



From the collection of Jim Corbett

This carbine has all standard features of the 30 caliber saddle carbine and bears the U.S. and ordnance markings as on number 852119. A large amount of research has failed to uncover any records of U.S. purchases of the model 94; the War Department, National Archives, etc. have no records, nor does Winchester. The serial number of this carbine is 850277; other numbers of carbines with the U.S. marking occur near the two carbines shown here. An advertisement for the Salvation Army, or another organization in a newspaper published in World War One showed some American soldiers lined up for coffee and doughnuts; one of them had a model 94. While it has been said that the model 94 was only issued for foraging use, it is not likely much foraging was done in World War One.

Winchester was pretty busy in World War One, but production of the model 94 continued all during the war, as you can see by the production figures at the end of this chapter.

The model 94 came on the market at an opportune time; the world was pretty troubled from 1894 to 1919. Wars between the Chinese and Japanese, America and Spain, England and the Boers, Russia and Japan, Balkan Allies and Turkey and World War I occurred in this period.

ROUGH DRAFT OF LETTER TO BE SENT TO ALL TRAVELLING REPRESENTATIVES.

March 30, 1917

Dear Sir:

~~You are doubtless aware of~~ the international situation now confronting us and the prospect of war with Germany, which has caused considerable activity on the part of citizens throughout the United States in the direction of forming rifle clubs and the organization of "Home Guards" for protection to life and property.

The State of Connecticut has just organized the "Home Guard" which is independent of and has nothing to do with the National Guard. Already, the enlistment in the Connecticut Home Guard is over 10,000 and, of course, a Home Guard, or any military organization, is powerless to do anything in the way of protecting life and property without arms.

The Home Guard of Connecticut will be armed with Winchester rifles, Models 1894 and 1895, and as other States have already started to organize, and ^{more} others will follow, it is a certainty that there will be a considerable demand for arms of some description.

The object of this letter is to suggest that you get in touch with such organizations in your State and render ^{such} assistance as you can in the direction of organizing such bodies with a view of securing their orders for arms. We are prepared to offer a limited quantity of the following:

- Model 1894 carbines .30 caliber 20 inch round barrel
- Model 1894 rifles .30 caliber 26 inch octagon barrel
- Model 1895 muskets 7.62 caliber
- Model 1897 Riot guns 12 gauge Take Down
- Model 1911 shotguns 26 inch barrel
- Model 1912 shotguns 12 gauge any length barrel
- Model 1907 rifles .351 caliber



92



WINCHESTER BENNETT, President & Treasurer
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WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF RIFLES, SHOTGUNS AND SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., U.S.A. April 24, 1917.

(SENT TO "A", "S" & "B" GUN HOUSES)

Gentlemen:-

We are delivering a great many of our Model 1894 Rifles .30 Cal. for use by the Home Guard and other military organizations.

In most instances we find that the money for these arms has been appropriated by the local, city, county, or state governments, and the money is usually appropriated for these arms after they have found themselves unable to secure arms from the national government.

In view of these circumstances, and the very large volume of business represented by orders of this kind if secured by you, we are calling your attention to it at this time to make this suggestion:-

That you circularize your salesmen and certain customers in your territory in such a way as to actually check up what is being done in this direction in each town in your section.

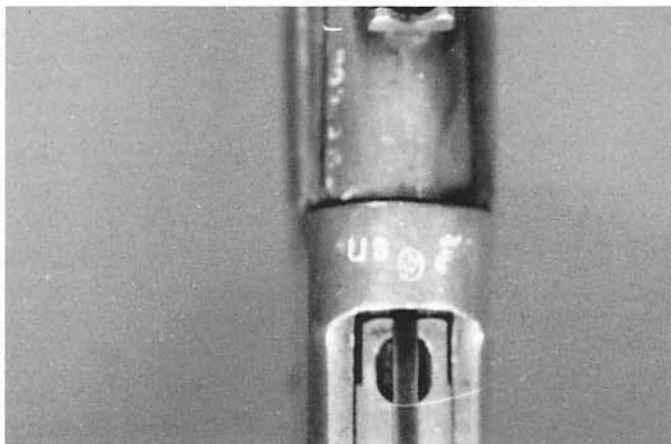
In most instances these rifles are required for immediate delivery. We are in a position to make immediate delivery of the model designated in the following styles: Carbine, with 20" round barrel; Rifle with 26" octagon barrel.

We are also in a position to furnish ammunition for this arm immediately. Wire or telegraph us if there is anything further we can do in this connection.

Yours respectfully,

Winchester Repeating Arms Co.

Two letters sent by Winchester to dealers and representatives of the company in 1917. The March 30 letter offers a number of models; by April 24 only some models 94 remained on hand.



From the collection of Earl F. Benedict

The model 1894, while most famous as a sporting arm, saw more serious duty in the hands of guards at defense plants during World War One. It was issued to troops guarding U. S. borders, and some models '94 were in the hands of U. S. doughboys when they landed in France. Models '94 marked in this way are rare; this one is number 852119.