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SNIPING BY TELESCOPE—German snipers are said to be better shots than the English because their rifles have telescopic sights which are illuminated at night. This statement is reported by a writer in *The British Medical Journal* (London), to have been made by a British sergeant on furlough from France. To quote directly:

"This device, he stated, placed them at a great advantage as compared with our own men, who, he stated, had no such aids to efficient marksmanship. We are well aware that telescopic and mirror sights are delicate and easily damaged, and are in consequence not well suited for general military use. There seems, however, no valid reason why picked shots detailed for special duty should not be provided with the most effective sights which exist, even if the rifle so fitted require special care. Several optical sights have been devised, and some of them have done excellent service in match shooting. They may be divided into three classes—the use of lenses without any tube, as in the early aerial telescopes; the employment of lenses to give a reference-line, with or without optical aid, the so-called collimating sights; and finally, telescopes, prismatic or otherwise, complete in themselves with arrangements for elevation and deflection, and with means for ready attachment to the rifle. The best known telescopic sight is that of Dr. Common, which he perfected in 1901; as regards principle it has not been improved on. The Zeiss prism telescope-sight is really a small periscope; it has the disadvantage that considerable light is lost in the prisms, far more than in a simple telescope. In this sight, and in the similar Goerz prism-sight, means are provided for illuminating the cross-wires at night."

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