles, pamphlets, booklets and books from ten cents up including latest foreign data on the small arms of World War II. Send six cents in stamps for list if new customer. Two Whitney reproductions of 1862 advertising, both for one dollar. RAY RILING, 6844 Gorsten Street, Philadelphia 19, Pennsylvania. (11-45P)

ANTIQUE Pistol and Revolver List free. Send large addressed envelope with six cent stamp to cover mailing. Fifty items of interest. N. E. SHARP, 21 Brilliant Ave., Pittsburgh 15, Penna. (11-45P)

JOHNSON 1841 percussion martial pistol, converted from flint, very good to fine, $25.00; Colt .32 automatic, 2 clips and holster, $25.00; Colt .36 presentation Navy, marked "Presented by W. L. Curtis, New York" on cylinder and "I. R." on back strap. Has had very little use, looks as though it never was blued, just polished, pins between nipples not smashed, engraving clear, good bore, $35.00. JOHN C. OBERLY, 2048 West 110th Place, Chicago 43, Illinois. (11-45P)

1826 HALL breech loading flintlock rifle, original browning on barrel, in excellent condition (try and find another 1826 in this shape), $100.00. J. MURRAY, 32127 Genesee Court, Wayne, Michigan. (11-45P)

FOR SALE—7mm Model 93 Mauser, very good to excellent in, $35.00; Remington-Hepburn Creedmoor, .44, 2.6" case, 34" barrel, fair to good out, excellent in except for two small pitted areas; spirit-level front, tang and heel Vernier, $55.00; .45 Peabody-Martini, very good, 30 shells, $35.00; .32-40 Remington Wurfflein, fair to good, no sights, $25.00; .40 Maynard Target, 30" barrel, new condition in, excellent to perfect out, with orignal Berdan primer case, $35.00; W & C. Scott hammer shotgun, Damascus barrels (unsafe with smokeless loads), slightly rough in, beautiful Circassian stock, very tight and sound mechanically, engraved, $27.50. 8mm Mauser barrel, excellent, $7.00; Mauser and Springfield stocks with metal fittings, good sound wood but need refinishing, $4.00 each; Buhmiller 30" .375 calibre heavy barrel blank, soft steel, $15.00; .45-70 Remington-Hepburn, very good, folding globe front, Vernier tang rear, very unusual Hepburn action, nickel plated, with brass guard, $35.00. CHARLES R. WEEKS, 307 East Braddock Road, Alexandria, Va. (11-45P)

WANTED—Mainspring for 1849 model Colt, state condition and price. JOHN C. OBERLY, 2048 West 110th Place, Chicago 43, Illinois. (11-45P)

WANTED—Lady collector, just starting, wishes to purchase antique firearms, all types. MISS ANNA BRAVERMAN, 446 Monroe St., Passaic, New Jersey. (4-46P)

FOR SALE—Tell Free pistol by C. Widemer, bore excellent, out very good, $105.00. Rogers & Spencer .44 revolver, action and finish good, bore fair, $32.00. ARTHUR LUNDQUIST, P. O. Box 303, Newport, Rhode Island. (11-45P)

FOR SALE—Colt 1851; Remington New Model; Remington .36 calibre on above style, tinned finish; Whitney; Starr D. A. Navy; Cooper D. A. Navy; Allen Pepperbox; Ames Model 1843 boxlock pistol; Spanish percussion pistol, outside lock, belt hook. Description and prices on request. N. S. WAGNER, 2624 1st Street, Baker, Oregon. (11-45P)

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES—"Hand Cannon to Automatic". Over 200 pages of interesting, educational and pictorial information on the development of hand arms. Price $5.00 per book postpaid. Order direct from the author—HERSCHEL C. LOGAN, 400 South 9th St., Box M, Salina, Kansas. (12-45P)

(1) .32 PISTOL, single shot, cheap, $1.50. (1) .32 pistol choked, shot shells, cheap, $3.00. (1) .38 pistol, single shot shells, choked, cheap, $3.00. (1) .36 muzzle, brass holster, primers, $20.00. (1) .38-40 2 barrels, 1000 cartridges, loading tools, $100.00. (1) .38 special, loading tools, $100.00. (1) .44 S&W Russian, tools cart., $60.00. (1) 10-gauge W. W. Greener double barrel, 100 primed empty, about 200 loaded, $100.00. Near new light yellow buckskin jacket, rough side out, well made, full back, 39 to 40 chest, medium long sleeves, $25.00. (1) Benjamin air pistol, BB, $6.00. R. E. BAKER, 2734 W. Howard Place, Denver, Colorado. (12-45-U)

WANTED—20-gauge shot gun reloading tools. 20-gauge shell crimper especially desired. C. W. PITTMAN, 507 Brunswick Avenue, Waycross, Georgia. (11-45P)

WANTED—Specimens of following Civil War rimfire cartridges: .56 Ballard, .44 Ball or Palmer, .45 Johnston, .54 Starr, .52 Warner. Also skin or combustible cartridges larger than revolver size. Trade or purchase. MAJOR B. R. LEWIS, Office Chief Ordnance, War Department, Washington, D. C. (11-45P)

AMMUNITION—Ceiling prices. (Rifle, Smokeless) .25 & .32 Remington; .32, .35 & .351 W.S.L.; .35, .38-72, .405, .40-65, .40-72 & .44-40 W.C.F.; .375 H&H; (Rifle, Black) .38-70, .38-72, .40-60 C&M, .45-70, .45-75; (Rifle, Shot) .25 R.F. to .40-82; (Pistol, Black) .38 S&L R.F., .44 B.D. (OK in .44 Russ. & .44 Spl.); .45 WEB. (OK in .45 S&W and Colt); (Pistol, Shot) .32 S&W to .38-40; (Misc.) 9mm Mauser (M.C.), .22 Winchester Automatic, 9mm R.F. (Ball & Shot, 12-gauge brass case, conical ball, etc. CALVIN GODDARD, 3533 Quebec, Washington 16, D. C. (No list; state wants; send stamp.) (11-45U)

MIQUELET BALL-BUTT flintlock pistol, silver and mother of pearl inlays throughout stock. Button trigger, handsome clean gun, $47.50. Other pistols, guns, armor, swords. List 10c. IRVING BROWNING, 70 West 45th St., New York, N. Y. (11-45P)

PRIDE OF CRAFTSMANSHIP insures you work of the highest quality on all arms, match locks to moderns, inclusive. Gadgets, bullet moulds, Schuetzen and muzzle loader specialties. JUDSON S. DARROW, Custom Gunsmith, Woodbury, Conn. (4-46P)

GUN REPAIRING—muzzle and breech loading. Rifle and shot gun stocks, $4.00 to $20.00. Parts, moulds, accessories. HARRY KENT, Bidwell, Ohio. (11-45P)

"AMERICAN RIFLEMAN", 7 copies 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933 bound in red cloth; all issues from then to date, more than 15 years, $20.00. "Outdoor Life", 1931-1941 inclusive, 11 years, complete, $9.00. "Field and Stream", 1938-1943, 6 years, complete, $4.00. ROBERT H. WILCOX, Brandon, Vt. (11-45P)

FOR SALE—No. 209 and No. 3 Western shot gun primers, 75c per 100. No. 57 Remington primers, $1.00 per 120. HARRY SAPP, Macomb, Illinois. (11-45P)

MUZZLE LOADING rifles and shotguns for sale. Send 5c for large list. OLLIE MILLER, 417 Kingston, LeMay, Mo. (11-45P)

SALE OR TRADE—9mm Lugers, 4" and 6" barrel; 9mm P-38, all excellent. Extra 9mm clips and drums. Extra .45 A.C.P. clips. Want good shot guns. GUY R. KITCHEN, 51 Orchard St., Somerville, New Jersey. (11-45P)

1835 HALL PERCUSSION breechloading carbine by S. North. Complete and in good condition, $28.75. Evans sporting cartridge rifle, 29" octagonal barrel, mechanism complete, $24.50. Unertl tube sight, excellent condition, complete with new mounts, $27.50. Wanted—Philadelphia Deringer in good condition—stock and barrel bands for 1821 Springfield .68 calibre musket. DON R. SPICER, 1654 Porter Ave., Beloit, Wisconsin. (11-45P)

SELLING COLLECTION—Harpers Ferry 1833 flintlock, nearly mint condition, 90% original, $50.00. Very fancy 20-gauge double M-L Circassion stock, full silver mounted, highly engraved, safety locks, bores polished, I. C. choke, German maker, inlayed in silver on rib, a fine shooter, nice pattern, $40.00. Martial .60 calibre pistol, swivel rammer, "Mills Mo. 1838". Have never seen better condition, for one of these, $35.00. Remington .44 conversion, fine tight condition, $28.00. Colts .44 cap and ball clean, tight, good shooter, $35.00. H&R Sportsman, new condition, cartridges, $29.00. Webley frontier .45 pocket revolver, very good, $18.00. Beautiful Colts-Lightning, 6" barrel, pearl handles, very good to excellent, $32.50. .40-82 heavy No. 86 Winchester, good in and out, $35.00. Loading tools, components for above, $7.50. .38-40 No. 73 Win., very fine, little used. Please any collector, $40.00. .38-40 No. 92 deer rifle, good, $30.00. Weaver 1X scope. mount, never used, $20.00. .44-40 M92, excellent, take-down, slim round barrel, $42.00. .38-40 take-down Markin, good plus, $30.00. .45-70, 84 Springfield, very fine, $23.00. Several 2 cavity moulds, $4.00 each. .32 W. S. loading tools, mould, $7.50. Large mule deer skin tanned, $6.50. E. R. FRASER, Gibson City, Illinois. (11-45P)

COLT .58 CALIBRE muzzle loading rifles, factory new, unfired, $32.50 each. U. S. 1842 percussion muskets, new, unfired, $25.00 each. .45-70 Springfield rifles, perfect bores, never fired, with bayonet, $20.50 each. Remington rolling block rifles, excellent, $16.50. Good, $12.00. 1903 Springfield .30-06 rifles, "as issued", heat treated and excellent bores, $60.00 each. Wurfflein .32-40 break-open, Schuetzen butt, target rifles, $25.00. Heavy German Schuetzen rifle, 8mm, 32" octagon, "Aydt" hammerless falling block action, very good, $45.00. German Mauser model 98 rifle, fine in and out, $35.00. Another dated 1942, $38.00. F. Lins, Philadelphia, double percussion 10-gauge, 30", good shooter, sound, $15.00. Combination revolver nipple wrenches, new, 75c. Brand new .58 Springfield rifle barrels, set Civil War Infantry equipment, U. S. cartridge box, cap pouch, belt, bayonet scabbard, fine leather, unused, $4.75 set. U. S. rifle scabbards, finest leather, $3.25 each. Cartridges: .45-70, $2.00 box; .303 British, $1.93; .38-56, $2.00; .405 Winchester, $2.00; .401 self loading, $1.75; .41 Swiss (shot), $1.25. List 10c. Will buy or trade in guns, want "Officers Model" .45-70 Springfield. R. REPPERT, Route 4, Norristown, Pennsylvania. (11-45P)

FOR SALE—.45-70 Springfield stock, fittings, no cleaning rod, $3.50. Zulu 12-gauge half stock, good, $7.00. .32 calibre Walther auto, double action, fine in, very good out, holster, $22.00. 16-gauge German shotgun, side locks, very good out, perfect barrels, some engraving, 30" barrels, treble bolts, 6¼ lbs., $80.00. 16-gauge German shotgun, marked "Karl Kuhne, Kamenz", box locks, double under-lugs, Greener safety, engraved game scenes, 29½" barrels, very good or better, 6 lbs. 2 ozs., $85.00. Binocular, Carl Zeiss, Jena, looks like 6x30 case, individual focus, perfect, $75.00. Walther P-38, 9mm, new, holster, $75.00. Pair locks from D. B. shotgun, has hammers, good shape, $4.00. (Marked J. N. Scotts Bar Action.) (12) 10x12-gauge shot shell cappers, never used but shopworn, 10c each. LESLIE W. WADSWORTH, Alta, Iowa. (11-45P)

Distribution of Muzzle Blasts

OCTOBER

Ohio, 760	Maine. 37
California, 445	Montana, 35
New York, 349	Nebraska, 34
Indiana, 347	Utah, 34
Illinois, 303	Georgia, 31
Pennsylvania, 315	Oklahoma, 30
Michigan, 274	Arizona, 28
New Jersey, 129	Louisiana, 25
Texas, 119	Wash'ton, D. C., 24
Massachusetts, 113	Rhode Island, 22
Washington, 105	S. Dakota, 21
Missouri, 99	Arkansas, 20
Virginia, 97	Wyoming, 20
Iowa, 96	Delaware, 19
Wisconsin, 88	N. Hampshire, 18
West Virginia, 79	Idaho, 18
Kansas, 73	Vermont, 16
Connecticut, 71	New Mexico, 16
Oregon, 68	N. Dakota, 15
Kentucky, 64	S. Carolina, 15
Minnesota, 64	Alabama, 14
Tennessee, 64	Mississippi, 12
Maryland, 63	Nevada, 9
Florida, 60	APO 137
Colorado, 51	Out of U.S.A., 64
N. Carolina, 47	Misc. 50

TOTAL — 5,107

ART LEVINE IS BACK

We are glad to receive word from up Chicago way that Art Levine has been discharged after having spent three years in service, most of the time as a gunnery instructor in Florida. A short period of his service was on the Island of Baker right on the equator in the Central Pacific. Most of the provisions were brought in by plane and such things as fresh meat and eggs had to be eaten right now or spoilage was the result.

It goes without saying Art is glad to be back in Arlington Heights where he plans to take up where he left off in gun-stocking and general repair work. Here's one fellow who has a keen appreciation for the fine stocking woods and who has a supply for his immediate needs.

We hope the folks in the Chicago district give Art all the work he can handle in the months ahead.

THE KENTUCKY RIFLE . . . by Dillin

FEW OF US realize or appreciate the debt of gratitude we owe to our colonial forefathers and The Kentucky Rifle. The deadly markmanship of our ancestors made possible by this famous Rifle played a major part in winning and preserving American independence. The very soul of America seems to be imbued with characteristics inherited from The Kentucky Rifle. Its sturdiness, independence, originality, straight-shootingness and ability to hold its own against all comers show in everything we like to think of as being typically American. From the old-time Rifle makers have come the methods, the metals and the tools that have made possible the scientific and economic morale of American mass production. Surely America could do well to erect some fitting memorial to those old-time Gunsmiths and their famous Rifles. Our American way of life is the dearest heritage of these old Arms. The story of these Historical Rifles is well told in Captain Dillin's remarkable book. To know and appreciate your Kaintuck, by all means order a copy.

De Luxe Leatherette Binding, $10.00 postpaid

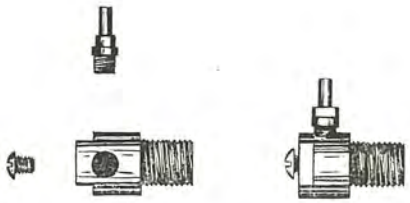
GEORGE N. HYATT

102 W. 18th Street Wilmington, Delaware

MUZZLE GUN SUPPLY STATION

NEW DRUMS AND NIPPLES

with Priming Screw **Set 75c**



DIMENSIONS:
5/6" with 18 or 24 thread
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7/16" with 14 or 22 thread

NEW NIPPLE STOCK

All with small opening at top except as noted.
No. 11 caps fit.

.310 Base—24 Thread
.287 Base—28 Thread
.262 Base—28 Thread
.250 Base—28 Thread
The .250 in small or large opening at top.

.225 Base—32 Thread (No. 11 cap).
This is for Revolvers, except Whitney.
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FOR MUSKETS
.3135 Base—24 Thread—Musket Cap.

ALL NIPPLES 25c — 5 for $1.00 — 100 for $17.50
One size or assorted.

MAIN SPRING VISES 75c



NIPPLE WRENCHES 75c
Specify Rifle, Revolver or Musket.

TAPS—¼"—28 Thread—starter and finisher. Pair 45c

LEATHER CAP CONTAINERS—Civil War Stock, Top Condition 75c

LEATHER CARTRIDGE BOXES—Civil War Stock, Metal Compartments $1.25

Black Flexible Ring BINDERS for *Muzzle Blasts,* $1.75

WAD CUTTERS, 11-ga. only—OK for 12-ga. M-L Shot Guns $1.25

OHIO CUSTOMERS—PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

ADJUSTABLE POWDER MEASURE

Two-thirds Actual Size



ELIMINATE GUESS WORK!
Adjustable from Zero to 100 Gr.
(Black or Semi-Smokeless Only)

SIMPLE—SENSIBLE—DEPENDABLE

$3.50

GUN LIST

Win. 52 Heavy Barrel, Serial 37810, Monte Carlo on comb, Lischert 15X scope, sling—complete—Match Grade, $135.00

Engraved .32-40 Ballard, octagonal-round Remington barrel, false muzzle and starter; d.s. triggers. Original Marlin butt stock; checked at grip and on forestock. Tang Vernier, hooded front with windage. Beautiful and complete outfit, $122.50.

Ballard, plain, .32-40; Stevens-Pope barrel, original butt stock with cheek rest, two forestocks. Barrel 30" long, octagonal and round. Double set triggers. Plated butt plate and trigger guard, Swiss type but not extreme. Bore seems perfect. Vernier on tang; hooded front. Fine and accurate —$92.50.

Ballard, plain, .32-40; round barrel (no name); keen bore. Custom made walnut stock with pistol grip, no cheek rest. Minus butt plate. Forestock 20" long—but good. Single trigger. Good piece to use with commercial loads or to reline to smaller calibre. Bargain at $37.50.

Win. Woods muzzle loading .26 calibre "bumble bee" gun. Made from a Savage .22 barrel. Full stock of splendid curly maple; fine Bennett lock. Checked at grip and on forestock. Cheek rest on *right* side; an outfit for a left-hander. Total length 40 inches; total weight 4½ lbs. Good open sights. Fine grouper. Want sample? $42.50.

Beautiful 20-gauge double shotgun—fine Belgian work. Intricate carving around cheek rest on left side of stock. Breech, tang, heel plate nicely engraved; on locks are hunting scenes. Horn trigger guard. Checking of grip is tip-top Rib engraved full length. Twist barrels—clean in every way. A bit of repair to stock ahead of trigger guard. But this is one very keen outfit. With ramrod, wad cutter, caps. $57.50.

R. R. MOORE, Cincinnatus, N. Y., No. 837 . . . a muzzle loading rifle of .36 calibre, Remington barrel, fine walnut half stock, good back action lock, d. s. triggers. Brass butt plate and trigger guard. Hooded front sight; both peep and open (original) rear sights. Clean and tight. Weight 11½ lbs. Barrel is octagonal; 32½" long. Just recut by Large. Want group? $46.50.

J. SWEITZER muzzle loader—Greenville, Ohio. Half stock of good curly maple—solid. Small patch box . . . steel. Butt plate and trigger guard are steel. Good bar type lock; d.s. triggers. All in good mechanical condition. Bore is .42 and does fine groups. Can furnish groups and loading data. Barrel is 32½"x1⅛". Weight 10½ lbs. Fairly recent open sights. With accessories, $47.50.

E. M. FARRIS, N. & W. RY. Y. M. C. A., PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Arthur E. Anderson
Santa Margarita, California

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VII | PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, DECEMBER, 1945 | NUMBER 4





(1) Match Rifle, .36 Cal. 36" octagonal barrel, weight 17 lbs.

(2) Hunting Rifle .40 Cal. about 36" barrel.

(3) .34 Cal. 36" barrel, weight 11 lbs.

(4) Unmarked Bodenheimer, .40 Cal. about 36" barrel.

(5) A Superb .40 Cal.

(6) Light Match Rifle .32 Cal. 40" barrel, weight 12 lbs.

(7) Hunting Rifle. Recut to .38 Cal. 32½" octagon barrel, weight 9 lbs.

(8) Plain Hunting Rifle .34 Cal. about 36" barrel.

(See Page 3)

William Bodenheimer, Gunsmith

by LT. COL. CLYDE W. EVERETT, M. D.

Editorial

There's a Future for Them

EDITORIALS OF THE PAST have largely been of a nature to inform our readers of progress, plans and purposes. In this effort we shall try to bring our latest—possibly our most important— proposal since a few enthusiasts got together around a table in 1933 and organized our movement into The National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association.

A SCHOOL FOR GUNSMITHS . . . just that—nothing less.

No effort of this nature seems to have been in existence since firearms have been known and used. Now and then an apprentice was taken into training or a gunsmith's son was given an opportunity to learn the craft of his father. Hit and miss . . . no plan, no system.

Well, here we are with hundreds of G. I.'s coming back and asking "What can I do to get in some shop where I can learn how to build and recondition a muzzle loading firearm?" Many, with no military connection, have been asking the same question. Little that was useful or helpful could be offered. No shops were calling for apprentices; one had to "hull it through" the hard way and then open a shop with whatever skills he had managed to take on. He was most likely a mechanic with an angle or two he understood, so he specialized only that far . . . not a gunsmith by considerable.

The end of the war has left the country dotted with well-equipped machine shops. The NYA and high schools will not be using their fine and extensive work shop equipment as in the past few years. The G. I. Bill of Rights provides for mechanical training in many directions, with financial backing. We surely can use chaps from the ranks of our fighting men! Many are already partly trained . . . we should make it possible for them to rate high as workers on steel and wood . . . barrels and stocks . . . locks and triggers.

We face somewhat of an uncharted sea when we undertake this task. But—we know men have been dreaming of this type of training—here and there—for a long time. With the help of the dreamers, the trained shop educators and business men of gun knowledge, we can find our bearings and we can find a way!

An investigation is now under way that may give us encouragement to begin laying a foundation. We would welcome help from our thinkers, mechanics and prospective students. When sufficient data is accumulated, we will call The Executive Committee into session and endeavor to discover just where we stand and how we can make the essential moves.

—ATTENTION, G. I.—

If you desire to become a trained and accredited Gunsmith —if you are eligible for schooling under the G. I. Bill of Rights for disabled veterans and want vocational training—let us know at once.

We hope to offer—very soon—a Course in Gunsmithing that will train men to meet the urgent need for skilled mechanics to build and recondition muzzle loading firearms. The same training will qualify students to capably handle work on modern arms.

Write us at once, giving full name and address, age, dependents, experience in gun work, preference in training and listing any special skills. We wish this information when shaping a course and program.

Only a limited number will be accepted for the first semester, if and when this school becomes a reality. File particulars with us at once.

NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION
E. M. Farris, Secretary

MUZZLE BLASTS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Published Monthly By The Association

E. M. Farris ..... Editor

N. & W. Ry. Y. M. C. A., Portsmouth, Ohio

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William Bodenheimer, Gunmaker

by LT. COL. CLYDE W. EVERETT, M. D.

SEE FRONT COVER

LANCASTER is a name closely linked with the development of the muzzle loading rifles in this country. The first accurate long rifles were developed in or near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and many fine gunmakers lived and worked in that area.

Lancaster, Ohio, has become known to gun collectors for the group of gunmakers who plied their trade there. Bodenheimer, Peters and John Gibbs are perhaps the most prominent of the group. Pete Kane made rifles of fine accuracy in a nearby township and at a little later date. George W. Claspill is also listed as a gunsmith in Lancaster in the 1850's, but I have never seen or heard of a gun by this maker. It may be that he did not mark his guns for identification, or that he was merely a gun repairman.

William Bodenheimer was perhaps the finest workman of this group and one of the best of the whole group of Southern Ohio gunmakers. Even his plainest guns show a gracefulness of design and a fineness of detail that marks him as a master craftsman and some of his more elaborate guns are works of art. Very little is known of Bodenheimer or of his activities as a gunmaker. When he was born, where he came from and when he died are all shrouded in the mystery of the past. His guns remain as about the only tangible evidence of his activities and they exist as a lasting memorial to his fine workmanship.

The Centennial History of Lancaster, written in 1898, states "Wm. Bodenheimer came to Lancaster in 1817 as a wheelwright. In 1837 he changed to gunsmithing. He proved to be an accomplished gunsmith, having a genius for it. He introduced the first long range rifles and the first globe sights seen in Lancaster. He died long ago, sometime in the fifties.". The Williams City Guide and Business Index of Circleville and Lancaster of 1859 lists Bodenheimer as a gunsmith and gun manufacturer. It is probable that he died around 1860. It is also probable that he made a few guns before 1837, but his work was mostly within the percussion era.

Dillin in *The Kentucky Rifle* lists: "Bodenheimer, Pennsylvania. One specimen (flintlock Kentucky rifle) by this maker is known. It has a 43 inch barrel and shows good workmanship. Period of 1810.". He does not give the first name but one can speculate that this may have been William Bodenheimer and that he made at least one flintlock rifle before migrating to Lancaster in 1817. It also appears that he comes from "Pennsylvania Dutch" and that he absorbed a knowledge of guns and gunsmithing during his childhood there.



Three targets shot with gun number 6. Gun in original condition with original bore and sights. 50 yards, bench rest, no wind. 27 grains of FFFg black powder, .32 calibre buckshot with indian head cloth patching. Barrel rifled with six shallow grooves with one turn in 48 inches. Grooves and lands same width.

Most Bodenheimer rifles are marked with his characteristic small stamp "W. BODENHEIMER" on the top of the barrel; some also carry the name "Lancaster" below his name. However, some of his guns, particularly his earlier efforts, are not marked, but the general design of the stock with its scroll type cheek piece often on both sides, the patent breech and splash pan, the hammer design and the set triggers are all characteristic and not easily mistaken by those familiar with his work. His fine double set triggers have been sought after by some target shooters for their heavy match rifles.

He made several types of peep and globe sights, some of them quite ingenius in their operation. It does not appear that he thought much of open sights as the ones he made were non-adjustable and rather crude.

Although it is noted above that he introduced the first long range rifles into Lancaster, the guns I know of were made either for the round ball or the short picket type of bullet. Many of his rifles were furnished with moulds casting both types of bullets for use with the cloth patch and most guns are rifled with a slow twist of about one turn in four feet. I do not believe he made many, if any, true slug guns. He relied more on gracefulness of design and good workmanship than on inlay work to give beauty to his rifles, although a few guns are quite elaborately decorated with brass, German silver and mother-of-pearl.

The small cheek piece of scroll design is quite prevalent on his guns. He liked to duplicate the ornamentation so that both sides of the gun were decorated the same and the cheek piece is commonly placed on both sides of the buttstock, even on the plainer guns. Most of his guns weighed

(Continued on page 13)

Flint Knapping

by LT. GUY A. RITTER, JR.

(A Visit to Brandon, Suffolk, England to See the Making of Gun Flints)

Germany, October, 1945.

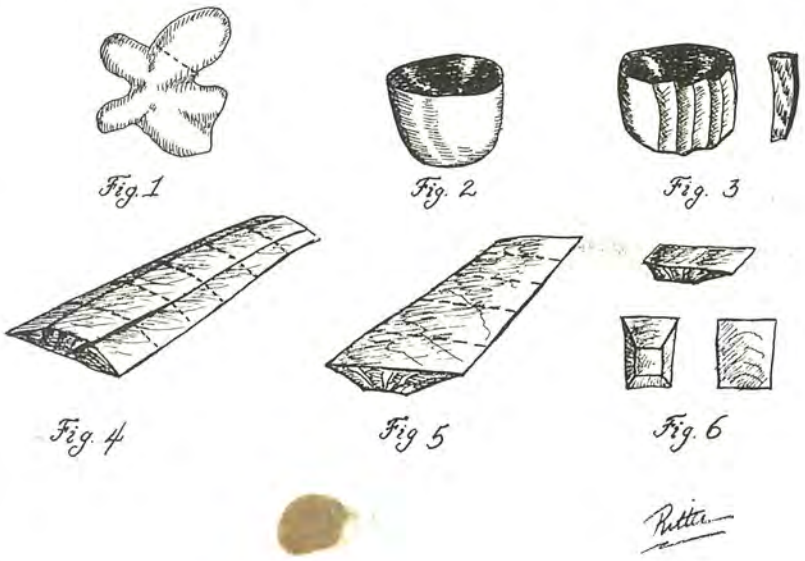
RECENTLY I had the good fortune to spend a short leave in England on which I saw many of my old friends and collectors for a most enjoyable visit (enjoyable for me, at least). Of course, I wanted to see Keith Neal, Tony Groom, Major Gill (who is instrumental in the organization of a muzzle loader's club in England similar to our NMLRA), and many others of our fraternity. I need not say how very much I enjoyed seeing these men who also make muzzle loading guns their sport and hobby.

While visiting Tony Groom in Suffolk, I wanted to go over to Brandon for a last look at the flint knappers. So he carried me over. He, his brother, Jack, and I motored from Chediston near the North Sea, to Brandon, about as far west as one can go and still be in County Suffolk, across the northern part of this most picturesque and famous shooting county.

During the war just finished it has been increasingly difficult to obtain new gun flints. Luckily for me, my friends in England had some splendid old stocks of Suffolk flints on hand for use. Some of these flints, by the way, were very old—centuries old, perhaps—but better than the modern ones and able to cut magnificent patterns of fire from the hammers of equally good and old guns.

For a number of years now the flint knapping in Brandon has been done almost entirely by the family of Edwards. The last two exponents are not too busily engaged in the production of flints today but still knap a few. The bulk of the foreign trade in flints today is still with the Colonies and a large double-edged flint is what the trade wants. I am rather inclined to think that these flints are used for fire making as often as for gun flints, judging from their size. It was encouraging to find a new man knapping for Mr. Herbert Edwards, as he can probably produce good gun flints for many years to come, being younger than the Edwards cousins. Though he has not knapped many flints for sporting guns, I am sure that he can, as he did so for me while I was there. The older men, of course, can make excellent sporting flints and still do.

The one unfortunate item today is that the real "Brandon" flint is no longer knapped. Time was when the flint was dug from the chalk in the pits of Brandon, which today seem to be public property. It takes a bit of hard manual labor to dig flint from the chalk and, since the market has not been great in recent years, the knappers have relied not on Suffolk but Norfolk flint. The latter comes from construction, gradings, etc., rather than being mined expressly for flint. The good old black and translucent gray "Brandon" flints are just not knapped today although the Norfolk product is rather milky-gray and, according to the knappers, not nearly so good as the genuine "Brandon" flint. I find the Norfolk product satisfactory, though, and hope that they will soon be available for the shooting public, though they perhaps are not so good looking as the other.



Though much has been written on the knapping of gun flints, I found the procedure of sufficient interest to warrant rewriting. The tools of this craft are the simplest imaginable. There is necessary a stone hammer about a pound in weight, which is used in breaking the stone for flaking from the crude stone as dug from the chalk. (See Fig. 1). Then there is the flaking hammer, which is about like a two-faced farrier's hammer and about eight ounces in weight. The only distinctive tool is the knapping hammer itself. It is about eight inches long, about one and one-half inches in width and perhaps one-fourth of an inch in thickness at the cutting ends. The faces are sharp and keen. Those that I saw in use were made by simply flattening the ends of a wood rasp and cutting a hole to admit the handle. A pad of sole leather is strapped on the left thigh of the knapper for flaking the flint. A stout post, as the butt end of an oak log into which is set a small steel post with sharp square faces to knap against completes the flint knapper's outfit. The rest is simply the artistic application of an old and, I might add, difficult craft.

First, the flint must be dried by a fire to reduce the moisture in it, that it may "run" properly when struck with the hammer. The stone is then broken to give flaking "cores" (see Fig. 2). Flint is generally found in odd shapes as arms or fingers of stone ranging from the central piece (Fig. 1). These arms break off to give a flat working surface from which the flakes are struck. This core is held on the left thigh and the flake is struck from the side nearest the leg. The flat smooth side of the flake is the side from nearest the core center and the beveled edges are from the outer edge. The thickness of the finished flint is controlled by the flaking—a thick flint is struck from further in the core than a thin one. As the knapper proceeds around his core, each flat side of a flake forms the beveled edge of the suc-

(Continued on page 14)

The Waters Percussion Pistol

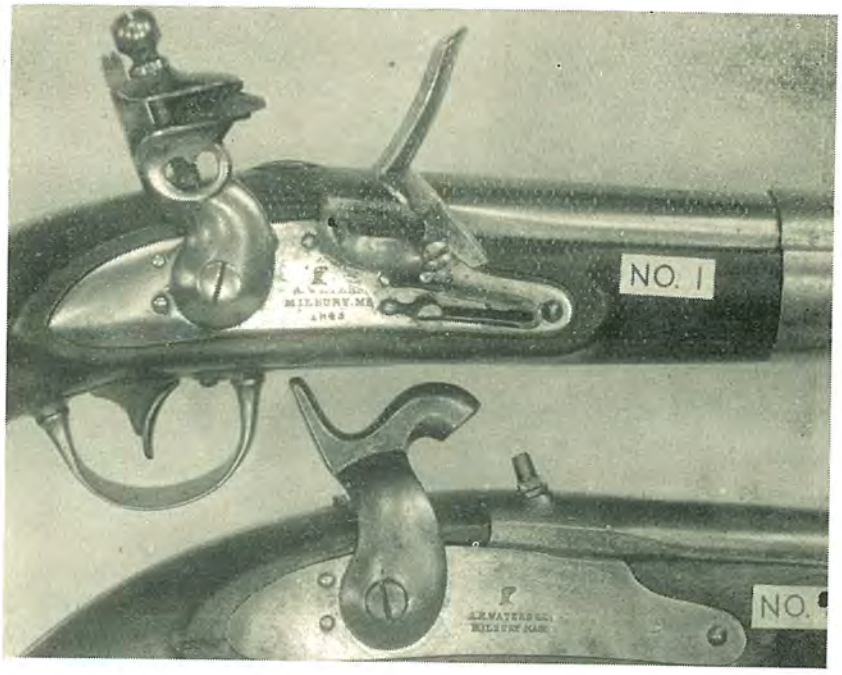
by G. S. MASON and N. S. WAGNER

A. H. WATERS & CO., makers of the well known model 1836 military flint lock pistol, made also a percussion pistol. That this is so, is generally known. That there are at least three, if not four, distinct variations of this percussion is not generally known.

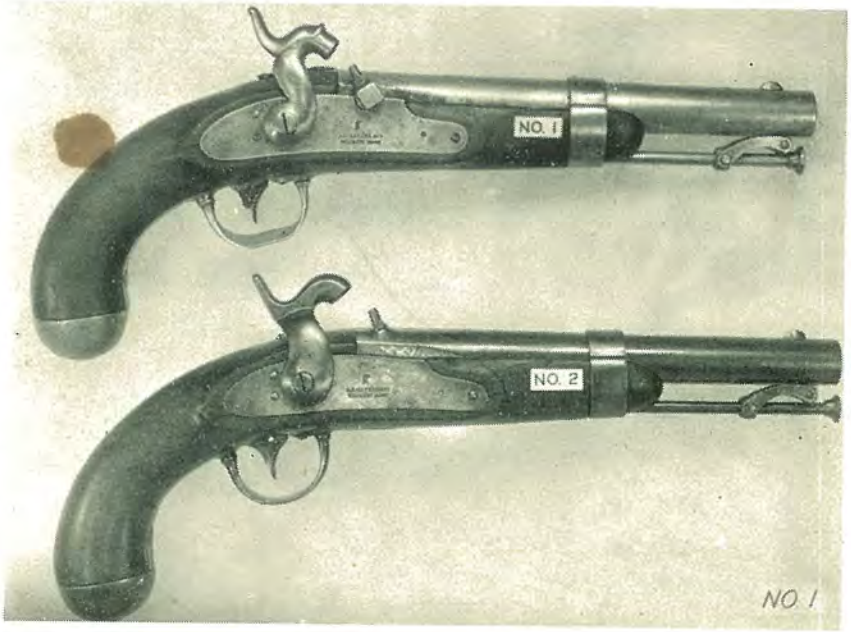
By and large these percussion arms are identical to the model 1836 flintlocks in all major respects—that is, calibre and length of barrel, overall size and shape of the stock and, for the most part, interchangeable hardware. Minor, but important, differences do exist, however. The accompanying illustrations include a picture of a model 1836 flintlock as well as some of the variations of these percussion pistols. As can be seen (especially picture 1), one of the chief differences is that the percussion lockplates are flat with beveled edges as compared to the semi-rounded flint plate with unbeveled edges. Another is that the rear termination of many of the percussion plates is rounded as compared to the pointed termination on the flintlocks. In these instances (occurring, as will be pointed out later, in what is here classed as Types A and B) there is a slight difference in the cut of the stocks and the locks between the flint and these percussion arms are not interchangeable accordingly. This demonstrates conclusively that these particular percussion arms are NOT alterations of the regulation flint model. Excepting for these lockplates, all other parts are interchangeable, although in some of these percussion arms they used brass as well as iron in the fabrication of the hardware. Like the flintlocks, some percussion pistols are entirely iron bound; but some have brass guards. Some have the whole trigger assembly, including the trigger, brass. Some have brass sideplates. One collector reports having seen one with a brass lockplate.

Another point which distinguishes these percussion pistols from regulation government alterations of the 1836 flintlock is the nipple size. In these original percussion arms the nipple is very small in diameter as compared to the musket size, which is standard on the regulation conversion of the flintlocks.

The model 1836 flintlocks and most of these original percussion pistols are .54 calibre and smoothbore. Some of the percussion specimens, however, are rifled, as will be described in more detail in the following description of the individual types.



Picture 1. Specimen 1 is a model 1836 pistol made by A. Waters. No. 2 is one of the variations of the original percussion arms made by Waters on the 1836 pattern.



Picture 2 Examples of variations in construction in the original percussion arms.

Type A

Picture 2, specimen 2, shows a fine specimen of this type. Its chief feature lies in the fact that the nipple is seated directly on the barrel in a swell situated just right of the line of sight. All pistols of this type described to the writers are completely iron trimmed with *unmarked* smoothbore barrels. Locks all have the rounded rear termination and are stamped

with the usual Waters' eagle head, "A. H. Waters & Co., Millbury, Mass.", and *not* dated.

Type B

Picture 2, specimen 1, can be used as a reference to this type, as it corresponds exactly in all outward appearances. The distinguishing feature here lies in the fact that the nipple is seated in a lug on the side of the barrel, with a semi-circle cut out of the top of the lockplate to accom modate the lug. Barrels of this type are smoothbore and either stamped with inspector's initials only or else unmarked. Locks all have the rounded rear termination and are stamped with the eagle head, "A. H. Waters & Co., Millbury, Mass.", but some are dated 1844 and some are undated. Some of these pistols are equipped with iron hardware exclusively and some with brass guards.

Type C

Picture 3 illustrates what is here called Type C. This type differs from the preceding types in many respects. All specimens described to the writers have the barrels stamped "U. S.", inspector's initials and "P" *in precisely the same manner as the regulation model 1836 flinters are stamped* (picture 4). On most of them the rear termination of the lockplate is pointed rather than rounded. Most of them are dated 1849. Some have rifled bores, while some are smoothbore. Most show an abundant use of brass (trigger guard, trigger, bottom plate, side plate).

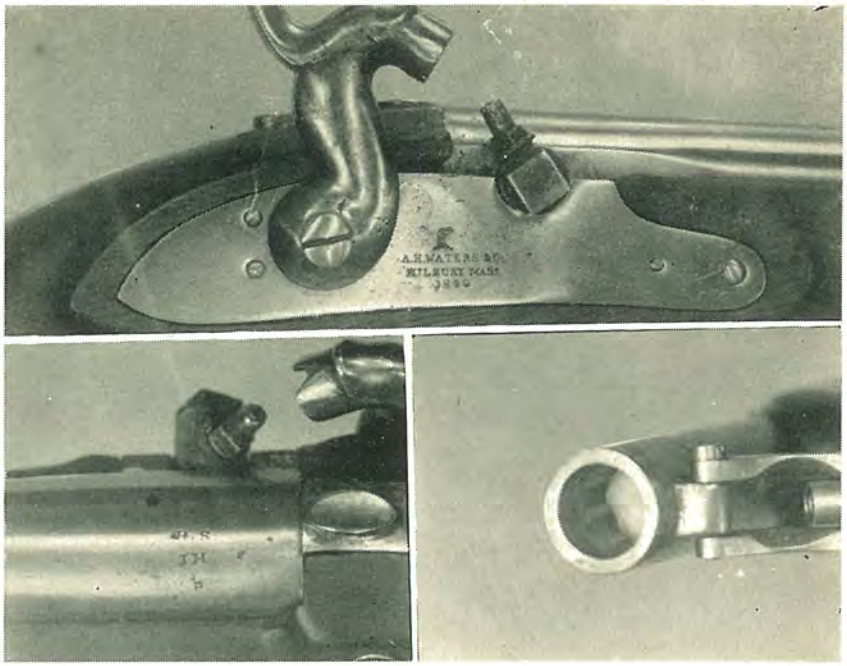
Since only four specimens of this type have come to the attention of the writers and, since they show important differences between themselves, a detailed description of each follows:

1—Barrel marked "U. S., J. H., P." Rifled with 8 lands and grooves, but smoothbore for the first 5/16 inches. This false smoothbore muzzle appears to have been originally made that way. It tapers from .600 at the muzzle to .570 at the end of the smoothbore portion. Clearance between lands is .554. The lock has a pointed rear termination and, in addition to the usual name stamping, is dated 1849. Abundant brass trim as described above. (Picture 3).

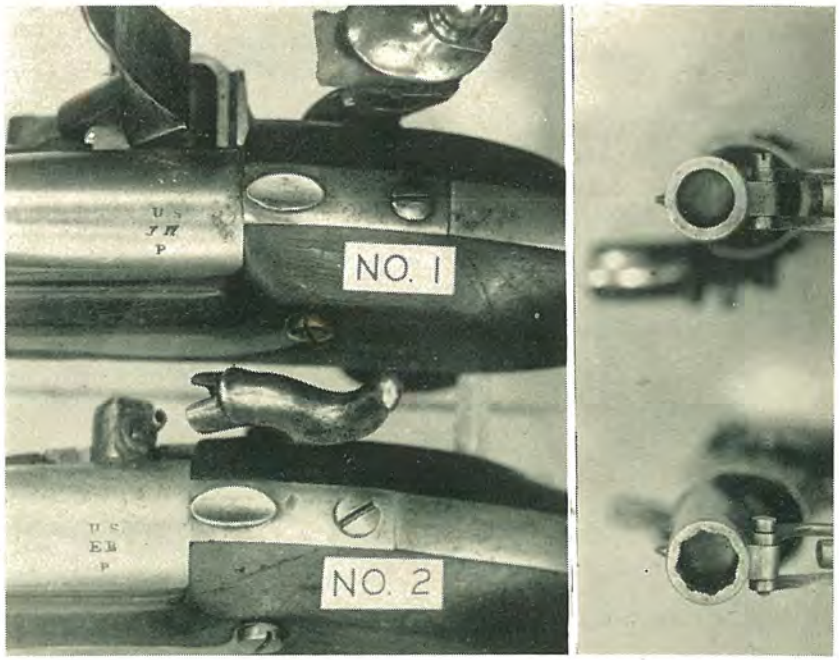
2—Identical to above in all respects excepting for a smooth bore.

3—Identical to No. 1 in all respects excepting for a smoothbore barrel and inspector's initials, which are "J. C. B."

4—Barrel marked "U. S., E. B., P.". Barrel rifled with 8 lands and grooves, .500 between lands and .585 in the grooves. No false smoothbore muzzle. Normal lock stamping but *not* dated. Rear termination of lockplate rounded and identical to Types A and B in this respect. Guard only brass. (Picture 2, specimen 1; and picture 4, specimen 2).



Picture 3. One of the Type C pistols.



Picture 4. Close-ups showing barrel markings and bores of the model 1836 pistol and one of the Type C specimens of the original percussion arm.

A well known and authoritative collector and dealer reports having seen one of these original percussion pistols with the nipple on a bolster similar to that on the model 1842 arms, but efforts to track down the specimen have been fruitless to date. Thus there may well be yet a fourth type of variation in these arms.

From the date just presented, it is evident that Waters & Company did considerable experimenting with the percussion system. In general, it has always been believed that these arms were made for private sale to officers. This is probably true, at least for the Type A and B variations as, although these arms are relatively scarce, still they do exist in greater abundance than would be expected of

strictly experimental specimens. Yet, the lack of specimens inscribed with private owners' names and regimental markings, etc., leaves this interpretation open to question. It does seem plausible to believe that if these arms were privately bought that at least some of the owners would have valued or prized their pet side arm enough to have had at least their name and rank inscribed thereon.

The specimens stamped "U. S.", however, appear like a "horse of a different color" as far as this "private sale to officers" angle goes—this especially so because of the 1849 date, as will be discussed later.

(To be continued)

SIOUX CITY DOINGS

The Sioux City (Iowa) Muzzle Loaders held their first shoot on November 18 on an improvised range north of the city.

It was a 30 and 50 yard round ball contest. Several interesting old rifles were used—Fox, N. Lewis, Burgess, Gibbs and others with unmarked barrels. Many preliminary shots were taken in adjusting loads, sights, etc. Dr. J. D. Lutton was absent with the "flu" and did not have a chance to try out his Lehman fresh from the shop of Wyatt Atkinson.

Glenn Tennis, shooting a Fox rifle, made the top score of the day. Much genuine interest was shown and it is planned to hold another shoot in December. Several of these old long barrels that have been in storage were given a long delayed treatment of "Bar Grease", furnished by W. R. Felton, Jr., from his recent hunt in Montana.

—W. R. FELTON

FOR YOUR WINTER READING

The Gunroom Booksellers, North Castine, Maine, have sent us a splendid list showing many rare as well as current publications of interest to sportsmen. Send for List B-25.

OBITUARY

Walter J. Keenan, Cincinnati, several years a vice president in our organization, has passed on to his rest. The end was sudden and unexpected by his close associates.

Mr. Keenan had long been active in the firearms game having, at one time —when a boy—beaten Annie Oakley in a clay bird contest at Dayton, Ohio. With us he was most active in the flint lock shooting, having won the flint lock championship twice.

Windage and Elevation

DEER HUNTERS have been at it with our type guns . . . some having met with success and some drawing blanks. Fitz got his sixth in seven years—with a flinter! Brablec writes about it elsewhere in this issue.

* * *

TURKEY SHOOTS are catching on . . . the fans are finding it great fun working through a series of matches where The Bird is the prize. This is the event to catch the casual onlooker . . . load for him and let him take a few shots offhand—then he's hooked!

—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

By all means *give both the OLD and the NEW*. Most files are arranged geographically. If the old is not given there is most likely to be two cards in the file for you who are changing—Help!

—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—o—

SOME RELIEF is in sight . . . more gun shops are opening up where the proprietor will specialize in work on the black powder, front-fed guns. But too few say they can or will make stocks. Help!

* * *

OHIO GUN COLLECTORS had a grand exhibit at the Neil House, Columbus, on the 8th and 9th of December. Fine attendance and some outstanding exhibits were noted. The Columbus group, headed by R. L. Taylor, surely were grand hosts. C. L. Hawthorne, Steubenville, is the new president and P. L. Shumaker, Columbus, vice president. Terry Brown, Canton, remains as the secretary . . . and a good 'n.

* * *

SINGLE BARREL shotguns can be made into keen rifles by turning a barrel to fit and have it sweated in. Try it if you have a keen one-tube scatter gun. Better still, keep the shotgun barrel and have a rifle barrel shaped to fit on this stock and breech . . . then one has a near combination . . . easy to carry and light when on the prowl.

* * *

MUSKET CAPS are woefully scarce. The Long Beach (California) boys found they could use No. 11's by reshaping the old Government nipples. Now a new nipple is available that was made to take the smaller cap without the trouble of altering.

* * *

OUR FILMS of shoots and shooters—especially the 1944 National Matches—are still available. Write in if you wish to show it at a meeting of the club or to any sportsmens' groups. It is 16mm without sound, in color.

* * *

A BOOK on reconditioning an old flinter is expected at no distant date. It will tell how to rebuild the original lock —if nothing more than the plate remains. Difficulties with the old smooth-bore barrels will be given treatment . . . as will the big patch boxes and the splintered stocks. Watch for this offering.

* * *

THE YEAR 1945 comes to a close with much accomplished in the muzzle gun game . . . much yet to work for. The fighting angle of World War II is finished and the boys are getting back to their peacetime pursuits . . . some were seen at the National Matches this year. Some are taking up gunsmithing and will soon be active in the mechanical department of the movement. It will be good news when some reliable shop announces "Ready to Make Entire New Muzzle Loading Rifles".

* * *

NEW RIFLES will carry some unusual specifications. We know there are parties wanting their front-fed rifles built with stocks resembling modern light rifles; others will want 'em just like those turned out in Eastern Pennsylvania in 1750. Inlay and doo-dads are not much in demand so far as we can ascertain. However, leave it to the purist to require everything that will give his pet the appearance of a true "Kentucky" . . . and we don't blame him. It would appear certain that octagonal barrels will not be too easy to get . . . shops are too busy to spend time shaping them. The modern trend is to round barrels and likely a majority of the utility rifles of the next few years will be so shaped.

* * *

FULL STOCKS . . . we shudder at the thought of the few men who are willing to tackle this feature of a Kentucky type. But why not? Modern machinery can eliminate much of the hand work of the old-timers . . . for instance, Wm. Large will soon be equipped to use power tools to cut a barrel groove of shape and size demanded by the contour of the barrel to be installed. What a whale of a lot of drudgery eliminated right there! Other short cuts can be found to speed up this task and still give the customers beautiful stocks.

(Continued on page 12)

Restoring and Refinishing

by JOHN H. WINTER

(Continued from November Issue)

The Hardware

BRASS PARTS, being soft, are usually scratched and nicked. Carefully file until the nicks are removed. The butt plate must usually be filed down somewhat, since the stock is now slightly smaller. Fit it carefully to the stock before polishing. Then, if you are fortunate enough to own or have access to a buffing wheel, buff smooth and "color". A muslin buff sewed with ¼" rows, using Tripoli compound is satisfactory for buffing, while a loose buff sewed only at the center is recommended for the final "coloring". If you must do the job by hand, use fine emery cloth or, preferably Metalite cloth, finishing with crocus cloth and coloring with brass or silver polish. Then wash the parts with gasoline to remove all grease and coat with brass lacquer or varnish or regular clear lacquer diluted with a small amount of thinner. Use a soft brush and apply quickly and evenly, taking care not to go over a place previously coated or a rough job will result. These parts are now ready for assembly and can be placed on the stock. Polish the brass screw heads, but lacquer them only after they are in place.

Steel or iron hardware requires much more work to clean and polish properly. First, fit the butt plate as outlined above. Then dis-assemble the lock and triggers. Again, if you have access to a buffing outfit, the parts can be polished with two or three grades of polishing wheels and finally buffed with Tripoli compound. Polishing wheels of many types are used, but a very satisfactory wheel can be made by placing on a buffing arbor four or five sections of ¼" thick muslin buffs sewed with ¼" rows. The face of this wheel, usually about 1" wide, is trued up by holding an old hacksaw blade against it while it is revolving. Then the face is coated with hot woodworker's glue or some special compound sold for the purpose and quickly rolled in a trough containing the polishing compound. This is usually emery, but other compounds are sold for the same purpose. Use grain sizes about 80, 150 and flour for the three wheels. Polish the parts with these wheels, starting with the coarse and ending with the flour. Then buff with a similar wheel, uncoated, using the Tripoli compound.

If you do not have access to such equipment, the job can be done with a small fine-toothed mill file and emery cloth, although Metalite cloth is much better. Use a finer grade as the job progresses and finish with crocus cloth.

Don't forget to polish the heads and ends of all exposed machine screws as well as the wood screws which fasten these parts to the stock. Remember that the coloring process does not cover or smooth up a rough finishing job. So make certain the parts are polished as you would want them to look when finished. A matt finish can be obtained with a rotating wire brush or by sandblasting. This helps hide bad nicks and scratches and gives a dull finish, sometimes desired.

The polished hardware is now ready for coloring, but if this is not to be done immediately it should be given a coat of oil or grease to prevent rusting. Iron or steel can be blued, browned or case hardened. Although these parts on many of the old guns were left uncolored, many were case hardened and a few temper blued, with still fewer being browned. They can, of course, be plated or left unfinished and lacquered for protection. Case hardening gives a pleasing mottled effect of grey, blue and purple colors and has the added advantage of hardening the part, protecting it from nicks and scratches.

It is obtained, briefly, by dipping the parts in molten potassium ferrocyanide or similar specially prepared compound. This is rather poisonous material to handle and relatively expensive for a few parts, so the average refinisher is advised to have this job done by his local gunsmith. Blueing and browning of these parts can be performed like the methods used on barrels and will be described later. Small parts, screws, bolts, etc., can be temper blued by heating in a flame until the desired color is reached, which color is heightened somewhat by cooling in oil. Another method is to heat in molten lead kept just above its melting point, which is about the proper temperature for a good blue.

After the desired finish and color is obtained, oil the parts, assemble the lock and triggers and fasten to the stock. Finally, you are ready to finish the barrel.

Finishing the Barrel

This is the biggest job of all the metal work and requires considerable time to produce a fine finish. First, the old sight slots which are no longer to be used must be filled in. If the dovetail is not properly shaped or is broken or worn, widen the slot and shape properly so as to securely hold a blank. Then file a blank of the proper size, drive it into the barrel slot and seat firmly with a hammer or large punch around the edges. Then file down to the barrel. If properly fitted and seated it will be difficult to find the spot after the barrel is polished. At this time, cut or widen any slots required so that they will be treated in subsequent coloring operations.

If the gun is a patent breech type, leave the breech plug on the barrel so as to insure a close fit. If it has a tube or drum, remove this and polish separately. It will not be possible to file out badly scratched or burned spots without materially changing the size and shape of the barrel. If a perfect surface is required the missing metal can be replaced by a welder and filed smooth. In general, however, only a few scratches or burned places will remain after the usual polishing operations and are not objectionable to the average person.

Shotgun barrels or round rifle barrels can be easily polished and buffed with the power polishing and buffing equipment described above. Octagonal barrels, because of the necessity of keeping the corners sharp, can best be polished by hand, although a fairly satisfactory job with only slightly rounded corners can be obtained with very careful work and somewhat different types of polishing wheels. Glued muslin, felt or leather wheels should be used and "set up" as described above. These wheels are less likely to spread than the sewed muslin wheels, their flat faces somewhat of a protection against rounding the corners of the barrel "flats". For best results it will be necessary to fasten a jig or table on the buffing equipment over which to move the barrel so as to keep it flat against the wheel. The polishing and buffing should be done lengthwise of the barrel, although in the case of round barrels, this is not important. Polish and buff as described for the "hardware".

Hand filing and polishing on octagonal barrels gives sharpest corners, but is more work than power polishing. Clamp the barrel in a vise between lead or soft copper jaws and file out the bad nicks and scratches with a bastard file. Then, with a large fine-toothed mill file, gradu-

(Continued on page 13)



SMALLER CALIBRE FOR HIM

Madison, Wisconsin

Just a note with my renewal fee to let you know that I got more than my money's worth from your organization last year. I can't understand why there are not more than one hundred members in Wisconsin. Will have to fix that up.

I went hunting last Sunday with the old Kentucky and came home with a couple of badly mangled squirrels, my first kill with a muzzle loader. I can now understand why they "barked" the little beggers in the old days and before I go after them again I will have a muzzle loader of smaller calibre.

Hugo Hessman

=×=

HE LIKES SMALL BORE, TOO

Just returned from my annual squirrel dog hunt at Nicholas Creek, West Virginia. with my Boggs muzzle loader (8 lb., 37" barrel, 7-shots O-B.) Results? Full bag limit two days straight and had to leave the woods the second day to keep out of jail. Made two misses clean and one cripple that reached a den.

I am puzzled with those fellows with good eyes who insist on a shotgun to hunt squirrel with. I used to do that—but for two years I have been leaning more heavily to the small bore muzzle loader for that sort of game and if it were not for grouse and quail my shotgun would be for sale.

Rev. C. C. Lambert

=×=

ART SUGGESTION

New York City

I wish to call your attention to the way the flintlock rifle is hung in the new head for the *On the Target* column, inasmuch as it is hung incorrectly.

As a boy, I roamed the Jack's Mountains, east of the Kishacoquillas valley and often visited friends who lived in that section fifty years ago. They always hung their rifles over the fireplace so that the powder would be kept dry. The rifle rested on pegs or antlers with the buttplate to the right and the trigger guard up.

This method was used by the early pioneers who could, in case of sudden attack, leap across the floor to his rifle, close his thumb over the hammer and cock same as he turned to face the danger. No lost motion. Hang your Kentucky this way and see how fast you can go into action.

Harry G. Heinlein

Perhaps our artist, Mr. Badgett, will note and make a new drawing accordingly.

=×=

STYLE CONNOISSEUR

Canton, Mass.

Say, who in hell ever saw a pioneer woman in riding pants with an identification bracelet and all the jewelry? I thought they carried an axe and a corncob pipe.

Ralph W. Beasley

Ed.: What about a cigarette in her hand, Mr. Beasley?

=×=

FROM TOKYO

Tokyo, Japan

I find great pleasure in informing you that several weeks ago, when our outfit entered Tokyo, the first piece of mail I received was the September issue of *Muzzle Blasts*. The very efficient Army Postal System had forwarded the magazine from my old station at Guam so rapidly that I received it the day I debarked at Yokohama.

Muzzle Blasts has provided an intimate and enjoyable connection with my favorite sport and the people who support it. Many an oppressive hour has been lightened when I followed its pages and speculated upon the spirit which pervades it.

My address has been changed again. I give it below. I hope that when I next inform you of a changed address, I can write that of my home.

Permit me to wish you and the staff of *Muzzle Blasts* a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

William C. Overstreet

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Remember, Brothers and Sisters, Christ tried to teach: *"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."*

With the atom bomb and total war such as we cannot imagine, we MUST follow that teaching. ALL OF US. And that goes for ALL people. All nationalities, labor, manufacturers, guys like me, and buyers like you. Have I said enuf?

Competitors of mine, take warning. Let me be the bad example and don't you lads use the rough and ready method of advertising like I do. A minority is always ready to gang up on me for not using the conventional style and you lads might touch off the avalanche and get caught for my sins.

Rifleman reader: "I want to subscribe for Hosstheef Gayzette. The price is so attractive." Price? A LONG self-addressed and stamped envelope, marked No. 6 for present issue with plenty guns not sold yet, or No. 7 for the next one. To be issued when we get back from our hunting trip thru the Southern States. Just getting caught up with the mail that accumulated while we were in S. Dak. and Minn. muzzle gunning quite successfully, allow me to state. If you lads want an answer, inclose a self-addressed stamped card or envelope. PLEASE.

Sid Aberman: "I never got a refund so quickly from anyone in all my life." (He was lucky, pals, as I opened his letter the first thing when we got back from Duluth.) But then mebbe he had a self-addressed stamped envelope along.

Southern Collectors: From now until about ten days after Christmas, address me in care of Thomas G. Samworth, Plantersville, S. Car. After that, home. Will be interested in buying collections on the trip.

One of the brothers sends a long self-addressed stamped envelope for Hosstheef Gayzette and another doll size one "for Norma to throw in the wastebasket". The best gag guys are NOT in radio.

Bill Seyfried says the Marines dumped guns in Tokyo Bay—not Jap machine guns, but wheelocks and other pieces so fine it brought tears to his eyes. What, I ask, does it gain us—a wrongly called cultured nation—to so purposely destroy the artwork of the ages? And almost every gun collecting GI from Germany tells of piles of gold and silver and carved guns burned wtih gasoline, thermites, dumped in ponds and tank-busted, or in the streets and tank-busted. ARE WE AMERICANS NO BETTER NOR FARTHER ADVANCED THAN ANCIENT VANDALS AND HUNS? "Let him without sin cast the first stone." And let us not censure other nations when we were the leaders in the destruction—after the war was over—of property and art. Destruction of wealth and property is of no advantage to the advancement of humanity.

We are called upon to lead the world, we hope back to peace. I fear that we are nothing more than modern barbarians.

I saw a beautiful gold overlain German flint pistol of around 1730, marked No. 2. Where, I wanted to know, was No. 1? The ex-GI remarked that he salvaged it just after another Halloween mentality GI had busted the mate over the curbstone. "GI" Pagett offered $125.00 cash to a buddy for a beautiful Mannlicher sporter. And when Pagett could pick fine sporters for free that must have been SOMETHING. A few days later he saw the other without the fine sporter and learned this jughead had got tired of it and tossed it into the river. Ten years from now, JUGHEAD, when you are in the breadlines with Pagett paying taxes to furnish that bread think of that $125.00 cash you could have sent home.

1—Just got in NEW Sharps rifle, Lawrence primer, beautiful stock, sword bayonet (foreign but fits); NEW Sharps carbine in beautiful coloration, Lawrence primer; new, but stock's dry, Hall Harpers Ferry percussion smoothbore muskets; very good Allin alteration of .58 Springfield rifled musket. New Colt Big Dragoon, US marks; new long bbl 49 belt model Colt. Also got the rare THEUR Conversion in the still rarer London Navy, without British proofmarks, and with the feature of being drilled for attaching the little known Colt patent of a loading tool for this Theur cartridge. Added feature is numbers or marks for handling the strange Theur rotating breech. Been after this gun for about ten years. Only such I have ever heard of. All of above will run to LARGE dough when I get time to get costs figured out but they are the OUTSTANDING offers of December anywhere in the country. Write me if serious.

2—Mauser military action, late, $29.50.

2a—New Italian army rifle, Cremona, Italy, $29.50.

3—Schofield Smith & Wesson .45s are getting scarce. Here is a good one to send to factory for renickle. Front site wrong. Rest very good except finish and bore. Not battered. Grips need gluing. Rare any more. $35.00.

4—CASED Smith & Wesson FIRST MODEL, large belt model LEVER ACTION pistol, with long bbl and square grips with hump. NOT the Winchester but the first S&W made. No. 199. Price? O, boy, let's argue. Will trade for ultra pieces. Just back from factory where S&W did a bang up job restoring it all, every bit fine except they couldn't manage the long magazine spring.

4—Will Brother Alsop write me at once? I just got that pistol he wants but can't locate his address.

5—Rem. .44 1858, first model with nickle sugarloaf site, about unused but stored where it rusted badly out but not too bad in. With original Civil War holster and belt in good shape to use. $37.50. Yes, you will like this if you realize the condition is not like just out of factory but more like from under a leaky roof. Will clean to a swell shooter.

6—Colt 6" 49 model, six shot, such as furnished Civil War doctors for belt use. Scarce type of 49. Brown but sharp, ok for shoot if you stiffen main spring and clean. But—was property and so engraved of Donald Maclean, MD, physician in Civil War and who LATER STARTED THE MEDICAL SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN. Who wants it at $32.50?

7—Another, identical, fair, make good shooter, $22.50.

8—Very good, seems unused but dull from age, RARE Pettingill HAMMERLESS double action Civil War large .44 Army Revolver. Have had about three of these in 15 years. Seldom are they this good, with holster, $75.00. Cheaper, yes, but junkers.

9—Rogers & Spencer, fair out, better in, $35.00.

10—Colt .44 1860. Fair to good, mainspring needs thinning, $23.50.

11—Fair Colt 1851 Navy .36, fair, for shooting, $27.00.

12—Savage .45 automatic, for US pistol trials. If interested write. Will pay large coin for another.

13—The most famous gun of years, the P38 Walther, $59.50, with good holster. Buyer must furnish proper credentials or what it takes. You know.

14—Rare Czek model 27 auto pistol, .32, PREWAR by the Czeks themselves, very good, $39.50.

15—Same thing but made by the Germans when they took over, $39.50. About new. Furnish permits or let me know about your state laws.

16—Colt Frontier Six Shooter (.44-40). Late model, blue worn off 40% otherwise very good, imitation ivory steer grips, improved cylinder pin, $37.50. Permit or explanation, please.

Ohio purchasers unless dealers who send me their number must must pay the 3%. Want to visit me in Columbus where I work for my board, pals?

17—Practically New Colt Single Action .38 spl, with factory cylinder taking the .357 Magnum, and Yankee Specialty Co. bench loading tool, with dies for I think 06 loading. Several boxes excellent .38 spl. empties, one box NEW Magnum empties. $69.50.

18—CASED Westley Richards 16 gauge double bbl percussion shotgun. The hard to find gauge by the leading maker. Fine shape but someone polished spots on top of bbls so must be rebrowned, and weak spot near muzzle best be welded by one of those boys "who can weld a razor blade". Yes, there are plenty of that kind. $95.00. This outfit is fine.

19—French early wheelock pistol, Italian school of workmanship, so no decoration of pearl or ivory. Keith Neal says this far better than decorated ones. Repaired but looks swell. $150.00.

20—Pistol once owned by John Paul Jones, America's first big Naval Hero, authenticated, superior grade brass Navy Ketland, fine, $250.00. Young Jones (a descendent of John Paul Jones) and Keyser, college roomates went into Civil War together, Jones got killed and Keyser received the pisctol as tho they had a pact. So evidently this then old piece was known to have great importance in the Jones family. To me this is more of authentification than a paper would be. Human nature if studied tells a lot.

21—Another very good .44 Remington percussion revolver, blue dull and worn, otherwise very good thruout, $37.50.

22—Fair grade, good condition, percussion double 12 shotgun ok for shoot, nice patchbox, "Captured by Major Kennedy, Strawberry Hill, Richmond, Va. and presented to his father, 1864" it says on a silver plate. Have your cake and eat it! Use this War Relic. $19.50.

23—American muzzle double shotgun makers are very rare and rarer the guns. Here is a rusty but will clean up to a fine gun, ETHAN ALLEN. If cleaned and hammer not missing would be a $35.00 bargain. Clean and repair hammer and buy for $14.50. This one is good.

24—RARE US Springfield 1884 REPEATER, bolt action, no name, no number, .45-70, new but shows rack marks, $42.50. With bayonet.

25—Dandy Ky. curve heavy bbl fullstock original flinter, artificially figured maple, .56 smoothbore, old in every respect and fine. $95.00. Patchbox, cheekpiece, double set, two original back adjustable sites, hunting type, marked on bbl "WPJ".

26—Fine lite round bbl boys rifle, made near New London, Ohio, old, .29, $27.50. Bore seems good.

27—Dandy old Ky. halfstock percussion, lots of silver inlays, fault is burnt wood around tube, double cheekpiece, double figuration, very good bore, a $65.00 value for $35.00. Calibre .42. Deer and other decoration duplicated each side.

28—Medium halfstock needing overhaul, not bad, poor bore, .39, silver dog, brass round box. $15.00.

29—Long slim genuine Tryon Flinter, restored, stock needs some work. Bore beautiful, and known to be exceptionally accurate, .40, 47" bbl, $69.50.

30—R. Beebe, Springfield, OHIO, very accurate, .43 halfstock, patent hook breech, front thimble missing, stock fair, $24.50.

31—Halfstock, mess of small nickle inlays on buttstock, nickle box, Goulcher lock, patent hook breech, .32 bore looks good. This is a gun that looks to me to be a prize in superior construction but only fair finish, $25.00.

32—Beautiful patchboxed, .32 halfstock, patent hook breech, bore seems fair, $25.00. Needs oiling and cleaning.

34—Superb m-l Scheutzen. Superb I say, ACCURATE, heavy, needs reblue, .39, $75.00.

MILLER BEDFORD, New London, Ohio

MICHIGAN BIG GAME WITH M-L GUNS

by CARL BRABLEC



Fitz's Kentucky rests in the antlers of his eight-point buck. His .380 Navy Colt conical bullet stopped the buck in 20 yards.

SEVERAL weeks prior to the opening of the big game season in Michigan I sent a circular to all the muzzle loader shooters who were known by me to be going North. I asked them to note every measurable detail about their rifles and hunting experiences. They were asked, further, to report on the lethal properties of their shooting, bullet penetration and behavior of game after it was hit.

Let's start with Les Fitzgerald who took a .38 Jacob Sell Kentucky flinter (which, during a weak moment, I sold to him last year). He left the .52 Beck flinter at home, the while insisting that the squirrel calibre should be adequate in the hands of a woodsman-marksman. He did unbend from tradition to the extent of using a Navy Colt conical bullet. This bullet is .600 long, maximum diameter .380, although only .360 at base, and weighs 142 gr. The .012 greased cross-patch covers half the length of the bullet; no special loading tools, only starter and regular loading rod.

Backed by 48 grains of FFFg, the bullet covered 50 yds., entered high into the right shoulder of the 150 lb. eight-point buck, coursed into the lungs, went through the middle ribs on the other side and just failed of penetrating the hide, although the distorted lead lay hard against

(Continued on page 12)

WINDAGE AND ELEVATION

(Continued from page 7)

STILL NO LEAD SHOT . . . this is an item still frozen because of the scarcity of lead. We have it on right good authority that shotgun shell orders are already booked by the factories which will take all of that product they will be allowed to put out in 1946. We hope that this is not the situation, but if it is—let the brethren hang on to their good old muzzle loading scatter guns.

* * *

PERCUSSION CAPS . . . we are making inquiries and get inquiries "How many you need in 1946?" We estimate the shooters will call for three million of all sizes, including musket. It will be good news when we can announce that 9's, 10's, 11's, 12's, 13's and the musket size are coming back on the market. The price should be less when stock may be had on the open market, too.

* * *

BODENHEIMER rifles are being given a special treatment on our front cover this month. As we write this we do not know just what the layout will look like, but we surely are hopeful! This grand old artist was on a par with Vincent. Each had features they built into every firearm they put out—Vincent had the narrow toe and the deep groove extending back from the front of the comb for about six inches toward the butt while Bodenheimer had that cheekrest with the spiral ending in a small knob or button. Take a glass and see in how many details each Bodenheimer resembles all the others. Vincent used superb maple; Bodenheimer was an artist with his engraving and inlaying tools. The passing of such men should not discourage us . . . rather should their superb artistry challenge this generation to strive for similar skills and achievements.

* * *

GEORGE BRAMMER has been ill of late. A visit at the bedside found this grand old chap suffering with an attack of flu—as though his other ailments were not enough! But so long as Mr. Brammer draws a breath he will be thinking of the jobs the boys wanted done, but which he had to refuse on account of his difficulties.

* * *

ECHOES FROM the 1945 National Matches still pour in . . . one from a chap who attended and was on our firing squad —an annual memorial event to honor those who had passed on. Shows what one misses when he tries to do too many things. Never saw the firing squad, though the volley was heard up in the "sweat room" where scores were being assessed. Which brings us a good spot to remind all that the 1946 events will of necessity extend over a five day period. We have seen this coming; we know perfectly well now that a full eight day period—Sunday through the following Sunday—will be essential in a very few years.

* * *

"SKONK" PORTER is back from The Wars. Likely the Sea-Bees took pity on the poor chap and let him get back to Ann and his evil smelling black powder. Long live "Skonk" Porter!

* * *

GUNSMITHS OF ILLINOIS and adjoining states should be given a whirl in *Muzzle Blasts*. We are sure many plied their trade west of the Wabash . . . as witness Hawken, Gemmer and others widely publicized. Let's hear about others less well known.

* * *

True—A Man's Magazine—is carrying some fine articles by Lucian Cary. His coverage of our 1945 Shoot should appear very soon. Watch the bookstore displays for it.

* * *

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to the full 5200 members and that other 3000 we hope to greet as they enroll with us in 1946.

Michigan Big Game with M-L

(Continued from page 11)

it. The buck moved a total distance of 20 yds., in a tight circle, and dropped dead. With the exception of one neck shot some years ago, Fitz says this .38 killed more quickly, in this instance, than have big bores he has fired with round balls heretofore.

The bullet mushroomed perfectly with 1/16" of the base about intact and the rest flattened to ¾"x⅝", roughly ⅛" in average thickness.

Prior to the hunt, Les and I had tested our rifles on the Pontiac range. His barrel length was 43" with pitch of rifling being one turn in 48". At 100 yds. the above noted load and bullet gave excellent accuracy . . . well in the black, with never a suggestion of keyholing. At that range it penetrated 7" of soft pine, the round ball going in only 4" with the same charge.

Small-bore Fitz stands vindicated! *(Sure do, with his six deer in seven seasons with his flint guns!—Ed.)*

Seeley Dart, of Pontiac, carried a .45 calibre English Express double rifle, breech loaded with 26 grains of sharpshooter, fixed ammo., hand-loaded in cases made by him. Now, now, stop the snorting until you get the rest of the story. Last year Seeley took a .40 calibre round ball percussion combination and did not get the buck he wounded. He is to be pardoned for stepping up his artillery . . . and he got his buck this time. At 35 yds. his 405 gr. jacketed .45-70 soft-point bullet passed through a spikehorn slightly smaller than Les' deer. The hole where the bullet came out at the shoulder was not much bigger than the one made by the slug's entrance. Seeley kept the other barrel trained on the buck until the animal quit kicking. The deer had collapsed in his tracks when shot.

Seeley's 26" barrels have a pitch of one to 36", groove diameter .457, bore .450 and the slugs go very true at 100 yds., Seeley not having tried it beyond that range.

Seeley had only six cartridges with him. But he has made up a barrel of about 5"

(Contiued on page 16)

Distribution of Muzzle Blasts

NOVEMBER

Ohio, 772	Maine, 38
California, 454	Utah, 34
New York, 352	Nebraska, 33
Indiana, 351	Oklahoma, 32
Pennsylvania, 337	Montana, 31
Illinois, 319	Georgia, 30
Michigan, 269	Arizona, 27
New Jersey, 134	Wash'ton, D. C., 26
Texas, 117	Louisiana, 25
Massachusetts, 115	S. Dakota, 22
Washington, 105	Arkanasas, 21
Missouri, 102	Rhode Island, 20
Iowa, 102	Delaware, 19
Virginia, 96	Wyoming 19
Wisconsin, 86	Idaho, 19
West Virginia, 80	N. Hampshire, 17
Connecticut, 74	Vermont, 16
Oregon, 69	Alabama, 15
Kansas, 68	New Mexico, 14
Minnesota, 65	N. Dakota, 14
Maryland, 63	S. Carolina, 14
Kentucky, 62	Mississippi, 12
Florida, 61	Nevada, 9
Tennessee, 60	APO, 130
Colorado, 48	Out of U.S.A., 62
N. Carolina, 47	Misc., 50

TOTAL — 5,157



Before and After.
The bullet that did the job.

William Bodenheimer, Gunmaker

(Continued from page 3)

between 10 to 15 pounds and barrel lengths ran to 40 inches. Some guns came with false muzzles and starters. He seemed to prefer small calibre guns, as the majority of his guns were originally of .30 to .40 calibre.

The rifles illustrated on the cover page of this issue are typical of his workmanship and cover the span from his plainest to his more ornate pieces. They all show the detail of workmanship that is characteristic of all the work of this fine old gunmaker.

Restoring and Refinishing

(Continued from page 8)

ally work out all small scratches and file marks. Take light cuts and keep the file clean. Rub it on the palm of your hand every cut or two to remove chips, as a single chip in the file will scratch the barrel and double your work. Even with this care it is still the fastest method of hand filing your barrel.

Treating the Barrel

Next, use emery or Metalite cloth on a sanding block, going from coarse to fine grades and working lengthwise of the barrel. Then use the finer grades of abrasive paper and finish with No. 500 or crocus cloth. The barrel is now ready for blueing or browning, or may be lacquered if a bright finish is desired. Shotgun barrels were usually browned, since that finish brought out the fine pattern of the twisted or laminated barrels. A browned finish goes well with walnut stocks, can be applied with little difficulty and almost no equipment, but requires more time and care to properly apply than a blued finish. To discuss in detail the art of blueing and browning and the chemistry of formulae compounding would require a volume in itself. Since solutions are available on the market with sufficient instructions for their proper application, it is suggested that these be purchased. Anyone interested in making his own solutions may find the following books interesting and of value: *Firearm Blueing and Browning,* by R. H. Angier; *Modern Gunsmith,* by J. F. Howe; and *Modern Gunsmithing,* by Clyde Baker.

Blueing or browning is essentially a rusting of the metal brought about and hastened by chemicals. They differ from each other mostly in the treatment of the rusted piece; that is, blued parts are obtained by boiling or steaming the previously rusted parts while the brown parts are neither boiled nor steamed. Many formulae for brown parts also give very good black or blue colors merely by boiling after the parts are allowed to rust.

The process involves, briefly, the following steps: (1) thoroughly removing all grease from the barrel or other parts; (2) applying the solution, setting the part aside to allow the rust to form; and (3) boiling in water and (4) scratching off the rust with steel wool or soft wire brush. In the case of browned barrels, step 3 is eliminated and with it is eliminated the expense of a long black-iron tank. This process is repeated several times, two to six for blued parts and from four to twelve for browned parts. The unboiled rust is difficult to remove and requires much rubbing, but the beautiful brown color obtained more than justifies the extra work involved.

There are some formulae which permit a good blueing job to be made in a few hours instead of the days usually required. The steps are the same as above except that the rust forms in a few seconds instead of several hours. These types are somewhat more difficult to apply evenly because of the rapidity of rusting, but are better from the standpoint of getting the job finished quickly. Relative permanence of the fast and slower methods is said to be about the same.

One word of caution is appropriate at this time. There are several types of solutions on the market intended for touch-up work or small jobs. For these uses they are satisfactory enough. However, their permanence and wearing qualities are such that they are not recommended for large areas and especially for parts which receive average to hard service. These solutions blue by chemically coloring a compound placed on the metal, not by oxidizing the metal itself as is the case with the conventional types.

After the barrel has been blued or browned and the action of the solution stopped as recommended for the particular type used, coat the barrel with a good

(Continued on page 14)

ANNOUNCING A COMPLETE MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE SERVICE

Barrels rebored and rifled, .50 calibre only at this time. Other sizes to follow in the near future. New stocks in maple or walnut. Nipple Drums, Breech Plugs and Tangs; Nipples and other fittings. Lock work of all kinds. Welding.

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BEGINNERS ONLY
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E. M. Farris PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Flint Knapping

(Continued from page 4)

cessive flakes. (Fig. 3). The good flakes are separated from the poor and when a number have been cut the knapper proceeds to his finished knapping.

In knapping the knapper holds the flake (Fig. 4 and 5) against the knapping post in the block with the flat side of the flake up and the beveled side down against the post. The end protruding toward the knapper is the one to be struck off to make the individual flint. One properly placed blow cuts the flint from the flake and it is then dressed by successive light strokes of the knapping hammer. The flint is held against the post and quick, light blows of the hammer dress and shape it to desired specifications. Some knappers turn the knapping hammer to give the square edges but most seem to turn the hammer to chip the flint by being swung in very rapid strokes, which probably accounts for the term "knapping". of course, the over-all size is determined in the breaking of the individual flake, but the dressing of the individual flint from the flake, but the dressing and correcting of minor errors is done by this chip-chip-chip motion of the knapping hammer which, in the hands of the older knappers, takes on an almost automatic action and, even when he is not actually engaged in knapping the flint, he may continue to tap the table top at the precise position he would take were he actually knapping a flint.

Needless to say, while he is thus engaged in tapping, his free hand is seeking another flake from which to knap other flints. Mr. V. R. Edwards, of Brandon, told me that he could knap better than 400 flints per hour—that is, after the flakes have been cut.

Figure 6 illustrates a finished flint to my personal liking. The top should be perfectly flat, the under side should have a flat parallel to the top of sufficient size to be easily retained in the jaws of the cock and the "cutting" edge should be straight and keen that it may "cut" an even pattern of fire from the hammer. I prefer a flint with only one bevel or "cutting" edge, as the flint so made is more easily retained in the cock than one with a double bevel. The double-edged flint, however, has one advantage—it can be turned around when one edge is worn and give perhaps twice as many shots as the single-edged.

So the last bulwark of a once great business continues for those interested in the shooting of flint guns for the mere fun of it and it is the hope of yours truly that many more of us become interested in the flint gun for its true worth as well as fascination.

Restoring and Refinishing

(Continued from page 13)

grade of gun oil or rust inhibitive grease. Then place the sights in their slots, attach the barrel to the stock and the job is done.

The Result of Your Work

You will have spent many long hours and probably have a few sore fingers or an aching arm, but the transformation of a rusty relic into a thing of beauty soon makes you forget your hard work and your sore fingers. While it won't shoot a bit better, the fact that you have a nice looking gun, one which you are proud to show, might be just what is needed to encourage a bit more experimentation to find the right combination of factors to bring out its best shooting qualities. You have increased its value and have helped preserve it and protect it against the effects of handling and weather. And, finally, you have had a good many hours of enjoyment and deep down satisfaction. Tell me now, wasn't it fun?

THE END

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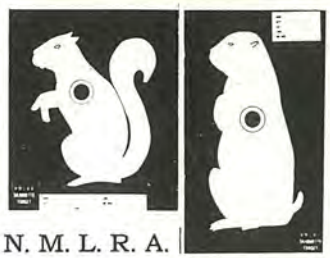
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Information Wanted

on

SHARPS COFFEE MILL CARBINES

* * *

RESEARCH is being made with a view to preparing a monograph on the Sharps Coffee Mill Carbine, and we would like to receive all possible data concerning this arm, historical facts concerning same, names of present owners, etc.

* * *

Standard Publications Inc.

Attention Herman P. Dean

Box 1240 Huntington 14, W. Va.

HAROLD HITCHCOCK, RFD 1, SAEGERSTOWN, PA.

TERMS—Cash with order, no C. O. D. or telegrams. Refunds made on guns if returned within 5 days in same condition as when shipped. All guns are in safe shooting condition with good drums and nipples, not guaranteed safe if you load them with smokeless powder or some other fool thing. Please take NOTICE that these old guns are getting mighty scarce so the first man that sends the money gets the gun. Don't send card asking if the gun "number blank" is in stock and hold for your check. If you want a quick answer to gunsmithing questions, or just questions, send a self addressed STAMPED envelope, as I am busy with gunsmithing,, specializing in Colts, flintlock, ignition and percussion locks, drums, nipples, recherrying moulds, etc.

No. 565—.44 calibre Kentucky Flintlock rifle, 36" octagon barrel, fair rifled bore. Curly maple full stock with Roman nose butt, brass trigger guard, butt plate and toe plate, 2 brass thimbles. Lock has probably been reconverted with old original parts and sparks exceptionally well, goose neck hammer, period about 1790. Complete with ramrod, wormer, mould and flint, $55.00.

No. 65—.38 calibre percussion rifle, 34" octagon barrel, good rifled bore. Hi-Grade walnut half stock with a very fine engraved long open work patch box. Side plate, trigger guard, butt plate, 2 barrel key plates, all brass. Engraved 8 pointed silver star in left side of stock. Also 7 other engraved silver inlays. Engraved bar action lock, single trigger, open sights, hi-grade ramrod with brasstip. This rifle was used 45 seasons on squirrels. It is a good shooter, complete with mould and charger, $29.50.

No. 598—.39 calibre percussion plains type rifle, 37" half octagon barrel, fair rifled bore. Walnut half stock with silver 8-pointed star in cheek piece. Silver name plate in wrist, silver inlay opposite lock, 2 silver key plates. Large round brass patch box, brass trigger guard, butt plate, toe plate. Engraved bar action lock, D. S. triggers. Complete with ramrod and mould, $25.00.

No. 563A—36 calibre precussion rifle (plains type) 34" octagon barrel, rifled; needs freshing. Walnut half stock, brass spur trigger guard andtrim; D. S. triggers. Bar action lock. Complete with ramrod. $15.00.

No. 566—14 gauge percussion sporting musket, 38" round barrel with front and rear sights. Walnut full stock, checkered at wrist, engraved trigger guard. Butt plate, large eagle in cheek piece, dog inlay behind cheek piece; extra large spread eagle with ribbon in right side of butt, 8 key plates, 4 ramrod thimbles, side plate name, forend tip all in German silver. Very hi-grade bar action lock marked 'Earps & McMain". Lock converted from flint. Lock, hammer and tang are finely engraved. S. S. trigger, gun is in exceptionally good condition except small crack andchip gone under lock. With original ramrod, $29.50.

No. 572—16 gauge double barreled percussion, 32" barrels marked "Harte, New York", good bores. Walnut stock checkered at wrist,engraved iron trim. Bar action locks marked "Harre". Hi-grade workmanship throughout. Remember, American percussion shotguns are rare. Complete with ramrod, $18.50.

No. 574—.58 calibre U. S. model 1861 Springfield rifle, 40" barrel, perfect rifled bore, full walnut stock as issued. Veery good shooting iron, and getting scarce. Complete with box musket caps, ramrod and wormer, $22.50.

No. 577—10 gauge S. B. breech loading special long range goose gun, 40" rd BBL. Full choke, fair to good bore; frame marked "Davenport". This company was noted for its duck and goose guns. Walnut stock and forend. Weight 10½ lbs. Good condition throughout with 10 shells, $25.00.

No. 589—.45-70 Springfield carbine model 1884, good bore, complete as issued, not a cutdown rifle, good condition, 1 box shells, $15.50.

No. 604—.52 calibre Burnside carbine, 21" round barrel, fair bore. Walnut stock early model made without forestock, complete as issued, good mechanical condition with one original cartridge, $15.00.

NORWAY

Franz Rosenburg has written us—much relieved that the Nazi has been chased and subdued. Better yet, he sends word that some of his firearms are beginning to show up here and there. Many were left behind when the Nazis decided the jig was up, giving the rightful owners an opportunity to identify and repossess some of their pets.

We won't be happy until Mr. Rosenberg is seen at a National Shoot over here. One son lives in the U. S. A. and another would be welcome—as a student in any of our universities.

WE'RE PULLING FOR YOU, HENRY!

Henry Dillon, Marion, Indiana, reports he is up and around with the help of some crutches. We know for certain he is much improved, since he quickly caught the bevy of beauty on page 13 of our November issue . . . and there was a visible flutter of excitement in the office when we read his remarks.

Henry promises to be on the firing line in the 1946 National Matches . . . no longer as a junior but a heap big man! He will be most welcome.

ANNOUNCING . . .

THE GUNSMITH'S MANUAL

By STELLE & HARRISON

Being a reprint of this early classic (Published in 1882), which for decades was THE standby and authority amongst professional gunsmiths of America.

A 396 page book of detailed instruction for gunsmiths, mainly relating to the methods employed in the making, stocking and repairing of muzzle loading firearms, both flint and cap lock. Replete with drawings of the special tools necessary to carry out the work of boring, rifling, restocking, blueing, finishing, replacement of nipples and tubes, making and positioning gun hammers, making of gun screws—in fact, everything needed by the early gunsmiths, plus instruction for the making of the tools to do the job with. Considerable data is included regarding the early American breech loaders, with instructions for dismounting and assembly.

Here is a book which every muzzle loading fan should have, as it was the Shooter's Bible back in the heyday of the muzzle loader.

PRICE $4.00 DELIVERED

25 other books of same nature, better send for catalog.

THOMAS G. SAMWORTH
Plantersville, S. C.

A Happy New Year

DO YOU KNOW

—that the "per reader" cost of advertising in Muzzle Blasts is surprisingly low?

We are ready to take care of about fifty barrels this winter; first come, first served. The same kind of work found in the best match rifles that get to the National Matches. We can make the gun shoot but we cannot make a shooter out of a man that just cannot shoot. A poor shot cannot shoot the best rifles that are made. We rifle them so they will shoot and try out every gun before it leaves our shop. If the complete gun is sent in, it can be shipped by Parcel Post by simply wiring complete gun to a board. It will be returned Parcel Post C. O. D. when finished.

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Specialize in Muzzle Loading Match Rifles
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Cartridges for Collectors

Gun Books

New Catalog No. 12 mailed for 10c

P. OBERHAMMER, Munchen three barrel gun-double, 16-ga. above, .38-55 rifle barrel below. Front trigger operates right shot barrel and rifle barrel. Hammer model, but fairly late and will stand modern loads, under lever opening. Engraved metal parts. Sling swivels. Folding open barrel sight, folding tang peep. Has base for scope. Cheek piece on stock. Very good. $65.00.

J. P. Sauer & SOHN, SUHL, 7.65mm (.32ACP) double action auto. pistol—latest model. Blued. Excellent. In leather holster. $45.00.

Remington-Smoot SA revolver, .38 Colt cal., 3¾" barrel. Nickeled. Fine. Marked "U.S.X. 27416" on butt. One of those used by the old U. S. Express Co. $11.75.

BELGIAN 7mm pinfire DA revolver, 3⅛" round barrel, Rod ejector. Folding trigger. Very good—AND very unusual in that it is all brass except hammer and trigger and grips. Cylinder and frame highly engraved. $17.50.

Massive musket flint lock (lock only), 6⅜" long, 4" high. Brass flash pan. Complete and usable as is—but needs a bit of cleaning and 1 sear guard replaced. $6.75.

J. Moser flint lock (lock only), 5" long, 2½" to top of hammer. Very well made. Complete. Very good. $6.50.

COLT .38-40 cylinder and base pin bushing. New. $5.00.

COLT .38-40 barrel, 5½". Used. Good. $3.00.

Four old TRIANGULAR BAYONETS, .60 calibre to .45-70. All different. The lot, $4.50.

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Books sent postpaid.
Carriage extra on other items.

The Holiday Season

is but one of the many times in which we hold our friends and patrons in kindly remembrance. We want to take this means of expressing to you our deep appreciation of your patronage during the past year and wish you

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

George W. Whitney, "Whit's" Gun Shop, Fredonia, N. Y.

Michigan Big Game with M-L

(Continued from page 12)

in length which chambers into his rifle and takes a .32 center fire pistol cartridge. With this he whacks down snowshoe rabbits at such times as the wilderness has exhausted his shooting restraints.

So much for those who have venison, and now something about others who got . . . experience.

Ray Russell of Rochester, Michigan, carried a .58 percussion rifle by Theodore Gehrmann, Berlin; 10 lbs., 30" full oct. barrel, .571 round ball of 250 gr. supported by 85 gr. of FFg. Rus took a shot through some heavy stuff without effect, the critter standing dutifully until the hunter had completed reloading (with nonchalance, we presume). Then Rus be-

(Continued on page 19)

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GENEROUS REWARD (cash or guns) for your assistance in locating purchaseable antique firearms collection. Fair values paid. No delays. Anywhere in U. S. JAMES SERVEN, Santa Ana, California. (tf)

WANTED—Always interested in fine authentic original Kentucky rifles, Kentucky pistols, early engraved American powder horns and rare arms literature. HERMAN P. DEAN, Box 1240, Huntington 14, W. Va. (1-46P)

GUNS—Modern, antique, all kinds. Ammunition, loading tools and supplies. Lists 10c. GEORGE BRULLESAUER, 3957 A Castleman, St. Louis 10, Missouri. (2-46P)

ANTIQUE AND USED FIREARMS. Send 10c for list. H. A. BRAND, 1008 Ingalls Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio. (tf)

WANTED—Pistols made in U. S. Single pieces or entire collections. Particularly interested in flint locks and early Colts. LOCKE, 3607 Ault Park Road, Cincinnati, Ohio. (tf)

ILLUSTRATED 145 page catalog of antique firearms, edge weapons, 25c. ROBERT ABELS, 860 Lexington Avenue, New York 21, N. Y. (12-45P)

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TO ARMS COLLECTORS—We specialize in fine antique American and European arms. Send twenty-five cents in coin for our 13th edition catalog. Antique arms purchased. Fair prices paid. Also liberal commission paid for information leading to purchase of collections. KIMBALL ARMS COMPANY, Woburn, Mass. (tf)

GENUINE U. S. Rangers cutlass, blades only. Brand new. Never mounted, 29" curved blade 1½" wide, of high quality tool steel, finely blued. Handle has three holes for rivets, makes fine knives, machettes, etc. $1.25 each; sealed package of 10 for $9.50. No C. O. D. MORTON'S, 40 Fulton Street, New York 7, N. Y. (6-46P)

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ALL RISKS INSURANCE for gun collectors. W. J. ROBBINS & COMPANY, 885 North LaSalle St., Chicago 10, Ill. (9-46P)

POWDER FLASKS wanted by collector. Furnish full description and price. WILTON MEYER, Box 3591, Long Beach 3, Calif. (3-46P)

WANTED—"Wm. Wingert, Detroit" rifles and pistols. Also want Hawken's rifles by Jacob or Samuel, five Mills, Butler and Golscher Plains rifles, carved or engraved powder horns, small quantity of .38-90 Winchester Express cartridges or empty cases. Will buy or trade modern guns for above. RALPH N. WINGERT, Paola, Kansas. (12-45U)

ANTIQUE FIREARMS WANTED—Especially percussion and frontier Colts and Remingtons. Cash for one piece or a collection. Write, describing fully and stating price. THE GUN SHOP, The Store for Men, Marshall Field & Co., Chicago, Ill. (3-46U)

HOWARD C. CAMPBELL, restocking, repairing, blueing. 20 Elvin Avenue, Penns Grove, N. J. (7-46P)

WANTED—Lady collector, just starting, wishes to purchase antique firearms, all types. MISS ANNA BRAVERMAN, 446 Monroe St., Passaic, New Jersey. (4-46P)

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES—"Hand Cannon to Automatic". Over 200 pages of interesting, educational and pictorial information on the development of hand arms. Price $5.00 per book postpaid. Order direct from the author—HERSCHEL C. LOGAN, 400 South 9th St., Box M, Salina, Kansas. (12-45P)

PRIDE OF CRAFTSMANSHIP insures you work of the highest quality on all arms, match locks to moderns, inclusive. Gadgets, bullet moulds, Schuetzen and muzzle loader specialties. JUDSON S. DARROW, Custom Gunsmith, Woodbury, Conn. (4-46P)

FOR SALE—Wm. Wingert, Detroit, walnut half stock rifle. About .38 calibre. German silver trim, $25.00. Buffalo powder horn with patent charger, $3.00. .44 calibre Colts mould, $5.00. Four nice old violins, $50.00 to $75.00 values, $35.00 each or $120.00 for the lot. Cases included. F. G. WEAVER, 104 South Logan Street, Lansing, Michigan. (12-45P)

MUZZLE LOADING rifles and shotguns for sale. Send 5c for large list. OLLIE MILLER, 417 Kingston, Le May, Missouri. (12-45P)

NOW THAT THE last pheasant hunter is on his way and my deer and antelope are safe in the locker I can again apply myself to the gun shop. I am installing a lot of new equipment and hope to do more and better work in the future. I expect to employ my entire time in the shop until another hunter's moon is shining on Buffalo Lake. Merry Christmas to all and more power to your powder! STARR, The Muzzle Gunsmith, Eden, South Dakota. (12-45P

.31 COLT, 4", bright, all matching numbers. Fair shape to good. Trade for .36 Colt or .44 Remington or sell, $15.00. WICKER, Stouts Mills, West Virginia. (12-45P)

WADS—10, 12, 16 or 20 gauge, wool felt, ¼", $2.90 per 1000. Hair felt, 5/16", $3.25 per 1000. CLARENCE FELL, 4114 Monroe, Kansas City, Missouri. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—Twelve Smith & Wesson revolvers, all different, first model to hammerless—$12.00 each for the lot. GEORGE A. HENSLEY, 2692 E Street, San Diego 2, Calif. (12-45P)

MUZZLE LOADING GUNS repaired. Bullet moulds, wad cutters, nipples. Stock sizes or special order. Reblueing or browning. Lock, stock and barrel work done. Send inquiries. JOHN B. MILLER, 51 Highland Ave., Windsor, Conn. (12-45P)

SELL—Colts collection, .22 pistols, cyl. rifle, $750.00. Also two Kentucky flints, full stocks, no cracks, inlays, both rifles good condition, $130.00 each or $250.00 both. Stamp for information. W. H. LYDICK, Moundsville, West Virginia. (12-45P)

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WANTED—Vernier tang sight for Pacific Ballard, single shot Ballards, Sharps, Stevens rifles; .38 rimfire rifle or pistol; .44 center fire Colt, factory conversion. All must be very good or better. For sale—1873 Winchester .22 short, good working order, $11.00. M. BUCHMAN, Disp., Naval Air Station, Astoria, Ore. (12-45P)

MAGAZINE CAP SHAPER for holding No. 11 caps. Price $1.00. H. C. SWENSON, Redwood Estates, Calif. (12-45P)

WANTED—Original Waters percussion pistols. Good condition. Description and price to N. S. WAGNER, 2624 First St., Baker, Oregon. (12-45P)

WALTHER .22 AUTOMATIC model PP illustrated in October "Rifleman", $100.00 or trade for .357 Smith & Wesson Magnum, fine Schuetzen, late 52 heavy barrel or similar. RAY ROBERTSON, Republic, Missouri. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—.31 Colt 6" percussion, very good with mould, $25.00; .44-40 Colt Frontier, 5½" barrel, very good, $30.00; 1858 musket, good to very good, $10.00. No ramrod. Want—Colt musket. L. GLISSMEYER, 669 West Center St., Salt Lake City, Utah. (12-45P)

SUPERIOR CROSSBOWS are made to shoot hard and straight. Several models, for hunting and target, including bullet and bolt combination (made to order) hunting, and my own self-cocking shooting gallery model, splendid opportunity for shooting gallery all year round. Circassian walnut stocks. Blanks for sale. Post card brings particulars. SUPERIOR CROSSBOWS, Box 34, Vernon, California. (12-45P)

SELL—1863 Trenton musket, new barrel, extra nipple for No. 11 caps, wrench, bayonet, cartridge and cap pouches, new mould, $27.50. 1860 Colt .44, no finish, some pits, tight, good shooter, $17.50. Pair imported English riding boots, 11½ D, excellent, $15.00. Mauser auto., .32, very good, box Kleanbore, $20.00. H&R .38 hammerless, nickel, pearl, very good in, good out, $7.50. ANDERSON, 1117 Yeadon Avenue, Yeadon, Pa. (12-45P)

NOW AVAILABLE—Stock finishing and refinishing materials with instructions on proper application. Contains finish remover (wax-free), special gun stock hard oil, rubbing oil compound, Walnut filler-stain combination, steel wool, etc. Guaranteed satisfaction. $3.15 postpaid direct or see your dealer. VICTOR O. ELLSTROM, B&R Finishing Company, Westminster, Mass. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—.41 Swiss Vetterli, very good condition, $12.50; High grade English pinfire shotgun, $30.00. E. S. WALTHERY, 31 Walthery Avenue, Ridgewood, New Jersey. (12-45P)

FLINT LOCK BLUNDERBUSS—32" overall, 16" brass barrel, three British proofs (crown over V, crown over CP, crown over TH), muzzle bore 1¼", lock marked "Henshaw" but partially obliterated, goose-neck cock, stock sound with few wormholes, engraved butt-plate, good working condition. Ramrod missing—early and rare. Price $95.00. JEREMY K. PAULUS, 71 Cedar St., Braintree 84, Massachusetts. (12-45P)

REPLACEMENT PARTS MADE, authentic restorations; originals on hand to pattern after. Any size wad cutter made, $3.00. Welding, brazing and silver soldering of parts, etc. ROBERT ENEWOLD, 7921 North 39th St., Omaha, Nebraska. (12-45P)

WANTED—Japanese samurai swords, matched pairs of one long and one short, or singles. Describe, giving blade length and overall length, condition and price wanted. WILLIAM WATSON, 1867 North Leavitt St., Chicago 47, Illinois. (12-45P)

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850 2" ROUND PATCHES, preshrunk and de-sized, unknapped, 7 oz. flannel. For shooting or cleaning, pen wipers or pants patches. $1.00 postpaid. Free samples for self-addressed envelope. Wholesale to jobbers and gunsmiths. Want rifle or pistol for .41 CF short or long, .45-70 cases, 44½ Stevens and Winchester H.W. actions, any type of black powder .44 arms. JIM MORAN, 5 Edgewood Village, Kingsport, Tennessee. (12-45P)

VERY GOOD .41 COLT, new 4" barrel, loading tool, 150 primed cases, $45.00; Modern-Bond loading tool with dies for .25-20 single shot, .25-25, .38 special, .30-40, .30-06, $25.00; engraved T. Parker 10-gauge hammer shotgun, reblued, $23.00; 100 various sportsmans magazines, $3.00. Want—.44-77 Sharps cartridges or cases. WM. J. SEYMOUR, Hinton, Iowa. (12-45P)

COLLECTORS AND SHOOTERS—Send 6c in stamps for my latest list of Kentucky rifles, percussion revolvers, military arms. "Selling Since 1933." CALVIN HETRICK, New Enterprise, Pa. (12-45P)

RARE COLT NEW LINE, .30 calibre, mint condition, $35.00: Colt New Line, nickel, .32 CF, mint condition, with 6 boxes of cartridges, $35.00; Colt Army model of 1860, no rammer, tight, shoots good, finish poor, $10.00; Colt Navy model of 1851, rare square back trigger guard, finish pitted, from the Frank Belden collection, $40.00; Colt New Line, calibre .22, very good, $15.00; Colt Old Line, .22, open top, low hammer, nickel, good, $15.00; Colt Old Line, .22, open top, high hammer, inoperative, $12.50; Colt model 1855, Root's patent, rare model with screw in cylinder, some finish, $30.00; cased Colt model 1855, Root's patent, full fluted cylinder, all accessories, very good, $85.00; Springfield carbine, .45-70, with 2 boxes of cartridges, 40 empty cases and complete reloading tools, good, $25.00; M-L rifle, no name, .43 calibre, some bullets, inside good, outside fair, $25.00; John M. Caswell M-L rifle (marked "J.M.C.), calibre about .47, excellent, with mould, $75.00. Stamp please. IVAN BERRYMAN, Powell, Wyoming. (12-45P)

WANTED—1 Remington .50 calibre pistol, spur-trigger; 1 Jacquier percussion revolver; 1 Wesson-Leavitt percussion, calibre .44. Other makes of Civil War revolvers and carbines. J. A. WINKELMAN, Placerville, California. (3-46)

SNOWSHOES, large, with bindings, $6.00 or swap for small gauge shotgun or .22 rifle. E. NETZBANDT, Bismarck, North Dakota. (12-45P)

WANTED—Penny banks. Old mechanical toy penny banks made of cast iron or tin. State price and describe fully. All letters answered. DAVID APPEL, 1254 Teller Avenue, New York 56, New York. (1-46P)

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Unfired P38, holster, extra magazine, some ammunition, $75.00. Late .38 Smith M&P, 200 rounds, $60.00. .22 Crossman, target and pellets, $25.00. All in excellent condition. Want .22 or M-L rifles or revolvers. ERWIN L. VOGEL, 919 Schiller St., Louisville 4, Kentucky. (12-45P)

WANTED—information regarding converting single action .44 calibre pistol to .22 long rifle. I. A. MILLER, 6705 Navigation Blvd., Houston 11, Texas. (12-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—Colt .45 S. A., 7" barrel, $40.00; Colt .38 special S. A., 7" barrel, $40.00; Colt .32-20 S. A., 4¾" barrel, $32.50; hand carved leather holster and belt for .38 special S. A., $10.00; flintlock pistol, large, $30.00; another flintlock pistol, large, $27.50; Starr, .44 conversion, $30.00; Beals .38 CF conversion, $27.50; Colt .44 D. A. Phillipine, $27.50. Will sell all to one buyer for $250.00. HAROLD CANNON, 165 Gage Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana. (12-45P)

HAVE 3 BURNSIDE CARBINES, 1 Hall flintlock rifle, Spencer carbine, "My Friend" Knuckleduster, .22 calibre, over-and-under egg flintlock pistol. Want .31 calibre rifle, barrel in good shape. Sell or trade. Make offer. NEIL INGRAHM, 218 E. Marietta, Peoria, Illinois. (12-45P)

SELL OR TRADE—U. S. Canton 1808 flint musket converted to percussion. Complete, bright and clean, condition good, $14.00. Springfield 1873, .45-70 rifle, unaltered, condition very good, $12.00. Springfield 1866, .50-70 rifle, unaltered, condition good, $12.00. Belgian single percussion shotgun, bore pitted, otherwise good, $3.00. Forehand & Wadsworth 1881 breech loading, single, 10-gauge shotgun, bore pitted, firing pin missing, fair to good, $3.00. Want other U. S. long arms, pistols and revolvers, powder flasks, moulds. Questions asked. JOHN E. BURKE, 1 Meadow Avenue, Lonsdale, R. I. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—Moore 12-gauge double percussion shotgun in good shooting condition, $17.50 or will trade for very good Colt —58 muzzle loading rifle. RAYMOND CHRISTENSON, Plaza, North Dakota. (12-45P)

HAEMMERLI International Match Martini, .30-06, 24" barrel, Lyman 48 rear, ramp front, metal stock fittings and butt-plate missing, action perfect mechanically, otherwise good in and out, $65.00 or trade for Farquharson action. Light Greener Martini action, center fire, with partly finished myrtlewood stock, $15. Ross .280 sporting rifle, bolt missing, very good out, perfect in, $20.00. CHARLES R. WEEKS, 307 East Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia. (12-45P)

SINGLE SPECIMEN Price List No. 407 of collectors cartridges, 20c; 4 sheet list of shooters' ammo., 10c; 2 sheet list of empty shotgun shells, wads, primers and shot for shot shell reloaders, 10c. (3 separate lists). Which??? CHAS. SHATTUCK, Cherry Creek, New York. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—Three flint lock Kentucky rifles from my collection. One is by Sweitzer, one is a Bedford rifle and one is the E. Boone rifle illustrated in Dillin's Plate 115. Write for detailed descriptions and prices. J. E. AIKEN, 225 Orange St., S.E., Washington 20, D. C. (12-45P)

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Lowall Winchester action, .22 RF, $10.00. 44 Stevens, fair to good, target sights, .25-20, $10.00. Sharps side hammer D.S.T., .45-70, about good, $18.00. Stevens tip-up .32-20, perfect inside, good out, with old Winchester tool, $18.00. Hi-grade 44 type Stevens, action only, in white ,center fire, D.S.T., $11.00. Hi-wall Winchester, $25.00. Perfect 44 Stevens with heavy smokeless steel barrel, rebushed, scope blocks, only $20. Allen and Thurber pepper box, abou t.32 calibre, fair to good, $12.00. Want round ball Schuetzen rifle. RICHARD STRITE, Rt. 11, Le May 23, Missouri. (12-45P)

CARBINES—Sharps slant breech, Maynard primer, brass patch box, $17.50. Sharps 1863, Lawrence primer, $10.00. Spencer & Burnside, $10.00 each. London .455 Colt (Alaskan Model), very good, $22.50. Want pistols. H. WHELPLEY, 77 Mountain Road, New Haven 15, Conn. (12-45P)

SEND 10c for latest list of antique firearms. GLODE M. REQUA, Box 43, Monsey, N. Y. (2-46P)

WANTED—Luna Pistol No. 210, Stoeger catalog No. 32; Stoeger .08 calibre miniature double action revolver; Stoeger .17 calibre Liliput automatic. ROBERT W. KNIGHT, Seneca Falls, New York. (2-46P)

FOR SALE—Powder horn. 12 inches long, 3" across butt, brass collar and spout on butt. Has inscription "His Horn, David Willson Derefield, the 18th 1747 February, David Willson of Holles". Cap has "V.T.D. 1857". $50.00 or trade for flintlock rifle in shooting order. MARVIN HALL, Box 104, So. Charleston, W. Va. (12-45P)

FOR SALE—Remington .44 1858 new mod. revolver, excellent, $38.00; mould for same $3.50; Marlin pump, take down .25-20, good, stock beautiful, $30.00. BOB WINGER, 719 Broad St., Montoursville, Pa. (12-45P)

Michigan Big Game with M-L

(Continued from page 16)

thought himself to clamber up a stump for better views. The buck wouldn't put up with such nonsense and left the scene of intended action. A double rifle would not likely have helped in this case.

George Brablec of Britton, carried a Poultney-Trimble .52 carbine, breech loading it with a short slug and loose powder. He likes a short gun for the swamps, where he thought deer should be. There is no more to the story.

John Gaskin, Detroit, loaded 70 gr. of FFg into his fine .45 Ky. flintlock. The round ball nestled in .015 greased drilling and never headed for any cud-chewing quadruped . . . or b'ar either.

The writer made up his own double over-under percussion from new condition .45-70 barrels. I shot a 410 gr. wadcutter slug, no cannelures, and very thin, greased, cross-patch. Accuracy with 75 gr. of FFg is excellent. My idea was to have enough artillery to down the game and not lose it in event shot was not placed to best advantage. This may not sound wholly sportsmanlike, but I get very lonely for some shooting after a week in the silent woods of the Upper Peninsula. Had I seen decent antlers through the jackpines and the shot was something less than a perfect target, I'm one of those blankety-blanks who might be persuaded to touch ner off. I saw nothing except a white weasel, which failed to survive one slug at a range of 19 feet.

For RESULTS—Try a Classified Ad

OBITUARY

Warren Ritter, Brooklyn—a lover of fine muzzle loading arms and a fine chap to know. Ben Tomlinson, New York City, often visited him. One never wearied when in Warren's apartment—not if he was a gun enthusiast.

The secretary had one visit with him about 1940 . . . came away with some choice arms and a keen appreciation of Mr. Ritter.

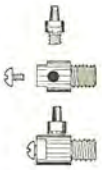
For many years a semi-invalid, he was hoping he could have his vitality built up and then undergo another operation when the end came.

Tomlinson says: "He was a fine fellow, a sportsman and a square shooter. May his soul rest in peace!"

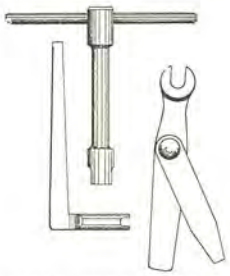
MUZZLE GUN SUPPLY STATION

NEW DRUMS AND NIPPLES
with Priming Screw **Set 75c**

NEW NIPPLE STOCK



Dimensions:
5/6"—18 - 24 thread
3/8"—16 - 24 thread
7/16"—14 - 22 thread



NIPPLE WRENCHES
Specify Rifle, Revolver or Musket
—75c—

All with small opening at top except as noted.
No. 11 caps fit.
.310 Base—24 Thread (Musket) .262 Base—28 Thread
.287 Base—28 Thread .250 Base—28 Thread
The .250 in small or large opening at top.
.225 Base—32 Thread (No. 11 cap).
This is for Revolvers, except Whitney.
.206 Base—40 Thread—*Whitney.*
FOR MUSKETS
.3135 Base—24 Thread—Musket Cap.
ALL NIPPLES 25c — 5 for $1.00 — 100 for $17.50
One size or assorted.

MAIN SPRING VISES 75c
TAPS—¼"—28 Thread—starter and finisher. Pair 45c
WAD CUTTERS, 11-ga. only—OK for 12-ga. M-L Shot Guns $1.25

SHOT — BIRD AND BUCK — SHOT
(Out until further notice)

BLACK POWDER
(No License Required)
6¼ lb. can—$4.00 25 lb. can—$12.50

PERCUSSION CAPS
(No License Required)
No. 11 Remington — Fresh Stock — F O B, $2.85

SIGHTS
WIN. Vernier Tang, elevation only $5.50
LYMAN 17A—for Win. Std., Savage, etc. $2.50

MAGAZINE CLIPS
5 Shot—Win. 75 and 52 ..... $1.25
10 Shot—Win. 75 and 52 ..... $2.00
RIFLED SLUGS—12 or 16 ga. ..... 15c each; 100, $13.50

ROUND BALL MOULDS
Brass rigid blocks, good wood handles—sizes .285, .315, .325, .352, .362, .377, .392, .436, .445, .450, .465, .496, .527, .575, .595. ..... $5.00
.575 Hollow Base MINIE MOULDS, sprue cutter, $8.00
A wait of 10 days to 3 weeks may be necessary on moulds.
200 unused, unprimed, 16-ga. KYNOCH Brass Shells, paper lined. ..... Each 20c
Win. M97 Shotgun roughed out stocks, steel butt plate, fair to good walnut—easy to fit. ..... Each $1.25
GUN BOOKS—See our list elsewhere in this issue.
LEATHER CAP CONTAINERS—Civil War Stock, Top Condition 75c
LEATHER CARTRIDGE BOXES—Civil War Stock, Metal Compartments $1.25
Black Flexible Ring BINDERS for *Muzzle Blasts,* $1.75

OHIO CUSTOMERS—PLEASE ADD 3% SALES TAX

ADJUSTABLE POWDER MEASURE

Two-thirds Actual Size



ELIMINATE GUESS WORK!
Adjustable from Zero to 100 Gr.
(Black or Semi-Smokeless Only)

SIMPLE—SENSIBLE—DEPENDABLE

$3.50

GUN LIST

CALLERWOOD flint lock rifle, full stock of maple, solid at wrist, feather and repaired up along forestock. Barrel 41½"x1", good brown, original sights. Bore .380, seems OK, Lock fair condition. Small brass patch box, hinged to swing up instead of out. Good brass furniture. Price $47.50.

GEO. H. FERRISS .32 cal. half stock rifle in tip-top shape. Both peep and open rear, hooded front sight. Everything original but rear open sight, a good replacement. Good bore—good every way. Octagonal barrel 30"x13/16", turned round at muzzle. D. s. triggers, custom built lock. Walnut stock has good finish . . . no broken places. Good for boy or lady. Weight 8½ pounds. With accessories, $40.00.

LIGHT SQUIRREL RIFLE, half stock of maple—solid, clean. Cheek rest. Brass furniture. Barrel 35"x15/16". Bore .34 calibre. Good shooter. Back action lock, d.s. triggers. Weight 8¼ pounds. Identify as SP-5. With accessories, $39.50.

SP-6—Light half stock squirrel rifle, fine maple with keen finish—solid. Four brass inlays. Fine brown finish on barrel; no excessive sight slots. Barrel 36"x⅞"; .36 calibre; Good condition. Open sights. Cheek rest left side; spiral ornament on right side of butt stock. Weight 8 pounds. With accessories. $47.75.

X-2-X Half stock SQUIRREL RIFLE. Solid maple, showing some wear; no cheek rest, no ornaments—plain but good. Riddle bar lock; d.s. triggers. Brass trim. Barrel 38"x1"; bore .40 calibre, fine condition. Peep rear, blade front. Accessories. Price $38.50.

H. BURNS—Full stock of maple (lamp black and oil finish). Tight, solid—sixteen silver inlays. Beautiful brass patch box 8" long—unusually fine design and condition. Fine cheek rest with eight-point star. Ornament on forestock of fine design, 5" long. Octagonal barrel 36"x1", rounded at muzzle. Good back action lock; d.s. triggers. Barrel stamped "Dayton", in addition to H. BURNS which is in script. Barrel lined by Addicks; bore .36 calibre . . . as new. This is an unusually fine outfit. $75.00.

BODENHEIMER . . . typical spirals on both sides of butt stock, no other fancy work. Half stock of superior curly maple with dark finish . . . solid and clean. Barrel is octagonal, fine brown finish; 36½"x1", bore .34 calibre. Fancy bar lock by Sowers. Bodenheimer d.s. triggers. Brass butt plate and trigger guard. Block tin stock fore-tip. Original open sights. Here is a hunting piece and a show item. Accessories. $67.50.

E. MINER Schuetzen. Patent breech by P. SCHULER. Walnut stock with excessive cheek piece! Steel Swiss type butt plate and trigger guard. Original open sights; rear peep is missing. Octagonal barrel 31¾"x1"; bore .36 calibre; condition fair. Weight 11½ pounds. A good show piece; will shoot when tuned up. Accessories. $47.50.

E. M. FARRIS, N. & W. RY. Y. M. C. A., PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Elmer Anderson
1282 Dutton Ave.
Santa Rosa, Calif.

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VII | PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, JANUARY, 1946 | NUMBER 5



EXTENSION STOCKS

by HERSCHEL C. LOGAN

author "Hand Cannon to Automatic"

"THE OLD MAN" BROADCASTS

by H. L. KNEPPER

Editorial

Progress Is Certain . . .

WE MOVE with care in the direction of a School for Gunsmiths. A Committee, headed by B. LeRoy Compton, has this matter in hand and hopes to be able to report some definite progress very shortly. Prospects are good, we may say now.

We have voted, overwhelmingly, to support a new location and the expense incidental thereto. We thank you for this—it very plainly amounts to "a vote of confidence".

Clubs are coming out of the War situation . . . they call for postal matches and some new events in our National—all positive evidence that our customers are interested and progressive.

One of the top items of news at the moment is the move afoot at Cos Cob and Greenwich, Connecticut, to finance a tract for rifle (muzzle loading and modern), pistol and shotgun ranges. The time is opportune for such promotion not only in that community but in many locations all over this nation. The cry seems to be "Let's get out of the gutter!" Timely it is, too. Proper cultivation of the sportsmen should bring a most favorable reaction to an effort in this direction. It is quite possible—in many locations—to secure the cooperation of municipal authorities. Never was there a time when recreational facilities were being given a better consideration . . . all but the shooting angle. Now is the time to give those who don't know the facts a good course in the fundamentals of the game . . . a bit of shooting, some "do's and don'ts" in safety, and a big shot of the pleasure that comes from safe and sane handling of firearms—especially the frontier types. It is bound to react favorably if handled with wisdom by capable parties.

New gunsmiths are coming out of their burrows . . . you will find this true in scanning our advertising. Many are chaps who got their start when the muzzle loaders were still a household necessity . . . and we need them—muchly. Some few shops are out with offers to make gun barrels—where are those stock makers hiding? In this latter direction we surely do need relief.

And—good material is still being received from members for use in our columns. Check us on this . . . and be informed that we have scarcely a taint of professionalism anywhere in *Muzzle Blasts,* editorial or in the news department. We feel justified that a bit of boasting is timely over that fact.

Yes, we have the grandest folks in our membership and a game that continues to grow because of its appeal to real Americans . . . a perfect combination!

★ ★

CALENDAR

OHIO GUN COLLECTORS MEETING
Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo, Ohio
February 9th and 10th
Another of the Big Events in a Shooter's Year
We Hope to See Our Members Out in Big Numbers

—

HILL TOP RANGE—Dayton, Ohio
1st Sunday of Each Month

—

CINCINNATI CLUB
Top of Hill on 71st St., Carthage, Ohio
3rd Sunday of Each Month

★ ★

MUZZLE BLASTS

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NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSN.

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