

JANUARY 1958 50c

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD



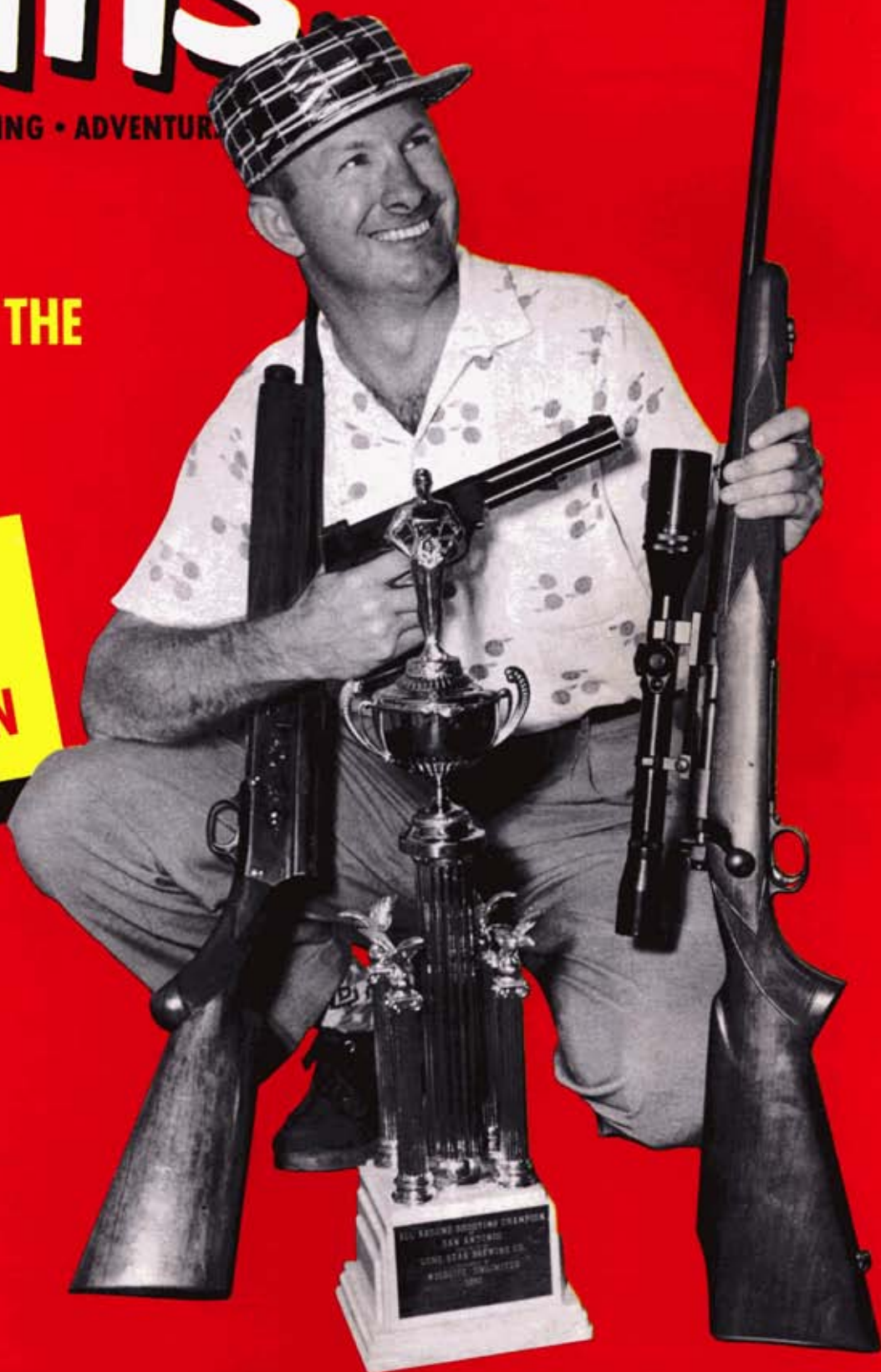
Guns

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FOR SPORT IN THE
USSR**

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A 3 GUN
CHAMPION**

**LONG TOMS
FOR TURKEYS**



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By ALLAN ERDMAN

YOUTHFUL Allan Erdman, of Russia, favors this Tula Mark 13 rifle in 7.62 mm because it brought him world fame at last year's Olympic shooting matches in Melbourne, Australia. Nicknamed "the shooting machine," because of his coolness and accuracy, Erdman appeared to have the big bore event won when teammate Borissov, with 20 shots still to fire when Erdman finished, scored 19 bulls consecutively, most of them in the X-ring, to beat Erdman for the title.

MY FAVORITE GUN



By JOHN BEAUMONT

AMERICAN pistol marksman John Beaumont, from Honolulu, T.H., has represented the U.S.A. at international shooting events and uses his favorite, a High Standard "Olympic" .22 auto pistol. He owns several High Standards but the one he used in the 1956 Olympics was in standard "factory" condition except for a trigger set a bit forward, and a thumb rest grip widened with plastic.

TRIGGER TALK

THERE ARE MANY KINDS of shooting matches, but the San Antonio "triathlon" may set the pace for new, unified competitions all over the nation. The vaunted titles of the oldtimers who claimed to be "World's Best All-Around Shot" may once again be dusted off for the new crop of marksmen in Texas who are proving proficient with handgun, rifle, and smooth-bore all in one competition. Best point of all is that the pistol hot-shot finds tough aggregate competition from the shotgun champ, who in turn finds he has a close challenge from some target rifleman. The "triathlon" is adding new zest to southwestern matches.

With Sputnik sputtering around the world, and emphasis on peacetime developments of the Soviet Union in the press, "Shooting for Sport in the USSR" takes on timely significance. The stories behind some of the newest Russian sporting firearms developments will interest every shooter. So also will the USSR version of gun legislation and regulation.

From Sweden comes a short article which is about as typically "American gun-nut" in theme as it could be—a run-down of practical accuracy and reliability of the more common pocket automatic pistols. Gun-bug Lennart Frastad acquired a sampling of Walther's, Ortgies, Berettas, and other small automatics in .32 caliber and spent a day on the range seeing how they performed. His "control" guns for accuracy were a 9 mm Luger, much-liked in Scandinavia for target shooting, and a S & W K-38. His findings will interest anyone who owns a "souvenir pistol" or likes the pocket autos.

Smallbore rifle shooting is analyzed by long-time competitive rifleman Earl Saunders who manages to analyze the attraction the sport has for enthusiasts, without killing that enthusiasm. And with enthusiasm bubbling over, Harrison Martin pens paeans of praise for the battle-worthy and famous Lee-Enfield rifle, which as war-surplus vended by a dozen importers is becoming a common and increasingly popular rifle for sportsmen in the U.S.

Coming up in future issues will be some unusual stuff. Tech editor Bill Edwards just got back from a five-weeks jaunt about Europe, visiting all the arms factories and museums. Gold-encrusted Boutet duellers, he says, just don't interest him anymore, and he wouldn't walk across the room to look at the newest Russian automatics—he has a couple! The story of this trip, certainly the most unusual guided (or mis-guided) tour in the travel business, is coming up in an early issue.

For the future also is a breakdown of accuracy potential in the high velocity 6 mm's. A follow-through on our controversial "Is the Bolt Action Obsolete?," this new article by Herb Erfurth presents the results of careful shooting range tests. Erfurth checked out representative samples of automatic, pump, lever, and bolt repeaters in their respective 6 mm calibers, and his findings seem to conclude the argument pretty well with facts.



THE COVER

We've seen riflemen who could put 40 shots through one hole, pistolmen (and women) who were members of the elite "2600 Club," shotgunners who could break 100 straight—but here's a champion who shoots all three guns. And a type of match worthy of imitation.

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

JANUARY, 1958

VOL. IV, NO. 1-37

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GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

◆ When thieves broke into his place six times and took \$1650 worth of tools, Gene Wandel of Kansas City mounted a shotgun loaded in a vise, loaded it with a blank and hooked the trigger to a window. Twice the arrangement scared off would-be thieves. But on the third attempt the intruders not only took \$50 worth of tools but the shotgun, leaving behind this note in the vise: "Ha, ha you missed."

★ ★ ★

◆ Comedian Victor Moore tells about the time he was invited to a deer hunt. The first morning out he became separated from the rest of the party. Several hours later he staggered into camp, worried.

"Have all the others returned?" he asked.

"Yes, they've come back," he was told.

"In that case," said Moore, sighing with relief, "I've shot a deer."

★ ★ ★

◆ This is the story they tell in the nation's capital about President Teddy Roosevelt. It seems he had a habit of toting a gun about with him wherever he went. One day after a horseback ride he dashed into the White House, changed into formal attire and dashed downstairs. As he reached the front door someone tried to detain him. "Mr. President," he began, "I'd like to . . ."

"Can't stop now," declared Teddy. "I'm having dinner with the bishop." Suddenly he stopped short, clapped his hand on his pockets and exclaimed, "Good heavens, I forgot my gun!"

★ ★ ★

◆ Chester, Vt. Wildcats have become virtually extinct in much of the country but Heining Fabricius, sawmill operator, still has his fun with 'em. Using a 20-gauge Italian shotgun, he's shot 22 bobcats in the last year . . . and collected \$220, there being a \$10 state bounty on wildcats.

★ ★ ★

◆ Hackensack, N. J. Mickey Mantle, the Yankee slugger, slams a baseball like a bullet . . . and David Sassano knows how it feels. Mr. Sassano became so excited when he saw Mantle hit a homer on television that he pounded his fists on the counter of a store, causing a .32 caliber revolver on a shelf behind the counter to fire. It struck him in the shoulder.

★ ★ ★

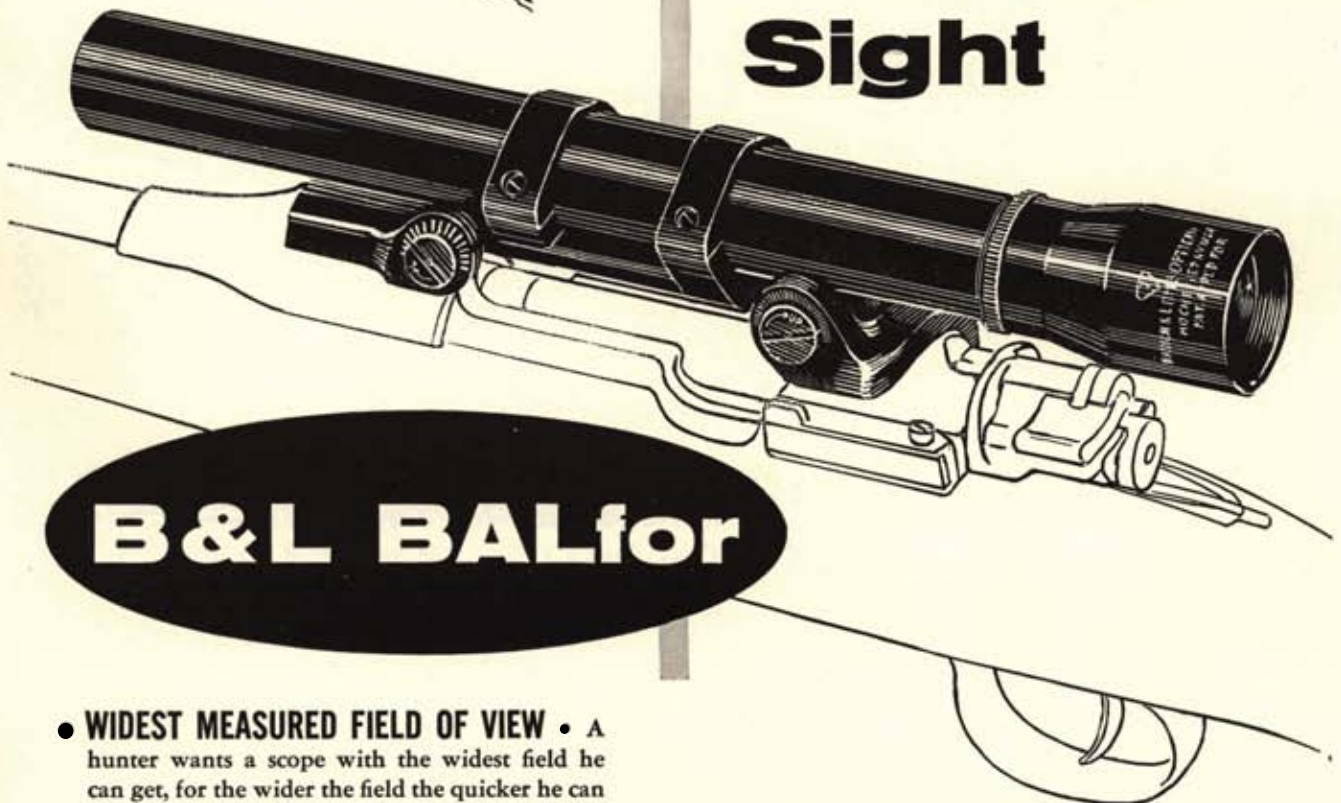
◆ Gardiner, Me. George Hewitt, 67, owns a mobile hunting lodge. He bought an old bus and converted it into a cozy cabin on wheels.

★ ★ ★

◆ Brockton, Mass. Eight-year-old Lester Pearson's reason for escaping from his hospital bed, where he'd been taken with a stomach disorder, and running home in the still of the night was as follows: "I just wanted to get home to my new rifle—and mom and dad."



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CROSSFIRE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader Wants Help

Maybe you can help me in my search. Johnny Baker, step-son of Wm. F. Cody, the "champion boy shot of the world," had a shooting match with a man by the name of Hart. I don't know his first name. Johnny was a young man; Hart an old man. Hart won this match that must have been held sometime around 1885. Hart died in 1895 at 65, I believe. He was my husband's grandfather. He disappeared from Missouri about 1872 or 1873. He was left handed and a fine shot. He won all kinds of shooting matches. There was, I am told, a story in a magazine about this shooting match between Hart and Johnny Baker, published in 1947 or 1948. I would be so thankful if you or your readers can help me on my search for this article.

Mrs. Lester Miller
Overland, Missouri

Faster Than Ojala?

In reference to the March issue of GUNS, page 8, letters discussing fast draws, vs. article on page 18:

Your quick draw contributors should meet my friend, Two-Toes Haggerty sometime. His measured speed is .1623 seconds, which is faster than Arvo Ojala.

J. H. (Pile-Driving) Needer
Seattle, Washington

Cheers for the Carbine

Hurray! At last someone has a good word for the little M1 Carbine. I enjoyed Mr. Maxey's article to the hilt. I do not own a M1 or M2 carbine, but I think the poor little thing should be given a chance.

I have one little bone to pick with the article. The magazine holds not 14 but 15 shells. Also, one little fly in the ointment is the 17.75 barrel length which does not comply with Federal Firearms laws.

I got quite a kick from the pro and con discussion about the Thompson SMG for police work in the August issue. You have a fine gun magazine. Keep up the good work.

John Miller
Marietta, Ohio

Welcome Elmer Keith

Very happy to see my good friend, Elmer Keith, associated with your magazine. I am one of several I know subscribing to GUNS. Received my first copy this month and it is excellent; in my opinion, second to none.

G. E. Murphy
Accuracy Bullet Company
San Francisco, California

Ranger Volunteer

Upon getting my latest issue of GUNS I noticed the article on "The Texas Rangers Still Ride." I am a native Texan and have

always looked up to the Rangers. I was and still am thinking of joining the police force in November providing I pass the exam to qualify. This article on the Texas Rangers has helped me immensely on my decision. Here's hoping the articles of the other police forces and state troopers when read, will help someone on both sides make the big decision. In November I will be twenty-one. I enjoy your magazine very much because I love guns and hunting. Thank you.

Marlin Shoemaker, Jr.
San Antonio, Tex.

Common Sense

Congratulations on the article "Long Shots Don't Make Good Hunters" by Clifton Camp, in your October issue. It's a great relief to read some common sense for a change, instead of the hogwash turned out by most of the self-styled experts.

Clifford Smith
Rockport, Maine

Pleased Reader

Just a little note to tell how much I really enjoy your magazine, GUNS magazine. It has so much information about firearms. I have had your magazine sent to me for almost a year now, and I really enjoy reading it very much. From now on I will have my subscription renewed each year.

Ross McKenzie, Jr.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

That Mis-Captioned Picture

The second (middle) picture on page 35 of your November issue, is very nice but I don't think the Hi-Standard people will like it. The Smith & Wesson Company makes many fine pistols, but that's not one of them. It's a Hi-Standard Sentinel. I know; I own one.

You've got a fine magazine and it's got something for everybody. You've got a lot of ads, but some of them have good gun values and are very helpful.

I'd like to see an article on the history of the design and development of the Sharps rifle in one of your future issues.

R. J. Armstrong
Grinnell, Iowa

Ben Franklin, who not only knew a good deal about printing but was a man who attained a position of some respect, said, "No piece of printing is complete till Error hath crept in and fixed thereto his sly imprimature." That's another way of saying, "There's many a slip 'twixt ye editorial desk and ye printing press." We really do know that Sentinels are made by Hi-Standard, not Smith & Wesson. If we hadn't known it, that November issue would have been a good textbook, with Sentinels fore and aft! But who are we to make a liar out of Ben Franklin? . . . Seriously, we're sorry.—Editors.



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Elmer Keith says . . .

Shooting Glasses

Few of us like to wear shooting glasses; in fact, I seldom do when hunting, as they get steamed up in cold weather or wet in rain or snow, impairing vision. But it is imperative that you wear them when working with any unknown quantity in rifle loads. I have several friends whose vision is badly impaired from a case failure in high power rifles. While this seldom occurs with rimmed cartridges, it has occurred very often with the rimless type, particularly in Springfield and Winchester-type bolt actions and many others.

Even when the cartridge is perfectly head-spaced, one can run onto a soft case. I have found them in all makes, particularly in all commercial makes. When you get a soft case, the primer pocket is usually enlarged, and sometimes the flash hole as well, allowing gas to come to the rear. This may drive fine particles of molten brass back from the case and ruin your eyesight. At Ogden Arsenal, where I fired tons of .30-06 ammunition monthly, about one in every three to ten thousand service loads would show a soft case. When this occurred, the case head would turn into the belted form and the primer pocket would be greatly enlarged, allowing plenty of gas to come to the rear, sometimes wrecking the stock on the rifle. As these rifles were held in machine rests, no harm was done; but had the shooter laid his head down on the stock in normal position, the story would have been different. I formed the habit of wearing the big shooting glasses made by Mitchell Optical Co. all the time I was firing, and several times they saved my eyes during the three years I was in charge of proof firing and final inspection at that arsenal during the late war. There are many good makes of shooting glasses on the market, any of which will save your eyes from a soft case, enlarged primer pocket blow-back or from a hard case that is brittle and may rupture from excessive headspace. Shooting glasses can be ground to fit any prescription.

Just how soft cases occur I do not know, but I strongly suspect that an occasional case gets turned wrong-end-to when the neck-annealing operation takes place, so that the head of the case is annealed instead of the neck. In spite of the finest machines and equipment and the utmost care by the loading companies, the human element is bound to creep in and careless inspection allow such cases to get to the loading machines. We have had rifles brought to us in about all makes and with about all makes of cartridges, where a soft head case had either wrecked the rifle or blown off the extractor and collar and frozen the rifle bolt. The companies always hasten to make restitution of

rifle and damage, but the fact is it can occur, and the shooter whose vision is protected saves his or her eyes.

We have even seen bolt action rifles carried all day in a hard rain until the bolt so filled up with water that, when we fired the rifle, the pressure squirted water back in the aiming eye with such force as to temporarily blind it. I remember once shooting at a bull elk some 60 yards above me in dense timber. I killed him, but water squirted back out of the bolt on that Springfield-action .400 Whelen with such force that I could not see out of that eye at all for several minutes. The dead bull rolled down the mountain almost on top of me. Fortunately he was dead; I could not have seen well enough to do any thing about it had he been alive!

Shooting glasses would have saved me that painful experience.

Hand or Custom Loads

Moody's Reloading Service, 1016 No. Warren St., Helena, Montana, took over the business of furnishing Keith heavy sixgun loads after the death of Dick Tonker and J. Bushnell Smith. Bob Moody has for years been hand loading these heavy sixgun loads with my bullets to order in most calibers and with every success. Bob is a hunter himself, uses his .44 Spl. for a deer gun and has done so for years. We have had many return letters from satisfied customers and have given his loads a thorough test, finding them perfect in all respects. He can furnish them in your fired cases or in factory new cases as desired, in .38 Spl., .357 Magnum, .44 Spl., .44 Magnum, .45 Auto or auto rim, or .45 Colt.

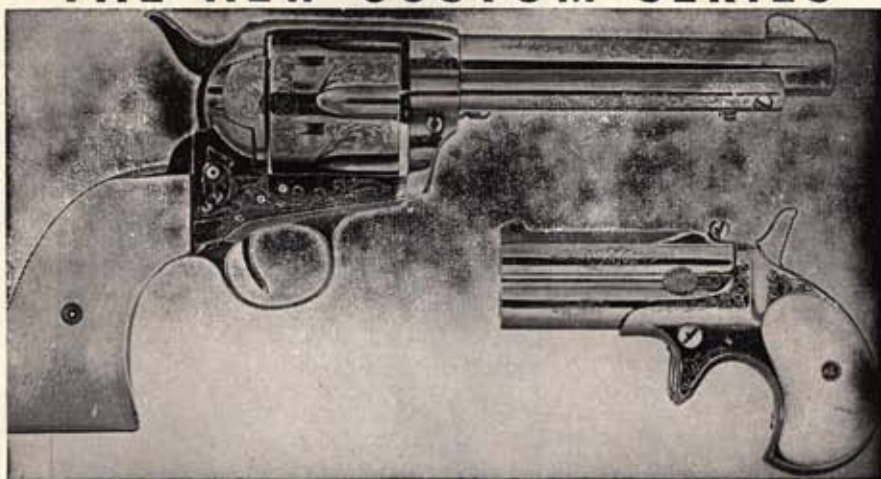
J. W. McPhillips, 285 Mastic Ave., San Bruno, Calif., known as the cartridge case specialist, also hand loads my heavy sixgun cartridges and does a fine job on them. In addition, McPhillips can make up cases for about any rifle cartridge and furnish hand loads for same. He is an expert on case forming for the many different obsolete or hard to get calibers. Write these men if you are having difficulty securing the loads you want for either rifle or pistol.

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Most British Cordite express cartridges can be reloaded with our own cool burning I.M.R. powders to equal velocity and with a much less erosive powder. British cases are primed with corrosive priming but are very well made cases and will stand several reloadings, as pressures of the big Nitro Express cartridges are usually very low. Cases such as the .375 Nitro Express, 400/360, etc., usually take the No. 34 British Berdan cap while the big cases from the 450/400, .450, .465, .570,

(Continued on page 65)

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NOTE Grade I and II guns have all matching serial numbers, including Clips.
ACCESSORIES—HOLSTERS—European World War II with Flap & Cartridge Pouch—Near New Condition **\$5.50**
AMMUNITION—Swedish High Powered Automatic & Sub-Machine Gun 9mm Ammo. \$9.75 100 rds.
EXTRA CLIPS—Brand New **\$7.50**
CONVERSION UNITS—Brand New ERMA .22 Cal. Conversion Units for the above guns, Complete..... **\$39.95**

ENFIELD COMMANDO .38 CALIBER

Six shot 5" Bbl. Double action revolver. Excellent mechanical and shooting condition. Used by the British Commandos.
Nickel Plated Gun Like New..... **\$19.75**
Ammo Box 50 Rds. **\$4.20**



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FAST DRAW HOLSTER

\$650 Postpaid

Genuine Tooled Leather

Beautiful Custom Hand Tooled Genuine Leather Fast Draw Western Holsters. Completely lined with soft suede for the protection of your gun. Available for Colt, Great Western, or Ruger single actions. Any barrel length. Colors Natural or brown.

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Genuine HSC D.A. Autos. These Guns are in near mint condition. One of the finest German Autos Mfg. Commercial blue finish. Fine original grips.
Original German Army Issue Holster for This Gun. New Condition **\$39.90**
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Rare 7" Barrel Model Original German Army model. Adjustable rear sights. Blue finish, walnut stocks. Fine shooting condition.
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GREAT WESTERN SINGLE ACTION

This fine new single action revolver in an exact duplicate of the famous old guns that won the west. —IMMEDIATE DELIVERY—CUSTOM DEEP TONE BLUE FINISH WITH 5 1/2" BBL.

22 Cal. **\$91.50**
38 Special **\$99.50**
4 3/4" Bbl. \$2.50 extra
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DOUBLE BARREL DERRINGER

22 cal. **\$28.75**
38 cal. **\$49.95**
38 Special..... **\$59.95**
Holster **\$5.00**



Excellent authentic reproduction of the famous Remington over & under double barreled Derringer. Blue finish, black checkered grips.

COLT SINGLE ACTIONS

Brand new genuine Colt single action frontiers. Beautiful original case hardened frames and blue finish. Immediate Delivery—

45 Long Colt, 5 1/2" or 7 1/2" Barrels.... **\$125.00**
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These same original Colts custom engraved with beautiful scroll design and genuine ivory carved grips. (Complete as shown)..... **\$195.00**



GERMAN 9MM P-38 \$42.50

Fine High quality German Walther, World War II German automatic. Fires 9mm Luger cartridge. Original near mint condition. Extra clips \$4.70. Ammo 9mm, \$9.50 for 100 rounds. Holster \$4.50. European Army Holster..... **\$5.50**



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We have a few of these genuine Belgium Military Browning Autos. Some have adjustable rear sights. Shoots standard 9mm Luger cartridge.
Nickel Finish..... **\$43.50**
Ammo Box 50 Rds. **\$4.75**
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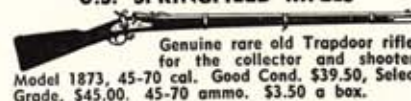


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The Very Latest in Single-Action Revolvers. Custom Blue Finish, Walnut Grips, Full-length Rib, Solid Front Sight, Rear Sight Adjustable for Wind and Elevation.
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Ammo \$2.50 for 20 Rounds. **\$27.50**



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.45 AUTO CAL.

6-Shot Blue Finish Select Grade Guns **\$19.75**
Nickel Plated Gun Like New..... **\$28.75**
Ammo **\$3.25** 50 Rds.



.45 AUTOMATIC

Brand New Unfired Military Model. Complete with Fleece-Lined Case **\$48.00**
Nickel Plated Gun—Brand New..... **\$58.00**
Ammo \$3.25 50 Rds. **\$5.00**



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EARLY & MODERN FIREARMS CO., INC.

12418 Ventura Blvd., Dept. O

Studio City, California

"Beware of the man with one gun" is old adage, but it takes skill with three guns to win this new shooting honor. Byron Mackey displays three guns used and trophy he won as All Around Shooting Champion of San Antonio.

HAVE
FUN
WITH
GUNS

At the traps, Champion Mackey broke a modest but workmanlike 150x200 to pad his total score of 467x600. Gun shown is Browning twelve auto with adjustable Cutts Compensator. Note ejected shell above ejection port.



WANTED:

ARE YOU A SPECIALIST OR AN ALL-AROUND SHOOTER?

HERE'S A NEW KIND OF MATCH, DESIGNED TO PICK A
NEW KIND OF CHAMPION: THE MASTER OF THREE GUNS

By HAL SWIGGETT

THERE'S AN OLD SAYING, "Beware of the man with one gun." There's meat in the adage. A man who has practiced with one weapon, used it under many varying conditions, may learn to do amazing things with it. But a lot of people have talked longingly for a long time about an all-around shooting championship: a match to pick the man who could shoot all three guns—rifle, shotgun, and pistol—at competitive levels.

The average man doesn't realize what an endless variety there is in the shooting sports. Rifle competition includes two guns: smallbore and big bore. Add two more if you consider muzzle-loader and bench rest shooting. Smallbore matches divide into indoor (gallery) and outdoor varieties. Both big bore and smallbore competition may include iron sight and any sight matches, shooting from one or all of three or four positions. Big bore competition includes rapid fire.

Pistol competition involves three guns of different calibers, two ranges, and at least three styles of shooting: slow, timed, and rapid fire. The pistolman may, in addition, shoot the free pistol (international type competition), or still another pistol (.22 short auto) at timed silhouette targets in Olympic-style rapid fire; or he may find himself in a military match including "bobbing" targets.

The shotgunner has two major types of competition: trap, and skeet. He may also compete on "quail walks," "rabbit runs," "passing wildfowl layouts," or various other games. If he's a serious competitor he needs three or four guns of different gauges.

And we haven't so far even mentioned the biggest shooting group of all: the hunter. Here again we divide into great major groups (shotgun and rifle, with pistols coming more and more into the picture), each of which is subdivided into countless subgroups of guns (different actions, different calibers or gauges) based on the shooter's preference, kind of game hunted, and method of hunting. Millions of expert game shots never have engaged in target competition.

The result is that we have developed scores of specialists, men (and women) who can shoot incredible groups with one rifle or pistol, or who can break amazing runs of targets with the shotgun; hunters who are dead-eye-dicks on this or that variety of game. But what about the "nut" who likes to own and shoot all kinds of guns? What kind of competition is there for him?

Pistol Expert Denzil Overman aims big-bore Model 70 at 200 yard target in second stage of 3-way match.



A 3-GUN CHAMPION



Shooting .243 rifle from offhand standing position at 200 yards, Rudy Real scored 132x200.

San Antonio, Texas, decided to do something about this question by staging a three-gun tournament to produce an all-around shooting champion. True, this was a local shoot and the title is a local title; but it's a start in a worth-while direction, a pattern for others to follow. And it was successful.

"In forty years of tournament shooting, I have never seen the enthusiasm shown here today." That statement was made by L. L. "Les" Cline after he had acted as referee of the match that picked the "All Around Shooting Champion of San Antonio." Les has been in the business a long time, in shooting exhibitions, competitive shooting, gunsmithing, and as an official NRA referee.

As you might suspect, it takes something mighty unusual to kindle a flame like that in an oldtimer, and he had just witnessed it. The match included pistol, rifle, and shotgun with only the total over-all score counting. Each competitor fired twenty rounds with each weapon: any pistol, 25 yards, slow fire; any rifle and any sight, 200 yards off-hand, slow fire; any shotgun, in a regulation 16 yard trap event.

The idea for such a shoot came from police Lt. Jack Larned of the San Antonio Police Department. Jack is a pistol shooter and got to wondering how he and other pistolmen would stack up against rifle and shotgun fanciers. Although he is a member of a pistol club, he had no way to set up the shoot because his club didn't have access to a place where all three guns could be fired. He talked over his idea with "Wildlife Unlimited," a San Antonio Sportsmen's Club. They were very enthusiastic about it and undertook the sponsorship. Three months later, the first match took place. It was so enthusiastically received that it is to be an annual event.



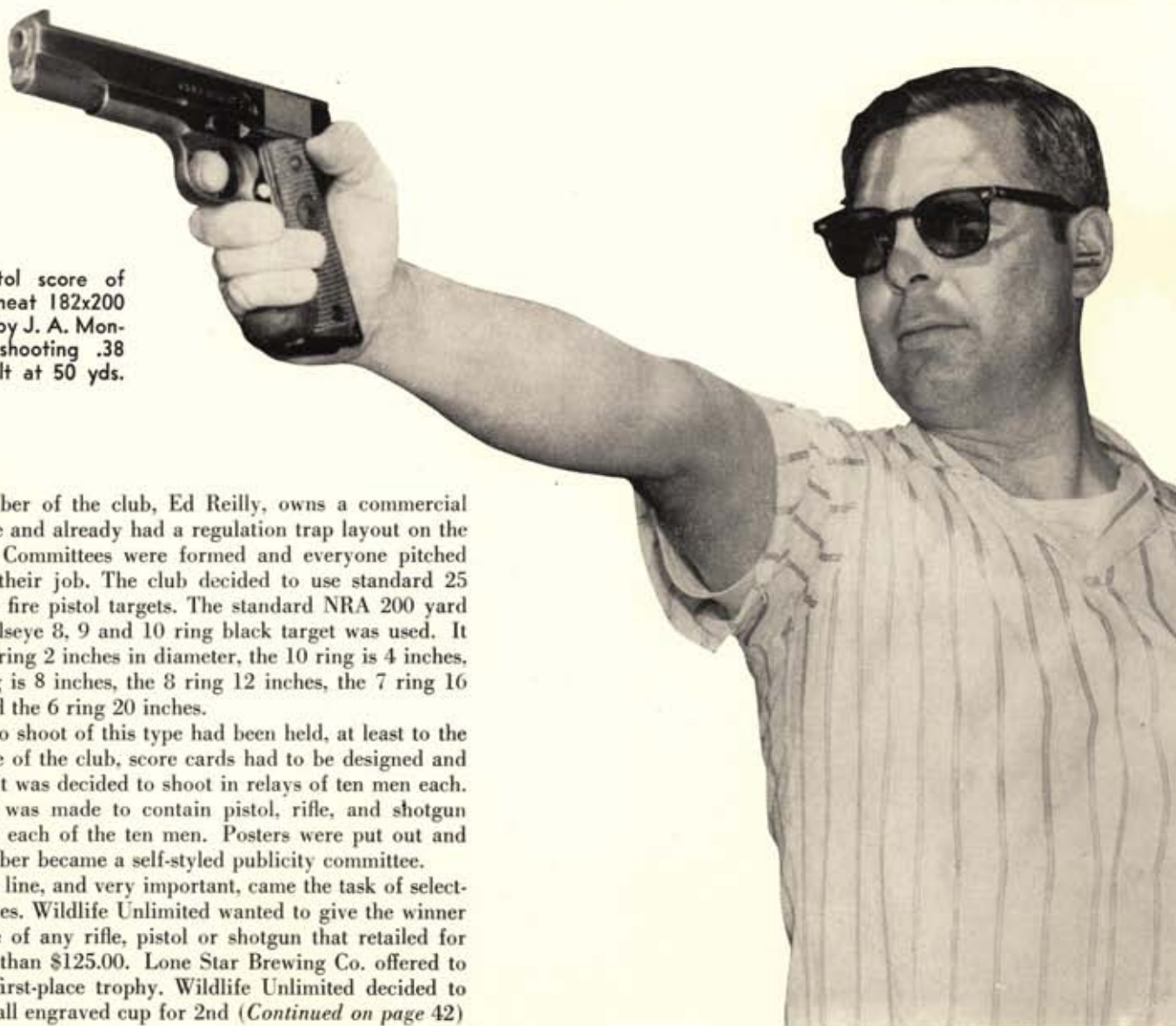
Scoring a close one, Les Cline uses magnifying glass to see if shot cuts scoring ring.



Tension built up as more experienced trap gunners scored, but all around gun skill built Mackey's winning aggregate.



Spectators and contestants alike thronged firing line and scoring hut as high score with one gun offset low score with another to alter rapidly changing overall aggregate.



High pistol score of day was neat 182x200 turned in by J. A. Montemayor shooting .38 Super Colt at 50 yds.

A member of the club, Ed Reilly, owns a commercial rifle range and already had a regulation trap layout on the premises. Committees were formed and everyone pitched in to do their job. The club decided to use standard 25 yard slow fire pistol targets. The standard NRA 200 yard single bullseye 8, 9 and 10 ring black target was used. It has an X ring 2 inches in diameter, the 10 ring is 4 inches, the 9 ring is 8 inches, the 8 ring 12 inches, the 7 ring 16 inches and the 6 ring 20 inches.

Since no shoot of this type had been held, at least to the knowledge of the club, score cards had to be designed and printed. It was decided to shoot in relays of ten men each. The card was made to contain pistol, rifle, and shotgun scores for each of the ten men. Posters were put out and each member became a self-styled publicity committee.

Next in line, and very important, came the task of selecting trophies. Wildlife Unlimited wanted to give the winner his choice of any rifle, pistol or shotgun that retailed for not more than \$125.00. Lone Star Brewing Co. offered to give the first-place trophy. Wildlife Unlimited decided to give a small engraved cup for 2nd (Continued on page 42)

SHOOTING FOR SPORT IN THE USSR

**IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES RECOGNIZE
VALUE OF CIVILIAN SHOOTERS, ENCOURAGE
GUN SPORTS—IF YOU'RE A GOOD SECURITY RISK**

BY JEFF CARTER

A MERICAN SPORTSMEN and, no doubt, military authorities too, have long wondered what Communism has done to the oldest and deepest entrenched of all man's pastimes—hunting. Do Russian youngsters and youths in other Iron Curtain countries still go hunting, in the manner of kids in democratic nations?

They certainly do, according to the Russian shooters who represented the Soviet Union at the 16th Olympiad, staged in Melbourne, Australia, last year. And they go with their government's blessings.

Which is only natural, when you think of it.

Russian military power, rather than the popularity of their ideology, has aided the Soviet's widening sphere of influence in adjoining countries. And military nations have long appreciated the value of civilian-trained marksmen in times of crisis. Army, navy, and airforce training staffs agree that men used to handling firearms in the woods or on club ranges are easy and quick to train for military service.

In 1940, a handful of skilled Finnish riflemen delayed the advance of Russian troops into Finland for several months. From that date the communist authorities have given full support to civilian shooting.

Today, countless Russian, Rumanian, and Hungarian boys spend their weekends shooting hares, foxes, ducks, or other small game in near-country districts. Once or twice a year they may be lucky enough to go further afield in search of bears, wolves, and occasionally deer. Plenty of 50-metre and 300-metre ranges are available to them for rifle practice and target competition, and clay-target clubs for shot gun enthusiasts are almost as plentiful as in the U.S.A.

There is a catch, of course. No one is permitted to own any type of firearm unless he belongs to a shooting club. And Iron Curtain shooting clubs are largely sponsored by the military authorities, who supply ranges, weapons, and ammunition. No person who has any sort of police record can join a shooting club; and since "police record" includes political as well as criminal misdemeanors, Iron Curtain citizens who tote rifles, shot guns, or target pistols are generally good security risks.





After Tula Arsenal change in 1957 to making side-by doubles and Kersten-type over-unders instead of military rifles, factory engineers used hunting as pleasant way to field test guns.



Russian monument idealizes young marksman holding bolt-action .22.



Old style hammer guns and modern doubles with reinforced breeches are used by trio of waterfowlers who "take ten" after sun-up before going home with full bag of ducks.

Inspector checks breech fit on new model Byelka combination gun made in Izhevsk plant. Top bore is 32 gauge, bottom is rifled smallbore. Weapon breaks by pushing guard bow, is liked in Siberia.





Canadian-made Ross E10 straight pull rifles, custom rebuilt at Tula for match use in 7.62 Russ caliber, are used for rapid competition on running deer range.

Caucasian goat with record sweep of horns was downed by hunter shooting Model 94 .30-30. Soviets like Savage M99 rifles in .303 and .22 Hi-Power.



Rifles used by club shooters are chiefly Hammerli free rifles, Menteri-actioned free rifles (usually with Finish Sako match barrels), straight-pull Mannlichers, Czech Brno smallbores and the Russian-made Tula weapons in .22 and 7.62 mm calibres. Pistols are usually Hammerli-Walthers, with a sprinkling of "foreign" handguns, greatly modified to free them from the ills of age (butchered 19th century Colts are not unknown), and a number of Margolin conventional and unusual designs, of which the "upside down" pistols used at last year's Olympic matches were an example. These incidentally, have been banned from future Olympics and may never be seen again. Shotguns used by trap shooters are almost exclusively Belgian-made Fabrique Nationales in 12 and 16 gauges, the latter being most popular for field shooting.

Shooting clubs purchase hunting rights to tracts of farm and forest land on which only members may hunt. The bigger the club, the bigger the area of land it is capable of reserving. No private individual, even if he did manage to obtain a weapon, could legally go hunting behind the Iron Curtain. And hunters seldom get to hunt alone, or even just in twos or threes. Hunts are always organized by the club, and parties usually consist of at least a dozen and often as many as fifty shooters.

There are no individual bag limits, either, as there are here. When a club obtains shooting rights to an area, permission is granted to shoot a given number of bears, deer, hares, or whatever game is offered. For example, a club may have a permit to shoot seven deer on a hunting area for which it has obtained shooting rights. If most members are keen to bag a deer, the club may organize seven different shoots, on different dates, with hunters in each (*Continued on page 43*)



Fourteen European automatics were studied by author for accuracy and general shooting qualities. Frastad shot standing, but used seated-backrest pose in checking accuracy of guns.

WE TESTED THE "POCKET" AUTOS

**SLEEK, FLAT EUROPEAN PISTOLS WERE MUCH
PRIZED AS WAR TROPHIES. HOW GOOD ARE THEY?**

By **LEN FRASTAD**
Photos by L. Jonsson

SOLDIERS SINCE the world was young have been "souvenir hunters," fetching home everything from dames to diamonds. Uncle Sam's wandering warriors are champs (or chumps) in the souvenir department, whether they collect by "liberation" or by purchase with cigarettes or GI chocolate rations. And the first prize in the World War II souvenir grab-bag was—a foreign pistol. Judging by the number of European pocket automatics in this country today, every GI must have come home with his pockets loaded.

Whether these GI collectors were champs or chumps depends

Early Walther Model 4 and "PPK" and "PP" in .32 were tested.





Dreyse auto shot well with Norma ammo, was finely finished, despite odd appearance. First Model Browning fired without malfunctions but grouped $7\frac{1}{4}$ " at 30 yards. Model 1910 Browning was about as effective, had improved design but rough trigger pull. Bigger M1922 made during war had no better accuracy despite longer sight radius.

on how good is the pistol. The price paid is of secondary importance, since cigarettes and chocolate rations were easily come by, and even money was good only for spending. So let's take a look at the pistols.

We couldn't test them all, of course; yours may be an exception. Best we could do was to hunt out fairly typical samples of as many kinds as possible, examine them carefully, test them for accuracy, reliability, power, et cetera—and then offer what we hope is an educated opinion. Some of the results surprised us; some didn't.

German Walthers in the models PP and PPK top all others in point of numbers. Just for the record, those letters PP and PPK stand for *Polizei Pistole* and *Polizei Pistole Kriminal*: "Police Pistol, Detective Model" respectively. Walthers in the PP and PPK models, like the Walther P38's (*Pistole '38*, the 9 mm. official German military side-arm of WW2), vary greatly in quality depending on when they were made and how they were assembled. Both the commercial and military Walthers manufactured before or during the early years of the war contain better metal and much better workmanship than those made late in the war when Germany was forcing her arms output with whatever material and whatever labor was available. But even guns factory-assembled late in the war are better than some of those "assembled" by eager GI's from the parts bins at the Walther plants when these were taken. German mass production, particularly under war stresses, did not produce the close tolerances needed for smooth (or even safe) operation and proper assembly required a good deal of hand fitting. GI-assembled souvenirs didn't get it. Beware of guns showing a variety of serial numbers.

In collecting the guns for this test I picked up samples



Fine Mauser-made Luger with custom grips was used by Frastad, firing NATO-standard fodder at 1360 f.p.s.

Old Ortgies scored high with author on basis of looks but shot as wide as others, 7 1/4", and recoil was bad. Rheinmetall pistol made in Soemmerda scored lowest of all, wide group and bad looks. Pocket Mauser .32 also failed to impress critical gun bug despite fast safety, good pointing. Wartime Beretta proved very inaccurate.

of most of the makes that are commonly encountered, plus a couple that weren't so common: notably the Dreyse and the Soemmerda. I also came across a superbly finished, both inside and out, silver-plated Ortgies in the cellar of the local police station. It was in a heap of confiscated guns slated for the junkyard or a deep spot in the river. Altogether, I was able to scrape up samples of 14 different makes.

They weren't, of course, in factory-new condition, but they were no better or worse than the average for the type of gun. With two exceptions they ranged from good to excellent. The exceptions were the Beretta and one of the longbarreled FN's. Both of these guns were quite obviously war time products. The Beretta had been polished and reblued on the outside, but inside it was a sad example of the machinists' art. The FN wasn't too bad on the outside, but inside there were plenty of toolmarks and the slide-frame fit was very sloppy. Incidentally, this gun had German proofmarks, so it was evidently made after the Germans had voted themselves onto the FN plant's board of directors.

I tested both the Walther PP and the PPK, and also the PP model as manufactured in France; the so-called Manuhrin which is now being advertised for sale.

To get an idea of how these guns stack up when compared to bigger and more powerful shootin' irons, I included in the test a S&W K-38 using standard (870 feet per second, muzzle velocity) ammo, and a Mauser-made 4 3/4" barreled Luger using Norma ammo loaded to NATO specifications (1360 f.p.s.). In the .32's I used Norma commercial fodder (900 f.p.s.).

The accuracy test, which I (Continued on page 52)



Used as control was .38 S&W which author fired from sitting position into 2 1/4" proving he could hold well.



LONG TOMS FOR

SWAP TRADITIONAL "KENTUCKYS"
FOR SHOTGUNS, AND OLDEST AMERICAN
GUN SPORT OF COMMUNITY MATCH SHOOTING
FITS EASILY INTO MODERN LIVING CONDITIONS



Shot pellet nearest to dead center of target wins you a turkey in this old fashioned match with the new twist. Two winners above are set for a feast after the shoot.

TOM TURKEYS

Modern shotguns, mostly cheaper bolt guns and singles, replace classic Kentucky in today's southern turkey shoots.

By CARLOS VINSON

THERE IS NO SHOOTING match more traditionally "American" than the turkey shoot. Years ago in pioneer days, riflemen laid their long Kentuckys across a log rest and snapped off a shot at the head of a turkey exposed behind another protecting log sixty yards off. Or later, when .22 rifles replaced Kentuckys and there were no more Indians to shoot, just small game, the turkey shoot continued, but with a switch. No more did the marksman shoot directly at the turkey. In fact, often the prize wasn't even a bird!

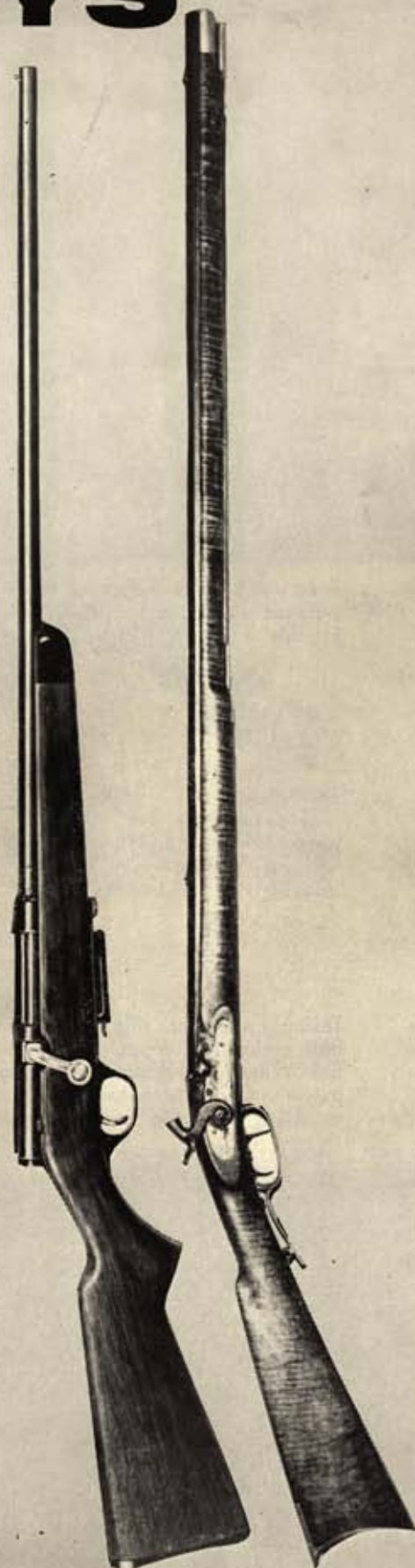
One of the first shooting matches I ever attended was one of these unusual events. It was a .22 rifle match, and two-bit pieces were used to outline the bullseyes on the cardboard targets. At sixty long paces, only open sighted .22's were allowed, fired off-hand, no rest. Hickory smoked country hams were the prizes, and competition was hot indeed. But now a new form of match has taken hold in popularity in the same southern hills where the long rifle once held sway. It's still a turkey shoot, at targets with shotguns. And because of the rules, anybody can play—and maybe win.

At a recent match the line-up carried about every kind of scattergun imaginable. My friend "Poode" Smith squinted down the barrel of his Long Tom 12 gauge and eased off a shot that he hoped would win for him a big turkey gobbler. Next down the line was attorney Howell Washington, with a late model 12 gauge autoloader with a Cutts Comp on the end. Beside Washington stood another fellow holding an expensive new pump gun with raised rib barrel, fancy engraving, everything. Beyond stood other shotgunners, a back-country farmer shooting an old high-hammered double 12 that had been through many a turkey shoot in its time; a dairy farmer shooting a 20 gauge bolt action. On down the line of ten contestants there were modern over/unders, old rusty 12 gauge single guns that kicked like mad steers, and even one .410 top lever single barrel smoothbore. Only light-loaded shells were being used, so I guess the fellows were not afraid to risk shooting some of the guns which are nowadays classed as "unsafe."

And the odd part was, most of those shooting old model guns had left modern, shiny late-model guns at home. No longer will they risk shooting high velocity loads out of the old contraptions, but you can't convince them their old blunderbusses will not outshoot any modern gun in a shooting match. When turkey shoot and "light load" time rolls around, they blow the dust out of the barrels of their rusty Long Toms and get set to win some turkey meat.

And during the past seven or eight years the popularity of the turkey shooting match has soared upward. The idea has spread from the south, and is again catching on in more and more areas throughout the country, and for very good reasons.

It is a sport that anyone able to hold and fire a gun can indulge





Teen agers and their mothers compete on equal terms with the men in this all-family shooting sport.



Taking dead aim, rifle style, with bolt action scattergun, left-hander Bob Wilson (right) prays for lucky pattern. Competitor below tries a squatting stance for steadier hold.



in with a fair chance of winning, and there are no bag limits and "No Hunting" signs to contend with. Comparatively little money is required for shooting match indulgence, and the time involved can easily be that Saturday afternoon off spent at a match held close to town.

A good share of today's matches are a far cry from the shoots of years gone by, but they fit everybody really better than the shoots of yesteryear. I am going to use a match that I attended recently near my home here in Tennessee's hill country as an example of what I am driving at.

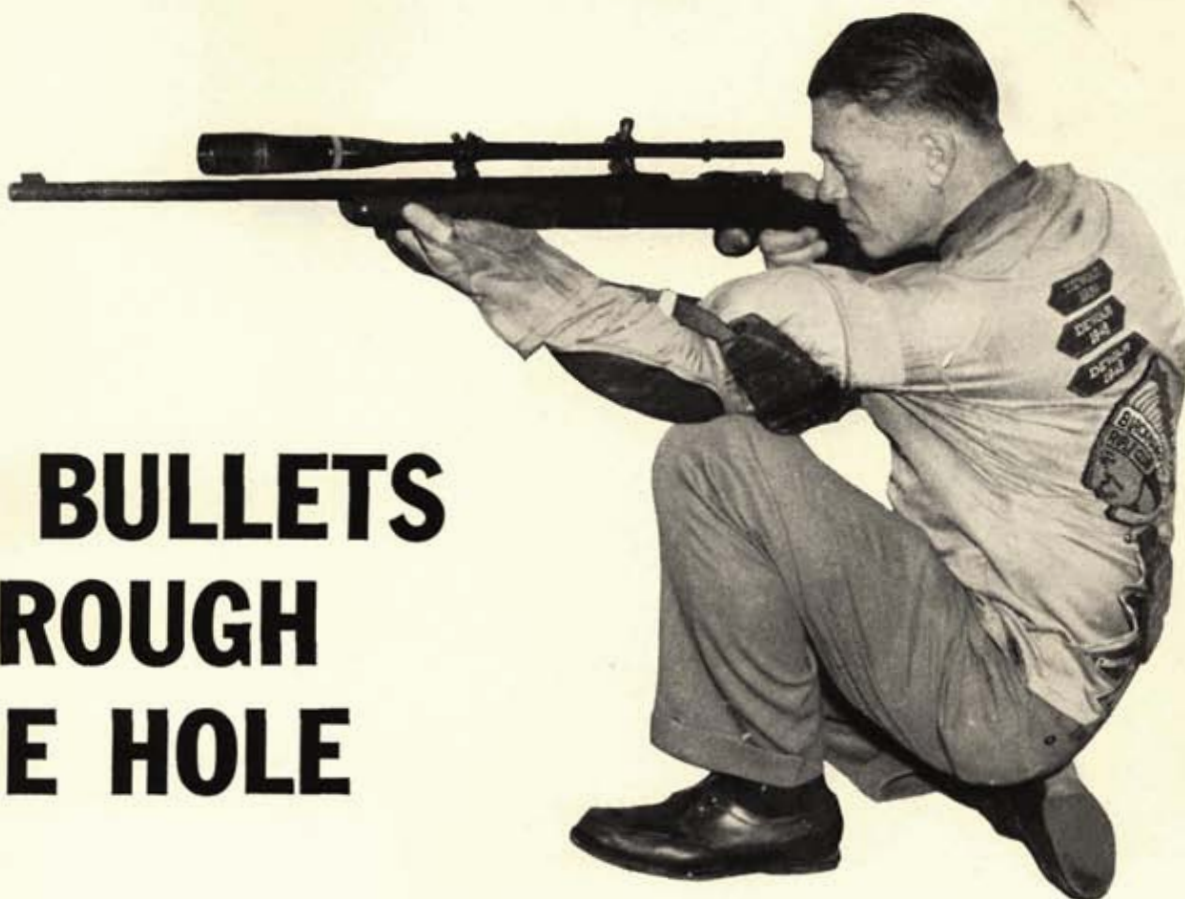
A farmer, Tom Bratcher, had raised quite a flock of turkeys. With feed high and turkey prices low, as they were at the time, he was going to lose money on his bronze beauties if he sold them on the regular market.

Just before Thanksgiving he decided to hold a turkey shoot for shotgun competition only. Most gun and shooting fans are a lot busier people now days than they were twenty-five years ago, and not many of them have the time to indulge in enough rifle practice to make them crack shots with even the .22's. The use of scope sights would be sort of out of place in shooting matches, and with our country becoming more and more thickly settled, ranges suitable for open rifle matches are becoming harder and harder to find.

Tom took all these things and more into consideration, and decided that a shotgun match would be the best way to draw a crowd large enough to dispose of all his turkeys in a match.

A few posters were struck advertising the shoot, and quite a crowd turned out for the event. The range was an open pasture field on Tom's place, and regular .22 rifle bullseye targets were used, tacked on pointed boards driven 30 yards from the firing line. When a contestant paid his fee his name was written on the opposite side of the target from the bullseye, and the contestant was then given one shell and told to take his place along the shooter's line. When ten targets were taken at 75¢ each, each contestant's name was called off as his target was placed on a board, and as soon as all the targets were placed the target boy retired to a safety zone and the "load" signal was given. No loading was done until the "load" signal was given, and contestants were allowed only one shot each at their targets. When loading was completed the "fire" (Continued on page 63)

40 BULLETS THROUGH ONE HOLE



Limber ankle enables author to assume comfortable kneeling position, weight on right heel, instep down. This is a difficult position for a great many shooters to take.

**SMALLBORE RIFLE MATCH SCORES OFTEN EXCEL
CAPABILITIES OF GUN AND AMMO, YET YOU CAN
WIN WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT AND PRACTICE**

By EARL M. SAUNDERS

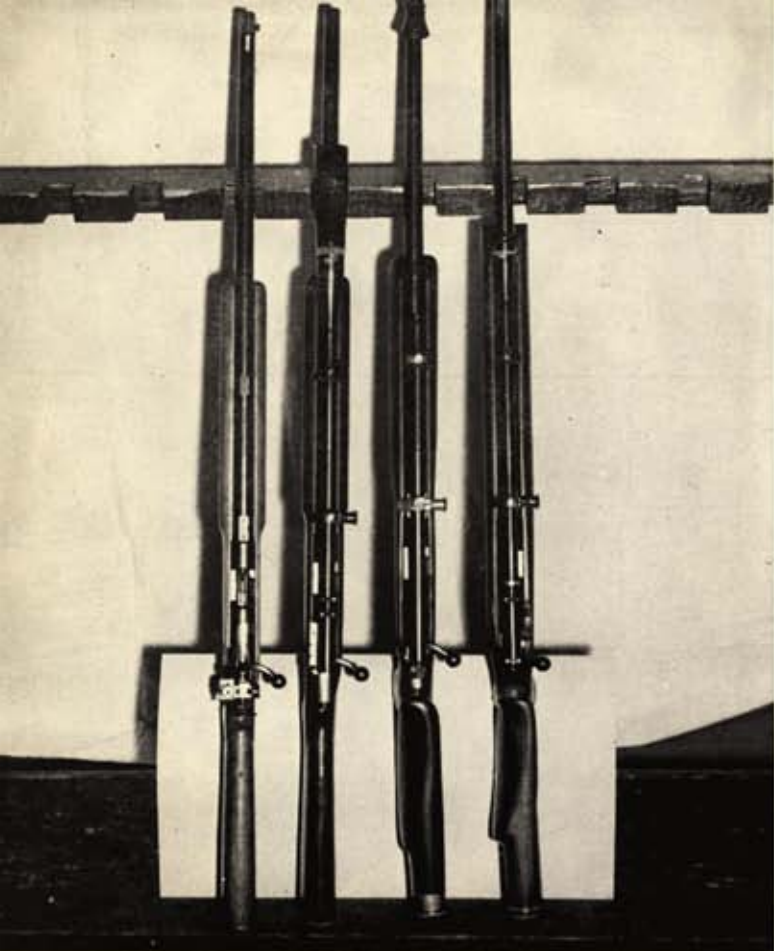
COMPETITIVE SMALL-BORE rifle shooting is the most fascinating, the most exacting, the most exasperating sport I know, but it has the plus factor of satisfying a person's ego better than any other sport.

You don't need to be big, you don't need bulging muscles, you don't need the lightning reflexes of a swivel-hipped All American scatback to be a rifleman. This is a game at which a good little man can beat a good big one—and a woman, or a teen-ager, or a doddering oldster with bifocals may beat them both. But it's not easy. Nobody has ever yet reached perfection, though some fifty thousand of us smallbore riflemen are still trying.

What you do need includes proper equipment, good eyes (or their lensed equivalent), good ears with which to listen

to advice and instruction, and the stubbornness of a mule to back up your will to win with practice. A little luck will help put icing on the cake, too. Luck won't win for you, but if you're holding right and squeezing right there'll be times when an unguessed gust of wind will curve a 9 over into the X ring, or vice versa. The lucky man gets the X; the other man blames it on defective ammunition. Actually, the 40 shots that win a big match often make a tighter group than any rifle or any ammunition will shoot from machine rest. A little luck and a lot of skill and experience add that extra something that makes records and champions.

I named proper equipment first in the list of essentials because it's a simple thing yet one that often puzzles the



Author's favorite iron-sight rifle is M37 (3rd from left) fitted with his own stock and Unertl tube rear sight. Favorite outdoor any-sight rifle is M52 (at right) with Lyman 10X Junior Targetspot scope. Two rifles at left are M37's, factory stocks, one with stock sights, one with Lyman 15X Targetspot scope.

novice and can cause him to miss the full enjoyment of the sport. Take the man who owns a fair to good plinking .22 rifle. On tin cans or small game, he's deadly with that rifle. He gets interested in target competition, enters it with pride in his ability, winds up with a score he feels is disgraceful, and quits—refusing to listen to the veterans who tell him that he's not disgraced or even unusual, that he's simply a victim of two seemingly insurmountable but easily remedied handicaps: wrong equipment and lack of experience. The plinking rifle just wasn't made for target competition.

Just as in golf or any other sport, some basic equipment is needed. Naturally enough, for target rifle competition the first requirement is a good target rifle. It can be any one of several makes, new or used. It must be equipped with a sling and good, adjustable target sights. You'll need a spotting scope, a shooting coat, a rifle-man's glove for your left (or off-trig-

ger) hand, and a shooting cloth or ground mat. The spotting scope is essential to enable you to see where your shots are scoring; the coat is fitted with pads at elbows and shoulder that are essential to your comfort and efficiency; the glove protects your hand from painful sling pressure, and the mat protects other parts of your body. You will want a telescopic sight too, before very long; but the iron sights will get you started.

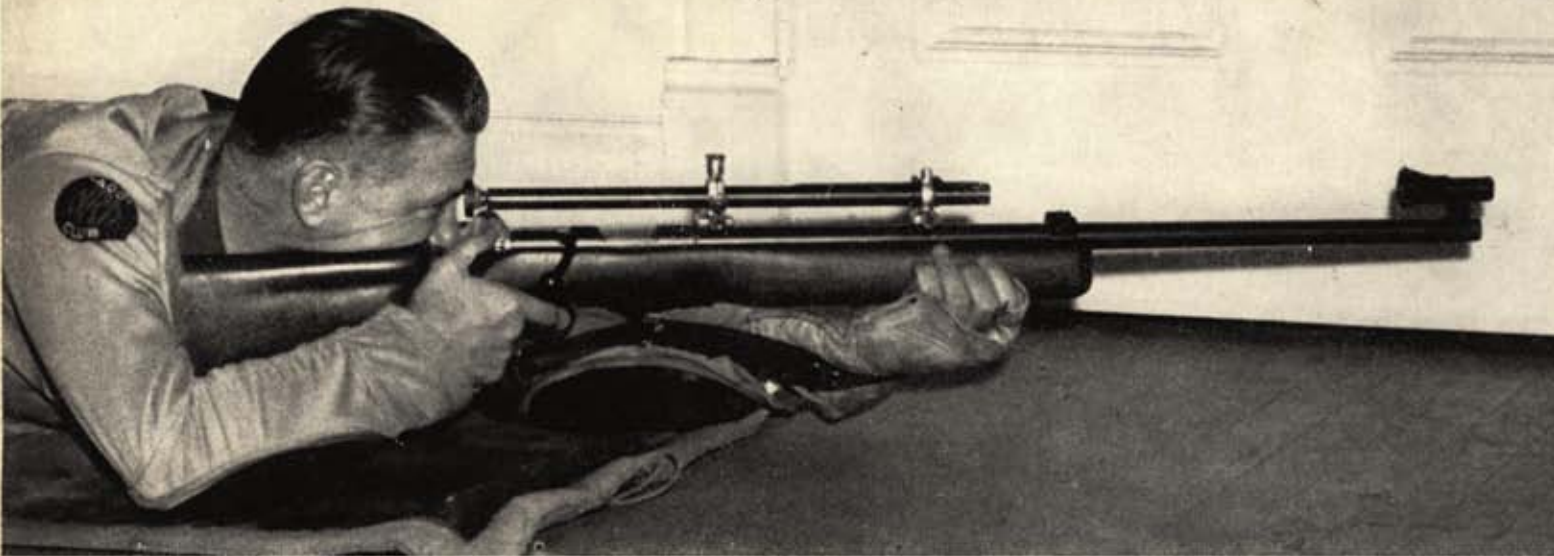
You'll want other equipment as the game exerts its inevitable fascination on you. It's a standing joke among shooters that small-bore riflemen are gadget crazy. Before very long you'll own a sizable case full of equipment, each item guaranteed to improve your scores in one way or another. Some of them will actually do it. As the difference of one point or one X in your scores becomes more and more important to you, you'll try them all, keeping some and rejecting others. They're all good investments. You'll enjoy trying



them; and if you decide against them you can always sell or swap them to other shooters.

Ammunition is another essential item, and most novices know little about it. You don't want high-speed ammunition for target work; you do want the ammunition that shoots best in your rifle. Each individual rifle, even of the same make and model, has its own likes and dislikes in the matter of ammunition, and it's up to you to find the fodder your rifle likes best. Try a couple of hundred rounds of each of several brands of ammunition under match target conditions. If you don't think you're good enough to test ammunition, ask an experienced shooter to help you. He'll do it; target riflemen are always eager to welcome a novice and to help him become a champion. And when you beat your instructor, he'll be the first to congratulate you.

A .22 rifle does not shoot with its maximum accuracy beyond 100 yards, and most .22 shooting is done at 100 yards and shorter ranges, so I recommend using 100 yards as the testing range to find which brand of cartridges is best in your gun. Shots should be fired in groups of ten, and at least two hundred shots should be fired with each kind of ammunition. Measure the groups accurately for size. Even the smallest of such groups may not be satisfactory. If that is the case, it may be necessary to start looking for defects in the gun, checking bedding, headspace, bore wear, and other points affecting accuracy. Your instructor



Nothing very difficult about the prone position except the score you have to make to win. Rifle is M37, Saunders stock, with Unertl tube rear sight.

will advise you, and he will suggest a local gunsmith who will make the necessary corrections.

When a rifle will group ten shots in a one-inch circle at one hundred yards it is considered very good and should not be tampered with thereafter except for readjustment. Not all rifles will do this and you may have to make do with lesser accuracy. This need not bar you from winning matches, because the element of human error has to be considered and it is very difficult for even the best of riflemen to group more than 70 percent of their shots in a one-inch circle at one hundred yards under actual match conditions, even with the best rifles. Test-fire your rifle frequently to make sure it retains its accuracy and point of impact. The accuracy of many guns is affected materially by weather conditions. It may be that a rifle stock will warp under atmospheric conditions, putting uneven pressure on the barrel which could make your groups spread out or shift to a low-scoring position on the target.

Wind and light definitely affect the point of impact. Master riflemen know these things from experience and know what to do under different conditions. They also practice often enough to keep up with others of their ability, so that when entering a match they are quite sure that if their scores are not good enough to win, someone else just happened to be better at that time.

In getting used to a new rifle and determining its accuracy it is necessary to spend many hours shooting it. Do this in (Continued on page 45)

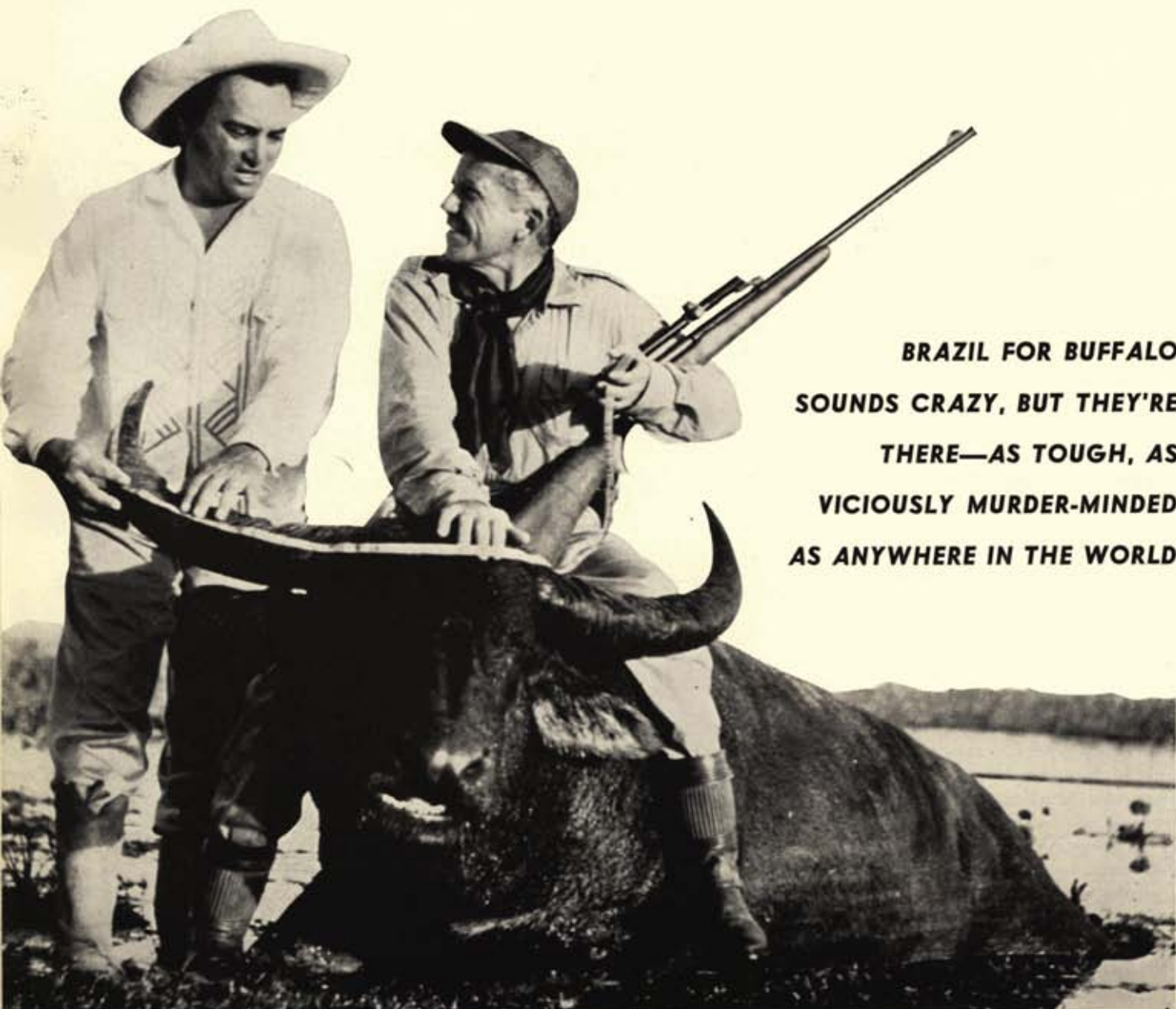
In marked contrast with low prone position above, pretty Joan Leslie uses a high, triangular support for raised position preferred by many shooters.





Wounded water buffalo bull waits in ambush for charge often fatal to following hunters. Natives of India, thousands of these carabao are found on Marajo, small island just off coast of South America. Hunters below measure fine trophy.

Death Wears



**BRAZIL FOR BUFFALO
SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT THEY'RE
THERE—AS TOUGH, AS
VICIOUSLY MURDER-MINDED
AS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD**



Hunting buffalo by canoe is South American variation of the sport. Author (in dark shirt by Bonanza, left) shares farewell photo with visiting hunters and host after hunt.

Horns on Marajo

By WALT WIGGINS

GAME, LIKE GOLD, is where you find it. But if anybody had told me, a year ago, that I would find water buffalo—not one or two or a dozen, but thousands of them—right here in the Americas, I'd have said he was crazy. I know better now. And having faced a wounded bull at close quarters, I agree wholeheartedly with the great hunters who have named this beast "the devil incarnate, the most dangerous animal on earth."

Certainly no creature on earth is more fiery and unpredictable. Powerful, aggressive, the buffalo when maddened is doomsday on foot, capable of hunting its enemy by scent as persistently as any hound, capable even of ambushing its pursuer, its cruel heart set on killing and mutilating the victim's body with both its hooves and horns.

These chilly facts were echoing through my mind as Dr. James Marshall, of Dallas, Texas, and I circled over Fazenda Ribanceira on Marajo Island at the mouth of the muddy Amazon. In Jim's sleek little Bonanza, we had just flown up from Rio de Janeiro—two thousand miles around the coast of Brazil—to hunt on the Isle of Marajo the only wild water buffalo in the western hemisphere.

The wild buffalo on Marajo today number several thousand, all descendants of five head imported by a missionary, Dr. Vicente Chermont de Miranda, some three generations ago. There are over 1500 head of wild *carabao* in this one section of the isle near Ribanceira, and Dr. Irval Lobato, owner of the *fazenda*, had invited Jim Marshall and me and Dr. Armando Morelli, a Belem physician, to help exterminate an ill-tempered bull and two cows which were ranging too close to the ranch headquarters. The bull had attacked, luckily without success, several vaqueros during recent months, and it was just a matter of time until the chip on his shoulder would bring bloodshed to Ribanceira. In the past five years alone, wild buffalo have killed six island people and wounded dozens of others. No wonder the people fear them. A few seconds south of the equator, the atmosphere was hot and humid as the Bonanza settled for a landing on the soft dirt strip at Ribanceira. The landing strip and, several hundred yards away, the fazenda headquarters are perched on the only dry land areas within sight. Most of the terrain is submerged under a foot or more of (Continued on page 49)



Agile canoeman balances on crossed bamboo poles to scan terrain ahead.



WORLD'S ZANIEST

By FRED H. BAER



Members of Tamsweg, Austria, schutzenverein gather at Preber Lake for weekend sport. Alpine Inn owner Herr Funke uses .22 caliber falling-block rifle from rest while sighting in.

SHOOTING MATCH

BOUNCING BULLETS OFF WATER MAKES LUCK, NOT SKILL,
CONTROLLING FACTOR IN STRANGE TYROL SCHUTZENFEST



Firing at reflection in water to ricochet bullet into target, contestant aims with .22 Mauser in zany match.

AT AN ALPINE LAKE high in the Black Forest of the Austrian Tyrol mountains, rifle shooters throw away the rule books, use some of the world's most accurate rifles to fire some of the world's worst scores in the world's most incredible target match. The hits they make—and they are understandably few—must all be made with ricocheting bullets.

Across beautiful Prebersee, a calm basin of black marshy water edged with fir trees, the members and guests of the local Tamsweg "schutzenverein" fire their rifles to hit targets on the far shore. But they do not aim at the targets. Using their pet Scheutzen rifles, ancient single-shot heirlooms, or the most modern of smallbores, firing from the standing or offhand position, they ease their rifle to their shoulders and touch off shots aimed at the reflection of the target in the lake. The bullets must

ricochet from water to target to score.

One of the cardinal rules of shooting safety is, "Don't aim at water; the bullet will ricochet unpredictably." The rule speaks truth, and bullets ricochet as unpredictably off the waters of Prebersee as anywhere else. But precautions are taken for safety, and the shooters at Prebersee have a whale of a lot of fun trying to predict the unpredictable. Luck is the principle factor, and any serious concentration on the sighting and trigger skills so essential to ordinary types of competition will get you nothing. Results depend solely and simply on "the way the little ball bounces."

Yet despite (or possibly because of) the unscientific nature of the match, thousands of shooters from all over the world have come to Prebersee to try their skill or luck. Few win any prizes, be-

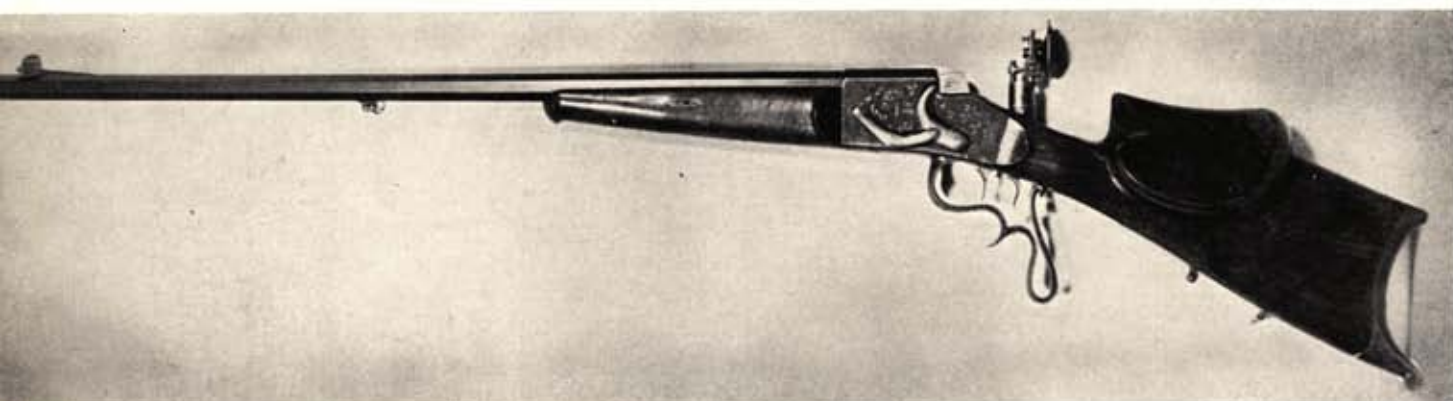


Modern smallbore match rifles and lead bullets are used, side by side with "heirloom" weapons.



Consecrated targets are painted wood plaques with bullet holes from actual targets drilled in.

In beer hall at back of Inn, the bouncing-ball marksmen get primed for turn at rippling target.



Old style "schutzen" rifles are sometimes used in water-shooting matches, but any .22 rifle will do, and the variety of guns is as wide as the misses.

cause even the best marksman, and particularly the prone shooters used to drilling multiple-X "possibles" time after time on regular ranges, find that they have to unlearn it all to win at Prebersee. Recently an Austrian rifle champion fired 200 shots on this zany ricochet range, without a single hit. But shooters who have practiced at Prebersee get as many as six, even eight, hits out of a hundred shots.

The shooting house is a combination tavern and firing point. From the lake side, windows open at each shooting position. There are racks inside the room where shooters place their rifles when not in use. Actual shooting is from the offhand stance, rifles unsupported by artificial means, simply held at the shoulder. Usually guns of .22

Long Rifle caliber shooting lead bullets only are used, no scope sights allowed. The distance is 120 meters, about 400 feet, from muzzle to target.

The contestants try to hit by ricochet the two-foot-square targets which have red bullseyes 11 inches in diameter. But most of the shooters, especially the visitors, declare, "It's impossible to hit the target in this water-shooting without having shot 300 times at the same target the same day—and even then you probably won't do it!"

Aiming at the reflection instead of directly at the target makes a tough game. When the bullseye is hit, a cannon is fired as a salute to the shooter.

Preber lake is unique—nowhere else in the world do the same conditions prevail which make such shooting pos-

sible. The combination of dark, marshy water and the fir-tree shaded shoreline keeps the water in darkness near the shore opposite the shooting house. Only in this gloomy light does the gleaming white of the targets and the red bullseyes really show on the smooth surface of the water. In front of the target area, huge logs have been lowered into the water to break the waves.

Shooters do not simply aim at the reflections. The exact aiming point varies greatly from one shooter to another, and from day to day. Practice helps some, but patience, experience, and a good deal of luck enter into the successful shoot.

A theoretical explanation of the ricochet seems (Continued on page 55)

I'M SPEAKING OF THE GUN I LOVE

ALTHOUGH IT IS 70 YEARS OLD,
THE HISTORY-MAKING LEE-ENFIELD IS STILL
A TOP FAVORITE, BOTH FOR SPORT AND FOR COMBAT

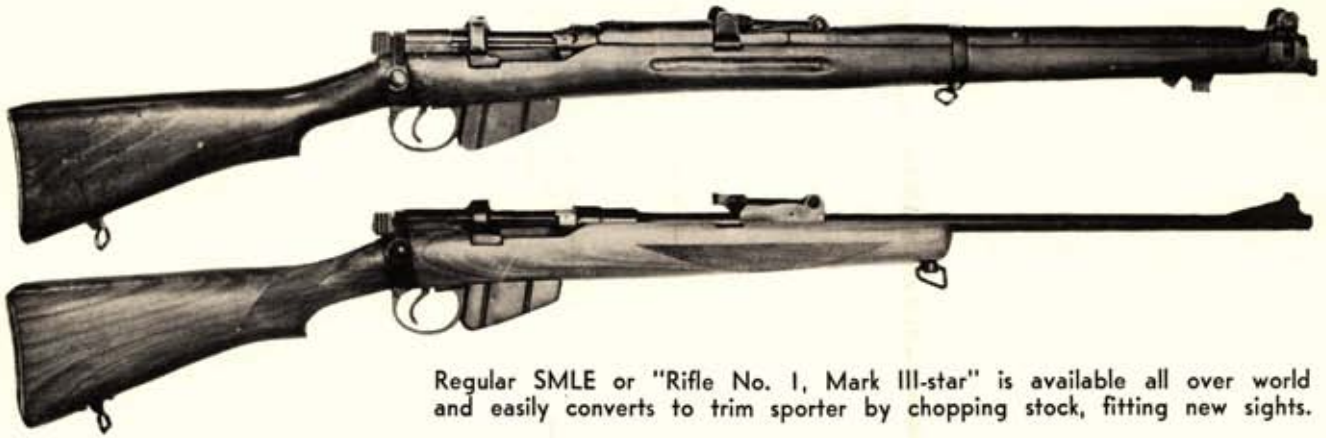
By HARRISON F. MARTIN



American navy lieutenant Martin's favorite combat rifle in Korea was SMLE because of its reliability despite occasional problems in getting ammo.

ON THAT FRIGID DAY when the U. N. Forces seized Inchon the second time, the first LST into the port was sent to the wrong beach. Unable either to unload or to pull off the mud, her people spent a very uncomfortable night. Enemy troops in unknown numbers were very near and might sneak down after dark to make things unpleasant for the stranded crew.

The second in command, supervising the armed watch, prowled the decks with an M-1. How he longed for a more familiar weapon! Next time he'd take along his own rifle, the venerable British Lee-Enfield which, after a quarter-century's ownership, he could use shotgun fashion in a pinch. Its eleven quick shots would, too, be extremely comforting to have available. So, the next trip out, that lieutenant, the writer, *did* carry his Enfield—making him, probably, the only U. S. officer equipped with a foreign weapon.



Regular SMLE or "Rifle No. 1, Mark III-star" is available all over world and easily converts to trim sporter by chopping stock, fitting new sights.

To be thus selected for use in actual combat, the Lee-Enfield Mark III must have plenty on the ball. It does! Not the least of its qualities is a rate of fire superior to any other shoulder-arm — including the semi-automatics — by virtue of its ten-round, clip-loading magazine plus its short, snappy bolt-throw. At the age of 70, it is the oldest military action in use today. But it was selected *after World War II* as the basis for a British Army sporter-type, blunderbuss-muzzled combat-arm designed to face the semi-autos on equal terms!

When the British came over here in 1888 for James P. Lee's bolt action and box magazine, they were acting perhaps by habit. In 1864, they had been here after Jake Snider's device for converting the .58 "Tower" muskets to breech loading. Two years later they were back again, this time for Peabody's monkey-tail lever-action which, for some reason, they called the "Martini." In the hands of the redcoats, the Snider and the .45 Martini-Henry became world renowned, as reflected in many of Mr. Kipling's yarns. Yankees can be proud that these two

history-making rifles were really American. And not so proud of the fact that both actions had previously been turned down flat by our own Government.

Jim Lee had had a little better success at home. A few thousand "Remington-Lee" rifles—identical except at the breech with the .45-70 Springfield—were bought by the Navy, and by states for their militia. Appearing in 1880, the action of the Remington-Lee (not to be confused with the .236 straight-pull "Lee-Navy" of 1894) was only slightly modified by the British, and even fewer changes have been made in it since. Service through the two greatest wars of all time have proved its sterling qualities.

Lee's triumph was really a double one, for the ordnance board that chose his invention considered breech-actions, magazines, and barrels entirely separately. To the Lee bolt and box was fitted a .303 barrel with trick rifling designed by a Mr. Metford to handle black powder without fouling. His cartridge-case is the one still used.

The original Lee-Metford coal-burner had a short hand-guard on top of the barrel, introduced the typical British



Cutaway armorer's model of Lee action shows trigger simplicity, bolt handle at rear for fast shooting, which endeared it to British military authorities.

upside-down stock, and took eight rounds in the deep magazine, the number being very soon increased to ten in two staggered columns. The first ones had a breech-cover much like that of the Arisaka.

The Lee-Metford introduced a new word into the English language. The tough and fanatical tribesmen of the Khyber Pass area, who had been knocked flat by the .58 and .45 single-loaders, proved to be capable of absorbing any number of the new .303 pencil-sized holes before they dropped, so a special issue of soft-pointed slugs was put out by the arsenal at Dum Dum, India, to solve this problem. Hence, "dumdum bullets."

When smokeless powder came in, the Metford rifling was no longer needed. The ordinary kind was brought back, and the new rifles so provided were styled Lee-Enfields.

They came in a long infantry pattern, and also as a cavalry carbine. The latter was cased in wood right to the muzzle, and the front-sight was guarded by steel wings. Uncle Sam and John Bull hit, at the same time, on the idea of issuing a single compromise rifle to all branches of service, and in 1903 appeared both the .30 Springfield and the "Short, Magazine, Lee-Enfield, Mark I." The SMLE inherited from the carbine the completely housed-in barrel and sight guards, a separate dummy muzzle being provided on which the bayonet was hung. The rear sights of both the rifles of 1903 were practically the same, being borrowed from the very excellent one on the last issues of the Krag. Strangely, while the British retained this sight until just before World War II, it was suppressed here for the '06 Springfield in favor of a very slight modification of the model 1884 sight used on the .45-70's of 1884.

The SMLE introduced clip-loading into the British service, the guides on the Mark I being of a unique and clever type, one side built into the receiver while the other traveled on the bolt. The (Continued on page 58)



Military-caliber .303 Enfields are used by hide hunters who shoot charging buffalo at short range in Australia.



Many varieties of basic Lee bolt action were produced, such as this flat-handled cavalry .303 British carbine in Martin Retting collection. At right is first Lee rifle, experimental .43 military musket made at Sharps Rifle Co. in Bridgeport before Sharps firm folded in 1880's.

THE MYSTERY OF THE



THE SCENE in the library was one of mellow beauty, of firelight flickering on the white of paneled woodwork and on the richer coloring of ceiling-high shelves of smooth-backed leather books, most of them books on guns and gun history. But all was not sweetness and light between the two men seated in that room. There was tension there, and it was my fault. I had ventured to differ in an opinion on guns with one of the finest gentlemen, one of the best informed gentlemen in the field of gun collecting and gun study. The question was, "What is the meaning of the letters 'KM' found stamped on certain old Colt revolvers, powder flasks, and kit accessories?"

We had been discussing Samuel Colt and his travels in Europe in 1849; the travels which laid the foundations for many of his future commercial triumphs. The disagreement above mentioned took place just 100 years later, in 1949, the evening before I was to leave for a summer of gun study in Europe. I had suggested that the letters "KM" were of European origin, might stand for *Koenigen Marine* or possibly *Kriegs Marine*, meaning (in both versions) "Royal Navy." But my host believed that the letters

were American, and meant "kit, mounted."

I failed to find proof of my belief that summer of 1949, but by January of 1953, I had connected the "KM" stamping on Colt guns with certain KM-stamped Colt flasks and an odd capping device characterized as "German" by the New York dealer, Francis Bannerman. A combination of deductive logic, fortunate contacts abroad, and pure cussedness on my part finally uncovered the full story of the mysterious KM stamping, and also confirmed as a licensed copy a scarce "imitation" Colt made under foreign contract. I was wrong on one score: the "KM" was not Prussian, but Austrian.

My book, "The Story of Colt's Revolver," mentioned the KM Colts and the odd Austrian imitations marked "KKP" and "Patent 1849." At the time I did not connect the two, and it was not until GUNS Vienna correspondent, Fred Baer, started searching that the historical link was discovered. The KM Colts are Royal Austrian Navy, "Koenigen Marine" revolvers purchased in 1859 and 1860. The KKP pistols are Austria's first attempt to get Colts, at a time when Sam Colt could not supply them immediately. There

KM COLTS

MEANING OF THE KM STAMPING ON SOME OLD NAVY COLTS LED TO DISCOVERY OF UNKNOWN BUT AUTHORIZED AUSTRIAN COPY

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS



Austrian sailors under Admiral Tegethoff (left) used Innsbruck and Colt revolvers marked KM in wars of Italian Independence. Same mark noted on powder flasks helped uncover gun's history.

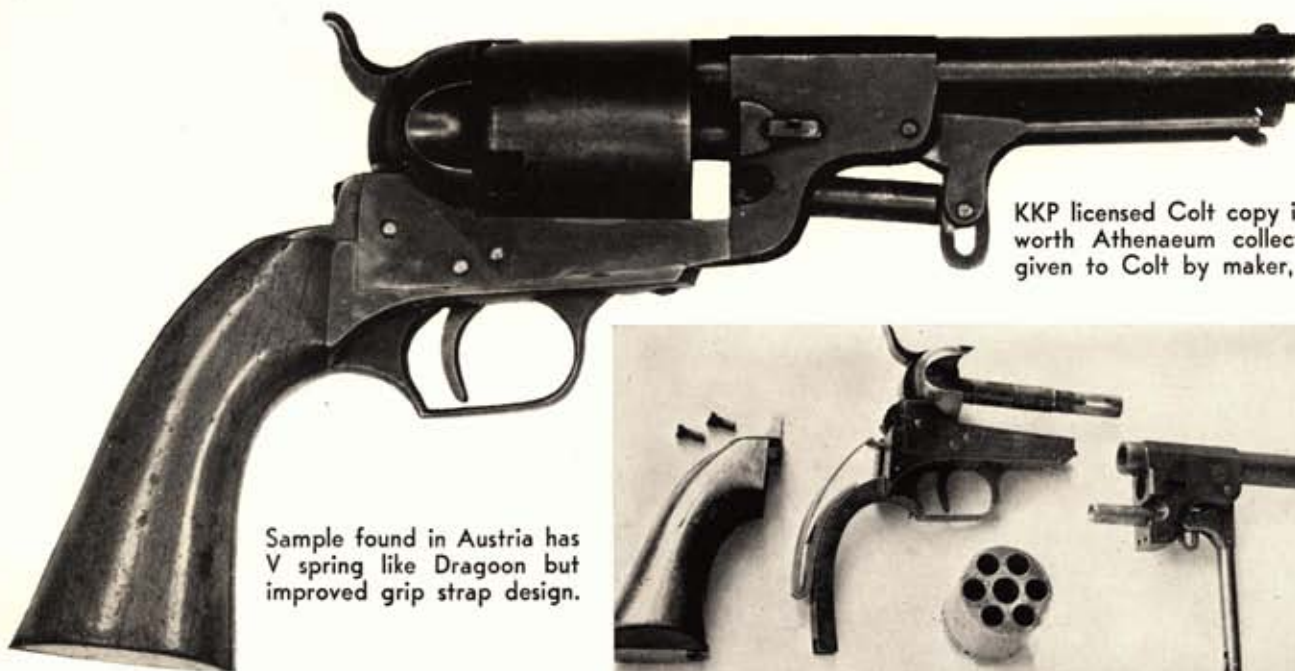
was a second attempt to purchase copies of Colts in 1855 which ended in failure. Not until the Austrian government bought genuine Colts were they satisfied.

Few anecdotes about traveling salesmen are so puzzling as the story of Colt through Europe that summer and autumn of 1849. He landed at London. He ended up in Turkey, supposedly with an order of 5,000 revolvers for the Sultan. At stops in between, he wrote a lot of small business and laid the groundwork for future European expansion of the Colt affairs.

In London, lawyer William E. Newton prepared patents for Sam's latest M1848 Dragoon revolver. Important features of the patent were the shaping of the standing breech in one piece with the lock frame, and the loading lever on the barrel. The Dragoon revolver was an almost unique transitional model. Until 1950, one example was in the Colt factory museum in Hartford. The other specimen is in the Smithsonian Institution Collection and was originally in the U.S. Patent Office. During 1849 Colt blanketed the patent offices of the U.S., England, Holland, Belgium, Prussia, possibly Switzerland, France, and Austria with patents. All the drawings were the same, the transitional Dragoon revolver. In many of the countries Colt was required to deposit a model to secure his patent.

In Austria, Colt filed for a patent during 1849, which was granted as #1217, dated the 10th of March, 1850. Revolvers made in Austria under the Colt license are marked "Patent 1849" in addition to the maker's mark of "KKP."



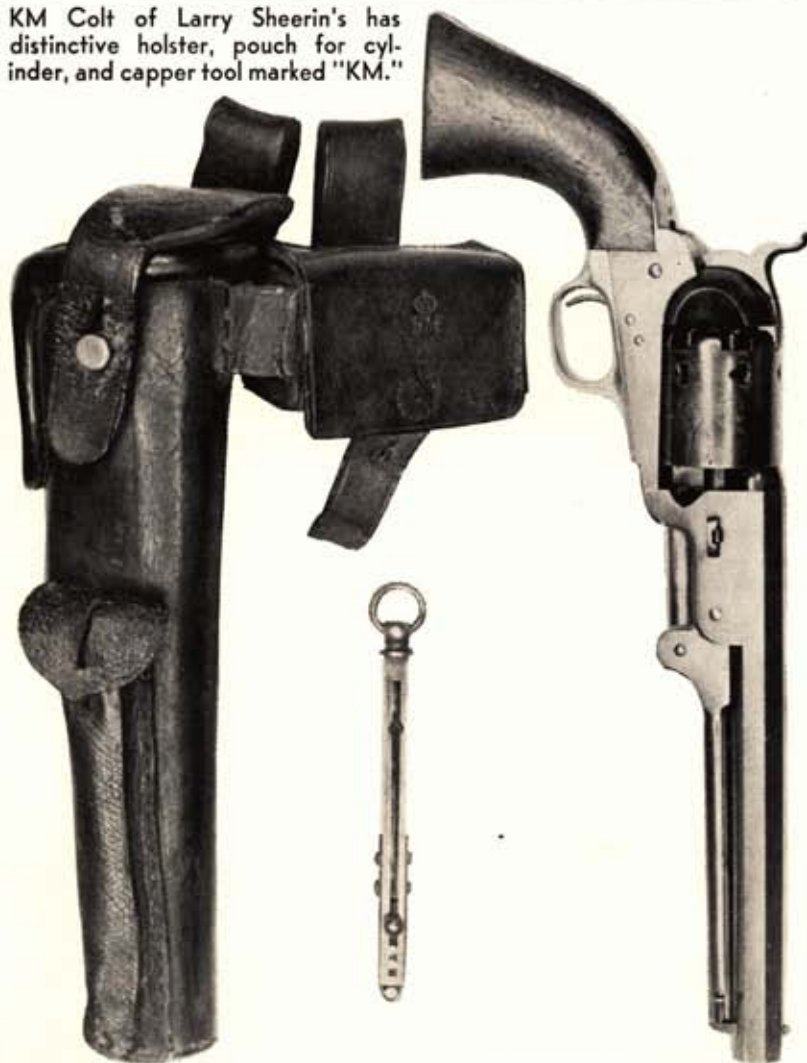


KKP licensed Colt copy in Wadsworth Athenaeum collection was given to Colt by maker, Ganahl.

Sample found in Austria has V spring like Dragoon but improved grip strap design.



KM Colt of Larry Sheerin's has distinctive holster, pouch for cylinder, and capper tool marked "KM."

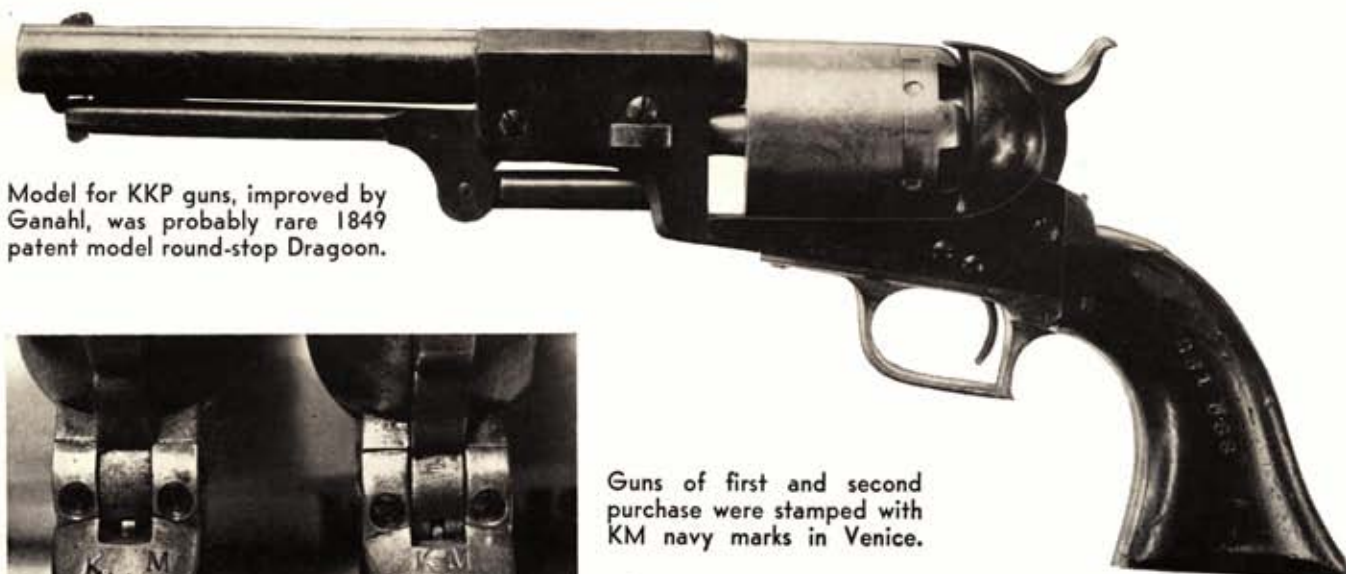


Producer of the KKP Colts was Joseph Ganahl, of the Imperial and Royal-Privileged Machinery, Textile, and Spinning Factory of Innsbruck, near the Swiss border in the Tyrols.

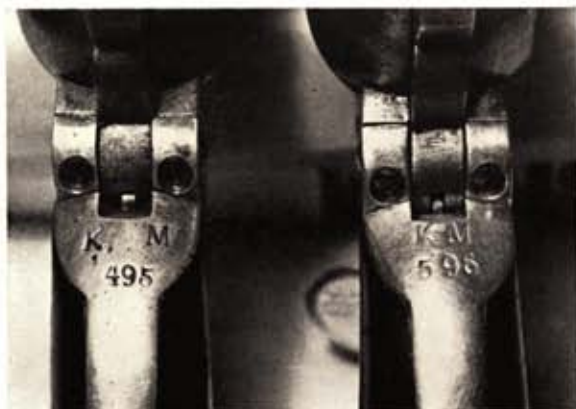
Colt gave Ganahl one of the transition Dragoon revolvers. The records state that Ganahl received a sample pistol from "an undisclosed friend," but certain details of the gun he finally made suggest that he could have got the model only from Sam Colt.

Collectors puzzle over the perfectly round, drilled cylinder-stop holes in the KKP Colt cylinders. The Dragoons of the same period had oval stops. Not so the transition Dragoon which Colt gave Ganahl. Its mates in US museums have perfectly circular stop holes which have long inclined cuts on the cylinder leading into them. The cuts were to permit faster timing of the cylinder bolt and prevent throw-by in rapidly cocking the gun. The throw-by guides were not used in the Ganahl guns.

In America, the 1849-model Dragoon was immediately obsoleted by the 1850 style, perfected by Colt engineer Elisha Root. It had rectangular stop slots and a changed cylinder bolt to match. The 1849 U.S. patent, applied for by depositing the patent office model in Washington, was called back and a new design submitted of the perfected rectangular style. But back in Austria, Joseph Ganahl did not know of these changes.



Model for KKP guns, improved by Ganahl, was probably rare 1849 patent model round-stop Dragoon.



Guns of first and second purchase were stamped with KM navy marks in Venice.

The first lot of pistols was plain finished: a sample sent to Colt and in the Colt Wadsworth Athenaeum collection today has only the KKP mark, which stands for the factory name, "Kaiserlich-koeniglich Privilegierten Maschinen und Spinnen Fabrik." The iron trigger guard shape reflects American Colt design. At first made in squareback style, later guards were produced in round form.

One mechanical improvement made by Ganahl was in guard design. The bottom screws enter the frame from the rear, like the handle strap top screws. When the wood handle and strap is fitted, the guard screws cannot shake loose, as so often happens with regular Colts. The early Dragoon "V" spring was used, after the model, and there was no roll on the hammer to reduce friction on the spring, though this was introduced the next year by Sam Colt in Hartford. The scoop in the standing breech to clear the caps, present on all but the Walkers and earliest Hartford transition guns, was not used by Ganahl. Oddest Ganahl feature was the long loop to the loading lever plunger.

Ganahl applied for permission to make the Colt revolver on June 18, 1849, to the Imperial & Royal District Authority for the Lower Inn Valley District, headquartered at Schwaz, Tyrol. Gunmaking was a privilege restricted to "patentees," authorized by the Emperor. Ganahl was thus licensed to manufacture under two patents, one from Colt through his Vienna agent, Herr Schwartz, and secondly by Royal Charter or "privilegium" of August 21, 1849. The privilegium assured Ganahl's priority in all improvements, and permitted the plans to be kept secret.

Ganahl's patent right lasted five years, during which time he made some changes. As the Austrian archives quaintly reveal, "continued development has resulted in the finding that the weight-decreasing and the shooting-distance-increasing principles can be applied to carbines, to hunting and military rifles with the same profit as found with the revolver. These pistols, carbines and hunting rifles consist of one barrel with flat grooves and a rotating cylinder for 6 (for larger rifles even for 8 or 10) shots."

The reduction in weight came from scaling it down from the ponderous Dragoon size. The Colt weighed 3 6/32 Viennese pounds (4 pounds, 2 ounces), and the Ganahl Colt weighed about half as much as the Dragoon, 1 28/32 Viennese pounds. The increased range claimed is a puzzler. The Dragoon was listed as "sure shooting distance between 80 and 90 steps, or 225 Viennese feet." The KKP Colt had a sure shooting distance of 150 to 200 steps, or about 500 Viennese feet—about the same as English measurements. Since British rifleman Hans Busk had done good shooting with the Dragoon up to 410 yards, there may be some difference in interpreting "accurate range." Rifling of the Ganahl Colt was 10 groove; the Dragoon had only 7 grooves.

Ganahl made experimental sporting and military rifles or carbines with up to 10 chambers. These were tested in September of 1849 by an Austrian Ordnance Board. The KKP revolver in .36 caliber was fired at ranges up to about 150 yards, 200 paces. The results of the tests read much like the American reports of similar trials: The Ganahl revolver is "a perfectly practical weapon and specially recommended as an officer's arm." No mass distribution of the KKP pistols was ordered.

The Austrian Navy obtained a number of the KKP revolvers. They were issued in odd leather holsters with a pocket down the side for an in-line capping device, to use in quick reloading. Revolvers in the field were reloaded by substituting a freshly loaded cylinder, which was carried in the belt pouch.

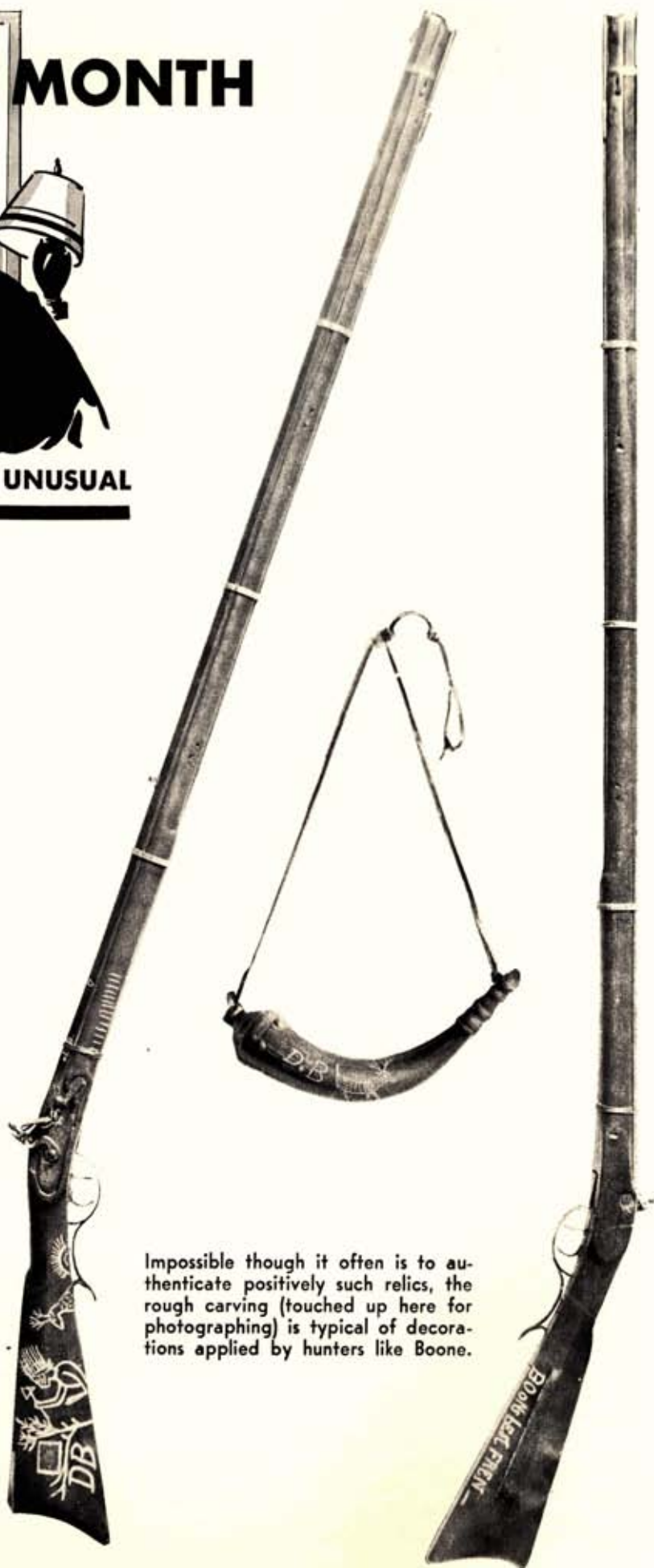
Serial numbers of the KKP revolvers indicate about 1,000 were made. One cased specimen has the original Walker-type bent nipple wrench and a powder bottle with a cup charger. The Colt-type flask was not issued with this revolver. A crudely designed single bullet mould is fitted into the case. About the only practical accessory is the provision for spare percussion cones, replacing the original when they became battered from firing. The box is flush-lined with a buff material, and (Continued on page 60)

Gun OF THE MONTH

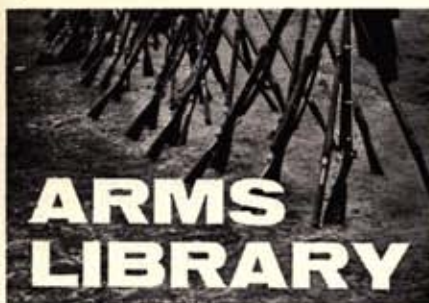


THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL

DANIEL BOONE SAID, "I believe I was destined by God to explore the wilderness"; and explore it he did, crossing the Alleghanies and blazing the trail for westward settlement. With him went "Boons best Fren," the Long Rifle, possibly the one pictured. Made, it is believed, by North Carolina gunsmith Graham, Boone gave it to a trapper named Dedman, whose descendants kept it until it was publicized by a newspaper article in the 1890's. It was purchased by a Louisville relic hunter who sold it to Dr. Percy de Bonay, who sold it in 1899 to Prof. Gilbert Walden, who sold it to the Kentucky Historical Society in whose possession it remains. The original flintlock may be a replacement of the 1800's. Although the stock is notched 15 times, this is probably a bear tally, not Indians, since Boone himself claimed to have killed only three Indians, insisting that the popular belief was wrong in "ascribing to me the killing of hecatombs of Indians."



Impossible though it often is to authenticate positively such relics, the rough carving (touched up here for photographing) is typical of decorations applied by hunters like Boone.



ARMS LIBRARY

WALKER AND THE ARIZONA ADVENTURE

By Daniel E. Conner

(University of Oklahoma Press, \$5)

After the California gold rush petered out, Dan Conner joined with a group of would-be prospectors under the leadership of experienced mountain man Joseph Reddick Walker to explore Arizona. Conner has preserved in the simple and perhaps slightly stodgy prose of the period what proves on reading to be a hair-raising account of savage Indians and equally savage white men in the west of 1861. The wars with the Apaches and an account of the death of the dread Indian chieftain Mangas Colorado, plus many incidents of life, and death, in Arizona, make this a book as exciting as a novel.

In these reprints of classic and important western Americana, Oklahoma U's staff has consistently selected the interesting, the exciting, the dramatic among the first-hand writings of the last century. Editors D. J. Berthrong and Odessa Davenport have done a commendable job in clearing up obscure references in Conner's narrative, without detracting from the pace of the story. And story it is, an exciting tale of the old west with numerous references to "tactical uses" of firearms.—WBE.

THE AGE OF FIREARMS:

A Pictorial History

By Robert Held.

(Harper Brothers, New York. \$7.50)

Here is one of the most beautiful gun books this reviewer has seen in many a year. The designer, Nancy Jenkins, with the able collaboration of the publishers, has made this a real gem of book design and craftsmanship. But there is more than beauty in the package. Robert Held has accomplished the rare feat of combining historical data with skillful prose that is as readable and fast-moving as a whodunnit. He tells the story of the evolution of firearms, not as a series of mechanical developments but as a five-century saga heavily responsible for

the shaping of Western civilization. Add to this the more than 180 woodcuts, etchings, engraving, and drawings, and the more than 200 photographs which illuminate the text—many of them in color—and you begin to wonder how Harpers did this one for the price!—EBM.

VIOLENCE IN LINCOLN COUNTY, 1869-1881

By William A. Keleher.

(Univ. of New Mexico Press, \$6.00)

Probably no man living is better equipped to write the story of the Lincoln County War than is Will Keleher, of Albuquerque. Owning as he does an impressive personal library of original source material and having studied what he doesn't own, Keleher has a lifetime of intimate familiarity also with the local lore and legend surrounding this "gunfighter's war" from which sprang the old West's most controversial figure, Billy the Kid. Addicts of the Billy the Kid legend will find no hero here; only an attorney's documentation of what happened, according to the records. Unlike Walter Noble Burns, who wrote the Lincoln County War merely as a backdrop for Billy, this is a history of the war with Billy as an incidental figure. But it is a book that Billy the Kid addicts cannot ignore, however much they may dislike it. Keleher is no newcomer to the field of Southwestern history. Nor is this the first contribution the University of New Mexico Press has made to the Billy the Kid story. Their "Alias Billy the Kid," published a few years ago, is a "believe it or not" item you can't pass up if you lay claim to a well-rounded knowledge of the legend.—EBM.

SMITH & WESSON REVOLVERS:

The Pioneer Single Action Models

By John E. Parsons.

(William Morrow & Co., New York. \$6.00)

Profusely illustrated and well armed with documents, notes bibliography, and index, written largely from "never-before-revealed" company sources, this book on the beginnings and early growth of the Smith & Wesson company and their guns is a worthy addition to John Parsons' growing list of titles in the firearms field. It covers the early years, from mid-century into the 1880's, telling the stories of the eccentric inventors, rival manufacturers, and contacts with foreign dignitaries—including, of course, the visit of the Grand Duke Alexis which resulted in the contract for guns for the Russian government. A lawyer himself, Parsons explores a hitherto untapped fund of source material: the court records of trials involving patents and other business aspects of the gun-making companies.—EBM.

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WANTED: A THREE-GUN CHAMPION

(Continued from Page 15)

through 5th places and merchandise prizes if they could be obtained. San Antonio business men who were asked to donate did so eagerly and only four concerns were contacted for the necessary merchandise awards. The Perry Shankle Co. gave a Model 77 .22 automatic rifle. Stith mounts donated a Bear Cub scope. Southern Precision Instrument Co. gave a pair of their 6 x 30 SPI binoculars, and Zales Jewelers donated a Baylor Sportsman wrist watch. With prizes like that to offer, Wildlife Unlimited looked forward to a large entry. Dan Klepper, outdoor editor of the San Antonio Express, coined a name for the event: "The Triathlon."

It soon became apparent that many shooters were interested but hesitated about competing because they felt they couldn't do well with all three guns. Big bore rifle men were hesitant about trying a pistol or a shotgun. Pistol shooters felt the same way about rifles and shotguns. Shotgun men, of course, felt they didn't have a chance with either rifle or pistol. But some of the big bore shooters and a good many members of various pistol clubs decided to give it a try just for the fun of it, and when the firing started there were even two entries from an army rifle team.

As entry fees were paid, the shooter's name was put on a scorecard. When the card contained ten names it was passed to the scoreboard and those names entered there. From there, the shooter moved to the pistol firing line. Shooters were lined up on targets 1 through 10 in the same order as they were numbered on the scorecard. After firing, numbered targets were brought to the firing line for scoring. When each score was entered, the shooter took his card to the scoreboard, then moved on to the rifle firing line, where the same procedure was followed. After rifle scores were entered both on the scorecard and on the scoreboard, the shotgun judges took over. Targets 1 through 5 fired on the first relay at the trap, then 6 through 10 stepped up. The shooting was so lined up that it took two hours for each entry to complete his firing. For example: the pistol "commence fire" was 8:00 AM, cease fire at 8:20. Targets scored, rifles picked up and rifle "commence fire" at 8:40. Cease fire at 9:00. Scoring; then shotguns picked up and the first relay for trap off at 9:20, with the second following immediately. A new relay started on the pistol line every thirty minutes. That allowed them to start on the rifle firing while the previous rifle relay targets were being scored. It was so timed that 150 shooters could have been accommodated and the awards made by 5:00 PM.

All told, fifty-eight contestants participated in the shoot. They used every kind and make of gun imaginable. Lots of shooters showed up with the gun of their specialty, and borrowed the other two. There were thirty-six pistols used, including thirteen different kinds. The rifle shooters were worse. Forty-five rifles of sixteen different calibers or makes were used. Smoothbore fanciers led the group with forty-seven entries shooting seventeen different makes or models.

The match "possible" was 600, and the winning score was 467. Byron Mackey, shooting in the second relay of the day, cut out the work for the rest of the field. A

civilian member of the Lackland Warhawk Pistol Team, Byron used a Hi Standard Supermatic .22 for a 168 x 200. A bolt action M70 .243 with a 10-power scope got him 149 x 200 in the rifle stage. A Browning autoloader paid off with 150 x 200 at the traps.

Second place was won by a former border patrolman, H. B. Carter. Lt. Frank Duckworth of the Fourth Army Rifle Team took third, and Buck Reed took fourth. Fifth place was taken by another member of the Lackland Warhawk pistol team, C. F. Beardon. The clay birds were scored ten points per hit same as a bullseye 10 for the rifle or pistol.

There were many shooters participating who had never fired one of the guns before. It was quite a sight to see a man standing on the rifle firing line with a .270 and wearing a duck-hunter's patch on his shooting jacket. One shooter was so sensitive to the recoil of the big bore rifle he was using that he pulled a Mickey Mantle, firing one shot from the left shoulder and the next from the right. Believe it or not, he scored 91 x 200.

It was worth the three-dollar entry fee just to watch the rifle specialists at the trap. They would get set, right elbow out, left



Rifleman takes extra care mounting gun hoping his score here may offset low scores with unfamiliar arms.

elbow directly under the gun, feet firmly planted in a good off-hand rifle stance—and then call, "PULL!" Don't ask me how, but some of them broke a fair number of clay birds. Maybe this proves that a good shot with one type of firearm can soon become a good shot with any of the others.

The fine part about this whole thing was that every man competing really enjoyed the day. Many of them were talking about getting out for a little practice with weapons they had looked down their noses at a few hours earlier. The owner of a sporting goods store was overheard inviting a friend to his fifty-foot range in his store basement for a little pistol practice during lunch hours. Rifleman were expressing interest in trap, and vice versa.

Wildlife Unlimited would like to think they have started something. Their shoot is already scheduled to be an annual event. Outdoor Editor Dan Klepper has challenged other cities in Texas to pick their five top shooters and get the winners together for a state championship individual and team match.

Maybe it can go even further. Each state could hold matches to pick champions and maybe a national or world championship could be held in a year or two. Wildlife Unlimited would like to host such an event if shooting clubs in other states are interested in these-gun matches.

SHOOTING FOR SPORT IN THE USSR

(Continued from Page 18)

party. The rules would not allow any member to attend more than one hunt. And as soon as one deer is shot, that hunt is ended.

Some American rifles are still used by Russian shooters from among imports made prior to 1917. Among the most popular of these are the Savage lever actions in .22 High Power and .303 Savage calibers. Because sporting rifles firing high-velocity bullets are almost unknown in Russia, and since handloading does not exist as a popular pastime, the Russian hunter is required to approach close to any big game target before taking a shot. His medium-powered Savage or Mannlicher or rebuilt Nagant, while entirely adequate in power, lacks the flat trajectory and "point blank" aiming of the hotter American loads.

In the Pamirs (Central Asia) the big Argali sheep are hunted on horseback. After approaching them as near as possible on horseback, the hunter must dismount and creep up to shooting distance, preferably with a scope-sighted rifle. The large rams, weighing as much as 442 pounds, are prized trophies.

Mountain goats are also prized but are tough to hunt, in spite of their apparently lazy nature, for they flee into the rocks at the first sign of danger, presenting problems of tracking and kill similar to those of the sheep.

In this high land, the hunter also finds vigilant mountain turkeys that not only watch for the appearance of man, but warn the sheep of danger by their loud calling. But among the birds of Russia that count as game, one of the best is the large capercaillie, a kind of mountain grouse.

The grouse retreats before logging and the replacement of virgin forests by saplings, and in some areas it is now protected against



Margolin pistol with hand-in-cast grips and muzzle brake, helped Red shooters win many international matches.

hunting, but in the Northern forests, they abound and are available not only to sport shooters, but professional hunters.

Most of the Russian sports weapons are supplied today by the Tula arsenal. Some single-barrel shotguns on modified Nagant rifle actions are produced. In Urdmurt, on the Eastern border of European Russia, a shotgun factory flourishes, producing good quality double guns, hammerless top lever weapons with side locks somewhat resembling the L. C. Smith in outward appearance.

As early as August, 1947, before many American plants had "reconverted" from military small arms production to peacetime gunmaking, this plant, in the town of Izhevsk, produced 16,000 shotguns in six months. The guns, as far as Westerners have had a chance to examine them, appear well finished, with full pistol grips, neatly

checkered. But their sale is not necessarily free to every farmer who can scratch up the kopecks. News photos from Russia show identical shotguns in the hands of military personnel in off-hours hunting recreation, suggesting these are actually weapons made for the government.

Trap fields exist in plenty in the Soviet Union, but they are organized a little differently from the usual US layout. The firing points are on a straight line, instead of an arc centered on a single trap. Instead of one trap, there are five in line, throwing clay birds more in simulation of European live-pigeon shooting, with five points instead of one to watch.

For trap, Russian shooters prefer the double barreled "FN" side-by shotguns, Belgian made at the Fabrique Nationale in Liege, in 12 and 16 gauges. Browning over-unders are also popular in Russia. A few old-style hammer doubles are in use throughout the Soviet Union, often in 10 gauge for water fowling. A short 12 gauge magnum shell was invented by a Russian about 1910, and a very few guns were produced before the war. Recorded ballistics indicate the power of the 2½-inch load equalled modern American 12 short magnums.

Anatolii Bogdanov, winner of the recent Olympic 3-position 50 metre smallbore match and undoubtedly one of the finest smallbore target shooters in the world, has a typical Iron Curtain shooting enthusiast background. As a child, he was presented by his father with a decrepit and unusable rifle, of Japanese origin, a relic of the Manchurian Wars. With this he practised in the family backyard, sighting and dry-firing at cardboard silhouettes of bears, wolves, hares, and foxes which he cut out with his mother's scissors.

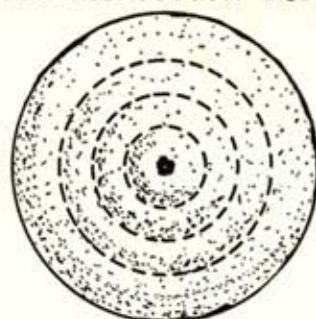
As soon as he was old enough, he joined a shooting club and handled his first real weapons. He was immediately fascinated by target shooting and for two years he shot at nothing but range targets. But when he had safely passed his high school entrance exams, he went on a hunting trip and saw for the first time the animals on whose silhouettes he had sighted so often in his childhood. After that, Anatolii went on regular weekend hunting trips outside Moscow and Gorki, shooting hares and foxes. Twice a year he went on club-organized hunts in Siberia. Here wolves and bears provided the targets. But range shooting was still his favorite sport, because he could indulge in it more than he could go hunting.

"There was a good range in our suburb," says Bogdanov, "and the coach took a keen interest in me. Without the encouragement of that club coach, I might never have become a good target shot. I don't mean that a shooter must have a coach; my friend Vassili Borisov never had a coach, but trained himself entirely." (Borisov won the 300-metre Olympic shoot last year.)

Now 27 years old, champ Bogdanov is a lieutenant in the Soviet army by day and a student at the Moscow Pedagogical Institute by night. Soon his compulsory military training period will end and he will become a full-time student.

During his shooting career, he has used a variety of rifles, including Manteri-actioned

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free rifles and some American weapons. Today, however, he shoots the Russian Nagant rifle made at Tula which the Russians used to good effect in the Olympic shooting matches. According to Bogdanov, these weapons are mass-produced in a Soviet small-arms factory and are now standard military issue. He admitted, however that the rifles used by himself, his Olympic teammates Borissov and Erdman, and by Czech shooter Otto Horinek, were "slightly modified" for the Olympic Matches.

Most of Bogdanov's training is done in the standing and kneeling positions, because he and other Russian shooters believe that if a shooter can score well from these positions he will have little difficulty when firing prone. In winter, when the ranges are closed because of snow, Bogdanov and most Soviet shooters practice at home by holding and dry-firing on special sub-miniature targets.

Vassili Borissov, who frequently trains in

Moscow with Bogdanov, has a similar shooting background except that he has never hunted. He uses Russian manufactured Tula rifles: the Tula Mark 13 big bore rifle (calibre 7.63 mm.) and the Tula Mark 12 smallbore .22, as well as the G.I. Nagant.

A Russian Olympic shooter with a different background is Vladimir Sevriouguine, a woodsman who has spent much of his life in the Ural mountains in Siberia. He represented Russia in the Running Deer match, finishing third. The rifle he used was an obsolete 1910 Model Ross-actioned weapon, fitted with a free-rifle barrel of 7.62 mm. The action of the rifle was slightly modified; the barrel was fluted to reduce weight, retain stiffness and increase cooling area. The stock was more or less conventional but was fitted with an adjustable heel plate. Badminton Match Rifle sights with a quarter-inch-wide blade foresight were fitted to the rifle.

Sevriouguine, a forestry officer who spends much of his time in remote areas, finds plenty of opportunity to hunt bears, wolves, and deer. He belongs to a shooting club in his hometown, but often hunts alone when on forest patrol. Once, on a winter trapping expedition, he caught his left wrist in a heavy steel trap and had to wait seven hours before fellow forestry officers found him. He had with him the 1910 Ross-actioned rifle he used in the Olympics, and used it to defend himself from wolves which attacked him. Using the weapon like a pistol in his right hand, he shot three wolves before he was released.

Gheorghe Lichiardopol, a Rumanian architect who came third in the Olympic rapid-fire pistol match, is a keen sport shooter who has been a shotgun enthusiast since he was old enough to hold a gun. Duck and hare shooting are his favorite field sports. Ducks have always been

plentiful in Rumania, and there is no bag limit. There are strict bag limits for all other game, however, allotted on a club-membership basis.

Shooting regulations are, if anything, more strict in Rumania than they are in Russia. As well as belonging to a club, shooters must hold a license for every weapon they purchase. Licenses are obtained through the club, which makes application on behalf of the shooter to the police.

Hare shooting is popular with Rumanians, and there are apparently plenty to shoot at. "Last year," says Gheorghe, "twenty shooters from our club knocked over 5,000 hares during a week of shooting. Most of the guns used were side-by-side 12 gauges made in Belgium. Some club members have under-and-overs made in Belgium and England."

In 1955, Gheorghe's club organized a bear shoot in the Bistrita Mountains of Rumania. Forty-eight shooters took part in the drive, which lasted only two hours. Thirteen bears were shot.

Most shooting behind the Iron Curtain is done by driving, chiefly because all sport shooting is organized by clubs.

Varmint shooting with 'scope-sighted hipowers, is unknown. Shooters from Hungary at the Olympic Matches spoke enthusiastically of bear, deer, and hare drives in their homeland, and explained the position was the same in Poland and other neighboring countries. "We have many shooters, but little room, and not too much game," explained Czech small bore champion Otto Horinek. "So we must hunt together. It may seem strange to westerners, but we like it and would not have it any other way."

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FORTY BULLETS THROUGH ONE HOLE

(Continued from Page 27)

practice, not on match days. A new rifle is not as accurate as it will be after it has been used considerably. You have to wear it in, so don't toss it out until you have tried just about everything you can think of.

I've always loved a rifle and before I had even seen a target rifle or target range I owned a cheap .22 single shot. In learning to shoot it I found out the rifle had to be aimed somewhere other than at the object which you wanted to hit. I didn't know anything about moving the sights to move the point of impact, but I did know the rifle, and I could hit small shirt buttons and .22 cases as far as I could see them over the open sights.

After reading a notice in our paper of a rifle match to be held on our local range, I thought I'd show them how to shoot and I paid a dollar to enter my first match in about 1929 or 30. It was a 10-shot re-entry match at 100 yards. I didn't shoot my little rifle. Instead, I borrowed and shot a much-used target model with a leaf sight. I fired a respectable 83, but I found out right then that I was outclassed.

But I liked the competition and made up my mind to keep at it. By 1936 I had won some non-medal and indoor matches. Finally I won a big one, shooting 396 x 400 over iron sights at 100 yards on a tough range, with the man I had vowed to beat betting another competitor in a loud voice a nickel a shot that I would not score tens on my last ten shots. This was a range record that stood for many years, and at that time my ambition was fulfilled.

I thought that I had reached the top. I've always been a nail-chewer, nervous, afflicted with what shooters call "jackass ears"—meaning that talk or other noise while I was shooting distracted me. Overcoming these faults in that match gave me confidence which combined with experience to give me more frequent wins. Since then, I have been a shooting member of the Dewar international team three times, have won the mid-west regional, been third and fourth in the nationals, have won state championships and aggregate matches of considerable importance. I've lost a lot of matches, too, that I should have won.

I've fired the last 39 shots in a 40-shot match at rapid-fire rate just because I was mad at myself for letting that first shot stray out of the ten ring. A man can't control even the finest of match rifles unless he can control himself, and rifle target competition will enforce self-discipline. I've lost matches by penalty points charged against me for firing

pinwheel tens on the wrong targets. You'd think nobody but the rankest novice could be that careless, but it happens at every big shoot. And I've lost for reasons beyond my best understanding, as well as for the obvious reason that somebody outshot me.

For example, I'd have placed much higher in the 1954 nationals if it hadn't been for that last shot of a 20-shot string in the Dewar match. With 19 shots fired, I had 19 tens with 18 X's. The last shot "felt" perfect. I was feeling the pressure, but I'd had a lot of practice, by then, at fighting pressure, and that one let loose just the way I wanted it. . . . It was a nine at twelve o'clock—and 199's don't get you any applause in that kind of competition. Maybe I checked the rifle a little tighter than on the previous shots; maybe the sight picture wasn't as perfect as I thought; maybe—a hundred things. Anyway, that's one of the things about rifle shooting: you never get bored by the monotony of perfection! What with wind and light and a thousand other variables, precision shooting is a game of guess and gamble in many instances, particularly under adverse conditions. Nothing but experience can teach you to figure wind drift and changing light conditions, and if you guess wrong, you've had it. Until the next match. There's always a next match, thank heaven; and next time, you'll show 'em.

This is the challenge that brings men, and women too, back year after year to the big matches. It fascinates me enough to keep me coming back to try to beat myself if no one else, and all the prizes you win cannot equal the satisfaction of a "possible."

Age is not an apparent detriment, for during my experience I've been beaten by shooters of all ages and both sexes and have seen it happen to the best. The newcomers of all ages frequently have their hour of glory and some of them last for quite a while. It may and could be you. The match is not over until the last shot is fired.

The 1954 National Junior and Collegiate Champion gave a very good example of how it is done. Presley Kendall is a Louisville boy that I've known since he was a baby. His daddy was a former club hot-shot and had had a bit of open competition at Sea Girt and Perry. He was one of the experienced shooters when I started. As soon as Presley was able to grasp a rifle he was literally forced to shoot. By the time he was 19 he had been shooting for nine or ten years. One of the driving factors in his success, I'm sure, is that he has had his sights set on

(Continued on page 48)



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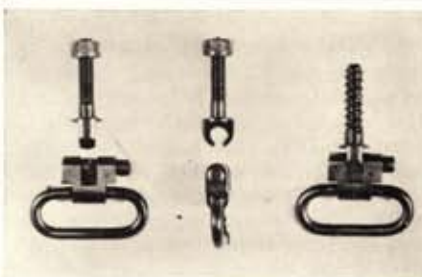


TERNI 7.35 CARBINES, those increasingly popular Italian imports (6 shot, clip fed, 7 lbs., 21" bbl.) are now available from Winfield Arms Corp., Dept. G1, 1006 S. Olive St. Los Angeles 15, Calif., priced at \$12.95. Semi-finished and inletted sporter stocks with recoil pad and cheek piece, \$9.95 extra.



QUICKLY REMOVABLE yet always at hand for easy replacement, KA-RAM-BA scope covers, by Durfee & Deming, Inc., Dept. G1, Rt. 1 Box 200, Beaverton, Ore., have proved very popular with hunters both in the field and while carrying gun in car or scabbard. The covers seal the ends of the scope tube against dust, rain, or snow, are instantly removable yet remain attached to the rifle as an insurance against loss. Write the manufacturers at the above address for full information regarding prices and location of dealer in your area.

SHOPPING



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ASTRA FALCON AUTOMATIC has magazine safety, an exposed hammer with half-cock notch, a live round indicator and positive thumb safety. The shape of the grip, the weight and the balance were carefully considered in designing the Falcon to assure that the finished product would be capable of better accuracy, while retaining the necessary properties of comfortable holding, easy aiming and pleasing appearance. The Falcon is an ideal pistol for personal defence, hunter's sidearm, or the plinker's fun. It is available in four versions: Falcon .22, .32, or .380; Falcon Bi-Cal, .32 with extra barrel to convert it to .380 or vice-versa; Falcon Bi-Con, .32 or .380 can also be had with a conversion unit in caliber .22 L.R.; Falcon Tri-Cal, with extra barrel and conversion unit to provide a pistol which can be fired in either of three calibers. From your dealer or write Firearms International Corp., Washington 22, D.C., for Catalog.



NEW "ADJUSTOMATIC" CHOKE now being produced by the Hartford Gun Choke Co., Inc. of Hartford, Conn., is both adjustable for pattern and automatic in operation. Installed on any single barrel pump or auto-loading shotgun, it gives the gunner a choice of choke settings for "single" patterns, and a selection of "double" combinations, for

any and every type of shotgun shooting. For the gunner who wishes to shoot one pattern continuously, seven separate manual settings are provided—from cylinder barrel to full choke. Five combinations of "double" patterns are also available in automatic choke; cylinder to improved, improved to modified, and modified to full choke, with two intermediate settings between these three. When used as an automatic choke, finger-tip control, by a simple re-setting device, returns the choke to the original setting. "Adjustomatic's" complete range of settings, and its unusual flexibility of operation, provide positive control in producing proper patterns with various types of loads and at varying ranges. Now available on 12 gauge only; 16 and 20 gauge will be available in Spring of 1958. A tough, high-tensile aluminum alloy contributes strength and light weight. Special alloy steels are employed where resistance to pressure and shock is required. The choice of metals and unusual design contribute to exceptionally long life without materially increasing the weight of the gun, improves the pointing, balance and swing or follow-through, and reduces recoil. Priced at \$29.95 installed. Hartford Gun Choke Co., Hartford, Conn.



TENTS of lightweight, functional design are being introduced by Eddie Bauer, mail order supplier of down insulated clothing and sleeping bags for outdoorsmen. Bauer tents feature maximum usable floor space and greater stability in high winds. Internal frames of high strength aluminum tubing support the tents which are made of tightly woven sage green cotton. The fabric is wind-proof, water repellent and exceptionally durable. All tents have floors of waterproof, wear resistant vinyl-coated nylon, and nylon mesh mosquito netting in doors and windows. The tents are simple and easy to put up or take down in minutes. The medium size Bauer tent has 85 square feet of usable floor space 8'6" x 10', is 6'7" high in the center, has wide fully zippered door and a zippered nylon mesh mosquito-proof door behind the opening. A window in the back wall also is protected with mosquito-proof nylon mesh. An elastic threshold prevents debris from blowing into the door opening. The medium size tent, complete with spring-loaded aluminum frame and long aluminum tent stakes, weighs only 22½ lbs. and rolls into a compact bundle only 8" x 40". Priced at \$98.50 and shipped express charges collect from Eddie Bauer, Dept G-1, 160 Jackson Street, Seattle 4, Washington.

WITH Guns



"PIXIE BOAT," ideal for sand as well as surf, consists of two mahogany pieces which, when up-ended in the sand, convert into wind or sun shields. The two halves plus paddles store easily in any clothes closet and can be transported in the trunk of an automobile. Offered by William R. Andrews, Inc., Dept. G-1, 25 Buick St., Boston 15, Mass., "Pixie" makes a superb yacht tender and because of its stability and portability is excellent for duck shooting or fresh water fishing or just plain fun in the sun. The two-seater sells for \$145.00, the single-seater for \$130.00.



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STITH SAVAGE 99 MOUNT is adjustable in three directions. Adjustment for eye relief is made by setting front band at forward edge of base (as pictured) for stock crawlers and average shooters; or at rear edge,



allowing scope to be pulled far back for heads-straight-up shooters. For windage adjustment, rear band is carried in windage block and is moved across the receiver by opposing windage screws. For elevation, standard windage block is medium height; high and low windage blocks are available for raising and lowering the rear scope band. Both bands have circular dovetails, can rotate in bases for both windage and elevation. The 26mm Mount weighs only 4½ ozs. Rear base attaches to peep sight screw holes in tang, factory drilled and tapped in all 99's. No need to drill the hardened receiver. Price \$20.00 complete.



RED HEAD SKEETRAP VEST is endorsed by leading shooters everywhere as a light-weight jacket combining rugged construction, good looks, and action-styling that won't interfere with your shooting. Features cross-stitched wear-patch on right shoulder, bellows pockets for shells, utility breast pocket with shell loops. It comes small, medium, and large, with adjustable two-button tab in front. Just one of many practical, attractive shooter's garments offered by Red Head, Dept. G-1, 4300 Belmont, Chicago 41, Ill.



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Buy for Less! Why Pay More!

FORTY BULLETS, ONE HOLE

(Continued from Page 45)

beating me ever since he started, and being of a stubborn and determined nature he now does it quite regularly. If he ever wins the big ones, remember that he has a lot of good coaching, experience, and determination to win.

So what should you buy to get started? Well, if it is at all possible (and it is possible; match shooters are amazingly generous even with their pet rifles if a novice shows real interest), shoot several target rifles before you choose one to buy. Select the one that suits you best. Any match grade target rifle will have more inherent accuracy than you can use, but buy the best you can afford. You'll probably buy another, and another and another, as you go along, but that is beside the point.

Remember that it is impossible for a manufacturer to make a stock that will fit all sizes and shapes of shooters as perfectly as a match rifle must fit, so don't be too much worried about details until you have enough experience to know exactly what you want. The stock should be full in the comb, full in the forearm, and as straight as you can get it. The comb should be about one-half to five-eighths inch above the line of bore, leaving enough wood to allow for fitting to your cheek. Also, get it long enough; that is, 14½ inches from trigger to butt plate and about 18½ inches from trigger to tip of forearm. (I am giving my stock dimensions because I think I'm about average in build—5 feet 10 inches, 174 pounds and wear a 15½ by 33 shirt. You can judge from this

about what you might require.) When it has been shaped to fit you comfortably you will find it to be a real advantage.

For iron sights I prefer the tube type over any others because it provides better definition, admits less outside light and distraction, and is more accurate in adjustment than any other rear sight that I have ever used. This sight is incidentally cheaper than most good receiver sights.

So far as scope sights are concerned I own two. One is 15-power magnification, the other is 10 power. I much prefer the smaller lower powered scope, simply because I can shoot better scores with it. I have been up and down the line with scope power from 8 to 20, and the 10 X suits me best for most occasions. Other men, other opinions—and you'll form your own as you gain experience.

Don't hesitate to ask for advice from experienced shooters in regard to your shooting problems. Ask for coaching in your practice, for in this way you can get used to competing with changing light and wind conditions while still concentrating on your hold, sight picture, and let-off. In this manner you can get a check on your own ideas of what is going on and, if you find it differs from what you thought, stop and discuss it with your coach. You might be as surprised as I was during a 200-yard team match at Camp Perry one year. I had the high individual score, strictly due to good coaching. I could not see the things my coach saw and I know my score would have been much lower if I hadn't listened to him.

While you gain in experience you will want to add or change equipment, so keep your

eyes and ears open and again don't hesitate to ask for advice about kind and type of equipment. Shooters are friendly people, willing enough to advise and help. If they are also opinionated people, listen anyway and accept what seems best to you.

If a person likes target shooting, I recommend that he stick to it. He should enter and fire in every match that he can attend, and he will find that his scores will gradually improve until he can compete on a par with anyone. The National Rifle Association and its affiliated rifle clubs use a classification system in which competitors are classified according to scores fired in previous competitions. Marksmen, sharpshooter, expert, and master riflemen each compete for awards in their own class. To obtain awards and recognition, the shooter is not asked to beat riflemen above his own qualification.

The shooter should have a real desire to excel in target shooting and enjoy it as a sport only. It is a game of skill for skill's sake, and for self-enjoyment.

I classify myself as an amateur, and I still enjoy my shooting whether I win or



Match rifleman acquires much gear, many gadgets for improving scores.

lose a match. My fun comes from associations and the fact that I like shooting, have worked hard to learn what I know about it, and am somewhat proud of my accomplishments.

Shooting is a year around sport, indoors or outdoors. It is highly competitive and I know of no other way that a person who likes to shoot can obtain more downright fun or personal satisfaction than by finishing ahead of five or six hundred of the Nation's best riflemen at our National matches. Of course, the winner of every rifle match gets a thrill out of it, but eventually those who can make it attend the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. Once they have attended nothing ever seems to keep them from returning year after year. Here the National champions are selected and there is always the possibility that it might be you.

I recommend target shooting as a sport which will hold your interest longer than any other game you could possibly engage in. So far as I'm concerned I've really enjoyed every bit of it and have no memories of anything done by myself or others that I regret, and I expect I'll be shooting so long as I'm able. On the evidence of the old timers who are still tough competition, that could be for a long, long time!

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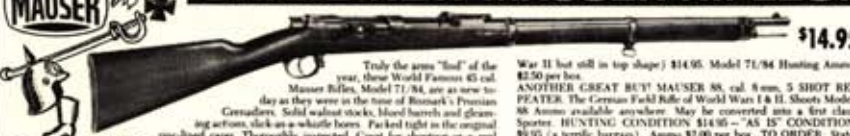
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DEATH WEARS HORNS ON MARAJO

(Continued from page 29)

swamp water during the rainy season, making a haven for zebu cattle . . . and water buffalo.

It was near dusk on our third day at Ribanceira when Dr. Morelli arrived from Belem. Amid the excitement of our first greetings, he told us that he had spotted buffalo about seven kilometers south of headquarters—two cows and a big bull. Immediately the excitement of his arrival dissolved into seriousness. This was the three-some we were after, Lobato told us, and the next few hours, well into the dark hot night, found us readying our equipment and making plans.

Jim Marshall had brought his only available weapon, a .30-06. Dr. Lobato toted a .375 H. & H. Magnum, a gift two years earlier from Dr. Marshall. Good guns are exceedingly rare in Brazil, and dependable ammo is even rarer. For years, Lobato used an antique 7 mm. military rifle, and although he is an expert marksman, large buffalo bulls would absorb a barrage of those bullets and still charge you. "But our lives on Ribanceira are not so dangerous now, thanks to Dr. Marshall's gift of the .375 Magnum," Dr. Lobato told me.

NEXT morning, our canoes slithered quietly away from the dry banks just as the sun broke over the misty horizon. At the equator the sun rises hot and sets hot. Slowly the vaqueros poled our three shallow canoes across the vast stretches of marsh, and for three hours we skimmed through hundreds of acres of lush green native grasses buried two feet deep in lukewarm water. The watery sounds of our progress undertoned Dr. Morelli's voice as he told us of his own near-tragic experience while hunting buffalo four years ago. Hunting afoot, not far from where we were, he had come upon a herd of nine buffalo. Selecting a handsome target, using a 7 mm. military rifle similar to Lobato's, he drew careful bead on the animal and squeezed. The small slug knocked the buffalo to its knees, but not for long. The other eight animals, panicked or maddened by the shot or by the smell of blood or just by the sight of a human being, whirled and charged. Luckily there was a tree nearby and it was there that Morelli took refuge.

But each of the eight buffs seemed to take it as its personal obligation to revenge the injury of the first, and they milled beneath the tree, trying to dislodge Morelli from his shaky perch. Not until all nine animals were killed was it safe for Morelli to climb down and return to camp. The story did little to improve my morale. Here was I, armed only with cameras, about to face animals better suited for anti-tank rifles!

Ahead of us lay a wall of aninga trees amid tall thickets of swamp brush. Lobato had told us the night before of how buffalo would retreat to these shaded thickets for protection against the broiling equatorial sun, and it was in these thickets just ahead that Morelli had spotted the rogue bull and his harem.

We bulldozed our way into the swamp thicket. Inside was stifling and deathly still. Mosquitos swarmed in legions, and sweat flowed from every part of our dehydrating bodies. Every few yards we would break into a tiny clearing, where we would stop and listen. Splashing water and breaking

branches were the sounds we listened for. Occasionally, we stopped while a vaquero shinned up two crossed canoe poles for a look-see over the ten-foot-high thickets. Frequently I checked my cameras and wiped gobs of sweat and swamp water off the delicate lenses. Jim's .30-06 couldn't have been wetter had he dipped it in the swamp water.

It was past scorching mid-day when we decided to split our forces. The three canoes fanned out, taking a northerly heading some one hundred feet apart. Lobato was in one canoe, Morelli in another, and Jim and I were in the third which held the middle position.

A sudden crash of brush caused us to whirl. Heavy splashes and the sharp snaps of breaking brush guided our glances and, seconds later, through a small opening in the thicket no larger than a car door, we saw three black shiny-wet water buffs pour past. Jim, at the bow of the canoe, threw a hasty shot into the brushy opening just as the third and biggest animal burst by. His 220 grain Silvertip expanding bullet scored, as we found out later; but the huge buffalo never flinched. By sound we traced the fleeing threesome as they plowed through the underbrush. Then all was silent again. We poled hurriedly to the opening through which the buffalos had disappeared. There



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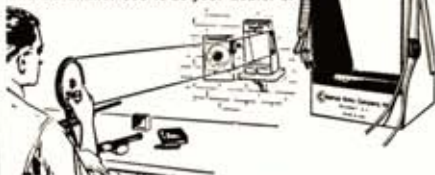
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as plain as moose tracks on a sand dune, was a clear swath through the thicket. The murky water was still churning mud and we could trail the animals indefinitely with such a highway as this to follow. Abruptly, we tensed with anxiety when we looked again into the stirring water. Those tinges of red were blood, which meant that Jim's hurried shot had hit. It also meant that there was a possibility of being ambushed by a crazed, wounded buffalo. He could be sulking ready to charge, three feet off the pathway, and we would never know it. Not, that is, until it was too late. Irvad had told us of a similar incident a couple of years ago where a wounded buffalo ambushed an American hunter, completely demolishing his canoe before the hunter could kill him.

One of the vaqueros poling nearest me touched my shoulder. My fingers instinctively readied my camera as I followed his point into the thick brush. I saw nothing. The canoe stopped and a vaquero blew loudly on a steer's horn. The two other canoes answered, and two of the bare-footed cowboys jumped into the hip-deep water and started hacking a path through the heavy thicket. They would stop frequently to scrape two and three inch black, blood-sucking leeches off their legs. Jim kept them covered with his rifle as, foot by foot, they cleared a path through which the canoe slowly followed.

With each hack of the machetes I expected to see a mountain of black dynamite explode from the thicket wall. Then, gradually, no more than ten feet away through the brush, I made out the outline of a buffalo's head and horns. It was massive and ominous looking, and as we moved closer the head hooked back and forth, angry, warning us that we were getting too close. Where he was pawing, mud churned

and splashed around his powerful shoulders.

Hastily, the two machete men crawled back into the boat, and Jim motioned for the canoe to be moved into a slightly better position for shooting . . . that is, closer. And that was a mistake; one that could have been costly. Suddenly, the giant buffalo, its glistening black horns waving like polished pickaxes, burst from the water like a berserk freight train aimed straight at us. I wouldn't have given much for our chances at that moment, but, inches from the bow of the canoe, the great head hit water as the bull fell. My sweaty camera was working overtime as we stood helpless in the frail skiff, and without hesitation, Jim carefully poured three slugs into the skull of the too-near would-be killer.

The huge head shook as we retreated a welcome ten feet. Quite obviously, Jim's first shot, when we first glimpsed the beasts, had crippled the animal either in the hind leg or back, else he wouldn't have stopped after that first explosive lunge. But it seemed fantastic that the three later, close range shots could blast into the skull of the big beast with no apparent damage. Its black eyes glared with hate and pain as he pawed mud and scooped his head deep into the brackish water, covering his horns with moss and roots. Droplets of blood oozed from the three tiny holes near the base of his massive horns, but he was still alert.

This is where a rifle of really heavy caliber would have been worth its weight in plutonium. The .30-06 just didn't pack the knock-out. Prior to this I might have argued the point, because a .30-06 has always seemed to me to be a lot of rifle; but those few sweaty seconds made a convert out of me. When a 220-grain package rips into an animal at less than thirty feet and inflicts no more damage than a BB in a sack of

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cement, for my money you're under-powered. Had the big buffalo kept coming on that initial charge we would have needed canon power. We didn't have it. And now Dr. Marshall, no slouch with a weapon, aimed shot after shot at and hit vital spots, but walloping the buffalo across the rear with a walking stick would have been more spectacular . . . and perhaps equally as effective.

Within seconds, the wounded buffalo made four more vain attempts to reach our canoe, each time collecting lead from Jim's '06. It wasn't until the big bull turned his profile to us, giving Jim a shot into the back of the skull, that a killing penetration was scored. Slowly, the hulking head sank deep into stagnant water. Finally, all was still. Around the huge black form, the water turned crimson.

That evening, in the comfort of the Lobato home, Dr. Irval, who has over two hundred buffalo kills to his credit, told us much of his experiences with the tough animals. He has dropped only five with single shots, always shooting just below the center of the eyes when the buffalo's head is held high. This angle penetrates the vital brain area. But, he added, this angle of penetration is practically impossible during the wet season when one has to hunt by canoe.

As buffalo guns, Lobato recommends nothing smaller than the .375 Magnum. He says, "Our Marajo buffaloes are African-sized game and should be hunted as such." He recommends a heavy rifle that sends a 300 to 500 grain bullet at 2100 to 2500 feet per second. The heavy bullet is needed to deliver the energy and impact in a pinch—and on Marajo the pinch is where one often finds oneself.

In Africa, usually the sportsman is backed up with a powerful double wherever he goes. The customer can be helped out of a serious jam. Not so on Marajo. If the hunter gets in a tight on Marajo, he is jeopardizing his own life and perhaps the lives of half a dozen unarmed vaqueros with him. If an animal is wounded and not killed, every Marajoan cowboy for miles around is in danger.

I think the new highly successful .458 cartridge with its 500 grain bullet pushed along at 2125 feet per second would be a perfect gun for Marajo buffalo. Jim Marshall and I have an invitation to return to Marajo, and we'll do it one of these days. But next time we're going during the dry season and hunt from horses instead of canoe. And speaking for myself, I'm going to carrying heap-big-medicine. When I clobber one of those half-ton killers, I want it to stay clobbered.

At the present time, carrying firearms into Brazil presents no major problem. Permits must be obtained from the War Department Commission, Eighth Military Region, Belem, Para, Brazil. The main stipulation seems to be that guns must not be left in the country. Any gun taken in must be removed after hunt.

Brazil is an almost untapped hunting paradise for American sportsmen. Covering almost half the land area of South America, most of the country is vast, untamed wilderness teeming with fine game. The Isle of Marajo, near Belem, is the gateway to it all. For real adventure, go South, young men. One shot at water buffalo of Marajo will make any effort worthwhile.

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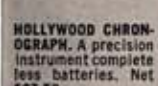


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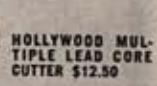
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TESTING POCKET AUTOS

(Continued from page 21)

think is the most enlightening, one of the tests made, was fired at 30 yards, a pretty fair distance for these pocket guns. All accuracy firing was done by one person, the author, using the Keith-recommended back-and-head-rest position with the gun supported by the drawn-up knees and left hand. The sights, such as they were, were blackened. Ten-shot groups were fired, and any shots that were called off were spotted and refired, to get as fair results as possible. I should not need to add that these pocket autos are very hard to shoot accurately, due to poor sights, small grips, and trigger pulls ranging from bad to down-right atrocious.

The FN Brownings.

The first pistol tested was a Browning model of 1900. This is pretty much an antique judging by the date, but there really isn't much difference between this gun and the later models. They all work on the straight blow-back system and the only changes made seem to be of a minor nature or for more pleasing appearance.

The trigger pull and the sights on this model were far above the average of the .32's tested. The machining was superb. The only really bad feature was the disproportionately small grip. With this gun as with all the others, we fired 10 rounds for accuracy, and 25 more for feel, functioning, and penetration. In the Browning 1900, no malfunctions occurred. Group size in the accuracy test was a poor 7¼", which surprised me as this looked like an accurate gun. In the penetration tests, the FN like all the .32's penetrated from 1¼" to 2¼" of hardwood boards. Any variations could probably be traced to unevenness in the hardness of the wood. The 1/16" steel plate showed only a slight dent when fired at from two yards. This was true of all the .32's tested.

The FN 1910 is the common FN pistol. The FN plant made well over a million of these, and thousands of exact copies have been made in Spain. This is a striker-operated gun with the recoil spring around the barrel. The front barrel bushing is fastened in place by a bayonet-type catch; not a very good feature as, if not properly assembled, the bushing can jump out of place and go flying. The barrel itself is locked in place by turning its lugs into contact with corresponding lugs machined into the receiver. This is not very conducive to accuracy. In the accuracy test, the M1910 grouped into 7¼". This gun had the smallest sights I've ever seen on a pistol, and also had a very bad trigger pull.

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The 1922 FN (which is the same pistol as the 1910 but with a 1" extension on the barrel and frame, and a correspondingly lengthened butt) had a much better trigger pull and far superior sights, but was no more accurate. This surprised me very much, as I have always thought that sighting radius and barrel length would improve accuracy. Both guns had about the same finish.

I also tested a war-time manufactured 1922 FN, and thought that the outcome would prove this roughly finished gun to be very inferior, but again I was wrong. In the accuracy test, it shot just as well as the other gun. However, there were several malfunctions: six failures to extract, two miss-fires, and one jam. When this job was shaken it rattled like a tin can full of pebbles, so it really surprised me that it worked at all.

The Walther Pistols.

The Walther 1910 was the first pistol extensively produced by this firm. The gun is small and fairly light, weighing just 18 ounces. The trigger pull was very good but, due to the light weight and very small grip, the recoil made accurate shooting difficult. I developed quite a flinch, as the front end of the trigger guard came back and slapped my trigger finger. However, the accuracy test gave a maximum spread of 8". The safety is very poorly designed; far too small, and requires a full 180° turn, on or off.

The famous Walther PP and PPK need little introduction here. Nearly everybody is familiar by now with these guns and their double-action feature on the first shot and their hammer-dropping safety device. (This feature is also on the new Smith & Wesson 9mm automatics.) The larger PP model tested was a finely finished peace-time made job. The PPK tested was not as well finished. Although by no means a wartime product, it just didn't have that polished look. In the accuracy tests, the little PPK managed to group into 4 5/16", while the larger PP made groups of 5 1/4". This surprised everybody, and several other shooters tried their hand at firing groups with both guns. But the results were always the same.

The Walther of French manufacture which we tested did not have as fine a finish as the German PP, and seemed to give greater recoil. In the accuracy tests, this gun came up with groups of 7".

Mausers.

The Mauser 1910 tested was a late model with disconnector safety to prevent firing with the magazine removed. Everything I've ever read about this gun indicates that it is one of the best-finished guns ever made. All the Mauser fans are going to hate me for this, but I wasn't much impressed by the



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high-class finish. My FN 1900 is a much better finished gun. Two good features were the very fast safety and the relatively good pointing abilities. In the accuracy test, it puts its ten rounds into 6 1/4". In spite of the hand-filling grips, recoil was quite snappy and the front of the trigger guard had a tendency to come back and hit the trigger finger.

Dreyse.

The Dreyse 1910 takes the prize as the most unlovely-looking automatic, but when taken apart it looks as if the designer had never heard that machining costs money. This is an accurate gun. Even with the hard simulated double-action trigger pull, I was able to turn in a group of only 4". The grips are much too small for good holding and the gun pointed too low. Altogether, I wasn't much impressed by this one; along with the everything else it came up with several failures to eject.

Ortgies.

The best-looking gun of all those tested is, without a doubt, the Ortgies. If you go for automatics without screws, this is the gun for you. There aren't even any screws to hold the grips in place. They are held by a catch in the back of the magazine well. This gun baffles most people when the time comes to take it apart for cleaning. It's very simple when you know the trick. Press in the safety and at the same time draw the slide back and up. A very good feature on the Ortgies is the fast safety. To put it on, just press the obvious button. To release it, just press in the grip safety. When pressed in, the grip

safety stays in, so a hard grip on the gun is not necessary. Group size was a fair 7 1/4". Recoil was a rather unpleasant jar.

Soemmerda.

Another gun made by the same people that made the Dreyse was—for lack of any other name stamped on it, I will call it by the name of the place where it was made—the Soemmerda. This pistol has a slide made in two parts, the larger forward part housing the barrel, and the smaller rear part with an integral breech-block. Apart from that, this gun is pretty much along the lines of the 1910 FN. The Soemmerda tested is not an accurate gun and has no features that I like. The group size was an even eight inches. Like the Dreyse, this gun has a barrel with only four grooves and lands.

Beretta.

The Beretta tested was a very rough wartime manufactured gun. The hard main-spring makes the hammer very difficult to cock. To put off the safety, it had to be turned a full 180°. Together with being inaccurate, it had a fairly heavy recoil and, when fired from the hip, it would religiously toss the empties into the shooter's face.

To get something with which to compare the results of these tests, I fired the 9mm. Luger and the S&W revolver, .38 Special. The Luger won the penetration test hands down, and the .38 did the same in the accuracy tests. The Luger penetrated six inches of the test boards and grouped into 3 1/4", while the .38 penetrated three inches and grouped into 2 1/4". Recoil with both these guns was a push into the hand rather than the jarring sensation of the 32's. In the steel plate test, the only gun to penetrate was the Luger. The .38 made a large dent but the lead bullets used flattened and expended their energy on too large a surface.

If you "liberated," bought, or traded for one of these European pocket automatics, I can tell you with certainty that you haven't got a target gun, and neither have you got a gun with the power generally considered essential for defense purposes. For plinking, the ammunition is too expensive. So what have you? You gave a gun that is flat, light in weight, easily concealed. If you are expert enough to depend on placing your shots "just so" rather on knock-down power, you might choose one of these for self defense. If so, the best for this purpose would be the Ortgies, as it is free of all pocket-snagging projections and has a very fast safety. The next best bet would be the FN 1900.

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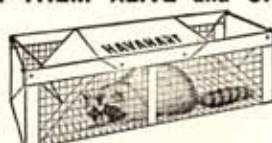
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WORLD'S ZANIEST SHOOTING MATCH

(Continued from page 32)

easy. It should bounce up at pretty much the same angle as it struck, allowing for some loss in velocity from hitting the water. But the angle is not constant, varying according to the height of the shooter, the water level, the actual vertical distance of the bullseye from the water level, and even the density of the water. All affect the results. Bullet caliber, velocity of the bullet on striking the water, and the slightly moving image of the target on the wind-stirred surface of the lake also are parts of an impossible equation.

One scientist tried, with little success, to reduce Prebersee ricochet shooting to known facts. Engineering student Franz Ramsauer in 1903 wrote a treatise on the physics of this sport. He based his findings on some testing he did with an 11 mm gun shooting round bullets. But his research was hampered by the danger of observing ricochets at close range, and by his lack of suitable instruments.

He discovered the most important factor to be the water, acting as a brake on the speed of the bullet. Thus the bullet emerges from the water at considerably less speed than when it hit. It travels no more than 11" below the surface of the water, according to Ramsauer's study, at a depth of about 1 1/4", and then bounces out again. But the bullet will bounce only if the striking angle is less than 6.5°. Bullets which travel as far as 20" beneath the surface won't bounce at all.

The angle of the bullet's exit from the water is further influenced by the natural drift of the bullet by its spin, and by the condition of the surface where it enters the water, such as ripples. The density of the water also is critical, influenced by the marshy quality of the lake with particles of mud in solution, and the temperature. Since none of these influences can be accurately measured or predetermined at the moment of shooting, luck plays a very important role in scoring hits. The marksmen aim at the water between 11 and 26 feet in front of the targets. And in spite of the scientific impossibility of hitting the targets with certainty, the Tamsweiger shooters do it pretty regularly. They have discovered how, among all the variables, one factor is constant: "It's fun!" It's fun trying to bounce bullets into those illusive targets, and it's fun to be a part of the rollicking, noisy crowd.

And the crowd is rollicking, and noisy. Contrary to still another rule of gun handling, red wine flows freely at Prebersee,

with the shooters themselves not abstaining. In fact, Herr Funke, owner of the Preber Lake "Alpine Inn" and range officer in charge of the shooting, believes that the reason visiting shooters are so often unsuccessful at Prebersee is that they go about the business too soberly, lacking the relaxed nonchalance needed for this game of bouncing bullets. "Our own shooters," says Herr Funke, "members of our local shooting club, the Tamsweiger Schutzenverein, know their capacities, drink leisurely of our good Tyrolean red wine, shoot with care and with experience, and make good scores. Good scores, that is, for this kind of shooting." Herr Funke and his helpers see to it that guns are loaded with one bullet only and then only after the muzzles are safely outside the window, and that the muzzle stays outside the window until after the shot is fired. It all sounds pretty outlandish to people used to the rigid formalities of ordinary target competition, but this entire shoot is conducted like a big party, and no one has been hurt so far. The objective at Prebersee is fun, not "possibles."

Experience at this type of shooting pays off, and the winners at Prebersee are mainly of the older generation. The few young men who are interested in shooting come to the range eager, stone sober, and always calculating. There are only a few younger shooters, because the rifles are expensive, as are ammunition and fees, and because of the long distance to travel to the range where the older shooters reign over the match events in

(Continued on page 57)

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(Continued from page 55)

an autocratic manner. But the younger men are always willing to learn, to try and beat the skilled master shooters. They measure the height of their rifle muzzles above the lake; the height of the bullseye over the water surface; even measure the temperature of the water to determine its density.

At Preber Lake three kinds of target shooting are popular. Ordinary off-hand shooting directly at standard 110-meter targets, and "jumping chamois" shooting, firing at cut-outs of chamois exposed for seconds at 75 meters, are common courses fired at Prebersee. But the range which draws shooters from all over the world, and which has in the past few years given this small Alpine village international shooting prominence, is the water shooting.

The ricochet shooting is done from inside the protected shooting shed at the water's edge. The front of the building has windows for firing points. Inside the building at the rear are the drinking parties. A fee is paid for each shot, ranging from a half Austrian schilling or 2 cents, to about 39 cents according to the type of range. This fee helps maintain the range.

Winter visitors to Preber Lake are offered water ricochet shooting also in the hall of the Tamsweg fire brigade. There a huge water basin serves as a "lake" indoors, permitting the local fans to keep in practice. The only difference there is that no cannon is fired as a salute when a shooter pierces the bull's eye, as is done at the lake.

How long this ricochet shooting has been going on is unknown to even the oldest people in the Tamsweg village area. Sarcastic Salzburger from the nearby capital of the Austrian province once stated: "Maybe one of the drunken Tamsweg shooters accidentally hit the water instead of the land-mounted target, and thus started Prebersee ricochet shooting." But there is no proof, of course. The first recorded water ricochet shooting match at Preber Lake took place in 1834, just 123 years ago. Since then 18 major events have been held. The Tamsweg Schutzenverein has held such a match every three years in recent years, but three to five minor shoots are organized annually.

The three-year major shooting events are opened by Mass held in a field near the range. Bishop Filzer of Salsburg last year blessed the country people, the shooters and the weapons near an altar improvised from a picnic bench. The governor of the province and the leading citizens of Salsburg were present to watch, to shoot, and to drink.

While the old Preber Lake shooting events were once mostly a drinking meeting for the local Alpine farmers, the accent nowadays is on the rifle sport angle. But fun is there in abundance. Years ago the targets were made of wood, about 32" in diameter

and 1/2" thick. The target fronts were all decorated in a more or less artistic manner, showing the range, a game scene, a marriage party, or scenes of the nearby Tamsweg village. Wooden targets were abandoned during the 19th century when the .70-caliber percussion muskets then used tore the targets to splinters.

For the past 20 years, paper targets have replaced the wooden disks. Tradition demands that the paper target hits be transferred onto a separate wooden disk, decorated like the old ones. Each of the little black circles indicating the hits is marked with the number of the shooter.

Only one or two such wooden targets are consecrated each year. The 11" red bullseye of the paper target is represented by a small red paper disk 2 3/4" in diameter. Each of the red paper disks is numbered according to the succession of shots. After the shoot the small bullseyes are matched on a special machine to determine which shooter came closest to the target dead center. The shooter who is listed in the log book as having the same number as the winning disk is declared the winner. Miniature red disks are handed to the scoring riflemen for each hit, and they pin them to their Tyrolean hats to show off their record at a glance.

The next meeting at this century-old range is scheduled in 1960 and will be the 20th meeting since 1934. If past events are any guide, there will be marksmen from many nations to try their luck.

One rule is that every shooter must be willing to lend his rifle to another shooter. This prevents the sharp ones from having their rifles sighted-in so that the shooter can aim directly at the target bullseye while the barrel, adjusted after many test shots, points toward the water for the desired ricochet effect. Nobody knows for sure whether this trick would win or not, but it isn't permitted. Visitors who want to use the range must write to Herr Funke far ahead of time, and must be members of an internationally-recognized shooting club. If they are not members, shooters may obtain a guest membership for \$10.

Herr Funke has been at the range for many years. Shooters come and shooters go, but the Alpine Inn stays. He knows the pros and cons of the range, the shooter's problems and, to some extent, even the secret of hitting the bullseye. "This place is not for the impatient man who wants only to shoot in quick succession to prove his superb handling of a gun," the slim, blond Alpinist philosophizes. "This is also not a place for wild parties or for dancing. But for the outdoorsman who wants to do some trout fishing in the morning, who wants cray fish fresh from the lake for lunch, and who wants to patiently try to outwit the difficulties and score on the water ricochet target, Preber Lake is the right place."

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THE GUN I LOVE

(Continued from page 35)

Mark II was a conversion of older long rifles to SMLE's. It was in 1907 that the historic Mark III came along. The principal improvement—or change, anyway—was replacing the two-piece clip-guide with that huge and ungainly hunk of iron bridging the receiver which was remained a characteristic of Lee-Enfields to this day. The Mark III had front-sight guards of mouse-ear shape, and similar guards for the rear-sight.

This was to be the standard British rifle throughout the First World War and was also to be used by hundreds of thousands of Tommies and their allies in the Second one. Today it is the regulation rifle of many nations, including those on both sides in the current Near East troubles. As a war-emergency measure a "Mark III-Star" was issued in 1918, simplified by leaving off the magazine cut-off plate, the old "peep-and-dial" long-range sights on the left side, and the wind-gauge. After the Armistice the new Mark III's again had a cut-off but the other features of the Star were retained. So, while Marks I and II are identical, there are two patterns of Mark III—more, when one considers the thousands of SMLE's made up from assorted parts.

Before it proved itself in the trenches, the SMLE had been so criticised, especially as to its low power and dubious accuracy, that it was definitely on borrowed time. A completely new Mauser-type rifle, to be of .28 caliber, was being readied to replace it.

The "Enfield" of 1914 was not fully developed at the time it was decided to rush it into production regardless, with the .303 cartridge for which it had never been intended. Many thousands were ordered in the United States, but as the rimmed shell refused to work properly through the magazine the 1914 model was not issued to Tommies at the front except—as they were very accurate—for sniping.

To fill the orders, Remington and Winchester had tooled-up on a vast scale. When Uncle Sam found himself at war and only two plants building Springfields, someone suggested putting the .30-06 barrel on the British gun and issuing that to the millions of newly-recruited doughboys. The result was the "U.S. Rifle, Model 1917", commonly called the "Enfield" and for that reason all too commonly confused with the old SMLE in this country. They are no more alike than the .45-70 and the .30-06, although both are "Springfields."

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better in the Enfield than the .303 could ever do, and the rifle rendered the AEF sterling service. But it was never a well-liked piece, containing as it did so much excess wood and iron.

Between a Lee-Enfield butt-stock and a Springfield fore-end it featured a Mauser action, above which was mounted its unique peep-sight. This, a really great advance in rifle design, made necessary a special low-slung arrangement of the bolt-handle, so that to this day the 1914-1917 breech-action is tops in connection with telescope sights. If the Archduke Ferdinand had been able to keep himself from getting shot for just a little longer, it might well have been that the .30-06 Springfield would have vanished from the scene along about 1920. Given time for whittling down the 1914 Enfield pattern to reasonable dimensions, and with millions of them on hand, the chances are that it would have become the standard of our Regular Army and Navy, let alone the British. As things were, we stuck by the '06 until the Garand M-1 ("M-2's" seem as rare as Second National Banks or Third Methodist Churches) reached maturity, while "The Limeys" reverted to the war-proved SMLE Mark III. Its Mark IV was merely a bringing up to date of older specimens, Mark V only experimental. The Mark VI of the Second World War, with its Civil War-style bayonet, had been developed by 1930, but did not go into mass production until Hitler began to shout. The whole rifle is simpler, for economy in manufacture and ruggedness in the field. The bulky ramp rear-sight has been replaced with a simple two-position rocker peep. Accuracy has been somewhat improved by making the barrel heavier, the added weight being compensated for by doing away with the enormous nose-cap.

It was impossible to pack any more wallop into the .303 case, because the Lee bolt with its separate head and rear locking just could not take more. But there are compensations. The construction makes possible the smooth, short, quick bolt-throw so much like the beloved Krag's. Although the SMLE and the Enfield both have straight-line manual cocking against the mainspring, this feature, so objectionable in the 1914-1917 model, is much less so in the Lee action. In fact, once you become used to it you'll forget it's there!

Now that SMLE Mark III's are at last being sold commercially in this country at modest prices, American sportsmen will be interested in the possibilities of this model—especially men who like the Krag. The SMLE is one of the easiest of military rifles to convert to a sporter. Countless articles have detailed a variety of ways of doing this, and



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results visible on Enfield sporters in use all over the world prove the point.

The Remington-Lee and Lee-Metford had only a half-cock notch by way of safety device. This has been retained in the Lee-Enfields, although various kinds of alleged thumb-safeties were added. I say "alleged" because personal experience has aroused considerable distrust of their reliability. The old "half-bent," as Tommy calls it, is positive, and it spares the mainspring. But letting-down to it on a loaded chamber is a hazardous procedure. Be careful!

The SMLE magazine can be loaded in any one of three different ways. Apart from the rifle, it can be stuffed by hand—and carried thus with its ten rounds. When in place, it can be filled through the receiver one shell at a time, or by two of the five-round clips, one atop the other. The SMLE is the only bolt rifle of any kind ever to feature clip-loading on anything but an empty magazine! Or, alternately, to permit insertion of fresh magazines without removing a round from the chamber! Soldiers and hunters will appreciate these unique qualities. There are other detachable-box rifles—but of limited capacity and without clip-loading. Our military M-1 holds a mere eight rounds—and

you can't put in any more until ye olde clippe poppes you in ye eye.

Target-grade SMLE's of standard service pattern were made by such private firms as Birmingham Small Arms, and there is a wide variety of shooting gadgets available for them in England, including a .22 conversion kit.

The fore-sight is of ordinary military type but the rear-sight on the SMLE is quite a doo-dad. One advantage of a "ramp" sight is that it is stronger than the vertical-leaf, but its principal point is that it is possible to put the graduations farther apart. It's a matter of geometry. As for the mechanical side, the 1903 British sight's slide is arranged to lock automatically when you release the button. Furthermore, it has a simple "mike" adjustment worked by the thumb-nail; one stab with the thumb is five yards in range. Where there is a windgauge, it clicks for each inch at 100 yards and has six-inch graduations.

As a practical arm for hunting, for combat or just as an historic relic to hang on the wall, the SMLE is unique. The writer speaks with feeling and from experience—for his Lee-Enfield has been put to all three uses.

THE MYSTERY OF THE KM COLTS

(Continued from page 39)

slips inside a leather carrying case. The KKP revolver in a case is said to have been issued to officers of the Navy.

The KKP pistol production was soaked up by commercial and military demands in Austria-Hungary, but still the Navy was unhappy. The five year "patent" of Mr. Ganahl having elapsed, Austrian agents made a second try to secure Colt revolvers from London. This endeavor was discussed briefly before Parliament the following year.

Speaking before the British Parliamentary Committee investigating the gun trade in 1854-5, Mr. Thomas Hunt of Potts & Hunt, gunmakers, remarked about simultaneous discharge of more than one chamber in revolvers. Citing his experience in the field, he said:

"I had an order for some of Colt's revolvers from Vienna, and I went to Colonel Colt's (factory) to examine for myself. I could clearly see from the construction that it was impossible [for it to be entirely free from simultaneous discharges]; and the result was, that I did not furnish our customers with revolvers."

The date of this incident could not have been prior to January, 1853; Colt's factory was not in production in London before then. Ganahl's patent, protecting him in all improvements, tied the hands of the Austrian authorities and kept them from buying guns elsewhere, and did not expire until August of 1854. It was probably after this time that Potts received the inquiry from Vienna.

The Navy continued using the KKP revolvers until 1859. By then Sam Colt had obtained a more active Vienna agent, Herr Ferdinand Fruewirth. He was a gunmaker of Vienna and later developed the bolt action repeating rifle which was adopted by the Austro-Hungarian Gendarmerie in 1869. Through his intercession, a total of 1,000 genuine Hartford-made Colt revolvers were finally obtained for the Royal Navy. First delivery of these arms was in one lot of 500 revolvers, 400 of which were at once

issued to the Adriatic Sea squadron of the "K u K M," or Imperial-Royal Navy.

The squadron commander at Spignol, Italy, then under Austrian rule, requested that 400 of the "revolver pistols for enlisted sailors as arrived from England are to be delivered (with the leather belts) to the ships of the Imp.-Roy. Squadron which come into Venice. The Imp.-Roy. Squadron Command is duly requested to transfer (issue?) from the local arsenal 400 pieces, and to distribute them evenly, following its own judgement, among the ships' non-commissioned officers and enlisted sailors." A rough draft of the manual for the loading of the



Late type Ganahl KKP Colt cased with curious flask was issued to Austrian navy officers at Venice during 1850's.

revolvers was enclosed with the order. "The ammunition for the weapons is at present in manufacture," the order concluded, "it will be sent there soon." The date was Venice, July 6, 1859.

The revolvers came from England but were American made. They were stamped on receipt at the Venice arsenal with the Navy number and "KM" on the top grip strap. No. KM 495, of the first batch of 500, is an American-made Colt Navy, factory number 34690. It was returned to the U.S. from a sale in England in 1952. A following serial, KM 596, from the second lot of 500 revolvers, has a lower factory number: 31627. KM 353 is numbered 32358. Production at Hartford had reached much higher numbers by 1859. The possibility is that Colt shipped to Austria obsolete Navys which he had not been able to sell. The KM Colts are of the

small-guard style, fitted with a round trigger guard that is almost too small to get a finger into. These were obsoleted by the introduction of a large iron or brass guard about 1856. It is possible that the small guard guns did not sell quickly, and Colt used some that had been in his warehouse to fill the order, instead of sending fresh production. There is a detail difference in the bullet cut-out of the Colt barrels—the 1859 pattern was larger and made loading easier. The guns Colt sold Austria were of the early style, with a small notch in the barrel without much clearance.

Austria needed these Colts, and both the "KM's" and their predecessors the KKP models played their part in giving Franz Joseph's fleet supremacy on the Adriatic. Venice was occupied by the Austrian navy, and the second 500 KM Colts were issued by the Venice Imperial Arms Depot on February 8, 1860. The battles in the Adriatic were among the last uses of the "close and board" technique of naval warfare, in which pistols were so effective, and the Austrian forces were undefeated at sea. Only after the ultimate victory of Prussia over Austria at Koeniggratz in July of 1865, and the unification of Italy by plebiscite, did the power of Austria wane in Venetia.

What happened to the KKP revolvers, when the Austrians surrendered the arms depot in Venice, is not known. The modern Venice Arsenal and Museum has no examples of these guns. The Austrian War Archives indicate the KM Colts were turned in during the 1880's for Gasser revolvers. Patented in Vienna about 1870 by L. Gasser, this solid frame side ejector D.A. cartridge revolver remained Austrian army and navy standard till after the turn of the century. There are few KM Colts known today, but all are for paper cartridges. Apparently none were converted in service.

Only one KKP Ganahl revolver was found in Austria by F. H. Baer, although he contacted the descendant of Joseph Ganahl. One KKP revolver is in Sam Colt's personal collection. A few are in collectors' hands. A cased set was sold by Walter Craig of Selma, Alabama, #990. A Texas collection contains a cased set #982, which has a batch number of 9 stamped on small parts. A square-guard KKP #351, and a round guard, cased, #976, are on record. The early guns seem to have plain cylinders: later guns have decorative bands at the stop holes to hide the scarring from use. Some of the guns are engraved. The usual finish is a smooth file cut to all metal parts, with a dull case-hardening to the frame and sometimes cylinder, and heat blue for the barrel and straps. Handles are of wood, apparently walnut.

The KM Colts are equally scarce, consider-

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ing that 1,000 of them were delivered to the Venice Imperial Arms Depot. They must have had a high rate of loss from battle and wearing out between 1860 and 1885.

The KM Colts were equipped with the regular Navy powder flask, regular Colt nipple wrench, a special capper to hold percussion caps, and an extra cylinder. These accessories, and the odd leather holsters, are marked with the KM stamp and the Austrian issue serial number applied when they were issued from the Venice arms depot. "KM" numbers, on either guns or accessories, are known as follows: KM 298, KM 79, KM 201, KM 395, KM 495, KM 596, KM 880. There are undoubtedly more: these approximately span the 1,000 quantity and indicate the issue of at least 880 sets, guns and equipment, of the 1,000 received by Austria.

Probably the best answer to "where did they go" is found in an old Bannerman catalog where the Austrian holsters are erroneously listed as "Cossack," and in a brief note from GUNS Vienna correspondent: "Sorry to say, no investigation can be made at the present time in the Hungarian armories. The year 1945 was somewhat disastrous to all weapons collections within Soviet reach." Whether guns or records exist in Russia, only time can tell.

But American gun collectors need not give up hope of finding more KM Colts. Some of the guns and equipment came here years ago as "war surplus." More turned up after the recent fracas, and we may reasonably expect that in the future an opportunity to find these guns will be afforded to U.S. collectors, or they may buy them as "war surplus."

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(Continued from page 24)

signal was given, and the contestants could fire at will. It usually took about five minutes for all ten contestants to fire their shots. Match rules allowed them to fire their shots from standing, kneeling, or sitting positions. Most of them shot standing up.

After all ten shots for a turkey were fired the "all clear" signal was given and the target boy then gathered up the targets and delivered them to the non-participating impartial judges with name side down. The targets were judged accurately with fine caliper rules, and in a few cases ties had to be shot off. The contestant placing a shot pellet nearest the center of his target (nearest the center of the white dot in the center of the black bullseye) was declared the winner, and winning was not as easy as it may at first sound to some. I had to shoot three times to get my Thanksgiving gobbler. Actually, I should have said four times, because I had to shoot off a tie.

Any standard shotgun from .410 to 12 gauge could be used, and no choking devices were allowed. This gave contestants desiring to use doubles and over-unders an equal chance. Contestants could choose any size shot from No. 4 to No. 8, and of course practically all of them preferred the 8's which they believed would give more chance of a close hit.

A civic club in a small country town stages a number of these matches every year. They buy their prizes, (usually farm turkeys, geese, smoked hams, fat pigs, hound dog pups) from the farmers, and all profits from the matches are used to buy Christmas baskets for needy families. These shoots

improve sportsman-farmer relations in the area.

Although winning at shotgun shooting matches is at least 75 percent luck, it is fun and good sport just the same. Where no regulation targets are easily available, they can easily be cut in squares from white cardboard or even pieces of white paper. Simply make a cross mark in the center of each target with a heavy pencil, and the contestant placing a shot nearest the center of the cross mark on his target wins.

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Many prizes are won with the smaller gauges, but the more consistent winners use 12 gauge shotguns. And guns with 28 or 30 inch full choke barrels are better than those with shorter, more open bored barrels. My own pet shotgun shooting match gun is a Model 90 Marlin 12 gauge over-under with 28 inch modified and full choke barrels. A friend of mine, "Gent" Newby, uses a late model pump with 30 inch full choke barrel. And "Gent" goes home with quite a lot of meat and other prizes from the matches he attends.

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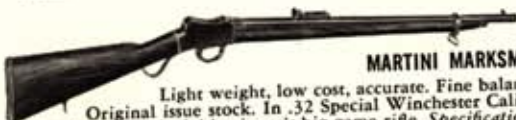
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ELMER KEITH SAYS . . .

(Continued from page 10)

.476, .475 Nitro and No. 2, and the .500, .577 and .600, all take the No. 40 British Berdan cap furnished by I.C.I. in England. Cases, bullets, and Berdan caps are imported by Frank Clark Jr., Box 297, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Winfield Arms Co. of Los Angeles furnish an excellent little Berdan decapper; or one can drill a hole through a hard-wood board to hold the head of case, then drive a heavy awl through the fired cap on about a 45 degree angle to just miss the anvil, and pry out the fired cap. R.C.B.S. Gun & Die Shop, Oroville, California, can furnish re-loading tools to full-length resize the cases and seat the bullets.

For the smaller bottle-neck cases 4060 Dupont works very well; also in many of the larger cases; and both 3031 and 4895 may be used. Usually one can start at about the same weight of L.M.R. powder as the original Cordite charge, but usually you have to add a few grains weight to bring the load up to normal elevation.

For the various black powder double rifles, a modified cordite load is now furnished in England and Hilary MacInturff of Usk, Washington, has done a great deal of work with these rifles and loads and makes molds and tools for them.

The cases should all be full-length resized and necked small enough to hold the bullet tight. Lyman Gunsight Corp. furnishes a case indenter that can also be used to indent the case in three places right over the cannellure located near the base of the bullet on about all British bullets for these big rifles.

Each individual rifle is a law unto itself as regards individual loading, and some experiment is usually needed to bring both barrels together at 100 yards on double rifles. Sometimes a few grains more or less powder will bring the individual groups of each barrel together. The larger case cartridges usually work best with 4064 while the straighter cases like the .450 Nitro Express usually work best with the faster burning 3031, and 4895 will also usually substitute. In my experience, one can start with the given load of cordite—that is, use same number of grains of our powders as the original cordite charge. Bores should be cleaned with hot water, followed with solvent and oil after drying, after firing with corrosive primers.

HANDCUFFS, \$7.50; LEG IRONS, \$5.00. Leather and canvas restraints. Thomas Ferrick, Box 12, Newburyport, Mass.

OLD HANDCUFFS, legirons, thumbfasts, shackles wanted. Patterson Smith, 2FL, 269 Shepard Ave., East Orange, N. J.

QUAIL, CROW, and game call. Simplest and finest in the U.S.A. \$1.00 postpaid. Valley Gun Shop, 7784 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, Calif.

OLD HANDCUFFS, legirons, thumbfasts, shackles wanted. Sebes, P.O. Box 17, Englewood, N.J.

100 TRICK KNOCKOUTS for self-defense \$1.—1c each. Priest, Box 251, Evanston 1, Illinois.

1957 SCOPES-LATEST MODELS BRAND NEW FACTORY SEALED BOXES

Bear Cub 2½—\$33.25; 4x—\$42.95; 6x—\$56.95. Weaver 60 Series—K. 2.5 & K. 3—\$24.75; K4—\$29.25; K6—\$31.75; K-V—\$38.75; K8 & K10—\$39.25. Lyman All-American 2½x—\$32.95; 4x—\$35.25; 6x—\$43.25. Weaver top mounts—\$7.75. Complete line of sporting goods in stock. Write for LOWEST PRICES.

20% DEPOSIT ON C.O.D.'s

PARKER DISTRIBUTORS Dept. 1701
P.O. Box 55, Williamsbridge Sta., N. Y. 67, N.Y.

Government Primers

Many ask whether Government primers sold through the N.R.A. are corrosive or not, and when the change occurred. The change from corrosive to non-corrosive primers was authorized in 1949 and some small lots made then; but generally speaking, one can consider all Government-arsenal-made primers made after 1950 as being non-corrosive and all made prior to 1950 as being corrosive.

Resize All Cases

All pistol and revolver cases should be full-length resized, not only to insure a smooth easy fit in the chamber of the hand gun, but also to insure uniform bullet pull and, most important, a perfect waterproof seal of the bullet in the case through friction in seating the bullet. If the pistol or sixgun bullet is loose in the case, no amount of crimp in revolver loads will seal against moisture or gun oil, and a good uniform crimp cannot be maintained as the brass will vary in thickness.

Auto pistol cases must be full-length resized and also kept trimmed to exact factory length for best accuracy, since many auto pistol cartridges headspace from the head of the case to the front or forward lip. These should never be crimped but should depend on friction fit of bullet to hold the slug in place.

For revolvers, cases should all be resized also so they will fit freely in the chambers. If they are tight in the chamber you may not get them all the way in when loading, with the result that you will get misfires due to the case rim not being down hard against the rim cut in the chamber. When the striker hits the primer, the blow is cushioned by having to drive the case fully down in the chamber.

Many reloaders complain that their fine Colt & S&W revolvers work perfectly with factory loads, but misfire with their reloads. In most cases, this is the reason. They are neck sizing only, and the cases are not free in the chambers. Some revolver chambers may vary slightly in internal diameter and some cases may thus expand until they are shorter than cases from other chambers. This in turn will effect the amount of crimp on that particular case unless you full-length

resize the cases. Full-length resizing is a must for best accuracy and dependability of your sixgun and auto pistol reloads.

In resizing high power rimless rifle cases, great care should be exercised to avoid changing headspace. This type of case headspaces from the face of the cartridge head where it bears on the bolt face to the front shoulder of the case, and it is very easy to resize them a trifle too far and thus greatly increase headspace, even to the danger point. When setting up your full-length case-resizing die, be sure it will resize the neck of case back to about 1/64" from the shoulder and no further; for if you go clear back to the shoulder of the case you run a very good chance of also pushing the shoulder back and creating dangerous and excessive headspace.

The belted Magnum cases headspace on the front of the belt instead of the front shoulder and are an improvement on this account; but modern powerful bench loading presses can shove the belt back on these cases just as easily as they can move the shoulder back on the older type of bottleneck high power rifle case. In either case, you then have excessive headspace and when you pull the trigger the firing pin must first drive the cartridge case forward until the shoulder or belt hits the shoulder in the chamber before the cartridge fires. If the case is too short for the space from bolt face to shoulder of chamber, the front end and body of the case will swell into the imperfections of the chamber, locking it there while the pressure drives the head of the case back until stopped by the bolt face. The case must either stretch that amount or rupture. A ruptured case, known as a separation in extreme cases, allows the gas to come back around the bolt face and into the magazine. This can not only wreck the rifle but the shooters' eyes as well. So be very careful in your adjustment of the sizing die with all rimless cases, whether they are of the plain or belted magnum type.

BULLETS

SINGLE or DOUBLE JACKETED: The Double Jacketed bullet consists of a smaller, shorter jacket inserted into a larger, longer jacket and swaged together with the pure lead core to form a CONTROLLED EXPANDING BULLET. Thick at the base and tapered to a thin jacket at the point. THESE ARE TERRIFIC! Bullets priced per 100, available in round-nose, spitzer and hollowpoint.

CALIBER	GRAIN	SINGLE JACKET	DOUBLE JACKET
22	50, 55, 70	\$2.70	—
6MM	75, 87, 105	\$3.40	—
257	60, 87, 117	\$3.50	—
6.5MM	65, 87, 100, 120, 130	\$3.50	—
270	130, 140, 150, 160, 170	\$3.75	\$8.00
7MM	145, 150, 175	\$4.35	\$8.50
30	150, 173, 180, 200	\$4.00	\$8.50
303	150, 173, 180, 200	\$4.00	\$8.50
8MM	150, 173	\$4.50	\$9.00

Low's Pays the Postage; Send Check or M.O.

Bullet list and prices subject to change.

LOWE'S POWDER HORN
282 Broadway, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Hey Fellas—

You've heard about this beauty before, but we'll bet you've never actually seen one. Yep, it's a **GENUINE FUR-LINED POT** (with real fur, of course), and we'll guarantee it'll get a large chuckle out of anyone. If you live in the country, it's a natural—for the city boys, it's a magnificent trophy—and even makes a dandy TV set. You'll have to go some to beat this gift! Yessir. \$3.95 ppd.



LINCOLN PRODUCTS, 49-T East 41st St., N. Y. 17

RE-BLUE YOUR GUN LOOKS NEW-NOW MADE EASY

Improved Minute Man Gun Blue instantly preserves and renews steels and iron surfaces—Not a paint or lacquer—No heating necessary—Comes complete with all necessary equipment.

GUARANTEED—Tested and proven over 40 years by repeat sales to satisfied users. **SEND \$1**

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

NEW METHOD MFG. CO.
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Address.....
City..... State.....
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**A SPECIAL SAVING OF \$10.00
SPECIAL PRICE \$5.75**

Armstrong receiver sights
amazing dual range—after
micrometer windage & ele-
vation is set, pressing
button increases settings
automatically 100 yds.,
another press & sight returns to original setting.
—All adjustments with lock screws & Allen wrench
contained in sight base. Quick detachable, press but-
ton and sight slips from base, slip back in and sight
returns to your original setting. Special grooved
eye disc centers eye automatically—used for years on
world's finest factory Mauser sporters,—fits Mauser,
Springfield, Enfield & Krag.

USUALLY
\$15.75
Special
\$5.75



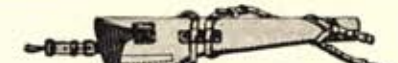
ORIGINAL LYMAN
rear sight for commercial
Thompsons—fits military
models too—beautifully
made—original price
\$14.00, new—boxed, Sight
ladder often installed on
Enfield issue rifles to give
windage which Enfield
sights lack—ONLY \$1.95
ppd.

**.30 CAL. BARREL—24" BRAND NEW!
CHAMBERED FOR 30-06**



Finest 4130 steel, 4-groove, 1 1/16" at shoulder,
7/8" on threads, 1-turn in 10 standard rifling. A
good heavy-tapered, turned barrel at less than
1/2 production cost! Only \$4.95 plus 55¢ postage.
Will not fit receivers with over 1 1/16" thread.

U. S. CARBINE OWNERS—a fresh new sling, roller,
15 shot mag with water & tobacco proof rubber
cap & issue cleaning thorax & brass brush—whole
set, all new\$1.95



U.S. CARBINE TOP GRADE LEATHER SCABBARD,
complete with straps, if made commercially
would cost \$18.00 to \$20.00, our price, brand
new, while few last\$4.95

.22 CALIBER RIFLE BARREL



24" .22 barrels, rifled, not broached, high grade
blank, made by one of our best known firearms manu-
facturers, discontinued contour, blued, chambered,
5/8" shank, 3/4" shoulder tapering in 9/16" at
muzzle\$3.95 plus 55¢ ppd.

REMINGTON MODEL 12 & 121 BARRELS. Brand
new .22 caliber, if used for model 12 dovetail for
mag. must be filed in\$8.50

REMINGTON MODEL 34 & 341 BARRELS, new, .22
caliber, \$6.50.

NEW .44 CAL. BARRELS

22" long, straight 1 1/4" dia.—4 groove. One end
turned to 3/4" from 1 1/4" from turned and shallow
position flat. Used for .44-40, .44 Spec. High alloy
steel, adaptable to Win. '92, 1873 & others, pistol
barrels, etc. Price \$6.95 plus 55¢ ppd.

.45 CALIBER PISTOL BARRELS



Brand new, straight lengths, 3 1/2" x 8", for extra long
and/or fancy barrels. Supplied chambered for .45
auto or unchambered, state which—\$3.95 ea.—
or 2 for \$6.50.

**9MM — .357 — 38 SPECIAL
BARREL BLANKS**

Order the length you need—13/16" o.d. in
white, 6 groove rifling.

24"\$8.75
12"\$4.95
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**SAVAGE 1903 & 1906
.22 PUMP MAGAZINES**

Rare magazines, unavailable for years. Only \$2.95 ppd.



STOCK BLANKS

of finest American Walnut, pretreated, shaped and
through 1st sanding, note measurements which per-
mit inletting for both high power and small bore
rifles; bolt action shotguns; or cut off and use on
pump shotguns and doubles. 28 1/2" long, 1 1/4" through,
2 1/4" depth, Special price—\$2.35 plus 55¢ del.

.45 AUTO MAGAZINES

made 1054 of new steel spec.,
superior to any made pre-
viously. Now, in orig. wrap-
pings, \$1.95 ea.—2 for \$3.50.
NOTE: When 2 are ordered,
new web carrying case in-
cluded FREE.

**ADJUSTABLE CHOKE
RECOIL REDUCER**

Shooters! Gunsmiths! Dealer! A terrific value! Choke
attachment worth \$17.95, complete and ready to silver-
solder or brace in your own shop, 5 in. long, in
white, complete—12, 16 or 20 ga.\$4.95 PPD.



REPEATING SHOTGUNS
3 shot, in 16 & 20 ga., com-
plete with recoil reducer and
adjustable choke. Made by
Kessler who produced over 34
of a million. Unused, may
show minor wear from han-
dling—would normally sell for
\$35.50 but our buyer traded
some gun parts for this small lot
and we can offer them at only
\$24.75 ppd. State ga. wanted & Fed. F. state-
ment with order. Sorry, small lot, no jobbers
or dealers.
Send \$24.75 today—orders filled in rotation.

LYMAN #37 front sight, obsolete style, fits
any standard slot, especially handsome on
oct. barrels, \$1.25.

LYMAN #4 gold bead, unavailable for al-
most 20 years, note protected bead, dim.
"A" either 3/4" (Std.) or 15/32", \$1.50.

SILVER BLADE wide slot front site, suit-
able for muzzle loaders, old style sporting
rifles, etc. Beautifully milled, \$1.50.

SILVER BLADE front, original on Win. 73,
76, 86, 92, & 94's. Marlin 92, 93, 94, 95's,
Colt rifles and many others, \$1.50.

COLT revolver rear sight, easily dovetailed
into any revolver, set screw to lock windage,
Dimension A 25/32" or 11/16"\$1.00.

.45 BARRELS heavy taper-
ed, custom for muzzle
loaders, custom made re-
volvers, miniature cannons etc. etc. Rifled, New,
\$3.35 plus 50¢ post. & handling.

HOODED FRONT SIGHTS
Fits all rifles, standard dovetail base, in-
ternal red post. Front sights are always
handy to have. Special: 4 for \$1.00. (Dealers:
100 sights for \$10.00—regular retail \$1.00).

GLOBE TYPE FRONT as used on early rifles
and pistols. Note two posts, upper and lower;
upper for rear tang sight use. NEW \$1.95.

M-1 GARAND FRONT SIGHTS

With **TARGET & HUNTING INSERTS—**
Puts the Garand "on target" amaz-
ingly fast—sights almost automatically
line up—easily installed & removed—
a N.A.C. exclusive\$3.45 ppd.
Garand front sight adapter blocks, pre-
mils installing any standard dovetail
front sight on your M-1\$2.00
per set, ppd.

U. S. ENFIELD — P-14 STOCKS



Brand new, made in World War I of fine walnut ...
stripped of metal, only \$2.95 ppd. (Write wants for
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S.M.L.E. ENFIELD
Butt stock, both handguards ... new, stripped
of metal\$6.50 the set

REMINGTON MODEL 12 PUMP MAG. TUBES

Complete inner (w/spring, follower, cap), \$2.45;
stripped inner, \$1.25; outer, \$1.50, 14" or 16 1/3",
state which.

**THOMPSON
M1A1 STOCKS**

New with metal. Used
by experimenters, model
makers, as lamp bases,
book ends, shoulder
stocks for cameras, New.
Very special \$2.95 ea.

**BREECH OIL
& THONG SET,**

For Springfield and Garand rifles, fits in butt,
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INFORM YOUR V.F.W. & LEGION POSTS
of this special offer—standard price is \$20 per 100
—Save 50¢ to 75¢—shipped Express, not pre-paid—
\$0.00 blank shot \$4.95 per 100, 30/40 Krag blank
(with paper bullet needed for feeding) ONLY \$6.95
per 100. Stock up while our small quantity lasts!

U.S. CARBINE STOCKS
brand new, complete with new
recoil plate, butt plate, screws, front
hand spring, \$4.95. Same, less metal parts,
hand spring, \$3.95. (Very light color stocks, finish sanded but not
stained, same prices.) Carbine Handguards, new,
\$2.50 ppd. Write wants for other carbine parts.

**GARAND
TAKEDOWN**

& chamber cleaning tools, fits in trap in butt—new
—\$1.00 ea. 2—\$1.50 ppd.
GARAND HANDGUARDS—set of both, complete with
metal, brand new, \$2.50.
GARAND RIFLE CLIPS—\$2.00 per doz.

**WINCHESTER '94 PARTS SPECIAL—ALL NEW
MAJOR OVERHAUL KIT—**probably never again at
these prices! New breech bolt, carrier, link and com-
plete locking bolt—your discount over double that of
even biggest dealers. All for \$7.95 ppd.

Universal magazine springs, usable
for Springfield, Enfield, etc. con-
vertible to Japs, Mausers. Bolt
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New, packet of 10, SPECIAL
ONLY \$1.95.

**BRAND NEW, IN AND OUT
MARLIN BARRELS**

MODEL 93 & 36 MARLIN

32/40—Octagonal—20"\$12.50

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32/20—round—24"10.50

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32 cal—octagonal—20"9.95

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(Few other obsolete Marlin barrels, write wants)

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it will pay to read this —**

SPECIAL! Only \$3.95
Spare Parts Kit for Johnson Semi-
Auto Rifles of most easily broken
parts. This kit will guarantee you
of years of trouble free use. In-
creases value of your gun if you
sell it. All parts new, original and
at less than 1/3 usual price for
this special offer. Includes firing
pin assembly, extractor, mag. cover
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(Write wants for Johnson
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15 shot, new\$1.00 ea.
2 for \$1.75—free used carrying case given
when 2 are ordered)

30 shot—new\$4.95

5 Shot, for hunting & neater appearance,
smooth welded bottom fits flush with trigger
guard—new\$2.45

**BOLT ASSEMBLY & DIS-
ASSEMBLY TOOL—**saves time,
lost & broken parts, skinned
knuckles\$1.00
• If both above tools purchased,
trigger spring tool included FREE.

**DUMMY
CARTRIDGES**

.45 ap in nickel cases (regular unloaded primer. We
use them in key chains—simply drill through case—
pilot hole already there—Wonderful gifts for friends,
customers, club members—enough brass key chain &
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Modern—Obsolete—Foreign. For free quotation send
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SATISFACTION ALWAYS GUARANTEED!

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INSTANT GUN BLUE

NOW USED IN EVERY U.S. GUN PLANT AND MANY ABROAD. NEW HIGH-SPEED FORMULA gives even better results... Takes seconds to apply... beautiful, protects. Used cold, nothing complicated. Deep blue permanent finish. Actually penetrates the steel. Used by gun factories and gunsmiths everywhere. Guaranteed to be the best cold blue you ever used—or your money back.

3 GUN SIZE\$2.00 ppd.
1 pint\$7.50 ppd.

SPRINGFIELD 3 BLADE

screwdrivers,
as issued, new\$1.00 ppd.

JOHNSON L.M.G. STOCKS

Brand new, w/metal \$3.25,
less metal, \$2.95 (Write
wants on other Johnson parts)

CARCANO=JAP

Front Ramp Sights ridges on ramp make it no-glare, in white—2 sizes—.525 for Mannlicher Carcano & others, .550 for Japs & others. Often used as a pistol sight—ONLY 95¢ EACH or \$9.00 per doz. (Add 35¢ for front sight blade)

LYMAN RAMP SIGHT HOLDERS
.620 & .640 I.D. sizes, brand new, standard dovetail—Only \$2.95 ppd. (Add \$1.00 if front bead sight is desired)

THOMPSON PARTS & ACCESSORIES

All parts available—some used at special prices for experimenters, model makers—state wants or send addressed, stamped envelope for free Thompson gun and parts lists.

NEW Model! vertical fore-grips, extra strong, fits all our models—.21, 27, 28, M-1 & M1A1, complete with mounting screw—\$3.95 ppd.

THOMPSON 50 SHOT drum magazines, new \$7.95, excellent \$4.95, good \$2.95—all ppd. Stick magazines, 20 shot \$3.00, 30 shot \$4.00

.22 CALIBER INNER MAG. TUBES—Universal design, complete with cap, spring, follower. Easily altered to fit most .22 tubular guns..\$1.75 ea., special \$18.00 per doz.

PARKER SHOTGUN HAMMERS—New—state ga. & if right or left side—\$3.75—special set of both matched, with matched triggers—\$7.50

UNIVERSAL MAG. TUBE SPRINGS
for 12 ga. shotguns.....\$1.75 per doz.
for .22 rifles.....\$1.75 per doz.

GARAND BARRELS—used, very good throughout.....\$9.95 each.

GERMAN BASKET MAGAZINES for MG34-42. Set of 2, complete with field carrying case—ppd. \$9.95

GARAND RIFLE CONVERSION KIT
reduces to 5 shots, only way to make Garand fully legal for hunting in "Five Shot" states, (easily installed & removed). Set, complete with special follower & 2 five shot clips, \$3.95. Extra 5 shot clips, 95¢ ea. Standard 8 shot clips, \$2.00 per dozen.

5 SHOT CARBINE MAGAZINES

gives smooth appearance to carbines as made to fit flush with trigger housing. REQUIRED IN MOST STATES FOR HUNTING OR EVEN CARRYING GUN IN WOODS. Our special design has strong welded bottom, contoured and smooth\$2.45 ppd.

NEW LOW PRICE

Hotchkiss Light Portable Machine guns, (same as U.S. Rifle 1909 & Benet Mercier). Carefully de-activated under supervision & approval of Treasury Dept.—action and feed mechanism work as always. No registration required. Working parts can be disassembled. A vintage piece of fantastic machining complexity, a handsome addition to any collection of guns. Illustrates pre-Browning designs, gas operated, used in early aircraft, armored cars, as well as by ground troops. Guns used by U.S., France, Japan and many South American countries. Complete with 2 feed strips, handsome adjustable miniature tripod, shoulder rest, issue wrench shipped Express (not prepaid) in original field carrying box... in good used condition \$22.50 ea. in v. gd. to Excellent condition, \$46.50 ea. (Extra ammo, strips, 10 in metal band field box, \$4.95—Cased set of loading machine & strip re-sizer—\$7.95) \$97.00 to make.....\$7.95

U. S. CARBINE HEAVY DUTY CANVAS CARRYING CASE, water repellent, strong rust resistant zipper, leather re-enforced—double stitched, adjustable carrying sling, 35 1/2" long.....\$2.95

ONE OF THE FINEST SIGHT BUYS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OFFER FOR YEARS. For Jap, Mauser, Krag, Springfield, Enfield, Mannlicher Carcano, & many others—receiver sight fully adjustable for windage & elevation, elevation lock screw assures of same setting regardless of rough handling, side adjustment screw knurled. Design locks one mounting screw so can never rattle loose & be lost. Two sight apertures, (Target & Hunting) Very special price—\$2.95 ea.

STANDARD BRASS SHOTGUN SIGHTS, large head, regular 2x40 thread, in constant demand, usually \$1.00 installed or 50¢ ea. Special packet of 10 for only \$1.00, OR super special, 10 packets (100 sights) for only \$7.50. (Tap for above 4x40, 50¢ extra)

FOR MAUSER .270 or .30-06

All the hard work is done for you. Simply install this NEW BARREL & STOCK then have headspace checked.

SPORTER STOCK AND BARREL
Completely Finished

ORDER TODAY.
Complete KIT Action NOT Included
Only \$28.75
Plus \$1.00 Postage
Barrel Alone, \$19.95 ppd.
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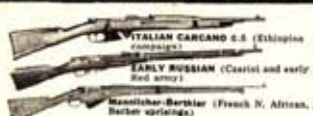
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