

TRIGGER TALK

IN A MANNER of speaking, this issue of GUNS is dedicated to the guy who is the mainstay of the gun game—very simply, but logically enough, to the guy who likes guns, likes shooting, wants more guns and better shooting. We don't have a story portending the immediate demise of our Ordnance Department because the Russkies have invented something new. We don't cry "wolf" because American shooters weren't top dog in international competition. We don't shoot off rockets in all directions about some earth-shaking thing, but instead have trotted out a stable of pacers, standard guns-and-shooting stories with, we hope, new twists.

But this enjoyment of stories about guns is in jeopardy right now. Clubs are appealing to the shooters of many states to write to their legislators about the new crop of anti-gun bills.

It is up to the individual gun fan, and voter, to show his elected law-maker what the facts are by writing or wiring him at the state capital now. Or the privilege to own guns may cease to exist, and the arguments or "what bullet?" and "what rifle?" will become but a memory—pros and cons like, for instance, the writings of two star Canadian outdoorsmen, Lee Straight of Vancouver and Bert Stent of Summerland, practically next door neighbors, one of whom preaches the merits of bigger guns for small game, while the other preaches the value of smaller guns for big game. For the shotgunners, Charley Askins comes up with some novel findings on patterns and power of the big magnums. His long, hard look at claims of 100-yard waterfowl-killing performances with shotguns merits close reading.

A sense of "how to do it," sort of a fun with guns theme, also runs through other stories. Bill Thompson's "How to Buy a Gun" is long, but about as brief as he could make it and still touch on important points. Thompson, who works closely with GUNS' staff in Chicago, has owned thousands of firearms, never could afford to hang on to them. The tips he gives on buying a used gun, or selecting a new one, are based on hard-bought experience.

Tech Editor Bill Edwards offers some unusual tips on fitting up a Colt revolver, partly based on an interview with Arnold "Goodie" Goodwin, custom service department manager of Colt's. Edwards worked in the Colt assembly department for about three weeks in 1947, wrote the story to show Goodie that he did learn something there after all, before getting fired.

Next month we have a gem of a story, an article illustrated with amazing photographs stripping bare the legend and mystery about the gunmakers' most jealously guarded secret. We won't tip our hand on this one, but to get you guessing in the right direction, it describes in exact detail a gunsmithing job you can do, easily, in your own home, with nothing more than your gas stove, an iron plate, and some charcoal.

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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