NATIONAL RIFLE MATCHES

Great Contests Arranged Under Auspices of Promotion Board.

ON LARGER SCALE THAN EVER

National Rifle Association Matches Will Be Held at the Same Time at Camp Perry, Ohio.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 3.—Official announcement is made of the program for the national rifle matches under the auspices of the National Board for Promotion of Rifle Practice and those of the National Rifle Association of America, which will be held on the Ohio state range at Camp Perry, Ohio, in August.

The preparations for these matches are of a more elaborate scale than ever before and it is believed that the attendance will exceed that of any previous match. Lieutenant Colonel R. K. Evans of the United States cavalry, who is on duty with the general staff and who has been executive officer of the national matches for the last two years, has been detailed by the War department for this duty in connection with the coming national matches, and this year will also act as executive officer for the National Rifle association matches. He will have an enlarged personal staff and approximately 100 regular officers of the army will be assigned to duty in connection with the match. About 1,000 enlisted men will be on duty at the range.

Fifty Teams to Enter.

It is expected that at least fifty teams representing the states and territories, the infantry, cavalry, navy and marine corps and the Naval academy will be entered in the national match. Each team is entitled to twelve shooting members and three alternates, an aggregate of 900. They are also entitled to three officers and are usually accompanied by more.

In addition there will be a large attendance of unattached members of the National Guard and civilians who will participate in the individual matches, as well as teams from regiments, companies and rifle and revolver clubs, drawn to the range by the matches above mentioned, and those of the Ohio State Rifle association and Department of the Lakes Rifle association, and of the Ohio National Guard, which will immediately precede the national team match. Congress has appropriated $12,000 for messing the competitors in the national team match, which will be done in the magnificent new concrete mess hall erected by the state of Ohio, in which 1,000 men can be fed at one sitting.

Congress also has very materially increased the amount of money for prizes in the national team match, the national individual match and the national pistol match.

The National Rifle association has adopted the policy of returning to the competitors the entire amount of the entrance fees, less the actual expenses, either in the form of medals or cash prizes.

Ohio Prize Fine.

The Ohio State Rifle association will have a prize list far in excess of previous years and there will be new matches of the Department of the Lakes Rifle association, which will be shot for the first time. The amount of prize money will thus be increased by from $5,000 to $10,000, and the whole program is the most attractive ever offered for military rifle shooting in this country. The state of Ohio has generously placed at the disposal of the various organizations the magnificently equipped and extensive range, with more than 200 targets, without further cost than the necessary expense of operation. It will also furnish tentage and camp equipment to competitors.

A most striking change has been made in the program for the national team match. Heretofore the teams have been entered as one class, with six prizes offered, of $300, $200, $150, $100, $75 and $50. This year the teams will be divided into three classes, to be known as A, B and C, respectively. This classification will be made out the standing of the teams in the last national match, the first fifteen teams constituting Class A, the next fifteen Class B, and the remainder Class C. States and territories entitled to representation, but not so represented in 1908, will be added to Class C. There will be four cash prizes in each class, as follows: Class A, first, the national trophy (given by the congress of the United States), $450 in cash; second, $350; third, $300, and fourth, $250. Class B, first, the Henry A. Hilton trophy and $350; second, $250; third, $225, and fourth, $200. Class C, first, the "Bronze Soldier of Marathon," presented by the commander-in-chief in behalf of the state of New York, and $200; second, $200; third, $175, and fourth, $150. Every member of a prize winning team will receive a bronze medal, the design for the three classes being different.

Total of Prizes Larger.

The total prize money in the national match is thus increased from $875 to $3,200 and the number of prize winning teams is increased from six to twelve. It will be noticed that the first prize for Class B is equal to the second prize in Class A, and the first prize in Class C is more than the second prize in Class B, the second prize in Class B being equal to the fourth prize in Class A, and the second prize in Class C being the same as the fourth prize in Class B.

It might be expected that occasion would arise when a team in Class A might try a little jockeying in order to land a better prize in Class B than it could in Class A or in Class C than it could in Class B.

This has been provided for by the adoption of a rule that no team shall be eligible to win a prize in a class lower than the one in which it shall have been rated for the year.

Thus a team classified in C can win any prize in the match; those in class B are eligible to the prizes in classes A and B, while those teams which stood among the first fifteen at Camp Perry last year can shoot only for the prizes in class A. Teams in classes B and C making a total score sufficient to win any prize in a higher class must take the place and prize in the higher class to which such total score entitles them.

One Prize Per Team.

No team shall be eligible to win more than one prize in the same national match. Hereafter each year the teams competing in the national match will be reclassified upon the basis of their standing in the national match immediately preceding. Any team which drops out a year or two will, on again entering the competition, be given a serial number according to its standing in the last national match in which it shot.

As a further preventive of possible jockeying, the order of fire has been materially changed. Last year the 200-yard rapid fire immediately followed the 200-yard slow-fire, and the skirmish run came in between the 800-yard stage and the 1,000-yard stage, with which the match ended. This year the order of fire will be as follows: Two hundred yards, slow fire; 600 yards, slow fire; 800 yards, slow fire; 1,000 yards, slow fire; 200 yards, rapid fire; a skirmish run. Owing to the possibilities in rapid fire and at skirmish the interest will thus be maintained until the last shot in the match is fired, for many a team will change its standing in the final stage of the match and every team will go into the skirmish run with the possibility of winning any one of the twelve prizes, for of the highest possible total score of 4,200 points, 1,200 of them can be made in the skirmish run.

Change in Rules.

In accordance with the action of congress in limiting entrance to the national matches to members of the National guard and of the regular service, the national board has changed the rules of the national individual and the national pistol matches by eliminating therefrom members of the National Rifle association and affiliated clubs.

The order of fire in the national individual match will be the same as last year. In this match the skirmish run and rapid fire are shot first, in the hope of eliminating from the match after these stages such competitors as are evidently out of it. Heretofore the prizes have been thirty-six medals, being twelve each of gold, silver and bronze, with gold medals and $20 each for the highest aggregate score in slow-fire, rapid-fire and skirmish. The twelve gold medals were accompanied by cash prizes ranging in value from $60 down to $5. This year there will be twelve additional cash prizes of $5 each to accompany the bronze medals.

Contests with Pistols.

In the national pistol match the prizes heretofore have been four gold medals, four silver medals and four bronze medals, with special gold medals for slow-fire, time-fire and rapid-fire, all being accompanied by cash. This year there will be eight additional bronze medals to be accompanied by $5 each in cash. The aggregate amount of money to be distributed in the national team match, the national individual match and national pistol match is $4,110. There are no entrance fees to any of the national matches.

The National Rifle association matches this year will include several new and very interesting matches, the first of these to be known as the Evans Service Skirmish match, taking its name from Lieutenant Colonel R. K. Evans, U. S. A., who will provide a silver trophy. The conditions are absolutely unique, being different from those of any other rifle match in the United States. It will be open to teams composed of members of companies, battalions, regiments, brigades or divisions or authorized organizations of the National Guard, army, navy and Marine corps, provided that teams will not contain any member who is not a member of the organization or of the National Guard of the state from which the team is entered. The teams will consist of one captain and two squads of one corporal and seven privates each. The officers and members of the team may be of any rank or grade.

Kneeling Silhouette.

The target will be the kneeling silhouette figure mounted on a B target and sixteen targets will be assigned each team. The teams will be shot in pairs. Each man will be given forty rounds of ammunition and the start will be made from a point more than 1,200 yards from the line of targets. The targets will be exposed and withdrawn under the direction of the range officer in charge, according to a plan previously drafted, the details of each will not be communicated to the marksman. Thus they will not know when a target is coming up or how long it will remain in sight. While the targets are down the teams will advance by command of their captain, but under the general supervision of the range officer as to speed and allignment.

At each halt before reaching 530 yards from the target the team captains will announce the distance, by giving a superior and inferior limit, followed by the proper commands of firing indicating the ranges to be used.

The manner of determining the winners is as follows: For every hit on the target made by a team the opposing team will at once lose a man and his remaining ammunition. A target once hit will be immediately withdrawn and will not apear again. The number of shots to be fired at each halt will be determined by the captain of the team and for every wrong command given by a captain one man in his team will be dropped out.

Corporals Will Not Fire.

The corporals will not fire or be dropped out until the battle sight is ordered at 530 yards, when they will begin shooting. At the longer ranges they will devote their entire attention to superintending the fire of their squad. Any man lost by the team will remain at the place where dropped out until the run is completed. The run will be continued until (a) one team has lost all of its men; or (b) both teams have exhausted all their ammunition. In case (a) the team not having lost all its men wins. In case (b) the team losing the least men wins. The match will be decided by the continued competition of the winners of each run. In addition to the silver trophy, properly inscribed, the winning team will receive all of the net entrance fees, of $1 per man, including the captains. It is not improbable that this will amount to $400 or $500. The trophy will become the property of the team winning the match three times.

At other new match of great interest will be known as the marine corps match. For the last few years the marine corps has evinced a great interest in rifle shooting and last year its teams made remarkable records both at Camp Perry and Sea Girt, so much so that the officers of the marine corps subscribed $1,800.

Simultaneous Matches.

The National Rifle association, having recently established an annual membership, the match for the annual members will be shot at the same time as the match for the life members. Gold for a trophy to be known as the Marine Corps trophy, which will be shot for in August for the first time. The distance and number of shots will be two sighting shots and twenty shots for record at 600 and 1,000 yards. It will be open to everybody with any military rifle, any military sight, using any ammunition and shooting in any position. Ten per cent of the net entrance fees will go with the trophy, which will be held for one year. The second, third and fourth men will receive 10 per cent and 50 per cent of the total net entrance fees, will be divided into $10 prizes. The entrance fee is $2 per man, and, as it is expected there will be at least 300 entries, there will be something like forty or fifty prizes.

In the championship revolver team match, for teams of five, a change has been made, limiting it to any unit of the army, navy, organized militia and naval militia, armed with the pistol, whose strength is not larger than a battalion of infantry or a squadron of cavalry, with the exception that a regiment of infantry may enter a team from the commissioned and noncommissioned staff officers.

May Have More Than One.

An organization may be represented by more than one team, but no man will be permitted to shoot on more than one team. The trophy will be the "silver target," presented by Robert S. Hale of Boston, to be held for one year, together with a medal to each member of the team and 20 per cent of the net entrance fees. The other prizes are 30 per cent, 20 per cent and 15 per cent. A new rifle match is that to be known as the individual rapid fire match, which will be open to everybody. The entrance fee is $2 and the prizes as follows: 20 per cent, 15 per cent and 10 per cent; while 55 per cent will be divided equally among the next competitors, giving to each one a sum equal to 20 per cent less than the third prize, until the amount available is exhausted.

Medals will be given in each class, together with five prizes. In the annual members' match 25 per cent of the entrance fee will be divided into $5 prizes, which will be in addition to the five percentage prizes.

The Interclub Match.

The interclub match has been changed so as to restriot it to teams of five from civilian rifle clubs and military companies, provided that no member of the team is a member or alternate of any team competing in the national team match.

Great interest among the individual shooters will be attracted by the Leech cup, Wimbledon cup and the president's matches as well as the military championship match. Last year the prizes in the Leech match were as follows: One, the Leech cup and a gold badge; 2, $35; 3, $30; 4, $15; 5, $10; 6, $10; 7, $10, and five prizes of $5 each. There were 300 entries in this match and based upon this number as that of the estimated number of entries for the next match, there will be $600 or more to be distributed in prizes this year, against $115 last year. The winner this year will get the cup and a gold badge and 10 per cent of the entrance fees, estimated at $60. The second man will receive 15 per cent, estimated at $90; the third man, 10 per cent, or $60; the fourth, 10 per cent; the fifth, 10 per cent, and sixth, 5 per cent, while 40 per cent will be divided into $10 prizes.

In Leech Match.

It is estimated there will be at least thirty prizes in the Leech match this year. The foregoing is true of the Wimbledon cup match, where the entrance fees are the same and the number of competitors usually the same as in the Leech match. The money will be divided on the same basis as in the Leech match. It is expected there will be about twenty-five or thirty prizes. There will probably be 200 entries in the individual long-range Tyro match, where the entrance fee is $2. There will be gold, silver and bronze medals, and the six highest men will receive 10 per cent each. The remaining 40 per cent will be divided into $10 prizes, of which it is expected there will be a large number.

Last year 317 men entered the president's match, in which the entrance fee will be this year as follows: To annual and life members of the National Rifle association, $3; all others $5, post-entry $2 additional. At the end of the skirmish run all entries are eliminated except the first fifty, but any competitor not in the first fifty can continue upon the payment of an attional entrance fee of $2, which was paid by a large number last year. It is estimated the prize money in this match will be from $1,000 to $1,500. In addition to gold, silver and bronze medals, the first five competitors will receive 10 per cent each; the next five, 5 per cent each, the next ten will receive 2½ per cent each and 25 per cent will be divided into $10 prizes.

Fifty for President's.

It is possible that there may be as many as fifty prizes in the president's match. In order to encourage the taking out of membership in the National Rifle association the entrance fees in a number of matches has been reduced to annual and life members. In the revolver team match the entrance fee will be $7.50 to organizations affiliated and $10 to others. In the chomplonship company team match the fee will be $5 for organizations affiliated and $10 for others. In the championship regimental team match the fee for affiliated organizations will be $10 and for all others it will be $20. In the Leech cup, Wimbledon cup, individual long-range tyro, marine corps and military championship matches the entrance fee will be the same for all, but the entrance fee for the president's match will be $3 for annual and life members of the National Rifle association, while others will have to pay $5.

The annual meeting of the National Rifle association for the election of twelve directors and other business will be held at Camp Perry Friday evening, August 27.

A Financial Problem.

Little Nellie was out riding one day with her grandmother in the country. As they passed a village cemetery she looked up at the old lady and asked:

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Cost new $425.00—on sale Monday	$100.00	Cost new $500.00—on sale Monday	$200.00
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RUDE MOB AT WEDDING

Press Gang and Curious People Invade Privacy of Home and Church.

New York has achieved unenviable distinction for the spectable it presents whenever a member of a rich family weds at home or in a local church. There have been few exceptions to the prevailing rule of rudeness. The mania of curious people to butt in is amazing.

Because Mrs. Hetty Green has been kept in the limelight, against her will, as the richest woman in America, the marriage of her daughter in a church at Morristown, N. J., last Tuesday, provoked an exhibition of public rudeness, in which the New York press gang was conspicuous. Various accounts of the affair present these features:

With a howling, cheering mob of 300 men and boys in hot pursuit, Miss Green started from Hoboken for Morristown, accompanied by her aged mother and a second woman companion.

There never was a more spectacular beginning of a wedding trip. Since breakfast time a crowd of newspaper men had been watching outside the Hetty Green flat at 1309 Bloomfield street, Hoboken. At 8:45 those composing it were rewarded with the first sign of life about the place. A slender young woman with reddish hair, who was dressed entirely in blue, hurried down the steps of the apartment house and ran around the corner into Washington street, where a one-horse cab had just halted. She said something to the driver, then jumped into the cab and was driven to the door of the Bloomfield street address.

As the cab slowed up at the curbing the door opened again, and out darted Mrs. Hetty Green, in a rich black traveling frock, under a black satin wrap, with her inevitable black veil of crepe, and Miss Sylvia Green. The bride of the day wore a close fitting brown gown, heavily embroidered, and a white picture hat.

With agility almost incredible in a woman of her age, Mrs. Green hobbled into the cab, the door of which had been flung open by its occupant—the young woman in blue. Miss Green hopped in behind her, the door slammed, the driver lashed the flanks of his horse and, before the spectators had time for a good look, the cab was rattling away with the nag at a stiff legged gallop.

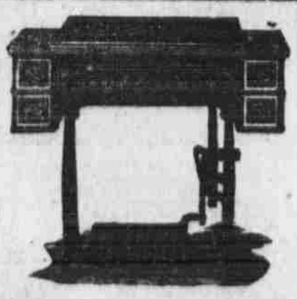
There happened to be standing in the block a grocer's wagon and two delivery wagons for New York department stores. These vehicles the newspaper men chartered almost instantly, and a picturesque chase ensued.

With the three delivery wagons stringing out behind, the one-horse cab spun around the corner of Washington street on two wheels and headed for the Lackawanna station a mile away. The cabby was larruping his horse at every jump, and the cab fairly bounded over the rough cobblestones.

Many pedestrians moving along the pavements took up the chase. Errand boys, working men, clerks and one stray letter-carrier joined in. Not knowing what was the matter, the volunteers yelled what seemed most appropriate to the occasion. Some called out "Stop thief!" and some were content to yell "Stop the runaway," and some just whooped wordless sounds as they pelted along—a ragged and noisy procession that tailed out for 100 yards.

As the bride's mother was leaving the church after the wedding some one called out to her from the watching crowd to ask what the daughter's dot would be. In answer Mrs. Green, who seemed to be in high good humor, answered back:

"She will get all that I have when I die."



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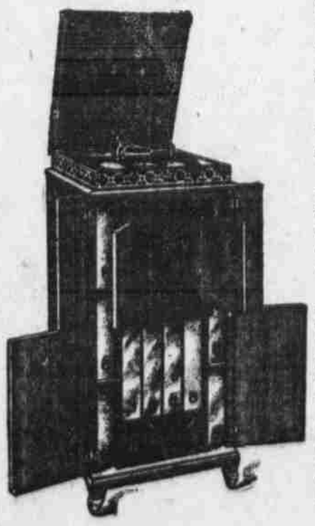

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