

Famous Cracks at The Shooting Traps

In recognition of the importance in the annals of American sport of the shooting tournament which closed in Omaha a week ago, some of the famous shots of the country were in attendance, two in particular having made the long journey from New York City to witness the contest between the Omaha and Kansas City teams. Sportsmen were present, too, from Chicago, St. Louis, Little Rock, Ark., Kansas City, Lincoln and several of the important towns of this state. The same interest which attracted these men many hundreds of miles to attend the tournament caused many of Omaha's prominent citizens to forsake their business and professional duties, temporarily, to watch the cracks deftly bring their birds to the ground immediately on release from the traps.

The inter-city shoot between Omaha and Kansas City was more than an important event locally. When, in spite of the unpropitious weather of the second day, the Omaha team came within one bird of tying the world's record for a ten-man team shoot, the standing of the event rose several notches. It is contended on all sides that the ten experts making up the Omaha team would have established a new world's record provided Loomis, Bray, Crabill and Parmelee—all of them exceptionally clever shots—had been favored with a clear day free from the heavy wind, which blew with the force of a hurricane across the traps on the last day of the shoot.

Marksman All Gentlemen.

In his toast at the banquet tendered the visiting marksman by the Omaha Gun Club B. E. B. Kennedy gave an apt characterization of the men who indulge in the delightful sport of shooting in these words:

"It does me good to see that today, as was the case long years ago when I was young and more actively devoted to shooting than at the present time, that the participants in this exhilarating sport are gentlemen—true, polished gentlemen in every sense implied by the term." The membership of the contesting teams was composed of the best and the leading men of the cities represented by them. They were engaged in a contest in which the ideal of true sport predominated. There was no money consideration for which they were struggling, but it was a match solely for honor and the defeated accepted their lot as gracefully as possible in view of their disappointment.

The only consolation prize for Kansas City came in the defeat of Frank S. Parmelee by James A. R. Elliott of Kansas City in their 100 live bird match. During this entire race the outcome was a matter of doubt and not until Mr. Elliott fired his last charge was the feat of vanquishing his old-time opponent accomplished. Even in this celebrated match the two men as they took turn about at the traps chatted pleasantly together. When Elliott missed a bird he was good-naturedly bantered for his failure by his big jovial rival, and when one of the pigeons scared away unscathed

from Parmelee's usually unerring aim the same pleasantry was indulged in by the royal sportsman from the city on the Kaw. Nevertheless the two champions were both intent upon winning. Victory meant much, although the purse of \$100 was but a small item in comparison with the supremacy of the one over the other. Three times before Parmelee had defeated Elliott in matches identically the same, but in this one he was overcome by a single bird. Elliott's score being 87 and Parmelee's 86.

Why Elliott Won.

"It was a simple matter," said Mr. Parmelee, "this victory of Elliott over me. He was more accurate than I. He succeeded in killing one more bird than I did and his success can be attributed wholly to his better aim on this occasion."

If telegraphic advices be true a certain



OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—JOHN REED, PRESIDENT OMAHA GUN CLUB—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.

man in New York city waited eagerly the outcome of this Parmelee-Elliott match. It was Captain John L. Brewer, erstwhile champion wing shot of the world. He was interested in this match because it gave him a slight clew as to the present superiority of the men, for both of whom he is waiting an opportunity for a match. Even though Parmelee was worsted his is the scalp which "Captain Jack" is after and for these reasons:

After the grand American handicap of 1898 was declared Parmelee and Brewer shot a

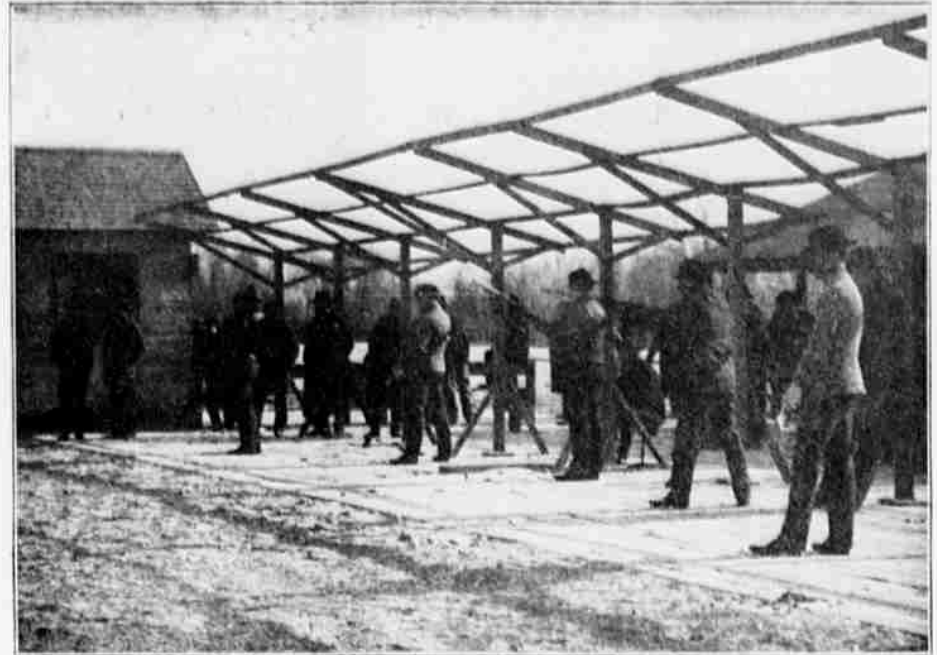


OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—J. A. R. ELLIOTT, THE CHAMPION, OF KANSAS CITY—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.

100-bird match for \$100 a side and the Omaha man won. Again last year at Elkwood park he shot a similar match and Parmelee was victorious. Brewer is now understood to be waiting for a chance for another contest for from \$500 to \$1,000 a side. He wants the match to come off in the east and as Parmelee expects to be in the east during the coming spring it is altogether likely that such a contest may be arranged.

"You say that Brewer wants to shoot a race for 100 or 200 live birds with me?" remarked Champion 'Jim' Elliott while in the city. "Well, he can certainly get it, but do you know Brewer is more inclined to newspaper notoriety than to getting 'down to brass tacks' and putting up his money to back his assertions? If he wants such a race with me, however, he can have it and the amount of the side money will not stand in the way at all."

Brewer and Elliott have never come together in an individual match, which fact seems strange, owing to the recognized ability of the two men. Elliott has a badge and a cup or two, representing championships he has won, that are open to challenge, but Brewer has never challenged him for these. Since his return from Europe Brewer seems to have gathered any number of backers and a match between the two men should be arranged, since Elliott stated while in Omaha that the only thing standing in the way of such a contest was Brewer's ability to put up the cash. Elliott is comparatively a young man yet and is just now enjoying the heyday of his shooting career. Brewer on the other hand is 60 years of age. Nevertheless he is looked upon as a winner and in every match in which he engages is one, if not the only, scratch man.



OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—SQUAD AT TARGET TRAPS.

Novelties of Invention

Some of the inventions for which patents have been recently sought are sufficiently novel to be generally interesting, reports the San Francisco Call. Though a good many of them may prove to be of little value for practical use, they show the infinite variety of purpose to which the minor inventors of our country are directing their thoughts and energies. None of them are so sensational as that of the Russian who is trying to discover a serum to prevent men from growing old, or of the Frenchman who is making experiments with dead bodies in an effort to find a means of restoring life, but they are nevertheless ample evidences of the ingenuity of our people.

As American life is essentially utilitarian, most of our inventions are devised to effect a saving of labor in some way, or to improve the methods of performing some common act of work. One inventor has devised a plan by which mail carriers driving in carts can collect mail from boxes by the wayside without getting out of the cart. Another has a method of fastening an animal to a post in such a way as to allow opportunity for grazing without getting entangled in the rope, or getting the rope wrapped around the post.

One of the most ingenious things is a new style of picture devised by a Georgia artist. He paints the background upon one piece of glass or other transparent substance and the various objects of the picture on other pieces. These separate pictures are then stacked together, the foreground being placed first and the others in their order between it and the background. The different pieces are separated from one another by spacing blocks. When looked at the eye passes through the transparencies to the background, and it is said very fine effects in perspective can be obtained in that way. One of the advantages of the method is that it is not necessary to make the different pieces fit exactly, and it does not matter if the various objects painted on them overlap. If there was a tree on the second sheet and a house directly behind it on the third sheet, the tree trunk would obscure just that portion of the house which it would under actual conditions, the house showing through the branches of the trees in a natural way. Consequently, as the observer changes his position the tree will cover different portions of the house behind it, thus altering the angle of perspective of the picture and producing an effect upon the eye which closely resembles the change of perspective in a landscape or other scene when the position of the observer is changed.

Housewives and professional cooks may be pleased to know there has been devised a method of roasting boneless meats without binding them together with wooden

skewers. An Illinois man has invented a system of elastic binding which holds the meat together and tightens automatically during the cooking process, so that the meat can be cooked in any shape desired.

Another notable invention is that of putting up electricity in capsules for home use. According to the claims of the inventor a three-grain capsule of it, put into an ordinary battery cell, will yield enough electricity to run a sixteen-candle power incandescent light for one hour. It is said that the chemical can be sold as cheaply as calomel. It is also said that the new agent will not consume zinc in the battery as rapidly as the solution now in use.

These are by no means all of the novelties. There are others even more whimsical. For example, an inventor at Helena, Mont., has patented a horseshoe sharpener. Two women of Harrisburg, in Pennsylvania, have patented, jointly, a "serving-maid's stepladder," guaranteed not to upset when in use. A Wisconsin man has patented a collapsible coffin, separated into subsections and as portable as a hand-satchel. A Minnesota man has patented a disappearing visor or peak whereby mechanically a soldier's hat may be turned into a polo cap by pressing a button to be found over the left ear.

It will be seen from these things that while the European scientists may lead us in efforts to obtain immortal life or to raise the dead, we are leading in the arts that make such life as we have more enjoyable and easier on the worker.

Woman's Philanthropy

The late Mrs. Abby L. A. Faulkner of Jamaica Plain, Mass., bequeathed all her property for the erection of a hospital there "for the people" on the death of her husband, Dr. George Faulkner. She had purchased a site for it.



OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—FRANK PARMELEE OF OMAHA—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.



Parmelee. Reed. Referee Money. Grant Kimball. OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.



OMAHA-KANSAS CITY SHOOT—GEORGE WALDRON, PRESIDENT KANSAS CITY GUN CLUB—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.