

People and Things of Public Interest

OUT at North Platte July 18, 19 and 20 there will be something doing in the sporting line the likes of which has never before been seen in the United States, except at Pinehurst, N. C. The doings will be under the management of the Buffalo Bill Gun club, and will consist of shooting targets thrown from a tower seventy-two feet above the ground, all the same like our cousins across the water have been doing for years, but which idea has just begun to permeate the wilds of Nebraska, and from the name of the club the inference is that our own Colonel Cody brought it home with him from one of his numerous trips abroad.

As the laws of the state prohibit sportsmen from shooting live birds in their tournaments, the shooting tower comes to fill a long-felt want. Sportsmen say it comes nearer the real true shooting than anything that has yet been concocted since the anti-live bird shooting law went into effect.

The tower at North Platte which will be used in the coming tournament is seventy-two feet high, and at the base it is thirty feet square. Two stories of one room each have been partitioned off in the base and are used as a club house, and at the top is a space for the traps and the targets. It was erected a year ago by the Buffalo Bill Gun club.

During the shoot the contestant will stand on the ground and take his shot at the birds as they are thrown from the trap and sail downward, the angle being exactly opposite from that of the targets thrown from the old-time traps, and it is said the shooting is a much better test of the ability of those who participate. This method of trap-shooting has been in vogue in the old country for many years and has given the best of satisfaction, coming nearer to being a shoot at live birds than any of the plans yet devised. It will be of particular interest to Nebraska sportsmen for the reason it is the second tower of the kind erected in the United States, and many of the contestants will for the first time get a trial at it.

Aside from the new tower, the shoot itself will be one of the most interesting events of this character ever pulled off in the state. Every amateur is eligible to compete and the \$250 trophy given by a Denver paper is expected to attract a large number of contestants. There will be a number of professionals present too, who will be permitted to shoot, but who will not be permitted to compete for any of the purses. Among these will be: Fred Gilbert of Spirit Lake, Ia.; F. C. Rhell of Alton, Ia.; C. B. Adams of Rockwell City, Ia.; Marshall Sharp of Buffalo, N. Y.; Jim Elliott of Kansas City; N. M. Kirby of Greenborough; W. R. Crosby of O'Fallon, Ill., former world's champion, and others.

On July 3 Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Mote of Chadron, Neb., observed the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. The occasion was made most notable by the gathering of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, the whole making a happy and animated group, as is shown by the picture of the party in this issue.

Basket ball is a little bit faded just now, owing to the long run that base ball has been enjoying, but the Geneva High school team rises in meeting long enough to claim "the undisputed high school championship of Nebraska." The picture of the lads in this number indicates that they are a husky lot, and apparently able to give a good account of themselves in a basket ball mixup.

Robert Andrew Burg, recently appointed cadet to the United States academy at Annapolis, Md., is a son of Andrew Burg of Grand Island, Neb. He was chosen as first alternate by Congressman Norris last April.



MEMBERS OF THE MOTE FAMILY WHO ATTENDED THE GOLDEN WEDDING OF COMMISSIONER S. T. MOTE AND WIFE AT CHADRON, Neb., ON JULY 3



GENEVA HIGH SCHOOL BASKET BALL TEAM, WHO CLAIM THE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP OF NEBRASKA FOR 1903-4

Determined to win, he went to Annapolis for preparation two months ago. In the very rigid examination closing June 29 the principal failed, but young Burg passed both mental and physical examinations with high honors. He is the first from Grand Island to gain admission to the Naval academy. For two years past he was a student in the State university at Lincoln. He became a great favorite with the Sigma Chi fraternity and represented it at the field day exercises, winning the 100-yard and 300-yard races.

Meerschaum Pipes

"A meerschaum pipe that would have brought \$5 ten years ago wouldn't bring more than \$10 now," said a tobacconist. "Meerschaum pipes used to be fashionable and popular in America, but they are not much sought for today.

"It isn't strange that the liking for them should have waned. The meerschaum is an unsatisfactory pipe at the best. Drop it, and it is irretrievably broken. Try to



H. C. M. BURGESS, NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE OF NEBRASKA.

color it, and for a month it tastes like soap.

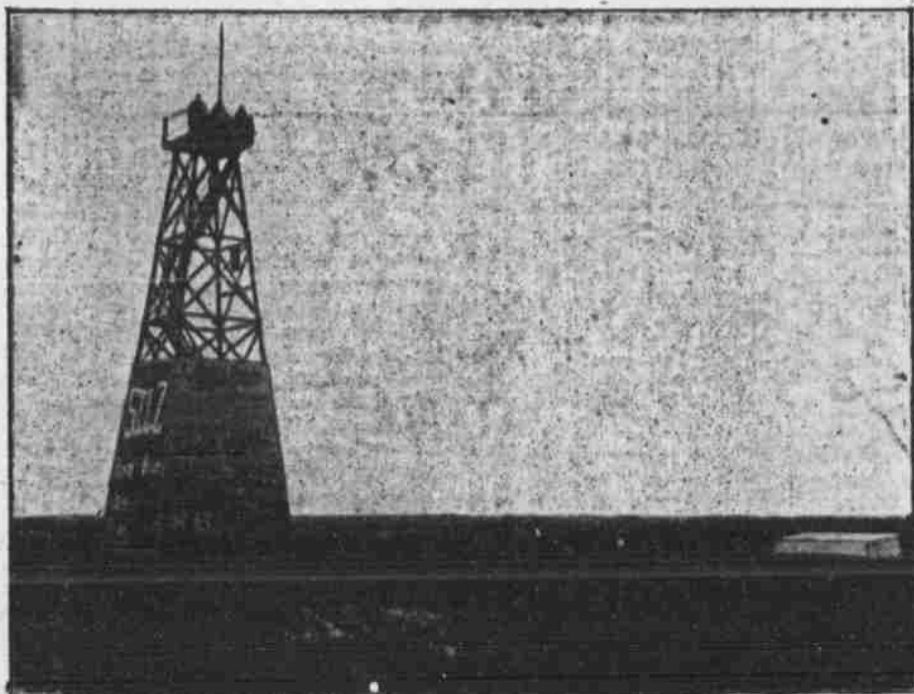
"It isn't the meerschaum in one of these pipes that colors, anyway. It is a mixture of beeswax and oil that the carvers rub into the block before they carve it. You could smoke a pipe of pure meerschaum all your life and at your death it would be as white as it had been at your birth. It



ROBERT A. BURG OF GRAND ISLAND, Neb., WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED CADET AT THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY, ANNAPOLIS.

is the oil and beeswax—only that—which colors.

"While meerschaum pipes have fallen in cost and favor, briar pipes have risen. A pipe of really fine briarroot costs today from \$10 to \$25, or \$30. In the past it would not have cost more than \$3 at the outside. —Washington Post.



VIEW OF THE SHOOTING TOWER OF THE BUFFALO BILL GUN CLUB AT NORTH PLATTE, Neb.