## ... RM Students

is probably the most exciting. The beauty of a good dog pointing a covey or the thrill of a covey bursting into flight from around your feet, gives quail hunting an air which no other type can achieve.

Although you can hunt quail without a dog, your chances for a successful quail hunt are greatly improved by the use of either a pointer or setter depending on your preference. These dogs, when acquired at a young age and properly trained, become not only good hunters but nice pets as well.

For quail, 20, 28, and 12 guage guns are exceptable. A small shot, either 7½ of 8 is generally found to be best for this bird.

for this bird.

Quail hunting is a sport which requires much walking, and a good snap shot, for the birds explode from cover and fly varied patterns in escaping. Only the quick eye can expect to score high on this crafty bird.

For the most part the quail in this area are Bobwhite although Mexican quail can be found on a few farms. These Mexican quail are peculiar in that they light in trees, a habit seldom used by the Bobwhite.

Aside from the gun, the main equipment needed by a quail hunter is a good pair of walking boots and a pair of hunting pants. Although these pants are not a necessity, they are a blessing when walking through thorny areas, a favorite hideout of the quail. A shell belt or vest is also

nice equipment to have along.

Rabbit

One of the noisiest types of hunting is rabbit. These furry creatures are generally hunted with either Beagle or Bassett hounds which sound off when they begin to trail. These dogs are best suited for this type of hunting due to their keen sense of smell, speed, and a short powerful body which can successfully and quickly penetrate dense brush in which the rabbit runs.

In order to hunt rabbit the hunter must wear heavy clothes which protect him while stomping in briar thickets, favorite hangouts of the rabbit.

When the dogs begin to chase the rabbit they bark loudly. The hunter will generally have more success if he remains in the area from which the rabbit was jumped. Nine times out of ten the rabbit will return to that place. This is the only way the hunter will be able to make the kill.

This may sound simple and unexciting but to shoot a rabbit is difficult. For the most part the rabbit doesn't jump in a straight line but from side to side making them hard to hit.

Since rabbits multiply very rapidly there are always some near at hand. The most popular shot sizes are No. 6 and high-powered 7½'s. These are larger shot and have more killing power.

Squirrel

Squirrel hunting is a popular sport for younger hunters. It does not require dogs which



HUNTING JEEP—Bobby Hicks loads his shotgun in front of a new Scout, especially equipped for hunting. Many hunters now equip similar vehicles to aid in their hunting excursions. (Photo by Killebrew)

is the major reason for its popularity. The qualifications for a good squirrel hunter are a sharp eye and alert hearing. The hunter must sneak through the woods quietly keeping a lookout for squirrels. One of the finest places to find squirrels is in a forest in which there is a good supply of acorns and nuts. If you look on stumps you can usually find the remains of these items.

Some people hunt squirrels with rifles. This is fine but it can be dangerous. Most hunters use a shotgun with No. 6 shot, which keeps down the number of shot in the squirrel.

Squirrel meat is a fine delicacy. Whether you fry, stew, or barbecue, it will become a favorite wild game food.

Deer

Deer hunting is a popular sport for the older hunter, as it does not require as much walking as most other sports

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demand. It does, however, require much patience.

Deer hunters usually go to a water hole, blind, or hide in the brush of a favorite deer passage. Here the deer hunter usually has to wait for quite some time before he sees a deer. When a deer is seen, it takes steady nerves and a good shot to kill him. If when shot, the deer is not dead. he will cry like a baby, which makes many hunters feel sorry for them. Don't try to give comfort to the animal as it's antlers and hoofs may seriously injure or kill a man. Therefore, it is better to be sure it is dead.

If the hunter is going to leave the deer for a while he must hang him upside down from a tree and his stomach to prevent swelling and allow the draining of the blood. If this is not done the meat will spoil. In hunting deer, the most popular shot is double-ought buckshot.

This is large enough to kill a deer on sight. Slugs are also popular among shotgun hunters. Rifles are quite effective but thye are dangerous. In past years it has been against the law to shoot doe deer. But because of the decrease in the buck population, due to overpopulation of does, there have been two days set aside in North Carolina in which does can be

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## It Happens Every Time

There were two men hunting in a duck blind together and were meeting with very little success. As the day wore on one of the men began to drink and before long was fairly stoned. Toward the end of the day one lone duck appeared on the horizon and both men readied themselves for the kill. As the duck flew over, the sober man fired twice and the duck never faltered. The drunk then stagered to his feet and fired once, killing the duck. At this point the sober hunter flew into a rage and cursed violently. I can't understand how that happened," he said. "Here I am stone sober and missed twice and you kill the duck."

"That's not hard to explain" said the drunk. I usually get two or three out of a flock that size."

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