

smoke out the degree of preference for present (pre-war) combinations of calibers and actions, we wrote to each respondent whose first preference was for an existing combination (30-06-bolt, 35 Remington-pump, 30-30-lever, etc.) asking what his choice would be if he could have any caliber in any action. (*)

Here's what happened:

57.7% stuck to their first selection, both caliber and action;

5.6% stuck to their original choice of caliber but expressed a preference for some other, not previously offered action;

25.4% stuck to their first preferred action but wanted a caliber different from that first desired; and

11.5% abandoned their first choice entirely.

2. Regarding calibers -

- that, in center fire, 30-06 caliber is most preferred by the respondents for their new rifles, with 30-30 second. .270 Winchester third, 300 Savage fourth, and 35 Remington fifth. The top twelve are as follows:

<u>% of Total Preferences</u>		
1.	30-06	20.99
2.	30-30	15.04
3.	270 Winchester	10.44
4.	300 Savage	8.14
5.	35 Remington	7.00
6.	22 Hornet	4.80
7.	257 Roberts	4.59
8.	250-3000	3.33
9.	30 Remington	2.71
10.	2R Lovell	1.98
11.	300 Magnum	1.67
12.	32 Remington	1.36
	All others	17.95

Caliber popularity varies materially with shooters' "ratings" - i.e., the "gun nuts'" opinions are quite different from those of sportsmen who seldom shoot, as shown below:

(*) A period of time ranging from one to two months elapsed between the first questionnaire and the follow-up.