

# Carlisle's

## CORRECT SHOES

X-RAY FITTINGS

for men, women and children

Phone 881

420 Norfolk Avenue  
Norfolk, Nebraska

February 21, 1957

Mr. G. Harry Stine  
1100 Circle Drive  
Las Cruces, N. M.

Dear Harry:

By now you should have received the batch of boosters, and I hope they got to you in good shape. I am sure interested in knowing how they worked--any blows??? My guess is that they worked ok. The amount of delay needed will be of interest to me. I tried to give you an assortment of delay times, so you could tell me which was best.

To day our area has been clobbered by a first class snow storm and blizzard. This kind of weather puts a crimp in the shoe business, so my brother and I spent the day building a couple of models of the Parabee I and ParabeeII. And are they slick looking!!!. I told you that my brother is a model plane builder---and inspite of the fact he is my brother---he is a good builder. He can do wonders with a chunk of balsa. The wonderful plans you sent were followed, and I am sure they will go. I took them over to a druggist friend of mine, and they weigh 60grains under an ounce. This weight includes everything but the powder in the booster. All ready to fire they should weigh about one ounce even. The MarkII weighs 10 grains over an ounce and a half. I can hardly wait to shoot them, but with all the wind and snow I will have to wait a day or so.

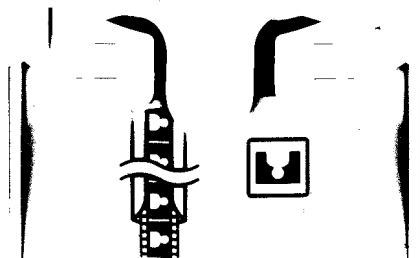
I made the bodys from a couple of sheets of linen writing paper that I swiped from my wife. I enclose a piece of it. This kind of paper worked the best, as it did not stretch and wrinkle up when I smeared the paste all over it. The socket for the booster was inserted in the tube while the tube was still damp. When it dried it sort of shrunk down tight around the socket and holds it solid.

I don't think a booster socket of balsa will stand the flame of the expelling charge. I made mine from a piece of ash. Will let you know how mine flys.

There are so many things I want to write about, I don't know just where to start:!!!.

Your interest in the thing, and your fine letters and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Honest, I had no ulterior motive for sending the batch of Rock-A-Chutes to you. My main thought was that if any one would appreciate it, you and the people you work with should. I won't bore you with any details, but the thing has taken a lot of my time and effort since 1953. And I do not begrudge

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one moment spent on it. It has been fun, and I have received quite an education in more ways than one!!

Your remarks about setting up a company to put the Rock-A-Chute on the market sounds good to me. And tho my local chamber of commerce members will hate me for ever, I cant think of a bet tet place for a rocket to be shipped from than Las Cruces--THE ROCKET CAPITAL OF THE WORLD!!!

Now in regard to who has seen the rocket. I have told you about my friend Mr. Brown of Zenith Fireworks Co. I will say that he is not interested in taking it on. But I do think that we could have him load the boosters--I am sure he would do it.

Over a year ago I sent pictures and a description of the rocket to a man in Chicago, who knows all the fireworks people. He in turn sent the pictures and information on to United Fireworks Co. United wrote a short note on my letter 'I don't think I am interested in this'. The man in Chicago returned everything to me--also the note.

Then I sent pictures and information to another fireworks co., an outfit named 'Rozzi's' in Ohio, I think. They never even bothered to acknowledge my letter.

Another time I wrote Flying Models, asking them if they would like to have me write an article on solid fuel rocket motors for model airplanes. I also sent them pictures of the rocket, After a few weeks they wrote me and said that they did not have need for such an article.

So the upshot of the whole thing is that the fireworks people think of it as fireworks, and are not interested. And I might add that the fireworks people have their troubles. South Dakota, which has been wide open in regard to fireworks has just this week outlawed everything but cap guns. And so it goes. This leaves 6 states that are open.

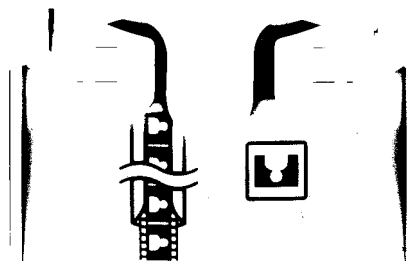
But is the Rock-A-Chute fireworks?? The laws are so screwy that it is hard to understand them. The basis seems to be that if it has powder in it, it is fireworks. Which, naturally, makes me see red!!

It is possible to ship to certain persons--like you--or to clubs and organizations who are responsible--sometimes they must get a permit from their fire chief.

I think it could be sent to schools and institutions for class work in science--etc.

So after being stopped from shipping the complete Rock-A-Chute, anyplace in the U.S.A., I got the idea of making it up in kit

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form, and let the buyer load his own rockets. With my instructions and a little time, it is possible to make good boosters. Not quite as high powered as the ones I am sending you, but good enough for the average rocketeer. It would give him some information and tools that he never had the chance to get before.

Now in regard to the value of my patents. I know how those things work out. And that is what makes this country so great. I think I have something good--and a guy down the street comes up with something better. And that is alright with me. That keeps us on our toes. But at least we have some protection, and I felt that some was better than none. And then I don't think my well is dry yet either--I have a few ideas to work on too.

You mentioned 'Know How'. That is important too. In the years that I have been working with this thing I have tried and discarded several dozen ideas. All which looked good, but under test did not pan out. I refer to one part--the protection of the chute from damage by the expelling charge. The best, cheapest, simplest and quickest way I have come upon is the way I am doing it now.

And there is something about working with powder. You have to love the stuff to make it work the way you want it to. Don't think I am trying to be dramatic--far be it from that---but you have to know it and know what it can and will do---if worked right.

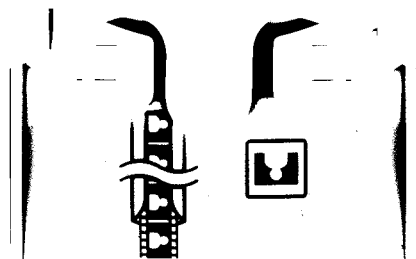
There are plenty of outfits in the country where we could get the parts. My friend Mr. Brown has automatic machines for turning wood parts. He could shell out the plugs for the nose of the Mark II, and the booster socket plugs. He offered to do it for me if I wanted to go into the thing myself. We can get the Plastic nose (like I use) right from the man who makes them. He sent me 150 gratis when I wrote him and told him what I wanted to do with them.

But a big field for the Rock-A-Chute would be as a demonstration unit. I think of all of the air shows, and promotions that go on at the big bases and airports all over the U.S.A. And the model airplane meets all over. It seems to me that working scale models of the many missiles would sure put kick into any promotion.

O Yes, I also sent pictures to an officer-(cant think of his name, but have his letter at the store) the officer was head man of the Army Airforce Air Development Command--or some such wheel. He wrote me, and advised me that the 'item was interesting, but did not fulfill any airforce requirement'. He sent the information on to Wright Airforce Base for filing. Ha. In the junk box, no doubt.

But none of these people, except Mr. Brown has ever seen the Rock A-Chute work. It may be that I don't write plain enough!!!!.

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The price of the out fit would depend on how many we got set up to produce. The important thing would be the price of the loaded booster tubes. They could be made in say 3 different power sizes. And you could have 3 prices, depending upon the size.

I know that this new Parabee will go on a much lighter load than the old charge 3. If you get to much soup in them, the kid will lose the model for sure. I have the surrounding area well decorated with red plastic chutes, myself. But what they will buy is the high powered loads--and they will pay 15 or 20 cents, I think. The large loads for Jetex run about 20 cents a shot.

At any rate, I will 'lay low and say nothing'till we can come up with some sort of deal. Or you may show the thing to some one who is already set up, and we can sell it to them. It would be quite an undertaking, but with the right combination I think we could click.

I know a lot depends upon who shows what to whom, and when. You come in contact with people who this thing appeals to. But to have a shoe salesman show it to him--that is something different.

It is about time I brought this to an end--but when I get to talking Rock-A-Chute I keep right on spouting.

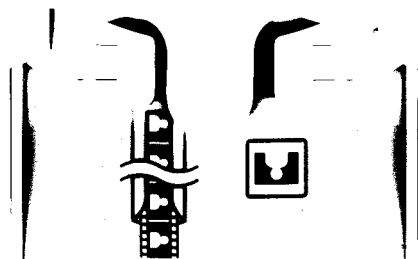
My neighbor just brought me a copy of the March Issue of Friend's Magazine. There is an article in it about a rocket club in California shooting--what looks to me like zinc dust and sulfur rockets. I think the Rock-A-Chute will go as high, look better, and come down safer than what they have--without all the expense. The things look dangerous to me. I tried some of that zinc mix once in small rockets, but was not impressed. Did not work it right, perhaps.

Let me know how the boosters came through, and how they worked out for you, when you have time.

Thanks again for your letters, and all of your help.

Best regards, *Orville Carlisle*  
Orville Carlisle

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Smart Paste on and used kind Paper on. If you  
don't, Paper will stick to and you'll never get it off.



Roll this way for one body.

Roll this way for one stem.

2 pieces this way for one stem.

2 pieces this way for one stem.

2 pieces this way for one stem.

2 pieces this way for one stem.

Thank you