

# NEW!

*A Great Book Every  
Gun Owner Will Treasure*

A moving account of  
320 pages, more  
than 300 pictures,  
of the founding,  
growth and history  
of the National  
Rifle Association.

AMERICANS  
AND THEIR  
GUNS



*Published by  
STACKPOLE BOOKS  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania*

# AMERICANS AND THEIR GUNS

## records in pictures and words the life story of the National Rifle Association of America...

... from its first venturesome step in sponsoring marksmanship training for the New York State National Guard to its position nearly a century later as a national service organization for all law-abiding Americans who use firearms for defense and recreation.

The telling of this story adds a vital piece of Americana to the understanding of the past century. That period of our nation's growth from sparsely settled frontiers to an urbanized world power sets the background for this account of how a group of citizens banded together to encourage marksmanship training after the Civil War and then responded to the constantly changing needs of the nation... of how they initiated and sponsored basic military training programs, competitive shooting activities and international matches... established a national magazine... offered police and youth programs... developed hunting and home firearms safety training — and of how they have contributed to game conservation. Between wars, they became the primary

guardian of the proud traditions of American riflemen.

In more than three hundred rare, historical photographs, and in objective reporting, *Americans and Their Guns* affords fascinating glimpses of many activities: the first shooting matches in the nineteenth century, illustrating highly individualistic shooting positions of those days and relating incidents of great sportsmanship; the founding of important shooting trophies; how women penetrated the man's world of competitive shooting; the whole Creedmoor to Camp Perry national marksmanship saga... a full, candid, thoroughly researched and straightforward biography of American ideas and ideals in all of their progress... a program highly praised by almost every President of the United States in the past century.

Concern about America's military preparedness remains a continuing interest of the National Rifle Association, rivaled now, as reported in this detailed history, by its present

services to all fields of the shooting sports and its efforts devoted to public safety, law and order.

In reviewing the NRA's role as champion of the American citizen's right to bear arms, well-documented facts about firearms legislation and NRA policy are presented. Summarizing its position on these controversial matters, it is shown that the National Rifle Association has recognized changes in American living and the desirability for corresponding changes in the use and control of firearms. It has sought to hold new controls to a sane and workable basis that will warrant public respect and observance.

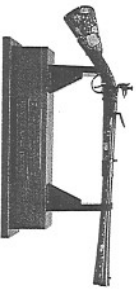
Many history books record the gun as an instrument in shaping the destinies of men and nations; even in the wars of this atomic era, the foot soldier's gun plays a vital role. The NRA story records how patriotic, law-abiding Americans have helped to place the gun in proper perspective as an instrument of defense and recreation.

*The 26 chapters of AMERICANS AND THEIR GUNS provide a true history of the struggles and accomplishments of the NRA.*

**INTRODUCTION** • A CRITICAL DECADE IN AMERICAN HISTORY • DEDICATED MEN GO TO WORK • IMPROVED TARGETS GIVE A NEW LEAD • CREEDMOOR IN THE INTERNATIONAL MATCH AT CREEDMOOR • INTER-NATIONAL MATCHES UNDER NRA DIRECTION FIRMLY ESTABLISH AMERICANS AS WORLD CHAMPIONS • END OF AN ERA — GOODBYE TO CREEDMOOR • INTERIM LEADERSHIP IN NEW JERSEY — SEA GIRT REFLECTS LEADERSHIP IN NEW JERSEY • TOPPER AND CREEDMOOR CONGRESS HONORS NRA • INTERNATIONAL CAMP PERRY HERALDS SEA GIRT • INTERNATIONAL

**SHOOTING SUCCESSSES** — JUNIOR SHOOTING PROGRAM MOVES FORWARD • THE YEARS 1902-12 — PERIOD OF GREAT PROGRESS • STEPPED-UP SHOOTING PROGRAMS AND FIRING SCHOOL ACTIVATED • FESTIVAL PROGRAM — NATIONAL MATCHES AT CANTON, N.Y. — THE SMALLBORE COMES OF AGE • MORE INTERNATIONAL VICTORIES — GREATER POLICE PARTICIPATION • ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE STRENGTHENED • YOUTH AND POLICE PROGRAMS MORE AHEAD • NRA INTEREST SUPPORT BY AMERICAN LEADERS AND OTHER NATIONS • THE NATIONAL MATCHES • THE NATIONAL SHOOTING ACTIVITIES TO THE BRINK OF WORLD WAR II

**AMERICAN GUN-OWNERS HELP TO REARM BRITAIN** — NRA CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR EFFORT • PARADOLY EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP — CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION, PROCEDURES, AND STRAINS • ROYAL SCOTLAND WAR — NRA PROMOTION OF TRAINING PROGRAM REACTIVATED • THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS PRASE SERVICES OF THE N.R.A. • FIREARMS LEGISLATION — A REVIEW OF PERTINENT FACTS — NRA POLICY • THE NRA TODAY — ITS MEMBERSHIP, ITS SERVICES, AND ITS FUTURE PURPOSES • INDEX • ACKNOWLEDGMENTS •



The William Randolph Hearst Rifle Trophy is a 17th century flintlock-in-hat with ivory and pearl.



The 1933 "Bronco Buster" Trophy.



Creedmoor turned from a weed-covered farm to a colorful, flag-draped range.



Mrs. Elizabeth (Phinky) Topperman, one of the greatest of her sex.



Union Army sharpshooter using a heavy match rifle.

AMERICANS AND THEIR GUNS

AMERICANS AND THEIR GUNS

The National Rifle Association's story through America's century  
 Edited by Frances E. Brown

Actual Size of Book  
 8 1/2" x 11"

Stackpole Books

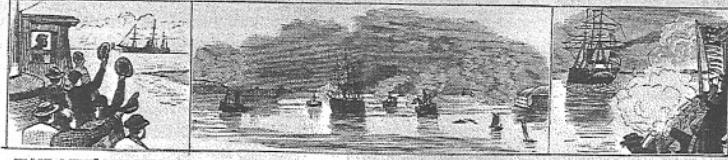
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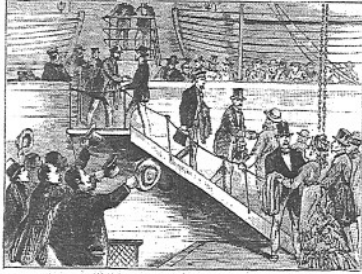
No. 1,010—Vol. XL

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 4, 1875.

[PRICE 10 CENTS.]



THE "CITY OF MEXICO" FAREWELL SIGHTS. THE BATTLE-FIELD FROM BATHURST AND WASHINGTON AND THE STRAITS. CHASING THE "CITY OF MEXICO."

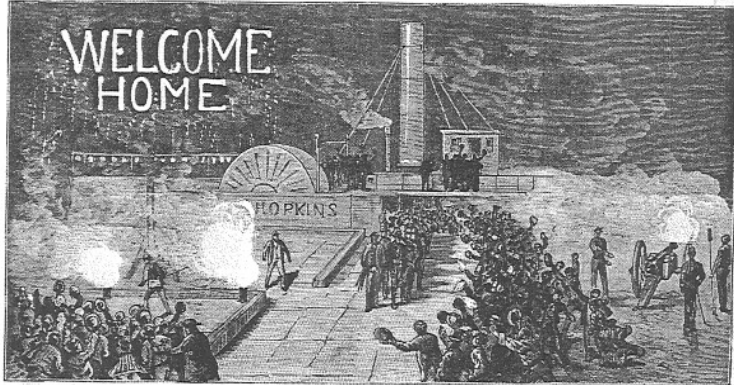


THE DEPARTURE OF THE AMERICAN TEAM LEAVING THE "CITY OF MEXICO."



THE RECEPTION OF THE TEAM AS BOARD THE "S. B. HOPKINS."

*A gala reception awaited the victorious American rifle team on its return from the matches at Dollymount, Ireland, and was front-page news in New York's newspapers.*



THE ARRIVAL OF THE "HOPKINS" AT THE BATTERY, WITH THE AMERICAN TEAM AND THEIR FRIENDS—THE PARTY AND THE RECEPTION. NEW YORK CITY—ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF THE AMERICAN RIFLE TEAM—VICTORS OF DOLLYMOUNT—MOUNTAIN VIEW—SEE PAGE 417.

More than 300 illustrations convey the growth and development of NRA during nearly a century. These illustrations, many of them rare and unusual, were gathered from various sources, including NRA archives, private collections, and the Library of Congress.

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