

# National Rifle Matches of 1919



HOW TO USE THE SPRINGFIELD RIFLE

HUNDREDS of expert marksmen will be guests of the United States navy during August on the largest of the chain of rifle ranges constructed by the bluejackets during our war with Germany. Invited to be present were teams of the army, navy and marine corps as well as two delegations from every state and territory—one representing the National Guard unit and one the civilian riflemen. Transportation and subsistence expenses of the service teams and the teams designated to represent the states have always been paid by the United States government. Other teams may attend by defraying their own expenses.

The intent of the government this year is to welcome at Caldwell representatives of all branches of American marksmanship. Trick shooting, however, will not be allowed. As the association puts it, "the marksmanship to be featured is the deadly deliberate shooting of the kind which left Belleau Wood and the Chateau Thierry wheat field covered with Hun dead."

The gathering of riflemen will be known as the National Matches of 1919, and is the latest of a long series of marksmanship competitions instituted in 1903 and held annually whenever possible for the purpose of simulating rifle practice as a national sport; developing riflemen having the attainments required of instructors in the shooting during the war, and of restoring the United States to her rightful and traditional place as the premier nation of marksmen.

The big matches will be held at Caldwell, N. C., "45 minutes from Broadway." According to details now being arranged by Lieutenant Colonel William C. Harlee, U. S. M. C., who is executive officer of the matches, rifles will begin to crack in competition as early as July 1, and the final "cease firing" will not sound much before September 1. During the first part of this period practice matches and minor competitions will be scheduled. These will be followed up by a period of instruction in marksmanship for the civilian teams who will participate in the national matches. After the school of instruction, a series of marksmanship competitions, which include some of the oldest and most historic of rifle contests, will be held by the National Rifle Association of America. These events will lead up to those American marksmanship classics which are called the National Matches. The National Matches, therefore, will probably be held toward the middle or end of August.

They consist of three competitions. The most important is the National Team Match. In this event teams of 12 shooting members are pitted against one another. Each team, using the United States military rifle, fires 20 shots rapid fire at a target 200 yards away, 20 shots slow fire at a target 600 yards away and 20 shots slow fire at a target 1,000 yards away. To the victors in this competition are awarded four trophies which are highly prized among marksmen: One is a prize to the service teams; a second to the National Guardsmen; a third to the civilian clubs, and a fourth to schools and colleges.

The first trophy is known as the National trophy. It is a bronze plaque showing Mars holding in leash the "dogs of war." The second trophy is known as the Hilton trophy. It is also a bronze bas-relief, hung about with "scalps" upon which are recorded the names of the teams that have won it since it was placed in competition in 1878. The third is known as the Soldier of Marathon; it is a bronze statuette and is the oldest of the three.

The second of the National Match competitions is known as the National Individual Match wherein individuals instead of teams participate, following the same course of fire prescribed in the team competition.

The third competition is known as the National Pistol Match and the honor of being victorious in this event is as highly prized among handgun enthusiasts as is the victory in the National Individual Match among riflemen.

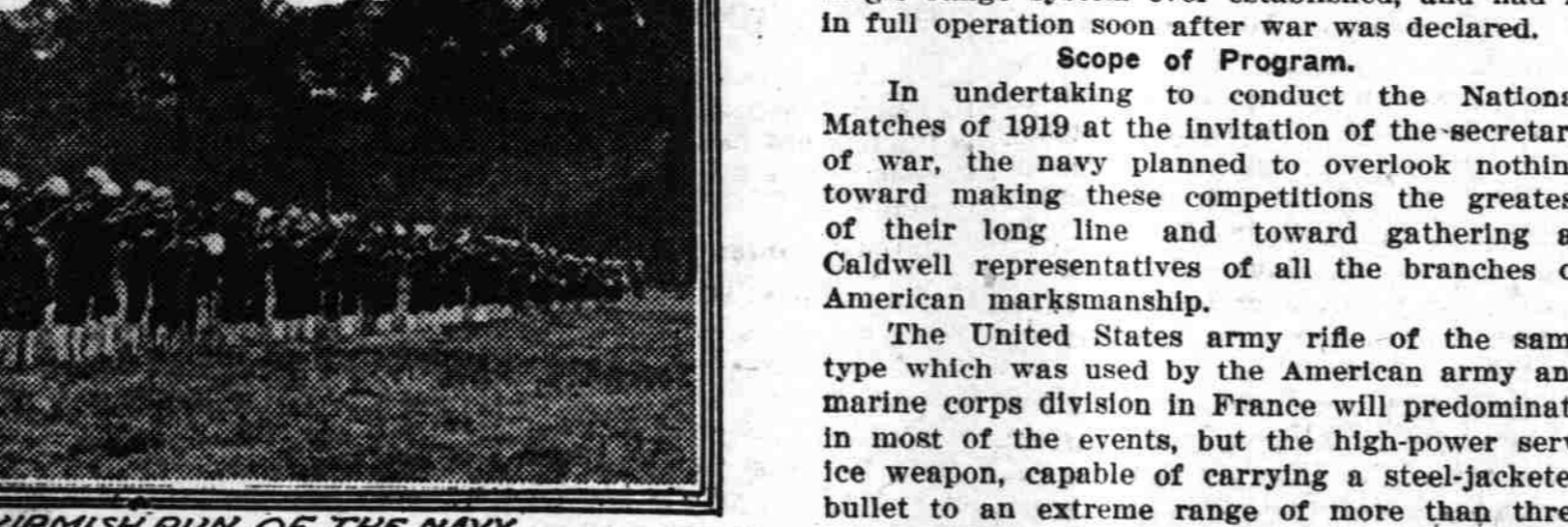
Program is Attractive.

The program of the National Rifle Association matches is no less attractive to marksmen. There is "The Wimbledon," a match shot at targets 1,000 yards away, the winner of which holds for one year the Wimbledon cup, presented to American riflemen by the Princess Louise of England in 1878, and assumes the title of "long range champion." There is the Leech Cup Match for the oldest trophy in competition at the present time—a massive silver tankard, a gift to the N. R. A. in 1874 by the captain of the Irish rifle team which that year visited this country to take part in the first international marksmanship contest. There is the President's Match, to the winner of which goes an autographed letter of congratulation from the chief executive and the title "military champion," and there is the Marine Corps Cup Match open to everybody, the winning of which is also a signal honor. The trophy in this competition was the gift of the commissioned officers of the marine corps.

Until 1916 there participated in the National Matches only the army, the navy, the marine corps and the National Guard. That year, how-



THE FIRING LINE



THE SHIRMSH RUY OF THE NAVY

ever, congress authorized the participation of teams composed of members of civilian rifle clubs which are organized under the national board for the promotion of rifle practice in the war department. At the outbreak of the war with Germany there were in the United States more than 2,000 of these clubs, with an aggregate individual membership of about 100,000.

During the war the membership of many of these clubs was decimated by volunteer enlistments and the draft, but since the armistice and the demobilization of the troops most of the clubs have become more active than ever before.

The opening of the National Matches to civilian and riflemen has proved a wonderful impetus to rifle practice as a sport, and the effect of this policy, together with that of the government in fostering the organization of rifle clubs, were apparent in the records of American marksmanship made on the fields of France.

Under the laws controlling the government competitions, a National Guard team and a civilian team from each state are authorized to attend the matches. These teams are named by the governor of the state, who may select the personnel of the teams through competition or according to geographical distribution, or arbitrarily. In addition to the two teams authorized, as many additional teams as desired may enter the competitions at their own expense.

The National Matches, since their inception and until 1918, have been held either upon a United States army or a state rifle range. This year, however, the championships will be decided upon a United States navy range.

For the past ten years the navy has made every effort to develop its bluejackets into good riflemen, on the theory that proficiency with small arms contributes in a large degree to proficiency in handling huge naval rifles, developing among the men physical control and co-ordination of mind and body—a principle which found enthusiastic supporters in Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Franklin D. Roosevelt. Therefore, when war was declared against Germany, the office of gunnery exercise of the navy department lost no time in enlarging the scope of its courses in marksmanship.

Recognizing the service which the navy has performed in the cause of rifle practice toward bringing the United States again to its traditional place in the forefront of nations as marksmen, the national board for the promotion of rifle practice recommended that the secretary of war accept an offer made by the secretary of the navy of one of the big navy ranges for use during the National Matches in 1919. Approving during the National Matches in 1919, the secretary of war tendered the invitation to the navy to conduct the competitions. When Secretary Daniels accepted for his department, he placed the conduct of the

## TREMENDOUS TASK BEFORE CONGRESS

NUMBER OF BIG PIECES OF LEGISLATION ON PROGRAM IS UNPRECEDENTED.

### LONG DEBATES ARE CERTAIN

Appropriation Bills Must Be Put Through in a Hurry, but Some Other Measures Will Require a Great Deal of Time.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington.—Congress is considering, or already has considered in part, a program of legislation on which nearly every measure appears as a top liner. It is doubtful if ever before in the history of the country there were so many big pieces of legislation before congress at one time as is the case today, and in saying this one is mindful of those congressional periods in which the country was engaged in war.

It is only necessary to take a list of the comparatively few things which were given either full or partial consideration in one or the other of the two houses within the space of four days in order to prove the point of the legislative importance of this session.

In less than a handful of extremely hot weather days congress discussed the peace treaty; legislation for the return of telegraph and telephone lines to private operation; the repeal of the luxury tax section of the war revenue bill; a resolution for the investigation of war department expenditures; the agricultural appropriation bill, with its rider to repeal the daylight saving law; the request of the railroad administration for \$1,200,000,000 for use in operating the rail lines during the calendar year; army and navy appropriation bills; enforcement of war-time and constitutional prohibition, and legislation concerning the display of the red flag in public demonstrations.

#### Will Require Months of Work.

It is some list, is it not? One or two of these things already have been acted upon, but weeks and perhaps months of discussion must follow before even this comparatively small section of the congressional calendar can be cleared up. It is perfectly futile to attempt at this early stage of the session to prophesy what congress will do in many of these matters. The Republican majority, of course, must consider the possibility of presidential vetoes, and must make up its mind whether it will profit more by a veto than by holding off on legislation which is certain to meet the "I forbid."

For two or three weeks prior to the convening of the extra session of the bellie of bystanders and onlookers in Washington was that September would see the close of debates and that at that time the congressmen might return to their homes to get three months' rest before coming back again for the regular session in December. Now all such thoughts have gone down the wind. Congressmen are all planning to stay here at least until convention time next year. It is believed that unless something comes to change the complexion of things the senate will debate the pact of peace and the covenant of the league of nations for months.

It is of course possible that means may yet be found to separate the pact of peace from the league covenant for action purposes, and if this is the case it is probable that the treaty will be sanctioned quickly, while heaven knows how long the debate on the league itself will continue, or what its fate is to be. The opposition is just as bitter as ever, while advocacy is just as firm as ever.

#### Haste With Appropriation Bills.

There is speed being made on the appropriation bills. It is absolutely necessary in order to run certain branches of the government that these bills shall be put through and signed by the president before the advent of July. Not very many times in the history of the government have departments been compelled to run moneyless. Once on a time the army got along a while without any pay. Congress passed an army appropriation bill, but tacked a rider on to it which the president of the United States did not like. Hayes was president at the time.

The president cannot sign part of a bill while vetoing part of it. He must either sign or veto the whole thing. It is likely some day that the occasional mounting of riders in the saddles of appropriation bills will be discontinued. As a rule the riders never reach their destination.

One thing will delay to some extent legislation in congress this year. There will be a presidential campaign on in 1920, and the invariable custom of congress has been to talk considerable politics during the session preceding a presidential campaign. It is as impossible, apparently, to divorce political speeches from the consideration of legislation in congress as it would be to divorce the ocean from the shore. The contact is close and probably always will be close. Legislation, however, and politics make three inseparable companions in the good summer time in Washington preceding the year in which the American people choose their chief magistrate.

A wrist whistle is made for the use of soldiers and policemen.

## IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JUNE 22  
LOVE.

LESSON TEXT—I Cor. 13.  
GOLDEN TEXT—Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.—I Cor. 13:13.  
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Lev. 19:18; Deut. 6:4, 5; John 10:27; 3:16; I John 4:7-21.  
PRIMARY TOPIC—How to Show Our Love.  
JUNIOR TOPIC—Whom We Should Love and How.  
INTERMEDIATE TOPIC—The Greatest Thing in the World.  
SENIOR AND ADULT TOPIC—The Strongest Bond Between Men and Women.

The best gift of the Holy Spirit is the love of God shed abroad in our hearts. Not all can teach, preach, work miracles, speak with tongues; but the gift of love is within reach of all. The "more excellent way" of the last verse of chapter 12 is the way of love. Love is not a mere sentiment or emotion, but a mighty dynamic which transforms the life, expressing itself in practical service to men.

#### I. The Pre-eminence of Love (vv. 1-3).

It transcends:  
(1) Speaking with tongues. For men to possess the loftiest eloquence, to be able to speak in other languages, and to be lacking in love is to be as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. Pleasing and powerful speaking is desirable, but to love is better.

(2) The gift of prophecy. To disclose the events of the future, to be able to unfold all mysteries—of nature and providence—is good but to love is better.

(3) Faith of the most vigorous kind. Such as would remove mountains.

(4) Philanthropy of the most generous sort, prompting one to surrender all earthly goods for the sake of the poor.

(5) Heroism which leads even to martyrdom without love is profitless.

#### II. The Attributes of Love (vv. 4-7).

1. It is long-suffering and kind. It means not only to bear long but to be kind all the while. Patience is a remarkable virtue. It is much easier to bear long than to show the spirit of kindness all the while.

2. It is free from envy. Those who love are free from that envy which is engendered because of the good, or the success of others.

3. It is free from empty boasting. Love has as its supreme aim the doing of good to all and does not seek their admiration and applause.

4. It is well behaved. Love is polite and mannerly. It knows how to behave at all times.

5. It is unselfish. Love seeks the good of others and is forgetful of self.

6. Does not give way to passion. It is not quick tempered. It is not easily aroused to resentment.

7. It takes no delight in evil; does not impute evil motives to others; is not suspicious, but forgiving.

8. It rejoices in the truth. It sympathizes with that which is true and has a common joy with it.

9. It beareth all things—that is, it incases itself with its own mantle and shuts all evil out.

10. It is trustful, hopeful and firm.

#### III. The Permanence of Love (vv. 8-13).

Prophecy, as prediction, will be fulfilled; prophecy, as teaching, will be brought to an end in the day when teaching is not needed. "And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest" (Heb. 8:11; cf. Jer. 31:34). Tongues shall cease, for as the languages of earth were caused by God's judgment for sin so shall Christ's redemption bring the nations back to one tongue. Knowledge shall be done away with by a wider and nobler intelligence. The twilight shall be lost in the day. Childhood shall be lost in maturity, for at Christ's coming we shall see him face to face and be like him. Love will always abide, for God is love.

#### The School of Gentleness.

With what infinite gentleness the Great Physician ministered to bruised reeds and broken hearts! What tender names he gave them! "Son! Daughter!" He was never rough never brusque, never impatient, never in a hurry! His tender approach was part of the cure. His very touch had healing power. He handled the burdens of men in such a way as to immediately make them lighter. Many a broken heart was strangely comforted by his presence even before the life had been made whole. Most surely the hospital work of our Saviour was a school of gentleness!

#### Do Not Shun the Light.

The man who shuns the light for fears his own final peace of heart. He who refuses to face his worst faults the possibility of finding his best. He does not solve the question of his sinfulness; he shelves it.—I Percy C. Adams worth.

#### Silence.

If the prudence of reserve and decorum dictates silence in some circumstances, in others prudence of a higher order may justify us in speaking our thoughts.—Burke.