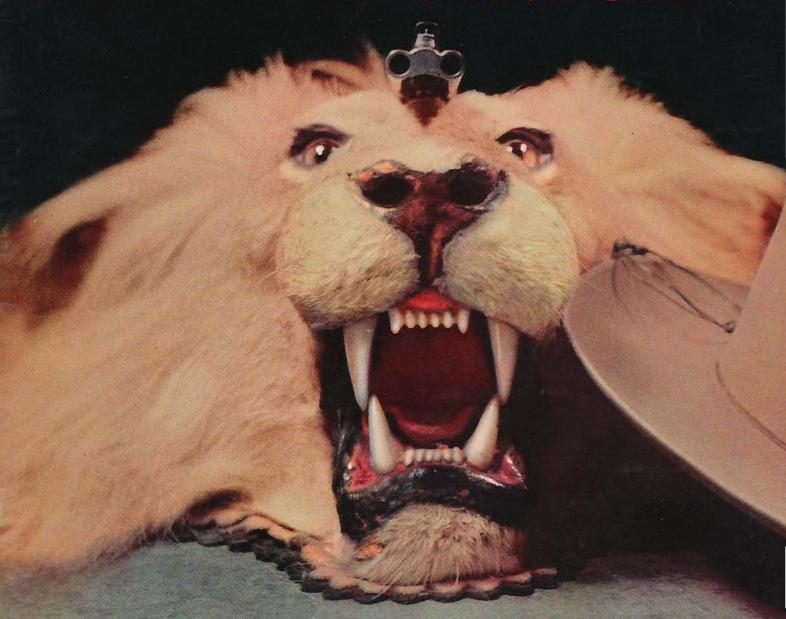
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SAFARI ISSUE



THE SECOND AMENDMENT IS NOT ENOUGH!





MANUEL LISA

By Richard Edward Oglesby (Univ. of Okla, Press, 1963, \$5.00)

Various guns and various men have been acclaimed as having "won the West," but perhaps this book is right in suggesting that "the most important single factor in the opening of the American West was—the beaver." The fur trade was the lure that led men into the unknown lands, to explore them, to mark the trails that would guide the westward expansion; and Manuel Lisa was one of the first (1798) to build a mercantile system of finding and marketing furs and of trade with the Indians. Lisa made no fortune, but he set the pattern on which John Jacob Astor and others built the vast trap-and-trade complex. His name is little known, but this book links it with the history of the West.-E.B.M.

WE LIKE IT WILD

By Bradford Angier (The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., 1963. \$4.95)

This is the story of Bradford Angier and his decision to leave city life behind him, to live and write in the peace and solitude that so many of us seek and so very few of us find. In this venture he was joined by his bride Vena, and this is their story of the trial year. Those of us who know Angier's other books will enjoy this one a great deal more since we know the man's ability. For those who have not read his other books, there is a pleasant surprise awaiting you, and this book will leave its mark upon you. Too bad we had to wait for 15 years for the story of the then newly-wed Angiers.—R.A.S.

GUN DIGEST 1964

Edited by John T. Amber (The Gun Digest Co., Chicago, Ill., 1963. \$3.95)

The arrival of a new edition of the "Gun Digest" is always an event, and this year's issue is even more comprehensive than last year's. Over 40 articles offer reading matter on all facets of the gun world, from antique arms to the latest hot-shots, new loading data and tools, hunting tips, cartridge collecting, and the usual and very complete catalog of all arms available in the U.S. Editor Amber has done a fine job, and the "Gun Digest" is, as it has been for some years past, on the must list for all those who enjoy guns.—R.A.S.

Booklet:

E. C. BISHOP & SON, INC., Dept. G, Warsaw, Mo., recently issued their most recent catalogs, #632 features the 90% finished and semi-finished rifle and shotgun stocks. Catalog #633 supplies information about the Bishop Standard and Custom finished rifle and shotgun stocks, exotic wood grip caps, the Bishop fitting chart and other valuable information. Catalogs are free.

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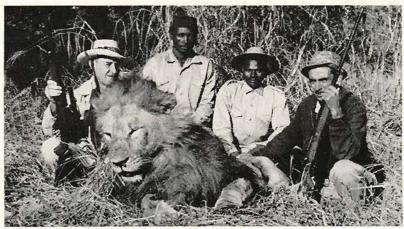
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Dr. & Mrs. W. Macomber, Albany, N.Y., with their magnificent recordclass black-maned lion and sable from Chicualacuala Concession, Nyalaland Safaris Lda., June, 1963. White Hunter: Jose A. Ruiz.

ROLLING BLOCKS

silencing the warhoop of the redman forever. After winning fame in the American West, in 1867 during the Imperial Exposition in Paris, it was awarded the Silver Medal as the finest military or sporting arm in the world. By 1870 six foreign governments, including Egypt, adopted it as their standard arm. In 1880 it drew blood again while the mother Nile wept red for her fallen sons as the Egyptian Military Rebellion was quelled. The sun can never set on the Remington Rolling Block, for it is



These guns are in .43 Egyptian caliber. The rifles are NRA fair condition with a limited quantity of NRA good rifles available.

A small quantity of musketoons available at \$19.95; select model \$24.95.

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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Congressman Frank J. Becker 5th District, New York



The meaning of the Second Amendment has always been clear—insofar as the American people are concerned—and I have never known any decision as yet to change the meaning or interpret it in any other way.

To my mind, there is no reason why Americans cannot keep guns in their homes, particularly rifles and shotguns. The only law affecting the individual citizen is the carrying of concealed weapons. I do not believe the Second Amendment gives anyone that right, although I recognize full well that any type of criminal or criminally minded individual manages to secure

or criminally minded individual manages to secure weapons and conceals them for the purpose of crime. In spite of the fact that many states—such as New York—have a Sullivan law, small arms are secured through one means or another, and there seems to be no way of stopping criminally intent people from obtaining them.

If we were to think back to the history of the very start of the Revolutionary War—if it were not for the arms owned by the "Minute Men" and our citizens—I doubt seriously whether we would have won our own Revolution.

Congressman Charles E. Bennett 2nd District, Florida

The Second Amendment in protecting the right of the people to bear arms speaks of a confidence in the responsibility of our citizenry in using arms only in the public interest. It is a compliment to the American people that the confidence was and still is well placed.



Senator E. L. Bartlett Alaska

The Constitution states the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. It does not say the right to bear arms should be carefully regulated. Guns for hunting, for shooting and for emergency should, of course, be available to all responsible adults.

Guns should not be available for the indiscriminate use of juvenile delinquents, children under age. They should not be available through mail order catalogs. They should be licensed and such as Sten guns and submachine guns should not be available in any case. The right to bear arms is not a license to run wild.

Congressman William H. Avery 2nd District, Kansas



I believe the Second Amendment firmly establishes the right of the people to own small firearms. I oppose any legislation which would usurp this basic freedom. It has been brought to the attention of several Congressional Committees that the availability of firearms through mail order houses is enabling weapons to get into the hands of young people who do not appreciate their danger. I think it would be worthwhile for GUNS Magazine to investigate this problem for its readers.

Readers Note: All Congressmen may be addressed at "House Office Building," and all Senators at "Senate Office Building," both at "Washington 25, D.C." Address all Governors at: State Capitol, name of capital city, name of State.

Vol. X, No. 1-109

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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THE COVER

Bill Toney, Frank J. Schira......Police

The custom-made Westley Richards in .375 Flanged Magnum places the bullets from both barrels into one inch area. Owner used the gun to take all medium sized game, has outstanding trophies to show for his safaris. For the big five a heavy caliber double rifle was used, and close stalks made one shot kills possible. Cover Ektachrome was taken by Bob Tremaine with a Yashica-Mat.

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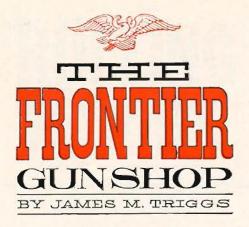




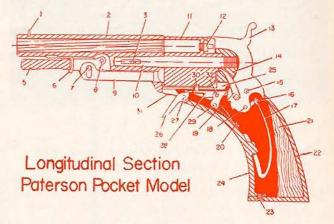
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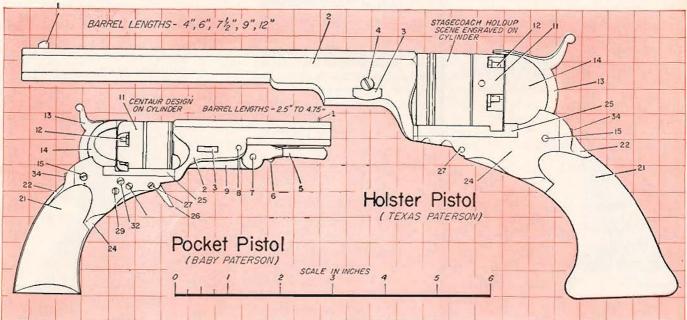
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Paterson Colt Revolvers





THE FIRST successful revolvers made under Colt's patents were manufactured in Paterson, New Jersey, by the Patent Arms Manufacturing Company from 1836 until 1842.

Paterson Colt revolvers were made in a wide variety of styles with numerous variations. Three principal revolver models were produced: The "Holster" model in .36 caliber, commonly called the "Texas Paterson," the "Belt" model in .31 and .34 calibers, and the "Pocket" model, or "Baby Paterson" in .28, .31, and .34 calibers. The largest Paterson revolver, the "Holster" model and the smallest, the "Pocket" model are shown. The mechanism of the Pocket model shown in the longitudinal section is typical of all Paterson Colt revolvers in its essentials.

Disassembly of the Paterson revolver is simple. Remove the wedge screw (4) and wedge (3) and pull barrel (2) off frame and cylinder arbor (10). Remove cylinder (11) to front. In holster and belt model revolvers, the ratchet and collar can be removed from the arbor by drifting out their retaining pin. Remove frame plate screws (31) and remove frame plate (25). Remove backstrap screws (34) and butt screw (23) to remove backstrap (22) and grips (21) from frame (24). Remove hand spring and screw from rear of frame. Disengage mainspring (17) from stirrup (16). Remove hammer screw (15) and hammer (13) with hand (19) from frame. Remove cylinder stop and trigger spring and screw (20). Remove trigger screw (27) and trigger (26). Remove actuating bar screw (29) and bar (28). Remove cylinder stop screw (32) and cylinder stop (30) to complete disassembly.

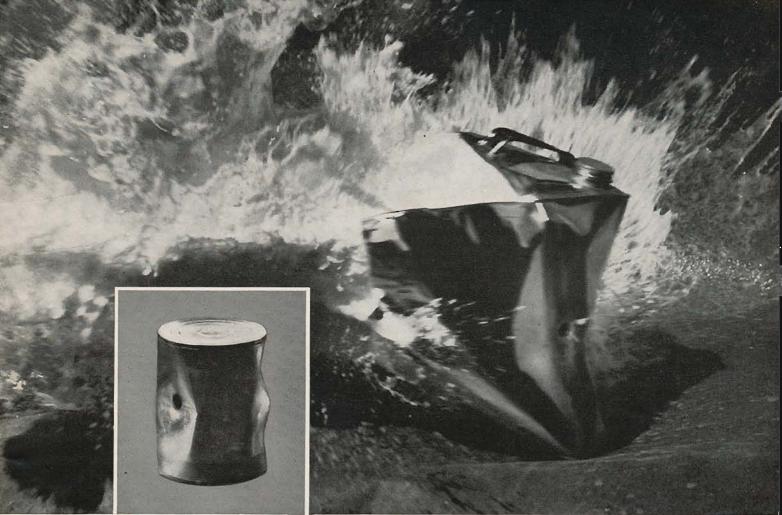
Parts List

- 1. Front sight
- 2. Barrel
- 3. Wedge
- 4. Wedge screw
- 5. Loading lever
- 6. Loading lever spring
- Loading lever plunger screw
- 8. Loading lever screw
- 9. Loading lever plunger
- 10. Cylinder arbor
- 11. Cylinder
- 12. Nipples
- 13. Hammer
- 14. Recoil shield
- 15. Hammer screw
- 16. Stirrup
- 17. Main spring
- 18. Stirrup pin
- 19. Hand (spring & screw not shown)
- 20. Cylinder stop, trigger spring & screw
- 21. Grips
- 22. Backstrap

- 23. Buff screw
- 24. Frame
- 25. Frame plate
- 26. Trigger
- 27. Trigger screw
- 28. Trigger actuating bar
- 29. Trigger actuating bar screw
- 30. Cylinder stop
- 31. Frame plate screws
- 32. Cylinder stop screw
- 33. Recoil shield retaining screws
- 34. Backstrap screws
- 35. Upper trigger spring & screw (not shown)

NOTE:

On Belt & Holster models, the cylinder is provided with a ratchet-type rotating mechanism which is integral with the cylinder on pocket models. This assembly consists of the ratchet, a retaining collar, and pin.



a 230 grain .44 bullet coasted into this tin can at 385 f.p.s. with 3 grains of Bullseye powder behind it

that's the same size slug slamming into a water-filled container at 1800 f.p.s. driven by a red hot magnum load of 25 grains of 2400 powder

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operation and accuracy - and reap all these other advantages: tailor your ammunition to your gun for optimum performance shoot better, shoot more often, and shoot for less money . learn a fascinating and fun-filled hobby, which in itself makes you an authority on guns and ballistic performance. And it costs so little to start. Take Lyman's new Spartan C Press described on the right. Here's a complete set with all the equipment you need - every item first and finest for its price - perhaps any price.

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QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE

Questions submitted must carry a Shooters Club of America number or must be accompanied by one dollar. Questions lacking either number or dollar will be returned. If you want a personal answer, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Buckingham Shotgun?

I have a 10 gauge shotgun with a Damascus twist barrel. "JOHN BUCKINCHAM" is engraved on each side of the receiver, with "Laminated Steel" written on top of the matted barrel rib. Any information concerning the make, place of production, etc., would be appreciated.

Peter Horvath Charles City, Iowa

You do not mention any proof marks that might determine nationality.

I have a listing of only one "Buckingham." He operated during the late percussion period and into the cartridge period in Delhi, New York. He was known to have made rather high grade and fancy arms.

made rather high grade and fancy arms. If this "Buckingham" made your shotgun it was undoubtedly made late in his career, since the man operated from the 1850's to the 1880's.—c.s.

Parlor Rifle

I have a cap-and-ball rifle, total length 49½", barrel length about 16", which I have sketched as well as I am able. On top of barrel is stamped GG (in an oval) 521. On bottom of barrel; MINIE B 12 over 3690 (all in an oval), and the number 521. This gun is in perfect condition inside and out. Would like to know what it is, and what it is worth.

Donald M. Martin Middletown, Ohio

I cannot tell you who made your strange rifle, but I can tell you the purpose of the piece, and possibly give you an idea of its value.

The arm is a gallery or saloon rifle. It was not intended for hunting or other normal outside use. Usually the only power was derived from the gasses resulting from the percussion cap. A small bullet or round ball was placed in the short forward barrel, and expelled when the long firing pin set off the percussion cap. These little parlor rifles were very inexpensive to shoot and up to several yards they were very accurate.

From a value point of view these pieces are more of a novelty than of known value. In fine condition and when of American origin, they have sold for as high as \$75. Yours being unsigned would be worth less than this,

---C.B.

Shooting Tracer Ammunition

I have two questions for you.

First, will shooting .30-06 tracers ruin a rifle barrel? Second, do you think that a low number Springfield is equal—safety-wise, I mean—to an Eddystone Enfield? Any information will be appreciated.

I think the Shooters Club of America is a great idea, keep up the good work.

Robert Mercati

In time the .30-06 tracer ammo will cause a barrel to erode more than it would if just ball ammunition were used, but if you carefully clean the bore after every use, the barrel will last a long time—even if tracers are used.

Tests have shown that the Eddystone Enfield is a mighty tough old gun. Even though the receivers were sometimes too hard I think the "safety-wise" aspect would give the nod to the Enfield over the low number Springfield.

None of us should play with loads where we will test the safety factor. Stick to moderate charges and spend time and energy on being accurate and careful.—c.n.

Rechambering an 8 mm Mauser

I am thinking of rechambering a '98 Mauser carbine to a more suitable cartridge for all around shooting; from varmints to deer. Can the 8 mm be rechambered for something like the .243 Winchester or .264 Winchester Magnum? What changes would have to be made?

Also, I am considering a very short barrel length for the gun; 18 or 20 inches (the shorter being preferable). Would accuracy and velocity suffer much from such a short barrel?

Leslie Tokuza Honolulu, Hawaii

You can't very well "rechamber" the 8 mm Mauser to handle an undersized cartridge. You can "rebarrel" your Mauser to either the .243 or .264 Winchester.

I wonder if the cost of rebarreling is worth it? It's hard to beat the 8 x 57 mm round—particularly if you handload. For what it would cost to rebarrel you could have a fairly nice reloading outfit.

Having taken about 60 head of big game on Oahu, I know the type of hunting there and I think the 8 mm round is fine.

If you have a good 3 mm barrel in that Mauser I'd simply use it. If the barrel is bad then a rebarreling is in order.—c.B.

Inscribed Tower Musket

I would like to ask several questions about two guns in my collection.

The first is a Winchester Model 1876 in .40-60 caliber, number 59755. This piece has an excellent bore, is in perfect mechanical order and retains about 90% original finish. I would like to know if shells for this gun are available and where, and if you would recommend shooting this rifle. Also, what would you estimate this gun to be worth to a collector?

The second gun is a Tower musket dated 1863. It is about .58 caliber and is in new condition inside and out. On the stock is the following writing: "In Memorian Henry Clay Ireland Pvt. Co 'I', 6" Conn. Vols. 1863." Would this writing give this gun any extra value? Would it make a very desirable Civil War collector's item?

> Robert M. Kenny Long Island, New York

Your 1876 Winchester was shipped from the factory in 1888 and from the way you describe it, is worth \$100 or better.

.40-60 cartridges may be found in the stocks of ammo held by dealers who supply collectors cartridges, but the day of inexpensive ammo for your 1876 is gone. You could form cases from another case for shooting purposes, as shooting that Winchester will not hurt it. What hurts guns is abuse and misuse-careful use can be exercised and your gun will continue to be a valuable collector's item.

If you authenticate and document the marking on your Tower Enfield it will enhance the value and a Civil War collector will definitely be interested, but I cannot give you a dollar value on such a piece without knowing the documentation is possible and examining the gun.

I suggest that you write: National Archives, Records Dept., Wash. 25, D. C., -and ask for photostatic copies of Henry Clay Ireland's service records .- G.B.

Sharps Pistol

I recently found and bought a Sharps .30 cal., four barrel revolver with a rotating firing pin, brass frame, and what appears to have been brown, not blue, on the barrels and hammer. It is in very good condition.

I would like to get ammo for this piece, and if I could possibly get some good enough, I would like to put a couple of rounds through it. I don't intend to use it as a shooter, though.

Also, is there a registration for collectors of firearms?

John E. LaFont

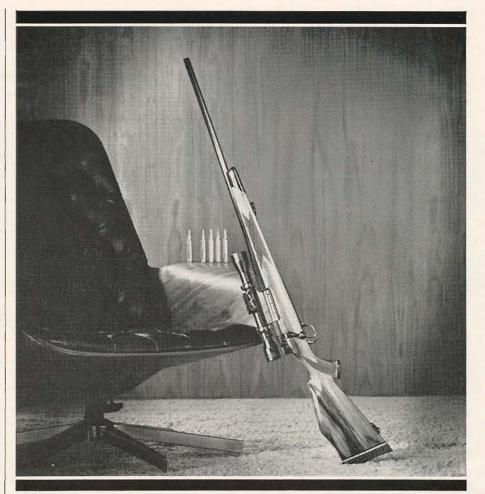
The best information available on the Sharps 4-barreled pistols is to be found in the 1963 Gun Digest on page 153. Originally I think those barrels were blue.

The .30 caliber rimfire ammo is only available through dealers in collectors cartridges. In this sense your pistol is not a "shooter."

There is no registration for collectors firearms. Registration with your local police is entirely up to you. Most collectors rigorously object to any form of registration. Voluntary registration tends to lead to compulsory registration which is antagonistic to our national constitution.

If the government can't trust the people with guns then the people can't trust the government with the government!

Value of your piece would depend upon detail that I cannot observe.—G.B.



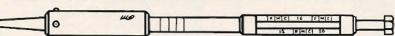
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HANDLOADING BENCH

BY KENT BELLAH



Loads Worth Remembering

Let's start this bull session with a bang. My friend, R. B. Smith, a veteran precision handloader, loaded 500 rounds of .244 ammo for a friend to use in Africa. The gun was a fine custom job by Bill Mowery, Jacksboro, Texas, who has carned national fame with his superb custom rifles in both muzzle loading and cartridge types. R. B. worked up the load, 41.0 grains 4350, kicked off by CCI 250 Magnum primers, to start a 100 grain Hornady Round Nose pill at 3,000 fps. The gun and ammo performed beautifully in field and accuracy tests in this country, and even better in Africa, where it took a great many head of "medium" game and varmints. The "medium" game was mostly what we call large in this country.

This same load, with the 105 grain Speer bullet, works beautifully in the new 6 mm Remington, which is actually the same case as the .244, and the guns handle .244 ammo. Remington gave the hull a new name to identify the 100 grain factory bullet and the faster twist rifle made for it. The rifles are better because of the faster twist. Strange as it seems, they handle light bullets very well indeed, using familiar .244 loads. One is 41.0 grains 4320 and CCI 250 Magnum primer behind a 75 grain Sierra H.P., for 3,190 fps, as worked up by RCBS, Inc. Another is my own, 41.0 grains of 4064 with the same primers behind a 80 grain Speer. This is hotter than the top load in the Speer Manual. It isn't too hot in one Remington rifle that took 2.0 grains more powder in our tests, which allows ample margin of safety. It's deadly as cyanide on varmints.

The 6 mm rifles, such as the .243, .244 and the 6 mm, are adequate for deer, and sometimes larger game. The light weight, Hi-V with light recoil and fine accuracy are a hard combination to beat. They are fine yeararound fun guns for plinking, targets and varmints to keep your shooting eye sharp. Varmint accuracy is better than indicated by groups, compared with hot-shot 22s, as they buck wind better. You can bag more varmints at longer range.

The 6mm cartridge has a bit of advantage over the .243 for handloading. It's better for partial resizing, being nearly a duplicate of the famous RCBS Rockchucker wildcat. The case permits higher velocity loads. Still, the .243 is a dandy, and Winchester and Sako guns have many fans. Both are fine rifles, and that applies to the Remington 700 series

A friend played with a M94 Winchester

.30-30, using home swaged C-H Swag-O-Matic 100 grain pills, made with Speer jackets and Division Lead Swag-O-Matic lead wire. The 4320 powder isn't listed in the Speer Manual for their Plinker bullet of this weight. The chap found that it shot and performed so well with 38.0 grains ignited with CCI 250 Magnum primers that he decided to try it on deer. He bagged a nice buck at about 75 yards. The fast expanding little pill, going hell-bent on self destruction, broke both front shoulders and make a gaping 21/2" exit hole. The buck couldn't have dropped faster if hit by lightning. Handloaders often look on the ancient little saddle gun with contempt. But it sacks up more deer every year than any of the new hot Magnums, that you must own to be permitted in higher gun society.

Home swaged C-H rifle and handgun bullets are good ones, and very easy to make. The "C-H Swage Die Set" works well in the new C-H Universal "C" or "H" type presses. The C-H Swag-O-Matic is a separate press designed to use Swag-O-Matic dies only, and is not for reloading ammunition. I think there is some advantage in the Swag-O-Matic bullet swaging tool, and dies for extra calibers are inexpensive. Both types of dies swage "clean" bullets with no visible bleed-off. Newest addition to their Swag-O-Matic line is their AJ Model 52 wadcutter die, Designed for the superb Smith & Wesson Model 52 automatic pistol, that handles .38 Special wadcutter ammo only, dies swage bullets to the correct .3555 diameter, with great uniformity.

This AJ bullet has a most desirable hollow base. It works better in the M 52, and custom conversions, such as made by Dick Shockey and Jim Clark, than any other half-jacketed bullet we have tried. These are all superb target pistols that are a bit tempermental in loads. That is, don't expect 10-ring accuracy with sloppy reloads. The C-H AJ dies are certainly a step in the right direction for half-jacketed target bullets in these guns. I suggest you work up the best loads for your particular pistol. At present I don't recommend the AJ .3555 dies for S & W revolvers, although we are trying to work out something good for cylinder guns, that generally shoot best with a .357 or .358 diameter bullet.

It may be premature to mention, but C-H is working on dies to make % jacketed bullets, in semi-wadcutter type. As usual, they have some very good ideas, and I'm sure they will come up with some excellent ones.

(Continued on page 52)



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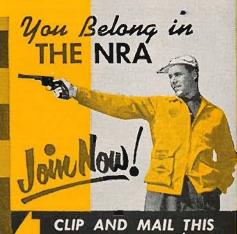


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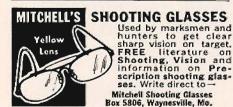
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ROSSFIRE

Support From England

I have just received a reminder from W.H. Smith & Son Ltd., that my subscription to Guns magazine is due for renewal soon. I have of course informed them that I shall renew because I cannot possibly miss even one page of your fine magazine. Each month, after reading the current copy, I am eagerly looking forward to the next.

You have been doing a good job for the shooters of America in the past, and your new Shooters Club of America is another step in the right direction. With the combined efforts of yourselves and the National Rifle Association, I am sure that you will eventually bring to all the Right to Bear Arms.

I wish to back your efforts by joining the Shooters Club of America, and I will wear your emblem on my shooting jacket and put the decal on my car. As long as your magazine retains its very high standards and policy, you will have my support; and from what I can see, that will be until I am unable to read or shoot any longer! Keep up the good work.

As you know only too well, we gun nuts in England suffer from very strict anti-gun laws and carry on our hobby under very adverse conditions, so your efforts are very close to my heart.

Good luck to all American shooters.

M. A. Wilson Middlesex, England

Askins Misses

Colonel Askins, in his September article "Turn Misses Into Hits With a Shotgun," has completely miscalculated the lead necessary on his 60 MPH duck. The correct figure is 11.1 feet, not 7½.

Flight time for 950 fps shot to cover 40 yards (120 ft.) is 0.126 seconds. A duck traveling 60 MPH covers 11.1 feet in 0.126 seconds. That is the necessary lead, not counting human reaction time and several other factors which would make it a bit more.

Remember the old adage, "No one ever over-leads a duck."

P. M. Carabateas Nassau, New York

New Collector

I have just finished reading your July issue, and I really enjoyed it. I was particularly interested to read about Tom Loughnan, "Fast Man With a .45." I have seen this man demonstrate his draw on television, and he is certainly fast. Before I saw him, I shared the

same feeling as Mr. Gaylord that the G.I. holster was inadequate for quick draw. I have since obtained one and am going to start to practice his technique.

I would like to know where I can obtain a Krag Rifle, and about how much I should pay for one in good condition. I am just starting to collect firearms, and have begun reading up all I can get my hands on.

Mr. O. B. Gerrish, Jr. Independence, Mo.

Correction

As a dealer and gunsmith, I would like to correct the letter by Victor D. Powell of Oak Hill, W. Va., in relation to permits to purchase handguns in the state of Maryland.

Permits to purchase handguns are required only in Baltimore City and County, and not in the rest of the State. If Mr. Powell had to apply for a permit to purchase, he was either in Baltimore or close to the District of Columbia and applied for a handgun in the D.C. without realizing he had left the state of Maryland. This is possible, as his reference to planes, suggests that he may have been located at Andrews Field Air Base, which is just a few minutes from D.C.

The registration of handguns is required by dealers on purchase, but there is no waiting period, and there is no permit to purchase required. On the registration form, description and address of purchaser, and make, model, serial number, caliber, barrel length is required, along with purchasers statement that he has never been convicted of a felony.

We Marylanders are very much alert to the type of restrictions Mr. Powell described but we will not let it happen here, as we prize our constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

> Robert M. Dolby Silverdale, Maryland

Bullet Bounce

It is with considerable amazement that I read Bert Popowski's comments concerning the "bounce" a bullet receives from being fired too close to a solid obstruction, in the article "What It Takes for Long Shots" in the September Guns. That a writer of Mr. Popowski's stature would make such a statement is almost beyond belief.

At the risk of giving offense where none is intended, I must differ with the "bounce" theory. This old saw, dating back to black powder days, got considerable support from the experiments of F. W. Mann, who proved that cast bullets fired at velocities under

2000 fps actually did show drift when fired within one-half inch of a flat plank, but it is notable that these planks measured up to 16 feet in length! Such obstacles are not common in the game fields and forests! No deflection was noted with objects a few inches in length.

For practical purposes, bullet deflection caused by the projectile's passing close to a solid object can be said to be of no consequence to a rifleman—unless perhaps it is a flat object several feet in length. Perhaps gremlins invaded Mr. Popowski's typewriter? Anyway, except for this point, I enjoyed his article and the rest of the magazine very much.

B. R. Hughes Crossett, Arkansas

Paging Rodd Redwing

I have enjoyed reading Guns Magazine for some time, and am especially interested in fast draw as a sport. On several occasions I have seen Rodd Redwing's name mentioned, but I have never had the opportunity to see one of his exhibitions. I would appreciate seeing an article about him.

L. R. Bradshaw Hartsville, S. C.

In reading back issues of your magazine I noticed the item, "My Favorite Gun," by Rodd Redwing, in which he stated that he was writing a book on fast draw and fancy gun handling. I'm very much interested in fast draw and the art of fancy gun handling, and would like to purchase the book.

I would like also to express my appreciation for the finest magazine in the firearms field. I have very much enjoyed the articles on fast draw, tune-up tips, and so on. Keep these articles coming!

> Ronald L. Marion Kenosha, Wisconsin

Rodd Redwing's address: 7858 Klump Ave., Sun Valley, California.—Editor.

Lucas McCain Rifles?

I am in the market to purchase one of the authentic Lucas McCain rifles from the "Rifleman" show if it is really for sale, but I can't find out, How do I go about it?

> D. T. Higgen 14730 Valley Vista Blvd. Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Handgun Laws

I was reading about some of the laws imposed on handgunners by various states, counties, townships, etc., when a thought occured to me—why not nationalize our gun laws?

The jumbled hotbed of confusion that exists today reminds me of a man trying to find his way out of a doughnut shaped tunnel with no openings of any kind.

Actually, it's a wonder that half of the handgun owners haven't been arrested while traveling through certain states (S. Carolina for one), cities, or counties scattered across the U.S. In the above mentioned state it is against the law to make or sell pistols. In addition, you may not carry a pistol in any way except on your own property. But here's the catch, it's illegal to transport a gun to your own property!

People who support such laws make me ill, and I hope that when I get my "Greetings" from Uncle Sam (which won't be too long now) I won't have to pull a hitch in such a place.

I like your magazine very much, and will be joining your Shooters Club of America

> William A. Vance Killeen, Texas

Our Obligation

That anyone need champion an American's right to possession of personal arms indicates an obscure but vitally important phase of our nuclear-age arms race.

I hope that Guns will dispel that obscurity by guiding us, the shooters of America, to re-establish in full, our right — indeed our obligation—to keep and hear arms.

> George H. Laird III York, Pennsylvania

Booster From Down-Under

I am an ardent reader of your colorful and interesting magazine. It is packed with useful information and has helped my friends and myself in many ways.

I am a member of a rifle and pistol club at Christmas Hills in Victoria, and enjoy hunting here in central Australia. At the present time, it is winter down here, and though we don't have deer, we do have wild buffalo and kangaroo, which we shoot all year round. Further up north we can shoot crocodile and dingo, the latter bringing about \$50 bounty.

I would like very much to become a member of your Shooters Club of America, even though I am many miles away from the States. Will it be alright for me to send my fee in Australian currency?

J. L. Watson New South Wales, Australia



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Crosman "400"

The new version of the CO₂ Crosman "400" has some outstanding features. The tube-like magazine, attached to the left side of the action, has been streamlined and is now known as "Swing-Feed" loading. Also new is the button-rifled "Tru-Flyte" heavy duty barrel that gives considerably increased accuracy. Our test gun consistently grouped under a ½" at 25 feet in 10 shot strings, and we were impressed with the double safety that makes this little gun a fine youngster's rifle.

Our test gun weighs just slightly under 4 pounds and measures 34 inches over-all. Carrying distance of the .22 pellets is only 300 feet, and thus most anyone can use the Crosman "400" in limited areas with safety. The gun is powered by two Crosman CO₂ Gas Powerlets, and these gas cartridges will fire an average of 65 pellets with an average muzzle velocity of slightly under 450 fps.

Game Caller

Never been able to learn calling game to within spitting distance? Well, you are not alone. Johnny Stewart, Dept. G, 925 North 22nd, Waco, Texas, has had the same experience and decided to do something about it. He not only learned to call and then recorded the calls, but he also designed a recorder that can be lugged into the field. We got a recorder and speaker, plus two records for some varminting. Johnny has a number of records and they are in such demand that he has trouble catching up with the orders. We have often heard that the electronic callers, good as they may be, are really not the answer to the calling problem since the records cannot take into account the variations in tone and volume that is needed under actual hunting conditions. This is quite true, but Johnny has added something that does away with this objection.

First of all, you can learn good calling from the records. Then you can take the electronic caller and speaker into the field, set up the record, and let her rip. When conditions change, just switch on the mike, knock out the playing of the record, and you can have your calling transmitted by the speaker. What could be simpler or better?

A few miles away from our home, the fox population has got out of hand. Crows are plentiful, and we took Johnny's caller into the field to see what action we could get. We did not even bother to camouflage our set-up and just plunked the caller and ourselves down next to an old tree stump, turned

on the rabbit call and before it had spun four times, we had crows overhead and foxes under-foot. This was a simple run through only and we had not brought a gun...but next time we shall take a gun with us and a truck load of ammo. Game comes in so fast that it will be a hard choice to make—shoot crows or foxes? One word of caution. When you get Johnny's records and caller, don't turn up the volume. Only slightly more than an actual rabbit scream is needed to bring varmints running.

Habicht Scope

Made in Austria, the Habicht (Hawk) scope is imported by Frank and Walter Klepeis, Rosendale, N.Y. The standard Habicht scope has a steel tube and is available with either single or double adjustment. Available on special order only are the Habicht scopes with light alloy tubes, and again with single or double adjustments. These scopes come only in 4 power, but are offered with a wide variety of crosshairs.

Before testing the Habicht scope for fogging, freezing, seepage, and drop resistance, we mounted it first on our Model 70 in .375 H&H Magnum, then on our Remington 7 mm Magnum rifle. Walter Klepeis had supplied us with a scope that has the fine European reticle-four heavy posts out of which four thin wires (or are they wires?) lead the eye rapidly and easily to the target. This reticle is known as the "Day and Night" arrangement, and virtually screams at the hunter when the gun is thrown up to the shoulder. We believe that, once you have seen this reticle arrangement, you'll want one, and the optical qualities of the Habicht scope are excellent. Recoil, even with heavy .375 H&H loads did not affect the scope, and our seepage test-that is immersion tests in hot and cold water-proved the Habicht scope to be completely tight. Neither the freezing and fogging tests, nor the drop tests affected the scope, and remounting it on the .375 after these tests proved that the manhandling it had received had not affected it in any way. Best of all, the Habicht scope is priced at only \$59.95 for the steel tube models.

Noble's Model 80 F

The newest Noble shotgun is a .410 autoloader that, in very extensive tests, has proved that an autoloader can handle 2½ and 3 inch shells very well, and that alloys in gun actions are here to stay. Our gun was tested on our range, and then turned

over to a skeet addict who used the gun in four meets. In all, we estimate that the gun was fired over 1,000 times, and not once did we or our skeet buddy encounter any malfunction. Stock dimensions are along the standard lines, and the feel of the gun and its swing were such that a 14 year old, shooting his first round of trap by standing on a line with our Trius trap, managed to break 10 birds-quite an accomplishment with the .410 for a beginner.

Most of the firing was done with a variety of factory loads, and we then reloaded the hulls to see if reloads would function equally well in the Model 80 F. If the hulls are loaded carefully and wad pressure is within normal limits, the Noble will handle them without trouble. Experimentally we made up 10 rounds of handloads with a slightly excessive wad pressure and found that neither the Noble nor another .410 would chamber these shells. It appears that the .410 is somewhat more sensitive to poor reloads than a 12 or 20 gauge gun.

Not only were we impressed by the functioning of the Nobel 80 F, but we also liked the complete instructions that came with the gun. Too many guns, and other shooting equipment, comes with incomplete or poorly written instructions, and that makes life complicated for the buyer who is not a gun tinkerer.

Hodgdon Powders

Bruce Hodgdon, the powder man from Shawnee Mission, Kansas, has some new powders. Although our own tests are not as yet completed, our data check very closely with those released by Bruce. For the M 1 carbine, Hodgdon offers his H-110 powder. In Winchester cases and with Winchester primers, 14 grains of the powder send the 110 grain Winchester bullet out the tube at an instrumental velocity of 1906 fps. This checks closely with our data arrived at with different components, and Bruce tells us that the pressure of his load is 32,400 psi.

His new Trap #14 powder has done very well in the first tests, although one of our automatic shotguns seems to slam back the bolt a bit harder than with factory loads. There is plenty of Trap #14 powder in stock, and Bruce will send you loading data. In our Robust shotgun the trap loads worked up in accordance with Bruce's suggestions did extremely well and the powder burns clean.

The Marlin 62

At long last, we got our Marlin lever-action Model 62 in the Winchester hot-shot .256 caliber. The Model 62 weighs about 7 pounds, has a 24 inch barrel, and an over-all length of 43 inches. The gun is tapped and drilled, but when we got our test gun, no blocks were commercially available for scope mounting. We overcame this by taking the block and scope off our Marlin 336, and although the base over-hung a bit in front, the gun shot very well and the improvised block was perfectly acceptable.

The Model 62 in .256 holds three rounds in the clip and one in the chamber, and extensive shooting was a pleasure; the .256 in the Marlin gun has almost no recoil and blast is minimal, even on an indoor range.

The production model of the rifle has a (Continued on page 43)

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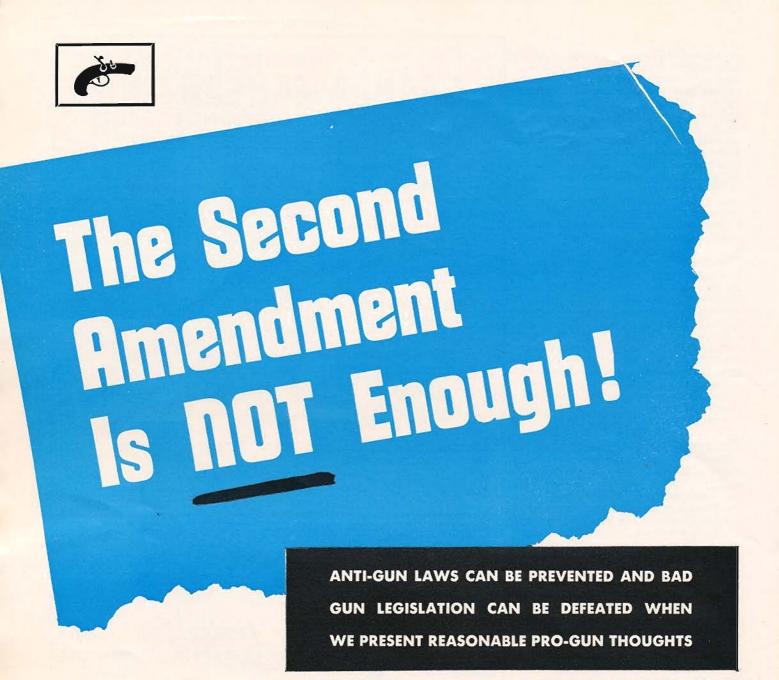
In addition to our 1860 Colt Army Revolvers, Centennial Arms is now introducing a Harpers Ferry Flintlock Pistol. The Harpers Ferry was made for the Army at Harpers Ferry Armory, which was the first U. S. pistol to be manufactured at a National Armory. It is a tribute to its attractive lines that the U. S. Army Military Police adopted crossed Harpers Ferry Flintlock Pistols as their insignia. TODAY—all Flintlock collectors and shooters may own their own Harpers Ferry reproduced exactly like the original, with the exception that we have made this pistol with a Rifled Bore for safer shooting. This striking pistol is made in the original. 54 caliber, with handsome varnished wood and brass mountings. The lockplate is casehardened and is marked with a spread eagle, U. S., and HARPERS FERRY 1807.

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By E. B. MANN

WE TALK A LOT about the Second Amendment. We insist that, because of the Second Amendment, private ownership of arms is not a privilege but a constitutional right—a right that cannot be infringed upon. That is what the Second Amendment says, but . . .

The fact is that the right to own and bear arms is infringed—by federal law, by state statutes, and by city ordinances. We are, and have been for many years, in the midst of a continuous fight, not merely to keep

our right of private firearms ownership from infringement, but to keep it from being taken away entirely.

The National Rifle Association, the oldest and most effective advocate of the right of private firearms ownership, has this to say about the Second Amendment: "The simple fact is that the Second Amendment has not prevented firearms regulation on either the national or state levels.

"The constitutions of three-fourths of the states contain guarantees of the right 'to keep and bear arms' similar to that found in the United States Constitution. Nevertheless, the courts have repeatedly held that many laws regulating the purchase, carrying, or use of concealable firearms are constitutional...(on the grounds that)... reasonable limitations on the right of individuals to own and use firearms may be made in the interest of public security and the proper administration of criminal justice. The notorious New York 'Sullivan Law' which requires a police permit to own a handgun for any reason, even in

Preserve Your Right To Own And Enjoy Guns

one's home, has consistently been held to be constitutional, even though the *operation* of the law is frequently far from reasonable."

No, the Second Amendment is not invulnerable . . . and it is not enough!

Six years ago, in the September 1957 issue of this magazine, we published an article titled "Why Not Have A PRO-Gun Law?" A surprising number of people, including some pretty surprising people, wrote us, "Why not? Why not, indeed?" Others, a few, labeled it a wild idea, impossible of achievement.

Exactly how wild an idea is it? Is it a wild idea to suggest a law to defend and support a constitutional right? Other constitutional rights have required and been given affirmative legislation for their enforcement. Why should the Second Amendment be selected for negative legislation that infringes upon its clearly stated purpose?

Guns Magazine, backed now by the Shooters Club of America, asks you again, "Why not a pro-gun law?"

Switzerland has a pro-gun law of sorts. Switzerland's law requires citizens not only to keep guns, but to acquire a reasonable degree of skill with them. Students of Swiss history agree that this law has been a contributing factor in keeping Switzerland free from the waves of aggression that have repeatedly swept the rest of Europe.

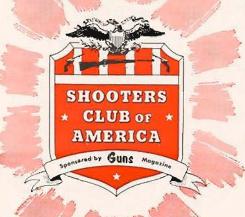
Switzerland's law would not be ideal for us, but the idea is the same. It works for them. Why could it not be made to work for us—not only for the maintenance of that "armed militia" considered so essential by our founding fathers, but also for the protection and development of our shooting sports?

Why not? We think it can be done. We think that aggressive action is needed, and we intend to take it.

This does not mean that we are quitting the defensive fight against

anti-gun legislation. Guns Magazine and its readers, Shooters Club of America and its members, are in that fight to stay, with money and knowhow and man-power — and we are winning battles. The trouble is that a defensive war must be waged on many fronts. No sooner are we engaged in one action than we are challenged to another. And it is very unfortunate but only too true that some of our leadership is inept.

Without naming names, not very long ago a very bad anti-gun law was beaten, laid to rest, by concerted, well-directed action by people who know how to get the job done. That law was almost brought back to vigorous and dangerous life because rabble-



rousers, ignorant of what had been done, not knowing that the law was dead, aroused others to flood the supporters of the bill with such a mass of abusive letters that those legislators angrily threatened to revive the very odious bill!

Letters to legislators are fine. They are needed in the defensive war now being waged; they will be needed in the offensive action we hope to lead. But not abusive letters! To paraphrase a great American, gun people should carry a big stick—but speak softly. We have the big stick, of numbers: some 18 million hunters; an estimated 35 million gun owners. No political office-holder or hopeful aspirant can afford to ignore us, or will

ignore us—except in anger aroused by our ineptness

For more years than I care to admit, as an individual, as a worker in politics, as a Life Member of the National Rifle Association, as a member of the Board of Governors of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. and for the past seven years as the editor of the Guns Magazine group of publications. I have fought anti-gun legislation-at municipal, state, and national levels. I have never seen an anti-gun bill that could not be defeated. I have seen some that were not defeated, but these too could have been defeated by the right action at the right time. I have never seen an anti-gun bill defeated by rabblerousers. I have seen many defeated by prompt, massive, well directed action through operative political channels, by letters laden with argument and not abuse, by courteous discussion with the proponents of the bill and with other legislators.

Within the last few months, I addressed letters to every member of the United States Senate and every member of the United States House of Representatives, asking for statements regarding the Second Amendment and its meaning in today's America. To date, I have received perhaps 100 replies to those letters. All replies will be published in the "Know Your Lawmakers" department of this magazine. To date, at least 95 per cent of those replies range from gratifyingly favorable to better than that. We have friends in Washington; more of them than you may think. And you have friends-in the NRA, in the NSSF, in the SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA. and perhaps in places you don't even suspect - who know how to reach those friends.

All is not gloom in the news from the front in the war against anti-gun legislation. Listen:

Many of you, and many of us, and many whose interests are not "gun

Is Your Right to Own Guns Really Guaranteed?

interests" at all, have been greatly perturbed over the possibility that the widely controversial federal Arms Control and Disarmament Act might, now or in the future, be interpreted and applied to prohibit private ownership of firearms. We here in this office have literally not had time to answer the hundreds of letters and scores of printed appeals received on this subject. We have not had timepartly because we were busy elsewhere. But you will be glad to know that this threat was not unchallenged, and effective action was taken. Introduced by Congressman Bob Sikes of Florida, H. R. 6364 will amend Section 33 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act by adding the following important sentence:

"Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to authorize any policy or action by any Government agency which would interfere with, restrict, or prohibit the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms by an individual for the lawful purpose of personal defense, sport, recreation, education, or training."

This was not accomplished by rabble-rousing, or by vituperative correspondence. It was accomplished by knowing where help could be obtained, what help would be effective, and how to put those helping forces into motion. The important thing is that it was done.

Many of you, and many of us, have been much concerned also about the possible action relative to firearms of the Judiciary Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency under the chairmanship of Senator Thomas J. Dodd. Much has been published damning Senator Dodd, his subcommittee, and all its works. The fact is that Senator Dodd's committee proved its intention of fairness by inviting representatives of the firearms indus-

try and the shooting sports (including this writer) to attend committee hearings and advise the committee on matters affecting firearms ownership and distribution. Representatives of many branches of industry did attend those hearings (at the expense of the companies they represented, not of the tax-payer!). We were given a courteous hearing, and our advice was, for the most part, heeded. I have received the following letter, dated July 3, from Senator Dodd:

"I want to thank you for the cooperation you have extended the subcommittee during the past two years concerning the drafting of an amendment to the Federal Firearms Act.

"During this time it has been our intent to propose a bill designed to alleviate some of the problems resulting from indiscriminate sale of 'mail order' handguns to juveniles and undesirable adults, yet not violate the rights of legitimate gun owners. It is to this end that the enclosed bill is directed. The key subsections of the bill (j), (k), and (l), pertain to interstate shipment, delivery, and receipt of 'mail order' guns by common carrier.

"I am informed that at the June 11 meeting substantial agreement was reached by those present with regard to the above subsections and I believe, therefore, that the bill enclosed will be amenable to all concerned."

Senator Dodd is optimistic in his belief that this (or any) bill "will be amenable to all concerned." Many firearms people are just not going to like any firearms legislation—and I must confess to considerable sympathy, myself, to that point of view!

But to anyone who knows (as we who discussed these matters with the committee did know) the powerful backing the committee had to "put real teeth" into the Federal Firearms Act. The amendment recommended by the committee must seem mild indeed! It is not a total victory for our side; nobody claims that it is. But it is very far indeed from the major defeat it could have been and that at least one man wanted it to be.

Yes, we're winning battles. Things are being done to defend your right to own and bear arms. We do have friends in high places. But these very facts bring us back to the question, "Why Not A Pro-gun Law?" With strength enough to win so many of the defensive battles, with increasing support among lawmakers at federal and state levels, why not strike now with aggressive action—with an affirmative law for gun ownership?

Wild idea or not, Guns Magazine and the SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA propose it. We are consulting now, have been for many months, with legal experts and men with wide experience in matters of firearms legislation-with leaders in law enforcement, leaders in industry, leaders among the shooting groups. We will, in an early issue, publish an article suggesting a tentative framework on which such a law might be built. We urge you to tell us what you think; what you think of the idea itself, what you think of the suggestions as they are made later. In turn, we will report to you on the success or failure of each step as it is taken.

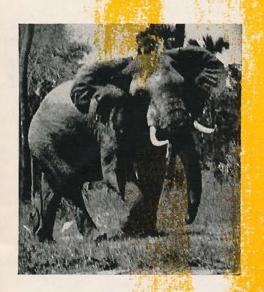
We promise you no miracles. We do not know whether a satisfactory law can be drafted — whether, if drafted, it could obtain sponsorship for presention to Congress—whether, if presented, it could win passage.

But we do promise you an aggressive, all-out, pro-gun effort, as a change from the long, weary, defensive war we have been waging.

Will you help us?

GUNS • JANUARY 1964

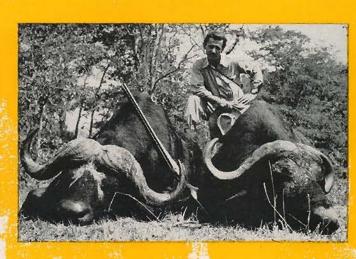




SAFARI IN FAR-AWAY LANDS

Kongoni, tiger, tembo, polar bear, or impala . . . they all add up to but one thing: Hunting in far-away lands. Call it shikar in the jungles of India, or safari on the African veldt, here is the stuff a hunter's dreams are made of. Jagdish Kumar reports from India, Nairobi's leading gunsmith discusses safari guns, plus many other exclusive reports of exciting hunting from all over the world.





Game is plentiful and there are no limits



New Zealand -The Unexplored Game Paradise

By DR. GEORG VON OPEL



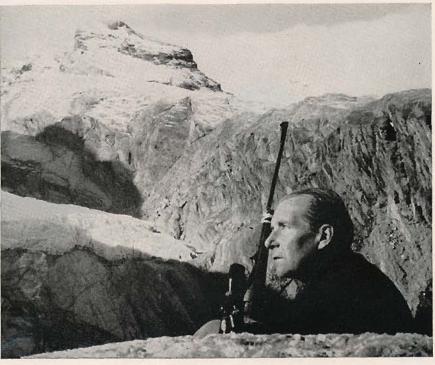
The sure-footed chamois is a true test of a hunter's ability. Doctor von Opel successfully stalked and shot two fine specimens in these rugged mountains of South Island. Scoped rifle is a must.

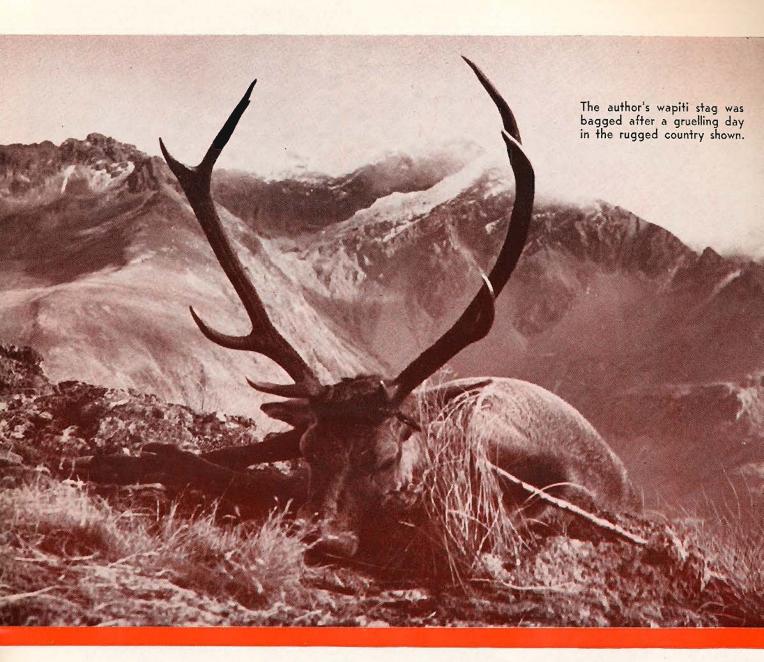


More than 15,000 of these tahr live in the mountains of New Zealand. Horns are short, averaging about 12".

THE HUNTING in New Zealand is different than that encountered in any other country in the world. In the absence of beasts of prey that would normally reduce the numbers of animals, the game herds of these islands increase rapidly. Here the hunter assumes the role of predator, constantly fighting to keep the herds within reasonable limits. Hunting in New Zealand is free and is not restricted by laws, regulations, or licenses. Closed seasons are unheard of, and the hunter may take to the field whenever, wherever, and as often as he wishes, using whatever means he may have at his disposal.

New Zealand covers an area of about 103,410 square miles, roughly six times as large as Switzerland, and just slightly smaller than the state of Colorado. Within this area live the following game animals. Let me say here, that these figures are my estimates, and not official. Red deer occur





most frequently on both North and South Island, and I would place their numbers at two hundred thousand; each year more than 100,000 are taken. The chamois, found only on South Island, number some 50,000. Wild goats exceed 50,000 in number, on both islands, while South Island has some 15,000 tahr, whose horns are similar to those of the Rocky Mountain goat, though not as long. Both islands are home to more than 15,000 wild boars and over 3,000 fallow deer. Stewart Island has over 1,000 Virginia stag, and on North Island live over 1,000 head of sika, the small deer native to Japan and Manchuria, and nearly 500 Aristoteles stags. On South Island are more than 1,000 wapiti, and fewer than 100 elk-a sub-species of the wapiti. The wallaby, a small to medium sized kangaroo, number some 5,000, while the rabbit population has been reduced to under one million. While these numbers may seem small to some, consider that at the time Captain James Cook first landed in Poverty Bay in 1769, there were no fourfooted animals in New Zealand, other than rats and dogs.

Some ten years ago, rabbits and opossum threatened to

take over the land. Farmers were considering abandoning the land since it seemed impossible to prevent the entire vegetation from being eaten—sheep and cattle were dying of starvation! The government employed all methods and means during the rabbit war—thousands of men were employed to shoot, trap, or poison, and otherwise reduce the rabbit and opossum population in any way they could.

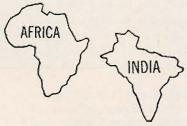
Trophy hunting is almost non-existent in New Zealand, and there is hardly an inhabitant who keeps a trophy at home, though many have bagged thousands of head of game. Nobody has ever heard of keeping the canine teeth of red deer and wapiti, or the Gamsbart (the tuft of bristly hair on the withers of the chamois that ornaments the hats of European hunters).

Hunting in New Zealand is rugged, and is only for those who are not afraid of physical rigors. Hunters who are in search of record game, who are satisfied with hunting from a shooting stand, and who must have every convenience in the field should not come to New Zealand.

The equipment needed for big (Continued on page 54)



Three of Julio Estrada's fine African trophies. At left, a full-maned lion from Tanganyika. Right, a 291/2'' record class situtunga, rare African antelope. Center, a fine sable with 451/2'' horns, shot on 1961 Mozambique safari.



Dean of Trophy Hunters

Julio Estrada, winner of the Weatherby Big Game Trophy Award, has collected all of the world's great trophies



Julio Estrada, standing, and his white hunter stop for a rest while on Angola safari in 1962.



The mighty guar, or Indian bison, a fine trophy collected by Estrada in Madras, India, in 1958.

By DR. FRANCISCO RAMOS

JULIO ESTRADA began his fabulous hunting career before he was ten years old. Mexico City, at the turn of the century, was a small town and from the outer limits where he lived, Julio could walk into open country filled with rabbits, squirrels, and a variety of birds. He traded the few dimes he had saved and some assorted trinkets, for an old muzzle-loader. When his father realized that his ambition for hunting was genuine, Julio received a .22 single-shot rifle. When he was about 12 he became the proud owner of a .30-30 Winchester, and with it stalked and shot his first big game—a white-tail deer.

During the two month vacations of his school years, Julio visited the haciendas of his classmates, hunting to his heart's content. He spent many nights in the high ranges, sleeping huddled in a blanket, before an open fire. Here he learned the ways of the wild—as he stalked white-tail and mule deer, javelina, coyote, mountain lion, black bear, antelope, and desert sheep of the region.

His trophy collection grew, but contained only the horns and skins of his kills since the art of taxidermy was all but unknown to him. His guns improved as a matter of course, from his early .30-30 to a 7 mm, 8 mm, a .303, a .405, until he became acquainted with the .30-06. He experimented with the .250-3000 for a while, but stood by the .30-06 for most of his game.

Going through school and college in Mexico, he eventually went to the United States, where he studied architecture. His natural inclination toward salesmanship prevailed, however, and he saw in this the opportunity to pursue a career that would give him the time he would need to hunt as much as he liked.

In the fall of 1930, he made his first trip into the Canadian Rockics, guided by Jack Brewster, famed sheep hunter of Jasper, Alberta. His fine bag of representative game of the country became the base for his fabulous trophy collection, one of the finest in the world. He returned to Canada almost every year, hunting in Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon—but his heart was set on an African safari.

Finally, in 1939, all (Continued on page 60)



View of one half of Estrada's African and Asian hall. Tiger, mounted full size on the left, measures over ten feet long. Below, Estrada with tiger where he fell.





requires special rifles and loads.

Here is good advice

based on years of actual

experience

Guns for the Game of India...





By DR. JAGDISH KUMAR

THERE ARE FOURTEEN professional hunting firms recognized by the government of India. Several are based in the hunting areas of Central India. A few operate at the base of the Himalayan foothills, one operates out of Nepal, which is a separate country and mostly mountainous, and another out of the mountainous Assam. In some areas the Naga headhunters are still at war with the government of India and should be avoided at all costs. They consider all outsiders as trophies, and if you carry a record head, do your hunting elsewhere.

The Indian professional hunters are a mixed lot. A few are well-to-do plantation owners. One is an Englishman, another an Australian. A couple are ex-royalty with vast hunting forests at their disposal. These chaps have the best guns and are excellent shots. They have hunted all their lives and have this business of tiger hunting down to an efficient system. They will guarantee you your animal and can be depended upon to back you up when you have to follow a wounded tiger into thick stuff. These men are reliable and you can check their references.

Then there are some professionals who are a shifty lot. With these fellows you even have to watch your extra shells. They will sell your game to the villagers and keep you busy for a month shooting game for food. They will tell you it is quite legal and proper to hunt at night from a car and with a searchlight. This is not the case. You may get your tiger when hunting with one of these men, but they will get everything you have. They have a tend-



Double rifles, such as these beautiful English-made guns, are the favorites of white hunters who need the power to back up their clients. Gun calibers, from top to bottom are: .425, .465, .470, and the famous .600 Nitro Express.

ency to harass you with extras and additional expenses. They rarely have good guns. Stick to the reliable hunting firms and be sure to contact their references. Tiger shooting is an art and it requires a month or two to get the hang of it. Unless you have the time to spare, it is wise to hire a well-known professional; although the cost is high, you will be satisfied and have a good shikar.

The hunting season opens on October 15th in most places and closes on May 15th. The best months are between November 1st and March 30th which is the coolest time

of the season.

You'll have to choose the type of hunting and what game you want. If you like mountain climbing with your regular hunting diet, you probably lean toward sheep and goat hunting, where you'll get your fill.

In the Western Himalayas your starting point will be from the Kashmir valley. From here you may head for any



British big game cartridges are often loaded with the spaghetti-like Cordite powder which has an acrid odor.



Base camp offers a convenient place to relax between hunts. Rifles are: A .348 Winchester and .375 Magnum.

of the following areas: the Kulu valley, Gilgit, Baltistan, Shyok valley, Haramosh, Rondu, Pirpanjal, and Kaj-i-Nag. The game in these areas consists of snow-leopard, Himalayan goat and sheep, Ibex, brown and black bear. Most of your shots will be between 150 and 300 yards. A high velocity, telescoped rifle is in order and you will have to pack in by mule. Don't wander too far to the East or North since the Chinese Reds have a habit of taking pot shots at the people from across the valleys. You will be hunting entirely on your own—with your own arrangements to ward off the dangers.

The Central Himalayas have been mostly shot out, excepting the Tehri-Garwal and Kamaon areas. The Central Himalayan foothills have a type of hunting which is similar in almost all respects to hunting in the foothills of almost all the mountain ranges in India. This area is known as the Terai, and is the best managed hunting area in India. Here you may hunt tiger and leopard, black bear or sloth bear, Indian elk (sambhar), barking deer (khakar), spotted deer (chital), hog deer, swamp deer (barasinga), the little gazelles (chinkara), and small four-horned antelope (chousinga). Buffalo can be added to this list in the Eastern Himalayan foothills. Elephant and rhino are also found to the east, but are protected.

In the high Himalayas you find the shapu or urial, a sheep with curving, swept-back horns. They are called gad in the local dialect. The Ladhak shapu is bigger than the Punjabi shapu, but Ladhak is a militarized zone so one must try for shapu in the Kala-Chitta hills of the Punjab. Horns here average about 36 inches. The biggest horns are in Afganistan, but that is another country.

The Blue Sheep or *Bharal* are found on the open blue shale slopes of the Himalayas just below the snow line in Ladhak and in the Sutlej valley. These sheep are very difficult to spot and you must use powerful binoculars or telescopes. The Sutlej valley sheep have the larger horns. The Tibetan blue sheep have the largest horns, but the Red Chinese are not granting visas these days.

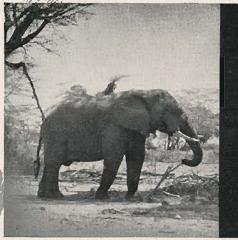
The Ibex follows the melting snows and moves up the mountains in the spring. The horns average between 40 and 50 inches and they are found in Gilgit, Astor, Kistwar, Suru, and the Sutlej valley.

Snow leopard live close to the melting snow lines, occasionally crossing down into the scrub forests for a snack of pheasant. They rarely grow over six feet in length or weigh more than 100 pounds and are extremely rare.

The mountain animals are by far the most difficult to hunt and require the use of high-velocity telescoped rifles. I would advise using a rifle in the .300 Magnum class as one can always run into a irritable old sow with cubs, or a mountain-climbing panther. The heavy winds which continuously whip through the Himalayan valleys require a heavy bullet. The 180 and 220 grain bullets are probably the best. Most of this hunting is done at altitudes of over 10.000 feet.

Below 10,000 feet begin the mountain forests of the Himalayas. Here we have game such as the Kashmir stag or Hangul. These animals have beautiful antlers with eight to ten tines and an average spread of 45 inches. They are of the elk family and stay in thick oak and pine cover. The Markhor has long spiraling horns, and the largest ones are found in the Pir-Panjal and Kaj-i-Nag valleys. Their horns average about 60 inches, but they are very difficult to find and stay in rocky forest. A great deal of difficult climbing is required to (Continued on page 44)

After being closed for years, the game-rich lands of Ethiopia are . . .



AFRICA

A Hunter's Big Game Paradise

Minimum caliber for elephant is a .458 Magnum, as in Browning, left.

By JOHN BROZ

In THESE DAYS of more and more restrictions on hunting and with fewer places to hunt, it is refreshing to be able to report that a new hunting area recently opened in Africa. The ancient land of Ethiopia has ended a five year ban on hunting with the announcement that big game hunters are once again welcome.

Bordering on Kenya, the world famous big game area, it comes as no surprise that vast amounts of game are to be found in Ethiopia. Almost all of the big game animals of East Africa are found here, and two animals native to Ethiopia are found nowhere else in the world: the Mountain Nyala and the Walia Ibex.

To the world traveler who is accustomed to the miles of red tape that are encountered when hunting most African countries, a trip to Ethiopia will be a revelation. There is no duty on firearms or ammunition, and visas are automatically taken care of at the airport. No special permits are required for travel within the country.

The hunting regulations are unique—and can be rather expensive. The initial hunting license costs \$40.00, and is issued only to those who have been booked with a licensed safari outfit. The safari must be accompanied by an inspector from the Ministry of Agriculture, which costs the hunter \$4.00 per day. Why the inspector? Well, he comes along to count the number of heads of game you kill, for in Ethiopia you "pay as you shoot."

Capitation fees are paid only on the trophies you actually bag, and are collected after your safari. As you can see from the list of the fees available from the outfitter, a successful safari into Ethiopia could be an expensive proposition.

At the present time, there is only one licensed outfitter in Ethiopia, Ted Shatto, Box 1745, Addis Ababa, who tells us that he can "match the best service and (Continued on page 53)



Zebra are plentiful in the east and southwest regions of Ethiopia. Capitation fee is \$40.00 for Grant's zebra.



Jacky Maeder exhibits two magnificent heads of white oryx with horns over 43".



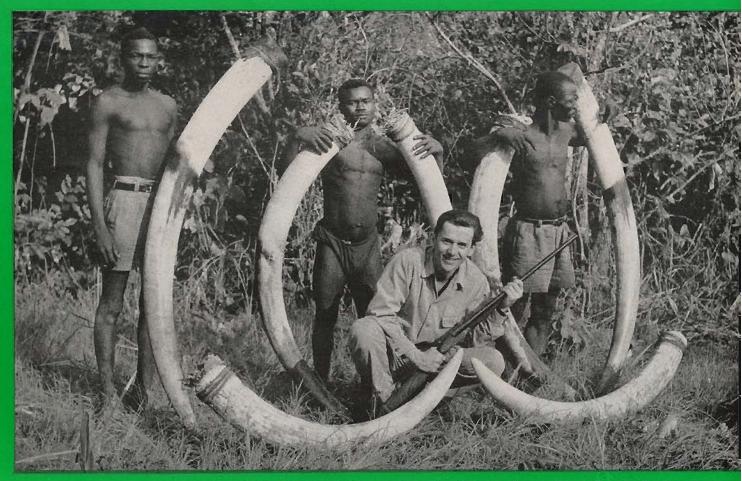
A recognized trophy hunter tells of his quest for mouflon, oryx, addax

By JACKY MAEDER

THE MOUFLON of the Ennedi Mountains of northern French Equatorial Africa are rock dwellers, and a trained eye, a steady hand, and a mound of patience are required to hunt them successfully. Hand in hand with these must go the courage and quick resolve to fire at running game at distances up to 300 yards. I know that this may sound revolutionary and contrary to all hunting precepts, but the mouflon is exceedingly shy and has remarkably good sight. Its color blends well with the natural background, making it very difficult to spot the animal. Once spotted, a silent stalk in this craggy, uneven countryside is almost impossible—no matter how light your step.

After several days of hunting this elusive trophy, I managed to bag a record

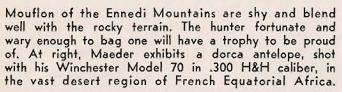
Africa's Rarest Game

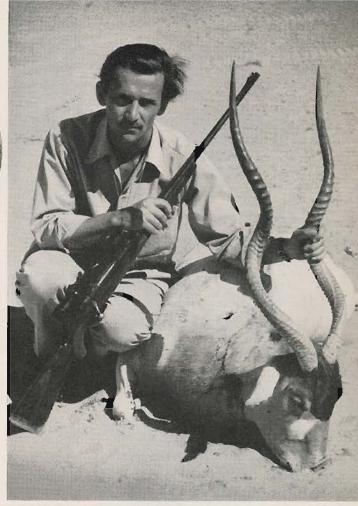


Author holds his favorite double rifle, used to collect the elephant tusks shown. Single tusk, held by bearer on left, weighs well over 100 pounds.

28





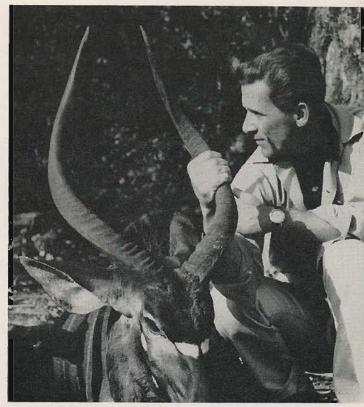


mouflon on the last morning of my stay in the Ennedi Mountains. The shot was swift, and unspectacular, but the realization that I had added this wary sheep to my collection made up for the failures of the previous days.

My gun, a Winchester Model 70 in .300 H&H, with a 2½X telescope, had once again proved its worth. I am convinced that this caliber, which I have used on several hunting expeditions in Africa, is suitable for most game shooting here. Its merit lies not only in the fact that it has a good trajectory but one also has the choice of three different bullet weights, 150, 180, and 220 grains. Naturally, I'm not talking here of dangerous game, such as buffalo, rhinoceros, or elephant, for which only a very heavy caliber, preferably a double-barrelled rifle, in .465 or .470 should be used.

As so little time for the hunting of addax and oryx remained, I rode my camels back to Fada to break up the main camp and follow my hunting buddy, Tommy Amman, who was already on his way south with the Unimog. Fada is a French garrison built on an oasis; set in the midst of palms and pools, it has the magic of "Arabian Nights" about it. After dinner with Captain Lambotte, chief of the garrison I proceeded on my way to Ounichalouba.

The big truck carrying our reserve water and gas started to give us trouble and I was glad to see Tommy and Jean Gerin, White Hunter from my Fort Archambault safari agency. They were both in good humor, in spite of having no luck in the Baki district, and hearing of my mouflon, they were pleased about my (Continued on page 58)

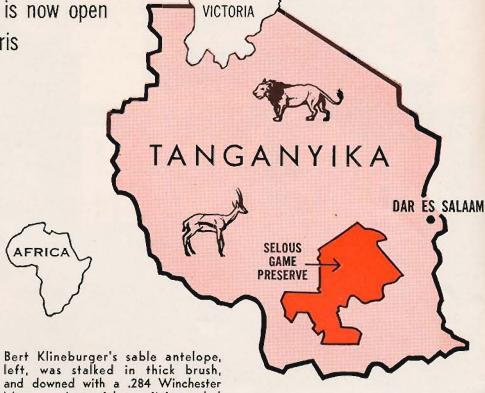


The rare nyala, a fleet-footed African antelope, is a handsome addition to any trophy collection.

TANGANYIKA-

A first report from the famed Selous Game Reserve that is now open for economical trophy safaris



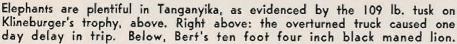


LAKE



Magnum. A special permit is needed for the black rhino, protected in most other African big game areas.







By BOB TREMAINE

If DONE RIGHT, a tremendous crop of game can be taken in Africa. There has been a lot of talk that, with the increased hunting pressure in Africa, the supply of worthwhile game will be depleted, that hunting is rapidly reaching the point where good trophics are virtually impossible to find. Add to this some of the political unrest and the growth of independent states, and the visiting sportsman faces a great many problems.

The European method of game management, namely shooting off the old males and the sickly members of the herds, has worked extremely well for many generations. Ernest Juer, a Londoner by birth and African hunter and resident by choice, studied these methods and last year his ideas and his knowledge of African game culminated in the formation of the Uganda Wildlife Development Ltd. I reported on this (Guns, Jan., '63) new and untried safari operation, and have recently concluded a long session with Bert Klineburger, president of Jonas Brothers, the world-wide taxidermy operation.

Juer's program was government sponsored, and, to put it bluntly, the Uganda plan was a howling success. The government made money, the natives got meat, the sportsmen got their game, and everybody was happy. The Tanganyika government, faced with virtually identical problems, watched the Uganda deal closely, and in August of 1963 asked Juer to start a similar program for Tanganyika.

Bert was invited by the government to join the first reconnaissance safari into the proposed hunting area—the gigantic Selous game reserve in southern Tanganyika. The Selous covers almost 15,800 square miles and has been uninhabited and thus not hunted for over 50 years. The Selous game area has a great river system that carries water in many directions, and there are tremendous concentrations of game along the waterways during the dry seasons,

July through December, when the Tanganyika package hunts will be taking place.

"The Selous holds a fantastic variety of game," Bert told me. "Here are some of the best elephants to be found in Africa today, and there are some of the best, if not the best, cape buffaloes. And they are plentiful! I saw and shot an extremely fine sable antelope, a greater kudu, a black maned lion. Extremely good leopards are seen frequently and you just can't stop looking. We saw many fine heads of Nyasa wildebeest, hartebeest, reedbuck, impala, zebra, duiker, grysbok, warthog, hippos, and most of the other African plains game varieties."

Juer who is now head of the Tanganyika Wildlife Development Ltd., Bert, and Brian Nicholson and John Hornstead, both experienced game wardens, started the arduous trip from Dar es Salaam. Nicholson was at that time game warden in charge of the southeastern section of Tanganyika. In the 15 years he had spent in that area, he had been on foot safari for about five years into the Selous area and knows more about this game heaven than any other man. "Since roads are (Continued on page 51)



This young bull buffalo took a total of seven .50 caliber bullets before he was finally brought down in thick brush.



The author took a running shot to bag this nice wart hog, only to discover it had but one tusk.



A Nairobi gunsmith and veteran hunter offers practical advise on gun selection for East Africa.

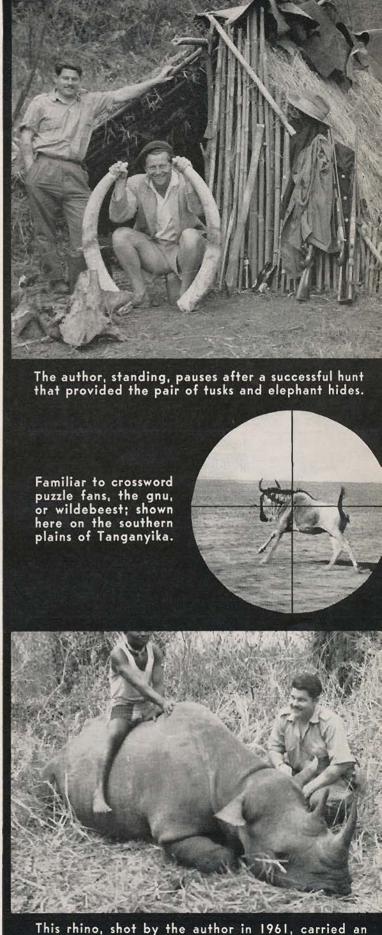
By L. J. BULL

QUITE NATURALLY, the man who seriously contemplates an African safari will devote considerable attention to his battery. A great deal has been written about guns for big game, but unfortunately much of the information disseminated today is either outdated or incorrect. Let me explain this. Since the early 1920's, a number of new cartridges have been developed and tried, some of them falling by the wayside, others are still favored by the professional white hunters. The incorrect information has come from a segment of vocal, one-time safari hunters who, after a trip into the bush, consider themselves "authorities" on the subject of African game and rifles.

Let us make one distinction right now. The gun that the white hunter carries is his and his client's life insurance, is a gun that he has fired a great deal, and he is thoroughly familiar with it. From past experiences he knows exactly what a given bullet or caliber will do on a certain animal. And let's face it, the heavy double rifle kicks and the recoil is enough to make a great number of the visiting hunters into first-rate flinchers. The rifle for the man who comes over here to hunt for a few weeks should be of the maximum caliber that he can handle easily, and his gun or shooting skill will seldom, if ever, be called upon to back-up another member of the party.

I have lived and hunted in Kenya since 1955 and was a working gunsmith in England. I have worked for Holland and Holland and am now head gunsmith at the Shaw and Hunter gunshop in Nairobi. It has been my pleasure to help many professional hunters with their gun problems, and have been of some service to many of the visiting sportsmen. In the past eight years I have killed many heads of game, including several of the big five animals. Whenever possible, I have studied the bullet performance and the effects of bullet placement. Here are my suggestions and recommendations for the African battery.

Kenya game laws prohibit the use of the .22 caliber rim-fire ammunition. The .220 Swift is similarly outlawed for anything bigger than the dik-dik, the smallest antelope around. At best, the dik-dik stands only 13-14 inches at the shoulder. Since there are more and higher (Continued on page 59)



this rhino, shot by the author in 1961, carried an exceptionally fine hide, free of scars or blemishes.

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Cal. .30-06

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soft point ammunition at a low \$3.90 per 20 rounds. The hunting ammunition price barrier broken at last!

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PERHAPS THE GREATEST OFFERING OF ALL TIME—NRA GOOD PLUS CONDITION WALTHER P-38 PISTOLS AT AN UNBELIEV-ABLY LOW \$34.95—TODAY, THE OFFICIAL SIDE ARM OF GER-MAN NATO FORCES. Adopted by the German Army in 1938 to cal. replace the German Pistole Model '08. The first production run completed in 1939. Fires single and double action. Noted for its 9MM Parabellum automatic internal safety which blacks BOTH the hammer and the firing pin. Also has special protruding signal pin which indicates when cartridge is in chamber. Current new production commercial models listed at over TWO AND ONE-HALF times this bargain price. Some NRA Very Good only \$5 more! 9MM Parabellum, boxer primed, non-corrosive ammunition only \$4.00 per hundred rounds.

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imited number of Walther BANNER Model P-38's in 'O'' series. (Arsenal refinished and re-numbered)..ONLY \$55.00 imited number of Walther HP Models with round iring pins. (Arsenal refinished and re-numbered)..ONLY \$60.00



Original Black Nazl last-issue "quick draw type" leather holsters only \$3.95 extra! Extra original magazines only \$4.95!

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P-38's MADE AFTER WW II ENDED!!?

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forever classify this hitherto unknown and never-re-corded-in-America model. "Leichtmetall" aluminum grips! "Braunmetall" rust-proof finish! "SVW" secret

Waither P-38 SVW 45 Code with Aluminum grips.
Rustproof finish and matching numbers in NRA
VERY GOOD or better condition only \$119,001
(FREE extra magazine and FREE holsies))
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NEW! NEW! NEW! **BRAND NEW!**

Complete with NEW leather hoister and NEW extra magazine and cleaning rod, one of the latest commercial STAR designs in the popular, readily available, 9 MM Parabellum (Luger) catiber. (Anomo in Rowating design, easy operation, eight-shot magazine, commercial blue finish, case hardened haromer, resulter checkered walunt grips and individually packed, A buy NEVER to repeat—so order yours while this huge supply still lasts, Special for you who had at whome the property of the commercial blue finish, expendence or order yours while this huge supply still lasts, Special for you who had at whome the property of the commercial blue finish, while the large supply still lasts, Special for you who had a supplied to the commercial blue finish while the property of the commercial blue for the property of the special for the property of the prope

NEW LEATHER HOLSTER WITH MAGAZINE POCKET! NEW EXTRA MAGAZINE! NEW CLEANING ROD!



German Pistole Model 'US

THE "WORLD'S GREATEST PISTOL!"

THE PISTOL THAT NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION: The never-to-be-again duplicated evention of the great Georg Luger. Officially designated the great Georg Luger. Officially designated the manufacturer as "Pistole Parabellum Model '08"—the vear it was originally adopted by the German Army, Guaranteed completely serviceable and in NRA GOOD condition, but showing proreblued with "like new" type Alaso available, reblued with "like new" type Alaso available, GOOD condition only \$49.95! Bargain non, cor. 9MM Parabellum ammo only \$4.00 per 100 rds.

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Original BROWN LEATHER DeLuxe Holsters
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RUBY .32 AUTOMATIC

Cal. .32 ACP

Pride of the Spanish reserve force and Franco's favorite! The sturdy model Ruby has a lasting reputation as being one of the bost automatic pistols ever produced on the five thumb lever safety and long grip which houses the extra large capacity nine shot magazine. Offered in NIA good condition at only \$17.95, extra magazines only \$17.95, extra magazines only \$17.95, extra magazines only \$17.95, extra magazine only \$17.



UNIQUE .32 AUTOMATIC!

Cal. .32 ACP

A favorite of the grand old man of France—this rugged Prench model UNIQUE also became a favorite of the Germans in World War II—so much that they pushed large scale protent and for commercial consumption. A for commercial consumption, and for commercial consumption. A for commercial consumption, and for commercial consumption. Complete with high impact plastic grips, this pistol is offered in NRA good or 1916. Settra magazines only \$2,25 ea. Order now: ONLY

ASTRA MODEL 3000!

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Almost too good to be true—but here they are—Model 3000 ASTRA pistols in the extra popular, 380 caliber and BRAND NEW. An absolute give-away for you who demand something BRAND YEW at a "surplus" price—priced so funtastically low only because of huge Spanish shipment. Features the thumb Spanish shipment. Features the thumb The pistol that EVERYDNE would LIKE to owe but only the first several thousand orders accepted—so dash yours off lodday, Remember, these are Brand New!

FREE: EXTRA MAGAZINE

ONLY \$34951

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Cal. 32 ACP The superb, unequalled Browning .32 Automatic in the Intest (M22) model .nnfg, by Fabrique National d'Armes de Guerre, Liege, Belgium, BROWN-ISG—the greatest name in automatic pistols—design and production excellence at its best! All in the popular .32 Auto callber and in very good condition at only \$26,95. Some excellent \$3,00 additional. Hiss the improved excellent capacity of your condition of the condition ONLY **\$26**95!

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Cal. .32 ACP The very latest, improved genuine MAUproved genuine MAUSSER 32 ACP Automatic. Manufactured as late as World War II by the great Mauser Works at Oberndorf. The most modern of the entire Mauser series with single and double action series with MAUSER Banner and SOME with Nazl eagle and swastika only \$10.00 more. Perhaps your very last chance for the buy of your time. All pistols NRA GODD or Better. 32 ACP ammo only \$6.00 per 100 rounds.

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Cal. 9MM

Parabellum

Original Model 40 LAHTI Pistols—designed by the famous Finnish weapon dosigner Annio Lahti and manufactured by the great Swedish Arms Factory, HUSQVARNA. Monogram of the beautiful Swedish emblem embedded in grip. ALL NRA VERY GOOD and ALL accessories listed below included FREE, Some NRA EXCELLENT only \$10.00 mor. 9MM Parabellum ammo only \$4.00 per 100.

FREE DRIGINAL ACCESSORIES! Extra Magazine — Takedown Tool — Cleaning Rod — Official Swedish Army Holster,

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Back again at the lowest price ever! The pride of the Royal Mounted Police, your at a token price. The Revolver that tamed the Northwest—the revolver that made the most desperate desperado cringe with fear. Imaginary 20, 25. Avanual the best for the least from Y. O. B.I.

ENFIELD COMMANDO REVOLVERS!



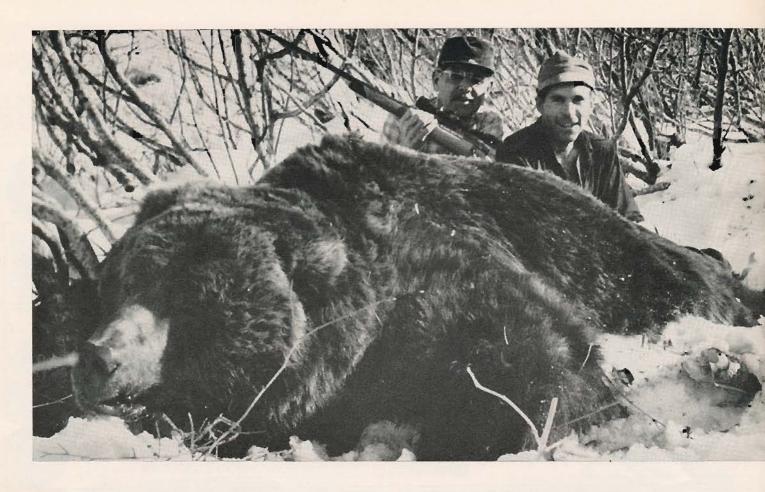
SWISS ARMY REVOLVER!

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ember of the devarance HUNTERS LODGE 200 S. UNION ST. ALEXANDRIA 13,



Hunting for the Big Arctic Bears



The author, left, and Morris Talifson used spotting scope and binoculars to seek out the great brown bear of Kodiak.



Askins shot this ten-foot polar bear with his .340 Weatherby. Temperature was 18 below zero.

By COLONEL CHARLES ASKINS



Col. Askins and guide, Darrell Farmen, with the author's giant Kodiak bear (facing page). Off the Alaska coast, author waits as pilot checks plane (above). Dog teams waited impatiently in the village of Kotzebue (right).



Eleven-foot trophy polar bear shot by Dr. Kenneth Vaughn.





Freezing cold and bad weather are but a few of the problems facing the hunter in the Far North

Last SPRING I Walted out a Polar bear on the ice of the Chukchi. He moved from a distance of 300 yards to 40 yards, where I killed him. The time it took that monster bruin, rocking along at a ground-devouring trot, was probably not more than three or four minutes. During that time I bared my trigger hand to a temperature of —18 degrees. The cold was accentuated by a 20 knot wind, and the combination was enough to frost-bite two fingers badly. Three weeks later those fingers were still extremely painful.

I hunted with Nelson Walker and John Swiss, to my notion the best Arctic guides in the game today. They provided me with a hooded parka made of wolf and lynx skins by the Eskimos. It kept me warm and snug in temperatures which at one point dropped to -46° F. Beneath the parka I wore a down-filled Bauer vest, a wool shirt from Norm Thompson, next to my hide a suit of woolen underwear, and over this a second set of down-filled Bauer underwear. I wore a pair of army OD trousers and over them a pair of Air Force flying trousers. I had on three pairs of socks, the under pair made of light cotton, the outers were extra heavy sets of Eddie Bauer's Indian-made, hand-knitted socks. Over these went a pair of mukluks, made of whale and sealskin, impervious to snow and ice and wonderfully warm. There is no heel in the mukluk and you could not walk far in them, but hunting Polar game is not a matter of long marches or lengthy stalks.

On my hands I had a pair of wool gloves, then a pair of leather gloves, and finally a set of heavy mittens suspended by cords around my neck. My head covering was a woolen cap with ear flaps. This completed the ensemble, except that you only hunt the icepack when the sun is shining and this creates a glare condition which necessitates dark sun glasses.

There are peculiar problems with firearms and cartridges during the colder snaps. I sent my friend Dave Bohannon to shoot a Polar last year. The Walker-Swiss duo took "Bo" out and found him a real old bear. They stalked him, brought Bo within good gun range. Dave was told to do his stuff. He lifted the .300 Magnum, steadied it, pulled trigger. The rifle did not fire. The coiled driving spring which actuates the firing pin was ice-filled. When the sear released it, there was not enough oomph in the driving spring to set off the primer.

Hastily Bohannon shuffled the bolt and tried again. The bear was coming directly toward him and had gained 30 yards while Bo was going through the motions of firing the first shot. The second was a dud too. Like lightning he whipped in a third round. Same story. The firing pin could be heard to thud dully. It was moving too slowly and striking too lightly.

John Swiss, right at his elbow, (Continued on page 61)



GUNS of the Texas Rangers

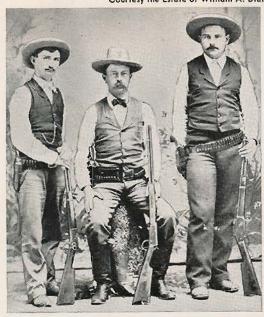
PART 2

THOUGH THEY CARRIED A
WIDE VARIETY OF GUNS, THE
RANGERS ALL HAD A
SECRET WEAPON—COURAGE!

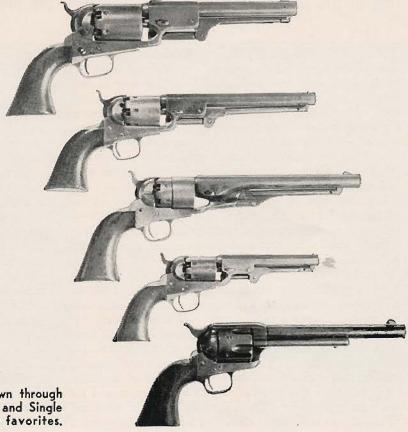
By JAMES E. SERVEN

A FTER THE CIVIL WAR, returning soldiers brought home their Enfield rifled muskets and quite an assortment of other weapons. Although Spencer carbines were used extensively in the West, we hear little of them in Texas; some were captured from the Indians. Pistols resembling Colt's .44 Dragoon caplock were made in Texas by Tucker & Sherrod and by Dance Brothers & Park. The Apache Chief Geronimo somehow came into possession of a Dance .44 caplock six-shooter. Until about 1875 quite a variety of pistols, rifles and carbines were used by the Rangers. Captain McNelly tells of having his men equipped with "needle-guns," which was the frontier name for the single shot Springfield trap-door rifles and carbines in .50-70 or .45-70 calibers. Their long needle-like firing pin earned

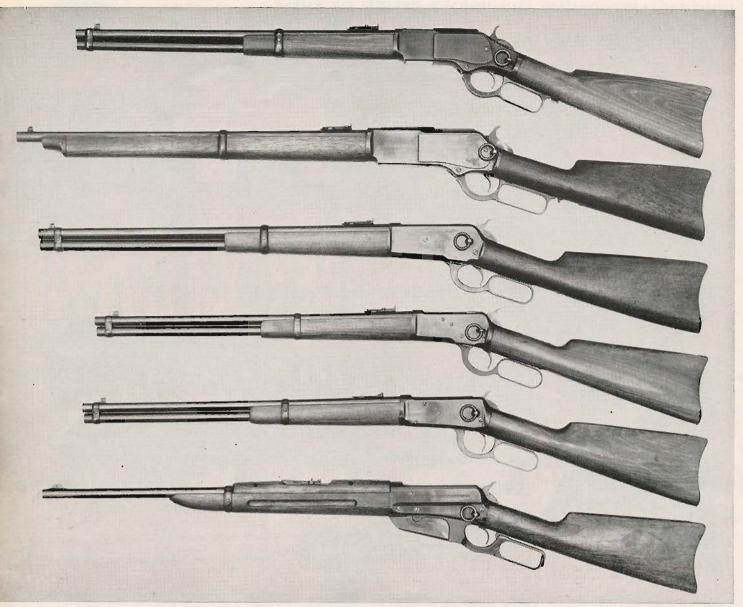
Courtesy the Estate of William A. Dial



Texas Rangers of early 1900's were well-dressed in addition to being well-armed.



From the heavy Dragoon pistol (top), down through the 1851 Navy, 1860 Army, 1849 Pocket, and Single Action Army, Colt pistols were Ranger favorites.



Winchester carbines were always great favorites of most western horsemen, including the Texas Rangers. From top to bottom, the saddle ring carbines shown here are the Model 1873, 1876, 1886, 1892, 1894, and the Model 1895.

them this misnomer; they were in no sense true needle guns, of the type invented by Dreyse in 1840.

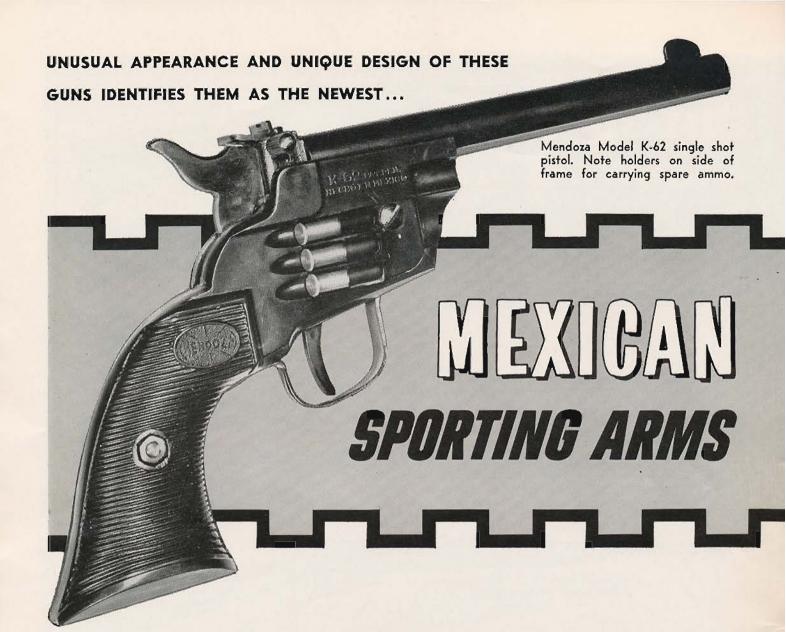
The .50-70 Sharps carbine enjoyed a spell of popularity as the standard saddle gun of the Texas Rangers, but the most popular gun of all was soon to replace it—this was the caliber .44-40 Model 1873 Winchester repeater.

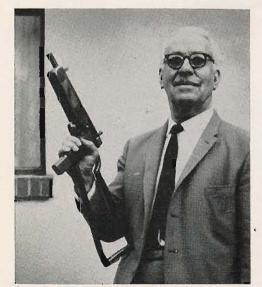
James B. Gillett, whose name appears often in accounts of exciting Ranger activities in the 1875-81 period, recorded that three of his Ranger companions obtained permission from Captain Roberts to go to Austin in the winter of 1875 to buy a case of ten Winchesters. Company D, to which Gillett was attached, was armed with the .50 caliber Sharps carbines, the state at that time furnishing no other type of gun. The Sharps carbines, however, would heat easily, leaked gas at the breech, and their accuracy left much to be desired. Rangers could buy the Sharps carbines at that time for \$17.50, but the Model 1873 Winchesters, then new on the market, cost \$50 for the rifle and \$40 for

the carbine. Nevertheless, Gillett and nine others of Company D were willing to pay the higher price to obtain a superior arm. Gillett obtained carbine No. 13401 and put it to excellent use in his long career as a lawman.

In addition to the introduction of the Model 1873 Winchester, with its new and more powerful center-fire cartridge, the year 1873 saw the birth of a handgun whose popularity has been exceeded by no other gun—in fact, it is still being manufactured! This pistol, of course, is Colt's single action army model, often referred to as the "frontier" or "single action." How would TV "westerns" exist without it?

When first introduced, the single action Colt was available only in .45 center-fire caliber. Toward the end of the 1870s there were few Rangers who were not armed with a Winchester rifle and a Colt single action six-shooter. These weapons, along with a bowie knife and a pair of handcuffs, were the principal physical tools (Continued on page 48)





Senor Rafael Mendoza, famous Mexican small arms designer, with his newest submachine gun undergoing final tests.

By FRANK C. BARNES

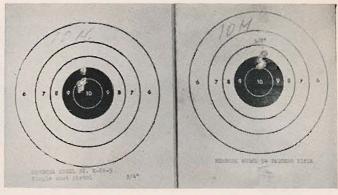
THERE IS IMPORTANT news for American gun enthusiasts from our neighbor to the south. The first indications of a budding Mexican sporting arms industry is discernible, and I was priviledged to be the first *Norteamericano* to visit one of the new sporting arms plants and test some of their products.

Mexico is no stranger to innovations in the small arms field, and the bulk of their military small arms since the mid 1930's has been Mexican designed and manufactured. The names of gun designers Mendoza, Mondragon, and Obregon are well known to serious students of small arms development. In the field of sporting arms, however, Mexican arms have been conspicuous by their absence.

During a recent visit to Mexico City, the rumors I had heard of a Mexican sporting arms production became a fact when I discovered several specimens marked Hecho en Mexico (Made in Mexico). Since they also bore the name "Mendoza," I knew they had to somehow relate to Rafael Mendoza, the noted military arms designer.

My efforts to find out who made these and where the factory was located turned out to be quite a job. The distributor was glad to take





Hector Mendoza holds pilot model of an improved target pistol as Lt. Gabriel Diaz Meoncada looks on. Groups above were fired from about 33 feet; group at left from K-62-5 pistol, at the right from Model 54 rifle.



orders, but could do no more than suggest that I contact the Tourist Bureau. They in turn referred me to the Department of Defense, etc., etc. In desperation I turned to the American Embassy and worked my way into the office of Miss Alice Mulhern. I hardly expected a woman to know or care anything about firearms, but I underestimated Miss Mulhern. When I explained my problem she picked up the Mexico City telephone directory, looked under Armas, and in five minutes made an appointment for me to visit Productos Mendoza, S.A., and meet Hector Mendoza, youngest son of Rafael. This call was a great deal more than a demonstration on using the phone book; it helped to smooth the way and enabled me to gather information that would not have been readily available without her kind assistance.

At Productos Mendoza I was greeted by Hector Mendoza, who assured me that his father was alive and active in the arms design field, and that he was putting the

finishing touches on a new submachine gun for the Mexican military. Productos Mendoza manufacture a variety of products in addition to firearms. Brother Jose designs and manufactures a line of beautiful inlaid brass furnishings found in all the better city stores. He also has his own retail outlet. They make baby strollers, and have made BB and pellet guns for a number of years, but sporting firearms are a brand-new venture.

There is a lot of handwork in their manufacturing processes, with close quality control and good finish the rule rather than the exception. Unskilled labor is often cheaper than fancy machines, and I was impressed by the ingenuity demonstrated in making their own jigs and machinery wherever possible, and the close inspection of all firearms. The Mendozas are fully aware that the future success of Mexican-made sporting arms will be determined, in a large degree, by the quality of their product.

After inspecting the manu- (Continued on page 63)



Pull!
BY DICK MILLER

I T COULD ONLY happen at the Grand American! Veteran sports writers and sports observers have said for years that the "Grand," as the national trapshooting tournament is effectionately called, is the most colorful national sports event. The 1963 Grand lived up to it's press agentry, and added extra dashes of color for good measure.

Not only did the Grand come up with even more than it's usual quota of color and human interest stories, it was the higgest Grand on record. There were 2,527 shooters toeing the line, firing 100 targets each on Friday, top day of the long tournament. A total of more than one and one-half million shells were required to return one more year's winners.

For several years, total shooters on the big day have flirted with the 2500 mark, and now that that barrier, like the four-minute mile, has been reached, officials of the Amateur Trapshooting Association, who stage the tournament, look to a day in the perhaps not too distant future when three thousand hopefuls will fire on a Friday between early morning and the evening shadows.

The "Grand" is in reality a ten-day shooting marathon, always scheduled late in August. Three days of warm-up or preliminary events are held on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, with firing in earnest for a host of championships in three different types of shooting beginning on Monday and continuing through Saturday. The 16 yard shooting is king Monday through Wednesday, culminating in the championship day on Wednesday. In 16 yard events, all shooters fire from a line 16 yard behind the traps from which the clay targets, flying goals of the whole exercise, are thrown.

On Thursday, handicap shooting takes the spotlight. Each shooter shoots from a mark assigned to him or her on the basis of past performance and known ability. This mark, called "yardage" varies from 18 to 27 yards behind the trap. Based on an estimate that the average target flies about twenty yards before a shooter can see and react to it, handicap shooters are breaking their targets at distances of 38 to 47 yards from the gum muzzle, and this figure can be upped for a deliberate shooter.

Thursday is a full-dress rehearsal for the biggest and richest prize of all, the Grand American Handicap, following the next day. Doubles championships, in which two targets are thrown, with shooters at sixteen yards, are decided Saturday, before a consolation or wind-up handicap event, called the Vandalia Handicap.

Two of this year's biggest winners were in the unique American tradition of horsetraders or gun swappers, and in the noblest example of the little fellow who walks with kings for a day in the sun.

"Blind Al" Kees, took one day off from work, drove forty miles from his home in Richmond, Indiana, and was the only shooter of 2,527 of the continent's best to break all of his hundred targets.

And, he did it with an ancient shotgun, estimated to he at least 25 years old, that he bought four or five years ago from another Hoosier, Franklin Westover, who won the Vandalia Handicap in 1954. If the gun is the same one Westover used in 1954, he may very well regret the sale.

Incidentally, the sobriquet "Blind Al" is obviously not a slur on the eyesight of the only man to break all of his targets in this year's biggest event.

Kees at one time ran a rifle and pistol club in Richmond that was losing money, so he started throwing clay targets to improve it's financial position and caught the bug.

The club is not lighted for throwing targets at night, but occasionally when the members were loathe to give up after the sun went down, they turned on automobile headlights, not the most effective lighting systems for clay target fields. Al's ability to hit these poorly lighted targets, despite his repeated protests that "he couldn't even see 'em much less hit 'em" won him the nickname, which may very well now be used with respect.

Bill Lawless, a transplanted Kentuckian now living in Cambridge, Ohio and employed by RCA, might not have won the second richest pot of the week (about \$8,000) if a prospective gun buyer had been in possession of \$250 cash. Just before the big week at Vandalia, Ohio, Lawless accepted another gun and some cash in trade for a gun he had been shooting. After making the trade, he had no confidence in the new gun, and shot his wife's gun for a few events. But, just one week before the big Thursday in the Grand, he did go back to the new gun and shot a fair score. But, on arriving at the ATA grounds on the day of the shoot (like Al Kees) another gun swapper offered him \$250 for the gun. The offer was accepted, but the prospective buyer had to have a little time to raise the cash. Bill Lawless kept his gun, adding the offhand remark that if he broke 100 straight that day, the deal was off. He didn't break the 100, but his 99 was top for the day, and at last report, the "deal is off."

Shoot-offs at the Grand are always tense, exciting, and crowd pleasers. The 1963's shoot-offs had all these elements to keep the gallery in and on the edges of their seats.

Your columnist, who ought to know better, also flunked one of his rare attempts to predict what is going to happen in a Grand on any given day. Late Friday afternoon, just before catching a plane just across the long line of traps, which faces Dayton's municipal airport, I noted that K. L. Beck, a 66-year old Texan had a lone 99 on the hig score board. This was the best score he ever fired, and I predicted to some nameless soul in the press shack (who I hope does not remember the comment) that this 99 would probably hold up for victory.

When dusk had fallen, I learned that there was a lot of congestion at the top. One perfect score (Al Kees) was in, Texan Beck had three more shooters to meet in a shootoff, and no less than a baker's dozen had fired scores of 98, good enough for a win in other years. There were also high scores from long yardage. Two 26 yard gunners were in the 98 bracket, and a maximum 27 yard shooter didn't have to worry about an automatic yard additional handicap given any contestant who breaks a score of 97 or more in a sanctioned touranment. That's about the only consolation left for the 27-yarder. He can't be moved (under existing rules) any farther away from the scene of action.

With the first five trophy places taken by Al Kees and the quartet of 99 shooters (Richard Welch, Theodore Etem, Beck, and David Lee Chamberlain) a real dog fight ensued for the remaining trophies available to the baker's dozen with scores of 98.

The thirteen were reduced to just two, and then real drama took over. Fortyish Dana Stewart had broken 50 straight extra targets, and so had a 74 pound, 4 foot 8 inch fifth grader from Dubuque, Iowa, Frank R. Fincel.

Stewart missed his 73rd extra target, and the youngster didn't. Thinking that he had already lost, Stewart took two steps toward little Frank to congratulate him, just as the little fellow fired at his 75th target. Heretofore cool cookie Frank missed, and the two were still tied. Then, perhaps the intolerable pressure of it all took over, and the boy decided he was tired and wanted to go home. A flip of a coin gave the trophy to Stewart, but Frank's seventh place silver looked every bit as big to him as Stewart's sixth place.

There are many more stories from the Grand, but there isn't much space left, and more championships to report. Perhaps it would be best for the reader to see it for himself, or be part of the human interest next year.



The de-kicker de luxe that is precision machined into your rifle barrel, avoiding unsightly hang-ons. Controlled escape for highest kinetic braking, minimum blast effect and practically no jump. All but provents jet thrust (secondary recoil). Guaranteed workmanship. Folder. Dealer discounts.

PENDLETON GUNSHOP 1200 S. W. Halley

GUN RACK

(Continued from page 15)

gold-plated trigger and engine-turned bolt, and the stock is along the usual Marlin lines -American black walnut with their rugged finish. We fired a total of 50 factory roundsammo that was left over after testing the Ruger Hawkeye pistol. We made up some handloads, but as of this moment have not arrived at a completely satisfactory load and some of them, although accurate, have not yet been chronographed or checked for pressures. With the Winchester factory load, our best 100 yard, five shot group was 1.25 inches, while the worst group had a dispersion of 2.25 inches. This spreading was, in all probability, not the fault of either the gun or the ammo, but were due to weather conditions with gusty crosswinds and poor visibility. As soon as handloading tests are completed and a satisfactory powder-bullet combination is found, we shall report on this gun again. In the meanwhile, we shall be testing the factory ammo on some of the local varmints.

Pistolite

Designed for dry-fire practice, Pistolite provides the extra bonus of showing you where the bullet would have hit, if there had been a bullet. It is a focused-beam flashlight built into a black plastic replica of the cylinder of a single-action revolver. The cylinder does not rotate, is positioned so that the "chamber" holding the bulb and lens is in "firing" position to shoot its light down the barrel. Circuit is completed to light the bulb when the hammer falls and the firing pin strikes the contact point. The light beam is adjustable vertically and horizontally. Pistolite fits 32-20, 357 Magnum, 38, 44 Magnum, and 45 caliber single actions.

Pistolite is well made, easy to install or remove. As tested, the light beam laid a spot 1½" in diameter on the target at 15 feet. The device is made by Tod-O Manufacturing Co., P. O. Box 264G, Thousand Oaks, Cal., retails for \$7.95.

New Hornady Bullets
Comprehensive tests are now being conducted in our testing lab on the new, full metal—nickel-silver—jacketed bullets. Designed for the biggest of big game, they are available in .338 (250 gr.), .375 (300 gr.), and .458 (500 gr.).

LaCoss Handgun Stabilizer

Produced by LaCoss Corp., Box 441G, Falls Church, Va., the Stabilizer is designed to reduce relative motion between the hand (hence, the gun) and the forearm for greater accuracy in handgun shooting. It consists of an adjustable (that is, bendable) under-arm "stock" or brace made of bent and twisted heavy copper-alloy wire covered with plastic, and two flat metal plates which fit on each side of the handgun stock, under the grip plates. The front prongs of the wire brace fit into channels at the bottom of the metal plates, and the brace can be bent to fit the arm and shooting position of the individual shooter. It can also be reversed to extend in front of the gun as a rest for prone or bench shooting. Retail price is \$6.95.



WESTERN MILITARY ARMS CORP.



GEORG LUGER'S FINEST

7.65 OR 9MM 6" BARRELED PARABELLUM

The ideal pistol for high velocity and long range shooting. Each one has been carefully fitted with a new 6" borrel and refinished to arsenal standards—an outstanding buy for those who refuse to pay collector's prices for a fine long barreled shooter—all in NRA Excellent \$69.95

MODEL 1935 PORTUGESE MAUSER BANNER

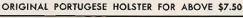
The rarest of the rarel WMAC is now offering the until recently unknown Mouser banner that collectors talked about but had never seen. This is the only grip safety 45% bbl. 7.65mm Parabellum that Mauser made on Military contract. These pistols are of finest commercial quality. All in NRA Very Good or better condition with original finish and all matching numbers. GNR appears over the receiver and the safety and extractor are marked in Portugese. This piece is a must for every Luger collector. Limited Number only so order nowl



MODEL 1900/06, 7.65MM PORTUGESE ARMY

We have just received a small shipment of the famous Portugese Army's 1900/06 7.65 pistols. All in NRA good to very good condition with original finish and all matching numbers. Each pistol clearly displays the Portugese royal coat of arms over the chamber. All have the graceful 4¾" bbl. and grip safety. A few selects

graceful 4¾" bbl. and grip safety. A few selects \$85.00 for only \$10.00 extra.



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GUNS FOR THE GAME OF INDIA

(Continued from page 26)

bag one and they are usually found alone or in pairs. The Himalayan goat or tahr is also rare, and makes a poor trophy unless one likes goat hunting. They have dark, almost black hair and live in the scrub forests of the low valleys. They frequent the heavymatted blackberry patches and are very difficult to see. The goral, a small deer, are ubiquitous to the entire mountain forests of the Himalayan range. They have very small horns, usually about six inches; their meat is good, and they are the principal diet of the Himalayan panther.

The Himalayan brown bear is a rare beast. He is of the same family as the Carpathian brown bear and the North American grizzly. About 500 pounds in weight and about seven feet tall, they have very heavy fur. If they are around they are sure to pay you a visit, invited or otherwise. The Himalayan sloth bear or black hear will almost surely pay you a visit if he is in the neighborhood. They enjoy chewing on your leg and are vile tempered.

In hunting the mountain forests it is advisable to use the heavier bullets in the high velocity rifle. The 220 grain or 250 grain bullet for one of the .300 Magnum's will be quite adequate.

The forests of the Indian foothills are made up of the Terai, the Bhabar, and the Swaliks in the north, the Aravallis and the Vindhyas in Central India, and the Ghats in South India. They all have approximately the same variety of game. These forests begin below 3.000 feet and are deciduous, consisting chiefly of teak. About 1,000 feet lower, the thick bamboo begins. These bamboo forests are almost impenetrable to man, and in the thickest and the wettest, live the wild buffalo. These may be hunted in Jaipur state and Assam only. Their horns measure 100 inches from tip to tip. They are difficult to hunt and die very hard. A reliable, heavy caliber gun is essential for these huge beasts.

Among the most dangerous game in these

forests is the Indian bison or gaur. He has horns smaller than the buffalo, but this is the very thing that makes him so dangerous. The horns rarely go over 40 inches in length or wider than 30 inches tip to tip. These big animals can slip through the forests like grey ghosts, carrying their 1,500 pound hulks silently. They charge without provocation and display intense cunning when wounded. They keep their heads up and their eyes open when they have you in their sights, and are very surefooted in making a charge. They are usually hunted while they feed in the late evening or early dawn. They are found throughout Assam in the east, in the Nilgiri bills of south India, and in the bills of Travancore in south India.

The Indian black buck, a small, 100 pound antelope, and the blue bull or nil-gai, also an antelope but weighing around 700 pounds, along with the wild boar may be found almost anywhere in the Indian plains where they have not been shot out. The blue bull makes a poor trophy with his huge head and 10 inch horns, and their meat is tough and stringy. In some areas it is a sacred animal and to shoot one is akin to inviting disaster. Jackals and hyenas, though not considered game, are also found everywhere in the plains and scrub forests. Lion are plentiful in the Gir forest in Surashtra, but are strictly protected. A rare gazelle called the gerbilles lives in the Thar desert.

Black panther or black leopard are very rare, but in the heavy forests of the Western Ghats in South India they are quite common. They are usually about 8 feet in length and weigh a little over 100 pounds.

Tiger are ubiquitous to all the heavily forested area of India and also in unpopulated areas of scrub forest. Wherever game abounds, there you'll find tigers. Since most of the still shooting is done in the late evening and at night, and a good telescope is of great value on your heavy rifle.

Most of the tiger in the Sanderband delta of the Ganges, south of Calcutta, in Bengal State are of the man-eating variety, living chiefly off the rubber plantation workers. The area is very dense and consists of mangrove swamps. It is an insect heaven and teems with crawling things. Few hunters venture in here. Those who do, often return with specimens of the Royal Bengal, the largest tiger to be found in India. Information on hunting these man-eaters, and the bounty offered for them, may be had through the Government Gazette of Bengal State and the Bengal State and the Divisional Forest Officer of the Sunderband Area.

A shooting license may be had from the Divisional Forest Officer of the area or through the Chief Conservator of Forests of States. A list of shooting blocks or areas for hunting all over India are supplied by the Divisional Forest Officers of the areas. These are open for a 15 day period only, hence it is wise to secure other blocks in the same area in which you wish to hunt if you plan to stay more than 15 days. You may thus rotate your hunting in different blocks.

In India you can find sporting rifles in almost every caliber that has ever been produced. Guns that are over a century old



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are still found in excellent working condition and are being used in outlying areas where game is plentiful.

Arms regulations in India are strictly enforced. Ancient gun laws still govern the use, ownership, and sale of firearms. By and large, arms licenses are issued to individuals on the basis of the income tax they pay. The more income tax one pays, the better the chances are of owning a gun. Farmers and peasants are allowed to protect their crops with muzzleloaders, and in most states no licenses are required to own them.

In recent years ammunition has been in short supply in India. When I could find them. I purchased .375 H&H Magnum cartridges for as much as a dollar a round, usually in lots of five and six. The same is true of .30-06 ammo. Even black market ammunition is hard to obtain. Many beautiful, engraved double rifles sit idle due to the lack of .465 and .470 ammo. Many odd



lot caliber guns may be found in the police arsenals, ranging from .405 Winchesters and black powder .32-40 Martinis, to some of the most beautiful gold inlaid and engraved double rifles ever to leave England. Periodically, auctions are held and these weapons are disposed of to the general public, A collector of antique and modern firearms should have a field day at one of these affairs.

Most of the imported ammo is made by ICI of England, but to supply the basic needs of the majority of sportsmen, the government arsenals have begun to manufacture very inexpensive ammunition which is quite effective and fulfills a variety of needs. These are the .315 India rifle cartridges and 12 gauge shotgun shells. The .315 has a rimmed case similar to the 8mm x 50 Austrian Mannlicher. The nickel clad, round nosed, soft point bullet weighs 244 grains, has a .323 diameter. At close range it gives tremendous penetration on thickskinned and heavily muscled game such as tiger, boar, and sambhar, but I doubt if the velocity of the 244 grain slug is much over 2,000 feet per second. The bullet performs very well in the field, and government hunters are using it exclusively for the harvesting of crocodile skins.

The rifle for this cartridge is made by the government arsenals in Jabbalpore and the gun sells for less than 100 dollars. The action is the Lee Enfield bolt-action, the gun is hand-finished and all parts, with the exception of the detachable box magazine, are

Currently a 12 gauge double gun is also being produced in India. This is by far the best piece of workmanship to leave the ordnance factories. These shotguns are well balanced, tightly fitted, and hand-checkered. They can be had with or without automatic ejectors, and with either 21/2 inch or 23/4 inch chambers. These shotguns retail for a little over a 100 dollars.

To the Indian sportsmen, the rifles were long overdue. They perform very well on game of all sizes between 50 and 200 pounds. The ammunition sells at approximately a dollar for a box of 10 shells. The cartridge is also loaded in Britain by Eley and is known as the .315 Rimmed. It has a copper clad, round nosed, soft point bullet that weighs 244 grains. Cartridges for this gun are readily available at any gunshop in India, but guns for this cartridge are a lot more difficult to obtain.

The ideal tiger rifle is the .375 H&H Magnum, but any of its close relatives in powder capacity, and from .33 to .40 caliber, can do the job, provided long, soft nose bul-lets are used. Most of the well-to-do sportsmen and much of the royalty prefer to use the English doubles in .470 and .465 calibers, while their ladies lean more to the delicate little doubles in .350 Rigby.

One of the greatest sportsmen in India was the late Maharajah of Bhopal. He shot over 1,000 tigers, most of them on foot and at close range. He used a .240 Apex almost exclusively to bag them. This hot little number by Holland & Holland speeds a 100 grain pill at over 2,900 fps. He was an excellent shot and not many men would care to do this sort of thing with such a small caliber gun.

If you plan to stay in India for any length of time, be sure to take a gun of standard caliber or you may have to import shells from the States. You haven't seen anything until you have seen Indian red tape in operation! The job may take six months to a year-or more.

If you are visiting India for the usual two week tiger and buffalo shoot, there should be no ammunition difficulty as you are allowed to import 250 rounds in all for the two guns you may bring into the country. The first 100 rounds are duty free, and so are the guns for that matter, if you plan to stay less than six months. Don't attempt to carry in extra shells or you may wind up with your rifles

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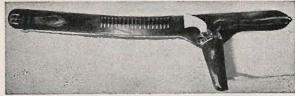
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confiscated, heavy fines, possible jail.

For the American going to India on an extended visit the opportunity for weekend hunting is limitless. I know of several young fellows who take off for the jungle every weekend in their Land Rovers and collect a tiger or a sambhar.

The temptation to violate game laws is quite natural when laws are not strictly enforced and where the residents slaughter game by the truckload for sale as biltong in local markets. The black buck has become quite rare and one no longer sees herds of more than a hundred or so at a time where ten years ago there were literally thousands. Leopard are heavily poached, and the tiger is becoming rare because his game is becoming scarce due to wanton slaughter of antelope and deer. When the poor beasts are forced to turn to domestic animals for food, they are labeled cattle killers by the forest

department and are promptly shot for the bounty by a local shikari, or beaten out of the brush with much fanfare for the sport of some visiting V.I.P. who happens to express a wish to have a go at tiger.

A long term visitor should bring a .315 rifle with him. The Indian Ordnance factories are not exporting these rifles, but to make one up is a simple matter. Any reasonably good Lee Enfield action will do. Rebarrelling with a surplus 8mm barrel is ideal. My own .315 is a Model 98 Mauser which was rechambered for the .315 cartridge. The extractor has to be ground down a bit and the bolt face opened up to take the larger case if either the Lee Enfield or Mauser action is used. There also has to be a slight feeding adjustmnt due to the long bullets. The best gun for a conversion is the 1895 Winchester lever action. It needs no adjustments at all, just a new barrel. The

overall length of the cartridge is no more than that of a .30-06. When making up the rifle you must stamp the caliber .315 plainly on the barrel or upon your entry into India you will be suspected of trying to smuggle in the prohibited .303. A .315 would be almost useless in the United States unless you imported ammo from Britain or Austria, but it would be priceless for the man going to India for an extended period since the hunting season is open almost eight months of the year.

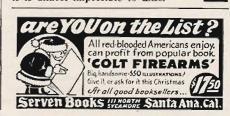
There has been talk of allowing the .450 double and the .458 Winchester Magnum through customs. I would strongly advise anyone going over for a short stay to take along a large caliber like the .458 Winchester in the event he wants to try his luck with the large gaur or Indian Bison. The forests where these are hunted are extremely heavy and often of thick teak and bamboo. Bamboo plays havoc with a light, high-velocity bullet. But check with Indian customs before taking over any gun of .450 or .458 caliber.

The following calibers are definitely prohibited: .303, .410 musket or shotgun, .38, .44, and .45. It is against game department regulations to use less than .400 caliber for bison and buffalo. In some states the minimum caliber for tiger is .375 H&H Magnum.

I would advise the sportsman who is planning to stay several months to take along a heavy rifle of .375 or .450/.400 caliber. However the .450/.400 should be loaded with 400 grain bullet rather than the stubby 300 grain load for better penetration on heavy game. Any slight loss in velocity is of no consequence. Solid bullets are of no use since elephants are protected, and you can get along nicely with the soft nose 300 grain .375 H&H load or the 400 grain .450/.400 ammo. They penetrate well on broadside or head-on shots at buffalo up to 150 yards.

A shotgun or .22 rifle is the handiest thing to have along as the bird shooting is limitless. Ducks and grouse are found in large numbers everywhere. A twelve gauge is about the only gauge I would advise. The 16 gauge shells are rare and 20 gauge shells nonexistent. However, good 12 gauge shells of Indian manufacture are cheap, or if you prefer, in most big cities you can pick up imported Eley Alphamax shells.

I must include a word of warning. I often read that a 12 gauge shotgun is the best medicine for following up a wounded leopard or tiger. This is not so. The huge hunting leopards of Central India weigh rarely under 200 pounds, usually going to about 250 pounds. They die very hard and a 12 gauge is entirely out of place when hunting them. Buckshot at 30 feet will penetrate the skin and flatten out on the rock-solid muscle underneath, and slugs at this range will penetrate about six inches. Tigers average between 400 and 500 pounds. If you have to follow a wounded animal into thick stuff, use the rifle you have been used to carrying. At the ranges you will be charged, it is almost impossible to miss.





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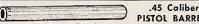
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GUNS OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

(Continued from page 39)

of the Ranger trade. (Most of the Rangers carried also the concealed weapons of indomitable courage and unswerving dedication to their mission, however hazardous it might prove to be.)

We find in the late 1870s and early 1880s most of the Rangers armed with a .45 pistol and a .44 rifle. This made it necessary to carry two similar but different sizes of ammunition, and this could lead to some difficulty as in the case of Ranger George Lloyd. Lloyd and five other Rangers heading toward Las Cornudas, ran into a dozen Indians coming from a water hole. The Indians and Rangers alike dived for cover and began blasting away at each other's positions. In reloading his Winchester, Lloyd inadvertently slipped a .45 pistol cartridge through the loading gate of his rifle. In attempting to throw a cartridge into the .44 chamber, the gun jammed. Immediately sensing the trouble, Lloyd, using his knife as a screw driver, removed the screw which holds the side plates of a Winchester '73, dug out the .45 cartridge, replaced the plates, slipped in some of the correct .44 cartridges and resumed firing. In this case no tragic result followed the cartridge mix-up, but the consequences of such an error could be fatal.

Incidents like this soon led the Colt Company to chamber their single action pistols to the Winchester .44-40 cartridge, and it was this cartridge that became known as the "Frontier" caliber. Thus westerners like the Rangers could use the same ammunition for their pistols as used in their rifles, a great advantage in those days.

In the latter 1870s the emphasis began to change from the marauding Indians and Mexican cattle thieves to the white bad men. The great cattle drives offered excellent opportunity for the disposal of stolen horses and cattle. Organized gangs began to plunder outlying ranches and shoot down those who stood in their way.

Added to the outlaws, feuds between various factions and racial groups spiced the Ranger's life. A product of these troublous times was John Wesley Hardin. There was nothing glamorous or picturesque about Hardin; he was a wanton killer and said to have killed 25 to 30 men, not counting numerous Mexicans and Negroes.

The killing of a deputy sheriff in Comanche County put the Rangers on Hardin's trail. Several years went by, with Hardin apparently having dropped out of sight. But

he had not been forgotten by Ranger John B. Armstrong. Armstrong had been with Capt. McNelly at Las Cuevas and was a man cast in the same stern mold. Word came to Lieut. Armstrong that Hardin was in Alabama. Armstrong picked up a hot trail.

A smoke-blackened train puffed into a small station outside Pensacola on the morn-



ing of August 23, 1877. John Wesley Hardin sat at a window idly surveying the local scene. Seated around him were four armed henchmen.

Carrying a cane, necessitated by an unhealed bullet wound, a man with cold eyes and a set jaw climbed slowly to the platform at the front of Hardin's car. When he reached the platform, a Colt single action .45 with barrel appeared in his hand. As the door to the coach opened. Hardin looked up to see that long-barreled Colt pointed in his direction. He shouted "Texas, by God!" and reached for his pistol. Ranger John B. Armstrong advanced down the aisle, demanding that the gang surrender. As Hardin attempted to draw, his gun caught in his suspenders (probably saving Hardin's life). One of Hardin's companions sent a bullet through Armstrong's hat; this earned the outlaw a bullet through his heart. Determined to take Hardin alive, Armstrong brought the barrel of his six-shooter down on Hardin's head, putting him to sleep for two hours. Quickly Armstrong disarmed the remaining three men and stuck their weapons in his belt. It was all over in two minutes.

The capture of Hardin illustrates the dogged determination and fearlessness with which the Texas Ranger pursued his quarry; it indicates one of the reasons why Rangers were respected by the law-abiding and feared by the lawless.

Another outlaw who had made quite a name for himself was Sam Bass. Sam was quite a different kind of hombre than Hardin.



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CRAFT INDUSTRIES 719 N. East St., Ancheim, Calif. There was something of the dashing Robin Hood about Bass, and sentimental songs were written about him; a line from one reads, "A kinder-hearted fellow you scarcely ever see," There must have been something attractive about Sam Bass as he was perhaps the first Yankee to attain a sort of popularity in Texas after the War between the States. But Sam liked horse racing and gambling, and these called for money which Sam did not have.

In the spring of 1878, Sam Bass and outlaw associates robbed four trains within a radius of twenty miles of Dallas. U. S. Marshals, Pinkerton detectives and others flocked to the area, for Bass was worth "a thunder-mug full of reward money" to anyone who could capture him.

After the fourth train robbery, Major Jones and his Rangers were called in. Major Jones was told to keep on the trail of these bold outlaws until they were killed or captured, but he needed no such instructions for this was standard Ranger procedure.

Denton County was Sam Bass' favorite retreat, and he was quite successful in eluding his pursuers until one of those who had harbored Bass, Jim Murphy, provided Major Jones with the information the Ranger needed.

When Sam Bass, Seaborn Barnes, and Frank Jackson rode into Round Rock, 19 miles north of Austin, on July 19, 1878, intent on a final survey of the bank they planned to rob the next day, Major Jones and three Rangers, with some local lawmen, lay in wait. In the running battle that followed, Bass and Barnes were killed. A local deputy sheriff was killed by Barnes and another officer shot through the chest. Sam Bass died on his 27th birthday. He sleeps the long sleep in the Little Round Rock cemetery, a victim of his own folly and "Rangeritis."

The trend of Texas expansion lay to the westward, where the grasslands beckoned the cattleman. Here the cow, the horse, the cowboy, and the six-shooter, formed a strong partnership. Here the ranch, not the farm, became the symbol of civilization. This cattle kingdom was held by a breed of men as dangerous and far more intelligent than the Indians whom they had supplanted. One cattleman, catching a man who had butchered his beef, killed him and stuffed him inside the animal. Then he sent word to the sheriff to come and see a strange phenomenon-a cow giving birth to a grown man! Into these tough expanding areas the Texas Ranger rode his rounds. Up in the northwest, where Colonel Goodnight had earned the title of

father of the Texas Panhandle, Captain G. W. Arrington had his hands full, but this iron-handed Ranger became justly acclaimed as its first and greatest peace officer.

Barbed wire came to Texas, and the struggle between advocates of the open range and fenced pastures took on serious proportions in the 1880-1890 period. There were constant fence enttings and occasional blood-letting. Ranger Ira Aten reported to Captain Sieker that he and his partner had a double barrel shotgun apiece, and "if the villains cut the fence we are guarding, and they don't surrender when called upon, somebody will most likely go away with their hand on their belly."

The last serious Indian trouble in Texas followed the uprising of Mescalero Apache Indians led by Victorio. Rangers had only a small part in the pursuit of Victorio's band, which crossed into Mexico and established themselves in the Candelaria Mountains. Here the renegades robbed and murdered until General Terrasas' Mexican cavalry, armed with Remington pistols and carbines, killed Victorio and all but wiped out his entire band.

Twelve warriors, with four women and four children, had deserted Victorio just before the battle in which he was killed. This small group made their way through the mountains to Texas, where on a cold January day of 1881 they attacked the stage in Quitman Canyon, killing the driver and a passenger. The Rangers, led by Capt. Baylor and Lieut. Nevill, were quick to take to their trail. After an arduous chase, the Rangers surprised the Indians on the top of El Diablo Mountain, and sent many to the happy hunting grounds. Captured, along with some live Indians, were two Winchester rifles, a Remington carbine, and a U. S. Cavalry pistol. There on El Diablo was fought the last battle between Texans and Indians.

In this same year of 1881, the Rangers suffered a great loss in the death of Major Jones. The Frontier Battalion was broken up by resignations of some of the prominent captains. This "Frontier Battalion" of Rangers faded from the picture, because Texas had pushed its frontiers to all its borders. Hence the Rangers had become in reality an interior mounted police force. Their duties now were to hunt cattle and horse thieves, to control Mexican law-breakers along the border, and to step into situations beyond control of local peace officers.





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they could often load their horses on a train and be transported rapidly to the scene of trouble.

Personal weapons of the Rangers changed some from the early Model '73 Winchester and Colt single action, popular since the mid-1870s. Winchester improved their rifles, and the Rangers turned to the Model 1886, the 1892, the 1894, and finally the hardhitting Model 1895. Not long ago the Winchester Company gave a lot of publicity to a photograph of a large group of Rangers, all but one of whom carried a Model '95 Winchester. These men were incorrectly identified as Texas Rangers, whereas they were actually Arizona Rangers, one of whom is still alive and living near my old ranch. However, a group of Texas Rangers photographed during the same period would doubtlessly have carried the same type of gun.

Old Ranger records and photographs indicate an overwhelming preference for the Winchester, although some did carry Savage, Remington, and other makes of shoulder arms

A few Rangers went to the double action and automatic pistols when these came on the market, but a great many stuck with the Colt single action army. A few preferred the single action with the Bisley style grip and hammer. It was my good fortune in the early 1930s to become a friend of the United States Marshal at El Paso. He had been a Texas Ranger in his younger days, and had a fine collection of firearms. When I asked him about his preference in a side-arm, he reached in a drawer and pulled out a well-worn and loaded single action Colt. "Whenever I think there may be serious trouble," he said, "I stick this one in my belt."

Major activities of the Rangers in the first two decades of our present century were influenced by Mexican revolutions, the First World War, and prohibition. In the four years 1911-1915, Mexico had nine presidents, one of whom lasted only 28 minutes. Spies and slackers were a problem in the war years, and of course prohibition produced its own type of organized crime. The Ranger service adapted itself to each problem, keeping its guns well-oiled, and maintaining an esprit



de corps that was a great credit to the men and the captains who led them.

After each war drastic changes follow; progress retarded by war seems to spring alive and progress calls for new methods and techniques. Thompson machine guns and automatic rifles were introduced into Ranger service. Changing functions of the Rangers were dictated by the natural evolution of Texas society. By 1935 the Texas Rangers had completed the mission for which they had been organized; their identity was lost when the Rangers were merged into the Texas "Department of Public Safety." One newspaper, voicing the sentiment of an admiring public, printed this short but meaningful headline, "Texas Rangers Lose Name, Keep Glory."

One of the last acts of great public service by a Ranger was performed by Captain Frank Hamer. Hamer had a long record of service with the Rangers and was considered one of their greatest experts with firearms and with a knife.

In 1934 Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker headed a national list of wanted criminals; they were cold-blooded killers who had terrorized the southwest. Frank Hamer was induced to accept a special appointment and take to their trail-a trail he followed with dogged purpose for 102 days across several states and until, with several other officers, he killed Barrow and Parker in a gun battle in Louisiana. These were probably the best armed killers in history. In their car were found: Three .30 caliber Browning automatic rifles, two sawed-off shotguns, one .45 New Service DA Colt revolver, nine Colt automatic pistols (1-.32, 1-.380, 7-.45), and several thousand rounds of ammunition.

It was perhaps fitting that one of the last cases to be "closed" by a Ranger should involve an arsenal of guns. From the days of Jack Hays to those of Frank Hamer, Rangers faced and used many guns; guts and guns made the Texas Rangers tall.





TANGANYIKA

(Continued from page 31)

almost non-existant, we took only a very light safari outfit, including two Land Rovers and one of the over-sized Land Rovers that was to replace the lorry. Since we had to cover some very rough and uncharted land, we took only a minimum of equipment so that we could travel light."

Éverywhere we went we saw game, and we saw more excellent heads in two days of just driving than most men see in a three or four week hunting safari. In the first two days, I shot three major trophies, including a 109 lb. elephant, a 421/2 inch sable antelope, and a 10 foot 4 inch black maned lion."

The elephant, by no means Bert's first, was a real heartbreaker. The party saw tembo the first afternoon while setting up camp, and although he was ambling along, they had to run to catch up with him. "We came up to within rather close range, and he turned when he heard us. I busted him in the brain with my .375 H&H Model 70. The solid bullet did the trick. His right tusk looked excellent when we started the chase, and only the moment I fired and the elephant turned his head, did I see that the other tusk had been broken off. It weighed only 86 pounds."

Lions, in most other parts of Africa, have become scarce, and good black maned specimens are extremely difficult to find. In the Selous, lions are plentiful, and most of them are the black maned kind. Bert had a choice of several animals, and finally settled on one of the biggest ones. "If I had waited for a while. I could have taken one with an even longer mane, but this one really impressed me so much that I am glad I took him."

In the trying to map out the new hunting area, the safari covered almost all of the Selous. Marking out roads took the major part of the time, but the party was never out of sight of game. There are a great many big herds of buffs, some of the herds with as many as about 500 animals, and all of the buffs seen were extremely good bulls. The eland are some of the largest ones Bert ever saw, and good elephants are plentiful.

The party camped in the center of the Selous, and finding a good camp spot with good water was easy. An air strip is being built into this part of the Selous now and that will save visiting sportsmen a great deal of driving time from Dar es Salaam. Everywhere scouts and members of the party found game, and the immediate camp area was swarming with lions and elephants. In addition to the Selous, the Tanganyika Wild-

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life Development Ltd. will also hunt the Rungwa Game Sanctuary. This game-rich area has been closed to hunting for quite a few years and contains some of the finest trophies that Bert, an experienced big game trophy hunter, has ever seen.

The Uganda plan, complete with round-trip air fare, was ticketed last year at \$2,300, but the price had to be raised since costs have gone up. The price tag is now \$2,650. This includes a 21 day safari, transportation from and to New York, hunting license, and gun rental. The same deal holds for the new Tanganyika operation. In addition to these standard safaries, the visiting hunter can make a combined Uganda-Tanganyika trip. For \$3,490, you can hunt 14 days in Uganda and 14 days in Tanganyika, this of course includes gun rental, licenses, and air transportation from and to New York, Neither Uganda nor Tanganyika limits the number of animals you can take, providing a person takes one animal of each species.

The Tanganyika Wildlife Development operation is under the management of Bruce Kinloch. Bruce has been the Chief Game Warden of Tanganyika for some time and he is being transferred from the Game Department job to TWD-a position he is well qualified to fill.

Bert Klineburger made an interesting comparison while talking about the Uganda and the Tanganyika operation. "The standard African safari, and that is not the deluxe version, will cost you about twice as much as either of these hunts, and your representative bag on the UWD or the TWD deal, with any sort of luck, will be at least twice as good. We have had people on the Uganda trip that could have paid for a two month deluxe safari anywhere, but they went with UWD because their chances for good heads are much, much better."

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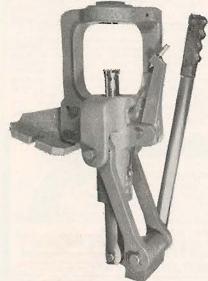
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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 10)

We have worked hard to improve revolver shot loads. The .38-.357 is the most popular and least efficient. We about doubled efficiency by using Hodgdon's Self Lubricating plastic half jackets as over powder wads. The jackets are medicore on swaged bullets, working pretty well at .38 velocity, but not for Hi-V .357 loads. While not quite equal to gilding metal jackets, the price is low.

As over powder wads they give the desirable equivalent of a long, ¼" wad column plus increased case capacity. They work a bit like the excellent new Remington-Peters "Power Piston" wad, that is a plastic wad and cup to hold the shot charge. R-P, bless 'em, will sell these for handloading. We'll report more on these fine wads later.

Hodgdon's plastic jacket does even more for .38..357 shot loads, and I trust they bring these out in .44 and .45. For a .357 try 3.5 grains of Bullseye. Seat the plastic jacket skirt up with a pencil and moderate hand pressure. Fill the case nearly full of shot, seat a .35 gas check skirt down, and crimp the case heavily.

Our best results were with DIVCO Illinois No. 9, 10, and 11 chilled shot. No. 12 patterned well for targets, but is a bit small for snakes, game, or small varmints. DIVCO literature says No. 10, 11 and 12 shot are special order sizes. Dealers will find they are nearly always in stock. If not, these people give very fast service on all special order shot and lead products for bullets.

Adjust the powder charge and shot size to your particular gun and needs; twelve feet is a good range to shoot tests for pattern density and adequate penetration. Pressure is not high, so you can load up a bit. Bullseye is pretty fast, and too much gives blown patterns. Unique is better, but the larger volume decreases precious case capacity. You may prefer around 3.0 grains of Du Pont Hi-Skor. Remember it's very critical in top loads, so work up slowly.

Best deal for a .38 Special revolver that will be used a good deal with shot is to chamber it for the .357 case. This makes it dangerous for .357 ammunition, although some people have used the heavy (N) frame Smith & Wesson M 20 and M 23 guns with full charge factory loads. The factory doesn't recommend such crazy conversions, and I certainly don't. Some of the light frame guns are suitable for .357 shot loads.

If you don't want to convert your .38, perhaps you can find some of the old folded head cases that have greater capacity. They should be identified in some manner for shot loads only. Nail polish or a felt marking pen will color the head face. Better patterns will result if the rifling is partly (but not completely) reamed out. You'll still have fair accuracy with bullets.

What good are the puny shot loads, except for snakes, rats and small game at close range? They are a whale of a lot of fun at low cost, and the safest possible cartridges in settled areas. You can use them safely where a .22 short would be dangerous. The tiny shot loses velocity rapidly, is harmless beyond 60 yards or so. They are ideal to master aerial target shooting. You can quickly learn to blast tin cans in the air,

then switch to bullets. Shooting running rats and lizards, or tin cans rolled down hill will make you an expert handgunner on moving targets.

Competitive shooters and practical shooters are often different as day and night. Some of the best gunners never fire at paper except to see how their guns and loads perform. Some are not willing to spend the time and money to make Master, and some are simply not interested in paper punching. They get a kick out of seeing things happen when they fire. Maybe it's blasting varmints at long handgun range, rolling tin cans on the ground while rolling the cylinder, or watching a puff of dust on a hill across a canyon. These chaps talk my language, and they are well qualified to take deer and other game with a handgun.

Plinking practice doesn't put a guy under strain or tension. The cost, with reloads, is



about the cheapest fun you can have. The time required is just as much or little as you want to spend, at your convenience. You have an inexhaustable supply of targets every day in the year, every year, at no cost. You don't deplete the supply of game. Take some acquaintances along and you'll soon make lasting new friendships, that you'll value more as the happy years go by. You'll have the pleasure of starting some chaps in handloading who are leading an otherwise dull life. I've killed my share, and more, of varmints and game. But I could be happy reloading and plinking if I never shot another animal.

Most of us buy each new annual edition of the huge "Gun Digest." The current 18th (1964) edition is bigger and better than ever, a true statement I've made every year since the first year Guns Magazine has been published. This one is a real bargain at \$3.95, and much too large to review in detail. Editor John T. Amber did the best job ever.

CCI .22 Long Rifle "Hyspeed" ammo is currently No. 1 on the Hi-V parade, and is apt to hold the title a long time. Part of the fine accuracy is due to the excellent copper plated bullet, of course. Elton Teague, who helps us, was really amazed at his fine rest groups with an inexpensive Remington rifle, that had seen quite a bit of use and abuse. The little gun took a new lease on life with target rifle accuracy when fed CCI Hyspeed fodder. One of his 5-shot groups, pictured, is one of his best, but every group was excellent. Accuracy in inexpensive hunting and plinking guns actually approaches premium priced accuracy of match ammunition.

HUNTER'S BIG GAME PARADISE

(Continued from page 27)

equipment obtainable in Kenya." His safaris range in price from \$120.00 to \$150.00 per day, with no added charges for mileage, etc. Shatto writes that the amount of time a client should allot for a hunt can be a problem. All roads lead to Addis Ababa, and if the hunter wants game from different parts of the country, he must, in effect, make two or more separate hunts out of the capitol city. Shatto recommends 30 days for the ibex or nvala. 15 days each for other major trophies such as lion, elephant, or kudu.

Game is mostly found in the outer one fourth of the country, where the high plateau drops away toward the plains of Kenya, Uganda or Sudan on the south and west, or to the shores of the Red Sea on the north and east. The best elephant hunting is said to be in the southwest portion, while lion are found mostly in the south and east. The area around the town of Maji, in the southwest corner of the country, offers some of the best hunting grounds in Africa. Almost all species of game are present in good quantities. Unfortunately, travel into this area is limited, and until air service is available, only those hunters with strong backs and unlimited time will be able to hunt there.

Along with big game, Ethiopia offers hunters and fishermen a great variety of game and fish. For the scattergun hunter there are ducks, geese, partridge, quail, and grouse, in almost unlimited quantities.

It will be interesting to watch and see if the new license system meets with the approval of the big game hunters, and if the game herds, because they have been protected, will produce any record heads.

The African people have, in recent years, been more cognizant of the value of their wild game, and have initiated many new programs to protect the game from extinction by not only hunters, but also from overpopulation of the herds themselves. In Ethiopia, a limited number of licenses are issued each year for each specie, and when conditions demand that the herds be either reduced or protected, the number of licenses is changed accordingly.

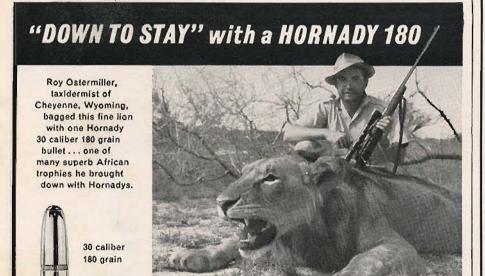
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NEW ZEALAND - UNEXPLORED BIG GAME ISLAND

(Continued from page 21)

game hunting here is much the same as you would take on any mountain hunting trip; rubber-soled boots, two changes of clothes, plenty of socks, a raincoat, and binoculars. Your favorite lightweight mountain rifle—I prefer either a 7 mm or 8 mm—and a hundred or more cartridges.

During the 20 days of my hunting expedition I clambered up and down mountains, covering differences in altitudes of 6,000 feet or more, and our small Cessna plane took us over every imaginable type of terrain. With the help of my indispenable guide, Rex Forrester, and with a little bit of luck, I bagged eight tahr, nine chamois, one fallow deer, eight red deer, one wapiti, and 12 wild goats. Let me tell you of one or two typical days I spent on this hunt.

Hunting the wild goat is the easiest, so let me begin with this hunt. These one-time tame goats reverted to the wild state about 100 years ago, and have since thrived and increased in numbers. Their horns span is about 40 inches, and they can be found with white, grey, or black coats.

We left Rotorua in my guide's Land Rover at 3 A.M., and drove in a pouring rain toward the southeast. As day broke we were at the east coast and headed for the mountains. Two hours later we had breakfast with a local farmer, and by 9 A.M. we set off on foot. After marching briskly for about an hour, we reached our hunting area, a huge mountain crater. Like a tremendous stadium about 8,000 feet in diameter, it rose, from its base, some 3,000 feet to its summit. We surveyed the area with our binoculars, spotting the farmer's cattle on the lower slopes, his sheep a bit higher, and above them, the wild goats, We were able to spot about 40 or 50 of them, the white ones more easily seen than the grey's or black's.

We stalked two billy-goats standing alone, about three quarters of the way up the huge crater. Climbing the steep slope, our lungs ached and our hearts pounded, and we were glad that we were in good physical condition. Crossing several mountain streams, we approached to within shooting distance of the goats, each choosing his target and firing. Not long after, we were measuring the horns of these 10-12 year old goats. From tip to tip, both were roughly 27½" long—quite good, but not trophy size.

Glassing the mountainside for better horns, we spotted a large party of old goats much higher, and not quite a mile away. Scenting us, the goats tried to sneak off into a large fern-covert, but we put on an extra spurt of speed, and bagged three of the best. Content with our bag, we covered the long trek back to the Land Rover in good spirits.

Our hunt for tahr and chamois started at seven in the morning, with the Land Rover slowly zig-zagging over the rocky land, and occasionally bumping over stones that were as big as footballs. Though our progress was slow, it was far better than walking. After driving along in this fashion for about an hour, we came to a huge valley backed by a beautiful glacier mountain, and continued our hunt on foot. It did not take long before I had shot quite a good chamois, and not long after this, I killed another old buck,

more than twelve years old, and bad tempered. We also spotted some tahr high up on the rocks, and continued to climb.

For a stretch of almost a mile we had to cross a expanse of rocks and boulders so steep that we might easily have started an avalanche. Suddenly, we heard tumbling rocks as 20 or 30 tahr crossed the ground above and ahead of us. To get a better view, I hurried on for about 60 feet, sat down, and studied them. I spotted a big buck, at least three times the weight of any of the females that surrounded him. Resting my gun on my knee, I tried to get a good aim, but the crosshair on my scope wavered all over the landscape. A shot not fired is as good as a miss. so I took a deep breath, adjusted the gun and sling a bit better, and fired. The shot found its mark, and the buck began to roll down the slope, taking a lot of stones and boulders with him. We jumped to one side as the huge boulders flew past us, and waited out the avalanche from above. When we were finally able to climb up to the first tahr I ever shot, we saw that it was a rare trophy, The horns, some 12" long, were stowed away in my rucksack.

At the top, we had no time to admire the landscape, for a whole herd of tahr, about 30 in all, were standing on a ridge only 200 yards away. Two shots bagged us two sturdy bucks, about 12-13 years old.

After our first break in almost six hours, we proceeded along the ridge, occasionally spotting chamois and tahr that were too small to chase. Suddenly we caught sight of a tahr buck less than 25 feet ahead—my bullet caught him before he had time to realize that we were near. We discovered that it was not only a trophy buck, but probably the best tahr that had ever been shot in New Zealand. His horns measured over 13¾ inches. Such good luck in one day left us fascinated and grateful, but the sun was slowly nearing the horizon, and we hurriedly leapt down the slope, reaching the car long after dark.

My account of the hunt for wapiti can be, at best, incomplete. However, I can say that it was the most strenuous day I have ever spent on any hunt. Our first try at this rugged country ended in failure, but only after we had searched the area for two days, our small plane flying low over 6,500 foot summits, over craters, and just skimming above the plateaus. On the second day of searching, after our fuel gauge indicated that we should return, we spotted a herd, which included one trophy stag, high up on a mountain. Unable to find a spot to land, we headed back, determined to return tomorrow.

At dawn, we took off again from the airfield in Queenstown and headed west, toward the area where we had spotted the trophy stag. After a short search we found a lake where we could land within hiking distance of the wapiti herd. Our pilot warned us that if we were not back before 5:15 p.m. he would be obliged to return to the nearest airfield without us. At 8:45 we started the ascent, fully aware that it would be a race against time.

After holding a near trot for some time, we came across the tracks of the herd, leading straight up the steep slope. Keeping up the fast pace, it wasn't long before drops of perspiration smarted our eyes, our lungs were laboring, and my pulse beat was over 160. The temperature hovered near the zero mark. To hurry this ascend was made difficult by the nature of the land. In this saturated jungle only half the trees were green, the rest were more or less rotten. Dragging ourselves upward with the help of roots, trees, branches, and even tufts of grass, we often grabbed a rotten hand-hold, only to have it collapse. After two and a half hours of this, with the lake far behind us, we were bathed in perspiration, and our hearts and lungs strained more and more.

Then, at last, we reached a small saddle that gave us our first look upward. To our great dismay, we discovered that our wapiti were on a neighboring mountain, and farther away that we had thought. Hoping to see some wapiti on our own mountain, we worked our way up the treacherous slope. At 11:15 we reached the summit and gazed longingly at the other mountain where we could see the herd through our rifle scopes. In order to reach our plane by 5:15, we knew we must start back at one o'clock at the very latest. It looked like an impossible feat to reach the wapiti in less than one hour.

Unable to face the thought of losing that big stag, we literally ran down the slope for about 180 yards, and then began to climb the wapiti mountain. Suddenly we heard the bugle of the wapiti—it ran through us like an electric shock, and gave us new encour-

agement. We were beset by only one aim; reach the herd, and what our tired legs could not manage, our hands had to do. When we had nearly reached the last elevation, fate was kind enough to present us with the trophy stag, standing on the horizon, less than 200 yards away.

It was a magnificent sight, this powerful, handsome animal, gazing into the distance with his herd gathered around him. For a few seconds we revelled in this grand picture—but then the admirer became the hunter. Panting from the strenuous climb, I sat down, knowing it was now or never. I held my breath, and with the greatest concentration, aimed, and fired. The grandiose vision was shattered; the wapiti staggered, leapt down the slope, and fell dead about

120 yards below us. Rex and I rushed down to him and flung our arms around each other, overjoyed at our good fortune.

After Rex had removed the trophy head and secured it onto his back pack, we found that it was 12:45, and that we must now begin the trek downward, back to the lake. But it was not all down. We ascended and descended three elevations before we reached the cruel forest and the downward path that led through it for nearly another mile.

As our plane headed for home, I said good-by to the natural beauty of New Zealand that demands the greatest rigors and hardships if one covets it. I'll long remember the hours of unprecedented excitement and happiness I enjoyed while hunting in this land of enchantment.







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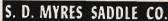
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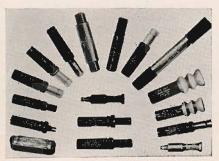
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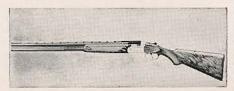
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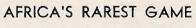
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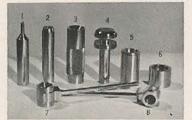
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success. Together, we planned to leave next morning for Oumchalouba and from there, to Faya in the northern part of French Equatorial Africa, to hunt the elusive addax, and if possible, the oryx.

The trip went without a hitch and we sighted much hig game, mainly dorcas gazelle and one or two herds of damas, or gazelle aerienne as called by the Arabs, one of the most graceful antelopes in Africa.

Oumchalouba is a fort, but with only one inhabitant-a white sergent en chef. He was over-joyed at seeing us, and brought out some ice-cold beer.

The following day, we decided to leave the big lorry, with the equipment and the boys, in Oumchalouba for a few days and take the Unimog and a light Jeep into the desert. Tommy and I drove ahead, with Jean promising to follow after having explained to his "boy mechanic" how to manage a Unimog in sandy country.

Our faithful Andre was there with us and acted as interpreter for our new guide arabe. We soon left the track, first marking it with a stick and drawing an arrow in the sand. Proceeding on our way, we soon decided it was time to call a halt and wait for Jean, and wait we did-two hours slipped by and no sign of Jean! An animated conversation sprung up between Andre and the Arab and, from the interpretation, we understood that Jean had arranged with our guide to meet at a fixed point, Nothing to do but drive there.

Barely 10 minutes had passed before we sighted our first oryx. They seemed to be resting, so I crept very stealthily towards them, hardly daring to breathe for fear of frightening them. As luck would have it, a dama spotted me from about 100 vards and in a flash the whole prairie was on the move! I just had time to take aim at the largest oryx and shoot. The herd turned in flight but my bull moved with extreme difficulty, and as I closed in for the final shot he turned towards me and slowly his horns sank into the sand. The trophy was a powerful-looking animal, the horns measuring 43 inches.

We were about to take some photographs when to our horror we discovered that not only our cameras, but all our water supply, was in Jean's car. To add to our plight it grew hotter and hotter toward midday and not wishing to be marooned out in that burning furnace without water we decided to proceed to the meeting place of which the Arab had spoken. On the way there we stumbled across oryx once again, and this time Tommy displayed his skill by shooting a fine bull with 45 inch horns. We were thrilled with this and looked forward with boyish anticipation to showing off our trophies to Jean. But life always takes the unexpected course! We had hoped to run into Jean very soon, but after a long search and tiresome conversation with the Arab it appeared that the scatter-brain could not remember the agreed meeting place. What a hopeless situation! Then, suddenly Andre discovered the tracks of Jean's car. Overjoyed, we followed -and went on following for three hours before we realized that our friend was doing exactly the same thing, searching for usand in an effort to catch up one with the other, we were crossing and re-crossing our tracks in this damned, impossible country. With no chance of sending up a smoke signal because there was no grass, we blindly followed Jean's tracks further, fervently praying that they would come to an end somewhere. As our thirst increased so did the heat and we both secretly hoped that the engine would hold out. The odds seemed to be heavily against us and we decided it was best to

the dead of night. We fully intended to wait up for Jean but, worn out with the day's adventures and excitement, we fell asleep. Perhaps just as well. for he did not arrive until four o'clock in the morning. This did not seem to be the proper moment to display our trophies to Jean, so without any delay we let him creep to his bed, there to forget in peaceful slumber, the trials and tribulations of a wasted day. No, not exactly wasted, because no time spent in this strangely beautiful and fascinating country, can ever be wasted.

return to Oumchalouba, where we arrived in

The following morning we started out afresh but this time together. As we moved northwest, there was more and more wild game-hundreds of oryx seemed to be milling about before our eyes. Often we saw herds of up to 50 at a time. The damas, now seemingly quite fearless, showed themselves, but the shy addax never once appeared on the scene. The guide arabe sent up prayers to Allah and drew mysterious figures in the sand in an attempt to conjure up the rare desert antelope before our guns. But all to no avail. One morning we suddenly saw a beauty with curved horns. A more detailed scrutiny revealed three addax moving slowly westwards - their wonderful horns silhouetted against the horizon. What a sight for our hungry eyes! Eventually, I could see the strongest bull clearly enough to aim, and shortly afterwards I fired-my bullet striking its target. It seemed that the Arabian medicine had worked its magic after all!

Time was running out on us. It was a long way to Abeche where we were to board the plane and, with feelings of regret, we broke camp. Our hearts were heavy and sad as we thought of tomorrow with its "back-tocivilization" air. No more thrills, disappointments and frustrations of the hunt; no more breathless excitement of the unexpected, the jolly get-togethers around the campfire or the arresting beauty of this Dark Continent. This truly fantastic safari had come to an endan end only in reality, for the memories of the Ennedi Mountains, the camel rides through the rocky country, and the clusive mouflon, live on in my mind.



WHICH CALIBERS FOR AFRICA?

(Continued from page 33)

numbers in the caliber designation, the .222 Remington and even the .25-20 is legal, and you can even hunt eland with those cartridges. How silly this ruling is is demonstrated by the fact that the eland bull stands 51/2 to 6 feet high at the shoulders and weighs from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds. It is a good thing for the game that the small .300 Sherwood guns are not plentiful—this midget cartridge is also legal for eland!

I have no doubt that even big game has been killed once in a while with the diminutive .22 rim-fire. These were lucky shots, often placed by a superb rifleman, and the particular animal responded to that particular shot by keeling over. For every animal so taken, I can recite dozens of cases where even a small antelope took up to ten shots from a big bore rifle before giving up life. I recently took out a ,222 Remington to try it out on tommy, a buck of 55 to 60 pounds. I found that unless the animal was shot in a nerve center, spine, heart, or head, the bullet could not be relied upon to drop the buck. I have heard claims that local farmers shoot kongoni (Hartebeest) with the .22 Hornet, but doubt that they have the fabulous kill ratio that they claim is theirs. Kongonis, along with zebra, are bloody hard to kill, and most sportsmen find that our African game is especially tenacious of life.

Let me take a minute to demonstrate this. Not too long ago I shot a kongoni with a .375 H&H Magnum, using the 270 grain Silvertip bullet. He folded up as if he had been fatally shot. On my approach, he got up and ran. It took a total of 11 placed bullets from a .30-30 and seven hits from the .375 to put him down and the last shot was placed directly into the brain. Time and again I have seen, and have had reports from reliable white hunters, that if the animal got over the first bullet shock, it will take off at a great rate of speed although severely wounded. The .30-30 should not be used on anything bigger than impala and if used at all, should be used only at short range.

Quite often we hear the .303 British condemned as poor hunting caliber. It is true that the service ammunition is not suitable for game, but too many of the local farmers and other residents have used this full patch load on game. This results in badly crippled game, and the bullet effect on antelopes is too slow to make itself felt. A farmer friend once asked me to shoot a tommy for him at about a 100 yards. He loaned me his P 14.303 target rifle, and I fired three times from a rest at the buck. Every time I fired, the buck merely looked up from his feeding. We gave up in disgust and got back in the Land Rover to find some other game. As we started off, the natives on the top of the Rover began yelling and pointing. As we watched, the buck slowly collapsed. I found that all three bullets had gone through the buck's heart.

Over the years I have seen men use the .44-40 and similar calibers. These are fine calibers, but ballistically they leave much to be desired. The drop figures read like the ballistics charts of a big cannon, and if you make a mistake in your range estimation, then you'll shoot clear under your game. I have used the 7 mm for several years, and like the venerable .30-06, I have found it excellent on soft skinned game,

Every so often I have white hunters come into the store. Most of the professional hunters use some sort of heavy double rifle for big game, and most of them use the timehonored .470. In the last few years there has been considerable interest in the .458 magazine rifle. One important consideration is the price, since the magazine rifles cost about one half as much as a good used double rifle.

As the best all-around rifle, there is little question that the old .375 H&H Magnum gets the nod from all of us. I believe that the .375 is used more and accounts for more game than any other caliber around, either modern or obsolete. It has one other advantage. If you happen to come upon a buff, rhino or elephant under favorable circumstances, you need not pass up a shot due to being undergunned. Some exponents even claim that the man going on a three or four week safari needs only one gun-a .375 H&H Magnum. This however might mean that the white hunter has to take over the killing of the heavy stuff after his client fired the first shot.

What about the ultra-high velocity rifles? A great many of them are very pretty and do an excellent job, but here in East Africa, they have not found too much favor with local hunters. For one thing, barrel life is important, and there are no gunshops on every corner where you can get a new barrel for your gun. Another thing to be considered is the fact that a standard bullet may perform well at its intended velocity, but when speeded up, it may fail to penetrate properly.

It is axiomatic that soft point bullets are to be used on the light game, while the heavy bullets are to be used on buff, elephant, and rhino. And don't be misled by the old story about the military ammunition -very often that is the only ammo a farmer can get locally, and in this case that ammunition is better than nothing at all. A number of the local chaps simply hollow-point the military loads to collect camp meat.

Let me add one more piece of advice. If you talk with a white hunter, be sure that he is talking about safari hunting, not game control shooting. A good many of them believe that, when herd shooting, the best bullet they can use on buffs are the soft point ones. Although these bullets often do not penetrate properly, a solid bullet may go through one animal and wound another one unbeknown to the hunter. This could become sticky, but buff hunting, especially control hunting, can be dangerous at times.

If you are safari-bound, do take your .30-06 and your .375 H&H Magnum along. For the big stuff, my advice is to try several of the guns over here before leaving for the bush. You can rent them easily, and trying them gives you a chance to see which caliber you handle easily and without undue punishment. And don't be too impressed by the caliber number! A bad case of the flinches in the bush won't help you at all, and then it is too late to try and change calibers.



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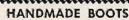
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DEAN OF TROPHY HUNTERS

(Continued from page 23)

arrangements were made with Charles Cotter of Nairobi, but Hitler and Mussolini had other plans for Africa, and the trip had to be postponed for the duration of the war.

In June of 1947, Julio began a six month safari with Safariland, Ltd. in Kenya. In November, he left Africa after a bout with dysentery that left him 40 pounds lighter and so weakened that he could barely stand. He returned to Mexico with over 100 selected trophies, many of which made the Rowland Ward Record Book.

Julio has hunted some of the best areas of the world: Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, the Tchad, Oubangui Chari, Mozambique, Angola, and India. Unfortunately his age and physical limitations preclude his hunting of three species his collection lacks—Nubian Ibex, Mountain Nyala, and Mrs. Grey's Lechwe.

Asked which of his trophies is his favorite, Julio finds it difficult to give only one answer. He mentions the lion he shot on the Ruwama River in Tanganyika in 1947, one of the finest to come out of Africa since the war; the superb white oryx with 48" of perfectly symmetrical horns, which stood as a world record for two years until two of his best friends, Frank Hibben and Berry Brooks shoved him into third place; and he recalls with enthusiasm the magnificent tiger he shot in India on March 18, 1957.

The tiger or Puli, which in Kanara dialect means majesty, was a cattle and man killer, having killed almost two dozen natives. Every bait put out for him was killed and thoroughly consumed in one sitting, giving the hunter no opportunity to wait for a second meal to shoot him. Julio convinced his white hunter to stake out some old zebu bulls for bait,

since the smaller buffalo calves hardly made a meal for Puli. The big tiger killed the zebu on the second night, and the following afternoon six beaters entered the patch of jungle where he was resting. The tiger came out of the grass on the run, dashed past the place where Julio was standing, but made his fatal mistake when he stopped for just a moment. The soft nose bullet from Julio's .500-465 H&H caught him square on the shoulder, and a second shot brought him down for good.

Puli proved to be of tremendous size, his measurements, verified by the local game warden, were ten foot two inches between pegs, and six inches longer over the curves; his weight was estimated at about 700 pounds, and his age at about 18 years. Mounted full size by the famed Coloman Jonas, Puli now stands in a prominent place in Julio's trophy room.

To name all of the game animals collected by Julio Estrada would be monotonous; suffice it to say that the list would cover over 120 species, over 30 of which will be listed in Roland Ward's book. He is especially proud of his double grand slam of North American wild sheep, collected before 1950.

While hunting for his Stone sheep to complete his first grand slam in 1949, Julio suffered a near-fatal heart attack. For most men this would have meant finis to his favorite sport. After his complete recovery, Julio undertook some of the most extensive hunting of his life.

I asked Julio to describe the most dangerous incident in his hunting career, and again he could not single out any one. He replied by saying, "I have been in very close quarters several times, and there were some instances where I thought the end was near—an elephant in Tanganyika, a rhino in the Aberdares, and a lioness near the Grumetti River, were my closest calls.

"The elephant was in a herd of about 40. My white hunter, Mark H. Williams, and I stalked a large bull, by-passing all of the smaller animals. Eventually, I had a chance to shoot, and dropped the bull with a brain shot. At the shot, all hell broke loose, since we were in the middle of the herd without realizing it. They did not charge, they were just getting out of the way. We were in their path, and on the verge of being trampled.

"In the case of the rhino, things happened so very quickly. We were in the area for rhino, sneaking through a winding game trail, toward a waterhole, to see if we could spot bushbuck. The trail went through heavy forest and, near the end, through a draw the sides of which acted as a funnel. I was walking behind Mark, followed by my gun bearer and three or four boys, and could almost smell the buffalo as we approached the waterhole. Feeling uncomfortable with my little .30-06, I gave it to my gun bearer, taking instead my brand new .375 Holland & Holland. In a bend in the trail, some 15-18 yards ahead, and blocking our path was the huge rhino. I had already filled my license, and knew I could not shoot except if he charged, but I jumped quickly to one side as Mark was directly in my line of fire. The rhino started down the hill charging furiously. Whether Mark missed, or fired at the beast's feet to veer the charge, I never found out— I centered my bead on the chest of the monster, fired quickly, and dropped him in his tracks. More trouble began to develop when a more than well developed calf followed the charge, but called it off.

'The lion incident was also a quick one, and I again did not realize how close my end was until it was all over. We were driving along the Ruwama River, in Tanganyika, which was then only a series of waterholes. Glassing the area, we spotted a lioness that had been asleep under a clump of trees. Pretty soon another lioness stuck her head out of the same bush, then a third one. Thinking that there might be a male there, we drove ahead, dropping a carcass, and pulling off to await the results. We did not return for nearly an hour, and leaving the car hidden, we approached from upwind. From some 50-60 vards, we could see five lionesses on the carcass when, all of a sudden, a beautiful full-maned lion joined the



J. Foss, Julio Estrada, and Weatherby.

group. As soon as I was able to place my bead on his shoulder, I fired my .416 Rigby. He dropped for a moment, got up again and ambled into the thick bush, apparently badly wounded. The lionesses scattered.

While the situation looked bad, I was confident of my shot, and we held our ground for a while. The groaning of the lion indicated that he was very sick, and we stepped into the open to get closer and perhaps get another shot. When we had covered about half the distance, we separated, trying to get better views into the bush. Suddenly, one of the trackers yelled out in swahili, 'Watch out boss, watch out there is another lion.' I thought he meant another male but, in a moment, realized that one of the lionesses was stalking me, ready to spring. Hussein, my gun bearer, fired a shot at her as I was getting ready to do the same, and in a moment the incident went up in smoke. I went forward, and eventually spotted the wounded male through the thick brush. I aimed my scoped .30-06 at the base of an ear, fired, and he went down for keeps."

In 1961 Julio Estrada achieved the ultimate in hunting honors. He was awarded the highly coveted Weatherby Big Game Trophy and during the presentation, Roy Weatherby described Julio as "The Dean of the Hunting World."

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HUNTING FOR THE BIG ARCTIC BEARS

(Continued from page 37)

offered his old .300 H&H Winchester M70. Bo accepted it eagerly and leveled on the bear which by this time was almost in their laps. The Winchester misfired, too. It had condensed moisture in the driving spring and this had hardened to ice. In desperation Bohannon suatched up his rifle, a Weatherby Mark V, and tried again. By this time the bear was at 20 yards. The rifle fired. The 11 foot bruin dropped dead.

It is quite common to have the driving spring, shrouded by the bolt and thus unseen, collect just enough moisture to freeze. The spring is then sufficiently sluggish, and fails to dent the primer as strongly as it should. A failure-to-fire results. Primers get cold, too, and powders burn cooler. Speer, in their handloaders manual, indicate a loss of 90 feet per second muzzle velocity from a normal temperature of 70 degrees down to 0 degrees. You can calculate from this a very considerable velocity loss when you shoot in temperatures of —15 to —50 degrees.

Scopes and binoculars must be kept outof-doors. These are best left with the rifle in the ship and are then not prone to fogging.

I used the Bushnell ScopeChief 4X with the changeable reticle and Bushnell 7X35 binoculars and found both perfect.

"What is the most common caliber used up here, Nelson?" I asked my guide. "I do not mean among you old Arctic hands but fetched up here by the dudes you take out."

"The 300 Weatherby Magnum," the guide replied without a moment's hesitation. "Seems like almost everybody brings one along."

Hunting out of Kotzebue, base camp for Walker&Swiss, I lived in the Rotman Hotel. Looking around I counted guns and calibers. Among the eight or ten sportsmen, there were four .300 Weatherby Magnums, one .30-06, two .333 Magnums, and a .375 H&H Magnum. Among the guides the preferance ran between the .300 H&H Magnum and the .375 H&H Magnum. The Winchester was the choice of the guide-pilots, the Weatherby predominated among the hunters.

I was there to test the new .340 Weatherby Magnum and my hunting mate, Charley Renaud, packed not one but two .300's, one made up on the Mark V action, the other on the Model 70. Later Dr. Vaughn came and killed a fine II-footer with a .300 Weatherby Magnum. We used the Nosler bullet, my hunting partners the 180 gr. pill, while I elected the 210 grain bullet.

Renaud spotted his bear from aloft. He and Swiss landed and climbed an ice pressure ridge to await the bruin's coming. The bear, however, had other plans. He winded them at a good 400 yards and swung off to the right very abruptly. It was then or never. Renaud, a veteran of six African safaris and one of the best rifleman I have ever known, placed his first shot into the bruin. It dumped the I400 pound bear but he was back on his feet in a twinkling. Up and running. Two following shots were misses. Then the first 180 gr. Nosler got in its lethal work. The great white beast slowed, stopped, and slowly fell on its side.

My bear was next. I spotted this old boar as he fed off a whale which had been caught and died in the ice when the freeze-up came.

We noted that he was tracking a sow and a younger boar. After an hour or so of spooring, we had the direction. Swiss and I landed the plane and took cover in a huge ice hummock. We had barely settled when the sow and the youngish male drifted by. A good 300 yards behind them was the old boar. He was making heavy going of it, and because of his antiquity he did not hurry. He was spooring the female and as it was the rutting season, he was not to be turned aside.

He cut the yardage to 200 yards, then to 100, and in the space of a dozen heartheats. he was out there at 50 yards. Swiss was busy making a movie of the oncoming target and with the three inch telephoto lens he whispered to me that at that distance, the bear would fill the entire screen. I let him come until he was 40 yards away. Another step or two and he would have spotted my guide and his camera. I placed the post squarely on his throat and squeezed the trigger. The Nosler bullet piled that big bruiser on his nose. His front legs were swept from under him and he stood on his head with his hindquarters still in the air. This posture exposed the top of his shoulders to me and I hammered in a second round. That was enough.

Doc Vaughn's bear provided much more excitement. The doctor thumped his bruin at about 125 yards, using his .300 Mark V with the 180 gr. Nosler slug. The bear dropped, but was not dead. The doctor shot

again. And again, Walker and I had ringside seats for this performance.

"Doc had better shoot that bear again", Walker commented, "There's an open lead just ahead of him. It sure would be hell if he made it to that open water. We'd lose him. They just plop into a lead and sink."

I rushed over to join Doc. As we approached the bear to within about 20 yards, he came very much alive. He bounced to his feet and headed for the water at a full gallop. He was angling away from us and this left his side open. Doc shot the bear three times, and I shot once. The performance of this bruin upset my notions, fostered by the easy killings on the two previous bears, that the Polar is a soft touch. He most definitely is not!

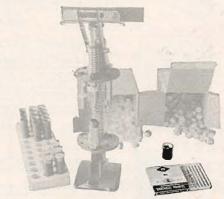
The .340 Weatherby Magnum had performed handsomely on the Polar Bear. I now proposed to take it down on Kodiak Island and try it on the local brown bear. It has long been debatable which bear is the larger of the two, the Polar or the Kodiak. The larger skins are taken from the white bear, but the massive heads of the brown species account for larger measurements in the record book. The brownie is more muscular than his Arctic cousin and it is probably the largest specimen, outweighing the white bear.

The .340 Weatherby Magnum is a soupedup version of the .338 Magnum. It drives the 250 gr. bullet at 2860 fps, while the .338 can whip it along at nothing better than 2700 fps. The bullet is the same in either case. My previous hunt had proved the older Mag-

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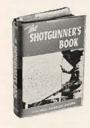
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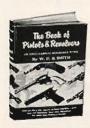


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bear. His track was the largest I'd ever seen. We immediately swung aside, forgetting our high-and-lonesome bruin to follow this smoking hot sign.

We had been on the track for perhaps a half-hour when the Indian spoke in a hoarse whisper, "Look, Morris! A bear!" I saw the animal even as he spoke. Here was the target I'd come to find. This bear looked bigger than a King ranch bull and he was bearing down on us with surprising speed. His bulk in the gloom of the alders grew with each heartbeat.

num; the .338 had done an impressive job on

The morning after our arrival at Dog Salmon, Talifson, Bill an Aleut packer, and I left camp early. We were prepared for the

vagaries of the weather. On Kodiak, in the spring, you can start off with the sun out, get into a severe rain squall at 11, a snow

storm in midafternoon, and return to camp with the thermometer many degrees below freezing. The gear you carry must be able to cope with the weather. A down jacket,

a rain suit, rubber boots, gloves or mittens,

lunch, binoculars, a 20X spotting scope and mount, cameras, knives and whet stone. The great bears are hunted by watching the glaciers at the very tops of the mountains. The giants seem to favor the high places and the deepest snow for their winter beds.

They are spotted and studied with the 20X scope. After that it is a matter of climbing.

Morris, the Indian, and I climbed steadily.

We saw only one bear, a solitary male high

in the snows on our right flank. It was noon by then and we had eaten our sandwiches.

We started our climb for him. It would be a four hour hike, mostly upward. On our way we crossed the spoor of a truely giant brown

a walloping big brown bear.

I covered his tremendously broad chest with the post and let her go. The 250 gr. Nosler knocked the great critter flat. But it didn't keep him flattened for very long. He was on his feet and running in a split second. I whacked my second shot into him as he bulldozed a brand new trail through the alders. I found out later that it was too low to hit the spine and too high to knife into the lungs.

I took up the blood spoor on the run. Talifson and the Indian were trailing behind, and three hours later I caught up with the bruin. He had run me up and down the side of the mountain a half-dozen times. It was after six o'clock when I gave him the one last shot in a dense clump of alders where he'd been waiting for me. The first shot had missed the heart and plowed through the lungs. It had been poorly placed and fired too hastily.

There was less than an hour of daylight remaining. We gutted the bear, a great prize with a skull measuring 28 13/16 inches and the hide squared 10' 3". We returned to camp at 1:30 A.M., we'd then been on our feet and moving for 171/2 hours. The next morning I started back to get the skin with two fresh guides.

The .340 Weatherby Magnum had performed well. The failure to anchor the great beast was my fault rather than that of the rifle. I had placed the bullet poorly and had paid for my poor showing with a trek which had cost me 29 hours of almost continuous marching. But looking back on it, I think that the effort was worthwhilebut just this once!

MEXICAN SPORTING ARMS

(Continued from page 41)

facturing facilities, we got down to the individual models and their characteristics. Initial design is based on Mexican shooting and sporting problems with the local market possibilities being of greatest importance. However, they do plan an eventual export program, confident that there is a market for Mendoza arms in the U.S.

Four rifle and three handgun models are based on an improved single-shot action designed by Hector Mendoza. There is also a survival weapon employing this action, but this gun is not yet in production. The action, a variation of the old Remington-Ryder rolling-block, eliminates certain features of the rolling-block. It has very few moving parts and all of these can be stamped rather than machined. The principal difference between the original rolling-block and the Mendoza design is the system of locking the breech block. In the Ryder patent a block rolled under the breech block as the hammer descended; the Mendoza employs a flange on the breech block, the nose of the hammer "rolls" under this. Like the older rollingblock, it is strong and durable, and makes up into one of the most accurate, low priced-.22 rim-fire firearms I have ever tested. The Mendoza action has no separate striker or firing pin, and since it is incorporated as a protrusion in the face of the breech block, it cannot be damaged by dry-firing.

Just how strong is the Mendoza action? In answer to this question, a standard production model pistol was picked at random from the assembly line. Bullets were pulled from three .22 Long Rifle cases and shoved into the barrel and chambered with a cleaning rod. Two charges of powder were dumped into one case and this was inserted behind the three bullets and fired-the gun being hand-held, much to my horror. The head of the case ruptured and gas leaked through the ports provided on each side-not back toward the shooters face - of the breech block. The action was undamaged, although the barrel was bulged slightly. The test was repeated a second time with no damage other than enlarging the ring on the barrel.

I was told up to five bullets and three charges of powder had been fired in some early models without failure of the action, which is certainly more than enough strength to withstand the pressures of any .22 rim-fire ammunition. Quality control is under the direction of Lt. Gabriel Diaz Meoncada, production engineer and brother-in-law of Hector Mendoza, who is proud of the fact that not a single defective firearm has been returned to the factory since full production got under way.

Accuracy, due in part to the rigidity of the action and the very fine trigger pull, is checked during manufacture and an effort is made to detect poor barrels before final assembly. Each completed arm is further tested for accuracy with five shots, before packing, and the target included with the gun. Each gun must make a minimum group at 10 meters (33 feet) of less than one inch, and most do much better than this. In seeking permission from the Government to manufacture these guns, Productos Mendoza set up unusually high standards of accuracy and proof, hoping that other manufacturers will eventually follow their example.

The various pistols are identical except for barrel length, though the target model will probably have an adjustable trigger pull on future manufacture. Originally the pistols had eight groove, left hand rifling. However, this is being changed now to a six groove right hand twist of one turn in about 16 inches. Model K-62-4 has a 41/4" barrel and weighs 14 ounces; Model K-62-5 has a $5\frac{1}{2}$ barrel and weighs one pound; Model K-62-6 is a target type gun with $6\frac{5}{2}$ barrel that weighs 17-18 ounces. All have western type grips of black plastic, each with a spare cartridge holder for three cartridges in each panel. All have windage adjustable rear sights. Retail price in Mexico varies from about ten to over twelve dollars, depending on model.

The four rifles are all similar except for barrel length and style. Model 51 has a 21" barrel and a small stock for young shooters. Model 52 has a 24" barrel with a larger stock, and Model 53 is the same except for a 26" barrel and hooded target front sight. Model 54, called the "Vaquero," is a western carbine type with 21" barrel and sling swivels. Weight varies from 4 to about 5% pounds and stocks are all of oil treated mahogany, since walnut is too expensive and hard to get in Mexico. The rear sights are adjustable for elevation and have a slight adjustment for windage. Rifling is six groove, right hand twist of about one turn in 16 inches. Price in Mexico varies from 12 to 18 dollars, depending on model. The Model R-M-61-2 is a .22 bolt-action rifle with a 22 inch barrel, weighing 41/2 pounds; sights and stock are similar to the other rifles. Production of a .22 autoloader has been delayed because of the demand for the low priced single shot models.

One model that might prove very popular in the United States is the single shot, bolt action Model RM-61-1 for the .22 Reming-

(Continued on page 65)

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(Continued from page 63)

ton Jet center-fire cartridge. This model could also be chambered for the .256 Winchester Magnum ammo. We discussed the possibility of chambering the single-shot line for the .22 RF Magnum. This is not a popular cartridge in Mexico, but might be exported to the States. The long barreled pistol and the survival gun would make terrific varmint guns in this caliber.

One of the most interesting and unique designs of Hector Mendoza is the Model EM-70, a modern muzzle-loading shotgun. This is an underhammer type intended for black or smokeless powder and one can use DuPont bulk shotgun or Hercules Red Dot in place of the usual FFFg black. This shotgun is .50 caliber and the normal charge used is about the same as for conventional 28 gauge (.526 caliber) shotguns.

An advanced feature is the plastic cartridge to be available for the muzzle loader. It isn't fired in the gun, but consists of a clear plastic tube that unscrews in the middle. One half contains the powder charge, the other the shot or ball. The wadding is included with the shot and is loaded as a unit, pushed out of the plastic case by the special ram rod and tip. The plastic cartridge is retained and reloaded by the shooter. Such an arrangement allows one to carry a variety of loads in the field.

Rafael Mendoza has been designing firearms for over 50 years. In 1911 he designed a series of small 35 and 37 mm cannon and a 7 mm machine gun for the revolutionary army of the North under Pancho Villa. During the 1920's and the early 30's he was a foreman at the National Arms Factory in Mexico City. The light machine gun he designed and perfected during this period was adopted by the Mexican Government in 1934. Originally of 7 mm caliber, a new, improved version shoots the .30-06 cartridge.

Roberto, the oldest son, developed a unique

bolt-action, high powered rifle that operates similar to the slide-action principle. The design was perfected, but never manufactured. Hector, the youngest son, has been most active in developing a line of sporting arms. He attended school in Detroit, learning drafting, tool design, and machine practices. To satisfy his father's demands for results on his investment, Hector designed a 35 shot BB gun that, though not an immediate financial success, gained in sales to the point where some new and improved models looked like a good bet. By the end of 1944 a low priced break-open model and two cork shooting guns for children were in manufacture, followed by a combination cap-BB pistol.

The first sporting firearms were not designed until March of 1962 and initial production, the single shot rifle, began in October of that year. The pistol evolved later and didn't go on the market until 1963.

Some of the Mendoza guns are more for local consumers than for export, but they are looking beyond the border. Export will be determined to a large extent by duties, tax, and transportation costs. Mendoza's single shot guns would probably sell like hot cakes in the United States if the retail price can be kept reasonably low, Productos Mendoza intends to not only stay in the sporting arms field, but to expand their lines in whatever direction appears profitable. As Lt. Gabriel Diaz, the production engineer, told me, "We can design and manufacture anything anyone else can in the firearms line, plus a lot of things no one else ever thought of."

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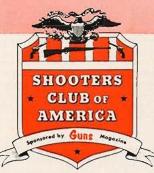
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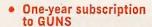
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OF USED GUN VALUES

NEWSLETTER

ACTION ON THE LEGAL FRONT

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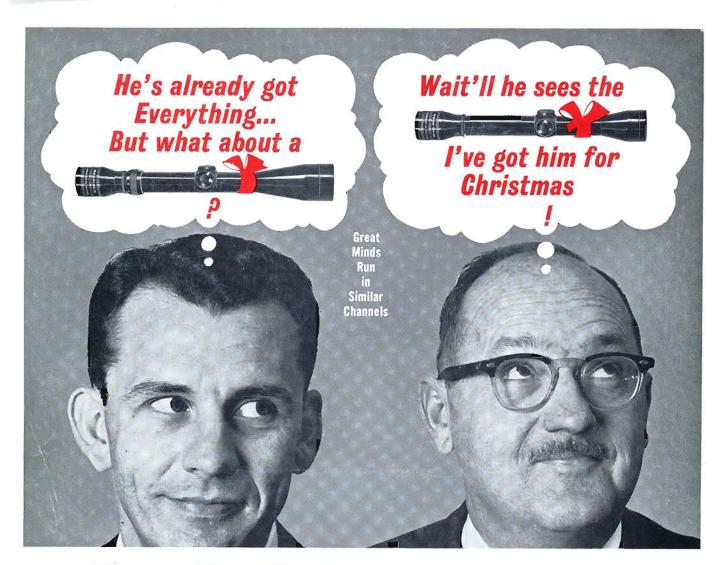


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