

MARCH 1959 50c

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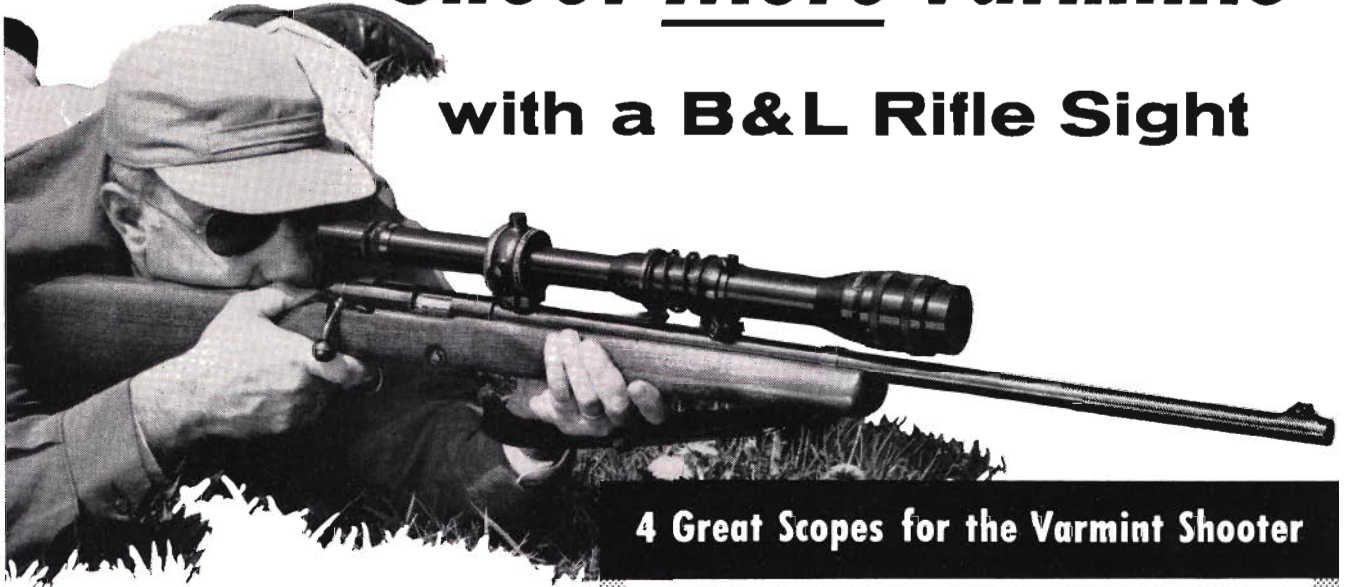


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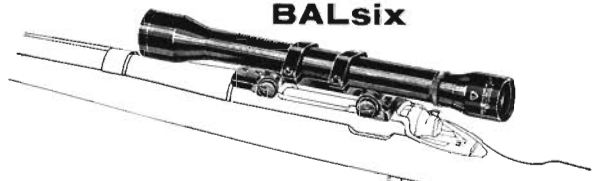
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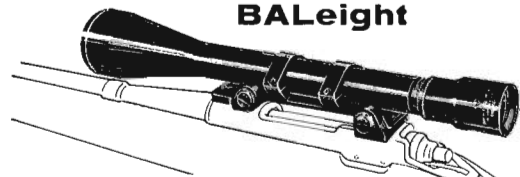
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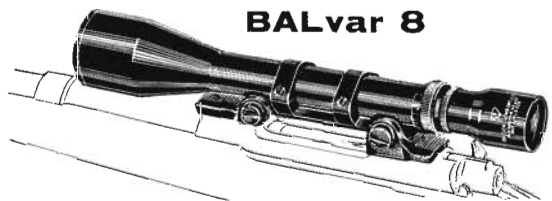
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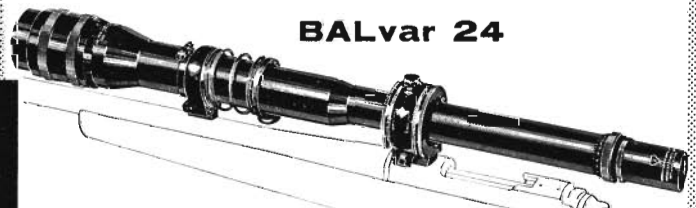
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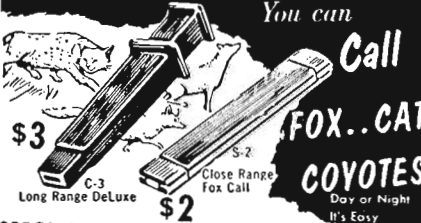
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By **AL FREELAND**  
*Champion Rifleman & Riflesmith*

**F**OR TARGET SHOOTING my favorite is the the BSA Martini .22 match rifle, because I can hit with it. At Camp Perry last summer I won the Dewar Course Iron Sight event and the 50-yard Any Sight match, placed second in the 50 meter Any Sight and wound up sixth in the Any Sight Aggregate. I like this BSA rifle because it is short coupled so I do not have to get out of position between shots. I can spot, load, and fire for record without losing my original hold and I find the dropping lever gun a convenient type to load. For consistent accuracy over the years, the Martini system has some advantages in wearing better than bolt actions. It holds headspace better, since there are fewer surfaces to wear in the Martini, than in a bolt rifle. We have found in tuning these rifles for match work that it is best to have the forearm bedded snugly for about six inches from the receiver and then, if a bedding system is fitted, to relieve the stock from about an inch forward of the stock-barrel screw, up to the bedder at the forend. That way we can adjust the bedder and improve the grouping of the barrel. A stock properly bedded this way, we have proved, will not change impact from cold to hot barrel, during shooting.

# MY FAVORITE GUN

By **PAT McMURTRY**  
*Ranking U. S. Heavyweight*



**S**HORTLY after I fought George Chuvalo, the Canadian heavyweight champion, my father and I went hunting in the Northwest's Blewett Pass area. Out of the brush popped a deer about Chuvalo's same weight—nearly 200 pounds. My Husqvarna .30-06 lightweight rifle weighs only 6½ pounds. But it did the job. I only wish I had the hefty punch of this Husqvarna lighty. It's definitely my favorite gun.

# TRIGGER TALK

THE American Revolution was a popular revolution. It differed from more recent types in that there was no mass defection of government troops, no palace coup by military *junta*. The people formed their own militia, took their own guns to war. The revolution in Cuba (recognized by the U.S. the instant it succeeded) was such a struggle. Few of the military went over to Castro until the last minute. Yet he got guns, and good ones. From where? From the U.S., mostly, just as we in our turn had earlier got guns from France, from the Marquis de LaFayette. The ease with which Castro got guns should serve as a signal to the embers of neo-fascism elsewhere. The story "Where Castro Gets His Guns" is history written today.

We herald another revolution, a revolution in gun making, with "Rifles For The Space Age!" Remington's use of structural nylon makes many things possible: let your imagination have free rein, and check your forecasts with the future.

March means whistle pigs and crows culling the late harvest grain or the new seedings. And this means rifles for varmints. Take notice of "Get An Owl Decoy." Your big-eyed partner and your high velocity rifle can team up to make you The Farmer's Friend wherever you go. Good "spade work" for later fall hunting, too, by getting yourself known as a safe shooter and good sport.

Sergeant York once made the headlines with his skill and coolness as a rifle shot. Ticker tape parades on Broadway, medals and honors from the Allied powers, all were his. Today he sits alone in Tennessee, but the capabilities of quick decision and accurate shooting, which in him reached momentary perfection, remain as examples to guide the combat rifleman today. Read "The Rifleman Who Stunned The World," the story of Sgt. York.

Latin matters plus shotguns hold attention in "Thrown Birds Make Tough Targets." The Mexican sport, a variation on live bird shooting, in a sense pits shooter against another man, expert in his class, the *columbiare* or pigeon thrower.

Our emphasis on Latin American affairs this issue will be continued in future issues as stories appear on our neighbor nations. The Pan American Games will feature shooting matches held in Chicago and north shore Waukegan, Ill. GUNS Magazine has been "on top" of the stories developing here and will bring them to you as they break.

Gun club officers will find in "No Hunting Signs Can Come Down" a handbook for local operations in making hunting more accessible in their area. Read it and act.

For the reloading technician, facts on one of the lightest and one of the heaviest center-fires spans the field. Read Kent Bellah's column on the startling new Kay-Chuk .22 CF revolver loads; then turn to page 23 for dope on how to tame the .375 Magnum rifle. Also for the reloader, some notes of caution from our Gun Rack report this month. Be cautious and skeptical of what you may hear on proof loads—they are not firecrackers for kids.



## THE COVER

Pictured on the cover are rifles from the past and for the future. Remington's nylon sporter is the start of a new tradition. The Sharps are echoes of an old one. The middle gun is a Sharps M1877 Creedmoor match rifle, Rigby flat barrel; the bottom, a pilot model 1875.

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

MARCH, 1959

VOL. V, 3-51

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# GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]

◆ In the Moscow, Idaho, justice court a poacher had a strange story to tell the jury about a deer found in his possession. He had, he said, seen the deer and bent over to examine it. The deer came alive, and the pair rolled some 100 yards. The State Conservation Officer pointed out, however, that part of the "rolling" was uphill according to the tracks. The man was fined \$90.

★ ★ ★

◆ In eastern Idaho a deer hunter, on horseback, found his trail blocked by a moose. The horse shied, throwing the rider. The moose attacked the man. The man broke his rifle stock over the moose's antlers. The moose turned on the horse, and the two battled until the moose's antlers got entangled in a rope on the saddle. The moose took off, leading the horse. Several days passed before the horse was found—free of his friendly companion.

★ ★ ★

◆ Fairfax, Va. A "deer of parts", made up of left-over pieces of metal scrap, is making Fairfax Rod And Gun Club hunters the top guns in this area. This deer dashes across a 25-foot field in 4 seconds and is so cooperative it will come right back to get shot at some more. Behind the scenes, cables creak and wheels whirl, but the rifeman sees only one thing—the moving deer. This practice is, by all accounts, making mighty sharp hunters out of these men.

★ ★ ★

◆ St. Louis, Mo. Harold Pippin found a new use for his rifle. When his car's exhaust pipe was smashed after an accident and he couldn't get the car started, Mr. Pippin, on a hunting trip at the time, simply took dead aim and shot the pipe free.

★ ★ ★

◆ Parris Island, S. C. This Marine Corps base has a rifle that is a rifle! More than seven feet long, it would make any foe of the Leathernecks gasp and turn pale. However, it's not meant to take into battle and doesn't fire. The giant "mock-up" is used to impress the recruits with some of the details of the rifle.

★ ★ ★

◆ Dayton, Ohio. After a holdup man robbed him of \$70, Max Stapleton, service station manager, was determined not to be robbed for a second time. When he saw the same man approaching his station a few weeks later, he barricaded himself in the back room and armed himself with a .38 revolver. The bandit emptied his gun into the door of the back room, and Mr. Stapleton emptied his gun right back. Mr. Stapleton hasn't been bothered by bandits since.

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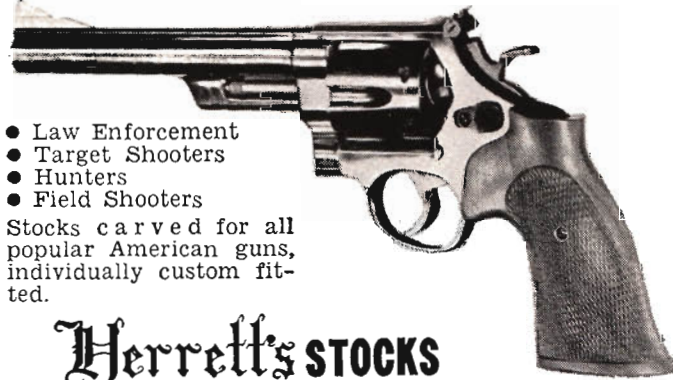
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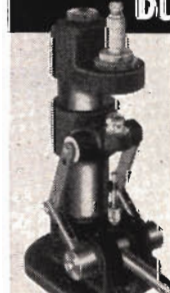
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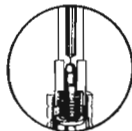


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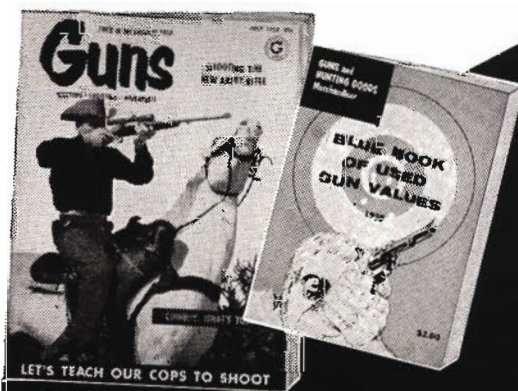
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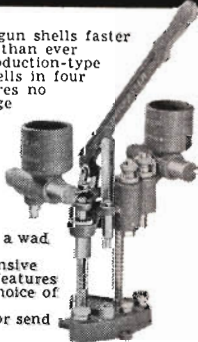
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**Elmer Keith says...**

**Long Range .30 Cal. Match Loads**

FOR 600 to 1000 yard match shooting with the .30-06, use selected M-1 boat-tails of 173 grain weight with 58 grains 4350 Dupont for 2901 feet muzzle velocity in 24" barrels. This is my old match .30-06 load. It would stay in the Bullseye when other National Match loads were kicked out in the four ring at 600 and 1000 yards by cross winds. When the good service boattails cannot be obtained, most rifles will do almost as well with Remington, Western, Norma, Sierra 180 grain match boattails and 57 grains 4350. This is a top load, so work up to it carefully.

For the .300 Magnum bull gun, my 1000 yard load was 65 grains 4350 and any fine 180 grain match boattail, Sierra, Norma, Remington, or Western. If good uniform weight cases are used and the powder charge either weighed or measured in one of the large drum measures like the Saeco, Hollywood, R.C.B.S. or others of this type, you will have ammunition that will shoot very close to the minute of angle at long range from gilt edge match barrels.

**7 x 57 mm Long Range Deer Load**

For the little 7 mm Mauser, the best long range deer load I have found was 50 grains 4350 and the 160 grain Sierra Boattail. This load is superbly accurate and gives just over 2800 feet velocity. It expands on deer out to fairly long range. Don Hopkins used 1000 of these, mostly in Africa, and liked the load very much. For any game larger than deer, I would prefer the 175 grain bullet, preferably of Nosler make, backed by 47 grains 4350 for 2600 feet.

**Cheap .375 Magnum Load**

For a cheap medium power practice load for the .375 Magnum, use 47 grains 4895 powder and the Ideal gas check bullet No. 375449, cast of pure type metal and fitted with the gas check. This load is usually good for one inch groups at 100 yards, makes a good turkey match load, and is also very useful for a lot of the smaller game shooting, as well as practice. It is also an excellent 200 yard load.

**Heavy .45-70 Load**

For the .45-70 for all big game hunting in the timber, an excellent heavy load is 54 grains 3031 Dupont or 4895 behind the 405 grain soft point or the Barnes flat point 400 grain bullet. This worked very well on elk deer and bear for me, and was first worked out by Gus Peret, of Yoncalla, Oregon, the old Peters trick shot and big game hunter. I have used the load for many years with

every success for timber shooting. It gives about 1850 feet velocity with only 30,000 pounds pressure, and is safe in all model '85 Winchester single shot actions or the good Model 1886 Winchester actions, but should never be fired in any old trapdoor Springfield or other weak actions.

Incidentally, the Model '86 Winchester in the older case-hardened version is good to 38,000 pounds pressure, and the later blued steel action, serial number over 124,000, is good to 42,000 pounds pressure, same as the later Model 71 action. These are about the smoothest, fastest, big lever actions ever produced and it is to be regretted that Winchester has stopped their manufacture.

**Bead or Blade Front Sights**

Many hunters prefer the round gold or ivory bead front sight for use with either open rear sights or with the Lyman type aperture rear sight. True, the round bead shows up beautifully through any receiver sight and also looks well in the wide angle English V express sights; but all bead front sights are very fragile because they are undercut so much to form the round bead.

In the Call type, which is a round gold bead set into the face of a square blade, they are sturdy; but this Call type is the only bead front sight that will stand hard blows and not be bent or broken. Bead front sights show up wonderfully well on game but do not hold elevations nearly as well as do blade type flat topped front sights. Anyone can prove this to his own satisfaction by group shooting with the two types.

My own preference in front sights for either pistol or rifle is a flat topped Sourdough-type front sight with gold insert, as furnished by Redfield. This sight has a slope to catch the light in early morning or late evening or in heavy dense timber or bush, and has proven the best hunting front sight I have ever used. It can be smoked black with a match for target use, or rubbed clean so the gold will show for game shooting; and it will hold elevations far better than any round bead type I have ever tried. The blade is heavy and sturdy, and it takes a hard blow to put it out of commission.

**Leupold Quick-Change Mount**

A low-mounting rifle scope mount which permits quick change from scope to aperture sight or factory iron sight has been introduced by Leupold & Stevens Instruments, Inc., Portland 13, Oregon. Built into the base of the Leupold Detachio-Mount is an aperture sight which can be adjusted for windage and elevation.



Streamlined, quick-change levers on the scope ring assemblies of the two-piece Detacho-Mount permit the scope to be removed from the rifle without use of screwdriver, coin, knife blade, or other tools. When the scope is removed, the shooter can use either the adjustable "peep" sight built into the rear base of the mount, or the original factory iron sight on the rifle. The scope with ring assemblies attached can be replaced on the dovetail bases in positive alignment without altering original "zero" of the scope sight.

The quick-change levers can be installed on either the right or left side of the action as desired by the shooter. Levers can be adjusted so they lock in twelve different positions to hold the scope securely. They cannot become detached accidentally from the ring assemblies.

Leupold Detacho-Mounts are available with either 1" or 26 mm scope rings for mounting most hunting scopes. The low-mounting dovetail bases are individually machined to fit properly on all popular hunting rifles. Complete Leupold Detacho-Mounts with instructions for mounting are priced at \$11.75. Other Leupold products for shooters include the popular Leupold Adjusto-Mount with built-in windage and elevation adjustments, and the Leupold line of hunting and varmint scopes.

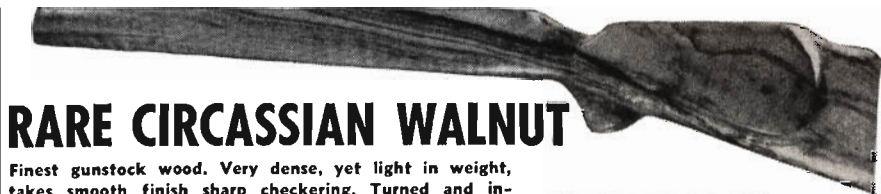
### The 13th "Gun Digest"

John Amber's annual "Gun Digest" is an exceptionally well balanced and excellent edition, with articles on many phases of rifle, pistol, and shotgun work by leading American authorities. Many reloading articles on metallic and shotshell reloading make the work a most excellent reference. All the latest new arms are also described and evaluated. Chapters on proof marks, ballistics, and reloading tools help round out the edition. An excellent article on Ed McGivern, and one on the Hollywood Fast Draw movie artists, Sixguns for Hunting, as well as excellent articles on reloading, give the hand gun enthusiast plenty of food for thought. The great dangerous game of the world is also well covered, with hunting articles on most Asiatic and African game. Effect of bullets on game is covered in an excellent article. The cartridge collector and the gun collector will all find plenty of excellent material in this edition. Articles on the Sharps Borchardt and on gun engraving add still more valuable and authentic information for the gun crank or collector. All told, the 13th edition of "Gun Digest" is a must to all shooters, collectors, and gun cranks.

### Hollywood Loading Tools

Lyle Corcoran, maker of the well known line of Hollywood reloading tools furnished by the Hollywood Gun Shop, spent a day in this little town giving all gun cranks and dealers a demonstration of his big Super Turret Tool. Each of us swaged bullets both .30 caliber 180 grain and also .38 and .44 caliber gas check revolver bullets on the new tool. We also reloaded shotshells on it and his other reloading tools. I have used a Hollywood Turret press for the last nine years for a lot of my rifle and pistol loading, with satisfaction, but was glad to see the further improvements in the big Super Turret Tool.

(Continued on page 52)



## RARE CIRCASSIAN WALNUT

Finest gunstock wood. Very dense, yet light in weight, takes smooth finish sharp checkering. Turned and inletted stocks from \$16.50 up to \$80.00 for rare fancies. Rifle blanks from \$15.00 to \$75.00. Shot gun blanks from \$10.00 to \$40.00. No other wood compares with Rare Circassian as a gun stock. New shipment recently rec'd.

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# CROSSFIRE

### Good Article— But Watch That Pipe

Being a reloader myself, I was slightly appalled to see an illustration in the article on Shotgun Reloading whereby the loader, probably the author, was intent on loading a shell with a pipe in his mouth. Whether or not it was lit is of no consequence, as the cardinal rule of safety when reloading ammo is not to have any live flame in the same room. I trust that this picture does not display the writer's true loading technique.

Julian D. Fink  
New York, N. Y.

### Good Article—Period

Congratulations on your article on shotgun reloading. First article I ever read on the subject where the author really knows what he is talking about. Feel I am a veteran on reloading, as I have loaded 96 cases in last five years with excellent results. Own the VEUM reloader made in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and can use wads or cornmeal for filler. Resizes brass to base and has automatic pressure release for any pressure.

Of course there is something new in this reloading business every day. For your information, most reloading primers have silver-plated caps except Carlsbad Ammo. of California, and Cascade. Theirs are copper-colored caps. So you see, you can't win in this business, but it's lots of fun.

John J. Reinert  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

### Santa Claus Please Note

You many have seen an ad for a toy "pellet-firing .45 Cal. Automatic." Since I have yet to come of age for a permit in New York, I decided to obtain one to practice with. In reply to my order I received a card which read in part, "Because New York State Law prohibits the sale of toy pistols to minors under 16 years of age, we must ask you to . . ." Perhaps some gun bugs of New York should gather a list of all officials in New York with sons of the cowboy age.

I think I have found another argument against some anti-arms legislation. In reference to the taxation of the United States Bank in Baltimore by the State of Maryland, Chief Justice John Marshall declared "The power to tax involves the power to destroy," and ruled no state had the right to control or hinder operations of a national institution located within its territory. Could this not be applied to civil rights?

Finally, we must congratulate the British on Cyprus for being as "liberal" as to issue arms to her citizens there.

Harry Sommer  
Chatham, New York

### Gun Of The Month

I have enjoyed every copy of GUNS I have ever gotten but your current issue has been the best. There was not one article that I was not interested in, all of them made wonderful reading.

My favorite is Gun of the Month and I would like to see it every month. I keep them; they make a very interesting "scrap book."

Ronald L. Cuning  
Mansfield, Ohio

### Single Shot Pistols

The French reader who calls for a new single shot pistol may be a voice alone in the wilderness. A good accurate single would not be sharp enough for the only course suited to it, the free pistol course, without a lot of work. It is also not suited for American three stage courses. The last US pistol of this class, the Tompkins, sank without much trace some years ago. A lot of the demand for singles is by collectors not interested in shooting. If there were more people shooting the international course, a good single shot might go over well. The Tompkins came out at a poor time, which offset its good points.

But it might be possible to make up a single on a heavy frame and work it up for a trappers' special, and also as an understudy for the costly free pistol. The USRA pistol had a frame formed to fit five different basic grips, and could suit many purposes. Also, this modern job could be set up for a single shot C&B, and have some market. There is a single shot made by an Indiana shop of this general type. It is solid frame, cap & ball only.

That article about Halvorson should go up with the one about Margolin, as a reminder that people who have the most to complain of usually don't.

John P. Conlon  
Newark, Ohio

### A Note From Down Under

Many thanks for your letter re the AR10. In reply to your query as to who will be making the FN rifle in Australia, it will be manufactured by the Lithgow concern, who have been turning out a fair quality line of .22 calibre sporters for the commercial market for some years. I don't know whether they are a purely private concern, making the FN under contract, or whether they are Government sponsored. As a target shooter, I have had some experience with Lithgow barrels, used as replacement barrels in the .303 Lee-Enfield rifle. The quality of workmanship, and the accuracy of these barrels, was more than satisfactory.

Our large-bore target shooting here, as in England, is in two classes: SRA, and SRB. In SRA shooting, the rifle must be used as issued, without the use of the shooting sling. SRB allows the fitting of a heavier barrel, windgauge rear sight, and use of a sling. Shooting as done by the civilian rifle clubs is all SRB, and those who use the SMLE as the basis of their target rifle always fit a heavy barrel, as the issue barrel is very light and is almost always shot out by the time we get it. The only heavy barrels available here are those made by Lithgow, and they have proved perfectly satisfactory. I use a P14 myself, being a firm believer in the Mauser action, and the one-piece stock. I used the original barrel for two seasons, until I was lucky enough to win some prize money at the Canterbury Championships last year, and got a new barrel made by B.S.A.

The Nato cartridge will be manufactured here by the Colonial Ammunition Company in Wellington. They have made .303 cartridges for years, also shotgun ammo. Their .303 ammunition is headstamped C.A.C. and the date. (Year only.)

Since writing to you before, have picked up a 7.7 Jap Arisaka, and after looking a bit deeper than the rough surface finish, was impressed. Definitely not the heap of junk that some writers would have one believe. Have you found a bolt in a military rifle that can be taken apart quicker or easier? Also preferred the hinged magazine floorplate with the catch in the guard to this business of poking bullets into little holes when you want to strip the magazine. Leave off the rattly bolt cover, and the odd aircraft sight, and you have a pretty good serviceable military weapon. It can't be too bad; look at the damage the Japs did with it. Arisaka, with wartime ammo, turned out groups comparable with most military rifles I have fired.

Too many gun writers\* (not you) are inclined to sneer at the weapons of other countries, and lull people into a false sense of security. I love fine gunsmithing, all milled parts, and nice walnut stocks as much as the next man, but the day of the military rifle built on those lines is gone. In fact, it went in 1914, but not everybody realized it. The big things today are Mass Production, and Expendability. Look at the weapons turned out by the Germans in the closing stages of the war. They were crude, and rough, but they were killing weapons, and they worked.

GUNS, and your article in particular, have taught me more about the weapons of the world, not just those of the Western Powers, than anything else. So long as GUNS is available here, I will remain a subscriber.

Ian M. Barker  
New Zealand

### Question For Californians

In your January, 1959, issue there is a letter to the editor from California stating that it is a violation of the law to practice shooting in the counties of California adjacent to the coast. If you will be so kind as to check this and let me know if this is true I will deeply appreciate it.

Robert W. Keene  
Tuckahoe, N. Y.

### Civil Defense Useless?

Congratulations on a fine job. Keep up the good work. As an ex-GI and military weapons collector, the articles "22's For Sur-

vival," and "Where Are Tomorrow's Minute Men?" really interested me. It's easy to see what Mr. Soule means, and I agree with him completely.

It might interest your readers to know that here in my area most people think Civil Defense and even a small amount of preparedness is a waste of time. One fellow told me I was crazy for even thinking about it. I find trying to explain anything to most of them is useless. I wish there were some way to wake them up.

My arsenal contains the latest and best military rifles and pistols I could obtain, as well as sporting rifles, shotguns, and older military types that could be used if necessary. I would like to add submachine guns, but red tape and high costs prohibit. The law should be changed. I try to keep at least 100 rounds of ammo for each caliber. However, 500 would be better.

I think the questions of Civil Defense and survival are very real and deserve serious thought. I'd appreciate hearing other ideas and comments from you and your readers.

Roger L. Koob  
Jesup, Iowa

### Excusable Prejudice

Please excuse my delay in writing you concerning the excellent article on the "Return of the Colt Rifle" in this month's issue of GUNS Magazine. While I am admittedly prejudiced, it was a tremendously interesting and factual piece.

Seriously, I was tremendously pleased with the article and appreciate the nice things you said about me and my company.

Fred A. Roff, Jr., Pres.  
Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co.

### Price Correction

Many thanks for Keith's excellent article on our Schultz & Larsen rifle and 7 x 61 Sharpe & Hart cartridge. It is most comprehensive. However, the price of \$145 as quoted was in effect when Elmer got the rifle, but is now \$160. We took increases at the factory, plus 5% increase on ocean freight. When we eliminated jobbing on Nov. 1, 1957, we cut the price from \$166.32 to \$145, but have had to advance again. Our advertisement in GUNS gives the current price.

Phil Sharpe  
Sharpe & Hart  
Emmitsburg, Md.

### Will Do, Soon

I would like to see more articles like "Which Bullets Are Best," "The 17 Javelina," and "The Comeback of the Colt Rifle," in the December, 1958, issue. I am a novice in the arms field, and the charts and info. in "Which Bullets Are Best" taught me a lot of things I didn't know.

Troy L. Hall  
Denton, Texas

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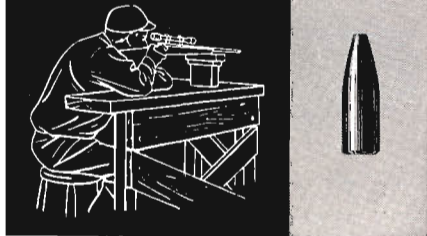
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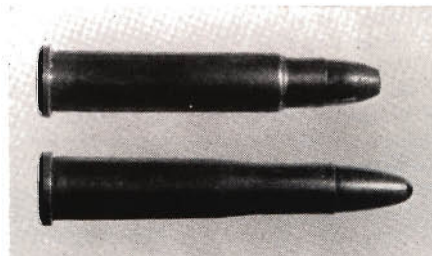
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# HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH

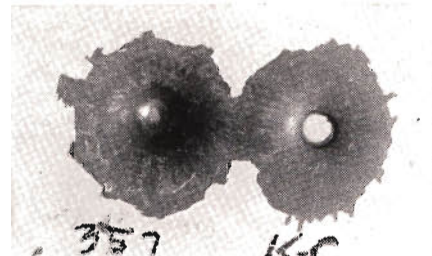


THE WORLD'S highest velocity revolver, the Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk, will give you a real Bang! and an exhilarating experience. The wildcat developed by Lakeville Arms, Lakeville, Connecticut, twists a little missile toward outer space at more than twice the speed of sound. What it does on the terminal end shouldn't happen to a dog. A pipsqueek Smith & Wesson K-22 rim fire is converted to center fire and chambered for a slightly short-necked K-Hornet. Hornet cases are trimmed only .050" and are formed in one firing.



Kay-Chuk round is fire-formed (top) with shoulder from .22 Hornet (bottom).

A Kay-Chuk is the easiest and cheapest reloading handgun for precision shooting, and the least temperamental. Almost without recoil, there is no rock 'n roll to spoil your aim. Groups are tighter than the Sunday shoes a country gal wears on Saturday night. It chills your kill faster than a blue whistler norther in Texas. It does twice the damage on varmints as factory .357 Magnums. The rifle-like crack is as loud as a .357, while the rifle-like trajectory eliminates hold-over at any normal handgun range. Standard rifle bullets punch holes in 1/8" steel plates that shed factory .357 M.P. loads. K-Hornet rifles are dandy



Kay-Chuk penetrates with big hole in steel plate only dented by .357.

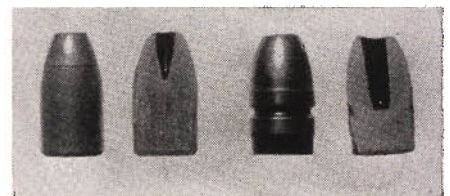
companion guns with Kay-Chuk ammo, with much of their deadly accuracy carried out in the short tube.

When first developed, the highest velocity and best accuracy was obtained with a 35 grain Sisk rifle bullet ahead of 9.5 grains 2400, for 2,200 fps. Pressure of 29,000 psi gave a muzzle energy of 376 foot pounds, com-

pared to a mere 80 F.P. with .22 L.R. match ammo in a 6" barrel. This excellent, hard-hitting Hi-V load still left something to be desired for the ultimate in varmint destruction, although bullets penetrate deep and expand well.

With cooperation from Sisk Bullet Co., Iowa Park, Texas, I designed the first jacketed .22 pill for handguns, the Sisk 37 grain Revolver Bullet. It has the basic Jugular design that permits higher velocity with deadly accuracy, and the most shocking power in big bores. The new number has a soft lead core and flat nose, with a hollow point extending below the short, .320" jacket. It retains the fine accuracy of the rifle number, with much faster blowup, and much higher velocity with up to 2.5 grains more powder. Not yet chronographed, it should register as much as 2,500 fps, with M.E. a whooping 514 F.P.

I've had fine accuracy with from 8.5 to 12 grains 2400. My favorite load is 11 grains, which has "adequate" blowup. Blasting No. 303 cans of beans, bullets enter the can, explode the can and contents *before* penetrating! We never did find an exit hole. Some



New jacketed Sisk (I) and Lyman cast #225107 bullets Bellah made for KC.

beans were blown 25 steps. Cans exploded as if they were hit with a .222 rifle. Fired in moist sand, the largest bullet fragment was 8 grains of lead fused to part of the jacket. Other fragments were from small to mere lead smears, indicating violent disintegration.

Top loads with 35 gr. rifle pills penetrate the cans, swell the seams, and make a 2" exit hole. Expansion in moist sand is good, with some 12 grains of lead shed and the jacket ruptured completely.

Unique is also a good powder; maybe the best in short 4" tubes. Either bullet shoots well with 6 grains, starting at over 2,000 fps, with pressure below 25,000 psi. The 40 grain Sierra and Speer bullets with that charge start at 1,950 fps in the same pressure range. Heavier bullets are not recommended.

Blast a fox or similar varmint broadside with a factory .357 and you'll have a caliber-size entrance hole and about a .50 caliber exit. The 35 grain number makes a larger exit. The KC revolver bullet generally makes an *entrance* hole of 3" or more, explodes in-

side, and blows the vital organs out. Such interior explosion expends all shocking power in the boiler works where it counts, making it unnecessary to pin-point your hit in a vital spot.

Texas exhibition shooter Highway Patrolman D. L. Cooper helped make long range accuracy tests with the new bullet. With a two-arm rest he consistently plinked tin cans at 150 yards, and larger cans at 300. Some paper groups at 100 yards were under 3 inches. Sighted in at 25 yards, you are on aim at 100, and only 3" low at 150 yards. The extremely flat trajectory and accuracy make varmints a cinch at your maximum hitting range. Even if you are not a very good pistol shooter, your accuracy range will be greatly extended with the easy-to-load Kay-Chuk.

Loading is fast and easy. Use Remington cases for hot loads, as they hold more powder. Cut top charges 15 per cent in W-W hulls. Hornet cases are trimmed .050" before forming. Rifle primers will increase pressure, with little velocity increase. I highly recommend C.C.I. pistol primers, as they have excellent ignition and uniformity for light or heavy loads, and are quite sensitive. Federal or Remington can be substituted safely, if necessary. Seat bullets out to nearly cylinder length. Formed and unformed cases have practically the same center of impact, proof the cartridge isn't temperamental.

With Lyman's cooperation, I designed a Kay-Chuk mould, Lyman's No. 225107, for 38 gr. solid or 34 gr. H.P. gas check pills. The H.P. has excellent cast bullet accuracy with an alloy of 3.25% tin and 3.50% anti-mony, sized .225". Bullets are seated with all the bearing surface in the case. With your seater adjusted for this bullet, back it out about 3/4 turn for jacketed numbers, that should be seated out to nearly cylinder length. Maximum loads have not yet been established, but a good one is 8 grains 2400 for 1,823 fps. Fired in moist sand, it expands to about .32 caliber with the nose shedding. It's quite effective; far better than a .22 R.F. rifle.

Jacketed bullets are cheap, but cast slugs reduce shooting costs to compete with .22 R.F. ammo. Small bullets require careful casting and inspection to eliminate minor defects, that affect accuracy more than in big bores. All bullets mentioned are good for squirrel size game with 3.5 grs. Bullseye, at about 1,500 fps, depending on the bullet. Use 2.5 grains for targets, which about equals the 950 fps of .22 L.R. match ammo in a 6" barrel. W-W hulls are good to help identify light loads.

Wayne Weems, of Fort Worth, Texas, who makes the Weems Wild Call and the new Weems All-Call for varmints, is in the fortunate position of having to spend many hours testing hundreds of different call "voices," as part of his work. He has been call hunting for over 25 years and can bring varmints on the run into easy handgun range, like chickens in a farmyard. He discarded his varmint rifles long ago, and now uses the handgun. Weems says, "Even a novice can bag all the varmints he wants with a good call and the Kay-Chuk. Predators are plentiful in every state, although they are seldom seen until called. They make fine targets at 10 to 50 yards, and you'll make some lasting friendships with land owners by thinning them out."

Weems is right. There is a thrill in handgun hunting you can't get with a rifle or shotgun. Those who call varmints love it. Another advantage with a Kay-Chuk, bullets blowup on impact. This reduces ricochets and makes it safer in settled areas. Lakeville Arms will do the conversion work on your K-22 at about \$40., or a new conversion is available. I recommend a 6" barrel, but a 4" is handy and good. They will also supply the new Sisk Revolver Bullets, Hornet cases ready trimmed and the new moulds.

The versatile Kay-Chuk is a fun gun that gets the lead out toward the wild blue yonder for game, targets or varmints. Neither novice or expert will flinch from recoil jitters, a major cause of poor handgunning. It won't bite the hand that feeds it, even if you shoot hot loads all day in fast double-action cylinder rolling. Being so easy to shoot, it's a shooter's gun, that fills a real void in the handgun field. Let's hope it sparks a much needed factory varmint number, a real sporter. But we members of the Hull Fillers & Cap Busters Association, Unlimited, like the Kay-Chuk as it is. It has a future, not a past, and we can say, "Have gun, bullets will travel."

◆ Norfolk, Va. A story making the rounds of the Naval base here: An officer told a Navy recruit, "So you lost your rifle? Well, you'll have to pay for it." "But, sir," protested the boot, "it was stolen—if I were driving a jeep and somebody stole it, would I have to pay for that too?" "Yes," the officer told him. The recruit's answer is what they're quoting: "Now I know," he said, "why a captain goes down with his ship."

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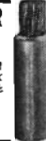


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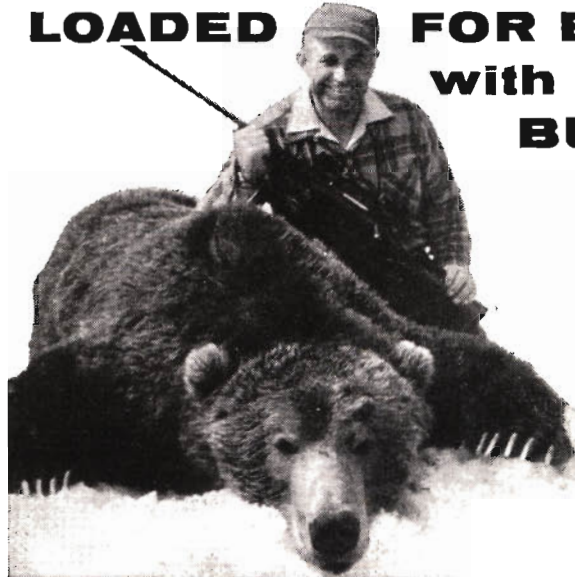
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# THE RIFLEMAN WHO STUNNED THE WORLD

... Colonel S. L. A. Marshall reported, from his observation of infantry in World War II, that never more than one man in four fires his rifle in combat. Why? General Merritt Edson, USMC, said it was because they lacked skill with the rifle and therefore lacked confidence . . . This is the story of a man who *did* have skill with his weapons, and the guts to use them.

By EDWARD LORING TUTTLE



York got Medal of Honor, French cross, many honors.

**T**HE GREATEST THING accomplished by any private soldier of all the armies of Europe," said Marshal Foch, was the deed for which Sergeant Alvin Collum York of the American Expeditionary Forces was acclaimed the outstanding hero of heroes of World War I. For the capture, single-handed, of an almost incredible number of German soldiers, and for the neutralizing of many critically placed machine gun nests which would otherwise have taken a bloody toll of American lives—might even have halted a major advance—General "Black Jack" Pershing himself named York "the outstanding civilian soldier of the war." For his act of individual heroism on October 8, 1918, Alvin York was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the French Legion of Honor, the Croix de Guerre with palm, the Medaille Militaire, the Italian War Cross, and other high Allied decorations.

York did it all simply by knowing and putting into practice the correct use of the rifle and the pistol in war.

Who was Alvin York? He was a conscientious objector from the hills of Tennessee. And he was the foremost single rifleman of World War I. If these facts seem conflicting, perhaps this story will bring them into focus.

The story begins at 3 A.M. on October 8, 1918, when the regimental commander of the 328th Infantry, 82nd Division, called in the company commanders of his 2nd Battalion. He ordered them to attack, from Hill 223, the German forces which were entrenched facing them on a steep wooded hill across a 500 yard open valley. The attack would move out at 6 A.M.

Captain F. C. B. Danforth Jr., CO of G Company, deployed his outfit in two assault waves: two platoons in front, two in the rear for support. Sgt. Harry M. Parsons commanded the left support platoon, and one of his corporals was Alvin York, a 31 year old farmer from the Tennessee mountains.

At 6 A.M., "zero hour," Co. G moved forward down the slope of Hill 223 into the deadly No Man's Land of that open valley. Machine gun fire poured on them from the hill ahead—from the front, from the left, and from the right. They took what cover they could find, advancing in short dashes from shellhole



When Company G advanced from Hill 223, Jerry machine guns pinned them down. The rifle line ducked for cover, then advanced from shell hole to shell hole.

to shellhole. Casualties mounted.

Sgt. Parson's platoon was cut off from the rest of G Company by a ridge and by the wall of criss-crossing fire between him and the other elements. Heavy fire on Parson's own platoon made it obvious that a charge would be nothing less than suicidal; one careless sweep of fire from any one of the machine guns facing them could wipe them out. Parson's next move displayed the initiative that sometimes enables the American fighting man to whip the more perfect military robots produced by other armies. Heavy brush slanted down a slope at Parson's left, and he ordered 17 men—Sgt. Early, three corporals (including York), and 13 privates—to swing left into that brush and try to work in behind the German guns.

Early led his 17-man task force about half a mile through thick underbrush, going it blind, expecting at every step to hit heavy resistance. The first Germans they saw were two stretcher bearers, who turned and ran. The Americans fired. One German stopped, submitted to capture. The other kept going. Early knew the man had to be stopped before he gave the alarm, and led his men in hot pursuit.

They chased the fugitive straight into the headquarters

of a German machine gun regiment, where between 80 and 100 Germans, including three officers, were at their breakfast. The Americans charged, firing. Two or three Germans fell; 15 or 20 others threw up their hands. Early said, "Cease fire. They're going to surrender."

The order may have been a little premature. One German kept on firing, and a corporal named York shot him. One shot, one pinwheel hit.

That might have made the "capture" stick had it not been for the several well-manned machine guns, so far unnoticed, on the hill to their right. These guns swung and opened fire. The range was from only 20 up to 60 yards. Six Americans fell dead, three wounded. Of the eight left, York was one.

The eight Americans took what cover they could. Early was one of the wounded; told Corporal Cutting to take over. But Cutting was also wounded. Corporal York was the next man in line. He took command.

York was shooting back at the German machinegunners from his prone position. As he put it later, every time a German head appeared over the gun emplacements, York "just teched him off." It was, he said, much like the shooting matches back in Tennessee; about the same dis-



"Over the top." American doughboys rise from trenches and cross No Man's Land at dawn to attack German machine guns 500 yards away. Sgt. York ended day as a live hero.



Test Springfield allowed soldier to sight in trench; but York stood up to shoot. Men targets were bigger.



York's home in Tennessee was hill farmer's shanty, but young rifleman learned to shoot to kill to fill pot.

tance (60 yards), but "the targets were bigger. I couldn't very well miss at that distance. And I didn't."

Even so, the German machine guns took turns spraying the American position—not even York could keep them all down all the time—but, York said, "They couldn't seem to hit me."

After a few minutes, York stood up. The prone position hampered him, he thought. He could hit any target he'd seen so far from a standing position, and he'd have a wider sweep of fire, could move faster. By now, he had fired several 5-round clips. His rifle was hot, and he was running out of ammunition.

A German officer and five men charged out of a trench 25 yards distant, at a time when York had only two or three rounds in his rifle. He pulled his .45 automatic. He dropped the man furthest from him; then the man next furthest—and so on, from last to first. Six shots; six German casualties, all dead. "That's the way we shoot turkeys back home," York explained later. "If you shoot the ones in the rear, the ones in front don't know what's happenin' and they keep on comin' and you get them all." He got them all.

York said that after that charge he "knew he had 'em licked." They couldn't hit him, and he could hit them. As long, that is, as his ammunition held out. He began shouting to the Germans to surrender. "I didn't want to kill any more than I had to," he explained. "I'd tech off a couple, then yell again." So far, he had, he thought, killed more than twenty.

A German major among the headquarters unit "captured" earlier, called out, "What are you, English?"

York said, "No. American."

The major said, "Good God! . . . Look, if you'll stop shooting, I'll make them surrender."

York said, "Do that. And make it good; you're a real



good target. If they start shooting again, you go first.”

The major blew a whistle and the guns ceased firing. At the major's command, gunners came pouring out of the trenches, hands skyward. One of those hands, however, concealed a hand-grenade. It came hurtling at York's head, missed, wounded a German prisoner. York shot the man who threw it. Nobody else moved. Nobody wanted any more of York's shooting.

The prisoners numbered about 100 now, and they were well behind the German lines. York ordered his remaining men to line the prisoners up and start them moving. The German major asked York how many Americans he commanded. York said, "Plenty. Tell your people to make a column of twos." The major obeyed him. York stood close to the major, his Colt pointed. When the column was formed, York told the major, "Start hikin'." The major asked a natural question: "Which way?"

York didn't know. They had followed a devious course through the brush, and the fight hadn't left York much sense of direction. He asked the major which way to the American lines. The major made a suggestion. York figured the major was lying; ordered the column off in the opposite direction . . . York was right; the major had lied. Who could blame him?

But this course, though right, led through German front-line positions. As they approached these positions, still other machine guns swung to face them. York ordered the

major to blow his whistle. "Make 'em surrender," he said, "or I'll shoot you first, and after you, them." The major blew his whistle, shouted the order. He made it emphatic; he knew only too well that York wasn't bluffing. The Germans ahead of them surrendered. One didn't, and York "teched him off" with one shot. "Hated to do it," he said later, "but it looked like I had to."

York and the thin remnant of Sergeant Parsons' 17-man task force marched 132 German prisoners back to the American Battalion Headquarters. Nobody there wanted to take charge of that many prisoners, so York and his squad marched them further to the rear, offering them to one unit commander after another. He finally delivered them to the 82nd Division Headquarters. Brigadier General Lindsay said, "Well, Corporal, I hear you've captured the whole German army." York said no, only 132 of them, and would the general please take them off his hands; he was tired of them.

Officially, York killed "not less than 25" Germans that day; captured 132 Germans including four officers; took "about 35" machine guns. How many Germans he actually faced in doing this, nobody knows. It is a further matter of record that, just after York's engagement, Captain Danforth and one company runner encountered 44 Germans not far from where York had taken his prisoners—and the Germans surrendered. It can be surmised that what they had seen that morning of Ameri- (Continued on page 48)



Alvin York, still boosting the rifle over scatter guns, came into lime-light in 1940's with release of Hollywood's life story motion picture.



Dug-in German Maxim guns were flanked by York in WWI action when he killed last man in succession, just like shooting turkeys.



Bird-thrower Manauta (back to camera) plucks tail feathers to give thrown bird crazy flight.



Top gun Tiffaine of Puebla talks birds with companion at Laredo.

**TRAINED LIKE A BASEBALL PITCHER TO THROW LIVE BIRDS AT ANGLES CALCULATED TO DEFEAT THE GUNNER, THE MEXICAN COLOMBAIRE KEEPS SCORES LOW IN SOUTH-OF-THE-BORDER SHOTS**

Tough game takes two quick shots, so often automatics (below) or over-unders are in use by skilled wing shots (rt.) who fire over head of thrower in scoring on the bird.

Thrower Jose Manauta shows how pigeon's wings are folded back between fingers for toss that is calculated to help bird escape the guns.



# THROWN BIRDS MAKE TOUGH TARGETS



By DAN KLEPPER

**M**EXICAN SHOOTERS prefer their sport the hard way. Rifle marksmen use only open sights to cut down on, and hit, live, moving lambs at 500 meters. Pistol enthusiasts fire away at 150 meters, using silhouettes of plucked chickens as targets. And Mexican shotgunners scorn the clay pigeon, principal target of gringo gunners. South of the border, the scattergun target is a live pigeon—not released from a cage but thrown into headlong flight by a “thrower” who uses every trick (and there are many) to fool the shooter.

The bird thrower, trained in the profession, tucks the pigeon's wings between his fingers, spins around like a top and hurls the bird into the air. The gunner, standing anywhere within 20 meters of the thrower, has two shots with which to bring the high-flying bird to earth within a specified distance.

This method of pigeon shooting originated in southeastern Spain, is used in many European countries. In

Spain, it ranks close to bullfighting in popularity.

Live pigeon shooting has been a sport in certain areas of Mexico for several years, but only within the past few months has it moved close to the border of Texas. Two pigeon shoots have been held on the border within the past year. Both were staged in Nuevo Laredo, a booming border city just across the muddy Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas. The first contest, called the First International Live Pigeon Shoot, was held last October. Luist Tiffaine of Puebla, south of Mexico City, won the contest. The second international match was held in February. Both of the contests were promoted by the Nuevo Laredo Gun Club.

Only 78 gunners were permitted to enter. The line-up was limited for two reasons: 1. The shoot was a one-day affair. 2. Each throw requires a terrific amount of energy, and the stamina of even the best bird thrower is limited.

Thrower for these contests was 45-year-old Jose Manauta, formerly of Aragon, Spain. *(Continued on page 47)*



Nylon for sweaters is usual, but nylon in rifles means revolution in arms making plus low-cost production of accurate .22 crow shooting plinkers.



# RIFLES FOR THE SPACE AGE!

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

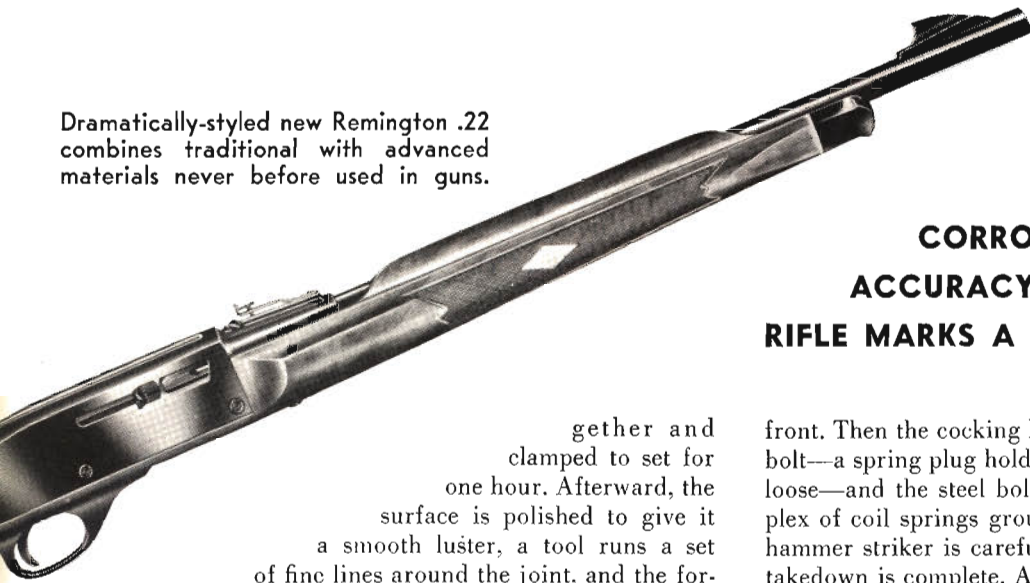
**A**N ERA IN GUNMAKING has just ended. I saw proof of its ending in December at the Remington Bridgeport factory. In their office, decorated with historic Remington firearms, I first saw the new .22 "Nylon 66" rifle—the rifle *with stock and action* made from one piece of nylon.

How sharp an impact this radical new autoloader will have on the industry depends on how quickly the era ends in other factories. Sometimes an age ends slowly: the Roman Empire took 500 years to decline. Sometimes the end comes swiftly: nylon replaced silk in stockings almost overnight. Now, nylon replaces wood *and* steel in guns. How rapidly the change comes will depend on how you and shooters generally react to the new materials. But one thing is certain: since Remington released the Nylon 66, the gun game will never be the same.

Though some concessions have been made to tradition in styling, the new rifle's butt stock, forearm, and receiver are made all in one piece from Du Pont "Nylon 66." This rifle for the Space Age has three main parts made of conventional metal: the steel barrel, the steel breechblock, and the spring-loaded striker block or hammer. The sear group is of sheet metal and springs, but the trigger (and of course the trigger guard) are formed of nylon.

In manufacture, the stock shells are moulded in separate halves, the line of joining being right down the middle all around. No solvents will dissolve this material. As the shells come from the moulds, their joining surfaces are swabbed with carbolic acid, allowed to saturate for at least five minutes, then joined to-

Dramatically-styled new Remington .22 combines traditional with advanced materials never before used in guns.



**LIGHT, STURDY  
RESISTING WEAR OR  
CORROSION, CAPABLE OF FINE  
ACCURACY, REMINGTON NYLON 66  
RIFLE MARKS A NEW AGE IN FIREARMS**

gether and clamped to set for one hour. Afterward, the surface is polished to give it a smooth luster, a tool runs a set of fine lines around the joint, and the forend tip and pistol grip and butt caps are acid-welded on. The checkering of grip and forend is perfect, which is natural enough, if you remember that the stock-receiver comes from the moulds perfectly duplicating the pattern.

Each stock is made so accurately that it is actually a gauge in which to test the conventionally-machined steel parts. If the bolt or barrel lock don't fit, check the tooling. Something is wrong there, for the stocks are perfect from the moulds. Since the original is perfect, the duplicate is perfect. No higher quality than that can be achieved in any process of manufacture.

To disassemble the Nylon 66, two coin-slot screws are removed from the side of the steel sheet-metal breech cover, which is then lifted off. The cover extends forward, shrouding the barrel breech, and the rear sight is riveted to it. The sight is designed for low-cost fabrication from spring sheet steel; has windage and elevation adjustments.

The stock takedown screw releases the barrel which, with its sintered powder-metal front sight, can be pulled from the

front. Then the cocking handle (nylon) is jerked out of the bolt—a spring plug holds it in by a detent, and cannot wear loose—and the steel bolt slides forward, disclosing a complex of coil springs grouped one within another. Next, the hammer striker is carefully released and slid forward, and takedown is complete. Actually, only the barrel needs to be removed for cleaning; and, with the breech cover removed, the greasy fouling which develops from long use of .22s can be wiped away. The barrel can of course be cleaned from the breech. No other American .22 autoloading rifle can be field stripped to clean from the breech, and no other rifle ever made has an easier barrel takedown than this new Nylon 66 Remington.

Accuracy and point of impact are not affected by removing and reinstalling the barrel. Below the stock is a coin-slot takedown screw. Releasing the screw relieves pressure on a stirrup-shaped block of steel, which is allowed to move up and down in a vertical mortise in the forearm. The stirrup locks into a cut on the cylindrical barrel. When the takedown screw is tight, the barrel is forced down onto solid pads of nylon at breech and muzzle, giving a firm bedding with "bench-rest" accuracy. Test groups fired from this new rifle, using 4X scope and shooting 10 shots at 75 feet, were all considerably under 1". Representative groups averaged .49" for 75 feet, or 1.88" at 100 yards—a very respectable figure for a rifle weighing only four pounds.



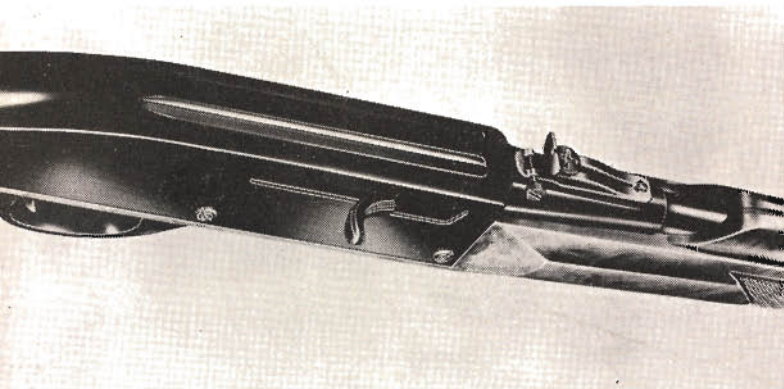
Factory test included 75,000 shots with no stops; plus 25,000 shots in dry gun.



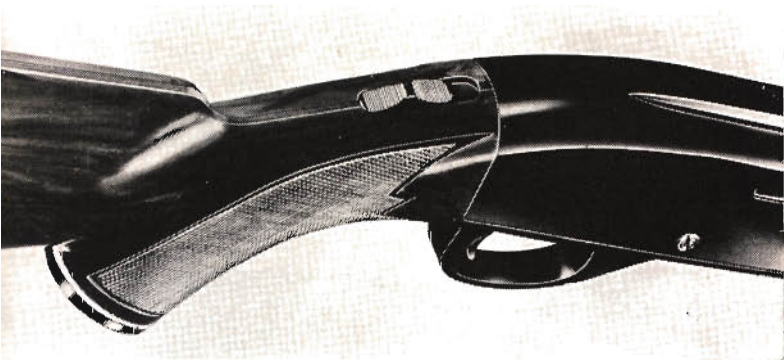
Impact and flexural strength of nylon-receiver rifle is proved by drastic smash-up tests. Gun was not smashed up in these tests.



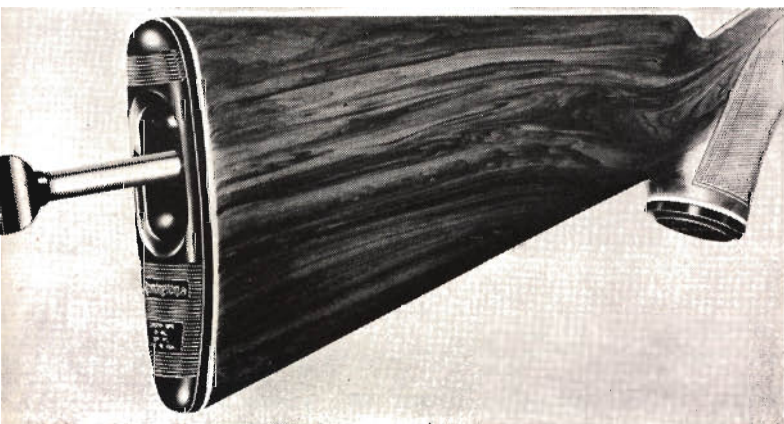
Choked with sawdust which would have gummed firearm made of usual materials, self-lubricating nylon gun fired OK.



Breech cover is concession to tradition; also holds rear sight which is click adjustable for windage, elevation.



Safety is in center, easy for right or left handed rifleman. Below, magazine tube pulls out for loading 14 shots.



Nylon 66's light weight is not achieved at any sacrifice of "gunniness." We discussed gunny qualities and traditional styling at length in pondering how shooters would accept the new rifle. Concessions to traditional design were obvious in several points. The sheet metal action cover, for example, is shaped fore and aft to resemble the Remington steel receivers of yesteryear. It's purpose is almost exclusively stylistic, though it does have a top rib creased for tip-off mount, plus thickness enough to permit drilling and tapping for receiver sights. But the stark front edge and rear line are direct carry overs from earlier design. When Remington makes a receiver from a solid forging, square corners are needed for base lines in the production set-up. If a flat base is made, as on one end of the receiver, then all the other cuts are measured by machines from that base line. But the nylon stock and sheet metal cover have no relation to this now-antique method of gun manufacture. The square shape is as outmoded as the horse in this motor car world.

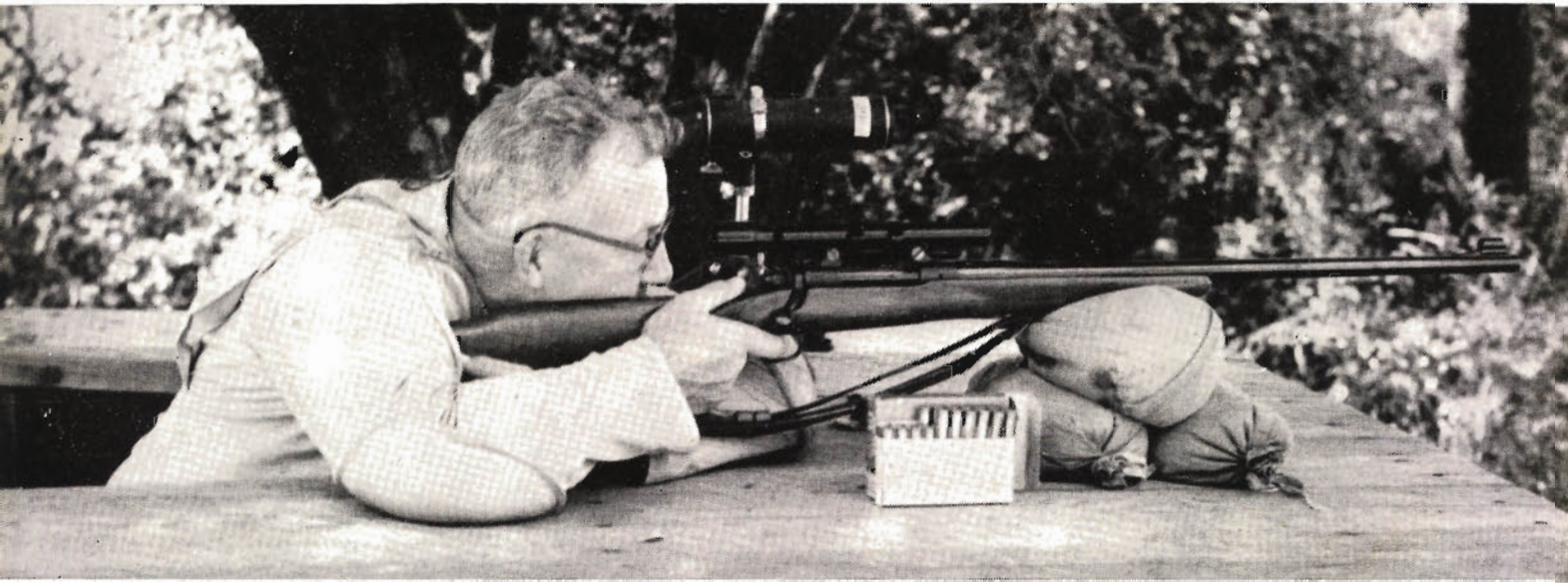
But styling can be tricky. When I suggested making the cover front edge in a curve, I unwittingly stepped backward into tradition. In a display case outside of the very office where we were talking, rested a Remington rifle—a back-action percussion lock, dated about 1850. At the front of the lock was a clipped-moon silver inlay of the exact shape which my suggested "more advanced" design would have created.

Inevitably, even with this most radical of manufacturing processes, Remington has let traces of traditional design linger on. And in the next few years, the battle of tradition versus novelty will continue. This battle has been fought before. "Experts" once decried progress in the form of the percussion cap. "I do not hold with the patent arms, and the rejection of flint and steel," quoth Col. George Bomford of the U. S. Ordnance Corps back in the 1840's, when Remington was showing the Army how to drill cap-lock rifle barrels from rolled steel. But the Army and the industry learned, and Remington steel barrels and the gun-technology developed from their manufacture helped bring on the machine revolution in U. S. factories.

Resistance to tradition dies hard. One of the leaders in machine manufacturing methods was Sam Colt. In Hartford, the venerable Charter Oak, in which the royal colonial charter of Connecticut was hidden from a despotic new governor, symbolized the heritage and quiet country-town traditionalism of the state's capital. Colt's smelly factory was not esteemed and home-town-boy-makes-good merely rubbed the city fathers the wrong way. But Colt went even further, twisting the knife, so to speak. When the Charter Oak toppled in a storm, Colt had pistol grips made of the wood, combining the old and the new, which he presented to friends. The blending of the traditional with the new in the 1850s created what we, of a later generation, are pleased to consider "traditional."

The American of the 1850s looked upon the traditional firearm as one lovingly crafted of curly wood and hammered iron. Then came the machine revolution. Loving hands became translated to lovingly-tended machines. Witness the gun enthusiast of the 1950s as he examines a fine Mauser pistol or one of the crisply machined, satin blued Model 8 Remington autoloaders. "Man," he exclaims, "what careful machine work." (Continued on page 46)

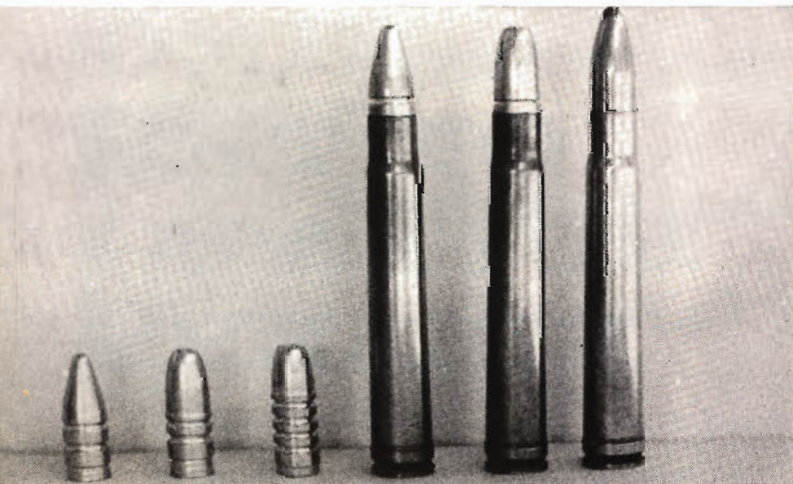
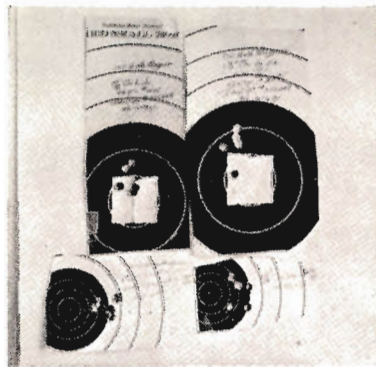
# LOAD YOUR .375 FOR ALL-AROUND USE



Author bought .375 Winchester M70 as challenge to self but finds big cartridge has wide practical versatility with many handload combinations.

By BILL McCANDLASS

Four loads grouped closely. From l. to r. they are: Ideal #375449 and 44 grs. #3031; same bullet and 47.5 grs. #4895; lower l., 210 gr. H & G spire point plus 32 grs. of #4198. Low rt., 250 gr. H & G plus 45 grs. #4895. Below, Hensley & Gibbs 210; H & G 250; Ideal #375449; and two H & G loaded rounds compared with Speer 235 grain jacket soft-point game bullet.



OH, SURE, I needed another rifle like I needed another hole in the head. But if all gun nuts weighed the acquisition of a new shooting iron on the basis of sheer need, there would be lots of empty space on gun racks now bulging with blued steel and polished walnut.

The cartridge and its possibilities always fascinated me. The British had long claimed it to be the best all-around cartridge in the world, and I felt if they, with their well-known conservatism, were willing to stand behind such a statement, then it surely must be something. But I just happen to be a man who has to try things out for himself, so—I ordered a .375 Magnum in the Model 70 Winchester.

While waiting for my rifle to put in an appearance, I withstood all manner of wise cracks from the local shooting fraternity, including the moss covered one, "You'll have to jack that cannon up and put wheels under it." However, being pretty well inured to the well known Bronx cheer, I was content to grin and let the boys have their fun.

When the rifle arrived, I wiped off the factory (Continued on page 54)



One of country's foremost Sharps fans is Maurice Clark of LA who describes den corner shown above as mementos of "forty years of chasing rainbows."



Clark is one of few men living who has shot a buffalo; used Sharps to do job.

THE BIG SHARPS:

# KING OF THE BUFFALO KILLERS



# AFTER 90 YEARS, THE "OLD BIG AND UGLY" SHARPS COULD STILL HOLD ITS OWN WITH MODERN RIFLES NOT ONLY FOR SMASHING POWER BUT FOR LONG RANGE ACCURACY

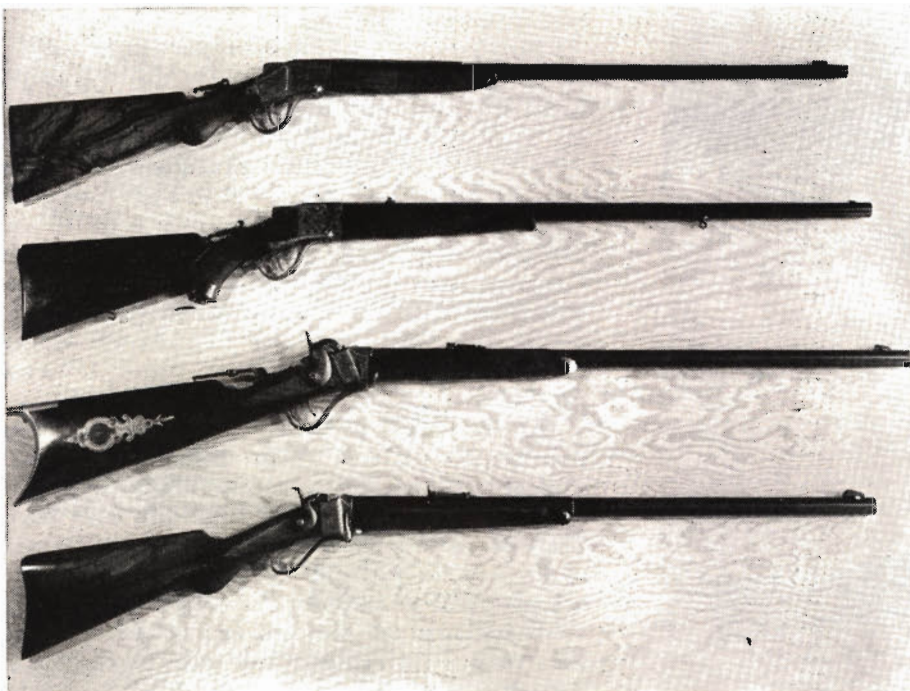
By ELMER KEITH

**F**EW RIFLES have ever captured the fancy and the imagination of shooters and writers alike as did the Sharps. First made for Christian Sharps by A. S. Nippes of Philadelphia more than a decade before the Civil War, the Sharps was one of the most practical and most effective breech-loaders of its time. A .44 caliber percussion piece, using paper or linen cartridges which contained powder and bullet, the Sharps loaded and fired more rapidly than any muzzle loader, and some had cap magazines on the side of the rifle which further speeded up the loading-and-firing process. Closing the lever of the slanting breech action after the cartridge was inserted sheared off the end of the cartridge, exposing the powder to the flame of the percussion cap. The gun could be fired as fast as a man could open the breech, load, close, and cock the big side hammer. They became very popular as sporting arms.

With the advent of the Civil War, Col. Hiram Berdan raised a regiment of sharpshooters, accepting only men of proven ability with the rifle. Berden armed his regiment with the new breech loading .52 caliber Sharps rifles, with triangle bayonets. The effectiveness of Berdan's Sharpshooters and the Sharps rifles was well demonstrated at the battle of Gettysburg, where a small contingent of Berdan's Sharpshooters laid down such a terribly deadly fire that they prevented Lee's troops from occupying several key positions. This is credited as a direct contribution to the Union victory.

At the close of the Civil War, with the coming of metallic cartridges incorporating the primer as well as the powder and bullet, the existing Sharps .52 caliber percussion arms were converted in great quantity to cartridge arms. Conversions to metallic .52-70 Rim Fire, and later to .50-70

Rare M1877 Sharps rifle in .45-2 6/10" caliber was named "Creedmoor" after the famous target range on Long Island.

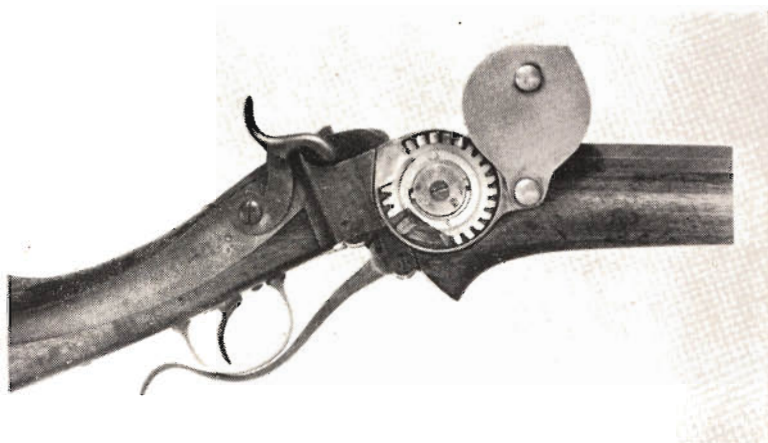


Superb examples of Sharps guns include top Borchardt by Kellogg Bros., second made by factory and finest quality; rifle with patchbox is finest original M1852 engraved sporter known; bottom was restyled by Freund.





Sharps octagon rifle .44-105-520 was built in Hartford shop for great buffalo hunt; has full length scope for long range shooting.



First model Sharps rifle was made by A. S. Nippes of Philadelphia; has automatic cap magazine which primed breech.



Borchardt action finished and beautifully engraved by gun-maker Schoyen of Denver is .38-55 caliber. Below, Sharps in Philadelphia made few rifles on actions of cap lock pistols.



Center fire ( $1\frac{3}{4}$ " case), included both the short carbine with lanyard ring on the left side for cavalry use, and also the long, round-barrel, full-stocked weapons fitted with tang peep and globe front sights for sniper use. These became very popular among the Indian fighting troops on the frontier, and were also used very effectively on the buffalo.

In company with Harold Croft, I visited the original Sharps factory on the outskirts of Philadelphia; a small stone building on the bank of a small creek, where the first Sharps rifles were produced long before the Civil War. Later, the factory was moved to Hartford, Conn., and still later to Bridgeport, Conn. Much later still, after the Sharps Rifle Co. had failed, Meacham, a firm in St. Louis, Mo., gathered up and marketed still more Sharps rifles, and rifle parts.

With the building of the Union Pacific railroad and the demand for buffalo hides, the Sharps Rifle Co. prospered and the Sharps long range rifle became the *sine qua non* of the buffalo hunter. It was the most accurate as well as the most powerful long range rifle produced in America at the time. As the hide hunting and the decimation of the great herds progressed, the buffalo hunters demanded and got ever more powerful rifles from the Sharps Company. The .45-70-420 (2.1" case), the .45-90-500 (2.4"-2.6"), the .45-100-550 ( $2\frac{7}{8}$ " ), and finally the .45-120-550 in the  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " case, were produced and used. The existing .50-70-473 did not have enough range, so the .50-90-473 ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ " case) was produced, and finally the "Big Fifty," the .50-170-700 in  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " case made its appearance. The big  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " loads in both .45 and .50 caliber appeared in the final days of the Sharps Company, were probably made by others who acquired ownership of the Sharps equipment and parts; but the name "Big Fifty" caught on and was applied to rifles not of the model so named, even to rifles not .50 caliber.

The .40 calibers started also with short cartridges from the .40-50-270 ( $1\frac{11}{16}$ " bottleneck and  $1\frac{7}{8}$ " straight) and ran on to the .40-70-330 ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ " BN,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " Str.), and the .40-90-370 ( $2\frac{5}{8}$ " BN,  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " Str.). There was even a .40-45 Straight  $1\frac{7}{8}$ " case, as well as the .40-50 Bottle Neck. The bottle neck cases were brought out first, and then the straight cases.

In addition to the .40s, .45s, and .50 calibers, there were various .44 calibers. The early Sharps was a .44 percussion rifle, as stated earlier. Later, the Sharps Co. at Bridgeport made a lot of the .44-77-470 (metallic cartridge) rifles. These were widely used all over the West. The case was  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " and all I ever



Inscribed Borchardt gun in Clark collection commemorates famous frontiersmen and Indian battle.

Author has owned many Sharps rifles and today preserves four representative target types on his wall.

saw carried the very blunt-nosed 470 grain patched bullets. Most of the early Hartford Sharps I have seen were either .44-77-470 or the longer  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " case carrying 90 to 105 grs. of powder and a 520 grain patched bullet in the bottle neck case—the old Creedmoor load.

I used an 11 pound, 30" full octagon barrel, set trigger, side hammer Sharps for a great deal of my early big game hunting; used it for everything from taking the heads off cottontails and grouse and big white Montana jack rabbits, to elk and deer. That old .44-77-470 accounted for a lot of game! I also borrowed Liver-Eatin' Johnson's old .44-77-740 Sharps from its owner, Dr. Gillam of Townsend, Montana, and used it one winter.

The  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " bottle neck .44-90-to-105-520 was a much better long range cartridge. I had a fine 34" light full-octagon barrel Creedmoor that was superbly accurate. I used that rifle for considerable elk and deer shooting, and also for coyote shooting as well.

Sharps rifles were used and also made up in such a wide variety of styles and patterns as well as calibers that almost anything can be found among a collection of them. I had several with "J. P. Lower, Denver," stamped on them. He was Sharps' distributor. Many of the parts that I purchased from Chauncey Thomas were so stamped also. The finest of all Sharps were long, slim Creedmoors just under 10 pounds in weight and with 30" to 34" barrels in full octagon, half octagon and full round. I once owned a 32" .45-120-550  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " with the '74 action and my .44-105-520 Creedmoor was on the Model '74 action. I also owned an old Model '77 chambered for the .45-120-550 Straight shell. I still have a new-condition 34" round barrel Model 1877 for the  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " .45-120-550 load. These were and still are grand old rifles and, if perfect bullets are cast, swaged and patched, and if they were properly loaded, they will make even modern match rifles go some to beat them. As

late as 1900, the Wimbledon Cup match was won with a perfect 20 shot score at 1000 yards with a Sharps Creedmoor .45-120-550 rifle against all manner of Krags and other sporting calibers of the time.

I grew up in Montana and, a long time ago, I bought an 18 pound 30" full octagon rifle that had been owned and used throughout the buffalo hide hunting days by Hank Waters. The bore of that fine heavy Sharps is still perfect to this day, and one winter it won me 34 turkeys in Montana turkey shoots, against the best men in the Helena Rifle Club and others armed with the latest modern rifles. I shot it against everything from Springfields down, and never felt the least handicapped at 200 yards. It made many groups at 100 yards that were just one big hole, and at 200 yards made some under two inches. It accounted for many coyotes, too.

The last time I used this old 18 pound Hank Waters Sharps was at a turkey match at Challis, Idaho. The old Sharps was fired in six matches at 100 yards, nearest shot to center taking the turkey. It won five turkeys and a 15 pound ham. We shot it with peep vernier rear and blade front sights against many scope sighted rifles, including two bench rifles. This rifle is chambered so perfectly that no resizing of cases is necessary and the fired case takes the next patched bullet perfectly, friction-tight when reloaded. It has five wide, heavy, and very deep grooves, which all the authorities say were never made for patched bullets; but I have not seen the Sharps with shallow flat grooves that would outshoot it.

At one time I owned over 30 Sharps rifles, but they were so heavy to move around I finally swapped off most of them, even including my .44 caliber engraved percussion slant breech Model 1852. Today I have but four: a Model 1877 Creedmoor .45-120-550  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " in new condition, and three heavy buffalo rifles. One is (*Continued on page 61*)

## FOR TOPS IN CROW SHOOTING

# GET AN OWL DECOY

### HORNED OWL, WOUNDED CROWS, SHOTGUN AND SHELL—AND YOU'RE SET FOR A CROW-SHOOT

By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER



Hunter wears dark gloves, hides in shade of brush, because sharp-eyed crows can spot flash of white skin.

HAVE  
FUN  
WITH  
GUNS

SEEMINGLY OBLIVIOUS to the steady gunfire we poured at them, over 100 maddened crows circled our live great horned owl decoy, a stone's throw from the historic site of the Hudson Bay Company's early day Fort Colville. Dive-bombing, growling, cawing, ruffling their feathers with fury, the crows heckled the owl, while from carefully built blinds, head nets over our faces, dull colored old clothing and drab gloves, we worked them over with shotguns, using 23 grains of Red Dot powder behind  $1\frac{1}{4}$  oz. of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  shot. After a volley of shooting they would retreat to the tall pines several hundred yards away, still cawing. But they came back, again and again. With a low *caw-r-r-r*, *caw-r-r-r*, imitating the sound of a wounded crow on an Olt's M-9 call, we got them back up to five times, taking a toll each run. Of course, as anyone who has shot crows knows, we missed plenty of the swirling, diving, black rascals, too. But it was great shooting. We would stop calling the instant the crows spotted the owl, and start shooting. The lead problems were roughly the same as pass shooting at ducks, except that crows weave and turn, seldom flying straight.

Those unpredictable turns kept us on our toes. My Model 97 Winchester 12-gauge is equipped with a large aperture peep sight and a Sheard gold bead on front. The peep is adjustable and zeroed so the pattern is evenly distributed around the aiming point at 35 yards. It's a rifleman's set-up, and it helps eliminate guesswork from cramped positions in blind shooting.

It had to end, of course. The crows wised up, finally, and stayed out of range. Occasionally, they would send a lone scout to feel out the situation. If the scout got excited and buzzed the owl, cawing, part of his pals would come back. If we held fire for a while, eventually the entire flock would return. But now the slightest movement in the blind would bring a frantic warning caw, and the flock would skim back to the line of safety 100 to 300 yards away. They sensed now that there was something more dangerous here even than a horned owl, and once they were convinced of that, getting them back was impossible.

"Try the varmintier," whispered Wayne Siegel, my hunting buddy on this and many other crow safaris. We had learned that whispers do not carry far, but even a low voice tone is audible across hundreds of yards.

Picking up my 26" heavy-barreled .243 R.C. with its 8X Bushnell scope, I took a rest, lined up the crosshairs on a fine black target, and squeezed the Dayton-Traister speed lock trigger. The crow exploded into a cloud of feathers under the impact of the 75-grain Speer hollow point bullet in front of 48 grains of 4331.

I slipped the empty case in my pocket and reloaded, but that ended the party. The crows took off. Blind No. 1 was done for that week. But we found that rotating this activity (*Continued on page 49*)



Crow-eating owl is partner in varmint shoot. Birds swarm to torment him but owl gets the last laugh.



Schumaker uses M97 pump fitted with big peep sight and Sheard gold bead for fast shooting when crows are not wary of decoy. Big-eyed owl looks bored but was surprised when author (below) blew up crow with .243 Rock Chucker.



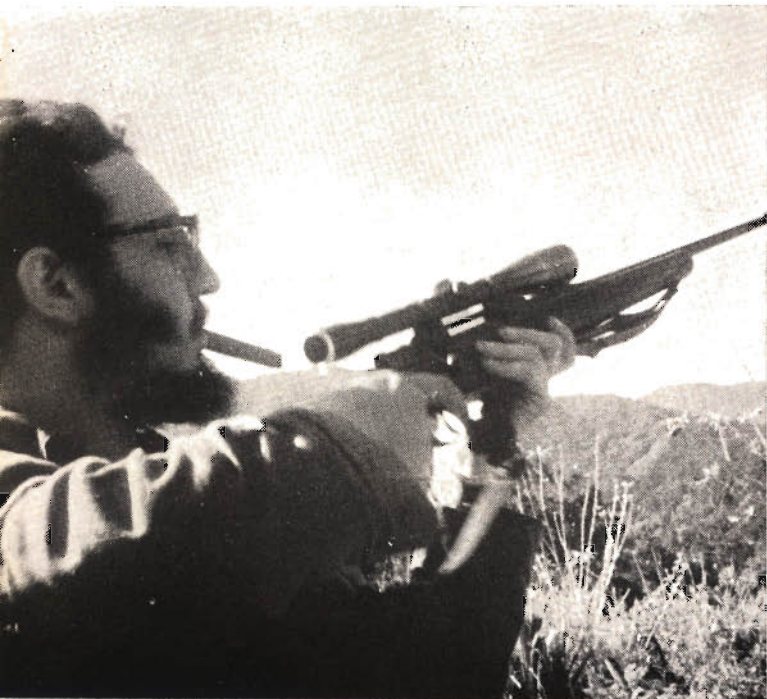
FURNISHING GUNS TO REVOLUTIONISTS  
IS AN ANCIENT AMERICAN BUSINESS,  
HONORABLE OR NOT DEPENDING ON  
YOUR POINT OF VIEW. NOT ALL  
CASTRO GUNS COME FROM THE  
STATES . . . BUT SOME DO

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS



FN Mauser sporter and cigar are Castro's "trademarks." Here he traces attacking route taken by his fighters (right below.)

# WHERE CASTRO



Castro uses favorite FN sporter with great skill. The scope sight is probably a Weaver K6 in Buehler top mounts.



Rebels in Provisional Army, called the "Movement of July 26," descend from hills to raid army; carry Johnson LMGs.



Home-made "Sten" guns are seized by US agents in California, while Castro jubilant in victory and men have FN's, Johnsons, M1s.



## GETS HIS GUNS

**S**PUTTERING SOUTH of the United States like a fuse on a powder-keg which threatened to blow up the Monroe Doctrine, was the Revolution in Cuba. Led by young, bearded Fidel Castro, who has spent his fortune on guns, Castro kept going in spite of late *Presidente* Fulgencio Batista's efforts to dislodge him. How the revolt has kept going in spite of the opposition of the modern Cuban army is a story which has come near to embarrassing the United States government.

With Fidel's installing of Sr. Manuel Urrutia Lleo as rebel president, and their appeal to the world for recognition of their belligerent status under international law, the Cuban freedom fight might have become another Korea. Attempts to involve Communist arms and Communist influence in the revolutionary movement—which Castro's forces blame on Batista—could have meant U.S. intervention. But the revolt remained local. A few U.S. citizens have been indicted for shipping guns to Cuba, as have citizens of a dozen other Western Hemisphere nations who sympathized in cash and arms with Castro. And regardless of the merits or demerits of armed insurrection against the internationally-recognized Havana government, Castro's hideaway army in the "Big Mountains,"—the Sierra Maestra of Cuba's eastern Oriente province—furnished a good lesson on how to survive despite the operations of a stronger military force.

Arrayed against Castro were the arms of Batista's 30,000 soldiers. They used U.S. standard guns: M1 rifles and Springfields caliber .30; Thompson subs and .45 pistols; and of course light and heavy Brownings in .30 and .50 calibers. Mortars in 60mm and 81mm sizes are also used.

As a member of the western hemisphere defense organizations, Batista had in the past received arms on credit from the U. S. Cuba has no munitions factories. But since March, 1958, Batista no longer could buy on credit.

Newspaper readers may have noticed during March 1958 a squib about 1,000 Garand rifles being held up in New York, export licenses refused by our State Department. They were consigned to the recognized Batista government. Why the State Department refused to let them out is a secret locked in Munitions Control Division files. But with these arms stopped, Batista turned to other commercial sources for arms. I have seen an order given a large U.S. munitions broker, said to be of guns for Batista, which requires 1,500 M1 rifles, many other arms, and quantities of ammunition for a "shooting war," all in U.S. standard calibers. While "State Department export license is assured" on this order, it is not known that Batista had any success in getting them. More recently, an order for .45 automatics "for Havana Police" was stopped by State Department. Meanwhile, shipments of arms continued going to Castro.



Castro lookout keeps eye on road leading to Sierra Maestra hideaway; has FN Mauser.



Sergeant Batista was raised to chief of staff in 1933 after army revolt that he helped lead.

The Cuban rebel arms agents are not suckers, and there were no fabulous profits to be made in smuggling arms to the rebels. But occasionally incompetent "gun runners" do get into the act. In Miami some months ago, two men were arrested in a motel with hand grenades which they were loading with black powder and homemade fuses. According to Florida gun cranks' scuttlebutt—Miami is filled with Cuban agents—the two erstwhile gun runners had driven to the Everglades to test their fuses. The grenade fuse assemblies were reprimed with shotgun caps, and fused with lengths of dynamite fuse. The grenade bodies were filled with black powder and the fuse assemblies screwed in.

But such gadgets are more dangerous to the grenadier than to his enemy. Flash-by of the primer cap past the dynamite fuse often set off the grenades as quickly as they are thrown. Ordnance grenade fuses are varnished and sealed against such flash-by, and loose sporting black powder is *not* the correct filler for hand grenades. Meanwhile, in Cuba, revolutionary fighters died because they did not have grenades. These were the young men of the Havana-area *Directorio*, the students' revolutionary movement.

Censorship in Havana gradually reduced the Cuban "crisis" of last spring from front to back pages, but the *Directorio* attack on the Presidential Palace made the headlines. Several trucks loaded with members of the *Directorio* crashed the gates, submachine guns sputtering. But Batista was not in residence, and the attack failed from lack of firepower. Rebellion, like good government, cannot succeed unless it is organized. The palace attack was not

organized. Since that time, when he suspended the promised November free elections, Batista had taken to riding around in a heavily armored truck. Meanwhile, the *Directorio* set out to get grenades. The seizure of the bombs in the Miami motel by F.B.I. agents delayed their supply. But according to reports of the kind of grenades being made, it was probably a good thing for them that they never got there!

When I discussed some of the newspaper F.B.I. claims to capturing "50 per cent of the guns shipped to Castro," with a friend in Central Intelligence, I asked him if this really meant that "Uncle Sam lets half of the guns go through." His reply jolted me a little. Without any argument, he said, "That would be one way to state it." Some corroboration for this idea occurred with the confiscation in August, 1957, of a quantity of Italian Carcano 7.35mm rifles at the home of Gil DeGibaja in Miami. An American citizen of Cuban descent, DeGibaja was charged with violating the Neutrality Act, since the arms and ammo were believed bound for Cuba. Later, Miami newspaper columnists pretending to be in the know, published that the Cubans "no longer were interested" in buying Italian rifles. But the fact is that Castro's representatives have repeatedly and publicly stated that what they want are U.S. standard caliber arms which can be easily supplied with ammunition captured from the Batista troops. And while the Italian guns caught the attention of Miami's federal agents, dollars to doughnuts a big shipment of .30-06 and .45 caliber weapons were allowed to slip through.





American sporters are popular with Cuban rebel buyers who find M740 Remington .30-06 as effective as Garands.

The newspapers have often in the course of the revolution made mention of something or other that would lead the reader to assume the Communists were behind Castro. The time Batista himself ran for office on the Cuban Communist Party ticket is forgotten. Last summer a New York newspaper columnist declared "Czech Guns Used By Cuban Rebels! Czech machine guns are in use by Castro . . ." The fact is, that Czech *rifles* are very popular in Cuba. These same Czech rifles have been available in the U.S. as ordinary commercial imports, but were halted back in 1950 when we put the freeze on doing business with Czechoslovakia. Meanwhile, Castro's agents go to Mexico for arms. The Czech sporters are popular for hunting. There, where a secret rebel training camp operates, sporting rifles of the Cz 47 pattern, a neatly-styled modified Mauser in .30-06 caliber, are issued to revolutionary recruits. A cargo of these rifles plus boots, clothing, radios, and other gear so needed by the mountain fighters, was seized by Havana government officers in April, 1958, from the yacht *El Corojo*. But none of the new-type ~~she~~ 50 Czech military rifles are in use by Castro. This was denied in Chicago as recently as December, 1958, by President Urrutia on his way to Oriente Province to assume his office. The claims of Soviet-influence guns in the Castro rebellion were strictly "red herrings," was the sum of his statements. He was right: the Russian and Czech guns take special cartridges which are very good, but not standard anywhere in the west. After the first ammunition ran out, they could not have been used. To discredit the revolution, Batista arranged with the Dominican Republic to receive five cargo plane loads of arms. The rebels heard of the move and put on a surprise party when the planes landed, so the newspapers carried the story, "Batista Gets Dominican Guns." But as usual the papers had only half the story. For the arms were Czech military rifles, which the Dominicans had bought to send to Batista, and which he intended to "plant" on dead revolutionaries (*Continued on page 58*)



"Ametralladora Colt" is prime arm for base of fire. Few guns are in use, surplus from other Latin states.



Surplus Colt .45 automatics from England bounced through US on way to Cuba but were seized by dictator Batista's troops before getting into rebels' hands.



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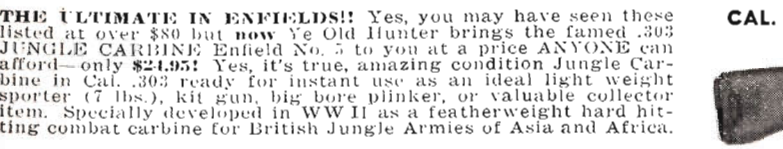
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**AMMO** HERE IT IS! Leave it to Ye Old Hunter to bring gleaming perfect fresh stock .303 British ball 170 gr. magnificent issue loads to you at only \$7.50 per 100! Stock up now to shoot those sensational bargain Royal Enfields for almost nothing! Why pay more elsewhere! Shipped Soonest. Order NOW! ALSO: Fine .303 British Soft-point hunting loads — only \$14.75 per 100 rounds. (See opposite page for the ammo bargain of the year.)

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 You can pay UP TO THREE TIMES as much for these IDENTICAL WEAPONS elsewhere, so order TODAY and save, save, save. The junk's been wholesaled elsewhere. — the BEST is now available, as usual, ONLY THROUGH YE OLD HUNTER.

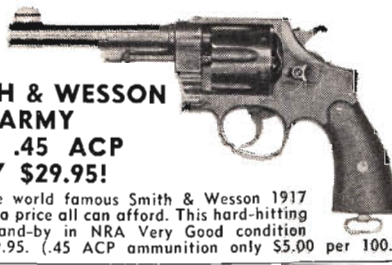
**Most are NRA Excellent unless otherwise specified ONLY \$14.95 and up!!! WHY PAY MORE ELSEWHERE?**  
**All take standard ammo, available everywhere.**  
**ORDER TODAY FROM THIS AD!!! ON HAND FOR PROMPTEST DELIVERY.**  
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**LLAMA .38 SUPER AUTO ONLY \$29.95!**



Absolutely NRA Excellent "SUPER LLAMA" in original box with cleaning brush, worth twice but only \$29.95! Some with grip-safety, \$5.00 more. (Extra magazine \$2.50).

**SMITH & WESSON 1917 ARMY CAL. .45 ACP ONLY \$29.95!**



Now, the world famous Smith & Wesson 1917 Army at a price all can afford. This hard-hitting Army stand-by in NRA Very Good condition only \$29.95. (.45 ACP ammunition only \$5.00 per 100.)

**SMITH & WESSON M.P. \$24.95!!**



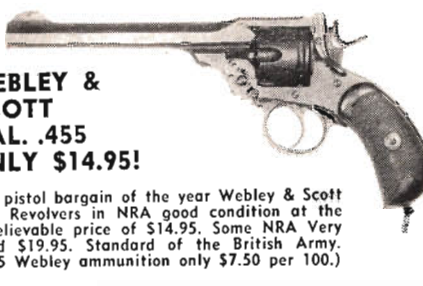
Here it is, why pay more elsewhere, powerful .38 S&W ctg. (not .38 sp.). V.g. Only \$24.95. Near mint condition. Only \$29.95.

**COLT NEW SERVICE CAL. .455 ONLY \$24.95!**



Extremely rare and in great demand for those who know. This "husky" of pistoldom is all gun. A "Ye Old Hunter" bullseye special only \$24.95 in NRA Very Good. A few NRA Excellent only \$29.95. Don't delay. (.455 Webley ammunition only \$7.50 per 100.)

**WEBLEY & SCOTT CAL. .455 ONLY \$14.95!**



The pistol bargain of the year Webley & Scott .455 Revolvers in NRA good condition at the unbelievable price of \$14.95. Some NRA Very Good \$19.95. Standard of the British Army. (.455 Webley ammunition only \$7.50 per 100.)

**.45 ACP BALLESTER MOLINA ONLY \$29.95!**



The Argentine .45 ACP. Rarest of the rare. This masterpiece is absolutely NRA Excellent throughout and only \$29.95. (.45 ACP ammunition only \$5.00 per 100 rounds.)

Special letterhead for new sensational discount lists.

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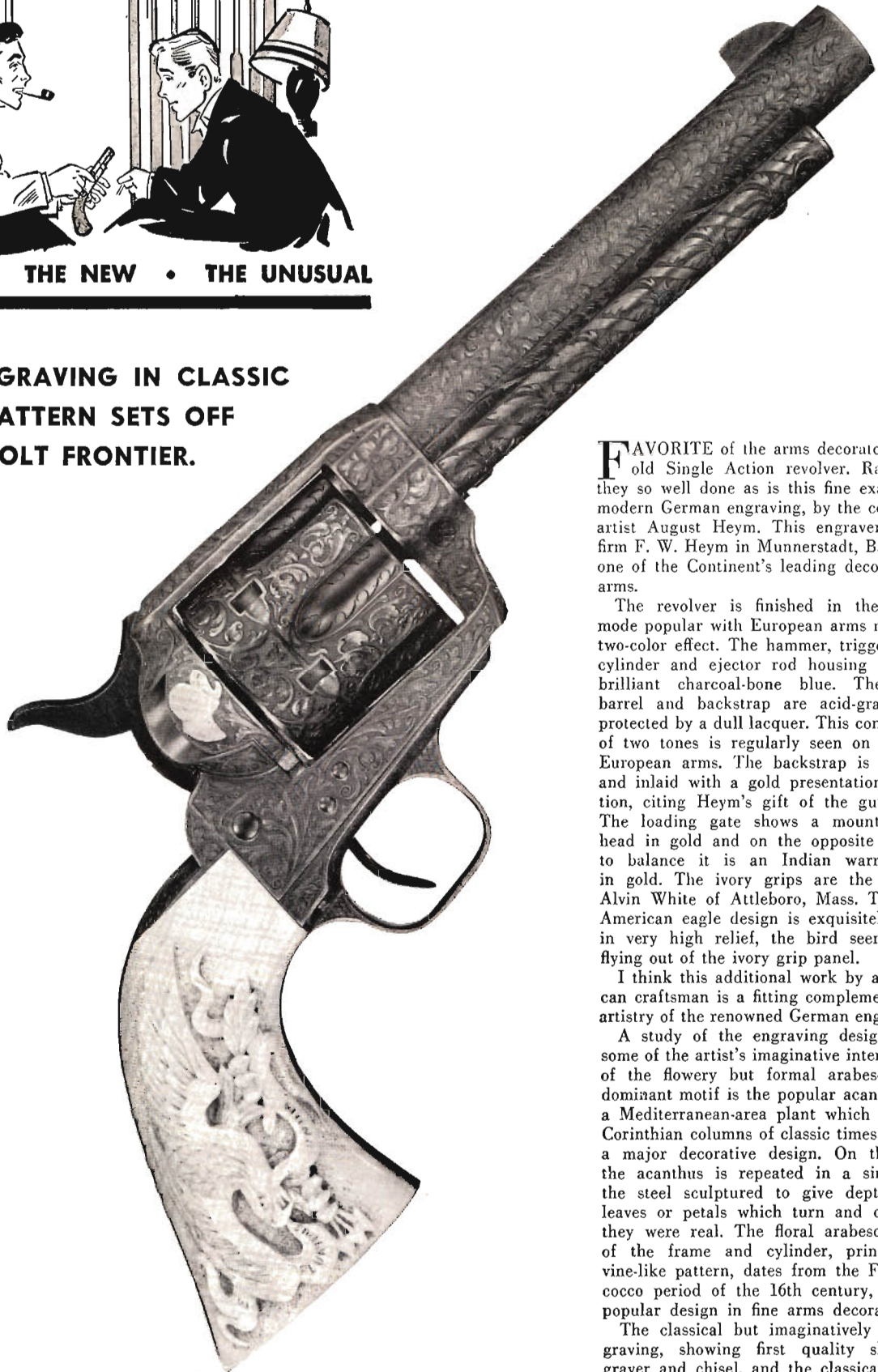
Never NEVER again will such a pistol opportunity present itself!!! Even Ye Old Hunter's cannily curiously cunning old eyes blinked in squinty disbelief when he learned of his unbelievable exclusive good fortune in obtaining at a single stroke the PICK of the world's greatest pistols at a price which permits YOU to LOAD UP NOW or forever hold your piece. Nobody but nobody undersells Ye Old Hunter! AMERICA'S BIGGEST ARMS HOUSE—AMERICA'S LOWEST PRICES! No connection with no other Hunter nowhere—no how! ALEXANDRIA, VA., GUN CAPITAL OF AMERICA, THE MECCA OF GUNDOM. ORDER TODAY FOR THE "ONCE IN A LIFETIME" BARGAIN.

# Gun OF THE MONTH



**THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL**

**EXPERT ENGRAVING IN CLASSIC  
GERMAN PATTERN SETS OFF  
CLASSIC COLT FRONTIER.**



**F**AVORITE of the arms decorators is the old Single Action revolver. Rarely are they so well done as is this fine example of modern German engraving, by the celebrated artist August Heym. This engraver, of the firm F. W. Heym in Munnerstadt, Bavaria, is one of the Continent's leading decorators of arms.

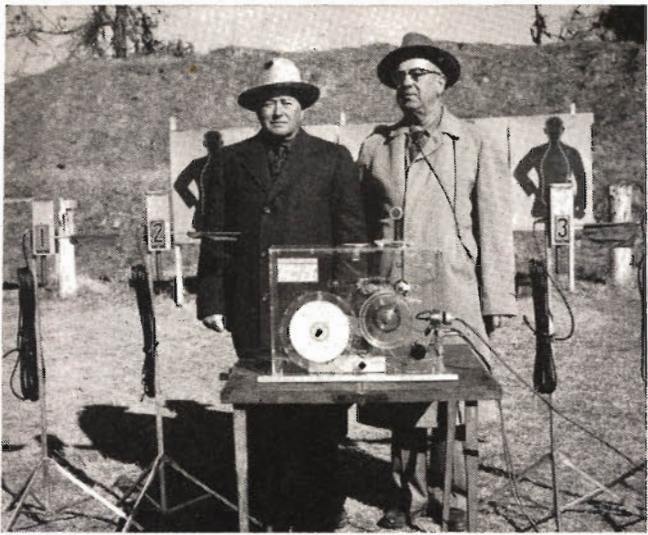
The revolver is finished in the current mode popular with European arms makers, a two-color effect. The hammer, trigger guard, cylinder and ejector rod housing are in a brilliant charcoal-bone blue. The frame, barrel and backstrap are acid-gray finish, protected by a dull lacquer. This combination of two tones is regularly seen on the finer European arms. The backstrap is engraved and inlaid with a gold presentation inscription, citing Heym's gift of the gun to me. The loading gate shows a mountain goat head in gold and on the opposite shoulder to balance it is an Indian warrior, also in gold. The ivory grips are the work of Alvin White of Attleboro, Mass. The flying American eagle design is exquisitely carved in very high relief, the bird seems to be flying out of the ivory grip panel.

I think this additional work by an American craftsman is a fitting complement to the artistry of the renowned German engraver.

A study of the engraving design reveals some of the artist's imaginative interpretation of the flowery but formal arabesque. The dominant motif is the popular acanthus leaf, a Mediterranean-area plant which since the Corinthian columns of classic times has been a major decorative design. On the barrel the acanthus is repeated in a single row, the steel sculptured to give depth to the leaves or petals which turn and curl as if they were real. The floral arabesque motif of the frame and cylinder, principally a vine-like pattern, dates from the French rococo period of the 16th century, and is a popular design in fine arms decoration.

The classical but imaginatively done engraving, showing first quality skill with graver and chisel, and the classical lines of the revolver, match in an ensemble of fine art in guns that is truly beautiful.

Eagle ivory grips on Heym-engraved Colt were carved by Alvin White.



Arms instructor Bancroft and instrument maker Melvin Loper built timer using paper reel tape to record quick draw speed. Fast gun rig for police is Jordan holster or "Border Patrol" type made by S. D. Myres Co.



By T. O. BANCROFT  
*Instructor, Monroe (La.) PD*

# ***POLICE QUICK DRAW Can Improve Your Chances***

## **TRAINING COURSE DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE**

## **IN OWN GUN SKILL PROVES POLICE LIFE SAVER IN SCRAP WITH ARMED CRIMINAL**

**P**OLICE OFFICERS CARRY HANDGUNS for defense. Ideally, the officer should be instructed in how to use his gun quickly and effectively, at short ranges. This instruction is more important than any other, for it may save his life or the lives of others. Recent attention focused on the quick draw leather-slapping techniques of the old west and not-so-old-west heros has caused many peace officers to try to become proficient in this skill of fast shooting. In Monroe, Louisiana, quick draw gained immediate popularity locally and was soon state-wide. The large Louisiana Peace Officers' Association and the Municipal Peace Officers' Association both placed quick draw contests in their annual convention programs. Police officers soon found that the method of scoring made quick draw interesting competition.

All shooting events have some definite method of scoring. One designed for quick draw hip shooting dates back to 1940. This method of scoring included the time to draw

and fire a prescribed number of shots in the event, and it preserved the fundamental factors of drawing quickly, shooting accurately with speed. Accuracy was allotted 60 percent significance in the score, and speed 40 percent of the possible score. Depending on the scores, shooters are graded as Master (93% of the highest possible score), Expert (88 to 92.99), and Tyro (87.99 and under). All scores shot by each quick draw shooter in Louisiana for the past ten years are recorded, and today the state boasts 17 Masters, 24 Expert quick draw men, and 53 Tyros. Competitions include those at the annual conventions, and inter-city matches. Many departments require quick draw practice along with regular "qualification" shooting.

Many dividends have occurred to repay all the effort extended by individual officers and department chiefs. One of the most outstanding practical proofs of this form of shooting occurred when Lt. Lawrence Cassanova, Jr.,



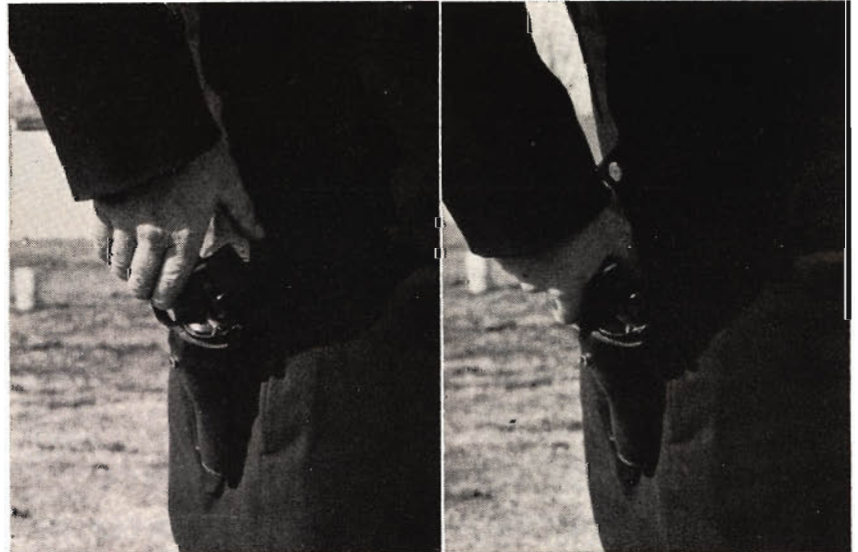
Loper holds paper timing tape with pen tracing which hits peaks when gun shot picked up by mike boosts current flow.

Forgery Squad, New Orleans PD, arrested a suspected forger. Lt. Cassanova is on the department's quick draw team.

Officer Cassanova was trapped and held at gun point by the suspected forger, after entering to serve a warrant. His delay in returning to the squad car caused Cassanova's brother officer to investigate, and the disturbance diverted the suspect's attention. Cassanova dropped the suspect, who had no time to fire even though his gun was drawn and leveled at Cassanova. The quick-draw of Officer Cassanova probably saved his life—certainly save him from injury.

To be able to defend yourself under conditions of such deadly emergency, you must know three very important facts: 1) that your gun is in perfect mechanical condition; 2) that you will not fumble the draw, and 3) that you will not miss your opponent. An adequate quick-draw police course can and will enable the officer to meet danger, confident that he will score high on all three counts. In such a course, shooting events are based on actual incidents which have occurred in the line of duty. A maximum distance of 21 feet is allowed from contestant to target. No guns under .38 caliber are used, nor are improper holsters and belts permitted. Only the "on duty" gun, holster, and belt may be used in quick-draw shooting contests; otherwise the officer would not receive the full benefit of the program.

Sixteen quick-draw hip shooting events comprise the quick-draw program. All events are shot double action.



Bancroft-recommended draw has officer bring hand down onto gun butt, avoiding "leather slapping" and more certain for non-fumble drawing.

Facing target, back to target, walking right to left, left to right and forward are a part of the instruction course for trainees. Rookies are required to become familiar with their weapons with eye level slow fire practice before attempting quick draw. It is important, too, that accuracy be required of the trainee before he is permitted to accelerate.

No claim is made of knowledge of quick draw not previously known; that type of hip shooting is as old as the six-gun. However, certain correct movements of "hand to gun" and "gun at target" are fundamental for a positive draw and should be given emphasis in instruction. "No fumble" and the "accuracy with speed" depends on the individual and his physical re-action to mental impulse; for this reason, one contestant will be rated higher than the other contestants just as one football player is rated higher

than the other twenty-one.

The double-action revolver in perfect mechanical condition has become the most popular side arm over the past seventeen years. Several good reasons have substantiated its selection as wise and practical for peace officers. First, and most important, is the fact that the first shot can be fired in less time from the double-action revolver than the auto-loading pistol. This can be demonstrated by having the same officer draw and fire each type of gun.

Secondly, the revolver can fire bullets of maximum shocking power, whereas the auto-loading pistol, above .38 caliber, uses metal case bullets as a means to properly operate. These lack the explosive impact of the soft lead bullet. Since it is the objective of the peace officer to defend himself, his point of most interest is to put his opponent out of commission the instant his gun fires. In this writer's opinion, the best defensive cartridges have lead bullets of 250 or 255 grains for .45 caliber and 200 grains for .38 Special revolvers.

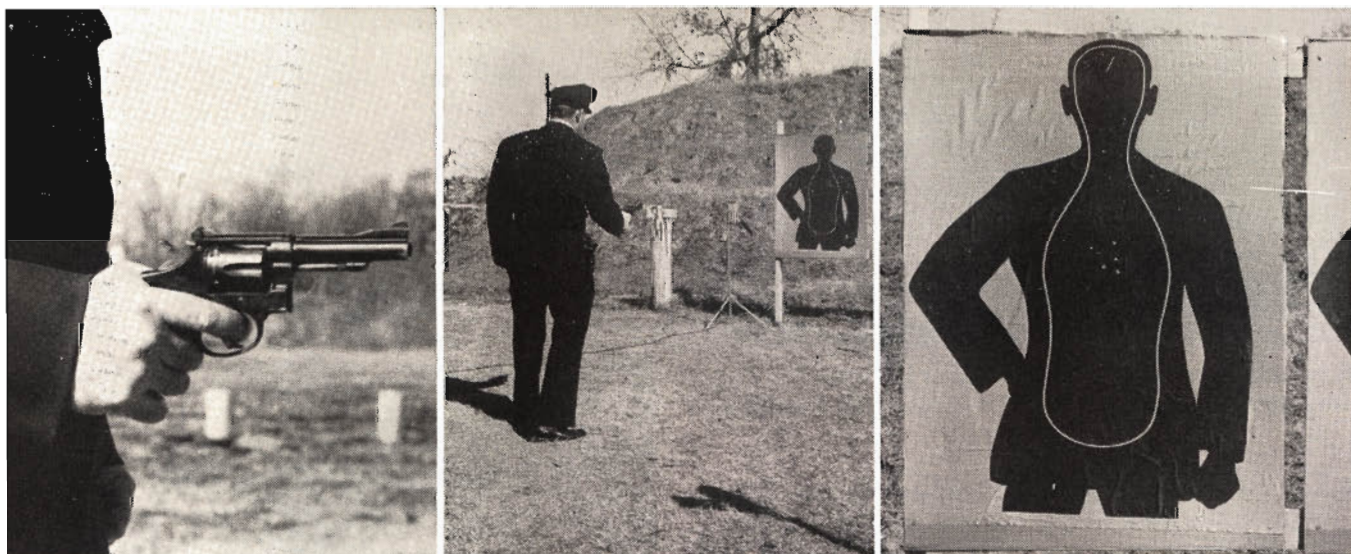
Stress is placed on the "positive draw." The gun hand must be placed high on the gun stock when draw is made from holster. This is accomplished without error by bringing hand down onto stock rather than withdrawing the gun

body movement. Where training and practice can eliminate unnecessary mental impulse to co-ordinate the body, the time saved may save the peace officer.

This method of scoring is elastic, being so designed. In 1940, a time credit of 5 was allowed for drawing and firing 5 shots in 2½ seconds. Today, for the same time credit of 5, a contestant must draw and fire 5 shots in 1.6 seconds. We have eight peace officers in Louisiana who can perform this event in 1.5 seconds and place every shot in the inside vital area of the life-size silhouette at 15 feet from target.

Ten-second stop watches were the best devices for timing contestants in quick draw but it was found that these timing watches included the human error of the time-keeper and were inaccurate, as elaborate studies indicated, from 1/10 to 2/10 of one second on the correct time of any contestant in any event where two or more shots were fired. To eliminate this timing error, work began on electrical and mechanical devices in September, 1952.

The need for improving the timing method by building an electronic computer soon became both a problem and a challenge because, to the knowledge of the writer, no such machine had ever been (Continued on page 62)

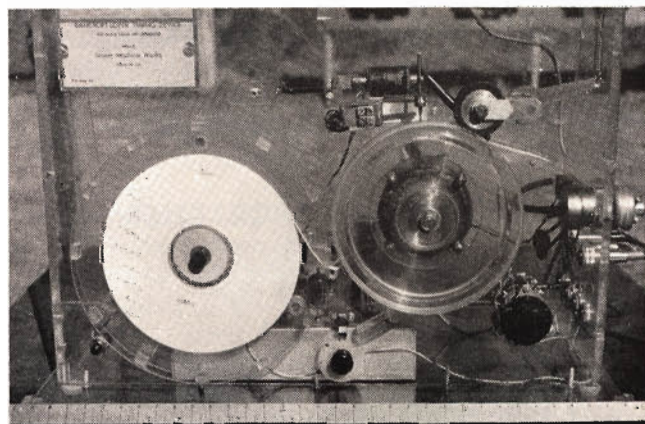


Solid hold is taught by Bancroft who favors revolver for police work. Ranges are short but most speed use of handgun will be at short distances. Tripod (center) holds flag which tips up to signal shooter. Speed, accuracy is possible.

on the initial up motion of the hand. With the correct high placement of the gun hand, accuracy is assured. Drawing the gun on the up motion often prohibits accuracy due to misplacement of the hand on the stock in such a manner that it fails to properly absorb recoil. The gun arm from shoulder to elbow should rest lightly against the side of the body in a vertical position, with the forearm horizontal, wrist held rigid or locked, and the bones of the forearm and the line of fire forming the same line. If the wrist is bent, grouping the fired shots in a close pattern will be difficult in fast shooting.

Position of the gun arm with respect to the body should never change after once established. High or low, right or left shots are controlled by the position of the front foot or body pivot. One hundred eighty degrees firing range is instantly available without moving the feet.

Each metal impulse precedes muscular re-action and



Bancroft-Lopez timer preserves speed draw record, helps establish quick draw shoot at practical lawman's course.

# "NO HUNTING" SIGNS CAN COME DOWN

By KEN LOUTON



Guns' publisher von Rosen closes gate left open by careless hunter. Bad manners on farms hurts all sportsmen.

IN SOME of the densely populated areas of our country (and increasingly in many not-so-densely-populated areas), a permit to hunt is little more than legal permission to hunt a *place* to hunt. Upland game hunters especially know only too well that Walt Disney's "Vanishing Prairies" have vanished indeed, and "No Hunting" signs in growing profusion are confronting gunners whose only sin is not even one of association but of *being associated with* the perhaps one-in-a-hundred hunter whose bad manners and hunting ignorance have turned landowner opinion against hunters in general.

Something *can* be done about this. In specific areas, of which northern Illinois is one, something is *being* done about it. And the story of what is being done, and how it is being accomplished, is important to all hunters interested in the retention of hunting privileges for themselves and future hunters.

**SHOW OWNERS HOW TO BAR THE  
RECKLESS, BAD-MANNERED FEW,  
AND "POSTED" LANDS OPEN LIKE  
MAGIC TO ALL TRUE SPORTSMEN**



No Hunting signs were removed on 24 square miles of Illinois land in experiment of controlled farm hunting.





Area near Flanagan, Ill., was turned into farmer-hunter land co-op by game officer Jack Calhoun. Plan offered hunting closer to cities, should be statewide.

Woodstock, Illinois, offers a typical setting. Fifty miles from Chicago, and with a pretty dense population of its own, the land around Woodstock is valuable, hunters (or would-be hunters) are many, and "No Hunting" signs are as common as "B Girls" on Madison Street. No wonder. Owners of the neat, well fenced farms in the area were tired to death of being over-run annually by men with guns who invaded their fields without permission, tramped down crops and fences, fired too often without proper regard for stock, roads, buildings, or human beings—other hunters, or the landowners and their helpers.

The town of Woodstock (population 10,000) has a chapter of the Illinois Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. Most of the club members are residents and, living as they do in fine pheasant territory, they personally had little trouble finding places to knock down their quotas of ring-necks in season. Plenty of men so situated would have relaxed in smug complacency to let less fortunate would-be hunters solve their own problems. But the men of Woodstock took the unselfish—and far-sighted—view. They knew that hunting pressure was increasing, would continue to increase; that the situation could result only in fewer places to hunt, more competition for each place, more "poaching" in spite of the "No Hunting" signs, and more

trouble generally. Action now would benefit all concerned.

The Illinois Department of Conservation policy has been that the Department should not enter actively into the arrangements whereby designated areas were offered for public use during the upland game season. The Woodstock Sportsmen's Club felt that the Department could do more for the hunters by reversing that policy. A committee was formed with the following objectives:

- 1-To obtain a financial statement of the Department activities related to hunting.
- 2-To learn in detail the efforts of the Conservation Departments on behalf of the hunter.
- 3-To determine the rental value of land for hunting purposes.
- 4-To investigate successful programs for public hunting; and, if the findings warrant—
- 5-To present the facts to the Illinois Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs for the organization's powerful support in pressing the State of Illinois Department of Conservation to take appropriate action.

Investigating point 1, the committee found that a financial statement would be of no great value, because this phase of Conservation work was not separately budgeted.

Point 2 was more productive. Much of the current game budget in Illinois has been spent for developing nest areas and, indirectly, some hunting of ducks and geese near Cairo. Such activities are not to be underestimated; but improving the plight of migratory birds is of little relief or interest to an upland game hunter in the State's northern zone. This type of duck and goose hunting is also highly commercial. I would say that you pay for your sport in the Cairo section when you purchase a Duck Stamp, rent a blind, and spend a moderate sum on food and lodging. Certainly such development should not require northern license money and most of the "Pittman-Robertson" money—the tax money collected by the federal government on sales of hunting equipment and allocated to the states for specified uses.

Most developments requiring the purchase of land for hunting are carried on in southern Illinois—on the logical basis that land values there are so much lower than near Chicago. This is true, of course, but it does not produce hunting facilities where they are most needed, which is near the congested areas.

The State also raises pheasants and releases them where



Opening up "natural land" to hunting by co-op plan would offer shooting benefits to more people.



Booster of more hunting is von Rosen who manages own farm as controlled land, welcomes controlled hunters.

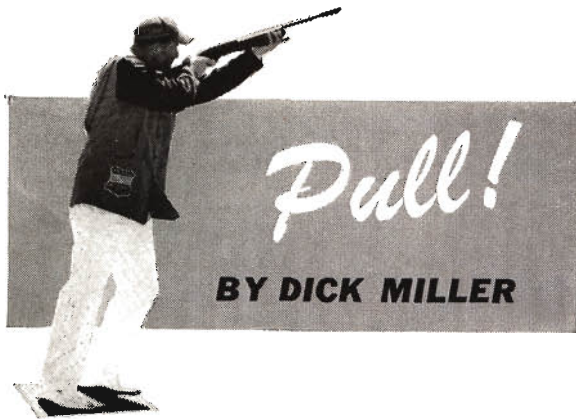
needed. This is a commendable service, but it has a sardonic twist when the birds strut where you are forbidden to follow. In addition, the Department offers several controlled areas where hunters shoot two birds for a nominal fee (\$2.00). To hunt on these areas, you submit your name and that of your partner for a drawing. A first and second choice of date are given, and if lucky you are assured of one day's hunting. Often these areas are not fully utilized, probably because of the complications involved to obtain a permit, and possibly because sportsmen do not like the regimentation. As an afterthought, being sports, hunters might like to gamble on the drawing of a number, but not for the native privilege of hunting.

In the committee's opinion, the money devoted to the projects outlined above could be spent better in opening up much more land, without the artificial flavor thereby satisfying far more shooters per dollar.

The committee's findings under Point 3 were pleasantly surprising. A questionnaire was handed to a number of land owners to learn the main objections to hunters and to get opinions as to what the actual cash rental per acre should be. The principal objections were consistent: trespassing, lack of care in crossing fences, lack of common sense around stock, and safety in the vicinity of buildings. Hunters that appeared opening day without having made previous arrangements came in for a share of criticism, as did those who did not bother to say "thanks."

The estimated rental value fluctuated from no charge (they did not consider the conceivable rental as sufficient to make the income a factor) to about \$1.00 per acre. (The suggested \$1 per acre would cover the entire season, payable by the managing authority, which could then charge hunters, or not charge them, as it might wish. Actually, without releasing birds, on a 200 acre farm it would be unusual to harvest more than 20 pheasants for the season, plus perhaps a little additional small game: so such a plan would be

(Continued on page 55)



**S**MASHING a clay target into smoke can be good for you. The hobby of trap or skeet shooting can add years to your life. Popping away at fast-moving clay pigeons could save you money that might otherwise be spent on pills and tranquilizers. A round of trap or skeet at your favorite gun club will cost you less than the same amount of time on the psychiatrist's couch; and it's a lot more fun! That's my prescription for what ails you—and don't say it won't work until you've tried it.

By prescribing liberal doses of trap and skeet shooting for the ailments which plague modern man, I'm not attempting to move in on the pill-peddling and head-shrinking professions. A clue to the esteem held for the clay target sports by the medical profession is found in the number of doctors who participate in the shooting games. Look at any entry list for trap and skeet events, and note for yourself the number of names followed by "M.D." or preceded by "Dr."

A few years ago, I invited a friend to enjoy an afternoon of skeet at the Westhaven Gun Club, in Evansville, Indiana. After introducing my friend to the shooters, I asked the usual question "Well, what do you think of the club?" His answer was unexpected, but to the point.

He said, "This is a beautiful gun club, and the members most cordial, but I wonder what would happen if someone would yell 'Is there a doctor in the house?'" It hadn't occurred to me until then that all but two or three of the Sunday afternoon crowd of skeet fans were either doctors or dentists.

My friends in the medical profession tell me that some of the most anticipated activities at regional and state medical conventions held at the Famous French Lick hotel are the skeet and trap contests.

The same saturation of doctor-shooters is found in the national and state trap and skeet tournaments, as well as at local gun clubs all over the United States. I will anticipate the comment by some readers that the high percentage of medical men who are shooters is due to their above-average incomes. Income is perhaps a contributing factor, but not an essential one. Other professions, where incomes rank with that of the doctor, are not so well represented on the trap and skeet field. The real reason is that doctors, to a greater degree than laymen, recognize that what American citizens today call "progress" is not gained without greater stresses on the individual. These men know by training and experience the value of any hobby, and especially the value of a soul-satisfying hobby like the games of trap and skeet. They are aware that the atomic age increasingly demands that men and women

exposed to its pressures must, to survive them, seek out that "great, good, place," that place for relaxing and rejuvenation where tensions can be forgotten. For many of us that place is the gun club, and the gun sports beat any medicine.

(As things stand now, I doubt that the Internal Revenue Service will allow you to enter shooting fees in the space provided for medical payments on the long-form 1040; but then, the Internal Revenue Service seems unreasonable about a lot of deductions.)

The hobbies of trap and skeet are about to assume still more importance, when we consider a recent AP news dispatch. AP quotes a noted physicist as saying that the 20-hour work-week is closer than most of us think. A 20-hour week must be regarded as "progress" in the annals of man, but it is not without its own peculiar problems. Now, a hobby is optional. We concede the value of a hobby is better adjusting to the strains of every-day living. But in a 20-hour work-week, a hobby may well become a necessity rather than an option.

If I ask the question, "What will your hobby be, when you need work only 20 hours to make a living?" most of you will have a ready answer. But when the twenty-hour week becomes reality, will you be so confident? Look about you at men you know who have retired at the compulsory age 65, and note how many of them have failed to anticipate "the golden years" by acquiring a hobby in advance.

The time to act is now. Your present life may be made healthier, longer, and more enjoyable by learning to vent your tensions on breakable clay targets. When technological advances shorten the time you spend in office or plant, you'll be prepared to take up the slack.

This is a great year to join the shooting games. 1959 marks the 60th year of the Grand American, national trapshooting tournament. Extra promotion and publicity for the fabulous Grand, in honor of the anniversary, will bring the story of trapshooting into every locality. International Trap is to be a gold medal event in the 1959 Pan-American shooting games, to be held in August at centrally located Chicago, Illinois. The national tournament of skeet will be held in the East, offering a large segment of the nation's shooters a chance to see and participate in this national shooting contest.

You couldn't have picked a better time to get aboard the shooting bandwagon. Congratulations, and good shooting! You can get old Doc Miller's prescription filled at any trap or skeet club. The prescription is free. The medicine, like the medicine you get with the doctor's prescription, is worth what it costs.

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**IN BIRD AND GAME CALLS**

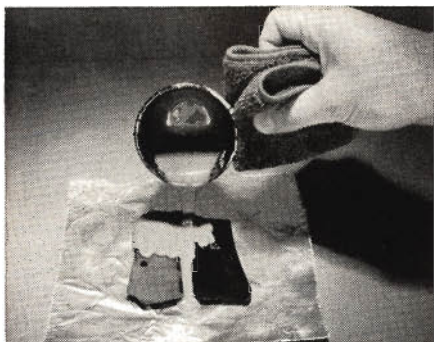
**OLT'S**

At Sporting Goods Dealers  
Philip S. Olt Co. Pekin, Illinois

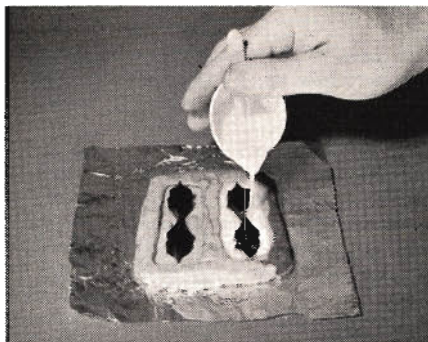


# YOU CAN MAKE THESE GRIPS YOURSELF

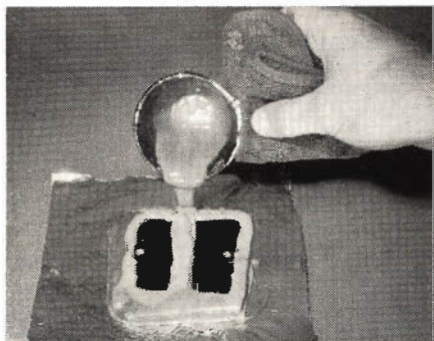
Fancy ivory-like plastic grips can be made easily by anyone using low temperature materials with original grips for mold patterns. Black inserts were cut, then grips molded on them.



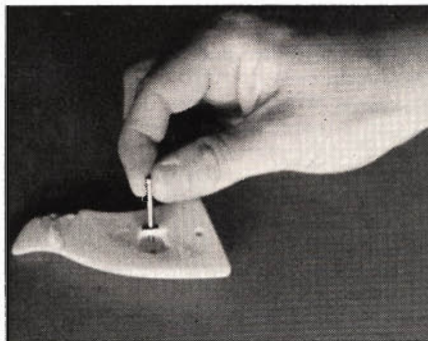
Pour rubber mold over grips on foil, which makes matrix of grip backside.



Set spots in mold, fill with plastic; cool and file, polish grip surface.



Turn, true edges, center with rubber; remove grips to leave topless mold.



Fuse grip nut in hole with plastic, so only head of grip screw is seen.

By LEE WOODS

**T**O FORM a mold for making distinctive plastic grips for your handgun, remove present grips and cover them with rubber mold material. Backs of molded grips will be properly shaped to fit the frame from which originals came, and should require little fitting. Pour enough excess plastic into mold to enable you to shape grips to your hand. Your local hobby or model maker's shop should stock these materials, or can get them for you from his distributor.

Should you want a design or initials on the grips, cut an exact model from soap eraser and cover with the mold material mentioned above. Cool; remove model, and begin casting plastic designs for grips.

Use good quality liquid plastic for this purpose and add filler to increase strength if finished grips will be relatively thin. After face of grips have been shaped, finish with fine wet-or-dry sandpaper used wet.

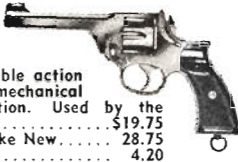
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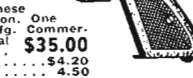
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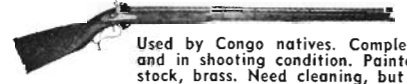
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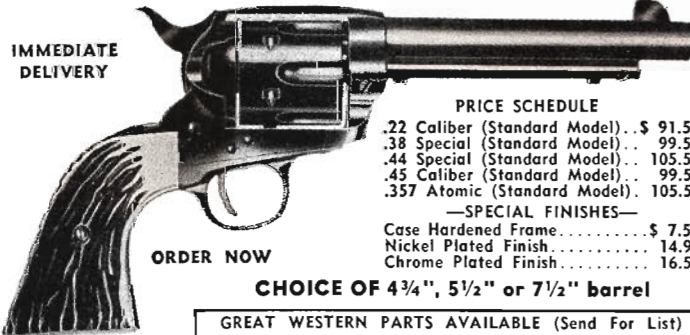
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## RIFLE FOR THE SPACE AGE!

(Continued from page 22)

That, to the shooter of today, is "tradition" in guns.

But what, in the light of the use of nylon for guns, now constitutes "tradition"? Mark this: Remington tags their rifle "the gun of tomorrow." But the gun is here, today. And unless some equally drastic revolution in processes of manufacturing occur, it will be here *the day after tomorrow*. With the introduction of the Nylon 66 sporter, a *new* tradition in guns is born.

The new tradition is not an overnight creation. Twenty years ago, Du Pont chemists began to synthesize from the basic ingredients of coal, air, and water, a new substance, nylon resin. In many applications it replaced traditional materials. In gears, it wears longer than steel and brass. In conveyor belts, it is cheaper and longer-lived than rubber and chain designs. In the sheerest hosiery, it replaced silk. Nylon-cord tires took the bounce out of highways, and nylon silk parachutes saved the lives of countless airmen. Nylon was waiting when Remington decided to start a new tradition also, in the world of guns.

About four years ago, the concept arose at Ilion to construct a rifle having stock and receiver all in one piece. Light metals were considered, as well as the "plastics industry." Elimination of joints between stock and receiver naturally could give higher accuracy in the final product. Small bore rifles, especially autoloading types, were not noted for accuracy as they came from the box. Remington liked the chatter-gun ammo-burning properties of the .22 autoloader, but wanted to combine this with a degree of accuracy not commonly achieved in earlier guns. But the notion of making the receiver integral with the other parts posed some stiff problems. The material to be selected had to be as practical as steel in its use as a receiver; as light as wood and stronger.

Twelve qualities were set up, to be achieved before the designers could agree on a material proposed for this radical rifle. The material 1) must take any shape desired, and 2) must have high tensile, impact, and flexural strength. It must have 3) high abrasion resistance, 4) great resistance to heat distortion, and 5) resistance to temperature changes, from extreme cold to extreme heat. Since they were treading in the path of organic chemicals, some of which are

highly flammable, the new material 6) must be self-extinguishing. If a flame is touched to it, Nylon 66 will burn; but if the flame is removed, it will not continue to burn, unlike a traditional wood-stock gun. Also, 7) the material had to be proof against solvents, mild acids, alkalis, fungus, rats, and insects. 8) It must have an easily repaired finish, and 9) be light in weight. 10) It must be permanent as to colors. It must be 11) inert with metals, unlike sappy woods which may corrode steels; and 12) it must be self-lubricating and dimensionally stable.

After careful research among many products, structural Nylon 66, a form of "Zytel," was selected as the only known material having these properties.

In research leading up to the finished gun, the ability to form Nylon 66 into any shape proved outstanding. So far, "traditional" is the line and styling of the new rifle. Whether Remington in the next few years will develop more advanced forms of styling remains to be seen. But there is no question that Remington will develop and market a whole series of firearms using Nylon 66 to more or less extent.

Nylon 66 was tested for strength by such gross abuse as dropping stocked rifles from the fourth floor, and by rolling cars over them. Some were broken, but the abuse they stood was far heavier than any wood-stocked gun would take. I flexed a stock over my knee enough to have broken a wood stock. The Nylon 66 stock was unchanged.

To test resistance to abrasion, one rifle has been fired 75,000 times, showing no wear on nylon surfaces. I examined this rifle, noted a burnishing on the bolt and slide tracks. The steel had worn a little; the nylon had not. Six other test guns were shot 25,000 times each, dry, without lubrication, and no nylon wear occurred.

Stocks were heated to plus 252° F, with no warping. They were chilled down to minus 40°, and the rifles performed satisfactorily. In cold tests, an unusual phenomenon was noticed about stocks made from nylon. While the steel breech cover became frosted with ice that chipped off, the stock surfaces at the same nominal temperature were iced with a slush that wiped off. Cold stocks could

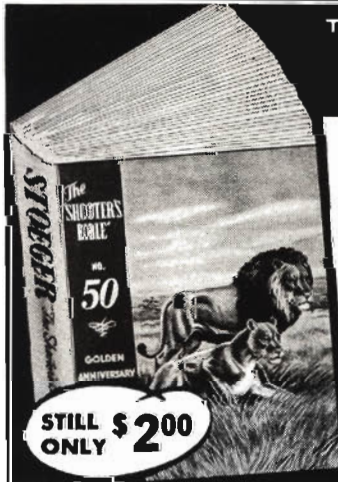
(Continued on page 51)

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## MEXICAN BIRD SHOOT

(Continued from page 19)

Manauta is a member of the International Pigeon Throwers Association and is the only official bird thrower in Mexico at present. He has been throwing pigeons for 12 years.

There are two grades of pigeon throwers: *pajeros* and *colombaires*. Manauta is a *colombaire*, which is the higher grade. *Colombaires* are proud of their abilities. Each year *colombaires* of the international association gather in Spain for a contest. Each throws 100 birds. The *colombaire* with the least number of kills is the winner.

Manauta, by necessity, is an athlete. Unless a shooter has three consecutive or four non-consecutive misses, he is entitled to 10 birds. Manauta, therefore, threw approximately 800 adult pigeons between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day of the shoot. He rejected all young birds because they would be easier to hit. This would be equivalent, at least in number of throws, to a pitcher going all the way in a half-dozen major league baseball games in one day.

Before he throws the *pichon*, Manauta plucks a few tail feathers from the bird to give it erratic flight. He then calls *listo* and awaits the shooter's command of *pajaro* or pull. At the command, Manauta spins his entire body and heaves the bird. He may throw it in any direction, even straight at the gunner.

Both the bird thrower and the shooter stand within a 20-meter square. The shooter has a 3 by 20 meter rectangle in which to stand, and the thrower has an adjoining area the same size. At the corner of the square are posts four meters in height. A wire is strung from post to post, and the bird must be the height of the wire before the contestant may shoot.

Inexperienced shooters, anxious to get on the bird, often blast away before the pigeon attains the height of the wire. Manauta is adept at "hitting the dirt." Although many misses have been close ones, he has never been hit.

One hundred meters from each post is a line encircling the square. The shooter has two shots on each bird, and the pigeon must fall within that circle if it is to be counted a hit. Experienced shooters use both shots, even if the first kills the bird. The second shot is insurance.

If a bird is hit but manages to leave the circle, either by flying or walking, it is a miss. If a bird leaves the circle flying and then returns, it is a miss. If a bird lands in a tree or on a wire or building inside the circle, it is a miss... unless the pigeon

falls to the ground before the next contestant fires his first shot. If the pigeon lands on the ground within the circle, the bird is retrieved by red-shirted caddies and brought to the judges for inspection. If the bird is bleeding, the pigeon is considered a hit.

The caddies, young boys hired by the club, stand on the circle. Each has a red flag and a white flag. The caddies watch the birds to determine whether they fly or land in the circle or out. A wave of the red flag signals a hit; the white flag a miss.

A contestant is not supposed to shoot at a bird if it flies under the wire or toward the gallery, which is situated behind him. If he gets off his first shot, only to have the bird turn toward the gallery so that he cannot take his second shot, the shooter gets another pigeon. In this case, when his second bird is thrown, the contestant must fire his first shot into the air and the second at the pigeon.

Manauta, like a baseball pitcher, is after strikeouts. The more misses he chalks up, the better bird thrower he is considered. In order to obtain misses, Manauta studies each shooter's style for the first two or three birds. When he finds a weakness, he feeds the gunner birds he cannot hit.

To determine just how successful this method is, one needs only to look at the record. After four consecutive pigeons, only 11 of the 78 contestants had a perfect score. Only 18 had killed three out of four. After five consecutive pigeons, only seven shooters had a string of hits.

The count dropped to four on the sixth round. These four gunners held their own through the seventh, but one dropped out on the eighth and another on the ninth.

Only two of the 78 had perfect scores after the final round. They were Tiffaine, the defending champion, and Lt. Col. L. O. Cosner (Ret.) of San Antonio, Texas, a bird hunter and skeet shooter.

Cosner was shooting a Model 11 Remington Automatic equipped with a raised rib, Cutts Compensator, and modified choke. He used 7½ shots, high velocity, for his first shots, and high velocity 6s for his second shots.

In the sudden-death shoot-off, both Cosner and Tiffaine killed their eleventh bird, but Tiffaine missed on the twelfth. Cosner hit, and was crowned the new champion.

The shoot drew contestants from all sections of Texas and Mexico. Some were skeet and trap champions. A few were international pigeon shooters. Others were just bird hunters.

One of the most experienced shooters was 67-year-old Dr. Victoriano Mateo de Acosta,


a throat specialist from Mexico City. The doctor's den is decorated with more than 350 first-place trophies won in Europe and Mexico. Dr. Acosta, a native of Seville, Spain, is proficient with rifle, pistol, and shotgun. In 1930, he won the last pigeon shooting trophy presented by King Alfonso XIII of Spain. In 1951, he won the Mexican National Pistol Championship. He has captured two championships with a rifle in live lamb shooting.

Dr. Acosta only hit 8 out of 10 birds during the Nuevo Laredo contest. But the two misses didn't bother him. "Anybody can win a pigeon shoot," he explained prior to the match, "because each pigeon is a different contest. And the pigeon, not the other shooter, is the enemy."

In guns, the doctor prefers side-by-side doubles. The pieces he brought with him to the shoot included a \$2,000 Purdy and an AyA, two fine examples of foreign imports.

Another contestant was 30-year-old Edward Till, a farmer from Bishop, Texas. Till suffers from muscular dystrophy. He has had it since birth, but he still manages to hunt by taking short, careful steps. He has never shot trap or skeet. All of his shooting is done "around the farm," at birds and small game.

The shotgun Till used was an old 12-gauge Ithaca pump with a full choked, 30-inch barrel and a cracked stock. But Till knew how to use it. He missed only one bird out of his first 10, and managed to get into the shoot-off. Nine contestants had killed 9 out of 10 birds and were competing for the last eight places. Till placed third, behind Tiffaine. He killed a total of 20 out of 21 birds, the last 15 consecutively. He used his second shot only once.

No one was more impressed by Till's ability than Manauta. "I couldn't find the weakness of his style," the *colombaire* said, "because he has no style." 

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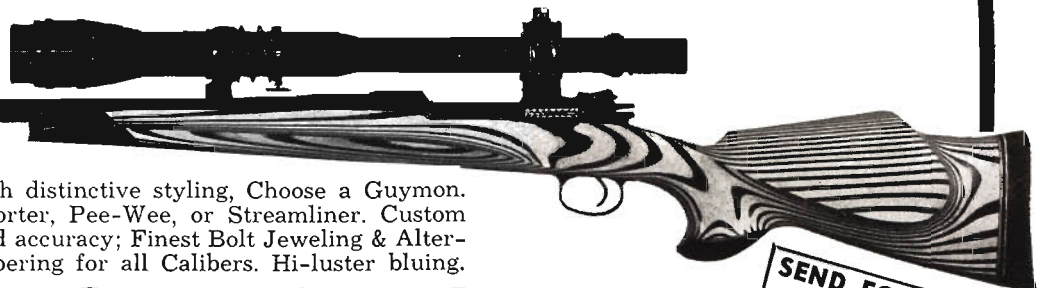
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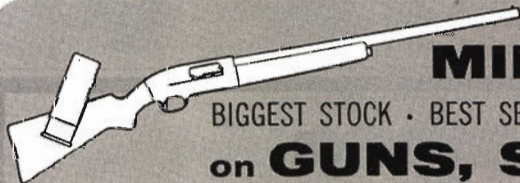
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## THE SERGEANT YORK STORY

(Continued from page 17)

can rifle shooting influenced that surrender.

The rest of the battalion distinguished itself, too. In all, it took 300 prisoners; killed 200; captured four 77's, a trench mortar battery, signal outfit, and 123 machine guns.

No one can definitely say just how great a part Sergeant York's fight played in the total picture. But when a hole is punched in an enemy line and a large number of prisoners are taken, word spreads. Men lose some of their spirit and the fear of encirclement becomes widespread. However large, or small, York's part may have been in the overall picture of that October day, he wrote a page in American history that will never be forgotten.

What qualities made Sergeant York show what he was? Why did he have those qualities? Is it possible to train these into men?

The answer to the first of those questions is three-fold. York had valor, shooting skill, and judgment.

Valor is sustained courage. York showed it by persisting against heavy odds and great danger for as long as the situation required. Where did he get such valor? In the early part of the war, York was a conscientious objector. He said that he could die for his country, but that he could not bring himself to kill for it. His religion forbade killing, and his own experience showed the futility of fighting. After his father's death, York went "hog-wild," as the saying goes. He drank and swore and gambled and fought and shot off his pistols almost at other men several times. His mother's patience and love finally won him to more reasonable behavior, and he later joined his local church. One of the tenets of that church is: "Thou shalt not kill—even in war."

But York's culture gave him, also, another set of values. His family lived in rural Tennessee. And the history of his family was a series of wars. The Civil War took both of his grandfathers. York came from a long line of fighting riflemen. In his autobiography, he wrote: "What's history with larned people is still a matter of story-telling with us, and . . . these people are not merely characters in books to us . . . they were . . . as much a part of our lives as these mountains here and the log cabins and the muzzle-loaders they used, which we still have.

"Not more than 900 mountain sharpshooters whipped and shot to pieces Ferguson and his 2,600 trained men at King's Mountain. . . . These same old guns [muzzle loading rifles] . . . made it possible for the 6,000 men under Andrew Jackson down there at New Orleans to stop 10,000 British soldiers who once fought under Wellington and mused up Napoleon." York had heard these stories again and again in his youth. He had heard about Tennessee riflemen—Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, and many others—from his father, his friends, other adults. These stories were his history lessons, and his heritage.

York's battalion commander, Major Edward Buxton Jr., took over the role of storyteller in York's life after he entered the army. York respected Major Buxton, saying, "He was a most wonderful man at handling soldiers." Major Buxton gave talks to his men, talks much like the stories of York's



youth; he once told them: "Every war always produces its outstanding hero. He [Major Buxton] didn't know where that hero was in the American Army, but there was just as good a chance of him being in our battalion as anywhere else. And after we heard him speak like that we all kinder made up our minds to be better soldiers and maybe try and be that outstanding one." . . . And so York made his peace with God and went to war; and having become a soldier, aimed to be a good one.

The second quality—shooting skill—was still another part of York's heritage. He could shoot both rifle and pistol expertly. York "grew up with rifles." His father was well known for his rifle marksmanship around Clinton, Tennessee. York learned to shoot by imitating his father. Rifles and rifle shooting—both in shooting matches and in hunting—were signs of manhood in the Tennessee mountains, and York got both—the rifle and the skill at an early age. York and his father—and everyone else who shot in the Tennessee matches—paid a dime to shoot at a turkey's head at 60 paces. Or he paid a half dollar or dollar to shoot at the center of a cross on a board to try to win part of a steer. If he did not win, he lost money. That hurt the "men-folks" of a family of 11 children in that poor part of Tennessee. If he won, he got meat for that family. But there was more besides. The winners of those matches were heroes. A truly great shooter was a man known to all men. A poor shooter was also known by all—and laughed at.

Hunting carried the same practical and social rewards and penalties. If a man could hunt well, he could supply food for his family. Family and friends respected him for his skill. If a man could not hunt well, he got less meat—and less respect.

In the target matches and in hunting, the rewards went to the man who could hit a small mark with one bullet. Only hits counted. York—like his father and many others—learned to hit, and hit consistently.

The third factor was—judgment. York also showed sound judgment throughout the fighting on Oct. 8th, 1918. Judgment is more than intelligence. It is the ability to make a wise choice and carry out one's decision. York did that, not just once but several times. He out-thought as well as out-shot the German machine gunners, the German major, and the second line of machine gunners. Judgment requires intelligence, guts, and a drive to carry out one's decisions. York had them all; used all of them.

But the York story is more than merely a saga of heroic action. There is a lesson in it. If you will permit me to draw a moral, that lesson is this:

Shooting skill gives a man confidence in battle. York had that confidence. Sheer bravery, even mixed with good judgment, is often wasted by men who lack the skill to make bravery effective. York had the skill, the courage to use it, and the judgment to use it effectively. But the skill came first. Without it, York might have been just as heroic, but very dead.

The lesson is just as true now as it was then. Skill with guns won't make every soldier a York-size hero, but it will make him a better soldier . . . and that, in these days of stress, is a mark to shoot at!

## CROW SHOOT WITH OWL

(Continued from page 29)

over numerous blinds on different flocks of crows several miles apart gives them time to forget. We got excellent results again a few weeks later.

It all began months before, one evening while we were stalking crows in the brushy Colville river area. It was getting dark. We heard an owl hoot. "Let's slip up on him," said Wayne. "No," I said, "I'll call him in."

He was perhaps half a mile from us. I gave the call at intervals, and listened. Soon he was answering from barely half the distance. I called again, and waited. Within seconds he was within 50 yards of us, answering eagerly. We finally located him, in a tree right in front of us. It was too dark to see the crosshairs in my scope, but I put him in the center of the entire scope field as best I could, and fired.

"Yuh missed 'im," came from my partner. Quickly, I hooted again. Much to our surprise he came closer and lit again, hooting and looking for something that just wasn't there. This time when the rifle cracked, he came fluttering to the ground.

That evening, I was carrying a .20 caliber rifle on a Sako action, Douglas barrel, my own stock and blue, loaded with 23 grains of 4895 behind a 45 grain hollow point bullet giving a muzzle velocity of about 3500 feet per second. It is an excellent rifle, superbly accurate, virtually no recoil, flat, deadly, and possibly safer than the heavier 6 mm bullets in farm areas.

"You winged him," said Wayne, and picked up a club to deliver the mercy blow. "Stop!" I yelled. "He'll make the finest crow decoy you ever saw." And he did just that.

We had a touchy job getting a safe grip on a maddened, snapping, clawing great horned owl. His big eyes were ablaze. Holding him down with a stick, I got the end of his good wing in one hand and controlled his claws with the stick. Eventually, we got him home and examined the bullet damage. His wing was shattered at the main joint.

We applied antiseptic and bandaged the broken wing daily, and nightly he pecked the bandage off. But he seemed none the worse for the shooting, snapping his beak, hissing, and making passes at us with his claws. When the wound had dried up, a veterinarian amputated the shattered wing, re-banded it, and gave him a shot of penicillin. "Hooter," as we called him, kept his high

morale. The wound healed, and we had the crow decoy of a lifetime!

Can an owl see in the daytime? You bet he can! Hooter could both hear and see crows before either of us. His alertness would warn us, I'd call, and in a matter of minutes, crows would come swooping in, screaming at Hooter.

On one such hunt, one sassy crow sat in a small fir tree, growling, cawing above all the others. "Shoot him," whispered my partner. "Not him, I said. "He's our best caller." I put the crow call in my pocket, letting a better caller take over. Soon every crow within miles was in the area. Hooter would turn his head from north to south, from east to west, as if it were on a ball bearing swivel, keeping his eyes on the tormentors as they zoomed within a few feet of him. Finally I eased my .243 R.C. into position and blew up the lead heckler. A puff of feathers filled the air about 50 feet from where the owl sat. His eyes were on the crow at the blow-up instant.

Maybe owls have expressionless faces, but this one had the most surprised look on his map, as if to say, "Now where the H-OO did you go to?" One tuft of feathers came floating within a few yards of him and he kept his eyes glued on this, completely baffled at his enemy's strange change of form. When the feathered tuft came to light in the grass, he stared at it, horns raised, leaning forward, swiveling his head time and again to look at the tree where the crow had been, then back to the feathers on the ground. Then, as if to say, "I'll get what's left," he hopped off his perch and wobbled in an owly stride for the tuft of feathers, only to be tripped by the too short string on his leg.

(Continued on following page)

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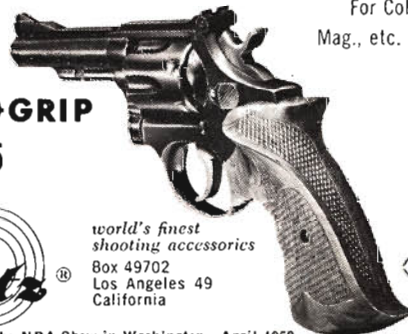
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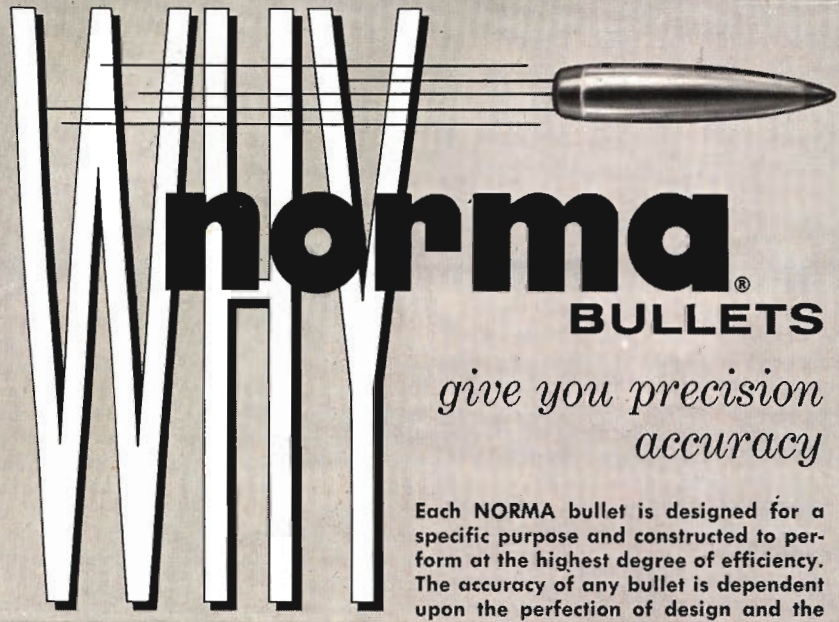
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## CROW SHOOT WITH OWL

(Continued from page 49)

We kept him on a luxury menu of crows that summer. He'd eat at night. Morning showed black feathers all over the garage where we kept him and a big bloody smile on his face.

One time, after we had shotgunned the crows repeatedly, we got a broken-winged cripple. Nothing completes the owl decoy set-up better than a crippled, squawking crow. We tied him to a tree, but he kept mum. He was patriotic; refused to give his brethren any bum dope. Hooter kept eyeing the silent patriotic crow; finally decided it was about time for his dinner, and went into action. The helpless crow, spotting the huge horned owl bearing down on him, let out a burst of cawing that stirred up crows for miles! It all ended abruptly when the owl tripped on his tether and fell. After a mouthy owl discussion with himself, he hopped back onto his pole and started preening his feathers. Shortly after this, two crows actually knocked Hooter off his perch. The resulting victory screams were almost deafening. And what shooting they brought us!

We had Hooter on a perch in the yard one day when our pet tom cat chanced by. The cat eyed him, tail switching, eyes agleam he inched closer. Apparently Tom was envisioning a fine meal of something like pheasant. Hooter ruffed up his feathers to twice his normal size, hissing and snapping his beak like mad. The cat got the surprise of his life when Hooter made the first strike, lunging forward, but landing a bit short and getting only a claw full of cat hair. The cat dug up the yard getting out of there, and he gave the owl a wide berth thereafter.

A year later our owl, Hooter died. We missed him, and not only as a decoy, either. A "Wanted—One Live Horned Owl" ad in the local newspaper brought us a two-thirds grown horned owl. This owl, still accustomed to eating what his mother brought him, will eat boiled eggs, meat scraps and some dog food. Feathers on one wing were clipped back several inches to prevent his flying away. He's not our Hooter, but we like him too.

If you want the best there is in crow shooting, get yourself a Hooter. The transformation of great horned owls, one of the worst natural predators, into efficient predator hunters, is a sight to see and hear. It provides fun galore, and the owl seems to enjoy the hunts as much as we do.

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## SPACE RIFLE

(Continued from page 46)

be held in the hand without danger of losing a strip of hide stuck to frozen wood or metal. Since the trigger itself is also formed of nylon, as well as the trigger guard, this "warm to the touch" characteristic follows through for practical shooting.

The "plastic" stock was exposed to all the known gun solvents: gasoline, alcohol, benzene, carbon tet, acetone, mild acids, and alkalis. It remained unaffected in material or finish. Strong carbolic acid, if allowed to "set" a few minutes, can be used for "gluing" Nylon 66. Otherwise, nothing touches it. Of course it is possible to scar the surface. But since the colors go all the way through, there is no problem in matching finish. Just rub it down with a fine grit car rubbing compound. Stock Glaze, made by Burnshine Products, Skokie, Ill., is a rubbing compound adapted to the shooter's needs.

Finally, not only is Nylon 66 unaffected by most things itself, it does not affect anything else. Steel parts in contact with it did not reveal the least trace of the corrosive effect common in wood stocked guns where the wood may be improperly dried or a little acid.

The last properties, self-lubrication and dimensional stability, were perhaps the most important of all. Oils in autoloading mechanisms cause trouble at high or low temperatures. Though special oils such as Anderol have been developed for low-temperature operation of traditional guns, designing a firearm without need for oiling is a step forward. With .22 cartridges, the oil in an old-style gun often contributes to the fouling and caking of carbon residue. This is less apparent in Nylon 66. And as experience through the industries using Nylon 66 has shown, millions of units can be made from the same die without change in dimension. Each stock is a gauge. If the steel parts don't fit, go see your machine shop foreman, not your stock moulder.

What the Nylon 66 means to gunmaking, is only dimly foreseen. Important is one truth: if men carry guns on the moon, they will be Nylon 66 rifles, or similar. Suits to protect men may exist to shield the moon's "sunshine" of above the boiling point, but Nylon 66 stocks are not affected by such heat. Absence of lubrication means the guns remain clean, though the surface of the moon is believed to be dusty. But with no air to hold it, the dust will settle. And with no oil to hold it, the dust will fall off Nylon 66. The low mass of such rifles, which on earth

weigh but four pounds, is also important. Mass means inertia—inertia to be overcome by valuable rocket thrust in the long climb upward. A gun with light mass will be a highly valuable accessory when Man walks in Space.

But more immediate than the effect on Man in the Space Age will be the use of synthetic materials in arms fabrication right now. Nylon pistol frames, made like clam shells to surround the basic mechanism of springs and barrel, may be forecasts for tomorrow. Chemically inert and impervious to many solvents and volatile substances, Nylon 66 could be used for a liquid-fueled firearm.

Tradition will come to mean many things, some new to guns and shooting. The fun of using firearms for sport will be spread out over a much wider segment of the population than even now. Prosperity is already increasing participation in gun sports. People today are experiencing an increase in leisure-time activity, with the emphasis on *activity*. Today, nylon tires carry the family a thousand miles on a weekend to park or mountains. Tomorrow nylon will mean firearms so well made, so safe and durable, and so low in price, that every member of the family can be a skeeter or enjoy shooting in one or another of its many forms. All this will stem from Remington's bold step in launching its rifle tailored for the Space Age.

Some gun enthusiasts will, with justice and a sympathy for the past century, complain that the Nylon 66 isn't "traditional." They are only half-right. For what can you say about a rifle that is so radical in so many ways that it has no relation to the past traditions? Instead, the Remington Nylon 66 has set the course for the tradition of tomorrow.

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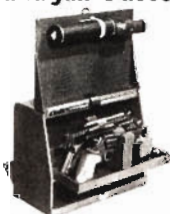
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**ELMER KEITH SAYS**

(Continued from page 9)

This press is massive and heavy, intended for heavy work. It will swage any caliber rifle or pistol bullet, either plain or jacketed. For bullet swaging, two tie rods are furnished that connect the turret with the base, one on either side of the large slide bearing, making it a very stiff unit with ample power. We swaged 180 grain .30 caliber bullets with one stroke of the lever and, with several people operating the machine, the finished bullets showed less than two tenths of a grain variation in weight.

The turret carries 12 holes of 1½" diameter for the very large size reloading dies, of large caliber. Bushings are furnished to adapt regular standard ⅞" dies to the big tool. The 1½" holes will accept the largest loading dies and Corcoran even showed us a set of .577-3" dies for the great English elephant cartridge. The three adapters can be used with the ⅞" dies or powder or shot measures.

This big machine is designed to handle all the work of a custom reloader or gun club. The tool has a full 5" stroke, amply long for handling any length case even to 3½" magnum ten bore shotshells or 3½" .475-2 Jeffery elephant cartridges. It can be used for any reloading job, from the .22 Hornet to the .600 Cordite in metallics, and any size revolver loads, as well as any size shot shells.

Weighing a full 50 pounds stripped, the tool with two handles and the various bushings sells at \$237.50. Bearing surfaces are hard coated to a 80 Rockwell C hardness, and all outside surfaces are black crinkle finish.

Also demonstrated by Corcoran was his regular shotshell reloader. It produced most perfect shotshells with a minimum expenditure of time and effort, and loaded the over-powder wad to a minimum variation of .1 of a pound. The over-powder wad is loaded in the sizing die so there can be no give or expansion of the shotshell case. Then the heavy special filler wad, lubricated to eliminate leading, is seated without pressure and thus cushions the shot charge during initial

combustion. Paper fired cases stand up to six to eight loadings in this tool, and it produces a perfect folded crimp.

This tool will also load the .50 caliber machine gun cartridge, as well as all the long English Cordite express cartridges. Both shot and powder measures of micrometer adjustment design fit in the top turret, as well as the over powder wad pressure gauge, which is positioned between the powder and shot measures. This tool also handles all pistol and rifle as well as shotgun dies. In both 12 and 10 bore, the shotshell dies can be changed to handle either standard 2¾" 12 bore or 3" magnum; and in the 10 bore, standard 2⅞" or the long 3½" magnum ten.

This is a very fast precision tool that will produce ammunition just as fine as most factory loads. This tool stripped sells for \$99.95. Complete with all dies and measures for one gauge, the cost is \$249.25. The special shot measure does not injure or jam the shot when a charge is thrown.

Also demonstrated was the Hollywood Senior Reloading tool selling stripped for \$57.50. This is a very fine, massive, precision tool for handling one set of dies at a time anything from the big 1½" dies to the ⅞" dies with an adapter. It does all manner of bullet swaging and handles all metallics. It also handles the lead wire-cutter attachment for bullet making. Extrusion holes in the bullet dies allow excess lead to extrude and thus give very uniform bullet weights in either revolver and pistol bullets or jacketed rifle bullets. Hollywood furnishes dies for all popular rifle and pistol calibers for bullet swaging and also for loading.

Both powder and shot measures of Hollywood design have micrometer screw adjustments so that the operator can quickly change them to any desired load and lock them in position.

A most remarkable powder scale, the Ohaus, with a 1110 grain capacity and a one-tenth grain sensitivity, was also demonstrated. This is the finest powder scale we have ever examined. Price is \$35.

The Hollywood Gun shop furnishes all components desired for reloading of any rifle, pistol or shotgun cartridge, as well as bullet jackets, lead wire for bullet swaging in either soft lead for jacketed rifle bullets or one-tenth tin-and-lead mixture for revolver and pistol bullets, cases, primers wads—in fact, everything needed.

With the present very high cost of factory ammunition, many shooters are turning to reloading, and fine precision reloading tools, while expensive at the outset, will also very soon pay for themselves. Trap-skeet, as well as rifle and pistol clubs will find just the tools they need, as well as all components needed, in the Hollywood lists.

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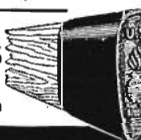
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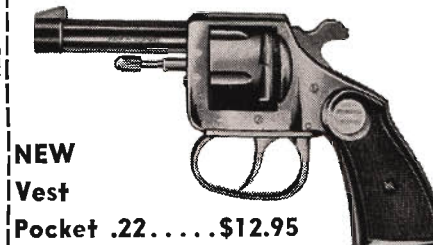


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## LOADS FOR THE .375 MAGNUM

(Continued from page 23)

grease, hitched on an Alaskan 'scope, and hied me out to the range with a couple of boxes of factory ammo. Also, I must confess, with some small misgivings. For, while most of the sound authorities I'd read agreed that the big fellow spoke with undisputed authority, they also said the recoil was nothing to worry a seasoned shooting man. On the other hand, there were those who spoke in hoarse whispers of the big fellow's come-back, and exhibited every evidence of chattering teeth and cold sweat at the mere thought of standing up to it. There was but one way to find out for sure. So, I crossed my fingers, consigned my affairs to the benevolent Red Gods, and cut loose a 300 grain, factory load.

I was surprised, pleasantly. I found that while the big brute was certainly not a child's plaything, it wasn't anything to terrorize a grown man. So I went ahead and funneled out the best part of two boxes of ammo, in 270 and 300 grain bullet weights. I shot off-hand, kneeling, sitting, and finally, from the bench rest.

I found that, as usual, the truth of the thing lay half-way between the extremes of opinion. I knew I'd been shooting a gun, all right, particularly off the bench rest. On the other hand, I've taken worse beatings from skinny-gripped, razor-stocked, sawed-off, feather weight shooting contraptions in much feebler calibers that are supposed to be the cat's whiskers in these effete days when a man is looked at askance if he packs around a hunting rifle that weighs better than seven and a half or eight pounds.

Out of all the roar and rumpus I found something else that filled me with joy, pure and unalloyed. The big gun was beautifully accurate. Topped with an Alaskan 'scope, it was no great trouble, shooting from the bench, to stay in or about a minute and a half of angle at 100 yards.

Wanting to find out if I'd merely been lucky or if the rifle really had it, I invited a shooting friend to try his luck. Like myself, he'd never snuggled up to a .375 before, yet he sat down at the bench, tried one dry to get the feel of the trigger, and then proceeded to turn in two successive five shot, inch and a half, center to center groups, one with the 270 grain, the other with the 300 grain factory loadings. When he finished the second string he turned to me and said: "This big wallop will do better than that. I wasn't holding too well."

This, mind you, out of a standard hunting rifle, fresh from the factory grease, just as it came, without any tinkering or fixing of any kind. And handling a power house factory cartridge primarily designed to permanently flatten all sorts of big, mean, four-footed critters with felonious designs on the hunter's hide. Not a specially worked out combination of rifle and cartridge for super-accurate varmint shooting—just everything standard. With power—great gobs of power—and still with that lovely, inherent accuracy quotient.

Of course I didn't get the rifle with the idea of shooting full power, jacketed loads all the time. For one thing, seeing two-bits or better go up in smoke every time I pulled trigger on a factory cartridge was mayhem to my frugal soul. For another, I could see

little sense in spreading better than two tons of energy across country every time I pulled the trigger. For anyone who likes to shoot, and does shoot as much as I do—unless he be rotten with the well known filthy lucre—reloading is a virtual must; and I mean reloading in its most economic vein, which means sub-loads with cast bullets. To this sort of shooting fun, it was my thought that the .375, with its large bore, generous bullet weight and a one in twelve rifling twist, should work well.

From the first, I had, at the back of my mind, an idea and theory I wanted to try out. Years ago I owned and hunted with a .35 Winchester, out of the old Model 1895 rifle. This cartridge pushed a 250 grain round nosed, soft-point bullet in the neighborhood of 2200 feet per second, and to this day I recall the combination of rifle and cartridge with a great deal of affection. For it was a completely honest and dependable two-some, killing what it hit, right where it hit it, and with a very minimum of meat spoilage. My theory was that, by using a gas checked cast bullet in the .375, I could come up with a load close to the old .35 Winchester.

I started out with the standard Ideal .375 gas check bullet, #375449, weight around 260 grains, depending on bullet mixture. The Ideal handbook gave a load for this bullet of 42 grains of #3031 powder, for a velocity of 2000 feet. I tried this, and it worked well; but it was obvious that more powder could be used, with equally good, perhaps better, results. So I started going up. With 44 grains of #3031 I got a five shot group at 100 yards that went 1½ inch, center to center. With the same weight of #4895 and the same bullet I got a group of 1½ inches. I went as high as 47.5 grains with either powder and found the big fellow still pounding them right down the groove, with no sign of fusing or leading.

So here I had what I'd set out to find: a load in the 2000 to 2200 foot-second velocity class, driving with fine accuracy a cast, home-brewed bullet of sufficient bore size and heft to take care of such game as deer, very handily. That it will do this, I already have some evidence, three deer so far having dropped to the authority of the load with immediate, clean, one shot kills. Of these instances, one is particularly justified in being related in some detail, for it was a very satisfying example.

The buck was at a slightly lower level, facing the gun and distant somewhere between 125 and 150 yards. It was coming along a trail at a trot, but the lay of the country was such that it was obvious the deer might leave the trail and jump into heavy cover at any moment. So the shot was taken without waiting for the buck to get any closer. As it happened, just as the shot was let off, the quarry did start to swing aside.

The bullet struck just back of the peak of the left shoulder, driving back and down and through, coming out between the hams. The deer was literally picked up and driven backward and piled up in a heap, without a wiggle. There was virtually no spoilage of meat. The big, blunt, solid bullet ploughed a good wound channel straight through, without blood-shotting. A similar hit by one of the ultra-velocity smaller caliber rifles, so much in vogue these days, most certainly would have made a horrific mess of things.

This same bullet in the straight type metal  
(Continued on page 60)

## "NO HUNTING" SIGNS

(Continued from page 42)

moderately expensive. Ironically, and further evidence of the importance of control, farmers will occasionally permit a small group of responsible sportsmen free use of their land in return for posting and policing.)

Point 4 was also enlightening. Investigating successful existing hunting programs unexpectedly shed considerable light on values. The committee selected Pennsylvania's program, because conditions were so comparable to those in Illinois. There, upland game hunting in populated areas was at the "No Hunting" stage when the Department went to work. The program has been in effect progressively since 1936. The addition in 1946 of their "Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program" has done wonders for the bird population. Add plenty of game (wild reared and currently released) to over a million acres of land all in the vicinity of Pennsylvania's large cities, and the sportsman finds congenial, pleasant hunting. He need only buy a license for \$3.15 and proceed to the nearest clearly identified hunting area.

The details of this program have been in print many times and they are very thorough, even down to signs for parking and restricted areas.

What was the key to success of the Pennsylvania program? The answer is—control. Certainly there were sincere, industrious conservationists selling the idea to the land owners and farmers; and, believe it or not, permission for land use was obtained by the Pennsylvania State Game Commission without one cent of cash being paid. The prime factor was control: the farmers wanted only to be assured they would not be overrun by irresponsible, nitwitted nimrods.

Some cash is paid for standing crops as game food (at the going rate), and the Game Commission's principal (but not only) service is supplying an officer for supervision of each 1000 acres. The entire expenses are borne by license fees and Pittman-Robertson money. There is no charge to the sportsman when he goes to hunt.

Our committee then heard of an Illinois state biologist by the name of Jack Calhoun, who took a bold step forward in conservation.

Turns out he had ideas of his own, one of which was to try a hunting control plan on an Illinois test area. To make the test plenty difficult, Jack chose an area round Flanagan, just 85 miles southwest of Chicago. This was excellent pheasant country and must have had a "No Hunting" sign for each bird. Being just off Rte. 66, accessibility was easy and poaching and trespassing were common. Farms were neat, prosperous and well fenced.

Jack sold every farmer on 24 square miles of land on the idea of removing the "No Hunting" signs. Their No. 1 consideration? Control. He promised that this would be handled by a check-in and check-out station where a reasonable number of sportsmen would be briefed as to the boundaries of the area, and then permitted to proceed for the nominal fee of \$1.00.

This venture was strictly non-profit. The income paid for insurance and nominal expenses. The surplus at the end of the season supplied a chili supper for participating farmers, as well as furnishing the community with limited funds for some needed equipment.

An interesting sidelight was the harvesting of 67 cocks per section the first year, with what is apparently a norm of 45-50 being reached after the second or third year. Hunting seemed not to reduce the population beyond this figure.

Jack Calhoun's job at Flanagan was completed at the end of five years of open-season hunting. The cost to the State of Illinois Conservation Dept. had been fundamentally one biologist's time. The area would have had some expense under normal conditions, without the experiment.

The Department called the experiment successful—and abandoned the project! "We showed 'em how; let 'em do it themselves." This may seem to some to be a little reminiscent of Marie Antoinette's "let 'em eat cake." Anyway, this fine project, after furnishing natural and productive hunting to countless hunters for five years, was turned over to the community for continuance.

Without official blessing and competent full time guidance during the season, the organization did not endure for long. This implies no criticism of those left in charge; it was just the old story of asking them to

do a thankless job for which they had neither the training nor the inspired interest.

Pennsylvania's program, and Flanagan (along with others), convinced the Woodstock Sportsmen's Club's committee that Illinois could and should offer upland game hunters in the Northern Zone more than the opportunity to buy a license—they should also supply a majority of them with the legal opportunity to use it.


Keep in mind—neither the Pennsylvania nor Flanagan farmers received any cash for permitting sportsmen to use their land. They were satisfied to have responsible sportsmen hunt their land with only indirect benefits in return—the principal benefit being control—which, in Pennsylvania's case, became self-control after a territory was established.

Incidentally, once a moderate portion of a congested area obtains some relief from the pressure of numbers, the surrounding land becomes less over-run and resistance dissipates. In a sense, the situation brings about a favorable chain reaction.

The next move, Point 5, was to invite every Sportsmen's Club in the Illinois Federation Northern Zone to a meeting and inform them of what our hard working committee had learned. About 75 individuals were present representing various clubs, and a few clubs unable to attend acknowledged their wholehearted support. The committee's findings were discussed, and minutes of the meeting were sent to every club. Much of the information in those minutes has been included in this article.

As a result of this gathering, a resolution was forwarded to the Illinois Conservation Department, recommending the adoption of a program similar to Pennsylvania's (or the Flanagan experiment), including Pennsylvania's "Day-Old Chick Program."

The job is not over yet. All participating clubs will be urged to convince their State Representative of the merits of such participation by the Conservation Dept. The more forces in agreement, the faster and easier it is to put such programs in motion.

One thing sure: for some time to come, hunters will have to shout louder than they shoot, to get programs like this adopted. But it's worth some shouting, if we're to keep our shooting. Maybe some shouting is in order in your state? 

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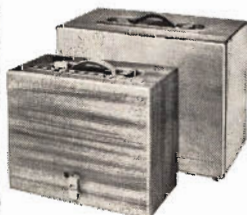
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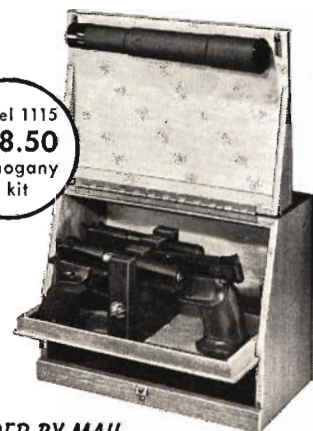


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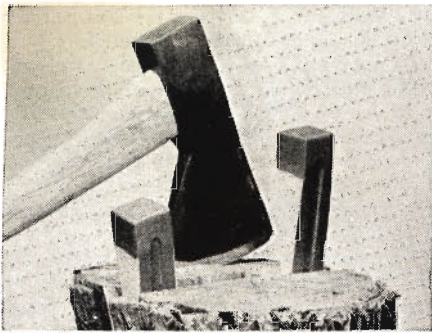


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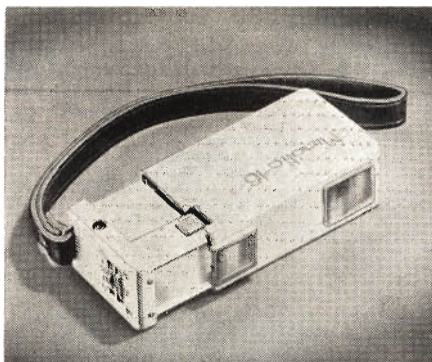
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**NEW ESTATE WAGON** from the 1959 line of the Buick Motor Division, General Motors Corp., Flint, Mich., is one of two new models announced by the company. One in the LeSabre series, and one in the Invicta series. Both are four-door, six-passenger models. A junior third seat is optional, providing increased capacity for two or three small children. Both models are completely restyled with a thin but rugged center pillar and stationary upper door frames. Windshields are cut well up into the roofline for good looks and greater visibility. Sportsmen and their families can depend on the Estate Wagons for smooth, dependable long-distance travel.



**MINOLTA "16"** is new automatic miniature camera that takes both color and black and white pictures. Small enough for the hunter to carry in his pocket, the Minolta "16" takes pictures and slides that fit any 35 mm projector. Retail price, including two close-up lenses, leather case and strap is just \$39.95. Precision made, the Minolta "16" boasts a 25 mm lens that is automatically in focus from 6 feet to infinity. Simply sliding lens in and out, advances the film, cocks the shutter and counts the film. A product of Minolta Kanematsu, New York, Inc., 150 Broadway, New York 38, N. Y.

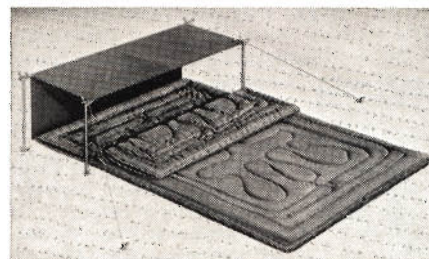
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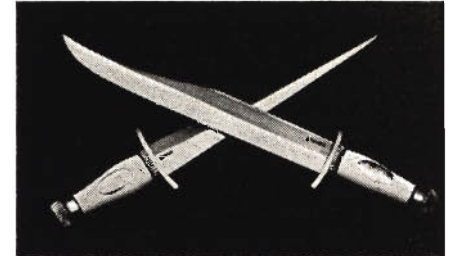


**"FIELD CARE OF TROPHIES"** explains everything that the sportsman must know about the care of trophies from the moment they are taken until delivery to the taxidermist. Designed as a field reference, the book contains illustrations for the skinning of any type animal mount and gives detailed instructions for the care of all type trophies in the field. "Field Care of Trophies" is available for one dollar (\$1.00) from B. J. Brewer, Box 487, Nash, Texas.



**SLEEPING BAG** specially designed for station wagon use called "Station Wag'ner" fits standard station wagons and can sleep two people comfortably. Size 54 in. x 81 in., completely washable. Filled with 3 lb. 100% Virgin DuPont Dacron Polyester Fiberfill. The ground, top, and detachable large snap-on canopy are covered with extra-heavy water

repellent green Oxford Cloth. A warm plaid suede flannel is used as lining. Two 98 in. rustproof aluminum zippers with double tabs, and double sewed go all around the bag. Versatility offered by the "Station Wag'ner" is great since it can be converted into two individual 27 in. x 81 in. units. Retail for \$49.50. Manufactured by Sportline, 1215 W. Washington St., Chicago 7, Ill.



**RANDALL KNIVES**, the symbol for quality throughout the world, are hand made to the highest standards. A handy booklet is available from the company that tells how to choose, sharpen, and throw a knife. In addition, knife-making and types of knives for all purposes are described in detail. Copies available at 25c each. Knives are manufactured by W. D. Randall, Jr., Dept. G-3, Box 1988, Orlando, Fla.

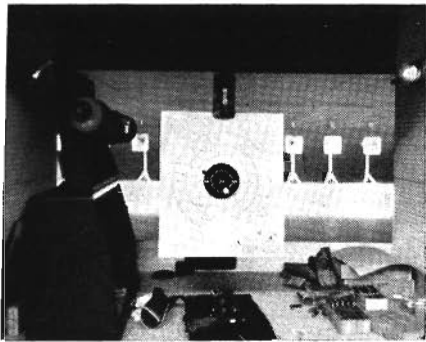
**"HINTS FOR A HOME RANGE"** is new comprehensive brochure prepared by The Detroit Bullet Trap Co. 26000 Capitol Ave., Detroit 39, Mich. The folders, available free, give detailed specifications required to construct an indoor shooting range in a basement or garage. Ranges designed to require little effort and minimum costs to construct. Detroit Bullet Traps available in six models to handle all guns from .22 caliber rim-fire to most powerful rifles. The company also manufactures and installs patented "Venetian Blind" traps, custom designed for police, club and military ranges.



**PLASTIC GAUNTLETS**, designed to completely protect the hunter's jacket sleeves and shirt while dressing out the carcass. Strong enough to stand hard usage, fine enough for fingers to easily and safely guide the knife within the cavity. With these gloves it is no longer necessary to remove hunting coats and roll up sleeves to keep the blood from soiling the clothing. After the gloves have been used, they can be folded up and put back into their original package for cleaning and future use, or disposal. Gauntlets are packaged so they fit easily in a pocket. Will fit any hand size. Poly gauntlets are available at most sporting goods stores. A product of Cadillac Products, Inc., 7000 E. Fifteen Mile Rd., Warren, Mich.



# WITH Guns



**12-POINT FIRING RANGE** has recently been opened as an annex to sales and service area of Herbert H. Harris, one of the country's leading handgun jobbers located at 1237 S. State St., Chicago, Ill. The range is designed to serve the busy businessmen, the nearby police, the teams and shooting members of government, civilian, and private shooting clubs of Chicagoland's 8,000,000 people. Harris has built a shooting range for the local traffic. Range is open from 9 AM to 9 PM every day, and Saturdays from 9 AM to 3 PM. Range fees are \$15 a year or \$1.50 for each use.

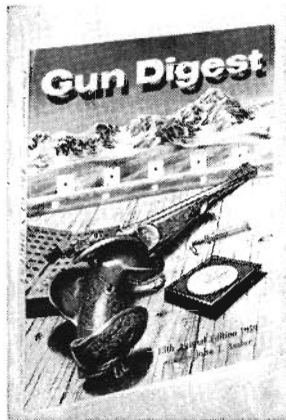


**MALLARDTONE DUCK CALLS.** Precision and standards of perfection make the Mallardtone the finest call on the market today. Highest grade walnut, polished to a satin smooth finish, with an eye-catching emblem, makes them a prize any hunter will be proud to own. A tough plastic reed and waterproof tone channel afford calls that will stay in tune (wet or dry). All parts are interchangeable and may be replaced if lost or broken. An easy call to blow, the Mallard tone brings 'em in. A product of Mallardtone, 2100 Stadium Drive, Rock Island, Ill.

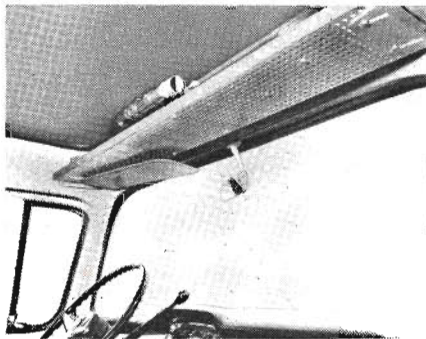


**KAYOT HUNTER PONTOON DUCK BOAT** features safety, maneuverability, ease of concealment and comfort. The manufacturer, Kaye Yacht Pontoon Boat Co., of Man-

kato, Minn., claims that the Hunter is the safest duck boat afloat. Boat leaves no trail due to its shallow draft. This feature also makes it possible to pole into position. Boat is available through dealers and comes un-assembled. Hunter is 5 feet, 11½ inches wide and 11 feet, 11 in. long. The pontoons are made of 16 gauge steel, 19 in. in diameter.



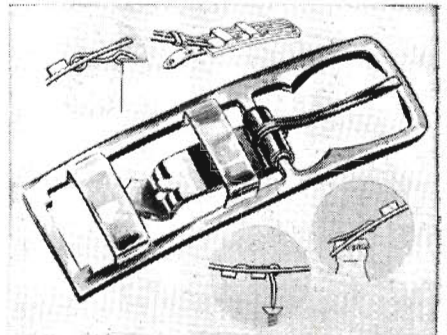
**GUN DIGEST**, in its 1959, 13th annual edition, contains more than 40 original articles of interest to the hunter and gun fan. Its 324 pages, filled with hundreds of illustrations, cover gun lore from rifles to handguns, and hunting expeditions all the way from the U. S. to Africa, and even as far as Asia. The all new firearms encyclopedia, complete with latest prices on all U. S. and imported sporting firearms, also has up-to-the-minute data and prices on scopes, mounts, ammunition, and accessories. Gun Digest, 8½ by 11 inches in size, is available in sporting goods, book, and department stores for \$2.95, or can be ordered postpaid from The Gun Digest Co., 227 W. Washington St., Chicago 6, Ill.



**GUN AND STORAGE RACK.** All-purpose rack for car or truck, rubber-cushioned to protect stock and barrel. Up and out of the way—beyond the children's reach. Ideal for hunters and sportsmen everywhere. Maps, catalogs, fishing tackle, hunting gear, all can be conveniently carried in safe-way rack. Strong construction, made of 18 gauge cadmium plated steel, adjusts from 30 to 60 in. to fit all makes and models. May also be transferred from one vehicle to another. A product of Phillip W. Jones & Co., P. O. Box 86, Carmichael, Calif.



**COMPACT NASH RAMBLER** set all-time sales record in 1958, and now features new styling and engineering changes designed to further increase economy of operation and durability for 1959. The 1959 Rambler Cross Country model shown is a distinctive four-door station wagon, ideal for the hunter, camper, and outdoorsman. Plenty of room for the whole family plus camping equipment. Offers a smooth, easy ride that fits in perfectly with the relaxed tempo of camping life. From the line of American Motors Corp., 14250 Plymouth Road, Detroit, Mich.



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# CASTRO'S GUNS

(Continued from page 33)

for the newspapers to write about. Since the rebels knew of the plan, it was foiled. Not only did Batista fail in proving Communist intervention—Castro's people have steadily refused such aid—but he wound up with five loads of guns he couldn't get ammo for!

Castro's forces are well supplied with machine guns. Many of these are types used in various other South American republics. Best of these is unquestionably the "Fucile Ametralladora Colt," or the Colt Monitor, commercial version of the popular Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR.). During the 1930's, Colt sold many of these guns to Latin America. From Latin America, offered by persons sympathetic with La Revolucion, they are coming into Cuba. Most of these are .30-06 caliber. A few guns, such as the Danish-made Madsen light machine guns in 7mm caliber as used in South America, take other calibers. But all guns in use take either U.S. ammunition, or cartridges easily found in Cuba.

In the pleasant, grassy uplands of eastern Cuba which Castro controls and which he is even now trying to rule until all of Cuba is consolidated again, a variety of rifles are in use. Ads in U.S. journals help supply these guns. Active in the trade are people in Miami, for example, who insert notices "Wanted: Springfields, M1 Garands, Carbines, Top prices paid." But the "top prices" are not showing any huge profits: the Cuban agents pay little more than the going price for arms. Garand rifles they buy for from \$50 to \$100. Often the same gun will bring more on the U.S. shooter's and collector's market than the Cuban buyer will offer. Recently, with the D.C.M. price increase in Garand rifles to over \$160 automatically increasing the value of Garands in shooters' hands to over \$100, the Cuban buyers have turned to commercial sporters for their military needs.

The .30-06 Remington Model 740 autoloading rifle has turned up in the Cuban hills, as well as many other sporting guns commonly found in the U.S. market. The FN Mauser is Castro's favorite personal rifle, while Johnson semi-automatic sporters, with scope sights, are much liked in Cuba. Along with Springfield and Enfield rifles, in .30-06 caliber, the Remington bolt action 721 and Winchester Model 70 share honors in the hands of Castro's band. A tribute to the strength of the Remington Model 721 action is a special carbine which one of Castro's headquarters guard has made to fire grenades. The barrel is chopped to about 15 inches, and grenades made from hand-smithed iron canisters are fired from it with rifle accuracy, from the shoulder.

In Cuba, Castro has few ordnance men. Some are Americans, but few are expert. Since submachine guns were difficult to obtain in the quantity needed, Castro's U.S. agents arranged for some to be manufactured in the U.S. Last May Lynwood, Calif., police raided a residential area garage, found it contained a home hobby machine shop turning out Sten-type SMGs. Eleven guns, sixty barrels and hundreds of parts of submachine guns "which authorities believe may have been destined for Fidel Castro" were taken in this raid. Whether Castro has decided that manufacture of machine guns in

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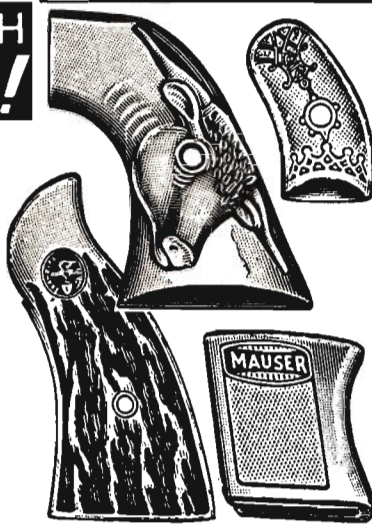
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the U.S. is accompanied by legal dangers, and since imported some sharp Yankee tool makers and a few lathes with gasoline generator, is not known. But it would be a logical next step. For Fidel Castro and his brother Raul have been learning revolution the slow, leisurely "mañana" way. They have made mistakes, and they have paid for them in money and blood.

But they have learned. At one time Cubans living in the U.S. were so naive as to consider converting .30-40 Krag rifles to .30-06. They gave that idea up, and turned to Garands in quantity. But these proved difficult to get so the commercial sporters came next. Meanwhile, Castro has improved his stature in international politics. Recently he protested the release to Batista of aircraft



Liberation of Cuba medal shows Castro, rifles.

Courtesy AFACo

fuel from the U.S. base at Guantanamo. Newspaper accounts declared that Batista had obtained "jet planes from Britain." Actually, these were Vampire night fighters, surplus from the Canadian airforce a year or two ago. With cruising speed of 549 m.p.h. and range of over 700 miles (over 1200 miles with wing tanks), the Vampires are good planes when they don't blow up accidentally. Each carries four 20mm rapid fire cannon. Some have been bought by U.S. enthusiasts, cost about \$9,000 to put in the air.

According to a leading aircraft broker in the U.S., these jets were sold to a mid-west dealer who in turn sold them to a Mexico City merchant. From there they were flown to Batista. Castro protested about the gasoline deal: he has four Vampire jets in the hills himself, which are as useless without fuel as if they had no wings.

Suddenly, as GUNS Magazine goes to press, the Revolution becomes an accomplished fact. Castro is entering Havana, and the U.S. has recognized his government.

The success of Fidel Castro's arms over the superior equipment of Batista's U.S.-equipped forces attest to the potential for victory inherent in the popularly supported change of government. Free elections—which Batista refused to hold after promising the world he would do so—are the key to peaceful changes in central administration. But when a government becomes destructive of what our own Founding Fathers considered inalienable rights, and what 4,000 Cubans have given their lives for, force may be the only way to right wrongs. Certainly the Cuban revolt seems to have concluded with as much inspiration and patriotic fervor, as with bloodshed. And the Great Democracy of the North has had as much to do with the victory of

popular sovereignty in Cuba as any single factor. For only in the U.S. where such commodities as modern sporting rifles (forbidden in, say, England) and that curious offspring of law, the Dewat machine gun, exist side by side, could revolutionary patriots turn for arms with no strings attached. The absence of "strings" has throughout the Revolution characterized Uncle Sam's attitude. Surprisingly, Batista, overthrown in the 11th hour and fleeing the country, laid blame for his defeat (with his army regiments joyfully surrendering forts and cities to Castro) to the rebel leader's "better weapons." *Ex-presidente Fulgencio's* parting declaration is that Castro's motley array of Dewats, chopped off Yankee sporters, Latin American surplus machine guns by makers most people never heard of, constitute "better weapons" than his. And Batista's modern army, now largely gone over to the Revolution, had new U.S. Brownings, M-8 armored cars, 81mm mortars, and other first-class gear!

Yet, in the end, perhaps Batista was right. For the total infantry weapon is not just the rifle, or pistol, or machine gun; it is the man-plus-weapon which counts. That Castro's thousand-man force triumphed, is a lesson that it counts for pretty much.

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## LOADS FOR .375 MAGNUM

(Continued from page 54)

mixture I'm partial to, could, I'm sure, be driven at even higher velocity and still hold to practical hunting accuracy. However, I was never one to seek a possible extreme in velocity, when what I'd already achieved was sufficient for the job.

It has, these days, become somewhat the fashion to think and talk only in terms of downing animals at extreme ranges—either in fact or fancy, and generally the latter—and therefore trying to squeeze the last atom of velocity out of a cartridge, often at pressures to make your hair stand on end. Here I must go along with that wise old veteran, Elmer Keith, whose wisdom in such things is the result of a great deal of first hand, practical experience. Elmer has long stated that velocity up to a point is desirable, but beyond that point bullet weight is more important. For mass is a constant, while velocity is a variable, beginning to diminish the moment the bullet leaves the muzzle.

In thinking back over close to 40 years of hunting deer in the western country, where these long, long shots may come up more often than in the more wooded east and north, for example, I have found that for every kill made at what might be called truly long range, a vastly greater number were downed at ranges not exceeding 150 yards, and with most of these within 100 yards. Therefore, I feel in no way handicapped going into the hills with the .375 and my cast-bullet, home-brewed, gas-check loading.

This Ideal bullet is not the only one the .375 handles well. The Hensley & Gibbs spire point bullet #506, in weight 210 grains, ahead of from 32 to 35 grains of #4198 (or #4198-data) powder shoots beautifully, having given me a five shot, bench rest group at 100 yards of 7/8 inch. Another group in this same loading went one inch exactly. Another Hensley & Gibbs bullet, a round nosed job of about 255 grains, has gone as small as 1 1/4 inch with 45 grains of #3031 or #4895 powder. A very light, yet conceivably useful load under certain circumstances, the Ideal plain base bullet #375248, the old standard low power .38-55 bullet of 255 grain weight, ahead of from 15 to 18 grains of #4759, gave one group of 1 1/2 inches at 100 yards.

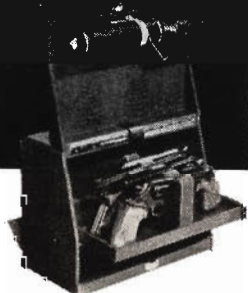
All of these cast loads, even the most powerful, are very pleasant to shoot in the .375. A man can shoot them all day and enjoy every minute of it. Particularly so since they represent the most economical

form of big bore rifle shooting the average shooter can find. More and more these days the man who likes to shoot finds that, to afford any amount of it, he must turn to handloading, and is doing so, as witness the tremendous upsurge in the sale of various makes of reloading tools and all the loading components. Yet, if a man stops at the jacketed bullet level, he is still cheating himself of much of the fun and satisfaction, and certainly of much of the economic advantages of handloading. To get the most out of his hobby, he must get into the cast bullet phase of it, too.

It is no trick at all to cook up good shooting loads in any caliber with jacketed bullets; there are scores of such, already proven, in every conceivable combination of bullet weight and powder type. But to start from scratch with the metal pot and bullet mould and work out economical, reliable, fine shooting loads for some particular pet rifle, offers a challenge that makes for fun and satisfaction.

So the "Bull Of The Woods," as the boys in the club have tagged the .375, is staying with me, and being shot—plenty! The cartridge is about the easiest to reload that I know of, and I've worked with most of them. The brass is of the best, and seems to last almost without limit. And the more I shoot those cast loadings the prettier my barrel gets, taking on an ever smoother mirror shine. Yes, sir—the big fellow is my baby!

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# KING OF THE BUFFALO KILLERS

(Continued from page 27)

the old 18 pound .45-100-550 formerly owned by Hank Waters; one is a 16 pound .45-120 that was also used through the hide hunting days; and the other is a 17 pound .40-90 bottle neck. The three buffalo guns are all on the '69 action, while the '77 model is, of course, on the graceful small hammer action of that model, with single trigger. The three heavy rifles all have double set triggers and vernier sights.

M. C. Clark and I are probably the only men living today who have killed buffalo with the old Sharps rifles. I used my 16 pound .45-120 in killing my first one. I knew many of the old buffalo hunters as a boy in Montana, and hunted with them when I was a small kid. As a class, they were the finest game shots this country ever produced. They were riflemen in every sense, and perfectly capable of knocking off a buffalo out to 600 yards. Their demand for ever heavier rifles led to the Big Fifty. I had one of these great rifles also. It was not perfect in the bore, but shot very well. These were in great favor in the last stages of the buffalo slaughter, for long range work. All the buffalo hunter needed was a supply of lead, powder, patch paper, and Berdan caps to keep his long hulls reloaded and ready for use. The buffalo runner carried a cleaning rod and usually a canteen or bottle of water so he could swab the bore with a wet patch every so often, to keep the barrel from getting too hot and to keep the powder-fouling from caking in the bore.

Many times too the old buffalo and Creedmoor rifles were used in hot Indian fights. Probably the greatest of these was the 'Dobe Walls fight, June 27th, 1874. The little trading post in the heart of the buffalo country known as Adobe Walls was occupied that day by 28 men and one woman. Mrs. Olds and her husband, William Olds, with some seven other men were living at the post; the rest were buffalo hunters in for supplies and ammunition. Practically all were armed with Sharps buffalo and Creedmoor rifles.

At 2 A.M., a loud cracking sound from the cottonwood ridge pole in Hanrahan's saloon wakened Mike Welch and a man named Shephard. They wakened a number of their companions to help repair the ridge pole, which supported the heavy sod roof. The noise they made wakened the rest of the camp, and this incident alone saved the lives of all in the little post.

When the job was done, it was too late to go back to sleep and Billy Dixon had just picked up his rifle to go out after the horses when he saw hundreds of Indians on running ponies. He gave the alarm, and the hunters piled into three buildings to defend themselves. Many had on only their underwear. Hanrahan's Saloon held James Hanrahan, William Dixon, Bat Masterson, Shephard, Mike Welch, Hiram Watson, Billy Ogg, Jim McKinley, and Bermuda Carlisle. Meyers & Leonard's store held "Frenchy," Henry Lease, Mike McCabe, Keeler, Fred Leonard, Jim Campbell, Ed Trevor, Frank Brown, Harry Armitage, Dutch Henry, and Billy Tyler. Rath and Wrights store held James Langton, George Eddy, Tom O'Keefe, William Olds and his wife, Sam Smith, and Andy Johnson.

Against these few came the flower of the

Comanche, Cheyenne, and Kiowa tribes, said to have numbered between 700 and 1000 warriors, led by Quanah Parker of the Comanches, White Shield and Stone Calf of the Cheyennes, and Lone Wolf of the Kiowas. The fight lasted three days. The stores held plenty of ammo to feed the big rifles, and the white men fought from behind the thick sod walls, firing out through transoms and windows.

The Shadler brothers were asleep in their wagon outside the post when the attack came, and they were killed and scalped. Billy Tyler was also shot through the lungs at the very start of the fight as he was making his way into the store. William Olds was climbing a ladder to the roof when his big Sharps accidentally went off and almost decapitated him. Those four were the only whites killed at the post. Nobody knows how many Indian warriors went down under the heavy paper patched lead slugs of the buffalo rifles, but it was a matter of history that the steady, accurate fire of those rifles broke the heart and the back of the Indian attack.

On the third day of the fight, some 15 warriors rode out on a distant bluff, and the hunters suggested that Bill Dixon try his big .50 caliber Sharps on them. Billy set his sights and, from a rest, fired one careful shot. One Indian fell from his horse, and the rest rode out of sight. The distance of this shot was later carefully measured and found to be 1538 yards.

Some writers of today belittle the marksmanship of these old hide hunters and state that they could not hit a buffalo at 600 yards. Having hunted and shot with several of them, I know they could put any buffalo down at 600 yards with a few shots. The heavy slugs threw up mud or dust, locating their strike; one or two ranging shots would tell those old boys how to make the next slug land.

As the West settled up and the buffalo were exterminated, most of those fine old rifles were left lying around for the kids to play with and soon the stocks were off, and the breech blocks removed, and many of the left-over barrels were driven into the ground as picket pins for saddle horses. Today, fine Sharps rifles are to be found only in collections or in the hands of gun cranks. M. C. Clark has the finest collection of them that I know of, including many that belonged to famous buffalo hunters and frontiersmen.

With fine buffalo or Creedmoor-type Sharps rifles bringing up to \$200 each on the buffalo range, and with their factory loads selling for two-bits each in a day when 25 cents was money, it is no wonder those old hide hunters learned to make every shot count. They preferred to get a stand on buffalo at around 200 to 300 yards and down wind. They would then shoot a cow or bull through the lungs. The others would smell the blood and start butting the wounded animal. Then the hunter would carefully pick off the ones on the outer edge of the herd and would down any animal that attempted to leave. The brutes would simply stand and take it, so long as he did not make a bum shot. This was called "a stand." Stand hunters often used rest sticks and the heavy barrel guns, with set triggers on many of them. Rest sticks could be anything from simply a pair of sticks crossed and hand-held to form a V support for the rifle, up to and including metal rods with U tops, specially black-

smithed, to stick in the ground and be driven down to the proper height. As many as 100 buffalo have been killed from one stand. Usually, however, the hunter killed just what his skinner could take care of for the day. It was the most shameless and useless waste of great game ever perpetrated; but don't let anyone tell you those old hide hunters could not shoot.

The Sharps was the finest long range rifle of its era, and good ones will still shoot today if properly loaded. They were very finely made rifles, even in plain pattern. The finer Sharps were often simply custom jobs and were stocked and sighted as meticulously as the finest in custom rifles today.

George Turner showed me the old house, still standing in Cimarron, New Mexico, from which an Indian warrior was killed with a Sharps Creedmoor rifle in their last raid on that little town. The rifle with which the shot was made is still in Cimarron.

Turner and I also looked over the site of the battle in Lincoln, New Mexico during the Lincoln County War, during which a Mexican buffalo hunter shooting from inside the McSween house put two adversaries out

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of commission at around 900 yards with a Sharps Creedmoor .45-120-550.

Surely the incidents set down here, including the winning of the Wimbledon Cup in 1900, document the accuracy of the Sharps as a long range rifle. Up until the recent advent of the .458 Winchester, the Sharps Big Fifty .50-170-700 was still our most powerful American commercially manufactured rifle and cartridge; and I have had far better killing power on elk from the .45-120-550 than from any smaller modern American cartridge.

The Sharps Borchardt hammerless rifle was first produced after the fine Model '75 experimental and the Model '77; but while it had a much better action for smokeless powders later on when the anvil primer was used, it never attained much popularity on the buffalo range. This was because the Berdan cap primers of the time would set back in the firing pin hole, locking up the Borchardt action. You had to take out the screws and remove the breech block to clear a pierced or blown-back primer. The new action was much stronger and also safer with anvil primers, but practically all the earlier Sharps loads carried Berdan caps. Then Winchester brought out solid head modern primer cases and with these, the Borchardt-action Sharps became very popular and is still widely used today in vermin and bench rest rifles. It is an excellent action if the firing pin hole is bushed for many modern high velocity loads.

Times change and so do men and rifles; but let us ever remember that, from the Seventies to the turn of the century, we had long range rifles in the famous Sharps— and men who knew how to use them. 

## POLICE QUICK DRAW TRAINING PROGRAM

(Continued from page 39)

constructed for timing quick draw which would include the time to draw, the number of shots fired, and still remain free of human error.

The problem appeared simple; a paper tape was essential for split-second timing on which the recorded time could be read.

A machine was built aiming at registering time intervals computed in 1/100 of one second, if desired. After many trials and errors, much installation and removal of equipment, the device eventually proved an outstanding success.

An adjustable diaphragm installed in a small microphone receives concussions from explosions, and transfers the vibrations to electronic tubes which activate a device that vibrates the pen marking the surface of the paper tape. In this manner, the time required for each contestant to draw and fire his first shot is recorded graphically or in addition to the time interval between each shot fired. From the information recorded on the tape, a shooter could plainly see his shortcomings in either drawing or firing time.

The total weight of the machine and signal flags is 78¼ pounds; signal flags, 37¾ pounds, and machine, 40½ pounds. It is portable in two zippered waterproof containers and requires only one electrical outlet of 110 to 120 volts (A. C.). Portable power generators have been used quite successfully.

This timing machine was used to record the complete quick-draw shooting program for the Louisiana Peace Officers' Association

convention at Alexandria, Louisiana, on June 24, 1957, in which 94 shooters shot seven events, timing accurately and without failure 846 separate time periods.

A typical shooting program which has proved highly successful in training Louisiana peace officers and which also has "spectator appeal" plus instant registering of score through the tape timer, is one involving 36 shots for a total possible score of 89.0. The course is double action quick draw hip shooting, at the Colt police man target, distance 15 feet. Other parts of the course involve five targets; and distances up to 21 feet.

### DOUBLE ACTION— QUICK-DRAW, HIP SHOOTING TARGET: POLICE MAN-SIZE SILHOUETTE

- No.1. Draw from holster on signal and fire 5 shots DA. Record distance (15') on score sheet.
- No.2. Stand with back to target, a given distance, on signal draw, turn by body twist, left for right-handed men and right for left-handed men, and fire 5 shots DA without moving feet. Record distance on score sheet (15'). Shooter must stand with back to target.
- No.3. Back to target, walk away and on signal given between 12 and 21 feet, draw, turn and fire 5 shots DA. Right-handed men turn left, left-handed men turn right.

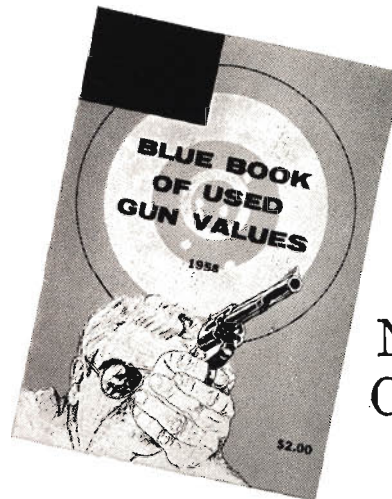
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No. 4. Draw on signal with right hand, fire 3 shots DA, shift gun to left hand, fire 2 shots DA. For left-handed men, reverse above. Record distance on score sheet. (15')

**FIVE TARGETS:**

**POLICE MAN-SIZE SILHOUETTES**

No. 5. Draw on signal and fire 5 shots DA, one shot at each target. Record distance (15') on score sheet.

**TWO TARGETS:**

**POLICE MAN-SIZE SILHOUETTES**

No. 6. Draw on signal, fire 5 shots DA, two at first target and three at second target. Record distance. (15')

No. 7. Load revolver with 6 shells. Distance to be from 15' to 21' from target. Have shooters walk from right to left without looking at target. On signal draw, fire one shot at each target. Holster gun. Record time. Walk from left to right and duplicate. Walk straight at targets for firing last two shots. Add the three time parts for total time. (T)

The scoring method includes: 1) Record Time (T); 2) Record credit for time (TC); 3) Record Hits (H); 4) Record credit for hits in vital area (1/2 Point) (HC); 5) Record Total score for each event (S). These may be column headings across a printed form recording the proficiency of the contestant. The method applies to all seven events. Each shot within the vital inner area on Police Silhouette Target scores .5 (1/2) point additional in Total Score.

In a typical shoot, Monroe police officer Otwell, one of our fastest shooters, made the highest possible score on the first, second and third events, but lost one point on the fourth event due to T (time) and having one shot out of vital area but on the target which gave 2.0 for HC (hit credits). He lost 1/2 point in fifth event due to one shot not in vital area. One-half point was lost in the sixth event. In the seventh event, two shots were out of vital area but on target resulting in a loss of one point. His total score was 86.0, or three points under the possible score of 89. As to percentage, 96.6% places him in the Master class. Had he placed all shots fired in vital area, his score would be 2.5 points more or 88.5.

For example, officer Otwell performs Event No. 1 standing at a distance of 15 feet, facing target. On flag signal, he draws and fires 5 shots in 1.6 seconds, all shots inside vital area of target. His score card for Event No. 1 would read:

Event No. 1—Otwell:  
 T TC H HC = S  
 1.6 Seconds 5 5 2.5 12.5

He has produced the highest possible score which shows:

TC (5) is 40% of 12.5  
 H+HC (7.5) is 60% of 12.5

This holds to the method of scoring, placing a 20 per cent premium on accuracy but also, requiring good time.

Should his time (T) be 1.8 seconds, his time credits (TC) would be 4. Each shot not in vital area would reduce hit credits (HC) 1/2 point. Shots off the target cost the shooter 1 1/2 points each. The time credits for various time records in the seven matches are figured in when computing the particular absolute score. The values we use in the Louisiana course time credits (TC) are:

EVENT No. 1—T	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 2—T	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 3—T	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 4—T	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 5—T	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 6—T	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0
EVENT No. 7—T	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5
TC	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	.5	.0

Although the police quick draw course is fired in daylight, it can be shot at night. Floodlights illuminating the range can be turned off. The officers' eyes can be permitted to become accustomed to the darkness, or they can be required to shoot while still "blinded" from after-effects of light. Accurate hip level shooting in daylight hours gives equal proficiency at night, if an outline

of the target can be observed. Often a man at night will appear as a darker blackness.

Such skill can easily be accomplished by the average peace officer through prescribed practice with proper instruction. This will develop that high degree of confidence in one's own ability for defense under the most dangerous conditions. Practice can and does save lives.



QUESTIONS concerning proof marks and their meanings are an everyday part of the mail that flows over every gun editor's desk. Only rarely does a magazine attempt to answer these queries with an article, because the subject of proof marks (covering as it does the laws and the gun history of many nations over a couple of centuries) is too complicated, too heavily laden with intricate detail, to be treated adequately in magazine space. Currently in preparation by The Gun Digest Company is a book titled "Proof Marks Of The World" which may do the job.

But the recent publication of articles in other magazines regarding proof marks and alleged "proof" loads—articles designed to prove that all military rifles, and particularly all imported military rifles, are junk, deadly dangerous to the user—have so increased our mail on this subject that we feel we must make a published answer, albeit this answer must be in the most general of terms.

First, the loads specified in the articles in question are *not* proof loads; they are blow-up loads. Some are questionable even in that category, since the quantity of the powder specified cannot be loaded into the stated case. But there is a vast and dangerous difference between proof loads and blow-up loads.

A proof load is a charge heavier (generally, from 25 to 40 per cent heavier) than the maximum standard load intended for the gun. Such loads are fired once (in most cases; sometimes two are fired) in new guns to "prove" that the guns are sound. Some countries have laws stipulating exactly when and how this proving must be done; other countries have no such laws. After the proof loads are fired and the gun is inspected and

found sound, a "proof mark" is stamped on. A proof load is not intended to blow up the gun; it is merely to prove that the piece is safe for intended pressures plus a stated safety margin of structural strength.

A blow-up load *does* blow up the gun. You can blow up *any* gun, if that is your intention. But the fact that you can blow it up by deliberate massive overloading does not mean that the gun was unsafe for any reasonably sane usage. Publication of factory and military proof loads (from 25 to 40 per cent above standard maximum pressures) is considered dangerous and is held as "restricted" information in the trade. Publication of the massive blow-up overloads in the articles above-mentioned is, we think, sufficiently dangerous to deserve a strong warning to handloading shooters and gunsmiths: **DON'T USE THEM!**

Military firearms of this and other nations have, from the earliest days of gun making, filtered out of the military into the civilian markets of this and other nations for use as sporting arms. Our National Rifle Association has for many years sold countless thousands of "obsolete" Enfield and Springfield rifles for hunting (and target) use. To say that all military rifles are "no good" is to impeach the integrity of the Association which has done more for shooting in this country than any other agency. Because they are often available at low cost, such rifles have contributed considerably to the growth of shooting as a sport, and particularly of hunting, in this and other countries. They are not ideal sporters, as issued. But they have killed a world of game for thousands upon thousands of hunters, without alteration; and they have provided unending delight to the thousands

upon thousands of home craftsmen who have reworked them into "things of beauty and a joy forever."

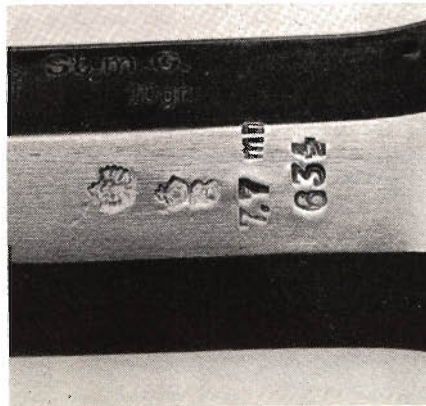
I recall my own many pleasant hours in letting Bishop stocks, using some imported chisels from my school shop, and a wastebasket filled with newspaper gripped between my feet as a "vise." I won't dwell on the recollection: I must have looked like a Darra tribesman as a stockmaker, but it was fun, even if a little blood did flow. Now, such neat items as Versa-Vice take care of what were then big problems—how to work on the old rifles at home.

But perhaps the most striking thing about military rifles, because most obvious, are the proof marks and inspectors' marks. U.S. made firearms bear many marks: those such as the interlaced "WP" in an oval, for Winchester Proof, or the REP in an oval for Remington Extra Proof, indicate these commercial guns have been fired once with a high-pressure cartridge. These cartridges are special tinned-case ammunition so loaded as to develop pressures 25% to 40% higher than the maximum standard load. In the U.S., the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute, to which association some of our gun manufacturers belong, have established standard proof loads. These loads are not available for publication, but Remington and Winchester make ammo "For use only by gun makers for testing strength of guns." The overload, if the gun stands proof, confirms that no inherent weaknesses have escaped the inspectors.

Abroad, government regulations govern the proving of firearms. In England, both overload firing and physical examination are part of the tests. The old SMLE Enfield .303 rifle, or Rifle No. III, which is composed of about 130 parts, is subjected to 1250 gauges, most of which judge the closeness of the work to one or two thousandths of an inch. The barrels, of manganese steel, noted for toughness, are proved with overload cartridges two

times. The first is the proof in the rough state, in which a cartridge without an extracting rim is used, and a cylindrical bullet heavier than the pointed bullet. It is also proved as an assembled rifle, with a cartridge giving 25% greater pressure. The many inspections to which the SMLE is exposed are reflected by the dozens of marks placed on each part by the individual inspector. The overload tests usually employ the letter "P" in the symbol for proof, combined with the British royal crown.

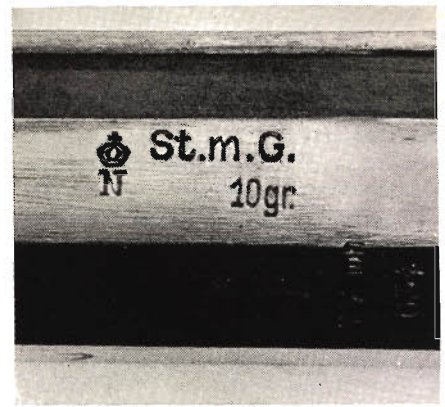
Some rifles made to military standards, with the high quality control demanded in the old days by governments whose soldiers trusted their lives to their guns, have proved unexpectedly strong. A report of an attempt to blow up one .303 American Enfield, of the type made by Remington, Winchester, or Remington's Eddystone, Pa., factory, from 1914 to 1917 for the British, failed to burst the gun. A charge of 68 grains #3031



German .30-06 has 63 1/2 mm chamber and 7.7 mm bore size stamped on barrel.

powder, more than the cartridge case will normally hold, was reported fired from one such Enfield. "Head of case blown off, bolt lugs set back, bolt channels in receiver distorted," was the terse report. It must be noted that while the gun was rendered unserviceable, the action did not actually fail or burst under this extreme blow-up test.

Of course any gun can be blown up, and too much powder, such as small-case pistol



Mark showing biggest bullet (10 grams) gun was proved for is on German .30-06.

powder loaded tight into large rifle cartridges, may even detonate, go off like dynamite. Nothing can stand that test. But the function of proof loads is to reveal inherent weaknesses in guns. Even American gun makers rely on this positive test—a gun bearing the WP proof stamp is safe for all normal cartridges of its caliber.

International conventions have established standard proof loads. All reputable foreign gunmakers, even arsenals of warring powers, subscribe to these international rules of proof. The shooter, when he obtains a foreign rifle, should look knowingly for the foreign proof marks. Interestingly, some U.S. guns are strong enough to stand proving twice or three times. As the U.S. has no governing authority or law which makes proof testing mandatory (often .22 revolvers, for example, are not proof tested), the U.S. proof marks are not usually recognized by foreign countries. British law requires American fire arms to undergo proof before being sold.

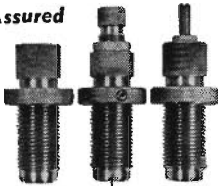
No proof loads are published for U.S. arms, but you can be reasonably sure that modern U.S. guns are entirely safe. Foreign rifles, especially military rifles, must conform to the strictest government standards. Check for the proof marks—they are the user's guarantee to himself that his rifle is safe with its original standard cartridge load. Of course, all proof marks are invalid if rebarreling or barrel slimming or reboring has been indulged in by some gunsmith. But the empirical rule that one action for a cartridge of given force can be fitted with a barrel for a similar powered cartridge is fairly safe.

The best bet is to keep factory-made rifles in the calibers in which they are issued. Let the Gun Makers do the rebarreling. For only they have access to standard proof cartridges to make sure, scientifically, that what they are doing is safe for you.

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# THE GUN MARKET

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**BINOCULAR**, IMPORTED, lightweight, 10x50, with coated optics, central focusing, brand new. Value \$65.00. Sale \$29.50. Complete with leather case and straps. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

**BINOCULAR SPECIALISTS**, Expert repairs to all makes including telescopes and riflescopes. Authorized Bausch & Lomb, Zeiss, Hensoldt, Bushnell dealer. Free estimates. Tele-Optics, 5514 Lawrence, Chicago 30, Illinois.

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"**ANTIQUE & MODERN Arms, Accessories** at 'Recession' prices. Sample list, 25c. Ladd Arms, Catskill, N. Y."

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**GUN CABINETS,** Racks, Complete Selection. Send 25c for Catalogue. Dept. D, Knox Wood Products, Knoxville, Iowa.

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**WANT FOLLOWING** martials, excellent condition, US marked: Savage 720, Colt Detective Special, Johnson '44 dewat, Garand MID mount. Also Frontier over 347,000, 4 1/2" .45. Britt Brown, c/o Eagle, Wichita, Kansas.

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**EVERY GUN BOOK IN PRINT**  
"The Baker's Dozen Plan"  
Send 50c for year 'round mailings  
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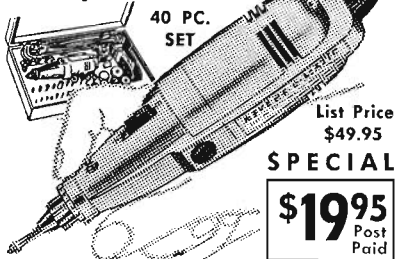
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Our 208 page Catalog-Reference Book contains over 1600 items for sale. American & European Firearms & edged Weapons of all periods. Every item in our Book is PHOTO-ILLUSTRATED, completely described and priced.

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Send \$1. (refunded with first purchase) for this valuable Catalog. You will be so glad you did!

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Adjustable 22X - 45X - 60X  
Precision Achromatic Lenses  
Opens to 33" - Closes to  
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Never before has an achromatic telescope scope sold for anywhere near this amazing low price! You get clearer sharper pictures at all powers because of the super compound Achrom Lens. No color, no fuzz. Variable eyepiece adjustable in 22, 45, or 60 power. Lower powers excellent for target shooting and wide angle viewing. Higher powers for long range and Astronomy. Guaranteed to spot .22 holes in the black at 200 yds. Guaranteed to bring distant objects, people, planets, etc. 60 times closer. 5 bakelite sections, trimmed in gleaming brass—5 precision lenses. A precision American made instrument, unconditionally guaranteed. Carrying case included. Send only \$6.98. Cash, check or money order. We pay postage. Criterion Co., 313 Church St., Hartford, Conn., Dept. TSA-38

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Make your own Gun Belt and Holster. Tandy has patterns to fit almost every gun made. "Easy-to-follow" patterns designed by experts. Save money on "ready-cut" Leather Kits—the very best heavy livestock tooling cowhide ready for easy assembly, and tooling. Our FREE catalog illustrates 6 complete Kits of Holsters and Gun Belts.

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These shotgun barrels should cause one at these prices! **ABOUT 82% DISCOUNT**—buy an extra, ideal for slug & brush work, 20" cyl. bore, all 12 ga., new, blued, Winchester Mdl. 12 ..... \$4.95  
(These can be converted to take-down Mdl. 97 by light lathe cut)  
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## REMINGTON M11 RECEIVER

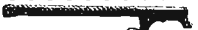


SPECIALY PRICED

to close out few remaining. New receivers, fully finished, in white, complete with fitted trigger plate (guard) ..... \$7.95

## GOV'T ISSUE

Shotgun vent, handguard & bayonet attachment, as used in trenches. Riv-1 and foxholes in WW-2. Fits Win. 12 & 97 Ithaca 37, Stevens 520 & 620, Rem. 10 & 31 riot guns. New supply allows reduced price—**ONLY \$3.75** w/mounting screws!

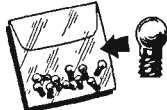


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Firing pins. Our new improved design ..\$2.75 ppd.

## SHOTGUN BEADS DO GET LOST & BROKEN

Here's a packet of 10 large bead (standard 4/40 thread) sights for usual price of just one, **ONLY \$1.00** per Packet (Buy 100 (10 packets) & next time a friend shows you his Patterson collection, show him your shotgun sight collection. Special price for this purpose, **\$7.50** per 100 sights). Tap for above, 4/40 .....50c



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### ADJUSTABLE CHOKE RECOIL REDUCER

Shooters! Gunsmiths! Dealer! A terrific value! Choke attachment worth \$17.95, complete and ready to silver-solder or braze in your own shop. 5 in. long, in white, complete—16 or 20 ga. ..\$2.95

## NEW BARREL FOR WINCHESTER M12

12 ga. only, 28" modified, or 30" full, state which. \$12.60 ppd. (Almost 60% discount!!!!)



**UNIVERSAL MAGAZINE SPRINGS**, usable for Springfield, Enfield, etc. convertible to Japs, Mausers, Bolt Action shotgun magazines etc. New, packet of 10, SPECIAL ONLY \$1.95.

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We have had to disappoint many of our customers on the below parts over the years—we now have the following in small supply—all new.

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SAVAGE .32 or .380 auto. pistol ..... \$7.50  
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1,000's of other rare parts—write w/ants!

**SATISFACTION ALWAYS GUARANTEED!**

### WANTED: GUN PARTS

all kinds, new or used, military or commercial, U. S. or foreign, send rough list or do as many do, ship for offer—check airmail day received—if not o.k. shipment returned prepaid. Also Want . . . Junk rifles, pistols & shotguns for breaking into parts.

# with the NEW NUMRICH 1903 SPRINGFIELD .22 CONVERSION UNIT

NOW...  
you can have  
**2 GUNS IN 1**

- ★ **DOUBLES USE**
- ★ **DOUBLES UTILITY**
- ★ **INCREASES RE-SALE VALUE**

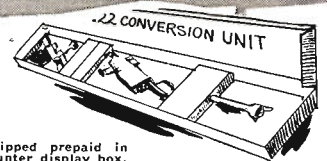
- In minutes you convert your Springfield 1903 into a smooth action, man-sized .22 repeater.
- Back to 30.06? Simply slip out barrel liner and .22 bolt.
- Smooth action, the same that's won match after match—year after year as the U.S. M-2 Springfield.
- "Short throw" bolt and ordnance steel barrel insert, comparable to \$137.00 "target" '22's.

**ORDER NOW  
ONLY \$34.50 PPD.  
DEALERS WRITE**

EACH UNIT consists of precision ground .22 barrel insert, full size short action .22 bolt, new .22 cal. trigger guard and magazine. EXTRA magazines \$1.75 each.



FITS ANY M1903 SPRINGFIELD.  
Your Springfield and our .22 Conversion unit make a terrific double-duty team.



"I'm extremely proud of our new .22 Springfield Conversion Unit, which took over 2 years to develop. It offers 1903 Springfield owners double utility by providing them with a man-sized, smooth-working .22 repeater, comparable to the popular but almost extinct U. S. M-2 Springfield .22."

Geo. R. Numrich, Jr., President

Shipped prepaid in counter display box.

- Fits all 1903 Model Springfields in 30-06.
- Adjustable headspace plug for perpetual service.
- 1st time available in over 55 years!
- Inexpensive practice with '22's—pays for itself in a few short weeks.



REG. PRICE \$12.99  
**SAVE OVER 50% Special \$5.95 ppd!**

NEW 5" S&W BARRELS, either commercial blue or parkerised — state which. .38 Special or .38 S&W Cal. Complete with latch, pin & spring. Fits W&P, "K" and "Combat", also .38 Victory. Buy a spare at this bargain price. Limited Supply.

NOT \$5.00  
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Standard dovetail—interchangeable inserts included. For Hi-power or small bores. From discontinued Target rifle of largest U. S. maker. At a 70% discount! \$1.49 ea. .....\$12.00 per dozen

## A FEW MORE JUST FOUND

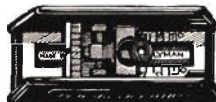
A SPECIAL SAVING OF \$10.00  
SPECIAL PRICE \$5.75

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



## ORIGINAL LYMAN

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



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NEW GUNS AVAILABLE to qualified purchasers.  
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For exceptional quality barrel blanks or for use on Rem. 500 series rifles. Each tested & serial numbered by Remington craftsmen. Made for 513 Target models—6 groove, chambered, 13/16" dia. FULL 26" LONG! Suitable for center fire calibers. Just \$4.95 plus 50c post. (Rem. front sight & ramp, ready to install on above. \$1.25)

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Full 1 1/16" diameter, straight, rifled blank—6 groove for super accuracy, 24" long—large diameter makes adaptable for most rim or center fire actions. 1 turn in 14" — only \$6.95 plus 45c post. (Chambering for .22 L.R. only, add \$1.00)

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Usable for Bunline S. A.'s, muzzle loaders. New Service, 1917's, miniature cannon, custom revolver bbl's. Rifled, new, \$5.35 plus 50c pp.



Brand new, straight lengths, 3/4" x 8", for extra long and/or fancy barrels. Supplied chambered for .45 auto or unchambered, state which—\$3.95 ea.—or 2 for \$6.50.

## NEW .45 BARRELS

auto, 1911 & A1.....\$6.95



## .44 CALIBER BARREL BLANKS

27" long X 7/8" dia. Used for 44/40 & .44 S&W. High alloy steel, adaptable to Win. '92, 1873, Marlins, pistol barrels etc.—\$6.95 plus 50c post.



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# NUMRICH ARMS CO. WEST HURLEY I, NEW YORK

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"FORMULA 44-40" NOW USED IN EVERY U.S. GUN PLANT AND MANY ABROAD. NEW HIGH-SPEED FORMULA gives even better results. . . . takes seconds to apply . . . beautifies, protects. Used cold, nothing complicated. Deep blue permanent finish. Actually penetrates the steel. Used by gun factories and gunsmiths everywhere. Guaranteed to be the best cold blue you ever used—or your money back.

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

## SALE MARLIN BARRELS

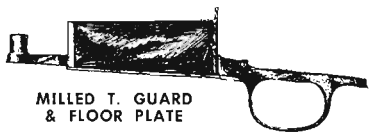
We have the world's only supply of these and we are closing out the few remaining! All New, blueed, ready to install.

For 1893 & 36 Md. Marlins	
38/55 28" Full Oct.	\$9.95
38/55 28" 1/2 Oct.	\$9.95
38/55 28" Full Oct.	\$9.95
38/55 20" Carbine	\$8.25
32/40 28" Full Oct.	\$9.95
32/40 20" Carbine	\$8.25
32/40 15" round	\$3.50
.32 Spec. 17" round	\$3.50
For Model 94 Marlin	
32/20 24" round	\$9.95
25/20 15" round	\$3.50
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(Add 50c for post & shipping to above)

STRAIGHT GRIP STOCKS FOR ABOVE MODEL MARLINS. new . . . . . \$5.95

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MILLED T. GUARD & FLOOR PLATE

Complete with catch, pin & spring, steel, not aluminum, specify blue or parkerized. \$6.20 complete. (Guard alone, \$3.95. F. Plate alone, \$2.25. milled follower, \$1.00, spring 50c)

## SWEAT ON RIFLE RAMPS

Universal size, complete with gold bead sight—easy to install. No glare ramp surface, all machined—a \$3.00 value, only \$1.79 ea., 2 for \$3.25 — \$3.60 per doz.



**SPRINGFIELD 3 BLADE** screwdrivers, as issued, new. . . . \$1.50 ppd.

## MAUSER OWNERS: SINGLE STAGE F.N. TRIGGER AND SEAR



Eliminates annoying two stage pull found in military models. Reduce inaccuracies with superior pull—fits all '98's, Swedish, 7MM '93, '95 etc., New, Famous F.N. make, special low price \$1.75 for set.

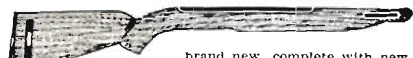
## 38 ITEMS G I SHOOTING KIT ABOUT 7c EA. ITEM!

In handsome carrying box w/self locking handle, 10 solid brass rods (worth 75c ea.), bristle cleaning brushes, 2 containers special gun grease, 10 special screw drivers & punch. Antique styled brass oil can (often used for priming powder on percussion & flints), patch can. All fitted for pistols .32 Cal. & up. Give or sell extra rods & screw drivers to friends. While they last — **ONLY — \$2.75** plus 60c postage.

## UNIVERSAL STOCK BLANKS

of finest American Walnut, pre-turned, shaped and through 1st sanding, note measurements which permit inletting for both high power and small bore rifles; bolt action shotguns; or cut off and use on pump shotguns and doubles. 28 1/2" long, 1 3/4" through, 2 1/4" depth. Special price — . . . . \$2.25 plus 35c del. Special Steel Checkered Target Butt-plate w/screws, for use with above, \$1.00.

## U.S. CARBINE STOCKS



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

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUNS & ACCESSORIES

## GET... smashing Power



an inexpensive POWERFUL SEMI-AUTO ONLY **\$14.95** CO<sup>2</sup> PISTOL SMASHING POWER

As fast as you can pull the trigger. The brand new Plainsman pistol uses inexpensive BB's and powerful CO<sup>2</sup> (Carbon dioxide) chargers. Pistol built on .22 Target pistol lines, rugged metal alloy in blue-black finish. Standard full sized pistol weight & balance. Super magazine capacity of over 100 shots! Common (available everywhere) "soda charger" CO<sup>2</sup> cylinder contained in target shaped grip. Quickly—simply removed & replaced.

SO POWERFUL The pistol cannot be mailed (except to licensed dealers) but will be rushed Express (not prepaid). Dealers, add 50c postage. Special dealers prices on lots of three or more.

FREE EXTRAS: 10 CO<sup>2</sup> Cartridges plus 8 Tubes of Copper Plated BB's. A \$2.00 Saving!

## GARAND TRIGGER GUARDS

For replacing wartime tin "finger skinning" guards—new—\$1.75



Milled Steel

## GARAND EMERGENCY TOOL



WORTH ANYTHING WHEN NEEDED

In field or on range, this ordnance tool may be needed at any time—for bolt disassembly, because of poor extraction with fouled chamber, or for rifle takedown. Fits conveniently in butt trap—Keep shooting, a good investment. As issued, only \$1.00 ea. (Good to carry with gun—new firing pin—\$1.25, new extractor—\$1.25)

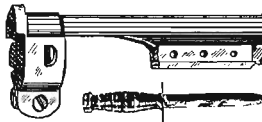
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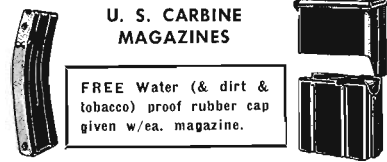
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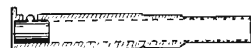
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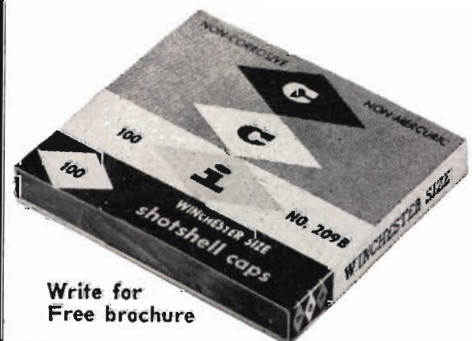
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