

Out-of-Doors Stuff

by LANS LENEVE

From Moorehead, Minnesota, comes an interesting letter from an old deer hunter, G. D. McCubrey. It is one of the most interesting letters regarding firearms, big game hunting, etc., that we have had the pleasure of reading in a long time. This gentleman also sent us a picture of himself and several hunting companions with a string of bucks, displayed. We were struck by one episode he told of concerning his grandfather's experience with a bear. It appears that he, the grandfather, and his wife were working in their garden when a large bear was observed coming across a field opposite the garden. The bear reared upon his hind legs and placed his fore paws upon the fence, just a short distance from the grandfather and his wife. The grandfather, spade in hand, approached the bear, waving the spade, but bruin did not budge. Grandfather struck the fence on either side of him with the spade and each time he struck the bear would dodge. Finally grandfather's wife yelled, "Hit him Moses." Whereat the grandfather brought the spade down with a resounding crack behind the bear's ears and down went bruin, dead as a mackerel.

Another young bear, a pet of Mr. McCubrey's was killed when the hired man struck it a sharp blow upon the nose with an axe handle. So in view of these facts the gentleman from Minnesota scoffs at the idea of carrying a high powered "cannon" while in search of bear. His past experiences shooting big game with a medium and small bore rifle convinces him that all this high power stuff is a lot of hooey. He also longs for the return to the market of the first smokeless powder loads for shotguns. We are in hearty accord with him, for there was never a finer brand of shell on the market than that old Winchester load of smokeless powder. Remember 'em, some of you old timers, they were yellow in color. They did not kick your head off and they got results.

So far as high speed rifle ammunition is concerned and big calibers relative to bagging game, we are firmly convinced that there would not be half the men killed if rifles of low velocity were carried in the woods today.

Some of these gun experts belittle the 25-20, yet this gun in the hands of a good marksman is a wicked little weapon, perfectly capable of

knocking over both deer and bear. A good marksman, with a good 22 rifle will bag more deer than the tenderfoot will with the highest powered gun on the market. The main thing is to place the bullet right and that's all there is to it. And there is one thing that we like about velocity ammunition and the smaller bore rifles and that is the fact that when a deer is shot by one of these, half the meat is not spoiled.

At one time I owned a 250-3000 Savage. It was a sweet little gun, well balanced and really a work of art. But there was simply too much speed. After killing four bucks with it, I sold it, owing to the fact that a third of the meat was blood shot and wasted by that terrific, ripping high power behind the bullet, which caused the bullet to explode when striking a bone and shooting fine fragments of the bullet jacket throughout the carcas, besides causing great bloodshot pieces of the meat to be totally ruined.

If low power ammunition such as the old 44, the 38-55, 38-56 and the 32-40, etc., killed thousands upon thousands of both black and grizzly bear, deer, elk, buffalo in the old days, and the ordinary load of smokeless Dupont powder used in shotguns accounted for thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands of geese and ducks, then why wouldn't these same guns and ammunition do the same today?

Black powder, behind shot and bullets, has accounted for more game killed in the past than no doubt will be killed within the next hundred years. Low pressure smokeless powder has also accomplished a lot toward bringing home the bacon. Yet today a mention of any of the old guns and ammunition, or of the smaller bores and the lower velocity loads will bring a sneer upon the face of the modern hunter and a hearty laugh. No, the hunter of today wants no such trash, for they belong only in museums, so he thinks. His cry is for speed, more speed, power, more power. He enjoys bragging as to how many counties his rifle will shoot across. Last season in Maine and Michigan there were 186 hunting accidents, most of them being men shot by being mistaken for deer. That's high power stuff for you. Bagging men at such a distance they are mistaken for deer! We will have something later on for you from Mr. McCubrey's own pen and we know you are going to enjoy it a lot.

See "Spike" Lealle for the best in Liability, or other Insurance. Office, 275 So. Hall, in former hospital bldg., phone 5; residence phone 95L.

Letter From Fighter On Iwo Island

Mrs. Ernest Wardrip this week received the following letter from her cousin, Sgt. Roy R. Stone, who was injured on Iwo and taken to an U.S. hospital near Honolulu:

Your welcome letter came this evening after a long trip to Iwo. Considering distance and transportation problems it came fairly fast.

I'm sorry I didn't get to see Frank but his outfit hadn't landed when I went looking for him. Later, I had to leave rather abruptly and so missed him.

The 28th Marines had the honor of raising the flag on Suribachi Yama and the ordeal of capturing it. We crossed the Island just north of them and moved north along the west coast.

You have, no doubt, heard the report of casualties but there was no way we could have taken it with less. The remaining enemy will still be hard to handle but will eventually be taken care of. Everyone, Army, Navy, CB's, and attached units did a hard job with perfect coordination. I'll give you a brief outline of my reasons for being here instead of with my outfit on Iwo. First, I

should have moved when I stood still and a sniper got me through the leg. It missed the knee by about one inch and came out in the hinge part of the joint, narrowly missing the artery, bone and tendon. It happened at 1:40 p. m. and on the 6th and I was flying south at 3:20.

After a stop of three days enroute I came on over here where I have been ever since. The leg is a bit stiff but I can walk quite well and will probably be back to duty before long. It was a minor wound compared to most of them, hardly worth mentioning.

I heard from Alice while on Iwo but haven't received much mail here yet. They were all fine at that time. The Red Cross lady here was at Auckland, N. Z., a few months ago and we had some interesting conversation the other day. Incidentally, the nurses at Hospital 111, in the transport (air), and here have all been swell and we haven't wanted for any of the necessities or recreation gear.

We have a good bed, good food, reading material, cards, radio, sufficient clothes and money here so don't worry about me this trip. May I be as lucky next time, if, and when.

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TIRES

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

How to Greet a Wounded Soldier

Charlie Jenkins got back from overseas the other day, discharged for wounds... and he was pretty well banged up. Naturally, our town felt mighty bad about it. We wanted to sympathize with him and help him. But Doc Walters set us straight about that.

He said that what Charlie wanted most was to be accepted as one of the gang again... as if nothing had happened. So we asked him over to pitch horseshoes with his good hand, and enjoy a friendly glass of beer and chew the fat like old times.

And you should have seen him pick up! From being scared of meeting people, Charlie got his confidence back and soon became his own self again.

From where I sit, Doc Walters gave us the right steer. The wounded men coming home don't want our sympathy or our overenthusiastic help. They want to be treated like the rest of us... with a chance to work and lead a normal life. And that's the least we can offer them.

Joe Marsh

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