

Target Tips and Hunting Helps



A New Questions and Answers Department of Interest to Shooters

W. F. C. FROST, Editor.

In your shooting article, please advise me as to the proper handling of firearms on different occasions, such as carrying one while alone, in company, or while loading.

This subject is one of general interest. It is also one of great importance to prevent accidents of various sorts. The most important rule is never point a loaded or unloaded firearm in any direction where damage could possibly be done if through any chance the arm were discharged. Theoretically, of course, it makes no difference where an unloaded firearm is pointed, but mistakes are bound to occur and the safest plan is as stated above—never point a firearm in any direction where it could do any damage. The nature of the country through which one is walking governs considerably the best position in which to carry a firearm. If you do not expect a chance for a shot, the military position is one of the best. If you are expecting a shot where the underbrush is heavy hold the shotgun or rifle with the right hand gripping the stock in the shooting position and the barrel leaning against the shoulder in as nearly a vertical position as possible so that the arm may be dropped forward quickly. If there is little underbrush so that there is no danger of catching the muzzle of the arm, carry with the butt stock under the right arm and the hands in shooting position. The arm can then be quickly swung into shooting position. This is probably the fastest position from which a shot can be made.

When you are in company, do not use this latter position if there is any one ahead of you. While loading magazine have the barrel pointed straight at the ground or straight up into the air.

Please give me some advice in regard to preparing a gun before putting it away for a long time.

If you expect to put the firearm away for a long time, it is well to clean the barrel thoroughly on three successive days and then coat with vasoline or a good quality of gun grease. Always keep firearms in as dry a place as possible.

G. H. R., Milwaukee, Wis.: Please let me know if there is an appreciable difference between the range and penetration of a 28 inch and 32 inch 12-gauge full choke shotgun barrel.

There is no appreciable difference in the velocity (and consequently the penetration) or the pattern, of a 28 inch and a 32 inch full choke shotgun barrel of 12-gauge. There is, of course, a slight difference. This difference is so extremely small, however, that a very careful test for a long series of shots by means of an electric chronograph would be necessary to show how much the difference is. It would be quite impossible to tell the difference by any ordinary practical test. The pattern also is the same. The 28 inch barrel will shoot as close as any longer barrel.

A. B. C., Rock Stream, N. Y.: What is the best 12-gauge shotgun shell made for trap shooting and what is the best load?

The most popular trap load for a 12-gauge shotgun shell is 3 1-2 drams of bulk smokeless powder or 25 grains of dense powder, and 1-1/4 oz. No. 7-1/2 chilled shot.

How far should a clay pigeon trap throw the pigeons straight ahead?

The best way to answer this question, I think, is to quote you part of Section 4, Rule 13, as given by the Interstate Association. This Section reads: "Targets, whether singles or doubles, shall be thrown not less than forty-five yards nor more than 55

yards with a flight between 6 and 12 feet high at a point ten yards from the trap."

In answer to one question asked you, you told the different calibers of the rifles in use in the present European war. Is there any place one could get a collection of the different cartridges for these rifles?

I do not know of anyone who would be able to supply you with such a collection, as a number of the cartridges are not made in this country. You might try Francis Rannerman, 501 Broadway, N. Y.

I have heard it stated that when a shotgun shell, 12-gauge, is loaded with more than 3 drams of smokeless powder, all over the 3 drams is wasted. Is it so?

No; increasing the load increases the velocity and powder in excess of three drams is burnt completely and does useful work. It is dangerous, however, to exceed the largest loads supplied by the big manufacturers, which I think is 3 1-2 drams. Increasing the load always has the effect of opening up the pattern to a certain degree.

C. L. B., Hartford, Conn.:

Can you tell me if a 20-gauge shotgun, 25-inch barrel, full choke has as great a killing power at 40 yards as a 12-gauge 28 inch barrel full choke, same model, using smokeless powder?

No; it is foolish to expect a 20-gauge gun of any make to have as great power as a 12-gauge. Power is determined by pattern, and since the 12-gauge throws a larger quantity of shot, there will be more shot in a 30 inch circle at 40 yards than there would be with the 20-gauge, and therefore its killing power would be greater. In like manner a 10-gauge is more powerful than a 12, and a 16-gauge is in between a 12 and a 20. All shotguns of whatever gauge, when bored full choke, throw the same per cent. of their charges in a 30 inch circle at 40 yards.

Mr. Charles Askins in his book, "The American Shotgun," says: "Reduce the choke of a 12 to 60 per cent. and you have in range and power only a 16-gauge. Reduce it to a quarter choke and the range drops to that of a 20. Still further open the 12 to an improved cylinder and you have a weapon of like power and range with the 28 inch. This means that if the bird is properly centered in the pattern a 20-gauge full choke will kill at the same range as a 60 inch choke 12-gauge. The 12-gauge, however, would have a larger circle and a greater error in aiming could be made and still score a kill.

alf. P. Lane

Federal Assistance To Horse Breeding

The progress that has been attained in the past in Canadian horse breeding has been due largely to individual effort. To the few who have done so much for the advancement of the industry every credit is due. Through the lack, however, of concerted action and co-operative measures on a large scale the breeders, the business has not progressed as rapidly as could be desired.

The want of proper organization, except in the more favored districts, has prevented the farmers generally from securing and retaining the services of good breeding sires. In a majority of sections, breeders wishing to grade up their horses are forced to

use whatever stallions may, by chance, stand for service in their districts. Many of these are faulty in conformation and lack in quality while others, though of better type, remain, either through insufficient patronage or because of failure to leave colts, but a single season in each district. The fact also that there has been no systematic adherence to the use of one breed suggests another reason for the lack of progress in the breeding of high class animals.

It must be recognized further, that the owner of a valuable horse after paying for maintenance, insurance, interest on investment and the expense entailed in the collection of his fees, has frequently little left from his outlay, particularly in districts where he has to compete with grade and scrub stallions standing for service at a very low fee. As a result, really high class stallions can be maintained only in districts where the breeding of horses has been given serious and progressive attention.

In view of these considerations, the Minister of Agriculture proposes to enter upon a policy which may serve to place the horse breeding industry in Canada in a position comparable to that which it has attained in Great Britain and other European countries. It is believed that by encouraging the organization of breeders' clubs and by enabling such clubs to procure the services of good breeding stallions under favourable financial conditions, the assistance in this direction can best be provided. The encouragement of community breeding will, naturally, of itself, be productive of useful results. The payment to community organizations of a part of the service fee, with it is expected, give a permanent stimulus to the hiring of the best stallions that may be procured, and, at the same time, promote the development of a comprehensive movement in the interests of this important national industry.

Stated briefly, the scheme is as follows: The farmers of any district, wishing to work for the betterment of Horse Breeding, by encouraging the use of sound, individually excellent pure bred sires may form a Breeders' Club for the purpose of hiring a pure bred stallion for the benefit of the members. These Breeders' Clubs, by organizing under and adopting the Constitution and By-laws and conforming to the various rules and regulations governing this grant may participate in the Federal Assistance given to such Clubs. This consists in paying practically 25 per cent. of the service fees on a guaranteed number of mares.

The Exception With a view to encourage the breeding of remounts, the portion paid by the Live Stock Branch to Clubs hiring suitable thoroughbred stallions shall be 40 per cent. on all mares except thoroughbred mares.

For the booklet on federal assistance and all other information address the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa, Canada.

PATRIOTISM AND PRODUCTION

The Duty and the Opportunity of Canadian Farmers

The first agriculture conference will be held in the lecture room of the Winter Fair Building, Ottawa, on Wednesday, January 20th, at 1:30 o'clock.

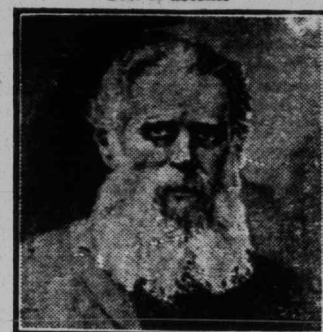
The conference will be presided over by Honourable Jas. Duff, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, and will be addressed by the Honourable Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture for Canada. The discussion will be led by Duncan Anderson, Orillia, Ont., and Robt. Miller, Stouffville, Ont.

The conference is held under the direction of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and is the first of a series which are being arranged for throughout Canada, to explain and discuss conditions in countries where live stock and agricultural production will be affected by the war.

Much valuable information has been collected, with the view of presenting to farmers and business men our agricul-

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FIRST DOSE ENDS INDIGESTION, HEARTBURN, OR GAS ON STOMACH

The question as to how long you are going to continue a sufferer from indigestion, dyspepsia or out-of-order stomach is merely a matter of how soon you begin taking Tonoline Tablets.

People with weak stomachs should take Tonoline Tablets occasionally, and there will be no more indigestion, no feeling like a lump of lead in the stomach, no heartburn, sour risings, gas on stomach, or belching of undigested food, headaches, dizziness or sick stomach; and besides, what you eat will not ferment and poison your breath with nauseous odors. All these symptoms resulting from a sour, out-of-order stomach and dyspepsia are generally relieved five minutes after taking Tonoline Tablets.

Go to your druggist and get a \$1 box of Tonoline Tablets and you will always go to the table with a hearty appetite, and what you eat will taste good, because your stomach and intestines will be clean and fresh, and you will know there are no going to be any more bad nights and miserable days for you. Tonoline tabs freshen you and make you feel like life is worth living.

Tonoline Tablets cost \$1.00 for a 50 days' treatment. At druggists or mailed by American Proprietary Co., Boston, Mass.

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tural production, in order, through the development of our own resources, to take advantage of the opportunity of establishing an extensive export trade and, at the same time, to discharge our duty to the Empire by providing a more adequate supply of food stuffs for the sustenance of its army and its people.

Farmers are urged to be present in large numbers to participate in this conference. It is their privilege as citizens of this Dominion to render a very effective service to the Mother Country during the coming year. What is to be done and how to do it will be fully discussed at the Ottawa meeting.

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THE UNION ADVOCATE NEWCASTLE, N. B., OR THE STANDARD, ST. JOHN, N. B.

FIVE PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH

Beaufort, N. C., Jan. 16—Five persons are dead as the result of the destruction of the private yacht Julia by fire in Pimlico Sound early on Thursday.

A gasoline explosion started the fire. Only one of six persons aboard escaped. The dead are: J. W. Murray, President of the Piedmont Trust Company, Burlington, N. C.; Mrs. W. E. Porch, Beaufort; C. P. Dodson, Norfolk, Va., and two members of the crew.

Mrs. Murray, who is an excellent swimmer, swam to the shore unhurt.

NEW BOOTS FOR THE CANADIAN FORCES

Ottawa, Jan. 16—The sub-committee of the cabinet on the purchase of military supplies had under consideration Friday the question of the purchase of new supplies of boots for

the Canadian forces. It has been decided to secure a much more serviceable boot than was supplied to the first contingent. The price of the latter was \$3.85 per pair. For an active service boot that will meet the requirements of the troops the government expects to pay a somewhat higher figure.

George Slater has been asked to report on the various designs submitted and prepare specifications.