finger act independently of the grip. The main thing is to find a grip which does not shift while the thumb is drawing the hammer back, and the fore-finger is laid along the frame. Once found, this grip should never be changed.

(Note)—The lanyard is of no assistance, and must always be loose.

Aim

The foresight should be in the centre of the backsight, its tip level with the shoulders. Do not strive for perfect accuracy.

Firing Practice

Having acquired this grip the next thing is constant practice with an *empty* revolver. (There are many rules for the safe handling of firearms but the best of all is—"Never point a weapon where it could possibly cause injury or damage if it was discharged).

- 1. Make certain the revolver is empty.
- 2. Select a small aiming mark a few feet distant, about the height of your shoulder. An inch bull's-eye or a postage stamp will do.
- 3. Assume the correct firing position, the revolver uncocked, at the Recover.
- 4. Look straight at your target, closing one eye if necessary.
- 5. Draw back the hammer with the thumb, taking care that the forefinger is laid along the frame. (It must not be on the trigger to assist in cocking as accidental discharge may result). Turning the revolver sideways will help in cocking. In actual firing it will be found that the shock of recoil throws the revolver up, and its own weight can be utilized to assist in cocking. Constant practice is necessary to prevent the "grip" changing, and constant practice will strengthen the muscles so that the thumb can easily pull back the hammer.
- 6. Push the revolver straight out. The muzzle should follow a line curving gently upwards. The sights will then be found to be lined on the mark. (The habit of raising the revolver above the shoulder is a waste of time, and causes the bullet to strike high).
- 7. Press the trigger *immediately*. The thumb must be squeezed tightly: there being no recoil the position of the sights can be clearly seen when the hammer has fallen. If they are still in the correct relation a perfect shot will have resulted. At first, however, it will generally be found that the foresight has disappeared, having been jerked downwards and to the left. Increase the thumb pressure and make another attempt. it is practically impossible to hold the revolver perfectly still, but slight movement of the whole weapon has little effect on the flight of the bullet.

The above seven paragraphs contain the only instruction necessary, and the last is the most important. Constant practice will enable a man to keep the barrel steady at the actual moment the hammer falls. When he can do this with an empty weapon he will find it easy to make four inch groups, or better, in actual firing at 20 yards.