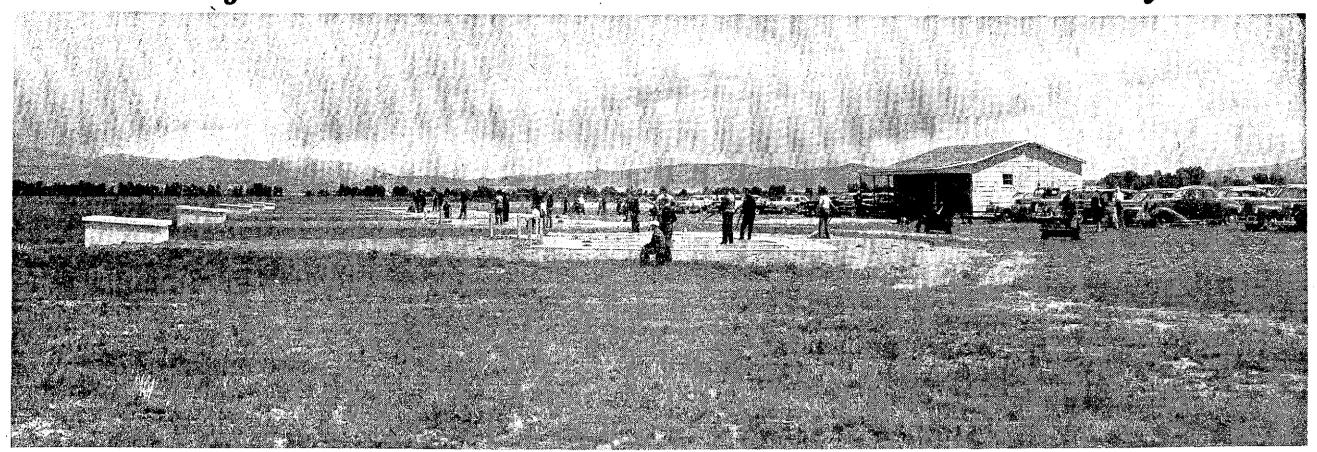
Vol. V-No. 228

Price Five Cents

# Helena Gun Club Host to 54th State Shoot July 16-18



# **Nine Spanking New Traps** Will Accommodate 400 Scatter-Gunners in Day

Top-Notch Trapshooters of Western Area Expected to Take Part In \$1,500 Prize-Money Tournament

The Helena Gun club's new trap is alike. nine-trap range, termed one of the Many outstanding shooters who best this side of Vandalia, Ohio, are competing at Sun Valley this

the mecca of trapshooters, will at- week plan to come to Helena to tract the northwest's finest scat-try their fortunes on the new r-gun artists for the 54th annual range.

State trapshoot July 16-18. The fame of Helena's range has joy of the 65 members, many of spread over the northwest be-whom toiled long hours to make it Carl Carlson. Let me tell you any-

cause of its capacity for more than a reality. 100 shooters a day in five-man

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sets. Buy for 10½-inch double-lipped skil-home use or let with heavy polished, even for gifts. cooking bottom. Will give



This picture shows but a few or the enthusiasts who enjoy their trapshooting at the Helena Gun club range, four miles north of the city. The occasion of this picture-taking bee was the Helena \$100 added-handicap shoot in 1947, one of the first registered shoots conducted at the new range. Some of the state's outstanding trapshooters are pictured here. They will be back this year for the 54th annual State Transhoot this coming weekend. They will find a number of improvement made in past year, too,

Gruner estimates. This new range is the pride and "Much of the work was done by one would have a difficult time telling the difference in the nine

> The range is located four miles north of Heiena on an area of 40 ever call a trap gun a shotgun, Active Shooters acres of land owned by the club no sir! and another 40 acres that are

money it would be worth more

than \$20,000, Secretary George

Arrangements for the new range the gunners view of his target. ame about by force of circum-20 years. They paid taxes on the grounds, tendered rent and "what will you." Finally in desperation and to have a home to call their own they purchased the new site in 1946. And they are not the Trap Shoot. slightest bit unhappy about the

Sam Ballict, A. J. Fiske, T. J. afternoon to allow the gunners is still delivered only by horse of Cronin and M. Manuel shattered more time for get-togethers, tarbirds. There also have been some get shooting or special shoots. considerable changes in the weapons and other equipment.

vere five hand set and hand dulge. thrown-type traps.

old black powder. Each trap had ble to the shooters by a turn of \$1,500 cash in added money exa barrel of water near by. When the head, the barrels got too hot, and they frequently did, the gunners would the program will count for the trap gunners that is.

In all, the Helena Gun club and with its accompanying trip to the its antecedents have had six Grand American shoot in Vandalia. homes. The first was at the Kesslor browery with five hand crowned for A, B and C titles in thrown traps. This range was used the 16-yard singles, handicap and until about 1906 when two traps doubles with husband-and-wife, were set up at the Montana State women's and juniors' crowns also fairgrounds. The gunners returned to be won. to the brewery in 1912 and used. The only event not counting tothat range until 1921 when two ward the grand championship is

The move to the Kenwood range was made in 1925 where four traps, hand set and spring fired, were constructed. The new range was opened in 1946 north

President Bill Kerr, Cliff Stump, Secretary Gruner or anyone of the trap-gun shooters would have a difficult time telling novice what attracts them to the

"It just gets you," they'll admit. A few tips the old-timers pass along to the beginners include "Get a good gun" and forget the past bird, get the next one."

"Pay no attention to what you've got, get the next one,"

gan, an elderly professional who Gus Frazier at 85 resides near Cascade. "The next Is One of Most On the subject of guns, don't

Some of the other experts to be

A rough estimate is that some

clusive of trophies and the various

A trap gun will do anything constitute that a field gun will do but there there are the Helena Gun club is a considerable difference. The bas a 24 by 36 feet clubbours at the 56th has a 24 by 36 feet clubhouse trap gun has an air cooled rib along the shooters at the 54th with lockers, a cashler's room and kitchen facilities.

Arrangements for the new range the support view of his target week.

"Shotguns just won't take it in here are Earl H. Colson, Jr., of stances. The gun club members trapshooting," says Gruner, who Tacoma who averaged 98.44 birds were unable to secure a satisfac has fired more than 40,000 rounds out of 100 in 3,000 shots last tory title for their Kenwood range with his weapon in the past 20 year: Arthur Meehan of Spokane, Hugh Crossen of Gardiner, win-

Along with other preparations, per of the 1947 Montana shoot Helena Gun club members have and the Grand American handi-150,000 rounds of ammunition— cap at Vandalia; Ted Renfro of and more in reserve-and 170,000 Dell and Ray Loring of Vandalia, targets for the 54th annual State manager of the American Trapshooting association.

The gunners will be called to their positions by a public address Horse Express The new range is a considerable system. The shooting will start at Supai, Ariz.—This U. S. post ofchange from the first traps used 8 o'clock in the morning Friday fice in an Indian community at the post of the Change of the Change convenience. by members of the Helena Rod and, because of the nine traps, will the bottom of the Grand canyou not completed until 1933. and Gun club when Del Cooper, conclude about 4 o'clock each is one of the few to which mail

Gene Boyle of Cut Bank has Rod and Gun shoot of 40 targets been named cashier of the shoot. This is one of the traditions of the The first annual State trap- He is going to be busier than a State trapshoot in its sponsorshoot was staged in Helena in doubles shooter when he starts to ship under the Montana State 1896, according to Secretary Gru- figure the prize money, regular Sportsmen's association headed by er, at the range to the west of optionals, wolf optionals and Cal-John Alley. Kessler's brewery where there cuttas in which the gunners inwhere in the neighborhood of

Dewey Hinman and Cliff Ray- one half the entries will win some "I can remember setting traps less will be field captains with prize or other during the threein 1901 for Fred Kessler, one of referces appointed to call out the day shoot. The remainder will get the early day members of the Hel- doleful word of "lost" or the their satisfaction out of some fine ena Gun club groups," Gruner re- happy news of "dead" to the gun-shooting on a top notch range and ners at each trap. Secretaries will the renewal of friendships. "That was in the days of the record the results on boards visi- The prizes are to be shot at-

Twenty-two of the 23 events on optionals selected by the gunners, stick the barrels in the barrels." grand championship of Montana There will be class champions

traps were set up at Fort Harri- No. 5 on Friday. That is the Butte

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#### Helena Club Boasts But One Champ, State Has Several

Despite its active role in the history of Montana transhooting, the Helena Gun club has had only one state grand cham-

Many long years ago in 1920, Pat H. O'Brien won the state and then went on to Vandalia to win the North American doubles with 92 birds out of

Last year's champion was Hugh Crossen of Gardiner, who won the singles in addition to the combined crown. Bob Poore of Butte won the handicap and Ted Renfro the doubles.

Harbor Is New

Haifa---(P)-The deep water harbor for Haifa, Palestine, was

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### More Than 20 Tons Recovered From "Placer Mining" When trapshooters gather, lead

scattered from breakfast to herever good birds go, as they skim out of the traps at a speed of from 40 to 50 miles an hour Some of the lead is recovered

**Trapshooters** 

Scatter Lead

Bv "the Ton"

when the club members decide is is time to placer mine the rang Just before the Helena Gun cint noved to the new range north of the city the Kenwood range was worked for lead. Workers sluiced seven tons of pellets from the earth. This brought to more than 20 tons the amount of lead taken from the range in its 20 years of

For a mathematical problem Peters professional trapshooter, to determine how many shots vill be presented by the Montana were fired, just divide one and State Sportsman's association im-one-eighth ounces into 20 tons. nediately following the finish of That doesn't include the amount

the Montana State Handicap cham-that was not recovered. The birds, made of clay, disintegrate and return to the earth

from whence they came.

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Ken Beegle, famous Remington-

nionship shoot at the Helena Gun

Beegle will stage all sorts of

hooting for the amazement and

amusement of the gunners and

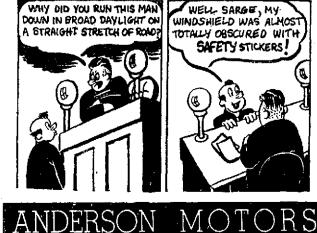
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