

## COMMANDERS AT HOME



Neither the chancellor of Great Britain or of Germany nor the prime minister of France has any military command, but their activity at home is fully as important as that of any general. Lloyd-George is in entire command of the munition making situation in England and also is giving an eye to the food question. Briand in France must take care of the French shortage of coal while Bethmann-Hollweg has the food question as well as the diplomatic relations with America under his charge.

## Target Tips and Hunting Helps

by Alfred P. Lane



### JOIN THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION!

Do you belong to the National Rifle association and the United States Revolver association? You do? Well, then, this article is not aimed your way for you are doing your share toward helping along the sport of shooting. Better read it however, maybe it will help you in the struggle to get other sportsmen to see the advantages of membership.

This week I'm going to line out some arguments in favor of joining the national organizations governing sport with the rifle and revolver, just as a general proposition, and then next week I'll talk about the aims and objects of the National Rifle association specifically. The following week's article will outline the plan and scope of the United States Revolver association.

"In union there is strength," is an axiom as true that no one doubts it. Perhaps you don't believe in labor unions but you'll have to admit that they accomplish far more than could the same number of individuals working separately. I guess there isn't any need of an argument on that subject, for the question in the shooter's

mind is, "How does belonging to the association help me to get more pleasure out of my own individual shooting?"

In the first place, the associations are responsible for classifying the targets, distances and weapons used. It is obviously an advantage to be able to compare your scores with those of other shooters in different parts of the country. True, you may say the rules are all made now and there isn't any use for an association, but you would be wrong, for new conditions are always coming up necessitating changes in the rules.

League matches between clubs in various cities are run by both associations and these league matches are great training for the shooter. Also there are open shooting tournaments run off each year and handsome medals are awarded to the winners.

Aside from direct promotion work, the national associations watch out for the sportsman's interest when ill-advised and foolish laws are proposed by well meaning legislators who are ignorant of the subject.

The dues are very small and when you join you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are part of an organization that is always working

for the best interests of the sport.

R. W. H. Tokio, Tokio.

1. Will a shotgun with a forty inch barrel shoot farther than a shotgun of the same gauge and choke, say with a twenty-eight or thirty-two inch barrel?

Ans. For all practical purposes there is no difference in the results which can be secured from shotgun barrels of various lengths. When modern smokeless shotgun powders are used, there is only a very small difference in velocity with the shortest and longest barrels you mention—much less than the variation between successive shots in the same barrel. Assuming that there really were a noticeable advantage in velocity in favor of the longer barrel—and tests have shown that there isn't any—I would still prefer the shorter barrel because of its superior handling qualities. A forty inch barrel, for instance, would be very unwieldy and it would be a big handicap on quick shots.

F. S. W., South Bend, Ind.

1. What caliber hand-operated repeating rifle would you recommend for deer, wolves, and possibly bear?

Ans. For such work, large numbers of sportsmen prefer the .30-30 or similar cartridges. This is true particularly of those hunters who are able to place their shots with some degree of skill. If you are not a fairly good shot, it would be wise to select a more powerful cartridge such as the .30-40, 30 Rem., or thereabouts.

2. Is not the hand-operated gun better or more dependable than the auto-loader?

Ans. It's just about "six of one and half a dozen of the other." Even if you consider the hand-operated action best, you must remember that an auto action eliminates the human error—it operates just the same whether the hunter is nervous or not—whereas the sportsman may work a lever or forearm slide fumblingly and cause the action to jam or fail to feed properly.

3. For all-around hunting which would you prefer, the sporting rifle with 26-inch barrel or the carbine with 20-inch barrel?

Ans. The tendency at present seems to be toward the shorter barrel not only because it is lighter, but also because it makes for a quicker handling rifle. If you knew beforehand that all of your chances at big game would be standing shots with plenty of time to sight, the long barrel might be preferable, but most chances at big game are not of much advantage for such work.

4. Why are carbine rear sights usually different from sporting sights?

Ans. Originally the carbine was designed for use in a saddle ambidextrous and for such work it was necessary to use a sight that would not catch if the weapon were drawn quickly. Then, too, the carbine is adapted particularly to quick snap shots and adjustable sights are not of much advantage for such work.

5. Is there any preference between the lever action and the slide action for hunting rifles?

Ans. Both styles are reliable and a choice between them is a matter of individual opinion.

6. Would you have any preference between the straight-taper cartridge and the so-called bottle-neck?

Ans. One is as good as the other.

7. Which peep sight would you recommend—the tang sight or the receiver sight?

Ans. The tang sight is better because it is nearer the eye. In fact, theoretically, the best place for a peep sight is just as close to the eye as possible, but on a high power rifle, the recoil will cause injury to the eye if the sight is not too far back. You will find the manufacturers have taken care of this point by allowing a short space between the shooter's eye and the tang peep sight.

8. Would the plain head sight be proper for front?

Ans. Yes, it will give good results. If you want something better, get an ivory or gold head.

R. F. C., Fresno, Cal.

1. How much is a life membership in the National Rifle association?

Ans. Twenty-five dollars. (Annual membership is two dollars.)

2. If I become a life member can I buy a Government Springfield rifle of the latest pattern?

Ans. Yes, that is one of the advantages.

## BONES OF ARMOUR'S HAND FOUND; SIGNET RING STILL MISSING

Discoverer of Skeleton of Murdered Man Makes Addition to Collection; Rumored That Many Want a Share of the Reward.

Special Correspondence to The Herald.

Santa Fe, N. M., Feb. 8.—What are believed to be the metacarpal bones of a hand of the late Clyde D. Armour of Sioux City, Ia., were brought to the city yesterday by Antonio Sandoval y Griego, the native living three miles above Glorieta, who found the skeleton of Armour on January 14.

At the time of the finding of this skeleton, the arms and the bones of the legs, below the knees, were missing. A diligent search was made for the hands and arms as it was known that Armour wore a signet ring on one of his fingers when he started on his fatal trip from Denver.

"I did not find any ring but I found these four bones about 200 yards from the spot where the skeleton was discovered in an arroyo," said Sandoval, in relating the discovery to Sheriff Lopez. "The bones were in the arroyo, about 300 yards from the Las Vegas-Santa Fe road."

There are four bones and there is not a particle of flesh on them. The sheriff said he would turn them over to Undertaker C. A. Deane, of Palace avenue, to be placed in the coffin now containing the skeleton.

It is thought that a further search of the arroyo where Armour's body was found will perhaps reveal the gold signet ring, should it be discovered. It is believed it would be another important link in identifying the skeleton as that of Clyde D. Armour, formerly chief clerk of the North-western railway at Sioux City.

When Sandoval came to the city yesterday he expressed some surprise over reports that a number of people, who were among the first to view the skeleton of Armour after Sandoval had located it, were thinking of contesting his claim to the \$1,000 reward offered by the Armour family for the discovery of Armour's body.

"I thought there was no doubt on January 14 that I was the real and only discoverer," said Sandoval, "and as far as I know there was no one to dispute my claim when the bones of Santa Fe and others came out to Glorieta where I had the body of Armour at my house. I led the party to the arroyo where the skeleton was found."

Sheriff Lopez treated lightly the reports that others may contest Sandoval's claim, saying that the contestants undoubtedly will be numerous if every one who viewed the remains in the arroyo near Glorieta puts in an application for a share of the \$1,000 reward. Sandoval stated that he will consult with Attorney Melvin T. Dunlap, representing the Armour family, before he returns to Glorieta.

Attorney Brooks Wright, of Friday Harbor, Wash., who has been detained here on account of a severe cold, announced that he was returning to Washington state, leaving the defense of Sandoval in the hands of Attorney A. B. Benahan, of this city. He said that Benahan's mother, Mrs. Baker, of Friday Harbor, intends to visit her son at an early date. "I can not say when the trial will likely begin," added Mr. Wright, "as it is generally thought that a change of venue will be asked. But this matter is one for Mr. Benahan to decide upon as far as making the application is concerned and for the court to rule whether or not it will be granted."

It is said that District Attorney J. H. Crier may oppose a change of venue to San Juan county on the ground that Benahan has many relatives in that county, and also oppose a change of venue to Rio Arriba county on account of the tremendous expense a trial in that county would entail. The distance to Tierra Amarilla is great and there are so many witnesses that

the trial might prove unduly expensive, it is pointed out.

In the meantime Blaneett is resting on his cot in the state penitentiary as the guest of the county at \$5 per day, receiving the best of food, medical attention and treatment. The change from sea level to a bracing high altitude is thought to be benefiting the prisoner, who is slowly recovering from the shock of the self-inflicted gunshot wound in his chest. It is now over a month since Blaneett fired a load of Hirschot just above his left collar bone. He has been in a good deal of pain, but his youth and his rugged constitution promise to bring him through the ordeal. It is said of those who have seen the prisoner recently.

## Veteran of Civil War Makes Application to Enlist in the Army

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—The application of John Burns, 75, a civil war veteran, to enlist in the United States army, was on file today in the Chicago recruiting office. Burns protested when he was told he was too old, but was consoled when he was told his application would be placed on file. He left promising to induce his two sons and three nephews to enlist.

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