

Pesotum, Ill.
April 18, 1966.

Dear Sir:

I received your name from a Mr. A.T. Foster of Canada. He and I do a bit of swapping once in a while, both of us being interested in old traps.

I've lived on a farm all my life, have trapped since a boy of eleven. Being considerably older now and bothered with arthritis a good bit I can't go at trapping as I used to.

So collecting traps keeps me close to my favorite and only sport.

I have over the past eight or nine years come across several hand forged traps. Some are fine specimens of the old blacksmith's art, some are not so good. Have several sizes, one as large as a #6 Newhouse. This one was owned and used for a long time by E.N. Woodcock, of Potter County, Pa. You have undoubtedly read his stories in the old Hunter Trader Trapper magazines and also his books.

No two of these traps are exactly alike so I won't try to describe any of them here but should you be interested in buying or trading for any of these I'll be glad to give a rather detailed description of whatever you might like. I could make snapshots if you wish.

I am of course always on the look out for any trap that is in any way different than anything I now have. Any size, make, or model, mouse to bear, if it's a trap I'm interested. Even the old wood mouse and rat

traps are of interest, preferably with the lettering etc. on them being legible.

I would very much like to buy or trade for one of each size of the old F.C. Taylor Fox Letter guns. One a 22 and the other 38 calibre.

I'm hoping some day to get some of the Gibbs dope traps which were made for use in the west on coyote. These coil spring traps had an arm attached to them that came up when the trap was tripped. On the end was a cyanide capsule which when bitten by the trapped animal, caused a quick death. You may have seen them somewhere in the past.

I have an old magazine here showing and advertizing the Krago clutch trap which was made at Missoula, Mont. This one doesn't even look like a trap. Would like to get one or more of these too.

Better close for this time, hoping I may hear from you, especially if you are interested in any of the hand made traps I have here.

With best regards I am

Sincerely Yours

Arnold R. Koss
R.R.
Pesotum, Ill.