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TARGET TIPS

SHOOTING—SPORT OF ALL AGES.

Throughout the ages the sport of shooting has been popular in some form or other. Our half-ape forefathers indulged in contests where the weapon was a good right arm and the bullet a smooth round stone. Later on the bow and arrow were invented and then the cross-bow, and contests of skill with those ancient weapons were popular with people who felt that they should prepare for war in time of peace.

While it is true that shooting has always been popular, this article will deal with the feature of shooting that places it so distinctly in a class by itself. It is a fact that there is apparently no age limit to skill with the rifled tube and the polished bore.

So long as the male of the species can stand on his hind legs—use his arms and hands—and has at least one good eye—he can still drive almost unimpeded pleasure from shooting regardless of whether he is glad in knee breeches or snowy hair and long white whiskers.

Some of the best shots in the country are way past the Oser age limit and their names still figure in the lists of winners with both rifle and shotgun.

Many a man has experienced the keenest kind of regret on becoming aware of the fact that he would soon have to give up his favorite sport because he had reached the age limit in his particular line. One of the strongest appeals that shooting makes is the fact that old age cannot take it from you.

Proof there is in plenty to substantiate this fact. Take for instance the All-American Trapshooting Team. This group of men, six in number, made a trip abroad in 1901 and in a series of matches with the best teams that the other countries could produce, they never met defeat. After a lapse of sixteen years this team is to hold a reunion at a big trapshooting affair in Peru, Indiana, and every one of the six men is still rated as a top-notch!

The gray-haired baseball player is the exception but you often see him at the traps competing with his son and frequently his grandson.

Take up shooting in some form for it is a sport that you can stick to with the assurance that you will always enjoy it and that your skill will stay with you until the age when nothing

remains of life but a host of pleasant recollections.

F. H. H., Galena, Mo.
1. I want to learn how to do some trick shooting. Can you tell me some stunts that are fairly easy to learn? I have seen some professional shots perform but their stunts are too much for me. I intend to use a .22 caliber repeating rifle.

Ans. I don't wonder that you found imitating the professionals a hard task. They have spent years practicing the stunts they do. You will undoubtedly want to learn how to hit things thrown in the air. The best way to do this is to start on large tomato cans. Have them thrown straight up at close range so that they will offer a very large target. When you can hit the can four or five out of six times, try an object a little smaller and so on until you can hit marbles or other pieces of about the same size. Always shoot just as the target begins to descend.

2. What are the most suitable sights for trick shooting?

Ans. You will find a large bead front sight and a flat bar rear sight, with a U-shaped notch very satisfactory.

G. B. A., Hayes, Cal.
1. Which is the most suitable for a small boy, a single shot rifle or a repeater?

Ans. For the very small boy the extra light weight single shot rifle is best, but he should be graduated to the repeater as soon as he is old enough to handle one, for the modern rifle is the repeater and it is well for the boy to learn the principles that govern their use and care at as early an age as possible.

2. How much should a good repeating .22 caliber rifle cost these days?

Ans. Somewhere between fifteen and twenty dollars depending on the make and the style of action.

3. Should a rifle for boys' use have a light trigger pull?

Ans. It should be about four or five pounds and as clean as possible.

L. S. P., Burnet, Texas.

I have just brought a new revolver holster. It is very stiff and the revolver fits too tight. Will oiling it help any?

Ans. The best way I know of to make holster fit properly is as follows: Oil the revolver thoroughly

and wrap it carefully in oiled paper, then wet the holster in water and when it becomes soft, place the revolver in it and set it where it will dry. This will make it take the proper shape and you can oil it with leather oil afterwards to keep it from causing rust on the weapon.

R. M. E., Cooperstown, N. Y.
1. Is it necessary to get a license to carry a revolver in a holster in New York state if the gun is to be used for hunting and a hunting license has already been procured?

Ans. According to the law you will have to have a pistol permit as well as a hunting license. To get one, apply to the chief of police or any magistrate of any court of record.

2. Will a .45 caliber single action revolver be powerful enough for deer hunting?

Ans. Yes, if you can place your bullets accurately and do not try shooting at long range.

ALF. P. LANE.

Women are the rulers of the Island of Tiburon, in the Gulf of California, and the men are made to do all the work and act as servants to the fair sex.

RETURNING TO WORK.

MADRID, Aug. 12.—It was announced at the ministry of the interior today that telegrams had been received from the Spanish provinces indicating that the railroad employees who went on strike Friday night, were returning to work.

Premier Dato today expressed the belief that the strike had failed. He added that the government, limiting its action so as to insure freedom of operation on the northern railroad had granted an additional twenty-four hours for the strikers to return to work unconditionally.

BEATTY MAY TAKE CHARGE.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—In well-informed circles, says The Sunday Times, a further change in the personnel of the admiralty board is expected shortly, as Admiral Jellicoe, the first sea lord, feels that he is in urgent need of rest. In the event of Admiral Jellicoe's resignation, the newspaper adds, Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, commander of the British grand fleet, probably may succeed him.



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