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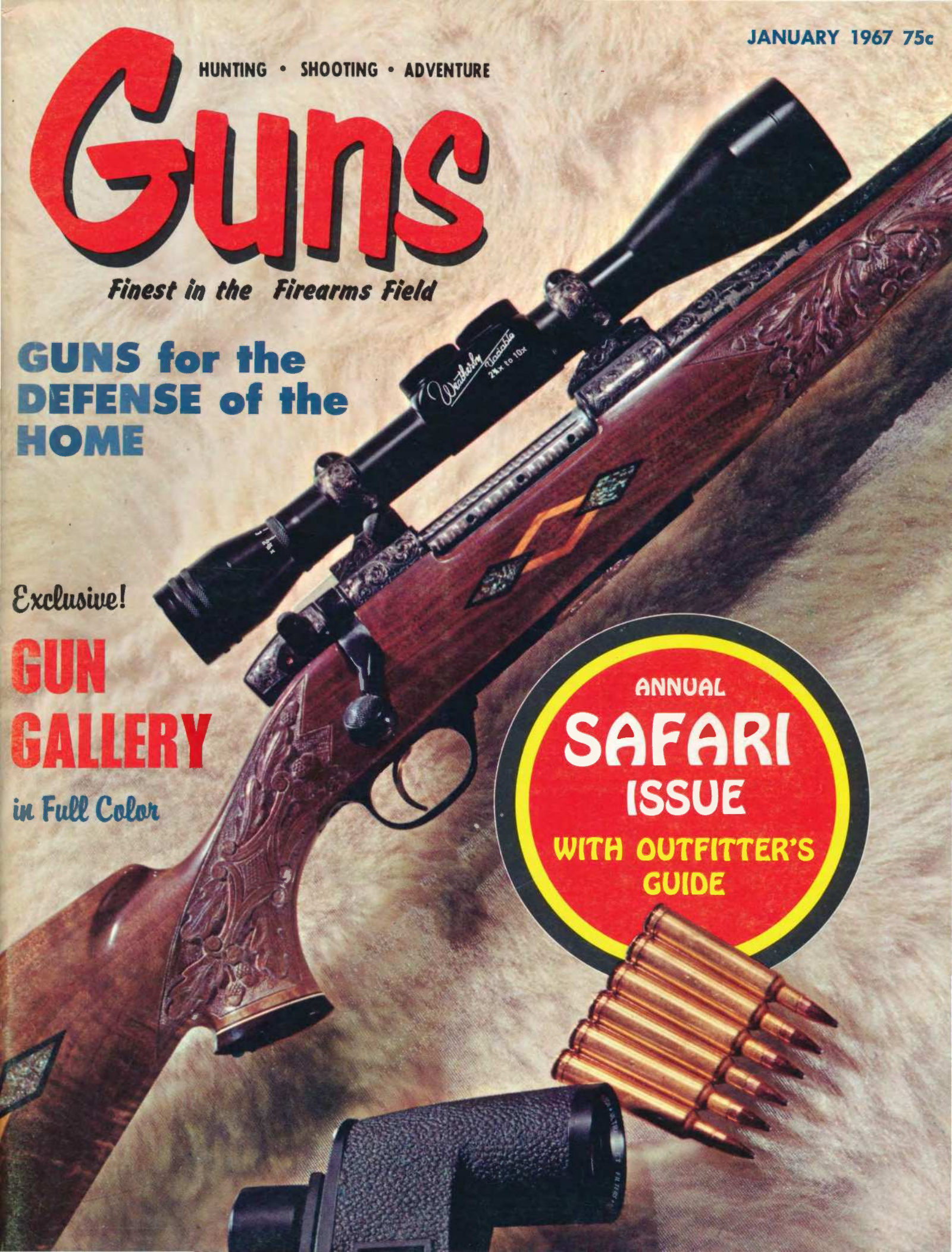
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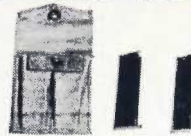
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TRIGGER TALK

THE LEAD ARTICLE this month concerns the other side of what legislators like to call the "gun problem." That is, the need for the average citizen to own firearms for the protection of life and property. It is easy for those who would ban all firearms to say that the homeowner or storekeeper does not need a gun; too few of them have experienced the terrifying sight of an armed criminal in their home or shop. The article also shows that there are other answers to the crime problem—as in the city of Orlando, Florida, for example.

It is important that gun owners—target shooters, hunters, collectors, etc.—concern themselves with the guns of homeowners, for the actions of these people reflect upon everyone interested in the right to bear arms.

With this issue, we start a brand new year of GUNS Magazines. And in the coming year we hope to bring our readers the best in gun reading. There are several projects in the works that will help us fulfill this promise—new departments, more exciting book excerpts, and several book-length features. In addition, we have gathered some of the most exciting color photographs of guns—both antique and modern—that I have ever seen. No matter what your gun interest, if you don't find the next 12 issues the best yet, I'll smoke a Lucky filter.

Coming up next month is a feature article on one of the most sophisticated of weapons for the foot soldier, a story of gun shows that will really hit home; and one of the most iconoclastic (and at the same time humorous) articles on big bore calibers that I've read in a long long time.

This issue is also our annual Safari issue. We are including for the first time a listing of the major guides and outfitters in various areas around the world, along with a directory of stores and people who supply equipment or who have services of special use to the man going on Safari. Included in this section is an article by Louis Weyers on choosing the best bullet for downing the African Cape buffalo. Col. Charles Askins will tell you why leopard are the most over-gunned of the Big Five. Anyone interested in trophy animals and their preservation will find E. B. Mann's article both interesting and informative.

THE COVER

The Weatherby rifle shown on the cover is, of course, a custom-made model, costing about \$1,500.00. The deluxe grade Weatherby's that are available for about \$315 shoot just as straight and hard. Whether they cost \$1,000 or \$350, you see an awful lot of Weatherby's on Safari, and that is why we chose it for our cover this month.

JANUARY, 1967

Vol. XIII, No. 1-145

George E. von Rosen
Publisher

Arthur S. Arkush
Ass't to the Publisher

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

C O N T E N T S

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Wolfe
Handloading



Braverman
Modern Arms



Mandel
Antique Arms



Haberly
Gunsmithing

Panel of Experts

Because of the heavy influx of questions, it has become necessary to limit the number of questions submitted in one letter to two. Your questions must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, must carry full name and address, and your Shooters Club of America membership number. If you are not a member of the Shooters Club of America, send a dollar bill with each question. Questions lacking either number or money cannot be answered. If you want a personal answer, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each question.

Rebarreling A Rolling Block

I have a Remington Rolling Block rifle in Spanish .43 caliber, which I would like to convert into a more easily obtainable caliber. In glancing through one of my old copies of GUNS, for March, 1965, I noticed that it was recommended to a reader that he rechamber his Rolling Block to .45-70.

My question is when rechambering to this caliber, would the barrel have to be moved back or bored? Also would the firing pin have to be bushed?

I am new concerning the converting of firearms and would appreciate any information you could give me. Approximately what would this conversion cost if performed by a gunsmith? Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Hugh Jones
Alexander City, Alabama

It is best to rebarrel for the .45-70. The present firing pin should work without bushing. The cost will run from \$40 to \$70, depending on the barrel used.—P.T.H.

.357 Shooting Master

I am writing to you in regards to the article concerning the Colt Shooting Master in .357 Magnum on page 43 of the July issue of GUNS Magazine. Do I understand the article correctly as stating that there were only eight Colt Shooting Masters chambered by the factory for the .357 Magnum?

The reason I ask is that I've a Shooting Master in .357, serial number 342239. It is standard factory issue with 95 per cent of the

original finish; the inside of the barrel and chambers are all clean and bright. Needless to say, the action is tight. I know the history of it since it was first sold by a dealer to a customer.

What is the probable value of this gun?

N. H. Gunning
Deer Park, Wash.

I've no reason to doubt the accuracy of the statement that only eight Shooting Masters were factory chambered for the .357 Magnum. (The New Service as the "New Service" was also chambered for the .357, and in three barrel lengths!)

Colts that are interesting solely because of caliber are tricky to price: I once had an Official Police in .25-20 (only six were made) and I couldn't get \$125 for it.

But that was 17 years ago—and Shooting Masters are not Official Polices; In your very good condition, it should bring \$165.—S.B.

Cleaning the 1200

Recently I purchased a Winchester Model 1200 12 gauge shotgun. With this gun I received a manual stating how to clean and assemble as well as disassemble the gun. This manual I found to be almost utterly useless because it stated how to remove the trigger grouping and the barrel, but not the bolt assembly nor the slide grip and action bars. Are the action bars and slide handle and bolt supposed to be removed? I have carefully tried to remove these but have found it to be frustrating. Could you please inform me whether or not these are to be removed?

Michael J. Erl
Elmont, N. Y.

It is not recommended that the bolt assembly be removed by anyone but a qualified gunsmith. The parts can, however, be cleaned without removal.—P.T.H.

Rifle-Pistol Conversion

I would like to convert a Remington Rolling Block to a pistol, but friends tell me it is against federal law. However, if I write and register it with the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, Internal Revenue Service, and pay

(Continued on page 65)

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CROSSFIRE

Complete Collection

In the October issue of GUNS appeared an article, "Collecting Commemorative Guns" by R. A. Steindler. In this article were given the names of the owners of the "only 6" complete collections of those Colt Commemoratives. My name did not appear and I wrote Mr. Cherry and am enclosing a copy of his answer to my letter.

I did not know Mr. Steindler's address and would appreciate it if you would pass this information on to him.

I enjoy GUNS very much and was very pleased with its interest in commemoratives and think it is doing a wonderful service to the collectors of these very interesting guns.

I have an almost complete collection of Winchesters. By "almost complete," I mean I have all models of all the old ones with all calibers, both in rifle and carbine: Model 73, Model 92, and Model 94, with many of the calibers of 95, 86, 76, etc. I also have over 50 Single Action Colts.

C. T. Grable

Las Cruces, New Mexico

New Commemorative

Come on, fellows, the new commemorative guns are NOT collectors items. They are some fast buck artist's brain child. Oh yes, I am planning a commemorative for the 100 year birthday of Joe Shmoe. Limited production (100,000) at \$325 and the gun will be made out of a gold plated .303 Lee Enfield with Zebra Wood stock. How many do you want?

Ralph O'Dell
(No Address)

We asked Bob Cherry of Cherry's Sporting Goods, the first dealer to order the Colt Commemoratives, to answer this letter.—Editor.

"Don't be bitter, Mr. O'Dell, we're not asking you to join us. We, as commemorative collectors, are quite happy with our chosen field, and will probably continue to be so, even though you don't like us.

"I have a fine collection of Winchesters in addition to my commemorative collection, and I enjoy both collections very much. I don't give a damn about military weapons, but have never yet thrown a rock at a military collector, or at military weapons as a hobby. I don't care for them, so I just leave them alone.

"Now, Mr. O'Dell, you say that commemorative guns are NOT collector's items. That's quite a positive statement, but it is rather muted by the hat you're talking through. A

collector's item, Mr. O'Dell, is something that is desired by a person who wants to collect it. Are you going to tell the two thousand plus commemorative collectors that they are collecting something that is not a collector's item? Come on now, Mr. O'Dell, we don't attempt to tell you what guns you should collect, so why raise your blood pressure foolishly about what someone else collects? Live and let live, Mr. O; live and let live.

"Incidentally, best of luck with your facetious project."—Robert E. P. Cherry.

.45-70 Revolver!

In the last few months, I have read with great interest commentary on the .454 Magnum in your fine publication. Having done work and experimentation along similar lines as Mr. Casull's, I thought you might be interested in my findings.

First, let me state I gained interest in super-powerful pistols after hearing of Mr. Casull's work, plus early, though rather unsuccessful, work with single-shot .45-70 pistols. Mr. Casull's work seemed most enlightening to me, yet the problem of altering the .45 Colt primer pockets to hold rifle-sized primers, plus the necessity of using bullets meant for much milder rounds seemed major drawbacks. And there was also the danger of accidentally loading a super load in an unaltered pistol.

My solution to this problem was to employ shortened, modified .45-70 rifle brass in a specially modified pistol, similar to Casull's. My modification consists of shortening the very strong rifle cases to 1.285 inches, the same as the .45 Colt, and, most importantly, turning the .45-70 rim down to just a bit larger than the Colt round, .530 inches. This gives me very strong brass which can use a standard magnum rifle primer, and which can be used in a specially built pistol similar to Casull's, and which can be loaded using a specially shortened set of .45-70 dies, used in conjunction with a standard .303 British or .30-40 shell holder in the press. The most exciting part about this is that bullets meant for the .457 caliber rifles, comprising dozens of gas-checked cast bullets and fine jacketed bullets for hunting (such as the 350-grain Hornady round-nosed soft point and 300-grain half jacketed bullets), can be employed, thus getting the full power potential out of this round's hot velocity. The recoil is high, but in actual hunting situation one couldn't discern it from that of the .44 Magnum. On game, using Casull type loads, killing power is on par with most rifles of the bigbore ilk.

I have used this pistol (the Ruger Blackhawk, greatly modified) plus this round (loaded with the 350-grain Hornady) on animals as large as moose and similar game, always with great killing power and complete penetration on shoulder and head shots.

In closing, let me say that I give full credit for the development of "man-sized" six-shooters of a practical nature to the creative Mr. Casull. I but wished to give the findings of another experimental on a gun and cartridge developed along parallel lines.

Lenard Wentworth
New York, N.Y.

Abilene, Arizona?

I enjoyed Bert Popowski's informative article in the August issue, entitled "Buckshot is Dangerous." However, Bert has one glaring mistake as to the location of the O. K. Corral fight. He states it was at Abilene, but it actually occurred just off Fremont in far away Tombstone, Arizona Territory. Right?

Farrill Sharrock
Plainfield, Ohio

Right. Though Abilene had its share of gunfights, Bert and we editors had the location of the famous Earp-Clanton shoot out misplaced.—Ed.

Beautiful Badges

I wish to commend you very highly on the cover photo of your October, 1966, issue of GUNS by Mr. George Virgines. It is a beautifully designed arrangement and adds great meaning to the readers of GUNS Magazine.

Mr. Virgines' badge collection is very outstanding. It exemplifies the mettle of the men who wore these badges of authority, and adds a significant and historical background in the "Winning of the Old West." He is to be highly commended.

Freeman K. Teague
Portland, Oregon

Weapons Law

I am about to resign from the Shooting Fraternity and join Dodd's backers, provided they expand their law as follows:

Since the following can be just as deadly as a gun, the following shall each have a serial number and be registered under federal law:

bricks, all rocks over one lb., golf clubs, rolling pins, crow bars, ice picks, fireplace poker and tongs, spades and shovels, bottles over 8 oz., electric irons, ash trays, knives and forks, pitchforks, fence posts under 10 lbs., tire and other heavy chains, paper weights, ink wells, hatchets, axes, picks, post hole diggers, tire tools, jacks and jack handles, axe handles, baseball bats, window glass over 144 sq. in., spears, target darts, hammers, large flashlights, small boat anchors under 25 lbs., screw drivers with 6 inch blade or longer, frying pans over 2 lbs., Teflon coated to be the exception as stamping of serial number may injure the coating).

In addition to the above the serial number and registration should cover any and all objects which could cause bodily harm if wielded or thrown by criminals, juveniles, deranged persons, rioters, or law abiding citizens.

Sounds crazy, doesn't it? Well, it makes just about as much sense as other laws which they are trying to force upon us. Since each of the above is a deadly weapon in the wrong hands, I consider it a just law. What do you think?

A. Edward Terpening
Tarpon Spring, Florida

Pen Pals Wanted

I have been reading your magazine regularly for the past half-year and I find it particularly pleasing, namely because it has so many outlooks on so many different types of game.

In this country, we have a hard and fast rule towards game—if it is too big for a .22, take along a .303. This rule does not apply for those avid sportsmen (avid spenders also, I might add) who can afford the luxury of a high-powered (high-priced) sporter, but if you are 19, as I am, your armoury is strictly limited by the state of your pocket.

However, back to matters of business, the reason why I am writing is that I would like to correspond with a boy or boys of about my own age who have the same interest in the sport I have. I would especially prefer a person who is keen on pistol shooting and all the various sidelines, such as quick draw and also hunting with a handgun, as this is my pet love.

I will be looking forward to the replies.

Larry Roach
66 Lawrence St., Peakhurst
New South Wales, Australia

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GUN RACK



By R. A. STEINDLER

Winchester's Model 670

The M 670 is the newest Winchester center-fire rifle, designed to appeal to the economy-minded shooter and hunter. Basically, the working parts of the gun are those of the M 70, excepting the safety which differs slightly in design, but which works as positively as that of the M 70. The basic difference between the M 70 and the M 670 lies in the wood. The stock of the new model is not walnut, but carries a finish which, at first glance, resembles walnut. The gun is offered in calibers .30-06, .243 Winchester, .270 Winchester, .225 Winchester, and .308 Winchester with 22 inch barrel, in .264 Winchester and the fine .300 Winchester Magnum with 24 inch barrel—in other words, the M 670 comes in carbine style.



The receiver is drilled and tapped for scope mounting, and the stock is designed for scope use, thus the open rear sight is a bit high, and with a 4X Pacific scope on Weaver blocks and Tasco rings, the rear sight interferes slightly with the target picture obtained through the scope. Since the Weaver blocks are fairly low, it is possible to remove the scope in the event it is damaged and use the iron sights, sighting right over the blocks. Shooting this way requires that the shooter alter his cheeking of the stock slightly since the line of sight is otherwise too high, but this sort of compromise is a lot better than not being able to see over the blocks at all.

The barrel channel and the magazine well of the M 670 have been given a coat of finish, thus preventing much of the warpage that so often occurs due to high humidity. The trigger is the same as in the Model 70, and in my test gun it broke at exactly three pounds. In extensive firing and function tests, the rifle functioned smoothly and well, there was no failure to feed or extract, and accuracy of the test gun was quite outstanding. As a matter of fact, the performance of my M 670 was so outstanding that, after the testing was completed, I pitted it against a custom '06 which has long been one of my favorites. I have to admit that the new Winchester offering kept right up with the custom rifle. Because of extreme heat, with temperatures ranging into the very high 90's, I settled for three shot

strings although I usually prefer five shot strings for an '06. With C-I-L 180 grain Sabre-tip ammo, the M 670 fired five groups which measured an average of 1.75 inches, only 0.25" larger than my custom rifle delivers. With the new Sako ammo, groups averaged 0.875" which in two instances was 0.125" better than my custom rifle, and in one instance equalled my custom gun. Loading 59 gr. of 4350 behind the 165 gr. Speer bullet, I fired six three-shot groups which measured 0.75" on the button, and with other handloads of known accuracy, the story was the same. That Model 670 is an honest-to-gosh rifle that will turn in a performance to make the shooter proud of himself and of his gun. And the price is right too—a mere \$114.95, and who cares if the stock ain't walnut. The gun shoots, and that's what counts!

Redfield's 12X Varmint Scope

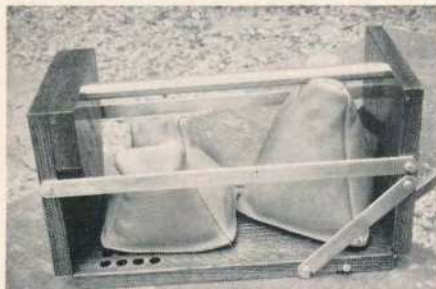
For better than two months I have used, tested, and enjoyed shooting various rifles that were topped off with this new Redfield 12X bench and varmint scope. While fixed power scopes for this type of shooting are not unusual, this new scope has several features which put it into a class all by itself. Shooting at long ranges with a high power scope at relatively small targets brings with it the problem of parallax at those distances. Consequently, a number of scopes designed for this type of shooting have been equipped with parallax adjustment systems, but the new Redfield scope goes one step further—the parallax adjustment is on the adjustment turret, instead of having only windage and elevation housed there. This arrangement makes it easy and convenient to adjust for parallax without having to reach out to the forward end of the scope. Another new concept is the changeover you can make from hunting-type windage and elevation adjustments to the type usually found on target rifles. The knurled adjustment knobs are easily installed and are equally as easily removed, and this arrangement allows scope adjustments to be made while the shooter is looking through the scope.

The parallax adjustment should be turned only in a clockwise direction, and ranges go from 75 to 600 yards. This is a positive adjustment, and once pressure is released on the adjustment screw, the detent system

holds the adjustment indefinitely—even under the severe recoil of a .340 Weatherby Magnum for which the scope was not designed. Windage and elevation has ½ minute of angle adjustments marked on the rings, and the clicks indicate the ¼ minute adjustments. Extensive tests, including immersion tests, indicated that the scope was leak and fog proof, adjustments were positive and easily made, and, on the whole, this new scope must be considered as one of the best, if not the best, scope to reach us from Redfield.

Acku-Rest Sandbag Caddy

This is a handy item for the shooter who must keep his bench equipment highly portable and who wants a good rest for his bench shooting. The folding carrier or caddy is easily handled, holds the two sandbags, and when opened and with the hinged side bars in place, it makes a good platform for the two-eared sandbags, one somewhat higher for the front, a squat one for the butt of the rifle. When unfolded the front part of the caddy has a platform that elevates



the front bag and there are provisions for holding cartridges upright. The Acku-Rest Sandbag Caddy complete sells for \$23.95; the Caddy alone for \$14.95; two sandbags cost \$10.95; single bags, front or rear, go for \$5.95. Made by Wm. H. Cole, Sr., Box 25G, Kennedy, New York 14747, any or all of these items come to you postpaid. In case you had forgotten it, Mr. Cole is the designer of the excellent Site-Rite targets which are distributed through the T.C. Specialties Co., Coudersport, Pa.

Sako Ammo

This fine Finnish ammunition is being imported by Firearms International and is available through your sporting goods store or gun shop. Pete Dickey shipped me some of the .222 Remington and .243 Winchester stuff, and a couple of boxes of the .30-06 ammo. Shooting results, both on the targets and in the bullet recovery box where I checked for expansion, were most gratifying.

My Anschütz .222 Remington rifle, topped with an old but still very fine Fecker USMC 8X scope, gave me five shot groups measuring between 1.125 and 1.75 inches. The gun is tightly bored, and this is the best accuracy I have been able to get with any factory ammo. Since I was interested to see if the brass was reloadable, I pulled 10 of the bullets, dumped the powder, decapped, and then loaded the brass with my pet load of 23.4 gr. of Ball C, Lot #2. Group size went right down to an average of 0.85 inches for five shots, the same

accuracy I get with other bullets. The primer of the Sako ammo in caliber .222 is lacquered, and the charge weighs 19.7 grains of a fine powder that vaguely resembles 4227. The 50 gr. bullet expands very well and opened up as soon as it struck the first layer of wet cardboard, penetrating through the cardboard and into the moist sand for a depth of about 2-3 inches.



The .243 ammo was tested in a custom HB rifle of known accuracy. The gun is topped with a Bushnell 4X scope with Command Post in Weaver mounts and rings. The 90 gr. Sako bullet is backed by a charge of 35.4 grains of a powder that looks like a mixture of 4320, 4064, and 3031, but is, of course, one of the Sako powders that is not available for handloaders. Bolt opening and closing was a bit on the stiff side, although there were no indications of pressure—there was no primer cratering or flattening, nor was there any casehead expansion. My first three shot group measured 1.875 inch, but subsequent five shot groups at 100 yards gave me three groups that measured 0.875 inch on the button.

The .30-06 ammo is loaded with a 155 gr. bullet and for this test I used a brand new Model 670 Winchester rifle. With Weaver mounts, and Tasco rings holding the 4X Pacific scope in place, I fired four three-shot groups that, had I not fired them and measured them myself, I would find a bit hard to believe. Sighted to print dead-on at 100 yards, the combination of Sako ammo and Winchester's fine new M670 turned in groups that measured between 11/16 and 13/16 of an inch! Sako ammo is being imported in most of the popular U.S. calibers, and my tests indicate that this is precision manufactured, high-quality ammo that produces excellent results on the target butts as well as in bullet expansion tests.

Bitterroot Bullets

These bullets have a lot to recommend them. Made by Bill Steigers, Bitterroot Bullet Co., Box 412G, Lewiston, Idaho 83501, they are hollow point bullets with a bonded core. Bonding of the core to the jacket is important for good expansion and it appears to me that Bill is using some kind of hot-bonding process. The fact is that the Bitterroot bullets are not only accurate, but that expansion, as tested in my bullet recovery box, is excellent. Because production at the time Steigers shipped me my test bullets was limited to a few calibers, I only checked out the 165 grain .308's and the 250 gr. .338's. In two '06's, one load gave me average three-shot groups of 1.75" without load developing,

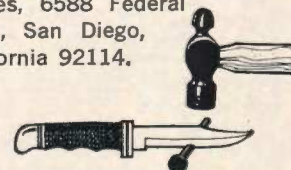
(Continued on page 16)

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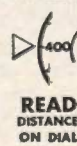
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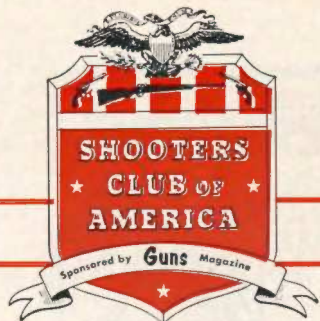
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News from the...

SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

Dedicated to the Constitutional Right of Every Citizen to Keep and Bear Arms

We shooting sportsmen sometimes seem at a loss for answers when people condemn us as "die-hard againsters" when we fight anti-gun legislation, and as "proponents of selfish interests" when we urge fair play for hunters in conservation programs.

And yet, the current "cause" in Washington, led by none less than the President and his Lady, is for physical fitness (attained by outdoor recreation), for the conservation of natural resources, against stream pollution, and for outdoor beautification.

All this "back to the wilderness" enthusiasm is fine. But one wonders why its Johnny-come-lately leaders ignore, and even join hands to persecute on other fronts, the sportsmen who have been marching in these same crusades for decades.

They seem to forget that hunters and fishermen have stood almost alone in support of conservation causes. Don't they know, or do they just conveniently forget, that our money -- money we paid for licenses and fees, money we paid in Pitman-Robertson excise taxes on our fishing tackle and guns and ammunition -- has paid for the research, the lands, the game and fish propagation and protection and maintenance, the purchase and development of natural wildfowl breeding and nesting grounds, and the defense of wild rivers and clean waters.

Yet despite all this, these newcomers support anti-gun laws and decry hunting and fishing as "blood sports," fit only for the atavistic unwashed.

They're spending other tax money now for the operation of what they call the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. This would be fine if they would spend it for research in areas not already covered by sportsmen-financed studies -- and if they would interpret their findings in accordance with facts already established. Instead, they are suggesting that picnicking, hiking, boating, and automobile driving have supplanted hunting and fishing as the principal outdoor recreations.

Are hunting and fishing passe? Well, not exactly! Sales of hunting and fishing licenses last year broke all records -- 34,827,066 licenses in one sport or the other, for which we paid \$134,000,000.

This dollar expenditure for licenses and fees represented a \$6,000,000 increase over the previous year's record. That's \$134,000,000 for conservation use -- in areas the ORRRC proposes to aid.

ORRRC produces the rather startling statistic that "66 per cent of American adults are picnickers." The only way we can reconcile this figure is to assume that it includes back-yard cookouts. Richard Stroud, Executive Vice President of Sport Fishing Institute, says that 87% of the Americans who do actually camp out, or eat out in the Great Outdoors, do so on hunting or fishing trips. Mr. Stroud also reports that "about 90% of boat use is known to be for fishing and hunting purposes."

It is patently impossible to determine how much driving is done "for sightseeing," but it is possible to state very accurately how much driving is done for hunting. In 1963, hunters drove their cars, for hunting travel only, a total of 4,780,000,000 miles -- four billion, 780 million miles! -- at a cost of \$261,000,000. There are more fishermen than hunters, so doubling those figures would be conservative mathematics. That gives us well over 9.5 billion miles of hunting-fishing travel, and contributions of well over half a billion dollars to the automobile-gas-oil-tire industries.

But this is only part of the story of hunting-fishing contribution to the national economy. Sales of hunting apparel, food, lodging, camping equipment, boats, boating equipment and services, and public transportation -- totalled in 1963 very close to \$1,500,000,000 dollars.

For 1964, those figures would be larger. For 1965, still larger. And they don't in any instance include the other millions spent by hunters and fishermen for guns, ammunition, and fishing tackle -- on every dollar of which they paid 11 per cent into national conservation coffers.

We must not allow governmental fact-faking to go unchallenged. Help us to help you bring the facts to the general public. Join the S.C.A. today!

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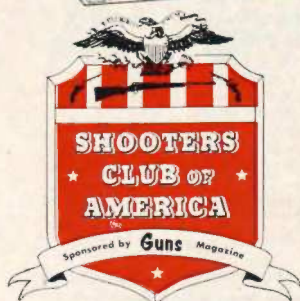
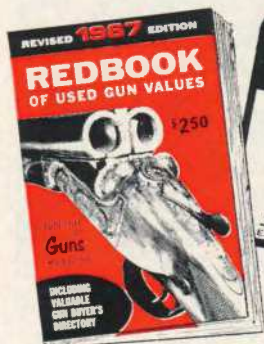
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By DAVE WOLFE

Editor and Publisher of
The HANDLOADER Magazine



IF YOU SHOULD hear a shooter say, as we did recently, that this new reloading hobby has sorta "taken the country by storm," you can bet your brass buckle he is fairly fresh in the gun game. Reloading is not new, as knowledgeable firearms fans all know. Powder, bullets and primers were being assembled in cases since the invention of centerfire ammo. And that's more than a century ago.

But our naive friend is right on one score: the interest in handloading has doubled and tripled in the last fifteen years or so. There are now between one and two million active reloading hobbyists, and over a hundred industries supplying the various tools, components, and accessories. This is big business, from any angle you care to look at it.

Why the boom in reloading? This writer does not subscribe to the theory that most shooters enter this game to save money. Serious trap and skeet shooters may be partially justified in this belief, but even these fellows will have to admit that at a dollar savings per box, it takes a whale of a lot of shotshells to offset the price of tools, accessories, and TIME. The truth is, the reloader enjoys making his own ammo, and therefore does not put a value on the time concerned. Enjoyment, then, seems to be one of the main reasons a man becomes involved in this pastime.

Sure, economy does enter the picture, but only in this way: we can shoot more for the money we have to invest. And consequently, we shoot better—not only because of the additional practice, but because we assemble ammunition that is best suited to our firearms. And let's not overlook the very important consideration of personal satisfaction which is involved.

Getting back to our naive friend, his main reason for coming into the offices of The HANDLOADER Magazine was to find out how he could get started in handloading. He told us he had visited three different gun shops and could not get a satisfactory answer from any of the proprietors. Each shop owner told him they would be glad to order a press, dies, and components—but it was obvious these dealers were not handloaders themselves and knew nothing about that part of the business.

To make a long story short, after talking to this man for over two hours, we recommended he start with one caliber, a good but fairly inexpensive press, a reloading scale and a minimum of components. The idea, of course, is to start the man off in as simple a manner as possible, to get him educated

in the hobby quickly. Later on, he can expand to other calibers, a powder measure, and perhaps a more elaborate press.

This man's problems were not unusual. We would like to see members of the reloading industry (perhaps the National Reloading Manufacturers Association) come up with a booklet designed for dealers. We all know there are many books and brochures on handloading, with a great deal of material beamed to the beginner, but to our way of thinking a dealer will take the time and trouble to read a brochure if it is specifically directed to him.

Every newcomer to the reloading pastime should first obtain a good manual. Among the best are the Speer, Lyman, and Hodgdon's. The new Speer Manual Number 7 is now available and is better than ever in content and format. It would be indeed difficult for a beginner to go wrong if he first digested the first chapters of this book.

This new Speer manual contains 300-yard drop figures plus a shotshell section in the back. It also contains new loading data for the .223 Remington, .225 Winchester, 6.5 Remington Magnum, .350 Remington Magnum, and .41 S&W Magnum. There are revised loads for the .22-250, and data has been added using the new Hercules Reloder powders. The new edition has over 380 pages and sells for \$2.95. It is available from your local gun dealer or from Speer, Box 244G, Lewiston, Idaho.

Speaking of new items, Bonanza Sports, Inc., Faribault, Minnesota, is out with a revolutionary reloading tool. Called the Co-Ax press, this precision made machine has to be used to be fully appreciated. In preparation for the writing of a test report for The HANDLOADER Magazine, we ran about 2,000 cartridges through the press, in calibers from .38 Special to .350 Remington Magnum. Due to a marked departure in conventional design of reloading tools, it took us a short while to get the hang of this machine.

The Co-Ax press features a universal shell holder, a snap-in system for inserting loading dies, a powerful leverage for full length sizing and case forming, and a unique over-head priming system.

Designer of this tool is Clarence Purdie, president of Bonanza Sports, Inc. Purdie told us that the Co-Ax is the result of fifty years thinking and planning on his part—a combination of simplicity, functionality, and beauty. With this we must agree.

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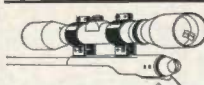
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.22 Hornet. To load the Hornet cartridge, a conventional shell holder must be used instead of the universal.

The spring actuated jaws on the universal shell holder automatically open when the handle is in the up position. When the handle starts down, the jaws close on the case, carrying it through the reloading cycle. Purdie has allowed a .004 tolerance in the shell holder, and another .004 in the "floating" die. This allows a self-centering of the cartridge when it enters the die, giving positive coaxial sizing.

Another excellent feature of the universal shell holder is the amount of contact on the case head. The larger the brass, the more of the rim is enclosed in the jaws. Purdie told us that the Co-Ax press extracted 200 consecutive dry, unlubricated .300 H&H cases from a full length resizing die without pulling the rims off a single case.

Conventional 3/4x14 dies merely slip into the frame of the Co-Ax, with bearing completely centering on the lock ring. The press is designed to use a 1 1/2" lock ring .3125 inches thick. The RCBS lock ring is acceptable but special lock rings will be available by Bonanza by the time this column appears in print.

The excellent linkage system on the Co-Ax takes all the stress in the reloading operation. While running a .30-06 case into a .308 die, we observed no spring in either the carrier or main body casting. The handle moves through a 180-degree arc, with the heaviest work taking place when the arm is past the half-way point.

Spent primers and primer residue fall through a drop tube into a plastic bottle when the universal shell holder is used. This leaves the area of the carrier completely free of miscellaneous debris. Purdie says that the critical parts of the press will wear longer since all grit falls through the drop tube and no abrasive material can contaminate the working parts of the machine.

The universal shell holder allows the insertion of both bullet and case into the die for the bullet seating operation. The carrier is then brought up to the case head; the jaws open automatically and lock on the rim. One big advantage of this is the reduction of danger of pinched fingers.

The overhead priming system is both simple and quick. The two primer post assemblies screw into the press casting, and a conventional shell holder is then locked in the shell holder assembly with two socket head screws. A primer is then placed in the primer post and the handle moved forward to allow insertion of the case into the shell holder. The handle is then moved back just a few degrees for primer seating. Of course, it is wise to keep the hands away from the top of the case in the event of a primer detonation.

Price of the Bonanza Co-Ax is \$59.95, which includes the automatic shell holder. Considering the precision qualities of this tool, plus the fact that its manufacture involves over one hundred operations, makes this an excellent buy, in this writer's opinion.

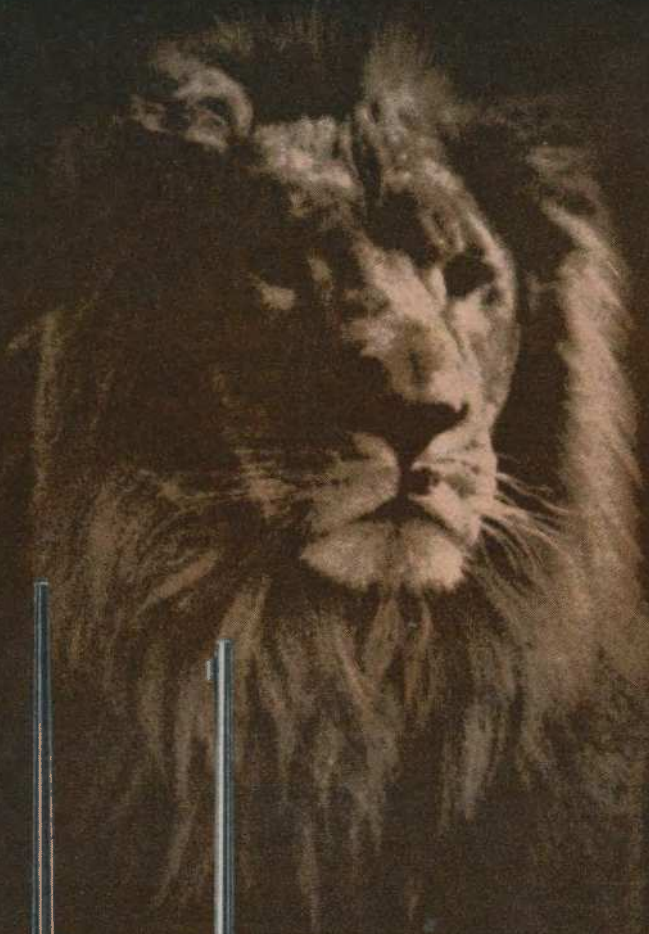
During the next year or so, many more Bonanza items will be introduced. We had a sneak preview of some of this equipment and can vouch for its beauty and quality. For

(Continued on page 77)

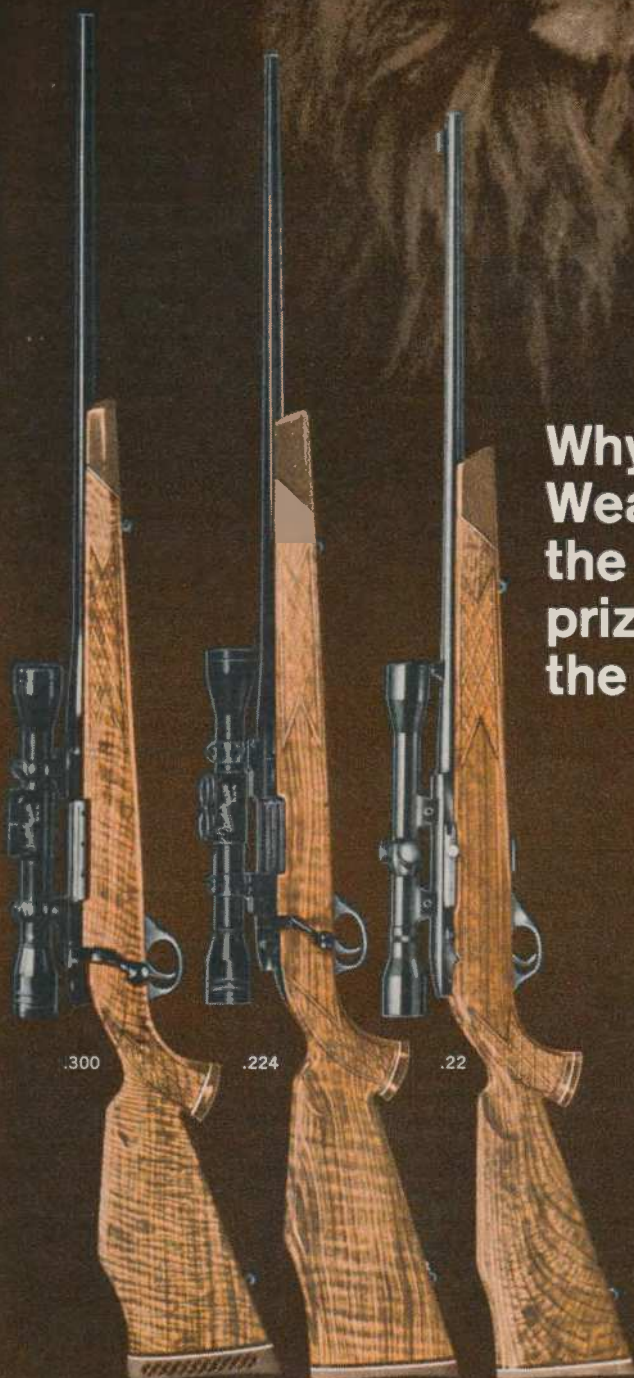
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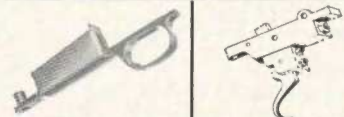
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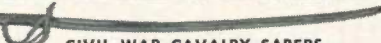
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TRAIL AND TARGET

THAT LAST TRAIL and Target opus on "How far is too far" for any given hunter got me to thinking about the exactly corollary question, "How accurate is accurate" in a rifle.

It depends on what kind of a rifle, of course. You don't need the same degree of accuracy in a hunting rifle that is essential for a rifle designed for target competition. Even target-competition accuracy must be divided into at least two categories—firing line, from the shoulder shooting, or bench rest—if not on the basis of actual accuracy potential of the rifles, certainly on the basis of the different types of rifles used and the different conditions under which they are shot.

Some time back, a leading guns-and-hunting authority defined a satisfactory big game rifle as "one that will deliver its bullets within a four-inch circle at 100 yards, or an eight-inch circle at 200 yards."

That kind of accuracy would never satisfy the serious varmint who shoots at chucks and prairie poodles and even ground squirrels at long ranges; and it wouldn't even be considered worthy of wall space by the target shooter of what-ever variety. But I've no quarrel with that definition of hunting rifle accuracy. Given a man who can hold that rifle reasonably close to its accuracy potential, it will put its bullet into the lethal area of any big game animal out to some 300 yards, and that will get the job done.

Target shooters demand considerably better accuracy than that. The big bore targeters require minute-of-angle or better performance—minute of angle being roughly defined as one inch for each hundred yards or range. And as for the small bore shooters—man, you can't win a worth-while .22 cali-

ber match any more unless you put 'em all "under a dime" out to 100 yards!

But the real pin-pointers, the lads who really go all out to see how accurate a rifle can be, are the bench-rest shooters.

Bench-rest shooting is growing in popularity, but in case you're not entirely familiar with it, here's a strictly non-technical run-down. This is a game in which patient, painstaking marksmen test the finest available rifles, using meticulously measured, weighted, and shaped loads, to the desired end of putting an infinite number of bullets through one hole the exact diameter of the bullet! They haven't quite done that yet, but they've come close: Bill Kiser, for example, put ten shots at 100 yards into .3684 of an inch, which is a hole only about half again bigger than the diameter of his .22 caliber bullets.

The rifles used are usually heavy-barrelled, long, specially designed for this work. Sights are telescopic of 12 power or higher. The firing is done from heavy, solidly anchored "benches" or tables, on which the rifle is supported at butt and barrel by specially designed rests. The shooter sits alongside or behind the "bench" to adjust and sight, dampening the recoil with his hand or shoulder. Slowly moving strips of paper are run behind each target in competitive events to provide proof (in case of a tight, one-hole group) that the requisite number of shots actually went through that hole. After which, those holes are measured, under magnification and with the most exact scientific equipment, down to and below one one-thousandth of an inch! They even measure center-to-center of the bullet holes, to eliminate difference in bullet size and inconsistencies in the way different bullets cut the paper. Like the man said, this is an exact science!

So what would you say if I told you that the best group ever recorded by any rifle, any time, any place, was fired with a black-powder, muzzle-loading rifle?

Most people today will tell you that the accuracy of the old muzzle loaders was vastly over-rated, and that any reasonably good modern rifle will beat any of the old timers. "It ain't necessarily so!" On May 16, 1901, Dr. C. W. Rowland, of Boulder, Colorado, fired ten shots, bench rest, at a target 200 yards distant. All ten shots went into a hole which has been measured countless times by the most skeptical of experts, using the most accurate of precision instruments. The measurement agreed upon, measuring from center to center of the bullet holes, is .725 of an inch, or less than the diameter of a penny. The bullets were .32 caliber, yet the actual hole in that paper, from outside circumference to outside circumference of the bullet holes, is only a shade larger than a quarter.



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The rifle was a .32-40 Pope-Ballard breech-muzzle loader—a Pope barrel on a Ballard action, the cased powder charge being loaded from the breech, the bullet ram-rodged in from the muzzle through a false-muzzle accessory. Exact bullet weight is unknown; probably 180 to 200 grains. Powder was Hazards FC black. Rowland records that there was “no wind,” and that it was sprinkling rain; which means conditions ideal for black powder.

So what gives? Haven't we made any progress since 1900? Are modern rifles no better than the old Kaintuckies?

You bet they are! “Black powder muzzle-loader” doesn't necessarily mean “Kaintucky,” not by a long shot. You could get plenty of support for the statement that there never was a finer barrel than the best of those made by Old Man Pope, or a finer action for this type of rifle than the Ballard; so Rowland's rifle was one in a million. From its near-perfection, muzzle loaders ranged downward from excellent to good to very bad, in point of accuracy judged by modern standards. Take the average and the pendulum swings very sharply in favor of average modern weapons. The average muzzle loader fell far short of today's precision tooling, was shallowly rifled, used rough moulds producing badly fitting, badly shaped bullets. That shallow rifling wore smooth with use and had to be re-cut. Re-cutting meant a need for new bullet moulds, which were seldom provided. Loose bullets from the old moulds meant a further loss of

accuracy—and these are the weapons which, for the most part, have come down to us. No wonder our conception of them is unfavorable. But the good ones would shoot, as the old Mountain Men used to brag, “better than somewhat.”

So what is accuracy? To the bench-rest shooter, it's half a minute of angle or less, measured in thousandths of an inch. To the target competitor, it's a 20X possible. To the chuck hunter, it's the ability to put a bullet into a woodchuck's head at X number of yards. To the hunter—

I have a custom-tailored .270 that, from bench rest, will not much exceed a minute of angle out to 300 yards. (It's not for sale!) It's a hunting rifle, better than most, better than it needs to be, considerably better than I can shoot it, under hunting conditions. I have half a dozen other hunting rifles, none of which will come even close to the .270 in bench-rest precision but which, under hunting conditions, equal or better my ability to hold them. They're not for sale, either. They'll do their job if I do mine; and that's all the .270 will do, in spite of its greater potential.

To the hunter, accuracy is that combination of rifle efficiency and man skill that puts meat on the table. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, when failures occur, it's the man who's to blame, not the rifle. If you've been missing shots, wounding game—don't sell your rifle: get closer! Cut the range down to your accuracy potential and, with 'most any rifle, you can be a sure-shot and a real sportsman.



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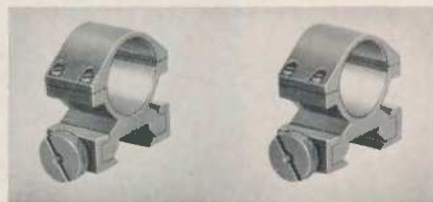
GUN RACK

(Continued from page 9)

while in my Sharon-built .338-06, the 250 grain Bitterroot bullet delivered MOA groups at 100 yards, and one 200 yard off-hand group, with a tight sling, that measured a fraction under three inches. In testing these bullets, I found that loads previously worked up for other bullets did not do too well in my guns, but that is to be expected whenever bullets of a different design are loaded. Bullets are now available in .270, 7 mm, .308, .338, .35, and .375, with the latter two calibers being produced at the present only in limited numbers. Cost of 20 ranges from \$4.50 for the .270 caliber bullets to \$6 for the bigger calibers. This may appear to be somewhat high, but I liked their performance so well that I'll take some rounds loaded with these bullets along on a major hunting trip.

Tasco Rings

While I was poking around in Paul Haberly's Chicago Gun Center recently, he showed me the new Tasco rings. These rings fit any of the block type bases, such as those offered by Bill Weaver. The rings are not steel, but they are a bit heavier than rings of this kind usually are and weigh 150 grains. The base of the split ring consists of three parts: the machined part that engages the rail is an integral part of the ring, a small part that fits the opposite rail, and a two piece fastening screw. Once the knurled knobs or screws are cinched tight, the rings



hold in the block without any movement whatever. The rings hold so well, even after the screws have been loosened completely, that I needed a small brass hammer to loosen the rings from the bases. The upper and lower parts of the rings have a non-slip adhesive that allows solid scope anchoring in the rings, thus prevents the scope looseness that sometimes occurs when recoil of the gun is on the hefty side. I used these mounts first on a M 670 Winchester in .30-06, then on a .375 H&H, and despite the fact that the adhesive had largely been scraped off, the scope did not budge from its original position.

New 7 mm Speer Bullet

I believe that the Remington 7 mm Magnum is the closest thing to the mythical all-round big game cartridge that has come from U.S. firearms companies for a long time. Ray Speer and I have discussed this and the bullets for the Big Seven off and on for several years, and last January, during the NSGA show, Ray told me that a Speer 175 gr. Semi-spitzer bullet for the Remington Magnum would be a reality in a very short time.

Loading 62.5 gr. of 4831 with a CC1 250 primer behind the new Speer bullet, I fired

groups that measured between 1.0 and 1.5 inches at 100 yards for five shots. Instrumental velocity was 2710 fps. With 78 gr. of H870, I obtained an MV of 2920 fps. With 75.0 gr. of H570, I fired several MOA groups with the new 175 gr. Speer bullet, and estimate MV to be around 2820 fps. The design of the bullet is very similar to that used in the fine .308 caliber 165 grain Speer bullet which has a proven record of kills. Sectional density is .310, while the Ingalls B.C. is .437. For my testing, I used a Model 700, the original rifle which Remington had submitted for tests and which I have since used extensively for hunting and testing ammo and ammo components. Despite the fact that I have fired well over 3,000 rounds in that rifle, it has lost little or none of its original accuracy, and it is my understanding that other guns, used even more, still retain their original accuracy which, for a factory rifle in a magnum caliber, was quite outstanding to begin with.

Winchester M1200 Magnum

It was only a question of time, and Winchester has finally cracked loose with the M1200 shotgun chambered for the Magnum shells. Unfortunately, the gun reached me during the summer when hunting is at its slowest, and even crows are hard to find in this area during the summer heat. I was thus limited to shooting at and thoroughly dusting claybirds, and to doing patterning tests. In my test gun, a full choke 12 gauge duck and goose gun, and 3 inch Magnum



shells converted perfectly good claybirds to useless dust even when I only nicked the birds, and that pattern is just what the factory says—full. Incidentally, although barrels are interchangeable, you cannot put a 3 inch Magnum barrel on a gun designed for the 2 3/4" shell and vice versa. You can, however, change barrels for different chokes and lengths. I am most anxious to take this gun into the southern Illinois goose pits—the M1200 should prove to be just the thing for the Canada honkers.

Leupold Model 3 Mounts

This set of mounts is especially designed for Remington's Model 700 series of rifles. The two piece mount has a windage screw in the front base, and anyone can install these bases thanks to complete instructions which are easy to follow. The mounts, in keeping with all of the recent Leupold & Stevens designs, are streamlined in appearance, and quality is topnotch. I put the mounts on a Model 700, zeroed in the scope for 100 yards, fired a couple of rounds, removed the scope, fired a couple of rounds, and then remounted the scope—it returned to the original zero without trouble and the point of bullet impact had not changed. 'Nuff said.



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OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON

CARL WOLFF



"DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE" GUN BILL INTRODUCED

On October 4, 1966, Senator Roman L. Hruska (D. Neb.) introduced "destructive device" legislation. It outlaws rockets, bazookas, heavy field artillery and the like. Now, for the 90th Congress which starts in January we have two Hruska bills. Though, technically, all bills die when Congress concludes a session, both will be reintroduced. As the two so-called Dodd bills are also likely to be reintroduced, the fight is probably to be between the Hruska bills and the Dodd bills.

The need for Federal control of truly destructive devices is clear. While these weapons have not been a factor in the commission of a serious crime in the United States to date, it is conceded by both pro and anti-gun forces that there are no sporting purposes for which they are suited. The disagreement turns around the most appropriate and effective means of accomplishing the intended purpose.

There are two choices: including the destructive devices in the National Firearms Act of 1934, which the Hruska bill does, or including them under the Federal Firearms Act of 1938, which the Dodd bill does. The National Firearms Act presently regulates the commerce in automatic weapons, such as machine guns and sawed-off rifles and shotguns, by imposing heavy taxes on the manufacture, sale, and possession of these items. The Federal Firearms Act of 1938 regulates the manufacture and sale of sporting type firearms, rifles, shotguns, and handguns. It also establishes Federal licensing requirements for manufacturers and dealers of sporting arms and ammunition.

Anti-gun proponents have suggested both approaches to the regulation of destructive devices. The so-called Dodd bills, really written by the Administration, puts these devices under both the Federal and National Acts. S. 1591, of last Congress, would bring destructive devices within the frame work of the National Act. And, S. 1592 would also include destructive devices within the Federal Act. Another fault is the definitions are so vague as to include many antiques and sporting arms.

This arrangement also means two different sets of laws cover the same weapons. During last year's fire-



arms hearings in both the Senate and House, strong objections were raised by sportsmen as to destructive devices being included in the Federal Firearms Act since that act deals with firearms suited for and universally used in hunting and target shooting. The same witnesses supported bringing truly destructive devices within coverage on the National Firearms Act along with machine guns and other gangster-type weapons.

MAJOR PROVISIONS OF THE BILL

First. Destructive devices are included in the National Firearms Act.

Second. Destructive devices are defined to include explosives, bombs, grenades, rockets, missiles, mines, and any weapons having a bore diameter of 0.78 inch, or larger.

Exempted from the definition are rifles and shotguns, line throwing devices, firearms using black powder, devices not designed or used as weapons, and devices to be used by the U.S. Government.

Third. Weapons presently covered by the National Act—machine-guns, sawed-off rifles and shotguns—are redefined to include the frame or receiver of these weapons and any such weapon which can be readily restored to firing condition.

Fourth. A copy of the order form for the transfer tax and the declaration form for manufacturing of National Act weapons must be submitted to the purchaser's or maker's local police chief.

Fifth. It is made unlawful for any person to possess a National Act weapon in the State where he resides which he obtained outside his State if it is unlawful for him to purchase or possess the weapon in his own state or locality.

Sixth. It is made unlawful for persons under 21 to possess National Act weapons.

Seventh. The maximum penalties are increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and from 2 years to 10 years imprisonment. Sentenced offenders are made eligible for parole in the discretion of the U.S. Board of Parole.

The Hruska bill differs from S. 1591 in several respects. Most important, its definition of "destructive devices" is more carefully drawn to exclude categories of weapons which should not be covered. Among those excluded would be certain elephant or big game guns having a bore diameter of larger than .50-caliber. Black powder weapons, mostly obsolete muzzle loaders of the Civil War era would also still be legal.

The Hruska destructive device bill deserves the support of all sportsmen. Readers should remember that during the sessions of the next Congress, when the bills are reintroduced, they will be assigned new numbers. This means that future S. 1591's or 1592's could be bills helpful to the sportsman. New identification numbers will be carried in this publication as soon as they are available.



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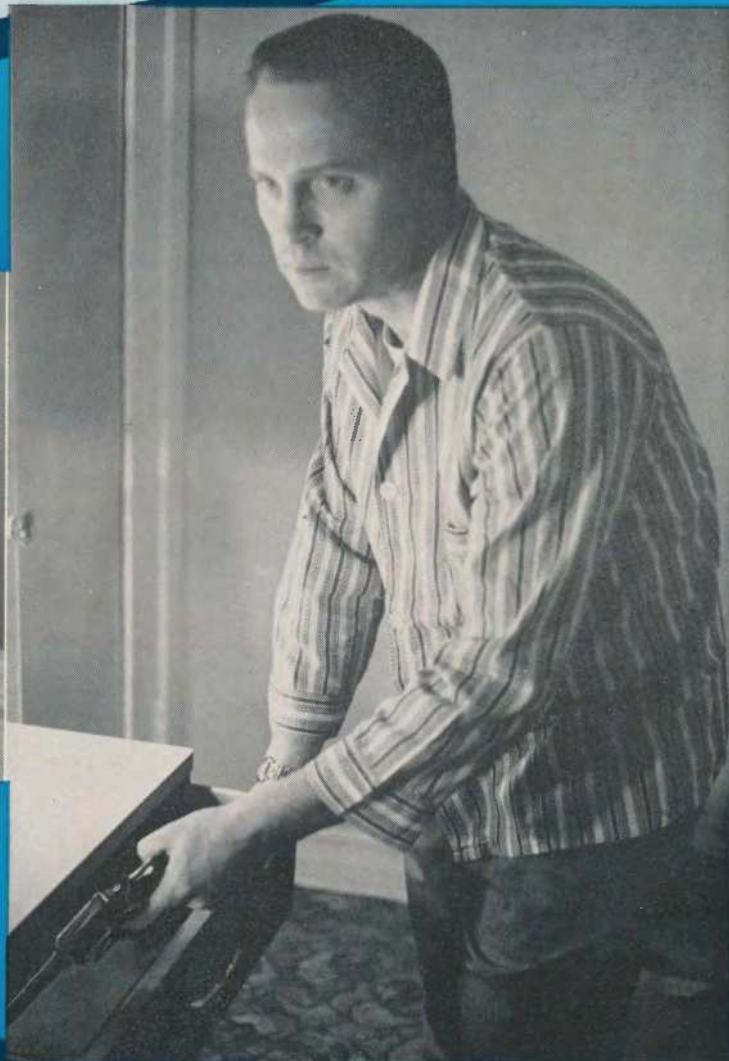
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GROCCER SHOOTS 3 ROBBERS, KILLS 1

One holdup man was killed and two were wounded Friday night when they tried to rob a grocery store owned by a pistol expert.

The three were cut down by a burst of five shots.



A safe and yet convenient place for your pistol is essential if the gun is to be at all effective in times of emergency.

Trio Invade Home, Wound Man, Kill Wife

Three men invaded a West Side home early Sunday killing a woman and injuring her

The three men, one of them wearing a rag over his face, then fled, police said.

Gun Drills Pay Off

**THE BEST GUN FOR PROTECTION
OF LIFE AND PROPERTY
IS THE ONE YOU CAN HANDLE MOST EASILY**



Walther PPK

GUNS FOR DEFENSE OF THE HOME

By JAY CHARLES

JUST ONE GUN could have made the difference between life and death for the eight student nurses who were brutally slaughtered this week during a terror-filled Chicago night. One gun, and one girl with the capacity and courage to handle it, could have provided protection for eight nurses who now lie dead in Chicago."

This quote, taken from the *Columbia (S.C.) State* of July 16, 1966, points out one of the best reasons for law-abiding citizens—whether they are shooters or not—to fight the current wave of anti-gun legislation. Each day, the newspapers of this country record instances where citizens have used legally acquired firearms to defend their lives and properties from criminals.

Just such an incident was described by Senator Gordon Allott of Colorado in the "Congressional Record" Aug. 16, 1966. It reads:

I recall that in my office, and very close to home, just two years ago this spring, Miss Joyce Morgan, one of my secretaries, had her apartment invaded, about 4 o'clock in the morning, and was robbed.

Fortunately she was a girl of great courage, but more fortunately, her father had, the previous fall, purchased a Woodsmen .22 for her, and had also instructed her in its use. So when this person entered her apartment . . . she picked up the gun and, with a well-placed shot, convinced him that he ought to give himself up, which he did. She was then able to hold him at bay until police arrived.

Sentinel, Police Department Offer Gun Classes For Women

If women unfamiliar with firearms are buying guns for self-defense, who is going to teach them to shoot?

No one is unless the purchaser herself knows someone who can instruct her in assembling, dismantling, loading and unloading a gun. There is nowhere in the Greater Orlando area where public instruction in the use of firearms is available.

SO, AS A public service to teach women the use of firearms with safety and confidence, The Orlando Sentinel, in cooperation with the Orlando Police Department, is sponsoring the Pistol Packing Posse, a school for free instruction in handling and shooting firearms.

Classes begin Sunday, Oct. 16, at 4 p.m. at the Orlando Gun Club on Fairvilla Road off West Highway 50.

Women who wish to enroll in the class are required to provide their own gun (bring it unloaded, please) and ammunition.

INSTRUCTION will be directed by Capt. Jack Stacey and Lt. James Pitts of the Orlando Police Department, who will

Emily Bavar's



inspect all weapons and who reserve the right to reject those they consider unfit.

If the individual does not own a gun but wishes to attend, Capt. Stacey and Lt. Pitts will advise what type and make is best for home protection.

THE CLASS IS open to all women 18 years of age or older. Children under 18 will not be permitted to attend.

The first lesson will be a lecture on the use and handling of firearms and a demonstration by an Orlando policeman. Practice by students will follow in subsequent classes to be held for the next three Sundays.

Orlando, Fla., "Sentinel" sponsors a free pistol class.

The fact that the court procedures were such that he was released on his own recognizance and back robbing another apartment within two weeks is another story.

Some anti-gun proponents say that guns are not necessary for the defense of life and property, that this is a function of the police, and that the citizen will be protected by his local law enforcement agency. If this is so, I wonder if they have convinced the New Yorker who dares not walk in Central Park at night; the store owner who lies wounded in a Denver hospital after a burglary attempt on his shop; the families of the eight nurses who died in their Chicago apartment last August?

It would be well to ask if the gruesome facts of the Austin sniper slaying would not have been changed if one of the three persons Charles Whitman met on the way to the top of the tower had been armed and had the courage and training to properly defend themselves.

One does not have to read far in today's newspapers to find accounts of criminal activity, nor does one have to read far to learn of instances where an armed citizen has protected his life and property against the activities of an armed criminal.

These accounts, and the hundreds of others like them which appear in every daily newspaper, should be foremost in the minds of those who propose any legislation which would—in any manner—reduce the ability of the

law-abiding citizen to defend himself and his home and family against criminal activity.

No one can estimate the number of pistols and revolvers which are nestled under pillows, in bureau drawers, and in kitchen cupboards throughout this country; nor can anyone estimate the number of crimes which the mere presence of these guns has prevented.

There is no doubt in my mind that an armed citizenry—made up of responsible members of the community, capable of using the firearms they possess—is a deterrent to crime. Nor is there any doubt in my mind that a storekeeper is far better off with a gun than without one. I have read of only a few cases of hold-ups in gun shops—thieves may break in at night, but they seldom, if ever, approach a gun shop owner with pistols drawn in a brazen attempt to take his stock or his money.

In all of the above, there is one word which is most important when talking about the gun in self-defense, and that word is "capable." It is not enough that the citizen be armed. He must also have a knowledge of the working of the gun and training in all aspects of shooting. This does not mean that he should be a gun expert or a superb marksman. It is simply that in defending yourself with a gun, there is a job to be done, and the better equipped you are to do that job, the more certain you can be of survival.

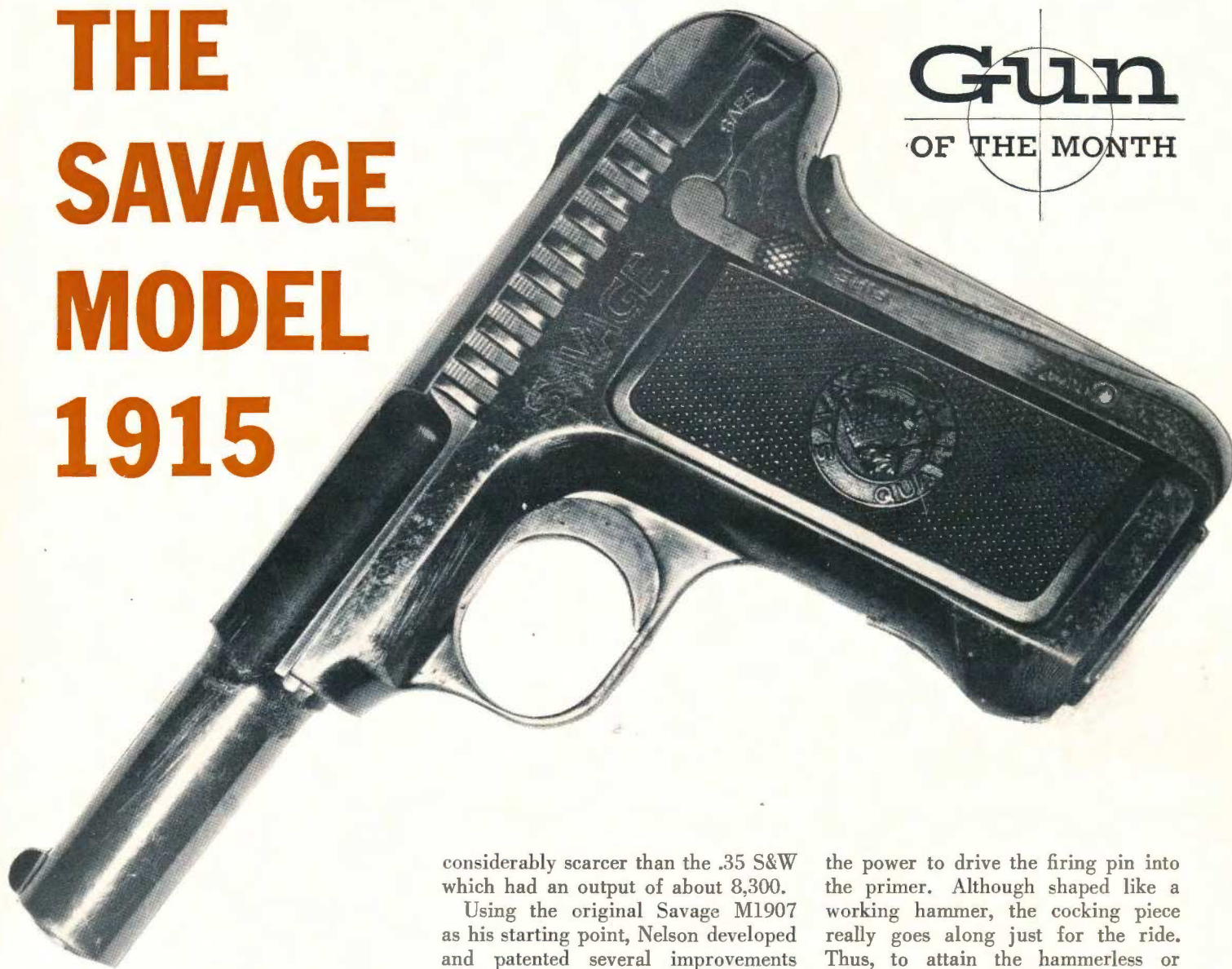
We said earlier that the (Continued on page 55)



Nearly any handgun, if handled properly, is adequate for home defense.

THE SAVAGE MODEL 1915

Gun
OF THE MONTH



By DANIEL K. STERN

MOST AMERICAN AUTOMATIC pistol collectors consider the two scarcest American-made production pocket autos are the Smith & Wesson .32 and .35 in that order. Relatively few know that the Savage Hammerless Models of 1915 rank between the two S&W guns in order of scarcity.

The Model of 1915 was first listed in Savage's summer catalog of that year. The pistol was a brainchild of a Savage employee, Charles A. Nelson, and was made in both .380 and .32 calibers. A total of about 10,500 were produced in the two bores—thus M1915 samples in either caliber are

considerably scarcer than the .35 S&W which had an output of about 8,300.

Using the original Savage M1907 as his starting point, Nelson developed and patented several improvements which were incorporated into the M1915. Specifically, these include the grip-safety itself, a slide latch-back device and a revamped magazine which activates the lock-back.

None of the patent papers issued to Nelson show the weapon as other than with the common round-hammer, so the shroud, or "hammerless" feature was apparently added later and could be the innovation of someone else. Since neither of the competing American guns—Colt and S&W—had exposed hammers, the shroud feature was probably an attempt by Savage to cash in on a share of the business from those buyers who preferred a concealed hammer.

As a matter of fact, the so-called hammer on all Savage pistols is merely a cocking piece. When the cocking piece is drawn back, it compresses a potent little coil spring which provides

the power to drive the firing pin into the primer. Although shaped like a working hammer, the cocking piece really goes along just for the ride. Thus, to attain the hammerless or streamline effect, Savage had only to reduce the size of the cocking piece and cover it with a rounded hood or shroud pinned to the frame.

Nelson accomplished the slide lock-back in the M1915 by fitting a fulcrumed lever into the right side of the frame and putting a projecting lip onto the floor-plate of the magazine. When the last cartridge was fired, the magazine spring would drive the lip against the rear end of the fulcrumed lever. The lever would, in turn, engage a specially-cut notch in the slide and hold the piece open. To release the slide, the forward end of the lever was pressed. This release was made possible by having the front end of the lock-back bar project through a slit cut in the frame just above and forward of the trigger guard.

Regular production of the M1915 started on (Continued on page 76)



A



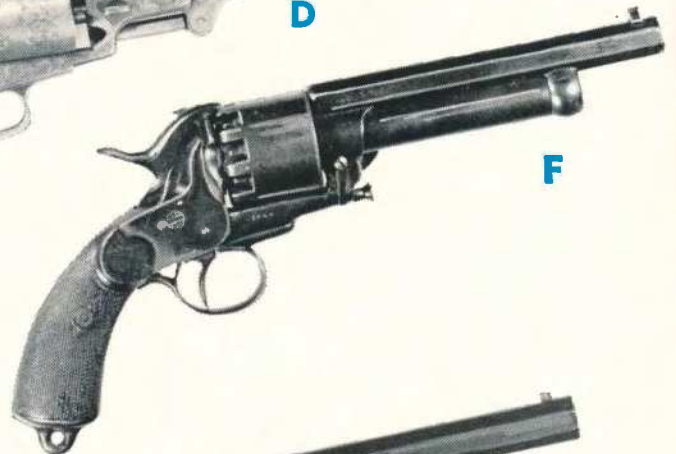
B



C



D



F



E



G

GUNS I WOULD LIKE TO OWN

PART TWO

A. Perry breechloader. B. Smith and Wesson 1854 lever action magazine pistol. C. Rogers and Spencer. D. Colt's Third Model Hartford Dragoon pistol. E. Joslyn pistol. F. LeMat revolver. G. The large Pettingill revolver.



Marston breechloader



Sharps' First Model rifle with automatic capper.

By JAMES E. SERVEN

IN THOSE FIRST FEW DECADES of widespread use of the percussion cap there were two major fields of endeavor. One group was not "sold" on the claimed advantages of the cap and ball repeater and devoted their efforts to developing a fast-loading single shot breechloader, usually with some novel kind of patent primer or special form of self-contained cartridge. Christian Sharps' single shot pistols, the Perry, and the Marston patented in 1850 are all in this class and all are a nice prize for the collector.

As we neared the end of the 1850s a unique kind of arm came in for greater attention. As a class, these are known as the "Roman candle" arms because like a Roman candle they shot more than one charge from the same chamber or barrel. This was not a new idea, but its adoption by Walch in 1859 and Lindsay in 1860 added quite a number of curious specimens on which the gun collector puts good value.

After Colt's basic patent expired in 1857, a very formidable competitor came to notice when E. Remington & Sons, prominent mainly in the making of military shoulder arms, entered the pistol-making field. Like Colt, many of the Remington products have substantial collector value. The subject has been well covered by Florence & Moldenhauer in "The Collecting of Guns;" this book also describes in detail the rare and valuable arms in practically all the other major fields of small arms manufacture.

Remington was not the only manufacturer to take advantage of the loss of Colt's patent protection. Eli Whitney was soon in the business and his early models are extremely scarce. One such model has a hooded cylinder; one has a ring trigger; another has two triggers: All are important to collectors.

Other seldom-seen arms which came on the mid 19th century scene were the Alsop, Bliss & Goodyear, Ellis, Metropolitan, Manhattan, Nepperhan, Newbury, Rupertus, and Union. None of these enjoyed any great popularity or financial success. In consequence, few were made and they are relatively scarce; some command a rather stiff price.



Colt's double rifles compare well with English doubles.

GUNS I WOULD LIKE TO OWN



Serven favorites include, from top: Alsop .36 five-shot, a Metropolitan .36, Walch 10-shot, Walch 12-shot, Starr DA .44 Army, Savage .36 Navy, and a Rupertus patent primer revolver.

With the War Between the States, arms manufacture was sharply stepped up. Many different models were purchased from northern factories by the federal government and arms factories were hastily put in production by the Confederate States. The Confederate range of arms was less extensive and the quantities produced were smaller. As a result, specimens which have survived in good condition are now highly regarded. Among the confederate armasmakers were Leech & Rigdon, Rigdon-Ansley, Spiller & Burr, Griswold & Gunnison, Cook & Brother, S. C. Robinson, Jere H. Tarpley, G. W. Morse, Columbus Firearms Mfg. Co., Schneider & Glassick, Thos. W. Cofer and a few others.

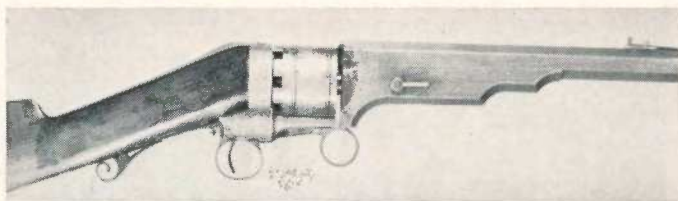
Rare arms associated with confederate use are the Shawk & McLanahan revolvers made in St. Louis, and the Texas-made Dance Brothers & Park revolvers along with those made by Tucker, Sherrard & Co. All bring high prices on today's market.

The Confederate States purchased some arms abroad, and the most prominent of these were the Le Mat revolvers made in France, an odd weapon with a cylinder which has nine chambers around its outer rim and a larger chamber in the center; the large center chamber fires through a smoothbore barrel underneath the normal rifled barrel. Dr. Le Mat's sympathies were with the South, and his "ten-shooter" was very popular there. A good specimen brings several hundred dollars or more.

A majority of the Civil War pistols on both sides were made in the standard .36 Navy or the .44 Army calibers. There were Colt, Remington, Starr and some other makes of pistols purchased in great quantity, but it is perhaps on those used in small numbers by the North that we should here direct our primary attention.

One that is particularly rare and eagerly sought is the Savage-North "figure eight" model patented in 1856. It is called "figure-eight" because the exterior trigger mechanism resembles a fat figure 8. These revolver-pistols were made primarily with a bronze frame, although a few iron frame models were produced. A much commoner model was produced on 1860 patents by the (Continued on page 56)

Both of these Colt revolving cylinder rifles were made in Paterson, N.J., and are valued in excess of \$1,000. The Jennings was a forerunner of Winchester's M 1873.

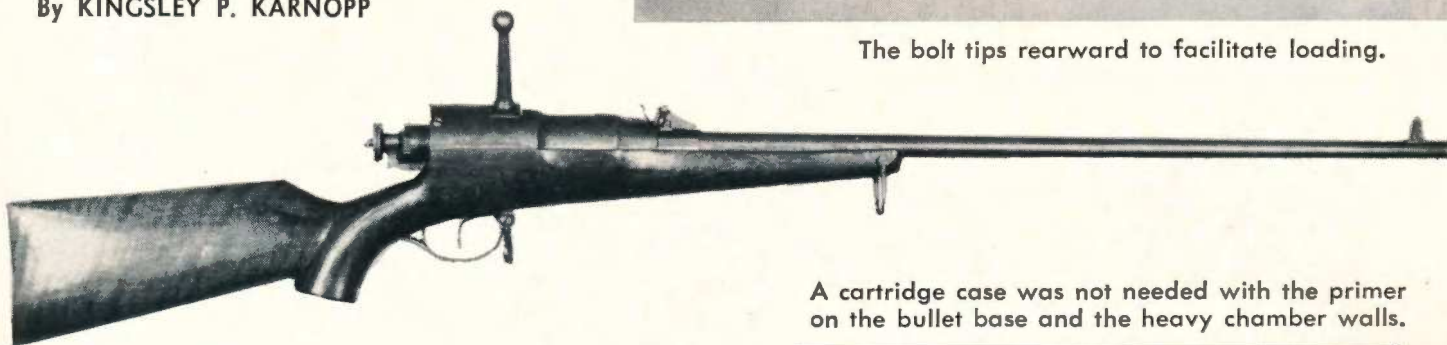


Early Experiment in **ULTRA VELOCITY**

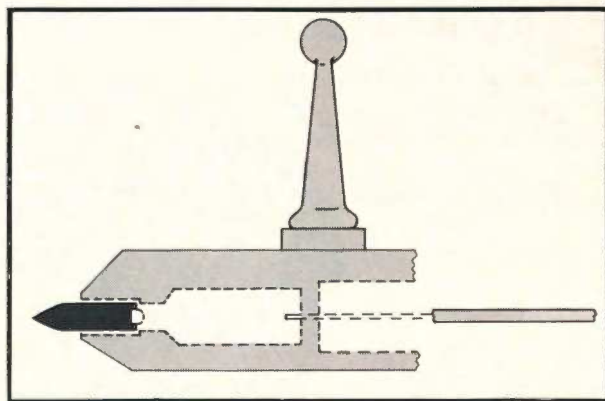
By KINGSLEY P. KARNOPP



The bolt tips rearward to facilitate loading.



A cartridge case was not needed with the primer on the bullet base and the heavy chamber walls.



THE FIRST TIME the streets of Paris echoed to the tread of the jack-booted German conqueror was in 1870, at the close of the Franco-Prussian War. In the hands of each Prussian infantryman was a Dreyse Needle Gun. This weapon used a peculiar cartridge, the body being of stiff paper, with a primer fixed to the base of the bullet. When the trigger was pulled, a long, thin firing pin pierced the cartridge and struck the primer. The opposing French Chassepot used a similar system, and both were of large caliber. The skinny firing pin of course gave the piece its popular name of "needle gun." Incidentally, we sometimes hear reference made to "needle guns" used on our Western plains in the buffalo days. These were not Dreyse, but our familiar trap-door Springfield, so called because of the long firing pin used. Unaware of this, a noted American artist once illustrated an article on buffalo days with a Dreyse rifle, which we are sure it would not have been.

About thirty years ago a strange variation on the needle gun design turned up in a Chicago basement. Since it is unmarked, and the only such piece known to the writer, we must assume that it is an experimental, and all we can tell of it is based on deduction alone.

The abnormally long bolt handle, when locked, leans just far enough to the right to allow normal sighting. When it is turned to unlock, the bolt body may be drawn back only about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. It then tips up to expose the face of the bolt. Powder can then be poured in and a bullet inserted until it meets a slight shoulder. This bullet presumably has a primer in its base, to be exploded by the typical needle. Thus, no cartridge case is employed whatever.

The startling feature of this piece is that the barrel is .323" in the grooves (the old standard 8 mm size) and the

twist is about one in 18. From this we deduce that the piece was built in the early smokeless powder era, in an attempt to reach ultra high velocities. As most shooters know, the weakest part of the strong bolt action design is the cartridge case itself. Hence, it is reasonable to assume that the designer thought to reach extremely high velocity by completely eliminating the case, and providing a cavity in the heavy bolt to contain the propellant charge. The body of the bolt is $1\frac{5}{8}$ " in diameter and the powder chamber about $\frac{1}{2}$ ", so the strength should be enormous. The cavity will hold approximately 60 gr. of the average smokeless powder, and since the average military load in the early days of this powder was about 45 gr. you can see that someone was really trying, especially if one of the quick burning powders like Bullseye was used.

As there are no markings on the piece, it is impossible to tell its origin, but it has a German "flavor" about it, and the 8 mm caliber would support this, too. If any reader can contribute further information, I would be very interested in hearing from him.



Guns magazine



SAFARI DIRECTORY

The Safari Directory contains a listing of many major outfitter/guides in the areas named, as well as a directory of services and suppliers. Please do not write them unless you are serious about hiring their services: They are not in business to simply write letters.—Editor.

GUIDES & OUTFITTERS

Africa

Armstrong Travel Tours
Village Fair Bldg.
Sausalito, Calif.

P. Barre
Box 827
Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Norman Carr
c/o Game Dept.
Box One
Chilanga, Lusaka
Northern Rhodesia

Chevalier d'Orgeix
Villa "Les Cypres"
272 Av. de Californie
Nice, France

Frank Dyson's Safaris
P. O. Box 77
Lyttleton, Transvaal
South Africa

M. Furcade
Box 750, Bangui
Republic of Central Africa

M. Gaillard
Box 649, Bangui
Republic of Central Africa

Jean Guerin
Fort Archambault
Tchad, Africa

Jacques Guin
Box 9, Naron
North Cameroon,
Africa

Hunting Safari Ltd.
903 Melissa Drive
San Antonio 13, Texas

Kenya Safaris, Ltd.
Box 20026
Nairobi, Kenya, E. Africa

Ker, Downey & Selby
Box 27, Maun,
Bechuanaland, Africa

Lee Expeditions, Ltd.
420 East 51st Street
New York 22, New York

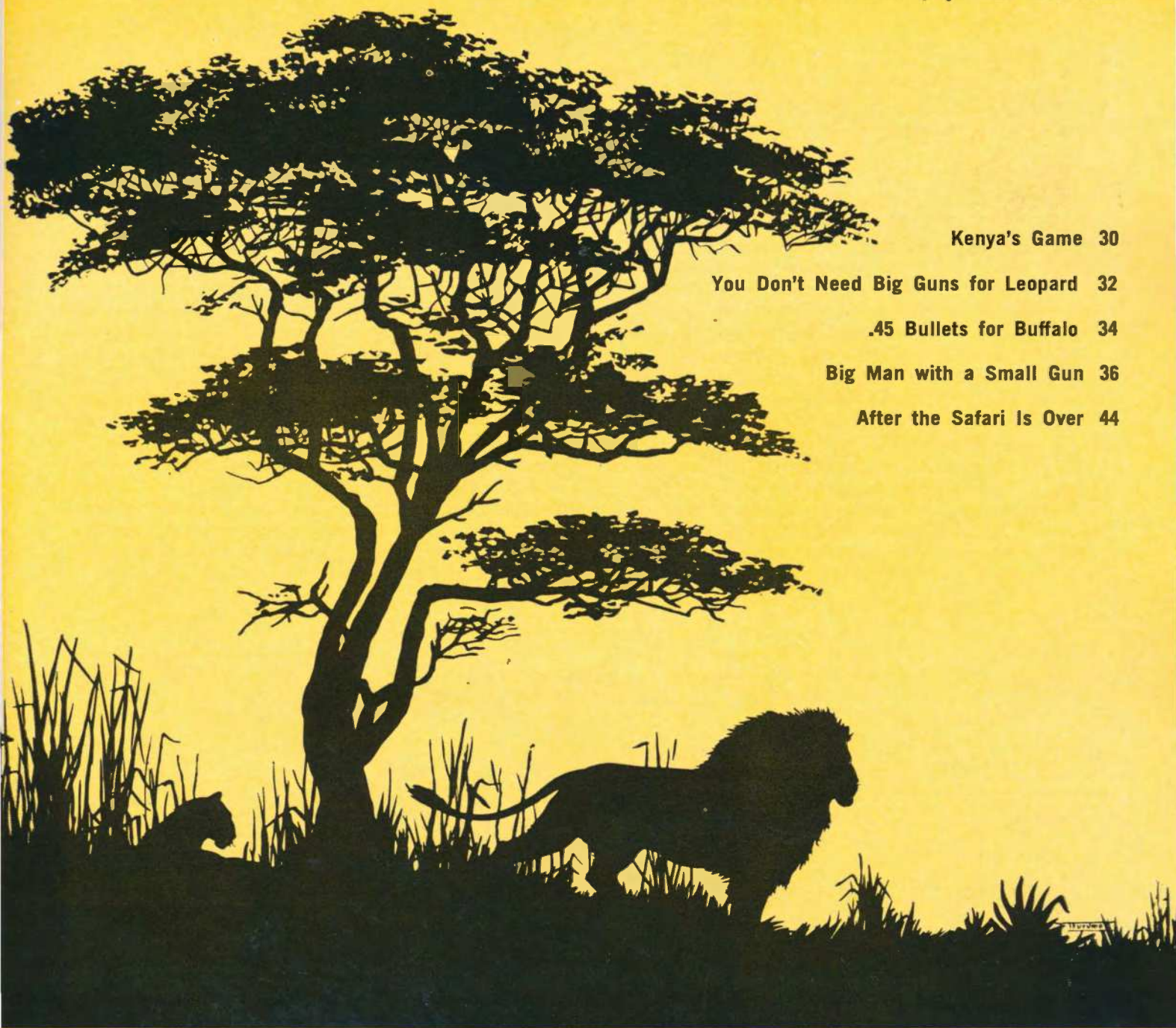
Light Transport Co., Ltd.
Box 18133, Nairobi
Kenya, Africa

(Continued on page 52)

goes on safari...

Go on an African safari with Louis Weyers,
Col. Charles Askins, Tom Bolack, Jim Rikhoff, and E. B. Mann.

They discuss which guns are best to use for leopard,
which bullets will down the wily Cape buffalo,
and how to have that trophy head mounted.



Kenya's Game 30

You Don't Need Big Guns for Leopard 32

.45 Bullets for Buffalo 34

Big Man with a Small Gun 36

After the Safari Is Over 44

KENYA'S GAME

*What is the future of
big game safaris in Africa's
greatest hunting area?*

By JAMES C. RIKHOFF



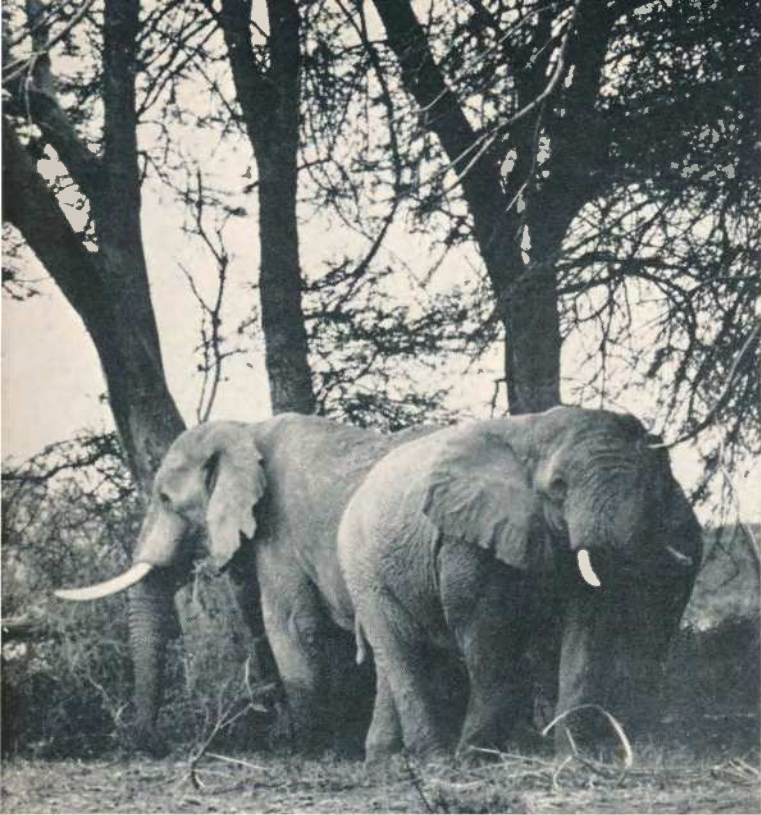
SOME 55 YEARS AGO Teddy Roosevelt shot a lion on the outskirts of the then frontier town of Nairobi. If today's traveler bothers to glance out of the window as his jet lands at Nairobi's modern airport, he might still see lions roaming with considerable freedom a few scant yards from burgeoning developments. The lions, of course, are protected pampered pets of the Nairobi National Park, but they are undoubtedly wild and their way of life—based on a steady diet of readily available antelope—remains unchanged from Teddy's more romantic day. Whether or not the great tradition of African game shall remain in any form is the question in the minds of a singularly mixed bunch of interested parties.

Although there are those who steadfastly oppose all change of the status quo—be it African lion or colonial government—most African observers are reconciled to the world's oldest fact of life: Things are in a constant state

of change. While that change may not necessarily be classed as "Progress," it is a sure bet that Africa's wildlife generally—and Kenya's specifically—will never be the same again. The argument—and it is often violently partisan—lies in what role game will have in the new world of *uhuru* and *harambee*. It may well be that "independence" and "work together" hold little promise for an itinerant impala intent on new graze.

African game has always held a fascination for the peoples of Europe and America. The almost prehistoric qualities of many of the great beasts combined with the utter magnitude of the herds themselves has served as an almost mystic passport to another world, a world strange, forbidding yet fascinating, to the over-civilized pedestrian man of the West. Africa has always been a forbidden garden and the white man has indulged many a surreptitious passion in the continent's black heartland.





There are three basic land uses in Kenya: (1) areas where man's interests are paramount (2) those where game interests take precedent, and (3) those areas where neither game nor man are the prime consideration. Needless to say, the areas devoted to man's interests are already well-defined and will continue to expand in the future. The pressure for more farm land by the impoverished tribes will be almost impossible to withstand regardless of logic opposing it in many areas. Man, in the last analysis, must always come before animal—even when it is to man's ultimate detriment.

When we speak of "game areas," we mean those lands under control of the trustees of the National Parks, those game reserves under control of African District Councils and, lastly, controlled area blocks where only photography is permitted. These areas are vastly important not only to the future of game specifically, but Kenya generally. The National Parks and controlled game reserves can provide the sanctuary needed to preserve the many endangered species and, by this unselfish act, guarantee the selfish goal of tourist promotion. All of these lands will be under pressure to contract by shortening and rationalizing existing boundaries. Some preserves will simply disappear.

Those great areas of land which at present are devoted neither to man nor beast provide the most interesting and most important question mark in Kenya's future. Since man has not recognized their value yet—or at least put a premium on it—by coveting it for himself or dedicating it as a game preserve, these "open" lands are largely classified as "hunting blocks" and the game is managed by the game department.

These areas are all defined and boundried at present. Since they are usually open to hunting, they are managed by the game department in order to provide the best proper harvest compatible with local conditions. Two goals are considered: the economic harvest of surplus game animals and the provision of income for Kenya on both a national (licenses) and local (trophy fees) level. While there would be no overt acknowledgement of the fact, unfortunately, man's needs are often favored over the game as a result of tribal pressure.

Since the future of game in areas devoted to man's interest is hopeless and game parks are beneficial only to those species able to adjust to an unbalance of nature, the best hope for long term (Continued on page 62)

Not the least of these indulgences has been the European and later the American—devotion to Africa's game. This almost monomaniac interest has ranged from the plain, undisguised blood lust exhibited by the worst trophy and market killers to the equally extreme over-protection of an Albert Schweitzer.

Trophy hunter, market slaughterer, safari manager, park ranger, professional game ecologist, conservationists (both dedicated and dilettante), agricultural specialist, emerging statemen of similarly emerging African politics, old recalcitrant settlers, and newly assertive tribesmen: The list is legion. All have a vested interest in what position game will have in the "New Kenya." All have very definite ideas on how that position will be first determined and second implemented. It is not too great a surprise that most of these opinions are in wide contradiction. A review of positions is indicated.



YOU DON'T NEED BIG GUNS



Leopards are easily killed, providing you do it with the first shot.



A big bore is not essential for a leopard gun, but a good scope is.

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS

FOR LEOPARD

*Despite his place
among Africa's Big Five
big toughie is
often over-killed*

LEOPARDS ARE THE MOST OVER-KILLED GAME on the African Continent. All of us, practically, use guns and loads which are big enough for lion. I once ran mountain lions with a pack of kyoodles and shot the cats with a .22 Woodsman pistol. Of course, I bounced these felines with a ball through the head. The leopard, I am convinced, could be killed just as easily, but no one takes any such chances. I had with me on one safari a handsome little .243 but do you think I shot my leopard with this perfectly adequate tool? You bet your life I did not! I bashed him in with a rifle big enough for a 1500-lb eland: the .338 Magnum.

It isn't so much the caliber when you injun up to a leopard blind and hunker down inside as it is gunsight zero. The usual thing in Africa is to sight in for 200 or 250 yards; then when you go into a leopard hide, where you will be shooting at not more than 60-75 feet, you better damsure know whether the rifle is going to be an inch low, especially if you elect to try for head or neck. I sweated this one out last year.

I was shooting the new .264 Magnum and was sighted in for 225 yards. I went into a leopard set-up, the cat climbed the tree, commenced to wade into the rotting baboon and I had nothing left to do but shoot him.

Mike Hissey, my hunter, the last thing before we skulked forward and entered the hide had said "Shoot him in the head. I don't fawncy spooring the bloody bawstard in this high grass." I had nodded agreement.

Now the cat was there, a bare 60 feet from me, and I was in a hell of a quandry. Instead of trying the .264 just one shot before coming on this swing, I had come along neglecting to fire this very critical sighter. If

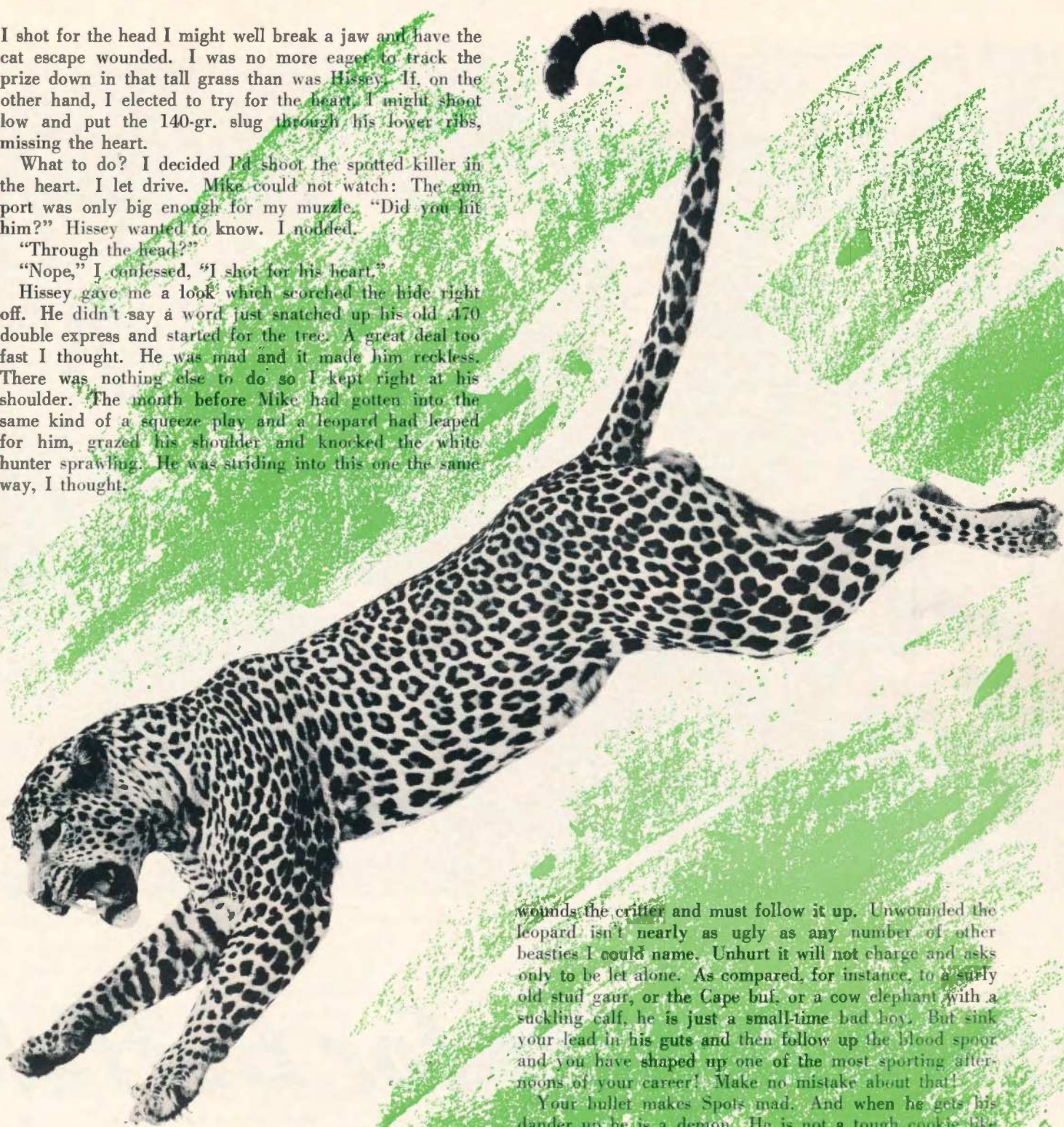
I shot for the head I might well break a jaw and have the cat escape wounded. I was no more eager to track the prize down in that tall grass than was Hissey. If, on the other hand, I elected to try for the heart, I might shoot low and put the 140-gr. slug through his lower ribs, missing the heart.

What to do? I decided I'd shoot the spatted killer in the heart. I let drive. Mike could not watch: The gun port was only big enough for my muzzle. "Did you hit him?" Hissey wanted to know. I nodded.

"Through the head?"

"Nope," I confessed, "I shot for his heart."

Hissey gave me a look which scorched the hide right off. He didn't say a word just snatched up his old .470 double express and started for the tree. A great deal too fast I thought. He was mad and it made him reckless. There was nothing else to do so I kept right at his shoulder. The month before Mike had gotten into the same kind of a squeeze play and a leopard had leaped for him, grazed his shoulder and knocked the white hunter sprawling. He was striding into this one the same way, I thought.



We found the cat at the foot of the tree as dead as Cock Robin.

John Hunter, legendary white hunter of East Africa, more lately author of the best seller, "Hunter," says the leopard is the most dangerous game animal on the Dark Continent. Hunter, who among other feats, once shot a thousand rhino to clear the Makuani area of the Machakos district so the Wakamba tribe could expand, looked back over a lifetime of hunting when he ranked the 200-lb. cat ahead of the 5-ton elephant.

Pound for pound and inch for inch, this feline is the saltiest adversary the huntsman will encounter when he

wounds the critter and must follow it up. Unwounded the leopard isn't nearly as ugly as any number of other beasties I could name. Unhurt it will not charge and asks only to be let alone. As compared, for instance, to a surly old stud gaur, or the Cape buf, or a cow elephant with a suckling calf, he is just a small-time bad boy. But sink your lead in his guts and then follow up the blood spoor and you have shaped up one of the most sporting afternoons of your career! Make no mistake about that!

Your bullet makes Spots mad. And when he gets his dander up he is a demon. He is not a tough cookie like the Kodiak who simply loses his head and charges blindly. But wounded and in an agony of pain, the leopard never once loses his innate ability to think calmly, to plan with lethal intent, and lay his ambush well. I have followed up the spoor of the gut-shot leopard and found him concealed in grass so sparse you'd swear it could not hide a house cat much less two hundred pounds of rosette-marked dynamite with swords for claws.

The leopard is not rated with Africa's "Big 5" just because his pelt makes such fetching ladies' apparel. He ranks right along with the great tuskers, the 3-ton rhino, the 1-ton buf, and his cousin, the king of beasts, because he is a fighting buzz-saw.

(Continued on page 66)



The author with one of nearly 3,000 buffalo taken by three hunters with .45 caliber bullets.

.45 Bullets for Buffalo

By LOUIS WEYERS



I WAS EIGHTEEN when I shot my first buffalo. It was near the confluence of the Nuanetsi and Limpopo rivers in Mozambique and I was armed with a 9.3 x 62 Mauser, using German soft nosed ammunition about 12 years old. I was alone with my two African trackers. I put in a lung shot and the herd ran off. We took up the blood spoor and within a few hundred yards saw our quarry standing in a thicket. I shot him again and he came out in the open, and I ducked down behind a thorny shrub while he stood glowering and searching for his assailant. When he swung back into the thicket I nailed him again, and not too long afterwards delivered the *coup de grace*. However, as I crouched behind the shrub those few seconds I took to pondering about bullets for buffalo, and have been thinking about it ever since.

Through the years I have been involved in shooting buffalo with the .30-06,

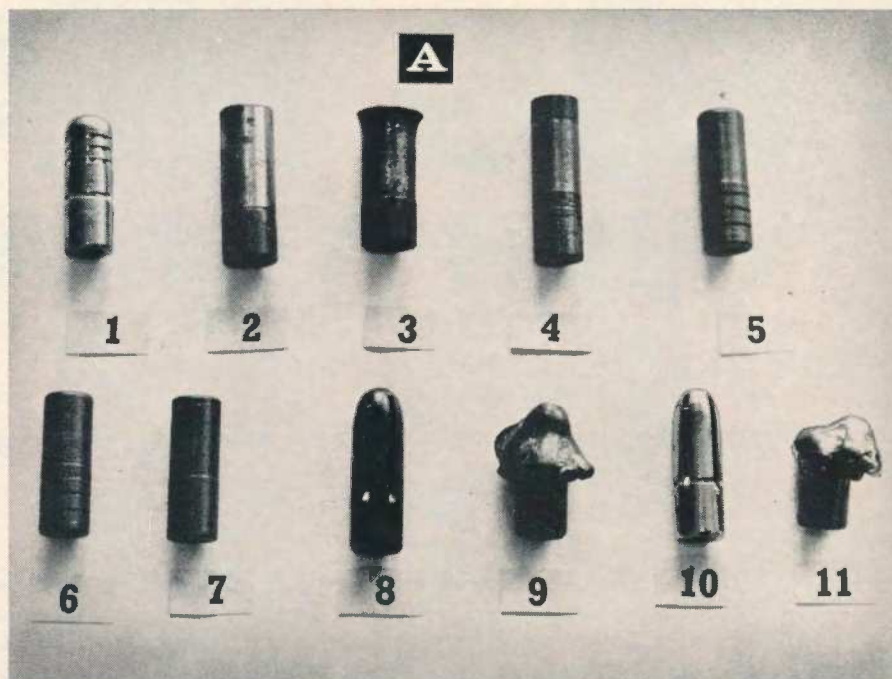
8x60 Magnum, .300 Magnum, 9.3x62, .375 Magnum, .404, 10.75 mm, .470, and .505. However, since 1957 I have been concentrating on the .458 Winchester Magnum—an ideal caliber for our friend *Syncerus caffer*. And 1965 was a red letter year because I was able for the first time (apart from certain experimental bullets sent for test by various manufacturers) to see hand loads and independent bullets in action.

1965 was also a red letter year because I was able to watch the doyen of real American hunters, John R. Buhmiller, in action in the best buffalo country I have yet seen. I refer to the hunting concession of Eric Rundgren on the Chobe River in Bechuanaland. My guess is that we saw a thousand buffalo a day in Eric's territory, and almost all under satisfactory shooting conditions. Apart from the buff we saw daily roan, sable, waterbuck, kudu, lechwe, impala, wildebeest, zebra, hippo, and warthog, and almost as frequently eland, ostrich, giraffe, reedbuck and elephant. And occasionally situtunga. Our camp was most luxurious—I particularly liked the thick carpet in my tent and the vacuum flask of iced water by my bedside.

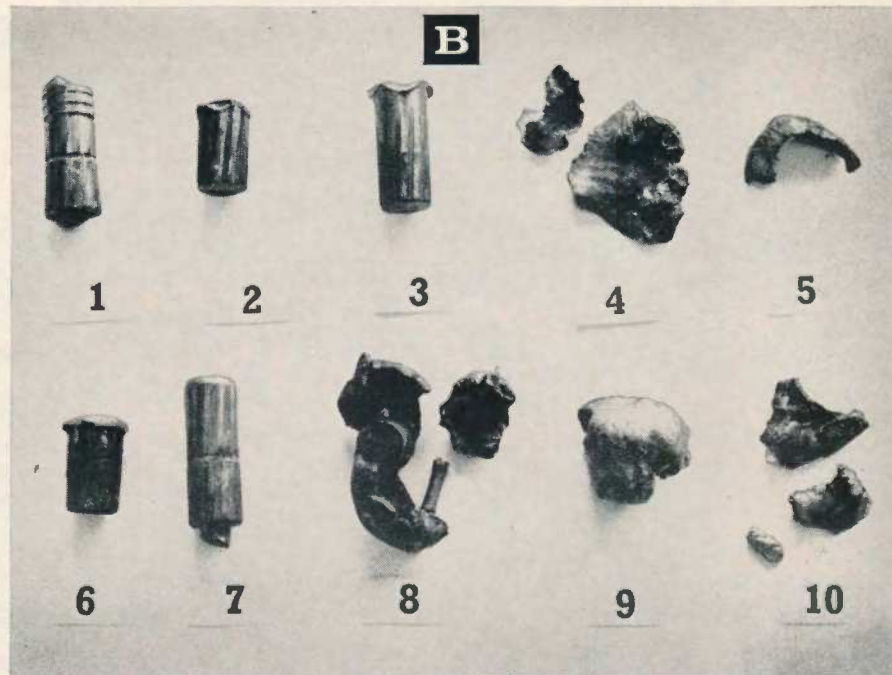
The main quarry was the Cape, or African, Buffalo. A bulky and massive dark coloured beast standing about five foot at the shoulder and weighing upwards of 1500 lbs; the buffalo has enormous widely-curving horns which form, in adult bulls, a helmet-like boss over the forehead. Covered by a hide half an inch or more thick, the buffalo is a heavy boned beast which, because of his tenacity and vindictiveness, is rated as one of the five most dangerous game animals of Africa.

Weapons used were a standard Model 70 Winchester .458 Magnum firing factory loaded soft and solid ammunition and a .450 Buhmiller Magnum. This last was a .458 calibre using a long case which could be filled with enough powder to give velocities to the order of 2700 fps MV when loaded with a 500 gr. bullet. And Rundgren had, inter alia, a .300 H & H Magnum Model 70, which he could use with devastating skill.

Bullets for the .450 Magnum: Here we had the Barnes 600 gr. soft nose, the Hornady 500 gr. soft nose, as well as a selection of designs from the fertile and experienced mind of John Buhmiller. These designs were based on his extensive African experiences, and had been (Continued on page 60)



Buhmiller experimental bullets: 1) Type 1, the "Indian Sign" bullet; 2) Type 2; 3) Type 2, fired into wood; 4) Type 2, with shorter steel nose; 5) Type 3; 6) Type 4, Barnes version of Type 3; 7) Type 5, a solid copper; 8) Type 6, with 6 longitudinal cuts; 9) Type 6, fired into wood; 10) Type 7, with 5 cuts, and 11) Type 7, fired into wood.



Tests of Buhmiller bullets on Buffalo: 1) Type 1, went through necks of two buffalo, killing both; 2) Type 2, broke opposite shoulder at 50 yards; 3) Type 2, penetrated to opposite shoulder at 125 yards; 4) Type 3, broke up on ribs at 50 yards; 5) Type 3, body shot with poor penetration at 40 yards; 6) Type 4, 40 yard body shot with poor penetration; 7) Type 5, 100 yard shoulder shot; 8), 9) and 10 are Barnes 600 grain soft points which broke up or did little damage.

BIG MAN WITH A SMALL GUN



By E. B. MANN

Tom Bolack proves that it's the man and not the gun that counts

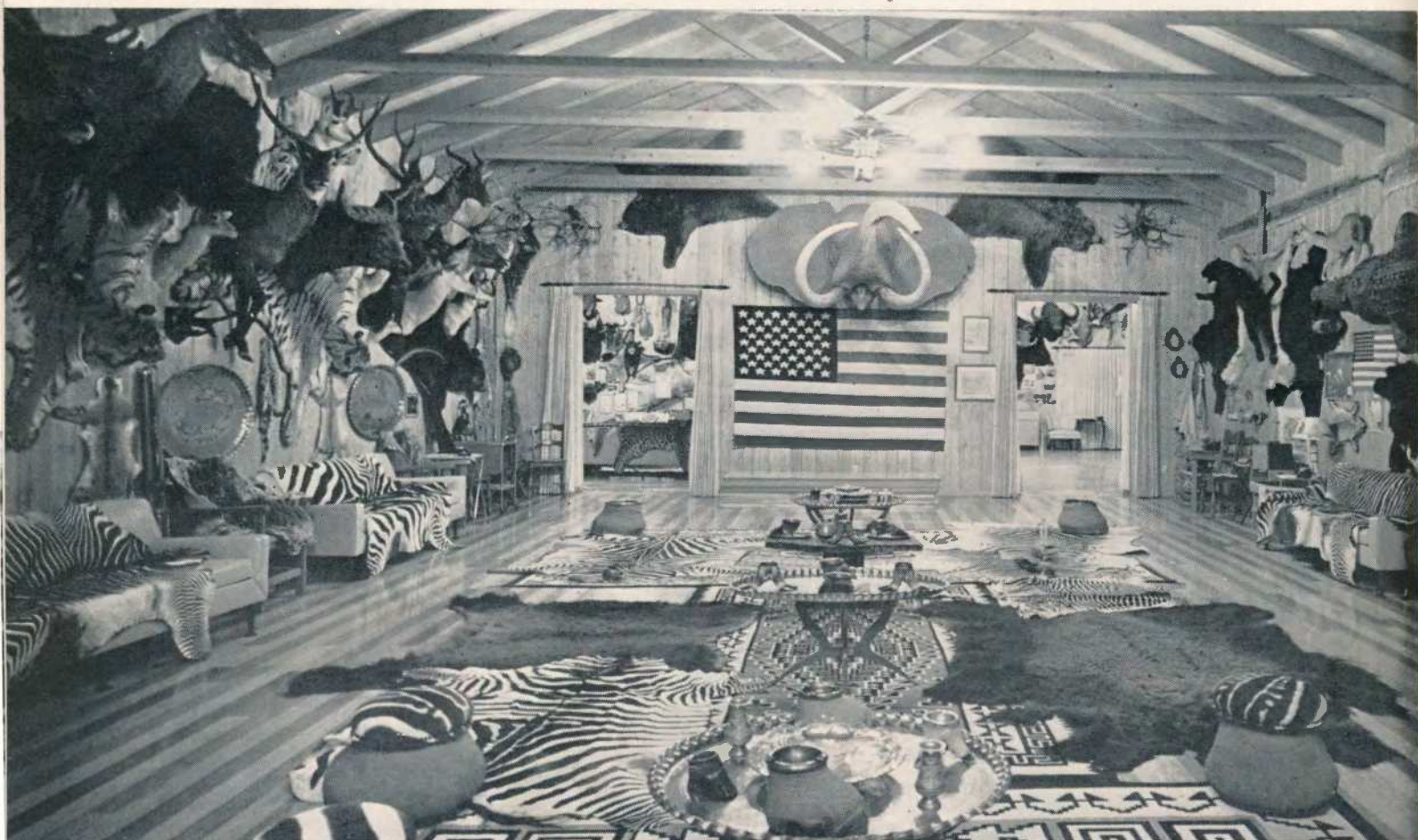
THE OLD SAYING, "Beware the man with one gun," doesn't apply exactly to Tom Bolack; he owns several guns, though not as many as thousands of hunters who never shot anything bigger than a whitetail. But one rifle—or one caliber, and you'll be amazed when I name it—has accounted for nearly 80 per cent of Tom Bolack's big game trophies, including some of the world's biggest and many of the world's most dangerous species.

That rifle is a bolt action caliber .270, using 130 grain bullets, which aren't the biggest available!

Wherever you go in the Great Southwest, you hear a

lot about Tom Bolack. You hear, of course, that he was once Governor of New Mexico, that he is a multi-millionaire businessman, a respected and forceful leader in the southwestern oil, gas, and uranium industries, in federal land reclamation, in experimental agriculture, in politics, and in philanthropy. And you hear that he is a great hunter from everyone you talk to.

You will probably hear less about Bolack in his home town of Farmington, New Mexico, than elsewhere; his neighbors are so accustomed to hearing and thinking of Bolack in terms of superlatives that nothing he does



surprises them. They will tell you, if asked, that Bolack's big ranch house just outside the town of Farmington contains not one but two "of the biggest trophy rooms you ever saw, filled with more big animals from all over the world than you can shake a stick at! You ought to go see 'em." They're really something."

The point is that you *can* go see them. For those trophy rooms are open to the public; just telephone the ranch manager, and you will be welcomed. More than 10,000 school children wandered, bug-eyed, through those exhibits last year; and nobody knows how many thousand adults, strangers and friends alike, did likewise.

Even more surprising to most visitors is the fact that the entire Bolack "B Square" ranch is a game and wildfowl sanctuary and breeding area, completely owned, operated, and paid for by Tom Bolack. Deer wander in the thickets, as do pheasants, chukar, quail, and hundreds of rabbits. Thousands upon thousands of ducks and geese blacken the waters of the lake and waterways Bolack has built alongside the miles of San Juan River flowing inside the ranch boundaries; and every night, some 1500 pounds of ranch-grown corn are shovel-spread across a field just below the ranch house, to feed Tom's feathered visitors. More and more wildfowl nest here each year and bring forth their young on



Standing with his 10' 7" tiger the morning after the kill, Tom Bolack looks for all the world like Ernest Hemingway.



Bolack's favorite rifle, a Savage 110 MC in .270 with left-hand action.

Visitors to the B Square Ranch are stunned by the number and size of the animals in each of two trophy rooms.



Backed by several impressive heads, Bolack prepares to clean his Savage 110 MC. He shoots either right or left, but prefers left.

TOM BOLACK



Tom Bolack's immense 10' 7" tiger won him the Allwyn Cooper Trophy for the "most outstanding game animal collected in India" in 1963.

the dozens of nesting islands specially built for that purpose in the lake shallows. And every check paid for the support of this conservation wonderland is signed "Tom Bolack." Bolack says, "Hunting has given me a lot of pleasure. I want to pay for some of it, and help insure similar hunting pleasure for the kids of today and tomorrow."

And lest anyone think otherwise, let me repeat that this is a game sanctuary, not a rich man's private shooting preserve. Nobody, but nobody, does any shooting on the B Square except authorized personnel, strictly at predators: coyotes, dogs, wild and gone-wild cats, foxes, hawks, and owls.

Indicative of the importance of Bolack's work in game conservation is the fact that he is one of the only two west-of-the-Mississippi recipients of the Ducks Unlimited Meritorious Service Awards For Ducks and Geese Propagation.

Bolack's two trophy rooms form a massive T at one end of the ranch house. Each room is 35 by 55 feet, and each is literally crowded with mounted trophies from all over the world. Birds and animals crouch on and swing from the rafters and beams. Pelts carpet the floors. Elephant feet make stools, and two huge coffee tables turn out to be elephant ears. The elephant head full-mounted at one end of one room carries tusks that weigh 100 pounds each; and two even larger ivories (120 pounds each) stand curving 8 feet tall beside the fireplace in the other room.

The twelve-foot-tall polar bear standing rampant in one corner was for some years the biggest bear ever recorded. Taken in 1958, it was measured by U. S. Fish & Wildlife experts at 11'11" by 12'2". Many experts insist that it is still the biggest bear ever recorded, even though one taken later exceeds this one by slightly more than one-sixteenth of an inch in skull measurement.

At least ten of Bolack's trophies will rate record status in Boone & Crockett's roster of North American Big Game; and 23 are listed in the Rowland Ward records for World Game. Three—the crocodile pictured, one of the tigers, and the sea lion—are the largest ever recorded.

Bolack has scored the Grand Slam of Africa's "Big Five" dangerous game trophies four times, with animals left over in every category but one: 7 elephant, 5 lion, 20 buffalo, 7 leopard, and 4 rhino. He has taken 70 African species.

Of Asian game, he has taken 23 species, including (Continued on page 75)

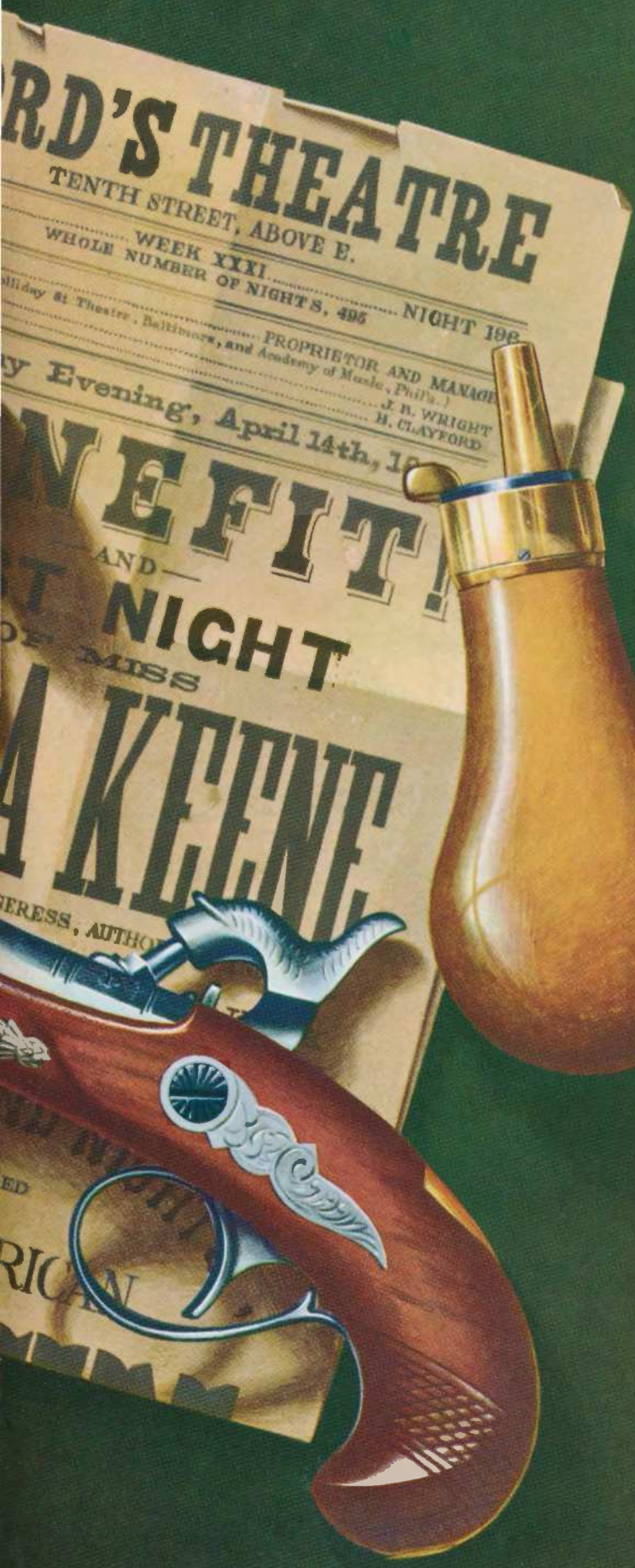
Guns

Color Gallery



This early Supermatic Trophy pistol was the first of its type to be produced, and so was held as a special display model. The engraving and inlay work, which took 225 man hours and used a great quantity of gold and platinum, was executed by E. C. Prudhomme. The stocks are of sterling silver, formed over maple base stocks. The pistol is owned by William J. Donovan, Marketing Vice-President of High Standard.





THE LINCOLN DERINGER

Although John Wilkes Booth used only one Deringer to fire the murderous shot which took the life of Abraham Lincoln, the question is often asked if Booth had the usual pair of these guns. James Triggs, and many others feel that this was the case, and his painting depicts the scene in Booth's room before he ventured to Ford's Theater.



War Department, Washington, April 20, 1865.

\$100,000 REWARD!

THE MURDERER

Of our late beloved President, Abraham Lincoln.

IS STILL AT LARGE.

\$50,000 REWARD

Will be paid by this Department for the apprehension, in addition to any reward offered by the War Department, of JOHN H. SURREY, one of Booth's associates.

\$25,000 REWARD

Will be paid for the apprehension of JOHN H. SURREY, one of Booth's associates.

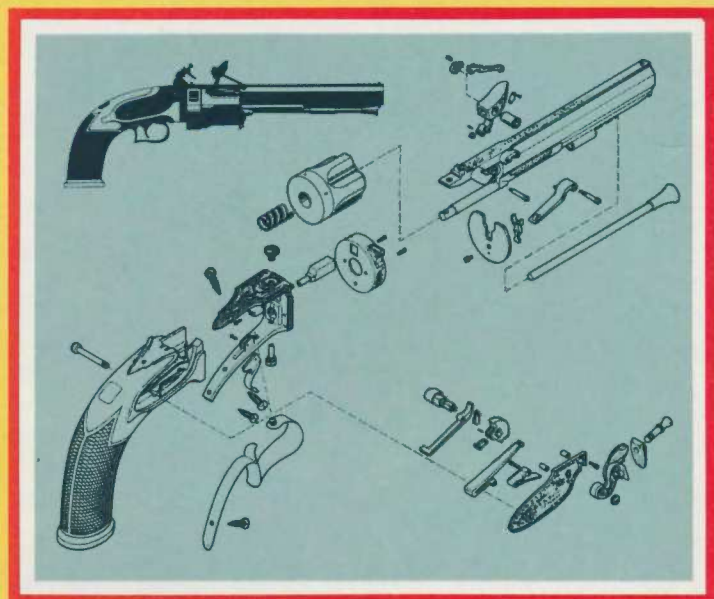
\$25,000 REWARD

Will be paid for the apprehension of JOHN H. SURREY, one of Booth's associates.

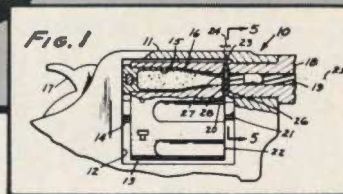
EDWIN M. NEATON, Secretary of War.

COLLIER FLINTLOCK REVOLVER

What is rarer than a Colt Paterson? Here is one gun that is rated as a more valuable collector's item. Patented by Elisha H. Collier, an American living in London in 1818, this was marketed as a "Cylinder Gun." This specimen is from the personal collection of Sam Colt at the Wadsworth Antheneum in Hartford, Conn. Collier revolvers are valued at \$3,600 to over \$5,000 by collectors. Photo by Irving Blomstrann.



NEW PATENTS



IN ADDITION to his well respected books on firearms, the late W. H. B. Smith has to his credit a wide variety of firearms patents. One of them, just issued in December, 1965, is for a single shot, breech loading shotgun. In addition to having the weight, balance, and general appearance of a pump or automatic shotgun, Smith's gun could be manufactured using many of the parts of either pump action or automatic guns.

Ordinarily the beginning shooter is given a manually operated, single shot gun which differs from the more sophisticated guns he will later use. This is exactly where the trouble lies for once the beginner graduates to the more standard arms, he must relearn many of the techniques he developed while using the beginner's gun. Specifically, where there are differences in weight and balance, he must accustom himself to this new feeling. Where there are differences in the operating parts, such as the safety, loading gate, cocking mechanism, etc., he must accustom himself to reaching for them in their proper locations.

Another problem which Smith attempts to solve is economical manufacture. This he does by designing his gun so that stocks and barrels from the more sophisticated pump actions and autos can be used. This basic standardization of parts is both economical for the manufacturer and good for the learning process of the beginner.

Smith's gun consists of two main subassemblies with the barrel and breech block in one assembly and the action and stock in the other. The gun is broken open for insertion and extraction of shells much as any conventional double except that the unlocking is done through the use of the cocking lever. The operating knob for the cocking mechanism is on the right side of the gun, just over the trigger. This first cocks the gun and then unlocks to let the barrel and extractor swing away from the receiver.

The basis for the patent is a block, hinged to the receiver, which accepts interchangeable barrels and their associated extractors. Another important part is the cocking mechanism. This first cams back the striker to engage the sear. Pulling further, the cocking arm disengages the lock, allowing the barrel to swing down.

3,222,808

SHOTGUN FRAME AND BLOCK ASSEMBLY
Walter H. B. Smith, deceased, late of New York, N.Y.,
by Katherine B. Groves, executrix, New York, N.Y.;
Alice Denhoff, substitute executrix of said Walter H. B. Smith, deceased

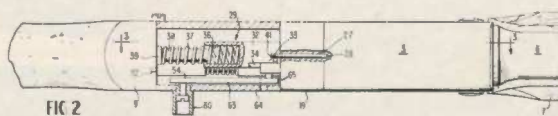


FIG 2

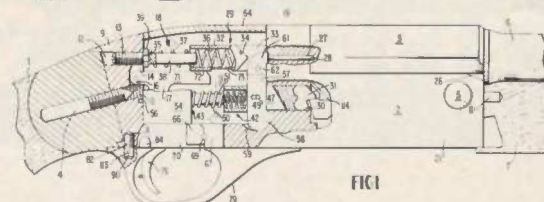


FIG 1

Forward motion of the firing pin is blocked by the head of the operating arm until the breech is fully closed.

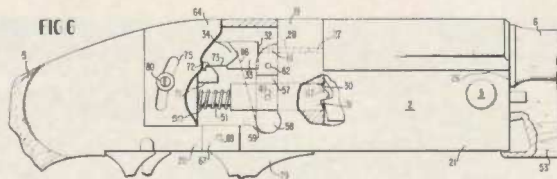


FIG 3

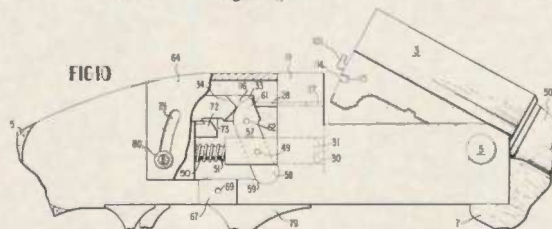
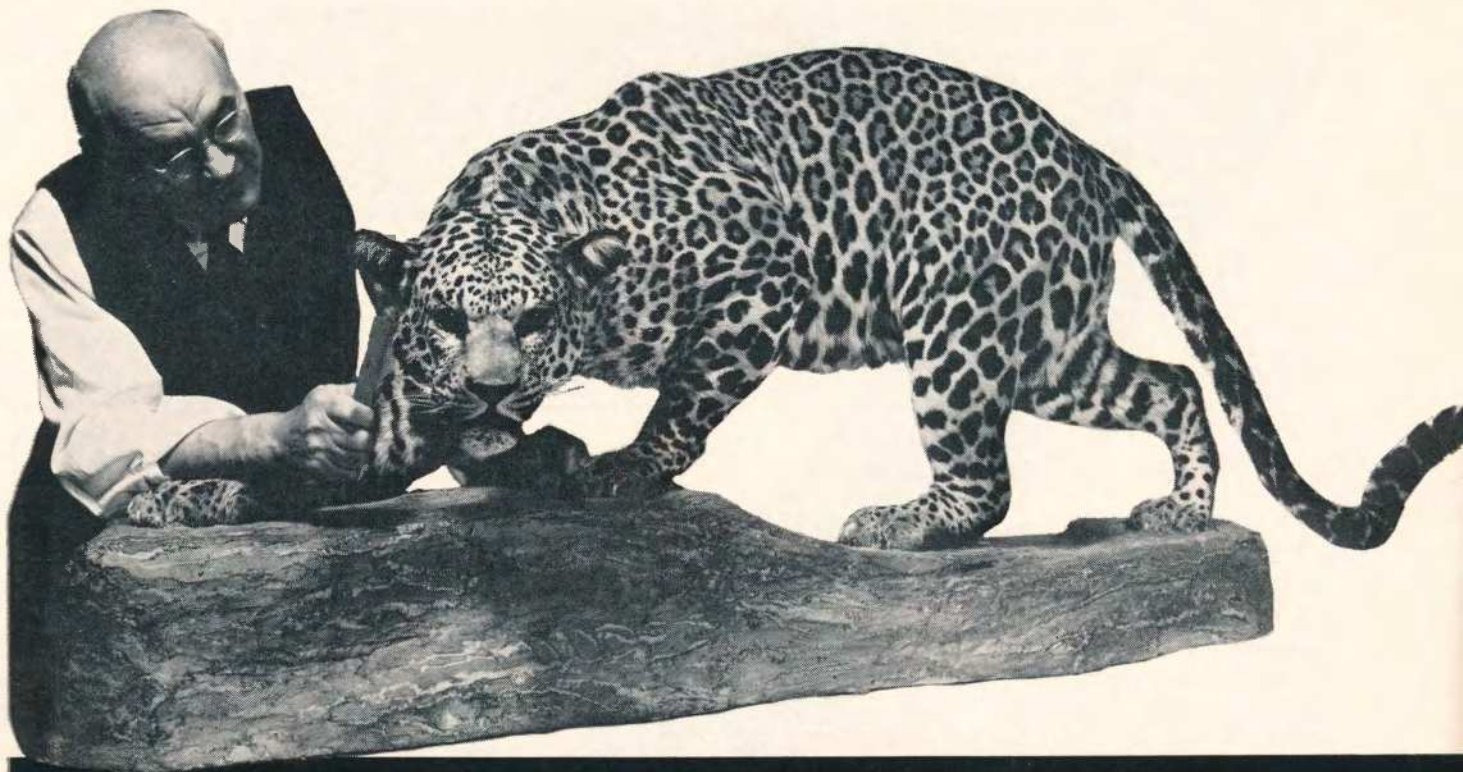


FIG 4

Movement of the operating knob first cocks the gun and then unlocks the barrel and allows it to swing down.

To get a copy of patent, send the number and 50¢ to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington 31, D.C. To communicate with an inventor or assignee, if the address given is insufficient, send a letter to him in care of the Commissioner mentioning the patent number.



AFTER THE *SAFARI* IS OVER

Taxidermists at Jonas Brothers of Denver can turn a dead animal into a beautiful trophy

By E. B. MANN



Doing a complete job of taxidermy on an animal, record or otherwise, takes more hours than most people know. The only concern for Jonas Brothers is doing a quality mount.



THE BIGGEST THING about a big game hunt, whether it is your annual jaunt for a whitetail or a long once-in-a-lifetime adventure to Africa or Asia or the Polar Bear Country, is the hunt itself. Nobody denies that. Yet to countless hunters, the thing that makes the hunt live forever is the mounted trophy that brings the thrill of the hunt home with the hunter to spark his memories forever.

Yet many hunters spend years of study and experimentation in search of the right gun, the right load, the right sights—spend months of reading and correspondence and discussion in choosing the right locale, the right season, the right guide—and then toss their trophies, as an afterthought to whomever may be handy. The natural result is that many fine trophies wind up in the ash can—literally, or in the ashes of a hunter's disappointment.

There are only two kinds of trophy mounts: the good ones, and the bad ones. The bad ones range from mounts that merely lack the artistry that could have made them something more than just another "stuffed animal," to the really bad ones that wind up moth-eaten, with slipping hair and bad odors and the utter hatred of the hunter's wife. There are degrees of goodness, too—from the mechanically adequate mounts that last but never excite, up to the superb, which seem to capture the very thrill of the hunt and the spirit of the animal itself.

But few hunters have any idea whatever of the work, the craftsmanship, the *art* that goes into these finished pieces. A few weeks ago, I had the, to me, amazing experience of a patiently guided tour through the show rooms, shops, and stock rooms of Jonas Brothers Inc., in Denver, Colorado. I saw sculptors at work, who in other media, might have merited one-man shows—"tailors" mastering fitting problems to minute tolerances that would have baffled tailors-in-cloth—"cosmeticists" who paint as carefully, though more permanently, than Hollywood make-up experts—even magicians who can somehow make skin and hair "grow" where none was, to cover holes and scars; and, in the stock room, bins of (for instance) tongues, and eyes, and ears of many sizes, for many species. (Jack Jonas was proud to show me that the ears—bases upon which the skin is fitted—are flexible, not brittle as natural cartilage becomes, and hence easier to shape, less susceptible to breakage. Nature is just not good enough to meet Jonas standards!)

The first step toward a fine mount is, of course, the in-field skinning and preparation of the hide and horns or antlers if any. Not even the Jonas magicians can make a rotten hide whole; but they will, if you write them before your hunt, send you a fine brochure containing detailed instructions, including some money-saving tips on getting the trophy from wherever it is to them.

Actually, the job of a superlative taxidermist starts long before you ever plan your hunt. It begins with years of arduous study by the taxidermist of animals—their habits, their anatomy and posture, in repose and in action. He must have memories (Jonases have traveled the world as hunters and with hunters to see the animals they mount), and he must have pictures. Jonases have an office filled with files of pictures of countless animals, in countless poses. And he must have an artist's hand and skills, to recreate his memories and his pictures out of hide and hair and bone.

With Jonas Brothers, it began three generations ago, in

DANGER CHART — North American Game

Scoring: 100 for each point considered except No. 9 which has a value of 200. (Perfect Score—1000)

Points of Comparison	Brown Bear	Grizzly	Elk	Deer	Caribou	Moose	Goat	Sheep
Impressiveness of Trophy	90	60	60	50	90	70	90	100
Distance of Average Shot	40	60	60	50	50	60	100	100
Danger to Hunter (Charge of Animal)	100	100	20	10	10	50	10	10
Eyesight of Animal	30	40	70	60	50	70	60	100
Hearing	70	100	100	90	60	100	50	70
Nose (Sense of Smell)	80	100	80	80	90	90	40	50
Alertness of Animal	60	90	100	100	50	90	40	100
Difficulty of Locating Animal in Natural Habitat	40	*60	80	80	50	80	75	100
** Pattern Learning	110	160	200	200	50	180	150	200
Total Score	620	770	770	720	470	790	615	830

*This figure would be higher except for the fact that in the spring grizzly are easily located in the south slopes in the slide areas.

**Pattern learning is the animal's aptness for protecting itself in its own natural habitat.

Chart courtesy of JAMES H. BOND—North American hunting guide

DANGER CHART — African Game

Scoring: 100 for each point considered. (Perfect Score—1000)

Points of Comparison	Lion	Elephant	Buffalo	Leopard	Rhino
Eye sight of Animal	100	25	75	100	25
Sense of Smell	50	100	100	25	100
Hearing	75	100	75	75	100
Aggressiveness on contact when they may be hurt or disturbed or frightened	50	100	50	50	100
Extra danger when hunting, breeding or with family groups	75	100	25	0	50
Determination to retaliate at moment of wounding	25	25	75	75	25
Cunning, concealment, patience and agility when wounded	100	25	100	100	0
Difficulty in stopping them when charging	75	75	100	100	0
Their ability to kill you	100	75	50	25	50
Their possibilities of becoming mankillers	100	75	25	50	50
Total Score	750	700	675	600	500

Chart courtesy of ANTHONY DYER—African hunting guide

Reprinted from the Jonas Brothers of Denver catalog, these danger charts show the relative danger of North American and African game. Relative danger cannot be compared between charts since habitats are so varied.

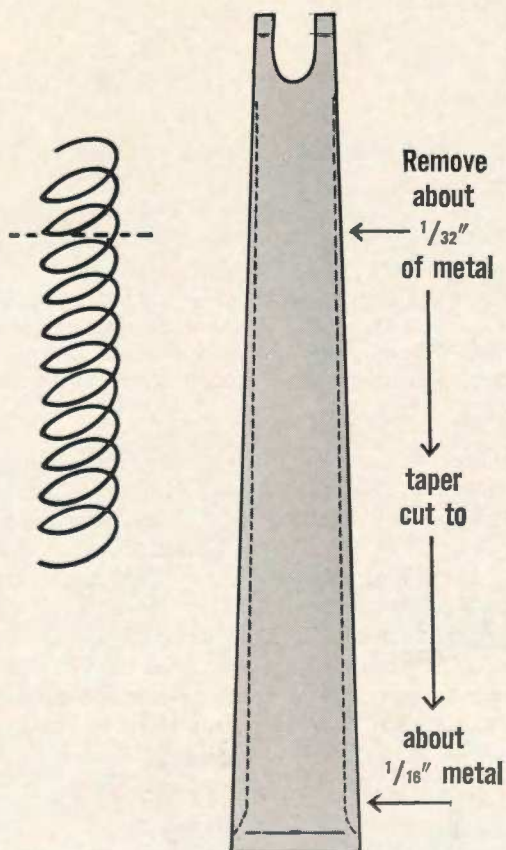
1908, when Coloman Jonas and his brother, John, already master taxidermists, founded Jonas Brothers, Incorporated, in Denver. In 1922, they were joined by another brother, Guy. In 1928, the business expanded when John Jonas opened his office in Mount Vernon, New York; and, in 1937, an office was opened by Guy Jonas in Seattle. But it is important to note that, with the death of John and Guy, both of those studios were sold, and the only taxidermists today in any way connected with the original Jonas Brothers, or with the Denver firm, is Jonas Brothers, Inc., of Denver—Denver Jonas, for short. Coloman Jonas, one of the original "Brothers," (Continued on page 58)

RIGGING UP FOR SIXGUNNING

By CHARLES A. SKELTON



The trigger pull on Smith & Wesson revolvers can be easily lightened by removing metal from the rebound spring and the mainspring. Remove metal conservatively: Taking two coils from the rebound spring, tapering the mainspring as shown.



YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A TOP GUNSMITH TO TUNE UP A REVOLVER TO YOUR TASTE

SO YOU BOUGHT a new handgun. It came in a sturdy, handsomely printed box, maybe along with some cleaning tools wrapped in rustproofing paper. It is unmarred, greasy, and, even to your perhaps unaccustomed handling, a little stiff and awkward feeling—like a new pair of Levis. It is so pretty and perfect that you are tempted to put up a "Handle With Care" sign and guard it like a mother hen against the slightest, blue-skinning knock.

You're a sucker if you do. Just out of the box, a new pistol is like a rack suit. Some alterations are in order before it will properly fit any shooter owning finer sensibilities than a haberdasher's dummy. Brand new, its trigger pull is lousy, the sights are likely off, and the grip would best fit a robot with a gunsmith's vise for a shooting hand.

Even if you're new to handgunning, these irksome flaws can be quickly overcome and your new pistol mastered, provided you use a little caution and patience, and can grant yourself the smallest degree of manual skill.

It must be realized that handgun makers like Smith & Wesson, Colt, and Ruger, while they put out as perfect a product as is today available, are limited in the amount of hand fitting and finishing that they can apply to their guns and still price them to fit the average buyer's budget. The simple steps necessary to smooth out the wrinkles in your new holster gun would add an extra twenty-five per cent to its price tag if done at the factory. You can accomplish them with nothing but a few hours of your time and some elemental tools that you already own, or have ready access to.

Take the Smith & Wesson. You are the happy owner of a new Highway Patrolman .357, and its trigger pull is heavier than you'd prefer on both double and single action. The standard, Magna stocks have no filler behind the trigger guard and the butt sinks too far into your grasp, letting the guard rap your middle finger unmercifully in heavy recoil. Maybe it shoots low and left with factory ammunition. What to do? Start with the little screwdriver that came with the gun, and fits the screws to perfection.

Remove the grips and place them in a small box which you have ready to prevent the loss of the component parts of the sixgun. Remove the three screws that hold the sideplate to the right side of the revolver (older Smiths have four), remembering which screw goes in what hole. Holding the revolver in your left palm, tap the side of the exposed grip frame with a plastic hammer or screwdriver handle until the sideplate bounces up out of its recess. Don't attempt to pry this plate loose, as it is fitted to the gun like the cover of a fine watch, and to do so would burr its edges and ruin the appearance of your new gun.

Next remove the long, thin safety bar that extends from its lug on the rebound spring housing to the nose of the hammer. Loosen, but don't withdraw the strain screw that lies in the lower front grip strap and bears against the front of the mainspring. Gently tap or push the base of the mainspring from its slot in the grip frame, moving it from left to right. After the wide base of the spring has cleared the grip frame, carefully disengage it from the yoke on the hammer.

Remove the cylinder and crane from the gun by opening it and sliding the complete cylinder and crane assembly forward from the frame.

(Continued on page 64)



A thick leather pad under the mainspring on a Colt SA dampens whip, lightens cocking action.



DA Colt action can be lightened by cocking the hammer with a small rod inside the mainspring.



Ruger's SA mainspring is removed by cocking hammer and inserting pin in a hole in guide.

CHOOSING YOUR OWN SHOTGUN

By BERT POPOWSKI

IF YOU TRADE IN your Caddy whenever the ashtrays are full and toy with the idea of buying a handcrafted foreign shotgun in the \$1,000-and-up class, or one of the ornately engraved and inlaid domestic jobs costing twice that, you may as well stop reading right here. Such flossy jobs have a way of lofting the asking price far beyond the discussional reach of this or any other typewriter jockey.

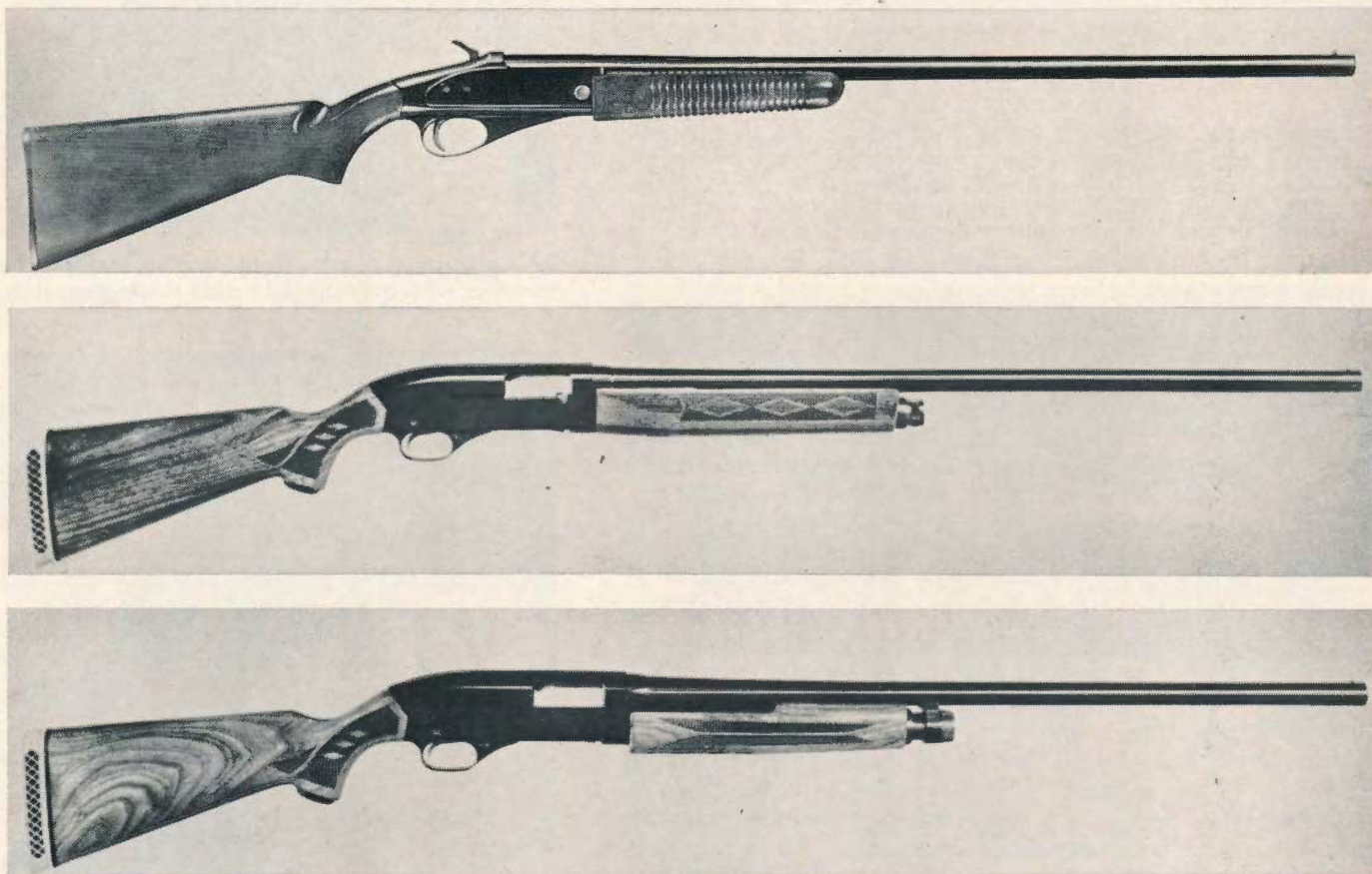
But if you want a workhorse scattergun which can double for several forms of game and target use, then I've some 24-karat suggestions for you. My advice is based on average American buying habits of shotguns of foreign and domestic makes, of moderate price and their steady resale demand. In short, I'm plugging an all-around All-American scattergun which can keep you happy for the rest of your shooting life. Though you may later want to add others to your arsenal you'll find yourself returning again and again to your favorite when serious shooting is on the agenda.

Your first consideration should deal with the essentials of gauge, the type of action you prefer, the popularity of that gauge and action in combination, and the various uses

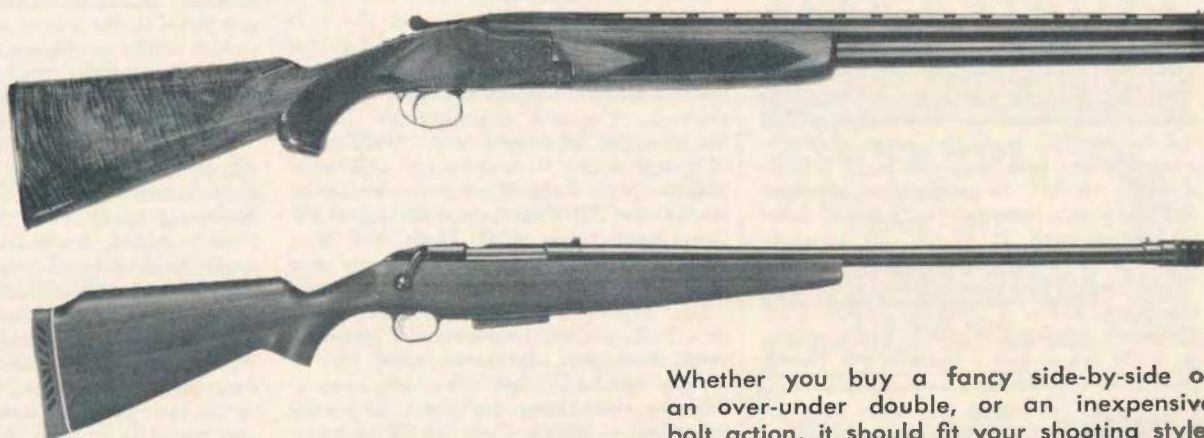
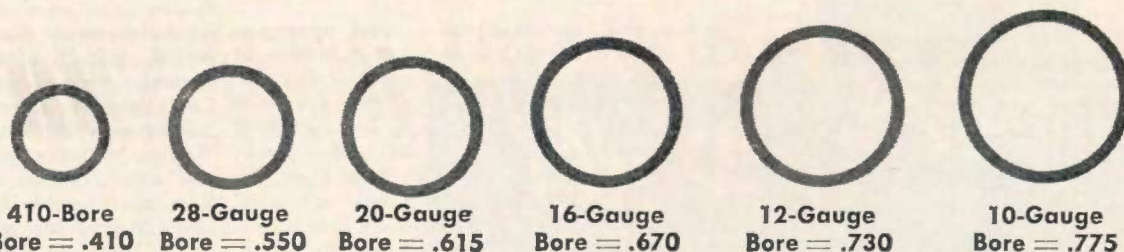
to which you'll put that shotgun. If your means are modest, it'll be a bit late in the day if you choose a gauge which isn't adequate for intended uses or if you select an action which isn't in good resale demand. You'll then have a clunk on your hands and your only salvation then lies in buying another shotgun or swapping for it with your current and dimly desirable white elephant.

Let's first consider the matter of an all-around gauge. Some 47 per cent of the shotguns in private ownership are in 12-gauge, only 2 per cent in 10-gauge, 15 per cent are 16's, 23 per cent in 20's, 3 per cent in 28-gauge and 10 per cent in the pipsqueak .410. I own at least one of each but, frankly, there's nothing I couldn't handle in shotgun game with just one 12 gauge scattergun.

Under highly specialized circumstances a 10 gauge might be better, but only about once every two years. Is it worth owning and lugging a 10 gauge around for such rare happenstances? I very greatly doubt it and the few 10's owned by other hunters bear me out. Generally, when such rare opportunities arise my 10 is in my gun cabinet. I have found that, with just a trifle more care in approach-



Possible choices among the single barrels are the break open, the auto and the pump.



Whether you buy a fancy side-by-side or an over-under double, or an inexpensive bolt action, it should fit your shooting style.

ing game and choosing the shots, I average out better final results with a favorite 12 gauge.

Let's look at it this way: If you buy and carry a lunker 10, how many clean kills will it cost you during any given day's hunt when a lighter and faster handling 12 would do much better? How often do you succumb to the temptation of trying excessively long shots which you'd pass up with a 12 gauge in hand? And how many of those hope shots have you actually made, as compared to those which probably resulted in crips that you couldn't retrieve? Finally, since long shots take much greater lead and more all-around gunmanship, are you marksman enough for a 10-gauge scattergun?

Your answers lie in the present 2 per cent ownership and buying of 10 gauge shotguns by American hunters. With the drop in duck hunting, and goose hunting merely holding level, it's more likely that the present 10 gauge owners spend more time in cleaning and oiling their guns than in actually using them. And with the slow market in this gauge, if they want to swap them for more functional gauges they find few takers, if they find any at all.

I'll temporarily skip the all-around popularity of the 12 to get to the 16 gauge. No less an authority than the late Major Charles Askins—the finest shotgun writer of his day—thought the 16 was everything any able shotgunner needed. But the Major was a superb shot, knew exactly what he was doing, lived beyond 80 years during which he did some shotgunning almost every day

of his life and chiefly limited his hunting to astonishingly abundant quail and scads of ducks.

In sharp contrast his son, Colonel Charles Askins, thought the 16 was a bastard gauge and, since his main game consisted of large ducks and pheasants, much preferred a 12. Major Askins' choice was right for his day, his game, and his superb shooting skill. But modern-day shotguns tend to side with his son as evidenced by the current 47 per cent sales of 12 gauge shotguns as compared to 15 per cent for the 16.

The 20 gauge is enjoying a fine resurgence which isn't yet reflected by its 23 per cent sales slice of the present market. Part of this is due to recent improvements in shotshell loadings. You can now buy or hand load 1 1/8 ounce loads of shot in the standard 2 3/4 inch hulls for 20's chambered for that length of shotshell. And several manufacturers have booming 20's chambered to three

(Continued on page 68)

Sales By Gauge		Sales By Action Type	
Gauge	Percentage of sales	Action	Percentage of sales
10	2	Pump	45
12	47	Autoloader	25
16	15	Double Bbl.	10
20	23	Single Bbl.	20
28	3		
410	10		



Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

SKEET SHOOTERS who missed the 1966 NSSA World Championships at Rochester, New York, because of the airline strike can take some small consolation. If all of the shooters had made the scene at Rochester, it might have been even more difficult to win a trophy! Despite a drop of about 100 contestants from last year's record number at Savannah, 25 of the 490 amateurs shattered all of the 250 12-gauge targets. Thirty-three of the nation's finest were also-rans with scores of 249x250. There were 22 perfect hundreds in the 20 gauge events, six in 28 gauge, and a fantastic five (world record) in the .410 bore.

A portent of things to come came in the preliminary East-West open events. Jimmy Bellows of Encino, California, had to break 132 sudden-death extra targets to eliminate 54 of 331 entries who broke perfect hundreds. T/Sgt Cecil Trammell of Lackland AFB was extended to 158 extra targets in seeing daylight on top of a pack of sixty faultless centuries in the Western Open (everything is a little bigger in the West). It took 17-year-old Vernie Surber 383 overtime targets, stretching into the 15th extra round, to win his 12 gauge championship title. But, durable young Surber has been the course before: He was extended to 310 targets in winning the 20-gauge title at Savannah last year. Another 17-year-old, Stephen Hanzel, from San Antonio, Texas, grabbed the All-Around trophy with a fine 547-550. Young Surber is from Wichita, Kansas.

W. A. Wiedergott, Southboro, Mass., outlasted the 20 gauge gunners. Ted Hannaford, from Warren, Michigan, topped the 28 gauge contingent, and winner of the unbe-

lievable .410 race with 30 extra sudden-death targets was Kenny Barnes from Bakersfield, California. Mrs. Clarine Menzel of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, dominated the ladies. She took the All-Around with 541x550, the 20 gauge with 100 straight, and .410 with 96x100. Miss Judy Warren dropped only one of the 250 12-gauge targets in taking that trophy home to St. Louis, and Mrs. James Coulter of Lake Forest Illinois was high in 28 gauge with 98x100.

Dr. Eugene Donnelly of Binghamton, New York, won the Champion of Champions event, four guns, 25 targets each, with a perfect hundred. And, for another man-bites-dog story from the Skeet Nationals, Bill Clemens of Mt. Clemens, Mich., broke 244 of 250 12 gauge targets, breaking one perfect hundred along the way, from a wheel chair, winning the Wheel Chair Championship. Thirty-six of his fellow shooters standing erect managed only the same score.

In the junior division, Charles Mayhew Jr. from Dallas, Texas, set a new record in the All-Around, at 545-550, and took home another trophy in the .410 race, with 98x100. Birmingham, Alabama's John Brown III was the 12 gauge junior champ with (what else?) 250 straight, while Tim Glock of Oconomowoc, Wis., paired victories in 20 and 28 gauge, with 100 and 99 respectively. Little Louis Fulgan from Bessemer, Alabama, repeated his sub-junior victory with 98 12 gauge targets. Pert Dianne Vermillion from Sherman Oaks, California, set a new record in winning the junior ladies trophy with a perfect 100 12-gauge targets.

M/Sgt Robert Reay from Lackland AFB topped a record field in International-Style skeet targets with 99x100, and Mrs. James

Coulter added another trophy with a victory in the feminine International event, with 90x100. Not all of the glory of the 1966 Nationals went to youth. Robert Bogie of Loon Lake, N. Y., took the Veteran's All-Around with 527x550. Ted Hannaford, the Warren, Michigan, Senior, topped the Seniors with 544x550; and Mr. Skeet, Alex Kerr, the Beverly Hills shooting machine, kept alive his 25 year record of trophies in the big event with two victories in the Sub-Senior classification, along with some loot from two-man and five-man team competition.

In five-man team competition, the New York quintet of Tom Heffron Jr., Vince Muranyi, Jr., Harold Contant, Pat Sullivan and Bill Conners topped a long list of team victories with an All-Around total of 2695x2750. Tony Kelly and Rudolph DePass triumphed over the two-man field in All-Around with scores of 1087x1100, a record.

Ray Corper, Ambler, Pa., and Robert Rodale of Allentown teamed to win the 12 gauge event with a faultless five hundred. Strother Shumate and Jack Johnson, both from Lackland, doubled on the 20 and 28 gauge trophies, while the combination of Alex Kerr and Ken Barnes was too tough in the .410 firing. Jack and Valerie Johnson from San Antonio dominated the Husband-Wife team races, taking All-Around, 12 gauge, and 28 gauge. Twenty gauge went to Bill and Barbara Conners, Buffalo, N. Y., and the .410 winning duo was Otto and Elizabeth Roschen from Spring Lake, N. J. Tom Heffron Junior and Senior topped the parent-child team race, with 495 of 500 12 gauge targets.

The industry, or pro division was a three-man race, topped by Jim Stotts of West Monroe, Louisiana, who copped All-Around and 12 gauge. Ken Sedlecky, of Alvo, Nebraska, made it a pair with 20 and 28 gauge trophies and the Canadian Ace, Barney Hartman shut the door in .410 with a record perfect hundred.

Thus, the 1966 NSSA Skeet Nationals goes into the record books with a flair, a flash, and a lot of fine, fantastic firing. If you plan to enter next year, shoot a lot of targets, then shoot a lot more. You may need the practice.

And now, after recounting the exploits of the finest skeet shooters in the land, competing in their national tournament, I have some words for the reader who has never shot skeet, or has just started in the game, and may even hope to compete in the big one some day.

Skeet is a fast, short range, clay target game, in which shotguns popular for all upland game shooting are used. The skeet gun is a short barrel gun, usually 26 inches, and is choked with little muzzle constriction, in order to break targets at ranges under 20 yards, and in some cases much less than 20 yards. The game is fired from eight shooting posts, or stations, arranged in a semi-circle, with a high traphouse at one end of the field, and a low house at the opposite end.

The shooter fires two shots at single targets from each of the eight stations, then fires at two targets released at the same time from four stations, for a total of eight shots. The first shot that is missed is repeated, and is called an optional. If no shots are missed in 24 targets, the shooter



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usually takes the optional as his last shot, from station eight, at either the high house (incoming) or low house (outgoing) target.

While introducing several thousand men, women, children and law enforcement officers (as a training course for use of the riot gun) to the game of skeet, these beginners taught me a lot about communicating with new shooters, and I pass what they taught me on to you.

For a dialog that was comprehensible to someone who had never fired a skeet target, I told the shooter to imagine that the clay disc had little feet, and a nose.

At post one, the shooter was told to shoot the feet off the first target, that one coming from above and behind him, and going away. Shooting the feet off, or below, this target eliminates the tendency to shoot over the target, which is a dropping one. My advice on the incomer was simply to shoot it in the nose (ahead).

On station two, I asked the neophyte to point his left foot at the center station (post 8), to point his gun at the same area, then swing back toward the high house about half-way. When the target emerges, uncoil like a spring, whip the muzzle past the target, and shoot its nose off. It was also helpful at times to ask the shooter to imagine that his gun was a garden hose, and that he was spraying shot instead of water at the target. The one other point of advice for this shot—don't stop the muzzle. Pull the trigger as the muzzle passes the target, and don't, don't stop swinging (on any shot). The most glaring mistake on the high house target is usually swinging the muzzle too far back toward the house when waiting for the bird. When the target emerges, the shooter is too far behind and never catches up. The low house incomer is shot from the same position, by shooting the nose off the left edge of the target. Post three is a repeat of post two, except for shortening the swing back to the high-house.

Post four is the same, with still shorter

movement back to the traphouse. This is a right angle target to the shooter, and the best advice here is to MOVE that gun. Don't be lazy on this shot of all shots. Posts five and six are the same as two and three, except that the first shot is taken at the right hand, or low house target. The same foot and muzzle positioning applies, except that you swing toward the low house before starting the shot. Station seven is pure pleasure. Here you shoot the outgoer in the tail, and the incomer on the nose.

Station eight, the post between the two houses in the center of the field, gives most skeet newcomers heart failure. In reality, it should be the easiest post on the field. Here you just point your muzzle just below the opening in the house from where the target comes, and when the target emerges, raise the muzzle and shoot it in the nose. Simple.

Doubles are shot from posts one and two, then from six and seven. The shooter fires first at the outgoer, then at the incomer. The best advice for doubles is to not rush your first shot. Take your time, break that bird just as you did when it was a single from the same post, then swing over and meet the incomer.

Foot and muzzle positions are the same as for the singles from the same posts. Almost every shot missed at doubles is missed because the shooter was careless with or rushed the first shot. I've never counted them, but I'll wager that 80% of missed doubles shots are on the first bird. The shooter is usually swinging away toward the second shot.

Skeet sounds simple, and it is. Skeet sounds easy, and it is: Witness the phenomenal scores reported earlier in the column. Skeet is also fun, lots of fun. That's why it's growing, and why I hope if you haven't shot skeet before, you will, now that you know how. At any skeet club in the country, your hosts will supplement the instructions given here, and



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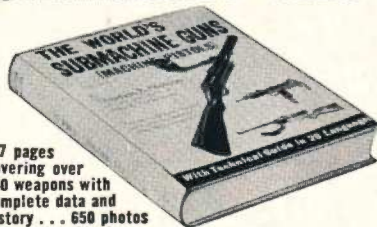
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GUNS FOR HOME DEFENSE

(Continued from page 22)

in which an armed citizen has successfully defended his life or property. Before I get letters saying that these same newspapers also tell of some instances where an armed citizen failed in his attempt at self-defense, I will readily admit to such a fact. However, the number of these accounts does not nearly reach the number of successful attempts at self-defense. But—and this is the major point of my argument—being armed is not enough.

In most cases of self-defense, there is no time to read the instruction sheet on how to load and fire the gun; nor is there time, usually, for a slow well-aimed, trigger-squeeze type of shot. Therefore, it is important that the homeowner or businessman prepare himself in advance. Those who are unprepared sometimes end up squeezing the trigger against a locked safety, or pushing the magazine release rather than the safety button. In either case, the person would have been better off unarmed.

This brings up to the question of what type of gun is best for home defense. There are those who state categorically that an automatic is best, while others vote just as strongly for the revolver. I am going to go out on a limb and, at the same time, straddle the fence. I would agree that an automatic pistol is a satisfactory gun for the home—if it is one with a double action. There are several models of double action auto pistols available, such as the S&W Model 39, and the Walter P-38, PP, and PPK models. The advantage of the double action is obvious, and it fits in with the idea that to be properly prepared, the homeowner should be familiar with the action of the gun chosen for self-defense. With an ordinary auto pistol, it is difficult for the shooter to be sure that the gun is cocked. There is either no hammer to look at, or those with external hammers must be cocked with the thumb. To say that a home defense gun should be cocked at all times may be true, but when the moment comes for immediate action, isn't it better to know that a pull of the trigger will automatically cock and fire the gun?

As you may have guessed, my choice for a home defense gun is the revolver. For those who are not mechanically minded, it is an easy gun to understand; there are no safety buttons, no magazine releases, no hidden hammers. I have no illusions that everyone who buys a gun for home defense will take the time and trouble to become thoroughly oriented in the manipulation of their choice of gun. Because of this, it is much simpler to teach the basic fundamentals of revolver shooting than to try to make people understand the workings of an automatic. Assuming that both are loaded, the revolver requires only that you pull the trigger (speaking here of double action revolvers, of course). With the automatic, the slide must be pulled back or the hammer cocked, and the safety button or lever moved to the fire position.

Here is a tip on loading the revolver that

makes a lot of sense to me. It comes from one of the world's leading authorities on self-defense. The first two chambers of the cylinder should be loaded with blanks, and the others loaded with bulleted rounds. Be sure that you know which of the cylinders fire first—on the Colt revolvers cylinder rotation is clockwise, while on the S&W, it is counter-clockwise. This arrangement offers several advantages. First, there is the element of safety. If a child or unwary adult should get his hands on the gun and pull the trigger, the one or two reports from the blank cartridges will scare them off. Also, if the owner himself should, through some uncalled for negligence, pull the trigger, the blank would frighten but do no harm.

Should you awake in the middle of the night and hear suspicious noises outside the house or in another part of the house; two blanks will go a long way to let any intruder—man or animal—know that he is not welcome. At the same time, if the situation calls for drastic action, it would take little or no time to fire the two blanks to get to the bulleted ammunition.

This brings us to the question of when you should shoot and when you should not. Captain George L. Seaton of the Denver Police Department was recently quoted as saying: "For instance, you can't take a shot at a window peeper since he's only committing a misdemeanor. But you can get ready to shoot someone actually breaking into your house. That's a felony." Captain Seaton also said: "The oldest advice about guns is still the best: Don't show a gun unless you fully intend to use it. Trying to threaten a burglar with a gun is no good. You may provide him with a weapon he didn't have in the first place, or give him an excuse to use a gun he has."

This brings us back to the point made earlier: It is not enough to merely have a gun in the home, but it is most important that the homeowner know how and when to use it. The readers of this magazine, being associated with guns, are often called upon to advise a friend on the purchase of a gun for the home. Don't merely tell them: "Yes, you should have a gun." Instead, offer whatever assistance you can in the selection, and follow through with instruction—on a range

—and enough gun nomenclature to be sure that, when and if the time ever comes that your friend will have a need to defend his home, he will be prepared to reach for his gun with the assurance that he knows exactly what he should and should not do. If you are not qualified to give this assistance, refer your friend to any of the local gun clubs. Members of these organizations are willing and eager to help anyone who needs instruction.

The thousands of homeowners who, today, are concerned about the safety of their home, can, with proper indoctrination, become a strong force in the struggle against anti-gun laws. Too often, those who oppose such legislation are thought of as a self-centered group of gun-nuts who are not concerned with the tremendous rise in our nation's crime statistics. Yet among the so-called "gun lobby" are many people whose only interest in guns is in the protection they offer from those who threaten to take away life and property.

Senator Roman L. Hruska of Nebraska is quoted in the Congressional Record as saying: "It is these people who not only know how to use guns, but also inculcate the youthful and older citizens on how to use these weapons for proper purposes. They are the 'gun lobby,' and I am proud to represent the tens of millions of lawful gun owners as anyone in the Senate representing any group of any kind."

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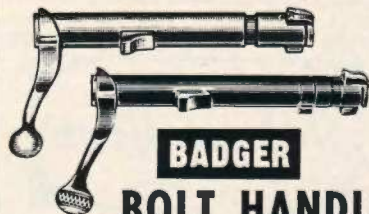
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GUNS I WOULD LIKE TO OWN

(Continued from page 26)

Savage Repeating Firearms Corporation. The trigger apparatus for this later model also looks something like a figure 8, but it can be easily distinguished by the trigger guard strap which extends from under the frame to the grip near the butt, a feature not employed in the earlier and rare model.

A statement of ordnance purchased by the federal government from Jan. 1, 1861 to June 30, 1866, reveals that Colt and Remington .44 Army revolvers were purchased in excess of 125,000 each, but among those side-arms of which only 5,000 or less were purchased were the Joslyn, Pettingill, Allen, Mass. Arms Co. (Adams pat.), Perrin, Raphael, Rogers & Spencer, and the Beals and the Navy models made by Remington.

Two other pistols of the Civil War era were the Freeman .44 (absorbed by Rogers & Spencer) and the Butterfield .41 patent primer 5-shot revolver-pistol. Only 2,280 of the Butterfield revolvers were made, and none was ever purchased by the government although Butterfield had been induced to make the pistols by an aid to a Colonel of the New York 5th Cavalry. Butterfield and Freeman revolvers are among the rarer percussion hand arms.

There was a great variety of side arms issued or privately purchased by participants in the Civil War and the variety of carbines used was equally extensive; many of these carbines are rare.

Sharps, Spencer, and Burnside carbines were purchased by the federal government in largest quantities during the 1861-1866 period, and those of which the smallest numbers were manufactured are the Ballard, Ball, Gibbs, Lindner, Palmer, Warner, and Wesson.

The field of carbine collecting is broad. One can go back to a few scarce flintlock carbines or musketons, through various models of the pioneer Hall caplock breech-loaders, the Jenks, early models of the Burnside, Cosmopolitan, Gallagher, Joslyn, Merrill, Maynard, Remington, Sharps, Smith, Starr and others in which there are specimens to put a collector into a quick-draw of his pocketbook. This is true not only with the carbines manufactured north of the Mason Dixon line, but confederate-made guns which imitate the Sharps and other northern-made arms are even more valuable. The distinctive Tarpley, Morse, Robinson, "Rising Block," Cook, and other C. S.

marked pieces are very good guns to own.

The Civil War gave impetus to development of the metallic cartridge. Smith & Wesson, owners of the Rollin White patent rights, took the lead in cartridge revolvers, and the Henry .44 rimfire and big rimfire Spencer repeaters led the pack in shoulder arms. For a few years Smith & Wesson had the advantage of an exclusive right to use the bored-through cylinder, but when these patent rights expired in 1869 the field was wide open and many other manufacturers were quick to produce competitive revolvers.

Of the early Smith & Wesson .22 revolvers, those with a round bronze frame are the rarest. There are minor variations in these first .22 S&W pistols; the type with a flat barrel catch is the scarcest. Among Smith & Wesson's competitors Colt and Remington were preeminent, but there were a few others that had to be reckoned with such as the Prescott, Bacon, Forehand & Wadsworth, Merwin-Hulbert, Moore, and Hopkins & Allen. These were desirable mainly in their large sizes. In small pistols and revolvers the various Allen companies had a number. American Arms Company, Frank Wesson and Remington put out two barrel pistols; Marston went them one better with a three barrel, while Sharps and Starr came along with four barrel pistols; Remington went to "pepperbox" type cartridge pistols.

Little single shot cartridge derringers became popular, some in small .22, .30, .38 rimfire calibers but the best ones were made in .41 rimfire. For these, National Arms Co., Colt, Allen, Marlin, Southerner, Ballard, and Starr are some of the names you will see. Quite a number of collectors seek nothing else but caplock or cartridge derringers; therefore, they are in good demand.

In recent years we have had considerable firearms legislation, especially at the state level. Shoulder arms and side arms up through the caplocks are usually exempt, but cartridge pistols and revolvers often are subject to numerous restrictions and red tape. Thus their collection presents some legal and bothersome problems that tend to slow down activity. This is especially true with automatic pistols. Early American automatics such as the Grant-Hammond, the big .45 Savage, the .22 Reising and the early Colts, are well up in price, but common pieces bring little as collector items. Various

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Note: Different gunmakers may have the same family name, and the work of some will be more valuable than that of others. Likewise, some models by the same maker may be rare and valuable while others are common and of minor value.

issues of the Luger pistols, the Borchardt, Bergmann, and a few others are rare and in demand, but most of the foreign automatics, pocket models especially, arouse but minor interest.

The metallic cartridge brought with it about four decades in the manufacture of fine single shot hunting and target rifles. It took James Grant two volumes to cover this field, and his two books on single shot rifles are excellent. Not only did we see (in the forty or so years ending the 19th century and spilling over a little into the 20th) finely made American single shot rifles, but with them came super barrel makers like Pope, Peterson, Schoyen, Zichang and Niedner. Sharps, Ballard, Stevens, Browning, Winchester, Peabody-Martini, Maynard, Phoenix, Remington and Wesson were among the best names in American single shot rifles.

After World War II, returning G. I.s brought back a number of beautiful Aydt, Martini and other single shot rifles, many of them elaborately engraved and carved. Some are true works of art. They brought home, too, some of those elegantly engraved German and Austrian over-and-under or three-barrel guns that are beautiful to behold. There is moderate demand for the better quality guns of this type that have survived.

Add to the European single shot and multi-barrel guns the strong Farquharson type guns made in England, and double rifles or shotguns made by such firms as Purdey,

Holland & Holland, and Greener, and the supply of collectible foreign cartridge shoulder arms is greatly enriched.

In general, weapons which employ metallic cartridges will have lesser demand and lower values than the earlier arms of the historic past. The exceptions to this rule will be found mainly among the pioneering efforts in the cartridge field, in the beautiful target arms, and in highly decorated guns.

Prominent makes of weapons are well known, and we need not give further mention or listing of the Colts, Smith & Wessons, Remingtons, Winchesters, Marlins, and such arms. But a listing of important names among the more obscure armsmakers of yesterday may be useful to those seeking information about a gun they own or perhaps would like to own.

A check list of all the makers of fine and valuable arms would stretch out as long as a wagon track, and obviously it could not be contained between the two covers of this magazine. We shall try to skim off some of the cream, and if we miss a name here or there that you think should have been included, it could well be that it was squeezed out only from lack of space.

This listing is intended merely to indicate that if you see a gun with one of these names, and the gun is in good, complete condition, the chances are favorable that it is valuable and a good gun to own.

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AFTER THE SAFARI

(Continued from page 45)

is still active as the director of the business. Instead of three brothers, the company now consists of three generations of Jonases: Coloman, his son Joe Sr., and his grandson Jack.

One of the unique features of the Jonas operation is a complete "skeleton bank" composed of the actual bones, skulls, and skeletons of animals, ready to be matched with individual trophy measurements to provide an exact pattern for the selection or construction of the sculptured form. Jonas also has a complete forms plant with a standing stock of over 1600 sculptured molds of the world's game animals. These basic forms are individualized to match the size, individual characteristics, and posture requirements of each trophy.

Jonas' first step in preparing a trophy mount is to make careful studies in the form of drawings and clay models. These are based on study of the firm's extensive library of books and pictures, and on what the hunter wants in the way of posture and, in some cases, surrounding terrain.

Next, using actual animal bones from the "skeleton bank" as guides, a skeleton of wire and wood is constructed to reproduce the wanted pose. On this skeleton, skilled workmen, artists, build the entire muscular system of the animal from modeling clay.

Next, a plaster mold is made of the finished model and in this mold a hollow, laminated paper "manikin" is created in the exact shape of the original clay model. Some taxidermists use plastics of various types for this form, but the Jonases believe that the many-layered paper modeling is best. It is light, strong, durable, and "flows" smoothly into the smallest contour of the mold to achieve the exact configuration. Also important for the perfection of detail on which the Jonases insist, the paper, while drying, can be pinned into wrinkles exactly like those that would occur in the flesh of the animal during movement, or which existed in life to compose the characteristic facial expression. These wrinkles harden to permit the hide to be pressed in, over, and between them.

At this point, the legs of life-size forms are reinforced with embedded iron rods which are bolted to the stand. On the outsides of the leg forms, and elsewhere where needed, insulated electric wire is fixed to represent tendons. Now ear-forms are put into place, and the eyes are positioned. Jonas uses only the finest quality eyes, hand colored and furnace glazed to give them depth and the "alert" look of the living animal.

While all this is in process, the trophy

skin is being cured and soft-tanned with the same care that would be given to furs destined for a lady's fine furpiece or coat, to make it flexible and long-lasting. Mouth, nose, and eye areas receive special treatment to retain the look of aliveness after careful contouring. Every possible effort is made to repair cuts and abrasions due to careless skinning or handling, and bullet holes and scars are eliminated. If horns or antlers are a part of the trophy, they too are being "cured" and treated, and wooden pegs are carefully positioned in the skull of the form, to provide solid supports for the rack.

Next, the skin is placed on the form. This is done with infinite patience and skill, slipping the hide a fraction here, a fraction there, working it into every contour. Spatulas are used to work edges in behind lips, eyes cavities, and horn bases. Watching this done, I said to one skilled "fitter," "Okay, so you've made him smile; can you make him talk?" The man gave me a tolerant smile (he'd probably heard the crack a hundred times); but you know, I wouldn't have been too much surprised if that moose had given me the tart answer I deserved!

"Pointing up" the trophy is the final step in the taxidermy workshops, and this involves as many steps and as much cosmetic skill as does a lady's make-up. Eyes are selected for size and expression—there's a difference between the eyes of an animal at rest and on being mounted in charge—and these are fitted, "aimed," (no cross-eyed lions have yet come out of the Jonas shop), and artfully surrounded by lids and lashes. Hair and whiskers are carefully brushed and combed; hair and hide are tinted where necessary to reproduce life-like tones or to accent characteristic markings.

The nose-tips of bears, for example, have an almost patent-leather blackness. This is easy; but only close students of bear physiognomy know that the skin of the muzzle, back of the nose-tip, carries that blackness back in diminishing shadings—which fade out of the leather itself during ageing and curing. The Jonases have perfected a cosmetic paint with which this subtle shading can be reproduced, this time permanently, without discoloring the hair. This is a plus factor in Jonas taxidermy that you would never notice unless it was called to your attention. You would say, as countless people do, "It looks alive!" but you wouldn't know why.

Habitat groupings for museums and the more elaborate private trophy collections bring Jonas artistry to its highest perfection. Their masterpieces for the Denver Museum of Natural History and other museums of similar stature are among the finest in the world.

Beware of taking your wife with you when you visit Jonas Brothers on your next trip to Denver. The front showroom holds a display of coats and scarves of many furs that entrance the feminine viewer.

But your own "want impulses" will be challenged, too; for Jonas showrooms show many items purchasable "over the counter," without the preliminary expense of a safari: wall panels and three-dimensional case mounts of game birds (life-size or miniature) and game animals (miniature), splendidly detailed and life-like scale miniatures of birds and beasts, and "secondary" trophy

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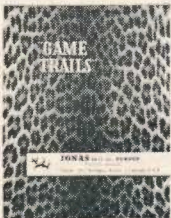
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Probably one of the most controversial subjects in the world of sport is, "What is the most dangerous, the most difficult to take, animal" in the world or in a continental area. Surely few men are more qualified by experience to opinions on these matters than are the Jonases, with their years of nature study, hunting, association with hunters and guides, and "appraisers" of record trophies. In collaboration with professional hunter guides of international stature, the Jonases offer in their major brochure "Danger Charts" of North American and African game. With their permission, those charts are shown on page 45. Note that, although both are "danger" charts, the omission of danger factors in both will provide "difficulty" scores also.

"Collier's Magazine," in a four-page color-illustrated article in 1953, had this to say about Jonas Brothers of Denver:

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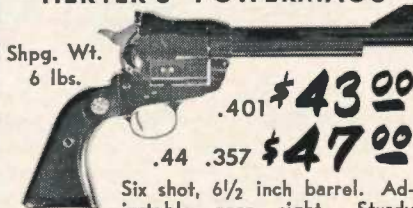
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.45 BULLETS FOR BUFFALO

(Continued from page 35)

tested on wood blocks (the only available media) in the U.S. before coming out to Bechuanaland. That wood is not buffalo will soon be seen. The Buhmiller bullets can be described as follows:

Type 1: A silver nickel solid, with a lead core and three lateral stripes (to facilitate forming). Shell is Nickel-silver and is approximately .065" thick. There is a conical cavity in the nose. This bullet was intended to act as a solid and the nose cavity, it was hoped, would impart additional shock. Eric called this the "Indian sign" silver bullet. Weight is 500 grs., and is made by Hornady.

Type 2: A copper tube, lead filled, with a steel "wad cutter" nose. This was intended to bell mouth slightly in the course of drilling a hole through the buff. Weight 430 grs.

Type 3: A copper tube, lead filled, with an open "wad cutter" nose. 500 grains weight.

Type 4: As Type 3, but with the cavity filled with lead. Both 3 and 4 were intended to be controlled expansion bullets, as was Type 5. 500 grains weight, by Barnes and with a shell .049" thick.

Type 5: A solid copper bullet with a cavity nose. 450 grs. weight.

Type 6: An open point lead filled copper tube, with 6 longitudinal cuts, made by Barnes and weighing 600 grs., with a .049" shell.

Type 7: As Type 6, but a silver nickel bullet with only 5 cuts or stripes. Hornady, 500 grains.

Types 6 and 7 were designed as controlled expansion bullets, the idea being that instead of the front peeling back and mushrooming (and thereby losing weight), the bullet would compress or concertina. While the strong front and rear retained shape, the weakened centre section would enable a "flattening" out to occur.

Tests conducted on hard wood blocks in the U.S.A. were very promising, as can be seen from photograph A. Both the longitudinally striped bullets concertinaed beautifully, expanding to a much greater cross-sectional frontal area with virtually no loss of weight. The original steel wad

cutter also bell mounted ideally, though the amount of steel later had to be reduced for the field tests for weight reasons.

It will be convenient to deal with the expanding bullets first. The recovered slugs are shown in C. The .458 Magnum first. These were fired at ranges varying from 125 to 2 yds. And it is apparent that at ranges below approximately 100 yards the Winchester soft is not strong enough if it encounters heavy bone. At 60 yards it performs well behind the shoulder bones, but at 75 yds. the shoulder bone (though pulverized) is sufficient to cause the bullet core and the case to part company. At the shorter ranges the disintegration is more pronounced, even where the bullet has decelerated considerably through the body before striking a heavy bone. From the representative results photographed it is fair to conclude that the Winchester 510 grain soft nose .458 Magnum bullet has distinct limitations on its use on the buffalo. One could analyze the behaviour of each bullet in detail, but no purpose would be served. Penetration was normally adequate, provided that the range was not too short. It must, however, be added that if the soft struck the near side shoulder bones it never had sufficient penetration to go through to the opposite shoulder. A further point worthy of comment is the considerable shock effect produced by this bullet. In every case it would be seen that the buffalo had been hit hard. A Hornady bullet is included in the Winchester photograph. It would seem to have a thinner skin, and in any event disrupted more easily than the other bullet.

If the factory ammo is not wholly satisfactory, the attempted improvements thereon were still less satisfactory. Type 2 simply lost its steel head and then ploughed as a slightly erratic solid, giving good penetration in the rule. Type 3 collapsed completely and seldom gave decent penetration. The open point had a tremendously disruptive effect on the bullet. Type 4 was almost as bad: The weakened front end broke away and the tail piece then penetrated only slightly further. Type 5 was able to deal with heavy shoulder bones and showed very little deformation. However, it failed to expand at all, and had the penetration and other characteristics of a solid bullet. The two Types 6 and 7 disrupted completely, and only fragments could be recovered. This was a great disappointment, as much was expected of this in-

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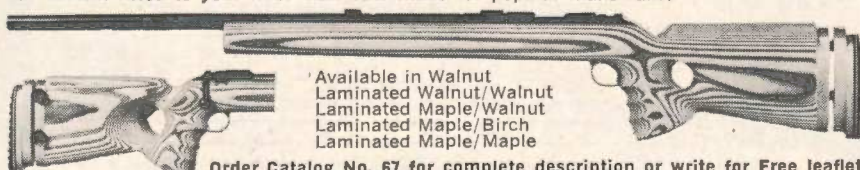
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triguing design. The Barnes 600 gr. Type 6 bullet was equally disappointing, as can be seen from the 3 samples illustrated. Its behaviour can be summarized as follows: If the Barnes encounters nothing thicker than rib bones, it mushrooms nicely but has poor penetration; if it encounters no bone it penetrates adequately, but if it strikes heavy bone it falls apart there and then and goes no further.

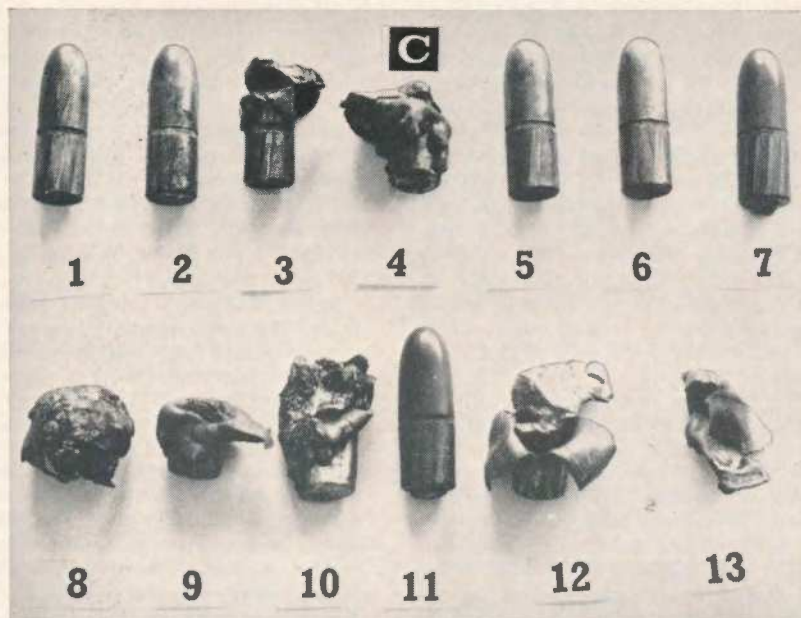
Solids, or full metal case bullets: The Winchester .458 Magnum 500 grain solid has acquired an enviable reputation for its satisfactory performance. At the risk of appearing repetitive I have included 6 Win-

chester solids in Photo C, which were fired at buffalo at ranges from 14 to 150 yards, and only No. 1 shows a slight tendency to buckle. Although elephant leg bones can disfigure the .458 Magnum, it is well up to whatever a buffalo can offer.

explain this feature. However, having been given a .460 Magnum I will have more opportunities to compare it with my .458 Magnum, but the results to date were so conclusive that not one of the observers took an opposite view.

Is there something to be learned from these painstaking tests carried out over the last nine years? In my view there is.

The first point would be (and this is contrary to the views I held for a number of years) that only solid or full metal case bullets should be used on buffalo. Although the proper soft nose or expanding bullet might have a use when you can pick your



All are Winchester bullets fired at various ranges, excepting No. 10, which is a Hornady soft fired at 25 yards. Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 11 are solid points and did a great deal more damage.

chester solids in Photo C, which were fired at buffalo at ranges from 14 to 150 yards, and only No. 1 shows a slight tendency to buckle. Although elephant leg bones can disfigure the .458 Magnum, it is well up to whatever a buffalo can offer.

The only solid in the .450 Buhmiller Magnum was the silver "Indian sign" one. This showed no tendency towards any failure of any sort, and had remarkable penetration powers.

In all cases it was noteworthy that the higher velocity .450 Magnum bullets had noticeably less shock effect. In fact, Rundgren remarked, with his deep chuckle, it was the same as if the buff had been stung by a bumble bee. I know that this is contrary to all the tenets of the high velocity school, that it defies the hydraulic shock theory, and that it belittles the tabular muzzle energy figures. On behalf of the buffalo I apologize, and can only say that they are unaware of these (and other) arguments, theories, and figures, and that they do not read the advertisements in the glossy magazines. But it was particularly noticeable on this last trip to Bechuanaland: The .458 Magnum would knock a buffalo down and keep him down, whereas the faster bullet would send him off in a mad dash as if unhit, and then he would fall down 100 or 150 yards away. I am not in a position to

shot and place it, the soft has no versatility and can cause you to come to grief if you are faced with an unexpected charge. The soft is really only suitable for the side shoulder shot or when the animal is standing only slightly off the side position. It lacks the stability and penetration to press home to the boiler room from any angle and any position. Whereas the solid or FMC can be used on the side, neck, frontal, head, or rear shot (most effective—when the buff runs away, thump him in the tail and he goes no further). Although the soft might on some aiming points be more effective, can it be said that the hunter would lose the beast if he used a solid instead? I believe not.

Secondly, use standard factory ammo. In the .458 Magnum calibre the factory ammo is at least as good as anything else I have come across.

Thirdly, and finally, do not be overawed by velocities of the type in vogue at Cape Kennedy. They might look fine in the ballistic tables, but they do not impress the buffalo. On the contrary they are, in my experience, less efficacious. The only result is that you have to tolerate more recoil, that you might develop a flinch, that your accuracy might be affected and that some day a buffalo might stand on you, which is unhealthy.

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KENYA'S GAME

(Continued from page 31)

prospects is in the so-called "hunting blocks"—provided man is given no major advantage and controlled professional hunting is encouraged. There are sound reasons for this statement and I will cover them later.

Unfortunately, there is little unity of purpose among those most concerned with Kenya's game, but the future is far from dismal. The old market hunter and safari slaughterer are practically creatures of the past. The modern trophy hunter is often a conservationist more determined to preserve game than most of the "bleeding heart" animal lovers who rarely put any money where their mouths have been quivering. Needless to say, the professional game management people—whether they be scientist or merely dedicated game rangers—are solidly on the side of the angels. So are the conservationists. It's just a question who and what the angels are. There is a division of opinion concerning how game is to be preserved and where hunting fits into the picture.

Many of the old settlers wiped out the game on their farms in the belief it was competing with their cattle. Since a great deal of the game already has been removed from farmland and the white settler's influence is diminishing anyway, their position will have little influence on the future of game in Kenya. What is more important is the attitude of the people who will be taking over many of the larger farms and moving into previously uncultivated areas and putting it into small farms. The land and meat-hungry African has little love for the game as such. It is hard for a starving African to appreciate the esthetic beauty of an animal he wants to eat—or which he feels is stealing his crops.

The effect of agriculture—and land distribution as a result of the new government's reforms—on game can be devastating unless properly implemented. In areas devoted solely to man's interest, game will simply be eradicated by what we would call "clean" farming on the tight, sectionalized farms of high-density settlement schemes. A large ranch or a mixed plantation growing cash crops such as coffee or pyrethum, is not very much affected by game damage. When such farms are purchased and split up for small holdings, game causes severe damage

and loss to the African farmers involved. The game goes.

The problems of mass land distribution are new; the age-old evils of over-grazing are traditional with the African tribesman. The problem of over-grazing—and subsequent soil erosion—is made doubly difficult by the fact that the African continues to count his wealth in his number of cattle regardless of quality. It is much the same sort of trap our own Navaho Indians pursued with their sheep and with much the same results. The solution—according to the Kenyan Government—lies in education rather than legislation, but one wonders if the game or the land can afford to wait.

Poaching is one of the great problems facing any government attempting to manage and preserve game in any African country. The native African does not naturally "love" game, but rather regards it either as a pest that complicates his life or as a meat market that will never close or empty. There is no reason why he should regard it as anything more.

In the past, the shooting was usually reserved for the European, and the African was severely punished—if caught—when he presumed to kill any animal that he might regard as a trespasser or his just due from the land. The esthetic beauty of photographing or preserving animals in a park for their own sake simply escapes the average tribesman. Hence, he is little affected by the argument that game should be preserved for wealthy foreigners to shoot or for little old ladies from Minnesota who want to snap pictures for the folks at home. Why should he be? What does he get out of it?

But the leaders of Kenya—Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta, Lawrence Sagini, the Minister for Natural Resources, and R. Achieng Oneko, the Minister for Information, Broadcast and Tourism—are dedicated to the knowledge that game is a vital asset to the economy of the country and must not be squandered. The new government is determined to conserve wildlife and other natural resources and, frankly, they make no bones about their reasons.

Mr. Sagini has said that "the destruction of East Africa's wildlife would mean the destruction of one of the mainstays of the economy of Kenya—for in there lies a vast income potential for which we have no alternative and which is our own unique heritage." Forget the heritage: One realistic conservation statement based upon old-fashioned appreciation for money is worth a hundred altruistic sentiments.

The new government's attitude appears to be based on a full comprehension of the problems facing the country's game. Recently, F. D. Homan, Permanent Secretary for Natural Resources, wrote me the following evaluation:

The government is determined to conserve its wildlife and attract visitors. However, we can only allow a limited number of hunters per annum if game populations are to be maintained and therefore the expansion of tourism must

be for visitors who come to view and photograph wildlife. We can quite easily obtain the maximum number of hunters permissible and therefore do not need to go in for cheap or government sponsored safari schemes.

In other words, Kenya apparently has no intention of going into the inexpensive mass safari business as epitomized by first the Uganda and now the Tanganyika Wildlife Development Companies that provide an all-inclusive safari for some \$2,700, including roundtrip Alitalia airfare from New York and all licenses. These schemes, which have been the subject of wide argument by hunters, safari companies and conservationists all over the world, have been successfully operating for the past several years, first in Uganda and later in Tanganyika. Since they pose a threat to the traditional safari companies, they have been perhaps the most explosive element injected into the African wildlife picture. Regarding Kenya, its game future and the old line safari companies, Ernest Juer, the organizer and first general manager of the new development projects, had this to say in a signed statement:

Kenya could well institute schemes for getting not only the licenses fees but also profits from hunting operations back where they should be, to the owners of the land and its game, and not into the pockets of 'game mining companies.' Kenya could well restrict, as have the other territories, the bags taken to sportsmanlike proportions, thus spread the available game over many more clients and get more value from it, in terms of total income. Kenya's safari industry may eventually have to live on Kenya's resources in game, instead of milking those of its neighbors. It could do this by instituting schemes similar to those already successfully operating in Uganda and Tanganyika.

The big safari companies could not agree less to such proposals and take violent exception to some of Mr. Juer's other remarks. John Kingsley-Heath, one of East Africa's most famous hunters and a director of Ker, Downey & Selby, Ltd., possibly Africa's most well-known safari firm, made this rebuttal:

It is inevitable that Kenya's Nairobi, as the main communication center in East Africa, shall perhaps see more of the tourist than the other two territories as this is where most East African tours commence. Traditionally the center of the safari business, Nairobi is becoming more so due to the increased facilities offered to jet aircraft and good hotel accommodations.

The game policy of Kenya has always been a little in advance of other territories, particularly at present where the African District Councils receive profits from the sale of game licenses in their area and the fees charged when hunters enter their tribal reserves. The greatest cooperation and trust exists between the Professional Hunter's Association, the Kenya Game Department and the National Parks. Hunters are always represented at game conferences. The Professional Hunter's Association takes an active part through its members on the National Park Board of Trustees in pre-

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serving game. Often the first move to protect a species is innovated by the Association who are perhaps the people in fact most in contact with the game situation throughout the whole territory.

Hunting therefore is controlled not only by the Game Department, but also by the hunters themselves whose first interest is that their livelihood should prosper. Without careful control in co-operation with the authorities, it never would. The tourist industry relies to considerable extent on its publicity of the attractions of the countries of East Africa or film companies making a location in East Africa. Large safari outfitters have both the experience and staff with which to take care of this. Safari business is therefore an integral part of the tourist trade and not necessarily entirely devoted to hunting.

Secretary Homan appears to agree with Mr. Kingsley-Heath not only regarding the future of cheap or government-sponsored safaris, but also in regard to the value of letting some of that safari money sift down to the local level:

Poaching is, of course, one of our main difficulties. We feel that a long term answer to this problem must lie in encouraging local people who live in game areas to realize that wild life is a valuable asset. We have under consideration a plan to allow local authorities a very much greater share of the revenue from licensing and from the sale of trophies from animals shot on control. This would enable them to set up their own schemes to pay compensation for damage to person and property and, since they will obtain financial benefit from game, it is hoped that they will themselves stop the menace of poaching.

Money then is the key. Any conservation scheme that ignores the vast hungering needs of the native peoples of Kenya is based upon an unrealistic—and doomed—foundation. Kenya's game is far from lost, but its continued preservation is dependent upon a few harsh facts of life. One, all the hand-wringing protestations and representations made by professional conservationists will not accomplish the salvation of one species without some evidence offered that those animals can pay their way. Secondly, any conservation scheme that tries to ignore—or, worse, attempts to exclude—the necessary reality of hunting is very likely doomed from the start. Hunting is the only means by which sufficient money can be injected into the country's economy to make any appreciable effect upon the local native people concerned.

Purist conservationists who reject hunting are long on sentiment and mighty short on bucks. A short examination of the history of game management in this richest—and most soft-hearted—of countries will reveal that the costs of preserving American game are carried by the hunter. When the sweet little old ladies of both sexes whimper in joy over the sight of a wild animal, that pleasure was quite likely paid for by some bloody-handed hunter down the road.

As far as Kenya is concerned, the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation—the leading American group concerned with Africa's game and a very fine organization—is proud of the fact that it has put approximately

\$200,000 "to work to save the African game" in one three-year period. This is very admirable, but it is a drop in the bucket compared to the over \$1,500,000 hunters spent in Kenya alone in 1960. I do not downgrade the efforts of sincere conservation organizations; I only wish to place them in proper perspective. They simply do not have the means to preserve African game without the revenue provided by hunting licenses, fees, and other expenses.

Game is the only practical crop for much of East Africa. And it is a money crop. Areas which would never provide a dollar or pound sterling from farming or industry can and do bring countless thousands from both photographic and hunting safaris. The excess animals of any crop—domestic or wild—must be harvested or they are forever wasted. Which is the greater sin—to waste or to harvest as efficiently as possible?

Yes, "harvest" means killing, but isn't death a part of life—especially in Africa? The whole game ecology of East Africa is based upon the give and take of one species to another. If man is to intrude into this arrangement and game is to somehow survive, a working relationship—that does not disturb the basic system—must be worked out.

If one takes the game away from East Africa, what will be left? There are no historic cities of ancient days, no pagan temples, no medieval castles, no glorious battlefields, no great museums, nor art galleries. Africa has its land—its mountains, its magnificent lakes, and its game. If that

is lost, so goes the tourist—and his dollar.

While the 1964 Army riots and the increasing influence of both Russia and Red China in East Africa—plus the recent expulsion of British residents—do nothing to bolster the outside world's confidence in the political future of the area, the conservation-economic problems remain constant regardless of the vagaries of men and parties. Kenya and all East Africa still need the tourist's all-mighty dollar and pound sterling to help close the desperate gap between income and expenditures. Game remains the key to tourism regardless of what faction runs the country.

Those who are concerned with Africa and its unique game can only hope that the story told by old hunter Sid Downey on a network television show on Africa's "Irreplaceables" will somehow become an anachronism in the new Africa. Mr. Downey told of a conversation between a Kenya game ranger and an African hunter as they stood on a hilltop and discussed the game herds on the plain below:

"Isn't that beautiful?" asked the ranger.

"Yes," said the tribesman. "I'd like to kill them."

"Why?"

"Because they are good to eat."

"Then what of the lions and other creatures?"

"I would kill them too."

"Why?"

"Because they are not good to eat."

It is significant that the Swahili word—"nyama"—for animal and meat is the same.



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RIGGING UP FOR SIXGUNNING

(Continued from page 47)

Holding the Smith & Wesson in your right hand, as if you were going to shoot it, you will find that the thumbpiece of the cylinder latch has moved forward. Pull it back with your thumb, so that the trigger and hammer may move through their normal cycles. Pulling the trigger about halfway back, you will be able to remove the hammer from its pivot pin in the frame. Lift the hand from its channel and remove it from the trigger.

Slide the trigger from its pivot pin, and recover the rebound spring and rebound spring housing as they disengage from the rear of the trigger. Older Smith & Wessons will have a guide pin inside the coil rebound spring that acts as a trigger stop. Stash all these parts in your little box, and remember their relationship to one another.

The next step is to reduce the width of the mainspring. This is best accomplished with a power grinder, but the job can be done with a file if necessary. Remove about $\frac{1}{32}$ " of metal at each side of the top, or stirrup, end of the spring, increasing the width of the cut to about $\frac{1}{16}$ " at the base. Later, if double action pull or cocking is found to be still excessively hard, the spring may be further reduced.

But take it easy. A mainspring that is too weak will give misfires on tough primers such as .22 rimfire or large pistol. Some authorities even claim that a hammer blow that just barely ignites the primer means ignition that is not uniform—and inaccuracy. It is better to have your cut down mainspring a little too heavy when its strain screw is turned all the way in, then back the screw out to make the final, lightening adjustments.

Top this grinding of the spring with a polish job with emery cloth, to remove burrs and tool marks which score the metal and invite breakage.

The next step on your Smith & Wesson is to cut two coils from the trigger rebound spring with a pair of sidecutters, polishing

the raw end with emery cloth. Reassemble the gun around its two softened springs and try the action. Any further reduction of the strength of the springs should be essayed very carefully, removing a tiny amount of metal from them at a time, and reassembling the gun for trial before continuing. These springs are cheap, and it shows good judgment to have a couple of spares at hand before operating on them, thus avoiding sweating out a mail order for new ones while your favorite holster gun lies disabled.

Reassembly of the S & W, if you paid attention while stripping it down, is simple. First, the hand has two pins that enter corresponding holes in the right side of the trigger. The larger pin, on which the hand pivots, should be inserted into its hole only far enough to barely catch the smaller pin in the edge of the channel in which it moves. Before pushing these pins all the way through the trigger, catch the tip of the wire hand spring with the blade of a narrow screwdriver and force it gently into its cavity. Holding the spring in place, shove the hand into place against the side of the trigger. You might miss the first try, but properly done, the hand will bear toward the front of the trigger, under spring tension.

Next, slide the trigger onto its pin and guide the hand into its slot in the frame. Place the rebound spring in its housing and fit the arm at the front of the housing into its slot in the rear of the trigger. The rebound spring assembly will not go into place until the coil spring is retracted into the housing and the housing pressed completely down over the stop pin in the frame. I use a hook-shaped dentist's pick for this purpose, but any strong, pointed instrument will serve.

Be sure all the lockwork parts are pressed as far as they will go onto their pins in the frame, then tap the sideplate gently into place with your plastic or wooden drift. Replace the cylinder, then return the sideplate screws in their original holes.

Correcting errors in your gun's sight picture is simple if the rear sight is adjustable, as it would be on the Highway Patrolman. Simply move the rear sight right or left, up or down, depending on the direction you want your group on the target to move. If your pistol has fixed sights, like those on the S & W Military & Police .38 Special, for instance, the problem is meatier. If a

fixed sight revolver shoots low, a little metal filed from the top of the front sight blade will bring the group up to taw. High grouping of shots can only be corrected by adding metal to the front sight by welding or by grinding off the existing sight and sweating or silver soldering a higher one in its place. This is a job for a competent gunsmith, and should not be attempted by the amateur.

Windage adjustment on a fixed sight six-gun that shoots right or left is difficult, and should be approached carefully. Gun-monkeys who know what they're doing can use a brass drift punch bearing against the base of the front blade to knock it in the opposite direction that they want their target groups to move. The risk of serious damage to the sight blade is great, and I prefer to employ a needle file to widen the rear sight notch on the side toward which I wish to move my group. As long as not too much lateral adjustment is required, this method works fairly well, and leaves a sight picture that shows more daylight on either side of the front blade—a sight picture I favor for snapshooting and defense work.

Differences in the size and shape of their shooting hands, and divergences of opinions on what constitutes a proper pistol grip have caused some pretty fiery arguments among pistolmen. One thing they all agree on is that the grip shape as provided on out-of-the-box Colts and Smith & Wessons, designed to fit everybody, don't fit nobody.

A makeshift aid toward a better-feeling hawleg is the little grip adapter put out by S & W, Pachmayr, and others. Filling up part of the unnecessarily large space behind the trigger guards of the double actions, it eliminates knuckle rapping and lowers the hand on the grip, giving the index finger a straighter, more natural pull at the trigger. These little gimmicks are at best a stopgap measure, and the serious sixgunner will want to send his specifications to Herrett's Stocks, Twin Falls, Idaho, or some other experienced gripmaker to get a pair of tailor made done up. Next to a decent trigger pull, custom fitted grips on your handgun are the most important assist to good shooting that can be acquired. Besides being practical, these handles can add much to the handsomeness of your gun when turned out in rosewood, Guayacan, Purple Heart, Goncala Alves, or any of the other exotic hardwoods.

A final touch in smoothing up your Smith & Wesson is taking a few file strokes over the points of the checkering on the hammer spur. Leaving the factory, these checkered spurs are so sharp as to be painful to the ball of the thumb during long strings of fire, and blunting their needle points allows you to practice your thumbcocking in comfort. If your Smith has target sights, it is also well to file the sharp corners from the rear sight leaf, thus preserving the lining of your jackets.

Working over a Colt Double Action does not require so much effort. Loosening the large headed screw on the right of the frame permits removal of the cylinder. Next come the sideplate screws on the left, and the plate itself is tapped out of its cut in the same manner as that of the Smith & Wesson. The Colt mainspring and trigger rebound spring are one V-shaped leaf that performs both functions. Lightening DA



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pull on the Hartford product requires only the simple bending of an inverted V, or rafter, into the top half of this spring. This should be an extremely shallow bend, and I have frequently done this job by inserting the shaft of a small screwdriver of $\frac{1}{20}$ " to $\frac{1}{10}$ " diameter between the arms of the spring, then bringing the hammer of the weapon to full cock. This closes the spring on the screwdriver and results in the necessary small bend to reduce its tension. If the resulting hammer fall is too light for sure ignition, or the trigger return too slow and mushy, the spring can be straightened to renew its resistance.

New Colt and Ruger Single Actions want less tension of their mainsprings to produce a lighter cocking action and a somewhat improved single action let-off. The Colt's long, leaf mainspring may be narrowed as is done with the Smith & Wesson. A less complicated method, and one I prefer, is to cut a pad of heavy saddle leather and punch a hole in it to take the mainspring screw. After removing the backstrap and mainspring of the old thumbbuster, fit this pad against the screw hole in the front strap and screw the mainspring in place over it. Trim off excess leather with a sharp knife, so the grips may be replaced. The hammer fall will then be lightened, and the mainspring less likely to break, cushioned as it is by the thick leather.

Ruger Single Actions are exceptionally smooth as they come from the factory, but can be made even more so with the judicious cutting of a couple of coils from their music wire mainsprings. Remove your Ruger's grips, then cock the hammer. The flat steel guide inside the mainspring will extend far enough down into the grip frame that a hole in its side is evident. Insert a slave pin (a straightened paper clip will serve) through this hole and lower the hammer. Then unscrew the grip frame from the receiver and lift out the spring assembly. Remove your slave pin, shielding the mainspring with your hand and catching it as it jumps off its guide. Clip a couple of coils from the spring, polish the raw end, and reassemble. This is a job that needs three hands, and is best managed with a vise and the assistance of a friend. Close the vise on the sides of the stamping that serves as the mainspring stop. Slide the mainspring over its guide, and grasp the flat, upper end of the guide with pliers.

Do this carefully, so as not to mar the surface of the guide where it bears against the hammer. Push the lower end of the guide through its slot in the stop held in the vise. This requires two hands, and your buddy can stand by to insert the slave pin as the spring is compressed far enough for the guide to be again pinioned in battery. Attach the grip frame to the gun, with the mainspring assembly in place. Fit the top of the mainspring guide into its place in the hammer, cock the hammer, withdraw your slave pin, and replace the grips.

Your new sixshooter was meant to be used. Care for it meticulously, but not to the point of being afraid to give it a good workout every time you have the chance. Strapping on a well-broken-in hipgun is what you will do right before you whistle up your dog and say, "Let's go out and look things over."



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from page 5)

the tax fee of \$5.00, will this be all I need to do? And will Washington send a registration paper for me to carry for the gun?

I would appreciate your sending of all the necessary information as soon as possible.

Ben D. Wells
Gustine, Calif.

Conversions as contemplated by you might violate several different provisions of the Federal Firearms Laws. In all such cases, it is wise to write in detail to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit of the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. State in detail the proposed alteration, and include caliber, barrel length, overall length, etc. The inclusion of a sketch is also urged.

The answer you get will not only let you know where you stand, but also will be binding on the Treasury Department in your case, even if the regulations are subsequently changed—which has happened.—S.B.

1831 Springfield

I am the owner of an 1831 U.S. Springfield musket in fair shape and also an 1873 U.S. Springfield trapdoor rifle in firing order only. Is there any market value for these guns and what would their approximate value be?

Edward Mansch
Forest Park, Illinois

Collectors value for your Springfield 1831 musket in the original flintlock will vary between \$85 and \$160 from fair condition to fine. If in the conversion to percussion model, value would be from \$60 to \$100 depending on condition. Your 1873 Springfield trapdoor rifle's value is from \$25 to about \$70 in very fine condition.—R.M.

Hungarian 37M

I am looking for information on an auto pistol I have. It's of .380 caliber and is marked "FEMARU FEGYVERES GEPGYAR RT 37M" on the left side of the slide. It is serial numbered 156844 above the left handgrip. On the left forward side of the trigger guard is stamped a crown. The clip has a "leg" on it that projects in line with the in-strap. On the bottom of the clip is also stamped "37M." The gun also has wooden grips and a grip safety.

I would like to know by whom the pistol was manufactured and where? Also, in what year it was made? Is it possible to get parts for it; and last but not least, what's it worth in very good condition?

Michael B. Corless
Royal Oak, Mich.

Your "37M" is of Hungarian manufacture; the "37" indicates the year it was officially accepted by that government for use by its armed forces. It was designed a few years earlier. As your gun is without Nazi marks, it was probably made before WW II. Most good parts dealers carry parts for this gun. In very good condition, it should be worth \$45 to \$55.—S.B.

English Percussion Pistol

I have a double action percussion cap revolver of old vintage. It says "Adams Patent" on one side. On the top of the barrel is stamped "Ellis & Sheath, Makers to his Majesties Board of Ordinance, London." The patent or serial number is 202014. It is nickel plated and has scroll work on it. It is hex barreled and about .45 caliber. It has a spring type safety on the side to protect the caps from the hammer. Can you give me any information on this?

W. J. Garrison
Tulare, Calif.

As the Adams Revolver was adopted by the British War Office and had widespread popularity, many firms made similar revolvers using, with permission and payment, the Adams Patent. Your engraved and plated revolver by Ellis and Sheath sounds like a private maker that had a small government contract and also made commercial firearms, as yours seems to be. Period of manufacture, about 1865 to 1870; collectors value, \$65 to \$70.—R.M.

Game Getter

I have inherited a Marble's Game Getter gun. It has a 15 inch barrel with a .22 caliber over a .410 with folding stock and the original holster. I am sure you are familiar with the gun. It is in beautiful condition with almost perfect bluing. I would like to know how much such a gun is worth. By the way, its serial number is 10713 and I have it registered.

Eldon F. Lewis
Garberville, Calif.

Congratulations on your registered Game Getter. In the condition you described, it should be worth at least \$150 to a serious collector.—S.B.



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GUNS FOR LEOPARD

(Continued from page 33)

Maybe he tips the beam at only a fractional part of the others but he makes up for it in the demonical ferocity of his all-out attack. His is a do or die fight-out: He goes in to the death; either he dies or you do. Make him mad with some sloppy gun-work and you will come to a full-blown appreciation of the utter savagery of this feline.

Sid Downey of Ker & Downey, old-line Nairobi white hunter outfit, says, "You can run leopards with dogs and do it successfully. Spots likes dogmeat and will catch a single mutt, but put a pack after him and he runs. And he'll come to bay, too. But when you walk up with your sportsman to shoot the cat, he will come back through the pack and make for you straightaway. The bloody bawstard knows who is at the bottom of his troubles."

Jim Corbett, tiger-hunting raconteur, put together some entrancing sagas about man-eating leopards. These Corbett cats stalked and ate Nehru's followers just like tigers. The African leopard sometimes kills a na-

tive, less frequently mauls a white settler, and in this latter case has been hurt beforehand. Rare indeed is the circumstance where Spots deliberately sets out to stir up a rhubarb. So long as baboons and wart hogs remain in supply he is content to shun the human animal.

It is hard to say what leopards like best, baboon steaks, warthog chops or just plain ordinary dogmeat. On safari with Tony Dyer we had our problems with his saucy bull terrier, Punch. It was necessary to guard the benchleg day and night to keep him from fighting his last fight. At one time up in the Northern Frontier we were camped in the Merrille Luggah and three leopards prowled the camp every night. Our blacks showed small fear of the marauders and several times threw sticks at them during the night. Punch slept at his master's feet and showed good judgment in going just barely beyond the tent flap to take care of fundamental chores. During the day he sometimes grew careless and Guru, Dyer's personal boy, was

continually chasing him back from the bush in the bed of the *luggah* lest he fall prey to one of the prowling cats.

Dyer and I had strung a series of baits, before the Merrille camp in the Masai country much to the south. One of these produced an old stud *chui* within 24 hours. We built a hide and that afternoon late I injured into the grass-and-thorn blind with Onyongo, Tony's headman. We were within two or three pistol shots of a Masai village and the flies were legion. The Masai fly is a sticky pest; he won't get off, alights and will walk in your mouth if you happen to be dozing a bit. Only death rids you of this nuisance and since this means slapping your face smartly that's out. A leopard's hearing is second only to his eyesight, two of the most acute senses in the animal kingdom. So you sit and suffer. Not even to the most agonizingly demanding itchy sensation can you administer. Onyongo went off to sleep quite promptly and the flies ate him alive. I watched the bait until darkness blotted out the maggots remains and with full darkness we walked the three miles back to camp in the moonlight.

The morning following I sifted into the hide long before the night was used up. The Masai girls came at first light with their gourds and giggles, trekking to the water-hole on the mountain, and if *chui* had contemplated a breakfast off the malodorous remains of the tommy the girls bugged him but good. We gave up, cut the bait down for *fisi*, the slobbering one, and moved out.

Two mornings later and twenty miles away we waited out a cold night. This blind was dug into the flinty soil and the thorn piled about it left a firing port scant inches larger than the gun barrel. Forty yards away, hung tantalizingly from the sprawling limb of an acacia was a slightly tattered baboon. This simian had succumbed to a hundred grains of lead from the .243 and after some days under the hot African sun was a bit the worse for wear.

Dyer promptly went to sleep. Ordinarily he does not do this because he is concerned as to how his paying guest will place the shot. Slip that bullet too far back by a pair of inches and Tony has a bloody awful situation on his hands! He must wait then for good light, must go to the safari car and drag out the Lewis 12 double, cram in a brace of ICC buckshot loads and take up the spoor of the wounded devil-cat. It is, as the understatement of the morning, just a hell of a spot to be in!

To work out the sign of the crippled cat builds up more tension than that faced by an astronaut sweating out the preflight countdown. The white hunter takes over. He motions his client to get behind him: we've lost quite a few hunters to the fang and claw of the "Big 5" but so far haven't lost a single sportsman. The old scattergun at the ready, the blacks treading like a Hindu fakir on a hot bed of coals, the entourage inches forward. And I mean literally inches forward! The hunter takes one step. Stops. Looks. Takes another. Stops. And repeats the nerve-racking routine. After 30 minutes and 30 steps your ganglions are doing a schizophrenic double-take.

With a wounded lion, it is different. Old Leo will bush up and you can throw rocks into the hide and if a stone strikes close he will give forth with a growl. Not so Spots.



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If he bushes up to ambush you and a rock strikes him, he never gives away his location by the futility of a mouthing. And unlike Simba he cannot be depended upon to bush up; he may climb into a dense-leaf low-limbed tree and wait your passing beneath. As you inch ahead you must scan every clump of grass and at the same time be mindful of the trees overhead. It is just like walking down Main street in "High Noon," except in this case the other gent isn't in the middle of the street where you can see him make his play. This shoot-out comes on with the opposition playing it cool and from cover.

Dave Ommanney, top hunter for the Lawrence-Brown Safaris, had a German baron out on an Uganda safari. This nobleman was fond of a 3-barreled drilling which he had fetched along. It was an 8x57 mm with 16 gauge barrels above. One day traveling across country in the Land Rover, what should mount a low lying hill but a big dog leopard. This is about as rare as catching a Kudu bull plumb out in the open. The cat was about 55 yards distant and stood there and insolently surveyed the safari car.

The kraut huntsman whipped up the 3-barreled job and cut loose. Not, let it be noted, with the excellent 8x57 under barrel stuffed as it was with the 225-gr. H-mantle bullet, but instead with a leaden slug from one of the 16 bore barrels. The distance for a slug, fired as it is from a perfectly smooth bore, was long; the distance was afterward measured at 56 yards. The big hunk of purest lead hit not in the beast's heart but back in the guts. It did not kill the cat. But it sure made him mad as hell, and Dave Ommanney, too.

He dipped into the disarray of gear in the rear compartment of the Land Rover and plucked forth the usual leopard medicine: A Greener double 12. He slipped two Eley buckshot loads into the barrels and looked around for the titled customer. This worthy had not budged. "Stay right there," the white hunter said. "This may get sticky."

His gunbearer was not with him. Ommanney had along a pint-size camp boy, a young Wakamba who had been signed on just as the safari left Nairobi. He could not be trusted with a rifle because he had never fired one. His only weapon was a belt knife.

Thirty minutes and 50 feet later Ommanney found the baron's leopard. Or rather the cat found him. The wounded beast permitted the hunter and his dusky tracker to pass and then leaped on the white hunter's back. Sinking his teeth into the right arm and raking the man from kidneys to knees with his razor-sharp hind claws. Ommanney went down and the cat atop him mauled and clawed.

The courageous Wakamba ran in his ineffectual 4-inch blade out and swinging. He stabbed the leopard repeatedly. The cat gave off his clawing of the white man and took a swing at the native. He scalped the black. The scalp, ripped in a huge flap of skin and hair, was pulled forward and down over the boy's eyes. He staggered about trying to lift the flap of skin and fight again. The respite was enough for Ommanney to retrieve the Greener and shoot the cat.

During all this rhubarb the baron sat in the safari car and watched. He was not 25 yards from the whole affair.

Ommanney managed to reach the hospital and six weeks later was again guiding parties for leopard. His camp boy survived. His scalp was sewed back in place, an eye was removed, and he was promoted once Ommanney was back in the saddle again from lowly camp helper to the lofty stature of first gunbearer. When I last saw him he bore the robes of office with all the lofty arrogance of the white hunter's Number One tracker. He had arrived. The Teuton nobleman when queried as to why he had not taken a hand in the fight was quoted as commenting in his faultless English, "It was quite dangerous there, you know."

As Dyer snored raucously, I strained through the gloom and the Bushnell glasses to spot some movement along the limb which supported the bait. We had hung the meat so Spots must lie full-stretch along the limb and could then barely reach the bait with a forepaw. This arrangement was aimed at conserving our bait and frustrating the prey.

I had been straining my eyes for the better part of an hour when I saw the cat. It had approached the tree through a piddling donga and had climbed into the first forks of the tree and even then was edging out on the limb. It was much too dark to risk a shot.

The leopard, little better than a shapeless shadow moved along the great limb, lay flat, and fished energetically for the swinging ape carcass. After long minutes of this he grew disgusted and turned about and marched down the tree head first. I sweated and cursed, afraid he would not return. I

wondered if maybe I should not have tried a shot even in the Stygian gloom. Long experience told me I had done the right thing in checking my trigger finger.

It was faintish day when he returned. The first intimation I had that the feline was back to the tree was when I peered cautiously through the gun port and looked the target squarely in the eye or so it seemed.

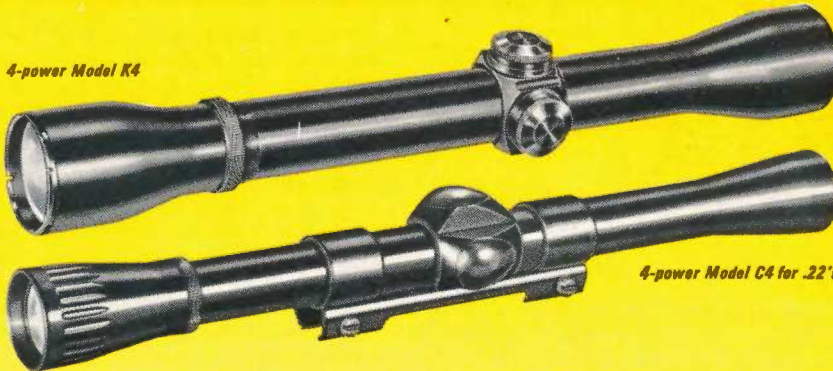
He was resting in the great forks of the tree, chest exposed. After what must have been 5 minutes he turned his head ever so little to scan the donga and in that split second I fetched the Hensoldt post to bear on his chest. On the clangor of the big .338 the cat pitched backward, out of sight.

These are always moments of agonizing selfappraisal. Were the sights precisely where they should be? Is, in fact, the rifle in perfect zero or have the days and weeks of rough-and-tumble safari hunting knocked 'em a bit askew? Is the dangerous Mr. Spots lying dead at the foot of yonder acacia or has he dragged himself down the donga to lay his lethal ambushade?

The leopard, an old dog one, and lean, lay on his back at the foot of the tree, quite dead. The bullet through his brisket was precisely where it should be. A leopard is a soft bodied critter and easily killed. The big 250-gr. slug had met so little resistance it had not opened up, the hole of exit out through the back was no larger than the one of entrance. Dyer and I shook hands silently. The blacks moved up with the safari car and came forward and shook hands just as solemnly.



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CHOOSING YOUR SHOTGUN

(Continued from page 49)

inches for which 1½ ounce loads are commercially available.

That puts the 20 on a par with the standard 12 gauge game load of only a decade ago. Combined with its light weight and faster handling qualities, a lot of hunters of all ages, both sexes, and different degrees of experience believe the 20 is a near perfect modern day choice. As their belief is translated into sales, I look for the annual percentage of 12 gauge sales of fall slightly to a comparable increase in 20 buying. This trend won't be noticeable within the next year or two but I look for a 3 to 5 per cent gain in 20 gauge sales in the next decade which will probably come out of a comparable loss in 12 gauge sales during this period.

The 28 gauge has been and is somewhat of an enigma. Its sales record of only 3 per cent of the market seems low, until you consider that only three models are available in this gauge. Of late years the ammo for it has been beefed up to close the gap between it and the standard 20 gauge. You can now have a full range of ¾ ounce skeet loads up to hunting loads carrying 1-ounce loads—all in the 2¾ inch shot-shells.

I have a Model 48 Remington semi-automatic in 28 gauge and enjoy using it on cottontails, squirrels, teal ducks, and early season sharp-tail grouse. It's a lively little gun to handle but scarcely stout enough in shot load for ranges beyond 25 to 30 yards and then only on game which owns light life tenacity. But as long as there are skeet events for this handy little gauge, there'll be a small but steady demand for the 28.

During the past hunting season I loaned my Rem. 28 to a fine young ranch youngster who had no shotgun of his own. His father reported, "Dennis thinks that's the greatest thing that ever happened on Harrison Flats." The lad will learn about shotguns from it and get occasional game and varmints with it before his draft call hauls him off for his stint in the Armed Forces. I thought the gun was better off in his eager hands than sitting idle in my gun cabinet.

There has been some talk of developing a 24 gauge but I greatly doubt that any manufacturer would tool up for this intermediate between the 20 and the 28. That's splitting very fine hairs and buying demand would be chiefly from those shotgunners who wanted the complete range of available gauges. In other words, you can already use light 20 gauge loads to match what the 24 gauge would have to be, or load your 28 gauge with maximum loads to achieve the same end purpose. If there was some source of supply of reasonably cheap cases some wild-eyed wildcatter might bring out the 24 gauge for its sheer novelty value.

Finally, we get to the pipsqueak .410. Its sale of 10 per cent of the total American market absolutely baffles me. As I see it the only justification for owning a .410 is to shoot small pests, to dust off feral dogs and cats which pester your own domestic animals and, possibly, as a quiet voiced poaching gun for half-tame game. But it certainly isn't much of a hunting gun. The .410 is also very exacting for clay target use and only a half dozen perfect 100 rounds have

Colt's President Benke Made Deputy Marshall of Dodge



Paul A. Benke, president of Colt's Firearms, was appointed an Honorary Deputy Marshall of Dodge City, Kansas by U. S. Marshall Kenneth House of Dodge City, who made the official appointment during a recent visit to the Connecticut firearms company. With this honor, Benke joins a number of distinguished persons who have been made honorary deputy marshalls of Dodge City, including the late President of the United States, John F. Kennedy; Orville Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture, and Cyrus Vance, Assistant Secretary of Defense.

ever been scored with it in major competition.

There has been a lot of crap written that the .410 is a fine kids' and women's gun because of its insignificant recoil. But it is also insignificant in its effect on game and targets, and all the kids and gals get out of using it is feeling the small jump of recoil and hearing it bang. Any youngster or female who is grimly determined to show some results for the day's sport is thus automatically railroaded toward disappoint-

ment. Such beginners are usually slow gun handlers and, long before they line up and touch off the shot, the target is beyond killing range. It takes a helluva fast gun handler—which means an experience-hardened expert—to use a .410 with significant results.

Recoil is definitely a factor in choosing the ideal shotgun but not to as high a degree as commonly advertised. Oddly enough the size of the shooter has little bearing on this. I've heard six-foot-six lugs, carrying 240 pounds on their flat feet, scream like crippled rabbits at the recoil of a 12-gauge loaded with standard game loads. Yet I've also seen 100-pound gals and kids handle similar shotguns with easy enjoyment. The difference is in the matter of gun fit, shouldering, band hold on the gun, and deep concentration on the targets of the moment.

A touchiness to recoil can also stem more from a mental attitude than from physical condition or size. It's very easy for a father to have a shotgun stocked for his young son and then, when he sees the kid enjoy shooting that gun with no complaints, forget about it. A year or two later the youngster has outgrown that short stock and finds his thumb recoiling into his nose. A few treatments like that can start flinching on a massive scale. Another youngster may be given a shotgun of standard stocking and is expected to "grow up to it." So he does, eventually. Meanwhile that over-long stock may repeatedly slide under or outside the shoulder pocket and bruise the armpit, shoulder, or upper arm, and another case of finchitis is born.

In the first case the addition of a recoil pad and some thick spacers will keep pace with the boy's growth, until he gets to the point where the original stock may be reinstalled. In the second case the cure is obvious; shortening the stock to begin with and then gradually lengthening it so that boy and gun fit each other. In all cases preventing finchitis should be carefully planned lest it become a chronic fault. No one can shoot well or learn much if he is dodging punishment every time he pulls the trigger.

I went through all that whenever I could sneak Dad's Model 97 Winchester out for a private prairie chicken hunt. So I early learned to differentiate between relatively mild factory loads and those blasting handloads which my father fashioned for geese, foxes, and coyotes. Of course that 97 wore a hard-rubber butt-plate which smote my kid shoulder like a mailed fist. In those days soft and cushioning recoil pads were virtually unknown. So I simply shot and suffered from that Model 97.

One way I used to smother massive recoil was to clench the grip of the gun and use a stiff right wrist and arm, thus locking the whole upper right part of my body into a relatively integral unit. That is still good advice since a loosely held shotgun can slip

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in the hand when fired and deliver a sharp recoil jolt and also shifts the grip out of position for a quick second or third shot. But when rigidly controlled that recoil turns into a smothered push which doesn't slam into the shoulder. As a result I never did develop a flinch; I just took my lumps as a matter of course and learned to live with them.

Even at this late date I still catch a great share of my shotgun recoil on that forward-stiffened right wrist, meanwhile pulling backward on the forearm with my left hand. That puts the bulk of gun control between the two hands, not a bad idea when quick successive shots are needed on crows, pheasants, or ducks. I never have gone along with the theory of laying the thumb along the right side of the grip—the left side for southpaw shooters—to avoid having it bang into the nose. You can't hold a grip securely if it's already half released. To my mind, this grip provides a very weak hold and puts recoil in the driver's seat. So I wrap my hand around the grip, with the thumb in opposition, not apposition, to the remaining fingers of the hand. The hand then surrounds the grip as it does in handshaking or firing a large-caliber handgun. This provides the strongest possible hold on the grip which, with a stiffened wrist, greatly dampens recoil.

Now let's consider the various shotgun actions and their popularity as reflected by ownership and annual sales. Historically, the single barreled guns monopolized the field. These fowling pieces were so long and heavy that it took a stout man to carry and heft one for firing. But, eventually, in order to have more than one shot available, barrels were somewhat thinned, shortened, and lightened and the side-by-side doubles came into being. They were tops for quite a while, from the muzzle-loading through the breech-loading era.

With the introduction of self-contained shotshells it was only a matter of time before inventive gunmakers produced magazine guns. The hunter then could fire consecutively until the gun was empty, then reload and go at it again. Some of the earliest repeating shotguns were lever-actions, but the pump action is now the popular standard, with a rare few of the cheaper models in bolt-actions.

The next step was the development of the semi-automatics, again for the sake of the fire power of several gun-contained shells. Where game is reasonably abundant and generally encountered in sizeable flocks, the autoloader is often very popular. Once the hunter is loaded up all he has to do is aim, swing, and press the trigger for each target he chooses. On the average the autoloader is slightly faster than a pump, though a skilled gun handler can rattle off all the loads in his trombone-action as fast as any auto shells them out.

I believe family habit prompts the selection of shotgun actions more than any single factor. I have seen that carryover into three generations several times. If the grandfather shot a double, his son did likewise, either by inheritance or by buying his own. And when the grandson turned hunting age, because of having familiarized himself with his father's double, he also chose a twin-tubed scattergun for his own use.

In my family pumps were the favorites.

Although I've owned some semi-autos and doubles—in fact, I still do—any serious gunning calls out the time tested pumpguns. Aside from this family preference, the shell capacity of a long string of trombone actions has proved very efficient on many emergency occasions. We could pick up a pumpgun loaded with four shells in the magazine, grab a handful of spare loads, and be assured we had enough ammo to work a half-mile-long cornfield for ring-necks without running short of ammo. If we ran into enough birds those eight to ten loads per hunter frequently produced five-bird limits.

One time I recall seven of us worked just such a cornfield and, when we emerged, we had 33 cocks, just two short of our total

day's limit. With the exception of one bolt action, all of the guns on that hunt were pumps. That hunt was exceptional but it just shows what veteran pheasant hunters could do during South Dakota's golden years of pheasant abundance. During one weekend hunt in Nebraska six of us filled out on our 30 birds per day for two consecutive days, though we had to work significantly harder and longer for them. But, in one spot, I killed five cocks with no more effort and adjustment than shifting my feet.

A pump, or an autoloader, which holds five shells—or three for waterfowl, or in those states which impose a similar limit for upland game—is just mighty handy to have in your fists when you encounter an occasional game bonanza. Even when plugged

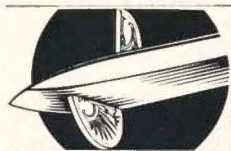
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to a three-shell capacity I can't count the times when that third shell felled an additional bird or halted the escape of a hit but still flying cripple. On several occasions that third shell stopped waterfowl cripples enroute to game refuges where they would have been lost and wasted.

In at least two instances, when geese were flying high, at the edge of killing range, I successfully laid all three loads into each of two geese and downed both to fill a day's limit. Aside from limiting out I had the moral satisfaction of not having fired at three separate birds and, probably, crippling all of them but retrieving none. Anyone with a double barrel in his hands just doesn't have that kind of instant insurance.

Since the sale of pump action shotguns annually ranges from 45 to 50 per cent of the national total it seems that an overwhelming percentage of Americans follow such reasoning. Especially since autoloaders are second, at 25 to 30 per cent, while doubles—both side-by-side and over-unders—show 10 per cent buying, and single barrel guns—both true one-shotters and bolt-actions—account for the balance of annual sales.

So, if you're undecided as to which action of shotgun to buy you can hardly go wrong by deciding along these lines of popular demand. If you later feel that another make of pump would suit you better, or decide to go to an autoloader, double or single, the current market will readily absorb your original purchase on a trade-in or outright sale. The same advantage holds true if you want to upgrade your original buy for another trombone-action of higher quality.

I've owned a score of pumps and never lost a nickel in selling or trading any of them. After my bruising experience with Dad's Model 97 I was given one of the now obsolete Remington Model 17's in 20 gauge as a college graduation present. I still have it, chiefly for sentimental reasons, though Remington has replaced six firing pins and two wornout breech blocks, attesting to four decades of hard yearround use. It has been reblued three times and now wears its third stock. But the feats it performed are legion, both in my hands and those of my sons and hunting friends. It ain't much to look at nowadays: Neither am I. But during our joint heydays we wiped the muzzles of many fancier shotguns and the noses of their disgruntled owners. Collected some handsome wagers, too.

Space forbids extensive mention of the assorted shotguns I've used. Among the pumps were the Models 10 and 24 Remingtons and the Model 12 Winchester. The autoloaders included Remingtons, Brownings, and the Model 50 glass barreled Winchester. I vividly remember the Models 10

and 50 jamming at crucial moments so I shot the first goose and then couldn't chamber another load to fill my two bird limits. Such dismal failures don't endear any shotgun to any hunter, especially to one who had made a 200 mile drive to get to the hunting grounds for such prized waterfowl.

By the time my two sons started shotgunning I'd firmly fixed on Ithaca pumps. I started the boys out with 20's and, when they grew big enough to handle them, we all shot 12 gauges and have continued with these bread-and-butter guns ever since. We were then pretty much of one size as regards arm and neck length, so it didn't make much difference as to which of the three guns we picked up on any given occasion. They all performed very similarly to induce keen competition among us.

Daisy Opens Museum



Astronaut Wallace M. Shira during a tour of Daisy Museum with Pres. Cass Hough.

The world's only museum devoted entirely to air guns was dedicated during October in Rogers, Arkansas, by Daisy Manufacturing Company. The new museum houses 200 of the finest air gun specimens from Daisy's collection of 1,000 rare guns, which is said to be the world's largest assortment.

Currently on display at the museum are guns spanning more than 400 years . . . from 17th and 18th century European air guns to the unique "Space Air Gun" used by Astronaut Edward H. White during the flight of Gemini IV.

I can admire a fine shotgun with anyone but I just can't warm up to the side-by-side doubles. For targets at predictable angles they may be fine. But I shoot with both eyes open and that extra barrel thus obscures some of my view of the targets, especially when leading those going to the left. And—let's face it—they're crosseyed; that is, their shot patterns superimpose somewhere around 40 yards. At shorter ranges they shoot right or left of dead center and at longer ranges the reverse is true. If you use slugs in a double for deer or boar hunting, the delivery point from the twin barrels may be feet apart at a mere 50 yards.

I own a 20 gauge Browning over-under

which I like very much and enjoy shooting. But not by preference if the action promises to be hot. There's always that nagging lack of a ready third load on waterfowl, and flock flushes of upland game. And when crows are being called I feel underarmed with anything less than the five-shell capacity of a pump or semi-auto.

A somewhat similar attitude is reflected by annual American buying habits of doubles, which comprise only 10 per cent of the market. Traditional double use, heavily evident throughout the British possessions and in many European countries, isn't reflected in America. Anyone uncasing a pump or an autoloader there draws disapproving frowns. But the fact remains that few Old World households own guns of any kind, thus hunting is confined to the landed gentry and their invited guests. They set a snob level of gun ownership, use, and action type.

American shotgun sales annually represent about 28 to 30 per cent of all new firearms sold. At retail prices this amounts to some \$36,000,000. This, of course, is the basic gun figure and doesn't reflect the additional income from the sale of commercial ammunition, handloading components, reloading presses, gun cases, clay targets, hunting licenses, duck stamps, money spent on hunting trips, and a host of other expenditures related to shotgun ownership.

Any falloff in gun and ammo sales would bring about a corresponding reduction in Federal excise taxes to implement the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937 for study of wildlife and its habitat improvement. In fiscal 1965, ending June 30th of that year, this amounted to \$19,236,000., an increase of over \$2,286,000. over the previous fiscal year. This goes to work via the Department of Interior, which collects these federal excise taxes and allocates them to the various states on the basis of the number of hunting licenses they sell.

The states pay 25 per cent of the study and habitat project costs out of their license fee incomes. After collection and handling costs are subtracted, the remaining 75 per cent of such project costs are available to the state game departments. Thus every outdoorsman who buys a gun, ammunition, or a hunting license automatically contributes to this national reclamation project for wildlife.

Everyone except a shortsighted anti-gun fanatic knows that outdoorsmen are closely integrated with wildlife welfare; that what is good for one is fine for the other. It's because of hunter interest that we have so many forms of game birds and animals in adequate to abundant supply. Habitat suitable for them rubs off on other wildlife, of nongame appeal. If hunters ever lose that interest in wildlife values, both the edible and aesthetic forms will suffer.

Don't imagine that the nation's bird lovers and wildlife admirers are going to voluntarily and annually shell out anywhere near \$19,236,000—the total of excise taxes paid by hunters on firearms and ammunition cited above for the 1964-65 fiscal year—just to be able to coo and caw over the wildlings they see. These excise taxes, a mere 11 per cent of the retail cost of such gun-owner interest, pay the way to keep the wildlife program alive to a significant degree.



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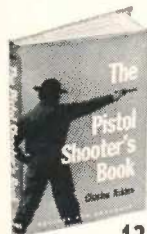
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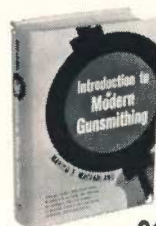
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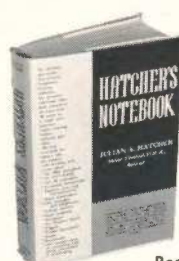
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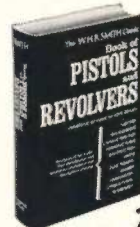


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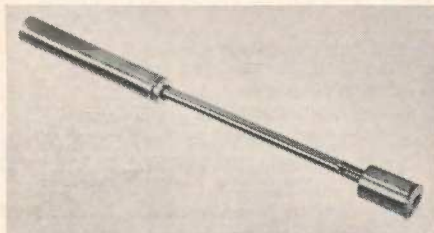
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APPOINTMENT of Gold Rush Gun Shop of San Francisco as a Western Distributor of all Replica Arms products was announced recently by Ken H. Phelps, president of Replica Arms, of Marietta, Ohio, and Gardone, Italy. Replica Arms makes shooting copies of antique Colt firearms, from the Paterson "Texas" pistol through Walkers and Dragoons to the Navys and 1860 Armys and '61 round barreled Navys. In making the appointment, Mr. Phelps said his firm will rely heavily upon the experience and contacts of Gold Rush Guns' proprietor, William B. Edwards, well known in gun collecting circles for his authoritative writings on Colts and other firearms. In addition to the reproductions of classic firearms, Gold Rush Guns distributes Centennial, CETME, and other rifles, surplus Mauser and FN rifles, Noble and Franchi shotguns, Mannlicher-Schoenauer rifles, Iver Johnson revolvers, and Llama automatic pistols. The Gold Rush Gun Shop operates its retail store at 1567 California Street, San Francisco, and is a Mecca for area shooters.



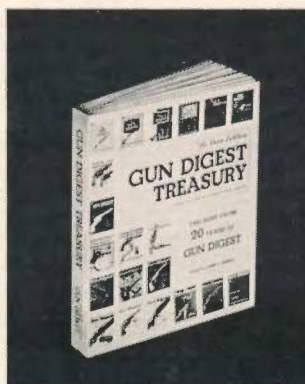
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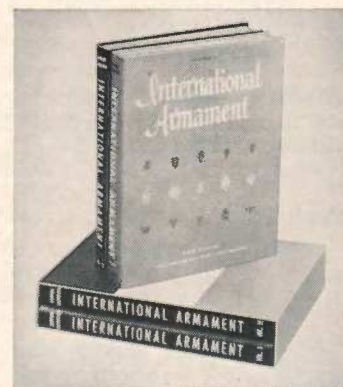


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WITH Guns

THE SHIRT-JAC by Alaska Sleeping Bag provides the comfort of a shirt and the warmth of a jacket. It's an excellent choice for spring varminting, as well as for fall hunting. In extremely cold weather, it provides the perfect layer of insulation under a heavy outer coat or parka. The fabric is 22 oz. wool, woven tightly with a soft



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KEITH STEGALL, one of America's foremost builders of custom rifles, is offering a 16 page, two color brochure that every rifleman should have before he selects a custom rifle. There is loads of information on custom gun building, from selection of barrels, action, stock design, stock wood, finish, to how pick your gunsmith. In addi-



tion, several of Stegall's custom rifles are illustrated with descriptive information and approximate prices. A selection chart is included illustrating the various accessory items used in dressing up a custom rifle. This informative pamphlet is offered for 75¢ postpaid from Keith Stegall, Dept. G-1, Box 696, Gunnison, Colorado.

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330 Perrine Ave., Piscataway, N. J.

BIG MAN WITH SMALL GUN

(Continued from page 38)

5 tiger, 2 buffalo, 2 gaur, 3 very large sloth bears, 2 sambar, 2 cheetal. One of the tigers is the 10' 7" animal which appears in full (walking) mount in our pictures. So far as anyone has been able to determine up to the time this is written, this is the biggest tiger ever recorded.

Bolack is just one short of the famous "Double Grand Slam" in North American sheep—and this is in terms of five species, not four. He intends to correct that situation this year.

Yet Bolack is no "trigger happy" hunter. Guides around the world recall that he has left alive hundreds of animals to which he was entitled by his licenses. On recent mountain lion hunts in New Mexico, he released five out of six animals "treed." They were females; and Bolack is more concerned with the preservation of this fine native species than with additional trophies. The fun is in the chase, not in the killing.

One of the things Bolack will point out when he shows you his tigers is the angle of bullet flight through the animals, as shown by point-of-entry point-of-exit bullet holes. On the world-record animal, for example, point of entry was at the front point of the right shoulder, point of exit just back of the left shoulder blade; but the line of flight is level with respect to the ground—not slanting downward as it would be had the shot come from an elevated *machan* or from the back of an elephant. Bolack took all of his tigers that way, from the ground, on the same level with the tiger. "Foolish, maybe," he admits, half sheepishly. "But that's the way I wanted to do it."

In 1963, the year he took the world-record tiger, Bolack's hunting success in India earned him the Allwyn Cooper Trophy "For the most outstanding game animal collected in India" for that year.

One of Bolack's tigers was a man-eater. So was one lion. So was the gigantic 17' 6" crocodile that dominates one wall of one of the trophy rooms. Or perhaps one should say that the croc was a woman-eater, since women are the ones who go to the streams for water, and to wash clothing, in Africa, and the remains found in this huge saurian's stomach, in addition to human bones, were women's baubles: jewelry, a fragment of skirt fabric. Bolack earned the wild gratitude of several native villages by killing this biggest inland croc ever recorded—plus headlines in many newspapers when the trophy, mounted, was too big to be taken out of the Denver taxidermist's shop by ordinary methods and had to be dericked out through a third-floor window.

One question every interviewer must ask any famous hunter is, "What do you consider to be the world's most dangerous game?" I have always thought it a silly question; was delighted when Bolack answered it in the one way I have always thought it should be answered:

"Any big animal can be dangerous, given the right—or the wrong—circumstances. It

depends on a man's personal experiences; and it depends on how you approach the question. You can figure it out in your mind, on the basis of the animal's ability to kill, his will to kill, and how smart he is in going about it . . . Figured that way, I suppose I'd have to say—Cape buffalo, or tiger, or the American grizzly.

"Or you can pick the one you, personally, happen to be most afraid of—which I guess, for me, would be tiger.

"Or you can pick the one that came closest to killing you—which, for me, was a damn' black bear, and not a very big one either; that one on the wall yonder. I've killed over 30 bear, including polar, kodiak, grizzly—the kind you think of as dangerous; but this one, the kind that isn't ordinarily dangerous at all, just happened to get mixed up with a set of circumstances that came close to putting me in his trophy room, not him in mine!

"Any animal that charges will scare you; or he certainly scares me! But with most of them, there's nothing personal about it. You're just a movement, or a noise, or a smell, and he's coming at you, and you've got to stop him, and you do, and it's over. It leaves you shakey, and maybe not immaculate, but—that's it. But it's different with a buff, or a grizzly, or a tiger. Under certain circumstances, they'll hunt you—

actually stalk you, lay an ambush for you. It gives you a creepy feeling to know that an animal hates you, that an animal better armed than you are, and with a hundred times your skill in woodcraft, is using his brain and skill to kill you!

"So I suppose I'd have to say that my choice for 'most dangerous animal' would have to be one of those three. But I'd be remembering, too, how scared I was going after that big croc in a tippy little boat, in the dark, over deep black water! . . . And then there was that black bear . . ."

"He's coming at you, and you've got to stop him, and you do." That completely unthought-out statement alone tells, I think, a major part of the story of Tom Bolack's success (and fame) as a hunter. And it brings us to the question of his guns.

As stated earlier, most of Bolack's trophies have been taken with a .270 rifle, using 130 grain bronze-point expanding bullets. The big tiger, most of the buffalo, and of course the elephant and rhino, were exceptions: these were taken with Tom's biggest rifle, a bolt action .458 caliber. But the .270 is his pet.

"I'm not much interested," he says, "in trying to knock an animal down, or in tissue destruction. I want penetration. Plus ballistics that will let me shoot at any reasonable range without having to think much about sight changes or Kentucky windage."

The fact that he has killed many big bears, five buffalo, two tigers, and the biggest African and Asian plains game, to say nothing of many big North American ani-

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COMPLETE LITERATURE
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imals (including five Alaskan moose) with the .270, makes it difficult to argue with his choice of weapons. This does not mean, nor does he suggest, that the .270 is the gun for all hunters, for game of this magnitude. For Bolack, it means two things: he is a superlative marksman; and he knows animal anatomy.

He learned animal anatomy as a boy, with a knife. "I was an expert butcher by the time I was twelve," he will tell you. "The first money I ever earned was by trapping and skinning fur bearers and by butchering animals for farmer neighbors, in Kansas. And I make it a point to study the anatomy of the animals I hunt, to find out where the vital organs lie."

The high percentage of one-shot kills he has recorded proves that he knows where those vital organs lie, and that he can hit them.

But the most exacting scale on which any hunter can be weighed is the opinion of men who have hunted with him. How does he stack up—as a hunter, as a shooter, as a camp and trail companion, when the luck is bad, when the weather's foul, when there's drudgery, and when there's danger?

I've never hunted with Bolack, but I've talked to and have letters from men who have—some of them those toughest of all judges of the sport hunter—the white hunters, guides, outfitters, who see all kinds and rate them strictly on performance, not on wealth or reputation.

Suraj Thakur, of Allwyn Cooper, Ltd., in Nagpur, India, filled eight single-spaced legal size pages with eulogies. He tells how Bolack yelled to him (Thakur) to stand clear when a man-eating tigress charged them, and how Bolack dropped the animal with a clean shot at only a few feet—then "called" his shot: in the head, smashing the skull. Thakur concludes his report as follows:

"His hunt has become the talk of the hunting circles of India. He is the only sportsman who was successful this year in bagging all the desired species. He is also the only one of our clients who has shot five tigers from the ground, involving his life. He taught me and my skinners about skinning and about preserving meat. His hard work in camp and on trail, and his hearty approach to the tribal people, so won their confidence that they came from

far off to meet and talk with him. I have hunted with scores of hunters of various nationalities, but I have yet to meet one who can excel him."

Bobby Barnes, Game Warden with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, tells with obvious amazement of two shots Bolack made on running whitetail bucks with that ubiquitous .270; then tops it by reporting how Bolack killed two turkey gobblers with two more shots from the same rifle. Barnes calls him "the best shot I have ever seen." In fact, says Barnes:

"I was amazed at the way this hunter handled himself on the whole trip. He skins and cleans his own game; skinned both deer and turkey so they could be mounted, and personally packed his hides, meat, and antlers so they would keep on the trip home. He is a true sportsman, one any man would be proud to ride the river with."

Orvel Fletcher, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, one of the Southwest's leading lion and bear hunting guides, says:

"I have taken out some 800 hunters, and it was a real pleasure to hunt with a man who can ride rough country without complaint, take care of himself and his horse, is insistent on helping to feed the dogs, do the cooking, and still in a mood to pull a good joke on a tired guide at the end of the day."

Bolack has been on another hunt with Fletcher since I interviewed him, and I suspect that this one cost Tom the price of a new rifle. Fletcher wrote me:

"I have a pet lion (cougar) which needs a large rabbit a day, so I wanted a few rabbits. This gets to some interesting facts, because I saw our former Governor shoot running jack rabbits time after time with a .22 rifle. Then . . . I called up two big coyotes. As


one was trotting 75 yards away, one shot got him, through the neck. A few minutes later, another coyote 300 yards away was dropped, also with a neck shot. Bolack called his shots, both times.

"The gun he used on the coyotes was a .22-250, using 55 grain bullets. . . He sure is an outstanding shot."

Returned from that hunt, Bolack phoned me. "What do you think," he asked, "of the .22-250? I would never have believed that a 55 grain bullet would shoot so straight, or do such damage." He did not say he was going to buy a .22-250; but I wish I had one in my store (if I had a store) the next time Tom Bolack came to call!

These are not the only letters people have written me about Tom Bolack. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish writes at length about Bolack's great work, at his own expense, for wildfowl and other game at his B Square ranch, and about his work and financial assistance (in collaboration with Dr. Frank Hibben) in the importation and care of foreign exotic game in New Mexico—Barbary sheep, ibex, kudu, gemsbok, and others.

The Albuquerque City Zoo acknowledges its indebtedness to Bolack for its African elephant, its mountain lions, its ostrich, its Grevy zebras, and many of its Southwestern birds and animals, trapped or captured by Bolack and delivered as cost-free gifts from New Mexico's ex-Governor.

This, then, is Tom Bolack: a great, hulking bear of a man, six feet and 250 pounds of cowboy, oil driller, welder, cat skinner, chef, politician, and philanthropic conservationist. He is also a hunter. But he loves the game far more than he loves the shooting . . . and that, in my book, is the mark of the real sportsman. 

SAVAGE M1915

(Continued from page 23)

Feb. 16, 1915, although the U.S. Army was sent two pre-run samples late in 1914. Manufacture began with the .380, and the first .32 didn't come off the line until April 15 with quantity output not attained until May 12. By that time, more than 600 of the .380's had been made.

Except for the changes noted, the M1915 was identical to the M1907. Both models carry the word "SAVAGE" in capital letters on the left side of the frame, and the top-of-the-slide legend is in small italic capitals: SAVAGE ARMS CO. UTICA, N.Y. U.S.A. CAL. 32. PATENTED NOVEMBER 21, 1905—7.65. M-M.


Serial numbers are on the leading edge of the frame. Grips are the usual hard rubber with the Savage trademark. All specimens seen have been equipped with the cartridge indicator, another Nelson development characteristic of pistols made at this time. Nearly all M1915's were finished in bright blue with a few in nickel finish. Pearl grips were an available option.


Although the M1915 remained listed in

the Savage line for two years, production came to a virtual end in the spring of 1916. Fewer than a dozen pieces were made up later, one of which was assembled for the Western Cartridge Company as late as May, 1924.

It is difficult today to determine exactly why the gun was discontinued. One possible reason is the volume of war orders Savage had. Others might be the special clip and slide-locking bar troubles.

Although Savage warned customers that regular magazines would not operate the latch-back device, lacking the special lip, it is likely that careless merchants may have sold this type to M1915 owners, thus building problems for the factory. Then, too, the latch-back bar could fall out of the gun during careless dismounting. At best this was a nuisance, and at worst, a lost part to replace.

But whatever the reasons for its demise, the Savage M1915 is an interesting and relatively scarce item for the collector. 



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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 12)

more information on the Co-Ax tool, write to Bonanza Sports, Inc., Dept. G, Faribault, Minnesota.

Fred Huntington of RCBS recently introduced a new Stuck Case Remover designed to remove stuck cases in any sizer die. This new gadget does not depend on the sizer die top thread for removal of the case.

In operation, a drill is provided to drill out the primer pocket. A tap is then threaded in this hole. From then on it's simply a matter of placing a tap body over the end of the die and running a screw into the tapped portion of the case. Pressure of the screw slowly back the case out of the die, thereby preventing damage to the die walls.

This new RCBS kit is priced at \$3.95 with tap and drill, or \$2.25 without the tap and drill. Write to RCBS, Inc., P. O. Box 729G, Oroville, California 95965.

We received the following anonymous letter from a GUNS Magazine reader recently. Perhaps there is a lesson here for all of us:

"A close call came for a very experienced handloader recently. He was loading .348 Winchester cases in a Pacific press. After adding powder he discovered that no new primer had been inserted in one round. First he started to add the primer with the powder in the case. Then he hesitated, and pulled

the bullet and powder—then primed the case. At this point the primer fired in the press.

"It is a good technique to invert all re-primed rounds and visually inspect primers before adding powder. Let's hope all handloaders resist the sudden impulse to 'down load.' For this particular handloader, no other primer had ever fired in loading. Luckily he had the common sense to pull the powder and bullet when he recognized his mistake."

And here's another letter from a GUNS reader, Donald Steagall of Phoenix, Arizona:

"Dear Mr. Wolfe: In the latest issue of GUNS I noticed an answer of yours regarding the 8 mm Nambu ammunition. You weren't able to give a complete answer, so I am taking the liberty of digging up some information from my notes.

"Cases for this caliber can be had from either of the following two sources: J. W. McPhillips, 285 Mastick Avenue, San Bruno, California, or George Spence, Steele, Missouri.

"Also, cases can be made up using .32 or .30 Remington cases and a set of dies from RCBS. This makes the cases fairly expensive and it would take a lot of loading to pay off this cost. Thought you might like to have this information."



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MISCELLANEOUS

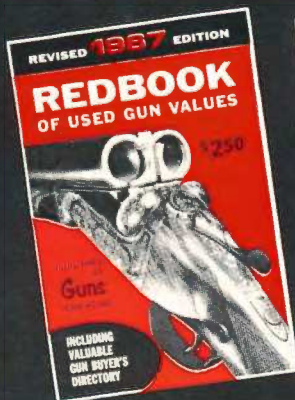
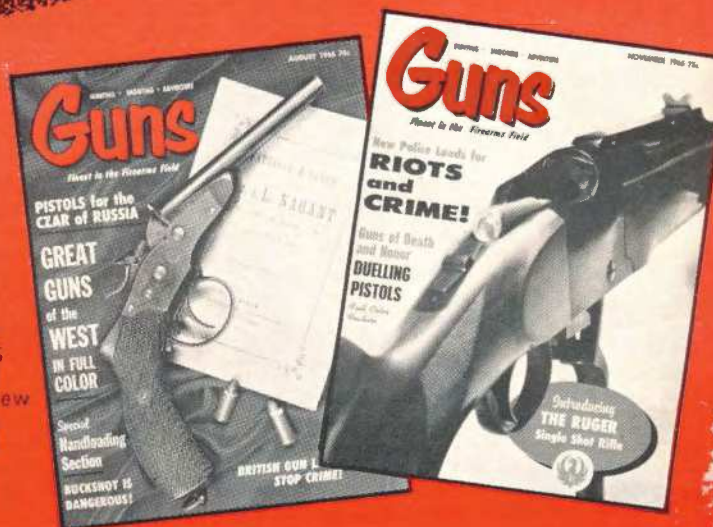
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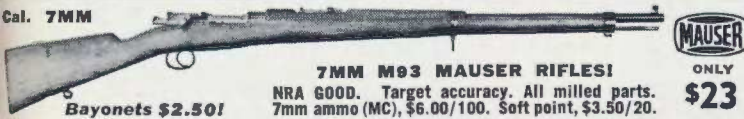
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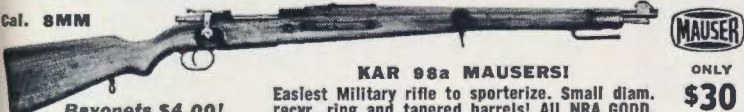
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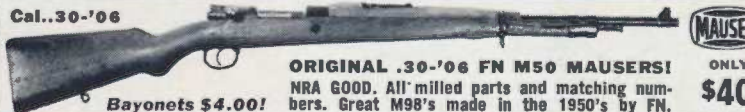
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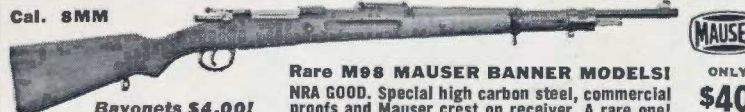
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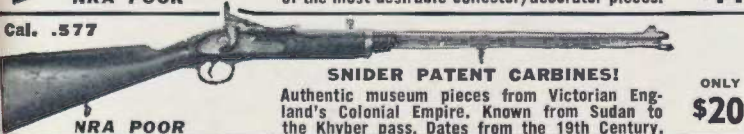


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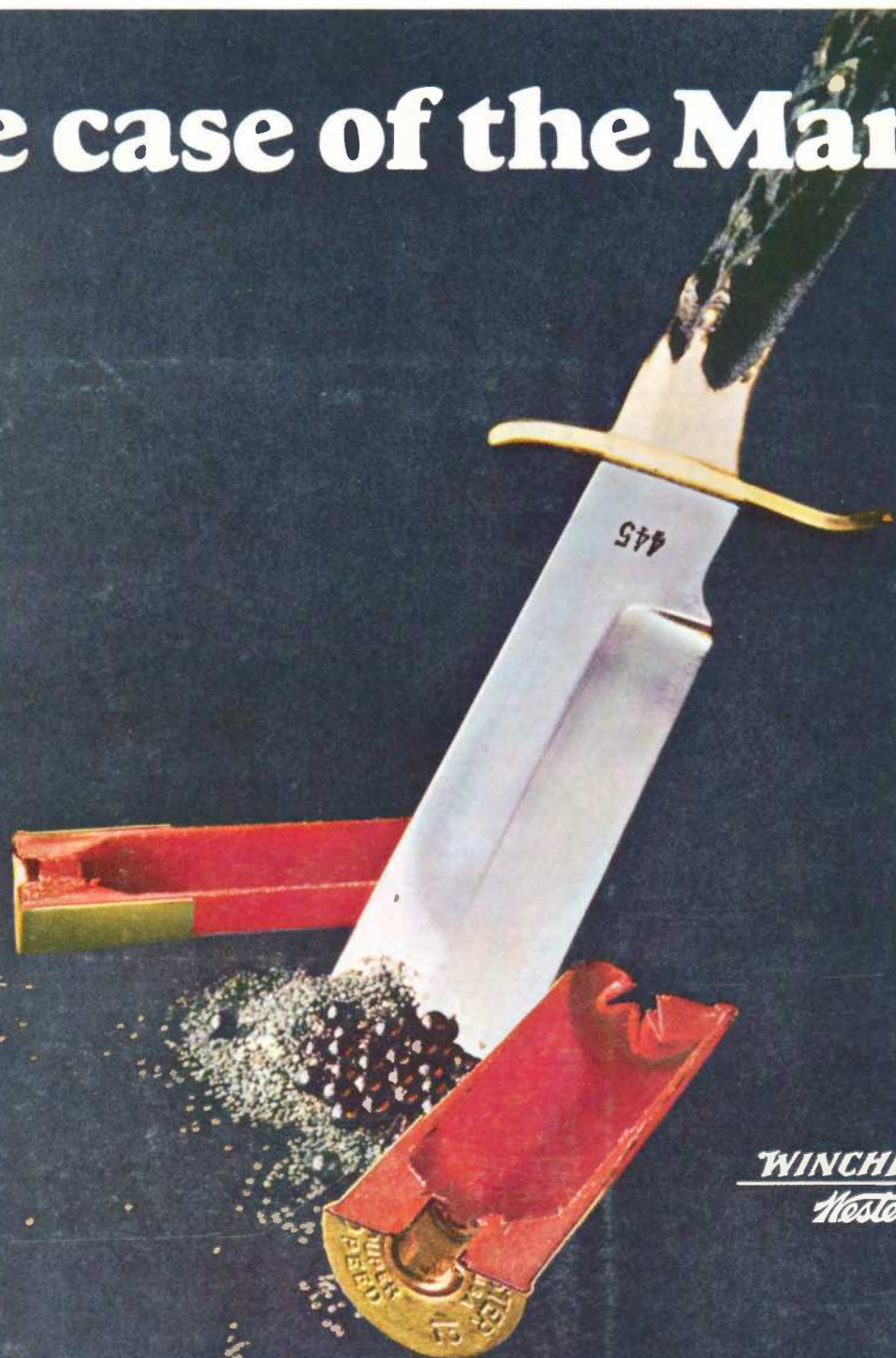
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