

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



Smoothbore Musket Has Fine Value, Little Accuracy

Our National Defense Department is availing itself of all the latest inventions—and it certainly seems to be— it is only because there has been a revolution in the military mind. Traditionally, the military mind—in America as elsewhere— has been characterized by stupidity, a fact demonstrated in scores of ways but none more conclusively than in the determination of our War Department to continue making smoothbore muskets long after rifles had been proved superior.

I thought of this the other day in trying out a flintlock musket a friend had bought for his collection. The buy was an excellent one—he had paid only \$25 for it—so good that he wanted to check the gun thoroughly by firing tests.

The smoothbore, .69 caliber barrel was just a shade under three-and-a-half-feet long. Its over-all length was almost five feet and it weighed nearly ten pounds. On the lockplate were the words, "Virginia Manufactory," the latter in script. Beneath the curved word "Richmond" was the date 1807.

We set the gun in a well-padded vise, loaded it with two drams of black powder and a lead ball that had been machined down to an exact fit. From a safe distance we pulled the trigger with a string.

There was a puff of smoke from the brass pan where the goose-neck hammer had struck the flint. From the muzzle came a cloud of dark smoke as the ball smashed into the target. It was a direct hit all right, but not on the bull's-eye at which it was aimed. It was off a good eight inches in 50 feet. In other words, an enemy would be virtually assured of safety at that range if fired at by a dead shot.

Nonetheless, the gun worked perfectly, as well as it or any other smoothbore musket ever had. You could pretty well rely on an eight-inch deviation in 50 feet, and you could also rely on not being able to tell whether it would be to the right or left, or up or down.

My friend was delighted, and he should have been because the prevailing price for smoothbores of that period and manufacture runs from \$75 to \$150.

NATION EXISTED ONLY TWO YEARS BUT ISSUED STAMPS

"No Stellaland stamps? Humph! Well, let me know when you have some."

The words were uttered in a rather haughty tone by a man who obviously did not wish to linger in such a place.

"Stellaland?" I said. "Is he a crackpot?"

Charles, the owner of the establishment, shook his head.

"There was a Stellaland, a country by that name, and it lasted long enough for its stamps to win a place in the major albums of the world." He passed me the latest issue of Scott's.

Stellaland was a republic set up by the Boers in the northern part of what is now South Africa's Cape Province. Its capital was Vryburg.

Of course, in setting it up back in 1884, the Boers had no real intention of establishing it as a separate, permanent republic. It was just a gimmick they employed in carrying out their over-all scheme for stealing territory from the Negroes and the British at the same time. And though the Negroes were helpless, the British weren't, with the result that Stellaland went out of existence in 1885.

But that is neither here nor there. In 1884, Stellaland—which means starland, by the way—turned out five kinds of stamps ranging from a penny to a shilling in denomination. In 1885, another one was turned out, a two-penny item on a four-penny gray. All the stamps were known only in the unused state, and, except for the 1885 issue with a possible value of \$75, they are all valued at less than \$5.

"Why is your customer so hot for these stamps if that's all they're worth?" I asked.

"Because he managed to find one that is cancelled and he's looking for another," Charles replied. "And besides, he specializes only in stamps of small, obscure countries."

KURLBAUM & SCHWARTZ CACHEPOT RARE ITEM

My niece Judith opened her handbag and removed a small paper sack. From that she drew a tiny little vase—cachepot, she called it—and set it on the table before me.

I held the piece under the lamplight. It was an excellent example of copper lustre work at its best. From lip to base it was only three inches. Around the swell in its sides was a band of blue, almost a cobalt, and here and there upon it were raised roses.

I turned the piece over. On the bottom was a small mark.

"That's the clue," said my niece. "That's the reason why I felt it was a bargain at \$35."

I picked up my magnifying

glass for a close look at the potter's mark. It was a simple one, K.S.S.

"Actually," my niece continued, "I'd have paid twice as much if I'd had to. Pieces like this by the old Pennsylvania firm of Kurlbaum & Schwartz are rare. I know one collector who'd be very happy to pay through the nose for this."

I looked up the firm in Cox's "The Book of Pottery and Porcelain." The firm was established in 1851. That's all I could find out about it.

But my niece got \$175 for her tiny vase—cachepot, as she calls it.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Pickin' Pears News and Notes From Camp White

By BILL HURN

The fourth presentation of the series of travelog slides of Scandinavian countries of Mrs. Frank Perl's tour was presented Monday afternoon at the Chapel under arrangement by Mrs. Fred Rehling, of the Red Cross, as a Camp White Library activity.

Central Point American Legion auxiliary conducted a games session in recreation hall, Monday afternoon. Mary Baker and Eva Campbell were the auxiliary's hostesses. Cards were played by several guests with a cigarette spread closing the party.

The top-line billing of the Oregonians Vaudeville troupe was the theater presentation for the Friday afternoon matinee. Amby Amburn the emcee-manager for the group reported a most responsive audience, which was incidentally the largest SRO turnout Camp White has yet recorded.

Elks night on Friday evening under the direction of the State hospital chairman, Emil Kroeger of Ashland, was a return engagement of the Edna Dougherty-Forrest Crumer console organ and piano duo. Following their formal concert, song hit numbers were requested by the audience.

Coffee, doughnuts and cigarettes were distributed by Ashland Lady Elks Annie Kroeger, Juanita Harris, Minnie Groat and Lillian Mell.

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GOLD HILL Junior Police Are Formed

By MRS. CLYDE KELL

Gold Hill—Police Chief Floyd Taylor has announced that a Junior Police group is being organized for teenage boys in Gold Hill.

Plans are to hold Junior Police meetings each Thursday at 7 p.m. in the new club room recently finished at the fire hall. Twelve boys attended the meeting last week.

Willard Taylor will assist his father in the new organization. The city council authorized Taylor to purchase 12 junior police badges. The boys will have to earn their badges with certain qualifications, besides regular attendance at meetings.

Taylor said that one of the recreational plans he has for this group is to have a Gold Hill baseball team. He stated that a number of the local men, who used to play baseball themselves in former years on the home town teams, have expressed their interest in sponsoring a team for boys. Others who are interested could contact Floyd Taylor.

It has been several years since Gold Hill has had a town baseball team.

James Clemen, March 18. Birthday cake and ice cream were served to Mrs. Robert Pugh, Mrs. Sid Payne, Mrs. Dale Clement, Mrs. Amy Ross, Mrs. Jack Thomas, Mrs. Hanna Routh, Mrs. Carl Routh, Mrs. Terry Clements, Mrs. Paul Holderness, Mrs. T. A. Robinson Jr., and the hostess, Mrs. James Clements. Young people present for the party included Mrs. Robinson's granddaughter, Robin Robinson, Philip Van Horn, Collin Bryan, Debon and Butch Clement.

Jim Parker of Lammman rd. was honored at a birthday dinner held at his home Sunday evening, March 17. Those present besides Mr. and Mrs. Jim Parker were Mr. and Mrs. Lester Parker and daughter, Linda.

Week end guests at the James Clement home were the Clements son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Zimmer, their twin girls, Janice and Jackie, and friends of the Zimmer's, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wright and son, Kim, all of Sweethome.

Mr. and Mrs. Delos Walker and daughters, Dixie and Linda, returned last week from a trip

Mrs. Lee D. Marsden Jr. and son, Skip, left March 16 for their home in Milwaukie, Ore., following a week's visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Dunkey, on Sixth ave. Prior to their leaving, a family dinner was held at the Dunkey home. Those present were Miss Nona Dunkey, Mr. and Mrs. Don Dunkey and son, Scott, Vern Dunkey and his daughter, Kim, all of Medford, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dunkey of Gold Hill, the honored guests and the hosts Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Dunkey.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Johnson of O'Brien spent a recent week end in Gold Hill at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Gilchrist, on Fifth ave.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Johnson accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lafon to Homer, Alaska, recently, where the Lafons are operators of a motel. Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson plan to work at the motel. Their daughters, Donna, Crystal, and Nadine Ann are staying with Mrs. Johnson's sister, Mrs. Tad Blouin and family on Fifth ave. until school is out.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Straus, second ave., have named their baby Richard Leroy. He weighed two pounds, 11 ounces at birth and now weighs three pounds, 4½ ounces. He is still confined to his incubator home at a Medford hospital.

Janice and Jackie, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Straus, went to the Logue Valley Memorial hospital Tuesday morning, March 18, where they had their tonsils removed.

Mrs. Susie Robinson spent last week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Samora near Central Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hobson and children, Bobbie and Kenny, of Roseburg were week end guests, March 16 and 17 at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Centers, on Fourth ave. They also visited other relatives while here.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Robinson Jr. and daughter, Robin, have returned to their home on Fourth ave. to live from Umattila. Mrs. Robinson's mother, Mrs. Ethel Bohn, and son, Buddy, accompanied them to Gold Hill.

Mrs. Bell Centers has returned to her home in Medford. Mrs. Centers had been convalescing from surgery the past two weeks at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Centers.

Cecil Van Horn left March 19 for Tamaco, Columbia, South America. He will be employed in the lumber industry. Mrs. Van Horn and their son, Phillip, will remain in Gold Hill for several weeks, before joining him in South America. Van Horn has been a resident of the Gold Hill area for several years.

Mrs. Susie Robinson celebrated her 78th birthday with several friends at the home of Mrs.

to Vancouver. En route north they visited Mrs. Walker's sister, Mrs. Mildred Patterson, in Salem. While the Walkers were in Salem, Delos and Dixie visited Barney Kellogg at State Tuberculosis hospital where he has been a patient for more than nine years.

At Vancouver they visited at the home of another sister, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roring, and at the homes of Mrs. Walker's nieces, Mary Ann and Ruth. En route home they visited in Portland at the home of Walker's uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bailey.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker have received word from their son, Richard Walker, telling them that he is employed in Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wills and three children, Chris Ann, Charlie and Susan, of Klamath Falls visited at the home of his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. D.los Walker, and family recently.

Mrs. Maybelle Rains and her mother, Mrs. George Dorman, who accompanied her on a two-week vacation to California have returned to their homes. They visited Mrs. Rains' two sons, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dotson, their children, Terasa and George; and Mr. and Mrs. Linsley D. Dotson and daughter Pamela, all of Ontario, Calif. A third son of Mrs.

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Three Local Men Receive Awards

Three representatives of the O. K. Rubber Welding system, Medford, were awarded plaques and service pins at a meeting of dealers in Portland recently in connection with the company's national "New Look" conversion program.

Richard E. Fanger, of the Medford branch, was awarded a

Rains, Johnny Rains, came to Ontario for a weekend. Johnny is stationed with the Navy at Point Mugu, Calif.

They visited at El Monte, Calif., with Mrs. Dorman's niece and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burnett.

CHARLES D. HOLBROOK TAX SERVICE

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Oregon Fish Commission Member Resigns Post

Portland—(U.P.)—O. H. Hinsdale of Reedsport, a member of the Oregon Fish commission since 1935, has announced his resignation from the post because of the press of personal business.

Gov. Robert Holmes expressed appreciation for the work of Hinsdale on the commission and requested that he stay on until a successor can be appointed.

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captivating sun styles in three dramatic hand-screened prints!

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Sizes 10-18

Incredible value! These dresses were rushed to Penney's from Honolulu in advance of the new Spring season... offered to you at this unbelievable low price! They're fine cottons, featuring true Hawaiian hand-screened prints (shell ginger, tapa, or pineapple) and stunning colors. Choose full-skirted styles or a slimming sheath. The dresses feature clever elastic inserts which give you custom-like fit in the bodice. Blue, red, charcoal, brown, gold.

"KIILANI" SEPARATES!

DAGGER PANTS WITH SASH

3.98

MATCHING SLEEVELESS BLOUSE

2.98

MATCHING BEACH JACKET

2.98

SHORTS 2.98
BERMUDA SHORTS 3.50
FULL SKIRTS 5.90

Stunning Hawaiian sport separates for fun in the sun. Comfortable and mid-calf length slacks have dagger bottoms, side zipper, solid color sash. Blouse is a boat-neck style, the jacket is a Mandarin style. Sizes 10 to 16.

PERFECT FITTING SWIMSUIT

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MEN'S SPORT SHIRTS

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MEN'S BOXER SWIM TRUNKS

2.98

Fully shirred elastic back hugs the figure smoothly. Solid color cuffed top, lined bra, skirt-effect over boy shorts. Choose tapa, shell ginger, or pineapple patterns. Sizes 10 to 16.

They match up as a handsome Cabana set! The shirt features genuine coconut buttons, neat spread collar. The trunks have solid color shirred elastic tops, built-in supporter. Small, medium, large, extra large.

BUY ON LAYAWAY NOW

SEE OUR OTHER AD ON PAGE 6, 2nd SECTION