continued until all players were on the same team. Our lawn was not a good place to play the game because it dropped off as a steep bank at one end of the house but we played frequently anyway.

Harry and I frequently played with what can best be described as a cross between a sling and an arrow. First we made the arrow or dart from a thin wooden strip. With a sharp pocket knife, we fashioned a long, round shaft from all of the strip except about two inches at one end. The shaft was 12-15 inches long and we tried to make it as straight as possible. From the end that we had left undisturbed, we shaped the fin by whittling away most of the wood. After the arrow was completed we balanced it across a finger to find the center of gravity. At that point on the shaft, we cut a notch angled toward the point.

The next part was easy. We selected a green, straight branch from an oak or cherry tree, cut it about two feet long and stripped all the leaves from it. We then tied one end of a two-foot length of strong twine to the small end of the branch and tied a large knot in the other end. We placed the twine in the notch of the arrow and pulled it through until it was stopped by the knot. By holding the fin in the left hand and the end of the "sling" in the right, then using a quick, whipping motion, we could hurl the arrow to surprisingly great heights and distances. We never aimed the arrow at any target. Rather, we just enjoyed watching it go as high as we could hurl it. We always played that game in our pasture field because it was easy to lose an arrow if it came down in weeds or brush.

We also enjoyed making pop guns from materials which we could find with little difficulty. We always looked for a rapidly-growing sumac or elderberry bush. For the barrel, we selected a section of the trunk or a straight branch about 3/4 inch in diameter that had a foot or so between nodes. After we cut it to length, we had to remove all of the pithy center portion. This required a bit of ingenuity because we didn't have the tools which would make the task easy today. We used screw drivers, lengths of heavy wire and anything else that might help. Next, we whittled the ramrod from a board or straight stick. One end was left too large to pass into the bore of the barrel but the remainder needed to be small enough to pass into the barrel easily. It was cut to a length which would extend to within about 3/4 inch of the end of the barrel.

We usually made our pellets from the roots of a plant that grew only in swampy areas. Those roots were quite large and they were firm but pithy in texture, just right for making pellets. We shaped the pellets so they were a bit larger than the bore of the barrel and about 3/4 inch long. We forced one of these into the end of our