



1963 PHOTO FLASHBACK

MAY

## SPORTSMEN OUTDOORS



BY FRED DARBY

To some it may seem odd for that I should end my writing about the old year writing about other unnecessary incident in the outdoors involving young boys and firearms.

This incident was brought to my attention not long ago by a sportsman in the area. He said, "I like the name, why not call him Fred. Fred who has many other sportsmen in the area that have bounds and retrieves make great use of the area along the Credit River for exercising their dogs. This practice has been sanctioned by the Department of Lands and Forests."

On this occasion Fred had his dog in the valley south of the Graham Bell place. Not long after his arrival on the scene Fred was surprised and downright scared when a bullet hit so close to his head. After his initial shock Fred turned where the shots were coming from and made a wide sweep around towards this area. He did not think a younger member of the Dalton's and the 14 boys had started their hunting trip all over again upon arriving at the source of the gunfire. He discovered two boys age 16 and 15 having a grand time shooting at something in the air. Fred could not see any game in the leafy tree branches, dead leaves, bushes and trees. When he approached the boys, one prior to be the survivor, the other a little shocked to find that someone had been hit not of his own accord. 22 of semi-automatic .22's. When their ages were given the older and more bold one would not agree with the younger one who gave him age as 15. After discerning the boy had inspected the two firearms. He found one to be the proven semi-automatic, the other an older single shot and in good a shape. Fred gave both a lengthy talk on the uses and the safe handling of same. Both boys departed with their rifles, one the older boy had promised to contact one of the sportsmen Fred had mentioned to him and apply for the Hunter Safety training course. The other left with the Chris Castor look of concern for the whole thing and it's only to comment because his but had been spoked.

This incident is not unique

in the valley. In fact the

other day a boy of 15

had a bullet hit his

hand while hunting

in the valley. The

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