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THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL  
CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

BY

SUSAN MARIE NATTRASS

A THESIS  
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE  
STUDIES AND RESEARCH IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE  
OF MASTER OF ARTS.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a thesis entitled THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING, submitted by SUSAN MARIE NATTRASS in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

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Date . . . . . October 1, 1974

## ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study was to increase the body of knowledge of the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting, through reference to related literature, from early times to the present.

The beginnings of trapshooting - popinjay shooting and then live pigeon shooting - were discussed as a background to the significant "Glass Ball Era" of the latter part of the 19th century. The subsequent appearance and development of the clay target and clay pigeon shooting were then examined in detail, with particular reference to national and international competitions and organizations. Emphasis was laid upon Canadian aspects of the sport at appropriate times. Recommendations were made for possible future studies at the conclusion of the thesis.

## Acknowledgements

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

Trapshooting may rightly claim to be one of the oldest of outdoor sports and is the oldest, most popular and yet still the fastest growing shotgun sport known to man - or woman.<sup>1</sup>

The first mention of trapshooting as a sport is found in an old English publication called The Sporting Magazine, originally published in 1793.<sup>2</sup> The sport was referred to as being a well-established recreation of the period. In those days wild game was plentiful, and shooting at the traps was indulged in for the purpose of gaining proficiency in the use of the gun. In the early stage of its history it would seem that trapshooting was purely an English sport as no European records have been found.<sup>3</sup>

The origin of trapshooting may be traced to the ancient pastime of popinjay shooting, a game practised by the ancient Greeks and the expert bowmen of medieval times.<sup>4</sup>

Many ancient English laws and customs held that all wild game was the property of the king and not of the owner of the land on which it might be hunted. The king could retain his exclusive right to game or he could delegate it to his retainers. Gradually, various

2

kings granted the aristocracy and landed gentry the right to hunt game, but ordinary citizens were greatly restricted and could be severely punished for violating the game laws. Since most of the wild and semi-wild land on which game grew was used by the aristocracy and gentry, the middle-class hunters found little outlet for their sport. They devised the sport of trapshooting because they had been deprived of the chance to shoot wild birds.

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The name trapshooting comes from the fact that the original trapshooters imprisoned live birds in a series of traps, signaled to the operator of the traps, and then fired at the birds a few moments after the operator had pulled a cord attached to levers for liberating the birds. Ordinary pigeons, passenger pigeons, and sometimes quail were used as targets.

Around 1800 the first trapshooting club was founded in England. The club was called the "Old Hats", which took its name from the trapshooting rules it enforced. Trapshooting events were first recorded in the journals of the Sportsmen's Club of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1831; hence, that year has often been chosen as the beginning of organized trapshooting in America.

Trapshooters in England and the United States soon found that they were depleting the supply of live birds in their neighborhoods. Many of the States began to prohibit the trapping and subsequent shooting of pigeons.

Live pigeon shooting was opposed by many people who objected to its cruelty.

As a result, trapshooters looked for some substitute and tried several alternatives as targets, for example, wooden blocks, tin cans and bottles, before something satisfactory was found. The first acceptable replacement for the live bird was a glass ball. What is termed the "glass-ball" period in trapshooting history began in 1866, when Charles Portlock, of Boston, Massachusetts, organized the first glass ball trapshooting competition in the United States. The new target immediately gained a considerable degree of popularity and competitions were held throughout the United States and Canada. Captain A. H. Bogardus soon became the first glass ball shooting champion and also made some important improvements in the glass ball and trap.

However, the glass ball targets did not satisfactorily simulate the bird in flight. The eventual demise of the glass ball target began in the early 1800's. The invention of the clay target, or clay pigeon as it was first called, marked the beginning of a new era in the sport of trapshooting, and was responsible for considerable growth and progress in the sport. There have been some discrepancies among the authors who have discussed the invention of the clay pigeon as to whether George Ligowsky of Cincinnati was the originator of the first clay pigeon

target and trap or whether an Englishman named Mc was the inventor.

The Ligowski Clay Pigeon Company organized and sponsored the First International Clay Pigeon Tournament held in Chicago, May 27 to 31, 1884. The first trapshooting tournament was held in New Orleans, February 11 to 16, 1885, under the sponsorship of the National Gun Association. The Interstate Trapshooting Association was organized ten years later, established a club on Long Island, conducted both live bird and target shooting events, and held what is often regarded as the first Grand American Handicap tournament. The Interstate Trapshooting Association was succeeded by the American Trapshooting Association, which became the national governing body. Until 1924, the body was controlled by manufacturers of guns and ammunition; that year it was decided by the trapshooters to discontinue it from all "subsidy" and to have the association on its own as a strictly sports organization. The severance was made and the name changed to its present one of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.

The First International Clay Pigeon Tournament held in Chicago, May 27 to 31, 1884, was advertised as being the "first international" clay pigeon competition. Whether it was or not is difficult to establish, and depends on how the term international is defined.

international competitions are defined as composing of individuals from at least two countries, then the tournament held May 27 to 31, 1884 could be the "first international" clay pigeon competition, provided that trapshooters from both Canada and the United States competed for the championships.

If international competitions are defined as any competition sanctioned by the international controlling organization and/or the International Olympic Committee, then the first international clay pigeon competition was the Second Olympiad in Paris, France in 1900, where trapshooting was an event. It was included in every subsequent Olympic Games with the exception of 1904 in St. Louis, 1932 in Los Angeles, 1936 in Berlin, and 1948 in London.

La Federation Internationale de Tir aux Armes Sportives de Chasse from Paris united international sports bodies in 1929 to establish the World Shooting Championships and the European Shooting Championships. Under the auspices of the International Shooting Union the sport of International Clay Pigeon shooting has grown to be included in international competitions like the Southeast Asia Peninsula Games, The Championship of the Americas, The Nordic Games, South African Games and The British Commonwealth Games.

Other than results obtained from the Olympic Games and the World Championships very little is known about the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting as opposed to American style trapshooting.

Perhaps because of a language barrier there has been a lack of communication among countries regarding the history of the sport's development. With the cooperation of various individuals and shooting federations in selected countries throughout the world, available information has been collated to increase the level of knowledge regarding the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting.

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The general problem was to trace the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting through reference to related literature.

Two related sub-problems were:

- (1) to determine the originator of the clay target and trap, and
- (2) to explain the differences between American style trapshooting and International Clay Pigeon shooting..

## LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study was limited by the following factors:

- (1) Access to data was limited by the lack of finances available to travel to various countries to obtain first-hand information.
- (2) The inability of the investigator to speak and read foreign languages and the dependence upon the translations of the available literature.
- (3) The efficiency of the questionnaire used to collect the necessary data. The success and validity of the personal interviews was dependent upon the ability of the interviewer and translator.
- (4) The dependence of the investigator on the cooperation of participating shooting federations.
- (5) The absence of source material and records destroyed in World War II in Paris.

## DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The following delimitations apply to the study:

- (1) The investigation was confined to International style trapshooting officially known as International Clay Pigeon shooting, although this area is only one aspect of trapshooting and shotgun shooting.
- (2) Once the general development of International Clay Pigeon shooting had been examined, the study was

delimited to certain countries throughout the world.

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS

The following definitions apply to the study:

Clay Pigeon: The target, object in trap or skeet shooting events. It is an inverted saucer-shaped object generally made of powdered limestone and pitch.

Regulations specify that the clay pigeon be 4 5/16" in diameter, 1 1/8" high and weigh 3 1/2 ounces, with an allowable variation of 5% from this latter figure. In International style trapshooting the clay pigeon is made of harder material and may be as much as 1/8" less in height.

Federation Internationale de Tir aux Armes de Chasse:

An international organization established in Paris in 1921 to govern and control pigeon shooting, trap and clay pigeon shooting, and running target.

International competition: Any competition sanctioned by the International Shooting Union or its predecessors (Federation Internationale de Tir aux Armes de Chasse) and/or the International Olympic Committee.

International Shooting Union (I.S.U.), "Union Internationale de Tir": An international body composed of a representative from each member country established to promote, guide and control the development of the

shooting sport and to organize and supervise international competitions, the World Championships, and the shooting events of the Olympic Games.

Shotgun shooting: It is the use of the shotgun in two different clay pigeon shooting sports, either skeet or trapshooting, and in live pigeon shooting.

Shooting Federation or National Shooting Association: An organization in each country established to control and promote the sport of shooting.

Station: One of the five positions or pegs from which shooters fire.

Training Program: The method used by an individual to improve or maintain his/her standards of excellence in International Clay Pigeon shooting.

Mental Training: The method of controlling an individual's mental and emotional processes and extending his/her span of mental concentration while under conditions of competitive stress.

Trap: The mechanism used to propel the target. The name is derived from the boxes or traps used in live pigeon shooting.

Traphouse: A below-ground structure 16 yards in front of station #3 in which is housed the trap, trapbox and a supply of targets. The top of the house is usually about 2 1/2 feet higher than ground level. In International trapshooting the structure extends the length of the five

stations. The top of the house is usually at ground level.

Trapshooting (American style trapshooting: One specific form of clay pigeon shooting in which clay pigeons are thrown at unexpected angles from a ground-level traphouse, directly in front of the shooter. The rules<sup>9</sup> specify that targets must be thrown not less than 48 yards nor more than 52 yards, and should be between 8 and 12 feet high 10 yards from the trap. The usual extreme angle in the target's flight is 22 degrees on either side from the center of the firing line. In a trap squad (usually five people) the shooting is done from five adjacent positions in a crescent shaped formation 16 yards behind the "trap". (Figure 1). Shooting is done in rotation with the person in number one position firing first and so on. Each person fires at an individual target. After each has fired five shots from a particular position on the crescent, all move one station to the right until everyone on the squad has fired from all five positions - for a total of twenty-five shots. There are four different kinds of trapshooting - 16 yards singles, handicap, doubles, and International trapshooting. Each event is shot with a 12-gauge shotgun.

International Trapshooting: The terms "International Trap", "Olympic Trap", "Olympic Trench", and "Clay Pigeon" are synonymous; however, I.S.U. Rules identify this style of shotgun marksmanship as International Clay Pigeon

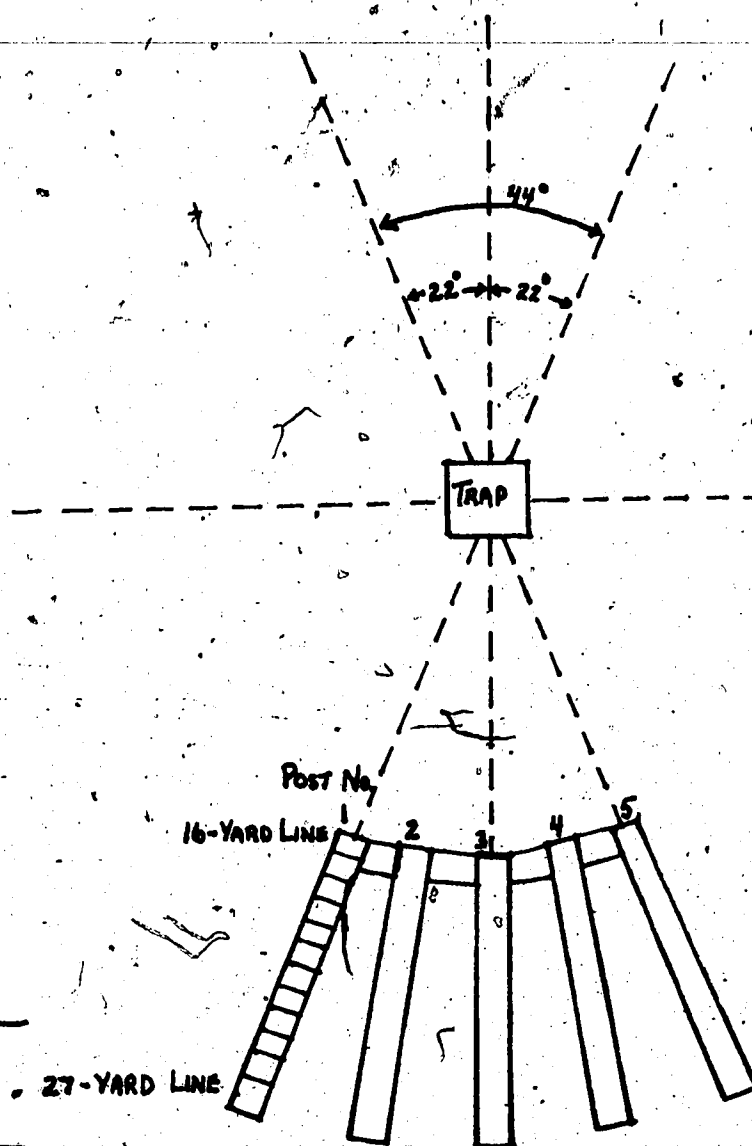


Figure 1. Standard American Trapshooting Field Plan

Shooting. It is generally accepted as the most difficult version of trapshooting practiced today. The International field layout consists of a traphouse accomodating fifteen separate traps arranged in a straight line with a prescribed spacing between the traps. The line of shooting stations, is situated 15 meters (16 1/2 yards) to the rear of the traps. one station for each group of three traps. Traps are adjusted to throw all targets within a 45 degree angle right or left of the center trap in each group. At 10 meters forward of the trap, targets must pass through a zone between 1 and 4 meters high (Figure 2). The wide horizontal and vertical angles so allowed, provide many more possibilities than are offered in American style trapshooting. To add to the difficulty, International targets may be thrown as far as 75±5 meters. To reach this distance, targets travel at high velocities. Shooters move from one station to the next after each shot. Each course has twenty-five single targets. Two shots may be fired at each target without penalty.

#### JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

The following factors served as justification for the present study:

- (1) The history of Clay Pigeon Shooting, including both trapshooting and International trapshooting, has

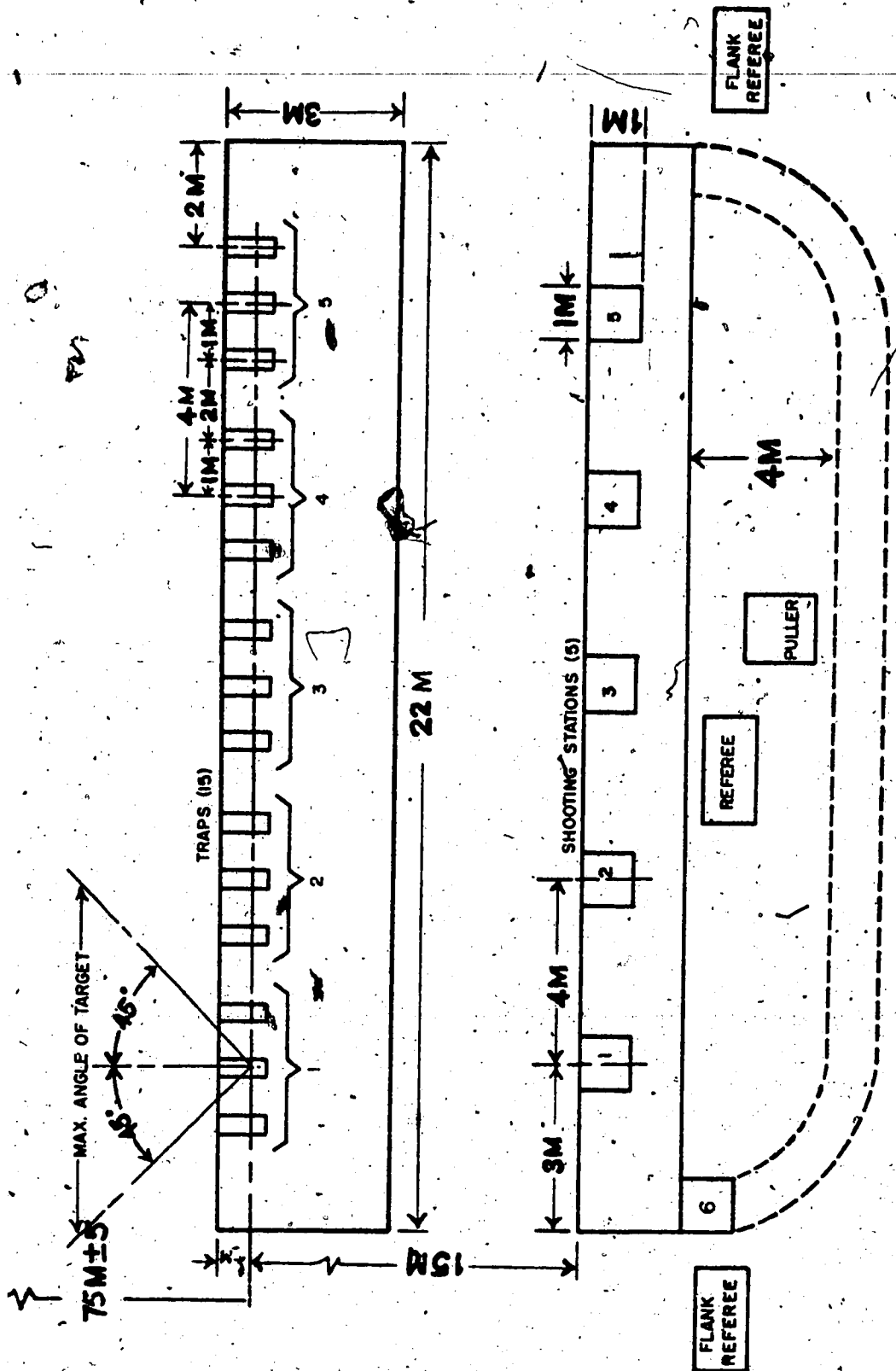


Figure 2. Standard International Clay Pigeon Field Plan

never been written.

(2) There is a need for more information regarding the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting.

This lack of information is caused primarily for two reasons:

(i) important records and documents were either destroyed or lost during World War II,<sup>10</sup>

(ii) lack of communication and exchange of ideas between countries.

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- 10 Hasler, op. cit.

## CHAPTER II

### EARLY BEGINNINGS OF TRAPSHOOTING

Trapshooting may be traced back to the ancient Greeks and the expert bowmen of mediaeval times who participated in the sport of popinjay shooting.<sup>1</sup> The popinjay was usually a stuffed parrot or fowl placed upon the top of a pole and used as a target, although in some instances a live bird was used. The bird was tied on a string secured to the pole, but had enough leeway to fly around.

In one of the oldest literary epics, usually ascribed to the 8 century B.C., The Iliad, Homer described popinjay shooting as one of the games in which the warriors participated during the funeral games for the slain Patroclus. It was not called popinjay shooting by Homer but the description fits the sport:

For the archers, next, Achilles put up as prizes  
Gleaming blue iron, this time in the form of twenty  
Good axes, ten double-bladed, ten single, and tying  
A trembling dove by the foot with thin cord to the top  
Of the mast from a blue-prowed ship, he set it up  
Far off in the sand and bade the men shoot.<sup>2</sup>

Homer then went on to describe the interesting match between the two archers Teucer and Meriones.

From these beginnings, shooting a bird, sometimes alive, but more often stuffed, fixed on the top of a mast -

the Homeric tradition has been transmitted through centuries, as the sport of popinjay shooting. Sometimes when live birds were used, at the end of a tournament the champion, who had more than a round in his quiver would cut the string with his first shot, then try to catch the bird in flight with his second shot. This was done more for amusement than anything else. Frequent meetings for popinjay shooting were held during the eighteenth century by the Toxophilite Society; the last recorded took place near Highgate, in September, 1971.

Popinjay shooting, or shooting at the "papingo" was never popular and hardly practised in England or America. It is traditionally held to have been practised at Kilwinning in Scotland as early as 1482. Annual tournaments were held there with scarcely a break from 1688 until 1870. The Ancient Society of Kilwinning Archers was reformed in the seventeenth century 'in order to the restoring of the ancient sport of the papingo formerly practiced in this place'. It was again revived in 1952 after a break of 82 years. A concise description of the tournament was written about 1880:

The papingo was a wooden bird made to resemble a parrot, alike in shape and colour. The wings were loose, and the apertures in which they were stuck in the sides of the bird were wide so that they readily fell out when struck. The wooden parrot was fixed to the end of a pole, which was laid out on the top of the only remaining tower of the once grand Kilwinning Abbey so that the bird was about ten feet from the tower. At the

beginning the bird was firmly fixed to the end of a pole, with wings spread out, and consequently at this stage the archer could only touch it or, at best, bring down a wing. When however, the shooting was for the great honour of being Captain of the Papingo, the bird 'was made loose for shooting at' and a comparatively slight touch would 'ding her doon'.<sup>4</sup>

Popinjay shooting found more widespread popularity in certain parts of France and Belgium where different, more elaborate, arrangements were devised. Sometimes the bird was enlarged and given numerous wooden feathers, each numbered according to its scoring value, and any feather could be knocked to the ground. A series of colored model birds, each carrying its value in points, was attached to a pole 85 feet high. Archers standing at the foot of the mast tried to knock down these birds with blunt arms shot vertically, and scores were awarded in accordance with agreed values for each bird. Several archery societies of ancient origin still flourish on the continent, one of the most notable being the Guild of the Archers of St. Sebastian, of Belgium, founded early in the fourteenth century; the members still practise popinjay and butt shooting in the ancient city of Bruges.<sup>5</sup>

There were two causes that led to a decline in popularity of popinjay shooting: a gradual transition to target archery, and an interest in shooting live birds furthered by the development of firearms.

The invention of firearms and the use of pellets (already conceived by the Italians toward the beginning

of the 16th century) brought the practice of shooting birds flying, (or on the wing), from the realm of legendary exploits to that of skills of accomplishment. In the 17th century, the comic poet, Regnard, wrote that the mark or sign of a "honnête homme" (Honest man) of his time was someone who could shoot a bird flying, drink, and sign his name: "And when a gentleman . . . can shoot on the fly, drink, and sign his name . . .".<sup>6</sup>

The development of gun powder and the introduction of the match-lock gun made it inevitable that soon the bird population would begin to suffer. Around the middle of the fourteenth century the first portable firearms were produced. They consisted simply of a metal tube for powder and shot inserted into a wooden stock. There was a small priming chamber for the priming powder at the base of the tube, and a hole leading to the charge. This was ignited by a slow-burning match of hemp. These guns were little more than small portable cannon and required a support for firing and were decidedly tricky to handle.<sup>7</sup>

The first matchlocks were similar to the previously-mentioned weapon but with a holder for the slow match and a lever trigger, which allowed the operator to keep his eye on the game while firing instead of having to take it off to ignite the charge. It was a muzzle-loader and was named for the "match" - a wicklike piece of material - which was lighted before use and then lowered by trigger

action into a priming pan of loose powder. It was not until the start of the sixteenth century that wheel-lock guns and later flint-lock guns were introduced.

These arms were the common shoulder guns of their day although they were not designed as shotguns and were used for both ball and shot loads. Fowling pieces, essentially the same as other shoulder arms of the time, were the first guns used in the same way shotguns now are used. They were called "fowling pieces" because they were used for bird and small game hunting. With the advent of the flintlock, these came into being in the 1600's. The same general type of gun was made in the Mediterranean Region but was called the Miquelot Lock. In England and America the flint lock fowling piece was made with an extra long barrel and was called a "long fowler". These guns were still in use until about 1850.

The fowler of those early days, however, was not greatly concerned with sport. All his shots were taken at sitting birds. His weapon rendered him incapable of taking a flying shot. Since most American bird hunters in the 1770's were shooting game for food and not for sport, to insure the killing of the game, and to make up for the lack of accuracy of the guns, the hunter crept up on the birds and shot them sitting:

Some hunters tried to emulate the unknown Italian who, in 1580, brought down a flying bird, but few succeeded. The time lag between the pressing

of the trigger of a wheellock or snaphance smoothbore and its discharge was so long and unpredictable that an accurate estimate of the distance to lead a flying bird was almost impossible. Only a rare shot would, by luck, hit its mark. Shooting flying continued to be largely a waste of gunpowder until the more dependable flintlock appeared in the middle sixteen hundreds. After that, wing-shooting gained in popularity slowly but steadily in England.<sup>9</sup>

The immediate successor to the flint-lock was the tube lock but it did not assume great importance. After the flint lock, the percussion lock with its detonating cap was an immense improvement and an introduction in England about 1820. With this comparatively weatherproof ignition system the fowling piece's performance was much more dependable even though it still was muzzle-loaded. It was in wide use for over fifty years. By 1850 the muzzle loading shotgun had become an efficient game killer but it was a difficult and even dangerous weapon to fire.

The sportsman had to carry powder flasks, shot pouches, wads, and percussion caps. He had to measure the correct powder charges into each barrel, ram wads down on them, pour in just the right amount of shot, ram wads over it, raise the hammers to half-cock, and replace the used percussion caps with new ones before he could fire.<sup>10</sup>

Between 1850 and 1860 breechloading hinge action shotguns came into wide use. The Lefauchaux breechloader made in 1836 was the forerunner of this type of gun. The first of these guns to achieve wide popularity used a pinfire cartridge - the hammer struck a pin which was an integral part of the cartridge. The pin then exploded

an internal primer. The centerfire breechloader was first introduced about 1860 in England. It used a cartridge comparable to the one in use today. For the most part, these early guns had external hammers and bottom bolting levers. Wide experimentation was taking place continually, however, and by the early 1900's most gun makers were making the so-called hammerless pieces which actually had an internal hammer combined with a top bolting lever.<sup>11</sup>

With the development of a more accurate weapon shooting at flying birds gained in popularity and developed into a sport. The term trapshooting as mentioned earlier, originally referred to shooting live birds, usually pigeons, released from traps. It is difficult to state an exact date for the beginning of trapshooting but it was fairly well-developed in England by 1750. The February issue of the British publication, The Sporting Magazine, in 1793 remarked, "The sport of pigeon-match shooting is common in all parts of England, but none so fashionably followed as in and around London."<sup>12</sup> Braun, in his book Trapshooting, quoted the original publication at some length:

The great celebrity of this sport, in which some of the first shots in England are so frequently engaged, encourages us to communicate an account of its fashionable influence and increasing prevalence as a subject applicably entitled to a place in our sporting receptacle.

Matches coming under this denomination are of two kinds: The first supported by private subscription amongst such gentlemen only, as are members of their distinct and separate clubs. Others of an inferior complexion, by public contribution from candidates of every description, and is generally excited and collected by the landlords of Inns, to purchase different pieces of plate of gradational value, for distribution among the successful adventurers in such lottery of hope and uncertainty. The practice is exceedingly common in almost every part of the kingdom, but in none so frequently repeated, or so fashionably followed, as in the counties of Bucks, Berks, Hants, and Surrey, where, at this season of the year, it is in perpetual succession at one sport or another. But the most respectable meeting for the eminence and opulence of its members, as well as the superior excellence of their shots, is held at the Old Hats, on the Uxbridge road (sic), near Ealing, at which gentlemen of the first fortunes constantly attend, and some from so great a distance as Reading and Workingham, both which furnish a few of the most expert in the circle. Amidst the respectability of this meeting we have observed even a condescending relaxation from the fatigues of official city dignity, and never enjoyed greater festivity, witnessed more exhilarating conviviality, or drank better claret and Madeira than upon this occasion.<sup>13</sup>

In the early stage of the sport's history it would seem that trapshooting was purely an English sport, as no European records had been found.<sup>14</sup> The French writer Sallier believes that the reason for this was that at a time when the rest of Europe was involved in wars, England was relatively isolated from these upheavals and English society enjoyed a state of stability and well-being, a so-called "belle epoque" which was greatly favorable to the cultivation of gratuitous activities and where games or sports became the thing to do and enjoy.<sup>15</sup>

Trapshooting clubs began to form shortly after 1800 in the southern and midland counties of England. The "Old Hats" public house, on the Uxbridge Road at Ealing, near London, was the first place mentioned as a favorite resort for pigeon shooters. The "Old Hats" derived its name from the fact that the pigeons used in the matches were placed in holes in the ground, and covered with old hats. All classes rubbed shoulders at these meetings and large sums were frequently wagered on matches between various well-known shots.

After a while, the "Red House" at Battersea, became the favorite resort for pigeon shooting for wagers, as it was more accessible to Londoners, who were the chief followers of the sport. In 1832 an English shooting club called the "High Hats" was founded, which took its name from the rules it enforced. The shooters placed live birds under their hats, lifted their hats on receiving a signal from a referee, put their hats back on their heads, and then shot at the birds, thus giving the birds a chance to escape.

The first real (or "bona-fide", as Greener puts it) Pigeon Club was formed at Hornsey Wood House. (Figure 4) The members brought their servants, erected tents, and spent the day eating, drinking, talking, and shooting. Traps were first used here, and the ordinary double-barrelled game gun replaced the large-bore single gun.

Subsequently, from 1860 onwards, many clubs were formed and prospered in England. The names of great English clubs such as Hurlingham, the Gun Club, remain inseparable from the sport's history; the Hurlingham rules were to serve as a model to all those enacted since then (See Appendix A).

The Hurlingham Club, frequented by Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, occupied a vast park, magnificently decorated with plants and flowers, where numerous sports were practiced. To isolate the shooting field, it had to be surrounded with a boarding of thick planks many yards high and about eighty yards wide. This was the first "fence" not primarily conceived with a view to increasing the difficulty of shooting, but to protect the neighbors while marking out the zone beyond which it was no longer physically possible to go looking for a bird presumed to have fallen.

The Gun Club, Notting Hill, London, became one of the best known clubs and was founded about 1861 by Sir G. East, Colonel Vansittart, and G. Battock. (Figure 5). This club had a large membership, a well-stocked dining room and bar, and permitted the members to bring their wives and lady friends several times a year. The rules of this club, and of the Hurlingham were almost identical, and were generally adopted by the leading clubs in England and abroad. An arrangement which has not been



Figure 4. Live Pigeon Shooting at Hornsey Wood House.



Figure 5. "The Gun Club" Ground, Notting Hill, England.

repeated, since, existed at the Gun Club. They had two shooting fields backing each other which made it possible to change the direction of the shooting according to that of the wind.

Special ranges for pigeon shooting were usually fenced in a semi-circle of 25 to 30 paces in diameter with the traps inside the semi-circle. Birds that came down inside the enclosure after being shot were considered good scores, even though they were not mortally wounded. Birds which escaped or those which fell wounded or dead outside the railings were considered lost. The contestant never knew at which side or distance the trap was going to be pulled, so that he had very little time to aim and fire. Sometimes two pigeons were pulled from one trap simultaneously or in quick succession from different traps.

The trap, or "box" as it was called at first, was a shallow box made of wood, about a foot long and eight to ten inches wide, sunk in the ground parallel with the surface. It was twenty-one yards from the footmark where the shooter took aim. The box was provided with a sliding cover to which a string was attached. At the command of the shooter, the string was pulled, thus liberating the bird. The shooter was not permitted to raise his gun until the bird was on the wing.

The Battersea and Hornsey Clubs started using iron traps. When these were pulled, the noisy metal startled

the bird into flight. This trap was twelve inches by ten inches and raised three inches off the ground. The four sides of the trap were hinged and the front side was drilled with three holes to admit light. The bird would face the light and always have its tail toward the shooter.<sup>20</sup>

From England shooting spread to other West-European states, to America and British colonies and Dominions, and before long international championships were arranged. Especially famous were the matches at Monaco, Cannes and Paris in France; Brussels and Spa in Belgium; Baden-Baden in Germany; Milan, Florence and Venice in Italy; San Sebastian and Seville in Spain; and Prague in<sup>21</sup> Bohemia.

In France as early as 1830, an Englishman had installed a shooting field in the English style in the Gardens of Tivoli, where the golden youth of the time, "fashionables", "lions", or "gandins", took up the sport with great enthusiasm. It seems that as yet the matches were only between two people, who would bet one against the other. One would serve as the "puller" or pigeon releaser to the other, with all freedom to seek to deceive him with regard to the box he was going to open and which was not yet chosen by lot. A French writer D'Houdetot in his book the Chasseur Rustique, about 1850, wrote about the pigeon shooting in the Tivoli,

and more recently in the Bois de Boulogne. Elsewhere he cites the names of the champions of that time who seem to have been, apart from D'Houdetot himself, Messrs. Leopold d'Yury and Theodore de Varaigne.

22

From France the new sport soon spread to Belgium where another contemporary writer named Maugeot, estimated that between thirty five and forty thousand pigeons were shot annually in his country. The shooting methods used, were, however, quite different to the five boxes already in use elsewhere. They substituted one or two spring doors on the traps which threw the pigeon into the air in such a way as to make it take off. In some shooting fields this unique trap was placed in the center of a circle ten feet in radius, the shooter standing at a point on this circumference. Any pigeon which fell within this smaller circle was considered no good while if the pigeon fell in the second circle, whose radius could vary according to convention from 100 to 150 feet, it was good and counted.

In the history of pigeon shooting on the European continent two of the leading clubs were the "Cercle Parisien du Bois du Boulogne" and the "tir de Monte-Carlo" whose Grand Prix has been since 1872 the main event on the shooting calendar and the most envied victory in the career of a shooter. Lugs described the Monte Carlo Club at the turn of the century:

The specially built trapshooting range at Monte Carlo became famous. The luxurious building is situated on the sea shore, with the famous Casino in the background. The rear wall of the covered hall is lined with red marble, bearing the names of the Grand Prix in chronological order. On the left side there are green marble plates with the names of the contestants who became champions. The main range is a semi-circle with a diameter of 55 meters. From the hall there is a footbridge with marked distances (33, 30, 25 and 20 meters) which form the firing points. At a distance of about 20m. from this bridge there are four folding traps for pigeons. To the left there is a little open hut for servants attending the traps, called trappers. There are four paths leading from this hut to the traps. To the right of it there are five kennels for dogs, which retrieve the shot birds. On the right of the firing point there is an underground booth for the puller, who at a given signal releases the birds. All the traps are connected with the pulling apparatus, which is in this booth and works the opening and closing of the traps by means of wires. During the contests red flags fly on both sides of the range.<sup>23</sup>

The best known regulations on the Continent for trapshooting were those of the Monte Carlo range. (See Appendix B). At the large shooting ranges in Europe, especially at Monte Carlo, the sport itself played only a minor role, the main attraction being wagering and financial gain. Pigeon shooting was on the same level with horse racing, and bookmakers took bets on each pigeon.<sup>24</sup>

Trapshooting had also spread to the North American continent sometime before 1830:

By 1830, however, trap shooting establishment had opened, rowing clubs were common, prize fighting had won a foothold, and the turf was running on an organized basis.<sup>25</sup>

One of the first trapshooting clubs mentioned in early publications in the United States was located in Cincinnati, Ohio:

In the records of the Sportsmen's Club, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for the year 1831, is found the earliest mention of trapshooting in the United States, and until good evidence to the contrary is forthcoming the Queen City may claim to be the birthplace and early home of the sport in the New World.<sup>26</sup>

Within fifteen years a great many Eastern clubs had been formed. In 1840, the Long Island Club was organized, and shortly after that the New York Sports Club was formed in New York City.<sup>27</sup>

The New York Sportsmen's Club had thirty members who indulged in trapshooting only for the purpose of keeping in practice for the more enjoyable sport or because of inability to go afield. A member of the club described in a magazine published around 1890 a trap that the club imported from England: "It was made of sheet iron, and was almost large enough for the body of a coach such as we run today. The weight of it was a decent load, and it would easily hold a dozen or fifteen pigeons."<sup>28</sup>

Shoots were held throughout the United States in towns and villages, but the larger matches were held near a rail center, since travel of any distance was

usually by train. The rules used for shooting were not really set and were adapted more to the club's physical limits than to uniformity. However, the large tournaments tried to follow the Hurlingham rules, using an eighty yard boundary, as closely as possible. Some clubs built the low boundary fence, while others used only markers.<sup>29</sup>

Captain Adam Bogardus, regarded as one of the greatest trapshooters in the sport's history, wrote about the various matches and challenges he participated in, and also described various rules for trapshooting in 1874: (Appendix C)

The fair way to shoot pigeons, whether in clubs, matches, or sweepstakes, is from H and T traps, no matter whether ground, plunge, or spring traps. In matches, the birds being in the traps, and the shooter ready, the referee tosses up a coin. If it comes head, the shooter takes the H trap and his opponent the other. If it comes tail, the effect is the reverse. In club-shooting and in sweepstakes as many wads are numbered as there are shooters. The referee places these in his pocket, and after shaking them up pulls one out. The man whose number on the list corresponds to the number on the wad takes the bird in the trap. That wad is then transferred to the other pocket. After the shot another wad is drawn, and so on until all have shot, when the wads will all be in one pocket, and the same thing is to be done until the shooting is at an end. By this means all trickery and favoritism in selecting birds for certain of the shooters is made impossible.<sup>30</sup>

Trapshooting had also spread to Canada around this time but unfortunately very little has been written about its beginnings and development in the Dominion. The

following excerpt appeared in Volume 1 of Forest and Stream Magazine written in 1872:

The Amateur Pigeon Shooting Tournament, open to all comers, which was begun at Toronto, Canada, on December 2nd, was concluded on the 9th. There were 105 entries, distributed in twelve squads, each man allowed twenty one rounds. Mr. Dalton, of Hamilton, won the first prize, which was \$300 and a gold medal, having shot 20 birds out of 21. The International match which was commenced on Friday between twelve Americans and twelve Canadians, for a purse of \$240, 10 birds each, with the same rules as those governing the tournament, was brought to a close on Saturday, and after a close and exciting contest resulted in favor of the Canadians by three birds. The following was the score. 31.

Another article in volume one which was written September 19, 1873 mentions that the city of Toronto could boast of three distinct shooting clubs. Throughout the volumes of Forest and Stream, which was a weekly journal, the results of various competitions in Canada and the United States were listed. It appears that shooters from both countries travelled freely to the numerous trapshoots in each other's country. The national publicity undoubtedly helped to advertise the sport and therefore probably contributed to its development.

Forest and Stream was but one manifestation of the growing literary support which was a significant factor in the rise of many sports in North America during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Trapshooters in England and the United States

soon found that they were depleting the supply of live birds in their neighborhoods. Also, a public sentiment against the sport began to develop. Live pigeon shooting was opposed by many people who revolted against its cruelty. This feeling increased in reaction to the popularity of swallow-shooting, a sport which came from Italy in the 1880's. The controversy regarding the prohibition of live bird trapshooting lasted a long time, the first countries to prohibit this sport being Holland<sup>33</sup> and Switzerland.

For several years the Interstate Association held a Grand American Handicap at live birds, but decided to discontinue the event due to public pressure. The last event was held at Kansas City, Missouri, in 1902, with the largest number of entrants ever attending a similar tournament. By 1920 most of the states had laws prohibiting the use of live birds at the traps. Pennsylvania, Missouri, Kentucky, and California were the prominent exceptions to the rule, and in the two former states live bird matches and tournaments were<sup>34</sup> numerous.

In 1921, England, the country where live pigeon trapshooting began and thrived, the sport was banned. In the Captive Birds Shooting (Prohibition) Act, 1921, 11, 12 Geo. 5, cl 3 it states that:

For promoting, arranging, conducting or assisting in any meeting, competition, pastime, exhibition, practice, releasing from any trap, contrivance, or by hand, any bird so that it may be immediately shot at, is an offence. The penalty is £25 fine, alternatively or in addition to being imprisoned with or without hard labour for three months.<sup>35</sup>

Although live pigeon shooting was still thriving in most countries in Europe, trapshooters in England and North America began to search in the late 1860's and 1870's for some suitable inanimate substitute for the live pigeon as a target.

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## CHAPTER III

### THE GLASS BALL ERA

In the last few years owing to the way in which wild and tame pigeons have been slaughtered from plunge matches, on account of their scarcity it has often been found necessary to use something else for targets in their stead. A few clubs indeed have stopped shooting at pigeons altogether, finding as much sport with glass balls as they wish, besides the latter being cheaper and allowing more money to be spent in prizes.

The use of inanimate targets as a substitute for live pigeons was developed in England. The person who first conceived the idea that there might be sport and opportunities for a display of skill with an inanimate target in place of living birds, and the date when that idea was first given material form, are both matters of conjecture, as apparently no record was kept of an event which had such an important bearing on the future growth of the sport.<sup>2</sup>

The first record of the glass ball target being introduced to America was in 1866 when Charles Potlock of Boston, Massachusetts brought back a glass ball trap and targets from England. The first American Glass Ball Shoot is thought to have been held in Beacon Park, in Boston, in 1867.<sup>3</sup> However, according to Captain Bogardus in Field, Cover and Trapshooting, the traps were not as good as they might have been. They threw the balls nearly

straight up in the air, and it was very easy to hit them.

When arranged for throwing back, the balls were not sent more than eight or ten yards, and the practice was so easy that it was useless for the purpose of teaching people to become good shots. The glass balls used were about 2 1/2 inches in diameter and made of clear, hand-blown glass. They sold for \$3 per barrel of 300 balls.

In 1876 Ira Paine patented a trap after Portlock's pattern, with the addition of an elastic spring, which threw the balls farther and better. But there were several undesirable features to this trap: it was expensive; it was difficult to set and much time was wasted; and, it was heavy and cumbersome.

Shortly after Paine's patent there followed, in quick succession, seven glass ball patents in 1877. The most notable and popular one was that of Captain Adam H. Bogardus, of Elkhart, Indiana. It was a simple trap which was light in weight, uncomplicated, inexpensive (\$6.00) and would throw targets, both singles and doubles, as far as thirty five yards. The balls were placed, one at a time, in a cup containing a spring that threw them into the air when released. The simple cup-like catapults sent the balls into the air at heights and directions which soon became known to the shooters. Bogardus described the trap as follows:

In the winter of 1876-77 I studied and experimented for the purpose of inventing and making a trap for glass-ball shooting which should be simple in construction, effective in use, and not expensive or troublesome to carry about. I got the trap so as to fill my expectations, and calculated to throw balls from 28 to 35 yards and not very high. I am now justified in saying that men can now learn to shoot without trouble or much expense by means of practice at glass balls with this trap, and when they have become skilful enough to break two-thirds of them they can kill birds on the wing.<sup>5</sup>

The announcement of the Bogardus trap appeared in the March 8, 1877 issue of Forest and Stream:

Captain Bogardus' New Trap - Captain Bogardus has invented a trap for throwing glass balls which affords excellent practice and promises to become the most popular substitute for pigeon shooting. Its best quality is its cheapness, the great difficulty with most other traps and gyros being their cost, which places them beyond the reach of most individual sportsmen. Captain Bogardus gives an exhibition shoot at the Hippodrome this week, when he will break a thousand glass balls in two hours and forty minutes. The traps are advertised in another column.<sup>6</sup>

Bogardus' trap quickly became the trap (Figure 6).

Not only was he the inventor of the trap but Bogardus could beat all comers at breaking the glass balls it threw.

John Mole patented a rotary ball trap which was a better, more workable mechanism nine months after Bogardus'.

However, it never achieved success with the shooters and this was attributed to Bogardus' knowledge, skill, and forceful personality.<sup>7</sup>

Bogardus also quickly patented his own version of glass ball target. It was made of rough glass so that



Figure 6. Shooting Over Bogardus's Glass Ball Traps.



Trap Shooting—Are you Ready?

Figure 7. An Early Illustration of the Ready Position in 1884.

the shot would never glance off it. They were packed in barrels, containing about 300 glass balls, with extras to compensate for breakage in transit in spite of the sawdust packing and the price was \$11.00 per 1000 plus freight.

Various substitutes for and improvements on the original and Bogardus glass balls appeared on the market to catch the approval of the shooters. Since the clear glass was hard to see under many conditions of light and background they were soon replaced by a glass ball made of blue, green or amber glass. Some balls were made of corrugated glass to reduce the liability of the shot glancing from the surface without breaking the ball. There were also balls which, when broken, emitted a puff of a smoke-like substance.

A ball filled with feathers was made by Ira Paine to please those shooters who like to see the feathers fly. It was called the "Champion Filled Glass Ball" and was filled with chicken and guinea feathers. It appealed to the shooters of the day who were mostly live bird shooters, and became the most widely used target of all times. When the glass ball was broken, some 300 feathers showered down. However, the cost of \$18.00 per thousand in 1878 was a deterrent to its popularity. One type of glass ball which was made of a peculiar composition was advertised as an excellent fertilizer. This claim was made

to offset the objection to fragments of glass left on the ground after a shoot. Balls were also made of different resinous compositions. However, they had little sale because difficulty was experienced in getting them brittle enough to break easily when struck by the shot.<sup>9</sup>

In order to make the sport more interesting, inventors in England and America began to introduce revolving traps that would send the glass balls in every direction. The introduction of revolving traps made it more difficult to hit the targets, the skill of the shooters increased, and they began to organize more competitive events.

Kerr, in his article "The Glass Ball Target Era" states that Captain Bogardus, in a sense, might be called "the father of trapshooting" with artificial targets. Besides improving on the trap and target he originated the first simple rules of glass ball competition which can be found in Appendix C. All matches or sweepstakes were shot over three traps placed ten yards apart on a straight line. (This was the same as the later rule made for target traps set Sergeant system, except that the distance between the traps was less in the latter case). The traps were numbered 1, 2, and 3, from left to right. No. 1 threw a left angle; No. 2 a straightaway, and No. 3 a right angle. The trap to be pulled was decided by the referee who had three gun wads bearing the numbers corresponding to the traps, and drew one from his pocket

when the shooter took his place at the score and then showed it to the puller who pulled the trap of that number. The trap puller was stationed six feet behind the shooter. Once the shooter took his place at the score his gun butt was to remain in a below-the-elbow position until after the call of "Pull". If the shooter raised the gun above the elbow the ball was scored lost. As to the size of shot used, or charge of powder, there was no restrictions but not more than 1 1/4 ounces of shot was allowed. The rise was 18 yards with all ties shot off at 5 single balls, 21 yards rise. In doubles shooting, the distance was 16 yards, over two traps placed 10 yards apart; ties shot off at three pairs each, 18 yards rise. When the shooting was done over one trap the same rules applied and the angle was changed at every shot. A screen prevented the shooter from seeing the trap.

Glass ball competitions were held throughout the United States and Canada. Since glass ball shooting was not particularly demanding of great skill, famous shooters of the day preferred long runs, endurance contests or to shoot against time. Quite common were exhibition matches in which top name shooters like Captain Bogardus and Doc Carver would break 1000 targets within 90 minutes. In one famous exhibition, Captain Bogardus once broke 5000 glass balls in less than 500 minutes, failing to break

only 156, of which the majority were impossible to break. Doc Carver, perhaps the greatest shot of his time, travelled through Europe and the United States giving exhibitions. Glass ball shooting was used by the professional shooters of the day as a vehicle for spectacular and flamboyant public shooting exhibitions and matches.

Besides these exhibitions and challenge matches, the ordinary trapshooter had his own competitions in 1877:

Washington, D.C. - May 5th - Glass-ball shooting has become a popular amusement here. We shoot from a trap (or series of traps) that throws the balls in five different directions; one to the right, one-half quartering to the right, one driver, one-half quartering to the left, and one to the left; the shooter not to know which trap is to be sprung. I give scores of our first matches: . . . . . I think these scores will be interesting by way of comparison between ball and pigeon shooting.<sup>11</sup>

In the same edition the results of a "Blue Glass" Match held at Providence, Rhode Island on May 3rd, 1877, were listed. The shoot was thought a success due to using blue glass balls as targets. Three of the Bogardus traps with blue glass balls were used, and were placed 10 yards apart, the shooter not knowing what one was to be sprung. The first match was for three prizes, \$10, \$6 and \$4 and each participant was to shoot at fifteen balls. There were twenty entries, and "the shooting<sup>12</sup> was exciting."

Trapshooting was not restricted only to the white race as is evidenced by the following shoot report, dated February 21, 1884:

BLACK VS. WHITE - I must record a great event in the sporting annuals of 1884, being no less than a match for the championship of Flatbush and a sister burg - Flatlands Neck. The former was represented by four white gentlemen, and the latter by four colored gentlemen, the arrangements being to shoot with four men on a side, 30 glass balls apiece, 18 yards rise, Bogardus trap, one colored and one white judge, ditto scorers. Stakes - Championship and a keg of lager. Below I give the detailed summary:

Flatlands Neck Team	
T. Powers, ML . . . . .	15
John Powell, BL . . . . .	21
T. Jackson, ML . . . . .	15
S. Anderson, ML . . . . .	16
Total	67
Flatbush Team	
Skidmore, ML . . . . .	15
H. Cook, BL . . . . .	20
D. Rumph, BL . . . . .	15
Hagaman, ML . . . . .	15
Total	65

The best of feeling prevailed even after the announcement of the result, and the outcome of this good fellowship is a return match at an early day. Will report - Seawanhaka. 13

Glass ball shooting was very popular. One reason given was that shooters of average ability could run a good score with ease. Someone who would score only in the low fifties or sixties per 100 live birds would easily shoot in the eighties and nineties per 100 glass balls. However, those of great shotgunning skill soon tired of the glass ball and once again the search began for more novel and harder to hit inanimate targets. 14 Some of these

took odd forms.

One of the most novel inanimate targets was the Artificial Live Bird, invented by E. E. Thresher. The bird, made of high grade steel, was the size and shape of a wild pigeon. Each half of the body was stamped separately; a wing and half the tail was riveted to each half, and the two were hinged together on the under side of the bird with the locking mechanism inside the body. The birds were run on a cable which was practically invisible from the firing point. The trap had a suitable base and standard which supported a grooved wheel on one end of a shaft revolving in ball bearings in top of the standard. Attached to the other end of the shaft was a small pinion driven by a larger gear wheel revolving on a stud attached to the standard. The gear was turned by a crank, and made seven revolutions to one of the crank; carrying the bird about ten yards. The speed at which the crank was turned, regulated the speed of the flight. The trap stands, or towers varied in size and number, going from one to nine, according to the size of the grounds and the club's treasury. If the former two birds would be used, and the flights would be limited to crossing from left to right and back, or incoming or outgoing birds. The more towers, the more complicated the flights, and the better the practice. If more than two birds were used, provision had to be made for the

crossing of the cables. This was done by varying the height of the towers. With the variety of flights the artificial live bird was good training for field shooting, and an excellent substitute for live birds. When the bird was hit, the jar tripped the unlocking triggers and the bird would hang head down from the carrier bar, until it passed from sight behind the screen. To lay out a five-station outfit, the traps were placed at points on the circumference of a circle 100 yards in diameter, equally distant from each other. The birds flew on the lines of a five-pointed star, crossing and recrossing. A screen was erected extending about ten yards on each side of the trap, providing protection to the trappers. This left about 80 yards in the open between the traps for each flight.

In 1872 the Bussey Patent Gyro Pigeon and trap were placed on the market, and were fairly popular. Clubs in various parts of the United States used this pigeon in competitions. One club was the Gyro Shooting Club which was organized in Havana, Illinois and held a shoot on September 3, 1872, with 21 yards rise. Other shoots using the gyro pigeon were held in Syracuse, New York; Warren, Ohio; San Francisco; and in Meriden, Connecticut, in 1873. The invention consisted of a bird and a trap which was a cylindrical box containing a large coil spring with a spindle projecting from its center, on the top of which the bird was placed. The spindle was made to revolve

very rapidly when the spring had been coiled to its utmost tension, and the pawl, to which the string was fastened, was detached from the ratchet. The angle at which the trap was to be set, could be regulated so that the bird could be made to fly in almost any direction, at the will of the trapper. The bird was made of steel and resembled the blade of a propeller. After having been placed in position the trap was operated by taking hold of the spindle and coiling the spring to its tension, and then placing the bird on the spindle. The string was pulled, the spring released, and the spindle was made to revolve rapidly. The bird having received rotary motion sufficient to project it, slipped off the end of the spindle and gyrated through the air. Its flight resembled that of a bird. A screen hid the trap from the shooter and thus he did not know at which angle the trap had been set. As the bird advanced it often changed its flight; sometimes caused by one of the wings being bent at a little more of an angle than the other, or by the wind. This meant that a shooter, to quote a writer of the time, "might have the gyro going off with the steady flight of a pigeon, resting on the wing like a hawk, or darting forward in a straight line like a snipe, in rapid succession, thus giving greater variety, and more difficult shooting than might at first be imagined." <sup>16</sup> The gyro pigeon, at any rise exceeding 25 yards was considered by the investors

more difficult to hit than fast blue rock pigeons. They challenged any shooter to hit ten gyros in succession. The invention was sold in England, France, Belgium, and India, and to some extent in America. It sold complete, with winding key, 100 birds (equal to 600 skeets) and extra spring, for \$25.00.

In 1884 Belcher's Patent Paper Bird by G. F. Kolb of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was placed on the market. It was an oddly shaped bit of stiff paper attached to a wire ball and could be thrown from any glass ball trap. The bird could be used again after picking it up and marking the shot perforations. There was no broken glass or clay to injure the grounds and there could be no disputes as to whether a bird was hit or missed. The balls would last practically forever, the outfit was cheap (fifty paper birds and one ball for \$1.00), but it was not popular.

Another odd substitute for pigeons was the Globe Flights or as advertised "the perfect target", which was patented in March, 1884. It was sold by Globe Shot Company of St. Louis, Missouri at a cost of \$20.00 per 1000, with a refund of \$2.50 per 1000 for pasteboard discs in good condition. It was a pasteboard disc, 5 1/2 inches in diameter with the center cut out to admit a rubber balloon, two and one half inches in diameter when inflated. The inventors claimed that it was a good target

and needed to be hit with only one pellet to break.

There was no rubbish to clean up as in the glass ball and there would be no disputes about whether it was hit or not. However, it never attained any measure of popularity, and was soon forgotten.<sup>18</sup>

A wide variety of inventions were placed on the market, but:

Of the list of inanimate objects used as a substitute for pigeons, first in point of public favor is the glass ball. When four years ago Bogardus introduced it here the shooting fraternity regarded it as a big thing and it immediately became popular until at present the numerous designs of traps and balls that are sold attest how well it has taken hold on us. Even in England they have used it considerably, the matches shot by Dr. Carver giving many people a chance to see what they were like, who had never heard of them before. It has induced men who would not shoot at pigeons and had no time to go out of the city for field shooting, to get guns and take up the practice of breaking the balls, often becoming crack shots when otherwise they would hardly have known the breech of their guns from the muzzles.<sup>19</sup>

During the period of the 1870's and early 1880's various substitutes for the live pigeon were tried but discarded. The most popular substitute was the glass ball, however, it was not really satisfactory enough to satisfy the shooters of the time. The flight of a glass ball was so widely different from that of a pigeon, and an ordinary shot was able to break most of them at usual ranges, no matter how quickly thrown, it was sought by the production of a skimming target to obtain a nearer approach

to bird flight and at least a more difficult target to hit. This nearer approach to a bird's flight was found in the clay pigeon target.

Captain Bogardus, the "father of glass ball shooting" wrote in 1884 about the "new" substitute, the clay pigeon:

The study has been, ever since I first got up the glass ball, to get something better. There are various kinds of balls and traps before the public, most of the traps throwing glass balls too high for practice on the wind; but now comes in the Ligowsky Patent Clay Pigeon, which is more like the flight of a bird than anything that has been gotten up. It starts low to the ground, sails off about like the flight of a quail or fast-flying duck, and, in my opinion, it is the best thing to be had for the practice of wing-shooting. I am the first inventor of glass-ball shooting (in a form suitable for competitive matches and for wing-shooting practice) but now that something better is offered I frankly acknowledge it. I think clay pigeons will take the place of live pigeons in general.<sup>29</sup>

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## CHAPTER IV

### CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING 1880 - 1900

The invention of the clay pigeon, or clay target, was a new era in the sport of trapshooting. Clay pigeon shooting was more challenging to the shooters and its flight resembled a live bird's flight more than the glass ball target.

Many individuals have claimed that they were the inventors of the first clay pigeon. However, substantiation is lacking except in the case of George Ligowsky of Cincinnati, Ohio. He worked out to a practical success an idea he conceived from watching some boys "skipping" shells over the water at the sea shore, tried some forty different designs of disks, before finally settling on the domed saucer shape which he patented in 1880; the result being the "clay pigeon".

This first successful clay pigeon target and trap, which became generally known as the "Ligowsky", was of baked red clay, saucer-shaped, with a cardboard projection or tongue on the rim which was clamped to the throwing arm of the trap by inserting it between two springs which released them when the lever or arm attained the proper sweep. The clay bird revolved in the air with only the edge of each clay presented in flight, the inverted rim held air in the saucer and thus its flight was easy and

quick, though slightly uneven.<sup>2,</sup>

The writer of an article in the July 7, 1881 issue of Forest and Stream, entitled "The Flying Clay Pigeon" described the new target in detail:

The latest device intended to afford a substitute for live pigeons at the trap is the 'flying clay pigeon', invented by Mr. George Ligowsky, of Cincinnati, Ohio. The target, or "bird" as it is called, is a light convex disk of clay much resembling in shape a saucer with the rim turned over and in toward the center.

A trap has been made to throw this target at any desired vertical angle, and the light much resembles that of a quail or a pinnated grouse; in fact, it is the nearest artificial approach to the natural flight of a bird that we have ever seen. The disks are very brittle, and when struck by shot are not liable to leave any room for dispute. In flight they skim along horizontally, or at such an angle as may be devised, and settle gently down to the ground like a bird and without breaking.

It is yet too early to fully and unqualifiedly endorse the "flying clay pigeon" as a satisfactory substitute for live birds, but it appears to be such, and we commend all sportsmen to test its merits and decide for themselves.<sup>3</sup>

The main objection to the workings of these first targets was the tongue made of heavy paper, for it either stuck or was easily broken off. Another problem was that it was not waterproof and when the weather was damp it was simply unmanageable. This meant that clay pigeon shooting had to become a fair weather sport. In later patents the tongue was made of metal or clay and part of the bird itself. In a letter by J.E. Bloom, President of the Ligowsky Clay Pigeon Company, to Forest and Stream,

**NO COUNTRY HOUSE OR MILITARY STATION COMPLETE**

Without this popular Out-door Sport.

**Ready for the healthy Entertainment of Guests at a moment's notice.**



**Price of No. 5 Trap,  
£1 15s. complete.**

Price of Pigeons per 100,  
8s. 6d.

No. 5

**PRACTICE YOUR SHOOTING,**  
IN AND OUT OF SEASON, AT THE  
**LIGOWSKY Traps and Clay Pigeons.**

# "THE ECLIPSE,"

# "The Eclipse,"

**From 32/8**



**From 32/6**

No. 9.

The "Eclipse" Trap, No. 2, as above	21
Ditto ditto No. 10, double rise	21
Best Iron Traps, No. 8, Improved	21
Ditto Gun-metal Arm, No. 8, ditto	21
Ditto highly finished in Gun-metal, No. 8, ditto	21
Rules, Card, Pins and Box with each Trap	21
Solid Tongue Clay Pigeons, per 100	0 8
250, in boxes, free to any Railway Station in England.	0 8
Book of Rules and Scoring, free by post	0 0

Book of Rules and Flooring, free by post.

Special terms to Clay Pigeon Clubs, Shippers, Gunmakers, Dealers, &c.

**Competition Pigeons for all other Traps at usual prices**

N.B.—Compo. Pigeons should not be used from Ligovsky Traps.

**CHARLES LANCASTER**

**NOW SOLE EUROPEAN AGENT.**

Figure-8. An Advertisement for Ligowsky Traps and Clay Pigeons.

he writes:

With reference to the "aggravating tail". We thought we had overcome this difficulty. However, by August 1 we will be prepared to supply clubs, etc. with a detachable "spring" metal tongue, to be used when the pasteboard tongue is torn off by the carelessness of the trapper or becomes useless through moisture. This substitute will not prove equal to the pasteboard, which we predict will always make our present clay-pigeon the best substitute for the live bird which will ever be placed upon the market.

However, the clay pigeons were not altogether satisfactory. If they were baked too long, they were so brittle that they broke in the traps; but, if they were not baked long enough, they crumbled in transportation. Most of them were so hard that unless they were hit squarely with several pellets at one shot, they would not break.

Within the next five to ten years there were many varieties of "clay" pigeons. Some were made from tar, others from such materials as plaster of paris, different types of pottery clay, and river bottom silt. Eaton listed thirty different targets in, as nearly as possible their order of appearance before 1890.

One interesting and early attempt at improvement was by Al Bandell of Kentucky, who developed the "Lark". It was composed principally of tar and worked well in cold weather, but heat made them so soft that they were twisted out of shape by the shot, but could not be broke

About 1884, Mr. Fred Kimball of Peoria, Illinois, introduced the first composition target, under the name of "Peoria Blackbird". The target was made of river silt and plaster of paris and instead of having a tongue like the Ligow target it had two ears projecting from the solid body.

In about 1885 the "worst" substitute for live birds yet offered to shooters was made in Chicago. It was called the "Best" tin pigeon and the inventor claimed that a pellet of shot striking the target would release a sort of flange, which, hanging down, would retard the flight of the "pigeon" and gradually bring it to the ground like a wing-tipped bird. Although his theory was fine it did not always work out in practice.

Some authors credit an Englishman named McCaskey for the invention of the clay pigeon in about 1880. This is not accurate. McCaskey's target was made by mixing pitch with some binder, such as river silt. When they were fully developed they became known as "Blue Rock" targets and are still on the market. McCaskey is also given credit for introducing the "Expert" trap. According to other very reliable sources who investigated the development of the clay pigeon and trap thoroughly, the "Blue Rock" target and "Expert" trap came out on the market around 1890. As the new century approached they were one of two brands which appeared to be the most

popular in the United States. The "Blue Rock" was a far superior target to the "Ligowsky".

The "Blue Rock" differed from the "Ligowsky" in being made of a tar and ash composition, and having no projection, it was thrown by a suitable holder attached to one arm of the trap. The essential features of this new invention were, in the target - a sunk top connected to the sides by a film-like connection, permitting a tougher material to be used, as the sides and top of the target parted if either was struck, though neither may have broken, and, in the trap - a holder pivoted to the throwing arm, so that the targets were not broken in the trap by the act of throwing. These principles were used in later targets and traps.

At the conclusion of the New York State shoot at Coney Island in 1880, the first public exhibition of the clay bird was held. The shoot was the largest live bird tournament ever held up to that time, and the new substitute received much attention from the participants and spectators. The new inanimate target was described in the shoot program as follows:

The last contest is a shoot at flying clay pigeons. The pigeon consists of a clay disk and on being thrown from the trap sails a long distance with considerable speed. Only a small surface is presented to the shooter and it requires more quickness and skill than shooting at glass balls. They are to be shot ten birds at eighteen and fifteen yards rise.<sup>11</sup>

In order to introduce clay pigeons throughout the country, a series of twenty-five matches were arranged between Captain Bogardus and Doc Carver at 100 clay pigeons at each match; 2,227 were broken by Doc Carver, and 2,103 by Captain Bogardus, at eighteen yards rise. Doc Carver made two scores of 100 each without a miss, and won nineteen matches, tied in three, and lost three. The use of both barrels was permitted. "The trip of Captain Bogardus and Doctor Carver did great good toward the introduction of targets, and clubs were organized throughout America."

One of the first clay pigeon matches was reported at the Cincinnati Gun Club:

CINCINNATI, JUNE 13, 1881: The six clubs entered to compete for the Ligowsky & Co. prizes were greeted Saturday, June 11, with beautiful weather. Each club was represented by five of their very best shots. The pigeon is saucer-like in shape and size, very light and thin and as brittle as glass, but will dissolve when wetted; is of a peculiar-like red clay; and corrugated to not allow the shot to glance from it when struck. By a peculiar spiral spring on the trap the screen generally used at matches is entirely done away with, as the trap can be set before the very eyes of the shooter and still he will be ignorant of the true course the pigeon will take when the trap is sprung. The pigeons fly from 50 to 75 yards as rapidly and alight as gracefully as a quail, and stay in the air fully three seconds longer than a glass ball. The scores of the shooting, each man shooting at fifteen clay pigeons. . . .

Trapshooting with clay pigeons was also popular in the Ivy League Universities in the eastern United States. The Harvard Shooting Club held a competition on the afternoon of March 14, 1884 and shot seven matches using both glass balls and clay pigeons. The Cornell University Gun Club which was organized in 1883 had twenty members by April 1884 and was considered to be in a flourishing condition. The grounds of the club were located in the lake shore, and they shot over the water. They held regular Saturday shoots and the writer felt that: "the gun is becoming popular in other colleges now, and it would be pleasant to have a few intercollegiate contests."

In the January, 1915 issue of Travel, the author discussed how trapshooting was flourishing throughout the country and in colleges: "The colleges are becoming interested also and Yale and Princeton have an annual inter-college shoot." 15

The Ligowsky Clay Pigeon Company organized and sponsored the First International Clay Pigeon Tournament, held in Chicago, May 27 to 31, 1884. Individuals and teams from all over were invited to attend. A prize of \$750 went to the winning team and a \$250 diamond badge went to the best individual shooter. As of May 15, 1884 twenty five clubs from Massachusetts, Florida, Mississippi, New York, Rhode Island, Ohio, Washington D.C., Tennessee, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and Nebraska had entered the tournament. 16

As the tournament approached an effort was made to organize a National Sportsmen's Association, whose objects would be primarily:

- 1) To establish a code of rules for each species of shooting - live birds, clay pigeons, etc.;
- 2) To appoint an Executive Committee, whose duties it would be:
  - a) to organize future annual tournaments;
  - b) to act as an arbitration committee to adjust all disputes;
  - c) to establish a central office or address in charge of a specially appointed secretary;
  - d) to execute the will of the association as indicated at its annual meetings.

Mr. Bloom, the President of the Ligowsky Clay Pigeon Company, was the man trying to organize this association. In a letter printed in Forest and Stream, he felt that the principal points to consider were:

- 1) the monetary question - how funds should be raised to effect the purpose of the organization;
- 2) at what point the central office (the secretary's) shall be established;
- 3) what other function, if any, the association shall assume;
- 4) if the association shall be open to both clubs and individuals;

5) for whom people will vote for president, secretary  
17  
treasurer and executive committee.

It seems that this tournament was not as successful as the organizers had planned, as there are no records or reports of the results except that C. M. Stark of Exeter, New Hampshire won the individual badge. However, the National Gun Association was formed and it sponsored what was called the first national trapshooting tournament, which was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, February 11 to 16, 1885. The number of competitors was comparatively small, but the names were the greatest in the sport at that time. This was different from the emphasis towards promoting an amateur championship at the Chicago tournament. The tournament at New Orleans was considered a great success with people like Doc Carver, who won the event, and Captain A. H. Bogardus taking part.

Clay pigeon shooting was evidently popular in Canada also in the 1880's:

CANADIAN CLAY-PIGEON CHAMPIONSHIP - On the 16th, January, 1886, a contest for the Ligowski champion gold medal, emblematic of the clay-pigeon championship of Canada, took place at Carlton Place, Ontario, on the grounds of the Mississippi Gun Club of that place. 25 birds each, 15 singles from 5 traps, 5 yds. apart, 15 yds rise, and 5 doubles from 2 traps, 5 yds. apart, 15 yds. rise.

Mr. Trudeau, of the St. Hubert Gun Club, of Ottawa, was winner of the medal. He has already received four challenges for it. The weather during the contest was very unpropitious.<sup>18</sup>

Following legislation by the Northwest Territories Government which established hunting seasons for various forms of wildlife trapshooting was introduced into the Alberta region in the late 1880's.<sup>19</sup> The Calgary Gun and Angling Club was established in 1887 while the Edmonton club started around 1890. Both clubs were concerned about protecting game out of season.<sup>20</sup>

Both the Edmonton and the Lethbridge club, established in 1889, used clay pigeons as targets but Calgary used live snowbirds. In 1893, in an attempt to standardize rules, the Edmonton club adopted the rules of the American Trapshooting Club. Clubs and serious competitions were coming into existence: Lethbridge, Fort Macleod and Pincher Creek clubs held tournaments in 1892 with the winners going to Winnipeg to shoot in a big competition there sponsored by Hamilton Powder Company; Bow River Trap Shooting Club in Calgary held an open tournament in 1894; the Red Deer Club was formed in 1894; the Medicine Hat Club in 1895, and the Wetaskawin Club in 1899. "The trapshooting clubs met the twentieth century with increasing membership and interest."<sup>21</sup>

By 1885, trapshooting with clay pigeons represented up to half of all targets thrown, with glass ball and live bird shooting declining steadily. What had first started as a form of practice which more closely simulated live bird shooting became more popular and developed into

a sport of itself. Numerous shoots and championships were held throughout Canada and the United States, as well as England and Europe.

An individual who helped to promote the various forms of trapshooting throughout the United States, England and Europe was the legendary Annie Oakley. In 1880 Annie Oakley and her husband Frank Butler joined the Four-Paw and Sells Brothers Circus as a shooting act. They joined the Wild West Show two years later and travelled with them for seventeen years. One of the first times Annie Oakley shot trap was at Al Bandle's Cincinnati Club in 1883. She broke her first 100 straight at trapshooting in London, England during a match race which she entered in 1887.

Annie was a world traveller and performed before seven crowned heads of Europe in one day. Edward VII, who was Prince of Wales at that time, presented her with a solid silver cup, inscribed "You are the best shot I have ever seen". She received \$700 a week during her seventeen month tour of Europe with Buffalo Bill Cody's group, and in two years of trapshooting she won \$9,000. <sup>22</sup>

It was no doubt the fame that came to Annie Oakley that created an interest in trapshooting with the women of her time. At Pinehurst, North Carolina, she taught hundreds of women how to shoot.

It was soon discovered that a uniform set of rules and regulations should be established and enforced by a

**CHARLES LANCASTERS. PRIVATE SHOOTING GROUNDS**  
 STONE BRIDGE, WILLESDEN, N.W.



LESSONS AND PRACTICE IN ALL KINDS OF SHOOTING GIVEN AT ABOVE SHOOTING GROUNDS  
 ALL COMMUNICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS, &c. TO BE ADDRESSED TO

**181, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.**

Figure 9. Charles Lancasters' Private Shooting Grounds.



Figure 10. Annie Oakley Practising at Clay Pigeons.

governing body. It was felt that the governing body should consist of other than those with a vested interest, such as the gun and target makers in the National Gun Association. Attempts were made to set up such a governing body but to no avail.

The first organization of influence was the American Shooting Association. It was organized February 11, 1889, and amongst its advisory board were some influential names which commanded respect, even though they too were connected with industry. Three years later, in 1892 the A.S.A. was replaced by the Interstate Manufacturers and Dealers Association, whose original purpose was to promote the sport, whereby more shells and targets would be used to the benefit of the manufacturers. However, it did lay the groundwork for trapshooting as it is known today. 23

In 1893 at Dexter Park, Long Island, New York, the Grand American Handicap at live birds was held by the Association. It was a smashing success and solved the friction caused by a number of problems within the Association.

Early in the year 1895, the name of the Association was changed to "The Interstate Association", and was under the capable managership of Elmer Shaner. The Interstate Association was responsible for all tournaments and during and after 1896, it was swamped with applications for tournaments. Clubs throughout the United States

began to follow its methods.

In 1893 the Inanimate Bird Shooting Association was formed in England. In 1903 the word "clay" was substituted for "inanimate", and the governing body has since been styled "The Clay Pigeon Shooting Association". Each year since 1893 an annual championship meeting has been held by the Association in London.

There was no classification system or form of handicapping in trapshooting, so the amateur Sunday shooter competed alongside the professional shot runner for the same championship. Finally in 1898, the tournament committee of the Interstate Association set the following rules with regards to amateur and professional trapshooters: An amateur was any shooter not dependent upon his skill as a trapshot as a means of livelihood, either directly or indirectly, or in part or whole; including employees, or manufacturers of, or dealers in, firearms, ammunition, powder, traps, targets and other trapshooting accessories, and who did not receive any compensation or concession, monetary or otherwise, or allowance for expenses or trapshooting supplies from such manufacturers or dealers. A professional was any shooter, including employees or manufacturers of, or dealers in, firearms, ammunition, powder, targets, traps and other trapshooting accessories, who received his salary or any portion of his salary, or any expenses of any kind for use in trapshooting, or rebate

on the market price of such articles, as compensation for the promotion of the sales or advertisement of any such products handled by such manufacturers.

26

Amateurs and professionals still shot side by side at competitions but amateurs could win cash, whereas professionals could take part only non-officially. This had its good points in that new amateur shooters were not outshot by the professionals and had a chance to win some prize money. Often professional shooters arranged matches for themselves where all contestants could win cash prizes. Professionals usually achieved better scores than Amateurs, as many of the latter with good shooting records were won over to professionalism.

27

In the beginning, early clay pigeon shooting followed as nearly as possible the rules and customs of live pigeon shooting. The first shooting at clay pigeons was over five traps set in a straight line; one man up, unknown traps and unknown angles. The shooter stood opposite the centre trap (No. 3) and fired five shots, not knowing from which of the five traps the target would come on his call "pull". The firing order was determined by lot.

Later, the reverse "pull" was introduced, in order to make the competition more difficult. In this style of shooting five men were up, one standing opposite each trap; the man at No. 1 peg getting a target from No. 5

trap; No. 2 peg from No. 4 trap; No. 3 peg from No. 3 trap; No. 4 peg from No. 2 trap and No. 5 peg from No. 1 trap. The continuous fire or "walk around" system was sometimes used to speed up the shooting a little more. Six men were up, one at each firing position, or peg, the sixth man standing behind the shooter at No. 1 peg. Each competitor fired at one bird in turn, and then moved to the next peg for his next shot, the sixth man taking the place of the man who left No. 1 peg. No. 5 man left his peg and became the competitor waiting back of the one at No. 1 peg. Thus, there was no delay between the rounds. A competition usually consisted of ten birds to each shooter (two from each peg), but could be extended to any number desired.

About 1885, W. G. Sargeant of Joplin, Missouri, changed the style of shooting to what was referred to as the Sargeant System. This system required only three Expert traps. The three traps were arranged to throw as before - quartering to the left, straight away, and quartering to the right. Instead of a single firing position, five positions were arranged in a radial formation, being placed on the circumference of a circle stuck from the centre trap. The radius was sixteen yards. This formation, resembling five fan sticks, enabled five shooters to take part in the competition, all standing at the same distance from the traps. It was usual, when

this system was adopted, to have five men upon the line instead of six. In ten-bird competitions the line moved on after each man fired two shots, instead of after each shot. The order was the same as in the previous shooting methods, but, when No. 5 had fired, No. 1, without moving, took his next bird, and so on. When they had all fired from their first peg, each man moved to the next peg on his right, and the No. 5 man came around to the No. 1 peg. The Sargeant system provided for the following: for competitions at ten birds, two were fired at before moving; for fifteen birds, three; for twenty birds, four; for twenty five birds, five; and so on. The cost of equipping a club ground in this manner was comparatively small. This system was accepted and used extensively in Canada and the United States but did not catch on in England and Europe.

While in the United States and Canada, clubs were going to fewer traps, the full equipment for a first-class club, since the 1890's in England and Europe, consisted of fifteen traps arranged in five groups of three traps each. These traps were fixed on the ground level, and behind them a trench was dug. The earth from the trench formed a bank, which hid the traps from the shooters. In the trench, completely screened and protected by the bank, were the trappers. Their duty was to re-fill and set each trap at the moment after it was released by the puller. The puller

had his station behind the firing line. He released the traps, in the order shown by an indicator, the shooters being kept in ignorance of the angle at which the birds would be thrown. There were five firing positions, each fronting a corresponding group of traps, and the ordinary distance of eighteen yards away. Six competitors stood on the line and the same procedure was used as that in the "walk around" system. With the full equipment of fifteen traps, "single-fire" shooting could also be conducted. One competitor then stood at the centre position (No. 3), and would have his birds from any one of the fifteen traps. A modification allowed two men to be on the line together, standing at No. 2 and No. 3 positions. Handicaps by distance could also be arranged.

Scoring for all the different methods of clay pigeon shooting was basically the same. If the clay pigeon was hit, broken, any visible piece fell off when shot, then the shooter was given one point. If the clay pigeon was missed, then the shooter received a zero. The person with the highest score won. If the clay pigeon came out of the machine broken, then the shooter would get a new bird. A slight variation in scoring was practised in England where if the clay pigeon was hit using the first barrel, the shooter was given two points; if missed with the first barrel and hit with the second, one point; and if missed with both barrels, zero points.

Around 1897, Chamberlin Cartridge and Target Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, greatly influenced the development of trapshooting by marketing the Magautrap. The trap was built on a bicycle-like frame and run by pedals. In November of 1898 it was rigged to operate electrically, and thus became the first fully automatic trap which met with any degree of success, and many of the gun clubs used it. This trap eventually changed the whole sport of trapshooting in Canada and the United States from one in which three or five traps were used to the present single trap. However, one great drawback to the Magautrap was its lack of uniformity in the speed of the targets, caused by the irregular running of the trap. Certain shooters could be favored by the trappers who would reduce the speed of the target.

By the turn of the century, many tournaments which had used live pigeons were now using clay pigeons. It was not uncommon for a championship shoot to have over a hundred entries. Since the development of the single trap and inexpensive targets it was possible for most towns and villages to afford a gun club, and many were not long in starting one. Trapshooting was at a new height of popularity.

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## CHAPTER V

### INTERNATIONAL CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING

#### IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

At the end of the 19th century trapshooting clubs and competitions were common and popular throughout North America and Europe. National associations had developed and were setting rules and regulations for the sport. By 1900 the term trapshooting referred only to clay pigeon shooting and live bird shooting was called pigeon shooting. With the growth of the sport and the establishment of annual national championships, international competitions in trapshooting seemed to follow naturally.

An International Clay Pigeon Tournament, held in Chicago from May 27 to 31, 1884, was advertised as being the "first International" clay pigeon competition. Whether it was or not is difficult to determine, but according to J. Bloom's letter in Forest and Stream, two weeks before the competition, the entries received to that date were only from the United States. If that was the case, then the competition was not an international one.

Clay pigeon shooting was introduced as a sanctioned international sport at the Second Olympiad in Paris, France, in 1900. The confusion and disorganization which surrounded those games was evident in the record keeping of the clay pigeon event. Three different men are separately given the

honor of winning the first Olympic Gold. In some record books, W. H. Ewing of Canada, the lone Canadian entry, was credited with winning the gold medal in the individual clay pigeon shooting contest<sup>1</sup> while in others<sup>2</sup> de Barbarin of France was the acknowledged winner. However, the International Shooting Union, the organizing and controlling body of international shooting recorded De Lunden of Belgium as the Olympic Champion. Unfortunately, nothing is known about the competition, its rules and regulations, and who really won the Olympic crown.

1901 saw another international competition:

The proposition that a team of America's best in the trap shooting game should visit England and try conclusions with the British cracks, began to be agitated early in 1901. The idea at once became popular, and little trouble was experienced in raising the necessary funds to finance the trip, the trap shooters of the country responding generously to the appeal.<sup>3</sup>

The American team had their first match at the Middlesex Gun Club, near London on June 11th, 1901. They competed against teams from Britain and then went on to Glasgow, Scotland, on June 19th to compete against the Scottish team. The reports sent back to America via the staff representative of the Sportsmen's Review and team members gave an excellent description of the trapshooting facilities and competitions:

The trap equipment at the Middlesex Gun Club consisted of five sets of three expert traps in each set - practically five sets of the Sargeant system being used in America - arranged

in a straight line, the several sets of traps being about five yards apart. Back of the traps was a deep brick lined trench in which the trappers stood as they loaded the traps, and back of this, between the trench and the screen was a considerable space, used for the piling of the targets to be used. The screen itself was of brick, but on the side facing the shooters, it was banked up with earth.

At first the Americans had some difficulty in hitting the targets - miscalculated leads, shooting too quickly - because the set-up was different from what was used in the United States. After a few days practice, the team members improved and won all three matches against the British: first match 866 to 801, second match 877 to 794 and the third match 843 to 749 points.

The conditions of the matches called for any ten men from the United States against any ten men from England, Ireland, and Scotland, each man to shoot one hundred targets; the targets to be shot at eighteen yards rise. The Americans used but one barrel and 1 1/4 ounces of shot, while the British team was allowed the use of both barrels and 1 1/8 ounces of shot. In addition to the above conditions six more suggestions were made and agreed to by the captains of both teams.

The rules governing the contests were those of the Inanimate Bird Shooting Association, which were very similar to the American rules. The trap arrangement was different, as previously mentioned, there being five sets of three traps each. The angles were all adjusted and were

not changed. In order that the shooting should be "known traps, unknown angles", an ingenious device was used.

The traps in each set were adjusted to throw a right quarterer, a straightaway, and a left quarterer in the order named, and were known as "A", "B", and "C". Numerous strips with different combinations of these three letters, were used, these strips sliding through a groove in which there were five openings and the traps were pulled according to the letters at the openings. With so many traps being used, the number of combinations was almost limitless, and no shooter knew the angle he was to receive.

The walk around system was used in the matches, so six men were required to each squad, three Americans and three British. In order to complete the last squad, two of the reserves of each team were used in each race. The hundred targets per shooter were shot in five strings of twenty targets each.

At the conclusion of the American - British matches a squad of six Americans gave an exhibition of shooting as it was conducted in the United States at that time. They used only three traps, the Sargeant system, and shot so rapidly that it was a revelation to the spectators.

The American team then went on to Glasgow and competed against a Scottish team. The trap layout was different from the British layout; six expert traps set at varying angles and placed about four feet apart. The conditions of the

content were also changed. The American team won their match against the Scots by 969 points to 882. In the Individual match, Crosby of the United States unexpectedly beat Faulds of Scotland 139 to 134 points. After the competition the American team returned to the United States.

There was no record of clay pigeon shooting as an event in the 1904 Olympics, and no reason was given for its exclusion. However, clay pigeon shooting was once again included in the non-official 1906 Olympics. Gerald Merlin of Great Britain won the single shot and Sidney Merlin, also of Great Britain, won the double shot. Aside from the names of the winners nothing is known about the competitions.

The Fourth Olympiad held in London, England in 1908 included clay pigeon shooting in its program. E.H. Stone wrote about them, "The most interesting international matches of late years were those of the clay bird shooting at the Olympic Games in 1908." The Canadian shooters, W. H. Ewing, G. Beattie, A. Westover, M. E. Fletcher, G. McKachon, G. L. Vivien, dominated the individual clay pigeon competition, placing first, second, fourth, fifth, eighth, and thirteenth respectively, which gave them a silver medal in the team competition.

The Olympic gold medal was awarded to W. H. Ewing, who may have won this same competition in 1800. His recorded score of seventy-two out of a possible eighty was

a "meritorious performance," giving him a margin of twelve points ahead of G. Beattie, also of Canada, and fifteen points ahead of A. Maunder of the United Kingdom, and A. Metaxas of Greece. The chairman of the committee organizing the Olympic trapshooting competition, the Right Honorable Lord Westbury, presented an Olympic trophy to be competed for at each Olympic Games. The first Holder of the thirty inch, double-handled cup of silver was W. H. Ewing. There had been sixty-one competitors from Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Greece, Holland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom taking part in the individual event.

Teams from the United Kingdom placed first and third in the Team competition. The United Kingdom First Team beat the Canadian team by two points; a total aggregate score of 407 to 405. The third place winners were quite far behind with 372 points. Other countries represented were Belgium, France, Holland, and Sweden.

The Individual competition was shot in three stages. The first stage was to be shot at thirty birds, each shooter at known traps and unknown angles, using the continuous fire system, and in two rounds of fifteen birds for each shooter. Ties were to be shot off at ten birds each shooter, if necessary. The second stage consisted of those competitors in the nearest proportion of half the original number, who scored the highest in the first stage.

This stage was to be shot at twenty birds for each shooter at known traps and unknown angles, on the continuous fire system, and in two rounds of ten birds per shooter. The third and final stage consisted of those competitors, to the number of half those competing in the second stage, with the highest aggregate score in the first and second stage. It was to be shot at twenty birds each shooter at known traps and unknown angles, on the continuous fire system, in two rounds of ten birds each, and ten birds at unknown traps and angles. In the latter round, competitors stood at No. 2 peg for five birds from traps 1, 2, and 3 traps, and No. 4 peg for five birds from traps 4 and 5 traps.

The Team competition was also shot in three stages. The first stage was similar to that in the Individual competition except that in this one, three rounds of ten birds per shooter were shot. The order in which the teams shot was determined by lot. Two teams, or if necessary three teams, shot together, each unit completing a round of ten shots alternately. The first stage constituted a series of matches, ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter. In the second stage, the teams, in the nearest proportion of half the original number, making the highest scores in the first stage, shot. Each shooter shot at twenty birds at known traps and unknown angles, on the continuous fire system, in two rounds of ten birds each, and five birds at unknown traps and angles, on the single fire principle.

mentioned previously in the Individual competition. ( The teams shot in pairs, as determined by the original draw.

The third and final stage consisted of the teams to the number of half those competing in the second stage, with the highest aggregate scores in the first and second stages. Each shooter shot at forty birds, known traps, and unknown angles, on the team system in two rounds of twenty birds each, and ten birds at unknown traps and angles, on the single fire principle, the shooter standing at No. 3 mark. Ties were shot off at ten birds each shooter, on the single fire principle.

In shooting on the "team system" each shooter faced three traps. The traps, which were concealed in a deep trench, threw the birds at different angles, but the position from which the bird would fly was known to the shooter. In shooting under "single fire" conditions the shooter had in some cases nine, and in other cases fifteen traps before him, and the bird may come from any one of them.

The program, rules and conditions of the Fourth Olympiad can be found in Appendix E for further reference.

Theodore Cook, who drew up the Official Report, commented on the competition itself and criticized some of the rules and regulations used:

The obvious need in clay bird shooting is to remodel the rules by allowing charges up to 1 1/2 ounce of shot to be used in 12-bore cases not exceeding 2 3/4 inch, in length, and

to abolish the superfluous second barrel.

The Americans have proved the success, from a sporting point of view, of one cartridge adequate to the occasion as against two which are both inadequate. A return to the well-tried pigeon shooting conditions of 2 3/4 in. cartridges, but with no limit of shooting to take the place of pigeon shooting wherever the latter has fallen into disuse.

The question is naturally a controversial one, for though Americans and Canadians use special guns and special charges, making the shooting of clay birds an end in itself, the practice of European competitors is to make clay bird shooting the means to attaining skill in shooting game; and much may be said in favor of both methods.

After the Olympics were finished the Canadian trapshooting team remained in England and competed successfully in a number of competitions. Beattie and Ewing won a live bird shoot July 14, 1908 at The London Gun Club and each won \$300. Four days later the Canadians shot well in the Clay Bird Shooting Association's meeting and "beat all comers". In the clay-bird international challenge shield held July 20th, 1908 the scores were: Canada, 45; all comers, 42; England, 30; Belgium, 29. Ewing won The Shooting Times handicap, and Westover took the Dougal Memorial.

The year 1908 was also marked by the introduction of the registered tournament idea in the United States:

The registered tournament trade-mark placed upon a trapshooting event gives the tournament the dignity and importance incident to good auspices, and, as registration cannot be secured for mere asking, trapshooters know the sanction means fair rules, satisfactory methods in every part of the competition, and a reasonable guarantee that

the tournament is worthy of their confidence and support.<sup>10</sup>

During the year 1909 the Interstate Association revised, brought up-to-date and copyrighted their trapshooting rules. They were the standard rules of America. However there appeared to have no communication between countries as to adopting standard rules for international competitions as each country followed its own format in holding an international competition.

The Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1912, used a programme of clay bird shooting along the lines similar to those used in the Fourth Olympiad. There appeared to be no action taken on Cook's recommendations. Once again, very little is known about these games. It appears that Canada did not send a clay pigeon team as W. H. Ewing, the previous Olympic champion, was unable to represent Canada due to business reasons.<sup>11</sup> However, the Gold medals did stay on the North American continent. James R. Graham of the United States won the individual Gold medal while the United States won the Gold for team competition.

In 1912, women in the United States also began to participate in trapshooting:

"But it is certain that many hundreds of women, in all parts of the country, have become enthusiastic devotees of the traps, and that a goodly percent of the number are capable of holding their own in competition with members of the stronger sex."<sup>12</sup>

Gun clubs opened their membership lists to women and in a number of cities, for example, Wilmington, Delaware; Chicago, Illinois; and Spokane, Washington; there were gun clubs composed entirely of women. The first women's gun club was organized in July, 1913, at Wilmington, by Miss H. Hammond. It was known as the Nemours Gun Club and had one hundred members. Most of the women's clubs however were formed as auxiliaries of the men's clubs and the men would act as instructors for the women. In 1915 the Interstate Association, recognizing the widespread and rapidly growing interest in trapshooting shown by women, voted to let down the bars and to allow members of the fair sex to enter and compete in the Grand American Handicap, "the banner event of the trap shooting year."<sup>13</sup>

Trapshooting had become popular with both men and women in North America but there was no mention of women shooting in Europe. It still was a male-dominated sport. The idea of trapshooting as primarily a form of training for wild bird shooting was still prevalent in Europe. However, it was reported in 1914:

Now, trapshooting is not only excellent training for wing shooting, but is in itself a sport that has become widely popular, particularly in France and Spain. At the big Annual Open Championship held at the Middlesex Gun Club Hendon, there will be teams not only from these countries, but from Germany and Belgium as well. Men play at trapshooting just as they do at golf or tennis abroad, and it has been taken up by royalty and the social world, and proficiency

B. at it has become quite as much as one of  
~~a gentleman's necessary accomplishments as~~  
 the ability to shoot and ride and play polo.<sup>14</sup>

In four years, 1910 to 1914, the number of active trapshooters increased from about 100,000 in 1910 to over 425,000 in 1914. Sportsmen of all degrees clubbed together to own trapshooting grounds and trapshooting clubs also multiplied from about 1,000 to 4,000 in the same period.<sup>15</sup>

At the close of the year 1918, the Interstate Trapshooting Association changed its name to the American Trapshooting Association. Since the Association was going to give recognition to shooters from Canada the name "American" seemed to be the more logical and significant designation.

World War I put an end to the proposed 1916 Olympics in Berlin. The Olympic movement was revived after the war and in 1920 the Seventh Olympiad was held in Antwerp. J.H. Black, captain of the Canadian trapshooting team, expressed the opinion that his team would triumph. Unfortunately, his prophecy did not come true, and the Canadians came fifth with 474 points.

Once again there were two competitions, the Team and the Individual. Eight nations took part in the team competition: Belgium, Canada, England, France, Holland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States. In the team event there were six man squads, gun position was optional - it could be placed to the shoulder before calling for the bird,

or held down so that the gun was below the elbow until the Bird was called, and two shots were still allowed at each target. In the last ten targets one man up on position No. 3, any one of fifteen traps could be sprung by drawing numbers. Eliminations took place after all the nations shot the first fifty targets. The rounds were divided so that the first two rounds were of ten targets each shooter, third and fourth rounds were at fifteen targets per shooter, and the fifth and sixth rounds consisted of twenty targets per shooter. The last round was ten targets, one man up. There was little doubt about who won the team Gold medal; the United States team with 547 points had forty-four more points than Belgium who placed second, and forty-seven points ahead of Sweden in third place.

On July 23, 1920 The Individual Championship was shot. Each nation was allowed to let five men compete. The first ninety targets were shot in squads of six men, continuous fire system over fifteen traps. Rounds were shot 10, 10, 15, 15, 20, 20, and 10. The last ten targets were shot two men up on positions No. 2 and 4. Any one of 9 traps was sprung, shoot five and change. Position No. 2 had groups of traps 1, 2, and 3, while position No. 4 had groups of traps, 3, 4, and 5. Numbers were put in a hat and each captain drew out five numbers for his respective men, from which numbers, squads were made up.

Where in 1908, the Canadians tried, unsuccessfully to make a clean sweep of the first five places, the United States in 1920 succeeded and won the first five places. Mark Arie first with 95 out of 100, Frank Troch, second, with 93 out of 100, and the other three Wright, Plum and Bonser tied with 87 for third. The officials counted up the number of times each broke their target using the second shot, and the result was Wright winning the bronze medal, as he only broke three targets with his second shot.

During past Olympic Games, both Canada and/or the United States has proven to be major forces in clay pigeon shooting; the 1924 Olympics confirmed Canada's and the United States' capability in this sport at the international level. There were still two competitions in the program, the Team event and the Individual event. Twelve countries entered the trapshooting competition: Canada, United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Czechoslovakia. The Canadian team arrived in Paris two weeks before the Olympics Games began, after spending one month training in London, England. The number on a team was cut down from six to four members after all the competitors and teams had arrived in Paris. On the first day of the Team race all nations fired seventy shots per shooter. On the second day the balance of thirty targets

were shot. The race was to be 100 targets per shooter, no eliminations as in previous years. The first ninety of the 100 were shot at 16 meters over a trench 60 ft. long containing fifteen traps in sets of threes. Six men were up for the first three events (90 targets) and shot one target at each of the five positions. During the last ten two men were up on positions two and four, and each shooter shot over nine traps. The United States narrowly won the Olympic Gold medal by three points over Canada and Finland who each had 360 points. Canada won the shoot-off, 36 to 35 and was awarded the Silver medal.<sup>19</sup>

In the individual race, the shooters shot seventy targets each over the fifteen traps the first day. The second day and the close of the competition, twenty targets were shot off over fifteen traps, and ten were shot off over nine traps. Jules Halasy of Hungary and Huber of Finland, were tied for first, both shooting 98 out of a possible 100. Mr. Halasy won the shoot-off and the Olympic Gold medal; Mr. Huber won the Silver medal. The "battle" between Canada and the United States continued in the individual race with Montgomery of Canada tied for third place with Hughes of the United States. Unfortunately for Canada, Montgomery lost the shoot-off. Two other Canadians, Sam Vance and George Beattie were involved in a three-way tie for sixth position. Canada was the only country with three shooters in the top ten.

The United States captain F. Etohen reported that the targets thrown in the race ranged anywhere from 70 to 102 yards in distance:

This is no guess work, but actual yardage measurement. The targets at times were thrown 200 feet high and at other times not more than six. The traps were worked entirely by the man in the trenches and while it was equal competition to all countries, it was bad to have to shoot at targets that no one from America, England, or Canada had ever fired at before.<sup>20</sup>

Sam Vance of Tillsonburg, Ontario, the Canadian captain, made some useful suggestions for the benefit of the 1928 team in his report. He recommended that the trapshooting team selected for the 1928 Olympic Games be given considerable drilling in the Olympic style of shooting before leaving Canada.<sup>21</sup> Unfortunately, clay pigeon

shooting was deleted from the program of the next four Olympiads. Vance was called "the Father of Trapshooting" in Canada by the Amateur Trapshooting Association:

He was one of the early life members of the A.T.A. and a member of the Grand American handicapping tournament. He was captain of both the 1920 and 1924 Canadian Olympic teams. Shortly before the 1924 Olympics in Paris, Vance broke 100 straight to tie for the Middlesex Gold medal in England and won the Middlesex Handicap beating all Canadians and Americans. The Canadians won the British Challenge Shield with 100 straight by Vance, W. Barnes and R. J. Montgomery, a score that has never been equaled. Vance also won the Waltham Abbey Cup against all international shooters and the Hidden trophy.<sup>22</sup>

Until 1924, the American Trapshooting Association, the national governing body, was controlled by the manufacturers of guns and ammunition. In that year it was decided by the trapshooters to divorce it from all "subsidy" and to have the association go on its own as strictly a sports organization. The severance was made and the name changed to its present one of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. This organization exercises authority over trapshooting in the United States, Canada and the Canal Zone. The Association still conducts the Grand American Championships of North America, on its own grounds in Vandalia, Ohio. Over three thousand people took part in the Grand American each August. It was, and is the largest shoot held in North America.

Internationally, the Federation Internationale de Tir aux Armes Sportives de Chasse, created in 1921, tried to unify the clay pigeon shooters in the world. At the same time, along with the International Union of Shooting, which looked after all sports concerning military shooting, a new federation was formed under the name International Shooting Union, comprising of all categories of guns. This took the name in 1936 of the Federation Internationale de Tir aux Armes Sportives de Chasse (F.I.T.A.S.C.).

From the beginning this federation grew and multiplied its international sporting competitions; the

important one being the Championships of the World and of Europe for clay pigeon shooting in 1929 at Stockholm, 1930 in Rome, 1931 in Lemberg, Poland, 1933 in Venice, 1934 in Budapest, 1935 in Bruxelles, 1936 in Berlin, 1937 in Helsinki, 1938 in Prague and 1939 in Berlin. The rules of the international shooting categories were established by the F.I.T.A.S.C., as well as the rules a little later for the Olympic Games.

In the 1930 World Championships in Rome there were over 300 competitors from several nations. The competitors were divided into three groups of squads. Each group was assigned to a trap, and shot the entire match there. Since the World Championships were under the control of the F.I.T.A.S.C. the conditions and regulations used in the Rome Championships should be similar to those of the other World Championships at that time. Following is a description of the shooting arrangement in Rome:

The shooting platforms were placed at the regulation distance behind the traps, and ran straight across. These platforms were about 14 inches above the ground and built of boards. The platform was divided into five sectors of about the regulation nine feet width, but in this case the contestant was allowed to stand at any point within his sector. At the rear of each sector was a chair to which the contestant might retire if he so desired, after shooting a target. Each contestant, beginning with No. 1 would advance to a point in his sector, when the judge called his number, and when set, would challenge the puller who would in turn reply that all was ready ("pronto"). The shooter would then place his gun to his shoulder and

call "pull", shooting both barrels if necessary to break the target. He would then retire to his chair and the next shooter would follow the same procedure. After each had shot one target the squad moved down, and likewise shot one target at each of the other positions. This was then repeated so that every squad shot 10 targets, two from each position, one at a time. Then the next squad would come on the line and likewise shoot ten targets. When all the squads assigned to the trap had shot at ten targets the first squad of this group started over again on the same trap, and so on until the entire 100 targets had been shot at. The other two groups of squads proceeded in a like manner on their respective traps.<sup>23</sup>

The targets thrown in Rome were quite different from those thrown in North America. They were considerably thicker and heavier and black in color. The targets were thrown by specially constructed traps to a distance of from 70 to 90 yards, and at a height of from 10 to 50 feet above the ground (at the highest point in their trajectory) and at very difficult angles. The shell loads used were approximately pigeon loads, i.e., 3 1/4 drams of powder, 1 1/4 ounces of 7 1/2 or 8 shot. (This load was the regulation load used in international competition until 1974 when the rules were changed so that the maximum load allowed is 3 1/4 drams of powder and 1 1/8 ounces of 7 1/2 or 8 shot).

At the beginning of the Second World War, the F.I.T.A.S.C. had twenty-six member countries throughout the world. Needless to say it slowed down during the

Second World War and started again in 1947. At the same time, so that trapshooting could be admitted to the Olympic Games, the F.I.T.A.S.C. which at that time consisted of only eight national federations gave this discipline to the I.S.U. which was already affiliated with the Olympic Committee.<sup>24</sup> The change was made because F.I.T.A.S.C. was also the world-wide organization for live pigeon shooting, and it was felt necessary to make a clear separation, as live pigeon shooting was not an Olympic sport.<sup>25</sup>

The I.S.U. accepted the responsibility of the Olympic competitions as well as every four years, the Clay Pigeon World Championships. This was only to be a trial period to figure out whether or not this was the best thing for the sports people involved. One problem with the two championships was that a maximum of seven shooters could participate in the competition in four years. The I.S.U. was organizing a World Championship every four years, with the participation of a maximum of five shooters per nation, as well as the competitions for the Olympic Games, every four years as well, with participation of only two shooters. This did not satisfy the shooters whose numbers were growing every year.

In 1951 the General Assembly of the F.I.T.A.S.C. asked its President to try to bring back international competitions in trapshooting under the aegis of F.I.T.A.S.C. It was felt that all shooting sports should be involved

together and more closely related, and to work to have more international competitions. The F.I.T.A.S.C. took charge of organizing the annual European Championships, which have taken place since 1953.

To dispel any fears that the I.S.U. might have in applying the rules of the amateur status of an athlete according to the International Olympic Committee, the F.I.T.A.S.C. agreed to take away all prizes in the championships except for medals. They also decided to adopt the same rules as the I.S.U. Any change of regulations had to be accepted by both societies.

The 1952 Olympics in Helsinki marked the re-entry of clay pigeon shooting as an Olympic sport. The last time Canada had won an Olympic trapshooting competition was in 1908 in London. Forty competitors from twenty two countries took part in the 1952 competition. Countries represented were Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Puerto Rico, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.S.S.R. The competitors shot 100 targets a day on a fifteen trap layout using the continuous fire system. Over the years, the launching apparatus had been improved and the traps threw the clay pigeons at various heights, directions, and speed. The team event of the previous Olympics had been taken out, and only two shooters per

country competed in the individual championships.

Clay pigeon shooting provided Canada with its only gold medal at Helsinki; Finland:

George Genereux of Saskatoon, a 17 year old high school student who shoots as casually as a man flicks ashes off his cigar won the Olympic Trapshooting Championship Saturday and gave Canada its first points in the 1952 Games. In a hair-raising finish, the schoolboy sharpshooter scored 192 of a possible 200 in a two-day competition to defeat a classy cosmopolitan field, including several world champions.<sup>26</sup>

Genereux's win was all the more remarkable to the Europeans because in practice, to conform with Canadian conditions, he trained with a single-barrel, pump-action gun. "His style was greatly admired by European shooters, who were amazed and appreciative of the combination of his age and outstanding ability."<sup>27</sup> He used this in the Helsinki match, whereas practically every other competitor used a double-barrel gun.<sup>28</sup> Genereux's teammate, R. Cole, placed thirteenth with 184 out of 200.

Just prior to the Olympic competitions, the Canadian team competed in the World's Championship at Oslo, Norway, and George Genereux had won second in the World's Clay Pigeon Championship. He received a silver medal, a silver cup with gold wash and as an added tribute, a beautifully engraved silver mounted knife.

R. G. Cole, Captain of the Canadian team, suggested in his report that if Canada was to compete at future

Olympics the establishment of ranges and competitions for this type of shooting in conjunction with the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association or other Dominion or Provincial shoots would be of great advantage. The expense of sending the team to the Olympics was borne by the Canadian Civilian Marksmen's Association Inc., and private subscription.

Women began competing in international competitions in 1954 when the European Championships included a special event for women trapshooters. Women started competing in the Women's World Clay Pigeon Championships in 1962 in Cairo, Egypt. The women's event is held in conjunction with the men's, with the women shooting on the same squads as the men, as there is a random selection of competitor numbers for squad selection. However, the women's event in the World Championship is only out of 150 birds while the men's event is out of 200. This means that women can never really "compete" against the men because they are not allowed to shoot the 50 remaining targets without forfeiting the right to shoot as a woman in the women's event. There has never been a woman in the International Clay Pigeon event in the Olympics.

The XVI Olympiad in 1956 in Melbourne, Australia, provided further changes to the clay pigeon shooting competition system. For the first time the competition was spread over three days. The competitors shot 75 targets

the first day, 75 the second day, and 50 targets the third for a total of 200. <sup>29</sup> This method of shooting has been

used ever since in the Olympics and World Championships.

The fifteen trap layout and the continuous fire system with six men per squad that had been used throughout previous

Olympic and international competitions was used in Melbourne in 1956 and competitions since then.

Today the fifteen trap layout and the walk around system is used extensively throughout the world, except for Canada and the United States where the American-style trapshooting is very popular. All international competitions are shot over the "trench". The International field layout consists of a traphouse accommodating 15 separate traps arranged in a straight line with a prescribed spacing between traps. The line of shooting stations, or positions, is situated 15 meters (16 1/2 yards) to the rear of the traps, one station for each group of three traps. Traps are adjusted to throw all targets within a 45 degree angle right, or left of the center trap in each group. At 10 meters forward of the trap, targets must pass through a zone between 1 and 4 meters high. The wide horizontal and vertical angles so allowed provide many more possibilities than are offered in American-style trapshooting. To add to the difficulty, international targets may be thrown as far as 90 yards, compared to the 52 yard maximum for American style. To reach this distance,

targets travel at high velocities and consequently are more difficult to break. Shooters move from one station to the next after each shot. Each course has 25 single targets. Two shots may be fired at each target without penalty. Clay pigeons used for this sport are made of a harder material than the American type and may be as much as 1/8 inch less in height, and are thrown at variable outgoing angles and speeds. It is interesting to note that due to the expenses entailed with installing a fifteen trap layout, the International Shooting Union is presently investigating a change to a three oscillating trap layout.

The Sargeant system of shooting with a few modifications is used exclusively by the Amateur Trapshooting Association in Canada and the United States at the present time. Now only one revolving trap is used, situated 16 yards in front of No. 3 position. The one trap proved to be more economical, and much more challenging due to the variety of unknown angles thrown than the three traps used in the original Sargeant system. Also, a round consists of twenty-five clay pigeons, five shot from each position. There are three different events in trapshooting. The most popular in terms of events held and total targets shot is Singles. In Singles, all competitors fire from the 16-yard line and each shooter is allowed one shot at each of his targets. Most people when trapshooting for fun and

recreation shoot Singles, or 16 yards (as it is sometimes called). Second in popularity in number of races held (and first in popularity in attendance at the national championships) is Handicap. It varies from Singles only in the distance the shooter stands from the trap. The minimum distance from which anyone may shoot handicap targets is 18 yards and the maximum is 27 yards. Shooters are assigned yardages at the beginning of each year by the Amateur Trapshooting Association depending upon the individual's averages, scores, and known ability. There are definite rules for moving back according to the scores shot in any given registered shoot, the number of participants, and how the shooter places. Naturally, the better a shooter is, the farther back he or she will be placed. Doubles is the most challenging of all trap events, and it is considered by many to be the most fun. All shooting is done from the 16-yard line but this time two targets are released from the trap simultaneously. These two are called a "pair"; of each pair, one is a quartering right angle target, and the other is a quartering left, when viewed from peg three. Each target is scored individually, not as a pair, and there are no partners in doubles.

Tryouts for Canadian teams going to the 1952 and 1956 Olympics were held over the American-style layout. The trials were based on the highest 16-yard average for

500 targets. On July 1, 1956 in Calgary, Alberta, the Canadian Trapshooting Association was formed by Tom Oliver of Ontario and other international competitors, including R. Cole, who had competed in the 1954 World Championships. They wanted to form a national body which would be recognized by the Canadian government, would hold trials for Olympic and World Championships teams, and would try to obtain grants from the Canadian government for the international teams. Canadian shooters found it difficult competing against the Europeans because all the international competitions were shot over the fifteen trap layout and there was not one in Canada on which to practice. It was not until 1960 that a fifteen trap layout was installed at the Hamilton Gun Club, in Hamilton, Ontario. United States shooters experienced the same problem of lack of facilities and their first fifteen trap layout was installed at Fort Benning, Georgia, December, 1959. The Army Marksmanship Training Unit began in January, 1960 to improve the calibre of the United States competitor. 30

Trapshooters from North, Central, and South America as well as not having the proper facilities for international competitions were restricted to the number of Olympic-style competitions they could attend. Trapshooting was not included as an event in the Pan American Games therefore shooters were forced to go to Europe to participate in high level competitions.

Clay pigeon shooting has been included in all the Olympiads since 1952, and World and European Championships in the sport have been held almost annually since 1929. Further information pertaining to the year and place of the Olympic and World Championships, and the winner and the country represented can be found in Appendix E. The International Shooting Union, which is the governing body for all international shooting sports and competitions, has grown to one hundred and nine affiliated National Associations from ninety-four countries.<sup>31</sup>

With the development of shooting associations throughout the world within the last ten years other prominent international competitions have been established off the European continent. In 1966 clay pigeon shooting was included in the 3rd Southeast Asia Peninsula Games. Since then there have been Asian Shooting Competitions, and a Southeast Asia Shooting Association was formed which holds competitions each year and includes the following countries: Thailand, Burma, Khmer, Laos, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Singapore. Unfortunately, clay pigeon shooting has not been included in the Asian Games to date.<sup>32</sup>

In 1972 the Mexican Shooting Association hosted the I Competencia Internacional De Tiro "Benito Juarez". This competition consisted of all types of shooting - pistol, rifle, and shotgun - and attracted shooters from all over

the world, particularly from the Americas. In April 1973 the II Competencia Internacional De Tiro "Benito Juarez" was held in Mexico and during the competitions representatives from the various countries in the Americas came together to finalize the establishment of an international competition equivalent to the European Championships, which would be called the Championships of the Americas, and founded an All-American organization, the American Shooting Confederation. In October, 1973 the Championships of the Americas, i.e. North, Central, and South America, were held at the Olympic ranges in Mexico City, under the auspices of the American Shooting Federation. Shooters from Canada, United States, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Cuba, Panama, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Chile, Jamaica, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica competed in five rifle, five pistol, two moving target, and two shotgun events. Seven world records were recorded; one of which was in the clay pigeon shooting event. The 4-man United States team set a new World record in the team event, shooting 583 out of 600. Canada was second with 571 out of 600. Six countries (USA, Canada, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, and Chile) took part in the team competition while twenty-six competitors competed for the Individual championship. Five men tied for first with 195 out of 200, and after three rounds of shoot-offs the order was first

Hugh Bowie, second Frank Little, and third James De Fillippi, all of the United States; fourth, John Primrose of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and fifth, Fernando Walls of Mexico. A women's event was held at the same time and Susan Nattrass, also from Edmonton, Alberta, hit 145 out of 150 and broke the existing World record of 143. It was later declared unofficial because there were not enough women competitors. Bonnie Coles, from Toronto, Ontario, Canada, placed second with 139, and Nuria Ortiz, from Mexico placed third. These championships are to be held every four years, the next is scheduled for Panama, in 1977.

Clay pigeon shooting was included for the first time in the 10th British Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, New Zealand, during January, 1974. This was the first I.S.U. recognized Regional Trench event in which oscillating trap, not the Olympic fifteen trap installation, was used. Fourteen competitors from eight countries took part in this event. John Primrose of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada won the competition with 196 out of 200. Three points behind with 193 was Brian Bailey of England, and in third was Philip Lewis of Wales with 191. Ed Wladichuk, of Hamilton, Ontario, placed eighth with 184.

Clay Pigeon shooting has almost become universally accepted and included in international competitions. As well as being included in all the previously mentioned competitions clay pigeon shooting is in the Nordic

Championships, the South African Games, and the Juegos Deportivos Bolivarianos. However, it is still not included in the Maccabiah Games or the Pan American Games.

The 41st World Shooting Championships of the International Shooting Union are to be held September 16 to 29, 1974, in Berne (Shotgun and Running Boar events) and Thun (Rifle and Pistol events), Switzerland. The organizers have estimated that the anticipated number of competitors will be between 45 and 50 nations, but with confirmations still arriving, the total could well reach 60 countries.

The record number of countries competing in the World Championships was 51, in Weisbaden, Germany, in 1966.

Advance confirmation of participation received from countries which did not compete four years ago in the 40th World Shooting Championships in Phoenix, Arizona included Ceylon, Holland, India, Jamaica, Indonesia, Liechtenstein, Republic of San Marino, Mongolia, Portugal, Singapore, and Albania.

Another important event which is to be held during the 1974 World Championships in Switzerland is the first Scientific Congress. Professor Gavrilla Barani, from Romania, Chairman of the I.S.U. Medical Committee, wrote of this Congress in August, 1973:

With the commencement of the new Olympic term (1973-76), responsible shooting bodies are becoming increasingly interested in the problems being tackled by the Congress,

particularly as the training for international class shooting can no longer be programmed without objective reference being made to the related sciences, i.e. Medicine, Psychology, Cybernetics, Biomechanics, etc.

Many shooting Associations, Olympic Committees, and public institutions, have since analysed their Olympic performances and their findings have resulted in the decision to develop their shooting training to a much higher degree. Training plans are now being evolved for the 1976 Olympic Games and I believe, as does Dr. Hasler, that our Executive Council should support these important undertakings.<sup>34</sup>

The Congress agenda was split into three areas:

- 1) Educational Methods in International Class Shooting;
- 2) Medicine and Physiology in International Class Shooting;
- and 3) Psychology in International Class Shooting. The topics of discussion within each area are:

1. Educational Methods in International Class Shooting

- a) Aspects of educational methods in training dynamics.
- b) Assessment and critical selection of abilities.
- c) Methods of conditioning in education.
- d) Problems of varying techniques in shooting disciplines and instructional methods.
- e) Determination of effort in shooting.
- f) The problems of complementary sporting activities.
- g) Questions of general and specific physical preparation.

2. Medicine and Physiology in International Class Shooting

- a) Medical-Educational tests and research into the training dynamics and sporting fitness of the shooter.
- b) Physiological, Physio-pathological and Biomechanical aspects.

- c) Problems of recuperation and prophylactic measure in accident hygiene.
  - d) Organic recuperation after training and competitive effort causing fatigue in shooters.
3. Psychology in International Class Shooting
- a) Psychological tests.
  - b) Psychology of shooters under pre-match conditions and during competitions.
  - c) Deviations from normal psychology (Neuroses).
  - d) Psychological conditioning.<sup>35</sup>

During the last decade and particularly the last five years, more emphasis has been placed on the physical and mental training of the shooting athlete. The 1974 Scientific Congress in Switzerland is a first major step of what began in 1969. At that time a team of workers, from the Hungarian Shooting Federation, the College of Physical Culture and the Research Institute of the State Railways, commenced research into the tests which were necessary, to provide the fundamental elements for the selection of sports shooters. In 1971 the European Shooting Confederation of the International Shooting Union held The First Scientific Session in Bucharest. Experts in the scientific field from various countries took part in this meeting and discussed topics in statistical research, medical sports research, and psychological sports research.<sup>36</sup>

Most of the scientific research and articles concerning shooting and shooters was related to pistol and rifle shooters. Very little research has been done on shotgun shooters, particularly in the area of training programs. In the majority of countries which answered the

questionnaire (the complete questionnaire can be found in Appendix G) the training of the clay pigeon shooter is left entirely to the individual. In some countries, once the international team is chosen, they are told by their national associations how much to practice. Two countries which have a more scientific approach to the training of their clay pigeon shooters are Korea and Italy. (Through personal contact with individuals on the U.S.S.R. teams, the U.S.S.R. is also known to have a very specific and scientific type of physical and mental training program, but unfortunately, the shooting representative did not answer the questionnaire).

Korea at the moment is not a world figure in International Clay Pigeon shooting, but, if their athletes continue in the training program established by the Korea Shooting Federation, they may be a threat in the future. The program consists of both non-shooting and shooting training and mental training. Athletes run ten laps on a 400m track for lower body exercise, weight train for upper body exercise, and swim one hour every day to build up body flexibility. In addition, weight lifting, dumb-bell exercises and other light exercises are performed to build up arm strength. Since most of the competitors are students or have jobs it is not possible for them to practice shooting every day so they shoot three times a week, four rounds each time, 100 targets, under strict

supervision of coaches and shoot 200 targets for record each month. To familiarize shooters with different shooting range conditions, the Korea Shooting Federation conducts transfer training at different ranges scattered around the country. Whenever the time is available academic seminars are held and movie films of noted champions of foreign countries are shown in order that the shooters can study the shooting position of the foreign shooters. Once a month competitors attend the lectures of noted professors of psychology and medical professors from the Coach Academy and other schools. Special emphasis is placed on the mental conditions during competitions and physical conditioning prior to competition. "The shooters hike 16 km. every week as a means to build up the lower body and it also exposes the competitor to fresh air and helps them attain mental stability."<sup>37</sup>

The Korea Shooting Federation selects twelve shooters for each event through shooting competitions. Later this number is reduced to six shooters (including two alternates) through three more competitions for record. Finally, four shooters are selected by means of three additional shooting contests for record to compose the national team. The final selection is subject to approval by the Korea Amateur Sports Association. Prior to selection to the team, competitors bear their own expenses but once they are selected, the Korea Shooting Federation finances all

expenses arising from training for and participation in international competitions. The shooters compete in approximately twelve national and local competitions a year, and participate in most of the international competitions.

Italy, on the other hand, has been a world figure in International Clay Pigeon shooting since World War II. An Italian shooter has won the World Championships four times, and what is really commendable, an Italian has won three out of the last six Olympics: Rossini in 1956, Mattarelli in 1968, and Scalzone in 1972 established the new World record of 199 out of 200. Clay pigeon shooting began in Italy in 1946 and developed throughout the country. At the present time there are 110 Olympic traps in the country and every region has some sort of machine, example, an automatic trap, Universal trap, etc. which throws clay pigeons. By comparison, Canada has four Olympic traps and the United States has about five.

For both men and women competitors there are three classes of shooters in Italy; the first class shooter, of which there are 300 to 350, are at the top. The Italian Federation organizes four to six national competitions each year for the first class shooters. All competitors shoot 200 birds over the Olympic trench at each competition for a minimum total of 1200 birds. From these trials the top competitors are selected to enter the European Championships

and then the World Championships. Outside of these official competitions the shooter shoots at 2000 to 3000 birds during the year for the purpose of practicing. Even before the national trials a shooter will go through six or seven trials on his own. During the Olympic year a number of shooters are selected as "Probable Olympics". These men are assisted by the federation which pays for the shooter's practice and competition. But other than the Olympic year, shooters are not assisted by the federation.

The Italian Federation does pay all expenses - lodging, travel, training, shells, birds, and food - for national team members competing in the Grand Prix, European, National, and World Championships. Each member of the national team trains on his own, closest to where he lives, but when the international championship has been set, then one or two months prior to the contest, the shooters assemble as a group and practice together for two or three weekends during the month, and shoot 200 birds a weekend. Little is done in the realm of mental preparation, but a form of mental training is practiced in relation to concentration and psychological attitudes pertaining to shooting. The shooters follow suggestions and recommendations made by the Federation of Sport Medicine Doctors. During the Olympic year the "Probably Olympic" shooter gives him recommendations and suggestions relative to physical well-being, dieting, etc. and also in relation to the moral and intellectual

well-being of the shooter.

Each year there is a national championship for category 2 and 3 shooters. Competitors shooting 190 and over pass into category 1. Newcomers are classified separately as class #3 and the federation holds competitions for this class. They cannot compete in a higher category, however, some of the more competent shooters are sent out to international competitions, at the expense of the federation, for experience. In Italy there is also a hunter's federation, and the hunting licences are controlled and issued by the Italian Federation for Clay Pigeon Shooting. Every year the federation organizes a national championships for hunters at trapshooting. If the hunters that enter the championships like the sport and are attracted to it, they can enter category #3. Of the one million shooters in Italy, 20,000 are sport shooters or competitors. The Olympic Committee are sport shooters or competitors. The Olympic Committee of Italy subsidizes the Italian Federation on a yearly basis, and this amounts to 100 million lire per year, or approximately \$200,000 U.S. dollars. The money covers both clay pigeon and skeet shooting.

It is little wonder that Italy produces champions when the federation has developed such a broad base from which to select. Other countries are now starting to use a classification system for their shooters, to try and develop better competitors. Canada, through Game Plan '76,

is trying to encourage her shooters, but first facilities have to be provided so that young people or new shooters can learn how to shoot the international clay pigeon style of shooting, and then competent coaches are needed for the refinement of the skills and teaching of the finer points gained through international experience.

Competitive sport is developing quickly throughout the world, and competitive shooting is no different. This development is being supported to a great extent by Technology - improvements in facilities and equipment, Science - analyzing the physiological and psychological makeup of top shooters, and Cultural Developments - social and cultural influences on the competitors which make them what they are and how they respond to various situations.

In more and more countries it is recognized that a systematically trained sport is an important social movement, which deserves to be supported. Along with the growth in the numbers of participants in the world's sporting events, there is a continuous increase in expenditure in the field of scientific research. Very few, if any governments, or shooting federations, do not support their international clay pigeon teams in some way. National shooting federations are seriously investigating the concept of training programs and scientifically researching the sport and the athletes who compete in it.

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## CHAPTER VI

### SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this study was to trace the development of International Clay Pigeon shooting through reference to related literature. An attempt was also made to determine the originator of the clay target and trap, and to discover how and why the two separate forms of clay pigeon shooting, American-style and International, developed into two very different sports.

Trapshooting originated with the sport of popinjay shooting around the 9th Century B.C. Archers shot at a pigeon tied by a long rope to a pole. Competitions of marksmanship using the popinjay were very popular at fairs throughout the centuries. However, its popularity declined with the invention of gunpowder and the development of firearms. As the shotgun was improved, an interest in hunting with these weapons also grew. Finally in the late 1770's the shotgun became quite accurate and men afterwards hunted both for food and sport.

However, the aristocracy restricted the hunting of wild game and the middle class hunter was deprived of his "sport". As a results, the sport of trapshooting was devised. This early form consisted of shooting live birds released from traps. Trapshooting clubs began to form around 1800 in England. The sport became very popular and

spread to Europe and North America in the late 1820's. Shooting live pigeons in Europe was practiced by the wealthy whereas in North America people of other economic levels also participated. Trapshooting really began to flourish in the 1850's and elaborate clubs with set rules and regulations were built in England and the Continent. It was not long until international competitions were organized and promoted throughout Europe. They proved to be very popular due to the large cash prizes and attracted many participants.

During the 1860's, American attention was focused on the development of an inanimate target for trapshooting. This was caused mainly by public pressure. In 1866 Charles Portlock introduced glass balls as targets, and organized the first glass ball competition. The targets and trap did not prove to be entirely satisfactory, and thus led to many "improved" variations. Captain Bogardus provided one of the most popular and successful improvements, and set up specific rules for the sport. The flight of the glass ball never really simulated the flight of a live bird and this type of inanimate target was soon replaced.

In 1880 the clay pigeon target was introduced by George Likowsky, and was accepted by the trapshooting world as an adequate substitute for the live pigeon. His target was made of baked clay and before long there were many varieties and improvements to this target on the market.

By 1890 national competitions had been held in the United States and Canada using the clay pigeon. A national organization had been founded to establish a code of rules and regulations to govern the sport and an Executive Committee was selected to organize and promote trapshooting.

In 1885, at the First National Trapshooting Tournament in New Orleans, there were approximately fifty competitors, and by 1900 there were 3,000 to 4,000 trapshooters in Canada and the United States. In 1974, at the Grand American Championships, there were at least 4,000 registered participants, and it has been estimated that there are over one hundred and fifty thousand shooters, fifty thousand of which are active competitors registered with the American Trapshooting Association.

The system and layout for shooting clay pigeons has also developed and been improved. The first shooting at clay pigeons was over five traps set in a straight line; one man up, unknown traps and angles. From there two very different systems developed. In the American-style layout one trap threw the clay birds at unknown angles. There were five positions in an arc sixteen yards behind the trap and five shooters were on the line and shot five birds from each position before moving to the next one. In the International style there were fifteen machines in groups of three in a straight line. Six competitors shot over five positions and moved to the next position after each

shot. The International layout was quite different and the reason was that European shooters participated in trapshooting as a way to practice for live bird shooting, so live pigeon trapshooting was extremely popular. When clay pigeon shooting developed, the system of shooting was not changed. Today's International Clay Pigeon shooting is shot in a similar manner as live pigeon shooting. In North America, trapshooting became a sport in itself and not as a form of practicing for live bird shooting. It was far more economical to use one trap than fifteen traps; more towns and villages would set up trapshooting clubs.

International Clay Pigeon competitions began in 1900 at the Second Olympiad in Paris, France and eight countries participated. Since then, clay pigeon shooting has been included in eleven Olympiads. The sport is now practiced in all the continents of the world, and is included in the World and European Championships, Southeast Asian Peninsula Games, Championship of Americas, Commonwealth Games, South African Games and the Nordic Championships, to name a few.

International clay pigeon shooting originated with an archer trying to hit a pigeon, and then progressed to the shooter who participated in "clay" pigeon shooting as practice for live bird shooting. Today, science and technology are influencing the sport to such an extent that International Clay Pigeon shooting is becoming a very

specialized sport where top competitors are scientifically tested and placed on physical and mental training programs in order to achieve and maintain the highest level of performance possible.

#### Recommendations

1. That a history of International Clay Pigeon shooting in each of the major shooting countries be compiled. Many historical theses have been written on the history of a specific sport in Canada and a History of Clay Pigeon Shooting in Canada would prove to be a valuable addition to the existing level of knowledge pertaining to Canada's sports history.

2. That studies with further delimitations in terms of time-periods be conducted. There are natural landmarks in the history of clay pigeon shooting and an in-depth study of each era, for example, the Glass Ball Era, would provide answers to a number of questions with regards to the overall development of the sport.

3. That the study of the training programs used by the major clay pigeon shooting countries and a comparison of the programs be investigated. This should include all aspects of training athletes for shooting - testing, developing, physical and mental training.

4. That a study of the role of women in clay pigeon shooting be researched. Very little has been

written about women shooting, but they have been competing since the 1880's. Clay Pigeon shooting is one sport where women have competed successfully with and against men.

5. That an in-depth study be done to investigate the effects that social class structure, and the changing social and economic environments have had on the development of clay pigeon shooting.

6. That an in-depth study be done pertaining to the technology of the guns and ammunition used in various shooting sports, including International Clay Pigeon Shooting.

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## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

## HURLINGHAM CLUB SHOOTING RULES

(Revised to 1895)

(The rules of the Hurlingham Club of England governed live bird shooting in America for most of its active span before and after 1900).

1. The referee's decision shall be final.
2. (It was formerly that a shooter should hold the butt of his gun below the armpit until he called "Pull". That rule has been abolished.)
3. A missfire is not shot, under any circumstances.
4. If the shooter's gun missfire with the first barrel and he use the second and miss, the bird is to be scored lost.
5. If the missfire occurs with the second barrel, the shooter having failed to kill with his first, he may claim another bird; but he must fire off the first barrel with the cap on, and a full charge of powder, before firing the second.
6. The shooter's feet shall be behind the shooting mark until after gun is discharged. If, in the opinion of the referee, the shooter is balked by any antagonist or onlooker-on, or by the trapper, whether by accident or otherwise, he may be allowed another bird.
7. The shooter, when at his mark ready to shoot, shall give the caution, "Are you ready?" to the puller, and then call "Pull". Should the trap be pulled without the word being given, the shooter may take the bird or not; but if he fires, the bird must be deemed to be taken.
8. If, on the trap being pulled, the bird does not rise, it is at the option of the shooter to take it or not; if not, he must declare it by saying, "No bird" but should he fire after declaring, it is not to be scored for or against him.

9. Each bird must be recovered within the boundary, if required by any party interested, or it must be scored lost.
10. If a bird that has been shot at perches or settles on the top of the fence, or on any part of the building than the fence, it is to be scored a lost bird.
11. If a bird once out of the ground should return and fall dead within the boundary, it must be score a lost bird.
12. If the shooter advances to the mark and orders the trap to be pulled, and does not shoot at the bird, or his gun is not properly loaded, or does not go off, owing to his own negligence, that bird is to be scored lost.
13. A bird shot on the ground with the first barrel is "no bird," but it may be shot on the ground with the second barrel, if it has been fired at with the first barrel while on the wing; but if the shooter misses with the first and discharges his second barrel, it is to be accounted a lost bird, in case of not falling within bounds.
14. All birds must be gathered by the ~~g~~ or trapper, and no member shall have the right to gather his own bird, or to touch it with his hand or gun.
15. In single shooting, if more than one bird is liberated, the shooter may call "no bird," and claim another shot; but if he shoots, he must abide by the consequences.
16. The shooter must not leave the shooting mark under any pretense to follow any bird that will not rise, nor may he return to his mark, after having once quitted it, to fire his second barrel.
17. Any shooter found to have in his gun more shot than is allowed, is to be at once disqualified. Any loader supplying in sweepstakes or matches, cartridges loaded in excess of the authorized charge, will be dismissed from the club grounds.
18. None but members can shoot except on the occasion of private matches.
19. No wire cartridges or concentrators allowed, or other substance to be mixed with the shot.

20. In all handicaps, sweepstakes or matches, the standard bore of the gun is No. 12. Members shooting with less, to go at the rate of a half a yard for every bore less than 12 down to 16-bore; 11-bore gun to stand back half a yard from the handicap distance, and no guns over 11-bore allowed.
21. The winner of sweepstake of the value of ten sovereigns, including his own stake, goes back two yards; under that sum one yard, provided there be five shooters. Members saving or dividing in an advertised event will be handicapped accordingly.
22. Should any member kill a bird at a distance nearer than that at which he is handicapped, it shall be scored no bird; but should he miss, a lost bird.
23. One and a quarter ounces of shot, and four drams of black powder, or its equivalent in any other description of gunpowder, is the maximum charge. Size of shots restricted to Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8.
24. All muzzle-loaders shall be loaded with shot from the club bowls.
25. If any bird escapes through any opening in the paling, it shall be "no bird."
26. From the first of May the advertised events shall begin at three o'clock, unless otherwise notified, and no shooter will be admitted after the second round in any advertised event.
27. No scouting allowed on the club premises, and no pigeons to be shot at in the shooting ground, except by the shooter standing at his mark. Anyone infringing this rule will be fined one pound.
28. Members can plate guns up till three o'clock, but not whilst sweepstakes or matches are being shot.

## APPENDIX B

## MONTE CARLO REGULATIONS

(1860 regulations summarized by Jaroslav Lugs)

1. Every contestant ~~proved~~ to have wilfully missed the bird can be disqualified.
2. No. 10 is the maximum bore allowed. The standard gauge is 12. When using any gun of larger bore than this, it is handicapped half a metre for each size; thus ten bores stand one metre back, sixteen bores advances one metre. No further advantage is allowed to any smaller bore. The maximum allowed charge is, for ten bores 42 gr, for 12 bores 36 gr and for sixteen bores 30 gr. No higher size of shot above No.5 (about 3/4 mm) is allowed.
3. The boundary, inside which the bird has to fall in order to be a good score, is fenced in.
4. Four traps with pigeons are placed at a distance of 5m from each other. The order of release of these traps is not given.
5. The contestant must keep to his mark on the shooting bridge except as stated in para. 20. The shooter's feet must be behind the shooting mark. There are no rules about taking aim.
6. When a shooter is baulked by another competitor or a spectator or otherwise during shooting, the referee may allow another bird.
7. The shooters must take their places at the firing points in close succession, except as otherwise decided by the referee. Shooters who do not take their stand when called three times, get a "no bird."
8. When the shooter is ready to shoot, he shall give to the puller the caution "Are you ready" and then calls "pull". Should the trap be pulled without the word being given, the shooter may take the bird or not. But if he fires, the bird must be deemed to be taken. If, however, the bird rises and settles before the shooter fires, it is at the option of the shooter to refuse it or not.

9. Should the bird not rise after the trap is pulled, the shooter is at liberty to take it or not. If not, he must declare it by saying "No bird" and lower his gun. But should he fire after declaring, it would not count for him if the bird were hit, but missing the bird would be scored "lost bird".
10. Should the shooter kill the bird on the ground, it is scored "no bird". Should he miss the sitting bird with the first barrel and discharge his second barrel while it is on the wing, it is to be counted "lost bird". If both barrels miss, it qualifies as "lost bird". Should the shooter fire at a rising bird, it means that he takes it, and if it is to be scored for him, he has to hit the bird on the wing with the first barrel.
11. The shooter may claim another bird if a misfire occurs with his first barrel. In such a case he must show the cartridge to the referee. Should he hit the bird with the first barrel but the second one misfires, he may change the cartridge, but he is not allowed to leave his stand. (See para. 20).
12. The bird counts as "lost bird" if the gun fails due to the shooter's fault, i.e. when it is either not cocked or not loaded and the bird flies away. But should the misfire be caused by no fault of his, for instance should the stock or cock break, he is allowed another bird.
13. When a misfire occurs with the first barrel and the shooter fires the second barrel, it is scored "lost bird" unless a misfire also occurs with the second barrel.
14. If the misfire occurs with the second barrel, the shooter, having failed to kill with his first, may claim another bird, but he must fire off the first barrel with a blank cartridge before firing the second. Should he pull both triggers at the same time and the bird is killed, it is a good score. Every bird gathered by the dog or trapper is a good score.
15. In single shooting, if more than one bird is released, the shooter may call "No bird" and claim another shot. But if he shoots, it means that he takes the bird.

16. A bird to be scored must fall inside the enclosure. Should it fall outside the boundary or fly over the railing, it is to be scored lost. If any shot bird escapes through any opening in the paling or through an open gate, it shall be "no bird" and the shooter may ask for another one.
17. The bird must be killed on the wing in order to be scored. The second barrel may also be shot at a perching or lying bird. The trapper himself may pick up the bird if there is no dog available, but without the aid of any instrument. In no case may the shooter himself pick up his bird. Should he do so, it is counted "lost bird".
18. Should the shooter touch his bird with his hand or gun, in order to prevent it from getting away, or should he cast any object at while the dog or trapper is prepared to gather it, it is scored "lost bird".
19. If the dead bird gets caught on top of the fence or the railings, it can be retrieved by the trapper or dog.
20. The shooter having left the firing point after shooting at a bird, cannot shoot at it again. Should he, however, fire again, it is "lost bird". The shooter may discharge the second barrel from either side of the bridge if the bird is hidden by the trap.
21. A bird shot at outside the boundary is scored "lost bird" whether it is hit or not.
22. Should any shooter shoot at a distance nearer than that at which he is handicapped, he is obliged to fire at a second bird at the correct distance, but this mistake must be announced before the next shooter fires the first barrel.

## Appendix C

Bogardus' Rules for Glass Ball Trap-shooting  
1876; and for Clay Pigeon Trapshooting,  
1884.

A. Bogardus' Rules for Glass Ball Trapshooting, 1876.

Rule I. - All matches or sweepstakes shall be shot from 3 traps placed 10 yards apart, 18 yards rise, and the choice of trap to be decided by the referee, by drawing a gun-wad from his pocket and showing to trap-pullers.

Rule II - Pulling of Traps - The trap-puller shall stand 6 feet behind the shooter. The traps shall be numbered 1, 2 and 3. The referee shall have 3 gun-wads, upon each a number corresponding to the trap. When the shooter is at the score to shoot, the referee will then say, Ready! after which the shooter calls, Pull! In all cases the puller must pull fair for each shooter. If the trap is sprung before the shooter has given the word, he can take the shot or not; but if he shoots, the ball or balls shall be scored; whether broken or not; as the case may be.

Rule III- Referee. - In all cases a referee shall be appointed, and his decision shall be final. In case the trap, when sprung, breaks the ball, the referee, in all cases, shall require the party to shoot at another ball, whether he shoots or not.

Rule IV - Position at the Score - After a shooter has taken his place at the score, he shall not level his gun or raise the butt above the elbow until he calls pull. Should he infringe on this rule, the ball or balls shall be scored as lost, whether broken or not.

Rule V - All balls must be broken in the air to count; if shot on the ground, shall be scored as lost.

Rule VI - There shall be no restriction as to size of shot used, or charge of powder, but the charge of shot shall not exceed 1/4 oz., Dixon measure. Any one using a larger quantity of shot shall forfeit all rights in the matches. After a gun is loaded and challenged, and the shooter discharges his gun, the penalty will be the same as for overloading.

Rule VII - All ties to be shot off at 21 yards rise, at 5 single balls each, and in case of a second tie, 5 more balls, and so on until decided. In all cases ties must be shot off before sunset or postponed until next day, unless the interested parties agree otherwise.

Rule VIII- In double shooting the distance shall be 16 yards rise, and from 2 traps placed 10 yds apart; ties shot off at 18 yds. rise, at 3 pairs balls each; and in case of second ties, 3 more pairs each and so on until decided. In all cases both traps must be sprung at the same time.

Rule IX - Time at the score. - A participant in a match shall hold himself in readiness to come to the score when his name is called by the scorer. If he is longer than 5 minutes, it shall be discretionary with the referee whether he shall allow him to proceed further in the match or not.

Rule X - Miss-fire. - Should a gun miss-fire or fail to discharge, from any cause, it shall score as a lost ball, unless the referee finds, upon examination, that the gun was properly loaded and the miss-fire unavoidable in which case he shall allow another ball.

Rule XI - Loading Guns. - In case of breech-loaders, the party called to the score shall not place his cartridge to the gun until he arrives at the score. In case of muzzle-loaders; the party called to the score shall not place the cap on his gun until he arrives at the score.

Rule XII - The same rules govern single-trap shooting, only the trap to be changed at every shot.

No one but a contestant has a right to challenge.

#### B. Bogardus' Rules for Clay Pigeon Trapshooting 1884.

Rule I. Traps and Rise - All matches shall be shot from screened traps. Rise for single and double birds to be 15 yards. In double-bird shooting the traps shall be placed 4 to 6 feet apart. The horizontal direction of flight of bird shall be varied for each consecutive shot.

Rule II Scoring - When a person is at the score and ready to shoot he shall call, "Pull", and should the trap be sprung without his having given the word, or, in single-bird shooting, should more than one bird rise at a time, he may take the bird or birds or not; but if he shoots, the bird or birds shall be charged to him. The party at the score must not leave it to shoot; and must hold the butt of his gun below his elbow until he calls, "Pull". The vertical angle of flight shall not exceed 15° above the horizontal. The fourth match, giving maximum velocity, shall only be used in matches.

Rule III. Rising of Birds - The shooter, when he is at his mark ready to shoot, shall give the caution, "Are you ready?" to the puller and then call, "Pull". Should the trap be pulled without the word being given, the shooter may take the bird or not; but if he fires, the bird must be deemed to be taken. If, on the trap being pulled, the bird does not rise 3 feet high and 10 yards distance, it is at the option of the shooter to take it or not; if not, he must declare it by saying, "No bird"; but should he fire after declaring, it is not scored for, or against, him.

Rule IV. All birds must be broken in the air to count; that is, the shot must knock an easily perceptible piece out of the clay bird while in the air; otherwise it shall be scored a lost bird. If a bird is shot on the ground it is no bird.

Rule V. There shall be no restriction as to the size of shot used (6 and 7 are recommended) or charge of powder (3 1/2 to 4 1/2 drams recommended), but the charge of shot shall not exceed 1 1/4 oz., Dixon measure, 106 or 107. Any one using larger quantity of shot shall forfeit all rights in the matches. After a gun is loaded and challenged, and the shooter discharges his gun the penalty will be the same as for overloading.

Rule VI. Flight of Birds. - In single shooting, if more than one bird is liberated, the shooter may call, "No bird," and claim another shot; but if he shoots he must abide the consequences. In double shooting both birds shall be on the wing when the first is shot at. If but one bird flies, and but one barrel is fired or snapped, the birds shall in no wise be scored, whether hit or missed, but the party shooting shall have two more birds; or if both birds fly and are broken with one barrel, he must shoot at two other birds.

Rule VII. Ties. - In case of a tie at single birds the distance shall be increased 3 yards and shall be shot off at five birds. In case of a second tie the distance shall again be increased 3 yards, and this distance shall be maintained till the match is decided. The ties in double-bird shooting shall be shot off at 15 yards' rise, at three pair birds each, and in case of second ties three more pairs each at 18 yards' rise, and so on until decided. In all cases both traps must be sprung at the same time.

Rule VIII. Time at the Score. - A participant in a match shall hold himself in readiness to come to the score when his name is called by the scorer. If he is longer than five minutes, it shall be discretionary with the referee whether he shall allow him to proceed further in the match or not.

Rule IX. MissFire. - Should gun miss-fire or fail to discharge from any cause it shall score as a last bird, unless the referee finds, upon examination, that the gun was properly loaded and the miss-fire unavoidable, in which case he shall allow another bird.

Rule X. Loading Guns. - In case of breech-loaders the party called to the score shall not place his cartridge in the gun until he arrives at the score. In case of Muzzle-loaders the party called to the score shall not place the cap on his gun until he arrives at the score. No one but a contestant has a right to challenge.

Rule XI. Referee. - A referee shall be appointed before the shooting commences. The referee's decision shall be final. He shall have the power to call "No bird" in case any bird fails to fly, and may allow a contestant another bird in case the latter shall have been interfered with, or may, for any reason satisfactory to the referee, be entitled to it. If a bird shall fly toward parties within the bounds in such a manner that to shoot at it would endanger any person, another bird may be allowed; and if a bird is shot at by any person besides the party at the score; the referee shall decide how it shall be scored, whether a non bird shall be allowed.

## APPENDIX D-

## THE FLYING CLAY PIGEON

## RULES FOR SHOOTING

(1880-1884)

The following are the first set of rules for clay pigeon shooting. They were devised by the Ligowsky Company and accompanied each Ligowsky trap sold from 1880 to about four years later.

1. Traps and Rise - All matches shall be shot from screened traps. Rise for single and double birds to be ten yards. In double bird shooting the traps shall be placed four to six feet apart. The direction of the flight of bird shall be varied for each consecutive shot.
2. Scoring - When a person is at the score and ready to shoot, he shall call "Pull", and should the trap be sprung without his having given the word, or, in single bird shooting should more than one bird raise at a time, he may take the bird, or birds, or not; but if he shoots, the bird or birds shall be charged to him. The party at the score must not leave it to shoot, and must hold the butt of his gun below his elbow until the bird or birds rise; and in case of infraction of this provision, the bird or birds shall be scored as missed.
3. Rising of Birds - The shooter, when he is at his mark ready to shoot, shall give the caution, "Are you ready?" to the puller, and then say "Pull". Should the trap be pulled without the word being given the shooter may take the bird or not; but if he fires, the bird shall be said to be taken. If, on the trap being pulled, the bird does not rise three feet high and ten yards distance, it is at the option of the shooter to take it or not; if not, he must declare it by saying "No bird"; but should he fire after declaring, it is not to be scored for or against him.
4. All birds must be broken in the air to count; that is, the shot must knock at least a plainly perceptible piece out of the bird in the air, otherwise it shall be called a lost bird.

5. There shall be no restriction as to size of shot used (17 and 8 are recommended), but the charge of shot shall not exceed one and a quarter oz. Dixon measure. Anyone using larger quantity of shot shall forfeit all rights in the matches. After a gun is loaded and challenged, and the shooter discharges his gun, the penalty will be the same as for overloading.
6. Flight of Birds - In single shooting, if more than one bird is liberated, the shooter may call "No bird," and claim another shot; but if he shoots he must abide by the consequences. In double shooting both birds shall be on the wing when the first is shot at. If but one bird flies, and but one barrel is fired or snapped, the birds shall in no wise be scored, whether hit or missed, but the party shooting shall have two more birds; or if both birds fly and are broken with one barrel, he must shoot at two other birds.
7. Ties - In case of a tie at single birds, the distance shall be increased five yards, and shall be shot off at the five birds. In case of a second tie, the distance shall again be increased five yards, and this distance shall be maintained till the match is decided. The ties in double bird shooting shall be shot off at five double rises. Ties shot off at fifteen yards rise, at three pairs each at twenty yards rise, and so on until decided. In all cases both traps must be sprung at the same time.
8. Time at the Score - A participant in a match shall hold himself in readiness to come to the score when his name is called by the scorer. If he is longer than five minutes, it shall be discretionary with the referee whether he shall allow him to proceed further in the match or not.
9. Miss-fire - Should gun Miss-fire or fail to discharge, from any cause, it shall score as a lost bird, unless the referee finds, upon examination, that the gun was properly loaded, and the miss-fire unavoidable, in which case he shall be allowed another bird.
10. Loading Guns - In case of breech-loaders, the party called to the score shall not place his cartridge in the gun until he arrives at the score. In the case of muzzle-loaders, the party called to the score shall not place the cap on his gun until he arrives at the score. No one but a contestant has a right to challenge.

11. Judges and Referee - Two judges and a referee shall be appointed before the shooting commences. The referee's decision shall be final. He shall have power to call "No bird" in case any bird fails to fly, and may allow a contestant another bird in case the latter shall have been interfered with, or may, for any reason satisfactory to the referee, be entitled to it. If a bird shall fly toward parties within the bounds in such a manner that to shoot at it would endanger any person, another bird may be allowed; and if a bird is shot at by any person besides the party at the score, the referee shall decide how it shall be scored, whether a new bird shall be allowed.

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR THE 1904 OLYMPIC GAMES

## CLAY BIRD SHOOTING.

### PROGRAMME.

### ORDER OF SHOOTING.

#### FIRST STAGE.

1. **Individual Competition.** (First Stage.)  
Each competitor shoots at thirty birds, in two rounds of fifteen.
2. **Team Competition.** (First Stage.)  
Teams shoot at thirty birds per man, in three rounds of ten.

#### SECOND STAGE.

Fifty per cent. of the original competitors retire.

3. **Individual Competition.** (Second Stage.)  
Each competitor shoots at twenty birds, in two rounds of ten.
4. **Team Competition.** (Second Stage.)  
Each team shoots at twenty birds per man, in two rounds of ten.  
Thereafter five birds per man are fired at from unknown traps.

#### THIRD AND FINAL STAGE.

Half the competitors in the Second Stage qualify for the Third Stage.

5. **Individual Competition.** (Third Stage.)  
Each competitor shoots at twenty birds in two rounds of ten birds.  
Thereafter ten birds per man are fired at from unknown traps.
6. **Team Competition.** (Third Stage.)  
Each team shoots at forty birds per man, in two rounds of twenty birds. Thereafter ten birds per man are fired at from unknown traps.

## PROGRAMME, RULES AND CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

### AMATEUR DEFINITION.

Any person who shoots or has shot in public as a means of livelihood, or who engages or has engaged in the teaching of shooting as a means of livelihood, or who has shot in any competition open only to professional shooters, shall be deemed a professional shooter.

### ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS.

Individual competitors will be required to sign the declaration appended to entry forms vouching for their own amateur status. Captains of teams will be required in like manner to vouch for the amateur status of all the members of the teams they enter. The governing bodies of clay bird shooting will in all countries where such bodies exist satisfy themselves as to the amateur status of competitors entering under their auspices. On any question concerning amateur status, the decision of the British Olympic Council will be final.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS.

#### I. Eligibility of Competitors.

- (a) All competitors must be amateurs.
- (b) Individual shooters of any nationality are eligible to compete, but the maximum number to represent any country is limited to twelve.
- (c) Individual members of teams shall be *bonâ fide* subjects of the country in the name of which they compete.
- (d) Two teams of six shooting members each may be entered to represent a country. Each team may have three reserves, of whom the captain may be one. Captains of teams are not necessarily required to shoot. Reserves cannot under any circumstances whatever be substituted for shooting members after the commencement of the competitions.
- (e) No individual may shoot in more than one team.

2. **Entries** will be made in accordance with the General Regulations of the IV. Olympiad, 1908.

3. **Arrangement of Traps.**—Three traps shall be arranged behind each mark, and there shall be five marks in all. The three traps behind each mark shall throw in different directions, and the shooters shall be kept in ignorance of the particular bird they are to have from any one mark.

4. **Gun.**—No gun of larger calibre than 12 gauge shall be used.

5. **Cartridges.**—Any length of case, and any powder may be used, but the charge of shot must not exceed one and one-eighth ounces by weight (soft or chilled) and no shot larger than No. 6 may be used.

6. **Disqualifying for Excess of Shot.**—The British Olympic Council reserve the right to, and will occasionally, select two cartridges from a competitor when on the line in order to test the same for proper loading, viz., not exceeding one and one-eighth ounces of shot of a size not larger than No. 6. Any competitor disqualified by reason of using an excess of shot will not be permitted to shoot again during the meeting.

7. **Disqualifying for Lateness.**—Any shooter being absent when his team is called upon to shoot shall be disqualified from the competition.

8. **Guns open at the Breech.**—All guns must be open at the breech until the referee, having satisfied himself that the shooters are in their places, calls "line ready."

9. **Unauthorised Discharge of Guns.**—A shooter who, from any cause whatever, shall discharge his gun otherwise than in accordance with the regulations shall be excluded from taking part in any further competition.

10. Competitors must make themselves acquainted with the General Regulations, and also with the Special Conditions applicable to any particular competition, as any infringement of the regulations or conditions renders the competitor liable to disqualification.

### TEAM COMPETITION.

#### CONDITIONS.—TO BE SHOT IN THREE STAGES.

**First Stage.**—To be shot at thirty birds, each shooter at known traps and unknown angles of the continuous fire system, in three rounds of ten birds each shooter.

The order in which the teams shall shoot will be determined by lot.

Two teams, or if necessary three teams, will shoot together, each unit completing a round of ten shots alternately. The First Stage will thus constitute a series of matches. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter.

**Second Stage.**—The teams, in the nearest proportion of half the original number, making the highest scores in the First Stage will shoot in the Second Stage.

To be shot at twenty birds, each shooter at known traps and unknown angles, on the continuous fire system, in two rounds of ten birds each, and five birds at unknown traps and unknown angles on the single fire principle. Competitors stand at No. 2 mark for five birds from Nos. 1, 2 and 3 traps, or at No. 4 mark for five birds from Nos. 3, 4 and 5 traps.

The teams will shoot in pairs, as determined by the original draw. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter on the continuous fire system.

**Third and Final Stage.**—The teams, to the number of half those competing in the Second Stage, with the highest aggregate scores in the First and Second Stages will compete in the Final Stage.

To be shot at forty birds, each shooter at known traps and unknown angles on the team system, in two rounds of twenty birds each, and ten birds at unknown traps and angles on the single fire principle, the shooter standing at No. 3 mark. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter on the single fire principle.

The winner of the match of the Third Stage will be the team making the highest score.

To each member of the team making the highest aggregate score in the three stages, and winning the Team Competition, a gold medal will be presented.

### **INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION.**

#### **TO BE SHOT IN THREE STAGES.**

**First Stage.**—To be shot at thirty birds each shooter at known traps and unknown angles on the continuous fire system, in two rounds of fifteen birds each shooter. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter if necessary.

**Second Stage.**—The competitors, in the nearest proportion of half the original number, making the highest scores in the First Stage will shoot in the Second Stage.

To be shot at twenty birds each shooter at known traps and unknown angles on the continuous fire system, in two rounds of ten birds each shooter. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter if necessary.

**Third and Final Stage.**—The competitors, to the number of half those competing in the Second Stage, with the highest aggregate in the Second Stage will shoot in the Final Stage.

Twenty birds each shooter at known traps and unknown angles on the continuous fire system in two rounds of ten birds each, and ten birds each shooter at known traps and angles. Competitors stand at No. 2 mark for five birds from Nos. 1, 2, and 3 traps, and at No. 4 mark for five birds from Nos. 4, and 5 traps. Ties to be shot off at ten birds each shooter at known traps and unknown angles on the continuous fire principle.

A gold medal will be awarded to the competitor making the highest aggregate score in the three stages and winning the Individual Competition.

### GENERAL SHOOTING RULES.

1. **Arrangement of Firing Marks.**—There shall be five firing marks, five yards apart, and shooters shall stand at not less than eighteen yards from the traps. The marks shall be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, No. 1 being on the extreme left and No. 5 on the extreme right.

2. **Double Discharge of a Gun.**—If a shooter, in firing at a bird, shall let off both barrels practically at once and kill his bird, that bird shall be scored a "no-bird," and if he misses the bird shall be scored a miss.

3. **Referee.**—A referee shall be appointed to judge all matches, and his decision shall be final.

4. **Referee's Duties.**—The Referee shall see that the traps are properly set, and he shall also see that all due precautions are taken for the safety of the trappers, shooters and others.

5. **"No-Birds" from Fault of Throwing.**—A shooter may refuse a "no-bird" if thrown broken from the trap, or if it be not fairly thrown; but a shooter who takes a bird or part of a bird shall be bound by the result.

6. **"No-Birds" if extra ones accidentally thrown.**—In cases where a bird or birds are accidentally released so as to be flying in the air at the same time as the bird or birds at which the shooter is required to fire, the shooter may elect to treat it as a "no-bird."

7. **"No-Birds" from fault of Gun, &c.**—If the shooter's gun, being properly loaded and cocked, fails to fire from any cause whatever, excepting through the fault of the shooter, the bird shall be counted a "no-bird." If the gun misses fire with the first barrel and the shooter fires the second and breaks, the shot shall be scored a "kill"; but if

he fires the second and misses it shall be scored a "miss"; and if he does not fire the second it shall be a "no-bird." If the gun misses fire with the second barrel the shooter shall be allowed another bird, using a cartridge primed and loaded with powder, but without a charge of shot, in the first barrel and a loaded cartridge in the second barrel: and he shall pull the trigger of the first barrel after the trap has been released. In the event of a shooter using a gun in which it is necessary to fire a fully-loaded cartridge to operate mechanism for firing the second cartridge (as in the case of a single barrel automatic gun), should the gun either jam when extracting the first cartridge or miss-fire with the second cartridge, the shooter shall be allowed two more cartridges, and shall fire the first in the air, wide of the bird, after the trap has been released, and the second at the bird. In the event of the bird being killed with the first cartridge a miss shall be scored.

8. "Kills."—A bird to be scored a "kill" must have a piece visibly broken from it whilst in the air. The referee shall be the sole judge as to whether the bird is broken, and any person impugning his decision shall be disqualified from the current competition. No bird shall under any circumstances be retrieved for examination.

### SPECIAL RULES FOR CONTINUOUS FIRE.

9. **Position of Shooters.**—There shall be six shooters for the five marks. Five shooters shall occupy the five marks, and No. 6 shooter shall stand behind No. 1, waiting his turn. No. 1 shooter shall fire first from No. 1 mark, No. 2 shooter from No. 2 mark, and so on in rotation down the line. At, or during the completion of the round, No. 1 shall take the place of No. 2, and No. 6 shall occupy No. 1 mark, No. 2 shall occupy No. 3 mark, and so on, No. 5 becoming the shooter in waiting behind No. 1 mark. No man shall leave his mark till the round is completed.

10. "No. 1" "Pull."—When the shooters are at the mark, the puller shall call No. 1, and the first shooter shall then call "pull," and the other shooters on the line shall call "pull" in the order of their turn to fire on the number of their trap being called by the puller.

11. **Firing out of Turn.**—If a shooter fires out of turn he shall be scored a miss, and the shooter due to fire shall shoot again, the bird being a no-bird notwithstanding Rule 5.

12. **Unknown Angles.**—When the traps are set to throw at unknown angles and there are two or more traps behind each screen, the puller should be informed by some suitable means which trap behind each screen he is to pull, so that the shooter shall be kept in ignorance of the angle at which his bird will be thrown.

### **SPECIAL RULES FOR SINGLE FIRE COMPETITIONS AT UNKNOWN TRAPS.**

13. **Position of Shooter.**—The shooter shall stand at the centre mark and fire at his birds before leaving the line.

14. **"Ready," "Pull."**—When the shooter is at the mark, and prepared to fire, the puller shall call "ready," and the shooter shall then call "pull."

15. **Two Shooters on the Line.**—Instead of one shooter at the centre mark, two shooters may stand on the line at one time, one at No. 2 mark, for the groups of traps one, two and three; and the other at No. 4 mark, for the groups three, four and five.

16. **Order of Releasing Traps.**—All the traps shall be filled before the shooter commences to shoot. The indicator, in addition to showing the group of traps, shows which of the traps in each position to release. The indicator shall be readjusted for each competitor, and shall be capable of producing a sufficient number of combinations to render it impossible for the competitor to know beforehand which traps will be released. In the event of a no-bird being thrown, the trap throwing it shall be at once refilled, and the indicator readjusted.

17. **Regulations Generally.**—In regard to matters of detail, not specifically referred to in the foregoing paragraphs, the shooting will be conducted under the shooting rules of the Clay Bird Shooting Association.

# APPENDIX F

## OLYMPIC AND WORLD CHAMPIONS

### Olympic Games

1900	Paris	-	De Lunden, Belgium
1908	London	-	Ewing, Canada.
1912	Stockholm	-	Graham, U.S.A.
1920	Antwerp	-	Arie, U.S.A.
1924	Paris	-	Halasy, Hungary
1952	Helsinki	-	Genereux, Germany
1956	Melbourne	-	Rossini, Italy
1960	Rome	-	Dumitrescu, Roumania
1964	Tokyo	-	Mattarelli, Italy
1968	Mexico City	-	Braithwaite, Great Britain
1972	Munich	-	Scalzone, Italy

### World Championships

1929	Stockholm	-	De Lumnitzer, Hungary
1930	Rome	-	Arie, U.S.A.
1931	Lemburg	-	Kiskurno, Poland
1933	Vienna	-	De Lumnitzer, Hungary
1934	Budapest	-	Montagh, Hungary
1935	Bruxelles	-	Sack, Germany
1936	Berlin	-	Kiskurno, Poland

1937	Helsinki	-	Huber, Finland
1938	Luhacovice	-	Strassburger, Hungary
1939	Berlin	-	De Lunnicz, Hungary
1947	Stockholm	-	Liljedahl, Sweden
1949	Buenos Aires	-	Rocchi, Argentina
1950	Madrid	-	Sala, Italy
1952	Oslo	-	Grossi, Argentina
1954	Caracas	-	Merlo, Italy
1958	Moscow	-	Eisenlaurer, U.S.A.
1959	Cairo	-	Badrawi, UAR
1961	Oslo	-	Mattarelli, Italy
1962	Cairo	-	Zimenko, U.S.S.R.
1965	Santiago	-	Lira, Chile
1966	Weisbaden	-	Jones, U.S.A.
1967	Bologna	-	Renard, Belgium
1969	San Sebastian	-	Mattarelli, Italy
1940	Phoenix	-	Carrega, France
1971	Bologna	-	Carrega, France
1973	Melbourne	-	Andreshkin, U.S.S.R.
1974	Berne	-	Carrega, France

## APPENDIX G

QUESTIONS CONCERNING DEVELOPMENT OF  
TRAPSHOOTING AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

## DEVELOPMENT:

1. When and where did trap shooting begin in your country?
2. How were the facilities (machines, etc.) designed?
3. When did your country begin competing internationally and in what competitions?
4. How have your teams and individuals done internationally?

## TRAINING PROGRAMS:

1. What do your athletes do to train (practice) for international competitions?
2. Is there a specific training program for trapshooters?
3. How often do competitors shoot, not including competitions?
4. Do competitors include running, lifting weights, swimming, or other sports in their training program?
5. If competitors do other things besides shooting to train, what do they do?
6. Do competitors do any mental training?
7. Does your country have a national training center for athletes and national teams?
8. Is there a national coach or do individuals have their own coaches?

9. How is your national team chosen?
10. Do members of the national team train together?
11. Are the athletes supported financially by the government; or any other organizations; or do they have to finance their shooting themselves?  
To what extent?
12. Approximately how many competitions do the shooters compete in each year? Nationally? Internationally?
13. How are the competitions financed?
14. How many people in your country compete in trapshooting?
15. How are new shooters encouraged by your shooting federation or/and government?
16. Is trapshooting a popular sport in your country?  
Why or why not?
17. Please list any publications where I might be able to find the above information?